

NOTEBOOK

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EDITORIAL.....

You will see from the enclosed leaflet news of all the work of which we had a taste with the "*Feldman Papers*" to which over thirty members actively responded and provided information. The results of Hugh's work are to be published and L.P.H.G. members have the opportunity of buying their copy with a ten per cent discount. This is an opportunity not to be missed by anyone collecting Penny and Twopenny Post material.

To more mundane matters. Notebook has been delayed through the summer months due, in the main, to pressure of other activities and only now has it been possible to set aside those vital hours to prepare material, print and distribute. Fortunately there is a range for this issue which will, it is hoped, meet most members' interests at some point.

We do invite those who bought material at the L.P.H.G. auction to send in some copy of their purchases: this has been done for a few items but there were rather more than three or four lots sold (thank goodness) and if the item interested you, it will interest others.

ROBERT MARTIN WILLCOCKS RDP

You will, no doubt, be all too well aware of the death of Martin Willocks earlier this year and have seen the many tributes paid. On a purely personal note I would add my own reactions.

The week prior to his death I had visited him with some queries on the auction material, looked through some of his London stock, had a pleasant lunch, long natter and an altogether worth while visit. Planning yet another I spoke with Martin on the Monday evening following and was anticipating a return trip when I heard the sad news.

After all these months, I still find it difficult to appreciate we will no longer enjoy Martin's sheer enthusiasm in showing a recent acquisition, the depth of knowledge, his evident appreciation for our material when we showed one of our "finds" and the many articles by which he passed on his knowledge to such a wide audience.

I, we, have lost a good friend.

P.F.S.

LONDON PENNY POST NUMBERED RECEIVERS' HANDSTAMPS

Hugh V. Feldman

This article appeared originally in *Postal History*, No.277 in March 1996. We are grateful to the Editor and Hugh Feldman for the opportunity to reproduce it in *Notebook*.

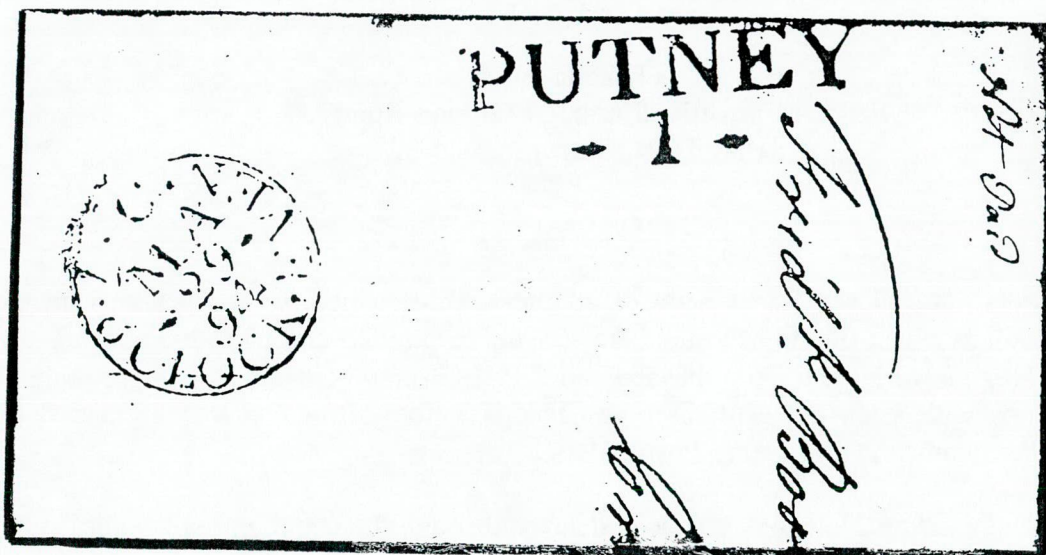


Figure A

The reforms of the London Penny Post that occurred in 1794 saw the introduction of a series of stepped straight line handstamps and, at Covent Garden, a single straight line type which incorporated the numbers 1 to 3, with the exception of Whitehall, which had 4. Figures 1 to 3 and A illustrate examples of these types of handstamp, catalogued as L418 to L421 in Jay's BCC Volume 3 - London. The use of these numbered handstamps is recorded between 1794 and 1801, when the last known use was at Fleet Street. From 1795 the type L418-421 handstamps were gradually replaced by a new series which, apart from three locations, cease to include the numbers 1 to 4. These handstamp types L447 to L450 are known only at Berkeley Square, Convent Garden, Strand and Whitehall and examples are illustrated in Figures 4 to 6.

BERKY COVT GN 2 COVT GN 3
Sq 1

Figure 1.

penny Post
Pd 2d
Covent Gdn 1

Figure 4.

Figure 2.

penny Post
Pd 1d
Berkley Sq 3

Figure 5.

Figure 3.

Berkley Sq 4
unpaid
Penny Post

Figure 6.

Three explanations related to these handstamps have been postulated over the years:

- they refer to different sorting or stamping desks within the receiving house;
- they relate to letter carriers or bellman's walks operating from the receiving house or, more recently
- they refer to different receiving houses in the immediate area of the handstamp's stated location.

A number of clues have now come to notice which, it is contended, solve the mystery. These comprise original examples of Cary's New Pocket Plan of London, Westminster and Southwark for the years 1794 and 1800 and a cover acquired by Barrie Jay which has two handstamps linking the numbered type to a handstamp of a specific location.

The first strong indication that these numbered handstamps relate to specific receiving houses came when researching material on Berkeley Square. Handstamps Figures A, 3 and 4 are recorded between 1795 and 1800. There is also a type L418 **Berky/Sq.** recorded in 1795. The listing in Cary's maps of 1794 and 1800 do not include a receiver at Berkeley Square. However, the 1794 map lists receivers at 4 Bruton Street, 3 Charles Street, Berkeley Square and at 4 Mount Street. None of these locations has a recorded handstamp of either of the types L418 to L421 or L447 to L450. A similar situation exists in the case of the 1800 map, where the locations are given as 9 Bruton Street and 116 Mount Street. Logic indicates, in the absence of handstamps for the specific locations, that the Berkeley Square numbered handstamps could belong to the Cary location listings (see Figure 7).

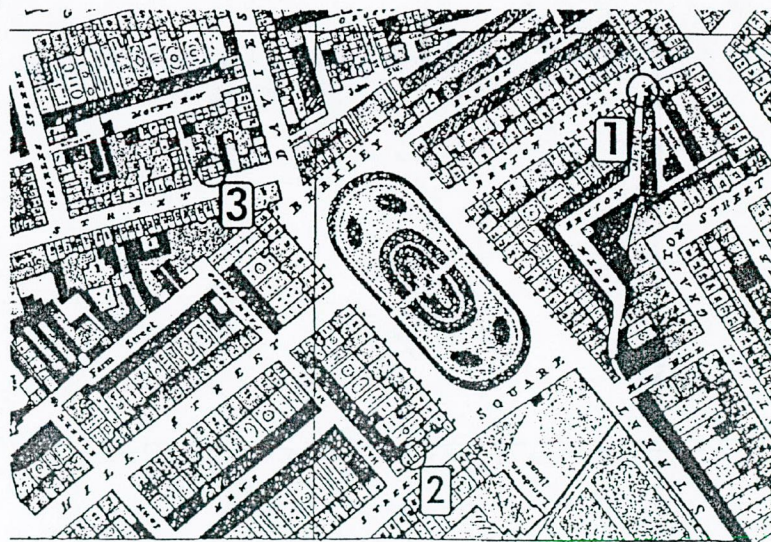


Figure 7. Map by Richard Horwood, published 1799. 1=Bruton Street, 2=Charles Street, 3=Mount Street.

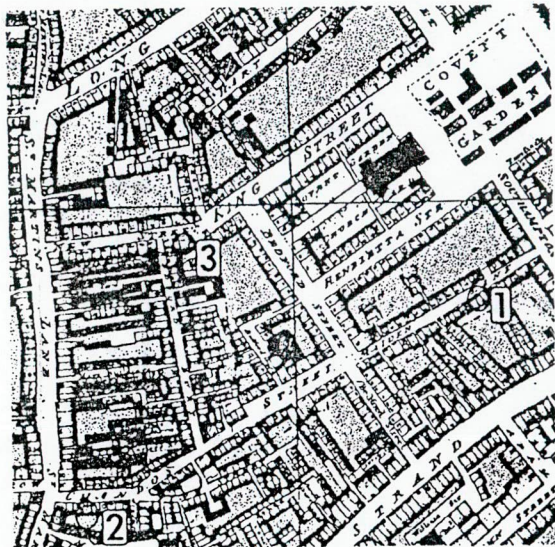


Figure 8. Map by Richard Horwood, published 1799.
1=Maiden Lane, 2=Chandos Street, 3=New Street.

The same position obtains for the handstamps type L419 and L420 of Covent Garden. In this case the Cary map of 1794 lists receiving houses at 8 Maiden lane, Covent Garden and 13 New Street, Covent Garden. The map of 1800 gives 32 Chandos Street, Covent Garden and 13 New Street. Again no handstamps for these are recorded in the Penny Post (see Figure 8). This further supports the theory of receiving house usage for this series of handstamps. In the case of Covent Garden a stronger correlation exists, given it is most likely a **COV^T G^N 1** also existed, giving three receiving houses to match the three listed locations in the period 1794 to 1800.

The third piece of evidence, discovered by Barrie Jay, is critical. A cover of 1796 which carries both **LINC^S INN/-1-** (type L418) and **223 H. Holborn/Unpaid/Penny Post** (type L447) (Figure 9)

Although there is no apparent reason for the use of the two handstamps, it is unlikely the letter would have passed through two separate receiving houses in the same area before transferring to the Chief Office for delivery to Portland Place. When the Cary maps are consulted, the following is found: in 1794 receiving houses are listed at 77 Chancery Lane, 223 High Holborn and 2 Holborn Bars. In 1800 the location of the Chancery Lane receiver had changed to 74; the others were the same. As in the case of Berkeley Square and Covent Garden, no handstamps of the L418 to L420 types are recorded for these locations but they are recorded for Lincolns Inn 1 to 3.

