

POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

INAUGURATED 1936

BULLETIN

No. 20.—JANUARY, 1942

Editor: S. GRAVESON, 15 Queen's Road, Hertford

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NOTES AND NEWS

New Members.—The Council, at its meeting on the 4th December, welcomed the following new Members of the Society: Frank Godden, London; A. H. Theakston, Beverley; A. M. Smeaton, Glasgow. Mr. Godden we know as a philatelic authority with a world-wide reputation; Mr. Theakston is an ardent collector of Great Britain, who was, I understand, the discoverer of the first used bisects of the 1840 2d. blue that caused a sensation at Postal History Auctions a few years ago. Mr. Smeaton adds to the reputation of the Society north of the Border.

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L. E. Meinertzhagen.—The death of Mr. L. E. Meinertzhagen is a great blow to Postal History, as well as to Philately in its more restricted sphere. I first met him at a dinner of our Society held in the India Room of the Royal Empire Society, being privileged to sit next to him. I soon found that we had a common interest in India Letters, and the place of our meeting was fitting to discuss some interesting problems for the collectors of such items. Later I recognized the contributions to the "Philatelist" on Ship Letters as coming from his able pen. Having been associated for the best part of his life with the firm of Frederick Huth & Co., merchant bankers, Mr. Meinertzhagen must have enjoyed golden opportunities to study postal communications with almost every country in the world. His own wonderful collection of Ship Letters addressed to Huth & Co. was probably unique. Many previously unrecorded Ship Letter stamps were made known by him. Of his great knowledge of the adhesive stamps of France much has been said in philatelic journals, particularly by Mr. P. L. Pemberton in "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain", so there is no need for me to enlarge upon it here. Mr. Meinertzhagen served on the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, and in 1932 his name was added to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

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The Red Cross Auction.—The notes by Mr. Foster Bond on another page will inform members of the part that Postal History played in raising over £12,000 for the Red Cross and St. John's work of healing and care for those suffering from the war. We shall all remember the appeal slogan "Give till it hurts to help those who are hurt". The giving was not all done by the donors. As I watched on the last day and saw the bidding for the Hill diary go up by leaps and bounds, it was made very evident that the bidders were out to out-bid the donors in the matter of generosity. Well done, all!

Penny Post to U.S.A.—When despatching by post the October issue of the Bulletin, I received a pleasant shock when the lady behind the grill informed me that whilst it cost one penny halfpenny to send the Bulletin, which weighed over 2 ozs., to London, I need only put a penny stamp on to mail it to San Francisco ! Can anyone explain the meaning of this strange anomaly ? The facts of the case indicate that Ocean Penny Postage does still function over a distance of 5,000 miles. Wonderful, is it not !

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Merchants' Letters of 1632.—In "Notes by the Honorary Secretary" which follow these, Mr. Foster Bond remarks that if members have made discoveries they have kept very quiet about them. He has, however, told us something about his own recent finds. I hope this will encourage readers generally to use the Bulletin as the medium for such information. As a collector, I know that I am not the only one who gets thrills when something new comes along. At the December Postal History Auction I chanced a bid on a lot the auctioneer said "I have no bid on this lot, gentlemen". Well, it turned out to be, from my own point of view, a good bargain, for among the early 17th century letters which the lot contained were two Merchants' letters of the year 1632, the very year that Thomas Witherings received his appointment from Charles I as Postmaster for Foreign Parts out of the King's dominions. The letters were from Calais, and both appear to have been Paid 4d. I wonder whether they were actually handled by Witherings? Perhaps not, but were conveyed by one of those unauthorized Merchants' Posts that figure so prominently in the "Battle for the Patents", about which I hope to contribute something to the next Bulletin.

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A Postal History Christmas Card.—I received from Miss Bagust, of Eastbourne, a very charming Christmas Card which she had designed and inscribed with the virtues of Postal History collecting. She has kindly permitted me to reproduce it here. The reproduction is, of course, far less attractive than the original, which is in colours, the adhesive stamps being genuine mint copies. The receipt of this card suggests that members of the Postal History Society might be stimulated to even greater interest in their particular studies and collecting by the annual award of Certificates of Merit. This form of award has a good precedent in the Royal Horticultural Society, the Royal Society of Arts, and other long-established institutions. Provided I receive a measure of encouragement from members, I intend to make a suggestion on the above lines to the Council when it next meets. Whilst it is not possible in this time of war to carry through a regular programme of meetings, we can devise other means of making the Society of value to members. So please send me your views on a postcard as early as possible.

One word more about Miss Bagust. On behalf of the Society I have accepted her offer of the block of the Post-house Notice of 1652 which was used in her "Notes on the Small Post Offices of London", and hope to use this in the Bulletin as an illustration to the articles on the Posts of the 17th Century.

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Members' Exchanges.—Attention is called to the page in this issue devoted to items which Members want and have for disposal. I hope this may prove a popular feature in future Bulletins.

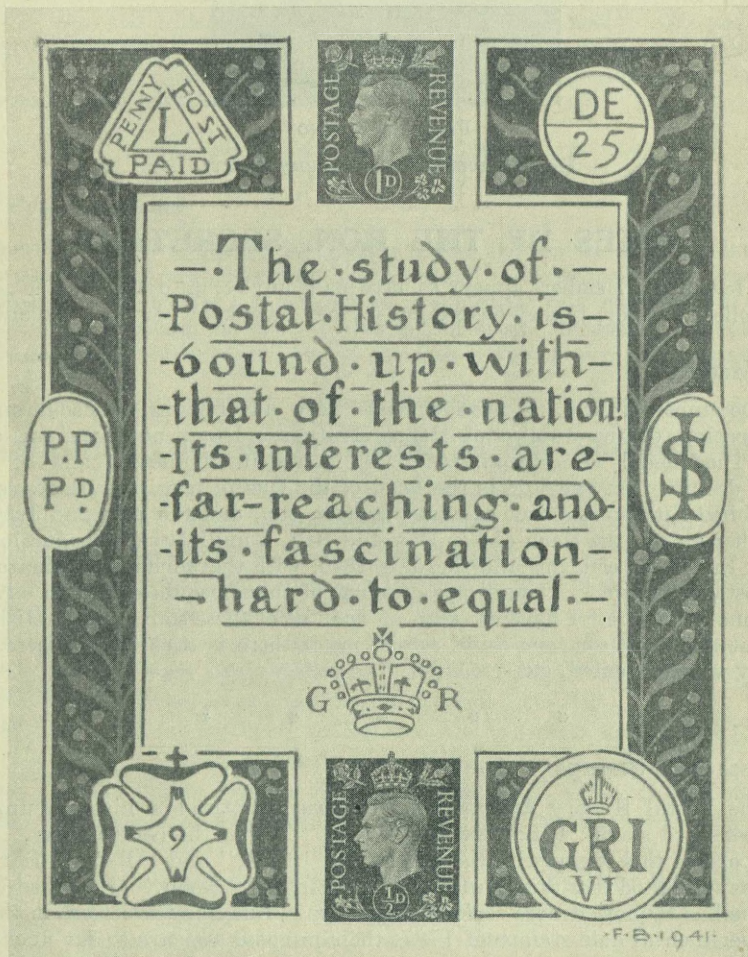
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Subscriptions.—Have you sent your subscription for current year to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Donald R. Hunt, 32 Green Moor Link, London, N.21? If not, will you please do so without waiting for a further reminder from him. This will save paper in the National effort, and the time of our Hon. Treasurer, who has a very busy life producing material of National importance for the Government.

