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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1881.

THE harmless and in some degree instructive amusement of collecting the postage stamps of various countries, in various stages of their postal history has become firmly established among the pastimes of the youth of this nation; but it is very far from being regarded among us as one of those delights that are to be put aside upon attaining the dignity of the toga virilis. We have even among us collectors of mature years who may be said to be socially distinguished by the fact that they are known to possess collections of postage stamps of almost unrivalled completeness, using that term, we need hardly say, in a relative sense; for, like most objects of man's desire, absolutely perfect albums can hardly be within the reach of human effort. Probably there is no stamp album in this world, "however watched and tended," that has not only "one vacant chair," but very many. Perhaps it is well that it should be so, for perfect and complete possession is by an unhappy law of our nature apt to be followed by diminished appetite, and it may be that the inevitable occasional empty square in the album is the one thing needful to keep alive the postage stamp collector's burning zeal and enable him to gloat over his treasures with an ever-increasing attachment. For a time, indeed, it seemed that the pursuit of rarities might develop into a mania to which the worship of old blue china, or even the Dutch tulip madness, would be but a trifle, but happily the epidemic has been restrained within more reasonable limits.

These reflections are suggested to us by the appearance of a volume of rather imposing bulk, compiled by Mr. F. A. PHILBRICK and Mr. W. A. S. WESTOBY, both prominent members of the "Philatelic Society of London," under whose authority the work is issued. Mr. PHILBRICK is, we believe, no other than the distinguished Queen's Counsel of that name, who, so far from considering it beneath his dignity to devote such leisure as an exacting profession has left him to the business of gathering together postage stamps and expounding their history and significance, has imprinted his name upon the title-page, and signed the preface as chairman of the society of which he is the president. This is a work of comparatively modest aims, for it is strictly confined to the postage and telegraph

... from his  
... restricted  
... only need to express one the  
more deeply with the boundless extent of the  
pursuit, and the really inexhaustible field of  
study which it supplies. In these islands, it is  
true, prepayment of post dues by stamps had its  
origin, and here, too, if we mistake not, the  
postage stamp cultus is equally indigenous ;  
but since 1838, when the first rude black stamp  
was stuck upon the first folded sheet, this simple  
and most effective mode of collecting postage has  
extended throughout the habitable globe. If these  
four hundred closely printed pages, then, with  
upwards of one hundred illustrations, are re-  
quired for England alone, it is obvious that the  
time has come when to embrace the whole world  
must be for the collector a vain thought. The  
authors have, we are glad to say, turned their  
specimens to purposes of instruction. They  
show how closely associated they are with the  
history of postal communication in this country ;  
they exhibit human ingenuity ever busy in de-  
vising means of overcoming difficulties or pro-  
viding for new exigencies ; and with all this  
they have much to tell that is entertaining both  
in reference to details of the engravers' and the  
printers' arts, and in the way of anecdote of a  
suggestive nature. The history of " penny  
postage," as it is still the custom to call it, is a  
thrice-told tale ; but the private history of the  
designing, selecting, engraving, and re-engraving  
of stamps has never before been told as we find  
it here told with the help of the facilities  
afforded to the authors by the author-  
ities of the Post Office and the Board  
of Inland Revenue. It is amusing now to go  
back to the earliest period of the story, and con-  
trast the exaggerated fears of loss to the Ex-  
chequer from wholesale forgery with the some-  
what free-and-easy system which we have since  
attained. As a fact, there was no forgery,  
though attempts to remove the obli-  
terating marks now and again caused  
a scare in official circles. Possibly this  
unreasonable dread may have been at the bottom  
of the famed MULRADDY envelopes, the beau-  
tiful but much too elaborate design of which  
afforded to the wits of 1840 such abundant op-  
portunities for satire. Specimens of these are  
here reproduced. The originals have now, we  
believe, become very scarce ; for the lampoons  
and caricatures daunted the authorities, and the  
slightly artistic but wholly inappropriate vehicle  
for business communications was withdrawn.  
The scarcity is sufficiently explained by the  
fact that all the vast stock prepared for  
issue was destroyed at the time. A machine

the vast mass of closed stores had absolutely failed.

Only forty-three years have elapsed since the knock of the postman tediously gathering his twopences from door to door was last heard in our streets; but the MULREADY envelope is very far from being the only rare thing which

the English collectors covet. There are stamps which have flourished and had their day; there is, or rather was, for example, the penny-farthing foreign post-card, "red-brown on buff," which has vanished since the change in the rates of the Postal Union; there is the threehalfpenny stamp of 1870, in which the QUEEN'S head is enclosed on a triangular curvilinear band. The proposed alterations in the postal rates not having been carried out as expected, the stock of this latter was ordered to be destroyed. Some few sheets, however, escaped the general doom, and happy is the collector who obtains one of these lilac-rose specimens. Rarer still, we presume, is the reprint of the penny stamp in its original colour, which was made in the year 1864. The history of this curiosity is that some of the younger branches of the Royal family having begun to form a collection, application was made for assistance to the Board of Inland Revenue, who, possessing no example of the original one penny stamp printed in black, ordered some copies to be struck off on one of the plates still preserved at Somerset House. It is the circumstance that these were printed on paper marked with the large crown instead of the original small crown which marks an example of these with authenticity; but the authors very sensibly decline to regard a stamp that was never issued, or intended to be issued, as coming within the true definition of postage-stamps. Nevertheless, curiosities will, we fear, often be worshipped for no better reason than their rarity. Even Mr. PHILBROK and his coadjutor seem inclined to speak with becoming respect of a "noteworthy example," of a certain sheet or two of stamps which had escaped perforation—an accident, we are reminded, of "the rarest possible occurrence." Though the authors do not hold themselves bound to take note of stamps which were never issued, one of their best sections is devoted to "essays and proposals," that is designs and suggestions



of the Queen's portrait in Great Britain, under which the Queen's portrait must always look to the left, for no other reason it appears than because her immediate predecessor was always represented as looking to the right. The Queen's portrait, we need hardly remind the reader, has never been omitted from any one of the numberless designs, from the first stamp in its rude black and white state down to the new combined postage and Inland Revenue stamps, with that too faint and delicate tint which seems likely ere long to be exchanged for a bolder and more distinctive colour.

REVISTA DE CORREOS.

PUBLICACIONES.

THE POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS  
OF  
GREAT BRITAIN.

Bajo este título acaba de publicar la Sociedad Filatélica de Lóndres una reseña interesantísima de los sellos de Correos y Telégrafos que han sido emitidos en el Reino Unido desde la

adopción por aquella administración del sistema de Sir Rowland Hill.

Encomendada la confección de esta obra al presidente de la sociedad, Mr. Frederick A. Philbrick, éste, ayudado del socio Mr. William A. S. Westoby, la han llevado á feliz término y pueden ambos lisonjearse por el resultado de su trabajo.

Precede á la obra una introducción, que expone en rasgos generales la historia del Correo en los tres reinos y principalmente las circunstancias de la reforma introducida en el sistema postal con el de Sir Rowland Hill. Este último periodo muy detallado contiene datos preciosos sobre la historia del planteamiento del sistema en Inglaterra.

Entrando luego de lleno en el objeto de la obra, describen los autores en la parte primera las distintas clases de sellos de correo emitidos desde 1840. No siguen el orden rigurosamente cronológicos, sino que dividen los sellos en dos categorías según el sistema empleado en el grabado de las planchas.

Pasan luego á describir los sobres timbrados, los sellos y fajas timbradas para periódicos é impresos y las tarjetas postales. Termina la parte relativa á los sellos de correos con una enumeración de los diversos ensayos y pruebas hechas para la fabricación ó modificación de los sellos.

La segunda parte, relativa á los sellos de telegramas, está dividida en dos capítulos, relativo el primero á los sellos emitidos por las compañías particulares y el segundo á los emitidos por el Gobierno, desde que se estableció el monopolio de este servicio.

Este es, en breves palabras, el plan seguido por los autores, á quienes sinceramente felicitamos, así como á la Sociedad Filatélica de Londres, en cuyo nombre han hecho tan notable trabajo.

Forma éste un elegante volumen en 8.º de 384 páginas, ilustrado con más de 100 grabados intercalados con el texto.

Los pedidos pueden dirigirse á Mrs. Pemberton, Wilson, and C.º 308, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd G. Busll.—London.—W.

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## ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

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[SEPT. 22, 1881.]

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### POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS.\*

THE first impression produced by an octavo book of nearly four hundred pages on the subject of British postage-stamps is one of sadness. But it is only necessary to turn over a few pages in order to find matter of interest; and if only a few persons who begin the volume will read it from beginning to end, no one probably who takes it up will put it down without skimming through it and extracting from it some information. The introductory chapters, moreover, possess a certain historical value. The exclusive privilege of sending letters by post, and of taking the revenues derived therefrom, has always been claimed by the Sovereigns of England as one of the rights of the Crown. But though the Post Office is a royal institution, its management, when its business had assumed

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\* "The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain." By Frederick A. Philbrick and William A. S. Westoby. (London: Sampson Low and Co. 1881.)

[ 1149 ]

*end of article on back hereof.*

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national importance, was taken over by the State; and it has thus become a source of national revenue. The systematic transmission of private letters was preceded no doubt everywhere by the organized despatch of Government messages; and the authors of the work before us point out that entries for payments to *nuncii* for the conveyance of Government despatches are found as far back as the reign of King John. It was not, however, until the reign of Henry III. that these messengers began to wear the royal livery. They were obliged, however, to provide themselves with horses until the reign of Edward III., when posts were established where horses could be had on hire. In the employment of these messengers the first germ of the post-office system in England is found; and in Henry VIII.'s reign a "Master of the Postes" was appointed, who may be regarded as the precursor of our Postmaster-General. These posts, however, served merely for the conveyance of Government despatches; and it was only by degrees that permission to make use of them was extended to private persons. The

name of "posts" was derived from the posts or *posita* placed at intervals along the roads of the empire, where couriers were kept in readiness to carry despatches and intelligence on behalf of the State; and it might have been added that the Romans in their postal arrangements were distanced in every sense of the word by the Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan, who established a system of relays across the whole of what is now called Central Asia, from China to Russia.

It might be shown that in modern warfare full advantage has with great promptitude been taken of peaceful inventions; and in ancient days everything great in the way of organization was due in the first instance to warriors bent on pushing forward and on maintaining their conquests. The headquarters of each of the sixteen army corps employed in the German campaign against France were connected by telegraph with the headquarters of the Prussian King; and except, as sometimes happened, when the wires were cut, messages were sent to Count von Moltke daily from each corps, if only to say that all was well or that nothing particular had happened. On the other hand, to pass from public and national to private and individual wants, postal cards for transmission to the Fatherland could be purchased at a nominal charge by every member of the German army. Such cards were introduced into England the very year of the war, in the month of September; and it would be interesting to know, what the authors of this book could easily have told us, whether post-cards were first introduced in Germany or in France; also what other points in our postal system have been borrowed from abroad.

On the post-office savings-banks this work does not touch; and the post-office insurance scheme is also beyond its province. Both these innovations, however, are adaptations from the French; and the use of stamps for the prepayment of letters seems also to have been taken from France. The secretary of the British Embassy at Paris was indeed instructed, when Rowland Hill's great measure was on the point of being adopted, to prepare a report on the various stamps used in France. All sorts of suggestions were made as to how the stamp should be applied. But the great problem to be solved in creating an adhesive postage-stamp was, as the authors point out, how to provide an adequate and unfailing supply of impressions, all of which should be as exact in every respect as if each copy had been printed from one original die. Otherwise it would be difficult, if not almost impossible, to guard against or to detect forgery. It was an every-day business to obtain a few thousand impressions from an engraved plate or die; but it was a complete novelty to determine the best means of securing the daily supply of a million. The means adopted, the labours gone through with the view of attaining the contemplated ideal in the matter of postage-stamps need not be related in detail. The perfect stamp, as we all know it, or did know it until it was recently changed, was found; and postal reformers were content. Their satisfaction, however, was but of short duration. Each stamp had to be cut with a knife or a pair of scissors from the sheet to which it belonged, and the process involved loss of time; besides which the stamps were frequently mutilated in a way shocking to see at the time, but interesting now, when stamps of thirty and forty years since have acquired a peculiar value. Persons not affected by the mania of the collector will read with astonishment not unmixed with pain the elaborate account given of the present condition of the stamps more or less injured by the perforating machines first used for facilitating their separation from the sheet of stamps, and the hint thrown out as to their exceptional value. The machine itself was far from perfect, as is evident from the results, which show a series of irregular oval-shaped holes—misplaced, moreover, with regard to the edges of the stamps, owing to the machine failing to retain the sheets firmly in place during the process of perforation. Many sheets were spoiled; but some were allowed to pass

and were used in the post. Specimens are of extreme rarity, but when met with may be recognized by the irregularity and oval shape of the holes running sideway to the margin of the stamp.

It must be admitted that the work, with its minute particulars on all sorts of out-of-the-way points connected with our postal and telegraphic system is wonderfully complete. If anything be wanting, it is

*See end, on back of first part 2 pages ante.*

Feb. 1, 1882.

## HIBERNIA.

THE POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN. Compiled by F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., and W. A. WESTOBY. London: SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, SEARLE, and RIVINGTON.

Under the above title a most curious and interesting work has been published by the Philatelic Society of London, whose object is the study of postage stamps, stamped envelopes, post cards, &c. The work in question has been compiled for the most part by Mr. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., President of the Association, and Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, one of its members, who have contrived out of materials which by the uninitiated might be supposed to be very unpromising, to produce a book containing a large amount of curious information.

An "Introduction" divided into four chapters gives a history of the Postal System of the three Kingdoms. Chapter I. is entitled "The Old Post Office System," and, commencing by showing that from the very earliest times "conveying letters by post and taking the revenues derived therefrom" has been claimed as a Royal privilege by the Sovereigns of England, it traces the history of the institution down to the time when "its management had been gradually assumed by the State, and it had been converted, rightly or wrongly, into a source of national revenue." As early as the time of King John records are to be found of regular messengers employed "for the conveyance of Government despatches," but it would appear that it was not until the latter half of the sixteenth century that letters from private individuals were allowed to be conveyed by the public messengers throughout England, although "a foreign post for the conveyance of letters from London to the continent" existed at the beginning of that century, which seems to have been a monopoly of the Flemings. In 1581, however, both the English and foreign posts were placed under the charge of an official entitled "Chief Postmaster"; and ten years later a Royal proclamation was issued, in which it was plainly shown that the conveying of packets or letters was acknowledged to be a privilege of Royalty. In 1635 there was an attempt made "to establish a regular system of inland postage" and "eight main postal lines throughout England were authorized to be instituted." The rates then fixed were "2d. for a single letter for any distance under 80 miles, 4d. up to 140 miles, 6d. for any longer distance, and 8d. to any place in Scotland."

In 1644 "a weekly conveyance of letters to all parts of the country" was established, and, under the management of Edmund Prideaux, the Post-office, which had previously been a burden on the public purse, commenced to be a source of revenue. In 1650 the Revenues of the Post-office were for the first time farmed out, the rent paid to the State to commence with being £5,000 per annum; by the time, however, of the accession of James II., upon whom the Post-office Revenues had been settled when Duke of York, this amount had increased to £65,000. In 1683 a "Penny Post" was started in London by a private individual, "by it all letters and parcels not exceeding 1lb. in weight or £10 in value were conveyed within the city and suburbs for 1d. and for 2d. within a circuit of ten miles," a cheaper rate in regard to the weight of the packets than we have at present; but as soon as this District Post turned out to be profitable it was discovered to be an encroachment upon the privileges of the General Post Office, and it was annexed by the latter. Its former proprietor, however, was appointed "Controller of the District Office," and thus commenced the "London District Post," which appears to have existed as a kind of independent establishment down to as recent a date as 1855.

It is stated that "but little is known of the early history of the Irish Post Office." Mention is made of "packets sailing between Liverpool and Dublin, and Holyhead and Dublin" in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and again in the reign of Charles I., between Chester and Dublin and between Milford Haven and Waterford. We find also that "after the Restoration the rate of letter postage between London and Dublin was fixed at 6d." In the year 1710 the whole law was completely remodelled by the Act 9 Anne, c. 10, which continued to be the basis of all further "Postal" legislation down to the year 1837. Under this Act "a General Post and Letter Office" was established within the City of London," and "chief offices in Edinburgh, Dublin, New York, and in one of the Leeward Islands." Rates of postage also, both for inland and foreign letters, were settled by this Act, and these continued in force until the reign of George III., when the inland rates were changed to the following: "1d. for a single letter under fifteen miles, 2d. under forty miles, 3d. under 80 miles, and so on." At the same time authority was given for the establishment of District, or Penny, Posts in other cities or towns, similar to that existing in London; and this power seems to have been in course of time extensively used, for "in 1835 there were 1,035

Penny Posts in England, 225 in Scotland, and 197 in Ireland." Until the year 1784 the mails appear to have been carried almost exclusively by messengers on foot or on horseback. In that year also trial was made of conveying them by stage coaches, which proved a far more certain and expeditious means. On account of these advantages the tariff was increased by one penny all round. The rates were again increased on various occasions subsequently, until in 1839, immediately before the introduction of a uniform rate, they were as follows :—

“For a letter consisting of a single sheet under one ounce in weight, from any Post-office in England or Wales to any place not exceeding 15 miles ... 4d.

Above 15 miles and not exceeding 20 miles	...	5d.
20	...	30
30	...	6d.
30	...	80
50	...	7d.
50	...	80
80	...	8d.
80	...	120
120	...	6d.
120	...	170
170	...	10d.
170	...	230
230	...	11d.
230	...	300
	...	1s.

and after that increasing by 1d. for every 100 miles.”

In these days when a letter under 1 oz., no matter how many sheets it contains, can be conveyed from any one place to any other throughout Great Britain and Ireland for 1d. ; and a letter of half that weight to any part of Europe or to the United States for 2½d., the above rates appear enormous ; and yet it is considerably less than half a century since they were paid, however unwillingly, by the recipients of letters. Chapter II. deals with “The New Post Office System,” as established at the end of 1839. The new method of conveyance, the railway, which was gradually spreading over the country, was not only one of the causes of the demand for cheaper rates of postage, but was also a means of enabling that demand to be responded to. The tax on newspapers had been greatly reduced, “a system of education had been organized under the direction of a Committee of the Privy Council”; “many departments of the State had been remodelled and improved ; it would have been strange, therefore, if the Post-office, which by its high charges so fettered social intercourse and business transactions, had been suffered to escape from becoming the subject of inquiry.” Mr., afterwards Sir, Rowland Hill was the principal agent in the reforms which took place, but he was not the earliest person to attack the old system ; in 1830 Mr. Charles Whiting proposed “the issue of stamped bands to frank a certain quantity of printed matter” ; in 1833 Mr. Wallace became M.P. for Greenock and “commenced a series of attacks on the Post-office,” which appear to have continued until the desired result was obtained by the adoption of Rowland Hill's plan.

Chapters II. and III. contain a most interesting account of the proposed system, of the difficulty with which the Government was persuaded to adopt it, and of its final introduction and triumphant success ; and in connection with this last we can only allude to an amusing description, on page 42, of the scene at St. Martin's le Grand a few nights after the change had taken place. The remainder of the work is devoted to a description of the actual stamps, covers, newspaper wrappers, and post cards, and of essays, proofs, &c. of them ; and is, of course, interesting principally to collectors of these things, but non-collectors will find much in it also that repays perusal.

**THE SATURDAY REVIEW**  
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Two Minor Tales. German Literature.

London: Published at 38 SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.

*See back for part of article, i.e. their following end of next page*

nor secretaries. We are not acquainted with their names; nor, if we were, should we know the proper letters to add to them. This reticence should not be found fault with lightly. It is refreshing to meet with a Society of this kind, or, rather, to be able safely to infer the existence of such a Society—one, namely, which does not advertise itself by a list of members and patrons in half a dozen places in each of its publications. We have no wish to sneer at the innocent amusements of other people. True, it would be difficult to point out the use of philatelic pursuits, so far, at least, as mere stamp-collecting is one of them; but a book like the present is certainly an addition to our general stock of information. It contains, though in a peculiar form, the history of our Post Office. It details the minutest particulars of the successive alterations and modifications of the system which has wrought so marvellous a change in our social life. There are many of us who remember how frugal parents used to dread St. Valentine's Day, and how important an event the obtaining of a few franks from a peer or a member of Parliament used to be in a family blessed with many correspondents. At the same time, it is not easy to take much interest in reading that "the difference in the length of the legend" of a registration envelope "chiefly depends on the words 'Officer' and 'of' being closer or further apart"; or that Plate ii., for the three-halfpence stamp, "is not found, and was never used." We turn away willingly to an Introduction containing four clearly written and succinct chapters on the old and new Post Office systems, and the first invention and issue of postage stamps.

So far back as the reign of King John entries are to be found of payments to *nunciis* for the conveyance of Government despatches. The royal livery was assumed by these messengers in the succeeding reign. Do we not ourselves remember the red coat of the modern postman? In the reign of Henry VIII. a "Master of the Postes" was appointed, and Sir Brian Tuke is described as "Magister nunciorum cursorum sive postarum." Stow notes the pretended right of the Flemings to appoint a master of the strangers' post. Their claim was so far allowed that down to 1558 they controlled the despatch of foreign mails. In that year the Italians raised a dispute with them on the subject, and eventually, just three hundred years before the publication of this history, the first Postmaster-General was appointed by Queen Elizabeth under the more modest title of Chief Postmaster. A Dublin post was established a few years later to sail from Holyhead or Liverpool. In 1650 the practice of farming the Post Office revenue commenced, a practice which continued in some branches to exist till the close of the last century. At first the revenues were let for 5,000*l.*, but by the time of the accession of James II. they had reached the annual value of 65,000*l.* In 1683 a penny post for London and a two-penny post for the suburbs were established, at first by private enterprise, but afterwards as part of the Government system, and remained in use until the time when the principle was adopted for the whole country. Meanwhile similar arrangements had been made, under an Act passed in 1765, for many rural districts. In 1835 there were more than a thousand of these local penny posts. Some of them continued to exist after the establishment of the general penny rate, and were only abandoned when the new administration extended its system by multiplying free deliveries. The mails were carried, up to the end of the last century, by post-boys riding on horseback; and that the number of letters was pretty moderate may be inferred from an advertisement which appeared in 1799, which offers a reward for the apprehension of a highwayman who had waylaid the post-boy who carried the letter-

65  
The piece in here see back of commencement  
of article. other side



smallest scrap being treated as an extra sheet, and taxed accordingly. The cost of transit was shown, even between places so distant as London and Edinburgh, to be only the ninth part of a farthing for each letter. The cost of delivery, including the receipt of the charge for unpaid letters—that is to say, at that time more than four-fifths of all letters sent—was found, like the reception and assessment, to be absurd in proportion. If, Rowland Hill argued, instead of charging according to the number of sheets, a weight could be fixed below which a letter might be sent any distance at a uniform rate, much expense and trouble to the Post Office, and an unjust method of taxation, would be avoided. The despatch of unpaid letters was to be restricted by the imposition of a more moderate charge on the sender than on the receiver. Such were the simple elements of a scheme which has become one of the most successful enterprises of the kind in the world's history. But in 1837 the voice of the reformer was drowned, over and over again, in the clamour of the officials. The Postmaster-General of the day declared in the House of Lords that this was the most extraordinary of all the wild and visionary schemes ever conceived. Yet a member of the Lower House, already well known for his attacks on Post Office mismanagement, towards the end of 1837 obtained a Committee to inquire into Hill's scheme; and in the following year Mr. Wallace himself was appointed chairman, and commenced sittings which were protracted to sixty-three days, when a uniform rate of twopence was recommended by the casting vote of the chairman, and a thorough reform of the Post Office advocated. Of course this was only the beginning of Hill's battle. All through the following Session it raged. By degrees the general public began to understand the principles laid down in his pamphlet. A committee of merchants was formed. The Common Council of London threw its weight into the scale. A series of petitions, signed by more than a quarter of a million of people, was poured into the House. By the end of the long Session of that year almost every one was convinced, and an Act, which received the Royal assent on the 17th August, sanctioned the employment of the postage-stamp system for two years, the fixing of rates being left to the Treasury, and the privilege of franking being abolished. At this point the authors branch off into their own peculiar part of the subject. They are henceforth concerned with the issue, gumming, perforation, and variation of postage-stamps; with the Mulready envelope and those issued for the Houses of Parliament; with the engraving, printing, numbering, watermarking, and embossing of stamps; and, in short, with a series of minute descriptions of every variety of postal or telegraph stamp that has yet come into being in these kingdoms. Their number is amazing, and confusing by its apparently meaningless multiplication. That any collector can ever hope to obtain an example of every kind is at once obviously absurd. Some dies were made only to be immediately abandoned, and already the first issue of halfpenny cards—those which represented an august personage in an undignified aspect—are also unattainable. Mr. Philbrick and his coadjutor do not mention this particular edition, and in fact they go in for a scientific rather than a popular account of the peculiarities of certain stamps. They waste some space in irrelevant disquisitions—as, for instance, on the invention of the envelope-folding machine—and are, on the other hand, somewhat needlessly brief in describing the effects of the new system; but on the whole their work will be welcome in many places where lighter books might remain unread, and we doubt not that many a parent who, under other circumstances, might be disposed to “buy his boy a box of tools,” will now hasten to provide him instead with the records of philately.

Notice by Moore of this town.

Zumbi Post. No 235.

Sept 1881. p. 96.

Note by Mr Westoby. M: Record. Augt 1889. n. 128.

enc XI. p. 153 (all notes on pages reverse).

K. bearing traces the winter. No reported time, this statement was erroneous. no such road ever existed. Z.A.P.

Anglice Notitia

E<sup>d</sup> Chamberlayne.

1667. 11m. 1" 5th

port K. Chas II. by Hartman.

1684. 15" 2nd

See 1/4. 257. v. Wilmington " "

Philadelp<sup>h</sup> Record. Aug<sup>r</sup> 1883. p. 121.  
a paper by Capt. Evans. acts for Editor  
the Rev<sup>d</sup> & mod. [specimen]. to be dealt  
with, in text. threads as Dickinson paper  
verified & (!?) connected.

See Fifty years of Public Work

By Sir Henry Cole. K.C.B.

London. 1884.

2 vols.

Geo Bell & Co.

vol 1. p. 34-69.

operation  
Parcel Post established 1<sup>st</sup> August 1883.

nearly 50 million per annum.

Total in 1892. letters, cards, book packets, newspapers, & samples  
was 2,716,578,365 Reduced from 1.5 8/6. see 33<sup>rd</sup> P.M. by Report  
H.C. Raines.

M. Vandal, head French P.O. joined Congress. held Paris (1863) Max.  
Herr Höhn joined. First Inter-Congress Bern 1874 - 2<sup>nd</sup> met.  
from 1<sup>st</sup> July 1875.  
others Paris 1878.  
1887. parcel post to France.

Sample Post. Established 1. 10. 87.  
P.M. 4. Rates as 4<sup>th</sup> class for 1887.  
abolished June 1897 when letter post was  
reduced to 1d for 4 oz.

Express Delivery Service instituted 25. 2. 91. } Railway  
Railway Letters Station to Station do. 1. 2. 91. } 27<sup>th</sup> P.M.

SOCIETE LYONNAISE DE LIMBOLOGIE

1880

1880

1880

1880

1880

# SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE TIMBROLOGIE

Fondée à Paris en 1874.

**D<sup>r</sup> LEGRAND**

**Secrétaire**

Avenue de Neuilly, 136

**NEUILLY (Seine)**

Neuilly le 10 Décembre 1881.

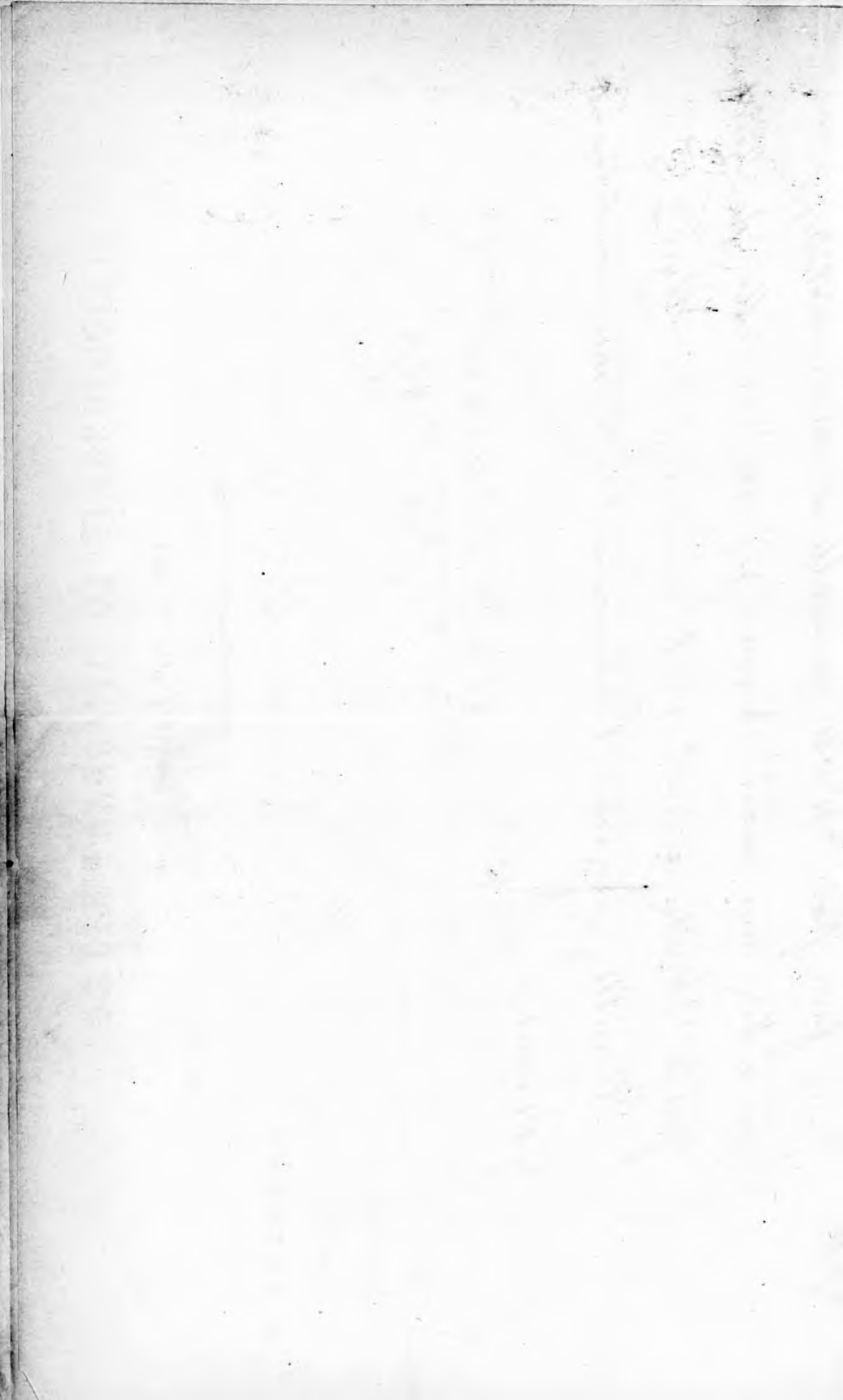
Mon cher Monsieur

J'ai le plaisir de vous faire savoir que la Société Française de Timbrologie dans sa séance du 8<sup>e</sup>, sur le rapport de sa commission des prix, vous a décerné une médaille de vermeil pour l'ouvrage

74  
puie faire part de cette nouvelle à M<sup>r</sup> Vestobly;  
permettez moi aussi de vous saluer & de cette distinction  
que la Société aurait voulu encore plus élevée.

Veuillez agréer l'assurance de mes sentiments  
Devotés

Ch. LeGrand  
Imp<sup>s</sup>





Paper. "Hollingworth & Co., Turkey Mill,  
Maidstone."



mark on their tickets & packets

1880. Paper watermarked, supplied by the Inland Revenue Depart. to De la Rue & Co. Contractors.

is made by Messrs R. D. Turner & Co.

Roughway Mills, w. Tonbridge, Kent.

(see Blue Book. 1888.)

Dead letters, unused P. Order Forms &c. pulped,  
in presence of an Officer of Inland Revenue at Swadlow,  
Kent.

Printers of Government Notices &c.

W. P. Griffells & Co. (Limited) Pigeon Sq  
Old Bailey. E.C.

#### GOVERNMENT WASTE PAPER WORKS. 1880.

In answer to a question from Mr. CONYBEARE, with reference to her Majesty's Waste Paper Works,

SIR J. GORST said, — I answered a similar question on Tuesday. Immediately afterwards I received the following report from the Home Office Inspector:—

"I have inspected the Earl-street premises for the last five years. I have inspected it this morning. The cubic space is more than ample. There are two staircases in each floor (fire), the lavatory arrangements are admirable. It is an industry which forms a part of every paper mill, and the conditions here are identical with those which obtain elsewhere, and if possible better. It is absolutely impossible for rag or paper sorters to have seats; all the hands questioned assert that they are perfectly content with the work. The only case of influenza has occurred among the hands, averaging 50, during this autumn and winter.—

(Signed) EDWARD GOULD, Her Majesty's Inspector of Factories." The Controller of the Stationery Office is responsible for the factory. Wages vary from 6s. to 14s. per week; the hours are 47½ per week. Ten to 12 days' holiday with full pay are given in the year. There is no truth in the statement that recently when the officials required the women workers to do more work several of them went to Mr. Watson, the representative of the Stationery Department, and objected. The porters of the Stationery Office, some of whom are employed as required in connexion with the Waste Paper Factory, have a different and shorter scale of hours.

C Davis Sherborn  
540, Kings Road  
Chelsea. S.W

Handwritten text at the top of the page, possibly a header or address, which is mostly illegible due to fading.



Several lines of handwritten text in the middle section of the page, appearing to be a letter or a set of notes.

Another set of handwritten lines, continuing the text from the previous section.

A single line of handwritten text, possibly a signature or a specific reference.

Handwritten text, including what appears to be a name 'W. F. Griffith' and other illegible words.

The bottom portion of the page contains several more lines of handwritten text, which are very faint and difficult to decipher.

① at each of 4 corners of plate. Others are Macos & not in any frame

Perkins, Bacon & Co. Plates.

Half penny.

Put to press.

Plate 1.	Commiss. approval.	20. 6. 70.	
2.		never used.	
3.	<del>173</del> 173	28. 6. 70.	
4.	174 174	28. 6. 70	
5.	175 175	19. 7. 70	
6.	176 176	19. 7. 70	
7.	Defective punches.	not used.	
8.		26. 7. 70.	
9.	178 178	23. 12. 70	9. 10. 71.
10.	197 97	24. 10. 72	no records of use of impressions.
11.	198 198	24. 10. 72	
12.	220 220	13. 4. 74	
13.	221 221	20. 4. 74	or 75. ?
14.	224 224	20. 4. 74	or 75. ?
15.	242 242	16. 11. 76	
16.			
17.	After 198 impressions were never made.	The roller broke: & these 3 plates	
18.			
19.	248 248	16. 11. 77.	
20.	249 249	31. 12. 78.	
21.			
22.	Constructed, never put to press, as stamp was superseded before they were required for use.		

book II  
requires here.

No Control marks applied to this value, or indeed to any of paper sent to Perkins & Co.

The V.R. is

^ Plate A<sub>n</sub><sup>+</sup> was put to press. 15. 4. 40. so also plate 1.

Duplicates of Plates 1 + 2 were put to press. 27. 4. 40.

✓ allowed 28. 4. 40.

The plate of V.R. has an A. at each corner in lieu of a n.

No 5. struck. 1. 6. 40.

One Penny Series I. (Heath)

Perkins Bacon & Co.  
Small Crown

allowed

Plate A	Black imp.	27. 4. 40.	Pl: 34	Deep brown. Red	. faint	7. 6. 43
1.	"	27. 4. 40.	35.	Deep brown.	"	"
2.	"	"	36.	Brown.	"	"
3.	"	"	37.	Deep brown.	"	7. 7. 43.
4.	"	9. 5. 40.	38.	Full red	Blue.	26. 7. 43.
5.	"	16. 5. 40	39.	Lighten red.	faint.	2. 10. 43.
6.	"	16. 6. 40.	40.	Dark brown	Dark blue	17. 10. 43.
7.	"	16. 7. 40.	41.	Lighten red	faint	6. 11. 43.
8.	"	31. 7. 40.	42.	Red.	more.	23. 1. 44.
9.	"	8. 11. 40	43.	Red Crown	Some blue	"
10.	"	16. 12. 40	44.	Deep red brown.	Trace	29. 2. 44.
11.	"	20. 11. 40	45.	"	"	"
12.	Red Brown.	25. 2. 41.	46.	Very red brick	"	4. 5. 44.
13.	edges blue.	27. 4. 41.	47.	"	"	24. 5. 44
14.	very blue	"	48.	Dark brown.	Traces	19. 6. 44.
15.	intensely deep	23. 7. 41.	49.	"	Blue	12. 9. 44.
16.	red - very blue	"	50.	Red.	"	"
17.	" blue	10. 9. 41.	51.	"	Trace	3. 12. 44.
18.	red brown	21. 9. 41.	52.	"	none	17. 12. 44.
19.	"	3. 11. 41.	53.	"	faint	7. 1. 45.
20.	"	15. 11. 41.	54.	" white?	Nearly trace	25. 1. 45.
21.	Brick red	11. 12. 41.	55.	"	Trace	7. 2. 45.
22.	not black	20. 12. 41	56.	"	"	25. 2. 45.
23.	"	16. 1. 42	57.	"	"	9. 5. 45.
24.	Red brown faint	4. 3. 42.	58.	"	a trace.	"
25.	blue.	17. 3. 42.	59.	"	little	26. 6. 45
26.	" blue.	22. 6. 42.	60.	"	"	"
27.	" blue.	5. 9. 42	61.	Red brown	rather more	14. 8. 45.
28.	"	14. 9. 42.	62.	"	Some blue	"
29.	" white	14. 11. 42.	63.	"	Very blue	2. 9. 45
30.	" 6 traces.	6. 12. 42.	64.	"	Some.	3. 12. 45
31.	" deep.	27. 1. 43.	65.	"	More blue	2. 2. 46
32.	Brick. slight.	7. 2. 43.	66.	"	Blue.	"
33.	Red brown. Blue	20. 2. 43.	67.	Dull brown	Very blue	17. 4. 46.
			68.	Red brown.	faint	"
			69.	Red.	Blue	8. 6. 46
			70.	Brown.	faint	30. 7. 46
			71.	Red.	Traces	21. 10. 46
			72.	"	"	"
			73.	"	Slight	14. 1. 47
			74.	"	"	"

Plates of 1<sup>d</sup> Series I. (Heath) Perkins, Bacon No.

Plate No.	Description	Date	Plate No.	Description	Date
75	Brown	Blue slight 19. 4. 47.	116		20. 5. 51
76	Cleared red	Very slight	117		"
77	Deep brown	"	118		"
77.B	Dark brown	Very dark 11. 1. 48.	119		"
78	"	"	120		"
79	"	"	121		"
80	"	"	122		25. 7. 51
81	"	"	123		"
82	"	"	124		"
83	"	"	125		"
84	"	11. 10. 48	126		23. 9. 51.
85	"	"	127		"
86	"	"	128		"
87	"	"	129		"
88		20. 3. 49	130	more cammie <sup>light</sup>	23. 9. 51
89		"	131		"
90	Brown.	Blue. 24. 5. 49.	132		6. 2. 52
91		"	133		"
92		"	134	Red brown. No trace	6. 2. 52
93		"	135		"
94		6. 12. 49	136		"
95		7. 1. 50.	137		"
96		"	138	Red brown Deep blue	17. 4. 51
97		6. 12. 49	139		"
98	Very brown.	Bluish 6. 12. 49.	140		"
99		7. 1. 50.	141		"
100	Red brown	Blue 25. 12. 49	142		"
101		"	143		"
102		12. 6. 50	144		4. 6. 52
103		"	145	Red brown. Deep B.	4. 6. 52.
104	Red.	Blue 12. 6. 50.	146		"
105		"	147	Red brown. Deep blue	4. 6. 52.
106		"	148	"	Blue " " "
107		1. 1. 51.	R1. 149		" " " "
108		"	R2. 150		" " " "
109		"	R3. 151		" " " "
110		"	R4. 152	Red brown.	27. 7. 52
111		"	R. 5.	"	" " " "
112	Brown.	Very blue 7. 1. 51.	R. 6.	"	" " " "
113		26. 2. 51	149	Red.	Blue " " "
114		"	150		"
115	Brown.	Very blue 20. 5. 51.?	151		"
			152		"
			153		"
			154		"

Plates of 1<sup>st</sup> Series I. (Heath) Perkins Bacon & Co

Plate B 7.	Red. faint trace	16. 9. 52
155.	"	"
156.	"	"
157.	"	"
158.	"	"
159.	"	"
160.	"	"
161.	Reddish. slight trace	16. 1. 53.
162.	"	"
163.	"	"
164.	"	"
165.	"	"
166.	"	"
1. 5. 53	R 8. Reddish - Bluish	18. 4. 53.
"	R 9. " "	"
"	R 10. " "	"
1. 4. 53	R 11. " "	"
167.	"	"
168.	"	"
169.	"	"
170.	"	"
171.	Red no blue.	18. 4. 53.
172.	" no blue.	18. 4. 53.
173.	"	20. 7. 53
174.	"	"
175.	"	"
176.	Red. no blue	20. 7. 53
177.	"	"
R 12.	"	10. 10. 53.
R 13.	"	"
R 14.	"	"
178.	"	13. 2. 54.
179.	Red. trace blue	13. 2. 54.
180.	"	"
181.	"	"
182.	"	"
183.	"	"
184.	Red Brown heavy trace	12. 7. 54
185.	"	"
186.	"	"
187.	"	"
188.	"	"
189.	"	"
190.	"	11. 8. 54
191.	"	"

Plate 192	more common	Skilist 11. 8. 54
193	"	of all seen.
194	"	"
195	"	"
196.	Brick red. faint blue	21. 9. 54
197.	"	"
198.	"	8. 11. 54
199	"	"
200.	Deep red. faint blue	8. 11. 54.
201	"	"
202.	Deep red faint blue	30. 11. 54
203	"	"
204	"	"
R. 15	"	9. 12. 54.

( 218 plates, including reserves, by the numbering ] in this The V.R. is not reckoned. I not seen nor in official Collection. leaving 210 as covered thereon.

74 Comm. Exhibit of 1890  
 20. 7. 53.  
 20. 7. 53.  
 18. 2. 54.

Book III at J. House. Watermark Small Crown.  
Figures 1 at 4 corners not in circles of 20 on for each  
succeeding No.

54. Not in Secy's book. Not traced.  
or substituted

69. First plate made with side N<sup>oo</sup> & 4 letters in angles.

70. Plate rejected, flew in steel. I have seen proof from it through  
the left stamp. corr. Stamford.

71. put to press 1. 3. 64. First plate issued with side N<sup>oo</sup> & letters  
all 4 angles.

R. 17. 18. 19. Reg<sup>d</sup>. Large Crown (first)

R. 20. and ~~21.~~ <sup>22.</sup> Large Crown watermark. (first is (small Crown))

R. 4. Small Crown (last).

25. v. No blue action of ink at this period.

89. Reg<sup>d</sup> 22. 3. 64.

90. - 30. 3. 64

91. - 5. 4. 64

92. - 12. 4. 64

93. - 19. 4. 64

The corner nos of sheet enclosed by plain line first on (98)



Plates of 2<sup>nd</sup> Series. (Humphreys' retouch) 1<sup>st</sup>

(Dir II in this book)

Peckham Bacon & Co.

Plate.	Description	Ref.	Plate.	Description	Ref.
1.	Red Brown	15.1.55.	41.		2.4.56.
2.	Strong marks of blue in patches	"	42.		"
R 20. 3.	Very red.	"	43.		"
4.		"	44.		"
R 6.		"	45.		25.6.56
5.		"	46.		25.6.56.
6.		1.2.55.	47.		"
7.		"	48.		"
8.		19.3.55	49.		"
9.		"	50.	Carmine shade blue trace	"
10.		"	51.	"	"
11.		"	52.	Bright red. pure white	11.2.57.
12.		19.3.55	53.		"
13.	Red. no blue.	"	54.	not in O.C.	"
14.	Red. really white	12.5.55.	55.	Light shades red.	"
15.		"	56.	no blue.	"
16.		"	57.	"	"
17.	blue.	12.11.55	58.	"	"
18.		"	59.	"	"
19.		"	60.	"	"
20.		"	61.		"
21.		8.6.55.	62.	Carmine. no blue	18.1.58.
22.	Red. White gum	"	68.		"
R 17.	Red. Very bluish	12.11.55.	69.	not in O.C.	"
R 18.	Large can large can.	"	70.	large form of Reg.	large 5.8.62. faint in shade.
R 19.	Large can.	"	71.	Reg. Red & green. 1.3.64.	"
R 20.	(Small large brown)	"	72.	pink	14.3.61.
23.	Red (L.C.) Blue	12.11.55	73.		"
24.	Red (Small C.) no blue.	"	74.		"
(L.C.) 25.	Red (L.C.)	"	75.	not printed from. increasingly laid down	7.2.63. for perforation.
26.	"	"	76.		"
27.		27.12.55.	77.	77 not printed from. same reason.	"
28.		27.12.55.	78.		7.2.63.
29.		"	82.		"
30.		"	86.	87. Reg' 7.3.64	1.3.64.
31.		"	88.	88. 17.3.64	"
32.		16.1.56.	89.	bits of carmine red.	22.3.64.
33.		"	92.		"
34.	Red. Blue faint	"	93.	89-93. See other side	15.12.64.
35.		"	94.		26.4.64.
36.		"	95.		14.6.64.
37.		2.4.56.	96.		5.10.64.
38.		"	97.		"
39.		"	98.	faint with No in O.	10.3.65.
40.	Red. no blue.	"	99.		5.1.66

103. printed from in red & black. for Paris exhibition.

x.  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 112 \\ 113 \\ 114 \\ 115 \\ 116 \end{array} \right\}$  all reg<sup>d</sup>. 12.5.68.

126. not used. Defective punch.

128 " " Out of square.

144. Defaced 20.11.72. put to press. 3.1.72 & 206,600  
sheets printed from this plate.

225. put to press Octo 1879.

Plates of 2nd Series. One penny. Humphreys' retouch.  
Perkins, Bacon & Co.

Plate N°	Registered.	Plate N°	Registered.	Plate N°	Registered.
100.	5.1.66				
101.	"				
102.	4.4.66	187	} 20.4.75.		
103.	"	to			
104.	"	190.)			
105.	"	191	} 3.9.75.		
106.	"	to			
107.	"	194)			
108.	} 23.3.68.	195	} 9.3.76.		
to		to			
111. 146)	x	200)			
117	} 15.8.68.	201	} 16.11.76.		
to		to			
124.)		205.)			
125.	5.2.69.	206	} 10.5.77.		
126.	Defective	to			
127.	5.2.69	209.)			
128.	Defective	210	} 16.11.77.		
129.	to	to			
132.)	5.2.69.	212.)			
133	} 31.3.69.	213	} 25.2.78.		
to		to			
138.)		216.)			
139	} 2.2.70.	217	} 14.8.78.		
to		to			
144.)		220)			
145	} 23.12.70.	221	} 31.12.78.		
to		to			
149.)		225)			
150.	} 24.4.71.	226	} 12.1.72.		
to		to			
155.)		228)			
156	} 12.1.72.				
to					
161)					
162	} 24.10.72.				
to					
167)					
168	} 9.4.73.				
to					
173)					
174	} 14.10.73.				
to					
180					
x 181					
182	} 13.4.74.				
to					
186)					

last printed from.

made, but never registered.

Plates 1-56. Keast's head. Die I.

7. 8-15. Rumpelty's retouch. Die II.

The white lines on pl: 5 are very wide.

- 6 - much thinner.

Plates.Perkins, Bacon & Co.Three halfpence.

Plate	1.	22. 3. 60.	Dull rose, blue gum. no numbers in circle.
	2.	Not used	a req <sup>d</sup> .
Common	3.	<sup>or 30.</sup> 13. 4. 74.	No (3) in circle. Red.

Two pence.Perkins, Bacon & Co.

Plate	1.	2. 5. 40	small crown. No trace of die being hardened
Heath.	2.	31. 7. 40	" Completed & hardened at this date.
	3.	25. 2. 41	" Deep blue. White lines.
	4.	6. 12. 49	
	5.	8. 6. 55	
	6.	11. 2. 57	
Hamplery.	7.	11. 6. 58.	Just with letters in the 4 angles & side of
	8.	7. 7. 59	
	9.	14. 3. 61.	
	10.		
	11.	not used	plates defective.
	12.	1. 1. 68.	has circles round plate No first (12)
	13.	31. 3. 69.	
	14.	24. 4. 71.	
	15.	3. 9. 75.	

3d. plates 20. 21. Reg<sup>a</sup> plates are on (tipe).

Jan 4. 1881. watermark (Crown '80) on pl 20. 19. 2. 81  
21. 18. 7. 81.  
surcharges in red or blue 21 23. 11. 81.

Plate Register. De La Rue's Stamps.

One penny. 1880. Venetian Red. post. p. 154.

This not correct see to right.

Plate 1.	28. 10. 79.
2.	15. 11. 79.
3.	not trace
4 to 22.	22. 1. 80.
23. to 27.	22. 3. 80.
28.	28. 4. 80.
29.	28. 5. 80.
30 } 31 }	18. 6. 80
32.	"
33	"
34 } to } 46 }	Constructed, never registered.

These plates are hand no<sup>d</sup>

in ink with O before each No.

1 to 2. Commence exhibit has the following dates.

Plate 4.	17. 11. 79.	26 } 27 } 22. 3. 80.
5.	28. 10. 79.	
6.	9. 12. 79.	28. 28. 4. 80
7.	31. 10. 79.	
8.	31. 10. 79.	29 } 30 } 20. 5. 80
9.	15. 11. 79.	
10.	17. 11. 79.	31 } 32 } 18. 6. 80
11.	9. 12. 79.	
13.	1. 12. 79.	33
14.	9. 12. 79.	
15.	22. 1. 80.	
16.	9. 12. 79.	
17.	9. 12. 79.	
18.	9. 12. 79.	
19.	22. 1. 80.	
20.	22. 1. 80.	
21.	22. 1. 80.	

33. Last shown 3 & 11 not shown by Commrs. not registered.

plate 22.	18. 2. 80
23.	22. 3. 80
24.	2. 1. 80.
25.	2. 1. 80.

(verified 18. 8. 90)

Threehalfpence. 1880.

Plate 1.	23. 8. 80. <sup>post. 158. 23. 8. 80. 1/2</sup>
2.	23. 8. 80. v

red.

~~shown. 13. 9. 80. with as by Com~~

Twopence. 1880. red

Plate 1.	23. 8. 80. <sup>post. 154. Commrs 23. 8. 80.</sup>
2.	23. 8. 80. <sup>13. 9. 80.</sup>

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De la Rue & Co.

Two Pence Halfpenny.

Three Pence.

Plate No 1.	Reg <sup>d</sup> 30.3.75.
↓	2.
↓ + ⊕	3. 10. 6. 75.
⊕	4. 13. 7. 75. } <small>cut pres. 21. 4. 76. }</small>
	5. 1. pres. 3. 7. 76. }
	6. 3. 5. 76. } <small>1. pres. 7. 9. 76. }</small>
	7. 11. 9. 76.
	8. 5. 4. 77.
	9. 11. 7. 77.
	10. 20. 9. 77.
	11. 13. 12. 77.
	12. 30. 4. 78.
	13. 22. 8. 78.
	14. 15. 11. 78.
	15. 19. 3. 79.
	16. 26. 6. 79.
Blue -	17. 19. 9. 79. } <small>Commenced 22. 1. 80.</small>
	18. 21. 1. 80.
	19. 6. 4. 80.
	20. 28. 5. 80.
	21. 3. 2. 81.
cut & pres.	22. 11. 6. 81.
1. 7. 81.	
20. 8. 81.	23. 11. 6. 81.

Plate 1. (Heraldic E) Essay	
2.	7. 10. 61 <small>7. 10. 61  with lines.</small>
2	lines erased. 19. 3. 62.
3.	second marks. 25. 8. 62. <small>not sent to press as not a new design</small>
4	28. 11. 64.
5.	18. 10. 65.
6. (Tige)	8. 6. 68
7.	20. 2. 69.
8.	<del>22. 1. 72.</del> 22. <sup>2</sup> 72 <small>23</small>
9.	22. 4. 72
10.	6. 12. 72.
11.	21. 12. 72
12.	21. 6. 73.
13.	Defective. not used.
14.	27. 8. 73.
15.	25. 11. 73.
16.	10. 6. 74.
17.	30. 9. 74.
18.	26. 1. 75.
19.	7. 5. 75.
20.	29. 11. 78.
21.	? W. <sup>4</sup> (down) 15. 7. 80.

Lilac 21. surcharged 23. 11. 81.  
194

18.7.11	18.8.11	19.8.11	20.8.11	21.8.11	22.8.11	23.8.11	24.8.11	25.8.11	26.8.11	27.8.11	28.8.11	29.8.11	30.8.11	31.8.11	1.9.11	2.9.11	3.9.11	4.9.11	5.9.11	6.9.11	7.9.11	8.9.11	9.9.11	10.9.11	11.9.11	12.9.11	13.9.11	14.9.11	15.9.11	16.9.11	17.9.11	18.9.11	19.9.11	20.9.11	21.9.11	22.9.11	23.9.11	24.9.11	25.9.11	26.9.11	27.9.11	28.9.11	29.9.11	30.9.11	1.10.11	2.10.11	3.10.11	4.10.11	5.10.11	6.10.11	7.10.11	8.10.11	9.10.11	10.10.11	11.10.11	12.10.11	13.10.11	14.10.11	15.10.11	16.10.11	17.10.11	18.10.11	19.10.11	20.10.11	21.10.11	22.10.11	23.10.11	24.10.11	25.10.11	26.10.11	27.10.11	28.10.11	29.10.11	30.10.11	31.10.11	1.11.11	2.11.11	3.11.11	4.11.11	5.11.11	6.11.11	7.11.11	8.11.11	9.11.11	10.11.11	11.11.11	12.11.11	13.11.11	14.11.11	15.11.11	16.11.11	17.11.11	18.11.11	19.11.11	20.11.11	21.11.11	22.11.11	23.11.11	24.11.11	25.11.11	26.11.11	27.11.11	28.11.11	29.11.11	30.11.11	1.12.11	2.12.11	3.12.11	4.12.11	5.12.11	6.12.11	7.12.11	8.12.11	9.12.11	10.12.11	11.12.11	12.12.11	13.12.11	14.12.11	15.12.11	16.12.11	17.12.11	18.12.11	19.12.11	20.12.11	21.12.11	22.12.11	23.12.11	24.12.11	25.12.11	26.12.11	27.12.11	28.12.11	29.12.11	30.12.11	31.12.11
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18.7.11	18.8.11	19.8.11	20.8.11	21.8.11	22.8.11	23.8.11	24.8.11	25.8.11	26.8.11	27.8.11	28.8.11	29.8.11	30.8.11	31.8.11	1.9.11	2.9.11	3.9.11	4.9.11	5.9.11	6.9.11	7.9.11	8.9.11	9.9.11	10.9.11	11.9.11	12.9.11	13.9.11	14.9.11	15.9.11	16.9.11	17.9.11	18.9.11	19.9.11	20.9.11	21.9.11	22.9.11	23.9.11	24.9.11	25.9.11	26.9.11	27.9.11	28.9.11	29.9.11	30.9.11	1.10.11	2.10.11	3.10.11	4.10.11	5.10.11	6.10.11	7.10.11	8.10.11	9.10.11	10.10.11	11.10.11	12.10.11	13.10.11	14.10.11	15.10.11	16.10.11	17.10.11	18.10.11	19.10.11	20.10.11	21.10.11	22.10.11	23.10.11	24.10.11	25.10.11	26.10.11	27.10.11	28.10.11	29.10.11	30.10.11	31.10.11	1.11.11	2.11.11	3.11.11	4.11.11	5.11.11	6.11.11	7.11.11	8.11.11	9.11.11	10.11.11	11.11.11	12.11.11	13.11.11	14.11.11	15.11.11	16.11.11	17.11.11	18.11.11	19.11.11	20.11.11	21.11.11	22.11.11	23.11.11	24.11.11	25.11.11	26.11.11	27.11.11	28.11.11	29.11.11	30.11.11	1.12.11	2.12.11	3.12.11	4.12.11	5.12.11	6.12.11	7.12.11	8.12.11	9.12.11	10.12.11	11.12.11	12.12.11	13.12.11	14.12.11	15.12.11	16.12.11	17.12.11	18.12.11	19.12.11	20.12.11	21.12.11	22.12.11	23.12.11	24.12.11	25.12.11	26.12.11	27.12.11	28.12.11	29.12.11	30.12.11	31.12.11
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Handwritten notes at the bottom right of the page, including some illegible text and symbols.

De La Rue's Stamps. Plates registered.

Fourpence.

No. 1.	13. 7. 55.	
2.	29. 10. 55	
3.	29. 11. 61.	Embossed tablet
4.	27. 6. 62	2 lines on d° & diagonal mark
5.	} not printed from.	
6.		
7.	3. 6. 65.	No 4 s/for begin.
8.	15. 8. 65	
9.	2. 11. 66.	
10.	22. 12. 66.	
11.	2. 9. 68.	10. 9. 68 same
12.	28. 11. 68.	
13.	1. 1. 69	
14.	1. 4. 69.	
15.	10. 6. 74	green
16.	4. 8. 74	red pink & blue - 22. 10. 77.
17.	30. 7. 77.	green.
18.	15. 8. 82.	

Sixpence.

Plate. 1.	29. 3. 56.	Blue paper. Arabic Emb.
2.	Not printed from	
3.	17. 10. 61.	
4.	15. 4. 62	
5.	30. 12. 64	Diagonal lines, no on stamp.
6.	5. 12. 65.	
7.	Defective plate. not used.	
8.	23. 1. 68.	
9.	20. 2. 69	
10.	1. 4. 69. or 1. 1. 69	Type superseded, not printed from.
11.	5. 1. 72.	Chestnut brown
12.	22. 4. 72.	do
13.	21. 12. 72	light brown. postages. 11. 12. 72.
14.	25. 7. 73 1. 4. 69.	grey. but light brown?
15.	15. 7. 74 10. 6. 74.	is grey?
16.	10. 9. 75. 30. 7. 77.	colours.
17.	13. 12. 77. 25. 2. 81.	unsuit.
18.	15. 7. 80.	brown.

Twopence. Blue Black

No. 1.	28. 2. 81.	60s.
2.	10. 10. 83.	

Like 6<sup>s</sup> uncharged 6<sup>s</sup> red.

18.	23. 11. 82.	crown 193
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Dispositions		Receipts	
1871	10.11.22	1871	10.11.22
1872	10.11.22	1872	10.11.22
1873	10.11.22	1873	10.11.22
1874	10.11.22	1874	10.11.22
1875	10.11.22	1875	10.11.22
1876	10.11.22	1876	10.11.22
1877	10.11.22	1877	10.11.22
1878	10.11.22	1878	10.11.22
1879	10.11.22	1879	10.11.22
1880	10.11.22	1880	10.11.22
1881	10.11.22	1881	10.11.22
1882	10.11.22	1882	10.11.22
1883	10.11.22	1883	10.11.22
1884	10.11.22	1884	10.11.22
1885	10.11.22	1885	10.11.22
1886	10.11.22	1886	10.11.22
1887	10.11.22	1887	10.11.22
1888	10.11.22	1888	10.11.22
1889	10.11.22	1889	10.11.22
1890	10.11.22	1890	10.11.22

9<sup>th</sup> Pl. 3. diagonal lines. not printed from ~~2 7<sup>th</sup> 1871~~  
 pl. 5. never issued.

1871 10.11.22  
 1872 10.11.22  
 1873 10.11.22  
 1874 10.11.22  
 1875 10.11.22  
 1876 10.11.22  
 1877 10.11.22  
 1878 10.11.22  
 1879 10.11.22  
 1880 10.11.22  
 1881 10.11.22  
 1882 10.11.22  
 1883 10.11.22  
 1884 10.11.22  
 1885 10.11.22  
 1886 10.11.22  
 1887 10.11.22  
 1888 10.11.22  
 1889 10.11.22  
 1890 10.11.22

Plate Register. De La Ruc's Stamps.

Eight Pence.

Plate 1.	7.7.76. red brown.
2.	11.9.76. orange.

Nine Pence.

Plate 1.	not printed from.
2.	14.11.61
3.	8.5.62
4.	27.2.65.
5.	24.4.66.

Ten Pence.

Plate 1.	22.3.67.
2.	30.8.67.

One shilling

Plate 1.	27.6.56 on blue paper (HE.)
2.	8.5.62. marked ①
3.	16.6.62. " ② special marks. never put to press.
4.	28.11.64 " ④
5.	28.3.66. - approx 17.67
6.	24.2.69.
7.	30.9.72.
8.	30.9.72
9.	10.7.73.
10.	25.11.73.
11.	23.4.74. <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">altered? facsimile 26.6.75: 8°</span>
12.	30.9.74. 20.12.75.
13.	23.4.75. colour changes on this plate. oct. 1880
14.	20.12.75.

Plate No.	Color	Year	Notes
1880	Blue	1880	Original
1881	Red	1881	Reproduction
1882	Blue	1882	Original
1883	Red	1883	Reproduction
1884	Blue	1884	Original
1885	Red	1885	Reproduction
1886	Blue	1886	Original
1887	Red	1887	Reproduction
1888	Blue	1888	Original
1889	Red	1889	Reproduction
1890	Blue	1890	Original
1891	Red	1891	Reproduction
1892	Blue	1892	Original
1893	Red	1893	Reproduction
1894	Blue	1894	Original
1895	Red	1895	Reproduction
1896	Blue	1896	Original
1897	Red	1897	Reproduction
1898	Blue	1898	Original
1899	Red	1899	Reproduction
1900	Blue	1900	Original

2/ Blue changed to red on pt 1. Octo 1880.

1880 - 1881  
1882 - 1883

Plate Register. De La Rue's Stamps.

Two Shillings.

Plate 1. 5.4.67.

2. Spoiled.

? 3.1.68.

3. 23.1.68.

Ten Shillings.

Plate 1. 6.8.78.

Five Shillings.

Plate 1. 18.4.67.

2. 5.7.67.

3. Spoiled.

4. 28.11.74.

One Pound. □

Plate 1. 6.8.78.

Plate 2. <sup>design to</sup>  31.1.84.

3. 25.2.84.

green. 26.11.90.

Two pounds.

Plate 1. 9.3.82.

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	No Letters.		Small Letters.		Large White Letters.		Coloured Letters.	
	Imprimatur.	Issue.	Imprimatur.	Issue.	Imprimatur.	Issue.	Imprimatur.	Issue.
4 <sup>d</sup>	13. 7. 55	31. 7. 55	29. 11. 61.	15. 1. 62.	3. 6. 65	1. 8. 65.	10. 6. 74.	" 2. 76.
6 <sup>d</sup>	29. 3. 56	21. 10. 56	17. 10. 61.	. 9. 62	30. 12. 64	1. 4. 65.	1. 12. 72.	1. 4. 74.
1 <sup>s</sup>	27. 6. 56	1. 11. 56	8. 5. 62	. 10. 62	28. 11. 64	2. 65	30. 9. 72	9. 73.
9 <sup>d</sup>			14. 11. 61	15. 1. 62.	27. 2. 65.	1. 12. 65.		
3 <sup>d</sup>			19. 3. 62	1. 5. 62	28. 11. 64	1. 3. 65	21. 12. 72.	15. 7. 73.
10 <sup>d</sup>					22. 3. 67	1. 7. 67		
2 <sup>s</sup>					5. 4. 67.	1. 7. 67		
5 <sup>d</sup>					18. 4. 67.	1. 7. 67.		
8 <sup>d</sup>							7. 7. 76	1. 9. 76.
10 <sup>d</sup>							6. 8. 78.	25. 9. 76.
£ 1.							6. 8. 78	25. 9. 76.
2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>							30. 3. 75	1. 7. 75.

run off  
from 56

spring 1856

Year	Month	Day	Time	Location	Remarks	Count	Notes
1902	1	1	10				
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1902	1	3	10				
1902	1	4	10				
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1902	1	8	10				
1902	1	9	10				
1902	1	10	10				
1902	1	11	10				
1902	1	12	10				
1902	1	13	10				
1902	1	14	10				
1902	1	15	10				
1902	1	16	10				
1902	1	17	10				
1902	1	18	10				
1902	1	19	10				
1902	1	20	10				
1902	1	21	10				
1902	1	22	10				
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1902	1	25	10				
1902	1	26	10				
1902	1	27	10				
1902	1	28	10				
1902	1	29	10				
1902	1	30	10				

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Plate Register. De Ia Rue.

One halfpenny. 1880. nos. p. 158.

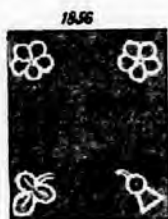
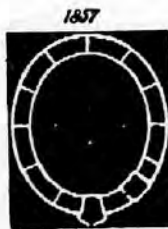
Plate 1.	23. 8. 80.	All in green, as shown by J. R. Collins
2.	18. 8. 80.	at Ph Lxh: 1890. to pl 8. inclusive
3.	18. 8. 80.	.
4.	Spoiled.	
5.		not registered.
6 + 7.	1. 12. 80.	Plate 7. in purple black. 20. 2. 84.
8.	12. 9. 83.	change on pl: 7 + 8. 7 registered as above. 20. 2. 84.
9 + 10.	19. 5. 84.	all in purple black
11 + 12.	21. 8. 85.	.
13. + 14.	13. 7. 86.	.

O. C. has 1. 2 3. 4. in green  
 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. in black

One half acre, 1880. Nov. 4 1880.

1	27 7 10	1000	1000
2	11 1 10	1000	1000
3	15 1 10	1000	1000
4	10 1 10	1000	1000
5	10 1 10	1000	1000
6	10 1 10	1000	1000
7	10 1 10	1000	1000
8	10 1 10	1000	1000
9	10 1 10	1000	1000
10	10 1 10	1000	1000
11	10 1 10	1000	1000
12	10 1 10	1000	1000
13	10 1 10	1000	1000





*cross Patée.*  
1870

*half penny*



*From the original  
Vandy roll  
Crown. 1880.*



*Just Published, Price 10s. 6d.*

THE  
Postage and Telegraph Stamps  
OF  
GREAT BRITAIN

(WITH UPWARDS OF 100 ILLUSTRATIONS).

BY  
FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK  
AND  
WILLIAM A. S. WESTOBY.

---

Compiled and Published for  
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---

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1881.

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I see from the Notes and Queries in the *Record* that a question has been asked as to the etymology of the word "philately," which even the Postmaster-General on the first blush thought to be a misnomer for "philately." Mr. Herpin desired to avoid mixing up two languages in the formation of a compound word which should replace that very disagreeable word *Timbro-manie*, or stamp stupidity, to give it a less nauseous flavour, and invented the word "philately" as compounded from φίλος, a friend, and ἀρετή, free from charge or tax, and in its substantive form ἀρετεια, so that "philately" would be interpreted "the love of what relates to franking." Were the word to be "philately" we fear it would either signify "the love of taxes" or the desire to get to the end of the matter, or as some one remarked that it might be φίλος and ἄλλε, "the lover of something afar off." But all this is ancient history. Is it not written in the chronicles of the year 24 (A.D. 1864)?

W. A. S. WESTOBY.

7th June, 1890.

## P R E F A C E.

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SHORTLY after the formation of the Philatelic Society, London, its attention was directed to the Postage Stamps of Great Britain, and several of the earliest meetings were devoted to their investigation.

The absence of sufficient *data*, added to the difficulty of obtaining reliable information with reference to circumstances which had taken place so many years previously, induced the Society to postpone the further consideration of the subject; and it was not till 1879 that the then Secretary was requested to prepare a digest of such information as had in the meanwhile been collected, and submit it for further examination.

On resuming the enquiry, it became evident that the preparation of a comprehensive list of the stamps involved much careful and minute attention. A general desire was also expressed that the work should not be confined to a mere catalogue, revised or annotated with such emendations as individual members of the Society might suggest at its meetings, but that an endeavour should be made to produce a more systematic and detailed history of the various postage and telegraph stamps that have been issued, with an account of some of the almost unknown, but highly interesting, essays and designs which from time to time had been produced during the gradual development of the British Postal System.

The President was unanimously requested to undertake the authorship of such a work, but at his request another member of the Society was associated with him in the task, and the papers in the Society's possession were placed at their disposition.

At an early stage the Authors found that the subject entailed so much independent investigation, and opened out such a wide field of enquiry, that it was necessary to reconsider the entire scope of the contemplated work, which at their instance, and with the assent of the Society, has assumed its present shape.

The volume makes no pretension to literary merit; indeed its very nature involves a certain amount of repetition, not to say tautology. Many matters of detail might possibly have been omitted without detriment, but as it was evident that the changes commenced in 1880 were only the precursors of others affecting the majority of the stamps in use, the Authors, warned by the difficulties attendant on their own researches, have recorded them, lest what now admitted of easy and accurate explanation should in a few years become difficult if not impossible to unravel.

While availing themselves of such materials as had already been collected, the Authors are entirely responsible for the facts stated in the following pages. Their sedulous endeavour has been to secure the greatest amount of accuracy possible in this the first connected account of the postage and telegraph stamps of Great Britain, to attain which every stamp, unless otherwise stated, has been described from the specimen itself. Care also has been taken to refer for information to none but primary sources, wherever such were accessible. Some delay has in consequence arisen, due partly to the lapse of time, which has removed the greater number of those who bore part in the original work, and compelled those who survive to consult books and other records for the details of transactions which

Somerset House

25 May 90

My Dear Phillips

I understand from our  
friend Dr. Bethley that I  
was sharp on this book  
to you. It was very kind  
of him to allow me to have

a book et cetera.

I send you notes of  
correction against different  
pages of the valuable book  
written by Dr. Withby &  
yourself. These were made by  
my Assistant Dr. Clew  
when he was arranging the

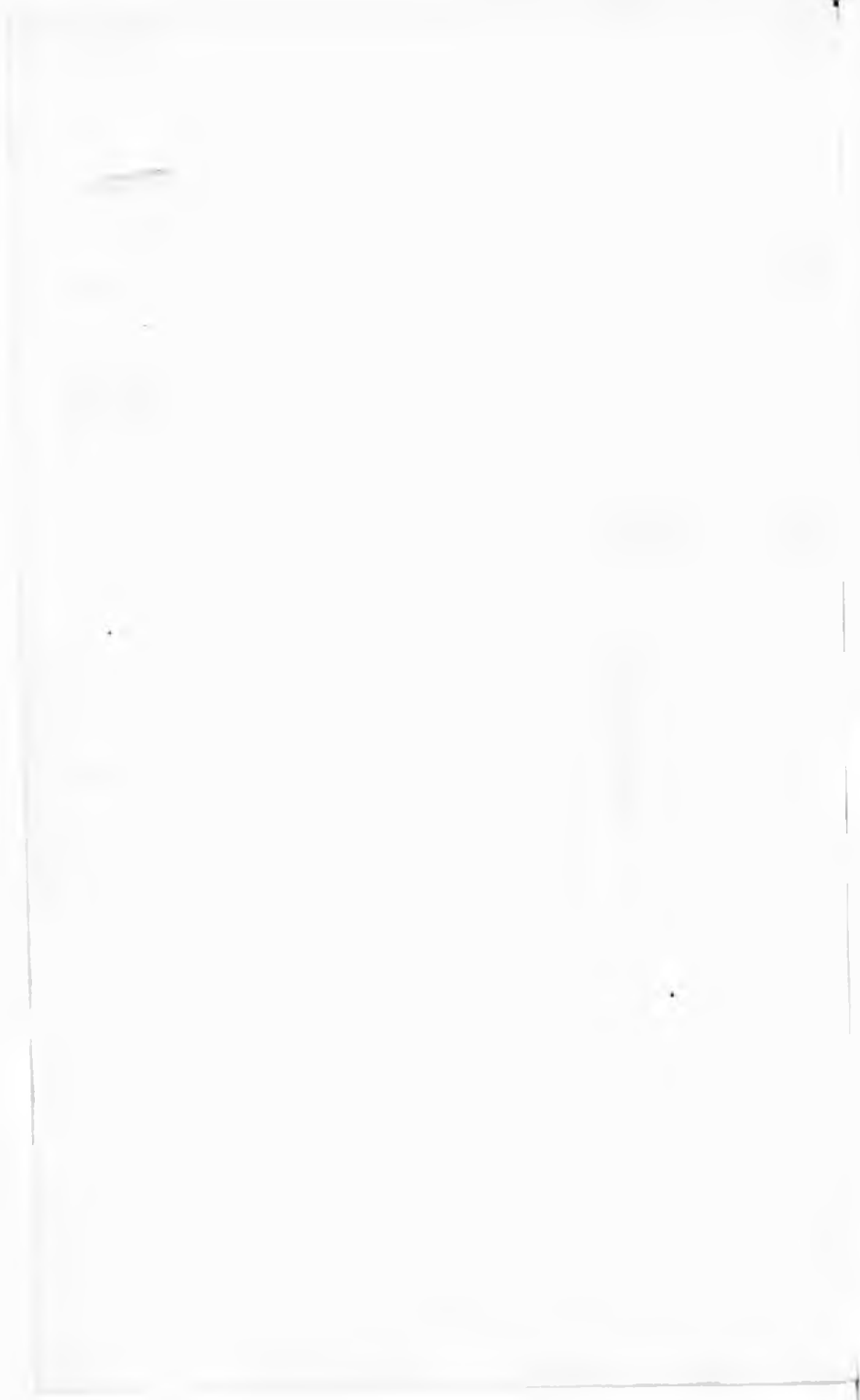
All stamps for exhibition at  
the Guild hall. They may be of  
use to you. Will you kindly  
let Dr. Bethley know. I can  
not come there to visit to him  
just now.

Yr. very sincerely

J. S. Park

F. A. Philbrick Esq. 2 C.

✓



E. Hill. Born 1794

Insp. of Postage Stamps. 31. Jan. 40.

Supervisor of "Stamping"  
Dept. } 26. Aug. 48

£ 500

£ 750. — — from 11 Aug. 54

Called Comptroller — 13 Apr. 63

£ 700 : 20 : 800 from 15 June 67

Relinquished  
& superseded } from 7 May 1872

Died 6 Nov. 76.

D. Hill Born 1823

Asst. Sup<sup>d</sup> Postage Stamps May 41.

£ 2 2. per week

3. 13. 6 — from 5 Apr. 52

Asst. Supervisor of Stamping

Department — } 11 Aug. 54

£ 500

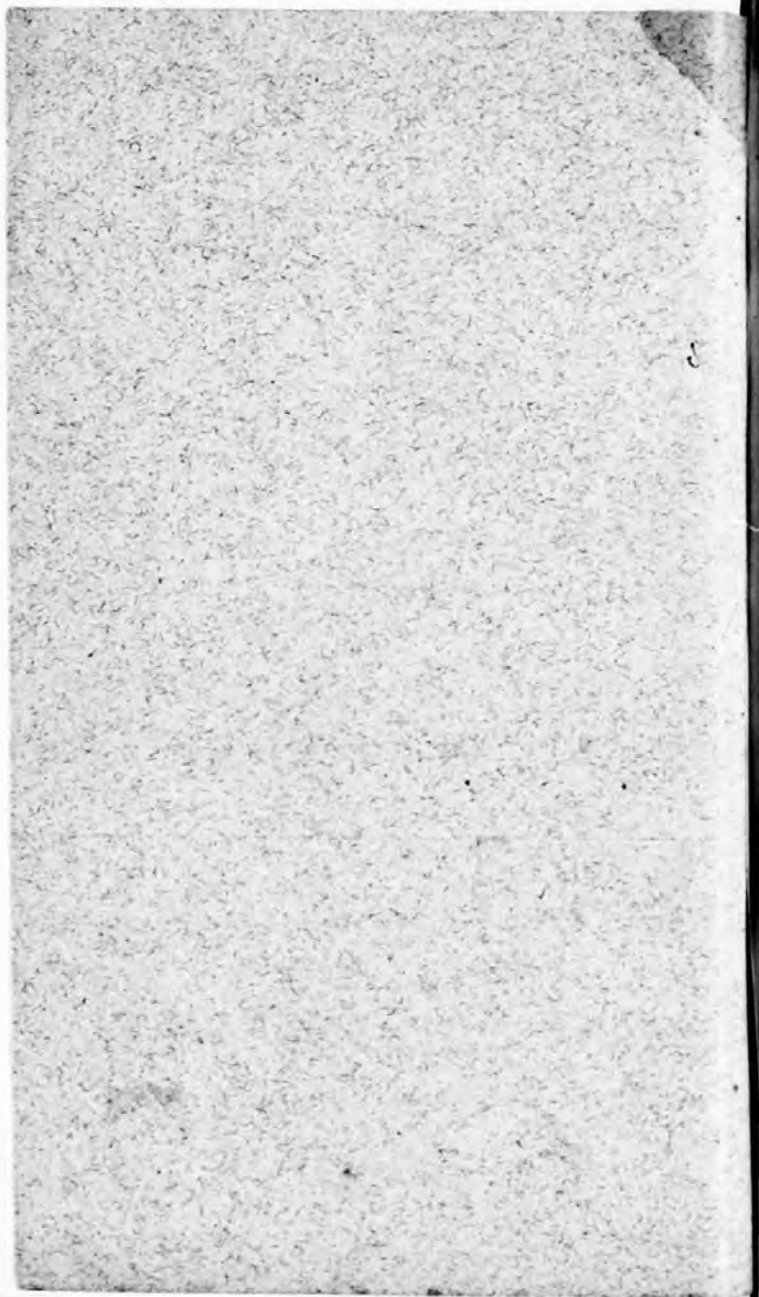
Called Deputy Comptroller from 13 Apr. 63

£ 500 : 20 : 600 from 15 June 67

Comptroller — — — 7 May 72

700 : 20 : 800

Left — — — 14 Nov. 76.





See Philatelic Record. vol IV. P 67. April 1882.

Letter of. William J. Wilson. Birmingham.

Some revisions by Mr Cleave. Assist<sup>t</sup> to Mr Percell C.B.  
the Controller. made when arranging the I.R. Current  
Exhibit for the Jubilee Guildhall Ex<sup>h</sup> May 1890  
are inserted herein (all done 29.5.90.)

~~Sub~~ Jubilee Meetings. 1890.

Penny Postage Jubilee Dinner. 15 January

- With H. C. Parkes at Holborn Restaurant. P. M. General in Chair  
P. M. General

Guildhall.

Reception. Friday. May. 16 1890.

Exhibition open. Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>.

& Monday. 19<sup>th</sup>.

London Philatelic Exhibition. Portman Rooms

Baker Street. Opened Monday. 19<sup>th</sup> May.

(White Thursday) | Closed " 26<sup>th</sup>

Opening Luncheon D. of Edinburgh. 19<sup>th</sup>. Monday

Conversations. L. P. Socy. 20<sup>th</sup>. Tuesday

Ladies Dinner of the Socy. - 21<sup>st</sup>. Wednesday

Lon Phil Socy Exhibition Home Spn Valley 1890.

Lon Philatelic Society. Epsingham House

Exhibition Rare Stamps Monday 7-12 May 1890

Penny Post Jubilee Official 2 July 1890

held at S. Kensington Museum.

The new stamps, a brief description of which we published in our special edition yesterday, are entirely different from any which have hitherto appeared. With exception of the penny label, which remains unchanged, they are all in two colours, and several striking effects have been produced by the artistic manner in which these have been combined. Every denomination differs from the others both in colour and design, the centre of each still being occupied by a head of the Queen. The halfpenny label consists of a head in double circle in red, the base being white. The three halfpenny stamp is exceedingly effective, being in violet with the head in an oval flanked by laurel leaves, and supported by a shield in bright green. The twopenny stamp, perhaps the most effective of all, is in pale green, the head in a circle supported by a red shield behind 2d. in large figures. The 2½d. stamp is in brown on blue-green, resembling the old five centime stamp of the French Empire. The threepenny label is brown on buff, and the fourpenny brown on pale green. The fivepenny in mauve has two shields in blue divided by the Royal arms, and the sixpenny a very striking label in two reds. The ninepenny is in brown in the form of a Maltese cross with Queen's head in centre on blue with 9d. in each corner, and the shilling in pale green on white. The Post Office will doubtless be complimented on all hands on the result of their labours, and Mr. Stevenson A. Blackwood, O.B., the Secretary to the Post Office, who has taken so prominent a part in the work of the committee, can rest content having issued the most practical series of stamps yet seen in this country.

The regulation of the supply of postage stamps to the various post-offices throughout the kingdom entails a great deal of labour on the department of the Controller of Stamps. This department of the public service is not part of the post-office, but a distinct office forming part of the Inland Revenue branch at Somerset House. The stamps themselves are not, however, printed by the Government at all, except in the case of embossed stamps, such as are used on cheques, deeds of transfer, and such legal documents, and newspaper wrappers, which are printed at Somerset House. Strange as it may appear that a nation should obtain its postage stamps by private contract, this is the case, and all adhesive postage stamps issued by the Post-office are printed, gummed, and perforated by a firm in the city, who also engrave the dies. That an enormous quantity of stamps is required during the year must be patent to all, but few would imagine the amount to be so great as it really is. The usual number of penny stamps alone issued through the 16,434 post offices in the United Kingdom is rather over fifteen hundred millions, all of which are in the first instance despatched from Somerset House. The stamps are conveyed to the Controller's office in locked vans as soon as they are dry, and the quantity in stock is never less than six million pounds worth. They are kept in huge safes distributed over the various rooms in the basement of Somerset House at such distances from one another as to render the risk of total destruction by fire impossible.

Stamps are supplied to Post Offices on a uniform and exceedingly simple system. Every postmaster is furnished with requisition forms, on which each denomination of stamp is separately set down. These are filled up with the amounts required, and sent by post to Somerset House, whence the stamps are invariably despatched the same day. The quantities thus sent out are enormous, averaging some 2,000 parcels daily, and representing a weight of some four to five tons. Sixteen clerks are kept all the year round at this duty, which does not include postcards or postal notes, these being separately dealt with. Of the latter, 700 or 800 parcels are sent out daily, and postcards materially add to the bulk of matter despatched.

The stamp store department at Somerset House is well worthy of inspection. It is divided into several branches, the chief of which are the receiving-room and the transmitting office. In the former all stamps coming in from the contractors are received and counted before being put into store. They are received in mill sheets of larger size than issue sheets, and are cut and tied in parcels representing £100. The safes in which the sheets are placed contain great numbers of stamps, representing as much as £140,000 to a safe. In the transmitting or issue department the stamps ordered by the different postmasters are taken out and packed, each post office being debited with the stamps forwarded. The accounts of the various postmasters are kept at the General Post Office, where the debits are forwarded. Postal orders are dealt with in a series of rooms on an upper floor. The entire staff in this department are ladies, who attend to the requisitions received, and despatch the notes in much the same way as the stamps are dealt with downstairs. The usual store of postal notes is half a million, though this number is frequently exceeded. All postal orders are printed at the Bank of England, the paper used being similar to that used for banknotes.

The paper is made at a mill, which does no other work, at Tunbridge, and every sheet is carefully scanned and counted. The watermarks in use at present are the Crown, Orb, V.R., Anchor, and Ace, produced by the insertion of thin brass "bits" of the design required on the wire frames of the mill cylinders. The printing of stamps is a somewhat complicated process, requiring great care and nicety. The plates are brightly polished sheets of steel, finely engraved with the number of stamps required to the sheet,

rapidly, punching out little of the perforations occur. Each is subsequently inspected, any condemned, and the perfect sheets sent to Somerset House, where they remain until they are required for issue. That supplying the public will involve a deal of labour. The stamps are full of interest, and the department at Somerset House well worthy a visit. We are under our obligation to Mr. John S. P. for much of the information in this article, as well as for the facilities afforded our representative.

*Tanner & Co  
Roughway Mills.*

each stamp being an exact reproduction of the others. The printed sheets are next gummed, the preparation used being a solution of gum arabic of the finest quality and water, the work being done by hand, and they are then dried by being suspended in a current of hot air, driven by fans worked by steam. The next process is polishing the surface, effected by passing the sheets through very powerful steel cylinders, which, being warmed, impart a gloss to the ink, and the stamps are then ready to be perforated. This process, a very noisy one, is done by machines, having a number of little hollow needles projecting where perforation is required. They work by pulsating up and down with great

? gummed before being printed

Nov 1823

Ormond Hill. Deputy Controller 1867 - 72  
Controller full in 1872  
retired.

~~London Hill sole Secy. 24 April 1852~~

~~Joint Secy with Macarty~~  
Asst Sup' P.S. May 1841

Asst Supersa S(F) Dep. — 11 Aug 1857

Called Depy Controller 13 April 1863.

Controller 7 May 1872

Resigned - 10 Nov 1876.

See M.S. note  
on leaf. p. 2.

1866  
Nedrick Hill

see an Autobiography  
of his daughter  
Constance Hill.

and. (Bristol) 1874

Edwin Hill

p. 309  
In 1857 suggested annual Report of P.M. Gould to be  
made before Hill - This Report wrote for 16 yrs.  
suggested B. Postal Guide at home. in 1861. & his  
editors.  
Proposed postal notes. named called "Circular"  
Resigned, 1876

resigned 1876.

Edwin Hill (See B. Hill) born 1796

Inspector Postage S.F. — 31 June 1840

Superior S.F. & Dep' S.M. — 26 Aug 1848

Called Controller — 13 April 1863

Relinquished American? 7 May 1872

Died 6 Nov 1876.

## AN APPENDIX TO THE POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

PRESENTED TO THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON, BY THE AUTHORS,

P. A. PHILBECK and W. A. S. WESTOBY.

June 1883.

THE work on *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, compiled by us at your request, has now been before the public for nearly two years. The difficulty of obtaining trustworthy information, especially as regarded the history of some of the earlier issues, tended materially to render the work less perfect than we desired; but we felt compelled to offer it to you as it was, trusting that its publication would have the effect of inducing philatelists to devote more attention to those stamps, which may be considered as the parents of the whole postage stamp family. Our expectations were not unfounded, as is shown by the communications and criticisms that have reached us from various quarters. Some errors have been pointed out to us, while others have been rendered patent by the light of information obtained subsequently to the publication of the work. Errors that we discovered, and changes that took place while the work was passing through the press, were mentioned in the Addenda; but, to avoid the trouble of a double reference, we now propose to include in the present Appendix all that is to be found in the Addenda, together with the various changes which have been made up to the present time, and to correct such errors as we have discovered. This we shall do in a regular form, following the paging of the work.

had faded from their memory. In addition, all English and foreign publications containing any reference to the subject have been passed in review, and the Authors believe they have not omitted to collate and verify every statement to be gathered from these sources which would throw any further light on the matter.

The Authors have gratefully to acknowledge the aid that has been readily afforded to them by the General Post Office, by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and by the former and present contractors for the supply of stamps; and last, but not least, to express their recognition of the assistance rendered by their Colleagues of the Society, and more especially their great obligations to its energetic Secretary, Mr. Burnett, for his invaluable counsel and help.

In now dedicating these pages to the Philatelic Society of London, the Authors venture to express the hope that their attempt to record some of the more interesting features connected with the issues of the postal and telegraph stamps of Great Britain will be deemed not altogether unworthy of the reputation of the oldest Society devoted to the Science.

FREDEBICK A. PHILBRICK, *President.*

W. A. S. WESTOBY.

*July, 1881.*

In Preface, there was a <sup>which will be done</sup>  
~~Corrected proof of~~ para omitted. ~~part and~~ ~~to print on~~ p. 72.



"British Postal ~~Gas~~ Guide."

First no issued on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1856.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Heli's autograph by pp 309, 10, it is said it first appeared in 1861.  
its editg was suspended by FA till his resignation in 1876-1876.

"Postal Official Circular."

~~change of title to~~  
first.

1<sup>st</sup> March 1867.

last no so entitled was 24 August 1874.

"Post Office Circular"

title changed to. & first appeared 31 August 1874.

& so continues to this day. (July 1894)

Thomas Sargent. Sect Bd Inland Revenue  
(retired) died 5 Feb 1903. Aged 97  
at 82 Rochester Terrace, Hyde Park.

**FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK, Esq., Q.C.,**

*President of the Philatelic Society, London;*

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF  
HIS INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN ITS COMPILATION

This Catalogue is inscribed,

WITH EVERY SENTIMENT OF REGARD,

BY HIS SINCERE FRIEND,

THE AUTHOR.

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NEWSPAPER STAMPS . . . . .	000
Ordinary Stamps . . . . .	000
Special Stamps . . . . .	000
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brown colour in which these tablets are printed extends as a sort of fringe to the perforations of the stamps, and thus imparts to them a very characteristic appearance. The 5d. stamp is printed principally in purple, and the duty appears in two blue tablets which are printed on either side of the Royal coat of arms, which constitutes the leading feature in this stamp, appearing, as it does, immediately under the Queen's head. The 6d. stamp is printed in one colour on a pink paper. The 9d. stamp is printed in purple, with the duty repeated in each corner in blue tablets; and, as in the 4d. stamp, the secondary colour extends to the perforations. The 1s. stamp is printed in one colour, a green, on white paper.

It will be noticed from the above description that contrast in appearance is obtained, in three instances, by the employment of markedly distinctive colours on white paper, in three others by the employment of different coloured papers; in another set of three, by the duty being printed on the face of the stamps in one or two places in a second colour; while in two of the stamps the duty is printed in a second colour at all four corners of the stamps, and the colour is extended to the edge or perforations. Contrast is further assisted by the Queen's head being, in some cases, supported upon a background of solid colour, while in others it floats in a white field. In all cases, except in that of the 1d., which remains as of old, the Queen's head appears of a much smaller size than we have been accustomed to; while corner letters, which have so long disfigured our stamps, and which it is understood were never of real value as a means of detecting fraud, have disappeared altogether. Thus, by an increase of field, scope has been given to the designer, of which full advantage has been taken, to render the stamps pretty in appearance, while, at the same time, the first consideration of variety, or individuality of design, has been kept steadily in view.

The series certainly possesses the merit of considerable originality. The stamps are unlike those of any other country. They will, we believe, prove acceptable not only on that score, but also on account of their intrinsic merit; and Mr. Stevenson Blackwood, C.B., and the members of the Stamps Committee are to be congratulated upon the successful result of their labours. Undoubtedly, no series of stamps exists which among themselves differ so much in appearance as these do; and this, notwithstanding the fact that, as

previously indicated, they have to be more sensitive to manipulation than those of any other nation. This degree of sensitiveness is arrived at by the employment of inks of a peculiar character. The colours of these inks are practically limited to the two main ones—the purple and the green—which cover the whole of the principal portion of every stamp. And the necessity for greater sensitiveness arises from the fact that English stamps are employed in the collection of several branches of revenue, differing thus from those of foreign countries, which are exclusively confined to the postage service.

Great Britain has taken the initiative in the "unification"—to use a technical term—of stamps; and if other countries follow in her wake it seems to us that they cannot do better, in the construction of their stamps, than to study the method of affording distinction between duties adopted in the series which is to-day under issue throughout the United Kingdom.

The stamp scheme recommended by the joint committee was approved by Mr. Shaw-Lesvre in May, 1885, just before his resignation of the office of Postmaster-General; and, from that time up to within the last few days, the authorities at Somerset-house and the Government contractors have been busily engaged in carrying out the work of manufacture, &c., and the many details connected therewith. The Queen's head which appears on the stamps represents the Sovereign in her youth, and not in maturity. It is rumoured that the new coinage will be treated differently. We are not, however, sure that so good an effect would have been produced in the treatment of the new stamps if a less classical type of head had been adopted than that which appears in them.

The elaboration, &c., of all the designs that were considered by the committee and the execution of the work of manufacture has throughout rested with Messrs. De La Rue and Co., the Government contractors, to whom all praise is due for the very excellent manner in which a most difficult task has been brought to completion.

No further issues of the old stamps will be made by the Controller of Stamps; but all of these stamps that may be in the hands of the public or in the stocks of postmasters will still be available for use.

### THE NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

Glouc. 1.1.87.

The Postal authorities so far back as 1835 decided, none too soon, that the postage stamps in use up till yesterday were not well adapted to the purposes for which they were designed. In this decision they had the approval of not only the various post-office officials throughout the country, but of the public also, since the stamps bore such a resemblance to one another, in point of both design and colour, as to render it difficult to distinguish one denomination from the other. One of the last acts of Mr. Fawcett was to appoint a committee to report upon the whole question of stamps, and their labours lasted over two years. The postage stamps about to be abolished were introduced, in 1834, and though, while regarded as works of art, their execution is above mediocrity, it would be difficult to conceive how they could have been more unsuitable for the purpose to which they were put. It will, therefore, be a pleasant surprise to the public to learn that the new stamps, which have been in existence for some time past, are being issued to the public to-day; and it will be an equally satisfactory piece of intelligence to our readers that, whatever their defects, care has been taken that by no possibility can a stamp of one denomination be mistaken for another, as has till now been so frequently the case.



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...the purpose is made to... Although my experiments were not carried out under the most favourable circumstances their results were satisfactory. A piece of paper was handed to me for the purpose of determining if part of it had been unequally and greatly wet, and if another part of it had been manipulated for the purpose of erasing marks upon it; in other words, whether this part had been rubbed. The sample I had to work upon had already gone through several experiments. I had remarked that the tint of paper exposed to the vapour of iodine differs from that which this same paper assumes when it has been wet first and dried afterwards. In addition to this, I realised that when sized and calendered paper, first partially wet and then dried, is subjected to the action of iodine vapour, the parts which had been wet take on a violet tint, while those which had not been moistened become either discoloured or brown. The intensity of the colouration naturally varied according to the length of time for which the paper was exposed to the iodine.

*Globe* DISCOLOURATION BY WATER, 18 10 92  
There is a very striking difference, also, when the water is sprinkled over the paper, and the drops are left to dry off by themselves in order not to alter the surface of the paper, complete dryness being produced at a temperature of 313deg. Thorough wetting of the paper will cause the sprinkled parts to turn a heavy violet blue colour when exposed to the vapour, while the parts which were untouched by the water will become blue. If, after sprinkling upon a piece of paper and evaporating the drops thereon, this piece of paper is first thoroughly wet, then dried and subjected to the action of iodine, the traces of the first drops will remain distinguishable whether the paper is dry or wet. In the latter case the traces of the first sprinkling will hardly be distinguishable so long as the moisture is not entirely got rid off, but as soon as complete dryness is effected, their outlines, although very faint, will show plainly on the darker ground surrounding the space covered by the first drops. In this reaction water plays virtually the part of a sympathetic fluid, and tracing the characters with water on sized and calendered paper, the writing will show perfectly plain when the paper is dried and exposed to the action of iodine vapour. The brownish violet shade on a yellowish ground will evolve to a dark blue on a light blue ground after wetting. These characters disappear immediately under the action of sulphurous acid, but will reappear after first the decolouration, provided the paper has not been wet, and the decolouration has been effected by the action of sulphurous acid gas. This process, therefore, affords means for tracing characters which become legible, and can be caused to disappear, but at will to reappear again, or which can be used for one time only, and be cancelled for ever afterwards.

The erasure has been so great as to remove a considerable portion of the paper, the erased surface is of greater transparency; but if the erasure has been effected with care, examination close to a light will disclose it, the erased part being duller than the surrounding surfaces, because of the partial upheaval of the fibres. If an erasure is effected by means of bread crumbs instead of indiarubber, and care is taken to erase in one direction, the change escapes notice, and it is generally impossible to detect it, should the paper thus handled be written upon again. Iodine vapours, however, show all traces of these manipulations very plainly, giving their location with perfect certainty. The erased surfaces assume a yellow-brown or brownish tint. If, after being subjected to the action of the iodine, the paper in which an erasure has been made is wet, it becomes of a blue colour, the intensity of which is commensurate with the length of time to which it has been under the action of the iodine, and when the paper is again dried, the erased portions are more or less darker than the remainder of the sheet.

#### IODINE AS A DETECTOR.

On the other hand, when the erasure has been so rough as to take off an important part of the material, exposure to iodine, wetting and drying result in less intensity of colouration on the parts erased, because the erasing, in its mechanical action of carrying off parts of the paper removes also parts of the substances—fecula sizing—which in combination with iodine give birth to the blue tint. Consequently the action of the iodine differs according to the extent of the erasure. When paper is partially erased and wet, and when letters are copied, the same result, although not so striking, follows upon exposing it to the iodine vapour after letting it dry thoroughly. Iodine affords in certain cases the means of detecting the nature of the substances used for erasing. Bread crumbs or indiarubber leave yellow or brownish-yellow tints after iodination, and these are distinguished by stripes or more intense colouration, erasures by means of bread crumbs causing the paper to take a violet shade of great uniformity. These peculiarities are due to the upheaval of the fibres, caused by rubbing. In fact, this upheaval creates a larger absorbing surface, and consequently a larger proportion of iodine can cover the rubbed parts than it would if there had been no friction. When paper upon which writing has been traced with a glass rod, the tip of which is perfectly round and smooth, is exposed to iodine vapour, the characters appear brown on a yellow ground, which wetting turns to blue. This change also occurs when the paper written upon has been run through a supercalender. If the paper is not wet, these characters can be made to appear or be blotted out by the successive action of sulphurous acid and iodine vapour.

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## Part II.

### TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

#### L

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... is a...  
... have been traced  
on a piece of paper under which they appear very  
plainly, although physical examination would fail to  
reveal their existence, but a somewhat lengthy ex-  
posure to iodine vapours will suffice to show them. If  
the wrong side of the paper is exposed to the iodine  
vapour, the characters are visible, but, of course, in  
their inverted position. If the erasure has been so  
great as to take off a part of the substance of the  
paper, the reconstruction of the writing, so as to make  
it legible, may be regarded as impossible; but even in  
this case subjecting the reverse side of the paper to the  
influence of the iodine will bring out the reverse out-  
lines of the blotted-out characters so plainly that  
they can be read, especially if the paper is placed be-  
fore a mirror. In some instances, when pencil  
writing has been strong enough, its traces can be re-  
produced in a letter press by wetting a sheet of  
sized and calendered paper in the usual way that  
press copies are taken, placing it on paper saturated  
with iodine to be reproduced, and putting the two  
sheets in a letter book under the press, copies being  
run off as usual in copying letters. The operation,  
however, must be very rapidly carried out to  
be successful. As a matter of fact, the cer-  
tainty of these reactions depends entirely upon the  
class of paper used. Paper lightly sized or poorly  
calendered will not show them, while manipulations,  
of which I think description would be rather  
superfluous here, can interfere very materially with  
the results mentioned above. Another point consists  
in knowing how long paper will retain these reactive  
properties. In my own experiments the fact has been

demonstrated that irregular wetting and rubbing  
three months old can be plainly shown, as after this  
space of time characters traced with glass red ink  
could be made conspicuous. I have noticed that im-  
mersing the written paper in a water bath for three to  
six hours will secure better reactions, but although  
these reactions are very characteristic, they are con-  
siderably weaker.

Several reports were presented, including that of the committee on the action of light upon dyed colours. *Oxford. 15. 9. 94.*

During the year a large number of wool and silk patterns, dyed with various natural and artificial orange and yellow colouring matters, had been examined with respect to their power of resisting the fading action of light. The patterns were exposed at Adel, near Leeds, in the grounds of Mr. James A. Hirst. Each dyed pattern was divided into six pieces, one of which was protected from the action of light, while the others were exposed for different periods of time. On silk the relative fastness of the various colours was, for the most part, the same as on wool, the differences being unimportant. Orange and yellow patterns give a comparatively large number of satisfactorily permanent colours. In the more or less fugitive class were to be found all the basic colours, all the nitro-phenols, with the exception of palatine orange, and all the bright yellows derived from the natural colouring matters by means of aluminium and tin mordants, with the exception of those obtained from weld. Comparatively few azo colours were met with in this group. By far the largest number of yellows, ranging from "moderately fast" to "very fast," were to be found among the azo colours. Specially important were those in which salicylic acid was a constituent element, since not only did this impart to the colour the power of forming more or less stable lakes with chromium and aluminium mordants, but it appeared frequently to give the colours the quality of fastness to light, even when no mordant was applied. The colours obtained with aluminium were practically as fast as those fixed with chromium, since the first-named mordant gave much brighter and purer yellows. The tin mordant, so useful in the production of the most brilliant orange and yellow colours obtainable from the natural colouring matters, seemed, however, to be of little or no advantage in connexion with most of these azo-mordant colours, no doubt because they were susceptible to the reducing action of the mordant usually employed for wool—viz., stannous chloride. Very interesting in point of fastness to light were the azoxy colours, and although unfortunately apt to dye wool somewhat irregularly, giving speckled-looking colours, they were admirably adapted for silk and cotton. Another interesting little group was that which includes tartrazin, a

colour not only noteworthy for its fastness to light, but also because of its brilliancy and purity. The fastness of alizarin orange was worthy of special mention, for it was probably greater even than that exhibited by most other colours of the alizarin group, and it showed the peculiar darkening action exerted by the light, probably in consequence of the presence of the nitro group. It was remarkable how few really fast yellows were derived from the natural colouring matters, and these were chiefly the olive yellows obtained with chromium mordant. The only fast, and at the same time bright, natural yellows were those derived from weld, and since this dye-stuff was now of little general importance to the dyer its cultivation had become extremely limited, and was gradually being given up. It was fortunate, therefore, that science had been able to replace it by efficient substitutes, so far, at least, as permanency towards light was concerned. The experiments had already abundantly proved that the popular opinion that the coal-tar dye-stuffs included only such as yielded more or less fugitive colours was entirely false; indeed, it was perfectly safe to assert that coal-tar was the source from which the greatest number of colours fast to light were derived at the present time, and this seemed to be specially true of the red and yellow colours.

To-day will be issued to the public the long-promised new postage and revenue stamps, the outcome of the labours of a joint committee (consisting of three Post Office and two Inland Revenue officials) which, in agreement with the Board of Inland Revenue, was appointed by the late Mr. Fawcett, shortly before his death, to advise upon the best means of rectifying the defects that were found to exist in the series of stamps which have been under issue for the past three years.

The attention of the committee appears to have been confined to the eleven values of stamps that range from  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 1s. No doubt the large-sized existing stamps of higher values were found to satisfy all the requirements of the postal and revenue services; but the enormous growth of the correspondence of this country, combined with the simplification of the stamp system that now allows the use of the same stamps for postal, telegraph, and inland revenue purposes, clearly rendered it of paramount importance that the lower duties should be so markedly distinct the one from the other that they might not be mistaken, even in artificial light, either by the public, by the post-office salesman, by the post-office obliterator, or by those postal officials whose duty it is to check cancelled stamps on telegraph forms, so as to arrive at the amount of duty paid under this particular head of revenue.

The task then placed before the committee was to devise a group of eleven stamps, each one of which should contrast well with the other, not only in the first condition as sold to the public over the counter, but also when the stamp was heavily obliterated by a series of thick black lines, or by any other of those familiar devices which are used by the Post Office in the course of cancellation. When, therefore, in the face of these special requirements, the smallness of the area of the stamp is borne in mind (and an adherence to the existing size seems to have been regarded as *sine qua non*); when, again, the fact is considered that upon each stamp there had to appear the Queen's head, the words "Postage and Revenue," and the amount of the duty; and when, moreover, it appears that only a very limited number of colours were available as possessing sufficiently sensitive properties to protect the Revenue against illicit cleaning for reuse and from other methods of fraud, it will be readily seen that the problem before the committee was not quite so easy of solution as at first sight might be imagined. That, indeed, there were very considerable difficulties to be overcome is testified by the circumstance that, although such a series of stamps as we are about to pass in review has been a *desideratum* for years, it is only now, and after many futile attempts to meet the difficulty, that the full requirements of the two departments concerned are believed to be at last properly satisfied.

The frequent changes in the design and in the colours of the old postage stamps were all effected with a view of rendering the duties more unlike to one another. In the series current since April, 1884, an attempt was made, while using but two printing colours—the only ones that from their peculiar properties met the requirements of the case,—to mark the respective duties by difference in the internal shape of the stamps, as, for instance, by the employment of a circle for the 2d. and 9d. duties, of a hexagon for the 3d. and 1s. duties, and so on. Figures of value were also introduced, but unfortunately not in a very distinct manner. The failure of this latest effort to meet the difficulty no doubt led to Mr. Fawcett's determination to appoint a joint committee of Post Office and Inland Revenue officials by whom the whole question should, once for all, be dealt with in a complete and exhaustive manner.

In the course of its inquiries not only did the committee have under examination a large selection from among the practical, chemical, and mechanical officers of the Post Office and Inland Revenue departments, but they also had the advantage of learning the views of more than one prominent member of the Philatelic Society. One member of the committee, too, Mr. Puroell, the Controller of Stamps, acting under the instructions of the Board of Inland Revenue, and accompanied by two other officers of that department, visited the principal Governmental stamp factories of Europe, and on the spot made a careful study of all the processes of manufacture, &c., conducted in those establishments. So that every effort seems to have been made by the authorities to arrive at a satisfactory and lasting conclusion.

In the series of eleven stamps to-day under issue to the public, it will be observed that each one has an individuality of its own which could not possibly be disregarded, even though the stamps were heavily obliterated. The new ½d. stamp is very much of the same design as the old one, but it is more pretty in treatment, and it is printed on a bright salmon colour instead of a dingy bluish-gray. It has not been necessary to make any modification in the familiar 1d. stamp. Indeed, this stamp seems to have been made the starting-point, as it were, of the series. The 1½d. stamp is printed in purple, with a second printing in green. The contrast of the colours is a very happy one. The purple printing constitutes the head and main features of the stamp, while the green covers the secondary parts by way of a tablet, with the duty given in large clear figures, surmounted by two sprigs of conventional laurel. In this stamp and in all those in which the duties appear in figures, the "d." to denote pence is subordinated as much as possible, thus rendering the duty itself pronounced and clear. The 2d. stamp is in green, with a duty tablet in crimson. The 2½d. is printed in one colour—a purple, it seems—on a blue paper of a darkish shade. This is the stamp usually employed for foreign letters, and the colour would appear to have been selected as an approach to what is known as the international blue colour. The 3d. stamp is printed in one colour on a bright yellow paper. The body of the 4d. stamp is printed in a green, and the duty appears at all four corners in circular tablets. The

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27. *Johnston* Board of Stewards in England & Ireland established & consolidated with one. P. 95 in the *United Kingdom*.

*Stewards & Deacons*, created in 1834. It is "1st of Comm" & "2nd of Comm" being considered with the same name.

*Mitchell*, in 1840.

In 1849, the "Board of Stewards" also considered & all made into "Committee of Stewards & Deacons" see note page 25, 50.

*Chambers*

*John Ward*

arrived at 12.00 on 12 Oct 1859.

*Chor* & *Deacons*

1862. In the Henry Stephenson, 1867. arrived 9.5.77.

In James Clark Kerrison, 1877. arrived 1881.

In *Alleganum West*, 1881. arrived 1892.

(*East*) *East* & *Deacons*. 1892.

*East* & *Deacons*

July 92.

*Deacons*

*Deacons*

*Deacons*

In *Francis* & *Deacons*.

Got Mr. L. Moberly, in 1798. note by F. Lichard & Co. 1847. in 1834. and 1885.

*Deacons* & *Deacons*

after joint session of Moberly, Dec 1846.

See diary. 26 April 1854.

Retired etc. following death. 1864.

Succeeded by John Wiley. 1864 - 1880. Born. 1513 and 15398.

1879. 1879. 1879.

John Tilley, Secretary from 1884 to 1890  
General Post Office, in which he had been a  
since 1859, who died on the 18th March last,  
leaving personal estate of the  
£1000. His will bequeathed to his son John  
Tilley, who is otherwise provided for  
and bequeathed to his daughter Edith Diana  
his books on natural history and Geomorphology.  
The bequest of the remainder of his books to  
Arthur Augustus, Sir John Tilley left his  
personal estate to his daughter, and appointed her  
executor of his will, with his two sons as executors.



27. Separate Boards Stamps for England & Ireland abolished & consolidated under one. P. of 5 for the United Kingdom.

Stamps & Taxes created in 1834. the "Bd of Customs" being consolidated with it under new name.  
Wickham. iii. 1840.

1849. The old "Board of Excise" also consolidated & all made into "Commissioners of Inland Revenue." see note page p. 25. but

Chairman.

John Wood.

name altered in paper mail 12 Oct 1859.

Chas Pressly

retired 3.12.62.

Services 1862.

Sir Wm Henry Stephenson. 1867.

retired 9.5.77.

Sir James Chas Herries. May 77.

retired Nov 81.

Sir Algernon West. Nov 81.

retired Apr 92.

(Earl) Lord Saldesleigh. Apr 92.

Herb Melmer

July 92.

Robinson.

Post Office.

Secretaries.

Sir Francis Trevelyan.

Col W. L. Maberly. born 1798. app'd by S. Lockfield to Secy St. in 1834. died 1885.

Rowland Hill

Joint Secy with Col Maberly Decr 1846.

Sole Secy. 26 April 1854.

Retired etc failing health. 1864

Succeeded by John Tilly. 1864 - 1880. Born 1813 died 13.3.98  
rec'd P. off as clerk in 1829.

P Marked, new system. July 1894. dates shown

Left A = auto m } to right. first letter - hour  
P = per M. } 2<sup>nd</sup> - minutes

hours A-1. B-2 &c.  
in min = 5. 10. 15. &c. Re: p. 240.

See Joyce's History of the P. Office,  
London 1893. P. 13 et seq.

## INTRODUCTION.

### CHAPTER I.

#### THE OLD POST OFFICE SYSTEM.

THE exclusive privilege of conveying letters by post, and of taking the revenues derived therefrom, has always been claimed by the sovereigns of England as a right belonging to them *jure coronæ*, and this royal right and privilege has not only been recognised from the earliest times, but has been confirmed by a course of successive legislation up to the present day. But though the Post Office thus grew up as a royal institution, yet, when its business was more fully developed, and its profits grew larger, its management was gradually assumed by the State, and it has been converted, whether rightly or wrongly, into a source of national revenue.

So far back as the reign of King John entries are to be found of payments to *nuncii* for the conveyance of Government despatches, and entries of like payments may be traced in an almost unbroken series through the records of many subsequent reigns. In the reign of Henry III. these messengers commenced to wear the royal livery, but were obliged to provide themselves with horses until the reign of Edward I., when *posts*\* were

\* The name took its origin from the *posts* or *posita* placed at intervals along the roads of the Roman Empire, where couriers were kept in readiness to carry despatches and intelligence on behalf of the State.

established where horses could be had on hire. In the employment of these messengers may be traced the first germ of the Post Office system in England ; for it is probable that the office of "Master of the Postes," instituted by Henry VIII. early in the 16th century (mentioned by Camden in his *Annals*), originated in the supervision of them, and we find one Brian Tuke, afterwards Sir Brian, who was appointed to that office by Henry VIII., described as *Magister nunciorum cursorum sive postarum*. In 1545, Sir Brian Tuke was succeeded by Sir William Paget and John Mason, Esq., as joint Masters of the Posts under a similar designation ; but it does not appear that these posts were employed for any other purpose than for the conveyance of Government despatches, and it was only by degrees that permission to make use of them was extended to private individuals.

A foreign post for the conveyance of letters from London to the Continent existed at the beginning of the 16th century, as the Flemings, says Stowe, in his *Surveye of London*, by long custom "pretended a right to appoint a Master of the Strangers' Post, and that they were in possession of from the year 1514." They retained this privilege down to the year 1558, when disputes arose between the Flemings and Italians regarding the right of appointing a Postmaster. These disputes were referred to the Privy Council, and it was finally settled, in 1581, that the Master of the Posts should have charge of both the English and foreign offices, under the title of "Chief Postmaster." This office was conferred by Queen Elizabeth on Thomas Randolph, who in 1567 had succeeded Sir John Mason as Master of the Posts, and who had previously been much employed by the Queen in her Scottish affairs.

Thomas Randolph was succeeded in the office of Chief Postmaster by Sir J. Stanhope, afterwards Lord Stanhope ; and in 1591 a royal proclamation was issued for "redress of disorders in postes which convey and bring to and out of the parts beyond seas packets of letters," and "particularly to prevent the inconvenience both to our service and the lawfull trade of honest merchants, by prohibiting that no persons whatsoever should

**ENCLOSURES IN LETTER CARDS.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I do not know whether the following information may be of service to any one. As it may, I send

Yours faithfully, W. H. LANGHORNE.

45, Scarsdale-villas, W.

General Post Office, London, April 4, 1892.

Sir,—With reference to your application of the instant, I beg leave to inform you that enclosures are admitted in letter cards without extra charge so long as the weight of the packet does not exceed 10s.

It is, however, a question whether letter cards are suitable covers for remittances of value, having regard to the possibility of the edge becoming torn by accident during transmission.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

S. A. BLACKWOOD, Secretary.

Rev. W. H. Langhorne."

that he is a deserter from the French army, he has been for five years working as a hand in Spain.—Our Correspondent.

MADRID, APRIL 11.—An Anarchist, who is a mason by trade, was arrested at Valencia this evening on the charge of having caused the bomb explosion which occurred in that town to-day.

APRIL 11.—Numbers of foreign Anarchists are hurrying leaving this country in fear of arrest.

LIT.—Another dynamite outrage is reported from the provinces this evening. Two petards were exploded at Pueblo Nuevo, a town in the Province of Cordova, but no serious damage was done. Six persons have been arrested on the charge of being the perpetrators of the outrage.

The Anarchists appear to be divided into two parties—one which may be described as the

the first established in 1482. Edward IV. set relays of couriers  
to carry dispatches to his brother Gloucester, in subordination to Scotland.  
years before by Louis XI. in France.

John Lubbock appointed in 1516. 'Master of the Messengers, Runners & Posts'  
could visit the Kingdom of England in parts beyond the sea. Grant for his  
annual fee. £66.13.4.

FredERIC HILL, an Autobiography  
by his daughter CONSTANCE HILL.  
London. Bentley. 1894. 1 vol.

Not much he stamps.

p. 309. 10.

In 1854 F. H. suggested various office improvements  
in the P.O. introduced them. When long in the office  
he suggested an annual report, and be submitted  
to Parliament by the P. M. General - who was adopted  
He wrote this report himself for 14 years  
He also suggested the quarterly ~~issue~~ publication  
of a Postal Guide.

This first appeared in 1861. & its editing  
was superintended by F. Hill. Till his resignation  
in 1876.  
Later on he advocated to the General and Director  
of Postal Notes, now called Postal Orders, &  
by entry for country ready for them.

Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.



take upon them publicly or privately to procure, bring to, or carry out any packets or letters to or from the countries beyond the seas, except such our ordinary posts and messengers for these parts, as either by our Master of the Postes or the Masters of the Postes general of those countries reciprocally should be found nominated for that kind of service." Command was also given to all mayors, sheriffs, justices, officers of customs, &c., "to make diligent search of all mails, budgets, and other carriages of such disavowed carriers, messengers, or suspected persons, and all such so discovered to apprehend and stay."

It is about this period that the first mention is found of packets sailing between Liverpool and Dublin, and Holyhead and Dublin.

Before the accession of James I, some towns in Scotland appointed special messengers to convey despatches to and from the Court; but on his accession the increased intercourse between England and Scotland led to an improvement in the system of horse posts. Orders were issued for the regular supply of horses to all "riding in post," authorising the owner to charge 2½d. per mile for the hire of each horse besides the "guide's groats." Horses were also to be kept expressly for the conveyance of the government despatches, which were to be forwarded within a quarter of an hour of their arrival, and travel at the rate of not less than seven miles an hour in summer, and five in winter.

It would seem that, although the abuses complained of in the preceding reign, with regard to letters coming from abroad, had been in some measure remedied, yet it was not so with letters sent abroad. In 1619 James I instituted the office of Postmaster for foreign parts, who, according to Rushworth, "should have the sole taking up, sending and conveying, of all packets and letters concerning his service or business to be despatched into forraigne parts, with power to grant moderate salaries;" and he conferred the office on "Mathewe de Quester the elder, and Mathewe de Quester the younger." This appointment was considered by Lord Stanhope, the Chief Postmaster, as an inter-

ference with his privileges, and the dispute was only settled in 1632, after the accession of Charles I., by the retirement of Lord Stanhope, and the assignment of their office by the de Questers, under royal sanction, to William Frizell and Thomas Witherings, with prohibition to all others to intermeddle therewith "at their utmost peril."

It was in the year 1635 that, at the instance of Witherings, an attempt was made to establish some regular system of inland postage, though on a very limited scale. <sup>on 31</sup> In that year Charles I. issued a proclamation ordering his postmaster for foreign parts, Thomas Witherings, to "settle a post or two to run night and day between London and Edinburgh, to go thither and back again in six days," and to take with them all such letters as should be directed to any post town in or near that road. Eight main postal lines throughout England were also authorised to be instituted. The rates of postage to be charged were fixed at 2d. for a single letter for any distance under 80 miles, 4d. up to 140 miles, 6d. for any longer distance, and 8d. to any place in Scotland. It was also ordered that 2½d. per mile should be paid to the several postmasters for every single horse carrying the letters, evidently showing that the sole mode of conveyance contemplated was by persons riding on horseback. In a subsequent proclamation, issued two years later, a monopoly of letter carrying was established, which has been preserved ever since in all the subsequent legislation regulating the Post Office. \*

In 1640 Witherings, who held the appointments of both inland and foreign postmaster, was superseded in both these offices for abuse of trust,\* and they were sequestered into the hands of Philip Burlamachy, a London merchant, who was appointed to act in his stead under the immediate oversight of the King's principal Secretary of State.

\* "The remonstrance of the grievances of all His Majesty's posts in England, together with the carriers and others, sustained by the unlawfull projects of Thomas Witherings," addressed to the House of Commons in 1640, may be found in the library of the British Museum.

The Post in Grant & France. by J. Wilson Hyde  
London Adam & Charles Black. 1894.  
a list about the letter cut. ends in 1677.  
writing re Doctura in it.

By arrangement with the King of France & the Cardinal Infant  
the system was extended beyond the Channel, & merchants were  
able to send a single letter to Amsterdam for 8 d. & to Paris for 9 d.  
(Commission of April 1637. - See Gardiner's Fall of the Monarchy  
of Charles I. vol 1. p. 23.)

Back again to the "long" and the "short" they all seem to  
be coming in. The "long" is the one that is the most  
likely to be the "short" and the "short" is the one that  
is the most likely to be the "long". It is a very simple  
rule that can be used to determine the "long" and the  
"short" of any stock. It is a very simple rule that can  
be used to determine the "long" and the "short" of any  
stock. It is a very simple rule that can be used to  
determine the "long" and the "short" of any stock.

1921  
1922  
1923

When the civil war broke out, the service, such as it was, was greatly interrupted. The monopoly of letter carrying, proclaimed by Charles, gave great offence, and in 1642 a committee of the House of Commons was appointed to enquire into the matter, of which committee Edmund Prideaux, subsequently Attorney-General under the Commonwealth, was chosen chairman. After no small amount of contention, Prideaux, in 1644, was appointed "Master of the Posts, Couriers, and Messengers" by an ordinance of both Houses of Parliament, and proved both an able and energetic officer. "He established," says Blackstone, "a weekly conveyance of letters to all parts of the country, thereby saving to the public the charge of maintaining postmasters to the amount of £7,000 per annum." For many years previously the establishment of the post had been a burden on the public purse; but in 1649, five years after his appointment, the net revenue reached £5,000.

In 1649 an attempt was made by the corporation of London to set up a rival Post Office for inland letters in opposition to that of the government; but Prideaux, who had then become Attorney-General, invoked the aid of the Council of State, which decided that "the office of postmaster is and ought to be in the sole power and disposal of Parliament." After this decision the corporation post was speedily suppressed, and the privilege of the sole right of conveying letters has never again been questioned.

In the year 1650 the practice of farming the Post Office revenues commenced, a practice which as regards some of the bye-posts was continued till the close of the last century. At first the revenues were farmed for £5,000; but subsequently, up to 1659, they were farmed to Mr. John Manley for £10,000. After the accession of Charles II. they were farmed for £21,500, and for a short period for double that amount; but in the year 1675 they were, by statute 15 Car. II. c. 14, settled by the king upon James Duke of York, afterwards James II., and when, on his accession, they reverted to, and again became attached to, the Crown, they had reached to £65,000 per annum.

Under the Protectorate, in 1656, an important statute was passed, which was afterwards re-enacted by 12 Car. II. c. 35. By this Act "to settle the postage of England, Scotland, and Ireland," the Post Office was regularly established by authority of Parliament, and it was provided that there should be one Post Office, and one officer styled the "Postmaster General for England and Comptroller of the Post Office," who should have the horsing of all through posts and persons riding post. Rates of postage were fixed for English, Scotch, Irish, and foreign letters, which continued substantially in force until the reign of Queen Anne, and the only non-governmental posts allowed to continue were those of the two Universities and the Cinque Ports.

In 1683 a Penny Post for the conveyance of letters and parcels between different parts of London and its suburbs was started by Robert Murray, an upholsterer, and subsequently assigned by him to William Docwray <sup>or Dockwra</sup>. By it all letters and parcels not exceeding a pound weight, or the value of £10, were conveyed within the city and suburbs for one penny, and for twopence within a circuit of ten miles. It appears, from the accounts given of it by Stowe, that district offices were opened in various parts of London, and receiving-houses were freely established. When its success became apparent, the Duke of York, on whom, as has been before mentioned, the Post Office revenues had been settled, complained of it as an encroachment on his rights. The case was <sup>tried at bar</sup> brought before the Court of King's Bench, which decided that the new Post Office was an infraction of the privileges of the General Post Office and ~~was~~ part of the royal establishment, to which it was thereupon annexed. The Duke of York, however, appointed Docwray <sup>K</sup> to the office of Controller of the District Post, an office which he appears to have held for some years. In 1694 a pension of £500 per annum was granted to him out of the revenues of the Post Office in recognition of his services; but he does not seem to have enjoyed it long, as he lost his office and emoluments in 1698, on certain charges of mismanagement being brought against him.

Note. The charges against Dockwra are fully set out in the No 28 of the Appendix to the 9th Report of the Commissioners of Post Office Enquiry. 1837.

PO.

Chandler of

When a verdict was given against Dockwra, with damages: and it was



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Note. The charges against Doewray are fully set out in the 4028<sup>th</sup> of the Appendix to the 9<sup>th</sup> Report of the Commissioners of Post Office Enquiry, 1837.

when a verdict was given against Doewray, with damages, and so on.

Doewray



25.0.94 seen money Penny Post paid



Mine "



T  
F.R

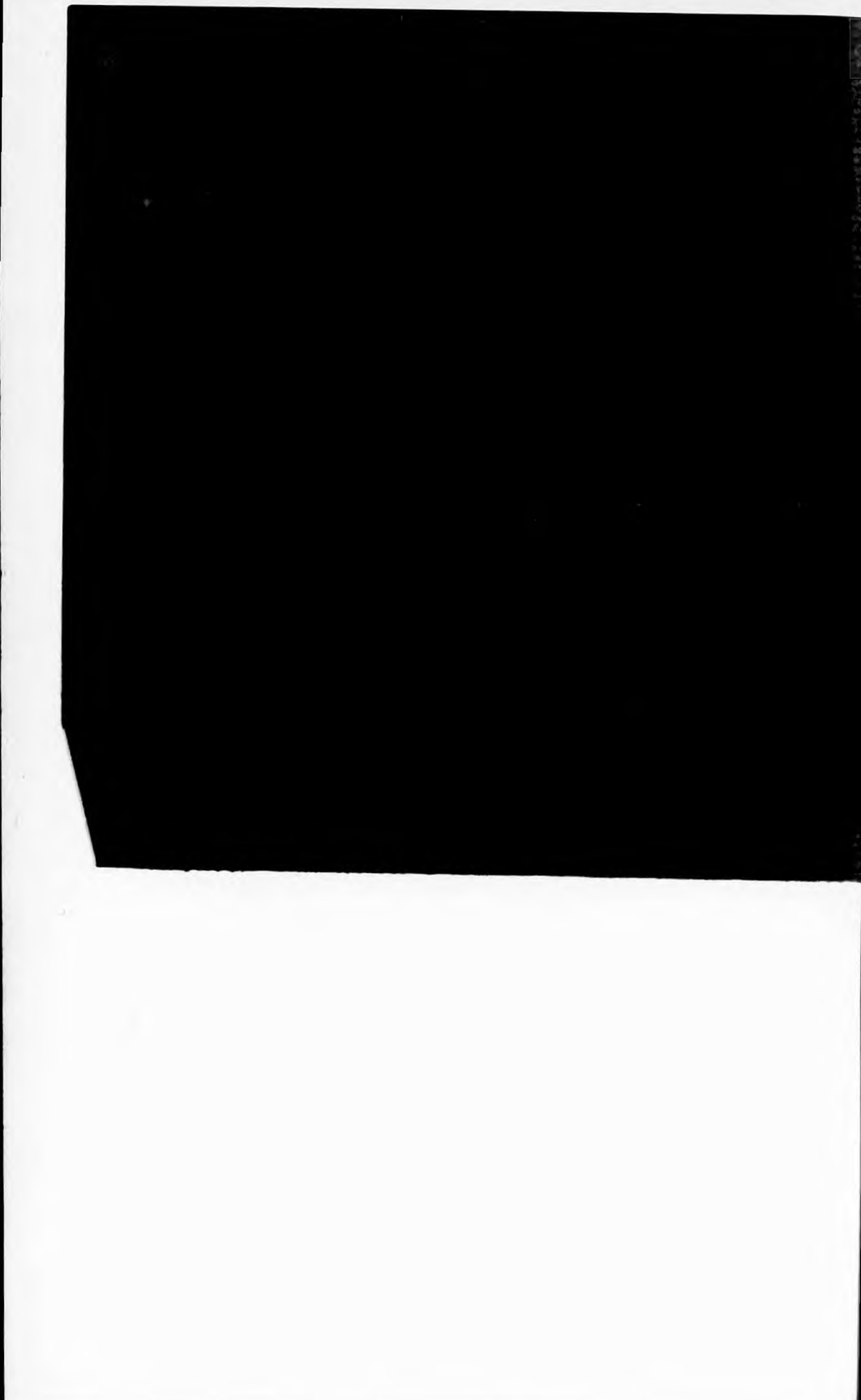
Can you oblige me by letting me see  
your old postmark. I mean the  
one you said you got recently

*enclosed for  
inspection  
H.M.S.*



" Penny Post Paid. " not "Payd"?

I want to note the particulars  
especially centre part. and return  
it next day.



**A HISTORICAL PARALLEL.—THE PENNY  
(LONDON) POST AND THE G.P.O., 1681  
—THE BOY MESSENGERS AND THE  
G.P.O., 1891.**

**TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.**

Sir,—The following extract serves to show that Mr. Baikes's action has a precedent in that of the Royal Duke, his predecessor in office, a couple of centuries ago. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. ELIOT HODGKIN.

Childwall, Richmond, S.W., March 28. 1891.

"This useful invention (the London penny post) is little more than a year old, being begun in April, 1680. The chief undertaker that introduced it into practice is one Mr. William Dockwra, a merchant, a native and citizen of London, formerly one of his Majesty's sub-searchers in the Custom-house of London, as in the list of those officers appears—a person whose approved reputation for industry and fidelity was well known to all for above ten years in that office, and to whom the publick is obliged, he having with his partners spent much time, and a great sum of money, to bring this undertaking on foot, wherein they encountered with no small difficulties, not only by affronts and indignities from the vulgar sort who seldom weigh any publick or generous designs, but at the beam of little, selfish by-ends, but also by more dangerous attacks; for there have been attempts made by some persons to persuade his Royal Highness the Duke of York that it intrenched upon the General Post Office and damaged it: whereupon many actions were brought, and a chargeable suit of law follow'd. But questionless, the Duke is better informed now, for it is most certain that this does much further the revenue of the Post Office, and is a universal benefit to all the inhabitants of these parts; so that whoever goes about to deprive the City of so useful a thing deserves no thanks from the Duke nor any body else, but to be noted as an enemy to publick and ingenious operations."—Present State of London. By Tho. Deane, gent.. 12mo., 1681. a 2<sup>d</sup> ed<sup>n</sup>. 1683.

at Paris, and his son, who had been educated at Eton and Oxford, was attached for a time to legation. But the actual apprenticeship young man served to regular diplomacy was short one ; and in 1837 he was returned to Parliament as member for Morpeth. Three years afterwards he was appointed to the office of Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs ; but he had then little opportunity of gaining official experience, for in short time the Melbourne Ministry was broken up. Having lost his seat for Morpeth, in 1841 he came back to the House of Commons as representative for Lichfield, and the clever young aristocrat made himself somewhat conspicuous for the vigour and ability with which he advocated the cause of the Anti-Corn Law League and the principles of free trade. Five years later, on the death of his father, he took leave of the Commons. To many rising politicians that involuntary exchange has been the death of hopes and the grave of ambitions. Probably Lord Granville rather gained by it. For not only were his temperament and talents for debate better suited to the more serene atmosphere of the Upper House, but the change moved him from a sphere where he was overshadowed by rivals who were to share the lead of the Liberal party for many years to come. It is certain at least that had he not been in the Peers he would not have been thought of as possible Prime Minister in 1859. Meanwhile he had been made Master of the Buckhounds. That ornamental post seemed admirably suited to one who, notwithstanding his spirited speeches on free trade, had been chiefly thought of as a graceful courtier and politician of the world. And there was a very good reason why when, in 1848, Lord John Russell transformed the Master of the Buckhounds into the President of the Board of Trade. Mr. Bouverie spoke the mind of the manufacturing interest

See Specially. Anglice Notitia

by Edward Chamberlayne. Lond. 1684

no p/pe. 252. 255.

WITH A SERIES OF PLATES INSERTED.  
668 CHAMBERLAYNE's (John) Magnae Britan-  
niae Notitia, or, the Present State of Great  
Britain, portrait of George II., thick 8vo, calf.  
3s 1741

In 1708 <sup>Mr</sup> Povey set up a Halfpenny Post  
in opposition to the Penny Post ~~officially~~ <sup>which had then been annexed</sup>  
~~stopped by Lord South~~ to the General Post Office. A suit was  
brought by <sup>Edward</sup> ~~Edward~~ <sup>South</sup> against Povey, the undertaking suppressed.  
Charles II. empowered by joint office of W. the General before he was  
for life or 21 years, on condition that he might first  
grant at £21,000 for an ~~office~~ in D York in trade with <sup>agreed</sup>  
Cromwell & Co. it was dec<sup>d</sup> vested in King as part of heredit<sup>ary</sup> revenue.

See North's life of Guilford II. 9. whose father's & King's  
Ley<sup>t</sup> conducted the information ag<sup>t</sup> Dochumaff. On the accession  
of D York as for II. it was under the immediate manage<sup>t</sup> of the Gen<sup>l</sup>  
the profits going into the public treasury



arrived for <sup>mail</sup>  
Monday, 10.12.92

It is a T Centurie  
ATT below FR

ape  
know 93 saw Ferrario's coll. He has this in 3 variations

- Penny paid - as above T
- Penny paid - smaller FR
- Penny paid - first set

one for <sup>T</sup> Sundry. Penny Post Paid. W F. Central

The London District Post conveyed parcels as well as letters, one of the heads of complaint against Doehore was that he ~~refused~~ refused to take "band-boxes" (except very small) + all parcels above a pound.

~~This parcel post~~ During the reigns of George I + George II. parcels appear to have been <sup>generally</sup> carried by the London District Post, until in 1765. a maximum limit of 4oz was ~~imposed~~ prescribed, unless the letter or package had first come through the General Post.

In the Uade Mecum for 1697. is an account of the Penny Post. p. 185.

whereas by an Order from the P. M. General bearing date the 11<sup>th</sup> Mo 1694 all carriers, Stage Coaches, Horses & Drivers of Pack Horses, forbidden to carry any letter or packets of letters except such as concern their Packs, upon the penalty therein expressed. Therefore for the better accom<sup>odation</sup> of all persons in their correspondence there are first post offices for the collecting & delivery of all letters as well for the General Post office, as others whose towns were formerly branches are from the said offices, as followeth, viz.

1. From the Office for Westminster Precinct. to Duke's Court, we are 10 minutes Church. Colney, Kallam & wester Keybridge & Tonia & day at 8 in the evening + 2 in the day
2. East Acton Gerard Cross. Bostonsfield Dr. once a day at 8 in the evening  
River Richmans wester Harrow's the hill.
3. Office for the Temple Precinct in Chichester But 10 minutes from Highgate Muffleshill & once a week at 8. & 11 & 3.
4. Office for St Pauls Precinct at the Royal Bapists Office House in Moorfields  
St. James & Holborn 11 times a day 25 + 11 + 2. 4 + 7 p.m.
5. Office for the Hertsmere Precinct at Little Tower Hill. 10 minutes from St. Dun's Church  
St. Dun's Church 3 times a day at 8. 12. 4  
St. Dun's Church 2 times a day at 8 + 2  
St. Dun's Church 1 time a day at 8
6. From the Office for Southwark Precinct in Road Lane - the Riverway 10 minutes from Lambeth  
Lambeth 11 times a day 8. 11. 2. 5 + 6  
St. Dun's Church, Richmond & Co. 8 + 2  
St. Dun's Church, Guydon & Co. 8  
St. Dun's Church, 7 times a day 8 + 11  
St. Dun's Church, 1 time a day 8 + 11
7. From the Great Penny Post Office at Crosby House, in Bishopsgate 10 minutes from London.  
London 3 times a day 8. 12. 5  
St. Dun's Church 1 time a day 8  
St. Dun's Church 2 times a day 8. 12. 5  
St. Dun's Church 1 time a day 8

+ for prevention of delays This is further to prevent that such persons

On the occasion of the Postal Jubilee there was some controversy as to the introducer of the penny post. But in reading Fielding's "Amelia," the preface of which is dated 1751, a correspondent has the following passage:—"She then delivered her husband a letter, which she had some time ago received from Miss Matthews, which was the same which that lady had mentioned, and supposed, as Booth had never heard of it, that it had miscarried, for she got it by the penny post."—Fielding's "Amelia," Bk. xiii., Ch. 2.

11. 8. 90.

### "THE PENNY POST."

THE EDITOR of the ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

SIR,—Your correspondent who quotes from Fielding's "Amelia" (Vol. XII., c. 2) evidence that "the penny post" existed in London in 1751 is mistaken. It is in Vol. IV. of the first edition, p. 213. But it does not affect the question, "Who introduced the penny post" for the United Kingdom? London was not then larger than Liverpool now is; and Tom Moore's "Penny Postbag" is similar evidence that, with the enlarged area of the eighteenth century, the London rate had increased. Rowland Hill, in 1838, found the rate fixed by the distance; the rate from London to Liverpool being 10d., and to Dublin 1s. 3d., and so on—rates I have myself paid; the merit of his "penny post" consisted in discarding distance and giving to the United Kingdom an uniform penny rate. Only those then in possession can know (though others may conceive) the magnitude of the improvement.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. S. A.

12. 1870.

## LIVING FROM HAND TO MOUTH.

THE connection between the Strike in South Wales and Naval Manœuvres is not at first sight obvious. Nor do we mean to hint that the Manœuvres have caused the Strike. PICKERSGILL and the Peace Society might find such a proposition credible; but people who see things as they do will see anything. All we wish to say is that the Strike is

capricious, as changeable, and at the same time as tyrannical as a  
From the bored lip of the savage and the lamed foot of the Chinaman to the pierced ear-lappet and tight stays of the highly civilized European lady, there is scarcely a perversity or madness which has not been mentioned and prescribed at some time or other, and among some people other, by Fashion. And what capricious leaps it makes! Ladies without warning from the enormous hoops which give them the appearance of huge perambulating bee-hives to the narrow tied-in skirts, render free movement an impossibility and sitting down an art carefully studied. But modern science, more daring than even the Teufelsdröckh, accounts for everything; and several learned German have gravely set themselves of late to investigate the caprices of Fashion, with the aim of showing that there is a philosophical advantage in her very waywardness, and they have published a pamphlet on the subject in an erudite series devoted to 'Questions of the Age.'

"Whatever is," says one of the writers of this pamphlet, quoting Hegel, "is reasonable;" and however paradoxical this assertion may appear particularly in matters of fashion, it is still true if rightly understood.



The London District Post, thus commenced, received legislative sanction in 1710 by the Act 9 Anne c. 10, and was improved in 1794.\* The rates were increased in 1801, when it was made a Twopenny Post, and though the rates thus fixed ceased to be charged when the Act of 1839 came into operation, yet it continued to exist for several years after under the name of the London District Post, as an independent establishment

\* By the Act 9 Anne c. 10, the charge of one penny was authorised to be levied on all letters passing or repassing by the carriage called the Penny Post, established and settled within the cities of London and Westminster and borough of Southwark, and parts adjacent, to be received and delivered within ten English miles distant from the General Letter Office in London.

In 1731, by Act 4 Geo. II. c. 33, after reciting that upon the application of the inhabitants of several towns and places, within ten miles, to be allowed to pay the messengers one penny on delivery, over and above the one penny paid on putting such letters in the post, this additional charge was authorised.

By 5 Geo. III. c. 25, the weight of letters or packets passing by the Penny Post was limited to 4oz., except in respect of such letters or packets as had first come through the General Post Office.

By an Act passed in 1794 an additional rate of one penny was made chargeable on letters conveyed *from* places beyond the cities of London and Westminster and the borough of Southwark, in like manner as letters *to* these places had been previously charged with an additional penny. It was also made optional for persons sending letters to pay the postage on posting them, or not, as they thought proper, except when the letters were to go by the general or foreign mails, in which case the prepayment was made compulsory.

In 1801, by 41 Geo. III. c. 7, an additional charge of one penny was imposed on all letters delivered by the Penny Post within the town delivery, and the Penny Post became the Twopenny Post. In 1805, by Act 45 Geo. III. c. 11, the rate for letters delivered beyond the limits of the cities of London and Westminster and the borough of Southwark was raised to 3d.

In 1831 the limits of the Twopenny Post were extended to all places within three miles of the General Post Office, and at the same time letters to be delivered by the general or foreign post were exempted from the twopenny rates if posted within the said limits. Two years afterwards the limits were again extended to places not exceeding twelve miles from the General Post Office, and so remained until the Act of 1839 came into operation.

separate from the General Post Office,\* chiefly owing to the difficulties dependent upon the status of the officials of all classes in the two establishments. These difficulties were at length overcome, and the Metropolis having been subdivided into postal districts, the Twopenny Post, which since 1840 had ceased to exist except in name, was merged in the General Post. †

According to Chambers, ‡ the first legislative enactment for a Scottish Post Office was passed in 1695, prior to which time the posts out of Edinburgh had been few and irregular. About 1700 the posts between the capitals were so frequently robbed near the Border that Acts were passed, both by the Parliament of England and that of Scotland, making robbery of the post punishable with death and confiscation of moveables. About the year 1750 the mails began to be conveyed from stage to stage by relays of fresh horses, and to the principal places by post-boys; but the greater part were still carried by foot-runners. In April, 1776, the modern stage-coach was introduced into Scotland, performing the journey from London to Edinburgh in sixty hours. It was in the same year that the first Penny Post was established in Edinburgh by Peter Williamson, a native of Aberdeen; but his success soon induced others to attempt similar undertakings, when the authorities of the General Post Office, seeing the importance of this branch of business as a

\* Although the name of "Twopenny Post" ceased to exist officially, yet letters posted at the receiving-houses of the District Post, the adhesive stamps on which were not obliterated there, were post-marked with the old T.P. hand-stamp.

† By a report of a commission of inquiry into the establishment, made in June, 1854, it was recommended that the Inland Office and the London District Office should be combined on a plan suggested by the Commissioners. This amalgamation, having been approved by the Lords of the Treasury, by a minute dated 28th July, 1854, was commenced to be carried into effect by Lord Canning, then Postmaster General; but was not completed till after the appointment of the Duke of Argyll, who succeeded him in November, 1855, and under whom the division of the Metropolis into postal districts was carried into effect in 1856.

‡ Chambers' *Encyclopædia*, Post Office.

1710. General P.O. est<sup>d</sup> for G<sup>t</sup> Britani & Ireland, & for  
N. America & W. India & Howard Isles &c.  
merely granted. except by packet boat, unlawful.

In 1710. net receipts	£62,000.
1727	£100,000.
1764.	£122,000.
1765-	£165,000
decline + 5	£150.
1783 again	£165,000

from last page MS.

as would be to assist of the aforementioned bene & more conveniently deliver  
them into the proper offices are to allow a proportionable time for their conveyance  
from the Rec<sup>d</sup> House to the <sup>several</sup> offices from whence they are dispatched, and such  
time as are directed to the same must receive no consequence to be del<sup>d</sup> in the  
morning, it wd be convenient they sh<sup>d</sup> be left overnight, before the messengers  
bring in their last walks.

Note that for every letter & parcel from these towns whither you  
are to pay one penny at the Rec<sup>d</sup> House there: And from London  
to the afo<sup>d</sup> towns, the messenger is allowed for his own p<sup>er</sup>son & horse, & a  
penny for each letter or parcel at the delivery & no more.  
any person of either in City or Country, that delivers one of these papers  
sent by either any of the above named Serv<sup>ts</sup> Offices, may have there  
del<sup>d</sup> gratis.

In 1784 the Irish Parl<sup>t</sup> by Act separated the Irish  
from the British P. Office, with a P. M. General for Ireland  
In 1831. reunited under P. M. General of U. Kingdom.

source of revenue, gave Williamson a pension for the goodwill, and the Penny Post was attached to the general establishment.

On the 7th July, 1788, a direct mail between London and Glasgow was established. Previously to this the correspondence had passed through Edinburgh, where it was detained twelve hours.

But little is known of the early history of the Irish Post Office. As has been stated before, there is a mention of vessels plying between Liverpool and Dublin, and Holyhead and Dublin, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and in the reign of Charles I. packets between Chester and Dublin, and between Milford Haven and Waterford, conveyed government dispatches. After the Restoration, the rate of letter postage between London and Dublin was fixed at 6d.

Early in the reign of Queen Anne, in the year 1705, an Act was passed amending the laws then governing the Post Office; but in the year 1710 the whole law was completely remodelled by the Act 9 Anne c. 10, which continued to be the basis of all future legislation down to the year 1837. By its provisions a General Post and Letter Office was established within the city of London, from whence all letters and packets whatsoever "may be with speed and expedition sent into any part of the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to North America and the West Indies, or any other of Her Majesty's dominions, or any country or kingdom beyond the seas, and at which office all returns and answers may likewise be received." Chief offices were established in Edinburgh, Dublin, New York, and in one of the Leeward Islands, and the whole were put under the control of an officer to be appointed by Her Majesty under the great seal by the name and style of "Her Majesty's Postmaster General." Rates of postage were settled under the Act for letters and packets within the British dominions, and also for letters to foreign parts. Authority was also given to erect cross-posts or stages, so that all parts of the country might have equal advantages as far as was practicable.

It does not appear that much was done in the way of establishing cross-posts until the year 1720, when Ralph Allen, Deputy Postmaster for Bath, proposed to the Government to establish a cross-post between Exeter and Chester by way of Bristol, Gloucester, and Worcester. He further proposed a complete reconstruction of the cross-post system, and by his representations of the advantages which would result from its adoption, he induced the Government to grant him a lease for life of all the cross-posts which should be established, at a rental of £6,000 a year. The enterprise proved highly remunerative, and at his death, in 1769, when the whole came under the control of the Postmaster General, the system had been extended over the greater part of the country.\*

The rates of postage fixed by the Act of Queen Anne continued in force till the passing of the Act 5 Geo. III. c. 25, by which they were fixed at 1d. for a single letter under fifteen miles, 2d. under forty miles, 3d. under eighty miles, and so on. By this Act, sect. 2, authority was given to the Postmaster General to establish Penny Posts in other cities or towns, or the suburbs thereof, within the United Kingdom, similar to that existing in London, where such posts might be deemed by him to be advisable. The Act also conferred the exclusive right of conveying and collecting such letters and packets within the district so soon as a Penny Post was established to serve it. It also provided that all letters and packets brought by the inland or foreign post to the General Post Office in London, for delivery at any place beyond the limits of these departments of the General Post Office, and within the limits of a Penny Post Office, should be conveyed and delivered by the latter, and should be charged one penny for such delivery in addition to the rate of postage due to the General Post Office.

The powers thus granted were extensively employed. In 1835 there were 1,035 Penny Posts in England, 225 in Scot-

\* When the "Bye Letter Office" was abolished in 1799, and its management transferred to the General Post Office, the profits had reached to the yearly sum of £200,000.

*at Allen's death in 1769 (or 9) William Ward took  
management for £300 a year - Revenue £20,000.*

Large sheet laid paper. (seen May 89. Mr Rigg)

Q. (Royal Arms) R.

An advertisement from the General Penny-Post-Office.

By order of H. M. G. Postmaster General, Octo 6. 1765.

Shewing above the 5 principal Offices are kept & the houses Country Letters & parcels are daily conveyed (Sundays excepted) to the following & adjacent places

I. Chief Penny Post Office is kept in Dunch Lane Cornhill until 24<sup>th</sup> June 1766 & then will be removed to Throgmorton St. opposite Bartholomew's

II. Westminster Penny Post Office is kept in Little Suffolk St. near the Hay Market. (Long list)

- Hours  
Office
- 1. Aldersgate
  - 1. Aveninghatch
  - 1. Barbary
  - 1. Bechem
  - 3. Redcross Green &c.
- (Long list)

III. Hammersmith P. P. O. is kept in Queen St. Little Lower Hall Blackwall. J. of Doo. Lundenia Poplar Ratcliff. Sproway

IV Southwark P. P. O. is kept in St Saviour's Churchyard in the Borough & on account of the distance of the follow places. Letters & parcels must be at this office by ten of the clock of the preceding evg to be forwarded by the first delivery.

Below. Darns Town & Elms... Greenwich... Caversham &c.  
Woolwich Mitcham Morden Newlake Sidmans.  
&c.

V Temple P. P. O. kept in Chichester Rent in Chancery Lane. & as afove &c. (as above)

Battle Bridge. Hamfresid. High Gate. Pancras. Wood Green.  
&c &c.

at foot. notes subscribers to be carried & letter open to one of the 5 offices & then seen & entered - an hourly conveyance from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. betw these 5 offices.

&c &c. to prevent delay the triangular stp shows the day they are bro't to epp'd office. The round stp. the hour they are given sent to the Letter Carrier - Nothing conveyed above 4 o' unless sent by General Post.

Some  
Parliamentary account of London  
by Thomas Pennant. 1790  
rather inaccurate

... enough that you may  
... in the east to  
Westminster for a penny  
... day; to the neigh-  
... Kensington, Hammer-smith,  
... to Newington, Islington,  
... Holloway, Highgate, &c.,  
... London Butts, Camberwell, &c.,  
... daily to Stepney, Poplar, Bow,  
... Greenwich, &c., once a-day. Nor  
... single piece of paper, as in the  
... any packet under a pound  
... price."

Separat. P. Office introduced in Ireland - 1785 4.

**LORD LONDONDERRY AT BATH.**—Lord Londonderry yesterday unveiled tablets placed by the Bath Corporation on the houses of Ralph Allen and John Palmer, the two great postal reformers of the 18th century. In the course of a speech he pointed out that Bath had the honour of having numbered amongst its citizens two of the four great men who had been the founders of the English Post Office system. Lord Londonderry described the gradual improvements in our postal system effected by Thomas Withering, Ralph Allen, John Palmer, and Sir Rowland Hill. To illustrate the great growth of the business of the Post Office since the days of these men he pointed out that when Allen began his work in 1719 the whole number of letters in the United Kingdom did not exceed eight or nine millions in a year. Sixty years later, when the mail coach era began, the number was probably not more than 12 or 13 millions. The whole number of letters in the United Kingdom was now over 2,300,000,000 in the year. To the letter post had been added many other services and some 1,200,000,000 post-cards, circulars, and parcels of which no one in the 18th century ever dreamed were now carried in addition to letters. In the sorting department of the General Post Office in London, where in Allen's time a staff of 12 clerks and ten sorters could dispose of all the country mails, we now had a staff of 8,000 persons regularly employed. These huge figures were useful as showing the beneficial results that had followed the principles and organizations of the two great postal reformers Allen and Palmer. The principles they introduced had been steadily applied, and it was to be hoped that the figures quoted would be regarded not only as evidence of what we owed to them, but also as showing the steadfast intention of the Post Office to give a speedy and perfect system on the great lines of communication and a regular service to every town and village in the United Kingdom, and even to the remotest and most solitary household. 26. 4. 01.

*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*



land, and 197 in Ireland. Many of these were established in and about large towns, such as Liverpool, Birmingham, &c. The principle which for the most part guided the Postmaster General in authorising them, was to select towns and populous neighbourhoods not situated in the direct line of general post conveyances, which were desirous of obtaining greater facilities of communication, provided that the establishment of such Penny Post would not prejudicially affect the General Post, and that there existed a reasonable expectation that it would yield sufficient to pay for its maintenance. This it was considered would be the case, if it could be shown that the receipts on its first establishment would suffice to cover two-thirds of the expenses.

Besides these there were other auxiliary posts, called "Guarantee Posts," by means of which parties in the country might obtain any such additional accommodation as they might desire, on consenting to bear the additional expense. Many Penny Posts existed for some years after the establishment of the General Penny Post, and letters are frequently found among old correspondence post-marked with the particular Penny Post through which they passed. These hand-stamped impressions were in blue, black, or red ink, the latter being used when the rate had been paid on posting. When the General Post extended its system by multiplying free deliveries, these smaller posts gradually fell before it, and entirely died out about the same period as that which witnessed the absorption of the Two-Penny Post by the General Post.

One of the greatest reforms of the postal arrangements during the last century was due, not to legislation, but to individual talent and enterprise. Up to that period the conveyance of the greater part of the mails was entrusted to postboys, riding on horseback. The letter-bags were ordinarily stowed away in a *malle* or valise strapped to the saddle, and the letters could scarcely have been very numerous, as Mr. Tegg relates that, so late as the 22nd February, 1779, an advertisement appeared, stating that the postboy carrying the mail had been robbed by

two foot-pads, with crape over their faces, of the whole mail, containing the bags for Liverpool, Manchester, Wigan, Chester, and thirty other towns, besides the Irish mail.

In the year 1783, Mr. John Palmer, the manager of the Bath and Bristol theatres, and a native of the former place, submitted to Mr. Pitt, who was then Prime Minister, a lengthy report, in which he propounded a scheme for remedying the existing glaring defects in the postal arrangements, by substituting coaches for the conveyance of the mails in place of the method then adopted. To lend to the scheme the prospect of a financial success, he endeavoured to show that, if his proposals were carried out, the revenues of the Post Office would be augmented, and that the public would gladly pay an additional charge for an efficient service. The proposals were referred to the officials of the Post Office, who in their zeal to smother the scheme seem to have outrun their discretion, and to have raised so many wild objections that they overstated their case. They concluded, however, by pronouncing the plan to be *impossible*, and it is not at all improbable that for this very reason Mr. Pitt, who did not know the meaning of the word, believing that the scheme was not only practicable, but would turn out to be profitable, determined that it should be tried. On the 24th July, 1784, the Secretary to the Post Office issued the following notice:—

“ His Majesty’s Postmasters General \* being inclined to make an experiment for the more expeditious conveyance of mails of letters by stage-coaches, machines, &c., have been pleased to order that a trial shall be made upon the road between London and Bristol, to commence at each place on Monday, the 2nd of August next,” &c. &c.

The coach did not, however, start till the 24th August,† per-

\* The Earl of Tankerville and the Hon. H. Carteret. From the year 1690 down to 1823 there had ordinarily been two Postmasters General; but in the latter year the joint postmaster generalship was abolished.

† Mr. Lewins, from whose work much of the above account is taken, says the 8th August; but as this was a Sunday, we have consequently adopted the date given in other histories of the period.

**"THE ROAD" AND THE POST OFFICE.**

**NO TRADE EXPEDITION; to Property Protection."**

So ran the legend on the face of the "Mail Coach penny," a copper medal struck off about the year 1785, in honour of "J. Palmer, Esq.," to whom the medal in question was dedicated, "as a token of gratitude for benefits received from the establishment of mail coaches." The producer of this token is unknown, for he veils his identity under the initials "J. F.," which appear at the bottom of the inscription on the reverse of the medal; but it is unreasonable to assume that he was engaged in some commercial undertaking, the business relations of which were facilitated and enlarged by the inauguration of a rapid and expeditious postal service. The mail coach system, which in after years was brought to such perfection, and which, in a modified form, was revived on the Bath road two years ago, and has since been extended, is due to the aforesaid John Palmer, sometime M.P. for Bath, and proprietor or director of the Bath Theatre.

The English postal system, however, dates back to the time of Edward III.; and in the reign of that monarch every twentieth mile on the chief roads had a "posthouse" established; though the date at which the public first had any other means of sending letters than by the employment of private messengers is uncertain. Thomas Witherings was Charles I.'s first post-office controller; and the celebrated Benjamin Franklin, who was somewhat injudiciously dismissed by the British Government in 1774, was appointed Postmaster-General to the American colonies in 1753. Both of these worthies, however, and others who succeeded them, made no provision for the transmission of letters other than by mounted messengers; and it was not till a time later that a Mr Allen organised a system of postboys to carry the mails, the pace at which they travelled being regulated by contract at five miles an hour. Mr Palmer's account of the system in vogue in his early days was to entrust the mails "to some idle fellow without a character, who was mounted on a worn-out horse, and who, so far from being able to defend himself, in case of escape from a robber, was more likely to be in league with him." So often were these idle boys robbed, by accident or design, that at length important communications were entrusted, as parcels, to the coachmen and

drivers of stage coaches—for Charles I. had forbidden the use of postal services. John Palmer, having observed the great inconvenience which resulted from the want of such services, and the much in request stage coaches were for the conveyance of these letter parcels, conceived the idea that a system of mail coaches, protected by properly armed guards, would carry the mails more expeditiously and in greater safety than the system of Allen's postboys.

Towards the close of the last century, however, bands of red tape prescribed the action of Government departments even to a greater extent than they do now. It was in vain that John Palmer pointed out the advantages that would accrue from the substitution of a mail coach service for the slow and expensive hack system; it was in vain that he suggested how official business at each stage would go far to assure punctuality; when he asserted that an armed guard could not be a more efficient custodian of the mails than an unarmed and dishonest post-lad, he was met with the reply that an armed coach and a blunderbuss-provided guard could not be expected to check robbery, and that the adoption of strong defensive measures would but suggest to the highwayman an

at devoid of interest. The Prix des Acacias was placed fourth on the card, and it brought out seven runners, two of them the acis and Master Gillam, carrying Baron de Soubtyran's colors, acis, who had won the handicap on Sunday, seemed to have the better chance, but M. Delamarre's Kashmir, M. Petit's score d'Orge, and M. Ephrussi's War Dance were all fancied as outsiders of the party being Mr H. Jennings's Villejuif, who was one of the runners for the English Two Thousand. Kashmir ran very badly, but War Dance, showing considerable improvement upon his performance of last Sunday, when he was third to Puchero and Yellow, repeated his victory in the Grand Prix de Bruxelles, winning very easily from Score d'Orge. The winning of War Dance cannot give M. Ephrussi much of "line" for Alicante, but he is a useful colt for all that, and credit to his sire Galliard, to whom his dam War Paint was in foal when M. Ephrussi imported her from England. Curiously enough, so happened that the next race was won by a son of Galliard, the Galopin, this being M. Lupin's Halbran, who secured a very early victory from Count de Berteux's Xylander. Halbran is now five years old, and his dam is the late Lord Falmouth's mares Mavis, whom M. Lupin purchased for such a high price at the last sale in 1884. Mavis was then in foal to Galopin with Halbran, who has not been a very worthy representative of his illustrious parents, and it must be added that Mavis has not since bred anything of note for M. Lupin, whose success in afternoon was all the more welcome because he has not won any races this season. M. Lupin did not succeed so well in the Prix de St. Georges, a race for three-year-olds, in which he was represented by Rosmonde, a grandly bred daughter of Hermès and Enguerrande, the latter of whom, it will be remembered, was the lead heat for the Oaks at Epsom with Camélia in 1876. Rosmonde, who had only run once as a two-year-old, has not fulfilled her early promise, having grown all the wrong way, and this price was an easy prey to Baron de Schickler's Paradisia, a granddaughter of Atlantic and La Dauphine, while a fourth victory was secured this afternoon by the progeny of English sire, M. Kassar, the winner of the opening race, being a son of Wellingtonia.

The case with which Paradisia—who is a lengthy filly, with a sweeping action—disposed of her rivals might have encouraged her owner to throw down the gauntlet to Wandora tomorrow in the Prix de Diane, the forfeits for which were declared this afternoon. Only ten fillies remain in, and of this number there are but four which can be regarded as having any sort of chance. These are—M. Pierre Donon's Wandora, M. Ephrussi's Mante, M. Prat's Lillane, and M. Aumont's Nativia. Baron de Schickler's Paradisia, had she not run so badly in the Grand Ducal Stakes, would have had to be included in the list, after

rious kinds of barefaced frauds upon the public. The "confidence trick" has long been reckoned largely as one of the same may be said of the quondam trade in "dropping," or "fawney bouncing," as it used to be called in Romany slang among thieves. The judgment of the same court (Crown Cases Reserved) which was given on Monday last, seems at first sight to throw the *ogis* of the law over a certain class of fraud which is practised almost daily by certain experts in the London streets. We allude to the "purse trick," as it is called. A "Cheap Jack" offers a purse for sale to the purchaser, and after displaying it he offers to put into it a certain amount of silver coin, which he exhibits in his hand. He apparently puts this silver into the purse, but by a sleight of hand he retains the silver and slips in instead two or three copper coins, which rattle audibly as they fall into the purse. The latter is almost simultaneously shut up sharply with a snap, and is then handed to the purchaser, who has been asked to buy it at a price far above the value of the silver which has ostensibly been put into it. When the dunc discovers the cheat and asks

Circular Copper Token. 26 mm. in diameter.

Device. Obverse. a mail coach, with 4 horses galloping  
to right.

Legend beneath. TO TRADE, EXPEDITION,  
TO PROPERTY,  
PROTECTION.

- Reverse. Inscripture between 2 palm branches

To  
J. PALMER, Esq

This is inscribed, as a Token of gratitude,  
for benefits rec<sup>d</sup>, from the Establishment  
of Mail Coaches. "J. F."

Around edge. 'Mail Coach Halfpenny. Payable in London.'

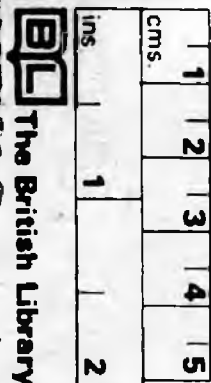
Palmer's era dates property of P.O. 1784

This year separate est<sup>m</sup> for Ireland. but in 1801. recurrent

1786.	not receipt.	£ 304	—
1793.		409.	—
1799	-	-	704
1815	-	1.635	- rates increased
1838.	at.	1.557.	

improved system of attack. So, for some time, the Post Office turned a deaf ear to Mr Palmer and his plans. But the member for Bath was not so easily to be turned from his project. Backed by the mercantile community, he continued his representations to the Post Office, which department after some time gave way, and, on July 24, 1784, issued an order stating that "His Majesty's Postmasters-General, being inclined to make an experiment for the more expeditious conveyance of mails of letters by stage coaches, machines, &c, have been pleased to order that a trial shall be made upon the road between London and Bristol, to commence at each place on Aug. 2 next." The experiment was not, however, made until the 8th, on which day the first mail coaches under Palmer's system commenced running. On the same day, too, Mr Palmer was appointed Controller-General of the Post Office, and, in his official capacity, witnessed the arrival of the mail which left Bristol at four in the afternoon, and reached London sixteen hours later—the outgoing coach having departed from town at four in the morning. The new departure "caught on" directly; and almost before the Bristol road was in working order, the merchants of Liverpool and Manchester, becoming alive to the advantages of the new mails, were among the first of the great provincial towns to petition that their letters might be carried like those departing from, and arriving at, Bristol. The Post Office itself was apparently so convinced of the merits of Mr Palmer's system that in the majority of cases the request was at once complied with; and later still the mails—the Patent mails, as they were called—were all built to one pattern. The "Mail Coach halfpenny," though the first tribute to Mr Palmer's exertions in the cause of postal communication, was not the last, as the Chamber of Commerce of Glasgow presented him, a few years later, with a massive silver cup, which, in 1875, was given by Mr Palmer's granddaughter to the Mayor and Corporation of Bath, in memory of her ancestor. The idea that the arming of the mail guards would be regarded by the highway fraternity in the light of a challenge was, for a time at least, utterly falsified, as scarcely an attempt to rob a mail coach was made for several years after their introduction. Later on, however, they appear to have been stopped with unpleasant frequency; and the mails were robbed so late as the year 1839.

The history of mail coaches was brought to the recollection last week when the Wonder Coach—painted red for the occasion, lettered for London and Edinburgh, and with coachman and guard in scarlet coats—drew up at the Guildhall in accordance with the programme arranged for the occasion of the Jubilee of the Penny Post. One of the most curious circumstances, however, in connection with mail coaching, and fast coaching, is the rapidity with which it developed, and the suddenness with which it came to an end. When coaches had no springs, and when roads were bad, pace was of course impossible; and high-class coachmanship could not have come into existence till a better state of things prevailed. Mr Palmer's first mail coach was rated at six miles per hour only; and some time elapsed before the speed was raised to eight, and eventually to ten miles an hour. Then suddenly coaching became a mighty undertaking, and requests for mails were so numerous that in 1836 there were fifty four-horse mails in England, thirty in Ireland, and ten in Scotland, besides pair-horse mails. The number of mails running out of London every night was twenty-seven—this being the number in the procession on the King's birthday in 1834; while ten years later Mr Stanley Harris, whose books contain so much information on coaching as it was, thinks that there was not a single mail coach running out of London. For something like forty-five years there was no further connection, so far as London is concerned, between the road and the Post Office than the postal vans and carts. Two years ago, however, the plan was adopted of carrying the parcels for Brighton and intermediate places by road; and yesterday week the vehicle used started on its journey from the Guildhall at nine o'clock, where it was probably seen for the first time by a good many of the spectators. The system, having been found to answer, has been extended to Liverpool; and in connection with the conveyance of parcels by the Post Office it is curious to note that upwards of fifty years ago—that is to say, when mail coaching was at its best—one of the officials of the Post Office suggested to the head of that department that a parcels post should be established, as likely to bring in considerable revenue to the Post Office. The difficulties, however, which then stood in the way of the proposed extension were insurmountable. It is one thing to have a capacious van to carry parcels only, but quite another to have carried the parcels on the same mail with letters and the few passengers the mails were constructed to carry. The notice "Parcels carried and punctually delivered" appear on the cards and bills of most of the London coaches; but not a very great deal of patronage has been extended to them—not so much as might be expected.



... otherwise it obviously would not  
... them to ply their trade at it. In the case in point,  
... the prosecutor actually bought two such purses, one after  
... the other; and then, finding that he had been imposed  
... upon, and could not get his money back, gave the cheap-  
... jack into the custody of the police. The prisoner was  
... committed for trial, and was convicted of "stealing" the  
... prosecutor's money; but the judge who tried the case  
... reserved a point for further consideration of the Superior  
... court, and on this point the latter have now decided in  
... the accused's favour, and have quashed the conviction.

The offender gets off upon one of those quibbles  
British law which, unfortunately, occur at times  
to mar the course of justice. He was indicted for  
larceny. Now, the law is that if a prisoner is indicted  
for "false pretences," and the evidence discloses facts  
which amount to a larceny, he may be convicted for the  
major offence upon an indictment for the minor—i.e., of  
larceny upon an indictment for cheating. But, curiously,  
the converse law does not prevail. So that, if the charge  
be one of larceny, and the evidence discloses facts which  
amount to obtaining goods or money by false pretences  
the prisoner cannot, upon the indictment for larceny, be  
convicted of false pretences; and so he gets off scot free,  
unless there happens to be a separate indictment for the  
minor offence, on which he can be arraigned and tried  
independently. This anomaly is the more striking when  
we bear in mind that in the case of other crimes a minor  
offence, such as an attempt to commit a crime, can be  
found against a prisoner upon an indictment for com-  
mitting the full offence. As matters stand, here is a flaw  
in our jurisprudence which could have been remedied by  
an Act in one clause, and which has never yet been set  
straight. In the present case the Superior Court came to  
the conclusion that the facts in evidence disclosed what  
would amount to a case of false pretences only, and  
accordingly the charge of larceny broke down. The dis-  
tinction between false pretences and larceny is subtle; so  
much so that judges themselves have differed in opinion  
at times as to whether a given case came under the one or  
the other denomination. The technical difference is this:  
where a prosecutor parts not only with the possession,  
but also with the *property* in his cash or chattel, through  
the wiles of the accused, he can only charge the latter  
with having obtained his property by false pretences.  
But if he (the prosecutor), while handing his cash or  
chattel to the prisoner, retains his own "property" in  
the same until something in return shall be done for him  
given to him by the prisoner, then the latter, upon  
inverting to his own use the prosecutor's cash or chattel,  
becomes a thief, if he detains it without giving the proper  
change. In this case the judges were of opinion that  
the prosecutor parted with the property in his purchase  
money to the prisoner, being deceived by the latter's false  
presentation as to the contents of the purses; and on  
such facts the offence amounted to false pretences only.  
Had the prisoner been indicted for false pretences, he  
could have been convicted and sentenced according to  
his deserts.

The judgment brings joy to the Cheap Jack fraternity.  
There is more in it in their favour than meets the  
usual critic's mind. The ruling enables them to ply  
their trade with practical impunity. So long as their  
postures could be reckoned to savour of larceny, they  
could be taken into custody on the spot by the first  
policeman hailed by a dupe. But now, since it is esta-  
blished that they are only "cheats," the police are  
powerless, and may not accept a charge made against  
them in the streets. He who is guilty of false pretences  
can only be taken into custody upon a magistrate's  
warrant; or can be proceeded against by a summons,  
hereafter backed by a warrant for his arrest if he fails to  
answer the summons. Accordingly the Cheap Jack can  
"make tracks" while the dupe is making his way to a  
magistrate to ask for a warrant, or a summons. The  
cheat can give a false name and address (if any), and, even  
if he is caught some weeks later, may be the working  
man dupe who has laid the information can no longer be  
found to prosecute and give evidence.

The judgment is to be regretted, and none lament it  
more than the bench, who felt constrained to deliver it  
in obedience to the law, which they cannot make, but can  
only construe and administer. The moral is humiliating  
to us. We need in the first place a consolidation of false  
pretences and larceny by statute, so that one indictment  
shall serve for both, no matter which offence is actually  
charged. Secondly, it would be well if the police had  
power to take into custody on the spot when barefaced  
cheats are charged, instead of being compelled to refer  
the complainant to the nearest police court.

mails first carried by railway between Speer & Chicago  
in 1838.



Nett income of P.O. in 1792. (Pitt) £378,000.  
1826. (Robinson). £1,733,000.

1842. £300,000.

	1	2	3	4	5
cms.					
ins.		1			2



The British Library

forming the journey between London and Bath in fourteen hours, and to Bristol in fifteen, the other coach from Bristol to London reaching the latter place in sixteen hours, notwithstanding that the Post Office officials had just declared it was an impossibility to bring the Bath mail to London in sixteen or eighteen hours. On the same day Mr. Palmer was installed at the Post Office, under the title of Controller-General, in order to carry out his system, under which the punctuality, speed, and security of the post were greatly increased, and its revenues proportionately augmented.

The system thus inaugurated was gradually extended throughout the kingdom, until it was in its turn superseded by the development of railways, and the consequent establishment of travelling post-vans on the principal lines.

The introduction of the mail-coach system was the occasion of adding a further charge of one penny on each single letter, which was done by Act 24 Geo. III. c. 37. Mr. Pitt, in proposing the increase, said that the "changes he had to propose would by no means reduce the number sent. It was idle to suppose that the public would grumble at having to pay just one penny additional for valuable letters safely and expeditiously conveyed," an argument which appears somewhat curious when read by the light of those made use of in 1837.

The rates were again raised in 1797 and in 1805. In 1812 a further augmentation took place, and the rates then fixed continued to exist with but trifling changes up to the 5th December, 1839, when the uniform rate of 4d. was introduced. The following are the inland rates immediately prior to that period, on a letter consisting of a single sheet under one ounce in weight.

From any Post Office in England or Wales to any place not exceeding 15 miles . . . . .	4d.
Above 15 miles, and not exceeding 20 miles . . . . .	5d.
"    20    "                    "    30    "    .    .    .    .	6d.
"    30    "                    "    50    "    .    .    .	7d.
"    50    "                    "    80    "    .    .    .	8d.

14 POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Above 80 miles, and not exceeding 120 miles . . . .	9d.
„ 120 „ „ 170 „ . . . .	10d.
„ 170 „ „ 230 „ . . . .	11d.
„ 230 „ „ 300 „ . . . .	12d.

And so on in proportion, the postage increasing progressively 1d. for every single letter for every additional distance of 100 miles. No letter was to be rated higher than a treble letter, unless it should be one ounce in weight; and all letters of one ounce to be rated as four single letters, and every  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce in excess as a single letter. Scotch letters were taxed with an additional  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., which had been imposed as an extra charge on letters conveyed by a mail conveyance with more than two wheels, thus making the postage from London to Edinburgh 1s.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a single letter, 2s. 3d. for a double one, and so on.

The privilege formerly enjoyed by members of the legislature of franking and receiving letters free was first claimed by the House of Commons in 1660, when a clause was inserted in a Post Office Bill of that year, but was struck out by the House of Lords, most probably because no mention had been made in it that the letters of that branch of the legislature should also pass free. However, Charles II. granted the privilege to members of both Houses by a warrant issued to the Postmaster General, and similar warrants were issued in successive reigns, until the right of franking became the subject of legislative enactment. As at first authorised, the privilege was open to abuse; for though the weight of each letter was not to exceed two ounces, yet there was no limitation as to numbers, and as it was only necessary that the cover should bear the signature of a member, he frequently supplied his friends with whole packets at a time. The abuse of the system had so increased that in 1763 it was made the subject of Parliamentary investigation, and in the following year, as a means of putting a check on the evil, it was enacted, by 4 Geo. III. c. 24, that the whole of the address should be in the handwriting of the member, and his signature appended. This did not wholly cure the evil, and in 1784 it was further enacted that, as an additional

*The list of franked parcels opposite is taken from a letter from Mr F. Sanderson to Mr F. Hall. printed in P. M. Gads' Report of July 1883. (29<sup>th</sup>)*

## THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

137-90.  
Twenty years have elapsed since the last letter sent by a member of the Upper or the Lower House of Parliament passed with payment through the British Post Office. The privilege had existed since 1680, when it was claimed by the House of Commons, but was afterwards dropped on an assurance from the Crown that it should be conceded to members of Parliament. The Postmaster-General was then in the habit, on the election of a new Parliament, of issuing a warrant granting the right of franking to members of the House of Commons, and at the beginning of a new reign the privilege was bestowed on members of the House of Lords and of their successors until the next demise of the Crown. The practice continued until the privilege was altered by statute (4th George III., c. 24). The days of franking each member of either House of Parliament was entitled to send ten letters every day, each letter not exceeding one ounce in weight, to any place in the United Kingdom, and also to receive fifteen letters daily, without any payment for postage. As it was necessary that the letter should be either sent by or to the privileged person, it is evident that before its suppression the system was open to all manner of abuses. Prior to the passing of the statute called 7th William IV. and 1st Victoria, c. 32, all that was requisite was that the sender should write his name or title at the top and lower corner of a letter. The new statute, however, required that the whole address should be written by the franker; that in addition to his own name he should append the name of the post town nearest to him on the day when he wrote the frank, and also the day of the month; and, finally, that the letter should be franked on the day on which it was franked, and the following day, in a post town within ten miles of the spot where the franker was resident. "By this cruel regulation," writes a contemporary commentator upon it, "the kindly custom of franking to friends, or leaving them with a frank for future use, was rudely interfered with, and the public mind reconciled to the final abolition of what was regarded by many as a long-continued and honoured abuse."

The public at large were undoubtedly greatly benefited by the substitution of a uniform postage on all inland letters for a system of franking which mostly benefited the upper classes alone, and which was supposed to diminish the postal revenue to the extent of £170,000 annually. The unblushing way in which the Post Office was called upon towards the close of the seventeenth century and the commencement of the eighteenth century to convey not only ordinary letters, but under the protection of the frank articles of a totally different class, is well illustrated in the following amusing instance, for which we are indebted to "The Royal Mail," an interesting work published in 1885 by Mr. Wilson Hyde, who was then superintendent of the General Post Office, Edinburgh. Mr. Hyde avers that the following "quaint" bill did not actually pass through the Post

Office, but were admitted for transport on board the special packet-boats of Government sailing for the purposes and uses of the Postmaster-General. The list is as follows:

"Fifteen couple of hounds going from England to the King of the Romans with a free pass.

"Several parcels of cloth for the clothing colonels of two regiments.

"Two servant-maids going as laundresses to my Lord Ambassador Methuen.

"Doctor Crichton, carrying with him a cow and divers other necessaries.

"Three suits of cloaths for some nobleman's lady at the Court of Portugal.

"A box containing three pounds of tea, a present sent by my Lady Arlington to the Queen Dowager of England at Lisbon.

"Eleven couple of hounds for Major-General Hompesch.

"A case of knives and forks for Mr. Stepney, his Majesty's Envoy to the King of Holland.

"One little parcel of lace to be used in clothing Duke Schomberg's regiment.

"Two bales of stockings for the use of the Ambassador of the Crown of Portugal.

"A box of medicines for my Lord Galway in Portugal.

"A deal case with four fitches of bacon for Mr. Pennington, of Rotterdam."

This miscellaneous assortment recalls a speech made about fifty years since in the Senate at Washington by Daniel Webster, in which, inveighing against the postal privileges enjoyed by Senators and Members of Congress, he convulsed his hearers by describing the receipt by one of his colleagues from Massachusetts of a fine sucking-pig sent to the latter from Boston for his Christmas dinner. At that time and until a much later date it was customary for United States Senators and Members of the House of Representatives to frank their dirty linen to their own homes, distant, perhaps, 1,500 or 2,000 miles from Washington, and to receive it back clean in Washington without paying a farthing for carriage both ways. Moreover, the extent to which the franks of Members of Congress are forged led to the following passage in the Report of the American Postmaster-General for the year 1860:

"Another potent reason for the abolition of the franking privilege is found in the abuses inseparable from its existence. These abuses, though constantly exposed and animadverted on for a long series of years, have as constantly increased. It has often been stated by my predecessors that immense masses of packages are transported under the Government frank which neither the letter nor the spirit of the statute creating the franking privilege would justify; and a large number of letters, documents, and packages are thus conveyed, covered by frank, written in violation of law by some real or pretended agent; while whole sacks of similar matter, which have never been handled nor seen by Government functionaries, are transported under franks which have been forged. The extreme difficulty of detecting these forgeries has greatly multiplied the offences; while the prevalence has so deadened the public sentiment in reference to them that,

© Sir H. Cole says that any Member could receive  
 an unlimited number of letters of any weight, even a  
 hairfort, or a saddle or a haunch of venison, & they might  
 send out 14 letters a day. (This is clearly wrong)  
 vol 1. p. 43.

& came into operation on & after 1<sup>st</sup> August 1712.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume of the  
 In the life of John, Lord Campbell, edited by his daughter  
 1881" at p 116, vol 2. is a passage from his Autobiography.  
 "I had a considerable hand in the leading measure now introduced  
 & carried which was said to be the price for the promised support of the  
 Radicals who had deserted us on the Jamaica Bill. I mean the Penny Post  
 My constituents (he was M.P. for Edinburgh) who could have had their  
 letters carried from London by a private conveyance for less than a  
 penny were very much discontented at being obliged to pay 1-6 to the government.  
 He adds, after eulogizing it as a social improvement - I was thereby  
 deprived of the privilege of franking as a member of the H<sup>ouse</sup> of Commons, and  
 now lose the privilege of franking as a peer; but I rejoiced at the  
 sacrifice for the general good, although the loss of consequence from  
 ceasing to be able to frank a letter for a lady, or in travelling, for a  
 waiter or an inn, gave great disgust to many members of both Houses.  
 Myself as well as they, & made some of them openly declare that there  
 was no longer any use in being in Parliament."  
 This last ~~is a curious comment on the early improvement by the system, &~~  
 highly characteristic moreover of ~~the system~~ <sup>the early improvement</sup> ~~in the country~~  
 of plain John Campbell."

see next page.

ver ample the proof, a conviction cannot be  
ned without the greatest difficulty. I refer  
to the case recently reported by the  
nd States Attorney for the District of  
mbia, in illustrating the vitiated state  
blic opinion reflected from the jury-box.  
proof of guilt was complete, and the case  
eemed by a single palliation; and yet the  
der was acquitted and discharged unrebuked  
rime, if it should please him, his flagitious

Whenever the use of anything of value is  
without the check of a money equivalent,  
se is sure to degenerate into abuse. Such  
ound, long before 1840, to be the case with  
rinking privilege, as to which Mr. Hyde re-  
s that "it was eating like a canker into  
itals of the revenue." Who that has read  
of the "memoirs" and "diaries" of  
and gentlemen who kept "diaries" about  
years since, or whose letters were published  
their death, can have forgotten the  
agems and plots into which they en-  
to procure franks from peers and  
bers of Parliament so as to avoid  
ng sums varying between one shilling and  
and eightpence for each letter that they  
e? In a letter, dated from Stowe, the  
nificent country-seat of the Duke of Buck-  
um, Miss Fanny Williams Wynn—"The Lady  
uality," whose correspondence and journals  
ite Mr. Abraham Hayward, Q.C., edited and  
shed after her death—writes to her niece  
the latter's letters would long ago have been  
ered, were it not that Miss Williams Wynn  
been condemned to silence, because there  
was one at Stowe to whom she could apply  
frank. "Now," she added, "we are suffering  
'embarras de richesse,' as Mr. Canning,  
Nugent, Mr. Richard Neville, Mr. Tom Creevy,  
half a dozen Peers, are all assembled here."  
introduction of the penny postage, which  
ed to the establishment in these islands of  
t 40,000 boxes or receptacles for letters,  
of which are post-offices, and through which  
passed in the year ending March 31 last a  
total of 2,363,000,000 letters, post-cards,  
packets, newspapers, and parcels, is one  
e most astonishing phenomena of the nine-  
th century. The credit for it, according to  
pamphlet just published by Mr. Patrick  
omers, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society,  
ld be divided between Sir Rowland Hill, who  
hitherto got all the credit, Mr. Wallace,  
for Glasgow, and Mr. James Chalmers, a  
seller at Dundee. It is claimed for the  
r by his son that the conception of the  
five postage stamp first entered his head  
1834, three years before Sir Rowland Hill's  
vated pamphlet on cheap postage first saw  
light in 1837, and credit for the invention is  
ruled to Mr. James Chalmers by the writer of  
life in Mr. Leslie Stephen's "National Bio-  
graphy." Mr. Chalmers died in 1853, and the  
see papers in the lengthy obituary notice  
th they inserted stated that "in the opinion  
pany, including Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P. for  
see, a large part of the credit due to the in-  
vour of the penny postage should have been  
ded to our modest fellow-townsmen."

form in model and arrangements, and unsurpassed in the completeness of their appointments. Saloons and state cabins on all ships. Steerage passage £4 (including rail ticket from Liverpool).—Apply to Ismay, Imrie, and Co., 24, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C., and 10, Water-street, Liverpool.

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 DELPHIA.—Entire fare from London.—Saloon, from £12 second class £8; steerage, £3 10s. Children half-price, infants Cooked provisions included.

Passengers leave London (Liverpool-street Railway) Every Thursday, at 4.30 p.m. Next departures:  
 Ss. Waesland ..... 5,000 tons. | Ss. Belgenland ..... 4,000  
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 Steamers leave Antwerp on Saturdays. Reduced fares to all parts of the world. Reductions to families. Book early. £1 secures a berth. Red Star's Guide to America, bills of lading, maps, and handbooks sent free by post or on application by rail or dock dues to pay. No cattle carried. Children under 10 years free.  
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**ORLEANS DIRECT.** Entire fare from London including ship kit. Texas and California at lowest rates. Reductions for families.—For full particulars apply to M. K. Kendall, North-buildings, Eldon-street (near Broad-street Station), London.

**NEW YORK from LONDON.—WILSON'S LINE.**—Five STEAMERS WEEKLY. Saloon from £8 9s.—Allan Brothers and Co., 103, Leadenhall-street, London.

**INMAN LINE.** Cunard, White Star, Dominion, Allan, Beaver, Hill, National, State.—THROUGH to AMERICA, Canada, San Francisco, Australia, New Zealand, &c.—Edwin Evans, 21, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, London.

**BUENOS AYRES.**—Four Times a Month, by STEAMERS. Fares from £7 15s., including kit, advantages and work for all on arrival. Pamphlets free at low rates.—For full particulars apply to J. M. Wright & Co., 41, Finsbury-pavement, London.

**EMIGRANTS' PASSAGES.**—For lowest fares information apply to Bewell and Crowther, 110, Old-street, S.W. Canada, £4; United States, £3 15s.; Australia, £13 12s.; Brisbane, £14; New Zealand, £13 12s.; South Africa, £12 12s. Food provided. Saloon passengers at low rates.

**CUTTER YACHT,** with large and beautifully fitted cabin, patent w.c., water tanks, force pump in cabin, coppered, lead and moulded iron ballast. Fine sea boat. Full inventory, ready to put in commission. For SALE only £250.—Letters to Norrott, 411, Strand.

**EMIGRATION.**—No office in London can be so cheap as ours. Passengers cheaper than HETHERINGTON'S. £4, £3 10s. to AMERICA EVERY THURSDAY from LONDON. £7 15s. to Buenos Ayres; Canada, £4; Australia, £13 12s.; New Zealand, £12 12s. Books, Maps, &c., free.

**YACHTING CRUISE to the MEDITERRANEAN and LEVANT.**—The Steam Yacht CEYLON, 120 tons, registered (Captain Cairnes, R.N.R., commander), will start for GRAVESEND punctually on SATURDAY, Feb. 15, for a well-arranged pleasure cruise. The Ceylon is the largest and most comfortable yacht afloat, has unrivalled accommodations, superior cuisine, fitted with all modern improvements, and light and bells in all the state rooms.—For particulars apply to the Manager, Steam Yacht Ceylon Office, 27, Regent-street, London, W. dilly-circus, S.W.

**YACHTING CRUISE in the MEDITERRANEAN** including Egypt and the Holy Land. The steam YACHT VICTORIA (M. D. Lunham, commander) sails from LONDON FEB. 8, for 68 days' cruise. Inspection of ship specially arranged. Apply to Manager, Carlton-chambers, 4, Regent-street, London, W.

**SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.—ROYAL MAIL EXPRESS SERVICES to PARIS, Switzerland, &c., via Dover and Calais.**

	1 2 Cl.	1 2 Cl.	1 2 Cl.	1 Cl.
Charing-cross dep.	8.40 a.	10.0 a.	11.0 a.	3.15 p.m.
Paris ..... arr.	5.40 p.	6.57 p.	7.15 p.	11.12 p.m.

\*Via Folkestone and Boulogne.  
 The trains (Club Train excepted) will call at Cannes and Marseilles later.

The fast steamers Calais-Douvres, Empress, Victoria, &c., sail daily between Dover and Calais in connection with these services.

**NICE, Cannes, Monte Carlo, Mentone, &c.—SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.**

	1 Cl.	A	1 Cl.	B
Charing-cross and Cannon-street dep.	8.40 a.m.	10.0 a.m.	11.0 a.m.	3.15 p.m.
Paris ..... arr.	5.40 p.	6.57 p.	7.15 p.	11.12 p.m.

A. Communication by omnibus service across Paris. B. Club Train only, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

**CLUB TRAIN SERVICES.—SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.**—The Club Train, consisting of Dining and Smoking Cars specially heated, leaves CHARING-CROSS STATION for PARIS DAILY (Sundays excepted), at 3.15 p.m. Return tickets booked at Charing-cross Station; or Messrs. Gaze and Co., 11, Strand.

W. M. PANTON, General Manager.

check, all franks should be dated, and the name of the post town from which the letter was intended to be sent, and the day and month, should be written in full, and that the letters should be posted on the day they bore date.

In 1795 it was provided that letters franked by members of the legislature should not exceed one ounce in weight, and that no member should receive more than fifteen each day, nor frank more than ten. The privilege remained in force until the passing of the Act 2 and 3 Vict. c. 52, when it was abolished, and strict limits were placed on official franking. ☉

So long as newspapers were taxed they were conveyed without charge by the Post Office. A duty of 1d. was first imposed in June, 1712.\* In that year Queen Anne sent a message to the House of Commons complaining of the "publication of seditious papers and factious rumours, by which means designing men had been able to sink credit, and the innocent had suffered." A committee of the House was appointed to consider how this evil could be remedied, and a tax was suggested as the best means of curbing these abuses of the liberty of the press. In 1724 the duty was changed to one penny on every sheet of certain dimensions, and a halfpenny on every half sheet. On the 28th May, 1776, the duty was raised to 1½d., and on the 12th August, 1789, to 2d. In 1794 it was increased to 2½d., and in May, 1797, to 3½d. The highest rate reached was in 1815, when the duty was fixed at 4d. In 1836, by Act 6 and 7 Will. IV. c. 76, the duty was reduced to one penny for each sheet of a certain size, and a halfpenny for a supplement, as will be noticed hereafter, until it was finally abolished in 1855, though retained optionally for postal purposes until the year 1870.

*In 1785 the Post Office yielded £238,000. Pitt introducing his budget in 1792 states that the tax upon it produced £335,000.*



## CHAPTER II.

### *THE NEW POST OFFICE SYSTEM.*

IN order to trace the origin of the change effected in the Post Office system in 1839, it will be necessary to cast a retrospective glance at the general state of society in England at that period. A few years previously the Reform Bill had been carried by the force of public opinion. An agitation commenced against the "Taxes on Knowledge" had, in 1836, resulted in a large reduction in the tax on newspapers, and it was clear that the remainder of that tax was doomed, and that the abolition of the excise duty on paper was only a question of time. The *Penny Magazine* and other cheap periodical literature had been started, and had met with well-merited success. A system of education, commenced in 1834, had received further development, and had been organized under the direction of a Committee of the Privy Council; it was said on all sides that the "schoolmaster was abroad." Everything was to be done for the million, who made their voices heard above those of the upper ten thousand. Further than this, the manufacturing and commercial industries of this country were expanding; some of the principal lines of railway had been opened, and increased facilities of locomotion had promoted greater intercourse among the people. As the railways advanced and extended their iron roads over the country, the coaches which conveyed the mails were gradually dwindling away before them. A travelling Post Office had been put on the Grand Junction Railway between Birmingham and Liverpool on the 1st July, 1837, and it seemed that, in face of what the railways would be able to carry, the weight of the mails was no longer a matter to be

Earl of Lichfield. R.M. General 1835-41.

Viscount Cauning 1853

Henry Hawcett 1880

J. G. Shaw Lefevre Depy. 1882 while  
Mr. Hawcett was ill.

Charles H. J.  
Tregrosson; Sir James  
Arnold Morley,

D. of Norfolk

Hawking. See Seeley, History of England in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

London. 1867. vol. 4. p. 29. (copy message)

"In the beginning of the reign every member of both Houses had the right of franking in many letters as he pleased, by writing his name & the word 'free' on the covers & he had also the right of receiving free letters addressed to himself. These privileges were soon unwisely abused. Copies of letters bearing the signatures of Members of Parliament were sent by hundreds in boxes all over the Kingdom for distribution or sale; the frequency of presents became the ornament of Orators; one Member of Parliament is said to have received no less than £2000 a year from a great merchant house for franking their correspondence; & as letters might be addressed without payment to members in places where they were not seen by numerous other persons were accustomed, by an easily concerted fraud to receive their letters free under the name of a member. It was computed that the Government lost through the franking of letters as no less than £170,000 a year. An Act had been passed in 1753 slightly restricting the privilege of franking, obliging the members to write the whole superscription of the letters they franked & making the penalty of franked letters illegal but it proved quite insufficient to suppress the frauds connected with the system.

See Warrall, Posthumous. Memoirs Vol. 1. p. 118-120. Ashton's Old Times 1. 122.

Kan Moley Nov 93 Black hand stamp oval. inner line thick



rest illegible. - suddenly 9th  
with a red ink official signature  
to verify.

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text on lined paper]*

taken into account. Many departments of the State had been remodelled and improved; it would have been strange, therefore, if the Post Office, which by its high charges so fettered social intercourse and business transactions, had been suffered to escape from becoming the subject of enquiry. Yet up to the year 1833 "the Post Office was regarded by the public as a vast and mysterious but nearly perfect machine."\*

In that year Mr. Wallace entered Parliament as member for Greenock, and almost immediately commenced a series of attacks on the Post Office. Among his first recommendations was the substitution of a charge by weight in lieu of the absurd and troublesome mode of charging by sheet, which not only rendered every enclosure subject to an additional rate, but involved the examination of each letter by the officials aided by a strong light. In the succeeding sessions of Parliament Mr. Wallace advocated other reforms, and was constantly on the watch to detect abuses and to direct public attention to the anomalies and evils of the existing system. Further, he urged the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry into the management of the Post Office, which was subsequently granted by the Government.

But Mr. Wallace was not the only Post Office reformer of the day. As early as 1830 Mr. Charles Whiting, the well-known printer, of Beaufort House, Strand, submitted a proposal to the Government for the issue of stamped bands to frank a certain quantity of printed matter. Later on Mr. Charles Knight, the publisher of the *Penny Magazine*, and the works produced under the direction of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, suggested the use of stamped covers, but nothing was in reality effected; while the Government, which was quietly receiving a million and a half of net revenue from the Post Office, was indisposed to try any experiments which might by any possibility jeopardize the receipts, or to initiate any

\* *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 529.

reform for which it did not appear that an absolute necessity existed.\*

At length, in the year 1836, Rowland Hill, the son of the master of a school near Birmingham, and himself a schoolmaster and teacher of mathematics through all his early years, turned his attention to the defects of the existing postal system, and soon arrived at a conviction that it not only ought to be, but that it was capable of being, reformed. Firm in this conviction, and gifted with great perseverance, united to considerable powers of organization, he collected with infinite pains such an amount of information as satisfied his own mind that cheaper postage might be conceded to the public without risk of ultimate loss to the revenue. In January, 1837, he embodied his views and the results of his investigations in the form of a pamphlet, *Post Office Reform: its Importance and Practicability*. This pamphlet was distributed amongst personal friends, members of the Government and officials, and such members of Parliament and others as were likely to take an interest in the question. Rowland Hill, however, soon found out the truth of the aphorism, "that all great reforms take their rise in pressure from without, not from within." Accordingly, in February, 1837, another edition of the pamphlet was published and issued to the public under the title of *Post Office Reform (Second Edition)*. The following brief sketch of the leading arguments he employed therein is taken from Chambers's *Book of Days*:†

He saw that the cost to the Post Office of a letter was divisible into three branches; first, that of receiving it and preparing it for the journey, which under the régime then existing was troublesome enough, as the postage varied not

\* An instance of this may be cited, that when Colonel Maberly, the Secretary to the Post Office, proposed to the Lords of the Treasury to charge the postage according to the exact distance between the places where the letter was posted and delivered, and not according to the circuitous routes that the Post Office, for its own convenience, chose to send it, the concession was refused on the ground that it would probably entail a loss of £80,000 a year.

† CHAMBERS'S *Book of Days*. Edition 1866. Vol. i. p. 89.



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At length, in the year 1800, [Illegible] ...

[Illegible text]

... was distributed amongst ...

He saw that the ...

As ...

only in proportion to the distance it had to travel, but also according as it was composed of one or more sheets of paper, even the minutest enclosures being treated as extra sheets, and subjecting it to double or triple postage. The duty of examining each letter, taxing it, and writing its proper postage upon it, was also a complicated transaction, occupying much time and labour; and he showed that each item of the charges in this first branch was exorbitant. The second branch was the cost of transit from Post Office to Post Office, and this expense, even for so great a distance as from London to Edinburgh, proved on careful examination to be no more than the ninth part of a farthing. The third branch was the cost of delivering the letter and receiving the postage, more than four-fifths of the letters then circulating being sent by the writers unpaid. He accordingly addressed himself to the simplification of the various processes. If, instead of charging according to the number of sheets or scraps of paper, a weight could be fixed, below which a letter, whatever were its contents, should only bear a single rate, much trouble would be spared to the Office, while an unjust mode of taxation would be abolished. But if the alteration rested there, a great source of labour to the Office would yet have remained, because the postage on each letter would still have to be augmented in proportion to the distance it had to travel. When, however, he had ascertained that the difference between the cost of transit in the case of a letter delivered at a distance of a mile from the office at which it was posted, and one posted in London and delivered in Edinburgh, was the insignificant fraction of a farthing, it became obvious that it was "a nearer approximation to perfect justice to pass over this petty inequality than to tax it even to the extent of the smallest coin of the realm;" and a uniform rate followed as a necessary consequence. With regard to the third head, all that could be done for lessening the cost attendant on the delivery of the letter and the receipt of the postage, was to devise some plan of prepayment which should be acceptable to the public, so long accustomed to throw the cost of corre-



spondence on the receiver of the letter, and not on the sender. It was also necessary that any such plan should avoid charging the duty of collecting the postage on the Receiving Office, and at the same time should relieve the letter-carriers attached to the Distributing Office.

It is by no means surprising that the scheme of reform thus portrayed by Rowland Hill, supported as it was by irrefutable facts and arguments, should commend itself to the minds of the public, whose sympathy was actively enlisted in its support. The Government nevertheless, backed up by the authorities at the Post Office, regarded it as all but impracticable; and the Earl of Lichfield, then Postmaster-General, went so far as to say, in the House of Lords, that "of all the wild and visionary schemes he had ever heard or read of, this was the most extraordinary."

At the time that Rowland Hill's pamphlet was published, the Committee of Post Office Inquiry, composed of Lord Duncannon (afterwards the Earl of Bea borough), Mr. H. Labouchere (afterwards Lord Taunton), and the present Duke of Somerset (then Lord Seymour), was holding its sittings for the purpose of examining into the condition of the "Twopenny Post." Before this Committee Mr. Hill gave evidence, and from the ninth report of the Commissioners, dated 7th July, 1837, it is evident that his views made considerable impression upon them. Not only did the Commissioners recommend the adoption of a uniform letter rate of one penny for letters under one ounce in weight throughout the metropolitan district of twelve miles round the General Post Office, which they considered might with advantage be increased to fifteen, but they made it the condition of the enjoyment of this reduction in the rate, that letters not exceeding one ounce in weight should be enclosed in stamped covers or envelopes of one penny; and exceeding that weight, and up to six ounces, in similar covers or envelopes of twopence. They further recommended that these covers should be prepared by the Government, and sold to the public "without any additional charge beyond the respective

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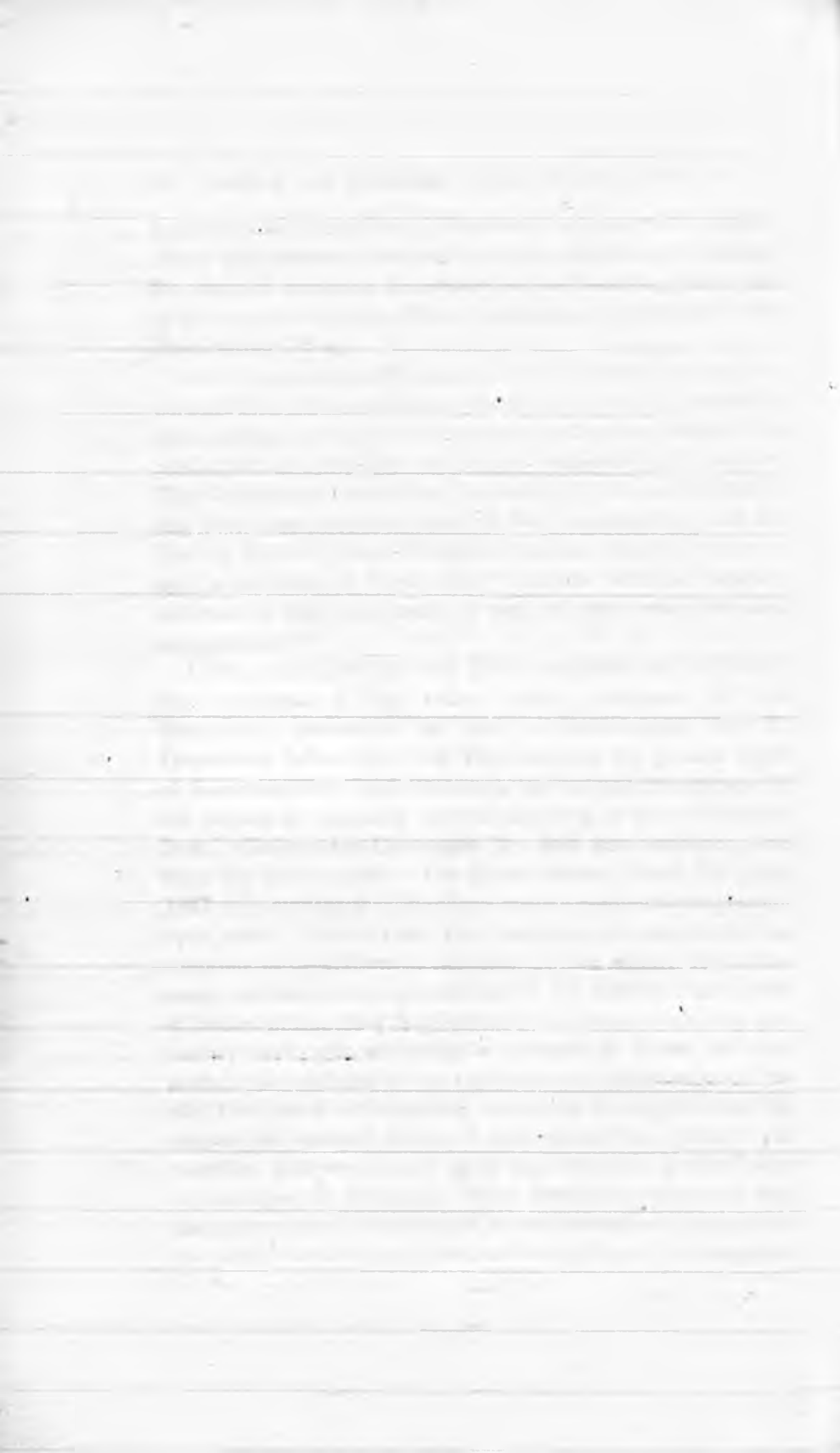
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duties of 1d. and 2d. ; whilst labels might also be prepared of such a form that they could be attached to other envelopes or covers of any size or description."\*

The Commissioners made their report, as before mentioned, on 7th July, 1837, and on the 23rd November following Mr. Wallace moved for a Committee of the House of Commons—

"To inquire into the present rates and modes of charging postage, with a view to such a reduction thereof as may be made without injury to the revenue ; and for this purpose to examine especially into the mode recommended for charging and collecting postage, in a pamphlet published by Mr. Rowland Hill."

The Committee was nominated four days after, but did not commence its sittings until Parliament reassembled in February, 1838, when Mr. Wallace was chosen chairman, and thenceforward "concentrated his indefatigable efforts upon the work."†

For the purpose of collecting evidence to be laid before the Parliamentary Committee in favour of the plan, "the Mercantile Committee on Postage" was organized. This body, composed of some of the leading merchants in London, under the presidency of Mr. Joshua Bates, of the house of Baring Brothers, raised a large sum of money for defraying the expenses of pressing the question on the attention of

\* *Ninth Report of Commissioners, &c., 1837, vol. xxxiv. part i. page 433.*

A great deal of controversial discussion has arisen as to how far Sir Rowland Hill was the author of the idea, or the inventor, of adhesive postage stamps or labels, on which, however, it is no part of our business to enter. The invention of stamped covers could certainly not be claimed by him or Mr. Knight, as they had been used ~~nearly twenty years previously in Italy.~~ \* Possibly also the idea of employing adhesive postage stamps was not that of Sir Rowland Hill exclusively ; but whether this be so or not, it would not detract one atom from his merits as the great postal reformer, who gave substantiality to ideas that were even to his own mind when proposed to the Commissioners very crude, and who initiated a system with which his name will be connected as long as the world lasts.

† See *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. page 295.

\* *and one mention in Paris by M. de Valayer in 1653. It also had been tried, though not apparently with much postal favour, in Italy in 1818.*

Parliament by petitions, public meetings, and the wide dissemination of information of all kinds bearing upon the proposed plan. The Parliamentary Committee sat sixty-three days, concluding its sittings in August. The Committee heard evidence, not only from the Postmaster-General, and all the principal officers of the Post Office and Stamp Departments, but also from Mr. Rowland Hill,\* and eighty-three independent witnesses of various pursuits and grades, the greater part of whom were produced by Mr. W. H. Ashurst, who acted as solicitor and parliamentary agent to the Mercantile Committee, and published a summary of the evidence given in support of the plan, which went through two editions in 1838;† and it need scarcely be said that the great bulk of testimony was in favour of a complete and sweeping change.‡

On the question of a uniform rate the Committee was equally divided in opinion, and it was only carried by the casting vote of the Chairman. A uniform rate of twopence per half-ounce was affirmed by an equally close division, a penny rate having been rejected by six to three. The report of the Committee, drafted by Mr. Warburton, was presented to the

\* In *Household Words*, August 1st, 1857, Mr. Charles Dickens humorously relates how, "before the Committee, the 'Circumlocution Office' and Mr. Rowland Hill were perpetually in conflict on questions of fact, and it invariably turned out that Mr. Rowland Hill was right in his facts, and that the 'Circumlocution Office' was always wrong."

† *Facts and Reasons in Support of Mr. R. Hill's Plan for a Universal Penny Postage*. By W. H. Ashurst. London, 1838.

‡ As a practical illustration of the anomalous effects of the system of charging the postal rates under the then existing conditions of the law, Mr. Henry Cole (afterward Sir H. Cole, K.C.B.), who acted as Honorary Secretary to the Mercantile Committee, and Editor of the *Post Circular*, passed through the Post a Lilliputian letter enclosed in a ~~cover~~ weighing altogether seven grains; but which, being composed of two separate pieces of paper, was charged as a double letter. At the same time he sent through the Post a huge letter, consisting of a single sheet measuring 35 by 28 inches; but which, being just under one ounce in weight, was only charged with a single rate. The originals of these were produced before the Parliamentary Committee; but *fac-similes* showing the gross absurdity of the practice were distributed by the Mercantile Committee.

Mr Edwin Hill (Sir R H's brother) Supt. of ATH's Dept. wrote a  
history of the Postage & Taxes which appears in the Report of Comrs of  
Ireland Revenue for the years 1856 - 1869. vol 1. p. 88.

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House in March, 1839, and in substance stated, that as regards the scheme proposed by Mr. Rowland Hill, the strange and startling facts brought forward by him had been borne out by the evidence, and they gave their opinion that the rates of postage were so high as materially to interfere with trade and commerce; that illicit means were employed to evade the payment of these heavy charges; and that all classes, for the same reason, sought to correspond free of postage when possible; and that altogether the existing state of things acted most prejudicially to commerce, and to the social habits and moral condition of the people.

The Committee, amongst other conclusions they arrived at, were of opinion that the principle of a low, uniform rate was just in itself, and when combined with prepayment and collection by stamps would be exceedingly convenient, and highly satisfactory to the public.

As regarded the rate of charge, the Committee further reported that in their opinion the establishment of a penny rate would not, after a temporary depression, result in any ultimate loss to the revenue. As, however, the terms of their appointment precluded them from recommending any plan which involved an immediate loss, they restricted themselves to suggesting a uniform twopenny rate.

As soon as the Session of 1839 commenced, the Mercantile Committee was again at work, and public meetings were held in various large towns in support of the scheme. Up to July<sup>20th</sup> of that year no less than 2,007 petitions, bearing 262,809 signatures, were presented to Parliament, many of which were from public bodies, the Common Council of the City of London being amongst the number.

Mr. Hill also contributed his share to the work by issuing, on the 13th June, 1839, a paper "On the Collection of Postage by means of Stamps," in which he indicated the kinds of stamps he considered it would be best to employ; and this he followed up by another paper on the 1st July, entitled, "Facts and Estimates as to the Increase of Letters," in which he predicted that



the result would in the first year show at least an addition of fivefold to the number of letters then passing through the Post.\*

Although the scheme was neither patronized by the Government nor by the Opposition, and was discountenanced by the whole body of the Post Office authorities, yet in presence of the manifest will of the public the Government could no longer resist the pressure from without. Accordingly, on the 5th July, 1839, Mr. Spring Rice, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, moved that the House resolve itself into Committee on the Post Office Acts. He then explained, that though the Select Committee had suggested a twopenny rate, he intended to propose one of a penny, because he had been convinced by the arguments and evidence laid before that Committee, that the latter expedient would involve less loss to the revenue than the former, and he concluded by moving a resolution on which to ground a Bill to carry this into effect. On the bringing up of the report, the resolution was opposed, but was carried by a majority of upwards of 100, and the Bill passed through its various stages without encountering much further opposition either in the House of Commons or the House of Lords, receiving the Royal assent on the 17th August, 1839, when it took its place in the Statutes at large of the Realm as 2 and 3 Vict., c. 52, and is intituled, "An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage until the 5th day of October, 1841."†

The Act, after reciting that it was expedient to reduce the present rates of inland postage on letters to one uniform rate of one penny charged on every letter of a given weight, pro-

\* See *Post Circular* for 1839.

† When Parliament was prorogued on the 27th August Her Majesty, in her speech on the occasion, referred to the Act in these terms: "It has been with much satisfaction that I have given my consent to a reduction of the postage duties. I trust that the Act which has passed on this subject will be a relief and encouragement to trade, and that by facilitating intercourse and correspondence it will be productive of much social advantage and improvement. I have given directions that the preliminary steps should be taken to give effect to the intention of Parliament as soon as the inquiries and arrangements required for this purpose shall have been completed."

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FIGURE 10  
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1951-1952

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+ By Stat. 12 Vict. c. 1. 27 February 1849

ceeded to authorize the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, by Warrant under the hands of three or more of them, to fix the rates, and whether the charge was to be paid on posting the letter or on its receipt, until the 5th October, 1841, ten days' notice in the *London Gazette* being given of the rates and of any change therein; and full powers were given to alter and reduce the rates of postage. The privilege of franking was taken away from members of both Houses of Parliament, and official franking was to be exercised under strict regulations. Power was also given to the Lords of the Treasury to issue stamped paper and covers for letters, and to provide stamps and dies. The duties were constituted stamp duties, and placed under the care and control of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, and many other provisions were made by the Act which it is not necessary to notice; but in effect the whole law on the subject was amended, and in substance forms the legal basis on which the Post Office as at present constituted is regulated.\*

The measures which the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury adopted for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act will form the subject of the next chapter; but before entering upon these it will be useful to follow the course of legislation down to the present day, so far as it may be necessary to show what the Post Office really is, and in what its functions consist.

On the 10th August, 1840, the Act 3 and 4 Vict. c. 96, intituled "An Act for the regulation of the Duties of Postage," received the Royal assent. By this Act the charges, which by the former Act had been only authorized to be made temporarily, were rendered perpetual, and further regulations made as to the duties on letters and newspapers, whether inland, colonial, ship, or foreign. Double rates were imposed on all letters not prepaid and on those deficiently paid to the extent of the deficiency. Proper and sufficient dies for the rates of one penny and twopence, and any other rates or duties of any other value

\* The Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes was in 1849 united with that of the Commissioners of Excise, and consolidated into one Board under the denomination of the "Commissioners of Inland Revenue."

or amount as might be decided by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury were authorized to be provided. Heavy penalties were imposed on forgers, and persons using stamps fraudulently; provisions were made for the sale of stamps by persons to be licensed; power was given authorizing the preparation of "moulds, frames, instruments, and machinery," to make paper to be used as covers, envelopes, or stamps, which paper should "have such distinguishing words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or other devices, worked into or visible in the substance of the same, as the Commissioners of Excise\* should from time to time order and direct," with power to alter and vary the same. The paper when made was to be delivered over to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, and the improper manufacture of such paper, dies, or plates was made felony, and having possession of or buying such a misdemeanour. Various provisions were also made regulating the postage on newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, &c., and the franking privilege was entirely abolished except as regarded official franking.

Many other Acts of Parliament have been passed in succeeding years for the purpose of enlarging the powers of the Post Office, and developing the system inaugurated in 1840; but it would be foreign to the purpose of this treatise to refer to them further, especially as they are accessible to all. It is sufficient to state that, under the provisions of these various Acts, full powers have been conferred on the Post Office, not only to carry on its regular business, but to issue money orders,† to receive deposits as a Savings Bank, to insure lives,

\* At this period paper was an exciseable article, and could only be lawfully manufactured under the supervision of the Officers of the Excise.

† The Money Order Office was originally founded in 1792, by three of the Post Office officials, as a private speculation. On the 6th December, 1838, it was made a branch of the General Post Office, and organized under the direction of a small staff. Its operations are now not merely confined to the United Kingdom, but extend to the colonies, and to many of the countries within the Postal Union. The growth of its business has been very rapid. In 1839 orders were issued for £313,124, while in the year ending 31st March, 1880, the amount was upwards of twenty-six millions sterling.

Times May 1881.

**POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.**—A return just issued shows that the total amount of deposits received at Post Office Savings Banks during 1880 was £10,301,153, the balance brought forward from 1879, £32,012,134, and the interest on these sums £777,986, making a grand total of £43,091,271. The repayments during the year were £9,346,634, leaving a balance over of £33,744,637. Of this balance the net amount of £26,053,634 was lodged with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for investment. The charges of management and expenses incurred during 1880 amounted to £188,691. In the whole period from September 16, 1861, to December 31, 1879, these charges and expenses amounted to £1,828,243, making a total incurred down to the end of 1880 of £2,017,134.

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to grant immediate and deferred annuities, to issue licenses for the Inland Revenue Department, &c. Wherever powers are required which involve any charge upon or risk to its revenue, or wherever any alterations pertaining to its structure are necessary, the intervention of Parliament must be obtained; but in all that relates to the machinery by which the intentions of the Legislature are to be carried into execution, this is effected by the powers vested by Parliament for this purpose in the Lords of the Treasury; while all the endless details in the direction and management of this vast establishment are in the hands of the Postmaster-General.

Besides, therefore, the large body of statute law by which the Post Office is governed and its privileges protected, there is a much larger administrative one, consisting of Treasury Warrants issued by the Lords of the Treasury, under the powers conferred upon them by Parliament.\* These are published in the *London Gazette* from time to time as they are issued, and it has been a laborious as well as an uninteresting task in compiling these pages to wade through its files, where these tautological documents lie buried and well-nigh forgotten. Still the work was necessary, as accuracy in dates and other details has been thereby in many cases insured.

Before quitting this branch of the subject it appears requisite to make some particular reference to an Act passed in 1868, empowering the Government to purchase the inland telegraph system, which up to that period had been in the hands of separate and independent companies, who fixed their own rates of charge.

\* The relative functions of Parliament and of the Lords of the Treasury may be seen more clearly from the following enactment contained in 34 and 35 Vict. c. 30. By sect. 1 of that Act it is enacted that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may from time to time by Warrant under their hands reduce the rates of postage to be charged for the use of Her Majesty on letters sent by Post between places in the United Kingdom, and regulate the scale of weights according to which such rates are to be charged; so, however, that the lowest rate of postage be not less than one penny.



By the Act 31 and 32 Vict. c. 110, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty's Postmaster-General to acquire, work, and maintain Electric Telegraphs," called the "Telegraph Act, 1868," the Postmaster-General was empowered to purchase undertakings of telegraph companies, and to enter into contracts with certain railway companies for the use of their telegraph lines. He was also authorized to make regulations for the conduct of the business, and to fix charges, as also to enter into special agreements with proprietors of newspapers and others. Payments were to be made in stamps. The property in telegraph messages, as in letters, was vested in the Postmaster-General, and penalties provided against disclosing or intercepting messages.

This Act was amended in the following and subsequent Sessions of Parliament, and the whole system of internal communication by means of the electric telegraph, so far as the general public is concerned, became vested in the Post Office; the payment of the duties on messages being at first made by means of the ordinary postage stamps.

There can be but little question that the amount (which the Government was compelled to pay by way of compensation for the purchase of the monopoly enjoyed by the telegraph companies was ~~very much~~ in excess of what was contemplated when the Act was passed in 1868. It was probably therefore not altogether desirable in the view taken by the officials responsible for the purchase, to issue a separate set of stamps for this department, and thus distinguish the accounts of the Telegraphs from those of the Post Office, and permit the public to see the financial result of the transfer of the telegraphs to the Government. The confusion in the accounts between the telegraph and postal systems ~~at last~~ attracted the attention of Parliament, and became the subject of investigation ~~by it~~; so that since the commencement of the year 1876 the accounts of the two systems ~~have been~~ <sup>were</sup> kept entirely separate and distinct, and stamps have been issued specially for telegraphic purposes, the employment of postage stamps for the payment of the duties on messages being now strictly prohibited. *this system however ceased in 1882, when the + whatever the motives for its abandonment, they passed, sub silentio, both in Parliament & the public press.*

largely

(£10,880.571) /  
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The motives for severing the accounts of the Legislature from those of the Post Office also became less powerful after the reduction of messages to a number of 6<sup>d</sup> each, a step which took place in 1885. & entailed for some time a distinct loss on the revenue.

## THE LONDON POSTAL SERVICE.

8.3.92

Mr. R. C. Tombs, the Controller of the London Postal Service, who has been compelled to relinquish his post on account of impaired health, was yesterday presented with a testimonial from the staff officers, clerks, and inspecting force of the Department over which he has presided for the last five years. The presentation, which took place in the Postmaster General's Deputation-room, was made on behalf of the subscribers by Sir ARTHUR BLACKWOOD, Permanent Secretary to the Post Office, who was supported by Mr. H. Joyce, Mr. J. C. Lamb, Messrs. L. Hill, J. J. Cardin, G. W. Smyth, E. Yeld, A. M. Cunyngame, F. E. Langton, S. R. Thompson, J. C. Badcock, A. Pamphilon, and other heads of departments in the Post Office. There was a large attendance of officers of the London Postal Service. The testimonial consisted of a handsome walnut wood writing table and chair, a silver inkstand, a pair of silver candlesticks, and a bronze gilt drawing-room clock and vases.

Sir A. BLACKWOOD, in making the presentation, said it was with very sincere sorrow that they met to say an official good-bye to so old a friend, so loyal a colleague, and trusted officer as the esteemed Controller of the London Postal Service. Their sorrow was deepened by the knowledge that the relinquishment of that high office was owing entirely to the fact that his health rendered it impossible for him to discharge the arduous duties which he had rendered with such great satisfaction for the past five years as head of that great Service. There was no more arduous or more anxious post in the ranks of the Executive of the State than that of Controller of the London Postal Service—the Postmastership of the greatest city in the world. The requirements of an exorbitant public, the interests and management of the large force under his control, imposed a strain, and at times a very painful strain, upon the energies, the mind, and the feelings of anyone who filled that post, and the qualifications necessary to enable him to discharge its duties in a proper way were of a very high order. Mr. Tombs had possessed these qualifications in a very marked degree, and had discharged the duties of his post with an unvarying success. No Postmaster General whom he had served in that capacity had failed to recognize his loyalty and his ability. The public had had in him one who had always been anxious to meet their just demands, and the force immediately under him and those in the lower ranks of the Service had always found in him a very good friend. His own intercourse with Mr. Tombs had been always of the most pleasant character. He had often had to consult him, and had always found him conversant with the very smallest details of business. He had always been a most faithful and discreet counsellor. It was not surprising that a widespread wish should have been entertained by his immediate staff to manifest their esteem and regard in some substantial way, and their handsome gifts were a very fitting expression of their affection and esteem for their departing chief. He asked the acceptance of them by Mr. Tombs, and expressed the earnest desire that his health might be gradually restored, and that he might enjoy many years of prosperity, happiness, and usefulness.

Mr. TOMBS, who was much touched by the cordiality of his reception, made an appropriate and feeling reply. After referring to the difficulties through which the London Postal Service had passed during his tenure of the Controllership, and thanking his colleagues and the heads of other branches of the Post Office for the support and assistance they had rendered him, Mr. Tombs expressed his deep sorrow at having to sever his long connection with the General Post Office, and at parting from brother officers with whom he had enjoyed such amicable relations.

Mr. BADCOCK, Vice-Controller, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Sir A. Blackwood for his kindness in acting as Chairman. This was seconded by Mr. PAMPHILON, and passed with acclamation.

### DID SARDINIA INVENT POSTAGE STAMPS?

According to the Rome correspondent of *Galignani*, Italians claim to be first who used postage-stamps. They say that postage-labels were introduced in Turin in 1818, under Victor Emanuel I., King of Sardinia, the stamp being an allegorical design of a genius on horseback, surrounded by a round frame, oval frame, and octagon frame, of the worth of 1d., 2d., and 5d. These first stamps, however, were rather postal marks than stamps, since the writing was on them and not enclosed within an envelope. They could be folded, however, and sealed. These remained in use until 1836. It was precisely this system, Italians now say, that Sir Rowland Hill adapted twenty-two years later.

## CHAPTER III.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW SYSTEM.

So soon as the Act establishing the new system of a uniform Penny Postage rate had received the Royal Assent, the Lords of the Treasury lost no time in making arrangements for giving effect to its provisions, and accordingly the following notice appeared in the public journals on the 6th September, 1839 :

*"A copy of the minute of the Board of Treasury relative to carrying into effect the Act for establishing a reduced uniform Rate of Postage.*

"My Lords read the Act for the Further Regulation of the Duties of Postage, which received the Royal assent on Saturday, the 17th inst.

"By this Act My Lords are invested with a power of carrying into effect the reduced uniform rate of postage contemplated by Parliament, either according to the present mode of collecting the postage, or by prepayment, collected by stamps, compulsory or optional.

"My Lords feel the importance of the discretion with which Parliament has invested them, affecting as it must the convenience of the public, the collection of the revenue, as well as the security and facility of the transmission of the correspondence of the country.

"In comparing the advantages which may arise from the plan of prepayment by means of stamps, if such plan should be adopted, much must depend upon the stamp which may be employed. For the convenience of the public, it is of the greatest importance that the mode selected should afford every facility for obtaining and using the stamp. It is also clear that the charge which will fall upon the public in the shape of extra payment on account of the stamp itself, in addition to the penny rate, must vary according to the nature of the stamp

adopted. In the course of the inquiries and discussions on the subject several plans were suggested, viz., stamped covers, stamped paper, and stamps to be used separately, and to be applied to any letter of whatever description, and written on any paper.

"Before My Lords can decide upon the adoption of any course, either by stamp or otherwise, they feel it will be useful that artists, men of science, and the public in general, may have an opportunity of offering any suggestions or proposals as to the manner in which the stamp may best be brought into use. With this view My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider any proposal which may be sent in to them on or before the 15th October, 1839.

"All persons desirous of communicating with My Lords on the subject are requested to direct to The Lords of the Treasury, Whitehall, marked 'Post Office Stamp.'

"My Lords will be prepared to award a premium of £200 to such proposal as they may consider most deserving of attention, and £100 to the next best proposal.

"My Lords will feel at liberty to adopt for the public service any of the suggestions which may be contained in any communication made to them, except, of course, where parties have any rights secured by patent.

"The points which the Board consider of the greatest importance are :

"1. The convenience as regards the public use.

"2. The security against forgery.

"3. The facility of being checked and distinguished at the Post Office, which must of necessity be rapid.

"4. The expense of the production and circulation of the stamps.

"My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider proposals from foreign countries, and they desire that a copy of this minute be transmitted to Lord Palmerston, and that his Lordship be requested to take such measures as he may deem most advisable through her Majesty's Ministers abroad for the purpose of making known the intentions of this Board.

"They desire also that Lord Palmerston be requested to procure for my Lords through Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris information respecting the system of stamps adopted in France, and specimens of the stamped impressions used in that country.

"Transmit a copy of this minute to the Postmaster-General for his information and guidance.

"Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, August 23rd," 1839. /r

Handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is illegible due to blurriness and low contrast.

Page 31. First paragraph. Since our work was published the *Life of Sir Henry Cole* has appeared, and it is there stated that the number of "proposals and suggestions" sent in amounted to 2700. Among those who sent in proposals is mentioned Mr. Stead, described in the text as of *Norwich*. This ought to be of "Yarmouth." Sir H. Cole also says that prizes of £100 each were awarded to four; viz., Cheverton, Whiting, and himself, as by Treasury Minute of December 19th, and to Perkins. As to the latter Sir H. Cole appears to have fallen into an error, and probably confounded it with the £200 awarded to Mulready.

† Yarmouth.

In a note, just

- x. In the subsequent part of this work we shall treat of those proposals which were not adopted, & describe some of the most important & remarkable among them under the head of "Essays & Proposals submitted prior to 1840".  
See post. p.

The public was certainly not behind hand in offering their "proposals and suggestions" to "My Lords," who by the 15th of October had received offers of advice and assistance from <sup>many more close after</sup> ~~some~~ two thousand <sup>seem</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>from</sup> hundred "artists, men of science, and the public in general." Amongst these were proposals emanating from Mr. Stead, of ~~Norwich~~; from Mr. Dickinson, the paper-maker; from Mr. Sievier, the eminent sculptor; from Mr. Cheverton, the inventor of a machine for embossing, &c. &c.; but the greater part of these proposals and suggestions were not accompanied by any designs, and such designs as were sent in were for the most part pen-and-ink sketches or drawings. In some instances, however, a large number of specimens or illustrations were submitted for consideration, which was more particularly the case as regards the proposals submitted by Mr. Charles Whiting, who sent in at least a hundred samples of the graphic art, some of which were then in use at his establishments, while others embodied his own ideas of the mode in which Mr. Rowland Hill's plan should be carried into effect. ~~■~~

The examination and discussion of such a mass of proposals and suggestions, many of which were as absurd as they were impracticable, necessarily occupied a considerable time, and already two valuable months had been lost. In fact, "My Lords" did not find much wisdom in the multitude of their counsellors, and no better suggestions were offered than those previously propounded by Mr. Rowland Hill, consisting in the adoption of stamped covers of half sheets of paper, stamped envelopes, and adhesive stamps or labels.\*

Before any final decision could, however, be arrived at, it was necessary that practical engravers, printers, paper-makers, and others, should be consulted, and that various experiments should be made. Should it be decided to provide envelopes and stamps, the lowest calculation fixed the end of March as the earliest possible period at which their issue could be accomplished. The public were growing impatient to see

\* *On the Collection of Postage by Means of Stamps*, by Rowland Hill. Bayswater, June 13th, 1839.

He says.

2,700.

Yarmouth/



the new system brought into operation; but considerable difficulty was apprehended in giving immediate and full effect to it previously to a decision having been arrived at with regard to the stamps. It was anticipated that the substitution of the principle of charging by weight for that of charging by separate pieces of paper, and the consequent necessity of weighing every letter, would entail enormous pressure on the officials when the amount of the postage had to be paid in cash, and the postage marked on each letter.

Accordingly, as appears from a Minute of the Treasury, dated the 12th November, 1839, "My Lords," having again met, and again read the Act of Parliament, proceeded to discuss the question of adopting temporarily some intermediate measure whereby the officers of the Post Office might obtain some practice in weighing before full effect was given to the uniform penny rate. To avoid the risks of "irregularities which might occur, and the inconveniences that might result," they determined to introduce a uniform rate of fourpence for a short period,\* and gave orders for the preparation of a Treasury Warrant to carry it into effect. This Warrant appeared in the *London Gazette* of the 22nd November, 1839, and the material parts are as follows:

"Whereas by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, intituled 'An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage until the 5th day of October, 1840,' power is given to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, by Warrant under their hands, to alter, fix, reduce, or remit, all or any of the Rates of British or Inland, or other Postage payable by law on the transmission of Post Letters, and to subject such letters to rates of Postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be

\* Mr. Lewins (*Her Majesty's Mails*, p. 126) attributes this action of the Lords of the Treasury to an intention of establishing a uniform fourpenny rate, and that having subsequently discovered the mistake they had made, they proceeded to rectify it by the publication of the Warrant of 31st January, 1840. This Treasury Minute clearly shows that this notion is erroneous, and that the reduction to fourpence was only intended as a temporary measure.

[The text in this block is extremely faint and illegible. It appears to be a list or a series of entries, possibly a table of contents or a list of items, but the specific details cannot be discerned.]

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. A small dark mark is visible near the center of the page.

contained in such Warrant (without reference to the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed), and to fix and limit the weight of letters to be sent by the Post, and from time to time by Warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates which may be payable are to be paid ; that is to say, whether on posting the letter, or on the receipt thereof, or at either of those times at the option of the sender, provided that all such Warrants should be inserted in the *London Gazette* ten days at least before coming into operation, and should within fourteen days after making the same be laid before both Houses of Parliament (if then sitting), or otherwise, within fourteen days after Parliament should meet."

"And whereas an Act was passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, cap. 34, intituled 'An Act for the Regulation of the Duties of Postage;' and another Act was passed in the same Session, cap. 76, intituled 'An Act to impose Rates of Packet Postage on East India Letters, and to Amend certain Acts relating to the Post Office;' and another Act was passed in the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, cap. 97, intituled 'An Act for imposing Rates of Postage on the Conveyance of Letters by Packet Boats between places in the Mediterranean and other parts.'

"Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury), do, in exercise of the powers or authority in us for such purposes vested in and by the said first-mentioned Act, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, by this Warrant under our hands, order and direct that this present Warrant shall come into operation on the 5th day of December next; and that all letters not being by law specially exempted from postage, which on or after that day shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or within any of the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom or the said islands by any packet boat or private vessel, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

"And we further order and direct that on and after the said 5th day of December next the present practice of charging the rates of postage on letters transmitted by the General Post consisting of more than one sheet of paper, or containing any enclosure, shall be wholly discontinued, and thenceforth all letters of whatever description transmitted through the

General Post, and legally chargeable with postage, shall be charged by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted through the General Post, and we subject such letters on and after the said 5th day of December next to the following rates of postage; that is to say:

“On every letter not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage.

“On every letter exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and not exceeding 1 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 1 oz., and not exceeding 2 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 2 oz., and not exceeding 3 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage; and

“On every letter exceeding 3 oz., and not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage; and for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage, and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of four ounces shall be charged as one additional ounce.

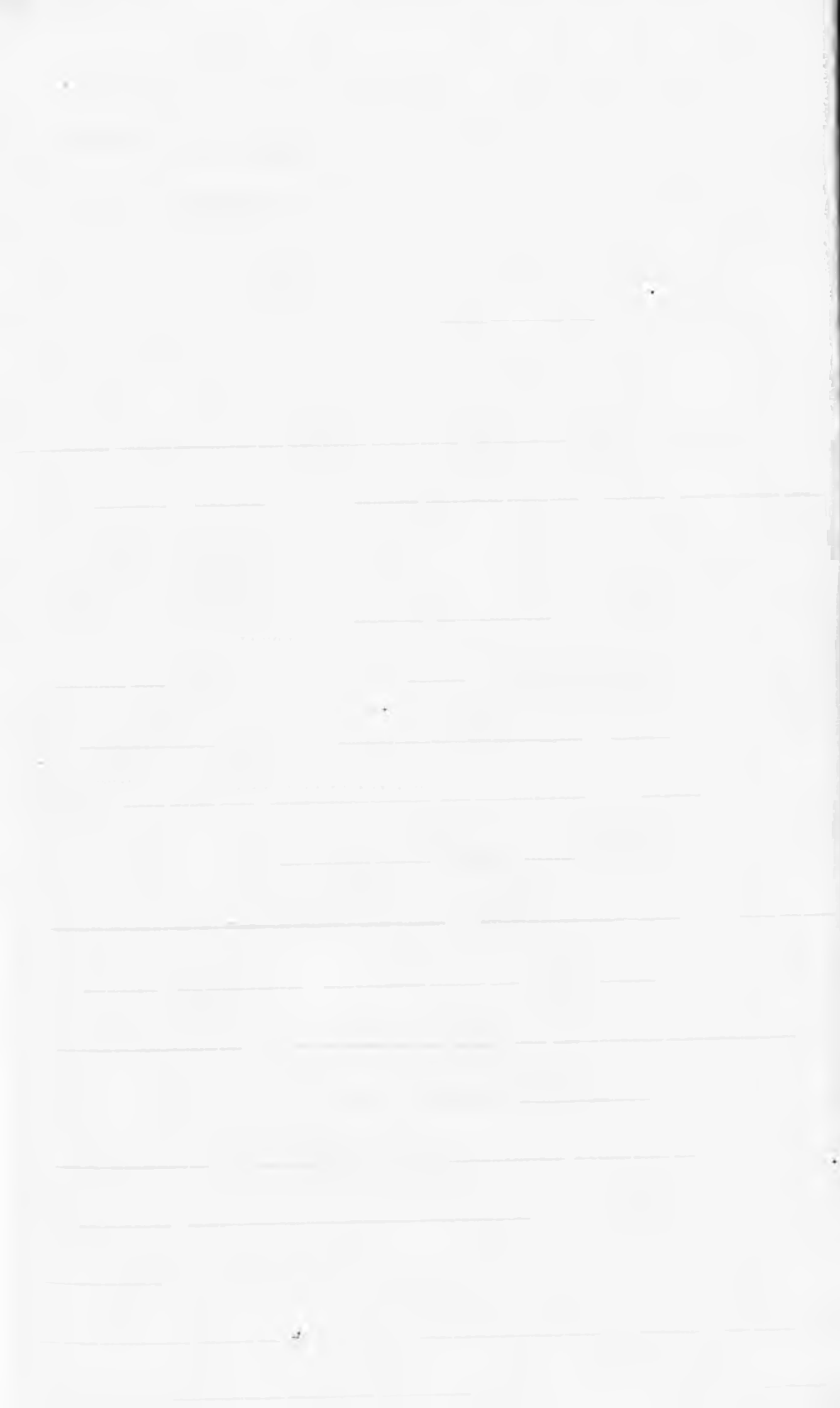
“And we order and direct that no letter exceeding 16 oz. in weight shall in any case be forwarded by the General Post between places within the United Kingdom and the said islands, or from the said United Kingdom and the said islands to parts beyond the seas.

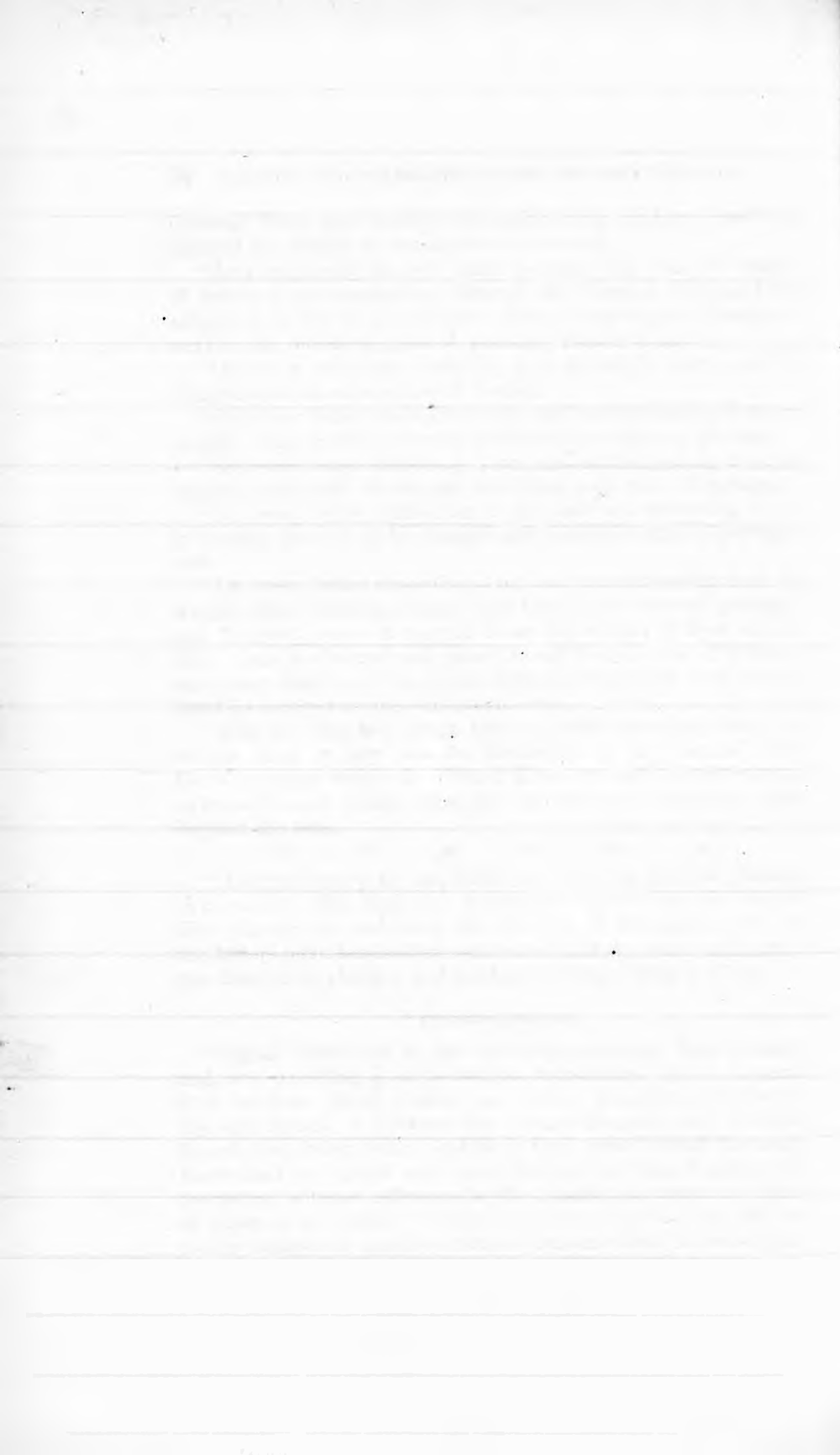
\* \* \* \* \*

“And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty's Postmaster-General for the use of Her Majesty on and after the 5th day of December next on the letters next hereinafter mentioned, and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly; that is to say:

#### “INLAND LETTERS.

“On all letters not by law specially exempted from postage, and not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, transmitted by the General Post between places within the United Kingdom or between the said islands, or between the United Kingdom and the said islands (not being letters sent to or from parts beyond the seas), there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of fourpence, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper or enclosures of which the same may be composed, or to the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed.





“ On all such letters, if exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at 4d.) according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared.

\* \* \* \* \*

“ And we order and direct that all additional rates now payable by law on all letters transmitted by post to or from Ireland by way of Holyhead, or in respect of the Menai Bridge, and by way of Conway and Chester in respect of Conway Bridge, and by way of Milford and Waterford, and also the additional rate of one halfpenny on letters conveyed by the post in any part of Scotland by a mail carriage with more than two wheels shall on and after the said 5th day of December next be wholly remitted, and shall cease to be payable.

“ That all additional rates for letters originally sent by the General Post to places within the United Kingdom, or the said islands, directed beyond the limits of the General Post, and delivered by any Twopenny Post or Penny Post, or originally sent by any Twopenny or Penny Post, and afterwards passing through the General Post, shall be remitted and cease to be payable, except on letters franked or exempted by law from the General Post rates, but subject to the Twopenny or Penny Post rates, which letters shall still continue liable to and chargeable with the Twopenny and Penny Post rates when transmitted by any such post.

“ That on all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, and not being by law specially exempted from the Twopenny and Penny Post rates, transmitted by any Twopenny or Penny Post in London or Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through, the General Post, there shall on and after the said 5th day of December next be charged and taken a rate of one penny only, provided such postage be prepaid at the time of posting the same. But in case any letter not being by law specially exempted, as aforesaid, transmitted by any such Twopenny or Penny Post, shall not be prepaid when posted, or shall exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, there shall be taken the same rate of postage as is now payable by law thereon.

“ That on all letters not specially exempted from Penny Post rates transmitted by any Penny Post in the United Kingdom or the said islands, other than London and Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through the



General Post, there shall on and after the 5th day of December next be taken a rate of one penny as at present.

“That no letter shall be sent by any such Twopenny or Penny Post exceeding 4 oz. in weight unless the same shall have originally passed, or shall be intended to pass, through the General Post, and in such last-mentioned cases not exceeding the weight of 16 oz., unless specially authorized by this Warrant as aforesaid.

“That all printed newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, printed votes, and proceedings of the colonial legislatures, printed prices current, commercial lists, periodical publications posted at Falmouth, unstamped publications, bankers' parcels, patterns, samples, plantation accounts, deeds, books, pamphlets, and other printed papers, soldiers' and seamen's letters, and other letters, articles and things which may now by law be sent by post under certain regulations free of postage, or at reduced rates of postage, shall continue to have the benefit of all exemptions and privileges they now enjoy, and shall, if forwarded in conformity with such regulations, be charged with the same respective amounts of postage as are now by law payable in respect thereof, subject nevertheless to all the regulations and liabilities now in force respecting the same.

\* \* \* \* \*

“As witness our hands this 22nd day of November, 1839.

“MELBOURNE,

“F. BARING,

“H. TUFNELL.”

At the end of the month of December following, the Lords of the Treasury being satisfied with the result of the experiment of the fourpenny uniform rate, determined to give full effect to the provisions of the Act, and ordered a Warrant to be drawn up for that purpose. They also came to the decision of providing for the issue of stamped covers, stamped envelopes, and adhesive stamps or postage labels; and at the instance of Mr. John Wood, the Chairman of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, they decided on the issue by that department of a stamp to be embossed on any kind of paper which the public might send in for that purpose, under regulations to be made by the department. These decisions were embodied in a Minute dated

W. J. Wilson at the Ph. Exhib. 1890. said marked 4<sup>th</sup> in black  
and by hand. from 5 Decr to 10 July 1840. very rare

Note to find these in Pittman's & Sanborn's  
accounts books.

The premiums announced in the Treasury Memoir of 23<sup>rd</sup>  
August 1839 were awarded early in the following December:  
having been increased <sup>to those of Bogardus & Coffin, who acted together</sup> to an aggregate of £400. Mr C. H. Whiting,  
Mr Chauvenet & Mr (afterwards Sir) Henry Cole, were each awarded  
one of the prizes of £100, as was also a fourth competitor, whose  
name is ~~unknown~~. We have not been able to trace.

Coffin & Bogardus had one.

James Bogardus, born 1800. American inventor } ran by the  
Coffin. } 5 Barge Road, City.

Minute of 26 Decr 1839. (published June 27 Decr 39)

The premiums had meantime been increased  
to £400. & were awarded. £100 each as follows

1. To Messrs Bogardus & Coffin, who acted together.
2. To Mr Benjamin Cheverton.
3. To Mr Henry Cole.
4. To Mr Chas Whiting.

26th December, 1839, which, so far as it relates to the preparation and application of postage stamps, was to the following effect :

“ Their Lordships, upon full consideration, have decided to require that as far as practicable the postage of letters shall be prepaid, and to effect such prepayment by means of stamps. Their Lordships are of opinion that the convenience of the public will be consulted, more especially at first, by issuing stamps of various kinds, in order that everyone may select that description of stamp which is most suitable to his own peculiar circumstances ; and with a view of affording an ample choice, their Lordships are pleased to direct that the following stamps be prepared :

“ FIRST. Stamped Covers ; the stamp being struck on pieces of paper the size of half a sheet of quarto letter paper.

“ SECOND. Stamped Envelopes ; the stamp being struck on pieces of paper of a lozenge form, of which the stationers and others may manufacture envelopes.

“ THIRD. Adhesive Stamps ; or stamps on small pieces of paper with a glutinous wash at the back, which may be attached to letters either before or after they are written ; and

“ FOURTH. Stamps to be struck on paper of any description which the public may send to the Stamp Office for that purpose.\*

“ The paper for the first, second, and third kinds of stamps to be peculiar in its watermark or some other feature, but to be supplied to the Government by competition.

“ My Lords direct that the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes and the Commissioners of Excise should receive the official directions to take the necessary steps, in conjunction with the Postmaster-General, for the preparation of the stamps herein enumerated.

“ Although the necessary experiments and investigations which have been conducted under the direction of this Board

\* This portion of the minute was subsequently modified so far as regarded the stamp being struck on any description of paper sent in by the public, and was confined to paper supplied by the Government, until, in 1855, power was given by the Act 18 and 19 Vict. c. 78 to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to stamp paper sent in by the public under such regulations as the Lords of the Treasury should make or sanction in that behalf.

are already far advanced, My Lords fear that a considerable time will be required for completing the preparation of the dies, plates, and machinery (much of which is unavoidably of a novel construction) necessary for the manufacture of the stamps; and being desirous of affording to the public with the least possible delay the full advantage of the intended reduction in postage, their Lordships propose at once to effect such reduction.

“On the use of stamps, however, My Lords have fully decided. They will be prepared with the least possible delay, and when ready due notice will be given of their introduction.”

On the day following the date of the above-mentioned minute a Warrant was signed and published in the *London Gazette*, 28th December, 1839, which (omitting such formal clauses and regulations as do not immediately concern our subject), after reciting the powers conferred on the Lords of the Treasury by the Act of the previous session in similar terms to the recital in the previous Warrant, and also reciting the previous Warrant, proceeded as follows :

“Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury), do by this Warrant order and direct that the said Warrant of the 22nd day of November now last, and the rates thereby fixed and directed to be charged shall be and the same are hereby repealed from and after the 9th day of January, 1840 (except as to any letters posted in or brought into the United Kingdom on or before that day, and also except as to any duties of postage which shall have become due under or by virtue of such Warrant, which may be recovered as if the same had continued in force).

“And we hereby further order and direct that this present Warrant shall come into operation on the 10th day of January, 1840, and that all letters which on or after that day shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be sent between the United Kingdom and places beyond the seas, or between any of the places hereinafter mentioned, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

“And we further order and direct that letters transmitted by the post shall not in future be charged with the British rates





of postage according to the number of inclosures, but by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted by the post, and we subject such letters on and after the said 10th day of January, 1840, to the following rates of postage; that is to say:

“On every letter not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage.

“On every letter exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. and not exceeding 1 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 1 oz. and not exceeding 2 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 2 oz. and not exceeding 3 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage; and

“On every letter exceeding 3 oz. and not exceeding 4 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage.

“And for every ounce in weight above the weight of 4 oz. there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage; and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of 4 oz. shall be charged as one additional ounce.

“And we order and direct that no letter exceeding 16 oz. in weight shall in any case be forwarded by the post between places within the United Kingdom, except addresses to Her Majesty, Parliamentary petitions, printed votes and proceedings in Parliament, letters addressed to or dispatched by any of the Government offices or departments or any public officer having now the privilege of franking by virtue of his office, deeds if transmitted under all such regulations and restrictions as the Postmaster-General shall from time to time appoint, and letters to and from places beyond the seas.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty's Postmaster-General for the use of Her Majesty on letters posted and transmitted by the post on and after the 10th day of January, 1840; and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly; that is to say:

#### “INLAND LETTERS.

“On all letters not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight transmitted by the post between places within the United Kingdom, not being letters sent to or from parts beyond seas, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of one penny, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper or



enclosures of which the same may be composed, or the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed; and that on all such letters, if exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at one penny) according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared, provided that such postage of one penny, and such progressive and additional postage, be prepaid at the time of posting such letters; but in case such postage on any such letters shall not be prepaid when posted, there shall be charged on such letters a postage of double the amount to which such letters would otherwise have been liable under this present Warrant.\*

“That all letters forwarded under the authority of the Postmaster-General by private vessels or packet boats, and transmitted between places in the United Kingdom, shall be considered as forwarded by the Post between such places, and be charged accordingly.”

The Warrant, after prescribing the rates by weight on colonial letters by packets, and on ship and foreign letters, and ordering the suppression of the additional rates on Irish letters in respect of the Menai and Conway Bridges, and on Scotch letters, as also on letters beyond the limits of the General Post delivered by

\* The rates on inland letters fixed by the above Treasury Warrant continued in force till altered by a Warrant dated 18th March, 1865 (*London Gazette*, 24th March), when the following rates were fixed, to take effect on and from the 1st April, 1865:

On inland letters sent to or from any part of the United Kingdom—

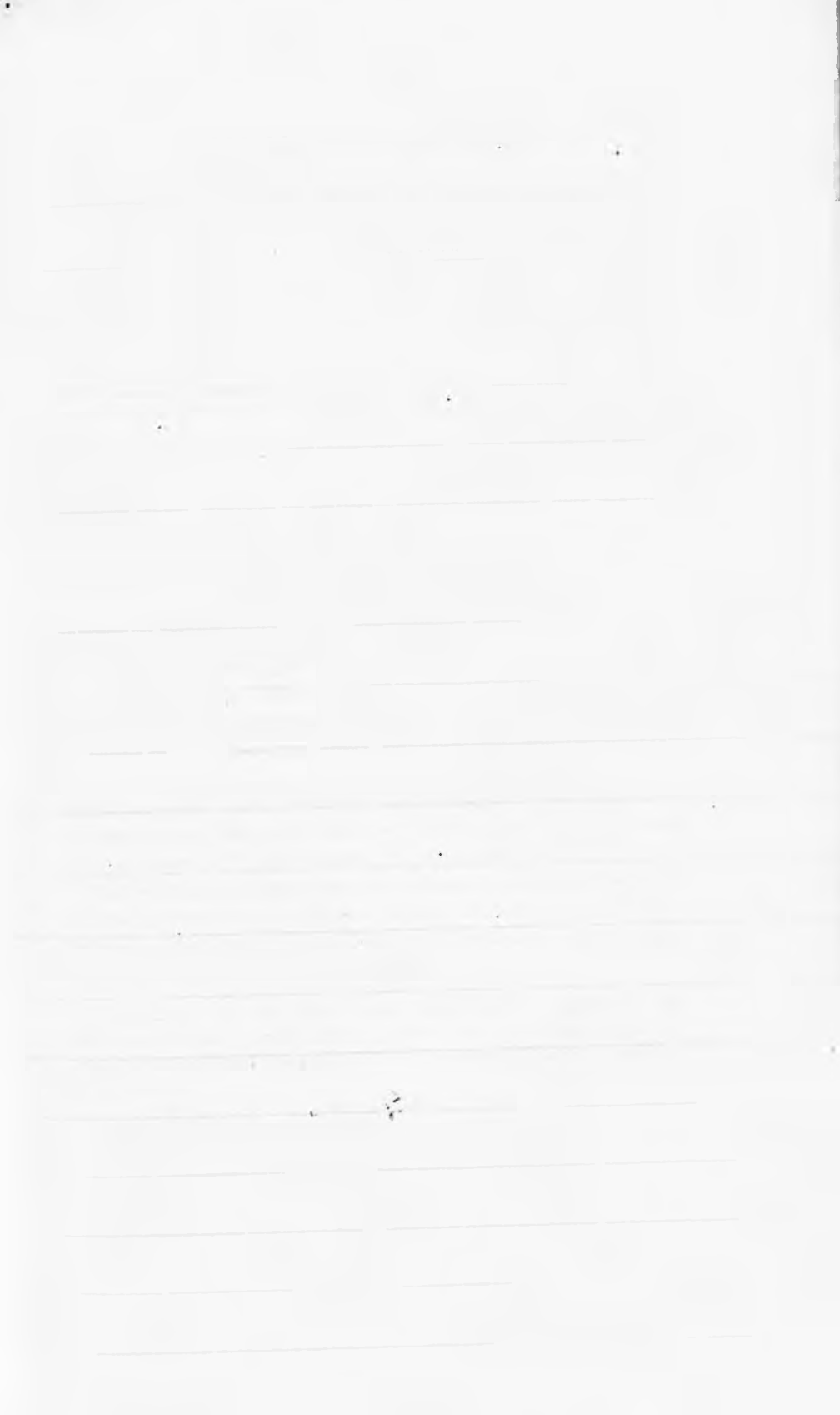
Not exceeding in weight $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. . . . .	1d.
„ „ 1 oz. . . . .	2d.
„ „ $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. . . . .	3d.

