# London Postal History Group

Number 99

February 1992

# ROTEBOOK

#### In This Issue

page	2	The Manuscript Receivers' Marks,	A.J. KICK
	4	A Wickersley (Rotherham) Entire of 1793,	J.E. Colton
	6	New York to London and On,	Dick Armstrong
	7	London Maritime Mail - India to Madeira	
	8	Easy Reference Calendar	
	9	Hoster : The Official Paid Die	
		International (Hey & Dolphin) Single Impression	
	10	London F.S. 15 Special,	Brian Smith
		The British Library Beckons,	Mike Burtt
	12	London Maritime Mail S 32	
	13	The London Gazette ( P O Notice )	
	14	Returned From : A New recording,	Michael Jackson
		Service to Members	
	15	Endorse and Dispose	
	16	Inland Section / London Postal Ser,	Donald Farmborough
	17	Suburban Style Cancellations used in Central Lond	on,
			John Hine
	18	Ocean Penny Postage	
	19	Closed Box in Streatham	
	20	Twickenham MR,	Bill Evans
		Postal District Labels	

[c] 1992 LPHG

Editor: Peter Forrestier Smith

64 Gordon Road, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey, SM5 3RE

The delay in producing this edition, which should carry a 1991 dating, can be found on the reverse of the sheet carrying your name and address, so please read that. In case you need a prompting, Brian Smith's work on "Horizintal Diamonds" is available at an initial special price to members of £5 post paid.

## THE MANUSCRIPT RECEIVERS' MARK

## by A. J. Kirk

Since my last listing of these marks [Notebook 75, page 18, December 1985] I have continued to receive further information from members and others. The Directors of Argyll Etkin very kindly gave me permission to go through their stock, which released a further good selection.

This list is in exactly the same order as the previous one and contains all the names not then listed.

Perhaps the most interesting new name was that of "Peason" [perhaps "Parson"] a Receiver who did not only sign his name on the letter but put his address as well; "Lower Tooting P.P." If only the others had done this!

Name	Date	Place Written	Comments
"B" Bishopsgate			
Hare	1763		Original Dockwra mark
"G" General			
Bennett	1779	Deptford	
Bligh	1791	Edinburgh	Brought to London
Burgoyne	1789	Crown Office	
Brooks J H S	1789	Postman Square	
Clarke	1737		
Cox	1741		
Epson	1777	Aberdeen	Brought to London
Fean	1775		
Froud	5555		
Green	1782	Tottenham	
Hood	1771	Guernsey	Brought to London
Hessell			
?Russell	1785	Queen Anne St	
Holland	1732		
Leveridge	1777	Clifford Inn	
Love	1775		
Minute, Read le	1784		
Mond	1790	Stoke Newington	
Moore	1788		
Peach	1767	102 Fore St.	
Ralph	1768		
Rake	1777	Woolwich	
Shelley	1723		
Smith	1753		
	1769	Clapham	
Stegyle	1773		
Stevenson	1772	Chobham	Brought into London
Tomkin	1768	Mincing Lane	
Trout	3333		
Webb	1764	Ewel	Brought into London
Williams H		1748	

<u>Name</u>		Date	Place Written	Comments
"H" Hermitage				
Deferman Harding Godley Hasndg ?		1718 1787 1756 1785	Shadwell Shadwell	
Joshe		1768	Berkley Sq	
"P" St. Pauls				
Boxley Hewel Jones C	C	1729 1750 1707		
"S" Southwark				
Atkins Cooper Evans Edwards Ewart Farrant	С	1792 1786 1769 1769 1769	Clapham Charlton	
Harman Jar(man) Peason (Pearson?) Tillet Wilson		1785 1744 1767 1766 1763	Blackheath	plus "Lr Tooting P.P."
"T" Temple				
Allen Archer Bollom Brooks Edmonds Ewson		1738 1760 1776 1766 1769 1768	Whetstone	
Haigh Hooper Knight ? Lawrence Lloyd Mann Rice Stiff Wright	С	1789 1769 1784 1775 1760 1736 1764 1775	Bath	Brought into London
"W" Westmister				
Ash Billingdon Chappel Chindle Chips Coles Cowdey	С	1760 1770 1764 1768 1689 1748	Park St Knightsbridge	
Davis	С	1742 1756	Lisbon	Brought into London

Name		Date	Place Written	Comments
Gates		1689		
Gibson		1740		
Hall		1762		
Jack	С	1760		
Jackson	С	1760		
Latcheard		1769	Chichester	Brought into London
Marchbane ?		3333		9
Mann	С	1788		
Maghall	С	1736		
Neil		1772		
Owen		1739	Leghorn	Brought into London
Taylor		1768		
Thrift		1735	Spithead	? brought into London

Once again I have been plagued by the atrocious handwriting of our forbears. From time to time I have had to make what I hope is an intelligent guess as to the name. Where readers are able to propose corrections I shall be very pleased to hear from them. Needless to say I still hope for more names to be found as, thus far, I have listed only a small proportion of the three hundred plus that existed.

