DISTRICT POST CANCELLATIONS 1840 - 1857

Part I: Horizontal Oval Cancellations of London

A numerical listing of all the horizontal oval single cancellations issued to the London District Post, Suburban Offices and the East Central District

This is a complete revision of the 1974 publication in A5 format

(c) 1981 John C. Parmenter and London Postal History Group



Explanation of the catalogue:-

A typical entry:

18A Deptford (May 1844) (Oct.1857) Black, blue.........Rarity H
18A is the catalogue number.

Deptford is the Post Office that used that number.

May 1844 is the date of entry in the Proof Book.

(Oct.1857) is the date of use.

Black, blue the cancellation occurs in these colours.

Rarity H this is rarity expressed on a scale:-

- A..common
- B., average
- C..not common
- D. . difficult
- E..scarce
- F. . rare
- G..very rare
- H..very few exist
- G.P.O. . Proof Book entry only

Rarity H means that either one cover has been recorded or that the cancellation has been seen on stamp only. I have used (Not seen) in the place of the date of use for cancellations only seen in the Proof Books ie. rarity G.P.O. (Unrecorded) in the place of date of use means that no dated copies have been recorded.

Rarity H-E means H for on cover and E for stamp only.

Prices current in August 1981 for good clean copies are:-

1/ Chief Office and East Central District
Rarity H and G £10 to £15 on cover - £2 to £5 on stamp
Rarity E and F £5 to £10 on cover - £1 to £2 on stamp
Rarity A to D £2 to £5 on cover - 50p to £1 on stamp

2/ The others

Rarity H and G £40 to £80 on cover - £3 to £8 on stamp Rarity E and F £30 to £50 on cover - £3 to £5 on stamp

HORIZONTAL OVAL CANCELLATIONS









..... Rarity G.P.O.

1A

1A Highgate May 1844 (May 1845) Blue, Black	Rarity H
1B Highgate 1848 (Unrecorded) Blue	Rarity H
1C Highgate Jan. 1860 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.



1D Highgate Aug. 1867 (Not seen).....





2A

2A Finchley May 1844 (Jan. 1857) Black	Rarity H
3A Whetstone May 1844 (Unrecorded) Blue	Rarity H
4A Hampstead May 1844 (Unrecorded) Black	Rarity H

















6A Edgware May 1844 (May 1844 to Mar.1851) Black, Blue	Rarity E
6B Edgware Jan. 1861 (Jun. 1873 to Jan. 1875) Black	Rarity G
7A Stoke Newington May 1844 (Jul.1856) Black, Blue	Rarity H
7B Stoke Newington Jul. 1858 (Unrecorded) Black	Rarity H









8A	10A	11A	11B
8A Tottenham May 184	4 (Unrecorded)	Blue Black Green	Rarity H - G
10A Edmonton May 1844	(Unrecorded) B	lack, Blue	Rarity H
11A Enfield May 1844	(Apr.1853) Blac	k	Rarity H
11B Enfield Aug.1860	(1862) Black		Rarity H
	12	13	
11 C	12A	13A	13B
11C Enfield Sep. 1870	(Not seen)		Rarity G.P.O.
12A Bow May 1844 (Unr	ecorded) Black.		Rarity H
13A Stratford May 184	4 (Unrecorded)	Blue, Black, Green.	Rarity H - G
13B Stratford Nov.185	9 (Unrecorded)	Black	Rarity H
	14		15
13C	14A	14B	15A
13C Stratford Undated	(Not seen)		Rarity G.P.O.
14A Leyton May 1844 (Sep.1850) Black	, Green, Blue	Rarity H
14B Leyton Dec.1859	Unrecorded) Bla	ck	Rarity H
15A Woodford May 1844	(Unrecorded) B	lue, Black	Rarity H
16	(17)		18

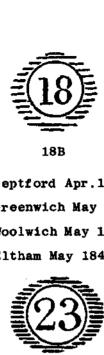
16A Chigwell May 1844 (Unrecorded) Black	Rarity H
17A Ilford May 1844 (Unrecorded) Black	Rarity H
17B Chigwell Rd. Jun.1861 (Oct.1868) Black	Rarity H
18A Deptford May 1844 (Oct.1857) Black, Blue	Rarity H
A recut has been seen with 12 bars only on right hand sid	de.

17B

18A

17A

16A









18B Deptford Apr. 1858 (Unrecorded) Black	. Rarity H
20A Greenwich May 1844 (Feb.1850 to 1858) Black, Blue	. Rarity G
21A Woolwich May 1844 (Jun. 1844 to Jan. 1858) Black, Blue	. Rarity E
22A Eltham May 1844 (Jul.1857 to Feb.1875) Black, Green	. Rarity G









24A 24B

23A Bexley May 1844 (1848) Black	Rarity H
23B Bexley Jan.1858 (Apr.1858) Black	Rarity H
24A Dulwich May 1844 (Unrecorded) Black Two types known - one with smaller figures.	Rarity H
24B Dulwich Dec.1870 (Unrecorded) Black	Rarity H









25A Sydenham May 1844 (Jun.1844) Black..... Rarity H 25B Sydenham May 1861 (Unrecorded) Black...... Rarity H 26A Beckenham May 1844 (Aug. 1867) Blue...................... Rarity H 27A Clapham May 1844 (Unrecorded) Black, Blue...... Rarity H









27B C	Clapham	May	1858	(Not seen)		Rarity G.P.O.
27C C	Clapham	May	1861	(Unrecorded)	Black	Rarity H
28A 1	Cooting	May	1844	(Unrecorded)	Black, Blue	Rarity H
790 1	Cooting	May	1961	(Unrecorded)	Rlack	Rarity H