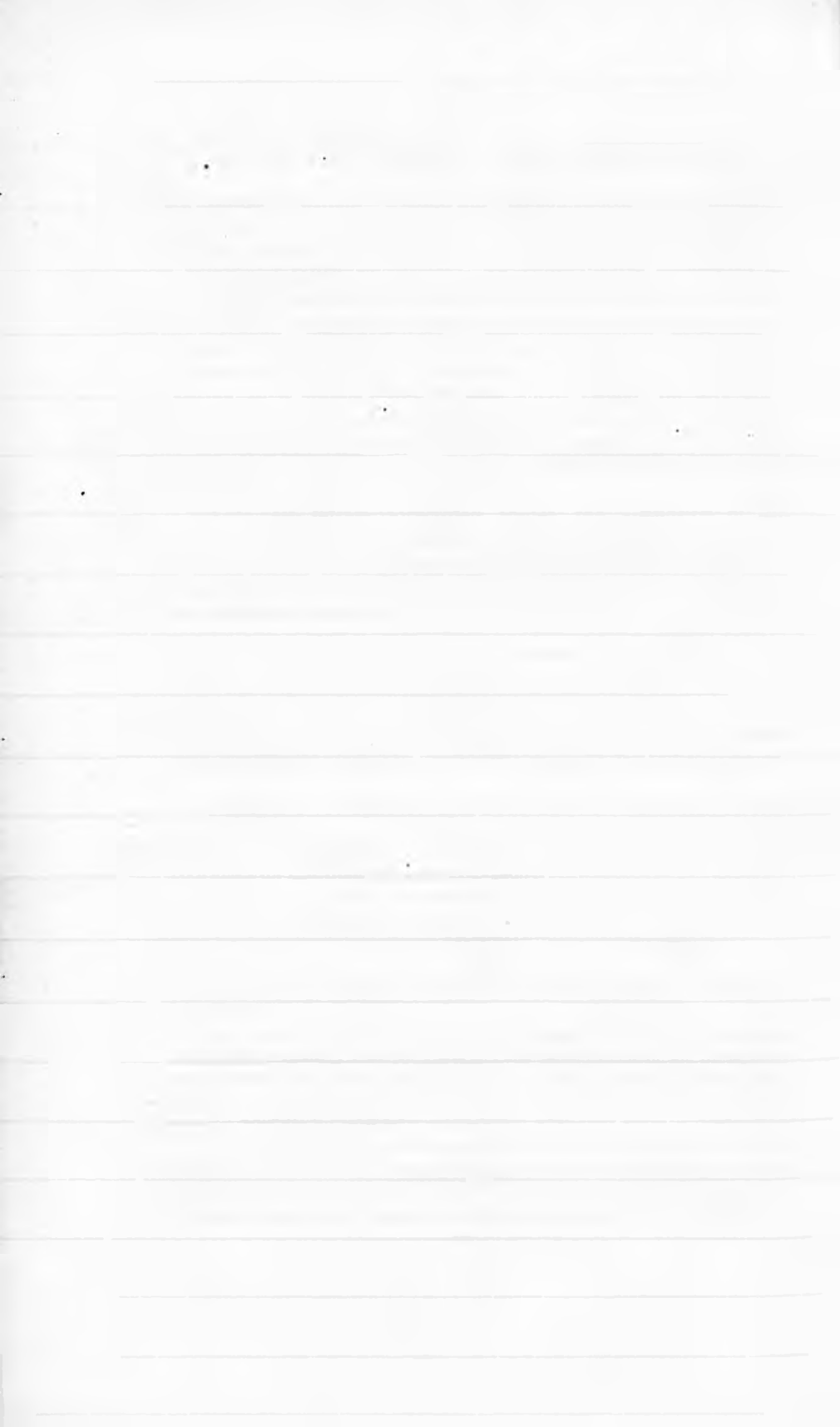
and so on in the proportion of one penny for each half-ounce or fractional part thereof.

These rates, rising uniformly by half-ounces, were far more equitable than those originally fixed in 1840. At the same time also the threepenny stamp, which had been issued specially for foreign postage, and was only allowed by stealth to do duty for inland purposes, was admitted into possession of its full rights.

The last alteration of the rates on inland letters took place on the 5th October, 1871, when by Treasury Warrant, issued in conformity with the provisions of the Act 34 and 35 Vict. c. 30, dated 16th August, 1871 (*London Gazette*, 25th August), the rates now in force were established.

+ state here





Twopenny or Penny Posts, or any convention post, and afterwards passing by the General Post, in similar terms to those employed in the former Warrant; proceeds as follows:

“That on and after the said 10th day of January next the privilege of sending and receiving letters by the Post, free of postage, whether parliamentary, official, or of any other description whatsoever (except as hereinafter provided), as well under an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled ‘An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets by the Post free of Duty of Postage,’ being the 1 Vict. c. 35, as under any other Act or Acts now in force, or under any other authority whatsoever, shall be wholly suspended during the time this Warrant shall be in force; and that all letters to which any such privileges now extend, except as aforesaid, shall thenceforth be charged and chargeable with the like rates as any other letters transmitted by the Post would be chargeable, under or by virtue of the present Warrant.”

The Warrant then proceeds to fix certain rates for the transmission by post of the printed votes and proceedings of Parliament, parliamentary papers, &c., which by a Treasury Warrant of 31st January, 1840, were repealed, and the charges fixed at one penny for every 4 oz. These rates have, since the alteration in the Book Post rate, been changed to one halfpenny for every 2 oz., the prepayment of which is optional, provided they are marked “Parliamentary Proceedings.”

The Warrant then prescribes regulations for preserving the right of free transmission of addresses to Her Majesty, the privileges granted to members of both Houses of Parliament of receiving petitions addressed to Parliament, &c. &c., and declares—

“That, except in the cases hereinbefore specified, all privileges whatsoever of sending letters free of postage shall be wholly suspended during the time this present Warrant shall be in operation.

\* \* \* \* \*

“As witness our hands this 27th day of December, 1839.

“MELBOURNE.

“F. BARING.

“THOS. WYSE.”

\* When the 10th of January, 1840, arrived, the public seemed nothing loth to take advantage of the new system, and the pressure on the Post officials was very great, not only at the chief offices, but at the metropolitan receiving-houses. The Postmaster of one of these latter declared, that were the system to last he would not retain his office for £200 a year; the letter writers scared away all his customers, and he positively sold nothing. On several days he had taken in 2,000 paid letters, whereas his former average had been 70. But the scene at the chief office in St. Martin's le Grand is thus described in the *Westminster Review* for February, 1840: "A night or two after the change to a penny we ourselves witnessed the scene at St. Martin's le Grand. The great hall\* was nearly filled with spectators, marshalled in a line by the police to watch the crowds pressing, scuffling, and fighting to get first to the window. The superintending President of the Inland Office with praiseworthy zeal was in all quarters directing the energy of his officers where the pressure was greatest. Formerly one window sufficed to receive letters. On this evening six windows with two receivers at each were bombarded by applicants. As the last quarter of an hour approached, and the crowd still thickened, a seventh window was opened, and that none might be turned away Mr. Bokenham made some other opening, and took in money and letters himself. To the credit of the Post Office, not a single person lost the time; and we learnt that on this evening upwards of 3,000 letters had been posted at St. Martin's le Grand between five and six. A witness present on the first night of the Penny Post described to us a similar scene. When the window closed, the mob, delighted at the energy displayed by the officers, gave one cheer for the Post Office, and another for Rowland Hill."

\* This part of the building, which was one of its chief ornaments, has been gradually absorbed by the increasing demand for additional space, and has now ceased to exist.

Cartoon in Punch. 1864. when Sir Rowland Hill  
was made K.C.B. of "Sir Rowland de Grand"

Effect on revenue of P.O.

Net receipts reduced to £ 250,000.

1857. 8 -	248 - -
62. 3	- 737
4 - 5	over 1,000.
68 - 69	1,404,478
75 - 76	2,534,306
80 - 81	3,239,109
84 - 85	2,952,200. 6 <sup>o</sup> telegrams.
	Total revenue. £ 7,238 - -

**THE JUBILEE OF THE PENNY POST.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

In this jubilee year of the penny post the following copy of a private memorandum, the original of which is in the handwriting of the late Mr. James Lawrence, who was assistant secretary to the Post Office when Sir Rowland Hill's scheme came into operation, will perhaps be read with interest:—  
Despatched from London, 10th of January, the first day of penny postage, 112,104 letters.  
The number has never approached that since by

Above 130,000 newspapers sent by post from London on Saturday, and the same on the Monday after Queen's marriage."

The memorandum is not dated, therefore it cannot be ascertained how much time actually elapsed before the number of letters posted in London on the first day—112,104—was again reached, but it is probable that a long time elapsed, seeing that the total number of chargeable letters passing through the Post Office increased from 76 millions in 1839 to nearly 169 millions in 1840.

As the memorandum was written shortly after the marriage of her Majesty, which took place on February 10, 1840, exactly one month after the introduction of the penny postage.

For way of comparison I may state that the letters and newspapers now despatched daily from London to the provinces and places abroad average in round numbers two millions.

Faithfully yours,

LEONARD BIDWELL.

General Post Office.

Letters by Post & Railway. 1<sup>o</sup> post + 2<sup>o</sup> to Ry Coy  
 Regem. 1<sup>o</sup> Kelly 1891. See Postal Guide for list &  
 regulations. Green stamps - sheets of 6. <sup>...</sup> 2 rows of 3.

Rates of Duty

Under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz	Jan 1870	1 <sup>d</sup>	Apr; 65	Oct 70 <sup>st</sup>	1874
1.		1d	2d	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 <sup>d</sup>
1 $\frac{1}{2}$			3d		1d
2		4d	4d	2 <sup>d</sup>	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 $\frac{1}{2}$			5d		.
3		6d	6d		.
3 $\frac{1}{2}$			7d.		.
4		8d	8d	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	2d
		+ 2 <sup>o</sup> in oz above.	+ 1 <sup>o</sup> in oz aft.	+ 1 <sup>o</sup> in oz beyond	+ 1 <sup>o</sup> 2 <sup>o</sup> per 2 <sup>o</sup> extra
					Ed.

In 1897. 4oz for 1d.

Sancti Hill's diary, 1839-40. (Record, vol 3, p 221.)

Jan'y 13. 1840. Called on the Speaker of H. C. in consequence  
of a note wh<sup>ch</sup> he addressed Mr. Barling on Sat'y -  
arranged with him, & afterwards with the officers of the H<sup>ouse</sup> of Parl<sup>ament</sup>  
for a sort of <sup>the</sup> office copies, for the use of members. & had specimens  
prepared at the Stat'y office.

## CHAPTER IV.

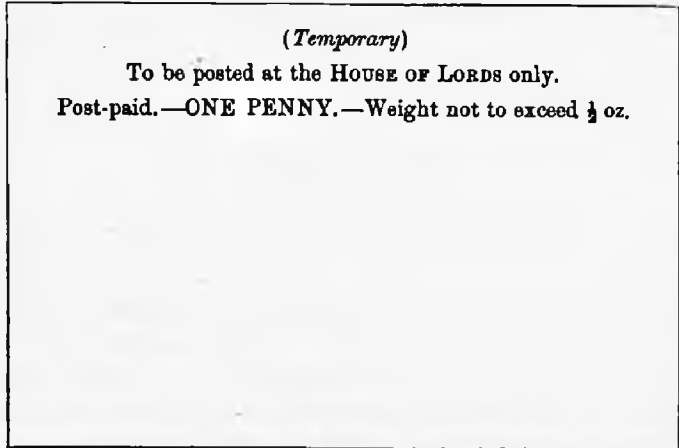
### THE ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

THE history of the Post Office, from its earliest times down to the introduction of the present system, might have been brought to a close with the last chapter; but it would scarcely be complete without adding a short account of the introduction of postage stamps to the public, though, as the object of this treatise necessarily involves a description of the mode in which they are prepared and printed, it will to a certain degree be anticipating the chronological order of events.

At the present day, when we possess all the facilities offered by the use of postage stamps and stamped envelopes, and habitually avail ourselves of the simple process of dropping a letter into the nearest pillar-box franked to its destination, little notion can be formed of the inconvenience and trouble resulting from the necessity of sending every letter to a receiving-house or Post Office with the cash to pay its postage. To say nothing of the waste of time, a great temptation was offered to messengers to post the letters unpaid; but this state of things existed from the 10th of January for many weary weeks. Meantime Parliament had assembled, and the members of the two Houses, who up to that session had enjoyed the privilege of franking their correspondence, now found themselves obliged to pay their pennies like the rest of the public. As a partial remedy for this inconvenience, so far as their correspondence at the two Houses of Parliament was concerned, an expedient was adopted of issuing prepaid envelopes, though on a very



limited scale. Those issued in the House of Lords bore the following superscription, printed in red ink, ordinary type :



A similar envelope, but printed in black, was also prepared for the use of members of the House of Commons. The superscription on this latter varies from that for the House of Lords in the omission of the word *Temporary*, and the word "COMMONS" is of course substituted for "LORDS."\* \*

It should be added that these superscriptions were printed on the envelopes after they had been folded.

The use of these envelopes must have been very restricted, as they are of extreme rarity; but this may be accounted for from the fact that it was necessary that they should be posted at the respective Houses of Parliament. Specimens of those used at the House of Lords are found on blue-laid and thick white wove paper, and of those used at the House of Commons on thin white, or bluish-white, wove paper. The normal size is about  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, but they vary somewhat, as

\* The issue of these envelopes is only mentioned by way of recording this temporary expedient. They never formed the subject of any general issue, and rank rather as curiosities in the history of the introduction and establishment of the Penny Post system than as objects for the general collector.

House Lords. a small size.  $4 \frac{13}{8} \times 3 \frac{1}{4}$ . (same)

usual.  $5 \frac{3}{8} \times 3 \frac{3}{4}$ . (same)

F. A. PHILBRICK sent curiosities, among which was the only purely fiscal stamp shewn in the room, the 2s. 6d., 1734, being the stamp prepared for the North American Colonies which caused the war and ultimate loss of the Provinces to Great Britain.

This copy is believed to be unique, as the stamps were all destroyed in the Boston riots, and the records at Somerset House contain only an impression of the die, dry struck on the register book. A postmark of Dockwray's "Peny Post Payd," 1693—the first penny post ever started in England.

Also a block of nine one penny red, with Archer's roulette, dating from October, 1867; another block of 1d. red, on the Dickinson paper, with margin shewing the plate number, ~~37~~; several envelopes dated in 1850, with stamps rouletted by Archer's second machine, made on the fly press principle, proofs in colour of Wyon's heads for the 10d. and 1s. embossed stamps, and of the 2d. envelope, die 1, in yellow and pink, the latter pierced for date plugs; also the temporary envelopes of the Houses of Lords and Commons, in red and black, of 1840, one of the former directed in the handwriting of F. M. the great Duke of Wellington; and the envelopes for the Houses of Parliament, in black, including the extremely rare 2d. of which Mr. Ferrary holds the other known copy.

+ likewise  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. different type topacing.

See Aug. 94. Low Phil. paper by me on this.

Page 45. After line 4 from top add: A second, and slightly different form of these envelopes was also prepared for the use of the members and officers of both Houses of Parliament, the inscriptions being uniformly printed in black in two lines. The word *Temporary* was omitted, and the inscription varied as follows: "To be posted at the Houses of Parliament only," the other line, "Post Paid," &c., remaining the same as in the other form. There was also another envelope for heavier letters, which required a twopenny rate, and in that "Twopence" was substituted for "One Penny," and "1 oz." for " $\frac{1}{2}$  oz." The specimens we have seen are of stoutish azure laid paper, and in all other respects are similar to those described in the text. They appear to have been in use in the early part of February, as appears from specimens bearing the postmark of the 7th of that month.

also. 2 varieties of this: "Houses of Parliament"  $1 \frac{1}{4}$  oz are with thick line under one penny. other with thin both seen on plain, blue wove. + postmarked 16. Feb 1840

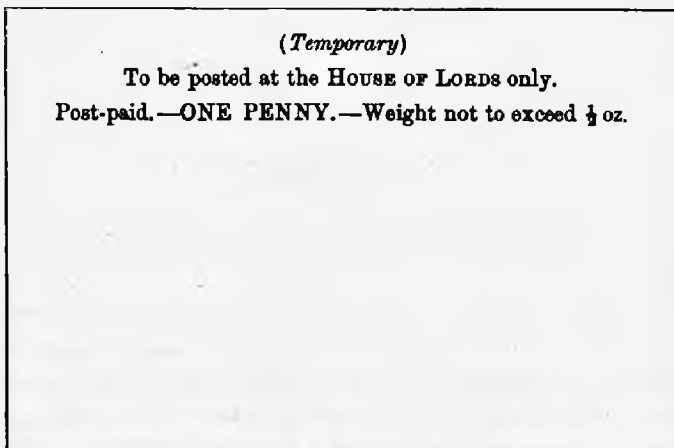
to 24. same month.  
W. B. Avery (with heavy red) House of Lords (Temporary) envelopes, 1840, red impr. nt, small size on yellow wove, also on bluish paper, laid vertically, size  $130 \frac{1}{2} \times 90 \frac{1}{2}$  mm., entire, with autograph of the Earl of "Ellenborough" and postmark 4 Feby., 1840—the only entire specimen yet seen. It has the left flap truncated, and the lettering is very like that on the smaller envelope, though a fresh setting of the type. The line below is differently placed with respect to the legend, the lower line of which terminates with a final dot, wanting in the smaller size. House of Commons envelope, in black, 1d., large size; Houses of Parliament, in black, 1d., large size, postmarked in 1840—also entire.

Exhibition  
Ph. Socy  
London.  
May. 94.

W. B. Avery to Mr. Philbrick, 1894

11/15  
11/16

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to 24. same month.

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plate 11. next #.

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1855.

In the person of Colonel William Leader Maberly, formerly M.P. for Chatham, &c., whose death was briefly announced by us yesterday as having occurred at the close of last week at his residence in Gloucester-place, Portman-square, one of the oldest servants of the Crown and also one of the last survivors of the Unreformed House of Commons, has passed away. He was the son of a former member of Parliament, Mr. John Maberly, of Shirley-house, near Croydon, Surrey, who represented Abingdon for some years before the passing of the first Reform Bill, and who was a banker and manufacturer at Aberdeen and in London. Colonel Maberly himself, born in the year 1798, entered the Army in 1815, retiring with the rank of lieutenant-colonel in 1832. In 1819 he entered Parliament as the colleague of Lord Francis Nathaniel Conyngham in the representation of Westbury, and in the following year was returned as one of the members for Northampton, for which borough he continued to sit down to 1830, when he was not returned at all. In 1831-32 he sat for Shaftesbury, and he was the first member returned for the newly-enfranchised borough of Chatham. This constituency he represented from 1832 to 1834, when he retired from Parliament, being appointed by Lord Lichfield to the secretaryship of the General Post Office. Colonel Maberly was a staunch supporter of Lord John Russell and Lord Melbourne, and as Clerk of the Ordnance, an office which he held in the first Reformed Parliament, he was a member of the Government. He was also formerly Joint-Secretary of the General Post Office and a Commissioner of Customs, and on his retirement from the former position was presented with a valuable testimonial from the members of the service. Colonel Maberly married, in 1830, the Hon. Catherine Charlotte, third daughter of the late Hon. Francis Aldborough Prittie, of Oerville, County Tipperary, and sister of Lord Dunally, and was left a widower in 1875.

Lord Lichfield. P. M. General in Sir R<sup>t</sup> Peel's admin  
 died 18 Mar 1854.

as the *Kreuz Zeitung*, which exhibit far greater anxiety to saddle their Jewish fellow-countrymen with the odium of an act of deliberate treachery against the National army which their sons and brothers serve, than to face the terrible consequences of such treachery, should these allegations prove to be founded on

the silence hitherto maintained by the semi-official Press, although justified in certain measure by the propriety of not attempting to anticipate the finding of the commission of inquiry which is now sitting at the War Office, increased rather than allayed the public anxiety. Meanwhile the battle has been raging day more fast and furious in the columns of the independent Press, anti-Semitic and otherwise. Crowded public meetings have been held every speeches delivered, until the climax was reached in a statement openly made by an officer in the reserve and cheered to the echo, that it was impossible to expect either officers or privates to take any action with such weapons in their hands, that he for his part had felt it his duty to return to headquarters and resign his commission rather than incur the responsibility of leading his men thus armed under fire.

This incident has at last induced the *North British Gazette* to speak. Drawing attention to the gravity of such symptoms, the semi-official paper says that the growing excitement provoked by the publication of Alwardt's pamphlet should impress upon the authorities the necessity of a speedy and

News has reached Birmingham of the death of Mr. SAMUEL WALLIKER, postmaster of Birmingham. Mr. Walliker was born at Bury St. Edmund's, in 1821, and was educated at the Rev. Samuel Blomfield, a brother of the late Bishop of London. In 1841, a few months after the introduction of the penny postage system, he entered the Post Office service. In 1848 he submitted a plan for economizing labour and securing greater accuracy in the keeping of the accounts of the money order system, and in the following year he carried out the complete revision of the money order system from the beginning of the system in 1839, involving the investigation of accounts amounting to 80 millions sterling. In 1850 he proposed to Mr. Hill the formation of a "mutual guarantee association" throughout the postal service, but it was not until 36 years later that his suggestion was carried out. In 1864 he was appointed postmaster of Birmingham, and in 1869 assisted the late Mr. Scudamore in the passage of the Telegraph Bill through the House of Commons. In 1878 he was a member of a committee appointed to inquire into the money order system. On the retirement of Mr. Scudamore in 1881, Mr. Walliker was made postmaster of Birmingham. Here he instituted some very important changes, and caused a great multiplication of offices and pillar-boxes. Although given to a very arduous and thropic work, he did not take any active part in the public life of the city. Twelve months before his death he resigned his position, partly on the ground of declining health, and was the recipient of a public testimonial.

they were manufactured by hand in days when envelopes may be said to have been first invented, for up to that time no such coverings had been used except for franked and official letters not subjected to postage.

It was not till the end of April that the Lords of the Treasury found themselves in a position to fix a day on which the stamps could be issued to the public.

The following Notice was thereupon ordered to be issued from the Post Office :

“TO ALL POSTMASTERS AND SUB-POSTMASTERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,

“25th April, 1840.

“It has been decided that Postage Stamps are to be brought into use forthwith, and as it will be necessary that every such Stamp should be cancelled at the Post Office or Sub Post Office where the Letter bearing the same may be posted, I herewith forward for your use an obliterating Stamp, with which you will efface the Postage Stamp upon every Letter despatched from your Office. RED COMPOSITION must be used for this purpose, and I annex directions for making it, with an impression of the Stamp.

“As the Stamps will come into operation by the 6th MAY, I must desire you will not fail to provide yourself with the necessary supply of Red Composition by that time.



“Directions for preparing the Red Stamping Composition :

“1 lb. Printer's red ink.

“1 pint Linseed Oil.

“Half-pint of the droppings of Sweet Oil.

“To be well mixed.

“By Command,

“W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”

29<sup>th</sup> ~~25th~~ <sup>following</sup> April the ~~above~~ <sup>sent</sup> notice was followed by another, in which was enclosed a copy of each of the Mulready one penny and twopenny covers and envelopes, and two copies of the black one penny adhesive stamp :



(Royal Arms)

"TO ALL POSTMASTERS, &amp;c.

"GENERAL POST OFFICE,

27<sup>th</sup> April, 1840.

"I beg to enclose you two specimens of the Penny and Two-penny stamped Covers and Envelopes, and two of the Penny adhesive Labels (the Two-penny one is not yet ready), which I must beg you will carefully preserve, in order to compare them in case of doubt with the stamped Letters that may pass through your Office. In the event of your suspecting that the Stamps used on any Letters are forged, you will not detain the Letter, but simply take the Address, and report the circumstance to me without loss of time, in order that the Party to whom the Letter is directed may be at once applied to. You will observe, however, that the adhesive Stamps vary almost in all cases one from the other, having different Letters at the bottom corners, and I point this out that you may not be misled by this circumstance, and be induced to suspect Forgery where the variation of the stamps has been intentional. The Numbers on the Covers and Envelopes also vary. You will carefully Stamp with the Cancelling Stamp that has been forwarded to you the stamped Covers and Envelopes, as well as the adhesive Stamps, the two former must be struck on the figure of Britannia; and in the case of more than one adhesive Stamp being attached to a Letter, each Stamp must be separately obliterated. The use of the Cancelling Stamp, however, will not dispense with the use of the ordinary dated Stamp, which will be struck on the Letter as usual. When the value of the Stamp is under the rate of Postage to which the Letter, if prepaid in Money, would be subject, you will surcharge the Letter with a Pen in the usual manner.

"You will acknowledge the receipt of this Letter and the Specimen Stamps by return of Post.

"By Command,

"W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*"

On the same day the following Notice <sup>to the Public</sup> was issued by the Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes :

"The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having authorized and directed the use of Stamps for denoting the Duties of Postage on and after the 6th of May next, and that the sale of such Stamps shall in the first instance be confined to London, Notice is hereby given that on and after the 1st May next the STAMPS undermentioned may be obtained at this Office,

Royal Arms

original exhibited by the P.M. Genl  
at the Philatelic Cong Exhbit- 1890.

To all Postmasters.

General Post Office.

7<sup>th</sup> May 1840

Referring to the circular of last month transmitting  
specimens of the penny & two penny stamped covers & envelopes &  
of the penny adhesive labels. I now enclose two specimens of the  
two penny adhesive label, which you will preserve with the specimens  
already sent to you for the purpose of comparison with any doubtful postage  
stamps passing through your hands.

I also enclose you for your information two specimens  
of the label stamp bearing the letters V.R. at the upper corners, which are  
to be applied to the correspondence of Public Departments, & other persons  
formerly enjoying the privilege of Official franking.

This latter specimen of the label stamp is merely  
sent, to prevent when it may come into use, any misapprehension  
arising from the letters V.R. which are intended to denote  
that the stamp is employed for official correspondence.

I embrace this opportunity also of stating that it is  
at present understood that Post Masters & Letter Recovers will  
be required to sell the adhesive label stamps and the stamped  
covers (but not the envelopes) under licence from the Commissioners  
of Stamps & Taxes. Upon this subject however you will receive  
full instructions <sup>when</sup> the issue of postage stamps is extended  
to other places than London.

By Command  
W. C. Maberly  
Secretary.

This <sup>notice</sup> ~~notice~~ was prepared for issue, but as no stock of  
the Id was ready to be sent to the country till ~~end of May~~, <sup>end of May</sup>, or  
rather June, a partial issue taking place in London only  
in May; <sup>it has</sup> this was not sent out in post p. 83. M. S.

May 1<sup>st</sup> Issue to public - first time

2. £2500 worth sold in London

6<sup>th</sup> user. first time

W. G. Probert

20/10/1907

and also at the Sea Policy Office, Bank Buildings, in the City of London, in the quantities and at the prices following, viz :

	£	s.	d.
Two reams of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 80 sheets, or 960 Stamps . . . . .	4	7	0
Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	4	5	0
One ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps . . . . .	2	4	6
Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	2	3	6
Half a ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps . . . . .	1	2	4
Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	1	1	9
One ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps . . . . .	4	3	6
Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	4	2	6
Half a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps . . . . .	2	2	6
Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	2	2	0
Quarter of a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 10 sheets or 120 covers . . . . .	1	1	4
Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	1	1	1
Sheet of 1d. Labels containing 240 Stamps (per sheet) . . . . .	1	0	0
Same of 2d. . . . .	2	0	0

"To enable any person to sell these Stamps it will be necessary that they should obtain licenses as Vendors of Stamps generally.

"By Order of the Board,

"CHARLES PRESSLY, *Secretary.*"

The public were <sup>also</sup> informed of the intended issue of the stamps by the following notice, which, as shown by a note attached to the copy preserved in the Archives of the General Post Office, was sent out on the 30th April, 1840 :

"NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

AND

"INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

"GENERAL POST OFFICE,

27<sup>th</sup> April/1840.

"The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the 6th of May next for the issue of Postage Stamps, on and after that day all Letters written on Stamped Paper, or enclosed in Stamped Covers,

25<sup>th</sup> / A

May 1<sup>st</sup> Issue to public - first time

2. £2500 worth sold in London

6<sup>th</sup> user. first time

W. G. H. H. H. H. H.

20000000

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	£	s.	d.
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Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	4	5	0
One ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps . . . . .	2	4	6
Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	2	3	6
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Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	1	1	9
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Half a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps . . . . .	2	2	6
Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	2	2	0
Quarter of a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 10 sheets or 120 covers . . . . .	1	1	4
Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .	1	1	1
Sheet of 1d. Labels containing 240 Stamps (per sheet) . . . . .	1	0	0
Same of 2d. . . . .	2	0	0

"To enable any person to sell these Stamps it will be necessary that they should obtain licenses as Vendors of Stamps generally.

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"GENERAL POST OFFICE,

27<sup>th</sup> April/1840.

"The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the 6th of May next for the issue of Postage Stamps, on and after that day all Letters written on Stamped Paper, or enclosed in Stamped Covers,

28<sup>th</sup> / 1

or having Stamps affixed to them, the Stamps in every such case being equal in Value or Amount to the Rates of Postage now chargeable on such Letters if prepaid, will pass *Free* of Postage in whatever part of the UNITED KINGDOM they may be posted.

"In those cases where the Value of Stamps on the Letter is less than the amount of the Postage to which it would now be liable if prepaid, the Letter will be charged double the amount of such difference on delivery. An Inland Letter, for example, weighing more than Half-an-Ounce, and not exceeding an Ounce, if bearing only a Penny Stamp will be charged Twopence on delivery.

"The same regulation applies to letters prepaid by money when the full and proper rate of postage has not been paid in advance.

"Stamps may be used for *Printed Votes* and *Proceedings in Parliament*. If the Stamps, however, should be less in value than the proper rate of Postage to which these documents are subject, only the difference, and not double the difference, is to be charged.

"Stamps may also be used on Foreign, Colonial, and Ship Letters, &c., outwards. If any Letter, however, addressed to Places beyond Sea, shall bear an insufficient number of Stamps, it will be sent to the Dead Letter Office, to be returned in all practicable cases to the writer. Stamps are *not* permitted to be used on Letters arriving in the United Kingdom *from the Colonies or Foreign Countries*. In such cases therefore Letters will be chargeable with the same rates as they would be if not bearing Stamps.

"All these Regulations will be applicable to Newspapers in those cases where they are liable to Postage.

"It must be distinctly understood that it is optional with the Public either to use Stamps, or to forward their Letters, &c., prepaid or unpaid as at present.

"The instructions issued in December, and on the 4th February last, remain in full force, the only alteration being that the Stamps are permitted to be used in certain cases instead of the Postage being paid in Money.

"By Command,

"W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*"

XII 7th Recd. p. 140. (Aug 90). Mr Westoby says

"Prior to Nov. 1879 the Post Offices in the Country had their supplies of stamps from the General P. Office, which sent out "Specimens"; but since that date the Country Offices requisition the Controller for their supplies."

But quere. Formerly the Stamp Distributors supplied them.

In 1890. supply of Inland Rev Stamps thro' P Offices for extended

Postal agencies for sale of Wds' stamps in general case

England	3,135
Scot.	399
Ireland	327
	<hr/>
	3,861



## OBSERVATIONS.

To avoid repetition and shorten the description of the various types, it is to be understood :

That the numbers of the issues in each division of adhesive stamps, envelopes, wrappers, and post cards are introduced for facility of reference, and refer to the issues in that particular division, unless otherwise stated.

That the profile of her Majesty, which is found on all the stamps, is diademed, and invariably to the *left*, in conformity with the established numismatic rule that the head of the Sovereign is turned the reverse way to that of his or her predecessor on the throne.

That when the background is said to be "lined," the lines run horizontally.

That unless otherwise described, the adhesive stamps are all in the form of an upright oblong rectangle. Those described as being "ordinary size" measure about  $\frac{1}{4}$  by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch ( $22\frac{1}{2} \times 19$  mm.); those described as "large size,"  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by 1 inch ( $30 \times 25$  mm.).

That when in the summary after the description of the stamp the number of any particular plate is referred to, and the word "Plate" is in italics, it denotes that the number does not appear on the face of the stamp.

That the stamps are all gummed; the line-engraved with brown British gum; the embossed with brown foreign gum, and the surface-printed with white foreign gum.

That the dates given in the headings are those of the actual issue as accurately as is known, not that of the impression, the date of which frequently preceded that of the issue by some considerable period.

That when in the paper watermarked in panes the word "sheet" is used, an entire sheet is intended, and not a "Post-office sheet," which in the values above 2½d. formerly consisted of a single pane. At present the Post-office sheets consist of 240 stamps for the values under 2d.; of 120 in one pane for the 2d., 2½d., 3d., and 6d.; of half a pane of 120 for the 5d.; and of one-sixth of a pane of 120 for the 1s., while those of the 9d. and 10d. consist of one pane of 20, and those of the 4d. of 4 panes of 20.

### THE FOLLOWING ABBREVIATIONS ARE EMPLOYED :

*P. and W.*.—"The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain by Philbrick and Westoby."

*P.E.*.—"The Philatelic Record."

*S.C., L.C., Crown.*.—Watermark of "Small Crown," "Large Crown," "Crown of 1880."

*S.G., M.G., L.G.*.—Watermark of "Small Garter," "Medium-sized Garter," or "Large Garter."

*Emblems.*.—Watermark of "Heraldic Emblems of the Rose, Shamrock, and Thistle."

*Spray.*.—Watermark of "Spray of Rose."

*Cross.*.—Watermark of "*Croix patée*."

*A., S.A., or F.A.*.—Watermark of "Anchor," "Small Anchor," or "Foul Anchor."

*D.P.*.—"Dickinson Paper," with coloured silk threads wove in the paper.

*Perf. or Imperf.*.—"Perforated or imperforate."

THE  
POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF  
GREAT BRITAIN.

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Part I.

*POSTAGE STAMPS.*

THE history of the Post Office as a national institution having in the foregoing chapters been brought down to the introduction of Postage Stamps, we will now proceed to the immediate object of this Treatise ; viz., the examination of the various Stamps by which the prepayment of postal rates has been and is at present effected in the United Kingdom. Although the aim of all these stamps is identical, yet it will appear that the means by which the result is attained are diverse ; and further, that in certain cases stamps have been expressly created to serve special purposes. To avoid confusion and afford greater facilities for reference it seems desirable to consider them in the following order :

FIRST. Adhesive Stamps or Labels.

SECOND. Covers and Envelopes for enclosing correspondence.

THIRD. Newspaper and Book-post Stamps and Wrappers.

FOURTH. Post Cards.

It is then proposed to add a short description of some of the principal essays, trials, and proofs of postage stamps and envelopes, more especially of those which are chiefly interesting

in a historical point of view as tending to throw light, not only on certain stages in the production of the stamps subsequently issued to the public, but also on the gradual growth of the system which called them into existence.

Adopting this order, we proceed to the consideration of the Adhesive Stamps or Labels; and these will be found to constitute by far the most important class of stamps employed for postal purposes. The most obvious mode of procedure would certainly be that based upon the chronological order of the various issues; and there can be little doubt but that such a mode is not only the most logical and scientific in itself, but is one which ought to prevail where the stamps have been issued in regular series. In the adhesive stamps of Great Britain, however, not only is there a want of uniformity in the elements which make one stamp to differ from another, but the issues themselves have been variable in the extreme, one stamp after another having been called into existence as it was required for the special exigency of the service at the time. A cursory view of the entire body of adhesive stamps will nevertheless show that there are special features common to many of them, and that they are capable of being rationally divided into three categories, dependent on the method by which they are manufactured. They will consequently be considered under the following sectional heads:

SECTION I. Line-engraved Stamps.

SECTION II. Stamps embossed in relief.

SECTION III. Type-printed Stamps.

It will be found that by adopting this mode of classification much unnecessary repetition will be avoided. The chronological order of issue of the several stamps in each section will be observed as far as possible, and each value will be examined *seriatim* through all the phrases it has exhibited from the date of its original issue to the present time.

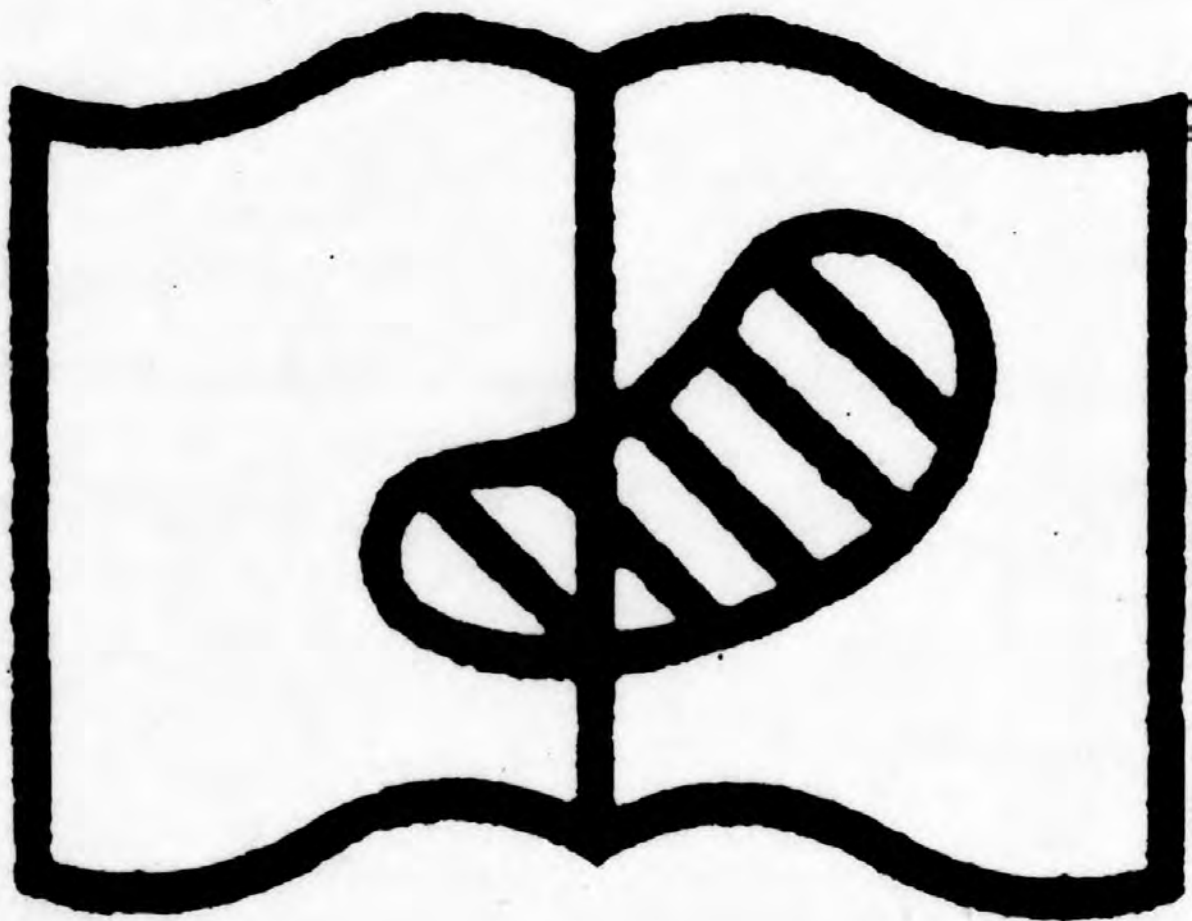
13<sup>th</sup> Sep. Inland Revenue Comm. Inland Revenue Commes.

Advances Expense plate £120. + cost of printing, guessing 2  
1000's? besides

Subscribed die onto last 10. £10.

Advances Robbery by counterfeits. compliance of  
Apply barbarly to postage etc. There being facility for getting rid of such  
etc at P. Office. But the failing of necessity in the respect extends to the  
Inland Revenue etc. & this was more unending at first to prevent any depreciation  
of the design, for fear of interfering with the means of authenticity. In itself, we  
have complained to meet the complaints of the public by allowing persons to print  
their names on the sides etc. as they have received - we merely stipulated  
that the printing should be on the upper edge of the etc. & so as not to  
deface any portion of the effigy of the Queen -

Line engraving & printing: not possible by steam  
power practically, in spite of mechanical wiping off the plates  
we always proved inefficient on flat surfaces. but at last  
Cylindrical plates made, then at Exhibition in 1867. a French  
Inventor (M. Guy) had 2 machines, a great improvement on  
all these in use. It asked £10,000 & finally sold them to  
underlords for £2,000. The principles improved & altered till  
they got them to a state of nearly perfection & then used to till  
1873, use them. I saw them Aug 1873. most perfectly working.  
print on Table Press: mechanical wiping off, excellent.  
Also, an improved Perkins sort of machine, which rolls the  
plate, when set, absolutely true, back & forwards, till the  
 requisite relief is obtained.  
Also, a rubbing machine, cross level like a 'box of brains'  
which produces regular & eccentric curves, & does as for the  
back of Bank Note patterns & so on above, & fine high by  
a flat machine to print, not rotary, & wiped off by hand  
is still used by hand power, to take proofs, in colour & before  
the plates are bent to a curve, so as to print as the rotary  
presses by steam. of course, all the paper is first wetted.



notice sending specimens of 2<sup>d</sup> B.P. Masters  
7.5.40

write a note on

Stamps near Specimen early good impression

\* Cancelled - ? if not merely on any

subject. With regard to the injury which was  
 said to have been done by photography to art, a  
 little more impartiality than the enemies of  
 photography have shown should be exercised.  
 Line-engraving on copper and steel enjoyed  
 their greatest prosperity between 1830 and 1840.  
 While COUSINS and THOMAS LANDSEER were pro-  
 ducing their splendid plates after the most  
 popular pictures of the day, the HEATHS and the  
 FRIENDS were scattering broadcast through the  
 land, and, to a certain extent, over the Continent,  
 a legion of "Keepsakes," "Forget-me-nots,"  
 "Souvenirs," "Amulets," and "Friendship's  
 Offerings" the letterpress of which was, as a  
 rule, only so much cultured rubbish, but which  
 were copiously illustrated by exquisite engrav-  
 ings on steel. The only direct harm which  
 photography has done to the engraving of large  
 plates has been effected by the process known  
 as photogravure, an empirical and tasteless sub-  
 stitute for the genuine work of the engraver.  
 Nor should photography be held responsible for  
 the decay of engraving of the "Keepsake"  
 and "Souvenir" type. That once fashionable  
 style was destroyed by wood-engraving. The  
 pupils of THOMAS BAWICK, HARVEY, LUKE  
 CLENNELL, LANDELLS; and others, deliberately  
 attempted to ruin by closely imitating the cross-  
 hatching of the line-engraving; and HARVEY's  
 celebrated print of "Dentatus," after HAYDON,  
 could, when placed under glass, with ease be  
 mistaken for an engraving on copper. The  
 commercial ruin of the tribe of "Keepsake"  
 engravers was sudden and complete. Many  
 of them emigrated to the United States, where  
 they found profitable employment as engravers  
 was patronized by James Nesbit, another capital-  
 ists Henry Reed, a cab-driver, at Chapel-street, Chelsea  
 WEST LONDON.—A NEW UNION QUESTION  
 the cases to consider his judgment.  
 able to look after themselves.—Mr. De Ruzen adjourned  
 LIVER.—Mr. Kent: The witnesses and witnesses are  
 to what was wanted, but what they have desired.—a  
 interest, but all those cases called attention to the  
 men thought these vexatious proceedings were in their  
 and one man in addition.—Mr. Kenton said that he  
 on craft of over fifty tons to be by one competent  
 of the Thames Conservancy, which requires naviga-  
 hand, the prosecution relied on the reading of By-law  
 gation of the barge, and for employing the unlicen-  
 persons for causing and procuring the improper nav-  
 persons.—In the hearing of other witnesses again  
 breakers during their two years' prohibition of  
 have to be faced of all apprentices being law-  
 Kent's contention were correct the anomaly would  
 assumed the correctness of By-law 35, and that if he  
 for the defence, urged that the judges had al-  
 law 35 of the Watermen's Act.—Mr. Scrutton, coun-  
 and that it would turn on the construction of By-  
 admitted that the point at issue was entirely a new  
 Amalgamated Society of Watermen and Lightermen  
 solicitor, who conducted the case on behalf of the  
 Company's barge on the 5th inst.—Mr. Arthur Kent,  
 James Newton on board one of Frow's Patent Canoe  
 respect to the occupation of a youth named Aaron

TAMPS.

ed 6th May, 1840.  
 7<sup>th</sup> May, 1840.  
 1st October, 1870.  
 1st October, 1870.

mps in this Section is  
 raved in ordinary line  
 in colour in the printed  
 o the plate in *intaglio*.  
 is the reverse of that  
 nting, where the lines  
 ession are in relief or  
 reating an Adhesive  
 sity of providing an  
 essions, all of which  
 f each copy had been  
 ad would be difficult, if  
 tect forgery. It was  
 thousand impressions  
 a complete novelty  
 the daily supply of a

Treasury appeared on  
 nditions, Mr. Henry

Cole, who was acting in that Department as assistant to Sir Rowland Hill,\* applied to Messrs. Bacon and Petch (now Perkins, Bacon, and Co.), of Fleet Street and Whitefriars, London, engravers on and printers from steel plates,† a firm principally known as engravers and printers of bank-notes for many private and joint-stock banks, by a process introduced into England by the late Mr. Jacob Perkins, the original founder of the firm. By this process, a design engraved on a steel plate was reproduced on any number of similar plates absolutely identical with the original, even to the most minute details, so that in fact the number of perfect impressions which could be obtained was practically without limit.‡ Through a misapprehension of the requirements of the Lords of the Treasury this firm had not sent in any proposal in answer to the invitation of "My Lords," though specimens of reproductions made by the process had been circulated as illustrations to an article on the New System of Postage in the *London and Westminster Review*.§ On its being explained to Mr. Bacon that for Adhesive Postage Stamps such as were required, a design of about the size of an inch square would suffice, he considered that the multiplying process as employed by his

\* Sir Rowland Hill was, in September, 1839, attached to the Treasury to assist in carrying into effect the new system of the uniform penny postage. (See *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 371.)

† Report of Committee of 1852. Answer of Mr. Bacon to question 1692.

‡ Mr. Jacob Perkins was a native of Massachusetts, and came to England in 1819. He was possessed of great inventive talent, not only in his own particular profession as an intaglio engraver, but in various branches of mechanics. Three of the principal discoveries he brought over to this country were:—a method of softening steel, which enabled him to engrave upon it with the greatest facility, and then of hardening it again;—a process by which engraving might be transferred from steel to steel, thus multiplying to any extent the plates to be printed from;—and a new and elaborate style of ornamentation by means of geometrical lathe-work. This latter, produced by a machine which was an improved adaptation of the Rose Engine, was employed in engraving the fine reticulated pattern introduced into the background of the stamps in this Section.

§ *London and Westminster Review*, vol. xxxiii. p. 491.



Commons Rep<sup>t</sup> 1870. p. 92

The adhesive stp is a most costly production. A plate must be engraved for each rate of duty & the expense of a first or original plate is not less than £120. & after that there is the current exp<sup>t</sup> of printing & gumming & for the sheets of stp, which is done partly by contract - partly in the office. On the other hand a die for impressing stp on paper or parchment costs less than £10.

Design of Q. Head from Gilt Medal by W. G. W. W.  
Chief engraver of the seals. He died Aug<sup>t</sup> 1850.

Award of £100 to Henry Cole. by L<sup>ds</sup> Treasury  
March 26 Decr 1839.

Jacob Perkins silversmith Newburyport<sup>t</sup> Mass.

Born 9 July 1766 - Died 13 July 1849. age 83.

great skill as die cutter & engraver.

invented reel making machine. with Jeffrey  
& Armstrong. also stereo check plate for the

reverse of bank notes. great improvements in  
hardening & softening steel. & particularly as applied  
to engraving on steel

Came to London 1820. where he was known as

'The American Inventor' also exp<sup>d</sup> in steam engine

new type & exp<sup>d</sup> 65 atmospheres = 975 lbs to the sq in

pressure. also steam gun. Discharged 1000 balls

per min. exhibited at Dublin Gallery. Strand.

See Blue Book of 1888 setting out conditions & contract of 1880.

as to Original Die. See S Gibbons No. Journal 31.12.1  
by S. D. Bacon.

original engraved die had one Penny in lower left  
' die for 2<sup>d</sup> had this removed

Plate nos. cut away bit of reticulations ~~of the die~~  
& engrave on table

Plate 1-11. were printed in black  
see dates of reqs. in the tables ante.

In S. Collector's Fortification. No 5. 18 Oct 94. p. 38 S. C. H. ed.  
says he recently had entire pl 10. sheet. in red.  
& queries if pl 9 was not first one printed in red  
? by no. concerned.

See of a foolish paper of D. Thompson. Am Phil vol 3, p. 76  
on pl 11. in black.

Decr 96. I saw an entire sheet pl 10 in red. H. C. H. ed.  
with worn die. not gummed. prepared for reqs? but no  
change of colour was reqd.

firm might be applied to the production of them, and he accordingly submitted designs and proposals which were ultimately accepted by the Lords of the Treasury, and the firm was commissioned to furnish a supply of adhesive stamps so soon as the necessary dies had been completed. A contract was subsequently entered into for one year from 13th April, 1840, whereby that firm agreed to deliver the necessary quantity of stamps, printed and gummed, to the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House at the rate of 7½d. per 1,000, the paper being supplied by the Government.\* This contract was renewed from time to time for various periods and under altered conditions until, on its expiration at the close of the year 1879, the Government decided on adopting the typographic or surface mode of printing for the stamps in this section which was in use for the other values then current, and Messrs. De La Rue and Co. became the successful competitors for the new contract.

*done 14 March*

Before proceeding to the examination of the stamps in this Section individually, we will notice some particulars common to the whole of them, and commence by giving a brief description of the process by which the steel plates employed for the production of the impressions were constructed.

PLATE.—The original die was the handiwork of the engraver, who engraved the proposed design in intaglio on a flat plate or block of softened steel, which, when completed, was carefully hardened, and constituted what was technically termed the “matrix,” or mother die. By means of powerful pressure, applied by a compound lever, impressions from this matrix were taken on a “roller” of softened steel, which evidently were cameo impressions of the original die. This roller after having been

\* By the contract made between Messrs. Bacon and Petch and the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes (now the Commissioners of the Inland Revenue) of the 5th May, 1843, the price was fixed at 6½d. per 1,000, and if the annual quantity exceeded thirty-two millions then the price was to be 6d. per 1,000. A subsequent contract for five years from the 5th July, 1851, fixed the price at 5d. per 1,000, with a special stipulation that if a more expensive kind of adhesive matter was required than that then employed, the Government was to bear the extra cost.

hardened was employed to transfer an impression from its face on to a plate of softened steel, and by repeated operations produced as many rows of impressions as were required to compose the sheet of stamps, each of which impressions was an exact *fac-simile* of the original die. The bur caused by the action of the roller was then removed; the letters in the angles were inserted with steel punches, the legends on the margins of the plate were added, and the plate number, as also the official number of the plate, were filled in. After being hardened the plate was fit for use; but in order to insure accuracy in all the details, plate-proof impressions were taken off in black ink on ordinary paper before any stamps were actually printed from it. These having been duly verified were destroyed by the inspecting officer always present on behalf of the Inland Revenue Department. This system of checking for errors was in all cases invariably followed, and proved to be a useful and efficient protection against what may be termed errors of engraving.

LETTERING.—Letters were at first inserted in the blocks in the two lower angles only of the stamp; those in the upper angles of the one penny and twopence being filled in with Maltese crosses. These letters served to determine the position which the stamp occupied in the sheet; but the real object of introducing them was to provide an additional protection against forgery, it being “thought at the time that any considerable use or sale of stamps so printed, all having the same letters, and being sold separately, not in sheets, would necessarily attract attention, and lead to inquiry.”\* The sheet (with the exception of the one halfpenny) consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, disposed in twenty rows, of twelve in each row. The upper row bore the letters A.A., A.B., A.C., A.D., &c., up to A.L.; the second row the letters B.A., B.B., B.C., B.D., &c., up to B.L.; the third the letters C.A., &c., up to C.L., and so on to the twentieth or last row, which bore the letters T.A., &c., up to T.L.; the first letter denoting the place of the stamp in the vertical row, and the second its place in the horizontal row.

\* Evidence of Sir Rowland Hill before the Committee of 1852.

In Plate (184?). die I. there is a small error which escaped correction. The workman in punching in the letters, put the S upside down, in the last stamp of the 19<sup>th</sup> row, S-L, also in first stamp. which reads S-A. upside down. <sup>at 19. row 94.</sup>  
see copy books Jan 89. also Castle S. J.

In plate die I. forwarded copy seen "Cath 1." (D. was later than pl. 41)

184<sup>th</sup> "Caracostis" (June 92. possibly). M I

another error. It is taken for K originally. If any it was <sup>Alno</sup> K. <sub>was K.</sub>  
Lettering errors seen 19.7.94 at clerks. <sup>it was K.</sup>

Double.  $\overline{F} - E$        $\overline{L} - L$        $\overline{S} - D$   
 $\overline{F} - J$        $\overline{S} - J$        $S - \overline{L}$  always so.

$\overline{B} - G$

H. B. from casting H.

offset.  $\overline{R} - D$

Error.  $\overline{M} - L$  as above.

also Castle has. S-J with S. inverted.

all above usually found oblique or Maltese cross

In Rec. Feb 95. p. 37. Westley has  $\overline{P}$  as remains of M. & assumes  
Q . . . N.

? state more clearly all plates are AA

they're so always.

In Rec? Feb 95. P. 37.

says P stamped over M.  
Q over N.

on plate ⑧ 1<sup>o</sup> is.  
1<sup>o</sup> black: not executed.

'The impress' on the B. side of this paper of the die a plate provided by the Comrs of S<sup>t</sup>s & Taxes in place of the seal powers & authorities vested in them for denoting impressing & denoting the S<sup>t</sup>s duty of one penny on the postage of letters was taken in my presence, and in the presence of a Comr. the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1840

"Chas. Pressly"  
Secretary

By the Comrs

Ordered that in place & exercise of the powers & authorities vested in the Comrs of S<sup>t</sup>s & Taxes the die a plate whose impresses are on the B. side of this paper

shall be used for impressing the stamps to denote the duties of postage

Dated the 31<sup>st</sup> day of July. 1840

"Chas. Pressly" Secretary

In 1858 the Maltese crosses in the upper blocks of the two-pence were suppressed, and letters were substituted, an alteration which was carried out a few years later in the one penny. This latter system of notation, which was subsequently extended, not only to all the stamps in this Section, but also to most of those in the Third Section, appears at first sight rather more complicated than the former; but on examination it will be seen that no alteration was made in the lettering of the lower angles; while the upper ones were filled in by repeating the same letters, but placing them in opposite angles, diagonal-wise. Thus a stamp, for example, occupying the third place in the fourth row, which under the first system bore the letters D.C. only in the lower angles, continued under the new system to bear the same letters in these angles, while the upper angles would be occupied by the same letters transposed; viz., C.D. There can be no doubt but that this latter system presented an additional safeguard against the fraudulent use of any stamps that might be only partially or imperfectly obliterated, a protection not enjoyed in an equal degree under the former; for if by chance a stamp of a certain value were obliterated in the upper part only, and another of the same value were found obliterated in the lower part, the unobliterated portions might be brought together so as to form a stamp which would probably pass muster, and the defrauder might allege that the cutting of the stamp was the result of an accident; but with the new system such a plea became almost hopeless, the chances against the two halves bearing the same letters being exceedingly remote, as the only stamps in a sheet of two hundred and forty, where the letters do not admit of inversion, are the twelve which bear the same letter in all the four angles, thus leaving two hundred and twenty-eight stamps in the sheet where ~~different~~ combinations of the letters must appear. Instances of the species of improper and fraudulent manipulations above referred to are so rare that it is presumable that the system proved an almost effectual protection against such artifices.

PLATE NUMBER.—The plates used for printing the stamps in

this Section have always been numbered, by which means a register has been kept of the performance of each plate. These numbers have followed in consecutive order, except when interrupted by some special circumstances. The number is inserted in each corner of the margin of the plate within a small fine-lined circle; but as regards the one penny and twopence, this has not been so from the commencement. In the case of the one penny the number was originally introduced into the margin at all four corners of the plate without any addition, and this continued until plate No. 98 of Series II. was reached (10th March, 1865), when a fine-lined circle enclosing the plate number was added, and continued to the close of the Series at the expiration of the contract at the end of 1879.\* In the case of the twopence the numbers were inserted in the margin at all the four angles until plate No. 12 was reached (1st January, 1868), when the numbers were enclosed in fine-lined circles at the two corners, similarly to the one penny as above described, and so continued down to the expiration of the contract.

PAPER.—The paper on which the stamps in this Section were printed was hand-made, with ragged or “deckel” edges all round the sheet, and was manufactured by Messrs. Faircroft and Co. at the Rush Mills, near Northampton, under the inspection of an officer of the Inland Revenue Department. The sheets, after having been made up into reams of five hundred, were forwarded direct to the offices of the Department in Somerset House, and there counted in and out, every sheet being rigorously accounted for.

The colour of the paper was greyish-white, and, like all hand-made papers, it has varied considerably in thickness at different periods.†

\* Coincident with the enclosing of the plate number within a circle, another number was introduced into the upper and lower margins, which was the “official” number of the plate.

† This is especially noticeable in some of the one penny stamps, particularly those printed about the summer of 1870 (plates 139-144, Series ii.), which are on comparatively thick paper, differing materially from those appearing in the autumn of 1876, which are found on paper so thin as almost to resemble *pelure* paper.

having in the  
plate.



*Mr Wise*  
 afterwards *Mr Wise* } all trading as *Wise & Co*  
 then *D Fawcett* } *Rush Mills.*

Page 56. The text and note state that Plate No. 98 of Series II. of the one penny was the first that showed the number of the plate in the margin of the sheet in a small circle, and that at the same time another number, termed the "official number," was also introduced. The reason of this alteration was, that between the dates of the registration of Plates Nos. 97 and 98 Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. were employed by the Inland Revenue Department to print certain fiscal stamps connected with the Registration of Deeds in Ireland, and the plates for these stamps were entered in the plate-ledger kept by the department along with those of the postage stamps. For the future the account was kept in double columns, the number in the first column representing the consecutive number of the plates, whether for postage or fiscal purposes; that in the second, the number of the plate of each particular species of stamp, this latter being that which is of any interest for our purpose, inasmuch as it corresponds with the numbers inserted in the framework of the stamps themselves.

as to paper. see *N. Record*. vol 14. p 105. May 92.  
 & p. 117.

Contract was for paper weighing 11 lbs per ream. it  
 in practice varied from 7 to 12 lbs.  
 & in 1852 complaints of its thickness causing the stamps  
 not properly to adhere to the letters were arose on the part  
 of the public, & the Contractors were requested to furnish  
 more even & thin texture.

The contract weight was 11 lbs or ream, the supplies  
 varied from 9 to 12 lbs.

Large Crown. patented. 16. 7. 56. 1897, P. 14.

Metal Bits for watermarks.

1897. Exhibited by F.C. Smith. Low Phil Exh

Garter Flowers. &c.

Patented. 16. 7. 56. 1897, P. 14.

Exhibited by F.C. Smith. Low Phil Exh

**WATERMARKS.**—From the first creation of postage stamps in England watermarks have been introduced into the paper on which they have been printed. These watermarks are produced by affixing patterns of the required design on the wire gauze of the frame which receives the pulp in the process of the manufacture of the paper, and as this is consequently thinner where the pattern is affixed an impression is left behind, visible on holding the sheet to the light. The patterns themselves (technically termed "*bits*") are made of thin brass or fine wire, and are supplied to the manufacturers of the paper under the direction of the officer in charge. They are so arranged on the frame that one of the impressions produced shall appear in each space destined to be occupied by a stamp, except in the paper manufactured expressly for the one halfpenny (1870). The presence of watermarks in the stamps has always been considered as offering one of the most effectual impediments to forgery, and that this opinion is well founded is, we think, amply borne out by experience.

It is evident that the principal danger apprehended by the Lords of the Treasury in carrying out the projected issue of adhesive postage stamps was the possibility of forgery, and their apprehensions on this head were constantly kept alive by the prophecies of croaking alarmists which day by day appeared in the public journals. Even Sir Rowland Hill himself was not free from them.\* Every precaution was consequently taken to place obstacles in the way of the dreaded evil. The danger of fraud did not, however, lie so much in this direction as in the fraudulent use of stamps a second time, rendered possible either by the omission of the officials to obliterate them, or by the removal of the effacing marks when made, a species of fraud that fortunately could not be carried on to any great extent. Even on the first of these points Sir Rowland

\* Sir Rowland Hill, writing in 1871, says: "My apprehensions, however, happily proved groundless; only two attempts, so far as I know, ever having been made, and both of a very bungling character, though in one the author was cunning enough to escape detection. In the other, which occurred in Ireland, the offender was convicted and punished; the detection occurred through the fact that a young man had written to his sweetheart under one of the forged stamps, and enclosed another for her use in reply."—*Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 397.

Hill himself says, that "there was a good deal to complain of at the outset, so much so that a certain amount of discredit began to attach to the stamps as a whole." As regards the removal of the effacing marks by cleaning, this was done rather from mischievous than from fraudulent intentions, though it was not put a stop to until changes had been made both in the obliterated ink and in that used for the impression of the stamps.\*

\* The effacing marks, as has been mentioned in the introductory chapters, were originally ordered to be made in red ink, which was most probably chosen by the Post Office officials from the long habit they had acquired of stamping in red everything which was paid. This, as we learn by an extract from Sir Rowland Hill's diary, dated 21st May, did not prove efficient. "Several more cases," he writes, "of stamps wholly unobliterated, or very nearly so, have come within my knowledge, and all sorts of tricks are being played by the public, who are exercising their ingenuity in devising contrivances for removing the obliteration stamp by chemical agents and other means." The principal chemists of the day were consulted, and many experiments made with inks variously compounded, while endless suggestions came in from all quarters. Sir Rowland Hill at last drew up a Report "containing all the information then possessed, and recommending for the present, obliteration in good black printing ink prepared in a peculiar manner, and the printing of the adhesive stamps in coloured inks—blue as before for the twopenny ones, but red for the penny ones, both colours to be oleaginous, but at the same time destructible, the aim being to render the obliteration so much more tenacious than the postage stamp that any attempt at removing the former must involve the destruction of the latter." x

? Kelly. x  
The obliteration in black ink began to be brought into use about the month of June, and was applied to the stock of stamps on hand. "Within three weeks from the date of the Report a chemist, named Watson, had succeeded completely in the removal of this obliteration by a process which, though very simple, inexpensive, and effectual, in relation at least to the black stamp," proved so slow as to demand nine minutes per label in its application, so that the danger to be apprehended was not very formidable. But when Sir Rowland Hill's own clerk succeeded in effecting the operation at the rate of one per minute it was necessary to reconsider the question, as this rate was quick enough to render knavery profitable. At length, it having occurred to Sir Rowland Hill that "as the means which were successful in removing the printing ink obliterated were different from those which discharged Perkins's" ink, a secure ink might be made by the addition of certain ingredients used in this latter to the printers' ink. "The device succeeded, and the ink so formed proved to all intents and purposes indestructible."—*Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. pp. 399-404.

LINE ENGRAVING.—A lecture on line engraving was delivered last evening by Mr. Louis Fagan at the London Institution. The lecturer—dealing first with his subject from a technical point of view—stated that, although now out of fashion, the art was the most important of the various modes of metal engraving. It was called line engraving because the entire result was obtained by means of lines cut into the plate with an instrument termed a burin, or graver. The graver acted like a plough, but the latter was pulled while the former was pushed, and it was this peculiar movement which established the wide separation between the graver and all other instruments employed in the arts of design. It would, he said, be useless to resume the discussion as to Italy's or Germany's right in claiming the invention of engraving. Eminent scholars assigned such good reasons for so many diverse opinions that the question was further from settlement than ever. He would therefore set aside all such discussions, and direct the attention of his audience to works executed by English artists only. The British school of engraving, like the British school of painting, might be called more catholic than that of any other country, because its pioneers were of foreign extraction. On the other hand, England had produced men who, especially in the art of engraving, could be compared with the best artists of Italy, Germany, or France. In the 18th century a new era of line engraving began, destined to raise England's reputation in this branch of art to its highest point. After referring to the principal works of Sir Robert Strange, William Woollett, and William Sharp, the lecturer, speaking of line engraving in general, remarked that the importance of cultivating the art became self-evident, considering that it was by this means alone that it was possible to translate a fine picture into the phase of print, and that its success required a combination of judgment, feeling, and manual dexterity all developed in the highest degree. The perfection to which other modes of engraving had attained, to say nothing of the numerous photographic processes, accounted, he regretted to say, for the neglect and indifference of a nobler style. He would not depreciate other modes of engraving, but surely no method accomplished what line engraving in perfection was capable of. The problem which the line engraver had to solve was the rendering of prismatic hues in endless combinations in black and white; and as an example of this he asked them to look at any of Turner's engraved compositions.

2.1.92

... confession with any of the leading Cardinals would suffice to convince a stranger that they are the most conservative body of men in the world, and that the very idea of having to transfer the Papal See to another place is obnoxious to them. Therefore, whenever the election of a new Pope requires the convocation of a Conclave, it is more than probable that a candidate of moderate views will be elected, whatever the gossips at the Vatican may say on the subject at present.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

#### A LONG SLEEP.

BRESLAU, JAN. 31.

A most peculiar case of prolonged sleep is at present occupying the attention of medical circles in Germany. A miner named Johann Latus is at present an inmate of the hospital at Myslowitz, in Silesia, where he was admitted 4½ months ago, and since then all efforts to wake him have been fruitless. Dr. Ibers, the doctor attending him, is of opinion that the apparent sleep is really a state of catalepsy, though medical science has on record no previous case of such a prolonged nature. He has arrived at this conclusion on account of all the limbs being absolutely rigid. The appearance of the man, however, betrays no sign of this. The body lies quite still, the breathing is regular, and there is a healthy colour in the cheeks. In the last few days the body has become much less rigid, and the patient has even made some slight movement, without, however, the eyes opening or the condition of apparent sleep being in any way disturbed. In the 4½ months that the sleep has lasted the hair has increased in length, but the beard has remained stationary. Nourishment to the extent of two or three litres of milk is administered daily by a tube inserted into the throat.—*Reuter.*

#### SAMOA.

AUCKLAND, FEB. 1.

Advices from Samoa, dated 23d ult., report that the Government expedition against the rebels has had the effect of inducing a number of Mataafa's followers to abandon his cause, and the danger of a civil



(By Mr Mucell. 19.6.90)

The system of registration is as follows.

When a plate is for the first time ready to be printed from a Principal Officer of the Inland Revenue attends at the Factory & an impression is taken from it in his presence in the colour &c. that has been decided upon.

It is then ready for the imprimatur of the Comptroller to whom it is submitted on the first convenient occasion. If at any time there has been a departure from this practice it was not right & I sh<sup>d</sup> say, unauthorised.

Mr Peacock says. "one sheet only is req<sup>d</sup>? a few are struck off. & if not defective, not to be issued & I take it are cancelled, as every sheet of paper has to be accounted for."

The sheets for imprimatur are not gummed in this series.

So called 'double' prints, showing blotches, are only set off when sheets are used.

When to be put into service, a form is used, under the approval.

"Ordered, that the same be brought into use.

Signed by a Commissioner, & dated.

For new form of approval &c. see <sup>MS</sup> Brocco's book. p. 59.



**IMPRESSION.**—The sheets were struck off by hand-worked copperplate printing presses furnished with a back movement, by which the sheet was returned to the workman after it had received the impression, an invention due to the mechanical talent of the late Mr. Jacob Perkins. At the time of the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. there were thirty-eight of these presses engaged in printing the stamps in this Section, each of which was capable of turning out from four hundred to five hundred impressions per day.\* The number of impressions which could be taken from each plate before it became unfit for service varied considerably. One was known to yield under twenty-four thousand impressions, while there are instances of others giving more than a million before they were destroyed as unfit for service. The average number, however, taken from the plates constructed after the deepening of the lines on the die of the one penny and twopence was about half a million.

A sheet of stamps printed in black from Die II., prior to the adoption of the lettering in the four angles, was exhibited by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. at South Kensington, from which one million of impressions had been taken without any appreciable wear of the plate.

**IMPRIMATUR.**—Whenever a plate is actually brought into use for the first time, copies of the first impressions struck off are brought by the officer of the Inland Revenue Department charged with the surveillance of the operations on the premises of the contractors to the offices of the Department at Somerset House, with his certificate of the date when they were struck off, for the purpose of receiving the *imprimatur* of the Commissioners. This *imprimatur* is endorsed on one of the sheets, being applied by

\* Questions have been asked how it was that stamps, especially those of one penny, purchased at the Post Offices, frequently bore plate numbers lower than those purchased previously; but it must be borne in mind that if thirty-eight presses were employed at any moment printing the same value, each press must have been supplied with a plate bearing different numbers. This reason is quite independent of the fact that Post Offices frequently issue fresh stock before the old is exhausted.

virtue of the Statute 3 and 4 Vict., c. 96, and until it is given the impressions from the particular plate do not legally denote the rate of duty which the stamp purports to represent. In short, the Commissioners by this *imprimatur* allow the impressions from the particular plate to represent stamp duties, and put them under the protection of the law. The date of this *imprimatur* is necessarily subsequent to the commencement of the printing from the plate, but precedes the date of issue to the public frequently by some months, and occasionally by years, in the case of a continuous issue. Copies of the sheets so struck from each plate, with the original *imprimatur* endorsed, are preserved in the archives of the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House.

GUM.—After the sheets were printed and dried, the adhesive matter, or, as it is termed in the legend on the margin, the “cement on the back,” was applied by the contractors for the printing. The composition originally employed was of a brownish-yellow colour, but very deficient in adhesive properties, and was moreover exceedingly disagreeable to the taste. Mr. Joshua B. Bacon, then senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., when examined before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1852, in reply to question 1724, said, “Our gum is composed of potato starch, wheat starch, and gum.”\* Before the same Committee, Mr. Edwin Hill, Controller of the Stamping Department at Somerset House, said that the gum was “potato starch slightly burnt or toasted,” a condition implying that it was dextrine, which is starch that has been exposed for a certain time to a heat of about 400° Fah. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. inform us that up to the middle of the year 1855 the adhesive matter was simply potato

\* Mr. Bacon, the son of Mr. Joshua B. Bacon, and the present senior partner in the firm, to whose courtesy we are indebted for many of the details we are able to give with respect to the manufacture of this interesting series of stamps, considers that this statement as to gum entering into the composition of the adhesive matter was due to some misapprehension, as he believes that no gum was ever employed in combination with the starch.

See that format of 9-4-15. In 16 Query 1598 to 979.  
In a city correct for Latin Pentium Bacon vto  
+ Hawthorne of Alantolanta, antedate for given

Page 60, last line but one. We notice a typographical error of "inform"  
for "inform."

New York, mailed No. 1, Embossed Seal's Office. Somerset House

1 March 1857

Regulations regarding the instructions of new steel dies & the disposal of worn out & discarded dies. To be observed at the time of taking & recording Specimens pursuant to the Board's order dated 1 March 1857.

1<sup>st</sup> When a new die is not to replace a die that is worn out or discarded from any other cause. Then an impression of such discarded die must also be taken. & the die must be at once cancelled, and further a record of this fact must be included in the entry made in the Specimen Book respecting the new die.

2<sup>d</sup> When a new die is had, not to replace another, but as a new and different die. Then before the Specimen is Taken, an additional impression in the reception of such additional die must be made in one of the portable boxes in which the dies are; out of use are transferred to the Reserve General's iron safe; and the entry in the Specimen Book must record both the change made in the total number of dies on hand, & the adaptation made of the portable boxes.

3<sup>d</sup> The number of impressions in the portable boxes must always be exactly equal to the number of dies on hand. Run off all any die even be renewed from 1800 boxes for the purpose of being deposited elsewhere. Every die therefore, so long as it remains uncancelled, must contain a duplicate of the ordinary daily inscription transferred from the stamping room to the Reserve General's iron safe.

N.B. The present stock of steel dies is 251, contained in 6 portable boxes, as detailed in the Superintendent's Report of 27 February 1851.

Handwritten text, mostly illegible due to blurriness and fading. The text appears to be organized into several paragraphs or sections, with some lines being more distinct than others. The overall appearance is that of a scanned document with significant image quality issues.

starch,\* but that at that period, in order to add to the adhesiveness of the stamps, a certain quantity of gelatine was added. This had the effect of rendering the composition much whiter in colour and less disagreeable in use than before, though it was still deficient in adhesive qualities. Great dissatisfaction was expressed by the public on this account, as vast numbers of stamps failed to adhere, and were found loose in the letter-bags. With a view to improve the adhesiveness two coats of the composition were applied to the sheets in 1866, and this in some degree remedied the evil; but the long use of the potato starch composition was in reality due to the ill-conceived notions of economy on the part of the authorities.†

Owing to causes into which it does not appear material to our present purpose to prosecute any inquiries, necessitating chemical research, an action was under certain conditions set up between the ink of the impression and the ~~adhesive-matter~~, <sup>paper</sup> which resulted in a discoloration of the intervening paper, a blue or greenish blue tinge being communicated to the stamp. In many cases the tinge might more properly be described as green; but this appearance is due mostly, if not entirely, to the yellow hue of the adhesive matter combining with the blue of the paper. This discoloration not only varied considerably in intensity, but, like all stains made on paper by chemical agency of a similar kind, was unevenly and capriciously diffused, a condition especially noticeable on the sheets preserved in the archives of the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House,

\* An account of this substitute for gum may be found in *Household Words* for 15th May, 1852, where it is mentioned that in the second year of Messrs. Perkins and Co.'s contract a rumour was spread that the adhesive matter on the postage stamps was a deleterious composition made from the refuse of fish and other disgusting materials. "The Great British Gum Secret" was then spread far and wide, and the public was extensively informed that the postage label poison was made simply of potatoes!

In commerce it passes under the name of "British Gum," being extensively used by calico printers, and is in reality roasted potato starch.

† See *supra*, p. 53, note.

to from which in order <sup>they might</sup> to receive the *imprimatur* <sup>no</sup> the adhesive matter was <sup>ever removed from the back</sup> ~~removed from the back~~. Some of these are blotchy, the blue tinge being in patches; in others it is much more uniformly distributed; some are deeply stained with the colour, while in others there is scarcely any, if any, tinge of blue.

The one penny stamps printed in ordinary black printers' ink show no traces of discoloration, nor are any to be found in some of the essays printed in red-brown. The earliest impressions of the twopence also are free from discoloration, though it is apparent in those of a subsequent period, but not in an equal degree with the contemporaneous impressions of the one penny printed in red-brown and carmine-red. These latter scarcely ever fail to show the discoloration, which appears to have reached its maximum point between 1848 and 1852. It then seemed to diminish gradually, but few specimens being found deeply blued, and it finally ceased in 1856.

From these appearances a notion sprang up that the one penny and twopence had been printed on *blue* paper. But there is not the slightest foundation in fact for this idea, as the paper was invariably greyish-white, and the tinge of colour is entirely due to the chemical discoloration of the paper in a greater or lesser degree.

*Some ingredients* That this discoloration was caused by the ~~combined~~ action of the ink ~~and the adhesive matter~~ is evident, because <sup>the</sup> margins of those sheets ~~over which the adhesive matter has extended~~ <sup>are found to be free from</sup> discoloration, though a strong tinge of blue prevails to the extreme boundary to which the printing reaches. So also in many of the essays of colour for the one penny printed with a blank corner, the paper is found in its pristine condition in every part *not* covered by the impression, even to the blank letter blocks in the angles, while the rest over which the ink has passed is deeply discoloured.

Again, the condition of the *imprimatur* sheets before referred to shows that the ink ~~and the adhesive matter did not of them~~

*Page 62.* In this and the following pages we gave a summary of some of the principal theories which had been propounded to account for the blue appearance found more or less in the paper of all the stamps of the line engraved series printed between 1841 and 1857, but more especially in those of one penny; and we concluded by saying that we believed that a chemical action between the ink and the gum was set in motion by some ingredient in the ink. This notion of the gum being the principal factor in producing the discoloration of the paper was one not only of tradition among philatelists, but one evidently shared by Mr. Edwin Hill when examined before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1852, during the very height of the plague (see p. 63); and, in spite of latent doubts, we felt distrustful of propounding any new theory of our own, especially as it did not appear that it was at all incumbent on us to do so. The discovery and verification of one or two essential facts have, in our judgment, set this question finally at rest, and have completely demonstrated that the gum had no share whatever in producing the discoloration.

The reasons for changing the colour of the one penny stamp from black to red are set forth in the note at the foot of p. 58, as also the recommendation that the stamps should be "printed in coloured inks, blue, as before, for the twopenny ones, but red for the penny ones, both colours to be oleaginous, but at the same time destructible." A search recently made by Mr. Pearson Hill, among the papers of the late Sir Rowland Hill, resulted in the discovery of a number of experiments made at the period when this change was determined on, a short notice of which will be found at page 193 of the *Philatelic Record*, vol. iii. Several of these trial stamps are there described under No. 16: "Some printed in fugitive ink without, and some with oil;" while "some are on plain paper, others on paper dipped in prussiate, on paper with magnesia, on paper with tartrate. Others, again, have prussiate in the colour." These experimental impressions further show how the several papers were acted on by the various shades of colour employed.

Passing from these experiments to that mentioned under No. 25, we find that in March, 1841, impressions of the one penny and twopenny were struck off on "Dickenson" paper in the colours then in use; viz., brown-red for the one penny, and blue for the twopenny. The sheets were gummed, and both now appear deeply discoloured. But the experiment mentioned in No. 26 is that of the greatest importance; for this sheet, which is an impression of the one penny in brown-red, never was gummed, and yet is deeply discoloured. The account of the state of this sheet as given in the *Philatelic Record* is not thoroughly accurate. The blue stains are, in fact, not confined to the limits of the printing, but extend slightly beyond them to the distance of about a millimetre, as is especially noticeable in the inscriptions on the margins, where the stains are found following the up and down strokes of the lettering, though the effects are more particularly shown in an accidental splash of colour on the margin. This splash is entirely surrounded with a blue marginal stain, broadest where the splash is thickest, similar to the greasy stain produced by a splash of oil-paint on the wall-paper of a room. These appearances clearly indicate that the stain is caused by some ingredient in the ink, which is absorbed by or runs into the dampened paper. What this ingredient is we are unable to say. Mr. Bacon (p. 64) says alum; but we should be inclined to think it was prussiate or some like salt, the intensity of the discoloration produced by it depending either on the quantity employed or on the extent to which it had combined with some other ingredient employed in the composition of the ink, whereby its action was rendered more or less powerful. The effects are most apparent in the red-ink impressions, especially in that peculiar tint of red which, for lack of a better mode of description, has been called brown-red, and was employed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., not only in printing the English one penny stamps, but for one of the values of the Mauritius (type, Britannia seated), sent out by them in April, 1849; as also for the first batch of stamps of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, and the earliest issues for Trinidad and Barbados. The effect was less marked when blue ink was used; but it is found intense in the 6d., brown-violet, of Ceylon, while it is less observable, though still apparent, in the green of Barbados. These examples serve to show either that the ingredient entered more into the composition of the ink of some colours than into that of others, or that it acted on certain colours, or shades of colour, more freely than others; and this view is confirmed by the results of the experiments mentioned under No. 16.

*continued overleaf.*



But while it must be admitted that an ingredient in the ink was the principal factor in producing the discoloration, it is by no means clear that the subsequent application of a coating of hot gum did not operate to distribute the stain more generally over the surface of the back of the sheet. A careful examination not only tends to support this hypothesis, but also to show that the hot liquid exercised some influence in attracting the discoloration to the surface over which it was applied, or it would be difficult to explain the fact that the discoloration is almost invariably found more vivid on the back than on the face of the stamp. The green tinge on specimens coated with the original gum is, of course, owing to the combination of the yellow gum with the blue stain.

A further and most important corroboration of these views is to be found in the condition of the registered sheets. It was erroneously stated at p. 62 (top of the page) that the adhesive matter was removed previously to the endorsement of the *imprimatur* or certificate of allowance. No gum was ever applied to these sheets, so that the phases of discoloration they show, as set forth at p. 62, cannot possibly be attributed to any action of gum; while they are not inconsistent with the notion that the application of the hot gum was instrumental in distributing the stain more generally over the back of the sheet.

\* But the reverse is the case with *Typographed* & *Pro*  
we are always printed, after paper has been printed  
& the *imprimatur* is on the gummed sheet.

45 ~~solves and alone combine to~~ produce the discoloration, but that the action when set in motion operated with uncertain and irregular force. Further, it is clear that when the cause operated, the chemical action was set in motion immediately, though the discolouring effects developed themselves subsequently in a greater degree, and in this subsequent development it is by no means improbable that atmospheric influences were indirectly concerned.

The real difficulty therefore lies in determining what this exciting cause really was, and the solution of ~~this~~ <sup>the</sup> question must be sought for ~~either in the ink, the paper, or the adhesive matter, or in some of the elements composing them.~~ <sup>of the ink acting on the paper.</sup> ~~entirely~~ <sup>therefore -</sup>

Mr. Edwin Hill, in his evidence before the Committee above referred to, attributed the discoloration to the "alum used in sizing the paper," setting up "a chemical action between the gum and the printing;" but this theory seems to be difficult, if not impossible, to reconcile with the facts as disclosed by the appearances on the <sup>un-gummed</sup> ~~imprimatur~~ sheets, ~~besides which~~ <sup>besides which</sup> the quantity of alum <sup>too</sup> employed in the size is very minute, and would be evenly distributed over the paper. He further mentioned "that some sheets when gummed presented none of the objectionable appearances, whereas others gummed with gum out of the same cask showed them in a most decided manner," from which he <sup>also</sup> inferred that the exciting cause was not in the gum.

Various other theories have been advanced from time to time to account for this discoloration, one alleging that it was due to iodine, another to the potato starch ceasing to operate after its admixture with gelatine; the advocates of the one theory seeming to be ignorant of the effects that iodine would produce on potato starch, and the others arguing regardless of dates, for there is not a trace of blue discoloration to be found on any sheet of the one penny stamps subsequent to the commencement of 1857, and yet the first batch of the stamps of three-halfpence printed as essays on 22nd March, 1860, are most deeply tinged with the blue discoloration.

We believe that the exciting cause which set in motion the chemical action between the ink and the ~~gum~~ <sup>paper</sup> is that which has been communicated to us by Mr. Bacon; namely, that it is due solely and entirely to the use of alum as an ingredient in the composition of the ink. This ingredient was introduced in a greater or lesser quantity for the purpose of brightening the colour of the ink, but the use of it was discontinued after it had been discovered that it was injurious to the steel of the plates. As far as it is possible to be ascertained, the abandonment of the use of this ingredient and the cessation of the discoloration were simultaneous. The appearances also of the ~~inprimatur~~ <sup>inprimatur</sup> sheets ~~lead to confirm~~ <sup>lead to confirm</sup> this view. The normal colour of the impression of the one penny, as will be seen subsequently, was red-brown, which in some cases approached to a carmine tint. The first sheet where the blue appearance absolutely ceases, never to reappear, is printed in quite a different shade, being a brick-red, and no subsequent impressions in red-brown are to be found, as the colour gradually fell into a lake-red, and so continued to the close of the contract.

We have <sup>possibly</sup> been somewhat minute on the question of the discoloration of the one penny and twopenny stamps of this section, a discoloration which commenced with the introduction of destructible colours in the printing; but it is one which has always created discussion, and been the subject of controversy among philatelists, and we have therefore thought it right to state all the facts which ~~have come to our knowledge~~ <sup>have come to our knowledge</sup>, and which we have been at some pains to ascertain, as well as to indicate the inferences which in our opinion may properly be deduced from them.

PERFORATION.—The sheets after having been printed and gummed were returned by the contractors to the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House, there to undergo the final process of perforation. Up to the year 1854 the one penny and twopenny stamps were issued to the public imperforate; but in that year <sup>the</sup> machines were brought into use for perforating ~~the sheets~~ <sup>the sheets</sup>, and the system has now so gradually worked its

Postage stamps  
The January of

which had perforated the stamps  
I Receipt stamps since the printing  
Carrington



paper on "Archer's Perforating Machine" XV Ph. Rec<sup>d</sup> p. 11  
June 1873.  
See this. Gives specific. enrolled 23 May 1869.  
opening 22 May 1862.

The specimens sent in by Archer on 14.10.47 were of  
a distinctly blue tint. They gauge inaccurately  
measuring abt.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in <sup>some</sup> places, in others closer.  
Evidently the teeth which cut the dent. were unequal  
spaced.

Imperfected die II. 6 letters. seen.

Willet. p. 1 (166) 121.

February. ap. 93. 101. 107. 116. 123. 131. 161-170

way into the economy of the manufacture of postage stamps, that it may be safely said, nine-tenths of those at present in use throughout the world are machine-perforated under one form or another.

In the year 1847 Mr. Henry Archer, an Irishman, proposed to the Marquess of Clanricarde, then Postmaster-General, the adoption of a machine invented by him, "whereby the stamps might be separated without the necessity of using knives or scissors." The matter was referred to Mr. Bokenham, then Controller of the Circulation Department at the Post Office, and to other officials, who, in their report to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes made on the 14th October, 1847, stated that the machine appeared to be a clever and useful invention; that they were thoroughly convinced that postage stamps separated by it, having jagged edges, would adhere to letters far better than those cut from the sheet by knives or scissors; and they concluded by submitting that it was most desirable the invention should be adopted. In the report of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes subsequently made to the Lords of the Treasury, the invention is described as being one "for piercing the portions of the paper intervening between the labels by a series of cuts, in such a manner as to admit of their being detached singly without use of knife or scissors," a system known to stamp collectors as *perçage à la roulette*, involving merely cuts in the paper without removing any portion of its substance. On the 7th January, 1848, the report was approved by the Lords of the Treasury, stamps subjected to its operation were authorised to be circulated, and orders were given that the machine should be set up and tried on the premises of Messrs. Bacon and Petch, under the superintendence of Mr. Edwin Hill, the Controller of the Stamping Department at Somerset House.

When a practical trial of the machine was made, it was found that the piercing rollers by which the cuts were made, speedily wore out the table on which their edges descended, and but few sheets were perforated, as this defect soon put a stop to

further experiments.\* Archer then, with the help of a practical machinist, modified the machine by introducing a series of lancet-shaped blades, but on trial this also failed, partly from the same cause as before and partly from the blades becoming blunted against the table.

Examples of the stamps, which are the result of both of these experiments, are preserved at the Post Office, and some few sheets found their way into the hands of the public, though the number must have been very limited, as specimens are exceedingly rare, but when found they may readily be distinguished from each other. In the first, the cuts vary in length, and the distances separating them from each other are unequal, while the cut itself is irregular and jagged, and the stamp is seldom left square at the angles. In the second, the cuts are straight and clean, widening at the extremities, and they are much closer together, and at more regular intervals.

In the year 1849 Archer, who from time to time had been assisted by the advice and suggestions of Mr. E. Hill, produced another machine, constructed on the principle of perforating the intervals between the stamps with a series of holes punched out of the substance of the paper. The first experiments were not successful, but after repeated alterations the machine was got to work. Other difficulties now presented themselves, which Archer alleged were owing to obstructions placed in his way by the contractors for the supply of the stamps. In this he was entirely mistaken, the real cause of the principal difficulty being due to inequalities in the sizes of the sheets, arising partly from the damping previous to the printing, ~~but chiefly~~ <sup>and also</sup> from the plates varying in size, according to the amount of pressure employed in their preparation. Still the machine itself was far from being perfect, as is evident from the trials, which show a series of

\* The first apparatus offered by Archer consisted of two machines to be used in succession, one containing a roller carrying thirteen little spur-wheels placed the width of a stamp apart; the other with twenty-one similar spur-wheels the length of the stamp apart. The sheets were passed first under the roller of the one to have the longitudinal lines of perforation pierced, then under the other for the cross lines.

Archer perf<sup>d</sup> carefully gapped by self Wright 10.9.96  
run in 2 cent<sup>d</sup> 11 vert<sup>d</sup> dents  
12 horizontal

from a variation recurring one finds the wheels even with  $3/4$ " about  
in circumference.

Strip of 3. round 11c. 1847. sold auction 29. 11. 90 for £8.5.  
Sull.

seen Letter. Jarvis Leth 27. 11. 50. to Ch<sup>r</sup> Carter Esq  
June 95  
from Essex. p. marked in blue "780" Jarvis Leth  
60/ dated Jarvis Leth. Nov 30. Barnstable Dec 1. 50.  
with 1<sup>o</sup> p. 16 clear & well cut.

p. 74 where this belongs.

As to letters in all 4 angles. J.B. Bacon wrote R. Hill to suggest  
them in 24. 11. 52. "check letters"

Robt Smith by the name of Robert Smith, Nov 11. 52.

Eckers Hill reported fraud by printing papers in 1. 9. 52.



\* See note. post p. 377. rewrite.

Pages 67 and 69. Previously to the actual publication of this work we took occasion, in p. 377 of the Addenda, to correct the statement that Archer's third machine produced oval holes, as an examination of several specimens of such like perforations failed to satisfy us that they were necessarily produced by this latter machine, which from the first was fitted with round needles. The first perforating machine constructed for the Government by Mr. Napier commenced working in October, 1853, but was solely employed for perforating receipt and draft stamps. The perforation of postage stamps did not commence till the 27th January, 1854, on which day a trial was made on fifty sheets of one penny stamps, after which the perforation of these stamps was continuous. We have searched ineffectually through many files of old letters between 1847 and 1854 for a perforated stamp bearing a date prior to the 27th January, 1854; for such a stamp, if found, must have been perforated by Archer's machine, unless done unofficially. As to irregularities in the shape of the holes, these occasionally have occurred even recently; but they are, in our opinion, entirely due to a slight shifting of the sheet or to like accidental circumstances. Neither have we met with any specimens gauging 15. It is true that many of those reputed as gauging 16 do not accurately represent that perforation; but the variation seems to us rather to be due to the imperfect working of the needles than to any difference in the actual spacing of them.

No  
See note at foot  
of p. 377

The statement (p. 67) that the principal difficulty in bringing Archer's machine into a workable condition was solved by arranging the needles so as to be capable of adjustment, must not be understood to imply that they could be separately altered in their relative positions as regards one another. The adjustment of the entire alignment or row of needles was, from the construction of the machine, the only movement that was possible, and that in but one direction; so that, however manipulated, no variation could be produced in the number of holes punched in any given space. We mention this, as it appears that an erroneous conclusion has been drawn from the statement in the text.

x

We may add that the first perforation of the twopenny stamp was on the 31st January, 1854; but neither the perforated stamps of one penny nor those of twopence appear to have been issued to the public before the month of ~~May~~ following.

Perf<sup>o</sup> 1<sup>o</sup> found ~~in~~ ~~London~~ ~~in~~ ~~March~~ ~~1854~~  
(March 24. 2. 54 I have it 40.

Pres brown p. 16. (from Evans to Westoby April 92) perf<sup>o</sup> both sides + none  
along top & bottom 2 1/2 inch long, ∴ not cut down. ∴ says W. Archer's  
machine must have been a pull down one. + 40 specimens of it would  
see Rowland Hill's life p. 400-4. 666 came in May or June 1840.

irregular ~~oval~~-shaped holes, misplaced moreover with regard to the edges of the stamps, owing to the machine failing to retain the sheets firmly in place during the process of perforation. Many sheets were spoiled, but some were allowed to pass, and were used in the post. Specimens are of the extremest rarity, but when met with may be recognised by the irregularity and oval shape of the holes running sideways to the margin of the stamp.\* X

? all this wrong.

It, however, became apparent in the course of these experiments that the new system was free from the great objections to which the former one was open, and that the best chance of success lay in attempting to improve the last machine. Archer having refused to continue his experiments on the premises of Messrs. Bacon and Petch, a room was placed at his disposal at Somerset House, where Mr. E. Hill could devote more time to the supervision of them.

It would be foreign to our purpose to recount here the history of the progressive development of the machine, which led to its ultimate success. Those curious on the subject may read it at length in the Parliamentary Blue Book of the proceedings of the Committee of 1852; suffice it to say that the "principal difficulty was solved by arranging the needles or punches so as to be capable of adjustment." These needles were disposed in such manner that sixteen holes were perforated by them in a length of two centimètres or 0.7874 inch.

X  
? numbered up  
See Report.

Archer had patented his machine, which was worked by hand with tolerable facility, and was at length considered as sufficiently satisfactory for practical use. The question then remained as to what compensation he should receive, a question which in his first proposals he had offered to "leave open until the plan succeeded." A long correspondence with the Treasury ensued, and in 1852 the matter was referred to a Select Com-

? measure.  
on 23 May 1849.

\* Archer stated, in his examination before the Committee of 1852, that during the course of the various trials about five thousand sheets were experimented upon. Those which were not spoiled were, he said, partly distributed by him, while the rest were sent to country Post Offices for sale.

a well cut copy. <sup>of papers by me</sup> <sup>in the Post Office of 1850.</sup> <sup>marked</sup> 2 16. true <sup>and on which</sup>  
25.4.51. (see P. Rec. vol 23. p. 153).

mittee of the House of Commons, who reported in favour of the perforating system. The government, shortly after the report was made, settled the question by paying Archer a sum of £4000 for his expenses, and for the purchase of the right to use his invention during the term of his patent, which has of course long since expired,\* *i.e. on 22 Nov 1862.*

*Messrs D.* x As soon as the purchase of the machine and the right to use it had been completed, *Mr. James M. Napier,* the able mechanical engineer, was ordered to construct several machines adapted for working by steam power, and he modified the arrangement of Archer's machine very considerably. Mr. E. Hill also suggested several improvements in the machines before they left Mr. Napier's workshops, and after the two first were set to work at Somerset House considerable alterations and other improvements were made by him and Mr. Ormond Hill. The machines constructed by Mr. Napier perforated sixteen to the two centimetres; but a change was tried in the spacing in *March 1855,* fourteen needles being introduced into the space before occupied by sixteen, as with the closer holes both the steel bed-plates of the machines and the perforated sheets were found to be too tender, the former frequently splitting, and the latter often tearing too readily along the lines of holes, so much so as to render the counting of the sheets very difficult. The experiment proving satisfactory, a similar change was *made* in all the machines successively, and this gauge has ever since continued to be employed for the whole of the ordinary sized postage stamps, and is found by the public to be convenient in use as permitting an easy severance of the stamps; while at the same time sufficient paper is left to prevent this occurring too readily.

\* Mr. Ormond Hill, formerly Controller of Stamping at Somerset House, to whose kindness many of the details here given are owing, informs us that Archer was not possessed of any inventive power or mechanical knowledge, but having imagined or picked up a good idea was entirely dependent on others for the mode in which it should be carried out, and being almost without means he went from one mechanic to another, and got each to work for him upon the hope of being paid when success was attained. When the Government purchased the machine and the right to use it, he told Mr. Hill that he had to pay about £2000 amongst the several mechanics that had so aided him. *for the*

*expenses of securing his rights by Patent.*

*gradually introduced*

Perforation by machine first began at S. H. a week or so before 31 Dec 1853. on the buff Draft, & Receipt / this / slip on 27 Jan 1854 fifty sheets 1<sup>o</sup> postage were perf<sup>d</sup> & perf<sup>d</sup> afterwards continued.

Last remains of Archer's Machine left Somerset House in 1881. after Contract of '80. by Mr De la Rive took all the perforating. & these machines were sold by Office of Works, with a quantity of old iron. See Transit.

Perforation of the One penny began 27.1.54 }  
two pence. 31.1.54 }

Waste in perforating at ~~S. H.~~ S. House 2% at first.  
How many sheets at a time?

x a copy p. 16 seen dated 22.2.55 (~~22.2.55~~ 1531)  
" " p. 14. date - 21.2.56 fine Crimea (issued 1855)  
" " p. 14 - 16.2.55. Levy, 5th news 1892 Aug 285

Curious case of error in perf<sup>d</sup> Ho. of J. C. Silber showed 1<sup>o</sup> sc. perf<sup>d</sup> diamonds with stamp showed 2 sides of diamond. See PE Socy. 7.6.96 Record in 1894. p. 178.

Envelope with P & crown p. 16 well irregularly cut. but with bottom line of stamps. a brass's initials Edmund & Son  
Sons Plymouth. ((257)) on 283  
with

2 P marks Plymouth Dec. 14. 1850  
in back A

1 Plymouth Dec 13.

Edmund & Son

Sons Plymouth

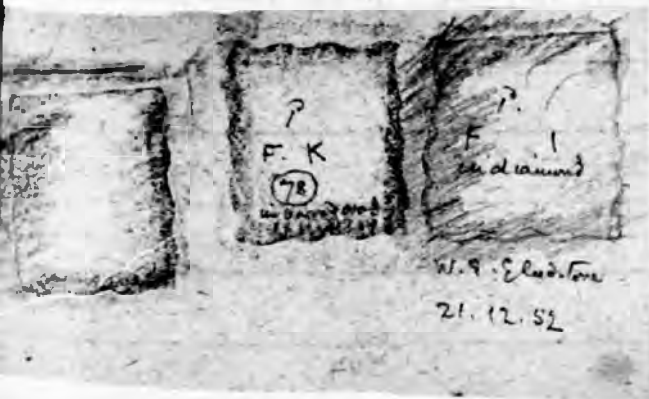
fine Crimea.

1850

B

led way end. Ruins of Health.

(u right) Dec 1. cc. 16 well cut.



\* The Quilldew machine first set to work in July 1871.

After getting <sup>P.</sup> 14 into use, apparently machine  
broken down from 24 Feb'y to 6 July 1858. 27 p. 16.  
are both found by Levy. † shade of 1° indicates this period.  
‡ 1° p. 16.

See "The Engineer" June 26. 1874. also for 1875.

\* By the contract of 1880, all perforation is now done by the Contractor

business was transacted, holders asking full prices, which  
 to seconds to. A few samples changed hands for immer-  
 They realized full rates, namely—white wheat 35a to  
 ed, 33a to 35a. Practically, there was nothing doing in  
 ed white oats were in demand at 6d. more money—22a. 6d.  
 ch, 19a to 21a.

58 LONDON, FRIDAY EVENING.

The market for cane is quiet, but steady. At public sale  
 20 hhds 13 barrels West Indian partly sold. Barbados,  
 6a. 6d.; Crystallized ditto, 17a. 3d. to 17a. 9d., one lot 18a.;  
 16a. 3d. to 17a.; Trinidad, 16a. 3d. to 17a.; Surinam, 16a.;  
 6d. to 15a. 9d.; syrups 13a. to 15a. 3d.; St. Kitt's, 13a. 6d.  
 French crystals bought in, 15a. 6d., and 334 bags  
 unulated, 15a. Beet opened steady—May sold 12a. 3d.;  
 3d.; July, 12a. 4½d., sellers, 12a. 4½d., less ¼ per cent.,  
 August 12a. 4½d., plus ¼, sellers, 12a. 4½d., buyers;  
 9d., plus ¼, sellers, 11a. 9d., buyers; October-December  
 11a. 9d., closing quiet. May, 12a. 3d., plus ¼, sellers,  
 11a. 9d.; June 12a. 3d. plus ¼, sellers, 12a. 3d., buyers; July,  
 12a. 4½d., less ¼, buyers; October, 11a. 10½d., less  
 11a. 9d., buyers. January, February, March sold at 12a., less  
 goods 3d. lower in some cases. Tates, first cubes, 19a. 6d.;  
 17a. 6d.; crushed, 17a. 6d.; Martineau's cut loaf, 18a. 6d.; Titter's  
 17a. 6d. Lyle's granulated, 16a. 9d. to 17a.; crystals,  
 1d.; seconds, 15a. 6d.; thirds, 15a.; yellow crystallized,  
 O, 16a. 3d., M, 15a. 6d.; Oowan's yellow crystallized, 15a. 3d.  
 te's Liverpool crystals—first, 18a. 6d.; small, 18a.; seconds,  
 17a. Pieces meet a fair demand at steady prices.

The market is firm and prices in many cases are 1s. higher  
 k. In auction to-day 3,195 bags Costa Rica chiefly sold,  
 ry to middling greenish, 95a. 6d. to 97a.; coloury, 96a. 6d.;  
 peas, 102a. 6d. to 104a. 6d. 320 bags Guatemala at 94a. to  
 23 New Granada sold at 92a. to 99a. 369 bags Nicaragua,  
 at 97a. 6d.; peas at 115a. 80 bags Cuban sold at 105a. 6d.;  
 peas at 102a. to 121a. 25 bags Singapore Liberian bought  
 1. 229 bags East Indian, mostly sold, medium to bold, at  
 1. small, at 96a. 6d. to 97a. 6d. 14 packages Ceylon sold  
 97a. 247 half-bales Mocha withdrawn. On quay terms,  
 Santos partly sold at 79a. 6d. to 90a. 6d. Rio quiet  
 arial change in quotations.

The market continues firm.  
 quiet but steady.  
 -Business was done in T N orange, October delivery, at  
 8a. 6d., buyers, 8a., sellers; July, 8a. 6d., buyers, 8a.  
 8a., buyers, 8a. 6d., sellers; September, 8a., buyers,  
 A C garret, June, 78a., buyers, 80a. sellers; July to  
 a., buyers, 81a., sellers.

The market is firmer, and American futures close rather  
 quotations.—Madras—Tinnevely, good fair, 5½d.; good,  
 Western, fair, 4d.; good fair, 4 7-16d.; good, 5d.;  
 good fair, 4½d.; good, 5½d.; Oocanada, fair, 4 11-16d.;  
 13-16d.; good, 5d.; Surat—Dhollarah, good fair, 4½d.;  
 5a. 5 7-16d.; Oomrawatee, good fair, 4 11-16d.; good,  
 5a. 5½d.; Baluda, good fair, 3 13-16d.; good, 4 1-16d.;  
 6d.; Bengal, good fair, 3 13-16d.; good, 4 1-16d.; 5a.  
 1b. From Messrs. Robert Barbour and Brother's Report,  
 Chester, May 30:—We report a strong market throughout  
 Producers for the most part are now deeply engaged, and  
 share firmly to advanced quotations, about ¾d. to ¼d.  
 are, and 3d. per piece in good medium qualities of shirt-  
 descriptions of goods have participated in this advance. A  
 share of the improvement in demand is due to the rise  
 exchanges caused by the Bill to increase the coinage of  
 before the Legislators of the United States of America.  
 If this should not pass, a collapse would ensue, whilst on  
 good, should it ultimately receive sanction a further con-  
 siderable movement in the exchanges would for some time  
 be made in the greater Asiatic centres, as the natural effect  
 to proportionately cheapen imports, and in consequence  
 any loss upon the holders of unrealized shipments which  
 bought at a much lower rate of exchange, and would  
 be comparatively high priced. The tendency of values for  
 is clearer under the influence of recent buying.

ons.—Friesland butter a better market, finest 7a. to 78a.,  
 11y 8a. Not much change in other imports. Danish,  
 1. and 100a. No change in Copenhagen quotations this  
 -mandy and Brittany butters remain at previous rates. For  
 top prices of ordinary best baskets, 9a.; extra, mild, 9a.  
 be butter (rolls) 13a.; seconds, 12a.; thirds, 11a. per  
 Cheese trade slow, American new 45a. to 47a.; Dutch

## PILFERING OF POSTAGE STAMPS

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I have recently had occasion to call the Postmaster-General's attention to the system placed in the way of boy-clerks and others at post-offices, which leads to a good deal of pilfering. In reply, the Postmaster-General addressed a letter to me, an extract from which is joined; and as it contains information that may be of some service to the mercantile world, you may think it worth while to lay it before your readers.

Very faithfully yours,

J. HENNIKER HEATON

36, Eaton-square, S.W.

"General Post Office, London, May 1870.  
"Sir,—The Postmaster-General has had before him your letter of the 15th inst., together with the extract from a letter from Messrs. B. Vickers and Co. of Leeds, which you forwarded, and I am directed to request Messrs. Raikes to point out that merchants and others should already secure themselves against the pilfering of stamps by their employes by having their stamps perforated with their initials as recommended in the *Post Office Guide*, page 27. Postmasters are instructed not to purchase any stamps so perforated.

"It has recently been suggested that stamps perforated with a simple cross should also be used when presented for sale at a post-office, and the Postmaster-General will have no objection to extending the prohibition to stamps marked with a cross. A considerable number of persons should think it worth while so to mark their stamps; but, in regard to stamps perforated with a cross, it is obvious that such a method affords much less security against theft than the existing method of perforating the owner's initials.

"The perforation of postage stamps with the initials of the owners is undertaken by the persons whose names and addresses appear at page L.913 of the *Post Office London Directory*, viz.:—J. Sloper, 24, William-street, E.C.; F. Braham, Post-office, Tabernacle-street, E.C.; Allshin and Co., Post-office, England-lane, N.W.; and the Initial Perforating Company, 5, Little Love-lane, Wood-street, E.C. J. Sloper being, it is believed, the original inventor and manufacturer of machines for the purpose.

"In regard to the case of theft at Leeds alluded to by Messrs. Vickers, I am to add that even when stamps are not purchased repeatedly of the same person without inquiry, and that a lad becoming known by the frequency of his visits for the purpose of obtaining stamps would be called upon to account for his possession of them. There is, however, no reason to suppose that the Leeds Post-office of the youth referred to by Messrs. Vickers.

"I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. E. S. 1870

"J. Heniker Heaton, Esq., M.P."

The machines subsequently used contained further and important improvements, devised about six years ago by Mr. Thos. Peacock, one of the superintendents in the Stamping Department. As so constructed they were extremely ingenious, perforating as many as 5500 sheets per hour, instead of the old rate of 3200.\* The perforating needles at each descent perforate an entire row of stamps horizontally, and each side of the stamp longitudinally, so that three sides of the rectangle are perforated at each step of the process. There is consequently one row of needles as long as the horizontal row of twelve stamps on the sheet, and at right angles to this are thirteen short rows capable of adjustment in such manner as to adapt the machine either to the perforation of a sheet where the stamps are close together, or where they were printed in separate "panes," as was formerly the case with most of the stamps in the Third Section.

Although the actual gauge of the perforations is fourteen, yet it not unfrequently occurs that on bringing the edges of two stamps together, both of which are perforated to the same gauge, it is found that the indentations do not exactly correspond. At other times it will be found that though the top line of indentations may gauge fourteen, the side ones are somewhat finer, and *vice versa*.† This arises from a variation in the size of the needles where worn ones are replaced by new ones. Instances occur occasionally where, by a fault of the perforator, some of the rows of stamps have been twice perforated nearly in the same spot, the effect of which has been to cut away a portion of the first perforation, thus producing a very fine jagged edge along two sides, and oval holes at the other two. These must be carefully distinguished from the work of Archer's machine, which punched irregular oval holes on all four sides.

\* At present, as will be noticed hereafter, almost the whole of the perforation is done by the contractors for the printing.

† According to the system adopted by philatelists no account is taken of the size of the perforated holes, the test being only that a certain number of holes, large or small, should be found within a certain space. This is no doubt a defect in the system, and one which it is easier to point out than remedy.

ca 1874  
^

See post  
p. 377  
Archer's machine

.i.



## 1. THE ONE PENNY (1840).

Date of Issue, 6th May, 1840.

DESIGN. DIE L.—That the design for the adhesive postage labels must present a portrait of the Queen seemed to be almost a foregone conclusion, against which no argument was admissible; but it was also considered that by adopting a portrait, with the features of which the officials must necessarily become familiar, any forgery of the stamps would be more readily detected. Accordingly the Lords of the Treasury, in accepting the proposals made to them by Messrs. Bacon and Petch, selected a design embracing the portrait of Her Majesty with a background of ornamental lathe-work. A drawing by Mr. Henry Corbould of the obverse of Mr. William Wyon's Medal,\* struck in commemoration of Her Majesty's visit to the City on 9th November, 1837, which, following the numismatic rule, represented Her Majesty as looking to the left, was taken as a model for this portrait, the engraving of which for the postage label was entrusted to Mr. ~~Charles~~ Heath. That eminent artist engraved it in line upon a steel die, and a finer specimen of engraver's work was perhaps never executed.† The intricate reticulated background surrounding the head, and the framework of the sides, were engraved mechanically by Messrs. Bacon and Petch by the application of one of the inventions of Mr. Perkins before referred to.‡ On a tablet above the head is the word POSTAGE,

*Fredrick:*

\* This celebrated medal, afterwards engraved by Freebairn by anaglyptograph, was the work of Mr. William Wyon, A.R.A., Chief Engraver of Seals to the Queen, and Engraver to the Mint, and not only served as a model for the head of Her Majesty on the adhesive postage labels, but also, as we shall see hereafter, for that executed by Mr. Wyon for the embossed stamps. Mr. Wyon died in 1851.

† Mr. Heath died 18th November, 1848. He was occupied six weeks in the engraving of the head on the die, which, as completed, did not include the whole of his labours, as essays show that it was the combined outgrowth of two others previously engraved by him. He received the sum of fifty guineas for his work.

‡ That this background was considered as one of the principal features in the stamp is shown by the following extract from Sir Rowland Hill's

69 3rd St.

COPY

5 June 1896

1890

Dr. Sir

It is true that at the time of the Baker's 'Ex Lib' we found an entry in our books of a payment to T. Heath (son of Chas. Heath) for large quantity Queen Head: but this entry shows that Z. H. took the money, not that he prepared it.

Household words article in 1852 must have been correctly prepared by the Justice Butler Baker in his ex facie Perkins case. As the father was then I think an invalid, I will however as soon as I can get time break up the question in our old books. Had you known I think Mr. S. H. Corbould the article is still alive. because here 2 or 3 years ago

The reserve plates were kept at S. H. & we have nothing about # 77. The office had complete control of the proofs of the plates. The 1st contract was dated April 13. 1840 (see vol. before Committee in 1852)

Mr. Gill was I believe on occasion laid down 240 heads in one day but this is exceptional & several days would be allowed for the compilation of a plate.

The Mr. Tishie you mention is alive but unfortunately quite invalid.

Yrs faithfully James D. Heath

W. S. Westoby

16th Dec. 1896. p. 224. right. as Charles H. not Heath  
Entry in books 10 13. of a receipt by Heath for his father on 7. 6. 40  
Peacock to W. G. S. W. Jan'y 1895 - see surfaa printed above

near the

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

Page 71. The reference in the text to the foot-note is wrongly marked with an asterisk, and should be to the note below. We may here remark that the use of the term "Maltese crosses," as describing the device in the upper angles of the first adhesive stamps, and the watermark in the paper employed for the stamp of five shillings, has been objected to as being incorrect. We advisedly made use of the term for reasons of convenience, as this device has been always so designated and known; but the nomenclature is erroneous, and should in strictness be Cross *Patée*, in which, as seen by reference to the watermark on the five shillings as shown in the frontispiece, the outer lines are parallel to those of the enclosing rectangle, whereas in the Maltese Cross two sides of a triangle are drawn inwards from the points of the cross to an apex towards the centre, instead of the present straight line which would serve as the base to the triangle.

Impossible to express anything fresh on a roller - but can remove from it.

Rev<sup>d</sup> E. Oldridge de la Hay has the foll<sup>g</sup> foliate nos. ~~unpublished~~  
Jan. 4. 1. 88. invented

70. 71. 2. 4.  
80. 1. 3. 4. 6. 8.  
90. 6. 7. 8. 9.  
101. 5. 6. 7. 11  
113. 15. 17. 18. 19.  
121. 25.  
130. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 9.  
140. 1.  
150. 4. 5. 7. 8.  
160. 1. 2. 4. 9  
170. 2. 3. 4. 6. 7. 8. 9.  
~~180~~ 182. 5. 6. 8. 9. - 7. 25. f.  
190. 2. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.  
200. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 7. 8. 9.  
210. 13. 14. 16. 18.

in white letters, on a ground of close vertical lines; and below is another tablet, with the value in full, ONE PENNY, also in white letters, on a similar ground. In the four angles are white blocks one-tenth of an inch square, for the reception of the lettering, which up to the year 1860-1 was confined to the two lower blocks, the upper ones being filled in with ornaments in the form of Maltese crosses.\*



The stamp so completed forms a plain rectangular parallelo-

*History of Penny Postage*, which we would recommend to the consideration of the authorities of the present day, who, in the immunity from fraud in the matter of stamps which the Post Office has hitherto enjoyed, seem to have forgotten all the precautions which were originally taken to guard against it. Sir Rowland Hill writes: "It will be easily perceived that if imitation cannot be effected without resort to the means above described, as used in the production of the stamps, forgery is in itself impracticable; since no forger can have the command of very powerful, delicate, and therefore costly machinery, requiring for its management skilful and therefore highly paid workmen. If the Queen's head alone constituted the effigy, something in imitation might be done by the aid of lithography, or some other such copying process; but this fails when applied to the extremely delicate lines already mentioned as constituting the background, which in the lithographer's hands do but smirch the paper."— *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 408.

\* ¶ The die itself is a plate of steel about a quarter of an inch thick, and from two to two and a half inches square, and was engraved in the following manner: A rectangular piece of mechanical lathe-work was first of all engraved upon it to form the background, a portion of which in the form of the profile was scraped out, and on this blank space Mr. Heath subsequently engraved the head of Her Majesty. The tablets with the words POSTAGE and ONE PENNY were then added, with blank squares in the four corners, in the two upper ones of which Maltese crosses were subsequently engraved. The original matrix of the one penny was then complete. That of the twopence was made from a reproduction of the one penny die, the words TWO PENCE being substituted for ONE PENNY in the lower tablet, and this constituted the original die of the twopence. By this means absolute uniformity of design was secured for the two values. It ought to be mentioned that one and the same roller impression was used to create every one of the two hundred and forty impressions forming the plate of stamps, and other impressions on the roller were similarly used for other plates. Hence for each plate but one roller impression was used.

gram, measuring about three-fourths of an inch in width by seven-eighths of an inch in height, or  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.\*

Considering the novelty of the task, it must be admitted that the result, both as regards design and execution, proved highly successful, the best evidence of which is that it retained its place in its original form for nearly forty years, during which period it was not only the parent of thousands of millions of impressions for the requirements of its own country,† but has served as a model for the postage stamps of half the countries of the world.

DIE II.—Towards the close of the year 1854 the large and increasing numbers of inferior impressions attracted the notice of the authorities, when it was represented to them, that, however fit the original matrix was to produce roller impressions

\* It will be observed that the English and French measurements frequently differ from each other, as one has not been taken *from* the other, but both have been taken separately. The French one will consequently be found the most accurate, as the scale admits of more minute subdivisions than the English, without the necessity of having recourse to decimals or very minute fractions.

† In the *Life of Sir Rowland Hill* the editor gives a return from the Board of Inland Revenue of the number of postage stamps issued from the 27th April, 1840, to December 31st, 1879, which we here transcribe.

1,600,276,320	Labels of	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$ d.
20,699,858,040	"	...	...	1d.
42,638,160	"	...	...	$1\frac{1}{2}$ d.
888,520,280	"	...	...	2d.
105,829,824	"	...	...	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.
158,526,040	"	...	...	3d.
158,815,820	"	...	...	4d.
158,721,280	"	...	...	6d.
4,608,720	"	...	...	8d.
7,686,080	"	...	...	9d.
5,968,476	"	...	...	10d.
126,968,940	"	...	...	1s.
6,475,820	"	...	...	2s.
5,174,262	"	...	...	5s.
6,014	"	...	...	10s.
6,014	"	...	...	£1.

The money value of the above represents a little more than £111½ millions sterling, of which about 86½ millions are contributed by the one penny stamps alone.

*This was omitted from the Preface.*

## THE POSTAGE STAMP ACCOUNT OF THE YEAR,

1890.

It is almost beyond the ordinary powers of the mind to realize what is meant by hundreds of millions, and yet in giving the following summary of the postage stamps issued to the Post-office during the year from 1st April, 1889, to the 31st March last we have to deal with such figures. To all it will be instructive, for even our more juvenile readers may exercise their wits at calculation.

### ADHESIVE STAMPS.

½ penny . . . . .	411,609,168	9 pence . . . . .	5,074,580
1 " . . . . .	1,541,217,204	10 " . . . . .	240,100*
1½ pence . . . . .	35,968,400	1 shilling . . . . .	10,651,320
2 " . . . . .	17,706,420	2s. 6d. . . . .	600,278
2½ " . . . . .	45,267,240	5 shillings . . . . .	399,848
3 " . . . . .	30,886,518	10 " . . . . .	113,157
4 " . . . . .	12,070,640	1 pound . . . . .	60,655
5 " . . . . .	8,327,400	5 pounds . . . . .	13,256
6 " . . . . .	46,949,648		

\* Issued in February last.

### POST CARDS.

½ penny, stout . . . . .	98,271,539	1½ pence . . . . .	46,440
ditto reply . . . . .	1,301,600	ditto reply . . . . .	7,800
½ penny, thin . . . . .	65,056,473	2 pence . . . . .	65,840
ditto reply . . . . .	941,280	ditto reply . . . . .	8,000
1 penny . . . . .	3,141,480	3 pence . . . . .	192,800
ditto reply . . . . .	57,360		

### WRAPPERS.

½ penny . . . . .	143,169,840
1 " . . . . .	1,392,720

### ENVELOPES.

1 penny . . . . .	18,247,440
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### REGISTRATION ENVELOPES.

2 pence . . . . .	4,673,820
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### TELEGRAPH FORMS.

6 pence . . . . .	5,356,100
10 " . . . . .	245,875

To these figures, large as they are, must be added the number of cards, wrappers, and envelopes stamped on materials supplied by the public during the same period.

POST CARDS. 45,027,000

WRAPPERS, ½d. 21,443,000

" 1d. 693,000

ENVELOPES. 11,376,000

The money value of all this represents over £12,000,000, in which penny stamps figure for above half the amount.

Inverted watermarks  
Corrected by Morley. 12.8.93.

1<sup>st</sup> letters with an upper-plate red  
Final nos. are Emson cat.

- 71- 2. 4.
- 80- 1. 3. 4. 6. 7. 8.
- 90. 2. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.
- 101. 3. 5. 6. 7.
- 111. 3. 5. 7. 8. 9.
- 121. 5. 7.
- 130- 1. 3. 5. 6. 7.
- 140- 1. 9.
- 150. 2. 4. 5. 7. 8.
- 160- 1. 2. 4. 5. 7. 8. 9.
- 170. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.
- 180. 2. 3. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.
- 190. 2. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.
- 200- 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 7. 8. 9.
- 210- 2. 3. 4. 6. 8. 9.
- 220- 1.

Coll Japling has (copy)  
pl (77) on face  
pinner

Page 73. Note †. We have lately examined a collection prepared for the use of the authorities, consisting of specimen copies of all the stamps as taken from the sheets of impressions struck from the various plates sent in for registration prior to the plates being "put to press" and printed from for issue to the public. The specimens thus collated comprise not only impressions from the plates actually printed from for use, but from several others prepared and approved, but which for some cause or other were not made use of. Some specimens also are found in colours different from those in use when the plate was called into service, while others are printed on paper showing an earlier watermark than that current when the printing commenced. All these specimens are imperforate, and may be considered as proofs, or first impressions from the various plates, and the collection will be referred to as the Official Collection (O. C.).

We find in the O. C. specimens from Plates Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 8, struck in black, and no other plate is found till Plate No. 12, which is struck in red, the colour that had been adopted previously to that plate being registered 25th February, 1841. From this time the series runs on consecutively to 204, with the following exceptions: No. 68 is omitted; 77 B is added after 77; after 148 six reserve plates, R. 1 to R. 6, are interpolated; R. 7 is inserted after 154; R. 8 to R. 11 after 166; and R. 12 to R. 14 after 177. Plate 204 is, as is stated in the text, the last in Series I.; all made from the original Die I.

544 ?

See p. 76 (MS)

O.V.S. Offns Union Socy in red  
plates 71. 2. 6. 8. 9

Several copies - (broken lines)  
on face, & back. & inserted  
also in stamps before post no.

81. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. 9.

90. 2. 3. 5. 6. 9

102. 3.

110. 110 137. 139. 156. 205 on back

See paper read 27.6.94. L. M. Socy by Earl of Argyll  
as differs betw Die I & Die II. published Lon. Phil: July 1894.

adapted to ordinary circumstances, yet that it failed to produce them of sufficient depth to withstand the actual strain on the plates, which wore out with such rapidity as speedily to yield weak and indistinct impressions.\* It was therefore determined to construct a new matrix without interfering with the original one. For this purpose a reproduction of the original die was put into the hands of Mr. William Humphrys, a very skilful and careful engraver,† who limited his work to deepening the lines on the die, chiefly apparent in the shading of the face and the folds of the hair, making some slight alterations in the profile of the nose, and rendering the eyelid more distinct, as this latter, barely visible in the best of the impressions, was entirely invisible in the majority of them. The die thus altered was subsequently exclusively used for the construction of the plates, of which two hundred and four had been constructed from the original matrix.‡ Plates constructed from the retouched die were brought into use at the commencement of the year 1855, when a new series was also commenced. Impressions from Plate No. 1 of this new series were approved of on the 15th January, 1855.

The original die will be designated Die I, and the retouched die, Die II; § and in the majority of cases no difficulty arises in discriminating between impressions taken from them. Some

*But*

\* Between the 12th December, 1848, and the 30th November, 1854, no fewer than one hundred and twenty-three plates were constructed.

† Mr. W. Humphrys was employed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. principally in engraving vignettes for bank-notes and other like securities printed by them; but some of the Colonial stamps furnished by that firm were due to his *burin*. He died at Genoa, 21st January, 1865.

‡ It must not be supposed that the manufacturers necessarily had recourse to the original matrix whenever it was requisite to construct a new plate. This was only necessary when fresh roller impressions were required, all of which were taken direct from the matrix.

The actual number of the plates constructed from Die I. was two hundred and ~~nineteen~~, consisting of two hundred and four regularly numbered, one duplicate (77B) and ~~fourteen~~ reserve plates, numbered R. 1, R. 2, etc.

§ To prevent mistakes, the second dies, both of the 1d. and 2d., had ~~new~~ engraved upon them. (*Vide inf.*, "Essays," &c. p. 294).



badly-printed impressions from Die II. are, it is true, liable to be mistaken for impressions from Die I., and in such cases nothing but careful and minute examination will solve the question; still, as a rule, the more finished and regular appearance of the impressions from Die II. will leave no doubt as to the origin of any particular specimen.

PLATE—The plate consisted of a single pane of two hundred and forty stamps in twenty rows of twelve in each row, thus having the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post Office sheet. On each of the margins the following legend was engraved in italics: "PRICE 1d. per label; 1s. per row of 12; £1 per sheet. Place the label ABOVE the address and towards the RIGHT-HAND SIDE of the letter. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the cement." In addition to the plate and official numbers there was a floriated ornament on each side-margin opposite the point between the tenth and eleventh rows, serving to facilitate the division of the sheet in half.

Sometime, most probably in the year 1861, an alteration was made in the plates by the insertion of the plate numbers in the reticulated framework of the stamps in minute numerals in white, an alteration which had been carried out in the year 1858

in the two penny value. This was effected by engraving the numerals on the roller impression used for producing the plate prior to its being hardened. At the same time the lettering, which up to that time had been confined to the two lower angles, was extended to the two upper angles, and block, or Egyptian, letters substituted for

the Roman capitals previously employed. These changes were effected when Plate No. 69 of the second series appeared, the impression from which bearing the *imprimatur* is not found;\*

\* The impression from Plate No. 68, with the *imprimatur* dated 18th January, 1858, as also the impression from Plate No. 72, the *imprimatur* on which is dated 14th March, 1861, are to be found in the archives at Somerset House; but impressions from Plates Nos. 69, 70, and 71 are not



Plate Nos. not inserted by punches imp. all from roller. see page 214 p. 79

\* This comes  
after  
following sample  
See ant. p. 66

# 1411 articles. pl 69 was completed 10.12.60.

b. 116 unperfected  
E. Special J. p. 38

sturdily after  
Decr 1860.

Page 74. Plate No. 69, in the stamps of which the plate numbers of the one penny were first introduced, was constructed in 1860. From some cause or other, which does not appear, this plate was never put to press, nor were any impressions for registration struck from it. Impressions of Plate No. 70, constructed some time after, were struck off for registration; but owing to a defect the plate was defaced before it was put to press, and the few specimens struck off were not issued to the public, and were either kept in the office or distributed amongst amateurs. Plate No. 71 was the first with the plate numbers inserted in the stamps, of which impressions were issued to the public, and, with Plates Nos. 72, 73, and 74, was registered in March, 1861, though not put to press till 1st March, 1864, prior to which date seven other plates (Nos. 75 to 81) had been registered. Of these Plate Nos. 75 and 77 were never put to press, being out of the square, and consequently not adapted for perforation. Plates Nos. 82 to 88 were registered on 1st March, 1864, from which date the printing from the numbered plates of one penny may be considered as having commenced, though the stamps were not actually issued to the public till about two months after.

Crab  
Moss

Plates Nos. 126 and 128 were never put to press, the former in consequence of defective lettering, the latter as being out of square; but with the exception of these and Plates Nos. 75 and 77 all the plates, from 70 to 225, were printed from, and specimens are to be found, though for some reason difficult to understand certain numbers are less frequently met with than others. Specimens of Plate No. 225 are rare; but this is readily accounted for, as this plate was not put to press till a little more than two months prior to the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., in December, 1879. Plates Nos. 226, 227, and 228 were constructed, but were never used.

p. pl 77 found unused Tapping collar by Bacon in arranging 1894.  
p. 15. July 94. p. 32. C.C. p. 14. of column  
p. 4. no Nov 57 the P.O. asked J. Row. to adopt the 4

letter system. Ser Pearson Hill. in 5.6.89.

Plate 126 used found Geo Gaff. 23.5.95. Stamp News. 1895. p. 75. wrong  
long delay. Spinning began. and they in early March  
Plate 70 unused being copy found in Tapping Collar  
by Mr Bacon. Decr 93.  
1864

July 94 notices had a falsified 76. the 6 doctored into an O. two names. from O to 70 is blank.  
(same as in 70 used, all G.A. 918 + 61. p. Oppos. June 91)  
one seen at Westoby. May 92. 70. the O. blank.

There were hand engraved on the right side of the stamp. behind the  
knob & curl of hair. but repeated by impression on the left side. as  
the fig 1. of the right reads T. on the left side. i.e. the "serif" is blanked.

referred to as "serif" ever engraved. Doubtful if correct. see letter E.D. Bacon  
monthly journal. 31.12.92 p. 117.

Mr Cleaver (Mr Marshall's agent) observed this in arranging  
The Greenhill Exhibit. May 1890. & says this foot  
note also read.

"But impressions from Plates, Nos 54. 69. 70 & 75  
as not to be found. 71. is not missing but duly registered

City board. Unused. pl 77. found by Bacon in Tapping Collar 1893.  
in mullin. 16th Decr p. 6. Jan'y 94.  
the stamp 96 one found in 14 copies Hughes. but by Sigsbee

Although M. Regnard in his catalogue of 1863-4 had noted that the 2d. of Great Britain had appeared with the numbers of 7 and 8 in the margins, yet no notice seems to have been taken of these and of the numbers on the One Penny in any of the magazines till I called the attention of philatelists to the subject in March, 1879, although the plate number had been noticed in the De La Rue issues; and I argued that if importance was given to the numbers of the plates on these, an equal measure should be accorded to the issues of the engraved stamps. By the following June I had received many letters from collectors, one of whom informed me that he had collected many numbers, the first being 58, and then there was a hiatus up to 71. Investigations subsequently undertaken by Mr. Philbrick showed that 58 must be an optical delusion, and that nothing existed before 71, though he possessed an ~~imperforated~~ 70 that had been presented to the late Mr. Stainforth as a curiosity, and thus had come into his possession. This led to further enquiries, when it was ascertained that plate 69 was the first on which the numbers had been affixed in the margin, and that though the rollers for plates 69 to 74 had been made in April, 1858, yet it was not till December, 1860, that plate 69 was completed, and plate 70 in January, 1861, and these were quickly followed by plates 71 to 74. The last four plates only were registered, 69 and 70 not being accepted from some cause or other. No impression whatever is known of 69, and most probably only the registration sheet of 70 was printed, and the plate having been refused, specimens from the sheet were given away. Certainly no copies were struck for issue or perforated, and the ~~two~~ plates were defaced before the issue was made.

I have been told by some of those who search after possible varieties that they have discovered errors in the plate numbering on the stamps, the number on one side differing from that on the other. If they would only bring a little reflection to bear on what is said at page 72 of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, they would find that such an error is impossible without its extending to every stamp on the sheet. The number is white, and consequently in relief on the plate, and this is made by punching the number on the single impression from the die on the roller, from which every stamp on the plate is formed, as might be seen in the exhibit of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. at the late Exhibition. The check letters in the angles are punched on the plate after it is made, and mistakes may occur in these as in every operation by hand. Mr. Philbrick tells me he has seen an inverted S. I am told that there is an error in one of the stamps on one of the three plates of the 1d. Though the plates were read over very carefully by two separate readers, yet errors may escape correction, and in this case there is no printer's devil to bear the brunt. Such stamps are not varieties; they are only stamp curiosities, and that leads me to another point on which I think collectors are being somewhat led astray. A collector should, I think, start with a clear and defined notion as to what in his opinion constitutes a variety, and what is its use in showing the history of the stamp. For lack of more pegs on which to hang varieties in the stamps of Great Britain, we are invited to consider topsyturvy watermarks as varieties, when in truth they are owing to the carelessness of the printer. Again, I am told that "ivory heads" are varieties, but what is this? A somewhat worn plate and an inking roller too little charged, or, what is more probable, the workman in his hurry has taken off with his hand too much ink, and the top of Her Majesty's head has been left as bald as a billiard ball. Is this philately?

21 Rep. p. 28. Paper till end 1879 for lower values (those 19 stamps had been made by hand as a bill in Northamptonshire black hills - spots accumulated all at once in that or from other works) papers. good economy in price usage!

# 205. looks like 203. (a 3 inverted) only 2 misplaced (or maybe June '92)

few  
- beyond  
engraved  
p 220  
" 111." +  
" 101." in right  
really a blue  
O. or red -  
counter  
Low Perth  
29.5.92  
H was HL  
L M

GREAT BRITAIN.—Our attention has been lately called to a few specimens of extraordinary-looking watermarks on the old penny stamps, which, instead of showing a "crown," even of that very humble kind that made its appearance on these stamps at their first issue, shows some kind of misshapen watermark, which the possessors by some considerable stretch of imagination satisfy themselves is the outline of a letter or some other device. We have been at some little pains to make inquiries as to how these accidental variations in the watermarks could have occurred, and we are satisfied that it is caused by a trifling accident to the "bit," as the small wire device for making the watermark is technically termed. In the manipulation of the "moulds," the wire by which the "bit" is attached to the woven wire-net bed of the "mould" may give way and the "bit" become loose and be twisted to some other shape. This has very rarely occurred, for specimens are seldom found with distorted watermarks, and it is only remarkable that in hand-made papers similar accidents are of such rare occurrence. We have seen within the last few days a statement in a Philatelic Journal, on what is said to be "good authority," that "two sheets of the present one penny were printed on paper watermarked 'Anchor,' and were distributed for sale before the error was discovered." We referred the statement to the head of the issuing office, who informs us that if such an error was made, the office was not cognizant of it and never discovered it. The latter part, therefore, of the statement is not correct, and such an error was never heard of. We should like to see a specimen of the error if possible, and even it is also possible that specimens may be found on "orb." Both papers were in use at a time dangerously near to the date of the issue of the one penny.

Phil Record. Sept 1892.



but it appears that the actual issue to the public did not take place until the 15th May, 1864.\*

No further change was made during the continuance of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. Under this contract Plate No. 225 was the last constructed, the impression from which received the *imprimatur* on the 31st December, 1878, so that from first to last four hundred and fifty plates had been made; viz., two hundred and nineteen for Series I. from 1840 to the end of 1854, and two hundred and twenty-five numbered plates, and six reserved plates for Series II. from January 1855 to the end of 1879:

PAPER.—The sheet measured twenty inches long by twelve inches wide. The space necessary for so much of the plate as was occupied by the stamps was marked out by a watermarked border of five parallel lines, interrupted twice on each side and once at the top and bottom by the insertion of the word *POSTAGE* in double-lined capitals.

Within this border were two hundred and forty small crowns, watermarked in the paper, so disposed as that one should fall under each stamp. These "bits" were made of fine wire, twisted by hand into the form of a crown, and varied slightly both in size and form during the period they were employed. They are readily distinguishable from the pattern next described by the invariable presence of a perpendicular line surmounted by a cross running down the centre. Certain letters are found watermarked at the edge of the sheet, but these only refer to the accounts kept of the manufacture.

to be found, and unfortunately this is not the only instance of impressions from plates presenting interesting features being omitted in the official collection. The alteration above referred to, as we learn from Mr. Bacon, occurred on Plate 69. We have not met with specimens bearing a number previous to 70; but the engravers in the employ of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. remember the circumstance from the coincidence of the number with that of their establishment in Fleet Street, No. 69.

\* The records of the Post Office give the date of the issue to the public as June, 1864, but it is clear that it was in circulation on 15th May, previously to which time specimens had only found their way into collections of amateurs as curiosities.—*Le Timbre-Poste*, 1864, p. 43.

*1 1/2 in  
wrong  
width*

*parallel cross  
pl 69 de II  
C.C. same  
other examples  
with this number  
may be  
200 red. unpa.*

*No. 2 in margin of P. 1/2. 2° + 1/2 are taken from the Report*

*middle July*

Towards the end of the year 1855 the watermarks in the paper underwent some modification. The watermarks round the sheet were not altered, but the small crowns were replaced by others of larger dimensions. The bits for the new watermark, which will be designated "large crown" to distinguish it from "small crown," were stamped out of thin brass, and were consequently more uniform in their size and form than those made by hand, and more visible in the paper.\* It is not possible to fix the exact date when this change was carried out. The sheet printed to receive the *imprimatur* of Plate No. 23 of Die II. is the first on which the "large crown" is found; while that printed from Plate No. 24, which received the *imprimatur* on the same day, 12th November, 1855, is the last on which the "small crown" is found in the records at Somerset House. The inference to be drawn is, that the printers had a stock of paper in hand with both watermarks, and used it indifferently during the transitional period.

**IMPRESSION.**—After many trials the colour chosen for the impression was black. About the month of August, 1840, it was, for the reasons previously mentioned, determined to change it to red, and to print both it and the twopence in oleaginous colours, which should at the same time be destructible. The stamps in the new colour were ordered to be issued as the stock on hand of those printed in black became exhausted, which was not, however, till early in the month of January following, when the public was furnished with penny stamps of the new colour. Although it was first proposed that the colour should be red, yet that ultimately chosen was rather a red-brown, which may be considered as the normal colour; but during the period that this stamp was current this normal colour has wandered through

\* Although these watermarks are the two principal types or patterns, yet several subsidiary varieties of each pattern are found. Thus we find at least three distinct varieties in the shape and size of the "small crown," the one last in use in 1855 being wider and deeper than the one first employed. There are also some varieties of the "large crown," but we have not attempted to chronicle any of these as varieties of watermark, contenting ourselves with simply pointing out their existence.

*Black is altof unchanged.*

*7. New red first printed on p. 8 as proof. - dull black red.*

*to pen of P. 54*

In Coll. made up at S. House & Co. Printing, No. by 1885.

Impress. unguished copies. 1<sup>st</sup> in black of plates.

Black 1. 2. 3. 5. 8. only

1110. in red. PL 744. B. VI. p. 141. (Aug 96)

Red. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 24.

25. 1 so on regularly. • omitting 56.

adding 77B after 77.

also. R. 1. R. 2, R. 3, R. 4, R. 5 + R. 6 after 148.

also R. 7. after 154. •

R. 8, R. 9, R. 10 + R. 11. after 166.

17. 12. R. 13 R. 14 after 177.

ending. No 2114. •

Thus making 215. in all of old plate Die I.  
including black. initial collectors.

With reference to the remarks in the text in page 76 as to the change in the watermark from "small" to "large crown," it may be mentioned that although the whole of the Plates from 17 to 25, including the Reserve Plates 17 to 20, were registered on the same day (12th Nov., 1855), yet we find from the O. C. that all the impressions up and including Plate No. 22 are on "small crown" paper, as also are those from Plate No. 24 and Reserve Plate No. 17, ~~18, and 19~~; while the impressions from Plate Nos. 23 and 25, and all the subsequent Plates in the series, as also the Reserve Plate No. 20, are on "large crown" paper.

These on "large crown" <sup>(18. 19)</sup> were issued a little before the date of the official impregnation. Specimens on letters duly postmarked 4<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1855. have been sent by us. (Aug. 1859).

Trump News Aug '1892. p 214 by Levy. dates given.

- Another pair vertical, plate No. 191 1 sale 26.9.93 2 to 1. 7.
- A strip of 7 <sup>obscurely stamped</sup> proofs of the 1d. (1864) in violet (a whole sheet of the same) 1 not used
- plate No. 191, with ~~with~~ obliterations initial P.O. 7
- 1d. violet imperf. (2, one unused) and 1858 2d. 7 not used
- blue imperf. and unused 3 whole sheet



List of One Penny. watermark inverted.  
 See p. 87. for continuation. in two pence value, corrected as Morley's p. 100  
 P. Black. red. imperf: (see p. 73 ante)  
 1<sup>o</sup>. White paper (small crown) p. 14 dies I. & II. idem. blue paper  
 idem p. 16. bon I & II  
 2<sup>o</sup> " (large crown) p. 14 idem blue paper. p. 16  
 dies I & II

1<sup>o</sup>. Letter in all four angles. Plates nos. 71. 2. 24  
 81. 84 (see p. 73. unlabelled and a fuller list)  
 80. 90. ~~91. 94.~~ 83. 86. 88. 96  
 90. 95. 96. 97. 98. 101. 106. 107. 111. 113. 115. 117. 118. 119. 121. 125. 119. 130. 133. 135.  
 136. 137. 141. 154. 155. 157. 158. 158. 160. 161. 162. 164. 167. 169.  
 158. 164. 165. 172. 174. 176. 177. 8. 9. 182.  
 185. 186. 188. 190. 198. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 213. 214. 216. 219.  
 5. 7. 8. 9. 210.

1880. One penny Venetian Red.

One penny Lilac. type 2. postage of La Rev.

see Stamp News. Apr 92. p 105. Letter by Morley

also 1<sup>o</sup> p. 14 + 16 s.c. dies 1 + 2.  
 p 16 c.c.

Colors. Change monthly journal 30.6.91. transfer paper by Lewis Hubbard from Dr. Nichollet of 1.2.89.  
 the says Brickers will change into.

- Brown.
- Black
- Yellow
- Green
- Grey.

Post mark. a trial over on pair imperf. (14b) colln Willett. 12-1-94  
 it is oval & barred. XX. in centre & other lines like on oval  
 in back.

all shades, from red-brown to brick-red, and from rose-red to lake-red, in a dark shade of which it finished its career.\*

The ink was applied thickly, and was liable to rub off, as most collectors know by experience.

PERFORATION.—After the sheets had been printed and gummed they underwent the final process of perforation, as has been already described. Occasionally it has happened that a sheet of stamps has been accidentally passed over without having been perforated, and has been issued in that condition, but such an accident has been one of the rarest possible occurrence. Some sheets of the one penny stamp were so issued in March, 1870, but probably the most noteworthy example was that which occurred in 1873, when one or two sheets of that value, which had escaped perforation, found their way to the Cardiff post-office, and were on sale there for a few days. The circumstance did not fail to attract the notice of collectors at the time, and it obtained for the stamps in question the singular honour of being chronicled in a foreign catalogue as a rare *local variety* for the town of Cardiff.

pl. 146.  
imp. ~~red~~ paper  
seen by  
pl. 191. oval paper

pl. 116 ?

## SYNOPSIS.

## I.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." Imperforate.  
6th May, 1840. One penny, black.

## II.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." Imperforate.  
January, 1841 to 1854. One penny, red-brown, brick-red red  
(varying shades of each).

## VARIETIES.

1847. One Penny, red-brown, *rouletted* (Archer's first machine).

1848. One Penny, red-brown, *regular incisions* (Archer's second machine).

1849. One Penny, red-brown, *oval perforations 15* (Archer's third machine).

\* In the course of the proceedings before the Committee of 1852 some sheets of stamps were produced, one of which had been printed ten years previously. The evidence given before the Committee tended to show that the remarkable variations in colour were in a great measure due to the effects produced by time and atmospheric influences on some of the colouring ingredients used in the composition of the ink.

probably the  
album.

In the "Synopsis," p. 77, under the head of "Varieties" of II., strike out the words "oval perforations 15," and it will be advisable for the reasons given above that this perforated variety should be queried.

## III.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." Perforated.

1854-1855. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red (shades), *perf.* 16.

1855. One Penny, red-brown (shades), *perf.* 14.\*

*perf. began*  
27.1.54  
January. 16.1855

## IV.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." Perforated.

1854. † One Penny, red-brown (shades), *perf.* 16.

1855. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red (shades), *perf.* 14. †

*early in 1854*  
*rose red*

\* The introduction of a new series printed from Die II. in January, 1855, the change in the watermark of the paper in November, 1855, and the alteration of the gauge of the perforations, which also commenced to be carried out in 1855, combined to make considerable confusion in the period from 1854 to 1856.

From a comparison of the dates it will be perceived that Die II. was brought into use about eleven months before the watermark on the paper was changed from "small" to "large crown." Hence we find all the varieties we should expect of impressions from Dies I. and II. on paper watermarked "small crown."

Prior to the 12th November, 1855, we find that seventeen plates constructed from Die II. had been approved, all the impressions from which were struck on "small crown" paper. On the 12th November, 1855, fifteen plates from Die II. were approved, the impressions from ten of which are on "small crown," and the remaining five on "large crown" paper. As at that period not more than about fifteen plates were required to be in daily use, it is not probable, though it may be possible, that when the "large crown" paper was introduced any of the presses were furnished with plates from Die I. After the most careful research we have been unable to find any satisfactory specimens from Die I., either imperforate or perforated, printed on paper watermarked "large crown," and we have such strong doubts of their existence that we have omitted them from the list, though they have been chronicled by others.

† We are aware that an imperforate variety of Die II., watermarked with "small crown," has been said to exist, and many copies have been produced to us in evidence of the fact. After careful examination of the specimens, we are convinced that they are only good impressions from Die I. It is, however, by no means beyond the bounds of possibility that the variety exists, as a sheet in the early days of perforation might have easily passed in an imperforated state, and been so issued, though we have failed to find a copy. Without further evidence of its existence we have thought it best to omit it.

*wrong.*

Page 78 to Note add: From the O. C. we find that notwithstanding the commencement of a fresh numbering of the plates in Series II., Die II. (Humphrys' retouch), yet the numbering of the Reserve Plates went on continuously. Thus after Plate No. 4, of Series II., R. 15 and R. 16 were interpolated, and R. 17 to R. 20 after Plate No. 22. After this no more Reserve Plates are found, and the numbers run on without any break to Plate No. 68, when a hiatus occurs, and Plate No. 71, being the first with letters in the four angles and numbers on the plate, resumes the series, which continues down to No. 225, with the exception mentioned below under page 80.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—I have read, with considerable interest, the letter of my collaborateur, Mr. Westoby, of 20th August, which appeared in the Record, No. 128, page 153. Perhaps a few remarks from me may find admission to your columns.

First, as to the change of watermark from the "small" to the "large Crown" on the One Penny stamps, Humphry's retouch, designated in our book Die II.

The note on page 78 of our work states that five plates (not nine, as misprinted in Mr. Westoby's letter), printed on "large Crown" paper, received official sanction on 12th November, 1855, together with ten plates printed on paper with "small Crown;" thus showing the gradual introduction of the new watermark, and its concurrent use with the former.

As already explained on page 60, the imprimatur necessarily was given after the plate had been put to press. From the nature of the case, there being no change in the stamps themselves, the two sorts of paper were probably used indifferently, the newer being brought gradually into service as the supply of the older became exhausted.

The specimens "large Crown," postmarked in October, 1855, mentioned in Mr. Westoby's letter, show that some sheets of the new watermark had got into issue by that date, and consequently the "1856" in line two on p. 79 ought to be corrected, and the text should stand as follows:

"October, 1855, One Penny, rose, red-brown, brick-red (shades); perf. 16."

Secondly, as to perforation. The dates given clearly establish that some sheets of the perforated stamps were issued as early as March, 1854, although their general use was not until the following May, as we know the machines were completed and first got to regular work on 27th January, 1854, a considerable stock of perforated sheets must have been accumulating in the meantime.

On page 78, therefore, under IV., Die II., line 1 from the bottom of the text, should read:

"Early in 1854. One Penny, red-brown (shades); perf. 16."

Further, the date—March, 1855—for the introduction of a perforation ranging 14, given on p. 68, must be altered to "Early in 1855," as the example postmarked on February 24th of that year evidences.

The specimen produced, perforated 16, and postmarked in April, 1854, was certainly from one of the sheets experimented on by Archer. (See the note to p. 69.) The difficulty that arose was, that as soon as a working speed was put on the machine, as first submitted, it broke down, and no machine capable of service was ever got into use until January, 1854.

Lastly, the additional piece of information as to the introduction of the tongue-shaped envelopes in July, 1850, is welcome.

We had the greatest difficulty in finding any trustworthy guide beyond that was supplied by comparison of postmarks, and these were by no means plentiful. Every well-authenticated date thus established assists in bringing the points for further investigation within narrower limits.

On page 182, tenth line, therefore "1851-1852" will be deleted, and in lieu "July, 1850," be substituted.

The additions thus derived from the researches of a careful collector are noteworthy in themselves as an encouragement to continue in the path of diligent enquiry; but when viewed with what other friends have kindly communicated, and the materials already published in the Appendix in the Record, begin to make me fear that our next task will be to prepare a separate Appendix, uniform with the work itself, bringing the information to command down to the present time.

Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK A. PHILBROK.

28th August, 1889.

x  
62  
and  
1854

also Feb 16  
1854



Die II.

Humphreys' notes. In colls S. House (Japhys' per 85)

1. 1. on . (R. 15<sup>✓R.16</sup> after pl 4) regularly

R. 17. after ~~22~~ R. 18 R. 19 R. 20. betw 22 & 23. plates  
to 68. where 4 letters came in + plate 68.

(71) begins. - The following are not in that collect  
no. 54 u in the Parallel lat. ?

54- 75, 77, - 126. - 128. 158. -  
in D of York set  
54. 158. are wanting.

Plate 22 is small. crown worn. sig R. 20.

R. 17 is first, large do. so R. 18. ✓ R. 19.

Plate 24 is small also + the last on this worn.

25. large. 26. 27. do

✓ known  
are been  
Feb

pl 66. the Royal family refers l. crown. die 2.

pl 66. is the reverse rose.

to be arranged this.

Wilson says. Ph. Rec. vol IV. 67. (1882). rose p. 16. issue 5.

seen (Nov '82) in coll. Topham. 

103. 107	} 1 <sup>st</sup> imp.
116.	
120. 136	

  
148.

x

Under V. p. 79, among the shades of the one penny, 1856, perforated 16, "rose-red" should be inserted. Under VI., amongst the imperforate varieties, "lake-red" should be inserted. Imperforate specimens are also found from Plates Nos. 103, 120, 121, and 148, in addition to those mentioned as being found from Plates 107, 116, and 136.

Page 79. As Note to Synopsis VI. and Appendix (*Philatelic Record*, vol. v. p. 96): The existence of imperforate copies from so many Plates having been ascertained, it seems more than probable that some may have found their way into public use; but we have not had any proof of their having done so, except in the instance mentioned in page 77.

1864. plates 69 - 225. except. 69. 70. 75. 77. 126. 128

1894 Jan 7 saw. 1<sup>st</sup> used in perf. coll. Hurton. (105)  
" " 12 " " " " coll. Wilson (146) xx trialobulated.

Mr Wright says 12 is quite white. See also my note.

P. Imperf die II.

seen also 191.

V.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with "large crown." Perforated.

1856 to 1864. One Penny, <sup>lake-red</sup> red-brown, brick-red (shades), perf. 16.  
 1856 to 1864. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red, rose, rose-red (shades), perf. 14.

VARIETY. <sup>lake-red</sup>

One Penny, light rose-red, <sup>lake-red</sup> imperforate.

VI.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with "large crown." Letters in all four angles. Plate numbers on stamps, commencing with No. 69, and ending with No. 225. Perf. 14. -

*first issued from June '64*

15th May, 1864, to 1880. One Penny, rose-red, carmine-red, lake-red (shades of each).

<sup>lake-red</sup> VARIETY. NO 3. 05. NO 121

One Penny, rose-red, <sup>lake-red</sup> imperforate. Plates Nos. 107, 116, and 186, 148.

The following table, composed from an examination of the sheets preserved in the archives at Somerset House, may prove useful as showing some of the variations in the colour of the impressions and of the paper, as also the periods at which certain plates were brought into use.

SERIES I. DIE I. (Heath's head).

Pl. No. 1, approved 27th April, 1840, impression black.

" 8	" 31st July, 1840	" "	" "
" 13	" 25th Feb., 1841	impres.	red-brown, paper very blue.
" 21	" 11th Dec., 1841	"	brick-red " very little trace.
" 24	" 24th March, 1842	"	red-brown " faint trace.
" 31	" 27th Jan., 1843	"	deep red-brown " slight trace.
" 42	" 23rd Jan., 1844	"	red " decidedly blue.
" 53	" 7th Jan., 1845	"	red " slightly blue.
" 65	" 2nd Feb., 1846	"	red-brown " much bluer.
" 78	" 14th Jan., 1847	"	red " slightly blue.
" 77B	" 12th Jan., 1848	"	dark red-brown " very blue.
" 90	" 24th May, 1849	"	brown-red " blue.
" 104	" 12th June, 1850	"	red " blue.
" 112	" 1st Jan., 1851	"	brownish-red " very blue.
" 134	" 6th Feb., 1852	"	red-brown " very little blue.
" 161	" 14th Jan., 1853	"	reddish-brown " slightly blue.
" 179	" 13th Feb., 1854	"	red " some traces.
" 204	" 30th Nov., 1854	"	deep red " faint blue.

With this latter plate Series I. ended.



Wilson says. Ph. Rec. vol IV. 67. (1882). rose p. 16. issue 5.

Saw (Nov '82) in Coll. Topham. 

103. 107	} 1 <sup>st</sup> imp.
116.	
120. 136.	

  
148.

7

Under V., p. 79, among the shades of the one penny, 1856, perforated 16, "rose-red" should be inserted. Under VI., amongst the imperforate varieties, "lake-red" should be inserted. Imperforate specimens are also found from Plates Nos. 103, 120, 121, and 148, in addition to those mentioned as being found from Plates 107, 116, and 138.

Page 79. As Note to Synopsis VI. and Appendix (*Philatelic Record*, vol. v. p. 96): The existence of imperforate copies from so many Plates having been ascertained, it seems more than probable that some may have found their way into public use; but we have not had any proof of their having done so, except in the instance mentioned in page 77.

1864. plates 69 - 225. except. 69. 70. 75. 77. 126. 128

1894 Jan 4 saw 1<sup>st</sup> used imperf. coll. Hulton. (105)  
" " 12 " " " pair coll. Willett (146) xx triangular

Mr Wright says 12 in quite white. See also my note.

P. Imperf die II.

Saw also 191.

V.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with "large crown." Perforated.

*6c Total* ~~1856~~ <sup>1856</sup> One Penny, <sup>lake</sup> red-brown, brick-red (shades), *perf.* 16.  
1856 to 1864. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red, rose, rose-red (shades), *perf.* 14.

VARIETY. *lake red*

One Penny, light rose-red, *imperforate*.

VI.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with "large crown." Letters in all four angles. Plate numbers on stamps, commencing with No. 69, and ending with No. 225. *Perf.* 14. .

15th May, 1864, to 1880. One Penny, rose-red, carmine-red, lake-red (shades of each).

*lake red* VARIETY. 103, 105, 120, 121

One Penny, rose-red, *imperforate*. Plates Nos. 107, 116, <sup>and</sup> 136, 148.

The following table, composed from an examination of the sheets preserved in the archives at Somerset House, may prove useful as showing some of the variations in the colour of the impressions and of the paper, as also the periods at which certain plates were brought into use.

SERIES I. DIE I. (Heath's head).

Pl. No.	Date	Impression	Colour	Notes
1	approved 27th April, 1840			impression black.
8	31st July, 1840	" "	" "	" "
13	25th Feb., 1841	impres.	red-brown	paper very blue.
21	11th Dec., 1841	"	brick-red	very little trace.
24	24th March, 1842	"	red-brown	faint trace.
31	1st Jan., 1843	"	deep red-brown	slight trace.
42	23rd Jan., 1844	"	red	decidedly blue.
58	7th Jan., 1845	"	red	slightly blue.
65	2nd Feb., 1846	"	red-brown	much bluer.
78	14th Jan., 1847	"	red	slightly blue.
77B	12th Jan., 1848	"	dark red-brown	very blue.
90	24th May, 1849	"	brown-red	blue.
104	12th June, 1850	"	red	blue.
112	1st Jan., 1851	"	brownish-red	very blue.
134	6th Feb., 1852	"	red-brown	very little blue.
161	14th Jan., 1853	"	reddish-brown	slightly blue.
179	13th Feb., 1854	"	red	some traces.
204	30th Nov., 1854	"	deep red	faint blue.

With this latter plate Series I. ended.

*first printed from. near '64.*

## SERIES II. DIE II. (Humphrys' retouch).

Pl. No. 1,	approved 15th Jan., 1855,	impression red-brown,	paper blue.
„ 28*	„ 12th Nov., 1855	„ red	„ blue.
„ 32	„ 16th Jan., 1856	„ red	„ faint blue.
„ 51	„ 25th June, 1856	„ red	„ slight blue.

The impression from this plate is the last which shows any trace of blue on the paper.

Plate No. 56, approved 11th February, 1857, impression carmine-red.

„ 61 „ 18th January, 1858 „ lake-carmine.

The plate numbers were inserted on the face of the stamps, commencing with Plate No. 69, and consequently the colour of the impression will thenceforward be apparent from the specimens.

Plate No. 71, approved 14th March, 1861. *7th Feb. 1864*

„ 75 „ 7th February, 1863.

„ 82 „ 1st March, 1864.

„ 98 „ 10th March 1865.

„ 108 „ 23rd March, 1868.

„ 125 „ 5th February, 1869.

„ 139 „ 2nd February, 1870.

„ 150 „ 24th April, 1871.

„ 156 „ 12th January, 1872.

„ 168 „ ~~14th October, 1873.~~ *9th April.*

„ 181 „ ~~10th April, 1874.~~ *14 October 1873.*

„ 187 „ 20th April, 1875.

„ 195 „ 9th March, 1876.

„ 206 „ 10th May, 1877.

„ 213 „ 25th February, 1878.

„ 225 „ 31st December, 1878.

Plate No. 225 was the last of the Series II., and was in use at the termination of the contract at the close of 1879.

The history of the one penny stamp would not be complete without referring to the Official one penny stamp, known to philatelists as the V.R. stamp, and the Reprint of the one penny, in black, on paper watermarked with a "large crown."

## THE V.R. STAMP.

Simultaneously with the issue of the one penny stamp to the public in 1840, a stamp expressly intended only for official correspondence was also prepared. In design it was an exact

\* Plate No. 23 is the first in which the impression appears on paper watermarked with the large crown. *not so. Reserve p. 17. is large crown*

*do. No. 12. 11. 55 - same day as 13*

*See M.S. copy  
Circular of  
J. 5. 40 -  
ante p. 46.*

Quelques ... Loi N. May 93. p. 112. Name V.R. P.S. says  
 this is the only one where traces of the cross can be seen in the R. corner  
 I cannot see it tho' I looked at both register sheets with a glass.

counterpart of the one penny stamp then issued, with the single exception that the upper angles, instead of being completed by the insertion of Maltese crosses, were occupied by the letters V.R. in Roman capitals. The paper and watermark, the number of stamps on the sheet, and the marginal inscriptions, were identical with those of the one penny stamp; but in lieu of the plate being numbered at the four corners with a numeral a capital A was employed. The project of franking official correspondence with special adhesive stamps was abandoned at the

\* More (this was done) on the roller. Ph. Record. 15 p. 99.



outset, and never after carried into execution.\* The stamp therefore which had been prepared for the purpose was not issued, and it is believed that but very few sheets were printed. The Congress of Philatelists in Paris, in 1878, discussed the question as to whether this stamp was ever issued, or was to be regarded as an essay; but the question is really not open to controversy; for it must be regarded as belonging to that category of stamps which, after having been officially prepared for issue, have not been put into circulation. It has also been attempted to draw an inference in favour of its having been issued for postal purposes,

\* When franking by members of the Legislature was abolished by the Act 2 and 3 Vict., c. 52, Her Majesty, ever ready to set a good example, also abandoned her privilege of franking, and it was determined that all other such privileges should cease at the same time. Account was therefore ordered to be kept in the Government offices of the amount paid for postage by each office, and an annual vote for the total was inserted in the estimates for the year. This system was afterwards relaxed in favour of a few of the principal offices, and one of the officials in each of such offices was authorised to frank official correspondence by affixing his signature to the face of the letter, which was in practice done with a hand-stamp bearing a *fac-simile* of the signature. In 1868 the rule was still further relaxed, and the privilege extended to all the departments of the Government. By the last returns which have appeared in the reports of the Postmaster-General (those for the year ending 31st March, 1879), it appears that the weight of official correspondence, &c., conveyed during the year by the Post Office amounted to about five hundred and eighty tons, the postage on which would have been upwards of £108,000, and this was independent of the correspondence of the Post Office itself.

from the fact that copies are found obliterated with a postal hand-stamp. But this proves nothing, as some of the printed sheets were utilised for experiments in obliterating ink and marks. The essay of obliteration most commonly found on the stamp is composed of concentric circles, but occasionally the *croix patée* is met with. It is also not impossible that some copy or other may wittingly or unwittingly have been sent through the post, where it would readily have passed undetected by the stampers, and have been obliterated as a matter of course.

The sheet preserved in the archives of the Inland Revenue Department shows that the impression was struck on 15th April, 1840, and the plate formally approved on the 27th of the same month.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1840. Paper watermarked with "small crown." V.R. in upper angles. Imperforate.

One Penny, black. (never issued.)

#### THE ONE PENNY REPRINT.

A rather remarkable reprint of the One Penny Stamp in its original colour was made in the year 1864. Some of the younger branches of the Royal Family had commenced to form a collection of Postage Stamps, and application was made to the Inland Revenue Department for specimens. None of the one penny printed in black being found in stock, in order to comply with the request preferred on the part of their Royal Highnesses, some copies were ordered to be struck off from one of the plates ~~kept in reserve at Somerset House~~, constructed from Die II., but with the Maltese crosses in the upper angles. As the paper watermarked with the "small crown" had long since ceased to be supplied, the impression was made on paper watermarked with the "large crown." Specimens of these reprints are rare, as but few copies were printed. They are mere curiosities, never having been intended for issue or to be used for postal purposes, and therefore cannot be regarded as stamps.

Their existence is only recorded here from a desire to make the

W. B. AVERY, Birmingham, contributed Mauritius—the most brilliant unused specimens of the 1d. and 2d. Post-office, the latter especially striking; several fine copies of the first one penny and two pence; three of Réunion—15 c. unused and fine, another rather clipped and discoloured, as was also the 30 cents, but of the rare type on the sheet. Hawaiian—first issue 5 cents; 13 c., type with the curved ornament after the value; a strong fleet of the steamers of Buenos Ayres in lovely copies. Great Britain—a pair V.R., a block of six of the one penny, black, reprint (large crown, inverted), lettered

I. A. — I. B. — I. C.

I. A. — I. B. — I. C.

The plate used  
was No 66.

In collo Taping shades go on much as before after  
Humphreys return to & including plate 51. of Die II.

How 52. 3. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9 & 60. are a brick red.

61 & seq. carmine red shades

Page 80. Line 8 from top: The O. C. shows that the shades of colour in the impressions from Plates Nos. 52 to 60 inclusive are rather shades of brick-red than carmine-red. In No. 61 the carmine tint becomes very distinct.

Same page, after list of Plates, add: In Appendix, *Philatelic Record*, vol. v. p. 96, we have stated for the guidance of those who interest themselves in collecting specimens of every numbered Plate, from 71 to 225, why Plates Nos. 75, 77, 126, and 128 are not to be found. As they were never printed from, no specimens exist in the O. C.

Plate 69. did bear the plate No.

it was completed. 10.12.60. (Pearson Hall).

1858. April 9<sup>th</sup> Roller prepared for plates 69 to 74 inclusive.

1860. Dec. Plate 69. finished.

1861. Jan 7 .. 70 finished.

No registration of plate 69, but it was defaced 29.10.61.

.. nor of pl. 70. .. .. 8.8.62.

Reserve pl. <sup>7</sup>18. 19 & 20. are Large Crown.

for the Purcell. 19.6.70

On 15 April 1840 Mr Pitch informed Rowland Hill that the inscriptions on the former's Hawk plates were altered in 6 letters.

This was a protest of the idea to re-use the legend on the VR & substitute. "These sheets are for the Govt of the post and intended for sale"

In the London Philatelic Exhibition, among the exhibits of the Postmaster-General, was a circular, of which the following is a copy :

"CIRCULAR



*Letter Receivers*

"To all Postmasters, Subpostmasters and Letter Receivers."  
"GENERAL POST OFFICE,  
"7th May, 1840.

"Referring to the circular of last month transmitting specimens of the one penny and two penny stamped covers and envelopes, and of the penny adhesive labels, I now enclose *two* specimens of the *twopenny* adhesive label, which you will preserve with the specimens already sent to you, for the purpose of comparison with any doubtful postage stamps passing through your hands. I also enclose for your information two specimens of the label stamp, bearing the letters V.R. at the upper corners, which are to be applied to the correspondence of Public Departments and other persons formerly enjoying the privilege of official franking.

"This latter specimen of the Label Stamp is merely sent to prevent, when it may come into use, any misapprehension arising from the letters V.R., which are intended to denote that the stamp is employed for official correspondence.

"I embrace this opportunity also of saying, that it is at present understood that Post Masters and Letter Receivers will be required to sell the *Adhesive Label Stamps* and the *Stamped Covers* (but not the envelopes) under licence from the Commissioners of Stamps. Upon this subject, however, you will receive full instructions when the issue of Postage Stamps is extended to other places than London.

"By Command,

*circulated 8 May 1840*

"W. L. MABERLEY, Secretary."

*Secretary*

*Yes it was  
in some cases  
New Zealand & ad  
one with V.R.  
on it & 2?*

\* I cannot believe that this circular with its enclosures was ever sent. Specimens of the 1 penny stamp, and of the 1d. and 2d. envelope, were sent out to the various post-offices on the 29th April, 1840, and on the following day another was sent out, fixing the 6th May as the day of issue. Now the above circular is dated 7th May, and states that the V.R. stamps were accompanied by a stamp of 2d. In 1880-81 Mr. Philbrick and I had a vast amount of trouble in finding out when the 2d. really was issued. The registered sheets were not to be found, and it was only after a minute search of the records, kindly undertaken by one of the chiefs of the department, that it was found that Plate I. was registered 2.5.40, before the plate was hardened. A further search was then made, by order of the Secretary of the Post Office, the result of which was communicated to us by a letter, dated 20th April, 1881, informing us that the 2d. was issued in London about May, and in the country in June, but no more approximate date could be obtained. The circular therefore, dated 7th May, addressed to post-offices, enclosing a stamp of 2d., could not have been sent into the country at the time when it is dated. The gun was loaded, that was all; and the charge, so far as the V.R. was concerned, was no doubt drawn before the circular was sent, if it ever was sent, which appears exceedingly doubtful. From what is said about the V.R. stamp, I should consider it to be past doubt but that the Treasury came to a very early decision not to issue it. The stamp bore ONE PENNY upon it. It would therefore frank an official communication of half an ounce. Had it been *sans valeur* one could have understood its use, for Government letters are not ordinarily on *pelure* note paper.

*wrong.*

+ See correcting note by Mr Westoby - Phil Record. 140. (p. 148 - vol XII Aug. 90) referring to Mr Jebay's letter, & showing some were sent, to the W. of England. both V.R.' & 2d. -

2 copies V.R. on letters dated forwarded in 1840. used as P. common stamp: seen by Mr Westoby: but by Murray. V.R. H.C. V.R. J.F. 2d each. to Mr Murray

A. Smith in color  
1850-70  
W.

Most of us know what a reprint is and how it differs from an imitation, whether made by the Government or by private hands, but it is not easy to define it exactly in a few words. As generally defined reprints are impressions of obsolete stamps made from the same plates or parts of the printing plates which were used for producing the originals, but without some qualification this is scarcely a correct or satisfactory definition, as without some addition it would embrace such stamps as those of France, issued in October, 1870, which were printed from the old printing plates of the issue of 1850, disinterred for that purpose after eight years of repose.

We quite agree with the author that the impressions in black from plate 66 of the one penny stamps of Great Britain were nothing more than imitations, pretending to be what they were not. As for the impressions from the same plate in carmine-red, we do not remember to have seen them, but if they are not stained blue we should be inclined to think that they were simply imperforate sheets of the stamps in printing from the plate in current use.

Why the specimens of printing exhibited in the Paris Exhibition of 1867, struck from the current plates 103 of the 1d. and 9 of the 2d., are headed "Issue of 1858 to 1864," we are at a loss to interpret, and we are equally at a loss to see how these can find their way into a catalogue of reprints, as they were merely specimens of the engraver's art struck from the plates in current use on thick plate paper. The specimen sheet shown by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. at the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1870 might with equally good reason find a place.



1. The first part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 10/10/1954. The letter discusses the author's interest in the subject of the journal and the possibility of publishing a paper on the topic.

2. The second part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 10/15/1954. The editor expresses interest in the author's work and suggests that the author submit a paper for consideration.

3. The third part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 10/20/1954. The author responds to the editor's letter and agrees to submit a paper for consideration.

4. The fourth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 10/25/1954. The editor informs the author that the paper has been accepted for publication.

5. The fifth part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 10/30/1954. The author thanks the editor for accepting the paper and expresses hope that the paper will be published in the journal.

6. The sixth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 11/5/1954. The editor informs the author that the paper has been assigned to a reviewer for evaluation.

7. The seventh part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 11/10/1954. The author responds to the editor's letter and expresses appreciation for the editor's interest in the author's work.

8. The eighth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 11/15/1954. The editor informs the author that the reviewer has recommended the paper for publication.

a forgery.

1<sup>st</sup> black V. R.

V. R. in upper angles. in a more flowing  
type (rather) than the regular

Maltese crosses in lower angles

Stamp perfect. in lines &c

The side cipher work too clear & clean.

The whole letter. (see photo letter? ?  
German. I think.

Watermark. unaltered Small crown.  
not quite correct. too big.

paper not quite right

also phrased red cross all over.

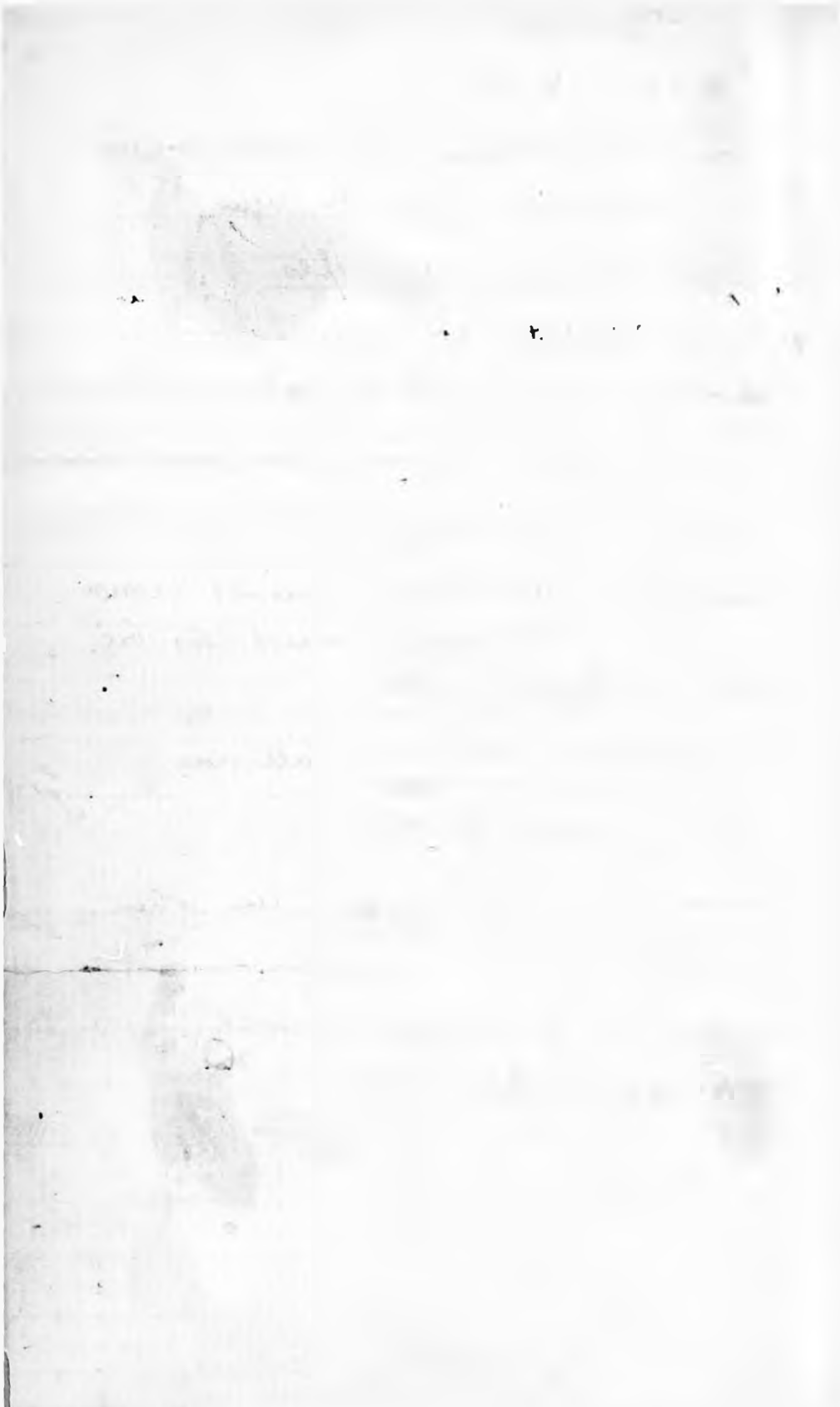
Die from a worn plate.

∴ wrong. as red ink not in use when  
plates worn. ??

Sent me by J. W. Scott. Brooklyn N.Y.  
for opinion. May '88.

In page 82 of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain* it is mentioned that a reprint of the One Penny, black, was made in 1864 on paper watermarked "Large Crown," which was upside down in Mr. Philbrick's specimen, from which the description was taken, and bore the letters R. H. in the lower letter blocks. A similar specimen, with the watermark upside down, has been sent to Major Evans bearing the letters T. J. in the lower letter blocks. distant therefore two rows only both ways from Mr. Philbrick's specimen.

1d., black, reprint (large Crown), A.K. G. P. Nichol. p. 5 & white.



1<sup>st</sup> block reprint. Copy rec<sup>d</sup> from America June 90.

by Major Evans. T - J. last stamp bottom row  
of sheet. unmark large crown inverted

F. I. 94. Colla Willett. Brighton. pair. unmark inverted. imp<sup>t</sup>  
R.G - R.H. of these. (large crown)

in Wright says. Apr 94. this reprint was pl 66. death  
same plate as 1<sup>st</sup> rose imperf.

in Wright May 94. D - J.

Avery Phil. Jubilee exhibit. block 6. - - - 1-A. B. C.  
- - - J-A. B. C.

Morley. July 94. H. E

Evans. Oct 94. A. I.

May 95. saw block. Walter Reddy. in Temple St. Exchange

6. 

--	--	--	--

B F	B G	B H
C F	C G	C H

 perfect x gum 24 gr. the lot priced.

Obliterations first in red ink

Black ink supplied authority post to Sta 9

Office to authority P. O. 18 Jan 1841.

Date of change 12 Feb 41.

in open even in provinces before 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.

See note . p. 377.

7. This was done, by removing ONE PENNY from the roller & transferring <sup>to</sup> it  
flat steel plate on which the words TWO PENCE were engraved in the usual  
then a fresh roller was used - ED Bacon. in Monthly Journal 21. 12. 92. p. 112.  
29. if an imp<sup>r</sup> was taken from roller: if then the P. was not used  
in a fresh roller would be necessary.

For M.S. p. 46 ante. <sup>issued</sup> Circular of 7. 5. 40, <sup>intended to</sup> sending specimens  
of 2d to the Post masters.

27. How generally  
never issued: as by 6 May '40. The Treasury must have  
decided against an official stamps of this nature.

Page 83, note. A further search in the records at Somerset House  
results in our ascertaining that Plate No. 1 of the twopence was completed  
on 2nd May, 1840; but there is no trace that it was ever hardened. Plate  
No. 2 was completed and hardened 31st July, 1840; and both plates were  
defaced 27th January, 1842. As it is clear from the records of the Post-  
office that twopenny stamps were issued in May and June, 1840, these  
must have been printed from Plate No. 1, notwithstanding it had never been  
hardened; and after making a close examination of the earliest specimens,  
we find the most remarkable confirmation of the fact. These specimens  
present a soft appearance, showing signs as if the plate had been "taken  
down" overmuch; while, as the usage of the plate proceeded, signs of wear  
become very apparent.

Mr. Chaves  
Warrant  
of 2<sup>d</sup> on 18  
undoubtedly for  
27 from  
Warrant for  
from new plate  
26. 2. 41.  
re. 1. 1. with  
Reg<sup>d</sup> on 25.

history as complete as possible, and to enable collectors to account for their peculiar features should they meet with specimens.\*

## SYNOPSIS.

1864. Paper watermarked with "large crown." Imperforate.  
One penny, black (reprint).

## 2. THE TWOPENCE (1840).

Date of Issue, May, 1840.†

DESIGN.—DIE I.—The design is identical with that of the one penny, the die being, as before stated, a reproduction from the original die of the one penny, the only variation consisting in the necessary alteration of the lower tablet, on which the value TWO PENCE is inscribed in place of ONE PENNY. This die will be distinguished as Die I.

In February, 1841, a slight change was made in the design by the introduction of two horizontal white lines, the one immediately below, and the other above, the upper and lower tablets, made by drawing them on a roller impression *from* of the matrix, and consequently causing no alteration in the die. The change cannot be called an improvement, but it is said to have been done as a matter of expediency to render the two-



\* The specimen from which the above description is taken is that in the collection of Mr. Philbrick, who received it from the late solicitor to the Stamp Office. It is gummed, and bears the lettering of R.H. in the lower angles. The watermark of the "large crown" is upside down.

† We have been at some pains to endeavour to ascertain the exact date when this issue took place. Unfortunately the early stamp records of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. were destroyed in a fire which occurred in their premises in 1857, so that we have been unable to obtain information from them respecting many early events. Impressions from Plates 1 and 2 are not to be found among the archives at Somerset House, but through the kindness of the head of the Stamping Department there the records have been searched, and it has been ascertained that the stamp was approved in May, 1840. A minute search in the records of the Post Office has been made, and the Secretary has informed us that the issue took place in London in May, 1840, and in the country in the following month.

penny stamp more easily distinguishable from that of the one penny. Plate No. 3, the impression from which was approved on the 25th February, 1841, is the first on which these lines appear, and no change was made either in Plate No. 4 or Plate 5, the former of which received its *imprimatur* on 6th December, 1849, and the latter on 8th June, 1855.

Plate No. 6 was approved 15th February, 1857, and impressions from it are readily distinguishable from those taken from Plates (Nos. 3, 4, and 5) as the white lines drawn on the roller were rendered somewhat less prominent. *(Harrison)*

**DIE II.**—In April, 1858, a new die was made for the twopence from a reproduction of Die II. of the one penny, as strengthened by Humphrys at the end of 1854. Why the preparation of a new die for the twopence should have been so long delayed does not appear; but it was probably owing to the demand for the stamps being very limited, and the strain on the plates consequently but feeble. This new die will be referred to as Die II. to distinguish it from that last described, and it was employed for the first time in the construction of plate No. 7, completed 18th May, 1858, impressions from which were approved 11th June following.\*

**PLATE.**—The plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps in twenty rows of twelve each, representing a facial value of £2; but a mark of division in a wedge-like form was engraved on the side margins between the tenth and eleventh rows to indicate where the sheet might be separated into two halves, each half sheet of the facial value of £1 being treated by the Post Office as an entire and separate sheet for the purpose of office computation. The legends on the margins of the plate were identical with those on the plate of the one penny, save the requisite changes in value to 2d. per label and 2s. per row of twelve.

The plates were originally numbered by numerals at the four

\* It is almost unnecessary to state, that Die II. of the twopence being, like Die I., made from a reproduction of the corresponding die of the one penny, there were no white lines on the die itself, which continued to be inserted in the manner before pointed out.

Coll. Off. Japling. Imperforate. 2° on small crown, plate 3,  
plates 3. 4. 5. 6. all white lines. 6 is on (large crown)

7. 8. 9. 12. 13. 14. 15. letters in 4 angles. (large crown).

6. has a narrow white line & is Die I. 7 - die II.

Plate 5. reg. 8. 6. 55 on small crown.  
just 6 lines. 9. 6. 55.

Bacon & Perkins books show (27. 2. 70).

That the 2° die made from the strengthened head  
(i.e. Humphrey's) was completed April 1858. therefore  
plate 6 2d. could not have been from this die, as  
that plate was made Sept-1856.

Plate 7. 2d. w<sup>d</sup> appear to be the first plate  
from the strengthened die head. as that plate  
was finished May 1858.

March 1889. Mr Peacock says.

Plate 4 ceased to be used. 8. 5. 56.

16. was finished. 21. 7. 55 covers from Westoby

24. L. crown perf. before plate 6. ~~probably made~~  
as in right  
copy or die. 69 sheet dt. 26. 4. 81.

I find from our books that the first 2d Postage Plate  
made from the strengthened die was No 7. & that it was made  
8 April 1858: & the first plate made from it was on 15 May 1858.  
You are right in saying that the new 1° die was used before  
the new 2d. as there seems to have been a difference of nearly 3/4 p  
W. & S. Westoby Esq. "J. B. Bacon"



Notes from Mr Heath. 5 June 1890 to Mr Westby,  
1856. Sept. Plate 6 of 2<sup>o</sup> made.

1858. April. New die of 2<sup>d</sup> made. (<sup>for</sup> Strong's theorem  
die)

~~1858 April 9<sup>th</sup>~~

Plates 3 & 4. vary

I has A. top triangle wide	4 has it always sloped
J square at lower side	J. always round
O narrower	O rounder
	T.F. much out of square.

generally letters are better shaped & squared in 3 than 4.  
Buhl's S. ann. - 1893. paper.

pl 12. early work - (Ewen) this <sup>pl</sup> & 9 of 1/2 d.

pl. 8. Lou Philatelist. June 1903. p 158. Mr S.C. Skipton  
writes he has plate 8. 2d. type 2 on large Crown.

corners, but when plate No. 12 was brought into use the plate numbers were enclosed in small circles, and the official number of the plate was introduced into the margins.

As has been stated above, plates Nos. 1 to 6 were constructed from the original die, but when plate No. 7 was constructed from Die II. some important alterations were made in the stamp, which were subsequently extended to that of one penny. The Maltese crosses in the upper angles were suppressed, and letters, the reverse of those in the lower angles, were substituted for them, the whole of which were in block or Egyptian letters, in lieu of the Roman capitals previously employed. At the same time also the number of the plate was inserted in minute figures in the net-work pattern of the frame on both sides.

Plate No. 8 was approved 7th July, 1859; and plate No. 9 14th March, 1861. Impressions from plates Nos. 10 and 11 ~~are not found~~ at Somerset House, nor have any specimens of stamps bearing these numbers been discovered, and as no record of the manufacture of these plates has been traced by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., we may safely assume that they were not constructed. Plate No. 12 was approved 1st January, 1868; plate No. 13 on 31st March, 1869; plate No. 14 on 24th April, 1871; and plate No. 15 on 3rd September, 1875. This latter plate was in use up to the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., at the close of 1879. It may be noticed that on the whole of these last three plates the white lines are thinner than on any of the former plates.

**PAPER.**—The paper employed was similar in all respects to that employed for the impression of the one penny. The first plate from which the impression deposited at Somerset House was taken off on paper watermarked with a "large crown" is No. 6, before referred to, but this paper was used during the continuance of Plate No. 5.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour originally adopted was Prussian-



blue, which continued with variations of depth of shade to be the normal colour up to the expiration of the contract at the close of 1879; but of late years the blue was somewhat darker and more purple in tone. The ink first employed was the ordinary blue printer's ink, rather pale in colour; but the ingredients were changed at the end of the year 1840, so as to render it destructible, and thus avoid the danger of the effacing marks being removed by cleaning.

**GUM.**—The adhesive composition employed was the same as that used for the one penny stamps; but the effect of the chemical action ~~between the blue ink and the potato starch~~ is not so pronounced as was the case in the one penny stamps, ~~besides which~~ a diffused blue tint <sup>however</sup> is found on many of the specimens arising from the absorption by the damped paper of a certain amount of colour. This tint varied in depth, inasmuch as it principally depended on the cleaning off of the plate in the process of printing. ~~the exactness of the workman~~

**PERFORATION.**—The observations already made are applicable to this value, all the changes in perforation being made simultaneously with those in the one penny. It does not appear that any experiments with Archer's machines were tried on sheets of the twopence, as no specimens have ever been met with.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### I.

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with "small crown." Imperforate.  
June, 1840. Twopence, light blue, deep blue (shades).

##### II.

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with "small crown." White lines inserted below POSTAGE and above TWO PENCE. Imperforate.  
March, 1841 to 1854. Twopence, deep blue (shades).

##### III.

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with "small crown." White lines, as in II. Perforated.

1854-1855. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 16.

1855. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 14.

Blue can be changed into

Brown  
Orange  
Yellow  
Green (not easy).  
Violet  
Black

This blue can be made  
into a faded red penny.

See Des Philatelist. 1. 2. 89

by Lucius L. Hubbs

immediately formed  
30.6.92

smack reverse inverted on 2; no letters in lower angles

probably because of the absence of <sup>the</sup> alum in its composition

See (s. 77.

Two ounces. inverted watermark.

die I White lines - 2? die I. p. 16 (s.c). + do p. 14

die II . plates nos # 8, 9, 12, 13, + 14, 15.

Imperf. p. 9.

pl 13. imperf Ferrary saw Apr 93

## IV.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines, as in II. Perforated. *Plate 5.*

*See p. 85.* { 1855. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 16.  
1856. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 14.

## V.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines thinner. Perforated.\* *Plate 6.*

1857. Twopence, deep blue, blue, *perf.* 16.

1857. Twopence, deep blue, *perf.* 14.

## VI.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines, as in II. Letters in all four angles. Plate numbers on stamps. Plates Nos. 7 to 12†; *perf.* 14.

July, 1858 to 1869. Twopence, deep blue (shades).

## VII.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines thin. Plates Nos. 13 to 15; *perf.* 14.

1869 to 1880. Twopence, blue, dark blue, violet-blue (shades).

## VARIETY.

Twopence, blue, deep blue, *imperforate.* Plate No. 13.

## 3. THE THREE HALFPENCE (1870).

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

This stamp was originally designed and the die of it engraved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. in 1860, in contemplation

\* Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were employed for I., Plates Nos. 3, 4, and 5 for II., III., and IV., and Plate No. 6 for V. As this latter plate was brought into use so late as February, 1857, it is remarkable as shewing that the perforation 16 was still in use in some of the machines up to that period, though specimens of impressions so perforated are somewhat rare.

† Plates No. 10 and 11 were not made.

of an alteration in the postal rates, which failed to secure the assent of Parliament.\*

DESIGN.—The design consists in a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, engraved on steel in the same manner as the die for the one penny, and on a ground mechanically engraved after a similar design. The head is enclosed by a triangular curvilinear band in the form of a shield, the apex resting on the exterior line of the rectangular frame at the bottom, while the curved line of the side opposite the apex touches the exterior line of the frame at the top. On this band, which is in white, is POSTAGE on one side, THREE on that opposite the apex, and HALFPENCE on the other, the intervening spaces being filled up with a scroll-patterned ornament. The usual white letter blocks are inserted in the four angles, and the size of the stamp is the same as that of the one penny, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm.



It may be remarked that the profile, though engraved after the model of the one penny, falls very far short of the original. The form of the triangular band also necessitated a change in the lower part of the bust, which is so shortened as to take away the repose which distinguishes that engraved by Mr. Heath.

PLATE.—The plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps in twenty rows, of twelve in each row, thus presenting the

\* A considerable provision appears to have been printed from the first plate of the die, which was approved of on 22nd March, 1860. The proposed issue was printed in lilac-rose, and perforated 14. The sheet on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed is deeply tinged with the blue discoloration, which had at that time absolutely ceased in the case of the one penny and twopence. The proposed alterations in the postal rates not having been carried out, the stock was ordered to be destroyed, but some few sheets were preserved, and copies are also found surcharged with "specimen." These stamps are not common, and when met with are readily distinguishable from the issue of 1870 by the colour of the impression. Although the *imprimatur* sheet and many specimens are found deeply discoloured, yet other impressions are found in which the discoloration is much less marked.

an error in the lettering e.g. 

L	O
O	L

 . . . must be as begins

? which plate. error <sup>O</sup> reflects <sup>O</sup> it sh<sup>d</sup> be P L.

may be some unwanted

was 6 by 11.2.95.

1 1/2" ferns.

P O

? when O simulates C.

C. P.

also. Record vol 17. p. 38 (95)

given \* O-P.

P. C. a known C. ?

\* exhibited by Harold White.  
Manchester. July. 1877.

S.G. Ann. J. 31.7.97. p. 15. vol. X.

See paper by Ed. Kingston. III Gen. Meet. p. 206 Sept 94.

In Kimpkins' head, only border altered

As to the blurring by the gum &c. see Ewen's W<sup>9</sup> Circular  
no 77. (1899) & the difference bet<sup>n</sup> 1860 & 1870 printing

Also remarks by Mr W. A. Smith's Circular 4<sup>th</sup> 295. July 99.



some of the 3.

kind of dextrine gum.

facial value of £1 10s., and constituting a Post Office sheet. On the top, bottom, and side margins was engraved the following legend: "PRICE 1½d. per label; 1s. 6d. per row of twelve; £1 10s. per sheet. Place the labels ABOVE the address," &c., as in the plate of one penny. The plate and official numbers were also inserted in the margins, as also the mark indicating the point where the sheet was divisible into halves, in the same manner as in the plate of the one penny.

**IMPRESSION.**—The original plate constructed in 1860 was employed for printing the first supply of these stamps, and it was not until the 13th April, 1874, that another plate appears to have received the *imprimatur*. This was numbered 3, and minute figures of 3 were introduced into the reticulated border of the stamp in the first entire lozenge immediately above the two lower letter blocks. Plate No. 2 is not found, and was never used. The stamp was employed on a very limited scale, and Plate No. 3 was still in use at the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and most probably its issue was due rather to the fact that the die and the plate were in existence than from any particular call for its issue on the part of the public.

**LETTERING.**—This was precisely similar to that on the one penny and twopenny stamps. *in black letters.*

**PAPER.**—This was also the same as that employed for the last-mentioned stamps, having the same watermark in the margins and the "large crown" on each stamp.

The colour of the impression was lake-red, at times approaching very closely to some of the shades of colour of the one penny.

**PERFORATION, &c.**—The gumming and perforation were the same as in the one penny and twopenny.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "large crown." Plates 1 and 3, the first not numbered on the face; perf. 14.

1st October, 1870 to 1880. Three halfpence, lake-red (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Three halfpence, lake-red (Plate 1), *imperforate*.

## 4. THE HALFPENNY (1870).

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

**DESIGN.**—The die was engraved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and the design consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a white ground within an upright oval medallion, standing in a rectangular frame, the ground-work of which is mechanically engraved in lattice work. At each angle is a white square block for receiving the letters, and



the spaces on each side between the upper and lower blocks are filled in with a solid ground of colour, on which " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." is inserted in white. The plate numbers are found in the reticulated border of the framework on each side in minute figures in white, as in the one penny. The stamp measures 18 mm. in width by 14 mm. in height, and its diminutive size rendered it inconvenient in use, though it doubtless was acceptable to the officials as preventing confusion.

**PLATE.**—The plate consisted of four hundred and eighty stamps in twenty rows, of twenty-four in each row, thus presenting the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post Office sheet. On the top, bottom, and side margins the following legend was engraved: "PRICE  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per label; 1s. per row of 24; £1 per sheet. Place the labels ABOVE and at the RIGHT-HAND side of the address. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the cement." The number of the plate was inserted in a small circle at each of the four corners of the plate, and at the top and bottom between the twelfth and thirteenth stamp in the row, a fan-shaped ornament was introduced into the margins, indicating the point of division of the sheet into halves. The official number was on the upper margin of the left half, and in the lower margin of the right half.

The issue commenced with Plate No. 1, approved on the 20th June, 1870. Plate No. 2 was never finished; plate No. 7 was not made, nor were Nos. 16, 17, and 18, but with these

number of impressions from plate 97 to the 1st was  
not necessarily in consequence of a failure of the  
plate. Up to Oct. 1870 in expectation of a fabulous  
demand for the 4<sup>th</sup> stamps they had printed 600  
millions, from plates 1 to 8 groups 2 & 7. This  
proved to be a stock equal to nearly 3 years consumption  
and there was no further printing till Oct 1871  
when a disturbing printing from plate 9 was made.

My next point is why did they bring on  
plates 10 & 11 so rapidly - They were up? Oct 1872  
after which there was more steady work. I am  
afraid that one shall not get to the bottom  
of this for if I recollect rightly when I asked  
Peacock about it, he replied that he could  
only give me the date when the plate was  
put to press but he had no record of its  
performance. So plate 132 of the 1<sup>st</sup> one  
year of the best - down, for it is scarce  
enough for a regular cropper.



on card.  
black proof before letters. approved for die 31.5.70 "F. S."

Head's Sergeant. Lady J. Rose. - show Bacon & Co. 28 Feb '90

in  
14 Rep<sup>s</sup> p. 28.

$\frac{1}{2}$  after issue to 31.3.71 - 77.215.680. Duty £160.866... -

Low Phil: no 1. p. 26. Explaining here a pl 3. much altered to 9.

In the *Record* for June last, page 96, in the paragraph commencing "Page 90, foot of page," it is stated that plate No. 9 of the halfpenny was not put to press. We have since seen a used specimen printed from plate No. 9.

plate No 9. was ~~not~~ put to press, seen 30.11.83  
but plate showed early traces of wear (Even

Page 90, foot of page. Plate No. 9 of the halfpenny was ~~not~~ put to press, and therefore must be included in the exception at p. 92, in which latter add to the imperforate varieties that specimens printed from Plates Nos. 1, 4, and 6 are found in addition to No. 5. error.

Page 90. Foot of page: The statement made in Appendix, *Philatelic Record*, vol. v. p. 96, is erroneous. Specimens from Plate No. 9 have been shown to us, though for some reason or other they are exceedingly scarce. In the O. C. are imperforate specimens of all the 15 Plates that were used printed on the paper and in the colour of the issue.

Paper.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d pl: 20. See S. G. & Co. Dec 94 on a paper of  
full reddish tint: not quite as if were absorbent when wet.

Perforation, badly done. Philatelist Vol. VI. p. 169, 1872.

Describes a pair, in middle of sheet, imperforate, sheet  
otherwise being duly perf.

exceptions plates numbered in consecutive order followed uninterruptedly. Plate No. 20, which was the last constructed previously to the expiration of the contract at the close of the year 1879, was approved on 31st December, 1878.

LETTERING.—The lettering of the stamps was on the same system as that employed for the other values; but as they were more numerous in the horizontal rows, those on the first row were necessarily lettered in the lower angles from A.A. to A. ~~7.~~, X and in the upper from A.A. to ~~100~~ — V X

PAPER.—The paper was similar to that on which the one penny stamp was printed, though rather thinner. The sheet measured twenty-one inches in length by fourteen inches in depth, and was watermarked with the word HALFPENNY in cursive hand, repeated eight times in the length and twenty times in the depth, so as to extend horizontally over three stamps. The only watermark in the border was at each end of the sheet, where the words "Postage Stamps" in cursive hand are found.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was lake-red, and varied but little during the continuance of the issue except that at times the colour approached more or less to rose-red.

PERFORATION, &c.—The perforation was the usual one of 14. The perforation was not made from the top to the bottom of the sheet, but from end to end, and it may be remarked that it was not continued after the twenty-third row, so that the twenty-fourth was only perforated on three sides. The gumming was the same as in the preceding values.

REMARKS.—This stamp was called into existence when the rate on newspapers and book-post parcels was reduced, a half-penny then becoming the unit of calculation in respect of them. The first order given was for nearly six hundred millions, and though, on account of the extensive use of halfpenny wrappers, the demand has not kept pace with the expectations of the authorities, it is still very considerable, and in point of numbers ranks next after that of the one penny.



SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "HALFPENNY" extending over three stamps. Plates 1 to 20, except 2, 7, 16, 17, and 18; perf. 14.

1st Oct., 1870 to 1880.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., lake-red, rose-red (shades of both).

VARIETY.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. lake-red, imperforate. Plate No. ~~1~~

Plates Nos. 1. 4. 5. & 6.  
8

proof. I had an old collar now terraced

in card.  $\frac{1}{2}$  in rose  
black no letters  
green.

Seen  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. before letters: no spaces and in uncolored  
border for plate no.  $\frac{1}{2}$ . colour same as sample paper 6  
Star unmarked. Specimen with written across.

1 & 5. both imperf: seen colln Japling. (5) in Nov 1882.

Colln. 60. by Japling Feb 55 made up at S. House. was

Unnumbered & imperforate. plates.

1. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 19. 20.

wanting 2. 7. 16. 17. 18.

Inverted watermark. pl 3.

pl (4) imperf: seen. Hinton 8.1.94.

20 May 1890. at P. Socy. Exhibition saw

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. plate 20. imperf. green proof. paper of issue.

Probably a trial for the change of colour with both plates  
in the next issue of this value.

Pair imperf<sup>o</sup> noted Dec 11 (Low Phil/1893 p. 219

one pl 13. other (13). with last is right & former falsified.

22.1.94 In Sharbores showed me  $\frac{1}{2}$ d used proof. p. 18. which  
&  $\frac{1}{2}$  imp used. pl: 8. on inspection is 13.

Note. fig 3 on (13) blurred rather in shape, resembles an 8.

Wyon. Lemars C. died Aug<sup>r</sup> 1891.

Engraver to Seals. engraved first flower. designed  
by W. Dyer. R.A.

## SECTION II.

### EMBOSSSED STAMPS.

- (1) THE ONE SHILLING . issued 13th September, 1847. *issue 3.9.47*  
(2) THE TENPENCE . " 6th November, 1848. *issue 1.11.48*  
(3) THE SIXPENCE . " 1st March, 1854.

This Section, consisting of three values only, comprises the whole of the adhesive postage stamps ever manufactured by the Inland Revenue Department, having been embossed in colour and gummed on the government premises at Somerset House.

In consequence of a manifest desire on the part of the public that the prepayment of letters by means of stamps, more especially as applicable to foreign and colonial letters, should be facilitated by the issue of stamps of a higher value than those then in use, it was decided to issue a stamp of the value of one shilling, adapted for the prepayment of the then existing single letter rates to the United States of America and the Colonies. This was followed up in the next year by the issue of one of the value of tenpence, principally intended for the prepayment of the then existing single letter rate to France. The sixpence was not issued till some years later, to afford more ready means for paying the reduced rate on Belgian and certain other foreign letters, as also the registration fee of sixpence, then in force. The manufacture of these stamps was undertaken by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and the designs were prepared by Mr. Ormond Hill. The dies, so far as related to the embossed head of the Queen, were constructed by Mr. William Wyon, at the workshops of the Mint, and his initials

appear on the base of the Queen's bust on each working die, accompanied by a numeral denoting its index number.\* The border, or framing, with the reticulated pattern of mechanical lathe-work engraved upon it, was designed and executed by Mr. Moss, an engraver since dead. The stamps were struck in colour by the colour-embossing presses of the Department, but were not much appreciated by the public, as in order to produce a high relief, the paper employed was thick, nearly of the substance of cartridge paper, and this rendered it difficult to make them adhere firmly to the letter.

As each stamp was struck separately, the process of the manufacture was necessarily exceedingly tedious.

The gum employed was common gum arabic of a yellowish tinge, frequently imparting a similar hue to the paper. The gum was applied thickly, and the operation was performed after the stamps were struck, for the cavities caused by the embossing are frequently found to be filled with gum.

Copies of all these stamps are found surcharged SPECIMEN. Although copies of the one penny adhesive stamp had been forwarded to every postmaster previously to its issue, with instructions to preserve them in order to compare them in case of doubt with the stamps on the letters passing through the office, yet they do not appear to have been invariably surcharged with the word SPECIMEN. This surcharge, as applied to adhesives, appears first on these stamps, and the Post-office authorities for many subsequent years continued to send to all the postmasters copies of new values, and frequently of fresh issues of existing values so surcharged, ~~attached to~~ a circular giving the notice of their issue. The system appears to have now fallen into disuse, the last circular of the kind being that which accompanied specimen copies of the adhesive stamps of 10d., 2s., and 5s.,

\* The head of the Queen, as engraved by Mr. Wyon, is the same in all the embossing dies; but in the several values the disposition of the back hair is somewhat altered, by making some small addition to the original tress, and varying the pendent curls. Further details will be found in the account of the embossed envelopes of one penny.

14 Nov 98 from Mr. Bennett Hill per Mr. Westoby  
Paper was sent in by Dickinson's. 6 Perkins Bacon &  
& gummed there, & then sent me to S. H. & there cut  
up into the size req<sup>d</sup> & stamped for 1/4 + 10<sup>d</sup> clear  
paper of all in sheets large enough for 240 sheets  
after return gummed to S. H. cut up there into sheets  
big enough to receive 71 worth sheets.

O. H. believes 6<sup>d</sup> gummed at 1/5 + 10<sup>d</sup> ? but balance  
cut paper uncut from Messrs. 1855. No  
? Blue gum. Perkins. ? Notative starch.

Steam press used. (Cromwell Hill to W.S.G. Mar 81. 18.)

"De La Rue began gumming for the Depart." Dec 1854 (54)

EMBOSSSED STAMPS, PP. 93-99.

Page 94. Some exception has been taken to our statement regarding the issue of "specimen" stamps, but we are unable to see anything that requires alteration save that, to be critically accurate, we should have said that these stamps were accompanied by or "attached to a circular," &c. The adhesive stamps issued to the various postmasters prior to the embossed stamps were not surcharged; but from this period copies of all are to be found, the one shilling with horizontal surcharge in thin block letters, in red and black; the tenpence and sixpence, with similar surcharge in black. The practice of sending "specimen" copies to the various postmasters then became general, and was continued down to the year 1867. The one penny, red, Die II, "large crown," with letters in the lower angles only, perforated 14, and the twopence, Die I, "small crown," perforated 14, were issued surcharged longitudinally, and were probably sent out simultaneously about the end of the year 1855, as their peculiar features point to that period. The fourpence, "small garter," on safety paper, was also issued about the same period surcharged longitudinally. These stamps and the subsequent issues of type-printed stamps were surcharged in sheets by the contractors, the type used by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. being thin block capitals, that used by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. thick block capitals; and except in the instances above mentioned and one or two others the surcharge was printed horizontally. Since the year 1867 the practice has been discontinued, as the necessity for any such indiscriminate issue no longer exists, a weekly circular issued by the Post-office giving notice to the postmasters of impending changes and of any fresh issues, thus leaving it to them to apply to the Inland Revenue Department for a supply. As copies of the fresh issues, and of any changes of colour, watermark, &c., in the existing issues are required for the service, the Inland Revenue Department stamps all such with a hand-stamp provided for the purpose, the word "specimen" being in small Roman capitals. These "specimen" stamps do not consequently denote early printed, and can be objects of but little interest and of no special value to collectors.

Copies of the embossed envelopes of one penny and twopence, and of the one penny half-sheet, were issued, surcharged in red, with the word "specimen" in large Roman capitals on the face; and copies of the threepence, fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling embossed stamps were issued as noticed, pages 190 and 193, surcharged with "specimen" across the stamp. Copies of the various sizes of the Registration Envelopes are also found with "specimen" across the stamp. These latter were only issued to some post-offices more as a guide to the public for the several sizes than for the information of the postmasters.

12 Oct 86. from Mr Matthews. Block sold Mr Mat?.  
 5 of 1/2. 8 gm. green. showing lateral edges very  
 completely. sheet 120 mm wide.

(from Mr Purcell. 30.4.90. I saw it 20.8.90)

first 1/2 registered (die) on 25 June 1847. ww.

Mr. 14. 5.67. warrant issued to E Hill for 192,000 of 1/2.  
 + 7.7.47. " " 760,000.

No 2 + were.

Page 95. Die No. 3 of the one shilling was registered 8th February, 1858, but does not seem to have been used for adhesive stamps, as it was not given out to the stampers till 1865, when it was furnished with date plugs. It continued to be used till 1875.

Die No. 3

\* Die 2. ~~was used in 1858-1859?~~  
 never prepared for dates. was put to press & withdrawn

x from Mr. H. K. Kintpatrick Ho.  
 Ser. 25.12.92. block. 15. 3 in rows. 5 vertical rows: left row off.  
 deckled edges. top, bottom & right side. sheet measured 4.50" x 6.25". 4 in w.w.  
 monkey reports to be 1/2 with 1 thread each side.  
 also. 2 " "

issued in 1867. It has not been thought necessary to enumerate those thus surcharged SPECIMEN, but some collectors attach value to them, as indubitably showing early printed copies.

### 1. THE ONE SHILLING (1847).

Date of Issue, 13th September, 1847.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a diademed profile to the left of Queen Victoria, with pendent bunch of curls embossed in white relief on a solid ground of colour, enclosed in an octagonal frame, ornamented with an interlaced pattern of fine white lines, engine-turned on a solid ground of colour, on which is inscribed, in sunken block letters, POSTAGE on the left vertical side, ONE on the top, and SHILLING on the right vertical side. The stamp measures 24 by 27 mm.



The initials w. w. on the base of the bust have a full stop after each, and are followed by the die number, all in relief. Two dies, numbered 1 and 2, were approved of and used, but die No. 2 ~~appears to have been~~ furnished with date numerals at the end of 1855, and turned to account for stamping envelopes.

PAPER.—The paper made use of was thick "Dickinson" of a light cream colour, manufactured with coloured silk threads running in parallel pairs through the sheet, at a distance from each other of from 4 to 5 mm., and so arranged as to admit of one pair passing through each stamp longitudinally.

IMPRESSION.—A single impression only from each die is found in the archives at Somerset House, struck on a sheet of plain paper, on which is endorsed that "the impressions taken from these dies are allowed to denote the duty of one shilling on the postage of letters." It is a curious fact that this endorsement is dated the 8th February, 1853.

The stamps were struck on small sheets, about the size of half a sheet of note-paper, sufficiently large to admit of twenty

impressions in four rows of five in each row.

five

four

was/

offer made to number closer  
by this condition till it got  
done time was  
there is one left  
25.6.47.  
no 1.

was app. passed  
for date plugs  
used for 2000  
20y 1855-75-



The colour of the impression was green, varying in shades from emerald to a full deep tone.

The stamp continued in use until it was superseded, in July, 1856, by the type-printed adhesive stamp of similar value.

SYNOPSIS.

13th September, 1847. Embossed with coloured ground on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper. Imperforate.

One Shilling, emerald-green to full deep green.

2. THE TENPENCE (1848).

Date of Issue, 6th November, 1848.

DESIGN.—The design differs but little from that of the one shilling, and the size of the stamp is the same. A small alteration is made in the disposition of the pendent curl, and the pattern of the interlaced ornamentation of the octagonal frame is varied. The inscription on the frame, in sunken block letters, is POSTAGE on the left vertical side, TEN on the top, and PENCE on the right vertical side.



The initials w. w., on the base of the bust in die 1, precede the numeral denoting the number of the die, and are all in relief; but in the subsequent dies the order is reversed, and the numeral precedes the initials. Six working dies were prepared and approved, but we have not found specimens of impressions from more than the first four. They were never employed for any other purpose than for the embossing this adhesive stamp, the only envelopes of the value of tenpence having been stamped with a combination of sixpence and fourpence. *Correct. Later 1848*

PAPER.—The paper made use of was "Dickinson," similar to that used for the one shilling, though some of the impressions are found on comparatively thin paper, and the pair of parallel threads are frequently less than 4 mm. apart.

Stamp. before under no punched on die.

10 d. under no<sup>o</sup> rev.

w. w. 1

2 w. w.

3 w. w.

4 w. w.

Color issue is on white paper. shades to note  
chessnut to dark bronze.

10 d. Reg<sup>o</sup>. 23. 5. 48 (~~247<sup>o</sup>~~) no die No ① ~~1/2~~

10<sup>a</sup> 3. 5. 50 die ②

10<sup>o</sup> Die without any marks, registered <sup>23</sup> ~~25~~. 5. 48. ✓

10<sup>o</sup> Die 2. w. w. Reg<sup>o</sup> 3. 5. <sup>50</sup> 80 (2)

warrant. for 96000 of N<sup>o</sup>. on 14. 5. 47.

\* Die 6. used for Telegraphic Trans. Stock Exchange. in Paris  
in light blue shade. 1 Apr 1889.

In stamping these sometimes overlapped. see a pair in the  
coll. of H. J. Townsend. Pl. 24: 90. ~~XXXX~~. Thus.

8. 2. 53 Set new 6<sup>o</sup> Reg<sup>o</sup> with numbered 1 2 3  
4 5 6

Warrant. 14. 5. 47. for 96000 } 9 10<sup>o</sup> ? die 1.  
" 4. 7. 47. " 192.000 }

W W S  
W W S  
W W S

+ There is a die Reg<sup>o</sup>. 23. 5. 48. No 1.

3. 5. 50 No 2.

~~Handwritten scribbles and faint text~~

~~Handwritten scribbles and faint text~~

~~Handwritten scribbles and faint text~~

~~Handwritten scribbles and faint text~~

F.A.P.

A **EMBOSSSED STAMPS.** 97  
(see preceding note in volume)

IMPRESSION.—The sheet in the archives at Somerset House, on which the allowance was endorsed, has copies of each of the six dies impressed upon it in two rows of three in each row, and, like that of the one shilling, is dated 8th February, 1853.

The stamps were struck on small sheets, similar to those on which the one shilling were struck, but sufficiently large to admit of twenty-four stamps in six rows of four in each row.

The colour of the impression was in chestnut-brown, varying in shades.

When the postage to France was reduced from tenpence to fourpence, on 1st January, 1855, the issue of this stamp was suspended, but the stock remaining on hand was issued for a temporary requirement in 1863.

chis  
no. 1.1.3  
4.5.6  
to the page &  
2 pages side  
by side to the  
sheet of 48 1/2

whiter than

SYNOPSIS.

6th November, 1848. Embossed with coloured ground on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper. Imperforate.

Tenpence, chestnut-brown (shades).

3. THE SIXPENCE (1854).

Date of Issue, 1st March, 1854.\*

DESIGN.—The design differs from that of the two preceding stamps, principally in the shape of the exterior frame, the

\* The dates of issue of this and the two preceding stamps have been erroneously given in almost every stamp catalogue. Those here given have been officially supplied to the Society by the Secretary of the General Post Office, and may be implicitly relied on. Philatelists had such a settled idea that the sixpence was issued in 1842, that when Mr. Pearson Hill first mentioned March, 1854, as being the date of issue, but very few were so far convinced as to accept it, and the major part of those who did, accepted it only *sous bénéfice d'inventaire*. To remove any doubts on the part of such sceptics, we annex a copy of the following notice of its issue as published in the *London Gazette*:

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House,  
"February, 1854.

"Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have provided a Stamp for denoting the Value of 6d. for Postage, and that such Stamp will be issued to the Public on and after the 1st March next.

By Order of the Board,

"THOMAS KROGH, Secretary."

upright and horizontal sides of the octagonal frame remaining straight, while the other four are curved. The arrangement of the hair of the Queen is again different, and the pattern of the ornamentation of the border varied. In the lower portion of the frame a bouquet composed of the rose, shamrock, and thistle is introduced. The inscription on the frame, in sunken block letters, is POSTAGE on the left vertical side, SIX on top, and PENCE on the right vertical side. The stamp measures 25 by 28 mm.



The initials w. w., on the base of the bust, are preceded by the numerals denoting the number of the die, all in relief. Specimens printed from die 1 have alone been found by us, though M. Rondot, in his monograph (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 222), speaks of die 2 having been in use. At the end of 1855, while the issue of this stamp as an adhesive was still going on, die No. 2 is found furnished with date numerals, and employed for printing envelopes, but we have failed to meet with any specimen of it as applied to the printing of adhesive stamps.\*

*made by Surcouf & Co. - gummed by P.B. & Co.*

PAPER.—The paper was thick, cream-coloured, frequently approaching to straw-colour, hand-made, and watermarked for each stamp with the letters VR in single lined capitals, somewhat resembling the watermark in use at about the same period for some of the fiscal adhesive stamps.

IMPRESSION.—The sheet on which the allowance of the impressions from the working dies ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> endorsed is ~~not to be~~ found in the archives at Somerset House *dated 11 January 1854*.

The stamps, like those of the one shilling, were struck on small sheets, adapted to admit of twenty impressions in ~~four~~ <sup>five</sup> rows of ~~five~~ <sup>five</sup> in each row.

\* As no registered copies of impressions from the working dies of this value are to be found at Somerset House, it is not possible to ascertain how many were originally constructed; but we have seen a proof impression from one bearing the number 4.

*3*  
Page 98, note. Further investigations show that Dies Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of the sixpence were registered on the 11th January, 1854. *4*

Normal watermark.

V R.

reversed

R V. not rare

inverted.

R V very scarce copy in copy

reversed & inverted

V R ordinary.

See plate die No 6 MS. 192. part.  
1<sup>st</sup>. - 193.

find this out.

Nos 1. 2 & 3 only no. 5 but 5 & 6 were reg<sup>d</sup> with  
these. making 8 in all. of the red tint. ... on 19. 1. 54.

first warrant is 27. 1. 54.

2 pieces of 20 each (side by side)

warrant for 160,000. on 3. 10. 56. last of these 6?

upright and horizontal sides of the octagonal frame remaining straight, while the other four are curved. The arrangement of the hair of the Queen is again different, and the pattern of the ornamentation of the border varied. In the lower portion of the frame a bouquet composed of the rose, shamrock, and thistle is introduced. The inscription on the frame, in sunken block letters, is POSTAGE on the left vertical side, SIX on top, and PENCE on the right vertical side. The stamp measures 25 by 28 mm.



The initials *w. w.*, on the base of the bust, are preceded by the numerals denoting the number of the die, all in relief. Specimens printed from die 1 have alone been found by us, though M. Rondot, in his monograph (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 222), speaks of die 2 having been in use. At the end of 1855, while the issue of this stamp as an adhesive was still going on, die No. 2 is found furnished with date numerals, and employed for printing envelopes, but we have failed to meet with any specimen of it as applied to the printing of adhesive stamps.\*

*made by Brunner & Co. purchased by P.B. & Co. 1854*

PAPER.—The paper was thick, cream-coloured, frequently approaching to straw-colour, hand-made, and watermarked for each stamp with the letters VR in single lined capitals, somewhat resembling the watermark in use at about the same period for some of the fiscal adhesive stamps.

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Page 98, note. Further investigations show that Dies Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of the sixpence were registered on the 11th January, 1854.

|                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Normal watermark.   | V R.                           |
| reversed            | R V - not rare                 |
| inverted.           | R Λ very scarce. copy in Poply |
| reversed & inverted | Λ B ordinary.                  |

See plate die No 6 MS. 192. part.  
 " " " 193.

find this out.

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting]*

Nos 1, 2 & 3 only no? but 5 & 6 dies were reg<sup>d</sup> with  
 these, making 8 in all. of the red tint. ... on 19. 1. 54.

first warrant on 27. 1. 54

2 pieces of 20 each (side by side)

warrant for 160,000. on 3. 10. 56. last of these 6?



V R  
 V R  
 V R  
 V R

No 30. Last warrant for this 6<sup>th</sup>? 10,000 sheets of 40 each.  
 on 1.8.55. to Wren & Co mistake for E. Mill.  
 i.e. 30 pages of 20 each to each. 9/11

on white paper also

...  
 ...  
 ...  
 ...  
 ...

The colour first employed was violet, varying only in depth of shade; but afterwards a reddish-lilac was adopted, of which several shades are also found. It should further be mentioned that the gum on many specimens of the violet impression has a greenish tinge. *a red case of B. & Co. has Co. gomme.*

*2 true, or der.  
inverted  
in Key sheet*

The amateurs of misplaced watermarks will find specimens of these both inverted and reversed, owing to the stamper having taken the sheets either the wrong side upwards or the wrong end foremost.

*both shades*

This stamp continued in use until October, 1856, when it was superseded by the issue of a type-printed adhesive stamp of the same value.

## SYNOPSIS.

1st March, 1854.—Embossed with coloured ground on thick, cream-coloured, hand-made paper; watermark "V R." Imperforate.

Sixpence, violet (shades).

„ reddish-lilac (shades).

From bag of *Sprinkled Stamps*, they took an impression of the  
 entire plate in black as plain paper from every  
 100. plate of *De la Reue* who is kept as a  
 Standard at S. H. (see *Illustrated*. 29.10.95)

Surface printed

### SECTION III.

#### TYPE-PRINTED STAMPS.\*

These stamps consist of—

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| (1) THE FOURPENCE . . .                | issued 31st July, 1855.               |
| (2) THE SIXPENCE . . .                 | „ 21st October, 1856.                 |
| (3) THE ONE SHILLING . . .             | „ 1st December, 1856. <i>November</i> |
| (4) THE NINEPENCE . . .                | „ 15th January, 1862.                 |
| (5) THE THREEPENCE . . .               | „ 1st May, 1862.                      |
| (6) THE TENPENCE . . .                 | „ 1st July, 1867.                     |
| (7) THE TWO SHILLINGS . . .            | „ 1st July, 1867.                     |
| (8) THE FIVE SHILLINGS . . .           | „ 1st July, 1867.                     |
| (9) THE TWO PENCE HALF-<br>Penny . . . | „ 1st July, 1875.                     |
| (10) THE EIGHTPENCE . . .              | „ 1st September, 1876.                |
| (11) THE TEN SHILLINGS . . .           | „ 25th September, 1878.               |
| (12) THE ONE POUND . . .               | „ 25th September, 1878.               |
| (13) THE ONE PENNY . . .               | „ 1st January, 1880.                  |
| (14) THE ONE HALFPENNY . . .           | „ October, 1880.                      |
| (15) THE THREE HALFPENCE . . .         | „ October, 1880.                      |
| (16) THE TWOPENCE . . .                | „ November, 1880.                     |
| (17) THE FIVEPENCE . . .               | „ 15th March, 1881.                   |

On the 1st January, 1855, a reduction in the rate of postage to France from tenpence to fourpence came into operation, and there was in consequence a call for the issue of a stamp of this

\* In this Section are comprised, not only all the adhesive postage stamps actually in use at the present time, but four which, having been withheld from further issue, have become obsolete; viz., the eightpence, ninepence, and tenpence, originally issued to supply temporary demands for stamps of these denominations, and the two shillings, the demand for which after the issue of telegraph stamps became so limited as to gradually dwindle into insignificance.

TYPE-PRINTED STAMPS, PP. 100-160.

Page 100. In the list of type-printed stamps for (3) "ONE SHILLING, issued 1st December, 1856," read "1st November, 1856," and add to the list:

- (18) THE ONE PENNY (1881), issued 28th June, 1881.  
 (19) THE FIVE POUNDS, issued May, 1882.

See Mr De La Rue's evidence before Depart. Comm. of 1884.

Important to have their uniform surface of

ink: in type printing.

Page 108. IMPRESSION. Although ordinary typographic printing presses are employed in surface printing, yet the process differs somewhat from ordinary printing from types. In the latter the paper is damped previously to its being subjected to the inked type, in order to enable it to imbibe the ink more freely; while in the former the paper is used dry after having been milled to such an extent as to render the surface hard and glossy, and prevent it as much as possible from imbibing the ink. The ink is prepared with a species of varnish known in the trade as "Silvine," an oleaginous compound of a very sensitive nature, possessing the quality of changing and becoming disorganized if any of the preparations used as detergents are applied to the stamps. It is necessary that the plate should be kept heated during the printing; the ink is also applied warm, and sets immediately on the paper. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. have with signal advantage substituted a tympan made of satin for the parchment one ordinarily employed in typographic printing.

In type printing, the sheet is gummued first, & the impression always taken after gummued -

In the impriated rollers appears as gummued sheet: thus differing from the recess printing by Bacon.

000.01

000.40

x. The design for the head of the Queen was originally sketched by F. Joubert, an artist in De la Rue's atelier. A proof impression without background on a large sheet of paper was shown at the *Ph. Exhib.* May 1890. It has been purchased at one of Bull's Auctions of Stamps. From what he calls "Chauvrey; Coronation head"

Warrants to De la Rue & Joubert for printing ofpt 1/2  
 10.7.55 for 12,000  
 22.7.58 " " 12,000  
 23.8.58 " " 10,000

34,000.

Issue Printed in the reign of the E H Douel. 9.6.92.

66,452 sheets of 60. 1<sup>st</sup> July 1855 to 30.6.56  
 56,234 " " 1856 " 57  
 87,963 " " 1857 " 58

210,649

years 3 | 52,662 sheets of 4 pages paper  
 or 7,564 per annum.

latter denomination. So small a measure of success had attended the issue of the embossed adhesive stamps that the Commissioners of the Inland Revenue Department could feel but little encouragement to make further trial of stamps manufactured by such a tedious and costly process. Independently of this, in the interval that had elapsed since the issue of the stamps of one penny and twopence in 1840, not only had experience been gained from the knowledge of what was being done in other countries where the new system of adhesive stamps had been adopted, but great progress had been made in the art of electro-metallurgy. Still, although the ingenious invention for the application of the voltaic circle to multiplying copies of plates for engravings had been brought before the public in the year 1840, it was not till some years after that it received any practical application to the manufacture of postage stamps.

In the autumn of the year 1848 the National Assembly in France decreed the establishment of a uniform rate of postage, to come into effect on the 1st January following. Application was at once made to Messrs. Bacon and Petch by the French Government to ascertain in what space of time and at what price they would undertake to furnish the required provision of stamps; but the answers to both these questions were not satisfactory, and the negotiation was in consequence broken off. The Government, pressed for time, then addressed itself to M. Hulot, a French engraver, who, at a time when the Bank of France was in immediate want of a supply of small notes, had in two months supplied what were required by the aid of the electrotyping or galvanoplastic process. M. Hulot saw his way to the application of a similar process to the manufacture of postage stamps, and succeeded so well in his operations that a week before the 1st January, 1849, when the new law was to come into operation, all the post-offices in France were provided with supplies of stamps, while a surplus of from eight to ten millions remained in stock.

Again, in the year 1851, Messrs. Archer and Branston sub-

mitted to the Inland Revenue Department a proposition offering to print, gum with the best white gum, and perforate, the whole of the adhesive postage stamps required by the Department at the rate of 4½d. per 1,000, provided that they were allowed to print them on the surface principle, similar to that adopted in France. Specimens of what they professed to be able to accomplish by employing this mode of printing were produced by them before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1852. These, known as the "Prince Albert Essays," will be referred to hereafter. But what doubtless principally influenced the authorities in determining in 1855 to make a trial of the typographic system was that at this period Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co., of Bunhill Row, London, were supplying the Inland Revenue Department with foreign bill and other fiscal adhesive stamps, manufactured by them on this system. This firm therefore received instructions in the spring of 1855 to submit proposals to the Inland Revenue Department for manufacturing a stamp of the value of fourpence on the typographic system, bearing in mind that it was absolutely necessary that all existing safeguards against fraud should be fully maintained.

*See M.S. p. 156/next* The proposals of Messrs. De La Rue and Co. having been accepted, and the design submitted by them approved, the stamps were ordered to be printed, and the issue of them to the public took place on the 31st July, 1855. In the following year the manufacture of the sixpence and the one shilling stamps of this Section was also entrusted to the same firm. The manner in which these stamps were executed proved so satisfactory, both to the public and the heads of the Inland Revenue Department, that, as new values were required, all the stamps above the value of twopence were manufactured upon the typographic system, and on the termination of the contracts with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., at the close of the year 1879, for the supply of the stamps of the value of twopence and under, the same system was extended to the whole of the various values required for the postal service.

Sheet 9, 4<sup>o</sup> (large paper) 22.12.66. No (10) is last wh appears there rough edge

Sheet 10<sup>o</sup> (spray of rose) 22.3.67. No (1) is first reg. sheet a machinemade paper.

No (1) 2/ 5.4.67 is on machine.

(note in price 94 for 5-H)

Copy of a paper sent Mr Purcell by Mr Turner, June 1874  
 in reply to enquiries of Mr Westoby, re self.  
 ———— wd not make any remarks

| Watermark  | Date of last assign-<br>ment of Handmade<br>Paper | Date of first<br>Concomitant<br>of Machine<br>made paper | (Remarks.)                            |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Garden.   | June 1864.  | Decr. 1864.  | Superseded in 1880<br>by Crown paper. |
| 2. Spray of flowers<br>This handmade is Emblem.        | Sept 1856?<br>1866.                               | 1866.  | do. do                                |
| 3. Orb.  | } none hand<br>made.                              | 1875.  | still in use (1892)                   |
| 4. Maltese Cross                                       |   | 1867.  | Superseded in 1880<br>by Anchor paper |
| 5. Anchor small  |   | 1865.  | D. D. by Crown paper                  |
| 6. Shamrock  | 1876.   | none machine<br>made -                                   | —                                     |
| 7. Anchor large  | 1855.   | 1855   | Still in use 1892.                    |
| 8. Anchor & Cobb                                       | 1855.   | none machine<br>made                                     | —                                     |
| etc of paper<br>"Emblem" & "Spray"<br>"Crown" & "Orb." | "Emblem" & "Spray"<br>"Crown" & "Orb."            | wd kept separate   | in books at S. H.                     |

"Emblems" they call "flowers" & don't distinguish them  
 from "Spray" which also is called at S. H. "flowers":

Emblems first on register. L<sup>o</sup> pt 1. nos 29. 3. 56

Spray " " 10<sup>o</sup> pt 1. " 22. 3. 67

Orb. paper. pt 3 of 2 1/2. (wd was <sup>rec<sup>d</sup></sup> on Anchor 10. 6. 75) & which  
 is now changed to Orb.

E. Annie writing from Chancery Lane, Maidstone, to Mr Westoby. 21. 5. 94  
 says: "I made a 'Garden roller' in June 1870 & if the marks appear  
 upside down, it was the printer's doing, as the sheets of paper were  
 upside down. I was better marks than had been supplied before. (i.e. both paper makers)  
 The bits for the Crown postage rollers are supplied by me, from S. H. &  
 are made by Messrs Dale & Co. The paper roll was the 1<sup>st</sup> Southwell  
 S.H. before that rollers had been very badly done. I have made all  
 since."



Page 103. From a paper which appeared in the *Printers' Register* for 1878, contributed by a former *employe* of Messrs. De La Rue and Co., we learn that the head of Her Majesty which served for the fourpence, sixpence, &c., was engraved by Monsieur Joubert, a French artist, on a block of soft steel. This, after being hardened, constituted the primary die, from which secondary ones were struck on blocks of soft steel, about 2½ inches in diameter, as they were required. The various ornamental borders were then added, and the sides of the block cut away, so as to leave the rectangular

die standing a trifle higher than the rest of the block, which after having been hardened was in a fit state to produce the moulds or matrices required for forming the electrotype plate.

These were produced in the following manner: A collar was made by cutting a hole in a disc of wrought iron, about 4 inches in diameter, exactly fitting the salient rectangular die. A kind of shallow box with the die at the bottom was thus formed, into which was introduced a blank cut to the size from a sheet of well-milled lead, and an impression taken by the aid of a press. This process was repeated until the required number of impressions were taken, which were then arranged in a form, and constituted the matrix on which the metal was deposited by the electro process. When the form was removed from the battery it was backed up with metal, and the backing planed down under a machine so as to render the plate perfectly level. The lead moulds were then removed, and destroyed by the revenue officer. After having been mounted on an iron plate, and any adhering particles of lead carefully washed out, the plate was ready to be used for printing.

In a note at the foot of page 103 it is stated that the durability of plates made by the electrotype process is greatly inferior to that of steel plates. The rapid wear of the electro plates was attributable in a great measure to the injurious action on the copper of many of the coloured inks employed, especially of those which, like vermilion, contained mercury. Recent improvements have in a great measure remedied this defect; for by employing powerful dynamo-electric machines, such as are now in use in Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s establishment, not only is the copper deposited on the matrix with much greater rapidity than was attainable by the ordinary voltaic battery, but a film of steel or nickel can now be deposited on the surface of the electro copper-plate so fine as not to interfere with the delicacy of the lines of the engraving, while at the same time it preserves it from the injurious action of the ink. The length of time that Plates Nos. 13 and 14 of the one shilling, and Plates Nos. 22 and 23 of the twopence halfpenny have been in use, impressions of which are still current, shows clearly the great utility of the new process, and the economy consequent upon its adoption in the preparation of plates for postage stamp printing.

Before entering upon the consideration of these stamps *seriatim*, it may serve to avoid some useless repetition if we notice certain features which are common to the entire group, any deviations from which will be noted as we proceed with the examination of the several values in detail.

PLATE.—The process by which the plates are constructed is in substance as follows: The design is first of all engraved on steel in relief, as in wood engraving, or, as the French term it, *en épargne*. When letters and plate numbers are to be inserted in the stamps, holes are cut through the die in the places indicated, and the letters and numbers on moveable steel types introduced into them. From this matrix as many moulds are taken, in soft lead, gutta percha, or some similar material, as are necessary to compose a plate of the size required. These moulds or little blocks are then arranged in a form, and an electro-cast taken from the whole, which, after having been properly backed and mounted, constitutes the printing plate. The plates, or "panes," as they are technically termed, vary in size in the different values. In some, the pane is composed of one entire electro-cast, while in others it is an assemblage of two or more, but this is a matter of detail and convenience which is not material to our subject. Where the entire plate consists of two panes only, they are separated from each other horizontally by a space equal to a row of stamps; but when it consists of four or more distinct panes a like horizontal interval is left between them, and they are usually separated from each other vertically by a space of about half-an-inch in width. Thus in the high values of five shillings, ten shillings, and one pound, the pane consists of twenty casts, disposed in four rows of five in each row, four of which panes constitute an entire sheet; in the twopence-halfpenny the pane until recently consisted of ninety-

\* The durability of plates made by the electrotype process will not bear comparison with that of steel plates. We have seen that these latter, when constructed for printing by the copper-plate printing process, have given off on an average about half a million of impressions, while the electrotype plates do not yield a tenth part of this number when the design is of a corresponding degree of fineness.

six casts, disposed in eight rows of twelve in each row, two of which constituted an entire sheet, but now, like as in all the other values, with the exception of the one shilling, the pane consists of one hundred and twenty casts disposed in ten rows of twelve in each row, two of which constitute an entire sheet. As regards, however, the threepence, fourpence, and sixpence, comprised in this latter category, this has not been uniformly the case, and the same remark applies to the eightpence, ninepence, tenpence, and two shillings, now obsolete. So long as the fourpence and eightpence were printed on paper watermarked with a garter, the panes consisted of sixty stamps, disposed in ten rows of six in each row, four of which constituted an entire sheet; while in the threepence, sixpence, ninepence, tenpence, and two shillings, the first three of which were originally printed on paper watermarked with the heraldic emblems of the rose, shamrock, and thistle, and subsequently with a spray of rose, the pane consisted of twenty casts, disposed in five rows of four in each row, twelve of which panes placed within the form in four rows of three in each row, constituted an entire sheet.\* This disposition still remains in force as respects the one shilling, though a change is said to be imminent. (*See addenda.*)  
p. 375.

\* The entire sheet must not be confounded with a "sheet" of stamps in Post-office parlance, which consists of a conventional number of "panes," or parts of a pane, and is adopted by the Department as a convenient mode of calculation when the stamps are forwarded to the various Post-offices. Thus the Post-office sheet of one halfpenny, one penny, and three-halfpence, consists of an entire sheet of 240 stamps, in two panes of 120 each, of the facial value of ten, twenty, and thirty shillings respectively; that of the twopence of half an entire sheet, or one pane of 120 stamps of the facial value of one pound; that of the twopence-half-penny of half an entire sheet, or one pane of one hundred and twenty stamps of the facial value of twenty-five shillings; that of the threepence and sixpence of forty stamps, or one-third of a pane of 120 stamps, but formerly of two panes of twenty in each pane, of the value of ten shillings and one pound respectively; that of the fourpence of sixty stamps or one-half of a pane of 120 stamps, but formerly of one pane of sixty stamps, of the facial value of one pound; that of the fivepence of sixty stamps, or one-half of a pane of 120 stamps of the facial value of twenty-five shillings; that of the eightpence (now obsolete) consisted of thirty stamps (being one-half of a

Page 104, line 20 from the top, and page 132 n.† The issue to the public of the one shilling on paper watermarked with "Crown 1880" took place on 15th June, 1881, while Plate No. 13 was still in use. The colour of the impression, pale brown-vermilion, was not altered. The stamps were printed in panes of 120 stamps, like those of ½d., 1d., &c., and similar marks were introduced into the margins denoting where the pane might be divided horizontally into two equal portions, and each of these vertically into three, thus forming six equal portions of 20 stamps each, and constituting a Post-office sheet of the value of £1. Plate No. 14, registered 20th December, 1875, is now in use, and impressions from it were issued to the public in October, 1882.

a printing sheet differs from an issue sheet. †  
the latter has up. the margin of white all round  
(remains) (see Sep. 6<sup>c</sup> Crown 1880)

De la Rues. Contract. 1880. See blue book for copy

1894 Contract terminates 31.12.96. stamps, cards wrapped  
offer by Archduke if extended for 3 years.  
send to the centres. Provide for fur machinery. if  $\frac{1}{2}$  card  
provide require it.

Page 105. Under the head of PLATE NUMBER, after the word "circular,"  
insert "or oval," as in some values the plate number is in an oval disc.

Scan in oval disc, 9<sup>th</sup> pl. 2. Jeff's collection.

at least two or three copies of the plates should be prepared  
and sent to the printer for the purpose of being used in the  
press. (The printer's name is not given.)

**LETTERING.**—Letters are inserted in all the four angles of the whole of the stamps comprised in this Section, manufactured since the commencement of the year 1862, with the exception of the one-halfpenny, three-halfpence, and twopence, produced in 1880, and the fivepence produced in 1881. The lettering is carried out on precisely the same principle as that adopted for the stamps in Section I., notwithstanding that for the sake of convenience the plate may have been composed of two or more panes. Thus, for example, the threepenny stamp, up to the year 1881, was printed in twelve panes, arranged on the entire sheet in four rows of three in each row; the lower angles of the first row of stamps in the first pane of the first row bore the letters A.A., A.B., A.C., A.D., the lower angles of the first row of stamps in the first pane of the second row, the letters F.A., F.B., F.C., and F.D.

**PLATE NUMBER.**—In the case of all the stamps comprised in this Section, manufactured and issued prior to 1880, the number of the plate was introduced twice into the margin of the sheet; namely, above the right upper corner of the plate, and below the lower left corner, in white figures, on a solid circular disc of the same colour as the impression inclosed in a small similarly coloured ring. The official number of the plate occupied the other corners, and was inserted in coloured figures inclosed in a single lined frame.\*

pane of sixty) of the facial value of one pound; that of the ninepence, tenpence, and two shillings (all now obsolete) of one pane of twenty stamps, of the respective values of fifteen shillings, sixteen shillings and eightpence, and two pounds; that of the one shilling consists of one pane of twenty stamps, of the facial value of one pound; and that of five shillings of one pane of twenty, of the facial value of five pounds. The stamps of ten shillings and twenty shillings can be obtained singly by the postmasters from the Inland Revenue Office.

\* The plate number was inserted at all the four corners in the two first plates of the fourpence, issued in 1855. With this exception, the official numbers of the plates occupy the corners alternately with the plate numbers. After the introduction of the numbers on the face of the stamps these plate numbers corresponded with them, except in one instance, that of the one shilling mentioned hereafter.

3 pane box  
1. 2. 3  
4 5 6 etc.

or oval.

PAPER.—The paper employed <sup>adopted from (first value raised, viz. the first)</sup> from the first for the stamps in this Section <sup>is</sup> machine made, <sup>with</sup> watermarks of different designs introduced into it, and is manufactured expressly for the purpose by Messrs. Turner and Co., of Chafford Mills, Fordcombe, near Tunbridge Wells, under the superintendence and control of officers of the Inland Revenue Department. Formerly watermarks could only be inserted in hand-made paper, but under the modern processes of manufacture machine-made paper can be as readily watermarked as that made by hand. The "bits" for forming the various watermarks are manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and supplied by them to the manufacturers of the paper under the orders of the officer of the Inland Revenue Department.

The paper is <sup>this machine has been used for the stamps in this Section</sup> wove, and though it may have been occasionally noticed that lines are found in it much resembling those in laid paper, yet such appearances are entirely due to accidental circumstances, and the paper is not less essentially a wove paper.\*

The paper employed prior to that recently introduced, watermarked with "Crown (1880)," was well made, of fine and firm

\* These appearances are more especially noticeable in some of the sheets used for printing the plates Nos. 15 and 18 of the twopence half-penny, and other examples might be adduced; but they are doubtless due to some accidental circumstances, arising probably from unequal pressure in the course of the manufacture, or to inequality in the web of the frame. These and such like unintentional deviations are not of sufficient importance to be treated as varieties, and are only mentioned for the purpose of recording their existence.

It may be mentioned that the web on which the pulp is received is formed of fine wire gauze, closely and evenly woven, the small interstices permitting the watery portion of the pulp to pass through, leaving the solid part behind. This makes plain wove paper, or the *papier uni* of the French. If thicker wires, crossing each other at right angles, so as to form a series of squares, are introduced in the gauze, the paper is marked with squares, the *papier quadrillé* of the French. Should the warp be made of thicker wires than the woof, and thus marked with uniformly laid lines, the paper is *laid* or *vergé*. And if again still thicker wires are introduced into the warp at regular intervals, a lined laid paper is produced, called by the French *papier vergé batonné*. When these lines are introduced in the plain wove paper, it is called by the French, *papier batonné sans vergeures intérieures*, or simply *papier batonné*.

(was hand  
5/156 no. 7  
1/10)

After a very short  
trial of the machine  
made paper of a less  
thickness, but more  
uniform texture  
was adopted  
manufactured at  
the same mill!

## NOTES ON THE SURFACE-PRINTED STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE authors of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, when treating of the paper which was employed for the first issues of the fourpence, mention these two important facts :

*First.*—That in the year 1855, at the time when the proposals of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. for the manufacture of the fourpence by surface-printing were accepted, that firm was printing foreign bill and other fiscal stamps for the Board of Inland Revenue on a paper into the pulp of which prussiate of potash had been introduced, and which has been designated "safety" paper.

*Second.*—That they were informed by the head of the chemical department of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s establishment that the use of prussiate of potash in the manufacture of the paper had been abandoned, because it was found that its action was so capricious, that it was impossible to rely on any uniformity in its effect.

The first surface-printed stamps manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. for the Inland Revenue Department were the "Draft" and "Receipt" stamps, issued 10th October, 1853; and these were followed by a series of "Foreign" Bill stamps, issued 10th October, 1854. The earliest printings of the two first were on white paper very closely resembling machine-made paper; but we are informed that it was hand-made throughout the continuance of the watermark of "Foul anchor with double-lined stock."

We find, however, that the paper was soon changed to the blued "safety" paper, which was employed from the first for the Foreign Bill stamps, watermarked V.R. This paper was in full use when the postage stamp of fourpence was ordered; and its substance, combined with other circumstances, clearly shows that the pulp employed for the manufacture of the paper for the first issue of the fourpence was identical with that then in use for the fiscal stamps, and we consequently find in both, as may be expected, similar evidences of the capricious action of the prussiate of potash. The paper, both for the fourpence postage and for the fiscals, was hand-made. It is stout, for the most part strongly blued; but specimens are met with on paper which may be best described as "mottled," while others are found on what is almost white. Whether these last are to be attributed to the failure of action of the prussiate of potash, arising possibly from its effects being neutralised by the presence of other chemicals in the pulp, or from its having been omitted in the composition, we are unable to determine, but the fact cannot be disputed that specimens are to be met with in which the paper may pass for white.\* The paper is also

\* The introduction of the prussiate of potash into the pulp seems to have been especially intended as a safeguard against the cleaning of stamps that had been obliterated by pen and ink; for though its use was discontinued in the case of the paper for the postage stamps, yet we find that it still continued to be used more or less in that employed for the fiscal stamps on "Anchor" and other papers down to the date of the issue of the unified series, and throughout all the time that it was in use it exhibited signs of its capricious action.

stout in substance and exceedingly hard, and its surface rendered so close by milling, that it is almost as solid as ivory.

All the specimens we have seen of the "Small Garter" are on stout paper, varying from deeply blued to what is apparently white; and the earliest printings of those on "Middle-sized Garter" are on deeply blued paper of a similar kind. But these specimens are rare; for the paper soon became sensibly thinner, and the colour mottled, until we have at the commoner specimens on thin white.†





When a learned body like the London Philatelic Society puts forth, as it does in the April number of its Journal, p. 100, a theory regarding the existence of specimens of this stamp on white paper watermarked with "small garter," and hints that such specimens may have been "blanched by some acid solution," we feel the greatest possible hesitation in venturing to differ from it. We do not profess to be chemists, but we have tried the effects of various chemicals on the "safety" paper, and that of acids is to render it still more blue, while that of alkalis and chlorides is at once hopelessly to destroy the carmine, and we think the same results would follow the use of the celebrated *savon de Marseilles*. What does affect the paper most sensibly, though not to bleach it, is sulphate of iron, which formerly entered so commonly into the composition of writing ink, and this it is that leads to the belief that the introduction of the prussiate of potash was chiefly directed against tampering with the stamps that had been obliterated with the ordinary writing ink. Where the authors of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps* appear to have erred when describing the stamps of the first issue as "more or less tinted blue," is to have omitted sufficiently to take into account the capricious action of the chemical, or its possible absence in some cases. We also fail entirely to understand what is meant by "the appearance therefore of these stamps with the first paper"—that is, the blue "safety"—"and second watermark—'middle garter'—seems as yet unaccountable, unless the learned authors of "Great Britain" are wrong, and that the *white 'safety'* paper had been prepared and even put into use before the change of watermarks." If it is meant by this to express that stamps on "Small Garter" have appeared on white paper, similar to that used for the "Middle-sized Garter," we have never heard of such, and do not believe in them. This latter paper is very much thinner than that of the mottled and so-called white paper specimens of the "Small Garter," and cannot possibly be confounded with it, besides which it is not "safety" paper, the very essence of which consists in the presence of prussiate of potash in its composition.

It seems to be a matter admitting of no doubt that the reasons given by the authors of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps* for the change of the watermark from "Small" to "Middle-sized Garter," and subsequently "Large Garter," are well founded. At what particular date, however, the "Small Garter" paper was superseded by that with the "Middle-sized Garter" is very difficult to determine; but the authors appear to have well considered the question, and formed the opinion that it took place about the month of March, 1856, and that the prussiate of potash ceased to be used about the month of June in that year, and for all practical purposes these dates seem to be sufficiently accurate. The issue of the stamps on "Small Garter" for the 31st July, 1855, was announced by a circular from the Inland Revenue Department, dated the 24th July, 1855, a copy of which is to be found in *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps*, p. 110. A circular was also issued by the Post-office, dated 27th July, 1855, announcing the approaching issue, to which was attached a specimen of the stamp, overprinted *vertically* with "SPECIMEN" in thick block letters 12 mm. long. No other circular relative to the issue of the fourpence seems to have been sent out by the Post-office until one dated the 29th October, 1856, to which is affixed a specimen of the one shilling then about to be issued, and also a specimen of the fourpence on thin white paper, watermarked with "Middle-sized Garter," both overprinted *horizontally* with the word "SPECIMEN" in thick block letters 18 mm. long, the circular being headed, "Specimens of New Stamps of One Shilling and Fourpence."

It may be objected that specimens of the fourpence on "Middle-sized Garter" paper, printed on thick "safety" paper, are found bearing the word "SPECIMEN" impressed vertically, which points to this issue being almost simultaneous with that on "Small Garter." To this we reply for the following reasons: These specimens do not necessarily appear to us as having been issued by the Post-office to the country offices, though some few may have been so issued, as specimens of new issues were frequently not sent out simultaneously to all the country offices; but the important fact is that these, so far as we have seen, bear the word "SPECIMEN" stamped *by hand vertically* in thinner block letters 20 mm. long, and are frequently found in pairs, which could not therefore have been issued by the Post-office to the country offices. These, however, must have been the first printings, as used specimens on thick "safety" paper are very rare, and even those on thinner mottled are not very common.



We may also learn something from the facts relating to the issue of the fourpence. Its use was very limited in the first instance. It was issued specially to defray the new rate of postage to France, that came into operation on 1st January, 1855. From the date of its issue to 30th June, 1856, 3,987,120 stamps were issued, which, as they were printed in sheets of 240 in four panes of 60, each representing a Post-office sheet of £1, would require about 1662 sheets of paper. In the following year the consumption was even less, the number issued from 1st July, 1856, to 30th June, 1857, being 3,374,040, requiring a little more than 1400 sheets of paper; so that six reams of paper of 516 sheets each would suffice for the consumption of the first two years, which was probably about the time that the issue on "Small" and "Middle-sized Garter" lasted, for Plate 2 was not put to press till 8.6.57, and it is probable that the "Large Garter" paper was then brought into use.

The paper watermarked with "Large Garter" continued to be hand-made down to the year 1865, the last consignment of hand-made paper having been made in June, 1864, and the first consignment of machine-made in December of that year; so that as Plate 4 was put to press 7.9.63, and the next one, Plate 7—Plates 5 and 6 not having been used—was put to press 8.6.65, it is probable that the printing on machine-made "Large Garter" commenced with Plate 7, issued 1st August, 1865.

It may be well to mention that in machine-made paper the outer edges of the continuous roll show a rough or deckled edge, resembling that round the four sides of a sheet of hand-made paper. The "Dandy Rolls" supplied by the Inland Revenue Department to the paper-makers were what is termed "three sheet" ones, watermarking at each revolution three sheets disposed end to end. One end therefore of two out of the three sheets would show a deckled edge, a fine specimen of which belonging to Plate 12 was furnished to us by Mr. W. T. Wilson, to whom, and to our publishers, we are indebted for the loan of several of the numerous specimens that we have examined.

The experiments on the paper for the "Small" and "Middle-sized" Garters were, as we have said, confined to about six reams of paper, probably two of these were of thin white "Middle-sized Garter." Regarding the other four reams, the experiments do not seem to have been confined to the paper, as there is evidence of experiments in the printing. The impressions on "Small Garter" paper, and the early ones on "Middle-sized Garter," show a coloured ink of a very different character to that subsequently employed on the thin white "Middle-sized Garter" paper. It is pure carmine, mixed up with a glossy "wash,"\* and has a tendency to scale. This is found throughout the

\* See *Philatelic Record*, vol. v. p. 114.

impressions on "Small Garter," and the early ones of those on "Middle-sized Garter," notably in those marked "SPECIMEN." On the thinner dotted paper the impression is not so glossy; and on the thin white ink is without gloss, and approaches more frequently in colour to rose. In the impressions on the hard stout paper, the coloured pigment appears to be entirely on the surface, and not to have penetrated or sunk into the paper, as is evident from the simple fact that the whole impression may be readily removed by a detergent without leaving a mark or even taking the gloss off the paper. In most of the obliterated copies also the mark is smudged, showing that the ink employed, which was not quick-drying like that of the impression, did not penetrate the paper.



The next paper which was brought into use was that marked with the "Heraldic Emblems," and arranged for 12 panes of 20. This was termed "Flowers" in the Department, and was also a hand-made paper. The sheet of Sixpence registered 29.3.56 was on "safety" paper, somewhat mottled, and not in its stoutest form. And the same remarks apply to the One Shilling, registered 27.6.56, evidence, we think, that those were printed from the pulp in what we may term the second stage. Used specimens of the sixpence on blue paper are not very uncommon, but all that we have seen are mottled. Many sheets doubtless of the sixpence were printed between the date of the registration and that of the issue, which did not take place till the following October, owing probably to the desire to exhaust the stock on hand of the embossed sixpence. Used copies of the one shilling on blue paper have not been found, though possibly some exist of the mottled kind; but the copies over-printed with "SPECIMEN" sent out previous to the issue, both of the sixpence and the one shilling (the latter, as we have stated, on the 29th October, 1856), were on white paper; and the natural inference is that the supply of "safety" paper, watermarked with "heraldic emblems," was very limited. The last consignment of hand-made "Flowers" paper was made in 1866, and was followed, later on in the same year, by a machine-made paper, which we designate "Spray of Rose," similarly divided into 12 panes of 20 each. This was carried in the Department to the account of "Flowers," two kinds of paper for the ordinary sized postage stamps being alone recognised—"Garter" in 4



For Queensland. They (DeLadues) supply the paper.  
Stamps printed in the Colony.

make +  
x They supply all paper for Revenue Stamps also  
the paper is sent in directly to De La Rue's: &  
As close a/c is kept the Officers at S. H. do not  
remember the instance of more than one sheet  
even having been lost -

R. D. Turner & Co. near Tonbridge  
Government Paper Mills, Roughway, Kent  
to in photo! in Mr. Percall's room.

(also Turner & Co.) for Govt work  
The Chafford Mills, were given up, & all  
Govt. work concentrated at Roughway. 11. 2. 79.  
both postage & Revenue & the paper in under discussion.  
Autumn 1879.

Some deliveries from Chafford prior to this.  
(See ante - p. 102. M.S. notes)

It is large paper only found on white  
paper. Specimens all dated 1873 in blue  
but from Westman & satisfied W. J. Wilson  
but really falsified. See Ph. Dec 90. p. 219.



Page 107. We believe that we have unconsciously done injustice to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in stating that the "Crown paper 1880" is inferior in quality to that employed by them previously to 1880. We are told that the quality is the same, only that it is not so much milled as before, and therefore *appears* thicker. No doubt there are good and sufficient reasons for diminishing the number of times the paper is passed through the mill, but the effect is to leave the paper *actually* thicker, and to render it less glossy, less tough and compact, than formerly—special features which naturally influence the public in forming an opinion of the quality of the paper.

