

NOTEBOOK

Number 154 November 2002

IN THIS ISSUE.....

We are delighted to bring to readers the second issue of revisions for
'The **British County Catalogue of Postal History, Volume 3 - LONDON**'.

The sections covered are

THE FRANKING SYSTEM

by Barrie Jay and John E. Colton

(L 760 to L 848)

DOCKWRA'S PENNY POST

1680 - 1682

(L 310 - 327a)

THE GOVERNMENT PENNY POST

1682 - 1794

(L 330 - L 394)

The Penny Post sections by Barrie Jay.

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EDITORIAL.....

With the greatest pleasure we offer this continued revision to Volume 3 - London, first published in 1983 and to welcome the addition of John Colton to the named contributors.

It is hoped we can publish further sections, then, with the help of all collectors with London material reporting in their own discoveries for the record, make all this material available to the widest possible public by a 'London - Second Edition'.

THE FRANKING SYSTEM

by Barrie Jay and John E Colton

From 1652, or possibly earlier, letters from members of both Houses of Parliament, as well as certain other officials, were carried free of charge in the post. In 1652, an Order by the Council of State laid down that all letters of members should be free if endorsed 'for the Service of the Commonwealth' and if signed by the sender or his clerk. This privilege was continued until 1840. A description of the Franking System and the handstamps used on Free letters is given in detail in the excellent book by J W Lovegrove 'Herewith my Frank' (second edition 1989), and its Supplements 4 to 7 (to April 1992).

L760	Manuscript 'Free', 'Franck', or other indication of carriage free	1652-61	H
762	As L760, but with Bishop mark	1661-1764	F
763	manuscript 'P'	?-1764	E

In the following list, the earliest and latest recorded dates of handstamps are given against each entry.

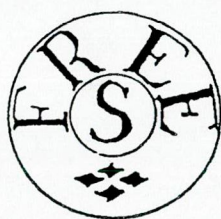


765



767

Cat No	Type	Description		Colour	Dates	Rarity
765	FREE	'F' taller than 'REE' 2.5.64-26.5.66	18-20	Red	1764-66	H
767	FREE	3.6.65-17.10.88 examples of L767 dated before 26 May 1766 are rarity G an example of L767 is known used on 26.2.91	20-28	Red	1765-88	D
767a		as L767 but black 5.3.1787	23	Black	1787	H



770



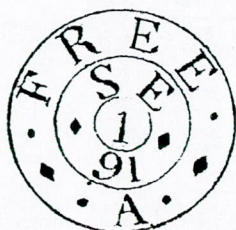
772



774

770	FREE/S	23.4.87-12.11.89	27	Purple	1787-89	E
770aa	FREE/S	1.9.88	27	Black	1788	G
770a	FREE/A	27.9.89-10.10.89	27	Purple	1789	F
770b	FREE/C	9.5.87-22.1.91	27	Purple	1787-91	E
770ba	FREE/C	3.7.88-4.8.89	27	Black	1788	G
770c	FREE/C	27.2.91-3.4.92	27	Red	1791-92	F
770d	FREE/P	— 10.7.89-12.12.89	27	Purple	—1789	E

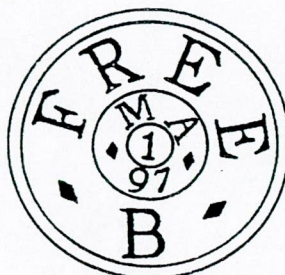
772	FREE/A	19.4.90-3.2.91	25	Purple	1790-91	F
772aa	FREE/A	22.1.91-23.2.91	24	Red	1791	G
772a	FREE/C	4.11.89-20.1.91	25	Purple	1789-91	F
772b	FREE/C	12.2.91-17.2.91	25	Red	1791	G
772ba	FREE/C	16.5.90-4.12.90	25	Black	1790	G
772c	FREE/P	15.12.89-30.11.90	25	Purple	1789-90	F
772ca	FREE/P	21.1.90-10.7.90	25	Black	1790	G
772d	FREE/P	12.2.91-16.6.91	25	Red	1791	G
774	FREE/A	31.10.90-12.3.91	28x27	Purple	1790-91	G
774aa	FREE/A	27.12.90	28x27	Black	1790	G
774a	FREE/C	28.10.90-20.12.90	28x27	Purple	1790	G
774ab	FREE/C	20.12.90	28x27	Black	1790	G
774b	FREE/P	1.1.91-25.2.91	28x27	Purple	1791	G
774c	FREE/P	2.2.91-17.6.91	28x27	Red	1791	G
774d	FREE/P	20.12.90	28x27	Black	1790	G



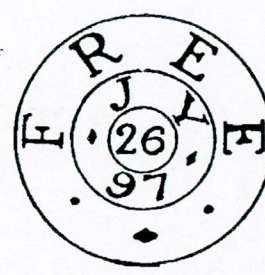
776



778



779

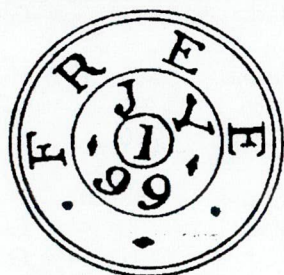


780

776	FREE/Date/A	17.3.91-30.9.91	30	Red	1791	E
776a	FREE/Date/P	9.3.91-9.9.91	30	Red	1791	E
776b	FREE/Date/A	28.4.91-4.8.92	31-34	Red	1791-92	D
776c	FREE/Date/C	5.3.92-31.5.97	31-34	Red	1792-97	D
776d	as L776c but inverted date 18.12.93			Red	1793	E
776e	FREE/Date/P	9.7.91-29.10.95	31-34	Red	1791-95	D
778	FREE/Date/C	one diamond on each side of FREE 15.8.96-31.5.97	33	Red	1796-97	E

The initials in the above stamps (L770-778) are those of the Inspectors or Clerks of the Franks. 'C' was Charles Coltson, 'S' James Stafford, 'A' William Addison and 'P' John Palmer.