Airgraph Christmas Cards.—From the Middle East there appear to have been quite a number of original Christmas cards sent as Airgraphs. I have seen already five different designs sent from the M.E.F., R.N., and R.A.F. If any member is collecting these interesting souvenirs I would value a check list for insertion in the Bulletin.

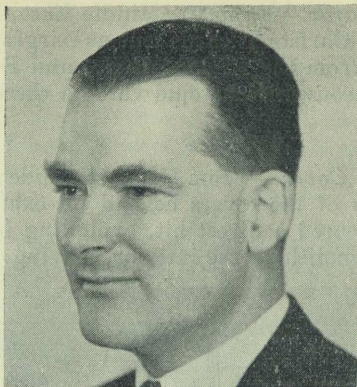
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A Blitzed Penny Black Cover.—From Mr. J. K. Sidebottom I have received for record in the Bulletin two of the covers he had on exhibition in the Leeds City Museum, “when a bomb scored a direct hit, exploding in the Hall on the Ides of March, 1941, completely demolishing the interior, leaving only the bare brickwork.”



POSTAL HISTORY CHRISTMAS CARD BY MISS F. BAGUST
From original colour drawing

Splinters from the bomb went right through the frames and Mr. Sidebottom's sheets that were on exhibition, but, strange to relate, the splinters missed both the handstruck and adhesive stamps that were the special feature of the two covers he has sent for inspection. One of these has a superb copy of the penny black, also handstruck PAID at LEEDS and 1d. I hope Mr. Sidebottom will have an opportunity of exhibiting these relics of the bombardment of Leeds in other places. The war scars on the covers have increased their value and interest to Mr. Sidebottom.



FOSTER W. BOND

Hon. Secretary, Postal History Society

NOTES BY THE HON. SECRETARY

Very few of our Members appear to have made any recent discoveries or additions to their collections; or, if they have done so, they have kept very quiet about it.

Jubilee Medals

In December a firm of numismatists were advertising a medal struck in commemoration of the Jubilee of Penny Postage. I had not seen one of these before. The medal is approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and of a very beautiful design. On one side is the head of the Queen, a miniature reproduction of the Jubilee Envelope, a coat of arms, laurels, etc., and the date 2nd July, 1890. On the other side is the Head of Sir Rowland Hill, a miniature reproduction of the Mulready Envelope, emblems and the date 1840, with the words "Originator of the Penny Postage System". I paid 30/- for one of these medals struck in silver, and 10/- for one in bronze. I have not seen an account of these souvenirs published anywhere; but no doubt someone could advise me if there is a record of them, and to whom they were presented, etc.

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Penny Post Paid Stamps

In the Postal History Auction of December I noticed a hitherto unrecorded Penny Post Paid stamp, R.L. type 15, having "N" as the centre letter. We now have a record of this stamp with the letters "M", "N," and "B". I hear Colonel Crouch has suggested that they stand for "Morning", "Noon," and "Bed-time"!! Perhaps he has by now a more serious suggestion. But like the letters in the centre of the experimental date stamps of 1787, their purpose appears so far unexplained.

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Autographs

In the summer I purchased a miscellaneous collection of approximately 200 letters of the period 1750 to 1850, but found nothing of special interest amongst the hand-struck stamps. A few nice impressions were picked out, and the remainder put aside to be re-offered for sale, and not for the second time! In some spare moments last month I had one more look through them, this time having a look at the contents of the letters, and here was a different story. Nearly all were the family correspondence of the Duke of Sussex and his heirs, and they brought to light

a vivid picture of his marriage, which was declared to be morganatic. There were holograph letters of George III, William IV, and Prince Albert, and many members of the Royal family of George III. Amongst the statesmen, were letters from Robert Peel and George Canning. Perhaps one is permitted to express one's own views on the inclusion of such letters in a postal history collection. Such letters, when in a collection of franked covers, do add interest. A cover franked "Clarence" (William IV) or by any celebrated person, has just that added attraction which makes one pause to have another look at it. But unless such letters are examples of the Franking System, or contain references to the postal service, they do not come within the scope of postal history, and are out of place in a postal history collection. By an "autograph" I mean "A letter or document written or signed by any given person". And the collecting of autographs is another hobby. We all realize the necessity to consult an authority before purchasing stamps for the first time, and yet of late I have noticed some postal historians plunging wildly into the sphere of autographs, with astonishing results !

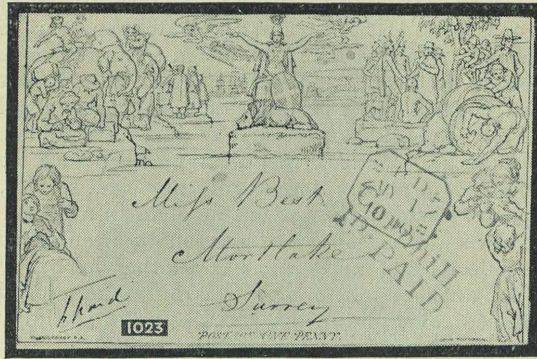
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Postal Proclamations

There have been several of the famous postal proclamations of the latter half of the seventeenth century changing hands lately, and several have been recently advertised in a bookseller's catalogue at a comparatively moderate price. These must surely be amongst the most interesting of postal documents; I only wish the printers had had a futuristic vision of the size of the average album page.

POSTAL HISTORY REALIZATIONS AT RED CROSS AUCTION

- Lot 700a. Diary kept by Mr. Edwin Hill in 1840, £300.
- „ 701. 1854-57. Four blocks of Imprimatur 1d. red, £370.
- „ 809. 1937 Essays by L. T. Wiggins-Davies, £7/7/-.
- „ 827. 1813 Letter from Caracas, with British fleuron stamp, CURACOA, £7.
- „ 828. 1814 Letter from St. Martin, with fleuron stamp, £8.
- „ 831. 1801 Letter from Admiral Keith on Battle of Alexandria, £8/10/-.
- „ 862. 1938 Flown by "Wellesley" Bomber, Egypt to Australia, £14.
- „ 883. 1933 Cover flown over Mount Everest, £6/10/-.
- „ 887. 1919. Newfoundland to Ireland Alcock-Brown flown cover, £32.
- „ 911. Book, "Great Britain's First Postage Stamp," £2/10/-.
- „ 908. Book, "The Postage Stamps of Canada," C. A. Howes, £6.
- „ 921. Catalogue of Philatelic Library of Earl of Crawford, £3.
- „ 946-957. First issues of China on covers, from £4 to £15.
- „ 967. 1839 Calcutta to London "Care of Mr. Waghorn Suez," £12/10/-.
- „ 968. 1847 India to Milan, with Egyptian Transit Company Suez, £8.
- „ 982. "William the Conqueror" cover, £10.
- „ 985. Proclamation concerning the Post, £13.
- „ 988. 1805 Letter franked by John Palmer, £14.
- „ 992. 1661 Letter with Bishopmark, £17.
- „ 1022a. Mulready proof on India paper, £5/10/-.
- „ 1023. Mulready envelope used on May 1st, 1840, £70.
- „ 1024. Mulready wrapper used on May 6th, £19.
- „ 1032. Spooner's Caricature used with 1d. black, £13.
- „ 1057. Hong Kong 1869 Registered Soldier's Letter, £20.
- „ 1059. Crowned Circle "Pago en Macao" on letter to Lisbon, £24.