Page 107. CONTROL MARKS. It is due to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. to mention that the reason they assign for the abandonment of the control marks is that the system of manufacture now in operation does not require them, and they were useless for any other object. We are not sure that we fully appreciate this, but suppose it to imply that mechanical contrivances

*other*  
have been adopted which render mistakes impossible by providing an unerring tale for the printing of each value.

? the letter  
on 2 d 4?  
marks  
P. & Rev. co

of 30, and "Flowers" in 12 pages of 20; so that when paper was required, the storekeeper gave out the quantity sufficient for the stamps mentioned in the Warrant with reference only to its being "Garter" or "Flowers."

The "Anchor" paper as it appeared first, with a double-lined stock and with cable, and printed with the watermark reversed, was, as has been said, hand-made; but after the watermark had been changed in 1855 to "Fool Anchor" it was machine-made, and has so continued to the present time through its various phases, according as fresh "Dandy Rolls" have been supplied. The "Small Anchor" paper, first supplied in 1865, has always been machine-made; so also was that watermarked with *Croix patée*, first supplied in 1867, and which was superseded by "Large Anchor" in 1880. The paper watermarked with "Orb," first furnished in 1875, has always been machine-made. The "Shamrock" paper, specially supplied in 1876 for the Telegraph Stamps of one penny, but which was also subsequently used for those of £1, £5, and one half-penny, was hand-made, and none was ever made by machine.

We believe that the above comprises all that is or can be known of the paper used for the postage and telegraph stamps; but we cannot conclude our remarks without expressing the great obligations we are under to the heads of the Inland Revenue Department and to the Post-office for the assistance they have rendered to us in our investigations.

1867  
 1868  
 1869  
 1870  
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 1876  
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 1899  
 1900

texture, of good substance, varying but little in thickness, and highly glazed by milling. The first postage stamps manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in 1855 were, as will be subsequently more fully noticed, printed on a special or safety paper then on trial, which contained a chemical ingredient imparting to it a distinctly blue tinge. The use of this paper only continued for a few months, and <sup>at Harrow</sup> with this exception the colour of the paper <sup>has been almost</sup> was uniformly white, or what passes for white. *hand made*

The paper watermarked with a "Crown," introduced with the issue of the one penny 1880, and now employed for most of the values, is of ~~very much inferior quality, and of a yellowish-white colour~~; though thicker in substance, it is less tough, and not so highly glazed as before, *owing to the absence of milling.*

**CONTROL MARKS.**—These marks were impressed with a hand-stamp on the sheets at the left lower and right upper portions of the margins, and consisted of the word POSTAGE, surmounted by a crown, with the value of the stamp in figures underneath. Where the watermark of "MARK" was found in the margins, the control mark was impressed immediately over it. Up to the year 1875 the impression was made in blue ink, but subsequently in red, on all the values in this Section, with the exception of those of twopence and under. Since the commencement of the present year—1881—the practice has been discontinued.

These marks were impressed on the sheets before they were issued to the contractors for the printing, and were found useful, not only in checking the sheets on their return to the Department after having been printed and gummed, but in facilitating the supervision by the officer in charge of the printing on the contractors' premises. Stamps of the values of threepence, sixpence, ninepence, tenpence, one shilling, and two shillings, were at one period all printed on paper with the same watermark. When paper for these values was given out by the Department, with directions to print a certain number of sheets with one value and a certain number with other values, the contractors were under obligation to return the proper number of each value, or

? *Here tell the story.*

to account for any deficiency; and should this occur it might have proved difficult in the absence of the control mark to determine to which value it should be chargeable. Now that the stamps from one halfpenny upwards, with the exception of the five shillings and higher values are, or soon will be, all printed on the same kind of paper, it is difficult to conceive why the use of this control mark should have been abandoned.

*note  
recently presses*

**IMPRESSION.**—The stamps of all the values except those issued in 1880 and 1881 are printed by ordinary typographic presses worked by hand, but those issued in 1880 and 1881, in which a coarser style of engraving has been adopted, are printed by a more rapid process in presses worked by steam. The colours employed are all more or less fugitive, showing slight differences in tone in the composite colours, but considerable differences in shade.

**GUM.**—The gum employed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. has always been white and pure, and has never had the effect of producing any discoloration in the paper or the stamps similar to that found in some of those comprised in Section I. It is also remarkable for its excellent adhesive properties, and being tough, does not crack. Further, it is applied very evenly to the sheets, and does not cause the stamps to curl. In this respect the adhesive labels produced by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. are unrivalled, and they may fairly be congratulated on their success in this most important branch of the manufacture.

**PERFORATION.**—Up to nearly the close of the year 1880 the whole of the stamps in this Section then issued were perforated on the Government premises at Somerset House by the ordinary machines perforating fourteen holes in the space of two centimetres, except as regards those of five shillings, ten shillings, and one pound, which from their size could not be perforated by the same machines as those employed for the other values. These latter, as will be noticed hereafter, are perforated by the machines used for perforating divers fiscal stamps of similar dimensions, in which the needles are so set as to produce fifteen holes in the space of two centimetres.

From July 56 to 30.6.56 3,987,120. 2 sheets were  
issued  
ie. about 1662 sheets of 240 each.

1<sup>st</sup> July 56 to 30.6.57. There were 3,374,040 sheets  
ie. about 1400 sheets

Warrant of 20.10.55. 180 sheets of 60 sheets each ordered

See important Paper p. 99 of Louis Stael's history 93  
of the unattainable.  
(by Craik.)  
of correct its errors.

Original of the plates

18. The one penny. " 28 June, 1881. (copy 379)

19. The five pence " 1 May, 1882.

Jan 1895. Mr W. writes Perceval writes me that "From the  
annals of the surface printing at Dept Recd. on Depart has  
kept a copy in black of all the sheets from the surface plates.

These were in its story some & not set when I left. but we  
never put away them any prints from Boer's plates:

The plates when put to press &c. are in the account book  
at the Stamping Dept. Mr Colles has that now of course.

These Mr Perceval writes are kept as standards for paper  
& are on plain unnumbered paper.

Ref<sup>d</sup> shats

6. Ormond Hill asked for a<sup>t</sup> for 6 sheets  
tho not always done so

Out of the Secy I Rev books at S H

|                                    |    |                   |   |
|------------------------------------|----|-------------------|---|
| 12 labels detached under authority | R. | $\frac{3140}{83}$ | S |
| 6                                  | :  | $\frac{6474}{86}$ | S |
| 2                                  | :  | $\frac{5887}{90}$ | S |

i.e. 20 copies removed all thro' the books

At the present time the manufacture of the whole of the postage stamps having become centred in the hands of one firm, the perforation of all but the high values of five shillings, ten shillings, and one pound has ceased to be done at Somerset House, the contractors being now charged with it. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. therefore deliver the stamps to the offices of the Inland Revenue Department completely ready for issue. The gauge of the perforation made by the machines employed by the contractors remains the same as before.\*

### 1. THE FOURPENCE.

\* DESIGN.—The design consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines within a double-lined circle. Above and below the circle are curved tablets, with POSTAGE inscribed on the upper, and FOUR PENCE on the lower, both in white letters on a plain solid ground of colour. The whole is enclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{4}$  mm., which is intercepted at the sides by the circle enclosing the head, and at the top and bottom by the curved tablets.

#### *First Issue.*

Date of Issue, 31st July, 1855.†

DIE L.—The extremities of the curved tablets above and below the circle enclosing the profile of the Queen were square. The spandrels were filled up with a honey-comb pattern, and

\* It may have been observed that wherever the stamps were printed in small panes, one and sometimes both of those on the outside of the row were perforated on the outer edge at a distance of about a quarter of an inch from the impression. This was caused by the adjustment of the vertical rows of the perforating needles, necessitated by the stamps being printed in panes, separated vertically from each other by a space of about half-an-inch.

† In many cases it is difficult to fix the precise date of the issue of any particular stamp, as it has frequently made its appearance without being preceded by any official announcement, and the issue has not always taken place simultaneously in London and the country. This was



small St. Andrew's crosses placed in all the four corners of the frame.

**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps divisible into four smaller sheets of sixty each, and was therefore composed of four panes arranged two and two, separated from each other longitudinally by a space of about half-an-inch wide, and by a horizontal space equal to a row of stamps. Each pane consisted of sixty casts, arranged in ten rows of six in each row, and measured  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide by  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. Above each pane was printed **POSTAGE FOURPENCE** in capitals, and on the exterior margins, alongside of each pane, "PRICE—4d. per Label—2s. per Row of Six—£1 per Sheet of Sixty."



Two plates, numbered 1 and 2, were employed during this issue, the first of which received its *imprimatur* on 13th July, 1855, and the second on 29th October, 1855. There is nothing on the impressions taken from these plates to indicate to which of them they respectively belong, <sup>but the usual plate</sup>

*not as far as in the margin.*  
**PAPER.**—In the early part of the year 1855, as previously mentioned, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. were supplying the Inland Revenue Department with various foreign bill, chancery, common law, and receipt stamps. These stamps were printed on stout machine-made paper, <sup>they vary much in thickness</sup> watermarked with various <sup>and</sup> especially noticeable in the case of the twopence (1840). In the present <sup>difference</sup> case the public was informed of the issue by a notice as follows:—

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House,  
"24th July, 1855.

"NOTICE is hereby given that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have provided a stamp for denoting the value of 4d. for postage, and that such stamps will be issued to the Public on and after the 31st of this month at the Office of the Distributor of Postage Stamps in this Department and of the Distributor of Sea Policy Stamps, New Bank Buildings, City.

"Further notice will be given of the period when such stamps may be procured at the Offices of the Distributors throughout the country.

"THOMAS KEOGH,  
"Secretary."

*Above in J. Res<sup>c</sup> Circular. P. Office issued on 27. July 1855  
two other in 1855. Letter of Com. 15. 6. 55 to W. Stobey.*

Coll. Oppel. Japling. Superfine proof.

from 1<sup>st</sup> die on blue safety paper. pl (small garter) in  
late hunk. marked "26", "28" at back. in respect. ? what for.

Plates 3 & 4. no. vericolori are marked "29" & "30" at back ?

7. - 16. (vericolori) ~~16~~ <sup>red</sup> ~~also~~ green. on (garter)

16. 17. green. on garter.

A ② not put to press till 9.6.57. ? large garter  
came in then.

A ② was in draft reg<sup>n</sup>. from a sheet taken on  
one of the 180 sheets of 60. printed by Werrack.

7 20. Oct 1855.

7 a 29. 10. 53. probably

A good deal has been said of late regarding specimens of Messrs. De la Rue and Co.'s stamps, found on stout azure paper, and copies of the 3d. with small letters have been found on such paper. This stout azure paper, called for distinction sake "safety paper," as it changed colour under certain detergents, was a fad of Messrs. De la Rue and Co., and was made by mixing ferrocyanide of potassium, or, as it is commonly called, prussiate of potash, with the pulp. This was not entirely soluble in water, and being heavy was inclined to sink, even when the pulp was kept constantly stirred. The consequence was, that sweet waters and bitter ran from the same fountain, the same vat produced paper of various depths of tint. In fact, no dependence could be placed on the depth of the colour. This paper, used for bill stamps, was adopted for the fourpence postage, but was found to be too thick, and only remained in use till some time in 1856. The registration sheets of the Sixpence and of the One Shilling, issued in 1856 (the latter being registered in June, 1856), were printed on this same stout paper, watermarked with "Heraldic Emblems;" and I have seen several obliterated copies of the Sixpence, issued in October, 1856, printed upon it. The One Shilling I have not seen, but have little doubt but that it will turn up. At that date every sheet that was used was sent out from Somerset House, and one can scarcely suppose that the supply of stout azure paper was confined to what was required to print the registration sheets and a few copies of the Sixpence, for the copies of the Sixpence are rare. It is therefore a matter of no surprise that sheets of this paper should turn up and be used several years after, as must have been the case, for the Threepence was not issued till 1862. It is by no means unlikely that the Ninepence will turn up also; but this, like the One Shilling, was principally sent into countries far away, while the journey of the Threepence did not ordinarily extend beyond the limits of Europe.

The "Inland Revenue" stamps were all printed on paper which of late years, from 1862 down to their disappearance, was sometimes white, and at others tinted azure more or less deeply. The 2½d. when first issued borrowed the paper of the Inland Revenue for the nonce, and we consequently find some of the issue on "Anchor" paper more or less tinged. We have not seen this on the "Orb" paper issue, but the other "Orb" paper of 1881, made for the Inland Revenue stamps of that date, is constantly found more or less tinged.

O. Hill. 18 Avenue Victoria Hugo. Paris. 21/10/84. D. Hill. W. Hill.

I feel sure you would be perfectly unable at the present time to find any of the sheets were so printed as to be indistinguishable from the paper used for any other purpose. - It is a matter of course in the past. It is very common however that all the remaining stamps that I find in the paper are the very ones of which I suppose - mistake of the kind was made, was likely to occur at the time. You at Paris! because the paper being printed dry (I presume too) it would not be nearly so apparent as when wet.

As any one I never remember to have seen a single postage stamp with the name of the Gray way appears & I must have seen many thousands of them.

After writing the foregoing it came my recollection that the paper was indeed with a view to preventing any part of it from coming under the head class, as it so doing was found to interfere with the appearance of the impression.

It was for the same reason that in the former paper the words were placed as the cover of the stamp. It is possible, however, as we remember that it was the bundle may have been forced to interfere with some part of the paper or was deemed important to the paper was printed abroad than to avoid this. I think it is very likely that you will be able to throw light on the point in the present case.

devices. Nearly the whole of them were intended to be obliterated with pen and ink, and it had been deemed advisable, in order to guard against any attempt to make a fraudulent use of a stamp a second time, to devise some means by which the removal of the obliterating marks without visible damage to the stamp would be impossible. Various experiments had been tried for the purpose, and among other expedients it was proposed to make use of a safety paper, into which, while in a state of pulp, some chemical ingredient should be introduced which would at once show if any attempt had been made to remove the effacing marks by means of acid, or any like detergent. With this view a small quantity of prussiate of potash was mixed with the pulp during the manufacture. Though this possessed the desired properties, yet it imparted a blue tinge to the paper, generally deepening in tone by time, and varying in intensity according to the degree of its exposure to atmospheric influences. Experience, moreover, showed that it was almost impossible to insure constant uniformity in the distribution and effects of this chemical ingredient, some sheets at times being found deeply coloured, while others, even in the same ream, were nearly white.\* These and other objections to the use of this safety paper had not become patent when the postage stamp of fourpence was ordered to be prepared in 1855; it was only natural therefore that similar paper, furnished with a special watermark to distinguish it from that destined for the revenue stamps, should have been adopted for the new value.

The watermark first employed was a small oval buckled garter, the minor axis of the inside ellipse measuring 10 mm. This will be distinguished as "*small garter*." Probably, in consequence of the watermark being too feeble to be readily

\* As it is not impossible that these statements may be at variance with some pre-conceived opinions regarding this paper, we may say that they are not grounded on any opinions of our own, but have been communicated to us by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., after referring to the chemist attached to their establishment.

visible in the thick paper, the size of the garter was changed about the month of March in the following year, and a larger one was substituted, the minor axis of the inside oval measuring  $13\frac{1}{2}$  mm. This latter is distinguished as "*middle-sized garter*."

Some of the objections to the safety paper have been already mentioned; but the use of it as applied to this stamp soon revealed other imperfections. Not only was it too thick, but its hard and highly-glazed surface, presenting an appearance resembling enamel, prevented the ink employed in the printing (which was pure carmine) from penetrating the dry paper sufficiently, and the colour had in consequence a tendency to ~~peel~~ off. About the month of June, 1856, the introduction of the chemical ingredient was abandoned, and a <sup>machine</sup> paper thinner in substance, pure white, and not so highly glazed, was substituted. When the substance of the paper was reduced, the bits for producing the watermark of the "*middle-sized garter*" were found unsuitable, and early in the year 1857 new bits were introduced, showing a garter narrower, though somewhat larger, than the last, the exterior of the oval extending to the outside line of the rectangular frame of the stamp, and the minor axis of the inside one measuring  $14\frac{1}{2}$  mm. This watermark is distinguished as "*large garter*," and continued to be used down to the close of the year 1880.

These watermarks were arranged in panes of sixty, each pane being bounded by a single lined frame. The sheet was adapted to receive four of these panes corresponding to those of the plate. The words POSTAGE STAMPS, in cursive hand, were watermarked in the exterior margins alongside of each pane, and once at the top and bottom of the sheet, as also in the horizontal spaces between the two upper and two lower panes. Of late years the word MARK, in double-lined capitals, was also inserted in watermark immediately before that of POSTAGE STAMPS opposite the lower left and upper right panes, and over this the control mark was impressed.

IMPRESSION.—During the period that the safety paper was employed the colour of the impression was bright carmine.

scale

to a uniform  
height

When white paper was substituted, [the watermark of the "middle-sized garter" still remaining in use] the colour of the impression was carmine of a rosy tint, which, after the advent of the "large garter," at the commencement of 1857, gradually assumed a deep rose-pink, and so continued varying only in depth of tone to the end of the issue.

27. This [ ]  
all this [ ]

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 15th January, 1862.

DIE II.—The profile of the Queen was retouched, and the line of the circle enclosing it more clearly marked. The curved tablets above and below were shortened, and the shape of the ends of them altered. The spandrels were filled with a wavy reticulated pattern. Solid blocks were inserted in the angles of the frame, and small letters in white introduced into them. The bottom portion of the frame was made solid in place of the linear pattern in the design of the previous issue.



PLATE.—When this issue took place there seems to have been some lack of decision as to the introduction of the plate numbers on the face of the stamps. It will be remembered that the introduction of these numbers in the stamps originated in 1858 with the twopence simultaneously with the extension of the lettering to all the four angles, and that both of these modifications had been extended to the one penny in 1860 or 1861. The fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling values in this Section were first issued, in 1855 and 1856, without letters in any of the angles, but when, in 1861, fresh plates of these values were required, the introduction of the letters was evidently decided upon, though the question as to the insertion of the plate numbers appears to have been left open, or, at any rate, not to have received a solution till the following year. At the close of the year 1861 it was decided to add two new values to the stamps

I

Over in cut. See A d denda.

Page 113. The engraving of Die II. of the fourpence is inaccurate, inasmuch as it shows a linear ground in the lower bar of the frame. The ground is solid, as stated in the description.

in this Section—the threepence and ninepence—and these, together with the second issue of the fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling, were issued at various periods in 1862 with letters in the four angles, but none of them, with the exception of the one shilling, bore the number of the plate on the face. In the case of the fourpence, however, a species of substitute seems to have been adopted, as on plate No. 3, with which this issue commenced, and the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 29th November, 1861, a small hair-lined Roman figure I. is found at each extremity of the lower part of the frame, close to the letter blocks. A second plate of this issue, plate No. 4, was approved on the 27th June, 1862, and on this the hair-line Roman figure II. is found along with another mark, which we will now endeavour to explain.

Not only were two plates, of what may be termed the *small letter series*, constructed and authorized for the fourpence, but two plates of the same series were constructed and authorized for each of the other values; viz., the threepence, the sixpence, the ninepence, and the one shilling. In those for the threepence the *imprimaturs* are dated the 19th March and the 25th August, 1862; in those for the fourpence, the 29th November, 1861, and the 27th June, 1862; in those of the sixpence, the 17th October, 1861, and the 15th April, 1862; in those of the ninepence, the 14th November, 1861, and the 8th May, 1862; and in those of the one shilling, the 8th May and the 16th June, 1862. On the second of each of these plates (including the one shilling) a special or distinguishing mark was introduced, consisting, in the case of the threepence, of a small white dot in the solid framing round the profile, immediately under the foliate ornament on each side; and in that of the fourpence, sixpence, ninepence, and one shilling, of a fine white hair-line crossing the exterior angle of each of the letter blocks diagonally. No more plates were employed for the printing of the stamps in this “small letter series,” and these marks ceased to be used when the introduction of the numbers of the plates on the face of the stamps was applied to the whole of those then

*Ed. 1862 of the 1*





Plate II. 4<sup>2</sup> seen pair dachal edge June 92. plate near right (32)

d4. If each printing, was not differentiated by a varying tone of colour. intentionally? I doubt. Wright thinks yes.

57-58

current, as was the case when the next issue was brought out.

IMPRESSION.—When this issue commenced a change was made in the colour of the impression, and vermilion-red, varying from light to dark, was substituted for the rose-pink of the previous issue. The colour frequently approached almost to a light tint of brick-red. *or salmon. at times highly glazed. & also on yellow lined paper.*

Third Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st August, 1865.

DIE III.—The die was re-engraved; the circle enclosing the head was reduced in size, so that the frame, composed of a fanciful design similar to that of the first issue, was only partially interrupted by the circle and the tablets carrying the inscriptions. The tablets were also shortened and rounded at the extremities, and at the two ends of the upper one numerals were inserted in white on a solid ground of colour corresponding with the number of the plate, and enclosed within a small circle marked out by a fine white line. Large letters in white, on solid square blocks of colour, were introduced into the four angles of the stamp, and the spandrels filled in with a wavy reticulated pattern.



PLATE.—The plates numbered 5 and 6, which had been prepared for the preceding issue, were not used, and this issue commenced with plate No. 7, which received its *imprimatur* on the 3rd June, 1865. Plate No. 8 was also brought into use in the same year; plates 9 and 10 in 1866; plates 11 and 12 in 1868; plates 13 and 14 in 1869, the issue closing with the latter.

IMPRESSION.—During the continuance of the issue, especially while plate No. 11 ~~was~~ <sup>has been</sup> in use, the colour of the impression was a full and bright vermilion-red, but it gradually degenerated in tone, until plate No. 14 shows a very weak shade of vermilion, approaching to a pale brick-red.

**Fourth Issue.**

Date of Issue, March, 1876.

**DIE IV.**—The head of the Queen was slightly changed, and the die received other alterations, more particularly observable in the filling up of the spandrels, and in the point of the bust touching the circle in which it is enclosed. The lettering in the angles was also changed by substituting letters in colour on a plain white ground for the white letters on a coloured ground of the preceding issue. A similar change was also made in the plate numbers.



**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 15, which received its *imprimatur* 10th June, 1874, though the impressions from it were not issued to the public until March, 1876. Plate No. 16 was also ~~authorized~~ <sup>issued</sup> 4th August, 1874, and plate 17 on the 30th July, 1877. *in green.*

In January, 1881, the arrangement of the panes composing the plate underwent a material modification, consequent on the abandonment of the use of the paper watermarked with the garter, and the substitution in its place of the "Crown, 1880" paper. While plate No. 17 was in use, the electro-casts of the two upper panes were brought together so as to form one pane, and the same was done with the two lower ones, so that the plate ~~now~~ <sup>was</sup> consisted of two panes only, of 120 stamps in each pane, in ten rows of twelve in each row, the two panes being separated from each other horizontally by a blank space equal to one row of stamps. On the upper and lower margins an ornament is introduced between the sixth and seventh stamps in the first and last horizontal rows, as a guide to show where the pane may be divided into two equal parts so as to form two Post-office sheets of sixty each, of the facial value of one pound. The marginal inscriptions and other legends were also suppressed, <sup>as</sup> also the number of the plate corresponding

*Registered**rearranged*

Colour prot. (gaster) imperforate - on paper of wood

plate 15.

brown.  
white  
blue green.  
ochre yellow

J B  
N J  
K B  
D K  
C T  
T C

specimens. copy. / see 207 p. 10

Plate 15 was re-registered in green on 1.11.76.

No registry of pl. 16 has been found.

4<sup>th</sup> green ~~copy~~ March 1877. pl 15.

K. 16 449 of 14.8.74. 1440 other altered 13.7.74. in red  
copy found printed. Even Aug 94. 135.

pl 17. 540 of 30.7.77. 1440 . 21. 7. 77. in green.  
copy found printed. Morley. July 94. 260. after 250. 107  
J T in heavy bars  
T J 4 lines of cl  
upright

Plate 15. hair in red. Imperforate } seen Ferran APR 1893,  
" " green " }

April 1892 Extract Mr Peacock to Naslety

The first introd. of machine made paper in the case of the 6<sup>th</sup> postage was in 1879. I find the paper was recd. 13 Sep. 1878  
but says W. surely this was Crown

Oct 94. P. Record p. 229. Eves. Feb 16 used for York 68  
dark shade.

11.1 as used in ...  
first used and 11.29 p. ...

pl 17 under to use 9.8.77.

T  
L

Page 117. At bottom of the page add : Imperforate copies of impressions from all the Plates brought into use are found in the O. C.

- Plate Nos. 1 and 2, on blue safety paper, wmk. "Small Garter," carmine.
- " Nos. 3 and 4, on white paper, wmk. "Large Garter," vermilion.
- " Nos. 7 to 16 " " " light vermilion.
- " Nos. 15 and 17 " " " sage-green.

with that on the stamps and the official number. Plate No. 17 is still in use.\*

PAPER.—From 1857 down to the close of the year 1880 the paper continued unchanged, being that watermarked with the "large garter." On the 1st January, 1881, the stamps appeared on paper watermarked with "Crown, 1880," similar to that then in use for the stamps of twopence, 1880, and under that value, a description of which will be found when we come to treat of the one penny, 1880. This change was doubtless made with a view of avoiding as far as possible the necessity of manufacturing special paper for particular values, as the change was carried out simultaneously with the threepence and sixpence, and has since been applied to the twopence halfpenny. The substitution of this paper necessarily involved the alteration in the arrangement of the panes above referred to.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was a pale orange-red at the commencement of the issue, but while plate No. 15 was still in use it was changed to a pale sage-green of a most ineffective tone. This change of colour appears to have been approved of on the 1st November, 1876, but the issue to the public did not take place till the 1st March following. Plate No. 17 was approved of during the time that this colour was employed, but previously to ~~impressions being taken from it for issue to the public~~ the colour was on the 1st September, 1880, changed to mouse-brown, and so continued, though varying at times in tone; a defect inherent to all composite colours.†

\* This plate was approved so far back as July, 1877, but the fluctuations in the demand for the stamp have been considerable, and have arisen principally from the following causes. From 1855 to 1870 the single letter rate to France was fourpence; from 1862 to 1878 the registration fee on all letters inland as well as foreign was also fourpence. When these rates were changed there was a considerable diminution in the demand for this value, which will now probably again become larger, since the recent alteration in the postal rates to those countries which come within the second class of the Postal Union.

† The proof sheets at Somerset House do not show this colour, being, as will readily be conjectured, printed in the colour current at the time of their approval.

*1/2 being paid C  
near A*

SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.**

**DIE I.**—(1) Paper watermarked with "small garter," tinted blue more or less deeply. St. Andrew's crosses in angles. Plates Nos. 1 and 2 not numbered. Perf. 14.

31st July, 1855. Fourpence, carmine (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with "middle-sized garter," tinted blue more or less deeply. Perf. 14.

1856. Fourpence, carmine (shades).

(3) Paper watermarked with "middle-sized garter," white. Perf. 14. 1856. Fourpence, dull pink (shades).

(4) Paper watermarked with "large garter," white. Perf. 14. 1857. Fourpence, pink (shades).

**Second Issue.**

**DIE II.**—Paper watermarked with "large garter," white. Small letters in angles. Plates Nos. 3 and 4, distinguished by special marks. Perf. 14.

15th January, 1862. Fourpence, vermilion-red (shades from pale to intense).

VARIETY.

Fourpence, vermilion-red, *imperfurate*. Plate No. 4.

**Third Issue.**

**DIE III.**—Paper as in preceding issue. Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 7 to 14. - Perf. 14.

1st August, 1865. Fourpence, vermilion (pale to dark).

VARIETY.

Fourpence, vermilion, *imperfurate*. Plates Nos. 11 and 12.

**Fourth Issue.**

**DIE IV.**—(1) Paper as before. Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 15 and 16. Perf. 14.

(a) March, 1876. Fourpence, pale vermilion. Plate No. 15.

(b) March, 1877. Fourpence, pale sage-green (shades). Plate Nos. 15 and 16.

(c) 1st September, 1880. Fourpence, mouse-brown. Plate No. 17.

(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Plate No. 17. <sup>18</sup> Perf. 14.

1st January, 1881. Fourpence, mouse-brown (shades).

*Page 118.* In the SYNOPSIS, under Fourth Issue, Die IV. (2), for Plate No. 17, read Plates No. 17 and 18. Impressions from this last were issued to the public in October, 1882.

+ 17. few.

4<sup>th</sup> inverted watermarks.

1857. Large Garden. small sundew

1862 plate. 1. 2.

+ plates 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 & 12.  
12.

4<sup>th</sup> pl (15) prof wip. dull brick red. imperfe garden  
Morley. Nov 41

do do. bistre. do do

4<sup>th</sup> pl (17) Garden. Bram. perf? machines tel to leave margins  
with holes, right edge opposite? & also to leave no margin.

(No. 8. <sup>late red,</sup> wip/pe. } Redplate. 19. 3. 87)

2. (13) Reg. 1. 1. 69. has deckel edges.

pl (16) perf<sup>d</sup> in red watermark. found Ever. L.P. Sep 94. p. 214

Plate (15). sage green pair incorporate. see 167. ed. Richards  
& also O.C.

plate (17) Garden. prof imperfe. in dull blue.  
see July 90. Dec 1894.

used in Green. see. Morley. May 94.

pl. (17), Control in red. Garden.  
1862 find York. 1870



W. Savage & Co. 2

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

Last warrant for embossed is

no 31

on 1.8.55. Warrant for 10,000 sheets of 40 each of the 6d  
orders from "Bacon & Co" (originally in error for  
E. Hill in Ser<sup>ts</sup> 110) written on an enclosure

6<sup>th</sup> from work moved to letter also p. 14 + 17 (approx)

*[Faint, illegible text]*

Plate 11

plates

*[Faint, illegible text]*

## 2. THE SIXPENCE.

## TYPE 1.

**DESIGN.**—The design of the first type of this value consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circle enclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm. Above and below the circle and within the frame are two straight white tablets, in the upper of which is **POSTAGE**, and in the lower, the value in full, both in coloured letters. The side framing is of fine vertical lines disposed so as to form a species of scroll, and the spandrels are filled in with a reticulated design. The circle enclosing the profile is about a millimetre smaller in diameter than that of the fourpence, and does not touch the exterior line of the frame.

*First Issue.*

Date of Issue, 21st October, 1856.

**DIE I.**—The extremities of the two tablets carrying the inscriptions were rounded, and the value in the lower, **SIX PENCE**, inserted in two separate words. The corners of the frame were ornamented with a floriated design; the spandrels were filled with a reticulated pattern, and rounded at the exterior angles.



**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps divisible into twelve smaller sheets of twenty each, and was therefore composed of a similar number of panes arranged in four rows of three in each row, separated from each other horizontally by an interval equal to a row of stamps, and vertically by a space of about half an inch wide. Each pane consisted of twenty casts, arranged in five rows of four in each row and measured  $3\frac{3}{16}$  inches wide, by  $4\frac{3}{4}$  deep. In the horizontal spaces between the panes of the first and second rows was the legend "PRICE—6d. per label—2s. per Row of 4—£1 per Sheet of 40," and the same legend was repeated between

the panes of the third and fourth rows. In the horizontal space between the two middle rows of panes was **POSTAGE SIX PENCE**, in capitals at the bottom of each of the three upper panes, and repeated again over the top of each of the three lower ones. Although two plates numbered 1 and 2 were prepared for this issue, yet the first only was printed from, the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 29th March, 1856. >

**PAPER.**—The paper specially manufactured for this issue, and that of the one shilling next described, was watermarked with the heraldic emblems of the United Kingdom, the rose, shamrock, and thistle, disposed as follows: A rose in each of the upper corners, and the shamrock and thistle in the other two corners of the space destined to be occupied by the stamp. These watermarks were arranged in panes of twenty, corresponding with the arrangement of the casts on the plate, each pane being enclosed in a single lined frame, and measuring  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. Twelve of these panes in four rows of three in each row constituted the sheet, which measured about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  by 23 inches.

On the side margins of the sheet opposite the exterior panes was the watermark **POSTAGE STAMPS**, in cursive hand, repeated twice on each side, extending along the sides of two panes, and a similar watermark was placed in each of the three horizontal spaces between the rows of panes.

The sheet on which the *imprimatur* before mentioned was endorsed is of the safety paper tinged with blue, manufactured in a similar manner to that then in use for the fourpence, but watermarked with the "heraldic emblems." In the interval that elapsed between the date of the *imprimatur* and the issue of the stamp to the public, this paper was superseded by one which was pure white, thin, and highly glazed.\*

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was dull lilac, varying only in depth of shade.

\* Notwithstanding that the *imprimatur* on the impression from plate No. 1 of the one shilling was, as will be noticed hereafter, also endorsed on similar safety paper, tinged with blue, watermarked with the heraldic

Official coll.: Taping. Imperforate proofs.

Plate 1. (on blue safety paper.) 3. 4. 5. 6. on Heraldic 8/

8. 9. 10. (spray.)

11. 12. 13 (spray).

14. 15. 16. 17. 18 (spray).

17. 18. (crou. '80).

The Reg<sup>d</sup> sheet of 29. 3. 56 on safety paper is in a dull  
blac colour. not glazed or shining. no varnish in ink.

16. 1. 89 Saw from de Westoby

Envelope. d<sup>n</sup> 82. with red seal on flap. posted S. Aubrey St.  
28. 3. 57. Registered. paid by a perf? 6<sup>d</sup> adhesive on  
the blue safety paper. wh had run owing to damp. -

Page 120. It would seem as if some sheets were printed and used  
experimentally before perforation for deciding on obliterating marks. We  
have seen imperforate specimens from Plate No. 1 on the white paper of the  
issue, watermarked with "Heraldic Emblems," the date of obliteration being  
April 9th, 1856, and the office number 23, in a diamond, surrounded by a  
frame of narrow lines, the whole forming an oval postmark. This form of  
obliteration was never used in practice, and denotes official experiment.  
Proofs from this die, of the sixpence, in green, which unquestionably were  
never issued, are also to be found as referred to at page 298. See also *The  
Philatelist*, vol. VI. (1872) pp. 169, 170.

12. 4. 94 saw 6 copies of p. 1857. Spool. Halifax St. on thin hand  
paper, wh turned black on water. corr. p. 1857. not thick like safety.

SIXPENCE

"Heraldic Emblems." October 21st, 1856.

(a) Similar to paper (e) of the fourpence "Middle-sized Garter"; hand-made; purple, slightly glazed.

(b) Ordinary white wove paper; hand-made; purple.

NOTE.—Those on paper (a) were printed between March and July (!), 1856.  
Plate 1.

About September, 1862.

(b) Ordinary white wove paper; hand-made; purple.

NOTE.—Small letters in the angles. Plates 3 and 4.

April 1st, 1865.

(b) Same paper as the last.

NOTE.—Large white letters in the angles, with hyphen. Plates 5 and 6.

"Spray of Rose." About October, 1867.

(c) Ordinary white wove paper; machine-made; purple.

NOTE.—Large white letters in the angles, with hyphen. Plate 6.

**Second Issue.**

Date of Issue, September, 1862.

**DIE II.**—The design differed but little from that of the preceding issue. The head of the Queen was retouched, and alterations made in the frame surrounding it. The floriated ornaments in the angles were removed, and square blocks, with small block letters in white on a solid ground of colour, were inserted in place of them. A hyphen between the words **SIX** and **PENCE** in the lower tablet was also introduced. The spandrels, which in the preceding issue had been rounded at the exterior angles, were made square, as were also the ends of the tablets carrying the inscription.



**PLATE.**—The disposition of the panes remained unaltered. The issue commenced with plate No. 3, the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 17th October, 1861. Plate No. 4 was approved on the 15th April, 1862, and on this plate are found the special marks of the diagonal lines across the letter blocks before referred to\* as being applied to the second set of plates of this issue.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression still remained of the dull, ineffective tone of lilac found in the first issue, though varying in depth of shade.

**Third Issue.**

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1865.

**DIE III.**—The die was re-engraved, and the framing again altered. The circle enclosing the Queen's head was reduced in size, and some changes carried out in the profile. Large white emblems, and bore date about three months later, yet the most diligent search has failed to discover any specimens of either of these stamps issued to the public on this paper. The only inference is that if any sheets were printed on safety paper save for the official approval of the plate, they must have been destroyed, as also the paper in stock.

\* *Vide sup.*, p. 114.

letters, on proportionately large solid coloured blocks, were inserted in the angles of the frame, the sides of which were shortened and rounded off; and in the spaces thus left, small circles were introduced, the two uppermost of which were each



filled in with an eight-rayed star in white, on a solid ground of colour, and the two lower ones with the number of the plate, now introduced for the first time, also in white on a coloured ground. At the point where the circle approaches nearest to the upper and lower tablets there is a minute disc, with a white dot in its centre. The hyphen between SIX and PENCE was shortened, and made thicker.

**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 5, the impression from which was approved of on the 30th December, 1864. Plate No. 6 was also approved on the 5th December, 1865, but impressions from it do not appear to have found their way into the hands of the public until April, 1867.

**PAPER.**—Up to the middle of 1867 the paper remained the same as in the preceding issues, but about the month of September of that year it was superseded by the paper watermarked with a "spray of rose," which had been brought into use in the month of March previous for the printing of the tenpence and two shillings issued on the 1st July, 1867. Specimens printed from plate No. 5, watermarked with the "spray of rose," have not been found by us, and it is probable that this plate had ceased to be printed from when the paper with the new watermark was introduced. Impressions, however, from plate No. 6 are found on paper watermarked both with the "heraldic emblems" and with the "spray of rose."

In the paper watermarked with the "spray of rose" no alteration was made in the panes, which were enclosed in a single-lined frame in watermark. In the margins of the sheet the watermark of POSTAGE STAMPS, alongside of the third and sixth panes, and the seventh and tenth, being the two upper right and the two lower left, was replaced by MARK, in double-lined capitals,

# Shades.

from 1865 to July 1868 all shades in very dull lilac

1868. July end of Aug & Sept. bright violet

Last week Sept 08. violet

many these reddish v. to bright green  
in 1872.

In 1872. dark brown.

succeeded by ~~green~~  
pale brown  
buff.

1873. green & grey. not allowed white pl 12 in use

per Swen. S. J. S. p. 17.

first step with head & spray of rose. on 22.6.67.

plate 5. on helix. also

Page 122. Third Issue: It would appear to be probable that the adoption of the paper watermarked "Spray of Rose," in place of that watermarked "Heraldic Emblems," took place during an early stage of the use of Plate No. 6, as unused specimens from this Plate on the latter-named paper are of considerable rarity.



Query of correct  
& bulk of others are removed, out of place, a bit of each in etc.

6° PL (10) 1.4.69 is reg<sup>d</sup> in pencil on spray. correct blue  
331.  
only 1 sheet of 240 printed 3.7.67.

followed by a *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, then Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue. The control mark was impressed over the watermark of MARK.

By an accident or oversight, while plate No. 5 was in use, some sheets were printed on plain unwatermarked paper, and included in a supply sent to Malta, where English stamps are used for correspondence beyond the limits of the island. The circumstance has gained for this variety the pseudonym of the "Maltese" sixpence. \*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression still continued to be a dull lilac, and so remained till about the middle of the year 1868, when it assumed a much more decided tone, approaching to violet.

#### **Fourth Issue.\***

Date of Issue, April, 1869.

DIE IV.—The chief point in which the design of this die differed from that of the preceding issue consisted in the suppression of the hyphen between SIX and PENNY in the lower tablet.

PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 8, the impression from which was approved 23rd January, 1868, as, owing to some imperfections discovered in plate No. 7, rendering it unfit for use, it was destroyed. Plates Nos. 9 and 10 were approved in 1869, but of these the former only was brought into actual use, as before it became necessary to print from the latter a new type had been decided upon, and the second of these plates consequently became useless.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was the brighter tone of violet, the use of which had commenced in 1868, during the preceding issue. The colour frequently assumes a purple tone, and the shades of both tones vary in intensity.

#### TYPE II.

DESIGN.—The design of Type II consists in the disarmed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine hori-

zontal lines, enclosed in a white hexagonal frame. The side angles of the frame cut the rectangular line enclosing the entire design, and the upper and lower portions of the frame are carried out to the line at the top and bottom, so as to form the tablets carrying the inscriptions, POSTAGE in the upper, and SIX PENCE in the lower, in two separate words.

**Fifth Issue.**

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1872.

**DIE I. TYPE II.\***—Square letter blocks were placed in the angles, on which were introduced large white letters on a solid ground of colour. The two upper triangular spaces, bounded at the top by the letter-block, and on the sides by the line enclosing the design and by the border, were filled up with rosaces and ornaments of a conventional character. A similar design was repeated in the lower triangles, but in place of the rosaces the plate numbers were inserted, in white numerals on a solid coloured ground. The size of the stamp remained the same as in the preceding issue.



\* The following is a copy of the notice issued from the General Post Office, announcing the new type: *to it was annexed a copy of the full sheet*

"CIRCULAR TO POSTMASTERS WHO OBLITERATE STAMPS."

"SIXPENNY POSTAGE STAMPS."

"NEW PATTERN."

"Sixpenny Postage Stamps differing from the present pattern are about to be issued. A specimen is annexed to this Notice for the information of the Postmasters concerned."

"Any stocks of the present Sixpenny Stamps remaining on hand should continue to be sold to the public until they are exhausted."

"General Post Office,

"JOHN TILLEY,

"March, 1872.

Secretary."

These notices are now but very seldom issued. A General Post Office circular is sent out weekly to the different Post-offices, and the announcement of the issue of any new values or such like information is contained in it.

We omitted to mention, in its proper place under page 124, that the circular given at the foot of that page, addressed to the various postmasters, with a "specimen" copy of the altered type of the sixpence, was an exception to the general practice as stated in this Appendix (*supra*, p. 97). We may further add that when the colour of the sixpenny stamp was changed to grey in 1873, a similar circular was issued, with a "specimen" in the new colour.

*In italics*

*Same type as 1868 line.*

*Caps are marked.*

✓

*full sheet*

*Cherwell*

*proper attention*

*marked 'Sixpenny' as copy*

*same design as copy*

pl (12) 11/40 Mumps orders. wamas. 25. 3. 72

pl (13) do do " ~~17. 4. 72~~  
17. 12. 72. 7

pl (13) 1/4 reg on spray (hex # 22. 4. 72. iii light brown  
and the chestnut shade.

24. 72

59-5 765 narrow gauge... 1922  
 1-17-27  
 1-17-27

vertical lines, enclosed in a white rectangular frame, the four angles of the frame cut the rectangular line enclosing the design, and the upper and lower portions of the frame were carried out to the top and bottom, and the sides of the frame were carried out to the left and right, in two separate words.

First Front.

Case of Iowa, in April, 1922

The L. Type II. - Square letter blocks were placed at angles, on which were introduced large white letters on a ground of color. The two upper triangular spaces, which

*unintelligible handwritten notes*



border, were filled up with designs of a conventional nature. A similar design was repeated in the triangles, but in place of the white letters were inserted, in a shade of a solid colored ground. The size of the letters remained the same as in the preceding type.

The following is a copy of the notice issued from the State Office, commencing the new type: *unintelligible*

6. re

REPLY TO THE STATE OFFICE

Notice to the State Office, dated... *unintelligible*

Any other of the... *unintelligible*

These notices are now... *unintelligible*

It would be mentioned in the... *unintelligible*

**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 11, the impression from which was approved on 5th January, 1872, which with plate No. 12, approved on 22nd April following, were the only ones employed during the continuance of this issue.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was at first a bright chestnut-brown, in which shade of colour it is found on the sheets upon which the ~~impressions~~ were ordered on the 5th January and 22nd April, 1872. In the latter part of the year 1872 the colour was changed to a pale yellow-brown, and, so far as we are aware, stamps issued to the public of the colour first adopted are only found on the earlier sheets printed from plate No. 11. While this plate was still in use the colour was altered to the pale yellow-brown above-mentioned, which remained when plate No. 12 was brought into use. While this latter plate was still being printed from, the colour of the impression underwent a still further change, a <sup>blackish or</sup> greenish-grey being substituted, in April, 1873, for the then current pale yellow-brown. Specimens are consequently found of impressions from plate No. 11 in chestnut-brown and in pale yellow-brown, and from plate No. 12 in pale yellow-brown and <sup>blackish or</sup> greenish-grey. *See notice below*

### Sixth Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1874.

**DIE II. TYPE II.**—The profile does not appear to have been re-engraved; but the whole of the frame was altered, and the width reduced by half a millimètre. The size of the hexagon was also reduced, so that the side of it nearest to the chignon almost encroaches upon it. The lower part of the frame was also brought nearer to the base of the bust, and the distance between the words SIX and PENNE in the lower tablet was diminished. The triangular spaces were all filled in with ornamental work, and small circles introduced into the side



angles of the hexagonal frame, in which were inserted the plate numbers in colour on a white ground. The letter blocks were also changed, so as to show coloured letters on a white ground.

PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 13, the impression from which was approved on 1st December, 1872, and this was followed by plate No. 14, approved 25th July, 1873; plate No. 15, approved 15th July, 1874; plate No. 16, approved 10th September, 1875; and plate No. 17, approved 13th December, 1877. While this latter plate was in use at the close of the year 1880, an alteration in the mode of arranging the panes was carried out, similar to that already mentioned as having been effected in the panes of the fourpence. The six upper panes were formed into one, and the six lower ones into another pane of 120 casts each, separated from one another horizontally by an interval equal to a row of stamps. Ornaments are inserted in the upper and lower margins, marking the points where the pane is to be divided into three strips of four stamps wide, each of which makes a Post-office sheet. There are no marginal inscriptions, and the numbers of plate corresponding with that on the stamps, as also the official number, have been suppressed. Plate No. 17 is still in use, (May, 1881); Plate No. 18, approved 5th July, 1880, has not yet been brought into use.

PAPER.—The paper watermarked with the "spray of rose" continued to be used up to the close of the year 1880; but about the end of the year 1876 a trifling alteration was made in the watermark of the margin of the sheets by the suppression of the *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, and the substitution of *Postage Stamps*, in cursive hand, in its place.

About the close of the year 1880 the paper was changed to that watermarked with the "Crown 1880," disposed in panes of 120 in each pane, and stamps on the paper thus watermarked were issued to the public on the 1st January, 1881. The use of the control marks was at the same time discontinued.

May 90. W. J. Wilson had 6<sup>2</sup> (13) perf<sup>d</sup> fused in brown. }  
from a neg<sup>a</sup> sheet. lib<sup>a</sup> (12)

Mar 92. (See 89 + 91) 6<sup>2</sup> (13) Control mark in azure blue.  
14 (13) neg<sup>d</sup> in light yellow brown on spray.  
(14) — green gray

Plate 18. brought into use May 1882. from ~~6/10~~  
(Crown 90)

Page 126. PLATE. Last two lines of the paragraph. Plate No. 18 was brought into use in May, 1882.



Page 127. IMPRESSION. On the 1st of January, 1883, preparatory to a change in the type of the sixpenny stamp, the colour of the impression was changed to light purple or lilac, and at the same time a large figure of value, "6d.," was overprinted on each stamp in carmine. The paper, perforation, &c., remain as before. This change took place while Plate No. 18 was current.

Page 127. Before Synopsis insert : The O. C. contains imperforate series of the sixpence as follows :

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------------|
| Plate No. 1, on blue safety paper, wmk. | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | "              |
| Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, on white paper         | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | "              |
| Nos. 8, 9, 10                           | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | "              |
| Nos. 11, 12, 13                         | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | "              |
| Nos. 14 to 18                           | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | light brown.   |
| Nos. 17 and 18                          | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | greenish grey. |
|   | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | "              |

May 1896. Mosby. seen 6<sup>o</sup> he (3) used. Gibbaltan A 26 D. H. on lines  
 centufa showing over margin to right.  
 N. D.

London

**IMPRESSION.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 13, which was approved on 1st December, 1872, before the colour of the impression had been changed from light yellow-brown to greenish-grey; but no stamps were issued in the former colour. Throughout the whole of the issue, continued regularly through plates Nos. 14, 15, 16, and 17, from which latter the stamps at present in use are being printed, the colour of the impression has remained greenish-grey, varying only in depth of tone. The demand for this value has fluctuated much, having diminished considerably of late years, as is shown by the fact that plate No. 17 though approved of in December, 1877, has not long been called into use. As the postage to the Australian Colonies has recently (March, 1880) been fixed at sixpence, an increased demand may naturally be expected.

**SYNOPSIS.****TYPE I.****First Issue.**

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with "heraldic emblems," white. No letters in angles. Plate 1; perf. 14.

21st October, 1856. Six pence, dull lilac (shades).

**Second Issue.**

**DIE II.**—Paper as in preceding. Hyphen between **SIX** and **PENCE**. Small white letters in angles. Plates 3 and 4, the latter distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

September, 1862. Six-pence, dull lilac (shades).

**Third Issue.**

**DIE III.**—(1) Paper as in preceding. Hyphen between **SIX** and **PENCE**. Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 5 and 6. Perf. 14.

1st April, 1865. Six-pence, dull lilac (shades).

**VARIETY.**

Six-pence, dull lilac; no watermark. Plate No. 5.

*Safety*

*Variety. Plate 6. imperforate - later issue coll. 25-1-88. + Buhl. 92. p. 119. =  
 Third Issue. + Elliott. pan. 11. 1. 94.*

(2) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 6. Perf. 14.

October, 1867. Six-pence, dull lilac.  
1868. Six-pence, bright lilac.

### Fourth Issue.

DIE IV.—Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." No hyphen between SIX and PENCE. Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 8 and 9. Perf. 14.

April, 1869. Six pence, purple-lilac (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Six pence, purple-lilac; *imperfurate*. Plates Nos. 8 and 9.

#### TYPE II.

### Fifth Issue.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 11 and 12. Perf. 14.

- (a) 1st April, 1872. Six pence, bright chesnut-brown. Plate No. 11.
- (b) June, 1872. Six pence, pale yellow-brown (shades). Plates Nos. 11 and 12. / 13.
- (c) 1st April, 1878. Six pence, greenish-grey (shades). Plate No. 12.

### Sixth Issue.

DIE II.—(1) Paper as in preceding. Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 13 to 17. Perf. 14.

1st April, 1874. Six pence, greenish-grey (shades). 7

(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown, 1880." Large coloured letters in angles. Plate No. 17, 18 Perf. 14.

1st January, 1881. Six pence, greenish-grey (shades).

May 1882. " " "  
1st Jan'y 1883. Same as lilac "6d" changed red 18/8  
3. THE ONE SHILLING.

DESIGN.—The design is a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a solid upright oval border. In the upper part of this border is POSTAGE, in small white capitals, and in the lower part

Ms  
10. 11. 12 all reg on spray

Plate 1. used for small & middle garters. pl 2. Large.

The original "lets" for the 4<sup>th</sup> were in existence in 1857.

Ebbons calls in 1892 arranged

4<sup>th</sup> small garter. Blue safety paper

white " " " " " " rare

middle garter. Blue safety " rare

white

June 1892. J. Post. 356. p 71. J. H. Anheuser writes

4<sup>th</sup> (small) garter paper as late as (large) garter

#### SUMMARY.

##### FOURPENCE.

"Small Garter." July 31st, 1855.

- (a) Stout blued "safety" paper; hand-made; carmine, glazed.
- (b) Stout mottled "safety" paper; hand-made; carmine, glazed.
- (c) Stout, apparently white, paper; hand-made; carmine, glazed.

"Middle-sized Garter." About March, 1856.

- (d) Stout blued "safety" paper; hand-made; carmine, glazed.
- (e) Thinner mottled "safety" paper; hand-made; carmine, not so highly glazed.

About June, 1856.

- (f) Ordinary white wove paper; hand-made; dull rose, not glazed.

NOTE.—The whole of the above were most probably printed from Plate 1.

"Large Garter." About July, 1857.\*

\* It will be seen that we have assumed the date of the change of the "Small" to "Middle-sized" Garter to be March, 1856, and that of the "Middle-sized" to "Large" Garter as July, 1857. There is no mode of checking these dates except by finding specimens on old letters. Any of our readers who may have the opportunity of doing so would confer a favour on us, and be philatelic benefactors, if they would inform us how far their observation tallies with these dates.

- (g) Ordinary white wove paper; hand-made; rose.

NOTE.—Probably printed from Plate 2.

January 15th, 1862.

- (g) Ordinary white wove paper; hand-made; orange-vermilion.

NOTE.—Small letters in the angles. Plates 3 and 4.

August 1st, 1865.

Ordinary white wove paper; machine-made; orange-vermilion.

NOTE.—Large white letters in the angles. Plates 7 to 14.

Large pattern is a machine made paper  
I believe unsized machine paper is made by a roller  
on which is the design, under or over the sheet of  
pulp passes before it is carried over the series of rollers  
which transform it into paper - & in this transit, it never  
loses the impress of the unsized.

Waltham June 21. 1890.

My dear Philbrick.

I enclose you a letter I have had from Mr. Purcell which does not solve my difficulty as to the State 13 of the box in light brown. My reply will tell you what I think.

Dear Mr. Purcell

Thank you very much for your letter of yesterday and for the reply to my troublesome questions. I cannot however quite solve the difficulty.

I think I explained that this arises from the cropping up of a new prepared specimen of State 13 of the box in light brown.

State 13 was reg<sup>d</sup> in light brown in Dec: 1872 but was <sup>not</sup> put to press till Decembe. 1873 the colour in the mean while (April 1873) having been changed to gray.

It is now hard to see how I could have made the mistake of printing any in light brown in Dec: 1873 after the colour had been abandoned for 9 months.

The only supposition I can think of  
is that they accidentally  
printed a sheet or two from Plate 13  
at the time they printed the registered  
impression at which someone they had  
printed the 8<sup>o</sup> in light brown from  
Plate 12 which is from 5 bolts in light  
brown and grey.

Mr. Mitchell has seen this Copy  
of Plate 13 in light brown and cannot  
be in error as the type differs from  
Plate 12. — It is Larusus auri  
though I cannot call it a black  
swan as it is brown.

From me

Several sheets are struck. & if not  
imperfect used, as every sheet of paper  
has to be accounted for per Mr Peacock's.

Invented watermarks.

plates. 1. 4

plates 13 (spray) read. 14. This must be 1/2

Jeffrey - evidently from a reg<sup>d</sup> plate. (inverted)  
The specimen 6. (13) yellow brown. in A-F. no at sides (13) (13)  
die worn. ∴ not proof. 1/2 for perf. 14.

with 4y 6 1/2 (13) on light buff. found helter. Low Pl. No 37. p. 18  
Aug 95

6d

(11) Chestnut Brown. (spray) imperforate seen 25.1.88.

(13) ib perf. 29.5.90. N.Y. arch

\* See also this monthly journal. Sept. 1890. Gibbons & Co. p. 49 by Jeff

x. See Timbre-Poste. No 267. imperforate. (13)?  
March 88 p. 23.

Page 128. In Synopsis, Sixth Issue (2), paper watermarked "Crown 1880," &c., for "Plate No. 17," read "Plates Nos. 17 and 18," and add, Plate No. 18:

1st January, 1883. Sixpence, purple, overprinted "6d." in carmine. 4 varieties

Page 128. To Synopsis, Sixth Issue (1), add:  
VARIETY.

Sixpence, greenish-grey; imperforate.

The Timbre-Poste (No. 267) in mentioning this omits to state the number of the Plate.

Pl (18) 5.7.80 probably only reg<sup>d</sup> sheet, as Contractor had warrants & paper for large quantity of 8 there: no special warrant for (18)



1<sup>st</sup> warrant. 21.6.56. for this year 1<sup>st</sup> type printed.

1<sup>st</sup> ② 215 with fig 2 each side.

warrant 13.6.62 for 240 only.

D.C. D.D. joins pair Willett. imp.  
1366. 6. left side imp margin. Ridley. Apr 95.

|    |    |                  |
|----|----|------------------|
| BE | DF | } in lower angle |
| CE | CF |                  |
| DE | DF |                  |

ONE SHILLING, in similar characters, the intervals being filled in with white reticulations. The whole is enclosed within a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

### First Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st November, 1856.

**DIE I.**—The exterior line of the solid oval border surrounding the profile of the Queen extended beyond the limits of the rectangular-lined frame as well at the sides as at the top and bottom. The spandrels were filled up with a vertical, closely reticulated pattern, detracting greatly from the effectiveness of the stamp.

**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes of twenty casts in each pane, arranged in the same manner as in the case of the sixpence. Above each of the upper three panes was the legend **POSTAGE ONE SHILLING**, in capitals, and between these panes and the next three panes, "**PRICE—1s. per Label—4 Shillings per Row of 4—1 Pound per Sheet,**" while below each of these latter panes **POSTAGE ONE SHILLING** was again repeated. Between the third and fourth row of panes, "**PRICE—1s. per Label,**" &c., was also repeated under each pane. If, now, the plate were turned upside down, so that the last or lowest panes were at the top of the sheet, the legend **POSTAGE ONE SHILLING** would be found over each of these panes, and under the seventh, eighth, and ninth; the legend therefore appeared twice in the horizontal space between the two middle rows of panes, one set of the legends being up-side down.

The plate and official numbers were introduced at the corners as in the other values.

One plate only, numbered 1, was prepared for this issue, the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 27th June, 1856.

**PAPER.**—The paper was the same as that employed for the



first issues of the sixpence, being pure white, and watermarked with the heraldic emblems of the United Kingdom. Like as in the case of the sixpence, the impression on which the *imprimatur* was endorsed was on the safety paper<sup>†</sup> tinged with blue; but it does not appear that any stamps were ever issued to the public on this paper, the use of which had been abandoned before the issue actually took place.\*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is green, of a dull, ineffective tone. *but in shiny varieties had ink. with a gloss*  
**Second Issue.**

Date of Issue, October, 1862.

DIE II.—The profile of the Queen was retouched, the entire frame was re-engraved, and the position of the head within the oval was altered. The reticulated pattern in the spandrels was made fainter and less obtrusive, while the oval border was rendered more prominent. Solid blocks, with small white letters on coloured ground, were added in the four angles, and similar blocks for receiving the numbers of the plate were introduced into the sides of the oval border.




PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 2, the impression from which was approved on the 8th May, 1862. Singularly enough, although this plate bears the number 2, and was in reality the second plate which had been employed in this value, the number on the stamps themselves was 1. Plate No. 3 was approved on the 16th June, 1862, but it does not appear that any issue of impressions from this plate, the stamps on which bear the figure 2, was ever made to the public. These latter stamps bore the diagonal special marks which were at this period introduced into the second plates of the second issue of the fourpence and sixpence, and the second plate of the first issue of the ninepence, and the fact is remarkable as being




\* As in the case of the sixpence, we have made diligent search for specimens of this stamp on blue paper, but have been unable to meet with any which were issued to the public. See *sup.*, p. 120 note.

London Philatelist. No 1. p. 4.

1892 Jan. J. H. Redman shows at Brighton Phil Socy.

1<sup>o</sup> plate <sup>No 1. also</sup> small letter K. in lower left angle being in centre  
base of small white circle that ~~always~~ touches the 4 corner edges  
of the block of solid colour containing the letters. 3 d angles are  
normal.

see my copy. got a new K punch on a punch. we did not quite  
fit & left the circle white, raised it .

stamp is  being last stamp of the top row of the 5<sup>th</sup> frame  
 country note. 

Register ~~copy~~ sheet shows a perfect letter K & no trace of plug.  
so probably inserted to remedy a defect, repair of plate?

1. <sup>blue</sup> on safety } 9. April 94 from Malta, reported by Malley,  
alone.

Pl. 3. never put to press. Cancelled 11. 5. 66.

Block Plate 3. Six misprints margin of 5mm to left  
from W. A. Ridley. 2. 4. 95 miscondon.

|    |    |
|----|----|
| ES | FS |
| BS | AS |
| CS | FS |
| CS | CS |
| ES | FS |
| ES | FS |

Plate 4

↑ D. Q  
↓ Q. D.

line of top left stamp  
in tact. 1. large stamp  
to right.

saw a copy imperfe vertically. 11.3.72. Gueselt perf top + bottom  
wally genuine. but how so?

Plate 5

28. 3.66

11440 ordered

26. 3.56

256

POSTAGE STAMP FRAUD.—The Monthly Stamp Trade Journal, to be issued by Stanley Gibbons (Limited), on the 30th inst., will contain a statement with reference to a great postage stamp fraud. It appears that, with the exception of imitations of the 1d., black, there has been no dangerous forgery of any stamps during the 58 years of their existence: but Stanley Gibbons (Limited) have now found in their stock a very large number of counterfeits of the 1s., green, plate 5. They have recently purchased a large parcel of old stamps. Many of these stamps had been on telegraph forms, as shown by the postmark, which is that of the Stock Exchange Telegraph Office, bearing the date of July 23, 1873. No fewer than 100 of these forgeries, all used upon the same date, were found in this one parcel; and, as the fraud was never discovered, the Department must have been robbed to the tune of £5 or £50 a day for many months. 22 7. 75

saw a copy from H. S.

July 1898.

It was on a S.E. printed form.

Pique 13% rough for

S E

E S. mark in blank

Stock exchange. E.

JY 23

77 woodcut photo

on um

Page 131. Line 12 from bottom: The imperforate specimen of the impression from Plate No. 5 in the O. C. is on paper, watermarked "Heraldic Emblems."

pl 2 numbers. Willitt joined pair imperf D.C. D.D. Avery.

As to the forgery p. (5) see <sup>IX</sup> M. Y. J. (July 1898) p. 7.  
probably done by a Talley Clark.

the only instance where these marks were applied on a stamp also bearing on its face the number of the plate.\*

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression improved during the continuance of this issue, and some fine dark shades of green are found.

### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, February, 1865.

**DIE III.**—The die was entirely remodelled; the head of the Queen re-engraved; large solid blocks inserted in the angles carrying white letters, and the spandrels filled in with a more effective reticulated pattern. The blocks for the plate numbers remained as in the preceding issue.



**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 4, the stamps now bearing a number corresponding with that of the plate. The impression from plate No. 4 was approved 28th November, 1864; that from plate No. 5 on 28th March, 1866; that from plate No. 6 on 24th February, 1869; and that from plate No. 7 on 30th September, 1872.

**PAPER.**—The paper first employed was that watermarked with the "heraldic emblems;" but in August, 1867, while plate No. 4 was in use, and before impressions for the use of the public had begun to be taken from plate No. 5, this paper was superseded by that watermarked with a "spray of rose," which continued to be used throughout the remainder of the issue. Impressions from plate No. 4 are therefore found on both kinds of paper.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression at the commencement of the issue was a full dark green, but shortly after the substitution of the "spray of rose" paper the colour fell away and degenerated into a green of a chalky-blue tone.

**PERFORATION.**—Specimens printed from plate No. 4 on "spray of rose" paper are to be found imperforate.

\* An unperforated copy of this remarkable stamp exists in the collection of Mr. Philbrick.

**Fourth Issue.**

Date of Issue, September, 1878.

**DIE IV.**—The head of the Queen was again retouched and the frame reconstructed. The letter blocks in the angles were



altered so as to show the letters in colour on a plain white ground, and the plate numbers inserted in small circular white blocks. The pattern in the spandrels and the lettering of the inscriptions were slightly modified, and the exterior frame bounded by a thicker line.

**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 8, impressions from which were approved 30th September, 1872. Plates Nos. 9 and 10 were approved 10th July and 25th November, 1873; plates Nos. 11 and 12 on 23rd April and 30th September, 1874; and plates Nos. 13 and 14 on 23rd April and 20th December, 1875, the latter of which has not yet been brought into use.\*

**PAPER.**—The paper employed through the continuance of impressions from plates Nos. 8 to 13 has remained the same as in the previous issue.†

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression remained of a pale, chalky, blue-green tone during the period that the plates Nos. 9 to 12 were in use. Plate No. 13 was brought into use in 1878, and the impression remained of the same colour until

\* The extraordinary demand for this stamp from 1869 to 1876 was due to its having been employed to an enormous extent for the payment of duties on telegraphic messages. When special stamps were issued for this service in 1876, the use of the one shilling value fell off in proportion; and as the postage to China, which for some years was defrayed in a great measure by this value, has been reduced, the demand for the stamp has become still more limited.

† Up to the present time (May, 1881) no alteration has been made in the paper on which this issue is printed, similar to that adopted in the case of the 8d., 4d., and 6d., and which, if made, would necessitate a re-arrangement of the panes. It appears probable that a change will be made shortly, either in the paper or in the type itself. (See addenda)

p. 378.

Plate 14. brought into use. 15 May 1882. no 2 (Crown '80)

Pl. 13 (Crown) prepared for issue in lilac.

Pl 14 (spray) lilac p. 14. colls Wright  
Crown

**Page 132. PLATE.** At the end of this paragraph omit the words—"the latter of which has not yet been brought into use." Plate No. 14 was put to press in 1882, and impressions from it found their way into the hands of the public on the 15th May of that year, and are now current.

**PAPER.** As has been noticed above (under page 104), the paper of the Fourth Issue, which had been that watermarked with "spray of rose," was changed to "Crown 1880" while Plate No. 13 was current.



45

Page 133. Before Synopsis insert: Imperforate specimens of all the Plates from No. 1 to No. 14 are found in the O. C.

|                    |  |                      |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| Plate No. 1,       | on blue safety paper, wmk. "Heraldic Emblems," | green.               |
| " Nos. 2, 3, and 4 | on white paper                                 | "                    |
| " Nos. 5 to 13     | "  | " "Spray of "Rose" " |
| " No. 13           | "  | " " "                |
| " "                | "  | " "pale vermilion."  |
| " No. 14           | "  | " " " "              |
| " "                | "  | " "lilac."           |

The following alterations should be made in the text :

Page 133. Synopsis. SECOND ISSUE. To "Plates 1 and 2, the latter distinguishable by special marks," add: "was never put to press."

W.B.  
\* P. plate 5. imperf. proof. coll off. Tapl. is on (emblems)

X. Plates 13 & 14 registered 3.11.82 in a clear, bright manner (a good colour far better than the 1886 cat) on (Crown).  
"For change of colour & doubly fugitive ink." F.A. Colls.  
Plate 12. imperf. (Ferrari seen April 93.)

1<sup>s</sup> plate 14. imperf. proof (coll. O. Tapl) is in green on (spray)  
1440 ordered. 14.12.75.

\* 15 June 1881. One shilling. pale brown-red. plate No. 13.  
on paper watermarked "Crown 1880".

Same page, to foot-note, add: It is somewhat strange that the first Plates of the 6d. and the 1s. should have been registered on the 29th March, 1856, and the 27th June, 1856, respectively, from impressions taken on blue safety paper, and yet in the interval copies of the 6d. should be found with experimental obliterating marks, dated 9th April, 1856, printed on white paper. It would seem to be probable that these sheets of the 6d. experimented upon in April were with a view of testing the effacing marks when applied to stamps printed on white paper.

the 1st October, 1880, when it was changed to a composite colour more brown than the light vermilion formerly used for the fourpence, and more vermilion than that in which the two shillings finished its career; it may be designated a light brown-vermilion.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.\***

DIE I.—Paper white, watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Perf. 14.

1st November, 1856. One shilling, green (shades).

**Second Issue.**

DIE II.—Paper white, watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Small white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 1 and 2, the latter distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

October, 1862. One shilling, dark green, green (shades).

## VARIETY.

One Shilling, green, *imperforate*. Plate No. 2.

**Third Issue.**

DIE III.—(1) Paper white, watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14. February, 1865. One shilling, dark green (shades).

(2) Paper white, watermarked with “spray of rose.” Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 4 to 7.

August, 1867. One shilling, green, light bluish-green (shades).

## VARIETY.

One shilling, green, *imperforate*. Plate No. 4.

**Fourth Issue.**

DIE IV.—Paper white, watermarked with “spray of rose.” Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 8 to 13. Perf. 14.

(a) September, 1873. One shilling, pale bluish-green (shades).

(b) 1st October, 1880. One shilling, pale brown-vermilion (shades).  
Plate No. 13.

\* We have not included the impression on blue paper in this list, or in that of the sixpence, because, as before stated, we have not met with any specimens that have passed through the post, but it is possible that such may exist.

Page 133. SYNOPSIS. At the end of fourth issue add :

(2) Paper white, watermarked with “Crown 1880.” Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 13 and 14. Perf. 14.

15th June, 1881. One Shilling, pale brown-vermilion.

se. x. (21) prop. of this in blue imperfo. - alt O. Paplet  
15. + 4. n. (Crown.) Reg<sup>7</sup> 3. 11. 82

## 4. THE NINEPENCE.\*

DESIGN.—The design is a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circular border composed of nine curves inclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. In the upper part, on a straight tablet, is POSTAGE, and in the lower a similar tablet with NINE PENCE, the letters in both being in colour on a white ground.

*First Issue.*

Date of Issue, 15th January, 1862.

DIE I.—Letter blocks with small white letters on a solid ground of colour were inserted in the die of this stamp from the commencement, this modification having been at the same time made in the second issues of the fourpence and sixpence, and subsequently extended to the one shilling. The spandrels were filled in with a reticulated pattern running horizontally.



PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes of twenty casts in each pane, arranged in the same manner as in the two preceding values. Above the middle pane of the first row, and on the exterior margins of the two outside ones, was the legend POSTAGE NINE PENCE; and under each of these panes, in the horizontal space between this and the second row, "PRICE—Ninepence per Label—3 Shillings per Row of 4—15s. per Sheet of 20." In the same space was POSTAGE NINE PENCE above each pane of the second row, and the same arrangement prevailed in the space between the second and

\* This stamp was primarily issued for the purpose of prepaying the single rate of postage to India and Australia, but when the rate was raised to tenpence it fell into disuse, though it continued to be sold at the Post-offices till 1877, when it was withdrawn from the list.

Inverted, correct. 1862. cut

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in the upper section of the page.]*

the first of these was in 1862. cut  
the second was in 1863. cut  
the third was in 1864. cut  
the fourth was in 1865. cut  
the fifth was in 1866. cut  
the sixth was in 1867. cut  
the seventh was in 1868. cut  
the eighth was in 1869. cut  
the ninth was in 1870. cut  
the tenth was in 1871. cut  
the eleventh was in 1872. cut  
the twelfth was in 1873. cut  
the thirteenth was in 1874. cut  
the fourteenth was in 1875. cut  
the fifteenth was in 1876. cut  
the sixteenth was in 1877. cut  
the seventeenth was in 1878. cut  
the eighteenth was in 1879. cut  
the nineteenth was in 1880. cut  
the twentieth was in 1881. cut  
the twenty-first was in 1882. cut  
the twenty-second was in 1883. cut  
the twenty-third was in 1884. cut  
the twenty-fourth was in 1885. cut  
the twenty-fifth was in 1886. cut  
the twenty-sixth was in 1887. cut  
the twenty-seventh was in 1888. cut  
the twenty-eighth was in 1889. cut  
the twenty-ninth was in 1890. cut  
the thirtieth was in 1891. cut  
the thirty-first was in 1892. cut  
the thirty-second was in 1893. cut  
the thirty-third was in 1894. cut  
the thirty-fourth was in 1895. cut  
the thirty-fifth was in 1896. cut  
the thirty-sixth was in 1897. cut  
the thirty-seventh was in 1898. cut  
the thirty-eighth was in 1899. cut  
the thirty-ninth was in 1900. cut  
the fortieth was in 1901. cut  
the forty-first was in 1902. cut  
the forty-second was in 1903. cut  
the forty-third was in 1904. cut  
the forty-fourth was in 1905. cut  
the forty-fifth was in 1906. cut  
the forty-sixth was in 1907. cut  
the forty-seventh was in 1908. cut  
the forty-eighth was in 1909. cut  
the forty-ninth was in 1910. cut  
the fiftieth was in 1911. cut  
the fifty-first was in 1912. cut  
the fifty-second was in 1913. cut  
the fifty-third was in 1914. cut  
the fifty-fourth was in 1915. cut  
the fifty-fifth was in 1916. cut  
the fifty-sixth was in 1917. cut  
the fifty-seventh was in 1918. cut  
the fifty-eighth was in 1919. cut  
the fifty-ninth was in 1920. cut  
the sixtieth was in 1921. cut  
the sixty-first was in 1922. cut  
the sixty-second was in 1923. cut  
the sixty-third was in 1924. cut  
the sixty-fourth was in 1925. cut  
the sixty-fifth was in 1926. cut  
the sixty-sixth was in 1927. cut  
the sixty-seventh was in 1928. cut  
the sixty-eighth was in 1929. cut  
the sixty-ninth was in 1930. cut  
the seventieth was in 1931. cut  
the seventy-first was in 1932. cut  
the seventy-second was in 1933. cut  
the seventy-third was in 1934. cut  
the seventy-fourth was in 1935. cut  
the seventy-fifth was in 1936. cut  
the seventy-sixth was in 1937. cut  
the seventy-seventh was in 1938. cut  
the seventy-eighth was in 1939. cut  
the seventy-ninth was in 1940. cut  
the eightieth was in 1941. cut  
the eighty-first was in 1942. cut  
the eighty-second was in 1943. cut  
the eighty-third was in 1944. cut  
the eighty-fourth was in 1945. cut  
the eighty-fifth was in 1946. cut  
the eighty-sixth was in 1947. cut  
the eighty-seventh was in 1948. cut  
the eighty-eighth was in 1949. cut  
the eighty-ninth was in 1950. cut  
the ninetieth was in 1951. cut  
the hundredth was in 1952. cut

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

pl. 3. 6 sheets ordered ~~21.8.61~~ <sup>p 562?</sup> 5.8.62 warrant.

10<sup>1</sup> 1. 1 sheet only ordered 21.8.61 warrant. 240 sheets.

pl ① used copies known - 4 up to 23.3.09 under  
the 1<sup>st</sup> purchased Constantinople <sup>1<sup>st</sup> Crawford</sup>

Page 136, to fourteenth line from top, add: "but the plate was never put to press."

Plate ③. Here there were only 6 sheets paper. i.e. 72 P.O sheets printed: i.e.  $72 \times 20 = 1440$  sheets in all. of these the Reg's sheet. was  $12 \times 20 = 240$ .

leaving 1200 only a 5 sheets  
used present of Hamilton  
wh. were put to stock, perf'd & issued to public.

at warrant 21.8.61. - for <sup>12</sup> sheets of 20... 1 sheet  
a Reg's sheet. ? pl 1.

pl ① (only sheet printed) for Reg's under this warrant.

Ferrary's copy. pl ③. new lines  $\frac{0}{6} \frac{0}{0}$

Woolley's copy. pl ③. - -  $\frac{B}{B} \frac{B}{B}$  (mark oval barred 7/3)

third rows. Between the third and fourth rows the legend, "PRICE—Ninepence per Label," &c., was repeated at the foot of each pane in the third row, and at the top of each of those in the fourth row, while at the bottom of the plate, under the middle pane of the last row, was POSTAGE NINE PENCE, which was also repeated on the exterior margins of the outside panes.

The plate and official numbers were introduced at the corners, as in the other values.

Plate No. 1 was not approved, and the issue consequently commenced with plate No. 2, which was approved 14th November, 1861. Plate No. 3 was approved 8th May, 1862, and on the stamps printed from this plate are found the special marks of diagonal lines distinguishing the second plates of the issues then current. ✕

PAPER.—The paper employed was that which was watermarked with the "heraldic emblems," being that then in use for the other values where the plate consisted of twelve panes.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was at the commencement an ochre-brown, but it was subsequently printed in a yellower tint, resembling that termed *bistre* by the French collectors.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st December, 1865.

DIE II.—The profile of the Queen was altered, and the frame changed. Large letter blocks to carry white letters on a coloured ground were placed in the angles. Bracket ornaments were inserted in the spandrels, in the angles of which circular holes were made, each of those in the upper angles being filled in with an eight-rayed star; while the plate numbers were inserted in the lower ones in white figures on coloured ground. The reticulated pattern in the spandrels was disposed vertically instead of horizontally, as in the die of the previous issue.



**PLATE.**—This issue commenced with plate No. 4, approved on the 27th February, 1865, and although plate No. 5 was approved 24th April, in the following year, it was never brought into use.

**PAPER.**—The paper first employed was the same as that on which the preceding issue was printed, watermarked with the “heraldic emblems;” but when this was replaced in 1867 by that watermarked with the “spray of rose,” the remainder of the issue was printed on this latter paper. Impressions therefore from plate No. 4 are found with both of these watermarks.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was a clear yellow-brown during the earlier part of the issue, but became somewhat deeper in tone when the last supply was printed.

**PERFORATION.**—Specimens of this issue are to be found imperforate.

**SYNOPSIS.**

**First Issue.**

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Small white letters in angles. Plate No. 1 not used. No plate numbers to plates Nos. 2 and 3, but the latter distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

15th January, 1862. Ninepence, ochre-brown, yellow-brown (shades).

**Second Issue.**

**DIE II.**—(1) Paper watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

1st December, 1865. Ninepence, yellow-brown (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with “spray of rose.” Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1867. Ninepence, light yellow-brown (shades).

**VARIETY.**

(Plates Nos 4 & 5.)  
Ninepence, light yellow-brown, imperforate.

\*  
1867.

pl: 5. a perf<sup>d</sup> unused copy, with: Wrights - (Emblems).  
with reg<sup>d</sup> sheet is a note in pencil "36 Delta Rev. June '87."  
+ in top row of pages: 78. & 9. are (3<sup>rd</sup> row of pages) 45.6  
are 12 perf<sup>d</sup> copies inserted. Right letter, evidently for 7.5.9  
replacing some defective ones, or an accident. Warrant, 10.11.12  
April 1865. 6 sheets.

9<sup>th</sup> pl. 3. has lines. Aug. 1865. 5.4. 4<sup>th</sup> but in continuation of 17  
was in Lady's English etc. Sept 78. /  
9<sup>th</sup> pl. 3. perf<sup>d</sup> O G (Ferrari April 93 seen) Image  
hair lines. G O (Pencil, Wright.)

Page 136. Before Synopsis insert: In the O. C. there are imperforate specimens of Plates Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5, watermarked "Heraldic Emblems," yellow-brown, the base being in a very pale tint.  
last

Page 136. Synopsis. FIRST ISSUE. After "special marks," add: "was never put to press."

9<sup>th</sup> pl. 4. Cleave. I think must be pl. 5. 24.4. 66  
1440 printed  
9<sup>th</sup> pl. 4. spray. watermark inserted -



Copy. May 1890 from W H Nelson faded. pl 2. marked in black  
on card, blue tinted glass paper. with sp as used  
only one I ever saw.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK.—The Duke's exhibit, carefully selected and arranged by Mr. Tilleard, included, in Great Britain, all the more interesting plate numbers of the various register sheets, notable among which were the threepence, ninepence, and shilling, all secret marks, with the ninepence, plate 5. There were also the first shilling and sixpence on the blue safety paper, all imperforate and in perfect condition. The series extended to the current 4d., 5d., and 10d., with the two continuous lines round the pane, and the 1½d., and 6d. without the external lines.

Postal Official Circular. of Saty. April 19<sup>th</sup> 1862  
New Postage Stamp.

On 1<sup>st</sup> May next the new Postage Stamps, price 3d each will be issued, & will be procurable at any Post Office.

## 5. THE THREEPENCE.

**DESIGN.**—The design of this stamp seems to have been suggested by the envelope stamp of the same value which had been issued in 1859, as by turning this latter stamp upside-down the similarity will be at once appreciable. It consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a solid trilobed border, the lobes being connected at the sides by foliate ornaments, and by a trifoliate one at the top. The whole is inclosed in a rectangular frame measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. The spandrels, except where occupied, as hereafter described, and the other portions not occupied by the design, are left white. In the upper part of the border is the inscription **THREE PENCE** separated by the trifoliate ornament, and in the lower part **POSTAGE** all in small white block letters.

*First Issue.*

Date of Issue, 1st May, 1862.

**DIE I.**—The trilobed border touched the interior line of the frame at the sides and top. In each of the four angles a trefoil of diagonal lines was introduced, in which letters in white on a solid ground of colour were inserted in small white lined circles.

**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes, arranged in the same manner as in the preceding values, where the stamps were arranged in a similar number of panes. Above the centre pane of the first row was **POSTAGE THREE PENCE**, and the same legend was repeated in the space between the second and third rows, above each pane of the third row, and also at the foot of each pane of the second row, but in these latter the legend was upside down, as also when it was again repeated at the foot of the centre pane of the fourth row. In the intervals between the first and second and the third and fourth rows is,



"PRICE—3 pence per Label—1 Shilling per Row of 4—10 Shillings per sheet of 40."

The plate and official numbers are found at the corners of the sheets, as in the preceding values.

Plate No. 1 was not approved of. Plate No. 2 was prepared with a background of a reticulated pattern, and was approved on 7th October, 1861. Impressions taken from the plate were struck off, gummed, and perforated, and are occasionally met with, but they are rare, and were never issued for public use.\* The effect was not considered satisfactory; the background was in consequence removed from the casts, and the plate as altered was approved on 19th March, 1862. Plate No. 3 was approved on 25th August following, and on the stamps printed from this plate is found a special mark, before referred to, distinguishing the impressions from the second plate employed in this issue from those taken from the first, and consisting of a small white dot introduced into the solid trilobed border immediately below the foliate ornament on each side. This latter plate was in use for a very short time, and specimens of stamps taken from it are exceedingly rare. Imperforate specimens are also known.

**PAPER.**—The paper employed was that which was watermarked with the "heraldic emblems," being the same as was then in use for the other values printed from plates composed of twelve panes.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was carmine-pink, generally of a light tone, but sometimes very full and bright.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st March, 1865.

**DIE II.**—The border, though reduced in size, and made about one millimètre shorter, was rendered more prominent. The profile of the Queen was altered, and in lieu of the trefoils in the angles, solid square blocks to carry large letters in white on

\* Copies were sent to the various Post-offices surcharged SPECIMEN. The stock printed was destroyed, save some few sheets, which accounts for the rarity of the stamp not surcharged.

3<sup>d</sup> pl. 3 (dot) from colln Willott. w/ RA-LA  
AK. AL.

only perf<sup>d</sup> specimen known up to 12.1.94 was found by Mr. Binns of  
Manchester in a dot. office. sold to W. J. Wilson who sold it for £10. to Taping  
1101 in B. Museum used. but seen by me & dot. general.

plate 2. with lined background approved. 7.10.61. 46 press  
17.10.61.

background cleared .. 19.3.62.

warrant for 6 sheets (1440) 21.8.62.

1. 2000  
2. 500  
3. 1000  
4. 1000

an entire pane of twenty of the 3d. rose, secret mark, imperforate, with  
full margin shewing the current number 218, lettered AA. to AD. and  
EA. to ED.; a like pane of the 6d. lilac, with hair lines, current number  
212, same lettering;

Pl. 3. "Never put to press. cancelled. 11.4.66"  
2 ? 10 pence.

1440 printed. 1 paper sheet 240 Reg<sup>d</sup> 25.9.62  
ordered - warrant - 21.8.62.

∴ 1200. issued = 5 sheets + perf? (some)

pl 5<sup>25</sup> only 240 s/f 1 sheet ordered by warrant 18.10.65.

Page 138, eighteenth line from top. Omit "This letter plate," &c., to the  
end of the paragraph, and substitute: "This letter plate was never put to  
press, though unperforated specimens of impressions from it are to be found  
in some collections."

Paper. a copy on blue paper seen 16.11.86

or perhaps, Chinese paper. coll. Papillon.

see 2/11. 4/11  
not 1/11.

not so thick as the 1<sup>st</sup> 4d.

Page 138. To the paragraph under the head PAPER add: We have  
recently seen a specimen of this issue on blue paper somewhat thinner than  
that used for the first issue of the fourpence, and watermarked with  
"Heraldic Emblems." The shade of blue is not very deep, but it is un-  
mistakeable, and we think must be due to the accidental use of a sheet of  
"safety" paper, as the registered sheets and all the specimens in the O.C.  
are all on distinctly white paper.

Pl. 3. Avery Lubree & Co. P.S. May 94 pane 218 of 20

A-A. D

E-A. D

3d., rose, plate 3, secret mark, imperforate, GA. G. B. Nicholl  
AG. at same.

Morley's book. July 1894 L-E 3<sup>d</sup> pl. 3. dot.

E-L

mini J-D

D-J



a coloured ground were introduced. The foliate ornaments on the sides of the border were changed, and plate numbers in white on a solid ground of colour in small white circles were inserted immediately above them.

PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 4, which was approved 28th November, 1864, and this was followed by plate No. 5, approved 18th October, 1865; plate No. 6 was approved 8th June, 1868; plate No. 7 on 20th February, 1869; plates Nos. 8 and 9 on 22nd February and 22nd April, 1872; and plate No. 10, with which this issue closed, on 6th December, 1872.

PAPER.—The paper first employed was that watermarked with the "heraldic emblems," but about the month of August, 1867, while plate No. 4 was still in use, and before the issue of any impressions from plate No. 5, this paper was superseded by that watermarked with a "spray of rose." Impressions therefore from plate No. 4 are to be found on both kinds of paper.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression did not vary during this issue, except in shades of carmine-pink from light to dark.

PERFORATION.—Specimens of impressions from plate No. 5 watermarked with the "spray of rose" are to be found imperforate. *Spec.*

### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, 15th July, 1873. *Copy 5<sup>th</sup> issue. Engr. P. H. 12.7.73*

DIE III.—The border was again reduced in size, and the bust of the Queen within it was reset. Letters in colour on a plain white octagonal ground were substituted in the angles for the white letters on a coloured ground of the previous issue, and the plate numbers were altered in the same manner. *S.S.J. 61.*

PLATE.—This issue commenced with plate No. 11, which was approved 21st December, 1872. This was



followed by plate No. 12, approved 21st June, 1873. Plate No. 13 proved to be defective, and was never printed from. Plates Nos. 14 and 15 were also approved in 1873; plates Nos. 16 and 17 in 1874; and plates Nos. 18 and 19 in 1875.\* Since that period the consumption has rapidly diminished, as plate No. 20, at present in use, was approved 29th November, 1878, and plate No. 21, approved 15th July, 1880, has not yet been called into requisition.

While plate No. 20 was in use, at the close of the year 1880, a change was made in the arrangement of the panes similar to that carried out in the sixpence; the six upper panes were formed into one pane, and the six lower into another. Ornaments were also introduced into the upper and lower margins of the sheets opposite the vertical lines of perforation, between the fourth and fifth and the eighth and ninth stamps in the first and last rows, to facilitate the division of the pane into three equal strips, each forming a Post-office sheet of forty stamps.

PAPER.—The paper employed at the commencement of the issue was the same as that in use at the close of the previous issue, watermarked with a "spray of rose," and so continued down

\* It cannot fail to be remarked, from the number of plates constructed between 1868 and 1874, that the consumption of this stamp was very rapid. It was originally issued exclusively for the payment of foreign postage, especially to Belgium and Switzerland, and it was not till the 1st April, 1865, that it was officially issued or recognized for inland purposes, there being no postage of threepence in the inland rates. By a Treasury Warrant, dated 18th March, 1865 (*London Gazette*, 24th March), the inland letter rates were altered from the 1st April then next, and fixed at one penny for every half-ounce or fraction of half-ounce. The threepenny stamp was consequently admitted to prepay the postage under 1½ oz. But when the Telegraphs were transferred to the Post Office, in 1869, the same cause which acted on the rapid consumption of the one shilling stamps operated also on those which represented one-half and one-fourth of a shilling. To this must also be added the reduction of the postage to France from fourpence for a quarter of an ounce to threepence for one-third of an ounce, which took place in 1870, the effect of which may be estimated from the fact that whereas eight plates of the fourpence had been constructed in four years, from 1865 to 1869, only three have been brought into use since.

pl. 20. change to crown / in ~~for~~ <sup>originally</sup> 21. but reg. on spray  
21. orig<sup>ly</sup> reg<sup>d</sup> on spray.

pl 20. on crown. reg<sup>d</sup> 19.2.81. prop after alter<sup>n</sup> of plate  
21. 20 18.7.81. " "  
21. D<sup>o</sup> on-keige. 23.11.82.

Plate 19 imperf. (see Ferrari at p 93.)

pl 21 put to press spring of 1882. ✓

Page 140, seventh line from top. Plate No. 21, approved 15th July, 1880, was put to press at the close of 1881, and impressions from it issued to the public early in 1882, and is now current. ✓

Plate 20 (see S.G.C. m. 92 / control issued in red.)

### Inverted watermark

Plates 4 (embossed), 4 (spray), 9 (spray).  
5. 19

3<sup>2</sup> (2) 594 9 15.7.80. No trace of spec<sup>l</sup> Reg<sup>d</sup> warrant paper on the b<sup>o</sup> (6) De la Rue held these warrants & paper for long quantities of 3<sup>2</sup> of <sup>3</sup> probably Reg<sup>d</sup> sheet were burnt under these warrants



First sheet on reg. seen by me with current nos  
in 3<sup>d</sup>. 208. lines not removed.

**Page 141. Impression.** On 1st January, 1883, impressions from Plate No. 21 were issued in purple, overprinted with "3d." in carmine, similar to the sixpence.

**Page 141.** Before Synopsis add: In the O. C. there are imperforate specimens of:

|                              |                    |          |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Plates Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, wmk. | "Heraldic Emblems" | carmine. |
| " Nos. 6 to 21               | "Spray of Rose"    | "        |
| " Nos. 20 and 21             | "Crown, 1880"      | "        |

**Page 141. Synopsis. First Issue.** For "No plate numbers to plate No. 2," &c., read: "No plate numbers to plates Nos. 2 and 3. Plate No. 3, distinguishable by special marks, was never put to press."

In the Synopsis of the various issues of the threepence the words "Second Issue" have been accidentally omitted above Die II., and "Third Issue" above Die III. In (2) of this latter issue, for "Plate No. 20," read "Plates Nos. 20 and 21," and add, Plate No. 21:

1st January, 1883. Threepence, purple, overprinted "3d." in carmine.

In coll. Official Catalogue. Imperforate copies of  
plates 2. 2. 3. 4. 5. are on (heraldic emblems)

5. - 21 incl: - (rose, spray).

20 (dup<sup>t</sup> + 21 (also) (crown 80/)

Jan 4 88. Loan from Gibbons - 34 "Liston Road" collection

p. 19 - on (spray) imperforate.

Plate 21. appeared September, 1881.

to the end of the year 1880, when the paper watermarked with "Crown 1880" was substituted in its place. This alteration took place while plate No. 20 was in use, so that specimens of stamps printed from that plate are found with both watermarks.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression has remained unaltered during the continuance of the issue, and is at present carmine-pink, varying in depth of shade.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.**

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "heraldic emblems." Small white letters in angles. No plate numbers to plate No. 2, but plate 3 distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

1st May, 1862. Threepence, carmine deep to pale (shades).

## VARIETY.

Threepence, pale-carmine, *imperf. Plate No. 3.*

*Second Issue.*

DIE II.—(1) Paper watermarked with "heraldic emblems." Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1865. Threepence, carmine deep to pale (shades).

*exists imperf. (4)*

(2) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 4 to 10. Perf. 14.

1st October, 1867. Threepence, carmine and pale carmine (shades).

## VARIETY.

Threepence, carmine, *imperf. Plate 5. & 6.*

*Third Issue.*

DIE III.—(1) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 11 and 12, 14 to 20. Perf. 14.

15th July, 1878. Threepence, full carmine to pale (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 20 & 21. Perf. 14.

1st January, 1881. Threepence, carmine, and light dull carmine.

1 Jan'y 1883. Three pence lilac, overprinted "3d" in red  
pl: 21. 1883

## 6. THE TENPENCE.\*

Date of Issue, 1st July, 1867.

**DIE.**—There is only one die of this value, the design of which consists of the usual diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circle enclosed in a rectangular double-lined frame, measuring 19 by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. The circle rests upon a straight tablet, on which is inscribed **TEN PENCE**, and in the upper part is an arched tablet with the inscription **POSTAGE**, both inscriptions being in coloured letters on a white ground. The spandrels are not filled in, but in the four angles of the frame letter blocks are introduced, and above the two lower blocks are small circles for the reception of the plate numbers. Both the letters and plate numbers are in white on a solid ground of colour.



**PLATE.**—The entire plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes arranged in the same manner as in the preceding values, where the stamps were arranged in a similar number of panes. The legends **TEN PENCE**, and "**PRICE—Ten pence per Label—3s. 4d. per Row of 4—16s. 8d. per Sheet of 20**" were disposed on the plate in a manner exactly similar to that adopted in the plate of one shilling.

Plate No. 1, approved 22nd March, 1867, was the only one

\* This value was called into existence to prepay the postage on Australian letters *via* Marseilles; but when the rate to these colonies was altered in 1870, the demand for it ceased, and it fell into such disuse that in September, 1877, the Post-office withdrew it from the list of those required to be kept at the offices, and it is, in fact, "out of stock." It seems a matter of regret that this should be so, as multiples of the Postal Union rate of twopence-halfpenny would appear now to be very desirable; but the reluctance to reissue the value doubtless arises from the hope that a uniform single rate of twopence will be ultimately established for those countries which fall within the first class of the Postal Union.

J. H. Ambler writes. J. Post. June 1892. No 357. p. 71.

Has found 10d. emblems obliterated  
? sheet of old paper accident? used.

Heraldic Emblems always not kept off separate at 5H  
but under one head of house.

It is therefore highly probable that the 10d. slips were  
printed as Emblems as well as on spray??

Impence. red & blue. jubilee series

issued. 24. 2. 90 (not 15<sup>th</sup> Feby)

51 - 2  
24 - 20

27.2.93 Seen used 10<sup>d</sup> (spray) Pl. 2. K.S. = S.K.

to mark London N.O. Nov 11. 67

as well on 4.3.93. Mr. Cleave writes me from Somerset House.

I find on referring to our book in which we record the warrants drawn for the production of stamps that on the 27<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1867 there is an entry for 72 sheets.

There can be little if no doubt whatever but that these 72 sheets were printed first for the purpose of registering a sheet from plate No. 2 and

second to try the plate. <sup>5.12.1867</sup> The Reg. sheet must have been therefore placed in the Board's

+ the 71 sheets into a box, the latter having been subsequently used

together with the production of stamps, and the Def. has any record of stamps other than the Reg. sheet, having been printed from plate 2 of

sheet 10<sup>d</sup> design. and used copies on spray emblems reported as found <sup>London</sup>

Page 148. Before Synopsis add: In the O. C. is an imperforate specimen of Plate No. 2 in red-brown, watermarked "Spray of Rose."

The register sheet had leaves of 20 stamps each, so that there were 72 + 20 = 1440 sheets printed under this warrant. I deduct for the Reg. sheet 240

Leaves 1200 issued to the public (included the <sup>London</sup> one on emblem)

one copy 10d (2) marked from <sup>London</sup> 18 Nov 1867. (Urban 14) me by Mr. W.A.S.W. on 14.2.94. sent by Cross & Blackwell to a firm in Bombay. & letters. <sup>K.R.</sup> <sup>R.K.</sup> shown public exhibit P.S. May 94. 4<sup>th</sup> A De Runderkohl (in) and copy (2) stamp found 20.2.94. p/156.

W. T. WILSON.—Mexico, a strong series, including 1864, Juarez, 1 r., red, and 2 r., blue, both postmarked; excellent selections of Ceylon and Labuan, with the rarer varieties; Roumania, good copies of the circular 27 p., 54 p., and 108 paras.  
Great Britain, 10d., red-brown, plate 2, used copy, lettered <sup>K.R.</sup> <sup>R.K.</sup> postmark London, 18.11.67, on a letter sent by Crose and Blackwell to Bombay.

10d. pl 1. used copy Reported to me by L<sup>o</sup>. Crawford 23.10 as a fine used one, on emblem watermark used at Constantinople & found by Mr. Bernstein of Manchester & he says "this makes 4 known copies."

used: plate No. 2, approved 30th August, 1867, has never been called into use.

PAPER.—The paper was that watermarked with a "spray of rose," which was first brought into use with the issue of this stamp and that of two shillings, which appeared at the same time.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was red-brown, varying only in intensity of shade.

PERFORATION.—Specimens are to be found imperforate.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

1st July, 1867. Tenpence, red-brown (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Tenpence, red-brown, *imperforate*.

### 7. THE TWO SHILLINGS.

Date of Issue, 1st July, 1867.

DESIGN.—There is only one die of this value, the design of which consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within an upright pointed oval white band, inscribed TWO SHILLINGS above, and POSTAGE below in coloured letters, inclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{4}$  millimètres. In the four angles of the rectangular frame are square blocks with white letters on solid coloured ground. In the spandrels on the inner sides of each of the square letter blocks are two circles, those in the two upper spandrels inclosing stars, which are also introduced into the two lower circles by the sides of the lower letter blocks, while in the two upper circles above the lower letter blocks the plate numbers are inserted in white on solid coloured ground.



PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes,

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arranged in the same manner as in the preceding values, where the stamps were arranged in a similar number of panes. The legends POSTAGE TWO SHILLINGS, and "PRIOR—2 Shillings per Label—8 Shillings per Row of 4—2 Pounds per Sheet of 20," were disposed in the same manner as those on the ninepence, with the exception that in the two upper and two lower outside panes POSTAGE TWO SHILLINGS was not introduced.

? after finish  
as 1 sheet was  
printed.

The impression from plate No. 1 was approved 5th April, 1867; plate No. 2 was spoilt in the making; plate No. 3 was approved 23rd January, 1868, but was never called into requisition, and ~~no stamps have been issued except such as were struck off from plate No. 1.~~ ? *Worse of Rag?*

PAPER.—The paper was that watermarked with the "spray of rose," which was introduced for the first time when this and the preceding value of tenpence were issued.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was a clear blue, varying from dark to light, and so continued up to January, 1880, when it was altered to a light red-brown, very similar to that previously employed for the tenpence, the issue of which had been discontinued in 1877. This change of colour was rendered necessary in order to avoid the anomaly of having two stamps of the same colour current at the same time, the colour of the twopence halfpenny being changed at that period to blue. Its existence, however, in its new colour was of very short duration, as only the first batch was issued, and it was withdrawn from the list of those sold at the Post-office on the 1st October, 1880. Specimens in the later colour have become difficult to obtain.

PERFORATION.—Specimens of this stamp printed in blue are found imperforate.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

(a) 1st July, 1867. Two Shillings, dark blue to light blue (shades).

VARIETY.

Two shillings, light blue, *imperforate*.

(b) 1st January, 1880. Two Shillings, light red-brown.

Control blue

② One sheet of 240 printed July 1867.

2/ ② only 1 sheet of 240 printed. ordered 3. 7. 67

③ 298 .. 6 sheets. . 1660 .. R. 1. 68. reg 23. 1. 68.

a postmarked copy. ③ 2/. Reported by Rev. P. E. Raynor  
as found by him, postmarked. London Phil. vol. II p. 158 (Aug '93)  
Miami: copy (of ~~postmarked~~) found & exhibited on 26. 7. 93 by  
Mr. Raynor. The Press: at meeting South Australian Ph. Socy.  
[unf] also reported Stamp News. Nov 93. p. 176.

2/ spray plate ③ w/p. coll. O. Jaffr. (spray) - soon reg<sup>d</sup>  
blue. col. of w/p.

also to be found. watermark inverted. (Blue.) plate ①

In coll. G. J. Rose at 266. 2/. plate 1. given as here  
also 2/. plate 1. 5. 7. 67 in coll.  
query -

In July 1867 a sheet of 240 w as first printed from pl 2.

+ no more.

a copy shown to the W. colony by Stafford Smith. pl 2. Ph Record, vol 16. p 6  
but proved an error - by the Wright see pl 1. 3 Aug 1894

7 294. same then than 'de W. de 1. L. B.

B. L. right side badly printed. left a piece cut

7/ half the B. + just right edge of the 7. visible. but plainly 1.

2/ pl ③ J. S. | used postmarked circular obliteration like parcel post  
S. J. | than Rev. P. E. Raynor - Jubilee Ph Socy 9. 5. 94

Page 144. Before Synopsis add: In the O. C. is an imperforate specimen  
of Plate No. 3 in blue, watermarked "Spray of Rose."

May 94. 2/. blue ③ than May 94 dr. Mandar Jubilee 56. H-C  
diamond in oval with broad bars (E) C-H  
May 94. No H-S. Wright says 50 used half open are leaves treated.

REV. P. E. RAYNOR.—Western Australia. 4d., blue, octagonal,  
swan inverted in border, unused.

Victoria. 6d., orange, beaded oval, unused; the most magnificent  
copy hitherto seen, as well in colour and margin as condition. A gem  
of the first water.

Great Britain. 2s., blue, plate 3, letters J. B., postmarked rather  
S. J., heavily with a circular obliteration, like that used in the parcel post.

J. N. MARSDEN.—Cape Verde, 1881 issue, entire sheet of 40 r., yellow,  
with the error "Moçambique"; Great Britain, collection of values with  
inverted watermarks; 4d., doubly perforated; 2s., blue, plate 3, letter-  
ing H C—C H, postmark diamond, enclosed in oval of thick bars.



1883. - Watermark large anchor

57.  $\frac{1}{2}$  1.  $\frac{1}{2}$  5. on d. entire block is 8 lines!

by  $\gamma$  vertical = 56. lts in the sheet paper.

57. proof. unperf.  $\frac{1}{2}$  (4) cd. imp. Coll. O. Japlg as req<sup>d</sup>  
is on *Croix Patée*: round on  $\frac{1}{2}$

57. (4) <sup>4574</sup> req<sup>d</sup> 28. 11. ] 4. 480 ordered 13. 7. 74.  
(2 sheets)

57. (4) on true 6 cents. saw at Ferrary's Apr 93.

57. perf<sup>d</sup> 12. [specimen]. sold Hadens 6. 6. 94 for 72.  
? type 11st 1 account.

Page 145. After the first paragraph headed *PLATE* add: When the paper in October, 1882, was changed to that watermarked with "Anchor," the plate was made to consist of 56 stamps in seven rows of eight each.

## 8. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st July, 1867.

**DIE.**—There is one die only for this value, the design of which consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines within a wide circular border of Greek pattern, with a row of pearls on each side. This circular border is enclosed in a rectangular frame measuring 25 by 29½ millimètres. In the corners are solid letter blocks with letters in white, and on white tablets between the blocks at the top and bottom are the inscriptions POSTAGE and 5 SHILLINGS. The plate number is inserted in the lower part of the circular band in white on a solid disc of colour.



**PLATE.**—The plate is constructed to admit of printing a sheet of eighty stamps, and is composed of four panes, of twenty casts in each pane. The panes are arranged two and two, a space equal to the width of a stamp separating the panes from each other vertically; while a space equal to a row of stamps separates them from each other horizontally. The casts are arranged on each pane in four rows, of five in each row, the pane measuring 5¼ inches long by 5½ inches in depth. Above and below each pane is POSTAGE FIVE SHILLINGS in large capitals; while on the left of each pane is the legend, "TWENTY 5s. POSTAGE STAMPS £5," running from the bottom to the top; and on the right side is the same legend running from the top to the bottom. The usual plate number is above the right upper corner and below the left lower corner of the plate, the official numbers of the plate occupying the other corners.

The issue commenced with plate No. 1, approved 18th April, 1867, and plate No. 2 was approved 5th July of the same year. Plate No. 3 was injured in the construction, and was destroyed.

Plate No. 4 was approved 28th November, 1874, but has not *put to press*

*1000*  
 till end of year & issued Nov 1882.

*Page 145, last line in page.* Plate No. 4 was put to press in 1882, and impressions issued to the public in October of that year. The paper was also changed at the same time, as next mentioned.

X Page 146. PERFORATION. The perforation being now done by the contractors for the manufacture, the gauge has been altered from 15 to 14. We were in error in stating that, in the perforation of these stamps by the Inland Revenue Department, machines worked by hand were employed. This was so at first; but for many years past steam-worked machines had been substituted.

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yet been brought into requisition, the stamps at present in use being those struck off from plate No. 2.

PAPER.—The sheet measures about 14 inches wide by 13½ inches deep, and is watermarked with Maltese crosses, arranged in panes to correspond with the number of casts composing the panes of the plate, each pane of twenty watermarks being enclosed in a single-lined frame. At the upper right and left lower corners of the sheet is the watermark MARK in double-lined capitals to denote where the control mark was to be affixed.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is pink, varying only in intensity of shade.

PERFORATION.—The machines used for the stamps of the ordinary size not being adapted to the perforation of those of the size of this stamp, the Inland Revenue Department employed for the purpose the machines worked by hand, used for perforating life policy and other fiscal stamps of a similar size. In these machines the spacing of the needles differs from that in the former, giving a perforation of 15 in two centimètres.

Specimens of impressions from plate No. 1 are to be found imperforate. *margin.*

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Maltese cross." Plates Nos. 1 and 2.  
Perf. 15. 1st July, 1867. Five shillings, pink (shades).

VARIETY.

Five shillings, pink, *imperforate*. Plate No. 1.

To the SYNOPSIS add:

(2) Paper watermarked with "Large Anchor" (20 mm.). Plate No. 4.  
Perf. 14.

October, 1882. Five shillings, pink.

Date of Issue, 1st July, 1875.

DESIGN.—There is one die only for this value, the design of which consists in the diademed portrait in profile of Queen

\* The immediate cause of the issue of a stamp of this value is to be found in the establishment of the POSTAL UNION and the adhesion of Great Britain to the terms of the treaty.

A Postal Congress, composed of delegates from all the States of Europe, as also from the United States of America and from Egypt, assembled at

in 1882, when the stamp of £5 was printed upon it, and has since been substituted for that watermarked with Maltese crosses in the stamps for five, ten, and twenty shillings; while, since the 31st December, 1882, it has ceased to be used for the Inland Revenue stamps of 3d. and 6d., which were called in at that date preparatory to their being superseded by the new issue of "Postage and Revenue" stamps of similar values.

*Gros' Patée's.*

*(above) +*

Page 146. Before Synopsis insert: In the O. C. the specimen of Plate No. 4 is on paper watermarked with "Maltese Cross." See *supra* under the note on p. 71.

Page 148. To PAPER add: The impressions from Plate No. 4 were upon a paper that had only been brought into use for postage stamps a few months previously, though it had been employed for some time past for certain fiscal stamps. In this paper each stamp was watermarked with an anchor measuring 20 mm. from the top of the ring to the crown; but as the anchor watermark had, since its first introduction, undergone several changes, and stamps on all the varieties originally printed for fiscal purposes have been made applicable to postal uses, it may not be out of place to describe them here.

Paper watermarked with an anchor was originally introduced by the Inland Revenue Department for the one penny draft stamp in ochre-brown, and the receipt stamp of similar value in blue, issued 10th October, 1853. This anchor had a double-lined stock, the arms were furnished with flukes, and a cable was wound around the shank. In the printing the anchor was presented upright—that is, the arms were to the top of the stamp—and for the sake of distinction may be called "Anchor with Cable No. 1," and is shown in Figure 1. This paper continued in use down to the year 1856, throughout the period that the before-mentioned stamps were current, and during a few months of the currency of the "Draft Payable on Demand or Receipt" stamp of one penny issued in March, 1856.



1



2



3

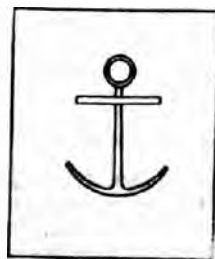
In 1856 the watermark was changed to "Anchor with Cable No. 2" (Fig. 2.) The stock was now represented by a single line; the arms still remained furnished with flukes, but were no longer to the top of the stamp, the anchor being presented pendent. This paper remained in use till the year 1865; and during its continuance the "Draft Payable on Demand or Receipt" stamp of one penny, and the Inland Revenue stamps of 3d. and 6d. issued in 1860, as also that of one penny, issued 1st May, 1862, in lieu of the "Draft Payable on Demand or Receipt" stamp, were printed upon it.

October

In 1865 a further change was made in the watermark, affecting the 1d., 3d., and 6d. Inland Revenue stamps then current. The anchor was divested of the cable, but in other respects was not altered. (Fig. 3.) This anchor may be designated as "Anchor 16 mm.," which was its length as measured from the top of the ring to its crown.

On the 1st September, 1867, other changes were made. The size of the one penny Inland Revenue stamp was altered from 30 x 25 mm. to 22½ x 19 mm., and the number of the stamps on the sheet increased from 160 to 240. This paper was watermarked with a small anchor of 14 mm., without flukes to the arms, and is that known as having been used subsequently for the first issue of the postage stamps of 2½d., and is shown in Figure 5. About the same time, also, a change was made in the anchor of the paper employed for the Inland Revenue stamps of 3d. and 6d. The flukes at the extremities of the arms were suppressed, and the size of the anchor increased to 18 mm. (Fig. 4.)

At the end of the year 1890 a change was again made. The paper with small anchor was discontinued for the one penny Inland Revenue stamps, and that watermarked with "Orb" was substituted for it; while the anchor watermark on the paper for the larger stamps of 3d. and 6d. was altered to panes of fifty-six, in seven rows of eight in a row, and the size of the anchor increased to 20 mm. (Fig. 6.) This paper was first used for postage stamps



4



5



6

The 5<sup>s</sup>

1884

Sheet. Plate consists of two frames.  
of 56 stamps each. paper 7 rows of 8 in row.  
watermark anchor No 6.

Lettering: 1<sup>st</sup> left top stamp. A - A. | A - B | A - C  
bottom row H - A. H 13 ... H N.

Inverted watermark of the 2<sup>nd</sup>

pl 1. anchor. 18. 20 orb. in blue

S. G. & Sons' Journal. 30 Nov 94. p. 67. A de Worms has specimen  
pl: 2. of 2<sup>nd</sup> d. over in lettering. L - H  
The London Pl. Dec 94. p. 274 F - L

The control marks on plates (1) & (2) are in ultramarine  
(3) is the last blue control on the reverse  
The next plate there is 2<sup>nd</sup> (3) control in ultramarine  
which is afterwards always used as long as the  
marks continued, except pl. ~~(18)~~ (19) & (20) etc.

pl (1) to (5) <sup>anchor</sup> paper as reg<sup>d</sup> sheets (watermark) on right edge  
"W H Stephenson. Inland Revenue."  
pl (6) "W H Stephenson" only. (on orb)  
each side of each frame. centre space was a watermark  
pl (21) . IPQS TAGF. oblate line caps. in edges.

Victoria to the left on a ground of fine horizontal lines within an octagonal border, enclosed in a rectangular frame measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. One of the perpendicular sides of the border bears the inscription *TWOPENOE*, and the other *HALF-PENNY*; while in the upper part is *POSTAGE*, and in the lower part  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., all in colour on a white ground. The lettering in the angles is in colour on white blocks, and the plate number, also in



Berne in October, 1874, on the invitation of the German Government. The deliberations of this Congress resulted in the establishment of the "General Postal Union," and a treaty was signed on the 9th October, by which it was stipulated that the arrangements agreed upon should take effect in all the countries except France on the 1st July, 1875; and as regarded this latter country, they should come into operation on the 1st January, 1876.

Under the provisions of this treaty an uniform weight of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. (15 grammes) was fixed as the unit for a single letter rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., and post cards were to circulate at half this rate. The rate on newspapers was fixed at 1d. for every 4 oz., and that on books, printed matter, and patterns, at 1d. for every 2 oz.

Another conference was held in Paris in 1878, and in June of that year a treaty was signed, or subsequently adhered to, by all the parties to the former treaty, with the addition of British India, the colonies of France, Spain, Portugal, and Holland, many of the British colonies, Persia, Japan, Liberia, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, &c., the new convention receiving the name of the "Universal Postal Union." By this treaty it was declared that all the consenting nations were to be a "single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence," and under its provisions general rules have been made and uniform rates and weights established, so far as the difference of money and weights in the various countries admitted.

For the countries included in the first class in the Postal Union, which comprises all the States of Europe, the United States of America, Newfoundland, Canada, with the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, Persia, Cyprus, Egypt, the Azores and Madeira, Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands, an uniform rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. (25 centimes) has been adopted for a letter of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. (15 grammes), of 1d. (10 centimes) for a post card and for newspapers of 4 oz., and of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (5 centimes) for packets of printed matter, &c., of 2 oz.,

The single rate of postage to and from the countries comprised in the second class has been fixed at 4d. for a letter of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a post card, and 1d. for packets of printed matter, &c., of 2 oz., and for newspapers of 4 oz.

These alterations in the rates took effect on the 1st April, 1879.

colour, is inserted in the border immediately above the side inscriptions. The vacant spaces in the border and in the various angles are filled in with ornamental tracery.

PLATE.—The entire plate as at first constructed consisted of 192 stamps, divided into two panes of ninety-six stamps in each pane, disposed in eight rows of twelve in each row. Each pane presented, therefore, the facial value of £1, and constituted a Post-office sheet. In the upper margin was the legend "2½d. POSTAGE" twice repeated in large capitals, the official number of the plate being inserted between "2½d." and "POSTAGE," and the plate number between "POSTAGE" and "2½d." in the repeated legend. Similar legends were ~~found~~ placed on the bottom margin, the official and plate numbers there changing places. In the space between the panes equal to that occupied by one row of stamps was "POSTAGE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY" in large block capitals, extending over the length of ten out of the twelve stamps in the row.

In 1881 the arrangement of the plate was altered consequent on a change in the paper, and is now constructed so as to consist of 240 stamps divided into two panes of one hundred and twenty each, in the same manner as in the case of the other values where the paper is watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Each pane constitutes a Post-office sheet of the facial value of £1 5s. At the same time all the printed legends were suppressed, as also the plate numbers in the margin, both ordinary and official.

PAPER.—When this stamp was first issued in 1875, it was temporarily printed on the paper then in use for the One Penny Inland Revenue stamps, watermarked with an "anchor." As these latter stamps were printed in sheets of 240, arranged in a single pane of twenty rows of twelve in each row, the disposition of the watermarks did not coincide with the plan adopted for the printing of the stamps of twopence halfpenny, the plate for which only covered seventeen rows, including the blank space left between the two panes. Three rows of watermarks were, therefore, necessarily left blank, which will account for the





pl 3 put to press. 12. 6. 75.  
As pl 4 was put to press. 21. 4. 76. 99 of to be formed out (Gib) under  
Creeke says - friend has it unperf. (27. 1. 91) Webster says pl 4. found in  
anchor (18. 6. 92)

Orb watermark. noted. J. Poste July 1876  
Relachei Aug 1876. p. 105. vol. 8.  
L'Année des Timbres for June 1. 1876.

Pl. 4 & 5 as well as 1, 2 & 3 are anchor watermark  
in the register sheets.

Plates 1 & 2 control marked in red blue.  
3 " " forward - red.

pl 4. put to press 21. 4. 76 on orb.

4 & 5 Reg<sup>n</sup> sheets ordered 9. 7. 75. 96 stamps 1 sheet each  
97. 475

lower margins of the Post-office sheets issued at this time being found watermarked with the anchor. This provisional state of things lasted till about the month of June, 1876, when a paper specially manufactured for this value was introduced similar in kind to that in use for the other stamps in this Section, but watermarked with an "orb" for each stamp, and was exclusively appropriated to this value. The space occupied by each pane of ninety-six stamps was marked out by a single line. On the right margin of the upper pane, and on the left margin of the lower one, the word MARK in double-lined block capitals, followed by a *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, repeated again in the margin opposite the next pane, was watermarked in the paper. The control marks were impressed over the word MARK, as in the other values in this Section where a similar watermark existed, but at the close of the year 1880 the system was abandoned. The sheet measured about  $11\frac{1}{4}$  by 18 inches.

In April, 1881, the paper was changed, and that manufactured for the inferior values of one halfpenny, one penny, &c.; watermarked with "Crown (1880)," was substituted, which is of inferior quality and less highly glazed than that previously employed. Stamps printed on this paper from plate No. 21 were first issued to the public 8th April, 1881.

IMPRESSION.—The issue commenced with plates Nos. 1 and 2, both of which were approved on the 30th March, 1875. Plate No. 3 was approved on the 10th June following, and it was during the time that this plate was in use that the paper, specially manufactured for this value, was introduced. Stamps consequently are found printed from this plate both on paper watermarked with the "anchor" and on that watermarked with the "orb." In no value now in use, excepting the one halfpenny and the one penny, has the consumption been so rapid as in this. Plates Nos. 4 and 5 were approved of in 1875, in addition to the three already approved in the same year; plates Nos. 6 and 7 in 1876; plates 8, 9, 10, and 11 in 1877; plates 12, 13, and 14 in 1878; plates 15, 16, and 17 in 1879; and plates 18, 19, and 20 in 1880; plate No. 21 is that which ~~is at present in~~

N<sup>o</sup> 22. and June 1881. } both toy.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 23 " " }

May April  
 pl 6 (orb was  
 one & per or)  
 21. 4. 76

x 4 0

use, and was first employed when the paper was changed to that watermarked "Crown (1880)." ~

The colour first adopted was a lilac tint of pink (the *rose-lilacé* of the French philatelists), which continued to be very uniform during the whole period it was in use, varying only in depth of shade. On the 1st January, 1880, while plate No. 17 was in use, the colour was changed to a bright blue, with a view of assimilating it to that in use for the corresponding value in the majority of the countries included in the first class of the Postal Union.

SYNOPSIS.

I.

Paper watermarked with an "anchor." Plates Nos. 1, 2, and 3. Perf. 14.

1st July, 1875. Twopence halfpenny, lilac-pink (shades).

? x 4

and on slightly blue tinted paper

II.

(1) Paper watermarked with "orb." Plates Nos. 3 to 17. Perf. 14.

1st June, 1876. Twopence halfpenny, lilac pink-(shades).

(2) Same paper. Plates Nos. 17, 18, 19, and 20. Perf. 14.

1st January, 1880. Twopence halfpenny, bright blue (shades).

III.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Plate, No. 21. Perf. 14. 22

8th April, 1880. Twopence halfpenny, bright blue. 23

Page 150. In SYNOPSIS, for "Plate No. 21," read "Plates Nos. 21, 22, and 23."

1881 / ^

10. THE EIGHTPENNY.

Date of Issue, 1st September, 1876.

DESIGN.—There is but one die for this stamp, the design of which consists in the introduction of the conventional type of the head of the Queen into a frame of fresh pattern. The ground work of fine lines is enclosed in a wide double-lined white border, the exterior perpendicular lines of which extend

\* and plates nos 22 were issued to the public the end of June 1881.

In off coll. (Taphys) from S.H. 1-17. lilac pink 18-22 blue.

Imparf. group plates 1. 2. 3. 4 & 5 are on (⚓). unmark.

6-20. on (orb) 21 & 22. (Crown 80)

Page 150. After line 10 from top add: We have seen imperforate impressions struck from Plate 15 in a light shade of blue. These we are inclined to think are essays of colour struck off preparatory to the change then contemplated, but which was only made for the use of the public when Plate No. 17 was the plate in actual use.

\* 16°

Same page. Before Synopsis add: In the O. C. the following imperforate specimens are found:

- Plates Nos. 1 to 5, watermark "Anchor," lilac-pink.
- " Nos. 6 to 17 " "Orb" "
- " Nos. 18 to 20 " "Orb," blue. "
- " Nos. 21, 22 " "Crown, 1880," blue.

Plate (15) in <sup>dull</sup> (pink) blue on "orb" from CO - HO  
OG - OH.

(Richard's) nos. 16-7-86.

(16) in blue. imperf. / (W. Stob. June 93)

Inversed watermarks.

Plates nos 1. 6 16. 20.

3 kinds of paper

say even 8° dated letters show

1. no line bet<sup>n</sup> pages

2. 2 lines ... perf<sup>d</sup> all round 6 sides of edge of page

3. One line -

+ No 2 is commonest - No 3 next, 1 rarest.

8° (2) 510

No trace of Special Reg<sup>n</sup> (Warrant -

but at this time (Sep<sup>r</sup> 76) De la Rues held a  
warrant & paper for 80,000 sheets of the 8<sup>th</sup>  
probably proof sheet Reg<sup>d</sup> was printed under this

to the extreme edge of the stamp. The upper and lower portions of the border are curved, and touch the exterior line of the stamp at the top and bottom; in the upper curved part of the border is **POSTAGE**, and in the lower **EIGHT PENCE**. The sides of the border are interrupted in the middle by small circles for the insertion of the plate numbers, and plain white square letter blocks are introduced into the angles.



**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps arranged in four panes of sixty each, as in its multiple value of fourpence, but as in Post-office parlance thirty of these constituted a sheet, a floriated ornament was introduced into the exterior margin of each pane, between the fifth and sixth row of stamps, indicating where the division of the pane into halves was to be made. At the top and bottom of each pane is, "**PRICE—Eight pence per Label—4s. per Row of Six—1 Pound per Sheet,**" and on the exterior margin of each pane is **POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE** in capitals twice repeated, so that the legend may be opposite to each half pane. Two plates were constructed. No. 1 was approved 7th July, 1876, and No. 2 on 11th September, 1876. The first of these was only called into requisition, as the demand for the stamp was very limited,\* and it was withdrawn from the list of those sold at the Post-offices on the 1st October, 1880.

**PAPER.**—This was the same as that employed for the fourpence, watermarked with "large garter."

**IMPRESSION.**—The first impressions from plate No. 1 were struck in red-brown, and the *imprimatur* is endorsed on a sheet so printed. It was considered, however, that the similarity in colour with that in use at the same period for the twopence half-penny would lead to confusion, and the colour was in conse-

\* This stamp was originally issued for prepaying the single letter rate to the Australian Colonies *via* Brindisi, which was reduced in 1876, and the demand became subsequently so small that its issue was discontinued altogether in 1880. Only a little over 19,000 sheets were ever printed.

quence altered to chrome-yellow.\* Specimens of the stamp in its original colour are to be met with, but they are exceedingly rare.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "large garter." Large coloured letters in angles. Perf. 14. Plate No. 1.

1st September, 1876. Eightpence, red-brown, chrome-yellow.

### 11. THE TEN SHILLINGS.†

Date of issue, 25th September, 1878.

DESIGN.—There is only one die, the design of which consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a solid border, the sides of which are straight, and the top and bottom curved similarly to the border of the eightpence. On the upper curved border in white block letters is POSTAGE, and on the lower TEN SHILLINGS. There are solid blocks in the angles for the reception of the letters in white, and the plate number in white on solid coloured ground is inserted in the exterior frame immediately below the centre of the lower curved



\* The *imprimatur* on plate No. 2, dated 11th September, 1876, is on a sheet printed in chrome-yellow.

† This value, as also that of £1, is not included in the list of stamps issued and sold to the public, not being intended for defraying postage on the transmission of letters, but for the use of country and district postmasters in facilitating the keeping of their accounts with the Head Office. When unpaid or insufficiently stamped letters are transmitted from the Head Office to the distributing offices, these latter are charged by the former with the postage to be collected. Instead of transmitting the money thus received in cash, the distributing office affixes postage stamps to the account sent up to the Head Office representing the amount.

These stamps of ten shillings and one pound are supplied singly by the Inland Revenue Department on application from the postmasters, and are the only postage stamps supplied to them in smaller numbers than constitute a Post-office sheet.

Page 152 to foot-note † add: These remarks, though accurate when published in 1880, ceased to be so when postage stamps were re-admitted in 1881-82 to do duty for telegraph purposes. Since January, 1882, the current stamps of 10 shillings and £1 have been on regular sale to the public at the Post Offices, and the £5 was added in the following month of May; but this is not included amongst the stamps that the various Post Offices are compelled to keep in stock.

Page 152. After line 2 from top of page add: But though it was prepared for use and perforated yet it was never issued to the public, and the copies that survived destruction must be regarded as proofs. The O. C. contains imperforated specimens of:

Plate 1, in red-brown.  
" 2, in chrome-yellow.

To Synopsis add:

VARIETY.  
Eightpence, chrome-yellow; *imperforate*.

\* *Imperforate copy. marked "SPECIMEN" coll. Taylor.*  
16. 11. 84.



One Pound  (Crown 80)

Commons say Plate 2714. Reg<sup>d</sup> 31. 1. 84. change of type. 3 unmarked

2 panes to sheet. 40 other 16 figures. 4 hors. & 10 deep.

Plate 3718. Reg<sup>d</sup> 25. 2. 84. same as usual.

Reg<sup>d</sup> for change;  
of colour same stamp. " 26. 11. 90. " "

**Page 153. PLATE.** About the month of May in the present year (1883) the disposition of the stamps on the plate was altered, in consequence of the abandonment of the use of the paper watermarked with the "Maltese Cross," and now consists, like the five shillings, of two panes of fifty-six stamps. Plate No. 1 is still in use.

**PAPER.** The paper now used for the impression is that watermarked with "Large Anchor" (20 mm.).

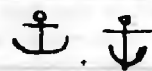
**PERFORATION.** Like the stamps of five shillings, those of ten shillings are now perforated 14.

To the SYNOPSIS add:

Paper watermarked with "Large Anchor" (20 mm.). Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.  
May, 1883. Ten shillings, green-grey.

**Page 153.** Before Synopsis insert: In the O. C. the imperforate specimen of the impression from Plate 1 is in green-grey, on paper watermarked "Maltese Cross" as the issue.

On fol 1. Large anchor. Phillips writes. Dec 88.  
calling attention to two sorted anchors. sending specimens, used,  
one with a round head to the flukes. the other pointed.

thus.  but they measure exactly alike  
& only differ in the bit being more or  
less rounded.

border.\* The exterior frame is zigzag, very heavy, and crowded with meaningless ornamental details. The stamp measures  $25\frac{1}{2}$  by 30 millimètres.

PLATE.—The entire plate consists of four panes, of twenty stamps in each pane, which consequently presents the facial value of £10. The arrangement of the panes for the formation of the plate is precisely similar to that adopted in the preceding value of five shillings, and the legends are similarly disposed, and are the same *mutatis mutandis*. Plate No. 1, the impression from which was approved 6th August, 1878, is the only one which has been constructed.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that appropriated to the five shillings of similar dimensions, watermarked with the "Maltese cross." *Cross Patée.*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is green-grey.

PERFORATION.—The perforation of this and the next value of One Pound is similar to that of the five shillings.

## SYNOPSIS.

Stamp watermarked with "~~Maltese cross~~"<sup>*Cross Patée*</sup> Plate No. 1.  
Perf. 15.

25th September, 1878. Ten shillings, green-grey.

*Imp. prov. as above (Coll. O. Japling)*

## 12. THE ONE POUND.

Date of Issue, 25th September, 1878.

DESIGN.—There is only one die, the design of which consists of the usual diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine horizontal lines in an octagon enclosed in an ornamental rectangular frame, measuring  $25\frac{1}{2}$  by 30 mm. Above and below the profile are two white tablets, on the upper of which is POSTAGE, and on the lower ONE POUND, both in coloured

\* It is rather remarkable that the letters and plate number should be inserted in white on a coloured ground in this and the £1 stamp, when this mode of lettering had ceased to be used for the other values since 1872.

block letters. In the angles are solid blocks for the lettering in white, and in the middle of each side of the rectangular frame are small circles, those at the sides and top being filled in with a cruciform ornament, and that at the bottom with the number of the plate.



PLATE.—The entire plate consists of four panes of twenty stamps in each pane, which consequently presents the facial value of £20. The arrangement of the panes for the formation of the plate is precisely similar to that adopted for the preceding value, and the legends are

similar, *mutatis mutandis*. In the disposition of the legends there is, however, a trifling difference. The legend on the left side of each plate, instead of running from bottom to top, as in the preceding value, runs from top to bottom, so that on the left side of each pane the heads of the letters are towards the stamps on the pane.

Plate No. 1, the impression from which was approved 6th August, 1878, is the only one which has been constructed.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that appropriated to the five shillings, of similar dimensions. Watermarked with the "Maltese-cross."

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is brown-violet.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "~~Maltese-cross~~" <sup>Cross Patée</sup> Plate No. 1. Perf. 15.

25th September, 1878. One pound, brown-violet.

*imperf / noof. as above. Coll O. (Japling).*

THE ONE PENNY (1880).

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1880.

DESIGN.—There is but one die, the design of which consists of a coarsely-engraved diademed portrait in profile of Queen

*Cross Patée.  
July 98. p. au.  
I. G J G  
G O G O J.*

*impressions printed in black on wove. no watermark. imperf. even.*

# The Five Pounds.

1882. The Telegraph stamp was adapted for the postal service: the word 'Telegraphs' being cut out of the cast: & a blank left in which 'Postage' was printed.

Thus altered it was registered on 9 March 1882 by its old number. (1). 556 (2 pages <sup>sick by side</sup> 4" in row 7 rows = 28 to have 56. 8 sheets)

- \* This plate has been already been registered by the Secy. Dept. as a Telegraph Plate. The word 'Telegraph' has been cut out, & the word 'Postage' is now printed in the space to render the stamps available for either Postal or Telegraph purposes:

This is copied from the reg<sup>d</sup> sheet. which is watermarked Large Anchor.

Five pounds vermilion. Plate No. 1. ~~perf. 14~~

In use Aug. 1890 Paper blue shade

Page 154. PLATE. The same observations apply to the plate for the stamp of one pound, as for those of five and ten shillings, the number of panes being now only two, but each containing fifty-six stamps. This alteration was made about the month of November, 1882, and the paper watermarked with "Large Anchor" (20 mm.) was at the same time substituted for that watermarked with the "Maltese Cross." The perforation was also changed to 14.

To the SYNOPSIS add:  
Paper watermarked with "Large Anchor" (20 mm.). Plate No. 1. Perf. 14. November, 1882. One pound, brown-violet.

Ⓞ Plate (1) 558. reg<sup>d</sup> 20.11.82. for alteration in size of plate  
arr. ed. error. orig. <sup>dark. shade.</sup> <sub>Conventional.</sub> C. h. any 6 pieces

Page 154. Before Synopsis: A similar<sup>r</sup> observation applies to the stamp of One Pound. i.e.)

\* In the O.C. the unperforated specimen of the stamp from Plate 1. is in brown violet, watermarked with "Maltese Cross", as the issue.

*Pages 155 and 156, note.* Some exceptions have been taken to the opinions we expressed as to (1) the inexpediency of abandoning the system of lettering; (2) the introduction of a coarser style of engraving; and (3) the absence of uniformity in the principal feature of the design, the head of Her Majesty, more particularly referred to in a note to page 381.

Two reasons have been assigned for the abandonment of the system of lettering: the one, that the letters were of no practical use; the other, that the stamps being small, the introduction of lettering into the angles tended to produce too great similarity among the various values.

The motives which influenced the authorities in adopting the system of lettering are set forth by us at *page 55*, and appear as sound now as they were years ago. It may possibly be contended that the time has now arrived when it may safely be abandoned, as the correspondence has become so large, that a close examination of the stamps is impossible, and that the number of made-up stamps is probably so small, that the cost of employing the necessary means for their detection would exceed the loss to the revenue. Undoubtedly, however, one of the principal motives for the introduction of the system originally was the endeavour to make one stamp differ from its fellow as much as possible, while at the same time the uniformity of design was preserved. These various notices appear to have been lost sight of, or to have been forgotten, in the course of forty years; for we have reason to believe that it has been chiefly owing to our having brought them forward so prominently in our work that their weight has been recognised by the present authorities, and the utility of the system of double-lettering admitted, so that it will form a conspicuous feature in the new issue of "Postage and Revenue" stamps.

We fail to see the force of the second reason. Taking the halfpenny and three-halfpence of the current issue as examples of dissimilarity in the angles, if the lettering had been inserted, it need not have interfered with the exterior line, while we should have rejoiced in less of that unmeaning serrated ornamentation which disfigures these stamps.

The introduction of a coarser style of engraving is, we are told, inseparable from the mode of production; or, in other words, the stamps of one halfpenny, one penny, three-halfpence, and twopence—the manufacture of which was put out to the lowest tender—are produced at a lower cost than those of twopence-halfpenny and upwards. It would be exceedingly difficult to point out any country where the inferior values are printed with less care than those of a higher denomination. If the coarser style of engraving is inseparable from the mode of production, it clearly shows that this latter ought to be changed, and that the fault lies in the system of contracting with the firm who can supply anything likely to answer the purpose at the lowest price. It is more than probable that the abandonment of the lettering, and of the insertion of the plate-numbers, has had its rise from the same motive—viz., economy—and it would be extremely unfair to lay the blame of these shortcomings on the present contractors. If Messrs. De La Rue and Co. were not fettered by price, there is no firm in the world that could surpass them in the manufacture of stamps. The fault lies in the present system, which is a mistake; it is wrong in principle, and is a reproach to a country like Great Britain. The only adequate remedy will, we are convinced, be found in a radical change, whereby the manufacture of all the stamps required for postal and fiscal purposes will be carried out by a Government department. The ideas of putting the work up to tender, and of supplying a staff of revenue officers to attend and watch in a private establishment, have grown out of date, and become antiquated; besides which, the inevitable inconveniences—to say nothing of the chances of fraud in subordinates not under the direct control of the Government—all point most cogently to the adoption of the system which every other large European power has found best suited to meet the requirements of the case.

With respect to the third point (viz., the absence of uniformity), we are told that this is intentional, and for a good reason—to show the differences at a glance, independent of colour.

The answer itself shows that our remarks have been entirely misunder-

stood. We were far from raising any objection to varieties in the general design of the stamps; we referred to the inexpediency of introducing various fancy portraits of Her Majesty, differing from each other except in the diadem and the disposition of the hair. On this point there will be no difference of opinion amongst philatelists. The reasons that influenced the authorities, in 1839, in fixing their choice on a portrait of Her Majesty as the principal feature of the stamps, and the condition that there should be perfect uniformity in this respect in the stamps then issued, are unanswerable, and are to this day fully recognized by all those who have made the stamps of the world their study. But if the object of the authorities is to show differences in the stamps at a glance, independent of colour, they have

Victoria, to the left, on a ground of equally coarse horizontal lines in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm.\* At the four corners of the frame are square white blocks to receive the letters, which are in colour. The sides of the frame are composed of a chain pattern, with an outer festooned edge, continued also at the top and bottom. Solid tablets are introduced in the upper and lower parts of the frame, on which are respectively inscribed POSTAGE and ONE PENNY in white block letters on a coloured ground. There are no plate numbers on the face of the stamps.†



\* On the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. for the manufacture of the line-engraved stamps comprised in Section 1, the authorities, as has been previously mentioned, came to the determination of substituting surface-printed stamps for these four values. One thing, however, was obvious, that in adopting this system of printing for the one penny stamp, the consumption of which is so enormous (between 2 and 3 millions per day), it would not be practicable to manufacture them in the same mode as was adopted by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. for the stamps of twopence-halfpenny and upwards, the cost of which was at least double that of the line-engraved stamps. To enable the stamps to be manufactured cheaply by surface printing, whether from steel plates or from plates constructed by the electrotype process, it was necessary that they should be printed by steam, for which purpose a coarser style of description of engraving was indispensable. Unfortunately, so far as the interests of art are concerned, the cheapest possible production was aimed at, and Messrs. De La Rue and Co. having sent in the lowest tender, the manufacture was placed in their hands.

† In this stamp, though the lettering in the angles is retained, the plate numbers are not inserted on the face. In the stamps since issued, not only is the plate number suppressed, but the lettering at the angles also. We have already pointed out the reasons which led to the adoption of the system of lettering, reasons which when brought to the notice of the present authorities they had entirely forgotten, if they ever knew them. In 1839-40 Sir Francis Baring, Sir Rowland Hill, and the authorities at Somerset House, combined together to put all obstacles possible in the way both of forgery and of the fraudulent use of stamps a second time. We have also seen how at subsequent periods other precautions were taken to prevent fraud, while experience shows how admirably they have all succeeded. The authorities however of the present day have knocked away

DE LA RUE'S CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT FOR STAMPS.—The actual price obtained by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. for stamps supplied to the Post Office, under the contract which has excited so much attention in the House of Commons, was  $2\frac{3}{4}d$  per thousand. There were two lower tenders, one at  $1\frac{1}{2}d$ , and another as low as  $1\frac{1}{4}d$ . But these were rejected, according to Sir Charles Herries, because upon application of chemical tests they did not thoroughly fulfil the conditions compatible with the safety of the revenue.  $21/4/85$

PLATE.—The entire plate consists of 240 stamps in two panes of one hundred and twenty casts in each pane, arranged in ten rows of twelve in each row, the entire sheet representing therefore the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post-office sheet. Between each pane is a horizontal space equal to a row of stamps. There is no legend on the plate, nor any official or other numbers of the plate introduced, nor are any control marks applied to the sheets, the number of the plate being only inserted in pen and ink in the margins of the *imprimatur* sheets.

Impressions from plate No. 1 were approved 28th October, 1879, and up to 18th June, 1880, thirty-three plates had been approved.

PAPER.—As the plates are composed of two panes of 120 casts in each pane, it was necessary to provide paper specially adapted to this arrangement. A new paper was consequently introduced watermarked with panes of large-sized crowns, measuring about 11 by 11 mm., differing in pattern from those previously employed for the one penny, 1840.

This crown will be distinguished as "Crown 1880." The panes, each of 120 crowns in watermark, are not enclosed in frames, but at each angle are single lines at right angles to each other, about two inches long, marking the space occupied by each pane. The word POSTAGE, in double-lined block letters, is watermarked in the exterior margins of each pane, thus appearing six times on the sheet, which measures 11 by 21½ inches.

✦ The paper is machine-made, and at first was white, though always inferior in quality to that watermarked with the "spray of rose," the "orb," &c., employed for the higher values. It has of late become yellower in tone, thicker, and not so highly finished by milling.

the greater part of these approved safeguards at a blow. A common style of engraving has been introduced, offering a temptation to forgery; and now that the lettering of the stamps and the numbers on them have been done away with, for no other reason than the attendant cost, the sole protection against fraud consists in such as the printing-ink and the effacing marks may afford, as the watermark in the paper is only what may be termed a non-patent protection.

morley. Aug 1891  
 showed me a P  
 on some paper  
 drawn.

See ante 106.

certainly been most unfortunate. Compare the three-halfpence, which far too closely resembles the one shilling. It is certain that what really first attracts the eye is the colour; and if to this were joined a distinct figure of value, which is absent on all the stamps except the 2d., far fewer mistakes would be made by those whose duty it is to affix the effacing marks. Positive colours are far preferable to those neutral tints now so much employed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., which, being compounded from divers colours, are constantly varying in tone and in intensity, and are most trying to those who have to deal with the stamps with great rapidity and by artificial light. Long familiarity with the stamps of all the stamp-issuing countries of the world has led us to the firm conviction that absolute uniformity in the principal value, as the head of the Queen, is the main safeguard against forgery; that distinct and positive colours, with a clear figure of facial value, are essential to the rapid and sure conduct of the business of the Post Office; and that destructible printing-inks, and ineffaceable obliterating marks, are the most efficient protection against the fraudulent use of the stamps a second time. In short, the principal points to be aimed at are, substantial identity in the design chosen, accompanied by circumstantial variations to suit the several values. These should be combined with the use of striking, salient colours, adapted for each value or set of values—which latter should be marked on the stamps in clear figures. Part of these, under the present unfortunate system, fall within the province of the authorities, and part more properly belong to the manufacturer; but with the experience that has been gained, and with all the appliances of modern science and chemistry, we ought surely not to despair, even under the divided management entailed by putting out the work, that something better may be produced than the present race of stamps.

Page 156, after line 11. Thirteen other plates were constructed, but were never put to press; indeed, impressions from them do not appear to have even been registered.

In Table: col. Imperfect copies from plates.

miss 3 " 13  
 1. 2. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 12. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24.  
 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. + 33. used: also one marked

"No No."

p 28.

Given 21 Sept. It was not until some change in consequence of the 22d Sept being of such a nature that they might be classed from other marks was again: we do not believe this had been a possibility to be carried out to any appreciable extent, still it was obviously most important that the possibility of it should be excluded.

It was also reported from the fact that the red ink used in the manuscript was composed of deleterious ingredients that it was extremely imperishable, almost impossible that any harm should arise from the very minute proportion of their ingredients, we felt bound to test at least any suspicion of such a risk. Besides, it appeared that the 1<sup>st</sup> Off was anxious to have a slip of a thinner + therefore more adhesive kind, & in fact similar to that used for 1d. S. Red. 51st.

We availed ourselves of the opportunity of a change in the Post, slip to consider the manufacture of the slip on marked paper - It is the paper for lower classes (only) had been heard made at a mill in Northamptonshire. Now we have arranged for manufacturing & manufacturing at the mill in Kent where our other marked papers are produced. (Economy for cost & repair)

Thomas H. Chafford Mills, Dordambe, near Tunbridge Wells.



Analys. Phil Laboratory Report to 31-3-80. 10.22.11

The use of 10019c + S. 21/10 with paper of the adhesive of coloring matter etc. can be compared with with detection has formed a part of our work during the year. It is well known that the presence of the old P. 10019c + S. became hardly possible by certain solvents it was possible to remove the old P. 10019c + S. thus rendering the paper available for use as a 2nd lot.

In a new contract with the way above the colored into for each paper it was made essential that they should be surface printed & that the coloring matter should be what is known as "dandy fugitive".

The adoption of the cheaper (vores) of surface print rendered practically the use of coloring matter much more fugitive than hitherto.

After a careful investigation the new ink was used only for their subject, in preference of colour, but also in quality of green & excellence of workmanship.

24<sup>th</sup> Rep. issued to 31.3.81 p. 31.

We are in correspondence with the P.M. Genl. upon the subject of all 1901 stamps, the colour & design of the postage stamps, the present issue, and being supplied distinct from one another for the purpose of cancel & distinct. The old 10019c + S. is, from its widespread use, naturally the starting point for all changes in the S. 21/10 old process. Therefore it is only proposed to examine the practical working effect of the new stamp, before making any alterations.

Imperforate copies also exist (A.B. Creech. Mar 84)

Page 157. After Synopsis insert: Imperforate varieties of this stamp in shades of Venetian-red exist, and may be frequently met with in collections; but as there are no numbers on the face of the stamps it is impossible to say from what plates they are taken when they are once severed from the sheet. In the O. C. specimens from the sheets which are numbered by hand are found from Plates Nos. 1 to 33, except from Nos. 3, 11, and 13; and there is also a specimen from an unnumbered sheet, probably one of these three as the impression finished with Plate No. 33, though 46 plates were constructed.

Same page after Synopsis add:

VARIETIES.

One penny, Venetian-red (shades); imperforate.

also this (unmarked, inverted)

Colour proof.  $\frac{1}{2}$  is red - a sort of Venetian red. Bull. Aug 9-

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in Venetian red, varying in depth of shade. The colour is a fugitive one, turning grey under the influence of acid, and disappearing entirely if ammonia is applied.

**GUM.**—The quality and appearance of the gum is the same as in the other values in this Section.

**PERFORATION.**—This is 14, and up to the close of 1880 the operation was carried out by the perforating machines at Somerset House. Since the commencement of the present year (1881) it is done by the contractors for the printing, who deliver the sheets to the Inland Revenue Department quite ready for issue. The perforation remains the same as before in point of gauge, and this remark, as also those relating to the paper and the gum, is common to all the remaining stamps in this Section.

*no. from  
above bound  
80*

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perf. 14.

1st January, 1880. One penny, Venetian red (shades).

x

#### 14. THE ONE HALFPENNY (1880).

Date of Issue, October, 1880.

**DESIGN.**—The design consists of a portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, very similar to that on the previous value, on a coarsely-engraved horizontal lined ground, enclosed in a circle. Above the head is a cartouche, on which is POSTAGE in white letters on a solid ground of colour, and below is a similar cartouche with HALFPENNY. To fill up the vacant spaces and give the stamp a rectangular appearance zigzag ornamentalions of a very ineffective character are introduced. The stamp measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. There are no letters on the stamps, nor any plate numbers.



**PLATE.**—The plate is similarly constructed to that of the one

penny, and consists of the same number of casts, arranged in two panes.

The numbering of the plates on the margins of the *imprimatur* sheets is done by hand with pen and ink, as in the case of the one penny. The impression from plate No. 1 was approved 23rd August, 1880; those from plates Nos. 2 and 3 on the 18th of the same month; and that from plate, No. 4 on the 1st December, 1880. 67.

**IMPRESSION.**—This stamp is printed in green of a rather greyish tendency. The later printings show the grey beginning to predominate more than at first, so that the stamps look washed out and feeble in tone.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
October, 1880. One halfpenny, green, grey-green.

#### 15. THE THREE HALFPENCE (1880).

Date of Issue, October, 1880.

**DESIGN.**—The design of this stamp, another of those which superseded the corresponding value of the line-engraved series, consists of a portrait in profile of the Queen to the left, similar to that on the two stamps just described, on a background of coarsely-engraved horizontal lines, enclosed in a pointed upright oval solid frame, on which is inscribed **POSTAGE** in the upper part, and **THREE HALFPENCE** in the lower, in small white block letters. The exterior lines of the oval extend to and intercept the sides, while the points of the upper and lower extremities fall into the bordering of the top and bottom. The lettering in the angles is suppressed, and the spandrels are filled in with a design of the poorest and most unmeaning description, the interior lines being denticulated like those in the preceding value. It may safely be said that the halfpenny and three halfpenny



Page 158, seventh line from top. There appears to be an error here as to the registration of Plate No. 4. This plate was spoiled, and no trace is found of the registration either of it or of Plate No. 5. Plates Nos. 6 and 7 were registered 1st December, 1880; and Plate No. 8 on the 12th September, 1883.

In blue black colour of 5<sup>th</sup> issue.

Page 158. Before Synopsis add: In September, 1883, the colour of this stamp was changed to a purple-black in which it still continues, and this change took place when Plate No. 8 was brought into use. Imperforate impressions from Plates Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7 in various shades of green are found in the O. C.

Note for p. 161. The unification of Postage & Receipt Stamps compelled an agreement bet<sup>n</sup> P. Office & Comrs of Inl. Res. for allocating to the respective Revenues their proper proportions of the unified stamps. Statistics of past years showed the Inl. Res. Sp. was considerably influenced by the order of trade & whilst in a series of 5 yrs increased receipts were invariably obt<sup>d</sup>; a decline was sometimes recorded for particular years. Receipts from Postage Stamps are not affected to such an extent this way it was admitted a fixed proport<sup>n</sup> amount could be fairly claimed for their share. Revenue Duties & after due consen it was decided the whole proceed of the unified stamps sh<sup>d</sup> in first instance go to the Postal Revenue & the P.O. sh<sup>d</sup> pay to the Dep<sup>t</sup> a fixed annual amount as follows.

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> year | £ 445,000 |
| 2.                   | 450. -    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>      | 455. -    |

& then to review the question

1883 (Report 26<sup>th</sup>) stamps of adhesive p<sup>r</sup> & much appreciated by public, same process has been adopted with all post<sup>s</sup> & Inl. Res. 51/100 of 1884 included 2/6.

for which £18,240 for an old stamp by P.O. to Inl. Res. & increase £720 to a - for 3 yrs.

Page 159, eighth line from top. Add: And no other plates have since been called into use.

accord colle off Taping.

Page 159. Before Synopsis insert: Imperforate impressions from Plates Nos. 1 and 2 in pale shades of Venetian-red are found in the O. C.

In Reg<sup>d</sup> Sheet p. 2. the 4 lower rows of lower page are perf<sup>d</sup> 14.  
a. made of

Same page, at the foot. A similar addition should be made.

accord also

are the least artistic and most unattractive stamps ever produced by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. either for this or any other country. The stamp measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed like that of the one penny 1880, and consists of the same number of casts similarly arranged in two panes. The number of the plate is also endorsed on the sheets by the hand with pen and ink. Plates numbered 1 and 2 were approved of 23rd August, 1880. *no more made.*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is Venetian red of the same tone as that of the one penny.

## SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
October, 1880. Three halfpence, Venetian red (shades).

## 16. THE TWOPENCE (1880).

Date of Issue, November, 1880.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a background of coarsely-engraved horizontal lines, enclosed in a straight-sided frame, the upper and lower portions being curved as in the eightpence (now obsolete) of this Section. The inscription POSTAGE is on a curved solid tablet above the head, and the value, TWO PENCE, on a similar tablet curved upwards below the head, both the inscriptions being in white block letters. The corners of the exterior lines of the rectangular frame are incurved, and the interior lines denticulated. There are no plate numbers nor any letters in the angles. The stamp measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.



PLATE.—The plate is similarly constructed to that of the one penny (1880), and consists of the same number of casts arranged in two panes. The number of the plate is written with pen and ink on the sheets on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed. Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were approved 13th September, 1880. *no more of this*

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is carmine-red, rather dull in tone, and difficult to distinguish by gaslight from that of the 1d. and 1½d. The importance of selecting distinct colours for different values where much of the work has to be done by night seems to have been altogether lost sight of.

**SYNOPSIS.**

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
November, 1840. Twopence, carmine-red (shades).

(See below. 1<sup>st</sup> note in present /

**17. THE FIVEPENCE.**

Date of Issue, 15th March, 1881.

**DESIGN.**—The design is the same head of Her Majesty that is found in the four stamps last described, on a groundwork of coarse horizontal lines enclosed in a single lined festooned upright oval which touches the upper and lower tablets, on the former of which is the word **POSTAGE** in small white block letters on a solid ground, and on the latter **FIVE PENCE** in similar letters on a similar ground. On each of the upright sides of the oval are 37 dots following the line of the festoons. There are no letters or plate numbers, and the spandrels are left blank. The stamp measures 18½ by 22½ mm.

**PLATE.**—The plate is similarly constructed to that of the one penny, and consists of the same number of casts arranged in two panes. There are no legends; but an ornament in the upper and lower margins, opposite the line of perforation between the sixth and seventh rows, indicates where the pane is to be separated into two Post-office sheets of sixty stamps of the facial value of twenty-five shillings.

**IMPRESSION.**—This is in very dark dull violet, frequently scarcely distinguishable from black.

**SYNOPSIS.**

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
Fivepence, dark violet, violet-black.

(See Addenda.)

Page 160. Before Synopsis insert: Imperforate specimens of impressions from Plates Nos. 1 and 2 in shades of carmine-red are in the O. C.  
Same page. Before Synopsis of the fivepence a similar notice of the existence of an imperforate specimen in the O. C. may be made.

1890.



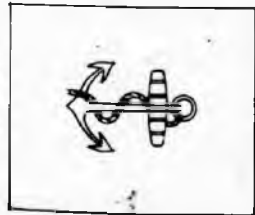
1. 1. Reg.

25. 2. 81.

2. 10. 10. 83.

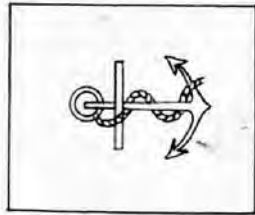
5<sup>th</sup> pl 1 as reg?  
has the top 6 rows  
of upper pane  
perf<sup>d</sup> 14.

1853.



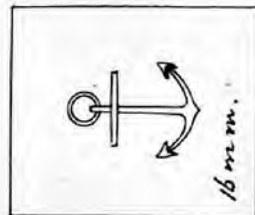
1.

1856.



2.

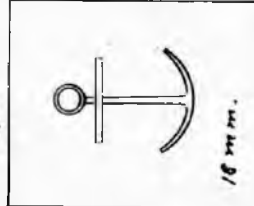
1865. 649



16 mm.

3.

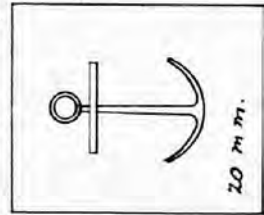
1871.



16 mm.

4.

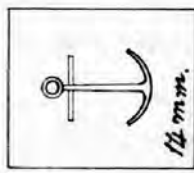
1882. 1-



20 mm.

6.

1867.  
small anchor.



12 mm.

5.

anchor paper.  
for Tunis return of 92.

Anchor & Cable  
wire machine made

Lage-Anchor. 1853  
machine } both  
& also hand m. }

small  
wire hand made.



*Page 160.* In the Appendix *Philatelic Record*, vol. v. p. 170, in the list of stamps there given, insert, after 16 as also after 17 in the column for the description of the papers, 16a, bluish; 17a, bluish.

A specimen of the one penny lilac, "Inland Revenue," 1863-67, watermark foul anchor, with the left margin of the sheet, and three copies of the special stamp printed for S. Allsopp and Co. to the left was noted as "available for postage," but suppressed when the small one penny receipt, netted corners, was issued. In colonial and general

It showed a pair of brilliant copies of the

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
LIBRARY  
540 EAST 57TH STREET  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE STAMP.

*St. News. Feb. 92  
p. 22.*

Date of Issue, 28th June, 1881.

In consequence of representations made to the Government setting forth the various inconveniences attendant on having two stamps of one penny, the one for postage and the other for fiscal purposes, an arrangement was, in the year 1881, made between the Post Office and the Inland Revenue Department, by which, in the event of the postage stamp of one penny being made available for the purposes for which the Inland Revenue stamp of like amount was applied, the Post Office agreed to pay to the Inland Revenue Department a certain sum per annum, based on an average of the amount of such stamps issued during the preceding five years, and increasing each year to a certain maximum sum. A clause was consequently inserted in "The Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881," providing "That on and after the 1st day of June, 1881, any stamp duties of one penny which might legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, might be denoted by adhesive penny postage stamps; and on and after that day postage duties might be paid by the use of penny adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to postage duty or to any particular description of instrument."

Early in the month of June, 1881, the following NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC was issued by the Post Office :

"Use of 1d. Adhesive Postage Stamps and 1d. Adhesive Receipt Stamps, for either receipt or postage purposes.

"In future the Ordinary Adhesive Penny Receipt Stamp may be used as a Penny Postage Stamp, and the Adhesive Penny Postage Stamp as an Ordinary Receipt Stamp.

"It is understood that for the purpose of postage the Receipt Stamps, in common with Postage Stamps, must have no printing or writing placed on their face by the public.

"By command of the Postmaster-General."

This notice was not strictly in conformity with the provisions of the Act, and the practice was not in conformity with either; for not only were the adhesive "INLAND REVENUE" stamps of one penny, of which there were several varieties, admitted to the payment of postage duties, but the one penny "RECEIPT" and "DRAFT" stamps (1853), printed in blue and brown, and the "DRAFT PAYABLE ON DEMAND OR RECEIPT" stamps of 1855, were also allowed to be used for postage purposes. Postage was even defrayed with Foreign Bill stamps of one penny; but this was clearly in contravention of the Act, and such stamps were allowed to pass only through inadvertence. Further, though the Legislature seemed to contemplate the use of penny stamps only, the Commissioners sanction two halfpenny postage stamps being used for Inland Revenue purposes as equivalent to one penny.

For reference' sake we append a list of the various stamps of the facial value of one penny which were admitted on and after the 1st June, 1881, to defray a postage rate of like amount :

| DATE OF ISSUE.           | COLOUR. | PAPER.       | WATERMARK.                     | LEGEND.                                   |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. 10th Oct., 1853       | Blue    | White        | { Anchor & Cable }<br>(fig. 1) | Receipt (1st type)                        |
| 2. ....                  | Brown   | ...          | .....                          | Draft (1st type) <i>only</i>              |
| 3. .... 1854             | Blue    | ...          | .....                          | Receipt (2nd type)                        |
| 4. ....                  | ...     | Bluish       | .....                          | .....                                     |
| 5. 25th March, 1855      | Purple  | Bluish       | .....                          | { Draft payable on }<br>demand or Receipt |
| 6. .... 1856(1)          | Lilac   | Bluish       | { Anchor & Cable }<br>(fig. 2) | .....                                     |
| 7. .... 1856             | Purple  | White        | .....                          | .....                                     |
| 8. 1st May, 1862         | ...     | Bluish       | .....                          | Inland Revenue                            |
| 9. ....                  | ...     | White        | .....                          | .....                                     |
| 10. .... 1865            | ...     | Bluish       | Anchor (fig. 3)                | .....                                     |
| 11. ....                 | ...     | White        | .....                          | .....                                     |
| 12. 1st Sept., 1867      | ...     | Bluish       | Anchor (fig. 5)                | ..... 1st type                            |
| 13. ....                 | ...     | White        | .....                          | ..... do.                                 |
| 14. July, 1871           | ...     | Bluish       | .....                          | ..... 2nd type                            |
| 15. ....                 | ...     | White        | .....                          | ..... do.                                 |
| 16. <i>64</i> ..... 1879 | ...     | .....        | .....                          | ..... 3rd type                            |
| 17. .... 1881            | ...     | <i>White</i> | Orb                            | ..... do.                                 |

*17<sup>a</sup> 10<sup>b</sup>.  
Bluish. Orb.*

*William  
1881  
Nov. 12.  
5.47.*

REVENUE to the right, both reading upwards. This surcharge was applied under the authority of the Act 23 Vic. c. 15 (3rd April, 1860), which provided that the duties of 1d. on Delivery Orders, certificates of birth, &c., might be denoted by adhesive stamps. These stamps so surcharged were in fact the provisional precursors of the "Inland Revenue" stamp of one penny (No. 8), issued 1st May, 1862.

Q Nos. 1 to 11 are all of large dimension, measuring 25 by 30 mm., and are perforated 15. In Nos. 1 to 7 the Queen's head, to the left, is enclosed in an oval band bearing the legend and the value in full; but in Nos. 8 to 11 the band is circular, and the value, in full, is on a straight tablet below. Nos. 12 to 17 are of smaller dimensions, measuring 19 by 22½ mm., and are perforated 14. In these latter the head of the Queen, to the left, is enclosed within an oval band bearing the legend and the value in full. In 12 and 13 (Type 1) the spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern. In 14 and 15 (Type 2) the spandrels are plain; and the ornament at the corners of the inside line of the framing does not extend into the angle; the oval band and the inscription also are heavy. In No. 16 (Type 3) the corner ornaments extend into the angles, and the oval band and inscription are lighter.

Nos. 1 and 2 were printed on white paper. In Nos. 3 to 14 the paper is at times white, while at other times it is tinged with blue, more or less deeply. The whole of these stamps were most probably printed on the so-called "safety paper" introduced by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in 1854, the variations in colour being due to the capricious action of the prussiate of potash in its composition. No 14 (July, 1871) shows only a faint tinge of blue, and after that we find no traces of colour, and the paper is white. No. 17 was printed on paper watermarked with "Orb," that had been introduced in 1880 when the control marks were abolished. In the paper watermarked with "Orb" employed up to 1880 for the postage stamps of 2½d., the margin of the sheet was watermarked with MARK, followed by a *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson (p. 149); but when the control marks were abolished the word MARK was suppressed, and the sheet was watermarked with a *fac-simile* signature of Sir J. C. Harries, then Chairman of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, on the side and top margins of the upper pane, and the side and bottom margins of the lower pane. This paper was also employed for the postage stamps of 2½d. from 1880 till it was superseded, in April, 1881, by that watermarked with "Crown 1880."

The provisions of the Act of Parliament before referred to, though of a permanent nature, were only designed to carry out a transitory purpose, as the further manufacture of the one penny postage stamps (1880), and of the Inland Revenue Stamps of the same value, was virtually stopped, and a new stamp combining the two ordered to be prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. This new stamp was issued on the 28th June, 1881, as appears by a notice to that effect emanating from the Post Office, though the official records place the real date of issue a few days later.

DESIGN. The design consists of the head of Her Majesty, similar to that of the "One Penny, 1880," but not identical with it. The head is on a groundwork of coarsely-engraved horizontal lines, enclosed in an upright oval coloured band, bearing the inscription POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE in the upper part, and ONE PENNY in the lower part, all in small white block letters. This is superposed on an upright rectangular frame, measuring 18½

by 22½ mm., composed of two lines with pearls between them, the frame extending entirely round the stamp, except where it is intercepted at the sides, top, and bottom by the oval band. The spandrels are left plain, and there are no letter-blocks or plate-numbers on the stamps.

In the month of October, 1881, some slight modifications in the design were introduced; the size of the pearls in the frame was diminished and their number increased, while the lettering was reduced in thickness. For the sake of distinction we term the original design Type I., and the modified one Type II.

PLATE. The plates are constructed similarly to those of the "One Penny, 1880," consisting of two panes of 120 casts in each pane. Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were registered on 25th May, 1880; Nos. 3 and 5 on the 30th of the same month; Nos. 4 and 6 on the 9th June, 1881; and Nos. 7 and 8 on the 15th of the same month. All the above plates were of Type I. Plates Nos. 9 and 10, registered 14th October, 1881, were the first which showed the modification in the Die or Type II. Plates Nos. 11 to 18 were registered in December, 1881. Plates 19 to 24 do not appear to have been registered. Plates 25 and 26 were registered 2nd May, 1882; Plates 27 and 28 on the 16th January, 1883; and Plates 33 and 34 on 21st August, 1883.

PAPER. The paper is the same as that introduced for the "One Penny, 1880," described p. 156.

N<sup>o</sup> 4 + 5.  
Hand/K

also hand perforated 14

Registered as by Darling &c.

1880  
1881  
1882  
1883  
1884  
1885  
1886  
1887  
1888  
1889  
1890  
1891  
1892  
1893  
1894  
1895  
1896  
1897  
1898  
1899  
1900

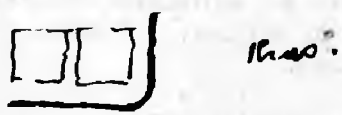
One penny P. & P. Rev. Ty 2. 16 dots.

Issued 9 Octo 1891 (marked in italics)

just before

It seems an error occurred on this date in stamping up the current plates in use with the letter N in the margin instead of O, which ought to have been used. & some 8000 sheets were thus erroneously printed: & the mistake of the contractors was discovered when these sheets were delivered at <sup>as the stamps were printed from the correct plates being O</sup> Somerset House: but, after consideration <sup>allowed to be</sup> the error was rectified by printing 2 short parallel lines <sup>horizontally</sup> across the N. & putting the correct letter O in the right side. - ~~The plates were imperious~~ <sup>specimens are</sup> from the plates of the batch distinguished as O. ~~the error~~ <sup>is</sup> since ~~differs~~ <sup>rarely seen</sup>: & of philatelic importance, as there is absolutely no error or variety in the stamps: <sup>themselves</sup> but merely in the notation mark used in the margin, to denote designate the both plates then in service.

In the copy I saw. 11.3.92 from Mr Gresham a pair



# O.

Stamp used. & Issued Febry 1892


also paper by Quilp. M. & B. Creeke.

London Philatelist vol 1. p 57. Febry 92.


J. Over.

1° Calai. In Rev.

Seen 1° - printed in error both sides paper pair  
(Giblett July 92.)

seen 1° folded over block 4  + proof  
in error.  
(do. do.)

seen 1° on unwatermarked paper.

1° with margin of about 6 right   
marked in pencil "No W m"  
17.5.83

but showing traces of contact with ocean.  
(do. do.)

seen blocks 1° badly kept. thro' middle of 5/16.  
do do.

also 1° printed on greenish side paper

1/2 do do. " "  
(do do.)

In summer (July) 93. Pears & Co. the well known Soap Makers  
proposed to the U.S. & J. Rev. to copyright their advg. at back of this  
stamp. accordingly some trial sheets were printed by Messrs  
De La Rue & Co. on this Calai 1° before they printed the sheets  
with the words 

|       |
|-------|
| PEARS |
| SOAP. |

 in blue & the letters being open lined block  
capitals: but ultimately the Committee  
decided not to permit any advg. on the stamps. A specimen are  
scarce. pair: both colours Tapping all.

Letters on 1° began A April 1884.  
W. in Oct 1898.

1/2 d.

P cancelled Oct 98.

161  
IMPRESSION. Officially the colour is denominated purple, but the first printings approached more nearly to lilac. The whole of this impression was forwarded to the country post-offices, and before the issue took place in London the shade was changed to that of the one penny Inland Revenue stamps, which was of a mauve tone. The later printings show a tendency to revert to the lilac shade.

The PERFORATION is 14.

### SYNOPSIS.

1. Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Type I. Perf. 14.  
28th June, 1881. One penny, lilac-purple.  
" " " mauve-purple.
2. Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Type II. Perf. 14.  
November, 1881. One penny, mauve-purple, purple, lilac-purple.

### VARIETY.

One penny, mauve-purple, imperforate.

## II.

19. The Five Pounds  
See perf 12 specimen Lapling. figs 2<sup>o</sup> 4<sup>o</sup> 5<sup>o</sup> 1/2 +  
STAMPED COVERS AND ENVELOPES. 5<sup>o</sup> 1/2 +  
St. with a view.

THE next branch of our subject leads us to the consideration of the stamped covers and stamped envelopes issued on the 6th May, 1840, in pursuance of the Treasury Minute of 26th December, 1839. As the die which was at that time ordered to be prepared for the use of the Board of Commissioners of the Inland Revenue was on its completion applied to envelopes, we shall follow up our account of the first issue, commonly called the "Mulready" covers and envelopes, by the examination of all such covers and envelopes as were subsequently manufactured by the Board of Inland Revenue, and stamped with this embossing die, and with those that have since been brought into use.

The subject will therefore be treated in the following order:—

SECTION I. Covers and envelopes commonly called the "Mulready" covers and envelopes.

SECTION II. Envelopes and paper with embossed stamps sold by the Post-office to the public.

SECTION III. Envelopes and paper with embossed stamps struck to order on paper sent in by the public.

SECTION IV. Registration envelopes.

→ To the plate was added a thick plain line, enframing each name, printed in colour of a stamp. about 75<sup>o</sup> 1/2 broad. added about 15<sup>o</sup> 7<sup>o</sup> by 1887. (a jubilee line).

M

### ERRATA.

27  
-In the last paper one or two errors occur which it may be well to correct.  
In the list of 1d. stamps, p. 170, No. 2 is described as "Draft (1st type)." The words "(1st type)" should be omitted, as there is only one type of the "Draft" stamp, resembling however in its principal features its companion stamp No. 1, "Receipt (first type)."  
Page 171, tenth line from top, for "Sir J. O. Harries," read "Sir J. C. Herries;" and in line 13 for "2d." read "2d."



See (material to be attended to.)

162

1. Papers on Mulready by Eliza Evans.

Gibbons Monthly Journal 28.2.91. p. 179.  
" " " 31.3.91. p. 216.

A description of the Mulready envelope & of various  
imitations & caricatures of the design. By Eliza Evans  
London. Stanley Gibbons & Co. Ltd. 1891. 8v.

See Review of it. Pk. Record Feb'y 1892 by W. H. Stobbs. p. 27.  
& London Philatelist of same month (nil).

SECTION I.

COVERS AND ENVELOPES

COMMONLY CALLED THE "MULREADY" COVERS AND ENVELOPES.

Date of Issue, 6th May, 1840.  
all wrong. see Evans & Co. p. 84.

DESIGN.—Among the designs sent in to the Lords of the  
Treasury in reply to their invitation, was one for the face of a  
cover and envelope consisting of a pencil sketch by the late  
William Mulready, R.A., which, after having been submitted to  
the Council of the Royal Academy, was ultimately selected by  
"My Lords," and the highest prize awarded to it. The actual  
design occupied the upper part and a portion of the sides of a  
space corresponding in size and shape to that of a sheet of paper  
when folded for address and transmission through the post, and  
was marked out by a single-lined rectangular frame measuring  
5½ by 3¾ inches, or 141 by 92 millimètres.

In the centre of the group of figures, Britannia is represented  
as dispatching winged messengers to the different quarters of the  
globe, while the figures on each side of her are emblematical of  
British commerce and communication with all parts of the  
world. To her right are East Indians on elephants directing the  
embarkation of merchandise, Arabs with laden camels, and  
Chinese. On her left, American Indians negotiating a treaty,  
and Negroes packing casks of sugar. On the foreground on one  
side is a youth reading a letter to his mother; on the other side  
a group eagerly pressing to see the welcome letter. "The whole  
design," to quote the words of the *London and Westminster  
Review* of that period, "is like a pen and ink sketch by a  
distinguished artist, as far removed as possible from the common-

Mulready never executed. but made the pencil sketch for  
the design he rec'd £200.

See. 5 1/16 x 3 3/8  
Covers  
5 1/4 x 3 5/16 in  
9 1/2 x 8 3/4  
132  
x  
100

in 1839

The Treasury had resolved to adopt three forms of stamps: viz: an adhesive stamp to be attached to any letters, an envelope, & a stamp to be embossed on paper sent in by the public to the Stamp Office.

As already seen, the Perkins' process was employed for the first & Mr. W. Unger, R.A. was commissioned to produce the embossed head of the Majesty for the envelopes. Mr. Perry Cole was charged to obtain a design for the postage cover. After consultation with the President (Sir M. A. Stree) & other Royal Academicians & on the instructions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Newland, R.A. was applied to on December 13, 1839. He shortly after produced a pencil sketch of the design afterwards adopted.



In the month of November, 1881, the Government, having come to the determination of reverting to the system of making postage stamps available for payment of the charges on telegrams, called in all the telegraph stamps, and destroyed the stock. It therefore became necessary to prepare a postage stamp of a high value for the charges on ultra-oceanic telegrams, and recourse was had to the die of the £5 telegraph stamp, an engraving of which is to be found at page 373. The word TELEGRAPHS was removed from the upper tablet, and POSTAGE substituted in type, the difference in the length of the two words being compensated by filling in the spaces with conventional ornamentation. It is almost superfluous to add that the alteration was made, and the new stamp produced, by Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co.

The paper employed for the impression is that which was in use for the Inland Revenue stamps of 3d. and 6d. current at the time of the issue, being watermarked with "Anchor 20 mm.," the stamp, from its dimensions, in which it resembles the Inland Revenue stamp of 6d., taking up the space of two watermarks. The sheet consists of twenty-eight stamps, in seven rows, of four in a row.

The colour of the impression is the same as when the stamp was appropriated solely to telegraph purposes.

The perforation (executed by the contractors) is 14.

### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with two "Anchors 20 mm." Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.  
1st May, 1882. Five pounds, orange-vermilion.

### THE I R OFFICIAL.

The official correspondence of the officers of the Inland Revenue Department resident in the country with the Head Office in London passes free of postage, but no provision was made whereby their local correspondence could also pass free. Hence the Surveyors of Taxes for the district had to prepay all country letters, but the postage was reimbursed to them by the Head Office at the end of each quarter. To remedy this the Inland Revenue Department, in the month of October, 1882, issued to their officers the current postage stamp of one penny, surcharged in black "I R OFFICIAL" in block letters, and this was followed up in the following month of November by the issue of the current halfpenny, green, and sixpence, grey, similarly surcharged.

Stamps of the current issue surcharged "I R OFFICIAL" in black :

October, 1882. One Penny, purple. Type II.

1st November, 1882. One Halfpenny, green.

" " Sixpence, grey. Plate No. 18.

### INLAND REVENUE STAMPS USED AS POSTAGE STAMPS.

In the sessions of 1882 an Act of Parliament, 45 and 46 Vict. c. 72, was passed, entitled "The Revenue, Friendly Societies, and National Debt Act," by Section 13 of which it was enacted that (1) "on and after the 1st day of January, 1883, any stamp duties of an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d., which might legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, and any postage duties to the like amount might be denoted by the same adhesive stamps; (2) with a view to exhaust any adhesive postage stamps denoting an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d., which might have been unissued or unused, such stamps to a proper amount might be used to denote any stamp duties of an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d., which might legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument."

It will be seen that the first part of the above enactment is *mutatis mutandis*, similar to that in the "Customs and Revenue Act, 1861" (*ante page 50*), by which the Inland Revenue stamps of 1d. were made available for postage duties, and though the wording of it is not too clear, yet its effect was so construed as to admit certain adhesive stamps of 2s. 6d., and under, that had been issued by the Inland Revenue Department, and not appropriated to any special purpose, to be used for the payment of postage duties. These Inland Revenue adhesive stamps consisted at the time of the passing the Act of six values; viz., 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., of the 2d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. were embossed in relief by the department at Somerset House, and the 3d. and 6d. were type-printed, and manufactured for the department by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. The sale of all these stamps, with the exception of that of 2s. 6d., was discontinued after the 31st December, 1882, and those in the various stamp offices throughout the country were at the same time called in, with the exception of the 2s. 6d., and the stock destroyed. The 2s. 6d. still continued to be issued by the department until it was superseded by the present "Postage and Revenue" stamp of like value, issued on 1st July,

In the month of November, 1881, the Government, having come to the determination of reverting to the system of making postage available by the payment of the charges on telegrams, called in all the telegraph stamps, and issued the die of the £2 telegraph stamp, an engraving of which is to be found at page 373. The word TELEGRAM was removed from the upper and lower parts of the stamp, the difference in the length of the lines being compensated by filling in the spaces with conventional ornamental designs. It is almost superfluous to add that the alteration was made by Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co.

The paper employed for the impression is that which was in use for the £2 telegraph stamps of 3d. and 6d. current at the time of the issue, being watermarked with "Anchor 20 mm.", the stamp being in its dimensions, in the space of the £2 telegraph stamp of 6d. taking up the space of two telegraph stamps. The sheet consists of twenty-eight stamps, in seven rows of four in a row.

The colour of the impression is the same as when the stamp was originally issued for telegraph purposes.

SYNOPSIS.

Watermarked with two "Anchors 20 mm." Plate No. 1. Issued 1st May, 1882. Five pounds, orange-vermillion.

THE IR OFFICIAL.

The official correspondence of the officers of the inland Revenue Department in the country with the Head Office in London passes first in the hands of the local correspondents, but no provision was made whereby their local correspondents could be relieved. Hence the Surveyors of Taxes for the district had to prepare the letters, but the postage was reimbursed to them by the Head Office at the end of each quarter. To remedy this the inland Revenue Department, in the month of October, 1882, issued to their officers the current stamp of one penny, watermarked in black "IR OFFICIAL" in black ink, and this was followed up in the following month of November by the issue of the current halfpenny, green, and sixpenny, grey, similarly watermarked.

Watermarked with two "Anchors 20 mm." Plate No. 1. Issued 1st November, 1882. One halfpenny, green. Sixpenny, grey. Plate No. 12.

INLAND REVENUE STAMPS USED AS POSTAGE STAMPS.

In the session of 1882 an Act of Parliament, 45 and 46 Vict. c. 52, was passed, entitled "The Revenue, Friendly Societies, and National Debt Act," section 13 of which it was enacted that (1) "on and after the 1st day of January, 1882, any stamp duties of an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d., which may lawfully be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or mark on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, and the like amount might be denoted by the same adhesive stamps (2) with a view to exempt any adhesive postage stamps denoting an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d., which might have been unused or unused, to a proper amount might be used to denote any stamp duties of an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d., which might legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or mark on the face of them to any particular description of instrument."

It will be seen that the first part of the above enactment is inoperative unless it is similar to that in the "Customs and Revenue Act, 1881" (see page 36) by which the inland Revenue stamps of 1d. were made available for postage stamps, and though the wording of it is not too clear yet its effect was so far-reaching as to admit certain adhesive stamps of 2s. 6d., and under that had to be used for the payment of postage duties. Those inland Revenue adhesive stamps consisted at the time of the passing the Act of six values: viz., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., at the 2d., 6d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. value, and manufactured for the department by Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co. The sale of all these stamps, with the exception of that of the 2s. 6d., was discontinued after the 31st December, 1882, and those in the country were at the same time called in, and the stock destroyed. The 2s. 6d. stamp was superseded by the

For the information of the public, and to remove all misapprehension as to the use of these various stamps, the following circular, dated 20th February, 1863, was issued by the Post Office :

*"Inland Revenue Stamp Duties.*

"The duties which have hitherto been denoted by adhesive Inland Revenue stamps of the value of 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., or by combinations of those stamps, are for the future to be denoted by postage stamps, one or more stamps, as may be necessary, to be used to make up the requisite amount, care being taken, however, in every case to cancel the stamps by writing the signature or initials and date across the stamps. Until a postage stamp of the value of 2s. 6d. shall have been provided, that amount of duty may be denoted either by the present Inland Revenue stamp at 2s. 6d., or by the necessary number of postage stamps at lower rates, and although no more of the superseded adhesive Inland Revenue stamps will be supplied to postmasters for sale to the public, yet any such stamps which may already be in the possession of the public may continue to be used for the payment of Inland Revenue duties, and they may be used also in payment of postage. The documents for which postage stamps may in future be used are :

- "Agreements liable to a duty of 6d.
- "Bills of exchange for payment of money on demand liable to a duty of 1d.
- "Certified copies or extracts from registers of births, &c. (duty 1d.).
- "Charter parties (duty 6d.).
- "Contract notes (duty 1d.).
- "Delivery orders (duty 1d.).
- "Lease, or tack, or agreement, for the letting, for any definite term, less than a year, of a dwelling-house, or part of a dwelling-house, at a rent not exceeding the rate of £10 a year (duty 1d.).
- "Lease of a furnished dwelling-house or apartments for any definite term less than a year (duties 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d.).
- "Letters of renunciation (duty 1d.).
- "Notarial acts (duty 1s.).
- "Policies of insurance, not life or marine (duty 1d.).
- "Protests of bills of exchange, or of promissory notes (duties 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., and 1s.).
- "Proxies liable to the duty of 1d.
- "Receipts (duty 1d.).
- "Transfers of shares in cost-book mines (duty 6d.).
- "Voting papers (duty 1d.).
- "Warrants for goods (duty 3d.).
- "Postage stamps cannot be used for inland bills payable otherwise than on demand, for promissory notes, for foreign bills, for law or other fees, nor for any documents other than those above enumerated.

"By command of the Postmaster-General."

These Inland Revenue stamps were created under the authority of various Acts of Parliament, and since their original issue have undergone several changes, which it will be well to trace, as they have been, and are still, available for postage purposes.

On the third April, 1860, the Act 23 Vict. c. 15 was passed, by which it was provided that the duties of 1d. on certificates of birth, &c., and delivery orders of 3d. on dock warrants, and of 6d. on transfers of shares in cost-book mines might be denoted by adhesive stamps.

The stamp of 1d. was provided by surcharging the one penny "draft on demand or receipt" stamp with "Inland Revenue," as previously mentioned.

The stamps of 3d. and 6d. were provided by impressing the ordinary embossing dies of 3d. and 6d. in pink upon the words "Inland Revenue," printed in two lines of block type in green ink within squares of about 46 mm., ruled with black ink on sheets of blue wove hand-made "Whatman" paper.

The issue of the 3d. embossed was but limited, as on the 15th June, 1860, it was replaced by a type-printed stamp, manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of similar size to the "draft on demand or receipt" stamp. The design consisted of the Queen's head to the left, in a circle, superposed on a triangular engine-turned background. An arched tablet above bore the inscription "INLAND REVENUE" in coloured letters, on a plain ground, and in a straight label below "THREEPENCE," in similar letters, the remainder of the stamp being filled in with net-work. The impression was in purple, on the same paper as was then in use for the "draft on demand or receipt" stamp, watermarked with "anchor and cable (2)," fig. 2 p. 149, and was perforated 15.

On the 28th August, 1860, another Act was passed (23 and 24 Vict. c. 111), by which an adhesive stamp of sixpence was authorised to be used for the duty on Agreements, and the embossed stamp of 6d. was replaced by a type-printed one. This stamp was also prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and was of large dimensions, being an oblong rectangle measuring 54 x 30 mm. The design showed the Queen's head to the left, in a circle within an hexagonal frame, on each side of which was a circle, enclosing the value in figures. In the frame above and below was the value "SIXPENCE" in full, on the left side "INLAND" and on the right "REVENUE."

Adhesive Revenue Stamp Duties.

"The duties which have hitherto been denoted by adhesive inland Revenue stamps of the value of 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 7d., 8d., 9d., 10d., or by combinations of those stamps are for the future to be denoted by postage stamps, and those stamps, as may be necessary, to be used to make up the requisite amount in every case in which the stamps by writing or initials and date across the stamp. [The amount of duty may be denoted by the former inland Revenue stamp at 2d., 3d., or by the new number of postage stamps at lower rates, and additional on account of the sum sold to the public yet any such stamps which may already be in the possession of the public may continue to be used for the payment of inland Revenue stamps and they may be used also in payment of postage. The documents to which postage stamps may in future be used are:

- Agreements liable to a duty of 6d.
  - Bills of exchange for payment of money on demand liable to a duty of 6d.
  - Certified copies or extracts from registers of births, &c. (duty 1d.).
  - Charter parties (duty 6d.).
  - Contract notes (duty 1d.).
  - Delivery orders (duty 1d.).
  - Leases, or parts, or agreements, for the letting, for any definite term, of a part of a dwelling-house, or part of a dwelling-house, at a rent exceeding the rate of £10 a year (duty 1d.).
  - Leases of a furnished dwelling-house or apartments for any definite term less than a year (duty 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d.).
  - Letters of remission (duty 1d.).
  - Notarial acts (duty 1s.).
  - Orders of exchange, not bills of exchange (duty 1d.).
  - Orders of bills of exchange, or of promissory notes (duty 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., and 1s.).
  - Proxies liable to the duty of 1d.
  - Receipts (duty 1d.).
  - Transfers of shares in east-India companies (duty 6d.).
  - Writing papers (duty 1d.).
  - Warrants for goods (duty 3d.).
- Postage stamps cannot be used for inland bills payable to order, or for inland bills, for foreign bills, for foreign notes, for law or other certificates, or for documents other than those above enumerated.

"By command of the Postmaster-General."

These inland Revenue stamps were created under the authority of an Act of Parliament, and since their original issue have undergone several changes, which it will be well to trace, as they have been, and are still, of high importance.

On the 3rd April, 1850, the Act 23 Vict. c. 15 was passed, by which it was provided that the lines of 1d. on certificates of birth, &c., and delivery orders of 3d. on dock warrants, and of 6d. on transfers of shares in east-India companies might be denoted by adhesive stamps.

The stamp of 1d. was provided for denoting the new penny "duty on demand or receipt" stamp with "Inland Revenue," as previously mentioned. The stamps of 3d. and 6d. were provided for denoting the "duty on possession of 3d. and 6d. in pink ink on the words 'Inland Revenue' written in two lines of block type in green ink within an amount of about 1/2 inch wide with black ink on sheets of blue or blue hand-made 'Whatman' paper.

The issue of the 3d. endorsed was but limited, as on the 15th June, 1850, it was replaced by a type-printed stamp, manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and of a similar size to the "duty on demand or receipt" stamp. The design consisted of the Queen's head in the left, in a circle, surrounded by the inscription "Inland Revenue" in coloured letters on a plain ground, and in a straight line below "Revenue," in similar letters, the remainder of the stamp being filled in with network. The impression was in purple, on the same paper as was then in use for the "duty on demand or receipt" stamp, and was perforated with "anchor and cable" (see p. 13), and was perforated with "anchor and cable" (see p. 13), another Act was passed (23 and 24 Vict. c. 111), by which an adhesive stamp of 6d. was authorized to be used for the duty on Agreements, and the endorsed stamp of 6d. was replaced by a type-printed one. This stamp was also prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and was of large dimensions, being an oblong rectangle measuring 2 1/2 x 3 1/2. The design showed the Queen's head to the left, in a circle within an hexagonal frame, on each side of which was a circle containing the words

The impression was in purple upon the same paper as the 3d., the stamp from its size taking up the space of two watermarks. The perforation was  $15\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ . The plate was put to press on 27th September, 1860, and the issue to the public took place in the following month.

Under the authority of the Acts 24 and 25 Vict. cap. 21 (28th June, 1861) and cap. 91 (6th August, 1861), embossed stamps of the values of 2d., 9d., 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d. were prepared and issued by the Inland Revenue Department similar to the embossed 3d. and 6d. issued in the previous year. No change appears to have taken place in these stamps till the year 1871, when, on the 27th July, a guillotine machine was set to work at Somerset House, which perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and the stock-in-hand of the 2d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. were perforated by it. It does not appear that the 2s. was ever perforated, and it had probably at that time dropped out of circulation.

In 1865 a change had been made in the watermark of the paper on which the stamps of 3d. and 6d. were printed. An anchor of 16 mm. (fig. 3) p. 149, had been introduced in place of the "anchor with cable (2)," and in the year 1871 a further change was made, the size of the anchor being increased to 18 mm. (fig. 4). This paper continued to be used for these stamps until 1882, when the size of the anchor watermark was again increased to one measuring 20 mm. (fig. 6), p. 150. During all this period the colour of the impression continued the same, though varying at times in tone between a lilac and mauve shade of purple.

In the year 1872 the embossed stamps of 2d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. were struck in pink on white paper, watermarked with small anchors (fig. 5, p. 150), the same as that on which the Inland Revenue stamps of 1d. were at that time printed. The division of the sheet into squares by black-ruled lines was also done away with, and the thickness of the type of the words "INLAND REVENUE" was reduced, which still, however, continued to be printed in green. The perforation of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  remained unaltered.

On the 27th October, 1875, the colour for the stamps embossed by the Inland Revenue Department was changed from pink to vermilion, a change which affected all the embossed stamps of 2d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. struck after that date.

In October, 1882, the paper watermarked with small "anchor, 14 mm.," being exhausted, the whole of the embossed stamps were struck on that watermarked with an "orb," being the same as was then employed for the Inland Revenue stamps of one penny.





# SYNOPSIS.

## EMBOSSED STAMPS.

1. Armorial designs, with value in centre, and date inserted; embossed in pink on blue wove paper; rectangular spaces for stamps marked out with black lines. "INLAND REVENUE" in green in thick block letters. Imperforate.

April, 1860. Threepence. ✓ ? Issue. 1 July 1860  
 Sixpence. ✓ ? Issue Oct 1860.  
 1861. Twopence. ✓  
 Ninepence. ✓  
 One Shilling. ✓  
 Two Shillings. ✓  
 Two Shillings and Sixpence. ✓

2. The same designs; embossed in pink on blue wove paper; rectangular spaces for stamps marked out with black lines. "INLAND REVENUE" in green in thick block letters. Perforated 12½.

? July. August, 1871. Twopence. ✓  
 Ninepence.  
 One Shilling. ✓  
 Two Shillings and Sixpence.

3. The same designs; embossed in pink on white paper, watermarked with "Anchor, 14 mm." (fig. 5). "INLAND REVENUE" in green in thin block letters. Spaces for stamps not marked out. Perforated 12½.

1872. Twopence.  
 Ninepence.  
 One Shilling. ✓  
 Two Shillings and Sixpence.

4. The same embossed in vermilion.

27 October 1875. Twopence.  
 Ninepence.  
 One Shilling.  
 Two Shillings and Sixpence.

5. The same designs; embossed in vermilion on paper watermarked with "Orb." "INLAND REVENUE" in green in thin block letters. Spaces not marked out. Perforated 12½.

1882. Twopence.  
 Ninepence.  
 One Shilling.  
 Two Shillings and Sixpence.

## TYPE-PRINTED STAMPS.

1. Paper watermarked with "Anchor with Cable (2)," (fig. 2). Safety paper, bluish to white.

15th June, 1860. Threepence, purple (mauve tint); perf. 15.  
 1st Sept. 1860. Sixpence " " perf. 15½ by 15.

2. Paper watermarked with "Anchor, 16 mm." (fig. 3). Safety paper, bluish to white.

1865. Threepence, purple (mauve tint); perf. 15.  
 Sixpence " " perf. 15½ by 15.

3. Paper watermarked with "Anchor, 18 mm." (fig. 4); bluish.

1871. Threepence, purple (lilac tint); perf. 15.  
 Sixpence " " perf. 15½ by 15. ~~14~~

4. Paper watermarked with "Anchor, 18 mm." (fig. 4); white

1872. Threepence, purple; perf. 15. + 14  
 Sixpence " "

5. Paper watermarked with "Anchor, 20 mm." (fig. 6); white.

1882. Threepence, purple; perf. 15.  
 Sixpence " " — + 14





Mar. 1884

Quacken (2). h. 15 x 15 1/2

on white paper. 3 d x 6 d.

Quacken 1/6 water. h. 15 x 15 1/2

on white paper. both values.

Quacken 18 h/2 m. h. 15 x 15 1/2

on white paper  
on canvas } both values

(4)

Quacken 18 h/2 m. h. 14. all sides here. on white paper. both values.

(4)

Quacken 20 h/2 m. h. 15 x 15 1/2 on white paper. both values.

(6)

Quacken 20 h/2 m. h. 14. all sides here. on white paper. both values.

(6)

"John Leech, his life & work" by W. P. Fish. N. Y.  
2 vols. Lon. 1891. 8<sup>vo</sup> Illustrated.

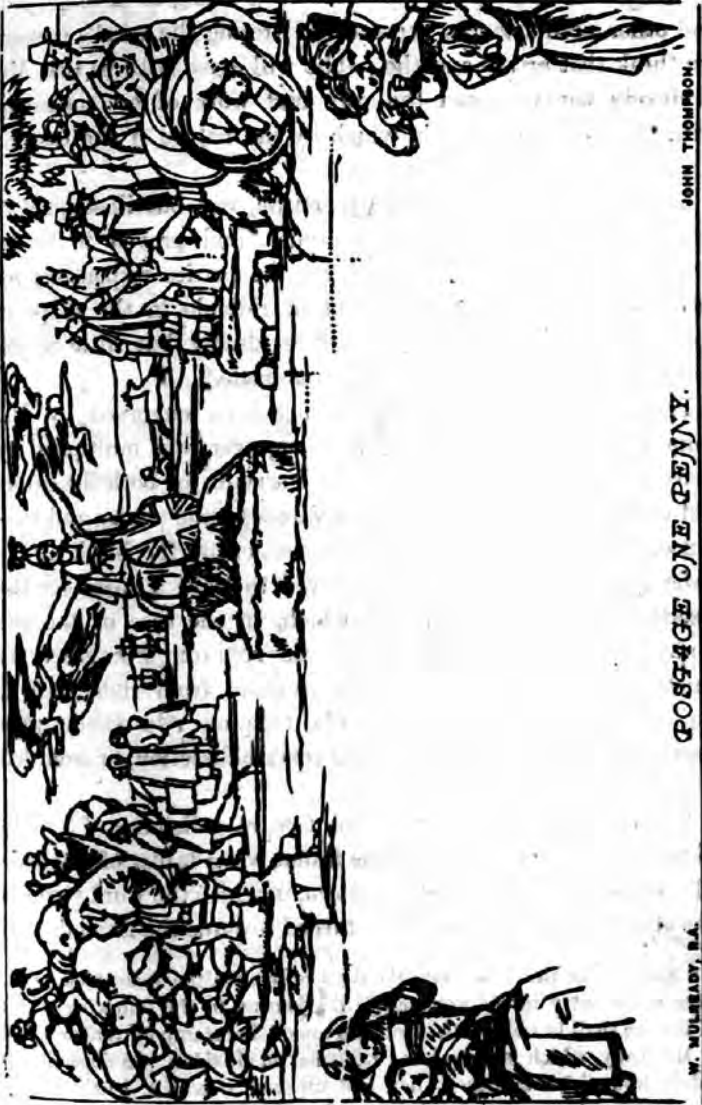
on p. 95. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. is a full account of the meeting of  
Melreedy & Leech at Eggs' R. A. S. house as a dinner  
where the latter complained of the caricature Leech had  
drawn of the design, & signed it with his little lead in a  
bottle, which irritated the artist, as implying he was a bluff  
Hence a coolness springing up, which was removed at this meeting  
when Melreedy was made to understand the signature had  
personal reference to him, but was Leech's usual "mark"

18. 8. 40 Prices agreed for covers. single 1 1/2 each 6 Tulle  
26 1/2 1/2 galore, 12 covers on each sheet. 2078. 1/2 ton 2080, team 5760

Cloves. £25 for another covers for 2 to supply stores plates complete  
includes packing & total.

Bacon & Co. 7 1/2 for 1000 slts. young, plates full marked available  
1<sup>st</sup> slts. black  
2<sup>nd</sup> blue.

all for 1 year.



POSTAGE ONE PENNY.

W. MULREARY, B.A.

JOHN THOMPSON.

M 2

Alfred Smith & Co. Ltd.

place designs usually employed in analogous cases. And considering the small space, the mode of printing to be employed, and other circumstances necessarily fettering the artist's powers, we think that artists and the public will agree with us that Mr. Mulready has produced the very best work of art consistent with the conditions within which by the nature of the case he was confined."

The design, though eminently artistic, was but ill-adapted to the taste of a mercantile community, and proved to be an eminent failure, drawing down upon the parties responsible for its selection an immense amount of ridicule in the shape of lampoons and caricatures, a result evidently but little apprehended by them when the choice was made.

PLATES.—The design, after having been engraved by Mr. John Thompson, the eminent wood-engraver, was multiplied by stereo-plates, the same engraved block serving for both the covers and envelopes, as also for the two values of one penny and two-pence, for which latter purposes a portion of the block at the lower part of the frame was removed to leave a space for the insertion of the value in full, which, in the case of the one penny, was filled in with the words POSTAGE ONE PENNY in ornate Italic capitals, or capitals slanting from right to left, while in the twopence the words POSTAGE TWO PENCE were inserted in capitals slanting in the reverse direction, or from left to right.

In addition to the design on the face, at a distance of 3 millimètres from the lower line of the frame, was a tablet of mechanical lathe-work of a reticulated pattern, in which the word POSTAGE was shown in large block letters turned towards the facial design.

\* So early as the 12th May, six days only after the issue took place, there is an entry in Sir Rowland Hill's journal to the following effect: "I fear we shall be obliged to substitute some other stamp for that designed by Mulready, which is abused and ridiculed on all sides. In departing so widely from the established 'lion and unicorn' nonsense, I fear that we have run counter to settled opinions and prejudices somewhat hastily. I now think it would have been wiser to have followed established custom in all the details of the measure where practicable."—*Life*, vol. i. p. 395.

*although the design of the postage stamp is admitted to be a failure.*

*a word both design of Mulready, which was not completed till April 1840.*



A curious defect, unobserved till the covers  
issued to the public, will be noticed in one of the  
angles, which has only one foot!

conforming to its shape & material  
the production of this design, the quantity  
was £2000.

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

It is a common defect, and is caused by the  
presence of the fibres, which are  
not removed in the process of  
refining. It is a defect which  
can only be avoided by the use of  
the best quality of paper.

The presence of these fibres is a defect  
which can only be avoided by the use of  
the best quality of paper.

Faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

The draughtsmen employed at the present time on the staff of *Punch* content themselves, as a rule, with merely affixing their initials to the drawings which they produce from week to week. In the old days, however, when *Leech* was editor, John Leech had a habit of signing his work in a fanciful fashion, with the design of a small glass bottle which had inside of it the body of a leech. At the time when Mulready submitted to the Government his elaborate design for a postage stamp, Leech caricatured the drawing in *Punch*, and sketched a ridiculous counterpart of the Mulready stamp, putting his own sign manual in the corner as usual. Being entirely ignorant that it was Leech's whim to mark his work in this curious manner, Mulready was exceedingly indignant when the leech was pointed out to him. He felt fully persuaded that the intention of the caricaturist was to insult him, and that the drawing of the leech was meant to have a personal and very uncomplimentary significance. So angry was Mulready, indeed, that when he was invited to meet Leech at the house of the artist Egg, he sternly refused to do so, until the matter of the signature had been satisfactorily explained. When at length he realized the whole truth of the matter, he expressed himself very willing to make the acquaintance of his caricaturist, and from that time forward Leech and Mulready became fast friends.

*Pall Mall Gazette*. 11. 12. 86

on brass / says Cdes life.

really on "your metal"

(Catalogue, p. 69.)

Lot 105. Exhibitor, May 1890. Exhibit of Miss Jaffray.

Pencil Sketch Mulready. on blue paper. India proof beneath. at back. pasted fly leaf of auction catalogue.

Sub of remaining drawings. Superscrip of William Mulready R.A. by order of the Exors. Christie, Manson & Woods. King St. St James Thursday, April 28. 1864 & 2 following days.

Lot 105. Design for the postage envelope. Pencil outline & impression of the plate.

also a paper.

I bought purchase at this lot myself, & was informed in the room afterwards by Mr Daniel Roberts, R.A.

That Mulready had told him.

That the original idea or sketch was by The Queen. for July 1891. p. 188

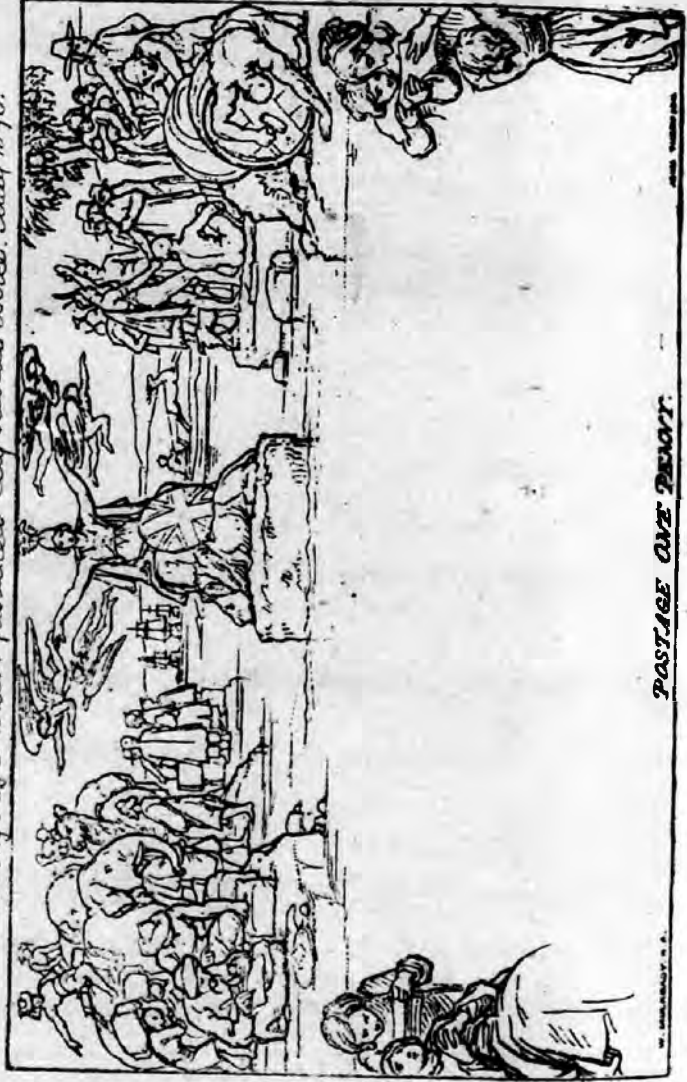
and that he only carried out her suggestion.

Mr. Manson in selling the lot stated that it was the only sketch made for the envelope.

signed - Arthur. W. Jaffray. J.

This is all rubbish. The Queen never knew of the design till it was submitted to her.

Collingridge's Block, produced City Sub-Sea Service, May 1890.



PASTAGE ONE PENNY.

W. H. BARNES & CO.



*Movers die for the 2?*

This tablet measured  $77\frac{1}{2}$  by 17 millimètres, and when the cover was folded appeared on the back of the letter. Below this tablet were the index numbers of the plates. In the one penny covers the number was preceded by a Roman capital, and in the envelopes by an Italic capital. In the covers and envelopes of twopence small letters took the place of the capitals. We have found no other letter except A, though it is by no means improbable that other letters were used, as the number printed was very large, in expectation that the covers and envelopes would be employed in far greater proportion than the adhesive stamps.

PAPER.—The paper was of a special character, manufactured by Mr. John Dickinson at Nash Mills, King's Langley, Herts, into the substance of which, during the process of fabrication, threads of various coloured silk were introduced running through the sheets, a species of paper that, from the name of its inventor, has become known among philatelists as "Dickinson paper."\* The paper prepared for the covers differed somewhat from that prepared for the envelopes in the disposition of the silk threads. In the former the silk threads were so arranged that in printing the twelve covers on the sheet in three rows, of four in each row, three parallel threads of red silk traversed the cover hori-

\* Mr. Dickinson took out a patent in 1830 for a method of uniting face to face two sheets of pulp, in order to produce paper of an extra thickness. "The sheets of paper pulp were given off by two drums, and brought into contact with one another by the pressure of a roller, and thus united were carried forward by the felt over a guide roller and onward to a pair of pressing rollers, whereby the moist surfaces of the pulp were made to adhere firmly, and constitute one thick sheet. This, after passing over the surface of hollow drums heated by steam, became dry and compact." The paper for postal purposes was manufactured by Mr. Dickinson on a similar system, the silk fibres being introduced between the two laminae before they were pressed together. Specimens of this paper were produced and shown to the Commissioners of Post-office inquiry in 1837, when the question before them was the practicability of employing stamped covers for letters conveyed by the twopenny post. On this point we find the following statement in the Ninth Report (vol. xxxviii., part 1): "Your Lordships will perceive, from the evidence of Mr. Preasiy, the Secretary of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, that he also entertains a favourable opinion of the proposal, whilst he has at the same time fairly stated such

I have been told that a notion has been started that the "Dickinson" paper was hand-made. Mr. Dickinson's patent consisted in having two films of pulp, between which the threads were inserted, and the two films then passed between rollers, which united them. Such an operation could not have been effected by hand, and the necessary machine formed part of the invention.

6 Roman for 1<sup>o</sup> }  
Halc - 2<sup>o</sup> }  
/n

Now. John Dickinson & Co Limited. 65. Old Bailey. E.C.  
Mills. Gosley. Apsey. Nash, & Home Park. Herts.

Page 167, third line from top. By an error of the press we are made to say that the threads run "in sets of one red between two blue," instead of one blue between two red.

? "one blue between two red."

see Evans, acting Editor. Ph: Record. Aug. 1882. p. 123.  
my copy. a 2<sup>d</sup> is like Evans' idea just as the text.

So (29.9.82) in all Pemberton Wilson's stock.



zontally above the design, and two parallel blue ones below it. In the paper for the envelopes the sheet was traversed by silk threads in sets of one ~~red~~ <sup>red</sup> between two ~~blue~~ <sup>red</sup>, disposed in such a manner as that one set of threads crossed each of the two portions of the lozenge-shaped parallelogram forming the side flaps of the envelope. Although this was the normal disposition of the threads, yet examples may occasionally be met with where one or more of the threads has been accidentally omitted, or their colours transposed, and also where they run vertically instead of horizontally, owing to a sheet having been wrongly cut. These varieties possess but little, if any, interest to collectors, and are adverted to merely to preclude the supposition that their existence is unknown.

IMPRESSION.—The sheets ~~both~~ <sup>both</sup> for the covers and the envelopes measured ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> 24<sup>3/4</sup> inches deep by 36<sup>1/2</sup> inches wide, being adapted to receive twelve impressions disposed in three rows of four in each row, the design of the face when printed running parallel to the longer margins of the sheet. In the sheets of covers there was no line of separation between them, but in those of the envelopes the lozenge-shaped form was marked out by single lines. In making up the form from which the sheet was

objections as he conceived might be raised against the adoption of the plan, the first and most important of which is, that the revenue would be liable to be defrauded by the forgery of these stamps.

"With respect to this objection, Mr. Pressly says, 'It has occurred to me, however, that that might be prevented if the Government manufactured a particular paper for such envelopes. There is a paper which has been produced to the Commissioners of Stamps for another purpose, and it is the best suggestion that occurs to me for the purpose; viz., by the introduction of a silk thread into the paper, which it is difficult to manufacture, and very expensive, and with the vigilance of the Excise would be almost impossible to forge; the silk is woven in the pulp, and it is written on with the greatest facility. The manufacturer is Mr. Dickinson, of the Old Bailey.'"

The report then proceeds: "Mr. Dickinson has fully described the mode of fabricating the particular description of paper, to which Mr. Pressly refers, and we are satisfied that, if the use of this paper was confined exclusively to stamped covers, it would be almost impossible to imitate the paper, or commit any forgery, without detection."

for the cover?  
30 x 24 in /  
a smaller size  
19 x 24 3/4 in as an  
order for B.  
covers.

printed the stereo-plates were not arranged according to their numbers, nor indeed by any order or rule whatever; the combinations of numbers of the stereos, therefore, which appear on the sheets are entirely fortuitous, and it would be useless to attempt to examine them with a view of drawing any inferences from the mode in which they recur.

The ~~preparation of the stereo-plates and the printing were~~ entrusted to Messrs. William Clowes and Sons, of Blackfriars, London, the colour of the impression being black for the covers and envelopes of one penny, and blue for those of twopence.

There was no legend on the envelopes, but on the end flaps of the covers the following notices and directions were printed in double columns of type in the same colour as the rest of the impression.

**RATES OF POSTAGE.—INLAND LETTERS** not exceeding half-an-ounce are charged one penny.

Exceeding half-an-ounce, but not exceeding 1 ounce, twopence.

“ 1 ounce                   ”                   ”                   2 ounces, fourpence.

“ 2 ounces                   ”                   ”                   3 ounces, sixpence.

And so on, an additional twopence for every additional ounce.

With but few exceptions the weight is limited to 16 ounces.

Unstamped letters are charged double postage on delivery.

Those insufficiently stamped double the amount of such insufficiency.

**COLONIAL LETTERS.**—If sent by packet, twelve times; if by private ship eight times the preceding rates.

**FOREIGN LETTERS.**—The packet rates are too numerous to be enumerated here. The ship rates are the same for foreign as for colonial letters. As regards both foreign and colonial letters there is no limitation as to weight. All sent outwards, with few exceptions, must be prepaid by money or by stamps; and those going by private ship must be marked “Ship Letter.”

It is REQUESTED that all letters may be fully and legibly addressed and posted as early as convenient. Also, that whatever kind of stamp may be used, it may invariably stand above the address, and towards the right-hand side of the letter.

#### PRICES OF STAMPS.

AT A POST OFFICE.—Labels 1d. and 2d. each. Covers 1½d. and 2½d. each.

Covers. <sup>Roman</sup> Have seen. A 2.

to A. 236.

In the 1<sup>o</sup> black. the letter "A" is Roman capital

2<sup>o</sup> blue

2

small type. <sup>Italic</sup> ~~italic~~

Envelopes. (Italic.)

1<sup>o</sup> black. 'A' is Italic capital.

2<sup>o</sup> blue

2

small type. <sup>Italic</sup> ~~oblique, upright~~

\* The stereo plates were made under the supervision  
of Mr Thompson's son ~~from a lower form~~ <sup>who afterwards became</sup> Mr ~~Thompson~~

~~in 1855~~ an assistant Director at <sup>the</sup> Kensington Museum  
was executed by him in gun metal & was acquired for

The original engraved ~~metal~~ plate is <sup>always remained</sup> in the S. Kensington M.  
where it ~~has never left it~~ <sup>has never left it</sup>. (Mr de Wallis. 1885).

In 1869 a few proof impressions were taken from the  
original plate.

See. W. Moulton A. 3. 94  
P. Moulton cover  
2. . . . . envelope

A. 30.  
a. 200

Metaclic Exhibition. 1897. *Phreat Goul show*  
To Postmasters  
Printed Circular *Post Office*. June, 1840.

that covers only are to be sold.

envelopes not being supplied by the P. O.  
(this variety of envs. comparatively?)

J. Res. Comm.!

Extract from original session Th. Sept 1890 by *A. M. G.*

"This & such other plates as are or shall be stereotyped  
therefore, shall be used for impressing the stamps to discharge  
the duties of postage. "Chas. Press Co." "

AT A STAMP DISTRIBUTOR'S as above, or as follows :

Half-ream or 240 Penny Covers £1 2s. 4d. Penny Envelopes £1 1s. 9d.

Quarter-ream or 120 Twopenny Covers £1 1s. 4d. Twopenny Envelopes £1 1s. 1d.

At the STAMP OFFICES in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh as above, or as follows :

2 reams or 960 Penny Covers £4 7s. Penny Envelopes £4 5s.

1 ream or 480 Twopenny Covers £4 3s. 6d. Twopenny Envelopes £4 2s. 6d.

Covers may be had at these prices, either in sheets or cut ready for use. Envelopes in sheets only, and consequently not made up. No one unless duly licensed is authorized to SELL postage stamps.

The penny stamp carries half an ounce (inland) ; the twopenny stamp one ounce. For weights EXCEEDING ONE OUNCE use the proper number of labels, either alone or in combination with the stamps of the covers or envelopes.

MONEY.—Coin if enclosed in letters at all should be folded in paper, sealed, and then fastened to the inside of the letter ; but to avoid risk, a money order should be used whenever practicable.

From the above notices it will be seen that the covers were sold separately at the various Post-offices, and by persons authorized to sell stamps, at one farthing above the facial value, or they could be purchased in sheets, but the envelopes could only be had in sheets. <sup>They were not at all regarded by the purchaser.</sup> In practice, however, these latter were sold by many licensed stationers folded and ready for use at threepence per dozen over their facial value, the Inland Revenue Department allowing a small discount over and above the profit on purchasing by the ream.

The *imprimatur* on the copies of the one penny and twopenny covers registered in the archives at Somerset House, shows that impressions both of the one penny in black and the twopenny in blue were struck in the presence of a Commissioner on the 7th April, 1840, and that both were approved and ordered for use, "with the stereotypes therefrom," on the 27th April. The impressions are struck on "Dickinson" paper, and comprise the design of the front only. There are no legends, nor does the tablet below the front design appear on the sheet. A

like pair, with a lozenge-shaped outline marking the form of the envelope when opened out flat, is also registered, with the *imprimatur* endorsed in similar terms.

**FAILURE OF THE EXPERIMENT.**—The envelopes met with very little favour at the hands of the public, who were not prepared for the use of them, and regarded them rather as an innovation. The covers were chiefly employed by bankers and by insurance and other public companies, the latter frequently printing their prospectuses on the inside, thus converting them into a medium of publicity. Not a few were used by enterprising stationers as advertising sheets, and sold by them at or under their facial value. The issue must however be regarded as a failure, and so soon as the embossed envelopes were issued the "Mulready" covers and envelopes fell entirely into disuse, and were withheld from circulation. Nearly all the vast stock prepared for issue was subsequently destroyed, and it appears "that a machine had to be constructed for the purpose; the attempt to do the work by fire in close stoves (fear of robbery forbade the use of open ones) having absolutely failed."\*

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### A. Form, Cover or Half-sheet.

6th May, 1840. One penny, black.  
Twopence, blue, light to very dark shades.

##### B. Form, Envelope.

6th May, 1840. One penny, black.  
Twopence, blue, light to very dark shades.

\* *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 395.

A reference list of Caricatures of the Mulready  
will be found in  
Lumber-Post.

also The Philatelic Record. 1885. by  
+ (best) Gibbons Monthly Journal. 1891. by E. B. Snow

Caricatures of the Kensington Lublee envelope  
July 1890. ✓ notice thereon. J. Post. No. August. 1890.

Ingoldby Legends. A row in an Omnibus (Box).  
A legend of the Haymarket.

\*\*\*

The Manager rings,  
And the Prompter springs

Row

To his side in a jiffy, and with him he brings  
A set of those odd looking envelope things,  
Where B returns (who seems to be crucified.) flings,  
To her right & her left, funny people with wings  
Amongst Elephants Quakers and Catabaw Kings;  
And a taper and wax

And small Queens heads in packs,

Which when notes are too big, year to stick on their backs.

Dot-drum the Manager sealed with care

The letters & copies had written so fair,

and sat himself down with a satisfied air:

Without delay

He sent them away.

In time to appear in 'our columns' next day!

\*\*\*

as furnished to Mr W. by Mr Peacock.  
 Embossing dies in use at Somerset House. Decr 1880.

|               |       |      |
|---------------|-------|------|
| 2d. Die No 1. | 1/2   | 409. |
| 3d. " " 6.    | 1 1/2 | 1.   |
| 4d. " " 2.    |       |      |
| 6d. " " 2.    | 2 1/2 | 1.   |

In use September, 1883.

|                                  |       |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 2 <sup>d</sup> . Dies Nos 3 & 5. | 1/2   | Dies Nos 10 & 11. |
| 3 <sup>d</sup> . " " 6.          | 1 1/2 | 1.                |
| 4 <sup>d</sup> . " " 4.          | 2 1/2 | 1.                |
| 6 <sup>d</sup> . " " 2.          |       |                   |



106



107

In use April 1894. as in Monthly Journal

|                   |                   |  |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1 1/2 d. do 5.    | in Oct 1895. - 5. | as per Engraver's English Spelling Journal p 2 |
| 2d. " " 7.        |                   |  |
| 2 1/2 " " 2.      |                   |  |
| 3d. " " 7         | was               | 7. W. W.                                       |
| 4d. " " ?         |                   | 2. W. W.                                       |
| 6d. " " 29.       |                   | 3 1/2 unstruck                                 |
| 1s. " " 14        |                   | 14. W. W.                                      |
| 10d. " " unstruck |                   | 7. W. W.                                       |

as per Engraver's  
 English Spelling  
 Journal p 2  
 & dots in the  
 margin?



## SECTION II.

### *ENVELOPES AND PAPER WITH EMBOSSED STAMPS.*

SOLD BY THE POST-OFFICE TO THE PUBLIC.

- (1) THE ONE PENNY ENVELOPE . issued 29th January, 1841.
- (2) THE TWO PENCE " . " April, 1841.
- (3) THE ONE PENNY HALF-SHEET . " March, 1844.

Previously to the introduction of the new system, which substituted a charge by weight for that by sheet, such things as envelopes were scarcely known beyond the limits of official departments, and the occasional use of them by those who possessed the privilege of franking. Gum was an article seldom heard of except in connection with pharmacy, for wafers and wax were the recognized means of closing letters so far as that was practicable, and were the regular appliances as well of the commercial desk as of the library table. But when it was permitted to enclose a letter in a cover without incurring the penalty of double postage, the facilities afforded by the use of envelopes and the privacy secured by enclosing correspondence in them soon produced their effects, and envelopes made their way into public favour so rapidly, that stationer after stationer set up workshops for the manufacture of them. Many stationers had patterns of their own, and registered their designs; in short a new trade was created, which gave employment to hundreds of young people of both sexes. At first ornamental adhesive seals and enamelled wafers were commonly used for securing the flaps, but the greatest improvement was the lengthening of the upper flap and the gumming its extremity. From this period

the sealing-wax trade began to suffer most perceptibly, and is possibly the only one which may be said to have been ruined by the introduction of the penny postage.

When it became evident that the "Mulready" envelopes had failed to secure the approval of the public, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Francis Baring, assisted by Sir Rowland Hill, occupied themselves, towards the close of the year 1840, in devising some other kind of envelope which should take their place. It has been previously mentioned that the Lords of the Treasury, by their Minute of 26th December, 1839, had directed the preparation of the necessary stamps for the purpose of being struck on paper which the public might send to the Stamp-office for that purpose. This decision was now modified, and "My Lords" came to the determination of applying the stamp to envelopes to be made from "Dickinson" paper, manufactured in a manner similar to that employed for the "Mulready" covers and envelopes.\*

The die which had been ordered to be constructed was the joint work of two artists. The engraving of the head of Her Majesty on ~~a~~ steel die had been entrusted to Mr. William Wyon, and was a reduced copy of the obverse of his City medal, which had also served as a model for the design of the one penny adhesive stamp. The matrix prepared by Mr. Wyon, from which the punches for producing the head on all the embossing dies, both of the one penny and of all the values, have subsequently been constructed, showed the head of Her Majesty with a plain tress of hair only. In the dies for the several values the arrangement of the hair was varied by the addition of pendent curls of different designs.

The die therefore, as it left the hands of Mr. Wyon, consisted of a reproduction of the head on a plain ground, without any pendent curls, which were subsequently added.

\* For some years it seems to have been considered that the franking power of an envelope was centred in the embossed stamp, and we have seen letters passed free through the post with an embossed stamp affixed to them that had been cut from an envelope. This practice is now, however, declared to be illegal by Act 33 and 34 Vict., c. 79, s. 19.

Secretary's Specimen Book No 1. at Somerset House.

Impressions of movable types, with a figure or figures narrow respectively, intended to be used as parts of the stamps or dies for denoting various postage stamp duties, the <sup>2</sup> types to denote the respective dates of the impressions to be made with such stamps or dies. ~~of~~ Reg<sup>d</sup>. on 27 Decr 1855

<sup>circles</sup> small punch relief. many. ~~was~~ to be used as recd by Edmund Hill,

Melbyre died Aug<sup>r</sup> 1850.

Maccochony 5 1<sup>st</sup> dies + 1 of 2<sup>d</sup>? 86. 87. 88. 90. 91.  
drilled 9.10.55

P. also. 94. 95. 96. 100. 101. 103 reg<sup>d</sup> 12. 11. 55

102. cracked given out to spec. 25. 5-59  
withdren. 27. 3. 60.

C. Davies, Sherborn. 520. Kings' Road, Chelsea. S.W

**Note.**—The seal device used for the two larger sizes measured 15 mm. in diameter; that used for the small size, 12 mm. Working dies up to 87 appear to have been in use up to September, 1866, as specimens are found of the use of this die both in this issue and the next; but little or no dependence can be placed on the numbers on the undated dies as showing that a die was in use at a particular date. When required for service, they were given out indiscriminately, and while some were not used, others remained in use as long as they were fit for service, and were then repaired or broken up. For these reasons it is considered that it would serve no useful purpose to give the dates when the several dies of the one penny were registered. It may be remarked that the stamping was at first done by striking, and the destruction of the dies was then much more rapid than in the machines subsequently constructed under the direction of Mr. Edwin Hill.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Dies 1. Registered 20.1.41  
 2. — " — " — "  
 3. — " — " — "  
 4 . . . . . 27.1.41.

1<sup>st</sup> Dies issued see Circo no 3. "Jan'y 1861"  
 Specimens issued GP nos 322 Feb'y.  
 Supplied furnished by S. O GP O. 29 Jan'y.  
 Issued to public at S. O of San Poly O only. 10 Feb'y. 41  
 limited exclusively. To all offices later.

W.W. followed the no of the die. up to 155 inclusive

156 is without these initials. in use Mar 28. 71.  
 + ? before.



108



109

Round this solid ground was added a border or framing in mechanical engraving, executed by other hands, the design of which also varied in the several values.

1. THE ONE PENNY.

Date of Issue, 29th January, 1841.

DESIGN.—The design consisted of a diademed bust of Queen Victoria to the left in white relief on a solid oval ground of colour enclosed within an oval border, on the solid ground of which is a reticulated pattern in white relief, so disposed as to show the inscription POSTAGE ONE PENNY in sunken block letters. At the base of the bust are the initials of the engraver, w. w., in minute letters in relief, preceded by a numeral denoting the number of the working die. The stamp measures 23 by 27 mm.



DIE I., 1841-1866.—The tress of the back hair of Her Majesty approached near the interior line of the oval frame, and was furnished with a pendent snake-like curl; the reticulated pattern on the frame was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. wide.

This die, which we designate Die I to distinguish it from Die II constructed in 1866, was the joint work of Mr. William Wyon, who struck the head upon it and engraved the pendent curl, and of Mr. Deacon, then in the employ of the late Mr. Charles Whiting, of Beaufort House, Strand, London, who designed and executed the oval framework.\*



1855. An alteration was made in the die in September, 1855, by drilling holes in the network of the lower part of the border for the insertion of the date plugs.

\* Although the original or mother die was produced in the manner above mentioned, yet the working dies used in the embossing presses by the Inland Revenue Department were constructed by Mr. Wyon at the

DIE II, 1866, *et seq.*—A new die was constructed in 1866, the head being still struck from that originally engraved by Mr. W. Wyon; but the addition of <sup>with</sup> the pendent curl and ~~the~~ oval framing, with its reticulated ornamentation, <sup>which</sup> was the work of Messrs. De La Rue and Co. This die is readily distinguishable from Die I, not only by the different pattern of the curl, but by the mechanical engraving of the border, which is 3 millimètres wide, and is ~~very~~ poorly executed in comparison with that on Die I. Greater space is given between the back of the head and the interior line of the frame, which is no doubt an improvement. The initials of ~~Mr~~ <sup>W.</sup> Wyon still appeared on the base of the bust; but ~~since~~ <sup>as the case is</sup> the year 1872 they have been omitted, and the index number only retained.\* Working dies from Die II seem to have been brought into use about October, 1866; the first index number that ~~has been found by us~~ <sup>was used</sup> is 140. —



PAPER, 1841 to 1855.—The paper was manufactured specially for the purpose by Mr. Dickinson, and was somewhat similar to that used for the "Mulready" envelopes and covers. Ordinarily two parallel silk threads only are to be found, one blue and the

Mint up to the time of his death, in 1851, and also for some time after by his son, Mr. Leonard Wyon. Consequent on the changes made in the administration of the Mint in 1852, a considerable portion of the work, consisting of the repairs of the working dies and the construction of new ones, was transferred to Mr. Warren De La Rue, F.R.S., engraver to the Board of Inland Revenue; and at present the whole of the work is done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. under his superintendence.

Each die from the first has been marked with an index number. Those in use at Somerset House are kept under the care of a special officer, who issues them daily to the stampers according to the requirements of the work in hand. These numbers, which are found at the base of the bust, do not, therefore, offer any certain or reliable test as to the date when the impression was struck, as the dies remain in use as long as they continue fit for service, a fact which will be readily appreciated by examining these numbers in connection with the date dies after they were introduced.

They had punches at S. A. 6 mint  
 that were not  
 the matrix did  
 all holes were  
 punched at S. House.

Page 174. At the end of paragraph "Die II., 1866, et seq." add:

DIE II., NEW SERIES. Early in the year 1881 an alteration was made in the envelopes of one penny, which up to that time, though manufactured at the establishment of Messrs. De La Rue and Co., were stamped at Somerset House. It was arranged that those made for sale by the Post-offices should for the future be stamped at the establishment of Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and that the stamping at Somerset House should be confined to the paper brought in by the public. Thirty-six new dies were accordingly constructed for the purpose of stamping the envelopes made for the Post-office, in which the truth of the observation in the note at the foot of p. 176 appears to have at length dawned on the authorities, as date-plugs were not introduced into the new dies. In all other respects the type is identical with that of Die II.; and it must be admitted that the alteration restoring the stamp to its original state before it was disfigured by the insertion of the date-plugs, except in the quality of the engraving of the border, is a great improvement. It would be difficult to find a better specimen of an embossed envelope than that afforded by the present issue of the "Court" or square-shaped envelopes, in which, from the thickness and superior quality of the paper, combined with the highly-glazed surface, the stamp presents the appearance of a cameo.

The first batch of the new dies was registered on the 12th June, 1881, and the issue to the public was made on the 1st July following. The striking from some of the dies, however, took place somewhat earlier, as the records show that it commenced on the 28th March, 1881, from Dies 1 to 6; on the 4th April, from Dies 7 to 11; on the 5th April, from Die 12; on the 1st July, from Dies 13 to 21; on the 12th July, from Dies 22 to 30; and on the 16th August, from Dies 31 to 36.

The stamping of envelopes at Somerset House for the use of the Post-office with dated dies ceased on the 13th May, 1881, Die No. 228 being the highest number then in use. The dated dies still continue to be used for stamping paper brought in by the public.

The thirty-six new dies bore the index numbers of 1 to 36 on the base of the bust, but in the dies since constructed these numbers have been suppressed. The numbers seem also to have been omitted on some one or more of the dated dies, as we have found an example of the omission on a square-sized envelope dated as early as February, 1879; and examples on other sized envelopes have fallen under our notice dated subsequently to that time. The omission in these cases may probably have been an accidental one on the part of the engraver; but at the present time it is intentional, and marks a new point of departure in the history of these stamps.

Initials punched on the working dies, in all cases at Somerset House except in the 2d. where they appear on the matrices, & of course on the working dies taken from it.

All index nos. invariably punched at S. H.

Letters - "S. H." began striking with 9 March 1879 (February)

In 1879, the square size,  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{11}{16}$  inches envelope

were struck from dies bearing no index number whatever,

though in the succeeding month of May & also in the year

1880, copies with the index numbers are to be found.

clearly showing a concurrent use of dies with & without

these numbers.

Major Swan's specimens

Envelopes. 1<sup>o</sup>. surcharged [Specimen] in red.

- (a).  $\frac{5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}}$  } large size. 1 blue thread, between 2 red, diagonally, across the flap.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  m/m long. (the surcharge) 5 high. flaps all pointed. Die. 4.
- (b). second size.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  in. same. 2 blue threads & 1 red between them not quite in the centre.
- (c). smallest size.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  in. 2 threads, blue & a grey parallel to side of blank. water lines distant from each 1 m/m. flap truncated. Die 2. [Specimen]  $5\frac{1}{2}$  m/m long by 6 high. full stop at end. (peculiar. This is same imprint as to be found on 2<sup>o</sup>.)

The colours of the threads often turned: by the chlorine used in paper making not been thoroughly washed out. Hence it thus acted.

see letter by Mr Washby 1. Monthly Journal. June 1891.  
very full of inform<sup>n</sup> & important

Dickinson paper: even special make private. narrow black border. Nov 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>.  
see 6.8.91. (Hull). ? struck 1857.



other orange-red, and the envelope was so cut from the paper that when it was folded the pair of silk threads crossed the face diagonally in the right upper corner, it being intended that the stamp should be impressed over the threads, though many specimens are found where the stamp is impressed either above or below them. We have not considered these as constituting varieties, as they are simply accidents due to the irregular cutting of the blanks for the envelopes.

A further list of pseudo-varieties might be made by selecting examples where the paper-maker has inserted two blue or two orange threads instead of the bicoloured pair, or where he has added an extra thread and inserted three. Those who are curious in such matters may find these errors fully enumerated in *Le Timbre Poste* for July, 1868, but they do not appear to us to call for more than this passing notice. (See *addenda*.)

The colour of the paper was that known as cream-coloured, and it was glazed on one side only. No change was made in the colour during the whole period that the "Dickinson" paper was in use, except that it gradually became whiter in tone, and it is possibly owing to this that it is almost uniformly described as being white, whereas the colour at the commencement of the issue was full cream-colour. Varieties have been catalogued as being of "pale straw" and "yellow tinted" paper as distinct from the cream-coloured paper, but there is not the slightest foundation for making such varieties, as the additional depth of tone is solely due to adventitious causes, partly arising from variations in the process of the manufacture, and partly from atmospheric influences. These causes acted somewhat capriciously, for envelopes of different tones of colour are found which were not only in circulation at the same time, but were manufactured at the same period, and do not therefore serve to mark any epoch in the history of the envelopes.

1855 *et seq.*—After an experience of fourteen years the authorities determined to abandon the use of the "Dickinson" paper, and to follow the system adopted in the case of other stamps embossed by the Inland Revenue Department, of inserting

4  $\frac{5}{8}$  x 2  $\frac{7}{8}$

in the working dies moveable date plugs, showing when the stamp was struck.\* To give full effect to this, powers were obtained from Parliament by the Act 18 and 19 Vict. c. 78, more particularly referred to hereafter, authorising the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to stamp paper brought in by the public for that purpose, under certain regulations to be approved of by the Lords of the Treasury. At the time this change commenced to be carried into effect (September, 1855) there were three sizes of the envelopes then current—the smallest size of 4 by 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the intermediate one of 4  $\frac{1}{4}$  by 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the largest size of 5  $\frac{1}{4}$  by 3  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches. White laid paper was selected for the two smaller sizes, and azure wove for the larger size. Although the sale of envelopes made from the plain paper continued for a short time concurrently with the disposal of the remainder of the stock on "Dickinson" paper, yet we do not find that any were issued made from this latter paper stamped with a dated die, except some few copies of the smallest size in the year 1860, which were doubtless remnants of the unstamped blanks cut for this sized envelope remaining in the Office, and were stamped by the Inland Revenue Department more with the object of getting rid of old stock than with a view of puzzling collectors of stamps. These last envelopes were all stamped with the die bearing the index number 95, and were dated in April and May, 1860.

96

FORM, 1841 to 1852.—Previously to the envelopes being stamped with the embossing die, it was requisite that they should be cut into shapes or "blanks." The form chiefly current at the period of the introduction of these envelopes was similar to that of the "Mulready," the blanks being cut in a plain lozenge shape, the angle flaps when turned down meeting nearly in a point, and leaving the overlapping margins very narrow. The cutting of the blanks was done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. on their premises, the "Dickinson" paper being handed to them

\* What might be the reason for using these dated dies for Postage Envelopes we are unable to state. A date die impressed on a document is quite a different thing.

{ See Addenda. }  
p. 382.

monthly journal. 1891 by Jeff.  
& especially Mr. Vestberg's letter. p. 288.

Die I. continued to No 115.

(intermediate set. Nos 116-139 - short).

Die II. Began with 110. reg<sup>d</sup> 10.8.64. <sup>+141+142.</sup>

87x 149 up to Die 155 <sup>reg<sup>d</sup> 17.1.65</sup> inclusive. Nos followed by W.W.

Die 156. W.W. left out. reg<sup>d</sup> 16.11.67.


this series goes on to 228. except. 157.  
with numbers only in neck.

- 159
- 160.
- 162
- 165.
- 168 to 179.
- 199
- 200.
- 206 to 208
- 210.

see a full list, corrected to Aug 90  
on p. 148.

- Rep: of 1870 Common

The Dickinson paper was necessarily of a quality inferior to that  
in general use - & in 2nd place, we were prevented from allowing the public  
to find in their own set of such signs & forms & equal as an ought see them  
not to be stamped. It was as therefore decided in 1855. Use the use of  
treated paper will be discontinued

Die I. 111 x 71 mm: knife differing. No 77 die  
to seal. tongued flap. J. Pass was 1893. p 28. 

Die 198, Sept 79 has a white spot in ground. bright  
of curl.

Page 177, after line 13 from top. At some period which it is impossible accurately to determine, except that it occurred some time between the issue of the twopenny envelope in April, 1841, and that of the smallest size of the one penny envelope in June or July of the same year, a slight modification was made in the form of the blanks. The extremity of the right side flap was truncated or cut off perpendicularly to facilitate the operation of gumming down the lower flap on to the two side ones, which at that period were only gummed at the point of junction. We have been unable to find any specimen of the smallest size of the one penny envelope so truncated even among those which were issued marked "SPECIMEN," and therefore conclude, not only from this circumstance, but from the examination of a considerable number of used specimens of the two larger sizes, that this modification in the shape took place about May, 1841.

A further alteration was also made a short time subsequently to the one above noted. At first the blanks of the embossed envelopes were cut from sheets, in which we find much more regularity in the disposition of the lines of silk threads than was subsequently observed. The threads, composed of one blue between two red, traversed the sheet at regular intervals of about six inches, and by cutting the blanks in such a manner that the lines of silk threads crossed one of the end flaps at right angles to one of the sides of the diamond-shaped blank, the other end flap in the larger-sized envelopes was traversed by the next set of threads. The consequence of this mode of cutting the blanks was that at times the threads, as in the Mulready envelopes, which were cut in the same way, did not appear on the face, or only just at one corner. A change was subsequently made in cutting the blanks from the sheets, whereby the silk threads ran parallel to that side of the blank which, when it was doubled to form the envelope, showed the lines of silk thread crossing diagonally the corner where the stamp was intended to be struck. We have examined several specimens of the one penny and two penny envelopes with truncated side flaps, and with the silk lines running at right angles to the side of the blank, but they seem to be so intermingled with those where the blanks were cut with the lines parallel to one of the sides, that we are unable to fix any positive date as to when the change was made, but it probably occurred about the end of 1841.

Page 24, line 9 from the top. "So truncated" is a mistake for "otherwise than so truncated," as is evident from the context.

Same page, line 17 from top. For "The threads, composed of one blue between two red," &c., read "The threads, composed of one pink between two blue," &c. We have found specimens in which the set of threads is composed of one blue between two red, as in the paper for the Mulready envelopes, pointing to the supposition that some of that paper may have been employed; but such specimens are rare. The date given at the end of the paragraph as the probable one when the change was made in the mode of cutting the blanks, instead of being the end of 1841, should be "prior to the 1st July, 1841."

With respect to the paper brought into use when the blanks were cut with the threads running parallel to one of the edges, the specimens show that the threads were ordinarily two in number, of which one was blue and the other what was probably originally light pink, but is now almost white. There are frequently traces of other threads, like water-lines, running parallel with these threads, and occasionally broken threads; but this paper, employed down to 1855, does not appear to have been made with the same care and accuracy as was shown in the earlier period, when the three threads were inserted. Instances are also found where there are three red threads, and others where there are two blue ones, pointing to the supposition that some of the paper prepared for the Mulready covers may also have been used for these envelopes.

Edwin Hill appointed in 1840. resigned 1872. age 78.  
Awarded by Queen Victoria in return for his services  
rendered by means of great ability. 18.6.72.

otherwise than /s

blue /s

2

what's left  
worked

made in 1868

was in 1868

see 5/1000

for that purpose. The sheets were first of all milled by passing them over rollers to make the outside smooth and glossy, the reams were then cut by a machine into strips of the proper breadth, which were again cut obliquely, so as to form lozenges. Another machine cut out the angular points of folding. The blanks were then sent to Somerset House to receive the embossed stamp, and returned to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. to be folded and made up.

*a variety, smaller, 128 x 83 or 5 1/8 x 3 1/4*

Two sizes were at first issued; viz.,

1. The large size, measuring  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or 133 by 86<sup>27</sup> millimètres.

2. The smaller size, measuring  $4\frac{5}{8}$  by  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches, or 119 by 71 millimètres.

*46 62 67 modern  
117 x 67 not found so large as text.*

In July, 1841, another size was added—

3. The smallest size, measuring 4 by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or 101 by 63<sup>4</sup> millimètres.

*101.*

These were the normal sizes, but many variations are found, due to the irregularity in the folding, which, up to the year 1845, was done entirely by hand. Thus we find the second size varying from 2 to 3 millimètres, more or less, in length and breadth, and the other sizes 1 millimètre, more or less, in length and breadth, from the normal sizes.

*Superf. came  
120 x 70. or ?  
4 3/4 x 2 3/4 }*

As early as the year 1840 Mr. Edwin Hill constructed a model of a machine for folding envelopes, an invention for which he took out a patent. In carrying out the details he was assisted by the advice of Mr. Warren De La Rue, who ultimately purchased the patent, and the first machines were set to work on the premises of Messrs. De La Rue and Co. about the year 1845. By these machines the blanks were folded into envelopes of the several dimensions, all of an uniform size, at the rate of 2,000 per hour. They were afterwards gummed by hand, and made up into packets of twenty-four, after which they were returned to Somerset House. They were sold by the Post-office at the rate of 2s. 3d. per packet, or at 1½d. by single envelope.

*1843. E. Hill  
got fly + some  
most work*

Further and important improvements were made by Mr. Warren De La Rue in the envelope folding machine, which

gradually led up to the perfecting of it, as exhibited by him at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Placed in the nave of the building, it was always surrounded by a crowd of visitors interested in watching the ease and rapidity with which it went through its automatic performances. The blanks being supplied to the folding machine, were carried by it, one at a time, into a box where a plunger made four creases in it; two short levers then folded down the two end flaps thus made; a gumming apparatus then came up administering a line of wet gum to each flap edge, two other levers folded down the other two flaps, but only fastening one of them, and finally the envelope was drawn aside by mechanical fingers armed with caoutchouc to make way for another. The whole operation of the folding was completed in one second, thus enabling the machine to turn out 3,600 envelopes per hour, all folded with mechanical exactitude, and securely gummed.

1852 to 1873.—The form of the blanks used in the new folding machine, which not only folded them, but gummed the lower and two side flaps together, differed from the lozenge-shaped blanks hitherto used. The side flaps were cut higher, and shaped, and the upper flap was lengthened and made tongue-shaped. This alteration in the form was now carried out in the blanks prepared for the Inland Revenue Department, but the sizes originally adopted were substantially adhered to. The upper flap was also gummed, and a circular device, consisting of the national heraldic emblems in white relief on a pink ground of a similar shade of colour to that of the postage stamp, was embossed upon it.\*

\* The gumming of the upper flap, and the impression of the device upon it, so long as it continued to be affixed, was done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. previously to the blanks being sent to Somerset House to be stamped with the embossed postage stamp. Before being forwarded to Somerset House for this purpose they were sorted over under the inspection of an officer of the Inland Revenue Department, and any that were imperfect or soiled were rigidly rejected and thrown aside. So long as "Dickinson" paper was employed these rejected blanks were destroyed, but when ordinary paper was substituted, those which had a device embossed

June 19  
91.

My dear Mr. Smith

I have completed a  
letter on the I of the 1<sup>st</sup> Envelope  
which I have sent to Evans

I have already told you  
that the list of 18. 1. 42

includes 11. 12. 14. 21. 22. 23

31. 33. 34. 43 57, 53. You

know all the rest up to 91.

101 and 102 were by 9. 10. 53

94. 95. 96 100 and 103 on 12. 11. 53.

The rest 104 to 115 except 107

which was spoiled in the

handwriting and dated 30. 4. 62

were by 13. 5. 62.

LETTER AND POST CARDS. I. 1. 1. 62

The POSTMASTER GENERAL, in answer to Mr. HENNIKER HEATON, said the price of the new letter cards was 12s. 4d. per 1000, which amounted to 61s. 13s. 4d. per million. There was a prospect that lower terms might shortly be arranged. The dimensions of the inland post card had been the same from the time of its introduction in 1870, and might be considered to afford a reasonable amount of space for a written communication at half the ordinary rate of letter postage. The inland cards in use abroad were of somewhat larger size. The new card for transmission abroad, which had just come into use in this country, was of a size midway between the card it replaced and the inland card.

Two copies of  
Evans Dec 1897.

I think we have now got all  
that can be known about  
Sir I.

I should not have been  
able to know for this except  
through Peacock who seems  
to have some means  
independent of the street,  
for he says he has no record  
of the 2<sup>d</sup> registration of  
the Dilled Decr, 9. 10. 55 which  
you saw. -

I hope that this warm  
weather will have quite set you  
up again. It is something to

43 and 44, Lombard-street, London, E.C.  
Have instituted an entirely new plan,  
The Mutual Advantages System.  
The Mutual Advantages System.  
Two-fold Chances for all clients.  
Two-fold Chances for all clients.  
Send for explanatory Circular  
Send for our very latest advices.  
You can invest large or small sums  
To the greatest advantage on our System.  
You cannot obtain these advantages elsewhere.  
OSBORNE and Co., as above.

**P**ERSONS wishing to make QUICK PROFITS by  
transactions in STOCKS and SHARES, whereby 5%  
and upwards can constantly be doubled, should study  
the system of quick operations on small covers in-  
augurated by H. B. SMITH in 1885, the popularity of  
which is evidenced by the crowds of clients who  
through his offices. No further risk. Handsomely  
furnished rooms for convenience of clients. H. B.



One Penny Envelope Embossed Dies, Ty I

Registered

under 3 s.d. s.c. c. 96

Apr 1. 2. 3

(1 blue between 2 red threads) serial

20. 1. 42.

146 147

9 in Sherton box

27. 1. 42.

4-17

Dates not registered in the book

Red with missing

11-21, 28, 34.

13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.

20

21, 22, 23

24-30 31-37 35-42.

18. 1. 42.

31, 34, 38

12 dies (missing pieces on 48 - 50 for present being 91)

45. (46) (47)

all missing and illegible

51, 58 (illegible)

13 dies in D7th Street III

2, 71, 72

54-56

13 dies

44-9. 42.

67-78 79

12 dies

5. 9. 46.

80-91

in plain paper 3.

5. 50.

5 dies of 1. & 1 of 2 prepared for dates, plays blank. No. 9 10 58

101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115

5 dies of 1. & 2 for play plan.

12. 11. 55.

104-5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15.

11 dies. Book

13. 5. 62.

115. Last working die of Ty I. 116-129. not made. last of serial (reworked) by J. Galt.

Type II. Cunt altered.

140-2.

(9 new dies)

10. 5. 64.

145-7.

149-150.

(10 . . .)

17. 1. 65.

156. 8. & 161-3. 4-6. 7-156 & 180. 7

(2 illegible, repeated) (16 dies)

16. 11. 67.

187-198

found play (12 - dies)

13. 5. 74.

201-3.

207-9.

(6 . . .)

1. 8. 77.

211 & 216.

(6 . . .)

28. 9. 77.

217 & 228.

(12 . . .)

2. 4. 79.

Change Dies. Dates left out. - new numbering. - striking.

1. 2. 3.

Shuck - Book 12. 5. 81.

20. 3. 81.

4. 5. 6.

10. 5. 81.

152. 4. 81.

7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12.

14. 6. 81.

12. 5. 4. 81.

13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21.

26. 7. 81.

1. 7. 81.

22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29.

24. 8. 81.

11. 3. 10. 11. 7. 81.

30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36.

16. 9. 81.

11. 3. 16. 14. 81.

Change. Both sides too & w.w. omitted & date.

27 to 54 - (18 dies) 13. 7. 82.

old numbering resumed in Register Book from 228.

numbers as case & exactly as in the fac.

229-246 - (18 dies) 9. 8. 83.

247 to 264. (18 dies) 6. 3. 89.

See letter by Mr Westoby Alfred Smith's Circular Jan'y 1891.

No regular piece of Ty I.

5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19.

(? 2 dies etc.)

20-28 30-32-33-35 & 42. 46 & 50

but show 44

Ty II. not used.

92-97-97 & 99-107 102. 4. 87.

103. 4. 8. - 104. 2. 8. - 204 & 6 - 210.

157-159. 160. 168. 165 & 6 & 179.

I think we have now got all  
that can be known about  
Dr I.

I should not have been  
able to know for this except  
through Peacock who seems  
to have some means  
independent of the streets,  
for he says he has no record  
of his or registration of  
his Dilled ones, 9. 10. 55 which  
you saw.

I hope that this warm  
weather will have quite set you  
safe again. It is something to

43 and 44, Lombard-street, London, E.C.  
Have instituted an entirely new plan,  
The Mutual Advantages System.  
The Mutual Advantages System.  
Two-fold Chances for all clients.  
Two-fold Chances for all clients.  
Send for explanatory Circular.  
Send for our very latest advices.  
You can invest large or small sums  
To the greatest advantage on our System.  
You cannot obtain these advantages elsewhere.  
OsBORN and Co., as above.

**P**ERSONS wishing to make **QUICK PROFITS** by  
transactions in **STOCKS** and **SHARES**, whereby 5%  
and upwards can constantly be doubled, should study  
the system of quick operations on small covers in-  
augerated by H. B. SMITH in 1885, the popularity of  
which is evidenced by the crowds of clients who  
through his offices. No further risk. Handsomely  
furnished rooms for convenience of clients. H. B.

Red means does not form reg<sup>d</sup> at 5. House.

One Piece Envelopes Embossed Dies, T.I

Registered

under 3 + 4. Vic. c. 96

all as Dickman paper same as others shown noted.

Nov. 1. 2. 3 (1 blue between 2 red threads) noted

20. 1. 41.

9 in Chertown box

27. 1. 41.

5-10. Dies not registered in J. H. Wood.

Red ink missing

11-22. 23.

13. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

in 5<sup>th</sup> (Granted)

21. 22. 23.

24-30 32-35. 35-42.

31. 32. 33.

12 dies (missing these as 18. 1. 42.)

43. 44. 45.

46-50 (at least missing many 91)

51. 52. 53. (illegible)

all missing

in 72. the no. are upside down?

54-56.

13 dies on D<sup>th</sup> the third III

14. 9. 48.

67-78 79

13 dies

5. 9. 46.

80-91.

12 dies on plain paper 3.

5. 50.

5 dies of 1<sup>st</sup> + 1 of 2<sup>nd</sup> prepared for dates, plays, places. R<sup>o</sup> 9 10. 58

The 5 of 1<sup>st</sup> was (red) 86. 87. 88. 90. 91. 3

104-105. 100. 101. 102. 103 - 5 dies of 1<sup>st</sup> in flyplain - 12. 11. 55.

104-5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. - 11 dies. Book 13. 5. 62

115. Last working die of T<sup>y</sup> I. 116-119. not made. but spoils (ruined) by being kept.

Type II. Curt altered.

140-2. (3 new dies) 10. 8. 64.

145-7. 149-155. (10 - ). W.W 17. 1. 65.

156. 8 + 16 - 3. 4 - 6. 7. 180 + 180. 7 (14 dies) 16. 11. 67.

187-198 - final fly (12 - dies). 13. 5. 74.

201-3. 207-9. (6 - . 1. 1. 8. 77.

214 + 216. (6. . . 1. 28. 9. 77.

217 + 228 (12. . . 1. 2. 4. 79.

Change Dies. Dates left out. - new numbering. striking.

1. 2. 3. Shuck B-d 12. 5. 81. } 28. 3. 81.

4. 5. 6. 10. 5. 81. } 150. 4. 81.

7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 14. 6. 81. } 12. 5. 4. 81.

13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 26. 7. 81. } 1. 7. 81.

22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 24. 8. 81. } 25. 10. 11. 7. 81.

30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 16. 9. 81. } 31. 5. 16. 8. 81.

Change. Both J. H. Wood Key & W.W. omitted + dates.

37 + 54 - 18 dies - 13. 7. 82.

old numbering resumed in Register Book from 228.

229 - 246 - (18 dies) 9. 8. 83.

247 + 264. (18 dies) 6. 3. 84.

See letter by Mr. Westby Alfred Smith's Circular Jan'y 1891.

No register piece of T<sup>y</sup> I. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 25 + 30 - 32. 33. 35 + 42. 45 + 50 One shown 44

T<sup>y</sup> II. not made. 92-93-97 + 99-109 102. 4. 83/2

143. 4. 8. - 149. 200 - 204 + 6 - 210. -

157. 159. 160. 168. 165 + 8 + 179.



**I**N the early part of the year 1879, this Circular published some remarks on the microscopic figures on the then current stamps, and first publicly directed the attention of philatelists to them. The subject was fully gone into in the *Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, by Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby, published in 1881, and now the presence of the small numbers on the dies of the envelopes has been examined in the *Jubilee Catalogue of the Stamps of the United Kingdom* by Mr. Westoby, which has just been published. We are all aware that there are two dies or types of the head on the one penny envelopes, the first of which lasted from 1841 to about 1865, in which the head of the Queen has a wavy curl at the back, and in the second this is more bushy. Mr. Westoby has given the index numbers of the dies employed in the latter of these types, but not those made use of in the first. In the following letter he explains all that is known or is likely to be known with regard to these, and we therefore publish it for the benefit of those who may be interested in the study of them.

"To the Editor of Alfred Smith & Co.'s Monthly Circular.

Dear Sir—Will you kindly allow me to explain the reasons why in my *Jubilee Catalogue of the Stamps of the United Kingdom*, I did not particularise the

able number is therefore probably 44.<sup>50</sup> Thirteen numbered 54 to 66 were registered 14.9.43, 12 more 67 to 79 on 5.9.46, and 12 more, 80 to 91 on 3.5.50. When the dates on the dies were introduced for the issue of September 1855, five of this last batch were drilled for date plugs and were re-registered 55 (after the use of dated stamps began) but their numbers are indecipherable. From envelopes of this period, which either I or Mr. Philbrick have seen, the numbers appear to have been 86, 87, 88, 90 and 91. The next batch consisted of six dies numbered 96, 100, 101 and 103, and these were registered 55. I have a note of having seen an envelope of laid paper with tongue-shaped flap and seal, with the date 10.1.60 from die 102, showing a crack in the die, but either this die was not registered, or another has been made in the figures by myself or in the figures of those registered at Somerset House. Dies 104 to 115 with the exception of 107 were registered

1.1.50  
54 die no  
55



working dies of Die I. in the same manner as I did those of Die II. My principal reason is, that it was impossible to do it in a satisfactory manner, and therefore I did not attempt it. Still, as it may be of service to know how the difficulty arises, I am constrained to offer what I have learnt through the kindness of the 'authorities' and especially from notes given to me by the President of the Philatelic Society.

The last of the working dies of Die I. as stated in the catalogue, bears the index number of 115, while the first working die of Die II. was registered in August, 1864. We have therefore to deal with 115 numbers extending over a period of about 24 years.

In registering the dies of envelopes, an impression from each die to be registered is struck on a sheet of paper on which the *imprimatur* of the Commissioners is written in the form set forth in the *Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, page 95, and it is now very difficult and in some cases, one might say, impossible to decipher the index numbers on these impressions. From internal evidence also, it appears to be very doubtful whether in the early days of the striking, the dies were always registered before the striking from them began. The mode of stamping originally adopted was by a heavy weight falling on the die, which was found to be not only very noisy, but very destructive of the dies and it appears probable that during the first two years many dies either gave way at once or were discarded before registration. On any other hypotheses it appears difficult to account for the irregularities in the numbers.