779	FREE/Date/B	1.5.97		Red	1797	G
one copy of this handstamp has been recorded. 'B' stands for J H Briggs						
780	FREE/Date	12.6.97-22.7.99	34	Red	1797-99	E
782	FREE/Date	double rim, evening duty. 6.8.97-22.7.99	37	Red	1797-99	E



782



784



786



788

784	FREE/Date	23.7.99-24.7.99	33	Red	1799	K
786	FREE/Date	24.7.99-26.10.99	25	Red	1799	F
788	Crown/Date/FREE	25.10.99-30.12.99	34	Red	1799	G



790



792



794

790	FREE/Date	1.1.00-25.7.00	39	Red	1800	D
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Damage to the upper left part of the frame occurred early in the life of L790. The frame was undamaged early in January, but by the middle of February 1800 the damage is obvious.

792	FREE/Date	29.7.00-30.12.00	36	Red	1800	D
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In L792 the left side of the frame showed signs of damage early in its life; this damage extended up to the crown by December 1800.

794	FREE/Date	5.1.01-7.7.07	39	Red	1801-07	C
794a	FREE/Date	3.1.05-29.6.05	38	Red	1805	C
		buckled rim and long tail to the '5' in 1805				
794b	FREE/Date	9.1.05-28.6.05	38	Red	1805	C
		non-buckled rim and short tail to the '5' in 1805				

From L794 to the end of free franking in 1840, the handstamps appear to have been changed every 6 months. There are, therefore, other minor variations found in L794, as in all subsequent FREE stamps.



796



798

796	FREE/Date	2.1.06-19.6.06	39	Red	1806	E
798	FREE/Date	11.6.06-6.7.07 – double rim	39	Red	1806-07	E



799



800



800a



800b



800ba

799	Crown/FREE/Date	the crown sitting on top of the circle 9.7.07-28.12.07	25	Red	1807	D
800	Crown/FREE/Date	space below date 13.10.07-1840	various	Red	1807-40	B
800a	Crown/FREE/Date/+	cross below date 26.6.15-?.1.40	various	Red	1815-40	B
800b	Crown/FREE/Date/E	large 'E' 4mm high below date 26.3.37-30.11.38	28/29	Red	1837-38	F
800ba	as L800b, but	small 'E' 3-3½mm high below date 2.6.38-9.1.40	28	Red	1838-40	D
		small 'E' changed several times during usage				
800c	Crown/FREE/Date/N	large 'N' 4mm high below date 21.5.37-30.11.38	28/29	Red	1837-38	F
800ca	as L800c, but	small 'N' 3mm high below date 22.1.38-10.1.40	28	Red	1838-40	E



800ca



801



801a



801b

801	Crown/FREE/Date	double rim	various	Red	1807-40	B
801a	as L801, but	cross below date	various	Red	1814-40	B
801b	as L801, but	space below date	29	Red	1839	E
		10.10.39-24.10.39				



801c



801e

801c	as L801, but	'O' below date	30	Red	1802-40	F
801d	as L801c, but	'O' sideways	30	Red	?	F
801e	as L801c, but	date partly missing	30	Red	?	F
801f	as L801c, but	date completely missing	30	Red	?	F

There are numerous varieties of L800-801 which are described in detail in 'Herewith my Frank' by J W Lovegrove, 2nd ed, Part VII, Appendix, Section 6, page 114.

L801c has provided one of the most fascinating mysteries in the whole of postal history. For a detailed account of our knowledge to date, readers are referred to:

1. 'Herewith my Frank', 1st ed, 1975, pages 55-89; the last 3 pages of Supplement No 1 (September 1978) and pages 7-10 of Supplement No 3 (March 1980).
2. 'Herewith my Frank', 2nd ed, 1989, Part VI, Section 7, pp99-105; Appendix 9, pp134-137.
3. The 'O' code free date stamp forgeries, by James Grimwood-Taylor, London Philatelist, Volume 108, pp288-289.

L801e and 801f are contemporary forgeries for autograph collectors.

Local Post Charges



804



806a



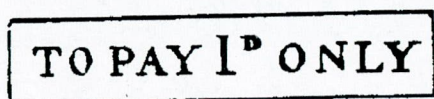
808



808b

804	TO PAY/ONLY/D/2	13.9.03-21.10.17	26x31	Black	1803-17	E
806	TO PAY/2 ^D /ONLY	unframed – 18.7.17-21.7.17		Red	1817	J
806a	TO PAY/2 ^D /ONLY	9.8.17-5.1.18	25x30	Red	1817-18	G
806b	as L806a but black	19.10.18-8.5.29	25x30	Black	1818-29	D
808	TO PAY/2 ^d /ONLY.	17.3.27-5.11.34	25x30	Black	1827-34	D
808a	as L808, but brown	2.1.33-15.11.34	25x29/30	Brown	1833-34	D
808aa	as L808, but blue	21.4.32	25x30	Blue	1832	D
808ab	as L808, but green	19.6.32	25x30	Green	1832	D
808b	TO PAY/2 ^d /ONLY	18.12.34	24x29	Black	1834	D
808c	as L808b, but brown	9.12.34-9.1.40	24x29	Brown	1834-40	C

Franked letters posted in a Receiving House of the London Twopenny Post were charged 2d for transmission to the General Post Office. Unpaid letters were stamped with L804-808c in place of the 'Free' stamp. From April 1831 the 2d was charged only on letters from the Country area of the Twopenny Post for transmission to the General Post Office.