LOT 1023.—THE MULREADY DATED MAY 1 THAT
REALIZED £70!

THE RED CROSS SALE

BY FOSTER W. BOND

The Postal History donations to the Stamp Auction held at Christies on the 30th-31st December and 1st January in aid of the British Red Cross produced a whole afternoon's bidding on the 1st January. There had undoubtedly been some very generous donors, and there were undoubtedly some generous buyers, the result being a credit to the fine efforts of the organizers, and especially to Mr. Robson Lowe, whose heart is undoubtedly in his work for the Red Cross.

Of the Postal History items, the very interesting lot of Sudan on the first day of the sale realized £100; this lot contained the letter from Slatin Pasha written on a piece of his garment when he was a prisoner in the Dervish camp; the letter was smuggled to Kitchener, stamped, and forwarded to Slatin's sister. I should have thought this fine gift would have realized a lot more.

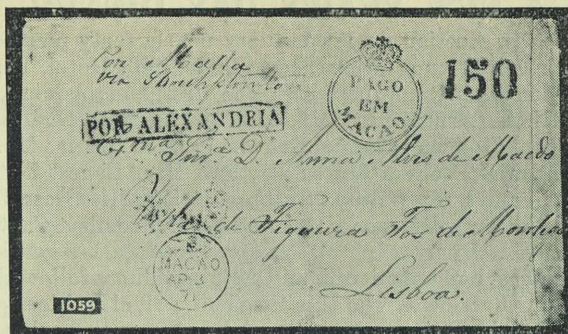
The first airgraph letter from the Middle East written by General Sir Archibald Wavell to General Sir John Dill, realized £110. (Such is current interest.)

The diary of Edwin Hill was one of the chief items of postal history interest, it realized the splendid sum of £300, actually a very high price compared with the valuation. The diary was for the year 1840, and contains many references to the production and printing of the 1d. and 2d. stamps. Though not inspiring to look at, its associations make it of great interest.

There was a charming cover of 1661 with two "Bishop Marks" on it (2nd September) which realized £17. A 1661 cover with a "Bishop Mark" for 7th December realized £15.

The 1st May Mulready sold for £70, and that sent on 6th May for £19; the former had not, of course, prepaid the postage, and is an example of where the freak is considered to be of more value than the real thing, because of its rarity.

The early covers of China nearly all realized three times the respective valuations, and were much in demand. The oval "Care of Mr. Waghorn" sold for £12/10/-, but the much rarer "Waghorn", with oval "Egyptian Transit Company Suez", only brought £8.



LOT 1059.—CROWNED CIRCLE ON LETTER OF 1871
FROM MACAO FETCHED £24

The air-mail lots did not fly to quite such dizzy heights as might have been expected. For £32 I secured the Alcock and Brown cover bearing greetings to the readers of the "Daily Express". These covers always appeal to me as representing a milestone in the conveyance of letters to and from the New World.

The letter written and franked by John Palmer sold for £14; I wonder how many collectors have a letter or frank of this famous postal reformer? I have no example.

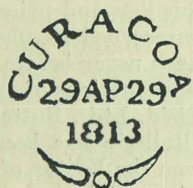
The postal Proclamation of 1685 brought £13; it was a nice item in fine condition.

The original notice of the London Windsor Coronation flight only realized £5. I thought this was one of the few cheap lots.

Amongst the literature, "Great Britain's First Postage Stamp," by Gladstone, was sold for 50/-; it is a pity this interesting little record of discovery is so scarce. Various cuttings from some old newspapers fell to me, also at 50/-. I find they are records of postal Acts, mail robberies, and amongst them is a report of "stamps" being forged as early as 1830.

I have noted these few prices, but it must be remembered they were the prices realized when sold for charity, and in what will go down as an historic sale. For instance, "a letter from William the Conqueror," bearing a penny black and cancelled at Hastings Camp on 1st April, 1066, was knocked down at £10 to a well-known expert! But perhaps after all this is not the strangest thing that has been put up at a postal history sale!

Were there any finds? Yes, Mr. Clougher showed me one from a collection of franks that he bought, this franked letter bore the crowned free stamp for 10th January, 1840, the letter having been posted the previous day. I heard a good many lots knocked down to Members of the Postal History Society, and as soon as Mr. Robson Lowe "filled" the rostrum it was obvious that it was not his intention that it should be a bargain sale! When we were reminded that each 9/- bid would mean a parcel for a prisoner of war in Germany, I think some of us felt we might have ignored our ideas of value even more.



TWO RARE BRITISH STAMPS USED IN CURACOA AND ST. MARTINS

A NEW YEAR'S DAY DINNER

After the Red Cross Auction on 1st January nearly forty members of the Postal History Society and their friends adjourned to Oddenino's Hotel, Regent Street, and dined together. Members present included: The President, Adrian Hopkins, M.C., in the chair; Dr. E. F. Armstrong; Mr. and Mrs. Foster Bond; O. S. Bourne; N. M. Clougher; Frank Godden; Samuel Graveson; D. R. Hunt; Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Pemberton; Mr. and Mrs. Robson Lowe; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Yates. Among the guests were: Sir John and Lady Wilson; Cuthbert Grieg; Miss Rose Titford; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Phillips; Guy Harmer; Mr. and Mrs. Bromley Carter, and Neville Stocken.

After the loyal toast had been drunk and acclaimed there followed the usual words of good cheer from our President, who this time had a rival in his excellence at after-dinner repartee in Sir John Wilson, who spoke of the generous help that many had given to the Red Cross Sale, and the excellent result obtained (a total of £12,100). Sir John paid a special tribute to Mr. Robson Lowe, who in turn spoke of the fine work the Red Cross people were doing. In an adjoining room there was a display set out to be viewed at leisure. This consisted of an exceptionally fine selection of "Mulready's" and their caricatures, nearly all fine postally used examples bearing adhesive stamps. Needless to say, these were from the unique collection of Mr. E. E. Yates. There was a fine copy of the Postal Proclamations of 1669 on view; this being from the collection of Mr. D. R. Hunt. From Mr. S. Graveson's collection there were two albums which were greatly admired; one showed a collection of Post Office Greetings Telegrams, and the other a New Year's Greeting sent on 1st January, 1700, a series of 17th century letters with silk threads, the forerunners of our registered envelopes, two Merchants' letters sent from Calais in 1632, and some early Soldiers' letters from India. The feature of these little collections was the attractive way in which each item was set out and accompanied on the opposite page by an appropriate illustration.

F. W. B.

REVIEWS

The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, 1661-1941. Priced Catalogue. Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall. Price 7/6, post free 8/-.—This specialized catalogue of Great Britain will be welcomed by collectors, for, as its title shows, it brings into the compass of one volume the Great Britain sections of Robson Lowe's "Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire" and "The Regent Stamp Catalogue". There are also valuable additions as the following brief synopsis of contents will show: Pages 1-108 (printed on cream paper), revised issue of Great Britain section of Handstruck Catalogue, plus some of the Appendices, and a supplementary list of Forwarding Agents' Cachets. Pages 113-152 (white paper), Adhesive Stamps. Pages 153-162 (green paper), Postal Stationery of Great Britain, including Mulready envelopes and caricatures. envelopes with embossed stamps, postage wrappers, post cards, and letter cards. To have produced such a Catalogue in time of war must have required courage, ingenuity, and faith in the future of stamp and postal history collecting. Mr. Lowe possesses all these qualities, and he offers the Catalogue at a price that should make it a welcome addition to collectors' libraries.

