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The Plating of The Penny — *Mulready Group Update of Volume 4*

Kevin Maunder

The online Mulready Group run by Robin Cassell and Scott Treacey will be well known to many members of the *Journal*. In addition to the main discussion group, a number of sub-groups also exist. The Plating Group (PG¹) tries to resolve members' plating problems covering the full spectrum of the line-engraved issues from 1840 to 1864. The Missing Imprimatur Group (MIG²), started by Ian Wright, collects scans of actual imprimaturs missing from the imprimatur (registration) sheets and, in addition, collects scans of the issued stamps for the positions and plates of those units removed from the sheets. These scans are maintained on a database which all can access via the Internet³.

A common aim of both groups is to complete and correct the published data from the five volumes of the Fisher-Brown plating books⁴, particularly Volumes 4 and 5 where the data for a number of imprimatur units are missing.

The Group has encouraged its members to table potential missing imprimaturs for inclusion on the database and currently over 6,000 scans are held. A complete record of all the scans held in the database is available in spreadsheet form within the Files section of the MIG. A rigorous review of all new entries is held by a number of specialists within the Group to ensure as few errors as possible.

A number of stamps that have been identified as missing imprimaturs have their measurements missing from the Fisher-Brown books. These have been recorded and any varieties noted. In order to ensure consistency, a minimum of three independent

measurements are taken, either directly using the plastic gauge, or electronically via high-resolution scanned images (800 pixels per inch (ppi) being the preferred resolution).

Corrections to the published data are also recorded where there is indisputable evidence of error. Typically this will require the identification of a minimum of two or three impressions with four or more independent measurements taken.

These and all the Fisher-Brown measurements are held on a searchable database⁵. This allows fast electronic searching to narrow down identification of the plate of a stamp after inputting the four measurements.

A large number of missing measurements and corrections have been published in the *Journal* since 1984. In addition, the Mulready Group has confirmed the data for a significant number of additional impressions.

It is felt worthwhile to publish a complete list of those previously-published revisions, together with those recently confirmed by the Mulready Group. It is intended that these will be published within the *Journal* volume-by-volume, beginning in this issue with Volume 4.

The data (*Table 1*) are organised by letter and then by plate number to assist those wishing to update their copies of the books. The new Mulready revisions are identified in the table thus: MIG or PG, together with the date and volume within the *Journal* of the previously-published revisions. The list is also available as a spreadsheet within the Files area of the Mulready Plating Group.

Table 1 — Revisions to Volume 4

Letter	Plate	Added varieties	Removed varieties	By	GBJ	Dated	Notes	Revised measurements			
								a	b	c	d
AA	133	'A'sTIW cX Ewk		MIG		3 June 10	added data	11+	3+	4-	12+
AA	138	'A'sTIW NWF BWk/PE'Vl		MIG		1 May 11	added data	11+	3	3-	12-
AA	141	TXE 'A'sTIE W&ERc		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	14+	3+	4	10
AA	148	E'A'TIW		MIG		31 Mar. 10	added data	12	3+	2+	12
AA	151	'A'sTIW EP TXW		MIG		18 Nov. 09		11+	3	3-	12
AA	166	E'A'Bl		MIG		2 July 10	added data	11	3+	4-	12-
AB	133	'A'TIW bSk Bl/UrW		MIG		3 June 10	added data	12	3+	4-	4-
AB	141	'A'.E&Bl* & TIE 'B'SfsX bDd% Bl/NW* Bl/SE*	TXE	MIG		11 Sept. 10		14+	4+		
AB	146	'A'Bl&Sk&SfX[4].ESW LrEBk		MIG		30 July 10	added data	13+	3+	3+	4+
AB	156	LrERc 'A'TIW Bl/E		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	11	3	3	7
AB	161			HWF	22/3	1 May 84		11-			
AB	163	'A'Bl SESk		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12-	4	3+	3+
AD	134	dX TXW* Bl.'D' Bl/W&NW&UrE		MIG		14 Jan. 08		14-	3+	2+	4+
AD	138	'A'Bl TXW	'A'Bl*	HWF	22/3	1 May 84			3+	2+	0+