#### A WICKERSLEY (ROTHERHAM) ENTIRE OF 1793

by J. E. Colton

An interesting letter dated 15th. June, 1791 from a Robert Wylde Moult of Wickersley to William Adam esq., Lincolns Inn Fields, London gives an insight to the area's political feeling of the day and the relationship between Dissenters, Republicans and the Established Church.



The obverse bears a straight line ROTHERHAM stamp (CC-YK2426) and was charged 6d: this was deleted upon arrival in London, William Adam being a Member of Parliament and, therefore, enjoying the Franking Privilege. A three ring FREE stamp (L 776) dated 18th. June, 1793 was applied in red ink but unfortunately the Franking Officer's initial is not discernible. The letter is in reply to one addressed to the writer's deceased father seeking a subscription in support of the Liberal cause.

Research has shown that R.W. Moult was the son of the Reverend Samual Moult, a Nonconformist minister who, in 1793, came from Leeds to Rotherham to be in charge of the newly established Meeting House. Thomas Wylde, Lord of the Manor of Wickersley at that time, was a regular attender and supporter of the Meeting House. Samuel Moult married Thomas Wylde's daughter, Bridget, who was the latter's heiress. They had three children and Robert Moult, being the only son, became Squire upon his father's death and inherited his mother's wealth. Robert Moult never married and shared his father's Nonconformist views. He spent a good deal of his time researching the genealogy and history of the area. However, the results of his researched have been lost as he burnt most of his records following a visit, possibly by Bow Street Runners, to his house on the unfounded suspicion he was hiding a person regarded at that time as obnoxious by the government of the day.

The text of the letter is of some interest.

Wickersley June 15 1793

Sir

I am favoured with your very polite letter, covering the Resolutions of a meeting lately held at the Crown and Anchor tavern.

As I admire the great abilities, the inflexible integrity and the uniform attachment to the cause of civil & religious liberty for which Mr. Fox has so long & so justly been celebrated, I am truly happy to find that these valuable qualities are likely to receive those proofs of gratitude from the Nation which they are so justly deserve.

At the same time truth compels me to observe to you that altho the talents & integrity of this great Man are universally acknowledged, yet the principles he espouses are by no means popular in my neighbourhood among that party who now carry all before them. A subscription in favour of the refugee French popish priests would probably be thought a more meritorious act by the majority here, than one intended as a just reward to the man who has every claim to the esteem & gratitude of all his countrymen.

It is not altogether unnecessary for me to inform you that I am a Dissenter, and consequently stigmatized along with the general body of my friends as a Republican, a manufacturer of gunpowder, and an enemy to Church & State: which therefore these illiberal accusations prevail, for a Dissenter to take the lead in this business would be the certain means of rendering it unpopular and abortive. It must be in the hands of unsuspected men — of Churchmen, if success is expected; and I do not know of any more proper persons in this part of the Country to conduct it, than F.F. Foljambe of Aldwark, R.A. Athorpe of Dinnington, or Richard Acklam of Maltby Esqrs. as they all possess great property & influence and have formerly professed their attachment to the cause of Liberty. Should these, or any other respectable gentlemen choose to come forward, in this proper acknowledgement to the signal merit & important services of Mr Fox, it will afford me the greatest satisfaction to join them.

I rely on your generosity and candour to pardon the freedom and to excuse the defects of this letter; and wishing you all that success which so good a cause demands, am

Sir,

Your most obdt.