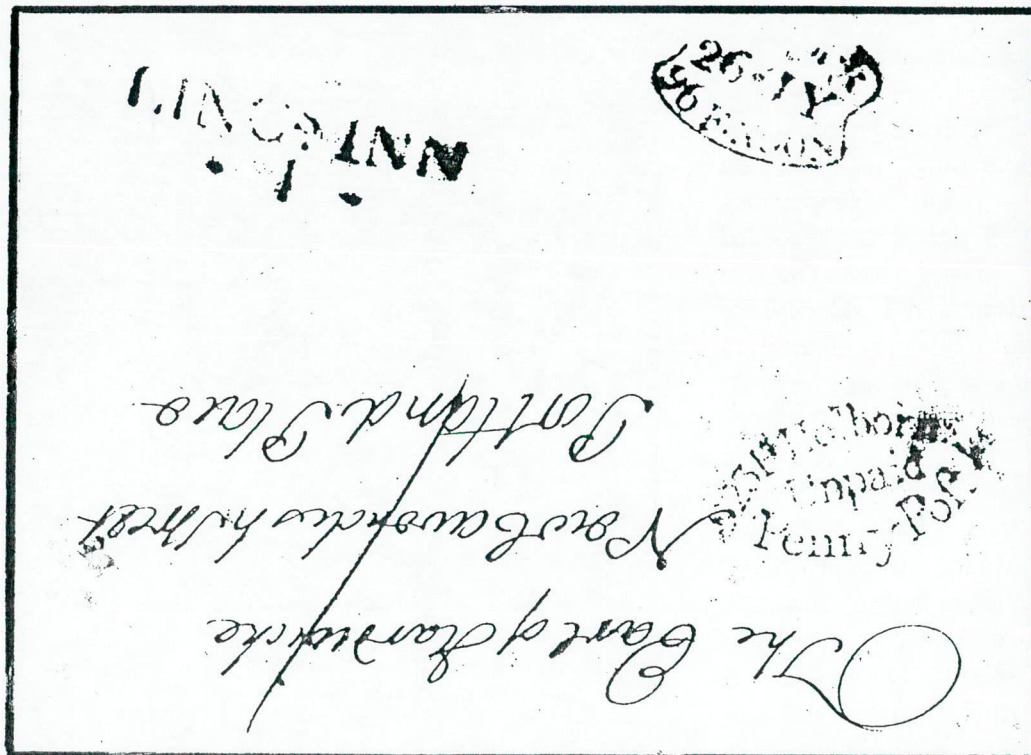


Figure 9. Letter sheet dated 25th July 1796 Lincolns Inn Fields and put into the 223 High Holborn receiving house on the 26th. The address panel bears an Unpaid handstamp type L447 for 223 H.Holborn, tying this location the Linc^S Inn -1- step type on reverse. [Reduced to 80% full size]

While type L448 and L449 handstamps are recorded from 1795, the Lincolns type L419 is recorded only for 1794. This inconsistency could be explained by the Chancery lane receiving house being issued with new handstamps at the change of a receiver at a date between 1794 and 1800.

"CASHALTON" and "CARSHALTON" RECEIVER'S STAMPS Don Franks, with acknowledgements to Peter Bathe

In correspondence with the Editor Peter Bathe included the following note : "Now on to my theory that **stamps changed with the change of receiver**. How would this fit for Carshalton ? Try this...." He then set down his premise, based on the data in the 1993 L.P.H.G. Handbook No. 14. He obtained a reasonable "fit" and suggested further avenues for exploration. Revised and new information now to hand is included in this reworking of Peter's original presentation and ,perhaps, may be taken as additional support for his theory.

In 1795 a Mrs Mansell was the "unofficial" receiver in the King's Arms in Carshalton. However, the Carshalton Income & Poor Rate Book shows "Daniel Brown / late Mrs Mansell paid £2.5s Poors Rate" on October 14th 1796. It also records "1802 March/April Daniel Brown [King's Arms Inn] for equalising poor rate assessed £50".

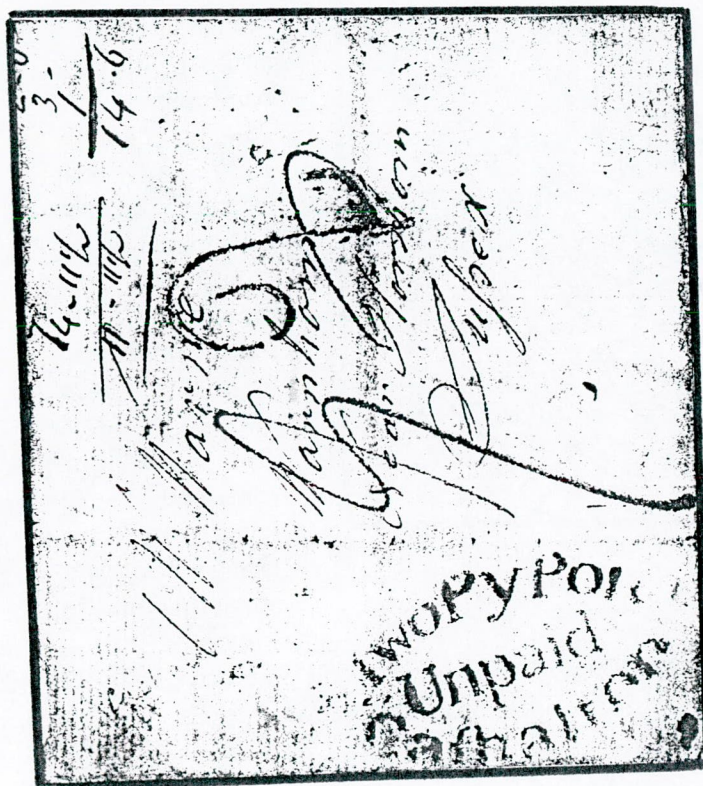


Fig. 1

Carshalton was incorporated into the Twopenny Post area in August 1802 and Daniel Brown, as receiver, would have been given the current standard set of stamps: Two Py Post Unpaid (L 501) and, almost certainly, the 2py P. Paid (L 507). The earliest known example of L501 (Fig.1) has the spelling "Cashalton"; dated 1813 it suggests a surprisingly low survival rate of early material. No example of L507 with this early spelling is recorded.. No example of the 1 py P. Paid (L506) showing "Cashalton" is recorded, hardly surprising given the general absence of this stamp before 1839 throughout London. The later issued 3 py P. Paid (L508) is recorded for 18th March 1819 with "Cashalton". (Fig.2)

The Rate Books show "1818 11th September Daniel Brown Rated £50 Paid £5" but has also "1819 20th April Mrs Ann Brown Paid £5". Between these dates Ann Brown became the Post Mistress, as

classified in Pigot 1823-4.

The "Cashalton" Two Py Post Unpaid stamp was used on a letter dated 26th March 1818 but the "new" type of unpaid stamp, T.P. framed (L504) giving a "Carshalton" strike (Fig 3), is on a letter dated March 26th 1819. A new version of L508 on a letter sent on 16th. February 1821 (Fig.4) includes the "r" in "Carshalton".

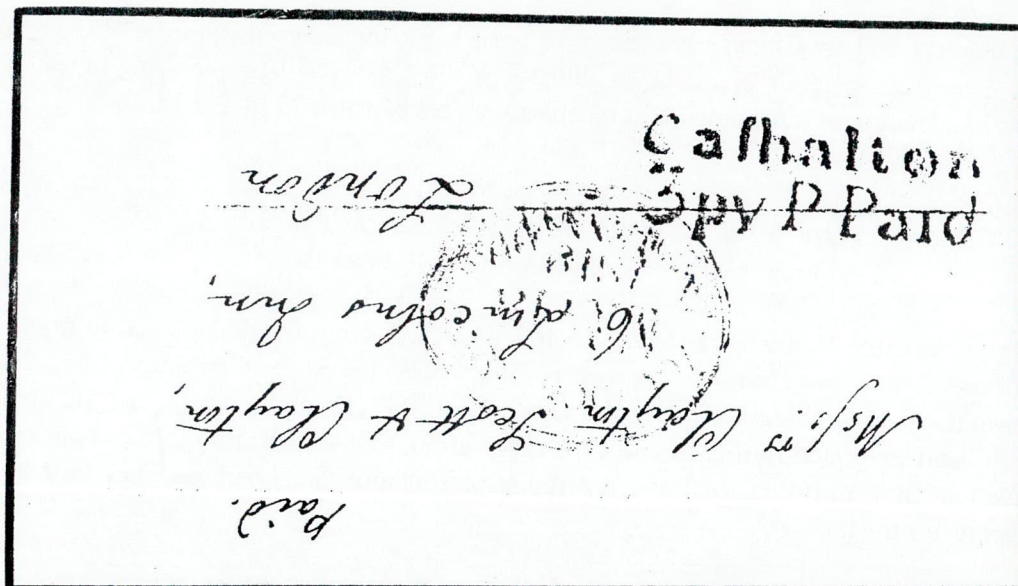


Fig. 2

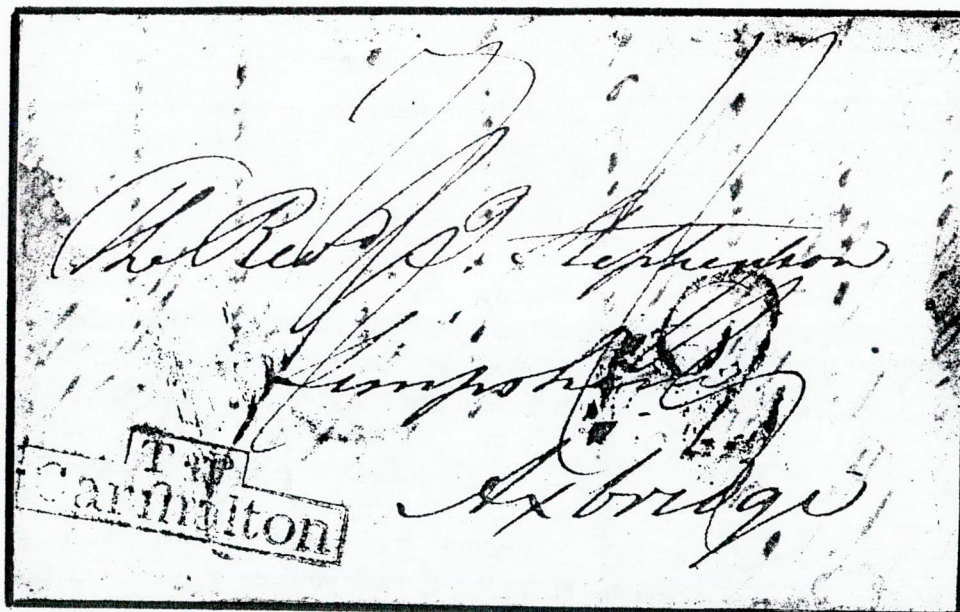


Fig. 3

The debut of the "Carshalton" strike by the TP handstamp on 26th. March 1819 near matches the last appearance of the "Cashalton" put on by the 3 py P. Paid handstamp on the 18th March 1819. This could be construed to relate to the change of receiver about this time.