810



812

TO PAY 1^D ONLY

To Pay 1^d Only

To Pay 1^d only

814

816

818

810	TO PAY 1 ^D ONLY	2.10.17-27.7.29	54/55x11	Red	1817-29	C
810a	as L810 but black	13.9.25, 1.10.29-25.11.32	54/55x11	Black	1825, 1829-32	D
810b	as L810 but brown	5.1.33-5.10.34	55x11	Brown	1833-34	D
812	TO PAY 1 ^D ONLY	16.12.34-16.3.36	42x 7	Brown	1834-36	D
814	TO PAY 1 ^d ONLY	3.12.35-22.7.38	42x 5	Brown	1835-38	D
814a	as L814, but black	4.1.39	42x 5	Black	1839	D
816	To Pay/1 ^d Only	23.8.38-23.11.39	28x13	Brown	1838-39	E
818	To Pay 1 ^D only	28.11.38-5.12.38	37x 7	Black	1838	E
818a	as L818 but red	21.12.38	37x 7	Red	1838	E
818b	as L818 but brown	2.1.39-9.1.40	37x 7	Brown	1839-40	D

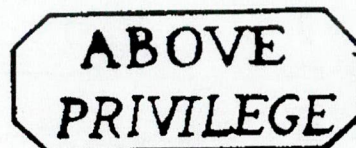
Franked letters posted in a Provincial Penny Post were liable to the Penny Post charge. If unpaid, these letters received L810-818b, instead of the 'Free' stamp, at the General Post Office.

Breaches of Regulations and other Stamps

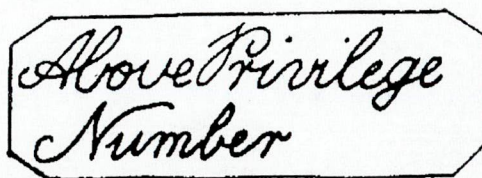
Members of Parliament were permitted to receive up to 15 and send up to 10 letters under the Frank each day. Each letter could not exceed one ounce in weight. Breaches of these regulations resulted in the following stamps being applied to offending letters.

Above Privilege

820



821



822

*Above Privilege
Number*

824

*Above
Number*

826

819	above Privilege		52x 8	Red	1798	
820	Above Privilege	28.11.02-20.5.14	65x 8	Purple	1802-14	G
820a	L820 but red		65x 8	Red	1802	G
820b	L820 but black	1803-30.6.04	65x 8	Black	1803-04	G
821	ABOVE PRIVILEGE		45x18	Red	1800-26	G
	known used in Scotland in black in 1837					
822	Above Privilege/Number		62x21	Black	1797-1811	G
822a	as L822 but red		62x21	Red	1795, 1800-02	G
824	Above Privilege/Number	22.10.04-1812	57x19	Black	1804-12	G
826	Above/Number	1816-10.1.17	31x16	Black	1816-17	G
826a	as L826, but red	23.4.15	31x16	Red	1815	G

ABOVE NUMBER

827

Above Weight

830

ABOVE
WEIGHT

832

ABOVE NUMBER

828

ABOVE WEIGHT

834

827	ABOVE/NUMBER	1818-5.1.28
827aa	as L827, but larger	19.3.21
827a	as L827, but black	
827ab	as L827a, but smaller	12.7.25-4.12.31
828	ABOVE NUMBER	22.10.33-9.5.38
828a	as L828, but red	5.4.35
830	Above Weight	6.8.14
830a	as L830, but red	23.4.15-1825
832	ABOVE/WEIGHT	1.5.18-1823
832a	as L832, but brown	24.12.18
832b	as L832, but red	5.5.19-12.12.27
832ba	as L832b, but black	20-5-22
832c	as L832a, but purple	17.11.23
832ca	as L832a, but red	11.5.27
832d	as L832a, but black	19.6.30-30.11.31
832e	as L832a, but green	5.5.32-10.11.32
834	ABOVE WEIGHT	7.2.32-19.11.39
834a	as L834, but green	14.1.36-1838

28x12	Red	1818-28	E
33x11	Red	1821	E
28x12	Black	1825-30	E
26x11	Black	1825-31	E
42/43x6½	Black	1833-38	E
42/43x6½	Red	1835	E
40x 7	Purple	1814	F
40x 7	Red	1815-25	F
33x10	Red	1818-23	E
29x12	Brown	1818	E
35x11	Red	1819-27	E
35x11	Black	1822	E
29x12	Purple	1823	E
29x11	Red	1827	E
30x11	Black	1830-31	E
29x11	Green	1832	E
42x 6	Brown	1832-39	E
42x 6	Green	1836-38	E



836

836	MEMBER IN IRELAND	31.5.30
838	WATERLOO/SUBSCRIPTION	2.5.16-25.8.24

838

57x 9	Red	1830	K
53x16	Black	1816-24	K

WATERLOO SUBSCRIPTION

The Waterloo Subscription, established in 1816, was a national charity appeal '....the most effectual mode of relief to the Wounded and surviving Relatives of those who fell on that glorious day....' Letters concerned with the raising of money, and with its disposal, were entitled to go free in the Post. A few letters have survived bearing the handstamp L838.

Ship Letter Office Stamps



840
Type 1



842
Type 2a



846
Type 2b



848
Type 3

These handstamps have always been considered to have been used in the Foreign Branch of the Post Office. A recent study of a number of Free letters, to or from overseas, has indicated that these handstamps were used in the Ship Letter Office rather than in the Foreign Branch.

Free letters which passed through the Foreign Branch did not receive any of the above handstamps. They received the Inland Free handstamp, as well as a Foreign Branch date stamp.