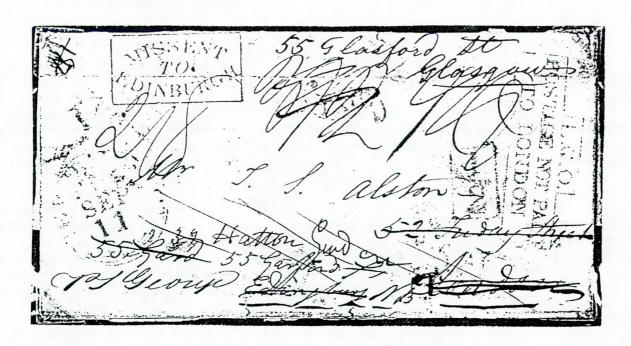
#### R Wylde Moult

P.S. Mr father ( to whom your letter is addressed ) has been dead several years  $\_$  I am not of the Clerical profession, but cultivate a few paternal acres in the neighbourhood of Rotherham.

#### NEW YORK TO LONDON AND ON

#### from Dick Armstrong

This cover was sent in by Dick Armstrong and the Editor, with a confidence not entirely well founded proposed the following answer to the ratings, or at least some of them [answers and ratings!].



The original address reads " 52 Friday Street, London ". Friday Street in off Cheapside. In another hand, note the "n" of "Alston" and "Hatton", it was redirected/re-addressed to 32 Hatton Garden., then 55 Garford St Edinburgh and finally 55 Glasford St Edinburgh. Since the "G" in both cases are not the same, presumably yet another person involved in redirecting.

Despite all these journeys, the Post Office appeared content to ignore the extra work they had undertaken and, seemingly, the American serpentine framed PAID [ what WAS paid in America - 40 cents - internal rate only ?]. In any event, apart from the additional halfpenny there were two charges entered, namely 3/2 and 2/8. These comprise:

Packet rate North America [including the US]	1s 3d
Liverpool to London	10d
London to Edinburgh [under 400 miles]	1s 1d
Total	3s 2d
Ship Letter rate	8d
Liverpool to London	10d
London to Glasgow [over 400 miles]	1s 2d
Total	2d 8d

The dating of all this activity is from 11th. September, 1833 in New York and 11th. October in Glasgow. The other postal markings, from the write up, are:

Framed L[etter] C[arriers] O[ffice] /POSTAGE NOT PAID / TO LONDON, well struck and positioned framed MISSENT / TO / EDINBURGH, the London date stamps for 7 Oct [double rim] code E, the single rim + for 8 Oct and then Edinburgh for OCT C 10 A 1833, single rim.

Also to be seen on the reverse is a poorly struck Liverpool Ship Letter, which must have determined the use of the Ship Letter rate.



#### LONDON MARITIME MAIL - INDIA TO MADEREIRA

The following is a write-up for an EL recently purchased for the London Maritime collection. It extends the recorded date for the "Returned For Postage" by some four years and provides an interesting example of the changes made in the mails from India with the introduction of the overland route through the Mediterranean. The great disparity of charging one shilling for India to England but one and eight pence for England to Madeira is a noteworthy example of Imperial Preference.

Written from Calcutta on the 5th February, 1853 RETURNED London transit marks for 22nd March FOR Manuscript endorsement for receipt on 16th April POSTAGE

The reverse carries an undated Calcutta framed G P O stamp and the London transit stamp of C crown N / 22MR22 / 1853, both in red-brown.

The obverse carries the sender's instruction "pr Steamer "Hindostan" Via [?] Southampton. The rectangular stamp at the left is probably the framed "No / Detained for Postage" with the reference number "8394" entered below the mark [L 1102].

From August 1837, the Post Office set up Packets between the Red Sea and India. The uniform Colonial rate of one shilling, introduced in January 1840, applied for letters sent by this route.

The use of the Ship Letter stamp [S 29] for 22nd March 1853 seems inappropriate for an item which used two Packet Services but this may merely be the use of the mark by the Foreign Branch on mail they handle in such cases.



160 rials local Madeira charge

It appears the shilling was not prepaid, the 1/- due [Post Office Notice based on 3&4 Victoria c. 96] being entered in black ink and deleted in London when the letter was stamped, amongst other things, with the scarce RETURNED FOR POSTAGE in red. Initially the 1/10 packet charge [Post Office Notice and Victoria 3&4 c. 96] for Madeira was inserted but this amended to 2/10 to show the non payment of the India Packet charge. The Madeira charge comprised 1s8d per half ounce for the Packet plus 2d for the Inland postage. The letter was sent to London for processing by the Foreign Branch and collection of the postage from the London office of Newton Gordon. There are no marks to show the port of arrival.

The P & O Steam Navigation Company was based, per the endorsement, at Southampton. The framed INDIA stamp was issued to many ports although Alan Robertson does not note any at Southampton. It was applied to validate the 1/- packet charge.