Dies 1, 2, and 3 were registered 20.1.41, and die 4 on 27.1.41. The registration of no other dies during 1841 is to be found; but on 18.1.42 twelve dies were registered consisting of 11 to 14, 21 and 28, 31 and 34, 43, 45 and one other, the number of which is indecipherable, but as Mr. Philbrick has found an impression from die 44 on a half sheet of "Dickinson" paper the issue of which dates from March 1844, the indecipher-



and this last completed Die 1. Between 20.1.41 and 13.5.62 it appears therefore that out of 115 numbers 71 only were registered, and out of 53 numbers between 20.1.41 and 14.9.43, only 16 are accounted for.

I do not know what the experience of my fellow philatelists who have paid any attention to the numbers on the dies may be, but with the exception of impressions from dies 1 to 4, any from dies under 54 are *very* rarely to be met with. So far as I can ascertain it was in 1843 that Mr. Edwin Hill began to get the new machines on the fly and screw principle to work, and if one might venture on the dangerous ground of theory it is not improbable that the dies made for stamping by a falling weight were not adapted for the new machines and were consequently discarded. The finding of an impression from die 44 on a half sheet of "Dickinson" paper stamped in 1844 does not militate against this theory, as the machines were not probably all changed at that time.

Unfortunately, unused specimens of envelopes of the early period are rare and the soft "Dickinson" paper is not well adapted to show up the numbers, while envelopes of 1841 and 1842 are ordinarily obliterated with the Maltese-cross mark, and this most frequently falls inconveniently just over the numbers on the die.

I am, yours &c,

W. A. S. WESTOBY.

FOLKESTONE, 1st January, 1891."

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## New Issues.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The definitive stamp of  $\frac{1}{4}$  centavo has been issued







The seal device used for the two larger sizes measured 18 mm. that used for the small size, 12 mm. Working dies up to have been in use up to September, 1855, as specimens are the use of this die both in this issue and the next; but little dependence can be placed on the numbers on the undated dies as that a die was in use at a particular date. Many dies were not while others remained in use as long as they were fit for service, were then repaired or broken up. When required for service, they were sent out indiscriminately. For these reasons it was considered that to serve no useful purpose to give the dates when the several dies were registered. It may be remarked that the stamping was first done by striking, and the destruction of the dies was much rapid in these machines than in those subsequently constructed in the direction of Mr. Edwin Hill.



The device impressed on the flap was in two sizes; the smaller size, measuring 12 mm. in diameter, was applied to the envelopes of the smallest size; while the larger, measuring 15 mm. in diameter, was used for those of the two larger sizes. Of this latter, two dies, or rather two states of the die, may be noticed varying in this respect; viz., that there is ordinarily an external line of colour nearly a millimètre wide surrounding the seal, while in some instances this external line is wanting, so that the seal is smaller.



For the benefit of those who still adhered to the use of wax, or preferred to have their own device impressed upon the flap, some envelopes were issued ungummed and without the official flap device. We only know of specimens of the two smaller sizes, some of which are found with crests or other devices embossed on the flap; but these flap seals are unofficial, and constitute no real varieties. Specimens also are found in which the official device is in white relief without any colour; this is owing to the same cause as when the embossed stamp itself is in white relief; viz., by two being accidentally brought at the same time under the die charged with colour, the upper one only receiving the colour.

In the year 1860 an envelope of a new size, manufactured of white laid paper, measuring  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$  inches, or  $133 \times 76$  mm., was added to the three then in use.

1873. At the commencement of the year 1873 the form of the envelopes underwent a change. The side flaps were made on the flap were defaced by punching a hole through the centre, and were left on the contractor's hands, who from time to time, as the stock accumulated, made them up into envelopes, and sold them at a cheap rate. The fact is mentioned, as we are aware that some collectors attach a certain importance to these envelopes under the idea that they have some postal significance, but in reality they are nothing but rejected blanks. After the return of the blanks from Somerset House stamped, they were folded by the machines, and made up into packets of 24 in each, as previously mentioned. In practice they are then either returned to Somerset House to be put into stock, or are issued direct to the Postmasters on a warrant from the Inland Revenue Department.

still higher, and the upper flap cut straight to a point; but the device impressed on it was still retained. The smallest sized, ( $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches), was discontinued; but in the month of April, 1873, a new size, ordinarily called the "square size," measuring  $4\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$  inches or  $120 \times 93$  mm., was added, made of white laid paper of a superior quality, thick and highly glazed. The price of the three other sizes was reduced to 2s. 2d. per packet of twenty-four, and that of the square-sized fixed at 2s. 3d. per packet, which was subsequently raised to 2s. 4d.

1874 to 1878. At the close of the year 1874 the large-sized envelope of  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, on azure wove paper, underwent a trifling modification in shape.\* The upper flap instead of being cut to a point was rounded off, and has ever since continued to be made in this shape; but no change was made in the other three sizes.

1878 *et seq.*—At the close of the year 1878 the device of the national emblems on the upper flap of the envelope ceased to be affixed, and all envelopes have since been issued without any device whatever stamped on the flap. The sizes now in use are distinguished by the Post-office as follows:—

- |    |                |   |    |                     |        |
|----|----------------|---|----|---------------------|--------|
| A. | Size measuring | $4\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$ inches | or | $120 \times 93$ mm. | Square |
| B. | "              | $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$        | "  | $133 \times 85$ mm. |        |
| C. | "              | $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$                   | "  | $133 \times 76$ mm. |        |
| D. | "              | $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$        | "  | $120 \times 69$ mm. | 7/1    |

the A size being on thick white laid paper, the B size on azure wove, and the C and D sizes on medium white laid paper.

IMPRESSION.—The stamping of the blanks at Somerset House was at first performed by ordinary colour-embossing presses driven by steam power, the invention of Sir William Congreve, and improved under the direction of Mr. Edwin Hill. As the blow was given by a falling weight, these presses were found not only to knock the dies to pieces very speedily, but to

\* We have seen a specimen of this envelope on azure wove paper, with pointed upper flap and without the flap device, the stamp on which is dated in 1874; but the absence of the flap device is doubtless the result of an accidental omission on the part of the contractors.

$4\frac{1}{3}$  oz. shd be  $4\frac{3}{4}$

In 1881. the Commrs got De la Rue to take over  
their embossing machines for envelopes, retaining  
enough for the paper adapted to wood.

In 1890 (9 March) the Bill for S. H. for Commercial Paper was  
legislated <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>by</sup> the contractor.  
but as the result to make them.

Commercial.

In 1892 - colour more salmon than rose pink

exp 13 discontinued 2 colours.

July 1890. MP's object to envelopes, at the Commrs.  
Hullington & Co made a special set for its use - put in  
Library to be used by MP's at face value. 2 days. "S.H."

still higher, and the upper flap cut straight to a point; but the device impressed on it was still retained. The smallest sized, ( $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches), was discontinued; but in the month of April, 1873, a new size, ordinarily called the "square size," measuring  $4\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$  inches or  $120 \times 93\frac{1}{4}$  mm., was added, made of white laid paper of a superior quality, thick and highly glazed. The price of the three other sizes was reduced to 2s. 2d. per packet of twenty-four, and that of the square-sized fixed at 2s. 3d. per packet, which was subsequently raised to 2s. 4d.

1874 to 1878. At the close of the year 1874 the large-sized envelope of  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, on azure wove paper, underwent a trifling modification in shape.\* The upper flap instead of being cut to a point was rounded off, and has ever since continued to be made in this shape; but no change was made in the other three sizes.

1878 *et seq.*—At the close of the year 1878 the device of the national emblems on the upper flap of the envelope ceased to be affixed, and all envelopes have since been issued without any device whatever stamped on the flap. The sizes now in use are distinguished by the Post-office as follows:—

|    |                |   |    |                     |                 |
|----|----------------|---|----|---------------------|-----------------|
| A. | Size measuring | $4\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ inches | or | $120 \times 93$ mm. | <i>Specimen</i> |
| B. | "              | $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$        | "  | $133 \times 85$ mm. |                 |
| C. | "              | $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3$                   | "  | $133 \times 76$ mm. |                 |
| D. | "              | $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$        | "  | $120 \times 69$ mm. | <i>7/10</i>     |

the A size being on thick white laid paper, the B size on azure wove, and the C and D sizes on medium white laid paper.

IMPRESSION.—The stamping of the blanks at Somerset House was at first performed by ordinary colour-embossing presses driven by steam power, the invention of Sir William Congreve, and improved under the direction of Mr. Edwin Hill. As the blow was given by a falling weight, these presses were found not only to knock the dies to pieces very speedily, but to

\* We have seen a specimen of this envelope on azure wove paper, with pointed upper flap and without the flap device, the stamp on which is dated in 1874; but the absence of the flap device is doubtless the result of an accidental omission on the part of the contractors.



4 3/4 may. shd be 4 3/4

In 1881, the Commers got De la Rive to take over  
their embroidery machines for embroidery, returning  
enough for the labor "stabilized to work".

In 1890 (9 March) the letters "S.H." for Somerset House were  
begin slanting them  
put at the neck. to make them <sup>for here</sup> stamped by the contractor.

### Commercial.

In 1892 - colors were salmon than rose pink  
now  
age 13 discontinued 2 colors.

July 1890. MP's direct to envelopes at the Commers.  
Hillington & Co made a special set for its use - put in  
Library tools & MP's at face value. 2 types. "S.H."

die  
1. 4 has stub to left.

from ~~58~~ 55 & 58. slots omitted

59. 65 only 1 after first W. W

67 omitted

68-71 W. W

72. 75 omitted.

73. 4. 6. 8 & 81. W. W

82 W. W.

104 - W. W.

113. 116 omitted.

140. 1. 2. 5 7. 9 & 75 & W. W. omitted

Dies found by Sherborn

1. 2. 3. 4

11 12 14

21. 2. 3

31. 3. 4

43.

51. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.

from 60 all go on regularly. (he says)

H. 2.

2nd

Page 181, n. The smallest-sized envelope is also found with "SPECIMEN" stamped upon it in red similar to the other two sizes, but with the truncated side flap.

produce such a deafening noise that Mr. Edwin Hill, with the assistance of Mr. Ormond Hill, devised the machines with which the work was subsequently carried on, and which were constructed on the "fly and screw" principle. By these machines the embossing in colour is most ingeniously and rapidly effected by a series of automatic operations, each machine as at present constructed being capable of turning out more than 20,000 impressions in an ordinary official day of six hours.

The colour of the impression was pink, which from the first has varied but little except in depth of shade. Occasionally copies are found where the pink is of a yellowish tone, while others are found of a very bright pink. Specimens are also found where the stamp is embossed without colour, but these are simply due to an oversight on the part of the boy whose duty it is to "fan out" the blanks for the stamping machine, two blanks having been accidentally brought under the die together, the upper one of course only receiving the colour. These are not varieties properly speaking, but simple errors in the manufacture, and as such are generally put aside and carefully destroyed, though at times they escape notice and have passed through the post. Hence they have been chronicled in some catalogues as varieties.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### I.

**DIE I.** Envelopes of "Dickinson" paper with various threads, cream-coloured. Pointed flaps; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).\*

\* Copies of the two larger sizes of these envelopes are occasionally met with surcharged on the face with **SPERMEN** in large Roman capitals in red extending 52 mm. in length, which were issued to postmasters as standards for comparison, and to inform them of the issue. The copies of the smaller size,  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, are usually stamped with the die bearing the index number 1, while those of the larger size,  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, are stamped with the die number 4. One rather remarkable variation of this latter, measuring  $128 \times 82$  mm., has come under our notice.

29th January, 1841. Two sizes:—

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches or  $120 \times 69$  mm., varying from  $116 \times 68$  to  $120 \times 70$ .
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches or  $138 \times 85$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 87$  to  $134 \times 88$ .

July 1841.

3.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches or  $101 \times 64$  mm., varying from  $103 \times 65$  to  $100 \times 62$ .

II.

DIE L.—Envelopes of “Dickinson” paper with various threads, cream-coloured. Tongue-shaped upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device. One penny, pink, varying from full to pale.

~~1851-1852~~ Three sizes:

*July 1850.*

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓
2.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  „ ✓
3.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  „ ✓

VARIETIES.

(a) The same, but without seal device on upper flap, gummed and ungummed. Two sizes:

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓
2.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  „ ✓

(b) The same, “Dickinson” paper, whiter, upper flap with seal device.

1. April and May, 1860.

Die dated. One size:

- $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

*(die 95. u. 560) r 12.5.60*  
*(die 96. 27.4.60)*

III.

DIE L.—Envelopes of plain paper. Tongue-shaped upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of cream (nearly white) laid paper.

September, 1855. Two sizes:

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓
2.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  „ ✓

(b) Of similar paper.

1860. One size:

3.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3$  inches. ✓

*14-6-60*

(c) Of azure wove paper.

September, 1855. One size:

4.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

*7 An envelope on blue laid, with seal on flap. Tongue shaped.  
- Laid. 10.1.60. cracked die No 102,*

The following should be substituted in page 24 for I and Ia, and for Ib and Ic in page 25:

I.

Dns I. Envelopes of cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, with threads running up or both of the side flaps diagonally. Pointed flaps; upper flap gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

29th January, 1841. Two sizes.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or  $120 \times 69$  mm., varying from  $116$  to  $129 \times 68$  to  $70$  mm.
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or  $133 \times 86$  mm., varying from  $132$  to  $134 \times 85$  to  $87$  mm.

Ia.

Dns I. Envelopes of cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, with threads running up or both of the side flaps diagonally. Pointed flaps, except the side flap to the right, which is truncated; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

~~15 June~~ <sup>10<sup>th</sup></sup> ~~(?) May~~, 1841.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, varying as above.
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, varying as above.

Ib.

Dns I. Envelopes of cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, with threads running parallel to one of the sides of the blank. Pointed flaps, except the side flap to the right, which is truncated; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

<sup>10<sup>th</sup></sup> ~~(?)~~ June, 1841.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, varying as above.
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, varying as above.

July, 1841.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or  $101 \times 64$  mm., varying from  $100$  to  $103 \times 62$  to  $65$  mm.

... to be substituted in page 24 for I and I<sup>2</sup> and for 13 and

I.

... cream-colored Dickinson paper with threads  
... (one layer diagonal). Printed top; upper flap  
... the lower pink shades.

23rd January, 1841. Two sizes.

... 120 x 65 mm., varying from 116 to 120 x 62 to 70 mm.  
... 133 x 65 mm., varying from 122 to 124 x 62 to 87 mm.

14.

... cream-colored Dickinson paper with threads  
... (one layer diagonal). Printed top, except the  
... which is unprinted; upper flap not gummed. One

1. 11 x 11 inches, varying as above.  
2. 12 x 12 inches, varying as above.

15.

... cream-colored Dickinson paper with threads  
... (one layer diagonal) in the blank printed top, except the  
... which is unprinted; upper flap not gummed. One

1. 11 x 11 inches, varying as above.  
2. 12 x 12 inches, varying as above.

July, 1841.

... 101 x 62 mm., varying from 100 to 103 x 62 to 65 mm.

Record.  
p. 24.

The following should be substituted for No. 1. of the "Synopsis," pages 181 and 182 :

I. *see flap by edge*

DIE I. Envelopes of "Dickinson," cream-coloured paper, with one blue between two red threads crossing one or both of the side flaps diagonally. Pointed flaps ; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

29th January 1841. Two sizes.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $120 \times 69$  mm., varying from  $116 \times 68$  to  $120 \times 70$ .
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $133 \times 85$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 87$  to  $134 \times 88$ .

Ia.

DIE I. Envelopes of "Dickinson" cream-coloured paper, with one blue between two red threads crossing one or both of the side flaps diagonally. Pointed flaps except the side flap to the right, which is truncated ; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

(?) May, 1841. Two sizes.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $120 \times 69$  mm., varying from  $116 \times 68$  to  $120 \times 70$ .
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $133 \times 85$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 87$  to  $134 \times 88$ .

July, 1841.

3.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or  $101 \times 64$  mm., varying from  $103 \times 65$  to  $100 \times 62$ .

II.

DIE I. Envelopes of "Dickinson" cream-coloured paper, with various threads running parallel to the edge of one of the side flaps. Pointed flaps ; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

(?) End of 1841. Three sizes.

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, varying as before.
2.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$  " "
3.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  " "

$5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$

Rears + 0

(86. w.

In II., VARIETIES (a), substitute :

Page 182. After line 3 from top insert—

Ia.

DIE I. Envelopes of "Dickinson" paper, with various threads, cream-coloured. Pointed flaps except the right side flap, which is truncated ; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).

(?) May, 1841. Two sizes.

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $120 \times 69$  mm., varying from  $116 \times 68$  to  $120 \times 70$ .
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $133 \times 85$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 87$  to  $134 \times 88$ .

July, 1841.

3.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or  $101 \times 64$  mm., varying from  $103 \times 65$  to  $100 \times 62$ .

Same page, in II., VARIETIES, read :

(a) The same, but without seal device on upper flap ; gummed and un-gummed.

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
2.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$  "
3.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  "

Wilson (Birmingham) sent me the following July 1885.

Die 1. size  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$  dated 10 Jan 1860 die 62

Tongue shaped flap. with seal device.  
on Blue laid.

Sherborn showed me July 96. die 91  
on blue laid. Tongue seal. 133 x 77  
struck 11. 8. 62.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$   
+ 700000 as had. die 95. struck 8. 6. 61

both private G, Duke Russ.

Not dated.

1 - 36. No. 4 dies. issued July 1881. - to Jan 1884

Die 217 to 228 were all pierced for plugs. I was the last  
person used. (J.S. Purcell to W.S.S.W. 15. Mar 99.) for  
Postage Stamps at Somerset House. 229 & onwards  
not pierced.

225. dated 28. 11. 84. (Sherborn has)

228 " 7. 3. 84 50

Date plugs discontinued. ~~when~~ when. (2. 5. 81) for P.O.  
Floral. was inserted in 1880 - No

G. Wilson says his copy is 13. 2. 73. I have 6. 3. 73.  
Ph. Soc. vol IV. p 67. (Apr 1882)

Page 183. Under V. of the Synopsis it is stated that the issue on white laid paper was made in March, 1873. Specimens of these envelopes have been shown to us, the stamp on which is dated in the previous month of February. The date given by us is that of the issue, not of the stamping, which must necessarily have preceded that of the issue to the public. The same observation applies to the date of the issue mentioned under VI., p. 184, as having taken place in November, 1878. Envelopes have been shown to us in which the stamp is dated in the months of August and September preceding; and it is said that a copy has been found of one dated in May, 1876. This latter, however, no doubt belongs to V., the seal device having been accidentally omitted, as in the case of the copy on azure wove paper mentioned under that heading.



IV.

DIE II.—Envelopes of plain paper; tongue-shaped upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of white laid paper.

July, 1866. Three sizes :

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓
2.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  „ ✓
3.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3$  „ ✓

(b) Of azure wove paper.

July, 1866. One size :

4.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

NOTE.—Die 150 has been met with showing a flaw in the outer margin just above the forehead of the Queen. ✓

V.

DIE II.—Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of white laid paper.

March, 1873. Two sizes :

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓
2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3$  „ ✓

(b) Of thick white laid paper, (square shape).

Feb. April, 1873. One size :

3.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

(c) Of azure wove paper.

March, 1873. One size :

4.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

VARIETY. (ACCIDENTAL.)

Of azure wove paper, September, 1874. No seal device on flap.

$5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

(d) Of azure wove paper, end of 1874. Upper flap rounded.

5.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

VI.

DIE II.—Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, but without seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of white laid paper.

Sept November, 1878. Two sizes:

*April 1876. (?)*

1.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches. ✓

2.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3$  " ✓

August, 1876. (b) Of thick white laid paper, *square shape*.

3.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

(c) Of azure wove paper, upper flap rounded.

4.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$  inches. ✓

Dated: 1881. *in no working die*

1<sup>st</sup> July 1881. *no dates. size C.*

2. THE TWOPENCE.

*see addenda. p. 353*

Date of Issue, April, 1841. 7

DESIGN.—There is but one die for this value from which the several working dies have been constructed. The design is similar to that of the one penny, being of the same size and differing only in details. The head of the Queen is furnished with a pendent curl of a similar form, but the frame is varied. The inscription POSTAGE TWO PENCE instead of being over the head of the Queen, as in the one penny, is below.



The initials w. w. on the base of the bust, with a full stop after each letter, are sunk, but the numeral denoting the number of the working die which precedes them is in relief. *It was first used*

The die, like that of the one penny, was the joint work of Mr. Wyon and Mr. Deacon.

PAPER—"Dickinson" paper was employed, exactly similar to that made use of in the first issue of the one penny, and the observations made as to variation in its colour apply equally to this.

FORM.—The envelope was cut in the same form as the large

*in the matrix*

*at Somerset House in the year of the first issue.*

## STAMPED ENVELOPES.

8. 2. 92.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE STANDARD.

Sir.—Some time ago I wrote to the Postmaster General and suggested the advisability of issuing a two-penny half-penny embossed envelope stamp for ordinary postage, the envelope to be of good tough foreign paper, and shaped so as to allow the ordinary foreign note-paper to be folded over in three. I have now received a reply that these envelopes will shortly be issued, and public notice given as soon as they are ready. At the same time I had also asked for a black embossed penny envelope stamp for ordinary correspondence, exactly like the penny pink embossed envelope stamp, with the simple substitution of a black envelope for a pink one, the same die being used.

The reply is, that the Postmaster General does not think there would be any great demand for such a stamp, and urging other trifling objections, to which, I think, I have given convincing replies. I am of opinion that there are in England tens of thousands of people who are subject to the hideous black-bordered envelopes which custom has rendered necessary to those who have the misfortune to be in mourning, and I think it would be a great boon to those people if they could just send to the nearest Post Office and purchase a few of the proposed envelopes with black-bordered penny stamps, for use while their mourning lasts.

Being most anxious to ascertain whether there would be, as I think, a demand for these stamps, I shall be extremely obliged if you will find a corner in *The Standard* for this letter, and then, no doubt, if public opinion speaks out in their favour, the Postmaster General will agree to give them to us.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ANDREW A. W. DREW.

St. Atholin's Vicarage, Peckham-rye, February 8.

## MOURNING ENVELOPES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE STANDARD.

Sir.—Your Correspondent this morning (Mr. Drew) has been expending his energies on getting us a two-penny half-penny stamped envelope, and not satisfied with this glorious achievement wants also a penny "mourning" envelope. This latter, though a novel idea, is, I think, hopeless, and I quite agree with the postal authorities that there would be but little demand for it. Besides, it would not even do what Mr. Drew supposes, viz., get rid of the "hideous black-bordered envelopes," which he dislikes so much, for these would still be used for notes sent by hand.

I wrote, some two years ago, to the Post Office, suggesting that embossed labels should be issued for fastening to parcels destined for the Parcels Post, but was informed, like Mr. Drew, that there would be no demand for them. Now I venture to think that these labels would be of more use than Mr. Drew's envelopes, and would meet with a more favourable reception at the hands of the public, who would not object to pay an extra halfpenny for the convenience if the Postmaster General finds himself unable to supply them at the face value of the stamp. A great deal, of course, depends on the quality of the material from which the labels are manufactured—a good quality of stout manilla should answer all purposes.

Perhaps Mr. Drew may like to take this idea up; if so, he is very welcome to it. I certainly think it has more chance of success than his mourning envelopes.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. CALDER MARSHALL, Jun.

February 8.

1892



7. Jurupaee.

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Die I. registered.   | 22.3.41.  |
| II                   | 18.1.42.  |
| 3.4 x 5. with plugs. | 25.2.64.  |
| 6.7 x 8.             | 28.11.83. |

Wilson says. had copy. size 1. is 12.9.78. (I have this date)  
 2. 4.5.76.

I have (6). 29.8.78.

Page 184. Add to Synopsis :

VARIETIES.

*one penny value*

Die not numbered. + 2 only worn dies.

(a) Of thick white laid paper. *W. Westoby says we think so Aug '90.*

1879.

4 1/2 x 3 1/4 inches.

(b) Of white laid paper. *Quarry this. although just dies to some dies.*

June, 1881.

5 1/2 x 3 inches. (The other size, 4 1/2 x 2 3/4 inches, probably exists.)

(c) Of azure wove paper.

1881.

5 1/2 x 3 1/2.

VII.

DIE II. NEW SERIES. Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flap, gummed, without seal device on flap. Die not dated. One penny, pink.

(a) Of white laid paper.

1st July, 1881. Two sizes.

1. 4 1/2 x 2 1/2 inches.

2. 5 1/2 x 3 "

(b) Of thick white laid paper.

3. 4 1/2 x 3 1/4 inches.

(c) Of azure wove paper; upper flap rounded.

4. 5 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches.

In the month of January, 1883, the envelopes, Size 1 (4 1/2 x 2 1/2 inches) and Size 4 (5 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches), ceased to be manufactured, and a new size, termed "Commercial," was issued, measuring 5 3/4 x 3 1/4 inches, of thin white laid paper.

(d) Of thin white laid paper.

1st January, 1883. One size.

5. "Commercial," 5 3/4 x 3 1/4 inches.

VIII.

DIE II. Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, without seal device on flap; undated, and without index number of die. One penny, pink.

(a) Of thick white laid paper.

1. 4 1/2 x 3 1/4 inches. Size A.

(b) Of white laid paper.

2. 5 1/2 x 3 inches. Size B.

(c) Of thin white laid paper.

3. 5 3/4 x 3 1/4 inches. Size "Commercial."

*Variety. 1 cent*

*black. without*

*color.*

*(9 milled. July 92.)*

*135 x 80 m/m*

Page 185, fifth line from top. For "The envelopes were made up," &c., read "The envelopes were made up in packets of twelve, and sold at 2s. 2d. per packet, or singly at 2½d. each."

Shortly after the appearance of this issue an alteration was made in the shape of the blanks similar to that made in the two sizes then in use of the one penny, the flap on the right being made truncated.

IMPRESSION.—Further examination, especially of specimens issued prior to the alteration in the form of the blanks, shows that the primary colour of the impression was not dark blue. The early impressions are in a light shade, and the darker one was employed subsequently.

Same page, twelfth line from top. For "In 1855 the dies," &c., read "Two dies were constructed, Nos. 1 and 2, which in 1855 were furnished with date plugs, and used for stamping paper and envelopes brought in by the public to the Stamp Office of the Inland Revenue Department. Other dies were subsequently constructed, as the stamping of the early issues of the registration envelopes rendered them necessary. We accordingly find No. 5 at the close of 1853.

The following "synopsis" should be substituted for that at page 185:—

I.

Envelopes of cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, with threads crossing the side flaps diagonally. Pointed flaps; upper flap not gummed. Twopence, light blue.

April, 1841. One size.

5½ × 3¾ inches, or 133 × 85 mm., varying from 132 to 134 × 85 to 88 mm.

II.

Envelopes of cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, with threads crossing the side flaps diagonally. Pointed flaps, except the side flap to the right, which is truncated; upper flap not gummed. Twopence, light and dark blue.

(?) May, 1841. One size.

5½ × 3¾ inches, or 133 × 85 mm., varying as in No. I.

III.

Envelopes of cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, with threads running parallel to one of the sides of the blank. Pointed flaps, except that on the right side, which is truncated; upper flap not gummed. Twopence, light and dark blue.

(?) June, 1841.

5½ × 3¾ inches, or 133 × 85 mm., varying as above.

Decr 88. Prices at S. House. P. 200

Parcels coin 19. 240. Size A. 4¾ × 3 11/16 - } £ 1. 3. 4  
(new shape)

" " " C. 5¼ × 3 1/4 - £ 1. 1. 8

" " " Commercial - £ 1. 1. -

1 July 1893. Reduced 240. Commercial £ 1. 1

In the die of the 2d, the initials "W.W." are on the matrix die.  
The number is punched at ~~Commercial House~~, De la Rue's.

to objection taken by members of Parliament to affixing stamps  
lobby office, there has just been provided a hand-  
value of thick paper with embossed stamp. These are on sale  
the value of the stamps, packets of twenty-five costing 2s. 1d.

size of the first issue of the one penny, measuring in like manner  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $133 \times 86$  millimètres. Similar variations from the normal size are found as in the one penny, but no other size was ever made for sale to the public. The envelopes were made up in packets of ~~twenty-four~~ <sup>twelve</sup>, and sold at 4s. 3d. per packet, <sup>original</sup> or singly at 2½d. each. <sup>light</sup>

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was ~~dark~~ <sup>very shortly afterwards</sup> blue; a lighter shade, however, was <sup>very shortly afterwards</sup> subsequently employed\*.

The use of the envelope of this value appears to have been very limited. No issue beyond the first was ever made, and the sale of it by the Post-office was only continued so long as the stock on hand lasted. In 1855 the dies were furnished with date plugs, and employed for stamping paper and envelopes brought to the Stamp Office for that purpose by the public.

SYNOPSIS.

Envelopes of "Dickinson" paper with various threads, cream-coloured. Hand-made with pointed flaps, upper flap not gummed. Twopence, blue, dark and light. *des 1 + 2.*

April, 1841. One size: *Twopence.*

$5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches or  $133 \times 86$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 88$  to  $134 \times 85$ .

3. ONE PENNY HALF-SHEETS.

From a design left by Sir Rowland Hill it would appear that some idea existed of supplying the place of the "Mulready" cover by a similar half-sheet, which was most probably intended to bear an embossed stamp of one penny. The design in question consists of a half-sheet of plain azure laid stout paper, measuring  $8\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$  inches, on which is marked out a space for the address, measuring  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches; above, are three marks in pencil denoting where the silk threads are to pass, and there are two similar marks below the address-space. On this address-space

\* Copies surcharged with SPECIMEN in red similar to that on the one penny are occasionally met with.

*Quality not so good as before.*  
 ENVELOPES.—The Postmaster-  
 has issued the following notice:—On and  
 the 1 next embossed envelopes of the "A"  
 bearing a penny stamp, will be sold at the fol-  
 lowing prices:—One "A" envelope, 1½d.;  
 two "A" envelopes, 2½d.; three "A" envelopes,  
 3½d.; four "A" envelopes, 4½d.; five "A" enve-  
 lopes, 5½d.; six "A" envelopes, 6½d.; seven  
 "A" envelopes, 7½d.; eight "A" envelopes,  
 8½d.; nine "A" envelopes, 9½d.; ten "A" envelopes,  
 10½d. Packet of

C. 24. packet 2½.

at the foot is POSTAGE, in large single-lined letters in pencil, and in Sir Rowland Hill's handwriting the following memorandum—  
 "Might, I think, be reduced in width to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches. March 3, 41."

Nothing appears however to have been done till March, 1844, when, in consequence of representations made by many mercantile firms and others that a stamped cover or half-sheet of letter paper would be of public utility, the Lords of the Treasury ordered an experimental issue to be made. These half-sheets were of two kinds, the one of cream-coloured, stout, unglazed paper measuring  $9 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches/ the stamp on which was impressed about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the left side, and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the top, measuring to the centre of the stamp, which was the same as that employed for the envelopes, and the other of azure

*3/8.*  
*2/4 4/4*  
*240 x 190 mm.*  
*p./A*  
 paper, measuring  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the stamp on which was impressed about 4 inches from the left side and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the top, measured in a similar manner. The paper in both cases was wove "Dickinson" paper/two silk threads, one blue and the other orange, red, at a distance of from 6 to 8 mm. apart, traversing the half-sheet horizontally immediately above or under the stamp. The stamp was impressed in such a position that when the half-sheet was doubled in the form of a sheet of note-paper, and then folded in three, the stamp was in the right upper corner; but its position was such that it was impossible to use the half-sheet as a cover, and to observe at the same time the directions of the Post-office, that the stamp should appear in the right upper corner. Occasionally they were used as wrappers for newspapers, but they do not appear to have ever been extensively employed in any capacity, and the favour they met with at the hands of the public was not such as to induce the authorities to make any further issue. Unused copies in good condition are seldom to be found, and are of considerable rarity. Copies surcharged "SPECIMEN" in red, similar to the envelopes already described, are also met with in some of the large collections, but they are rare, as the experiment was probably confined to some of the principal towns only.



Half sheets

on white the Sherbon

55

57.

59

blue

82.

Flora were substituted for dates in envelopes  
7.2.94.

\*There is an intermediate unblanc paper

(228 x 180 mm) on the same white

all not surfaced or milled /

procured on white at 1<sup>st</sup> O. not kept in stock  
used for railway. accent of K. Neuter.

Seen another. 1891 June from Jeff. used.

seen and Nov 1896 Morley. 17. 1. 60. die 97

like? address for me

Messrs Richardson Brothers  
105 West Row  
Salisbury.

It would appear that about the end of 1859 or early in 1860 the idea of making a further issue was mooted, and one or two copies were produced in January of that year, on bluish wove "Dickinson" paper, stamped with a dated die, No. 97, of the first type. These however are extremely rare: the specimen from which we take our description bears the date on the die of 17th January, 1860, and is stated by Mr. Pearson Hill to be in his opinion "*almost unique.*"

*the later.*

SYNOPSIS.

March, 1844. Half-sheet of "Dickinson" paper with embossed envelope stamp of one penny impressed in pink.

One penny, on cream-coloured paper,  $9 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

„ on azure wove paper,  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

January, 1860. Similar to the above, but die dated.

One penny, on azure wove paper,  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

### SECTION III.

#### *ENVELOPES AND PAPER WITH EMBOSSED STAMPS.*

STRUCK TO ORDER ON PAPER SENT IN BY THE PUBLIC.

WHEN it was determined to abandon the further use of "Dickinson" paper for the stamped envelopes, the admission of the public to furnish their own paper to be stamped formed part of the contemplated alteration. Accordingly a clause was introduced into the Act 18 and 19 Vic., c. 78, empowering the Commissioners of Inland Revenue "under such regulations as the Lords of the Treasury might from time to time make or sanction in this behalf, to stamp paper which any person may send to the said Commissioners for the purpose of being stamped for covers or envelopes of letters, with stamps provided for denoting the several rates of postage, on payment of the amount of the stamps required to be impressed on such paper, and in cases where such amount shall not exceed £10, upon payment in addition thereto of such fee as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may direct or authorize to be taken in such cases."

At the time of the passing of the above-named Act, in 1855, the only adhesive stamps current were the 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., embossing dies of all of which existed except of the fourpence. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue therefore ordered an embossing die of this latter value to be prepared. At the same time the existing dies of one penny and twopence were fitted with moveable date plugs, as were also those of sixpence and one shilling, which had been previously employed for embossing the adhesive stamps issued by the Inland Revenue Department in 1847 and 1848.

In 1868-9 upwards of 11 millions of letters were impressed  
- paper but in by the public.

As to imp<sup>o</sup> of dates in July 96 & use of 1865 generally,  
see *Ph. Rec.* May 95 on p 110.

Colours changed

1892.

? was 2d die & even drilled. No record of it having been at S.H.

In 1869. Telegraph Act.  
 1870 Gov: took over the 9. hence

The 1<sup>st</sup> embossed

- |                    |             |  |
|--------------------|-------------|--|
| Dec 1. Registered. | 25. 6. 47.  |  |
| 2. "               | 8. 2. 53.   | was for the express. further down the page                       |
| 3. " "             | 8. 2. 55.   | was used with date (perhaps) period. & used 20 yrs so. 1855. 75. |
| 4. "               | 29. 9. 69.  |  |
| 5. "               | "           |  |
| 6. "               | 2. 7. 74.   |  |
| 7. "               | "           |  |
| 8. "               | "           |  |
| 9. "               | "           |  |
| 10. "              | 9. 2. 82.   |  |
| 11. "              | "           |  |
| 12. "              | "           |  |
| 13. "              | "           |  |
| 14. "              | 17. 12. 84. |  |
| 15. "              | "           |  |
| 16. "              | 29. 1. 98.  |  |
| 17. "              | "           |  |
| 18. "              | "           |  |
| 19. "              | "           |  |

~~of the Reg<sup>n</sup> of 1871~~  
~~the 1872 - 1874~~

The following notice to the public was then issued :

Inland Revenue, Somerset House,  
Oct. 8th, 1855.

The Board of Inland Revenue have, in conformity with the provisions of the 4th Section of the 18 and 19 Vict. c. 78, provided the necessary apparatus for impressing with Postage Stamps paper sent in by the public for covers or envelopes of letters.

Notice is hereby given that the Board are now prepared to receive paper to be delivered at the Head Office in Somerset House, London, for the purpose of being impressed with stamps for denoting the several duties on postage, subject to the following regulations ; namely,

When the amount of the stamps required by any person shall not exceed £10, a fee of 1s. will be charged, in addition to the duty, if paper of one size only be sent in ; and if more than one size be sent in, then a fee of 1s. for each size.

On the warrants hereinafter mentioned no fee will be payable, but the sizes of the paper will be restricted as follows :

When the amount exceeds £10, and is under £20, paper of one size only will be received. If the amount exceeds £20, and is under £30, two sizes of paper only will be received ; £30 and under £40, three sizes of paper ; £40 and under £50, four sizes of paper ; and not more than four sizes of paper will be allowed to be included in any one warrant, of however high an amount.

No folded envelope can be stamped, and therefore paper, whether intended for envelopes or for letters, must be sent in unfolded, and every distinct form of envelope or paper must be marked so as to indicate the place on which the stamp is to be impressed, in order that it may appear in the proper position, according to the rules of the Post-office, when the envelope or letter is folded and made up.

No coloured paper can be received for stamping, nor any paper of such thinness as not to bear the impression of the dies.

Envelopes provided by this Office, with the proper stamps thereto, will be substituted for any of those sent in which may be spoilt in the operation of stamping.

It is to be borne in mind that licensed vendors only are authorised to sell postage stamps impressed as above mentioned, or any other.

By order of the Board,  
THOMAS KEOGH, *Secretary.*

Towards the close of the year 1855 a small sheet was issued by the General Post-office to the Postmasters, on which impressions of the three embossed stamps of fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling were struck, each surcharged in black with SPECIMEN, and underneath the stamps was the following legend :

“Embossed postage stamps to be struck on

“PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

“26th November, 1855.”

The dates in the dies show that the stamps were struck on these sheets in the early part of the month of December, 1855.

### 1. THE TWOPENCE.

DESIGN.—No alteration was made in the die, which had hitherto served for the impression of the envelopes on “Dickinson” paper, except that the date plugs were inserted by drilling three holes in the upper part of the border. The same die numbered 1, followed by the initials w w. in sunken letters, and a full stop after the last w, also sunk, continued to be used for some years, until this stamp was called into more active use for stamping the provisional issue of registration envelopes in 1877.



IMPRESSION.—This stamp has always been struck in light Prussian blue.

Half-sheets of laid letter paper, impressed with this stamp bearing the date 1861, are in existence, and probably other values exist also, on similar half-sheets. The fact is only mentioned to show that the Inland Revenue Department were ready to affix the embossed stamps either on envelopes or on sheets of paper for letters or wrappers.

### 2. THE FOURPENCE.

DESIGN.—This stamp much resembles a coin in its general appearance. The profile of the Queen to the left appears in



2<sup>d</sup> inv. to order only after 1<sup>st</sup>

Notes given up. 7. 2. 94.

for notes 9 dots then introduced & 30 Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> Mar 1894 a 5 dot florid  
introduced used with 9 dot one indiscriminately  
5 dots withdrawn 30 Aug '95.

Page 190. In the description of the "design" of the "twopence" for  
the die read "dies" in the first line, and in the fifth line read "The same  
dies, numbered 1 and 2, followed by the initials W W. in sunken letters,  
with a full stop after the last W., also sunk, continued to be used for some  
years, until this stamp was called into more active use for stamping the  
provisional issue of registration envelopes in 1877. At the end of the year  
1863 the die No. 5 was in use."



112



113



114



115

X. Four working dies were prepared in 1855; of which Nos 2 & 4 were registered 12 Nov: 1855. & continued in use till 1889. Nos 1 & 3 remaining undrilled for the date punches, until the wants of the service for (St. B. Buchanan Reg<sup>d</sup> Env<sup>s</sup>) called them & they were registered 26 September 1859.  
 F in Four defective. ~~not~~

Page 191, line 20 from top. Dies Nos. 1 and 2 were up to the date of the work the only ones of which impressions had been seen; but die No. 5 was in use at the close of the year 1883. cross for 3.

E.L.P. Phil. p. 101. 15.6.72 Columns very much altered this year  
 2d & 3d pale & more delicate in tint  
 6d more beside blue & light charge.

Same page. To the description of the "design" of "the sixpence" add: "Die No. 2 is the only one which has been employed for stamping envelopes and paper brought in by the public to be stamped, although die No. 3 was registered on the 11th January, 1854."



116



117

relief on a solid circular ground of colour, bounded by a single line, with a small beaded inner circle. On this ground, in the upper part, following the contour of the circle, is the inscription POSTAGE FOUR PENCE in block letters embossed in white relief; and in the lower part is a reticulated ornamental band, pierced with three holes to receive the date plugs. The initials w.w. appear on the base of the bust with a full stop between them, and there are also full stops on each side of the numeral which precedes the initials.



The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who designed and executed the framework of the border, and added the curl attached to the head, which was that of the die engraved by Mr. Wyon. X

IMPRESSION.—This value has always been struck in vermilion, ordinarily of a full tone of colour, but at times varying to an orange-vermilion of lighter tone.

~~Die Nos. 1 and 2 appear to be the only ones which have been employed up to the present time.~~

### 3. THE SIXPENCE

DESIGN.—The design of this stamp is the same as was employed for stamping the adhesive embossed stamps. That first made use of is numbered 2, and on being closely compared with No. 1, employed for stamping the adhesives, shows some slight points of difference, especially at the base of the bust. The insertion of the date plugs was effected by drilling three holes in the die, one of which is immediately below the bust, and the two others in the framework on either side.



IMPRESSION.—The impression is in violet, which was at first

of a full deep tone, but afterwards became lighter, and is now nearly mauve.

*10° seen omitted*

4. THE ONE SHILLING. *ante p. 95.*

DESIGN.—This die, like that of the sixpence, is the same as that employed for stamping the embossed adhesives of corresponding value, and of which we found Nos. 1 and 2 to have been used for the purpose. The date plugs were inserted in holes made in the solid octagonal ground, thus greatly disfiguring the general appearance of the stamp. Die No. 3, appears to be the first which was used for stamping envelopes and paper, though die No. 2 is found used in 1873 for stamping



*Y wrong*

telegraph forms.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in green, and has not undergone any noticeable variations, though, as every collector will fully understand, there are light and dark shades to be found of this value, as is the case with every colour which has to be compounded on each occasion of printing off an order.\*

5. THE THREEPENCE.

Date of Issue, May, 1859.

The preparation of the embossing die of this value, and the issue of paper stamped with it, preceded the issue of the adhesive stamp of corresponding value by a period of nearly three years. It was prepared expressly at the instance of commercial firms requiring wrappers for newspapers and printed matter despatched to the colonies under the then existing high rates of postage.

\* Those differences in shade, which are only due to accidental variations in the compounding of the colours, without serving to mark any epoch in the history of the issue or any change of process in the printing, have not been specially mentioned. The fact is recorded that those who care to collect such "varieties" may be aware of their existence.

7 1<sup>s</sup> grav. Reg<sup>2</sup> Die No. 1. 25. 6. 47.

see + collate  
+ describe all  
these shades &  
their sequence

1893. 1. faint very full bright purple  
1891. March. red violet.  
1892. very pale.

Page 192. In the seventh line of the description of the "design" of "the one shilling" read: "Die No. 3 was registered on the 8th February, 1853, and, after having been fitted with date plugs, was given out to the stampers in 1855, and returned in 1876. Die No. 2 was also in use during the same period, and we find it in use in 1873 for stamping telegraph forms. Besides these three dies, eight others have since been constructed and registered at various periods, Nos. 10 and 11 being in use at the end of the year 1883."

|          |             |                  |             |  |
|----------|-------------|------------------|-------------|--|
| 64 dies. | 1. 2. 3. 4. | Reg <sup>2</sup> | 11. 1. 54   | no date  |
|          | 5. 6        | -                | 13. 11. 85  | Telegraph note 6d from 1.10.85.  |
|          | 7 - 12      | -                | 25. 4. 87.  | Alai   |
|          | 13 - 18     | -                | 4. 5. 88.   |  |
|          | 19 - 24     | -                | 3. 1. 90    | light purple.  |
|          | 25.         |                  |             | with drawn 13. 2. 94   |
|          | 26.         |                  |             | " 9. 3. 94.  |
|          | 27.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 28.         | -                | 21. 7. 91.  | 27. 30 issued after<br>last time in<br>so <sup>2</sup> not have been<br>dated. |
|          | 29.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 30.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 31.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 32.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 33.         | -                | 13. 8. 94   |  |
|          | 34.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 35.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 36.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 37.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 38.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 39.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 40.         |                  | 21. 11. 95. |  |
|          | 41.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 42.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 43.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 44.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 45.         | -                | 29. 1. 98.  |  |
|          | 46.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 47.         |                  |             |  |
|          | 48.         |                  |             |  |

Keyp. 3d. Die 1. 26. 5. 59.

2. 3. 4. 5. not reg?

6. 7. 27. 7. 74.  
8. 9. 10. 20. 11. 83

7 plates 9 + 5 dots

Page 193. Line 13 of the description of the "design" of "the three-pence" read: "At the base of the bust are the initials W. W., each followed by a full stop, with the number of the die. Up to the close of the year 1883 six dies had been registered.

At end of 1869

4. Telegraph forms stamped  
Reduced to 6d. 1 Oct. - 1886.

One shilling embossed since p. 95

Die 1. Registered 25. 6. 47

- 2. " 8. 1. 53

3 " 8. 2. 53.

4 + 5. two - with plate 29. 9. 69.

6 to 9. (four) 2. 7. 74.

10 to 13. (four) 9. 2. 82.

14 + 15. (two) 17. 12. 84.

16 to 19. (four) 29. 1. 98

note 6<sup>o</sup> here here

**DESIGN.**—The embossed profile of the Queen, to the left, appears on a solid trilobed ground of colour, enclosed in a similarly shaped border filled with a reticulated pattern, so arranged as to show POSTAGE on the upper lobe, and THREE PENCE on the two lower lobes in coloured fancy capitals. At the points where the lobes meet, the date plugs are inserted. The design doubtless served as a model for that of the adhesive stamp subsequently issued, so far as the shape is concerned, which will be more readily recognized on turning the stamp upside down. At the base of the bust are the initials w. w., and the figure 1. in relief, each being followed by a full stop.



The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who added a pendent curl to the head struck from Mr. Wyon's die, and designed and executed the framing.

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in deep carmine. Copies surcharged in black with the word SPECIMEN are found with the die date of 27th May, 1859. These were issued by the Post Office to the various Postmasters on small sheets, on which appears the legend :

“ Embossed postage stamp to be struck on

“ PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

“ May, 1859.”

From official returns it appears that, up to the 31st March, 1860, 101,554 copies of the threepenny embossed stamp were struck, while for the entire year, from the 1st April, 1859, up to 31st March, 1860, the number of twopenny embossed stamps was only 44,774; of the fourpenny, 20,143; of the sixpenny, 2,279; and of the 1s., 10,615; the number of the threepenny in 10 months thus exceeding that of all the other values during a period of 12 months.

## 6. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

The die for this issue was prepared and specimen copies struck from it in April, 1860, when the issue of an adhesive stamp of similar value was contemplated. As, however, the issue of this latter did not take place till 1st October, 1870, the embossed stamp was not brought into use until the same time.

**DESIGN.**—The design bears a cognate resemblance to the adhesive stamp of similar value. The profile of the Queen, to the left, is upon a solid curvilinear triangular ground of colour, surrounded by a pearled border, and enclosed in a similarly shaped frame. On cartouches within this frame are the inscriptions; on the upper side opposite the apex is **THREE**, on the left side **POSTAGE**, and on the right side **HALFPENCE**, the rest of the frame being filled in with a reticulated engine-turned pattern, in which at each of the angles are inserted the date plugs. The inscriptions, &c., are embossed in white on a solid ground of colour. On the base of the bust are the initials **w w**, preceded by the figure 1. In our illustration the engraver has omitted the pearled border.



The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue, who designed and executed the framing, and added a pendent curl to the head, as struck from Mr. Wyon's die.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour selected in 1860 was a rose-pink, and when the stamp was issued to the public in 1870 it was adhered to; but in 1874 it was changed to a brown of a warm tone, which is still in use for this value.

**REMARKS.**—This stamp is but rarely seen in use, and does not appear to have been applied to much practical purpose except as an addition to the stock of collectors.

Die 1. Reg<sup>d</sup>. 2. 4. 60. 2. same date.  
 W. W. R. 5 x 6. 26. 9. 90. 7 x 8. 7. 9. 92. S. H.  
 1860 9. 11. 4. 5. 95.



Threehalfpence ①. Reg<sup>o</sup> 2.4.60 in pink die 1.

Change of colours. 1892.

Value issued July 1872. (7<sup>th</sup>) in pale (red) (Phil<sup>o</sup> & P.f.p. 138).

1/2 d to yellow chrome ? 66 orange

2d red ?

2 1/2 d. blue

10. brown

5. Home sheet Specimen R 199/92.

Die 2. flaws 82. worse 83. unworked edge in 1890 ground off "assend."

small n<sup>o</sup> was customed in blue paper. { Printed in 5th issue  
manufact will only be in white - } 1 May 1892. p. 166.

Die 5 in use in 1892. 3-5.92 in yellow.

7<sup>o</sup> " 6-7.92 " " when under

Florists in " in die no. 511 in yellow.

Die 5. " 1894 9206. when under

Die 16 (old) Overlay showed use 1 1/2 die no line round.

in a pale brown - not near so full as older set.

Die 16 in assend. edge removed. in 1890.

**LETTER CARDS AND EMBOSSED ENVELOPES FOR FOREIGN LETTERS.**—The following notice has been issued by order of the Postmaster-General:—Letter cards impressed with a penny postage stamp, and two sizes of envelopes for foreign letters bearing an embossed postage stamp of the value of 2½d., are now on sale at every post-office. The letter cards are banded in packets of ten for 1s., and the envelopes (two sizes designated "L" and "M") in packets of ten for 2s. 1½d. and 2s. 3d. respectively. For less quantities than ten the prices will be as follows:—  
 Letter cards.—1, 1½d.; 2, 2½d.; 3, 3½d.; 4, 5d.; 5, 6d.; 6, 7½d.; 7, 8½d.; 8, 9½d.; 9, 11d. Envelopes "L" size.—1, 2½d.; 2, 5½d.; 3, 8d.; 4, 10½d.; 5, 1s. 1½d.; 6, 1s. 4d.; 7, 1s. 6½d.; 8, 1s. 9½d.; 9, 2s. "M" size.—1, 2½d.; 2, 5½d.; 3, 8d.; 4, 11d.; 5, 1s. 1½d.; 6, 1s. 4½d.; 7, 1s. 7d.; 8, 1s. 9½d.; 9, 2s. 0½d. The letter cards will be subject to all the regulations affecting letters. Enclosures will not be objected to, but if an enclosure raises the weight of a card above 1oz., an additional stamp must be affixed, or the packet will be chargeable as an overweight letter. 13.2.92.

Issued to Public  
 11.2.92.

Paper thin: smooth  
 open lined Roman cap  
 Delta Blue 1/20. 700  
 Extra A Tough  
 in blue, chalky, white  
 no die cut  
 no circle paper  
 plain printed flap  
 no seal device  
 ? no register for cheap

size L.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{7}{8}$  inches 140 x 78 mm  
 M.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$  inches 140 x 110 mm

Letter cards, issued 11.2.92. 1 Reg<sup>d</sup> 3.12.91. imperforate  
 app<sup>d</sup> ratified by Bd 5.12.91. on blue

light grey  
 on blue card, folded in centre. device the P<sup>d</sup> Postal Union card  
 in Carmine. Reg<sup>d</sup> letter card under Royal arms. as given for 1891  
 below the perforation in Egyptian block letters. To open the letter card tear off the  
 edge at the perforation: + in centre of back is 2 lines, similar letter  
 - die line  
 \* If used for transmission abroad the addit<sup>n</sup> postage required should be  
 supplied by means of adhesion stamps  
 the open card measures 129 mm broad by 178 deep.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 7$  inch  
 perforations  $\frac{1}{4}$  +  $\frac{1}{8}$  down the long sides from end to end, 2 across  
 top & bottom, inside the outer perf<sup>n</sup> lines. 1/2 inch 9 mm from top  
 perforation on 3 edges of front side.  
 Copy seen imperforate. (1893) issued to public in error

Letter Cards are sold at the following prices:—  
 10 Letter Cards 1s. 1½d. 10 Envelopes "L" size 2s. 1½d. 10 Envelopes "M" size 2s. 3d.  
 5 Letter Cards 7½d. 5 Envelopes "L" size 1s. 1½d. 5 Envelopes "M" size 1s. 9½d.  
 2 Letter Cards 4d. 2 Envelopes "L" size 7½d. 2 Envelopes "M" size 8d.  
 1 Letter Card 2½d. 1 Envelope "L" size 4d. 1 Envelope "M" size 5d.  
 The above prices are for quantities of 10 or more. For smaller quantities the prices will be as follows:—  
 1 Letter Card 1½d. 1 Envelope "L" size 2½d. 1 Envelope "M" size 3d.

Paper grey at first. blue later.

7. THE TWOPENCE-HALFPENNY.

Date of Issue, December, 1876.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a profile of the Queen to the left, embossed on a solid pointed upright oval ground of colour, surrounded by a pearled border, and enclosed in a similarly shaped frame with a scalloped exterior edge. The ground of the frame is in colour, with a reticular engine-turned design embossed upon it in white, on which is the inscription, in sunken block letters in colour, POSTAGE TWO PENCE HALFPENNY, round the head. In the frame below the bust are inserted the date plugs.



There are no initials on the base of the bust. The figure 1 may be detected, but is scarcely visible on the majority of specimens.

The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who designed and executed the frame, and added a pendent curl to the head struck from Mr. Wyon's die.

IMPRESSION.—The colour selected was puce verging on lilac, somewhat fuller in shade than that employed originally for the adhesive stamp of similar value.

REMARKS.—Like the three halfpence, this value is but seldom seen in use.

*for postal union*

In the year 1862 the Inland Revenue Department, which professed to exclude coloured paper from the privilege of being stamped, permitted tinted paper to pass. Not a few changes could be rung out of the various shades of straw, pink, lilac, blue, and sea-green; but additional varieties were made, mainly for the use and behoof of collectors, by employing wove, laid, and *batonné* paper. Since the year 1877 the Inland Revenue Department has refused to admit tinted paper to be stamped,

*generally*

o 2

Page 195. At the foot of the page it is stated that since the year 1877 the Inland Revenue Department has refused to admit tinted paper to be stamped. This is not quite accurate. It may be the *rule* of the Department, but it is certainly not the invariable *practice*, as specimens recently stamped clearly show.

and requires that it should be either white or ordinary azure, and of good substance.\*

The Department includes in the form of the warrant not only stamps of the values of one penny, three-halfpence, twopence, twopence-halfpenny, threepence, fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling, for which dies have been prepared; but also eightpence, ninepence, and tenpence, for the two former of which they do not possess dies, and for the latter have never employed the die made for the embossed adhesive 10d. stamp. To supply these values, they impress two of the existing values on the paper; thus they ordinarily form the eightpence by two dies of fourpence, the ninepence by the threepence and sixpence, and the tenpence by the fourpence and sixpence, the higher value when it exists being stamped first, and the lower value to the left of it. The door once opened to embossing two stamps side by side was not allowed to be shut, and as the Department offered no objection to impressing a second stamp on paper which had already been once stamped, provided that the fee charged for changing the die on all orders for less than £10 was paid, stamp-dealers availed themselves largely of the opportunities thus offered, and permutations and combinations of all the dies have been made, of no conceivable interest or utility except to swell the size and expense of collections without adding one iota to their real interest. That such envelopes may represent a postal rate is not to be denied, but that one in a thousand has ever been employed legitimately for prepaying postage is more than problematical, and they are hardly worthy of a place in a collection except to show how far folly can go. We give a list of those of which the existence is known. With regard to the values above one shilling, we have not seen them in combination with the more recently issued 1½d. and 2½d., and those in combination with other values are <sup>generally</sup> invariably affixed before the smaller value, leading to the presumption that they were struck on paper already stamped with the smaller value, and this is very probable, as these combinations are emphatically what the dealers call "heavy stock."

See on compared with a paper in Gibbons's Journal 1891  
Aug<sup>o</sup>. by W. S. Jeff. a list &c

\* sometimes however, by accident or favour, a tinted paper has  
been accepted & stamped.

\* Feb'y  
Early 1891's. dates suppressed in series to order. small  
ornaments rosaces } filled in blue later.  
florets }

\* But in 1890. after this stamp<sup>10.</sup> had been struck on the  
Paris Telegraph Terminus. (1889) (see p. 353. post). they were  
struck (! as proposed) singly & in combination.  
see Ph. Records Oct. 1890. vol XII. 175.

27. Distinguish die I. x II of 1<sup>d</sup> in this list.

1890. 10<sup>d</sup> light blue on white. N. Rec 1890 p. 175.

10<sup>d</sup> + 1<sup>d</sup> 10 + 1<sup>d</sup> 10 + 2<sup>d</sup> 10 + 2<sup>d</sup> 10 + 3<sup>d</sup> 10 + 4<sup>d</sup> 10 + 6<sup>d</sup>

10 + 10. 10 + 1<sup>d</sup>. also Buhl (St. News Feby '92 p. 23) says six sets were printed on ordinary white paper by mistake - he saw a set. See 1000 / MacLan. 6.6.94) p. 25-10. -

Page 197. To "synopsis" of combined values add:

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Four pence-halfpenny . . . . .     | 3d. and 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d. |
| Thirteen pence . . . . .           | 1d. and 1s.                              |
| Thirteen pence halfpenny . . . . . | 1s. and 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d. |
| Fourteen pence . . . . .           | 2d. and 1s.                              |
| Fourteen pence halfpenny . . . . . | 1s. and 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d. |
| Fifteen pence . . . . .            | 3d. and 1s.                              |
| Sixteen pence . . . . .            | 4d. and 1s.                              |
| Eighteen pence . . . . .           | 6d. and 1s.                              |

N.B.—Where the 1d. die enters into these combinations prior to July, 1868, die I. is found; after that date, die II.

222. (Thomas. 19.89) all seen by me.

Three pence 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> + 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d

Twenty pence 1<sup>0</sup> + 4<sup>d</sup> + 4<sup>d</sup>

Seventy pence halfpenny 1<sup>0</sup> + 3<sup>d</sup> + 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d.

Twenty three pence halfpenny. 1<sup>0</sup> + 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d + 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d top row.

struck with various dates in May '68 1<sup>0</sup> + 2d + 3d lower row.

from 9<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. apparently on 3 occasions & warrants.

struck early in 1892. with the 10d in blue a set of values. 1000/1000

3 - Envelope, 10d., in blue (error), by 2d. blue (compound); one of the rarest envelopes; only 6 copies having been printed in blue instead of in brown; entire, unused, superb

SYNOPSIS OF COMBINED VALUES.

|                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Twopence . . . . .             | 1d. and 1d.               |
| Twopence-halfpenny . . . . .   | 1d. " 1½d.                |
| Threepence . . . . .           | 2d. " 1d.                 |
| Threepence-halfpenny . . . . . | 2½d. " 1d.                |
| " " . . . . .                  | 1½d. " 2d.                |
| " " . . . . .                  | 2d. " 1½d.                |
| Fourpence-halfpenny . . . . .  | 2½d. " 2d. 3 + ½          |
| Fivepence . . . . .            | 3d. " 2d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 2d. " 3d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 1d. " 4d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 4d. " 1d.                 |
| Fivepence-halfpenny . . . . .  | 4d. " 1½d.                |
| Sixpence-halfpenny . . . . .   | 4d. " 2½d.                |
| Sevenpence . . . . .           | 6d. " 1d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 1d. " 6d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 4d. " 3d.                 |
| Sevenpence-halfpenny . . . . . | 6d. " 1½d.                |
| " " . . . . .                  | 1½d. " 6d.                |
| Eightpence . . . . .           | 6d. " 2d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 4d. " 4d.                 |
| Eightpence-halfpenny . . . . . | 6d. " 2½d.                |
| Ninepence . . . . .            | 6d. " 3d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 3d. " 6d.                 |
| Tenpence . . . . .             | 6d. " 4d.                 |
| " . . . . .                    | 4d. " 6d.                 |
| Thirteenpence . . . . .        | 1s. " 1d.                 |
| Fourteenpence . . . . .        | 1s. " 2d. 13½d - 1s + 1½d |
| Fifteenpence . . . . .         | 1s. " 3d. 2d + 1?         |
| Sixteenpence . . . . .         | 1s. " 4d. 1s½ - 1s + 2½d. |
| Eighteenpence . . . . .        | 1s. " 6d.                 |
| Two shillings . . . . .        | 1s. " 1s.                 |

According to the regulations of the stamping department at Somerset House now in force, if in the process of embossing a blank is accidentally spoilt by an imperfect stamp being affixed, or through any other mishap, the blank is returned to the owner with the other stamps, with a notice printed on the face of it that on a fresh warrant being sent in, the value will be made good either in penny stamps or in any way the owner desires. Where the stamp has been imperfectly struck it is surcharged in black with a hand stamp "TO BE TRANSFERRED."

Specimens of these spoilt stamps are frequently seen in collections of postal curiosities.

## STAMPS EMBOSSED FOR PRIVATE FIRMS.

In addition to impressing the ordinary dies on paper supplied by the public, the Inland Revenue Department will impress the official stamp, surrounded by a circular band bearing the name and address of any private firm, without making any extra charge beyond the cost of engraving the die. Nor do the authorities object to private firms adding a similar band themselves to stamps already struck by the Inland Revenue Department, provided that nothing more than the name and address of the firm with its trade or profession appear upon the band.

In those which are struck at Somerset House, the colour of the ring is identical with that of the stamp, the special die being so constructed as to permit of its being used in the embossing machine at the same time as the official stamp, and the whole is effected in one operation.

In the case of those which are of private manufacture, the ring is impressed round the official stamp already embossed on the paper, and ordinarily in a different colour from that of the stamp, and even when it is evidently intended to be similar, it fails to be so. In all those which we have noticed the pattern of the ring differs from that adopted by the Inland Revenue Department.

Many firms, chiefly publishers, news agents, and India or Colonial agents, have taken advantage of the privilege, which acts as a safeguard in insuring the stamps being used in their business, while it also serves as a species of advertisement by putting their names conspicuously before the public.

To stamp collectors these stamps offer but little interest except as showing what the authorities do, or permit to be done; it would not therefore serve any useful purpose to give a list of the firms who have availed themselves of this privilege, and we shall accordingly limit our account of them to a description of the types of the rings adopted by the Inland Revenue Department.

Any paper which the Department would allow for the embos-



# Alteration of Colours 1892

Stamps embossed at S<sup>t</sup> Ho on private orders in 1892.

Colours changed.

1 1/2 d. yellow. - 5.W.W for brown. at struck 23.2.92  
 2d. red. canis (puce) W.W. from blue.  
 10d. red brown 5.W.W. from blue.  
 2 1/2 blue. nil. all dated 3.5.92. on the plugs,  
 (from puce)

The 6<sup>d</sup> was in a pale shade new one.

and a few were done on blue paper: but henceforth only on white at first

Composed of these ~~1d + 1d~~ 1 1/2 d + 1 1/2<sup>d</sup> yellow } seen. 85. new  
 2d + 2d puce } p. 160.  
 2 1/2 + 2 1/2 blue } on blue  
 } + on white

return 21.1.96 to Mr W. signed R.A. Collyer. 16.1.96.

Dies used for embossing 9 sets.

| General Name |                       |       | at Brunell House |      |                         |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------|------------------|------|-------------------------|
| No.          | Reg <sup>d</sup> date | month | July.            | Nov. | Reg <sup>d</sup> Month. |
| 9514.        | 21.9.92.              | S.H.  | 1/2              | 1-6  | 21.9.92. Nil            |
| 15526.       | 3.3.94.               | Nov   | 1/2              | 7-12 | 8.3.94. Nil             |
| 27-38.       | 7.5.95                | Nov   |                  |      |                         |

|                |         |            |
|----------------|---------|------------|
| 2 <sup>d</sup> | 2.6.60  |            |
| 5+6.           | 26.9.90 | Nov & W.W. |
| 7+8.           | 7.9.92  | S.H.       |
| 9-11.          | 7.5.95  | Nov        |

none reg<sup>d</sup> since 28.11.83.

no record of Die 1 having been pierced for plug.

1/2. 5+6. 7.9.72. S.H. || 2 1/2. 1 to 3. 30.12.91. Nil

none reg<sup>d</sup> since 20.11.83.

" " 26.9.89

25 to 30. 21.7.91. Nov

31-36. 13.8.94. Nov

37-42. 22.11.95. Nov

43-48. 29.1.98.

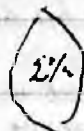
568. 8.2.53.

1. (None reg<sup>d</sup> since 17.12.84).

16-19. Reg<sup>d</sup> 29.1.98.

British Workman of 9 <sup>below</sup> Paternoster Row. London. | small?  
 1 1/2 in diam (triangle) W H Smith & Son

Found also in 1850.



+

2<sup>d</sup>.

Pat. only with ring  
 W H Smith



+

3<sup>d</sup>.

2<sup>d</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>.

Page 199, last paragraph. A stamp of one penny, similar in design to the fourpence described by M. Rondot, is to be found. We have only seen a cut specimen, and cannot therefore say whether it was stamped on an envelope or a wrapper, but it is probable that it was stamped on both.

Smith, Elder & Co.

1<sup>d</sup>

29. 1. 58.

4d.

1. 10. 64.

ring of envelopes generally, is admitted for the purpose of being embossed with the additional ring, and it may be cut in any form adapted either for wrappers or envelopes.

The system commenced early in 1857. The earliest known type consists of two plain curved bands, being segments of a circular band 3 mm. wide, and having a diameter of 36 mm. or  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch external measurement. Each of these segments measures 28 mm. in length, and they are applied one above and the other below the official die, each segmental band being outlined by a white line, and the ends rounded. The only firm known to have possessed this type is that of W. H. SMITH and SON, whose name appears in the upper segmental band, and the address, 186, STRAND, W.C., in the lower. The values are one penny, pink, dated 9.6.57, 2d., blue, dated 9.3.57, and 1s., green, dated 9.3.57. The copies seen by us are all surcharged "specimen" in black with a pen and ink, and it seems to be doubtful whether or not this type was ever actually used. If not it would more properly be referred to under the head of "Essays," &c.

The next type dates from July, 1857, and consists of a plain circular band, 4 mm. wide, forming a complete ring of 36 mm. diameter, external measurement, round the stamp. The name of the firm is on a plain cartouche above the Queen's head, and the address on a similar one below, while between the extremities of the cartouches on either side is an eight-rayed star ornament.

This type is found with the names and addresses of various firms both in the home and colonial trades, but M. Rondot (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 293) in giving an engraving (No. 97) of one value, fourpence, struck on an envelope for Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., speaks of it as made specially for them, and designed for Indian postage. This envelope has acquired additional celebrity through being described in Lallier's Album as an "Indian Envelope," and a place being allotted to it in the Indian page. No doubt the whole mistake has arisen from the firm having been described in the lower cartouche as  
EAST INDIA AGENTS.

The third type is that in use at the present time, and dates from 1861. It consists of a plain circular band, 5 mm. wide, forming a complete ring round the official stamp of 38 mm., or 1½ inch diameter, external measurement. The names and addresses are in somewhat larger lettering than in the last preceding type, and are not within cartouches, though the two star-like ornaments are retained. On some of the <sup>current</sup> wrappers of Messrs. Smith,



Elder, and Co, it is found embossed in conjunction with the second type of the one penny die.

on 1<sup>st</sup> post

Known to be "The Phoenix Gas Light & Coke Company"  
Barkside. S.E.

1<sup>st</sup>. 19. 1. 77:

W. H. Smith & Son. 186. Strand London.

Smith Elder & Co. 65. Cornhill London.

The Home News Printing Co London.

James Adams Son & Co. Liverpool. die 187. - 10. 8. 75. struck.

W & J. Avery. Birmingham. - 18. 5. 87. struck.

Paul & Son. Waltham Cross, Herts. 2. 10. 79. struck.

Young & Hochoff Liverpool. 31. 1. 65 struck.

Samuel allopp & Sons Burton on Trent. 6. 8. 63. struck

Office of the Philatelic Quarterly. Brighton. 12. 1. 77. struck

Publishers of the Permanent Stamp Album. no die found.



Stephens Smith & Smith 13. George Street. Bath. 9. 2. 63 struck.

" Queen Square House Bath 8. 5. 65 struck.

S. W. Selver & Co. Circular. Published Monthly. 5. 67.

Phoenix Gas Light & Coke Coy 1<sup>st</sup>.

In Sept 1888 the Comms<sup>having</sup> J. R. declined to print the  
ring in future round these embossed stamps: they  
admitted paper to be stamped 1<sup>st</sup> wrapper etc  
at that time.

Square nearly 45 mm high x 42 wide - cable outside edge  
+ line ~~cross~~ . oval inscribed large block letters "The Marble  
Sparkling water works"  . cross then in each spandrel  
with Regis<sup>+</sup> trad. in small block letters  . below circles  
the legend.

1<sup>st</sup> issue P. Mark Ramogate. 68 ? 13. 2. 89

? I think - but on no official.

Registration. By circular of 27 Oct 1856, P.M. Genl

ordered that green covers for registered letters shd in future be discontinued: instead a receipt signed by the receiver of

M<sup>rs</sup>. The green covers were a half letter sized sheet of soft green paper, in which the letter was wrapped, or tied round the letter by

Circular No 5. of 1859. My circular of this date. It was advised by P.M. Genl. That all inland, Foreign & Colonial Reg<sup>d</sup> letters shd thenceforth be safely tied with green tape, as shown in drawing: which was

thus. Tape c<sup>d</sup> green.

Registered in red ink

written.

? form of present form



Chief. Sumner of Deverges on 15.7.50 suggested to the H.C.

— a 6<sup>th</sup> str in light green. for Reg<sup>d</sup> letters only.

14 May 1840. J. Morgan of Chester. suggests to R. Hill a system of giving rec<sup>d</sup> for reg<sup>d</sup> letters

2 warrants for Reg<sup>d</sup> letters.

M<sup>r</sup>. Tennant proposed a 2d fee for reg<sup>d</sup> in near 60 for post Essays.



*Quidhall Exhibitor Case No. 276.  
Notice to Public of Regn  
introduced by Regn  
6 Jan 1841.*

#### SECTION IV.

##### REGISTRATION ENVELOPES.

PREVIOUSLY to the introduction of the uniform penny-post system all letters containing, or supposed to contain, coin or jewellery were registered gratuitously by the Post-office, as a security against loss; but when the new system came into operation it was considered to be impracticable to continue the service, and with the sanction of the Treasury it was dropped. As the number of letters containing coin and valuables increased, and the depredations also increased in a like ratio, a system of registration was adopted in 1841,\* but the charge of one shilling was so high that the public did not avail itself to any considerable extent of the protection thereby offered; for though the registration furnished an extra degree of security to the letter during its transit, yet beyond this the Post-office undertook no further responsibility. In October, 1841, Lord Lowther, the Postmaster-General, proposed to the Lords of the Treasury that he should be allowed to use the powers conferred by 3 and 4 Vict., c. 96, s. 39, and establish a compulsory registration of letters supposed to contain coin or valuables, charging them with the registration fee of one shilling, to be paid by the receiver when not paid by the sender. The proposal was referred to Sir Rowland Hill, who, while he considered the principle of compulsory registration a fair one, yet was of opinion that so long as the registration fee was fixed at one shilling sufficient inducement for voluntary registration was not held out to the public. He therefore advised the Lords of the Treasury to lower the fee; but as that proposal

*6 Jan 1841*

was objected to, the question remained in abeyance for some years.

In March, 1848, the fee was reduced to sixpence, and in <sup>1861</sup> ~~August, 1862~~, was still further reduced to fourpence, when compulsory registration was applied to all letters passing through the London office supposed to contain coin or valuables, and in the following year it was extended to all inland letters. The registration system was also made applicable to packets passing by the Book Post.

On the 1st January, 1878, some important changes were made. The fee was reduced to twopence, and the Post-office, although re-affirming that it was not responsible for the safe delivery of registered articles, expressed its willingness to make good the value of any so registered which might be lost in transit, to the extent of £2, on certain conditions, one of them being that, if the article consisted of money, it must, in order to have the benefit of the insurance, be "enclosed in one of the Registered Letter Envelopes sold by the Post-office for the purpose."

It is with these envelopes, then for the first time issued, that we have now to deal.

The issue to the public took place on 1st January, 1878. Many of those issued about that period are found bearing on the stamp the dates of November and December, 1877, but these belong to stock which was prepared previously to the 1st January in view of the issue to take effect on that day. Two sizes only were issued at first; viz., those distinguished at the Post-office by the letters F and G, the first measuring  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the other  $6 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, though the actual sizes are frequently found to vary a little from the standard. These, as also all the other sizes subsequently issued, are made to open at the end, and on the closing flap the registration fee stamp of twopence is struck in relief. They are lined with muslin, and are the invention of Messrs. McCorquodale and Co., who have taken out a patent for it. As it had previously been the practice with the Post-office to tie each registered letter with a green string, an imitation in blue is printed on the envelopes, the front being traversed by two

Mc



REGISTRATION ENVELOPES. Pages 201-212.

Since the publication of the work, not only have a large number of specimens of the earlier issues been submitted to us for inspection, but many changes have occurred amongst those current at that date. Some additions have also been made which it is necessary to describe. We think, therefore, that it will be more advisable to re-arrange the "synopsis" of the provisional issue, and to re-model the section describing the permanent issue, rather than to make any attempt to bring the history of these envelopes down to the present time by means of interpolations in and additions to the text. An emendated "synopsis" of the provisional issue is therefore given in place of that at page 205, and a description of the permanent issue supersedes that contained in pages 206 and 207, and in pages 268 and 284 of the appendix to the work.

Referring to the note at the foot of page 206, further investigation has confirmed the accuracy of what is there stated; viz. that the variations in the length of the "legends," which we think for distinction sake would be better described as the "instructions," chiefly depend on the relative distances between the words "officer" and "of," which are separated from one another by the vertical cross line on the face. From the time that these envelopes were first issued down to July, 1881, when a new mode of manufacture was introduced, the whole of the inscriptions and the lines were printed upon them after they were made up. During this period the variations in the length of the lines of the instructions, in the size of the type, in the size of the stamp-frames, and that of the lettering within them, were very numerous, but after the blanks were printed before they were made up into envelopes, these variations ceased, or became inappreciable. When the envelopes were printed after they were made up, the portions of the instructions on each side of the vertical cross lines were set up separately, and the distance between the two branches of the instructions varied according to the fancy of the printer. To this source of variety must be added that arising from various settings-up of the stamp-frames and the lettering within them, which, if taken in combination with the former, produce such a mass of specimens of printers' carelessness, rather than of legitimate varieties, that we have refrained from attempting to bring order out of this confusion, noting only in the "synopsis" the fact of their existence.

Accurate measurement will also sometimes show slight variations, not exceeding half a millimetre, in the length of the instructions, even when printed from the same setting-up; but this may doubtless be attributed to the shrinking of the envelopes, according as they were printed when damp or when dry.

We have given what we deem to be as nearly as possible the normal lengths of the lines of the instructions, with the principal variations as observed by us. In the note above referred to, it is stated that the measurements are "taken from the down stroke of the T to the stop at the end of the inscription." To this should be added, "or to the extremity of the last letter of the line when there is no stop."

foot

\* paper distinctly yellowish or creamy in tone, was also used; and in almost every packet sold, <sup>independently</sup> the different papers may be found. we are disposed to think

From the commencement, ~~except in 1877~~ of the year 1878 the Contractor's name "Mc Corquodale & Co." <sup>was</sup> printed ~~under~~ under the part covering by the flap, in the autumn of 1880 the ~~the~~ <sup>unchanged</sup> name in "Mc Corquodale & Co. Limited" which continues to the present time, 1883.

\* Before the date was abandoned, the stamp was  
embossed by the Contractors: After the date was  
omitted, no Reg<sup>s</sup> were stamped at S. House,

Ph. Exht. May '90. . . Commrs J. N. Case 144.

Die I. being that in engraving opposite 19. 11. 77. Reg<sup>ult</sup>



blue lines crossing each other at right angles, thus dividing it into four equal parallelograms, and the same is repeated on the back, the horizontal line not extending over the flap, which is left clear for the stamp. The inscriptions on the envelopes are all printed in blue, varying at first in depth of shade, but now nearly always of a light tone of colour. The paper used for the manufacture of them is plain wove of a bluish tinge of white. *but after the permanent die was put into use in the construction of 1870*

The blanks are cut into shape and lined before they are sent to Somerset House to be stamped. From thence they are returned to the contractors, who close them down, print upon them the inscriptions and lines, gum the turn-down flap, and then return them to Somerset House to be put into stock. ✕

### 1. PROVISIONAL ISSUE.

On the flap of the envelope is a semicircular cartouche, with the words "FOR REGISTRATION ONLY" in block letters in white relief on a solid blue ground, below which is struck the embossed twopenny envelope stamp in blue. The postage at the ordinary letter rate is payable by stamps, as in other letters. On the face of the envelope, in the upper left compartment, is the word "REGISTERED" in a single-lined rectangular frame, and above it are the instructions, "THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN OFFICER OF THE POST-OFFICE TO BE REGISTERED," the division between the two upper compartments made by the string-line falling between the words "OFFICER" and "OF."



The registration receipt, given by the office at which a registered letter or document is posted, is a sufficient acknowledgment that such an object has been received for transmission, but in the case of inland postage no similar acknowledgment can be

obtained from the delivering office that the letter has been duly *delivered*. In the case, however, of letters, &c., despatched to countries included in the Postal Union, such an acknowledgment is obtainable by paying, at the time of posting, 2½d. for the return postage of a form which accompanies the registered object to its destination. There are two kinds of this form—one in English, and the other in French. It is filled in by the despatching officer, stamped with a 2½d. adhesive, and addressed to the postmaster of the delivering office, by whom it is returned, in due course, with the information recorded in the space provided for the purpose, as to whether the object has been delivered and to whom, or, in the case of its not having been delivered, how it has been disposed of. When this form reaches the despatching office again, the sender is communicated with, and apprized as to what has become of that which he registered.

**VARIETIES.**—The type of the word "Registered" varies considerably, as does also that of the inscription. There are also variations in the length of the space separating the word "Officer" from "of;" and again, in the colour of the impression, which ranges from dark to light blue. To avoid encumbering the list with too many minutiae, only those varieties which are the most marked will be mentioned. These will be found to be dependent principally on the type of the lettering, on the length of the inscription, on the form of the flap, and on the construction of the seams.

This "provisional issue" continued in use from the 1st January, 1878, until the beginning of the month of April following, when a special stamp was brought into use, and substituted for the twopenny envelope stamp with over-arching label.

In the envelopes as first constructed the edges both of the seams and of the turn-down flap were plain, but with a view of affording greater security against their being opened, the seams, in February, 1878, were made with serrated edges, and the flaps were scalloped.

4 impressions with 4 Registration Collars. Reg. 19.11.77  
to be used with the 2d postage due?

Reg<sup>d</sup> copy. Proof taken. 3.12.91. }  
 approved & ratified by Bd<sup>r</sup>: 5.12.91 }

Letter card. 140 x 176. opened or 88 mm folded.  
 5 1/2 x 7 1/6 - - - 3 1/2 "  
 Perf<sup>d</sup> 10 mm. or 3/8 in inside border all round.  
 gauging 14.

all printing in carmine red.  
 card. blue pale. "Letter card" fancy caps below royal  
 arms. Bold headed lion type from Post card. Adhesion on 3 inner edges.  
 To open the letter card, tear off the edge at the perforation. "in one line  
 small black letters on lower front edge, beneath <sup>end of</sup> perforation.  
 "Postage, One penny." of "Postage Letter Cards of 1 April 1879."  
 centre of back when folded in circular type.  
 stamps transmitted above the additional postage required should be  
 supplied by means of adhesive stamps.

J. O. Sells in  
 the gallery  
 15/4 Storrford

10

No.

- Remainder of the valuable collection, mostly fine specimens, including a number of good stamps, entire Mulready cover 1d. black, &c. 149
- Envelope, 10d. blue x 4d. (error); one of the rarest envelopes in existence, only six copies with the 10d. in blue having been printed. Unused, entire, and very fine 1
- Similar envelope, 10d. blue x 2d. Equally rare and fine 1
- Envelopes: 1d. x 1d.; 2d. x 2d.; 3d. x 3d.; 2 1/2d. x 2 1/2d.; 4d. x 4d.; 6d. x 6d. All in old

Lot

- 78 DUTCH INDIES and PHILIPPINES: the collections. A useful lot
- 79 FIJI: 2d. in black on 12c. on 6d. with V.R. in fancy capitals, unused, damaged. A very rare stamp
- 80 FORMOSA: Native issue, large oblong black on white on entire envelope. Very fine.
- 81 — 1895. Native type, green, red and purple, used together on entire, fine and scarce thus
- 82 — Engraved 20 cash, brown, and 20 cash chocolate, both imperforate, unused, very fine
- 83 — Do. 20 cash green and 20 cash brown. similar

in the Macleod's. July 1885.

Stamping out was done at Somerset House till 27 Mar 1881. (last day). Then MacCorquodale & Co. did it, being supplied with dated dies. Last time the dated dies were used was 31 March 1882.

size F in coll Taping. from W. J. Wilson, Lower  
Provisional Stamp dated 12.2.78. Stamp frame  
flap scalloped. edge serrated. word in  
label Registered. instructions in two lines of  
large lettering: being evidently an intermediate  
one: (no other copy known as yet).

**MESSRS. M'CORQUODALE AND CO.**

In answer to Mr. Woods, 15.7.95  
SIR J. HIBBERT said, — Messrs M'Corquodale  
and Co. hold five running contracts under which many  
orders have been given to them during the current  
year. These are for—(1) vellum binding, commencing  
April 1, 1884, and terminating March 31, 1894;  
(2) envelopes, commencing September 1, 1891, and  
terminable on six months' notice; (3) memorandum-  
books, commencing January 1, 1888, terminable at  
three months' notice; (4) telegraph forms, com-  
mencing August 4, 1888, terminable at six months'  
notice; and (5) Savings Bank deposit-books, com-  
mencing December 1, 1892, and terminating Novem-  
ber 30, 1893. The approximate total annual value of  
these contracts is £27,000 a year. My hon. friend  
will judge for himself from my description of the  
contracts how much printing is included therein.

W. Sp. 1885

1908. mentions a cut copy. Print Reps. die of 2d in 3. on laid paper  
28.3.78.



14.12.77  
No Conquidater name I have found in 6-2-78. seen at F 23.11.77.

In the small lettering.

F. 1. 2 + 3 + G. 6. no stop after  
large word **REGISTERED**

SYNOPSIS.

I.

Date of issue, 1st January, 1878.

Flaps and seams plain. Two sizes, F and G. Size F measuring 5½ by 3½ inches, or 133½ by 82½ mm.; and size G measuring 6 by 3½ inches, or 152½ by 85½ mm. The contractor's name is omitted in most of the earlier stamped copies. Paper, azure wove.

(1) Instructions in Roman type in one line of 112 mm., with full stop at the end. No stop after REGISTERED in the frame.

Size F. Instructions measuring 108 mm., dark blue. W.

" " 112 mm., ✓  
" " 112 to 114 mm., light blue. ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 112 mm., dark and light blue. ✓

(2) Instructions in block type of 1½ mm. in one line of 118 mm., without any stop at the end. Stop after REGISTERED in the frame. 118

Size F. Instructions measuring 116 to 119 mm., light blue. ✓ blue ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 116 to 119 mm., blue and light blue. ✓

\* Copies are found with a broken E in the word REGISTERED in the instructions, making the word REGISTERED read as REGISTERED. This is not the only instance of the use of imperfect type so long as the printing was done after the blanks were folded into envelopes.

(3) Instructions in block type of 2 mm. in one line of 120 mm., without any stop at the end. Stop after REGISTERED in the frame. 116 to 120.

Size F. Instructions measuring 119 to 122 mm., blue and light blue. ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 119 to 122 mm., blue. ✓ 118

The whole of the above were issued simultaneously.

II.

Date of issue, middle of February, 1878.

Flap scalloped; seams serrated. Two sizes, F and G.

(1) Instructions in one line of block type same as (2) above.

Size F. Instructions measuring 118½ mm., blue and light blue. ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 118 to 119 mm., blue and light blue. ✓

(2) Instructions in one line of block type same as (3) above.

Size F. Instructions measuring 119 to 121 mm., blue. ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 118 to 121 mm., blue. 118

The whole of the envelopes of this issue were printed from the settings-up of the type used for (2) and (3) of No. I.

I saw 11 Dec 1884 at the Phil Socy Dinner. no label to T.H.T.

Size F. Instructions in <sup>cap</sup> two lines. block letters with caps.

dated 12.2.78.

Permissive Stamp

But after **Registered.**

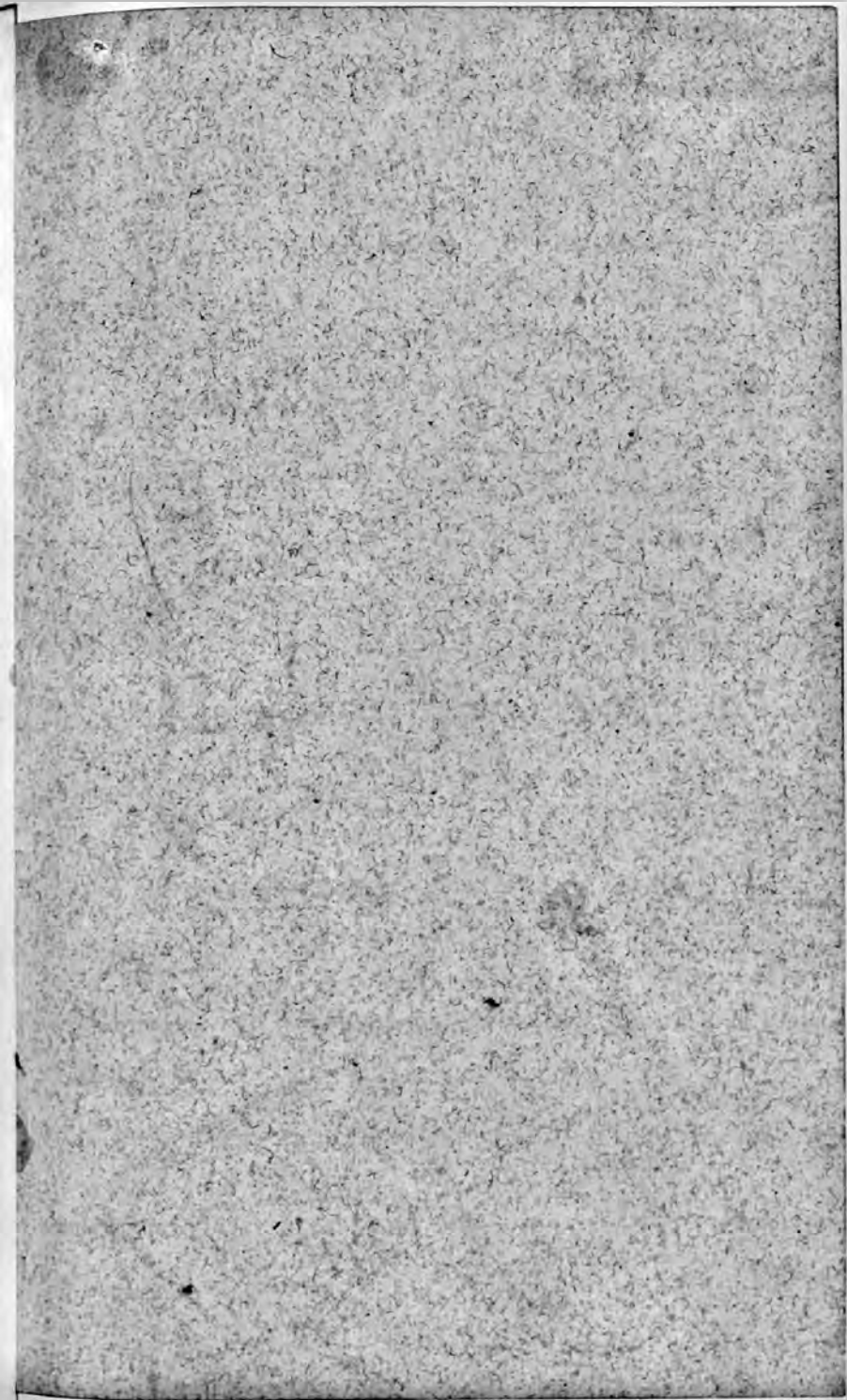
R. large & open. no R.

stamp frame. no dot after line.

flap scalloped. seams serrated.

R. Shows F within 1 line.

very like II. (1)  
on p. 205 post



9 Mar 1892.

Registered Envelopes Sizes.

|                | inches            | M.M.                                | Price<br>each. | # Packets<br>2.5% |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| F.             | 5 1/4 x 3 1/4     | <del>129</del> x 82 1/2<br>129 x 82 | 2 1/4          | 2.5%              |
| G.             | 6 x 3 3/4 (13/16) | 152 1/2 x 97 <del>97</del><br>97    |                |                   |
| H.             | 8 x 5             | 202 x 127                           | 2 5/8          | 2 1/2             |
| H <sub>2</sub> | 9 x 4             | 227 x <del>100</del> 102<br>100     |                |                   |
| I              | 10 x 7            | 253 x 175 <del>177</del><br>175     |                |                   |
| J              |                   |                                     |                |                   |
| K              | 11 1/2 x 6        | <del>290</del> x 152<br>292         | 3 3/8          | 2 1/2             |

## SYNOPSIS.

## I.

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1878.

Plain flap. Plain seams.

Size F.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or 133 by 83 mm.

1. Legend in small letters measuring 108 mm., dark blue. *///*
- ✓ 2. " " " 112 mm., dark blue. "
- ✓ 3. " " " 112 mm., light blue. No contractor's name on envelope. *(a) full*

In the above three varieties there is ~~no~~ stop after REGISTERED. *(a) full*

- ✓ 4. (a) Legend in small capitals measuring 118 mm., light blue. *(a) full*
- (b) " " " 118 mm. "
- ✓ 5. (a) Legend in large capitals measuring 121 mm. "
- (b) " " " 122 mm. "

In the last four varieties the contractor's name is usually omitted.

Size G. 6 by  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or 152 by 96 mm.

- ✓ 6. Legend in small letters measuring 112 mm., blue. *///*
7. (a) Legend in small capitals measuring 118 mm., light blue.
- ✓ (b) " " " 118 mm. " *blue.*
- ✓ 8. Legend in larger capitals measuring 121 mm. "

## II.

Date of issue, February, 1878.

Scalloped flap. Serrated seams.

Size F.

- ✓ 9. Legend in small capitals measuring 118 mm., light blue.
- ✓ 10. Legend in larger capitals measuring 120 mm., " *blue.*

Size G.

- ✓ 11. Legend in small capitals measuring 118 mm., light blue. *blue*
12. Legend in larger capitals measuring 120 mm., "

\* The difference in the length of the legend chiefly depends on the words "Officer" and "of" being closer or farther apart. The measurements are taken from the down stroke of the T to the stop at the end of the inscription. Some other varieties may also be made by observing the type of the word "Registered" in the rectangular frame. All these varieties are owing to different settings up of the type in the machines by which the envelopes are printed singly, and on the first issue there was less uniformity in this respect than has since been the case. During the first years of their issue the sale of these envelopes was about 6,000 per day; but in the following year it increased to about 8,000 out of an average of 28,000 letters registered per day in the United Kingdom.

## 2. PERMANENT ISSUE.

In April, 1878, the twopenny envelope stamp was replaced by a special stamp consisting of the head of the Queen in profile to the left, embossed on a solid circular ground of colour, enclosed in an engine-turned border, on which is shown the inscription in block letters REGISTRATION TWOPENCE. The date plugs are inserted in the lower part of the border.\*



VARIETIES.—No envelopes of this issue have been noticed which do not bear the contractor's name under the flap. The subsidiary varieties are those dependent on the following elements; viz., the construction of the envelope, and the inscriptions on its face. †

## SYNOPSIS.

## I. Scalloped flap. Serrated seams.

(a) Inscription in one line, "This letter must be given to an officer of the Post-office to be registered."

- ✓ 1. Inscription in small block letters, measuring 118 mm., size F.
- ✓ 2. " larger " " 121 mm., size F.
- ✓ 3. " small " " 119 mm., size G.
- 4. " larger " " 118 mm., size G.

(b) Inscription in two lines of capitals, "This letter must be given to an officer of the Post-office to be registered, and a receipt obtained for it."

In the right upper corner, within a single-lined frame, varying in size, "The stamp to pay the postage must be placed here," in small block letters.

Registered " in instructions Stamp-frame measuring <sup>18</sup> 90 mm. by <sup>F</sup> 221 mm., size G. dark ink  
 " " " " 15. <sup>F</sup> 211 mm. by <sup>F</sup> 206 mm., size G. " "

\* The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., the head being the same as that of all the embossed stamps, with a varied bunch of curls.

Dis 1-6. Approved. 12. 3. 78.  
 7-10. " 17. 10. 82.  
 11-14. " 7. 12. 83.  
 15-18. " 5. 5. 86.  
 19-24. " 13. 1. 88.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| DJIBOUTI: Surcharged DJ on 5c. Obock, unused  | 31 |
| - Another lot   | 24 |
| FALKLAND ISLANDS: $\frac{1}{2}$ d. provisional, unused (8); STRAITS<br>1c. on 6c., unused (63); BRITISH HONDURAS: 6c.<br>on 10c. on 4d. (5) | 76 |
| FARIDKOT: Collection, all different and unused. Cata-<br>logued £3  | 40 |
| - A similar lot   | 40 |
| FIJI: 4d. on 3d. a pair <i>imperf. vertically</i> , reversed surcharge<br><i>imperf. id.</i> (1 pair) and 6d.                               | 5  |
| FRANCE: 1876, 1c. green, all unused (22). CHINA<br>surcharged on FRANCE various values, unused (50),<br>used (12)                           | 84 |
| GREAT BRITAIN: 1d. black, block of 4 unused, with<br>original gum one being damaged   | 4  |
| - 1d. and 2d. various issues unused   | 18 |
| - 10d. octagonal (4) and other English, some damaged  | 17 |
| - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. plate 23 (2), 4d. mouse brown and 6d. surcharged,<br>(2) all unused  | 5  |
| - 1883, 6d. (3), 5d. (a pair), 9d. and 5d. of 1880 (pair),<br>all unused  | 8  |

- Universal Telegraphs 3d., 9d. and 1s. unused
- 151 — 3d. block of 12, 9d. block of 4
- 152 — Telegraph  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s. used  
British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph set of 7 and  
English and Irish set of 5, all unused a valuable lot
- 153 — Universal Telegraphs, 6d. two kinds and 1s. 5 kinds, 1s.  
of each unused
- 154 — Railway Newspaper stamps, South-Western, 2d. (29),  
3d. (33), Midland and Great Northern 1d. (33), Great  
Northern  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (30)
- 155 — Irish Revolutionary Essays, 24c., lilac and green, very  
scarce
- 156 — Envelope stamps on buff paper cut square, 1d., 2d., 3d.,  
4d., 6d. and 1s., scarce
- 157 — A similar set on pink paper, rare
- 158 — Envelopes embossed, the rare square size  
with pink pattè on the back, 2d., 3d., 4d.,  
6d., and 1s., unused. A valuable lot
- 159 — Foreign Bill stamps, red on lilac, various values, all  
unused, from 1d. to 3s., and 1 life policy 10s., used
- 160 GREECE : A book containing a number of scarce stamps of

## 2. PERMANENT ISSUE.

Date of issue, 1st April, 1878.

**DESIGN OF STAMP.**—In what is termed the "permanent issue," the stamp composed of the twopenny envelope stamp, surmounted by a cartouche carrying an inscription denoting the purpose to which it was applied, was superseded by a special stamp showing the head of the Queen in profile to the left, embossed on a solid circular ground of colour, enclosed in an engine-turned border, inscribed **REGISTRATION TWOPENNY** in coloured block letters. In the lower part of the border are three small white-lined circles round the holes drilled in the die for the insertion of the date-plugs.

**PAPER.**—The paper first used in the manufacture of the permanent issue was white wove, of an azure tint, similar to that used for the provisional issue; but in July, 1881, when the mode of making up the envelopes was changed, a tough thin wove paper, of a yellowish or cream tint, was introduced, and has ever since continued to be employed.

**IMPRESSION.**—Previously to July, 1881, the inscriptions and crossed lines on the envelopes were printed after they were folded and the seams pasted down; but after that date they were printed on the blanks before they were made up into envelopes. The colour of the impression has varied through shades of Prussian blue of all depths, from dark to pale and washy blue; and at the present time (July, 1884) it is French blue, more or less dark.

The imprint, "McCorquodale and Co., contractors," is found at the extremity of the envelope which is covered by the closing flap. In the year 1880 this firm was converted into a joint-stock company, with limited liability, and in the autumn of that year the imprint was changed to "McCorquodale and Co. Limited," in two lines, in lieu of "McCorquodale and Co." on all printings made after that date.

I. The first issue of envelopes with the new stamp was a continuation of the provisional issue of the two sizes F and G, as found under No. II. of the "synopsis" of that issue, presenting the same variations in the length of the line of instructions. The earliest date on the stamp that we have found is the 27th March, 1878; and though these envelopes were not commonly current till May of that year, yet the date of the issue may fairly be assumed to have been on or about the 1st of April, 1878.

II. At the end of May, 1878, an alteration was made in the inscriptions. The words "and a receipt obtained for it" were added to the previous instructions, the whole being arranged in two lines, and a single-lined rectangular frame was introduced into the right upper corner, enclosing the legend. "The stamp to pay the postage must be placed here," in five lines of small block letters. A similar stamp-frame has continued to be used throughout the various issues down to the present time, presenting, down to July, 1881, numerous variations in size, from 20 to 23 mm. wide by 20 to 26 mm. high, with several sizes of the type of the legend within it. The normal lengths of the two lines of instructions of the sizes F and G were about 97 and 78 mm., and the variations were from 1 to 2 mm. more or less, but there were two marked varieties in the setting up of the lines of the instructions. In one the initial letters of the words **LETTER**, **OFFICER**, **POST OFFICE**, **REGISTERED**, and **RECEIPT** were large, measuring 3 mm., and the word **REGISTERED** was 18 mm. in length, while in the other the initial letters of the above words were smaller, measuring 2½ mm., and the word **REGISTERED** measured 16 mm.

Up to this time sizes F and G were the only ones which had been issued, but they were now supplemented by three other sizes, denominated H, I, and K, with inscriptions similarly worded, and with stamp-frames in the right upper corners. The size of H was 8 by 5 inches, or 203 by 127 mm., with two lines of instructions in thick close block type of 3½ mm., measuring respectively 144 and 110 mm. The size of I was 10 by 7½ inches, or 253 by 177 mm., and that of K 11½ by 6 inches, or 292 by 152 mm., the instructions on these two latter being printed in two lines of open block type of 3 mm., measuring respectively 182 and 110 mm. The construction of these three envelopes differed somewhat from that of sizes F and G, for instead of being closed at the back with one serrated seam down the middle, they were closed at the back with a seam along each side, the edge of which was scalloped like the edge of the flap.

III. In August, 1878, the scalloping of the closing flaps was abandoned, and they were made plain as at the first, it having been found that the scalloped flaps were inconvenient, and were frequently torn at the Post-office where the envelopes were sold singly, as well as in packets of a dozen. The alteration was first made in size F, issued in November, 1878, and was subsequently extended to all the other sizes as the stock of each became exhausted. In other respects this issue differed but little from the preceding one, but there are several varieties in the F and G sizes dependent on the size of the type of the instructions and of that of the legends within the stamp-frame. Four varieties in the setting up of these latter are found dependent on the size and width of the type employed.



IV. In July, 1881, another mode of constructing the envelopes was introduced, with a new issue of size F, which at that period had for some months been out of stock, and has been subsequently applied to sizes G and H, as the old stock of these sizes became exhausted. In the new mode of construction the long flap opposite to that on which the stamp is struck, instead of being folded down before the side flaps were brought over it, was folded down over the side flaps, forming a plain seam up each side. The paper used in the manufacture, which up to that time had been wove, of an azure tint varying in depth, was replaced by a thin wove tough paper of a cream-coloured tone. The inscriptions and the crossed lines were also printed before the envelopes were made up, and the variations in the length of the lines and in the type of the lettering within the stamp-frame ceased. The inscription was also altered by suppressing the oblong frame enclosing the word REGISTERED, and inserting in place of it the words REGISTERED LETTER in large block letters immediately above the instructions.

When the above alterations were made in the manufacture and printing of the envelopes, the instructions on size F were changed by the addition of a penalty clause, which was abandoned before any issue was made of the other sizes. The instructions were as follows: "This letter must be handed to an officer of the Post-office, and a receipt obtained for it. If otherwise posted, there will be an extra charge on delivery;" and they were printed in three lines of block letters of 2 mm., the two first lines measuring each 100 mm., and the third 80 mm. The stamp-frame in the right upper corner contained the ordinary legend, the word HERE at the end of it being sometimes followed by a full stop, while at other times there is no stop.

In October, 1881, the penalty clause in the instructions on size F was suppressed, and the form adopted in May, 1878, was again brought into use, set up in two lines of 77 mm. each in small block letters, preceded in the left upper corner by the letter R in large block type of 11 mm. The legend in the stamp-frame was in small block letters of the same size as those in the instructions, and is found both with and without a full stop at the end of it. A full stop is generally found at the end of the last line of the instructions, but sometimes this is wanting; and the like may be said as to the word REGISTERED in the instructions, which has sometimes a comma after it, but at other times has none. An error in the date of the stamp exists in those stamped on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd February, 1882, the figure "2," denoting the month, being inverted. *Last stamping 31. Mar 1882.*

In March, 1882, the dating of the stamps was discontinued, and the plitg-holes were filled in with pearly ornaments in place of the numerals. As this change came into operation on a certain fixed day, it affected the envelopes at that time in stock which had not been sent in to be stamped. At that time those of size F, last described, were current, as also those of size G of the type of May, 1878, the unstamped stock in hand of which was not exhausted. No unstamped stock of the other sizes appears to have been on hand, as no further issue of size H was made until December last, when it appeared with inscriptions in the form then current for the sizes F and G, and up to the present time the sizes I and K have not been issued with undated stamps.

In July, 1882, the alterations inaugurated in size F in July, 1881, were extended to size G. The mode of construction was altered; the paper was changed to cream-coloured wove; and the blanks were printed before being folded into envelopes. The inscriptions were also altered by the introduction of REGISTERED LETTER above the two lines of instructions, which were preceded by a large block letter R of 16 mm. in the left upper corner. Two settings up of the inscriptions are found, both of which were current at the same time. In one the instructions are in large block letters of 2 mm. in two lines, each measuring 101 mm., with a full stop at the end of the second line, and there is also a full stop at the end of the legend in the stamp frame. In the other the instructions are in smaller type of 1½ mm., and are in two lines of unequal length, the first measuring 98 mm., and the second 75 mm. There is a comma after REGISTERED, and a full stop at the end of the second line; but there is no stop after HERE in the legend within the stamp-frame.

VI. In January, 1883, size G was issued with the large R enclosed in a single-lined upright oval of 27 by 22 mm. The letter is rather shorter than in the previous issue, measuring 15 mm., but the type is thicker. The instructions are in two lines of small block type, the one measuring 92 and the other 72 mm., and there is a comma after the word REGISTERED, and a full stop at the end of the second line; the legend in the stamp-frame is in type of a similar size, and there is no stop after HERE. A change was also made in the mode of printing the inscriptions on the envelopes. Up to that time the closing flap on which the registration stamp was struck was to the left of the face; but when the issue of those bearing the R in an oval commenced, the position of the inscriptions was reversed, and the closing flap was consequently to the right of the face.

*March 83*  
*in (F)*

## II. Scalloped flap. Scalloped seams.

In May, 1878, three other sizes were issued, each bearing an inscription similar to that last described, but in larger type. The edges of the flap were scalloped, as were also the seams, instead of being serrated, as in the smaller sizes. A similar rectangular frame with inscription denoted the place where the postage stamp was to be placed.

- ✓ Size H. 8 by 5 inches. ✓
- ✓ " I. 10 by 7½ " ✓
- ✓ " K. 11½ by 6 " ✓

## III. Plain flap. Serrated seams.

The envelopes being sold singly at the Post-offices as well as in packets of a dozen, the scalloped flaps were inconvenient in retailing them, many being torn. Accordingly, in August, 1878, the scalloped edges were abandoned, and the flap was made plain as at first.

(a) Inscription in two lines as before. <sup>larger</sup> The ~~size~~ of the ~~frame~~ <sup>lines of the</sup> ~~for affixing the adhesive~~ <sup>inscription & of</sup> varies, ~~as do the size of the~~ <sup>some of the words in it</sup> stamp frame & the lettering it contains.

Size F. Stamp frame 20 by 23½ mm. to 21½ by 25 mm.  
 " G. " " " " "

(b) Similar inscription, but in larger type. Plain flap. Scalloped seams.

- ✓ Size H. Stamp frame 21½ by 25 mm. ✓
- ✓ " I. " " " " ✓
- ✓ " K. " " " " ✓

( See Addenda.)

to 383. ✓ unaltered

## 3. CERTIFICATES OF POSTING.

Akin to the subject of the registration of letters which has just been considered, it seems convenient to refer here to an attempt on the part of the Post-office to meet the wishes of a portion of the public by providing an acknowledgment on the part of the office that it had received an ordinary letter for transmission.

When the penny-post system was first established, the idea of giving such a receipt was started by Sir Rowland Hill, and by the 8th section of the Act 10 and 11 Vic. c. 85, the Post-

VII. About the month of June, 1884, sizes F and G appeared with some slight modifications in the inscriptions, which had been set up afresh. In size F the two lines of the instructions measure 79 and 66 mm., and in size G 89 and 67 mm. respectively, and the comma after the word REGISTERED in the second line of the instructions on the letter is suppressed. A full stop is also found after the word HERE in the legend in the stamp-frames on both the sizes, but the size of the frame in size F is reduced to 21½ × 22½ mm. In other respects these envelopes do not differ from those issued in 1883, except that the paper is thicker and smoother.

14 May 1840

Certificate of posting suggested by J. Morgan of Chester to R. Hall

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master-General was authorised to direct that receipts might be given for letters at the expense of the party requiring it; but so that the Post-office should not be liable for loss or miscarriage, and the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes were empowered to provide stamps for the purpose.

It was not, however, till the close of the year 1877 that any attempt was made to give effect to the provisions of the Act, when, in consequence of representations made to Lord John Manners, the Postmaster-General, that a want existed for a system under which receipts might be obtained by the senders of ordinary letters handed to the post for transmission, an experimental issue was made of a "Certificate of Posting."

The certificate was in the following form :

"CERTIFICATE of POSTING.

"A (Letter, Newspaper, or Book Packet) not Registered, addressed as under, has been posted at this Office.

"Address in full . . . . . Date Stamp."

In the right upper corner was embossed a stamp of one halfpenny of the same design and colour as that which had been introduced for stamping post-cards sent in for that purpose by the public. Below the stamp was a compartment for the date stamp of the office. On the back of the certificate were the following instructions :

"The address entered in this Certificate must be exactly the same as that on the Letter, Newspaper, or Book Packet, and it must be plainly written in ink.

"The issue of this Certificate is not to be regarded as effecting Registration, and the Letter, Newspaper, or Book Packet to which it refers will be treated precisely as if posted in a letter-box.

"Letters containing Coin or Jewellery must be registered. Any letter for which a Certificate of Posting may have been given, and which may afterwards be found to contain Coin or jewellery, will be compulsorily registered in accordance with the regulations."

Of these certificates 15,000 were printed and sent to Liverpool, and some other large towns, but the results could hardly be

Die 1.  
printed initials  
& date of order  
on front

Done up with  
a ribbon in  
bundles of 12.

In the month of March following, size F was also issued with the letter R in an oval, and with the instructions printed in a similar way and in type of the same size as size G. The instructions in two lines measure 81 and 64 mm. respectively, and there is a full stop at the end of the second line, but no stop after REGISTERED, nor is there any stop at the end of the legend in the stamp frame.

It should be here noted, that between the date of the issue of size G in January, 1883, and that of size F in March following, the colour of the impression was altered. Up to that period the colour had been Prussian blue, varying from dark to a washy light blue, but the colour was then altered to French blue. This blue had been partially employed in the previous year, but after February, 1883, it was uniformly adopted. About the same period also the stamping of the envelopes with the embossed registration stamp of twopence ceased to be done at Somerset House. They are now stamped by the contractors in French blue, whereas those stamped at Somerset House were in blue and pale blue.

When the issue of size G with the letter R in an oval was made in January, 1883, a hand-stamp with a similar design was supplied to many of the principal Post-offices for stamping registered letters, intended for countries within the Postal Union, which were not enclosed in registration envelopes already bearing a large R on the face. This stamp was applied at the left upper corner in black.

In December, 1883, size H was issued, constructed similarly to sizes F and G, and with a large R in an oval in the left upper corner. The instructions are in two lines of Roman capitals of 2½ mm., the one measuring 109 mm., and the other 88 mm. There is a comma after REGISTERED, and a full stop at the end of the second line. The type of the legend in the stamp frame is similar to that in sizes F and G, and there is no stop after HERE.

Up to the present time (September, 1884) the old stock of sizes I and K does not appear to have become exhausted, as no fresh issue has been seen.

*I impression*

*Discontinued 6 July April 1885. SYNOPSIS. I. 1885. P. 12, p. 24.*

Flap scalloped; seams serrated. Stamp dated. Instructions in one line, without any stop at the end. Paper, azure wove.

(1) Instructions in block type of 1½ mm., as in I. (2) and II. (1) of the provisional issue.

1st April, 1878.

Size F. Instructions measuring 118½ mm., blue. ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 118½ mm., blue (shades). ✓

(2) Instructions in block type of 2 mm., as in I. (3) and II. (2) of the provisional issue.

1st April, 1878.

Size F. Instructions measuring 119 to 121 mm., blue. ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 119 to 121 mm., blue (shades). W

II.

Flap scalloped. Stamp dated. Instructions in two lines, followed by a full stop. Stamp-frame in right upper corner, varying in size, enclosing legend in block type, varying from 1½ to 1¾ mm., with no stop at the end. Paper, azure wove.

(1) Seams serrated. Instructions in block type of 2½ mm., with initial letters of 3½ mm., and REGISTERED measuring 18 mm.

1st June, 1878.

Size F. Instructions measuring 97 and 77 mm., blue (shades). ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 97 to 98 and 77 to 78 mm., blue (shades). ✓

(2) Seams serrated. Instructions in block type of 2½ mm., with initial letters of 3 mm., and REGISTERED measuring 16 mm.

1st June, 1878.

Size F. Instructions measuring 97 and 77 mm., light blue. W ✓

Size G. Instructions measuring 97 to 98 and 77 to 78 mm., light blue. ✓

(3) Seams scalloped. Instructions in thick close block type of 3½ mm.

1st June, 1878.

Size H. Instructions measuring 145 and 111 mm., blue (shades). ✓

A specimen has been shown to us in which the crossed lines and the inscriptions on the face are all wanting, though the crossed lines are printed on the back. This can scarcely be classed as a variety, being clearly due to an oversight of the printer.

*1885 m/4 Aug. The second of 1885.*



*John Shannon after D. Reiland. 24 Rep. 14.8.78 p. 1877.  
 Postings were tried at Liverpool experimentally: and the  
 result was "not satisfactory"*

deemed satisfactory. It must be borne in mind that the certificate was only a proof that a letter had been put into the post at a certain time, and was more especially useful where letters had been entrusted to messengers to post, which must necessarily have been done at a post-office or receiving-house in order to obtain the stamp to the certificate; but as the charge for the certificate amounted frequently to 50 per cent. of the cost of the postage, the system failed to attract the favour of the public. It appears that the average daily number of certificates granted at Liverpool was twenty-seven; and when, on the 1st January, 1878, the reduced registration-fee came into operation, the average daily number fell to twenty-one, and in March declined to fourteen. "The system having failed to meet any demand on the part of the public," as stated in the Postmaster-General's Report for the year 1878-9, was abandoned.

In consequence of representations made to the Postmaster-General in 1880, a further experimental issue of these certificates was commenced on 1st January, 1881, limited to Glasgow. The design is exactly similar to that of the former issue, from which it can only be distinguished by the date of the printing, and by the initials of the printer and the number printed (15,000), being on the back of the certificate, and not on the front, as was the case with the first issue. *See also.*

4. OFFICIAL ENVELOPES, &c.

Before quitting this branch of our subject we will add a few words regarding a class of stamps which, though not having in reality any postal significance, have yet become the object of collection among certain amateurs who do not appear to limit their collecting to postage adhesive stamps, envelopes, &c., but aspire to extend it to the collection, not only of every thing which carries an object free of postage, but also to things which rather pertain to the internal administration of the Post-office, and the machinery it employs in carrying out its vast business. From

*has omitted*      *Size G*      *P*  
*Stamp cancelled. Stamp not dated. Instructions in 2 lines. Black left*  
*Registered necessary 15mm. initial letters 2 1/2 mm. black type 2 1/2 mm.*  
*2 2 "      16 mm      "      3 .*  
*no size after 1890.*  
*with color after Reg' in the figures.*

Postage stamps to be charged to Govt Departments early in 1887.

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these we will only single out two; viz., "official envelopes" and "postal orders"—the first because it was made the subject of a careful, though imperfect, monograph,\* and the second because money orders clothed with a stamp, though in reality a tax under the guise of a stamp, have been in use for a long period in many parts of the Continent, and by some process, with which we are unacquainted, have found their way into collections of postage stamps.

1. Every Official Department in the State is furnished with envelopes of various sizes, on the upper flaps of which are embossed the Royal Arms, with the name of the particular office to which they are appropriated. Some of these envelopes also bear a printed inscription that the communication is Official or "On Her Majesty's Service," together with the name of the office from which they emanate. Formerly an account was kept of the postage payable in respect of such communications, and was defrayed by an annual vote of Parliament, but at the present time they are entitled to pass through the post as if prepaid, under certain rules that have been laid down for evidencing their origin, which is ordinarily done by a hand-stamp bearing the *fac-simile* signature of the Official or of some one in the Department who is charged with the service. Thus the letters of the Lord Chancellor, the Attorney and Solicitor-Generals, the Paymaster-General, the Registrar-General, the Registrar of Friendly Societies, the Registrar of Trades' Marks, &c. &c., are stamped with the hand-stamp of these functionaries, and on arriving at the Post-office are stamped, *ipso facto*, in red with a stamp "OFFICIAL PAID." Communications emanating from the Treasury, the Home, Foreign, Colonial, India, and War Offices, the Inland Revenue Department, the Council Office, &c. &c., commonly bear a hand-stamp of the *fac-simile* signature of one or more of the officials in the Department whose particular province it is to control the correspondence sent out, while other Offices, such as the Admiralty, the Board of Trade, &c., make use of a hand-stamp with a special device. All these communi-

\* See *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. ix. p. 177.

See full list  
at 95. P. 10. 9.  
Table on  
inland revenue  
end of book.  
how weight  
only charged.

July, 1881.  
Size F. Dark blue and blue (shades). ✓

(2) Stamp-frame measuring 21½ by 25 mm., with legend in block type of 1 mm. No stop at the end.

October, 1881.  
Size F. Blue (shades). ✓

R R

V.

Flap plain. Seams plain. Large R in upper left corner. Paper, white wove.

(1) Instructions in two lines of 77 mm. each in block type of 1½ mm., with full stop at the end. Legend in the stamp-frame in similar type.

(a) Stamp dated. Stamp-frame measuring 21½ and 22 by 24½ mm.

October, 1881.

Size F. Stop after REGISTERED and HERE. Blue, light and French blue. ✓  
" No stop after " " " Blue and light blue. ✓

W

VARIETIES.

1. Stop after REGISTERED and HERE, but no stop after instructions. ✓  
1881.

Size F. Pale blue. *of variety*

2. Stop after REGISTERED and HERE. Figure 2 on stamp inverted.

February, 1882.

Size F. Pale blue. ✓ *of variety*

3. No stop after REGISTERED or HERE. Figure 2 on stamp inverted.

February, 1882.

Size F. Pale blue.

*more have  
2.82  
2.82  
2.82*

2d

*more have both stops of one in 87 after HERE, 2 accid-*

*no date*

(b) Stamp not dated. Stamp frame measuring 22 by 24 mm.

March, 1882.

Size F. Stop after HERE, blue (shades). ✓  
" No stop after " " " ✓

VARIETY.

Size F. Colon after HERE, blue.

(c) Stamp not dated. Stamp frame measuring 21½ by 23½ mm.

Size F. Stop after HERE, blue. ✓

R

(2) Stamp not dated. Instructions in two lines of 101 mm. in block type of 2 mm., with legend in stamp-frame in block type of 1½ mm. R in block type of 16 mm. Full stop after instructions and after HERE.

July, 1882.

Size G. Blue (shades). ✓

(3) Stamp not dated. Instructions in two lines of 98 and 75 mm. in block type of 1½ mm., with legend in stamp-frame in similar type. R in block type of 16 mm. Comma after REGISTERED, and full stop at the end of the instructions. No stop after HERE.

July, 1882.

Size G. Blue and light blue. ✓

VI.

Large block letter R of 15/16 mm. enclosed in an upright oval in left upper angle. Flap to the right plain. Seams plain. Stamp not dated. Instructions in two lines, with stop at the end. Stamp-frame measuring 22 by 24 mm., enclosing legend in block type of 1½ mm., without stop after HERE. Paper, cream-coloured wove.

*early 1884 Jan.  
176. (1887)  
No stop after*

(1) Instructions in two lines of 92 and 72 mm. in block type of 1½ mm., with comma after REGISTERED.

January, 1883.

Size G. Blue and French blue (shades). ✓

(2) Instructions in two lines of 81 and 64 mm. in block type of 1½ mm. No stop after REGISTERED.

March, 1883.

Size F. French blue (shades). ✓

(3) Instructions in two lines of 110 and 88 mm. in Roman capitals of 2½ mm. Comma after REGISTERED.

December, 1883.

Size H. French blue (shades).



VII.

Letter B in oval, flap, seams and stamp as in VI. Stop at end of instructions, which measure 79 and 66 mm. in size F, and 89 and 67 mm. in size G. Stop after HBBB in legend in stamp-frame, which measures  $21\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in size F, and  $21\frac{1}{2} \times 25$  in size G. Paper white wove, thicker than in VI.

Jan 4 March } -? January — June, 1884. \*  
Size F. French blue (shades). ✓  
Size G. " " ✓ \*

211

wt off

April 1885. size H<sup>2</sup> issued. fcap. 9 x 4. in  
(R)

1x Recvd. 176. (1887). \* dated 29.1.84 + 16.2.84

Also Royal Comm for Colonial & Indian Exhib. 1886 "Cinderella".  
96 London Walk. High Street, London

1 May 1886. Insurance began, black tickets 11 lines  
Apr 88 10 rec<sup>d</sup> p. 5<sup>th</sup> sup<sup>d</sup> it is now issued  
1888<sup>2</sup> March. altered. to £5 + 10. 9 lines

1 June 1891. <sup>first</sup> included inland parcels up to £25

1 Dec '92 raised from £25 to £50

Autumn 93. New form Reg<sup>d</sup> Env. stamp on flap of face  
in error. 14,976. this die was struck by Contractor. on 9<sup>th</sup> of old form. above us.

Compos<sup>r</sup> paid 4000 and 9 near 90. £2282.  
Lassman

In 1888 - Sept shorter, blue form on size F & G in general use.  
Size G. see in this form 2 - v R. & live under Inland Reg<sup>d</sup>  
Letter Post. & often slight differences. began March 1888

with the TT in letter form. } in F + G.  
no dot. & dot after reg<sup>d</sup>.  
G in Reg<sup>d</sup> badly printed.

July 92. see errors "Stamp" & LIMITED size H.

In 1888. Chetwynd. died Dec 1882.

Page 211, last line. Mr. Chetwynd, who held the important office of Accountant-General to the Post Office, died in December, 1882.

1 Dec 1891. new form. up to £50.  
1898. D... up to 6.

# NOTICE. *in 10 Gend. 1.1.88.*

*The following alteration has been made in the Rules since the present issue was printed.*

## Inland Registered Letter Post.

### FURTHER FACILITIES FOR INSURANCE.

#### WATCHES AND JEWELLERY.

(1) With the view of affording further facilities for the transmission of watches, jewellery, and other small articles of value in Registered Letters, compensation for loss or damage to an amount not exceeding £5 will be given without extra payment beyond the Registration Fee and the Letter Postage. *In the case of letters containing coin, compensation will still be given up to £2 only.*

(2) The arrangement under which, for a fee of 2d., compensation will be given for loss or damage to an amount not exceeding £10 will continue, and, except as altered by this Notice, the existing rules as to compensation for loss and damage of Registered Letters will remain in force.

The public are reminded that, to secure compensation for damage, Registered Letters must be securely packed, and the words "*Fragile, with Care*" must appear on the cover in Bold and legible characters. These words should, when possible, be inserted above the address.

N.B.—When a Registered Letter is posted a certificate of posting is always given, and when it is delivered a receipt is always taken.

#### INLAND PARCEL POST—WATCHES & JEWELLERY.

(3) In view of the foregoing regulations, all Packets containing Watches or Jewellery should be sent by the Registered Letter Post. The Insurance of such articles by Parcel Post is accordingly forbidden, and compensation in respect thereof will in no case be paid.

P.O. GAZ. No. 17708. 12/57. D. & S

**POST OFFICE NOTICES.**—The Postmaster-General has issued a circular stating that as Christmas approaches a large increase always takes place in the number of insufficiently prepaid letters, books, and especially newspapers which are posted for places abroad. The insufficiently prepaid letters for inland transmission likewise greatly increase in number, and more particularly those containing Christmas cards, which are usually heavier than ordinary letters. He, therefore, asks the public to make sure that their Christmas letters and parcels are fully prepaid. Another circular just issued by the Post Office states that on December 1 the maximum limit of insurance value for compensation in the case of the loss or damage of inland registered postal packets (parcels included) will be raised from £25 to £50. The fees payable on registration and the respective limits of compensation will be as follows:—For a fee of 2d., limit of compensation, £5; for 3d., £10; for 4d., £15; for 5d., £20; for 6d., £25; for 7d., £30; for 8d., £35; for 9d., £40; for 10d., £45; for 11d., £50. These fees are in addition to the ordinary postage payable on each postal packet, but they include the ordinary registration fee of 2d. Compensation up to £2 is granted in the case of the loss or damage of ordinary inland parcels, without the payment of any fee beyond the ordinary postage. *Nov 92.*

NOTICE

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8 o'clock, he found the box broken open. The  
had been opened at the hinges and not unlocked.  
the drawers had been ransacked too, and the g  
were scattered about the room. The letter of inst  
tion from Mr. Dodd was with the papers. The wit  
informed the police, and he found that the cash  
in which were the tickets from Mr. Dodd and s  
money and jewelry were missing. There would  
about £2 15s. of Mr. Dodd's money and about £1  
his. The remainder of the tickets and the letter w  
also gone with the box. He did not know posit  
whether he had since seen the tall man to whom  
paid the money. He thought he saw him one n  
coming out of a cab which stopped at the Hyde-  
Club, but he was not sure. He did not know wh  
that was before or after the robbery.

Cross-examined by Mr. Finlay, the witness c  
not say when he was first put into communica  
with the solicitor to the petitioner. He had been  
his shop that any persons having transactions  
this kind" at elections were liable to get into g  
and he went to Mr. Dale and asked his advice. I  
might have been in September, but he thought it  
October. Mr. Dale was a shoemaker close to I  
He took him down to Mr. Munro.

Did you seek his advice to avoid the dang  
getting into gaol?—It was to avoid getting  
trouble.

cations, on arriving at the Post-office, are in like manner stamped as paid, and pass free to their destination. *Official paid*

In every separate department of the Post-office there is at least one chief officer who franks the correspondence emanating from that particular department, which is subsequently hand-stamped "OFFICIAL PAID," but the ordinary business of the "Returned Letter Office" is carried on by simply enclosing returned letters in an official cover, on which no hand-stamp is impressed. The present practice, however, dates only from a few years back. Formerly a returned letter was enclosed to the writer in an envelope with the Royal Arms embossed on the flap with the addition of "Returned Letter Branch," or "Office," of which there are many different types. Hence appears to have sprung up a notion that some franking, or at least some postal virtue, existed in the seal giving the letter a right of passing free through the post, a notion, however, so erroneous that it is only necessary to say that all such envelopes are simply part and parcel of the internal economy and management of the Post-office, the collection of which ranks in the same category as that of any other of the forms issued by the Post-office for the transaction of its daily business.



2. The average value of each inland money order issued by the Post-office being found to be about thirty shillings, it is clear that, considering the amount so transmitted through the post compared with the number issued, the great bulk of the business is due to the large number of orders for very small amounts, and as a boon to the community the experiment was tried a few years back of reducing the tax upon them. This resulted in an absolute loss to the Post-office, and in 1876 the tax was raised. The increase of the tax was, however, followed by the necessary consequence, a decrease in the business. To obviate this, and at the same time to develop the transmission of small sums, Mr. Chetwynd, the Accountant-

P 2

(the late )

General to the Post-office, put forward a scheme for Postal Notes, representing small sums up to £1, subjected to a poundage-tax according to their value. The scheme was brought before Parliament in 1879, but the Bill was not passed; but it was again brought forward in 1880, and became law under the title of the "Post-office (Money Orders) Act, 1880," 43 and 44 Vict. c. 33. By this Act the Post-master-General, with the consent of the Treasury, was authorised to issue orders in the form set forth in the Act, for the purpose of the transmission of small sums, in addition to the money orders already authorised by law. These postal orders are exempted from stamp duty, but are subjected to a poundage on the following scale; viz: Of one halfpenny on orders for 1s. and 1s. 6d.; of one penny on orders of 2s. 6d., 5s., and 7s. 6d.; and of twopence on those of 10s., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., and £1.

The "Postal Orders" were issued to the public on 1st January, 1881, and consist of an elaborate design printed in blue on thin white paper, the paper for each value bearing the watermark "Postal Order," with the value in full. The whole of the design is enclosed in a border composed of a zig-zag pattern in which the value in full is repeated many times in small letters, and on the left is a compartment marked off by a similar border, in the upper part of which is the head of the Queen, while the lower portion is left blank for the hand-stamp of the paying office. Various directions are printed on the face, and it is payable at any Post-office that may be designated, within three months from the date of issue. The value in full is in the body of the note, and also on a tablet, in the upper part, which, as also the amount of the poundage inserted below the head of the Queen, are all <sup>over</sup> printed by a second passing through the press.

The design and execution of the work are by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and in both respects reflect great credit upon them.

*Page 212, last paragraph in the page.* The design and execution of the "Postal Orders" is attributed by mistake to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. That firm supplied the paper only, the work itself being done for the Post-office by the Bank of England.

S. H. 19. 8. 90. | Register sheets of Postal orders in a deep blue  
 much more so than used in the service under date "January 1881."  
 values impressed on each. 8 1/2 sheet.

1<sup>s</sup> 1/6. 2/6. 5/. 7/6 10/. 12/6 15/. 17/6 + 20/.

Another set. printed in lighter blue - as used: form without  
 value as registered. That is printed afterwards in black.  
 Each value distinguished by watermark of value. at corners, placed  
 obliquely. watermark runs.

POSTAL ORDER.

a n<sup>o</sup> of make

also varies in each value. (9.9.) FIVE SHILLINGS 5/.  
 in a kind of raised & shaded mark.

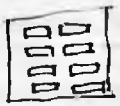
was 1/6. 2/6. 5/. 7/6 10/. 12/6 15/. 17/6 20/.

Each overprint of values not added.

Use had by 1882 grown to very large proportions 57. 107 & £1  
 being made in demand. The cost was £925,000 in the year 1887. 2.  
 out of a total of £2,100,000. in 1885. exceeded £8,600,000.  
 in former year was 4,600,000. in latter. 20,900,000 nearly.

was continue in public favour in 1890 were 49,245,330 p. 19. 58. 583.  
 Postal orders first advocated by Redgrave, who tried to get the  
 authority of the Council. which he did not see his way to  
 authorise preparation of the necessary forms.  
 called first "Postal notes" This was before 1876. when  
 H. Reserpier.

Sheet comprises 8 orders



The litho plates, design, & paper come from De la Rue's  
 printing done at Barch of England.

X. Vol. 1. of works. 8vo 8d. in 8 vols. 1899. 142. 104-b.

a Reference list of newspapers etc by W. S. Jeff.  
appears in *Quarterly Journal*. July 1891. p. 168.

213.

### III.

#### THE NEWSPAPER AND BOOK POST.

##### SECTION I.

##### NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

ALTHOUGH the Post-office possessed the exclusive privilege of conveying letters at certain rates fixed by the legislature, except when entrusted to a private friend for delivery, or sent by express, yet it neither had, nor ever claimed to have, any similar privilege with respect to the conveyance of newspapers or other printed matter. As has been already mentioned,\* newspapers were taxed with a duty as early as the reign of Queen Anne, and continued to be so taxed down to the year 1855. In consideration of this tax they were conveyed by the Post-office free of postage charges, the written newletters, so graphically described in Lord Macaulay's *History of England*,<sup>x</sup> having been the ordinary medium of news, until in the reign of Queen Anne they were superseded by printed newspapers, though these are met with occasionally as early as the reign of Elizabeth.

The operation of the Act of 1839 establishing the uniform rate of postage was confined to the postage on letters, and made no alteration in the legislation then in force with regard to the conveyance of newspapers, which continued to be governed by the provisions of the Act 6 and 7 Will IV. c. 76. By this Act, (1836) the duties imposed by previous legislation were altered and greatly reduced, being thereby fixed at one penny for a sheet

\* *Sup.* p. 15.



containing on one side not more than 1,530 superficial inches of letterpress, and at one halfpenny for each supplement not containing on one side more than 765 superficial inches. When the newspaper consisted of more than 1,530 superficial inches, and did not exceed 2,295, the duty was fixed at three halfpence; while if it exceeded 2,295 superficial inches the duty was two-pence. The payment of these duties was denoted by a stamp impressed by the officers of the Inland Revenue Department on the sheet on which the newspaper was subsequently printed, and the Act provided that after the 31st December, 1836, no newspaper should be printed on paper which was not stamped as required by the Act. The impression was uniformly made in red by means of a hand stamp,\* except in one instance, which will be referred to more particularly hereafter.

The Act also provided that there should be a separate stamp for each newspaper, the die for which should be prepared under the direction of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes at the cost of the proprietor of the newspaper. In the case of all the hand-stamps, the dies, as the records of those sanctioned by the Commissioners show, were composite; that is, the centre consisted of a design common to all, while the name of the newspaper was added at the side. A letter and number are found in the upper part of the central portion of the impression, but this is merely the number of the die, and has nothing to do with the appropriation of the die to any particular newspaper.

These impressed stamps were not of a hybrid character, that is, partly fiscal and partly postal; for not only was the tax represented by the stamp an undivided one, but no newspaper could be published, either for distribution by hand or by post, otherwise than on paper duly stamped with the entire duty.

\* This rather primitive mode of impressing the stamp continued up to the time when the Stamping Department was put under the superintendence of Mr. Edwin Hill, who invented a clever little machine worked by steam for the purpose. There were eight or nine of these machines at work, and they saved a vast deal of manual labour, effecting an economy in wages of about £2,000 a year.

Exhibit Case 13. Ireland Revenue Commrs. The Exh. May 1890.

The James. all in black, except the 1<sup>d</sup>. of 1855.

|         |                  |                         |                     |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| H. # 2. | 2 <sup>d</sup> . | see plate p. 220. No 2. | 25. 3. 58.          |
| G # 2.  | 1d.              | " " " " " 4             | 25. 3. 58           |
| K. # 1. | 1 1/2 d.         | " " " " " 5.            | 18. 6. 55. (in red) |
|         | 2 d.             | (not on exhibit)        |                     |
| A - B   | 1 1/2 d.         | of 1870. No 13.         | 30. 9. 70.          |

Illustrated London News.

|       |                  |                     |           |
|-------|------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| N. 1. | 1 <sup>d</sup> . | plate p. 220. No 7. | 8. 2. 58. |
| O. 1. | 1 1/2 d.         | " " " " " 8.        | 8. 2. 58. |
| P. 1. | 2 d.             | " " " " " 9.        | 8. 2. 58. |

Stamford Mercury.

|        |              |        |            |
|--------|--------------|--------|------------|
| 1/2 d. | <u>742</u> . | No 10. | 3. 10. 70. |
| 1 d.   | 0 - 1.       | No 12. | 22. 2. 59. |

General stamps. - all in red.

|          |  |              |
|----------|--|--------------|
| P.       | as on plate p. 220. No 1. in red.                  | } 18. 6. 55. |
|          | with 'Periodical Publication' on right side.       |              |
| 1 d.     | 2 <sup>o</sup> . 2 <sup>o</sup> . with 'Newspaper' | 30. 7. 55.   |
| 1 1/2 d. | " " " " " No 3.                                    | 30. 7. 55.   |
| S # 1.   | 1 d. slight variety type.                          | 5. 1. 58.    |
| M - 1.   | 1 d.   | 28. 4. 68.   |
| D - 1.   | 1 <sup>d</sup>                                     | 2. 11. 59    |

with Disc<sup>s</sup> 28<sup>d</sup> p<sup>o</sup> Cent. on right  
instead of Newspaper.

16. 17 Vic. c. 63. §3. No higher duty than 1<sup>d</sup> on a sheet. &  $\frac{1}{2}$ d on a supplement to be taken on a newspaper. not exceeding 2295 in super.

Commons Report 1869. p. 77

Stamp since 1855 really a Postage stamp affixed for the convenience of the newspaper vendors & agents.

The plan (first adopted by the Times) of incorporating the stamp with the type, so as to impress it during the printing of the paper has been extended to the Ill<sup>d</sup> London News & to the Standard News much labour at Somerset Ho. & considerable exp<sup>ts</sup> to the receipt prop<sup>r</sup> are in these cases thus saved & the mechanical contrivance which records the no<sup>o</sup> of stamps used is suff<sup>ic</sup>ient for the revenue - "much desired to discontinue stamp paper altogether as a relief to dep<sup>t</sup>"

In 1856 in U. K. before repeal <sup>above</sup> 122 million stamps used  
in 1868-9 <sup>and</sup> 112 million 27. m.

*[Faint, illegible text and markings at the bottom of the page, possibly bleed-through or a separate document.]*

The stamp must be regarded as one purely fiscal, but at the same time carrying with it a certain privilege, in virtue of which the newspaper was admitted to free conveyance by the post.

In the year 1855 the Government, of which Lord Palmerston was the head, resolved to abolish the duty chargeable on newspapers, and it became necessary to make provision for their transmission by the post, inasmuch as if the stamp denoting the duty were done away with the privilege of free postage attached to it would necessarily drop. In order therefore to preserve this privilege, and at the same time to repeal the duty, the Act 18 Vict., c. 27, passed on the 15th June, 1855, enacted that after 14 days from the passing of it, it should not be compulsory (except for the purpose of free transmission through the post), to print any newspaper on paper stamped for denoting the duties imposed on newspapers; and further, that every periodical publication which should be printed within the United Kingdom on paper stamped for denoting the rate of duty imposed under the provisions of the Act 6 and 7 Will. iv., c. 76, should be entitled to enjoy the privilege of transmission and re-transmission by the post between places in the United Kingdom postage free for the space of fifteen days from the date of publication. The Act did not confine the privilege to newspapers properly so called, but extended it to any "periodical publication" printed and published at intervals not exceeding 31 days. Provision was also made that the proprietor or printer of any such periodical publication might send to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, or to such person as they appointed for the purpose, any quantity of paper to be stamped with an appropriated die, the cost of which was to be defrayed by the party sending the paper to be stamped.

Previously to the year 1855 printed matter was not generally transmissible through the post, except at the ordinary letter rate. The "Book Post," as it was termed, had been instituted by a Treasury Warrant of the 7th February, 1848, under the provisions of which packets consisting of a single printed review or pamphlet, the several sheets of which, when more

than one, were sewn or bound together, were admitted to pass through the post at the rate of 6d. per lb., provided that the packet was span at the ends, and not so closed as to prohibit the inspection of the contents. But little alteration was made in these regulations until the year 1855, when it became necessary, in consequence of the abolition of the duty on newspapers, to give the Book Post a new organization. Accordingly a Treasury Warrant was issued, dated the 4th June, 1855, which came into operation on the 11th of the same month, fixing the rates of conveyance by the post of books, printed matter, manuscripts, &c., under certain limitations as to the size of the packets. These rates were as follows :

|                     |   |   |         |                          |
|---------------------|---|---|---------|--------------------------|
|                     |   |   |         | Not exceeding 4 oz., 1d. |
| Exceeding 4 oz. and | „ | „ | 8 oz.,  | 2d.                      |
| „ 8 oz.             | „ | „ | 16 oz., | 4d.                      |
| „ 16 oz.            | „ | „ | 24 oz., | 6d.                      |
| „ 24 oz.            | „ | „ | 32 oz., | 8d.                      |

And for every additional  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb., and every fractional part of every such additional  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb., an additional rate of 2d.

The Act 18 Vict. c. 27 having received the Royal Assent on the 15th June, 1855, another Treasury Warrant was issued on 30th June, containing regulations for the transmission of newspapers by the Book Post, at the same rates as were prescribed by the last-mentioned Warrant of the 4th June.

The effect of the Act 18 Vict. c. 27, coupled with the regulations made by the above-mentioned Treasury Warrants, was that two modes of transmitting a newspaper were open to the sender, the one dependent on the weight irrespective of the size of the sheet, and the other dependent on the size of the sheet irrespective of its weight; for he could either avail himself of the Book Post rates, in which case the postage must be prepaid by ordinary postage stamps at the rate of one penny when the weight did not exceed 4 oz., of twopence where it exceeded 4 oz. and was under 8 oz., &c., or he could send a stamped copy of the newspaper, for which he paid the extra charge for the stamp on the purchase of it. This latter mode possessed an



Taxes on Newspapers

1 August 1712.  $\frac{1}{2}^d$  for a half sheet,  $1^d$  for a whole  
10 Ann. c. 19. in 1749. this yielded £16,450.

1757, to  $1^d$  +  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . (Legge) abt £63000 p. ann.  
30 Geo II. c. 19.

1766.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  + 2d. (Stanh.)  
6 Geo III. c. 34.

1789 2d +  $2\frac{1}{2}$  (Pitt)  
29 Geo III. c. 50.

1797.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  + 4d. (Pitt) (former act 32 & 22)  
44 Geo III. c. 95.

1815.  $4^d$  Universal  
for every sheet. every copy  $5^d$  yields £363,000  
55 Geo III. c. 185. See 26.28  
£383,650

1825. restriction of 32 & 22 removed. (Robinson)  
& supplements  $2^d$ .  
6 Geo IV. c. 119.

1836 (Spring Rice)  $1^d$  for sheet. +  $2^d$  if <sup>1500</sup> over 2295 in copy  
6.7. Geo IV. c. 76. then  $2^d$  +  $\frac{1}{2}^d$  for supplements.

In 1852 yield for U.K. £421,812.

1853. P. covered 2295 in.  
16.17. v. c. 68. 38.3.

1855 (Sir G. C. Lewis). Postal & Technical.  
18.19. Vic c. 27. held £488,000

advantage not shared by the former, as the impressed stamp entitled the newspaper to free transmission and retransmission through the post as frequently as was desired during the space of fifteen days from the date of publication, while the former mode allowed only a single transmission according to weight, but irrespective of the date of publication. By reference to the reports of the Postmasters-General it is evident that the former mode was that which was principally made use of by the public.

When the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation some of the newspapers which were supplied with paper already stamped used up their stock in hand. With these we do not propose to deal, confining our attention simply to the consideration of those stamps which, after the abolition of the duty in 1855, were impressed upon periodical publications for purposes solely and exclusively postal.

These Stamps were of two kinds :

#### 1. THOSE IMPRESSED BY A HAND-STAMP.\*

**DESIGN.**—The design of the stamp employed for this purpose consisted of a rose, shamrock, and thistle, surmounted by a Crown, while below was the motto, DIEU ET MON DROIT, the whole being on a mantle. Above and below were scrolls, on which was inscribed the value in full—ONE PENNY OR THREE-HALFENCE, as the case might be.† On the left side was the name of the newspaper or periodical publication reading upwards, and on the right side NEWSPAPER OR PERIODICAL PUBLICATION, as the case might be, reading downwards. (Figs. 1 and 3.)

The stamp with which the impression was made was a com-

\* For the sake of distinction we have called this a "hand-stamp," though in reality it was, as we have seen, impressed by the aid of machinery.

† Prior to the Act of 1855 the only values of this stamp in use under the provisions of the Act 6 and 7 Will. IV. c. 76, were one penny for a sheet of the size specified, and one halfpenny for a supplement. On the one penny stamp, impressed at Somerset House, the letter A is found on one side of the Crown, and the distinguishing number of the die on the other side, while in that of one halfpenny the letter is C. When the Act of 1855 came into operation the one halfpenny stamp ceased to be used,



posite one, similar to that employed previously to the passing of the Act 18 Vict. c. 27, the central portion, in which also the number of the die is inserted, being introduced into the special stamp belonging to the particular newspaper.

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression was made by the Inland Revenue Department on the sheets intended to be printed on in the same manner as had been done previously to the abolition of the duties, and was so placed on the sheet that when it was folded for transmission by post the stamp should be exposed to view, otherwise the newspaper would be liable to be charged with postage.

The colour of the impression, which for some time previously had been carmine-red, was changed to vermilion-red, and was made in ordinary printer's ink.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1st July, 1855, to 30th September, 1870. One penny.  
For an ordinary sized sheet. (B)

1st July, 1855, to 30th September, 1870. Three-halfpence.  
For a large sized sheet. (L)

#### 2. THOSE WHICH WERE TYPE-PRINTED.

The history of this issue forms a curious commentary on the mode in which, at times, what Mr. C. Dickens termed the "Circumlocution Office," is found to be a clog upon progress.

After the invention of Fourdrinier, by which paper was manufactured in continuous rolls, attempts were made to construct machines by which it could be printed upon without the necessity of previously dividing it into sheets. As early as 1835 Sir Rowland Hill, assisted by his brother, Mr. Edwin Hill, invented a printing machine for this purpose, and took and the impressed stamps then employed were of the values of one penny and three-halfpence, according to the size of the sheet to be printed on. The one penny bore the letter B, and the three-halfpence the letter L, when impressed at Somerset House. Other letters were made use of for the stamps printed at the offices of the Inland Revenue at Manchester, and also at the offices in Scotland and Ireland.

June 1855. new die & clear 100 Lines for condensed duty of H. d.  
No. 1000 in other newspapers will use this duty.  
The best dist. of print in appearance.

... and the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

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... the ... of the ...

out a patent for the invention. Evidently this invention was especially adapted to the printing of newspapers; but as it was necessary that these should be printed on sheets of stamped paper, it was impossible to apply it to this purpose. In 1836 Sir Rowland Hill memorialized the Lords of the Treasury to insert a clause in the Stamp Bill then passing through Parliament, authorizing the printer of a newspaper to stamp his own paper, provided that he could satisfy the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes that no danger of fraud to the revenue would arise. The Treasury refused to comply with the memorial, considering that there were insuperable objections to the plan. We give the sequel in the words of Mr. Pearson Hill, the only son of Sir Rowland Hill: "It may not be without interest to show how very easily 'insuperable' official objections can be overcome when those who raise them desire it. Many years afterwards, when the proprietors of a London newspaper (*The Times*) were making improvements in their printing machinery, and required the very facility for which my father had vainly contended, the Board of Inland Revenue, as I am told, on looking into the Act of Parliament on the matter, found that though the printing of the impressed stamp at the same time as the rest of the newspaper was clearly illegal, the only parties who could proceed against any newspaper were the Commissioners of Inland Revenue themselves. Now, as the Commissioners had made up their minds to allow the change, not only was an intimation given to the proprietors of the newspaper in question that they would not be interfered with, but the officers of the stamp office—Mr. Edwin Hill especially—gave most valuable assistance in carrying out the improved, though decidedly illegal, arrangement."\*

The mode in which the stamp was applied was as follows: The die was under the charge of an official of the Inland Revenue Department, who was always present during the process of printing the newspaper. The die was inserted in the form at the right upper corner of the first page; and as one copy of the newspaper was printed at each revolution of the machine, a

\* *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 280.

tall-tale attached to it showed the number of copies taken off. When the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation, and the stamp was only necessary on those copies which it was desired should enjoy the postal privilege authorized by the Act, the die was removed by the officer when sufficient stamped copies had been printed, and the printing of the unstamped copies was then proceeded with.

It was in the year 1853 that this privilege of printing the stamp with the newspaper was granted to the *Times*. In 1856 a similar privilege was granted to the *Stamford Mercury*, and in 1860 to the *Illustrated London News*.

The mode in which the stamp was applied to the *Stamford Mercury* and the *Illustrated London News* differed somewhat from that made use of in printing the *Times*. ~~An apparatus~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~due to~~ <sup>was used</sup> the inventive skill of Mr. Edwin Hill, <sup>so</sup> secured the dies that, while they could not be removed, they could be worked or not at the pleasure of the printers of the paper, but when worked the machine of necessity actuated the counter of tall-tale. It was very ingenious, and never known to fail.

Four values of the type-printed stamps are to be found; viz., one halfpenny, one penny, three-halfpence, and twopence. The first of these was, however, only applicable to a half-sheet supplement, and was solely employed by the *Times*, having been first used by that newspaper on the 9th November, 1853. When the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation on the 1st July, 1855, this stamp ceased to be used, as supplements of half-sheets were then no longer issued. Still, as it forms one of this class of stamps, we have included it in our description of them, though from careful searches made through the files of the *Times* we are satisfied that it was never employed after the 30th June, 1855, and consequently can only be regarded as a fiscal stamp.

The one penny stamp was first employed by the *Times* on 18th October, 1853, but continued to be used after the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation for all such copies as were intended to be forwarded by post under the provisions of that Act.

No other or newspaper in U Kingdom. 1854 (before report).

22, 178, 507. In 1868-9. - 26. 908. 115.

The largeinking & type Tables of the two former, practically preventing  
quick reversion of violent blow which caused great mechanical difficulty.  
After some experiments, an

4 Rept. p. 77. Much labour at this Office & considerable exps  
the newspaper press are saved (i.e. by incorporating the type with the type  
press it during the printing of the paper) & the mechanical construction  
of the set of steps used is sufficient for the reason -  
It was much to be desired that the steps of newspaper should be altogether abolished



on 5 June 1855 a new die for combined duty of 1½d was  
ordered for the times. to be kept distinct in appearance from that  
of the 1d.

The Sect to the General thereof no other paper would use this  
duty & in that he prejudged rightly.

remark. No description of No 11. on plate. see p. 240.

James One half penny 7y 13 other side

A  A , " A  A. either figures differently shaped

✓ A   as figured opposite.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



## I. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

*for the Supplement*

DESIGN.—The design of the one halfpenny stamp, which was only employed by the *Times* newspaper, was similar to that of the one penny employed by the same newspaper, and is a flattened circle, as shown in fig. 2, the inscriptions THE TIMES and SUPPLEMENT being inserted in two crescents. In the centre are two branches, one of oak and the other of laurel, following the curves of the interior, starting from a knot of ribbon at the bottom bearing the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT. Between the upper extremities of these branches is a Crown, with the letter H. on one side and the numeral 1 on the other side of the Crown as distinguishing marks of the die.

This stamp, unlike the other values, was impressed in the right lower corner of the last page of the supplement.

## II. THE ONE PENNY.

DESIGN.—There were two distinct designs of this stamp:

First, that employed by the *Times*, which was identical in design with that of the one halfpenny, except that the word NEWSPAPER was substituted for SUPPLEMENT, and the value ONE PENNY inserted in two lines under the Crown in lieu of ONE HALFPENNY. (See fig. 4.) The die was numbered G. 1; but at the end of the year 1858 another die was brought into use numbered G. 3, of a similar design with the first die, but with some trifling modifications of the details.

The second design consists of a double oval or flattened circle, between the inner and outer lines of which is the name of the newspaper in the upper and NEWSPAPER in the lower part. Within the oval are two branches, one of oak and the other of laurel, bending so as to follow the curves, and connected together at the starting-point by a knot of ribbon bearing the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT. Between the upper extremities of these branches is a Crown, on one side of which are the die letters, and the numbers on the other. Under the Crown is the value, ONE PENNY.

19.90

Mrs W. says he is satisfied this is a "was never used after 1850,  
therefore is not purely postal."

no description N° 10.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who were employed by the Government of the District of Columbia in the year 1897.

### I. The Civil Service

The following is a list of the names of the persons who were employed by the Government of the District of Columbia in the year 1897, under the Civil Service Act of 1883.

1. *[Name]*

2. *[Name]*

3. *[Name]*

4. *[Name]*

5. *[Name]*

6. *[Name]*

7. *[Name]*

8. *[Name]*

9. *[Name]*

10. *[Name]*

11. *[Name]*

12. *[Name]*

13. *[Name]*

14. *[Name]*

15. *[Name]*

16. *[Name]*

17. *[Name]*

18. *[Name]*

19. *[Name]*

20. *[Name]*

21. *[Name]*

22. *[Name]*

23. *[Name]*

24. *[Name]*

25. *[Name]*

26. *[Name]*

27. *[Name]*

28. *[Name]*

29. *[Name]*

30. *[Name]*

31. *[Name]*

32. *[Name]*

33. *[Name]*

34. *[Name]*

35. *[Name]*

36. *[Name]*

37. *[Name]*

38. *[Name]*

39. *[Name]*

40. *[Name]*

41. *[Name]*

42. *[Name]*

43. *[Name]*

44. *[Name]*

45. *[Name]*

46. *[Name]*

47. *[Name]*

48. *[Name]*

49. *[Name]*

50. *[Name]*

51. *[Name]*

52. *[Name]*

53. *[Name]*

54. *[Name]*

55. *[Name]*

56. *[Name]*

57. *[Name]*

58. *[Name]*

59. *[Name]*

60. *[Name]*

61. *[Name]*

62. *[Name]*

63. *[Name]*

64. *[Name]*

65. *[Name]*

66. *[Name]*

67. *[Name]*

68. *[Name]*

69. *[Name]*

70. *[Name]*

71. *[Name]*

72. *[Name]*

73. *[Name]*

74. *[Name]*

75. *[Name]*

76. *[Name]*

77. *[Name]*

78. *[Name]*

79. *[Name]*

80. *[Name]*

81. *[Name]*

82. *[Name]*

83. *[Name]*

84. *[Name]*

85. *[Name]*

86. *[Name]*

87. *[Name]*

88. *[Name]*

89. *[Name]*

90. *[Name]*

91. *[Name]*

92. *[Name]*

93. *[Name]*

94. *[Name]*

95. *[Name]*

96. *[Name]*

97. *[Name]*

98. *[Name]*

99. *[Name]*

100. *[Name]*

### II. The Police Force

The following is a list of the names of the persons who were employed by the Government of the District of Columbia in the year 1897, under the Police Act of 1883.

1. *[Name]*

2. *[Name]*

3. *[Name]*

4. *[Name]*

5. *[Name]*

6. *[Name]*

7. *[Name]*

8. *[Name]*

9. *[Name]*

10. *[Name]*

11. *[Name]*

12. *[Name]*

13. *[Name]*

14. *[Name]*

15. *[Name]*

16. *[Name]*

17. *[Name]*

18. *[Name]*

19. *[Name]*

20. *[Name]*

21. *[Name]*

22. *[Name]*

23. *[Name]*

24. *[Name]*

25. *[Name]*

26. *[Name]*

27. *[Name]*

28. *[Name]*

29. *[Name]*

30. *[Name]*

31. *[Name]*

32. *[Name]*

33. *[Name]*

34. *[Name]*

35. *[Name]*

36. *[Name]*

37. *[Name]*

38. *[Name]*

39. *[Name]*

40. *[Name]*

41. *[Name]*

42. *[Name]*

43. *[Name]*

44. *[Name]*

45. *[Name]*

46. *[Name]*

47. *[Name]*

48. *[Name]*

49. *[Name]*

50. *[Name]*

51. *[Name]*

52. *[Name]*

53. *[Name]*

54. *[Name]*

55. *[Name]*

56. *[Name]*

57. *[Name]*

58. *[Name]*

59. *[Name]*

60. *[Name]*

61. *[Name]*

62. *[Name]*

63. *[Name]*

64. *[Name]*

65. *[Name]*

66. *[Name]*

67. *[Name]*

68. *[Name]*

69. *[Name]*

70. *[Name]*

71. *[Name]*

72. *[Name]*

73. *[Name]*

74. *[Name]*

75. *[Name]*

76. *[Name]*

77. *[Name]*

78. *[Name]*

79. *[Name]*

80. *[Name]*

81. *[Name]*

82. *[Name]*

83. *[Name]*

84. *[Name]*

85. *[Name]*

86. *[Name]*

87. *[Name]*

88. *[Name]*

89. *[Name]*

90. *[Name]*

91. *[Name]*

92. *[Name]*

93. *[Name]*

94. *[Name]*

95. *[Name]*

96. *[Name]*

97. *[Name]*

98. *[Name]*

99. *[Name]*

100. *[Name]*

There are two dies of this stamp (fig. 7), as used by the *Illustrated London News*, numbered respectively N. 1 and N. 2, differing from one another in details only. The stamp employed for the *Stamford Mercury* (fig. 12) was numbered Q. 1.\*

### III. THE THREE-HALFPENCE.

The general design of this stamp is that of an elliptical arch, with the value THREE-HALFPENCE in a straight label at the foot. There are two principal designs, one of which was employed for the *Times*, and the other for the *Illustrated London News*.

1. The design of that employed by the *Times* in July, 1855, consists of an elliptical arch, in which is the inscription THE TIMES NEWSPAPER and the value THREE-HALFPENCE in a straight label below. (See fig. 5.) In the interior are two branches, one of oak the other of laurel, connected at the starting-point by a knot of ribbon bearing the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT, from which springs a spray of rose; while the thistle and shamrock are found on either side. Between the upper extremities of the branches is a Crown, with the letter and number of the die K. 1 on either side. A second die was brought into use at the end of 1858 with the letter and number K. 3, the design of which differs only in some small details.

2. The design of that employed by the *Illustrated London News* (fig. 8) is very similar, save that the whole space on the arch is filled by the title of the newspaper, and the word NEWSPAPER is inserted immediately above the label, on which is the value in full, thus necessitating a different arrangement of the elements composing the design. There are two dies of this value for this newspaper, distinguished by the letter and numerals O. 1 and O. 2.

\* This weekly provincial newspaper is one of the oldest (if not the oldest) newspapers in the kingdom, having been published without interruption for the space of 170 years. It began its career in 1710, as is shown by the proprietors possessing vol. vi., published in the year 1715. Its circulation is amongst the most considerable of the provincial papers.

## IV. THE TWOPENCE.

The general design of this stamp is that of an elongated octagon, in the lower part of which is a label with the word *NEWSPAPER*, the name of the newspaper being inserted in the upper portions between the outer line of the octagonal frame and an interior line forming a border. There are two designs of this stamp, one of which was employed by the *Times*, and the other by the *Illustrated London News*.

1. The design of that employed by the *Times* (fig. 6) has the inscription *THE TIMES* in the upper border; while the side borders are filled in with a conventional ornamentation. To the right, in the interior, is a branch of oak, with a thistle and shamrock; and to the left a branch of laurel, with a rose and shamrock connected together at the starting-point by a knot of ribbon, with the inscription *DIEU ET MON DROIT*. Between the upper extremities of the branches is a Crown with the letter and number of the die *L. 1.*, under which is the value *TWO PENCE* in two lines.

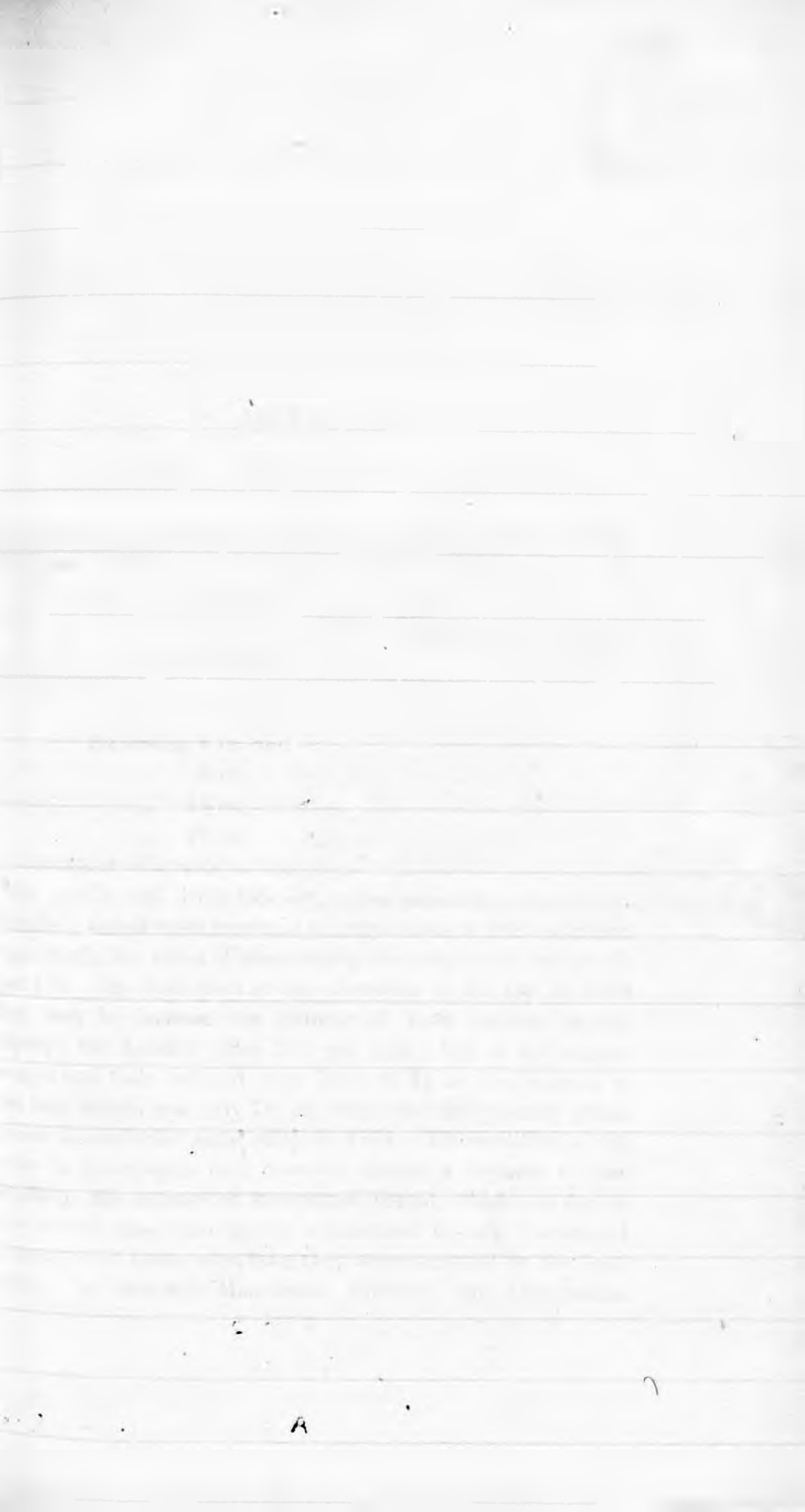
2. The design employed by the *Illustrated London News* (fig. 9) is similar to the one above described, save that the title of the newspaper fills up the entire space in the upper five sides of the octagonal parallelogram. There are two dies of this value for this newspaper distinguished by the letter and numerals *P. 1* and *P. 2*.

## SYNOPSIS.

|  |           |     |   |
|--|-----------|-----|---|
| One penny ( <i>Times</i> )                   | . . . . . | G 1 | 18th Oct., 1853, to Dec., 1853.                         |
| " "  | . . . . . | G 3 | Jan., 1859, to 30th Sept., 1870.                        |
| One halfpenny                                | . . . . . | H 1 | 9 Nov., 1853, to 30 June, 1855.                         |
| Three halfpence                              | . . . . . | K 1 | 1st July, 1855, to Dec., 1858.                          |
| "  | . . . . . | K 3 | Jan., 1858, to 30th Sept., 1870.                        |
| Twopence                                     | . . . . . | L 1 | 1 July, 1855, to 30 Sept., 1870.                        |
| One penny ( <i>Illustrated London News</i> ) |           | N 1 | These were used indiscriminately between 1860 and 1870. |
| "  | "         | N 2 |   |
| Three halfpence                              | "         | O 1 |   |
| "  | "         | O 2 |   |
| Twopence                                     | "         | P 1 |   |
| "  | "         | P 2 |   |
| One penny ( <i>Stamford Mercury</i> )        | . . . . . | Q 1 | 1856 to 30th Sept., 1870.                               |

One halfpenny ( " )

B.B. Sept<sup>r</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1870 -  
 A.A. Two types - call 74th  
 see 70 & 70.  
 A.B. 2 then also 1 type





194



195

## SECTION II.

### *NEWSPAPER AND BOOK POST WRAPPERS.*

No alteration was made in the inland Newspaper Post between the years 1855 and 1870. By a Treasury Warrant dated the 14th August, 1856, the Book Post rates were somewhat modified; and the following scale was fixed to take effect on and from the 1st of September then next, such rates to be prepaid in stamps :

|                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
|                     | Weight not exceeding 4 oz., 1d. |
| Exceeding 4 oz. and | ,,     ,,     8 oz., 2d.        |
| ,,     8 oz.        | ,,     ,,     16 oz., 3d.       |
| ,,     16 oz.       | ,,     ,,     24 oz., 4d.       |
| ,,     24 oz.       | ,,     ,,     32 oz., 8d.       |

Successive Warrants of the 8th April, 1857 (*London Gazette*, 14th April), and 16th October, 1857 (*London Gazette*, 20th October), varied these rates and the regulations in some unimportant details, the latter Warrant fixing the progressive rate at 2d. per  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. The first effect of the alteration of the law in 1855 had been to increase the number of book packets passing through the London office 273 per cent. ; but as the average weight had been reduced from 10 oz. to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., the increase in the total weight was only 70 per cent. over the quantity which passed through the same office in 1854. The abolition of the duty on newspapers had, however, caused a decrease of one-fourth in the number of newspapers posted, which was due to the railway companies having commenced to carry unstamped newspapers at lower rates than they were conveyed by the Post-office. In 1855 the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire



Railway Company. began to carry newspaper parcels at low rates, the prepayment of the carriage being evidenced by a special label affixed to the parcel. Other railway companies did the same thing, though it was not until some years that the use of these prepaying labels became general; but in the years 1867 and 1868 there was scarcely a railway in England or Scotland which did not issue labels of various values for the prepayment of single newspapers and parcels of newspapers of different weights, the charge for a single newspaper being represented by a label of one halfpenny, and for parcels by labels proportioned to the weight of each.

By a Treasury Warrant of the 11th September, 1863 (*London Gazette*, 29th September), a concession was made to the public by allowing samples and patterns of goods of *no intrinsic value* to be sent by the post, under certain restrictions as to size and up to 24 oz. in weight, at rates equal to three times those payable under the Book Post. These rates were altered by a Warrant dated the 16th August, 1864; and by another Warrant dated the 27th December, 1864, prices current were placed on the same footing as newspapers in respect of transmission by post.

The condition that the samples and patterns should be of *no intrinsic value* afforded room, as might easily have been foreseen, for divergence of views between the officials and the public. After some experience of the friction thus occasioned the Treasury removed the obnoxious restriction, and also reduced the rates by a Warrant dated 20th March, 1865 (*London Gazette*, 24th March). By its terms all packets of patterns or samples were transmissible by post if sent according to the regulations thereby laid down, and not exceeding a certain size and 24 oz. in weight, at the following rates, to be prepaid in stamps, viz.:

|                     |        |                             |             |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|                     |        | Weight not exceeding 4 oz., | 2d.         |
| Exceeding 4 oz. and | „      | „                           | 8 oz., 4d.  |
| „                   | 8 oz.  | „                           | „           |
| „                   | 16 oz. | „                           | „           |
|                     |        |                             | 16 oz., 8d. |
|                     |        |                             | 24 oz., 1s. |

Journal of the ...

1911

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See Moore cat. vol 2. p. 96 last.

Nov 92. Morley lead. all cut. Besides. 1.10.70.

- 11.12.71.
- 13.12.71.
- 14. . . .

July 20. 2.72. with the 3 center rock I have this cut. with the 3

- 21. . . .
- 23. . . .
- 24. . . .
- 26. . . .
- 27. . . .
- 28. . . .
- 29. . . .

I have 25.2.72 entire

I have entire

I have 28. entire

4. 3. 72.

I have 8. 3. 72 act. 3. under rock

- 18.
- 20
- 21.

- 11. 3. 72
- 13. 3. 72
- 15. 3. 72
- 20. . . .
- 21. . . .

} entire

27. 1. 72 } all cut with 3. under rock

- 29. . . .
- 2. 3. . .
- 4. . . .

+ Treasury Warrant.

9 Sept 1887.

- 14. 1. 72
- 19. 1. 72
- 20. 1. 72
- 22. 1. 72
- 23. 1. 72
- 24. 1. 72
- 26.
- 27.
- 29

Do. 17 Nov 88 terms into force 1.12.88

|                  |         |     |
|------------------|---------|-----|
| Sample + Pattern | under 4 | 1d  |
| Pat. Established | 6       | 1/2 |
|                  | 8       | 2d. |

March.

- 2. 3. 72
- 4. 3. 72
- 5.
- 6.
- 7. 8.
- 11.
- 15.
- 16.
- 19.
- 20.
- 21.

A certain portion of the public, principally tradesmen, and especially seedsmen, availed themselves of these cheap rates for sending small parcels, for the transmission of which this post became the recognized medium ; but it was abolished in March, 1871, when the letter rate of one penny for every half-ounce was altered to that now in force.

At length the public began to discover that the rates as established by the Post-office for the conveyance of newspapers and printed matter were exorbitant, and this was especially felt in the Book Post rates, where the minimum charge for the transmission by post of printed matter was the same as for a letter of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight ; whereas in France, where the single rate on a letter weighing one-third of an ounce was 20 centimes, or nearly 2d., a newspaper weighing four times that weight was conveyed for one halfpenny, and printed matter such as circulars, invoices, &c., of the weight of a single letter was carried for one-sixth of a penny, and of half that weight for one-twelfth of a penny ; while many Continental States afforded equal, if not greater, facilities for the conveyance of printed matter by the post, especially where it was of small weight. Thousands of circulars were sent to Belgium to be posted, the postal rate from thence to England being only  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., while other attempts were made to substitute some cheaper mode for their distribution.

Mr. R. Brydone, a native of Edinburgh, seems to have imagined that the postal laws did not extend to prohibit private individuals from undertaking the conveyance and delivery of printed circulars. Accordingly at the end of the year 1865 he organized a company, under the name of the "Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company," which, in addition to the conveyance and delivery of small parcels, undertook the delivery of circulars for "door-to-door" advertisers. Adhesive stamps of the value of one farthing were issued by the Company, bearing as a device the arms of Edinburgh and Leith on two shields, and are found in red-brown, violet, and green, imperforate ; in violet, and green, rouletted ; and in mauve, and green, perforated

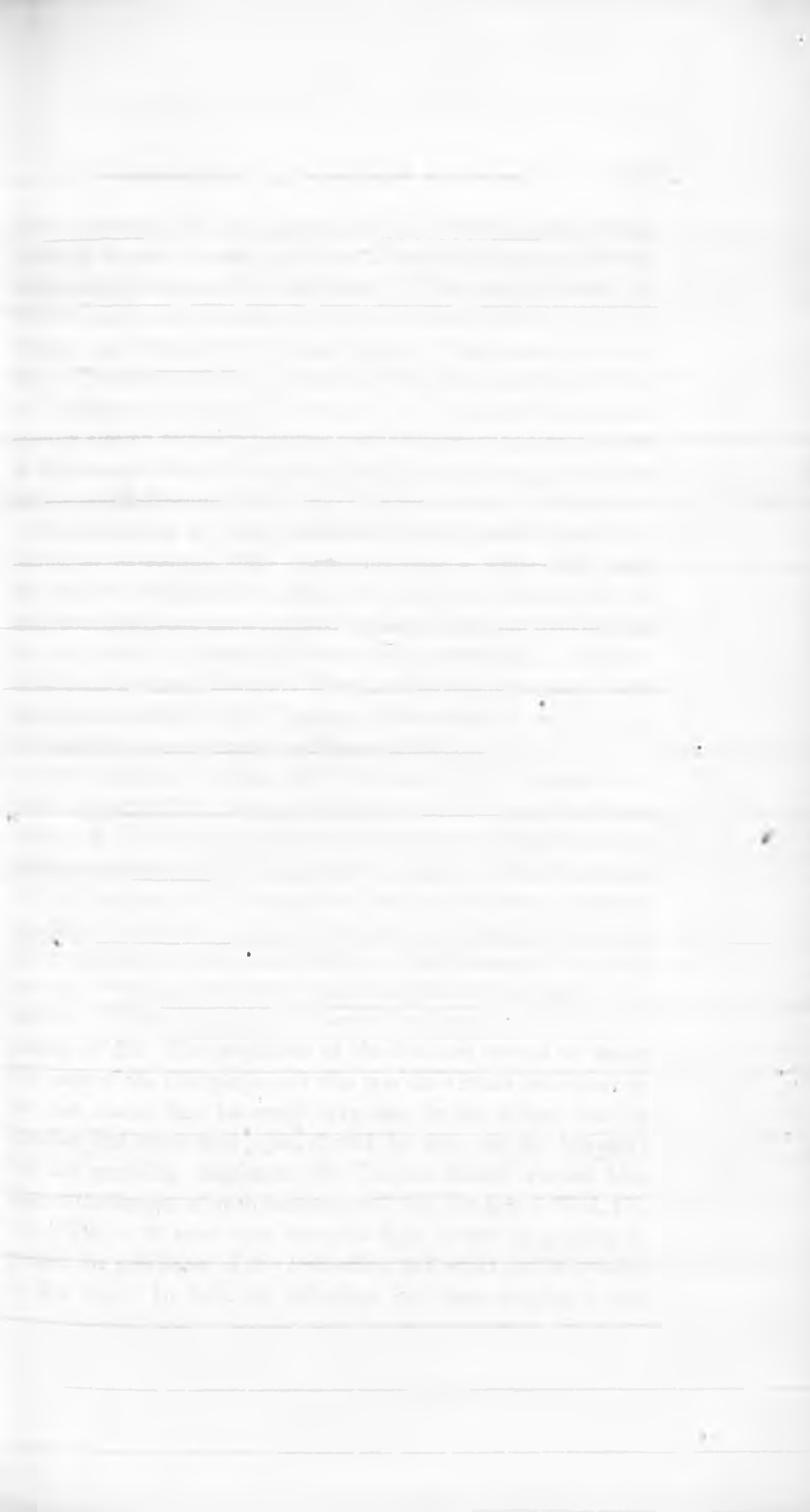
11½. These stamps were affixed to the circulars, and some are found obliterated with a hand stamp of "R. B. & Co."

The enterprise appears to have been successful, as a competitor sprang up early in 1866, and issued an adhesive stamp bearing the inscription "Clark & Co., Circular and Parcel Deliverers, 10, Calton Street, Edinburgh" on a lattice-work ground. The whole was printed in blue on white paper; but as no value was inserted it is possible that the stamp was only employed as a species of advertising ticket.

Early in 1867 the Edinburgh and Leith Company issued two other stamps, identical in design with those first issued, but of smaller size and somewhat better executed. They were printed in both mauve and green, and are to be found imperforate and rouletted. Similar companies were also established in Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen, and Liverpool, all of which issued stamps representing a farthing or a halfpenny.

The promoters of the Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company in 1866 extended the field of their operations to London, their aim being, according to their announcement, "to economise the labour and expense, besides securing the regular delivery of open circulars, pamphlets, &c., now so frequent and effective a medium of 'door-to-door' advertising." The "London Circular and Pamphlet Delivery Company" accordingly issued two stamps, of the respective values of one farthing and one halfpenny, the colour of the first being blue, and that of the latter mauve. The design was the same for both, being the arms of the City of London in a shield; above and below were scrolls, on the one was inscribed LONDON, and on the other CIRCULAR DELIVERY CO., and the value was at the foot. They were issued unperforated, as also perforated 12.

Whether the "London and Metropolitan Circular Delivery Company" was the last-mentioned Company under a new name, or an entirely distinct undertaking, does not seem to be clear, but it is found, in April, 1867, issuing a prospectus, in which the directors state that "to insurance companies, commercial and professional firms, and all who advertise by means of circulars,





these companies will be of great service. The Company's stamp is affixed to each circular, which will secure its proper delivery to the party to whom it is addressed." The stamps issued by the Company were similar in design to those of the "London Circular and Pamphlet Delivery Company," and were perforated  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . The colour of the one farthing was pink, and that of the one halfpenny orange. The name of the Company was subsequently altered to the "London and Districts," and the colour of the stamps changed to green for the one farthing, and pink for the one halfpenny.

The promoters of these companies next appear to have contemplated extending their operations over a wider field, and proposed to distribute circulars not only in London and its neighbourhood, but they engaged to make a similar distribution in other towns in which branches were established. This was to be done by the "National Circular Delivery Company," and stamps were issued by this Company of the values of one farthing, one halfpenny, one penny, and three-halfpence.

In the month of August, 1867, the proceedings of these Companies attracted the notice of the Government, and the Law Officers of the Crown instructed the Solicitor to the Post-office to take measures for their suppression. One of the messengers of the London and Metropolitan Circular Delivery Company engaged in delivering circulars was therefore brought before the police magistrate at the head office in Bow Street, on the 30th August, 1867, charged with "delivering letters contrary to the privilege of the Postmaster-General," and was convicted in a penalty of £5. The proprietor of the business carried on under the name of the Company, and who was the virtual defendant in the case, stated that he would take care for the future that no circulars but what were open should be sent out for delivery; but the presiding magistrate, Sir Thomas Henry, warned him against the danger of such a course, and that the Acts 7 Will IV. and 1 Vict. c. 36 were most stringent Acts, passed on purpose to protect the privileges of the Post-office, and could not be evaded in that way. In fact, the defendant had been keeping a sort



of little post-office, which neither he or anyone else had any right to do.

A series of stamps, all similar in general design, and of the values and colours of one farthing, green ; one halfpenny, blue ; three-farthings, lilac ; and one penny, vermilion, appear to have been subsequently issued under the titles of the "London Delivery Company," the "Dundee Delivery Company," the "Manchester Delivery Company," the "Glasgow Delivery Company," the "Liverpool Delivery Company," the "Aberdeen Delivery Company," the "Birmingham Delivery Company," the "Metropolitan Delivery Company," and the "Edinburgh and Leith Delivery Company," the word "Circular" having been omitted ; but the above-mentioned prosecution was a death-blow to the schemes of the promoters, who appear to have abandoned their expressed intention of appealing against the decision of Sir Thomas Henry, and of involving themselves in the risk of further proceedings with so powerful an antagonist as the Crown in the litigation.\*

This attempt to invade the privileges of the Post-office, however puerile it may appear, had nevertheless a certain amount of effect in directing the attention of the public to the excessive charges of the Post-office for the conveyance of printed matter of small weight. Pressure was brought to bear on the Government, but the chief merit is due to the late Mr. Graves, the member for Liverpool, who warmly took up the cause of the advocates for a reduction of the rates of postage on printed matter and newspapers. In April, 1869, he brought the question before the House of Commons, when he produced a sheet on which were stamps of twenty-five countries, all of which were less than one penny in value, and some of them

\* The existence of these labels has been mentioned solely because they have attracted the notice of some collectors, for the especial benefit of whom a large proportion of them seem to have been prepared. To those who are curious in the Railway Newspaper Parcel Tickets and these labels of the Circular Delivery Companies, a lengthened account of them by Dr. Magnus will be found in *Le Timbrophile* for 1868, pages 321, 327, 354, 367, 375, and 384.

Notice Oxford & Cambridge Collect. 97 here  
see list in Mff. pages at end of book.

Court Bureau. 1890 to Jan 1891.

Stamps. see notice by Ewen.

Weekly Circular. No 67. 18.3.99.

Copy Stamp 9 Dep. U.S. House. 9 Apr 94

Dear Sir advertising by letter of 31 also the half penny  
wrapper Die No 3 (marked below week) was regd  
12 Decr 1871 + ceased to be used 31 Mar 1874.

It is still in my possession.

So far as I can now ascertain it was used  
at the Embroidery Machine, when facilities advised  
of it. The work was printed. & has not since been again  
embossed.

I have specimens of Q<sup>2</sup> & E/B embossed in fine  
type off. "P. A. Colls"

W. A. S. Westby Esq.

Vaccination Certificates forms made up in books of 10. each.

only of the value of  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of a penny. The Government promised to consider the matter, though the Marquis of Hartington, then Postmaster-General, predicted vastly increased labour and great loss to the Post-office, if the proposed reduction to one halfpenny for two ounces was carried into effect; predictions which were by no means verified by the results. In the following year the Government brought in a Bill which subsequently, on the 9th August, 1870, became the Act 33 and 34 Vict. c. 79, whereby, on and after the 30th September, 1870, the impressed stamp on newspapers was done away with, and any newspaper, irrespective of its size or weight, provided that it had been previously registered at the General Post-office, was allowed to be sent by post for one halfpenny, but if not so registered it became liable to be charged at the Book Post rate fixed by the Act at  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for every two ounces. Full effect was given to other provisions of the Act by a Treasury Warrant of the 26th September, 1870 (*London Gazette*, 30th September), which also contained the regulations\* of the Postmaster-General, issued with the approval of the Treasury, in conformity with the provisions of the Act.†

### 1. THE HALFPENNY WRAPPER.

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

The 18th Section of the "Post-office Act, 1870," directed the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to provide proper dies and

\* The regulation that newspapers for abroad must be posted within eight days from the date of publication was made to prevent a too great influx on the day the mails were made up for despatch.

† The reduction effected by the Act of 1870 was a step in the right direction; but when it is considered that the present rate of the Book Post as fixed by the Act is the same as that in force between England and the whole of the Continent, as also between England and the United States and the other countries in the first class of the Postal Union, it is impossible to deny that a further reduction ought to be made, especially on printed matter of small weight, and there is no valid reason why a stamp of one-eighth of a penny should not be allowed to prepay a circular of half an ounce in weight.

other implements for denoting by stamps or otherwise the duties of postage payable under the Act or any Treasury Warrant. In the month of September the following notice, emanating from the General Post-office, appeared in the public journals, addressed to newspaper proprietors and newspaper agents :

“ In connection with the reduction in the rates of Postage on Inland Newspapers, Printed Matter and Patterns or Samples, which will take effect on and from the 1st of October, Halfpenny Postage Labels and Newspaper Wrappers bearing an impressed Halfpenny Stamp will be introduced. A supply of each is in course of issue to Head Postmasters in the Country, and to the District Offices and the Receiving Offices in London. Previously to the 1st of October the sale of these Labels and Wrappers will be confined to Newspaper Proprietors and News-agents, who might possibly be inconvenienced were not time allowed for preparation ; but as the Reduction of Postage does not commence before the 1st of October, anything bearing a Halfpenny Stamp posted before that date will be treated as unpaid. Newspaper Proprietors and News-agents, by applying to a Head Postmaster, will be able to obtain at very short notice any quantity of these Labels or Wrappers. The Wrappers (the dimensions of which are 14 inches by 5 inches) will be sold at the following prices : 500 for £1 2s. 6d., 100 for 4s. 6d., 50 for 2s. 3d., 25 for 1s. 1½d., 10 for 5½d., 5 for 3d., 2 for 1½d., 1 for ¾d., but a discount of 1 per cent. will be allowed to persons purchasing at one time not less than £10 worth of either Labels or Wrappers. Newspaper Proprietors and News-vendors who may desire to have their own Wrappers on Paper impressed with the Halfpenny Stamp must make application, not to the Post-office, but to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. Wrappers must be of white paper.” 7

Simultaneously with the issue of the above notice from the General Post-office the Commissioners of Inland Revenue issued the following :

**“ WRAPPERS FOR NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTER.**

“ The Board of Inland Revenue desire to give notice that SHEETS of PAPER, for wrappers for Newspapers, Book Packets, and Patterns of Sample Packets, can be IMPRESSED with the HALFPENNY POSTAGE STAMP under the following regulations :

ST. J. ...

...

...

...

...

...

+ July 95. soon  $\frac{1}{2}$ d wrapper florals. to order cut out corners  
in green, yellow, pink & blue. some (Mowley in Westoby).

P wrapper. 10 x 5 in. printed on white laid in 1890,  
(since Sept 88 when ring round embossed stamps  
were discontinued). <sup>W.H.</sup> for <sup>W.H.</sup> Smith & Son, used by them  
for putting newspapers to their customers.

$\frac{1}{2}$  wrappers used for bus money 31.3.71.

exp 14x5. . 20.117.620

12x5 . 9.723.600

9x4 - 1.793.500

7x4 . 1.413.700

} only  
£68.850.17.6

14<sup>th</sup> Rept. b. 25.

20.31.3.71. Paper taken by public. 3.511.000 wrappers.  
" 72. 6.898.840 " .

"1st. The paper must be white, and must neither be folded nor creased.

"2nd. The size of the sheets must be double crown, double demy, or double royal.

"3rd. Each sheet must be prepared to receive 8, 12, or 16 stamps. No other number can be impressed; and the stamps can be impressed only in the positions and at the distances apart indicated upon pattern sheets, which may be seen at the head offices at London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

"4th. The stamp will be impressed immediately above the place for the address, and near the right-hand edge of the wrapper. To give space for the stamp, any printing on the sheets should be kept  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch clear of what is to be the right-hand edge of the wrapper.

"5th. Each lot sent in must be accompanied by a sheet marked to show in accordance with which of the patterns it is desired that the stamps should be placed.

"6th. The paper must be delivered at the offices above mentioned in reams of 480 sheets.

"7th. Not less than two reams for one description of wrapper can be received for stamping.

"8th. Any sheets found to have been injured in the process of stamping may be returned to this office, with an equal number of fresh sheets, on the next occasion of similar sheets being sent in, when the stamps will be transferred.

"9th. When the paper is brought for stamping a person must attend at the department of the Receiver-General to fill up the necessary warrant, and to pay the amount of the stamps required. No discount is allowed.

"10th. Persons in the country must not send to the offices through the post or by carriers, but must send through an agent.

"By order of the Board,

"T. SARGENT, *Secretary.*

"*Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London,  
9th September, 1870.*"\*

DESIGN.—The design consists of the profile of the Queen to the left on a solid circular ground of colour, with an arched band above, on which is the value HALFPENNY; the whole

\* The above regulations have since been somewhat modified, and not less than one ream of paper for one description is now received; nor is any particular degree of whiteness in the paper rigorously insisted on.



being enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, with the angles rounded.

**DIE.**—The die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and furnished with holes to receive the date plugs. Casts were taken from the die for the purpose of printing the wrappers.



Those sold by the Post-office are printed and supplied to the Inland Revenue Department by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., but those which are supplied to the order of private individuals on paper furnished by them are printed at the offices of the Department at Somerset House, under the before-mentioned regulations, and of these no further mention need be made, except that the impression is found to vary rather more in depth of colour than in those printed and supplied by the contractors.

### **First Issue.**

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

The date of issue, 1.10.70, was inserted in the die, and a large stock was so printed by the contractors. Specimen prints of the die were officially approved on 4th and 5th July, 1870.\*

The impression was in green, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

The wrapper measured 14 inches by 5 inches. It was square at each extremity, and gummed at the top with yellowish gum.\*

### **Second Issue.**

Date of Issue, November, 1870. *1 Jan 1871*

*Eden* \* In the following month the date plugs were removed, and replaced by florets.

\* These stamps are to be found with various dates during the month of December, 1871, and the first three months of 1872. They were impressed on half sheets of paper, on which were printed forms of certificates connected with the provisions of the Vaccination Acts. It may be remarked that the colour of these stamps is ordinarily of a much deeper tone than in those composing the general issue.

NEWSPAPER AND BOOK POST WRAPPERS (pp. 225-240).

*Page 234.* **FIRST ISSUE.**—Specimens of this issue are found measuring less than 14 inches in length; but if they are official, they are doubtless clipped, as only one size of the wrapper with dated stamp was issued officially.



Page 235. SECOND ISSUE.—A specimen has been seen of this issue measuring 14 by 5 inches, but it is more than doubtful whether any issue of this size was ever made officially. *Never so.*

The *Philatelist*, vol. v. p. 29, in chronicling the three sizes of the third issue, mentions the largest as being "2 feet by nearly 5 inches;" but this must be regarded as an error. The existence of the three sizes of the second and third issues, 12 by 5 inches, 9 by 4 inches, and 7 by 4 inches, is however fully established. *right.*

2<sup>nd</sup> Issue square and no date. Coll. Taphley has

12x5.  
9x4.  
7x4. } only these 3 sizes exist?

3<sup>rd</sup> Issue. <sup>x</sup> The cut is not uniform: some copies <sup>having</sup> a much more oblique & longer cut than others.

3<sup>rd</sup> Issue. 4 sizes of this, all discontinued on 1.6.73

Save 12" x 5".  
Coll. Taphley has 12x5.  
10x4 cut gummed and dew.  
9x4.  
7x4.  
? 4 sizes. 14x5.  
12x5.  
9x4.  
7x4. } were the 4.

Some of these only exist.

The size 9x4, has ~~not~~ been seen by me with paper ends (Taphley).  
Before 70 or 72 only change was a slight alter in size largest of the 3 sizes was sold for the Eden. May 94.

To 31.3.71 1/2 last stamps issued. 33,048,420.

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

124.874.640. x 1<sup>o</sup> 13.155.200.  
123.539.629.01 722.640.  
123.442.880. x 1<sup>o</sup> 988.800.  
124.471.200. x 1<sup>o</sup> 1.078.320.  
130.579.920. x 1.106.400.  
136.449.840. x 1.338.880.  
138.844.328. x 1.407.840.  
144.675.200. x 1.188.320.  
144.407.520. x 1.203.600.  
144.624.248. x 1.248.640.  
141.648.960. 1.642.2.640.

The size of the wrapper was also altered, and measured a little less than 12 inches in length by 5 inches wide. Two other sizes were also introduced, the one measuring 9 by 4 inches, and the other 7 by 4 inches. The wrappers still continued to be cut square at the ends, and the top gummed with the same yellow gum.



**Third Issue.**

Date of Issue, January, 1871.

In January, 1871, a slight modification was made in the shape of the wrapper. The corners of the gummed end were tapered off; but no change was made in any other respect, and the wrappers continued to be issued in the ~~three~~ sizes. *four.*

*change of contract? later.*

The two smaller sizes not appearing to find much favour with the public, the issue of them was discontinued on the 1st April, 1873, and the wrappers were only sold in quantities of twelve, at 6d., or in multiples of twelve.

**Fourth Issue.**

Date of Issue, October, 1875. *?*

In October, 1875, the wrapper appeared with the following instructions, printed in three lines of type about midway between the stamp and the top gummed edge :

"This wrapper must be used only for Newspapers, or for printed papers which may be sent under the Book Post, otherwise the packet will be charged with postage."

**Fifth Issue.**

Date of Issue, November, 1875.

In the following month the above instructions were altered as follows into a paragraph of five lines :

"This wrapper may only be used for Newspapers, or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the book rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter, whether separate or otherwise. If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter."

*Discontinued  
wrappers issued  
June 1899.  
J. Post. No. 434. p. 20.*

This latter size is given on the authority of M. Mahé (see *Timbrophile* for November, 1870, p. 591) and it would appear to be the only size he had seen. The other sizes are in the possession of the author.

*found included by 4/10/72.*

1890    143. 169. 840    1. 391. 720.  
- 91    142. 497. 120    with Sweden.

The prices at which the wrappers were sold to the public were somewhat modified, and single copies were obtainable at the various Post-offices.

*On 1<sup>st</sup> —* In December, 1877, a change was made in the paper, which up to this period was nearly white, and was of such inferior quality that a large percentage of the wrappers burst in the course of transmission by the Post-office, to the annoyance of the public and loss of time by the officials. A tougher paper was selected of the kind generally known as cap paper or whity-brown.\*

*which brought the wrapper into more general favour* In May, 1879, the colour of the impression was changed (without any other alteration being made) to red-brown. ~~The lower corners of the wrappers were also slightly tapered off, a modification which had been made at the close of the previous year.~~

*would / a*

The authorities in May, 1881, issued a Notice that wrappers of a better quality ~~will~~ be issued for sale to the public on the 1st of June, and the use of those in stock discontinued after the present supply is sold off.

*was / a*

Specimens of the one halfpenny and the one penny wrapper next described, in sizes differing from those officially issued and without any printed instructions, are to be met with in collections; but all such have been printed at the request of private applicants under the regulations before referred to.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### ONE HALFPENNY.

###### First Issue.

White paper, square ends. Stamp dated 10.1.70.

✓ 1st October, 1870. One size. 14 x 5 inches, green.

10 x 5 " " "

###### Second Issue.

White paper, square ends. No date.

November, 1870. Three sizes. 12 x 5 inches, green. —

✓ 9 x 4 " "

7 x 4 " "

\* Experiments were made on the white paper, and that proposed to be substituted, not only by macerating the two kinds in water, and thus ascertaining the quantity of fibrous matter contained in each, but the tenacity was further tested by weighing the samples up to the breaking point.



1888. <sup>Hand. - very pattern at edge. in green</sup> set.

As issued to P. Masters. } Half penny postage for newspapers and printed matter  
120 }  
used concurrently with the small type } Stamped Wrappers (size 12 inches by 5 inches)  
Price. 5<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> 1/2

Sold at S. House. 480. 12x5. for £1. 2. 10.

The die of Sept 88. is by 2. occurring from July the earlier, and was afterwards taken to S. House used for private wrappers. Some 5 line marks are of letter 2. See ribbons behind success head & remain to right side of centre.

Dio 1. was printed from Electro. I. Steel plates (hence the relief).

John Russ used the steel plates for Official Wrappers long before they were supplied to S.H. on 20.8.94. when they began to be concurrently used with the Electro. as the latter wore out, fresh steel plates supplied and also used more (30 Aug 1898).

(3) Whity brown paper, stouter & of better quality, in other respects same as (2).  
1 June 1881. one size. 12x5 inches, red brown.

Page 297. SYNOPSIS.—Under "Fifth Issue," in place of (2), (3), and (4), reads—

(2) Whity-brown paper varying in tone; top corners tapered. Instructions, &c., as in (1).

December, 1877. One size 12 by 5 inches, green.  
April, 1879. " " red-brown.

(3) Whity-brown paper, stouter and better in quality. In other respects same as (2).

1st June, 1881. One size 12 by 5 inches, red-brown.

1888. Sept. New set up, in block Egyptian type, form slightly varied. 12x5. otherwise as before.

1897. O. North found (as alleged in Census circular) substitute says privately, 1/2 have solid ground on base of each other. Got some lined.

17 Oct 1898. In clear notes W. A. S. H. The notes on the wrapper is to be discarded as soon as the present stock are exhausted. But allow it to be used in the opt. P. card. Only the private ones are to be altered. We have not yet taken any specimens of the new wrapper.

**Third Issue.**

White paper, top corners tapered. No date.

January, 1871. <sup>12 x 5</sup> Three sizes. 12 x 5 inches, green. ✓  
Four. 9 x 4 " " ✓  
 7 x 4 " " ✓

**Fourth Issue.**

White paper, top corners tapered. Instructions in three lines.

No date.

1st October, 1876. One size. 12 x 5 inches, green. ✓

**Fifth Issue.**

(1) White paper, top corners tapered. Instructions in five lines.

No date.

November, 1876. One size. 12 x 5 inches, green. ✓

(2) Whity-brown paper, <sup>varying in tone of colour,</sup> top corners tapered. Instructions, &c., as in (1).

December, 1877. One size. 12 x 5 inches, green. ✓

April, 1879. " " red brown. ✓

(3) Paper, &c., as in (2); ~~flatter corners also tapered~~

May, 1879. One size. 12 x 5 inches, red-brown. ✓

(4) Paper, whity-brown, stouter and better quality, top corners only tapered.

~~1st June, 1881. One size. 12 x 5 inches, red-brown.~~

*See post 3/2  
for all used  
quarterly or  
col. press w. form  
square.  
(See appendix 1)*

**2. THE ONE PENNY WRAPPER.**

Date of issue, September 13th, 1878.

In the month of August, 1878, the Post-office gave notice of its intention to issue forthwith a wrapper of the value of one penny, principally designed for the accommodation of the public in transmitting newspapers under the weight of 4 oz. to countries within the postal union, and for printed papers and patterns not exceeding 4 oz. in weight to countries within class A. It also serves for patterns to countries within class B where the weight does not exceed 2 oz.



The issue of this wrapper was to have taken place on the 1st September, 1878; but it was not till the 13th of that month that it was actually sold to the public.

**DESIGN.**—Diademed profile of the Queen within a double oval on a solid ground of colour; POSTAGE in the upper part of the oval border, and ONE PENNY in the lower part in block letters, with ornaments at the sides.



**DIE.**—The die, like that of the one halfpenny last described, was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and the wrappers supplied to the public by the Post-office were in like manner printed and prepared by that firm.

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in red-brown on whity-brown or cap paper, and the wrapper measures 12 inches by 5 inches. The top edge is gummed, and the corners at the top and bottom are tapered off. There are no instructions printed on the wrapper.

*used 1st June Sept 1878*

The authorities at Somerset House imprint this value also for the public, on paper supplied by the applicants, under similar regulations to those in force for the halfpenny value.

**SYNOPSIS.**

**ONE PENNY.**  
*total column*

(1) Whity-brown paper, corners tapered.

✓ 13th September, 1878. One size. 12 x 5 inches, red-brown.

(2) *Whity-brown paper, stouter & of better quality; in other respects same as 1882. One size. 12 x 5 inches, red-brown.*

**3. SPECIAL STAMPS FOR NEWSPAPERS.**

Many of the newspaper proprietors and newspaper agents availed themselves of the permission to send in paper to the Inland Revenue Office to be stamped as wrappers, on which was frequently printed the name of the newspaper or the name and address of the agent; but the *Times* and the *Stamford Mercury*, both of which, as has been already men-

Ref: 6

In Mar 1880 Census day 1<sup>st</sup> wrapper has proved a failure which  
is evident that nearly all those stained as a 1<sup>st</sup> supply D.P. off have  
been put into stock & great portions must be now destroyed as useless  
material for the acc<sup>n</sup> of other stock.

Sale of 1<sup>st</sup> in year ended 31 Mar 1879 . 13.255.200.  
80 - 722.640.

The lower corners are now slightly cut into but the  
upper have a more longer, more oblique cut, varying in  
different batches.

Page 238. To IMPRESSION add:—In 1882 the paper was changed to one  
of a stouter and better quality, similar to that employed for the halfpenny  
wrapper.

In the penny wrappers the lower corners have always been tapered or cut  
off on the slant, but not so much as the upper corners. This appears to be  
done merely for facilitating the manipulation in the hands of the vendors.

The Synopsis should be altered as follows:

ONE PENNY.

(1) Whity-brown paper; corners tapered.

13th September, 1878. One size 12 by 5 inches, red-brown.

(2) Whity-brown paper, stouter and of better quality. In other respects  
same as (1).

1882. One size 12 by 5 inches, red-brown.

September 22, 1852  
No. 225

... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...



... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...

... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...

When was it clipped?

... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...

tioned, had, previously to the 1st October, 1870, employed type-printed stamps for the purpose of prepaying the postage, entered into arrangements with the Post-office for the use of a special type-printed obliterated stamp of one halfpenny. This privilege was accorded to them on condition that the stamps should be printed only on those copies which were sent direct from the office of the newspaper to the principal Post-office, which had thereby a check on the number bearing the franking stamp.

Accordingly a notice was issued by the General Post-office, on the 30th September, 1870, in the following terms :

"On and after 1st October next certain copies of the London *Times* and of the *Stamford Mercury* Newspapers will bear an obliterated Postage Stamp impressed on the Newspaper itself, but this impressed Stamp will be available for such copies only as are posted at the General Post Office, London, or at the Head Post Office in Stamford respectively. The Postage on copies of the *Times* or *Stamford Mercury* posted elsewhere must be prepaid either by a Halfpenny Postage Label or a Stamped Newspaper wrapper, otherwise they must be charged with Postage."

The design of the stamp made use of by the *Times*, and which will continued to be employed by this journal for all copies sent by post from the chief office to places within the United Kingdom, consists of a single-lined rectangular parallelogram, measuring 37 by 22½ mm. (fig. 13), within which are two curved branches, one of oak and the other of laural, connected together at the starting-point by a knot, in which is a rose, a thistle being to the left, and a bunch of shamrock to the right. Below this design and within the parallelogram is "ONE HALFPENNY," and above the design "THE TIMES." Between the upper extremities of the branches is a peculiarly shaped Crown. Over all this is engraved an upright oval obliterating mark of ten thick lines, with a diamond-shaped blank in the centre, in which is the No. 70, denoting the distinguishing number of the newspaper office in the chief office at St. Martin's le Grand. On the left of this

Page 239, foot of the page. For "On the left of the diamond-shaped blank is the letter A; on the right the letter B," read—

"When this stamp was first brought into use a capital letter A was introduced on each side of the diamond-shaped blank, but more recently the letter B was substituted for the A on the right side. These letters doubtless serve as the distinguishing mark of the die employed."

diamond-shaped blank is the letter A ; on the right, the letter B. This obliterating mark measures 20 by 24 mm.

The design of the stamp for the *Stamford Mercury* is very similar to that of the one penny oval stamp in black previously employed for denoting the payment of the postage on this newspaper (fig. 10), and consists of a branch of oak and another of laurel, connected by a ribbon bearing the motto "DIEU ET MON DROIT" within a double oval frame. The branches are curved so as to follow the contour of the oval, and in the upper part is a Crown, with the letter B on each side, as the die mark. In the upper part of the frame is "STAMFORD MERCURY," and in the lower part "ONE HALFPENNY." The obliteration, which is engraved on the die with which the impression is struck, is similar in design to the ordinary oval obliterating stamp, but of smaller dimensions than that employed for letters, which latter measures 28 by 19 mm., while that of the stamp measures only 20 by 16 mm. The figures also, representing the number of the obliterating stamp for Stamford (742), are only 6 mm. high, while in the letter obliterating stamp they are 8½ mm. This obliterating stamp is so engraved on the die as that the figures occupy the blank spaces in the centre of the stamp.

The *Stamford Mercury* ceased to make use of this type-printed stamp about two years back, and now employs a wrapper of white paper on which the ordinary one halfpenny stamp is impressed. This stamp is obliterated in black by a small circular hand-stamp, of 16½ mm. in diameter (fig. 11), on the exterior of which, in a cartouche extending over about three-fifths of the circumference, is the inscription "STAMFORD MERCURY." Within the circle are the numerals 742, and "STAMFORD," in capitals, following the curve of the circle below, the remaining vacant spaces in the circle being filled up with obliterating lines.

**THE COURT BUREAU (LIMITED).**—A winding-up order having been made against the company on January 24, a statement of affairs has now been submitted by the secretary and the managing director. The liabilities are returned at £2,429, with assets £484, and, as regards contributories, the total deficiency is £5,366. From the observations of the Official Receiver it appears that the company was incorporated on December 19, 1889, with a nominal capital of £20,200, divided into £1 shares, and was formed to provide social conveniences for its subscribers. The directors proceeded to allotment on March 26, 1890, upon a total subscription of 452 shares. After a brief occupation of premises in St. James's-street, the company removed to its present premises in Stratton-street, Piccadilly, in May, 1890, the lease of which appears to have been acquired by certain of the directors, and by them sublet to the company upon the same terms and at the same rental (£1,000 per annum) as provided in the lease. As a part of its business the company also published a newspaper entitled the *Weekly Court Directory*, to which the greater part of the unsecured indebtedness relates; but its publication ceased some time ago. The failure is attributed to want of capital; and the Official Receiver states that the circumstances of the formation of the company and other matters appear to require further investigation. 6. 5. 91.

Whether a die marked **B** ever existed we are unable to say.

S. Massey, off<sup>d</sup> wrapper. seen Die II. (Die 2 = red die)  
 using a p. a wrapper on buff - 5 lines. (also p. 63)

1892 by postal Convention<sup>2</sup> the card rate was reduced to 7.  
 Card was altered with the value to read one penny trans issued.  
 red on the buff card P. (this D'Angelo portrait.  
 also reply card 1. + 1. p. 5/4 (trans card. smaller type.)  
 of 1/2. 12. 92. Approved 4. 2. 92. issued size 132 x 80mm



## IV.

### POST CARDS.

#### I

##### INLAND POST CARDS.

THE "Post-office Act, 1870" (33 and 34 Vict. c. 79), authorized the issue of Post Cards at a postal rate of one halfpenny, and by Section 18 gave the necessary powers to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to provide dies, &c., for carrying the provisions of the Act into execution.

The Act, which received the Royal Assent on the 9th August, 1870, provided that it should come into operation from and after the 30th September then next. On the 9th of September the following notice was issued :

#### "POST CARDS.

"Pursuant to an Act passed in the last session of Parliament (33 and 34 Vict. c. 79), POST CARDS have been prepared for correspondence by Post in the United Kingdom after the 30th of the present month, stamped with the postage duty of one halfpenny.

"These cards will be sold without any charge beyond the duty. A single card or any number of cards may be purchased, but they will be sent out from this office in packets containing twenty-four cards, price 1s., and in parcels of twenty packets, price £1.\* They may be obtained at all Post-offices, and from licensed vendors of stamps.

\* In April, 1872, in consequence, as was stated by the Postmaster-General, of complaints of the papermakers and stationers, that their trade was seriously affected by the sale of post cards at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each, without any charge being made for the cards themselves, the price was fixed at  $\frac{6}{12}$ d. per dozen, and they were only sold by the Post-office in packets of one dozen.



"The cards will be also supplied when required in sheets containing forty-two cards, and measuring about 29½ by 21½. Although the cards may thus be obtained in sheets for the purpose of affording facility for printing upon them, each card must afterwards be separated from the sheet, as no combination of cards can pass through the Post-office.

"Such sheets will be issued only in half-reams, containing 240 sheets (10,080 cards), duty £21, and will be supplied to the public at the Inland Revenue Offices in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and at the offices of the distributors and sub-distributors of stamps in the country. A discount of 4s. per half-ream will be allowed to purchasers.

"When a supply of cards in sheets is required elsewhere than in London, Edinburgh, or Dublin, application in writing must be made to the warehouse-keeper at this office, or at the Inland Revenue Office in Edinburgh or Dublin, as the case may be. Such application must specify the quantity required, and the town or place having a stamp office to which it is desired that the consignment should be made.

"The applicants will have notice when they are to call at the stamp office and pay the duty.

"Post cards cannot be used before the 1st October.

"Those made up in packets will not be sold before that date; but cards in sheets will be supplied by this office on and after 26th instant, to enable the public to print on them preparatory to their use next month.

"It is desirable that persons requiring cards in sheets should make early application for them.

"By order of the Board,

"(Signed) T. SARGENT, *Secretary.*

"INLAND REVENUE, SOMERSET HOUSE,

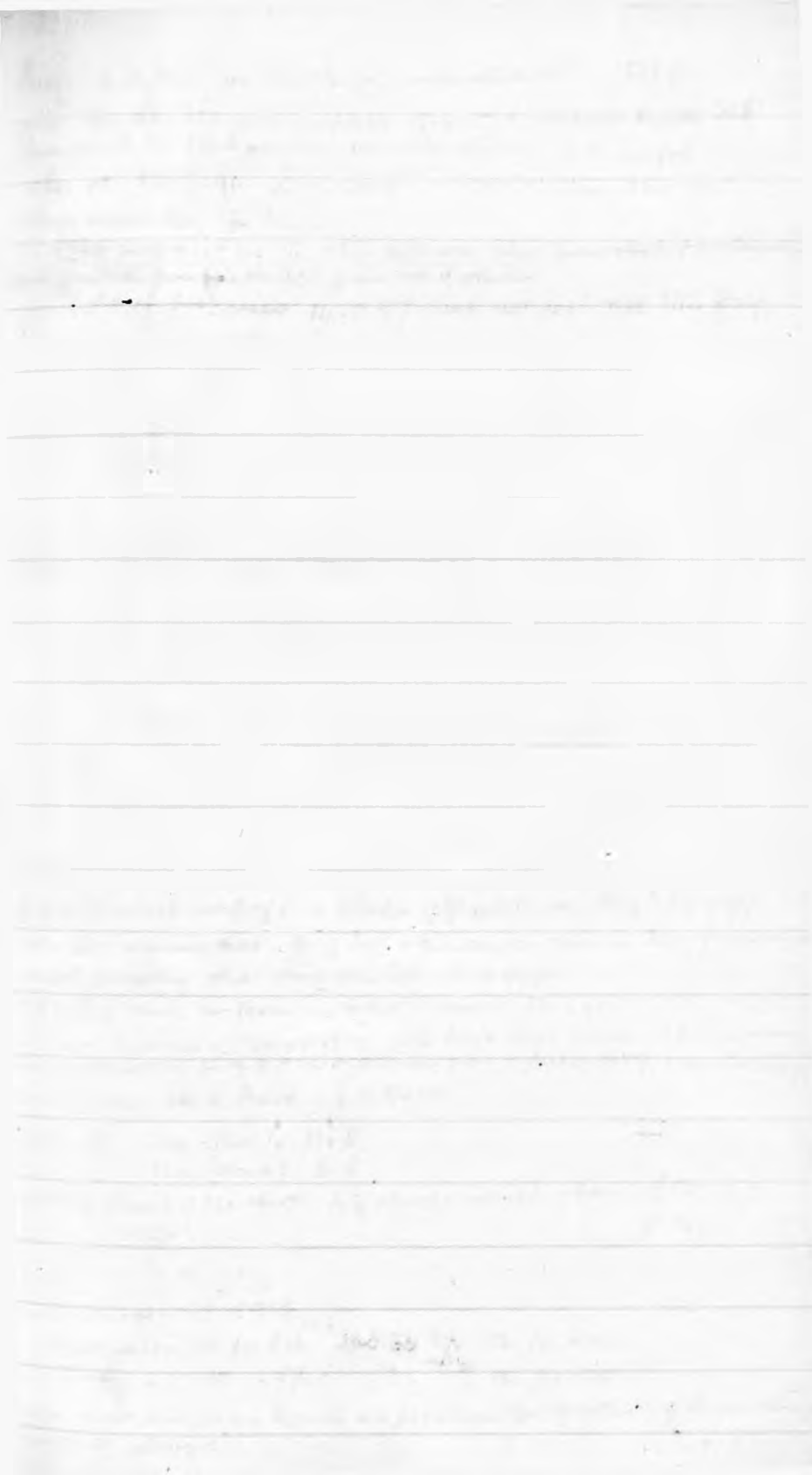
"24th September, 1870."

#### TYPE I

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.\*

DESIGN.—The design was prepared, and the cards manufactured and printed, by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. In the right upper angle is a rectangular stamp 22 mm. by 18 mm., within which is a profile of the Queen to the left on a solid circular ground

\* By a somewhat curious coincidence this date was exactly one year from that when post cards were first issued by the Austrian Post-office.





Prof.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d card in black on enamelled card 23.3.91.

note. This die 302 was completed 15.4.87 & produced punch 305 from which the steel printing dies were struck. J. N. Crafts.

also on 25.3.91. Repe card in brown on stout white card from same die. on back.

~~These uniforms on the other side was taken from steel printing die~~  
first produced from punch 303 from one of which  
& were first used 14.11.87 Got not reg<sup>d</sup> till this day.

$\frac{1}{2}$  d white card Court size. 114 x 88  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

announced for 1 Jan 1895: not ready then & issued by P. O. & in sale 21.1.95.

Included Post Amendment Warrant 1894 (24.8.94). See given in P. Record. vol. 17 p. 53 (1895) fully. important.

Prof.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d (like cut work of) in black glazed card - Reg<sup>d</sup> 23.3.91

This die 302 was completed 15.4.87 & produced punch 305 from which the steel printing dies were struck. J. N. Crafts:

Prof.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d entire card. in brown on white - same. 25.3.91.

Effect of new Contract of 1 Jan 1889 with Delta Press saved £20,000 (or more) & reduction in price of P cards possible from 1 July, 1889. 2/ea (below).

See 88. price at S. House.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d Cards.

Parcels cuts 240. (thin). 11.8

120. (stout). 6.8

Parcels Rea. (thin) of 120 sheets, 42 stamps on each sheet. £12. 5-

(stout). " " " £14. . .

Price reduced 1.7.89 6

Stout cards. 10 for 6d. instead of 12 for 8d.

Thin " 10 - 5d. " 12 for 7d.

Parcels stout cards may become so popular as to admit of discontinuing thin cards altogether.


45 Vic. c. 2 Reply cards. 1 Oct 1882.  
(1<sup>st</sup> was a Sunday)


Post cards. obliterations by perf: <sup>small</sup> <sup>arrow head</sup>  
1. small buff. imperf. perforated 19.1.71. Liverpool.

2. 0. 0. " " 26.1.73 large holes. 7.

by Burngate + Dalzell. p. 10 Listerland alley. ? Liverpool.  
3. 0. 0. " " 7.7.74. Kandal.

4. 0. 0. 0. Liverpool. 26.10.74. 3 larger holes  
half broad arrow. holes small

5. 0. 0. same card Manchester. 29.5.74.  piece punched out on edge

6. large card broad Manchester. w date.  piece punched out

all 6. Morley Oct 96.

See also Enquiries at Q.P.O. for the Sherburne result. no uniform as to the cancellation; the Chief Clk of Ireland Branch found no records about it & suggests it might be done by Ireland Revenue Branch. but go. Manchester & Liverpool as individual localities.

Same page. To Synopsis, Type III., add:  
Reply Cards. 1/2d. + 1/2d.  
2nd October, 1882. Red-brown on thin buff; perforated 6. stout white; perforated 7.  
" " " " " " " " " " " "  
1st January, 1883. Red-brown on thin buff; perforated 5. stout white; imperforated.  
" " " " " " " " " " " "

VARIETY.  
1883. Red-brown on thin buff; imperforated.

May 1896. Complaints by public in Leeds of the reply part of these cards being obliterated in London P.O. when despatched, so as to be useless for purpose designed. not taken to by public for this reason.

Oct 1894. a machine for perf'g p. cards has been found in the P.O. Museum. perf'g the broad arrow.

12 Oct 1870. Notice in P.O. Circular some 20 w'd be perf'g.  
Nov 70. Claper provides the machines. sent by P.O. June 1871 for their supply. Jan 73. machines' accounts very well.  
has disappeared in June 1873. He was partial & experimental. left  
at 70 & Jan & Jan 873

of colour, below which is HALF PENNY in coloured letters on a straight white label. To the left of the stamp are the Royal Arms, with POST CARD above, and THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE below them. Under this, to the extreme left, is the word TO, and the whole is enclosed in a Greek-pattern frame measuring  $4\frac{1}{4}$  by  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches, or 109 by 74 mm., in the larger sized, and  $4\frac{3}{8}$  by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 112 by 65 mm., in the smaller sized cards.



Curiously enough, for Messrs. De La Rue and Co. are nothing if not accurate, the inscriptions on the arms display a variety of faults, the most remarkable of which is a malformation of the N in the word FENSE in the motto on the garter encircling the arms, the middle stroke of which goes from bottom to top instead of from top to bottom.

IMPRESSION.—The impression was in violet on a light buff-coloured thin card of 120 to the inch. It was made in two sizes, one measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 121 by 87 mm., and the other  $4\frac{3}{8}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 121 by 74 mm. Only one edition of the larger size was issued, as it was found that the width rendered the cards inconvenient in use. Some variations are found as well in the colour of the impression as in the tint of the card. They are printed on sheets composed of 42 cards in 7 rows of 6 cards in a row. The official copies registered at Somerset House have each card on the sheet numbered in ink by hand, the dates of allowance being as follows:—the 6th July, 1870, on a sheet of the "large size," and the 28th June, 1870, on a sheet of the "small size," numbered from 1 to 126.

*marked 43-84*

TYPE II

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1875.

*1642*

On the 1st January, 1875, an alteration was made on the face of the card by the suppression of the word "to," but in other respects no change was made in the type; and the same die of the arms continuing to be used, the malformation of the "N"

in the garter motto remained. The size of the card was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

On the 1st February, 1875, an issue of this type was made, printed in red-brown on a thick white card (60 to the inch). This issue was announced to the public by a circular from the Post-office, issued a few days previously, to the following effect :

“A desire having been expressed for a post card of a superior quality to those now in use, it is intended to issue experimentally a limited number of somewhat superior cards on the 1st February next at the price of 8d. per dozen. These cards may be obtained at any of the head Post-offices, and at the branch offices in London, and will be sold at the rate of 8d. for 12 cards, or 4d. for 6 cards. The new post cards will be designated ‘stout’ cards to distinguish them from the present ‘thin’ cards, and they will be subject to the same rules and conditions in regard to their transmission by post as the present cards. It having been found that the price at which the present ‘thin’ post cards have hitherto been sold is not remunerative, the price of these cards has been raised since the 1st of January from  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d. for a packet of 12 cards, and 6 cards may be obtained for  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. No smaller number than six, either of the ‘stout’ or of the ‘thin’ cards, will be sold.\*”

TYPE III.

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1878.

DESIGN.—The stamp was changed to one measuring only  $18\frac{1}{2} \times 21$  millimètres. The profile of the Queen was still in a circle, but the word HALFPENNY was placed in a curved label above the head, and the ornamentation in the spandrels was altered. The frame or border to the card was suppressed, and the legend, though similar to that of the previous issues, was differently disposed, the words



\* This rule has been relaxed, and single cards are now sold at the Post-offices at the rate of  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for a thin or stout card,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 2 thin ones, and  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for 2 stout ones ;  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 3 thin ones, and 2d. for 3 stout ones ;  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for 4 thin ones, and  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. for 4 stout ones ; 3d. for 5 thin ones, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 5 stout ones ; 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 6 thin ones, and 4d. for 6 stout ones.

Inland Post Cards are sold at the following prices: Jan 1878

| Stout Cards. |          | Thin Cards. |          |
|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| 1 - 4d.      | 10 - 3d. | 1 - 1d.     | 7 - 4d.  |
| 2 - 1d.      | 11 - 4d. | 2 - 2d.     | 8 - 4d.  |
| 3 - 2d.      | 12 - 5d. | 3 - 3d.     | 9 - 4d.  |
| 4 - 3d.      | 13 - 6d. | 4 - 4d.     | 10 - 5d. |
| 5 - 4d.      | 14 - 7d. | 5 - 5d.     | 11 - 5d. |
| 6 - 5d.      | 15 - 8d. | 6 - 6d.     | 12 - 5d. |

5s. per parcel of 100. 11s. per parcel of 240.

POST and CARD being separated by the Royal Arms, which were also re-engraved. In the new engraving of the Arms the tail of the lion stands farther away from the mane, the near fore-leg of the unicorn encroaches on the garter enclosing the arms, and the malformation of the N in PENSE is corrected.

IMPRESSION, &c.—The impression is in red-brown on both "thin" and "stout" cards, which are similar in size to those of the preceding issue. The official allowance of the impression of this issue is dated 24th October, 1877.

*Reply card in 1870 thin: 470-640  
Stout 650-800*

## SYNOPSIS.

## ONE HALFPENNY.

## TYPE I.

*Large Size, 4½ by 3½ inches.*

1st October, 1870, violet, light and dark shades, on light buff.

*Small Size, 4½ by 2½ inches.*

1st October, 1870, violet, light and dark shades, on light buff. ✓

" " " on yellower buff. ✓

" lilac (shades) on yellower buff. ✓

## TYPE II.

1st January, 1875, lilac (shades) on buff. ✓

1st February, 1875, red-brown on "stout" white. ✓

## TYPE III.

1st January, 1878, red-brown, on "thin" buff. ✓

" " " on "stout" white ✓

*Reply Cards*

*2<sup>nd</sup> October 1882. ½ d + ½ d. red brown, on thin buff. ✓  
" " " " " " on stout white. ✓*

## POST CARDS (pp. 241-248).

Page 245. Add to text :—On the 2nd October, 1882, in pursuance of the provisions of the Act 45 Vict. c. 2, double or reply post cards, each bearing a stamp of one halfpenny, were issued for inland service. The stamp was the same as that on the single card, as also the inscription, but with the following additions : On the front portion at the left, immediately under the words THE ADDRESS, &c., was a notice in three lines of small block type, (1) THE ANNEXED CARD (2) IS INTENDED FOR (3) THE ANSWER, and on the inside portion in the centre under the words THE ADDRESS, &c., was the word REPLY in fancy capitals. The reply cards were issued in stout white and in thin buff, corresponding to the single cards, the stout white being hinged with a strip of white paper about ¼ inch wide down the fold, perforated seven, while the thin buff cards were perforated six down the fold.

In January following the hinge of the stout white card was altered to one made of a strip of calico, and the perforation was abandoned. At the same time the number of holes in the perforation of the thin buff cards was reduced to about five in the two centimètre space, being placed 4 mm. apart. Specimens of this latter card have been found imperforate, but whether this is to be attributed to accident or design does not seem clear.



in the garter motto remained. The size of the card was  $4\frac{1}{4}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

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“A desire having been expressed for a post card of a superior quality to those now in use, it is intended to issue experimentally a limited number of somewhat superior cards on the 1st February next at the price of 8d. per dozen. These cards may be obtained at any of the head Post-offices, and at the branch offices in London, and will be sold at the rate of 8d. for 12 cards, or 4d. for 6 cards. The new post cards will be designated ‘stout’ cards to distinguish them from the present ‘thin’ cards, and they will be subject to the same rules and conditions in regard to their transmission by post as the present cards. It having been found that the price at which the present ‘thin’ post cards have hitherto been sold is not remunerative, the price of these cards has been raised since the 1st of January from  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d. for a packet of 12 cards, and 6 cards may be obtained for  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. No smaller number than six, either of the ‘stout’ or of the ‘thin’ cards, will be sold.”\*

TYPE III.

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1878.

DESIGN.—The stamp was changed to one measuring only  $18\frac{1}{2} \times 21$  millimètres. The profile of the Queen was still in a circle, but the word HALFPENNY was placed in a curved label above the head, and the ornamentation in the spandrels was altered. The frame or border to the card was suppressed, and the legend, though similar to that of the previous issues, was differently disposed, the words



\* This rule has been relaxed, and single cards are now sold at the Post-offices at the rate of  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for a thin or stout card,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. for 2 thin ones, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 2 stout ones ;  $1\frac{3}{4}$ d. for 3 thin ones, and 2d. for 3 stout ones ;  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 4 thin ones, and  $2\frac{3}{4}$ d. for 4 stout ones ; 3d. for 5 thin ones, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 5 stout ones ;  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 6 thin ones, and 4d. for 6 stout ones.

Inland Post Cards are sold at the following prices :—

| Quantity | Price             | Quantity | Price              | Quantity | Price |
|----------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|-------|
| 1        | $\frac{3}{4}$ d.  | 10       | $3\frac{1}{2}$ d.  | 100      | 5s.   |
| 2        | $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. | 20       | $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.  | 240      | 11s.  |
| 3        | $1\frac{3}{4}$ d. | 30       | $9\frac{1}{2}$ d.  |          |       |
| 4        | 2d.               | 40       | $12\frac{1}{2}$ d. |          |       |
| 5        | $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. | 50       | $15\frac{1}{2}$ d. |          |       |
| 6        | $2\frac{3}{4}$ d. | 60       | $18\frac{1}{2}$ d. |          |       |
| 7        | 3d.               | 70       | $21\frac{1}{2}$ d. |          |       |
| 8        | $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. | 80       | $24\frac{1}{2}$ d. |          |       |
| 9        | $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. | 90       | $27\frac{1}{2}$ d. |          |       |

100s. This Cards.

POST and CARD being separated by the Royal Arms, which were also re-engraved. In the new engraving of the Arms the tail of the lion stands farther away from the mane, the near fore-leg of the unicorn encroaches on the garter enclosing the arms, and the malformation of the N in PENSE is corrected.

IMPRESSION, &c.—The impression is in red-brown on both "thin" and "stout" cards, which are similar in size to those of the preceding issue. The official allowance of the impression of this issue is dated 24th October, 1877.

*Reply card in 1870. Thin: 470-640  
Stout 650-800*

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## TYPE I.

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*Small Size, 4½ by 2½ inches.*

1st October, 1870, violet, light and dark shades, on light buff. ✓  
 " " " on yellower buff. ✓  
 " lilac (shades) on yellower buff. ✓

## TYPE II.

1st January, 1875, lilac (shades) on buff. ✓  
 1st February, 1875, red-brown on "stout" white. ✓

## TYPE III.

1st January, 1878, red-brown, on "thin" buff. ✓  
 " " " on "stout" white ✓

*Reply Cards.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> October 1862. ½ d + ½ d. red brown, on thin buff. ✓  
 " " " " " " " on stout white. ✓*

## POST CARDS (pp. 241-248).

Page 245. Add to text:—On the 2nd October, 1882, in pursuance of the provisions of the Act 45 Vict. c. 2, double or reply post cards, each bearing a stamp of one halfpenny, were issued for inland service. The stamp was the same as that on the single card, as also the inscription, but with the following additions: On the front portion at the left, immediately under the words THE ADDRESS, &c., was a notice in three lines of small block type, (1) THE ANNEXED CARD (2) IS INTENDED FOR (3) THE ANSWER, and on the inside portion in the centre under the words THE ADDRESS, &c., was the word REPLY in fancy capitals. The reply cards were issued in stout white and in thin buff, corresponding to the single cards, the stout white being hinged with a strip of white paper about ¼ inch wide down the fold, perforated seven, while the thin buff cards were perforated six down the fold.

In January following the hinge of the stout white card was altered to one made of a strip of calico, and the perforation was abandoned. At the same time the number of holes in the perforation of the thin buff cards was reduced to about five in the two centimetre space, being placed 4 mm. apart. Specimens of this latter card have been found imperforate, but whether this is to be attributed to accident or design does not seem clear.

## II.

### POSTAL UNION POST CARDS.

#### TYPE I.

**DATE OF ISSUE.**—Simultaneously with the issue of the two-pence halfpenny adhesive stamp on the 1st of July, 1875, a postal card of half that value was issued for circulation within the limits of the countries which had joined the "General Postal Union."

**DESIGN.**—The card measured  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 122 by 87 millimètres, and had a Greek-patterned frame on the front. The design of the stamp was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue,



who have manufactured all the postal cards sold by the Post-office; it shows the profile of Queen Victoria to left on a solid ground of colour within a circular border, the inner line of which is composed of pearls, and the exterior of a double line. In the upper part of this circular border is ONE PENNY, and in

the lower FARTHING, in coloured letters, the portions to the right and left being intercepted by the exterior frame on the one side, and by the line of an interior frame on the other. Within this latter is the inscription,

"FOREIGN POST CARD,

"FOR COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE POSTAL UNION,"

below which, introduced into the interior frame is, "THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE."\*

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in red-brown on buff card. The official sanction was given to the plate on 13th March, 1875.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### ONE PENNY-FARTHING.

✓ 1st July, 1875. Red-brown on buff.

\* These cards were at first marked to be sold at 1s. 4d. per dozen, but the price was subsequently changed to 1s. 3d. per dozen, and they could be purchased singly at the Post-offices at 1½d. each. They have now become obsolete in consequence of the alteration in the "Postal Union" card rates.

Dec 1865. Chapman. Brevet - stout card. see Royal arms.

see by Mr Westoby. on Private Cards. Arms the Royal Arms.  
in Newcastle. Vol 7. Philatelic Journal. Record (Jan 1896) 1214

Dec 24 '90. Commrs Exhib Case 14. Proof of this date  
approval. 11. 6. 72.

$\frac{3}{4} \frac{1}{2}$  1 copies in one sheet then

5. 6. 7. 8 - on 20. 1. 83.

Page 250, last paragraph in the page. The cards printed by the Chiswick Press are not the only ones bearing the Royal Arms admitted to be stamped. Other exceptions to the regulation have been admitted, as we have seen several specimens with the Royal Arms, some of which are of the exact type used by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. in printing the ordinary post cards of one halfpenny for the Inland Revenue Department, and were doubtless printed by that firm to private order, and afterwards stamped with the embossed stamp of one halfpenny.

In 1884 the Inland Revenue again reduced the embossed stamping done for the Post Office by that department, and admitted the public to send in cardboard to be printed with the halfpenny post card stamps. In these cards the Royal Arms are omitted, thus distinguishing them from those sold by the Post Office.

The following are the regulations, dated 1st April, 1884, under which sheets of cardboard brought by the public to the Inland Revenue Office can be impressed with halfpenny post card stamps :

1. Forty-two stamps will be impressed on each sheet.
2. The sheets must be white, i.e. not tinted in any way ; and they must be of the following size : 30 in. by 22 in., or 22½ in. All edges must be trimmed.
3. They must in no case exceed in thickness the stout official post card.
4. They must be sent in quite blank on both sides. The words " Post Card " and " The address only to be written on this side " will be printed at this office on the face simultaneously with the stamp.
5. A fee of one shilling and sixpence for every quire of cardboard (24 sheets - 1008 cards) or part of a quire will be charged for stamping.
6. When the sheets are brought to this office to be stamped, a person must attend at the department of the Receiver-General to fill up the necessary warrant, and to pay the amount of the stamps required and the stamping fees.
7. Persons in the country must not send the sheets to be stamped through the post or by carrier, but must instruct a London agent to attend, unless they lodge the sheets, and pay for the stamps and fees, as well as the cost of the carriage to and from London at the office of Inland Revenue at Edinburgh or Dublin, or at one of the following stamp offices ; viz., Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, or Birmingham.

2.7.90. Mr Webster writes: I sh<sup>d</sup> like to know how they explain their rate of 4<sup>d</sup>. 8<sup>d</sup> 1/2 + 3/8. - charged by weight of an ounce, or 3 single letters there was no 4d or 8d rate. If charged on a single letter there was no 3/8 equivalent to 2,100 miles? They can't make it a letter from John o' Groat's land's end. for there w<sup>d</sup> be the extra 1/2<sup>d</sup> for crossing the border.  
 For 17 years. I lived 50 miles from London: from which the postage of a single letter was 8d. but Scotch letters, of wh<sup>ch</sup> my father rec<sup>d</sup> many. postage was 1. 3/2.



\* Guildhall Card.  
 Copy/seen by Buld. 1.2.91  
 See also p. 23) printed on  
 both sides.

**NEW POSTAL CARDS.**  
**A GREAT SAVING.**  
 may be effected by adopting the  
 which allow the use of Private  
 Adhesive Stamps. At the  
 and others using the  
 pay at the rate of 5s. 4d. per  
 and a further sum for printing  
 The New Postal Cards  
 & Co., Essex County  
 at the following rates:—  
 size and substance as the  
 5s. per 1,000 plain, 6s. 6d. per  
 address, and date line; this  
 2s. 3d. per 1,000 plain, or  
 & Co., Wholesale Printers  
 13511

deland cards. 6h 94  
 with adhesive stamp  
 16. Postal p. 244. - 1874 Oct

**POSTAL CARDS FOR FOREIGN**  
 1874  
 that private post  
 of the value of one  
 with penny  
 may be sent on  
 that they are in  
 These private  
 of the same  
 and must have  
 the address etc.  
 of private  
 only for return  
 that is print  
 and must be  
 at any  
 of  
 to be

III.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION POST CARDS.

WHEN the provisions of the Treaty of Paris, by which the "Universal Postal Union" was established in 1878, came into operation on the 1st April, 1879, two post cards were issued, one of the value of ONE PENNY for countries within class A of the Union, to which the single letter rate was 2½d., and another of the value of THREE HALFPENCE for countries within class B of the Union, to which the single letter rate was 4d. Both of these cards were designed and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

1. THE ONE PENNY.

FIRST ISSUE.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1879.

DESIGN.—The card measures 4¼ × 3½ inches, or 122 × 87 millimètres. The design of the stamp in the right upper corner is the diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a solid octagonal ground formed by the intersection of two rectangular frames. On a tablet at the top is POSTAGE, and on a similar tablet below is ONE PENNY. The inscription on the card is



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE  
GREAT BRITAIN (GRANDE BRETAGNE)  
POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in brown on a thin card of a light buff colour.

The date of the *imprimatur* of this card is the 16th December, 1878, and although the inscription was afterwards modified, yet only one continuous issue of it is recognized.

They were sold at 1s. per packet of 12, or singly at 1d. each.

SECOND ISSUE.

Date of Issue, October, 1879.

DESIGN.—The general design is identical with that of the previous issue; but in deference to the wishes expressed by several patriotic Irish members in the House of Commons the inscription was altered as follows :

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRELANDE).

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

IMPRESSION, &c.—The impression, &c., was identical with that of the last issue. ©

SYNOPSIS.

ONE PENNY.

Inscription, "Great Britain."

1st April, 1879. Brown on light buff. ✓

Inscription, "Great Britain and Ireland."

October, 1879. Brown on light buff. ✓

2. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1879.

DESIGN.—The size of the card is the same as that of the one penny. The design of the stamp in the right upper corner is the diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a solid circular ground enclosed in an upright pointed oval frame, on which is inscribed POSTAGE on the top and THREE HALFPENCE in the lower part. The inscription on the card is



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

GREAT BRITAIN (GRANDE BRETAGNE)

POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in brown on a thin card of a light buff colour; the date of the *imprimatur* is 16th December, 1878.

SYNOPSIS.

THREE HALFPENCE.

Inscription, "Great Britain."

1st April, 1879. Brown on light buff. ✓

+

To synopsis add :

II.

Description as before, with the addition of POST CARD. Size, 140 x 80 mm.

|                |                                 |           |   |               |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------|---|---------------|
| January, 1883. | One Penny, brown on light buff. |           |   |               |
| "              | "                               | 1d. + 1d. | " | "             |
| "              | "                               | "         | " | perforated 5. |
| "              | "                               | "         | " | perforated 7. |





Page 248. After 11th line from top add :

THIRD ISSUE.

Date of issue, 1st January, 1883.

The design of the stamp is identical with that of the former issue, but the inscription was somewhat modified, and the size of the card increased to 140 x 89 mm. A reply card also accompanied the new issue, and the impression was on stouter card of a lighter shade of buff approaching to cream.

The inscription on the single card is ;

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.

POST CARD—GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

(GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE).

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

E/P

The inscription on the reply card is identical, but in the left lower corner the front portion is in small block letters in two lines "THE ANNEXED IS INTENDED—FOR THE ANSWER," followed by its equivalent in French, in two lines, while on the inside, or reply portion, immediately under the inscription is "REPLY" in fancy capitals. Like the thin reply card of our penny, it is not hinged, and was first perforated about five. The perforation at present is seven.

Stamp remaining was modified.

A reply card also accompanied the new issue. The card itself is stouter & of a lighter coloured buff, approaching a cream colour. The inscription on the single card is "reply."

- \* 1st January 1883. One penny, brown on light buff.
- " " " 1d + 1d reply .. " " "
- \* " " " Three halfpence, brown on light buff
- " " " 1 1/2 d + 1/2 d., reply .. " " "
- 1883 1 4. The Two pence.
- " " " Two pence, brown .. " "
- " " " 2d + 2d, .. " " "

Page 248. THE THREE HALFPENCE.—To be added immediately before the "SYNOPSIS."

SECOND ISSUE.

Date of issue, 1st January, 1883.

The design of the stamp is identical with those of the previous issue, but the inscription is modified, and the size of the card increased to 140 x 89 mm. A reply card also accompanied the new issue, and the impression was on similar card to that of the third issue of the one penny Postal Union card, and the inscription on both the single and reply cards are the same. Like the reply card of one penny, the front and reply cards are not hinged, and the line of perforations separating the two is about 5.

See a proof I have written 'P. card' on face

To the SYNOPSIS add :

SECOND ISSUE.

Inscription, "Great Britain and Ireland."

1st January, 1883. Three halfpence, brown on light buff.  
" " 1½d. + 1½d. " " perforated 5.

THE TWOPENCE.

Date of issue, 1st January, 1883.

The Postal Union card of three halfpence served for the greater portion of the countries in Class B of the Postal Union, and to which the ordinary single letter rate was fourpence ; but certain other countries were comprised in this class, to which the single letter rate, *vid* Brindisi, was five pence, and for these countries a Postal Union card of two pence was issued, with a corresponding reply card.

DESIGN.—The size, colour, and inscriptions of the single and reply cards, as also the perforation of the latter, are identical with those of the one penny and three halfpence issued at the same date. The design of the stamp in the right upper corner is the diademed profile of the Queen to the left, on a solid circular ground, enclosed in a plain circular band, cut away at the sides by the lines of the irregularly shaped rectangular frame enclosing the whole. In the upper part of this band is POSTAGE, and in the lower two PENCE, in coloured block letters.

SYNOPSIS.

1st January, 1883. Twopence, brown on light buff.  
" " 2d. + 2d. " " perforated about 5.

*P. cards issued in 1883 1,915,200 . in 1884. 2,020,800  
Totals. 1 1/2 p. 2,182,080 " 2,090,840.  
in 85 Reply. 1 cards 2,164,680.  
but 1/2 d & 2d reply cards are not much in favour with public*

*Threepence Empire card. Queen full length carriage  
Prof Von Angles portrait  
" First class 8. 7. 89. but card Reg 1. 8. 89.  
1 Foreign 86 2,303,880. Early 1892. sup red card 65, 130 x 82 mm.  
yellow card (humani + extra floor.  
Issue. 1. 4. 92. Same empire card, + return 2d  
1d red & buff. 130 x 82 mm.  
1d + 1d. human. 1. 5/2.*



*Reg. in black glazed card  
- red on buff.  
Impress. taken 1. 2. 92  
app. by H. 4. 2. 92.*

Why, if the Postmaster-General desires, but dreads, to introduce a gutter artist for our postage stamps, does he tentatively with the Foreign Postcard? I was deeply shocked to-day received a packet of these vermilion smudges in place of the old things. The stamp-design, one may safely say, has gone wrong which it should not have. The design bulges at the wrong and it contains in the centre a full-length figure of her Majesty, to post a letter or parcel (it is impossible to say which) in a letter-undefined, but certainly unusual, shape. It will be agreed the artist, by the grossness of his symbolism, has offended more the canon of taste; and we may be allowed to assume that the Post-General has approved at least the spirit of the design. I am not a stamp collector, but I suspect that there are, all over the world, a host of indolent people who largely judge the art of foreign stamps by their stamps and coins; were they old Greeks they would be quite right in doing so, but the idea that art is a gift, and penetrates even to the Mint and the Post Office, has now recently buried. Still it is an eternal idea, and apt very often to get grip us. I would therefore request the Postmaster-General, as an honour, to attach his personal signature to this vulgar design—if, at the same time, he is too enamoured of it to withdraw it. Until he does one of these things the British nation as a whole will be to some slight extent an object of ridicule abroad.—Your obedient servant,

W. H. P.

1892

Should any one wish for a proof of how inartistic a Government Department can be, he has only to disburse a penny in the purchase of the new postage-stamp. One or two recent issues led one to hope that better things, at least as far as colour was concerned, might be looked for; but the new issues have shown that no terms of disapprobation can be too strong. Colour, form, design, lettering, and execution are all atrocious. The full-length figure of her Majesty is apparently taken from a photograph, and the background shows the usual photographer's accessories of pillars, curtain, etc., of the portraiture of half a century ago. Examine the execution of the design on glass, and it resembles nothing so much as the infantine efforts of wood-engravings in the chap-books of the last century. As for the design itself—it is of too degraded a character even to speak of. Place beside it the new stamp issued by the United States to celebrate the Centenary, and compare the workmanship and even the taste. In less than a square inch, a picture of Columbus soliciting aid from the Pope is reproduced. Not less than twenty figures are graphically represented, and even their features are animate. It is, of course, questionable whether such a crowded scene is fitted for representation upon a stamp; but it can be no doubt that this production of the United States Post Office will make us hide our heads in shame and despair. 17. 1. 93.

Misses Emily Thorne, Geraldine Lavel, French, Eva Goodrick, Rose Dudley, and Miss  
 coded, at 8.10, by REPARATION. Messrs. Fred Thorne, C. Dodsworth, J. W. W. W.  
 ank Gillmore, Miss Ellen Thorne and Rose Dudley. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 7.15.

**TOOLE'S THEATRE**

**TO-NIGHT**, at 8.45, **BARRY'S** new comic play in three acts, **WALKER, LONDON**,  
 reported by J. L. **TOOLE** and powerful Company. Preceded at 8 by **DAISY'S ESCAPE**  
 acts open at 7.30. Matinee of **WALKER, LONDON**, and **DAISY'S ESCAPE**  
**VERY SATURDAY**, and **WEDNESDAY**, May 25, at 2.

**PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.**

(Proprietor, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE. Manager, Mr. C. J. ASQU.)

**TO-NIGHT**, at 8.15, the successful New Comic Opera, by **Geo. R. Sims** and **Henry Perrin**  
 music by **F. Osmond Carr**, entitled

**BLUE-EYED SUSAN.**

Mr. **ARTHUR ROBERTS** as Captain Crosstree;

Doors open at 7.50. Box-office open daily from 10 till 10.

**SPECIAL MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT**, May 21, at 2.30.

**GARRICK THEATRE.**

Lessee and Manager, Mr. **JOHN HARE**

**TO-NIGHT**, at 8.45, an Original Play in Three Acts, written by **SWINY** G.  
 entitled **A FOOL'S PARADISE**. Mr. John Hare, Messrs. F. Kerr, H. B. Irving, A.  
 Heretson; Mesdames Olga Nethersole, Beatrice Ferrar, Blakiston, and Kate Rorka. Preceded  
 55, by **MY DAUGHTER**. Miss Moodie, Miss W. Fraser, Mr. S. Buist. Mr. Rock. Box-  
 office open daily 10 till 6. Doors open 7.50. No fees. Acting Manager, Mr. C.  
**COMPTON**.

**LYRIO THEATRE**

(Mr. **HORACE SEDGERS**, Lessee and Manager.)

**TO-NIGHT**, at 8.00, **THE MOUNTBANKS**, by **W. S. GILBERT** and **ALFRED C.**  
 (Misses Geraldine Ulmar, Aida Jenoure, Eva Moore, Jessie Moore, and Lucille Saunders, A.  
 lional Brough, Frank Wyatt, J. Robertson, Furness Cook, Arthur Playfair, Charles G.  
 lbert Porteous, Cecil Burt, and Harry Monkhouse. Musical Director, Mr. Ivan Caryl. Preceded  
 : 7.40, **THE SENTRY**. Mr. J. Porteous, and Misses M. Field Fisher, Florence M.  
 esse Moore. Doors open 7.50. **MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY**, at 2.30. Box-office open  
 ) A.M. to 10 P.M.

AMES KEEF-(7/6 4/0) 12.20-3.0 4/0  
 WEN-(1 1/2) 11.58-1 3/4 3/4  
 INTING-(1 1/4 1/2) 12.3-1 1/4 1/2  
 DENHUIS-(4 3/4) 12.2-1 1/2  
 DENHOIS MAIN KEEF-(8/ 9/1) 12.21-7/6 8/8  
 ENCAIRN-(1 1/4 3/4) 12.2-1 1/4 3/4  
 INROCK-(2/3 2/1) 12.4-2/3 3/1  
 DEN FEATHER-(3/ 10) 12.37-9/10/1  
 DEN GATE-(4/ 5) 12.37-8/ 5/1  
 DEN LEAF-(3/ 9) 12.37-8/ 1/6  
 DEN VALLEY-(3 3/4) 12.3-1 1/4  
 DEN DIAMOND-(3/ 3/5) 12.2-1 1/4 3/8  
 STON, NEW-(1 1/2 1/4) 12.4-1 1/4 1/4  
 SPIE G.E.-(1/3 2/1) 12.34-1/2 2/3  
 RAGONY-(4/6 3/6) 11.8-4 6 5/6  
 RIOT-(3 1/2 1/2) 12.20-3 1/2 1/2 12.40-3 1/2 1/2  
 DAN CONSOL.-(3/ 1/3) 12.11-7/9 1/3  
 BRUNFONTEIN-(1 1/4 1/2 1/2) 1.12-1 1/4 1/2 1/2  
 12.37-14 1/2 1/2  
 'S LUCK-(16/ 17) 12.7-16/ 17/1  
 BILK-(5 1/2 6) 12.2-5 1/2 6  
 SPERS-(4 1/2 1/2) 12.20-4 1/2 1/2  
 NGARILLA, NEW (18/8 p 1)-(1 1/4) 12.7-1 1/4 1/4  
 BERRLEY DIAMOND-(1 1/2 1/2) 11.59-1 1/2 1/2  
 BERRLEY RODDEFOOT (reconstructed)-  
 (1 1/2) 12.20-1 1/2 1/2  
 BIGHTS-(2 1/2 2/ 1) 12.2-20/ 2/1  
 SOLAAGTE-(3 1/2 1/2) 12.1-3 1/2 1/2  
 SOLAAGTE BLOCK B-(14/6 11/3) 12.22-10/6 11/6  
 P. AIA-2.42-6/ 9  
 BION-BERLYN-(1/9 2/3) 12.11-2/ 2/6  
 SPAARD'S VLEI-(11/8 12/6) 12.14-11/3 12/6  
 AN KEEF-(3/ 10) 12.14-9/ 10/1  
 BION & BARRY-(2 1/4 1/2) 3.42-2 1/4 1/2

PAIMITIVA-(5 1/2) 11.12-5 1/2 12.2-5 1/2  
 S. DONATO-(2 1/4) 11.40-2 1/4 1/2  
 S. ELENA-(2 1/2 1/2) 11.40-2 1/2 1/2  
 S. JORGE-(5 1/2 1/2) 11.18-5 1/2 1/2  
 S. PABLO-(3 1/4 1/2) 11.18-3 1/4 1/2  
 S. SEBASTIAN-(4 1/2 1/2) 11.4-1 1/2 1/2  
 TAMARUGAL (New) Ord.-(6/ 8) 11.2-11.2  
 Pret.-(18/ 18/1) 11.21-16 17

**TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONE**

ANGLO-AMER. Ord.-(3 4) 1.13-5 1/2 1/2  
 Del.-(12 1/2) 1.18-11 1/2 12 1/2  
 Pret.-(9 1/2 5 1/2) 1.18-9 1/2 5 1/2  
 NATIONAL TELEPHONE-(4 1/2 3) 12.1-12.1  
 1.18-DRESDEN Sub. 11 1/2 1/2  
 11 1/2 1/2 Eastern 1 1/2 1/2 1/2 Pret. 10 1/2 1/2  
 Extension 1 1/2 1/2 1/2 Gt. Northern 1 1/2 1/2  
 Globe 9 1/2 1/2 Pret. 10 1/2 1/2 W. and Brazil

**BANKS.**

AGRA-(4 1/2 5 1/2) 4.10-4 1/2 5 1/2  
 CHART. OF INDIA, AUSTR. & CANADA  
 4.10-22 3  
 CHART. MERC. OF INDIA-(7 8) 4.10-7 8  
 HONG KONG & SHANGHAI-(36 7) 4.10-36 7  
 IMPL. OTTOMAN-(12 1/2 1/2) 12-12 1/2  
 12 1/2 1/2 2.57-12 1/2 1/2 3.19-12 1/2 1/2  
 12 1/2 1/2  
 TARAPACA-(3 1/2) 11.24-3 1/2

**BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES**

ALLSOPP Ord.-(19 21) 12.3-19 21  
 Pret.-(39 61) 12.3-39 61 4 2-39

S. Australian Card. 1<sup>st</sup> year. ended 31.3.90. - 192.800  
recalled 1891. (never more.)

#### IV.

##### PRIVATE POST CARDS.

In June, 1872, the Postmaster-General issued the following notice:\*

"Notice is hereby given, that on and after the 17th June private cards may be taken to the office of the Inland Revenue to be impressed with a halfpenny stamp under conditions which may be learnt on application at the office; and when thus impressed, but not otherwise (for adhesive stamps will not be accepted in payment of the postage), they may be transmitted through the post between places in the United Kingdom under the following regulations:

"1. The words 'Post Card' and 'The address only to be written on this side' must be printed on the front of the cards, as in the case of the official post card, the Royal Arms being omitted; but there must be nothing else (the address excepted) printed, written, or otherwise impressed on the face of the cards.

"2. Nothing whatever may be attached to the cards.

"3. The cards must not be folded, nor may they be cut or in any way altered after they have been impressed with the halfpenny stamp at the office of Inland Revenue.

"4. On the back of the cards any communication, whether of the nature of a letter or otherwise, may be written or printed; but such communication must not extend to the front side.

"Private cards will not be supplied to postmasters for sale to the public. It must be distinctly understood that no cards, except those which are impressed with a halfpenny stamp at the office of the Inland Revenue, can pass through the post for the

\* The Postmaster-General, in his annual report for the year ending 31st March, 1873, says that the permission to allow the public to send in their own cards to be stamped was granted in compliance with the urgent solicitations of the Committee of Wholesale and Retail Stationers of the United Kingdom; but, he adds, "of this concession little use has been made."

postage of a halfpenny if they have anything of the nature of a letter written upon them. There seems to be much misapprehension on this point."

**DESIGN.**—The die for embossing the stamp on cards under the foregoing regulations was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. from the original die of Mr. W. Wyon, and consists of the diademed profile of the Queen to the left in white relief on a plain solid ground of colour in an upright oval, outlined by a single white line, and measuring  $22\frac{1}{2} \times 18$  mm. Within the oval, and in curves following the contour, is HALFPENNY above the head, and POSTAGE below it, in white block letters, the two words being separated by a conventional ornament.



The regulation size of the cards is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches (120 by 72 millimètres).

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is embossed in white relief on a pink ground of the same tone of colour as that of the one penny envelope.

At first the word "ro" appeared on the face of the cards, but this is now for the most part omitted.

There are many varieties, dependent on the mode in which the legend is printed, the ornamental character of the type employed, and the lines under the word "POST CARD." The authorities do not object to these provided that they are not too obtrusive; but one singular instance of departure from the official regulations is worthy of being recorded. A supply of cards was presented for stamping by the Chiswick Press, of 21, Cook's Court, Chancery Lane, on which highly ornamented capitals were employed for the letters commencing the words POST and CARD, between which the Royal Arms were introduced, which is contrary to the regulations. By some accidental oversight the cards were admitted, the presence of the Arms being doubtless overlooked at the time; and as the precedent was once established in favour of the Chiswick Press, the authorities continue to stamp for it cards similarly printed,

See Stat. 45 Vic. c 2. Reply Post cards.

on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 1884

1871. Encl. 34 Ref. <sup>25</sup> Foreign cards reply cards & 1<sup>st</sup>  
Total wrappers no material change - value of each card  
the very inconsiderable.

16.12.78.

"F. G. Bailey" on copy exhibited by J. R. in 1890.



One penny. on buff in red or carmine.

Printed by De la Rue & specially issued for the Guildhall  
Jubilee Commemoration. May 1890.

Impriator. ~~16.5.90~~ 16.5.90. but copy at 5.11.90 in 1890 }  
only 10,000 printed. on 8.5.90. }

Special postmark. applied as special P.O. Seal up during the  
Commemoration in the Guildhall.

"Penny Postage" Jubilee. South Kensington 2. July 1890.

Penny card. special. in envelope. on white

Type of 1<sup>st</sup> card opposite. die defaced 28.6.90.

Envelope is registered 13.6.90. blue or white.