It also became apparent, during the course of this study, that the listing in the London Catalogue was not quite accurate and that there were only three types of handstamp, as follows:

840	Crown/FREE/month day [type 1]	30x30	Red	1817-22	H
842	Crown/FREE/day month day [type 2a] distance between top frame and bottom of FREE 6mm	25x30	Red	1824-29	G
846	Crown/FREE/day month day [type 2b] distance between top frame and bottom of FREE 4mm	25x30	Red	1830-34	G
848	Crown/FREE/day month day – upper corners square [type 3]	24x31	Red	1835-39	H

DOCKWRA'S PENNY POST

1680-1682

'On Saturday last [27th March 1680] the Projectors for Conveying Letters to any part of the City, or Suburbs, for a peny the Letter, opened their offices, whereof the three chiefest are in Lime-street, about Charing-Cross and Temple-bar; besides several inferior Offices; at which they have hung out Tables to advertise people of the thing

This report in Smith's Current Intelligence for 27-30 March 1680 announced the opening of the London Penny Post organised by William Dockwra, Robert Murray and Dr Hugh Chamberlen. So successful was this private venture that when it was suppressed in November 1682 it was immediately taken over by the Post office who, on 11 December 1682, reopened the London Penny Post in a practically unaltered manner.

The few known letters of this period fall into three groups, and it has been suggested, with good circumstantial evidence, that they are examples of the original Post organised by Dockwra, Murray and Chamberlen (among others), of the Post run by Murray in 1680-81, and of that run by Dockwra in 1681-82. An excellent and detailed account of William Dockwra, and the handbills, advertisements and handstamps of these Posts can be found in *William Dockwra and the Rest of the Undertakers* by T. Todd.

Most of the known examples of the handstamps of the London Penny Post of 1680-82 are listed below.

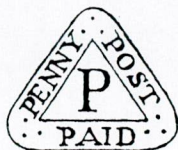
Dockwra-Murray-Chamberlen Post

310 manuscript penny letter house pd

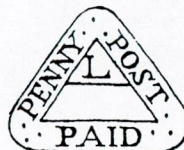
1680 Z



315



317



320



324

Cat No	Type	Description	Colour	Dates	Rarity
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Murray's Post

315	PENNY POST PAID/L	13.12.80: 21.12.80: 8.1.80/1: 31.1.80/1	Black	1680-81	L*
317	PENNY POST PAID/W:	19.12.80	Black	1680	L*
317a	PENNY POST PAID/P:	25.1.80/1	Black	1681	Z
320	PENNY POST PAID/L:	22.3.80/1	Black	1681	Z

It is not certain what the **L** in the above handstamps (L315 & 320) stood for; the **P** and **W** stood for **St Paul's** and **Westminster**.

Dockwra's Post

324	PENNY POST PAID/L: 16.12.81: 4.5.82: 22.5.82: 5.9.82	Black	1681-82	L*
324a	PENNY POST PAID/W: 2.6.81: 18.7.81: 9.12.81: 12.9.82	Black	1681-82	Z
324b	PENNY POST PAID/T: 2.1.81/2: 24.5.82: 19.6.82: 27.6.82	Black	1682	L*
324c	PENNY POST PAID/B: 27.7.81: 3.3.81/2: ? 4.82	Black	1681-82	Z
324d	PENNY POST PAID/P: 13.3.781/2	Black	? 1682	Z

In L324 the **L** stood for **Lime Street**, **P** for **St Paul's**, **T** for **Temple** and **W** for **Westminster**. It has usually been assumed that the **B** stood for **Bishopsgate** although there is no evidence that a Bishopsgate office was in existence before the start of the Government Penny Post. In this period **B** may have stood for **Borough**.

Time Stamps



326



327



327a

326	Mor./8	Mor./11			Black	1681-82
327	Af./1	Af./3	Af./4	Af./6	Black	1681-82
327a	AF/1				Black	1682

THE GOVERNMENT PENNY POST

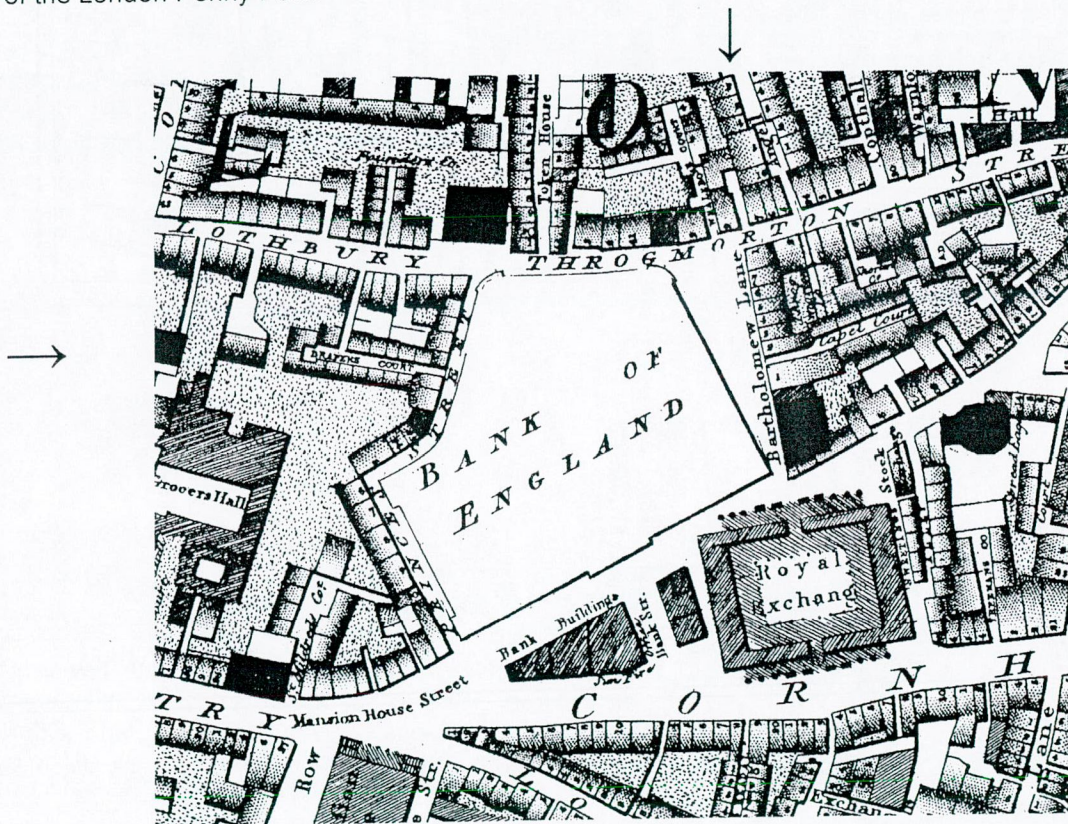
1682-1794

In November 1682 Dockwra was sued for carrying letters around London. He lost the case, was fined only £100, but his Post had to cease.