#### EASY REFERENCE CALDENDAR

Many times queries arise over the dating of an item, Sunday dates being sought after in particular. A table for calculating the day for the date is given in Martin Willcocks "England's Postal History", the copyright being held by A F L Wilkinson.

Another source which requires no calculations is to be found in Whittaker's Almanack. This version requires a year reference letter to be found from one table and then to the calendar for that reference letter. Easter days are also quoted. It is simpler to operate and, whisper it, one can usually find earlier issues of "Whittaker" at book stalls in jumble sales and fairs for a few pence.

There is, of course, a positive mine of information in both volumes.

# HOSTER: THE OFFICIAL PAID DIE

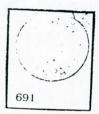
In "UK Machine Marks", Jack Peach illustrates an Official Paid dater die for the Hoster [D10] and (detail shows "ref M.G."). Given a rarity factor of "J" this is an extremely scarce mark.

An example appeared in the Cavendish Philatelic Auction of the 7th. December. The illustration is a little feint but is adequate to demonstrate it is the scarce Hoster.



The auction descritpion reads :

CANCELLATIONS -HOSTER MACINE used with "OFFL. PAID" die: rare 1884 env (opening tears just clear of the mark) sent locally in London with a clear strike of the rarest Hoster machine mark - the red "LONDON/\*/AUG 21/84/OFFL. PAID" c.d.s. on the front. Only a handful of examples are said to be known - we have not seen another. A rarity.



The estimate was £400 but was not sold.

# INTERNATIONAL [HEY & DOLPHIN] SINGLE IMPRRESSION

Also in the Cavendish sale was an example of the 1893 experimental Hey and Dolphin, this having a rather better illustration that the previous item. Again, referring to Jack Peach's work, it received a "J" rarity and carries "ref M.G.", this illustration being dated SEP 6 1893.



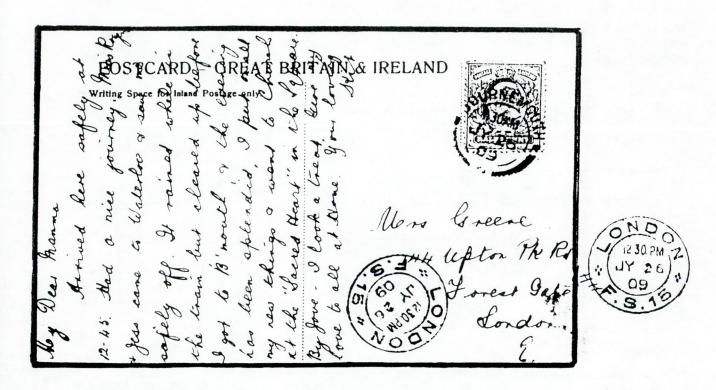
The auction description reads " MACHINES - VERY RARE 1893 HEY-DOLPHIN EXPERIMENTAL: 31st Aug. 1893  $\frac{1}{2}$ d brown p. stat P.C. cancelled by a very fine strike of this very rare Experimental machine cancels. The only example we have seen.

The estimate was £200: the realisation was £160

#### LONDON F. S. 15 SPECIAL

#### from Brian Smith

The F.S. 15 double ring cancellation appears in the general form for the series and was reported in Notebook 71 p 15 in a special format as a transit stamp on a PPC from France to England.



Here the stamp [12.30 pm on 26th. July, 1909] is applied, for no obvious reason other than a missort, to a PPC from Bournemouth [1.30 am on the same day] to Forest Gate, London.

#### THE BRITISH LIBRARY BECKONS

#### by Mike Burtt

About a year ago I read an article describing a collection of Postal History which had been acquired recently by the British Library.

It said the collection had been bequeathed originally to Haringey Borough Council in 1968, who had put it in their local Civic Centre - where it had lain almost forgotten for twenty years. In 1988 it had been transferred to the British Library and anyone wanting to see it should get in touch with their Philatelic Section.

Knowing I would be in London shortly, with a couple of days to spare, I rang the telephone number mentioned in the article and asked to see "The Fletcher Collection". "Which part ?" said a rather amused voice. "There are over three hundred volumes!"

I was given a Friday appointment but, because viewers are expected to

ask for specific volumes and a pass is needed before you can see them, it was suggest I spend the preceding Thursday afternoon obtaining the pass and looking at the index.