Catalogue of Air Mails, 1910-1941, of Great Britain and Ireland.—Mr. Francis J. Field has just issued a booklet, compiled by N. C. Baldwin, which gives in chronological order brief particulars of covers flown in the Air services of Great Britain between the dates mentioned. The Catalogue lists and prices many souvenirs of the pre-1933 period, that had hitherto been unrecorded or uncatalogued, while there are details of modern inland flights which have never before been catalogued. The booklet runs to 36 pages, and includes many reproductions of rare covers. Copies may be obtained from the publisher, Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield.

Ocean Penny Postage.—The article in last Bulletin has been reprinted as a separate pamphlet, and copies can be obtained from the Editor of the Bulletin, 15 Queen's Road, Hertford, price 1/6 per copy; or from Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall. For non-members the price is 2/6.

THE POSTS OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

By SAMUEL GRAVESON

(A list of the Proclamations and other State Papers referred to in these Notes is given at end. The small raised figures in text are an index to particular Proclamations.)

In Bulletin No. 7, July, 1938, there were published some Notes by Sir Cyril Hurcomb, K.B.E., K.C.B., on the Posts under the Tudors. It is now proposed to follow these Notes up with some account of what happened to the Posts in the days of the Stuarts and during the period of the Commonwealth, utilizing the official records that have come down to us, and illustrating the progress that was made by reproductions of letters and prints.

When Queen Elizabeth died in 1603 the first chapter of the Postal History of the British Isles may be said to have been completed. The Tudors, both Kings and Queens, had established the Royal Posts on a sound foundation in the interest of the public services they were called upon to perform. Apart from the service in connection with the subjugation of Ireland and certain minor affrays on the Scottish border, Tudor Posts seem to have been used principally by the Privy Council for the collection of subsidies from the owners of landed estates and for sending instructions and inquiries to the searchers of the customs at the various ports. The Posts of the Dover road were the one exception; being the highway to the Continent, this road was concerned with the goings and comings of many people, from ambassadors to shipwrecked mariners, who needed to travel along it in the course of their lawful occasions. In addition there was the service of couriers with the packet on Her Majesty's affairs. The most illuminating record of the uses of the Post for the packet is to be found in the vast collection of letters addressed to Sir Robert Cecil in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Robert Cecil, son of the famous Lord Burghley, was principal Secretary of State in the latter part of the Queen's reign, and seems to have retained the letters and made them part of his estate; they are still housed in the family mansion of the Cecils at Hatfield in Hertfordshire. Copies, however, were made by the Historical Manuscripts Commission some years ago and published in twelve volumes. These volumes are available for consultation in the principal public libraries.

Enter James I

Sir Robert Cecil was closely identified with the invitation sent to James VI of Scotland to succeed his kinswoman, Queen Elizabeth, on the throne of England. He continued to serve the new monarch as Secretary of State, and was rewarded by James I by being created 1st Earl of Salisbury. His signature appears on the Proclamation by the Privy Council for the dispatch of Pacquets between London and Berwick, dated at Whitehall, 8th April, 1603.¹ This Proclamation was addressed to "all Mayors, Sheriffs, Justices of Peace, Postmasters, Bailiffs, Constables, Hedboroughs, and all other the King's Majesty's Officers and Subjects", and concerned the speedy dispatch of pacquets by post in connection with the royal progress of James from Scotland to London. This is shown in the following extracts from the Proclamation: "and whereas also the King's most excellent Majestie doth shortly intend to begin his journey from Berwicke toward his citie of London: We hold it very necessary to give present order that such provision be made of poste-horses and carriages for his Majestie and his traine in all places where he shall passe. We have therefore made choise of Thomas Mylles, esquire, paymaster of all the postes, and Rowland White, gent, postmaster of his Majestie's Court, to see the services above said well performed," etc. An original copy of this Proclamation is

in Queen's College, Oxford. I have no record of any copies in private collections, but a photostat reproduction is in the Postal History Society's Collection.

In the same year (1603) "Orders for the thorow Posts, and Curriers, riding in Post on our Affairs"² were issued in the form of Proclamations in two forms, one being headed "By the King" and the other ending, "Signed by his Majestie, and subscribed by Sir John Stanhop Knight, Master and Comptroller generall of his Highnesse Postes." Originals of both Proclamations are in the British Museum; transcripts were included in the Appendices to the "Report from the Secret Committee on the Post-Office" ordered by the House of Commons to be printed in August, 1844. These Orders endorse rules that had operated in the reign of Queen Elizabeth:

1. The Posts to have in readiness under their direction such and so many able and sufficient post horses, with convenient furniture, etc. In emergency the constables with assistance of the chief magistrates to take up, bring in, and supply the Posts with horses.
2. None to presume to ride on public affairs unless with special commission signed by Secretary of State or six at least of members of the Privy Council. Those thus riding to pay at the rate of 2½d. a mile for each horse used, besides the guide's groats. Those riding on private business to make their own terms with the Posts.
3. No person to take and ride away other people's horses without first paying and satisfying the owner or the Post of the stage. Weight to be carried not to exceed 30 lbs., in addition to the rider. Rate of travel not to exceed 7 miles an hour in summer, or six in winter.
4. If at any time burden be too great for particular Post, the Constables and Magistrates to be called upon to provide for all riding by commission.

The above is a brief summary of the rules; it will be noted that they concern the riding of men and not the conveyance of packets. A third Proclamation of 1603 deals specially with these. It is entitled "Orders for the Posts of our Realms; and for all men to observe and obey in the speedy carriage of Packets directed for our Affairs"³. Here again we see rules revived that regulated the Post of the packet in Elizabeth's reign. Here is a synopsis:—

1. Every Post receiving a daily fee, and entertained specially for the packet according to the proportion of his wages by the day, to keep horses to the number of two at least; these always to be in readiness to run with the King's packets only, so soon as they are brought to his hands. The Post also to have two bags of leather at the least, well lined with "bayes" or cotton, to carry the packet in, and horns to sound and blow, so oft as he meets company, or four times in every mile.
2. Every Post at all hours to receive and carry or send away all packets or letters brought to him, "directed for our special affairs," dated on the outside with the time and place of their first delivery, and subscribed by the hands of a Secretary of State or other authorized party.
3. Such packets to be sent forward within one quarter of an hour at the most from time they came to hand, and the Post carrying them to run in summer seven miles an hour, and in winter five miles at the least, "as the ways afford and the weather fall out."
4. Every Post to "keep a large and faire leger paper booke" to enter a record of the packets as brought in, with day of month, hour of day or night, together with names of senders and to whom directed. Other letters to pass as "by-letters".
5. The Posts to be exempted from "all prests (pressgangs) and attendances at assizes, sessions, inquests, and musters".

It will be noted that by the terms of the Proclamations of 1603, of which I have given a digest, James I re-adopted the rules and orders of his Tudor predecessor. The reference to "by-letters" in rule 4 of last Proclamation is interesting, for it seems to infer that the Post of the packet did carry other than State letters at this time. A reference to Sir Cyril Hurcomb's Notes on the Posts of the Tudors shows that as early as 1574 there was a regulation forbidding any "postes servant or boy riding with the packet to deliver any by-letters or private packets before he have first discharged himself of the packet for Her Majestie's affaires by delivering the same into the hands of the next standing post, unto whom he shall commit and deliver all the by-letters and private packets as well as the other, under paine of the forfeiture of ten shillings to the post offended". The opening or stealing of any ordinary letter or private packet entailed penalty of loss of service as Post. Later the term by-letter was restricted to letters picked up and delivered between recognized post-offices on the principal post-roads of the country.