Green. Rarity E

29A	291	3	30A
29A Mitcham May 1844	(Mar.1845) Purple	e, Black	Rarity H
29B Mitcham May 1861	(Not seen)		Rarity G.P.O.
30A Carshalton May 18	344 (Apr.1868 to 1	Nov.1868) Black,	Blue Rarity G
30	30	31)	31
30B 25th Oct,1870	30B 25th Dec.1870	31A	31B
30B Lee Oct.1870 (Unr	ecorded) Black		Rarity H
31A Wandsworth May 18	344 (Unrecorded) I	Blue, Black, Gre	en Rarity H
31B Wandsworth May 18	61 (Unrecorded) H	Black	Rarity H
32	33	34	34
32A	33A	34A	34B
32A Putney May 1844 (Apr.1857 to Aug.1	871) Green, Bla	ck Rarity G
33A Mortlake May 1844	(Oct.1849 to Ser	o.1850) Blue	Rarity G
34A Richmond May 1844	May 1844 to Feb	o.1849) Black, B	lue, Green. <u>Rarity F</u>
34B Richmond 1861 (Au	g.1866 to Oct.186	66) Black	<u>Rarity G</u>
35	36	36	37)
35A	36A	36B	37A
35A Twickenham May 18	344 (Jun.1847 to /	Apr.1866) Black,	Blue, Green. Rarity F

36A Hampton May 1844 (Unrecorded) Black, Blue, Green...... Rarity H 36B Hampton Nov.1858 (Unrecorded) Black...... Rarity H

37A Brompton May 1844 (Jan.1845 to Jan.1871) Black, Blue,

















41A Brentford May 1844 (Jun.1852 to Aug.1869) Black, Blue... Rarity F
42A Paddington May 1844 (Jan.1853) Blue................ Rarity H

43A Charing Cross May 1844 (Mar.1857) Blue...... Rarity H







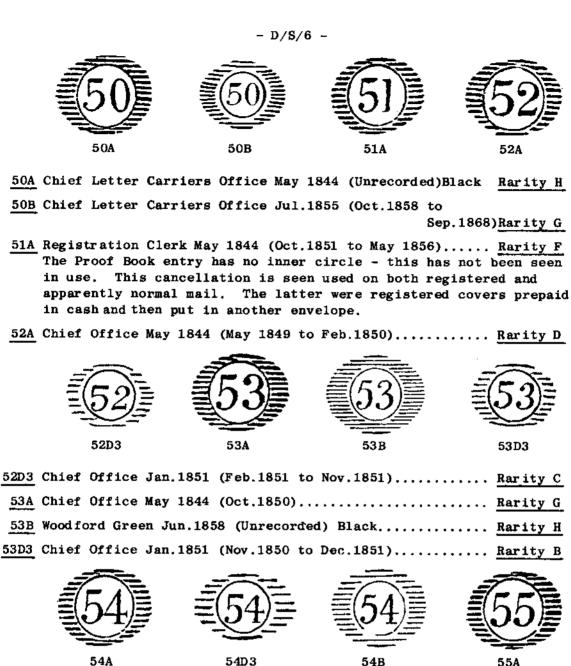














51A 52A Sep. 1868) Rarity G 53 B 53D3 54B 55A



54A Chief Office May 1844 (May 1849 to Nov.1849)..... Rarity G 54D3 Chief Office Jan. 1851 (Mar. 1851 to Dec. 1851)..... Rarity F 55A Chief Office May 1844 (Jul.1849 to Sep.1850)........... Rarity A

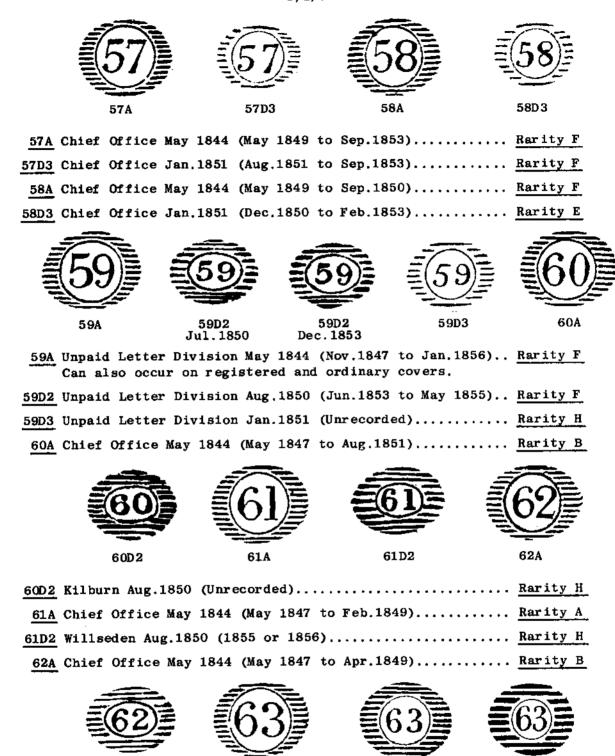








<u>55B</u>	Leyton Street Jun.1858 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H
<u>55D3</u>	Chief Office Jan.1851 (Dec.1850 to Aug.1851)	Rarity G
56A	Chief Office May 1844 (Dec.1845 to Oct.1850)	Rarity D
56B	Smallbury Green Isleworth (Apr. 1869 to Jun 1870)	Rerity G - E



63D2

63 B

63A

62D2

	p.1860 (May 1861).		Rarity D Rarity G.P.O Rarity G.P.O.
64A	64D2	64B	65A
64A Chief Office May 64D2 East Central Sey 64B Cheshunt Oct.186 65A Chief Office May	p.1860 (Dec.1860) 63 (Not seen)		Rarity H - F Rarity G.P.O.
65D3	65D2	66A	66D2
65D3 Chief Office Jan 65D2 East Central Se 66A Chief Office Man 66D2 East Central Se	p.1861 (Dec.1860 to y 1844 (Jun.1844 to	Nov.1861)	Rarity G Rarity A
67 _A	67) 67D2	68 _{68A}	68D2
67A Chief Office Ma 67D2 East Central Se 68A Chief Office Ma 68D2 East Central Se	p.1860 (Jul.1862) y 1844 (May 1844 to	o Feb.1847)	Rarity H - F Rarity A
69A	69D2 = 6	9 70A	7002
69A Chief Office Ma 69D2 East Central Se 69B Blackheath May 70A Chief Office Ma 70D2 East Central Se	p.1860 (Jul.1862) 1870 (Unrecorded) y 1844 (May 1844 to	Feb.1847)	Rarity H - F Rarity H Rarity C









		71A		71D4A	71D4B	71D5
71A	Chief	Office	May 1844	(Jul.1844	to Mar.1847)	, Rarity A
71D4A	Chief	Office	Dec.1851	(Dec.1851	to Dec.1853)	. Rarity D
71D4B	Chief	Office	Dec.1853	(Apr.1854	to May 1855)	. Rarity D
<u>71D5</u>	Chief	Office	Jul.1855	(Aug.1855	to Jan. 1856)	. Rarity G









72D5

72A 72D4A 72D4B

72A Chief Office May 1844 (May 1844 to Oct.1846)	Rarity B
One example used in yellow was over cancelled in black	k
by the same obliterator.	