On 11 December 1682, less than 3 weeks after Dockwra's Post had ceased to exist, the Post Office recommenced what has come to be known as the Government Penny Post, run much on the same lines as the Post under Dockwra, this Post continuing until the reorganisation of the Penny Post in 1794.

In 1684, when the positions of the six General Offices of the Penny Post were first listed¹, these were the Principal Office in Crosby House in Bishopsgate Street, the St Paul's Office at the Royal Bagnio Coffee House in Newgate Street, the Temple Office in Chichester Rents in Chancery Lane, the Westminster Office in Chequer Court near Charing Cross, the Southwark Office in the New Buildings in Fowlane near the Borough, and the Ratcliffe and Hermitage Office upon Little Tower Hill

The Principal Office was originally situated in St Michaels Alley in Cornhill², but by December 1684, when the first list of Penny Post Offices was published, it had moved to Crosby House in Bishopsgate Street. In 1686 it moved to Star Court over against St Peter's Church in Cornhill, but its position in the few years after that is subject to question. In 1700³ the General Penny Post Office [as it was now called] moved from Cloak Lane near Dowgate to the Black Swan over against the Pump in Bishopsgate Street while in 1715⁴ it moved from Broad Street to St Christopher's Church Yard in Threadneedle Street near Stock's Market. In about 1765 the General Office appears to have moved to Throgmorton Street opposite Bartholomews Lane, where it remained until the 1794 Reorganisation of the London Penny Post.



The final site of the Principal Office in Throgmorton Street opposite Bartholomews Lane [Map by Richard Horwood 1792-9].

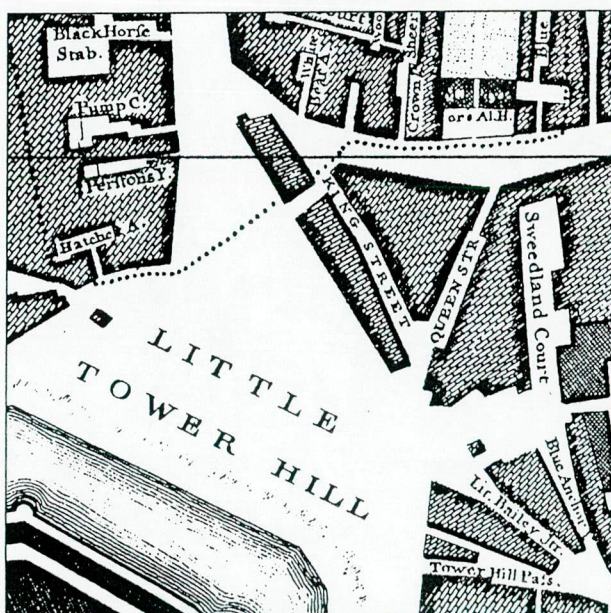
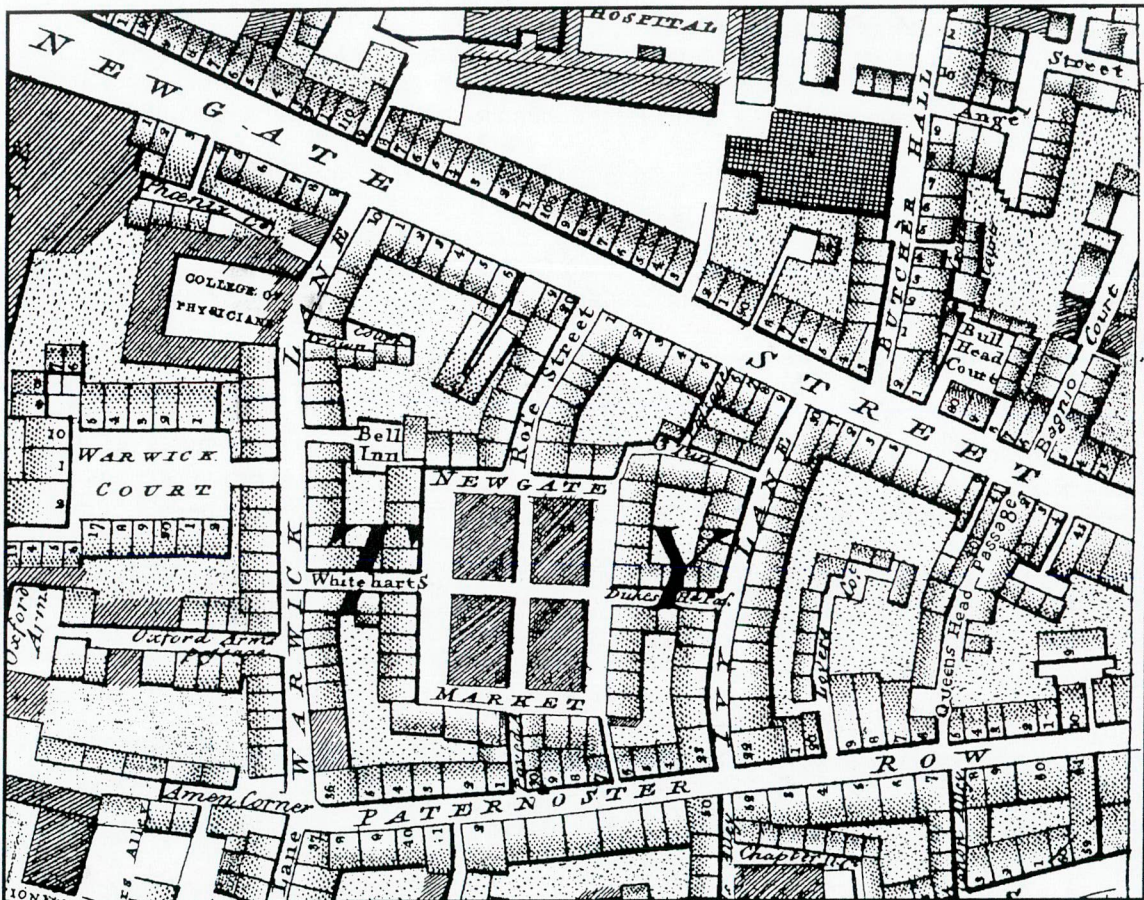
¹ Raguin *8408 NEWS [December 18-22 1684]