? 250,000. gold bands for the bundle

- Furnish caricatures. others. in black.

|                             |     |            |
|-----------------------------|-----|------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> penny cards | 87. | 2.507.280. |
|                             | 88. | 2.665.440. |

though they refuse to depart from their regulations in favour of any other applicants. There are two varieties of these cards, dependent on the lettering, but the Royal Arms are found in both.

Coloured and fancy printing is admitted, and a long list of varieties might be made by enumerating varieties of lettering, lines, ornaments, devices, and colours, but they do not appear to us to require any further notice.

The following regulations emanating from the Inland Revenue Office are those still in force.

"Regulations under which post cards brought by the public to this office can be impressed with halfpenny postage stamps.

"1. They must be white, *i.e.* not tinted in any way.

"2. They must be of the same dimensions as the official post card; *viz.*,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches by  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

"3. They must not be thinner than the official post card; *viz.*, 120 to the inch; nor thicker than the telegraph card; *viz.*, 60 to the inch.

"4. The words 'POST CARD' and 'THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE' must be printed on the face, as on the official post card, but there must be nothing else (the address excepted) printed, written, or otherwise impressed on the face of the card.

"5. All cards must be sent in with evenly cut edges.

"6. At the right upper corner of the face of the card a space measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the top edge of the card and 1 inch from the side must be left for the stamp, and this space must be free from print both on the face and the underside.

"Not more than 10,000 can be received in one warrant.

"Not less than 480 can be stamped."

No card other than the official post cards, or private cards stamped as above, is allowed to pass under a halfpenny stamp if it bears any communication in the nature of a letter, except it be a "circular letter;" *i.e.* a letter having internal evidence that it is intended for transmission in identical terms to several persons, and the whole or greater part of which is produced by means of ordinary type, engraving, lithography, or any other mechanical process. In this latter case the "circular letter may have an adhesive stamp of one halfpenny affixed to it, or the postage may be paid at the Post-office."

V.

ESSAYS, PROOFS, AND TRIALS.

FOLLOWING the order of arrangement laid down at the commencement of this treatise, we will now proceed to give a short description of some of the principal essays, proofs, and trials of postage stamps and envelopes, which we consider are chiefly interesting in a historical point of view, as tending to throw light not only on the gradual growth of the system, but also on certain stages in the production of the stamps ultimately issued to the public.

To attempt to give a complete list of all these would not only exceed the limits of the present work, but would prove a wearisome and fruitless task, and unnecessary for the object we have in view; but we shall endeavour to meet the wishes of those who take an interest in the subject by chronicling such specimens as are usually met with in collections, while at the same time we shall duly record some others which have come under our notice, and, after careful examination, appear to deserve mention. But very few accounts of English essays have ever been published in works treating of philatelic subjects; these few we have consulted;\* but our principal sources of information have been derived from the examination of the contents of

\* "A Descriptive List of the Envelopes, Labels, and Embossed Stamps suggested before the issue of the vignette Mulready Envelope." *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. i. p. 52.

"Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue." By Dr. Viner. *Ibid.*, pp. 57, 58.

"Notes on the Proofs and Essays of Great Britain." By Mr. Philbrick. *Ibid.*, vol. vi. p. 130.

*Mount Brown's Catalogue*. Fifth Edition. March, 1864.

*Dr. J. E. Gray's Catalogue*. Edition 1866, pp. 155-162.

*Magasin Pittoresque*. Par M. N. Rondot. 1863.

the paper by Mr. Westoby "On collection of Essays"  
System Monthly Journal. Feb'y 1891 p. 125.

the best English and foreign collections, and all the specimens described have been examined by us unless the contrary is expressly stated. In describing these specimens we have not thought it necessary to overload our pages by entering into the minutest descriptive details; it has appeared to us to be sufficient to give only so much as would serve clearly to identify the individual specimen, adding to this the mention of any specially interesting features.

But very few essays date from a period much anterior to the agitation for postal reform, commenced in the year 1837, and which culminated in the passing of the Act of 1839, establishing a uniform penny postage: the reason being one which we have previously stated, that up to this period the Post-office was regarded by the public as a mysterious but *almost* perfect machine. When the agitation fairly set in there was no lack of advice from crotchet-mongers; and when, after the Act was passed, the Lords of the Treasury addressed their invitation to "artists, men of science, and the public in general," "My Lords" were overwhelmed with suggestions on all sides. Very few of the authors of these, with one notable exception, that of the late Mr. C. Whiting, gave to their suggestions any practical form by sending in actual specimens of stamps or envelopes of which they proposed the adoption. Even the "Mulready" envelope finally adopted, ~~and to which the first prize offered by "My Lords" was awarded,~~ was sent in to the Treasury in the form of a pencil sketch. Ninety-nine per cent. of the rest were consigned to the Treasury waste-paper basket, and were never heard of afterwards. It is true that several designs appear to have been sent in subsequently, but so soon as public opinion had declared itself in favour of the adhesive stamps of one penny and twopence, and the embossed envelopes of the like values, there was nearly an end to any further proposals, as all saw that the Government had availed itself of the highest talent and skill that could be found, and that it was fruitless to endeavour to disturb a state of things with which every one appeared to be content.

During the subsequent period there has been nothing to call for any essays. England has not suffered from political convulsions. The Sovereign who gave her assent to the Act for establishing the uniform penny postage still sits on the throne; and whenever the Post-office authorities have been in need of an additional stamp, the contractors who supplied the others, than whom none better could be found, were ready to minister to their wants. It was only when it became known that the line-engraved stamps were to be replaced by surface-printed ones, that any fresh essays were submitted to the authorities, and those on a very limited scale, as it could scarcely be said there was an open competition.

The other branch of our subject, viz., the proofs and trials made in the course of producing the stamps and envelopes as ultimately issued for public use, seems to us to possess peculiar interest, inasmuch as these proofs and trials serve to mark the different phases through which the stamp has passed before it has become perfectly developed. This part of our subject we believe we have been so fortunate as to be able to make comparatively complete, or at all events sufficiently so to show how the results achieved have been attained.\*

With these prefatory remarks we will now proceed with an account of those essays which belong to the history of the agitation for postal reform initiated in 1837, and the proposals submitted for the approval of the Government and the public in that and the succeeding years. As it is not possible to classify these in the chronological order of their production, when the

\* Engravers and printers as a rule keep specimen proofs on plate, India paper, or on card from every die they produce. Proofs of this kind are called *die proofs*, and are usually taken during the progress of the work to judge of the results obtained, and to enable them to form an opinion of the workmanship and of any modifications which have been introduced, or which may be deemed necessary. When the die is completed, proofs are frequently taken before it is hardened, and also after it has been hardened. When the plate is prepared, the proofs taken to decide on colours and other details are called *plate proofs*, to distinguish them from those taken from the original die.

*when die has been hardened*

## ADHESIVE POSTAGE LABELS.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I do not know who invented adhesive postage labels, but it was not Sir Rowland Hill or any of his contemporaries. Towards the end of the reign of Louis XVI. they were in use in France; they were oblong, on something like bank-note paper. The upper half only was coated on the back with some sort of gum, and in front was "Postes," then some emblems, and then "Coller la partie supérieure" (stick on the upper half). The second half had no cement, but was marked "Laisser flotter la partie inférieure" (leave the lower half free). When the letter was delivered the postman tore off the free half and thus cancelled the stamp.

The present simple way of cancelling the stamp by means of the date is new. The first penny stamps and Mulready covers were cancelled by a special device, a sort of corrugated Maltese cross. The late Bomba of Naples objected to having his portrait spoiled, and a glance at a good collection will show you that the information round the stamps alone was maculated.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

S. G. WOOD.

109, Highbury New-park, N., Jan. 22, 1890.

Zinner 31.10.39

• Penny Postage. More than 2000 proposals from parties competing for the supply of stamps by a system which to be used in the collection of postage, are now lying before the Lords of the Treasury.

Some recall in Sir Phil' May 95 by Gordon Smith. 1130.

About 2600. came in (per Mr P. Hill).

Up to 31. 3. 71.

Post cards sent out. 58.485.960 <sup>Duty</sup> £121.845.15.0

to 31. 3. 72 " 62.848 320.

|                          |        |             |   |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------|---|
| Year 74 to 1875          | Thru.  | 79.326.720  |   |
|                          | Urb.   | 2.519.280.  | 1 <sup>st</sup> <del>than</del> introduced                          |
| 1876.                    | Thru   | 76.66.539   |   |
|                          | S/out. | 19.580.997. |   |
| 1877.                    | Thru.  | 72.807.120  |   |
|                          | S.     | 23.937.084. |   |
| '78                      | T.     | 66.521.302  |   |
|                          | S.     | 29.885.707  |   |
| '79                      | T      | 75.314.400  |   |
|                          | S      | 34.701.940. |   |
| 80.                      | T.     | 74.072.362  |   |
|                          | S.     | 39.608.156  | increase in public dom.   |
| 81.                      | T --   | 74.540.160  |   |
|                          | S --   | 44.270.640  | costly. but a profit on material construction of 4%                 |
| 82                       | T      | 77.680.580  |   |
|                          | S      | 57.588.120  | 7% increase   |
| Hutton. May 11. 92       | T.     | 77.922.400  |   |
| on call 220 null to card | S-     | 58.123.200. |   |
| of 100 for milk & fly.   | T.     | 80.216.400  |   |
| { 23.000.                | S -    | 65.535.120. |   |
| 85.                      | T.     | 82.253.040  |   |
|                          | S.     | 68.900.080  |   |
| 86.                      | T      | 84.023.520  |   |
|                          | S      | 71.026.640. |   |
| 87                       | T      | 84.798.960  |   |
|                          | S      | 72.157.800. |   |
| 88                       | T.     | 82.363.200  |   |
|                          | S.     | 68.667.360  |   |
| 89.                      | T.     | 79.708.800  |   |
|                          | S.     | 66.857.880. |   |
| 90.                      | T.     | 65.056.473  | } increase due to 2 <sup>nd</sup> war<br>in price on 1.7.89.        |
|                          | S.     | 98.271.539  |   |
| 91.                      | T.     | 57.287.040. | } common 34 Reg <sup>n</sup><br>say S. gradually<br>displacing them |
|                          | S      | 125.639.240 |   |



1892

|       |                     |                          |              |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1893. | Thin. 53.464.800    | per wrapper.             | 122.424.960  |
|       | Slout. 141.092.940. | "                        | 12.917.953.  |
| 1894  | Thin. 51.679.680.   | 1/2 "                    | 100.239.360. |
|       | Slout. 145.031.620  | 1 <sup>st</sup> wrapper. | 12,079.776.  |

Printed at S. H. for public

|       |              |             |
|-------|--------------|-------------|
| 1893. | Cards.       | 37.674.718. |
|       | per wrapper. | 23.397.642. |
|       | "            | 812.516.    |
| 1894. | Cards.       | 37.277.760  |
|       | 1/2 w.       | 23.201.372  |
|       | "            | 889.784.    |

proposals emanated from the same person at various periods, we shall describe them under the names of their several authors wherever they are known to us.

When we come to treat the second branch of our subject we shall adopt a different mode, and endeavour to follow as far as possible the general plan of this work, only departing from it where it is necessary in order to avoid prolixity, or where convenience may require.

## SECTION I.

(1) *ESSAYS AND PROPOSALS SUBMITTED PRIOR TO 1840.*

## CHARLES WHITING.

THE late Mr. Charles Whiting, the eminent printer of Beaufort House, in the Savoy, Strand, London, was one of the first who made proposals to the Post-office authorities to reduce the rates for the conveyance of printed matter, and for that purpose to employ stamped envelopes, or "Go Frees."\* These were proposed by him as an experiment, which, if successful, were to be followed by applying them to written matter.†

Mr. Whiting married the widow of Sir William Congreve, the inventor of the original machines used at Somerset House for embossing in colour. Sir William Congreve was also the patentee of a process of compound plate printing, whereby impressions were struck off in two or more colours at a single operation of the press, which was effected by two or more plates fitting into each other with great exactness, so as to form one complete design.

Compound printing was extensively known from the circumstance of its being employed in printing the Government labels used for denoting the duties on ~~patent~~ medicines. For some years these labels had been printed in two colours, the second

\* These must not be confounded with a trial obliterating circular stamp in black, with GO FREE across the face, and POST OFFICE round the outer edge, on a plain engine-turned groundwork resembling an ordinary office seal, the whole being enclosed in an outer circle of dots. It is frequently found on the covers bearing the name of Mr. Wyld, subsequently described.

† *Second Report of Committee on Postage*, 21st June, 1838. Questions 11,253-4.



SIXTH PART

CHARLES WHITING

This job Mr. Charles Whiting, the master, being  
Head of House in the Navy, Street London, was a  
first who made proposals to the Patent Office to  
the rules for the conveyance of printed matter, and  
purpose to employ machinery, which, if it was  
made proposed by him as an invention, which, if it was  
made to be followed by applying alone to written matter.

Mr. Whiting carried the scheme of Mr. William  
the inventor of the original machine used at Somerset  
for producing the subject. Mr. William proposed the  
purpose of a process of engraving plate printed  
impressions were struck off in sets or more where the  
operation of the press, which was directed by the  
plate being set up and other with great accuracy, so as to  
one engraved design.

The original process was substantially given from the  
plate of the letter printed by passing the paper through  
and for finishing the duties as printed and others. For  
press these labels had been printed in the following manner

\* This was done by a machine which had a lead of the following  
to each, which were done by the same way as the paper  
was. It is a very simple and useful machine, which has  
and the following manner. No one will be able to do it  
found in the same manner as the other, which is  
written.

† James Knight & Co. London, No. 10, Pall Mall, 1811.

of which was added to the stamp by passing it through the press a second time. Work thus done always shows its origin, and has a tendency to get out of "register," as it is termed by printers, for the second printing scarcely ever comes exactly in its proper place. By the Congreve system this defect was impossible, and an accuracy as well as clearness before unattainable was secured.

Mr. Whiting made his first proposals to the authorities some time previous to March, 1830; but they were not entertained, nor have any specimens of the "Go Frees" been met with by us.

In March, 1830, he renewed his proposals, and subsequently submitted them to Lord Althorp, Sir Robert Peel, and Mr. Spring Rice. He failed, however, to secure the support of any of these Chancellors of the Exchequer, the Stamp Office declaring that the scheme was not practicable, so far as that department was concerned.

In the specimens of covers laid before the Committee of Post-office Inquiry in 1837 by Mr. Dickinson, there is internal evidence that the designs were the work of Mr. Whiting; but so far as he was personally concerned he does not seem to have taken any further steps until he appeared as a witness before the Select Committee of 1838, when he produced specimens printed by him "as medicine labels" in two colours, most probably by the Congreve process. He added that he proposed to print the stamps on bands as used for newspapers, and not to paste or affix them as labels on envelopes.

We have not been able to meet with any specimens of the stamps submitted by him to the Committee; but it would appear that they were similar to the "Go Frees."

In the course of the proceedings Mr. Whiting also produced to the Committee a folio sheet of paper bearing impressions of two separate stamps, the use of which he advocated. They were printed on paper specially watermarked "Post Office," and did not resemble the "Go Frees." The design was an oblong, printed in colours; but the report of the proceedings of the

*Now  
me Peel*

Committee does not mention what the colours were, and with the most diligent search we have failed in finding specimens of these stamps. The Blue Book, our sole source of information, states that one bore the legend "POST OFFICE—printed matter under one ounce, price 1d;" and the other, "POST OFFICE—written matter under one drachm, price 2d."

The agitation set on foot by Sir Rowland Hill for the establishment of the Penny Postage has been noticed in our introductory chapters, as also how the Mercantile Committee, by its Post Circular and other publications, contributed to stimulate the proceedings of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, and to influence the course taken by the Ministry of the day in conceding penny postage.

Mr. Whiting was one of the prominent supporters of the movement, and from time to time produced from the resources of his establishment various practical suggestions to aid in carrying out Sir Rowland Hill's plans, illustrated by specimens of the graphic art, designed either to show the method by which the postage might be collected, or to meet some objections which arose during the discussions. Several of these specimens were circulated by the Mercantile Committee during the progress of the agitation.

After the Act for establishing the penny postage had passed, Mr. Whiting, in response to the advertisement of the Lords of the Treasury, addressed to "artists, men of science, and the public in general," himself contributed a paper, illustrated by specimens, which was adjudged worthy to receive one of the premiums awarded by the Treasury, one component element of Mr. Whiting's suggestions being the use of the Congreve embossing press, which gave the relief in white on a ground of colour, similarly to that subsequently made use of for embossing the penny envelopes at Somerset House.

We will now proceed to describe such of Mr. Whiting's designs as we have been able to examine, taking 'first one which was submitted to the Lords of the Treasury in 1839.

Award by Treasury month of 26 Dec 1839.  
of \$100 to C. Whitney.



introduces the report to the law the Executive Council  
by the Postmaster and other members of the  
Council the proceedings of the Council of the  
of the Council and to influence the course of the law

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*Adhesive Label.*

1. The Royal Crown in a white upright oval disc was surrounded by three concentric oval frames, within a square measuring  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch or 23 mm., the upper and lower ends of the outermost oval line being intercepted by the lines of the square. The innermost oval frame bore an engine-turned pattern of white lines forming small festoons, the outermost a similar pattern in lattice-work, while on the middle one, which was solid, was inscribed, in the upper part, PRINCIPLE SUGGESTED, and in the lower, BEAUFORT HOUSE, in white letters. In small ovals on either side were the letters V.R., on white ground, in script capitals, and in small coloured squares at the four angles were A, 3, C, W, in white, one in each square. The spandrels were filled in with horizontal lines.

The die was engraved on metal, and arranged on the Congreve principle to print one or two colours as desired. When arranged for two colours the impression showed four lanceolate blotches radiating from the centre (where they nearly met) towards the angles, with four triangular ornaments between them, giving a sort of harlequin appearance when striking contrasts of colours were used.

The stamps were surface-printed on white unwatermarked wove paper, and also on thick card, in blue. Impressions were also taken in two colours—blue and red, green and red, and black and red.

*Embossed Stamp.*

2. The head of the Queen to the right,\* without diadem, with a pendent curl behind, in two concentric oval frames, the inner composed of an engine-turned pattern of white lines, similar

\* This essay is remarkable as being an infringement of the numismatic rule adopted in Great Britain of representing the Queen looking to the left, each Sovereign looking in an opposite direction to the immediately preceding one. We know of no instance of the Queen being portrayed on a stamp actually issued looking in any other direction than to the left, except in the cases of some of the Colonial stamps.

to that in the inner oval of the label last described, the outer of an interlacing pattern, similar to that of the frame of the current one penny envelope stamp, interrupted at the top by the word PAID, in large shaded block letters. The oval measured externally  $1\frac{3}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 30 by 33 mm. This design was embossed in white relief on coloured ground on unwatermarked wove paper, also on thick cardboard. The following colours are found: blue, of deep, full, and clear azure shades; green; rose-pink; carmine; orange-yellow.

#### *Harwood's Envelope.*

3. A notion being very prevalent, especially amongst persons engaged in business, that it was desirable for the letter and the address to be on the same piece of paper, to evidence its transmission by the post, many of the competitors produced covers, inside which the letter might be written, and which when folded would show the frank stamp on the outside. With this object in view Mr. Whiting prepared the present cover.

The design consisted of an elaborate rectangular transverse oblong. The inner space for the address, measuring  $4\frac{3}{8}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, was covered with a small-patterned engine-turned ground, enclosed in a triple frame about  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches wide, ornamented with a groundwork of a larger pattern. The letters V.R. in florid monogram were introduced in ornamented circles at the upper left and lower right angles, the other angles being filled by similar circles enclosing bunches of rose, shamrock, and thistle. These circles were connected on the side margins of the frame by scroll-fashioned ornaments, and between them in the upper margin was HARWOOD'S, and in the lower ENVELOPE, both in large shaded block letters. The whole design measured  $8\frac{3}{8}$  by 7 inches.

The impression was in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

This plate was prepared to execute an order given to Mr. Whiting by a stationer named Harwood, and the words "Harwood's Envelope" were inserted in the plate to show how any

sq ft. area ft. back seat, green some, also black

to that in the inner oval of the label last described, the outer an interlacing pattern, similar to that of the frame of the purple one penny envelope stamp, interrupted at the top by the words, in large shaded block letters. The oval measured externally  $1\frac{3}{4}$  by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 36 by 33 mm. This design was embossed in white relief on coloured ground on unwaterproofed wave paper, also on thick cardboard. The following colours were found: blue, of deep, full, and clear azuric shades; red, of pink; various shades of orange; yellow.

### *Harwood's Envelope.*

3. A notion being very prevalent, especially amongst persons engaged in business, that it was desirable for the letter and the address to be on the same piece of paper, to obviate the transmission by the post, many of the competitors produced specimens which the letter might be written, and which when folded would show the frank stamp on the outside. With this object in view Mr. Whiting prepared the present cover.

The design consisted of an elaborate rectangular ornamented oblong. The inner space for the address, measuring 4 inches, was covered with a small patterned engine-turned design enclosed in a triple frame about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, ornamented with a groundwork of a larger pattern. The letters of the fluid nomenclature were introduced in ornamental circles at the upper left and lower right angles, the other angles being filled by similar circles enclosing bunches of roses, shamrock, &c. &c. These circles were connected on the side margins of the frame by scroll-fashioned ornaments, and between them in the upper margin was HARWOOD'S, and in the lower margin, in large shaded block letters. The whole design measured 7 by 7 inches.

The impression was in colour, on white wave unwaterproofed paper.

This plate was prepared to execute an order given to Mr. Whiting by a stationer named Harwood, and the words "Harwood's Envelope" were inserted in the plate to show how

required inscription might be effected. The copies used for the order are in green, ~~the~~ other colours are trials. *in which Rose. Blue*

We have described these essays in the above order because, *+ Red brown* as submitted by Mr. Whiting, the three designs were impressed on one sheet of paper.

On the one side the design of the cover (No. 3) extended over nearly the whole of the surface of the sheet, leaving but a small blank margin; on the reverse side to the right, where when folded the stamp would come, the label (No. 1) was impressed, and in the left upper corner the embossed stamp (No. 2) was struck. On the face of the cover was printed in black, "SPECIMEN OF ENVELOPE, STAMP, AND ADHESIVE LABEL *suggested by Charles Whiting to the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury as exemplifying his suggestions for carrying out the mechanical requirements of a cheap postage.*

We have seen the following combinations :

| COVER.    | EMBOSSED STAMP. | ADHESIVE LABEL.               |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Red-brown | Blue            | Blue and red<br>Green and red |
| "         | "               | " "                           |
| Rose      | "               | " "                           |
| Blue      | Rose-pink       | " "                           |

We now resume the consideration of the stamps, or the adhesive labels, as they were then termed.

#### *Adhesive Labels.*

4. A large figure 1 in an upright oval, with PENNY in a curve, enclosed in an oval frame, within a rectangle nearly square, measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 32 by 31 $\frac{1}{2}$  mm., flanked on each side by v.R. in small script capitals. A narrow reticulated border extends round the rectangle except where intercepted by the oval, and within small squares at each angle of it is the numeral 1. In the oval frame is the inscription NOT TO EXCEED in the upper part, and HALF OUNCE in the lower. The oval frame is composed of an engine-turned linear pattern, showing in bicolour printing the words POST OFFICE, in large block letters.

The impression was in bicolour on white wove unwatermarked paper, also on white card, and is found as follows :

|                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Groundwork red, lettering blue | } on paper.<br>and<br>} on card. |
| „ black „ „                    |                                  |
| „ green „ „                    |                                  |
| „ blue „ „                     |                                  |

5. The design consists of a small circular disc in red, in an upright oval black disc, round which are three concentric oval borders, all enclosed in an ornamental square black framing interrupted by the oval at the top and bottom. A single line extends round the whole rectangular frame, which measures  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 34 mm. square. In the interior oval is OUNCE, with " $\frac{1}{2}$ " above and "1d." below; in the upper part of the oval band POST OFFICE PERMIT, in Roman capitals, and in the lower to CARRY MATTER NOT EXCEEDING IN WEIGHT, in small block letters. All the inscriptions are in white on particoloured ground, the die being on the Congreve principle, printing sixteen irregularly shaped red blotches radiating from the oval framing enclosing the inside black oval.

The impression was in black, with red blotches, on stout white wove unwatermarked paper. *also on thicker cream card.*

This label was circulated attached to the left upper corner of a printed circular headed, "The fears of the paper-makers and stationers about collecting postage by means of stamps allayed." The circular, after calling attention to Sir Rowland Hill having recommended the use of small adhesive stamps, enlarged on their advantage, and combated the idea that any government monopoly of stamped covers and paper injurious to the paper trade would be created by their adoption.

6. This design consists of a small white transverse oval, on which is "1d." in Italic type, surrounded by two concentric oval frames—the inner with white engine-turned lines, the outer coloured with POST PAID above and BEAUFORT HOUSE beneath, in white letters; the whole in an oblong rectangular frame, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 16 by 14 mm.

below see.

in 5. V.R. as both sample in oval?

No 15. (not 266)

It has had a forgery of this on stout white in light brown - dark blue. May 92.  
Pell. Bristol, wrote these a spread had one in black. May 92.  
Sept 95. S.G. 40 showed two. Two papers, coarsely like<sup>d</sup> one in  
black: one white, other blue paper. Talking of figures differ in size  
shape from German. These had V.R. in center as if  
Pence I recall etc and were



\* a copy also in black wholly  
green

blue + red before any letters or figs inserted

X  
6 7a.

These designs were afterwards employed for lead  
labels for perfumery &c. with the name of the trade  
inserted.

The impression is bicoloured on the Congreve principle, and so arranged as to show four oval loops radiating to the angles. The paper is white wove and unwatermarked. The colours in which the impression is struck are red and black, blue and red, and red and blue. ✓

7. This design consists of a small circle, in which is "ld." in white on a bicoloured ground, enclosed in a white square, in which are the words POST above, PAID below. The letters v.r. flank the circle.

The impression is in bicolour, like No. 6, and on similar paper.

The colours in which the impression is found struck are red and black, blue and red, and red and blue.

X 7a. Nos. 6 and 7 are printed one under the other, and beneath are three similar labels of nearly identical patterns—the one nearest No. 7, inscribed BEAUFORT HOUSE, in a circle; the two lower ones showing merely the Congreve dies, with varieties of ornament in similar colours to those already described. The whole forms a long label with curved ends in a plain rectangular outer coloured frame, measuring  $3\frac{1}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 98 by 19 mm.

In some specimens the Congreve groundwork of the upper label is repeated in the two lower ones, with the addition of a small reticulated pattern in white lines over the whole surface.

8. The design consists of an oblong, measuring  $3\frac{1}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 98 by 19 mm., showing seven circles, of varied patterns of lathe work, side by side, having as central devices respectively—the first c, in Roman capitals; the second, w in Old English type; the third, w in German text; the fourth and fifth, cw in interlaced Italics; the sixth, c f w in similar letters, while the last is left blank. They are all printed in bicolour, on a groundwork of four lanceolate ovals, and four irregular figures extending beyond the circles.

The impression is on stout white wove unwatermarked paper, in bicolours of black and red, *deep blue & red, green & red.*  
(*copy!*)

9. On a sheet of white wove unwatermarked paper, Nos. 6 and 7 to the left, No. 4 with No. 5 below on the right, are all printed in black and red.

*Embossed Stamps.*

10. Embossed head of Queen Victoria to the right, as above described (No. 2), struck in colour, in the left upper corner of small-sized envelopes, without any device on flap, and on half-sheets of white wove unwatermarked note paper.

*See Ph. Rec. III. vol. p. 192.* The impressions are in white relief, embossed on ground of rose-pink, green, and dark blue.

On one of the impressions in rose-pink Sir Rowland Hill has written the following observation: "There is too much power in the engine-work; it should not be raised *up at all*, to prevent its being electrotyped."

One of the green impressions is embossed on the "Improved Safety Envelope (registered November 18th, 1840, by Mitchell and Son, 39, Charing Cross \*)," and on this Sir Rowland Hill has added a memorandum of the price, "9d. per dozen."

The deep blue impression, from which our description is taken, is numbered by hand, "enc[losure] 1326," and in the place usually occupied by the stamp, the essay No. 7, with the lower label BEAUFORT HOUSE, is pasted on.

11. The design was identical with No. 10, save that the word PAID was suppressed, and the space occupied by it left blank. A third oval band was added round the whole, and the stamp measured  $1\frac{1}{8}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 34 by 39 mm.

The impression was struck in relief, on a black ground, on yellowish-white wove unwatermarked paper. \*

12. The design consists of an upright oval with plain ground in a wide oval frame, ornamented with engine-turned linear

\* This date is interesting, as showing that the design was submitted after the failure of the Mulready envelope, and probably before the issue of the one penny embossed envelopes.

Whiting experimented with Wyer's die in printing from it

As this was a constant requisition by the authorities at the Staff Office, he had arranged with Mr. G. G. G. to continue his experiments without interruption

Red in red. a light brick red shade.

On envelopes. Printed inside flap.

cut square flaps ends divergent

size 98 x 62.

Had ink to blue. to left.

used copy. printed inside and inside.

July 28. 1861.

address: Army Staff

worked 2" in black.

size 118 x 68.

in green - pale blue

with black imprint. (very 2 colors)

size

131 x 84.

all flaps printed. no imprint. light blue

Everett's copy (reverse)

last part but uncharged 2"

in pink in green.

on a Mitchell. printed 29.2.40

THE IMPROVED SCOTCH METHOD.  
No. 153. Registered Nov. 15. 1869 by  
MITCHELL PROSON. 39. CHANCERY LANE.

also in Rose color, on a dark tinted paper.

• Brown

my lot from W.S.L.

It appears also to have been struck on a thick, soft card, cream colour, to show the embossing work on the die.

On this card we have recently met with specimens.

On plain card with <sup>deep</sup> colour, & in full shades of carmine pink, blue & green: also in orange yellow.

Nov 90

Seen copies cut out square round stamp, on thick white paper.

no colour. (probably a back to another imp-)

- carmine;

- burnt sienna & ochre brown.

die afterwards used for another by Mr. Whiting & no doubt these were then struck.

ex coll  
Cooper  
Phillips

designs. In the upper part of the central oval, on an engine-turned ground, are the letters v.R., separated by a Crown, below which is a curved solid band with the inscription POST OFFICE. In the lower part 1d. on a solid ground of colour, with HALF OZ. on an incurved tablet below. The stamp measures  $1\frac{1}{2}$  by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 37 by  $44\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

\* It is embossed in relief on white wove unwatermarked paper, without colour, and also with blue and with pink grounds. In this latter colour it is found struck on the left upper corner of envelopes, and also on Harwood's envelope (No. 3).

13. The design consists of the Royal Arms and motto in an oval-form garter, within a collar of the Order of the Garter, with the badge pendent below, surmounted by a Crown and Lion as a crest; the whole in an engine-turned circular frame,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 40 mm. in diameter.

It is struck in relief on white wove unwatermarked paper, without colour, and also on a blue ground, extending to the garter, which is on a solid ground of colour in blue & also in brown.

14. Embossed heads of the Queen and Prince Albert to the left in white relief, on a solid circular disc of colour, measuring  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 27 mm. in diameter. The Queen is represented with a diadem and a pendent curl behind.

The impression is in white relief on a blue ground, and is struck at each angle of the face of an envelope of white wove unwatermarked paper, without any inscriptions or device on the flap.

This essay—the only one known where the Queen and the Prince Consort are both represented—is of great beauty and exceptional rarity. The presence of the head of the Prince shows that it dates from about 1840. The copy from which this description is taken is one of the originals prepared for the Treasury, and which happened to be retained by Mr. Whiting, by whom it was presented to Mr. Philbrick.

*Covers and Envelopes.*

15. The design consists of an oblong engine-turned rectangular frame, measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 103 by 72 mm., within which is an oval engine-turned frame, the interior being covered with a minute pattern of similar work. In the spandrels are straight tablets; those in the two upper angles are inscribed with POST OFFICE and PERMIT in white block letters, and, on the upper edge of the oval, is a small oval with V.R. in monogram of florid Italica. In the lower labels are "PRICE 1<sup>d</sup>" and " $\frac{1}{2}$  OUNCE" in white Roman capitals, with MATTER NOT TO EXCEED IN WEIGHT in smaller lettering in a tablet between them. The impression is on white wove unwatermarked paper, in black, green, lavender, and blue.

*Green/*  
This essay, printed in blue, appeared in the *Post Circular*, No. 12, 30th April, 1839, and was also extensively distributed by the Mercantile Committee as a specimen (the word SPECIMEN being printed in the border above the V.R.), on a half-sheet of paper, with a strongly worded appeal printed on the back, setting forth the advantages of a uniform penny post, and demonstrating that such stamps, especially if printed on peculiar paper, such for instance as "Dickinson's," would be practically secure against forgery.

It is highly interesting as an illustration of one of the modes adopted to impress the public with the feasibility of Sir Rowland Hill's proposals.

16. The design consists of an oblong frame, measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 122 by 91 mm., to be printed on the face of an envelope, the centre part showing an oblong white space for the address, with canted angles, surrounded by a frame of enriched scroll-work, and foliate ornaments, with groups of allegorical figures at the upper angles, and marginal wreaths of foliage and fruit/surround the centre. In the frame above the space for the address is a small tablet, and in the space below is a cherub above an elongated oval tablet. The whole is on an engine-

*with decorative  
ornamental  
ground work*

No 15. fingers light brown  
dark bistre  
black. } on thick white  
" } blue paper

How coarse letter imitations in black  
in white  
in blue.

The impression is in blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

On the same sheet from which our description of this essay is taken are impressions of the stamp No. 1, in red and blue, and in blue.

16. The design is a rectangular-shaped diamond, measuring 48 by 24 inches, composed of a minute diamond-shaped pattern of engine-turned work, worked on 4 from which wide, composed of curved interlaced lines, with a horizontal member resembling a T-shape in each angle.

The impression is in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper. The following colours are found: pale and deep olive yellow, red, pale blue.

17. Similar to the last, but the pattern of the groundwork and border is slightly modified, and in the angles the corner





turned groundwork of a minute pattern, and is surrounded by an exterior frame of two plain lines.

The impression is in blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

16a. Same as the last in every respect, save that the space for the address, and the tablets above and below it, are filled in with a solid ground of colour.

The impression is also in blue.

17. The design is of irregular shape, formed by a circle  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter, superposed on a transverse oblong, with incurved angles, measuring 3 by 2 inches. On each side, intersecting the larger circle, is a smaller one of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch diameter, that on the left having in the centre a group of heraldic emblems, and that on the right v.r. in monogram of ornate Italic capitals. The whole is filled in with an engine-turned groundwork of various patterns.

The impression is in blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

On the same sheet from which our description of this essay is taken are impressions of the stamp No. 1, in red and blue, and in blue.

18. The design is a rectangular-shaped transverse oblong, measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, composed of a minute diamond-shaped pattern of engine-turned work, enclosed in a frame  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch wide, composed of curved interlaced lines, with a floriform ornament resembling a Tudor rose in each angle.

The impression is in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper. The following colours are found: pale and deep ochre-yellow, red, pale blue.

18a. Similar to the last, but the pattern of the groundwork and border is slightly modified, and in the angles are conventional ornaments with flowers.

The impression is on similar paper, and is in a pale shade of blue.

19. *The London and Westminster Review*, as has been before mentioned, contained, in its issue for ~~February~~, 1840, an article on the New System of Postage. To this article were appended specimen sheets of various designs, and amongst others some of the principal of those prepared by Mr. Whiting. On these sheets we find specimens of relief engraving, and also of "Patent dry coloured embossing and dry stamping without colours, as practised at the Stamp Office."

These include :

*First*, impressions of the "Post Office Permit," No. 15 above described, with a transverse oval device of engine-turned work with "1d." in an inner circle; two circular designs of elaborate engine-turned work, with "No" and a space left to fill in the numeral; a larger but similar design with no inscription, and a head of Mercury with caduceus in a circular medallion, all with ornamental borders, and printed in black on white paper.

*Second*, a large oblong design of geometrical engine-turned work, with border containing a scroll formed of ovals, circles, and conventional ornaments, with two others of smaller dimensions, all printed in black on the same sheet of plain white paper.

On another sheet, printed on the Congreve principle, with combination plates, are Nos. 4, 5, and 7a, in red and black, below which are Nos. 12 and 13, both struck in white relief on blue ground and in plain white relief.

20. An article by Robert Hunt, on Compound Plate printing, was published in the *Art Journal*, in 1840. This article explained the art of embossing in relief with coloured ground, and that of printing from compound plates in several colours at one impression after the Congreve system.

To illustrate these processes Mr. Whiting printed some of his most remarkable designs on a sheet of cardboard, inserted in the above-named periodical.

The designs are enclosed in a highly ornamented embossed frame, surrounded by a rectangular exterior border of engine-

*shield shaped and*



19. *The London and Westminster Letters*, as has been mentioned, contained, in its issue for February, 1840, an article on the New System of Postage. To this article were appended specimen sheets of various designs, and amongst others, "the principal of those proposed by Mr. Whiting" — as the sheets we first specimens of relief engraving, and the "Patent dry coloured embossing and dry stamping with colours, as practised at the Stamp Office."

These include:

First, impressions of the "Post Office Permit," as above described, with a transverse oval device of engraving-work with "1840" in an inner circle; two circular designs, elaborate engraved work, with "N<sup>o</sup> 1" and a space left in the centre; a larger but similar design with "N<sup>o</sup> 2" and a head of Mercury with caduceus in a circular medallion, all with ornamental borders, and printed in black on white paper.

Second, a large oblong design of geometrical and engraved work with border containing a scroll formed of arabesque and conventional ornaments, with two oblongs of smaller dimensions, all printed in black on the same sheet of plain white paper.

On another sheet, printed on the Congress process, are combination plates, see Nos. 4, 5, and 7a, on left and right, below which are Nos. 12 and 13, both stamps in white on blue ground and in plain white relief.

8/21  
An article by Robert H. Whiting, on the new system of printing, was published in the *Art Journal*, London, 1840. This article explained the art of embossing in relief with coloured paper, and that of printing from composition plates, in several colours, one impression after the foregoing system.

To illustrate these processes Mr. Whiting printed some of the most remarkable designs on a sheet of card-board, and the above-named periodical.

The designs are enclosed in a simple ornamental border, and surrounded by a rectangular narrow border of gold.

turned work printed in green, measuring 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  by 11 inches, or 223 by 279 mm. Within the frame is an impression of the oval die of the Queen's head to the right, No. 2, printed in carmine, below which the essay No. 1 is twice printed, <sup>the impression to the left</sup> once in blue and red, and <sup>through the right</sup> once in plain blue, and <sup>whole</sup> below the whole is No. 17 in plain blue. ^ On the reverse is an oblong specimen of printing from Congreve plates in red and green, with the inscriptions, PRINTED BY CHARLES WHITING, BEAUFORT HOUSE, STRAND, LONDON, FOR PROTECTION AGAINST FORGERY. PATENT COMPOUND PLATE PRINTING.

The above specimen, which shows the various styles and the beauty of Mr. Whiting's work to great advantage, <sup>is</sup> has now ~~un~~ fortunately become rare. ~~✱~~

*Reprints.*

When the interest attaching to original proofs and essays first led collectors to inquire for specimens of Mr. Whiting's productions, as none of those originally taken ~~remained~~, new impressions were ~~in the years 1862-3~~ <sup>made</sup> struck off from some of the plates, before ~~the great fire which destroyed Beaufort House.~~ <sup>the plates</sup> These reprints are easily distinguishable from the originals, by the tones of colour employed, being much brighter and more vivid, ~~than the originals.~~ They are all struck on white wove unwatermarked paper.

*were available Mr. Whiting obliged some*

The following is a list of those which we have seen :

- No. 2. Embossed head of the Queen. Vermilion, deep red, green, ultramarine blue. ~~not.~~
- No. 12. Id. large oval, embossed in relief. White, ultramarine blue, rose, deep red, green.
- No. 14. Queen and Prince Albert.\* Orange-yellow. ~~with red colour~~
- No. 15. Post Office permit. Rose, red-brown. *orange, ochre brown, a vermeil brown.*
- No. 16. Cover, with allegorical figures and cherub. Ultramarine blue. *rich*

\* The reprints on cream-coloured paper, and show the outer margin of the die. ~~and after the death of the printer, only the wanted portions~~ *all other colours except pale blue are either new reprints, or specimens struck for non-postal purposes, and of no philatelic interest whatever.*

## CHARLES KNIGHT.

*earlier*

Mr. Charles Knight, of Ludgate Hill, London, publisher to the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, under the auspices of which the *Penny Magazine* was established, took considerable interest in the movement set on foot in 1834 for the abolition of the "Taxes on Knowledge," and the reduction of the charges on the transmission of newspapers through the post. He appears to have suggested that newspapers should be allowed to pass through the post for one penny each, and that the postage might be collected by means of stamped wrappers.

The proposed alteration in the Newspaper Tax was not carried out until the year 1837, when the tax on an ordinary-sized newspaper having been reduced to one penny, the impressed stamp carrying with it free transit by the post, the proposition of Mr. Knight naturally fell through, though it does not appear that it ever went further than a mere suggestion, or assumed the form of any direct proposition, much less of any actual design.

## STEAD.

*earlier*

Mr. Stead, an inhabitant of Yarmouth, appears, from the evidence of Mr. Louis, formerly Superintendent of the Mails, given before the Committee on Postage, in 1829, to have proposed to the Post Office the principle of collecting postage by means of stamps; but this proposal never seems to have taken any more tangible form, or resulted in specimens of any kind being produced.

~~DR. J. E.~~ GRAY.

*earlier*

Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., of the British Museum, states, in the preface to his *Catalogue of Postage Stamps*, that he believes he was the first who proposed, in 1834, the system of a small uniform rate of postage to be prepaid by stamps, and that it was "in fact the mere application of the system used with regard to newspapers to letters in general." He also adds that

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T. M. WEARS,  
SOLICITOR.

16 BANK STREET, DUNDEE.

13th Novr. 1908.

*u 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan.*

Dear Sir,

I beg to direct your attention to what is undoubtedly a mistake in your and the late Mr Westoby's work on the stamps of this country.

At page 270 you state that Mr Louis gave before the Committee on Postage in 1829 evidence that a Mr Stead of Yarmouth proposed "collecting postage by means of stamps."

Evidently relying on this information Messrs Hardy & Bacon in their work published in 1898 at page 47 state "In England the employment of the postage stamp as it is at present understood."

From investigation which I have made at the British Museum I find that Mr Louis gave his evidence in 1838, and that what Mr Stead proposed were "stamped sheets of paper."

You will find in the last number of "The Stamp Lover" a communication from me on the subject, to which the Editor has appended the evidence of Mr Louis dealing with Mr Stead's proposal.

Yours truly,

*T. M. Wears*

F. A. Philbrick, Esq.,

K. C.

15 HAY STREET, DUBLIN  
No. 15, Hay Street

M. C.

W. J. HARRIS, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the enclosed  
contains the extracts of the report of the Committee  
appointed to inquire into the state of the  
administration of the Poor Law in the County of  
Dublin, and the measures proposed for its  
improvement. I beg to assure you that the  
Committee have done every thing in their  
power to bring the subject before you in the  
most satisfactory manner possible. I am,  
Dear Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
W. J. Harris

John Edward Gray, F.R.S. Keeper of the Department of Zoology.  
British Museum at South Kensington -  
1840-1871.

10-18-71  
F. R. 2  
of the

he found there was no chance of getting attention to the plans he suggested without he was able to devote the whole of his time and attention to the development of them, which his other engagements precluded him from doing. It is clear, therefore, that his suggestions never took the form of any absolute design.

#### COVERS AND ENVELOPE PROPOSED FOR THE LONDON DISTRICT POST.

In their Ninth Report, <sup>made July 7/12</sup> made in July, 1837, the Commissioners of Post-office Inquiry recommended the adoption of covers of the value of one penny and twopence, in which letters not exceeding 1 oz. and 6 oz. respectively might be enclosed for free transmission within the limits of the London District post. It was proposed by the Committee that these covers should be made of "Dickinson" paper, and specimens of the covers, and of an envelope constructed out of one of them, were annexed to their report. In consequence of the appointment, in the month of December, 1837, of a Select Committee to examine the whole subject, the recommendations of the Committee of Post-office Inquiry were not carried out, and the designs proposed by it were not made use of.

The specimens attached to the report were three in number, and are—

*First.* An elaborate engine-turned rectangular design, measuring 177 mm. wide by 218 mm. deep, on half a sheet of letter-sized white "Dickinson" paper, traversed horizontally by ten blue parallel threads, inserted at distances varying from one-half to three-quarters of an inch apart. Within this engine-turned design is a circular band of similar work, but of another pattern, 20 mm. wide and 93 mm. in diameter, the interior of which is left as a blank space for the address. This circular band is divided into equal segments by the introduction of four transverse ovals, opposite each corner of the rectangle, the major axes of which measure 47 mm. These ovals on one side extend into the engine-turned work of the interior of the design, and on the other are partially superposed on two smaller engine-turned ovals. The large ovals which intercept the circular border are designed as

follows: The upper left and the lower right show V.R. in script capitals, with a Crown between the letters, on a central white ground, and the inscription LONDON DISTRICT POST, in white block letters, in an exterior engine-turned border, the position of the words of the inscription being reversed in the two ovals. In the right upper oval and the left lower one, the letters V.R., separated by a Crown, occupy the centre on a white ground, while in the border of the former is introduced NOT EXCEEDING, in white block letters, on an engine-turned ground, and ONE OUNCE, ONE PENNY in coloured letters on a white ground. In the opposite oval the inscription is varied, by placing the words ONE OUNCE, in white block letters on an engine-turned ground, and NOT TO EXCEED ONE OUNCE, in coloured letters on a white ground.

The impression of the whole is in yellow-ochre.

*Second.* The second design attached to the report is an envelope, measuring 125 by 91 mm., formed out of the half-sheet just described. As the lozenge-form for the envelope is cut out of the half-sheet diagonally, the silk threads necessarily run across the face of the address space in a similar way.

*Third.* An engine-turned rectangular ornamental frame, 15 mm. wide, encloses the whole design, which is printed on a sheet of "Dickinson" paper. The frame measures externally 155 by 237 mm., and the interior is divided into three compartments of nearly equal size. The upper compartment is entirely covered with a *moiré* pattern in lathe-work. The middle one is traversed horizontally by four pairs of silk threads, and is left blank for the address, save that at the top is TWOPENCE, in large block letters, and in each angle is a design in the form of a quadrant. In the angles of the two upper quadrants are the letters V.R., in block letters, with a Crown between them, all in white, on a solid ground of colour, enclosed in a curved border of engine-turned work, with LONDON DISTRICT POST in two lines in white block letters. In the two lower quadrants, the letters V.R. with the Crown are enclosed in engine-turned curved borders, with the inscription TO CARRY NOT EXCEEDING 6 OUNCES in three lines, in coloured block letters. The lower



are blue &

7. The threads vary from 6 to 15 mm apart: but they are somewhat irregular in position.

below. The upper part of the large shell and the lower part of the small shell, with a narrow interval between them, form a narrow, shallow, and somewhat irregularly shaped, but generally elongated, depression, the depth of which is about 1 mm. The depression is bounded by a low, irregular wall, the height of which is about 1 mm. The depression is filled with a soft, spongy material, the color of which is a pale yellowish-brown. The depression is situated in the center of the shell, and is surrounded by a narrow interval between the two shells. The depression is bounded by a low, irregular wall, the height of which is about 1 mm. The depression is filled with a soft, spongy material, the color of which is a pale yellowish-brown. The depression is situated in the center of the shell, and is surrounded by a narrow interval between the two shells.

The depression of the small shell is as follows:

Small. The small shell is situated in the center of the large shell, and is surrounded by a narrow interval between the two shells. The depression is bounded by a low, irregular wall, the height of which is about 1 mm. The depression is filled with a soft, spongy material, the color of which is a pale yellowish-brown. The depression is situated in the center of the shell, and is surrounded by a narrow interval between the two shells.

The depression of the large shell is as follows: The large shell is situated in the center of the small shell, and is surrounded by a narrow interval between the two shells. The depression is bounded by a low, irregular wall, the height of which is about 1 mm. The depression is filled with a soft, spongy material, the color of which is a pale yellowish-brown. The depression is situated in the center of the shell, and is surrounded by a narrow interval between the two shells.



compartment is covered with a *moiré* pattern, similar to the upper one, except at the lower portion, where an ornamental tablet is introduced with the inscription POST OFFICE COVER, in coloured block letters on a white ground.

The impression of this cover is in green.

These designs all bear on the face of them conclusive evidence of their origin in the printing establishment of ~~Mr.~~ Charles Whiting, and were probably <sup>by him</sup> submitted to the Committee by ~~Mr. Dickinson~~ in conjunction with ~~Mr. Whiting~~. *prepared at the suggestion of /p*

#### JAMES WYLD.

Mr. James Wyld, of the Strand, London, map publisher and geographer to the Queen, submitted an envelope or cover to the Treasury in 1839, the design of which was produced and printed for him by Mr. Charles Whiting. *Corrected*

The design itself has been already fully described in the account of Mr. Whiting's essay No. 16, but as submitted by Mr. Wyld was modified in the following manner. A groundwork of horizontal lines was introduced into the space left for the address, and on the upper tablet was the inscription POSTAGE PREPAID BY, and in that below the cherub, JAMES WYLD, GEOGRAPHER *Geographer* TO THE QUEEN, all in white embossed letters on a solid ground of colour. The design was made about 3 mm. longer than the essay No. 16 above referred to, by the addition of four <sup>vertical</sup> lines at each of the two ends, so that it measured 126 by 91 mm.

The impression was on a half sheet of white wove unwatermarked letter paper, folded as a cover. ~~We believe~~ that the plate was originally prepared by ~~Mr. C.~~ Whiting, at the instance of Mr. Wyld, and ~~that Mr. Whiting~~ himself submitted specimens of it without the inscription.

We have seen specimens printed in pale ochre, in blue, and in red.

In a copy before us, printed in pale ochre, the upper label is defaced by a circular obliterating stamp of 27½ mm. in diameter, struck in black. This stamp has V.R. in Italic monogram in the centre on a white ground, enclosed in a solid coloured border,

with the inscription CANCELLED POST PAID in white block letters, the whole being surrounded by an external border of engine-turned work.

On other copies we find the circular obliterating stamp POST OFFICE GO FREE before described, struck on the upper tablet, and sometimes also on the face of the design in addition.

*all the* Specimens <sup>known</sup> without these obliterating marks ~~are not known in~~ collections, which would lead to the inference that Mr. Wyld's proposals also included obliterating ~~marks~~ <sup>marks</sup>.

#### WILLIAM WYON.

*engraved* Mr. William Wyon, A.R.A., Chief Engraver of Seals to the Queen and Engraver to the Mint, whose name is so well known as the author of the die for the head of Her Majesty on the embossed stamps, offered ~~the~~ design for an adhesive stamp consisting of a helmeted head of Britannia to the left, in a circle, within a square of  $19\frac{1}{2}$  mm. In the circle above the head is POST OFFICE, and below the head  $\frac{1}{2}$  OZ. ONE PENNY. Facing the head and within the circle are numbers composed of two, three, or four figures, the signification of which we are unable to explain, further than they appear to represent certain index numbers. The whole is engraved in anaglyptograph, and is struck on white hand-made unwatermarked paper, in black.

This essay is beautifully executed, and is of the highest degree of rarity. The specimen before us shows four of these stamps, disposed two and two, at distances of four millimètres apart, separated by lines, also in anaglyptograph, of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  millimètre broad.

#### J. W. PARKER.

*ms 742 x 197 mm*  
*in another edition*  
*[Publisher]*

In 1838 Mr. J. W. Parker, printer to the University of Cambridge, with a view to assist the movement in favour of the plans of Sir Rowland Hill, printed on half a sheet of letter paper a list of books published by him, on the reverse side of which was the address, "Mr. John W. Parker, Cambridge Bible Warehouse, West Strand, London," enclosed in a wide oblong frame, with the interior angles truncated, measuring about  $1\frac{1}{2}$

*268 x 197 mm or 5 1/8*

slat 248 x 197 mm.

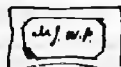
also

Mr John W. Parker,  
Publisher,  
West Strand,  
London.

in black Italics.

in an oblong frame. measuring 181 x 78 mm.

a plain yellow design: corners truncated



on inner side 4 columns books, in alphabetical order

& their nos. for ordering, from "The Child's Verse Book" to

"Howell's Inductive Sciences" "Fox's Reformation" to

"Stanley on Birds".

in stock

the father of...

274 ... with the inscription ... the whole inscription ...

... of ...

... as the author of the die for the head of ...

... within a square of 125 mic. In the circle above ...

Also P. Hells. Colors. Blue & Green.

... degree of purity. The specimen ...

J. W. Parker

In 1823 Mr. J. W. Parker, printer to the University of Cambridge, with a view to assist the movement in the plans of Sir Rowland Hill, printed on half a sheet paper a list of books published by him, on the reverse which was the address, "Mr. John W. Parker, Cambridge Warehouse, West Street, London," enclosed in a wire frame, with the telegraphic code truncated.

22.04.187

and also in the No 65 of the  
London & West. Review ~~London & West. Review~~  
(March, 1840)

(afterwards Solicitor to the Post Office).

ESSAYS AND PROPOSALS.

275

by 3 inches, and composed of, a diaper-patterned design. The colour of the impression was <sup>pale</sup> ochre-yellow.

This circular was stitched up in the pamphlet published by W. H. Ashurst, *Facts and Reasons, &c.*, and is found opposite to page 30 of the first, and to page 43 of the second edition.

SIEVIER 2 Sept 1840 19 April 41

Mr. Sievier, the eminent sculptor, in 1839 proposed the adoption of stamps with an embossed centre, such as the Queen's head, the Royal Arms, or any other device, surrounding the embossment, with a pattern in two or more colours.

The actual specimen submitted by him consists of an upright rectangle with incurved angles, measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, or 42 by 37 mm., within which is an oval with a white disc in the centre, on which is embossed a many-rayed star device in plain white relief. On a solid curved tablet above the circle is PENNY, and in another curved tablet below, POST, both in white block letters. The space between the circle and the oval is filled in with an engine-turned reticulated design, and that exterior to the oval with vertical lines.

III Ph. Record  
6.193.

The impression is in red <sup>of a slightly</sup> brown and blue, the latter being that nearer the circle, and so disposed <sup>(in the)</sup> as to show a scalloped exterior line, the tablets being also in blue. It is printed on a half-sheet of ~~octave~~ <sup>colour</sup> white "Whatman" hand-made note paper, dated 1839. On the rest of the half-sheet is printed a description of the proposed plan, with an estimate of the cost of production—£30 per million on sheets to fold as a letter; £6 5s. per million as separate adhesives, with a guaranteed production of a million per day. Copies of the specimen were <sup>also</sup> stitched up and circulated in No. 65 of the *London and Westminster Review*, together with specimens of the productions of ~~Mr. C.~~ Whiting and others.

CHEVERTON.

<sup>Designs</sup> Mr. Chevarton, who, with Mr. Whiting and Mr. Sievier, submitted designs in response to the Treasury advertisement, was awarded one of the premiums of £100. on 26 Dec 1839. <sup>by Treasury</sup>

We have not been able to see the design Mr. Cheverton sent in, but it is stated, in the *London and Westminster Review*, vol. xxxiii. p. 504, to have been "a plan full of originality." Mr. Cheverton "recommended an embossment of a female head of the greatest beauty, to be executed by Mr. Wyon, and stamped by a peculiar machinery of Mr. Cheverton's own, which would perform the process with great rapidity."

This is all we learn, and the only remark we make is, that the integral parts of this plan were carried out in the envelopes bearing the Queen's head, engraved by Mr. Wyon.

#### JAMES CHALMERS.

Mr. Chalmers, a bookseller and stationer of 4, Castle Street, Dundee, forwarded to the Mercantile Committee a proposal, dated 8th February, 1838, which appeared in the *Post Circular* of the 5th April following.

Mr. Chalmers' proposal was in substance that stamped slips should be printed at the Stamp Office on prepared paper, furnished with adhesive matter at the back, and issued to the public as required; that these should be affixed to the letters, and that the postmasters should stamp them across the face in course of transmission. He also contrasted the advantages of adhesive stamps over covers and envelopes.

Two specimens accompanied the proposal, consisting merely of square single-lined frames, measuring  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or 18 mm., enclosing letter-press inscriptions in six lines, the one being, GENERAL POSTAGE NOT EXCEEDING HALF AN OUNCE. ONE PENNY; and the other being similar, "one" being inserted in lieu of "half an," and "twopence" for "one penny." The editor appended a note to the effect that Mr. Hill did not limit his proposals to covers or envelopes, and that adhesive stamps were desirable as a method to serve public convenience.

Mr. Chalmers also prepared and sent to the Treasury a small 8vo sheet, a copy of which was stitched up with the *Post Circular* for 1838, containing virtually the same proposals, but with four similar letter-press specimens, disposed in two rows,

To-day (May 6) the postage-stamp celebrates the fifty years' jubilee of its invention in England. Perhaps we may conveniently trim by saying that honour of its invention belongs to James Chalmers, the bookseller, though practical introduction is due to Sir Rowland Hill. It has been proved by recent investigation that Chalmers had had designs of postage stamps produced in his printing press in 1834. The first of these was round in shape, and now in the postage-stamp collection of Herr Siegmund Friedl, in Döbling, near Vienna. Two four-cornered specimens are in the British Museum, but a third form, that with the effigy of the Queen Victoria, was probably designed by the engraver, Bacon, who had been commissioned by Sir Rowland Hill to design an artistic stamp for sticking on letters; it may have been the work of Cheverton, who when the Treasury gave notice in August, 1839, that the design for the postage stamp was open to competition, sent in a pattern which had on it a picture of a female head of great beauty.

65-90.

Plan of obtaining payment in advance to the use of stamped covers. To meet every possible case, Mr Hill proposes sheets or half sheets of various sizes & weights stamped: likewise the use of stamps, which may be attached as Mr Chalmers suggests, or when neither could be obtained, by money payment.

We have seen how the state has been divided into counties, and how the counties have been further divided into townships. We have also seen how the townships have been further divided into sections. This is the way in which the state is divided into counties, townships, and sections.

CHAPTER IV

The first part of this chapter is devoted to a description of the various counties of the state. It is divided into two parts, the first of which describes the counties of the north and west, and the second of which describes the counties of the south and east.

The second part of this chapter is devoted to a description of the various townships of the state. It is divided into two parts, the first of which describes the townships of the north and west, and the second of which describes the townships of the south and east.

The third part of this chapter is devoted to a description of the various sections of the state. It is divided into two parts, the first of which describes the sections of the north and west, and the second of which describes the sections of the south and east.

The fourth part of this chapter is devoted to a description of the various cities and towns of the state. It is divided into two parts, the first of which describes the cities and towns of the north and west, and the second of which describes the cities and towns of the south and east.



...of the London Philatelic Society, of which it is a member, and which now admits that Mr. Rowland Hill did not the adhesive postage stamp, the suggestion is claimed for Mr. James Chalmers, of Perth, and to say that such assertion is absolutely untrue.

The London Philatelic Society some years ago investigated this subject, and after a long and careful inquiry examined the original documents, and ascertained that the claims put forward by Mr. Chalmers, on behalf of his late father, were unfounded. Since then the Society has seen no other views, and it certainly has expressed no opinion, or made any such admission, as stated above.

Those who are interested in the matter will be able to see the Society's Exhibition, to be held at the Portico, in the present month, examples of the stamps proposed by Mr. James Chalmers, and also for themselves as to the merits of his plan. I may state that some fifty persons sent applications for adhesive labels in response to the general invitation in 1837; many of them recommended that the Stamp should be inserted in the envelope, leaving one end loose. This utility invention was also that favored by Mr. James Chalmers, whose suggestions were laid aside as useless. The question of priority there can be no doubt that Rowland Hill was first in the field, for, as you observe, he, in his evidence given before the Select Committee of Post Office Enquiry on 15th March, 1837, proposed the use of adhesive as well as that of Postage Stamps, while Mr. James Chalmers, both in his printed proposals, and in his letters, which are in my possession, states that he made his plan public in November, 1837.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
R. A. PHILBRICK, President of the Philatelic Society of London.  
Alderman's Hall, Temple, E.C., May 1.



slightly varying in the wording, and reading, POST OFFICE under HALF OUNCE [ONE, TWO, THREE OZ.] weight ONE PENNY [2d., 4d., 6d.].

All the specimens were printed on plain white wove paper.

#### FORRESTER.

Samuel Forrester, officer of Excise at Falkirk, in a pamphlet consisting of ten 8vo pages, dated 14th December, 1839, laid before the Treasury his plan for carrying into effect the General Penny Postage. The main feature of his proposal consisted in allowing every papermaker to have his paper stamped for postage stamps by the Excise officers of the district who charged the duty on the paper at the mills, under various safeguards set forth in the pamphlet, which contained full details of the mode recommended by him for carrying out his plan. He proposed that these stamps should be impressed on folio, quarto, and octavo sheets, and specimens of such sheets were annexed to the pamphlet, on each of which was pasted a *fac simile* of the stamp, printed in lithography.

The design of this stamp, to be impressed on <sup>the</sup> an 8vo sheet, was circular, formed by the inscriptions "EDINBURGH" at the top, and "No. 326 OCTAVO  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz." being set round in a circle measuring about 35 mm. in diameter. Within the circle was 1st QUAR.—ONE PENNY—2D JULY, 1840, the whole being in Roman capitals, save the value and size, which were in block letters. A lithographed copy of the design, on white wove unwatermarked paper, was cut round, and pasted on the quarter or 8vo sheet, in such a position that when it was folded the stamp appeared at the right upper corner of the address.

A second design was printed for the half or quarto sheet—QUARTO being substituted for OCTAVO, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. for  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz.

The third design was similar—FOLIO and 1 oz. being substituted for the previous size and weight, and the value TWOPENCE for ONE PENNY. This was applied to an entire or folio sheet.

The interpretation of the design was as follows: EDINBURGH showed the collection where stamped; No. 326, the Excise

number of the mill where stamped; 1st Quar., the current quarter of the year when stamped; 2nd July, 1840, the day, month, and year when stamped. The stamps expressing the size of the sheet and weight allowed to be transmitted by the various sizes, any overweight could be charged additional postage, to be paid on delivery. He further proposed to change the colours at the various quarters of the year as a security against the use of illegal stamps.

The proposal does not appear to have found favour with the Treasury, but in principle some of the suggestions were identical with parts of the system adopted.

*q.*      G BISSAGAR.

*M. Ph. Rec. p. 191:* A design bearing this name is before us. The letters V.R., in interlaced Italic capitals, fill a circular disc, covered with an arabesque groundwork in bicolour, and beneath the V.R. is C. BISSAGAR, INV. Round this disc is the inscription HALF OUNCE ONE PENNY, in <sup>roman</sup> Roman capitals, the whole forming a design bounded by an exterior circle, 1 inch or 25 mm. in diameter.

*fuller desc  
wanted.*

The impression, in two colours, blue and orange, is on white wove unwatermarked paper.

UNKNOWN. *Oldham.*

*Mr William  
Oldham.  
Rathgar.  
Dublin.*

*3. Ph. Rec. 191.*

1. A plain circular band, 25 mm. in diameter, external measurement, is inscribed GENERAL POST OFFICE, and is surmounted by the Royal Arms with Crown and supporters. This is enclosed within a large circle, 51 mm. in diameter, composed of two bands—the outer one with a zigzag ornamentation, and the inner one with the inscription ONE PENNY HALF OUNCE, in Roman capitals, on plain white ground. In the centre is a blank circular disc, 13 mm. in diameter, towards which coloured lines converge irregularly.

The impression is typographed, showing considerable indentation, and multicoloured shades, starting from the internal white disc with green, and running through orange to red,

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>Entrance Head of R. V. Wells in an oval black ground glass.</p>                  | <p>Black on black <sup>white</sup> letters</p>  |
| <p>The same, with an oval Greek letter <math>\alpha</math> surrounding the head</p> | <p>Black, on black <sup>white</sup> letters</p> |
| <p>Black, on black <sup>white</sup> letters</p>                                     | <p>Black, on black <sup>white</sup> letters</p> |

number of the mill where stamped; the year, the  
quarter of the year when stamped, and July, 1810, the  
month and year when stamped. The stamps express  
also of the sheet and weight allowed to be transmitted  
postage, to be paid on delivery. He further presents  
the colours of the various quarters of the year as  
with parts of the system adopted.

The impression is typographic, showing considerable  
distortion, and multicoloured shades, starting from the  
white line with green, and running through orange to

and from dull violet to grey-blue in the outer border. It is struck on a half-sheet of rough white hand-made foolscap paper, watermarked with the name of the maker, J. Rump, 1833.

2. The Royal Arms with Crown surmounted by a Lion, and with supporters, is embossed in white relief on a solid ground of colour, enclosed in an upright rectangular frame with canted angles, measuring 1 by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 25 by 30 mm. Below the supporters is the Royal motto and heraldic emblems, while the bareness of the upper part of the design is somewhat relieved by the introduction of arabesque ornamentations.

The impression is struck in pink at the left upper corner of an ordinary envelope, and on the face of the copy before us is written, by Sir Rowland Hill, "If it were not for the engine-turning round them they could be electrotyped from paper."

*alms.* 3. The design consists of two concentric circles, the outer one having a diameter of  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 30 mm.; the inner one, a diameter of 26 mm. In the upper part, between the circles, is the inscription, in Roman capitals, GENERAL POSTAGE, and in the lower two PENCE, the intervals being filled in with diamond-shaped ornaments. Across the inner circle is *Not exc. one ounce*, in Italica, in a straight line; above is a star, and below "2d." The impression is in pale red-brown, and is in ordinary type, on white hand-made foreign-post "Whatman" paper. *Stalms*

On the copy before us is "USED" hand-stamped in black, showing the manner in which it was proposed to efface the stamp.

4. Within an oval band, inscribed with the motto of the Order of the Garter, the minor axis measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm., is the inscription V.R.—FREE, in two lines, and below JAN. 1840. JAN.—ONE OZ., also in two lines. The oval is surmounted by the Royal Crown, and underneath it is a bouquet composed of the heraldic emblems of the United Kingdom.

The design appears to have been intended for the face of a cover, a portion being marked out by a border 3 mm. wide; but

the specimen only shows the left upper angle in which the design above described is introduced. About three-quarters of an inch below the upper frame border there is a partial repetition of the border, above which is inserted the words in pencil, INTENDED DISTRICT SIGNATURE. The whole design is drawn by hand, in pen and Indian ink, on a piece of azure laid paper, and upon the specimen from which the description is taken Sir Rowland Hill has written, in pencil, *Acknowledge the receipt.*  
*R. H.*

5. The Royal Arms, with supporters, motto, &c., designed in a spreading form, extending 39 mm. long by 16 high, lithographed in black on a sheet of coloured note paper, and so placed that when the sheet is folded in three the stamp appears in the right upper corner of the face. We have seen it on blue and on green paper, both chemically prepared, the obliteration being intended to be effected by the application of moisture (presumably acidulated), which when applied turns the blue paper white and the green paper yellow. The green specimen before us is numbered in pen and ink 2780/41.

6. Somewhat akin to the preceding is a design composed of the Royal Arms, with supporters, motto, &c., very erect, and finely engraved on copper. The impression is in blue on pink chemical paper, and also on yellow chemical paper. On each of the four sides is printed "One Penny" in small Roman type in red.

7. Within an upright rectangular engine-turned frame, measuring  $1\frac{7}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 36 by 43 mm., are the Royal Arms, with Crown and supporters, and motto, enclosed in an irregularly oval-shaped fancy frame, all engraved in anaglyptograph. The impression is in deep blue on white wove unwater-marked paper. Above and below the arms are two small tablets, with the inscriptions HALF OZ. and 1 PENNY in small white block letters on a red ground, and across each angle similar



The first of these is the fact that the  
specimen is not a true one, but a  
copy of the original, and that the  
original is not a true one, but a  
copy of the original, and so on.

The second of these is the fact that  
the specimen is not a true one, but  
a copy of the original, and that the  
original is not a true one, but a  
copy of the original, and so on.

The third of these is the fact that  
the specimen is not a true one, but  
a copy of the original, and that the  
original is not a true one, but a  
copy of the original, and so on.

Messrs Myers & Co. Budge Row, E.C. 3 Ph. Rec 1944  
26.2.41

Each of these is a true one, but a  
copy of the original, and that the  
original is not a true one, but a  
copy of the original, and so on.



tablets are also introduced, the two upper ones inscribed respectively POST OFFICE and STAMP, and the two lower ones TO CARRY NOT and EXCEEDING  $\frac{1}{2}$  OZ. The tablets in red are over-printed. *also in black & red.*

8. The design is somewhat similar to that last described, and consists of the Royal Arms, with Crown and supporters, engraved on the anaglyptic system, but embossed in relief within a rectangular transverse oblong frame, measuring  $1\frac{3}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 29 by 27 mm. In lieu of the motto DIEU ET MON DROIT the words POST OFFICE STAMP are substituted. The impression is in dark blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper; and in four sides of the frame are introduced tablets, with white block letters on a red ground subsequently printed. The inscriptions, commencing from the left side, read NOT—EXCEEDING—HALF OUNCE.

9. The design is very similar to that last described, the frame measuring 1 m. more in height. Within a double-lined interior frame with truncated angles are the Royal Arms, Crown, and supporters, together with the motto below, engraved on the anaglyptic system, and embossed in relief. The arms within the garter are in white relief, and the groundwork of the design is composed of a small dotted pattern. The impression is on white wove unwatermarked paper, and in the margins of the frame are, over-printed in red, commencing from the left, POST—OFFICE—STAMP—ONE PENNY. It is found printed in dark blue and also in green, both with red lettering.

10. A rather primitive design is before us, consisting of a small sheet of paper ruled by hand in squares of  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 20 mm. each, in each of which is pasted a circular disc of thin green paper 17 mm. in diameter. There is nothing to explain the object of the design, which it would seem was intended either to be obliterated by a hand-stamp at the post-office, or to show the mode in which some proposed design should be arranged on the sheet.

(2) *ESSAYS AND PROPOSALS SUBSEQUENT TO 1840.*

FOR the reasons given in our introductory remarks, but very few essays or proposals were submitted to the authorities subsequently to 1840. Some few essays were prepared in 1879, when it became known that the typographic system of printing was about to be adopted for the twopence and inferior values; but in the absence of permission from the parties by whom they were submitted, we do not feel ourselves at liberty to describe those which we have seen.

1. MESSRS. ARCHER AND BRANSTON (*The "Prince Consort" Essays*).

In the year 1850 Henry Archer, whose name is associated with the invention of the perforating machine, entered into an arrangement with Robert Edward Branston, who, with his father, were well-known engravers, to engrave a die from which stamps might be printed on the surface principle, similar to that then in use in France, conceiving that they might be manufactured at a lower cost than those produced from steel plates, and that stamps printed by the dry process would not present the same difficulties in the use of the perforating machine as he had experienced in his experiments on sheets printed from steel plates. Branston availed himself of the assistance of S. W. Reynolds, an engraver, but there appears to have been some delay in the preparation of the plate, as specimens of the stamps were not ready till 12th September, 1850, when Archer wrote to the Marquess of Clanricarde, the Postmaster General, to apprise him of the fact. In March, 1851, Archer and Branston submitted a proposal to the authorities to print the whole of the postage stamps required by the Inland Revenue Department, on the surface principle, at the rate of fourpence-halfpenny per thousand, and a specimen of the stamps known as the "Prince Consort" essays accompanied the proposal.

In April 1902 Venton & Bull, 35-old Leamy St.  
advertised "Napier's" real perforations applied  
to Archer & Brauns' essays" for sale.

I wrote querying the genuineness of this & in  
reply. 30 April 1902 they wrote me the crown  
is a well known Philadelphia & these perf<sup>s</sup> & the  
were to serve for distribution among members  
of the House of Commons. ... (of course points  
to the Committee of 1862. ... and given - trace of key  
can be traced in the blue book.

S.C. mag. June 1864. p. 95.

See as to these P. Consort essays. Letter by Bernu.

Seen these P. Albert heads in . Black  
Red.  
Brown  
Blue.

# Impressions in red & also in blue. <sup>a specimen</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> of the  
latter perforated 16. ~~has~~ (now officially) has been used with,

0  
1. Impression in blue. Perf<sup>o</sup> 16. seen Decr 85. from Mr. L. Gith.  
black . . . . . see Feby 94 . . . . . Money.

From the evidence taken before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1852, of which Mr. P. H. Muntz, one of the members for Birmingham, was the chairman, it appears that the die, as first engraved by Mr. Reynolds, bore a representation of the Queen's head upon it; for Mr. Edwin Hill, in reply to question 816, says, "I cautioned him as soon as I knew what he was about." Branston also, in reply to question 516, says, "We were ordered to destroy all the impressions, and therefore they have been destroyed;" and then, producing specimens of the Prince Consort essays, he adds: "These are heads of Prince Albert." From this it may fairly be inferred that the imitations bearing the Queen's head were entirely destroyed, especially as no copy is known to have survived.

*The old nonsense  
the survival*

Whether the specimens then produced to the Committee were prepared by Mr. Reynolds or by Mr. Branston is not known, but they were shown by the latter as samples of what might be done by employing the dry process or surface printing in their manufacture, and were gummed with pure white gum.

The design consists of the head of Prince Albert to the left, on an engine-turned background, the whole being nearly identical with that of the then current one penny stamp, save that the engraving was of a much coarser description. Maltese crosses were introduced into the upper angular blocks, the lower ones all bearing the letters F. J. on white letter blocks. The sheets were of two sizes—one having twenty rows of twelve in a row, and the other twenty-one of such rows; the former were printed in red-brown, the latter in black. The size of the stamp is 18½ by 22 mm. The impressions were struck on ordinary white wove unwatermarked paper, and the stamps as produced were not perforated. ○

## 2. MESSRS. BRADBURY, WILKINSON AND CO.

In the year 1861 Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., bank-note engravers and printers, of Farringdon Road, London, designed and engraved in line on a patent surfaced plate a stamp representing the value of threepence. The design consists of a

full-faced bust of an allegorical female, crowned with a wreath of roses, and having a mantle thrown over the left shoulder; the head is enclosed in a circle, with a background of fine diapered work, all within a double-lined upright rectangular frame, measuring  $19\frac{1}{2}$  by 24 mm. On a plain curved white tablet above the head is POSTAGE, and in a similar incurved tablet below THREEPENCE, the spandrels being filled in with horizontal lines. The impressions were taken off in various colours on thick cream-coloured unwatermarked paper, and also on card. We have seen the following; viz. :

Rose-red, blue, ultramarine-blue, green and black, on paper; purple and brown on card.

These stamps were engraved for exhibition only, together with other specimens of workmanship executed by the firm, and were never submitted to the Post-office authorities.

### 3. MESSRS. DE LA RUE AND Co. (*Experimental*).

Probably somewhere about the latter part of the year 1861 Messrs. De La Rue and Co. designed and engraved a stamp which, so far as we are able to learn, was prepared with the object of showing the facilities afforded by some other system of printing than that which they were then making use of for printing the fourpence adhesive postage stamp. In an upright rectangle, measuring 18 by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm., is a circle  $15\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, in which, on a groundwork of horizontal lines, is a portrait in profile to the left (said to be that of the King of Portugal), the spandrels being filled in with a reticular pattern running vertically. On the right and left of the head the numeral 3 is introduced in white within a minute double-lined circle. Above the head, on a solid straight tablet, is EXPERIMENTAL in white block letters, and on another similar tablet below POSTAGE THREE PENCE in two lines. On comparing the stamps with each other slight variations may be seen, and the experiment, so far as each stamp being a perfect *fac-simile* of the others, cannot be said to have proved successful.

The stamps were printed ten in a row on white wove un-



Recd. of ...  
...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...



watermarked paper, and were neither gummed or perforated. Each stamp is defaced by two white lines drawn across the plate diagonally. The impressions seen by us are in violet and rose-pink, and green.

lines scratched  
over the centre  
crossing

#### 4. MESSRS. DE LA RUE AND CO. (*One Halfpenny*).

In 1870 Messrs. De La Rue and Co. submitted a design for the new value then about to appear. The design consists of an upright rectangle, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, or 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$  mm., in which is the Queen's head of the usual type to the left, set in a plain oval band, touching the outer left vertical and the upper lines of the rectangular frame. Four large squares are found in the angles for the lettering, the upper right and lower left of which are joined by a diagonal line running across the stamp, and severing the head and neck. The lower half thus divided is rendered on a plain ground of colour, on which, in large figures, is " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." The right upright border of the frame has a Greek pattern, and in the lower is a plain tablet to receive an inscription. The impression is taken from the die on white enamelled card in lake and in black.

#### 5. W. H. HOOPER (*One Penny*).

Mr. William Harcourt Hooper, engraver, of 28, Fleet Street, London, prepared and engraved on wood a design for a stamp of the value of one penny, in 1879.

The design consists of a diademed head of the Queen to the left on a horizontally-lined ground, enclosed in an oval beaded frame, with a border of three lines—one thick between two thin ones—which at the angles form squares for the lettering. Ribbon scrolls respectively inscribed in block letters—POSTAGE on the left one, ONE on the upper one, and PENNY on the right one—fill in the sides and top of the stamp, while the space between the lower letter blocks is occupied by a garland of oak and bay. The whole forms an irregular upright rectangle, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, or 19 by 23 mm. The impression is in black on India paper, and was taken from the original wood block.

The design is extremely effective, and forms a pleasing variation to the monotony of the stamps of the Government series. The design was not accepted.

#### 6. UNKNOWN (*Local Postage Stamp*).

We ought not to omit to notice a stamp, dating from 1862 or 1863, not uncommonly found in collections, but of the authorship of which we have been unable to ascertain any particulars. It is engraved in line; but from the general inferiority of the workmanship, the London engravers, to whom specimens have been submitted, are of opinion that it is country work. From the legend we should be led to suppose that at best it was intended as a specimen of workmanship, but it is also possible that it was produced solely for the behoof or mystification of collectors.

The design consists of the Royal Arms in a shield, superposed on a circular garter, measuring 20 mm. in diameter, on which is inscribed LOCAL POSTAGE STAMP. This is enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, measuring 24 by 29 mm., with a diapered-pattern ground. In the upper part above, and touching the garter, is the Royal Crown.

The impression is in various colours, on white wove unwater-marked paper, and the stamps are neither gummed nor perforated. We have seen impressions in the following colours: red, red-brown, pale and slate blue, <sup>pale to deep brown</sup> black-grey, <sup>green</sup> green and brown, in many of which there are several shades.

*Copies are met with with large margins, which rather confirm the idea they were produced as proofs of workmanship.*



- 24 - Prints of the 1<sup>st</sup>, for without colour, 1871, on water-marked paper. 2
- 25 - Prints of the 1850-54, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup>, in three colours, on white, paper. 3
- 26 - Prints of the 1850-54, 1<sup>st</sup>, in three different colours (w/col. on w/col. paper. 3
- 27 - Proof of the 1850-54, 1<sup>st</sup>, in dark green, perforated paper, on w/col. paper. 1
- 28 - Collection of, on loose leaves, including 25 w/col. 550
- 29 - A very fine Collection, in two plain volumes, mostly used, and containing a few 1<sup>st</sup> with foreign postmarks; the majority of the stamps are British specimens, and the collection also includes a large number of pairs, strips, and blocks. A valuable lot. 2500

1870

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

the first of the year... the first of the year...

| Lot  | No.  |
|--|------|
| 22 GREAT BRITAIN: Another good specimen  | 1    |
| 23 — <i>Do.</i> , £1 brown-lilac on blued paper, fine  | 1    |
| 24 — 1884-88, wmk. 3 Crowns, £1, the two shades, and<br>£1, wmk. Orbs, 1891, £1 green, all fine  | 4    |
| 25 — £5 orange, very fine  | 1    |
| 26 — £5 on blued paper, torn, and 10/-, wmk. Cross,<br>poor  | 2    |
| 27 — Another, re-perfd. at top, £5 Telegraphs, torn, £1,<br>wmk. 3 Orbs, very fine, and 8 others   | 11   |
| 28 — 1883-84, pairs of 1½d., 2d., 2½d. and 3d., and<br>singles of 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d. and 1/-, all unused,<br>with gum  | 13   |
| 29 — <b>Two very fine proofs on glazed card of<br/>the 3d, plate 5, showing the difference<br/>between uncoloured and coloured letters<br/>in corners</b>  | 2    |
| 30 — <i>Three rare Essays, by Waterlow's, in green, of ½d.,<br/>1½d., and 2d. stamps on one piece</i>  | 3    |
| 31 — Proofs of the 1d., two different colours, imperf.,<br>on water-marked paper   | 2    |
| 32 — Proofs of the 1883-84, 1½d. and 2½d., in wrong<br>colours, imperf., on wmkd., paper   | 2    |
| 33 — Proofs of the 1883-84, 3d., in three different<br>colours, imperf., on wmkd. paper  | 3    |
| 34 — Proof of the 1883-84, 2½d., in dark green, perforated<br>on wmkd. paper   | 1    |
| 35 — Proof of the 1892, 4½d., in orange and slate-green,<br>perf., on wmkd. paper, <i>rare</i>   | 1    |
| 36 — Collection of, on loose leaves, including 28 unused   | 268  |
| 37 — <b>A very fine Collection, in two plain volumes,<br/>mostly used, and containing a fine lot with<br/>foreign postmarks; the majority of the stamps are<br/>picked specimens, and the collection also includes<br/>a large number of pairs, strips, and blocks. A<br/>valuable lot</b> | 2333 |



| Lot |  | No. |
|-----|--|-----|
| 4   | GREAT BRITAIN: 1841, 1d. red-brown, a partly made-up plate of 196, and 2d. blue, imperf., ditto 202              | 398 |
| 5   | — <i>Do.</i> , 1d. red-brown, rouletted, on entire, scarce   | 1   |
| 6   | — 2d. blue, plate 13, block of 10, and four blocks of 4, 1d. various plates, all unused                          | 26  |
| 7   | — Octagonal issues, 10d. strip of four (one torn), and single, 6d. (2), and 1/-, two pairs, all fine             | 11  |
| 8   | — <i>Do.</i> , 1/- green, plate 2, a fine block of 8, being the 2 top rows with full margins, rare               | 8   |
| 9   | — 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 2, error of lettering, L—H, F—L, postmarked "BO2," rare                                 | 1   |
| 10  | — 2½d. lilac-rose, plates 5, 16, and 17, rare, all unused and fine   | 3   |
| 11  | — <i>Wmk.</i> medium garter, 4d. carmine on blue safety paper, unused, and 3 used, none fine                     | 4   |
| 12  | — 1855-57, 4d. and 1/-, 1862, 3d., 4d. plate 14, and 6d. plate 6, all unused, and 4 have gum                     | 5   |
| 13  | — 4d. sage-green, plate 16, block of 6, postmarked Panama, 10d., block of 4, postmarked "C30" and 2/- blue ditto | 14  |
| 14  | — 2/- blue, a fine block of 12, postmarked "C38," two in bottom row are torn                                     | 12  |
| 15  | — 2/- brown, extremely light postmark, very fine   | 1   |
| 16  | — Another overprinted "specimen," with gum, and fine   | 1   |
| 17  | — <i>Wmk.</i> Maltese Cross, 10/- grey-green and £1 brown-lilac, fine  | 2   |
| 18  | — A similar lot  | 2   |
| 19  | — <i>Wmk.</i> Anchor, 5/- rose on white paper, very fine   | 1   |
| 20  | — Another on blue paper, 5/- plate 1, a pair, and two pairs of plate 2, 5 have foreign postmarks                 | 7   |
| 21  | — <i>Wmk.</i> Anchor, 10/- grey-green on blued paper, very fine  | 1   |

## SECTION II.

### ESSAYS, PROOFS, AND TRIALS OF THE STAMPS ACTUALLY ISSUED.

#### 1. THE LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

65, WHETHER Mr. Bacon submitted to the Lords of the Treasury in 1840 any other designs for the adhesive postage labels besides the one which was adopted we have not been able to ascertain. Specimens of the work done by his firm were circulated in ~~the number of~~ the *London and Westminster Review*, in ~~February~~, 1840, as illustrations of an article on the New System of Postage; but it is evident, from the article itself, that at that time the proposals made by Mr. Bacon had been accepted, and the stamp which afterwards appeared was in progress. These specimens consisted of a group of three allegorical figures—Commerce, Plenty, and Art—in a circle surrounded by an engine-turned border, and measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, or 29 mm. in diameter, twice repeated on an octavo sheet. On the same sheet were the ten commandments, engraved in a circle  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 14 mm., in diameter, and repeated ~~sixteen~~ times. These specimens were circulated to show the facility and the accuracy with which designs could be multiplied by Messrs. Bacon and Petch's process.

March/

7 sec.

When the engraving of the one penny stamp was in progress we find several essays and trials tending to show certain of the stages through which the stamp passed, and some experiments made during its progress.

(a) The mode in which the original die or matrix for the one penny and two penny stamps was prepared has already been described. After the exact space to be occupied by the engraving of the head of the Queen had been outlined on the background of lathe-work, it was scraped out for the purpose of enabling Mr. Heath to engrave the head in the vacant space. At this stage of the process the upper and lower tablets had not been added, but before the colours of the stamps were absolutely decided on various trials of colour were made at that time, struck from the background only.

The proofs taken from the engine-turned background, without the tablets, and with the space for the insertion of the engraving of the head left blank, are on thick spongy white wove paper. The following colours have been seen :—

Purple-blue, deep blue, blue, light blue.

Dark brown, red-brown, umber-brown, light umber.

Brick-red, deep red, pale red.

Black.

These were submitted by the printers pasted on small sheets of thick paper in three rows, showing the gradations of colour. One of these sheets (unfortunately not quite complete) is before us, and its appearance leads us to the belief that there were four, or perhaps six, stamps in each row, twelve or eighteen in all, besides one in black, which is placed by itself in the margin. If this conjecture is correct, other shades besides those enumerated must have been prepared.

The trials of colour taken from the background enabled the authorities to decide which to adopt for the issue. It will be remembered that black was chosen for the one penny and blue for the twopence.

(b) Concurrently with many of these trials, experiments were also made of obliterating marks to be used in the Post-offices for cancelling the stamps; and to avoid reference to the same specimens more than once, these will be noted whenever they occur.

On a pair of the specimens just described, in the lower row,

Rowland Hill originally intended the inscription below  
the head to run. "Half oz: One Penny"; & sent an  
unfinished proof of the stamp, the head only being completed,  
to Col. Maberley, Secretary, G.P.O on 25 January, 1840 -  
but probably the words "Half oz" were however omitted  
to shorten the legend, in the confined space available.

add. one penny.

C. - proof of Contrived's drawing as engraved by T. Heath. & struck  
in black on card. dated March 1840 - before lettering.  
shown by Perkins, Bacon & Co. Ph. Exhib: May, 1890.

Also Mr Graves then exhibited

from the underground.

The proof's name from the engraver's name is  
the initials, and with the date, for the position of the  
in the hand only being, as in 1840, in the  
The engraving of the name was

made by Perkins, Bacon & Co.

made by Perkins, Bacon & Co.

1840.

Perkins, Bacon & Co.

in their paper in large letters, stating the present amount of  
One of these stamps (unintentionally), has quite soon been  
used, and the appearance leads us to the belief that very few persons  
on perhaps of stamps in each day, except in sections of an  
hundred or so being taken to be used by itself in the

If this conclusion is correct, only a few books of stamps  
can they in the grades exhibit. To Exhibit 90 - 111 p. 19.

The kinds of colour taken from the background material  
authorities to describe which to select for the color. It will be  
remembered that black was chosen for the color paper also for  
for the background.

It is conceivable with many of these trials, experiments will  
also make of obliterating marks to be used in the background  
for exceeding the marks; and to avoid reference to the  
specimens more than once, there will be cited whenever  
occurs.

On a part of the specimens just described in the lower

and extending over both, is an essay of obliteration in black, consisting of V. R. in script capitals within a small central circle, round which is a black band, inscribed CANCELLED POST PAID in white block letters. This is again enclosed in a circular band, with an engine-turned device, surrounded by an outer line. The whole design measures 28 mm. in diameter.

The Maltese cross (~~or croix nata~~) afterwards adopted as an effacing mark, is also found on some of these trials.

(c) At the sale of the effects of Mr. Charles Heath, after his death in November, 1848, two engraver's proofs struck on the same card were disposed of, which ultimately passed into the collection of the late Mr. Jules Pauwels, of Torquay, and are now, it is believed, in the possession of some members of his family in Belgium.

The first of these shows the stamp before the upper and lower tablets were added, the background being that of the type subsequently issued. As the head was rather wider than the engraver approved, a dotted line to show the extent of the reductions to be made is traced inside the wider outlines. This dotted line gives the contour of the bust as finally issued.

The second shows the head as altered, but with an engine-turned background of a different pattern to that adopted, and with the words POSTAGE ONE PENNY at the foot in one line. The head of this latter, the background of the former, with the tablets added, made up the design as finally approved and adopted. Both of these are struck in black, and being engraver's proofs, are probably unique. For a more detailed account of them by the late Mr. Pemberton, see *Philatelist*,<sup>x</sup> vol. ii. p. 16.

(d) It has been previously mentioned (*supra*, p. 76) that, about the month of August, 1840, in consequence of the difficulty of finding effectual means of preventing fraud by the removal of the effacing marks, it was determined to change the colour of the one penny stamp from black to red, and at the same time experiments were made with obliterating inks variously prepared.

For the purpose of these trials and experiments impressions

of the one penny <sup>and two pence</sup> were taken by Messrs. Bacon and Petch on plain white wove paper, the upper right corner of the dies having been first covered with wax to prevent a complete impression being made. These trials for colour were struck off in the various inks and colours then under consideration; the adhesive matter or cement was afterwards applied at the back, and experiments of the obliterating marks were made. The colours of these trials are so numerous and varied that they have earned for themselves the title of the "Rainbow Series." The list subjoined contains the more striking colours; the letter v appended to any implies that varieties of shades and tones of the particular colour exist.

Red-brown, as issued.

Red-carmine, light and dark, v.

Brick-red, a light shade.

Brown, shades of reddish, v. *on blue paper*

Brown, shades of umber, v.

Mauve-pink, or rose-hortensia.

Purple. *violet?*

Grey, v.

Slate.

Slate-purple, v.

Blue, light and dark, v.

Slate-blue.

Black.

A specimen is mentioned by M. Rondot (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 200) with the groundwork in brown and the head in pink. This, however, was made by simply inserting the head from one in the groundwork of another.

Many specimens, especially the darker shades of brown and blue and the red-brown, show the effects of the combined action of the ink and the gum on the back in producing the greenish-blue tinge on the paper. Wherever their presence is coincident in the white angle squares, as also in the corners and margins to which the ink has not extended, the effects of the chemical action are not found. As this point has been fully discussed in



Tracts for 1<sup>st</sup> as Dickinson paper. a

that printed from plate 11

29.11.90 Bulls auction lot 7/6. strap of 4. of them - £20.

\* a set proof corners waxed on small crown paper.

reverse all this

on many.

Lang 95. see from Morley.

Tracts on Dickinson paper & s. crown imp. 9 corners. blued

1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> in <sup>dark</sup> blue no letters in crown angles. } white  
s. top corner waxed. } lines.

Jan III 2<sup>d</sup> in red brown. no letters & top waxed.

1<sup>st</sup> black on Dickinson paper belongs to Mr Mackay  
checked. PK J of 4.13. vol VI (1869) p. 141.

VR also use prohibition + renewals. see num.

\* see also the circular essay with prof. dots there

treating of the one penny (1840) stamp it is needless to refer to it further here.

Several obliterating marks are found :

1. The ~~Maltese cross~~, or *croix patée*, as then in use.
2. A series of seven concentric circles round a solid centre, the diameter of the exterior one measuring 24 mm.

These were simply hand stamps. The experiments were made not only on stamps of various colours, but also with various kinds of obliterating inks, and were for the most part conducted at the Treasury, under the direction of Sir Rowland Hill. Specimens of the one penny black V.R. are found with the above obliterations, belonging to sheets which were utilized at the Treasury for the purpose of these experiments.

3. A third kind is peculiar ; it presents a series of parallel cuts through the stamp nearly 2 mm. long, grouped together in pairs quite close to each other, each pair being separated from each other by an interval of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. These cuts seem as if made by a spur-wheel, or roulette, which at the same time printed a succession of square black ink marks in line over the surface of the stamp. Whether the puncturing of the stamp was designed, or arose accidentally from the sharp edges of the roulette, cannot be stated, but of course such a result precluded  
\* the use of this kind of obliteration.

Various other specimens of effacing experiments are found, but the above are those more commonly met with.

(e) When in 1858 it was under consideration to suppress the Maltese crosses in the upper angles, and substitute letters in their places, and also to insert the number of the plate on the face of each stamp, specimens were printed to show the effect of the proposed alteration. For this purpose a roller impression of Die 1 of the one penny (Heath's original head) was taken, from which the Maltese crosses were removed, and an assumed plate number of three figures (1 2 3) was engraved in the reticulated framework, the figures being larger and thicker than those afterwards adopted. The corner blocks of the plate were filled in with Egyptian or block letters, of a smaller size than those

subsequently introduced. The impression was in the ordinary red colour, and was taken off on paper watermarked with "large crown" inverted. This essay is of exceptional interest as an example of a stamp printed from Die I, on "large crown" paper, and with letters in all the four angles. It was printed in 1858, though, as we have seen, the changes were not carried out in the one penny stamp till 1861.

(f) For some ~~reason or other~~ <sup>we are unable</sup> to state trial sheets were struck from Plate No. 75, approved 7th February, 1863, the upper left corner of the dies being waxed so as not to take the impression. The blocks in the three other corners being blank, and not filled in with the lettering, it is evident that the impression was taken off before the plate was approved for use.

We have seen the following, viz :

1. One penny, carmine-red, on blue laid paper.
2. One penny, blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

This latter is of the same shade as the twopence current at that time, and the specimen we have seen is stamped with a trial effacing mark in black, consisting of a large crown in a plain circle, with the word LONDON and the date, 22.6.63, from which it appears probable that these sheets were used for the purpose of experiments in effacing marks.

(g) The British Post-office authorities having determined to exhibit in the Exposition Universelle of Paris in 1867 a complete set of all the apparatus and material used in the service of the Department, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., at the instance of Mr. Pearson Hill, then Under Secretary to the Post-office, printed in 1866 specimen sheets of the one penny from Plate No. 103, Series II, then current,\* both in black and in carmine-

\* Consequent on the clearness of the impression of these stamps collectors have frequently noticed that the figure 1 of 103, on the left side of the head, looks as if the up-stroke, or "serif" as it is termed by printers, was on the wrong side of the main line of the figure, but close examination will show that this appearance is created by the reticulated groundwork, and that the figure itself is merely a hair-lined block figure. This peculiarity may be noticed at the left side of clearly-printed penny stamps from Plates Nos. 100 to 199 inclusive.

Other things  
I will keep them for later

difficult to do. <sup>not</sup> engraved on rollers. work done as little as possible

Colour Trial

Even - Monday July 96

2<sup>d</sup> on large Crown. pl 16. <sup>L-T.</sup><sub>T-L.</sub> in a bright blue comp.

h. Many colours ?

proofs carefully printed in  
colours of issues. <sup>very</sup> ~~rather~~ <sup>rather</sup> ~~can~~ <sup>can</sup>  
improve. excels. pl.

(k) Ferrary's copy is A-K.

(b.) probably from plate, in course of making: before more than 3000  
of 4 had been struck on it. 97. write if pl 1. soft with a rest?

Proof of 2<sup>d</sup> letter 4 angles ? plate

very heavy imp

" improved blue ink clearer & less black "

" slightly more perspective - "

in issue

red, and of the twopence, in blue, Plate No. 9. These sheets were printed on thick yellowish soft paper, which showed the beauty of the engraving to perfection. <sup>card/</sup> ~~The paper bore no watermark, and was as thick as ordinary card-board.~~ <sup>without</sup>

After the close of the exhibition a few copies found their way <sup>into the hands of collectors.</sup> Specimens of these stamps cannot therefore be considered as specially rare. <sup>as they were not exhibited</sup>

(h) We only know of one proof of the one penny stamp printed from the plate after the letters in the lower angles had been inserted in a different colour to that in which it was issued. This was taken off in a dull blue tint from the first plate when it was completed, and ready to be printed from, and is on the paper employed for the issue, watermarked with a "small crown." Specimens from this sheet are of the highest degree of rarity. <sup>as they were not exhibited</sup>

(i) In the early part of the year 1841, <sup>after</sup> when the white lines above and below the head of the Queen had been inserted on the ~~roller~~ impression of the twopence, a small trial plate, consisting of twelve stamps in three rows of four in each row, was struck off, showing the white lines above and below the head, and the Maltese crosses in the upper angles, with the letter blocks left blank. The stamps thus produced are not quite in true line, nor are they at equal distances from each other. The impression was taken off on paper, watermarked with the "small crown" reversed, and the sheet was gummed. The colour was blue, of which two very distinct shades are found.

These proofs are not rare, being ordinarily seen in good collections.

(j) In the latter part of the year 1870, proofs in various colours, of the one penny and twopence, were struck off from the matrices or original dies as retouched by Humphrÿs. As the Maltese crosses on the blocks in the upper angles were engraved on the dies and the blocks in the lower angles left blank, they appeared so on these impressions, but the white lines, distinctive of the twopence, and which were only inserted on the roller, of course do not appear.

These impressions are carefully printed on plate paper, mounted on card of a yellowish tone, showing a margin the full size of the steel die of an inch or more all round the impression, thus greatly enhancing the effect of the impression.

The word NEW and the figure 1 were engraved on the die; for they appear on the margin, embossed in plain relief, but reading backwards. In the twopence the words NEW DIE<sup>x</sup> are also visible.

The one penny was printed in black, <sup>orange, blue,</sup> carmine, and green;

The twopence in blue, black, and green. <sup>carmine orange</sup>

Similar proofs were also at the same time struck off from the original dies of the one halfpenny and the three halfpence. Those of the one halfpenny were printed in carmine, black, orange, and blue, the four angles being blank; those of the three halfpence were printed, with the four angles in blank, in carmine-red, black, <sup>orange</sup> blue, and green. <sup>also on card, in black</sup>

*The Forged One Penny.*—From time to time the authorities have been afflicted with scares, which sometimes took the form of fears that the stamps were or might be forged; at others, that they were being tampered with by removing the effacing marks. One of these periodical seizures appears to have occurred in or about 1860, and the authorities became anxious to know by experiment how far the forgery of a stamp that would pass muster was practicable by ordinary means. For this purpose an imitation was ordered to be made by an expert and skilful engraver, who was furnished with everything requisite to enable him to produce a *fac-simile* of the one penny stamp. The imitation was purposely left incomplete in one angle; but the impressions taken from the die exhibit differences so palpable that the least practised eye could not be deceived by them for a moment. The result appears to have reassured the authorities, and moreover showed the wisdom of employing a portrait as the principal feature of the design. It further evidenced the propriety not only of retaining the then existing safeguards, but rather of adding to them by the introduction of others, though



April 1887. from Mr W. Laird Clowes. of 6 Ashdown Rd  
Kington on Thames.

One penny red / small crown / used on a letter  
headed Tottenham 26<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 25. 3. 43. no letters in  
lower angles / mallet cross - black oblat<sup>n</sup> / - one  
44<sup>th</sup> seen The letters had been scraped out & left  
clear marks.

- see though (1801) writes 11 Nov 1854. approx 9 Die II proof  
as enclosed in Perkins B of 10 letters of 3<sup>rd</sup> issue  
Bacon

proof in common also. untraced F.S. (Sargent)  
31. 5. 70

(struck off later) /  
+ green. / seen at Ph. Est. '90 / also see note MS. p. 90 ante  
2d. pl. (9) <sup>13. 2. 60</sup> ~~copy~~ proof. Unimpaired blue ink. slightly  
more fugitive. imperforate.  
a fine, but thick, bluish impression /  
"clearer less black" intended R. #. #

See Report of Joint Comm<sup>rs</sup> '84 p. 7. No 50. by  
Mr De la Rue.

For essays of 1<sup>st</sup> P. & Reverse. see Westoby. MS note.  
under No 75. other books

1<sup>st</sup> mallet cross. lower angles blank. die proof  
in full shade violet rough paper. star & scraped marks  
marked "Specimen" per De la Rue.

Halfpenny. (Racine)

M.S.

pl. 20. in green imp. proof. see p. 92. onto  
on card in black & rose.

Die. Proofs of 1/2 d. besides others in p. 294.

imp. carmine red acceptor blue letters.

black

blue

green (like 5<sup>d</sup> N.S.W.)

Colour of proofs:  
printed

rose pink. on thick paper, unmarked large

6 rayed star imp. specimen

Monday. June 94.

a clear printer's proof on rough <sup>the paper is</sup> ~~not~~ unmarked paper  
with blue & green.

July 1896

to send me: die proofs

1 1/2 violet / on rough thick paper.

1 1/2 green / 6 rayed star. clear on green  
no corner letters.

the greater part of these have been, we fear, unadvisedly abolished in many of the stamps during the past year.

Proofs of the imitation stamp in the colour of the one penny were taken from the die on plate paper, and mounted on card, and are to be found in official collections.

*The Three Halfpence.*—(a) In 1860 Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. were directed to prepare a design for a new value of three halfpence. The design, as submitted by them, was only what may be termed a scissors and paste adaptation of the then current one penny, from a copy of which it was constructed, the portions of the lettering which it was desired to hide being covered with body colour. The word POSTAGE is introduced in a curve above the Queen's head, and below is THREE HALFPENCE in two lines. White letter blocks are inserted in all the four angles, with lettering similar to that then in use on the two-pence. The great similarity of the design with that of the one penny caused the authorities to reject it, and to desire another to be prepared, in which the difference should be more distinctly marked.

(b) The design subsequently selected has been already described; but the reduction of the postage rate contemplated in 1860 not having taken effect, the stock was destroyed, except some few sheets kept as specimens. Copies surcharged SPECIMEN are common; those unsurcharged are rare. In some the blue action of the gum is much more apparent than on others. The sheet registered at Somerset House, on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed 22nd March, 1860, is deeply discoloured.

## 2. THE EMBOSSED STAMPS.

*The Tenpence and the One Shilling.*—(a) Two designs—one for the tenpence and the other for the one shilling—appear to have been submitted to the authorities in 1847, by ~~Mr. William~~ ~~Wyon~~. The design of both consists of <sup>the</sup> head of the Queen, as engraved by him for the embossing die of one penny, and

was struck in white relief, without the addition of any pendent curl, in an upright octagon. Within the exterior line of the die is a border, about 2 mm. in breadth, drawn in pen and ink, composed of zig-zags, with ornaments of dots introduced. The octagon measures externally 23 by 25½ mm., and within the border, on the plain ground, the value in full is inserted with pen and ink in Roman capitals.

(b) In the tenpence the inscription reads downwards—POSTAGE in the left vertical side; TEN below the head; and PENCE reading upwards on the right vertical side. After the introduction of this legend the ground was painted in water-colour a yellow tint of green.

(c) In the one shilling the inscription reads upwards from the left vertical side, on which is POSTAGE; above the head is ONE, and on the left vertical side SHILLING. The ground is painted in yellow buff.

These essays are on thick white unwatermarked paper, and are gummed at the back with a thick coating of yellowish gum.

(d) Two copies of the octagonal die last described were subsequently struck at a distance of 4 mm. apart on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, similar to that on which the stamps themselves were afterwards struck and issued, but the threads passing horizontally across the stamps instead of vertically. They were struck in plain colour. In one pair the ground is pea-green, and was submitted as a trial of colour for the one shilling; the other pair, submitted as trials of colour for the tenpence, have a ground of yellow in two shades, the one a bright yellow and the other chrome yellow.

The backs of these trials are gummed with good yellowish-coloured gum.

In the stamps as subsequently <sup>issued</sup> prepared the ~~same~~ octagonal die was preserved, but on the suggestion of ~~Mr~~ Ormond Hill, <sup>who designed these stamps</sup> ~~was~~ furnished with an engine-turned border, the work of the late ~~Mr~~ Moss, an engraver employed for this purpose <sup>by</sup> ~~Mr~~ Ormond Hill.

I further to the location of the ...

The ...

one ...

The ...

The ...

the blue thread being uppermost, the red beneath.

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

5. in black on glazed card 18(7)

one Penny issue 80. proof in black imp Crown.

Proof sheets in black on plain paper taken from every plate of surface printed after Reg? & kept as Standards at S.H.  
per Mr Purcell. 29.10.93.

In Green on unmounted card. by Morley July 95 from Hans of 20.

(d) Proofs from plate 15. on paper of the issue (large garter), unperfected, but gummed. struck in red. red brown, olive green, brown, sage green, blue green, black, <sup>blue</sup> mauve. all SPECIMEN.

4<sup>3</sup> Die 4. plate (15). Imp<sup>o</sup> proof. (Left July 86) in ochre yellow. watermark (Garter). seen.

4<sup>3</sup> plate (17) Imp<sup>o</sup> proof. watermark Garter in blue; a pale head shade.  $\frac{L}{T} | \frac{T}{L}$ . (Bull) Decr 88.

(c) Previous to the insertion of the date plugs in the die of the one shilling, a proof was, in 1855, struck in the normal colour, green, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

*The Sixpence.*—A similar proof was struck at the same time from Die No. 4 of the sixpence, in lilac, on white wove unwatermarked paper, before the insertion of the date plugs.

### 3. THE TYPE-PRINTED STAMPS.

*The Fourpence.*—(a) The first design prepared in 1855 by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., showed the head of the Queen to the left in a circle, in an upright rectangular frame of similar size with that of the stamp subsequently prepared and issued. Above and below the circle are plain straight tablets, touching the circle and completing the parallelogram. On the upper tablet is POSTAGE, and on the lower FOUR PENCE, the spandrels being filled in with a reticulated pattern.

The impression, <sup>era</sup> was taken from the die in carmine on white enamelled card. + green

(b) A trial impression in a dull shade of vermilion was taken from Plate No. 8 (*supra*, p. 115), approved 15th August, 1855, on a <sup>sheet</sup> sheet of white wove unwatermarked paper, which was afterwards gummed, but not perforated. ~~115-116~~

(c) In August, 1868, proofs were struck from Die III (*supra*, p. 115) for trials of colour. The impressions, being struck from the die, show the letter and date blocks in solid colour. They were struck in rose and in blue on white enamelled card.

(d)

*The Sixpence.*—(a) Proofs from Die I (*supra*, p. 119) were, in 1856, taken in emerald green, and also in clear violet of a paler shade than that afterwards adopted for the issue. These proofs were struck on white enamelled card.

(b) Proofs on white wove unwatermarked paper were taken off, in two shades of green, from Plate No. 1, approved 29th March, 1856, and also in green on thick soft card.

then

On these last proofs experimental trials of obliterations were made. The design of the obliterating stamp consisted of a single-lined circle, measuring 1 inch or 25½ mm. in diameter, in which was a <sup>large</sup> Royal Crown, with the date <sup>in large Capitals</sup> 2. 4. 56 below. In a curve above was HELMSLEY, the name of a post-town in Yorkshire, but no obliterating marks of this pattern were ever adopted.

The Stamp was  
in green, on  
white wove paper.

(c) Proofs from Die II., prepared for Plate No. 3, with a hyphen, were struck off in black, on white wove unwatermarked paper, previously to the issue. (*Vide supra*, p. 121.)

(d) Similar proofs were also struck off in August, 1864, from Die III., prepared for Plate No. 5 (*supra*, p. 122), the impression from which was approved 30th December following. These were struck off in black on white enamelled card, and show the die with the letter blocks and all the four circles in blank, and also with the upper circles filled in with stars.

(e) Some sheets for trials of colours were printed from Plate No. 6, Issue III (*supra*, p. 122), and from Plate No. 9, Issue IV. (*supra*, p. 123). The former are printed on white wove unwatermarked paper, and were not gummed or perforated; the latter were printed on the paper of the issue watermarked with "spray of rose," and were gummed, but not perforated.

These sheets were, we believe, printed in 1870, to assist the authorities in deciding upon the colour which should be adopted for the new type of this value then in preparation, inasmuch as so late as April, 1869, a sheet was printed in lilac from Plate No. 10 (which was never brought into use) for the reception of the *imprimatur*, and the next plate (No. 11), brought into use in January, 1872, was of Type II. The impression from this latter plate on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed is in chestnut-brown, one of the shades to be found among the trials printed from Plate No. 9.

(1) From Plate No. 6, on white wove unwatermarked paper, we find impressions in vermilion, green, and ultramarine blue.

(2) From Plate No. 9, on white wove paper, watermarked "spray of rose," we find impressions in orange, ochre-yellow, brown-red, and clear chestnut-brown.



also. London mark. "A.M." Apr 9. 1856. Philoteles, 1872, p. 169. 70. vol VI.

in a plain circle

AM  
AP 9  
1856

also see Rodd's hair, unperf. "a.m. ~~of April 9~~" in my book. 91 tail obliteration. Apr 9. 1856.

also W. has note

E. B  
MR. 27  
1856

for  
4 proofs in colour. struck pl 5 } sold Bull. 29.11.90  
633  
lot 79. for £5. "It is believed no other copies are known."  
This is all wrong.

Die 1. p. 126. Proof in black on card not enamelled

H/L  
4.14. Taken in white octagons: not squares as assumed  
from floreated in 15° angles. (3) in lower. ? why 3. it  
was for plate (13).  
the first letters or white groups.  
(13) in col?

8<sup>?</sup> in clear yellow orange in reddish orange. like worn  
unperf. on large paper. [specimen]



*The One Shilling.*—The first designs for the stamp of this value submitted in 1856 show the head of the Queen as finally chosen, but with considerable differences in the construction of the stamp.

(a) The head is on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, enclosed in a beaded circle, touching the sides and top of the rectangular frame. Below, in two lines, is POSTAGE—ONE SHILLING, in white block letters, on a straight tablet of solid colour. The spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern somewhat similar to that of Die L.

The impression is in red-brown on enamelled card.

On the back of the specimen from which the above description is taken is a design in pencil of the watermark proposed for adoption, composed of the heraldic emblems, disposed in a curve both at the top and the bottom of the stamp—a rose in the centre, and the thistle and shamrock on either side.

(b) This design is very similar to that ultimately selected, but the oval band enclosing the head is wider, reducing the space left for the head. Above the head, on a solid curved tablet with rounded ends, is POSTAGE, and on a similar incurved tablet below ONE SHILLING, in clear block letters. The rest of the oval band is filled in with a scroll-pattern of fine lines, and the rectangular frame is composed of similar lines differently disposed. The pattern of the filling in of the spandrels is similar to that of the previous essay.

The impression was struck in carmine, on white enamelled card.

(c) This essay is similar to the last, except that the scroll-pattern on the sides of the oval border is suppressed, and the heraldic emblems of the rose, shamrock, and thistle introduced. The rectangular frame is also changed, and composed of three coloured lines, the innermost of which is incurved at the angles, and a small ornament introduced.

The impression is in pale blue, on white enamelled card.

(d) The next essay presents the stamp as approved and issued (see illustration, p. 129), and is printed on ~~glass~~ white wove

unwatermarked paper. We have seen it in carmine, in green, and in ultramarine-blue.

There are white dots in the two lower and <sup>in the upper left</sup> corners. The specimen printed in carmine is defaced with a white cross scratched across the stamp, and all are found heavily effaced with an oval hand-stamped mark, which is evidently a trial of an obliterating mark.

(e) A proof impression on thin white wove unwatermarked paper was taken from the Plate No. 1, in the same shade of green as was adopted for the issue. Specimens of these are commonly found defaced by an oblique pen stroke across the stamp.

*The Ninepence.*—(a) In 1861 a proof from Die I. (*supra*, p. 134) was taken off in black on white wove unwatermarked paper.

(b) A design, differing in many particulars from the stamp as issued, was subsequently prepared by Messrs. De La Rue, but at what period we are unable to state positively, nor do we know with what object it was prepared, unless it were in contemplation of the construction of a new type for the value. As a matter of course, the sole points of difference are to be found in the treatment of the frame, the principal of them being—the edge of the nine-curved line surrounding the head is ornamented with crescent-shaped dots, instead of consisting of plain lines as in the stamp; the reticulated pattern of the spandrels is vertically disposed, but coarser in design. The inscriptions, POSTAGE, NINE PENCE, are in Roman characters in white, on solid coloured tablets. In the angle squares the letters are small, and are enclosed in single lined circles. The letters on the specimens before us, inserted in the upper letter blocks, are V. A.; in the lower one, C. O., the signification of which we are unable to state.

Copies of this frame were printed in two colours—olive-ochre and light brown-red—and the interior portion being removed, the frame was pasted on to a head taken from another stamp.

1<sup>st</sup> plates 13 & 14. on (Crown '80) imperf? Coll O. Tapf.  
in lilac : ✓

having a ~~the~~ number, 39 in a diamond

9<sup>th</sup> Proofs. plate 4. on heraldic emblems. imperf., coll. Tapfing  
x plate 5. " " " " } from real  
(see Feb, 1855. x.a.p.) } made up  
by De la Rive. ✓

x 8<sup>th</sup> also on black or white enamelled card. letter squares  
in black.



That printed in olive-ochre is pasted on to a fiscal stamp prepared for the "Suitors' Fee Fund account of the Court of Chancery;" that printed in light red-brown, on a head taken from a stamp watermarked with "spray of rose." The presence of this watermark on the head introduced is somewhat remarkable, as it is not found on any stamp prior to 1867. The introduction of small lettering, and the absence of any provision for the insertion of the number of the plates, would rather tend to indicate a retrograde movement. The only supposition which appears to us to be probable is, that it was a preliminary design for a modification of the ninespence. It will be remembered that the demand for this value suddenly ceased, in consequence of a change in the rate of postage, and Plate No. 5, approved April, 1866, was never brought into use. It may be that an intention existed of changing the design of the successor to Plate No. 5, and that the absence of further call for the stamp put an end to the project. We have chronicled the facts, the explanation we must leave to others.

*The Threepence.*—The die for this stamp was prepared in 1861, and as the design for the head of the Queen had already been accepted, the only portion which gave scope for originality was the treatment of the frame.

(a) In the design as at first prepared the trilobed border ultimately approved of was introduced into the rectangular frame upside down, as compared with the stamp afterwards issued. The spaces between the border and the rectangular lines of the frame were filled in with a minute groundwork, and in the angles were introduced letters reading diagonal-wise, H. U. N. T.

Proofs of the die of this border were taken off on white enamelled card in blue and also in carmine.

(b) The inner space from the proof of the border taken off in carmine having been removed, the border was pasted on a 5s. "Matrimonial Causes" stamp bearing the approved design of the Queen's head, which was also in carmine. The effect was

not satisfactory, and it was determined to invert the frame, which was accordingly done.

(c) The frame being inverted, the legends were changed so as to read properly in the new position of the framework, and as so altered, the design was approved. A plate (No. 1) was constructed, but the impressions not being satisfactory it was not used, and a second plate (No. 2) was constructed, the impression from which was approved 17th October, 1861.

Before the printing had advanced far it was determined to suppress the pattern between the trilobed border and the rectangular frame, and the die was altered accordingly. Plate No. 2 appears also to have been altered by scraping away the pattern, and in its altered state was again approved 19th March, 1862.

The impressions taken from Plate No. 2, struck previously to the alteration, were not only perforated ready for issue, but many had been surcharged "SPECIMEN" for distribution to the postmasters, and it is believed that a few were actually sent out; the bulk, however, of the impression was destroyed. These "specimen" stamps are by no means uncommon, but copies not so surcharged are very rarely met with.

(d) Proofs from Die II. (*supra*, p. 138), with solid letter and number blocks, were struck in black on white enamelled card.

(e) Proofs of Plate No. 4, constructed from the last-mentioned die, with the plate number and letters inserted, were struck in November, 1864, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

#### *Die Proofs of Series Current in 1870.*

(a) In the year 1867 proofs in various colours of the tenpence, two shillings, and five shillings, issued on the 1st July, 1867, were, at the instance of the Post Office, struck from the original dies for the Paris Exhibition, the letter blocks and those for the numbers of the dies being in blank. The specimens were beautifully printed, and the colours displayed great purity of tone.

(b) In 1870 proofs in various colours were also taken from the whole of the original dies prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., belonging to stamps that were then in use. These, taking



Proof from pl 7. (in black on enamelled card) with  
des. altered in angles to the Slogans of pl 11. with letters on  
white ground: in this proof no lettering was inked.  
(see Diana - May 93)

3d in green imperf. in spray paper. F D can  
D. F. Aug 93.  
Hobby

Plate proofs for colour. 1884 series (see. Monday. Sep 93/)

2 1/2. Crown 80/ P. 14. on blue <sup>mauve</sup> paper of issue  
2 1/2d issue - P. 14. on rose in blue.

Green  
Mauve  
(light blue)

to Allen & Co.

$\frac{1}{2}$  d last date before 1887 (ex all: Wright. July 9<sup>th</sup>.) Bull has a  
colored proof. in mauve-lilac red. 14 perf<sup>s</sup> gummied (brown.)  
nearly colour of 10<sup>s</sup> lighter shade  
a sheet printed. this copy I saw. Top row with edge 9 narrow blank: not  
quite full size of stamp.



9<sup>th</sup> d. 1876. 14c FOURPENCE,

F. Due IV, <sup>Latin</sup> Capira, p. 116) in ochre. yellow. pl 15 on garden.

8<sup>d</sup> 1876. profts. in <sup>(? holes)</sup> ~~red~~ yellowish, mfgarden)

for Sam. Givelli (1892) [Specimen] thin cottony diagonal wire.

1. chrome yellow.

2. colour. of urine (chiller. Funt)

3. reddish yellow.

1<sup>st</sup> net (7) type k. 132 and  
" in black or enamelled can

Pompeia. Ganta (15) in buff. infes.

" " (15) blue green. ' SPECIMEN'

2<sup>d</sup> 1. of Sept 98. can found in black cup on trace water and  
f 5.

Proofs in Colour for the 10<sup>d</sup>  
 of 1890.

all on (Crown) gummed & perf<sup>d</sup> 14  
 edges on ~~white~~ lined <sup>green</sup> of ~~border~~ colour of border.

| Centre                              | Border            |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1. Lilac<br>(as in stamp<br>used)   | Blue              | of 9 <sup>d</sup>  |
| 2. Lilac -                          | Brown             | of 4 <sup>d</sup>  |
| 3. Green<br>(as in 4 <sup>d</sup> ) | Blue              |  |
| 4. Green                            | Red               | of 10 <sup>d</sup><br>as issued }                                      |
| 5. Green                            | Brown             | of 4 <sup>d</sup>  |
| 6. Green                            | Mauve<br>(bright) | as issued }<br>we be known of 40 or 50<br>others. To be got abstracted |

a very pretty contrast.

Handwritten text at the top of the page, possibly a title or header.

Main body of handwritten text in the upper section, consisting of several lines of cursive script.

A short line of handwritten text, possibly a separator or a specific note.

Main body of handwritten text in the lower section, continuing the cursive script.

them in the order of the facial value of the stamps, were as follows :

- (1) In 1870, the **THREEPENCE**, Die II. (*supra*, p. 139), in mauve, carmine, black, lilac-rose, yellow, and brown. *Da III also - 1/2.*
- (2) In 1870, the **FOURPENCE**, Die III. (*supra*, p. 115), in vermilion, black, ochre-yellow, and mauve. *La. Die IV ochre yellow*
- (3) In 1870, the **SIXPENCE**, Die IV., in lilac, mauve, and brown. *black. carmine. ochre yellow. purple. sep. red.*
- (4) In 1870, the **NINEPENCE**, Die II. (*supra*, p. 135), in bistre, black, mauve, and yellow. *carmin. brown.*
- (5) In 1867 and 1870, the **TENPENCE** (*supra*, p. 142), in chestnut-brown, black, green, azure blue, lilac-rose, orange, carmine, bistre, and brown.
- (6) In 1870, the **ONE SHILLING**, Die III. (*supra*, p. 131), in green, purple, black, and brown. *carmin. ochre yellow.*
- (7) In 1867 and 1870, the **TWO SHILLINGS** (*supra*, p. 143), in blue-black, rose-lilac, ochre-yellow, green, and chestnut-brown. *blue. mauve. carmine.*
- (8) In 1867 and 1870, the **FIVE SHILLINGS** (*supra*, p. 145), in carmine, black, brown, blue-green, and orange. *ochre yellow.*

*Trials on Paper Chemically Prepared.*

Early in 1871 the Post-office authorities, desiring to see whether the paper could not be so prepared as to prevent the stamps printed thereon from being tampered with, caused sheets of the paper then in current use to undergo a peculiar preparation, which stained them a green hue, more or less intense, the ~~hand-made~~ paper issued to Perkins, Bacon, and Co. not showing it so much as the wove paper on which De La Rue and Co. printed.

*\* The plan originated with D. Perkins & a chemical alteration was intended to be used, which would effectually prevent all attempts to clean off the 1/2 marks.*

~~We believe that the trials then made embraced those of~~ ingredients to mix with the ink, and which were intended to conduce to the result in view; namely, an immediate detection if any acid or detergent were applied to the stamp.

From the current plates, and on the paper of the issue thus prepared, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. printed trials as under; viz :

*papers varied. any & diff. chemicals? proportions?*

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1d., carmine, from Plate 121. | ✓     |
| 1½d. " "                      | 1. ✓  |
| 2d., blue " "                 | 13. ✓ |

and Messrs. De La Rue and Co.—

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| 3d., carmine, from Plate | 5. ✓  |
| 4d., vermilion "         | 12. ✓ |
| 6d., lilac "             | 9. ✓  |
| 1s., green "             | 4. ✓  |

*e/a*  
 These stamps were <sup>gummed</sup> ~~gummed~~, but not perforated. The result of the experiments on the paper so prepared was not satisfactory, and the proposed system was in consequence never adopted. *1st 500000* *J SPECIMEN*

#### 4. THE "MULREADY" COVERS.

1. Two species of proofs only are known of the design for the face of the cover and envelope made by the late W. Mulready, R.A., the one being an engraver's proof, and the other a printer's proof.

(a) Before any <sup>metal</sup> ~~stereo-plates~~ were constructed from the wood block engraved by Mr. John Thompson, a few proofs were struck off in black on India paper. These are strictly of the class known as engraver's or artist's proofs, and are of great softness in tone and delicacy in execution. They are of the highest degree of rarity. It is said that six impressions only were taken off, one of which, with the original pencil sketch of the design, was sold, in 1864, after the death of Mr. Mulready, at the sale of his effects, for twenty guineas.\*

(b) Proofs were taken from the <sup>metal</sup> ~~stereo-plate~~ before the lettering was introduced, both on India paper and on thickish green-grey paper. These are printer's proofs, and are readily distinguishable from those taken from the wood block by the greater thickness of the lines, especially those of the rectangular frame inclosing the design, and by the coarser character of the impression generally. Both of these impressions are of considerable rarity, though copies are met with in the best collections.

\* The original block is in the South Kensington Museum.

*(metal)*

*before letters or  
same metal*

*one signed  
"W. Mulready."*

Mulready.

Green.

Impression in black: before letters of value. on half sheet coarse grey paper. - printed in Roman Type (where value etc. come)

Impression from original brass block.

M D C C C L X I X.

(1869)

with paper by Phillips

also <sup>1/4</sup> <sup>top</sup>  
 1. were kept showing rather a blue. than most, marked SPECIMEN  
 2. pl 5: sea. Inscriptions, diagonal etc. - large than block letter  
 3. 12. with margin & plate No (12) number.  
 4. 9. much grayer.  
 5. 13. these specimens are some but thought like my (blue) pl. 6.

as to 1883-7, set. Colour proof. noted in interleaved copy of Westoby Jubilee Cal. in my 220 book,

3. Even K T.  
5. A 14 T. K.

Perhaps the highest price is that of the Mulready envelope printed on Indian paper. Not a dozen of these exist, and they are worth £80 a pair. Mr. J. W. Palmer has a couple, and so, we believe, has Mr. Philbrick, Q.C. Some of the proofs of English stamps too are invaluable.

This is not true. many more are known to me.

Also proofs of the stereotypes as finally ~~set~~ completed, both showing the lines defining the diamond shape for the envelopes. - furnished them. with the numbering <sup>above</sup> on the label with Postage.

Mulready proof on India paper (card mount) sold £5.10 - 29.11.90  
Bulls Auction.

Proofs from original block in 1869. - see the Journal. by them 1891.  
stone plates?

Proof from metal plate original before stone 30 July 1865  
1. 2. 40. from the frame. by Mulready.





2. There are several essays of the component parts of the covers as subsequently issued, some of which are also applicable to the envelopes, of which, as distinct from the covers, no essays are known to exist.

(a) A half-sheet of paper, measuring 9 by 8 inches, on the lower part of the face of which is POST TOWN—PENNY STAMP. In four columns, two at each end, are tables of the prices of the stamps, with various directions and other information for the public, slightly differing in phraseology from those on the covers as ultimately issued, and in smaller and thicker type.

There is a space for inserting the address of the sender of the letter, and a notice that if the party to whom it is addressed cannot be found, the letter is to be returned to the sender. This notice, when the cover is folded, appears on the reverse side.

On the specimen from which this description is taken there are pencil lines indicating where the "Dickinson" threads are to pass, and the schedule of prices has been corrected. On the front space Sir Rowland Hill has made the following note, "A design with a figure of Britannia in the middle. This figure constitutes the essential part of the stamp."

The impression is in black on white wove unwatermarked paper.

(b) A half-sheet of paper to fold as a cover, with the space on the face for the design left blank, with marginal columns of printed matter, as in the covers ultimately issued, but similar in type and phraseology to that of (a), the columns of printing and the address space being framed with thick black lines. The remainder of the sheet is covered with a minute engine-turned pattern, with an inner fancy-bordering, the word POSTAGE being introduced in the same way as it appeared on the covers actually issued. When the cover is folded as a letter the back appears entirely covered with the pattern. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(c) This is the same as the last, save that the "Mulready" design is introduced into the blank space on the face, and intentionally blurred to prevent improper use being made of the

specimen. The printed matter in the columns was reset, with some slight differences, and turned so as to read the other end uppermost. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(d) This is similar to the last, but the engine-turned pattern is suppressed except in one place, shaped like a tablet, a little above the head of Britannia. This has evidently been done by covering over with paper the parts intended to be left blank. The columns of printed matter are separated by thick double lines. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(e) This is similar to the last, except that the tablet is suppressed, and the engine-turned pattern is allowed to appear about half an inch round the outer edges, and the lines separating the columns of print are thick and single. Two thick lines are also added on the front, covering the spaces where the engraver's name and the value are usually found. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(f) Similar to (e), save that the whole of the engine-turned device appears on the back of the cover when folded, as (b).

All the above are of exceptional interest, and <sup>some of them</sup> rarity, ~~being~~ ~~probably~~ ~~unique~~. The design selected was the tablet of (d), in which the word POSTAGE was introduced, the rest of the engine-turned work being effaced, and the tablet enclosed in a single-lined frame.

3. In addition to the proofs above described, a proof of the twopence was struck in blue, on "Dickinson" paper, with two pink threads and one blue running *vertically* down the face of the sheet, which measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. This proof was discovered by the late Mr. Pemberton, and described by him in the *Philatelic Journal*, 1872, p. 198.

It is struck from the stereo-plate, and has the value inserted on the face, as also the tablet with POSTAGE on it, but there are no printed instructions at the ends nor any number on the plate, such as was introduced in the ordinary impressions. It appears to be a printers' proof from one of the first stereo-plates, and as



1871. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original.

1872. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original.

1873. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original.

1874. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original.

1875. The impression is the same as that of the  
original. The impression is the same as that of the  
original.

3. In addition to the proofs above described, a proof of  
two pages was struck in blue on "Dickinson" paper, with  
pink threads and one blue printing vertically down the  
the sheet, which measures 8 1/2 by 11 inches. This proof was  
discovered by the late Mr. Pemberton, and described in  
the *Philological Journal*, 1872, p. 198.

It is struck from the 'stereo' plate, and has the relief  
on the face, as also the tablet with contents on it, but there are  
no printed instructions at the ends nor any number on the plate  
such as was introduced in the ordinary impressions. It seems  
to be a printer's proof from one of the 500 'stereo' plates.

such is carefully printed. Mr. Pemberton's account is inaccurate so far as it supposes that there are any differences either in the printing or the size of the tablet, between this and the cover as actually issued. We have carefully examined the specimen which is before us, and have ascertained the fact beyond the possibility of doubt.

### 5. ENVELOPES WITH EMBOSSED STAMPS.

1. *The One Penny, Die I.*—The greater part of the essays and trials were made from dies struck by Mr. W. Wyon, without the addition of any pendent curl behind the head of the Queen. As before stated, the curls were added and varied in the secondary dies constructed for each particular value.

The reticulated lathe-work on the border of Die I. of the one penny was executed by Mr. Deacon (long in the employ of the late Mr. Charles Whiting), one of the best engravers of that species of work that this or any other country has ever produced; and all that was subsequently produced by Mr. Moss and by Messrs. De La Rue suffers in comparison with the beauty and finish characterising Mr. Deacon's handiwork. This is apparent not only in Die I. of the one penny, and that of the twopence subsequently constructed, but also perhaps even more remarkably in some of the various trials and essays made previously to the final acceptance of the design.

We are unable to give the dates when these designs were severally executed, but we will endeavour to describe them in the order in which we think it probable that they were prepared and submitted to the authorities.

(a) The embossed head of the Queen has no pendent curl. The specimen shows the full size of the die, which is circular, with a diameter of  $1\frac{2}{8}$  inch, or 37 mm. The border is composed of two upright oval bands, the external one measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by  $1\frac{2}{8}$  inch, or 30 by 37 mm. The interior oval is composed of a network of fine lines in chain pattern, and the exterior one of a close network of wavy lines, the upper portion

of which is cleared to receive a curved solid tablet, on which is inscribed POSTAGE ONE PENNY in <sup>orange</sup> Roman capitals, embossed in white. At the bottom of this frame a bouquet of the heraldic flowers is engraved over the network of the border.

The impression is struck in pink, on thick soft white card.

(b) This is the same as the above, but the die is cut away so as to show only an impression of the shape of the oval. A pendent curl is added <sup>representing that</sup> resembling that afterwards adapted to Die II.

The impressions from the die as so modified are found in blue of a very pure full tone, in very deep blue and in a fine chocolate-brown.

(c) The design resembles (a) in many respects; the margins of the die are not removed, and there is no pendent curl. The head is surrounded by two oval bands, the innermost being of the same pattern as that of (a) and (b), and the pattern of the exterior one is also similar to the preceding, but is continued all round instead of being cut away to receive the solid tablet. The legend, POSTAGE ONE PENNY, is engraved on the upper part of this border in block shaded letters, and the bouquet in the lower part is made smaller and less spreading. The impressions are struck on thick white wove unwatermarked paper, in bright blue, on a half-sheet of rough paper, note size, and in deep blue on a half-sheet of glazed note paper. <sup>on white wove unwatermarked</sup>

(d) The same as the last, with the exception that the margin of the die has been removed so as only to show the oval. The size of the bouquet at the lower part of the exterior frame is again reduced; the upper part is cleared of the design, and a solid tablet introduced, with the inscription POSTAGE 1d; HALF OR; all in white <sup>black</sup> letters. Impressions were struck —

(1) On thin white wove unwatermarked paper, in plain white relief and in black.

(2) On thick white wove <sup>yellowish card heavy</sup> unwatermarked paper, in pink, chocolate-brown, pale blue, and deep green.

(3) On laid hand-made paper, in black and pale dull blue.

(4) On thick soft white card, in black.

rose shamrock  
& thistle







L. U. Corner. In white (rose) relief

In an oval. Bust of Minerva (?) helmeted to left.  
oval, double lined with bend up. Then plain band, <sup>with</sup> ~~stand~~ outer line.  
Laid flat. flat. tinged. (blue oval royal arms motto.

address. John Furse Esq.

1 Holland Estate Office, Addison Road Kensington

post mark. on 8/11. no no. in text (☺) no date. Regent Street

Clearly non official first postmarked. From W. L. Dec '85:  
(a private thing, not to be discussed)

(e) The external oval is entirely suppressed, and the impression shows a circular die  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 27 mm. in diameter. The impression is struck in deep blue, on thick soft card; no lettering or value expressed. *also in black on do.*

(f) The head, also without pendent curl, is struck on a circular die of  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 32 mm. in diameter. The head is enclosed in a single oval border, the minor axis of which measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  and the major 25 mm., and the border being of the same breadth as before, greater width is allowed for the head. The pattern of the border is similar to that of the interior one in those previously described, but it is re-engraved in a superior style. The upper part is removed to receive a solid tablet, with the inscription, POSTAGE ONE PENNY, in white Roman capitals. Impressions were struck on thick soft card, in *black*, deep blue and dark Vandyke brown. *on black yellowish paper, in black.*

This is evidently an entirely fresh die, and is remarkable for its finish and beauty.

(g) Same as (f), but the circular margin of the die has been cut away, leaving the oval only. The impression is struck in black, on thick white wove unwatermarked paper.

(h) The same as the last, but the solid tablet is removed, and the engine-turned pattern continued round the whole of the oval border, and in the upper part the legend POSTAGE ONE PENNY is introduced in the lathe-work of the border in sunken block letters. The initials w.w. are indented on the base of the bust of these specimena. Specimens are found struck—

(1) On yellowish wove unwatermarked paper, in pale blue, slate-grey, dull brown, and vermilion.

(2) On bluish laid paper, in pale blue and vermilion.

(3) On thick soft yellowish card, in black.

(i) The single oval frame enclosing the head is rather shorter than in the last. The pattern of the lathe-work is similar, but the upper part is removed to receive a solid tablet, with the inscription POSTAGE ONE PENNY in white Roman capitals. The exterior line of the oval is beaded. The impression is struck on thick soft yellowish card, in pink.

(j) The head, with a pendent curl similar to that afterwards adopted for Die II., is enclosed in an oval border, the solid interior ground being not quite so wide as in the preceding essay (i). The lathe-work on the border is of a similar pattern to the previous, and is continued all round. In the upper part is the legend POSTAGE ONE PENNY, introduced into the lathe-work in large sunken block coloured letters, which are outlined by a fine embossed white line in the lathe-work. The impression is struck on white wove unwatermarked paper, in black and in *a full rose* ~~a yellowish~~-pink, and on thick soft yellowish card in deep blue and dark Vandyke brown.

(k) This essay consists of a design for the oval band only, the head not being introduced. A portion of the border, equal to about three-fourths of the whole circumference, has the engine-turned work duplicated as in the one penny embossed stamp subsequently adopted. An exterior line is added to the oval. The impression is taken off on thin white enamelled card in pale ultramarine-blue.

(l) The head, with the pendent curl of the one penny envelope, Die I., is introduced into an oval frame similarly engine-turned to that last described, but with the duplicated portion much closer, and there is no additional external line round the border. There are no inscriptions on the border, nor are the initials found on the base of the bust. The impression was struck from the original die, as chosen for the one penny envelope before the inscription was engraved on the border, and is on white enamelled paper, in bright ultramarine-blue.

(m) The same as the last (l), but with the legend POSTAGE ONE PENNY engraved on the engine-turned border in sunken block letters. The impression was struck from the original die as finally approved of, and not from the working die, in which the initials and die numbers were introduced. The impression is in deep blue, and also in a paler shade on yellowish soft card.

(n)

x. see next page.

2. The One Penny, Die II.—A new secondary die for the

the first of the original & two pieces  
After a working die had been  
constructed, proofs

(7.) ~~proof of the die~~ I as finally approved (the working  
die) were struck ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> colours for selection approval.  
before the shade for pink & of the first issued was  
adopted. ~~and then proof before the~~

Those of these <sup>above</sup> proofs with which we are acquainted  
are (of the former value) <sup>having</sup> embossed in blue.  
~~one having - blue (light shade).~~

The shade of blue was light, identical with that of  
the first issued two pence first issued first as mentioned  
(See the Address to p. 185. ante.) & the only impression  
on an envelope of plain (of Dickinson?)  
paper, of the size & construction of the

largest sized envelope. p. 177 or No 1. (5 1/4 x 3 3/8 inches.)  
We have <sup>seen</sup> several copies, mostly of <sup>small</sup> ~~small~~ <sup>cut</sup> ~~cut~~  
small: but have ~~seen~~ <sup>seen</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>where</sup> the envelope ~~has~~  
~~been~~ preserved ~~entire~~ <sup>entire</sup> and one which ~~it~~ has

passed through the post, & been obliterated, evidently  
doing duty by <sup>inadvertence</sup> ~~inadvertence~~  
passing by for the two pence, from the identity  
of colour.

We query the paper as <sup>the</sup> ~~our~~ note taken at the time is imperfect  
& we have <sup>entire</sup> ~~no~~ specimen at hand for reference, No doubt  
Dickinson

is in pink, with plugs blank. described from my copy. on die 2.  
cut round

The Two Pence.

3A. A proof of the working die - 1. W. W.  
was struck in bright yellow, on plain  
white paper. The date is unknown to us,  
but is certainly anterior to 1856, as no date  
plugs appear. The appearance of the copy  
before us, which unfortunately is cut round,  
leads us to suppose it dates back to the early  
part of 1841 at least.

(L.B. This I saw from Leicester. 3.8.83.)

one penny was constructed in 1860 by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., as mentioned in *Sup.*, p. 174.

A proof of this die, before the index number of the die or the initials of Mr. Wyon were inserted on the base of the bust, was struck in plain relief on white card.

3. *The Three Halfpence.*—(a) The border for this die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue as a *pendant* to the adhesive stamp of similar value, prepared in 1860 by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co.

Proofs of the border as designed were struck off in lilac on thick white card, and in yellow and rose-pink on thin white enamelled card.

On the two first mentioned specimens from which this description is taken, a head of the Queen, cut out from an impression struck for some other stamp, is pasted within the border, showing the effect the stamp would produce when completed.

(b) The design of the border last described having been approved with some slight modifications, it was engraved on a die furnished with a head struck on it from Mr. Wyon's die. Proofs, with the die date of 2nd April, 1860, were struck from the working die, No. 1, marked 1 w. w., in rose-pink, on white laid paper, of a size resembling the face of an envelope.

A copy of the 1½d. adhesive, surcharged, in black, SPECIMEN, in block letters, is usually found affixed to the face of these proofs alongside the embossed stamp.

(c) In August, 1872, proofs were again taken from the same working die, marked 1 w. w., in rose-pink, on white laid paper.

4. *The Threepence.*—(a) The border for this die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and was prepared in a similar manner to No. 3 last described. Proofs of this border were struck in carmine, on white enamelled card, with a head of the Queen pasted in the centre, showing the effect the stamp would produce when completed.

(b) The design last described having been approved, was, with some slight modifications in detail, engraved on a die furnished with a head struck from Mr. Wyon's die. Proofs from the die as so completed (not from a working die) were struck on white enamelled card, in violet and carmine.

5. *The Fourpence*.—The border for this die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue. Whether any design was submitted to the authorities, prepared as in the two previous cases, we are unable to say; but we have before us a proof, from the original die, struck in vermilion, on white wove paper.\*

#### 6. PROOFS OF NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS.

(a) Prior to the die for the halfpenny stamp impressed on the wrappers being hardened, a proof was struck, on the 1st June, 1870, by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., in a full rich tone of green, on white enamelled card. The impression shows three solid discs of colour where the date plugs were subsequently inserted, each being marked with a small white cross.

(b) Another proof was taken from the die after hardening, also before the date numbers were inserted, and is struck on plain yellowish wove unwatermarked paper, in a dull shade of blue, being merely a trial of colour.

(c) A proof was struck in black, on white wove unwatermarked paper, from a plate as completed, with the date 1. 10. 70. inserted in the die.

(d) Like the last, but plugs with floriated ornaments, as now (1881) in use, are inserted in place of those bearing the date numerals. The impression is in black on white enamelled card.

There exist in Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s private collection proofs of (c) in black on white enamelled card.

\* Proofs struck from the original dies are distinguishable from those struck from the working dies by the absence of the index number, as in the original die neither this nor the initials are inserted on the base of the bust, nor are the holes for the date plugs drilled.

yellowish  
 green no head out curl. no letter or no in neck. dia 28 mm  
 on plain white paper.

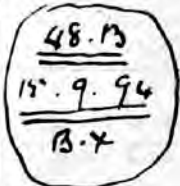
loops in Therman's cold paper 1/2 d brown wrapper floral  
 seen Monday. Aug. 95.

printed forms  
 rather a blue shade of brown - adm<sup>n</sup> substance

in cold forms. 'similar information'  
 detach this sheet  
 sent to your head  
 officer in the S.  
 back of the

obliterated  
 Granville  
 CF. P.  
 MB. 2. in each  
 95

C. 9/4 in heavy hand upright oval:



94 trials for p marks.

Colours 1/2 d brown or white. green, hatched grey. yellow.

pink (reddish) light slate. deep green. pale grey sea. yellow.  
 (red dish, on copper, laid)

any 95. money writes he is told above are used especially 4 times  
 a year. quarterly. on pension papers.



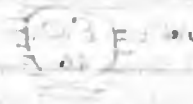
177

(A) The Joint has described before me a certain  
piece of machinery or tool, together with a  
with a head made from Mr. West's die. The  
as so exhibited just from a working die was  
found to be a perfect copy.

The Joint has also described to me a certain  
piece of machinery or tool, together with a  
with a head made from Mr. West's die. The  
as so exhibited just from a working die was  
found to be a perfect copy.

The Joint has also described to me a certain  
piece of machinery or tool, together with a  
with a head made from Mr. West's die. The  
as so exhibited just from a working die was  
found to be a perfect copy.

The Joint has also described to me a certain  
piece of machinery or tool, together with a  
with a head made from Mr. West's die. The  
as so exhibited just from a working die was  
found to be a perfect copy.



The Joint has also described to me a certain  
piece of machinery or tool, together with a  
with a head made from Mr. West's die. The  
as so exhibited just from a working die was  
found to be a perfect copy.

The Joint has also described to me a certain  
piece of machinery or tool, together with a  
with a head made from Mr. West's die. The  
as so exhibited just from a working die was  
found to be a perfect copy.

In the same collection is also found a similar proof of the oval stamp of one penny as employed for the wrapper of that value.

#### 7. PROOFS OF POST CARDS.

Following their usual practice, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. struck proofs in black both before and after the die was hardened.

(a) The first exactly corresponds with the larger-sized card as issued, save that it is struck, in black, from the die, on plain wove paper of ordinary thickness, before the lines in the stamp over the Queen's face and neck were a little lightened towards the left side and lights introduced there.

(b) The second is struck from the die after these alterations were made, and is in black on thick buff card, rather deeper in shade than that employed for the issue.

This is marked by hand "No. 2."

(c) Is from the same die, struck in lilac, on thick white card, showing vertical laid lines on its face.

(d) This is the same, and is printed on buff card as issued, marked by hand "specimen proof." It is finely printed in a rich full shade of lilac. The reverse of the card shows horizontally-laid lines.

(e) This is similar to the preceding, with the word SPECIMEN in plain block letters printed across the stamp, and extending 22 mm.

(f) This is a simple proof, in all respects conformable to the issue, save that it was printed in July, 1870. The stamp and border is of a remarkably deep colour, deeper than (d), and far deeper than that of any card issued.

The size of the frames in all the above six proofs is 109 by 74 mm.

(g) This is a proof of the smaller-sized card, the frame measuring 112 by 65 mm. This proof was submitted for size of the card only, as the border, legend, Royal Arms, and word "To," are introduced, but not the stamp. Below "To" is an oblong tablet of plain colour, 85 by 11 mm., to show that there

would be room for the address. It is printed in black on thickish vertically-laid paper of a light buff tint.

All the above seven proofs have the Royal Arms, with the misformed N of PENSE in the Garter motto, and the word "To" on the face.

In the archives of the Commissioners at Somerset House, and also in Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s private collection, proofs in black, on white enamelled card, from the die of the stamp of 1878, with HALFPENNY in a curve above the Queen's head, and of the 1d., 1½d., and 1¾d. cards are to be found.

100  
100

100  
100

100  
100

100  
100

100  
100

100  
100

100  
100

Mr. EDWARD GRAVES, engineer-in-chief to the General Post Office, died at his residence, Earl's-court, yesterday. He had completed 40 years of telegraphic service, having commenced with the Electric Telegraph Company at York. Since the transfer of the telegraphs to the Government he acted for some years as divisional engineer, with headquarters at Birmingham, and, on the retirement of the late Mr. Culley, he was appointed to the office of engineer-in-chief. He was engaged at the General Post Office up till a few days ago, although he had been suffering from failing health for some time past. 10.11.92.

Mr. Graves' Col. Mar 92

- ✓ H. S. Wright
- ✓ J. M. Wear
- ✓ G. Smith
- ✓ Early Kingston
- ✓ E. H. Wallis

## PART II.

### TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

BEYOND a few notices of various telegraph stamps, scattered in the columns of the publications devoted to philatelic pursuits, this subject was entirely new ground when our work was published in August, 1880. Our venture has not tempted other writers into the field, or called forth any criticism of a hostile, and but little of any, kind.

The writers are fully sensible that, especially in this part of their work, they were liable to many errors, and those which in any way have been brought to their attention will be now corrected; but a confident appeal is made to all who can furnish any information to assist in rendering this portion of the book as accurate and complete as possible.

IN the *Philatelic Record* for June, 1891, I had a short paper on the earlier issues of the Electric Telegraph Co.; and I propose to supplement this with a few particulars on some of the other companies' stamps, which I have not seen noted up till now.

By the Rev. P. Mac' 24

to announce the untimely death of Mr. Secretary of the Post Office, which suddenly on Thursday afternoon at his residence South Lawn, Bickley. Charles Henry Bennet was a son of the late Admiral C. G. E. Patey. He entered the Post Office at the age of 19 in the Secretary's office in the year 1863. Afterwards Parliament sanctioned the working of the telegraph by the State, and throughout the arduous work which fell upon the Post Office for some years, Mr. Patey rendered valuable assistance, and attracted the notice of his official superiors by the energy and industry with which he discharged his duties. In 1877 he was appointed Assistant-Secretary to the Post Office, and in 1882 the late Mr. Fawcett promoted him to the post of Third Secretary. Thus during the long career which Mr. Patey has taken an active part in the management of the Post Office, the general superintendence of the telegraphic service being specially in his hands. When, in 1881, the newly-introduced telegraph was judicially declared to be a telegraph, it was Mr. Patey's duty to conduct the delicate negotiations with the telephone companies, which resulted in the improvement of their relations with the Department. A little time afterwards emergency telegrams were authorized; and to Mr. Patey fell to place the service on a footing to cope with the vast increase in the number of telegrams to be transmitted. Up to the very moment of his illness he was busily engaged in the negotiations and arrangements in relation to the purchase and working of the Submarine Companies' cables. He represented the country from time to time at the meetings of the International Telegraph Congress, and at the conference relating to the protection of submarine cables, and conducted frequent negotiations with the Continental Governments on the subject of international telegraphy. There can be no doubt that his amount of work, which was always increasing, and in which he took an intense interest, told on Mr. Patey's health. About five years ago he suffered from a very severe attack of inflammation of the lungs, and, though his recovery appeared to be complete, his constitution had probably been enfeebled. Mr. Patey continued his work at the Post Office up to the end of last year; but on Sunday he was pronounced to be suffering from a return of his old complaint. His condition was not, however, considered to be in any way alarming until very shortly before his death, when the disease of the heart was found to be failing. He was in his 46th year, and leaves a widow and five sons. Mr. Patey was a vigorous and able administrator, and his loss will be felt in the Department which he so long and faithfully served, while those with whom he worked will long miss and lament the genial and manly comradely which he brought down in the prime of life. Mr. Patey received the distinction of the Companionship of the Order of the Bath in the year 1886, on account of his services to the State.

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Monday, Oct. 11. 92  
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✓ J. M. Wears  
? G. Smith  
✓ Earl of Kingston  
? E. H. Wallis

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## Part II.

# TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

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## I.

### *PRIVATE TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.*

It would be foreign to the object of the present work to enter into the origin or history of the electric telegraph, or of its establishment as a medium of communication; the fact that the charges for the transmission of messages were in many instances defrayed by means of franked forms or special adhesive stamps is that which renders the following short remarks germane to the purposes of this treatise.

After the genius and the labours of the telegraph engineers had removed the invention from the category of mere scientific experiment to that of practical utility, the great railway companies were naturally among the first to adopt the system. Being owners of the land bordering on the lines of the railway, they were enabled to place the requisite poles and wires without obstruction, and the enormous facilities afforded by this system of communication in the conduct of their business very speedily led to the introduction of telegraphs on all the main lines.

The railway companies soon perceived that a substantial addition to their revenue might be derived from permitting the public to transmit messages by their telegraphs, and that the telegraphic staff and fixed plant could at the same time serve

their original purpose as an adjunct to the efficient working of the railway undertaking.

From these beginnings the telegraph system sprang. Its success became so immediately apparent that as early as 1846 the Electric Telegraph Company was established with statutory powers, for the purpose of transmitting inland messages for the public, and not merely as an accessory to a railway line.

The example thus set was followed by the incorporation of the Submarine, the Magnetic, and the United Kingdom Telegraph Companies, under various private Acts of Parliament. Under similar Acts, by Royal Charter, or under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Act, 1856, allowing limited liability, the British and Irish Magnetic, the London District, and various other electric telegraph companies were incorporated.

The extensive use which had been made by the public of the facilities afforded by the telegraph system induced the United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company to carry its wires along the sides of the high roads, and for this purpose, after obtaining the assent of the local authorities, it proceeded to set up posts and wires by the road sides. In taking this course the Company had, however, ignored the rights of the public, which could only be abridged by the powers of an Act of Parliament; and in consequence it was speedily confronted by an indictment for infringing the public right by setting up posts along the sides of a high road in the county of Bucks. The case was tried before Baron Martin and a special jury at the Bucks Lent Assizes in 1862,\* when the judge directed the jury that the highway extended over the *entire space* between the fences, whether metalled and made into a road or not. The defendants were found guilty, and the Court of Queen's Bench subsequently upheld the view of the judge as accurately defining the law, the Court saying that if the defendants wished to act as they had done, they must take the constitutional course of obtaining the sanction of the Legislature.

\* *Regina v. The United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company Limited*, 2 B. and S. 647 n.

Gibson. 23. St Paul's Place, St Paul's R<sup>d</sup>, Canterbury N.  
"source G. P. O. Telegraph Dep<sup>t</sup>" wrote 17.1.91. to Luedy. that  
had unconnected with at least 60 persons. in no case can obtain  
interview <sup>as</sup> of printers: & his result (below) is "impression of his  
opinions" + add

Learn that the Postal Authorities insisted on the old Coy's  
letters & documents etc relating to their stamps being  
delivered to them for destruction on the purchase of the  
Telegraphs by the State.

See a letter by Luedy Fiscal Philatelist No 4  
Mar 1893 p. 57.  
Many details on these Coys.  
Do Apr 93. p. 74.

The Electric Telegraph Coy was incorp<sup>d</sup> in 1845.  
see Westoby. 27.1.96

The International was inc<sup>d</sup> in 1853  
one of their receipt forms. after amalgamation  
a review of the various offices:  
"International Line to the Hague & Amsterdam"

How many years was the P. office. P. E. Barnes, C.E.  
London. 8<sup>th</sup> 2 vols. R. Bentley Harb. 1895  
vol. 1. p. 318. Rather in Telegraphy Chap. XII

Professor Morse. died 1872.

Sir Wm Fosterhill Cooke.

Sir Charles Wheatstone Born 1801. died 1875. Paris

Sir Nat. Reynolds.

Sir Jas. Anderson of G<sup>o</sup> Eastern S.S. Janes.

1865: early cable laid Atlantic. Breaks exp 36.7' us

new cable successfully laid 27.7.66.

Sir Charles Dalton Bright

Sir Bro. Peter Branstair Knight

Sir C. Werner Siemens. born 1823. died 1883

Consequent on this decision the United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company applied to Parliament, and obtained an Act (35 and 36 Vict. c. cxxxii.) conferring on the Company the necessary powers to lay telegraph wires in or over streets, roads, houses, and by the sides of roads and wastes, making compensation to all persons injured for damage done, giving control over the placing of the posts and wires to the local authorities, and in the interest of the public at large imposing a maximum scale of charges for the transmission of messages, which the Company could not exceed.

Several of the electric telegraph companies had previously obtained special Acts, and it became an accepted doctrine that to enable a telegraph company to work its business efficiently Parliamentary powers were necessary, and ultimately nearly all the telegraph companies obtained such powers.

In 1867 the project of vesting the administration of the entire inland telegraphic system in the Postmaster-General, on behalf of the public, which had for some time previously been advocated by the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and by the late J. Lewis Ricardo, the chairman of the Electric Telegraph Company, was forced on the attention of the authorities, the measure being eagerly supported by the public. The varying rates charged by the different companies, and the delays and irregularities in the transmission of messages, formed a well-founded grievance on the part of the public, and this, added to the sanguine expectations of the revenue derivable from the system, if placed under efficient government working, that had been formed by the officials connected with the Post-office, induced the Ministry in 1868 to bring in a Bill to enable the Postmaster-General to purchase the undertakings of the inland telegraph companies. This bill subsequently became law as the "Telegraph Act, 1868," and under its provisions, and of another Act passed in 1869, the Postmaster-General, in 1869 and 1870, acquired the undertakings of the several companies then carrying on the business of transmitting inland telegraphic messages.

Of the companies in existence at the period of the transfer of

the inland system to the Postmaster-General, the <sup>eight</sup> ~~seven~~ under-mentioned were making use of, or had at some period of their career made use of, franked message forms or adhesive stamps for franking messages, and it is these which we propose to consider.

These companies were—

1. THE ELECTRIC AND INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY.
2. THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.
3. THE BRITISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
4. THE UNITED KINGDOM ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
5. THE UNIVERSAL PRIVATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
6. THE LONDON DISTRICT, afterwards THE LONDON AND PROVINCIAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
7. THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

~~In addition to the above there was a company incorporated under the name of (8) BONELLI'S ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, which had caused stamps to be manufactured in anticipation that it would commence business, but inasmuch as this never was the case, these stamps can only be classed among those prepared for service but never actually issued.~~

#### 1. THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company, subsequently known as the Electric and International Telegraph Company, was the oldest of all the companies, having been ~~founded in~~ 1846. Under the powers of its special Acts of Parliament, it organized a very extensive system of inland telegraphs, and also in connection therewith worked submarine cables to several parts of the Continent. Mr. John Lewis Ricardo was the first chairman of the Company, and so continued till 1859, and distinguished himself as one of the earliest promoters of the movement in favour of the purchase of the inland telegraph system by the government. The entire undertaking of the Company was, about the close of the year 1869, acquired by the Post-office at the price of £2,938,826.

*See list at the  
Museum.  
Stamp News  
Aug 94. p. 119  
\* 24*

*incorporated  
in June /*

It took for the device in its deal a <sup>single</sup> seated figure  
of June, ~~to the left~~ seated & turned to the left: holding in  
his right hand a forked & treble of lightning & an electric  
lamp (?) & in his left a scythe - motto beneath  
NE TENTES AUT PERFICE.

The International Telegraph Company, which was  
incorporated in 1858 became allied with it. & the two  
Companies worked in combination. The latter Company  
took for its device <sup>the figure of</sup> a head of mercury above - a dolphin  
beneath, in the center right & left two pairs of wings: &  
forked lightning bolts: motto, NE NOS MARE SEPARAT  
INGENS. Both devices appeared <sup>in</sup> woodcuts on  
the receipt Messago Receipt form adopted for the service  
in the ~~two~~ <sup>two</sup> Companies ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> amalgamated with the Electric &  
International Telegraph Company. <sup>about</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>1859</sup>.

Page 318. Line 1. For "seven" read "eight."  
After line 16, in the list, insert:

8. Bonelli's Electric Telegraph Company, Limited.

And expunge the entire paragraph beginning at the sixteenth line.

for telegrams  
from the limited  
company & King  
Gordon.

On the envelope containing a message for delivery there is found  
the device of the Electric Telegraph Company was printed in red

"Incorporated, June, 1846" on the red stamp

on the message form.

J. H. Wells. Anglo American T. Coy. Old Broad St. E.C. } perhaps  
Lewis Wells. Eastern T.C. Old Broad St. E.C. } can give  
some details

say, de W. Luffman. Controller. P.O. Liverpool

had Central Station, & London's Great Northway, London  
- direct communication with the Foreign Telegraphic system of the  
International line to the Hague & Brussels.



at transfer to Govt in 1869

Chinese Men Room Minister

Secy H. Y. Weaver, died Sept 93.

Chief Engineer R. S. Kelley

assis' " W. H. Wente

} both in P.O. Service

*FRANKED MESSAGE PAPER.*

In 1851, the year of the Great Exhibition, the Company introduced a mode of enabling the public to send telegraph messages without the necessity of making the payment at the time in cash. For this purpose it issued a "franked message paper," at the price of one shilling. On the face of this paper it was stated that "this sheet franks a message not exceeding twenty words to any of the Electric Telegraph Company's stations within a circuit of fifty miles," and that additional words were to be prepaid at the rate of 3d. per word. On the back were printed various regulations\* and instructions, together with the tariff of the company's charges.

The sheet measured  $7\frac{1}{2}$  by  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  centimètres, and was of pink hand-made paper, watermarked with the name of the Company in double-lined capitals. The face was lithographed, but the various notices on the back were printed in type.† The sheets bore consecutive numbers impressed by an ordinary numbering machine, and the whole was authenticated by a hand-stamped *fac-simile* signature of the secretary of the Company, J. S. Fourdrinier, and by the seal of the Company, embossed in blue, in the heading of the form. This seal shows on a solid circular ground the figure of "Time," seated, grasping in his right hand a thunderbolt, and holding a scythe in his left. Beneath is the motto, "*Ne tentis aut perfice,*" and in an outer circular ring is "Electric Telegraph



cut sheets.  
NE TRANTIS  
AUF perfice.

\* Under the provisions of the Acts of Parliament regulating the telegraph service as now performed by the Post-office, the Postmaster-General is protected against responsibility in cases of mistakes, errors, delays, &c.; but as this was not the case with private companies, they protected themselves by special conditions and regulations, which the sender of the message was obliged to accept.

† We have not been able to discover who manufactured and printed these sheets for the Company, further than to ascertain that they were not printed either by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. or by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons. †

probably McCordale & Co. London & Newton & Williams.

Company" in the upper part, with "Incorporated June, 1846," in the lower part. An outer circle, measuring  $25\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, with a festooned interior edge, encloses the whole.

These forms continued in use till the one shilling rate was raised in 1853 to 1s. 6d.\* Specimens are now rare, from the fact that when used for a message they were necessarily left with the Company, and all messages were destroyed regularly at certain intervals. Those specimens which are known to survive are principally complimentary copies, and marked "Cancelled."†

## SYNOPSIS.

"*Franked message paper.*"—Printed in black on rose-coloured hand-made paper, watermarked with the name of the Company, and stamped with its seal, embossed in blue.

1851. One shilling.

ADHESIVE STAMPS. <sup>v</sup>*First Issue.*

*Early*

~~late~~ in the year 1854 ~~or early in 1852~~, the Company commenced to issue adhesive stamps to be attached to the paper on which the message was written. These stamps were sold to the public by the Company, and franked a message of twenty words within a certain distance, the price of the stamp varying in proportion. Accordingly three adhesive stamps were issued covering the price of a single message of twenty words over the several distances prescribed in the current tariff; i.e. under 50, under 100, and above 100 miles. To prepay a message by

\* When these forms were introduced the tariff of the Company for a single message of twenty words was as follows:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Within a circuit of 50 miles . . . . .                       | s. d. |
| Beyond 50 miles, and within a circuit of 100 miles . . . . . | 1 0   |
| Beyond a circuit of 100 miles . . . . .                      | 2 6   |
|  | 5 0   |

† The "franked message paper" was, we believe, introduced specially for service at the office of the Company in the exhibition building in Hyde Park, but the use of them must have been considerable, as we have seen a specimen numbered 29,930.

See a paper by Mr E. D. Bacon on this <sup>the west</sup> Issue. Th. Record No 150  
July 1891. p. 136

Engraved die prepared. 8 April 1854.

Plate "above 100 miles. " 8 May 1854.

" "under " 16 " "

" "50 " 22 " "

plates all steel. 16 steps in 4 x 4.

April 1894 Morley had set.

under 50 miles 9990.  
" 100. " 9993.  
above " " 9988.

July 95. Morley. ~~then~~

under 100 miles 9963. struck over a  
min struck with as  
like 91 S.

" " 81 " " " "  
" " 88 " " " "

means of a stamp to any place within a radius of 100 miles from the point of departure, it was necessary, therefore, to affix to it one which the Company sold to the sender for half-a-crown, described on the face of it as a "Franked Message." These franked message stamps were manufactured by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and ~~appear to have been lithographed by means of a transfer from an engraved plate.~~ *were printed direct*

DESIGN.—Within an upright rectangular frame of a reticulated design, with ornaments in the form of Maltese crosses in the angles, and measuring 52 by 67 mm., is, in the upper part, the name of the Company, in clear block letters, on an engine-turned ground. Immediately below this in a curve is FRANKED MESSAGE, flanked on the left with the initials J. L. R. (being those of Mr. John Lewis Ricardo, the chairman of the Company), and on the right by J. S. F., the initials of Mr. John S. Fourdrinier, the secretary.

Below this is an inscription, varying in each of the three stamps. In one the inscription is, "Of 20 words—under 50 miles,"\* while in the others it is, "Of 20 words—under 100 miles," and "Of 20 words—above 100 miles." Then follows a notice from the Company, setting out the conditions on which it undertook to transmit the message to which the stamp was annexed, followed by a direction to be signed by the sender to forward the message on the Company's conditions, the stamp thus constituting an agreement between it and the sender, and thereby limiting the responsibility of the Company.

\* The legend in the engraving is incorrect; the text is accurate.

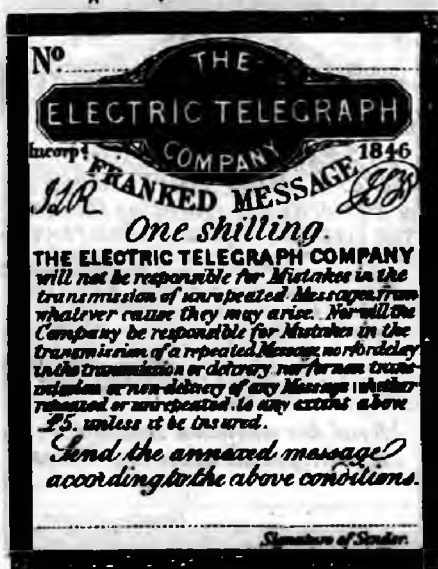


The impression was in black, on unwatermarked coloured paper, and the stamps were gummed at the back, but not perforated. In the right upper corner was "No." and they were numbered consecutively by a numbering machine. The colours were as follows:

- Under 50 miles, pink.
- „ 100 „ deep-blue.
- Above 100 „ white.

**Second Issue.**

The stamps above described did not remain long in use, and early in 1854 in consequence of changes introduced into the



Company's tariff, an alteration was made by the suppression of that portion of the design consisting of "20 words—under 50 miles," &c., and substituting the value in its place. In all other respects the design was identically the same, and the issue was lithographed from the same plate, and on similar paper. The stamps were also numbered consecutively as before; but as the franking power of the stamp

was now expressed in money, and not in the distance the message was to be conveyed, the number was augmented. The series consisted of the following values:

|            |                                     |                        |
|------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| July 1857. | Threepence . . . . .                | on light yellow paper  |
| Aug 1854   | One Shilling . . . . .              | „ fawn . . . . .       |
| Sep 1855   | One Shilling and Sixpence . . . . . | „ pink . . . . .       |
| Aug. '54   | Two Shillings . . . . .             | „ light-blue . . . . . |
| Sep. '54   | Three Shillings . . . . .           | „ deep blue . . . . .  |
| "          | Four Shillings . . . . .            | „ white . . . . .      |

Aug 54. 2. 6. . . . Blue

2nd set from altering 3 plates of others. by hand

|  |                   |        |          |
|--|-------------------|--------|----------|
| First issued                                       | 2.6               | actual | 12.7.54. |
|  | 1 <sup>st</sup> - |        | 17.7.54. |
|  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> - |        | 19.7.54. |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> plate altered to 3 <sup>rd</sup> . |                   |        | 9.8.55   |
| 2/6  | 1/6               |        | 9.8.55.  |

3<sup>rd</sup> ~~1<sup>st</sup>~~ plate made 7.7.1857.

2/6 - 8.10.57.

4<sup>th</sup> plate " 28.8.55.

These plates made from original copies on roller, after the "of 20 words etc" had been removed.

These new words had engraved on plate 10 <sup>all paid</sup> 1/6 over!

192 } saw an unused 3<sup>rd</sup> perf 17. a strip of 3 words set from  
the master. on copy p 17. 3<sup>rd</sup> 57.136. d. col. revision

192 } saw 6<sup>th</sup> on white 5.9.48. obtained single lined oval hand stamp

Obtained  
the  
Electric Telegraph  
Company

in red ink. 36mm. long axis 4/ 10.12.16.



# DISCOVERY OF A STAMP OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY OF 1861.

*In Record July 9th.*

SOME time since we inserted a paragraph in the *Record* requesting our readers to communicate to us any information they might possess regarding the series of stamps issued by the Electric Telegraph Company for its Continental Service, the particulars of which may be found in *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, page 232, where there is an engraving of the sole value then brought to light, and of which only one specimen is known to exist. The stamp is an oblong rectangle 26 x 26 mm., printed in black, issued, as stated on the stamp itself, in 1861, and bearing the initials R.G. and J.S.F., both in monogram. It was known however that there were three other values—eighteen pence, four shillings, and eight shillings—as the Post-office had communicated this fact to the authors of the above-mentioned work, after reference had been made to some of the books of the Company that had been handed over when the transfer of the undertaking was made to the Post-office. The specimen from which the engraving was taken was perforated 12½ and was traversed vertically by a thick black line, not as a mark of obliteration, but as a more ready mode of distinguishing it from the series for the Inland Service, the use of the Continental series being to defray the cost of transmission of despatches to Denmark, Hamburg, and Hanover.

Our appeal bore no fruit, and we did not receive a single communication till a few days since, when Mr. Philbrick announced to us that by a fortunate chance he had become the possessor of a proof copy of the highest value, which had been sent in 1861 to the party from whom he obtained it by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, who lithographed the stamps for the company. It is a proof, because it is not perforated; it has no control numbers upon it, and no vertical line, but is simply pen-marked in red ink, the impression being in black. Of course, this is not positive evidence that the issue was in black, though it is highly probable that it was, and that the other as yet undiscovered values of eighteen pence and four shillings will prove also to be in black.

The stamp is similar in design to that of the three pence, except that the value within the oval, which is in two lines of sans-serif uncoloured capitals, the top arched downwards and the lower arched upwards, is changed to "EIGHT SHILLINGS" similarly placed.

It is remarkable that after having been 33 years in a collection this stamp should have come to light in the manner it has done, and we congratulate Mr. Philbrick in having become the possessor of this long-lost variety. The single known specimen of the three pence is now in the collection of M. de Ferrary.

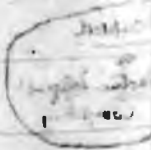
*The no. of this copy of Ferrary's Album is 1000 and I know of it 10*

*One Shilling*

*Two Shillings*

*Three Shillings*

*Four Shillings*



**Third Issue.**

In 1861 the Company determined to modify the manner in which its responsibility in regard to the message should be limited, both in its Continental and inland services, by rendering the stamp available for franking purposes only when it was affixed to a message written on one of the Company's printed forms, in which the conditions were stated and signed by the sender, and not in any other manner.

With the view of keeping the accounts and details of the two services separate, a series of stamps specially destined for each service was issued, both of which were designed and engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, of Great Winchester Street, London, by whom they were printed by lithographic transfer, gummed, and perforated.

*(1) The Continental Service Stamps.*

**DESIGN.**—The design consists of a rectangular transverse oblong corded frame, measuring 36 by 26 mm. Within this is the value in full, in white block letters, on a transverse oval-shaped engine-turned ground, enclosed within a border of pearls. Extending over the top and the two ends of this oval is the inscription THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, the initials R. G.\* and J. S. F., both in monogram, being also introduced. On a scroll below is, "This stamp only franks messages to the CONTINENT written on the Company's printed forms." In each of the lower angles is the date 1861 on a solid disc, and between these is "No.," with a blank left for the insertion of the number, which is done in black by an ordinary numbering machine.



The design, as engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, was transferred to stone, with the necessary alterations to adapt it to the several values, and was lithographed in colour on white un-

\* The initials R. G. are those of the Hon. Robert Grimston, who in 1859 succeeded Mr. John Lewis Ricardo as chairman of the Company.

*of a yellowish tone,*  
 watermarked paper, and perforated 12½.\* The stamps were  
 surcharged vertically with a broad black band.

Threepence, black.

Eightpence (1)

\* Four shillings (1) *Blue. ? and lundy.*

- Eight „ ~~black~~ *black.*

These stamps of the Continental series were used only for paying the rates on messages to Denmark, Hamburg, and Hanover.

### (2) *The Inland Service Stamps.*

DESIGN.—The design consists of a rectangular upright oblong, measuring 23 by 31½ mm., having a white engraved border. At the top is TELEGRAPH, and at the bottom 18—STAMP—61, in white characters on solid ground. On an irregularly-shaped oval blank tablet is inscribed THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, in German text, with the initials R. G. and J. S. F. below, separated by crossed thunderbolts. Below this is “No.,” followed by the consecutive number, which is printed in black figures by a numbering machine, while on a solid tablet below is the value in full in white block letters. This is followed by a notice in small Italics: “*This stamp will only frank messages written on the Company's printed forms.*”

The design, as engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, was transferred to stone, and the necessary alterations made for adapting it to the several values. It was lithographed in colour,

\* When the transfer of the undertaking of this Company to the Postmaster-General took place, the whole of the papers of the Company were destroyed by order of the directors, together with the remaining stock of stamps and the plates from which they were constructed. The stamps issued by the Company have therefore become exceptionally rare; and of the Continental series, which only continued in use for a short period and for a limited purpose, we have not been fortunate enough to be able to find any specimens, except one of the lowest value, from which the above engraving is taken, perforated 12½. The denominations of the other values have been given to us by the Post-office by reference to some of the books of the Company, which show the various stamps made use of by it. We are informed by a gentleman formerly in the service of the Company that the black band drawn across the face of the stamps for the Continental service was introduced solely with the view of facilitating the distinguishing of the stamps of the two series, and not with the object of cancelling the stamp.

19. - J.S.F. 3<sup>rd</sup> issue

1. 12h. 12306

1. 12h. engraved tabs. 78.527.

1. 12h. plain - 127.278.

4. 11h. . . . 4105

Waterloo. 27. 3. 94 writes me.

in about 1859 we had apparently 4 perf<sup>s</sup> machines  
with 14, 15, 16 & 19 holes, with wick (i.e. 10, 12, 12 1/2 & 15)  
as far as I can learn we used them indiscriminately  
when we had to perforate stamps.

6. Curatorial. Morley had "blue" as the colour, and Sunday.  
he wrote me July 94. he had heard of it but not seen it. & had lost his  
mind & could not tell who sent it him.

222.73 0119

Page 324. Foot-note. Since this foot-note appeared we have not been able to trace the existence of any copy of the three values, 1s. 6d., 4s., and 8s., given in the list with a query as to their colours, nor to gather any further information about them. No specimen of this issue is known to us in any English collection, not excluding that at the General Post Office.

234 FORWARD AND RETURNED STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN  
of a yellowish paper, and perforated 13 1/2. The stamps  
surcharged vertically with a broad black band.

2 5/7 also. (I have it so).

See *Lincolus*.

4/1. See (100825) white tablet

1/6 on grandeurh. 175,069.

3' " " 102,845.

Also a 10. given by *Lincolus* (Cat. 1891. p. 216)

my 6. J. S. F. no. 12623

Imperforate. without fr<sup>s</sup> 1<sup>s</sup>. 2<sup>s</sup>. ✓ 3<sup>s</sup>. (not seen this).

P. 1276 " with faint white 1<sup>s</sup>. 4<sup>s</sup>

2/6. P. 1276 67.833.

\* See T. Postle No 233. May, 1882.

Page 325. Add to the list :

Ten shillings, red-brown.

This value has been produced by its owner to M. Moens, and proves to be of this series. (See next note but one.)

The science of electric telegraphy has lost a pioneer by the death of Mr. Henry Warren, Managing Director of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, who has just died suddenly at Folkestone from heart disease, at the age of sixty-eight years, at Shrewsbury on May 6, 1882, and of the service of the Electric Telegraph Company since its commencement. After the transfer of the telegraph to the State, he took the management of the Anglo-American Telegraph and the Atlantic Cable Company, which position he had held at the beginning of January, 1870. A funeral service will be held to-morrow at St. Mary's church, at noon.

Nov 93. 7. which of? R.G. # W 7-10. of pen cast. in unmarked W.A. ? walslow & son  
18.442

on white unwatermarked paper, and perforated 12. Imperforate specimens of some of the values are occasionally met with, though these appear to be proofs; for those which we have seen bear no numbers on the face of them.

On the stamps as at first issued the numbering was printed on the engine-turned groundwork, but we have met with copies of the one shilling and the four shillings where this groundwork has been removed, and a white tablet introduced to receive the numbering. These are evidently from a second or later transfer, as is shown by the numbering, and lead to the supposition that the demand for these two values necessitated additional supplies, which were probably not required in the case of the others, although at the same time it is by no means improbable that among these latter some may exist where a similar change was made. No such instances have, however, been met with by us. A further proof of the unequal demand for some values is shown from the circumstance that copies of the one shilling are found perforated 12 1/2, a gauge which, so far as we have been able to ascertain, was employed by Messrs. Waterlow and Co. subsequently to that of 12. It is somewhat remarkable that in the succeeding issues, or printings off of these stamps, the engine-turned ground was retained or restored in all the values with the exception of the one shilling, as is evidenced from the unused copies in hand when the undertaking of the Company was handed over to the Postmaster-General. The various values and colours of the stamps of this issue were as follows:

- Threepence, ochre-brown.
- One shilling, orange-yellow.* - *P. 12 1/2*
- Eightpence, rose-pink.
- Two shillings, green.
- Two shillings and sixpence, chocolate-brown. *12 1/2 seen*
- Three shillings, blue.
- Four shillings, black.
- Five shillings, purple.
- Ten shillings, ~~brown~~ red, brown. *P. 12 1/2.*

**Fourth Issue.**

*should rather* This can scarcely be considered as a new issue, *new edition than an entirely* but as Mr. Henry Weaver had, on the 1st January, 1864, succeeded Mr.

Fourdrinier in the office of secretary, his initials, H. W., figured for the future on the stamps in place of those of Mr. Fourdrinier.



No other alteration was made in the design, and the original date of 1861 was still retained. The variations in colour in many of the values, especially in the three lowest ones, lead to the supposition that the stamps of the various values were reprinted off and supplied in batches, according to the requirements of the Company. A difference in perforation

is also noticeable, those first printed being perforated 12½, while about the year 1867 a perforation of 10 was introduced, and so continued to the period when the undertaking was transferred to the Post-office at the close of 1869. *No + on p. side was*

*wrong.* *One* Two new values from the same original plate were introduced into this issue, the sixpence and the ten shillings; while, on the other hand, we fail to find specimens of the half-crown and five shillings, which, though in existence when the undertaking was handed over to the Post-office, do not appear to have been reprinted with the initials of Mr. Henry Weaver.

The following are the values, colours, and perforations of the copies which we have seen :

- Threepence, ochre-brown <sup>yellow</sup> Perf. 12½ and 10.
- Sixpence, bright vermilion " "
- One shilling, orange-yellow " "
- Eighteen pence, pale carmine " "
- Two shillings, green " "
- Three shillings, blue " "
- Four shillings, black 12½
- ~~Ten shillings~~ <sup>has ten shillings of the same</sup>

\* No specimen of this stamp is found in the Post-office collection, and we are unable to give either its colour or its perforation. All that we know is that it was an existing value in use by the Company when the undertaking was handed over to the Postmaster-General, and we have been assured by a gentleman formerly attached to the Company, that it belonged to this impression, and not to that bearing the initials J. S. F.

space | -

alter this  
no. p. 325

H.W. P. only value seen with tablet white.

also remarked large open lined German caps in unmark

W.A. & others (see p. 6-10) part maker's name.

On the 23rd Sept. at Folkestone, suddenly, of heart disease, HENRY WRAVER, Managing Director of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, Limited, aged 62. A Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, the 25th inst., at St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, at 12 precisely. No flowers, by request. 1893.

H.W. 1/6 rose. 2/1 green. 4/1 brown P.15. with col<sup>d</sup> Tablets, no center  
col<sup>d</sup> 2-shilling bar. 3/1 blue. 5/1 brown. P.15.  
2 types 6<sup>p</sup>. See my unutilized copy

then, query the consecutive numbering, and some 10 come before  
some after 12 1/2 - See my 6<sup>ds</sup>.

P. dark rose p. 12 1/2. 84243. used 24.1.69.

There is a trace 10 part. The 9<sup>th</sup> shows only part of the side, from a used to  
being removed

Page 326. Lines 16 and 17 from top. These should read, "One new value was introduced into this issue; namely, the sixpence."

Insert "(red-brown ?)" after "Ten shillings," in the last line of the text. The foot-note should be altered as follows: No specimen of the ten shillings value in this or the preceding issue is to be found in the Post Office, nor, so far as we are aware, in any English collection. The only copy of which we have certain information is that referred to by M. Moens in *Le Timbre Poste*, No. 233, p. 47 (May, 1892), which bears the initials J. S. F. of the third issue. If the recollection of our previous informant be implicitly accurate, this value remains to be found in the fourth issue; but we are inclined to think it did not exist, as it was not extensively used.

Sapling  
F.S.F. was  
have it.  
(1887)

state if it was printed in this series: ~~copy~~ copy brought  
to our knowledge bears the initials J. S. F. of the preceding  
issue: and the value appears to be a ~~one~~ one  
pence use.



+ Red ink are Morley's stamps reported from 26.8.92.  
 ? Morley's gang of 9 1/2 Mr. W. says it is 10.  
 June 1864.1.

R.G. - J.S. F. (Faint handwriting)

|                   |              |   |                               |
|-------------------|--------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 3 <sup>d</sup>    | Ochre yellow | P. 12 <sup>+</sup> 11 <sup>+</sup>            |                               |
| 6 <sup>a</sup>    | vermilion    | P. 12 <sup>+</sup> 13                         |                               |
| 1 <sup>s</sup>    | orange brown | P. 12 <sup>+</sup> 13. 1<br>imperforate       | Tablet white, ?<br>" coloured |
| 1.6.              | rose pink    | P. 12. 12 <sup>+</sup>                        |                               |
| 2 <sup>s</sup> .  | green        | P. 12 (Monday) 14. 5. 11. 12 1/2 + 1 Imp. se. |                               |
| 2.6.              | brown        | P. 12 1/2. + 12                               |                               |
| 3 <sup>s</sup> .  | blue         | P. 11 1/2. 12 1/2 13.                         |                               |
| 4 <sup>s</sup> .  | black        | P. 12 <sup>+</sup>                            | Tablet white.                 |
| 5 <sup>s</sup> .  | purple       | P. 12. 12 1/2                                 | Tablet white.                 |
| 10 <sup>s</sup> . | red brown    | P. 12 1/2                                     |                               |

See note above.

| Issue 1864.      | R.G.         | H.W.            | Farther?            | P/10k                     |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 <sup>d</sup>   | Ochre yellow | 11 9/2<br>9 1/2 | P 10.<br>10. 10.    | P 12 1/2                  |
| 6 <sup>d</sup>   | Vermilion.   | 9 1/2           | 10.                 | 12 1/2<br>12 1/2 + 13 (K) |
| 1 <sup>s</sup> . | orange       | 9 1/2           | 10.<br>white tablet | 12 1/2                    |
| 1.6 <sup>d</sup> | rose carmine |                 | 10. 10.             | 12 1/2 1/2<br>(L 1/2)     |
| 2 <sup>s</sup> . | green.       | 9 1/2           | 10. 10.             | 12 1/2                    |
| 2.6.             | brown        |                 | 10. 10.             | 12 1/2                    |
| 3 <sup>s</sup> . | blue         |                 | 10.                 | 12 1/2                    |
| 4 <sup>s</sup> . | black.       |                 |                     |                           |
| 5 <sup>s</sup> . | purple       |                 | not seen            |                           |
| 10.              | red brown    |                 |                     |                           |

17.3.90 Morley up to West & had found. # 10. 9 1/2 was 2. green 4. brown  
 p. 15! See in 1. 100 of the Green is a 10k

through the courtesy of Messrs. Waterlow and Sons I have recently had the opportunity of seeing the records remaining in their establishment of the stamps of the Electric Telegraph Company.

The series dated 18—61, RG—HW, was printed from transfers made from one engraving, and the values in the central tablet altered to suit the new plate, as required.

In this series I saw the original engraving, with the central tablet showing the value, with groundwork without any value inscribed; the control tablet on which the central numbers were printed having also the word "No." which is printed in the colour of the stamp.

The proof engraving is in black, on plain wove thick paper of a yellowish tone. The proofs of the values are on a separate piece of paper, and run in two columns, as follows, viz.,

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| ONE       | EIGHTEENPENCE |
| SHILLING  | THREE PENCE   |
| TWO       | SIX PENCE     |
| SHILLINGS | HALF A CROWN  |
| THREE     | TEN           |
| SHILLINGS | SHILLINGS     |
| FOUR      | FIVE          |
| SHILLINGS | SHILLINGS     |

in open block or sans serif letters, as appear on the stamps. The size of the letters is of a distinctly smaller type than that in the earlier series, but the letters themselves are somewhat stouter; a fact which has hitherto not been noticed.

In the earlier set, which from figures written on imperforate proof stamps in the colours of the issue, seems to date from August, 1862, the one shilling had at the left end of the control tablet the word "No.", abbreviated "No.", to which was afterwards added at the right end a capital "A." This "A" does not appear on the imperforate stamps of the 1s. and 2s., which are so common, but in which the central groundwork is left.

The central tablet had the *guilloché* work of the ground removed in the shilling, after the first batch was printed, so that the control figures and the word "No." appear on a white ground. In the collection at the British Museum is an intermediate copy shewing traces of the "A" which had been completely removed, and another copy from which it is entirely obliterated.

Stamps of R. G.—J. S. F. one shilling there exist, besides the earliest one with the coloured tablet, which is found perforated  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , numbers 8230 and 78,527.

"No. A." tablet with groundwork.

"No." the A partly removed, traces of the top and right foot of the "A" very visible, tablet plain.

"No." the A entirely removed, tablet plain.

These three are all perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and the black control figures are respectively 127,251, 191,437, and 240,667, their sequence giving the order of the printings.

The complete letter "A," therefore, is only found in the second printing with the white tablet of the first series; is partly removed in the next printing, and wholly effaced in those subsequent.

In this series the tablet too is plain in the four and five shilling stamps, but the ground left coloured in all the others, probably because the colour of the stamps was dark in the former, so that if the ground had been left the control numbers would be less distinctly seen.

...of Messrs. Walslow and Sons I have recently  
...of seeing the records remaining in their establish-  
...of the British Telegraph Company  
...18-61-111-111 was printed from a  
...the central tablet which

...I saw the original engraved with the central tablet  
...with general work without any other marks; the  
...which the central numbers were printed having also  
...which is printed in the colour of the stamp  
...in its back, on plain wood, thick paper of a  
...The words of the lines are on a separate piece of  
...and run in two columns, as follows, viz.

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| ONE    | RIGHT  |
| TWO    | THREE  |
| THREE  | SIX    |
| FOUR   | NINE   |
| FIVE   | TEN    |
| SIX    | SEVEN  |
| SEVEN  | EIGHT  |
| EIGHT  | NINE   |
| NINE   | TEN    |
| TEN    | ELEVEN |
| ELEVEN | TWELVE |

...on each tablet as appear on the stamps. The  
...of a distinct number from that in the other series,  
...and the latter themselves are somewhat smaller; a fact

...which have been written on imperforate paper  
...of the year seems to date from August 1882,  
...had at the left end of the central tablet the word  
...which was otherwise added at the right  
...The "A" does not appear on the imperforate  
...which are so common, but in which the

...of the ground removed in  
...was printed, so that the central figure  
...in the collection at the British  
...of the "A" which had  
...and another copy from which it is

...besides the earliest one  
...which is found perforated  
...and 1887.

...of the top and right  
...of the "A" was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain

...of the "A" which was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain

...of the "A" which was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain

...of the "A" which was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain  
...of the "A" which was printed plain

## ADHESIVE STAMPS.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.**

1852. "Franked Message," no value indicated. Impression in black on coloured paper. Imperforate.

Under 50 miles, pink -  
Under 100 miles, deep blue.  
Above 100 miles, white.

**Second Issue.**

1853. "Franked Message." Impression in black on coloured paper. Imperforate.

Threepence, on light yellow paper.  
One shilling, on fawn paper.  
One shilling and sixpence, on pink paper.  
Two shillings, on light blue paper.  
Three shillings, on deep blue paper.  
Four shillings, on white paper.

**Third Issue.***(1) For Continental Service.*

1861. Impression in colour on white paper. Perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and probably  $12^*$

Threepence, black.  
Eightpence (?)  
Four shillings (?) 13 h. (*val.*)  
Eight ,, (?) (*Monday*).

*(2) For Inland Service.*

1861. Impression in colour on white paper. R. G.—J. S. F. Perforated 12 and some  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

Threepence, ochre-brown.  
One shilling, orange-yellow.  
Eightpence, rose-pink.

\* During the time that the third and fourth issues were current the perforations made by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons went through the variations of 12,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 12, and 10. It is impossible therefore to attempt to classify the perforations, especially of the third issue, of which specimens are so rare, and the information we have been able to obtain has been of the scantiest possible kind.

*b. specimen seen.*

*9/4.*  
*no.*

- 24.
- Two shillings, green.  
 Two shillings and sixpence, chocolate-brown.  
 Three shillings, blue.  
 Four shillings, black.  
 Five shillings, purple.  
 Ten shillings, red brown.
- VARIETIES.
- One shilling, orange-yellow. Imperforate.  
 Two shillings, blue. green. " "  
 One shilling, orange-yellow. White tablet. Perf. 12½.  
 Four shillings, black. " Perf. 12.

**Fourth Issue.**

*Inland Service.*

1864. Impression in colour on white paper. R. G.—H. W.  
 Perforated 12½ and 10.

- Threepence, ochre-brown. Perforated 12½ and 10.  
 Sixpence, bright vermilion " "  
 One shilling, orange-yellow " "  
 Two shillings, green Eighteen pence. Perforated 12½ and 10. *3/7, 193, P. 12*  
 Three shillings, blue " "  
 Four shillings, black 12½  
~~Five shillings~~ (\*)

**DIRECTORS' MESSAGE STAMPS.**

Special stamps were prepared by the Company for the use of its directors, the name of each particular director appearing on the face of the stamp issued to him. This stamp being affixed to a message written on an "(A) message form," and signed by the director, franked it to its destination.\*

\* We are not able to give the date when these stamps were first issued, but from the fact of the initials of Mr. J. L. Ricardo appearing upon them they must have existed prior to 1859. They continued in use until the undertaking was handed over to the Post-office, when the plates were destroyed. The stamps were furnished by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, in batches of 100 at a time, as each director required. The specimen from which the above engraving is taken was one prepared for the use of Captain Huish, one of the directors, whose name appears on the face; but the other directors, the Honble. R. Grimston, G. P. Bidder, Esq., Thomas Brassey, Esq., &c., were furnished with similar stamps with their names inserted on the face, entitling them to send messages written on the Company's forms free of payment.

In the first 100-117 the solution was always the same...  
white and a completely black. There is a slight variation...  
the solution of the water from the bottom, the N of "N" is...  
and bottom and there are two data, not quite vertically...  
the 0 in the place of the 10 and 10. Although the...  
states, the values of half a dozen, but although the...  
values were repeated, yet Messrs. Watson's records do not...  
any pointing of values in this, but not having any...  
kind of color. As these last two values were not in...  
to check the work on hand, Mr. Watson's records...  
1 January, 1881, until the Company was transferred to the...  
office in December, 1881.

The paper used had the maker's name watermarked in the...  
your name, but the name was "Watson and Sons", but...  
which may be found in some specimens.

The following list of the specimens and the Company of the...  
has since RG-117, with the date 18-81 at the end of the...  
label, all being a chemical analysis of the paper, to...  
given to the hands of Mr. Walter Henry. The values and...  
are as follows:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Torques, brown color.      | 1 |
| One falling orange-yellow. | 2 |
| Lighter yellow.            | 3 |
| Lighter green.             | 4 |
| Lighter black.             | 5 |
| Lighter black.             | 6 |

The normal color of this paper is a positive black, but...  
change in color, but though the color is a positive black...  
the paper, but the paper is a positive black, but...  
into the air, or into the air, which may be a brownish...  
condition, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
from the paper. The paper is a positive black, but...  
a new paper, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
with the same, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
it will be remembered that Mr. Watson's records, which...  
of the paper, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
and as recorded by the paper, but in fact, the paper is...  
1881, and also in 1882, when they were...  
with the end of the paper, which was afterwards...  
of the paper (1881) and in 1882.

It must also be remembered that in 1870 the Government...  
over the Atlantic Telegraph Company, with the other...  
paper, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
from their side, it appears to be a positive black...  
question are mentioned, which were made in the...  
as they have a central number and could not have been...  
the paper, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
These events were fully reported by the members of the...  
Robert Jackson at their meeting on the 17th April; and it was...  
noticed that the colors were brownish, but in fact, the...  
The meeting subsequently agreed that the "power" of the...  
and other papers of the paper. It was further...  
the Company was not actually transferred to the Government...  
the end of 1881, but in fact, the paper is a positive black...  
of the Act of Parliament for the...  
was a subject for the...  
is likely that some...  
was used for the...  
Company to...  
paper as mentioned...

In the series RG—HW the shilling has always the control tablet white and the A completely effaced. There is a slight variation also in the one shilling of this series from the former, the N of "No." is larger and broader, and there are two dots, not quite vertically placed under the o, in the place of the one dot of the J. S. F. set. Although, as above stated, the values of half a crown, four shillings, five shillings, and ten shillings were prepared, yet Messrs. Waterlow's records do not shew any printing of either of them in this set, nor have any copies been found by collectors. As these last three values were not in great use, no doubt the stock on hand, when Mr. Weaver became Secretary on 1 January, 1864, lasted till the Company was transferred to the Post-office in December, 1869.

The paper used had the maker's name watermarked in the sheet in open, double-lined Roman capitals, "Waterlow and Sons," parts of which may be found on some specimens.

The following stamps of the Electric and Telegraph Company of the last series RG—HW, with the date 18—61 at the ends of the lower tablet, all bearing a clean-cut perforation of 15, appear recently to have come into the hands of Mr. Walter Morley. The values and colours are as follows :

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Threepence, brown ochra.     | 2 shillings, green. |
| One Shilling, orange-yellow. | 3 " blue.           |
| Eighteenpence, rose.         | 4 " brown-black.    |

The normal colour of this last value is a positive black, but in the stamps in question this, though termed "brown," is really black of a clear lightish printing, due probably to the introduction of some ingredient into the ink, or more fluid, which gave it a brownish tint, as is sometimes seen in black stamps ; e.g. the first 20 centimes stamp of the French Republic. The 2s. 6d. in brown is of a totally different colour, a true brown, but is not known except in the earlier series with the initials R. G. and J. S. F. The above stamps bear no control numbers.

It will be remembered that Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, who manufactured the Electric Telegraph Stamps, were in 1869 using a perforation of 10, as is shown by the set of British Guiana stamps (1863), which were so perforated by them, they having been previously perforated 12, 12½, and also 13. The firm never made use of a perforation of 15 until the end of 1869 or the beginning of 1870, when they introduced a set of punches of that gauge, which was afterwards employed for the British Guiana (1863) stamps from 1 to 24 cents.

It must also be remembered that in 1870 the Government had taken over the Electric Telegraph Company with the other telegraph companies, for at the end of 1869 the Electric Telegraph Company transferred its undertaking to the Post-office Telegraph Department, and all stamps in stock were destroyed.

From these facts it appears to be tolerably clear that the stamps in question are remainders, which were never in the hands of the Company, as they bear no control numbers, and could not have been perforated by the makers till late in 1869 or subsequently.

These reasons were fully weighed by the members of the Philatelic Society, London, at their meeting on the 27th April ; and it was further noticed that the colours were peculiarly light shades of these stamps. The meeting unanimously agreed that the so-called "brown" of the 4s. was a brown shade of black. It was further considered that although the Company was not absolutely transferred to the Government until the end of 1869, yet as the negotiations with the Company and the passing of the Act of Parliament for the acquirement of the telegraphs had been a subject for discussion throughout the year, it would hardly be likely that more stamps would be ordered than were absolutely required for the service. The general opinion was therefore that the stamps were genuine remainders, but had never been issued by the Company for service, and therefore ought strictly to be considered rather as interesting curiosities than stamps employed for service.

\* 57 only seen with white tablets

Page 323. To Synopsis of Third Issue add:  
Ten shillings, red-brown.

To that of Fourth Issue, after "Ten shillings," add "red-brown."

~~775 048. number~~

Notes. T.S.F. 1/ - 78.54.12 2/6 { 30.00. 1000  
83.707.1127

3. + 12% 114,033 3/ 44.72 p.12%  
55.176 p.2%  
2117.

H.W. 4 22 0029. 4/6 44.39.18 p.10  
317.293.

4. 170.312. p.10. 102

1/ p.10. 775.048. 4/6. 317.293.

6 - p.10. 183.593. + 228029. - p.12 72. 231.047.

4. H.W.C. of the House. Black shell nos 1039. number near 94  
with original piece.



February has. J.L.R. - J.S.F. Thayer Brassery Est.  
 (1893) & the one engraved opposite.

Tapestry Capt. H. W. 1013. H.W.  
 1039. H.W.

27 Near 94. Mr. Waterlows wrote me  
 In about 185-9 we have apparently  
 four perf 9 machines with perforates

|      |              |        |                       |
|------|--------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 14.1 | _____        | 10.    | } to the 2 customers. |
| 15   | _____        | 12     |                       |
| 16   | holes to the | 12 1/2 |                       |
| + 19 | width of     | 15     |                       |

error also 17. width = 13 5/8

1864. March 1894 Monday letters

H.W. Eighteenpence to 15" dull rose

24- " " green

Tapestry 3- blue lacquer " blue

Monday 4th. " " black, light brownish shade.

all 4 col<sup>d</sup> tables, no control.

23. 6. 76 Mr. P.H. Waterlows wrote me.

" with regard to the perforated machines those we have used from  
 time to time for stamps. I have been endeavoring to find out  
 what was the first we had in use between 1859 & 1870 machines which  
 perforate

|     |              |        |      |
|-----|--------------|--------|------|
| 14. | holes to the | 10     | inch |
| 15. | _____        | 12.    |      |
| 16. | _____        | 12 1/2 |      |
| 17. | _____        | 13.    |      |

But I cannot find the exact period when we made the machines of perf  
 19 holes to the inch & have only the memory of one of our oldest workmen  
 to rely on. He says that a machine was made of perf 19. inch wide  
 between 1870 & 1871. but he does not believe it was from 1870.

I enclose you the letters which I have collected of my Grandfather  
 & which I wish ask you to take hand through Graham & Co. as they  
 are the only records I have left -

They were 1. a proof in black on thick yellowish paper in watermark  
 R.G. - W.W. Tables with yellowish work & No.  
 space over for value, blank. 15 161  
 marked in red ink. Dec 10/8/92

It is a like piece of paper showing a proof of a card, printed in  
 green, on the other side, in blue upon black double lined paper.

ONE  
 SHILLING

TWO  
 SHILLINGS

THREE  
 S.

FIVE  
 S.

EIGHTEENPENCE

THREE PENCE

SIX PENCE

HALF A CROWN

TEN  
 SHILLINGS

FIVE  
 SHILLINGS

all  
 the  
 columns  
 under  
 each other

at left reading down & facing  
 such cards.

" Slip for Electric Telegraph label

across front written thus

Dec 10/8/92

all like the 2 copies J.S.F. H.W. except the 6th which is  
 the H.W. 6. not the same

**DESIGN.**—The design consisted of an upright rectangular narrow frame, measuring 25 by 26 mm., composed of pearls on a plain black ground, with Maltese crosses in the angles. Within this frame is "No." (with consecutive numbering in black), below which is the following legend, "THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPT," flanked by the initials J. L. R. and J. S. F. "DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE for the use of [director's name in block letters] only. This (A) message must be signed by the Director, and be sent without prepayment." No value was indicated.

The stamp was prepared by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, and was lithographed on blue unwatermarked paper, gummed but not perforated. When Mr. Grimston succeeded Mr. Ricardo as chairman in 1859, and Mr. Weaver succeeded Mr. Fourdrinier as secretary in January, 1864, the corresponding changes were made in the initials of the chairman and secretary on the stamps as fresh supplies were ordered.



#### SYNOPSIS.

Before 1859. Directors' message stamp (J. L. R.—J. S. F.), black on blue paper.

1859 to 1863. Directors' message stamp (R. G.—J. S. F.), black on blue paper.\*

1864 to 1868. Directors' message stamp (R. G.—H. W.), black on blue paper.

*not known  
- 5 18 94.*

## 2. THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company was established in 1850, with the object of working submarine telegraph cables under concessions obtained from the French and Belgian Governments, and was the great pioneer of submarine telegraphy in this country.

Under the provisions of the Act of 1868 the Postmaster-

\* This has not been seen by us, but we insert it as there can be but little doubt of its existence.

General acquired submarine cables to Holland and Germany from the Electric and from Reuter's Companies, but this Company, not working any separate inland service of its own, and not being in competition with the Government monopoly, was left in possession of its cables, and still carries on its business between England and the Continent, transmitting through its eight or nine cables, which contain thirty-five conductors, an average of not less than 8,500 messages per day.

The chief offices of the Company were first established at 30, Cornhill, from whence they were removed to 58, Threadneedle Street, and are now at 2, Throgmorton Avenue, all in the City of London.

In November, 1861, during the period when Mr. L. Walter Courtenay was the secretary of the company, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. engraved and manufactured for the service of the company a series of five adhesive stamps, of the respective values of fourpence-halfpenny, three shillings and ninepence, four shillings, seven shillings and sixpence, and eight shillings, the object of which was probably as follows: The three shillings and ninepence and four shillings were for the prepayment of messages of ten words to Denmark and Germany respectively, and their doubles, seven shillings and sixpence and eight shillings, for messages of twenty words to the same countries, while the fourpence-halfpenny was for additional words. The four shillings also represented the charge to Paris.

The general design of all these stamps is identical, except the variations in the values and the number of words for which the stamp is applicable. There were separate dies for each value.

DESIGN.—The design consists of S. T. in monogram of fancy capitals, in an upright solid oval, round which is a serpent.

Above is SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY, and below is the value in full. To the left is UNINSURED MESSAGE, and to the



in addenda  
p. 354.

In 1869. The Submarine T. Coy. only in contact with the  
N. & Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co.  
Has a recent form.

The S. T. C. possess the only direct cables to  
France, Belgium, <sup>via</sup> Harwich & Rossmore  
Calais, Boulogne, Delft, Ostend, Antwerp & Tournai

also the cable between Jersey & France (via Contances).

See post M.S. p. 35!

Tablet  
Fourpence halfpenny  
Three shillings and sixpence  
Four shillings  
Eight shillings  
Four shillings (recharged on eight shillings, for on others)

THE ENGLISH AND IRISH AND THE BRITISH AND  
MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANIES

Page 330. Eighth line from bottom. After the word "values" expunge  
rest of the sentence, and insert: The exterior rectangular frame is the  
same in all the values, with the exception of the tablet inscribed with the  
value; but the pattern of the ornamentation and background of the in-  
terior is varied in each.

remembered by any one connected with the Company. No copies are to  
be found at the Post-office, nor have any been preserved by the Company,  
the whole of the telegrams, papers, and other like documents  
going to the period when these stamps were in use have been  
destroyed.

... of purple. Mr Shaw says <sup>similar</sup> same colour as Receipt 675"

Mrley's Phil<sup>o</sup> journal May 1907. No 5. vol II. p 39.  
 In November, 1861, during the period when M. L. W.  
 Mr J. P. Dorman was shown us the 8/ lilac  
 surcharge in purple.

TEMPORARY STAMP - 4 1/2 d. - FOUR PENCE HALFPENNY

in fine lines. The 1 1/2 is Roman.

Stamp on bluish paper. p 12 1/2

|          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| 4 1/2 d. | TEMPORARY            |
| 3 p.     | STAMP                |
| 4 1/2 d. | FOUR PENCE HALFPENNY |

The general design of all these stamps

Design.—The design consists of S. T. in monogram of heavy capitals, in an upright solid oval, round which is a serpent. Above is SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY, and below value in full. To the left is CHINA...

right the number of WORDS INCLUDING ADDRESS that the stamp in question would prepay. Small circles with the value in figures are introduced into the spandrels, and a fancy border enclosing the whole forms an upright rectangle, measuring 23 by 42½ mm.

The impression was in mauve on white surfaced unwatermarked paper. The stamps were gummed and perforated 14.

During a temporary failure in the supply of the four shillings value the eight shillings stamp was utilized by surcharging it in red, across the face in four lines, with the words, TEMPORARY STAMP FOUR SHILLINGS, the value being also effaced by a line.\*

## SYNOPSIS.

1861-1862. Impression in mauve on plain white surfaced paper. Perf 14.

|   |    |                 |
|---|----|-----------------|
| Fourpence halfpenny   | .  | mauve on white. |
| Three shillings and ninepence                                       | .. | ..              |
| Four shillings  | .. | ..              |
| Seven shillings and sixpence  | .. | ..              |
| Eight shillings   | .. | ..              |
| 1866. Four shillings (surcharged on eight shillings), red on mauve. |    |                 |
| <i>Provisional 4/6. (D°) surch on mauve -</i>                       |    |                 |

### 3. THE ENGLISH AND IRISH AND THE BRITISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

In dealing with these companies, or rather the various companies which ultimately became known under the above names, it may be convenient to give a short *resumé* of their history.

By an Act of Parliament, passed in the year 1851, the Magnetic Telegraph Company was incorporated with a capital

\* The use of these stamps must have been very limited. We have never met with any specimens, and their very existence is scarcely remembered by any one connected with the Company. No copies are to be found at the Post-office, nor have any been preserved by the Company, and the whole of the telegrams, papers, and other like documents relating to the period when these stamps were in use have been long since destroyed.

of £100,000, and in June, 1852, this Company obtained a Royal Charter, under which the style was changed to that of "The English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company," the liability of the members being limited, and the capital fixed at £300,000.

In the year 1850 Parliament passed an Act incorporating a Company under the style of "The British Electric Telegraph Company," with a capital of £100,000; and in the year 1851, another Act, incorporating "The European and American Electric Printing Telegraph Company," also with an authorized capital of £100,000. These two last named Companies were, in the year 1853, amalgamated by Royal Charter, and formed into a new Company, under the name of "The British Telegraph Company," with a capital of £300,000.

On 22nd April, 1857, "The British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, Limited," with a capital of £600,000, was registered under the Limited Liability Act to carry out an amalgamation which had been arranged between the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company and the British Telegraph Company, both of which consequently became merged in the new undertaking, which thus represented after its formation the three companies created by Act of Parliament and the two incorporated by Royal Charter; and it continued to work its system of telegraphs until the whole undertaking was acquired in 1870 by the Postmaster-General under the provisions of the Act of 1868.

Mr. Edward Brailsford Bright was the secretary of the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, and after its amalgamation with the British Telegraph Company he became secretary and general manager to the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, Sir Charles<sup>T</sup> Bright being the consulting engineer to the new Company, which had its head offices at 2, Exchange Buildings, Liverpool, and its central station in London, at 58, Threadneedle Street, where also the Submarine Telegraph Company was located, the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company working in connection with it.

*3/2 + 5/1 comment  
of this Co*

Frank

# THE BRITISH TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Frank

tc. (repeated)

scrip

Roman

Egyptian

scrip

July 4. 1893 from Mr. ...  
yellow } no guess  
blue } no guess

The B. & S. M. J. Coy (Ld) worked in connection with the Submarine T. Coy & co & Patey on its message forms. see [1] message of 16.5.58 printed to

Mr Charles Johnston Bright died July 1888.

Mr Patey died. April 1889.

T

- A. One shilling, bank
- B. One shilling and sixpence, bank
- C. Two shillings and sixpence, bank
- D. Four shillings, post and
- E. Five shillings, post.



Note

G

A. B. C. D, before the n<sup>o</sup> on the lot series

Have

Seen A on 1/2 block

Monday Aug 92. C 2/6 blue # 13 on 1/6 blue block

D 1/2 red

G of 97 (97 white E & F were for)

in black - with the control numbering of 5 full.

Handhead seen (Monday Aug 92) 1/2 stamps. vs 3 horizontal }  
4 vert. }

Seen (FAP Monday July 93) 6 whole sheets of 1/6 1/6 & 1/4  
4 x 1/6 10 x 10 = 100 blocks No control No  
no marginal inscriptions

These were were not watermarked. 2 1/2" deep. & 1/6 3/4 wide.  
All varied slightly. no quite square sheet.

1/6 sheet black has 10 x 10 also but the 5 lower rows are reversed so  
as to be like white 5. & they are in diagonal order, repeating each other.

1 2 3 4 5 10 2 rows

1 2 3 4 5 10 2 rows

### The English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company.—

In mounting the specimens of the stamps of this company at the British Museum I was struck with the differences that exist in the numerals of value, and I at once saw that there were several varieties of each, a fact which has not been noticed before. I accordingly asked Mr. Walter Morley, of Tottenham, who I knew had some of the "remainder sheets" of these stamps without control numbers, to lend me a sheet of any values he possessed. He very kindly sent me an entire one of the 1s, 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 4s., and the four bottom rows of a sheet of the 5s., which were all he had of that value.

The stamps are lithographed on thin white wove paper, which is entirely without watermark, and there is no marginal inscription to any of the sheets. The stamps are arranged in ten rows of ten, in two blocks of fifty each, and there is a rather wider space between the two blocks than there is between the other rows. The two blocks in the case of the 1s. are inverted, so that the two centre rows of the sheet are  *tête-bêche*. From an examination I have made, I find that there are 50 varieties of the "value" for the 1s. and 4s.; that is to say, the two blocks shew the same varieties. This is not so in the case of the 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d., as I find the "value" on every stamp of these two sheets is of a different type, thus making 100 varieties of each. Not having seen a sheet of the 5s., I cannot say what number of types there are of this value. There are but few, what one would call prominent varieties, found, but I have noted the following on the sheet of the 4s.: The fourth stamp of the second row, and, of course, also of the seventh row, has no tail to the numeral, i.e. 4 instead of the usual 4. Slight defects may be found in the "value" on some of the stamps, but on comparing these with the same types on the second block they are seen to be merely due to imperfect printing.

The question of the number of types may be further complicated by more than one lithographic stone having been used, and I believe that this actually occurred in the case of the 4s. and 5s. My reason for thinking so is that in a specimen of the 4s. I have examined in the "Tapping Collection" there is a large period after the stroke for shilling instead of the short wavy line which exists on all the fifty types on Mr. Morley's sheet. I have also seen a copy of the 5s., which has a large numeral "5," quite different to the forty stamps on the part sheet I have mentioned, the figures of which are all smaller. No doubt the stone was cleaned after the number of stamps ordered at each time had been struck off, and every fresh printing made would consequently shew new varieties as regards the "values."



**First Issue.**

In 1853 the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company issued a series of frank stamps to prepay the charges on telegrams. These stamps were prepared by Messrs. Mawdealey and Co., of 2, Castle Street, Liverpool. They were all identical in design, except the figures of value, the entire series consisting of five values—1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 4s., and 5s., which latter represented the rate for a single message of twenty words between England and Ireland.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a long streamer flowing from the head of a spear at the left side of the stamp, and making three folds over the face, the background showing a large eight-rayed star. On a tablet above is FRANK STAMP, and on the upper and lower folds of the streamer is the inscription, THE ENGLISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH CO., the middle <sup>fold</sup> ~~one~~ bearing the fac-simile signature E. B. BRIGHT, SECY. Below this, on the star, is VALUE, the portion above being left blank to receive the numbering. The figures of value are inserted immediately below the word VALUE. The heraldic emblems of the rose, shamrock, and thistle are twined up the spear on the left side, and also fill in the lower part of the stamp, the background of plain horizontal lines being relieved by ten small five-rayed stars distributed in various parts. The whole forms an upright rectangle, measuring 35 by 43 mm.



The stamps were printed in colour by lithography, on thin white wove unwatermarked paper, and were gummed, but not perforated. The values and colours are as follows:

- A One shilling, black.
- B One shilling and sixpence, lilac. *99 rather reddish lilac*
- C Two shillings and sixpence, blue.
- D Four shillings, pale red.
- E Five shillings, green.

The sheet contained 100 stamps, arranged in ten rows of ten each. There are marginal inscriptions & legends.

## Second Issue.

After the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company became merged in the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, in 1857, the rates of messages were reduced, commencing with a minimum charge of 6*d.* for a short distance, and in consequence a new set of stamps was ordered, which, like the former, were prepared by Messrs. Mawdesley and Co.

DESIGN.—The design was much simplified, consisting of an upright rectangular frame, measuring 26½ by 30 mm. In the upper part is a tablet, inscribed FRANK STAMP, and the value in full is in a tablet below. Across the face of the stamp is a tablet to receive the numbering, which is sometimes inserted in black and sometimes in red, and above this is the name of the Company in block letters, BRITISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH CO. LIMITED, while below is EDWARD B. BRIGHT, SECTY., in script. The rose, shamrock, and thistle figure as ornaments in other parts of the



design, which slightly differs in detail in each value.

The stamps were lithographed in black, on coloured wove paper, watermarked with thunderbolts and with the maker's name.\* They were gummed, and perforated 13½. There are two types of the eighteenpence—one where the value is in figures, and the other where it is in full, of which probably the former is the older, as when the undertaking was transferred to the Post-office a few copies of the values then current (among which the 2*s.* 6*d.* and 4*s.* are not found) were printed as specimens, and the eighteenpence is that of the value in full. These reprints may readily be recognized, as they are not numbered on the face, and are neither perforated nor gummed.

The 3*d.*, 6*d.*, 1*s.*, 1*s.* 6*d.*, 2*s.*, 3*s.*, and 4*s.* are also found perforated 13, instead of 13½, and probably the other values exist similarly perforated. In the absence of sufficient information we

\* M. Moens catalogues the 2*s.* with special watermark, but this is only a portion of the papermaker's name. Watermark.

Timber Post. No 84. p. 91. 1869. v. ser. Col. p. 246.

hand grasping

Company's

and Frank Stamp

in large double

lined block letters

Roman, & script

as shown.

for 2*d.* yellow

& 5*d.* blue.

hand grasping

thunderbolts for

3*d.* on white

6*d.* pink.

Imperf. copies, remainder (°) about, not used. seen 3/ pink

Watermarks

seen post 6<sup>o</sup> No. 76686.  
in black 1<sup>o</sup> No. ! T.K.T. also 2<sup>o</sup> 128, 220.

The 15 + 1. No. 7 Coy despatched ~~del~~ telegrams to the receiver  
in envelope being on left side an oval band, inscribed with the  
Coy's name, & containing the Royal Arms on a shield, surmounted by  
the Queen's Crown. <sup>printed in blue</sup>, the receipt message there was  
printed in black on <sup>yellow coloured paper</sup> <sup>having the same device in black</sup>  
in the left-hand corner.

Seen ~~B.H.~~  
TELEG  
CROSS

5 in <sup>lines</sup> ~~rows~~ on page. <sup>12</sup> ~~at least 5~~ <sup>vert</sup> = 60 <sup>6</sup> sheet  
perforation <sup>not</sup> on outer edge of outside row on sheet

in large double lined capitals.  
3 Perfor are 2 1/2 13. & 13 1/2 are overleaf / 161

Page 324. Thirteenth line from bottom. Expunge the word "maker's,"  
and read: With the words, FRANK STAMP. THE BRITISH & IRISH TELE-  
GRAPH COMPANY, in large double-lined capitals. We can vouch for the  
thunderbolts and portions of the legend, but give it as above on the authority  
of M. Meens.  
Note. At end read "above watermark" for "paper-maker's name."  
From a passage in *Le Timbre Poste*, p. 91, No. 84 (December, 1869), it  
appears that the 2s. value was then first issued, and those of 3s. and 5s.  
suppressed.

see p 183  
note

Timbre Poste Dec 1869. No 84. p. 91. 2/ then issued.  
3/ 2 57. suppressed

Le cap. the watermark on 2/ is  
"Frank Stamp. The British & Irish Telegraph Company"  
It is Frank. The British Telegraph Company.

pair unperf 3/. 12786 12787 (seen by Stanley) unperf  
not in 2d. ( 4. 2. 93 )

See my specimens under 1° specimens, page 335

Black nos. 67, 740. - also 968, 108

Red 1017  
9. Smith has 6<sup>o</sup> in red. 42, 974.  
1<sup>o</sup> - 26, 468.

107, 032.

Red nos. are lower

I by Taping Red nos<sup>o</sup> is perf. 13 1/2 (corrected)  
black. not the other. 13. etc.

but saw 6<sup>o</sup> p. 13 with red nos<sup>o</sup>. (Morley) -  
1<sup>o</sup> p. 13. Black nos<sup>o</sup> - (do) .

Taping has 6<sup>o</sup> 1/2 - 1 1/2 - 2/3 red nos.

Jordan Smith calls it P. 12 says he has the 1/6 - 12  
blk nos. 187289

Aug 93 Saw at Morley,

|                |                               |                |       |     |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----|
| P. 13. red fig | 6 <sup>o</sup>                | 1/6            | 1/6   | 2/3 |
| 13 1/2         |                               | 1/2            | "1/6" | 2/3 |
| P. 13 black    | 3 <sup>o</sup> 6 <sup>o</sup> | 1/2            |       | 2/3 |
| 13 1/2 "       | 3 <sup>o</sup>                | 1 <sup>o</sup> | "1/6" |     |

Compound. 13 x 13 1/2. 1/2. Weston has been 95<sup>o</sup> from Morley.

Page 335. Synopsis Second Issue. Insert the date "1869" after the Two shillings.

are unable to determine accurately which of these perforations came first in point of date, and the same remark applies to the numbering in black and red. The existence of two gauges of the perforation naturally leads to the supposition that there was more than one printing of some of the values; for it must be borne in mind that this issue was in use for many years.

The following are the values, colours of the paper, and perforations, as found by us:

- Threepence, on white. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Sixpence, on flesh. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- One shilling, on lavender. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 1s. 6d., on grey. Perf. 13.
- One shilling and sixpence, on grey. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Two shillings, on bright yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 2s. 6d., on pale olive-yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Three shillings, on pink. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Four shillings, on pale green. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Five shillings, on pale blue. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### First Issue.

1853. Impression in colour on white paper. Imperforate.

- One shilling, black.
- One shilling and sixpence, lilac.
- Two shillings and sixpence, blue.
- Four shillings, pale red.
- Five shillings, green.

##### Second Issue.

1857. Impression in black on coloured paper. Perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.

- Threepence, on white. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Sixpence, on flesh. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- One shilling, on lavender. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 1s. 6d., on grey. Perf. 13.
- One shilling and sixpence, on grey. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Two shillings, on bright yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 2s. 6d., on pale olive-yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Three shillings, on pink. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Four shillings, on pale green. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Five shillings, on pale blue. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .

(1869) and 1860  
(1869)



#### 4. THE UNITED KINGDOM ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.

This Company was incorporated 24th July, 1860, to work several patents for improvements in the art of telegraphy granted to Thomas Allan, and to exercise certain privileges which had been conferred on him and his associates by a private Act of Parliament. The offices of the Company at the commencement were at 101, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London, and William Andrews was the secretary; but its head office was afterwards transferred to Nos. 237-247, Gresham House, and Mr. Andrews was then described both as manager and secretary. The main purpose of this Company was to bring into operation a low uniform rate of charge for messages, adopting a similar principle to that which guided Sir Rowland Hill in establishing the uniform penny postage rate. In 1861, when this Company began to transmit messages for the public, the scale of charges then in general use by other companies, for a message not above twenty words, names and addresses of sender and receiver not reckoned, was—

|   |       |   |   |
|---|-------|---|---|
| For a distance not exceeding 50 miles     | . . . | 1 | 6 |
| „ „ above 50, but not exceeding 100 miles |       | 2 | 0 |
| „ „ „ 100 „ 150                           |       | 3 | 0 |
| For 150 miles and upwards                 |       | 4 | 0 |

This Company commenced with the experiment of a uniform rate of 1s. for like messages irrespective of distance, but after four years' experience was compelled, in July, 1865, to revise and increase its charges to the following scale—

|  |       |   |   |
|--|-------|---|---|
| For a distance not exceeding 100 miles     | . . . | 1 | 0 |
| „ „ exceeding 100 miles, not exceeding 200 |       | 1 | 4 |
| „ „ „ 200                                  |       | 2 | 0 |

When the Company, in 1869, came to claim compensation from the Postmaster-General for the purchase of its plant and goodwill, it took great credit to itself for being the pioneer in adopting the system of uniform charges, and the large sum of

Andrews. Indo European J.C. Old Broad St E.C. can give details.

May. Capt P. Zales Liverpool. names Mr. Beeton. Recd & Recd  
Generals office. G.P.O. & Mr. Z.E. Smith, and if Dept  
there as able to give information

Alfred<sup>S</sup> Churchill. 1<sup>st</sup> class of U.K. Zales Coy. (Mr. Genl C.W. written)

The United Kingdom Telegraph Company.—Mr. Bacon  
has done good service in calling attention to the perforation of these  
stamps, both of the 1862 and 1863 issues, the sizes of which are the  
same, 60 × 25 mm. The earlier series has the longer side vertical, the  
latter has the longer side horizontal; the former is perforated  $15 \times 15\frac{1}{2}$ ,  
the latter, evidently by the same machine, the perforation being  
vertical,  $15\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ .\*

\* In thus describing the perforations I have adopted the system first  
used by Dr. Legrand, and universally followed since by all Continental  
writers and catalogues, viz., to name the vertical side first, the horizontal  
side after. There seems to be some little misunderstanding on this point in  
England, as a different order in naming the sides has sometimes been  
followed. It was a matter of indifference which system was adopted at first,  
but uniformity is certainly desirable, for a variation not only induces un-  
certainty, but also tends to isolate English catalogues and collectors from  
their Continental confrères. I have taken some little pains to trace the  
matter to its origin, and find that Dr. Legrand took the vertical side to  
measure first, because in the great majority of cases that side was longest,  
and most frequently gave a full space of 2 centimes to be measured. What-  
ever the reason, once adopted, there seems no valid ground for departing  
from the practice; it can cause no misapprehension, and a uniform rule is  
certainly the most convenient. As we adopted Dr. Legrand's system, and as  
its adoption is universal, there can be no hesitation in taking it as a whole,  
and I can see any object in departing from it in this one respect. The matter  
now of more importance to be generally understood than in former days,  
when there was less attention given to compound perforations than now; and  
as minutiae are so much regarded I venture to hope all who chronicle such  
facts will join in making the usage uniform.

Mr. Bacon too is perfectly right in thinking that the one shilling  
second issue was not lithographed. Messrs. De La Rue never printed  
in lithography. The variety of this stamp mentioned in P. and W.,  
p. 339, paragraph immediately above the Synopsis, is typographed, and  
as we were not certain about when the book was published in 1881.

The type is quite distinct from the former plate of the shilling of  
this issue, and may be readily recognized by the background, which is  
more confused, and has not the uniform straight but broken lines of the  
former plate. In the second, the rows have irregular breaks joining the  
horizontal lines, so as to present the appearance of a maze; whereas in  
the former, one could pass with a clear run between the rows, in a  
straight line from side to side of the stamp. In the latter the way is  
narrowed, if not entirely stopped, by the breaks which join the rows. The  
distinction is very apparent when the two types are placed side by side,  
and it is rather difficult to describe succinctly. I hope, however, the  
above remarks will be clear, and help collectors to distinguish the two  
issues.

I have recently met with a proof of the Threespence of this second  
issue printed in bright purple, but when the issue was printed for use  
the colours of the former set were adhered to, probably to prevent  
confusion in the office.

This proof is on white wove paper, unwatermarked, and is interesting,  
being the only colour trial of these stamps that has yet come to light, and  
now I believe chronicled for the first time.

5<sup>3</sup> G. Smith. obliterated and controlled.

The United Kingdom Telegraph Company.—Mr. Bacon has done good service in calling attention to the perforation of these stamps, both of the 1862 and 1863 issues, the sizes of which are the same, 30 × 25 mm. The earlier series has the longer side vertical, the later has the longer side horizontal; the former is perforated 15 × 15½, the latter, evidently by the same machine, the perforation being identical, 15½ × 15.\*

\* In thus describing the perforations I have adopted the system first devised by Dr. Legrand, and universally followed since by all Continental writers and catalogues, viz., to name the vertical side first, the horizontal side after. There seems to be some little misunderstanding on this point in England, as a different order in naming the sides has sometimes been followed. It was a matter of indifference which system was adopted at first, but uniformity is certainly desirable, for a variation not only induces uncertainty, but also tends to isolate English catalogues and collectors from their Continental *confrères*. I have taken some little pains to trace the matter to its origin, and find that Dr. Legrand took the vertical side to measure first, because in the great majority of cases that side was longest, and most frequently gave a full space of 2 centimes to be measured. Whatever the reason, once adopted, there seems no valid ground for departing from the practice; it can cause no misapprehension, and a uniform rule is certainly the most convenient. As we adopted Dr. Legrand's system, and as its adoption is universal, there can be no hesitation in taking it as a whole, nor can I see any object in departing from it in this one respect. The matter is now of more importance to be generally understood than in former days, when there was less attention given to compound perforations than now; and as *minutiae* are so much regarded I venture to hope all who chronicle such points will join in making the usage uniform.

Mr. Bacon too is perfectly right in thinking that the one shilling second issue was not lithographed. Messrs. De La Rue & Co. never printed in lithography. The variety of this stamp mentioned in P. and W., p. 339, paragraph immediately above the Synopsis, is typographed, a fact we were not certain about when the book was published in 1881.

The type is quite distinct from the former plate of the shilling of this issue, and may be readily recognized by the background, which is more confused, and has not the uniform straight but broken lines of the former plate. In the second, the rows have irregular breaks joining the horizontal lines, so as to present the appearance of a maze; whereas in the former, one could pass with a clear run between the rows, in a straight line from side to side of the stamp. In the latter the way is barred, if not entirely stopped, by the breaks which join the rows. The variation is very apparent when the two types are placed side by side, but is rather difficult to describe succinctly. I hope, however, the above remarks will be clear, and help collectors to distinguish the two varieties.

I have recently met with a proof of the Threespence of this second issue printed in bright purple, but when the issue was printed for use the colours of the former set were adhered to, probably to prevent confusion in the office.

This proof is on white wove paper, unwatermarked, and is interesting, as the only colour trial of these stamps that has yet come to light, and is now I believe chronicled for the first time.



- 137 GREAT BRITAIN, Telegraph, South  
 Eastern Railway, the extreme  
 rarity, 2/6 green, perf. 9 up-  
 ward and in mint condition,  
 wmkd. S.E.R. 1 superb
- 138 same issue, perforation and  
 wmk. 2/3 red-brown, in similar  
 condition 1 superb
- 140 same issue, and wmk. but perf.  
 11, 1s. 2d. black in similar  
 condition 1 superb

The three above stamps are of the  
 greatest rarity, and are wanting in  
 the Topping Collection. They are  
 the first ever offered by public  
 auction.

|     |  |     |     |
|-----|--|-----|-----|
|     | nice lot   | 80  | v   |
| 164 | — Native States, surcharged on India, various  | 80  | v   |
| 165 | — the collection including 1st issue, Provisionals, etc., a very fine lot                            | 80  | v f |
| 166 | — 1st issue 4a., cut one corner, but showing blue wavy line, and Scinde Dawk, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. white | 2   |     |
| 167 | JAPAN, the collection (74), Cuba (68), Phillipine Islands (32)                                       | 172 |     |
| 168 | LABUAN, 6c. on 8c. entire sheet unused   | 10  | v f |
| 169 | — 6c. on 8c. pair, unused and with gum, one stamp being surcharged twice in error                    | 2   |     |

£562,264 9s. 11d. was awarded to it, an amount not the less surprising because it was virtually prescribed by the terms of the "Telegraph Act, 1868," though in form settled by Mr. F. J. Scudamore, acting as arbitrator on behalf of the Government, and Mr. A. A. Croll, the Company's arbitrator. At the period when the purchase was made, this and the Electric Telegraph Company were the two principal companies engaged in carrying on the inland telegraph business of the kingdom, and besides being interested in a very extensive system of communication over which it had control, it was possessed of some special privileges granted by a private Act of Parliament.

From an early period in 1862 the Company adopted the use of adhesive stamps, and issued them to such persons as were desirous of employing them.\* These stamps were type-printed, and were all engraved and manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

### *First Issue.*

Date of Issue, March, 1862.

**DESIGN.**—The general design consists of an upright rectangle on an engine-turned ground, with the name of the Company in full in six lines, one word in each line, in shaded double-lined open Roman capitals, surrounded by a solid frame on which are inscriptions, that on the upper portion of the frame being **UNINSURED MESSAGE**, and that on the right **INCLUDING ADDRESSES**, both in thin block letters. In the lower part of the frame is the value in full, **THREEPENCE, SIXPENCE, OR ONE SHILLING**, and on the left side **FIVE WORDS, TEN WORDS**,



\* The use of these adhesive stamps appears to have been considerable, as we find from the accounts of the Company for 1864 that a sum of £2169 1s. 11d. is inserted as representing the amount of stamps sold to the public, but not yet presented or used. In subsequent accounts the item is dealt with differently, and the amount of stamps in suspense cannot be calculated; the business transacted by the Company was, however, of a very extensive nature.



OR TWENTY WORDS, the inscription on the left side of the frame varying according to the value in full inserted in the lower portion, threepence representing five words, sixpence ten words, &c. The stamp measures 25 by 30 mm.

The series consisted of three values ; viz., threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, and for each of these values a separate die was prepared, and the pattern of the background modified in each stamp.

The impression was on white glazed wove paper, not water-marked. The one shilling value was the first which was prepared, and the earliest copies of this show that it was printed on a safety paper, similar to that employed for the fourpence adhesive postage stamp, though the blue tinge is less marked.

The colour of the threepence was yellow-ochre, that of the sixpence pink, and that of the one shilling pale lilac. Each value was subsequently surcharged in black with consecutive figures. *There in 2 aug. ? - Next issue on.*

The gumming and the general appearance of the stamps show plainly the *atelier* from which they proceeded. Being of a size very nearly approaching to that of the five shillings postage stamp, they were in like manner perforated 15.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1863.

DESIGN.—The rectangular oblong was made transverse instead of upright, and two new values were added. On an engine-



turned groundwork is the name of the Company in full in white Roman capitals, similar to those in the former issue, in five lines, the words UNITED KINGDOM occupying the first line. Below is a white tablet extending the whole length of the stamp, on which is inscribed in coloured block letters,

*"This stamp will only frank messages sent on the conditions*

2<sup>nd</sup> row 3<sup>rd</sup> oct. 46.150. Large figs  
INT. in type (Marley. Mar 93)

light yellow  
9.166  
alt. with black  
232.531.

6<sup>th</sup> row. 557.636  
INT. - (20 rows)  
also. Gordon Smith 6<sup>th</sup> INT. 229887.

1<sup>st</sup> class. 908.200 (Mar 93 nearly) smaller figs  
908.204  
INT. G. Smith 4<sup>th</sup> INT. with 586.750  
my copy. 648, 603, - also without int. 580594  
on argus.  
INT

Black control figs on 1<sup>st</sup> sat. between high

some of 2<sup>nd</sup> sat. were smaller, barely on in + thinner space.

1/6 G. Smith 347.969 G.S had also a  
full sat. "INT"  
7- " 72.157

de Langlois. Paris show 1893

3<sup>rd</sup> [ ] now deviate on row, thickish, bright vermilion  
(a proof)

INT

**United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company, Limited.**

—In the second issue of this company's stamps Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby describe a variety of the one shilling, which they consider is lithographed from a transfer taken from the original plate, and not surface-printed, as the rest of the stamps are. In support of this theory, they state that the variety is "readily distinguishable from the latter by the blurred background, and by the paper not having the glaze upon it." I have examined a specimen of the variety in question, and on comparing it with an early one shilling of the issue, I find that the stamp is printed from a re-engraved die, on which the central background has been entirely altered. From its appearance I believe that this variety, like all the other stamps of the company, was printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and that it is also surface-printed and not lithographed. The specimen in the "Taping Collection" is on bluish paper.

The perforation of the first issue stamps measures 15½ horizontally and 15 vertically, while that of the second issue is just the converse.

6<sup>o</sup> was one blue paper reported by attorney.

\* also seen (59.46. line 92)

6<sup>o</sup> one. 152960

v again from 291.421

INT. M.

with "INT" initials in black Roman letters under the 2.

\* 3<sup>o</sup> yellow.



handy bed in each over stamp.

2<sup>o</sup> 2<sup>o</sup> (or rather 1<sup>o</sup> type)



solid borders all round, no tablet beneath with legend

T. "FIVE WORDS", B. "INCLUDING ADDRESSES". R. reading down

letters facing upward "UNINSURED MESSAGE" L/D=1 THREE PENCE

in centre, reading as side union UNITED KINGDOM ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH

COMPANY LIMITED in open circles cap no others. One word a line.

My 1074 . . 2563.

3<sup>o</sup> ochre yellow, Ty 1.

printed on the Company's message form." The other three sides are enclosed in a solid frame of colour, with floriated ornaments in the upper corners. On the frame to the left is UNINSURED, and to the right MESSAGE, both in white block letters, and at the top the value in full in Roman capitals, also in white.

The background is composed of short horizontal lines, so arranged as to give it a wavy appearance.\*

The impression was on white glazed wove paper, not water-marked. The values and colours were as follows: threepence, orange-yellow; sixpence, rose; one shilling, mauve; one shilling and sixpence, green; and two shillings, brown. Each stamp was surcharged in black by machine with consecutive numbers. The gum was the same as before, and the perforation 15. \*

We have also seen copies of the one shilling, for which doubtless the demand was far greater than for the other values, which are apparently lithographed from a transfer from the original plate. Though printed in the same colour as the type-printed copies, they are readily distinguishable from the latter by the blurred background, and by the paper not having the glaze upon it as in those previously described. They were probably manufactured by another firm than that of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

## SYNOPSIS.

~~1862~~ <sup>1862</sup> ~~Upright rectangular oblong~~ <sup>First Issue.</sup>

1862. Upright rectangular oblong, printed in colour on plain white glazed paper. Perf. 15.

Threepence, yellow-ochre.

Sixpence, rose.

One shilling, violet.

## VARIETY.

One shilling, violet, on bluish safety paper.

\* The disposition of these lines varies somewhat in each value, but in such small proportions that though the form of the wave evidently differs, yet it is impossible to point out intelligibly wherein the difference actually consists.

**Second Issue.**

1863. Transverse rectangular oblong, printed in colour on plain white glazed paper. Perf. 15.

*Some thicker than others & very surfaced*

- Threepence, orange-yellow.
- Sixpence, rose.
- One shilling, violet.
- One shilling and sixpence, green.
- Two shillings, brown.

186-(9). The same lithographed on plain white wove paper. Perf. 15.

- One shilling, violet.

**5. THE UNIVERSAL PRIVATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**

This Company, the head office of which was first at No. 448, West Strand, London, and then at No. 4, Adelaide Street, Strand, Mr. Lewis Cooke Hertalet being the secretary, was formed chiefly for the purpose of putting up private lines of telegraph wires and renting the use of them to their customers. Its operations, as may be inferred, were mainly confined to the larger cities and towns, as London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow. It was moreover the proprietor of the line of telegraph wires between Glasgow and Helensburgh, N.B., known as the Western Highland Telegraph; and this line was worked by the Company until it was purchased by the Postmaster-General, under the provisions of the Act of 1868, for the sum of £184,421.

*What are  
hubs in  
Cantyre line,*

In 1864 the Company, for the purpose of paying the charges on messages transmitted on the line worked by it, issued three stamps, of the values of threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, the first of which we have not seen, nor is any copy of it to be found at the Post-office; but it was doubtless of the same design as that of the sixpence and one shilling, differing only in the insertion of the value. In a list at the Post-Office a fourth stamp of the value of ninepence is also mentioned, but we have been unable to obtain any other information concerning it.

*in the spirit line*

Universal Private T. Coy. Act 1861. Royal ass: 7.6.61.

Letters Patents of 2.6.58 to Charles Wheatstone  
for Wheatstone Universal Telegraph. & that a

Coy was reg<sup>d</sup> under 14.20 Vic. c. 47 as U.P.T.C. Limited  
proceeds to incorporate Coy. cap: £190,000 in £25 shs.

C. Wheatstone. E. Frankland. W. Fairbairn. J. H. Dillon. first Directors  
to work Wheatstone's A.B.C. Mr. H. Kember affords a director  
1864 engine. Camden Town. & Euston. L & W. Ry.

Blisworth to Northampton

Moss. illus 83. Atlas Colours of 3d. 9d. ( $\frac{4}{-} + \frac{8}{-}$ )

Page 340. The Universal Private Telegraph Company was incorporated by special Act, which received the royal assent on June 7th, 1861, and refers to the Company as having been previously registered as a limited company, under the 19th and 20th Vict. c. 47, by the same name. It also mentions a patent of June 2nd, 1858, granted to Sir Charles (then Mr.) Wheatstone for a universal telegraph. The capital was £190,000, in £25 shares, and Sir Charles Wheatstone one of the first directors. The Company appears, from the statements in the Act, to have been then possessed of a stationary engine, placed on the London and North-western Railway Company's station at Camden Town, working a short line to Euston terminus; and also to be working a line of wires between Blisworth and Northampton, on the same railway.

Bottom of page. We have failed to obtain any further details of the threepence and ninespence, and are still unable to state their colours.

~~also worked to Northampton for 12 years, as said by Mr. H. Kember~~  
these works were experimentally at Northampton - 650 ft. high  
worked in Scotland. Mr. Walter Mackenzie of Glasgow was  
a special Director there - Wheatstone's A.B.C. was what Co  
was intended to work. The Glasgow & Strathclyde line was  
known by the Coy as the "Canbyre" line - the stamps were  
used on it. (made in Glasgow?)  
Symington was Scot. afterwards went to Canada & died.  
Mr. H. thinks none of the old stamps have been preserved. at  
least does not know where to look for them.

May 6<sup>th</sup> brown. 4<sup>th</sup> in blue 1222.  
 February 1<sup>st</sup> purple. 4<sup>th</sup> in blue 107. (7)  
 July 94 pair 1<sup>st</sup> mauve. 533. 534. no in black. likely

**Universal Private Telegraph Company.**—In the description of these stamps I have not seen it noted that the control number on the 6d. is in blue, while on the 1s. it is in black. I have never come across specimens of either the 3d. or 9d.

GORDON SMITH showed the only Telegraph Stamps in the room. British and Irish Telegraph Company, 6d. and 1s. control numbers in red and in black; Universal Private Telegraph Company, 6d., control number in blue (4075); 1s., control number in black, pair (543-4); United Kingdom Telegraph Company, 3d., yellow, an obliterated copy bearing no control number.

No eders has 4. control both in blue & black.  
 + thinks 6<sup>th</sup> is also in both colors.

Jerome Smith: 6<sup>th</sup> control blue. 4075. sheet 1501 to 1600  
 1<sup>st</sup> - - - black. pair 543 - 544.  
 control in same color as stamp. sheet 7901 - 8000.

Sheets 100. after 10 rows of 10. no wider a 400 - margin.

July 1898 large pair of 6<sup>th</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> values. see Universal  
 - fancy colors of control fig listed also.

July 1898. S.G. 400 but f. advance Universal P. 709. "Cat 7419"  
 6<sup>th</sup> Brown. No in. green. lilac

1<sup>st</sup> lilac. green. Heltk. in brown - red/lilac

In Aug '98. No. 1. p. 30. (6) control (both) 1972. Green 1 - 2. 2936 in red  
 says: strong exist. but the 2005 9672. 6d. 2936. 9831. green  
~~the 2005 was Chief of State of Sudan~~

Brown control on 1<sup>st</sup> lilac. 1<sup>st</sup> control. No. 10. see above

20 P. Record. 158. list by Essex.

6<sup>th</sup> control. blue green. 1<sup>st</sup> control. Brown  
 lilac  
 black  
 green  
 yellow.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a white upright oval band, enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, composed of rusticated ornaments, measuring 27 by 32 mm. In the spandrels are white discs, with the figures 1, 8, 6, 4. On the oval band is the inscription UNIVERSAL at the top, PRIVATE to the right, TELEGRAPH below, and COMPANY on the left. The interior of the oval has a groundwork of lines radiating towards the centre, which is interrupted by a plain white tablet, on which is the consecutive number, in blue. Above this tablet is SIX, and below PENCE, or



ONE and SHILLING as the case may be, in coloured block letters.

The impression is in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper, perforated 12½.

We are unable to state by whom they were designed and manufactured, but most probably in Glasgow, as they do not bear the impress of London workmanship.

SYNOPSIS.

1864. Lithographed in colour on plain white wove paper. Perf. 12½.

Threepence, (?).

Sixpence, brown.

Ninepence, (?).

One shilling, mauve.

*printed in blue fig.*

*central black.*

6. THE LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

This Company was established in 1859, under the Limited Liability Act, with the object of serving the London district with telegraph service at cheap rates. At first the chief office was at No. 58, Threadneedle Street, but was afterwards removed to No. 90, Cannon Street, both in the city of London. The first series of stamps was issued in 1862, and at that time Alfred Ogan was the secretary to the Company; and at the date of the second issue, in 1865, Charles Curtoys was the secretary



and manager. Both series were designed and manufactured for the Company by Messrs. Truscott and Sons, of Suffolk Lane, London.

An examination of the values shows that the standard rate of charge for an ordinary message within the Metropolitan district was sixpence, a rate found so convenient to the public that by far the largest part of the telegraph business within this district was transacted by this Company.

Shortly after the passing of the Act of 1868 the Company was re-organized under the name of the "London and Provincial District Telegraph Company Limited," with the view of extending its operations to the provinces; but before this extension was carried into effect the undertaking was acquired by the Postmaster-General, and the working passed into the hands of the Post-office. Under its new title the Company did not make any issue of stamps.

### First Issue.

Date of Issue, 1862.

DESIGN.—The series was composed of three values—three-pence, fourpence, and sixpence—all of similar design, with the exception of the figure of value. This design consists of a large shaded figure of value, 20 mm. in height, with D (for pence) added, across which is printed in block letters, in two lines, "LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH COMP<sup>Y</sup>," with the addition LIMITED in Italic capitals in a third line. Below is the *fac-simile* signature A. OGAN, followed by *Secretary* in Italics. Above these inscriptions is "No.," with the distinguishing number of the stamp filled in by a numbering machine—in red for the values of 3d. and 4d., and in black for the 6d. The whole is enclosed in a double-lined upright rectangular frame, ornamented in the angles, and measuring 26 by 31 mm.



1868 July 22

Innocents first became Cross printer in 1861.

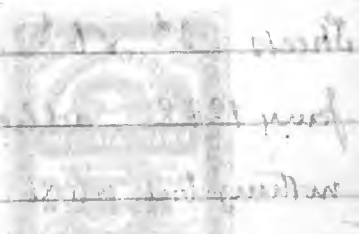
See C. Curtiss first printed in 1862.

1868. 22 July a receipt on yellow printed form shows (for 2/4) <sup>4</sup> <sub>check</sub>

London & Prov. T. Coy. L<sup>d</sup>

(in direct communication with the Provincial & Continental Telegraphs).

Chief Office, 101 Cannon St. E.C.



Letter A. & no. of other letters

17 Apr 94. seen Morley 11 have 6 d red. A Ogan.

no A 6275. 6270. ∴ next row was 5.  
∴ 40 to sheet?

Sheets. 3<sup>d</sup> & 6<sup>d</sup>. entire seen at Palmers  
Jan'y 1888. adhesive. no legends or inscriptions  
nothing but what is in frame of stamps themselves  
40 stamps to each sheet. 8 horizontal x 5 vert!  
'Chas Curtons' set.

and also ordinary.

Page 343. Eighth line from bottom. We are disposed, however, to think that the set we have distinguished as (b)—that in which the stamps are numbered by hand—preceded the other set, (a), which is machine-numbered; and from the comparative rarity of the sets, infer that the hand-numbered series had but a brief currency.

Third line from bottom. After the word "block" insert "and also in ordinary figures."

There are two very distinct sets of figures adopted in numbering this set—the one of block figures, large, bold, and legible; the other of ordinary type figures, much smaller. From the numbering on the specimens we have seen, it is probable that the stamps last used bore the smaller figures.

The stamps were printed by lithography in black, on coloured unwatermarked paper, were gummed at the back, and perforated 13.

The following is a list of the values and colours of the paper :

Threepence, on bright yellow coloured paper, numbered in red.

Fourpence, on blue coloured paper, numbered in red.

Sixpence, on vermilion-faced paper, numbered in black.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1865.

DESIGN.—In the background is a large figure of value, and D shaded as in the preceding issue, across which is a solid tablet, inscribed in block letters MESSAGE STAMP, on a black ground. In a curve above is LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH, with COMPANY, LIMITED, within the curve. Below CHIEF-OFFICE—90, CANNON STREET —No.—CHARLES CUBTOYS—SECY. AND MANAGER—in five lines, all in an upright rectangular frame, measuring 32 by 25 mm., composed of interlacing lines, with solid quadrant-shaped blocks in the angles, on which are introduced L. D. T. CO.



There are two sets of the stamps in this issue, which only consists of two values—threepence and sixpence—but we are unable to state which of the two sets comes first in point of date. In one the paper is coloured, and the numbers are inserted by machine, and in the other the paper is faced with colour, and the numbers inserted by hand.

(a) Lithographed in black, on coloured unwatermarked paper, perforated 11½, and gummed. The numbers are inserted by machine, in black, in small block figures.

Threepence, on yellow paper.

Sixpence, on pink paper.

Small. Large fig 5 1639. -  
6 4615.

Small fig 16102  
15.807.

(b) Lithographed in black, on unwatermarked paper, faced with colour, perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and gummed. The numbers are inserted by hand in black ink.

Threepence, on paper faced with greenish blue.

Sixpence                   "                   "                   vermilion.

These stamps continued to be used by the Company until the undertaking was transferred to the Postmaster-General.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### *First Issue.*

1862. Lithographed in black, on coloured paper. Perf. 13.

Threepence, on bright yellow, numbered in red.

Fourpence, on blue, numbered in red.

Printed in black, on paper faced with colour. Perf. 13.

Sixpence, vermilion, numbered in black.

##### *Second Issue.*

1865. (a) Lithographed in black, on coloured paper. Perf.

$11\frac{1}{2}$ . Numbers inserted by machine.

Threepence, on yellow.

Sixpence, on pink.

(b) Lithographed in black, on paper faced with colour. Perf.

$11\frac{1}{2}$ . Hand numbered.

Threepence, on greenish-blue.

Sixpence, on vermilion.

#### 7. THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

Following the example of the other main lines of railway, the South-Eastern Railway Company had established a system of telegraphic communication along its lines of railway, which, subject to the requirements of its own service, it allowed the public to use on payment of the rates of charge fixed by the Company's tariff.

In the year 1860 the Company opened an office near the camp at Aldershot, and for the convenience of the military authorities, who were reluctant to deal with cash payments for such small amounts, it provided a series of frank stamps, which though

South Eastern Railway Company. - About our year 1911 I was fortunate enough to receive a box of the special issues of these stamps which, as members of this society, you know of which we are proud to possess. The stamps were sent to me by Mr. T. T. Taylor, a collector of the stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company.

Mr. T. T. Taylor, a collector of the stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company.

On referring to the stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company, I was struck by the fact that they were issued in the year 1911, and that they were the only stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company issued in that year. The stamps were issued in the year 1911, and they were the only stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company issued in that year.

The stamps were issued in the year 1911, and they were the only stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company issued in that year.

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Charles V. Walker was first Sup: of Telegraphs. S.E.Ry.

The stamps were issued in the year 1911, and they were the only stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company issued in that year.

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The stamps were issued in the year 1911, and they were the only stamps of the South Eastern Railway Company issued in that year.

seen copy of used yellow very full almost orange.  
date 14. 9. 66. Heister coll.

7 of Beaufort House, Strand.

Old Tap rug. 9<sup>d</sup> red. 9506.1 p. 12. <sup>collected from</sup>  
9513.2 <sup>done Jan 22. W.A. 13"</sup>  
125 hair.  
1<sup>th</sup> 1269. p. 13. used 2. ~~2 changed to 1 to be used~~  
1/2 p. 11<sup>x</sup> 33. 503. used 20. 5. 63.  
4/6 14. 471. p. 12. used 23. 1. 65.  
2/3 p. 9. June 1040. used 20. 10. 64. S. 7.  
675. used 20. 1. 65. N. 2.  
2/9. p. 9. -  
3 var<sup>ies</sup> control no. 1. 4 new. for heap 11. 4<sup>9</sup> fresh  
2/3 46.  
4/6. 4 1/2.  
4. 35033. only 3 wfm.

Rec'd Oct 96. Morley line. p. 286. 9<sup>o</sup> & 1/2 p. 11 1/2.  
a thumb 12. 9  
2/9. p. 9.

8.3.97 Hattons sale.

1.2. blk. p. 11 1/2. ? 12.  
2.3. red. . . 9.  
2.9. green . . . 9.

**South Eastern Railway Company.**—About four years ago I was fortunate enough to come across a few used specimens of these stamps, which, as collectors of this interesting class of labels know, are among the rarest of the private companies. With the exception of one copy, which was a duplicate, I passed the specimens on to the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, and they are now included in the National Collection. *F.D. Bacon. Record. April 1894*

On referring to Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby's work, *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, I find it stated, at pages 345 and 346 that only 25,000 of these stamps were ever printed. The perforation of the set is said to be "12," and no mention is made of varieties in the control numbers. It will, I think, simplify matters if I first of all give a list of the specimens in the collection I have mentioned.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 9d., perf. 12, control number 9506 ; used "Jan. 22," but no year given. |  |
| 9d. " " (pair) ,, 9512 & 9513 ,, "                                      |  |
| 1s. " " 13 ,, 33,503 ; used 28.8.5 (65).                                |  |
| 1s. 6d. " " 12 ,, 14,471 ; used 23.1.65.                                |  |
| 2s. 3d. " " 9 (pair) ,, 1040 & 1067 ; used 23.10.64 & 24.1.5 (65).      |  |

The collection also contains a damaged but unused copy of the 1s. with the perforation cut off, the control number on this specimen being 1249.

From the fact that a copy of the 1s. is found numbered 33,503, it follows that there must have been more than 25,000 specimens printed in all. It seems certain therefore that there were more than the "two printings" spoken of by Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby.