73D5

73D4A 73D4B

73D4A	Chief	Office	Dec.1851	(Feb.1852	to	Jun.1853)	Rarity E
73D4B	Chief	Office	Dec.1853	(Apr.1854	to	Jun.1855)	$\underline{\mathtt{Rarity}\ \mathtt{D}}$
73D5	Chief	Office	Jul.1855	(Jul,1855	to	Jan.1859)	Rarity E







74D4A 74D4B 74D5

74D4A Chief	Office Dec.18	51 (Jun. 1852	to Mar. 1853)	Rarity G
74D4B Chief	Office Dec.18	33 (Feb.1854	to Jun.1855)	Rarity C
74D5 Chief	Office Jul.18	55 (Dec.1855	to Feb.1856)	Rarity G









75D4A

75D4B

75D5

75D1

75D4A Ch	ief Offi	ce Dec.1851	(Jul.1852	to Aug.1853)	Rarity F
75D4B Ch	ief Offi	ce Dec.1853	(Feb.1854	to Mar, 1854)	Rarity G
75D5 Ch	ief Offi	ce Jul.1855	(Aug.1855	to Mar.1858)	Rarity D
75D1 Ea	st Centr	al No Proof	Book entry	(Oct.1859)	Rarity H







76D4A

76D4B

76D5

76D4A Chief	Office	Dec.1851	(Dec.1851	to Jul	.1853)	Rarity D
76D4B Chief	Office	Dec.1853	(Dec.1853	to May	1855)	Rarity D
76D5 Chief	Office	Jul.1855	(Jul.1855	to May	1856)	Rarity G







77D4A

77D4B

77D5

77D4A Chief	Office	Dec.1851)Mar.1852	to	Dec.1853)	Rarity F
77D4B Chief	Office	Dec.1853	(Jan. 1854	to	Jul.1855)	Rarity A
77D5 Chief	Office	Jul.1855	(Aug.1855	to	Mar.1860)	Rarity F
Seen u	ısed in	green.				









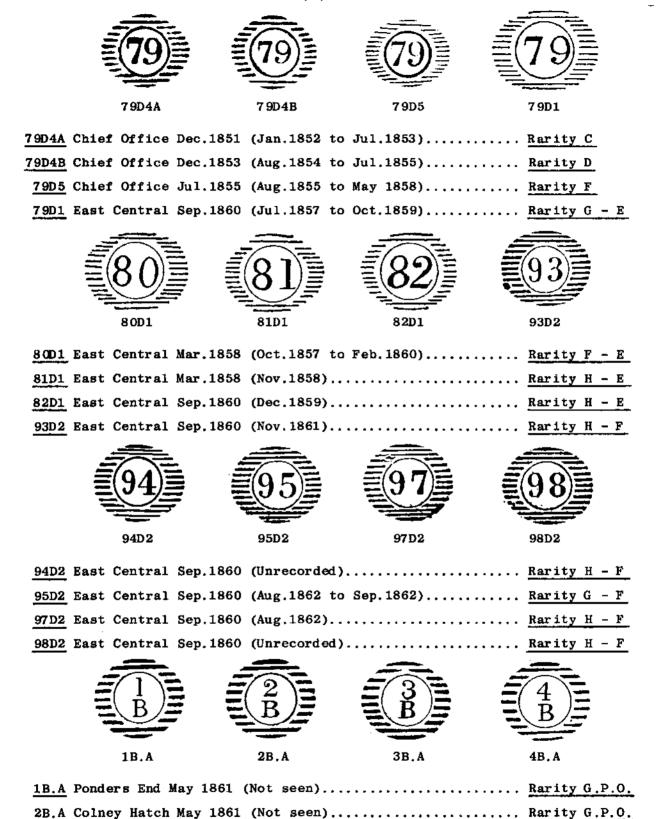
78D4A

78D4B

78D5A

78D5B

78D4A Chief	Office Dec.1851	(Dec.1851	to Dec.1853)	Rarity E
78D4B Chief	Office Dec.1853	(May 1854	to Jul.1855)	Rarity B
78D5A Chief	Office Jul.1855	(Sep.1855	to Oct.1858)	Rarity G
78D5B Chief	Office No Proof	Book entry	(Sep.1855 to Jun.1857).	Rarity F











A

		=	
8B.A Hackney May 1861	(Sep.1869 to Dec.1	871)	Rarity G
7B.A Loughton May 1861	(Unrecorded)		Rarity H
6B.A Clapton May 1861	(Unrecorded)		Rarity H
5B.A Holloway May 1861	(Not seen)		Rarity G.P.O.