² Raguin *8205 NEWS [December 14-18 1682]

³ Raguin -0003 NEWS [September 19-23 1700]

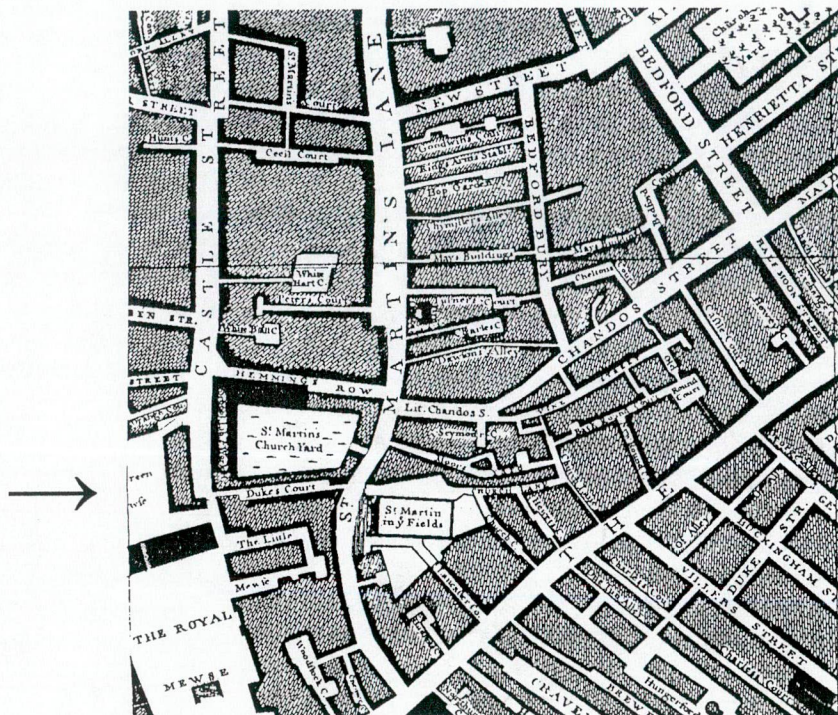
⁴ Raguin -1505 NEWS [May 17-21 1715]

The **St Paul's Office** was situated in 1684 in the Royal Bagnio Coffee House in Newgate Street¹, but by 1690⁵ it had moved to Queen's Head Alley [Passage], where it remained until its closure in about 1765. The coffee house was in Bagnio Court, just north of Newgate Street, opposite Queens Head Passage which ran between Newgate Street and Paternoster Row. [Map by Richard Horwood 1792-9.]

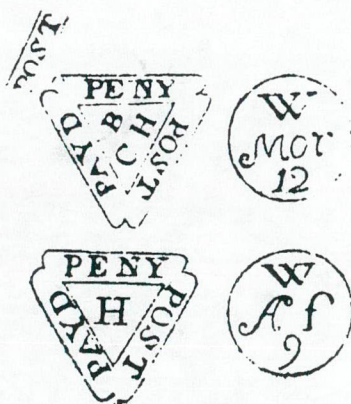


The **Hermitage Office** was in Little Tower Hill from 1684 to its closure in 1794, its address being variously given as Swedeland Court, Queen's Street, and Horseshoe Row. [Map by John Rocque 1746.]

⁵ De Laune, 1690



Situation of the Westminster Office between 1685 and 1765. [Map by John Rocque, 1746.]



Artist's engraved die proof of the first type of the Government Penny Post

Type 1 handstamps are similar to those of Dockwra's Penny Post, except that 'PAYD' faces inwards.

Types 2 and 3 handstamps have the wording 'PAYD PENNY POST'. Type 2 is a more finely cut handstamp with an italic slanting 'S' in 'POST'. Type 3 has more robust lettering and a Roman 'S' in 'POST'.

Type 4 handstamps have the wording 'PENNY POST PAID'.

In view of the rarity of the Type 1 handstamps of the Government Penny Post the dates of most known examples of this type are given.

Bishopsgate Office (B)



330



331



331b



332



332a

Cat No	Type	Description	Colour	Dates	Rarity
330	Type 1	(B/CH in centre) 6.7.83; 17.7.83; 26.7.83; 10.8.83; ??.84	Black	1683	L*
331	Type 2a	(PAYD on left): MON, TV, WEN, TH, FR	Black	1685-06	H
331a		as 331 but N reversed in PENY: MON	Black	?	J
331b	Type 2b	(PENY on left): SAT	Black	1693-02	H
332	Type 3a	(PAYD on left): MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1706-33	G
332a	Type 3c	(POST on left): SA	Black	?	H

Towards the end of its life, the **B** in some examples of L332 became deformed and looked as though it was an **R**.

General Office (G)



335



335aa



335a



336

335	Type 3a	(PAYD on left, round corners): MO, TU, TH, FR, SA	Black	1723-30	K
335aa	Type 3a	(PAYD on left, normal corners): SA	Black	1733-34	J
335a	Type 3b	(PENY on left): MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1707-57	F
336	Type 4	MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1759-94	E

A variety of L336, with slightly larger letters, and used on a Friday in 1790 and 1791, is mentioned in other lists. This handstamp is only minimally larger than the usual one and does not merit separate listing.