THE PLATING OF THE PENNY — MULREADY GROUP UPDATE OF VOLUME 4

Letter	Plate	Added varieties	Removed varieties	By	GBJ	Dated	Notes	Revised measurements			
								a	b	c	d
AD	139	dSk SW)		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	14+	3+	2+	4+
AD	152	cX 'A'TIW		MIG		7 Jan. 08	added data	11-	3	2+	3+
AD	154	'A'Bl bX Bl/W* & E*		MIG		14 Jan. 08	added data	13-	3	3	4+
AD	156	LrERc		HWF	22/3	1 May 84					
AD	161	'D'TIW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		12-			6
AD	162	'A'Bl* Bls/E M.W		MIG		19 Jan. 10	added data	11+	4-	3+	4-
AD	172	'A' & SfX[4] B'D'Wk* TIE*		MIG		2 Mar. 10		12+			
AE	148	'A'TIW & SfX[4].E		MIG		11 Sept. 10		12+	3		
AE	151	'A'TIW		MIG		19 Jan. 10	Measurements were doubtful	12-	3+	3	3+
AE	165	NEX 'E'XSf	NEX*	HWF	22/3	1 May 84			4		5
AE	173		T & NERc?	MIG		18 Nov. 09		12-			
AF	133	'A'TIW DENE TXW dSk Bls/ENE & UrW*		MIG		5 Apr. 11	added data	12+	3+	3	5+
AF	147	'A'TIW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13	3+	3	3
AF	149	'A'TIW NERd 'F'SfXW[1]		MIG		14 Jan. 09	added data	11+	3	3	5+
AF	160	'A'Bl; TXW*		MIG		7 July 09	added data	12-	4-	3-	3+
AG	132	TXW; cX; D/NW; 'A'SfX[4]; B'G'Wk	aX	MIG		1- Aug-11		12-			
AG	134	Bls/W & a bX* cX TXE		MIG		1 Sept. 11				3+	7
AG	135	Bl/SE 'A'Bl & .ESW DWNW		MIG		1 Sept. 11		13-	3		
AG	136	'A'TIW B'G'Wk Bl/NW*		MIG		1 Sept. 11		10	3+		
AG	137	NNWHRc	TDd?	MIG		1 Sept. 11		12+	3+		
AG	138	'A' & TLW & SfWk[1] Bls/NW & a LrWRc	Trg Bl/W	MIG		1 Sept. 11					8
AG	139	Bls/W 'A'SfDf[1] B'G'Wk	cX EXN	MIG		1 Sept. 11		13-	4-		8-
AG	140	'A'Bl* & TIW & .ESW TXW B'G'Wk 'G'SfDfE[5] Bl/ & E	Re?	MIG		1 Sept. 11		12+	3+	4-	5
AG	143	Bls/W & UrE; bX; 'A' & SfXW[1] & .ESW; B'G'Wk	NWFl? Bl/NW	MIG		1 Oct. 11			3		6+
AG	149	dX	dX*	HWF	22/3	1 May 84		12	4-	2+	6+
AG	153	cX Bl/LrW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13-	3	3+	7+
AG	154	'A'Ab B'G'Wk dDd NNEWk*		MIG		24 Dec. 09		10	3	3+	7
AG	155	'A'TIW NNWwH Bls/LrW & a	HBl/W	MIG		13 Mar. 11	3 states	12			
AG	156	'A'TIW		MIG		1 Oct. 11	added data	11	3	3	8-
AG	157	Bl/a D/WNW	UrERc SWX*	MIG		13 Mar. 11	2 states	12+	3+	2+	
AG	159	'A'Bl; 'G'SfXE[5]; TXW; TXE*; EP; D/WNW; MSSW; Bl/a*		MIG		1 Oct. 11	added data	11-	4+	3-	6+
AG	161			MIG		12 Mar. 09		10+			
AG	162	'A'Bl D/WNW Bls*/E & NE EXN*		MIG		13 Mar. 11		12+		4-	
AG	163	'A'Bl LrWRc cWk BWk/E PE' D/WNW M'O'VI		MIG		13 Mar. 11	3, possibly 4, states	12+	3+	3+	5+