Although Mrs Ann Brown "paid poors rate" in 1824, the Peatling* Papers Vol.19 record "1825-29 King's Arms John Brown" and Pigot 1826 lists "Kings Arms John Brown Postmaster".

The terse Post 35, Vol.17, No. 747R, page 328 ** entry of 1831 Jan 9 stating "Carshalton Receiver Dead: Appointment of Widow, Mrs Brown" requires no comment. Robson's Commercial Directory 1839 says "King's Arms Mary Brown Post Office Receiving House".

From the above one could expect reasonably smooth changes of appointment of the receivership through the Brown family.

The appearance of another framed TP stamp (now with the "T" between the "P" and "h" rather than over the "h") by 1828 and of a third version of the 3 py P. Paid (Fig 5: with the "t" in "Carshalton" directly over the "a" in "Paid" whereas the second stamp (Fig.4) shows the "t" between the "P" and the "a") by 1830 are considered due to "fair wear and tear".

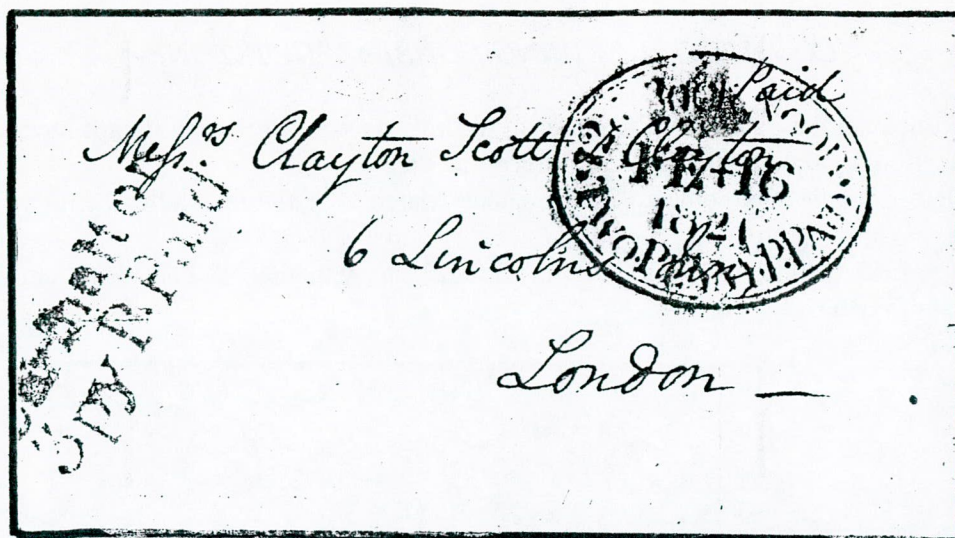


Fig. 4

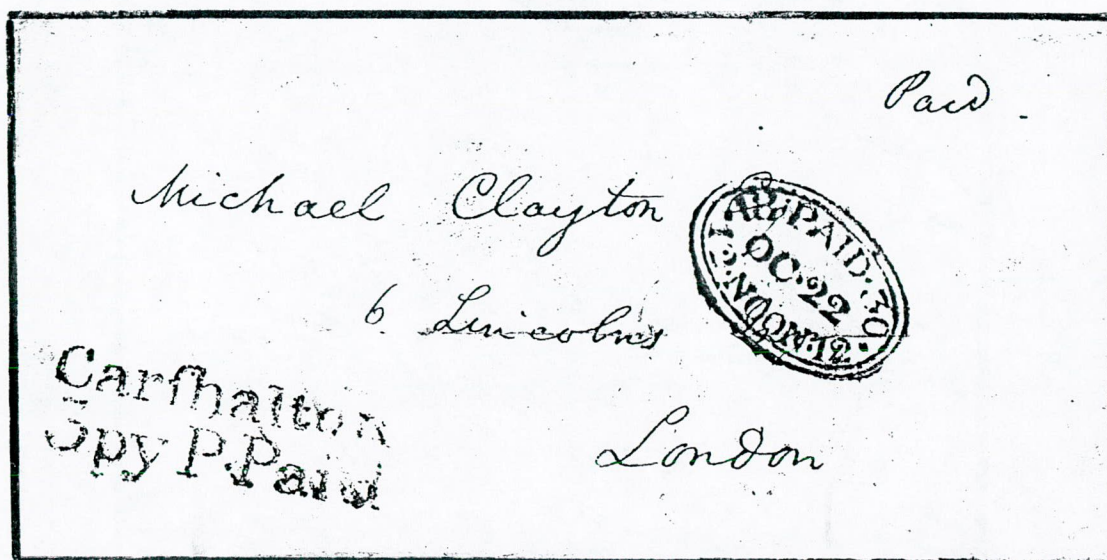


Fig. 5

This conclusion does not invalidate Peter Bathe's theory. Carshalton was a quite busy office, so stamps would need replacing from time to time. However, further studies seeking a relationship between "new" stamps and a "new" receiver could indicate the "accidental" loss of Post Office equipment when nominations for a pending coveted receivership led to the replacement of the existing incumbent.

* Peatling : a local historian in Carshalton

** The official distaste for receiving houses in Public Houses is shown here :

"For the Postm^r General.

I do think it is objectionable to have a Town Receiving House at a public House and that where there are sufficient reasons we should prefer private residences for Receiving Houses in the Country.

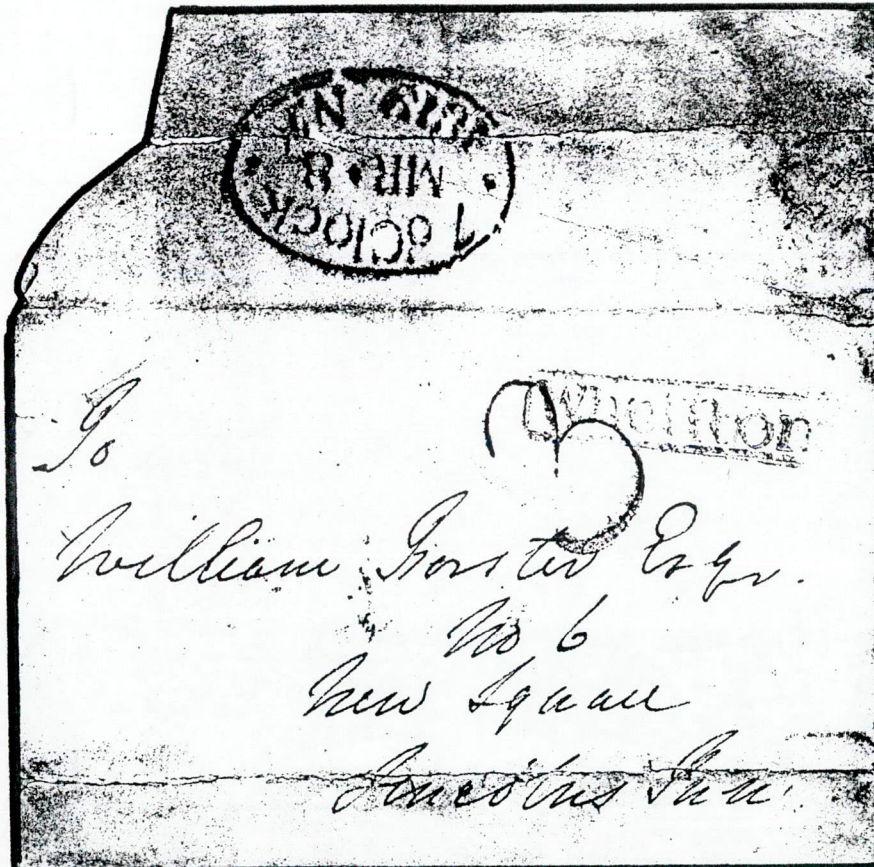
If the Widow be perfectly respectable & the House more convenient than any other situation it may be in this case be left to the discretion of the Comptroller"

COUNTRY RECEIVING HOUSE : WHETSTONE

Although recorded neither in Jay nor the Feldman working papers, Whetstone stamps have surfaced in at least one auction, though the details are not recorded here.

One incomplete example has come to hand, dated March 8th 1819, the letter being written from Bidwell Park.

The name is struck in blue, as were those in the auction, with the "s" being that curious device suggesting a seriffed "l".