Between the years 1603 and 1609 no further Proclamations concerning the Post appear to have been issued, but in July, 1607, Sir John Stanhope (created Lord Stanhope of Harrington in 1605) had been granted a fresh patent⁴ for his office as Master of the Posts. The terms set out in this patent are important, as they determined a suit which Lord Stanhope entered against the Crown later in the reign of James I. Stanhope had surrendered the patent granted him by Queen Elizabeth, and in the new patent the King granted to him "and to Charles Stanhope his son and heir apparent, the said office of Master of the Messengers and Runners, commonly called the King's Posts, as well within the Kingdom of England as in parts beyond the seas within the King's dominions, together with the wages or fee of £66 13s. 4d. for the exercise and occupation of the said office".

From the above recital it is plain that, whether by intention or not, the conveyance of letters across the seas to countries out of the King's dominions was not arranged for under Stanhope's patent. What explanation can be found for this omission? At this time letters and packets were conveyed between London and Dover and the Downs several times a week, if not daily. By Stanhope's patent the Posts as far as Dover appear to have been under his control, but not beyond. We know that there was a fairly regular service of ferry boats across the straits to Calais; these were used by both the King's Posts and London merchants and their customers and agents on the Continent. Later on, we shall find Thomas Witherings engaged on making this service more efficient, but in 1607 Stanhope appears to have been deprived of any responsibility for the cross channel services. As regards the wages or fee granted Stanhope under his patent, the amount was the same as Mason and Randolph had received in Elizabeth's reign. It seems small for such an office of responsibility, but it must be remembered that the office carried with it powers to let or lease the Posts that had been established on the great post-roads of the country. This system of sub-letting was inherent in the postal service at the time, and continued in a modified form down to the end of the 18th century. The Posts, usually innkeepers, bought their privilege of conveying letters for the Crown, and picked up sundry fees for posting services in other ways. So we may rightly believe that the salary of the Master of the Posts in the reign of James I was but a nest egg to attract the laying of many more by the "post-hens".

The Crown and Unauthorized Posts

On the 15th May, 1609, there was issued "A Proclamation forbidding any person to carry Pacquets or Letters to or from any City or Town by Foot or Horsebacke, except such as are allowed by the Authorities".⁵ By this we see a definite attempt to suppress unauthorized Posts. It is a short Proclamation, and the text is given in full below:—

By the King

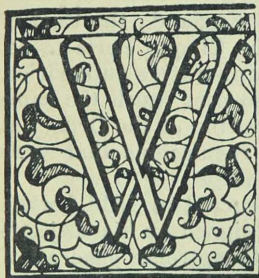
Wheras heretofore sundry wayes have been devised to redresse the disorders among the Postes of our Realme in generall, and particularly to prevent the inconveniences both to our owne service, and the lawfull trade of the honest Merchants, by prohibiting that no persons whatsoever should take upon them publicly or privately to procure, gather up, receive, bring in or cary cut any Pacquets, or Letters to or from any Port, Citie, or Towne, by foote or on horsebacke within the Realme, and to or from the Countreys beyond the Seas, except such our ordinary Foot-postes, Postes, and Messengers for those uses, as either by our Master of the Postes, or the Masters of the Postes generall of those Countreys reciproquely, should be found nominated for that kind of service, or otherwise be able to shew sufficient warrant for their voyages and dispatches under the handes of our principall Secretaries, any Ambassadors, or others sufficiently authorized; Which notwithstanding, divers disavowed persons have used to intrude themselves, contrary to all good order: In consideration of which inconveniences past, We doe hereby straightly prohibit and forbid all persons whatsoever, directly or indirectly, to gather up, receive, bring in, or carry out of this Realme, any Letters, or Pacquets, without the allowance or ordinary addresse and dispatch of the said Masters and Comptrollers of the Postes reciproquely, or their Deputies, or shalbe sufficiently authorized as is aforesaid. And therefore our will and pleasure is, That you the Lord Treasurer of England, and Lord Warden of the Cinque-ports, together with our Master and Comptroller generall of all our Postes, cause publique knowledge to bee given thereof unto all Merchants, both Strangers and others, of our Citie of London, and all others whom it may or ought to concerne, that neither they nor any of them, doe hereafter take upon them openly nor underhand, to employ any disavowed person in the carying of their Letters, but to use such only as shalbe found lawfully appointed for that service. To which effect also we doe expressly will and command by these presents all Maiors, Sheriffes, Justices of Peace, Bailiffes, and all special Commissioners, And more specially all Searchers of our Ports, and all other our Officers, and Ministers wheresoever in their severall Jurisdictions and Offices, to make diligent search of all Males, Bougets, and other carriages, of all such disavowed Curriers, Messengers, or suspected persons, comming in, or going out of the Realme with Pacquets or Letters, and all such so discovered, to apprehend and stay, keeping them in safe custodie untill by the view of their writings sent up to our Privie Counsel, it be seene and advised what shalbe further done with them.

Given at our Mannour of Greenwich the xv day of May, in the seventh yeere of our Reigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland.

God save the King.

The wording of this Proclamation makes it plain that its purpose was to direct still more payments for the conveyance of letters into the revenue of the King's Posts and to enable the Comptroller of the Posts to have more direct supervision of letters going to and coming from the Continent, and thus be in a position to more easily detect communications of a seditious character. At this time Lord Stanhope, the Comptroller of the King's Posts, had at least two sets of rivals in letter conveyance. There were the long-established carriers and their agents, who moved more or less regularly, and at least once a week, between provincial towns and London. A list of such carriers will be found in 17th century almanacks and directories. Then there were merchants in London, Bristol, and Norwich, who had direct dealings with shipmasters for the conveyance of letters with their goods to the Continent. Merchant Adventurers and Merchant Strangers (Foreign Merchants) had been recognized since the early years of the 16th century, and it is in their posts that we have the germ seed of the civil or traders' post that was then in course of evolution. There will be more to relate about the Merchants' posts later.

By the King.