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Letter	Plate	Added varieties	Removed varieties	By	GBJ	Dated	Notes	Revised measurements			
								a	b	c	d
AG	164	'A'.ESW Bl/W TXE* dX*		DGL	27/5	1 Sept. 89	added data	13	3+	3	6-
AG	164	'A'&TIW Bls/NW&a TXE dX*	Bl/W TXE*	MIG		24 Dec. 09		13-			5
AG	164	M.'G'		MIG		13 Mar. 11		12+			
AG	165	'A'Bl* ; Bl/a		MIG		25 June 09	measurements were doubtful	12+	3	3-	6-
AG	165	EP Bls/&W* 'A'Bl	'A'Bl*	MIG		13 Mar. 11		12			5+
AG	166	'A'TIW 'G'TIE LrWRc Bls/W D/WNW BWk/E'E'Vl bX*	'A'Bl E'E'VlWk	MIG		13 Mar. 11		11-	3+	4-	6+
AG	167	B'G'Wk		MIG		13 Mar. 11		13	4-		5
AG	168	'A'Sk&.ESW EP TXE*	'A'TIW	MIG		13 Mar. 11		13-		4-	6-
AG	172	'A'Wk* B'G'Wk* EP		MIG		31 Oct. 10		11-			6+
AG	173			MIG		31 Oct. 10	added data	10+	4	3+	6-
AG	174	A'Bl* bSk M.B/'P'Vl Bls/&LrW		MIG		31 Oct. 10					
AG	175	'A'TIE; NNEWk; Bls/W* &a		MIG		10 July 11		12-			
AH	143	'A'TIW 'H'SfsX[1]&JnT BWk/E'E'Vl		MIG		5 Jan. 10	added data	11	4+	4-	6-
AH	149			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13	3	3	5+
AH	161			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data		4	2+	5
AH	165	NWF1 EP		HWF	22/3	1 May 84					
AI	142	'A'Bl&TIW 'T'TIE Bl/a&W&NW EXN* TXE bX* TXW*		MIG		14 Jan. 08	added data	12+	4	2	10+
AI	149	SWBl		HWF	22/3	1 May 84			3+	3+	
AI	150	Bl/a		DGL	27/5	1 Sept. 89	added data	13	3+	3	10
AI	150	EP dSk 'T'TIE&SfWk[4]		MIG		1 Apr. 11		12+		3+	10+
AI	157	aBl		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		10	3		
AJ	137	dRc&X* 'A'SfXE[4]		MIG		7 July 09	added data	11+	3	3-	9+
AJ	145			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	11+	3+	3	10-
AJ	149	SE(EP		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12-	3+	5-	12+
AJ	150			MIG		26 Sept. 09		11-	3	3+	8+
AJ	153	EP		MIG		18 Nov. 09		11	3	3-	8-
AJ	162	'A'Bl* cX* Bls/W Bl/NW Bl/SE		MIG		18 Nov. 09		11+	4	3	11
AJ	163			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12	3+	2	8-
AJ	163	'A'Bl&TIW; 'J'TIW; SSWWk; SSEWk; BWk/'E PE'		MIG		16 May 09	Corrects HWF addition in GBJ	13	4-		
AK	137	NWF1; 'K'SfX[4]* TXW* bX*		MIG		8 July 09	added data	12	3-	3	8
AK	138	Bl/W EP TXE		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12-	4-	4-	7+
AK	139	'A'Bl SW) Bl/UrW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13+	3+	3	6
AK	142	K'Dd dX		MIG		4 Jan. 08	added data	12-	3+	4-	9+
AK	145	EP		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12-	3	3	8+
AK	149	SWBl bX* SEX		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	11+	3	4-	7+

