

NOTEBOOK

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Readers will be well aware that much of the original material appearing in this magazine, and others engaged in like studies for other areas, is derived from Post Office Records. By careful use of extended lunch breaks, flexitime and similar devices, Editors have managed to present to a combined readership of several hundred collectors all over the world, information which would otherwise be denied to them by virtue of the problems for most in getting to London.

Having acquired new premises at Kew, the Public Records Office are now intending to take over these records from that most convenient site in St. Martins-le-Grand and transfer this treasure house to the remoter Kew. There has been much talk of consultation with interested parties, but from enquiries made among leading national (and international) postal historians, this has not taken place.

From information gleaned it appears the Post Office are not at all happy at this turn of events. To say postal historians, realising the threat to the currently ' to hand ' situation should be furious. I hesitate to suggest it is a case of wishing to fill empty shelves and trust the P.R.O. have not fallen into such an easy trap. One must attribute the most laudable motives for this step; it is up to all interested in postal history research to disabuse the P.R.O. of what they believe to be the benefits accruing.

Would all readers write to their M.P.s, the Curator of the National Postal Museum and the P.R.O. to express concern over this retrograde step. Do not suppose your voice is of no import - it most certainly is. There is no wish to suggest a standard letter - write what you believe to be the case and do not delay; the ' fait accompli ' is almost irreversible.

Go to it.

IN THIS ISSUE.....

- page 1 Editor's Comment
 2 Visit to Bruce Castle, Notice
 3 **Redirected Mail, from Dr. David Trapnell**
 4 **The Redirection of Mail in the Twopenny Post**
 5 Inspector's Stamp - Is It London ?
 Inland Office Diamond. Query from C.G. Cottle
 6 **The Half-Penny Letter Post Company Limited, from Keith Romig**
 8 Information Requested, from Michael Goodman
 9 **London Foreign Branch Datestamp. RMW No.660, by M.H. Bristow**
 10 **Blind Duty Stamp**
 Books of London, by W.V. Evans
 11 Walthamstow.....
 12 **What The Auctions Tell, a review of 1977 at R.L.s**
 17 **Post Office Notice: Mercurius Publicus, May 2, 1661**
 18 A Squared Circle Query, from Simon Kelly
 Squared Circle Co-Ordinator
 19 **Newspapers For Russia**
 Foreign Newspaper Office, from Derek Holliday

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LONDON'S POSTAL HISTORY.....now available

District Post Cancellations 1840-1857, Part 2 - The Duplex
 17pp plus plastic card divider plus Introduction etc.
 Membrs 45pence only plus the dreaded postage at 20pence.

VISIT TO BRUCE CASTLE: SATURDAY 18th.March, 1978

Apologies for the short notice of the detail for what should be a most interesting afternoon and, hopefully, will open up fresh material for research.

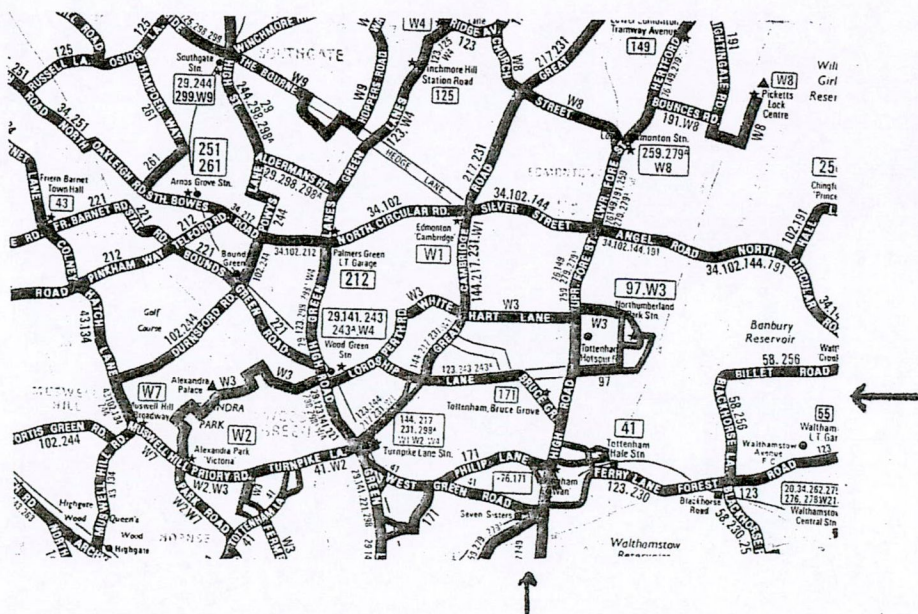
Bruce Castle may be reached on the Victoria Line to Seven Sisters, or by Piccadilly Line through Wood Green, then from both stations by the 123 or 243 which stop opposite the house.