11B.A 11

9B.A Canning Town May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
10B.A Chadwell May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
11B.A Poplar May 1861 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H
11B.C Poplar Feb. 1871 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H









15B, A







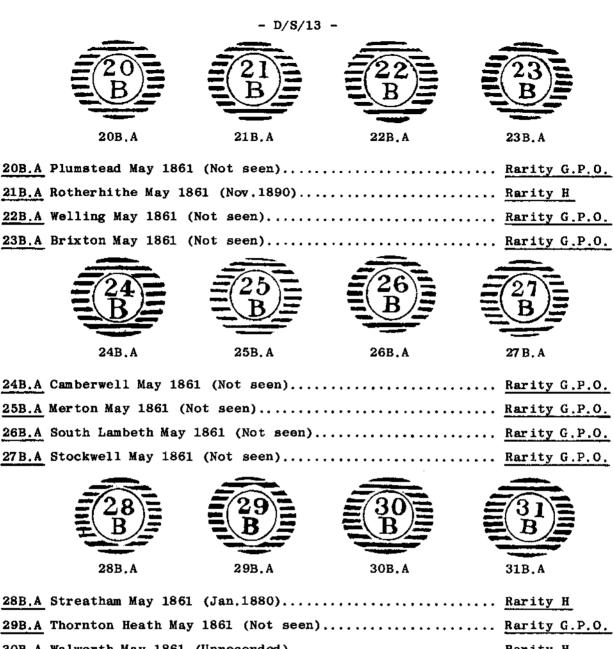


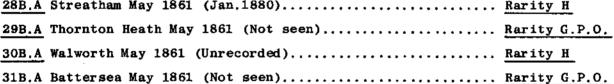
16B.A

18B,A

19B.A

16B.A Lessness Heath May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
17B.A Lewisham May 1861 (Feb.1874)	Rarity H
18B.A Peckham May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
19B.A Penge May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.













May 1861



Mar.1870

23B.A

27 B. A

31B.A

32B.A Petersham May 1861 (Jun.1877)...... Rarity H 33B.A Teddington May 1861 (Not seen)....................... Rarity G.P.O.









36B.A

37B.A

37C.A

38B.A

38B.A Paddington May 1861 (Not seen) Rarity G.P.O.
37C.A Notting Hill Jul.1861 (Unrecorded) Rarity H
37B.A Notting Hill May 1861 (Not seen)
36B.A Hanwell May 1861 (Not seen)









38C.A

39B.A

40B.A

41B.A

38C.A Paddington Jul. 1861 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H - G
39B.A Shepherds Bush May 1861 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H
40B.A Southall May 1861 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H
41B.A St Johns Wood May 1861 (May 1865)	Rarity H







43B.A



44B.A



45B.A

42B.A Stanmore May 1861 (Mar.1870 to Aug.1873)	Rarity G - D
43B.A Sudbury May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
44B.A The Hyde May 1861 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H
45B.A Barking May 1861 (Aug.1865)	Rarity H



46B.A



47B.A



48B,A



49B,A

46B.A Walham Green May 1861 (May 1880)	Rarity H
47B.A Sunbury May 1861 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
48B.A Forest Hill May 1864 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
49B.A South Norwood May 1864 (Unrecorded)	Rarity H







50B.A

51B.A

52B.A

50B.A Unknown Undated (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
51B.A Winchmore Hill May 1864 to Aug. 1865 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.
52B.A Wood Green May 1864 to Aug. 1865 (Not seen)	Rarity G.P.O.

London Postal History Group

LONDON'S POSTAL HISTORY

Section D: District Post Cancellations 1840 - 1857

Part 2 - The Duplex

by John C. Parmenter

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D2/9	Catalogue of the Cancellations
1978	John C. Parmenter and London Postal History Group

Published by

London Postal History Group, 24 Dovercourt Road, Dulwich, London. SE22 8ST.

INTRODUCTION

The name 'London District Post " was given, in 1844, to the old Twopenny Post. It was composed of London and an area around it to a radius of 12½ miles. Within this circle was a central Town area and an outlying Country area. Its function was to accept and deliver mail posted in London and addressed to London. Mail posted in London for the provinces, or that arriving from the provinces, was handled by the General Post. There were three types of Post Office within the London District Post: -

- 1. Receiving Houses in the Country area.
- 2. Receiving Houses in the Town area.
- 3. The Chief Office.

Of the cancellations and backstamps used in the London District Post 99% were applied in the Chief Office.

This is very different to the General Post which had a well developed set of subsidiary offices: Lombard Street, Charing Cross, Borough, Old Cavendish Street. These backstamped mail before sending it to the Inland Office for cancelling. The three types of office in the London District Post had different types of cancellations: -

- 1. Country area: the suburban receiving houses, some of these were issued with a set of single horizontal cval cancellations numbered from 1 to 41. They were very rarely used. After the break up of the London District Post in 1856, higher numbers were also used.
- 2. Town receiving houses: these were allocated numbers 42 to 49, and were rarely, if ever, used.
- 3. Chief Office: numbers 50 to 75 were allocated to the Chief Office. Up to 1853 they were always single cancellations; from 1853 mainly duplex cancellations were employed.

THE DIVISION INTO TEN DISTRICTS

In 1856 it was decided that the London District Post should be changed into a series of ten separate Districts. To quote from the Second Annual Report to the Postmaster General 1856:

"To remove the obstacles arising out of the enormous magnitude of London, the whole metropolis has been divided into ten districts and each district will be treated in many respects as a separate town. Thus, instead of all district post letters being carried, as at present, from the receiving-houses to the office in St.Martins le Grand there to be sorted and redistributed, the letters will be carried to the principal office of the district in which they are posted, and being sorted there will be distributed at once to the different districts to which they are directed."

An additional improvement was that mail from the country could be sorted for the London Districts in the provincial offices.

This change over to ten Districts took longer than anticipated because of the difficulty in finding suitable buildings for the District offices. It was virtually completed in 1859.

During the change over period from 1856 to 1859, the East Central District took charge of the business of the London District Post before it was given to each new District. This explains why some of the cancellations in use in the London District Post prior to 1856 were still in use in the East Central District afterwards. The London District Post simply had numbered obliterators, whereas each new District had its initials incorporated in the obliterator.

The chronology of the disappearance of the London District Post type of dupler :-

1853 - 1856 A gradually increasing number of duplexes came into use

Decision to change to Districts, each with its own

cancellation.

1857 (March?) Numbers 81 and 82 with E.C. in the c.d.s. were issued, the numbering was consecutive with the London District Post duplexes in use at that time.

S.E. District issued with numbers 7, 9, 10. W. District issued with numbers 11, 12.

1857 (June) W.C. District issued with numbers 9, 10.

1857 (July). N.W. District issued with number 9.

of December, 1857.