I managed to get lost on the Thursday afternoon! It wouldn't have been so bad if I had not been "showing the way" to an American family I had met on the tube. It meant I was twenty minutes late for the first appointment. This did not matter, for passes are issued on a first come, first service, basis and, after having my photograph taken etc., the delay just left me with a little less time to examine the index.

Clutching my pass I was escorted to the North Library where I would select eight volumes from the collections records but, on the way, we passed through the Reading Room, itself almost worth a visit to London! Imagine a bookcase, four hundred and fifty feet long, thirty feet high [twentyfour shelves], full of old books. bend it round to form a continuous circle, put a dome on top and you have the Reading Room. It's so big you could fit at least one hundred three-bedroom flats inside. They even double glazed it when built in 1857!

Friday came at last and, as I climbed the steps of the Gt. Russell Street entrance, I was shivering with anticipation. Dr David Beech [the Curator of the Philatelic Collections] met me in the foyer, led me through an exhibition gallery, stopped in front of what I thought was a wall of books and inserted a key into a small hole. The books swung open giving access to some steps leading down to the basement. We eventually arrived at a very secluded reading room — with two guards waiting for us.

Have you ever felt special ?

The room contained a small table, four chairs and a huge wall safe — which the Curator and one of the guards had to unlock together. Then, when I had been seated at the table, switched on the Anglepoise and provided me with a pencil (no pens allowed), they placed the first volume, actually it was a box, in front of me, then sat down discretely behind me.

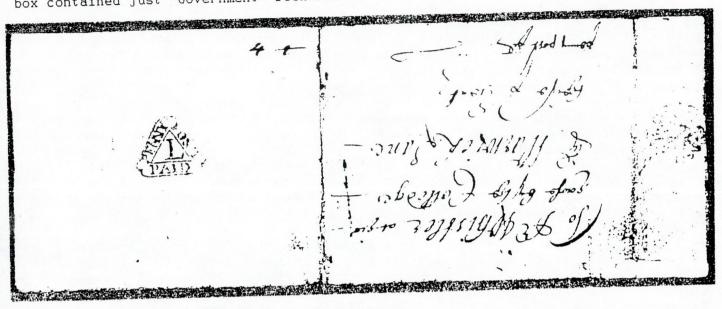
I felt rather guilty at this point, for I was obviously costing the B.L. a fair bit of money ["about £80 an hour"] but the feeling disappeared when I opened that first box. A line from the article that "He was..an accumulator.." sprang into my mind for the contents of the box made it apparent Mr Fletcher did not believe in spending too much of his time in writing about his material, nor the presentation. Most of it was fastened to loose album pages with corner mounts but there were letters stuck with overlapping flat stamp hinges: the first item, a bundle of 13 letters, was held together by a 1950's exercise book cover! Each of these letters carried a Bishop with datings of 1662 to 1673.

There were another seventy similar letters deeper in the box but the pride and joy was one which referred to a certain Thomas Witherings being proclaimed "Master of the Posts" in 1635.

I closed the box with a sigh and was handed my second choice but was a little puzzled by the top three items - which were photographs. It meant ( I was told later ) the letters were in the manuscript department. Then came the real thing, a Dockwra dated May 1682 during the period of the private post.

In a classic case of official thought processes, the government of the day closed down the private service and shortly after re-opened it in much the same form. I believe only twenty Dockwras have been recorded and four of these are now in the

British Library. I picked up the page which held the Fletcher example and stared at it, enthralled. It is unlikely will will ever hold another. The remained of the box contained just "Government" Dockwras!!



The third box held first day covers, if one can use the term for Mulreadys and penny black and twopenny blues!! Included were two penny black covers used prior to the date of official validity. I recalled that in march 1991 one such fetched some £1,350,000 and I was sitting there with over two and a half million in my hands. The bulk of the material was just adhesives and I did not bother with them - one has to draw the line somewhere!!

I spent the next few hours looking through specialised material and I will recount my last choice in this group. When, in 1839, a reluctant Government was forced to concede the reduction in postal charges, as an interim measure of the Fourpenny Post from 5th. December, 1939 to 9th. january, 1840 inclusive. Material from this period is not readily available and some markings are distinctly scarce. the Fletcher collection contains some seventy examples from the period. The pages contained pencil annotations such as "only two known" "unique", in other words, this was the material the catalogues note as "known to exist".

One final point: I saw only about three per cent of the collection.