Hermitage Office (H)

The Principal Office at first used handstamps with a 'B' in their centre (Bishopsgate Office) and then, in about 1723, gradually changed to using handstamps with a 'G' (General Office).



340



341



341a



342



342a



343

340	Type 1	(H in centre): one undated piece	Black	?	L
341	Type 2a	(PAYD on left): TV, FRI	Black	1690-03	H
341a	Type 2b	(PENY on left): WEN	Black	1697	H
342	Type 3a	(PAYD on left): TV, WE, TH	Black	1712-47	G
342a	Type 3b	(PENY on left): MO, TU	Black	1737-45	H
343	Type 4	MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1753-93	G

St Paul's Office (P)



345



346



346a



347



348

345	Type 1	(P in centre) 31.1.82/3; 9.5.83; 25.5.83; 25.6.83; 17.12.83; 18.4.84; one undated	Black	1683-84	L*
346	Type 2a	(PAYD on left): TV, TH	Black	1698-06	H
346a	Type 2b	(PENY on left): MON, WEN, FRI, SAT	Black	1685-12	H
347	Type 3a	(PAYD on left): MON, TV, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1703-52	F
348	Type 4	MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1758-65	G

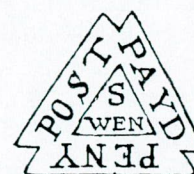
Southwark Office (S)



351



351a



351b

Type 1

not recorded

- 351 Type 2a (PAYD on left): MON, TH
 351a Type 2b (PENY on left): TU, FRI, SAT
 351b Type 2c (POST on left): WEN

Black 1699-02 H
 Black 1683-00 H
 Black 1690-03 H



352



352a



352b



352c

- 352 Type 3a (PAYD on left): MO, TU, WE, TH, SA
 352a as L352, but **AS** for **SA**
 352b as L352 but **PAID** for **PAYD**: SA
 352c Type 3c (POST on left, centre inverted)
 MO, TU, TH, FR, SA

Black 1705-52 G
 Black 1709-12 J
 Black 1781-92 J
 Black 1740-69 J



354



354a

- 354 Type 4 MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA
 354a Type 4a (narrow margins): TU, WE, TH, FR

Black 1751-86 E
 Black 1784-94 F

One copy of L354a has been seen with what appears to be **PEENY** in place of **PENNY** (S/TU - 1790)

Temple Office (T)



355



356



356a



356b

- 355 Type 1 (T in centre)
 15.1.82/83; 10.4.783; 9.5.83; 17.5.83; 8.10.83; 15.11.83; 15.2.83/4

Black 1683-84 L*

356	Type 2a	(PAYD on left): TV, TH	Black	1685-06	H
356a	Type 2b	(PENY on left): WEN, FRI, SAT	Black	1692-98	H
356b	Type 2c	(POST on left): MON, TH	Black	1688-99	H



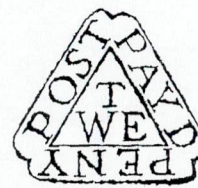
357(1)



357(2)



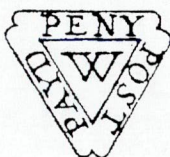
357a



357b

357	Type 3a	(PAYD on left): MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1702-91	F
This stamp varied in size over the years, earlier examples (1) are smaller than later ones (2)					
357a		as L357, but reversed N in PENY: MO	Black	1758-93	G
357b	Type 3c	(POST on left): WE	Black	1754-93	F
357c		as L357b, but SA	Black	1730	G

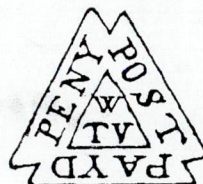
Westminster Office (W)



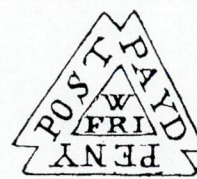
360



361



361a



361b

360	Type 1	(W in centre) 11.7.83; 26.12.83; 10.1.83/4; 8.4.84; 9.6.84; 14.8.84; 8.5.??	Black	1683-84	L*
361	Type 2a	(PAYD on left): TH	Black	1686-06	H
361a	Type 2b	(PENY on left): TV, WEN, SAT	Black	1686-05	H
361b	Type 2c	(POST on left): MON, TV, FRI	Black	1686-02	H



362



362a



363



363a

362	Type 3a	(PAYD on left): MO, TU, TH, FR, SA	Black	1703-23 & 1760	F
362a	Type 3b	(PENY on left): TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1723-47	F
363	Type 4	MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1753-87	E
363a	Type 4a	MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA	Black	1784-94	G

Time Handstamps

Time handstamps were stamped on letters in the early and late periods of the Government Penny Post, in addition to the triangular Penny Post handstamps listed above. The handstamps of the early period consisted of an initial letter indicating the Office from which the letter was sent out for delivery, 'Mor' or 'Af' (morning or afternoon), and the hour. Those of the late period omitted the Mor or Af, but included 'o'clock'. They frequently differ from the triangular PAID handstamp, as they show the office and time of delivery, while the PAID handstamp is the office of origin.

In the early period, letters transferred from the General Post for delivery by the London Penny Post received a heart-shaped handstamp, at first with a solid outline (L370) and later with a dotted one (L371). At least one cover is known (1701) where L370 was applied to a letter transferred from the penny Post to the General Post. In the late period, letters transferred from the General to the Penny Post received a Bishop handstamp and a Penny Post time handstamp.