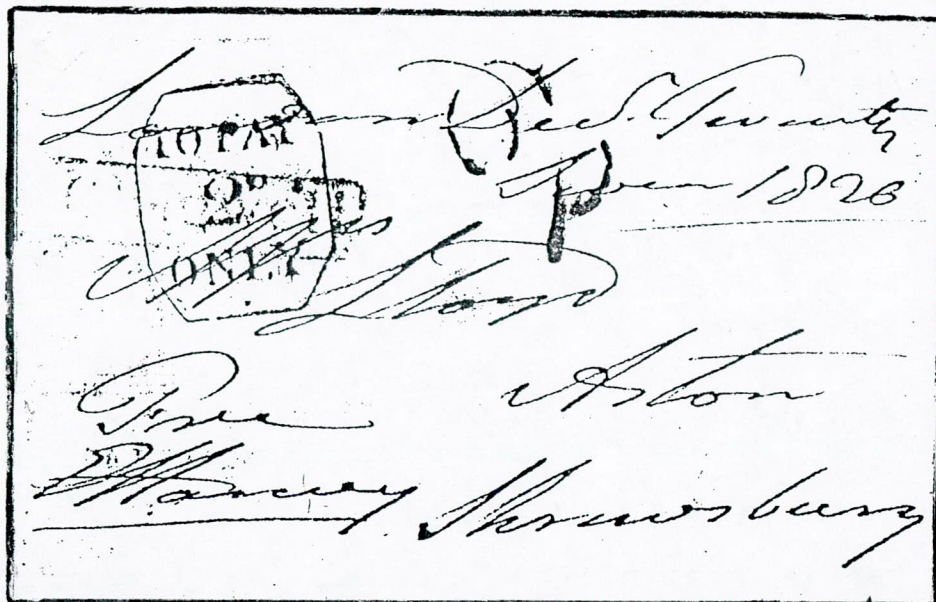
Addressed to New Square, Lincolns Inn, the letter attracted the "3" hand stamp, being the rate for a Country to Town area letter.

CHIGWELL COUNTRY RECEIVING HOUSE

It is not clear whether the missing portion of the letter had been detached from the outer, on which a portion of the letter appears, or whether it comprised further sheet(s) of paper. However, it contains a quite separate letter, written as from Chelmsford Dec^r 26th and starts "I was favored with your Ladyship's note this Morning....".

"Lady Lousia Harvey" appears as a note on the inside, although a "Louisa" occurs in all that remains of her letter "...which would not bear carriage and are bad and half spoilt - I will write again but am in haste. You will see by the enclosed dear Louisa that I am to hear and see a Governefs, I will also see the Waltham Lady, and let you know what I think of her and if She is worth waving the difficulty _ I am sorry to say the Grapes are all over except a few...."

A slight confusion here.



The letter is franked for Decr Twenty Seven 1826, posted through the Chigwell country receiving house, a feint impression of the stamp appearing, this overstruck by the TO PAY / 2^d / ONLY, with the "2" charge for the local post charge transfer to General Post stamped alongside.

The Chigwell office is recorded in Jay 1821-7, so nothing outstanding in that: just an interesting insight into the problems of finding a suitable governess in 1826.

AN EARLIER STAMP FOR VERE STREET

David Lafford

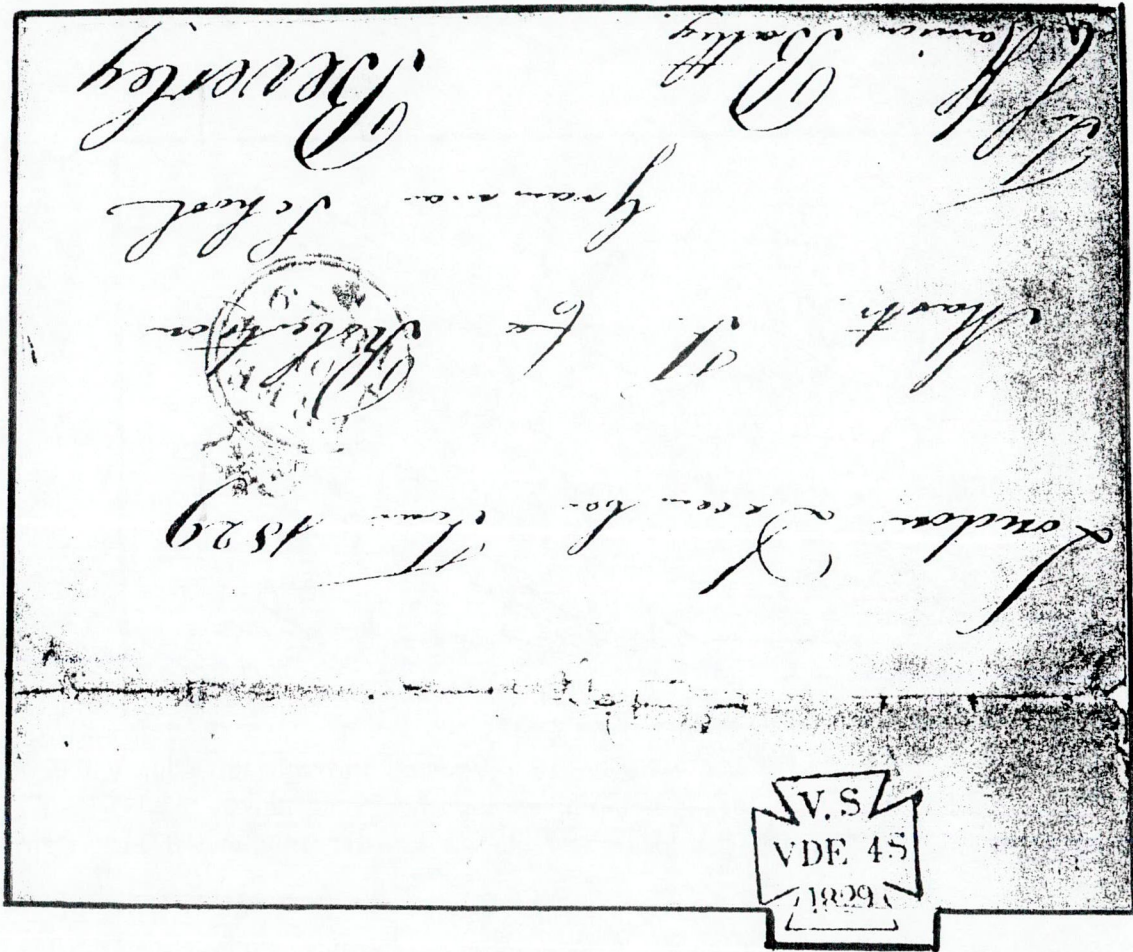
According to all the reference books, including L.P.H.G. Section B "Stamps of the Branch Offices 1829-1857", Vere Street received its first date stamp on the 25th. January 1830, the same date one was issued to Charing Cross. It must be noted, however, the Charing Cross illustration for CX1 in Section B is dated 9 Nov. 1829, which rather suggests the first issue was *not* 1830.

By way of supporting this rather obvious conclusion is a FREE (shown on the following page) written from "London December Four 1829", addressed to a pupil at Beverley Grammar School which carries and Vere Street cross date stamp for the same date, this endorsed by the FREE dating.

As a footnote, there is an interesting aside in the letter : "*I leave London by the same Mail which conveys this - but possibly may stop at Lincoln - therefore send my letter -*"

(N.B. the writer used "ss" not "fs")

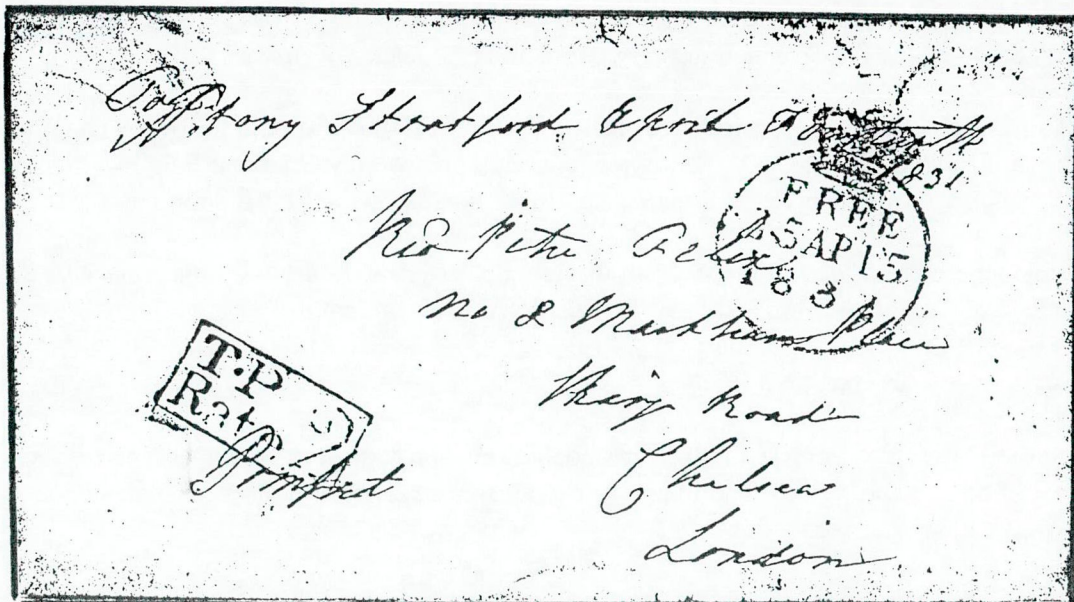
It is understood a revised edition of the Handbook is in active preparation: perhaps readers with material would be good enough to send in any date extensions etc. to the Editor for inclusion.



An Earlier Stamp For Vere Street

FRANKED BY PROMFRET

As seen from the illustration, a reasonable example of FREE dated 1831 with the TP 2 stamp indicating the payment due for delivery within a local post, in this case the Twopenny of London. The reverse carries the double rim 10 FNOON for AP 15 and the originating office shown by the STONEY STRATFORD, mileage erased, in black.