The perforation, as will be seen, varies from 9 to 13. The low control numbers on the two specimens of the 2s. 3d. value show that these were early printed copies. And if the further fact is borne in mind, that at the time these stamps were issued (Sept. 1st, 1860) Mr. Charles Whiting, the printer, was perforating the first adhesives of Prince Edward Island with a machine which gauged 9, we may feel certain that the stamps first issued were those with this perforation. Probably therefore all the six values first bore the perforation of 9 ; but as some stamps would be more used than others, the later printings would not include all the values ; consequently I do not expect full sets existed with the other perforations. The stamps being so rare, it seems unlikely that collectors will ever know the exact number of perforations of the various values ; but when we remember the wonderful discoveries that have been made of late years, I do not look upon this case even as quite hopeless.

As regards the control numbers, there are three varieties of type. The three specimens of the 9d, the 1s. with the number 1249, and the two copies of the 2s. 3d. have the figure 4 mm. in height. On the 1s. 6d. the numerals are much larger, measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in height ; while on the 1s., numbered 35,033, the figures are the smallest of all, being only 3 mm. in height.

The stamps were obliterated in pen and ink with the initials of the clerk who received the message, and who usually added the day of the month and year.



South American Railway Company - About the year  
of 1850, I was engaged in the construction of  
the railway from London to the continent of  
Europe. I had the honor to be  
present at the meeting of the directors of the  
company, and to see the plans of the  
line, which was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe.

The railway was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe, and I had the  
honor to be present at the meeting of the  
directors of the company, and to see the  
plans of the line, which was to be built  
from London to the continent of Europe.

The railway was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe, and I had the  
honor to be present at the meeting of the  
directors of the company, and to see the  
plans of the line, which was to be built  
from London to the continent of Europe.

The railway was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe, and I had the  
honor to be present at the meeting of the  
directors of the company, and to see the  
plans of the line, which was to be built  
from London to the continent of Europe.

The railway was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe, and I had the  
honor to be present at the meeting of the  
directors of the company, and to see the  
plans of the line, which was to be built  
from London to the continent of Europe.

The railway was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe, and I had the  
honor to be present at the meeting of the  
directors of the company, and to see the  
plans of the line, which was to be built  
from London to the continent of Europe.

The railway was to be built from London  
to the continent of Europe, and I had the  
honor to be present at the meeting of the  
directors of the company, and to see the  
plans of the line, which was to be built  
from London to the continent of Europe.

created for this special object were equally available for telegraphic messages over other parts of the Company's lines.

These stamps were issued on 1st September, 1860, and were designed and manufactured for the company by the late Mr. Charles Whiting.\* They remained in use till the 1st February, 1870, when the Company's lines of telegraph were transferred to the Postmaster-General under the provisions of the Act of 1868, and the plates from which the stamps were printed were handed over to the Railway Company and destroyed. The use of these stamps was small, only two printings, amounting together to 25,000 copies, having been made. *NY // Sep. p. 33. 573. - new.*

DESIGN.—The design consists of the arms of the Company with supporters, and its motto of ONWARD, on a solid upright oval ground, all enclosed in an oval band, in the upper part of which on a white ground is SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY, in coloured Old English letters, and in the lower part the value in full, in white block letters on a solid coloured ground. On the solid ground within the inner oval and immediately above the arms is ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH, and below FRANK, in small Roman capitals. The whole is enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, measuring  $38\frac{1}{2}$  by  $46\frac{1}{2}$  mm.,



within which at the left upper corner is "No." in white shaded letters, and this is followed by the consecutive numbers stamped in black. The background within the frame is of a diaper pattern.

The sheet consisted of twenty-four stamps in four rows of six in each row, printed in typography on white hand-made paper, watermarked with the letters S. E. R. in double-lined letters one above the other in the centre of each stamp.

The colour of the impression varied in the different values, which were all exactly similar in type with the exception of the

value. The stamps were gummed, and perforated 12. Specimens are extremely rare, the copies used in the service having been, as in other like cases, ~~all~~ destroyed with the old telegrams at certain intervals, and the unused stock in the Company's possession was destroyed ~~many years since, except a few specimens~~ prepared as specimens of the engraver's work. These latter were not perforated nor numbered, and may thus be readily distinguished from those which were actually prepared for issue; As specimens of typographic art the series may be considered very creditable to the manufacturer; and if the somewhat large size of the stamps is not objected to, they are amongst the best of the private telegraph stamps.

## SYNOPSIS.

1st Sept., 1860. Impression on white hand-made paper, water-marked S. E. R. Perf 12.

- Ninepence, red.
- One shilling, orange-yellow.
- One shilling and twopence, black. ✓
- One shilling and sixpence, lilac.
- Two shillings and threepence, red-brown. ✓
- Two shillings and ninepence, green. ✓

## 8. BONELLI'S ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.

This Company was incorporated in the year 1861, under the Limited Liability Act, 1856, for the purpose of working an invention of Signor Bonelli. Its registered office was at 69, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Mr. Simon Rendall being the secretary and solicitor to the Company.

Experimental trials of the invention were made privately, and with a certain amount of success, [but the Company never arrived at the stage of transmitting messages for the public, nor of possessing any line of telegraphic communication. In anticipation, however, of the practical success of the invention] the Company caused a series of stamps to be prepared by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, who designed and printed them.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a figure of Mercury with the Caduceus (after the famous statue by Giovanni di Bologna,

Recordk.  
6-000.

were

A few sheets

some were covered  
at beautiful stage  
but

Bonelli's E. T. Act 1861. R. As. 28.6.61

Wharfedale Coy called the B. E. T. C. Limited has been  
incorporated for working the patent of Superior Chevalier  
Gaetano Bonelli. (act gave powers of ordy. teleg. Coy).

A destructive fire occurred at Mr Whiting's <sup>new</sup> premises in Sardinia  
Street, Leadenhall Lane, where he had received on leaving from the  
factory a large stock of remaining sheets with the plates <sup>which were</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>required</sup>  
to be destroyed. (irreparably)

Page 346. BONELLI'S ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY. To the first  
paragraph under this head add: On June 26th, 1861, the Company obtained  
a special Act of Parliament, which recited that they had been incorporated  
for the purpose of working the patent of Chevalier Gaetano Bonelli, and  
gave the Company the powers usual in such cases.

Eighth line from bottom. Expunge the words beginning "but the Com-  
pany," to the end of the sentence, and also to the word "invention," in the  
next line; and in lieu read: "And the Company established a telegraphic  
communication between Liverpool and Manchester, by which messages were  
transmitted for the public for two years and upwards. The single rate was  
sixpence, and the tariff just half the charge made by the existing Companies;  
so that Bonelli's Company attracted nearly all the business, and would  
doubtless have proved a permanent success, had the operations been re-  
stricted to these two great commercial cities.

At the end of the paragraph, before DUNN, add: These stamps were  
used on the Company's printed message-form.

See Art. Tinsley Post. No 236. Aug. 1882.

p. 47. on this Coy's stamps.

Wrong: as stated to me by Redpath: 8 Decr 1882. "I am

intimate with the Ex Chief Cashier of the Magnetic Coy. who states

that Bonelli would a war between Liverpool & Manchester for over 2 yrs

& that the 6<sup>d</sup> Mps. if not the other values, were used on the message

form. As he only charged half the rate of the other Coy, w<sup>h</sup> I had

he had almost all the L'pool & Chichester masters, but stamps were

wrong elsewhere, & he, or the Coy failed. My friend & other

old Telegraph employes of the Electric & Magnetic assure me

that there is no doubt at all about the matter.

Page 247. Top line. For "circular" read "oval."

Expunge, from the " in line 12, the entire text and foot-note on this page, and on page 248, to end of Synopsis; and in lieu substitute:

At the time of publication we had not been able to discover copies of the ninepence and one shilling, nor had we found the threepence of the same issue as the other values. Further enquiries have put us in possession of the complete series of the four values of the same type; besides which we have the threepence also of the second type, readily distinguishable from that of the original issue by being printed in brown.

The series of four values, which we consider the earliest, is well executed in lithography, transferred from an engraving on copper. The rectangular frame measures 26 x 32 mm. outside measurement, and has a groundwork of minute wavy lines. The spaces on each side of the central oval are filled with an ornamental chequered pattern, resembling network. The lower tablet bore the consecutive number, printed in small black figures by a type numbering-machine. The paper used was plain white wove, without watermark, and the stamps were gummed, and perforated 12½.

The values and colours are as follows:

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Threepence, green. | Ninepence, azure blue.   |
| Sixpence, black.   | One shilling, vermilion. |

Imperforate copies of the sixpence have been seen by us.

### TYPE II.

This type—consisting of only one value, the threepence—differs but slightly in design from the foregoing. The lines of the groundwork of the exterior frame are straight, and not waved. The ornamental ground on the side of the central figure is composed of horizontal lines, *parsons*, or powdered with *feurs-de-lys*. The figure is placed in a circle, rather than an oval; and the execution is much coarser than in the other series. The lower tablet is deeper, and the size of the stamp 26 x 33¼ mm. The stamp is entirely lithographed, and was not first engraved, as the other series. The numbering is also by a type numbering-machine, but in much larger figures, printed in a full shade of red-brown; while the perforation, which does not show a clean cut, is 13.

We would refer to an article on the stamps of Bonelli's Company, in *Le Timbre Poste*, No. 236, p. 77 (August, 1882), in which M. Moens gives some valuable information, more especially as to the date of Type II.

We are unable to offer any satisfactory reason for the creation of this second type. Its restriction to the threepence rather indicates a temporary failure in the supply of that value; but why recourse was not had to the regular type, if it was still in existence, is difficult to conjecture.

It is not unworthy of note, that while the sixpence and the threepence, Type II., are fairly plentiful, the other values have recently appeared in sufficient number to preclude their being classed among the "unattainables" of a collection.

### SYNOPSIS.

#### Type I.

186 (?). Lithographed in colour on plain white paper; perf. 12½.

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Threepence, green. | Ninepence, azure blue.   |
| Sixpence, black.   | One shilling, vermilion. |

#### VARIETY.

Sixpence, black; imperforate.

#### Type II.

1868 (?). Lithographed in colour on plain white paper; perf. 13.

Threepence, reddish-brown (shades).

By I Sheets, of all, no. were 10 rows of 10 efts = 100.

By II. sheet of 12. - were 4 rows of 3 in (hgs) rows = 12. 12 seen

Nos. noted 9<sup>4</sup> 4358. 1/2. - 2795 4623.

3 4600  
3 2,141. 19. 6<sup>3</sup> 18,416

3<sup>2</sup> Nov. 16, 272.

See 3<sup>2</sup> Nov. 16 a left after 500 on right. pair. [14292 - 14291]

Ridgway. and 1882.

Printed by Innes & Co. accuracy to me unknown  
really by Waterhouse.

in the Bargello at Florence) in a circular garter, inscribed with the motto NON USITATA NEC TENUI FERAR PENNA. Above is a plain tablet, on which is inserted the value in full, THREEPENCE, SIXPENCE, &c., and a similar tablet below is reserved for the numbering. The whole is enframed in a border, in which are introduced ELECTRIC on the left, BONELLI'S on the top, TELEGRAPH on the right, and CO<sup>r</sup>. LIMITED at the bottom, in white block letters.



Four values were prepared; viz., threepence, sixpence, ninepence, and one shilling,\* but we have only ~~been able~~

to meet with copies of the threepence and sixpence when the first edition was published.

These two values differ in the details very considerably. The sixpence is better executed, being lithographed from an engraving on copper, while in the threepence this is not the case. The frame of the sixpence is a rectangle measuring 26 by 32 mm., while that of the threepence measures 26 by 33½, owing to greater depth being given to the lower tablet. The frame of the sixpence is also composed of fine wavy lines, and the ground of network, while in the threepence the lines of the frame are straight, and the ground is of horizontal lines powdered with *fleurs de lys*. Both are gummed, and printed on plain white paper, but the sixpence is perforated 12 and the threepence 12. In the threepence the numbers are small, preceded by "No.," and inserted in black by a type numbering machine, while in the threepence they are larger, and inserted in red-brown, by a hand machine.

\* Our authority for introducing these two latter values is information derived from the Post-office, of which nevertheless we are inclined to doubt the correctness, as it seems somewhat inconsistent that, while the two smaller values are frequently met with, the two higher ones have not to our knowledge been seen, though in point of ever representing a monetary value all the stamps are on a similar footing, having never been called into use.

The stamps are readily procurable, having never been employed for telegraph purposes, and having consequently never been used or destroyed.

SYNOPSIS.

186-. Lithographed in colour on plain white paper. *P. 12 1/2*

Threepence, ~~reddish-brown (shades)~~. *Perf. 13: Green.*

Sixpence, black. *Perf. 12 1/2*

" " Unperforated (variety).

Ninepence, *blue. Perf. 12 1/2*

One shilling *(?)* *vermillion* *Messrs P. 12 1/2*

No other designs or proofs for stamps issued by any Private Telegraph Company, save those above mentioned, have come under our notice, except that we have seen proofs of the stamps of The Submarine Telegraph Company struck off in black on white enamelled card by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. according to their usual practice. *in 1881, under authority.*

**Bonelli's Electric Telegraph Co.. Ltd.**—The stamps of the first issue are uniformly given as perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$  in *Mons. J. B. Moens'* last edition of his *Catalogue*, while the 3d. of the second issue is said to be perforated 13. I find on measuring the specimens in the "Tapling Collection" that the perforations gauge as follows :

1861. 3d.,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13.

6d., 12,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

9d.,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13.

1s.,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

1868. 8d.,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

I have little doubt that this list can still be added to.

**Universal Private Telegraph Company.**—In the description of these stamps I have not seen it noted that the control number on the 6d. is in blue, while on the 1s. it is in black. I have never come across specimens of either the 3d. or 9d.

~~The ... 127.~~

**TELEGRAM PAPER.**

**TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.**

The pink paper supplied within the last few telegrams is of a most flimsy and objectionable character, and extremely liable to tear. We are in the habit of receiving a large number of telegrams daily, and many of these form the basis of legal contracts. It is therefore of very great importance that telegrams should be received in such a condition as to be available for keeping without fear of destruction. For the reason named we shall be glad to see a change of paper of a much better quality when the next supply of telegraph papers is ordered.

We have no doubt that many of your readers will concur with this view of the matter.

We are, Sir, yours obediently,  
**A FIRM OF LONDON ESTATE AGENTS.**



SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH CABLES.

1890.

19 cables by J. B. & Co. Limited

run in 1850. a wire

Down to Calais.

A Parliamentary paper was issued yesterday containing the following memorandum explanatory of the relations entered into with Germany, Holland, Belgium, and France as regards the working of the submarine telegraph cables of those countries:—

On the transfer of the telegraphs to the State in 1870, the Post Office became possessed of the cable known as "Reuter's cable" between England and Germany, and two cables between England and Holland previously the property of the Electric and International Telegraph Company. The cables between England and Belgium, and between England and France, remained the property of the Submarine Telegraph Company.

Under an agreement scheduled to the Telegraph Act 1868, it was arranged that the whole of the cable should be worked and maintained by the Submarine Telegraph Company, and that the land lines in connection with the cables should be maintained by the Post Office. The agreement provided that the earnings from the cables, after certain deductions for maintenance and working, should be divided between the Post Office and the company in the proportions set forth.

The arrangements thus entered into were to last until the expiration of the concessions granted by France and Belgium, under which the company had obtained a monopoly of the telegraph business between Great Britain and those two countries. The concessions expired in January, 1889, but as a matter of mutual convenience the arrangements with the company have been extended to the 31st inst.

In 1884 it became necessary entirely to renew one of the cables to Holland, and partially to renew the other. This was work not coming within the definition of maintenance, and under the agreement it had to be undertaken by the Post Office. An expenditure of £45,000 was authorized for the purpose by the Government of the day.

Since 1873 Great Britain has been a party to the International Telegraph Convention, which regulates the international relations between States which possess internal telegraph systems.

In the case of all the Continental European States there is a direct interchange of telegraphic correspondence between neighbouring States, and the desire naturally arose that there should be direct transmission of telegrams between England and her nearest neighbours without the intermediary of a private company. Representations to the same effect were received by the Post Office from Chambers of Commerce and other bodies in the United Kingdom.

It was obvious that the cessation of the monopoly of the private company might be expected to yield results beneficial not only to the revenue of the country

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible, appearing to be a list of names or a detailed report.]*

## II.

### POST-OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

In July, 1868, the Legislature passed the Act already referred to enabling the Postmaster-General to acquire and work electric telegraphs in connection with the administration of the Post-office.

The leading provisions of the Act authorized the Postmaster-General to acquire the undertakings of the companies or persons engaged in transmitting messages for money by electric or other telegraphs, or mechanical agencies, within the United Kingdom, vesting them in the Post-office Department, and establishing a uniform rate of charge for messages throughout the kingdom.

The vast social and commercial importance of this means of communication seemed to justify the step in one point of view, while the estimates both of the cost to the country and the revenue likely to be realized appeared to show that the plan would prove a financial success. The fact also that the Government could protect itself by creating a monopoly was ~~called in aid~~ *invoked* by the promoters of the movement.

A further Act was passed in 1869, conferring on the Postmaster-General the exclusive right of conveying public telegraphic messages, and a monopoly was established in favour of the Post-office in regard to such messages similar to that enjoyed by it in regard to letters.\*

\* On referring to the Act of 1869 it will be seen that the definition of "telegraph" is extremely wide, and so extensive that it has ~~recently~~ been held to cover the telephone, and to confer on the Postmaster-General the sole privilege of publicly using this invention, which was not even discovered at the time that the Act was passed; but inasmuch as the telephone transmits ~~messages as~~ communications by ~~the instrumentality~~ of electric signals, it ~~has been held to fall~~ within the language employed by the Legislature.

1890.

19 cables by F. A. &amp; Co. Ltd.

First laid in 1850. a wire  
Down to Calais.

A Parliamentary paper was issued yesterday containing the following memorandum explanatory of the relations entered into with Germany, Holland, Belgium, and France as regards working of the submarine telegraph cables those countries:—

On the transfer of the telegraphs to the State in 1870, the Post Office became possessed of the cable known as "Reuter's cable" between England and Germany, and two cables between England and Holland previously the property of the Electric International Telegraph Company. The cables between England and Belgium, and between England and France, remained the property of the Submarine Telegraph Company.

Under an agreement scheduled to the Telegraph Act 1868, it was arranged that the whole of the cables should be worked and maintained by the Submarine Telegraph Company, and that the land lines in connexion with the cables should be maintained by the Post Office. The agreement provided that the earnings from the cables, after certain deductions for maintenance and working, should be divided between the Post Office and the company in the proportions set forth.

The arrangements thus entered into were to continue until the expiration of the concessions granted to France and Belgium, under which the company had obtained a monopoly of the telegraph business between Great Britain and those two countries. The concessions expired in January, 1889, but as a matter of mutual convenience the arrangements with the company have been extended to the 31st inst.

In 1884 it became necessary entirely to renew the cables to Holland, and partially to renew the other. This was work not coming within the definition of maintenance, and under the agreement it was to be undertaken by the Post Office. An expenditure of £45,000 was authorized for the purpose by the Government of the day.

Since 1872 Great Britain has been a party to the International Telegraph Convention, which regulates the international relations between States which possess internal telegraph systems.

In the case of all the Continental European States there is a direct interchange of telegraphic correspondence between neighbouring States, and the desire naturally arose that there should be direct transmission of telegrams between England and her nearest neighbours without the intermediary of a private company. Representations to the same effect were received by the Post Office from Chambers of Commerce and other bodies in the United Kingdom.

It was obvious that the cessation of the monopoly of the private company might be expected to yield results beneficial not only to the revenue of the country concerned, but also to the interests of the public. An intermediate stage of transmission would be dispensed with, the rapidity of communication would be improved, and an appreciable reduction in the tariff made possible.

Accordingly negotiations were entered into with the German, Dutch, Belgian, and French Governments, and agreements, which will be presented in due course, have been concluded.

With the French and Belgian Governments negotiations have been concluded for the purchase, at a joint expense of the respective countries, of the cables of the Submarine Telegraph Company.

In the case of Holland a half-share in the cables connecting that country with Great Britain, which at present belong to the Post Office, will be purchased by the Netherlands Government.

In the case of Germany a cable laid between Germany and England by the German Union Telegraph Company has been purchased by the German Government, and the cable between Lowestoft and Newcastle, formerly known as "Reuter's cable," will remain the property of this country.

A joint interest will thus be created in the cables, and they will be maintained at the joint expense.

Each country will provide, maintain, and work its own land lines in connexion with the cables, and any additional cables required to meet the increase of traffic are to be laid at the joint expense of the countries concerned.

The charges for telegrams, which are at present 3d. per word to Germany and Holland, 2½d. to France, and 2d. to Belgium, will be fixed uniformly at 2d. per word, with a minimum of 10d. for a message.

Direct wires will be established between Liverpool and Hamburg and between Liverpool and Havre, and various arrangements are being concerted with the Continental telegraph administrations with the object of improving the working of the wires and increasing the speed of transmission of messages.

March 19, 1889.

HENRY CECIL RAIKES.

## II.

### POST-OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

In July, 1868, the Legislature passed the Act already referred to enabling the Postmaster-General to acquire and work electric telegraphs in connection with the administration of the Post-office.

The leading provisions of the Act authorized the Postmaster-General to acquire the undertakings of the companies or persons engaged in transmitting messages for money by electric or other telegraphs, or mechanical agencies, within the United Kingdom, vesting them in the Post-office Department, and establishing a uniform rate of charge for messages throughout the kingdom.

The vast social and commercial importance of this means of communication seemed to justify the step in one point of view, while the estimates both of the cost to the country and the revenue likely to be realized appeared to show that the plan would prove a financial success. The fact also that the Government could protect itself by creating a monopoly was ~~called in aid~~ *invoked* by the promoters of the movement.

A further Act was passed in 1869, conferring on the Postmaster-General the exclusive right of conveying public telegraphic messages, and a monopoly was established in favour of the Post-office in regard to such messages similar to that enjoyed by it in regard to letters.\*

\* On referring to the Act of 1869 it will be seen that the definition of "telegraph" is extremely wide, and so extensive that it has ~~recently~~ been held to cover the telephone, and to confer on the Postmaster-General the sole privilege of publicly using this invention, which was not even discovered at the time that the Act was passed; but inasmuch as the telephone transmits ~~messages or communications by the instrumentality~~ of electric signals, it ~~has been held to fall~~ within the language employed by the Legislature.

The anticipations expressed as to the cost of acquisition of the telegraph system were not verified by the result; for, chiefly owing to the large sums awarded to the various railway companies by way of compensation for their telegraphic lines, the total price paid far exceeded the estimate, while it was necessary immediately to spend large sums on the improvement of the service; and for some years the revenue derived from the working was far less than had been ~~expected~~\* *predicted*.

Since, however, the working has been in the hands of the Post-office, and one control has been substituted, the service, both as regards the *employés* and the telegraphic apparatus, is far more efficiently performed. Above all, the public now enjoys the benefit of a uniform rate of charge, which will doubtless in time be reduced, as there is no desire on the part of the authorities to continue the present rate any longer than is absolutely necessary in a financial point of view.

\* According to official returns recently issued, the receipts of the telegraph service during the year ended March 31, 1880, were £1,469,795, and the working expenses £1,115,765, of which sum £12,100 was a contribution to a depreciation fund to replace submerged cables, leaving a balance of profit of £354,030, equal to 3·36 per cent. on the capital of £10,529,577.

In Creation of 1868. P.O. req<sup>d</sup>. wk. cost from the S. Offic. 2000.00  
 2000.00 for use in the telegraph stations which was supplied at rate of nearly  
 40000. a day

|                                       |          |                                  |           |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <u>Revenue</u>                        | In 1889. | Deficit on Telegraph Service was | £265,183. |
| 2641,020.                             | 94       |                                  | 477,327.  |
| 2,675,339.                            | 98       |                                  | 482,803.  |
| <u>P.O. Rep<sup>t</sup> for 1895,</u> |          |                                  |           |

## THE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS.

## THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S EPIGRAM.

The second annual dinner of the Institution of Electrical Engineers was last evening at the Criterion Restaurant; Dr. John Hopkinson, president, in the chair. The principal guest was the Postmaster-General. Mr. Raikes, in returning thanks for the toast of "Her Majesty's Engineers," speaking of the progress of electricity, said:—Not only may a man be taken to his business in the morning by electricity, not only may he run a manufactory conducted by electricity, but he may have the advantage of having his tooth taken out by electricity if he has any ailment of that kind. It is impossible to forecast the enormous future of this particular branch of science. You seem to have taken yourselves the attributes of the whole of that Pantheon, the whole of those influences which in ancient days were supposed to illuminate our sublunary life. But if I had to single out among those theological deities any one which might seem more appropriately to be patron or patroness of your science, I would say that you seem to me to have borrowed in a special degree the attributes of that goddess who, we remember—probably those of us who still retain the rudimentary features of school training—adapted a threefold name and a threefold aspect. If I will permit me, I will conclude with those two lines with which our grammar has made us familiar:—

Terret, lustrat, agit Proserpina, Luna, Dianæ,  
 Ima, suprema, feras, sceptro, fulgore, sagitta.

As I was coming down here I thought I might perhaps venture to string together this little paraphrase of those lines:—

Our threefold goddess, with her magic spells  
 By turns starts, enlightens, and impels.  
 While hangs the pale Exchange upon her strings,  
 Her lamp checks avarice, and her touch gives wings.

NOVEMBER 21, 1892.]

ST. JAMES

The result was that the north end became the generally position, and was beyond question the true liturgical use of the Church of England, formed as most uses were formed, not by enactment, but, as the word itself implied, by use. At this point there were in such illustrations as this court was able to command of the use. A large section of the Church strenuously argued against the change, even when sanctioned and widely adopted, as not fulfilling the conditions of the north side. The Church authorities at the Savoy Conference favoured the eastward position, and put the fact on record. The order never afterwards, so far as known, required the north end to be used except once. There were illustrations of the fact that the eastward position of the celebrant was no unfamiliar one. The court concluded that the term north side was introduced into the rubric and the liturgical meet doubts which had arisen owing to a general change in the position of the holy table. It was at that time perfectly distinct and definite in application. About eighty years after the first publication in the rubric a second general change was made, under authority, in the position of the tables, which were now moved to the east end. This change made the north-side direction impossible of fulfilment in the sense originally intended. The new interpretation or usage commonly adopted was not prescribed by any statute or authoritative direction. So far as the information before the court extended, the court was of opinion that a certain liberty in the application of the term existed, a liberty exercised not without consideration; this liberty was less and less exercised for a long time, but did not appear to be lost by that fact or taken away. The court was called upon to state that none of the alternative positions which had been mentioned and adopted by different authorities in accommodating this rubric to the present situation of the holy table conveyed any intrinsic error or erroneous meaning. It was necessary, therefore, that the change possibly intended

28 Mar 1888. Mr Purcell. Controller writes

The Military Telegraph Stamps were first issued in Sept<sup>r</sup> 1884. The overprint was done by <sup>electro</sup> type. There have been several varieties of them, the most interesting of which was a local overprint of the Egyptian equivalent. These latter are very rare.

|                |       |              |         |
|----------------|-------|--------------|---------|
| One penny.     | black | overprint in | black   |
| 3d             | .     | .            | brown   |
| 6 <sup>d</sup> | .     | .            | green   |
| 1/-            | green | .            | black   |
| 2/-            | .     | .            | blue    |
| 5/-            | .     | .            | black   |
| 10/-           | .     | .            | carmine |
| £1.            | black | .            | black.  |



Notice

Genl. Office notice 27 Mar 1889

By Command of the T. M. General.  
Arrangt. for  
presence of Submarine Telegraph Corp. Cables  
now complete. The new system will come into force on  
1st April

charge for telegrams to France, Germany, Belgium  
& Holland. 2<sup>d</sup> per word minimum of 10 d.

Books of 25 International Telegrams forms to be bound  
with a 10<sup>d</sup> aff. will be issued. Price £1.1. for book.

### THE COST OF THE TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

A Treasury return issued this morning shows that the total receipts of the Post Office Telegraph Service in the year 1883 amounted to £2,526,312, the total expenditure having been £156,882 more than that amount. The total balance of expenditure over receipts since the transfer of the telegraph service to the State is £508,705. 1884. 94.

1892. Nov 11. Ed Graves died. Self in Chief  
who took great part in the work of Self Depart.

Deficits in a/c 150.

Submarine Cables were ordered 1 Jan 1889  
extended to 31 March. Not yet received.  
Cables of Submarine Corp. purchased jointly by France & England  
from later date. of Calais to Dover

Wolkstone & Harlow.  
Dieppe & Beachy Head.  
Havre & do

Port (in Contances) & Vieux-Chatouan Jersey  
in 5. Heler.

ordered by Belgium & England

order & Harrogate.

De la Ponne, in Funnis & Dover

2 cables to Holland & 1 to Germany were already the property of Eng<sup>d</sup>  
Office Submarine T. C. in Shrognewton Avon.  
at Dover, Harrogate, Eastbourne  
& Jersey. had been pushed by Depar<sup>t</sup>  
as well as Cassin St. "The Lady Gernichael."

570 of staff taken over.

## SECTION I.

## TELEGRAPH MESSAGE FORMS.

*See my interleaved copy*

THE first result of the acquisition of the Inland Telegraph system by the Post-office was the establishment of a uniform rate of charge for all inland messages, irrespective of distance. After considerable discussion in Parliament this was fixed at one shilling for every message not exceeding twenty words, exclusive of the addresses of the sender and receiver, which were to be transmitted free. When the message exceeded twenty words the charge was to be increased 3d. for every additional five words, so that for thirty words the charge was 1s. 6d. ; for fifty words, 2s. 6d., and so on.

Prior to the transfer of the system to the Post-office all the principal companies furnished the public gratuitously with blank forms for the reception of the messages, and the charges on the transmission were paid either in cash or by stamps of the forwarding company, where such had been issued by it. The public therefore had become accustomed to the use of these message forms when the Post-office commenced to work the telegraph system which it had acquired, and similar forms drawn up in conformity with the altered circumstances were consequently adopted by it. The forms were printed on a sheet of white wove unwatermarked paper, measuring about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  by  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or 28 by 22 centimètres, and the space for the message was ruled with ten horizontal and five vertical lines, so as to admit of a message of fifty words. Above were spaces for the names and addresses of the sender and receiver, the

*quart size*

upper portion of the sheet being occupied by the service indications. \*

1869-70. On the form known as "~~Forwarded Inland Form~~ A 1," a space was left blank in the upper right corner where the ordinary dated embossed envelope stamp of one shilling was struck, sufficient space being left below the stamp for affixing adhesive postage stamps representing any extra charges for transmission, portorage, &c. These forms were supplied to the public at the price of the stamp only.

Below the space ruled to receive the message was the direction that "when the message is in excess of fifty words the additional words may be written on ordinary paper, attached to the message form by pin, or wafer, or gum."

At the back was printed a notice to the public, setting out the rates of charges and the regulations as to portorage and delivery. Two blank forms were also subjoined to be filled up by the sender, in case he desired either that the telegram should be delivered by the local post from the terminal office of the Post-office, or should be forwarded by special means, in which case it was necessary to deposit a sum sufficient to defray the extra charge.

A similar form, designated "~~Forwarded Inland Form~~ A," but without the stamp embossed thereon, was supplied gratis to the public, the charges for transmission of the message being in this case wholly defrayed by affixing on the form the ordinary adhesive postage stamps to the requisite amount. This was the mode usually adopted, as the risk of spoiling a stamped form was thereby avoided. As has been previously noticed (page 132), it was to this cause that the rapid consumption of the adhesive postage stamps of one shilling at that period is to be attributed.

1871. About the month of October, 1871, a slight change was made in the form. The blank forms of request on the back of the "~~Forwarded Inland Form~~ A 1," just described, were transferred to the front, and introduced in parallel columns below the space for the message, which was reduced in depth and ruled to receive forty words. A slight addition, relative to the

Small.

\* The forms were each designated "Forwarded Inland Form" "A" & "A1". The numeral following the letter in all cases where the <sup>stamp</sup> was embossed on the form. These will be distinguished as "A" & "A1" for brevity sake.

A1. 25.11.69. die 3  
back all covers. Tapping



die 3/1

Forms. The 3<sup>rd</sup> lot of quarto forms for the public  
was ruled for 40 words - (1872-1874)

a kind batch of quarto forms was printed about and

Tapping 17.10.71 die 3. *imperfectly printed*  
[1113-87]  
13 pairs on back.

Sept. 8. 72. die 6. back blank.

right name: M + H. Manufacturing Station, London.

Sept. 24. 10. 72. back blank. die 4.

right c. name. [M + H. Manufacturing Station, London]

See Taphin, cell<sup>o</sup> on these. <sup>text</sup> to be verified.

Large sig. ruled for 40 words. Taphin. 8. 8. 74. die 6.  
3 pars in front.

in centre of page beneath.

Millington + Hutton Manufacturing and General Stationers, London.  
included in German list of names

also got May 1907 from Morley.

same form. 4. 8. 74. die 7.

cancellation of the stamps, was made to the notice in the space below the embossed stamp, and the instructions for the filling up of the forms of request at the foot were somewhat modified. The notice to the public at the back was divided into thirteen paragraphs, consecutively numbered, but the form in other respects was essentially the same as that first issued. This form was designated "~~Forwarded Inland Form~~ "A," and was of the same size as that first described.

*quarto*

*2/* 1873. In May, 1873, another change was made, the principal difference consisting of the suppression of the "notice to the public" at the back, which was left entirely blank. The form, like that last described, was ruled to receive a message of forty words, and three paragraphs of directions were inserted at the foot, superseding the blank forms of request introduced into the preceding form. The size of the sheet remained the same, as also the paper, but the position of the embossed stamp was altered, the instructions being printed above the stamp instead of below, as in the two preceding forms. This form bore the letter "A" on it in the left upper corner without any other designation.

The whole of these three forms were printed and supplied by Messrs. Millington and Hutton, wholesale stationers, London, whose imprint appears at the foot of the second and third varieties to the right of the front lower margin. In the latter it is also found in German text letters in the centre of the lower margin, with the word "~~manufacturing~~" added to their description as stationers.

*as  
"Millington &  
Hutton,  
Manufacturing  
Stationers, London"*

*in some of the early printing of these forms.*

1874. In 1874 a smaller form was adopted, much less cumbersome than the preceding, and measuring  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 22 by  $14\frac{1}{2}$  centimetres, being ruled for thirty words only, and designated as A 1. in the left upper corner. The whole of the directions were removed to the back; on the front, the office indications were simplified, and the space at the right upper corner left entirely free for the stamp. The impression was on paper similar to the former issues, and the name of the printers, "Messrs. Millington and Hutton, London," was inserted

in the right lower margin of the front, and the right lower margin of the reverse, in Italics.

The stamping of all these forms with the embossing postage die of one shilling was done at Somerset House by the Inland Revenue Department. The forms were sold to the public either singly at the facial value of the stamp, or made up into books of twenty, and perforated along the left margin to render their severance easy. Interleaved books, furnished with a sheet of carbonic paper for taking off copies of the message, were also supplied at an extra charge of twopenca.

As noticed previously under the head of "envelopes," the dies were used without reference to their index numbers, of which these forms afford a remarkable proof. Thus we find Die No. 7 in use in December, 1869; Die No. 5 in 1871; and Die No. 2 in May, 1873.

alter this  
to the fact.

1875 ~~When the severance of the accounts of the postal and telegraph services was made in 1876,~~ a special embossing stamp of the value of one shilling was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. for the telegraph message forms.

The design consists of the head of the Queen taken from the die executed by Mr. W. Wyon, on a solid ground, enclosed in a circular border, measuring  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch, or  $27\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter. Round the inner circle is a row of pearls, and on the border an engine-turned pattern, on which is introduced TELEGRAPHS in the upper part and ONE SHILLING below, in sunken block letters.

Between each word are small circles in which the date plugs are inserted.

The impression was in green, on forms similar to those last described, and designated officially as A 1, form A being exactly similar, but without the stamp, and supplied to the public free of charge. Form A 1 was to be purchased singly or in books of twenty each, interleaved and furnished with a sheet of carbonic paper, for twopenca above the facial value of the stamps.

but as a rule only

The Circular die No 1. was approved. 24. 8. 75.

\* Mr Westoby has one (29. 6. 82).. dated.  
6. 9. 75. (also I have one)

\* In preparation for

Page 364. The paragraph commencing "1876" should be altered to read:  
"Probably in preparation for the severance," &c.; and the words "was  
made," in the next line, expunged.

At the end of the sentence add: This die was put into use in September,  
1875, as appears by various dated specimens before us; but we do not think  
that impressions were issued for public use till 1876.



Both forms printed these: & they appear with concurrent stamp dates.

Page 355. Line 2. Dele "s" in "sons."

From information subsequently derived, it seems both the firms named printed these forms, and the fact is clear that they were used concurrently at Somerset House, as is evidenced by specimens of each maker being found bearing stamps with identical date-marks.

Line 13 from bottom. The sentence beginning "Stamped forms A1" must be expunged, the stamped form on laid paper never having been issued for use by the public, the supply of the type current, when we wrote, proving sufficient.

A1  $\frac{S}{E}$

A1  $\frac{S}{E}$

Need check among. see the Record. Decr 1890 by Evans  
& Monthly Journal June 1891 by Mr W.G.

A1  $\frac{S}{E}$  for Stock Exchange affairs only (22.6.91) 500

on white wove. (altered. 6.12.81)

Printing by + Hulton. Colverale Stationers. London. in 1891 by the  
seen Jan'y 92. by Mr Webster from W. Wain.

## OBITUARY.

19.7.95.

GEORGE M'CORQUODALE, head of the great  
Government printing establishment, died  
at his residence, The Gladys, in the Isle of Anglesey,  
15th inst. He was born in 1817, and married  
the daughter of Mr. F. Honan, of Cork, and secondly,  
the daughter of the Rev. T. Sanderson. He  
was in the Liverpool Volunteer force on its foundation  
in 1843, and retired in 1868 as hon. lieutenant-colonel. He  
managed printing establishments in London,  
Leeds, Glasgow, and Newton-le-Willows.  
He was also for many years one of the trustees for  
the Railway Guide. He was a D.L. and J.P.  
for Anglesey, and a J.P. for Anglesey, and had  
been sheriff for both counties. He unsuccessfully  
contested the Newton division of Lancashire in 1885 as  
a Liberal, but in the following year, being unable to  
oppose Gladstone's Home Rule policy, he joined  
the Liberal party.

of parties that, for the sake of simplicity, describe the members returned as Unionists and Separatists, classing as Unionists all who support the Unionist Government and as Separatists all who oppose it. For the Irish parties we retain the names of Parnellites and Parnellites. The figures within parentheses are the registered electors of each constituency. Members who sat in the last Parliament are distinguished by an asterisk :—

| ENGLAND (METROPOLITAN) |                   |          |      |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------|------|
| WANDSWORTH (17,075)    |                   |          |      |
|                        | *Kimber, H. (U.)  | ...      | ...  |
|                        | Mayhew, M. (S.)   | ...      | ...  |
|                        | Unionist Majority | ...      | ...  |
|                        | 1885              |          | 1885 |
| C.                     | 4,650             | C. unop. |      |
| L.                     | 2,923             |          | C.   |

ENGLAND (PROVINCIAL. BORO

These forms were furnished by Messrs. Millington and Hutton. At a subsequent period Messrs. James Truscott and Sons, London, became the contractors for the supply, as appears by their name introduced into the left lower margin of the front of the sheet. The size of the form was slightly diminished, measuring about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, but in other respects it remained the same. *S/- also*

In January, 1881, an alteration was made by the addition at the foot of the front of a "NOTICE TO THE SENDER OF THIS TELEGRAM. This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1868, and to the Notice printed on the back hereof." This latter Notice was divided into seven separate paragraphs. The unstamped form is designated A, and the stamped form A 1. This form was of the same size as the preceding, and was printed by Messrs. James Truscott and Sons, whose name appears in the lower margin of the front to the right. The whole of the forms printed by Messrs. Truscott and Sons were on thin white wove unwatermarked paper. *at/*

In June, 1881, Messrs. Harrison and Sons became the contractors for the printing. The formula as printed by them is the same as that last described, but the type is larger, and the paper, which is laid, is much whiter and of a superior quality to that previously employed. / Stamped forms A 1 on this paper will be issued to the public so soon as the stock of the former printing <sup>is</sup> exhausted, and we have consequently included them in our synoptical list. This form measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. *Did not take a poor copy to the de. The embossed consequently should better*

## SYNOPSIS.

1. Forms with embossed postage stamp of one shilling in green, on thin white wove unwatermarked paper.

- (a) December, 1869. Form A1. Size,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
- (b) October, 1871. Form A. Size,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches; with thirteen paragraphs of instructions on the back.
- (c) May, 1873. Form A. Size,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches; with instructions on front.
- (d) 1874. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

2. Form with embossed telegraph stamp of one shilling in green, on thin white wove unwatermarked paper.

- Oct 1870* (a) May, 1870. 5 Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches.  
 (b) Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. *4*  
 (c) ~~January, 1881. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches; with "Notice to sender" on front.~~

*Postage*  
 3. Form with embossed telegraph stamp of one shilling in green, on white laid paper.  
 - *not on white laid paper - wove unwatermarked paper -*  
 June, 1881. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches; with "Notice to sender."  
 - *as in the last preceding. Size  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches at back*

Page 356. (a) Alter the date to January, 1876. - ?  
 Expunge paragraph 3.

*to 4. Same form, without schedule of charges as March 1883. (back, with)*  
 (b) *on white laid paper; with "Notice to sender" on front.*

*on white laid paper.*  
 Size  $8\frac{1}{2}$ " by  $5\frac{7}{8}$ ". -

*Harrison & Sons. on laid.*

*11. 15. 11. 81.*

*only Millington & Co's form had round 11. sp. (see 94)*

Issued 30.3.89. (Green book)

1 April 1889 form  $A \frac{S}{M} 1. \frac{S}{E}$

Foreign & Colonial Telegrams. for use at Stock Exch. only.

form.  $7\frac{3}{4} \times 10$  - 2 varieties. one with To Bourse.  
10<sup>d</sup> stamp embossed. Die in pale blue. Paris.

form by Eyre & Spottiswoode, printers London - on white.

+ form on yellow  $A \frac{S}{M} 1.$  for Foreign & Colonial etc.

10<sup>d</sup> blue. 30.3.89.  
Di 6

(a) stamp made. Oct 1875.

(b) by  $5\frac{1}{4}$

not made after 1893. & they  
use for S. E. the common  $A \frac{S}{M} 1.$   
on white. 10<sup>d</sup> in brown.

(c) should be deleted.

para 3. is right as altered.

7. Off. ce. says.  $A \frac{S}{E}$  was first issued in 1871.

"  $A 1 \frac{S}{E}$

first year (1872)

of course with postage stamp die.

$A 1 \frac{S}{E}$ . Post Off. & Telegraphs  
2000 p. British Telegrams forwarded  
from Stock Exchange office only.

(P) 23.6.81.

(white cover)

Wellington & Hulla vs (a) adv. type)

Monthly J. 31 July 1895. p. 4 by Evans. note of new set.

6<sup>th</sup> deep blue on form A1. <sup>Reg<sup>d</sup> copy of</sup> <sup>slip dated</sup> 5.10.85  
noted issued 1.10.85.

leg forms altered

6<sup>th</sup> slip . &c.  
see Record. May 96. p. 115.

dis. dated  
front.

(Copy) Reg No 176254. GPO. London 14 June 1895

In reply to your letter of 18<sup>th</sup> ult., I beg leave to inform you  
that the rule inserted in the return of the value of a Reply Telegram  
pass incorrectly stated at the back of the A<sup>1</sup> Form issued by  
this Department, viz. that the value of the Pass will be paid to the  
sender of the original telegram.

This regulation has been incorrectly given at the back  
of the A<sup>1</sup> Form, which is issued by the S. Reg<sup>d</sup> Department:  
& in thanking you for calling attention to the matter, I beg  
leave to request you that steps have been taken for correcting  
the error.

W. A. S. Westoby Esq.

signed "C. G. Hall"

## SECTION II

### POSTAL TELEGRAPH CARDS.

A DESIRE having been manifested for the supply of a telegraph message form which persons could conveniently carry about with them, and in the event of being unable or unwilling to send the message to a telegraph office might deposit it in the nearest letter-box, a card was prepared and issued, early in 1872, on the back of which was printed a notice to the effect, that if the card was deposited in a post-box for the reception of letters, it would be carried at the next clearance to a telegraph office, and the message inscribed on the card would be duly transmitted by telegraph from thence to the address designated.

DESIGN.—In the *left* upper corner was struck the embossed envelope stamp of one shilling in green, and ~~is~~ the only instance of a stamp being officially placed in that position by the British Post-office. On the front of the card, to the right of the stamp, were the words "From" and "To," with spaces and lines for the addresses.

The card was stout white, 60 to the inch, measuring  $4\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 120 by 78 mm., and was ruled for the reception of a message of twenty words, four words in each line; and in a line immediately above the space for the message were the following instructions: "One word only should be written in each space from left to right across the card," while below is a note as to special directions for forwarding the message. On the back of the card was POSTAL TELEGRAPH CARD, in large letters, followed by "For Inland Telegrams only," the first two words being separated from the last two by the Royal Arms with supporters. Below was a notice to the public in four closely-printed paragraphs, and a recommendation to insert the date and hour of posting in blanks left for the purpose.

Thence to /



Two varieties of this card are found, due to different settings up of the type.

(a) In the first, prepared in January, 1872, and issued to the public on 1st April, 1872, the Royal Arms at the back measure 22 mm. along the base, and the place where the stamp is embossed on the front is marked out on the reverse side by two lines at right angles to each other, apparently as an indication where the office stamp should be struck. Copies have been found ~~showing a curious typographical error in the first word of the line of instructions immediately above the space ruled for the message.~~ *with a defective letter in* The "e" in "One" ~~is a defective letter, making the word read as "Ono," an error which was corrected as soon as it was discovered, and as this occurred while the impression was being printed off; specimens with the error are in consequence very rare.~~ *is a defective letter, making the word read as "Ono," an error which was corrected as soon as it was discovered, and as this occurred while the impression was being printed off; specimens with the error are in consequence very rare.*

(b) The second impression, though prepared in February, 1872, does not appear to have been issued to the public till August, 1874, and is readily distinguishable from the first impression, as the card is rather thinner and whiter, and measures nearly 2 mm. less in depth. On the reverse side, the Royal Arms measure along the base 25 mm., and the whole of the inscriptions are in larger type, though the composition is the same as in the previous impression. The two lines marking the place of the stamp at the back are ~~wanting.~~ *omitted.*

The demand appears to have been but small, and after the stock manufactured in January and February, 1872, had become exhausted, no more were printed. They were removed from the list of stamps sold at the Post-offices some years since, ~~and have not been procurable at any of the offices for a long time past.~~ *and* Specimens consequently ~~are~~ *are* becoming scarce.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Telegraph cards with embossed envelope stamp of one shilling in green, on white card.

(a) 1st April, 1872. Arms measuring 22 mm. ✓

#### VARIETY.

Same, with "One" on face reading "Ono."

(b) August, 1874. Arms measuring 25 mm.

with. acc. 21198

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Small (round) die 3. | 29.1.72 |
| Large . . . . . 4.   | 8.2.72. |
| Small . . . . . 5.   | 25.1.72 |

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]*

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]*

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]*

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]*

Variety. Card without stamp embossed ✓

Page 358. Before Synopsis add: Specimens of the card, first variety, before the shilling stamp was embossed, are occasionally met with.  
To Synopsis add: (a) Same card, without embossed stamp.

22

1<sup>st</sup> November, 1881. The distinction between postage & telegraph stamps was abolished: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 1881 P.O.

24. Letters paid by letter thro' post?

30. Nov 1881. All telegraph stamps in hands of Stamp Distributors & P. Masters called in ~~at~~ from this date, by notice. ~~provision~~ sup. 362

Charge on Telegram, 12 words including address reduced to 6d. on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1885.

Charges for delivery & reduced. June 1897  
(Diamond Jubilee)

SECTION III

ADHESIVE TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

In 1875, (as has been previously stated, the great desirability of separating the accounts of the telegraph and postal services so as to judge of the receipts derived from each respectively, was so strongly urged on the Government that it was determined to adopt a special set of stamps for the telegraph service, and no longer to admit the payment of the charges on telegraphic messages to be made by the medium of postage stamps.

Instructions were in consequence given to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. to prepare designs of telegraph stamps of the values of one penny, threepence, one shilling, and five shillings, to be executed on the typographic system, similar to that then employed by them for the postage stamps, and to be printed by them on paper supplied by the Inland Revenue Department. The values ordered at the time we refer to were afterwards supplemented by others of the values of fourpence, sixpence, three shillings, ten shillings, one pound, five pounds, and one halfpenny, so that the entire series as in actual use at the present time consists of:

- 1. THE ONE PENNY . . . issued 1st February, 1876.
- 2. THE THREEPENCE . . . " " "
- 3. THE ONE SHILLING . . . " " "
- 4. THE FIVE SHILLINGS . . . " " "
- 5. THE FOURPENCE . . . " 1st March, 1877.
- 6. THE SIXPENCE . . . " " "
- 7. THE THREE SHILLINGS . . . " " "
- 8. THE TEN SHILLINGS . . . " " "
- 9. THE ONE POUND . . . " " "
- 10. THE FIVE POUNDS . . . " " "
- 11. THE ONE HALFPENNY . . . " 1st April, 1880.

Before proceeding to examine each of these stamps *seriatim*, we shall be enabled to avoid much unnecessary repetition if we commence by noticing some features which are common to the stamps of the two services—the telegraph and the postal—and others which are peculiar to the telegraph stamps among themselves.

**DESIGN.**—In point of general design they resemble those of the postal service, inasmuch as that they both uniformly bear a diademed portrait in profile of the Queen to the left; but they differ in one unmistakeable particular—that the exterior form of the stamp is that of a transverse rectangular oblong, and not an upright one. In the ornamentation of the framework enclosing the head there is a general identity of style and that peculiar sameness of effect which <sup>recalls</sup> all the inspirations of Mr. Owen Jones, ~~alike display, whether they may have been primary or have been~~ filtered through the medium of the designer of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s establishment.

**PLATE.**—The plates are constructed in a similar manner to those for the postage stamps (p. 103), except with some modifications consequent on the difference of the shape of the two series, which will be noticed under each head, and a similar conventional division of the sheets into Post-office sheets is adopted in the case of these stamps.

**LETTERING.**—Letters throughout all the stamps of the telegraph service are inserted into the lower angles only, the first letter indicating the place of the stamp in the vertical row, and the second its place in the horizontal row.

**PLATE NUMBERS.**—Prior to the commencement of the present year <sup>1886</sup> the actual number of the plate, and also the official number, were introduced into the upper and lower margins of the sheet, the plate number occupying the right, and the official number the left corners of the upper margin, the position of the two being reversed in the lower one. These numbers were inserted in the same manner as in the postage stamps (p. 105).

**PAPER.**—In all the values, with the exception of the one halfpenny, the one penny, and the one pound, where a corresponding value is found in the postage series, the paper employed

are also as follows: that the postage stamps of all ages and values are printed, the edges of the stamps coming the same as sideways as compared with the latter. Thus the three-pence, six-pence, and one shilling telegraph stamps were printed on the same stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of reeds" and the one shilling telegraph stamp of the same size as the telegraph stamp of still value, 1850, printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "large crown," but that watermarked with the "Crown, 1850," will continue to be admitted as good as the one in hand is exchanged. The six pence and the ten pence are printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "Maltese cross." The one shilling telegraph stamp, of the same size as the telegraph stamp, six-pence, and one shilling, is printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of reeds" but when the one in hand is exchanged will doubtless make its appearance as that watermarked with "Crown, 1850." The one shilling, two pence, one penny, and five pence are all printed on a paper watermarked with "harlequin," specially introduced for the one penny, as it is to be noticed hereafter.

When the paper and the impression of the stamps of the two series are examined in each other, it may seem to be somewhat singular that the changes adopted in the design of one series were not carried out immediately in those of the other. But this is in fact, these alterations are ordered to be carried out simultaneously, and the exact period when they can take effect, or, so far as the public is concerned, is exclusively in accordance with the requirements of the two markets. Thus the inscription of the one shilling value for the telegraph service is very large in comparison with the demand for that value for postage purposes: for while Plate No. 18 of the one shilling value stamp now in use was approved as long ago as May, 1853, no less than seven plates of smaller value have since that date been approved for the telegraph service. On the other hand, the postage stamp of fourpence is exclusively

...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...

**Page 361. Line 6. For "present year" read "year 1880."**

...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...

**Diary.**—The ... are ...  
...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...

**Construction.**—The ...  
...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...

**Table.**—In all ...  
...the ... of the ...  
...the ... of the ...

is the same as that on which the postage stamps of corresponding values are printed, the shape of the stamps causing the pane to be sideways as compared with the latter. Thus the threepence, sixpence, and one shilling telegraph stamps were printed on the postage stamp paper, watermarked with the "spray of rose," until the commencement of the present year, when that watermarked with "Crown, 1880," was substituted. The fourpence telegraph stamp <sup>was</sup> ~~is still~~ (June, 1881) printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "large garter," but that watermarked with the "Crown, 1880," <sup>was</sup> ~~will doubtless be~~ substituted <sup>within</sup> ~~as soon as~~ the stock in hand <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ exhausted. The five shillings and the ten shillings are printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "Maltese cross." The three shillings telegraph stamp, of the same size as the threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, is printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of rose," but when the stock in hand is exhausted will doubtless make its appearance on that watermarked with "Crown, 1880." The one halfpenny, one penny, one pound, and five pounds are all printed on a paper watermarked with "shamrock," specially introduced for the one penny, ~~as will be noticed hereafter.~~

Where the paper and the impression of the stamps of the two services are common to each other, it may seem to be somewhat anomalous that the changes adopted in the stamps of one service are not carried out immediately in those of the other. But although in fact these changes are ordered to be carried out simultaneously, yet the exact period when they come into operation, so far as the public is concerned, is subordinate to differences in the requirements of the two services. Thus the consumption of the one shilling value for the telegraph service is very large in comparison with the demand for that value for postage purposes; for while Plate No. 13 of the one shilling postage stamp now in use was approved so long ago as May, 1875, no less than eleven plates of similar value have since that date been approved for the telegraph service. On the other hand, the postage stamp of fourpence is extensively



used for the single letter rate to countries in the second class of the Postal Union, while there is but little demand for it for telegraph purposes; and as regards the one penny telegraph stamp, its only use can be as small change to make up a payment, or when a twopenny receipt for a telegram is required. These considerations account also for the fact that, while the one shilling telegraph stamp was issued on "Crown, 1880," in March last, a like issue of the corresponding postage value only took place 15th June, 1881, ~~subsequent to the remarks we made at page 132, which were at that time printed off.~~ Again, the colour of the fourpence postage stamp was changed to mouse-brown on the 1st September, 1880, and the paper to "Crown, 1880," on the 1st January last, yet no corresponding changes have been announced in the fourpence telegraph stamp up to the present time, 30th June, 1881.

CONTROL MARKS.—The paper introduced for the one penny telegraph stamp was watermarked in the upper and lower margins of the sheet with the word "Mark," over which the control mark, similar to that employed for the postage stamps *mutatis mutandis*, was affixed (p. 107.) This mark was also affixed on the postage stamp paper given out for the other telegraph stamps, until the commencement of the present year, when the system was abandoned.

The observations made previously (p. 108) with regard to the gumming of the type-printed postage stamps equally apply to the telegraph stamps. The perforation is also the same as for the corresponding values of the postage stamps, except so far as relates to the one pound stamp, which is perforated 14.

(See other side)

### 1. THE ONE PENNY.

Date of issue, 1st February, 1876.

DESIGN.—The design consists of the head of the Queen, of smaller dimensions than in the postage stamp of corresponding value, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, within a double-lined plain circular band, on which is inscribed, in coloured

At the end of the year 1881, all ~~existing~~ the remaining  
stocks of Telegraph stamps on hand in the various  
Post Offices throughout the United Kingdom were recalled,  
& destroyed at Somerset House. All telegraph charges  
from 31 December 1881. were made payable in postage  
stamps. ~~[The separation of the accounts of the two branches  
of the service with Postal & Telegraph being no longer  
maintained.]~~

Page 339. THE ONE PENNY. Before the paragraph under "The One

Penny" insert: At the end of the year 1881, in conformity with a decision  
previously arrived at by the Post Office authorities, the system of separate  
accounts—and consequently the necessity of separate stamps—for the postal  
and telegraph branches was put an end to; and notices were issued to all  
postmasters and sellers of stamps, recalling all telegraph stamps in stock  
on or before December 31st, 1881. From that date postage stamps were  
declared to be available for telegraph purposes. ✕  
*(alone)*

~~That except the 57. May 1882 is printed that~~  
Do (Jan'y 1892. from Mr Westoby)

All tele. stamps recalled in Decr 1881. except the  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  d. - 5s. - & 10s. - whc were not recalled till June '82.

28<sup>th</sup> " per L. R. Report. H. Rawcatt. 20.7.82. (in 1881)  
"The distinctive telegraph stamps were abolished 1.11.81. (except 5s. & 10s.)"

*Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including "1 penny in 2.12.81" and "PPP" with other illegible scribbles.*

P plate (4) Only warrant 28.7.75 <sup>5 sheets</sup> to print 1200 etc  
5 the same reg<sup>d</sup> 30 Aug 75

2 pages. 10 in rows  
12 rows  
120 (10 pages)

corrected this  
18.8.90

Pl. (1) found since.

pl. (5) proof imperf. (Coll O. Taplin) before being used for  
the halfpenny: light red brown. (shamrock).

No other plates made for this value.

Page 368. Line 15. Expunge sentence commencing "No specimens," &c.  
Line 17. Insert: Plate No. 4 was afterwards put into use, and was that  
current when these stamps were recalled in December, 1881.

Synopsis should read: Plates Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4. And add: Imperforate  
proofs in the colour and on the paper of the issue from Plates Nos. 1, 2, 3,  
4, and 6, are to be found in the official collection.

Plate No. 5. was never printed from for this value, having  
been altered ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> serve for the halfpenny value before  
any other plates of the penny were <sup>it was required.</sup> it was approved as one penny  
on 25.9.75.

Aug. 1899. saw pair 1d pl. 5. in colour of 1d  
imperf. from Even. of (Crown).-

block letters, TELEGRAPHS in the upper part, and ONE PENNY below. The spandrels are filled in with ornamentation of a conventional character. White letter blocks are in the lower angles carrying letters in colour, and the number of the plate is inserted in the circular band on each side. The exterior rectangular frame measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.



PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of the printing a sheet of two hundred stamps in two panes of ~~ten~~ rows of ten casts in each row. In the upper margin of the sheet is the legend TELEGRAPHS ONE PENNY, in large block letters.

Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were approved 11th August, 1875; Plates Nos. 3 and 4, on 16th; and Plate No. 5, on the 20th of the same month. ~~No specimens have been found printed from Plate No. 1, and we have in consequence omitted it from the synoptical list.~~ Plate No. 3 is that which is at present in use. Plate No. 5 has been diverted to another object, having been utilized for the halfpenny value.

PAPER.—The paper, as has been previously mentioned, was specially manufactured for this stamp, and is watermarked with a "shamrock," disposed in two panes of ~~ten~~ rows of ten in each row, corresponding with the arrangement of the plate panes. The sheet measures about 10 by 21 inches.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is red-brown, similar to that employed for the postage stamp (1880) of corresponding value.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "shamrock." Plates Nos. 2 and 3. ~~4~~ 4.  
Perf. 14. 1st February, 1876. One penny, red-brown.

#### 2. THE THREEPENCE.

Date of issue, 1st February, 1876.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen in a circle, with a ground-work of fine horizontal lines, is enclosed in a white transverse-

*and forty 1/2  
value*

*30 Jan 6  
22 Sept 1875*

pointed oval band. In the upper part of the band is TELEGRAPHS, and in the lower THREE PENCE, in coloured block letters. At each angle are plain white blocks, the two upper being filled in with the number of the plate, and the two lower with the ordinary lettering, all in colour. The vacant spaces in the design are filled in with commonplace ornamentation.



The rectangular frame measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, divided into twelve smaller sheets of twenty each, as in the case of the postage stamp of like value. The panes were arranged in three rows of four in each row, separated from each other horizontally by a space of about half an inch, and vertically by a space equal to the width of a stamp, each pane consisting of twenty casts, arranged in four rows of five in each row, and measuring  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.\* In the vertical margins at each end of the pane was printed the legend, TELEGRAPHS THREE PENCE.

*See this  
affixed  
verify*

~~Impressions from Plate No. 1 have not been found by us, and are not among those which are registered at Somerset House; Plate No. 2 was approved 10th October, 1875; Plate No. 3, on 31st March, 1876; Plate No. 4, on 30th July, 1877; and Plate No. 5, on 12th January, 1878; but neither of the two last have~~

~~at present been brought into use until the end of 1881.~~

Early in the present year (1881) the arrangement of the panes composing the plate underwent a modification, consequent on the abandonment of the paper watermarked with the "spray of rose," and the substitution in its place of the "Crown, 1880," paper. Six panes of 20 casts each were formed into one of 120 in the same manner as in the adhesive postage stamp of similar value (page 140), and ornaments were introduced into the margins

\* It must be borne in mind that when the postage stamp paper is used for the telegraph stamps that which is the side of the sheet in the postage stamps becomes the top of the sheet in the telegraph stamps, and the watermarks appear sideways on the stamps.

*The plate was certainly & impressions copies but copies have been done by us in circulation.*

plates 1. 2. 3. 4 & 5. all ever made.

Imperfe proofs in carmine. Coll. Zaplg Off.

plates. 2. 3. 4 & 5. (on spray)

plates 3. 4 & 5 (on Crown. 1880).

3<sup>d</sup> Colour trials on paper of issue. Yellow. Green. Blue. (Egdon Smith)  
= perf.

at S. House I found these in Aug. 1890

|             |          |          |                |          |      |
|-------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|------|
| Registered. | plate 1. | 5.8.75.  | ordered to use | 9.8.75.  | 479  |
|             | 2.       | 10.9.75. | "              | 23.9.75. | 487. |
|             | 3.       | 21.3.76. | "              | 31.3.76. | 496. |
|             | 4.       | 30.7.77  | "              | 9.8.77   | 541. |
|             | 5.       | 12.1.78  | "              | undated. | 550. |

It is out of its place in the book, though we did not meet with a proof of the plate/

& we in an officially made collection, got together by Messrs De la Rue at the request of the Department, no proof of plate 1. is to be found.

Page 364. THE THREEPENCE. Line 13 from bottom. Since publication we have discovered stamps from Plate 1, which evidently were issued for use, although this plate is not found among those registered at Somerset House, nor does it appear in the collections officially made for the use of the Post Office. In the autumn of 1881 impressions from Plates Nos. 4 and 5 were issued to the public, and impressions from them were those current when the telegraph stamps were recalled in December, 1881.

Proofs in carmine were taken, and exist in the official collections, on paper watermarked Spray of Rose, from Plates Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5; on that watermarked Crown 1880, from Plates Nos. 3, 4, and 5. These proofs are imperforate.

|  |   |          |                     |         |        |
|--|---|----------|---------------------|---------|--------|
| 3 <sup>d</sup> Plates reformd<br>to suit Crown paper | } | plate 3. | Registered 17.2.81. | 3/96    | und    |
|  |   | 4        |                     | 5.8.81. | 4/541  |
|  |   | 5        |                     | 5.8.81  | 5/550. |

one sheet 2 pairs of 240,  
each w; 12 rows of 25. s/ps }  
each.

28.8.94. Gardner Smith told me he had 3 colour proofs  
of the 3rd Ed. etc. on paper of issue.

He called them. Yellow. Green. Blue.



Page 366. Synopsis. 1 should read :

Plates Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

Proofs Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5, imperforate.

2 should read :

Plates Nos. 3, 4, and 5.

Proofs Nos. 3, 4, and 5, imperforate.

showing where the pane might be divided into Post-office sheets. At the same time the legends, control marks, and the plate numbers on the margins were suppressed.

These changes were carried out while Plate No. 3 was in use.

**PAPER.**—The paper up to the commencement of the present year was the same as that introduced in 1867 for such of the postage stamps as were at that period arranged in twelve panes, watermarked with a "spray of rose." Consequent on this stamp being a transverse oblong instead of an upright one, the watermarks appear lengthwise.

At the beginning of the present year the paper was changed, and that which had been originally introduced in 1880 for the postage stamps of one penny, watermarked "Crown 1880," was substituted.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is carmine.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1. Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Plates No. 1, 2 and 3; perf. 14.

1st February, 1876. Threepence, carmine.

2. Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 3, 4 & 5. perf. 14.

1881. Threepence, carmine.

#### 3. THE ONE SHILLING.

Date of Issue, 1st February, 1876.

**DESIGN.**—The same small head of the Queen, on a ground-work of fine horizontal lines, is placed within a double-lined white upright truncated oval band, inscribed TELEGRAPH at the top, and ONE SHILLING below, in coloured block letters. In the angles of the rectangular frame inclosing this design are white blocks, the uppermost bearing the number of the plate, and the two lower the letters. The vertical spaces between the upper and lower blocks are filled in with an ornamental framing,





which is continued along the bottom and top except where intercepted by the white border. The stamp measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps arranged in twelve panes, as in the three-pence last described; but at the commencement of the present year a similar alteration was made in their arrangement, the six panes on one side being formed into a single pane of 120 casts, and the six on the other side into a similar single pane.

Plate No. 1 was approved 28th <sup>July</sup>, 1875, and Plate No. 2 on the 30th <sup>July</sup> of the same month. Plate No. 3 was approved 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 1875; Plate No. 4 on the 11th September, 1876, and Plates Nos. 5 and 6 in 1877. ~~Of Plate No. 7 no trace has been found, nor have any impressions from it been seen by us.~~ Plates Nos. 8 and 9 were approved in 1878, the one on the 26th September, and the other on the 15th November. Plate No. 10 was approved 19th September, 1879, and Plate No. 11, ~~at present in use~~, on the 13th May, 1880. The impression from this latter on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed is arranged in twelve panes, on paper watermarked with "spray of rose." <sup>Impressions from</sup> Plate No. 12 were issued in the summer of 1881.

PAPER.—The paper was the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of rose," and so continued until the commencement of the present year, when that watermarked with "Crown 1880" was substituted for it, and the panes of Plate No. 11 + 12 were brought together. A device was printed on the margins of each pane to indicate where it could be divided horizontally into three equal portions, and vertically into two, so as to form six Post-office sheets of twenty stamps, each of the facial value of £1.

IMPRESSION.—The impression was in green of a similar tone to that employed for the postage stamps of corresponding value.

Under paragraph headed "IMPRESSION" dele the last five lines, and insert after "value," in the second line: Until October, 1880, when—while Plate No. 10 was being printed from—the colour was changed to the same brown-red as that in which the one shilling postage stamps were then printed.

When Plate No. 11 was put to press the change of watermark from Spray of Rose to Crown 1880 took place; and impressions of it and Plate 12 on this paper are to be found.

Oddly enough, Plate No. 12 is also to be found printed in red on paper watermarked Spray of Rose; but we have not been able to find Plate No. 11 on paper thus watermarked.

In the official collections imperforate copies of proofs, in green on Spray of Rose, are to be found from Plates Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12; in red, same watermark, Plate No. 12 only; in red, watermark Crown 1880, Plates Nos. 11 and 12.

See M.S. Caf  
over.

23<sup>rd</sup>

if the registration  
book  
April 30<sup>th</sup> 1878

15 (coll. O. Jap. 9) Impress. proofs.

Plates 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. green of issue  
on (spray)

Plate 12. in red. also on (spray) (21)

plates 11 & 12 in red on (crown '80) ✓

No 5. 5.4.77

No 6. 20.9.77

Note. If not in red or spray

Page 366. THE ONE SHILLING. Line 14 should read, after "trace," "of the registration has been found, but impressions."

Line 18. Dele "at present in use."

At the end of the paragraph add: Impressions from Plate No. 12 were issued in July, 1881.

Plates Nos 11 & 12 seem to have been printed from somewhat

irregularly. 11<sup>in red</sup> while 12<sup>in red</sup> is found on the paper watermark

spray, 11 on that paper, has not come to our notice.

Both exist on Crown '80.

25. P. 11

25. P. 12

25. P. 05

while plate No 10 was being printed from  
till October 1880, when the colour was changed to the  
same light brown-red, <sup>in which</sup> as the one shilling postage stamps  
were then printed; and ~~the watermark was changed~~  
in March 1881 to Crown '80' ~~the~~ both changes

taking place during the currency of 12 & 11




POSTAGE. open lines & caps. at ends & corners each long side of sheet (Crown)  
 with  longways at sides  & with  above & below  
 between 6 & 7th rows. between 5 & 6th

Plate reformed. 2 frames 10 in row 12 deep = 120 cash. sheet 86  
 5<sup>s</sup> 6 - 10 = 60 rows =  $\frac{120 \text{ sheet}}{2} = 60$   
 1<sup>o</sup> in red (11) Reg<sup>o</sup> 10.2.81 marked in ink  $\frac{120 \text{ sheet}}{2} = 60$   
 (12) . 14.2.81  $\frac{595}{595}$

"Proof after alteration of Plate" (Crown 80) Reg<sup>o</sup> 13.8.81.  
 (+ see as with above) of  
 app. amountly pl. 10 was never reformed to suit Crown paper.

Page 867. Synopsis.  
 1. Line 2. Obliterate "(except Plate 7)." Add:  
 October, 1880. One shilling, light brown-red; Plates 10 and 12.  
 Imperorate proofs, Plates Nos. 1 to 12, green; No. 12, light brown-red.  
 2. Should read: Plates Nos. 11 and 12.  
 Imperorate proofs, Nos. 11 and 12, light brown-red.  
 THE FIVE SHILLINGS. Last line but one. Plates 1, 2, and 3 are all that  
 were made.

As taken by me at S. H. Aug<sup>o</sup> 1890. 1<sup>o</sup>

|   |     |                           |                      |                 |
|---|-----|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">478</span> | ① E | Reg <sup>o</sup> 28.7.75. | date Ordered to use. | 9.8.75.         |
|   |     | all in green.             |                      |                 |
| 485.  | 2.  |                           | 30.8.75              | 23.9.75         |
| 486   | 3.  |                           | 21.9.75.             |                 |
| 508   | 4.  |                           | 11.9.76              | No others given |
| 532   | 5.  |                           | 5.4.77               |                 |
| 542   | 6.  |                           | 20.9.77              |                 |
| 557   | 7.  |                           | 30.4.78.             |                 |
| 566   | 8.  |                           | 26.9.78.             |                 |
| 569.  | 9.  |                           | 15.11.78.            |                 |
| (tam 91)  | 10. |                           | 19.9.79              |                 |
| 589   | 11  |                           | 13.5.80              |                 |
| 595.  | 12. |                           | 15.7.80              |                 |

## SYNOPSIS.

1. Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Plates Nos. 1 to 10 (~~except Plate 7~~); perf. 14.

1st February, 1876. One shilling, green, greyish green (shades).

*October 1880*

*Eight from nos. 10, 11, 12.*

*8 12*

2. Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plates Nos. 11; & 12. perf. 14.

March, 1881. One shilling, light brown-red.

## 4. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st February, 1876.

DESIGN.—The design consists of the head of the Queen of a similar size to that in the postage stamp of corresponding value, with a groundwork of fine horizontal lines enclosed in a circle, and within a rectangular transverse oblong frame, measuring 30 by 25 mm. In the angles are solid coloured blocks, in the two upper of which are the plate numbers, and in the two lower the letters in white. In the upper and lower portions of the frame are tablets with the inscriptions TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS, in coloured block letters on a white ground, and the two vertical sides of the frame are composed of an ornamental pattern.



PLATE.—The plate, like that of the postage stamp of corresponding value, is constructed to admit of printing a sheet of eighty stamps, divided into four panes, each pane consisting of twenty casts disposed in five rows of four in each row. Above and below each pane is printed in large Roman capitals the legend TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.

Plate No. 1 was approved 8th August, 1875; Plate No. 2 on the 30th of the same month, and Plate No. 3, which is that at present in use, on 14th October, 1878.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that employed for the

*pl. 1.*

*altered 2/4  
of 50 before*

*Added to use 9*

*Induced by*

*no more made & ordered to be  
the same day.*

postage stamps of corresponding value, watermarked with the "Maltese cross."

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour is pink, similar to that of the postage stamps of the same value, and varies considerably in depth of shade.

**PERFORATION.**—Like the postage stamps of the same <sup>sheet</sup> value, the perforation is 15. (p. 146.)

**SYNOPSIS.** *Plate.*

Paper watermarked with "Maltese cross." Plates Nos. 1, 2, and 3; perf. 15.

1st February, 1876. Five shillings, pink (shades).

\* See other g. de.

**5. THE FOURPENCE.**

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

**DESIGN.**—At the two extremities of a solid tablet, on which is the inscription **FOUR PENCE**, in white block letters, are the letter blocks in white. From these spring an arched solid band, the outermost line of which intercepts the line of the transverse oblong rectangular frame enclosing the whole design. On this band is the inscription **TELEGRAPHS**, in white block letters, and within the semi-circular space is the head of the Queen in a circle 12½ mm. in diameter. The upper corners are filled up with an ornamental design, and the plate numbers are inserted on white circular blocks in the spaces between the tablet and the circle enclosing the head. The stamp measures 22½ by 18½ mm.



**PLATE.**—The plate, like that at that period used for printing the postage stamp of corresponding value, is constructed to admit of printing a sheet divided into four panes, each consisting of sixty casts, disposed in six rows of ten in each row. In the margin at the left end of each pane is the legend **TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE** in block letters.

5. imperforate proofs. in pink: coll O. Zapler.

on Maltese Cross. pl. 1. 2. & 3.

5. on Large Anchor: (found by H. M. in Dec 91, in Westoby). purchased 20 Apr 1881. 12 used before in use for postage stamps. R. R. in May 1892. p. 117. *this would be in locy, Dec 91*

p. 3. is reg. (Maltese book) on Large Anchor. blank (but date given: May 81. in the Green book)

14. 10. 78 in Dec. book.

Page 368. At end of Synopsis add: Imperforate copies of all are to be found, in the official collection, on the paper of the issue.

5. Issue on paper, Large Anchor watermark, 20 lines.

Mr Purcell states (July 92) there were two warrants, *The last for this value* for these.

May 1881. & June 1882. on anchor paper - the last

printing on cross paper was in June 1880: warrant of June 82 was never acted on.

This value 5. therefore was continued in use later than

the general withdrawal in 31. 12. 81. ~~for nearly 12 months~~

& was not cancelled till June 1882. (with the 2 & 10p. *same time.*)

Imperf. proofs. plates 1 + 2. (quarter) coll G. Japly.

sage green. col. of issue.

Page 369. THE FOURPENCE. Paragraph 1. Line 2 should read: But this latter was never brought into use.

Add to Synopsis: Imperforate specimens of Plates Nos. 1 and 2, in the colour and on the paper of the issue, are to be found in the official collection.

THE SIXPENCE. Line 3 from bottom. The last three words in this line should read, "was that finally in use, no others were made."

6. Plate 2. was not put to press till 22 June, 1880 when the change from 'Spacy' to Crown paper was just occurring, some sheets were printed on 'Spacy' but this paper soon ceased to be used: & the bulk of the copies from plate 2. are on "Crown 1880" paper

Plate No. 1 was approved on 12th January, 1877, and Plate No. 2 on the 18th June, 1877, but this latter ~~has not yet been~~ *was never* brought into use.

PAPER.—This is the same as that formerly employed for the postage stamp of corresponding value, watermarked with "large garter."

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is light sage-green, as adopted for the postage stamp of corresponding value at the period when this stamp was first issued, the *imprimatur* of Plate No. 1 being in this colour.

## SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "large garter." Perf. 14. *plate 1.*  
1st March, 1877. Fourpence, pale sage-green.

## 6. THE SIXPENCE.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The small head of the Queen, in a circle  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, is enclosed in a transverse oblong rectangular frame of  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm., the upper angles of which are incurved. The value, SIX PENCE, is inserted on a plain white tablet below, at each extremity of which are the letter blocks; at the top is a similar tablet inscribed TELEGRAPHS; while at the lower corners of this latter are the plate numbers in white circular discs.



PLATE.—The plate like that for the threepence before described was originally composed of twelve panes, but at the commencement of the present year, when Plate No. 2 was brought into use, these were united so as to form two panes of 120 casts each.

Plate No. 1 was approved on the 12th January, 1877, and Plate No. 2 on the 18th June, 1877. This latter ~~is at present~~ *was that finally.* in use. *no others were made.*

So long as the stamps were arranged in twelve panes the



legend TELEGRAPHS SIX PENCE was introduced in the left margin of each pane, but since the panes have been brought together not only the legend, but the control marks and plate numbers, both ordinary and official, have been suppressed.

*muddle*

PAPER.—The paper, like that on which the threepence was printed, was, up to the commencement of the year, that watermarked with the "spray of rose," but now "Crown, 1880." *after*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is greenish-grey, like that of the postage stamp of corresponding value.

SYNOPSIS.

(1) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Plate No. 1. & 2. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1877. Sixpence, greenish-grey.

(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 2. Perf. 14.

1881. Sixpence, greenish-grey.

7. THE THREE SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen is on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, in an equilateral octagon of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, enclosed in an elongated octagonal solid border, the exterior lines of which intercept the external lines of the rectangular frame, which measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm. On this band is the legend TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS, in white block letters. In the angles are white blocks, those in the upper ones carrying the plate numbers, and the lower the letters. On each side of these blocks angular portions are removed, so as to form gaps in the exterior line of the rectangular frame.



PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of twelve panes of twenty casts in each, in four rows of five in each row, and is arranged as in the other stamps where the plate consists of a like number of panes.

6 Imperf. proof: (coll. O. Tophl9).

plates 1 & 2. (spray).

2. (Crown '80) } col: of issue.

only plates 1 & 2. ever made.

Plate 2 (rose.) seen perf<sup>d</sup> copy. S. G. Co. Apr 92. formal. Aug 16. 1880.

Page 370. At end of Synopsis add: Imperforate proofs, in the colour of the issue, from Plates Nos. 1 and 2, watermark Spray of Rose, and from Plate No. 2, watermark Crown 1880, are to be found in the official collection.

A copy. St. Record. III n. 139. (Sept Aug 90). but 97. of perf? Yes.

3/ a p marked copy dated 188. ? 2 & 3. All plates  
on Crown, seen St. W. Y. May 1892, St. Rec<sup>d</sup> p. 117.

3/. Imperf<sup>d</sup> on spray SPSCIMEN. Colour proof.

in clear blue.

in purple brown.

in dark green.

Plate 1. only one ever made.

(Cell 0. J.) has imp<sup>e</sup> proofs ①. colour of issue

on (spray.)

on (Crown '80.) ~~can see~~ <sup>see</sup> ~~imp<sup>e</sup>~~ (Crown) imp<sup>e</sup> proofs. Even. Aug '99.

\* The demand for this value not having exhausted the stock on hand at the time of the suppression of ~~the~~ the telegraph stamps in the latter part of 1881 no printing of the three shillings was made <sup>paper with</sup> on the "Crown 1880" watermark.

Page 371. THE THREE SHILLINGS. Line 2 should read, "the only one ever made."

Line 5. The sentence beginning "Up to," &c., should be expunged; and in lieu insert: The demand for this value did not exhaust the stock on hand in December, 1881, when the telegraph stamps were recalled, and consequently no printing ever took place on the paper watermarked Crown 1880. \*

To Impression add: Proofs for colour, in a much lighter shade of slate-blue, and also in dark lilac, imperforate, watermarked Spray of Rose, have also been seen by us. These are both surcharged diagonally with the word SPECIMEN in black.

To Synopsis add: An imperforate proof, of the colour and on the paper of the issue, is to be found in the official collection; and also a like proof on paper watermarked Crown 1880.

\*. But plate remade. 2 papers of 120 each. — — 10 in no  
by 12 deep. to suit Crown paper. v. Registered on 29.7.8.

Plate No. 1 was approved 12th January, 1877, and is the only one which has as yet been approved.

PAPER.—The paper is that made for the stamps which are arranged in twelve panes, being the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of rose." ~~Up to the present time no alteration has been made in the paper, but that watermarked "Crown, 1880," will doubtless be substituted so soon as the stock in hand watermarked with "spray of rose" is exhausted.~~

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is slate-blue.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1877. Threepence, slate-blue.

*shillings*

#### 8. THE TEN SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen is of the same size as that introduced into the five shillings previously described, and is on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, within an equilateral octagon of 16½ mm. diameter. The stamp measures 30 by 25 mm. Above the head, a white tablet, in form resembling the half of an elongated hexagon, carries the inscription TELEGRAPHS, and a similar one below the inscription TEN SHILLINGS, all in coloured block letters. In the angles are coloured blocks, the upper ones being furnished with the plate numbers, and the lower with the letters. The remainder of the design consists of ornamental arabesque work.



PLATE.—The plate is constructed in four panes, exactly similar to the five shillings previously described, and in the margin at the bottom of each pane is the legend TELEGRAPHS TEN SHILLINGS, in Roman capitals.

Plate No. 1, the only one constructed, was approved 17th January, 1877.

PAPER.—The paper is that employed for the postage stamp of corresponding value, watermarked with the “*Maltese cross*” *plate* (p. 146.)

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in green-grey, similar to that of the postage stamp of the corresponding value, and the perforation is also 15.

SYNOPSIS. *Plate*

Paper watermarked with “*Maltese cross*” Plate No. 1. Perf. 15.

1st March, 1877. Ten shillings, green-grey.

*unfed. (not) see O. 241. as above.*

9. THE ONE POUND.

Date of Issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, in a circle of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  mm. diameter, is surrounded by a white transverse pointed oval border, on which is inscribed TELEGRAPHS above and ONE POUND below, in graduated block coloured letters. This is enclosed in a rectangular transverse



oblong frame, measuring 58 by 22 mm., within which there is an ornamental frame extending all round, except

where intercepted top and bottom by the exterior lines of the oval band, and by solid blocks at the angles. In the two upper of these latter the plate number is inserted, and in the two lower the letters. Within, on each side of the points of the oval band, is “£1” in white, on a diapered ground.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of the printing of a sheet composed of ~~sixty~~ <sup>one</sup> stamps, in ~~two~~ <sup>one</sup> panels of ~~ten~~ <sup>one</sup> rows of ~~three~~ casts in a row. In the margins at the top and the bottom is the legend, TELEGRAPHS ONE POUND.

Plate No. 1, the only one constructed, was approved 12th January, 1877.

*eighty / four*

? 107. was printed on 'Large anchor' ? (Weight suggests it. July 92).

Page 372. THE TEN SHILLINGS. After Synopsis add: An imperforate proof, of the colour and on the paper of the issue, is to be found in the official collection.

<sup>118</sup> Correct this error. 18.8.90. Saw that reg<sup>d</sup> at S. H. checked it carefully. One pane. 4 stamps wide - 20 rows = 80 in all

Edgell) ... 127 ...

Page 378. THE ONE POUND. A similar note to the last should be added to the Synopsis.

1/2 5. ① .516. adapted to postage + reg<sup>d</sup> 9.3.82.

This plate has already been registered by the Secy's Depart.

In order to ... 11.2.82 ...

*low.* PAPER.—The paper employed is that manufactured for the one penny telegraph stamp, watermarked with a "shamrock," but as the stamps are disposed sideways on the sheet as compared with those of the one penny, the watermarks also appear sideways on the stamp. Further, as the paper for the one penny was prepared to receive two panes of ten rows of ten in each row, and ~~three~~ rows of the stamp of £1 are only equivalent to nine rows of the one penny, one row of the watermarks is left clear of the impression, while three appear sideways on each stamp.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is brown-violet, similar to that of the postage stamp of corresponding value.

## SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "shamrock" repeated three times sideways. Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1877. One pound, brown-violet.

*Impress. proof as above. Coll. O. Sept. 19.*

## 10. THE FIVE POUNDS.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, is enclosed in a circle of similar dimensions to that of the five shillings. The circle is set in a transverse oblong rectangular frame, the exterior measurement of which is 54 by 31 mm. An ornamental frame entirely surrounds the stamp, and is made wider at



the top and bottom to receive two plain white tablets 42 mm. long, the upper one inscribed TELEGRAPHS, and the lower FIVE



POUNDS, in coloured block letters, while at the ends of the upper are solid coloured blocks for the plate numbers, and at the ends of the lower similar blocks for the letters. On each side of the circle is "£5" in white, on a diapered ground.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of the printing a sheet composed of ~~forty-two~~ stamps, divided into two panes of seven vertical rows of three casts in each row. The legend TELEGRAPHS FIVE POUNDS is introduced in the margin at the top and bottom of the sheet as in the one pound.

Plate No. 1 is the only one which has been constructed, and was approved 17th January, 1877.

PAPER.—The paper employed is that watermarked with the "shamrock," manufactured for the one penny telegraph stamp. The construction of the plate being similar to that of the one pound, the impression is in consequence made in the same manner, and the watermarks appear sideways on the stamps; but as the depth of this stamp does not correspond with the width of the one penny, the watermarks are somewhat irregularly disposed on it.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is orange-vermilion, the *minium* of foreign catalogues.

PERFORATION.—The stamp being exactly double the size of the five shillings, is perforated by the same machines, and gauges 15 to the two centimètres.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "shamrock." Plate No. 1; perf. 15.

1st March, 1877. Five pounds, orange-vermilion.

*Imp. proof as above. Coll. O. J. 189.*

#### 11. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

Date of issue, 1st April, 1880.

PLATE.—Consequent on the alteration in the telegraph rates for messages to several of the countries within the Postal Union, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1880, it was

57

~~Before appearance.~~ Text is correct 1870/90.

Page 374. THE FIVE POUNDS. A similar note to the last should be added to the Synopsis.

... in ... ..  
... ..  
... ..  
... ..

The  $\frac{1}{2}$ " varies considerably in setting.  
"per weight. July 92"

Plate No. 1 is the only one which has been ... ..  
... ..

March - The paper employed is that watermarked with the  
"star" mark, manufactured for the one penny telegraph.  
The construction of the plate being similar to that of the ... ..  
... ..  
... ..  
... ..

Impression - The colour of the impression is orange-tawny ... ..  
... ..

Facsimile - The main body exactly duplicates the ... ..  
... ..  
... ..

APPENDIX

... ..  
... ..  
... ..

THE ... ..  
... ..

... ..  
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... ..

necessary to provide immediately an additional value of one halfpenny. To effect this a plate of the one penny, No. 5—impressions from which had been already approved, though the plate itself had not been brought into service—was taken, and the value removed from the casts composing it. In place of the value so removed block letters in type were introduced, and the first issue of the halfpenny appeared on a plate numbered 5.



Impressions from the plate as so altered were approved 13th March, 1880, and no other plate has ~~as yet been~~ constructed. *a sum was*

**PAPER.**—The paper employed is that manufactured for the one penny, watermarked with “shamrock.”

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is orange-vermilion, similar to that of the five pounds.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “shamrock.” Plate No. 5; perf. 14.

1st April, 1880. One halfpenny, orange-vermilion.

*Page 375. THE ONE HALFPENNY.* Line 8 from bottom should read :  
“No other plate was ever constructed.”

An imperforate proof of this value exists in the official collection.

Add to Synopsis :

VARIETY.

*Imperforate.* One halfpenny, orange-vermilion.

## SECTION IV.

*ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF TELEGRAPH STAMPS.*

1868-9. Shortly after the passing of the "Telegraph Act, 1868," two designs appear to have been submitted for stamps to be used in the service. These designs have not been seen by us, but the following is the description of them, taken from the *Philatelist*, vol. vi. p. 56. 1872:

I. Square. Head of Queen to right, in circle; value in words right and left; roses in upper, shamrock and thistle in lower angles; TELEGRAM beneath in graduated capitals. Head engraved in cameo, so as to give the appearance of relief. Printed on white card. One shilling, black.

" green.

II. Square. Wreath of oak and laurel leaves, with imperial Crown, forming a circle, within a double-lined frame; value in words in centre; TELEGRAM in graduated letters below. Printed in colour on white card.

One shilling, black.

" green.

## PROOFS FROM THE OFFICIAL DIES.

Messrs. De La Rue and Co. have in their pattern books a specimen copy of every die engraved by them for this branch of the service, printed in black on white enamelled card. To enumerate these would be a needless repetition.

Besides these there is a specimen of the five pound value printed from the die as completed, but in gold, as a trial, on the paper of the issue, watermarked with "shamrock." The specimen is not however perforated.

The gold used was pure, and the effect very chaste; but the authorities decided against its adoption on account of the expense, which was said to amount to about sixpence each! Orange-red was therefore substituted. This trial was printed early in 1877.

No other proofs from the official dies are known.

Page 27, top and page 28, line 11. With reference to the shape of the perforations produced in some of the samples by Archer's machine, we have had the opportunity, since the two pages were pinned off, of examining several specimens, and are convinced that the irregular shape of the holes is a result of second descent of the round perforating needles, which contact with the first. When a second descent takes place, the oval formed from the first, the perforation assumes a form somewhat resembling the figure 8, the upper circle by the lower being closely visible. It is only when a second descent of the needles cuts across the paper left between the holes that the saw-like or jagged edges noticed in our page 28 are produced. Whenever the shape is other than circular, the circumstance is entirely due to irregularities in the process of perforation, and not to the needles, which have uniformly kept round.

Page 28, line 1. A letter from the records of Congress House shows that Plate 7 - a set of specimens was completed 2nd May, 1840; but this is a date which is not correct. Plate No. 3 was completed on the 1st of May, 1840, and both plates were deposited in the records of the House in May and June 1840. These were taken from Plate No. 1, notwithstanding it had not been used after making a close examination of them, we find the most remarkable irregularities in

Bulls Sale. 20<sup>th</sup> 20.12.90. Lot 79.

"Military Telegraphs 1<sup>st</sup> 1/-, 2/-, 6d on 10/- 1/- on 5/- + 1/- on 1/- =  
all scarce" Zany. What  
not Egyptian (we were used in Bechnanaland) Skepton

SECTION IV

ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF TELEGRAPH STAMPS

1866-7. Shortly after the passing of the "Telegraph Act 1865," two designs appear to have been submitted for consideration to be used in the service. These designs have not been adopted by us, but the following is the description of them, taken from the *Philatelist*, vol. vi, p. 56, 1872.

I. Square. Head of Queen to right, in circle; value in upper right and left; rose in upper, shamrock and thistle in lower angles; TELEGRAM beneath in graduated capitals. Design engraved in cameo, so as to give the appearance of relief. Printed on white card. One shilling, black.

green.

II. Square. Wreath of oak and laurel leaves, with helmet, Crown, forming a circle, within a double-lined frame; value in words in centre; TELEGRAM in graduated letters below. Printed in colour on white card.

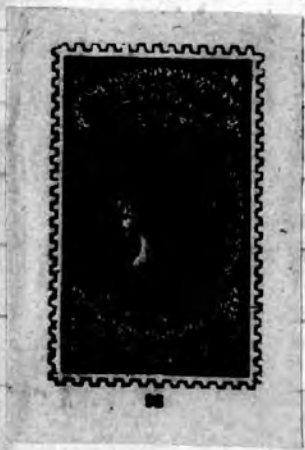
One shilling, black.

green.

PROOFS FROM THE OFFICIAL DIE.

Messrs. De La Rue and Co. have in their pattern book a specimen copy of every die approved by them for the use of the service, printed in black on white enamelled card. I imagine these would be excellent reproductions.

Besides these there is a specimen of the five pound value die as completed, but in gold, as a trial, on the paper watermarked with "shamrock." The specimen is perforated.



The paper was pure, and the effect very classic; but the objection against its adoption (on account of the expense) amounts to about sixpence each stamp. This trial was printed early in 1867. The proofs from the official dies are shown.

## ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

Page 60, last line but one, for "imform" read "inform."

Page 67, top ; and page 69, foot. With reference to the oval shape of the perforations produced in some of the stamps by Archer's machine, we have had the opportunity, since the above pages were printed off, of examining several specimens, and are convinced that the irregular shape of the holes is caused by a second descent of the round perforating needles, *nearly* coincident with the first. When a second descent takes place at a *small interval* from the first, the perforation assumes a form somewhat resembling the figure 8, the cusps made by the intersecting circles being clearly visible. It is only when a second descent of the needles cuts away the paper left between the holes that the saw-like or jagged edges referred to on page 69 are produced. Wherever the shape is other than circular, the circumstance is entirely due to irregularities in the process of perforation, and not to the needles, which have uniformly been round.

Page 83 n. A further search in the records at Somerset House shows that Plate No. 1 of the twopence was completed 2nd May, 1840 ; but there is no trace that it ever was hardened. Plate No. 2 was completed and hardened 31st July, 1840 ; and both plates were defaced 27th January, 1842. As it is clear from the records of the Post-office that twopenny stamps were issued in May and June, 1840, these must have been printed from Plate No. 1, notwithstanding it had not been hardened ; and after making a close examination of the earliest specimens, we find the most remarkable confirmation of the fact. These



specimens present a soft appearance, the impression showing signs as if the plate had been "taken down" overmuch; while as the usage of the plate proceeded signs of wear become very apparent.

Page 104, line 20 from the top, and page 132 h.† Since these pages were printed off the paper watermarked "Crown 1880" has, as we surmised, been substituted for that watermarked with "spray of rose" in the one shilling, so that the whole of the ordinary-sized stamps are now printed on the "Crown 1880" paper. Marks are introduced into the exterior margins of each pane of one hundred and twenty stamps, denoting where it may be divided horizontally into two equal portions, and each of these vertically into three; the entire pane being thus separated into six equal parts, each constituting a "Post-office sheet" of the value of £1.

This issue to the public took place on 15th June, 1881, Plate No. 13 being ~~still~~ in use. The colour of the impression, pale brown-vermilion, has not been altered. †

Page 113. The engraving of Die II. of the fourpence is inaccurate, inasmuch as it shows a linear ground on the lower portion of the frame. The ground really is solid, as stated in the text.

Page 133. Add to synopsis of "one shilling" **FOURTH ISSUE:**  
(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 13.  
Perf. 14.

One shilling, pale brown-vermilion.

Page 141. In the synoptical list of the issues of the three-pence, "Second Issue" has been accidentally omitted above Die II., and "Third Issue" above Die III.

† 13 and

Page 149, last line in page. Plate, No. 22 ~~is~~ at present in use. Impressions from ~~this~~ <sup>the</sup> plate were first issued to the public ~~at~~ <sup>about</sup> the end of June, 1881.

IN THE CASE OF THE

*Postage and Internal Revenue Stamps*

Act of March 3, 1879, ch. 102

Act of the Senate of January 1882, the Executive Order of the President, and the Act of the President

Act of the President of March 1882, the Executive Order of the President, and the Act of the President

It is further the Treasury Adhesive Postage Stamp may be used as a Money Postage Stamp, and the Adhesive Money Postage Stamp as an Internal Revenue Stamp.

It is recommended that for the purpose of postage the stamps in common with Postage Stamps, shall have the printing or writing placed on their face to the effect:

By authority of the Postmaster General

\* Plate 14 was issued both public in 1882

with Section of "The Constitution and Internal Revenue Act, 1879," by which it was directed that on and after the first day of June, 1879, any stamp or note of any money, which was liable to be treated as a postage stamp and approved by any kind of receipt on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, may be treated by any person as postage stamp, and so, and after that any postage stamp may be paid by the use of money without stamp and approved by any receipt or receipt on the face of them to postage only or to any particular description of instrument.

It is also that the Act of Parliament contemplated only the extension to the postpaid postage stamps of the "United States Revenue" stamps of either these or similar stamps, but under the terms of the statute issued by the Postmaster General not only all these but the one penny "United States Revenue" stamps (1863 and 1864), printed by the Postmaster, and the "United States Revenue" stamps of 1865, have been admitted to pay the postage on letters. We give, for reference also, a list of these stamps to all

specimens present a soft appearance for impressions showing signs as if the plate had been "blown down" somewhat, while in the margin of the plate proceeded signs of wear becoming very apparent.

Page 106, line 10 from the top and page 112 at the bottom these pages were printed off the paper was marked "Green 1850" has, as we surmised, been substituted for that which marked was "Royal of 1850" in the production which of the ordinary-sized sheet was now printed on the "Green 1850" paper. Marks are introduced into the margin of each page of one hundred and twenty sheets ~~marked as if they had been printed on~~ equal portions, and each of them vertically into three or four parts being thus separated into six equal parts each constituting a "Part of the sheet" of the value of 25.

The following table shows the total number of sheets of No. 111 being 1850, and the number of the depositors of the same, as follows:—

Page 113. The engraving of Die II. of the "Green 1850" is inserted, inasmuch as it shows a slight ground by the engraving of the frame. The ground really is solid, as stated in the text.

Page 114. Add to the list of the "Green 1850" paper was marked with "Green 1850" (line No. 47) Part 11.

The following table shows the total number of sheets of No. 111 being 1850, and the number of the depositors of the same, as follows:—

Page 141. In the synoptical list of the names of the three papers, "Second Issue" has been accidentally omitted above Die II., and "Third Issue" above Die III.

✓ 2500

Page 149, line 10 from the top. Line No. 111 is a possible copy. Impressions from this plate were first heard to the public as the end of June, 1857.

Page 160, insert :

18. THE ONE PENNY (1881).

*Postage and Inland Revenue Stamp.*

Date of Issue, 28th June, 1881.

Early in the month of June, 1881, the following NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC was issued from the Post-office :

*“Use of 1d. Adhesive Postage Stamps and 1d. Adhesive Receipt Stamps for either receipt or postage purposes.*

“In future the Ordinary Adhesive Penny Receipt Stamp may be used as a Penny Postage Stamp, and the Adhesive Penny Postage Stamp as an Ordinary Receipt Stamp.

“It is understood that for the purpose of postage the Receipt Stamps, in common with Postage Stamps, must have no printing or writing placed on their face by the public.

“By command of the Postmaster-General.”

The above Notice was grounded on the provisions of the 47th Section of “The Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881,” by which it was enacted, “That on and after the first day of June, 1881, any stamp duties of one penny, which may legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, may be denoted by adhesive penny postage stamps ; and on and after that day postage duties may be paid by the use of penny adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to postage duty or to any particular description of instrument.”

It is clear that the Act of Parliament contemplated only the admission to the payment of postage duties of the adhesive “INLAND REVENUE” stamps, of which there are several varieties ; but under the terms of the notice issued by the Postmaster-General not only all these, but the one penny “DRAFT” and “RECEIPT” stamps (1853 and 1854), printed in blue and brown, and the “DRAFT PAYABLE ON DEMAND OR RECEIPT” stamp of 1856, have been admitted to prepay the postage on letters. We give, for reference sake, a list of those known to us.

List of stamps of the facial value of one penny, which, under the provisions of the Act above referred to, and the notice issued by the Postmaster-General, have, since the 1st June, 1881, been admitted to defray a postage rate of like amount.

|          | Date of Issue.       | Colour. | Paper.             | Watermark.           | Legend.                                |
|----------|----------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 9.10.53. | 1. 1853.             | Blue    | Bluish<br>(safety) | Anchor with<br>cable | Receipt, 1st Type.                     |
|          | 2. 1854.             | "       | "                  | "                    | " 2nd Type.                            |
|          | 3. "                 | "       | White              | "                    | " "                                    |
| 9.10.53. | 4. "                 | Brown   | White              | "                    | Draft.                                 |
| 23.3.55. | 5. 1856 <sup>5</sup> | Mauve   | Bluish             | "                    | Draft payable on demand<br>or receipt. |
|          | 6. "                 | Lilac   | White              | "                    | " "                                    |
| 20.4.62. | 7. 1857.             | Mauve   | Bluish             | "                    | Inland Revenue.                        |
|          | 8. "                 | "       | White              | "                    | "                                      |
| ? .65    | 9. "                 | "       | Bluish             | Anchor               | "                                      |
|          | 10. "                | "       | White              | "                    | "                                      |
| 30.8.67. | 11. 1871.            | "       | "                  | "                    | 1st Type.                              |
| 7.71     | 12. 1871             | "       | "                  | "                    | 2nd Type.                              |
|          | 13. 1879.            | "       | "                  | "                    | 3rd Type.                              |
|          | 14. 1881.            | "       | "                  | Orb*                 | " "                                    |

The first ten of these (Nos. 1 to 10) are of large dimensions, measuring 25 by 30 mm., and are all perforated 15. In Nos. 1 to 6 the Queen's head to the left is enclosed in an oval band, carrying the legend; but in Nos. 7 to 10 the head is enclosed in a circular band. Nos. 11 to 14 are of smaller dimensions, measuring 18½ by 22½ mm., and perforated 14; and the head of the Queen in these latter is enclosed in an oval band, carrying the inscription. Of these latter, in No. 11 the spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern; in No. 12 the spandrels are plain, but the ornament at the corners of the inside line of the

\* So long as these stamps were printed on paper watermarked with "Anchor," the plate was composed of a single pane of 240 stamps (*sup.* p. 148); but when the paper watermarked with "Orb" was substituted, the plate was composed of two panes of 120 casts each. On the three exterior margins of each pane of the printed impressions was a *fac-simile* signature of Sir J. C. Herries, the Chairman of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. The fact is mentioned to prevent its being supposed that this paper was the same as that employed up to 1881 for the twopence halfpenny postage stamp.

Issued. Draft buff- . 9. 10. 53.

Dies

Receipt buff blue.

Ofs on demand } 23. 3. 56.  
or receipt. }

Inland Revenue } 30. 4. 62.  
Large sq. }

Inland R. } 30. 8. 64.  
Small type. }

### Inland Revenue.

Date of issue . 3d. 1 July 1860.

6d. 1 Oct 1860.

Perforated, embossed, July 1871.

380 1853

1853

1853

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1853

frame does not extend into the angles, and the oval band and inscription are heavy; in No. 13 the corner ornament extends into the angles, and the oval band and inscription are lighter; No. 14 only differs from No. 13 in the watermark of the paper.

The provisions of the Act of Parliament before referred to, though of a permanent nature, were only designed to effect a transitory purpose, as the further manufacture of the one penny postage stamp (1880) and of the Inland Revenue stamps of one penny was ordered to be stopped, and a new stamp prepared, combining the two. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. were charged with the design and preparation of this stamp, which was issued to the public on the 28th June, 1881, as appears by a notice to that effect emanating from the Post-office.

**DESIGN.**—The design consists of the head of Her Majesty, similar in all respects to that of the "One Penny, 1880," on a groundwork of coarse lines, enclosed in an upright oval, round which is a solid coloured band, with the inscription **POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE** at the top, and **ONE PENNY** below, all in small white block letters. This is superposed on an upright rectangular frame measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm., composed of two lines, with a pearled linear ornament introduced between them, the frame extending entirely round the stamp, except where it is intercepted on the sides, top and bottom, by the oval band. The spandrels are left plain, nor are there any letter blocks or plate numbers on the stamps.\*



\* Though the lines of this stamp are coarsely engraved, yet in general appearance it is satisfactory, and the tone of colour pleasing. Messrs. De La Rue and Co., while not deviating from their regular standard, have wisely abandoned the meretricious style of ornamentation, which so much disfigures the one halfpenny and three halfpenny stamps, and have succeeded in producing a stamp superior in design to any that has appeared since the current twopence-halfpenny. Still the principal object of a portrait on a stamp has been lost sight of. The head on all the postage stamps ought to be *identical*, and that this is not the case, any one will perceive on comparing this stamp with those of 1880.



PLATE.—The plate is constructed similarly to that of the "One Penny, 1880," consisting of two panes of 120 casts in each pane.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that introduced for the "One Penny, 1880," described *supra*, p. 156.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is lilac, and essentially fugitive.

The GUM and PERFORATION are identically the same as in the other stamps in Section III. of similar size.

1884 cat  
 Sup trial 12 Tally... all 'S...'. 1/2d. 2d. 4d. 5d. 7/

11/6 Wones. SYNOPSIS. 25/

Paper watermarked with "Crown, 1880." Perf. 14.

12 July. 28th June, 1881. One penny, lilac.

Page 174, line 16 from top. In the latest printed envelopes which we have seen of size C (5½ by 3 inches), struck from dated dies (30. 4. 81), the number of the working die is omitted. The same probably occurs in the other sizes.

Page 176 n. The authorities seem to have at length discovered for themselves the truth of our observation in the note to this page. New working dies have been constructed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., in which the date plugs are no longer inserted, and a fresh numbering of them has commenced, 1, 2, 3, &c. This alteration, restoring the stamp to what it originally was, save in the quality of the engraving of the border, may be safely said to be a great improvement so far as its appearance is concerned. Working dies with the dates inserted were last used on 13th May, 1881, on the envelopes stamped by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for the use of the Post-office. The dated dies are, however, still employed for stamping envelopes and paper brought in by the public.

Envelopes without dated dies were issued to the public on 1st July, 1881.

1882.

1<sup>st</sup> class marked I. R. Official. in blk surcharge  
see Phil. Rec for Nov 1882.

12 in horizontal x 10 in vertical row.  
a space between is left. equal to one row of stamps: & is perforated.

The first <sup>stock</sup> printed sheets were in mauve: & were all sent  
issued to Country Post Offices: but the colour was changed  
to lilac before the use commenced: & none of the first  
printing were issued to the public in London.

Watermark POSTAGE in margin above top &  
below bottom pans.  
Letters added at foot. to right corner with one line (Subline)

A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. O.

mark  $\Psi$  in centre of pans. to assist in dividing.

Line added round plate. exterior both pans. to  
ease pressure in printing. to 1<sup>st</sup>. & added to  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. 1888.

1<sup>st</sup> with line. is found letters - G. H. I. J. K. L. ?

$\frac{1}{2}$  d. with line (2474) A. B. C. D. with horizontal line

$\frac{1}{2}$  d without line - A. B. C. D. P.

up to end 1888

5d. bicolor

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

intention to put line round stamps of bicolor in smaller tent.  
The letters are added to mark nos printed, so a plate may  
bear different letters at different points, varying with the no  
of stamps printed from it?

In 1881. envelopes without date in dies were stamped at  
Messrs De la Rue's establishment. From the blanks it wd appear  
that after they are cut, the upper flap is gummed. The stamp  
is then struck & the envelope folded by machine - all stamps  
on paper sent in by the public, whether paper or envelopes, is done  
at Somerset St. & the dies are invariably dated.

by 9.3.90

S.H. A & date & no done away with.

A B C D E F G H I K L M N O

G H I K L

A B C D

Page 184. Add to "SYNOPSIS"—

(d) Of white laid paper. Die not numbered.

June, 1881.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by 3 inches.

Die II.—Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, and without seal device on flap. Die not dated. One penny, pink.

(a) Of white laid paper.

1st July, 1881. Two sizes:

1.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

2.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by 3 " ✓

(b) Of thick white laid paper,\* square shaped.

3.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. ✓

(c) Of azure wove paper; upper flap rounded.

4.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

*This size: has been stamped without date in dies.*

Page 206, bottom line of text but two, add to list:

"Stamp frame measuring  $21\frac{1}{2}$  mm. by 26 mm., size F."

Page 207. For some months past the size F of the REGISTRATION ENVELOPES described in III. has been out of stock at the Post-office, but since the above pages were printed off has reappeared with certain modifications in its construction and the legend, which will probably, so far as the mode of construction is concerned, be extended to such of the other sizes as have hitherto been made up in a similar manner; and the legend will doubtless be changed throughout the whole of the five sizes issued by the Post-office. As the envelope was constructed, a serrated seam ran horizontally along the reverse side, the side flaps being folded down upon the long flap of the end opposite to that on which the stamp was impressed. As now constructed, the serrated edges are done away with, and the long flap is brought

\* The paper of which this envelope is made is of very superior quality, and the "ivory finish" of the outer side shows the embossed head to great advantage.

† We have not yet seen this envelope, but have no doubt of its existence. (in use. 1882.)

over the seam, which is secured by it as it extends to the two external edges. The printing of the legend on the front and the crossed lines is done previously to the flaps being closed down.

The inscription on the face is altered. The use of "Registered" in a single-lined frame is discontinued, and the envelope is headed "REGISTERED LETTER" in large block lettering, followed by the legend in three lines, "This Letter must be handed to an Officer of the Post Office and a Receipt obtained. If otherwise Posted there will be an Extra Charge on Delivery," all in thick block letters. The frame enclosing the inscription, "The Stamp to pay the Postage must be placed here," measuring  $21\frac{1}{2}$  by 24 mm., occupies the right upper corner of the front. The addition of a penalty clause to the inscription, it will be seen, is the most striking feature of the new issue, which will no doubt be applied to all the other sizes as fresh printings take place.

The following addition must therefore be made at p. 207 :

IV. Inscription in three lines. Plain flap. Plain seams.

July, 1881. Size F. Stamp frame measuring  $21\frac{1}{2}$  by 24 mm.

Page 237. In "Fifth Issue" after (3) insert—

3. (a) Paper, &c., as in (3); top corners only tapered.

One size. 12 by 5 inches, red-brown.

Page 330, line 8 from bottom. Omit "and the number of words for which the stamp is applicable."

The design of the exterior rectangular frame is identical in all the values with the exception of the tablet inscribed with the value, but the pattern of the ornamentation and back-ground of the interior is varied in each.

#### CONCLUDING NOTICE.

OUR thanks are due to M. Moens for the loan of nearly the whole of the blocks which, by special permission of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, have been used for illustrating this work. Others have been lent to us by Messrs. A. Smith & Co.; while Messrs. Pemberton, Wilson, & Co. have contributed the plates of watermarks.

21st July, 1881.



1881  
 1882  
 1883  
 1884  
 1885  
 1886  
 1887  
 1888  
 1889  
 1890  
 1891  
 1892  
 1893  
 1894  
 1895  
 1896  
 1897  
 1898  
 1899  
 1900

2 acres second of land  
 1st - second of yellow soil  
 second of yellow soil

1881 000.00  
 1882 000.00  
 1883 000.00  
 1884 000.00  
 1885 000.00  
 1886 000.00  
 1887 000.00  
 1888 000.00  
 1889 000.00  
 1890 000.00  
 1891 000.00  
 1892 000.00  
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 1895 000.00  
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 1897 000.00  
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 1899 000.00  
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1881 000.00  
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 1883 000.00  
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 1895 000.00  
 1896 000.00  
 1897 000.00  
 1898 000.00  
 1899 000.00  
 1900 000.00

No 347 See for these 1/2 acre of land from  
 No 371 shellings for fence in Sydney.

No 347  
 No 371

Ordered by Treasury in April 1878 from ! Rev Office.

22<sup>nd</sup> Sep. p. 30. We have also provided postage stamps to the folks with  
for the use of the Govt. of Cyprus. produced by overprinting, ~~but~~ the work  
- Cyprus: the Imperial Postage also

Cards 35.880

Weapons 14.880

1/2 Postage cards 69.600

1<sup>st</sup> 300.800

2 1/2 319.880

4<sup>th</sup> 14.700

6<sup>th</sup> 3.400

1<sup>st</sup> 2.900

Reg<sup>d</sup> 2.160

804.000 pieces

23<sup>rd</sup> Sep. still 1000 p. 18. fuland Revie

Sent. 1<sup>st</sup> 17.800

2<sup>nd</sup> 17.360

3<sup>rd</sup> 25.800

6<sup>th</sup> 10.760

8<sup>th</sup> 11.600

1<sup>st</sup> 11.800

from 31 Mar 1880

also for Cyprus and be  
many! The medals will  
The Government for the Crown.

June 1880, Fine & Print System. 3400. Ltd. the number of

The design of the Imperial Postage stamps is to be uniform

with the design of the Imperial Postage stamps of the United Kingdom

with the design of the Imperial Postage stamps of the United Kingdom

with the design of the Imperial Postage stamps of the United Kingdom

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with the design of the Imperial Postage stamps of the United Kingdom

with the design of the Imperial Postage stamps of the United Kingdom

Cyprus surcharged on G. Britain.

W. Sheppard's Cat in block of Plate No. he has so. 16.1.86. FAP.  
 corrected in memo July 1890.

One half penny 12. 15.

One penny. 181. 201. 205. 217. 218. 220.  
210. 215. 216. 217

Two half pence 14. 15.

Four pence 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

Six pence 16.

One shilling 13. (spray)

Cyprus. of. 2. 21  
 One half penny surcharged on red penny. Two sides. 215.

181. 201. 205. 217. 218. 220.  
~~201. 216. 220.~~

one half penny small type 205. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500.

20 pence 201. 220. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500.



1 April

Green Helix cereis. 1884 } all marked [Hecquen]

coll. Zapling - also W. T. Wilson. <sup>TS</sup> I 11/2

I have seen. 1 1/2 d. 2 d. 4 d. 5 d 1/2

- ? 5/ plate. no. 1

Card single 1 1/2 d. G. B. & Ireland. Large buff. 3.11.82.  
(orig as a copper foil)

Foreign Post Cards.

1 1/2 d. 13. 3. 75.

1 d. 16. 12. 78.

1 1/2 d. 16. 12. 78.

2 d.

most of 2<sup>d</sup> on card  
in block. stamp for  
only. 3. 11. 82.

Wrappers.

1/2 d green. 4. 7. 70.

Two in block on enamelled card.  
Back have round stamp. 11. 11.

Jubilee of 1890

Guildhall card 1 d. red. from ~~South Kensington~~. 8. 5. 90.

South Kensington. 1 d envelope buff. 13. 6. 90.

Empire Card. 3 d. red. from ~~South Kensington~~ 181 8. 7. 89.

Registered card 1. 8. 89.

Reply Cards. 1/2 d. buff. 25. 9. 02

1 d. buff. 25. 9. 02

1 d. buff. p b 25. 9. 02

1 1/2 d. buff. 23. 11. 02

2 d. " 23. 11. 02.

Post Cards.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. in sheets of 42. 7 rows of 6.

Small size

- M. 1 to 42. 17. 11. 70.
- 43. to 84. 28. 6 70.
- 85. to 126. 4. 7. 70.

Large size

- 1 to 42. 6. 7. 70.
- Present type (1881)
- 24. 10. 77.

Type II

Plate 1

1 to 42. 17. 11. 70.

43 to 84. 28. 6. 70.

85 to 126. 4. 7. 70.

127 to 168. 17. 11. 70.

169 to 210. 28. 6. 70.

211 to 252. 4. 7. 70.

253 to 294. 17. 11. 70.

295 to 336. 28. 6. 70.

337 to 378. 4. 7. 70.

379 to 420. 17. 11. 70.

421 to 462. 28. 6. 70.

463 to 504. 4. 7. 70.

505 to 546. 17. 11. 70.

547 to 588. 28. 6. 70.

589 to 630. 4. 7. 70.

631 to 672. 17. 11. 70.

673 to 714. 28. 6. 70.

715 to 756. 4. 7. 70.

757 to 798. 17. 11. 70.

799 to 840. 28. 6. 70.

841 to 882. 4. 7. 70.

883 to 924. 17. 11. 70.

925 to 966. 28. 6. 70.

967 to 1008. 4. 7. 70.

1009 to 1050. 17. 11. 70.

1051 to 1092. 28. 6. 70.

1093 to 1134. 4. 7. 70.

1135 to 1176. 17. 11. 70.

1177 to 1218. 28. 6. 70.

1219 to 1260. 4. 7. 70.

1261 to 1302. 17. 11. 70.

1303 to 1344. 28. 6. 70.

1345 to 1386. 4. 7. 70.

1387 to 1428. 17. 11. 70.

1429 to 1470. 28. 6. 70.

1471 to 1512. 4. 7. 70.

1513 to 1554. 17. 11. 70.

1555 to 1596. 28. 6. 70.

1597 to 1638. 4. 7. 70.

1639 to 1680. 17. 11. 70.

1681 to 1722. 28. 6. 70.

1723 to 1764. 4. 7. 70.

1765 to 1806. 17. 11. 70.

1807 to 1848. 28. 6. 70.

1849 to 1890. 4. 7. 70.

1891 to 1932. 17. 11. 70.

1933 to 1974. 28. 6. 70.

1975 to 2016. 4. 7. 70.

2017 to 2058. 17. 11. 70.

2059 to 2100. 28. 6. 70.

2101 to 2142. 4. 7. 70.

2143 to 2184. 17. 11. 70.

2185 to 2226. 28. 6. 70.

2227 to 2268. 4. 7. 70.

2269 to 2310. 17. 11. 70.

2311 to 2352. 28. 6. 70.

2353 to 2394. 4. 7. 70.

2395 to 2436. 17. 11. 70.

2437 to 2478. 28. 6. 70.

2479 to 2520. 4. 7. 70.

2521 to 2562. 17. 11. 70.

2563 to 2604. 28. 6. 70.

2605 to 2646. 4. 7. 70.

2647 to 2688. 17. 11. 70.

2689 to 2730. 28. 6. 70.

2731 to 2772. 4. 7. 70.

2773 to 2814. 17. 11. 70.

2815 to 2856. 28. 6. 70.

2857 to 2898. 4. 7. 70.

2899 to 2940. 17. 11. 70.

2941 to 2982. 28. 6. 70.

2983 to 3024. 4. 7. 70.

3025 to 3066. 17. 11. 70.

3067 to 3108. 28. 6. 70.

3109 to 3150. 4. 7. 70.

3151 to 3192. 17. 11. 70.

3193 to 3234. 28. 6. 70.

3235 to 3276. 4. 7. 70.

3277 to 3318. 17. 11. 70.

3319 to 3360. 28. 6. 70.

3361 to 3402. 4. 7. 70.

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3865 to 3906. 4. 7. 70.

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9871 to 9912. 28. 6. 70.

9913 to 9954. 4. 7. 70.

9955 to 9996. 17. 11. 70.

Letters at foot to facilitate stock A/c.

Jubilee list?

11. 11.11.81

12.

15. Foreign Post Cards

Writings

16

13. 12.11.81

14. 16.12.78

17. 16.11.81

18. 17.10.81

Jubilee of 1875

Childhall road 1d 2d 3d 4d 5d 6d 7d 8d 9d 10d 11d 12d 13d 14d 15d 16d 17d 18d 19d 20d 21d 22d 23d 24d 25d 26d 27d 28d 29d 30d 31d 32d 33d 34d 35d 36d 37d 38d 39d 40d 41d 42d 43d 44d 45d 46d 47d 48d 49d 50d 51d 52d 53d 54d 55d 56d 57d 58d 59d 60d 61d 62d 63d 64d 65d 66d 67d 68d 69d 70d 71d 72d 73d 74d 75d 76d 77d 78d 79d 80d 81d 82d 83d 84d 85d 86d 87d 88d 89d 90d 91d 92d 93d 94d 95d 96d 97d 98d 99d 100d

South Kensington 1d 2d 3d 4d 5d 6d 7d 8d 9d 10d 11d 12d 13d 14d 15d 16d 17d 18d 19d 20d 21d 22d 23d 24d 25d 26d 27d 28d 29d 30d 31d 32d 33d 34d 35d 36d 37d 38d 39d 40d 41d 42d 43d 44d 45d 46d 47d 48d 49d 50d 51d 52d 53d 54d 55d 56d 57d 58d 59d 60d 61d 62d 63d 64d 65d 66d 67d 68d 69d 70d 71d 72d 73d 74d 75d 76d 77d 78d 79d 80d 81d 82d 83d 84d 85d 86d 87d 88d 89d 90d 91d 92d 93d 94d 95d 96d 97d 98d 99d 100d

Supplies Card 1d 2d 3d 4d 5d 6d 7d 8d 9d 10d 11d 12d 13d 14d 15d 16d 17d 18d 19d 20d 21d 22d 23d 24d 25d 26d 27d 28d 29d 30d 31d 32d 33d 34d 35d 36d 37d 38d 39d 40d 41d 42d 43d 44d 45d 46d 47d 48d 49d 50d 51d 52d 53d 54d 55d 56d 57d 58d 59d 60d 61d 62d 63d 64d 65d 66d 67d 68d 69d 70d 71d 72d 73d 74d 75d 76d 77d 78d 79d 80d 81d 82d 83d 84d 85d 86d 87d 88d 89d 90d 91d 92d 93d 94d 95d 96d 97d 98d 99d 100d

Reply Cards 1d 2d 3d 4d 5d 6d 7d 8d 9d 10d 11d 12d 13d 14d 15d 16d 17d 18d 19d 20d 21d 22d 23d 24d 25d 26d 27d 28d 29d 30d 31d 32d 33d 34d 35d 36d 37d 38d 39d 40d 41d 42d 43d 44d 45d 46d 47d 48d 49d 50d 51d 52d 53d 54d 55d 56d 57d 58d 59d 60d 61d 62d 63d 64d 65d 66d 67d 68d 69d 70d 71d 72d 73d 74d 75d 76d 77d 78d 79d 80d 81d 82d 83d 84d 85d 86d 87d 88d 89d 90d 91d 92d 93d 94d 95d 96d 97d 98d 99d 100d

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28 June 1881. see p. 161. ante.

One Penny. Postage & Revenue. Lilac

Type I. Plates 1+2. 25. 5. 81 (14 pencils.)  
3+5. 30. 5. 81.  
4+6. 9. 6. 81.  
7+8. 15. 6. 81.

Type II. (Current) (16 pencils)

Plates. 9+10. 14. 10. 81.

~~11+12. 15. 11. 81.~~

11+12. 11. 11. 81

13+14. 11. 81

15+16. 11. 11. 81

17. 11. 81

But see other side as Commrs exhibited in 1890

19 to 24. Not reg<sup>d</sup> at 178. 8. 85. in reserve at S. House.

25+26. 2. 5. 81.

27+28. 16. 1. 83.

29 to 32. In reserve as above.

33+34. 21. 8. 83.

35+36. 27. 10. 83.

37+38. 1. 11. 83.

39+40. 20. 2. 84

41+42. 21. 3. 84

43+44. 3. 4. 84.

45. 17. 12. 84

46+47. 2. 1. 85.

48. 15. 1. 85.

49+50. 17. 4. 85.

51+52. 29. 6. 85

53 ~~54~~ 18. 8. 85

54+55. 7. 12. 85.

56+57. 14. 12. 85.

58. 59.

60. 61. 14. 11. 86.

62. 63. 2. 12. 86.

19. 9. 12. 79  
20+21. 22. 1. 80.  
22. 18. 2. 80  
23. 21. 3. 80  
24. 2. 7. 80.  
25. 2. 5. 82  
26. 26. 6. 81

with in Commrs Exhibit

Dates in black. from Mr Westoby.  
Another set given in Commrs J.R.  
Exhibit May 1890. See my M.B. book.

Down above as exhibited by the Commrs J.R. at the St. Guy & Guildhall public exhibition of 1890 May

Black figures. Mr. Westoby  
Manus. mine from Pearce Hill.  
Manus altered. Mr Bacon from the exhibit.

see extra book & check this by 15. 8. 90

28 June 1881. See p. 101. article.

Set of these 1, 1 1/2, 2, 4, 5, 6, 15. P. 11.  
see 1. in Phil. No. 2. p. 59. July 1891. Wm.

see also vol 1. do. p. 91. giving 3<sup>rd</sup> set 2.  
5/ 10. 12. [Specimens] all 9 pages.

11 + 12. 11. 11. 21  
12 + 10. 11. 11. 21  
13 + 10. 11. 11. 21  
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Some in black from the British  
Museum and from the  
British Library 11. 11. 21

Some in black from the British  
Museum and from the  
British Library 11. 11. 21

Black figures. In. Wooded  
Museum. from the British  
Museum and from the British

Series issued 1. April 1884. De La Rue. Unified

$\frac{1}{2}$ d + 1d. Types remained. fast run, besides.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 2d. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 3d. <u>blue</u> | } postage revenue, in doubly<br>fugitive ink. |
| 4d. 5d. 6d. 9d. 1s. <u>green</u>                          |   |

The following are dates of Registration.

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. pl 1.   5.10.83.<br>2.   20.10.83. | 2d. pl 1.   30.10.83.<br>" 2   31.10.83.         | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. pl 1.   5.10.83.<br>" 2.   6.10.83.   |  |
| 3d. pl 1.   19.6.83.<br>" 2   12.7.83.                | 4 <sup>d</sup> pl 1.   6.9.83.<br>2.   16.10.83  | 5 <sup>d</sup> pl 1.   5.11.83. <i>defective</i><br>" 2.   " <i>defective</i><br>3.   30.10.83.<br>4.   9.11.83. |  |
| 6d. pl 1.   20.11.83.<br>2.   20.11.83.               | 9 <sup>d</sup> pl 1.   17.7.83<br>" 2   18.7.83. | 1 <sup>s</sup> pl 1.   20.11.83.<br>" 2.   5.12.83.  |  |
| 2 <sup>d</sup> 6.   19.6.83.<br>142. — (2 plates)     | 5s. pl 1   2.6.9.83                              |  |  |
| 10 <sup>s</sup> pl 1.   17.7.83.<br>2.   1.8.83.      | £1. pl 1.   31.1.84.<br>" 2   25.2.84.           |  | £5. value<br>expended on<br>24,000 of £5<br>pl 1.<br>9.3.82. |

Registration sheets in proper colours.



# Postage Stamps.

9 Aug 88.  
 50 Nov 89.  
 Dec 88  
 1898

Somerset House Warrant Form.

No 15. (Postage Revenue)

Labels.

|             |                  |              |        |         |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|--------|---------|
| 1/2 d. red. | Sheet containing | 240 1/2      | Stamps | 10.-    |
| 1/2 d. blue |                  | 240 1/2      |        | 1.-     |
|             |                  | 240 1/2 d.   |        | 1. 10.- |
|             |                  | 120 2d.      |        | 1.-     |
|             |                  | 120 2 1/2 d. |        | 1. 5.-  |
|             |                  | 120 3d.      |        | 1. 10.- |
|             |                  | 80 4d.       |        | 1. 6. 8 |
|             |                  | 60 5d.       |        | 1. 5.-  |
|             |                  | 40 6d.       |        | 1.-     |
|             |                  | 20 9d.       |        | 15.-    |
|             |                  | 20 10d.      |        | 1.-     |

Stamps of

|    |     |        |       |
|----|-----|--------|-------|
| 46 | 1/2 | Stamps | 2. 6. |
| 67 | 1/2 | Stamps | 5.-   |

To other values or warrant

10 omitted from warrant.

Newspaper Wrappers at 1/2 d

Parcels of 480. 12x5 1/2 2. 10.

|              |                                       |             |           |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Post boards. | Parcels containing                    | 240 (thin)  | 11.-      |
|              | at 1/2 d.                             | 100 (thick) | 5.-       |
|              | " Quarter Plain (thin) of 120 sheets. |             | } 11. 8.- |
|              | - 42 stamps on each sheet.            |             |           |
|              | " do do - (thick)                     |             | 12. 6.    |

Envelope Stamps at 1d.

|                    |               |                |          |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------|
| Parcels containing | 240. size A.  | 4 3/4 x 3 1/16 | 1. 3. 4. |
|                    | "             | " C. 5 1/4 x 3 | 1. 1. 8. |
|                    | " Commercial. |                | 1. 1. -  |

to allow of despatch.



Printed  
(Circular.)

St. John's College Messenger

Messengers Boxes for the use of all Members of the College who then  
reside within the College, or who are placed within the two Port Lodges (must be  
& are cleared daily (Sunday excepted) at  
10.30 a.m. 2 P.M. and 6.30 p.m.

(The Boxes are closed on Friday Day & Good Friday. & also for June 20 to 30 and  
from September 4 to 26 inclusive)

The Messengers attend to the Colleges of the University except Carey  
College & Albany College. It does not extend to Ridley Hall Newnham - Gt  
Queen College. (then follows some limits) It would be agreeable to see, &c.

The Messengers will deliver letters, circulars & parcels such as can be  
carried by hand, all bearing stamps

Special advance stamps are as rules at the Post Office at one half penny  
a at 5<sup>d</sup> per day. What can be put into the Messengers Boxes, not bear  
stamps. Messengers cannot meet bear 4 stamps

The College will not be responsible for damage by weather to any parcels, nor  
any money or valuables

What is sent to persons residing outside the College is to be  
addressed to their lodgings or houses. Addresses of the Messengers Members  
College may be obtained at the Port Lodges.

Anyone not a Member of the College is entitled to use the service  
of the Messengers.

St. John's College  
January, 1884.

See a very instructive & good paper by  
H D Calkins B.A. in Halifax S.C. Register by No 37  
Feb 22. 1896. p 192. vol II

and 1882. Salisbury.  
and No. 83. Queen's  
July 84. St. John's.

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Notes read at P. H. Socy  
by H. W. Rosseter  
4 Nov 1887.

# Cambridge Colleges.

See St. Lucas. vol XI. p. 69.

## 1. St Johns.

Issued - Jan'y 1884 p. 12.

designed by Mrs A. Colledge, a member & brother  
from Woodcut in Cooper's & the latest. Johnson's Almanack.  
Annals of Cambridge College Arms in Scarlet. (Lady Margaret College)

Sold at Buttricks & Co. 12 for 5<sup>s</sup> cancelled by a X  
sheet. 12 in 200 of 96 sheets. by Messrs with Andrew Percival.

College over Gov. votes in limits several times daily  
stopped by 7 Messrs June 1885. & a clause to continue  
on reasonable as a compromise for that year. 4 of all.  
obliteration Andrew Percival. 1 stamp of gold in letter box. printer.

## 2. Queens

Issued. 6. 11. 83. }  
withdrawn 6. 12. 85 }

W. P. Spalding  
Cambridge

designed. Ernest Tupperley. 4. 12. 110 sheets.  
Spalding pr.

## 3. Selwyn.

issued when College started <sup>con after</sup> <sup>end</sup> 1882.

withdrawn. 6. 12. 85.

designed & printed W. P. Spalding. Sheet 480. 5/15. col up  
by printer.

Envelopes

Harford coll.

in wfm

all of 2<sup>nd</sup> row  
 name of Son. Oxford crest  
 white Roman relief

1<sup>st</sup> issue in blue

60 x 117

2<sup>nd</sup> issue 75 x 113 on thick cream laid.

60 x 108, 60 x 105, no makers name.

2<sup>nd</sup> in mauve.

1) 60 x 117

"SPIERS & SON OXFORD" flat.

4 7/8 seen all in parchment.

2) 70 x 121

long also this "College Notice" sup 70 x 121. Mr. .... plan

1) on thinner laid (Mar. 9) 194 x 118

2) smoother & black.

3 1/2 on thick roughish cream laid

Card. Merton. blue embossed or white, poor quality in centre front

75 x 113.

seen in Bullamp. 14.3.96. sup 76 x 113. Good, in front of the pocket. red ink on front centre.

Card Exeter. monkey gives. no postmark.

Card Kable. imp. in centre of front. red relief. like card. 113 x 75. 75 x 113.

Card. Harford imp. Bluff Corner blue relief

Card. Merton. 117 x 113 x 75.

Exeter coll used on envelopes. Monkey seen Sept 93. obliterated pen note. back with

18 Nov 81.

11 Nov 85.

Kable used. 28.1.81.

1<sup>st</sup> type 7.2.81.

19.10.81. ✓

2<sup>nd</sup> type 25.5.84.

O. U. S. Oxford Union dock in red on face. second set type info 2 rows of type. ?

Plates seen. O.U.S. 92. 98.

Oxford.

The followg issued stamps

- Jan'y 86 1. All Souls. sheet Morley. 56 rows. half<sup>2</sup> 11 1/2. 8 vert<sup>e</sup> rows - in margin  
40 to sheet.
- 2. Lincoln. ~~Christ Church~~ P. 14. AW 4m Regent St London.
- June 77. 1887 3. Exeter P. 14. 8 rows of 12 = 96 Embossed
- 1875 Dec 4. Hertford. { part of envelope - 5 in rows of rows.  
11 1/2 6 rows. 40 to sheet.  
35 to sheet. same.
- no 75<sup>th</sup> printed ~~1887~~ 5. Keble. first to use. P. 11. Embossed. 2 x 2 P. 11 1/2
- Autumn 1871. Oct '76 6. Merton (4 plus also 2 envelopes.) Embossed. P. 12 1/2 12. card.
- Jan'y 84, 7. St John's. p. 12 Embossed

Specimen from 102 & 103 High St <sup>2d</sup> & 3. Oneil St. Oxford. made. Hertford.  
 separate & in pairs.

Obitration 2 lines blue ink = or with mauve outline pericil

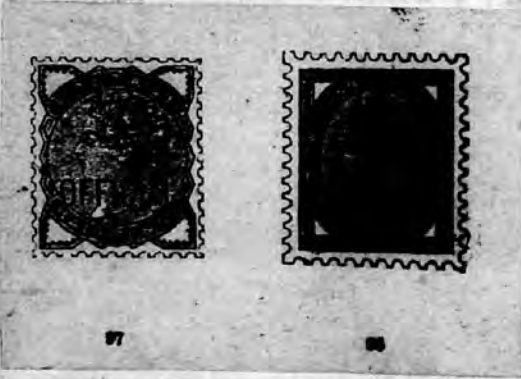
8 Balliol.



Embossed red on white card. no letters (Morley, 1893)

It was p. 11 <sup>11 1/2</sup> top & bottom only <sup>1885</sup>  
 prepared for use: but use of these. Please stop. embossed? before being issued

6<sup>o</sup> I.R. date cut off on rag<sup>d</sup> sheet & only 21 copies left. 18.8.90



Govt Parcels. P. blanc. surcharge inverted. 20.9.00  
 w a serv<sup>o</sup> letter address w.a.

S. I. B.  
 23 25.99

Sy<sup>o</sup> off<sup>o</sup> the<sup>o</sup> the<sup>o</sup>  
 Wandsworth Comm<sup>o</sup>

G. Parcels.  
 + 2 1/2 d. purple & blue. 1892.  
 P. G. P. red. on gray. pl 13. R. public. Nicholls

P. green. 21.8.90. issue as per PK J. G. B. vol 6. 1896. p. 167.

I.R. Official. as sent Mr Creeke. 8.7.90.

| Values.                                 | Issued.     | Remarks.                |
|---|-------------|-------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ green. Type 1880.         | 17. 10. 82. | unmark.                 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> lilac Decr 1881.        | 14. 9. 82.  | on Crown. 1888          |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> grey. (18)              | 23. 11. 82. |                         |
| <hr/>                                   |             |                         |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ d slate                   | 9. 2. 85.   |                         |
| 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lilac                   | 30. 1. 85.  | Crown. 1880.            |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> green.                  | 30. 1. 85.  |                         |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> carmine                 | 30. 1. 85.  |                         |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> ultramarine            | 30. 1. 85.  | anchor.                 |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ brown violet (same)       | 30. 1. 85.  |                         |
| <hr/>                                   |             |                         |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ d vermillion.             | 20. 1. 88.  | Crown. 1880.            |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> deep green.             | 15. 3. 89.  |                         |
| The error of $\frac{1}{2}$ brown violet | 84          | 89. Oct.                |
| 23.1.92 $\frac{1}{2}$ green             | 13. 4. 92.  | Crown                   |
| 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lilac on blue           | 4 87        | specimen for experiment |
|   | 15. 9. 91.  | various dates           |

Government Parcels.

|   |                    |            |
|---|--------------------|------------|
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Green. 1884 <sup>3</sup> Type | Issued. 21. 7. 83. | all on     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> brown red. 1881. (18) + (14)  | 20. 7. 83.         | Crown 1880 |
| <hr/>   |                    |            |
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d lilac. 1884.                | 17. 4. 86.         |            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> green red. 1887. when         | 5. 10. 91.         |            |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Green 1884.                   | 17. 4. 86.         |            |
| <hr/>   |                    |            |
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lilac + green. 1887.          | 29. 10. 87.        |            |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> purple on red. 1887.          | 19. 12. 87.        |            |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> lilac + blue. 1887.           | 16. 7. 88.         |            |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> dark Green. 1887.             | 28. 2. 90.         |            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> green + red. 1887.            | 91.                |            |

IR Obituary

17. 10. 82. 1880. 1880. 1880.

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O. W. office of Works.

1896. Nov in 2.96 Calk /

Army }  
Official }

Issue 1.9.96. in black

2d vermillion

1d lilac

2 1/2 purple on blue - Richer than first two.

Official Telegraphs ? for Army use on unapproved dies.

1d black on lilac - unmark ork <sup>suppressed 10.9.96</sup>

2d blue " "

3d brown " "

6d green " "

12. blk on green

2/6 red " "

- see in journal. June 97.

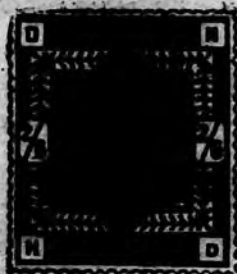




101



102



103



104

1/2 inch in diam - inscribed from front view.  
 1/2 inch in diam.  
 1/2 inch in diam.  
 1/2 inch in diam.

Official Telegraphs 2 for diam used in manufacture.  
 1/2 inch in diam. - inscribed from front view.  
 1/2 inch in diam.  
 1/2 inch in diam.  
 1/2 inch in diam.

1884 Feb.

1 1/2 2 4 5 6 7 P. 11 coll. Taping

P. 12. Worms.

see *Lon Skelatechist* Vol. 1. p. 59. & 91. where the

2<sup>nd</sup> is misquoted as 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr Worms says the perf.

is not 11. nor 11 1/2 nor 12. quite correctly:

trial?

Four Pence Half Penny Red Green

2 enamelled cards. on one the Centre. }  
Reg<sup>d</sup>. 15.8.92. The other ... frame } in black

These impressions were taken in my presence & approved by me. on 15.8.92  
"Edward Bright" Assoc<sup>y</sup> Secy

Approved & ratified by the Board. 16.8.92.

"Two dies for making stamp printing plates, to describe the Postage & Inland  
Revenue' Dishes of 4 1/2 d.

The sheet is red & green imperf. 11g<sup>o</sup> 15.8.92 8/panels 2x2.  
20 other 5 in rows. 4 rows.

Lines of green continuous round each panel, corners rounded then  
red line ~~continuous~~ next panel. similar in green outside the red  
23 lines. short. alternate green red bet<sup>n</sup> panels.



POSTAGE in open facing caps watermark bet<sup>n</sup> 1 & 2 rows of panels  
& a line bet<sup>n</sup> the " 3 & 4 " "

Issued 189

Need caused by Parcel Post made. to under 1 lb. 3<sup>o</sup>  
bet<sup>n</sup> 1 & 2 lbs — 4 1/2

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1<sup>st</sup> 24 1867. in 2 lines bll sans serif caps.  
1<sup>st</sup> black on green. L.P. vol 3. p 225.

Official Correspondence

For the General Report 1898. weight carried for each specific  
Total weight 59,190,980 ounces or 16,577 1/2 tons

- Admiralty.
- Attorney General
- Board of Agriculture.
- "    Supervision
- "    Trade.
- Agent Genl Cape Good Hope.
- Census Office
- Lord Chancellor.
- Charity Comm.
- Chelsea Hospital
- Chicago Exhibit.
- Chief Secy Dublin Castle.
- Civil Service Comm.
- Clk of Parliaments.
- Colonial Office.
- Congested Districts Bd.
- Cristobalamp Ireland.
- Courts of Law & Justice. Scotd.
- Crown & Hanaper.
- Customs.
- Emigrants' Information Offr
- Exchequer & Audit Dept.
- Exchgr: Offices in Scotland
- Foreign Office.
- Home Office.
- Local Fund Board
- Lord Lieutenant & Private Secy Ireland.
- Commiss. in Lunacy.
- Registrar Merchant Seaman
- Royal Mint
- National Debt Office.
- Public Education.
- Public Works Loan Board
- Revenue Office.
- Regent House.
- Registrar General.
- Registars Friendly Societies
- Registars Petty Sessions.
- Science & Art Department
- Secretary for Scotland.
- Solicitor General.
- Supreme Court of Justice.
- Surveyors of the United Kingdom.
- Treasury.
- Valuation Office
- War Office.
- Commiss. Woods & Forests.
- "    Woods & Buildings.

from Mr Purcell to Major Evans. 19 Oct 1895.  
enclosure folio. signed W. H. Colly. 19.10.95.

Embroidered Dies

The  $\frac{1}{2}$  d & 10 d dies were never plugged.

The 1d die have not been made to take plug since May 1881.

Rosette plugs first used instead of date plugs 7 July 1894.

These were made with 9 dots  $\therefore$  up to August, 1894

were the only plugs used.

March 21<sup>st</sup>  
In Aug<sup>t</sup>, 96 new plugs were made with 5 dots only  $\therefore$

& from this date both the 9 & 5 dot were used indiscriminately

up to 30 Aug<sup>t</sup> 1895. on that day the 5 dots were

withdrawn & the 9 dots and<sup>d</sup> to be used

The 3<sup>d</sup> die 7 was in use at the time both sorts  
of plugs were in use & <sup>and</sup> probably have been used  
with the 9 & 5 dotted plugs

6d die. No 25 was withdrawn on 13 July 1894

No 26 on 9. Mar 94. It is probable Rosette plugs

were used in the earlier die. Nos 27, 28, 29 & 30

were all issued after the introduction of the Rosette plugs.

& as all the Rosette plugs were withdrawn these dies  
could not have been dated.

Dating given up 7 Feb 1894.

1 1/2 d die altered in 1890.

Obsolete reg. dies could only have been used with  
same dotted plugs.

1871

Chicago, Ill. Dec 1st 1871

Dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th inst.

in relation to the matter of the Chicago & North Western R.R. Co.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. A. Phelps

Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed for you are the papers in relation to the above mentioned matter.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. A. Phelps

Chicago, Ill.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. A. Phelps

Chicago, Ill.

Supd Dep<sup>y</sup>: J. R. S. H.

22 Oct 1895

I find my memo<sup>s</sup> to you may be modified to the  
follow<sup>g</sup> extent.

Rolls with 9 dots were used from  
7 Feb 1894 to 20 March 1894

From 21 Mar 1894 to Aug<sup>c</sup> 1895 both the  
5 + 9 were used.

In Aug<sup>c</sup> 1895 the 5 were withdrawn.

(Excuses for officers incorrect w<sup>th</sup> very busy &  
imagined they had searched all the records  
when in fact they had only seen a portion of them

T. A. Galle.

30 Dec 1895 Mr Charles Eden, G.P.O. wrote Mr Westoby  
Mr Robinson in 1860 distributed supplies of slips  
full &c to all officers (not merely London) three  
within as well as those within the 2d post  
radius (London District)

As regards Circular No 3. The print bears date  
'January 1841'; & was no doubt prepared for  
issue in Jan<sup>y</sup>. It may have been issued in that  
month at any rate to officers within the Lon Dist  
but I can find no trace of any such issue & I  
much doubt if it went at all until the 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb.



the date I have in my hand copy.

(N.B. the P.O. copy I saw has on it this memo.

"This circular was sent to the Post Masters &c. from the Bokenham's Office 3 Feb'y 1841.")

The useful supply of "Specimen" 12 envelopes was sent to P. Masters was furnished by the Stamp Office on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan'y. & when a check of the receipt of this preliminary supply on the follow day that office was informed that

"So far as the Post Office was concerned the issue of the new envelopes might commence on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the follow mo: of Feb'y."

A Bokenham's copy of Circulars is pasted, with a copy of the supplementary order (referred to in the official letter book of 16<sup>th</sup> Feb'y) into the order book bot. M.S. orders dated 10 Feb'y. & the fact that the 2 were sent together instead of the latter referring to no. 3. is I think conclusive that the general issue took place on this date - the alteration of the printed name of the month having been omitted to be made when the date - 10<sup>th</sup> - was added.

From the foregoing you will see where you got your date (29/Jan'y) from - for the issue of <sup>the</sup> "new". It is that date is however only the date of issue of a small preliminary supply - required as a specimen is clear from the above - but in addition I find that on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb'y the S.O. told us that they could supply the quantity we required to commence the sale at offices with in the Home District with six weeks. I suggested that the date should first be confirmed to the S. Office & the Sea Policy Office.

It seems to me therefore quite clear that the actual date of issue to the Public cannot be regarded as having taken place before the 10<sup>th</sup> Feb'y 1841.

& then only to the very limited extent above described?

(Re Black ink Obliteration)

I can find nothing more as to stamping of black ink  
except in verification of the date - 12 Feb. already  
given you. It may however have been issued  
in London before then, as formal authority was  
given to the Stamp Office on 8 Jan<sup>y</sup> to supply the  
R. O. with the parlor kind req<sup>d</sup> & the change  
was not one who needed to be disc<sup>d</sup> to Prov<sup>l</sup>  
Offices before it was carried out, as a practice  
to have been the invariable practice with  
regard to a change of stamps -

The change I believe certainly came  
into operation before the 15 Feb<sup>y</sup>. even in the  
Provinces.

I see you refer to Circ. no 14. The  
reference in that cir<sup>r</sup> rather I think strengthens  
the view above expressed.

Yrs truly Charles Eden.

9 Feb 99. I am sorry I cannot help you further than the enclosed. I have done all I can.

Repect letter of date. Buturcell was Mr Westoby.

Copy enclosed.

Mr Purcell.

I have examined the books of the period stated by Mr Westoby & find no mention made as to the difference between machine made & hand made paper being used. The date of the appointment of Mr Warren De la Rue to the Bd of Admt. Rev. on the 10 day of July 1860. This Mr Warren De la Rue was app'd Depy Engraver by Treasury Warrant on the 1 day of July 1864. We can find no further trace of any app't. since Mr. Dowsett, 8 Feb 1899

Note by Mr Purcell: \* There is no doubt that he was app'd Engraver in 1867 or thereabouts.

(Conty.)

6. Park Road Forest Hill. 1. 3. 99.

Dear Mr Westoby. There are 3 classes of dies under the control of the head of the Stamp & Depar<sup>t</sup>:

1. The original punches, dies, &c. used in the making of the working dies, plates &c. in the Stamps rooms & printing rooms at Somerset House. & on the premises of the contractors. These originals are kept in an iron safe in the strong room. Whose key we have access to, except the chief and his deputy.
2. The General stamping dies ("Law Dies") are in a number of boxes, which are locked up in an iron safe in the strong room nightly, & placed on the Stamps tables every morning for the use of the Stampers. They are very strictly controlled by several Superintendents.
3. The plates & Dies at the Contractors are under the charge & locked up nightly by an Officer there; quite independent of the Contractors & their employees.

I cannot understand any dies being found, both dated & undated for any given die. Those used on the neck were sometimes indistinct in the stamp.

We absolutely never struck from any unhardened dies. Embossed Post dies lasted a long while as a rule, & were given out often without much regard to the order of their use: & occasionally withdrawn & a given piece put for use.

The use on the neck would not be put on a hardened die:

but occasionally if the leather force were mismanaged  
a no. die might not show its neck n<sup>o</sup> on the stamp.  
All these dies had a very visible number on the back.  
Purcell is fairly well again. I am happy to say. P. is  
popular. Tho' like all Irishmen he is good at the  
Shillelagh.      Yr very truly "Thos Peacock."

In answer to an enquiry started by me Mr  
Westoby wrote to Purcell, & the latter on 21.3.99  
wrote the subjoined. to him

"This is the best I can do for you"  
enclosing the following from F. A. Colls. Supt of  
Stamp & Depart: General Store.

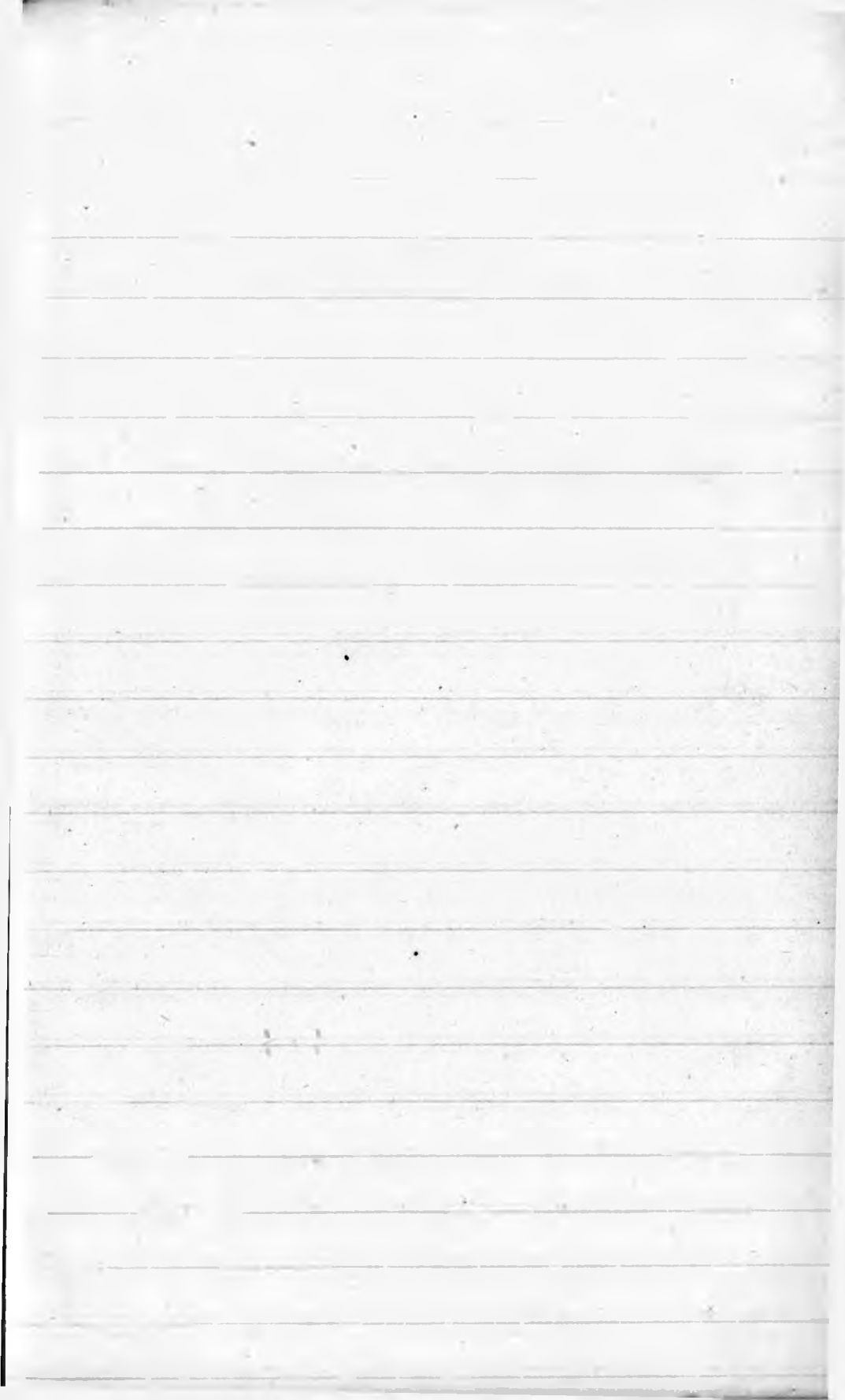
Dear Purcell / I am inclined to Mr Westoby's  
opinion. In confirmation of his view of the  
envelope is, as I think it is, a Government one.  
There is no doubt it was stamped with Die No 22  
& that it was stamped at Messrs De la Rue's  
factory, since that die was only used there  
on the other hand if the env<sup>o</sup> be a private one,  
it wd be stamped at S. Home with one of the Dies  
no<sup>s</sup> 220 to 223 inclusive or 225 to 227 inclusive

Yr truly, "F. A. Colls"  
21. Mar 1899.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The second part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The third part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...



The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The sixth part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The seventh part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The eighth part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The ninth part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...  
 The tenth part of the paper is devoted to a description of the  
 various forms of the genus *...* which have been  
 recorded from the ... of the ...





Henry Engau,  
BOOKBINDER  
612 Olive St.  
St. Louis, Mo


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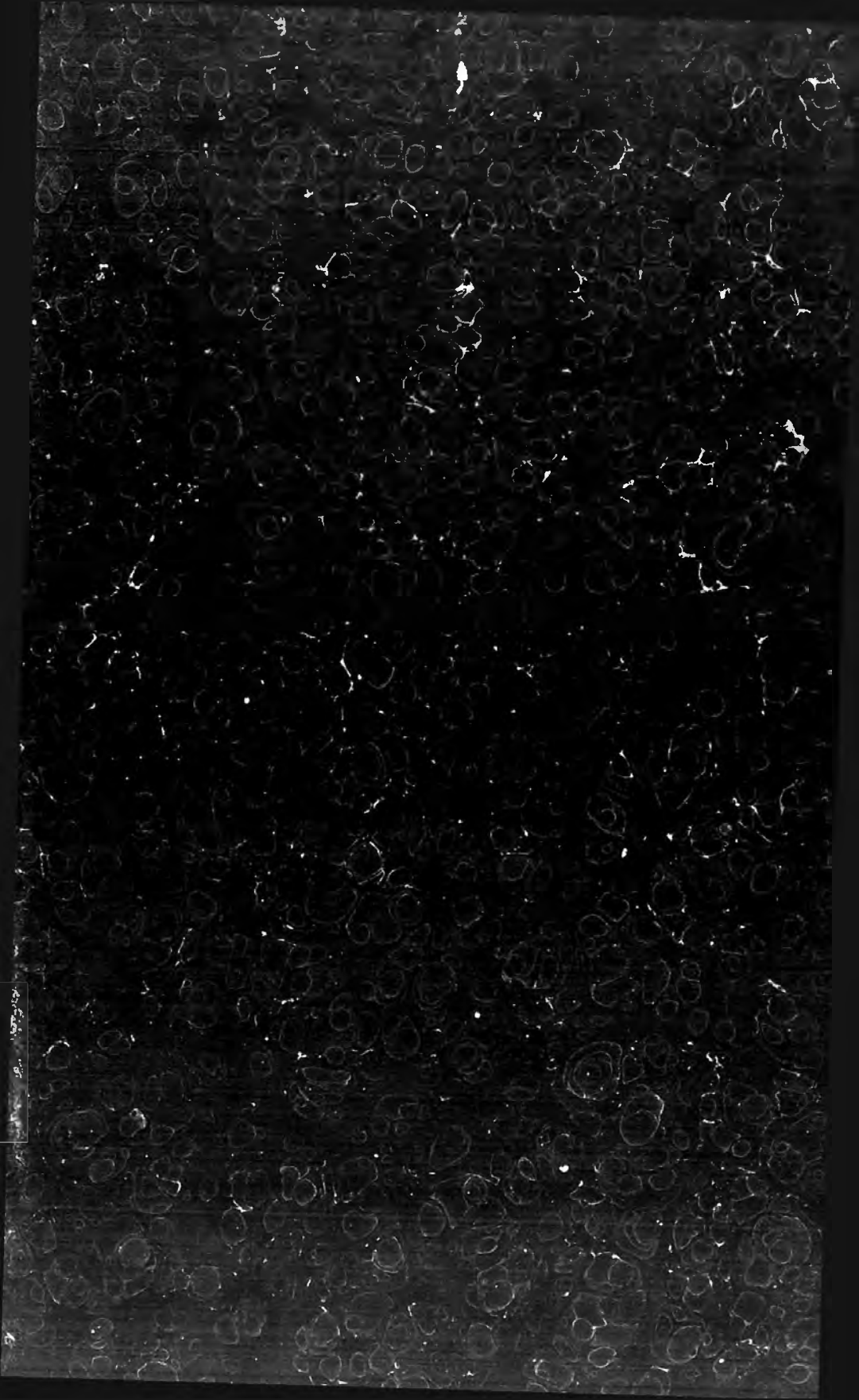
SALVT LOUIS



**POST OFFICE**

**JOHN K. TIFFANY.**







Crawford 1388

*K*

THE  
POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS  
OF  
GREAT BRITAIN

(WITH UPWARDS OF 100 ILLUSTRATIONS).

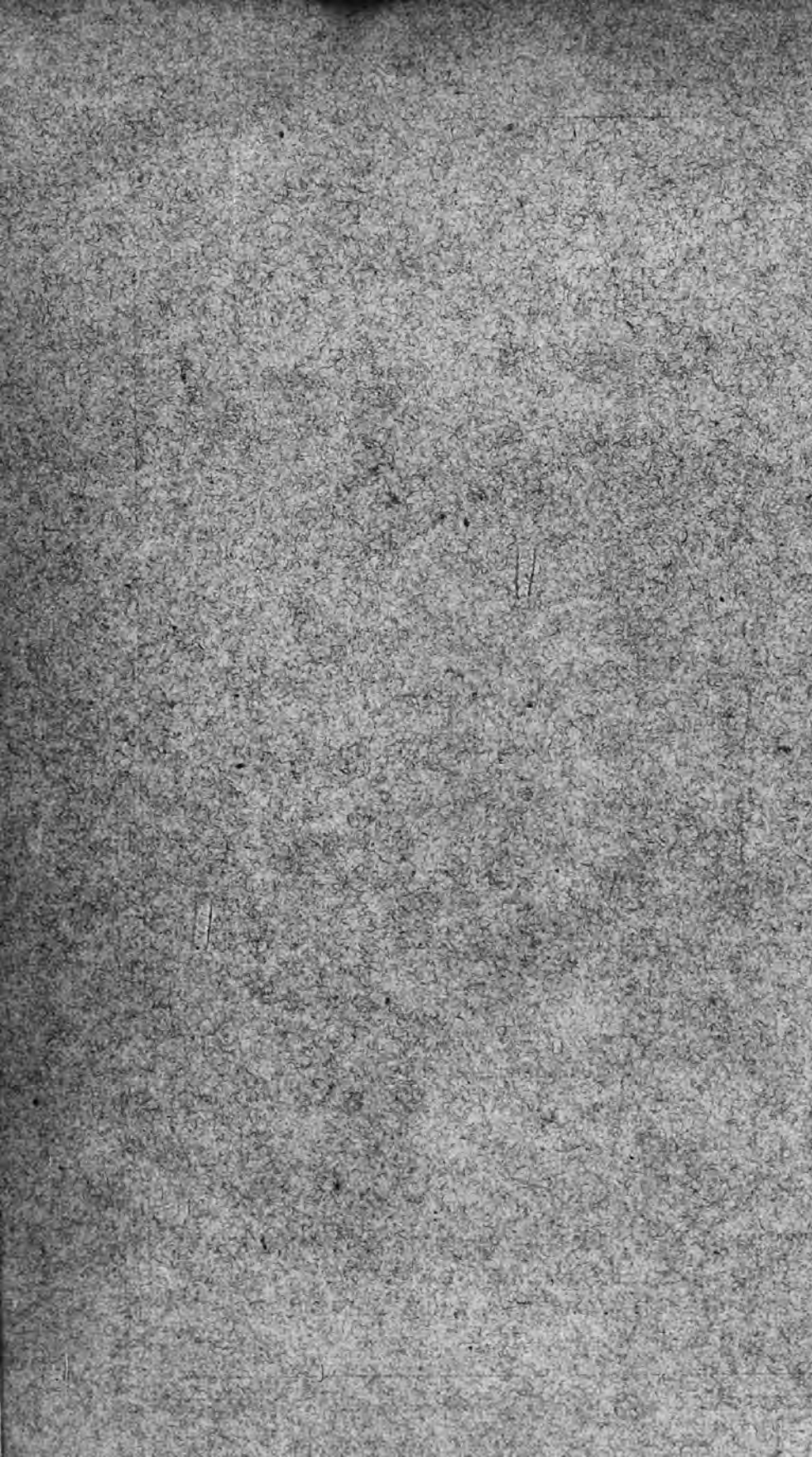
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FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK,  
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WILLIAM A. S. WESTOBY.

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BRUSSELS: J. B. MOENS, 7, GALERIE BORTIER.  
1881.



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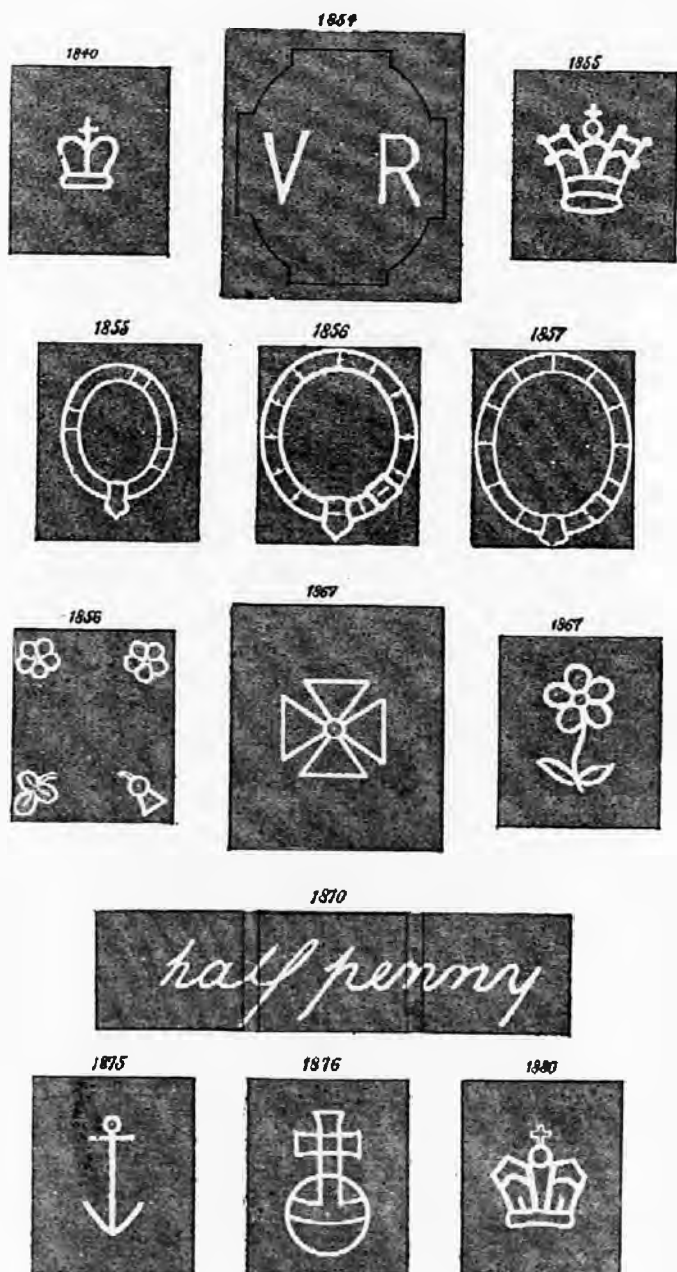
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WATERMARKS OF POSTAGE STAMPS 1840-1880.



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OF  
GREAT BRITAIN

(WITH UPWARDS OF 100 ILLUSTRATIONS).

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1881.

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## P R E F A C E.

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SHORTLY after the formation of the Philatelic Society, London, its attention was directed to the Postage Stamps of Great Britain, and several of the earliest meetings were devoted to their investigation.

The absence of sufficient *data*, added to the difficulty of obtaining reliable information with reference to circumstances which had taken place so many years previously, induced the Society to postpone the further consideration of the subject; and it was not till 1879 that the then Secretary was requested to prepare a digest of such information as had in the meanwhile been collected, and submit it for further examination.

On resuming the enquiry, it became evident that the preparation of a comprehensive list of the stamps involved much careful and minute attention. A general desire was also expressed that the work should not be confined to a mere catalogue, revised or annotated with such emendations as individual members of the Society might suggest at its meetings, but that an endeavour should be made to produce a more systematic and detailed history of the various postage and telegraph stamps that have been issued, with an account of some of the almost unknown, but highly interesting, essays and designs which from time to time had been produced during the gradual development of the British Postal System.

The President was unanimously requested to undertake the authorship of such a work, but at his request another member of the Society was associated with him in the task, and the papers in the Society's possession were placed at their disposition.

At an early stage the Authors found that the subject entailed so much independent investigation, and opened out such a wide field of enquiry, that it was necessary to reconsider the entire scope of the contemplated work, which at their instance, and with the assent of the Society, has assumed its present shape.

The volume makes no pretension to literary merit; indeed its very nature involves a certain amount of repetition, not to say tautology. Many matters of detail might possibly have been omitted without detriment, but as it was evident that the changes commenced in 1880 were only the precursors of others affecting the majority of the stamps in use, the Authors, warned by the difficulties attendant on their own researches, have recorded them, lest what now admitted of easy and accurate explanation should in a few years become difficult if not impossible to unravel.

While availing themselves of such materials as had already been collected, the Authors are entirely responsible for the facts stated in the following pages. Their sedulous endeavour has been to secure the greatest amount of accuracy possible in this the first connected account of the postage and telegraph stamps of Great Britain, to attain which every stamp, unless otherwise stated, has been described from the specimen itself. Care also has been taken to refer for information to none but primary sources, wherever such were accessible. Some delay has in consequence arisen, due partly to the lapse of time, which has removed the greater number of those who bore part in the original work, and compelled those who survive to consult books and other records for the details of transactions which

had faded from their memory. In addition, all English and foreign publications containing any reference to the subject have been passed in review, and the Authors believe they have not omitted to collate and verify every statement to be gathered from these sources which would throw any further light on the matter.

The Authors have gratefully to acknowledge the aid that has been readily afforded to them by the General Post Office, by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and by the former and present contractors for the supply of stamps; and last, but not least, to express their recognition of the assistance rendered by their Colleagues of the Society, and more especially their great obligations to its energetic Secretary, Mr. Burnett, for his invaluable counsel and help.

In now dedicating these pages to the Philatelic Society of London, the Authors venture to express the hope that their attempt to record some of the more interesting features connected with the issues of the postal and telegraph stamps of Great Britain will be deemed not altogether unworthy of the reputation of the oldest Society devoted to the Science.

FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK, *President.*

W. A. S. WESTOBY.

*July, 1881.*



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# INTRODUCTION.



## CHAPTER I.

### *THE OLD POST OFFICE SYSTEM.*

THE exclusive privilege of conveying letters by post, and of taking the revenues derived therefrom, has always been claimed by the sovereigns of England as a right belonging to them *jure coronæ*, and this royal right and privilege has not only been recognised from the earliest times, but has been confirmed by a course of successive legislation up to the present day. But though the Post Office thus grew up as a royal institution, yet, when its business was more fully developed, and its profits grew larger, its management was gradually assumed by the State, and it has been converted, whether rightly or wrongly, into a source of national revenue.

So far back as the reign of King John entries are to be found of payments to *nuncii* for the conveyance of Government despatches, and entries of like payments may be traced in an almost unbroken series through the records of many subsequent reigns. In the reign of Henry III. these messengers commenced to wear the royal livery, but were obliged to provide themselves with horses until the reign of Edward I., when *posts*\* were

\* The name took its origin from the *posts* or *posita* placed at intervals along the roads of the Roman Empire, where couriers were kept in readiness to carry despatches and intelligence on behalf of the State.

established where horses could be had on hire. In the employment of these messengers may be traced the first germ of the Post Office system in England; for it is probable that the office of "Master of the Postes," instituted by Henry VIII. early in the 16th century (mentioned by Camden in his *Annals*), originated in the supervision of them, and we find one Brian Tuke, afterwards Sir Brian, who was appointed to that office by Henry VIII., described as *Magister nunciorum cursorum sive postarum*. In 1545, Sir Brian Tuke was succeeded by Sir William Paget and John Mason, Esq., as joint Masters of the Posts under a similar designation; but it does not appear that these posts were employed for any other purpose than for the conveyance of Government despatches, and it was only by degrees that permission to make use of them was extended to private individuals.

A foreign post for the conveyance of letters from London to the Continent existed at the beginning of the 16th century, as the Flemings, says Stowe, in his *Surveye of London*, by long custom "pretended a right to appoint a Master of the Strangers' Post, and that they were in possession of from the year 1514." They retained this privilege down to the year 1558, when disputes arose between the Flemings and Italians regarding the right of appointing a Postmaster. These disputes were referred to the Privy Council, and it was finally settled, in 1581, that the Master of the Posts should have charge of both the English and foreign offices, under the title of "Chief Postmaster." This office was conferred by Queen Elizabeth on Thomas Randolph, who in 1567 had succeeded Sir John Mason as Master of the Posts, and who had previously been much employed by the Queen in her Scottish affairs.

Thomas Randolph was succeeded in the office of Chief Postmaster by Sir J. Stanhope, afterwards Lord Stanhope; and in 1591 a royal proclamation was issued for "redress of disorders in postes which convey and bring to and out of the parts beyond seas packets of letters," and "particularly to prevent the inconvenience both to our service and the lawfull trade of honest merchants, by prohibiting that no persons whatsoever should

take upon them publicly or privately to procure, bring to, or carry out any packets or letters to or from the countries beyond the seas, except such our ordinary posts and messengers for these parts, as either by our Master of the Postes or the Masters of the Postes general of those countries reciprocally should be found nominated for that kind of service." Command was also given to all mayors, sheriffs, justices, officers of customs, &c., "to make diligent search of all mails, budgets, and other carriages of such disavowed carriers, messengers, or suspected persons, and all such so discovered to apprehend and stay."

It is about this period that the first mention is found of packets sailing between Liverpool and Dublin, and Holyhead and Dublin.

Before the accession of James I., some towns in Scotland appointed special messengers to convey despatches to and from the Court; but on his accession the increased intercourse between England and Scotland led to an improvement in the system of horse posts. Orders were issued for the regular supply of horses to all "riding in post," authorising the owner to charge 2½d. per mile for the hire of each horse besides the "guide's groats." Horses were also to be kept expressly for the conveyance of the government despatches, which were to be forwarded within a quarter of an hour of their arrival, and travel at the rate of not less than seven miles an hour in summer, and five in winter.

It would seem that, although the abuses complained of in the preceding reign, with regard to letters coming from abroad, had been in some measure remedied, yet it was not so with letters sent abroad. In 1619 James I. instituted the office of Postmaster for foreign parts, who, according to Rushworth, "should have the sole taking up, sending and conveying, of all packets and letters concerning his service or business to be despatched into forraigne parts, with power to grant moderate salaries;" and he conferred the office on "Mathewe de Quester the elder, and Mathewe de Quester the younger." This appointment was considered by Lord Stanhope, the Chief Postmaster, as an inter-

ference with his privileges, and the dispute was only settled in 1632, after the accession of Charles I., by the retirement of Lord Stanhope, and the assignment of their office by the de Questers, under royal sanction, to William Frizell and Thomas Witherings, with prohibition to all others to intermeddle therewith "at their utmost peril."

It was in the year 1635 that, at the instance of Witherings, an attempt was made to establish some regular system of inland postage, though on a very limited scale. In that year Charles I. issued a proclamation ordering his postmaster for foreign parts, Thomas Witherings, to "settle a post or two to run night and day between London and Edinburgh, to go thither and back again in six days," and to take with them all such letters as should be directed to any post town in or near that road. Eight main postal lines throughout England were also authorised to be instituted. The rates of postage to be charged were fixed at 2d. for a single letter for any distance under 80 miles, 4d. up to 140 miles, 6d. for any longer distance, and 8d. to any place in Scotland. It was also ordered that 2½d. per mile should be paid to the several postmasters for every single horse carrying the letters, evidently showing that the sole mode of conveyance contemplated was by persons riding on horseback. In a subsequent proclamation, issued two years later, a monopoly of letter carrying was established, which has been preserved ever since in all the subsequent legislation regulating the Post Office.

In 1640 Witherings, who held the appointments of both inland and foreign postmaster, was superseded in both these offices for abuse of trust,\* and they were sequestered into the hands of Philip Burlamachy, a London merchant, who was appointed to act in his stead under the immediate oversight of the King's principal Secretary of State.

\* "The remonstrance of the grievances of all His Majesty's posts in England, together with the carriers and others, sustained by the unlawfull projects of Thomas Witherings," addressed to the House of Commons in 1640, may be found in the library of the British Museum.

When the civil war broke out, the service, such as it was, was greatly interrupted. The monopoly of letter carrying, proclaimed by Charles, gave great offence, and in 1642 a committee of the House of Commons was appointed to enquire into the matter, of which committee Edmund Prideaux, subsequently Attorney-General under the Commonwealth, was chosen chairman. After no small amount of contention, Prideaux, in 1644, was appointed "Master of the Posts, Couriers, and Messengers" by an ordinance of both Houses of Parliament, and proved both an able and energetic officer. "He established," says Blackstone, "a weekly conveyance of letters to all parts of the country, thereby saving to the public the charge of maintaining postmasters to the amount of £7,000 per annum." For many years previously the establishment of the post had been a burden on the public purse; but in 1649, five years after his appointment, the net revenue reached £5,000.

In 1649 an attempt was made by the corporation of London to set up a rival Post Office for inland letters in opposition to that of the government; but Prideaux, who had then become Attorney-General, invoked the aid of the Council of State, which decided that "the office of postmaster is and ought to be in the sole power and disposal of Parliament." After this decision the corporation post was speedily suppressed, and the privilege of the sole right of conveying letters has never again been questioned.

In the year 1650 the practice of farming the Post Office revenues commenced, a practice which as regards some of the bye-posts was continued till the close of the last century. At first the revenues were farmed for £5,000; but subsequently, up to 1659, they were farmed to Mr. John Manley for £10,000. After the accession of Charles II. they were farmed for £21,500, and for a short period for double that amount; but in the year 1675 they were, by statute 15 Car. II. c. 14, settled by the king upon James Duke of York, afterwards James II., and when, on his accession, they reverted to, and again became attached to, the Crown, they had reached to £65,000 per annum.

Under the Protectorate, in 1656, an important statute was passed, which was afterwards re-enacted by 12 Car. II. c. 35. By this Act "to settle the postage of England, Scotland, and Ireland," the Post Office was regularly established by authority of Parliament, and it was provided that there should be one Post Office, and one officer styled the "Postmaster General for England and Comptroller of the Post Office," who should have the horsing of all through posts and persons riding post. Rates of postage were fixed for English, Scotch, Irish, and foreign letters, which continued substantially in force until the reign of Queen Anne, and the only non-governmental posts allowed to continue were those of the two Universities and the Cinque Ports.

In 1683 a Penny Post for the conveyance of letters and parcels between different parts of London and its suburbs was started by Robert Murray, an upholsterer, and subsequently assigned by him to William Docwray. By it all letters and parcels not exceeding a pound weight, or the value of £10, were conveyed within the city and suburbs for one penny, and for twopence within a circuit of ten miles. It appears, from the accounts given of it by Stowe, that district offices were opened in various parts of London, and receiving-houses were freely established. When its success became apparent, the Duke of York, on whom, as has been before mentioned, the Post Office revenues had been settled, complained of it as an encroachment on his rights. The case was brought before the Court of King's Bench, which decided that the new Post Office was an infraction of the privileges of the General Post Office and was part of the royal establishment, to which it was thereupon annexed. The Duke of York, however, appointed Docwray to the office of Controller of the District Post, an office which he appears to have held for some years. In 1694 a pension of £500 per annum was granted to him out of the revenues of the Post Office in recognition of his services; but he does not seem to have enjoyed it long, as he lost his office and emoluments in 1698, on certain charges of mismanagement being brought against him.



The London District Post, thus commenced, received legislative sanction in 1710 by the Act 9 Anne c. 10, and was improved in 1794.\* The rates were increased in 1801, when it was made a Twopenny Post, and though the rates thus fixed ceased to be charged when the Act of 1839 came into operation, yet it continued to exist for several years after under the name of the London District Post, as an independent establishment

\* By the Act 9 Anne c. 10, the charge of one penny was authorised to be levied on all letters passing or repassing by the carriage called the Penny Post, established and settled within the cities of London and Westminster and borough of Southwark, and parts adjacent, to be received and delivered within ten English miles distant from the General Letter Office in London.

In 1781, by Act 4 Geo. II. c. 33, after reciting that upon the application of the inhabitants of several towns and places, within ten miles, to be allowed to pay the messengers one penny on delivery, over and above the one penny paid on putting such letters in the post, this additional charge was authorised.

By 5 Geo. III. c. 25, the weight of letters or packets passing by the Penny Post was limited to 4oz., except in respect of such letters or packets as had first come through the General Post Office.

By an Act passed in 1794 an additional rate of one penny was made chargeable on letters conveyed *from* places beyond the cities of London and Westminster and the borough of Southwark, in like manner as letters *to* these places had been previously charged with an additional penny. It was also made optional for persons sending letters to pay the postage on posting them, or not, as they thought proper, except when the letters were to go by the general or foreign mails, in which case the prepayment was made compulsory.

In 1801, by 41 Geo. III. c. 7, an additional charge of one penny was imposed on all letters delivered by the Penny Post within the town delivery, and the Penny Post became the Twopenny Post. In 1805, by Act 45 Geo. III. c. 11, the rate for letters delivered beyond the limits of the cities of London and Westminster and the borough of Southwark was raised to 3d.

In 1831 the limits of the Twopenny Post were extended to all places within three miles of the General Post Office, and at the same time letters to be delivered by the general or foreign post were exempted from the twopenny rates if posted within the said limits. Two years afterwards the limits were again extended to places not exceeding twelve miles from the General Post Office, and so remained until the Act of 1839 came into operation.

separate from the General Post Office,\* chiefly owing to the difficulties dependent upon the status of the officials of all classes in the two establishments. These difficulties were at length overcome, and the Metropolis having been subdivided into postal districts, the Twopenny Post, which since 1840 had ceased to exist except in name, was merged in the General Post. †

According to Chambers, ‡ the first legislative enactment for a Scottish Post Office was passed in 1695, prior to which time the posts out of Edinburgh had been few and irregular. About 1700 the posts between the capitals were so frequently robbed near the Border that Acts were passed, both by the Parliament of England and that of Scotland, making robbery of the post punishable with death and confiscation of moveables. About the year 1750 the mails began to be conveyed from stage to stage by relays of fresh horses, and to the principal places by post-boys; but the greater part were still carried by foot-runners. In April, 1776, the modern stage-coach was introduced into Scotland, performing the journey from London to Edinburgh in sixty hours. It was in the same year that the first Penny Post was established in Edinburgh by Peter Williamson, a native of Aberdeen; but his success soon induced others to attempt similar undertakings, when the authorities of the General Post Office, seeing the importance of this branch of business as a

\* Although the name of "Twopenny Post" ceased to exist officially, yet letters posted at the receiving-houses of the District Post, the adhesive stamps on which were not obliterated there, were post-marked with the old T.P. hand-stamp.

† By a report of a commission of inquiry into the establishment, made in June, 1854, it was recommended that the Inland Office and the London District Office should be combined on a plan suggested by the Commissioners. This amalgamation, having been approved by the Lords of the Treasury, by a minute dated 28th July, 1854, was commenced to be carried into effect by Lord Canning, then Postmaster General; but was not completed till after the appointment of the Duke of Argyll, who succeeded him in November, 1855, and under whom the division of the Metropolis into postal districts was carried into effect in 1856.

‡ *Chambers' Encyclopædia, Post Office.*

source of revenue, gave Williamson a pension for the goodwill, and the Penny Post was attached to the general establishment.

On the 7th July, 1788, a direct mail between London and Glasgow was established. Previously to this the correspondence had passed through Edinburgh, where it was detained twelve hours.

But little is known of the early history of the Irish Post Office. As has been stated before, there is a mention of vessels plying between Liverpool and Dublin, and Holyhead and Dublin, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and in the reign of Charles I. packets between Chester and Dublin, and between Milford Haven and Waterford, conveyed government dispatches. After the Restoration, the rate of letter postage between London and Dublin was fixed at 6d.

Early in the reign of Queen Anne, in the year 1705, an Act was passed amending the laws then governing the Post Office; but in the year 1710 the whole law was completely remodelled by the Act 9 Anne c. 10, which continued to be the basis of all future legislation down to the year 1837. By its provisions a General Post and Letter Office was established within the city of London, from whence all letters and packets whatsoever "may be with speed and expedition sent into any part of the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to North America and the West Indies, or any other of Her Majesty's dominions, or any country or kingdom beyond the seas, and at which office all returns and answers may likewise be received." Chief offices were established in Edinburgh, Dublin, New York, and in one of the Leeward Islands, and the whole were put under the control of an officer to be appointed by Her Majesty under the great seal by the name and style of "Her Majesty's Postmaster General." Rates of postage were settled under the Act for letters and packets within the British dominions, and also for letters to foreign parts. Authority was also given to erect cross-posts or stages, so that all parts of the country might have equal advantages as far as was practicable.

It does not appear that much was done in the way of establishing cross-posts until the year 1720, when Ralph Allen, Deputy Postmaster for Bath, proposed to the Government to establish a cross-post between Exeter and Chester by way of Bristol, Gloucester, and Worcester. He further proposed a complete reconstruction of the cross-post system, and by his representations of the advantages which would result from its adoption, he induced the Government to grant him a lease for life of all the cross-posts which should be established, at a rental of £6,000 a year. The enterprise proved highly remunerative, and at his death, in 1769, when the whole came under the control of the Postmaster General, the system had been extended over the greater part of the country.\*

The rates of postage fixed by the Act of Queen Anne continued in force till the passing of the Act 5 Geo. III. c. 25, by which they were fixed at 1d. for a single letter under fifteen miles, 2d. under forty miles, 3d. under eighty miles, and so on. By this Act, sect. 2, authority was given to the Postmaster General to establish Penny Posts in other cities or towns, or the suburbs thereof, within the United Kingdom, similar to that existing in London, where such posts might be deemed by him to be advisable. The Act also conferred the exclusive right of conveying and collecting such letters and packets within the district so soon as a Penny Post was established to serve it. It also provided that all letters and packets brought by the inland or foreign post to the General Post Office in London, for delivery at any place beyond the limits of these departments of the General Post Office, and within the limits of a Penny Post Office, should be conveyed and delivered by the latter, and should be charged one penny for such delivery in addition to the rate of postage due to the General Post Office.

The powers thus granted were extensively employed. In 1835 there were 1,035 Penny Posts in England, 225 in Scot-

\* When the "Bye Letter Office" was abolished in 1799, and its management transferred to the General Post Office, the profits had reached to the yearly sum of £200,000.

land, and 197 in Ireland. Many of these were established in and about large towns, such as Liverpool, Birmingham, &c. The principle which for the most part guided the Postmaster General in authorising them, was to select towns and populous neighbourhoods not situated in the direct line of general post conveyances, which were desirous of obtaining greater facilities of communication, provided that the establishment of such Penny Post would not prejudicially affect the General Post, and that there existed a reasonable expectation that it would yield sufficient to pay for its maintenance. This it was considered would be the case, if it could be shown that the receipts on its first establishment would suffice to cover two-thirds of the expenses.

Besides these there were other auxiliary posts, called "Guarantee Posts," by means of which parties in the country might obtain any such additional accommodation as they might desire, on consenting to bear the additional expense. Many Penny Posts existed for some years after the establishment of the General Penny Post, and letters are frequently found among old correspondence post-marked with the particular Penny Post through which they passed. These hand-stamped impressions were in blue, black, or red ink, the latter being used when the rate had been paid on posting. When the General Post extended its system by multiplying free deliveries, these smaller posts gradually fell before it, and entirely died out about the same period as that which witnessed the absorption of the Two-Penny Post by the General Post.

One of the greatest reforms of the postal arrangements during the last century was due, not to legislation, but to individual talent and enterprise. Up to that period the conveyance of the greater part of the mails was entrusted to postboys, riding on horseback. The letter-bags were ordinarily stowed away in a *malle* or valise strapped to the saddle, and the letters could scarcely have been very numerous, as Mr. Tegg relates that, so late as the 22nd February, 1779, an advertisement appeared, stating that the postboy carrying the mail had been robbed by

two foot-pads, with crape over their faces, of the whole mail, containing the bags for Liverpool, Manchester, Wigan, Chester, and thirty other towns, besides the Irish mail.

In the year 1783, Mr. John Palmer, the manager of the Bath and Bristol theatres, and a native of the former place, submitted to Mr. Pitt, who was then Prime Minister, a lengthy report, in which he propounded a scheme for remedying the existing glaring defects in the postal arrangements, by substituting coaches for the conveyance of the mails in place of the method then adopted. To lend to the scheme the prospect of a financial success, he endeavoured to show that, if his proposals were carried out, the revenues of the Post Office would be augmented, and that the public would gladly pay an additional charge for an efficient service. The proposals were referred to the officials of the Post Office, who in their zeal to smother the scheme seem to have outrun their discretion, and to have raised so many wild objections that they overstated their case. They concluded, however, by pronouncing the plan to be *impossible*, and it is not at all improbable that for this very reason Mr. Pitt, who did not know the meaning of the word, believing that the scheme was not only practicable, but would turn out to be profitable, determined that it should be tried. On the 24th July, 1784, the Secretary to the Post Office issued the following notice :—

“ His Majesty’s Postmasters General\* being inclined to make an experiment for the more expeditious conveyance of mails of letters by stage-coaches, machines, &c., have been pleased to order that a trial shall be made upon the road between London and Bristol, to commence at each place on Monday, the 2nd of August next,” &c. &c.

The coach did not, however, start till the 24th August, † per-

\* The Earl of Tankerville and the Hon. H. Carteret. From the year 1690 down to 1823 there had ordinarily been two Postmasters General; but in the latter year the joint postmaster generalship was abolished.

† Mr. Lewins, from whose work much of the above account is taken, says the 8th August; but as this was a Sunday, we have consequently adopted the date given in other histories of the period.

forming the journey between London and Bath in fourteen hours, and to Bristol in fifteen, the other coach from Bristol to London reaching the latter place in sixteen hours, notwithstanding that the Post Office officials had just declared it was an impossibility to bring the Bath mail to London in sixteen or eighteen hours. On the same day Mr. Palmer was installed at the Post Office, under the title of Controller-General, in order to carry out his system, under which the punctuality, speed, and security of the post were greatly increased, and its revenues proportionately augmented.

The system thus inaugurated was gradually extended throughout the kingdom, until it was in its turn superseded by the development of railways, and the consequent establishment of travelling post-vans on the principal lines.

The introduction of the mail-coach system was the occasion of adding a further charge of one penny on each single letter, which was done by Act 24 Geo. III. c. 37. Mr. Pitt, in proposing the increase, said that the "changes he had to propose would by no means reduce the number sent. It was idle to suppose that the public would grumble at having to pay just one penny additional for valuable letters safely and expeditiously conveyed," an argument which appears somewhat curious when read by the light of those made use of in 1837.

The rates were again raised in 1797 and in 1805. In 1812 a further augmentation took place, and the rates then fixed continued to exist with but trifling changes up to the 5th December, 1839, when the uniform rate of 4d. was introduced. The following are the inland rates immediately prior to that period, on a letter consisting of a single sheet under one ounce in weight.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| From any Post Office in England or Wales to any place not exceeding 15 miles . . . . . | 4d. |
| Above 15 miles, and not exceeding 20 miles . . . . .                                   | 5d. |
| " 20   "                      " 30   " . . . . .                                       | 6d. |
| " 30   "                      " 50   " . . . . .                                       | 7d. |
| " 50   "                      " 80   " . . . . .                                       | 8d. |

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Above 80 miles, and not exceeding 120 miles . . . . . | 9d.  |
| „ 120 „ „ 170 „ . . . . .                             | 10d. |
| „ 170 „ „ 230 „ . . . . .                             | 11d. |
| „ 230 „ „ 300 „ . . . . .                             | 12d. |

And so on in proportion, the postage increasing progressively 1d. for every single letter for every additional distance of 100 miles. No letter was to be rated higher than a treble letter, unless it should be one ounce in weight; and all letters of one ounce to be rated as four single letters, and every  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce in excess as a single letter. Scotch letters were taxed with an additional  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., which had been imposed as an extra charge on letters conveyed by a mail conveyance with more than two wheels, thus making the postage from London to Edinburgh 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a single letter, 2s. 3d. for a double one, and so on.

The privilege formerly enjoyed by members of the legislature of franking and receiving letters free was first claimed by the House of Commons in 1660, when a clause was inserted in a Post Office Bill of that year, but was struck out by the House of Lords, most probably because no mention had been made in it that the letters of that branch of the legislature should also pass free. However, Charles II. granted the privilege to members of both Houses by a warrant issued to the Postmaster General, and similar warrants were issued in successive reigns, until the right of franking became the subject of legislative enactment. As at first authorised, the privilege was open to abuse; for though the weight of each letter was not to exceed two ounces, yet there was no limitation as to numbers, and as it was only necessary that the cover should bear the signature of a member, he frequently supplied his friends with whole packets at a time. The abuse of the system had so increased that in 1763 it was made the subject of Parliamentary investigation, and in the following year, as a means of putting a check on the evil, it was enacted, by 4 Geo. III. c. 24, that the whole of the address should be in the handwriting of the member, and his signature appended. This did not wholly cure the evil, and in 1784 it was further enacted that, as an additional



check, all franks should be dated, and the name of the post town from which the letter was intended to be sent, and the day and month, should be written in full, and that the letters should be posted on the day they bore date.

In 1795 it was provided that letters franked by members of the legislature should not exceed one ounce in weight, and that no member should receive more than fifteen each day, nor frank more than ten. The privilege remained in force until the passing of the Act 2 and 3 Vict. c. 52, when it was abolished, and strict limits were placed on official franking.

So long as newspapers were taxed they were conveyed without charge by the Post Office. A duty of 1d. was first imposed in June, 1712. In that year Queen Anne sent a message to the House of Commons complaining of the "publication of seditious papers and factious rumours, by which means designing men had been able to sink credit, and the innocent had suffered." A committee of the House was appointed to consider how this evil could be remedied, and a tax was suggested as the best means of curbing these abuses of the liberty of the press. In 1724 the duty was changed to one penny on every sheet of certain dimensions, and a halfpenny on every half sheet. On the 28th May, 1776, the duty was raised to 1½d., and on the 12th August, 1789, to 2d. In 1794 it was increased to 2½d., and in May, 1797, to 3½d. The highest rate reached was in 1815, when the duty was fixed at 4d. In 1836, by Act 6 and 7 Will. IV. c. 76, the duty was reduced to one penny for each sheet of a certain size, and a halfpenny for a supplement, as will be noticed hereafter, until it was finally abolished in 1855, though retained optionally for postal purposes until the year 1870.

## CHAPTER II.

### *THE NEW POST OFFICE SYSTEM.*

IN order to trace the origin of the change effected in the Post Office system in 1839, it will be necessary to cast a retrospective glance at the general state of society in England at that period. A few years previously the Reform Bill had been carried by the force of public opinion. An agitation commenced against the "Taxes on Knowledge" had, in 1836, resulted in a large reduction in the tax on newspapers, and it was clear that the remainder of that tax was doomed, and that the abolition of the excise duty on paper was only a question of time. The *Penny Magazine* and other cheap periodical literature had been started, and had met with well-merited success. A system of education, commenced in 1834, had received further development, and had been organized under the direction of a Committee of the Privy Council; it was said on all sides that the "schoolmaster was abroad." Everything was to be done for the million, who made their voices heard above those of the upper ten thousand. Further than this, the manufacturing and commercial industries of this country were expanding; some of the principal lines of railway had been opened, and increased facilities of locomotion had promoted greater intercourse among the people. As the railways advanced and extended their iron roads over the country, the coaches which conveyed the mails were gradually dwindling away before them. A travelling Post Office had been put on the Grand Junction Railway between Birmingham and Liverpool on the 1st July, 1837, and it seemed that, in face of what the railways would be able to carry, the weight of the mails was no longer a matter to be

taken into account. Many departments of the State had been remodelled and improved; it would have been strange, therefore, if the Post Office, which by its high charges so fettered social intercourse and business transactions, had been suffered to escape from becoming the subject of enquiry. Yet up to the year 1833 "the Post Office was regarded by the public as a vast and mysterious but nearly perfect machine."\*

In that year Mr. Wallace entered Parliament as member for Greenock, and almost immediately commenced a series of attacks on the Post Office. Among his first recommendations was the substitution of a charge by weight in lieu of the absurd and troublesome mode of charging by sheet, which not only rendered every enclosure subject to an additional rate, but involved the examination of each letter by the officials aided by a strong light. In the succeeding sessions of Parliament Mr. Wallace advocated other reforms, and was constantly on the watch to detect abuses and to direct public attention to the anomalies and evils of the existing system. Further, he urged the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry into the management of the Post Office, which was subsequently granted by the Government.

But Mr. Wallace was not the only Post Office reformer of the day. As early as 1830 Mr. Charles Whiting, the well-known printer, of Beaufort House, Strand, submitted a proposal to the Government for the issue of stamped bands to frank a certain quantity of printed matter. Later on Mr. Charles Knight, the publisher of the *Penny Magazine*, and the works produced under the direction of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, suggested the use of stamped covers, but nothing was in reality effected; while the Government, which was quietly receiving a million and a half of net revenue from the Post Office, was indisposed to try any experiments which might by any possibility jeopardize the receipts, or to initiate any

\* *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 529.

reform for which it did not appear that an absolute necessity existed.\*

At length, in the year 1836, Rowland Hill, the son of the master of a school near Birmingham, and himself a schoolmaster and teacher of mathematics through all his early years, turned his attention to the defects of the existing postal system, and soon arrived at a conviction that it not only ought to be, but that it was capable of being, reformed. Firm in this conviction, and gifted with great perseverance, united to considerable powers of organization, he collected with infinite pains such an amount of information as satisfied his own mind that cheaper postage might be conceded to the public without risk of ultimate loss to the revenue. In January, 1837, he embodied his views and the results of his investigations in the form of a pamphlet, *Post Office Reform: its Importance and Practicability*. This pamphlet was distributed amongst personal friends, members of the Government and officials, and such members of Parliament and others as were likely to take an interest in the question. Rowland Hill, however, soon found out the truth of the aphorism, "that all great reforms take their rise in pressure from without, not from within." Accordingly, in February, 1837, another edition of the pamphlet was published and issued to the public under the title of *Post Office Reform* (Second Edition). The following brief sketch of the leading arguments he employed therein is taken from Chambers's *Book of Days*:†

He saw that the cost to the Post Office of a letter was divisible into three branches; first, that of receiving it and preparing it for the journey, which under the *régime* then existing was troublesome enough, as the postage varied not

\* As instance of this may be cited, that when Colonel Maberly, the Secretary to the Post Office, proposed to the Lords of the Treasury to charge the postage according to the exact distance between the places where the letter was posted and delivered, and not according to the circuitous routes that the Post Office, for its own convenience, chose to send it, the concession was refused on the ground that it would probably entail a loss of £80,000 a year.

† CHAMBERS'S *Book of Days*. Edition 1866. Vol. i. p. 89.

only in proportion to the distance it had to travel, but also according as it was composed of one or more sheets of paper, even the minutest enclosures being treated as extra sheets, and subjecting it to double or triple postage. The duty of examining each letter, taxing it, and writing its proper postage upon it, was also a complicated transaction, occupying much time and labour; and he showed that each item of the charges in this first branch was exorbitant. The second branch was the cost of transit from Post Office to Post Office, and this expense, even for so great a distance as from London to Edinburgh, proved on careful examination to be no more than the ninth part of a farthing. The third branch was the cost of delivering the letter and receiving the postage, more than four-fifths of the letters then circulating being sent by the writers unpaid. He accordingly addressed himself to the simplification of the various processes. If, instead of charging according to the number of sheets or scraps of paper, a weight could be fixed, below which a letter, whatever were its contents, should only bear a single rate, much trouble would be spared to the Office, while an unjust mode of taxation would be abolished. But if the alteration rested there, a great source of labour to the Office would yet have remained, because the postage on each letter would still have to be augmented in proportion to the distance it had to travel. When, however, he had ascertained that the difference between the cost of transit in the case of a letter delivered at a distance of a mile from the office at which it was posted, and one posted in London and delivered in Edinburgh, was the insignificant fraction of a farthing, it became obvious that it was "a nearer approximation to perfect justice to pass over this petty inequality than to tax it even to the extent of the smallest coin of the realm;" and a uniform rate followed as a necessary consequence. With regard to the third head, all that could be done for lessening the cost attendant on the delivery of the letter and the receipt of the postage, was to devise some plan of prepayment which should be acceptable to the public, so long accustomed to throw the cost of corre-

spondence on the receiver of the letter, and not on the sender. It was also necessary that any such plan should avoid charging the duty of collecting the postage on the Receiving Office, and at the same time should relieve the letter-carriers attached to the Distributing Office.

It is by no means surprising that the scheme of reform thus portrayed by Rowland Hill, supported as it was by irrefutable facts and arguments, should commend itself to the minds of the public, whose sympathy was actively enlisted in its support. The Government nevertheless, backed up by the authorities at the Post Office, regarded it as all but impracticable; and the Earl of Lichfield, then Postmaster-General, went so far as to say, in the House of Lords, that "of all the wild and visionary schemes he had ever heard or read of, this was the most extraordinary."

At the time that Rowland Hill's pamphlet was published, the Committee of Post Office Inquiry, composed of Lord Duncannon (afterwards the Earl of Bessborough), Mr. H. Labouchere (afterwards Lord Taunton), and the present Duke of Somerset (then Lord Seymour), was holding its sittings for the purpose of examining into the condition of the "Twopenny Post." Before this Committee Mr. Hill gave evidence, and from the ninth report of the Commissioners, dated 7th July, 1837, it is evident that his views made considerable impression upon them. Not only did the Commissioners recommend the adoption of a uniform letter rate of one penny for letters under one ounce in weight throughout the metropolitan district of twelve miles round the General Post Office, which they considered might with advantage be increased to fifteen, but they made it the condition of the enjoyment of this reduction in the rate, that letters not exceeding one ounce in weight should be enclosed in stamped covers or envelopes of one penny; and exceeding that weight, and up to six ounces, in similar covers or envelopes of twopence. They further recommended that these covers should be prepared by the Government, and sold to the public "without any additional charge beyond the respective

duties of 1d. and 2d. ; whilst labels might also be prepared of such a form that they could be attached to other envelopes or covers of any size or description."\*

The Commissioners made their report, as before mentioned, on 7th July, 1837, and on the 23rd November following Mr. Wallace moved for a Committee of the House of Commons—

“To inquire into the present rates and modes of charging postage, with a view to such a reduction thereof as may be made without injury to the revenue ; and for this purpose to examine especially into the mode recommended for charging and collecting postage, in a pamphlet published by Mr. Rowland Hill.”

The Committee was nominated four days after, but did not commence its sittings until Parliament reassembled in February, 1838, when Mr. Wallace was chosen chairman, and thenceforward “concentrated his indefatigable efforts upon the work.”†

For the purpose of collecting evidence to be laid before the Parliamentary Committee in favour of the plan, “the Mercantile Committee on Postage” was organized. This body, composed of some of the leading merchants in London, under the presidency of Mr. Joshua Bates, of the house of Baring Brothers, raised a large sum of money for defraying the expenses of pressing the question on the attention of

\* *Ninth Report of Commissioners, &c.*, 1837, vol. xxxiv. part i. page 433.

A great deal of controversial discussion has arisen as to how far Sir Rowland Hill was the author of the idea, or the inventor, of adhesive postage stamps or labels, on which, however, it is no part of our business to enter. The invention of stamped covers could certainly not be claimed by him or Mr. Knight, as they had been used nearly twenty years previously in Italy. Possibly also the idea of employing adhesive postage stamps was not that of Sir Rowland Hill exclusively ; but whether this be so or not, it would not detract one atom from his merits as the great postal reformer, who gave substantiality to ideas that were even to his own mind when proposed to the Commissioners very crude, and who initiated a system with which his name will be connected as long as the world lasts.

† See *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. page 295.

Parliament by petitions, public meetings, and the wide dissemination of information of all kinds bearing upon the proposed plan. The Parliamentary Committee sat sixty-three days, concluding its sittings in August. The Committee heard evidence, not only from the Postmaster-General, and all the principal officers of the Post Office and Stamp Departments, but also from Mr. Rowland Hill,\* and eighty-three independent witnesses of various pursuits and grades, the greater part of whom were produced by Mr. W. H. Ashurst, who acted as solicitor and parliamentary agent to the Mercantile Committee, and published a summary of the evidence given in support of the plan, which went through two editions in 1838;† and it need scarcely be said that the great bulk of testimony was in favour of a complete and sweeping change.‡

On the question of a uniform rate the Committee was equally divided in opinion, and it was only carried by the casting vote of the Chairman. A uniform rate of twopence per half-ounce was affirmed by an equally close division, a penny rate having been rejected by six to three. The report of the Committee, drafted by Mr. Warburton, was presented to the

\* In *Household Words*, August 1st, 1857, Mr. Charles Dickens humorously relates how, "before the Committee, the 'Circumlocution Office' and Mr. Rowland Hill were perpetually in conflict on questions of fact, and it invariably turned out that Mr. Rowland Hill was right in his facts, and that the 'Circumlocution Office' was always wrong."

† *Facts and Reasons in Support of Mr. R. Hill's Plan for a Universal Penny Postage*. By W. H. Ashurst. London, 1838.

‡ As a practical illustration of the anomalous effects of the system of charging the postal rates under the then existing conditions of the law, Mr. Henry Cole (afterward Sir H. Cole, K.C.B.), who acted as Honorary Secretary to the Mercantile Committee, and Editor of the *Post Circular*, passed through the Post a Lilliputian letter enclosed in a cover, weighing altogether seven grains; but which, being composed of two separate pieces of paper, was charged as a double letter. At the same time he sent through the Post a huge letter, consisting of a single sheet measuring 35 by 23 inches; but which, being just under one ounce in weight, was only charged with a single rate. The originals of these were produced before the Parliamentary Committee; but *fac-similes* showing the gross absurdity of the practice were distributed by the Mercantile Committee.



House in March, 1839, and in substance stated, that as regards the scheme proposed by Mr. Rowland Hill, the strange and startling facts brought forward by him had been borne out by the evidence, and they gave their opinion that the rates of postage were so high as materially to interfere with trade and commerce; that illicit means were employed to evade the payment of these heavy charges; and that all classes, for the same reason, sought to correspond free of postage when possible; and that altogether the existing state of things acted most prejudicially to commerce, and to the social habits and moral condition of the people.

The Committee, amongst other conclusions they arrived at, were of opinion that the principle of a low, uniform rate was just in itself, and when combined with prepayment and collection by stamps would be exceedingly convenient, and highly satisfactory to the public.

As regarded the rate of charge, the Committee further reported that in their opinion the establishment of a penny rate would not, after a temporary depression, result in any ultimate loss to the revenue. As, however, the terms of their appointment precluded them from recommending any plan which involved an immediate loss, they restricted themselves to suggesting a uniform twopenny rate.

As soon as the Session of 1839 commenced, the Mercantile Committee was again at work, and public meetings were held in various large towns in support of the scheme. Up to July of that year no less than 2,007 petitions, bearing 262,809 signatures, were presented to Parliament, many of which were from public bodies, the Common Council of the City of London being amongst the number.

Mr. Hill also contributed his share to the work by issuing, on the 13th June, 1839, a paper "On the Collection of Postage by means of Stamps," in which he indicated the kinds of stamps he considered it would be best to employ; and this he followed up by another paper on the 1st July, entitled, "Facts and Estimates as to the Increase of Letters," in which he predicted that

the result would in the first year show at least an addition of fivefold to the number of letters then passing through the Post.\*

Although the scheme was neither patronized by the Government nor by the Opposition, and was discountenanced by the whole body of the Post Office authorities, yet in presence of the manifest will of the public the Government could no longer resist the pressure from without. Accordingly, on the 5th July, 1839, Mr. Spring Rice, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, moved that the House resolve itself into Committee on the Post Office Acts. He then explained, that though the Select Committee had suggested a twopenny rate, he intended to propose one of a penny, because he had been convinced by the arguments and evidence laid before that Committee, that the latter expedient would involve less loss to the revenue than the former, and he concluded by moving a resolution on which to ground a Bill to carry this into effect. On the bringing up of the report, the resolution was opposed, but was carried by a majority of upwards of 100, and the Bill passed through its various stages without encountering much further opposition either in the House of Commons or the House of Lords, receiving the Royal assent on the 17th August, 1839, when it took its place in the Statutes at large of the Realm as 2 and 3 Vict., c. 52, and is intituled, "An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage until the 5th day of October, 1841."†

The Act, after reciting that it was expedient to reduce the present rates of inland postage on letters to one uniform rate of one penny charged on every letter of a given weight, pro-

\* See *Post Circular* for 1839.

† When Parliament was prorogued on the 27th August Her Majesty, in her speech on the occasion, referred to the Act in these terms: "It has been with much satisfaction that I have given my consent to a reduction of the postage duties. I trust that the Act which has passed on this subject will be a relief and encouragement to trade, and that by facilitating intercourse and correspondence it will be productive of much social advantage and improvement. I have given directions that the preliminary steps should be taken to give effect to the intention of Parliament as soon as the inquiries and arrangements required for this purpose shall have been completed."

ceeded to authorize the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, by Warrant under the hands of three or more of them, to fix the rates, and whether the charge was to be paid on posting the letter or on its receipt, until the 5th October, 1841, ten days' notice in the *London Gazette* being given of the rates and of any change therein; and full powers were given to alter and reduce the rates of postage. The privilege of franking was taken away from members of both Houses of Parliament, and official franking was to be exercised under strict regulations. Power was also given to the Lords of the Treasury to issue stamped paper and covers for letters, and to provide stamps and dies. The duties were constituted stamp duties, and placed under the care and control of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, and many other provisions were made by the Act which it is not necessary to notice; but in effect the whole law on the subject was amended, and in substance forms the legal basis on which the Post Office as at present constituted is regulated.\*

The measures which the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury adopted for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act will form the subject of the next chapter; but before entering upon these it will be useful to follow the course of legislation down to the present day, so far as it may be necessary to show what the Post Office really is, and in what its functions consist.

On the 10th August, 1840, the Act 3 and 4 Vict. c. 96, intituled "An Act for the regulation of the Duties of Postage," received the Royal assent. By this Act the charges, which by the former Act had been only authorized to be made temporarily, were rendered perpetual, and further regulations made as to the duties on letters and newspapers, whether inland, colonial, ship, or foreign. Double rates were imposed on all letters not prepaid and on those deficiently paid to the extent of the deficiency. Proper and sufficient dies for the rates of one penny and twopence, and any other rates or duties of any other value

\* The Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes was in 1849 united with that of the Commissioners of Excise, and consolidated into one Board under the denomination of the "Commissioners of Inland Revenue."

or amount as might be decided by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury were authorized to be provided. Heavy penalties were imposed on forgers, and persons using stamps fraudulently; provisions were made for the sale of stamps by persons to be licensed; power was given authorizing the preparation of "moulds, frames, instruments, and machinery," to make paper to be used as covers, envelopes, or stamps, which paper should "have such distinguishing words, letters, figures, marks, lines, threads, or other devices, worked into or visible in the substance of the same, as the Commissioners of Excise\* should from time to time order and direct," with power to alter and vary the same. The paper when made was to be delivered over to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, and the improper manufacture of such paper, dies, or plates was made felony, and having possession of or buying such a misdemeanour. Various provisions were also made regulating the postage on newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, &c., and the franking privilege was entirely abolished except as regarded official franking.

Many other Acts of Parliament have been passed in succeeding years for the purpose of enlarging the powers of the Post Office, and developing the system inaugurated in 1840; but it would be foreign to the purpose of this treatise to refer to them further, especially as they are accessible to all. It is sufficient to state that, under the provisions of these various Acts, full powers have been conferred on the Post Office, not only to carry on its regular business, but to issue money orders,† to receive deposits as a Savings Bank, to insure lives,

\* At this period paper was an exciseable article, and could only be lawfully manufactured under the supervision of the Officers of the Excise.

† The Money Order Office was originally founded in 1792, by three of the Post Office officials, as a private speculation. On the 6th December, 1838, it was made a branch of the General Post Office, and organized under the direction of a small staff. Its operations are now not merely confined to the United Kingdom, but extend to the colonies, and to many of the countries within the Postal Union. The growth of its business has been very rapid. In 1839 orders were issued for £313,124, while in the year ending 31st March, 1880, the amount was upwards of twenty-six millions sterling.

to grant immediate and deferred annuities, to issue licenses for the Inland Revenue Department, &c. Wherever powers are required which involve any charge upon or risk to its revenue, or wherever any alterations pertaining to its structure are necessary, the intervention of Parliament must be obtained ; but in all that relates to the machinery by which the intentions of the Legislature are to be carried into execution, this is effected by the powers vested by Parliament for this purpose in the Lords of the Treasury ; while all the endless details in the direction and management of this vast establishment are in the hands of the Postmaster-General.

Besides, therefore, the large body of statute law by which the Post Office is governed and its privileges protected, there is a much larger administrative one, consisting of Treasury Warrants issued by the Lords of the Treasury, under the powers conferred upon them by Parliament.\* These are published in the *London Gazette* from time to time as they are issued, and it has been a laborious as well as an uninteresting task in compiling these pages to wade through its files, where these tautological documents lie buried and well-nigh forgotten. Still the work was necessary, as accuracy in dates and other details has been thereby in many cases insured.

Before quitting this branch of the subject it appears requisite to make some particular reference to an Act passed in 1868, empowering the Government to purchase the inland telegraph system, which up to that period had been in the hands of separate and independent companies, who fixed their own rates of charge.

\* The relative functions of Parliament and of the Lords of the Treasury may be seen more clearly from the following enactment contained in 34 and 35 Vict. c. 30. By sect. 1 of that Act it is enacted that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may from time to time by Warrant under their hands reduce the rates of postage to be charged for the use of Her Majesty on letters sent by Post between places in the United Kingdom, and regulate the scale of weights according to which such rates are to be charged ; so, however, that the lowest rate of postage be not less than one penny.

By the Act 31 and 32 Vict. c. 110, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty's Postmaster-General to acquire, work, and maintain Electric Telegraphs," called the "Telegraph Act, 1868," the Postmaster-General was empowered to purchase undertakings of telegraph companies, and to enter into contracts with certain railway companies for the use of their telegraph lines. He was also authorized to make regulations for the conduct of the business, and to fix charges, as also to enter into special agreements with proprietors of newspapers and others. Payments were to be made in stamps. The property in telegraph messages, as in letters, was vested in the Postmaster-General, and penalties provided against disclosing or intercepting messages.

This Act was amended in the following and subsequent Sessions of Parliament, and the whole system of internal communication by means of the electric telegraph, so far as the general public is concerned, became vested in the Post Office; the payment of the duties on messages being at first made by means of the ordinary postage stamps.

There can be but little question that the amount which the Government was compelled to pay by way of compensation for the purchase of the monopoly enjoyed by the telegraph companies was very much in excess of what was contemplated when the Act was passed in 1868. It was probably therefore not altogether desirable in the view taken by the officials responsible for the purchase, to issue a separate set of stamps for this department, and thus distinguish the accounts of the Telegraphs from those of the Post Office, and permit the public to see the financial result of the transfer of the telegraphs to the Government. The confusion in the accounts between the telegraph and postal systems at last attracted the attention of Parliament, and became the subject of investigation by it; so that since the commencement of the year 1876 the accounts of the two systems have been kept entirely separate and distinct, and stamps have been issued specially for telegraphic purposes, the employment of postage stamps for the payment of the duties on messages being now strictly prohibited.

## CHAPTER III.

### *INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW SYSTEM.*

So soon as the Act establishing the new system of a uniform Penny Postage rate had received the Royal Assent, the Lords of the Treasury lost no time in making arrangements for giving effect to its provisions, and accordingly the following notice appeared in the public journals on the 6th September, 1839 :

*“ A copy of the minute of the Board of Treasury relative to carrying into effect the Act for establishing a reduced uniform Rate of Postage.*

“ My Lords read the Act for the Further Regulation of the Duties of Postage, which received the Royal assent on Saturday, the 17th inst.

“ By this Act My Lords are invested with a power of carrying into effect the reduced uniform rate of postage contemplated by Parliament, either according to the present mode of collecting the postage, or by prepayment, collected by stamps, compulsory or optional.

“ My Lords feel the importance of the discretion with which Parliament has invested them, affecting as it must the convenience of the public, the collection of the revenue, as well as the security and facility of the transmission of the correspondence of the country.

“ In comparing the advantages which may arise from the plan of prepayment by means of stamps, if such plan should be adopted, much must depend upon the stamp which may be employed. For the convenience of the public, it is of the greatest importance that the mode selected should afford every facility for obtaining and using the stamp. It is also clear that the charge which will fall upon the public in the shape of extra payment on account of the stamp itself, in addition to the penny rate, must vary according to the nature of the stamp

adopted. In the course of the inquiries and discussions on the subject several plans were suggested, viz., stamped covers, stamped paper, and stamps to be used separately, and to be applied to any letter of whatever description, and written on any paper.

“Before My Lords can decide upon the adoption of any course, either by stamp or otherwise, they feel it will be useful that artists, men of science, and the public in general, may have an opportunity of offering any suggestions or proposals as to the manner in which the stamp may best be brought into use. With this view My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider any proposal which may be sent in to them on or before the 15th October, 1839.

“All persons desirous of communicating with My Lords on the subject are requested to direct to The Lords of the Treasury, Whitehall, marked ‘Post Office Stamp.’

“My Lords will be prepared to award a premium of £200 to such proposal as they may consider most deserving of attention, and £100 to the next best proposal.

“My Lords will feel at liberty to adopt for the public service any of the suggestions which may be contained in any communication made to them, except, of course, where parties have any rights secured by patent.

“The points which the Board consider of the greatest importance are :

“1. The convenience as regards the public use.

“2. The security against forgery.

“3. The facility of being checked and distinguished at the Post Office, which must of necessity be rapid.

“4. The expense of the production and circulation of the stamps.

“My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider proposals from foreign countries, and they desire that a copy of this minute be transmitted to Lord Palmerston, and that his Lordship be requested to take such measures as he may deem most advisable through her Majesty’s Ministers abroad for the purpose of making known the intentions of this Board.

“They desire also that Lord Palmerston be requested to procure for my Lords through Her Majesty’s Ambassador at Paris information respecting the system of stamps adopted in France, and specimens of the stamped impressions used in that country.

“Transmit a copy of this minute to the Postmaster-General for his information and guidance.

“Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, August 23rd.”



The public was certainly not behind hand in offering their "proposals and suggestions" to "My Lords," who by the 15th of October had received offers of advice and assistance from some two thousand six hundred "artists, men of science, and the public in general." Amongst these were proposals emanating from Mr. Stead, of Norwich; from Mr. Dickinson, the paper-maker; from Mr. Sievier, the eminent sculptor; from Mr. Cheverton, the inventor of a machine for embossing, &c. &c.; but the greater part of these proposals and suggestions were not accompanied by any designs, and such designs as were sent in were for the most part pen-and-ink sketches or drawings. In some instances, however, a large number of specimens or illustrations were submitted for consideration, which was more particularly the case as regards the proposals submitted by Mr. Charles Whiting, who sent in at least a hundred samples of the graphic art, some of which were then in use at his establishments, while others embodied his own ideas of the mode in which Mr. Rowland Hill's plan should be carried into effect.

The examination and discussion of such a mass of proposals and suggestions, many of which were as absurd as they were impracticable, necessarily occupied a considerable time, and already two valuable months had been lost. In fact, "My Lords" did not find much wisdom in the multitude of their counsellors, and no better suggestions were offered than those previously propounded by Mr. Rowland Hill, consisting in the adoption of stamped covers of half sheets of paper, stamped envelopes, and adhesive stamps or labels.\*

Before any final decision could, however, be arrived at, it was necessary that practical engravers, printers, paper-makers, and others, should be consulted, and that various experiments should be made. Should it be decided to provide envelopes and stamps, the lowest calculation fixed the end of March as the earliest possible period at which their issue could be accomplished. The public were growing impatient to see

\* *On the Collection of Postage by Means of Stamps*, by Rowland Hill. Bayswater, June 13th, 1839.

the new system brought into operation; but considerable difficulty was apprehended in giving immediate and full effect to it previously to a decision having been arrived at with regard to the stamps. It was anticipated that the substitution of the principle of charging by weight for that of charging by separate pieces of paper, and the consequent necessity of weighing every letter, would entail enormous pressure on the officials when the amount of the postage had to be paid in cash, and the postage marked on each letter.

Accordingly, as appears from a Minute of the Treasury, dated the 12th November, 1839, "My Lords," having again met, and again read the Act of Parliament, proceeded to discuss the question of adopting temporarily some intermediate measure whereby the officers of the Post Office might obtain some practice in weighing before full effect was given to the uniform penny rate. To avoid the risks of "irregularities which might occur, and the inconveniences that might result," they determined to introduce a uniform rate of fourpence for a short period,\* and gave orders for the preparation of a Treasury Warrant to carry it into effect. This Warrant appeared in the *London Gazette* of the 22nd November, 1839, and the material parts are as follows :

"Whereas by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, intituled 'An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage until the 5th day of October, 1840,' power is given to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, by Warrant under their hands, to alter, fix, reduce, or remit, all or any of the Rates of British or Inland, or other Postage payable by law on the transmission of Post Letters, and to subject such letters to rates of Postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be

\* Mr. Lewins (*Her Majesty's Mails*, p. 125) attributes this action of the Lords of the Treasury to an intention of establishing a uniform fourpenny rate, and that having subsequently discovered the mistake they had made, they proceeded to rectify it by the publication of the Warrant of 31st January, 1840. This Treasury Minute clearly shows that this notion is erroneous, and that the reduction to fourpence was only intended as a temporary measure.

contained in such Warrant (without reference to the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed), and to fix and limit the weight of letters to be sent by the Post, and from time to time by Warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates which may be payable are to be paid ; that is to say, whether on posting the letter, or on the receipt thereof, or at either of those times at the option of the sender, provided that all such Warrants should be inserted in the *London Gazette* ten days at least before coming into operation, and should within fourteen days after making the same be laid before both Houses of Parliament (if then sitting), or otherwise, within fourteen days after Parliament should meet."

"And whereas an Act was passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, cap. 34, intituled 'An Act for the Regulation of the Duties of Postage;' and another Act was passed in the same Session, cap. 76, intituled 'An Act to impose Rates of Packet Postage on East India Letters, and to Amend certain Acts relating to the Post Office;' and another Act was passed in the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, cap. 97, intituled 'An Act for imposing Rates of Postage on the Conveyance of Letters by Packet Boats between places in the Mediterranean and other parts.'

"Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury), do, in exercise of the powers or authority in us for such purposes vested in and by the said first-mentioned Act, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, by this Warrant under our hands, order and direct that this present Warrant shall come into operation on the 5th day of December next; and that all letters not being by law specially exempted from postage, which on or after that day shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or within any of the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom or the said islands by any packet boat or private vessel, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

"And we further order and direct that on and after the said 5th day of December next the present practice of charging the rates of postage on letters transmitted by the General Post consisting of more than one sheet of paper, or containing any enclosure, shall be wholly discontinued, and thenceforth all letters of whatever description transmitted through the

General Post, and legally chargeable with postage, shall be charged by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted through the General Post, and we subject such letters on and after the said 5th day of December next to the following rates of postage; that is to say:

“On every letter not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage.

“On every letter exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and not exceeding 1 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 1 oz., and not exceeding 2 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 2 oz., and not exceeding 3 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage; and

“On every letter exceeding 3 oz., and not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage; and for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage, and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of four ounces shall be charged as one additional ounce.

“And we order and direct that no letter exceeding 16 oz. in weight shall in any case be forwarded by the General Post between places within the United Kingdom and the said islands, or from the said United Kingdom and the said islands to parts beyond the seas.

\* \* \* \* \*

“And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty's Postmaster-General for the use of Her Majesty on and after the 5th day of December next on the letters next hereinafter mentioned, and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly; that is to say:

#### “INLAND LETTERS.

“On all letters not by law specially exempted from postage, and not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, transmitted by the General Post between places within the United Kingdom or between the said islands, or between the United Kingdom and the said islands (not being letters sent to or from parts beyond the seas), there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of fourpence, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper or enclosures of which the same may be composed, or to the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed.

“On all such letters, if exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at 4d.) according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared.

\* \* \* \* \*

“And we order and direct that all additional rates now payable by law on all letters transmitted by post to or from Ireland by way of Holyhead, or in respect of the Menai Bridge, and by way of Conway and Chester in respect of Conway Bridge, and by way of Milford and Waterford, and also the additional rate of one halfpenny on letters conveyed by the post in any part of Scotland by a mail carriage with more than two wheels shall on and after the said 5th day of December next be wholly remitted, and shall cease to be payable.

“That all additional rates for letters originally sent by the General Post to places within the United Kingdom, or the said islands, directed beyond the limits of the General Post, and delivered by any Twopenny Post or Penny Post, or originally sent by any Twopenny or Penny Post, and afterwards passing through the General Post, shall be remitted and cease to be payable, except on letters franked or exempted by law from the General Post rates, but subject to the Twopenny or Penny Post rates, which letters shall still continue liable to and chargeable with the Twopenny and Penny Post rates when transmitted by any such post.

“That on all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, and not being by law specially exempted from the Twopenny and Penny Post rates, transmitted by any Twopenny or Penny Post in London or Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through, the General Post, there shall on and after the said 5th day of December next be charged and taken a rate of one penny only, provided such postage be prepaid at the time of posting the same. But in case any letter not being by law specially exempted, as aforesaid, transmitted by any such Twopenny or Penny Post, shall not be prepaid when posted, or shall exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, there shall be taken the same rate of postage as is now payable by law thereon.

“That on all letters not specially exempted from Penny Post rates transmitted by any Penny Post in the United Kingdom or the said islands, other than London and Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through the

General Post, there shall on and after the 5th day of December next be taken a rate of one penny as at present.

“That no letter shall be sent by any such Twopenny or Penny Post exceeding 4 oz. in weight unless the same shall have originally passed, or shall be intended to pass, through the General Post, and in such last-mentioned cases not exceeding the weight of 16 oz., unless specially authorized by this Warrant as aforesaid.

“That all printed newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, printed votes, and proceedings of the colonial legislatures, printed prices current, commercial lists, periodical publications posted at Falmouth, unstamped publications, bankers’ parcels, patterns, samples, plantation accounts, deeds, books, pamphlets, and other printed papers, soldiers’ and seamen’s letters, and other letters, articles and things which may now by law be sent by post under certain regulations free of postage, or at reduced rates of postage, shall continue to have the benefit of all exemptions and privileges they now enjoy, and shall, if forwarded in conformity with such regulations, be charged with the same respective amounts of postage as are now by law payable in respect thereof, subject nevertheless to all the regulations and liabilities now in force respecting the same.

\* \* \* \* \*

“As witness our hands this 22nd day of November, 1839.

“MELBOURNE,  
“F. BARING,  
“H. TUFNELL”

At the end of the month of December following, the Lords of the Treasury being satisfied with the result of the experiment of the fourpenny uniform rate, determined to give full effect to the provisions of the Act, and ordered a Warrant to be drawn up for that purpose. They also came to the decision of providing for the issue of stamped covers, stamped envelopes, and adhesive stamps or postage labels; and at the instance of Mr. John Wood, the Chairman of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, they decided on the issue by that department of a stamp to be embossed on any kind of paper which the public might send in for that purpose, under regulations to be made by the department. These decisions were embodied in a Minute dated

26th December, 1839, which, so far as it relates to the preparation and application of postage stamps, was to the following effect :

“ Their Lordships, upon full consideration, have decided to require that as far as practicable the postage of letters shall be prepaid, and to effect such prepayment by means of stamps. Their Lordships are of opinion that the convenience of the public will be consulted, more especially at first, by issuing stamps of various kinds, in order that everyone may select that description of stamp which is most suitable to his own peculiar circumstances ; and with a view of affording an ample choice, their Lordships are pleased to direct that the following stamps be prepared :

“ **FIRST.** Stamped Covers ; the stamp being struck on pieces of paper the size of half a sheet of quarto letter paper.

“ **SECOND.** Stamped Envelopes ; the stamp being struck on pieces of paper of a lozenge form, of which the stationers and others may manufacture envelopes.

“ **THIRD.** Adhesive Stamps ; or stamps on small pieces of paper with a glutinous wash at the back, which may be attached to letters either before or after they are written ; and

“ **FOURTH.** Stamps to be struck on paper of any description which the public may send to the Stamp Office for that purpose.\*

“ The paper for the first, second, and third kinds of stamps to be peculiar in its watermark or some other feature, but to be supplied to the Government by competition.

“ My Lords direct that the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes and the Commissioners of Excise should receive the official directions to take the necessary steps, in conjunction with the Postmaster-General, for the preparation of the stamps herein enumerated.

“ Although the necessary experiments and investigations which have been conducted under the direction of this Board

\* This portion of the minute was subsequently modified so far as regarded the stamp being struck on any description of paper sent in by the public, and was confined to paper supplied by the Government, until, in 1855, power was given by the Act 18 and 19 Vict. c. 78 to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to stamp paper sent in by the public under such regulations as the Lords of the Treasury should make or sanction in that behalf.

are already far advanced, My Lords fear that a considerable time will be required for completing the preparation of the dies, plates, and machinery (much of which is unavoidably of a novel construction) necessary for the manufacture of the stamps; and being desirous of affording to the public with the least possible delay the full advantage of the intended reduction in postage, their Lordships propose at once to effect such reduction.

“On the use of stamps, however, My Lords have fully decided. They will be prepared with the least possible delay, and when ready due notice will be given of their introduction.”

On the day following the date of the above-mentioned minute a Warrant was signed and published in the *London Gazette*, 28th December, 1839, which (omitting such formal clauses and regulations as do not immediately concern our subject), after reciting the powers conferred on the Lords of the Treasury by the Act of the previous session in similar terms to the recital in the previous Warrant, and also reciting the previous Warrant, proceeded as follows:

“Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury), do by this Warrant order and direct that the said Warrant of the 22nd day of November now last, and the rates thereby fixed and directed to be charged shall be and the same are hereby repealed from and after the 9th day of January, 1840 (except as to any letters posted in or brought into the United Kingdom on or before that day, and also except as to any duties of postage which shall have become due under or by virtue of such Warrant, which may be recovered as if the same had continued in force).

“And we hereby further order and direct that this present Warrant shall come into operation on the 10th day of January, 1840, and that all letters which on or after that day shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be sent between the United Kingdom and places beyond the seas, or between any of the places hereinafter mentioned, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

“And we further order and direct that letters transmitted by the post shall not in future be charged with the British rates



of postage according to the number of inclosures, but by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted by the post, and we subject such letters on and after the said 10th day of January, 1840, to the following rates of postage; that is to say:

“On every letter not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage.

“On every letter exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. and not exceeding 1 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 1 oz. and not exceeding 2 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage.

“On every letter exceeding 2 oz. and not exceeding 3 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage; and

“On every letter exceeding 3 oz. and not exceeding 4 oz. in weight there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage.

“And for every ounce in weight above the weight of 4 oz. there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage; and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of 4 oz. shall be charged as one additional ounce.

“And we order and direct that no letter exceeding 16 oz. in weight shall in any case be forwarded by the post between places within the United Kingdom, except addresses to Her Majesty, Parliamentary petitions, printed votes and proceedings in Parliament, letters addressed to or dispatched by any of the Government offices or departments or any public officer having now the privilege of franking by virtue of his office, deeds if transmitted under all such regulations and restrictions as the Postmaster-General shall from time to time appoint, and letters to and from places beyond the seas.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty's Postmaster-General for the use of Her Majesty on letters posted and transmitted by the post on and after the 10th day of January, 1840; and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly; that is to say:

“INLAND LETTERS.

“On all letters not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight transmitted by the post between places within the United Kingdom, not being letters sent to or from parts beyond seas, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of one penny, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper or

enclosures of which the same may be composed, or the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed; and that on all such letters, if exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at one penny) according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared, provided that such postage of one penny, and such progressive and additional postage, be prepaid at the time of posting such letters; but in case such postage on any such letters shall not be prepaid when posted, there shall be charged on such letters a postage of double the amount to which such letters would otherwise have been liable under this present Warrant.\*

“That all letters forwarded under the authority of the Postmaster-General by private vessels or packet boats, and transmitted between places in the United Kingdom, shall be considered as forwarded by the Post between such places, and be charged accordingly.”

The Warrant, after prescribing the rates by weight on colonial letters by packets, and on ship and foreign letters, and ordering the suppression of the additional rates on Irish letters in respect of the Menai and Conway Bridges, and on Scotch letters, as also on letters beyond the limits of the General Post delivered by

\* The rates on inland letters fixed by the above Treasury Warrant continued in force till altered by a Warrant dated 18th March, 1865 (*London Gazette*, 24th March), when the following rates were fixed, to take effect on and from the 1st April, 1865:

On inland letters sent to or from any part of the United Kingdom—

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Not exceeding in weight $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. . . . | 1d. |
| “ “ 1 oz. . . .                                 | 2d. |
| “ “ $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. . . .                    | 3d. |

and so on in the proportion of one penny for each half-ounce or fractional part thereof.

These rates, rising uniformly by half-ounces, were far more equitable than those originally fixed in 1840. At the same time also the threepenny stamp, which had been issued specially for foreign postage, and was only allowed by stealth to do duty for inland purposes, was admitted into possession of its full rights.

The last alteration of the rates on inland letters took place on the 5th October, 1871, when by Treasury Warrant, issued in conformity with the provisions of the Act 34 and 35 Vict. c. 30, dated 16th August, 1871 (*London Gazette*, 25th August), the rates now in force were established.

Twopenny or Penny Posts, or any convention post, and afterwards passing by the General Post, in similar terms to those employed in the former Warrant; proceeds as follows:

“That on and after the said 10th day of January next the privilege of sending and receiving letters by the Post, free of postage, whether parliamentary, official, or of any other description whatsoever (except as hereinafter provided), as well under an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled ‘An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets by the Post free of Duty of Postage,’ being the 1 Vict. c. 35, as under any other Act or Acts now in force, or under any other authority whatsoever, shall be wholly suspended during the time this Warrant shall be in force; and that all letters to which any such privileges now extend, except as aforesaid, shall thenceforth be charged and chargeable with the like rates as any other letters transmitted by the Post would be chargeable, under or by virtue of the present Warrant.”

The Warrant then proceeds to fix certain rates for the transmission by post of the printed votes and proceedings of Parliament, parliamentary papers, &c., which by a Treasury Warrant of 31st January, 1840, were repealed, and the charges fixed at one penny for every 4 oz. These rates have, since the alteration in the Book Post rate, been changed to one halfpenny for every 2 oz., the prepayment of which is optional, provided they are marked “Parliamentary Proceedings.”

The Warrant then prescribes regulations for preserving the right of free transmission of addresses to Her Majesty, the privileges granted to members of both Houses of Parliament of receiving petitions addressed to Parliament, &c. &c., and declares—

“That, except in the cases hereinbefore specified, all privileges whatsoever of sending letters free of postage shall be wholly suspended during the time this present Warrant shall be in operation.

\* \* \* \* \*

“As witness our hands this 27th day of December, 1839.

“MELBOURNE.

“F. BARING.

“THOS. WYSE.”

When the 10th of January, 1840, arrived, the public seemed nothing loth to take advantage of the new system, and the pressure on the Post officials was very great, not only at the chief offices, but at the metropolitan receiving-houses. The Postmaster of one of these latter declared, that were the system to last he would not retain his office for £200 a year; the letter writers scared away all his customers, and he positively sold nothing. On several days he had taken in 2,000 paid letters, whereas his former average had been 70. But the scene at the chief office in St. Martin's le Grand is thus described in the *Westminster Review* for February, 1840: "A night or two after the change to a penny we ourselves witnessed the scene at St. Martin's le Grand. The great hall\* was nearly filled with spectators, marshalled in a line by the police to watch the crowds pressing, scuffling, and fighting to get first to the window. The superintending President of the Inland Office with praiseworthy zeal was in all quarters directing the energy of his officers where the pressure was greatest. Formerly one window sufficed to receive letters. On this evening six windows with two receivers at each were bombarded by applicants. As the last quarter of an hour approached, and the crowd still thickened, a seventh window was opened, and that none might be turned away Mr. Bokenham made some other opening, and took in money and letters himself. To the credit of the Post Office, not a single person lost the time; and we learnt that on this evening upwards of 3,000 letters had been posted at St. Martin's le Grand between five and six. A witness present on the first night of the Penny Post described to us a similar scene. When the window closed, the mob, delighted at the energy displayed by the officers, gave one cheer for the Post Office, and another for Rowland Hill."

\* This part of the building, which was one of its chief ornaments, has been gradually absorbed by the increasing demand for additional space, and has now ceased to exist.

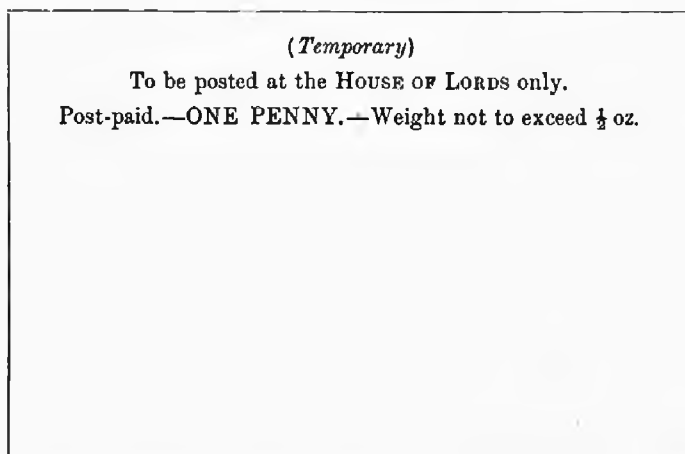
## CHAPTER IV.

### *THE ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.*

THE history of the Post Office, from its earliest times down to the introduction of the present system, might have been brought to a close with the last chapter ; but it would scarcely be complete without adding a short account of the introduction of postage stamps to the public, though, as the object of this treatise necessarily involves a description of the mode in which they are prepared and printed, it will to a certain degree be anticipating the chronological order of events.

At the present day, when we possess all the facilities offered by the use of postage stamps and stamped envelopes, and habitually avail ourselves of the simple process of dropping a letter into the nearest pillar-box franked to its destination, little notion can be formed of the inconvenience and trouble resulting from the necessity of sending every letter to a receiving-house or Post Office with the cash to pay its postage. To say nothing of the waste of time, a great temptation was offered to messengers to post the letters unpaid ; but this state of things existed from the 10th of January for many weary weeks. Meantime Parliament had assembled, and the members of the two Houses, who up to that session had enjoyed the privilege of franking their correspondence, now found themselves obliged to pay their pennies like the rest of the public. As a partial remedy for this inconvenience, so far as their correspondence at the two Houses of Parliament was concerned, an expedient was adopted of issuing prepaid envelopes, though on a very

limited scale. Those issued in the House of Lords bore the following superscription, printed in red ink, ordinary type :



A similar envelope, but printed in black, was also prepared for the use of members of the House of Commons. The superscription on this latter varies from that for the House of Lords in the omission of the word *Temporary*, and the word "COMMONS" is of course substituted for "LORDS."\*

It should be added that these superscriptions were printed on the envelopes after they had been folded.

The use of these envelopes must have been very restricted, as they are of extreme rarity; but this may be accounted for from the fact that it was necessary that they should be posted at the respective Houses of Parliament. Specimens of those used at the House of Lords are found on blue-laid and thick white wove paper, and of those used at the House of Commons on thin white, or bluish-white, wove paper. The normal size is about  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, but they vary somewhat, as

\* The issue of these envelopes is only mentioned by way of recording this temporary expedient. They never formed the subject of any general issue, and rank rather as curiosities in the history of the introduction and establishment of the Penny Post system than as objects for the general collector.

they were manufactured by hand in days when envelopes may be said to have been first invented, for up to that time no such coverings had been used except for franked and official letters not subjected to postage.

It was not till the end of April that the Lords of the Treasury found themselves in a position to fix a day on which the stamps could be issued to the public.

The following Notice was thereupon ordered to be issued from the Post Office :

“TO ALL POSTMASTERS AND SUB-POSTMASTERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,  
“25th April, 1840.

“It has been decided that Postage Stamps are to be brought into use forthwith, and as it will be necessary that every such Stamp should be cancelled at the Post Office or Sub Post Office where the Letter bearing the same may be posted, I herewith forward for your use an obliterating Stamp, with which you will efface the Postage Stamp upon every Letter despatched from your Office. RED COMPOSITION must be used for this purpose, and I annex directions for making it, with an impression of the Stamp.

“As the Stamps will come into operation by the 6th MAY, I must desire you will not fail to provide yourself with the necessary supply of Red Composition by that time.



“Directions for preparing the Red Stamping Composition :

“1 lb. Printer's red ink.

“1 pint Linseed Oil.

“Half-pint of the droppings of Sweet Oil.

“To be well mixed.

“By Command,

“W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”

On the 29th April the above notice was followed by another, in which was enclosed a copy of each of the Mulready one penny and twopenny covers and envelopes, and two copies of the black one penny adhesive stamp :

“TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,  
“April, 1840.

“I beg to enclose you two specimens of the Penny and Two-penny stamped Covers and Envelopes, and two of the Penny adhesive Labels (the Two-penny one is not yet ready), which I must beg you will carefully preserve, in order to compare them in case of doubt with the stamped Letters that may pass through your Office. In the event of your suspecting that the Stamps used on any Letters are forged, you will not detain the Letter, but simply take the Address, and report the circumstance to me without loss of time, in order that the Party to whom the Letter is directed may be at once applied to. You will observe, however, that the adhesive Stamps vary almost in all cases one from the other, having different Letters at the bottom corners, and I point this out that you may not be misled by this circumstance, and be induced to suspect Forgery where the variation of the stamps has been intentional. The Numbers on the Covers and Envelopes also vary. You will carefully Stamp with the Cancelling Stamp that has been forwarded to you the stamped Covers and Envelopes, as well as the adhesive Stamps, the two former must be struck on the figure of Britannia; and in the case of more than one adhesive Stamp being attached to a Letter, each Stamp must be separately obliterated. The use of the Cancelling Stamp, however, will not dispense with the use of the ordinary dated Stamp, which will be struck on the Letter as usual. When the value of the Stamp is under the rate of Postage to which the Letter, if prepaid in Money, would be subject, you will surcharge the Letter with a Pen in the usual manner.

“You will acknowledge the receipt of this Letter and the Specimen Stamps by return of Post.

“By Command,

“W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”

On the same day the following Notice was issued by the Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes :

“The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having authorized and directed the use of Stamps for denoting the Duties of Postage on and after the 6th of May next, and that the sale of such Stamps shall in the first instance be confined to London, Notice is hereby given that on and after the 1st May next the STAMPS undermentioned may be obtained at this Office,



and also at the Sea Policy Office, Bank Buildings, in the City of London, in the quantities and at the prices following, viz.:

|  | £ | s. | d. |
|--|---|----|----|
| Two reams of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 80 sheets, or 960 Stamps . . . . .        | 4 | 7  | 0  |
| Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .                                      | 4 | 5  | 0  |
| One ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps . . . . .         | 2 | 4  | 6  |
| Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .                                      | 2 | 3  | 6  |
| Half a ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps . . . . .      | 1 | 2  | 4  |
| Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .                                      | 1 | 1  | 9  |
| One ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps . . . . .         | 4 | 3  | 6  |
| Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .                                      | 4 | 2  | 6  |
| Half a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps . . . . .      | 2 | 2  | 6  |
| Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .                                      | 2 | 2  | 0  |
| Quarter of a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 10 sheets or 120 covers . . . . . | 1 | 1  | 4  |
| Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes . . . . .                                      | 1 | 1  | 1  |
| Sheet of 1d. Labels containing 240 Stamps (per sheet) . . . . .                          | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| Same of 2d. . . . .  | 2 | 0  | 0  |

“To enable any person to sell these Stamps it will be necessary that they should obtain licenses as Vendors of Stamps generally.

“By Order of the Board,

“CHARLES PRESSLY, *Secretary.*”

The public were informed of the intended issue of the stamps by the following notice, which, as shown by a note attached to the copy preserved in the Archives of the General Post Office, was sent out on the 30th April, 1840:

“NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

AND

“INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,

“April, 1840.

“The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the 6th of May next for the issue of Postage Stamps, on and after that day all Letters written on Stamped Paper, or enclosed in Stamped Covers,

or having Stamps affixed to them, the Stamps in every such case being equal in Value or Amount to the Rates of Postage now chargeable on such Letters if prepaid, will pass *Free* of Postage in whatever part of the UNITED KINGDOM they may be posted.

“In those cases where the Value of Stamps on the Letter is less than the amount of the Postage to which it would now be liable if prepaid, the Letter will be charged double the amount of such difference on delivery. An Inland Letter, for example, weighing more than Half-an-Ounce, and not exceeding an Ounce, if bearing only a Penny Stamp will be charged Twopence on delivery.

“The same regulation applies to letters prepaid by money where the full and proper rate of postage has not been paid in advance.

“Stamps may be used for *Printed Votes* and *Proceedings in Parliament*. If the Stamps, however, should be less in value than the proper rate of Postage to which these documents are subject, only the difference, and not double the difference, is to be charged.

“Stamps may also be used on Foreign, Colonial, and Ship Letters, &c., outwards. If any Letter, however, addressed to Places beyond Sea, shall bear an insufficient number of Stamps, it will be sent to the Dead Letter Office, to be returned in all practicable cases to the writer. Stamps are *not* permitted to be used on Letters arriving in the United Kingdom *from the Colonies or Foreign Countries*. In such cases therefore Letters will be chargeable with the same rates as they would be if not bearing Stamps.

“All these Regulations will be applicable to Newspapers in those cases where they are liable to Postage.

“It must be distinctly understood that it is optional with the Public either to use Stamps, or to forward their Letters, &c., prepaid or unpaid as at present.

“The instructions issued in December, and on the 4th February last, remain in full force, the only alteration being that the Stamps are permitted to be used in certain cases instead of the Postage being paid in Money.

“By Command,

“W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”

THE  
POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF  
GREAT BRITAIN.

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Part II.

*POSTAGE STAMPS.*

THE history of the Post Office as a national institution having in the foregoing chapters been brought down to the introduction of Postage Stamps, we will now proceed to the immediate object of this Treatise; viz., the examination of the various Stamps by which the prepayment of postal rates has been and is at present effected in the United Kingdom. Although the aim of all these stamps is identical, yet it will appear that the means by which the result is attained are diverse; and further, that in certain cases stamps have been expressly created to serve special purposes. To avoid confusion and afford greater facilities for reference it seems desirable to consider them in the following order:

FIRST. Adhesive Stamps or Labels.

SECOND. Covers and Envelopes for enclosing correspondence.

THIRD. Newspaper and Book-post Stamps and Wrappers.

FOURTH. Post Cards.

It is then proposed to add a short description of some of the principal essays, trials, and proofs of postage stamps and envelopes, more especially of those which are chiefly interesting

in a historical point of view as tending to throw light, not only on certain stages in the production of the stamps subsequently issued to the public, but also on the gradual growth of the system which called them into existence.

Adopting this order, we proceed to the consideration of the Adhesive Stamps or Labels; and these will be found to constitute by far the most important class of stamps employed for postal purposes. The most obvious mode of procedure would certainly be that based upon the chronological order of the various issues; and there can be little doubt but that such a mode is not only the most logical and scientific in itself, but is one which ought to prevail where the stamps have been issued in regular series. In the adhesive stamps of Great Britain, however, not only is there a want of uniformity in the elements which make one stamp to differ from another, but the issues themselves have been variable in the extreme, one stamp after another having been called into existence as it was required for the special exigency of the service at the time. A cursory view of the entire body of adhesive stamps will nevertheless show that there are special features common to many of them, and that they are capable of being rationally divided into three categories, dependent on the method by which they are manufactured. They will consequently be considered under the following sectional heads:

SECTION I. Line-engraved Stamps.

SECTION II. Stamps embossed in relief.

SECTION III. Type-printed Stamps.

It will be found that by adopting this mode of classification much unnecessary repetition will be avoided. The chronological order of issue of the several stamps in each section will be observed as far as possible, and each value will be examined *seriatim* through all the phrases it has exhibited from the date of its original issue to the present time.

## SECTION I.

### *LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.*

THESE Stamps consist of—

- (1) THE ONE PENNY . . . issued 6th May, 1840.
- (2) THE TWO PENCE . . . „ May, 1840.
- (3) THE ONE HALFPENNY . . . „ 1st October, 1870.
- (4) THE THREE HALFPENCE . . . „ 1st October, 1870.

The distinguishing feature of the stamps in this Section is that they are produced from plates engraved in ordinary line engraving, in which the lines appearing in colour in the printed impression are *en creux*, or are cut into the plate in *intaglio*. This method, as will be seen hereafter, is the reverse of that adopted in typographic or surface printing, where the lines appearing in colour in the printed impression are in relief or *cameo* on the plate.

The great problem to be solved in creating an Adhesive Postage Stamp was the absolute necessity of providing an adequate and unfailing supply of impressions, all of which should be as exact in every respect as if each copy had been printed from one original die, otherwise it would be difficult, if not impossible, to guard against or to detect forgery. It was an every-day business to obtain a few thousand impressions from an engraved plate or die ; but it was a complete novelty to determine the best means of securing the daily supply of a million.

As none of the proposals sent in to the Treasury appeared on investigation to answer the required conditions, Mr. Henry

Cole, who was acting in that Department as assistant to Sir Rowland Hill,\* applied to Messrs. Bacon and Petch (now Perkins, Bacon, and Co.), of Fleet Street and Whitefriars, London, engravers on and printers from steel plates,† a firm principally known as engravers and printers of bank-notes for many private and joint-stock banks, by a process introduced into England by the late Mr. Jacob Perkins, the original founder of the firm. By this process, a design engraved on a steel plate was reproduced on any number of similar plates absolutely identical with the original, even to the most minute details, so that in fact the number of perfect impressions which could be obtained was practically without limit.‡ Through a misapprehension of the requirements of the Lords of the Treasury this firm had not sent in any proposal in answer to the invitation of "My Lords," though specimens of reproductions made by the process had been circulated as illustrations to an article on the New System of Postage in the *London and Westminster Review*.§ On its being explained to Mr. Bacon that for Adhesive Postage Stamps such as were required, a design of about the size of an inch square would suffice, he considered that the multiplying process as employed by his

\* Sir Rowland Hill was, in September, 1839, attached to the Treasury to assist in carrying into effect the new system of the uniform penny postage. (See *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 371.)

† Report of Committee of 1852. Answer of Mr. Bacon to question 1692.

‡ Mr. Jacob Perkins was a native of Massachusetts, and came to England in 1819. He was possessed of great inventive talent, not only in his own particular profession as an intaglio engraver, but in various branches of mechanics. Three of the principal discoveries he brought over to this country were:—a method of softening steel, which enabled him to engrave upon it with the greatest facility, and then of hardening it again;—a process by which engraving might be transferred from steel to steel, thus multiplying to any extent the plates to be printed from;—and a new and elaborate style of ornamentation by means of geometrical lathe-work. This latter, produced by a machine which was an improved adaptation of the Rose Engine, was employed in engraving the fine reticulated pattern introduced into the background of the stamps in this Section.

§ *London and Westminster Review*, vol. xxxiii. p. 491.

firm might be applied to the production of them, and he accordingly submitted designs and proposals which were ultimately accepted by the Lords of the Treasury, and the firm was commissioned to furnish a supply of adhesive stamps so soon as the necessary dies had been completed. A contract was subsequently entered into for one year from 13th April, 1840, whereby that firm agreed to deliver the necessary quantity of stamps, printed and gummed, to the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House at the rate of 7½d. per 1,000, the paper being supplied by the Government.\* This contract was renewed from time to time for various periods and under altered conditions until, on its expiration at the close of the year 1879, the Government decided on adopting the typographic or surface mode of printing for the stamps in this section which was in use for the other values then current, and Messrs. De La Rue and Co. became the successful competitors for the new contract.

Before proceeding to the examination of the stamps in this Section individually, we will notice some particulars common to the whole of them, and commence by giving a brief description of the process by which the steel plates employed for the production of the impressions were constructed.