Hereas heretofore sundry wayes haue bene deuised to redresse the disorders among the Postes of our Realme in generall, and particularly to preuent the inconueniences both to our owne seruice, and the lawfull trade of the honest Merchants, by prohibiting that no persons whatsoever, should take vpon them publiquely or priuately to procure, gather vp, receiue, bring in or cary out any Pacquets, or Letters to or from any Port, Citie or Towne, by foote or on horsebacke within the Realme, and to or from the Countreys beyond the Seas, except such our ordinary Foot-postes, Postes and Messengers for those vses, as either by our Maister of the Postes, or the Masters of the Postes generall of those Countreys reciproquely, should be found nominated for that kinde of seruice, or otherwise be able to shew sufficient warrant for their voyages and dispatches, vnder the handes of our principall Secretaries, any Ambassadors, or others sufficiently authorized; Which notwithstanding, diuers disauowed persons haue vsed to intrude themselues, conrrary to all good order: In consideration of which inconueniences past, We doe hereby straightly prohibite and forbid all persons whatsoever, directly or indirectly, to gather vp, receiue, bring in or cary out of this Realme, any Letters, or Pacquets, without the allowance or ordinary addressse and dispatch of the said Masters and Comptrollers of the Postes reciproquely, or their Deputies, or shalbe sufficiently authorized as is aforesaid. And therefore our will and pleasure is, That you the Lord Treasurer of England, and Lord Warden of our *Cinque-ports*, together with our Master and Comptroller generall of all our Postes, cause publique knowledge to bee giuen thereof vnto all Merchants, both Strangers and others of our Citie of *London*, and all others whom it may or ought to concerne, that neither they nor any for them, doe hereafter take vpon them openly nor vnderhand, to employ any disauowed person in the carying of their Letters, but to vse such onely as shalbe found lawfully appointed for that seruice. To which effect also we doe expressly will and command by these presents all Maiors, Sheriffes, Iustices of Peace, Bailiffes, and all speciall Commissioners, And more specially all Searchers of our Ports, and all other our Officers, and Ministers wheresoever in their feuerall Iurisdiccions and Offices, to make diligent search of all Males, Bougets, and other cariages, of all such disauowed Curriers, Messengers or suspected persons, comming in, or going out of the Realme with Pacquets or Letters, and all such so discovered, to apprehend and stay, keeping them in safe custodie vntill by the view of their writings sent vp to our Priuie Counsel, it be seene and aduised what shalbe further done with them.

Giuen at our Mannour of Greenwich the xv. day of May, in the seuenth yeere of our Reigne of great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

Imprinted at London by *Robert Barker*, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie. ANNO. 1609.

Original Form of Proclamation of 1609 (much reduced)

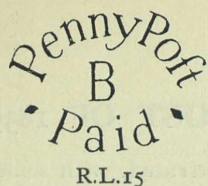
That the post to the Continent was definitely in the mind of those who drafted the postal Proclamations of 1609 is confirmed by further Orders⁶ issued in the same year for regulating the service in the county of Kent. Here is specifically mentioned "the dangerous and secret intelligences of ill-affected persons, both at home and abroad, by the great liberty taken, both in writing and riding in post, specially in and through our county of Kent . . . as well as the hackney-men, tapsters, hostlers, and others in letting out their horses". Publicity is given to the appointment of Robert, Earl of Salisbury, Lord High Treasurer of England; the Earl of Northampton, Lord Privy Seal, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports to set down and establish certain orders for the attention of the administrative authorities, such as Mayors, Portreeves, etc. The Orders as set down go over much the same ground as earlier Proclamations of Elizabeth's reign. The issuing of the Orders at this time may have been in the nature of a reminder of regulations that were recognized to be still in force.

Another instance of the re-issuing of a Proclamation occurred in 1615,⁷ when the Orders contained in the third Proclamation of 1603 were signed by his Majesty and subscribed by "Lord Stanhop of Harington, Master and Comptroller generall of his Highnesses Postes."

PROCLAMATIONS AND STATE PAPERS, 1608—1618

(The numbers in parentheses refer to similar numbers in preceding pages.)

- (1) 1603. Proclamation 8th April. "To all Maiors, Justices of the Peace, Postmasters, Bailiffes, Constables, Hedboroughs, and all other the King's Majesties officers and Subjects whatsoever, to whom it shall or may appertaine, and to every of them." Signed by 26 members of the Privy Council. Refers to safe and speedy dispatch of "pacquetts" in connection with the arrangements for James I's journey from Scotland to London. Reproduction at Bruce Castle and Postal History Society. Transcript in "Report from the Secret Committee on the Post Office", page 38.
- (2) 1603. "By the King. Orders for thorrow Posts, and Curriers, riding in Post in our affaires." 2 pages. Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, 1603. Reproductions at Bruce Castle and Postal History Society. Transcript in Report S.C.P.O., p. 38.
- (3) 1603. "By the King. Orders for the Posts of our Realmes, and for all men to observe and obey in the speedy carriage of Packets, directed for our affaires." Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, 1603. Reproductions at Bruce Castle and Postal History Society. Transcript in Report S.C.P.O., p. 39.
1603. Another copy of above with following addition at end: "Signed by his Majesty and subscribed by Sir John Stanhop Knight, Master and Comptroller generall of his Highnesse Postes." Reproductions as above.
- (4) 1607. Patent granting Lord Stanhope and his son office of "Master of the Messengers and Runners, commonly called the King's Posts, as well within the kingdom of England as in parts beyond the seas within the King's dominions," etc. Transcript in Report S.C.P.O., pages 22 and 40.
- (5) 1609. "By the King." Proclamation forbidding any person to carry "Pacquets or Letters to or from any City or Town by Foot or Horsebacke, except such as are allowed by the Authorities", etc. "Given at our Mannour of Greenwich the xv day of May in the seventh yeere of our Reigne of great Britaine, France, and Ireland." Imprinted by Robert Barker, 1609. Transcribed here. Reproductions at Bruce Castle and Postal History Society.
- (6) 1609. "Orders decreed upon for the furtherance of our service, as well in writing as riding in Post: specially set downe and commanded to be observed where our Posts are established within our Countie of Kent." Original in British Museum. Transcript in Report S.C.P.O., page 42.
- (7) 1615. "By the King. Orders for the Postes of our Realmes and for all men to observe and obey in the speedie cariage of Packets, directed for our Affaires." Repeats clauses in (3) above. Signed by his Majesty and subscribed by Lord Stanhope. Imprinted by Robert Barker, 1615. Reproductions at Bruce Castle and Postal History Society. (*To be continued*)



WAPPING • 1 •

R.L.31

“R.L. 15.”

By GUY R. CROUCH

The Experimental “Penny Post Paid” stamp of the London Penny Post illustrated on page 116 of “Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire”, and here designated “R.L. 15” (see illustration), was until recently known only with the letters B and M in the centre of the oval. The meaning of these letters was unknown, but the only dated covers bearing this type of stamp show the year 1794, the year of the re-organization of the local postal arrangements of London.

In the Postal History Auction of the 4th December last a letter was offered bearing the same type of stamp, but with the letter N in the centre, so that we now have recorded specimens with letters B, M, and N.

When B was the only letter known, it was thought that this stamp might have been used in the Borough or the Bishopsgate Office of the London Penny Post, although the letter “B” had not appeared in the triangular Dockwra type since about 1733. The breaking-up of the “T. W. Hall” collections, however, brought to light a “front” having a stamp of the same type with letter M. By itself this might reasonably have been taken by collectors to mean “Morning”; the latest discovery of one with N in centre would have strengthened this theory, and the N would no doubt have been interpreted as meaning “Night”. This convenient and satisfying solution, however, won't fit the first-found stamp with letter B in centre—unless, of course, that could have meant “Bedtime”, the only period of the day beginning with a B!

So the problem is still unsolved, and members of the Postal History Society are invited to put forward their suggestions. I have personally seen only one specimen with each letter N and M, and two covers with the B stamp, but perhaps other collectors may have examples of these interesting stamps with other letters. Should this prove to be the case, details of the same might enable us to find some solution to the problem.