Car users are warned that if the local club are at home, parking spaces will be at a premium; it is suggested they experiment with the public transport at least for this one meeting. *

For the greater enjoyment of the afternoon there are available detailed guides and leaflets; for those unable to attend, it is hoped to provide a copy of these in the next issue of 'Notebook', plus a report of the meeting.

* Parking facilities are available, accessible from the Church Lane entrance (if really want to use the car!)

BRUCE CASTLE IS OPEN FROM 1.30 - 5 pm; meeting to start shortly after 2 pm.



REDIRECTED MAIL

The items reproduced below, sent by Dr. David Trapnell, serve very well to introduce a thought he has on the use of this particular stamp.

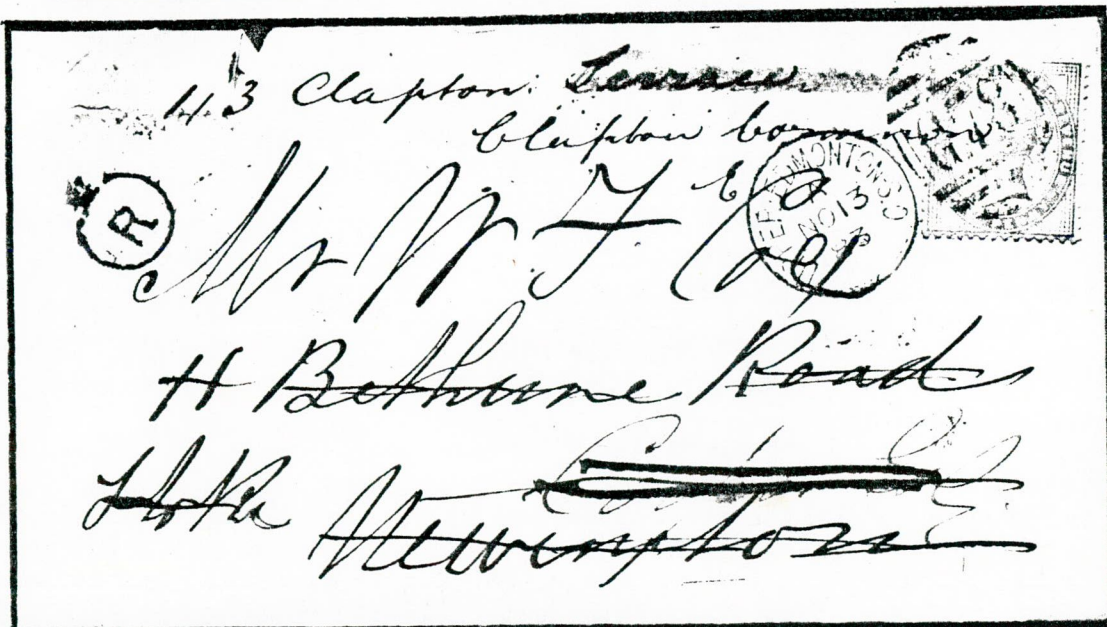
He suggests this is exclusively a London stamp and a rapid scan through the Proof Impression Books in Post Office Records would support this as all issues noted were to various London offices only.

The stamp is supposed to be applied, usually in black, rarely red, to items upon which no charge was to be made for redirection. All the references state there was no charge for redirection within the same post town only; elsewhere and a charge was made. The Post Office were very firm on making a charge for doing the job twice, the same Post Town being a major departure from the rule.