The contents, however, provide an interesting note on the ecclesiastic perquisites of the early 19th century and, clearly, indicate the clergy and nobility were quite content to abuse the generous franking system of the day. The letter, addressed to "Rev Peter Felix No 2 Markham Place Kings Road Chelsea London", reads:

"Rev^d Sir,

The mourning Cloth which was hung up at the late Earl of Promfret's Funeral is now taken down, and the present Earl & Countess of Pomfret have desired my acceptance of it. When the Pulpit and Desk at Towcester were put into mourning for George the Third, upon the Cloth being taken off the Churchwardens presented it to me as my perquisite, and M^{rs} Powys advanced no claim whatever. I stood then in the same relation to Towcester, in which I now stand to Easton Neston. At the same time I am conscious that the Freehold of the Church is vested in the Incumbent and that without your permission, I could not take possession of the Cloth. I wish therefore to ascertain whether you will permit the officiating Minister, as a matter of customary courtesy to take it or whether you intend to claim the whole or any portion of it. An early acknowledgement of this letter will oblige,

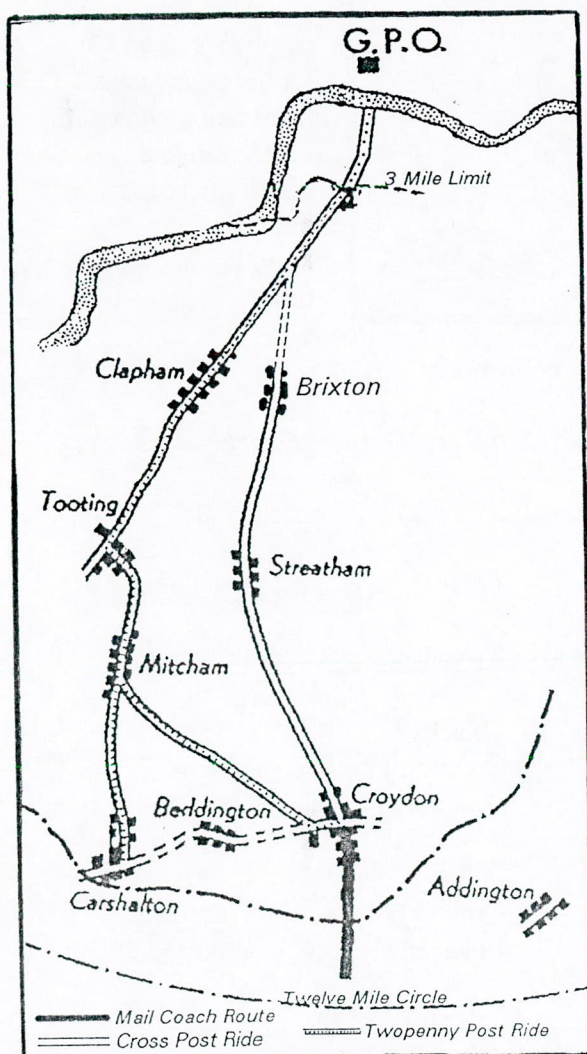
Rev^d Sir / Your's, most respectfully, / Gowen Evans

April 13th 1831

Potterspury, nr Stoney Stratford"

The Earl was content to provide his frank to the cloth-seeking cleric.

CROYDON CROSS POST



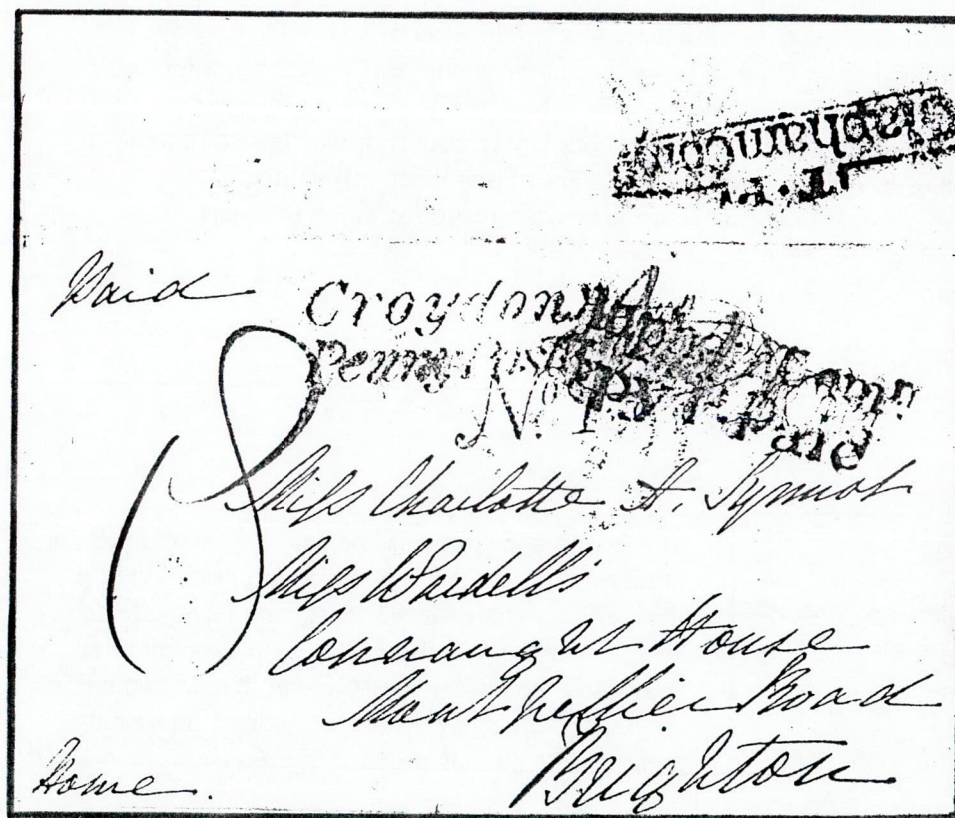
The cover appearing at the end of these notes, purchased at the May auction, has generated a deal of correspondence between Peter Bathe, Arthur Moyles and the Editor as to exactly what went on. This has been resolved and, in the course of the exchanges, provided some interesting material to fill a few pages of *Notebook*.

Croydon material is far from plentiful and there is every opportunity of guessing incorrectly from all too few recorded examples when trying to work out where letters were posted, the internal routing to the General Post and vice versa.

It may be of interest to record the establishment of the Croydon Cross Post, scheduled to start on 21st May 1836 following the dismissal of the Croydon postmaster and the appointment of one Thomas Toovey in his place. Freeling had expressed the view "...we should avail ourselves of the vacancy at the Croydon office...to revise the whole of the arrangements in that neighbourhood." These new arrangements included a new salary structure for the office, its relocation to the main road and the establishment of a provincial penny post to serve outlying villages beyond the Twopenny Post boundary. A *Croydon / Penny Post* stamp was issued for use in both the Penny and Cross Posts.

Sebright, the local Post Office Surveyor was on hand to instruct Mr Toovey in his duties and to establish the Cross Post. In the space of 46 days the cross post carried 554 letters to and from Streatham and twice as many to and from Brixton, an annual rate of 13,250 items.

Some three years later to 1839 and the cover in question. Another example from our old friend "Fred", actually David Batten, being the receiver at Clapham Common, according to Pigot's 1839 directory. He misreads the address and mistakes the letter for a bye-post (to Brixton?), applies the 3py P Paid, scribbling it out when he realises his mistake. The 8^d tendered is recorded with a large red ink "8". Meanwhile he has applied the framed TP Clapham Common in black, his paid stamp is erased, also in red ink.



The letter goes into Croydon, where the blue/green ink N° 1, Croydon / Penny Post and CROYDON double arc date stamp for NO 15 1839 are struck, then into the bag and away to Brighton.

Croydon has numbers 1, 2 and 3 for the penny post, these being known in blue/green and black; the blue/green ink varies considerably with time.

Arthur Moyles lists the following Cross Post items from his collection:

Date	From	To	Number, if any	Charge in mss
24. 4.1837	Brixton	Brighton	2 (black)	8
18. 4.1838	Upper Tooting	Uckfield	1 (blue)	1 (free Letter)
2. 9.1837	Clapham Common	Brighton	2 (black)	8
28. 5.1837 Front only	Horsham	Streatham	- black Croydon Penny Post only	Free Presumably Charged 1 ^d
5.11.1839	Merstham	Streatham	- blue Croydon Penny Post only	Free Presumably Charged 1 ^d

To these may be added three which appear to have been transferred from the Croydon Penny Post to the General Post

<i>Date</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Number, if any</i>	<i>Charge in mss</i>
19.11.1839	Croydon	London	3 (blue)	5
19.11.1839	Croydon	Brighton	2 (blue)	8
18.11.1836	Sanderstead	Tunbridge Wells	2 on 3 OR 3 on 2 (black)	8

There are a number of other fronts in the collection which just duplicate these routes but none of them have numbers and, other than providing more examples of the *Croydon/Penny Post* stamp, are not helpful.

Rates at the time of the Cross Post at Croydon were 2^d up to 8 miles (introduced in November 1837); to 15 miles 4^d; to 20 miles 5^d; to 30 miles 6^d; to 50 miles 7^d; to 80 miles, 8^d. It would appear, therefore, Bye Post letters in the Twopenny Post, transferred at Croydon as Cross Post letters, were charged 1^d only for the Twopenny Post part of the journey, i.e. it was treated *as part of the Penny Post area*, which is, reasonably, why they received the *Croydon / Penny Post* stamp.

In the Appendix to the Ninth Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Management of the Post Office Department the following return is made for Croydon on 10th February 1837 :

Names of places in which the Penny Post is established : Addington; Brixton; Streatham; Warlingham.

Brixton and Streatham were issued with Twopenny Post stamps, showing they were in the London Twopenny Post. A ride from Croydon to Brixton via Streatham went every morning and returned every evening. The reason for this was neither were on the Twopenny Post ride which went via Clapham, Tooting and Mitcham. It is thought at some date the mail coach eventually carried this mail as it passed through Streatham and Brixton.

The purpose of the numbers alongside some but by no means all Croydon Penny Post stamps is not certain. They do not seem to apply to any specific places or routes in or out of the town. There is a strong probability they were held at Croydon as, in all instances seen by Arthur Moyles, they appear to be in identical ink to the Croydon Penny Post stamp.