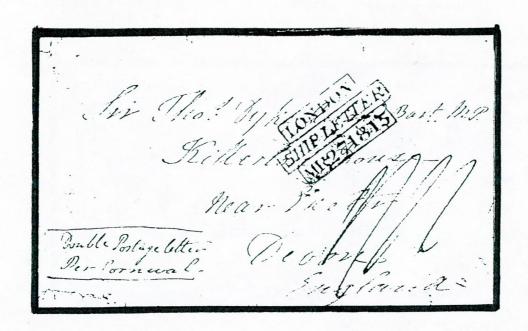
# LONDON MARITIME MAIL S 32

The auctioneers "Imperial Auctioneers & Valuers" of Headingly kindly forwarded a photocopy of lot 968 in their auction of November 23rd 1st year.

The catalogue description reads :

MARITIME: 1815 flimsy and disintegrating part EL to Devon, manuscript "Double Postage Letter per Cornwall" with superb boxed 3 line London Ship letter in black S32. rare and only in use this year. EST £100

We illustrate just the address panel. As can be seen, the top frame line does not show the damage associated with later examples of this stamp. For the record, there is one example known for 1816 but this appears to be from a similar but



different stamp, marginally in both size and clearly in the date order which runs day, month, year.

# The London Gazette Number 12551 June 12th., 1784

General Poft-Office, May 22, 1784

NOTICE was give, by an Advertifement from this Office of the 18th of November laft, that the Packet Poftage of One Shilling for a Single Letter, and fo in Proportion, between London and New York, might or might not be paid beforehand; but Difficulties having arifen in the Collection of the Packet Poftage in North America, it now becomes neceffary to inform the Public, that both the Inland and Packet Poftage on all Letters from any Part of Great Britain or Ireland for North America, which are forwarded from this Office on the Firft Wednefday in every Month, muft abfolutely be paid quite to New York, and also to Halifax, without which they muft be opened, and returned to the Writers.

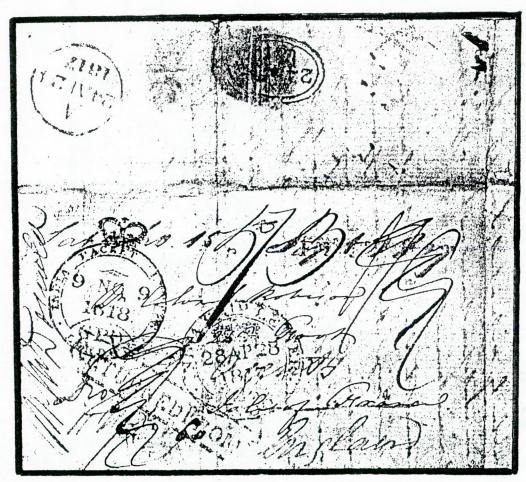
By Command of the Poftmaster-General.
Anthony Todd, Sec.

#### RETURNED FROM: A NEW RECORDING

#### from Michael Jackson

The first "Returned From" stamp recorded in the London catalogue [L1148] is recorded no earlier than 1832. The framed upright capital serif lettering example shown here, by courtesy of Michael Jackson, is from 1818.

As can be seen, the interest starts in 1817, for the reverse carries the oval double framed stamp generally associated with delayed mails; this use is supported by the dating of the India Ship Letter stamp, the 28th. April, some four days later.

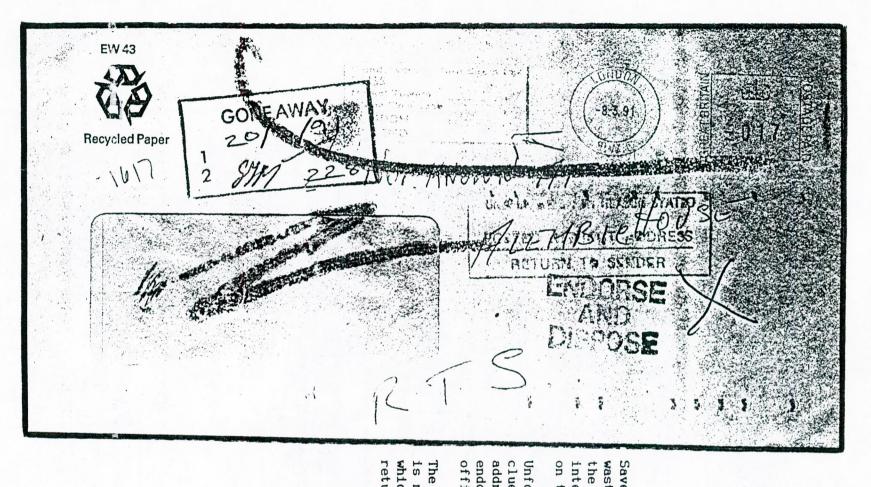


The return to London from Isle of France [ Mauritius ] was marked by the application of the framed RETURNED FROM and the amendment from 1/9 [the outgoing Ship Letter charge] to 5/3, this adding 3/6 for the returning Packet charge, witnessed by the India Packet Letter stamp for the 8th. November, 1818.