All readers are invited to submit details of any and all examples they have, giving dates, post of posting, first and second addresses - third or more should that be the case! Of particular import is any application in other than black.



red



black

THE REDIRECTION OF MAIL IN THE TWOPENNY POST

During the current examination of P.O. Records, the problem has been to select an item from the mass of interesting information. One that seemed to have particular appeal related to the redirection of mail.

Post 42 P.M.G. Reports No 86E

General Post Office

June 27th 1801

Freeling to PMG

My Lords.

Within these few days it has come to my knowledge that Letters conveyed by the Two Penny Post to the place of their address, and there redirected and forwarded to another part of the Two Penny Post District have been charged with one rate of postage only; although the Office has done two distinct services, beside having the trouble to redirect the Letter - For instance:- A Letter is conveyed from Town to Richmond, and instead of its being taken in at Richmond, the Letter Carrier is desired to redirect and forward it to the Person in Town - it is brought back, and conveyed to any part of the Two Penny Post Delivery, and 2d only (the Postage to Richmond) is demanded for this double Service.

I had a good deal of conversation with the Comptroller of the Two Penny Post Office upon this subject, and I learn that the postage of redirected Letters may be averaged at 24^s/- per day - the loss, therefore, upon this omission, must be £400 per year, supposing it be legal to charge the postage both ways.

I presume that it is, to all intents and purposes, legal to demand for the carriage of a Letter, under these circumstances, both from, as well as to, the Place to which it was originally directed.

It has been the invariable practice of the Office to charge all General Post Letters of this description - For instance:- A Letter sent from London and redirected to Bath, arrives there; the Party has returned to London; the Letter follows, and a distinct charge to, and other charge from Bath, is demanded and paid.

In the latter end of the year 1792, some circumstances arose to induce me to make a similar Case a question to the Solicitor - I enclose his opinion; and if your Lordships shall think with me that a parity of reason applies to the General and Two Penny Post Letters in this particular, I shall issue directions, that, hereafter, the double Postage shall be demanded.

All which &c &c

Endorsement:

Mr. Freeling's reasoning seems to me to be conclusive: and it is consonant also to what is clearly expressed by Mr. Parkin. If L^d Chs Spencer sh^d be of this opinion, let an intimation be given accordingly.

Auckland
Charles Spencer

Enclosed with the minute was:

I think the case put by Mr Woodstock. Viz " Whether a Lre sent by the Post to Bath, and the party being gone to Bristol the Postmaster on the Application of the party sends it to Bristol, sh^d be charged with the postage from Bath to Bristol " is the same as if a friend of the party was to take up the Letter at Bath, pay the postage, direct it to Bristol and put it into the Bath post Office to be conveyed to Bristol. The Postmaster is to be Considered as the friend or Agent of the party - in doing that which in his Official Situation he is not bound to do, Consequently I think the Letter is taxable with Postage first to Bath and then to Bristol - and that in

The Redirection of Mail in the Twopenny Post, continued....

all similar Cases Lttes sho^d be thus charged.

A. Parkin
Gen Post Off. Nov 30 1792.

In the un-numbered " Instructions " in P.O. Records the above appears on a printed notice with the following.

General Post-Office
December 7th 1792

Mr Palmer (this in m/s)

For your future Government in re-directing Letters, above you have a Copy of Mr. Parkin's (the Solicitor to the Office) Opinion, with a Case put to him by Mr. Woodcock the Surveyor.

I am

Your obedient humble Servant
JOHNSON WILKINSON
SURVEYOR

A further notice of March 1st, 1804, though not directly relating to London, modifies this rule. An " Indulgence " is granted to the " Letters of Naval Officers when the Ships to which they belong remove from one Port to another whereby they are charged with the rate of postage for the whole of the distance, not the sum of the postages on the separate journeys.

One presumes a Letter could chase a Naval Officer round the coast from London back to London at a charge of just 2d!!!

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

INSPECTOR'S STAMP - IS IT LONDON ?