365



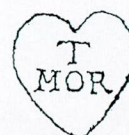
366



368



370



370a



371

L365	Offices: B, G, H, P, S, T, W Hours: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9	16-17	Black	1683-09	D
365a	Occasionally Mor was abbreviated to M, as in W/M/9	16	Black	1693	D
366	Inner circle incomplete below Offices: G, P, S, T, W Hours: 9, 10, 12, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7	16	Black	1763-94	C
366a	Circle complete (O'CLOCK/3/S) Offices: G, S Hours: 3, 5	16	Black	1777-86	D
More details of L366a are required					
367	Inner circle incomplete below Offices: G, T, W Hours: 10, 12, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7	21	Black	1763-94	C
368	Inner circle complete Offices: G, T, W Hours: 12, 2, 5, 7	25	Black	1763-93	C
370	'Solid' heart - Monday, Wednesday & Friday Afternoons usual - M/AFT, W/AFT, F/AFT		Black	1685-02	J
370a	as L370, but Tuesday Morning (T/MOR)		Black	1701-02	K
370b	as L370, but Thursday Afternoon (TH/AFT)		Black	1693-98	K
371	'Dotted' heart - Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons - M/AFT, W/AFT, F/AFT		Black	1702-10	H

London Penny Post Receivers

From 1680 to the reorganisation of the London Penny Post in 1794 there were probably, at any one time, several hundred Penny Post Receivers. Many of these Receivers signed their names on letters handed in at their Receiving Houses, a few used handstamps incorporating their names, while rarely

they wrote the name of their Receiving House (Clapham, Eltham). Occasional Receivers appear to have stamped the name of their Receiving House (e.g. Eltham).

The handstamps used by some of these Receivers are given in Table 3. Unless otherwise stated, the name is unframed. In some cases the handstamp is usually blurred or incomplete; measurements are therefore approximate.

Further details of these Receivers may be found in 'Letter Receivers of London' by Hugh Feldman.

C A D E DAVIES Robinson J*BROOKS

375

375	Handstamp with Receiver's name	various Black	1763-98	E
375a	as L375, but red	various Red	1789-91	F

TABLE 3

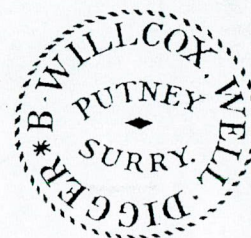
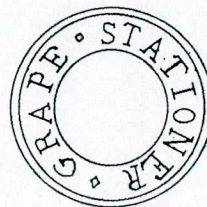
ANDERSON*			Black	1788-90
A.ANDERSON		45x 4	Black	1797-98
AYRES	oval frame	31x12	Black	1778-79
BALL		18x 4	Black	1779-81
S BAXTER		45x 6	Black	1784
BEN/NET		10x 6	Black	1769
P BROKE		52x 8	Red	1780
J*BROOKS		55x 7	Black	1789
BROWN				
BULL		21x 5	Black	1787
		24x 6	Black	1787-88
CADE		30x 6	Black	1772-98
CLARK		24x 5	Black	1779
CURRIE		34x 6	Black	1783-84
DALTON		40x 6	Red	1791
DAVIES	oval frame	35x13	Black	1769-75
	unframed	29x 4	Black	1773
DENTON			Black	1786
EASTERBY		38x 5	Black	1775-77
ELTHAM		29x 4	Black	1775-79
FARRELL		31x 4	Black	1781
J*FARRELL		52x12	Black	
FRITH	underlined	22x 9	Black	1779-80
	unframed	22x 5	Black	1775-84
			Red	1786
HAILSTONE	framed	34x11	Black	1783-84
HATCH		24x 4	Black	1789-92
HAYWARD	framed	41x10	Black	1770-89
HODGSON	framed	40x10	Black	1783-91
HOWDEN				
HULL		17x 4	Black	1775
JONES		30x 6	Black	1775
KINGSTON		37x 4	Black	1768-71
		42x 5	Black	1791-93
LATHAM			Black	1779
MARTIN		42x 6	Black	1785-99
R MASON		36x11	Black	1786
R*MASON		31x 4	Black	1786

MORGAN	framed	33x10	Black	1773-77
NICHOLSON	framed	52x10	Black	1769-76
OWEN				
Price		22x 7	Black	1783
PRYCE	framed	32x11	Black	1766-74
REEVE		21x 4	Black	1770
		38x 7	Black	1773
Richards		27x 4	Black	1783
Robinson		22x 4	Black	1779
Sharrock		26x 5	Black	1783
SHAW		32x 6	Red	1783-89
SOLDEN	underlined	29x 4	Black	1788
	unframed	36x 6	Black	1790-91
STACEY	framed	22x 4	Black	1772-80
TANNER				
WATKINS	framed	34x10	Black	
WILKINS		31x 5	Black	1789
WILLERTON		40x 4	Black	1768
		37x 4	Black	1772-88
WILLIAMS	circular framed	21	Black	1785
WISSETT			Black	1777
WOODCOCK		52x11	Black	1782-87
WORTLEY		25x 4	Black	1768

A few Penny Post Receivers of this period used more elaborate handstamps:



J BURGESS
OILMAN · STRAND



380

382

384

386

380	ALLEN/STATIONER	17	Black	1767-91	F
	Allen was the Receiver in Greenwich				
382	J BURGESS/OILMAN · STRAND	47x11	Black	1771-87	G
384	GRAPE STATIONER	26	Black	1769-73	F
	Thomas Grape was the Receiver in Gracechurch Street				
386	B.WILLCOX, WELL · DIGGER · / PUTNEY / SURRY	31	Black	1790-01	H
			Red	c1800	H

2d pyp?

388

388	2 ^d pyp ^d	30x14	Black	c1785	K
	Letter from London [General Office handstamp] to Clapham				
	Thought to indicate second penny paid [see LPHG Notebook No 86, p3, 1988]				



390

391

392

393

394

390 PENNY POST NOT PAID / G
 391 PENNY POST NOT PAID / H
 392 PENNY POST NOT PAID / S
 393 PENNY POST NOT PAID / T
 394 PENNY POST NOT PAID / W

19	Black	1776-90	G
24	Black	1786	J
24	Black	1784-93	H
21	Black	1779-93	G
22	Black	1772-94	G