#### SERVICE TO MEMBERS

With recent issues has been offers from one of our member dealers and we would like to make it clear that although it is not possible to carry adverts in a regular fashion, the publication dates are distinctly erratic, since the collector members are always looking for material, this facility is available to all dealer members.

If those with lists or other advice of their material, please drop the Editor a line for the terms and how best to arrange a mailing. Should just a steady advert giving general particulars rather than specific offices, "Notebook" can always carry small inserts comprising name, address etc at a very small cost.



Saved from the office waste, just before it went the way of so many items of interest, is the item shown on the left.

clue address office endorsement Unfortunately, as of and origin. to the lacks the there original postal is no any

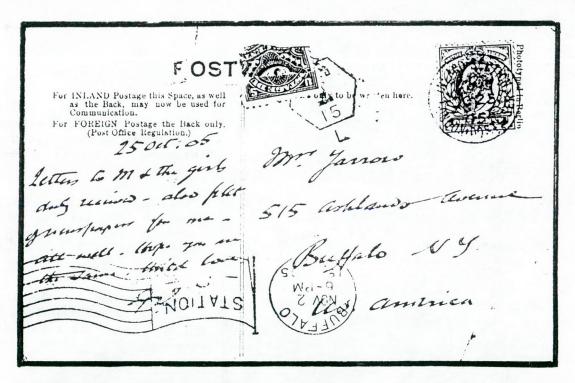
The numbering on the left is no more than the room to which the letter was returned.

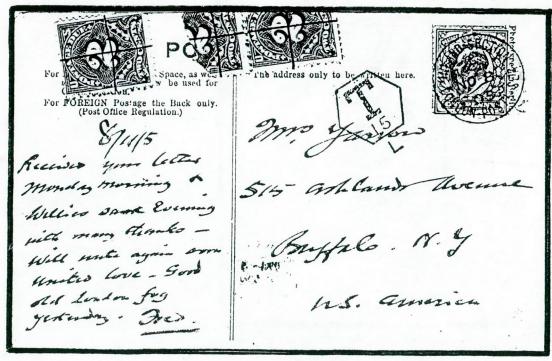
#### INLAND SECTION / LONDON POSTL SER

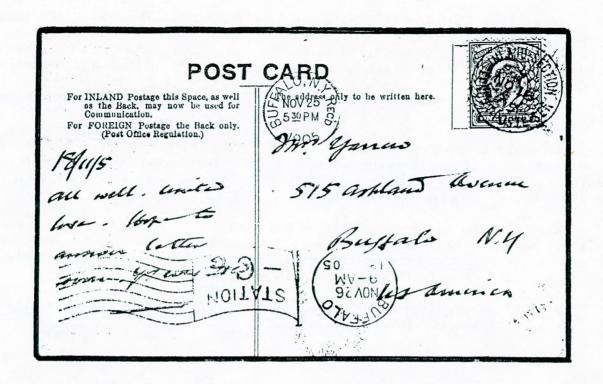
#### from Donald Farmborough

Among a small batch of postal history items recently purchased were three post cards being sent from London to America.

The stamp cancelling the penny adhesive reads "INLAND SECTION / LONDON POST" SER", all having a code letter "L" and being dated OC 25, NO 8 and No 18, 1905, respectively. I have not seen this used as a cancelling mark before — can a reader offer other examples or information on the normal use of the stamp.







Two cards carry Taxe marks, the third escaping, and make a most interesting trio.

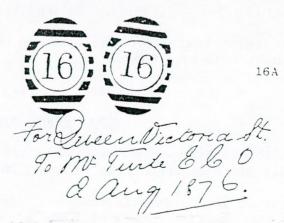
#### SUBURBAN STYLE CANCELLATIONS USED IN CENTRAL LONDON

Information From John Hine



14A

14 ST. MARTINS PLACE



16 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET



In Section K of the LPHG Handbook John Parmenter illustrates the above two vertical single obliterators in the Suburban style and lists their issue to St. Martins Place [14] and Queen Victoria Street [16] in November 1875 and August 1876 respectively. Neither of these and a recorded date of use and Parmenter comments for number 14 "...rarely, if at all, used for cancelling mail." Westley suggested for Number 16 "..stamp could not have been used for cancelling mail."