The receiving houses beyond the town (three mile) limit in the Croydon Ride listed in a return dated 22nd May 1837 comprised :

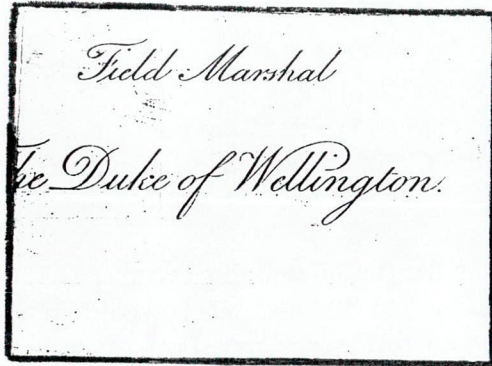
Stockwell S.O.; Stockwell Green; Brixton; North Brixton; Brixton Hill; Clapham Rise; Clapham Common; Clapham (Acre Lane); Balham Hill; Lower Tooting; Upper Tooting; Streatham; Merton; Upper Mitcham; Lower Mitcham; Morden; Wadden (sic); Croydon; Croydon (High Street); Croydon Common; Thornton Heath; Beddington; Carshalton; Sutton; Cheam.

As so often the case, there must me more of these Croydon Cross Post items and *Croydon/Penny Post* stamps which have not been recorded for the London Catalogue all those years ago or known to Arthur Moyles and Peter Bathe. If you either had such material or a record of any, your information will be welcomed by the Editor. Even of greater interest will be some positive proof (or even sound speculation) as to the function of the 1. 2 and 3.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S 1847 POST CARD

James Grimwood-Taylor

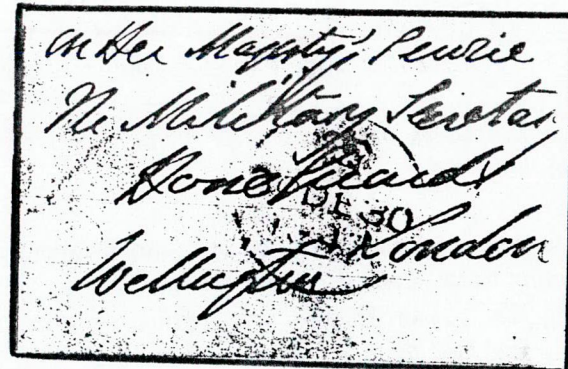
Some years ago a small card was acquired, signed and addressed (On Her Majesty's Service) by the Duke of Wellington. At first it was thought the item was the front of a small envelope which had been glued to a piece of cardboard but close examination revealed it to be much more significant. On the reverse are printed the words "Field Marshall / The Duke of Wellington" in two lines, exactly as they would be on a gentleman's calling card of the time. Clearly the card has been cut down slightly on two sides, after it had been posted; part of one word of the address and the first letter of the words "The Duke" on the reverse have been lost. However, the size of the original



card can readily be estimated from the centring of the printed inscription and that two sides remain perfectly straight and uncut..

How could such a calling card have been posted at this date and for what purpose?

The Victorians were very keen on the etiquette of two calling cards and they were left as proof of visits (or appreciation) at friends' homes in some numbers. If left in person, the corner of the card would be turned down, whereas if delivered by a servant, this was not done. Indeed, a number of calling cards sent by post in envelopes (without covering letters) are known in archives of the 1840s; clearly the rules of etiquette also allowed one to send a card by means of the Post Office's servant (the postman) .



This card, thought certainly to be the personal calling card of the Duke, although the Stratfield Saye archives - those of the Duke's family house - do not includes examples of his cards, might have been sent as a "parcel tag", attached by string to some unspecified item: such usage would have been exceptional. It is possible the Duke wrote to the "Military Secretary, Horse Guards, London". The Duke would have been acquainted with him and allowed, by the rules of etiquette, to send his card by post. Such an act would indicate "I wish I could come and see you but cannot, so I send my servant (i.e. the postman) with my card to prove my good intention." This gives two possible usages, tag and card.

What of the postal history part of the story ? The card had a fine red 30th. December 1847 London circular code less crown date stamp on the obverse. At that time this stamp is associated with mail on official business addressed to Government Departments in London. Given there was no room for an adhesive on the original card, it being likely half an inch at most having been cut from the card, and because it carried the "Service" endorsement endorsed by no lesser a person than the Duke, suggests it required neither prepayment nor a postage due charge.

To summarise : it could have been a parcel tag or a token of the (calling card) esteem. The use of his personal calling card as a tag , because of the importance as a messenger (of etiquette), is thought most unlikely. It is suggested the Duke either had no suitable envelope to hand or was in some haste in wanting to convey an apology to the addressee by (P.O.) proxy for his not making a personal visit. He was entitled to "On service" mail, so no charge; the "code less crown" date stamp indicated this item was included in the Horse Guards daily incoming civil servants unpaid O.H.M.S. mail and it was, therefore, accounted for in the usual "en masse" way. One 1840's circular post card is known to the writer; is this the only 1840 O.H.M.S. post card recorded so far ?

OFFICE INITIAL STAMPS OF THE LONDON DISTRICT POSTS

In Notebook 16 we published the first listing of these stamps. Over the years (see end of article) there have been several reports extending dates and advising other initials. The most famous of these was the item provided by Michael Jackson from the Bryan Lillywhite collection, a record number of these initials on one cover.

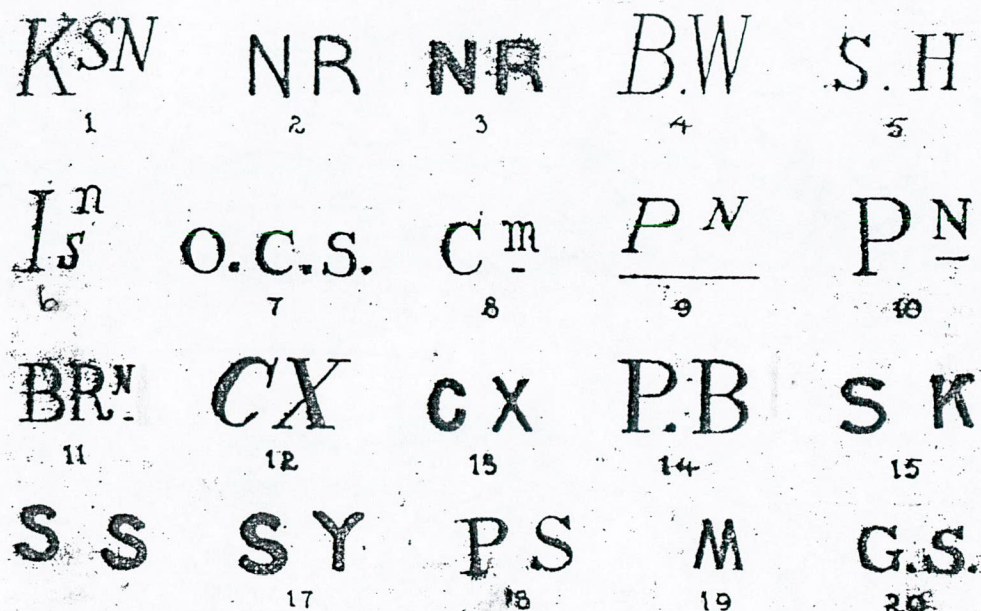
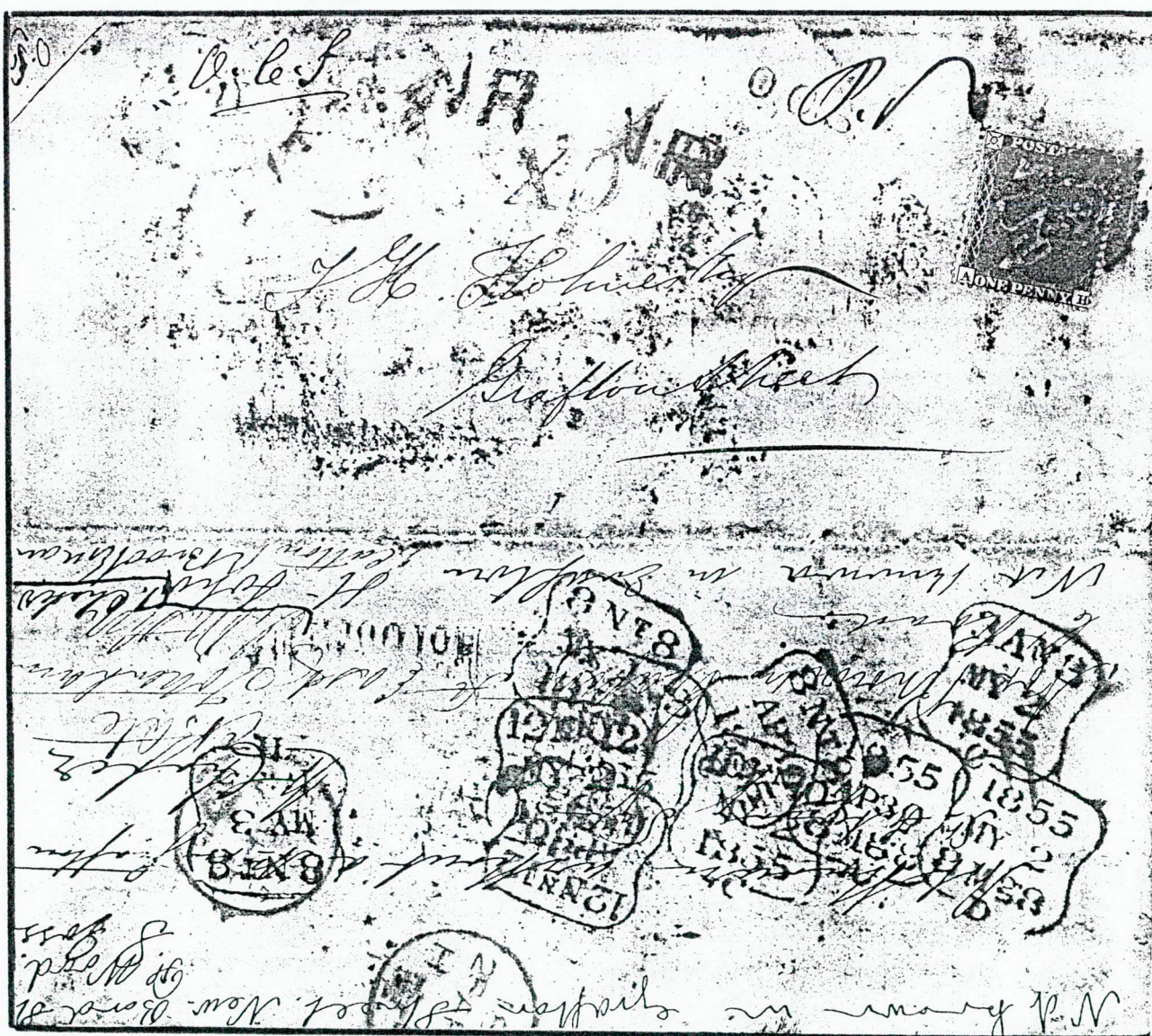