The following are details of the specimens in my own collection :—

Letter B in centre: On cover addressed to “Mr. John Hill, Great Prescot Street, Goodman's Fields”, and bearing R.L.(31)—LINC^s INN and R.L.(32)—7 o'clock 2

1 DE
94. EVEN

Letter M in centre: On front addressed “Jn^o. Fordyce, Esqr., Land Revenue Office, Scotland Yard, London”, and bearing R.L.(31)—B-GATE (No date stamp, but mounted as “1794”.) Wn.2

Letter N in centre: On entire letter addressed from Poplar on 22nd October, 1794, to “Mrs. Batger, Back Lane, St. George's in the East”, and bearing R.L.(32)—2 o'clock

OC 23
94. AFN

THE FOURPENNY UNIFORM POST OF 1839

In Bulletin No. 13 (January, 1940) there was illustrated, with some notes by Colonel Guy R. Crouch, a number of types of the large figure 4 which had been found on letters sent during the experimental period of uniform fourpenny post, 5th December, 1839, to 9th January, 1840. In the present issue of the Bulletin by the courtesy of Mr. J. K. Sidebottom we are able to supplement what has previously been published by a plate illustrating a still greater variety of types. In sending his own drawing of these interesting stamps, Mr. Sidebottom remarks: "As regards the origin of these hand stamp designs, I feel convinced there must, at any rate in Scotland, have been a lead given, and some little time ago I made a drawing to show the similarity. I sent this to Colonel Crouch for his remarks, and he quite agreed 'up to a point', but wished me to explain why those used in England were of no set type, but indiscriminate?" This question has still to be satisfactorily answered. Up to the present time no official Post Office document has been unearthed giving instructions to Postmasters for the bringing in of the Fourpenny experimental post. If such should ever turn up there may be found suggested types of stamps to be used. The Treasury Warrant of 22nd November, 1839, which appeared in the "London Gazette" of that date, is the nearest thing we have to the nature of an instruction, but in this there is no reference to the use of stamps. Our Vice-President, Mr. C. R. Clear, has already done some research among Post Office records, and there is still a chance that something material may be found.

In sending his plate and notes, Mr. Sidebottom has included an original letter in his collection with a very fine example of the Scottish type of 4 used on a letter from Armagh (Northern Ireland) to Dublin on 19th December, 1839. He has also a twopenny Mulready wrapper used from Stromness to London on 10th October, 1840, on which a similar type of 4 has been impressed. Why, is not clear, but the use of the 4 suggests that handstamps with this figure were part of the equipment of a post office as remote as Stromness. That a fourpenny hand stamp was also in use in Dublin is proved by the impression on a letter posted there on 5th December, 1839, but the type differs from that used at Armagh, the figure 4 being without the loop which is characteristic of the Scottish and Armagh stamps.

Mr. Sidebottom reminds us of the fact that the fourpenny rate had to be prepaid; its introduction led to an increase of 50 per cent. in letters passing through the post, but the revenue from postage showed a 40 per cent. drop.

Mr. R. C. Alcock writes that the Second Supplement to "The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland" is now in the press, printed one side of paper only. The price will be 3s. Much new data is given.

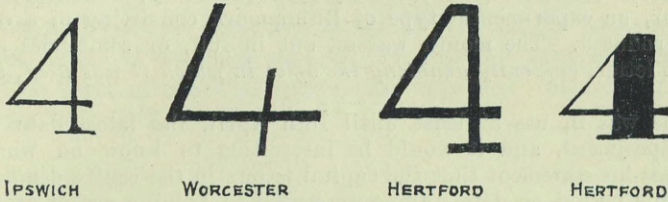
* * * * *

Since writing "Notes and News", Mr. J. S. Higgins, of Manchester, has joined the Postal History Society. He is well known to many members, and will strengthen the band of historians in the North.

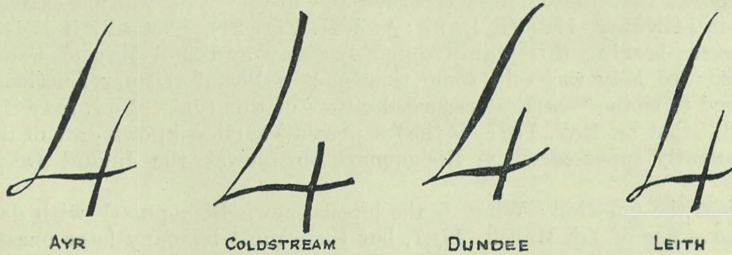
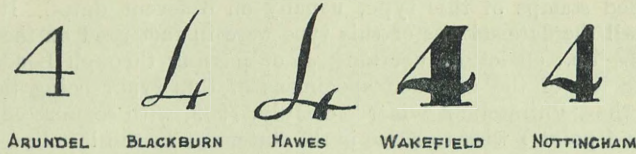
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Contributions for Members' Exchange page are encouraged. See page 51.

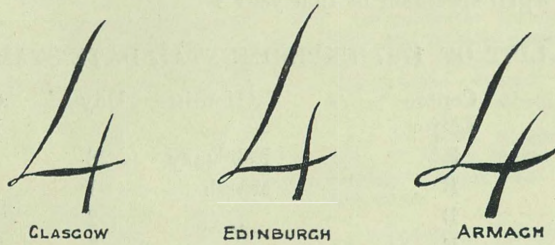
TYPES OF THE HANDSTRUCK '4'
OF THE UNIFORM FOURPENNY POST



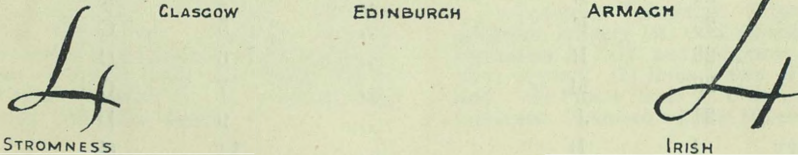
also:-
CARLISLE
CHESTER
EAST WINCH
DORCHESTER



also:-
PERTH
INVERNESS
GALASHIELS
HADDINGTON



also:-
DUBLIN



NOTE:- It seems obvious that the postmasters in ENGLAND, who had a die cut, had no guide for a design, and were left to follow their own ideas. In SCOTLAND & IRELAND there appears to have been some attempt to have a standard design to work to. (see drawings on next sheet)

(The figures are slightly reduced)

EXPERIMENTAL DATE-STAMPS OF 1787

I have just been reading for the first time Part I of T. Todd's new book "The History of British Postage Stamps", which was reviewed in the October, 1941, Bulletin. While appreciating the useful conciseness of the first six chapters of the book, dealing with handstruck stamps, there are two statements, on pages 21-22, which, I think, should be corrected in the Bulletin, for purposes of record.

First, with reference to the 1787 'experimental date-stamp, used January to April (R.L. 94; A. & H. Fig. 20), he says, "In January, February, and March, 1787, however, an experimental type of Bishopmark consisting of a double circle had been introduced. The month was set out in full, or sometimes abbreviated, and a capital letter, *evidently denoting the office in which it was used, appeared in the centre.*"

This type was in use at least until 18th April, the latest date recorded of three April specimens, and it would be interesting to know on what evidence Mr. Todd bases his statement that the capital letters in the centre denoted the office of use. At this period no date-stamps were used in London except at the G.P.O., while every letter of the alphabet from A to M (except I) is found in one or other of the recorded stamps of this type, usually on different dates. It is reasonably certain that all the date-stamps of this type were in fact used on the morning duty at the G.P.O., i.e., on letters arriving at or passing through London. I append an up-to-date list of the recorded specimens of this type, being the list which I compiled for the "Philatelic Adviser" of July, 1939, with some recent additions.