Recently I acquired a pair of SG 141 rosy mauve 2½d plate 5 with two clear strikes of a 16 obliterator identical with that shown above as a proof impression. The issue of plate 5 from July 1876 ties in with the proof date of obliterator 16 very nicely.

Have readers examples of 14A and/or 16A in their collections? From information you may have it might be possible to determine the purpose and dates of use. Westley's suggestion that the Queen Victoria Street office was solely a savings Bank Office seems unlikely, or was 16 used elsewhere?

Another strange aspect of these two numbers is the apparent multiple issue; twelve 14's and two 16's - any ideas?

Editor's Note:

In 1974 we showed an 1883 registered cover bearing a 114 Goswell Road registered oval showing the adhesive cancelled by an encircled 16.[Notebook 18]. In the next issue were some observations from J.R. Henderson, worth repeating after all this time.

"The single circle 16. is not a telegraphic cancellation stamp. My guess is that it is a stamp used by a Postman - probably in the Chief Office - for obliterating postage stamps which were not cancelled at the office of posting.

Brumell's reference to Queen Victoria Street rather baffles me. I visited the National Library Edinburgh and the Edinburgh Library (Scottish Section) and in three different directories I found an office was opened in Queen Victoria Street in 1876/77. In 1883 it was actually a Branch Office. "

At least the office was open in 1876/7 in time for the issue of the plate 5 to have been used there.

#### OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE

Although not posted in London, this may be interest to collectors of Maritime Mail since it appears to be among the rarities.

Posted from Burntisland to Yarrow on 20th. August, 1851, this particular envelope is commented upon by Richard Bodily, in his chapter in "British Pictorial Envelopes of the 19th. Century, in the following terms.

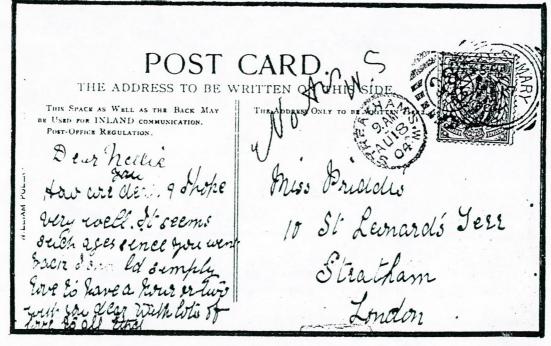
"Fig 196. State 5a is the same as State 5 but with "25 adhesive or 30 plain sent Free for 12 Penny Post Stamps". Used in Scotland in 1852. This variety would appear to be very rare. An example dated 31/7/51 on azure paper was in the Yates collection and 30 years later surfaced in the sale of the Knox collection. While others may well exist, none have come to the notice of the writers. "



The writers have been notified of this newly recorded example.

#### CLOSED BOX IN STREATHAM

A series of post cards with dates from 12th.August, 1904 to 24th.June,1905 and bearing some curious pencil endoresements were found in a local second hand book shop



All carry the initial "W S", presumably the postman, and as well as "Closed" include "No Ans" and "Box Unsafe". There were a dozen cards or so spanning the eleven months, with these three endorsements appearing at various times. He must have been less than pleased with 10 St.Leonards Terrace.

#### TWICKENHAM MR form Bill Evans

Some years ago I asked what was the "MR" in Twickenham MR strike line stamp. I have only recently discovered Montpelier Row in Twickenham. Might this be the answer?

#### POSTAL DISTRICT LABELS

At Stampex the Editor was discussing these interesting labels and, as a result, illustrates below the extremely rare surviving used examples. It is just tied by the Australian transit stamp. Unfortunately, the letter accompanying the photocopy was lost, so apologies to the [now] unknown owner of this item.



London to Narrambook, prepaid by sixpence adhesive, this cancelled with the London EC / 74 duplex for June 19th., 1860. The routing is given as:

Southampton 20.6 Alexandria 4.7 P & O "Ripon" Suez 7.7 Galle 23.7 (Ship to Calcutta) P & O "Candia" Galle 23.7, Sydney 15.8 (Ship from Bombay) P & O "Jeddo"