Fig. 1	Ksn	Kensington	30. 5.55 - 15. 2.56
2	NR	North Row	26. 4.46 - 1. 6.54
3	NR	North Row	15. 9.48 - 6. 6.50
4	BW	Bagnigge Wells	30. 5.54 - 19. 6.56
5	S.H.(serif)	Stamford Hill	1. 8.55 - 21. 8.58
5 ss	S.H. (sans serif)		27. 1.52 - 24. 5.52
6	Isn	Islington	3.12.55
7	O.C.S. (serif)	Old Cavendish Street	17. 1.55 - 28. 6.56
7 ss	O.C.S (sans serif)		2. 6.56
8	Cm	Cambridge Road	2. 7.56
9	Pn	Paddington	6. 6.54 - 20. 2.57
10	PN	Paddington	8. 4.57 - 24.11.58
11	BRN	Brixton	8. 7.56
12	CX	Charing Cross	12.11.50 - 26. 5.55

Fig. 13	CX	Charing Cross	15.12.45 - 25.1.48
14	PB	Pimlico Branch	15.6.51 - 12.11.56
15	SK	Southwark	1.6.54 - 18.10.56
16	SS	Sidmouth Street	2.5.53 - 1.6.54
17	SY	Stepney	8.9.45 - 11.12.57
18	PS (serif)	Portland Street	9.10.45 - 1.6.54
18 ss	PS (sans serif)		19.10.45 - 28.11.50
19	M	Marylebone	
20	GS	Park Street, Grosvenor Square	
21	PT	Park Terrace	13.3.55 - 10.4.55

Illustrations for the other subsequent types are not to hand: perhaps readers would supply copy for a full listing in due course.

The reason for this revised listing is one much stamped item appearing in the L.P.H.G. auction



The letter is addressed to T G C Holmes Grafton Street, the sender believing this sufficient for a local London letter. Posted at the Holborn Hill office, the adhesive was, nevertheless, cancelled by the Inland 38 diamond. There are two strikes of the General Post crown below date stamp and nine of the District Post time stamp in red and a final LDP time stamp in black.

The General Post stamps read 1855 / 28 AP 28 / H crown W in one case and H crown ? the other.
The London District Post time stamps reveal the frequent visits to that office as the letter made its way around London:

-- in red --

AP 30 / 8 Mg / A ; 12 Nn / AP 30 / C; 3 AN / AP 30 / C; 8 NT / AP 30 / C
8 NT / MY 1 / C
MY 2 / 8 Mg / D; 10 FN / MY 2 / C; 3 AN / MY 2 / C
12 Nn / MY 3 C

and finally, in black MY 3 / 8 NT / H

The Office initials include NR, twice, O.C.S., serif, CX, serif, O.C.S. and P.S. in manuscript.

The letter carriers' pragmatic endorsement are;
Not known in Grafton Street New Bond Street
Not known without a N° in Grafton Street Fitzroy Square
Not known Grafton Street East Tottenham Ct Road
Not known in Grafton St Soho

.....these supported by the signatures of eight letter carriers.

The four routes are confirmed by the 1857 "London and its Environs" list of streets, places &c.

Reports of other stamps, date extensions and an explanation for the use of manuscript and stamp from the same office, Old Cavendish Street in the example above, would be helpful.

In response to sight of a draft for this article, Mike Goodman sent in some date extensions (these are included in the listing) and a most curious LD in ink. This appears on a letter addressed to 53 South Audley St with, on the flap, the endorsement "*Gone away Left no addrefs.*" Such an endorsement does not usually attract an Office Initial mark. An explanation of the L.D. would be welcome.

The cover is illustrated on the following page.

INLAND OFFICE "ROUGH" STAMPS

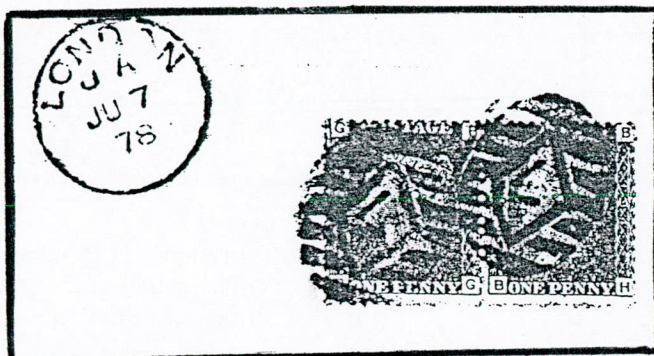
Steve Mulvey

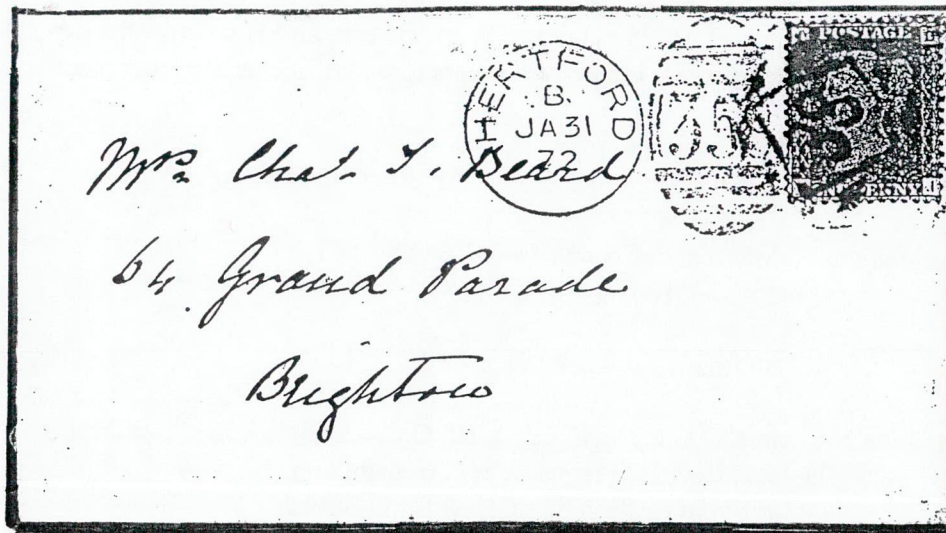
The two items illustrated here are of items not currently included in the Handbook and may be of interest to readers and encourage reporting of similar findings.

The first is, alas, on piece only but provides a dated example (7 June 1878) of the rough stamp 7D24 (Dubus type 24). This group are designated for use on book post, long envelopes, incompletely cancelled mail and normal mail.

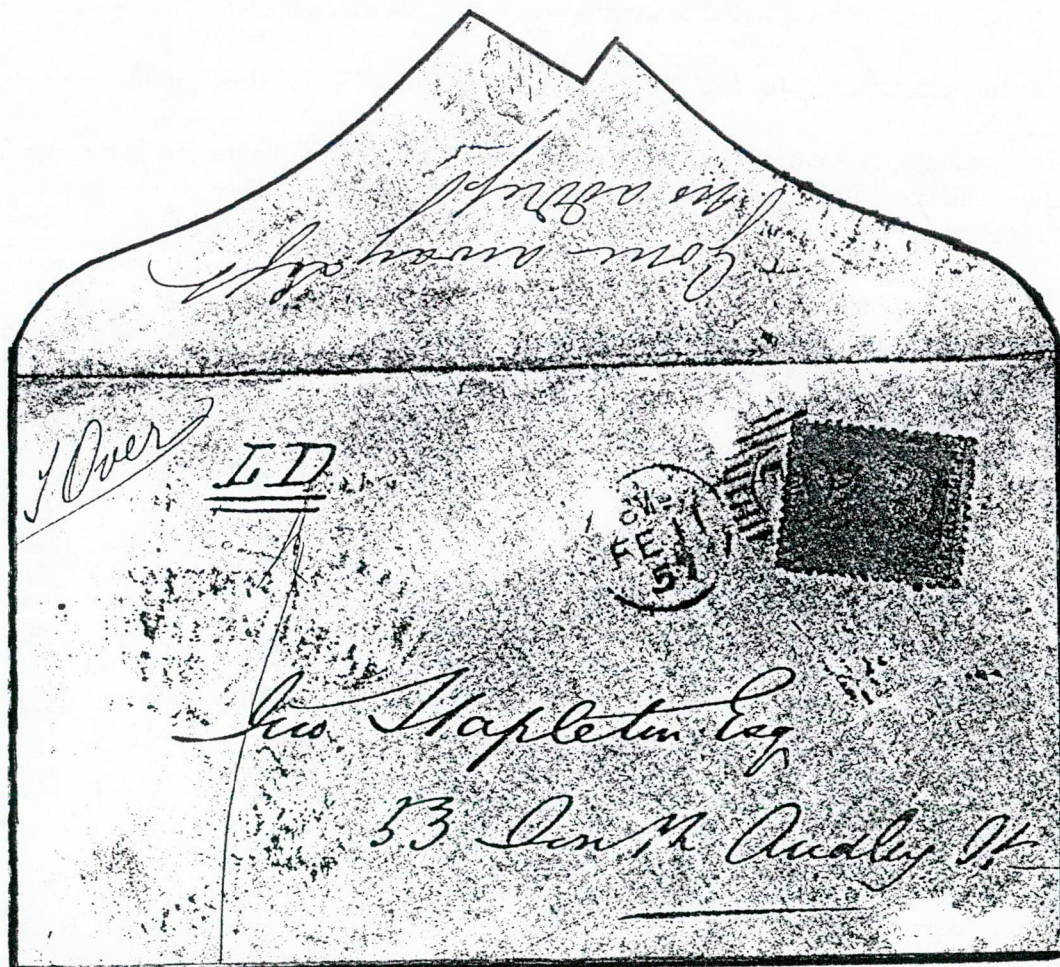
The second item affords another dated example, by accident, since the Hertford Duplex for 31st January 1872 missed cancelling the adhesive and a postal stamper

in London decided an "obliterator" was necessarily to be applied. As a consequence, 38D16 can now be recorded in use for incompletely cancelled mail as well as the designated use on post cards (Westley).