1857 (October)

A full series, 71 to 80, was issued to the East Central Office in the style of the old London District Post duplex. They all have the Creswell c.d.s. (16mm diam) for use on the Creswell inking apparatus. Why this set did not have E.C. in the c.d.s. is not known. It would appear that for this experimental issue all other can cellations were taken out of use; only Creswell oblit erators were employed from mid October, 1857 to the end

A new series of obliterators issued to the East Central District. The numbers go from 71 to 80; E.C. is in the c.d.s. This issue marks the end of the London District Post type of duplex cancellations.

RARITY AND PRICE

Notes, and rarity and sample bias, are given in the Introduction to London's Postal History, a copy of which will be supplied to those requesting it.

The present day (February 1977) market prices for this type of material are based on a twofold division into Creswell and non-Creswell cancellations. The former are priced from £20 to £100 per cover, the latter from £1 to £5 per cover. The Creswells have a definite premium because of their rarity and their intrinsic interest in being examples of the influence of the Creswell apparatus. **

VARIATION

There is obviously some variability in the appearance of the cancellations due to wear and uneven pressure of application. It is important, when setting up a classification scheme, that this variation is much less than the differences be - tween the various groups in the scheme. Whenever mention is made of size in the description of a cancellation, an attempt is made to give a range of value because of these problems in variation. Most variable are the length and thickness of the bars: the diameter of the c.d.s. and the circle surrounding the number are both constant.

COLOUR

When used for cancelling stamps they are always seen in black. Three examples have been recorded used as backstamps, in each case struck in red.

Example 1. A cover from Paris to London, with a London paid backstamp in red dated 21st. July, 1857 and a similarly dated duplex. Unfortunately, the last number of the duplex is off the cover.

^{**} see also page D2/8

Example 2. A part cover from Gravesend to London (?) with a Gravesend sideways duplex dated 3rd. February, 1857 with a London date stamp in red dated likewise plus an example of 75D, also 3rd.February, 1857.

Example 3. A piece showing 72E dated 12th.December, 1856.

CODES USED

In the main body of the catalogue all codes recorded are listed in order of rarity, the most abundant code being first. There is no obvious relationship between the number of the cancellations and the code used. The percentage occurrence of each code has been calculated:-

20%	8Mg
1%	10
9%	12
8%	1,
8%	2
8%	3
8%	4
9%	5
9%	6
20%	8Nt

There is a remarkable uniformity in the use of most codes.

CLASSIFICATION

In setting up a classification, the chronological distribution of the various types has been employed. There are six clearly defined chronological groups, when the emphasis is placed on the first date of use of a particular type. Each group has been given a letter, A to F. This letter can be attached to the number of the obliterator to give a catalogue number unique to that type. A summary of the classification is shown on the next page. None of these cancellations occur in the Post Office Records. Initially there was no uniformity in style within each group; from November 1855 onwards, with the issue of type C, each number in each group had the same number of bars.

GROUP A:

These have	been	first	recorded	88	follows:	72	March 18	853
						73	February	1853
						74	Juma 180	K 3 5

72A and 73A are the earliest dupler cancellations used in Great Britain. Duplex cancellations were tried out in the London District, General Post Inland Office and in the Provincial area during 1853. The first to be issued were 72A and 73A, them came the Inland Office type with a square date stamp (Dubus type 8, Westley fig.4, Brumell fig.9). Dubus records this used between 29th.June, 1853 to 6th. July, 1853, being then replaced by the similar pattern but hollowed corner date stamp. The first provincial duplex was sent out in December 1853, with the issue of a spoon cancellation to Hull.

GROUP B:

First used in early 1853. These three cancellations have the same numbers, (72, 73, 74,) as the preceding type and thought to be issued as replacements. 72B and 73B both have the same number of bars as their predecessors.

GROUP C:

With the greatly expanded use of duplex cancellations in the provinces, additional numbers were issued in London. Six new numbers were issued in November 1855. These

	ī
	<u> </u>
A B C D E F	
71	
72	
73 ?	
74] []	
75 ?	
76	
77	
78	
79	
80 ?	
]
? = MAY EXIST = HAS BEEN	RECORDED.
SUMMARY OF THE DUPLEX TYPES.	·
First use. Remarks.	
Type AFeb.1853First issue.	
Type BJan-May.1855Replacement for A.	
Type CNov.1855 6 bars on each side.	
Type DJan.1856	ת ו
Type ENov.1856-Feb.1857Replacements for C and	ι υ •

NUMBER	1853	1854	18 55	1856	1857
72A 73A 74A			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-	
72B 73B 74B					
75C 76C 77C 78C 79C 80C					
71D 72D 73D 75D 76D 77D 78D 79D 80D					
71E 72E 74E 77E 78E 79E					
71F 72F 73F 74F 75F 76F 77F 78F					
79F 80F				·	

CHRONOLOGICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE LONDON DISTRICT POST DUPLEXES.

carry on in sequence from the previous two types, i.e. 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80. All have six bars at each side of the centre circle; all are first recorded in November 1855.

GROUP D:

First in use in January 1856. Nine duplex cancellations were issued: 71 to 73, 75 to 80. These all have seven bars at each side. The only missing number in the sequence is number 74, this was already in use with seven bars at each side, as 74B. A new number 74 may well have been issued at this time; however it has not been possible to identify it. There are two numbers not yet found used in January 1856, although probably issued then. 75D is first recorded in May 1856 and 71D in June 1856.

GROUP E:

These were put into use between November 1856 and February 1857. This group is composed of a mixed bag of replacements with both six and seven bars at each side. So far the following numbers have been recognised: 71, 72, 74, 77, 78, 79. The missing numbers in this sequence are due to either the replacements being exact copies, or none being made. The mixed nature of the group suggests they were simply replacements and is an exception to the general uniformity of the groups issued after Group B.

GROUP F:

In use from October 1857 to December 1857. This group is composed of duplex cancellations perhaps designed for use with the Creswell stamping apparatus - they are characterized by having a smaller circular date stamp. This is 16mm in diameter compared to the normal 19mm. They all have seven bars at each side. There is very little overlap in use between the Creswell cancellations and any of the preceding types. The last non-Creswell recorded is 77E on 10th.October, 1857. The first Creswell recorded is 74F on 10th.October, 1857 also. It is possible to identify the Creswell cancellations, when on adhesive only, as the c.d.s. is 1.5mm away from the barred portion. On other types it is 1mm or less.