The second point I wish to raise is the statement in the last line of chapter I of Mr. Todd's book, that the earliest recorded use of the type which succeeded the Bishopmark is 14th May, 1787 (R.L. 95; A. & H. Fig. 21). Actually it is 1st May, as I have covers bearing this stamp dated 1st May and 2nd May of that year. Another dated 3rd May was sold some time ago in Postal History Auctions, and was then stated to be the "earliest recorded date" of this type. Now, may it please be "recorded" that 1st May, 1787, is the (at present) earliest known date of the type which permanently superseded the Bishopmark so far as the Inland Office was concerned.

This raises the question: What is the latest known Bishopmark with day over month? I have one of 7th March, 1787, but there must be many later ones about. Has anyone got an April specimen of that year?

CHECK LIST OF 1787 EXPERIMENTAL DATE-STAMPS.

| Month | Day | Centre Letter | Month | Day | Centre Letter |
|----------|-----|------------------|----------|-----|------------------|
| January | 19 | K | February | 28 | K |
| ,, | 20 | B | March | 1 | E |
| ,, | 24 | B | ,, | 2 | A |
| ,, | 25 | F | ,, | 5 | G |
| ,, | 26 | B | ,, | 6 | C |
| ,, | 29 | M | ,, | 7 | C |
| ,, | 31 | J | ,, | 9 | D |
| February | 1 | B | ,, | 14 | G |
| ,, | 3 | M | ,, | 15 | H |
| ,, | 12 | L | ,, | 24 | H |
| ,, | 19 | D | ,, | 30 | E |
| ,, | 22 | D & G | April | 7 | F |
| ,, | 26 | D | ,, | 10 | D |
| ,, | 27 | E | ,, | 18 | B & M |

GUY R. CROUCH.

MEMBERS' EXCHANGE SHEET

It has been suggested that Members might like to use the *Bulletin* to make known to other Members particulars of items they are on the look out for, either to purchase or to see, and for details of any items of postal interest that they may wish to sell or exchange. This sheet is therefore inserted for their use. *Insertions for next issue should reach the Editor by March 1st.*

ITEMS WANTED

One of the heart shaped "hour stamps" used circa 1700.

A die proof of the 1840 penny stamp which has the inscription "NEW" at the top and "3" below the stamp.

An English letter with address and date of the 15th century.

One of the London Penny Post Stamps of the 1683/85 type, having the single letter in the centre (letter must be dated).—Foster W. Bond, 6 Talbot Houses, Blackheath, S.E.3.

Any items dealing with postal history of CRETE or IONIAN ISLES, used stamps or entires.

Any items dealing with Mulready envelopes or wrappers, especially those with printed matter on reverse.

Illustrated envelopes of any description.—E. E. Yates, 99 London Road, Enfield.

Great Britain : (1) Paquehots. (2) T.P.O.'s. (3) Additional $\frac{1}{2}$ d. marks (Scotland). (4) Postmarks connected with Royal Family.—A. J. G. Smout, 154 Wake Green Road, Birmingham.

All scarce G.B. "handstruck stamps" (alias postmarks) on covers, especially London Penny Post, 1794-1801, London experimental Paid stamps of 1794, and date-stamps of 1787, Army and Field P.O.'s, 1799 date.—Colonel G. R. Crouch, The Friarage, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Scottish Penny Posts. Unusual Glasgow Postmarks.—A. Bruce Auckland, 67 Stamperland Avenue, Clarkston, Glasgow.

"Great Britain's first Postage Stamp," by E. S. Gladstone, published 1924.

Stamp Collectors' "Fortnightly," March 20, 1897.—D. R. Hunt, 32 Green Moor Link, London, N.21.

Pre-stamp covers from Portugal.—Dr. R. H. Urwick, Council House Court, Shrewsbury.

1. Uniform Rate of Fourpence Postage. Cover dated 5th December, 1839.

2. Uniform Penny Postage. Cover dated 10th January, 1940.—G. O. Lockwood, Highfield, Longlands Road, Carlisle.

To purchase: Labels, postmarks, cachets, used and unused postcards, etc., relating to Civil and Military aviation of all countries and periods.—Francis J. Field, 79, Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham.

(1) All items connected with the present war; (2) Meter Marks of all countries.—R. Findlay Crabb, 14 Bon-accord Square, Aberdeen.

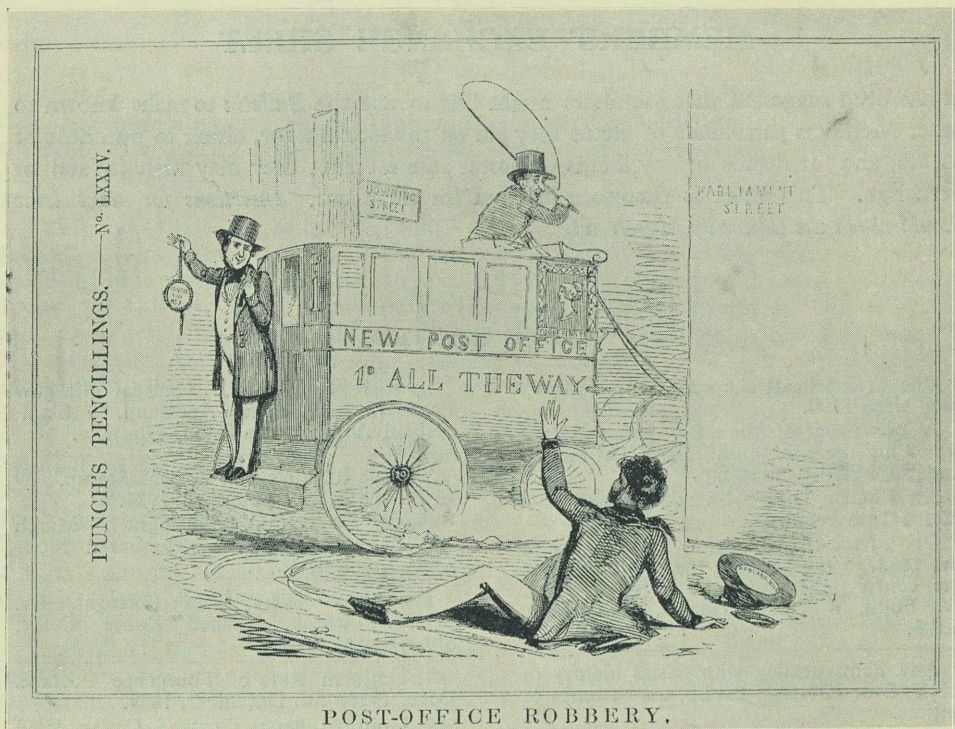
(1) Greetings Telegrams. First new year telegram, January 1st, 1936, Christmas issue, December 5, 1938, and telegrams sent from or to abroad. (2) India letters of 18th century. (3) Postal items of 17th century.—S. Graveson, 15 Queen's Road, Hertford.

ITEMS FOR EXCHANGE OR SALE

Scottish pre-stamp covers.—A. Bruce Auckland, 67 Stamperland Avenue, Clarkston, Glasgow.

18th century covers with town marks; London date-stamps, 1790-1800; and Continental markings; Field P.O. covers, 1914-18.—Col. G. R. Crouch, The Friarage, Aylesbury, Bucks.

THE BOOK OF THE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



PENNY POSTAGE CENTENARY

CONTENTS

- “ Milestone in Postal History.”—By R. K. Wortley.
- “ The Birth of the Postal Service.”—By C. R. Clear.
- “ A Stamp is Invented.”—By Foster W. Bond.
- “ The Postal Reform of the Year 1840.”—By S. Graveson.
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