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Letter	Plate	Added varieties	Removed varieties	By	GBJ	Dated	Notes	Revised measurements			
								a	b	c	d
AK	150	'A'SFXW[1]&TIW 'K'TIE aBl Bl/a;		MIG		25 June 09	added data	12	3-	3	9
AK	151	'K'.d		MIG		8 Feb. 09	added data	12	3	3	6+
AK	159	'K'SfsJnB aX LrWRc TXW*	'K'XSf	MIG		3 June 10		12-		3	
AK	161	EP		MIG		12 Oct. 10	added data	12	4-	4-	8
AK	162	'A'Bl 'K'.d EXN* EP Bl/a		MIG		25 Apr. 10		12	4-	3+	5+
AK	163	dX		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12	2+	2-	3
AK	163	TXE SEX UrERc	dX	MIG		7 May 10			3+	3+	4
AK	164			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	11	3	3	9-
AK	166	'A'Bl* 'K'.D&SfsJnB bWk/'PEN' Bl/NW		MIG		3 June 10	added data	13	4-	4-	6
AL	145			HWF	22/3	1 May 84					4+
AL	148	MN'S'Pt 'L'XSf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13-	3	3	5
AL	149	'A'XSf EXN		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12	4-	3-	4-
AL	150	'A'XSf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		13-	4	3+	5-
AL	151	TXE EXN dX 'A'XSf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13+	2	3+	1
AL	153	Bl/a 'L'TIE		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	12	3	2	2+
AL	154	BVIWk		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	13	3+	2-	2+
AL	155	TRc?		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	14-	3	2	2
AL	156	'E'PtWk		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	10	3	3	2+
AL	157	a&NSWHRc dSk (State 2: Bls/W)		MIG		21 Apr. 09		12-			
AL	163			HWF	22/3	1 May 84					4-
CF	146			HWF	JAMc	2 Aug. 83	HWF Letter		2+		
CF	147			HWF	JAMc	2 Aug. 83	HWF Letter				6
CI	169			HWF	JAMc	2 Aug. 83	HWF Letter	3			
EK	153	Cn/W&N TXW 'K'.E&SfsJnB EXN*	NEX	PG		21 Mar. 11		8-			5+
FI	138	Bls/W&a		PG		11 Sept. 10					9
FK	135	'K'.d&SfsJn		PG		3 June 10					6
GG	142		'H'XSf	HWF	22/3	1 May 84	misplaced in GG				
GG	159	aBl 'E'G'Ab		MIG		2 Mar. 10	added data	4	4-	3-	7+
GH	142	'H'XSf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	misplaced in GG				
GK	168	'K' SfsJnT		MIG		9 Apr. 09	added data	4	4-	2+	11
GL	168	SEWk		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	2+	3+	2+	3
HC	160	M.d*		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		6+			3
HG	142	'H'.ESW&SfsJnT bX Bl/a;		MIG		22 Feb. 09	added data	8-	3	3	4-
HG	173	'H'Sk	bX	PG		30 Nov. 10	2 states	5+	4+	3-	6
HI	153	dX		HWF	22/3	1 May 84					
HK	154	cX 'K'XSf E&WP		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		6			10
IC	160	NWF]* SEX*		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	adding '*s	12+			7+
IG	144			MIG		26 Jan. 09	added data	11-	3	3-	5
IG	169			KNM	46/2	1 Mar. 08	added data	9-	2+	1	6+
IJ	143	dX		MIG		31 Jan. 10	added data	10-	4+	2+	9
IJ	149	'T'SfX[4] 'J'TIW		MIG		31 Jan. 10	added data	10	4	3-	9+

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Letter	Plate	Added varieties	Removed varieties	By	GBJ	Dated	Notes	Revised measurements			
								a	b	c	d
IJ	153	aWk*		MIG		18 Nov. 09		8+	4	3	8
IJ	167			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	8+	4-	2+	8-
IJ	170	dX		MIG		23 Nov. 09		10-	2+	3-	9-
IK	140	K'TIW dSk SE(bX*		MIG		18 Nov. 09		7	4-	2+	11
IK	154			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	9	2+	3	9
IK	170	'K'.d&SfsJnB		MIG		1 June 11		9		3+	5+
IL	145	EP cX Bl/UrW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	9	4	3-	6-
IL	153	SW); Bl/a&W		MIG		10 July 09	added data	13-	4-	3-	2
IL	170			MIG		15 Feb. 08	added data	10	2+	3-	1
JG	166	EP TXE		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	6	3	3+	6+
JH	164			HWF	22/3	1 May 84		4+	2+		7+
JI	164		dBk	HWF	22/3	1 May 84					
JJ	164	'J'TIW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84				2	
JK	148			KNM	43/6	1 Nov. 05	added data	3-	2+	3	7+
JK	148			MIG		5 Apr. 11			3-		7
JK	164	'K'TIW		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		5			
JL	164			HWF	22/3	1 May 84					5
KA	165	'K'TIE		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	8	3+	3-	12
KB	165	'K'XSfs		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	5-	3-	3+	4
KC	165	'K'XSf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	4+	4	2	6
KD	165			HWF	22/3	1 May 84		8			4-
KG	164	'K'SfXE[1]		PGG	41/2	1 Mar. 03	added data	6-	3	3-	6-
KG	164	'K'SfsJnB dSk	'K'SfXE[1]	MIG		2 June 09			3-		
KG	164	aBl aX		MIG		1 Apr. 11					
KI	143			HWF	22/3	1 May 84				4+	
LE	169	bDd&X NEX		HWF	22/3	1 May 84					
NI	145			HWF	22/3	1 May 84			6+		
PJ	137	'P'SfsXW[1,2] dX* TXW*		MIG		26 Mar. 09	added data	8	3	3	10
QG	160	TXE SEX		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		5+	2	3-	7+
QK	160	EXN cSk EP		MIG		18 Nov. 09		2	2+	3	6+
RF	135			PG		3 June 10					3
RJ	135	Bl/URW dK cSk		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	7-	3+	5	9
RJ	136			HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	6-	3-	3	5+
RK	135	TXE bX		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	6+	3	4-	9
RK	139	'K'.d aHRc SERd*		MIG		22 Feb. 09	added data	7+	3	3+	6
RK	156	'K'TIE&SfsJnB TXW TXE*		MIG		14 Jan. 08	added data	4	3-	6-	9-
RL	139	'L'LTIE	'T'TIE	HWF	22/3	1 May 84					
RL	142			PG		11 Sept. 10					2-
SK	171	Bls/W 'K'.d		MIG		5 Apr. 11	added data	4-	3-	6	5+
TB	169	Bls/W SE('T'TIW	MIG		31 Mar. 10	mis-plated	3+	4-	3+	7-
TB	170	B'B'Wk TXW* TXE*		MIG		18 Nov. 09		5+	4	3+	3
TC	169	Bls/W		MIG		31 Mar. 10	added data	7-	4+	2+	7-
TE	170	B'E'Wk dWk Bl/W		MIG		25 Mar. 09	added data	3-	4+	3-	0+
TE	171	B'E'Wk TXW		MIG		25 Mar. 09	added data	5-	4-	3+	5
TH	170	Bls/W 'T'Xsf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		5	4	4	9