The reason for the smaller size of the c.d.s. on these cancellations was the limited area of inked pad on which to place the handstamp on the Creswell apparatus. This was designed to save ink by keeping the inked pad in good condition for a longer period of time. This was achieved by:-

- a. Making the exposed inked area as small as possible and
- b. Having the inked pad on a circulating drum which could be rotated away from the open air back to contact with an ink supply; a rubber flap prevented evaporation.

The whole apparatus was in fact more than this. It was made up of " a place of deposit for official Books, Instructions etc. a rotary stamp pad and stamping board and cushion " (Rowland Hill). The first few duplex stamps issued after the Creswell apparatus came into use had 16mm diameter c.d.s., but this was soon changed to 19mm. The chronology is:-

Rugby 9th.September, 1857 (The Rugby Shoe) 16mm c.d.s.

Exeter 19th.September, 1857 (The Exeter Creswell) 16mm c.d.s.

London ? September, 1857 (Series F) 16mm c.d.s.

Malvern 25th.September, 1857 this had a 19mm c.d.s.

After this all the c.d.s. were 19mm, or more, in diameter.

There is no documentary evidence linking the 16mm c.d.s. with the Creswell apparatus the former were purely experimental and quickly abandoned in favour of the larger series. However, the reasons for linking them are:

a) They both came into use at about the same time - this might have been coincidental.

b) The Creswell apparatus was very much easier to use with a smaller c.d.s. however, this was not vital as the Creswell apparatus continued in use for
a long time after the brief experiment with small c.d.s.'s. In January 1858
there is a Proof Book entry standardising the size of the c.d.s. - 19mm in
diameter for town names with up to 12 letters and 22mm for those with more
than 12 letters - (see Westley " Postal Cancellations of London ", page 32,
for a full discussion of the Creswell and the size of the c.d.s.).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to all those who filled in the questionaire. The lack of any Proof Book entries of these cancellations means it is only by having access to the amount of data generated by a questionaire can one hope to make sense of a complex group such as this.

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pages 427 to 431.

Westley, H.C.: "Postal Cancellations of London", 1950. H.F. Johnson, London.

John C. Parmenter, Stavanger, Norway.

February, 1977

London District Post Cancellations: Suggested Pricing February 1978

Prices for a neat, clean cover with a 1d. adhesive, complete cancellation and without other marks of significant value.

Due to demand, Creswell's command a higher price than the non-Creswell with the same rating.

Group A	£ 1.25	Group D	£ 3.00	Group F* £ 35.00
В	£ 1.50	E	€ 8.00	G* £ 60.00
¢	£ 2.25	F	£25.00	H* £ 90.00

*Creswell

71D.... 7 bars at each side.

71E.... 6 bars at each side.

71F.... 7 bars at each side, Creswell c.d.s.

71D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

In use: June 1856 to Sept 1857.

Diagnostic features: Two 71's have seven bars at each side. 71D has an 11mm diameter number circle and a 19mm c.d.s.

whereas 71F has a 12mm diameter number circle and a Creswell

c.d.s., i.e. 16mm in diameter.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.61a.

Codes seen: 4, 3. 8Nt, 5, 1, 8Mg.

Rarity: 10X....D

71E

Number of bars: 3-6-6-3.

In use: Nov. 1856 to Sep. 1857

Diagnostic features: The only 71 with six bars at each side.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig. 51.

Codes seen: 8Mg, 3, 4, 8Nt, 12, 6, 5.

Rarity: 10X...D

71F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

In use: Oct. 1857 to Dec. 1857.

Diagnostic features: This has a 16mm c.d.s. 71D has seven

bars at each side with a 19mm c.d.s.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.61b.

Codes seen: &Mg, 5, 12, 4

Rarity: 40X...F



NO 3



72A....10 bars on the left and 9 on the right.

72B.... 8 bars on the left and seven on the right.

72D.... 7 bars on each side, 19mm c.d.s.

72E.... 6 bars on each side.

72F.... 7 bars on each side, Creswell c.d.s.

<u>72A</u>

Number of bars: 2 - 10 - 9 - 2In use: Mar. 1853 to Oct. 1854.

Diagnostic features: The only type to have ten bars on the right hand side and nine on the left. 72B has the same number of bars in total as 72A. There may be some difficulty in identification if the bars above and below the number circle on 72B are weakly struck.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.42.

Codes seen: 8Mg, 8Mt, 12, 5, 1, 3, 2.

Rarity: 5X...B

72B

Number of bars: 3 - 8 - 7 - 3.

In use: Feb. 1855 to Aug. 1856.

Diagnostic features: This is the only type to have seven bars on the right hand side and eight bars on the left.

See also 72A.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.52a.

Codes seen: 8Nt, 8Mg, 5, 1, 3, 12,

Rarity: 7X...C



DE 28

72D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

In use: Jan. 1856 to April 1857.

Diagnostic features: The narrow top bar on the figure seven is diagnostic. The only other 72 with seven bars at each

side is 72F, this has a Creswell c.d.s.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.52b.

Codes seen: 8Mg, 12, 6, 4, 3.

Rarity: 9X...C



72E

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3.

In use: Dec. 1856 to Sept. 1857.

Diagnostic features: The only 72 with six bars at each side.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig 52c.

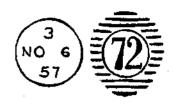
Code seen: 8Mg, 8Nt, 3, 5.

Rarity: 50X...F



72F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3
In use: Nov.1857 to Dec.1857
Diagnostic features: This has a Creswell c.d.s.
(16mm.diameter). 72D also has seven bars at each side; however, 72F has larger figures and the top bar of the seven is wider (3 to 3.5mm).
This is the equivalent to Dubus type 8, figs.62a and 62b.