Another EX stamp has been reported (see Notebook No. 35, page 8) by C.G.Cottle. It is in black, sans-serif, on piece. The two K.E. $\frac{1}{2}$ ds are cancelled with two strikes of the double ring LONDON EC 12.15 pm NO 13 03 with ' 28 ' at the base. Below is a clear double ring LONDON SE 4.15pm NO 12 03 with ' 5 ' at base. It is not clear when the EX stamp was applied, but since Mr. Cottle offers the very reasonable suggestion for ' EX ' to be ' EXAMINED ', it is possible the failure to cancel the adhesives when posted triggered its use. According to the EC Proof Impression Books states number 28 (in 1905) to be used on correspondence from larger Branch Offices. This does not appear to fit, but the item may have been routed through one of the B.O.'s.

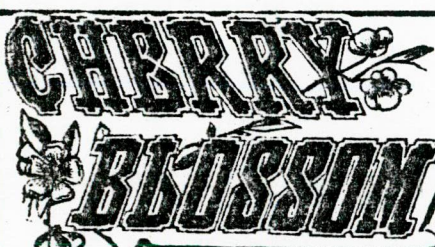
INLAND OFFICE DIAMOND, Query from C.G. Cottle

One puzzle I have concerns an entire back stamped (faintly) FE 18 1843. This is franked with 1841 1d cancelled 12 in diamond barely tied to the cover. Alongside is " T P Grenville St ". The contents of the letter confirms the date, which seems too early for this diamond mark. An expert opinion would be welcome.

THE HALF-PENNY LETTER POST COMPANY LIMITED, from Keith Romig

The advertising envelope illustrated below and on the next page is something new to me and I would appreciate comments from readers on the company and of any other aspects of their enterprise.

the embossed stamp is on a flap some 5" x 4"
with sealing edges at the top and right.

PETER ROBINSON, LACES, HOSIERY, SILKS, COSTUMES, ETC. OXFORD ST., W.	
 CHERRY BLOSSOM PERFUME A Charm to Existence TO BE OBTAINED EVERYWHERE. Manufactured by JOHN GOSNELL & CO., London.	 TAYLOR BROS MARAVILLA COCOA FOR BREAKFAST THE MOST NUTRITIOUS & INVIGORATING BEVERAGE. TRY A CUP TO-MORROW MORNING
Bryant & May's  Matches. TWELVE PRIZE MEDALS.	
HEALTH BEFORE WEALTH. AVOID THE DEATH-TRAP OF SEWER-GAS INFECTION, PUTREFACTION, ETC., BY TIMELY USE OF JEYES' "Perfect Purifier" JEYES' AND DISINFECTANTS. USED IN ROYAL HOUSEHOLDS AND 2,000 GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL INSTITUTIONS. Can be had of all Chemists and Oilmen, or Sample sent direct on application to JEYES' Sanitary Compounds Company, Ltd., 43, Cannon Street, London, E.C.	
 NESTLE'S FOOD. AN ENTIRE DIET FOR INFANTS. Recommended by the highest medical authorities as the nearest equivalent to MOTHER'S MILK.	FLORADOR FOOD. Finest product of the wheat bean. DELICIOUS, NUTRITIOUS, WHOLESOME. THE PERFECT INFANTS FOOD. 17, Southampton St., Holborn, W.C.

to the right is a sheet headed "...188..." for correspondence

The Half-Penny Letter Post Company Limited. continued...

THE HALF-PENNY LETTER POST COMPANY, LIMITED,

100, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Now offer for Sale, through their Agents,

Their Patent Envelope with Sheet of Paper and Embossed Penny Postage Stamp for 1d. :
or in boxes of 120, for 5s. 3d.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING ON THE PATENT ENVELOPE:-

From 1/6 to 4/- per thousand. Orders taken for 100,000.



FOR SICK & NERVOUS HEADACHE

BRAMSTON'S FIRE!

FIRE ESCAPE.

Requires no Fixing.

Always Ready.

Strong & Durable.

Safe & Easy.

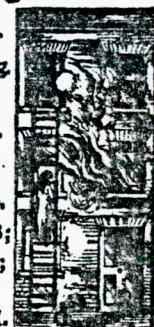
Very, Very Cheap.

20 ft., 10/6; 30 ft., 13/6;

40 ft., 18/6; 60 ft., 27/0;

BRAMSTON,

78, YORK RD., KING'S X.