**PLATE.**—The original die was the handiwork of the engraver, who engraved the proposed design in intaglio on a flat plate or block of softened steel, which, when completed, was carefully hardened, and constituted what was technically termed the “matrix,” or mother die. By means of powerful pressure, applied by a compound lever, impressions from this matrix were taken on a “roller” of softened steel, which evidently were cameo impressions of the original die. This roller after having been

\* By the contract made between Messrs. Bacon and Potch and the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes (now the Commissioners of the Inland Revenue) of the 5th May, 1843, the price was fixed at 6½d. per 1,000, and if the annual quantity exceeded thirty-two millions then the price was to be 6d. per 1,000. A subsequent contract for five years from the 5th July, 1851, fixed the price at 5d. per 1,000, with a special stipulation that if a more expensive kind of adhesive matter was required than that then employed, the Government was to bear the extra cost.

hardened was employed to transfer an impression from its face on to a plate of softened steel, and by repeated operations produced as many rows of impressions as were required to compose the sheet of stamps, each of which impressions was an exact *fac-simile* of the original die. The bur caused by the action of the roller was then removed; the letters in the angles were inserted with steel punches, the legends on the margins of the plate were added, and the plate number, as also the official number of the plate, were filled in. After being hardened the plate was fit for use; but in order to insure accuracy in all the details, plate-proof impressions were taken off in black ink on ordinary paper before any stamps were actually printed from it. These having been duly verified were destroyed by the inspecting officer always present on behalf of the Inland Revenue Department. This system of checking for errors was in all cases invariably followed, and proved to be a useful and efficient protection against what may be termed errors of engraving.

LETTERING.—Letters were at first inserted in the blocks in the two lower angles only of the stamp; those in the upper angles of the one penny and twopence being filled in with Maltese crosses. These letters served to determine the position which the stamp occupied in the sheet; but the real object of introducing them was to provide an additional protection against forgery, it being “thought at the time that any considerable use or sale of stamps so printed, all having the same letters, and being sold separately, not in sheets, would necessarily attract attention, and lead to inquiry.”\* The sheet (with the exception of the one halfpenny) consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, disposed in twenty rows, of twelve in each row. The upper row bore the letters A.A., A.B., A.C., A.D., &c., up to A.L.; the second row the letters B.A., B.B., B.C., B.D., &c., up to B.L.; the third the letters C.A., &c., up to C.L., and so on to the twentieth or last row, which bore the letters T.A., &c., up to T.L.; the first letter denoting the place of the stamp in the vertical row, and the second its place in the horizontal row.

\* Evidence of Sir Rowland Hill before the Committee of 1852.



In 1858 the Maltese crosses in the upper blocks of the two-pence were suppressed, and letters were substituted, an alteration which was carried out a few years later in the one penny. This latter system of notation, which was subsequently extended, not only to all the stamps in this Section, but also to most of those in the Third Section, appears at first sight rather more complicated than the former; but on examination it will be seen that no alteration was made in the lettering of the lower angles; while the upper ones were filled in by repeating the same letters, but placing them in opposite angles, diagonal-wise. Thus a stamp, for example, occupying the third place in the fourth row, which under the first system bore the letters D.C. only in the lower angles, continued under the new system to bear the same letters in these angles, while the upper angles would be occupied by the same letters transposed; viz., C.D. There can be no doubt but that this latter system presented an additional safeguard against the fraudulent use of any stamps that might be only partially or imperfectly obliterated, a protection not enjoyed in an equal degree under the former; for if by chance a stamp of a certain value were obliterated in the upper part only, and another of the same value were found obliterated in the lower part, the unobliterated portions might be brought together so as to form a stamp which would probably pass muster, and the defrauder might allege that the cutting of the stamp was the result of an accident; but with the new system such a plea became almost hopeless, the chances against the two halves bearing the same letters being exceedingly remote, as the only stamps in a sheet of two hundred and forty, where the letters do not admit of inversion, are the twelve which bear the same letter in all the four angles, thus leaving two hundred and twenty-eight stamps in the sheet where different combinations of the letters must appear. Instances of the species of improper and fraudulent manipulations above referred to are so rare that it is presumable that the system proved an almost effectual protection against such artifices.

PLATE NUMBER.—The plates used for printing the stamps in

this Section have always been numbered, by which means a register has been kept of the performance of each plate. These numbers have followed in consecutive order, except when interrupted by some special circumstances. The number is inserted in each corner of the margin of the plate within a small fine-lined circle; but as regards the one penny and twopence, this has not been so from the commencement. In the case of the one penny the number was originally introduced into the margin at all four corners of the plate without any addition, and this continued until plate No. 98 of Series II. was reached (10th March, 1865), when a fine-lined circle enclosing the plate number was added, and continued to the close of the Series at the expiration of the contract at the end of 1879.\* In the case of the twopence the numbers were inserted in the margin at all the four angles until plate No. 12 was reached (1st January, 1868), when the numbers were enclosed in fine-lined circles at the two corners, similarly to the one penny as above described, and so continued down to the expiration of the contract.

PAPER.—The paper on which the stamps in this Section were printed was hand-made, with ragged or “deckel” edges all round the sheet, and was manufactured by Messrs. Faircroft and Co. at the Rush Mills, near Northampton, under the inspection of an officer of the Inland Revenue Department. The sheets, after having been made up into reams of five hundred, were forwarded direct to the offices of the Department in Somerset House, and there counted in and out, every sheet being rigorously accounted for.

The colour of the paper was greyish-white, and, like all hand-made papers, it has varied considerably in thickness at different periods.†

\* Coincident with the enclosing of the plate number within a circle, another number was introduced into the upper and lower margins, which was the “official” number of the plate.

† This is especially noticeable in some of the one penny stamps, particularly those printed about the summer of 1870 (plates 139-144, Series ii.), which are on comparatively thick paper, differing materially from those appearing in the autumn of 1876, which are found on paper so thin as almost to resemble *pelure* paper.

**WATERMARKS.**—From the first creation of postage stamps in England watermarks have been introduced into the paper on which they have been printed. These watermarks are produced by affixing patterns of the required design on the wire gauze of the frame which receives the pulp in the process of the manufacture of the paper, and as this is consequently thinner where the pattern is affixed an impression is left behind, visible on holding the sheet to the light. The patterns themselves (technically termed "*bits*") are made of thin brass or fine wire, and are supplied to the manufacturers of the paper under the direction of the officer in charge. They are so arranged on the frame that one of the impressions produced shall appear in each space destined to be occupied by a stamp, except in the paper manufactured expressly for the one halfpenny (1870). The presence of watermarks in the stamps has always been considered as offering one of the most effectual impediments to forgery, and that this opinion is well founded is, we think, amply borne out by experience.

It is evident that the principal danger apprehended by the Lords of the Treasury in carrying out the projected issue of adhesive postage stamps was the possibility of forgery, and their apprehensions on this head were constantly kept alive by the prophecies of croaking alarmists which day by day appeared in the public journals. Even Sir Rowland Hill himself was not free from them.\* Every precaution was consequently taken to place obstacles in the way of the dreaded evil. The danger of fraud did not, however, lie so much in this direction as in the fraudulent use of stamps a second time, rendered possible either by the omission of the officials to obliterate them, or by the removal of the effacing marks when made, a species of fraud that fortunately could not be carried on to any great extent. Even on the first of these points Sir Rowland

\* Sir Rowland Hill, writing in 1871, says: "My apprehensions, however, happily proved groundless; only two attempts, so far as I know, ever having been made, and both of a very bungling character, though in one the author was cunning enough to escape detection. In the other, which occurred in Ireland, the offender was convicted and punished; the detection occurred through the fact that a young man had written to his sweetheart under one of the forged stamps, and enclosed another for her use in reply."—*Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 397.

Hill himself says, that "there was a good deal to complain of at the outset, so much so that a certain amount of discredit began to attach to the stamps as a whole." As regards the removal of the effacing marks by cleaning, this was done rather from mischievous than from fraudulent intentions, though it was not put a stop to until changes had been made both in the obliterated ink and in that used for the impression of the stamps.\*

\* The effacing marks, as has been mentioned in the introductory chapters, were originally ordered to be made in red ink, which was most probably chosen by the Post Office officials from the long habit they had acquired of stamping in red everything which was paid. This, as we learn by an extract from Sir Rowland Hill's diary, dated 21st May, did not prove efficient. "Several more cases," he writes, "of stamps wholly unobliterated, or very nearly so, have come within my knowledge, and all sorts of tricks are being played by the public, who are exercising their ingenuity in devising contrivances for removing the obliteration stamp by chemical agents and other means." The principal chemists of the day were consulted, and many experiments made with inks variously compounded, while endless suggestions came in from all quarters. Sir Rowland Hill at last drew up a Report "containing all the information then possessed, and recommending for the present, obliteration in good black printing ink prepared in a peculiar manner, and the printing of the adhesive stamps in coloured inks—blue as before for the twopenny ones, but red for the penny ones, both colours to be oleaginous, but at the same time destructible, the aim being to render the obliteration so much more tenacious than the postage stamp that any attempt at removing the former must involve the destruction of the latter."

The obliteration in black ink began to be brought into use about the month of June, and was applied to the stock of stamps on hand. "Within three weeks from the date of the Report a chemist, named Watson, had succeeded completely in the removal of this obliteration by a process which, though very simple, inexpensive, and effectual, in relation at least to the black stamp," proved so slow as to demand nine minutes per label in its application, so that the danger to be apprehended was not very formidable. But when Sir Rowland Hill's own clerk succeeded in effecting the operation at the rate of one per minute it was necessary to reconsider the question, as this rate was quick enough to render knavery profitable. At length, it having occurred to Sir Rowland Hill that "as the means which were successful in removing the printing ink obliterated were different from those which discharged Perkins's" ink, a secure ink might be made by the addition of certain ingredients used in this latter to the printers' ink. "The device succeeded, and the ink so formed proved to all intents and purposes indestructible."—*Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. pp. 399-404.

IMPRESSION.—The sheets were struck off by hand-worked copperplate printing presses furnished with a back movement, by which the sheet was returned to the workman after it had received the impression, an invention due to the mechanical talent of the late Mr. Jacob Perkins. At the time of the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. there were thirty-eight of these presses engaged in printing the stamps in this Section, each of which was capable of turning out from four hundred to five hundred impressions per day.\* The number of impressions which could be taken from each plate before it became unfit for service varied considerably. One was known to yield under twenty-four thousand impressions, while there are instances of others giving more than a million before they were destroyed as unfit for service. The average number, however, taken from the plates constructed after the deepening of the lines on the die of the one penny and twopence was about half a million.

A sheet of stamps printed in black from Die II., prior to the adoption of the lettering in the four angles, was exhibited by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. at South Kensington, from which one million of impressions had been taken without any appreciable wear of the plate.

IMPRIMATUR.—Whenever a plate is actually brought into use for the first time, copies of the first impressions struck off are brought by the officer of the Inland Revenue Department charged with the surveillance of the operations on the premises of the contractors to the offices of the Department at Somerset House, with his certificate of the date when they were struck off, for the purpose of receiving the *imprimatur* of the Commissioners. This *imprimatur* is endorsed on one of the sheets, being applied by

\* Questions have been asked how it was that stamps, especially those of one penny, purchased at the Post Offices, frequently bore plate numbers lower than those purchased previously; but it must be borne in mind that if thirty-eight presses were employed at any moment printing the same value, each press must have been supplied with a plate bearing different numbers. This reason is quite independent of the fact that Post Offices frequently issue fresh stock before the old is exhausted.

virtue of the Statute 3 and 4 Vict., c. 96, and until it is given the impressions from the particular plate do not legally denote the rate of duty which the stamp purports to represent. In short, the Commissioners by this *imprimatur* allow the impressions from the particular plate to represent stamp duties, and put them under the protection of the law. The date of this *imprimatur* is necessarily subsequent to the commencement of the printing from the plate, but precedes the date of issue to the public frequently by some months, and occasionally by years, in the case of a continuous issue. Copies of the sheets so struck from each plate, with the original *imprimatur* endorsed, are preserved in the archives of the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House.

GUM.—After the sheets were printed and dried, the adhesive matter, or, as it is termed in the legend on the margin, the “cement on the back,” was applied by the contractors for the printing. The composition originally employed was of a brownish-yellow colour, but very deficient in adhesive properties, and was moreover exceedingly disagreeable to the taste. Mr. Joshua B. Bacon, then senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., when examined before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1852, in reply to question 1724, said, “Our gum is composed of potato starch, wheat starch, and gum.”\* Before the same Committee, Mr. Edwin Hill, Controller of the Stamping Department at Somerset House, said that the gum was “potato starch slightly burnt or toasted,” a condition implying that it was dextrine, which is starch that has been exposed for a certain time to a heat of about 400° Fah. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. inform us that up to the middle of the year 1855 the adhesive matter was simply potato

\* Mr. Bacon, the son of Mr. Joshua B. Bacon, and the present senior partner in the firm, to whose courtesy we are indebted for many of the details we are able to give with respect to the manufacture of this interesting series of stamps, considers that this statement as to gum entering into the composition of the adhesive matter was due to some misapprehension, as he believes that no gum was ever employed in combination with the starch.

starch,\* but that at that period, in order to add to the adhesiveness of the stamps, a certain quantity of gelatine was added. This had the effect of rendering the composition much whiter in colour and less disagreeable in use than before, though it was still deficient in adhesive qualities. Great dissatisfaction was expressed by the public on this account, as vast numbers of stamps failed to adhere, and were found loose in the letter-bags. With a view to improve the adhesiveness two coats of the composition were applied to the sheets in 1866, and this in some degree remedied the evil; but the long use of the potato starch composition was in reality due to the ill-conceived notions of economy on the part of the authorities.†

Owing to causes into which it does not appear material to our present purpose to prosecute any inquiries, necessitating chemical research, an action was under certain conditions set up between the ink of the impression and the adhesive matter, which resulted in a discoloration of the intervening paper, a blue or greenish blue tinge being communicated to the stamp. In many cases the tinge might more properly be described as green; but this appearance is due mostly, if not entirely, to the yellow hue of the adhesive matter combining with the blue of the paper. This discoloration not only varied considerably in intensity, but, like all stains made on paper by chemical agency of a similar kind, was unevenly and capriciously diffused, a condition especially noticeable on the sheets preserved in the archives of the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House,

\* An account of this substitute for gum may be found in *Household Words* for 15th May, 1852, where it is mentioned that in the second year of Messrs. Perkins and Co.'s contract a rumour was spread that the adhesive matter on the postage stamps was a deleterious composition made from the refuse of fish and other disgusting materials. "The Great British Gum Secret" was then spread far and wide, and the public was extensively informed that the postage label poison was made simply of potatoes!

In commerce it passes under the name of "British Gum," being extensively used by calico printers, and is in reality roasted potato starch.

† See *supra*, p. 53, note.

from which in order to receive the *imprimatur* the adhesive matter was removed from the back. Some of these are blotchy, the blue tinge being in patches; in others it is much more uniformly distributed; some are deeply stained with the colour, while in others there is scarcely any, if any, tinge of blue.

The one penny stamps printed in ordinary black printers' ink show no traces of discoloration, nor are any to be found in some of the essays printed in red-brown. The earliest impressions of the twopence also are free from discoloration, though it is apparent in those of a subsequent period, but not in an equal degree with the contemporaneous impressions of the one penny printed in red-brown and carmine-red. These latter scarcely ever fail to show the discoloration, which appears to have reached its maximum point between 1848 and 1852. It then seemed to diminish gradually, but few specimens being found deeply blued, and it finally ceased in 1856.

From these appearances a notion sprang up that the one penny and twopence had been printed on *blue* paper. But there is not the slightest foundation in fact for this idea, as the paper was invariably greyish-white, and the tinge of colour is entirely due to the chemical discoloration of the paper in a greater or lesser degree.

That this discoloration was caused by the combined action of the ink and the adhesive matter is evident, because the margins of those sheets over which the adhesive matter has extended are found to be free from discoloration, though a strong tinge of blue prevails to the extreme boundary to which the printing reaches. So also in many of the essays of colour for the one penny printed with a blank corner, the paper is found in its pristine condition in every part *not* covered by the impression, even to the blank letter blocks in the angles, while the rest over which the ink has passed is deeply discoloured.

Again, the condition of the *imprimatur* sheets before referred to shows that the ink and the adhesive matter did not of them-



*selves and alone* combine to produce the discoloration, but that the action when set in motion operated with uncertain and irregular force. Further, it is clear that when the cause operated, the chemical action was set in motion immediately, though the discolouring effects developed themselves subsequently in a greater degree, and in this subsequent development it is by no means improbable that atmospheric influences were indirectly concerned.

The real difficulty therefore lies in determining what this exciting cause really was, and the solution of this question must be sought for either in the ink, the paper, or the adhesive matter, or in some of the elements composing them.

Mr. Edwin Hill, in his evidence before the Committee above referred to, attributed the discoloration to the "alum used in sizing the paper," setting up "a chemical action between the gum and the printing;" but this theory seems to be difficult, if not impossible, to reconcile with the facts as disclosed by the appearances on the *imprimatur* sheets, besides which the quantity of alum employed in the size is very minute, and would be evenly distributed over the paper. He further mentioned "that some sheets when gummed presented none of the objectionable appearances, whereas others gummed with gum out of the same cask showed them in a most decided manner," from which he inferred that the exciting cause was not in the gum.

Various other theories have been advanced from time to time to account for this discoloration, one alleging that it was due to iodine, another to the potato starch ceasing to operate after its admixture with gelatine; the advocates of the one theory seeming to be ignorant of the effects that iodine would produce on potato starch, and the others arguing regardless of dates, for there is not a trace of blue discoloration to be found on any sheet of the one penny stamps subsequent to the commencement of 1857, and yet the first batch of the stamps of three-halfpence printed as essays on 22nd March, 1860, are most deeply tinged with the blue discoloration.

We believe that the exciting cause which set in motion the chemical action between the ink and the gum is that which has been communicated to us by Mr. Bacon ; namely, that it is due solely and entirely to the use of alum as an ingredient in the composition of the ink. This ingredient was introduced in a greater or lesser quantity for the purpose of brightening the colour of the ink, but the use of it was discontinued after it had been discovered that it was injurious to the steel of the plates. As far as it is possible to be ascertained, the abandonment of the use of this ingredient and the cessation of the discoloration were simultaneous. The appearances also of the *imprimatur* sheets tend to confirm this view. The normal colour of the impression of the one penny, as will be seen subsequently, was red-brown, which in some cases approached to a carmine tint. The first sheet where the blue appearance absolutely ceases, never to reappear, is printed in quite a different shade, being a brick-red, and no subsequent impressions in red-brown are to be found, as the colour gradually fell into a lake-red, and so continued to the close of the contract.

We have possibly been somewhat minute on the question of the discoloration of the one penny and twopenny stamps of this section, a discoloration which commenced with the introduction of destructible colours in the printing ; but it is one which has always created discussion, and been the subject of controversy among philatelists, and we have therefore thought it right to state all the facts which have come to our knowledge, and which we have been at some pains to ascertain, as well as to indicate the inferences which in our opinion may properly be deduced from them.

PERFORATION.—The sheets after having been printed and gummed were returned by the contractors to the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House, there to undergo the final process of perforation. Up to the year 1854 the one penny and twopenny stamps were issued to the public imperforate ; but in that year machines were brought into use for perforating the sheets, and the system has now so gradually worked its

way into the economy of the manufacture of postage stamps, that it may be safely said, nine-tenths of those at present in use throughout the world are machine-perforated under one form or another.

In the year 1847 Mr. Henry Archer, an Irishman, proposed to the Marquess of Clanricarde, then Postmaster-General, the adoption of a machine invented by him, "whereby the stamps might be separated without the necessity of using knives or scissors." The matter was referred to Mr. Bokenham, then Controller of the Circulation Department at the Post Office, and to other officials, who, in their report to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes made on the 14th October, 1847, stated that the machine appeared to be a clever and useful invention; that they were thoroughly convinced that postage stamps separated by it, having jagged edges, would adhere to letters far better than those cut from the sheet by knives or scissors; and they concluded by submitting that it was most desirable the invention should be adopted. In the report of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes subsequently made to the Lords of the Treasury, the invention is described as being one "for piercing the portions of the paper intervening between the labels by a series of cuts, in such a manner as to admit of their being detached singly without use of knife or scissors," a system known to stamp collectors as *perçage à la roulette*, involving merely cuts in the paper without removing any portion of its substance. On the 7th January, 1848, the report was approved by the Lords of the Treasury, stamps subjected to its operation were authorised to be circulated, and orders were given that the machine should be set up and tried on the premises of Messrs. Bacon and Petch, under the superintendence of Mr. Edwin Hill, the Controller of the Stamping Department at Somerset House.

When a practical trial of the machine was made, it was found that the piercing rollers by which the cuts were made, speedily wore out the table on which their edges descended, and but few sheets were perforated, as this defect soon put a stop to

further experiments.\* Archer then, with the help of a practical machinist, modified the machine by introducing a series of lancet-shaped blades, but on trial this also failed, partly from the same cause as before and partly from the blades becoming blunted against the table.

Examples of the stamps, which are the result of both of these experiments, are preserved at the Post Office, and some few sheets found their way into the hands of the public, though the number must have been very limited, as specimens are exceedingly rare, but when found they may readily be distinguished from each other. In the first, the cuts vary in length, and the distances separating them from each other are unequal, while the cut itself is irregular and jagged, and the stamp is seldom left square at the angles. In the second, the cuts are straight and clean, widening at the extremities, and they are much closer together, and at more regular intervals.

In the year 1849 Archer, who from time to time had been assisted by the advice and suggestions of Mr. E. Hill, produced another machine, constructed on the principle of perforating the intervals between the stamps with a series of holes punched out of the substance of the paper. The first experiments were not successful, but after repeated alterations the machine was got to work. Other difficulties now presented themselves, which Archer alleged were owing to obstructions placed in his way by the contractors for the supply of the stamps. In this he was entirely mistaken, the real cause of the principal difficulty being due to inequalities in the sizes of the sheets, arising partly from the damping previous to the printing, but chiefly from the plates varying in size, according to the amount of pressure employed in their preparation. Still the machine itself was far from being perfect, as is evident from the trials, which show a series of

\* The first apparatus offered by Archer consisted of two machines to be used in succession, one containing a roller carrying thirteen little spur-wheels placed the width of a stamp apart; the other with twenty-one similar spur-wheels the length of the stamp apart. The sheets were passed first under the roller of the one to have the longitudinal lines of perforation pierced, then under the other for the cross lines.

irregular oval-shaped holes, misplaced moreover with regard to the edges of the stamps, owing to the machine failing to retain the sheets firmly in place during the process of perforation. Many sheets were spoiled, but some were allowed to pass, and were used in the post. Specimens are of the extremest rarity, but when met with may be recognised by the irregularity and oval shape of the holes running sideways to the margin of the stamp.\*

It, however, became apparent in the course of these experiments that the new system was free from the great objections to which the former one was open, and that the best chance of success lay in attempting to improve the last machine. Archer having refused to continue his experiments on the premises of Messrs. Bacon and Petch, a room was placed at his disposal at Somerset House, where Mr. E. Hill could devote more time to the supervision of them.

It would be foreign to our purpose to recount here the history of the progressive development of the machine, which led to its ultimate success. Those curious on the subject may read it at length in the Parliamentary Blue Book of the proceedings of the Committee of 1852; suffice it to say that the principal difficulty was solved by arranging the needles or punches so as to be capable of adjustment. These needles were disposed in such manner that sixteen holes were perforated by them in a length of two centimètres or 0·7874 inch.

Archer had patented his machine, which was worked by hand with tolerable facility, and was at length considered as sufficiently satisfactory for practical use. The question then remained as to what compensation he should receive, a question which in his first proposals he had offered to "leave open until the plan succeeded." A long correspondence with the Treasury ensued, and in 1852 the matter was referred to a Select Com-

\* Archer stated, in his examination before the Committee of 1852, that during the course of the various trials about five thousand sheets were experimented upon. Those which were not spoiled were, he said, partly distributed by him, while the rest were sent to country Post Offices for sale.

mittee of the House of Commons, who reported in favour of the perforating system. The government, shortly after the report was made, settled the question by paying Archer a sum of £4000 for his expenses, and for the purchase of the right to use his invention during the term of his patent, which has of course long since expired.\*

As soon as the purchase of the machine and the right to use it had been completed, Mr. James M. Napier, the able mechanical engineer, was ordered to construct several machines adapted for working by steam power, and he modified the arrangement of Archer's machine very considerably. Mr. E. Hill also suggested several improvements in the machines before they left Mr. Napier's workshops, and after the two first were set to work at Somerset House considerable alterations and other improvements were made by him and Mr. Ormond Hill. The machines constructed by Mr. Napier perforated sixteen to the two centimètres; but a change was tried in the spacing in March 1855, fourteen needles being introduced into the space before occupied by sixteen, as with the closer holes both the steel bed-plates of the machines and the perforated sheets were found to be too tender, the former frequently splitting, and the latter often tearing too readily along the lines of holes, so much so as to render the counting of the sheets very difficult. The experiment proving satisfactory, a similar change was made in all the machines successively, and this gauge has ever since continued to be employed for the whole of the ordinary sized postage stamps, and is found by the public to be convenient in use as permitting an easy severance of the stamps; while at the same time sufficient paper is left to prevent this occurring too readily.

\* Mr. Ormond Hill, formerly Controller of Stamping at Somerset House, to whose kindness many of the details here given are owing, informs us that Archer was not possessed of any inventive power or mechanical knowledge, but having imagined or picked up a good idea was entirely dependent on others for the mode in which it should be carried out, and being almost without means he went from one mechanic to another, and got each to work for him upon the hope of being paid when success was attained. When the Government purchased the machine and the right to use it, he told Mr. Hill that he had to pay about £2000 amongst the several mechanics that had so aided him.

The machines subsequently used contained further and important improvements, devised about six years ago by Mr. Thos. Peacock, one of the superintendents in the Stamping Department. As so constructed they were extremely ingenious, perforating as many as 5500 sheets per hour, instead of the old rate of 3200.\* The perforating needles at each descent perforate an entire row of stamps horizontally, and each side of the stamp longitudinally, so that three sides of the rectangle are perforated at each step of the process. There is consequently one row of needles as long as the horizontal row of twelve stamps on the sheet, and at right angles to this are thirteen short rows capable of adjustment in such manner as to adapt the machine either to the perforation of a sheet where the stamps are close together, or where they were printed in separate "panes," as was formerly the case with most of the stamps in the Third Section.

Although the actual gauge of the perforations is fourteen, yet it not unfrequently occurs that on bringing the edges of two stamps together, both of which are perforated to the same gauge, it is found that the indentations do not exactly correspond. At other times it will be found that though the top line of indentations may gauge fourteen, the side ones are somewhat finer, and *vice versa*.† This arises from a variation in the size of the needles where worn ones are replaced by new ones. Instances occur occasionally where, by a fault of the perforator, some of the rows of stamps have been twice perforated nearly in the same spot, the effect of which has been to cut away a portion of the first perforation, thus producing a very fine jagged edge along two sides, and oval holes at the other two. These must be carefully distinguished from the work of Archer's machine, which punched irregular oval holes on *all* four sides.

\* At present, as will be noticed hereafter, almost the whole of the perforation is done by the contractors for the printing.

† According to the system adopted by philatelists no account is taken of the size of the perforated holes, the test being only that a certain number of holes, large or small, should be found within a certain space. This is no doubt a defect in the system, and one which it is easier to point out than remedy.

## 1. THE ONE PENNY (1840).

Date of Issue, 6th May, 1840.

DESIGN. DIE I.—That the design for the adhesive postage labels must present a portrait of the Queen seemed to be almost a foregone conclusion, against which no argument was admissible; but it was also considered that by adopting a portrait, with the features of which the officials must necessarily become familiar, any forgery of the stamps would be more readily detected. Accordingly the Lords of the Treasury, in accepting the proposals made to them by Messrs. Bacon and Petch, selected a design embracing the portrait of Her Majesty with a background of ornamental lathe-work. A drawing by Mr. Henry Corbould of the obverse of Mr. William Wyon's Medal,\* struck in commemoration of Her Majesty's visit to the City on 9th November, 1837, which, following the numismatic rule, represented Her Majesty as looking to the left, was taken as a model for this portrait, the engraving of which for the postage label was entrusted to Mr. Charles Heath. That eminent artist engraved it in line upon a steel die, and a finer specimen of engraver's work was perhaps never executed.† The intricate reticulated background surrounding the head, and the framework of the sides, were engraved mechanically by Messrs. Bacon and Petch by the application of one of the inventions of Mr. Perkins before referred to.‡ On a tablet above the head is the word POSTAGE,

\* This celebrated medal, afterwards engraved by Freebairn by anaglyptograph, was the work of Mr. William Wyon, A.R.A., Chief Engraver of Seals to the Queen, and Engraver to the Mint, and not only served as a model for the head of Her Majesty on the adhesive postage labels, but also, as we shall see hereafter, for that executed by Mr. Wyon for the embossed stamps. Mr. Wyon died in 1851.

† Mr. Heath died 18th November, 1848. He was occupied six weeks in the engraving of the head on the die, which, as completed, did not include the whole of his labours, as essays show that it was the combined outgrowth of two others previously engraved by him. He received the sum of fifty guineas for his work.

‡ That this background was considered as one of the principal features in the stamp is shown by the following extract from Sir Rowland Hill's



in white letters, on a ground of close vertical lines; and below is another tablet, with the value in full, ONE PENNY, also in white letters, on a similar ground. In the four angles are white blocks one-tenth of an inch square, for the reception of the lettering, which up to the year 1860-1 was confined to the two lower blocks, the upper ones being filled in with ornaments in the form of Maltese crosses.\*



The stamp so completed forms a plain rectangular parallelo-

*History of Penny Postage*, which we would recommend to the consideration of the authorities of the present day, who, in the immunity from fraud in the matter of stamps which the Post Office has hitherto enjoyed, seem to have forgotten all the precautions which were originally taken to guard against it. Sir Rowland Hill writes: "It will be easily perceived that if imitation cannot be effected without resort to the means above described, as used in the production of the stamps, forgery is in itself impracticable; since no forger can have the command of very powerful, delicate, and therefore costly machinery, requiring for its management skilful and therefore highly paid workmen. If the Queen's head alone constituted the effigy, something in imitation might be done by the aid of lithography, or some other such copying process; but this fails when applied to the extremely delicate lines already mentioned as constituting the background, which in the lithographer's hands do but smirch the paper."— *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i: p. 408.

§ The die itself is a plate of steel about a quarter of an inch thick, and from two to two and a half inches square, and was engraved in the following manner: A rectangular piece of mechanical lathe-work was first of all engraved upon it to form the background, a portion of which in the form of the profile was scraped out, and on this blank space Mr. Heath subsequently engraved the head of Her Majesty. The tablets with the words POSTAGE and ONE PENNY were then added, with blank squares in the four corners, in the two upper ones of which Maltese crosses were subsequently engraved. The original matrix of the one penny was then complete. That of the twopence was made from a reproduction of the one penny die, the words TWO PENCE being substituted for ONE PENNY in the lower tablet, and this constituted the original die of the twopence. By this means absolute uniformity of design was secured for the two values. It ought to be mentioned that one and the same roller impression was used to create every one of the two hundred and forty impressions forming the plate of stamps, and other impressions on the roller were similarly used for other plates. Hence for each plate but one roller impression was used.

gram, measuring about three-fourths of an inch in width by seven-eighths of an inch in height, or  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.\*

Considering the novelty of the task, it must be admitted that the result, both as regards design and execution, proved highly successful, the best evidence of which is that it retained its place in its original form for nearly forty years, during which period it was not only the parent of thousands of millions of impressions for the requirements of its own country,† but has served as a model for the postage stamps of half the countries of the world.

DIE II.—Towards the close of the year 1854 the large and increasing numbers of inferior impressions attracted the notice of the authorities, when it was represented to them, that, however fit the original matrix was to produce roller impressions

\* It will be observed that the English and French measurements frequently differ from each other, as one has not been taken *from* the other, but both have been taken separately. The French one will consequently be found the most accurate, as the scale admits of more minute subdivisions than the English, without the necessity of having recourse to decimals or very minute fractions.

† In the *Life of Sir Rowland Hill* the editor gives a return from the Board of Inland Revenue of the number of postage stamps issued from the 27th April, 1840, to December 31st, 1879, which we here transcribe.

|                |           |     |     |                   |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------------|
| 1,600,276,320  | Labels of | ... | ... | $\frac{1}{4}$ d.  |
| 20,699,858,040 | "         | ... | ... | 1d.               |
| 42,638,160     | "         | ... | ... | $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 338,520,280    | "         | ... | ... | 2d.               |
| 105,829,824    | "         | ... | ... | $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 158,526,040    | "         | ... | ... | 3d.               |
| 153,815,820    | "         | ... | ... | 4d.               |
| 158,721,280    | "         | ... | ... | 6d.               |
| 4,608,720      | "         | ... | ... | 8d.               |
| 7,635,080      | "         | ... | ... | 9d.               |
| 5,963,476      | "         | ... | ... | 10d.              |
| 126,968,940    | "         | ... | ... | 1s.               |
| 6,475,820      | "         | ... | ... | 2s.               |
| 5,174,262      | "         | ... | ... | 5s.               |
| 6,014          | "         | ... | ... | 10s.              |
| 6,014          | "         | ... | ... | £1.               |

The money value of the above represents a little more than £111½ millions sterling, of which about 86½ millions are contributed by the one penny stamps alone.

adapted to ordinary circumstances, yet that it failed to produce them of sufficient depth to withstand the actual strain on the plates, which wore out with such rapidity as speedily to yield weak and indistinct impressions.\* It was therefore determined to construct a new matrix without interfering with the original one. For this purpose a reproduction of the original die was put into the hands of Mr. William Humphrys, a very skilful and careful engraver,† who limited his work to deepening the lines on the die, chiefly apparent in the shading of the face and the folds of the hair, making some slight alterations in the profile of the nose, and rendering the eyelid more distinct, as this latter, barely visible in the best of the impressions, was entirely invisible in the majority of them. The die thus altered was subsequently exclusively used for the construction of the plates, of which two hundred and four had been constructed from the original matrix.‡ Plates constructed from the retouched die were brought into use at the commencement of the year 1855, when a new series was also commenced. Impressions from Plate No. 1 of this new series were approved of on the 15th January, 1855.

The original die will be designated Die I., and the retouched die, Die II.; § and in the majority of cases no difficulty arises in discriminating between impressions taken from them. Some

\* Between the 12th December, 1848, and the 30th November, 1854, no fewer than one hundred and twenty-three plates were constructed.

† Mr. W. Humphrys was employed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. principally in engraving vignettes for bank-notes and other like securities printed by them; but some of the Colonial stamps furnished by that firm were due to his *burin*. He died at Genoa, 21st January, 1865.

‡ It must not be supposed that the manufacturers necessarily had recourse to the original matrix whenever it was requisite to construct a new *plate*. This was only necessary when fresh roller impressions were required, all of which were taken direct from the matrix.

The actual number of the plates constructed from Die I. was two hundred and nineteen, consisting of two hundred and four regularly numbered, one duplicate (77B) and fourteen reserve plates, numbered R. 1, R. 2, etc.

§ To prevent mistakes, the second dies, both of the 1d. and 2d., had **NEW** engraved upon them. (*Vide inf.*, "Essays," &c.)

badly-printed impressions from Die II. are, it is true, liable to be mistaken for impressions from Die I., and in such cases nothing but careful and minute examination will solve the question; still, as a rule, the more finished and regular appearance of the impressions from Die II. will leave no doubt as to the origin of any particular specimen.

PLATE.—The plate consisted of a single pane of two hundred and forty stamps in twenty rows of twelve in each row, thus having the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post Office sheet. On each of the margins the following legend was engraved in italics: "PRICE 1d. per label; 1s. per row of 12; £1 per sheet. Place the label ABOVE the address and towards the RIGHT-HAND SIDE of the letter. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the cement." In addition to the plate and official numbers there was a floriated ornament on each side-margin opposite the point between the tenth and eleventh rows, serving to facilitate the division of the sheet in half.

Sometime, most probably in the year 1861, an alteration was made in the plates by the insertion of the plate numbers in the reticulated framework of the stamps in minute numerals in white, an alteration which had been carried out in the year 1858 in the two penny value. This was effected by engraving the numerals on the roller impression used for producing the plate prior to its being hardened. At the same time the lettering, which up to that time had been confined to the two lower angles, was extended to the two upper angles, and block, or Egyptian, letters substituted for the Roman capitals previously employed. These changes were effected when Plate No. 69 of the second series appeared, the impression from which bearing the *imprimatur* is not found;\*



\* The impression from Plate No. 68, with the *imprimatur* dated 18th January, 1858, as also the impression from Plate No. 72, the *imprimatur* on which is dated 14th March, 1861, are to be found in the archives at Somerset House; but impressions from Plates Nos. 69, 70, and 71 are not

but it appears that the actual issue to the public did not take place until the 15th May, 1864.\*

No further change was made during the continuance of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. Under this contract Plate No. 225 was the last constructed, the impression from which received the *imprimatur* on the 31st December, 1878, so that from first to last four hundred and fifty plates had been made; viz, two hundred and nineteen for Series I. from 1840 to the end of 1854, and two hundred and twenty-five numbered plates, and six reserved plates for Series II. from January 1855 to the end of 1879.

PAPER.—The sheet measured twenty inches long by twelve inches wide. The space necessary for so much of the plate as was occupied by the stamps was marked out by a watermarked border of five parallel lines, interrupted twice on each side and once at the top and bottom by the insertion of the word POSTAGE in double-lined capitals.

Within this border were two hundred and forty small crowns, watermarked in the paper, so disposed as that one should fall under each stamp. These "bits" were made of fine wire, twisted by hand into the form of a crown, and varied slightly both in size and form during the period they were employed. They are readily distinguishable from the pattern next described by the invariable presence of a perpendicular line surmounted by a cross running down the centre. Certain letters are found watermarked at the edge of the sheet, but these only refer to the accounts kept of the manufacture.

to be found, and unfortunately this is not the only instance of impressions from plates presenting interesting features being omitted in the official collection. The alteration above referred to, as we learn from Mr. Bacon, occurred on Plate 69. We have not met with specimens bearing a number previous to 70; but the engravers in the employ of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. remember the circumstance from the coincidence of the number with that of their establishment in Fleet Street, No. 69.

\* The records of the Post Office give the date of the issue to the public as June, 1864, but it is clear that it was in circulation on 15th May, previously to which time specimens had only found their way into collections of amateurs as curiosities.—*Le Timbre-Poste*, 1864, p. 43.

Towards the end of the year 1855 the watermarks in the paper underwent some modification. The watermarks round the sheet were not altered, but the small crowns were replaced by others of larger dimensions. The bits for the new watermark, which will be designated "large crown" to distinguish it from "small crown," were stamped out of thin brass, and were consequently more uniform in their size and form than those made by hand, and more visible in the paper.\* It is not possible to fix the exact date when this change was carried out. The sheet printed to receive the *imprimatur* of Plate No. 23 of Die II. is the first on which the "large crown" is found; while that printed from Plate No. 24, which received the *imprimatur* on the same day, 12th November, 1855, is the last on which the "small crown" is found in the records at Somerset House. The inference to be drawn is, that the printers had a stock of paper in hand with both watermarks, and used it indifferently during the transitional period.

**IMPRESSION.**—After many trials the colour chosen for the impression was black. About the month of August, 1840, it was, for the reasons previously mentioned, determined to change it to red, and to print both it and the twopence in oleaginous colours, which should at the same time be destructible. The stamps in the new colour were ordered to be issued as the stock on hand of those printed in black became exhausted, which was not, however, till early in the month of January following, when the public was furnished with penny stamps of the new colour. Although it was first proposed that the colour should be red, yet that ultimately chosen was rather a red-brown, which may be considered as the normal colour; but during the period that this stamp was current this normal colour has wandered through

\* Although these watermarks are the two principal types or patterns, yet several subsidiary varieties of each pattern are found. Thus we find at least three distinct varieties in the shape and size of the "small crown," the one last in use in 1855 being wider and deeper than the one first employed. There are also some varieties of the "large crown," but we have not attempted to chronicle any of these as varieties of watermark, contenting ourselves with simply pointing out their existence.

all shades, from red-brown to brick-red, and from rose-red to lake-red, in a dark shade of which it finished its career.\*

The ink was applied thickly, and was liable to rub off, as most collectors know by experience.

PERFORATION. — After the sheets had been printed and gummed they underwent the final process of perforation, as has been already described. Occasionally it has happened that a sheet of stamps has been accidentally passed over without having been perforated, and has been issued in that condition, but such an accident has been one of the rarest possible occurrence. Some sheets of the one penny stamp were so issued in March, 1870, but probably the most noteworthy example was that which occurred in 1873, when one or two sheets of that value, which had escaped perforation, found their way to the Cardiff post-office, and were on sale there for a few days. The circumstance did not fail to attract the notice of collectors at the time, and it obtained for the stamps in question the singular honour of being chronicled in a foreign catalogue as a rare *local variety* for the town of Cardiff.

## SYNOPSIS.

## I.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “small crown.” Imperforate.  
6th May, 1840. One penny, black.

## II.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “small crown.” Imperforate.  
January, 1841 to 1854. One penny, red-brown, brick-red red  
(varying shades of each).

## VARIETIES.

1847. One Penny, red-brown, *rouletted* (*Archer's first machine*).

1848. One Penny, red-brown, *regular incisions* (*Archer's second machine*).

1849. One Penny, red-brown, *oval perforations 15* (*Archer's third machine*).

\* In the course of the proceedings before the Committee of 1852 some sheets of stamps were produced, one of which had been printed ten years previously. The evidence given before the Committee tended to show that the remarkable variations in colour were in a great measure due to the effects produced by time and atmospheric influences on some of the colouring ingredients used in the composition of the ink.

## III.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “small crown.” Perforated.

1854–1855. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red (shades), *perf.* 16.

1855. One Penny, red-brown (shades), *perf.* 14.\*

## IV.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “small crown.” Perforated.

1855. One Penny, red-brown (shades), *perf.* 16.

1855. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red (shades), *perf.* 14.†

\* The introduction of a new series printed from Die II. in January, 1855, the change in the watermark of the paper in November, 1855, and the alteration of the gauge of the perforations, which also commenced to be carried out in 1855, combined to make considerable confusion in the period from 1854 to 1856.

From a comparison of the dates it will be perceived that Die II. was brought into use about eleven months before the watermark on the paper was changed from “small” to “large crown.” Hence we find all the varieties we should expect of impressions from Dies I. and II. on paper watermarked “small crown.”

Prior to the 12th November, 1855, we find that seventeen plates constructed from Die II. had been approved, all the impressions from which were struck on “small crown” paper. On the 12th November, 1855, fifteen plates from Die II. were approved, the impressions from ten of which are on “small crown,” and the remaining five on “large crown” paper. As at that period not more than about fifteen plates were required to be in daily use, it is not probable, though it may be possible, that when the “large crown” paper was introduced any of the presses were furnished with plates from Die I. After the most careful research we have been unable to find any satisfactory specimens from Die I., either imperforate or perforated, printed on paper watermarked “large crown,” and we have such strong doubts of their existence that we have omitted them from the list, though they have been chronicled by others.

† We are aware that an imperforate variety of Die II., watermarked with “small crown,” has been said to exist, and many copies have been produced to us in evidence of the fact. After careful examination of the specimens, we are convinced that they are only good impressions from Die I. It is, however, by no means beyond the bounds of possibility that the variety exists, as a sheet in the early days of perforation might have easily passed in an imperforated state, and been so issued, though we have failed to find a copy. Without further evidence of its existence we have thought it best to omit it.



## V.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” Perforated.

1856. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red (shades), *perf.* 16.

1856 to 1864. One Penny, red-brown, brick-red, rose, rose-red (shades), *perf.* 14.

## VARIETY.

One Penny, light rose-red, *imperf.*

## VI.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” Letters in all four angles. Plate numbers on stamps, commencing with No. 69, and ending with No. 225. *Perf.* 14.

15th May, 1864, to 1880. One Penny, rose-red, carmine-red, lake-red (shades of each).

## VARIETY.

One Penny, rose-red, *imperf.* Plates Nos. 107, 116, and 136.

The following table, composed from an examination of the sheets preserved in the archives at Somerset House, may prove useful as showing some of the variations in the colour of the impressions and of the paper, as also the periods at which certain plates were brought into use.

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SERIES I. DIE I. (Heath's head).

Pl. No. 1, approved 27th April, 1840, impression black.

|       |   |                  |         |                 |                      |
|-------|---|------------------|---------|-----------------|----------------------|
| “ 8   | “ | 31st July, 1840  | “       | “               |                      |
| “ 12  | “ | 25th Feb., 1841, | impres. | red-brown,      | paper very blue.     |
| “ 21  | “ | 11th Dec., 1841  | “       | brick-red       | “ very little trace. |
| “ 24  | “ | 17th March, 1842 | “       | red-brown       | “ faint trace.       |
| “ 31  | “ | 21st Jan., 1843  | “       | deep red-brown  | “ slight trace.      |
| “ 42  | “ | 23rd Jan., 1844  | “       | red             | “ decidedly blue.    |
| “ 53  | “ | 7th Jan., 1845   | “       | red             | “ slightly blue.     |
| “ 65  | “ | 2nd Feb., 1846   | “       | red-brown       | “ much bluer.        |
| “ 73  | “ | 14th Jan., 1847  | “       | red             | “ slightly blue.     |
| “ 77B | “ | 12th Jan., 1848  | “       | dark red-brown, | “ very blue.         |
| “ 90  | “ | 25th May, 1849   | “       | brown-red       | “ blue.              |
| “ 104 | “ | 12th June, 1850  | “       | red             | “ blue.              |
| “ 112 | “ | 1st Jan., 1851   | “       | brownish-red,   | “ very blue.         |
| “ 134 | “ | 6th Feb., 1852   | “       | red-brown       | “ very little blue.  |
| “ 161 | “ | 14th Jan., 1853  | “       | reddish-brown,  | “ slightly blue.     |
| “ 179 | “ | 13th Feb., 1854  | “       | red             | “ some traces.       |
| “ 204 | “ | 30th Nov., 1854  | “       | deep red        | “ faint blue.        |

With this latter plate Series I. ended.

## SERIES II. DIE II. (Humphrys' retouch).

|            |          |            |       |            |            |       |              |
|------------|----------|------------|-------|------------|------------|-------|--------------|
| Pl. No. 1, | approved | 15th Jan., | 1855, | impression | red-brown, | paper | blue.        |
| „ 23*      | „        | 12th Nov., | 1855  | „          | red        | „     | blue.        |
| „ 32       | „        | 16th Jan., | 1856  | „          | red        | „     | faint blue.  |
| „ 51       | „        | 25th June, | 1856  | „          | red        | „     | slight blue. |

The impression from this plate is the last which shows any trace of blue on the paper.

Plate No. 55, approved 11th February, 1857, impression carmine-red.

„ 61 „ 18th January, 1858 „ lake-carmine.

The plate numbers were inserted on the face of the stamps, commencing with Plate No. 69, and consequently the colour of the impression will thenceforward be apparent from the specimens.

Plate No. 71, approved 14th March, 1861.

|       |   |                |       |
|-------|---|----------------|-------|
| „ 75  | „ | 7th February,  | 1863. |
| „ 82  | „ | 1st March,     | 1864. |
| „ 98  | „ | 10th March     | 1865. |
| „ 108 | „ | 23rd March,    | 1868. |
| „ 125 | „ | 5th February,  | 1869. |
| „ 139 | „ | 2nd February,  | 1870. |
| „ 150 | „ | 24th April,    | 1871. |
| „ 156 | „ | 12th January,  | 1872. |
| „ 168 | „ | 14th October,  | 1873. |
| „ 181 | „ | 13th April,    | 1874. |
| „ 187 | „ | 20th April,    | 1875. |
| „ 195 | „ | 9th March,     | 1876. |
| „ 206 | „ | 10th May,      | 1877. |
| „ 213 | „ | 25th February, | 1878. |
| „ 225 | „ | 31st December, | 1878. |

Plate No. 225 was the last of the Series II., and was in use at the termination of the contract at the close of 1879.

The history of the one penny stamp would not be complete without referring to the Official one penny stamp, known to philatelists as the V.R. stamp, and the Reprint of the one penny, in black, on paper watermarked with a "large crown."

## THE V.R. STAMP.

Simultaneously with the issue of the one penny stamp to the public in 1840, a stamp expressly intended only for official correspondence was also prepared. In design it was an exact

\* Plate No. 23 is the first in which the impression appears on paper watermarked with the *large crown*.

counterpart of the one penny stamp then issued, with the single exception that the upper angles, instead of being completed by the insertion of Maltese crosses, were occupied by the letters V.R. in Roman capitals. The paper and watermark, the number of stamps on the sheet, and the marginal inscriptions, were identical with those of the one penny stamp; but in lieu of the plate being numbered at the four corners with a numeral a capital A was employed. The project of franking official correspondence with special adhesive stamps was abandoned at the



outset, and never after carried into execution.\* The stamp therefore which had been prepared for the purpose was not issued, and it is believed that but very few sheets were printed. The Congress of Philatelists in Paris, in 1878, discussed the question as to whether this stamp was ever issued, or was to be regarded as an essay; but the question is really not open to controversy; for it must be regarded as belonging to that category of stamps which, after having been officially prepared for issue, have not been put into circulation. It has also been attempted to draw an inference in favour of its having been issued for postal purposes,

\* When franking by members of the Legislature was abolished by the Act 2 and 3 Vict., c. 52, Her Majesty, ever ready to set a good example, also abandoned her privilege of franking, and it was determined that all other such privileges should cease at the same time. Account was therefore ordered to be kept in the Government offices of the amount paid for postage by each office, and an annual vote for the total was inserted in the estimates for the year. This system was afterwards relaxed in favour of a few of the principal offices, and one of the officials in each of such offices was authorised to frank official correspondence by affixing his signature to the face of the letter, which was in practice done with a hand-stamp bearing a *fac-simile* of the signature. In 1868 the rule was still further relaxed, and the privilege extended to all the departments of the Government. By the last returns which have appeared in the reports of the Postmaster-General (those for the year ending 31st March, 1879), it appears that the weight of official correspondence, &c., conveyed during the year by the Post Office amounted to about five hundred and eighty tons, the postage on which would have been upwards of £108,000, and this was independent of the correspondence of the Post Office itself.

from the fact that copies are found obliterated with a postal hand-stamp. But this proves nothing, as some of the printed sheets were utilised for experiments in obliterating ink and marks. The essay of obliteration most commonly found on the stamp is composed of concentric circles, but occasionally the *croix patée* is met with. It is also not impossible that some copy or other may wittingly or unwittingly have been sent through the post, where it would readily have passed undetected by the stampers, and have been obliterated as a matter of course.

The sheet preserved in the archives of the Inland Revenue Department shows that the impression was struck on 15th April, 1840, and the plate formally approved on the 27th of the same month.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1840. Paper watermarked with "small crown." V.R. in upper angles. Imperforate.

One Penny, black. (never issued.)

#### THE ONE PENNY REPRINT.

A rather remarkable reprint of the One Penny Stamp in its original colour was made in the year 1864. Some of the younger branches of the Royal Family had commenced to form a collection of Postage Stamps, and application was made to the Inland Revenue Department for specimens. None of the one penny printed in black being found in stock, in order to comply with the request preferred on the part of their Royal Highnesses, some copies were ordered to be struck off from one of the plates kept in reserve at Somerset House, constructed from Die II., but with the Maltese crosses in the upper angles. As the paper watermarked with the "small crown" had long since ceased to be supplied, the impression was made on paper watermarked with the "large crown." Specimens of these reprints are rare, as but few copies were printed. They are mere curiosities, never having been intended for issue or to be used for postal purposes, and therefore cannot be regarded as stamps. Their existence is only recorded here from a desire to make the

history as complete as possible, and to enable collectors to account for their peculiar features should they meet with specimens.\*

## SYNOPSIS.

1864. Paper watermarked with "large crown." Imperforate.  
One penny, black (reprint).

## 2. THE TWOPENCE (1840).

Date of Issue, May, 1840.†

DESIGN.—DIE I.—The design is identical with that of the one penny, the die being, as before stated, a reproduction from the original die of the one penny, the only variation consisting in the necessary alteration of the lower tablet, on which the value TWO PENCE is inscribed in place of ONE PENNY. This die will be distinguished as Die I.

In February, 1841, a slight change was made in the design by the introduction of two horizontal white lines, the one immediately below, and the other above, the upper and lower tablets, made by drawing them on a roller impression of the matrix, and consequently causing no alteration in the die. The change cannot be called an improvement, but it is said to have been done as a matter of expediency to render the two-



\* The specimen from which the above description is taken is that in the collection of Mr. Philbrick, who received it from the late solicitor to the Stamp Office. It is gummed, and bears the lettering of R.H. in the lower angles. The watermark of the "large crown" is upside down.

† We have been at some pains to endeavour to ascertain the exact date when this issue took place. Unfortunately the early stamp records of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. were destroyed in a fire which occurred in their premises in 1857, so that we have been unable to obtain information from them respecting many early events. Impressions from Plates 1 and 2 are not to be found among the archives at Somerset House, but through the kindness of the head of the Stamping Department there the records have been searched, and it has been ascertained that the stamp was approved in May, 1840. A minute search in the records of the Post Office has been made, and the Secretary has informed us that the issue took place in London in May, 1840, and in the country in the following month.

penny stamp more easily distinguishable from that of the one penny. Plate No. 3, the impression from which was approved on the 25th February, 1841, is the first on which these lines appear, and no change was made either in Plate No. 4 or Plate 5, the former of which received its *imprimatur* on 6th December, 1849, and the latter on 8th June, 1855.

Plate No. 6 was approved 15th February, 1857, and impressions from it are readily distinguishable from those taken from Plates Nos. 3, 4, and 5, as the white lines drawn on the roller were rendered somewhat less prominent.

**DIE II.**—In April, 1858, a new die was made for the twopence from a reproduction of Die II, of the one penny, as strengthened by Humphrys at the end of 1854. Why the preparation of a new die for the twopence should have been so long delayed does not appear; but it was probably owing to the demand for the stamps being very limited, and the strain on the plates consequently but feeble. This new die will be referred to as Die II. to distinguish it from that last described, and it was employed for the first time in the construction of plate No. 7, completed 18th May, 1858, impressions from which were approved 11th June following.\*

**PLATE.**—The plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps in twenty rows of twelve each, representing a facial value of £2; but a mark of division in a wedge-like form was engraved on the side margins between the tenth and eleventh rows to indicate where the sheet might be separated into two halves, each half sheet of the facial value of £1 being treated by the Post Office as an entire and separate sheet for the purpose of office computation. The legends on the margins of the plate were identical with those on the plate of the one penny, save the requisite changes in value to 2d. per label and 2s. per row of twelve.

The plates were originally numbered by numerals at the four

\* It is almost unnecessary to state, that Die II. of the twopence being, like Die I., made from a reproduction of the corresponding die of the one penny, there were no white lines on the die itself, which continued to be inserted in the manner before pointed out.

corners, but when plate No. 12 was brought into use the plate numbers were enclosed in small circles, and the official number of the plate was introduced into the margins.

As has been stated above, plates Nos. 1 to 6 were constructed from the original die, but when plate No. 7 was constructed from Die II. some important alterations were made in the stamp, which were subsequently extended to that of one penny. The Maltese crosses in the upper angles were suppressed, and letters, the reverse of those in the lower angles, were substituted for them, the whole of which were in block or Egyptian letters, in lieu of the Roman capitals previously employed. At the same time also the number of the plate was inserted in minute figures in the net-work pattern of the frame on both sides.

Plate No. 8 was approved 7th July, 1859; and plate No. 9 14th March, 1861. Impressions from plates Nos. 10 and 11 are not found at Somerset House, nor have any specimens of stamps bearing these numbers been discovered, and as no record of the manufacture of these plates has been traced by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., we may safely assume that they were not constructed.

Plate No. 12 was approved 1st January, 1868; plate No. 13 on 31st March, 1869; plate No. 14 on 24th April, 1871; and plate No. 15 on 3rd September, 1875. This latter plate was in use up to the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., at the close of 1879. It may be noticed that on the whole of these last three plates the white lines are thinner than on any of the former plates.

**PAPER.**—The paper employed was similar in all respects to that employed for the impression of the one penny. The first plate from which the impression deposited at Somerset House was taken off on paper watermarked with a “large crown” is No. 6, before referred to, but this paper was used during the continuance of Plate No. 5.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour originally adopted was Prussian-



blue, which continued with variations of depth of shade to be the normal colour up to the expiration of the contract at the close of 1879; but of late years the blue was somewhat darker and more purple in tone. The ink first employed was the ordinary blue printer's ink, rather pale in colour; but the ingredients were changed at the end of the year 1840, so as to render it destructible, and thus avoid the danger of the effacing marks being removed by cleaning.

GUM.—The adhesive composition employed was the same as that used for the one penny stamps; but the effect of the chemical action between the blue ink and the potato starch is not so pronounced as was the case in the one penny stamps; besides which a diffused blue tint is found on many of the specimens arising from the absorption by the damped paper of a certain amount of colour. This tint varied in depth, inasmuch as it principally depended on the cleaning off of the plate in the process of printing.

PERFORATION.—The observations already made are applicable to this value, all the changes in perforation being made simultaneously with those in the one penny. It does not appear that any experiments with Archer's machines were tried on sheets of the twopence, as no specimens have ever been met with.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### I.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." Imperforate.  
June, 1840. Twopence, light blue, deep blue (shades).

##### II.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." White lines inserted below POSTAGE and above TWO PENCE. Imperforate.  
March, 1841 to 1854. Twopence, deep blue (shades).

##### III.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "small crown." White lines, as in II. Perforated.

1854-1855. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 16.

1855. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 14.



## IV.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines, as in II. Perforated.

1856. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 16.  
1856. Twopence, blue (shades), *perf.* 14.

## V.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines thinner. Perforated.\*

1857. Twopence, deep blue, blue, *perf.* 16.  
1857. Twopence, deep blue, *perf.* 14.

## VI.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines, as in II. Letters in all four angles. Plate numbers on stamps. Plates Nos. 7 to 12†; *perf.* 14.

July, 1858 to 1869. Twopence, deep blue (shades).

## VII.

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large crown.” White lines thin. Plates Nos. 13 to 15; *perf.* 14.

1869 to 1880. Twopence, blue, dark blue, violet-blue (shades).

## VARIETY.

Twopence, blue, deep blue, *imperforate.* Plate No. 13.

## 3. THE THREE HALFPENCE (1870).

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

This stamp was originally designed and the die of it engraved by Messrs Perkins, Bacon and Co. in 1860, in contemplation

\* Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were employed for I., Plates Nos. 3, 4, and 5 for II., III., and IV., and Plate No. 6 for V. As this latter plate was brought into use so late as February, 1857, it is remarkable as shewing that the perforation 16 was still in use in some of the machines up to that period, though specimens of impressions so perforated are somewhat rare.

† Plates No. 10 and 11 were not made.

of an alteration in the postal rates, which failed to secure the assent of Parliament.\*

DESIGN.—The design consists in a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, engraved on steel in the same manner as the die for the one penny, and on a ground mechanically engraved after a similar design. The head is enclosed by a triangular curvilinear band in the form of a shield, the apex resting on the exterior line of the rectangular frame at the bottom, while the curved line of the side opposite the apex touches the exterior line of the frame at the top. On this band,



which is in white, is POSTAGE on one side, THREE on that opposite the apex, and HALFPENCE on the other, the intervening spaces being filled up with a scroll-patterned ornament. The usual white letter blocks are inserted in the four angles, and the size of the stamp is the same as that of the one penny, measuring  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{4}$  mm.

It may be remarked that the profile, though engraved after the model of the one penny, falls very far short of the original. The form of the triangular band also necessitated a change in the lower part of the bust, which is so shortened as to take away the repose which distinguishes that engraved by Mr. Heath.

PLATE.—The plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps in twenty rows, of twelve in each row, thus presenting the

\* A considerable provision appears to have been printed from the first plate of the die, which was approved of on 22nd March, 1860. The proposed issue was printed in lilac-rose, and perforated 14. The sheet on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed is deeply tinged with the blue discoloration, which had at that time absolutely ceased in the case of the one penny and twopence. The proposed alterations in the postal rates not having been carried out, the stock was ordered to be destroyed, but some few sheets were preserved, and copies are also found surcharged with "specimen." These stamps are not common, and when met with are readily distinguishable from the issue of 1870 by the colour of the impression. Although the *imprimatur* sheet and many specimens are found deeply discoloured, yet other impressions are found in which the discoloration is much less marked.

facial value of £1 10s., and constituting a Post Office sheet. On the top, bottom, and side margins was engraved the following legend: "PRICE 1½d. per label; 1s. 6d. per row of twelve; £1 10s. per sheet. Place the labels ABOVE the address," &c., as in the plate of one penny. The plate and official numbers were also inserted in the margins, as also the mark indicating the point where the sheet was divisible into halves, in the same manner as in the plate of the one penny.

IMPRESSION.—The original plate constructed in 1860 was employed for printing the first supply of these stamps, and it was not until the 13th April, 1874, that another plate appears to have received the *imprimatur*. This was numbered 3, and minute figures of 3 were introduced into the reticulated border of the stamp in the first entire lozenge immediately above the two lower letter blocks. Plate No. 2 is not found, and was never used. The stamp was employed on a very limited scale, and Plate No. 3 was still in use at the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and most probably its issue was due rather to the fact that the die and the plate were in existence than from any particular call for its issue on the part of the public.

LETTERING.—This was precisely similar to that on the one penny and twopenny stamps.

PAPER.—This was also the same as that employed for the last-mentioned stamps, having the same watermark in the margins and the "large crown" on each stamp.

The colour of the impression was lake-red, at times approaching very closely to some of the shades of colour of the one penny.

PERFORATION, &c.—The gumming and perforation were the same as in the one penny and twopenny.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "large crown." Plates 1 and 3, the first not numbered on the face; perf. 14.

1st October, 1870 to 1880. Three halfpence, lake-red (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Three halfpence, lake-red (Plate 1), *imperforate*.

## 4. THE HALFPENNY (1870).

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

DESIGN.—The die was engraved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and the design consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a white ground within an upright oval medallion, standing in a rectangular frame, the groundwork of which is mechanically engraved in lattice work. At each angle is a white square block for receiving the letters, and the spaces on each side between the upper and lower blocks are filled in with a solid ground of colour, on which “½d.” is inserted in white. The plate numbers are found in the reticulated border of the framework on each side in minute



figures in white, as in the one penny. The stamp measures 18 mm. in width by 14 mm. in height, and its diminutive size rendered it inconvenient in use, though it doubtless was acceptable to the officials as preventing confusion.

PLATE.—The plate consisted of four hundred and eighty stamps in twenty rows, of twenty-four in each row, thus representing the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post Office sheet. On the top, bottom, and side margins the following legend was engraved: “PRICE ½d. per label; 1s. per row of 24; £1 per sheet. Place the labels ABOVE and at the RIGHT-HAND side of the address. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the cement.” The number of the plate was inserted in a small circle at each of the four corners of the plate, and at the top and bottom between the twelfth and thirteenth stamp in the row, a fan-shaped ornament was introduced into the margins, indicating the point of division of the sheet into halves. The official number was on the upper margin of the left half, and in the lower margin of the right half.

The issue commenced with Plate No. 1, approved on the 20th June, 1870. Plate No. 2 was never finished; plate No. 7 was not made, nor were Nos. 16, 17, and 18, but with these

exceptions plates numbered in consecutive order followed uninterruptedly. Plate No. 20, which was the last constructed previously to the expiration of the contract at the close of the year 1879, was approved on 31st December, 1878.

**LETTERING.**—The lettering of the stamps was on the same system as that employed for the other values; but as they were more numerous in the horizontal rows, those on the first row were necessarily lettered in the lower angles from A.A. to A.Y., and in the upper from A.A. to Y.A.

**PAPER.**—The paper was similar to that on which the one penny stamp was printed, though rather thinner. The sheet measured twenty-one inches in length by fourteen inches in depth, and was watermarked with the word HALFPENNY in cursive hand, repeated eight times in the length and twenty times in the depth, so as to extend horizontally over three stamps. The only watermark in the border was at each end of the sheet, where the words "Postage Stamps" in cursive hand are found.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was lake-red, and varied but little during the continuance of the issue except that at times the colour approached more or less to rose-red.

**PERFORATION, &c.**—The perforation was the usual one of 14. The perforation was not made from the top to the bottom of the sheet, but from end to end, and it may be remarked that it was not continued after the twenty-third row, so that the twenty-fourth was only perforated on three sides. The gumming was the same as in the preceding values.

**REMARKS.**—This stamp was called into existence when the rate on newspapers and book-post parcels was reduced, a halfpenny then becoming the unit of calculation in respect of them. The first order given was for nearly six hundred millions, and though, on account of the extensive use of halfpenny wrappers, the demand has not kept pace with the expectations of the authorities, it is still very considerable, and in point of numbers ranks next after that of the one penny.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "HALFPENNY" extending over three stamps. Plates 1 to 20, except 2, 7, 16, 17, and 18; perf. 14.

1st Oct., 1870 to 1880.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., lake-red, rose-red (shades of both).

VARIETY.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. lake-red, *imperfurate*. Plate No. 5.

## SECTION II.

### *EMBOSSSED STAMPS.*

- (1) THE ONE SHILLING . issued 13th September, 1847.
- (2) THE TENPENCE . „ 6th November, 1848.
- (3) THE SIXPENCE . „ 1st March, 1854.

This Section, consisting of three values only, comprises the whole of the adhesive postage stamps ever manufactured by the Inland Revenue Department, having been embossed in colour and gummed on the government premises at Somerset House.

In consequence of a manifest desire on the part of the public that the prepayment of letters by means of stamps, more especially as applicable to foreign and colonial letters, should be facilitated by the issue of stamps of a higher value than those then in use, it was decided to issue a stamp of the value of one shilling, adapted for the prepayment of the then existing single letter rates to the United States of America and the Colonies. This was followed up in the next year by the issue of one of the value of tenpence, principally intended for the prepayment of the then existing single letter rate to France. The sixpence was not issued till some years later, to afford more ready means for paying the reduced rate on Belgian and certain other foreign letters, as also the registration fee of sixpence, then in force. The manufacture of these stamps was undertaken by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and the designs were prepared by Mr. Ormond Hill. The dies, so far as related to the embossed head of the Queen, were constructed by Mr. William Wyon, at the workshops of the Mint, and his initials

appear on the base of the Queen's bust on each working die, accompanied by a numeral denoting its index number.\* The border, or framing, with the reticulated pattern of mechanical lathe-work engraved upon it, was designed and executed by Mr. Moss, an engraver since dead. The stamps were struck in colour by the colour-embossing presses of the Department, but were not much appreciated by the public, as in order to produce a high relief, the paper employed was thick, nearly of the substance of cartridge paper, and this rendered it difficult to make them adhere firmly to the letter.

As each stamp was struck separately, the process of the manufacture was necessarily exceedingly tedious.

The gum employed was common gum arabic of a yellowish tinge, frequently imparting a similar hue to the paper. The gum was applied thickly, and the operation was performed after the stamps were struck, for the cavities caused by the embossing are frequently found to be filled with gum.

Copies of all these stamps are found surcharged SPECIMEN. Although copies of the one penny adhesive stamp had been forwarded to every postmaster previously to its issue, with instructions to preserve them in order to compare them in case of doubt with the stamps on the letters passing through the office, yet they do not appear to have been invariably surcharged with the word SPECIMEN. This surcharge, as applied to adhesives, appears first on these stamps, and the Post-office authorities for many subsequent years continued to send to all the postmasters copies of new values, and frequently of fresh issues of existing values so surcharged, attached to a circular giving the notice of their issue. The system appears to have now fallen into disuse, the last circular of the kind being that which accompanied specimen copies of the adhesive stamps of 10d., 2s., and 5s.,

\* The head of the Queen, as engraved by Mr. Wyon, is the same in all the embossing dies; but in the several values the disposition of the back hair is somewhat altered, by making some small addition to the original tress, and varying the pendent curls. Further details will be found in the account of the embossed envelopes of one penny.



issued in 1867. It has not been thought necessary to enumerate those thus surcharged SPECIMEN, but some collectors attach value to them, as indubitably showing early printed copies.

### 1. THE ONE SHILLING (1847).

Date of Issue, 13th September, 1847.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a diademed profile to the left of Queen Victoria, with pendent bunch of curls embossed in white relief on a solid ground of colour, enclosed in an octagonal frame, ornamented with an interlaced pattern of fine white lines, engine-turned on a solid ground of colour, on which is inscribed, in sunken block letters, POSTAGE on the left vertical side, ONE on the top, and SHILLING on the right vertical side. The stamp measures 24 by 27 mm.



The initials w. w. on the base of the bust have a full stop after each, and are followed by the die number, all in relief. Two dies, numbered 1 and 2, were approved of and used, but die No. 2 appears to have been furnished with date numerals at the end of 1855, and turned to account for stamping envelopes.

PAPER.—The paper made use of was thick "Dickinson" of a light cream colour, manufactured with coloured silk threads running in parallel pairs through the sheet, at a distance from each other of from 4 to 5 mm., and so arranged as to admit of one pair passing through each stamp longitudinally.

IMPRESSION.—A single impression only from each die is found in the archives at Somerset House, struck on a sheet of plain paper, on which is endorsed that "the impressions taken from these dies are allowed to denote the duty of one shilling on the postage of letters." It is a curious fact that this endorsement is dated the 8th February, 1853.

The stamps were struck on small sheets, about the size of half a sheet of note-paper, sufficiently large to admit of twenty impressions in four rows of five in each row.

The colour of the impression was green, varying in shades from emerald to a full deep tone.

The stamp continued in use until it was superseded, in July, 1856, by the type-printed adhesive stamp of similar value.

#### SYNOPSIS.

13th September, 1847. Embossed with coloured ground on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper. Imperforate.

One Shilling, emerald-green to full deep green.

#### 2. THE TENPENCE (1848).

Date of Issue, 6th November, 1848.

DESIGN.—The design differs but little from that of the one shilling, and the size of the stamp is the same. A small alteration is made in the disposition of the pendent curl, and the pattern of the interlaced ornamentation of the octagonal frame is varied. The inscription on the frame, in sunken block letters, is POSTAGE on the left vertical side, TEN on the top, and PENCE on the right vertical side.



The initials w. w., on the base of the bust in die 1, precede the numeral denoting the number of the die, and are all in relief; but in the subsequent dies the order is reversed, and the numeral precedes the initials. Six working dies were prepared and approved, but we have not found specimens of impressions from more than the first four. They were never employed for any other purpose than for the embossing this adhesive stamp, the only envelopes of the value of tenpence having been stamped with a combination of sixpence and fourpence.

PAPER.—The paper made use of was "Dickinson," similar to that used for the one shilling, though some of the impressions are found on comparatively thin paper, and the pair of parallel threads are frequently less than 4 mm. apart.

IMPRESSION.—The sheet in the archives at Somerset House, on which the allowance was endorsed, has copies of each of the six dies impressed upon it in two rows of three in each row, and, like that of the one shilling, is dated 8th February, 1853.

The stamps were struck on small sheets, similar to those on which the one shilling were struck, but sufficiently large to admit of twenty-four stamps in six rows of four in each row.

The colour of the impression was in chesnut-brown, varying in shades.

When the postage to France was reduced from tenpence to fourpence, on 1st January, 1855, the issue of this stamp was suspended, but the stock remaining on hand was issued for a temporary requirement in 1863.

#### SYNOPSIS.

6th November, 1848. Embossed with coloured ground on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper. Imperforate.

Tenpence, chesnut-brown (shades).

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### 3. THE SIXPENCE (1854).

Date of Issue, 1st March, 1854.\*

DESIGN.—The design differs from that of the two preceding stamps, principally in the shape of the exterior frame, the

\* The dates of issue of this and the two preceding stamps have been erroneously given in almost every stamp catalogue. Those here given have been officially supplied to the Society by the Secretary of the General Post Office, and may be implicitly relied on. Philatelists had such a settled idea that the sixpence was issued in 1842, that when Mr. Pearson Hill first mentioned March, 1854, as being the date of issue, but very few were so far convinced as to accept it, and the major part of those who did, accepted it only *sous bénéfice d'inventaire*. To remove any doubts on the part of such sceptics, we annex a copy of the following notice of its issue as published in the *London Gazette*:

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House,

"February, 1854.

"Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have provided a Stamp for denoting the Value of 6d. for Postage, and that such Stamp will be issued to the Public on and after the 1st March next.

By Order of the Board,

"THOMAS KEOGH, Secretary."

upright and horizontal sides of the octagonal frame remaining straight, while the other four are curved. The arrangement of the hair of the Queen is again different, and the pattern of the ornamentation of the border varied. In the lower portion of the frame a bouquet composed of the rose, shamrock, and thistle is introduced. The inscription on the frame, in sunken block letters, is POSTAGE on the left vertical side, SIX on top, and PENCE on the right vertical side. The stamp measures 25 by 28 mm.



The initials w. w., on the base of the bust, are preceded by the numerals denoting the number of the die, all in relief. Specimens printed from die 1 have alone been found by us, though M. Rondot, in his monograph (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 222), speaks of die 2 having been in use. At the end of 1855, while the issue of this stamp as an adhesive was still going on, die No. 2 is found furnished with date numerals, and employed for printing envelopes, but we have failed to meet with any specimen of it as applied to the printing of adhesive stamps.\*

**PAPER.**—The paper was thick, cream-coloured, frequently approaching to straw-colour, hand-made, and watermarked for each stamp with the letters VR in single lined capitals, somewhat resembling the watermark in use at about the same period for some of the fiscal adhesive stamps.

**IMPRESSION.**—The sheet on which the allowance of the impressions from the working dies was endorsed is not to be found in the archives at Somerset House.

The stamps, like those of the one shilling, were struck on small sheets, adapted to admit of twenty impressions in four rows of five in each row.

\* As no registered copies of impressions from the working dies of this value are to be found at Somerset House, it is not possible to ascertain how many were originally constructed; but we have seen a proof impression from one bearing the number 4.

The colour first employed was violet, varying only in depth of shade ; but afterwards a reddish-lilac was adopted, of which several shades are also found. It should further be mentioned that the gum on many specimens of the violet impression has a greenish tinge.

The amateurs of misplaced watermarks will find specimens of these both inverted and reversed, owing to the stamper having taken the sheets either the wrong side upwards or the wrong end foremost.

This stamp continued in use until October, 1856, when it was superseded by the issue of a type-printed adhesive stamp of the same value.

## SYNOPSIS.

1st March, 1854.—Embossed with coloured ground on thick, cream-coloured, hand-made paper ; watermark “VR.” Imperforate.

Sixpence, violet (shades).

„ reddish-lilac (shades).

### SECTION III.

#### *TYPE-PRINTED STAMPS.\**

These stamps consist of—

- |                                  |   |                         |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| (1) THE FOURPENCE                | . | issued 31st July, 1855. |
| (2) THE SIXPENCE                 | . | „ 21st October, 1856.   |
| (3) THE ONE SHILLING             | . | „ 1st December, 1856.   |
| (4) THE NINEPENCE                | . | „ 15th January, 1862.   |
| (5) THE THREEPENCE               | . | „ 1st May, 1862.        |
| (6) THE TENPENCE                 | . | „ 1st July, 1867.       |
| (7) THE TWO SHILLINGS            | . | „ 1st July, 1867.       |
| (8) THE FIVE SHILLINGS           | . | „ 1st July, 1867.       |
| (9) THE TWO PENCE HALF-<br>PENNY | . | „ 1st July, 1875.       |
| (10) THE EIGHTPENCE              | . | „ 1st September, 1876.  |
| (11) THE TEN SHILLINGS           | . | „ 25th September, 1878. |
| (12) THE ONE POUND               | . | „ 25th September, 1878. |
| (13) THE ONE PENNY               | . | „ 1st January, 1880.    |
| (14) THE ONE HALFPENNY           | . | „ October, 1880.        |
| (15) THE THREE HALFPENCE         | . | „ October, 1880.        |
| (16) THE TWOPENCE                | . | „ November, 1880.       |
| (17) THE FIVEPENCE               | . | „ 15th March, 1881.     |

On the 1st January, 1855, a reduction in the rate of postage to France from tenpence to fourpence came into operation, and there was in consequence a call for the issue of a stamp of this

\* In this Section are comprised, not only all the adhesive postage stamps actually in use at the present time, but four which, having been withheld from further issue, have become obsolete; viz., the eightpence, ninepence, and tenpence, originally issued to supply temporary demands for stamps of these denominations, and the two shillings, the demand for which after the issue of telegraph stamps became so limited as to gradually dwindle into insignificance.

latter denomination. So small a measure of success had attended the issue of the embossed adhesive stamps that the Commissioners of the Inland Revenue Department could feel but little encouragement to make further trial of stamps manufactured by such a tedious and costly process. Independently of this, in the interval that had elapsed since the issue of the stamps of one penny and twopence in 1840, not only had experience been gained from the knowledge of what was being done in other countries where the new system of adhesive stamps had been adopted, but great progress had been made in the art of electro-metallurgy. Still, although the ingenious invention for the application of the voltaic circle to multiplying copies of plates for engravings had been brought before the public in the year 1840, it was not till some years after that it received any practical application to the manufacture of postage stamps.

In the autumn of the year 1848 the National Assembly in France decreed the establishment of a uniform rate of postage, to come into effect on the 1st January following. Application was at once made to Messrs. Bacon and Petch by the French Government to ascertain in what space of time and at what price they would undertake to furnish the required provision of stamps; but the answers to both these questions were not satisfactory, and the negotiation was in consequence broken off. The Government, pressed for time, then addressed itself to M. Hulot, a French engraver, who, at a time when the Bank of France was in immediate want of a supply of small notes, had in two months supplied what were required by the aid of the electrotyping or galvanoplastic process. M. Hulot saw his way to the application of a similar process to the manufacture of postage stamps, and succeeded so well in his operations that a week before the 1st January, 1849, when the new law was to come into operation, all the post-offices in France were provided with supplies of stamps, while a surplus of from eight to ten millions remained in stock.

Again, in the year 1851, Messrs. Archer and Branston sub-

mitted to the Inland Revenue Department a proposition offering to print, gum with the best white gum, and perforate, the whole of the adhesive postage stamps required by the Department at the rate of 4½d. per 1,000, provided that they were allowed to print them on the surface principle, similar to that adopted in France. Specimens of what they professed to be able to accomplish by employing this mode of printing were produced by them before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1852. These, known as the "Prince Albert Essays," will be referred to hereafter. But what doubtless principally influenced the authorities in determining in 1855 to make a trial of the typographic system was that at this period Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co., of Bunhill Row, London, were supplying the Inland Revenue Department with foreign bill and other fiscal adhesive stamps, manufactured by them on this system. This firm therefore received instructions in the spring of 1855 to submit proposals to the Inland Revenue Department for manufacturing a stamp of the value of fourpence on the typographic system, bearing in mind that it was absolutely necessary that all existing safeguards against fraud should be fully maintained.

The proposals of Messrs. De La Rue and Co. having been accepted, and the design submitted by them approved, the stamps were ordered to be printed, and the issue of them to the public took place on the 31st July, 1855. In the following year the manufacture of the sixpence and the one shilling stamps of this Section was also entrusted to the same firm. The manner in which these stamps were executed proved so satisfactory, both to the public and the heads of the Inland Revenue Department, that, as new values were required, all the stamps above the value of twopence were manufactured upon the typographic system, and on the termination of the contracts with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., at the close of the year 1879, for the supply of the stamps of the value of twopence and under, the same system was extended to the whole of the various values required for the postal service.



Before entering upon the consideration of these stamps *seriatim*, it may serve to avoid some useless repetition if we notice certain features which are common to the entire group, any deviations from which will be noted as we proceed with the examination of the several values in detail.

PLATE.—The process by which the plates are constructed is in substance as follows: The design is first of all engraved on steel in relief, as in wood engraving, or, as the French term it, *en épargne*. When letters and plate numbers are to be inserted in the stamps, holes are cut through the die in the places indicated, and the letters and numbers on moveable steel types introduced into them. From this matrix as many moulds are taken, in soft lead, gutta percha, or some similar material, as are necessary to compose a plate of the size required. These moulds or little blocks are then arranged in a form, and an electro-cast taken from the whole, which, after having been properly backed and mounted, constitutes the printing plate. The plates, or “panes,” as they are technically termed, vary in size in the different values. In some, the pane is composed of one entire electro-cast, while in others it is an assemblage of two or more, but this is a matter of detail and convenience which is not material to our subject. Where the entire plate consists of two panes only, they are separated from each other horizontally by a space equal to a row of stamps; but when it consists of four or more distinct panes a like horizontal interval is left between them, and they are usually separated from each other vertically by a space of about half-an-inch in width. Thus in the high values of five shillings, ten shillings, and one pound, the pane consists of twenty casts, disposed in four rows of five in each row, four of which panes constitute an entire sheet; in the twopence-halfpenny the pane until recently consisted of ninety-

\* The durability of plates made by the electrotype process will not bear comparison with that of steel plates. We have seen that these latter, when constructed for printing by the copper-plate printing process, have given off on an average about half a million of impressions, while the electrotype plates do not yield a tenth part of this number when the design is of a corresponding degree of fineness.

six casts, disposed in eight rows of twelve in each row, two of which constituted an entire sheet, but now, like as in all the other values, with the exception of the one shilling, the pane consists of one hundred and twenty casts disposed in ten rows of twelve in each row, two of which constitute an entire sheet. As regards, however, the threepence, fourpence, and sixpence, comprised in this latter category, this has not been uniformly the case, and the same remark applies to the eightpence, ninepence, tenpence, and two shillings, now obsolete. So long as the fourpence and eightpence were printed on paper watermarked with a garter, the panes consisted of sixty stamps, disposed in ten rows of six in each row, four of which constituted an entire sheet; while in the threepence, sixpence, ninepence, tenpence, and two shillings, the first three of which were originally printed on paper watermarked with the heraldic emblems of the rose, shamrock, and thistle, and subsequently with a spray of rose, the pane consisted of twenty casts, disposed in five rows of four in each row, twelve of which panes placed within the form in four rows of three in each row, constituted an entire sheet.\* This disposition still remains in force as respects the one shilling, though a change is said to be imminent.

\* The entire sheet must not be confounded with a "sheet" of stamps in Post-office parlance, which consists of a conventional number of "panes," or parts of a pane, and is adopted by the Department as a convenient mode of calculation when the stamps are forwarded to the various Post-offices. Thus the Post-office sheet of one halfpenny, one penny, and three-halfpence, consists of an entire sheet of 240 stamps, in two panes of 120 each, of the facial value of ten, twenty, and thirty shillings respectively; that of the twopence of half an entire sheet, or one pane of 120 stamps of the facial value of one pound; that of the twopence-half-penny of half an entire sheet, or one pane of one hundred and twenty stamps of the facial value of twenty-five shillings; that of the threepence and sixpence of forty stamps, or one-third of a pane of 120 stamps, but formerly of two panes of twenty in each pane, of the value of ten shillings and one pound respectively; that of the fourpence of sixty stamps or one-half of a pane of 120 stamps, but formerly of one pane of sixty stamps, of the facial value of one pound; that of the fivepence of sixty stamps, or one-half of a pane of 120 stamps of the facial value of twenty-five shillings; that of the eightpence (now obsolete) consisted of thirty stamps (being one-half of a

**LETTERING.**—Letters are inserted in all the four angles of the whole of the stamps comprised in this Section, manufactured since the commencement of the year 1862, with the exception of the one-halfpenny, three-halfpence, and twopence, produced in 1880, and the fivepence produced in 1881. The lettering is carried out on precisely the same principle as that adopted for the stamps in Section I., notwithstanding that for the sake of convenience the plate may have been composed of two or more panes. Thus, for example, the threepenny stamp, up to the year 1881, was printed in twelve panes, arranged on the entire sheet in four rows of three in each row; the lower angles of the first row of stamps in the first pane of the first row bore the letters A.A., A.B., A.C., A.D., the lower angles of the first row of stamps in the first pane of the second row, the letters F.A., F.B., F.C., and F.D.

**PLATE NUMBER.**—In the case of all the stamps comprised in this Section, manufactured and issued prior to 1880, the number of the plate was introduced twice into the margin of the sheet; namely, above the right upper corner of the plate, and below the lower left corner, in white figures, on a solid circular disc of the same colour as the impression inclosed in a small similarly coloured ring. The official number of the plate occupied the other corners, and was inserted in coloured figures inclosed in a single lined frame.\*

pane of sixty) of the facial value of one pound; that of the ninepence, tenpence, and two shillings (all now obsolete) of one pane of twenty stamps, of the respective values of fifteen shillings, sixteen shillings and eightpence, and two pounds; that of the one shilling consists of one pane of twenty stamps, of the facial value of one pound; and that of five shillings of one pane of twenty, of the facial value of five pounds. The stamps of ten shillings and twenty shillings can be obtained singly by the postmasters from the Inland Revenue Office.

\* The plate number was inserted at all the four corners in the two first plates of the fourpence, issued in 1855. With this exception, the official numbers of the plates occupy the corners alternately with the plate numbers. After the introduction of the numbers on the face of the stamps these plate numbers corresponded with them, except in one instance, that of the one shilling mentioned hereafter.

**PAPER.**—The paper employed from the first for the stamps in this Section is machine-made, with watermarks of different designs introduced into it, and is manufactured expressly for the purpose by Messrs. Turner and Co., of Chafford Mills, Fordcombe, near Tunbridge Wells, under the superintendence and control of officers of the Inland Revenue Department. Formerly watermarks could only be inserted in hand-made paper, but under the modern processes of manufacture machine-made paper can be as readily watermarked as that made by hand. The “bits” for forming the various watermarks are manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and supplied by them to the manufacturers of the paper under the orders of the officer of the Inland Revenue Department.

The paper is wove, and though it may have been occasionally noticed that lines are found in it much resembling those in laid paper, yet such appearances are entirely due to accidental circumstances, and the paper is not less essentially a wove paper.\*

The paper employed prior to that recently introduced, watermarked with “Crown (1880),” was well made, of fine and firm

\* These appearances are more especially noticeable in some of the sheets used for printing the plates Nos. 15 and 18 of the twopence half-penny, and other examples might be adduced; but they are doubtless due to some accidental circumstances, arising probably from unequal pressure in the course of the manufacture, or to inequality in the web of the frame. These and such like unintentional deviations are not of sufficient importance to be treated as varieties, and are only mentioned for the purpose of recording their existence.

It may be mentioned that the web on which the pulp is received is formed of fine wire gauze, closely and evenly woven, the small interstices permitting the watery portion of the pulp to pass through, leaving the solid part behind. This makes *plain wove* paper, or the *papier uni* of the French. If thicker wires, crossing each other at right angles, so as to form a series of squares, are introduced in the gauze, the paper is marked with squares, the *papier quadrillé* of the French. Should the warp be made of thicker wires than the woof, and thus marked with uniformly laid lines, the paper is *laid* or *vergé*. And if again still thicker wires are introduced into the warp at regular intervals, a lined laid paper is produced, called by the French *papier vergé batonné*. When these lines are introduced in the plain wove paper, it is called by the French, *papier batonné sans vergeures intérieures*, or simply *papier batonné*.

texture, of good substance, varying but little in thickness, and highly glazed by milling. The first postage stamps manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in 1855 were, as will be subsequently more fully noticed, printed on a special or safety paper then on trial, which contained a chemical ingredient imparting to it a distinctly blue tinge. The use of this paper only continued for a few months, and with this exception the colour of the paper was uniformly white, or what passes for white.

The paper watermarked with a "Crown," introduced with the issue of the one penny 1880, and now employed for most of the values, is of a very much inferior quality, and of a yellowish-white colour; though thicker in substance, it is less tough, and not so highly glazed as before.

**CONTROL MARKS.**—These marks were impressed with a hand-stamp on the sheets at the left lower and right upper portions of the margins, and consisted of the word **POSTAGE**, surmounted by a crown, with the value of the stamp in figures underneath. Where the watermark of "MARK" was found in the margins, the control mark was impressed immediately over it. Up to the year 1875 the impression was made in blue ink, but subsequently in red, on all the values in this Section, with the exception of those of twopence and under. Since the commencement of the present year—1881—the practice has been discontinued.

These marks were impressed on the sheets before they were issued to the contractors for the printing, and were found useful, not only in checking the sheets on their return to the Department after having been printed and gummed, but in facilitating the supervision by the officer in charge of the printing on the contractors' premises. Stamps of the values of threepence, sixpence, ninepence, tenpence, one shilling, and two shillings, were at one period all printed on paper with the same watermark. When paper for these values was given out by the Department, with directions to print a certain number of sheets with one value and a certain number with other values, the contractors were under obligation to return the proper number of each value, or

to account for any deficiency ; and should this occur it might have proved difficult in the absence of the control mark to determine to which value it should be chargeable. Now that the stamps from one halfpenny upwards, with the exception of the five shillings and higher values are, or soon will be, all printed on the same kind of paper, it is difficult to conceive why the use of this control mark should have been abandoned.

**IMPRESSION.**—The stamps of all the values except those issued in 1880 and 1881 are printed by ordinary typographic presses worked by hand, but those issued in 1880 and 1881, in which a coarser style of engraving has been adopted, are printed by a more rapid process in presses worked by steam. The colours employed are all more or less fugitive, showing slight differences in tone in the composite colours, but considerable differences in shade.

**GUM.**—The gum employed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. has always been white and pure, and has never had the effect of producing any discoloration in the paper or the stamps similar to that found in some of those comprised in Section I. It is also remarkable for its excellent adhesive properties, and being tough, does not crack. Further, it is applied very evenly to the sheets, and does not cause the stamps to curl. In this respect the adhesive labels produced by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. are unrivalled, and they may fairly be congratulated on their success in this most important branch of the manufacture.

**PERFORATION.**—Up to nearly the close of the year 1880 the whole of the stamps in this Section then issued were perforated on the Government premises at Somerset House by the ordinary machines perforating fourteen holes in the space of two centimètres, except as regards those of five shillings, ten shillings, and one pound, which from their size could not be perforated by the same machines as those employed for the other values. These latter, as will be noticed hereafter, are perforated by the machines used for perforating divers fiscal stamps of similar dimensions, in which the needles are so set as to produce fifteen holes in the space of two centimètres.

At the present time the manufacture of the whole of the postage stamps having become centred in the hands of one firm, the perforation of all but the high values of five shillings, ten shillings, and one pound has ceased to be done at Somerset House, the contractors being now charged with it. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. therefore deliver the stamps to the offices of the Inland Revenue Department completely ready for issue. The gauge of the perforation made by the machines employed by the contractors remains the same as before.\*

### 1. THE FOURPENCE.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines within a double-lined circle. Above and below the circle are curved tablets, with POSTAGE inscribed on the upper, and FOUR PENCE on the lower, both in white letters on a plain solid ground of colour. The whole is enclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{3}{4} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$  mm., which is intercepted at the sides by the circle enclosing the head, and at the top and bottom by the curved tablets.

#### *First Issue.*

Date of Issue, 31st July, 1855.†

DIE L—The extremities of the curved tablets above and below the circle enclosing the profile of the Queen were square. The spandrels were filled up with a honey-comb pattern, and

\* It may have been observed that wherever the stamps were printed in small panes, one and sometimes both of those on the outside of the row were perforated on the outer edge at a distance of about a quarter of an inch from the impression. This was caused by the adjustment of the vertical rows of the perforating needles, necessitated by the stamps being printed in panes, separated vertically from each other by a space of about half-an-inch.

† In many cases it is difficult to fix the precise date of the issue of any particular stamp, as it has frequently made its appearance without being preceded by any official announcement, and the issue has not always taken place simultaneously in London and the country. This was

small St. Andrew's crosses placed in all the four corners of the frame.

**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps divisible into four smaller sheets of sixty each, and was therefore composed of four panes arranged two and two, separated from each other longitudinally by a space of about half-an-inch wide, and by a horizontal space equal to a row of stamps. Each pane consisted of sixty casts, arranged in ten rows of six in each row, and measured  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide by  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. Above each pane was printed **POSTAGE FOURPENCE** in capitals, and on the exterior margins, alongside of each pane, "PRICE—4d. per Label—2s. per Row of Six—£1 per Sheet of Sixty."



Two plates, numbered 1 and 2, were employed during this issue, the first of which received its *imprimatur* on 13th July, 1855, and the second on 29th October, 1855. There is nothing on the impressions taken from these plates to indicate to which of them they respectively belong.

**PAPER.**—In the early part of the year 1855, as previously mentioned, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. were supplying the Inland Revenue Department with various foreign bill, chancery, common law, and receipt stamps. These stamps were printed on stout machine-made paper, watermarked with various

especially noticeable in the case of the twopence (1840). In the present case the public was informed of the issue by a notice as follows:—

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House,  
"24th July, 1855.

"NOTICE is hereby given that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have provided a stamp for denoting the value of 4d. for postage, and that such stamps will be issued to the Public on and after the 31st of this month at the Office of the Distributor of Postage Stamps in this Department and of the Distributor of Sea Policy Stamps, New Bank Buildings, City.

"Further notice will be given of the period when such stamps may be procured at the Offices of the Distributors throughout the country.

"THOMAS KEOGH,  
"Secretary."



devices. Nearly the whole of them were intended to be obliterated with pen and ink, and it had been deemed advisable, in order to guard against any attempt to make a fraudulent use of a stamp a second time, to devise some means by which the removal of the obliterating marks without visible damage to the stamp would be impossible. Various experiments had been tried for the purpose, and among other expedients it was proposed to make use of a safety paper, into which, while in a state of pulp, some chemical ingredient should be introduced which would at once show if any attempt had been made to remove the effacing marks by means of acid, or any like detergent. With this view a small quantity of prussiate of potash was mixed with the pulp during the manufacture. Though this possessed the desired properties, yet it imparted a blue tinge to the paper, generally deepening in tone by time, and varying in intensity according to the degree of its exposure to atmospheric influences. Experience, moreover, showed that it was almost impossible to insure constant uniformity in the distribution and effects of this chemical ingredient, some sheets at times being found deeply coloured, while others, even in the same ream, were nearly white.\* These and other objections to the use of this safety paper had not become patent when the postage stamp of fourpence was ordered to be prepared in 1855; it was only natural therefore that similar paper, furnished with a special watermark to distinguish it from that destined for the revenue stamps, should have been adopted for the new value.

The watermark first employed was a small oval buckled garter, the minor axis of the inside ellipse measuring 10 mm. This will be distinguished as "*small garter*." Probably, in consequence of the watermark being too feeble to be readily

\* As it is not impossible that these statements may be at variance with some pre-conceived opinions regarding this paper, we may say that they are not grounded on any opinions of our own, but have been communicated to us by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., after referring to the chemist attached to their establishment.

visible in the thick paper, the size of the garter was changed about the month of March in the following year, and a larger one was substituted, the minor axis of the inside oval measuring  $13\frac{1}{2}$  mm. This latter is distinguished as "*middle-sized garter*."

Some of the objections to the safety paper have been already mentioned; but the use of it as applied to this stamp soon revealed other imperfections. Not only was it too thick, but its hard and highly-glazed surface, presenting an appearance resembling enamel, prevented the ink employed in the printing (which was pure carmine) from penetrating the dry paper sufficiently, and the colour had in consequence a tendency to peel off. About the month of June, 1856, the introduction of the chemical ingredient was abandoned, and a paper thinner in substance, pure white, and not so highly glazed, was substituted. When the substance of the paper was reduced, the bits for producing the watermark of the "*middle-sized garter*" were found unsuitable, and early in the year 1857 new bits were introduced, showing a garter narrower, though somewhat larger, than the last, the exterior of the oval extending to the outside line of the rectangular frame of the stamp, and the minor axis of the inside one measuring  $14\frac{1}{2}$  mm. This watermark is distinguished as "*large garter*," and continued to be used down to the close of the year 1880.

These watermarks were arranged in panes of sixty, each pane being bounded by a single lined frame. The sheet was adapted to receive four of these panes corresponding to those of the plate. The words POSTAGE STAMPS, in cursive hand, were watermarked in the exterior margins alongside of each pane, and once at the top and bottom of the sheet, as also in the horizontal spaces between the two upper and two lower panes. Of late years the word MARK, in double-lined capitals, was also inserted in watermark immediately before that of POSTAGE STAMPS opposite the lower left and upper right panes, and over this the control mark was impressed.

IMPRESSION.—During the period that the safety paper was employed the colour of the impression was bright carmine.

When white paper was substituted, the watermark of the "middle-sized garter" still remaining in use, the colour of the impression was carmine of a rosy tint, which, after the advent of the "large garter," at the commencement of 1857, gradually assumed a deep rose-pink, and so continued varying only in depth of tone to the end of the issue.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 15th January, 1862.

DIE II.—The profile of the Queen was retouched, and the line of the circle enclosing it more clearly marked. The curved tablets above and below were shortened, and the shape of the ends of them altered. The spandrels were filled with a wavy reticulated pattern. Solid blocks were inserted in the angles of the frame, and small letters in white introduced into them. The bottom portion of the frame was made solid in place of the linear pattern in the design of the previous issue.



PLATE.—When this issue took place there seems to have been some lack of decision as to the introduction of the plate numbers on the face of the stamps. It will be remembered that the introduction of these numbers in the stamps originated in 1858 with the twopence simultaneously with the extension of the lettering to all the four angles, and that both of these modifications had been extended to the one penny in 1860 or 1861. The fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling values in this Section were first issued, in 1855 and 1856, without letters in any of the angles, but when, in 1861, fresh plates of these values were required, the introduction of the letters was evidently decided upon, though the question as to the insertion of the plate numbers appears to have been left open, or, at any rate, not to have received a solution till the following year. At the close of the year 1861 it was decided to add two new values to the stamps

in this Section—the threepence and ninepence—and these, together with the second issue of the fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling, were issued at various periods in 1862 with letters in the four angles, but none of them, with the exception of the one shilling, bore the number of the plate on the face. In the case of the fourpence, however, a species of substitute seems to have been adopted, as on plate No. 3, with which this issue commenced, and the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 29th November, 1861, a small hair-lined Roman figure I. is found at each extremity of the lower part of the frame, close to the letter blocks. A second plate of this issue, plate No. 4, was approved on the 27th June, 1862, and on this the hair-line Roman figure II. is found along with another mark, which we will now endeavour to explain.

Not only were two plates, of what may be termed the *small letter series*, constructed and authorized for the fourpence, but two plates of the same series were constructed and authorized for each of the other values; viz., the threepence, the sixpence, the ninepence, and the one shilling. In those for the threepence the *imprimaturs* are dated the 19th March and the 25th August, 1862; in those for the fourpence, the 29th November, 1861, and the 27th June, 1862; in those of the sixpence, the 17th October, 1861, and the 15th April, 1862; in those of the ninepence, the 14th November, 1861, and the 8th May, 1862; and in those of the one shilling, the 8th May and the 16th June, 1862. On the second of each of these plates (including the one shilling) a special or distinguishing mark was introduced, consisting, in the case of the threepence, of a small white dot in the solid framing round the profile, immediately under the foliate ornament on each side; and in that of the fourpence, sixpence, ninepence, and one shilling, of a fine white hair-line crossing the exterior angle of each of the letter blocks diagonally. No more plates were employed for the printing of the stamps in this “small letter series,” and these marks ceased to be used when the introduction of the numbers of the plates on the face of the stamps was applied to the whole of those then

current, as was the case when the next issue was brought out.

**IMPRESSION.**—When this issue commenced a change was made in the colour of the impression, and vermilion-red, varying from light to dark, was substituted for the rose-pink of the previous issue. The colour frequently approached almost to a light tint of brick-red.

### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st August, 1865.

**DIE III.**—The die was re-engraved; the circle enclosing the head was reduced in size, so that the frame, composed of a fanciful design similar to that of the first issue, was only partially interrupted by the circle and the tablets carrying the inscriptions. The tablets were also shortened and rounded at the extremities, and at the two ends of the upper one numerals were inserted in white on a solid ground of colour corresponding with the number of the plate, and enclosed within a small circle marked out by a fine white line. Large letters in white, on solid square blocks of colour, were introduced into the four angles of the stamp, and the spandrels filled in with a wavy reticulated pattern.



**PLATE.**—The plates numbered 5 and 6, which had been prepared for the preceding issue, were not used, and this issue commenced with plate No. 7, which received its *imprimatur* on the 3rd June, 1865. Plate No. 8 was also brought into use in the same year; plates 9 and 10 in 1866; plates 11 and 12 in 1868; plates 13 and 14 in 1869, the issue closing with the latter.

**IMPRESSION.**—During the continuance of the issue, especially while plate No. 11 was in use, the colour of the impression was a full and bright vermilion-red, but it gradually degenerated in tone, until plate No. 14 shows a very weak shade of vermilion, approaching to a pale brick-red.

**Fourth Issue.**

Date of Issue, March, 1876.

DIE IV.—The head of the Queen was slightly changed, and the die received other alterations, more particularly observable in the filling up of the spandrels, and in the point of the bust touching the circle in which it is enclosed. The lettering in the angles was also changed by substituting letters in colour on a plain white ground for the white letters on a coloured ground of the preceding issue. A similar change was also made in the plate numbers.



PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 15, which received its *imprimatur* 10th June, 1874, though the impressions from it were not issued to the public until March, 1876. Plate No. 16 was also authorised 4th August, 1874, and plate 17 on the 30th July, 1877.

In January, 1881, the arrangement of the panes composing the plate underwent a material modification, consequent on the abandonment of the use of the paper watermarked with the garter, and the substitution in its place of the "Crown, 1880" paper. While plate No. 17 was in use, the electro-casts of the two upper panes were brought together so as to form one pane, and the same was done with the two lower ones, so that the plate now consists of two panes only, of 120 stamps in each pane, in ten rows of twelve in each row, the two panes being separated from each other horizontally by a blank space equal to one row of stamps. On the upper and lower margins an ornament is introduced between the sixth and seventh stamps in the first and last horizontal rows, as a guide to show where the pane may be divided into two equal parts so as to form two Post-office sheets of sixty each, of the facial value of one pound. The marginal inscriptions and other legends were also suppressed, as also the number of the plate corresponding

with that on the stamps and the official number. Plate No. 17 is still in use.\*

PAPER.—From 1857 down to the close of the year 1880 the paper continued unchanged, being that watermarked with the “large garter.” On the 1st January, 1881, the stamps appeared on paper watermarked with “Crown, 1880,” similar to that then in use for the stamps of twopence, 1880, and under that value, a description of which will be found when we come to treat of the one penny, 1880. This change was doubtless made with a view of avoiding as far as possible the necessity of manufacturing special paper for particular values, as the change was carried out simultaneously with the threepence and sixpence, and has since been applied to the twopence halfpenny. The substitution of this paper necessarily involved the alteration in the arrangement of the panes above referred to.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was a pale orange-red at the commencement of the issue, but while plate No. 15 was still in use it was changed to a pale sage-green of a most ineffective tone. This change of colour appears to have been approved of on the 1st November, 1876, but the issue to the public did not take place till the 1st March following. Plate No. 17 was approved of during the time that this colour was employed, but previously to impressions being taken from it for issue to the public the colour was, on the 1st September, 1880, changed to mouse-brown, and so continues, though varying at times in tone; a defect inherent to all composite colours.†

\* This plate was approved so far back as July, 1877, but the fluctuations in the demand for the stamp have been considerable, and have arisen principally from the following causes. From 1855 to 1870 the single letter rate to France was fourpence; from 1862 to 1878 the registration fee on all letters inland as well as foreign was also fourpence. When these rates were changed there was a considerable diminution in the demand for this value, which will now probably again become larger, since the recent alteration in the postal rates to those countries which come within the second class of the Postal Union.

† The proof sheets at Somerset House do not show this colour, being, as will readily be conjectured, printed in the colour current at the time of their approval.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.**

DIE I.—(1) Paper watermarked with “small garter,” tinted blue more or less deeply. St. Andrew’s crosses in angles. Plates Nos. 1 and 2 not numbered. Perf. 14.

31st July, 1855. Fourpence, carmine (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with “middle-sized garter,” tinted blue more or less deeply. Perf. 14.

1856. Fourpence, carmine (shades).

(3) Paper watermarked with “middle-sized garter,” white. Perf. 14. 1856. Fourpence, dull pink (shades).

(4) Paper watermarked with “large garter,” white. Perf. 14. 1857. Fourpence, pink (shades).

**Second Issue.**

DIE II.—Paper watermarked with “large garter,” white. Small letters in angles. Plates Nos. 3 and 4, distinguished by special marks. Perf. 14.

15th January, 1862. Fourpence, vermilion-red (shades from pale to intense).

## VARIETY.

Fourpence, vermilion-red, *imperfurate*. Plate No. 4.

**Third Issue.**

DIE III.—Paper as in preceding issue. Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 7 to 14. Perf. 14.

1st August, 1865. Fourpence, vermilion (pale to dark).

## VARIETY.

Fourpence, vermilion, *imperfurate*. Plates Nos. 11 and 12.

**Fourth Issue.**

DIE IV.—(1) Paper as before. Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 15 and 16. Perf. 14.

(a) March, 1876. Fourpence, pale vermilion. Plate No. 15.

(b) March, 1877. Fourpence, pale sage-green (shades). Plate Nos. 15 and 16.

(c) 1st September, 1880. Fourpence, mouse-brown. Plate No. 17.

(2) Paper watermarked with “Crown (1880).” Plate No. 17. Perf. 14.

1st January, 1881. Fourpence, mouse-brown (shades).



## 2. THE SIXPENCE.

## TYPE 1.

DESIGN.—The design of the first type of this value consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circle enclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{4}$  mm. Above and below the circle and within the frame are two straight white tablets, in the upper of which is POSTAGE, and in the lower, the value in full, both in coloured letters. The side framing is of fine vertical lines disposed so as to form a species of scroll, and the spandrels are filled in with a reticulated design. The circle enclosing the profile is about a millimetre smaller in diameter than that of the fourpence, and does not touch the exterior line of the frame.

*First Issue.*

Date of Issue, 21st October, 1856.

DIE L.—The extremities of the two tablets carrying the inscriptions were rounded, and the value in the lower, SIX PENCE, inserted in two separate words. The corners of the frame were ornamented with a floriated design; the spandrels were filled with a reticulated pattern, and rounded at the exterior angles.



PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps divisible into twelve smaller sheets of twenty each, and was therefore composed of a similar number of panes arranged in four rows of three in each row, separated from each other horizontally by an interval equal to a row of stamps, and vertically by a space of about half an inch wide. Each pane consisted of twenty casts, arranged in five rows of four in each row and measured  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches wide, by  $4\frac{3}{8}$  deep. In the horizontal spaces between the panes of the first and second rows was the legend "PRICE—6d. per label—2s. per Row of 4—£1 per Sheet of 40," and the same legend was repeated between

the panes of the third and fourth rows. In the horizontal space between the two middle rows of panes was POSTAGE SIX PENCE, in capitals at the bottom of each of the three upper panes, and repeated again over the top of each of the three lower ones. Although two plates numbered 1 and 2 were prepared for this issue, yet the first only was printed from, the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 29th March, 1856.

PAPER.—The paper specially manufactured for this issue, and that of the one shilling next described, was watermarked with the heraldic emblems of the United Kingdom, the rose, shamrock, and thistle, disposed as follows: A rose in each of the upper corners, and the shamrock and thistle in the other two corners of the space destined to be occupied by the stamp. These watermarks were arranged in panes of twenty, corresponding with the arrangement of the casts on the plate, each pane being enclosed in a single lined frame, and measuring  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches wide by  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep. Twelve of these panes in four rows of three in each row constituted the sheet, which measured about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  by 23 inches.

On the side margins of the sheet opposite the exterior panes was the watermark POSTAGE STAMPS, in cursive hand, repeated twice on each side, extending along the sides of two panes, and a similar watermark was placed in each of the three horizontal spaces between the rows of panes.

The sheet on which the *imprimatur* before mentioned was endorsed is of the safety paper tinged with blue, manufactured in a similar manner to that then in use for the fourpence, but watermarked with the "heraldic emblems." In the interval that elapsed between the date of the *imprimatur* and the issue of the stamp to the public, this paper was superseded by one which was pure white, thin, and highly glazed.\*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was dull lilac, varying only in depth of shade.

\* Notwithstanding that the *imprimatur* on the impression from plate No. 1 of the one shilling was, as will be noticed hereafter, also endorsed on similar safety paper, tinged with blue, watermarked with the heraldic

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, September, 1862.

**DIE II.**—The design differed but little from that of the preceding issue. The head of the Queen was retouched, and alterations made in the frame surrounding it. The floriated ornaments in the angles were removed, and square blocks, with small block letters in white on a solid ground of colour, were inserted in place of them. A hyphen between the words **SIX** and **PENCE** in the lower tablet was also introduced. The spandrels, which in the preceding issue had been rounded at the exterior angles, were made square, as were also the ends of the tablets carrying the inscription.



**PLATE.**—The disposition of the panes remained unaltered. The issue commenced with plate No. 3, the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 17th October, 1861. Plate No. 4 was approved on the 15th April, 1862, and on this plate are found the special marks of the diagonal lines across the letter blocks before referred to\* as being applied to the second set of plates of this issue.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression still remained of the dull, ineffective tone of lilac found in the first issue, though varying in depth of shade.

### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1865.

**DIE III.**—The die was re-engraved, and the framing again altered. The circle enclosing the Queen's head was reduced in size, and some changes carried out in the profile. Large white emblems, and bore date about three months later, yet the most diligent search has failed to discover any specimens of either of these stamps issued to the public on this paper. The only inference is that if any sheets were printed on safety paper save for the official approval of the plate, they must have been destroyed, as also the paper in stock.

\* *Vide sup.*, p. 114.

letters, on proportionately large solid coloured blocks, were inserted in the angles of the frame, the sides of which were shortened and rounded off; and in the spaces thus left, small circles were introduced, the two uppermost of which were each filled in with an eight-rayed star in white, on a solid ground of colour, and the two lower ones with the number of the plate, now introduced for the first time, also in white on a coloured ground. At the point where the circle approaches nearest to the upper and lower tablets there is a minute disc, with a white dot in its centre. The hyphen between SIX and PENCE was shortened, and made thicker.



PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 5, the impression from which was approved of on the 30th December, 1864. Plate No. 6 was also approved on the 5th December, 1865, but impressions from it do not appear to have found their way into the hands of the public until April, 1867.

PAPER.—Up to the middle of 1867 the paper remained the same as in the preceding issues, but about the month of September of that year it was superseded by the paper watermarked with a “spray of rose,” which had been brought into use in the month of March previous for the printing of the tenpence and two shillings issued on the 1st July, 1867. Specimens printed from plate No. 5, watermarked with the “spray of rose,” have not been found by us, and it is probable that this plate had ceased to be printed from when the paper with the new watermark was introduced. Impressions, however, from plate No. 6 are found on paper watermarked both with the “heraldic emblems” and with the “spray of rose.”

In the paper watermarked with the “spray of rose” no alteration was made in the panes, which were enclosed in a single-lined frame in watermark. In the margins of the sheet the watermark of POSTAGE STAMPS, alongside of the third and sixth panes, and the seventh and tenth, being the two upper right and the two lower left, was replaced by MARK, in double-lined capitals,

followed by a *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, then Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue. The control mark was impressed over the watermark of MARK.

By an accident or oversight, while plate No. 5 was in use, some sheets were printed on plain unwatermarked paper, and included in a supply sent to Malta, where English stamps are used for correspondence beyond the limits of the island. The circumstance has gained for this variety the pseudonym of the "Maltese" sixpence.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression still continued to be a dull lilac, and so remained till about the middle of the year 1868, when it assumed a much more decided tone, approaching to violet.

#### Fourth Issue.

Date of Issue, April, 1869.

DIE IV.—The chief point in which the design of this die differed from that of the preceding issue consisted in the suppression of the hyphen between SIX and PENCE in the lower tablet.

PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 8, the impression from which was approved 23rd January, 1868, as, owing to some imperfections discovered in plate No. 7, rendering it unfit for use, it was destroyed. Plates Nos. 9 and 10 were approved in 1869, but of these the former only was brought into actual use, as before it became necessary to print from the latter a new type had been decided upon, and the second of these plates consequently became useless.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was the brighter tone of violet, the use of which had commenced in 1868, during the preceding issue. The colour frequently assumes a purple tone, and the shades of both tones vary in intensity.

#### TYPE II.

DESIGN.—The design of Type II. consists in the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine hori-

zontal lines, enclosed in a white hexagonal frame. The side angles of the frame cut the rectangular line enclosing the entire design, and the upper and lower portions of the frame are carried out to the line at the top and bottom, so as to form the tablets carrying the inscriptions, POSTAGE in the upper, and SIX PENCE in the lower, in two separate words.

### Fifth Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1872.

DIE I. TYPE II.\*—Square letter blocks were placed in the angles, on which were introduced large white letters on a solid ground of colour. The two upper triangular spaces, bounded at the top by the letter block, and on the sides by the line enclosing the design and by the border, were filled up with rosaces and ornaments of a conventional character. A similar design was repeated in the lower triangles, but in place of the rosaces the plate numbers were inserted, in white numerals on a solid coloured ground. The size of the stamp remained the same as in the preceding issue.



\* The following is a copy of the notice issued from the General Post Office, announcing the new type :

#### "CIRCULAR TO POSTMASTERS WHO OBLITERATE STAMPS.

##### "SIXPENNY POSTAGE STAMPS.

##### "NEW PATTERN.

"Sixpenny postage stamps differing from the present pattern are about to be issued. A specimen is annexed to this notice for the information of the postmasters concerned.

"Any stocks of the present sixpenny stamps remaining on hand should continue to be sold to the public until they are exhausted.

"General Post Office,

"JOHN TILLEY,

"March, 1872.

Secretary."

These notices are now but very seldom issued. A General Post Office circular is sent out weekly to the different Post-offices, and the announcement of the issue of any new values or such like information is contained in it.

PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 11, the impression from which was approved on 5th January, 1872, which with plate No. 12, approved on 22nd April following, were the only ones employed during the continuance of this issue.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was at first a bright chesnut-brown, in which shade of colour it is found on the sheets upon which the *imprimaturs* were endorsed on the 5th January and 22nd April, 1872. In the latter part of the year 1872 the colour was changed to a pale yellow-brown, and, so far as we are aware, stamps issued to the public of the colour first adopted are only found on the earlier sheets printed from plate No. 11. While this plate was still in use the colour was altered to the pale yellow-brown above-mentioned, which remained when plate No. 12 was brought into use. While this latter plate was still being printed from, the colour of the impression underwent a still further change, a greenish-grey being substituted, in April, 1873, for the then current pale yellow-brown. Specimens are consequently found of impressions from plate No. 11 in chesnut-brown and in pale yellow-brown, and from plate No. 12 in pale yellow-brown and greenish-grey.

### Sixth Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1874.

DIE II. TYPE II.—The profile does not appear to have been re-engraved; but the whole of the frame was altered, and the width reduced by half a millimètre. The size of the hexagon was also reduced, so that the side of it nearest to the chignon almost encroaches upon it. The lower part of the frame was also brought nearer to the base of the bust, and the distance between the words SIX and PENCE in the lower tablet was diminished. The triangular spaces were all filled in with ornamental work, and small circles introduced into the side



angles of the hexagonal frame, in which were inserted the plate numbers in colour on a white ground. The letter blocks were also changed, so as to show coloured letters on a white ground.

PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 13, the impression from which was approved on 1st December, 1872, and this was followed by plate No. 14, approved 25th July, 1873; plate No. 15, approved 15th July, 1874; plate No. 16, approved 10th September, 1875; and plate No. 17, approved 13th December, 1877. While this latter plate was in use at the close of the year 1880, an alteration in the mode of arranging the panes was carried out, similar to that already mentioned as having been effected in the panes of the fourpence. The six upper panes were formed into one, and the six lower ones into another pane of 120 casts each, separated from one another horizontally by an interval equal to a row of stamps. Ornaments are inserted in the upper and lower margins, marking the points where the pane is to be divided into three strips of four stamps wide, each of which makes a Post-office sheet. There are no marginal inscriptions, and the numbers of plate corresponding with that on the stamps, as also the official number, have been suppressed. Plate No. 17 is still in use, (May, 1881); Plate No. 18, approved 5th July, 1880, has not yet been brought into use.

PAPER.—The paper watermarked with the "spray of rose" continued to be used up to the close of the year 1880; but about the end of the year 1876 a trifling alteration was made in the watermark of the margin of the sheets by the suppression of the *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, and the substitution of *Postage Stamps*, in cursive hand, in its place.

About the close of the year 1880 the paper was changed to that watermarked with the "Crown 1880," disposed in panes of 120 in each pane, and stamps on the paper thus watermarked were issued to the public on the 1st January, 1881. The use of the control marks was at the same time discontinued.



**IMPRESSION.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 13, which was approved on 1st December, 1872, before the colour of the impression had been changed from light yellow-brown to greenish-grey; but no stamps were issued in the former colour. Throughout the whole of the issue, continued regularly through plates Nos. 14, 15, 16, and 17, from which latter the stamps at present in use are being printed, the colour of the impression has remained greenish-grey, varying only in depth of tone. The demand for this value has fluctuated much, having diminished considerably of late years, as is shown by the fact that plate No. 17 though approved of in December, 1877, has not long been called into use. As the postage to the Australian Colonies has recently (March, 1880) been fixed at sixpence, an increased demand may naturally be expected.

### SYNOPSIS.

#### TYPE I.

#### **First Issue.**

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with “heraldic emblems,” white. No letters in angles. Plate 1; perf. 14.

21st October, 1856. Six pence, dull lilac (shades).

#### **Second Issue.**

**DIE II.**—Paper as in preceding. Hyphen between **SIX** and **PENCE**. Small white letters in angles. Plates 3 and 4, the latter distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

September, 1862. Six-pence, dull lilac (shades).

#### **Third Issue.**

**DIE III.**—(1) Paper as in preceding. Hyphen between **SIX** and **PENCE**. Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 5 and 6. Perf. 14.

1st April, 1865. Six-pence, dull lilac (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Six-pence, dull lilac; no watermark. Plate No. 5.

(2) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 6. Perf. 14.

October, 1867. Six-pence, dull lilac.  
1868. Six-pence, bright lilac.

#### Fourth Issue.

DIE IV.—Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." No hyphen between SIX and PENCE. Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 8 and 9. Perf. 14.

April, 1869. Six pence, purple-lilac (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Six pence, purple-lilac; *imperfurate*. Plates Nos. 8 and 9.

#### TYPE II.

#### Fifth Issue.

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 11 and 12. Perf. 14.

(a) 1st April, 1872. Six pence, bright chesnut-brown. Plate No. 11.

(b) June, 1872. Six pence, pale yellow-brown (shades). Plates Nos. 11 and 12.

(c) 1st April, 1873. Six pence, greenish-grey (shades). Plate No. 12.

#### Sixth Issue.

DIE II.—(1) Paper as in preceding. Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 13 to 17. Perf. 14.

1st April, 1874. Six pence, greenish-grey (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown, 1880." Large coloured letters in angles. Plate No. 17. Perf. 14.

1st January, 1881. Six pence, greenish-grey (shades).

### 3. THE ONE SHILLING.

DESIGN.—The design is a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a solid upright oval border. In the upper part of this border is POSTAGE, in small white capitals, and in the lower part

ONE SHILLING, in similar characters, the intervals being filled in with white reticulations. The whole is enclosed within a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

### First Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st November, 1856.

**DIE I.**—The exterior line of the solid oval border surrounding the profile of the Queen extended beyond the limits of the rectangular-lined frame as well at the sides as at the top and bottom. The spandrels were filled up with a vertical, closely reticulated pattern, detracting greatly from the effectiveness of the stamp.



**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes of twenty casts in each pane, arranged in the same manner as in the case of the sixpence. Above each of the upper three panes was the legend POSTAGE ONE SHILLING, in capitals, and between these panes and the next three panes, "PRICE—1s. per Label—4 Shillings per Row of 4—1 Pound per Sheet," while below each of these latter panes POSTAGE ONE SHILLING was again repeated. Between the third and fourth row of panes, "PRICE—1s. per Label," &c., was also repeated under each pane. If, now, the plate were turned upside down, so that the last or lowest panes were at the top of the sheet, the legend POSTAGE ONE SHILLING would be found over each of these panes, and under the seventh, eighth, and ninth; the legend therefore appeared twice in the horizontal space between the two middle rows of panes, one set of the legends being up-side down.

The plate and official numbers were introduced at the corners as in the other values.

One plate only, numbered 1, was prepared for this issue, the *imprimatur* on the impression from which is dated 27th June, 1856.

**PAPER.**—The paper was the same as that employed for the

first issues of the sixpence, being pure white, and watermarked with the heraldic emblems of the United Kingdom. Like as in the case of the sixpence, the impression on which the *imprimatur* was endorsed was on the safety paper tinged with blue; but it does not appear that any stamps were ever issued to the public on this paper, the use of which had been abandoned before the issue actually took place.\*

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is green, of a dull, ineffective tone.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, October, 1862.

DIE II.—The profile of the Queen was retouched, the entire frame was re-engraved, and the position of the head within the oval was altered. The reticulated pattern in the spandrels was made fainter and less obtrusive, while the oval border was rendered more prominent. Solid blocks, with small white letters on coloured ground, were added in the four angles, and similar blocks for receiving the numbers of the plate were introduced into the sides of the oval border.



PLATE.—The issue commenced with plate No. 2, the impression from which was approved on the 8th May, 1862. Singularly enough, although this plate bears the number 2, and was in reality the second plate which had been employed in this value, the number on the stamps themselves was 1. Plate No. 3 was approved on the 16th June, 1862, but it does not appear that any issue of impressions from this plate, the stamps on which bear the figure 2, was ever made to the public. These latter stamps bore the diagonal special marks which were at this period introduced into the second plates of the second issue of the fourpence and sixpence, and the second plate of the first issue of the ninepence, and the fact is remarkable as being

\* As in the case of the sixpence, we have made diligent search for specimens of this stamp on blue paper, but have been unable to meet with any which were issued to the public. See *sup.*, p. 120 note.

the only instance where these marks were applied on a stamp also bearing on its face the number of the plate.\*

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression improved during the continuance of this issue, and some fine dark shades of green are found.

### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, February, 1865.

**DIE III.**—The die was entirely remodelled; the head of the Queen re-engraved; large solid blocks inserted in the angles carrying white letters, and the spandrels filled in with a more effective reticulated pattern. The blocks for the plate numbers remained as in the preceding issue.



**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 4, the stamps now bearing a number corresponding with that of the plate. The impression from plate No. 4 was approved 28th November, 1864; that from plate No. 5 on 28th March, 1866; that from plate No. 6 on 24th February, 1869; and that from plate No. 7 on 30th September, 1872.

**PAPER.**—The paper first employed was that watermarked with the “heraldic emblems;” but in August, 1867, while plate No. 4 was in use, and before impressions for the use of the public had begun to be taken from plate No. 5, this paper was superseded by that watermarked with a “spray of rose,” which continued to be used throughout the remainder of the issue. Impressions from plate No. 4 are therefore found on both kinds of paper.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression at the commencement of the issue was a full dark green, but shortly after the substitution of the “spray of rose” paper the colour fell away and degenerated into a green of a chalky-blue tone.

**PERFORATION.**—Specimens printed from plate No. 4 on “spray of rose” paper are to be found imperforate.

\* An unperforated copy of this remarkable stamp exists in the collection of Mr. Philbrick.

**Fourth Issue.**

Date of Issue, September, 1873.

**DIE IV.**—The head of the Queen was again retouched and the frame reconstructed. The letter blocks in the angles were altered so as to show the letters in colour on a plain white ground, and the plate numbers inserted in small circular white blocks. The pattern in the spandrels and the lettering of the inscriptions were slightly modified, and the exterior frame bounded by a thicker line.



**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 8, impressions from which were approved 30th September, 1872. Plates Nos. 9 and 10 were approved 10th July and 25th November, 1873; plates Nos. 11 and 12 on 23rd April and 30th September, 1874; and plates Nos. 13 and 14 on 23rd April and 20th December, 1875, the latter of which has not yet been brought into use.\*

**PAPER.**—The paper employed through the continuance of impressions from plates Nos. 8 to 13 has remained the same as in the previous issue.†

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression remained of a pale, chalky, blue-green tone during the period that the plates Nos. 9 to 12 were in use. Plate No. 13 was brought into use in 1878, and the impression remained of the same colour until

\* The extraordinary demand for this stamp from 1869 to 1876 was due to its having been employed to an enormous extent for the payment of duties on telegraphic messages. When special stamps were issued for this service in 1876, the use of the one shilling value fell off in proportion; and as the postage to China, which for some years was defrayed in a great measure by this value, has been reduced, the demand for the stamp has become still more limited.

† Up to the present time (May, 1881) no alteration has been made in the paper on which this issue is printed, similar to that adopted in the case of the 3d., 4d., and 6d., and which, if made, would necessitate a re-arrangement of the panes. It appears probable that a change will be made shortly, either in the paper or in the type itself.

the 1st October, 1880, when it was changed to a composite colour more brown than the light vermilion formerly used for the fourpence, and more vermilion than that in which the two shillings finished its career; it may be designated a light brown-vermilion.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.\***

DIE I.—Paper white, watermarked with “heraldic emblems.”  
Perf. 14.

1st November, 1856. One shilling, green (shades).

**Second Issue.**

DIE II.—Paper white, watermarked with “heraldic emblems.”  
Small white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 1 and 2, the latter distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

October, 1862. One shilling, dark green, green (shades).

## VARIETY.

One Shilling, green, *imperforate*. Plate No. 2.

**Third Issue.**

DIE III.—(1) Paper white, watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

February, 1865. One shilling, dark green (shades).

(2) Paper white, watermarked with “spray of rose.” Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 4 to 7.

August, 1867. One shilling, green, light bluish-green (shades).

## VARIETY.

One shilling, green, *imperforate*. Plate No. 4.

**Fourth Issue.**

DIE IV.—Paper white, watermarked with “spray of rose.” Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 8 to 13. Perf. 14.

(a) September, 1873. One shilling, pale bluish-green (shades).

(b) 1st October, 1880. One shilling, pale brown-vermilion (shades).  
Plate No. 13.

\* We have not included the impression on blue paper in this list, or in that of the sixpence, because, as before stated, we have not met with any specimens that have passed through the post, but it is possible that such may exist.

## 4. THE NINEPENCE.\*

DESIGN.—The design is a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circular border composed of nine curves inclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. In the upper part, on a straight tablet, is POSTAGE, and in the lower a similar tablet with NINE PENCE, the letters in both being in colour on a white ground.

**First Issue.**

Date of Issue, 15th January, 1862.

DIE I.—Letter blocks with small white letters on a solid ground of colour were inserted in the die of this stamp from the commencement, this modification having been at the same time made in the second issues of the fourpence and sixpence, and subsequently extended to the one shilling. The spandrels were filled in with a reticulated pattern running horizontally.



PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes of twenty casts in each pane, arranged in the same manner as in the two preceding values. Above the middle pane of the first row, and on the exterior margins of the two outside ones, was the legend POSTAGE NINE PENCE; and under each of these panes, in the horizontal space between this and the second row, “PRICE—Ninepence per Label—3 Shillings per Row of 4—15s. per Sheet of 20.” In the same space was POSTAGE NINE PENCE above each pane of the second row, and the same arrangement prevailed in the space between the second and

\* This stamp was primarily issued for the purpose of prepaying the single rate of postage to India and Australia, but when the rate was raised to tenpence it fell into disuse, though it continued to be sold at the Post-offices till 1877, when it was withdrawn from the list.



third rows. Between the third and fourth rows the legend, "PRICE—Ninepence per Label," &c., was repeated at the foot of each pane in the third row, and at the top of each of those in the fourth row, while at the bottom of the plate, under the middle pane of the last row, was POSTAGE NINE PENCE, which was also repeated on the exterior margins of the outside panes.

The plate and official numbers were introduced at the corners, as in the other values.

Plate No. 1 was not approved, and the issue consequently commenced with plate No. 2, which was approved 14th November, 1861. Plate No. 3 was approved 8th May, 1862, and on the stamps printed from this plate are found the special marks of diagonal lines distinguishing the second plates of the issues then current.

PAPER.—The paper employed was that which was watermarked with the "heraldic emblems," being that then in use for the other values where the plate consisted of twelve panes.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was at the commencement an ochre-brown, but it was subsequently printed in a yellower tint, resembling that termed *bistre* by the French collectors.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st December, 1865.

DIE II.—The profile of the Queen was altered, and the frame changed. Large letter blocks to carry white letters on a coloured ground were placed in the angles. Bracket ornaments were inserted in the spandrels, in the angles of which circular holes were made, each of those in the upper angles being filled in with an eight-rayed star; while the plate numbers were inserted in the lower ones in white figures on coloured ground. The reticulated pattern in the spandrels was disposed vertically instead of horizontally, as in the die of the previous issue.



**PLATE.**—This issue commenced with plate No. 4, approved on the 27th February, 1865, and although plate No. 5 was approved 24th April, in the following year, it was never brought into use.

**PAPER.**—The paper first employed was the same as that on which the preceding issue was printed, watermarked with the “heraldic emblems;” but when this was replaced in 1867 by that watermarked with the “spray of rose,” the remainder of the issue was printed on this latter paper. Impressions therefore from plate No. 4 are found with both of these watermarks.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was a clear yellow-brown during the earlier part of the issue, but became somewhat deeper in tone when the last supply was printed.

**PERFORATION.**—Specimens of this issue are to be found imperforate.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### **First Issue.**

**DIE I.**—Paper watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Small white letters in angles. Plate No. 1 not used. No plate numbers to plates Nos. 2 and 3, but the latter distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

15th January, 1862. Ninepence, ochre-brown, yellow-brown (shades).

##### **Second Issue.**

**DIE II.**—(1) Paper watermarked with “heraldic emblems.” Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

1st December, 1865. Ninepence, yellow-brown (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with “spray of rose.” Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1869. Ninepence, light yellow-brown (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Ninepence, light yellow-brown, *imperforate*.

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## 5. THE THREEPENCE.

**DESIGN.**—The design of this stamp seems to have been suggested by the envelope stamp of the same value which had been issued in 1859, as by turning this latter stamp upside-down the similarity will be at once appreciable. It consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a solid trilobed border, the lobes being connected at the sides by foliate ornaments, and by a trifoliate one at the top. The whole is inclosed in a rectangular frame measuring  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. The spandrels, except where occupied, as hereafter described, and the other portions not occupied by the design, are left white. In the upper part of the border is the inscription THREE PENCE separated by the trifoliate ornament, and in the lower part POSTAGE all in small white block letters.

**First Issue.**

Date of Issue, 1st May, 1862.

**DIE I.**—The trilobed border touched the interior line of the frame at the sides and top. In each of the four angles a trefoil of diagonal lines was introduced, in which letters in white on a solid ground of colour were inserted in small white lined circles.



**PLATE.**—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes, arranged in the same manner as in the preceding values, where the stamps were arranged in a similar number of panes. Above the centre pane of the first row was POSTAGE THREE PENCE, and the same legend was repeated in the space between the second and third rows, above each pane of the third row, and also at the foot of each pane of the second row, but in these latter the legend was upside down, as also when it was again repeated at the foot of the centre pane of the fourth row. In the intervals between the first and second and the third and fourth rows is,

“PRICE—3 pence per Label—1 Shilling per Row of 4—10 Shillings per sheet of 40.”

The plate and official numbers are found at the corners of the sheets, as in the preceding values.

Plate No. 1 was not approved of. Plate No. 2 was prepared with a background of a reticulated pattern, and was approved on 17th October, 1861. Impressions taken from the plate were struck off, gummed, and perforated, and are occasionally met with, but they are rare, and were never issued for public use.\* The effect was not considered satisfactory; the background was in consequence removed from the casts, and the plate as altered was approved on 19th March, 1862. Plate No. 3 was approved on 25th August following, and on the stamps printed from this plate is found a special mark, before referred to, distinguishing the impressions from the second plate employed in this issue from those taken from the first, and consisting of a small white dot introduced into the solid trilobed border immediately below the foliate ornament on each side. This latter plate was in use for a very short time, and specimens of stamps taken from it are exceedingly rare. Imperforate specimens are also known.

**PAPER.**—The paper employed was that which was watermarked with the “heraldic emblems,” being the same as was then in use for the other values printed from plates composed of twelve panes.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression was carmine-pink, generally of a light tone, but sometimes very full and bright.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1st March, 1865.

**DIE II.**—The border, though reduced in size, and made about one millimètre shorter, was rendered more prominent. The profile of the Queen was altered, and in lieu of the trefoils in the angles, solid square blocks to carry large letters in white on

\* Copies were sent to the various Post-offices surcharged SPECIMEN. The stock printed was destroyed, save some few sheets, which accounts for the rarity of the stamp not surcharged.

a coloured ground were introduced. The foliate ornaments on the sides of the border were changed, and plate numbers in white on a solid ground of colour in small white circles were inserted immediately above them.



**PLATE.**—The issue commenced with plate No. 4, which was approved 28th November, 1864, and this was followed by plate No. 5, approved 18th October, 1865; plate No. 6 was approved 8th June, 1868; plate No. 7 on 20th February, 1869; plates Nos. 8 and 9 on 22nd February and 22nd April, 1872; and plate No. 10, with which this issue closed, on 6th December, 1872.

**PAPER.**—The paper first employed was that watermarked with the “heraldic emblems,” but about the month of August, 1867, while plate No. 4 was still in use, and before the issue of any impressions from plate No. 5, this paper was superseded by that watermarked with a “spray of rose.” Impressions therefore from plate No. 4 are to be found on both kinds of paper.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression did not vary during this issue, except in shades of carmine-pink from light to dark.

**PERFORATION.**—Specimens of impressions from plate No. 5 watermarked with the “spray of rose” are to be found imperforate.

### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, 15th July, 1873.

**DIE III.**—The border was again reduced in size, and the bust of the Queen within it was reset. Letters in colour on a plain white octagonal ground were substituted in the angles for the white letters on a coloured ground of the previous issue, and the plate numbers were altered in the same manner.



**PLATE.**—This issue commenced with plate No. 11, which was approved 21st December, 1872. This was

followed by plate No. 12, approved 21st June, 1873. Plate No. 13 proved to be defective, and was never printed from. Plates Nos. 14 and 15 were also approved in 1873; plates Nos. 16 and 17 in 1874; and plates Nos. 18 and 19 in 1875.\* Since that period the consumption has rapidly diminished, as plate No. 20, at present in use, was approved 29th November, 1878, and plate No. 21, approved 15th July, 1880, has not yet been called into requisition.

While plate No. 20 was in use, at the close of the year 1880, a change was made in the arrangement of the panes similar to that carried out in the sixpence; the six upper panes were formed into one pane, and the six lower into another. Ornaments were also introduced into the upper and lower margins of the sheets opposite the vertical lines of perforation, between the fourth and fifth and the eighth and ninth stamps in the first and last rows, to facilitate the division of the pane into three equal strips, each forming a Post-office sheet of forty stamps.

PAPER.—The paper employed at the commencement of the issue was the same as that in use at the close of the previous issue, watermarked with a “spray of rose,” and so continued down

\* It cannot fail to be remarked, from the number of plates constructed between 1868 and 1874, that the consumption of this stamp was very rapid. It was originally issued exclusively for the payment of foreign postage, especially to Belgium and Switzerland, and it was not till the 1st April, 1865, that it was officially issued or recognized for inland purposes, there being no postage of threepence in the inland rates. By a Treasury Warrant, dated 18th March, 1865 (*London Gazette*, 24th March), the inland letter rates were altered from the 1st April then next, and fixed at one penny for every half-ounce or fraction of half-ounce. The threepenny stamp was consequently admitted to prepay the postage under  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. But when the Telegraphs were transferred to the Post Office, in 1869, the same cause which acted on the rapid consumption of the one shilling stamps operated also on those which represented one-half and one-fourth of a shilling. To this must also be added the reduction of the postage to France from fourpence for a quarter of an ounce to threepence for one-third of an ounce, which took place in 1870, the effect of which may be estimated from the fact that whereas eight plates of the fourpence had been constructed in four years, from 1865 to 1869, only three have been brought into use since.

to the end of the year 1880, when the paper watermarked with "Crown 1880" was substituted in its place. This alteration took place while plate No. 20 was in use, so that specimens of stamps printed from that plate are found with both watermarks.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression has remained unaltered during the continuance of the issue, and is at present carmine-pink, varying in depth of shade.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.**

DIE I.—Paper watermarked with "heraldic emblems." Small white letters in angles. No plate numbers to plate No. 2, but plate 3 distinguishable by special marks. Perf. 14.

1st May, 1862. Threepence, carmine deep to pale (shades).

## VARIETY.

Threepence, pale-carmine, *imperfurate*. Plate No. 3.

*Second Issue*

DIE II.—(1) Paper watermarked with "heraldic emblems." Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 4. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1865. Threepence, carmine deep to pale (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plates Nos. 4 to 10. Perf. 14.

1st October, 1867. Threepence, carmine and pale carmine (shades).

## VARIETY.

Threepence, carmine, *imperfurate*. Plate 5.

*Third Issue*

DIE III.—(1) Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large coloured letters in angles. Plates Nos. 11 and 12, 14 to 20. Perf. 14.

15th July, 1873. Threepence, full carmine to pale (shades).

(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 20. Perf. 14.

1st January, 1881. Threepence, carmine, and light dull carmine.

## 6. THE TENPENCE.\*

Date of Issue, 1st July, 1867.

**DIE.**—There is only one die of this value, the design of which consists of the usual diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circle enclosed in a rectangular double-lined frame, measuring 19 by  $22\frac{1}{8}$  millimètres. The circle rests upon a straight tablet, on which is inscribed TEN PENCE, and in the upper part is an arched tablet with the inscription POSTAGE, both inscriptions being in coloured letters on a white ground. The spandrels are not filled in, but in the four angles of the frame letter blocks are introduced, and above the two lower blocks are small circles for the reception of the plate numbers. Both the letters and plate numbers are in white on a solid ground of colour.



**PLATE.**—The entire plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes arranged in the same manner as in the preceding values, where the stamps were arranged in a similar number of panes. The legends TEN PENCE, and “PRICE—Ten pence per Label—3s. 4d. per Row of 4—16s. 8d. per Sheet of 20” were disposed on the plate in a manner exactly similar to that adopted in the plate of one shilling.

Plate No. 1, approved 22nd March, 1867, was the only one

\* This value was called into existence to prepay the postage on Australian letters *via* Marseilles; but when the rate to these colonies was altered in 1870, the demand for it ceased, and it fell into such disuse that in September, 1877, the Post-office withdrew it from the list of those required to be kept at the offices, and it is, in fact, “out of stock.” It seems a matter of regret that this should be so, as multiples of the Postal Union rate of twopence-halfpenny would appear now to be very desirable; but the reluctance to reissue the value doubtless arises from the hope that a uniform single rate of twopence will be ultimately established for those countries which fall within the first class of the Postal Union.



used : plate No. 2, approved 30th August, 1867, has never been called into use.

PAPER.—The paper was that watermarked with a “spray of rose,” which was first brought into use with the issue of this stamp and that of two shillings, which appeared at the same time.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was red-brown, varying only in intensity of shade.

PERFORATION.—Specimens are to be found imperforate.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “spray of rose.” Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

1st July, 1867. Tenpence, red-brown (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Tenpence, red-brown, *imperforate*.

### 7. THE TWO SHILLINGS.

Date of Issue, 1st July, 1867.

DESIGN.—There is only one die of this value, the design of which consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within an upright pointed oval white band, inscribed TWO SHILLINGS above, and POSTAGE below in coloured letters, inclosed in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. In the four angles of the rectangular frame are square blocks with white letters on solid coloured ground. In the spandrels on the inner sides of each of the square letter blocks are two circles, those in the two upper spandrels inclosing stars, which are also introduced into the two lower circles by the sides of the lower letter blocks, while in the two upper circles above the lower letter blocks the plate numbers are inserted in white on solid coloured ground.



PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, and was composed of twelve panes,

arranged in the same manner as in the preceding values, where the stamps were arranged in a similar number of panes. The legends POSTAGE TWO SHILLINGS, and "PRICE—2 Shillings per Label—8 Shillings per Row of 4—2 Pounds per Sheet of 20," were disposed in the same manner as those on the ninepence, with the exception that in the two upper and two lower outside panes POSTAGE TWO SHILLINGS was not introduced.

The impression from plate No. 1 was approved 5th April, 1867; plate No. 2 was spoilt in the making; plate No. 3 was approved 23rd January, 1868, but was never called into requisition, and no stamps have been issued except such as were struck off from plate No. 1.

PAPER.—The paper was that watermarked with the "spray of rose," which was introduced for the first time when this and the preceding value of tenpence were issued.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was a clear blue, varying from dark to light, and so continued up to January, 1880, when it was altered to a light red-brown, very similar to that previously employed for the tenpence, the issue of which had been discontinued in 1877. This change of colour was rendered necessary in order to avoid the anomaly of having two stamps of the same colour current at the same time, the colour of the twopence halfpenny being changed at that period to blue. Its existence, however, in its new colour was of very short duration, as only the first batch was issued, and it was withdrawn from the list of those sold at the Post-office on the 1st October, 1880. Specimens in the later colour have become difficult to obtain.

PERFORATION.—Specimens of this stamp printed in blue are found imperforate.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Large white letters in angles. Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

(a) 1st July, 1867. Two Shillings, dark blue to light blue (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Two shillings, light blue, *imperforate*.

(b) 1st January, 1880. Two Shillings, light red-brown.

## 8. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st July, 1867.

**DIE.**—There is one die only for this value, the design of which consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines within a wide circular border of Greek pattern, with a row of pearls on each side. This circular border is enclosed in a rectangular frame measuring 25 by 29½ millimètres. In the corners are solid letter blocks with letters in white, and on white tablets between the blocks at the top and bottom are the inscriptions **POSTAGE** and **5 SHILLINGS**. The plate number is inserted in the lower part of the circular band in white on a solid disc of colour.



**PLATE.**—The plate is constructed to admit of printing a sheet of eighty stamps, and is composed of four panes, of twenty casts in each pane. The panes are arranged two and two, a space equal to the width of a stamp separating the panes from each other vertically; while a space equal to a row of stamps separates them from each other horizontally. The casts are arranged on each pane in four rows, of five in each row, the pane measuring 5½ inches long by 5¼ inches in depth. Above and below each pane is **POSTAGE FIVE SHILLINGS** in large capitals; while on the left of each pane is the legend, “**TWENTY 5s. POSTAGE STAMPS £5,**” running from the bottom to the top; and on the right side is the same legend running from the top to the bottom. The usual plate number is above the right upper corner and below the left lower corner of the plate, the official numbers of the plate occupying the other corners.

The issue commenced with plate No. 1, approved 18th April, 1867, and plate No. 2 was approved 5th July of the same year. Plate No. 3 was injured in the construction, and was destroyed. Plate No. 4 was approved 28th November, 1874, but has not

yet been brought into requisition, the stamps at present in use being those struck off from plate No. 2.

PAPER.—The sheet measures about 14 inches wide by 13½ inches deep, and is watermarked with Maltese crosses, arranged in panes to correspond with the number of casts composing the panes of the plate, each pane of twenty watermarks being enclosed in a single-lined frame. At the upper right and left lower corners of the sheet is the watermark MARK in double-lined capitals to denote where the control mark was to be affixed.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is pink, varying only in intensity of shade.

PERFORATION.—The machines used for the stamps of the ordinary size not being adapted to the perforation of those of the size of this stamp, the Inland Revenue Department employed for the purpose the machines worked by hand, used for perforating life policy and other fiscal stamps of a similar size. In these machines the spacing of the needles differs from that in the former, giving a perforation of 15 in two centimètres.

Specimens of impressions from plate No. 1 are to be found imperforate.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Maltese cross." Plates Nos. 1 and 2.  
Perf. 15. 1st July, 1867. Five shillings, pink (shades).

#### VARIETY.

Five shillings, pink, *imperforate*. Plate No. 1.

### 9. THE TWOPENCE-HALFPENNY.\*

Date of Issue, 1st July, 1875.

DESIGN.—There is one die only for this value, the design of which consists in the diademed portrait in profile of Queen

\* The immediate cause of the issue of a stamp of this value is to be found in the establishment of the POSTAL UNION and the adhesion of Great Britain to the terms of the treaty.

A Postal Congress, composed of delegates from all the States of Europe, as also from the United States of America and from Egypt, assembled at

Victoria to the left on a ground of fine horizontal lines within an octagonal border, enclosed in a rectangular frame measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. One of the perpendicular sides of the border bears the inscription TWOPENCE, and the other HALFPENNY; while in the upper part is POSTAGE, and in the lower part  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., all in colour on a white ground. The lettering in the angles is in colour on white blocks, and the plate number, also in



Berne in October, 1874, on the invitation of the German Government. The deliberations of this Congress resulted in the establishment of the "General Postal Union," and a treaty was signed on the 9th October, by which it was stipulated that the arrangements agreed upon should take effect in all the countries except France on the 1st July, 1875; and as regarded this latter country, they should come into operation on the 1st January, 1876.

Under the provisions of this treaty an uniform weight of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. (15 grammes) was fixed as the unit for a single letter rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., and post cards were to circulate at half this rate. The rate on newspapers was fixed at 1d. for every 4 oz., and that on books, printed matter, and patterns, at 1d. for every 2 oz.

Another conference was held in Paris in 1878, and in June of that year a treaty was signed, or subsequently adhered to, by all the parties to the former treaty, with the addition of British India, the colonies of France, Spain, Portugal, and Holland, many of the British colonies, Persia, Japan, Liberia, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, &c., the new convention receiving the name of the "Universal Postal Union." By this treaty it was declared that all the consenting nations were to be a "single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence," and under its provisions general rules have been made and uniform rates and weights established, so far as the difference of money and weights in the various countries admitted.

For the countries included in the first class in the Postal Union, which comprises all the States of Europe, the United States of America, Newfoundland, Canada, with the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, Persia, Cyprus, Egypt, the Azores and Madeira, Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands, an uniform rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. (25 centimes) has been adopted for a letter of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. (15 grammes), of 1d. (10 centimes) for a post card and for newspapers of 4 oz., and of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (5 centimes) for packets of printed matter, &c., of 2 oz.,

The single rate of postage to and from the countries comprised in the second class has been fixed at 4d. for a letter of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a post card, and 1d. for packets of printed matter, &c., of 2 oz., and for newspapers of 4 oz.

These alterations in the rates took effect on the 1st April, 1879.

colour, is inserted in the border immediately above the side inscriptions. The vacant spaces in the border and in the various angles are filled in with ornamental tracery.

PLATE.—The entire plate as at first constructed consisted of 192 stamps, divided into two panes of ninety-six stamps in each pane, disposed in eight rows of twelve in each row. Each pane presented, therefore, the facial value of £1, and constituted a Post-office sheet. In the upper margin was the legend “2½d. POSTAGE” twice repeated in large capitals, the official number of the plate being inserted between “2½d.” and “POSTAGE,” and the plate number between “POSTAGE” and “2½d.” in the repeated legend. Similar legends were found on the bottom margin, the official and plate numbers there changing places. In the space between the panes equal to that occupied by one row of stamps was “POSTAGE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY” in large block capitals, extending over the length of ten out of the twelve stamps in the row.

In 1881 the arrangement of the plate was altered consequent on a change in the paper, and is now constructed so as to consist of 240 stamps divided into two panes of one hundred and twenty each, in the same manner as in the case of the other values where the paper is watermarked with “Crown (1880).” Each pane constitutes a Post-office sheet of the facial value of £1 5s. At the same time all the printed legends were suppressed, as also the plate numbers in the margin, both ordinary and official.

PAPER.—When this stamp was first issued in 1875, it was temporarily printed on the paper then in use for the One Penny Inland Revenue stamps, watermarked with an “anchor.” As these latter stamps were printed in sheets of 240, arranged in a single pane of twenty rows of twelve in each row, the disposition of the watermarks did not coincide with the plan adopted for the printing of the stamps of twopence halfpenny, the plate for which only covered seventeen rows, including the blank space left between the two panes. Three rows of watermarks were, therefore, necessarily left blank, which will account for the

lower margins of the Post-office sheets issued at this time being found watermarked with the anchor. This provisional state of things lasted till about the month of June, 1876, when a paper specially manufactured for this value was introduced similar in kind to that in use for the other stamps in this Section, but watermarked with an "orb" for each stamp, and was exclusively appropriated to this value. The space occupied by each pane of ninety-six stamps was marked out by a single line. On the right margin of the upper pane, and on the left margin of the lower one, the word MARK in double-lined block capitals, followed by a *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, repeated again in the margin opposite the next pane, was watermarked in the paper. The control marks were impressed over the word MARK, as in the other values in this Section where a similar watermark existed, but at the close of the year 1880 the system was abandoned. The sheet measured about  $11\frac{1}{4}$  by 18 inches.

In April, 1881, the paper was changed, and that manufactured for the inferior values of one halfpenny, one penny, &c., watermarked with "Crown (1880)," was substituted, which is of inferior quality and less highly glazed than that previously employed. Stamps printed on this paper from plate No. 21 were first issued to the public 8th April, 1881.

IMPRESSION.—The issue commenced with plates Nos. 1 and 2, both of which were approved on the 30th March, 1875. Plate No. 3 was approved on the 10th June following, and it was during the time that this plate was in use that the paper, specially manufactured for this value, was introduced. Stamps consequently are found printed from this plate both on paper watermarked with the "anchor" and on that watermarked with the "orb." In no value now in use, excepting the one halfpenny and the one penny, has the consumption been so rapid as in this. Plates Nos. 4 and 5 were approved of in 1875, in addition to the three already approved in the same year; plates Nos. 6 and 7 in 1876; plates 8, 9, 10, and 11 in 1877; plates 12, 13, and 14 in 1878; plates 15, 16, and 17 in 1879; and plates 18, 19, and 20 in 1880; plate No. 21 is that which is at present in

use, and was first employed when the paper was changed to that watermarked "Crown (1880)."

The colour first adopted was a lilac tint of pink (the *rose-lilacé* of the French philatelists), which continued to be very uniform during the whole period it was in use, varying only in depth of shade. On the 1st January, 1880, while plate No. 17 was in use, the colour was changed to a bright blue, with a view of assimilating it to that in use for the corresponding value in the majority of the countries included in the first class of the Postal Union.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### I.

Paper watermarked with an "anchor." Plates Nos. 1, 2, and 3. Perf. 14.

1st July, 1875. Twopence halfpenny, lilac-pink (shades).

##### II.

(1) Paper watermarked with "orb." Plates Nos. 3 to 17. Perf. 14.

1st June, 1876. Twopence halfpenny, lilac pink (shades).

(2) Same paper. Plates Nos. 17, 18, 19, and 20. Perf. 14.

1st January, 1880. Twopence halfpenny, bright blue (shades).

##### III.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Plate No. 21. Perf. 14.

8th April, 1880. Twopence halfpenny, bright blue.

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#### 10. THE EIGHTPENCE.

Date of Issue, 1st September, 1876.

DESIGN.—There is but one die for this stamp, the design of which consists in the introduction of the conventional type of the head of the Queen into a frame of fresh pattern. The ground work of fine lines is enclosed in a wide double-lined white border, the exterior perpendicular lines of which extend



to the extreme edge of the stamp. The upper and lower portions of the border are curved, and touch the exterior line of the stamp at the top and bottom; in the upper curved part of the border is POSTAGE, and in the lower EIGHT PENCE. The sides of the border are interrupted in the middle by small circles for the insertion of the plate numbers, and plain white square letter blocks are introduced into the angles.



PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps arranged in four panes of sixty each, as in its multiple value of fourpence, but as in Post-office parlance thirty of these constituted a sheet, a floriated ornament was introduced into the exterior margin of each pane, between the fifth and sixth row of stamps, indicating where the division of the pane into halves was to be made. At the top and bottom of each pane is, “PRICE—Eight pence per Label—4s. per Row of Six—1 Pound per Sheet,” and on the exterior margin of each pane is POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE in capitals twice repeated, so that the legend may be opposite to each half pane. Two plates were constructed. No. 1 was approved 7th July, 1876, and No. 2 on 11th September, 1876. The first of these was only called into requisition, as the demand for the stamp was very limited,\* and it was withdrawn from the list of those sold at the Post-offices on the 1st October, 1880.

PAPER.—This was the same as that employed for the fourpence, watermarked with “large garter.”

IMPRESSION.—The first impressions from plate No. 1 were struck in red-brown, and the *imprimatur* is endorsed on a sheet so printed. It was considered, however, that the similarity in colour with that in use at the same period for the twopence half-penny would lead to confusion, and the colour was in conse-

\* This stamp was originally issued for prepaying the single letter rate to the Australian Colonies *vid* Brindisi, which was reduced in 1876, and the demand became subsequently so small that its issue was discontinued altogether in 1880. Only a little over 19,000 sheets were ever printed.

quence altered to chrome-yellow.\* Specimens of the stamp in its original colour are to be met with, but they are exceedingly rare.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "large garter." Large coloured letters in angles. Perf. 14. Plate No. 1.

1st September, 1876. Eightpence, red-brown, chrome-yellow.

### 11. THE TEN SHILLINGS.†

Date of issue, 25th September, 1878.

DESIGN.—There is only one die, the design of which consists of the diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a solid border, the sides of which are straight, and the top and bottom curved similarly to the border of the eightpence. On the upper curved border in white block letters is POSTAGE, and on the lower TEN SHILLINGS. There are solid blocks in the angles for the reception of the letters in white, and the plate number in white on solid coloured ground is inserted in the exterior frame immediately below the centre of the lower curved



\* The *imprimatur* on plate No. 2, dated 11th September, 1876, is on a sheet printed in chrome-yellow.

† This value, as also that of £1, is not included in the list of stamps issued and sold to the public, not being intended for defraying postage on the transmission of letters, but for the use of country and district postmasters in facilitating the keeping of their accounts with the Head Office. When unpaid or insufficiently stamped letters are transmitted from the Head Office to the distributing offices, these latter are charged by the former with the postage to be collected. Instead of transmitting the money thus received in cash, the distributing office affixes postage stamps to the account sent up to the Head Office representing the amount.

These stamps of ten shillings and one pound are supplied singly by the Inland Revenue Department on application from the postmasters, and are the only postage stamps supplied to them in smaller numbers than constitute a Post-office sheet.

border.\* The exterior frame is zigzag, very heavy, and crowded with meaningless ornamental details. The stamp measures  $25\frac{1}{2}$  by 30 millimètres.

PLATE.—The entire plate consists of four panes, of twenty stamps in each pane, which consequently presents the facial value of £10. The arrangement of the panes for the formation of the plate is precisely similar to that adopted in the preceding value of five shillings, and the legends are similarly disposed, and are the same *mutatis mutandis*. Plate No. 1, the impression from which was approved 6th August, 1878, is the only one which has been constructed.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that appropriated to the five shillings of similar dimensions, watermarked with the “Maltese cross.”

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is green-grey.

PERFORATION.—The perforation of this and the next value of One Pound is similar to that of the five shillings.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Stamp watermarked with “Maltese cross.” Plate No. 1.  
Perf. 15.

25th September, 1878. Ten shillings, green-grey.

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## 12. THE ONE POUND.

Date of Issue, 25th September, 1878.

DESIGN.—There is only one die, the design of which consists of the usual diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine horizontal lines in an octagon enclosed in an ornamental rectangular frame, measuring  $25\frac{1}{2}$  by 30 mm. Above and below the profile are two white tablets, on the upper of which is POSTAGE, and on the lower ONE POUND, both in coloured

\* It is rather remarkable that the letters and plate number should be inserted in white on a coloured ground in this and the £1 stamp, when this mode of lettering had ceased to be used for the other values since 1872.

block letters. In the angles are solid blocks for the lettering in white, and in the middle of each side of the rectangular frame are small circles, those at the sides and top being filled in with



a cruciform ornament, and that at the bottom with the number of the plate.

PLATE.—The entire plate consists of four panes of twenty stamps in each pane, which consequently presents the facial value of £20. The arrangement of the panes for the formation of the plate is precisely similar to that adopted for the preceding value, and the legends are similar, *mutatis mutandis*. In the disposition of the legends there is, however, a trifling difference. The legend on the left side of each plate, instead of running from bottom to top, as in the preceding value, runs from top to bottom, so that on the left side of each pane the heads of the letters are towards the stamps on the pane.

Plate No. 1, the impression from which was approved 6th August, 1878, is the only one which has been constructed.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that appropriated to the five shillings, of similar dimensions. Watermarked with the “Maltese cross.”

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is brown-violet.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “Maltese cross.” Plate No. 1. Perf. 15.

25th September, 1878. One pound, brown-violet.

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#### THE ONE PENNY (1880).

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1880.

DESIGN.—There is but one die, the design of which consists of a coarsely-engraved diademed portrait in profile of Queen

Victoria, to the left, on a ground of equally coarse horizontal lines in a rectangular frame, measuring  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{4}$  mm.\* At the four corners of the frame are square white blocks to receive the letters, which are in colour. The sides of the frame are composed of a chain pattern, with an outer festooned edge, continued also at the top and bottom. Solid tablets are introduced in the upper and lower parts of the frame, on which are respectively inscribed POSTAGE and ONE PENNY in white block letters on a coloured ground. There are no plate numbers on the face of the stamps.†



\* On the expiration of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. for the manufacture of the line-engraved stamps comprised in Section 1, the authorities, as has been previously mentioned, came to the determination of substituting surface-printed stamps for these four values. One thing, however, was obvious, that in adopting this system of printing for the one penny stamp, the consumption of which is so enormous (between 2 and 3 millions per day), it would not be practicable to manufacture them in the same mode as was adopted by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. for the stamps of twopence-halfpenny and upwards, the cost of which was at least double that of the line-engraved stamps. To enable the stamps to be manufactured cheaply by surface printing, whether from steel plates or from plates constructed by the electrotype process, it was necessary that they should be printed by steam, for which purpose a coarser style of description of engraving was indispensable. Unfortunately, so far as the interests of art are concerned, the cheapest possible production was aimed at, and Messrs. De La Rue and Co. having sent in the lowest tender, the manufacture was placed in their hands.

† In this stamp, though the lettering in the angles is retained, the plate numbers are not inserted on the face. In the stamps since issued, not only is the plate number suppressed, but the lettering at the angles also. We have already pointed out the reasons which led to the adoption of the system of lettering, reasons which when brought to the notice of the present authorities they had entirely forgotten, if they ever knew them. In 1839-40 Sir Francis Baring, Sir Rowland Hill, and the authorities at Somerset House, combined together to put all obstacles possible in the way both of forgery and of the fraudulent use of stamps a second time. We have also seen how at subsequent periods other precautions were taken to prevent fraud, while experience shows how admirably they have all succeeded. The authorities however of the present day have knocked away

**PLATE.**—The entire plate consists of 240 stamps in two panes of one hundred and twenty casts in each pane, arranged in ten rows of twelve in each row, the entire sheet representing therefore the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post-office sheet. Between each pane is a horizontal space equal to a row of stamps. There is no legend on the plate, nor any official or other numbers of the plate introduced, nor are any control marks applied to the sheets, the number of the plate being only inserted in pen and ink in the margins of the *imprimatur* sheets.

Impressions from plate No. 1 were approved 28th October, 1879, and up to 18th June, 1880, thirty-three plates had been approved.

**PAPER.**—As the plates are composed of two panes of 120 casts in each pane, it was necessary to provide paper specially adapted to this arrangement. A new paper was consequently introduced watermarked with panes of large-sized crowns, measuring about 11 by 11 mm., differing in pattern from those previously employed for the one penny, 1840.

This crown will be distinguished as "Crown 1880." The panes, each of 120 crowns in watermark, are not enclosed in frames, but at each angle are single lines at right angles to each other, about two inches long, marking the space occupied by each pane. The word POSTAGE, in double-lined block letters, is watermarked in the exterior margins of each pane, thus appearing six times on the sheet, which measures 11 by 21½ inches.

The paper is machine-made, and at first was white, though always inferior in quality to that watermarked with the "spray of rose," the "orb," &c., employed for the higher values. It has of late become yellower in tone, thicker, and not so highly finished by milling.

the greater part of these approved safeguards at a blow. A common style of engraving has been introduced, offering a temptation to forgery; and now that the lettering of the stamps and the numbers on them have been done away with, for no other reason than the attendant cost, the sole protection against fraud consists in such as the printing-ink and the effacing marks may afford, as the watermark in the paper is only what may be termed a non-patent protection.

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in Venetian red, varying in depth of shade. The colour is a fugitive one, turning grey under the influence of acid, and disappearing entirely if ammonia is applied.

**GUM.**—The quality and appearance of the gum is the same as in the other values in this Section.

**PERFORATION.**—This is 14, and up to the close of 1880 the operation was carried out by the perforating machines at Somerset House. Since the commencement of the present year (1881) it is done by the contractors for the printing, who deliver the sheets to the Inland Revenue Department quite ready for issue. The perforation remains the same as before in point of gauge, and this remark, as also those relating to the paper and the gum, is common to all the remaining stamps in this Section.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perf. 14.

1st January, 1880. One penny, Venetian red (shades).

#### 14. THE ONE HALFPENNY (1880).

Date of Issue, October, 1880.

**DESIGN.**—The design consists of a portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, very similar to that on the previous value, on a coarsely-engraved horizontal lined ground, enclosed in a circle. Above the head is a cartouche, on which is **POSTAGE** in white letters on a solid ground of colour, and below is a similar cartouche with **HALFPENNY**. To fill up the vacant spaces and give the stamp a rectangular appearance zigzag ornamentations of a very ineffective character are introduced. The stamp measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres. There are no letters on the stamps, nor any plate numbers.



**PLATE.**—The plate is similarly constructed to that of the one

penny, and consists of the same number of casts, arranged in two panes.

The numbering of the plates on the margins of the *imprimatur* sheets is done by hand with pen and ink, as in the case of the one penny. The impression from plate No. 1 was approved 23rd August, 1880; those from plates Nos. 2 and 3 on the 18th of the same month; and that from plate No. 4 on the 1st December, 1880.

IMPRESSION.—This stamp is printed in green of a rather greyish tendency. The later printings show the grey beginning to predominate more than at first, so that the stamps look washed out and feeble in tone.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
October, 1880. One halfpenny, green, grey-green.

#### 15. THE THREE HALFPENCE (1880).

Date of Issue, October, 1880.

DESIGN.—The design of this stamp, another of those which superseded the corresponding value of the line-engraved series, consists of a portrait in profile of the Queen to the left, similar to that on the two stamps just described, on a background of coarsely-engraved horizontal lines, enclosed in a pointed upright oval solid frame, on which is inscribed POSTAGE in the upper part, and THREE HALFPENCE in the lower, in small white block letters. The exterior lines of the oval extend to and intercept the sides, while the points of the upper and lower extremities fall into the bordering of the top and bottom. The lettering in the angles is suppressed, and the spandrels are filled in with a design of the poorest and most unmeaning description, the interior lines being denticulated like those in the preceding value. It may safely be said that the halfpenny and three halfpenny





are the least artistic and most unattractive stamps ever produced by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. either for this or any other country. The stamp measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed like that of the one penny 1880, and consists of the same number of casts similarly arranged in two panes. The number of the plate is also endorsed on the sheets by the hand with pen and ink. Plates numbered 1 and 2 were approved of 23rd August, 1880.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is Venetian red of the same tone as that of the one penny.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
October, 1880. Three halfpence, Venetian red (shades).

### 16. THE TWOPENCE (1880).

Date of Issue, November, 1880.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a background of coarsely-engraved horizontal lines, enclosed in a straight-sided frame, the upper and lower portions being curved as in the eightpence (now obsolete) of this Section. The inscription POSTAGE is on a curved solid tablet above the head, and the value, TWO PENCE, on a similar tablet curved upwards below the head, both the inscriptions being in white block letters. The corners of the exterior lines of the rectangular frame are incurved, and the interior lines denticulated. There are no plate numbers nor any letters in the angles. The stamp measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.



PLATE.—The plate is similarly constructed to that of the one penny (1880), and consists of the same number of casts arranged in two panes. The number of the plate is written with pen and ink on the sheets on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed. Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were approved 13th September, 1880.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is carmine-red, rather dull in tone, and difficult to distinguish by gaslight from that of the 1d. and 1½d. The importance of selecting distinct colours for different values where much of the work has to be done by night seems to have been altogether lost sight of.

**SYNOPSIS.**

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
November, 1840. Twopence, carmine-red (shades).

**17. THE FIVEPENCE.**

Date of Issue, 15th March, 1881.

**DESIGN.**—The design is the same head of Her Majesty that is found in the four stamps last described, on a groundwork of coarse horizontal lines enclosed in a single lined festooned upright oval which touches the upper and lower tablets, on the former of which is the word **POSTAGE** in small white block letters on a solid ground, and on the latter **FIVE PENCE** in similar letters on a similar ground. On each of the upright sides of the oval are 37 dots following the line of the festoons. There are no letters or plate numbers, and the spandrels are left blank. The stamp measures 18½ by 22½ mm.



**PLATE.**—The plate is similarly constructed to that of the one penny, and consists of the same number of casts arranged in two panes. There are no legends; but an ornament in the upper and lower margins, opposite the line of perforation between the sixth and seventh rows, indicates where the pane is to be separated into two Post-office sheets of sixty stamps of the facial value of twenty-five shillings.

**IMPRESSION.**—This is in very dark dull violet, frequently scarcely distinguishable from black.

**SYNOPSIS.**

Paper watermarked with "Crown (1880)." Perforated 14.  
Fivepence, dark violet, violet-black.

## II.

### *STAMPED COVERS AND ENVELOPES.*

THE next branch of our subject leads us to the consideration of the stamped covers and stamped envelopes issued on the 6th May, 1840, in pursuance of the Treasury Minute of 26th December, 1839. As the die which was at that time ordered to be prepared for the use of the Board of Commissioners of the Inland Revenue was on its completion applied to envelopes, we shall follow up our account of the first issue, commonly called the "Mulready" covers and envelopes, by the examination of all such covers and envelopes as were subsequently manufactured by the Board of Inland Revenue, and stamped with this embossing die, and with those that have since been brought into use.

The subject will therefore be treated in the following order:—

SECTION I. Covers and envelopes commonly called the "Mulready" covers and envelopes.

SECTION II. Envelopes and paper with embossed stamps sold by the Post-office to the public.

SECTION III. Envelopes and paper with embossed stamps struck to order on paper sent in by the public.

SECTION IV. Registration envelopes.

## SECTION I.

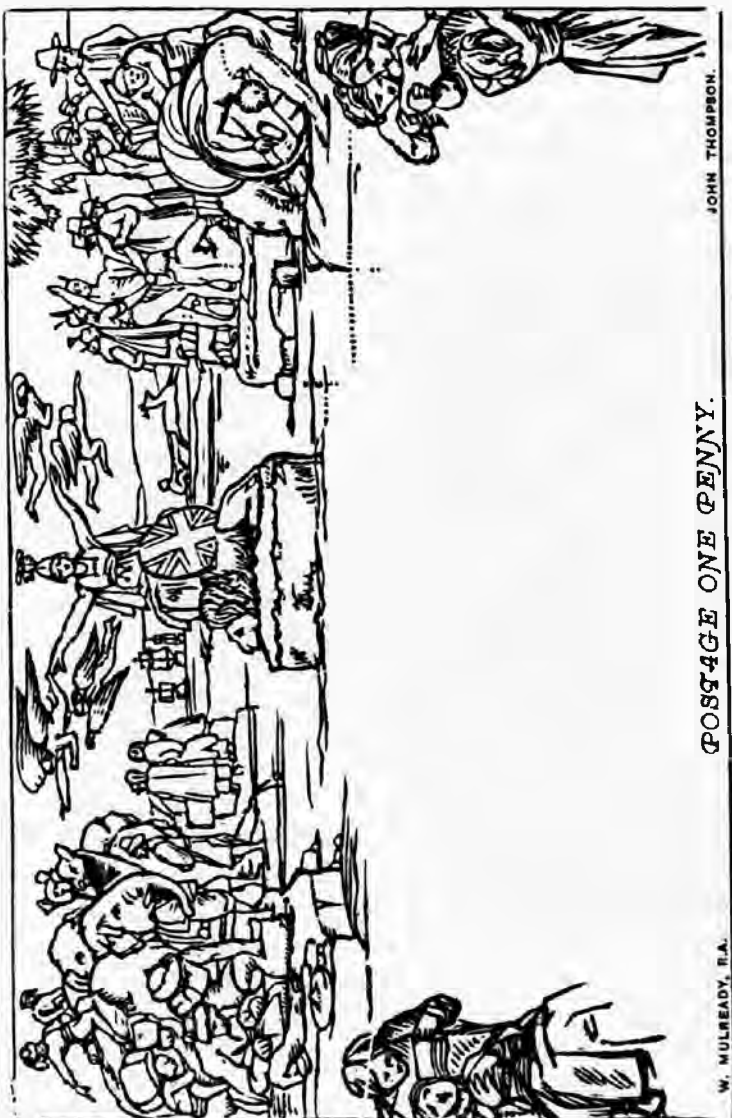
### COVERS AND ENVELOPES

COMMONLY CALLED THE "MULREADY" COVERS AND ENVELOPES.

Date of Issue, 6th May, 1840.

DESIGN.—Among the designs sent in to the Lords of the Treasury in reply to their invitation, was one for the face of a cover and envelope consisting of a pencil sketch by the late William Mulready, R.A., which, after having been submitted to the Council of the Royal Academy, was ultimately selected by "My Lords," and the highest prize awarded to it. The actual design occupied the upper part and a portion of the sides of a space corresponding in size and shape to that of a sheet of paper when folded for address and transmission through the post, and was marked out by a single-lined rectangular frame measuring  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 131 by 83 $\frac{1}{2}$  millimètres.

In the centre of the group of figures, Britannia is represented as dispatching winged messengers to the different quarters of the globe, while the figures on each side of her are emblematical of British commerce and communication with all parts of the world. To her right are East Indians on elephants directing the embarkation of merchandise, Arabs with laden camels, and Chinese. On her left, American Indians negotiating a treaty, and Negroes packing casks of sugar. On the foreground on one side is a youth reading a letter to his mother; on the other side a group eagerly pressing to see the welcome letter. "The whole design," to quote the words of the *London and Westminster Review* of that period, "is like a pen and ink sketch by a distinguished artist, as far removed as possible from the common-



POSTAGE ONE PENNY.

JOHN THOMPSON.

W. MULREADY, R.A.

place designs usually employed in analogous cases. And considering the small space, the mode of printing to be employed, and other circumstances necessarily fettering the artist's powers, we think that artists and the public will agree with us that Mr. Mulready has produced the very best work of art consistent with the conditions within which by the nature of the case he was confined."

The design, though eminently artistic, was but ill-adapted to the taste of a mercantile community, and proved to be an eminent failure, drawing down upon the parties responsible for its selection an immense amount of ridicule in the shape of lampoons and caricatures, a result evidently but little apprehended by them when the choice was made.\*

PLATES.—The design, after having been engraved by Mr. John Thompson, the eminent wood-engraver, was multiplied by stereo-plates, the same engraved block serving for both the covers and envelopes, as also for the two values of one penny and twopence, for which latter purposes a portion of the block at the lower part of the frame was removed to leave a space for the insertion of the value in full, which, in the case of the one penny, was filled in with the words POSTAGE ONE PENNY in ornate Italic capitals, or capitals slanting from right to left, while in the twopence the words POSTAGE TWO PENCE were inserted in capitals slanting in the reverse direction, or from left to right.

In addition to the design on the face, at a distance of 3 millimètres from the lower line of the frame, was a tablet of mechanical lathe-work of a reticulated pattern, in which the word POSTAGE was shown in large block letters turned towards the facial design.

\* So early as the 12th May, six days only after the issue took place, there is an entry in Sir Rowland Hill's journal to the following effect: "I fear we shall be obliged to substitute some other stamp for that designed by Mulready, which is abused and ridiculed on all sides. In departing so widely from the established 'lion and unicorn' nonsense, I fear that we have run counter to settled opinions and prejudices somewhat hastily. I now think it would have been wiser to have followed established custom in all the details of the measure where practicable."—*Life*, vol. i. p. 395.



This tablet measured  $77\frac{1}{2}$  by 17 millimètres, and when the cover was folded appeared on the back of the letter. Below this tablet were the index numbers of the plates. In the one penny covers the number was preceded by a Roman capital, and in the envelopes by an Italic capital. In the covers and envelopes of twopence small letters took the place of the capitals. We have found no other letter except A, though it is by no means improbable that other letters were used, as the number printed was very large, in expectation that the covers and envelopes would be employed in far greater proportion than the adhesive stamps.

PAPER.—The paper was of a special character, manufactured by Mr. John Dickinson at Nash Mills, King's Langley, Herts, into the substance of which, during the process of fabrication, threads of various coloured silk were introduced running through the sheets, a species of paper that, from the name of its inventor, has become known among philatelists as "Dickinson paper."\* The paper prepared for the covers differed somewhat from that prepared for the envelopes in the disposition of the silk threads. In the former the silk threads were so arranged that in printing the twelve covers on the sheet in three rows, of four in each row, three parallel threads of red silk traversed the cover hori-

\* Mr. Dickinson took out a patent in 1830 for a method of uniting face to face two sheets of pulp, in order to produce paper of an extra thickness. "The sheets of paper pulp were given off by two drums, and brought into contact with one another by the pressure of a roller, and thus united were carried forward by the felt over a guide roller and onward to a pair of pressing rollers, whereby the moist surfaces of the pulp were made to adhere firmly, and constitute one thick sheet. This, after passing over the surface of hollow drums heated by steam, became dry and compact." The paper for postal purposes was manufactured by Mr. Dickinson on a similar system, the silk fibres being introduced between the two laminae before they were pressed together. Specimens of this paper were produced and shown to the Commissioners of Post-office inquiry in 1837, when the question before them was the practicability of employing stamped covers for letters conveyed by the twopenny post. On this point we find the following statement in the Ninth Report (vol. xxxviii., part 1): "Your Lordships will perceive, from the evidence of Mr. Pressly, the Secretary of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, that he also entertains a favourable opinion of the proposal, whilst he has at the same time fairly stated such



zontally above the design, and two parallel blue ones below it. In the paper for the envelopes the sheet was traversed by silk threads in sets of one red between two blue, disposed in such a manner as that one set of threads crossed each of the two portions of the lozenge-shaped parallelogram forming the side flaps of the envelope. Although this was the normal disposition of the threads, yet examples may occasionally be met with where one or more of the threads has been accidentally omitted, or their colours transposed, and also where they run vertically instead of horizontally, owing to a sheet having been wrongly cut. These varieties possess but little, if any, interest to collectors, and are adverted to merely to preclude the supposition that their existence is unknown.

**IMPRESSION.**—The sheets both for the covers and the envelopes measured about 24 inches deep by 36 inches wide, being adapted to receive twelve impressions disposed in three rows of four in each row, the design of the face when printed running parallel to the longer margins of the sheet. In the sheets of covers there was no line of separation between them, but in those of the envelopes the lozenge-shaped form was marked out by single lines. In making up the form from which the sheet was

objections as he conceived might be raised against the adoption of the plan, the first and most important of which is, that the revenue would be liable to be defrauded by the forgery of these stamps.

“With respect to this objection, Mr. Pressly says, ‘It has occurred to me, however, that that might be prevented if the Government manufactured a particular paper for such envelopes. There is a paper which has been produced to the Commissioners of Stamps for another purpose, and it is the best suggestion that occurs to me for the purpose; viz., by the introduction of a silk thread into the paper, which it is difficult to manufacture, and very expensive, and with the vigilance of the Excise would be almost impossible to forge; the silk is woven in the pulp, and it is written on with the greatest facility. The manufacturer is Mr. Dickinson, of the Old Bailey.’”

The report then proceeds: “Mr. Dickinson has fully described the mode of fabricating the particular description of paper, to which Mr. Pressly refers, and we are satisfied that, if the use of this paper was confined exclusively to stamped covers, it would be almost impossible to imitate the paper, or commit any forgery, without detection.”

printed the stereo-plates were not arranged according to their numbers, nor indeed by any order or rule whatever; the combinations of numbers of the stereos, therefore, which appear on the sheets are entirely fortuitous, and it would be useless to attempt to examine them with a view of drawing any inferences from the mode in which they recur.

The preparation of the stereo-plates and the printing were entrusted to Messrs. William Clowes and Sons, of Blackfriars, London, the colour of the impression being black for the covers and envelopes of one penny, and blue for those of twopence.

There was no legend on the envelopes, but on the end flaps of the covers the following notices and directions were printed in double columns of type in the same colour as the rest of the impression.

**RATES OF POSTAGE.—INLAND LETTERS** not exceeding half-ounce are charged one penny.

Exceeding half-an-ounce, but not exceeding 1 ounce, twopence.

„ 1 ounce „ „ 2 ounces, fourpence.

„ 2 ounces „ „ 3 ounces, sixpence.

And so on, an additional twopence for every additional ounce. With but few exceptions the weight is limited to 16 ounces. Unstamped letters are charged double postage on delivery. Those insufficiently stamped double the amount of such insufficiency.

**COLONIAL LETTERS.**—If sent by packet, twelve times; if by private ship eight times the preceding rates.

**FOREIGN LETTERS.**—The packet rates are too numerous to be enumerated here. The ship rates are the same for foreign as for colonial letters. As regards both foreign and colonial letters there is no limitation as to weight. All sent outwards, with few exceptions, must be prepaid by money or by stamps; and those going by private ship must be marked “Ship Letter.”

It is REQUESTED that all letters may be fully and legibly addressed and posted as early as convenient. Also, that whatever kind of stamp may be used, it may invariably stand above the address, and towards the right-hand side of the letter.

#### PRICES OF STAMPS.

AT A POST OFFICE.—Labels 1d. and 2d. each. Covers 1½d. and 2½d. each.

At a STAMP DISTRIBUTOR'S as above, or as follows :

Half-ream or 240 Penny Covers £1 2s. 4d. Penny Envelopes £1 1s. 9d.

Quarter-ream or 120 Twopenny Covers £1 1s. 4d. Twopenny Envelopes £1 1s. 1d.

At the STAMP OFFICES in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh as above, or as follows :

2 reams or 960 Penny Covers £4 7s. Penny Envelopes £4 5s.

1 ream or 480 Twopenny Covers £4 3s. 6d. Twopenny Envelopes £4 2s. 6d.

Covers may be had at these prices, either in sheets or cut ready for use. Envelopes in sheets only, and consequently not made up. No one unless duly licensed is authorised to SELL postage stamps.

The penny stamp carries half an ounce (inland) ; the twopenny stamp one ounce. For weights EXCEEDING ONE OUNCE use the proper number of labels, either alone or in combination with the stamps of the covers or envelopes.

MONEY.—Coin if enclosed in letters at all should be folded in paper, sealed, and then fastened to the inside of the letter ; but to avoid risk, a money order should be used whenever practicable.

From the above notices it will be seen that the covers were sold separately at the various Post-offices, and by persons authorized to sell stamps, at one farthing above the facial value, or they could be purchased in sheets, but the envelopes could only be had in sheets. In practice, however, these latter were sold by many licensed stationers folded and ready for use at threepence per dozen over their facial value, the Inland Revenue Department allowing a small discount over and above the profit on purchasing by the ream.

The *imprimatur* on the copies of the one penny and twopenny covers registered in the archives at Somerset House, shows that impressions both of the one penny in black and the twopenny in blue were struck in the presence of a Commissioner on the 7th April, 1840, and that both were approved and ordered for use, "with the stereotypes therefrom," on the 27th April. The impressions are struck on "Dickinson" paper, and comprise the design of the front only. There are no legends, nor does the tablet below the front design appear on the sheet. A

like pair, with a lozenge-shaped outline marking the form of the envelope when opened out flat, is also registered, with the *imprimatur* endorsed in similar terms.

FAILURE OF THE EXPERIMENT.—The envelopes met with very little favour at the hands of the public, who were not prepared for the use of them, and regarded them rather as an innovation. The covers were chiefly employed by bankers and by insurance and other public companies, the latter frequently printing their prospectuses on the inside, thus converting them into a medium of publicity. Not a few were used by enterprising stationers as advertising sheets, and sold by them at or under their facial value. The issue must however be regarded as a failure, and so soon as the embossed envelopes were issued the “Mulready” covers and envelopes fell entirely into disuse, and were withheld from circulation. Nearly all the vast stock prepared for issue was subsequently destroyed, and it appears “that a machine had to be constructed for the purpose; the attempt to do the work by fire in close stoves (fear of robbery forbade the use of open ones) having absolutely failed.”\*

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### A. Form, Cover or Half-sheet.

6th May, 1840. One penny, black.  
Twopence, blue, light to very dark shades.

##### B. Form, Envelope.

6th May, 1840. One penny, black.  
Twopence, blue, light to very dark shades.

\* *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 395.

## SECTION II.

### *ENVELOPES AND PAPER WITH EMBOSSED STAMPS.*

SOLD BY THE POST-OFFICE TO THE PUBLIC.

- (1) THE ONE PENNY ENVELOPE . issued 29th January, 1841.
- (2) THE TWO PENCE        „       .        „        April, 1841.
- (3) THE ONE PENNY HALF-SHEET .        „        March, 1844.

Previously to the introduction of the new system, which substituted a charge by weight for that by sheet, such things as envelopes were scarcely known beyond the limits of official departments, and the occasional use of them by those who possessed the privilege of franking. Gum was an article seldom heard of except in connection with pharmacy, for wafers and wax were the recognized means of closing letters so far as that was practicable, and were the regular appliances as well of the commercial desk as of the library table. But when it was permitted to enclose a letter in a cover without incurring the penalty of double postage, the facilities afforded by the use of envelopes and the privacy secured by enclosing correspondence in them soon produced their effects, and envelopes made their way into public favour so rapidly, that stationer after stationer set up workshops for the manufacture of them. Many stationers had patterns of their own, and registered their designs; in short a new trade was created, which gave employment to hundreds of young people of both sexes. At first ornamental adhesive seals and enamelled wafers were commonly used for securing the flaps, but the greatest improvement was the lengthening of the upper flap and the gumming its extremity. From this period

the sealing-wax trade began to suffer most perceptibly, and is possibly the only one which may be said to have been ruined by the introduction of the penny postage.

When it became evident that the "Mulready" envelopes had failed to secure the approval of the public, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Francis Baring, assisted by Sir Rowland Hill, occupied themselves, towards the close of the year 1840, in devising some other kind of envelope which should take their place. It has been previously mentioned that the Lords of the Treasury, by their Minute of 26th December, 1839, had directed the preparation of the necessary stamps for the purpose of being struck on paper which the public might send to the Stamp-office for that purpose. This decision was now modified, and "My Lords" came to the determination of applying the stamp to envelopes to be made from "Dickinson" paper, manufactured in a manner similar to that employed for the "Mulready" covers and envelopes.\*

The die which had been ordered to be constructed was the joint work of two artists. The engraving of the head of Her Majesty on a steel die had been entrusted to Mr. William Wyon, and was a reduced copy of the obverse of his City medal, which had also served as a model for the design of the one penny adhesive stamp. The matrix prepared by Mr. Wyon, from which the punches for producing the head on all the embossing dies, both of the one penny and of all the values, have subsequently been constructed, showed the head of Her Majesty with a plain tress of hair only. In the dies for the several values the arrangement of the hair was varied by the addition of pendent curls of different designs.

The die therefore, as it left the hands of Mr. Wyon, consisted of a reproduction of the head on a plain ground, without any pendent curls, which were subsequently added.

\* For some years it seems to have been considered that the franking power of an envelope was centred in the embossed stamp, and we have seen letters passed free through the post with an embossed stamp affixed to them that had been cut from an envelope. This practice is now, however, declared to be illegal by Act 33 and 34 Vict., c. 79, s. 19.

Round this solid ground was added a border or framing in mechanical engraving, executed by other hands, the design of which also varied in the several values.

1. THE ONE PENNY.

Date of Issue, 29th January, 1841.

DESIGN.—The design consisted of a diademed bust of Queen Victoria to the left in white relief on a solid oval ground of colour enclosed within an oval border, on the solid ground of which is a reticulated pattern in white relief, so disposed as to show the inscription POSTAGE ONE PENNY in sunken block letters. At the base of the bust are the initials of the engraver, w. w., in minute letters in relief, preceded by a numeral denoting the number of the working die. The stamp measures 23 by 27 mm.



DIE I, 1841-1866.—The tress of the back hair of Her Majesty approached near the interior line of the oval frame, and was furnished with a pendent snake-like curl; the reticulated pattern on the frame was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. wide.

This die, which we designate Die I. to distinguish it from Die II. constructed in 1866, was the joint work of Mr. William Wyon, who struck the head upon it and engraved the pendent curl, and of Mr. Deacon, then in the employ of the late Mr. Charles Whiting, of Beaufort House, Strand, London, who designed and executed the oval framework.\*



1855. An alteration was made in the die in September, 1855, by drilling holes in the network of the lower part of the border for the insertion of the date plugs.

\* Although the original or mother die was produced in the manner above mentioned, yet the working dies used in the embossing presses by the Inland Revenue Department were constructed by Mr. Wyon at the

DIE II., 1866, *et seq.*—A new die was constructed in 1866, the head being still struck from that originally engraved by Mr. W. Wyon; but the addition of the pendent curl and the oval framing, with its reticulated ornamentation, was the work of Messrs. De La Rue and Co. This die is readily distinguishable from Die I, not only by the different pattern of the curl, but by the mechanical engraving of the border, which is 3 millimètres wide, and is very poorly executed in comparison with that on Die I. Greater space is given between the back of the head and the interior line of the frame, which is no doubt an improvement. The initials of Mr. Wyon still appeared on the base of the bust; but since the year 1872 they have been omitted, and the index number only retained. Working dies from Die II. seem to have been brought into use about October, 1866; the first index number that has been found by us is 140.



PAPER, 1841 to 1855.—The paper was manufactured specially for the purpose by Mr. Dickinson, and was somewhat similar to that used for the "Mulready" envelopes and covers. Ordinarily two parallel silk threads only are to be found, one blue and the Mint up to the time of his death, in 1851, and also for some time after by his son, Mr. Leonard Wyon. Consequent on the changes made in the administration of the Mint in 1852, a considerable portion of the work, consisting of the repairs of the working dies and the construction of new ones, was transferred to Mr. Warren De La Rue, F.R.S., engraver to the Board of Inland Revenue; and at present the whole of the work is done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. under his superintendence.

Each die from the first has been marked with an index number. Those in use at Somerset House are kept under the care of a special officer, who issues them daily to the stampers according to the requirements of the work in hand. These numbers, which are found at the base of the bust, do not, therefore, offer any certain or reliable test as to the date when the impression was struck, as the dies remain in use as long as they continue fit for service, a fact which will be readily appreciated by examining these numbers in connection with the date dies after they were introduced.



other orange-red, and the envelope was so cut from the paper that when it was folded the pair of silk threads crossed the face diagonally in the right upper corner, it being intended that the stamp should be impressed over the threads, though many specimens are found where the stamp is impressed either above or below them. We have not considered these as constituting varieties, as they are simply accidents due to the irregular cutting of the blanks for the envelopes.

A further list of pseudo-varieties might be made by selecting examples where the paper-maker has inserted two blue or two orange threads instead of the bicoloured pair, or where he has added an extra thread and inserted three. Those who are curious in such matters may find these errors fully enumerated in *Le Timbre Poste* for July, 1868, but they do not appear to us to call for more than this passing notice.

The colour of the paper was that known as cream-coloured, and it was glazed on one side only. No change was made in the colour during the whole period that the "Dickinson" paper was in use, except that it gradually became whiter in tone, and it is possibly owing to this that it is almost uniformly described as being white, whereas the colour at the commencement of the issue was full cream-colour. Varieties have been catalogued as being of "pale straw" and "yellow tinted" paper as distinct from the cream-coloured paper, but there is not the slightest foundation for making such varieties, as the additional depth of tone is solely due to adventitious causes, partly arising from variations in the process of the manufacture, and partly from atmospheric influences. These causes acted somewhat capriciously, for envelopes of different tones of colour are found which were not only in circulation at the same time, but were manufactured at the same period, and do not therefore serve to mark any epoch in the history of the envelopes.

1855 *et seq.*—After an experience of fourteen years the authorities determined to abandon the use of the "Dickinson" paper, and to follow the system adopted in the case of other stamps embossed by the Inland Revenue Department, of inserting

in the working dies moveable date plugs, showing when the stamp was struck.\* To give full effect to this, powers were obtained from Parliament by the Act 18 and 19 Vict. c. 78, more particularly referred to hereafter, authorising the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to stamp paper brought in by the public for that purpose, under certain regulations to be approved of by the Lords of the Treasury. At the time this change commenced to be carried into effect (September, 1855) there were three sizes of the envelopes then current—the smallest size of 4 by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the intermediate one of  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the largest size of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches. White laid paper was selected for the two smaller sizes, and azure wove for the larger size. Although the sale of envelopes made from the plain paper continued for a short time concurrently with the disposal of the remainder of the stock on “Dickinson” paper, yet we do not find that any were issued made from this latter paper stamped with a dated die, except some few copies of the smallest size in the year 1860, which were doubtless remnants of the unstamped blanks cut for this sized envelope remaining in the Office, and were stamped by the Inland Revenue Department more with the object of getting rid of old stock than with a view of puzzling collectors of stamps. These last envelopes were all stamped with the die bearing the index number of 95, and were dated in April and May, 1860.

FORM, 1841 to 1852.—Previously to the envelopes being stamped with the embossing die, it was requisite that they should be cut into shapes or “blanks.” The form chiefly current at the period of the introduction of these envelopes was similar to that of the “Mulready,” the blanks being cut in a plain lozenge shape, the angle flaps when turned down meeting nearly in a point, and leaving the overlapping margins very narrow. The cutting of the blanks was done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. on their premises, the “Dickinson” paper being handed to them

\* What might be the reason for using these dated dies for Postage Envelopes we are unable to state. A date die impressed on a document is quite a different thing.

for that purpose. The sheets were first of all milled by passing them over rollers to make the outside smooth and glossy, the reams were then cut by a machine into strips of the proper breadth, which were again cut obliquely, so as to form lozenges. Another machine cut out the angular points of folding. The blanks were then sent to Somerset House to receive the embossed stamp, and returned to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. to be folded and made up.

Two sizes were at first issued ; viz.,

1. The large size, measuring  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or 133 by 86 millimètres.

2. The smaller size, measuring  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or 119 by 71 millimètres.

In July, 1841, another size was added—

3. The smallest size, measuring 4 by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 101 by 63 millimètres.

These were the normal sizes, but many variations are found, due to the irregularity in the folding, which, up to the year 1845, was done entirely by hand. Thus we find the second size varying from 2 to 3 millimètres, more or less, in length and breadth, and the other sizes 1 millimètre, more or less, in length and breadth, from the normal sizes.

As early as the year 1840 Mr. Edwin Hill constructed a model of a machine for folding envelopes, an invention for which he took out a patent. In carrying out the details he was assisted by the advice of Mr. Warren De La Rue, who ultimately purchased the patent, and the first machines were set to work on the premises of Messrs. De La Rue and Co. about the year 1845. By these machines the blanks were folded into envelopes of the several dimensions, all of an uniform size, at the rate of 2,000 per hour. They were afterwards gummed by hand, and made up into packets of twenty-four, after which they were returned to Somerset House. They were sold by the Post-office at the rate of 2s. 3d. per packet, or at 1½d. by single envelope.

Further and important improvements were made by Mr. Warren De La Rue in the envelope folding machine, which

gradually led up to the perfecting of it, as exhibited by him at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Placed in the nave of the building, it was always surrounded by a crowd of visitors interested in watching the ease and rapidity with which it went through its automatic performances. The blanks being supplied to the folding machine, were carried by it, one at a time, into a box where a plunger made four creases in it; two short levers then folded down the two end flaps thus made; a gumming apparatus then came up administering a line of wet gum to each flap edge, two other levers folded down the other two flaps, but only fastening one of them, and finally the envelope was drawn aside by mechanical fingers armed with caoutchouc to make way for another. The whole operation of the folding was completed in one second, thus enabling the machine to turn out 3,600 envelopes per hour, all folded with mechanical exactitude, and securely gummed.

1852 to 1873.—The form of the blanks used in the new folding machine, which not only folded them, but gummed the lower and two side flaps together, differed from the lozenge-shaped blanks hitherto used. The side flaps were cut higher, and shaped, and the upper flap was lengthened and made tongue-shaped. This alteration in the form was now carried out in the blanks prepared for the Inland Revenue Department, but the sizes originally adopted were substantially adhered to. The upper flap was also gummed, and a circular device, consisting of the national heraldic emblems in white relief on a pink ground of a similar shade of colour to that of the postage stamp, was embossed upon it.\*

\* The gumming of the upper flap, and the impression of the device upon it, so long as it continued to be affixed, was done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. previously to the blanks being sent to Somerset House to be stamped with the embossed postage stamp. Before being forwarded to Somerset House for this purpose they were sorted over under the inspection of an officer of the Inland Revenue Department, and any that were imperfect or soiled were rigidly rejected and thrown aside. So long as "Dickinson" paper was employed these rejected blanks were destroyed, but when ordinary paper was substituted, those which had a device embossed

The device impressed on the flap was in two sizes; the smaller size, measuring 12 mm. in diameter, was applied to the envelopes of the smallest size; while the larger, measuring 15 mm. in diameter, was used for those of the two larger sizes. Of this latter, two dies, or rather two states of the die, may be noticed varying in this respect; viz., that there is ordinarily an external line of colour nearly a millimètre wide surrounding the seal, while in some instances this external line is wanting, so that the seal is smaller.



For the benefit of those who still adhered to the use of wax, or preferred to have their own device impressed upon the flap, some envelopes were issued ungummed and without the official flap device. We only know of specimens of the two smaller sizes, some of which are found with crests or other devices embossed on the flap; but these flap seals are unofficial, and constitute no real varieties. Specimens also are found in which the official device is in white relief without any colour; this is owing to the same cause as when the embossed stamp itself is in white relief; viz., by two being accidentally brought at the same time under the die charged with colour, the upper one only receiving the colour.

In the year 1860 an envelope of a new size, manufactured of white laid paper, measuring  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3$  inches, or  $133 \times 76$  mm., was added to the three then in use.

1873. At the commencement of the year 1873 the form of the envelopes underwent a change. The side flaps were made on the flap were defaced by punching a hole through the centre, and were left on the contractor's hands, who from time to time, as the stock accumulated, made them up into envelopes, and sold them at a cheap rate. The fact is mentioned, as we are aware that some collectors attach a certain importance to these envelopes under the idea that they have some postal significance, but in reality they are nothing but rejected blanks. After the return of the blanks from Somerset House stamped, they were folded by the machines, and made up into packets of 24 in each, as previously mentioned. In practice they are then either returned to Somerset House to be put into stock, or are issued direct to the Postmasters on a warrant from the Inland Revenue Department.

still higher, and the upper flap cut straight to a point; but the device impressed on it was still retained. The smallest sized, ( $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches), was discontinued; but in the month of April, 1873, a new size, ordinarily called the "square size," measuring  $4\frac{1}{3} \times 3\frac{1}{6}$  inches or  $120 \times 93$  mm., was added, made of white laid paper of a superior quality, thick and highly glazed. The price of the three other sizes was reduced to 2s. 2d. per packet of twenty-four, and that of the square-sized fixed at 2s. 3d. per packet, which was subsequently raised to 2s. 4d.

1874 to 1878. At the close of the year 1874 the large-sized envelope of  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, on azure wove paper, underwent a trifling modification in shape.\* The upper flap instead of being cut to a point was rounded off, and has ever since continued to be made in this shape; but no change was made in the other three sizes.

1878 *et seq.*—At the close of the year 1878 the device of the national emblems on the upper flap of the envelope ceased to be affixed, and all envelopes have since been issued without any device whatever stamped on the flap. The sizes now in use are distinguished by the Post-office as follows:—

- |    |                |                                    |           |                 |     |
|----|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----|
| A. | Size measuring | $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{6}$ | inches or | $120 \times 93$ | mm. |
| B. | "              | $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ | "         | $133 \times 85$ | mm. |
| C. | "              | $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$            | "         | $133 \times 76$ | mm. |
| D. | "              | $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ | "         | $120 \times 69$ | mm. |

the A size being on thick white laid paper, the B size on azure wove, and the C and D sizes on medium white laid paper.

IMPRESSION.—The stamping of the blanks at Somerset House was at first performed by ordinary colour-embossing presses driven by steam power, the invention of Sir William Congreve, and improved under the direction of Mr. Edwin Hill. As the blow was given by a falling weight, these presses were found not only to knock the dies to pieces very speedily, but to

\* We have seen a specimen of this envelope on azure wove paper, with pointed upper flap and without the flap device, the stamp on which is dated in 1874; but the absence of the flap device is doubtless the result of an accidental omission on the part of the contractors.

produce such a deafening noise that Mr. Edwin Hill, with the assistance of Mr. Ormond Hill, devised the machines with which the work was subsequently carried on, and which were constructed on the "fly and screw" principle. By these machines the embossing in colour is most ingeniously and rapidly effected by a series of automatic operations, each machine as at present constructed being capable of turning out more than 20,000 impressions in an ordinary official day of six hours.

The colour of the impression was pink, which from the first has varied but little except in depth of shade. Occasionally copies are found where the pink is of a yellowish tone, while others are found of a very bright pink. Specimens are also found where the stamp is embossed without colour, but these are simply due to an oversight on the part of the boy whose duty it is to "fan out" the blanks for the stamping machine, two blanks having been accidentally brought under the die together, the upper one of course only receiving the colour. These are not varieties properly speaking, but simple errors in the manufacture, and as such are generally put aside and carefully destroyed, though at times they escape notice and have passed through the post. Hence they have been chronicled in some catalogues as varieties.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### I.

DIE I. Envelopes of "Dickinson" paper with various threads, cream-coloured. Pointed flaps; upper flap not gummed. One penny, pink (shades).\*

\* Copies of the two larger sizes of these envelopes are occasionally met with surcharged on the face with SPECIMEN in large Roman capitals in red extending 52 mm. in length, which were issued to postmasters as standards for comparison, and to inform them of the issue. The copies of the smaller size,  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, are usually stamped with the die bearing the index number 1, while those of the larger size,  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, are stamped with the die number 4. One rather remarkable variation of this latter, measuring  $128 \times 82$  mm., has come under our notice.

29th January, 1841. Two sizes :—

1.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches or  $120 \times 69$  mm., varying from  $116 \times 68$  to  $120 \times 70$ .
2.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches or  $133 \times 85$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 87$  to  $134 \times 88$ .

July 1841.

3.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches or  $101 \times 64$  mm., varying from  $103 \times 65$  to  $100 \times 62$ .

## II.

DIE I.—Envelopes of “Dickinson” paper with various threads, cream-coloured. Tongue-shaped upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device. One penny, pink, varying from full to pale.

1851–1852. Three sizes :

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
2.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  „
3.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  „

### VARIETIES.

(a) The same, but without seal device on upper flap, gummed and unglummed. Two sizes :

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
2.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  „

(b) The same, “Dickinson” paper, whiter, upper flap with seal device.

1. April and May, 1860.

Die dated. One size :

- 4  $\times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

## III.

DIE I.—Envelopes of plain paper. Tongue-shaped upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of cream (nearly white) laid paper.

September, 1855. Two sizes :

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
2.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  „

(b) Of similar paper.

1860. One size :

3.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$  inches.

(c) Of azure wove paper.

September, 1855. One size :

4.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.



IV.

DIE II.—Envelopes of plain paper; tongue-shaped upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of white laid paper.

July, 1866. Three sizes :

1.  $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.
2.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  „
3.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$  „

(b) Of azure wove paper.

July, 1866. One size :

4.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

NOTE.—Die 150 has been met with showing a flaw in the outer margin just above the forehead of the Queen.

V.

DIE II.—Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, and with seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of white laid paper.

March, 1873. Two sizes :

1.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches.
2.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$  „

(b) Of thick white laid paper.

April, 1873. One size :

3.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

(c) Of azure wove paper.

March, 1873. One size :

4.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

VARIETY. (ACCIDENTAL.)

Of azure wove paper, September, 1874. No seal device on flap.

- $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

(d) Of azure wove paper, end of 1874. Upper flap rounded.

5.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

## VI.

DIE II.—Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, but without seal device on flap. Die dated. One penny, pink (shades).

(a) Of white laid paper.

November, 1878. Two sizes :

1.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches.
2.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$  „

(b) Of thick white laid paper.

3.  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

(c) Of azure wove paper, upper flap rounded.

4.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

## 2. THE TWOPENCE.

Date of Issue, April, 1841.

DESIGN.—There is but one die for this value from which the several working dies have been constructed. The design is similar to that of the one penny, being of the same size and differing only in details. The head of the Queen is furnished with a pendent curl of a similar form, but the frame is varied. The inscription POSTAGE TWO PENCE instead of being over the head of the Queen, as in the one penny, is below.



The initials w. w. on the base of the bust, with a full stop after each letter, are sunk, but the numeral denoting the number of the working die which precedes them is in relief.

The die, like that of the one penny, was the joint work of Mr. Wyon and Mr. Deacon.

PAPER—"Dickinson" paper was employed, exactly similar to that made use of in the first issue of the one penny, and the observations made as to variation in its colour apply equally to this.

FORM.—The envelope was cut in the same form as the large

size of the first issue of the one penny, measuring in like manner  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches, or  $133 \times 86$  millimètres. Similar variations from the normal size are found as in the one penny, but no other size was ever made for sale to the public. The envelopes were made up in packets of twenty-four, and sold at 4s. 3d. per packet, or singly at  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. each.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression was dark blue; a lighter shade, however, was subsequently employed.\*

The use of the envelope of this value appears to have been very limited. No issue beyond the first was ever made, and the sale of it by the Post-office was only continued so long as the stock on hand lasted. In 1855 the dies were furnished with date plugs, and employed for stamping paper and envelopes brought to the Stamp Office for that purpose by the public.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Envelopes of "Dickinson" paper with various threads, cream-coloured. Hand-made with pointed flaps, upper flap not gummed. Twopence, blue, dark and light.

April, 1841. One size :

$5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches or  $133 \times 86$  mm., varying from  $132 \times 88$  to  $134 \times 85$ .

### 3. ONE PENNY HALF-SHEETS.

From a design left by Sir Rowland Hill it would appear that some idea existed of supplying the place of the "Mulready" cover by a similar half-sheet, which was most probably intended to bear an embossed stamp of one penny. The design in question consists of a half-sheet of plain azure laid stout paper, measuring  $8\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$  inches, on which is marked out a space for the address, measuring  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  inches; above, are three marks in pencil denoting where the silk threads are to pass, and there are two similar marks below the address-space. On this address-space

\* Copies surcharged with SPECIMEN in red similar to that on the one penny are occasionally met with.

at the foot is POSTAGE, in large single-lined letters in pencil, and in Sir Rowland Hill's handwriting the following memorandum—  
 "Might, I think, be reduced in width to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches. March 3, 41."

Nothing appears however to have been done till March, 1844, when, in consequence of representations made by many mercantile firms and others that a stamped cover or half-sheet of letter paper would be of public utility, the Lords of the Treasury ordered an experimental issue to be made. These half-sheets were of two kinds, the one of cream-coloured, stout, unglazed paper measuring  $9 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$  inches, the stamp on which was impressed about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches from the left side, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the top, measuring to the centre of the stamp, which was the same as that employed for the envelopes, and the other of azure paper, measuring  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the stamp on which was impressed about 4 inches from the left side and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the top, measured in a similar manner. The paper in both cases was wove "Dickinson" paper, two silk threads, one blue and the other orange-red, at a distance of from 6 to 8 mm. apart, traversing the half-sheet horizontally immediately above or under the stamp. The stamp was impressed in such a position that when the half-sheet was doubled in the form of a sheet of note-paper, and then folded in three, the stamp was in the right upper corner; but its position was such that it was impossible to use the half-sheet as a cover, and to observe at the same time the directions of the Post-office, that the stamp should appear in the right upper corner. Occasionally they were used as wrappers for newspapers, but they do not appear to have ever been extensively employed in any capacity, and the favour they met with at the hands of the public was not such as to induce the authorities to make any further issue. Unused copies in good condition are seldom to be found, and are of considerable rarity. Copies surcharged "SPECIMEN" in red, similar to the envelopes already described, are also met with in some of the large collections, but they are rare, as the experiment was probably confined to some of the principal towns only.

It would appear that about the end of 1859 or early in 1860 the idea of making a further issue was mooted, and one or two copies were produced in January of that year, on bluish wove "Dickinson" paper, stamped with a dated die, No. 97, of the first type. These however are extremely rare: the specimen from which we take our description bears the date on the die of 17th January, 1860, and is stated by Mr. Pearson Hill to be in his opinion "*almost unique.*"

## SYNOPSIS.

March, 1844. Half-sheet of "Dickinson" paper with embossed envelope stamp of one penny impressed in pink.

One penny, on cream-coloured paper,  $9 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

„ on azure wove paper,  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

January, 1860. Similar to the above, but die dated.

One penny, on azure wove paper,  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

### SECTION III.

#### *ENVELOPES AND PAPER WITH EMBOSSED STAMPS.*

STRUCK TO ORDER ON PAPER SENT IN BY THE PUBLIC.

WHEN it was determined to abandon the further use of "Dickinson" paper for the stamped envelopes, the admission of the public to furnish their own paper to be stamped formed part of the contemplated alteration. Accordingly a clause was introduced into the Act 18 and 19 Vic., c. 78, empowering the Commissioners of Inland Revenue "under such regulations as the Lords of the Treasury might from time to time make or sanction in this behalf, to stamp paper which any person may send to the said Commissioners for the purpose of being stamped for covers or envelopes of letters, with stamps provided for denoting the several rates of postage, on payment of the amount of the stamps required to be impressed on such paper, and in cases where such amount shall not exceed £10, upon payment in addition thereto of such fee as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may direct or authorize to be taken in such cases."

At the time of the passing of the above-named Act, in 1855, the only adhesive stamps current were the 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., embossing dies of all of which existed except of the fourpence. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue therefore ordered an embossing die of this latter value to be prepared. At the same time the existing dies of one penny and twopence were fitted with moveable date plugs, as were also those of sixpence and one shilling, which had been previously employed for embossing the adhesive stamps issued by the Inland Revenue Department in 1847 and 1848.

The following notice to the public was then issued :

Inland Revenue, Somerset House,  
Oct. 8th, 1855.

The Board of Inland Revenue have, in conformity with the provisions of the 4th Section of the 18 and 19 Vict. c. 78, provided the necessary apparatus for impressing with Postage Stamps paper sent in by the public for covers or envelopes of letters.

Notice is hereby given that the Board are now prepared to receive paper to be delivered at the Head Office in Somerset House, London, for the purpose of being impressed with stamps for denoting the several duties on postage, subject to the following regulations ; namely,

When the amount of the stamps required by any person shall not exceed £10, a fee of 1s. will be charged, in addition to the duty, if paper of one size only be sent in ; and if more than one size be sent in, then a fee of 1s. for each size.

On the warrants hereinafter mentioned no fee will be payable, but the sizes of the paper will be restricted as follows :

When the amount exceeds £10, and is under £20, paper of one size only will be received. If the amount exceeds £20, and is under £30, two sizes of paper only will be received ; £30 and under £40, three sizes of paper ; £40 and under £50, four sizes of paper ; and not more than four sizes of paper will be allowed to be included in any one warrant, of however high an amount.

No folded envelope can be stamped, and therefore paper, whether intended for envelopes or for letters, must be sent in unfolded, and every distinct form of envelope or paper must be marked so as to indicate the place on which the stamp is to be impressed, in order that it may appear in the proper position, according to the rules of the Post-office, when the envelope or letter is folded and made up.

No coloured paper can be received for stamping, nor any paper of such thinness as not to bear the impression of the dies.

Envelopes provided by this Office, with the proper stamps thereto, will be substituted for any of those sent in which may be spoilt in the operation of stamping.

It is to be borne in mind that licensed vendors only are authorised to sell postage stamps impressed as above mentioned, or any other.

By order of the Board,  
THOMAS KEOGH, *Secretary.*

Towards the close of the year 1855 a small sheet was issued by the General Post-office to the Postmasters, on which impressions of the three embossed stamps of fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling were struck, each surcharged in black with SPECIMEN, and underneath the stamps was the following legend :

“Embossed postage stamps to be struck on

“ PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

“ 26th November, 1855.”

The dates in the dies show that the stamps were struck on these sheets in the early part of the month of December, 1855.

### 1. THE TWOPENCE.

DESIGN.—No alteration was made in the die, which had hitherto served for the impression of the envelopes on “Dickinson” paper, except that the date plugs were inserted by drilling three holes in the upper part of the border. The same die numbered 1, followed by the initials w w. in sunken letters, and a full stop after the last w, also sunk, continued to be used for some years, until this stamp was called into more active use for stamping the provisional issue of registration envelopes in 1877.



IMPRESSION.—This stamp has always been struck in light Prussian blue.

Half-sheets of laid letter paper, impressed with this stamp bearing the date 1861, are in existence, and probably other values exist also, on similar half-sheets. The fact is only mentioned to show that the Inland Revenue Department were ready to affix the embossed stamps either on envelopes or on sheets of paper for letters or wrappers.

### 2. THE FOURPENCE.

DESIGN.—This stamp much resembles a coin in its general appearance. The profile of the Queen to the left appears in



relief on a solid circular ground of colour, bounded by a single line, with a small beaded inner circle. On this ground, in the upper part, following the contour of the circle, is the inscription **POSTAGE FOUR PENCE** in block letters embossed in white relief; and in the lower part is a reticulated ornamental band, pierced with three holes to receive the date plugs. The initials **w.w.** appear on the base of the bust with a full stop between them, and there are also full stops on each side of the numeral which precedes the initials.



The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who designed and executed the framework of the border, and added the curl attached to the head, which was that of the die engraved by Mr. Wyon.

**IMPRESSION.**—This value has always been struck in vermilion, ordinarily of a full tone of colour, but at times varying to an orange-vermilion of lighter tone.

Dies Nos. 1 and 2 appear to be the only ones which have been employed up to the present time.

### 3. THE SIXPENCE.

**DESIGN.**—The design of this stamp is the same as was employed for stamping the adhesive embossed stamps. That first made use of is numbered 2, and on being closely compared with No. 1, employed for stamping the adhesives, shows some slight points of difference, especially at the base of the bust. The insertion of the date plugs was effected by drilling three holes in the die, one of which is immediately below the bust, and the two others in the framework on either side.



**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in violet, which was at first

of a full deep tone, but afterwards became lighter, and is now nearly mauve.

#### 4. THE ONE SHILLING.

DESIGN.—This die, like that of the sixpence, is the same as that employed for stamping the embossed adhesives of corresponding value, and of which we found Nos. 1 and 2 to have been used for the purpose. The date plugs were inserted in holes made in the solid octagonal ground, thus greatly disfiguring the general appearance of the stamp. Die No. 3, appears to be the first which was used for stamping envelopes and paper, though die No. 2 is found used in 1873 for stamping telegraph forms.



IMPRESSION.—The impression is in green, and has not undergone any noticeable variations, though, as every collector will fully understand, there are light and dark shades to be found of this value, as is the case with every colour which has to be compounded on each occasion of printing off an order.\*

#### 5. THE THREEPENCE.

Date of Issue, May, 1859.

The preparation of the embossing die of this value, and the issue of paper stamped with it, preceded the issue of the adhesive stamp of corresponding value by a period of nearly three years. It was prepared expressly at the instance of commercial firms requiring wrappers for newspapers and printed matter despatched to the colonies under the then existing high rates of postage.

\* Those differences in shade, which are only due to accidental variations in the compounding of the colours, without serving to mark any epoch in the history of the issue or any change of process in the printing, have not been specially mentioned. The fact is recorded that those who care to collect such "varieties" may be aware of their existence.

DESIGN.—The embossed profile of the Queen, to the left, appears on a solid trilobed ground of colour, enclosed in a similarly shaped border filled with a reticulated pattern, so arranged as to show POSTAGE on the upper lobe, and THREE PENCE on the two lower lobes in coloured fancy capitals. At the points where the lobes meet, the date plugs are inserted. The design doubtless served as a model for that of the adhesive stamp subsequently issued, so far as the shape is concerned, which will be more readily recognized on turning the stamp upside down. At the base of the bust are the initials w. w., and the figure 1. in relief, each being followed by a full stop.



The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who added a pendent curl to the head struck from Mr. Wyon's die, and designed and executed the framing.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in deep carmine. Copies surcharged in black with the word SPECIMEN are found with the die date of 27th May, 1859. These were issued by the Post Office to the various Postmasters on small sheets, on which appears the legend :

“ Embossed postage stamp to be struck on

“ PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

“ May, 1859.”

From official returns it appears that, up to the 31st March, 1860, 101,554 copies of the threepenny embossed stamp were struck, while for the entire year, from the 1st April, 1859, up to 31st March, 1860, the number of twopenny embossed stamps was only 44,774 ; of the fourpenny, 20,143 ; of the sixpenny, 2,279 ; and of the 1s., 10,615 ; the number of the threepenny in 10 months thus exceeding that of all the other values during a period of 12 months.

## 6. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

The die for this issue was prepared and specimen copies struck from it in April, 1860, when the issue of an adhesive stamp of similar value was contemplated. As, however, the issue of this latter did not take place till 1st October, 1870, the embossed stamp was not brought into use until the same time.

DESIGN.—The design bears a cognate resemblance to the adhesive stamp of similar value. The profile of the Queen, to the left, is upon a solid curvilinear triangular ground of colour, surrounded by a pearled border, and enclosed in a similarly shaped frame. On cartouches within this frame are the inscriptions; on the upper side opposite the apex is THREE, on the left side POSTAGE, and on the right side HALFPENCE, the rest of the frame being filled in with a reticulated engine-turned pattern, in which at each of the angles are inserted the date plugs. The inscriptions, &c., are embossed in white on a solid ground of colour.



On the base of the bust are the initials w w, preceded by the figure 1. In our illustration the engraver has omitted the pearled border.

The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue, who designed and executed the framing, and added a pendent curl to the head, as struck from Mr. Wyon's die.

IMPRESSION.—The colour selected in 1860 was a rose-pink, and when the stamp was issued to the public in 1870 it was adhered to; but in 1874 it was changed to a brown of a warm tone, which is still in use for this value.

REMARKS.—This stamp is but rarely seen in use, and does not appear to have been applied to much practical purpose except as an addition to the stock of collectors.

7. THE TWOPENCE-HALFPENNY.

Date of Issue, December, 1876.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a profile of the Queen to the left, embossed on a solid pointed upright oval ground of colour, surrounded by a pearled border, and enclosed in a similarly shaped frame with a scalloped exterior edge. The ground of the frame is in colour, with a reticular engine-turned design embossed upon it in white, on which is the inscription, in sunken block letters in colour, POSTAGE TWO PENCE HALFPENNY, round the head. In the frame below the bust are inserted the date plugs.



There are no initials on the base of the bust. The figure 1 may be detected, but is scarcely visible on the majority of specimens.

The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who designed and executed the frame, and added a pendent curl to the head struck from Mr. Wyon's die.

IMPRESSION.—The colour selected was puce verging on lilac, somewhat fuller in shade than that employed originally for the adhesive stamp of similar value.

REMARKS.—Like the three halfpence, this value is but seldom seen in use.

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In the year 1862 the Inland Revenue Department, which professed to exclude coloured paper from the privilege of being stamped, permitted tinted paper to pass. Not a few changes could be rung out of the various shades of straw, pink, lilac, blue, and sea-green; but additional varieties were made, mainly for the use and behoof of collectors, by employing wove, laid, and *batonné* paper. Since the year 1877 the Inland Revenue Department has refused to admit tinted paper to be stamped,

and requires that it should be either white or ordinary azure, and of good substance.

The Department includes in the form of the warrant not only stamps of the values of one penny, three-halfpence, twopence, twopence-halfpenny, threepence, fourpence, sixpence, and one shilling, for which dies have been prepared; but also eightpence, ninepence, and tenpence, for the two former of which they do not possess dies, and for the latter have never employed the die made for the embossed adhesive 10d. stamp. To supply these values, they impress two of the existing values on the paper; thus they ordinarily form the eightpence by two dies of fourpence, the ninepence by the threepence and sixpence, and the tenpence by the fourpence and sixpence, the higher value when it exists being stamped first, and the lower value to the left of it. The door once opened to embossing two stamps side by side was not allowed to be shut, and as the Department offered no objection to impressing a second stamp on paper which had already been once stamped, provided that the fee charged for changing the die on all orders for less than £10 was paid, stamp-dealers availed themselves largely of the opportunities thus offered, and permutations and combinations of all the dies have been made, of no conceivable interest or utility except to swell the size and expense of collections without adding one iota to their real interest. That such envelopes may represent a postal rate is not to be denied, but that one in a thousand has ever been employed legitimately for prepaying postage is more than problematical, and they are hardly worthy of a place in a collection except to show how far folly can go. We give a list of those of which the existence is known. With regard to the values above one shilling, we have not seen them in combination with the more recently issued  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., and those in combination with other values are invariably affixed before the smaller value, leading to the presumption that they were struck on paper already stamped with the smaller value, and this is very probable, as these combinations are emphatically what the dealers call "heavy stock."

SYNOPSIS OF COMBINED VALUES.

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Twopence . . . . .             | 1d. and 1d. |
| Twopence-halfpenny . . . . .   | 1d. „ 1½d.  |
| Threepence . . . . .           | 2d. „ 1d.   |
| Threepence-halfpenny . . . . . | 2½d. „ 1d.  |
| „ „ . . . . .                  | 1½d. „ 2d.  |
| „ „ . . . . .                  | 2d. „ 1½d.  |
| Fourpence-halfpenny . . . . .  | 2½d. „ 2d.  |
| Fivepence . . . . .            | 3d. „ 2d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 2d. „ 3d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 1d. „ 4d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 4d. „ 1d.   |
| Fivepence-halfpenny . . . . .  | 4d. „ 1½d.  |
| Sixpence-halfpenny . . . . .   | 4d. „ 2½d.  |
| Sevenpence . . . . .           | 6d. „ 1d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 1d. „ 6d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 4d. „ 3d.   |
| Sevenpence-halfpenny . . . . . | 6d. „ 1½d.  |
| „ „ . . . . .                  | 1½d. „ 6d.  |
| Eightpence . . . . .           | 6d. „ 2d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 4d. „ 4d.   |
| Eightpence-halfpenny . . . . . | 6d. „ 2½d.  |
| Ninepence . . . . .            | 6d. „ 3d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 3d. „ 6d.   |
| Tenpence . . . . .             | 6d. „ 4d.   |
| „ . . . . .                    | 4d. „ 6d.   |
| Thirteenpence . . . . .        | 1s. „ 1d.   |
| Fourteenpence . . . . .        | 1s. „ 2d.   |
| Fifteenpence . . . . .         | 1s. „ 3d.   |
| Sixteenpence . . . . .         | 1s. „ 4d.   |
| Eighteenpence . . . . .        | 1s. „ 6d.   |
| Two shillings . . . . .        | 1s. „ 1s.   |

According to the regulations of the stamping department at Somerset House now in force, if in the process of embossing a blank is accidentally spoilt by an imperfect stamp being affixed, or through any other mishap, the blank is returned to the owner with the other stamps, with a notice printed on the face of it that on a fresh warrant being sent in, the value will be made good either in penny stamps or in any way the owner desires. Where the stamp has been imperfectly struck it is surcharged in black with a hand stamp "TO BE TRANSFERRED."

Specimens of these spoilt stamps are frequently seen in collections of postal curiosities.

## STAMPS EMBOSSED FOR PRIVATE FIRMS.

In addition to impressing the ordinary dies on paper supplied by the public, the Inland Revenue Department will impress the official stamp, surrounded by a circular band bearing the name and address of any private firm, without making any extra charge beyond the cost of engraving the die. Nor do the authorities object to private firms adding a similar band themselves to stamps already struck by the Inland Revenue Department, provided that nothing more than the name and address of the firm with its trade or profession appear upon the band.

In those which are struck at Somerset House, the colour of the ring is identical with that of the stamp, the special die being so constructed as to permit of its being used in the embossing machine at the same time as the official stamp, and the whole is effected in one operation.

In the case of those which are of private manufacture, the ring is impressed round the official stamp already embossed on the paper, and ordinarily in a different colour from that of the stamp, and even when it is evidently intended to be similar, it fails to be so. In all those which we have noticed the pattern of the ring differs from that adopted by the Inland Revenue Department.

Many firms, chiefly publishers, news agents, and India or Colonial agents, have taken advantage of the privilege, which acts as a safeguard in insuring the stamps being used in their business, while it also serves as a species of advertisement by putting their names conspicuously before the public.

To stamp collectors these stamps offer but little interest except as showing what the authorities do, or permit to be done; it would not therefore serve any useful purpose to give a list of the firms who have availed themselves of this privilege, and we shall accordingly limit our account of them to a description of the types of the rings adopted by the Inland Revenue Department.

Any paper which the Department would allow for the embos-



sing of envelopes generally, is admitted for the purpose of being embossed with the additional ring, and it may be cut in any form adapted either for wrappers or envelopes.

The system commenced early in 1857. The earliest known type consists of two plain curved bands, being segments of a circular band 3 mm. wide, and having a diameter of 36 mm. or  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch external measurement. Each of these segments measures 28 mm. in length, and they are applied one above and the other below the official die, each segmental band being outlined by a white line, and the ends rounded. The only firm known to have possessed this type is that of W. H. SMITH and SON, whose name appears in the upper segmental band, and the address, 186, STRAND, W.C., in the lower. The values are one penny, pink, dated 9.6.57, 2d., blue, dated 9.3.57, and 1s., green, dated 9.3.57. The copies seen by us are all surcharged "specimen" in black with a pen and ink, and it seems to be doubtful whether or not this type was ever actually used. If not it would more properly be referred to under the head of "Essays," &c.

The next type dates from July, 1857, and consists of a plain circular band, 4 mm. wide, forming a complete ring of 36 mm. diameter, external measurement, round the stamp. The name of the firm is on a plain cartouche above the Queen's head, and the address on a similar one below, while between the extremities of the cartouches on either side is an eight-rayed star ornament.

This type is found with the names and addresses of various firms both in the home and colonial trades, but M. Rondot (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 293) in giving an engraving (No. 97) of one value, fourpence, struck on an envelope for Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., speaks of it as made specially for them, and designed for Indian postage. This envelope has acquired additional celebrity through being described in Lallier's Album as an "Indian Envelope," and a place being allotted to it in the Indian page. No doubt the whole mistake has arisen from the firm having been described in the lower cartouche as EAST INDIA AGENTS.

The third type is that in use at the present time, and dates from 1861. It consists of a plain circular band, 5 mm. wide,



forming a complete ring round the official stamp of 38 mm., or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch diameter, external measurement. The names and addresses are in somewhat larger lettering than in the last preceding type, and are not within cartouches, though the two star-like ornaments are retained. On some of the wrappers of Messrs. Smith,

Elder, and Co. it is found embossed in conjunction with the second type.

## SECTION IV.

### *REGISTRATION ENVELOPES.*

PREVIOUSLY to the introduction of the uniform penny-post system all letters containing, or supposed to contain, coin or jewellery were registered gratuitously by the Post-office, as a security against loss ; but when the new system came into operation it was considered to be impracticable to continue the service, and with the sanction of the Treasury it was dropped. As the number of letters containing coin and valuables increased, and the depredations also increased in a like ratio, a system of registration was adopted in 1841, but the charge of one shilling was so high that the public did not avail itself to any considerable extent of the protection thereby offered ; for though the registration furnished an extra degree of security to the letter during its transit, yet beyond this the Post-office undertook no further responsibility. In October, 1841, Lord Lowther, the Postmaster-General, proposed to the Lords of the Treasury that he should be allowed to use the powers conferred by 3 and 4 Vict., c. 96, s. 39, and establish a compulsory registration of letters supposed to contain coin or valuables, charging them with the registration fee of one shilling, to be paid by the receiver when not paid by the sender. The proposal was referred to Sir Rowland Hill, who, while he considered the principle of compulsory registration a fair one, yet was of opinion that so long as the registration fee was fixed at one shilling sufficient inducement for voluntary registration was not held out to the public. He therefore advised the Lords of the Treasury to lower the fee ; but as that proposal

was objected to, the question remained in abeyance for some years.

In March, 1848, the fee was reduced to sixpence, and in August, 1862, was still further reduced to fourpence, when compulsory registration was applied to all letters passing through the London office supposed to contain coin or valuables, and in the following year it was extended to all inland letters. The registration system was also made applicable to packets passing by the Book Post.

On the 1st January, 1878, some important changes were made. The fee was reduced to twopence, and the Post-office, although re-affirming that it was not responsible for the safe delivery of registered articles, expressed its willingness to make good the value of any so registered which might be lost in transit, to the extent of £2, on certain conditions, one of them being that, if the article consisted of money, it must, in order to have the benefit of the insurance, be "enclosed in one of the Registered Letter Envelopes sold by the Post-office for the purpose."

It is with these envelopes, then for the first time issued, that we have now to deal.

The issue to the public took place on 1st January, 1878. Many of those issued about that period are found bearing on the stamp the dates of November and December, 1877, but these belong to stock which was prepared previously to the 1st January in view of the issue to take effect on that day. Two sizes only were issued at first; viz., those distinguished at the Post-office by the letters F and G, the first measuring  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, the other  $6 \times 3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, though the actual sizes are frequently found to vary a little from the standard. These, as also all the other sizes subsequently issued, are made to open at the end, and on the closing flap the registration fee stamp of twopence is struck in relief. They are lined with muslin, and are the invention of Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co., who have taken out a patent for it. As it had previously been the practice with the Post-office to tie each registered letter with a green string, an imitation in blue is printed on the envelopes, the front being traversed by two

blue lines crossing each other at right angles, thus dividing it into four equal parallelograms, and the same is repeated on the back, the horizontal line not extending over the flap, which is left clear for the stamp. The inscriptions on the envelopes are all printed in blue, varying at first in depth of shade, but now nearly always of a light tone of colour. The paper used for the manufacture of them is plain wove of a bluish tinge of white.

The blanks are cut into shape and lined before they are sent to Somerset House to be stamped. From thence they are returned to the contractors, who close them down, print upon them the inscriptions and lines, gum the turn-down flap, and then return them to Somerset House to be put into stock.

### 1. PROVISIONAL ISSUE.

On the flap of the envelope is a semicircular cartouche, with the words "FOR REGISTRATION ONLY" in block letters in white relief on a solid blue ground, below which is struck the embossed twopenny envelope stamp in blue. The postage at the ordinary letter rate is payable by stamps, as in other letters. On the face of the envelope, in the upper left compartment, is the word "REGISTERED" in a single-lined rectangular frame, and above it are the instructions, "THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN OFFICER OF THE POST-OFFICE TO BE REGISTERED," the division between the two upper compartments made by the string-line falling between the words "OFFICER" and "OF."



The registration receipt, given by the office at which a registered letter or document is posted, is a sufficient acknowledgment that such an object has been received for *transmission*, but in the case of inland postage no similar acknowledgment can be

obtained from the delivering office that the letter has been duly *delivered*. In the case, however, of letters, &c., despatched to countries included in the Postal Union, such an acknowledgment is obtainable by paying, at the time of posting, 2½d. for the return postage of a form which accompanies the registered object to its destination. There are two kinds of this form—one in English, and the other in French. It is filled in by the despatching officer, stamped with a 2½d. adhesive, and addressed to the postmaster of the delivering office, by whom it is returned, in due course, with the information recorded in the space provided for the purpose, as to whether the object has been delivered and to whom, or, in the case of its not having been delivered, how it has been disposed of. When this form reaches the despatching office again, the sender is communicated with, and apprized as to what has become of that which he registered.

VARIETIES.—The type of the word “Registered” varies considerably, as does also that of the inscription. There are also variations in the length of the space separating the word “Officer” from “of;” and again, in the colour of the impression, which ranges from dark to light blue. To avoid encumbering the list with too many minutiae, only those varieties which are the most marked will be mentioned. These will be found to be dependent principally on the type of the lettering, on the length of the inscription, on the form of the flap, and on the construction of the seams.

This “provisional issue” continued in use from the 1st January, 1878, until the beginning of the month of April following, when a special stamp was brought into use, and substituted for the twopenny envelope stamp with over-arching label.

In the envelopes as first constructed the edges both of the seams and of the turn-down flap were plain, but with a view of affording greater security against their being opened, the seams, in February, 1878, were made with serrated edges, and the flaps were scalloped.

## SYNOPSIS.

## I.

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1878.

Plain flap. Plain seams.

Size F.  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or 133 by 83 mm.

1. Legend in small letters measuring 108 mm., dark blue.
2. " " " 112 mm., dark blue.\*
3. " " " 112 mm., light blue. No contractor's name on envelope.

In the above three varieties there is no stop after REGISTERED.

4. (a) Legend in small capitals measuring 116 mm., light blue.
- (b) " " " 118 mm. "
5. (a) Legend in large capitals measuring 121 mm. "
- (b) " " " 122 mm. "

In the last four varieties the contractor's name is usually omitted.

Size G. 6 by  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or 152 by 96 mm.

6. Legend in small letters measuring 112 mm., blue.
7. (a) Legend in small capitals measuring 116 mm., light blue.
- (b) " " " 118 mm. "
8. Legend in larger capitals measuring 121 mm. "

## II.

Date of issue, February, 1878.

Scalloped flap. Serrated seams.

Size F.

9. Legend in small capitals measuring 118 mm., light blue.
10. Legend in larger capitals measuring 120 mm., "

Size G.

11. Legend in small capitals measuring 118 mm., light blue.
12. Legend in larger capitals measuring 120 mm., "

\* The difference in the length of the legend chiefly depends on the words "Officer" and "of" being closer or farther apart. The measurements are taken from the down stroke of the T to the stop at the end of the inscription. Some other varieties may also be made by observing the type of the word "Registered" in the rectangular frame. All these varieties are owing to different settings up of the type in the machines by which the envelopes are printed singly, and on the first issue there was less uniformity in this respect than has since been the case. During the first years of their issue the sale of these envelopes was about 6,000 per day; but in the following year it increased to about 8,000 out of an average of 28,000 letters registered per day in the United Kingdom.

## 2. PERMANENT ISSUE.

In April, 1878, the twopenny envelope stamp was replaced by a special stamp consisting of the head of the Queen in profile to the left, embossed on a solid circular ground of colour, enclosed in an engine-turned border, on which is shown the inscription in block letters **REGISTRATION TWOPENCE**. The date plugs are inserted in the lower part of the border.\*



**VARIETIES.**—No envelopes of this issue have been noticed which do not bear the contractor's name under the flap. The subsidiary varieties are those dependent on the following elements; viz., the construction of the envelope, and the inscriptions on its face.

## SYNOPSIS.

## I. Scalloped flap. Serrated seams.

(a) Inscription in one line, "This letter must be given to an officer of the Post-office to be registered."

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1. | Inscription in small block letters, measuring 118 mm., size F. |
| 2. | „ larger „ „ 121 mm., size F.                                  |
| 3. | „ small „ „ 119 mm., size G.                                   |
| 4. | „ larger „ „ 118 mm., size G.                                  |

(b) Inscription in two lines of capitals, "This letter must be given to an officer of the Post-office to be registered, and a receipt obtained for it."

In the right upper corner, within a single-lined frame, varying in size, "The stamp to pay the postage must be placed here," in small block letters.

Stamp frame measuring 20½ mm. by 23½ mm., size G.

„ „ 21½ mm. by 26 mm., size G.

\* The die was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., the head being the same as that of all the embossed stamps, with a varied bunch of curls.



## II. Scalloped flap. Scalloped seams.

In May, 1878, three other sizes were issued, each bearing an inscription similar to that last described, but in larger type. The edges of the flap were scalloped, as were also the seams, instead of being serrated, as in the smaller sizes. A similar rectangular frame with inscription denoted the place where the postage stamp was to be placed.

Size H. 8 by 5 inches.

„ I. 10 by 7½ „

„ K. 11½ by 6 „

## III. Plain flap. Serrated seams.

The envelopes being sold singly at the Post-offices as well as in packets of a dozen, the scalloped flaps were inconvenient in retailing them, many being torn. Accordingly, in August, 1878, the scalloped edges were abandoned, and the flap was made plain as at first.

(a) Inscription in two lines as before. The size of the frame for affixing the adhesive stamp varies.

Size F. Stamp frame 20 by 23½ mm. to 21½ by 25 mm.

„ G. „ „ „ „

(b) Similar inscription, but in larger type. Plain flap. Scalloped seams.

Size H. Stamp frame 21½ by 25 mm.

„ I. „ „

„ K. „ „

## 3. CERTIFICATES OF POSTING.

Akin to the subject of the registration of letters which has just been considered, it seems convenient to refer here to an attempt on the part of the Post-office to meet the wishes of a portion of the public by providing an acknowledgment on the part of the office that it had received an ordinary letter for transmission.

When the penny-post system was first established, the idea of giving such a receipt was started by Sir Rowland Hill, and by the 8th section of the Act 10 and 11 Vic. c. 85, the Post-

master-General was authorised to direct that receipts might be given for letters at the expense of the party requiring it; but so that the Post-office should not be liable for loss or miscarriage, and the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes were empowered to provide stamps for the purpose.

It was not, however, till the close of the year 1877 that any attempt was made to give effect to the provisions of the Act, when, in consequence of representations made to Lord John Manners, the Postmaster-General, that a want existed for a system under which receipts might be obtained by the senders of ordinary letters handed to the post for transmission, an experimental issue was made of a "Certificate of Posting."

The certificate was in the following form :

"CERTIFICATE OF POSTING.

"A (Letter, Newspaper, or Book Packet) not Registered, addressed as under, has been posted at this Office.

"Address in full . . . . . Date Stamp."

In the right upper corner was embossed a stamp of one halfpenny of the same design and colour as that which had been introduced for stamping post-cards sent in for that purpose by the public. Below the stamp was a compartment for the date stamp of the office. On the back of the certificate were the following instructions :

"The address entered in this Certificate must be exactly the same as that on the Letter, Newspaper, or Book Packet, and it must be plainly written in ink.

"The issue of this Certificate is not to be regarded as effecting Registration, and the Letter, Newspaper, or Book Packet to which it refers will be treated precisely as if posted in a letter-box.

"Letters containing Coin or Jewellery must be registered. Any letter for which a Certificate of Posting may have been given, and which may afterwards be found to contain Coin or jewellery, will be compulsorily registered in accordance with the regulations."

Of these certificates 15,000 were printed and sent to Liverpool, and some other large towns, but the results could hardly be

deemed satisfactory. It must be borne in mind that the certificate was only a proof that a letter had been put into the post at a certain time, and was more especially useful where letters had been entrusted to messengers to post, which must necessarily have been done at a post-office or receiving-house in order to obtain the stamp to the certificate; but as the charge for the certificate amounted frequently to 50 per cent. of the cost of the postage, the system failed to attract the favour of the public. It appears that the average daily number of certificates granted at Liverpool was twenty-seven; and when, on the 1st January, 1878, the reduced registration-fee came into operation, the average daily number fell to twenty-one, and in March declined to fourteen. "The system having failed to meet any demand on the part of the public," as stated in the Postmaster-General's Report for the year 1878-9, was abandoned.

In consequence of representations made to the Postmaster-General in 1880, a further experimental issue of these certificates was commenced on 1st January, 1881, limited to Glasgow. The design is exactly similar to that of the former issue, from which it can only be distinguished by the date of the printing, and by the initials of the printer and the number printed (15,000), being on the back of the certificate, and not on the front, as was the case with the first issue.

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#### 4. OFFICIAL ENVELOPES, &c.

Before quitting this branch of our subject we will add a few words regarding a class of stamps which, though not having in reality any postal significance, have yet become the object of collection among certain amateurs who do not appear to limit their collecting to postage adhesive stamps, envelopes, &c., but aspire to extend it to the collection, not only of every thing which carries an object free of postage, but also to things which rather pertain to the internal administration of the Post-office, and the machinery it employs in carrying out its vast business. From

these we will only single out two ; viz., "official envelopes" and "postal orders"—the first because it was made the subject of a careful, though imperfect, monograph,\* and the second because money orders clothed with a stamp, though in reality a tax under the guise of a stamp, have been in use for a long period in many parts of the Continent, and by some process, with which we are unacquainted, have found their way into collections of postage stamps.

1. Every Official Department in the State is furnished with envelopes of various sizes, on the upper flaps of which are embossed the Royal Arms, with the name of the particular office to which they are appropriated. Some of these envelopes also bear a printed inscription that the communication is Official or "On Her Majesty's Service," together with the name of the office from which they emanate. Formerly an account was kept of the postage payable in respect of such communications, and was defrayed by an annual vote of Parliament, but at the present time they are entitled to pass through the post as if prepaid, under certain rules that have been laid down for evidencing their origin, which is ordinarily done by a hand-stamp bearing the *fac-simile* signature of the Official or of some one in the Department who is charged with the service. Thus the letters of the Lord Chancellor, the Attorney and Solicitor-Generals, the Paymaster-General, the Registrar-General, the Registrar of Friendly Societies, the Registrar of Trades' Marks, &c. &c., are stamped with the hand-stamp of these functionaries, and on arriving at the Post-office are stamped, *ipso facto*, in red with a stamp "OFFICIAL PAID." Communications emanating from the Treasury, the Home, Foreign, Colonial, India, and War Offices, the Inland Revenue Department, the Council Office, &c. &c., commonly bear a hand-stamp of the *fac-simile* signature of one or more of the officials in the Department whose particular province it is to control the correspondence sent out, while other Offices, such as the Admiralty, the Board of Trade, &c., make use of a hand-stamp with a special device. All these communi-

\* See *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. ix. p. 177.

cations, on arriving at the Post-office, are in like manner stamped as paid, and pass free to their destination.

In every separate department of the Post-office there is at least one chief officer who franks the correspondence emanating from that particular department, which is subsequently hand-stamped "OFFICIAL PAID," but the ordinary business of the "Returned Letter Office" is carried on by simply enclosing returned letters in an official cover, on which no hand-stamp is impressed. The present practice, however, dates only from a few years back. Formerly a returned letter was enclosed to the writer in an envelope with the Royal Arms embossed on the flap with the addition of "Returned Letter Branch," or "Office," of which there are many different types. Hence appears to have sprung up a notion that some franking, or at least some postal virtue, existed in the seal giving the letter a right of passing free through the post, a notion, however, so erroneous that it is only necessary to say that all such envelopes are simply part and parcel of the internal economy and management of the Post-office, the collection of which ranks in the same category as that of any other of the forms issued by the Post-office for the transaction of its daily business.



2. The average value of each inland money order issued by the Post-office being found to be about thirty shillings, it is clear that, considering the amount so transmitted through the post compared with the number issued, the great bulk of the business is due to the large number of orders for very small amounts, and as a boon to the community the experiment was tried a few years back of reducing the tax upon them. This resulted in an absolute loss to the Post-office, and in 1876 the tax was raised. The increase of the tax was, however, followed by the necessary consequence, a decrease in the business. To obviate this, and at the same time to develop the transmission of small sums, Mr. Chetwynd, the Accountant-

General to the Post-office, put forward a scheme for Postal Notes, representing small sums up to £1, subjected to a poundage-tax according to their value. The scheme was brought before Parliament in 1879, but the Bill was not passed; but it was again brought forward in 1880, and became law under the title of the "Post-office (Money Orders) Act, 1880," 43 and 44 Vict. c. 33. By this Act the Post-master-General, with the consent of the Treasury, was authorised to issue orders in the form set forth in the Act, for the purpose of the transmission of small sums, in addition to the money orders already authorised by law. These postal orders are exempted from stamp duty, but are subjected to a poundage on the following scale; viz.: Of one halfpenny on orders for 1s. and 1s. 6d.; of one penny on orders of 2s. 6d., 5s., and 7s. 6d.; and of twopence on those of 10s., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., and £1.

The "Postal Orders" were issued to the public on 1st January, 1881, and consist of an elaborate design printed in blue on thin white paper, the paper for each value bearing the watermark "Postal Order," with the value in full. The whole of the design is enclosed in a border composed of a zig-zag pattern in which the value in full is repeated many times in small letters, and on the left is a compartment marked off by a similar border, in the upper part of which is the head of the Queen, while the lower portion is left blank for the hand-stamp of the paying office. Various directions are printed on the face, and it is payable at any Post-office that may be designated, within three months from the date of issue. The value in full is in the body of the note, and also on a tablet, in the upper part, which, as also the amount of the poundage inserted below the head of the Queen, are all printed by a second passing through the press.

The design and execution of the work are by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and in both respects reflect great credit upon them.

### III.

#### THE NEWSPAPER AND BOOK POST.

##### SECTION I.

###### NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

ALTHOUGH the Post-office possessed the exclusive privilege of conveying letters at certain rates fixed by the legislature, except when entrusted to a private friend for delivery, or sent by express, yet it neither had, nor ever claimed to have, any similar privilege with respect to the conveyance of newspapers or other printed matter. As has been already mentioned,\* newspapers were taxed with a duty as early as the reign of Queen Anne, and continued to be so taxed down to the year 1855. In consideration of this tax they were conveyed by the Post-office free of postage charges, the written newsletters, so graphically described in Lord Macaulay's *History of England*, having been the ordinary medium of news, until in the reign of Queen Anne they were superseded by printed newspapers, though these are met with occasionally as early as the reign of Elizabeth.

The operation of the Act of 1839 establishing the uniform rate of postage was confined to the postage on letters, and made no alteration in the legislation then in force with regard to the conveyance of newspapers, which continued to be governed by the provisions of the Act 6 and 7 Will. IV. c. 76. By this Act the duties imposed by previous legislation were altered and greatly reduced, being thereby fixed at one penny for a sheet

\* *Sup.* p. 15.

containing on one side not more than 1,530 superficial inches of letterpress, and at one halfpenny for each supplement not containing on one side more than 765 superficial inches. When the newspaper consisted of more than 1,530 superficial inches, and did not exceed 2,295, the duty was fixed at three halfpence; while if it exceeded 2,295 superficial inches the duty was two-pence. The payment of these duties was denoted by a stamp impressed by the officers of the Inland Revenue Department on the sheet on which the newspaper was subsequently printed, and the Act provided that after the 31st December, 1836, no newspaper should be printed on paper which was not stamped as required by the Act. The impression was uniformly made in red by means of a hand stamp,\* except in one instance, which will be referred to more particularly hereafter.

The Act also provided that there should be a separate stamp for each newspaper, the die for which should be prepared under the direction of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes at the cost of the proprietor of the newspaper. In the case of all the hand-stamps, the dies, as the records of those sanctioned by the Commissioners show, were composite; that is, the centre consisted of a design common to all, while the name of the newspaper was added at the side. A letter and number are found in the upper part of the central portion of the impression, but this is merely the number of the die, and has nothing to do with the appropriation of the die to any particular newspaper.

These impressed stamps were not of a hybrid character, that is, partly fiscal and partly postal; for not only was the tax represented by the stamp an undivided one, but no newspaper could be published, either for distribution by hand or by post, otherwise than on paper duly stamped with the entire duty.

\* This rather primitive mode of impressing the stamp continued up to the time when the Stamping Department was put under the superintendence of Mr. Edwin Hill, who invented a clever little machine worked by steam for the purpose. There were eight or nine of these machines at work, and they saved a vast deal of manual labour, effecting an economy in wages of about £2,000 a year.



The stamp must be regarded as one purely fiscal, but at the same time carrying with it a certain privilege, in virtue of which the newspaper was admitted to free conveyance by the post.

In the year 1855 the Government, of which Lord Palmerston was the head, resolved to abolish the duty chargeable on newspapers, and it became necessary to make provision for their transmission by the post, inasmuch as if the stamp denoting the duty were done away with the privilege of free postage attached to it would necessarily drop. In order therefore to preserve this privilege, and at the same time to repeal the duty, the Act 18 Vict., c. 27, passed on the 15th June, 1855, enacted that after 14 days from the passing of it, it should not be compulsory (except for the purpose of free transmission through the post), to print any newspaper on paper stamped for denoting the duties imposed on newspapers; and further, that every periodical publication which should be printed within the United Kingdom on paper stamped for denoting the rate of duty imposed under the provisions of the Act 6 and 7 Will. iv., c. 76, should be entitled to enjoy the privilege of transmission and re-transmission by the post between places in the United Kingdom postage free for the space of fifteen days from the date of publication. The Act did not confine the privilege to newspapers properly so called, but extended it to any "periodical publication" printed and published at intervals not exceeding 31 days. Provision was also made that the proprietor or printer of any such periodical publication might send to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, or to such person as they appointed for the purpose, any quantity of paper to be stamped with an appropriated die, the cost of which was to be defrayed by the party sending the paper to be stamped.

Previously to the year 1855 printed matter was not generally transmissible through the post, except at the ordinary letter rate. The "Book Post," as it was termed, had been instituted by a Treasury Warrant of the 7th February, 1848, under the provisions of which packets consisting of a single printed review or pamphlet, the several sheets of which, when more

than one, were sewn or bound together, were admitted to pass through the post at the rate of 6d. per lb., provided that the packet was open at the ends, and not so closed as to prohibit the inspection of the contents. But little alteration was made in these regulations until the year 1855, when it became necessary, in consequence of the abolition of the duty on newspapers, to give the Book Post a new organization. Accordingly a Treasury Warrant was issued, dated the 4th June, 1855, which came into operation on the 11th of the same month, fixing the rates of conveyance by the post of books, printed matter, manuscripts, &c., under certain limitations as to the size of the packets. These rates were as follows :

|                     |        |   |                      |         |     |
|---------------------|--------|---|----------------------|---------|-----|
|                     |        |   | Not exceeding 4 oz., | 1d.     |     |
| Exceeding 4 oz. and | „      | „ | 8 oz.,               | 2d.     |     |
| „                   | 8 oz.  | „ | „                    | 16 oz., | 4d. |
| „                   | 16 oz. | „ | „                    | 24 oz., | 6d. |
| „                   | 24 oz. | „ | „                    | 32 oz., | 8d. |

And for every additional  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb., and every fractional part of every such additional  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb., an additional rate of 2d.

The Act 18 Vict. c. 27 having received the Royal Assent on the 15th June, 1855, another Treasury Warrant was issued on 30th June, containing regulations for the transmission of newspapers by the Book Post, at the same rates as were prescribed by the last-mentioned Warrant of the 4th June.

The effect of the Act 18 Vict. c. 27, coupled with the regulations made by the above-mentioned Treasury Warrants, was that two modes of transmitting a newspaper were open to the sender, the one dependent on the weight irrespective of the size of the sheet, and the other dependent on the size of the sheet irrespective of its weight; for he could either avail himself of the Book Post rates, in which case the postage must be prepaid by ordinary postage stamps at the rate of one penny when the weight did not exceed 4 oz., of twopence where it exceeded 4 oz. and was under 8 oz., &c., or he could send a stamped copy of the newspaper, for which he paid the extra charge for the stamp on the purchase of it. This latter mode possessed an

advantage not shared by the former, as the impressed stamp entitled the newspaper to free transmission and retransmission through the post as frequently as was desired during the space of fifteen days from the date of publication, while the former mode allowed only a single transmission according to weight, but irrespective of the date of publication. By reference to the reports of the Postmasters-General it is evident that the former mode was that which was principally made use of by the public.

When the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation some of the newspapers which were supplied with paper already stamped used up their stock in hand. With these we do not propose to deal, confining our attention simply to the consideration of those stamps which, after the abolition of the duty in 1855, were impressed upon periodical publications for purposes solely and exclusively postal.

These Stamps were of two kinds :

#### 1. THOSE IMPRESSED BY A HAND-STAMP.\*

DESIGN.—The design of the stamp employed for this purpose consisted of a rose, shamrock, and thistle, surmounted by a Crown, while below was the motto, DIEU ET MON DROIT, the whole being on a mantle. Above and below were scrolls, on which was inscribed the value in full—ONE PENNY OR THREE-HALFPENCE, as the case might be.† On the left side was the name of the newspaper or periodical publication reading upwards, and on the right side NEWSPAPER OR PERIODICAL PUBLICATION, as the case might be, reading downwards. (Figs. 1 and 3.)

The stamp with which the impression was made was a com-

\* For the sake of distinction we have called this a "hand-stamp," though in reality it was, as we have seen, impressed by the aid of machinery.