Code seen: 3, 4.
Rarity: 40X...F

SUMMARY OF NUMBER 73

73A....9 bars on each side. 73B....8 bars on each side

73D....7 bars on each side, 19mm. c.d.s. 73F....7 bars on each side, 16mm. c.d.s.

73A

Number of bars: 2 - 9 - 9 - 2In use: Feb. 1853 to Nov. 1854

Diagnostic features: This is the only 73 with nine bars on each side. Dubus shows this as type 6, fig. 43, with an upturned central bar on the figure three - this has not been seen. Westley's illustration fig.116 is equivalent to 73A; in his illustration the c.d.s. is 3mm away from the horizontal bars, whereas they are never more than 1mm apart.



Codes seen: 8Mg, 8Nt, 1, 12, 3, 4, 5.

Rarity: 4X...B

73B

Number of bars: 3 - 8 - 8 - 2 In use: Jan. 1855 to Oct. 1857

Diagnostic features: The only 73 with eight bars on each side. The third horizontal line is often clear of the oval. This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.53a.

Codes seen: 8Mg, 3, 8Nt, 12, 5, 1, 6, 10, 4, 2.

Rarity: 4X...B



73D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Jan. 1856 to Apr. 1857.

Diagnostic features: The only other 73 with seven bars on each side is 73F, which has a Creswell c.d.s. (16mm diam).

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.53b

Codes seen: 6, 8Mg, 12.

Rarity: 40X...F



73F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Nov.1857 to Dec.1857.

Diagnostic features: The only 73 with a Creswell c.d.s.

(16mm diameter).

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.63.

Codes seen: 4, 5, 8Mg .

Rarity: 40X ... F



SUMMARY OF NUMBER 74

74A....6 bars on each side.

74B....7 bars on each side, in use up to Jan. 1857

74E....7 bars on each side, in use after Feb.1857

74F.... 7 bars on each side, Creswell c.d.s.

74▲

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3

In use: May 1853 to Mar. 1855

Diagnostic features; The only 74 with six bars on each

side.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.44.

Codes seen: 8Nt, 8Mg, 5, 12, 3, 2, 1.

Rarity: 7X...C



74B

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3 In use: Mar. 1855 to Jan. 1857

Diagnostic features: There are two distinct types that

are end members of a continuous series 74B to 74E. The characteristics of the two end members are:-

	74B	74E
Height of the figure 7	6.5mm	7.5mm
Height of the figure 4	6.5mm	7.5mm
Distance from the bar of the 4 to the top of the 4	4.5mm	5.5mm
Distance from the base of the circle to the first bar beneath it	1.00mm	0.5mm

There is a clear chronological break between the intermediate types and 74B which occurs up to Jan.1857 and 74E which occurs from Feb.1857 to Sept.1857. A 74D has not been recognised, although one was probably issued with the other type D's in Jan.1856. It is probably mixed up with the variation of 74B and has proved impossible to distinguish.

74B is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.54b.

Codes seen: 8Mg, 8Nt, 3, 12.

Rarity: 10X...D



74E

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Feb. 1857 to Oct. 1857

Diagnostic features: See discussions under 74B

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig. 64a

Codes seen: 6, 8Mg, 12, 3, 5, 2, 4, 10, 1.

Rarity: 7X...C



74F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Oct.1857 to Dec.1857

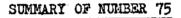
Diagnostic features: The small size c.d.s.

(16mm diameter). The size of the number circle is 12mm; this is larger than any of the other 74's. The large gap between the base of the circle and the bar beneath it, mentioned by Dubus, has not been seen on the examples examined thus far. This type has been recorded in use as early as 10th.October, 1857; it is the earliest London Creswell.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.64b.

Codes seen: 12, 4, 8Nt, 6, 8Mg, 1.

Rarity: 20X...E



750 6 bars at each side.

75D.... bars at each side, large c.d.s. (19mm diameter)

75F.... bars at each side, small c.d.s. (16mm diameter)

75C

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3

In use: Nov. 1855 to Sept. 1857

Diagnostic features: The only 75 with six bars on each side.

Mile is a series look to

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.55

Codes seen: 8Nt. 8Mg. 6, 2, 3, 10, 12, 4, 1, 5.

Rarity: 6X...B

75D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

In use: May 1856 to Apr. 1857

This type may well be found to occur in Jan. 1856 with

most of the other D types.

Diagnostic features: The only 75 with seven bars on each

side and a 19mm c.d.s.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.45 and type 8, fig.65a. None of the examples examined of the type show the difference in size of the 7 and 5 illustrated by Dubus in his figures 45 and 65a.

Codes seen: 8Nt, 12, 4, 5, 3.

Rarity: 10X...D







75F

Number of bars: 3-7-7-3In use: Oct. 1857 to Dec. 1857

Diagnostic features: The large size of the figures, the large diameter of the number circle and the Creswell c.d.s. all make this a readily identifiable type.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.65b.

Codes seen: 8Mg. 8Nt. 5, 6, 3, 2, 4, 12.

Rarity: 15X...D

SUMMARY OF NUMBER 76

76C....6 bars on each side.

76D....7 bars on each side, 19mm c.d.s.

76F.... 7 bars on each side, 16mm c.d.s.

76C

Number of bars: 3-6-6-3. In use: Now. 1855 to Sept. 1857

Diagnostic features: This is the only 76 with six bars on each side. This is a variable type; Dubus illustrates two figures 46 and 56 that are, to some extent, repre sentative. His type 7, figure 56, is reasonably common. There are a few other examples which come closer to type 6. figure 46, without ever showing the extreme difference in figure height that Dubus shows. Within the group 750 the figure height varies from 6.5mm to 7.1mm.

Codes seen: 6, 8Nt, 4, 1, 8Mg, 2, 12.

Rarity: 61...B

76D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Jan. 1856 to March 1857

Diagnostic features: The only 76 with seven bars at each side and not a Creswell. 76D has an 11mm diameter number

circle, whilst 76F has one of 12mm. diameter. This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig. 66a.

However, the Dubus illustration has larger figures than

the average 76D thus far recorded:

Height of

8.0mm 76D.....7.3mm

Codes seen: 8Nt, 6, 4, 1.