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HINDE'S HAIR CURLING PINS.

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Surer and much more effective than Curl Papers.

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Beware of knavish imitations which are absolutely
useless frauds. Sold in 6d & 1s. boxes by Fancy Dealers,
or sample box for 7 stamps direct from the Patentees
MESSRS. HINDE'S LONDON SAMPLE ROOMS, 1, CITY RD., E.C.

DE JONG'S ICED COCOA OR CHOCOLATE

(Patent 1887).

A NEW & WONDERFULLY REFRESHING

DELICIOUS & INVIGORATING SUMMER DRINK. PREPARED IN ONE MINUTE FROM

DE JONG'S PURE SOLUBLE COCOA.

The "Acme" of all Pure Cocoas. 2-oz. Sample Tin Free of Charge, on

Application by letter, from the

CHIEF DEPOT OF DE JONG'S COCOA,

8 & 7, COLEMAN STREET, LONDON, E.C. [All rights reserved.]

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Letter-press & Lithographic Printers,

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Works: 9, Beer Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.

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turers, Show Cards, Price Lists, Catalogues, Illustrated Lists, &c.

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"PYRODENE" PAINT for Fire-proofing Houses,

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Gurney's Patent Self-adjusting

Automatic Soft-Rubber Pad Truss.

Highly Recommended.

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Full description on receipt of Stamped

Directed Envelope.

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SWEET AS CREAM

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PRICE LISTS FREE.

INFORMATION REQUESTED, from Michael Goodman

It is fair to say I have access to a quantity of material and after some nudges from the Editor offer the following notes:

No.35 Notebook, page 2. South E. Rly in red addressed to Portman Square with the London District duplex for JU 30 56 (code 12) 78. Surprisingly there are no other markings.

No.35 Notebook, page 13. Received Open.... An example dated 30th. December 1850 struck in black on a cover addressed to Grays Inn; the 1d is struck with 17 in diamond; also in red on a letter from France to Poole Dorset, this being dated 28th. February, 1862.

These stamps were issued to several offices and the following recorded uses may be of interest:

W.C. District Office, from Holyhead to London WC, dated 22nd January, 1864, struck in black.

W. District Office, from London W to Rochester, registered, dated 18th. April, 1867, struck in reddish black.

G.P.O. (rather than in full as with the item previously illustrated) from India to Saxmundham, dated 1871, struck in black.

No.34 Notebook, page 2: An illustration would have been helpful. Have a Chelsea dated c.d.s. seriffed in red on the front of a cover which has the adhesive cancelled by the District Post 70, addressed to Grays Inn and dated 28th. July, 1846. Could it be the office did not know what to do with it? A further example, Kennington Cross in sans serif dated cds in blue on reverse of 1/- rate cover to Australia with a London S/19 duplex. Just to confuse the issue, in the same type I have a number from Stanmore with the following dates: 1st. Feb., 1840; 10th. July, 1842; 26th. April, 1844 ?????

No.34 Notebook, page 5. New Remarks of London, Penny Post Office - The missing letters probably make up Counters Bridge, according to a list of 1765.

No.33 Notebook, page 8, Un-numbered Maltese Crosses in London. We can safely say there were more than just the twelve numbered crosses in use to deal with the London District mail. For example, I can offer the following MX used after April 1843:

TP Picadilly 2.3.44; King St Cov. Gadn 2.8.43; Gt Marylebone St 14.10.43;
Red Lion Sq. 24.11.43; Exmouth St 14.8.43; TP Chapel St. 1.12.43

No.33 Notebook, page 14: London Twopenny Post: Country Receiving House Stamps. Colney Hatch should read Colney-hatch
Hammer⁴ C 0, latest 11th October, 1832
Ifleworth, 29th. June, 1819 seems to have been left out
Leytonstone, used in February '29
Kings R Chelfea, on 3.9.1830
Lit Ealing in April '26
Pancrafs on 8th. December, 1837

I hope these items are of interest and the response from other readers is encouraged!