A dated example of the Rough Cancel 38D16



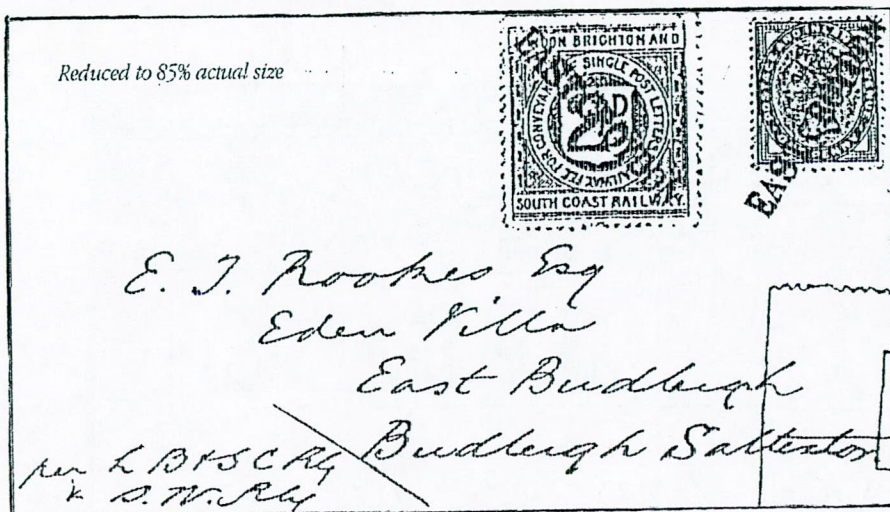
The mysterious LD referred to in the article on
 "Office Initials of the London District Posts"
 The near vertical arrow is a later addition.

TRANSFERRED RAIL MAIL

M.C. Goodman

Commercial mail passing through the railway letter service is not common, collectors of the various stamps normally having to content themselves with "arranged" material. It has to be said, however, that without the efforts of a small band of devoted "arrangers" many cancellations and other markings would be unavailable to most and, in some instances, to no one.

It is, therefore, a pleasure to record an item from East Croydon to East Budleigh, Budleigh Salterton which appears not only commercial but which carries some extra points of interest.



The London Brighton and South Coast Railway 2^d adhesive was placed next to the Royal Mail 1d lilac, both being cancelled by the straight line EAST CROYDON undated stamp, this struck in black. The writer clearly knew the routing the letter carries the endorsement "per LB&SC Rly & SW Rly"

At Clapham Junction, it was transferred to the SW Railway, where it received the rectangular hand stamp, so handsomely struck in black, on the reverse.

On arrival at Exmouth it appears damage was seen and the item repaired with the gummed labels inscribed FOUND OPEN AND OFFICIALLY RESEALED, both being date stamped by the code A Exmouth. There is also the written endorsement "No post out until 10.30^{am} AS".

The B code, probably showing an afternoon receipt, Budleigh Salterton stamp for the same date, FE 10 91 was applied on arrival prior to delivery.

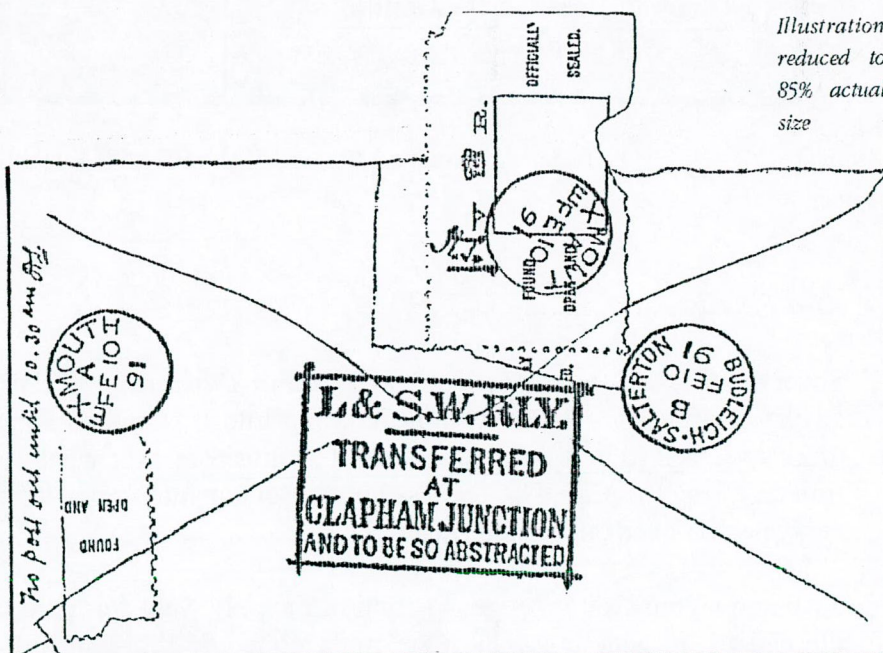


Illustration reduced to 85% actual size

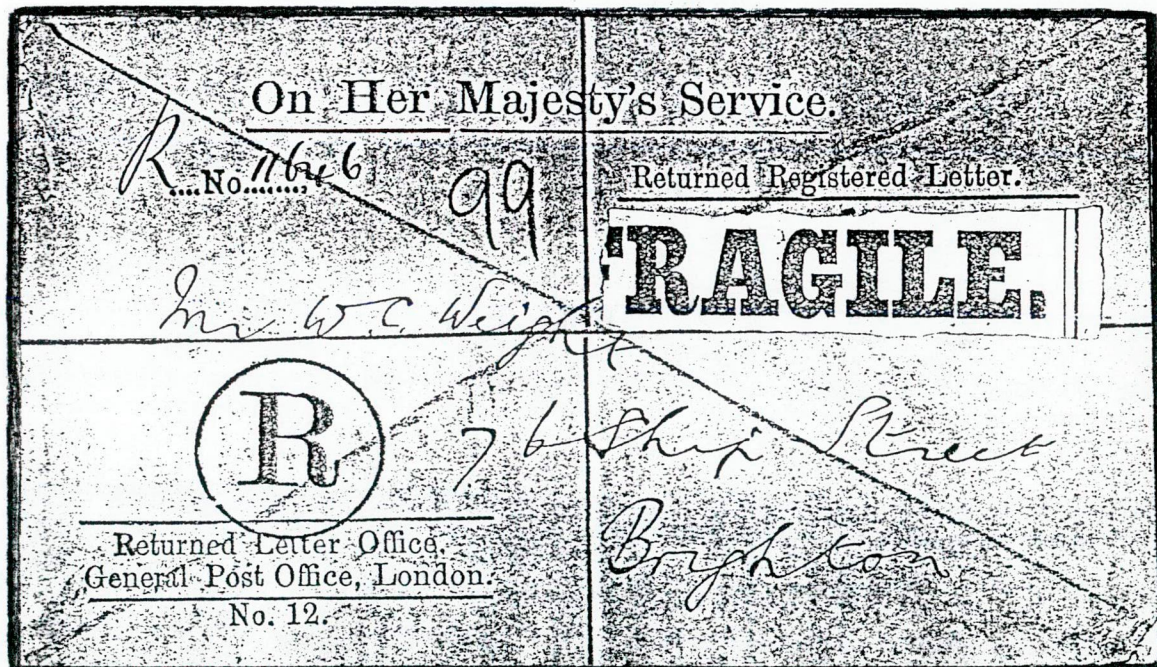
The letter was sent only a few days after the issue of the LB & SC adhesives on the 26th. January 1891: it will be very difficult to find an earlier example than this.

There must be other transfer stamps in London, both Victoria and London Bridge had LBSCR and SER and SECR lines facilitating such movements. Reports of other stations' transfer stamps would be of great interest.

(The illustrations and some additional information were provided by the Editor of *Railway Philately*, to whom the original article was copied.)

FRAGILE RETURNED REGISTERED LETTER

One of the many interesting items which came up for auction this year is that shown here. The reverse carries a REGISTERED / 5. PM / 12 OCT 00 / RET^D LTR OFFICE oval framed stamp in purple accompanied by a poor Bright RL date stamp, this in black.



Speculations on the use of the FRAGILE label invited.

And Finally.....

Several L.P.H.G. were seen at the *Autumn Stampex* just finished. The venue still attracts adverse comment, even from those coming into Euston and King's Cross stations. That apart, there appeared to be a surprising lack of enthusiasm over what was on offer with the cry "can't find anything" repeated at distressingly frequent intervals. Not entirely true, rather a case of very specific needs not being satisfied.

Two items your Editor sought in auction recently went for quite shattering sums above what he thought to be generous bids. One must conclude more specialist material is changing hands through that market rather than via the exhibition dealer.

There is always *TREVEX*.