Rarity: 40X...F

76F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3.

In use: Oct. 1857 to Dec. 1857

Diagnostic features: The only 76 with a Creswell c.d.s.

The figures are larger than 76D.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.66b.

Codes seen: 4, 8Mg, 6, 12, 3, 10.

Rarity: 20X...E









770....6 bars on each side.

77D.... bars on each side, 10.8mm number circle.

77E....7 bars on each side, 12.5mm number circle.

77F.... 7 bars on each side, Creswell c.d.s.

77C

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3In use: Nov. 1855 to Sept. 1856

Diagnostic features: The only 77 with six bars on each

side.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.57

Codes seen: 12, 2, 8Nt.

Rarity: 30X ... E

77D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

In use: Jan. 1856 to April. 1857

Diagnostic features: Both 77D and 77E have seven bars at each side. However, 77D has a smaller diameter circle (10.8mm), smaller figures and a thinner down stroke on the figure 7 than 77E.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.47

Codes seen: 5. 8Nt. 3.

Rarity: 30X...E

77E

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

In use: Jan. 1857 to Oct. 1857

Diagnostic features: This type has larger diameter number circle (12.5mm) than 77D. The upright bar on

the seven is thicker than 77D.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.67a.

Codes seen: 6, 2, 8Nt, 8Mg, 5.

Rarity: 15X...D

77F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3

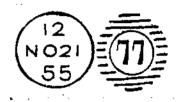
In use: Oct.1857 to Dec. 1857

Diagnostic features: The 16mm.diameter c.d.s. occurs on this type only. The figures are very large, although all thus far recorded are almost 1mm shorter than those figured by Dubus.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.67b.

Codes seen: 8Nt, 2, 1, 6, 8Mg.

Rarity: 40X...F









78C....6 bars on each side, up to Dec. 1856.
78D....7 bars on each side, non-Creswell.
78E....6 bars on each side, Nov. 1856, onwards.
78F....7 bars on each side, Creswell c.d.s.

78C

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3 In use: Nov. 1855 to Dec. 1856

Diagnostic features: The only other 78 with six bars on each side is 78E; for a full comparison, see under 78E. There is very little overlap in the period of use - this can be of some assistance.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.48.

Codes seen: 6, 8Nt, 12, 10, 3, 2.

Rarity: 8X...C

78D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Jan. 1856 to Feb. 1857

Diagnostic features: This is the only non-Creswell number 78

with seven bars at each side.

This is eqivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.58

Codes seen: 5, 2, 6, 8Nt, 4, 12.

Rarity: 8X...C

78E

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3 In use: Nov. 1856 to July 1857

Diagnostic features: There are two rather similar 78's, both with with six bars at each side, 78E and 78C. The two most significant differences are that 78C has smaller figures than 78E and the number circle of 78E is slightly oval. In 78C it is round.

The measurements are:

Height of 7 Height of 8 Circle Diameter

78C.......6.7 to 6.9mm 6.5 to 6.7mm 11.0mm 78E......7.6 to 7.9mm 7.7 to 7.9mm 11.4mm by 11.8mm

The number circle on 785 is 11.4 east to west. This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.68a.

Codes seen: 6, 5, 1, 8Mg, 8Nt, 10, 2, 3.

Rarity: 6X...C

78F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3 In use: Oct. 1857 to Dec. 1857

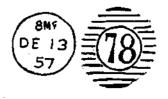
Diagnostic features: The Creswell c.d.s.
This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.68b

Code seen: 8Mg. Rarity: 60X...G









79C....6 bars on each side, 7mm high figures. 79D....7 bars on each side, non Creswell. 79E....6 bars on each side, 8mm high figures. 79F....7 bars on each side, Creswell c.d.s.

79C

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3.

In use: Nov. 1855 to Nov. 1856

Diagnostic features: There are two 79's with six bars at each side, 79°C and 79°E. 79°C has smaller figures (6.5mm to 7.00mm high) and a smaller number circle (10.8mm in diameter) than 79°E.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.49

Codes seen: 8Nt, 12, 2, 3, 8Mg.

Rarity: 30X...E

79D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3 In use: Jan. 1856 to Apr. 1857

Diagnostic features: There is only one number 79 with

the large non Creswell c.d.s.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig. 59

Codes seen: 8Nt, 12, 4.

Rarity: 30X...E

79E

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3 In use: Nov. 1856 to Aug. 1857. Diagnostic features: This type has larger figures (8.1mm high) than 79°C and has a larger number circle (11.8mm in diameter) than 79°C. This is equivalent to Dubus type 8, fig.69

Codes seen: 8Nt, 8Mg, 6, 2, 1, 12.

Rarity: 20X...E

79F

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3 In use: Nov. 1857 to Dec. 1857

Diagnostic feature : The Creswell c.d.s.

This type has the same size figuresas 79E and the circle

size of 79D.

Dubus does not record this type.

Code seen: 4, 8Mg.
Rarity: 50X...F









80C....6 bars on each side.

80D....7 bars on each side, non Creswell c.d.s.

80F 7 bars on each side, Creswell c.d.s.

800

Number of bars: 3 - 6 - 6 - 3 In use: Nov. 1855 to Jun. 1857

Diagnostic features: The number of the bars.

The illustration in Dubus is more asymmetrical than

examples seen to date.

This is equivalent to Dubus type 7, fig.60

Codes seen: 4, 2, 8Nt, 1, 8Mg, 12, 6

Rarity: 9X...C



80D

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 2In use: Jan. 1856 to Mar. 1857

Diagnostic features: The two bars at the base, the 19mm c.d.s.

c.d.s. and the seven bars at each side. This is equivalent to Dubus type 6, fig.50

Codes seen: 8Mg, 8Nt, 3, 12, 5

Rarity: 10X...D



8OF

Number of bars: 3 - 7 - 7 - 3In use: Oct. 1857 to Dec. 1857

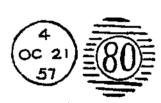
Diagnostic features: The combination of the number of bars

with the Creswell c.d.s.

Dubus does not record this type.

Code seen: 4

Rarity: 60X....G



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