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

LONDON FOREIGN BRANCH DATESTAMP, RMW No. 660, by M.H. Bristow

A



B



C



D

This type of mark is recorded as having been in general use from 1838 to 1840, examples being found struck in black on inward letters passing through the Foreign Branch. Robson Lowe's Catalogue, Vo. 1, (1952), No. 469 records its period of use as 1837 to 1840, but I have not so far discovered one as early as this.

For many years it has been known sub-types of this datestamp exist but neither Robson Lowe or Martin Willcocks mention this fact; as far as I am aware it has not, so far, been recorded anywhere.

From my own observations at least four different sub-types can be distinguished by drawing an imaginary line from the ' L ' to the final ' N ' of ' LONDON ' and noting its position relative to the various portions of the date, as tabulated below.

Sub-Type	Diameter	Line from 'L' to 'N' ' LONDON '	Incidence	Recorded Dates.
A	30mm	Passing between month and year. Bold letters 4mm high	Common	21. 2.1838 to 8. 4.1840
B	30mm	Passing through month Bold letters 4mm high	Common	17. 4.1838 to 14. 8.1839
C	29.5mm	Passing between day and month. Slimmer letters 3.5mm high	Less Common	15. 9.1839 to 31. 1.1840
D	29.5mm	Passing through foot of day. Slim letters 3mm high.	Fairly Common	4. 8.1839 to 21. 2.1840

Readers are invited to check their own copies of this mark for date extensions and any other variations. I will be very happy to learn of the results.

(3 Gilkes Crescent, Dulwich, SE 21).

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

BLIND DUTY STAMP

The stamp illustrated is probably familiar to most readers and having noted an example on an undelivered letter recently, the Editor wrote to the ECDO

EG31	EG32	EG33		EG35	EG36

to establish the current function, as determined officially. One hears much adverse comment on the Post Office these days, but the help given to this type of enquiry cannot be faulted. The response was as follows:

The stamp you refer to is peculiar to this office (Eastern Central District Office) and is used by Postmen Higher Grade employed on deciphering badly addressed letters, dealing with insufficiently addressed letters - in fact dealing with any ordinary mail which for any reason cannot be forwarded/delivered in the normal way. In Post Office parlance it is known, as you possibly know, as the 'Blind' duty. Over a period of time, these officers become very proficient at deciphering addresses which could not be achieved merely by consulting reference books.

I am enclosing a specimen sheet showing the full range of these identifying stamps*. Under each one, the officer using each stamp, would initial and put his official badge number. Although the number of men scheduled to this type of work within any 24 hours is about 20, we carry many spare ones to ensure that if assistance is needed for seasonal increased work etc, no stamp will be duplicated. Therefore we are able, definitely, to identify the officer who handled any letter, of this type, on any specific date.

*the numbers run from 1 to 40 inclusive, only one line being shown.
this have "proofs" in light purple, hence the "retouching" (none too well!!)

--O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O--

BOOKS ON LONDON, by W.V. Evans

May I commend to the possible interest of members , the following books which are peripheral to our subject, but which I found totally fascinating both to read and for reference ?

The first is "LONDON'S LANDLORDS", telling of early speculators and "developers" of London, the families and the arranged marriages e.g. "mergers" between the Cavendish's and the Bedfords. Also described is the planning and building of the squares and terraces of Bloomsbury, Marylebone, Belgravia, Islington and so on. Recounted also is how one Lord Wm. Compton from Compton Wyngates in Warwickshire eloped with the heiress to the Spencer fortunes, thereby acquiring not only a bride but also substantial estates in Clerkenwell and Islington, which the family (the Marquis of Northampton's) still owns. Hence the present Compton and Spencer Streets and Northampton Square.

The book is by Simon Jenkins, published by Constable.

Books On London. continued.....

The second book is " A Dictionary of City of London Street Names " by A.L.Smith (David and Charles). This is a paperback of 291 pages, well illustrated with photographs plus a large, fine pull-out map of the City. It is just what it says and gives the history and derivation of the name of practically every city street. At 95pence it is quite remarkable value.

Referring to " St.John's Gate " under the entry for " St.John's Street " we read: " The Gate was re-erected in 1504 by Sir Thomas Docwra, Grand Prior of the Order of St. John".