† Prior to the Act of 1855 the only values of this stamp in use under the provisions of the Act 6 and 7 Will. IV. c. 76, were one penny for a sheet of the size specified, and one halfpenny for a supplement. On the one penny stamp, impressed at Somerset House, the letter A is found on one side of the Crown, and the distinguishing number of the die on the other side, while in that of one halfpenny the letter is C. When the Act of 1855 came into operation the one halfpenny stamp ceased to be used,

posite one, similar to that employed previously to the passing of the Act 18 Vict. c. 27, the central portion, in which also the number of the die is inserted, being introduced into the special stamp belonging to the particular newspaper.

IMPRESSION.—The impression was made by the Inland Revenue Department on the sheets intended to be printed on in the same manner as had been done previously to the abolition of the duties, and was so placed on the sheet that when it was folded for transmission by post the stamp should be exposed to view, otherwise the newspaper would be liable to be charged with postage.

The colour of the impression, which for some time previously had been carmine-red, was changed to vermilion-red, and was made in ordinary printer's ink.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1st July, 1855, to 30th September, 1870. One penny.

For an ordinary sized sheet.

1st July, 1855, to 30th September, 1870. Three-halfpence.

For a large sized sheet.

#### 2. THOSE WHICH WERE TYPE-PRINTED.

The history of this issue forms a curious commentary on the mode in which, at times, what Mr. C. Dickens termed the "Circumlocution Office," is found to be a clog upon progress.

After the invention of Fourdrinier, by which paper was manufactured in continuous rolls, attempts were made to construct machines by which it could be printed upon without the necessity of previously dividing it into sheets. As early as 1835 Sir Rowland Hill, assisted by his brother, Mr. Edwin Hill, invented a printing machine for this purpose, and took and the impressed stamps then employed were of the values of one penny and three-halfpence, according to the size of the sheet to be printed on. The one penny bore the letter B, and the three-halfpence the letter L, when impressed at Somerset House. Other letters were made use of for the stamps printed at the offices of the Inland Revenue at Manchester, and also at the offices in Scotland and Ireland.

out a patent for the invention. Evidently this invention was especially adapted to the printing of newspapers; but as it was necessary that these should be printed on sheets of stamped paper, it was impossible to apply it to this purpose. In 1836 Sir Rowland Hill memorialized the Lords of the Treasury to insert a clause in the Stamp Bill then passing through Parliament, authorizing the printer of a newspaper to stamp his own paper, provided that he could satisfy the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes that no danger of fraud to the revenue would arise. The Treasury refused to comply with the memorial, considering that there were insuperable objections to the plan. We give the sequel in the words of Mr. Pearson Hill, the only son of Sir Rowland Hill: "It may not be without interest to show how very easily 'insuperable' official objections can be overcome when those who raise them desire it. Many years afterwards, when the proprietors of a London newspaper (*The Times*) were making improvements in their printing machinery, and required the very facility for which my father had vainly contended, the Board of Inland Revenue, as I am told, on looking into the Act of Parliament on the matter, found that though the printing of the impressed stamp at the same time as the rest of the newspaper was clearly illegal, the only parties who could proceed against any newspaper were the Commissioners of Inland Revenue themselves. Now, as the Commissioners had made up their minds to allow the change, not only was an intimation given to the proprietors of the newspaper in question that they would not be interfered with, but the officers of the stamp office—Mr. Edwin Hill especially—gave most valuable assistance in carrying out the improved, though decidedly illegal, arrangement."\*

The mode in which the stamp was applied was as follows: The die was under the charge of an official of the Inland Revenue Department, who was always present during the process of printing the newspaper. The die was inserted in the form at the right upper corner of the first page; and as one copy of the newspaper was printed at each revolution of the machine, a

\* *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, vol. i. p. 230.

tell-tale attached to it showed the number of copies taken off. When the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation, and the stamp was only necessary on those copies which it was desired should enjoy the postal privilege authorized by the Act, the die was removed by the officer when sufficient stamped copies had been printed, and the printing of the unstamped copies was then proceeded with.

It was in the year 1853 that this privilege of printing the stamp with the newspaper was granted to the *Times*. In 1856 a similar privilege was granted to the *Stamford Mercury*, and in 1860 to the *Illustrated London News*.

The mode in which the stamp was applied to the *Stamford Mercury* and the *Illustrated London News* differed somewhat from that made use of in printing the *Times*. An apparatus, due to the inventive skill of Mr. Edwin Hill, so secured the dies that, while they could not be removed, they could be worked or not at the pleasure of the printers of the paper, but when worked the machine of necessity actuated the counter of tell-tale. It was very ingenious, and never known to fail.

Four values of the type-printed stamps are to be found; viz., one halfpenny, one penny, three-halfpence, and twopence. The first of these was, however, only applicable to a half-sheet supplement, and was solely employed by the *Times*, having been first used by that newspaper on the 9th November, 1853. When the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation on the 1st July, 1855, this stamp ceased to be used, as supplements of half-sheets were then no longer issued. Still, as it forms one of this class of stamps, we have included it in our description of them, though from careful searches made through the files of the *Times* we are satisfied that it was never employed after the 30th June, 1855, and consequently can only be regarded as a fiscal stamp.

The one penny stamp was first employed by the *Times* on 18th October, 1853, but continued to be used after the Act 18 Vict. c. 27 came into operation for all such copies as were intended to be forwarded by post under the provisions of that Act.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13

## I. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

DESIGN.—The design of the one halfpenny stamp, which was only employed by the *Times* newspaper, was similar to that of the one penny employed by the same newspaper, and is a flattened circle, as shown in fig. 2, the inscriptions THE TIMES and SUPPLEMENT being inserted in two crescents. In the centre are two branches, one of oak and the other of laurel, following the curves of the interior, starting from a knot of ribbon at the bottom bearing the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT. Between the upper extremities of these branches is a Crown, with the letter H. on one side and the numeral 1 on the other side of the Crown as distinguishing marks of the die.

This stamp, unlike the other values, was impressed in the right lower corner of the last page of the supplement.

## II. THE ONE PENNY.

DESIGN.—There were two distinct designs of this stamp :

First, that employed by the *Times*, which was identical in design with that of the one halfpenny, except that the word NEWSPAPER was substituted for SUPPLEMENT, and the value ONE PENNY inserted in two lines under the Crown in lieu of ONE HALFPENNY. (See fig. 4.) The die was numbered G. 1 ; but at the end of the year 1858 another die was brought into use numbered G. 3, of a similar design with the first die, but with some trifling modifications of the details.

The second design consists of a double oval or flattened circle, between the inner and outer lines of which is the name of the newspaper in the upper and NEWSPAPER in the lower part. Within the oval are two branches, one of oak and the other of laurel, bending so as to follow the curves, and connected together at the starting-point by a knot of ribbon bearing the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT. Between the upper extremities of these branches is a Crown, on one side of which are the die letters, and the numbers on the other. Under the Crown is the value, ONE PENNY.



There are two dies of this stamp (fig. 7), as used by the *Illustrated London News*, numbered respectively N. 1 and N. 2, differing from one another in details only. The stamp employed for the *Stamford Mercury* (fig. 12) was numbered Q. 1.\*

### III. THE THREE-HALFPENCE.

The general design of this stamp is that of an elliptical arch, with the value THREE-HALFPENCE in a straight label at the foot. There are two principal designs, one of which was employed for the *Times*, and the other for the *Illustrated London News*.

1. The design of that employed by the *Times* in July, 1855, consists of an elliptical arch, in which is the inscription THE TIMES NEWSPAPER and the value THREE-HALFPENCE in a straight label below. (See fig. 5.) In the interior are two branches, one of oak the other of laurel, connected at the starting-point by a knot of ribbon bearing the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT, from which springs a spray of rose; while the thistle and shamrock are found on either side. Between the upper extremities of the branches is a Crown, with the letter and number of the die K. 1 on either side. A second die was brought into use at the end of 1858 with the letter and number K. 3, the design of which differs only in some small details.

2. The design of that employed by the *Illustrated London News* (fig. 8) is very similar, save that the whole space on the arch is filled by the title of the newspaper, and the word NEWSPAPER is inserted immediately above the label, on which is the value in full, thus necessitating a different arrangement of the elements composing the design. There are two dies of this value for this newspaper, distinguished by the letter and numerals O. 1 and O. 2.

\* This weekly provincial newspaper is one of the oldest (if not the oldest) newspapers in the kingdom, having been published without interruption for the space of 170 years. It began its career in 1710, as is shown by the proprietors possessing vol. vi., published in the year 1715. Its circulation is amongst the most considerable of the provincial papers.

## IV. THE TWOPENCE.

The general design of this stamp is that of an elongated octagon, in the lower part of which is a label with the word *NEWSPAPER*, the name of the newspaper being inserted in the upper portions between the outer line of the octagonal frame and an interior line forming a border. There are two designs of this stamp, one of which was employed by the *Times*, and the other by the *Illustrated London News*.

1. The design of that employed by the *Times* (fig. 6) has the inscription *THE TIMES* in the upper border; while the side borders are filled in with a conventional ornamentation. To the right, in the interior, is a branch of oak, with a thistle and shamrock; and to the left a branch of laurel, with a rose and shamrock connected together at the starting-point by a knot of ribbon, with the inscription *DIEU ET MON DROIT*. Between the upper extremities of the branches is a Crown with the letter and number of the die *L. 1.*, under which is the value *TWO PENCE* in two lines.

2. The design employed by the *Illustrated London News* (fig. 9) is similar to the one above described, save that the title of the newspaper fills up the entire space in the upper five sides of the octagonal parallelogram. There are two dies of this value for this newspaper distinguished by the letter and numerals *P. 1* and *P. 2*.

## SYNOPSIS.

|  |       |     |   |
|--|-------|-----|---|
| One penny ( <i>Times</i> )                   | . . . | G 1 | 18th Oct., 1853, to Dec., 1858.                           |
| " "  | . . . | G 3 | Jan., 1859, to 30th Sept., 1870.                          |
| One halfpenny                                | . . . | H 1 | 9 Nov., 1853, to 30 June, 1855.                           |
| Three halfpence                              | . . . | K 1 | 1st July, 1855, to Dec., 1858.                            |
| " "  | . . . | K 3 | Jan., 1858, to 30th Sept., 1870.                          |
| Twopence                                     | . . . | L 1 | 1 July, 1855, to 30 Sept., 1870.                          |
| One penny ( <i>Illustrated London News</i> ) |       | N 1 | } These were used indiscriminately between 1860 and 1870. |
| " "  |       | N 2 |   |
| Three halfpence                              | "     | O 1 |   |
| " "  | "     | O 2 |   |
| Twopence                                     | "     | P 1 |   |
| " "  | "     | P 2 |   |
| One penny ( <i>Stamford Mercury</i> )        | . . . | Q 1 | 1856 to 30th Sept., 1870.                                 |

## SECTION II.

### NEWSPAPER AND BOOK POST WRAPPERS.

No alteration was made in the inland Newspaper Post between the years 1855 and 1870. By a Treasury Warrant dated the 14th August, 1856, the Book Post rates were somewhat modified; and the following scale was fixed to take effect on and from the 1st of September then next, such rates to be prepaid in stamps :

|                     |                             |               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
|                     | Weight not exceeding 4 oz., | 1d.           |
| Exceeding 4 oz. and | „                           | „ 8 oz., 2d.  |
| „ 8 oz.             | „                           | „ 16 oz., 3d. |
| „ 16 oz.            | „                           | „ 24 oz., 4d. |
| „ 24 oz.            | „                           | „ 32 oz., 8d. |

Successive Warrants of the 8th April, 1857 (*London Gazette*, 14th April), and 16th October, 1857 (*London Gazette*, 20th October), varied these rates and the regulations in some unimportant details, the latter Warrant fixing the progressive rate at 2d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. The first effect of the alteration of the law in 1855 had been to increase the number of book packets passing through the London office 273 per cent.; but as the average weight had been reduced from 10 oz. to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  oz., the increase in the total weight was only 70 per cent. over the quantity which passed through the same office in 1854. The abolition of the duty on newspapers had, however, caused a decrease of one-fourth in the number of newspapers posted, which was due to the railway companies having commenced to carry unstamped newspapers at lower rates than they were conveyed by the Post-office. In 1855 the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire

Railway Company began to carry newspaper parcels at low rates, the prepayment of the carriage being evidenced by a special label affixed to the parcel. Other railway companies did the same thing, though it was not until some years that the use of these prepaying labels became general; but in the years 1867 and 1868 there was scarcely a railway in England or Scotland which did not issue labels of various values for the prepayment of single newspapers and parcels of newspapers of different weights, the charge for a single newspaper being represented by a label of one halfpenny, and for parcels by labels proportioned to the weight of each.

By a Treasury Warrant of the 11th September, 1863 (*London Gazette*, 29th September), a concession was made to the public by allowing samples and patterns of goods of *no intrinsic value* to be sent by the post, under certain restrictions as to size and up to 24 oz. in weight, at rates equal to three times those payable under the Book Post. These rates were altered by a Warrant dated the 16th August, 1864; and by another Warrant dated the 27th December, 1864, prices current were placed on the same footing as newspapers in respect of transmission by post.

The condition that the samples and patterns should be of *no intrinsic value* afforded room, as might easily have been foreseen, for divergence of views between the officials and the public. After some experience of the friction thus occasioned the Treasury removed the obnoxious restriction, and also reduced the rates by a Warrant dated 20th March, 1865 (*London Gazette*, 24th March). By its terms all packets of patterns or samples were transmissible by post if sent according to the regulations thereby laid down, and not exceeding a certain size and 24 oz. in weight, at the following rates, to be prepaid in stamps, viz. :

|                     |                             |             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|                     | Weight not exceeding 4 oz., | 2d.         |
| Exceeding 4 oz. and | „ „                         | 8 oz., 4d.  |
| „ 8 oz.             | „ „                         | 16 oz., 8d. |
| „ 16 oz.            | „ „                         | 24 oz., 1s. |

A certain portion of the public, principally tradesmen, and especially seedsmen, availed themselves of these cheap rates for sending small parcels, for the transmission of which this post became the recognized medium ; but it was abolished in March, 1871, when the letter rate of one penny for every half-ounce was altered to that now in force.

At length the public began to discover that the rates as established by the Post-office for the conveyance of newspapers and printed matter were exorbitant, and this was especially felt in the Book Post rates, where the minimum charge for the transmission by post of printed matter was the same as for a letter of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight ; whereas in France, where the single rate on a letter weighing one-third of an ounce was 20 centimes, or nearly 2d., a newspaper weighing four times that weight was conveyed for one halfpenny, and printed matter such as circulars, invoices, &c., of the weight of a single letter was carried for one-sixth of a penny, and of half that weight for one-twelfth of a penny ; while many Continental States afforded equal, if not greater, facilities for the conveyance of printed matter by the post, especially where it was of small weight. Thousands of circulars were sent to Belgium to be posted, the postal rate from thence to England being only  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., while other attempts were made to substitute some cheaper mode for their distribution.

Mr. R. Brydone, a native of Edinburgh, seems to have imagined that the postal laws did not extend to prohibit private individuals from undertaking the conveyance and delivery of printed circulars. Accordingly at the end of the year 1865 he organized a company, under the name of the "Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company," which, in addition to the conveyance and delivery of small parcels, undertook the delivery of circulars for "door-to-door" advertisers. Adhesive stamps of the value of one farthing were issued by the Company, bearing as a device the arms of Edinburgh and Leith on two shields, and are found in red-brown, violet, and green, imperforate ; in violet, and green, rouletted ; and in mauve, and green, perforated

11½. These stamps were affixed to the circulars, and some are found obliterated with a hand stamp of "R. B. & Co."

The enterprise appears to have been successful, as a competitor sprang up early in 1866, and issued an adhesive stamp bearing the inscription "Clark & Co., Circular and Parcel Deliverers, 10, Calton Street, Edinburgh" on a lattice-work ground. The whole was printed in blue on white paper; but as no value was inserted it is possible that the stamp was only employed as a species of advertising ticket.

Early in 1867 the Edinburgh and Leith Company issued two other stamps, identical in design with those first issued, but of smaller size and somewhat better executed. They were printed in both mauve and green, and are to be found imperforate and rouletted. Similar companies were also established in Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen, and Liverpool, all of which issued stamps representing a farthing or a halfpenny.

The promoters of the Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company in 1866 extended the field of their operations to London, their aim being, according to their announcement, "to economise the labour and expense, besides securing the regular delivery of open circulars, pamphlets, &c., now so frequent and effective a medium of 'door-to-door' advertising." The "London Circular and Pamphlet Delivery Company" accordingly issued two stamps, of the respective values of one farthing and one halfpenny, the colour of the first being blue, and that of the latter mauve. The design was the same for both, being the arms of the City of London in a shield; above and below were scrolls, on the one was inscribed LONDON, and on the other CIRCULAR DELIVERY CO., and the value was at the foot. They were issued unperforated, as also perforated 12.

Whether the "London and Metropolitan Circular Delivery Company" was the last-mentioned Company under a new name, or an entirely distinct undertaking, does not seem to be clear, but it is found, in April, 1867, issuing a prospectus, in which the directors state that "to insurance companies, commercial and professional firms, and all who advertise by means of circulars,

these companies will be of great service. The Company's stamp is affixed to each circular, which will secure its proper delivery to the party to whom it is addressed." The stamps issued by the Company were similar in design to those of the "London Circular and Pamphlet Delivery Company," and were perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ . The colour of the one farthing was pink, and that of the one halfpenny orange. The name of the Company was subsequently altered to the "London and Districts," and the colour of the stamps changed to green for the one farthing, and pink for the one halfpenny.

The promoters of these companies next appear to have contemplated extending their operations over a wider field, and proposed to distribute circulars not only in London and its neighbourhood, but they engaged to make a similar distribution in other towns in which branches were established. This was to be done by the "National Circular Delivery Company," and stamps were issued by this Company of the values of one farthing, one halfpenny, one penny, and three-halfpence.

In the month of August, 1867, the proceedings of these Companies attracted the notice of the Government, and the Law Officers of the Crown instructed the Solicitor to the Post-office to take measures for their suppression. One of the messengers of the London and Metropolitan Circular Delivery Company engaged in delivering circulars was therefore brought before the police magistrate at the head office in Bow Street, on the 30th August, 1867, charged with "delivering letters contrary to the privilege of the Postmaster-General," and was convicted in a penalty of £5. The proprietor of the business carried on under the name of the Company, and who was the virtual defendant in the case, stated that he would take care for the future that no circulars but what were open should be sent out for delivery; but the presiding magistrate, Sir Thomas Henry, warned him against the danger of such a course, and that the Acts 7 Will. IV. and 1 Vict. c. 36 were most stringent Acts, passed on purpose to protect the privileges of the Post-office, and could not be evaded in that way. In fact, the defendant had been keeping a sort

of little post-office, which neither he or anyone else had any right to do.

A series of stamps, all similar in general design, and of the values and colours of one farthing, green ; one halfpenny, blue ; three-farthings, lilac ; and one penny, vermilion, appear to have been subsequently issued under the titles of the "London Delivery Company," the "Dundee Delivery Company," the "Manchester Delivery Company," the "Glasgow Delivery Company," the "Liverpool Delivery Company," the "Aberdeen Delivery Company," the "Birmingham Delivery Company," the "Metropolitan Delivery Company," and the "Edinburgh and Leith Delivery Company," the word "Circular" having been omitted ; but the above-mentioned prosecution was a death-blow to the schemes of the promoters, who appear to have abandoned their expressed intention of appealing against the decision of Sir Thomas Henry, and of involving themselves in the risk of further proceedings with so powerful an antagonist as the Crown in the litigation.\*

This attempt to invade the privileges of the Post-office, however puerile it may appear, had nevertheless a certain amount of effect in directing the attention of the public to the excessive charges of the Post-office for the conveyance of printed matter of small weight. Pressure was brought to bear on the Government, but the chief merit is due to the late Mr. Graves, the member for Liverpool, who warmly took up the cause of the advocates for a reduction of the rates of postage on printed matter and newspapers. In April, 1869, he brought the question before the House of Commons, when he produced a sheet on which were stamps of twenty-five countries, all of which were less than one penny in value, and some of them

\* The existence of these labels has been mentioned solely because they have attracted the notice of some collectors, for the especial benefit of whom a large proportion of them seem to have been prepared. To those who are curious in the Railway Newspaper Parcel Tickets and these labels of the Circular Delivery Companies, a lengthened account of them by Dr. Magnus will be found in *Le Timbrophile* for 1868, pages 321, 327, 354, 367, 375, and 384.



only of the value of  $\frac{1}{13}$ th of a penny. The Government promised to consider the matter, though the Marquis of Hartington, then Postmaster-General, predicted vastly increased labour and great loss to the Post-office, if the proposed reduction to one halfpenny for two ounces was carried into effect; predictions which were by no means verified by the results. In the following year the Government brought in a Bill which subsequently, on the 9th August, 1870, became the Act 33 and 34 Vict. c. 79, whereby, on and after the 30th September, 1870, the impressed stamp on newspapers was done away with, and any newspaper, irrespective of its size or weight, provided that it had been previously registered at the General Post-office, was allowed to be sent by post for one halfpenny, but if not so registered it became liable to be charged at the Book Post rate fixed by the Act at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for every two ounces. Full effect was given to other provisions of the Act by a Treasury Warrant of the 26th September, 1870 (*London Gazette*, 30th September), which also contained the regulations\* of the Postmaster-General, issued with the approval of the Treasury, in conformity with the provisions of the Act.†

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### 1. THE HALFPENNY WRAPPER.

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

The 18th Section of the "Post-office Act, 1870," directed the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to provide proper dies and

\* The regulation that newspapers for abroad must be posted within eight days from the date of publication was made to prevent a too great influx on the day the mails were made up for despatch.

† The reduction effected by the Act of 1870 was a step in the right direction; but when it is considered that the present rate of the Book Post as fixed by the Act is the same as that in force between England and the whole of the Continent, as also between England and the United States and the other countries in the first class of the Postal Union, it is impossible to deny that a further reduction ought to be made, especially on printed matter of small weight, and there is no valid reason why a stamp of one-eighth of a penny should not be allowed to prepay a circular of half an ounce in weight.

other implements for denoting by stamps or otherwise the duties of postage payable under the Act or any Treasury Warrant. In the month of September the following notice, emanating from the General Post-office, appeared in the public journals, addressed to newspaper proprietors and newspaper agents :

“In connection with the reduction in the rates of Postage on Inland Newspapers, Printed Matter and Patterns or Samples, which will take effect on and from the 1st of October, Halfpenny Postage Labels and Newspaper Wrappers bearing an impressed Halfpenny Stamp will be introduced. A supply of each is in course of issue to Head Postmasters in the Country, and to the District Offices and the Receiving Offices in London. Previously to the 1st of October the sale of these Labels and Wrappers will be confined to Newspaper Proprietors and News-agents, who might possibly be inconvenienced were not time allowed for preparation ; but as the Reduction of Postage does not commence before the 1st of October, anything bearing a Halfpenny Stamp posted before that date will be treated as unpaid. Newspaper Proprietors and News-agents, by applying to a Head Postmaster, will be able to obtain at very short notice any quantity of these Labels or Wrappers. The Wrappers (the dimensions of which are 14 inches by 5 inches) will be sold at the following prices : 500 for £1 2s. 6d., 100 for 4s. 6d., 50 for 2s. 3d., 25 for 1s. 1½d., 10 for 5½d., 5 for 3d., 2 for 1½d., 1 for ¾d., but a discount of 1 per cent. will be allowed to persons purchasing at one time not less than £10 worth of either Labels or Wrappers. Newspaper Proprietors and News-vendors who may desire to have their own Wrappers on Paper impressed with the Halfpenny Stamp must make application, not to the Post-office, but to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. Wrappers must be of white paper.”

Simultaneously with the issue of the above notice from the General Post-office the Commissioners of Inland Revenue issued the following :

**“WRAPPERS FOR NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTER.**

“The Board of Inland Revenue desire to give notice that SHEETS of PAPER, for wrappers for Newspapers, Book Packets, and Patterns of Sample Packets, can be IMPRESSED with the HALFPENNY POSTAGE STAMP under the following regulations :

"1st. The paper must be white, and must neither be folded nor creased.

"2nd. The size of the sheets must be double crown, double demy, or double royal.

"3rd. Each sheet must be prepared to receive 8, 12, or 16 stamps. No other number can be impressed; and the stamps can be impressed only in the positions and at the distances apart indicated upon pattern sheets, which may be seen at the head offices at London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

"4th. The stamp will be impressed immediately above the place for the address, and near the right-hand edge of the wrapper. To give space for the stamp, any printing on the sheets should be kept  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch clear of what is to be the right-hand edge of the wrapper.

"5th. Each lot sent in must be accompanied by a sheet marked to show in accordance with which of the patterns it is desired that the stamps should be placed.

"6th. The paper must be delivered at the offices above mentioned in reams of 480 sheets.

"7th. Not less than two reams for one description of wrapper can be received for stamping.

"8th. Any sheets found to have been injured in the process of stamping may be returned to this office, with an equal number of fresh sheets, on the next occasion of similar sheets being sent in, when the stamps will be transferred.

"9th. When the paper is brought for stamping a person must attend at the department of the Receiver-General to fill up the necessary warrant, and to pay the amount of the stamps required. No discount is allowed.

"10th. Persons in the country must not send to the offices through the post or by carriers, but must send through an agent.

"By order of the Board,

"T. SARGENT, *Secretary.*

"*Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London,  
9th September, 1870.*"\*

DESIGN.—The design consists of the profile of the Queen to the left on a solid circular ground of colour, with an arched band above, on which is the value HALFPENNY; the whole

\* The above regulations have since been somewhat modified, and not less than *one* ream of paper for one description is now received; nor is any particular degree of whiteness in the paper rigorously insisted on.

being enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, with the angles rounded.

**DIE.**—The die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and furnished with holes to receive the date plugs. Casts were taken from the die for the purpose of printing the wrappers.



Those sold by the Post-office are printed and supplied to the Inland Revenue Department by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., but those which are supplied to the order of private individuals on paper furnished by them are printed at the offices of the Department at Somerset House, under the before-mentioned regulations, and of these no further mention need be made, except that the impression is found to vary rather more in depth of colour than in those printed and supplied by the contractors.

### **First Issue.**

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.

The date of issue, 1.10.70, was inserted in the die, and a large stock was so printed by the contractors. Specimen prints of the die were officially approved on 4th and 5th July, 1870.

The impression was in green, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

The wrapper measured 14 inches by 5 inches. It was square at each extremity, and gummed at the top with yellowish gum.\*

### **Second Issue.**

Date of Issue, November, 1870.

In the following month the date plugs were removed, and replaced by florets.

\* These stamps are to be found with various dates during the month of December, 1871, and the first three months of 1872. They were impressed on half sheets of paper, on which were printed forms of certificates connected with the provisions of the Vaccination Acts. It may be remarked that the colour of these stamps is ordinarily of a much deeper tone than in those composing the general issue.

The size of the wrapper was also altered, and measured a little less than 12 inches in length by 5 inches wide. Two other sizes were also introduced, the one measuring 9 by 4 inches, and the other 7 by 4 inches.\* The wrappers still continued to be cut square at the ends, and the top gummed with the same yellow gum.



### Third Issue.

Date of Issue, January, 1871.

In January, 1871, a slight modification was made in the shape of the wrapper. The corners of the gummed end were tapered off; but no change was made in any other respect, and the wrappers continued to be issued in the three sizes.

The two smaller sizes not appearing to find much favour with the public, the issue of them was discontinued on the 1st April, 1873, and the wrappers were only sold in quantities of twelve, at 6½d., or in multiples of twelve.

### Fourth Issue.

Date of Issue, October, 1875.

In October, 1875, the wrapper appeared with the following instructions, printed in three lines of type about midway between the stamp and the top gummed edge :

“This wrapper must be used only for Newspapers, or for printed papers which may be sent under the Book Post, otherwise the packet will be charged with postage.”

### Fifth Issue.

Date of Issue, November, 1875.

In the following month the above instructions were altered as follows into a paragraph of five lines :

“This wrapper may only be used for Newspapers, or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the book rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter, whether separate or otherwise. If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.”

\* This latter size is given on the authority of M. Mahé (see *Timbrophile* for November, 1870, p. 591), and it would appear to be the only size he had seen. The other sizes are in the possession of the authors.

The prices at which the wrappers were sold to the public were somewhat modified, and single copies were obtainable at the various Post-offices.

In December, 1877, a change was made in the paper, which up to this period was nearly white, and was of such inferior quality that a large percentage of the wrappers burst in the course of transmission by the Post-office, to the annoyance of the public and loss of time by the officials. A tougher paper was selected of the kind generally known as cap paper or whity-brown.\*

In May, 1879, the colour of the impression was changed (without any other alteration being made) to red-brown. The lower corners of the wrappers were also slightly tapered off, a modification which had been made at the close of the previous year.

The authorities in May, 1881, issued a Notice that wrappers of a better quality will be issued for sale to the public on the 1st of June, and the use of those in stock discontinued after the present supply is sold off.

Specimens of the one halfpenny and the one penny wrapper next described, in sizes differing from those officially issued and without any printed instructions, are to be met with in collections; but all such have been printed at the request of private applicants under the regulations before referred to.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### ONE HALFPENNY.

##### *First Issue.*

White paper, square ends. Stamp dated 10.1.70.

1st October, 1870. One size. 14 x 5 inches, green.

##### *Second Issue.*

White paper, square ends. No date.

November, 1870. Three sizes. 12 x 5 inches, green.

9 x 4    "    "

7 x 4    "    "

\* Experiments were made on the white paper, and that proposed to be substituted, not only by macerating the two kinds in water, and thus ascertaining the quantity of fibrous matter contained in each, but the tenacity was further tested by weighting the samples up to the breaking point.

**Third Issue.**

White paper, top corners tapered. No date.

January, 1871. Three sizes. 12 × 5 inches, green.

9 × 4    "    "  
7 × 4    "    "

**Fourth Issue.**

White paper, top corners tapered. Instructions in three lines.

No date.

1st October, 1875. One size. 12 × 5 inches, green.

**Fifth Issue.**

(1) White paper, top corners tapered. Instructions in five lines.

No date.

November, 1875. One size. 12 × 5 inches, green.

(2) Whity-brown paper, top corners tapered. Instructions, &c.,  
as in (1).

December, 1877. One size. 12 × 5 inches, green.

(3) Paper, &c., as in (2); lower corners also tapered.

May, 1879. One size. 12 × 5 inches, red-brown.

(4) Paper, whity-brown, stouter and better quality, top corners  
only tapered.

1st June, 1881. One size. 12 × 5 inches, red-brown.

**2. THE ONE PENNY WRAPPER.**

Date of issue, September 13th, 1878.

In the month of August, 1878, the Post-office gave notice of its intention to issue forthwith a wrapper of the value of one penny, principally designed for the accommodation of the public in transmitting newspapers under the weight of 4 oz. to countries within the postal union, and for printed papers and patterns not exceeding 4 oz. in weight to countries within class A. It also serves for patterns to countries within class B where the weight does not exceed 2 oz

The issue of this wrapper was to have taken place on the 1st September, 1878; but it was not till the 13th of that month that it was actually sold to the public.

DESIGN.—Diademed profile of the Queen within a double oval on a solid ground of colour; POSTAGE in the upper part of the oval border, and ONE PENNY in the lower part in block letters, with ornaments at the sides.



DIE.—The die, like that of the one halfpenny last described, was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and the wrappers supplied to the public by the Post-office were in like manner printed and prepared by that firm.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in red-brown on whity-brown or cap paper, and the wrapper measures 12 inches by 5 inches. The top edge is gummed, and the corners at the top and bottom are tapered off. There are no instructions printed on the wrapper.

The authorities at Somerset House imprint this value also for the public, on paper supplied by the applicants, under similar regulations to those in force for the halfpenny value.

#### SYNOPSIS.

#### ONE PENNY.

Whity-brown paper, corners tapered.

13th September, 1878. One size. 12 × 5 inches, red-brown.

### 3. SPECIAL STAMPS FOR NEWSPAPERS.

Many of the newspaper proprietors and newspaper agents availed themselves of the permission to send in paper to the Inland Revenue Office to be stamped as wrappers, on which was frequently printed the name of the newspaper or the name and address of the agent; but the *Times* and the *Stamford Mercury*, both of which, as has been already men-



tioned, had, previously to the 1st October, 1870, employed type-printed stamps for the purpose of prepaying the postage, entered into arrangements with the Post-office for the use of a special type-printed obliterated stamp of one halfpenny. This privilege was accorded to them on condition that the stamps should be printed only on those copies which were sent direct from the office of the newspaper to the principal Post-office, which had thereby a check on the number bearing the franking stamp.

Accordingly a notice was issued by the General Post-office, on the 30th September, 1870, in the following terms :

“On and after 1st October next certain copies of the *London Times* and of the *Stamford Mercury* Newspapers will bear an obliterated Postage Stamp impressed on the Newspaper itself, but this impressed Stamp will be available for such copies only as are posted at the General Post Office, London, or at the Head Post Office in Stamford respectively. The Postage on copies of the *Times* or *Stamford Mercury* posted elsewhere must be prepaid either by a Halfpenny Postage Label or a Stamped Newspaper wrapper, otherwise they must be charged with Postage.”

The design of the stamp made use of by the *Times*, and which still continues to be employed by this journal for all copies sent by post from the chief office to places within the United Kingdom, consists of a single-lined rectangular parallelogram, measuring 37 by 22½ mm. (fig. 13), within which are two curved branches, one of oak and the other of laurel, connected together at the starting-point by a knot, in which is a rose, a thistle being to the left, and a bunch of shamrock to the right. Below this design and within the parallelogram is “ONE HALFPENNY,” and above the design “THE TIMES.” Between the upper extremities of the branches is a peculiarly shaped Crown. Over all this is engraved an upright oval obliterating mark of ten thick lines, with a diamond-shaped blank in the centre, in which is the No. 70, denoting the distinguishing number of the newspaper office in the chief office at St. Martin’s le Grand. On the left of this

diamond-shaped blank is the letter A; on the right, the letter B. This obliterating mark measures 20 by 24 mm.

The design of the stamp for the *Stamford Mercury* is very similar to that of the one penny oval stamp in black previously employed for denoting the payment of the postage on this newspaper (fig. 10), and consists of a branch of oak and another of laurel, connected by a ribbon bearing the motto "DIEU ET MON DROIT" within a double oval frame. The branches are curved so as to follow the contour of the oval, and in the upper part is a Crown, with the letter B on each side, as the die mark. In the upper part of the frame is "STAMFORD MERCURY," and in the lower part "ONE HALFPENNY." The obliteration, which is engraved on the die with which the impression is struck, is similar in design to the ordinary oval obliterating stamp, but of smaller dimensions than that employed for letters, which latter measures 28 by 19 mm., while that of the stamp measures only 20 by 16 mm. The figures also, representing the number of the obliterating stamp for Stamford (742), are only 6 mm. high, while in the letter obliterating stamp they are 8½ mm. This obliterating stamp is so engraved on the die as that the figures occupy the blank spaces in the centre of the stamp.

The *Stamford Mercury* ceased to make use of this type-printed stamp about two years back, and now employs a wrapper of white paper on which the ordinary one halfpenny stamp is impressed. This stamp is obliterated in black by a small circular hand-stamp, of 16½ mm. in diameter (fig. 11), on the exterior of which, in a cartouche extending over about three-fifths of the circumference, is the inscription "STAMFORD MERCURY." Within the circle are the numerals 742, and "STAMFORD," in capitals, following the curve of the circle below, the remaining vacant spaces in the circle being filled up with obliterating lines.

## IV.

### POST CARDS.

#### L

##### INLAND POST CARDS.

THE "Post-office Act, 1870" (33 and 34 Vict. c. 79), authorized the issue of Post Cards at a postal rate of one halfpenny, and by Section 18 gave the necessary powers to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to provide dies, &c., for carrying the provisions of the Act into execution.

The Act, which received the Royal Assent on the 9th August, 1870, provided that it should come into operation from and after the 30th September then next. On the 9th of September the following notice was issued :

#### "POST CARDS.

"Pursuant to an Act passed in the last session of Parliament (33 and 34 Vict. c. 79), POST CARDS have been prepared for correspondence by Post in the United Kingdom after the 30th of the present month, stamped with the postage duty of one halfpenny.

"These cards will be sold without any charge beyond the duty. A single card or any number of cards may be purchased, but they will be sent out from this office in packets containing twenty-four cards, price 1s., and in parcels of twenty packets, price £1.\* They may be obtained at all Post-offices, and from licensed vendors of stamps.

\* In April, 1872, in consequence, as was stated by the Postmaster-General, of complaints of the papermakers and stationers, that their trade was seriously affected by the sale of post cards at  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. each, without any charge being made for the cards themselves, the price was fixed at  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per dozen, and they were only sold by the Post-office in packets of one dozen.

"The cards will be also supplied when required in sheets containing forty-two cards, and measuring about 29½ by 21½. Although the cards may thus be obtained in sheets for the purpose of affording facility for printing upon them, each card must afterwards be separated from the sheet, as no combination of cards can pass through the Post-office.

"Such sheets will be issued only in half-reams, containing 240 sheets (10,080 cards), duty £21, and will be supplied to the public at the Inland Revenue Offices in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and at the offices of the distributors and sub-distributors of stamps in the country. A discount of 4s. per half-ream will be allowed to purchasers.

"When a supply of cards in sheets is required elsewhere than in London, Edinburgh, or Dublin, application in writing must be made to the warehouse-keeper at this office, or at the Inland Revenue Office in Edinburgh or Dublin, as the case may be. Such application must specify the quantity required, and the town or place having a stamp office to which it is desired that the consignment should be made.

"The applicants will have notice when they are to call at the stamp office and pay the duty.

"Post cards cannot be used before the 1st October.

"Those made up in packets will not be sold before that date ; but cards in sheets will be supplied by this office on and after 26th instant, to enable the public to print on them preparatory to their use next month.

"It is desirable that persons requiring cards in sheets should make early application for them.

"By order of the Board,

"(Signed) T. SARGENT, *Secretary.*

"INLAND REVENUE, SOMERSET HOUSE,

"9th September, 1870."

#### TYPE L

Date of Issue, 1st October, 1870.\*

DESIGN.—The design was prepared, and the cards manufactured and printed, by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. In the right upper angle is a rectangular stamp 22 mm. by 18 mm., within which is a profile of the Queen to the left on a solid circular ground

\* By a somewhat curious coincidence this date was exactly one year from that when post cards were first issued by the Austrian Post-office.

of colour, below which is **HALF PENNY** in coloured letters on a straight white label. To the left of the stamp are the Royal Arms, with **POST CARD** above, and **THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE** below them. Under this, to the extreme left, is the word **TO**, and the whole is enclosed in a Greek-pattern frame measuring  $4\frac{1}{4}$  by  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches, or 109 by 74 mm., in the larger sized, and  $4\frac{3}{8}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 112 by 65 mm., in the smaller sized cards.



Curiously enough, for Messrs. De La Rue and Co. are nothing if not accurate, the inscriptions on the arms display a variety of faults, the most remarkable of which is a malformation of the **N** in the word **PENSE** in the motto on the garter encircling the arms, the middle stroke of which goes from bottom to top instead of from top to bottom.

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression was in violet on a light buff-coloured thin card of 120 to the inch. It was made in two sizes, one measuring  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 121 by 87 mm., and the other  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 121 by 74 mm. Only one edition of the larger size was issued, as it was found that the width rendered the cards inconvenient in use. Some variations are found as well in the colour of the impression as in the tint of the card. They are printed on sheets composed of 42 cards in 7 rows of 6 cards in a row. The official copies registered at Somerset House have each card on the sheet numbered in ink by hand, the dates of allowance being as follows:—the 6th July, 1870, on a sheet of the “large size,” and the 28th June, 4th July, and 17th November, 1870, on three sheets of the “small size,” numbered from 1 to 126.

## TYPE II.

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1875.

On the 1st January, 1875, an alteration was made on the face of the card by the suppression of the word “**to**,” but in other respects no change was made in the type; and the same die of the arms continuing to be used, the malformation of the “**N**”

in the garter motto remained. The size of the card was  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

On the 1st February, 1875, an issue of this type was made, printed in red-brown on a thick white card (60 to the inch). This issue was announced to the public by a circular from the Post-office, issued a few days previously, to the following effect :

“A desire having been expressed for a post card of a superior quality to those now in use, it is intended to issue experimentally a limited number of somewhat superior cards on the 1st February next at the price of 8d. per dozen. These cards may be obtained at any of the head Post-offices, and at the branch offices in London, and will be sold at the rate of 8d. for 12 cards, or 4d. for 6 cards. The new post cards will be designated ‘stout’ cards to distinguish them from the present ‘thin’ cards, and they will be subject to the same rules and conditions in regard to their transmission by post as the present cards. It having been found that the price at which the present ‘thin’ post cards have hitherto been sold is not remunerative, the price of these cards has been raised since the 1st of January from  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d. for a packet of 12 cards, and 6 cards may be obtained for  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. No smaller number than six, either of the ‘stout’ or of the ‘thin’ cards, will be sold.”\*

### TYPE III.

Date of Issue, 1st January, 1878.

DESIGN.—The stamp was changed to one measuring only  $18\frac{1}{2} \times 21$  millimètres. The profile of the Queen was still in a circle, but the word HALFPENNY was placed in a curved label above the head, and the ornamentation in the spandrels was altered. The frame or border to the card was suppressed, and the legend, though similar to that of the previous issues, was differently disposed, the words



\* This rule has been relaxed, and single cards are now sold at the Post-offices at the rate of  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for a thin or stout card,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. for 2 thin ones, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 2 stout ones ;  $1\frac{3}{4}$ d. for 3 thin ones, and 2d. for 3 stout ones ;  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 4 thin ones, and  $2\frac{3}{4}$ d. for 4 stout ones ; 3d. for 5 thin ones, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 5 stout ones ;  $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. for 6 thin ones, and 4d. for 6 stout ones.

POST and CARD being separated by the Royal Arms, which were also re-engraved. In the new engraving of the Arms the tail of the lion stands farther away from the mane, the near fore-leg of the unicorn encroaches on the garter enclosing the arms, and the malformation of the N in PENSE is corrected.

IMPRESSION, &c.—The impression is in red-brown on both “thin” and “stout” cards, which are similar in size to those of the preceding issue. The official allowance of the impression of this issue is dated 24th October, 1877.

## SYNOPSIS.

## ONE HALFPENNY.

## TYPE I.

*Large Size*,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

1st October, 1870, violet, light and dark shades, on light buff.

*Small Size*,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

1st October, 1870, violet, light and dark shades, on light buff.

” ” ” on yellower buff.  
 ” lilac (shades) on yellower buff.

## TYPE II.

1st January, 1875, lilac (shades) on buff.

1st February, 1875, red-brown on “stout” white.

## TYPE III.

1st January, 1878, red-brown, on “thin” buff.

” ” ” on “stout” white

## II.

### POSTAL UNION POST CARDS.

#### TYPE I.

**DATE OF ISSUE.**—Simultaneously with the issue of the two-pence halfpenny adhesive stamp on the 1st of July, 1875, a postal card of half that value was issued for circulation within the limits of the countries which had joined the “General Postal Union.”

**DESIGN.**—The card measured  $4\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 122 by 87 millimetres, and had a Greek-patterned frame on the front. The design of the stamp was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue,



who have manufactured all the postal cards sold by the Post-office; it shows the profile of Queen Victoria to left on a solid ground of colour within a circular border, the inner line of which is composed of pearls, and the exterior of a double line. In the upper part of this circular border is ONE PENNY, and in

the lower FARTHING, in coloured letters, the portions to the right and left being intercepted by the exterior frame on the one side, and by the line of an interior frame on the other. Within this latter is the inscription,

“FOREIGN POST CARD,

“FOR COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE POSTAL UNION,”

below which, introduced into the interior frame is, “THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.”\*

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is in red-brown on buff card. The official sanction was given to the plate on 13th March, 1875.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### ONE PENNY-FARTHING.

1st July, 1875. Red-brown on buff.

\* These cards were at first marked to be sold at 1s. 4d. per dozen, but the price was subsequently changed to 1s. 3d. per dozen, and they could be purchased singly at the Post-offices at 1½d. each. They have now become obsolete in consequence of the alteration in the “Postal Union” card rates.



### III.

#### UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION POST CARDS.

WHEN the provisions of the Treaty of Paris, by which the "Universal Postal Union" was established in 1878, came into operation on the 1st April, 1879, two post cards were issued, one of the value of ONE PENNY for countries within class A of the Union, to which the single letter rate was  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., and another of the value of THREE HALFPENCE for countries within class B of the Union, to which the single letter rate was 4d. Both of these cards were designed and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

#### 1. THE ONE PENNY.

FIRST ISSUE.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1879.

DESIGN.—The card measures  $4\frac{1}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or  $122 \times 87$  millimètres. The design of the stamp in the right upper corner is the diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a solid octagonal ground formed by the intersection of two rectangular frames. On a tablet at the top is POSTAGE, and on a similar tablet below is ONE PENNY. The inscription on the card is



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE  
GREAT BRITAIN (GRANDE BRETAGNE)

POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in brown on a thin card of a light buff colour.

The date of the *imprimatur* of this card is the 16th December, 1878, and although the inscription was afterwards modified, yet only one continuous issue of it is recognized.

They were sold at 1s. per packet of 12, or singly at 1d. each.

SECOND ISSUE.

Date of Issue, October, 1879.

DESIGN.—The general design is identical with that of the previous issue; but in deference to the wishes expressed by several patriotic Irish members in the House of Commons the inscription was altered as follows:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRELANDE).

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

IMPRESSION, &c.—The impression, &c., was identical with that of the last issue.

SYNOPSIS.

ONE PENNY.

Inscription, "Great Britain."

1st April, 1879. Brown on light buff.

Inscription, "Great Britain and Ireland."

October, 1879. Brown on light buff.

2. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

Date of Issue, 1st April, 1879.

DESIGN.—The size of the card is the same as that of the one penny. The design of the stamp in the right upper corner is the diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a solid circular ground enclosed in an upright pointed oval frame, on which is inscribed POSTAGE on the top and THREE HALFPENCE in the lower part. The inscription on the card is



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

GREAT BRITAIN (GRANDE BRETAGNE)

POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in brown on a thin card of a light buff colour; the date of the *imprimatur* is 16th December, 1878.

SYNOPSIS.

THREE HALFPENCE.

Inscription, "Great Britain."

1st April, 1879. Brown on light buff.

## IV.

### *PRIVATE POST CARDS.*

In June, 1872, the Postmaster-General issued the following notice :\*

“ Notice is hereby given, that on and after the 17th June private cards may be taken to the office of the Inland Revenue to be impressed with a halfpenny stamp under conditions which may be learnt on application at the office ; and when thus impressed, but not otherwise (for adhesive stamps will not be accepted in payment of the postage), they may be transmitted through the post between places in the United Kingdom under the following regulations :

“ 1. The words ‘ Post Card ’ and ‘ The address only to be written on this side ’ must be printed on the front of the cards, as in the case of the official post card, the Royal Arms being omitted ; but there must be nothing else (the address excepted) printed, written, or otherwise impressed on the face of the cards.

“ 2. Nothing whatever may be attached to the cards.

“ 3. The cards must not be folded, nor may they be cut or in any way altered after they have been impressed with the halfpenny stamp at the office of Inland Revenue.

“ 4. On the back of the cards any communication, whether of the nature of a letter or otherwise, may be written or printed ; but such communication must not extend to the front side.

“ Private cards will not be supplied to postmasters for sale to the public. It must be distinctly understood that no cards, except those which are impressed with a halfpenny stamp at the office of the Inland Revenue, can pass through the post for the

\* The Postmaster-General, in his annual report for the year ending 31st March, 1873, says that the permission to allow the public to send in their own cards to be stamped was granted in compliance with the urgent solicitations of the Committee of Wholesale and Retail Stationers of the United Kingdom ; but, he adds, “ of this concession little use has been made.”

postage of a halfpenny if they have anything of the nature of a letter written upon them. There seems to be much misapprehension on this point."

**DESIGN.**—The die for embossing the stamp on cards under the foregoing regulations was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. from the original die of Mr. W. Wyon, and consists of the diademed profile of the Queen to the left in white relief on a plain solid ground of colour in an upright oval, outlined by a single white line, and measuring  $22\frac{1}{2} \times 18$  mm. Within the oval, and in curves following the contour, is HALFPENNY above the head, and POSTAGE below it, in white block letters, the two words being separated by a conventional ornament.



The regulation size of the cards is  $4\frac{1}{8}$  by  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches (120 by 72 millimètres).

**IMPRESSION.**—The impression is embossed in white relief on a pink ground of the same tone of colour as that of the one penny envelope.

At first the word "to" appeared on the face of the cards, but this is now for the most part omitted.

There are many varieties, dependent on the mode in which the legend is printed, the ornamental character of the type employed, and the lines under the word "POST CARD." The authorities do not object to these provided that they are not too obtrusive; but one singular instance of departure from the official regulations is worthy of being recorded. A supply of cards was presented for stamping by the Chiswick Press, of 21, Cook's Court, Chancery Lane, on which highly ornamented capitals were employed for the letters commencing the words POST and CARD, between which the Royal Arms were introduced, which is contrary to the regulations. By some accidental oversight the cards were admitted, the presence of the Arms being doubtless overlooked at the time; and as the precedent was once established in favour of the Chiswick Press, the authorities continue to stamp for it cards similarly printed,

though they refuse to depart from their regulations in favour of any other applicants. There are two varieties of these cards, dependent on the lettering, but the Royal Arms are found in both.

Coloured and fancy printing is admitted, and a long list of varieties might be made by enumerating varieties of lettering, lines, ornaments, devices, and colours, but they do not appear to us to require any further notice.

The following regulations emanating from the Inland Revenue Office are those still in force.

“Regulations under which post cards brought by the public to this office can be impressed with halfpenny postage stamps.

“1. They must be white, *i.e.* not tinted in any way.

“2. They must be of the same dimensions as the official post card; *viz.*,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches by  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

“3. They must not be thinner than the official post card; *viz.*, 120 to the inch; nor thicker than the telegraph card; *viz.*, 60 to the inch.

“4. The words ‘POST CARD’ and ‘THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE’ must be printed on the face, as on the official post card, but there must be nothing else (the address excepted) printed, written, or otherwise impressed on the face of the card.

“5. All cards must be sent in with evenly cut edges.

“6. At the right upper corner of the face of the card a space measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the top edge of the card and 1 inch from the side must be left for the stamp, and this space must be free from print both on the face and the underside.

“Not more than 10,000 can be received in one warrant.

“Not less than 480 can be stamped.”

No card other than the official post cards, or private cards stamped as above, is allowed to pass under a halfpenny stamp if it bears any communication in the nature of a letter, except it be a “circular letter;” *i.e.* a letter having internal evidence that it is intended for transmission in identical terms to several persons, and the whole or greater part of which is produced by means of ordinary type, engraving, lithography, or any other mechanical process. In this latter case the “circular letter may have an adhesive stamp of one halfpenny affixed to it, or the postage may be paid at the Post-office.”

## V.

### *ESSAYS, PROOFS, AND TRIALS.*

FOLLOWING the order of arrangement laid down at the commencement of this treatise, we will now proceed to give a short description of some of the principal essays, proofs, and trials of postage stamps and envelopes, which we consider are chiefly interesting in a historical point of view, as tending to throw light not only on the gradual growth of the system, but also on certain stages in the production of the stamps ultimately issued to the public.

To attempt to give a complete list of all these would not only exceed the limits of the present work, but would prove a wearisome and fruitless task, and unnecessary for the object we have in view; but we shall endeavour to meet the wishes of those who take an interest in the subject by chronicling such specimens as are usually met with in collections, while at the same time we shall duly record some others which have come under our notice, and, after careful examination, appear to deserve mention. But very few accounts of English essays have ever been published in works treating of philatelic subjects; these few we have consulted;\* but our principal sources of information have been derived from the examination of the contents of

\* "A Descriptive List of the Envelopes, Labels, and Embossed Stamps suggested before the issue of the vignette Mulready Envelope." *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. i. p. 52.

"Addenda to Mount Browne's Catalogue." By Dr. Viner. *Ibid.*, pp. 37, 56.

"Notes on the Proofs and Essays of Great Britain." By Mr. Philbrick. *Ibid.*, vol. vi. p. 130.

*Mount Browne's Catalogue.* Fifth Edition. March, 1864.

*Dr. J. E. Gray's Catalogue.* Edition 1866, pp. 155-162.

*Magasin Pittoresque.* Par M. N. Rondot. 1863.

the best English and foreign collections, and all the specimens described have been examined by us unless the contrary is expressly stated. In describing these specimens we have not thought it necessary to overload our pages by entering into the minutest descriptive details ; it has appeared to us to be sufficient to give only so much as would serve clearly to identify the individual specimen, adding to this the mention of any specially interesting features.

But very few essays date from a period much anterior to the agitation for postal reform, commenced in the year 1837, and which culminated in the passing of the Act of 1839, establishing a uniform penny postage : the reason being one which we have previously stated, that up to this period the Post-office was regarded by the public as a mysterious but *almost* perfect machine. When the agitation fairly set in there was no lack of advice from crotchet-mongers ; and when, after the Act was passed, the Lords of the Treasury addressed their invitation to "artists, men of science, and the public in general," "My Lords" were overwhelmed with suggestions on all sides. Very few of the authors of these, with one notable exception, that of the late Mr. C. Whiting, gave to their suggestions any practical form by sending in actual specimens of stamps or envelopes of which they proposed the adoption. Even the "Mulready" envelope finally adopted, and to which the first prize offered by "My Lords" was awarded, was sent in to the Treasury in the form of a pencil sketch. Ninety-nine per cent. of the rest were consigned to the Treasury waste-paper basket, and were never heard of afterwards. It is true that several designs appear to have been sent in subsequently, but so soon as public opinion had declared itself in favour of the adhesive stamps of one penny and twopence, and the embossed envelopes of the like values, there was nearly an end to any further proposals, as all saw that the Government had availed itself of the highest talent and skill that could be found, and that it was fruitless to endeavour to disturb a state of things with which every one appeared to be content.

During the subsequent period there has been nothing to call for any essays. England has not suffered from political convulsions. The Sovereign who gave her assent to the Act for establishing the uniform penny postage still sits on the throne; and whenever the Post-office authorities have been in need of an additional stamp, the contractors who supplied the others, than whom none better could be found,\* were ready to minister to their wants. It was only when it became known that the line-engraved stamps were to be replaced by surface-printed ones, that any fresh essays were submitted to the authorities, and those on a very limited scale, as it could scarcely be said there was an open competition.

The other branch of our subject, viz., the proofs and trials made in the course of producing the stamps and envelopes as ultimately issued for public use, seems to us to possess peculiar interest, inasmuch as these proofs and trials serve to mark the different phases through which the stamp has passed before it has become perfectly developed. This part of our subject we believe we have been so fortunate as to be able to make comparatively complete, or at all events sufficiently so to show how the results achieved have been attained.\*

With these prefatory remarks we will now proceed with an account of those essays which belong to the history of the agitation for postal reform initiated in 1837, and the proposals submitted for the approval of the Government and the public in that and the succeeding years. As it is not possible to classify these in the chronological order of their production, when the

\* Engravers and printers as a rule keep specimen proofs on plate, India paper, or on card from every die they produce. Proofs of this kind are called *die proofs*, and are usually taken during the progress of the work to judge of the results obtained, and to enable them to form an opinion of the workmanship and of any modifications which have been introduced, or which may be deemed necessary. When the die is completed, proofs are frequently taken before it is hardened, and also after it has been hardened. When the plate is prepared, the proofs taken to decide on colours and other details are called *plate proofs*, to distinguish them from those taken from the original die.



proposals emanated from the same person at various periods, we shall describe them under the names of their several authors wherever they are known to us.

When we come to treat the second branch of our subject we shall adopt a different mode, and endeavour to follow as far as possible the general plan of this work, only departing from it where it is necessary in order to avoid prolixity, or where convenience may require.

## SECTION I.

(1) *ESSAYS AND PROPOSALS SUBMITTED PRIOR TO 1840.*

CHARLES WHITING.

THE late Mr. Charles Whiting, the eminent printer of Beaufort House, in the Savoy, Strand, London, was one of the first who made proposals to the Post-office authorities to reduce the rates for the conveyance of printed matter, and for that purpose to employ stamped envelopes, or "Go Frees."\* These were proposed by him as an experiment, which, if successful, were to be followed by applying them to written matter. †

Mr. Whiting married the widow of Sir William Congreve, the inventor of the original machines used at Somerset House for embossing in colour. Sir William Congreve was also the patentee of a process of compound plate printing, whereby impressions were struck off in two or more colours at a single operation of the press, which was effected by two or more plates fitting into each other with great exactness, so as to form one complete design.

Compound printing was extensively known from the circumstance of its being employed in printing the Government labels used for denoting the duties on patent medicines. For some years these labels had been printed in two colours, the second

\* These must not be confounded with a trial obliterating circular stamp in black, with GO FREE across the face, and POST OFFICE round the outer edge, on a plain engine-turned groundwork resembling an ordinary office seal, the whole being enclosed in an outer circle of dots. It is frequently found on the covers bearing the name of Mr. Wyld, subsequently described.

† *Second Report of Committee on Postage*, 21st June, 1838. Questions 11,253-4.

of which was added to the stamp by passing it through the press a second time. Work thus done always shows its origin, and has a tendency to get out of "register," as it is termed by printers, for the second printing scarcely ever comes exactly in its proper place. By the Congreve system this defect was impossible, and an accuracy as well as clearness before unattainable was secured.

Mr. Whiting made his first proposals to the authorities some time previous to March, 1830; but they were not entertained, nor have any specimens of the "Go Frees" been met with by us.

In March, 1830, he renewed his proposals, and subsequently submitted them to Lord Althorp, Sir Robert Peel, and Mr. Spring Rice. He failed, however, to secure the support of any of these Chancellors of the Exchequer, the Stamp Office declaring that the scheme was not practicable, so far as that department was concerned.

In the specimens of covers laid before the Committee of Post-office Inquiry in 1837 by Mr. Dickinson, there is internal evidence that the designs were the work of Mr. Whiting; but so far as he was personally concerned he does not seem to have taken any further steps until he appeared as a witness before the Select Committee of 1838, when he produced specimens printed by him "as medicine labels" in two colours, most probably by the Congreve process. He added that he proposed to print the stamps on bands as used for newspapers, and not to paste or affix them as labels on envelopes.

We have not been able to meet with any specimens of the stamps submitted by him to the Committee; but it would appear that they were similar to the "Go Frees."

In the course of the proceedings Mr. Whiting also produced to the Committee a folio sheet of paper bearing impressions of two separate stamps, the use of which he advocated. They were printed on paper specially watermarked "Post Office," and did not resemble the "Go Frees." The design was an oblong, printed in colours; but the report of the proceedings of the

Committee does not mention what the colours were, and with the most diligent search we have failed in finding specimens of these stamps. The Blue Book, our sole source of information, states that one bore the legend "POST OFFICE—printed matter under one ounce, price 1d;" and the other, "POST OFFICE—written matter under one drachm, price 2d."

The agitation set on foot by Sir Rowland Hill for the establishment of the Penny Postage has been noticed in our introductory chapters, as also how the Mercantile Committee, by its Post Circular and other publications, contributed to stimulate the proceedings of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, and to influence the course taken by the Ministry of the day in conceding penny postage.

Mr. Whiting was one of the prominent supporters of the movement, and from time to time produced from the resources of his establishment various practical suggestions to aid in carrying out Sir Rowland Hill's plans, illustrated by specimens of the graphic art, designed either to show the method by which the postage might be collected, or to meet some objections which arose during the discussions. Several of these specimens were circulated by the Mercantile Committee during the progress of the agitation.

After the Act for establishing the penny postage had passed, Mr. Whiting, in response to the advertisement of the Lords of the Treasury, addressed to "artists, men of science, and the public in general," himself contributed a paper, illustrated by specimens, which was adjudged worthy to receive one of the premiums awarded by the Treasury, one component element of Mr. Whiting's suggestions being the use of the Congreve embossing press, which gave the relief in white on a ground of colour, similarly to that subsequently made use of for embossing the penny envelopes at Somerset House.

We will now proceed to describe such of Mr. Whiting's designs as we have been able to examine, taking first one which was submitted to the Lords of the Treasury in 1839.

*Adhesive Label.*

1. The Royal Crown in a white upright oval disc was surrounded by three concentric oval frames, within a square measuring  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch or 23 mm., the upper and lower ends of the outermost oval line being intercepted by the lines of the square. The innermost oval frame bore an engine-turned pattern of white lines forming small festoons, the outermost a similar pattern in lattice-work, while on the middle one, which was solid, was inscribed, in the upper part, PRINCIPLE SUGGESTED, and in the lower, BEAUFORT HOUSE, in white letters. In small ovals on either side were the letters V.R., on white ground, in script capitals, and in small coloured squares at the four angles were A, 3, C, W, in white, one in each square. The spandrels were filled in with horizontal lines.

The die was engraved on metal, and arranged on the Congreve principle to print one or two colours as desired. When arranged for two colours the impression showed four lanceolate blotches radiating from the centre (where they nearly met) towards the angles, with four triangular ornaments between them, giving a sort of harlequin appearance when striking contrasts of colours were used.

The stamps were surface-printed on white unwatermarked wove paper, and also on thick card, in blue. Impressions were also taken in two colours—blue and red, green and red, and black and red.

*Embossed Stamp.*

2. The head of the Queen to the right,\* without diadem, with a pendent curl behind, in two concentric oval frames, the inner composed of an engine-turned pattern of white lines, similar

\* This essay is remarkable as being an infringement of the numismatic rule adopted in Great Britain of representing the Queen looking to the left, each Sovereign looking in an opposite direction to the immediately preceding one. We know of no instance of the Queen being portrayed on a stamp actually issued looking in any other direction than to the left, except in the cases of some of the Colonial stamps.

to that in the inner oval of the label last described, the outer of an interlacing pattern, similar to that of the frame of the current one penny envelope stamp, interrupted at the top by the word PAID, in large shaded block letters. The oval measured externally  $1\frac{3}{8}$  by  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch, or 30 by 33 mm. This design was embossed in white relief on coloured ground on unwatermarked wove paper, also on thick cardboard. The following colours are found : blue, of deep, full, and clear azure shades ; green ; rose-pink ; carmine ; orange-yellow.

*Harwood's Envelope.*

3. A notion being very prevalent, especially amongst persons engaged in business, that it was desirable for the letter and the address to be on the same piece of paper, to evidence its transmission by the post, many of the competitors produced covers, inside which the letter might be written, and which when folded would show the frank stamp on the outside. With this object in view Mr. Whiting prepared the present cover.

The design consisted of an elaborate rectangular transverse oblong. The inner space for the address, measuring  $4\frac{3}{8}$  by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, was covered with a small-patterned engine-turned ground, enclosed in a triple frame about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide, ornamented with a groundwork of a larger pattern. The letters v.r. in florid monogram were introduced in ornamented circles at the upper left and lower right angles, the other angles being filled by similar circles enclosing bunches of rose, shamrock, and thistle. These circles were connected on the side margins of the frame by scroll-fashioned ornaments, and between them in the upper margin was HARWOOD'S, and in the lower ENVELOPE, both in large shaded block letters. The whole design measured  $8\frac{3}{4}$  by 7 inches.

The impression was in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

This plate was prepared to execute an order given to Mr. Whiting by a stationer named Harwood, and the words "Harwood's Envelope" were inserted in the plate to show how any

required inscription might be effected. The copies used for the order are in green, the other colours are trials.

We have described these essays in the above order because, as submitted by Mr. Whiting, the three designs were impressed on one sheet of paper.

On the one side the design of the cover (No. 3) extended over nearly the whole of the surface of the sheet, leaving but a small blank margin; on the reverse side to the right, where when folded the stamp would come, the label (No. 1) was impressed, and in the left upper corner the embossed stamp (No. 2) was struck. On the face of the cover was printed in black, "SPECIMEN OF ENVELOPE, STAMP, AND ADHESIVE LABEL suggested by Charles Whiting to the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury as exemplifying his suggestions for carrying out the mechanical requirements of a cheap postage.

We have seen the following combinations :

| COVER.    | EMBOSSED STAMP. | ADHESIVE LABEL. |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Red-brown | Blue            | Blue and red    |
| "         | "               | Green and red   |
| Rose      | "               | " "             |
| Blue      | Rose-pink       | " "             |

We now resume the consideration of the stamps, or the adhesive labels, as they were then termed.

#### *Adhesive Labels.*

4. A large figure 1 in an upright oval, with PENNY in a curve, enclosed in an oval frame, within a rectangle nearly square, measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 32 by 31½ mm., flanked on each side by v.R. in small script capitals. A narrow reticulated border extends round the rectangle except where intercepted by the oval, and within small squares at each angle of it is the numeral 1. In the oval frame is the inscription NOT TO EXCEED in the upper part, and HALF OUNCE in the lower. The oval frame is composed of an engine-turned linear pattern, showing in bicolour printing the words POST OFFICE, in large block letters.

The impression was in bicolour on white wove unwatermarked paper, also on white card, and is found as follows :

|                                |   |           |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Groundwork red, lettering blue | } | on paper. |
| ,, black ,, ,,                 | } |           |
| ,, green ,, ,,                 | } | on card.  |
| ,, blue ,, ,,                  | } |           |

5. The design consists of a small circular disc in red, in an upright oval black disc, round which are three concentric oval borders, all enclosed in an ornamental square black framing interrupted by the oval at the top and bottom. A single line extends round the whole rectangular frame, which measures  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch, or 34 mm. square. In the interior oval is OUNCE, with " $\frac{1}{2}$ " above and "1d." below; in the upper part of the oval band POST OFFICE PERMIT, in Roman capitals, and in the lower TO CARRY MATTER NOT EXCEEDING IN WEIGHT, in small block letters. All the inscriptions are in white on particoloured ground, the die being on the Congreve principle, printing sixteen irregularly shaped red blotches radiating from the oval framing enclosing the inside black oval.

The impression was in black, with red blotches, on stout white wove unwatermarked paper.

This label was circulated attached to the left upper corner of a printed circular headed, "The fears of the paper-makers and stationers about collecting postage by means of stamps allayed." The circular, after calling attention to Sir Rowland Hill having recommended the use of small adhesive stamps, enlarged on their advantage, and combated the idea that any government monopoly of stamped covers and paper injurious to the paper trade would be created by their adoption.

6. This design consists of a small white transverse oval, on which is "1d." in Italic type, surrounded by two concentric oval frames—the inner with white engine-turned lines, the outer coloured with POST PAID above and BEAUFORT HOUSE beneath, in white letters; the whole in an oblong rectangular frame, measuring  $\frac{5}{8}$  by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 16 by 14 mm.



The impression is bicoloured on the Congreve principle, and so arranged as to show four oval loops radiating to the angles. The paper is white wove and unwatermarked. The colours in which the impression is struck are red and black, blue and red, and red and blue.

7. This design consists of a small circle, in which is "1d." in white on a bicoloured ground, enclosed in a white square, in which are the words POST above, PAID below. The letters V.R. flank the circle.

The impression is in bicolour, like No. 6, and on similar paper.

The colours in which the impression is found struck are red and black, blue and red, and red and blue.

7a. Nos. 6 and 7 are printed one under the other, and beneath are three similar labels of nearly identical patterns—the one nearest No. 7, inscribed BEAUFORT HOUSE, in a circle; the two lower ones showing merely the Congreve dies, with varieties of ornament in similar colours to those already described. The whole forms a long label with curved ends in a plain rectangular outer coloured frame, measuring  $3\frac{1}{8}$  by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, or 98 by 19 mm.

In some specimens the Congreve groundwork of the upper label is repeated in the two lower ones, with the addition of a small reticulated pattern in white lines over the whole surface.

\* 8. The design consists of an oblong, measuring  $3\frac{1}{8}$  by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, or 98 by 19 mm., showing seven circles, of varied patterns of lathe work, side by side, having as central devices respectively—the first c, in Roman capitals; the second, w in Old English type; the third, w in German text; the fourth and fifth, c w in interlaced Italics; the sixth, c f w in similar letters, while the last is left blank. They are all printed in bicolour, on a groundwork of four lanceolate ovals, and four irregular figures extending beyond the circles.

The impression is on stout white wove unwatermarked paper, in bicolours of black and red.

9. On a sheet of white wove unwatermarked paper, Nos. 6 and 7 to the left, No. 4 with No. 5 below on the right, are all printed in black and red.

*Embossed Stamps.*

10. Embossed head of Queen Victoria to the right, as above described (No. 2), struck in colour, in the left upper corner of small-sized envelopes, without any device on flap, and on half-sheets of white wove unwatermarked note paper.

The impressions are in white relief, embossed on ground of rose-pink, green, and dark blue.

On one of the impressions in rose-pink Sir Rowland Hill has written the following observation: "There is too much power in the engine-work; it should not be raised *up at all*, to prevent its being electrotyped."

One of the green impressions is embossed on the "Improved Safety Envelope (registered November 18th, 1840, by Mitchell and Son, 39, Charing Cross \*)," and on this Sir Rowland Hill has added a memorandum of the price, "9d. per dozen."

The deep blue impression, from which our description is taken, is numbered by hand, "enc[losure] 1326," and in the place usually occupied by the stamp, the essay No. 7, with the lower label BEAUFORT HOUSE, is pasted on.

11. The design was identical with No. 10, save that the word PAID was suppressed, and the space occupied by it left blank. A third oval band was added round the whole, and the stamp measured  $1\frac{7}{8}$  by  $1\frac{9}{8}$  inch, or 34 by 39 mm.

The impression was struck in relief, on a black ground, on yellowish-white wove unwatermarked paper.

12. The design consists of an upright oval with plain ground in a wide oval frame, ornamented with engine-turned linear

\* This date is interesting, as showing that the design was submitted after the failure of the Mulready envelope, and probably before the issue of the one penny embossed envelopes.

designs. In the upper part of the central oval, on an engine-turned ground, are the letters *V.R.*, separated by a Crown, below which is a curved solid band with the inscription *POST OFFICE*. In the lower part *1d.* on a solid ground of colour, with *HALF OZ.* on an incurved tablet below. The stamp measures  $1\frac{1}{2}$  by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch, or 37 by  $44\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

It is embossed in relief on white wove unwatermarked paper, without colour, and also with blue and with pink grounds. In this latter colour it is found struck on the left upper corner of envelopes, and also on Harwood's envelope (No. 3).

13. The design consists of the Royal Arms and motto in an oval-form garter, within a collar of the Order of the Garter, with the badge pendent below, surmounted by a Crown and Lion as a crest; the whole in an engine-turned circular frame,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 40 mm. in diameter.

It is struck in relief on white wove unwatermarked paper, without colour, and also on a blue ground, extending to the garter, which is on a solid ground of colour.

14. Embossed heads of the Queen and Prince Albert to the left in white relief, on a solid circular disc of colour, measuring  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 27 mm. in diameter. The Queen is represented with a diadem and a pendent curl behind.

The impression is in white relief on a blue ground, and is struck at each angle of the face of an envelope of white wove unwatermarked paper, without any inscriptions or device on the flap.

This essay—the only one known where the Queen and the Prince Consort are both represented—is of great beauty and exceptional rarity. The presence of the head of the Prince shows that it dates from about 1840. The copy from which this description is taken is one of the originals prepared for the Treasury, and which happened to be retained by Mr. Whiting, by whom it was presented to Mr. Philbrick.

*Covers and Envelopes.*

15. The design consists of an oblong engine-turned rectangular frame, measuring  $4\frac{1}{8}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 103 by 72 mm., within which is an oval engine-turned frame, the interior being covered with a minute pattern of similar work. In the spandrels are straight tablets; those in the two upper angles are inscribed with POST OFFICE and PERMIT in white block letters, and, on the upper edge of the oval, is a small oval with V.R. in monogram of florid Italics. In the lower labels are "PRICE 1<sup>d</sup>" and " $\frac{1}{2}$  OUNCE" in white Roman capitals, with MATTER NOT TO EXCEED IN WEIGHT in smaller lettering in a tablet between them. The impression is on white wove unwatermarked paper, in black, green, lavender, and blue.

This essay, printed in blue, appeared in the *Post Circular*, No. 12, 30th April, 1839, and was also extensively distributed by the Mercantile Committee as a specimen (the word SPECIMEN being printed in the border above the V.R.), on a half-sheet of paper, with a strongly worded appeal printed on the back, setting forth the advantages of a uniform penny post, and demonstrating that such stamps, especially if printed on peculiar paper, such for instance as "Dickinson's," would be practically secure against forgery.

It is highly interesting as an illustration of one of the modes adopted to impress the public with the feasibility of Sir Rowland Hill's proposals.

16. The design consists of an oblong frame, measuring  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or 122 by 91 mm., to be printed on the face of an envelope, the centre part showing an oblong white space for the address, with canted angles, surrounded by a frame of enriched scroll-work and foliate ornaments, with groups of allegorical figures at the upper angles, and marginal wreaths of foliage and fruit surround the centre. In the frame above the space for the address is a small tablet, and in the space below is a cherub above an elongated oval tablet. The whole is on an engine-

turned groundwork of a minute pattern, and is surrounded by an exterior frame of two plain lines.

The impression is in blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

16*a*. Same as the last in every respect, save that the space for the address, and the tablets above and below it, are filled in with a solid ground of colour.

The impression is also in blue.

17. The design is of irregular shape, formed by a circle  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter, superposed on a transverse oblong, with incurved angles, measuring 3 by 2 inches. On each side, intersecting the larger circle, is a smaller one of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch diameter, that on the left having in the centre a group of heraldic emblems, and that on the right v.r. in monogram of ornate Italic capitals. The whole is filled in with an engine-turned groundwork of various patterns.

The impression is in blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

On the same sheet from which our description of this essay is taken are impressions of the stamp No. 1, in red and blue, and in blue.

18. The design is a rectangular-shaped transverse oblong, measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, composed of a minute diamond-shaped pattern of engine-turned work, enclosed in a frame  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch wide, composed of curved interlaced lines, with a floriform ornament resembling a Tudor rose in each angle.

The impression is in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper. The following colours are found: pale and deep ochre-yellow, red, pale blue.

18*a*. Similar to the last, but the pattern of the groundwork and border is slightly modified, and in the angles are conventional ornaments with flowers.

The impression is on similar paper, and is in a pale shade of blue.

19. *The London and Westminster Review*, as has been before mentioned, contained, in its issue for February, 1840, an article on the New System of Postage. To this article were appended specimen sheets of various designs, and amongst others some of the principal of those prepared by Mr. Whiting. On these sheets we find specimens of relief engraving, and also of "Patent dry coloured embossing and dry stamping without colours, as practised at the Stamp Office."

These include :

*First*, impressions of the "Post Office Permit," No. 15 above described, with a transverse oval device of engine-turned work with "1d." in an inner circle; two circular designs of elaborate engine-turned work, with "N<sup>o</sup>" and a space left to fill in the numeral; a larger but similar design with no inscription, and a head of Mercury with caduceus in a circular medallion, all with ornamental borders, and printed in black on white paper.

*Second*, a large oblong design of geometrical engine-turned work, with border containing a scroll formed of ovals, circles, and conventional ornaments, with two others of smaller dimensions, all printed in black on the same sheet of plain white paper.

On another sheet, printed on the Congreve principle, with combination plates, are Nos. 4, 5, and 7*a*, in red and black, below which are Nos. 12 and 13, both struck in white relief on blue ground and in plain white relief.

20. An article by Robert Hunt, on Compound Plate printing, was published in the *Art Journal* in 1848. This article explained the art of embossing in relief with coloured ground, and that of printing from compound plates in several colours at one impression after the Congreve system.

To illustrate these processes Mr. Whiting printed some of his most remarkable designs on a sheet of cardboard inserted in the above-named periodical.

The designs are enclosed in a highly ornamented embossed frame, surrounded by a rectangular exterior border of engine-

turned work printed in green, measuring  $8\frac{3}{4}$  by 11 inches, or 223 by 279 mm. Within the frame is an impression of the oval die of the Queen's head to the right, No. 2, printed in carmine, below which the essay No. 1 is twice printed, once in blue and red, and once in plain blue, and below the whole is No. 17 in plain blue. On the reverse is an oblong specimen of printing from Congreve plates in red and green, with the inscriptions, PRINTED BY CHARLES WHITING, BEAUFORT HOUSE, STRAND, LONDON, FOR PROTECTION AGAINST FORGERY. PATENT COMPOUND PLATE PRINTING.

The above specimen, which shows the various styles and the beauty of Mr. Whiting's work to great advantage, has now unfortunately become rare.

#### *Reprints.*

When the interest attaching to original proofs and essays first led collectors to inquire for specimens of Mr. Whiting's productions, as none of those originally taken remained, new impressions were, in the years 1862-3, struck off from some of the plates, before they perished in the great fire which destroyed Beaufort House. These reprints are easily distinguishable from the originals by the tones of colour employed, being much brighter and more vivid than in the originals. They are all struck on white wove unwatermarked paper.

The following is a list of those which we have seen :

- No. 2. Embossed head of the Queen.  
Vermilion, deep red, green, ultramarine blue.
- No. 12. 1d. large oval, embossed in relief.  
White, ultramarine blue, rose, deep red, green.
- No. 14. Queen and Prince Albert.\*  
Orange-yellow.
- No. 15. Post Office permit.  
Rose, red-brown.
- No. 16. Cover, with allegorical figures and cherub.  
Ultramarine blue.

\* This reprint is on cream-coloured paper, and shows the outer margin of the die.

## CHARLES KNIGHT.

Mr. Charles Knight, of Ludgate Hill, London, publisher to the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, under the auspices of which the *Penny Magazine* was established, took considerable interest in the movement set on foot in 1834 for the abolition of the "Taxes on Knowledge," and the reduction of the charges on the transmission of newspapers through the post. He appears to have suggested that newspapers should be allowed to pass through the post for one penny each, and that the postage might be collected by means of stamped wrappers.

The proposed alteration in the Newspaper Tax was not carried out until the year 1837, when the tax on an ordinary-sized newspaper having been reduced to one penny, the impressed stamp carrying with it free transit by the post, the proposition of Mr. Knight naturally fell through, though it does not appear that it ever went further than a mere suggestion, or assumed the form of any direct proposition, much less of any actual design.

## STEAD.

Mr. Stead, an inhabitant of Yarmouth, appears, from the evidence of Mr. Louis, formerly Superintendent of the Mails, given before the Committee on Postage, in 1829, to have proposed to the Post Office the principle of collecting postage by means of stamps; but this proposal never seems to have taken any more tangible form, or resulted in specimens of any kind being produced.

## DR. J. E. GRAY.

Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., of the British Museum, states, in the preface to his *Catalogue of Postage Stamps*, that he believes he was the first who proposed, in 1834, the system of a small uniform rate of postage to be prepaid by stamps, and that it was "in fact the mere application of the system used with regard to newspapers to letters in general." He also adds that



he found there was no chance of getting attention to the plans he suggested without he was able to devote the whole of his time and attention to the development of them, which his other engagements precluded him from doing. It is clear, therefore, that his suggestions never took the form of any absolute design.

#### COVERS AND ENVELOPE PROPOSED FOR THE LONDON DISTRICT POST.

In their Ninth Report, made in July, 1837, the Commissioners of Post-office Inquiry recommended the adoption of covers of the value of one penny and twopence, in which letters not exceeding 1 oz. and 6 oz. respectively might be enclosed for free transmission within the limits of the London District post. It was proposed by the Committee that these covers should be made of "Dickinson" paper, and specimens of the covers, and of an envelope constructed out of one of them, were annexed to their report. In consequence of the appointment, in the month of December, 1837, of a Select Committee to examine the whole subject, the recommendations of the Committee of Post-office Inquiry were not carried out, and the designs proposed by it were not made use of.

The specimens attached to the report were three in number, and are—

*First.* An elaborate engine-turned rectangular design, measuring 177 mm. wide by 218 mm. deep, on half a sheet of letter-sized white "Dickinson" paper, traversed horizontally by ten blue parallel threads, inserted at distances varying from one-half to three-quarters of an inch apart. Within this engine-turned design is a circular band of similar work, but of another pattern, 20 mm. wide and 93 mm. in diameter, the interior of which is left as a blank space for the address. This circular band is divided into equal segments by the introduction of four transverse ovals, opposite each corner of the rectangle, the major axes of which measure 47 mm. These ovals on one side extend into the engine-turned work of the interior of the design, and on the other are partially superposed on two smaller engine-turned ovals. The large ovals which intercept the circular border are designed as

follows: The upper left and the lower right show v.R. in script capitals, with a Crown between the letters, on a central white ground, and the inscription LONDON DISTRICT POST, in white block letters, in an exterior engine-turned border, the position of the words of the inscription being reversed in the two ovals. In the right upper oval and the left lower one, the letters v.R., separated by a Crown, occupy the centre on a white ground, while in the border of the former is introduced NOT EXCEEDING, in white block letters, on an engine-turned ground, and ONE OUNCE, ONE PENNY in coloured letters on a white ground. In the opposite oval the inscription is varied, by placing the words ONE OUNCE, in white block letters on an engine-turned ground, and NOT TO EXCEED ONE OUNCE, in coloured letters on a white ground.

The impression of the whole is in yellow-ochre.

*Second.* The second design attached to the report is an envelope, measuring 125 by 91 mm., formed out of the half-sheet just described. As the lozenge-form for the envelope is cut out of the half-sheet diagonally, the silk threads necessarily run across the face of the address space in a similar way.

*Third.* An engine-turned rectangular ornamental frame, 15 mm. wide, encloses the whole design, which is printed on a sheet of "Dickinson" paper. The frame measures externally 155 by 237 mm., and the interior is divided into three compartments of nearly equal size. The upper compartment is entirely covered with a *moiré* pattern in lathe-work. The middle one is traversed horizontally by four pairs of silk threads, and is left blank for the address, save that at the top is TWOPENCE, in large block letters, and in each angle is a design in the form of a quadrant. In the angles of the two upper quadrants are the letters v.R., in block letters, with a Crown between them, all in white, on a solid ground of colour, enclosed in a curved border of engine-turned work, with LONDON DISTRICT POST in two lines in white block letters. In the two lower quadrants, the letters v.R. with the Crown are enclosed in engine-turned curved borders, with the inscription TO CARRY NOT EXCEEDING 6 OUNCES in three lines, in coloured block letters. The lower

compartment is covered with a *moiré* pattern, similar to the upper one, except at the lower portion, where an ornamental tablet is introduced with the inscription POST OFFICE COVER, in coloured block letters on a white ground.

The impression of this cover is in green.

These designs all bear on the face of them conclusive evidence of their origin in the printing establishment of Mr. Charles Whiting, and were probably submitted to the Committee by Mr. Dickinson in conjunction with Mr. Whiting.

#### JAMES WYLD.

Mr. James Wyld, of the Strand, London, map publisher and geographer to the Queen, submitted an envelope or cover to the Treasury in 1839, the design of which was produced and printed for him by Mr. Charles Whiting.

The design itself has been already fully described in the account of Mr. Whiting's essay No. 16, but as submitted by Mr. Wyld was modified in the following manner. A groundwork of horizontal lines was introduced into the space left for the address, and on the upper tablet was the inscription POSTAGE PREPAID BY, and in that below the cherub, JAMES WYLD, GEOGRAPHER TO THE QUEEN, all in white embossed letters on a solid ground of colour. The design was made about 3 mm. longer than the essay No. 16 above referred to, by the addition of four lines at each of the two ends, so that it measured 126 by 91 mm.

The impression was on a half sheet of white wove unwatermarked letter paper, folded as a cover. We believe that the plate was originally prepared by Mr. C. Whiting, at the instance of Mr. Wyld, and that Mr. Whiting himself submitted specimens of it without the inscription.

We have seen specimens printed in pale ochre, in blue, and in red.

In a copy before us, printed in pale ochre, the upper label is defaced by a circular obliterating stamp of  $27\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, struck in black. This stamp has V.R. in Italic monogram in the centre on a white ground, enclosed in a solid coloured border,

with the inscription CANCELLED POST PAID in white block letters, the whole being surrounded by an external border of engine-turned work.

On other copies we find the circular obliterating stamp POST OFFICE GO FREE before described, struck on the upper tablet, and sometimes also on the face of the design in addition.

Specimens without these obliterating marks are not known in collections, which would lead to the inference that Mr. Wyld's proposals also included obliterating marks.

#### WILLIAM WYON.

Mr. William Wyon, A.R.A., Chief Engraver of Seals to the Queen and Engraver to the Mint, whose name is so well known as the author of the die for the head of Her Majesty on the embossed stamps, offered the design for an adhesive stamp consisting of a helmeted head of Britannia to the left, in a circle, within a square of  $19\frac{1}{2}$  mm. In the circle above the head is POST OFFICE, and below the head  $\frac{1}{2}$  OZ. ONE PENNY. Facing the head and within the circle are numbers composed of two, three, or four figures, the signification of which we are unable to explain, further than they appear to represent certain index numbers. The whole is engraved in anaglyptograph, and is struck on white hand-made unwatermarked paper, in black.

This essay is beautifully executed, and is of the highest degree of rarity. The specimen before us shows four of these stamps, disposed two and two, at distances of four millimètres apart, separated by lines, also in anaglyptograph, of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  millimètre broad.

#### J. W. PARKER.

In 1838 Mr. J. W. Parker, printer to the University of Cambridge, with a view to assist the movement in favour of the plans of Sir Rowland Hill, printed on half a sheet of letter paper a list of books published by him, on the reverse side of which was the address, "Mr. John W. Parker, Cambridge Bible Warehouse, West Strand, London," enclosed in a wide oblong frame, with the interior angles truncated, measuring about  $4\frac{1}{2}$

by 3 inches, and composed of a diaper-patterned design. The colour of the impression was ochre-yellow.

This circular was stitched up in the pamphlet published by W. H. Ashurst, *Facts and Reasons, &c.*, and is found opposite to page 30 of the first, and to page 43 of the second edition.

#### SIEVIER.

Mr. Sievier, the eminent sculptor, in 1839 proposed the adoption of stamps with an embossed centre, such as the Queen's head, the Royal Arms, or any other device, surrounding the embossment, with a pattern in two or more colours.

The actual specimen submitted by him consists of an upright rectangle with incurved angles, measuring  $1\frac{5}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, or 42 by 37 mm., within which is an oval with a white disc in the centre, on which is embossed a many-rayed star device in plain white relief. On a solid curved tablet above the circle is PENNY, and in another curved tablet below, POST, both in white block letters. The space between the circle and the oval is filled in with an engine-turned reticulated design, and that exterior to the oval with vertical lines.

The impression is in red-brown and blue, the latter being that nearer the circle, and so disposed as to show a scalloped exterior line, the tablets being also in blue. It is printed on a half-sheet of octavo white "Whatman" hand-made note paper, dated 1839. On the rest of the half-sheet is printed a description of the proposed plan, with an estimate of the cost of production—£30 per million on sheets to fold as a letter; £6 5s. per million as separate adhesives, with a guaranteed production of a million per day. Copies of the specimen were stitched up and circulated in No. 65 of the *London and Westminster Review*, together with specimens of the productions of Mr. C. Whiting and others.

#### CHEVERTON.

Mr. Cheverton, who, with Mr. Whiting and Mr. Sievier, submitted designs in response to the Treasury advertisement, was awarded one of the premiums.

We have not been able to see the design Mr. Cheverton sent in, but it is stated, in the *London and Westminster Review*, vol. xxxiii. p. 504, to have been "a plan full of originality." Mr. Cheverton "recommended an embossment of a female head of the greatest beauty, to be executed by Mr. Wyon, and stamped by a peculiar machinery of Mr. Cheverton's own, which would perform the process with great rapidity."

This is all we learn, and the only remark we make is, that the integral parts of this plan were carried out in the envelopes bearing the Queen's head, engraved by Mr. Wyon.

#### JAMES CHALMERS.

Mr. Chalmers, a bookseller and stationer of 4, Castle Street, Dundee, forwarded to the Mercantile Committee a proposal, dated 8th February, 1838, which appeared in the *Post Circular* of the 5th April following.

Mr. Chalmers' proposal was in substance that stamped slips should be printed at the Stamp Office on prepared paper, furnished with adhesive matter at the back, and issued to the public as required; that these should be affixed to the letters, and that the postmasters should stamp them across the face in course of transmission. He also contrasted the advantages of adhesive stamps over covers and envelopes.

Two specimens accompanied the proposal, consisting merely of square single-lined frames, measuring  $\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 18 mm., enclosing letter-press inscriptions in six lines, the one being, GENERAL POSTAGE. NOT EXCEEDING HALF AN OUNCE. ONE PENNY; and the other being similar, "one" being inserted in lieu of "half an," and "twopence" for "one penny." The editor appended a note to the effect that Mr. Hill did not limit his proposals to covers or envelopes, and that adhesive stamps were desirable as a method to serve public convenience.

Mr. Chalmers also prepared and sent to the Treasury a small 8vo sheet, a copy of which was stitched up with the *Post Circular* for 1838, containing virtually the same proposals, but with four similar letter-press specimens, disposed in two rows,

slightly varying in the wording, and reading, POST OFFICE under HALF OUNCE [ONE, TWO, THREE OZ.] weight ONE PENNY [2d., 4d., 6d.].

All the specimens were printed on plain white wove paper.

#### FORRESTER.

Samuel Forrester, officer of Excise at Falkirk, in a pamphlet consisting of ten 8vo pages, dated 14th December, 1839, laid before the Treasury his plan for carrying into effect the General Penny Postage. The main feature of his proposal consisted in allowing every papermaker to have his paper stamped for postage stamps by the Excise officers of the district who charged the duty on the paper at the mills, under various safeguards set forth in the pamphlet, which contained full details of the mode recommended by him for carrying out his plan. He proposed that these stamps should be impressed on folio, quarto, and octavo sheets, and specimens of such sheets were annexed to the pamphlet, on each of which was pasted a *fac simile* of the stamp, printed in lithography.

The design of this stamp, to be impressed on an 8vo sheet, was circular, formed by the inscriptions "EDINBURGH" at the top, and "No. 326 OCTAVO  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz." being set round in a circle measuring about 35 mm. in diameter. Within the circle was 1ST QUAR.—ONE PENNY—2D JULY, 1840, the whole being in Roman capitals, save the value and size, which were in block letters. A lithographed copy of the design, on white wove unwatermarked paper, was cut round, and pasted on the quarter or 8vo sheet, in such a position that when it was folded the stamp appeared at the right upper corner of the address.

A second design was printed for the half or quarto sheet—QUARTO being substituted for OCTAVO, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. for  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz.

The third design was similar—FOLIO and 1 oz. being substituted for the previous size and weight, and the value TWOPENCE for ONE PENNY. This was applied to an entire or folio sheet.

The interpretation of the design was as follows: EDINBURGH showed the collection where stamped; No. 326, the Excise

number of the mill where stamped; 1st Quar., the current quarter of the year when stamped; 2nd July, 1840, the day, month, and year when stamped. The stamps expressing the size of the sheet and weight allowed to be transmitted by the various sizes, any overweight could be charged additional postage, to be paid on delivery. He further proposed to change the colours at the various quarters of the year as a security against the use of illegal stamps.

The proposal does not appear to have found favour with the Treasury, but in principle some of the suggestions were identical with parts of the system adopted.

#### C. BISSAGAR.

A design bearing this name is before us. The letters V.R., in interlaced Italic capitals, fill a circular disc, covered with an arabesque groundwork in bicolour, and beneath the V.R. is C. BISSAGAR, INV. Round this disc is the inscription HALF OUNCE ONE PENNY, in Roman capitals, the whole forming a design bounded by an exterior circle, 1 inch or 25 mm. in diameter.

The impression, in two colours, blue and orange, is on white wove unwatermarked paper.

#### UNKNOWN.

1. A plain circular band, 25 mm. in diameter, external measurement, is inscribed GENERAL POST OFFICE, and is surmounted by the Royal Arms with Crown and supporters. This is enclosed within a large circle, 51 mm. in diameter, composed of two bands—the outer one with a zigzag ornamentation, and the inner one with the inscription ONE PENNY HALF OUNCE, in Roman capitals, on plain white ground. In the centre is a blank circular disc, 13 mm. in diameter, towards which coloured lines converge irregularly.

The impression is typographed, showing considerable indentation, and multicoloured shades, starting from the internal white disc with green, and running through orange to red,



and from dull violet to grey-blue in the outer border. It is struck on a half-sheet of rough white hand-made foolscap paper, watermarked with the name of the maker, J. Rump, 1833.

2. The Royal Arms with Crown surmounted by a Lion, and with supporters, is embossed in white relief on a solid ground of colour, enclosed in an upright rectangular frame with canted angles, measuring 1 by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 25 by 30 mm. Below the supporters is the Royal motto and heraldic emblems, while the bareness of the upper part of the design is somewhat relieved by the introduction of arabesque ornamentations.

The impression is struck in pink at the left upper corner of an ordinary envelope, and on the face of the copy before us is written, by Sir Rowland Hill, "If it were not for the engine-turning round them they could be electrotyped from paper."

3. The design consists of two concentric circles, the outer one having a diameter of  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, or 30 mm.; the inner one, a diameter of 26 mm. In the upper part, between the circles, is the inscription, in Roman capitals, GENERAL POSTAGE, and in the lower TWO PENCE, the intervals being filled in with diamond-shaped ornaments. Across the inner circle is *Not exc. one ounce*, in Italics, in a straight line; above is a star, and below "2d." The impression is in pale red-brown, and is in ordinary type, on white hand-made foreign-post "Whatman" paper.

On the copy before us is "USED" hand-stamped in black, showing the manner in which it was proposed to efface the stamp.

4. Within an oval band, inscribed with the motto of the Order of the Garter, the minor axis measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm., is the inscription V.R.—FREE, in two lines, and below JAN. 1840. JAN.—ONE OZ., also in two lines. The oval is surmounted by the Royal Crown, and underneath it is a bouquet composed of the heraldic emblems of the United Kingdom.

The design appears to have been intended for the face of a cover, a portion being marked out by a border 3 mm. wide; but

the specimen only shows the left upper angle in which the design above described is introduced. About three-quarters of an inch below the upper frame border there is a partial repetition of the border, above which is inserted the words in pencil, INTENDED DISTRICT SIGNATURE. The whole design is drawn by hand, in pen and Indian ink, on a piece of azure laid paper, and upon the specimen from which the description is taken Sir Rowland Hill has written, in pencil, *Acknowledge the receipt.* R. H.

5. The Royal Arms, with supporters, motto, &c., designed in a spreading form, extending 39 mm. long by 16 high, lithographed in black on a sheet of coloured note paper, and so placed that when the sheet is folded in three the stamp appears in the right upper corner of the face. We have seen it on blue and on green paper, both chemically prepared, the obliteration being intended to be effected by the application of moisture (presumably acidulated), which when applied turns the blue paper white and the green paper yellow. The green specimen before us is numbered in pen and ink 2780/41.

6. Somewhat akin to the preceding is a design composed of the Royal Arms, with supporters, motto, &c., very erect, and finely engraved on copper. The impression is in blue on pink chemical paper, and also on yellow chemical paper. On each of the four sides is printed "One Penny" in small Roman type in red.

7. Within an upright rectangular engine-turned frame, measuring  $1\frac{7}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 36 by 43 mm., are the Royal Arms, with Crown and supporters, and motto, enclosed in an irregularly oval-shaped fancy frame, all engraved in anaglyphograph. The impression is in deep blue on white wove unwatermarked paper. Above and below the arms are two small tablets, with the inscriptions HALF OZ. and I PENNY in small white block letters on a red ground, and across each angle similar

tablets are also introduced, the two upper ones inscribed respectively POST OFFICE and STAMP, and the two lower ones TO CARRY NOT and EXCEEDING  $\frac{1}{2}$  OZ. The tablets in red are over-printed.

8. The design is somewhat similar to that last described, and consists of the Royal Arms, with Crown and supporters, engraved on the anaglyptic system, but embossed in relief within a rectangular transverse oblong frame, measuring  $1\frac{3}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 29 by 27 mm. In lieu of the motto DIEU ET MON DROIT the words POST OFFICE STAMP are substituted. The impression is in dark blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper; and in four sides of the frame are introduced tablets, with white block letters on a red ground subsequently printed. The inscriptions, commencing from the left side, read NOT—EXCEEDING—HALF OUNCE.

9. The design is very similar to that last described, the frame measuring 1 m. more in height. Within a double-lined interior frame with truncated angles are the Royal Arms, Crown, and supporters, together with the motto below, engraved on the anaglyptic system, and embossed in relief. The arms within the garter are in white relief, and the groundwork of the design is composed of a small dotted pattern. The impression is on white wove unwatermarked paper, and in the margins of the frame are, over-printed in red, commencing from the left, POST—OFFICE—STAMP—ONE PENNY. It is found printed in dark blue and also in green, both with red lettering.

10. A rather primitive design is before us, consisting of a small sheet of paper ruled by hand in squares of  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 20 mm. each, in each of which is pasted a circular disc of thin green paper 17 mm. in diameter. There is nothing to explain the object of the design, which it would seem was intended either to be obliterated by a hand-stamp at the post-office, or to show the mode in which some proposed design should be arranged on the sheet.

(2) *ESSAYS AND PROPOSALS SUBSEQUENT TO 1840.*

FOR the reasons given in our introductory remarks, but very few essays or proposals were submitted to the authorities subsequently to 1840. Some few essays were prepared in 1879, when it became known that the typographic system of printing was about to be adopted for the twopence and inferior values; but in the absence of permission from the parties by whom they were submitted, we do not feel ourselves at liberty to describe those which we have seen.

1. MESSRS. ARCHER AND BRANSTON (*The "Prince Consort" Essays*).

In the year 1850 Henry Archer, whose name is associated with the invention of the perforating machine, entered into an arrangement with Robert Edward Branston, who, with his father, were well-known engravers, to engrave a die from which stamps might be printed on the surface principle, similar to that then in use in France, conceiving that they might be manufactured at a lower cost than those produced from steel plates, and that stamps printed by the dry process would not present the same difficulties in the use of the perforating machine as he had experienced in his experiments on sheets printed from steel plates. Branston availed himself of the assistance of S. W. Reynolds, an engraver, but there appears to have been some delay in the preparation of the plate, as specimens of the stamps were not ready till 12th September, 1850, when Archer wrote to the Marquess of Clanricarde, the Postmaster General, to apprise him of the fact. In March, 1851, Archer and Branston submitted a proposal to the authorities to print the whole of the postage stamps required by the Inland Revenue Department, on the surface principle, at the rate of fourpence-halfpenny per thousand, and a specimen of the stamps known as the "Prince Consort" essays accompanied the proposal.

From the evidence taken before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1852, of which Mr. P. H. Muntz, one of the members for Birmingham, was the chairman, it appears that the die, as first engraved by Mr. Reynolds, bore a representation of the Queen's head upon it; for Mr. Edwin Hill, in reply to question 816, says, "I cautioned him as soon as I knew what he was about." Branston also, in reply to question 516, says, "We were ordered to destroy all the impressions, and therefore they have been destroyed;" and then, producing specimens of the Prince Consort essays, he adds: "These are heads of Prince Albert." From this it may fairly be inferred that the imitations bearing the Queen's head were entirely destroyed, especially as no copy is known to have survived.

Whether the specimens then produced to the Committee were prepared by Mr. Reynolds or by Mr. Branston is not known, but they were shown by the latter as samples of what might be done by employing the dry process or surface printing in their manufacture, and were gummed with pure white gum.

The design consists of the head of Prince Albert to the left, on an engine-turned background, the whole being nearly identical with that of the then current one penny stamp, save that the engraving was of a much coarser description. Maltese crosses were introduced into the upper angular blocks, the lower ones all bearing the letters F. J. on white letter blocks. The sheets were of two sizes—one having twenty rows of twelve in a row, and the other twenty-one of such rows; the former were printed in red-brown, the latter in black. The size of the stamp is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by 22 mm. The impressions were struck on ordinary white wove unwatermarked paper, and the stamps as produced were not perforated.

## 2. MESSRS. BRADBURY, WILKINSON AND CO.

In the year 1861 Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., bank-note engravers and printers, of Farringdon Road, London, designed and engraved in line on a patent surfaced plate a stamp representing the value of threepence. The design consists of a

full-faced bust of an allegorical female, crowned with a wreath of roses, and having a mantle thrown over the left shoulder; the head is enclosed in a circle, with a background of fine diapered work, all within a double-lined upright rectangular frame, measuring  $19\frac{1}{2}$  by 24 mm. On a plain curved white tablet above the head is POSTAGE, and in a similar incurved tablet below THREEPENCE, the spandrels being filled in with horizontal lines. The impressions were taken off in various colours on thick cream-coloured unwatermarked paper, and also on card. We have seen the following; viz.:

Rose-red, blue, ultramarine-blue, green and black, on paper; purple and brown on card.

These stamps were engraved for exhibition only, together with other specimens of workmanship executed by the firm, and were never submitted to the Post-office authorities.

### 3. MESSRS. DE LA RUE AND Co. (*Experimental*).

Probably somewhere about the latter part of the year 1861 Messrs. De La Rue and Co. designed and engraved a stamp which, so far as we are able to learn, was prepared with the object of showing the facilities afforded by some other system of printing than that which they were then making use of for printing the fourpence adhesive postage stamp. In an upright rectangle, measuring 18 by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm., is a circle  $15\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, in which, on a groundwork of horizontal lines, is a portrait in profile to the left (said to be that of the King of Portugal), the spandrels being filled in with a reticular pattern running vertically. On the right and left of the head the numeral 3 is introduced in white within a minute double-lined circle. Above the head, on a solid straight tablet, is EXPERIMENTAL in white block letters, and on another similar tablet below POSTAGE THREE PENCE in two lines. On comparing the stamps with each other slight variations may be seen, and the experiment, so far as each stamp being a perfect *fac-simile* of the others, cannot be said to have proved successful.

The stamps were printed ten in a row on white wove un-

watermarked paper, and were neither gummed or perforated. Each stamp is defaced by two white lines drawn across the plate diagonally. The impressions seen by us are in violet and rose-pink.

#### 4. MESSRS. DE LA RUE AND CO. (*One Halfpenny*).

In 1870 Messrs. De La Rue and Co. submitted a design for the new value then about to appear. The design consists of an upright rectangle, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch, or  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm., in which is the Queen's head of the usual type to the left, set in a plain oval band, touching the outer left vertical and the upper lines of the rectangular frame. Four large squares are found in the angles for the lettering, the upper right and lower left of which are joined by a diagonal line running across the stamp, and severing the head and neck. The lower half thus divided is rendered on a plain ground of colour, on which, in large figures, is " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." The right upright border of the frame has a Greek pattern, and in the lower is a plain tablet to receive an inscription. The impression is taken from the die on white enamelled card in lake and in black.

#### 5. W. H. HOOPER (*One Penny*).

Mr. William Harcourt Hooper, engraver, of 28, Fleet Street, London, prepared and engraved on wood a design for a stamp of the value of one penny, in 1879.

The design consists of a diademed head of the Queen to the left on a horizontally-lined ground, enclosed in an oval beaded frame, with a border of three lines—one thick between two thin ones—which at the angles form squares for the lettering. Ribbon scrolls respectively inscribed in block letters—POSTAGE on the left one, ONE on the upper one, and PENNY on the right one—fill in the sides and top of the stamp, while the space between the lower letter blocks is occupied by a garland of oak and bay. The whole forms an irregular upright rectangle, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch, or 19 by 23 mm. The impression is in black on India paper, and was taken from the original wood block.

The design is extremely effective, and forms a pleasing variation to the monotony of the stamps of the Government series. The design was not accepted.

#### 6. UNKNOWN (*Local Postage Stamp*).

We ought not to omit to notice a stamp, dating from 1862 or 1863, not uncommonly found in collections, but of the authorship of which we have been unable to ascertain any particulars. It is engraved in line; but from the general inferiority of the workmanship, the London engravers, to whom specimens have been submitted, are of opinion that it is country work. From the legend we should be led to suppose that at best it was intended as a specimen of workmanship, but it is also possible that it was produced solely for the behoof or mystification of collectors.

The design consists of the Royal Arms in a shield, superposed on a circular garter, measuring 20 mm. in diameter, on which is inscribed LOCAL POSTAGE STAMP. This is enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, measuring 24 by 29 mm., with a diapered-pattern ground. In the upper part above, and touching the garter, is the Royal Crown.

The impression is in various colours, on white wove unwatermarked paper, and the stamps are neither gummed nor perforated. We have seen impressions in the following colours: red, red-brown, pale and slate blue, black-grey, green and brown, in many of which there are several shades.



## SECTION II.

### *ESSAYS, PROOFS, AND TRIALS OF THE STAMPS ACTUALLY ISSUED.*

#### 1. THE LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

WHETHER Mr. Bacon submitted to the Lords of the Treasury in 1840 any other designs for the adhesive postage labels besides the one which was adopted we have not been able to ascertain. Specimens of the work done by his firm were circulated in the number of the *London and Westminster Review*, in February, 1840, as illustrations of an article on the New System of Postage; but it is evident, from the article itself, that at that time the proposals made by Mr. Bacon had been accepted, and the stamp which afterwards appeared was in progress. These specimens consisted of a group of three allegorical figures—Commerce, Plenty, and Art—in a circle surrounded by an engine-turned border, and measuring  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 29 mm. in diameter, twice repeated on an octavo sheet. On the same sheet were the ten commandments, engraved in a circle  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 14 mm., in diameter, and repeated sixteen times. These specimens were circulated to show the facility and the accuracy with which designs could be multiplied by Messrs. Bacon and Petch's process.

When the engraving of the one penny stamp was in progress we find several essays and trials tending to show certain of the stages through which the stamp passed, and some experiments made during its progress.

(a) The mode in which the original die or matrix for the one penny and two penny stamps was prepared has already been described. After the exact space to be occupied by the engraving of the head of the Queen had been outlined on the background of lathe-work, it was scraped out for the purpose of enabling Mr. Heath to engrave the head in the vacant space. At this stage of the process the upper and lower tablets had not been added, but before the colours of the stamps were absolutely decided on various trials of colour were made at that time, struck from the background only.

The proofs taken from the engine-turned background, without the tablets, and with the space for the insertion of the engraving of the head left blank, are on thick spongy white wove paper. The following colours have been seen:—

Purple-blue, deep blue, blue, light blue.

Dark brown, red-brown, umber-brown, light umber.

Brick-red, deep red, pale red.

Black.

These were submitted by the printers pasted on small sheets of thick paper in three rows, showing the gradations of colour. One of these sheets (unfortunately not quite complete) is before us, and its appearance leads us to the belief that there were four, or perhaps six, stamps in each row, twelve or eighteen in all, besides one in black, which is placed by itself in the margin. If this conjecture is correct, other shades besides those enumerated must have been prepared.

The trials of colour taken from the background enabled the authorities to decide which to adopt for the issue. It will be remembered that black was chosen for the one penny and blue for the twopence.

(b) Concurrently with many of these trials, experiments were also made of obliterating marks to be used in the Post-offices for cancelling the stamps; and to avoid reference to the same specimens more than once, these will be noted whenever they occur.

On a pair of the specimens just described, in the lower row,

and extending over both, is an essay of obliteration in black, consisting of V. R. in script capitals within a small central circle, round which is a black band, inscribed CANCELLED POST PAID in white block letters. This is again enclosed in a circular band, with an engine-turned device, surrounded by an outer line. The whole design measures 28 mm. in diameter.

The Maltese cross, or *croix patée*, afterwards adopted as an effacing mark, is also found on some of these trials.

(c) At the sale of the effects of Mr. Charles Heath, after his death in November, 1848, two engraver's proofs struck on the same card were disposed of, which ultimately passed into the collection of the late Mr. Jules Pauwels, of Torquay, and are now, it is believed, in the possession of some members of his family in Belgium.

The first of these shows the stamp before the upper and lower tablets were added, the background being that of the type subsequently issued. As the head was rather wider than the engraver approved, a dotted line to show the extent of the reductions to be made is traced inside the wider outlines. This dotted line gives the contour of the bust as finally issued.

The second shows the head as altered, but with an engine-turned background of a different pattern to that adopted, and with the words POSTAGE ONE PENNY at the foot in one line. The head of this latter, the background of the former, with the tablets added, made up the design as finally approved and adopted. Both of these are struck in black, and being engraver's proofs, are probably unique. For a more detailed account of them by the late Mr. Pemberton, see *Philatelist*, vol. ii. p. 16.

(d) It has been previously mentioned (*supra*, p. 76) that, about the month of August, 1840, in consequence of the difficulty of finding effectual means of preventing fraud by the removal of the effacing marks, it was determined to change the colour of the one penny stamp from black to red, and at the same time experiments were made with obliterating inks variously prepared.

For the purpose of these trials and experiments impressions

of the one penny were taken by Messrs. Bacon and Petch on plain white wove paper, the upper right corner of the dies having been first covered with wax to prevent a complete impression being made. These trials for colour were struck off in the various inks and colours then under consideration; the adhesive matter or cement was afterwards applied at the back, and experiments of the obliterating marks were made. The colours of these trials are so numerous and varied that they have earned for themselves the title of the "Rainbow Series." The list subjoined contains the more striking colours; the letter v appended to any implies that varieties of shades and tones of the particular colour exist.

- Red-brown, as issued.
- Red-carmine, light and dark, v.
- Brick-red, a light shade.
- Brown, shades of reddish, v.
- Brown, shades of umber, v.
- Mauve-pink, or rose-hortensia.
- Purple.
- Grey, v.
- Slate.
- Slate-purple, v.
- Blue, light and dark, v.
- Slate-blue.
- Black.

A specimen is mentioned by M. Rondot (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 200) with the groundwork in brown and the head in pink. This, however, was made by simply inserting the head from one in the groundwork of another.

Many specimens, especially the darker shades of brown and blue and the red-brown, show the effects of the combined action of the ink and the gum on the back in producing the greenish-blue tinge on the paper. Wherever their presence is coincident in the white angle squares, as also in the corners and margins to which the ink has not extended, the effects of the chemical action are not found. As this point has been fully discussed in

treating of the one penny (1840) stamp it is needless to refer to it further here.

Several obliterating marks are found :

1. The Maltese cross, or *croix patée*, as then in use.
2. A series of seven concentric circles round a solid centre, the diameter of the exterior one measuring 24 mm.

These were simply hand stamps. The experiments were made not only on stamps of various colours, but also with various kinds of obliterating inks, and were for the most part conducted at the Treasury, under the direction of Sir Rowland Hill. Specimens of the one penny black V.R. are found with the above obliterations, belonging to sheets which were utilized at the Treasury for the purpose of these experiments.

3. A third kind is peculiar ; it presents a series of parallel cuts through the stamp nearly 2 mm. long, grouped together in pairs quite close to each other, each pair being separated from each other by an interval of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. These cuts seem as if made by a spur-wheel, or roulette, which at the same time printed a succession of square black ink marks in line over the surface of the stamp. Whether the puncturing of the stamp was designed, or arose accidentally from the sharp edges of the roulette, cannot be stated, but of course such a result precluded the use of this kind of obliteration.

Various other specimens of effacing experiments are found, but the above are those more commonly met with.

(e) When in 1858 it was under consideration to suppress the Maltese crosses in the upper angles, and substitute letters in their places, and also to insert the number of the plate on the face of each stamp, specimens were printed to show the effect of the proposed alteration. For this purpose a roller impression of Die 1 of the one penny (Heath's original head) was taken, from which the Maltese crosses were removed, and an assumed plate number of three figures (1 2 3) was engraved in the reticulated framework, the figures being larger and thicker than those afterwards adopted. The corner blocks of the plate were filled in with Egyptian or block letters, of a smaller size than those

subsequently introduced. The impression was in the ordinary red colour, and was taken off on paper watermarked with "large crown" inverted. This essay is of exceptional interest as an example of a stamp printed from Die I., on "large crown" paper, and with letters in all the four angles. It was printed in 1858, though, as we have seen, the changes were not carried out in the one penny stamp till 1861.

(f) For some reason or other which we are unable to state trial sheets were struck from Plate No. 75, approved 7th February, 1863, the upper left corner of the dies being waxed so as not to take the impression. The blocks in the three other corners being blank, and not filled in with the lettering, it is evident that the impression was taken off before the plate was approved for use.

We have seen the following, viz. :

1. One penny, carmine-red, on blue laid paper.
2. One penny, blue, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

This latter is of the same shade as the twopence current at that time, and the specimen we have seen is stamped with a trial effacing mark in black, consisting of a large crown in a plain circle, with the word LONDON and the date, 22.6.63, from which it appears probable that these sheets were used for the purpose of experiments in effacing marks.

(g) The British Post-office authorities having determined to exhibit in the Exposition Universelle of Paris in 1867 a complete set of all the apparatus and material used in the service of the Department, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., at the instance of Mr. Pearson Hill, then Under Secretary to the Post-office, printed in 1866 specimen sheets of the one penny from Plate No. 103, Series II., then current,\* both in black and in carmine-

\* Consequent on the clearness of the impression of these stamps collectors have frequently noticed that the figure 1 of 103, on the left side of the head, looks as if the up-stroke, or "serif" as it is termed by printers, was on the wrong side of the main line of the figure, but close examination will show that this appearance is created by the reticulated groundwork, and that the figure itself is merely a hair-lined block figure. This peculiarity may be noticed at the left side of clearly-printed penny stamps from Plates Nos. 100 to 199 inclusive.

red, and of the twopence, in blue, Plate No. 9. These sheets were printed on thick yellowish soft paper, which showed the beauty of the engraving to perfection. The paper bore no watermark, and was as thick as ordinary card-board.

After the close of the exhibition a few copies found their way into the hands of collectors. Specimens of these stamps cannot therefore be considered as specially rare.

(*h*) We only know of one proof of the one penny stamp printed from the plate after the letters in the lower angles had been inserted in a different colour to that in which it was issued. This was taken off in a dull blue tint from the first plate when it was completed, and ready to be printed from, and is on the paper employed for the issue, watermarked with a "small crown." Specimens from this sheet are of the highest degree of rarity.

(*i*) In the early part of the year 1841, when the white lines above and below the head of the Queen had been inserted on the roller impression of the twopence, a small trial plate, consisting of twelve stamps in three rows of four in each row, was struck off, showing the white lines above and below the head, and the Maltese crosses in the upper angles, with the letter blocks left blank. The stamps thus produced are not quite in true line, nor are they at equal distances from each other. The impression was taken off on paper, watermarked with the "small crown" reversed, and the sheet was gummed. The colour was blue, of which two very distinct shades are found.

These proofs are not rare, being ordinarily seen in good collections.

(*j*) In the latter part of the year 1870, proofs in various colours, of the one penny and twopence, were struck off from the matrices or original dies as retouched by Humphreys. As the Maltese crosses on the blocks in the upper angles were engraved on the dies and the blocks in the lower angles left blank, they appeared so on these impressions, but the white lines, distinctive of the twopence, and which were only inserted on the roller, of course do not appear.

These impressions are carefully printed on plate paper, mounted on card of a yellowish tone, showing a margin the full size of the steel die of an inch or more all round the impression, thus greatly enhancing the effect of the impression.

The word NEW and the figure 1 were engraved on the die ; for they appear on the margin, embossed in plain relief, but reading backwards. In the twopence the words NEW DIE are also visible.

The one penny was printed in black, carmine, and green ;

The twopence in blue, black, and green.

Similar proofs were also at the same time struck off from the original dies of the one halfpenny and the three halfpence. Those of the one halfpenny were printed in carmine, black, orange, and blue, the four angles being blank ; those of the three halfpence were printed, with the four angles in blank, in carmine-red, black, blue, and green.

*The Forged One Penny.*—From time to time the authorities have been afflicted with scares, which sometimes took the form of fears that the stamps were or might be forged ; at others, that they were being tampered with by removing the effacing marks. One of these periodical seizures appears to have occurred in or about 1860, and the authorities became anxious to know by experiment how far the forgery of a stamp that would pass muster was practicable by ordinary means. For this purpose an imitation was ordered to be made by an expert and skilful engraver, who was furnished with everything requisite to enable him to produce a *fac-simile* of the one penny stamp. The imitation was purposely left incomplete in one angle ; but the impressions taken from the die exhibit differences so palpable that the least practised eye could not be deceived by them for a moment. The result appears to have reassured the authorities, and moreover showed the wisdom of employing a portrait as the principal feature of the design. It further evidenced the propriety not only of retaining the then existing safeguards, but rather of adding to them by the introduction of others, though



the greater part of these have been, we fear, unadvisedly abolished in many of the stamps during the past year.

Proofs of the imitation stamp in the colour of the one penny were taken from the die on plate paper, and mounted on card, and are to be found in official collections.

*The Three Halfpence.*—(a) In 1860 Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. were directed to prepare a design for a new value of three halfpence. The design, as submitted by them, was only what may be termed a scissors and paste adaptation of the then current one penny, from a copy of which it was constructed, the portions of the lettering which it was desired to hide being covered with body colour. The word POSTAGE is introduced in a curve above the Queen's head, and below is THREE HALFPENCE in two lines. White letter blocks are inserted in all the four angles, with lettering similar to that then in use on the two-pence. The great similarity of the design with that of the one penny caused the authorities to reject it, and to desire another to be prepared, in which the difference should be more distinctly marked.

(b) The design subsequently selected has been already described; but the reduction of the postage rate contemplated in 1860 not having taken effect, the stock was destroyed, except some few sheets kept as specimens. Copies surcharged SPECIMEN are common; those unsurcharged are rare. In some the blue action of the gum is much more apparent than on others. The sheet registered at Somerset House, on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed 22nd March, 1860, is deeply discoloured.

## 2. THE EMBOSSED STAMPS.

*The Tenpence and the One Shilling.*—(a) Two designs—one for the tenpence and the other for the one shilling—appear to have been submitted to the authorities in 1847 by Mr. William Wyon. The design of both consists of the head of the Queen, as engraved by him for the embossing die of one penny, and

was struck in white relief, without the addition of any pendent curl, in an upright octagon. Within the exterior line of the die is a border, about 2 mm. in breadth, drawn in pen and ink, composed of zig-zags, with ornaments of dots introduced. The octagon measures externally 23 by  $25\frac{1}{2}$  mm., and within the border, on the plain ground, the value in full is inserted with pen and ink in Roman capitals.

(b) In the tenpence the inscription reads downwards—POSTAGE in the left vertical side; TEN below the head; and PENCE reading upwards on the right vertical side. After the introduction of this legend the ground was painted in water-colour a yellow tint of green.

(c) In the one shilling the inscription reads upwards from the left vertical side, on which is POSTAGE; above the head is ONE, and on the left vertical side SHILLING. The ground is painted in yellow buff.

These essays are on thick white unwatermarked paper, and are gummed at the back with a thick coating of yellowish gum.

(b) Two copies of the octagonal die last described were subsequently struck at a distance of 4 mm. apart on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, similar to that on which the stamps themselves were afterwards struck and issued, but the threads passing horizontally across the stamps instead of vertically. They were struck in plain colour. In one pair the ground is pea-green, and was submitted as a trial of colour for the one shilling; the other pair, submitted as trials of colour for the tenpence, have a ground of yellow in two shades, the one a bright yellow and the other chrome yellow.

The backs of these trials are gummed with good yellowish-coloured gum.

In the stamps as subsequently prepared the same octagonal die was preserved, but on the suggestion of Mr. Ormond Hill, was furnished with an engine-turned border, the work of the late Mr. Moss, an engraver employed for this purpose by Mr. Ormond Hill.

(c) Previous to the insertion of the date plugs in the die of the one shilling, a proof was, in 1855, struck in the normal colour, green, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

*The Sixpence.*—A similar proof was struck at the same time from Die No. 4 of the sixpence, in lilac, on white wove unwatermarked paper, before the insertion of the date plugs.

### 3. THE TYPE-PRINTED STAMPS.

*The Fourpence.*—(a) The first design prepared in 1855 by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., showed the head of the Queen to the left in a circle, in an upright rectangular frame of similar size with that of the stamp subsequently prepared and issued. Above and below the circle are plain straight tablets, touching the circle and completing the parallelogram. On the upper tablet is POSTAGE, and on the lower FOUR PENCE, the spandrels being filled in with a reticulated pattern.

The impression was taken from the die in carmine on white enamelled card.

(b) A trial impression in a dull shade of vermilion was taken from Plate No. 8 (*supra*, p. 115), approved 15th August, 1865, on a sheet of white wove unwatermarked paper, which was afterwards gummed, but not perforated.

(c) In August, 1868, proofs were struck from Die III. (*supra*, p. 115) for trials of colour. The impressions, being struck from the die, show the letter and date blocks in solid colour. They were struck in rose and in blue on white enamelled card.

*The Sixpence.*—(a) Proofs from Die I. (*supra*, p. 119) were, in 1856, taken in emerald green, and also in clear violet of a paler shade than that afterwards adopted for the issue. These proofs were struck on white enamelled card.

(b) Proofs on white wove unwatermarked paper were taken off, in two shades of green, from Plate No. 1, approved 29th March, 1856, and also in green on thick soft card.

On these last proofs experimental trials of obliterations were made. The design of the obliterating stamp consisted of a single-lined circle, measuring 1 inch or  $25\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, in which was a Royal Crown, with the date 2. 4. 56 below. In a curve above was HELMSLEY, the name of a post-town in Yorkshire, but no obliterating marks of this pattern were ever adopted.

(c) Proofs from Die II., prepared for Plate No. 3, with a hyphen, were struck off in black, on white wove unwatermarked paper, previously to the issue. (*Vide supra*, p. 121.)

(d) Similar proofs were also struck off in August, 1864, from Die III., prepared for Plate No. 5 (*supra*, p. 122), the impression from which was approved 30th December following. These were struck off in black on white enamelled card, and show the die with the letter blocks and all the four circles in blank, and also with the upper circles filled in with stars.

(e) Some sheets for trials of colours were printed from Plate No. 6, Issue III. (*supra*, p. 122), and from Plate No. 9, Issue IV. (*supra*, p. 123). The former are printed on white wove unwatermarked paper, and were not gummed or perforated; the latter were printed on the paper of the issue watermarked with "spray of rose," and were gummed, but not perforated.

These sheets were, we believe, printed in 1870, to assist the authorities in deciding upon the colour which should be adopted for the new type of this value then in preparation, inasmuch as so late as April, 1869, a sheet was printed in lilac from Plate No. 10 (which was never brought into use) for the reception of the *imprimatur*, and the next plate (No. 11), brought into use in January, 1872, was of Type II. The impression from this latter plate on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed is in chestnut-brown, one of the shades to be found among the trials printed from Plate No. 9.

(1) From Plate No. 6, on white wove unwatermarked paper, we find impressions in vermilion, green, and ultramarine blue.

(2) From Plate No. 9, on white wove paper, watermarked "spray of rose," we find impressions in orange, ochre-yellow, brown-red, and clear chesnut-brown.

*The One Shilling.*—The first designs for the stamp of this value submitted in 1856 show the head of the Queen as finally chosen, but with considerable differences in the construction of the stamp.

(a) The head is on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, enclosed in a beaded circle, touching the sides and top of the rectangular frame. Below, in two lines, is POSTAGE—ONE SHILLING, in white block letters, on a straight tablet of solid colour. The spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern somewhat similar to that of Die I.

The impression is in red-brown on enamelled card.

On the back of the specimen from which the above description is taken is a design in pencil of the watermark proposed for adoption, composed of the heraldic emblems, disposed in a curve both at the top and the bottom of the stamp—a rose in the centre, and the thistle and shamrock on either side.

(b) This design is very similar to that ultimately selected, but the oval band enclosing the head is wider, reducing the space left for the head. Above the head, on a solid curved tablet with rounded ends, is POSTAGE, and on a similar incurved tablet below ONE SHILLING, in clear block letters. The rest of the oval band is filled in with a scroll-pattern of fine lines, and the rectangular frame is composed of similar lines differently disposed. The pattern of the filling in of the spandrels is similar to that of the previous essay.

The impression was struck in carmine, on white enamelled card.

(c) This essay is similar to the last, except that the scroll-pattern on the sides of the oval border is suppressed, and the heraldic emblems of the rose, shamrock, and thistle introduced. The rectangular frame is also changed, and composed of three coloured lines, the innermost of which is incurved at the angles, and a small ornament introduced.

The impression is in pale blue, on white enamelled card.

(d) The next essay presents the stamp as approved and issued (see illustration, p. 129), and is printed on glazed white wove

unwatermarked paper. We have seen it in carmine, in green, and in ultramarine-blue.

There are white dots in the two lower and in the upper left corners. The specimen printed in carmine is defaced with a white cross scratched across the stamp, and all are found heavily effaced with an oval hand-stamped mark, which is evidently a trial of an obliterating mark.

(e) A proof impression on thin white wove unwatermarked paper was taken from the Plate No. 1, in the same shade of green as was adopted for the issue. Specimens of these are commonly found defaced by an oblique pen stroke across the stamp.

*The Ninepence.*—(a) In 1861 a proof from Die I. (*supra*, p. 134) was taken off in black on white wove unwatermarked paper.

(b) A design, differing in many particulars from the stamp as issued, was subsequently prepared by Messrs. De La Rue, but at what period we are unable to state positively, nor do we know with what object it was prepared, unless it were in contemplation of the construction of a new type for the value. As a matter of course, the sole points of difference are to be found in the treatment of the frame, the principal of them being—the edge of the nine-curved line surrounding the head is ornamented with crescent-shaped dots, instead of consisting of plain lines as in the stamp; the reticulated pattern of the spandrels is vertically disposed, but coarser in design. The inscriptions, POSTAGE, NINE PENCE, are in Roman characters in white, on solid coloured tablets. In the angle squares the letters are small, and are enclosed in single lined circles. The letters on the specimens before us, inserted in the upper letter blocks, are v. A.; in the lower one, c. o., the signification of which we are unable to state.

Copies of this frame were printed in two colours—olive-ochre and light brown-red—and the interior portion being removed, the frame was pasted on to a head taken from another stamp.

That printed in olive-ochre is pasted on to a fiscal stamp prepared for the "Suitors' Fee Fund account of the Court of Chancery;" that printed in light red-brown, on a head taken from a stamp watermarked with "spray of rose." The presence of this watermark on the head introduced is somewhat remarkable, as it is not found on any stamp prior to 1867. The introduction of small lettering, and the absence of any provision for the insertion of the number of the plates, would rather tend to indicate a retrograde movement. The only supposition which appears to us to be probable is, that it was a preliminary design for a modification of the ninepence. It will be remembered that the demand for this value suddenly ceased, in consequence of a change in the rate of postage, and Plate No. 5, approved April, 1866, was never brought into use. It may be that an intention existed of changing the design of the successor to Plate No. 5, and that the absence of further call for the stamp put an end to the project. We have chronicled the facts, the explanation we must leave to others.

*The Threepence.*—The die for this stamp was prepared in 1861, and as the design for the head of the Queen had already been accepted, the only portion which gave scope for originality was the treatment of the frame.

(a) In the design as at first prepared the trilobed border ultimately approved of was introduced into the rectangular frame upside down, as compared with the stamp afterwards issued. The spaces between the border and the rectangular lines of the frame were filled in with a minute groundwork, and in the angles were introduced letters reading diagonal-wise, H. U. N. T.

Proofs of the die of this border were taken off on white enamelled card in blue and also in carmine.

(b) The inner space from the proof of the border taken off in carmine having been removed, the border was pasted on a 5s. "Matrimonial Causes" stamp bearing the approved design of the Queen's head, which was also in carmine. The effect was

not satisfactory, and it was determined to invert the frame, which was accordingly done.

(c) The frame being inverted, the legends were changed so as to read properly in the new position of the framework, and as so altered, the design was approved. A plate (No. 1) was constructed, but the impressions not being satisfactory it was not used, and a second plate (No. 2) was constructed, the impression from which was approved 17th October, 1861.

Before the printing had advanced far it was determined to suppress the pattern between the trilobed border and the rectangular frame, and the die was altered accordingly. Plate No. 2 appears also to have been altered by scraping away the pattern, and in its altered state was again approved 19th March, 1862.

The impressions taken from Plate No. 2, struck previously to the alteration, were not only perforated ready for issue, but many had been surcharged "SPECIMEN" for distribution to the postmasters, and it is believed that a few were actually sent out; the bulk, however, of the impression was destroyed. These "specimen" stamps are by no means uncommon, but copies not so surcharged are very rarely met with.

(d) Proofs from Die II. (*supra*, p. 138), with solid letter and number blocks, were struck in black on white enamelled card.

(e) Proofs of Plate No. 4, constructed from the last-mentioned die, with the plate number and letters inserted, were struck in November, 1864, on white wove unwatermarked paper.

#### *Die Proofs of Series Current in 1870.*

(a) In the year 1867 proofs in various colours of the tenpence, two shillings, and five shillings, issued on the 1st July, 1867, were, at the instance of the Post Office, struck from the original dies for the Paris Exhibition, the letter blocks and those for the numbers of the dies being in blank. The specimens were beautifully printed, and the colours displayed great purity of tone.

(b) In 1870 proofs in various colours were also taken from the whole of the original dies prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., belonging to stamps that were then in use. These, taking



them in the order of the facial value of the stamps, were as follows :

(1) In 1870, the **THREEPENCE**, Die II. (*supra*, p. 139), in carmine, black, lilac-rose, yellow, and brown.

(2) In 1870, the **FOURPENCE**, Die III. (*supra*, p. 115), in vermilion, black, ochre-yellow, and mauve.

(3) In 1870, the **SIXPENCE**, Die IV., in lilac, mauve, and brown.

(4) In 1870, the **NINEPENCE**, Die II. (*supra*, p. 135), in bistre, black, mauve, and yellow.

(5) In 1867 and 1870, the **TENPENCE** (*supra*, p. 142), in chestnut-brown, black, green, azure blue, lilac-rose, orange, carmine, bistre, and brown.

(6) In 1870, the **ONE SHILLING**, Die III. (*supra*, p. 131), in green, purple, black, and brown.

(7) In 1867 and 1870, the **TWO SHILLINGS** (*supra*, p. 143), in blue-black, rose-lilac, ochre-yellow, green, and chestnut-brown.

(8) In 1867 and 1870, the **FIVE SHILLINGS** (*supra*, p. 145), in carmine, black, brown, blue-green, and orange.

#### *Trials on Paper Chemically Prepared.*

Early in 1871 the Post-office authorities, desiring to see whether the paper could not be so prepared as to prevent the stamps printed thereon from being tampered with, caused sheets of the paper then in current use to undergo a peculiar preparation, which stained them a green hue, more or less intense, the hand-made paper issued to Perkins, Bacon, and Co. not showing it so much as the wove paper on which De La Rue and Co. printed.

We believe that the trials then made embraced those of ingredients to mix with the ink, and which were intended to conduce to the result in view ; namely, an immediate detection if any acid or detergent were applied to the stamp.

From the current plates, and on the paper of the issue thus prepared, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. printed trials as under ; viz. :

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1d., carmine, from Plate 121. |     |
| 1½d. „ „                      | 1.  |
| 2d., blue „                   | 13. |

and Messrs. De La Rue and Co.—

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 3d., carmine, from Plate 5. |     |
| 4d., vermilion „            | 12. |
| 6d., lilac „                | 9.  |
| 1s., green „                | 4.  |

These stamps were gummed, but not perforated. The result of the experiments on the paper so prepared was not satisfactory, and the proposed system was in consequence never adopted.

#### 4. THE "MULREADY" COVERS.

1. Two species of proofs only are known of the design for the face of the cover and envelope made by the late W. Mulready, R.A., the one being an engraver's proof, and the other a printer's proof.

(a) Before any stereo-plates were constructed from the wood block engraved by Mr. John Thompson, a few proofs were struck off in black on India paper. These are strictly of the class known as engraver's or artist's proofs, and are of great softness in tone and delicacy in execution. They are of the highest degree of rarity. It is said that six impressions only were taken off, one of which, with the original pencil sketch of the design, was sold, in 1864, after the death of Mr. Mulready, at the sale of his effects, for twenty guineas.\*

(b) Proofs were taken from the stereo-plate before the lettering was introduced, both on India paper and on thickish green-grey paper. These are printer's proofs, and are readily distinguishable from those taken from the wood block by the greater thickness of the lines, especially those of the rectangular frame inclosing the design, and by the coarser character of the impression generally. Both of these impressions are of considerable rarity, though copies are met with in the best collections.

\* The original block is in the South Kensington Museum.

2. There are several essays of the component parts of the covers as subsequently issued, some of which are also applicable to the envelopes, of which, as distinct from the covers, no essays are known to exist.

(a) A half-sheet of paper, measuring 9 by 8 inches, on the lower part of the face of which is POST TOWN—PENNY STAMP. In four columns, two at each end, are tables of the prices of the stamps, with various directions and other information for the public, slightly differing in phraseology from those on the covers as ultimately issued, and in smaller and thicker type.

There is a space for inserting the address of the sender of the letter, and a notice that if the party to whom it is addressed cannot be found, the letter is to be returned to the sender. This notice, when the cover is folded, appears on the reverse side.

On the specimen from which this description is taken there are pencil lines indicating where the "Dickinson" threads are to pass, and the schedule of prices has been corrected. On the front space Sir Rowland Hill has made the following note, "A design with a figure of Britannia in the middle. This figure constitutes the essential part of the stamp."

The impression is in black on white wove unwatermarked paper.

(b) A half-sheet of paper to fold as a cover, with the space on the face for the design left blank, with marginal columns of printed matter, as in the covers ultimately issued, but similar in type and phraseology to that of (a), the columns of printing and the address space being framed with thick black lines. The remainder of the sheet is covered with a minute engine-turned pattern, with an inner fancy-bordering, the word POSTAGE being introduced in the same way as it appeared on the covers actually issued. When the cover is folded as a letter the back appears entirely covered with the pattern. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(c) This is the same as the last, save that the "Mulready" design is introduced into the blank space on the face, and intentionally blurred to prevent improper use being made of the

specimen. The printed matter in the columns was reset, with some slight differences, and turned so as to read the other end uppermost. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(d) This is similar to the last, but the engine-turned pattern is suppressed except in one place, shaped like a tablet, a little above the head of Britannia. This has evidently been done by covering over with paper the parts intended to be left blank. The columns of printed matter are separated by thick double lines. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(e) This is similar to the last, except that the tablet is suppressed, and the engine-turned pattern is allowed to appear about half an inch round the outer edges, and the lines separating the columns of print are thick and single. Two thick lines are also added on the front, covering the spaces where the engraver's name and the value are usually found. The impression is in black, on plain white wove paper.

(f) Similar to (e), save that the whole of the engine-turned device appears on the back of the cover when folded, as (b).

All the above are of exceptional interest and rarity, being probably unique. The design selected was the tablet of (d), in which the word POSTAGE was introduced, the rest of the engine-turned work being effaced, and the tablet enclosed in a single-lined frame.

3. In addition to the proofs above described, a proof of the twopence was struck in blue, on "Dickinson" paper, with two pink threads and one blue running *vertically* down the face of the sheet, which measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. This proof was discovered by the late Mr. Pemberton, and described by him in the *Philatetical Journal*, 1872, p. 198.

It is struck from the stereo-plate, and has the value inserted on the face, as also the tablet with POSTAGE on it, but there are no printed instructions at the ends nor any number on the plate, such as was introduced in the ordinary impressions. It appears to be a printers' proof from one of the first stereo-plates, and as

such is carefully printed. Mr. Pemberton's account is inaccurate so far as it supposes that there are any differences either in the printing or the size of the tablet, between this and the cover as actually issued. We have carefully examined the specimen which is before us, and have ascertained the fact beyond the possibility of doubt.

##### 5. ENVELOPES WITH EMBOSSED STAMPS.

1. *The One Penny, Die I.*—The greater part of the essays and trials were made from dies struck by Mr. W. Wyon, without the addition of any pendent curl behind the head of the Queen. As before stated, the curls were added and varied in the secondary dies constructed for each particular value.

The reticulated lathe-work on the border of Die I. of the one penny was executed by Mr. Deacon (long in the employ of the late Mr. Charles Whiting), one of the best engravers of that species of work that this or any other country has ever produced; and all that was subsequently produced by Mr. Moss and by Messrs. De La Rue suffers in comparison with the beauty and finish characterising Mr. Deacon's handiwork. This is apparent not only in Die I. of the one penny, and that of the twopence subsequently constructed, but also perhaps even more remarkably in some of the various trials and essays made previously to the final acceptance of the design.

We are unable to give the dates when these designs were severally executed, but we will endeavour to describe them in the order in which we think it probable that they were prepared and submitted to the authorities.

(a) The embossed head of the Queen has no pendent curl. The specimen shows the full size of the die, which is circular, with a diameter of  $1\frac{9}{8}$  inch, or 37 mm. The border is composed of two upright oval bands, the external one measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by  $1\frac{9}{8}$  inch, or 30 by 37 mm. The interior oval is composed of a network of fine lines in chain pattern, and the exterior one of a close network of wavy lines, the upper portion

of which is cleared to receive a curved solid tablet, on which is inscribed POSTAGE ONE PENNY in Roman capitals, embossed in white. At the bottom of this frame a bouquet of the heraldic flowers is engraved over the network of the border.

The impression is struck in pink, on thick soft white card.

(*b*) This is the same as the above, but the die is cut away so as to show only an impression of the shape of the oval. A pendent curl is added resembling that afterwards adapted to Die II.

The impressions from the die as so modified are found in blue of a very pure full tone, in very deep blue, and in a fine chocolate-brown.

(*c*) The design resembles (*a*) in many respects; the margins of the die are not removed, and there is no pendent curl. The head is surrounded by two oval bands, the innermost being of the same pattern as that of (*a*) and (*b*), and the pattern of the exterior one is also similar to the preceding, but is continued all round instead of being cut away to receive the solid tablet. The legend, POSTAGE ONE PENNY, is engraved on the upper part of this border in block shaded letters, and the bouquet in the lower part is made smaller and less spreading. The impressions are struck on thick white wove unwatermarked paper, in bright blue, on a half-sheet of rough paper, note size, and in deep blue on a half-sheet of glazed note paper.

(*d*) The same as the last, with the exception that the margin of the die has been removed so as only to show the oval. The size of the bouquet at the lower part of the exterior frame is again reduced; the upper part is cleared of the design, and a solid tablet introduced, with the inscription POSTAGE 1d., HALF oz., all in white block letters. Impressions were struck—

(1) On thin white wove unwatermarked paper, in plain white relief and in black.

(2) On thick white wove unwatermarked paper, in pink, chocolate-brown, pale blue, and deep green.

(3) On laid hand-made paper, in black and pale dull blue.

(4) On thick soft white card, in black.

(e) The external oval is entirely suppressed, and the impression shows a circular die  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or 27 mm. in diameter. The impression is struck in deep blue, on thick soft card; no lettering or value expressed.

(f) The head, also without pendent curl, is struck on a circular die of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, or 32 mm. in diameter. The head is enclosed in a single oval border, the minor axis of which measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  and the major 25 mm., and the border being of the same breadth as before, greater width is allowed for the head. The pattern of the border is similar to that of the interior one in those previously described, but it is re-engraved in a superior style. The upper part is removed to receive a solid tablet, with the inscription, POSTAGE ONE PENNY, in white Roman capitals. Impressions were struck on thick soft card, in deep blue and dark Vandyke brown.

This is evidently an entirely fresh die, and is remarkable for its finish and beauty.

(g) Same as (f), but the circular margin of the die has been cut away, leaving the oval only. The impression is struck in black, on thick white wove unwatermarked paper.

(h) The same as the last, but the solid tablet is removed, and the engine-turned pattern continued round the whole of the oval border, and in the upper part the legend POSTAGE ONE PENNY is introduced in the lathe-work of the border in sunken block letters. The initials w.w. are indented on the base of the bust of these specimens. Specimens are found struck—

(1) On yellowish wove unwatermarked paper, in pale blue, slate-grey, dull brown, and vermilion.

(2) On bluish laid paper, in pale blue and vermilion.

(3) On thick soft yellowish card, in black.

(i) The single oval frame enclosing the head is rather shorter than in the last. The pattern of the lathe-work is similar, but the upper part is removed to receive a solid tablet, with the inscription POSTAGE ONE PENNY in white Roman capitals. The exterior line of the oval is beaded. The impression is struck on thick soft yellowish card, in pink.

(*j*) The head, with a pendent curl similar to that afterwards adopted for Die II., is enclosed in an oval border, the solid interior ground being not quite so wide as in the preceding essay (*i*). The lathe-work on the border is of a similar pattern to the previous, and is continued all round. In the upper part is the legend POSTAGE ONE PENNY, introduced into the lathe-work in large sunken block coloured letters, which are outlined by a fine embossed white line in the lathe-work. The impression is struck on white wove unwatermarked paper, in black and in a yellowish-pink, and on thick soft yellowish card in deep blue and dark Vandyke brown.

(*k*) This essay consists of a design for the oval band only, the head not being introduced. A portion of the border, equal to about three-fourths of the whole circumference, has the engine-turned work duplicated as in the one penny embossed stamp subsequently adopted. An exterior line is added to the oval. The impression is taken off on thin white enamelled card in pale ultramarine-blue.

(*l*) The head, with the pendent curl of the one penny envelope, Die I., is introduced into an oval frame similarly engine-turned to that last described, but with the duplicated portion much closer, and there is no additional external line round the border. There are no inscriptions on the border, nor are the initials found on the base of the bust. The impression was struck from the original die, as chosen for the one penny envelope before the inscription was engraved on the border, and is on white enamelled paper, in bright ultramarine-blue.

(*m*) The same as the last (*l*), but with the legend POSTAGE ONE PENNY engraved on the engine-turned border in sunken block letters. The impression was struck from the original die as finally approved of, and not from the working die, in which the initials and die numbers were introduced. The impression is in deep blue, and also in a paler shade on yellowish soft card.

2. *The One Penny, Die II.*—A new secondary die for the



one penny was constructed in 1860 by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., as mentioned in *Sup.*, p. 174.

A proof of this die, before the index number of the die or the initials of Mr. Wyon were inserted on the base of the bust, was struck in plain relief on white card.

3. *The Three Halfpence.*—(a) The border for this die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue as a *pendant* to the adhesive stamp of similar value, prepared in 1860 by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co.

Proofs of the border as designed were struck off in lilac on thick white card, and in yellow and rose-pink on thin white enamelled card.

On the two first mentioned specimens from which this description is taken, a head of the Queen, cut out from an impression struck for some other stamp, is pasted within the border, showing the effect the stamp would produce when completed.

(b) The design of the border last described having been approved with some slight modifications, it was engraved on a die furnished with a head struck on it from Mr. Wyon's die. Proofs, with the die date of 2nd April, 1860, were struck from the working die, No. 1, marked 1 w. w., in rose-pink, on white laid paper, of a size resembling the face of an envelope.

A copy of the 1½d. adhesive, surcharged, in black, SPECIMEN, in block letters, is usually found affixed to the face of these proofs alongside the embossed stamp.

(c) In August, 1872, proofs were again taken from the same working die, marked 1 w. w., in rose-pink, on white laid paper.

4. *The Threepence.*—(a) The border for this die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and was prepared in a similar manner to No. 3 last described. Proofs of this border were struck in carmine, on white enamelled card, with a head of the Queen pasted in the centre, showing the effect the stamp would produce when completed.

(b) The design last described having been approved, was, with some slight modifications in detail, engraved on a die furnished with a head struck from Mr. Wyon's die. Proofs from the die as so completed (not from a working die) were struck on white enamelled card, in violet and carmine.

5. *The Fourpence*.—The border for this die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue. Whether any design was submitted to the authorities, prepared as in the two previous cases, we are unable to say; but we have before us a proof, from the original die, struck in vermilion, on white wove paper.\*

#### 6. PROOFS OF NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS.

(a) Prior to the die for the halfpenny stamp impressed on the wrappers being hardened, a proof was struck, on the 1st June, 1870, by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., in a full rich tone of green, on white enamelled card. The impression shows three solid discs of colour where the date plugs were subsequently inserted, each being marked with a small white cross.

(b) Another proof was taken from the die after hardening, also before the date numbers were inserted, and is struck on plain yellowish wove unwatermarked paper, in a dull shade of blue, being merely a trial of colour.

(c) A proof was struck in black, on white wove unwatermarked paper, from a plate as completed, with the date I. 10. 70. inserted in the die.

(d) Like the last, but plugs with floriated ornaments, as now (1881) in use, are inserted in place of those bearing the date numerals. The impression is in black on white enamelled card.

There exist in Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s private collection proofs of (c) in black on white enamelled card.

\* Proofs struck from the original dies are distinguishable from those struck from the working dies by the absence of the index number, as in the original die neither this nor the initials are inserted on the base of the bust, nor are the holes for the date plugs drilled.

In the same collection is also found a similar proof of the oval stamp of one penny as employed for the wrapper of that value.

### 7. PROOFS OF POST CARDS.

Following their usual practice, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. struck proofs in black both before and after the die was hardened.

(a) The first exactly corresponds with the larger-sized card as issued, save that it is struck, in black, from the die, on plain wove paper of ordinary thickness, before the lines in the stamp over the Queen's face and neck were a little lightened towards the left side and lights introduced there.

(b) The second is struck from the die after these alterations were made, and is in black on thick buff card, rather deeper in shade than that employed for the issue.

This is marked by hand "No. 2."

(c) Is from the same die, struck in lilac, on thick white card, showing vertical laid lines on its face.

(d) This is the same, and is printed on buff card as issued, marked by hand "specimen proof." It is finely printed in a rich full shade of lilac. The reverse of the card shows horizontally-laid lines.

(e) This is similar to the preceding, with the word SPECIMEN in plain block letters printed across the stamp, and extending 22 mm.

(f) This is a simple proof, in all respects conformable to the issue, save that it was printed in July, 1870. The stamp and border is of a remarkably deep colour, deeper than (d), and far deeper than that of any card issued.

The size of the frames in all the above six proofs is 109 by 74 mm.

(g) This is a proof of the smaller-sized card, the frame measuring 112 by 65 mm. This proof was submitted for size of the card only, as the border, legend, Royal Arms, and word "To," are introduced, but not the stamp. Below "To" is an oblong tablet of plain colour, 85 by 11 mm., to show that there

would be room for the address. It is printed in black on thickish vertically-laid paper of a light buff tint.

All the above seven proofs have the Royal Arms, with the misformed N of PENSE in the Garter motto, and the word "To" on the face.

In the archives of the Commissioners at Somerset House, and also in Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s private collection, proofs in black, on white enamelled card, from the die of the stamp of 1878, with HALFPENNY in a curve above the Queen's head, and of the 1d., 1½d., and 1d. cards are to be found.

## Part III.

### *TELEGRAPH STAMPS.*

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#### I.

##### *PRIVATE TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.*

It would be foreign to the object of the present work to enter into the origin or history of the electric telegraph, or of its establishment as a medium of communication; the fact that the charges for the transmission of messages were in many instances defrayed by means of franked forms or special adhesive stamps is that which renders the following short remarks germane to the purposes of this treatise.

After the genius and the labours of the telegraph engineers had removed the invention from the category of mere scientific experiment to that of practical utility, the great railway companies were naturally among the first to adopt the system. Being owners of the land bordering on the lines of the railway, they were enabled to place the requisite poles and wires without obstruction, and the enormous facilities afforded by this system of communication in the conduct of their business very speedily led to the introduction of telegraphs on all the main lines.

The railway companies soon perceived that a substantial addition to their revenue might be derived from permitting the public to transmit messages by their telegraphs, and that the telegraphic staff and fixed plant could at the same time serve

their original purpose as an adjunct to the efficient working of the railway undertaking.

From these beginnings the telegraph system sprang. Its success became so immediately apparent that as early as 1846 the Electric Telegraph Company was established with statutory powers, for the purpose of transmitting inland messages for the public, and not merely as an accessory to a railway line.

The example thus set was followed by the incorporation of the Submarine, the Magnetic, and the United Kingdom Telegraph Companies, under various private Acts of Parliament. Under similar Acts, by Royal Charter, or under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Act, 1856, allowing limited liability, the British and Irish Magnetic, the London District, and various other electric telegraph companies were incorporated.

The extensive use which had been made by the public of the facilities afforded by the telegraph system induced the United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company to carry its wires along the sides of the high roads, and for this purpose, after obtaining the assent of the local authorities, it proceeded to set up posts and wires by the road sides. In taking this course the Company had, however, ignored the rights of the public, which could only be abridged by the powers of an Act of Parliament; and in consequence it was speedily confronted by an indictment for infringing the public right by setting up posts along the sides of a high road in the county of Bucks. The case was tried before Baron Martin and a special jury at the Bucks Lent Assizes in 1862,\* when the judge directed the jury that the highway extended over the *entire space* between the fences, whether metalled and made into a road or not. The defendants were found guilty, and the Court of Queen's Bench subsequently upheld the view of the judge as accurately defining the law, the Court saying that if the defendants wished to act as they had done, they must take the constitutional course of obtaining the sanction of the Legislature.

\* Regina v. The United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company Limited, 2 B. and S. 647 n.

Consequent on this decision the United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company applied to Parliament, and obtained an Act (25 and 26 Vict. c. cxxxii.) conferring on the Company the necessary powers to lay telegraph wires in or over streets, roads, houses, and by the sides of roads and wastes, making compensation to all persons injured for damage done, giving control over the placing of the posts and wires to the local authorities, and in the interest of the public at large imposing a maximum scale of charges for the transmission of messages, which the Company could not exceed.

Several of the electric telegraph companies had previously obtained special Acts, and it became an accepted doctrine that to enable a telegraph company to work its business efficiently Parliamentary powers were necessary, and ultimately nearly all the telegraph companies obtained such powers.

In 1867 the project of vesting the administration of the entire inland telegraphic system in the Postmaster-General, on behalf of the public, which had for some time previously been advocated by the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and by the late J. Lewis Ricardo, the chairman of the Electric Telegraph Company, was forced on the attention of the authorities, the measure being eagerly supported by the public. The varying rates charged by the different companies, and the delays and irregularities in the transmission of messages, formed a well-founded grievance on the part of the public, and this, added to the sanguine expectations of the revenue derivable from the system, if placed under efficient government working, that had been formed by the officials connected with the Post-office, induced the Ministry in 1868 to bring in a Bill to enable the Postmaster-General to purchase the undertakings of the inland telegraph companies. This bill subsequently became law as the "Telegraph Act, 1868," and under its provisions, and of another Act passed in 1869, the Postmaster-General, in 1869 and 1870, acquired the undertakings of the several companies then carrying on the business of transmitting inland telegraphic messages.

Of the companies in existence at the period of the transfer of

the inland system to the Postmaster-General, the seven under-mentioned were making use of, or had at some period of their career made use of, franked message forms or adhesive stamps for franking messages, and it is these which we propose to consider.

These companies were—

1. THE ELECTRIC AND INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY.
2. THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.
3. THE BRITISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
4. THE UNITED KINGDOM ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
5. THE UNIVERSAL PRIVATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
6. THE LONDON DISTRICT, afterwards THE LONDON AND PROVINCIAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.
7. THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

In addition to the above there was a company incorporated under the name of (8) BONELLI'S ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, which had caused stamps to be manufactured in anticipation that it would commence business, but inasmuch as this never was the case, these stamps can only be classed among those prepared for service but never actually issued.

#### 1. THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company, subsequently known as the Electric and International Telegraph Company, was the oldest of all the companies, having been founded in 1846. Under the powers of its special Acts of Parliament, it organized a very extensive system of inland telegraphs, and also in connection therewith worked submarine cables to several parts of the Continent. Mr. John Lewis Ricardo was the first chairman of the Company, and so continued till 1859, and distinguished himself as one of the earliest promoters of the movement in favour of the purchase of the inland telegraph system by the government. The entire undertaking of the Company was, about the close of the year 1869, acquired by the Post-office at the price of £2,938,826.



*FRANKED MESSAGE PAPER.*

In 1851, the year of the Great Exhibition, the Company introduced a mode of enabling the public to send telegraph messages without the necessity of making the payment at the time in cash. For this purpose it issued a "franked message paper," at the price of one shilling. On the face of this paper it was stated that "this sheet franks a message not exceeding twenty words to any of the Electric Telegraph Company's stations within a circuit of fifty miles," and that additional words were to be prepaid at the rate of 3d. per word. On the back were printed various regulations\* and instructions, together with the tariff of the company's charges.

The sheet measured  $7\frac{1}{4}$  by  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or  $18\frac{1}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  centimètres, and was of pink hand-made paper, watermarked with the name of the Company in double-lined capitals. The face was lithographed, but the various notices on the back were printed in type.† The sheets bore consecutive numbers impressed by an ordinary numbering machine, and the whole was authenticated by a hand-stamped *fac-simile* signature of the secretary of the Company, *J. S. Fourdrinier*, and by the seal of the Company, embossed in blue, in the heading of the form. This seal shows on a solid circular ground the figure of "Time," seated, grasping in his right hand a thunderbolt, and holding a scythe in his left. Beneath is the motto, "*Ne tentas aut perfice,*" and in an outer circular ring is "Electric Telegraph



\* Under the provisions of the Acts of Parliament regulating the telegraph service as now performed by the Post-office, the Postmaster-General is protected against responsibility in cases of mistakes, errors, delays, &c. ; but as this was not the case with private companies, they protected themselves by special conditions and regulations, which the sender of the message was obliged to accept.

† We have not been able to discover who manufactured and printed these sheets for the Company, further than to ascertain that they were not printed either by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. or by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons.

Company" in the upper part, with "Incorporated June, 1846," in the lower part. An outer circle, measuring  $25\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, with a festooned interior edge, encloses the whole.

These forms continued in use till the one shilling rate was raised in 1853 to 1s. 6d.\* Specimens are now rare, from the fact that when used for a message they were necessarily left with the Company, and all messages were destroyed regularly at certain intervals. Those specimens which are known to survive are principally complimentary copies, and marked "Cancelled."†

#### SYNOPSIS.

"*Franked message paper.*"—Printed in black on rose-coloured hand-made paper, watermarked with the name of the Company, and stamped with its seal, embossed in blue.

1851. One shilling.

#### ADHESIVE STAMPS.

##### First Issue.

Late in the year 1851, or early in 1852, the Company commenced to issue adhesive stamps to be attached to the paper on which the message was written. These stamps were sold to the public by the Company, and franked a message of twenty words within a certain distance, the price of the stamp varying in proportion. Accordingly three adhesive stamps were issued covering the price of a single message of twenty words over the several distances prescribed in the current tariff; *i.e.* under 50, under 100, and above 100 miles. To prepay a message by

\* When these forms were introduced the tariff of the Company for a single message of twenty words was as follows:

|  | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|
| Within a circuit of 50 miles . . . . .                       | 1  | 0  |
| Beyond 50 miles, and within a circuit of 100 miles . . . . . | 2  | 6  |
| Beyond a circuit of 100 miles . . . . .                      | 5  | 0  |

† The "franked message paper" was, we believe, introduced specially for service at the office of the Company in the exhibition building in Hyde Park, but the use of them must have been considerable, as we have seen a specimen numbered 29,930.

means of a stamp to any place within a radius of 100 miles from the point of departure, it was necessary, therefore, to affix to it one which the Company sold to the sender for half-a-crown, described on the face of it as a "Franked Message." These franked message stamps were manufactured by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and appear to have been lithographed by means of a transfer from an engraved plate.

**DESIGN.**—Within an upright rectangular frame of a reticulated design, with ornaments in the form of Maltese crosses in the angles, and measuring 52 by 67 mm., is, in the upper part, the name of the Company, in clear block letters, on an engine-turned ground. Immediately below this in a curve is **FRANKED MESSAGE**, flanked on the left with the initials **J. L. R.** (being those of Mr. John Lewis Ricardo, the chairman of the Company), and on the right by **J. S. F.**, the initials of Mr. John S. Fourdrinier, the secretary.

Below this is an inscription, varying in each of the three stamps. In one the inscription is, "Of 20 words—under 50 miles,"\* while in the others it is, "Of 20 words—under 100 miles," and "Of 20 words—above 100 miles." Then follows a notice from the Company, setting out the conditions on which it undertook to transmit the message to which the stamp was annexed, followed by a direction to be signed by the sender to forward the message on the Company's conditions, the stamp thus constituting an agreement between it and the sender, and thereby limiting the responsibility of the Company.

\* The legend in the engraving is incorrect; the text is accurate.



The impression was in black, on unwatermarked coloured paper, and the stamps were gummed at the back, but not perforated. In the right upper corner was "No." and they were numbered consecutively by a numbering machine. The colours were as follows:

Under 50 miles, pink.  
 „ 100 „ deep-blue.  
 Above 100 „ white.

### Second Issue.

The stamps above described did not remain long in use, and early in 1853, in consequence of changes introduced into the



Company's tariff, an alteration was made by the suppression of that portion of the design consisting of "20 words—under 50 miles," &c., and substituting the value in its place. In all other respects the design was identically the same, and the issue was lithographed from the same plate and on similar paper. The stamps were also numbered consecutively as before; but as the franking power of the stamp

was now expressed in money, and not in the distance the message was to be conveyed, the number was augmented. The series consisted of the following values:

|                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Threepence . . . . .                | on light yellow paper |
| One Shilling . . . . .              | „ fawn „              |
| One Shilling and Sixpence . . . . . | „ pink „              |
| Two Shillings . . . . .             | „ light blue „        |
| Three Shillings . . . . .           | „ deep blue „         |
| Four Shillings . . . . .            | „ white „             |

### Third Issue.

In 1861 the Company determined to modify the manner in which its responsibility in regard to the message should be limited, both in its Continental and inland services, by rendering the stamp available for franking purposes only when it was affixed to a message written on one of the Company's printed forms, in which the conditions were stated and signed by the sender, and not in any other manner.

With the view of keeping the accounts and details of the two services separate, a series of stamps specially destined for each service was issued, both of which were designed and engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, of Great Winchester Street, London, by whom they were printed by lithographic transfer, gummed, and perforated.

#### (1) *The Continental Service Stamps.*

**DESIGN.**—The design consists of a rectangular transverse oblong corded frame, measuring 36 by 26 mm. Within this is the value in full, in white block letters, on a transverse oval-shaped engine-turned ground, enclosed within a border of pearls. Extending over the top and the two ends of this oval is the inscription THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, the initials R. G.\* and J. S. F., both in monogram, being also introduced. On a scroll below is, "This stamp only franks messages to the CONTINENT written on the Company's printed forms." In each of the lower angles is the date 1861 on a solid disc, and between these is "No.," with a blank left for the insertion of the number, which is done in black by an ordinary numbering machine.



The design, as engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, was transferred to stone, with the necessary alterations to adapt it to the several values, and was lithographed in colour on white un-

\* The initials R. G. are those of the Hon. Robert Grimston, who in 1859 succeeded Mr. John Lewis Ricardo as chairman of the Company.

watermarked paper, and perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .\* The stamps were surcharged vertically with a broad black band.

Threepence, black.

Eighteenpence (?)

Four shillings (?)

Eight „ (?)

These stamps of the Continental series were used only for paying the rates on messages to Denmark, Hamburg, and Hanover.

(2) *The Inland Service Stamps.*

DESIGN.—The design consists of a rectangular upright oblong, measuring 23 by  $31\frac{1}{2}$  mm., having a white engrailed border. At the top is TELEGRAPH, and at the bottom 18—STAMP—61, in white characters on solid ground. On an irregularly-shaped oval blank tablet is inscribed THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, in German text, with the initials R. G. and J. S. F. below, separated by crossed thunderbolts. Below this is “No.,” followed by the consecutive number, which is printed in black figures by a numbering machine, while on a solid tablet below is the value in full in white block letters. This is followed by a notice in small Italics: “*This stamp will only frank messages written on the Company’s printed forms.*”

The design, as engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, was transferred to stone, and the necessary alterations made for adapting it to the several values. It was lithographed in colour,

\* When the transfer of the undertaking of this Company to the Postmaster-General took place, the whole of the papers of the Company were destroyed by order of the directors, together with the remaining stock of stamps and the plates from which they were constructed. The stamps issued by the Company have therefore become exceptionally rare; and of the Continental series, which only continued in use for a short period and for a limited purpose, we have not been fortunate enough to be able to find any specimens, except one of the lowest value, from which the above engraving is taken, perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ . The denominations of the other values have been given to us by the Post-office by reference to some of the books of the Company, which show the various stamps made use of by it. We are informed by a gentleman formerly in the service of the Company that the black band drawn across the face of the stamps for the Continental service was introduced solely with the view of facilitating the distinguishing of the stamps of the two series, and not with the object of cancelling the stamp.

on white unwatermarked paper, and perforated 12. Imperforate specimens of some of the values are occasionally met with, though these appear to be proofs; for those which we have seen bear no numbers on the face of them.

On the stamps as at first issued the numbering was printed on the engine-turned groundwork, but we have met with copies of the one shilling and the four shillings where this groundwork has been removed, and a white tablet introduced to receive the numbering. These are evidently from a second or later transfer, as is shown by the numbering, and lead to the supposition that the demand for these two values necessitated additional supplies, which were probably not required in the case of the others, although at the same time it is by no means improbable that among these latter some may exist where a similar change was made. No such instances have, however, been met with by us. A further proof of the unequal demand for some values is shown from the circumstance that copies of the one shilling are found perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , a gauge which, so far as we have been able to ascertain, was employed by Messrs. Waterlow and Co. subsequently to that of 12. It is somewhat remarkable that in the succeeding issues, or printings off of these stamps, the engine-turned ground was retained or restored in all the values with the exception of the one shilling, as is evidenced from the unused copies in hand when the undertaking of the Company was handed over to the Postmaster-General. The various values and colours of the stamps of this issue were as follows:

Threepence, ochre-brown.

One shilling, orange-yellow.

Eighteenpence, rose-pink.

Two shillings, green.

Two shillings and sixpence, chocolate-brown.

Three shillings, blue.

Four shillings, black.

Five shillings, purple.

#### **Fourth Issue.**

This can scarcely be considered as a new issue, but as Mr. Henry Weaver had, on the 1st January, 1864, succeeded Mr.

Fourdrinier in the office of secretary, his initials, H. W., figured for the future on the stamps in place of those of Mr. Fourdrinier.



No other alteration was made in the design, and the original date of 1861 was still retained. The variations in colour in many of the values, especially in the three lowest ones, lead to the supposition that the stamps of the various values were reprinted off and supplied in batches, according to the requirements of the Company. A difference in perforation is also noticeable, those first printed being perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , while about the year 1867 a perforation of 10 was introduced, and so continued to the period when the undertaking was transferred to the Post-office at the close of 1869.

Two new values from the same original plate were introduced into this issue, the sixpence and the ten shillings; while, on the other hand, we fail to find specimens of the half-crown and five shillings, which, though in existence when the undertaking was handed over to the Post-office, do not appear to have been reprinted with the initials of Mr. Henry Weaver.

The following are the values, colours, and perforations of the copies which we have seen :

|                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Threepence, ochre-brown      | Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ and 10. |
| Sixpence, bright vermilion   | ” ”                           |
| One shilling, orange-yellow  | ” ”                           |
| Eighteen pence, pale carmine | ” ”                           |
| Two shillings, green         | ” ”                           |
| Three shillings, blue        | ” ”                           |
| Four shillings, black        | $12\frac{1}{2}$               |
| Ten shillings*               |                               |

\* No specimen of this stamp is found in the Post-office collection, and we are unable to give either its colour or its perforation. All that we know is that it was an existing value as used by the Company when the undertaking was handed over to the Postmaster-General, and we have been assured by a gentleman formerly attached to the Company, that it belonged to this impression, and not to that bearing the initials J. S. F.



## ADHESIVE STAMPS.

## SYNOPSIS.

**First Issue.**

1852. "Franked Message," no value indicated. Impression in black on coloured paper. Imperforate.

Under 50 miles, pink.  
Under 100 miles, deep blue.  
Above 100 miles, white.

**Second Issue.**

1853. "Franked Message." Impression in black on coloured paper. Imperforate.

Threepence, on light yellow paper.  
One shilling, on fawn paper.  
One shilling and sixpence, on pink paper.  
Two shillings, on light blue paper.  
Three shillings, on deep blue paper.  
Four shillings, on white paper.

**Third Issue.***(1) For Continental Service.*

1861. Impression in colour on white paper. Perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and probably 12.\*

Threepence, black.  
Eighteenpence (?)  
Four shillings (?)  
Eight „ (?)

*(2) For Inland Service.*

1861. Impression in colour on white paper. R. G.—J. S. F. Perforated 12 and some  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

Threepence, ochre-brown.  
One shilling, orange-yellow.  
Eighteenpence, rose-pink.

\* During the time that the third and fourth issues were current the perforations made by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons went through the variations of 12,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13, and 10. It is impossible therefore to attempt to classify the perforations, especially of the third issue, of which specimens are so rare, and the information we have been able to obtain has been of the scantiest possible kind.

Two shillings, green.  
 Two shillings and sixpence, chocolate-brown.  
 Three shillings, blue.  
 Four shillings, black.  
 Five shillings, purple.

## VARIETIES.

|                              |               |            |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| One shilling, orange-yellow. | Imperforate.  |            |
| Two shillings, blue.         | „             |            |
| One shilling, orange-yellow. | White tablet. | Perf. 12½. |
| Four shillings, black.       | „             | Perf. 12.  |

**Fourth Issue.***Inland Service.*

1864. Impression in colour on white paper. R. G.—H. W.  
 Perforated 12½ and 10.

|                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Threepence, ochre-brown.    | Perforated 12½ and 10. |
| Sixpence, bright vermilion  | „ „                    |
| One shilling, orange-yellow | „ „                    |
| Two shillings, green        | „ „                    |
| Three shillings, blue       | „ „                    |
| Four shillings, black       | 12½                    |
| Ten shillings (?)           |                        |

*DIRECTORS' MESSAGE STAMPS.*

Special stamps were prepared by the Company for the use of its directors, the name of each particular director appearing on the face of the stamp issued to him. This stamp being affixed to a message written on an “(A) message form,” and signed by the director, franked it to its destination.\*

\* We are not able to give the date when these stamps were first issued, but from the fact of the initials of Mr. J. L. Ricardo appearing upon them they must have existed prior to 1859. They continued in use until the undertaking was handed over to the Post-office, when the plates were destroyed. The stamps were furnished by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, in batches of 100 at a time, as each director required. The specimen from which the above engraving is taken was one prepared for the use of Captain Huish, one of the directors, whose name appears on the face; but the other directors, the Honble. R. Grimston, G. P. Bidder, Esq., Thomas Brassey, Esq., &c., were furnished with similar stamps with their names inserted on the face, entitling them to send messages written on the Company's forms free of payment.

**DESIGN.**—The design consisted of an upright rectangular narrow frame, measuring 25 by 26 mm., composed of pearls on a plain black ground, with Maltese crosses in the angles. Within this frame is "No." (with consecutive numbering in black), below which is the following legend, "THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPY," flanked by the initials J. L. R. and J. S. F. "DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE for the use of [director's name in block letters] only. This (A) message must be signed by the Director, and be sent without prepayment." No value was indicated.



The stamp was prepared by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, and was lithographed on blue unwatermarked paper, gummed but not perforated. When Mr. Grimston succeeded Mr. Ricardo as chairman in 1859, and Mr. Weaver succeeded Mr. Fourdrinier as secretary in January, 1864, the corresponding changes were made in the initials of the chairman and secretary on the stamps as fresh supplies were ordered.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Before 1859. Directors' message stamp (J. L. R.—J. S. F.), black on blue paper.

1859 to 1863. Directors' message stamp (R. G.—J. S. F.), black on blue paper.\*

1864 to 1868. Directors' message stamp (R. G.—H. W.), black on blue paper.

## 2. THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company was established in 1850, with the object of working submarine telegraph cables under concessions obtained from the French and Belgian Governments, and was the great pioneer of submarine telegraphy in this country.

Under the provisions of the Act of 1868 the Postmaster-

\* This has not been seen by us, but we insert it as there can be but little doubt of its existence.

General acquired submarine cables to Holland and Germany from the Electric and from Reuter's Companies, but this Company, not working any separate inland service of its own, and not being in competition with the Government monopoly, was left in possession of its cables, and still carries on its business between England and the Continent, transmitting through its eight or nine cables, which contain thirty-five conductors, an average of not less than 8,500 messages per day.

The chief offices of the Company were first established at 30, Cornhill, from whence they were removed to 58, Threadneedle Street, and are now at 2, Throgmorton Avenue, all in the City of London.

In November, 1861, during the period when Mr. L. Walter Courtenay was the secretary of the company, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. engraved and manufactured for the service of the company a series of five adhesive stamps, of the respective values of fourpence-halfpenny, three shillings and ninepence, four shillings, seven shillings and sixpence, and eight shillings, the object of which was probably as follows: The three shillings and ninepence and four shillings were for the prepayment of messages of ten words to Denmark and Germany respectively, and their doubles, seven shillings and sixpence and eight shillings, for messages of twenty words to the same countries, while the fourpence-halfpenny was for additional words. The four shillings also represented the charge to Paris.

The general design of all these stamps is identical, except the variations in the values and the number of words for which the stamp is applicable. There were separate dies for each value.

DESIGN.—The design consists of S. T. in monogram of fancy capitals, in an upright solid oval, round which is a serpent. Above is SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY, and below is the value in full. To the left is UNINSURED MESSAGE, and to the



right the number of WORDS INCLUDING ADDRESS that the stamp in question would prepay. Small circles with the value in figures are introduced into the spandrels, and a fancy border enclosing the whole forms an upright rectangle, measuring 23 by 42½ mm.

The impression was in mauve on white surfaced unwater-marked paper. The stamps were gummed and perforated 14.

During a temporary failure in the supply of the four shillings value the eight shillings stamp was utilized by surcharging it in red, across the face in four lines, with the words, TEMPORARY STAMP FOUR SHILLINGS, the value being also effaced by a line.\*

#### SYNOPSIS.

1861-1862. Impression in mauve on plain white surfaced paper. Perf. 14.

|   |    |                 |
|---|----|-----------------|
| Fourpence halfpenny   | .  | mauve on white. |
| Three shillings and ninepence                                 | .. | ..              |
| Four shillings  | .  | ..              |
| Seven shillings and sixpence                                  | .  | ..              |
| Eight shillings   | .  | ..              |
| Four shillings (surcharged on eight shillings), red on mauve. |    |                 |

### 3. THE ENGLISH AND IRISH AND THE BRITISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

In dealing with these companies, or rather the various companies which ultimately became known under the above names, it may be convenient to give a short *resumé* of their history.

By an Act of Parliament, passed in the year 1851, the Magnetic Telegraph Company was incorporated with a capital

\* The use of these stamps must have been very limited. We have never met with any specimens, and their very existence is scarcely remembered by any one connected with the Company. No copies are to be found at the Post-office, nor have any been preserved by the Company, and the whole of the telegrams, papers, and other like documents relating to the period when these stamps were in use have been long since destroyed.

of £100,000, and in June, 1852, this Company obtained a Royal Charter, under which the style was changed to that of "The English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company," the liability of the members being limited, and the capital fixed at £300,000.

In the year 1850 Parliament passed an Act incorporating a Company under the style of "The British Electric Telegraph Company," with a capital of £100,000; and in the year 1851, another Act, incorporating "The European and American Electric Printing Telegraph Company," also with an authorized capital of £100,000. These two last named Companies were, in the year 1853, amalgamated by Royal Charter, and formed into a new Company, under the name of "The British Telegraph Company," with a capital of £300,000.

On 22nd April, 1857, "The British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, Limited," with a capital of £600,000, was registered under the Limited Liability Act to carry out an amalgamation which had been arranged between the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company and the British Telegraph Company, both of which consequently became merged in the new undertaking, which thus represented after its formation the three companies created by Act of Parliament and the two incorporated by Royal Charter; and it continued to work its system of telegraphs until the whole undertaking was acquired in 1870 by the Postmaster-General under the provisions of the Act of 1868.

Mr. Edward Brailsford Bright was the secretary of the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, and after its amalgamation with the British Telegraph Company he became secretary and general manager to the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, Sir Charles Bright being the consulting engineer to the new Company, which had its head offices at 2, Exchange Buildings, Liverpool, and its central station in London, at 58, Threadneedle Street, where also the Submarine Telegraph Company was located, the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company working in connection with it.

### First Issue.

In 1853 the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company issued a series of frank stamps to prepay the charges on telegrams. These stamps were prepared by Messrs. Mawdesley and Co., of 2, Castle Street, Liverpool. They were all identical in design, except the figures of value, the entire series consisting of five values—1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 4s., and 5s., which latter represented the rate for a single message of twenty words between England and Ireland.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a long streamer flowing from the head of a spear at the left side of the stamp, and making three folds over the face, the background showing a large eight-rayed star. On a tablet above is FRANK STAMP, and on the upper and lower folds of the streamer is the inscription, THE ENGLISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH CO., the middle one bearing the *fac-simile* signature E. B. BRIGHT, SECY. Below this, on the star, is VALUE, the portion above being left blank to receive the numbering. The figures of value are inserted immediately below the word VALUE. The heraldic emblems of the rose, shamrock, and thistle are twined up the spear on the left side, and also fill in the lower part of the stamp, the background of plain horizontal lines being relieved by ten small five-rayed stars distributed in various parts. The whole forms an upright rectangle, measuring 35 by 43 mm.



The stamps were printed in colour by lithography, on thin white wove unwatermarked paper, and were gummed, but not perforated. The values and colours are as follows :

- One shilling, black.
- One shilling and sixpence, lilac.
- Two shillings and sixpence, blue.
- Four shillings, pale red.
- Five shillings, green.

### Second Issue.

After the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company became merged in the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company, in 1857, the rates of messages were reduced, commencing with a minimum charge of 6*d.* for a short distance, and in consequence a new set of stamps was ordered, which, like the former, were prepared by Messrs. Mawdesley and Co.

DESIGN.—The design was much simplified, consisting of an upright rectangular frame, measuring  $26\frac{1}{4}$  by 30 mm. In the upper part is a tablet, inscribed FRANK STAMP, and the value in full is in a tablet below. Across the face of the stamp is a tablet to receive the numbering, which is sometimes inserted in black and sometimes in red, and above this is the name of the Company in block letters, BRITISH AND IRISH MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH CO. LIMITED, while below is EDWARD B. BRIGHT, SECTY., in script. The rose, shamrock, and thistle figure as ornaments in other parts of the



design, which slightly differs in detail in each value.

The stamps were lithographed in black, on coloured wove paper, watermarked with thunderbolts and with the maker's name.\* They were gummed, and perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$ . There are two types of the eighteenpence—one where the value is in figures, and the other where it is in full, of which probably the former is the older, as when the undertaking was transferred to the Post-office a few copies of the values then current (among which the 2*s.* 6*d.* and 4*s.* are not found) were printed as specimens, and the eighteenpence is that of the value in full. These reprints may readily be recognized, as they are not numbered on the face, and are neither perforated nor gummed.

The 3*d.*, 6*d.*, 1*s.*, 1*s.* 6*d.*, 2*s.*, 3*s.*, and 4*s.* are also found perforated 13, instead of  $13\frac{1}{2}$ , and probably the other values exist similarly perforated. In the absence of sufficient information we

\* M. Moens catalogues the 2*s.* with special watermark, but this is only a portion of the papermaker's name.



are unable to determine accurately which of these perforations came first in point of date, and the same remark applies to the numbering in black and red. The existence of two gauges of the perforation naturally leads to the supposition that there was more than one printing of some of the values; for it must be borne in mind that this issue was in use for many years.

The following are the values, colours of the paper, and perforations, as found by us:

- Threepence, on white. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Sixpence, on flesh. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- One shilling, on lavender. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 1s. 6d., on grey. Perf. 13.
- One shilling and sixpence, on grey. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Two shillings, on bright yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 2s. 6d., on pale olive-yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Three shillings, on pink. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Four shillings, on pale green. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Five shillings, on pale blue. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### **First Issue.**

1853. Impression in colour on white paper. Imperforate.

- One shilling, black.
- One shilling and sixpence, lilac.
- Two shillings and sixpence, blue.
- Four shillings, pale red.
- Five shillings, green.

##### **Second Issue.**

1857. Impression in black on coloured paper. Perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.

- Threepence, on white. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Sixpence, on flesh. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- One shilling, on lavender. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 1s. 6d., on grey. Perf. 13.
- One shilling and sixpence, on grey. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Two shillings, on bright yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- 2s. 6d., on pale olive-yellow. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Three shillings, on pink. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Four shillings, on pale green. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and 13.
- Five shillings, on pale blue. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### 4. THE UNITED KINGDOM ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.

This Company was incorporated 24th July, 1860, to work several patents for improvements in the art of telegraphy granted to Thomas Allan, and to exercise certain privileges which had been conferred on him and his associates by a private Act of Parliament. The offices of the Company at the commencement were at 101, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London, and William Andrews was the secretary; but its head office was afterwards transferred to Nos. 237-247, Gresham House, and Mr. Andrews was then described both as manager and secretary. The main purpose of this Company was to bring into operation a low uniform rate of charge for messages, adopting a similar principle to that which guided Sir Rowland Hill in establishing the uniform penny postage rate. In 1861, when this Company began to transmit messages for the public, the scale of charges then in general use by other companies, for a message not above twenty words, names and addresses of sender and receiver not reckoned, was—

|   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| For a distance not exceeding 50 miles     | . | . | . | s. | d. |
|   |   |   |   | 1  | 6  |
| „ „ above 50, but not exceeding 100 miles |   |   |   | 2  | 0  |
| „ „ „ 100 „ 150 „                         |   |   |   | 3  | 0  |
| For 150 miles and upwards                 | . | . | . | 4  | 0  |

This Company commenced with the experiment of a uniform rate of 1s. for like messages irrespective of distance, but after four years' experience was compelled, in July, 1865, to revise and increase its charges to the following scale—

|  |   |   |   |    |    |
|--|---|---|---|----|----|
| For a distance not exceeding 100 miles     | . | . | . | s. | d. |
|  |   |   |   | 1  | 0  |
| „ „ exceeding 100 miles, not exceeding 200 |   |   |   | 1  | 4  |
| „ „ „ 200                                  | . | . | . | 2  | 0  |

When the Company, in 1869, came to claim compensation from the Postmaster-General for the purchase of its plant and goodwill, it took great credit to itself for being the pioneer in adopting the system of uniform charges, and the large sum of

£562,264 9s. 11d. was awarded to it, an amount not the less surprising because it was virtually prescribed by the terms of the "Telegraph Act, 1868," though in form settled by Mr. F. J. Scudamore, acting as arbitrator on behalf of the Government, and Mr. A. A. Croll, the Company's arbitrator. At the period when the purchase was made, this and the Electric Telegraph Company were the two principal companies engaged in carrying on the inland telegraph business of the kingdom, and besides being interested in a very extensive system of communication over which it had control, it was possessed of some special privileges granted by a private Act of Parliament.

From an early period in 1862 the Company adopted the use of adhesive stamps, and issued them to such persons as were desirous of employing them.\* These stamps were type-printed, and were all engraved and manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

### First Issue.

Date of Issue, March, 1862.

DESIGN.—The general design consists of an upright rectangle on an engine-turned ground, with the name of the Company in full in six lines, one word in each line, in shaded double-lined open Roman capitals, surrounded by a solid frame on which are inscriptions, that on the upper portion of the frame being UNINSURED MESSAGE, and that on the right INCLUDING ADDRESSES, both in thin block letters. In the lower part of the frame is the value in full, THREEPENCE, SIXPENCE, or ONE SHILLING, and on the left side FIVE WORDS, TEN WORDS,



\* The use of these adhesive stamps appears to have been considerable, as we find from the accounts of the Company for 1864 that a sum of £2169 1s. 11d. is inserted as representing the amount of stamps sold to the public, but not yet presented or used. In subsequent accounts the item is dealt with differently, and the amount of stamps in suspense cannot be calculated; the business transacted by the Company was, however, of a very extensive nature.

or TWENTY WORDS, the inscription on the left side of the frame varying according to the value in full inserted in the lower portion, threepence representing five words, sixpence ten words, &c. The stamp measures 25 by 30 mm.

The series consisted of three values ; viz., threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, and for each of these values a separate die was prepared, and the pattern of the background modified in each stamp.

The impression was on white glazed wove paper, not water-marked. The one shilling value was the first which was prepared, and the earliest copies of this show that it was printed on a safety paper, similar to that employed for the fourpence adhesive postage stamp, though the blue tinge is less marked.

The colour of the threepence was yellow-ochre, that of the sixpence pink, and that of the one shilling pale lilac. Each value was subsequently surcharged in black with consecutive figures.

The gumming and the general appearance of the stamps show plainly the *atelier* from which they proceeded. Being of a size very nearly approaching to that of the five shillings postage stamp, they were in like manner perforated 15.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1863.

DESIGN.—The rectangular oblong was made transverse instead of upright, and two new values were added. On an engine-turned groundwork is the name of the Company in full in white Roman capitals, similar to those in the former issue, in five lines, the words UNITED KINGDOM occupying the first line. Below is a white tablet extending the whole length of the stamp, on which is inscribed in coloured block letters,



"This stamp will only frank messages sent on the conditions

*printed on the Company's message form.*" The other three sides are enclosed in a solid frame of colour, with floriated ornaments in the upper corners. On the frame to the left is UNINSURED, and to the right MESSAGE, both in white block letters, and at the top the value in full in Roman capitals, also in white.

The background is composed of short horizontal lines, so arranged as to give it a wavy appearance.\*

The impression was on white glazed wove paper, not water-marked. The values and colours were as follows: threepence, orange-yellow; sixpence, rose; one shilling, mauve; one shilling and sixpence, green; and two shillings, brown. Each stamp was surcharged in black by machine with consecutive numbers. The gum was the same as before, and the perforation 15.

We have also seen copies of the one shilling, for which doubtless the demand was far greater than for the other values, which are apparently lithographed from a transfer from the original plate. Though printed in the same colour as the type-printed copies, they are readily distinguishable from the latter by the blurred background, and by the paper not having the glaze upon it as in those previously described. They were probably manufactured by another firm than that of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### **First Issue.**

1862. Upright rectangular oblong, printed in colour on plain white glazed paper. Perf. 15.

Threepence, yellow-ochre.  
Sixpence, rose.  
One shilling, violet.

#### VARIETY.

One shilling, violet, on bluish safety paper.

\* The disposition of these lines varies somewhat in each value, but in such small proportions that though the form of the wave evidently differs, yet it is impossible to point out intelligibly wherein the difference actually consists.

**Second Issue.**

1863. Transverse rectangular oblong, printed in colour on plain white glazed paper. Perf. 15.

Threepence, orange-yellow.

Sixpence, rose.

One shilling, violet.

One shilling and sixpence, green.

Two shillings, brown.

186-(?). The same lithographed on plain white wove paper. Perf. 15.

One shilling, violet.

#### 5. THE UNIVERSAL PRIVATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company, the head office of which was first at No. 448, West Strand, London, and then at No. 4, Adelaide Street, Strand, Mr. Lewis Cooke Hertslet being the secretary, was formed chiefly for the purpose of putting up private lines of telegraph wires and renting the use of them to their customers. Its operations, as may be inferred, were mainly confined to the larger cities and towns, as London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow. It was moreover the proprietor of the line of telegraph wires between Glasgow and Helensburgh, N.B., known as the Western Highland Telegraph; and this line was worked by the Company until it was purchased by the Postmaster-General, under the provisions of the Act of 1868, for the sum of £184,421.

In 1864 the Company, for the purpose of paying the charges on messages transmitted on the line worked by it, issued three stamps, of the values of threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, the first of which we have not seen, nor is any copy of it to be found at the Post-office; but it was doubtless of the same design as that of the sixpence and one shilling, differing only in the insertion of the value. In a list at the Post-Office a fourth stamp of the value of ninepence is also mentioned, but we have been unable to obtain any other information concerning it.

**DESIGN.**—The design consists of a white upright oval band, enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, composed of rusticated ornaments, measuring 27 by 32 mm. In the spandrels are white discs, with the figures 1, 8, 6, 4. On the oval band is the inscription UNIVERSAL at the top, PRIVATE to the right, TELEGRAPH below, and COMPANY on the left. The interior of the oval has a groundwork of lines radiating towards the centre, which is interrupted by a plain white tablet, on which is the consecutive number in blue. Above this tablet is SIX, and below PENCE, or ONE and SHILLING as the case may be, in coloured block letters.



The impression is in colour, on white wove unwatermarked paper, and the stamps are gummed and perforated 12½.

We are unable to state by whom they were designed and manufactured, but most probably in Glasgow, as they do not bear the impress of London workmanship.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1864. Lithographed in colour on plain white wove paper. Perf. 12½.

Threepence, (?).

Sixpence, brown.

Ninepence, (?).

One shilling, mauve.

#### 6. THE LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

This Company was established in 1859, under the Limited Liability Act, with the object of serving the London district with telegraph service at cheap rates. At first the chief office was at No. 58, Threadneedle Street, but was afterwards removed to No. 90, Cannon Street, both in the city of London. The first series of stamps was issued in 1862, and at that time Alfred Ogan was the secretary to the Company; and at the date of the second issue, in 1865, Charles Curtoys was the secretary

and manager. Both series were designed and manufactured for the Company by Messrs. Truscott and Sons, of Suffolk Lane, London.

An examination of the values shows that the standard rate of charge for an ordinary message within the Metropolitan district was sixpence, a rate found so convenient to the public that by far the largest part of the telegraph business within this district was transacted by this Company.

Shortly after the passing of the Act of 1868 the Company was re-organized under the name of the "London and Provincial District Telegraph Company Limited," with the view of extending its operations to the provinces; but before this extension was carried into effect the undertaking was acquired by the Postmaster-General, and the working passed into the hands of the Post-office. Under its new title the Company did not make any issue of stamps.

### First Issue.

Date of Issue, 1862.

DESIGN.—The series was composed of three values—three-pence, fourpence, and sixpence—all of similar design, with the exception of the figure of value. This design consists of a large shaded figure of value, 20 mm. in height, with D (for pence) added, across which is printed in block letters, in two lines, "LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH COMP<sup>Y</sup>," with the addition LIMITED in Italic capitals in a third line. Below is the *fac-simile* signature A. OGAN, followed by *Secretary* in Italics. Above these inscriptions is "No.," with the distinguishing number of the stamp filled in by a numbering machine—in red for the values of 3d. and 4d., and in black for the 6d. The whole is enclosed in a double-lined upright rectangular frame, ornamented in the angles, and measuring 26 by 31 mm.





The stamps were printed by lithography in black, on coloured unwatermarked paper, were gummed at the back, and perforated 13.

The following is a list of the values and colours of the paper :

Threepence, on bright yellow coloured paper, numbered in red.

Fourpence, on blue coloured paper, numbered in red.

Sixpence, on vermilion-faced paper, numbered in black.

### Second Issue.

Date of Issue, 1865.

DESIGN.—In the background is a large figure of value, and D shaded as in the preceding issue, across which is a solid tablet, inscribed in block letters MESSAGE STAMP, on a black ground. In a curve above is LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH, with COMPANY, LIMITED, within the curve. Below CHIEF-OFFICE—90, CANNON STREET —No.—CHARLES CURTOYS—SECY. AND MANAGER—in five lines, all in an upright rectangular frame, measuring 32 by 25 mm., composed of interlacing lines, with solid quadrant-shaped blocks in the angles, on which are introduced L. D. T. CO.



There are two sets of the stamps in this issue, which only consists of two values—threepence and sixpence—but we are unable to state which of the two sets comes first in point of date. In one the paper is coloured, and the numbers are inserted by machine, and in the other the paper is faced with colour, and the numbers inserted by hand.

(a) Lithographed in black, on coloured unwatermarked paper, perforated 11½, and gummed. The numbers are inserted by machine, in black, in small block figures.

Threepence, on yellow paper.

Sixpence, on pink paper.

(b) Lithographed in black, on unwatermarked paper, faced with colour, perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and gummed. The numbers are inserted by hand in black ink.

Threepence, on paper faced with greenish blue.

Sixpence                   "                   "                   vermilion.

These stamps continued to be used by the Company until the undertaking was transferred to the Postmaster-General.

#### SYNOPSIS.

##### **First Issue.**

1862. Lithographed in black, on coloured paper. Perf. 13.

Threepence, on bright yellow, numbered in red.

Fourpence, on blue, numbered in red.

Printed in black, on paper faced with colour. Perf. 13.

Sixpence, vermilion, numbered in black.

##### **Second Issue.**

1865. (a) Lithographed in black, on coloured paper. Perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ . Numbers inserted by machine.

Threepence, on yellow.

Sixpence, on pink.

(b) Lithographed in black, on paper faced with colour. Perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ . Hand numbered.

Threepence, on greenish-blue.

Sixpence, on vermilion.

#### 7. THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

Following the example of the other main lines of railway, the South-Eastern Railway Company had established a system of telegraphic communication along its lines of railway, which, subject to the requirements of its own service, it allowed the public to use on payment of the rates of charge fixed by the Company's tariff.

In the year 1860 the Company opened an office near the camp at Aldershot, and for the convenience of the military authorities, who were reluctant to deal with cash payments for such small amounts, it provided a series of frank stamps, which though

created for this special object were equally available for telegraphic messages over other parts of the Company's lines.

These stamps were issued on 1st September, 1860, and were designed and manufactured for the company by the late Mr. Charles Whiting. They remained in use till the 1st February, 1870, when the Company's lines of telegraph were transferred to the Postmaster-General under the provisions of the Act of 1868, and the plates from which the stamps were printed were handed over to the Railway Company and destroyed. The use of these stamps was small, only two printings, amounting together to 25,000 copies, having been made.

DESIGN.—The design consists of the arms of the Company with supporters, and its motto of ONWARD, on a solid upright oval ground, all enclosed in an oval band, in the upper part of which on a white ground is SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY, in coloured Old English letters, and in the lower part the value in full, in white block letters on a solid coloured ground. On the solid ground within the inner oval and immediately above the arms is ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH, and below FRANK, in small Roman capitals. The whole is enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, measuring  $38\frac{1}{2}$  by  $46\frac{1}{2}$  mm., within which at the left upper corner is "No." in white shaded letters, and this is followed by the consecutive numbers stamped in black. The background within the frame is of a diaper pattern.



The sheet consisted of twenty-four stamps in four rows of six in each row, printed in typography on white hand-made paper, watermarked with the letters S. E. R. in double-lined letters one above the other in the centre of each stamp.

The colour of the impression varied in the different values, which were all exactly similar in type with the exception of the

value. The stamps were gummed, and perforated 12. Specimens are extremely rare, the copies used in the service having been, as in other like cases, all destroyed with the old telegrams at certain intervals, and the unused stock in the Company's possession was destroyed many years since, except a few copies preserved as specimens of the engraver's work. These latter were not perforated nor numbered, and may thus be readily distinguished from those which were actually prepared for issue. As specimens of typographic art the series may be considered very creditable to the manufacturer; and if the somewhat large size of the stamps is not objected to, they are amongst the best of the private telegraph stamps.

## SYNOPSIS.

1st Sept., 1860. Impression on white hand-made paper, water-marked S. E. R. Perf. 12.

Ninepence, red.

One shilling, orange-yellow.

One shilling and twopence, black.

One shilling and sixpence, lilac.

Two shillings and threepence, red-brown.

Two shillings and ninepence, green.

## 8. BONELLI'S ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY LIMITED.

This Company was incorporated in the year 1861, under the Limited Liability Act, 1856, for the purpose of working an invention of Signor Bonelli. Its registered office was at 69, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Mr. Simon Rendall being the secretary and solicitor to the Company.

Experimental trials of the invention were made privately, and with a certain amount of success, but the Company never arrived at the stage of transmitting messages for the public, nor of possessing any line of telegraphic communication. In anticipation, however, of the practical success of the invention, the Company caused a series of stamps to be prepared by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, who designed and printed them.

DESIGN.—The design consists of a figure of Mercury with the Caduceus (after the famous statue by Giovanni di Bologna,

in the Bargello at Florence) in a circular garter, inscribed with the motto *NON USITATÂ NEC TENUI FERAR PENNÂ*. Above is a plain tablet, on which is inserted the value in full, *THREEPENCE, SIXPENCE, &c.*, and a similar tablet below is reserved for the numbering. The whole is enframed in a border, in which are introduced *ELECTRIC* on the left, *BONELLI'S* on the top, *TELEGRAPH* on the right, and *CO<sup>y</sup>. LIMITED* at the bottom, in white block letters.

Four values were prepared; viz., three-pence, sixpence, ninepence, and one shilling,\* but we have only been able to meet with copies of the threepence and sixpence.



These two values differ in the details very considerably. The sixpence is better executed, being lithographed from an engraving on copper, while in the threepence this is not the case. The frame of the sixpence is a rectangle measuring 26 by 32 mm., while that of the threepence measures 26 by 33½, owing to greater depth being given to the lower tablet. The frame of the sixpence is also composed of fine wavy lines, and the ground of network, while in the threepence the lines of the frame are straight, and the ground is of horizontal lines powdered with *fleurs de lys*. Both are gummed, and printed on plain white paper, but the sixpence is perforated 13 and the threepence 12½. In the threepence the numbers are small, preceded by "No.," and inserted in black by a type numbering machine, while in the threepence they are larger, and inserted in red-brown, by a hand machine.

\* Our authority for introducing these two latter values is information derived from the Post-office, of which nevertheless we are inclined to doubt the correctness, as it seems somewhat inconsistent that, while the two smaller values are frequently met with, the two higher ones have not to our knowledge been seen, though in point of ever representing a monetary value all the stamps are on a similar footing, having never been called into use.

The stamps are readily procurable, having never been employed for telegraph purposes, and having consequently never been used or destroyed.

SYNOPSIS.

186-. Lithographed in colour on plain white paper.

Threepence, reddish-brown (shades). Perf. 13.

Sixpence, black. Perf. 12½.

„ „ Unperforated (variety).

Ninepence (?)

One shilling (?)

No other designs or proofs for stamps issued by any Private Telegraph Company, save those above mentioned, have come under our notice, except that we have seen proofs of the stamps of The Submarine Telegraph Company struck off in black on white enamelled card by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. according to their usual practice.

## II.

### *POST-OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.*

IN July, 1868, the Legislature passed the Act already referred to enabling the Postmaster-General to acquire and work electric telegraphs in connection with the administration of the Post-office.

The leading provisions of the Act authorized the Postmaster-General to acquire the undertakings of the companies or persons engaged in transmitting messages for money by electric or other telegraphs, or mechanical agencies, within the United Kingdom, vesting them in the Post-office Department, and establishing a uniform rate of charge for messages throughout the kingdom.

The vast social and commercial importance of this means of communication seemed to justify the step in one point of view, while the estimates both of the cost to the country and the revenue likely to be realized appeared to show that the plan would prove a financial success. The fact also that the Government could protect itself by creating a monopoly was called in aid by the promoters of the movement.

A further Act was passed in 1869, conferring on the Postmaster-General the exclusive right of conveying public telegraphic messages, and a monopoly was established in favour of the Post-office in regard to such messages similar to that enjoyed by it in regard to letters.\*

\* On referring to the Act of 1869 it will be seen that the definition of "telegraph" is extremely wide, and so extensive that it has recently been held to cover the telephone, and to confer on the Postmaster-General the sole privilege of publicly using this invention, which was not even discovered at the time that the Act was passed; but inasmuch as the telephone transmits messages or communications by the instrumentality of electric signals, it has been held to fall within the language employed by the Legislature.

The anticipations expressed as to the cost of acquisition of the telegraph system were not verified by the result ; for, chiefly owing to the large sums awarded to the various railway companies by way of compensation for their telegraphic lines, the total price paid far exceeded the estimate, while it was necessary immediately to spend large sums on the improvement of the service ; and for some years the revenue derived from the working was far less than had been expected.\*

Since, however, the working has been in the hands of the Post-office, and one control has been substituted, the service, both as regards the *employés* and the telegraphic apparatus, is far more efficiently performed. Above all, the public now enjoys the benefit of a uniform rate of charge, which will doubtless in time be reduced, as there is no desire on the part of the authorities to continue the present rate any longer than is absolutely necessary in a financial point of view.

\* According to official returns recently issued, the receipts of the telegraph service during the year ended March 31, 1880, were £1,469,795, and the working expenses £1,115,765, of which sum £12,100 was a contribution to a depreciation fund to replace submerged cables, leaving a balance of profit of £354,030, equal to 3·36 per cent. on the capital of £10,529,577.



## SECTION I.

### *TELEGRAPH MESSAGE FORMS.*

THE first result of the acquisition of the Inland Telegraph system by the Post-office was the establishment of a uniform rate of charge for all inland messages, irrespective of distance. After considerable discussion in Parliament this was fixed at one shilling for every message not exceeding twenty words, exclusive of the addresses of the sender and receiver, which were to be transmitted free. When the message exceeded twenty words the charge was to be increased 3d. for every additional five words, so that for thirty words the charge was 1s. 6d. ; for fifty words, 2s. 6d., and so on.

Prior to the transfer of the system to the Post-office all the principal companies furnished the public gratuitously with blank forms for the reception of the messages, and the charges on the transmission were paid either in cash or by stamps of the forwarding company, where such had been issued by it. The public therefore had become accustomed to the use of these message forms when the Post-office commenced to work the telegraph system which it had acquired, and similar forms drawn up in conformity with the altered circumstances were consequently adopted by it. The forms were printed on a sheet of white wove unwatermarked paper, measuring about  $11\frac{1}{8}$  by  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or 28 by 22 centimètres, and the space for the message was ruled with ten horizontal and five vertical lines, so as to admit of a message of fifty words. Above were spaces for the names and addresses of the sender and receiver, the

upper portion of the sheet being occupied by the service indications.

1869-70. On the form known as "Forwarded Inland Form A 1," a space was left blank in the upper right corner where the ordinary dated embossed envelope stamp of one shilling was struck, sufficient space being left below the stamp for affixing adhesive postage stamps representing any extra charges for transmission, portage, &c. These forms were supplied to the public at the price of the stamp only.

Below the space ruled to receive the message was the direction that "when the message is in excess of fifty words the additional words may be written on ordinary paper, attached to the message form by pin, or wafer, or gum."

At the back was printed a notice to the public, setting out the rates of charges and the regulations as to portage and delivery. Two blank forms were also subjoined to be filled up by the sender, in case he desired either that the telegram should be delivered by the local post from the terminal office of the Post-office, or should be forwarded by special means, in which case it was necessary to deposit a sum sufficient to defray the extra charge.

A similar form, designated "Forwarded Inland Form A," but without the stamp embossed thereon, was supplied gratis to the public, the charges for transmission of the message being in this case wholly defrayed by affixing on the form the ordinary adhesive postage stamps to the requisite amount. This was the mode usually adopted, as the risk of spoiling a stamped form was thereby avoided. As has been previously noticed (page 132), it was to this cause that the rapid consumption of the adhesive postage stamps of one shilling at that period is to be attributed.

1871. About the month of October, 1871, a slight change was made in the form. The blank forms of request on the back of the "Forwarded Inland Form A 1," just described, were transferred to the front, and introduced in parallel columns below the space for the message, which was reduced in depth and ruled to receive forty words. A slight addition, relative to the

cancellation of the stamps, was made to the notice in the space below the embossed stamp, and the instructions for the filling up of the forms of request at the foot were somewhat modified. The notice to the public at the back was divided into thirteen paragraphs, consecutively numbered, but the form in other respects was essentially the same as that first issued. This form was designated "Forwarded Inland Form A," and was of the same size as that first described.

1873. In May, 1873, another change was made, the principal difference consisting of the suppression of the "notice to the public" at the back, which was left entirely blank. The form, like that last described, was ruled to receive a message of forty words, and three paragraphs of directions were inserted at the foot, superseding the blank forms of request introduced into the preceding form. The size of the sheet remained the same, as also the paper, but the position of the embossed stamp was altered, the instructions being printed above the stamp instead of below, as in the two preceding forms. This form bore the letter "A" on it in the left upper corner without any other designation.

The whole of these three forms were printed and supplied by Messrs. Millington and Hutton, wholesale stationers, London, whose imprint appears at the foot of the second and third varieties to the right of the front lower margin. In the latter it is also found in German text letters in the centre of the lower margin, with the word "manufacturing" added to their description as stationers.

1874. In 1874 a smaller form was adopted, much less cumbersome than the preceding, and measuring  $8\frac{3}{4}$  by  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches, or 22 by  $14\frac{1}{2}$  centimetres, being ruled for thirty words only, and designated as A 1. in the left upper corner. The whole of the directions were removed to the back; on the front, the office indications were simplified, and the space at the right upper corner left entirely free for the stamp. The impression was on paper similar to the former issues, and the name of the printers, "Messrs. Millington and Hutton, London," was inserted

in the right lower margin of the front, and the right lower margin of the reverse, in Italics.

The stamping of all these forms with the embossing postage die of one shilling was done at Somerset House by the Inland Revenue Department. The forms were sold to the public either singly at the facial value of the stamp, or made up into books of twenty, and perforated along the left margin to render their severance easy. Interleaved books, furnished with a sheet of carbonic paper for taking off copies of the message, were also supplied at an extra charge of twopence.

As noticed previously under the head of "envelopes," the dies were used without reference to their index numbers, of which these forms afford a remarkable proof. Thus we find Die No. 7 in use in December, 1869; Die No. 5 in 1871; and Die No. 2 in May, 1873.

1876. When the severance of the accounts of the postal and telegraph services was made in 1876, a special embossing stamp of the value of one shilling was prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. for the telegraph message forms.

The design consists of the head of the Queen taken from the die executed by Mr. W. Wyon, on a solid ground, enclosed in a circular border, measuring  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch, or  $27\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter. Round the inner circle is a row of pearls, and on the border an engine-turned pattern, on which is introduced TELEGRAPHS in the upper part and ONE SHILLING below, in sunken block letters.

Between each word are small circles in which the date plugs are inserted.

The impression was in green, on forms similar to those last described, and designated officially as A 1, form A being exactly similar, but without the stamp, and supplied to the public free of charge. Form A 1 was to be purchased singly or in books of twenty each, interleaved and furnished with a sheet of carbonic paper, for twopence above the facial value of the stamps.



These forms were furnished by Messrs. Millington and Hutton. At a subsequent period Messrs. James Truscott and Sons, London, became the contractors for the supply, as appears by their name introduced into the left lower margin of the front of the sheet. The size of the form was slightly diminished, measuring about  $8\frac{3}{8}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, but in other respects it remained the same.

In January, 1881, an alteration was made by the addition at the foot of the front of a "NOTICE TO THE SENDER OF THIS TELEGRAM. This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1868, and to the Notice printed on the back hereof." This latter Notice was divided into seven separate paragraphs. The unstamped form is designated A, and the stamped form A 1. This form was of the same size as the preceding, and was printed by Messrs. James Truscott and Sons, whose name appears in the lower margin of the front to the right. The whole of the forms printed by Messrs. Truscott and Sons were on thin white wove unwatermarked paper.

In June, 1881, Messrs. Harrison and Sons became the contractors for the printing. The formula as printed by them is the same as that last described, but the type is larger, and the paper, which is laid, is much whiter and of a superior quality to that previously employed. Stamped forms A 1 on this paper will be issued to the public so soon as the stock of the former printing is exhausted, and we have consequently included them in our synoptical list. This form measures  $8\frac{3}{8}$  by  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

#### SYNOPSIS.

I. Forms with embossed postage stamp of one shilling in green, on thin white wove unwatermarked paper.

- (a) December, 1869. Form A1. Size,  $11\frac{1}{8}$  by  $8\frac{3}{8}$  inches.
- (b) October, 1871. Form A. Size,  $11\frac{1}{8}$  by  $8\frac{3}{8}$  inches; with thirteen paragraphs of instructions on the back.
- (c) May, 1873. Form A. Size,  $11\frac{1}{8}$  by  $8\frac{3}{8}$  inches; with instructions on front.
- (d) 1874. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{3}{8}$  by  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

2. Form with embossed telegraph stamp of one shilling in green, on thin white wove unwatermarked paper.

(a) May, 1876. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

(b) Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

(c) January, 1881. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches ; with "Notice to sender" on front.

3. Form with embossed telegraph stamp of one shilling in green, on white laid paper.

June, 1881. Form A1. Size,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches ; with "Notice to sender," as in the last preceding.

## SECTION II.

### *POSTAL TELEGRAPH CARDS.*

A DESIRE having been manifested for the supply of a telegraph message form which persons could conveniently carry about with them, and in the event of being unable or unwilling to send the message to a telegraph office might deposit it in the nearest letter-box, a card was prepared and issued, early in 1872, on the back of which was printed a notice to the effect, that if the card was deposited in a post-box for the reception of letters, it would be carried at the next clearance to a telegraph office, and the message inscribed on the card would be duly transmitted by telegraph from thence to the address designated.

DESIGN.—In the *left* upper corner was struck the embossed envelope stamp of one shilling in green, and is the only instance of a stamp being officially placed in that position by the British Post-office. On the front of the card, to the right of the stamp, were the words "From" and "To," with spaces and lines for the addresses.

The card was stout white, 60 to the inch, measuring  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches, or 120 by 78 mm., and was ruled for the reception of a message of twenty words, four words in each line; and in a line immediately above the space for the message were the following instructions: "One word only should be written in each space from left to right across the card," while below is a note as to special directions for forwarding the message. On the back of the card was POSTAL TELEGRAPH CARD, in large letters, followed by "For Inland Telegrams only," the first two words being separated from the last two by the Royal Arms with supporters. Below was a notice to the public in four closely-printed paragraphs, and a recommendation to insert the date and hour of posting in blanks left for the purpose.

Two varieties of this card are found, due to different settings up of the type.

(a) In the first, prepared in January, 1872, and issued to the public on 1st April, 1872, the Royal Arms at the back measure 22 mm. along the base, and the place where the stamp is embossed on the front is marked out on the reverse side by two lines at right angles to each other, apparently as an indication where the office stamp should be struck. Copies have been found showing a curious typographical error in the first word of the line of instructions immediately above the space ruled for the message. The "e" in "One" is a defective letter, making the word read as "Ono," an error which was corrected as soon as it was discovered, and as this occurred while the impression was being printed off, specimens with the error are in consequence very rare.

(b) The second impression, though prepared in February, 1872, does not appear to have been issued to the public till August, 1874, and is readily distinguishable from the first impression, as the card is rather thinner and whiter, and measures nearly 2 mm. less in depth. On the reverse side, the Royal Arms measure along the base 25 mm., and the whole of the inscriptions are in larger type, though the composition is the same as in the previous impression. The two lines marking the place of the stamp at the back are wanting.

The demand appears to have been but small, and after the stock manufactured in January and February, 1872, had become exhausted, no more were printed. They were removed from the list of stamps sold at the Post-offices some years since, and have not been procurable at any of the offices for a long time past. Specimens consequently are becoming scarce.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Telegraph cards with embossed envelope stamp of one shilling in green, on white card.

(a) 1st April, 1872. Arms measuring 22 mm.

#### VARIETY.

Same, with "One" on face reading "Ono."

(b) August, 1874. Arms measuring 25 mm.



## SECTION III.

### *ADHESIVE TELEGRAPH STAMPS.*

IN 1875, as has been previously stated, the great desirability of separating the accounts of the telegraph and postal services so as to judge of the receipts derived from each respectively, was so strongly urged on the Government that it was determined to adopt a special set of stamps for the telegraph service, and no longer to admit the payment of the charges on telegraphic messages to be made by the medium of postage stamps.

Instructions were in consequence given to Messrs. De La Rue and Co. to prepare designs of telegraph stamps of the values of one penny, threepence, one shilling, and five shillings, to be executed on the typographic system, similar to that then employed by them for the postage stamps, and to be printed by them on paper supplied by the Inland Revenue Department. The values ordered at the time we refer to were afterwards supplemented by others of the values of fourpence, sixpence, three shillings, ten shillings, one pound, five pounds, and one halfpenny, so that the entire series as in actual use at the present time consists of:

- |                        |   |                            |   |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| 1. THE ONE PENNY       | . | issued 1st February, 1876. |   |
| 2. THE THREEPENCE      | . | " "                        | " |
| 3. THE ONE SHILLING    | . | " "                        | " |
| 4. THE FIVE SHILLINGS  | . | " "                        | " |
| 5. THE FOURPENCE       | . | " 1st March, 1877.         |   |
| 6. THE SIXPENCE        | . | " "                        | " |
| 7. THE THREE SHILLINGS | . | " "                        | " |
| 8. THE TEN SHILLINGS   | . | " "                        | " |
| 9. THE ONE POUND       | . | " "                        | " |
| 10. THE FIVE POUNDS    | . | " "                        | " |
| 11. THE ONE HALFPENNY  | . | " 1st April, 1880.         |   |

Before proceeding to examine each of these stamps *seriatim*, we shall be enabled to avoid much unnecessary repetition if we commence by noticing some features which are common to the stamps of the two services—the telegraph and the postal—and others which are peculiar to the telegraph stamps among themselves.

DESIGN.—In point of general design they resemble those of the postal service, insomuch as that they both uniformly bear a diademed portrait in profile of the Queen to the left; but they differ in one unmistakeable particular—that the exterior form of the stamp is that of a transverse rectangular oblong, and not an upright one. In the ornamentation of the framework enclosing the head there is a general identity of style and that peculiar sameness of effect which all the inspirations of Mr. Owen Jones alike display, whether they may have been primary or have been filtered through the medium of the designer of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s establishment.

PLATE.—The plates are constructed in a similar manner to those for the postage stamps (p. 103), except with some modifications consequent on the difference of the shape of the two series, which will be noticed under each head, and a similar conventional division of the sheets into Post-office sheets is adopted in the case of these stamps.

LETTERING.—Letters throughout all the stamps of the telegraph service are inserted into the lower angles only, the first letter indicating the place of the stamp in the vertical row, and the second its place in the horizontal row.

PLATE NUMBERS.—Prior to the commencement of the present year the actual number of the plate, and also the official number, were introduced into the upper and lower margins of the sheet, the plate number occupying the right, and the official number the left corners of the upper margin, the position of the two being reversed in the lower one. These numbers were inserted in the same manner as in the postage stamps (p. 105).

PAPER.—In all the values, with the exception of the one halfpenny, the one penny, and the one pound, where a corresponding value is found in the postage series, the paper employed

is the same as that on which the postage stamps of corresponding values are printed, the shape of the stamps causing the pane to be sideways as compared with the latter. Thus the threepence, sixpence, and one shilling telegraph stamps were printed on the postage stamp paper, watermarked with the "spray of rose," until the commencement of the present year, when that watermarked with "Crown, 1880," was substituted. The fourpence telegraph stamp is still (June, 1881) printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "large garter," but that watermarked with the "Crown, 1880," will doubtless be substituted as soon as the stock in hand is exhausted. The five shillings and the ten shillings are printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "Maltese cross." The three shillings telegraph stamp, of the same size as the threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, is printed on the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of rose," but when the stock in hand is exhausted will doubtless make its appearance on that watermarked with "Crown, 1880." The one halfpenny, one penny, one pound, and five pounds are all printed on a paper watermarked with "shamrock," specially introduced for the one penny, as will be noticed hereafter.

Where the paper and the impression of the stamps of the two services are common to each other, it may seem to be somewhat anomalous that the changes adopted in the stamps of one service are not carried out immediately in those of the other. But although in fact these changes are ordered to be carried out simultaneously, yet the exact period when they come into operation, so far as the public is concerned, is subordinate to differences in the requirements of the two services. Thus the consumption of the one shilling value for the telegraph service is very large in comparison with the demand for that value for postage purposes; for while Plate No. 13 of the one shilling postage stamp now in use was approved so long ago as May, 1875, no less than eleven plates of similar value have since that date been approved for the telegraph service. On the other hand, the postage stamp of fourpence is extensively

used for the single letter rate to countries in the second class of the Postal Union, while there is but little demand for it for telegraph purposes; and as regards the one penny telegraph stamp, its only use can be as small change to make up a payment, or when a twopenny receipt for a telegram is required. These considerations account also for the fact that, while the one shilling telegraph stamp was issued on "Crown, 1880," in March last, a like issue of the corresponding postage value only took place 15th June, 1881, subsequent to the remarks we made at page 132, which were at that time printed off. Again, the colour of the fourpence postage stamp was changed to mouse-brown on the 1st September, 1880, and the paper to "Crown, 1880," on the 1st January last, yet no corresponding changes have been announced in the fourpence telegraph stamp up to the present time, 30th June, 1881.

CONTROL MARKS.—The paper introduced for the one penny telegraph stamp was watermarked in the upper and lower margins of the sheet with the word "Mark," over which the control mark, similar to that employed for the postage stamps *mutatis mutandis*, was affixed. (p. 107.) This mark was also affixed on the postage stamp paper given out for the other telegraph stamps, until the commencement of the present year, when the system was abandoned.

The observations made previously (p. 108) with regard to the gumming of the type-printed postage stamps equally apply to the telegraph stamps. The perforation is also the same as for the corresponding values of the postage stamps, except so far as relates to the one pound stamp, which is perforated 14.

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### 1. THE ONE PENNY.

Date of issue, 1st February, 1876.

DESIGN.—The design consists of the head of the Queen, of smaller dimensions than in the postage stamp of corresponding value, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, within a double-lined plain circular band, on which is inscribed, in coloured

block letters, TELEGRAPHS in the upper part, and ONE PENNY below. The spandrels are filled in with ornamentation of a conventional character. White letter blocks are in the lower angles carrying letters in colour, and the number of the plate is inserted in the circular band on each side. The exterior rectangular frame measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.



PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of the printing a sheet of two hundred stamps in two panes of ten rows of ten casts in each row. In the upper margin of the sheet is the legend TELEGRAPHS ONE PENNY, in large block letters.

Plates Nos. 1 and 2 were approved 11th August, 1875; Plates Nos. 3 and 4, on 16th; and Plate No. 5, on the 30th of the same month. No specimens have been found printed from Plate No. 1, and we have in consequence omitted it from the synoptical list. Plate No. 3 is that which is at present in use. Plate No. 5 has been diverted to another object, having been utilized for the halfpenny value.

PAPER.—The paper, as has been previously mentioned, was specially manufactured for this stamp, and is watermarked with a “shamrock,” disposed in two panes of ten rows of ten in each row, corresponding with the arrangement of the plate panes. The sheet measures about 10 by 21 inches.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is red-brown, similar to that employed for the postage stamp (1880) of corresponding value.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “shamrock.” Plates Nos. 2 and 3.  
Perf. 14. 1st February, 1876. One penny, red-brown.

#### 2. THE THREEPENCE.

Date of issue, 1st February, 1876.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen in a circle, with a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, is enclosed in a white transverse-

pointed oval band. In the upper part of the band is TELEGRAPHS, and in the lower THREE PENCE, in coloured block letters. At each angle are plain white blocks, the two upper being filled in with the number of the plate, and the two lower with the ordinary lettering, all in colour. The vacant spaces in the design are filled in with commonplace ornamentation.



The rectangular frame measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps, divided into twelve smaller sheets of twenty each, as in the case of the postage stamp of like value. The panes were arranged in three rows of four in each row, separated from each other horizontally by a space of about half an inch, and vertically by a space equal to the width of a stamp, each pane consisting of twenty casts, arranged in four rows of five in each row, and measuring  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{16}$  inches.\* In the vertical margins at each end of the pane was printed the legend, TELEGRAPHS THREE PENCE.

Impressions from Plate No. 1 have not been found by us, and are not among those which are registered at Somerset House; Plate No. 2 was approved 10th October, 1875; Plate No. 3, on 21st March, 1876; Plate No. 4, on 30th July, 1877; and Plate No. 5, on 12th January, 1878; but neither of the two last have at present been brought into use.

Early in the present year (1881) the arrangement of the panes composing the plate underwent a modification, consequent on the abandonment of the paper watermarked with the "spray of rose," and the substitution in its place of the "Crown, 1880," paper. Six panes of 20 casts each were formed into one of 120 in the same manner as in the adhesive postage stamp of similar value (page 140), and ornaments were introduced into the margins

\* It must be borne in mind that when the postage stamp paper is used for the telegraph stamps that which is the side of the sheet in the postage stamps becomes the top of the sheet in the telegraph stamps, and the watermarks appear sideways on the stamps.

showing where the pane might be divided into Post-office sheets. At the same time the legends, control marks, and the plate numbers on the margins were suppressed.

These changes were carried out while Plate No. 3 was in use.

**PAPER.**—The paper up to the commencement of the present year was the same as that introduced in 1867 for such of the postage stamps as were at that period arranged in twelve panes, watermarked with a “spray of rose.” Consequent on this stamp being a transverse oblong instead of an upright one, the watermarks appear lengthwise.

At the beginning of the present year the paper was changed, and that which had been originally introduced in 1880 for the postage stamps of one penny, watermarked “Crown 1880,” was substituted.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is carmine.

#### SYNOPSIS.

1. Paper watermarked with “spray of rose.” Plates Nos. 2 and to 3; perf. 14.

1st February, 1876. Threepence, carmine.

2. Paper watermarked with “Crown 1880.” Plate No. 3; perf. 14.

1881. Threepence, carmine.

#### 3. THE ONE SHILLING.

Date of Issue, 1st February, 1876.

**DESIGN.**—The same small head of the Queen, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, is placed within a double-lined white upright truncated oval band, inscribed **TELEGRAPHS** at the top, and **ONE SHILLING** below, in coloured block letters. In the angles of the rectangular frame enclosing this design are white blocks, the uppermost bearing the number of the plate, and the two lower the letters. The vertical spaces between the upper and lower blocks are filled in with an ornamental framing,



which is continued along the bottom and top except where intercepted by the white border. The stamp measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

PLATE.—The plate was constructed to admit of printing a sheet of 240 stamps arranged in twelve panes, as in the three-pence last described; but at the commencement of the present year a similar alteration was made in their arrangement, the six panes on one side being formed into a single pane of 120 casts, and the six on the other side into a similar single pane.

Plate No. 1 was approved 28th May, 1875, and Plate No. 2 on the 30th of the same month. Plate No. 3 was approved 2nd September, 1875; Plate No. 4 on the 11th September, 1876, and Plates Nos. 5 and 6 in 1877. Of Plate No. 7 no trace has been found, nor have any impressions from it been seen by us. Plates Nos. 8 and 9 were approved in 1878, the one on the 26th September, and the other on the 15th November. Plate No. 10 was approved 19th September, 1879, and Plate No. 11, at present in use, on the 13th May, 1880. The impression from this latter on which the *imprimatur* is endorsed is arranged in twelve panes, on paper watermarked with "spray of rose."

PAPER.—The paper was the postage stamp paper watermarked with the "spray of rose," and so continued until the commencement of the present year, when that watermarked with "Crown 1880" was substituted for it, and the panes of Plate No. 11 were brought together. A device was printed on the margins of each pane to indicate where it could be divided horizontally into three equal portions, and vertically into two, so as to form six Post-office sheets of twenty stamps, each of the facial value of £1.

IMPRESSION.—The impression was in green of a similar tone to that employed for the postage stamps of corresponding value, but in the month of March, 1881, simultaneously with the alteration in the paper and with the issue of impressions from Plate No. 11, the colour was changed to a light brown-red, similar to that on which the postage stamps of one shilling are at present printed.



## SYNOPSIS.

1. Paper watermarked with "spray of rose." Plates Nos. 1 to 10 (except Plate 7); perf. 14.

1st February, 1876. One shilling, green, greyish green (shades).

2. Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 11; perf. 14.

March, 1881. One shilling, light brown-red.

## 4. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st February, 1876.

DESIGN.—The design consists of the head of the Queen of a similar size to that in the postage stamp of corresponding value, with a groundwork of fine horizontal lines enclosed in a circle, and within a rectangular transverse oblong frame, measuring 30 by 25 mm. In the angles are solid coloured blocks, in the two upper of which are the plate numbers, and in the two lower the letters in white. In the upper and lower portions of the frame are tablets with the inscriptions TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS, in coloured block letters on a white ground, and the two vertical sides of the frame are composed of an ornamental pattern.



PLATE.—The plate, like that of the postage stamp of corresponding value, is constructed to admit of printing a sheet of eighty stamps, divided into four panes, each pane consisting of twenty casts disposed in five rows of four in each row. Above and below each pane is printed in large Roman capitals the legend TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.

Plate No. 1 was approved 5th August, 1875; Plate No. 2 on the 30th of the same month, and Plate No. 3, which is that at present in use, on 14th October, 1878.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that employed for the

postage stamps of corresponding value, watermarked with the "Maltese cross."

IMPRESSION.—The colour is pink, similar to that of the postage stamps of the same value, and varies considerably in depth of shade.

PERFORATION.—Like the postage stamps of the same value, the perforation is 15. (p. 146.)

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "Maltese cross." Plates Nos. 1, 2, and 3; perf. 15.

1st February, 1876. Five shillings, pink (shades).

#### 5. THE FOURPENCE.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—At the two extremities of a solid tablet, on which is the inscription **FOUR PENCE**, in white block letters, are the letter blocks in white. From these spring an arched solid band, the outermost line of which intercepts the line of the transverse oblong rectangular frame enclosing the whole design. On this band is the inscription **TELEGRAPHS**, in white block letters, and within the semi-circular space is the head of the Queen in a circle  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter. The upper corners are filled up with an ornamental design, and the plate numbers are inserted on white circular blocks in the spaces between the tablet and the circle enclosing the head. The stamp measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm.



PLATE.—The plate, like that at that period used for printing the postage stamp of corresponding value, is constructed to admit of printing a sheet divided into four panes, each consisting of sixty casts, disposed in six rows of ten in each row. In the margin at the left end of each pane is the legend **TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE** in block letters.

Plate No. 1 was approved on 12th January, 1877, and Plate No. 2 on the 18th June, 1877, but this latter has not yet been brought into use.

PAPER.—This is the same as that formerly employed for the postage stamp of corresponding value, watermarked with “large garter.”

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is light sage-green, as adopted for the postage stamp of corresponding value at the period when this stamp was first issued, the *imprimatur* of Plate No. 1 being in this colour.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “large garter.” Perf. 14.

1st March, 1877. Fourpence, pale sage-green.

#### 6. THE SIXPENCE.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The small head of the Queen, in a circle  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, is enclosed in a transverse oblong rectangular frame of  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm., the upper angles of which are incurved. The value, SIX PENCE, is inserted on a plain white tablet below, at each extremity of which are the letter blocks; at the top is a similar tablet inscribed TELEGRAPHS; while at the lower corners of this latter are the plate numbers in white circular discs.



PLATE.—The plate like that for the threepence before described was originally composed of twelve panes, but at the commencement of the present year, when Plate No. 2 was brought into use, these were united so as to form two panes of 120 casts each.

Plate No. 1 was approved on the 12th January, 1877, and Plate No. 2 on the 18th June, 1877. This latter is at present in use.

So long as the stamps were arranged in twelve panes the

legend TELEGRAPHS SIX PENCE was introduced in the left margin of each pane, but since the panes have been brought together not only the legend, but the control marks and plate numbers, both ordinary and official, have been suppressed.

PAPER.—The paper, like that on which the threepence was printed, was, up to the commencement of the year, that watermarked with the “spray of rose,” but now “Crown, 1880.”

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is greenish-grey, like that of the postage stamp of corresponding value.

#### SYNOPSIS.

(1) Paper watermarked with “spray of rose.” Plate No. 1.  
Perf. 14.

1st March, 1877. Sixpence, greenish-grey.

(2) Paper watermarked with “Crown 1880.” Plate No. 2.  
Perf. 14.

1881. Sixpence, greenish-grey.

#### 7. THE THREE SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen is on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, in an equilateral octagon of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter, enclosed in an elongated octagonal solid border, the exterior lines of which intercept the exterior lines of the rectangular frame, which measures  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  mm. On this band is the legend TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS, in white block letters. In the angles are white blocks, those in the upper ones carrying the plate numbers, and the lower the letters. On each side of these blocks angular portions are removed, so as to form gaps in the exterior line of the rectangular frame.



PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of twelve panes of twenty casts in each, in four rows of five in each row, and is arranged as in the other stamps where the plate consists of a like number of panes.

Plate No. 1 was approved 12th January, 1877, and is the only one which has as yet been approved.

**PAPER.**—The paper is that made for the stamps which are arranged in twelve panes, being the postage stamp paper watermarked with the “spray of rose.” Up to the present time no alteration has been made in the paper, but that watermarked “Crown, 1880,” will doubtless be substituted so soon as the stock in hand watermarked with “spray of rose” is exhausted.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is slate-blue.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “spray of rose.” Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.  
1st March, 1877. Threepence, slate-blue.

#### 8. THE TEN SHILLINGS.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

**DESIGN.**—The head of the Queen is of the same size as that introduced into the five shillings previously described, and is on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, within an equilateral octagon of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  mm. diameter. The stamp measures 30 by 25 mm. Above the head, a white tablet, in form resembling the half of an elongated hexagon, carries the inscription TELEGRAPHS, and a similar one below the inscription TEN SHILLINGS, all in coloured block letters. In the angles are coloured blocks, the upper ones being furnished with the plate numbers, and the lower with the letters. The remainder of the design consists of ornamental arabesque work.



**PLATE.**—The plate is constructed in four panes, exactly similar to the five shillings previously described, and in the margin at the bottom of each pane is the legend TELEGRAPHS TEN SHILLINGS, in Roman capitals.

Plate No. 1, the only one constructed, was approved 17th January, 1877.

PAPER.—The paper is that employed for the postage stamp of corresponding value, watermarked with the “Maltese cross.” (p. 146.)

IMPRESSION.—The impression is in green-grey, similar to that of the postage stamp of the corresponding value, and the perforation is also 15.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “Maltese cross.” Plate No. 1. Perf. 15.

1st March, 1877. Ten shillings, green-grey.

#### 9. THE ONE POUND.

Date of Issue, 1st March, 1877.

DESIGN.—The head of the Queen, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, in a circle of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  mm. diameter, is surrounded by a white transverse pointed oval border, on which is inscribed TELEGRAPHS above and ONE POUND below, in graduated block coloured letters. This is enclosed in a rectangular transverse



oblong frame, measuring 58 by 22 mm., within which there is an ornamental frame extending all round, except where intercep-

ted top and bottom by the exterior lines of the oval band, and by solid blocks at the angles. In the two upper of these latter the plate number is inserted, and in the two lower the letters. Within, on each side of the points of the oval band, is “£1” in white, on a diapered ground.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of the printing of a sheet composed of sixty stamps, in two panes of ten rows of three casts in a row. In the margins at the top and the bottom is the legend, TELEGRAPHS ONE POUND.

Plate No. 1, the only one constructed, was approved 12th January, 1877.

**PAPER.**—The paper employed is that manufactured for the one penny telegraph stamp, watermarked with a “shamrock,” but as the stamps are disposed sideways on the sheet as compared with those of the one penny, the watermarks also appear sideways on the stamp. Further, as the paper for the one penny was prepared to receive two panes of ten rows of ten in each row, and three rows of the stamp of £1 are only equivalent to nine rows of the one penny, one row of the watermarks is left clear of the impression, while three appear sideways on each stamp.

**IMPRESSION.**—The colour of the impression is brown-violet, similar to that of the postage stamp of corresponding value.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “shamrock” repeated three times sideways. Plate No. 1. Perf. 14.

1st March, 1877. One pound, brown-violet.

#### 10. THE FIVE POUNDS.

Date of issue, 1st March, 1877.

**DESIGN.**—The head of the Queen, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, is enclosed in a circle of similar dimensions to that of the five shillings. The circle is set in a transverse oblong rectangular frame, the exterior measurement of which is 54 by 31 mm. An ornamental frame entirely surrounds the stamp, and is made wider at



the top and bottom to receive two plain white tablets 42 mm. long, the upper one inscribed TELEGRAPHS, and the lower FIVE

POUNDS, in coloured block letters, while at the ends of the upper are solid coloured blocks for the plate numbers, and at the ends of the lower similar blocks for the letters. On each side of the circle is "£5" in white, on a diapered ground.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed to admit of the printing a sheet composed of forty-two stamps, divided into two panes of seven vertical rows of three casts in each row. The legend TELEGRAPHS FIVE POUNDS is introduced in the margin at the top and bottom of the sheet as in the one pound.

Plate No. 1 is the only one which has been constructed, and was approved 17th January, 1877.

PAPER.—The paper employed is that watermarked with the "shamrock," manufactured for the one penny telegraph stamp. The construction of the plate being similar to that of the one pound, the impression is in consequence made in the same manner, and the watermarks appear sideways on the stamps; but as the depth of this stamp does not correspond with the width of the one penny, the watermarks are somewhat irregularly disposed on it.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is orange-vermilion, the *minium* of foreign catalogues.

PERFORATION.—The stamp being exactly double the size of the five shillings, is perforated by the same machines, and gauges 15 to the two centimètres.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with "shamrock." Plate No. 1; perf. 15.

1st March, 1877. Five pounds, orange-vermilion.

#### 11. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

Date of issue, 1st April, 1880.

PLATE.—Consequent on the alteration in the telegraph rates for messages to several of the countries within the Postal Union, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1880, it was



necessary to provide immediately an additional value of one halfpenny. To effect this a plate of the one penny, No. 5—impressions from which had been already approved, though the plate itself had not been brought into service—was taken, and the value removed from the casts composing it. In place of the value so removed block letters in type were introduced, and the first issue of the halfpenny appeared on a plate numbered 5.



Impressions from the plate as so altered were approved 13th March, 1880, and no other plate has as yet been constructed.

PAPER.—The paper employed is that manufactured for the one penny, watermarked with “shamrock.”

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is orange-vermilion, similar to that of the five pounds.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “shamrock.” Plate No. 5; perf. 14.

1st April, 1880. One halfpenny, orange-vermilion.

## SECTION IV.

### ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

1868-9. Shortly after the passing of the "Telegraph Act, 1868," two designs appear to have been submitted for stamps to be used in the service. These designs have not been seen by us, but the following is the description of them, taken from the *Philatelist*, vol. vi. p. 56. 1872 :

I. Square. Head of Queen to right, in circle ; value in words right and left ; roses in upper, shamrock and thistle in lower angles ; TELEGRAM beneath in graduated capitals. Head engraved in cameo, so as to give the appearance of relief. Printed on white card. One shilling, black.

„ green.

II. Square. Wreath of oak and laurel leaves, with imperial Crown, forming a circle, within a double-lined frame ; value in words in centre ; TELEGRAM in graduated letters below. Printed in colour on white card.

One shilling, black.

„ green.

### PROOFS FROM THE OFFICIAL DIES.

Messrs. De La Rue and Co. have in their pattern books a specimen copy of every die engraved by them for this branch of the service, printed in black on white enamelled card. To enumerate these would be a needless repetition.

Besides these there is a specimen of the five pound value printed from the die as completed, but in gold, as a trial, on the paper of the issue, watermarked with "shamrock." The specimen is not however perforated.

The gold used was pure, and the effect very chaste ; but the authorities decided against its adoption on account of the expense, which was said to amount to about sixpence each ! Orange-red was therefore substituted. This trial was printed early in 1877.

No other proofs from the official dies are known.

## ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

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Page 60, last line but one, for "imform" read "inform."

Page 67, top; and page 69, foot. With reference to the oval shape of the perforations produced in some of the stamps by Archer's machine, we have had the opportunity, since the above pages were printed off, of examining several specimens, and are convinced that the irregular shape of the holes is caused by a second descent of the round perforating needles, *nearly* coincident with the first. When a second descent takes place at a *small interval* from the first, the perforation assumes a form somewhat resembling the figure 8, the cusps made by the intersecting circles being clearly visible. It is only when a second descent of the needles cuts away the paper left between the holes that the saw-like or jagged edges referred to on page 69 are produced. Wherever, therefore, the shape of the holes is found other than circular, the circumstance is entirely due to irregularities in the process of perforation, and not to the needles, which have uniformly been round.

Page 83 n. A further search in the records at Somerset House shows that Plate No. 1 of the twopence was completed 2nd May, 1840; but there is no trace that it ever was hardened. Plate No. 2 was completed and hardened 31st July, 1840; and both plates were defaced 27th January, 1842. As it is clear from the records of the Post-office that twopenny stamps were issued in May and June, 1840, these must have been printed from Plate No. 1, notwithstanding it had not been hardened; and after making a close examination of the earliest specimens, we find the most remarkable confirmation of the fact. These

specimens present a soft appearance, the impression showing signs as if the plate had been "taken down" overmuch; while as the usage of the plate proceeded signs of wear become very apparent.

Page 104, line 20 from the top, and page 132 n.† Since these pages were printed off the paper watermarked "Crown 1880" has, as we surmised, been substituted for that watermarked with "spray of rose" in the one shilling, so that the whole of the ordinary-sized stamps are now printed on the "Crown 1880" paper. Marks are introduced into the exterior margins of each pane of one hundred and twenty stamps, denoting where it may be divided horizontally into two equal portions, and each of these vertically into three; the entire pane being thus separated into six equal parts, each constituting a "Post-office sheet" of the value of £1.

This issue to the public took place on 15th June, 1881, Plate No. 13 being still in use. The colour of the impression, pale brown-vermilion, has not been altered.

Page 113. The engraving of Die II. of the fourpence is inaccurate, insomuch as it shows a linear ground on the lower portion of the frame. The ground really is solid, as stated in the text.

Page 133. Add to synopsis of "one shilling" **FOURTH ISSUE:**  
(2) Paper watermarked with "Crown 1880." Plate No. 13.  
Perf. 14.

One shilling, pale brown-vermilion.

Page 141. In the synoptical list of the issues of the three-pence, "Second Issue" has been accidentally omitted above Die II., and "Third Issue" above Die III.

Page 149, last line in page. Plate No. 22 is at present in use. Impressions from this plate were first issued to the public at the end of June, 1881.

Page 160, insert :

18. THE ONE PENNY (1881).

*Postage and Inland Revenue Stamp.*

Date of Issue, 28th June, 1881.

Early in the month of June, 1881, the following NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC was issued from the Post-office :

*“Use of 1d. Adhesive Postage Stamps and 1d. Adhesive Receipt Stamps for either receipt or postage purposes.*

“In future the Ordinary Adhesive Penny Receipt Stamp may be used as a Penny Postage Stamp, and the Adhesive Penny Postage Stamp as an Ordinary Receipt Stamp.

“It is understood that for the purpose of postage the Receipt Stamps, in common with Postage Stamps, must have no printing or writing placed on their face by the public.

“By command of the Postmaster-General.”

The above Notice was grounded on the provisions of the 47th Section of “The Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881,” by which it was enacted, “That on and after the first day of June, 1881, any stamp duties of one penny, which may legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, may be denoted by adhesive penny postage stamps ; and on and after that day postage duties may be paid by the use of penny adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to postage duty or to any particular description of instrument.”

It is clear that the Act of Parliament contemplated only the admission to the payment of postage duties of the adhesive “INLAND REVENUE” stamps, of which there are several varieties ; but under the terms of the notice issued by the Postmaster-General not only all these, but the one penny “RECEIPT” and “DRAFT” stamps (1853 and 1854), printed in blue and brown, and the “DRAFT PAYABLE ON DEMAND OR RECEIPT” stamp of 1856, have been admitted to prepay the postage on letters. We give, for reference sake, a list of those known to us.

List of stamps of the facial value of one penny, which, under the provisions of the Act above referred to, and the notice issued by the Postmaster-General, have, since the 1st June, 1881, been admitted to defray a postage rate of like amount.

| Date of Issue. | Colour. | Paper.             | Watermark.           | Legend.                                |
|----------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. 1853.       | Blue    | Bluish<br>(safety) | Anchor with<br>cable | Receipt, 1st Type.                     |
| 2. 1854.       | "       | "                  | "                    | " 2nd Type.                            |
| 3. "           | "       | White              | "                    | " "                                    |
| 4. "           | Brown   | White              | "                    | Draft.                                 |
| 5. 1856.       | Mauve   | Bluish             | "                    | Draft payable on demand<br>or receipt. |
| 6. "           | Lilac   | White              | "                    | " "                                    |
| 7. 1857.       | Mauve   | Bluish             | "                    | Inland Revenue.                        |
| 8. "           | "       | White              | "                    | "                                      |
| 9. "           | "       | Bluish             | Anchor               | "                                      |
| 10. "          | "       | White              | "                    | "                                      |
| 11. 1871.      | "       | "                  | "                    | " 1st Type.                            |
| 12. "          | "       | "                  | "                    | " 2nd Type.                            |
| 13. 1879.      | "       | "                  | "                    | " 3rd Type.                            |
| 14. 1881.      | "       | "                  | Orb <sup>*</sup>     | " "                                    |

The first ten of these (Nos. 1 to 10) are of large dimensions, measuring 25 by 30 mm., and are all perforated 15. In Nos. 1 to 6 the Queen's head to the left is enclosed in an oval band, carrying the legend; but in Nos. 7 to 10 the head is enclosed in a circular band. Nos. 11 to 14 are of smaller dimensions, measuring 18½ by 22½ mm., and perforated 14; and the head of the Queen in these latter is enclosed in an oval band, carrying the inscription. Of these latter, in No. 11 the spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern; in No. 12 the spandrels are plain, but the ornament at the corners of the inside line of the

\* So long as these stamps were printed on paper watermarked with "Anchor," the plate was composed of a single pane of 240 stamps (*sup.* p. 148); but when the paper watermarked with "Orb" was substituted, the plate was composed of two panes of 120 casts each. On the three exterior margins of each pane of the printed impressions was a *fac-simile* signature of Sir J. C. Herries, the Chairman of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. The fact is mentioned to prevent its being supposed that this paper was the same as that employed up to 1881 for the twopenny halfpenny postage stamp.

frame does not extend into the angles, and the oval band and inscription are heavy; in No. 13 the corner ornament extends into the angles, and the oval band and inscription are lighter; No. 14 only differs from No. 13 in the watermark of the paper.

The provisions of the Act of Parliament before referred to, though of a permanent nature, were only designed to effect a transitory purpose, as the further manufacture of the one penny postage stamp (1880) and of the Inland Revenue stamps of one penny was ordered to be stopped, and a new stamp prepared, combining the two. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. were charged with the design and preparation of this stamp, which was issued to the public on the 28th June, 1881, as appears by a notice to that effect emanating from the Post-office.

DESIGN.—The design consists of the head of Her Majesty, similar in all respects to that of the "One Penny, 1880," on a groundwork of coarse lines, enclosed in an upright oval, round which is a solid coloured band, with the inscription POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE at the top, and ONE PENNY below, all in small white block letters. This is superposed on an upright rectangular frame measuring  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mm., composed of two lines, with a pearled linear ornament introduced between them, the frame extending entirely round the stamp, except where it is intercepted on the sides, top and bottom, by the oval band. The spandrels are left plain, nor are there any letter blocks or plate numbers on the stamps.\*



\* Though the lines of this stamp are coarsely engraved, yet in general appearance it is satisfactory, and the tone of colour pleasing. Messrs. De La Rue and Co., while not deviating from their regular standard, have wisely abandoned the meretricious style of ornamentation, which so much disfigures the one halfpenny and three halfpenny stamps, and have succeeded in producing a stamp superior in design to any that has appeared since the current twopence-halfpenny. Still the principal object of a portrait on a stamp has been lost sight of. The head on all the postage stamps ought to be *identical*, and that this is not the case, any one will perceive on comparing this stamp with those of 1880.

PLATE.—The plate is constructed similarly to that of the “One Penny, 1880,” consisting of two panes of 120 casts in each pane.

PAPER.—The paper is the same as that introduced for the “One Penny, 1880,” described *supra*, p. 156.

IMPRESSION.—The colour of the impression is lilac, and essentially fugitive.

The GUM and PERFORATION are identically the same as in the other stamps in Section III. of similar size.

#### SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with “Crown, 1880.” Perf. 14.

28th June, 1861. One penny, lilac.

Page 174, line 16 from top. In the latest printed envelopes which we have seen of size C ( $5\frac{1}{4}$  by 3 inches), struck from dated dies (30. 4. 81), the number of the working die is omitted. The same probably occurs in the other sizes.

Page 176 n. The authorities seem to have at length discovered for themselves the truth of our observation in the note to this page. New working dies have been constructed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., in which the date plugs are no longer inserted, and a fresh numbering of them has commenced, 1, 2, 3, &c. This alteration, restoring the stamp to what it originally was, save in the quality of the engraving of the border, may be safely said to be a great improvement so far as its appearance is concerned. Working dies with the dates inserted were last used on 13th May, 1861, on the envelopes stamped by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for the use of the Post-office. The dated dies are, however, still employed for stamping envelopes and paper brought in by the public.

Envelopes without dated dies were issued to the public on 1st July, 1861.



Page 184. Add to "SYNOPSIS"—

(d) Of white laid paper. Die not numbered.

June, 1881.  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by 3 inches.

Die II.—Envelopes of plain paper; straight-cut upper flaps, gummed, and without seal device on flap. Die not dated. One penny, pink.

(a) Of white laid paper.

1st July, 1881. Two sizes :

1.  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

2.  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by 3     "

(b) Of thick white laid paper.\*

3.  $4\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

(c) Of azure wove paper; upper flap rounded.†

4.  $5\frac{1}{4}$  by  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

Page 206, bottom line of text but two, add to list :

"Stamp frame measuring  $21\frac{1}{2}$  mm. by 26 mm., size F."

Page 207. For some months past the size F of the REGISTRATION ENVELOPES described in III. has been out of stock at the Post-office, but since the above pages were printed off has re-appeared with certain modifications in its construction and the legend, which will probably, so far as the mode of construction is concerned, be extended to such of the other sizes as have hitherto been made up in a similar manner; and the legend will doubtless be changed throughout the whole of the five sizes issued by the Post-office. As the envelope was constructed, a serrated seam ran horizontally along the reverse side, the side flaps being folded down upon the long flap of the end opposite to that on which the stamp was impressed. As now constructed, the serrated edges are done away with, and the long flap is brought

\* The paper of which this envelope is made is of very superior quality, and the "ivory finish" of the outer side shows the embossed head to great advantage.

† We have not yet seen this envelope, but have no doubt of its existence.

over the seam, which is secured by it as it extends to the two external edges. The printing of the legend on the front and the crossed lines is done previously to the flaps being closed down.

The inscription on the face is altered. The use of "Registered" in a single-lined frame is discontinued, and the envelope is headed "REGISTERED LETTER" in large block lettering, followed by the legend in three lines, "This Letter must be handed to an Officer of the Post Office and a Receipt obtained. If otherwise Posted there will be an Extra Charge on Delivery," all in thick block letters. The frame enclosing the inscription, "The Stamp to pay the Postage must be placed here," measuring  $21\frac{1}{2}$  by 24 mm., occupies the right upper corner of the front. The addition of a penalty clause to the inscription, it will be seen, is the most striking feature of the new issue, which will no doubt be applied to all the other sizes as fresh printings take place.

The following addition must therefore be made at p. 207 :

IV. Inscription in three lines. Plain flap. Plain seams.

July. 1881. Size F. Stamp frame measuring  $21\frac{1}{2}$  by 24 mm.

Page 237. In "Fifth Issue" after (3) insert—

3 (a) Paper, &c., as in (2); top corners only tapered.

One size. 12 by 5 inches, red-brown.

Page 330, line 8 from bottom. Omit "and the number of words for which the stamp is applicable."

The design of the exterior rectangular frame is identical in all the values with the exception of the tablet inscribed with the value, but the pattern of the ornamentation and back-ground of the interior is varied in each.

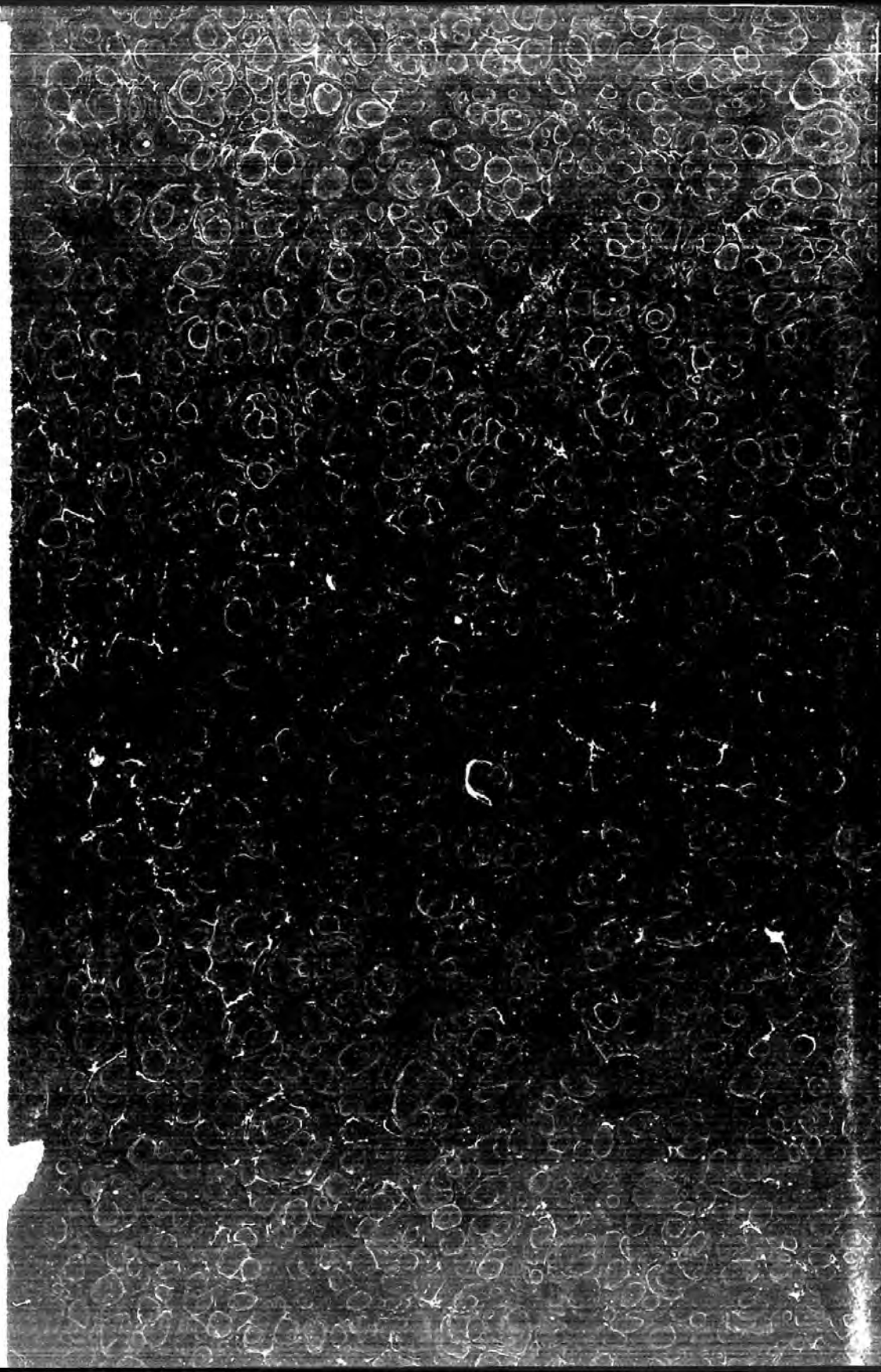
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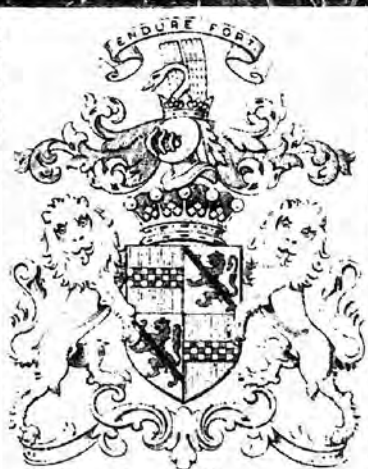
#### CONCLUDING NOTICE.

OUR thanks are due to M. Moens for the loan of nearly the whole of the blocks which, by *special permission* of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, have been used for illustrating this work. Others have been lent to us by Messrs. A. Smith & Co. ; while Messrs. Pemberton, Wilson, & Co. have contributed the plate of watermarks.

21st July, 1881.







Biblioteka Umeå

PHILATELIC SECTION