Letter	Plate	Added varieties	Removed varieties	By	GBJ	Dated	Notes	Revised measurements			
								a	b	c	d
TI	170	'T'XSf		HWF	22/3	1 May 84	added data	7+	4	2+	7+
TJ	152			HWF	22/3	1 May 84					9
TJ	170	dX*; Bl/NW		MIG		26 June 09	added data	3-	4+	2+	6+
TK	170	EP	WXN*	MIG		23 Nov. 09		2-			8-
TL	169	EP		HWF	22/3	1 May 84		4			

The Mulready Group has maintained the nomenclature within the F/B books except in the case of serifs.

New Abbreviations

Jn **Joined.** Applies to the innermost serifs of 'A', 'H', 'K', or 'M'.

SfX **Serif extended.** Replaces XSf.

Serif Positions

These are numbered according to their positions in relation to a quadrant positioned centrally over the letter, starting at position '1' for the bottom-left quadrant and incrementing clockwise to '4' for bottom-right (*see Fig. 1*). Serifs associated with the centre line through the letters 'E', 'F', and 'G' are position '5'.

Table 2 — **Work-in-Progress on Volume 4**

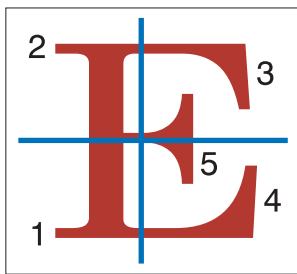


Fig. 1

Position	Plate	Position	Plate
AK	132	AH	151
RK	133	AH	152
AA	138	AK	153
OD	138	AH	155
AK	140	AL	158
IJ	140	TA	158
IJ	145	GK	159
AA	146	AJ	161
AB	146	AL	161
AL	146	AK	167
NC	146	TB	169
AB	148	IH	170
AG	148	GG	172
JG	148	OJ	173
JH	148	HJ	173
AH	149	AL	174
IJ	149	AB	175
AG	150	IJ	175
AI	150	IL	175
AD	151		

Syntax

The positions of serifs are shown in brackets at the end of the argument. Thus an extended top serif to 'D' is SfX[2]. If all serifs in a letter are extended it is not necessary to state position; thus both serifs extended on 'D' would be expressed SfsX. In some cases it may be necessary to define direction (N, S, E, W). Thus a bottom serif to 'R' extending to the right would be 'R'SfXE[1], or to the left 'R'SfXW[1].

A letter in which all the serifs are joined is expressed SfsJn. However, if only the top or bottom serifs are joined then that is expressed SfsJnT or SfsJnB respectively.

The work continues and the MIG is keen to receive any further information of missing impressions in the form of scans (800 ppi or more preferred). Scans of actual imprimaturs or multiples are particularly welcome. **Table 2** lists units where further data are required to confirm revisions that are pending.

Please forward any material to the MIG at the address given below or via the Editor of the *Journal*.

‘Problem’ stamp

The stamp shown in **Fig. 2** has so far defeated the Group’s experts. It has been gauged at 12+ 2+ 3- 7. ‘A’SfX[1].

Originally, Plate 143 had been considered but that has been confirmed not to be the case. The ‘G’ appears large but the ‘A’ looks to be more typical of Alphabet 1. The writer would appreciate any assistance to confirm plating.

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5. Plating of the Penny: <http://philately.ttrr.org/gb/plates/begin.html>



Fig. 2 — a ‘problem’ stamp.