Although I used to work in King Edward Buildings in Newgate Street a millennium ago, I was not aware that Newgate Prison still stood there as recently as 1902! Since the prison was rebuilt in the 15th Century (by Dick Whittington) it must have been in a bit of a state towards its end! (Nor did I know King Edward St. was once called Stinking Lane " from the smells of the decaying meat on the butchers stalls.")

The book is written by a City Taxi Driver who, by dint of wide research, certainly knows his subject. It is a reference book, but an un-put-down-able one, delightful for dipping into. Especially if one remebers the City as it was before our present-day " developers " desecrated so much.

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WALTHAMSTOW.....

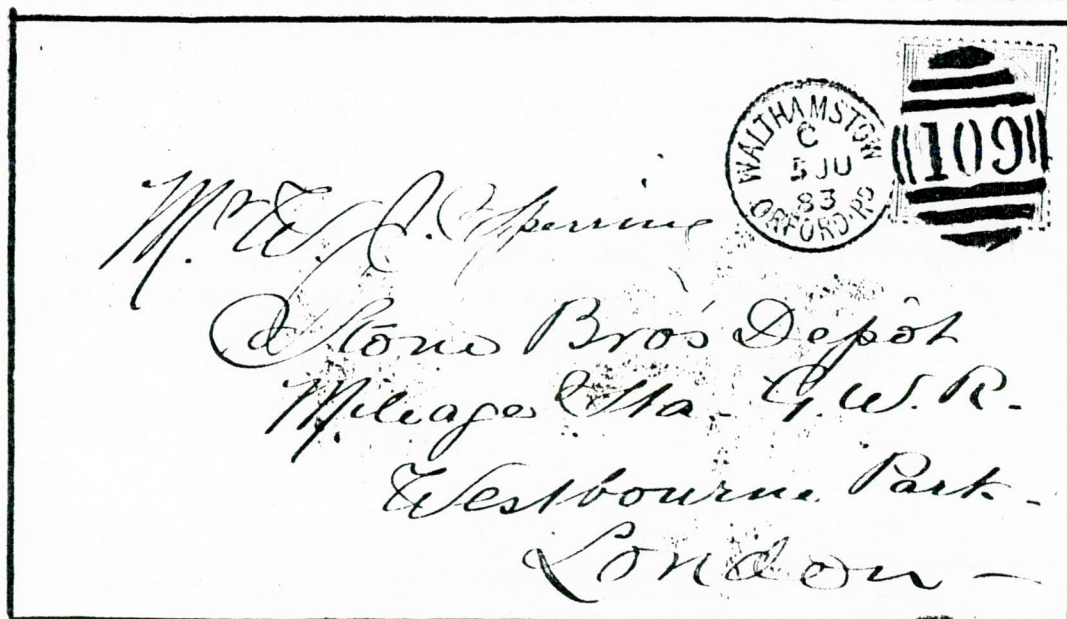
In ' British Post Office Numbers ', Brumell has a footnote to 109 in the England and Wales series :

Double stamp known with " Walthamstow, Oxford Road ", 1883.

As can be seen from the 1883 example above, there appears to be an error. From a list of London streets, Orford Road

As can be seen from the example above, also dated 1883, this should be Orford Street, this being confirmed from a London street index.

Would readers correct their copies of the book and/or other records.



WHAT THE AUCTIONS TELL.....

There were three Robson Lowe Postal History Auctions during 1977, with a wide selection of London material on offer - and generally selling in excess of the estimates. During a recent train journey to Scotland, the Editor spent a very engrossing few hours re-reading the lot descriptions and examining the results. The following is but an abstract of these musings. (£Valuation - £ Realisation)

4th. March, 1977

- 1050 Sailor's letter, in 1888, headed " H.M.S. Griffon, Colombo " and bearing G.B. Jubilee 2d. cancelled by " LONDON E.C. " hooded d.s. Somewhat damaged on reverse and the two lower corners torn away. £ 60 - £48
- 1204 1833 E.L. to Nuneaton showing, across the join, the scarce "CX" d.s. (Charing Cross) in red, mainly ** to *** (W22) £ 25 - £28
- 1207 1823 E.L. from King's Bench Prison to Chepstow with framed "BELVIDERE PL^E/S" (W.37), mainly *** £ 20 - £25
- 1210 1823 large part E. from Kingston to New Bond Street showing h.s. "3" and the scarce "WR" (W281) almost *** £ 30 - £55
- 1225 1796 E.L. from H.M.S. "Caroline" to the Admiralty, showing " GOSPORT ", three-reng "FREE" d.s. (crossed through) and framed " Above Privileged/ Number " almost *** in red; similar to W.90 but a year earlier. £ 35 - £ 72.50
- 1228 1829-39 EL (3) to Norwich showing unframed "Above Privilege" and "ABOVE/WEIGHT" (in red) and framed "ABOVE WEIGHT"; mainly ** to *** (W.91, 93 and 94) £ 60 - £ 110
- 1229 1819-40 F.(3) each with crowned "FREE" d.s. and showing the scarce "0", "N" and "E" codes (W79-81) mainly *** £ 25 - £ 48
- 1232 1839: "REBATE/FOREIGN OFFICE" for "28 NO 28" *** on E.L. from Havana " p. H.B.M. Packet Swift " £ 200 - £ 320
- 1233 1839: "REBATE/F.B.O." *** for "16 OC 16" on E.L. from Carril endorsed "Only double from Galicia at 2/2 ought to be 4/4". Originally charged "7/6" £ 200 - £ 350
- 1234 1839: "REBATE/INLAND-OFFICE" (one of the scarcest in our experience) mainly ** to *** for "7 DE 7" on E.L. from Chichester to London posted on 4th. December, the last day of rates based on mileage. The rate has been reduced from "2/-" to "1/4" but if the writer had waited another d day it would only have cost 4d £ 250 - £ 280
- 1235 1797 E.L. from Vienna to London showing, on the reverse, "FOREIGN OFFICE" d.s. (W.655) and the rare circular framed "PP/1797"(W.666), both *** £ 50 - £ 280
- 1246 1858 E. from Hamburg to London showing c.d.s. "HAMBURG/PAID" and circular "HAMBURG/Crown/REGISTERED" both *** in red, also c.d.s. of the Danish Post Office. £ 45 - £ 250
- 1247 1859 E. from Bremen to London with h.s. including "FRANCO", "2 $\frac{1}{2}$ /Sgr." and the scarce "BREMEN/Crown/REGISTERED" ***. Mint and attractive £ 45 - £ 42
- 1248 1851 E. from Berlin to London showing circular framed "P", crown over "REGISTERED" and circular "PRUSSIA/Crown/REGISTERED" ***. Attractive £ 35 - £ 130
- 1250 1867 env. from Assisi to London with Italy 20c. pair and 40c.(2) cancelled "352" and showing oval d.s. "REGISTERED/LONDON" with circular "SARDINIA/Crown/REGISTERED" *** though struck partly over by a "P.D." mark. £ 45 - £ 26

- 1251 1869 E. from Bremen to London bearing North German Confederation rouletted 2g. and 5g. cancelled by c.d.s. "BREMEN BAHNHOF" and showing Crown over curved "REGISTERED" with large oval d.s. "REGISTERED-LONDON/FROM/PRUSSIA" very *** Most attractive. £ 60 - £ 87½
- 1373 1824 E.L. from Keyhaven to New York, via the "New England Coffee House" London, showing "LYMINGTON/98" and, across the join, "POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER/LONDON", mainly *** to superb. Neatly repaired at some of the folds. £ 100 - £ 80
- 1374 1836 Soldier's E.L. from India to Yorkshire showing framed "VELLORE/POST FREE" and large circular framed "INDIA SOLDIERS/3/LONDON" (In.Sol.4) ** to ***. In good condition for this £ 75 - £ 40
- 1405 1858 Env. from London to Worcester bearing 1d red (damaged corner) with an almost complete strike of the Pearson Hill experimental cancellation. Code "M" (Eur.C30) £ 100 - £ 160
- 1409 1871 ½d postcard from London to Worcester with the experimental "JG" cancellation (Dubus p.100) used only on postcards, mainly ** to ***. Rare £ 120 - £ 250

8th. July. 1977

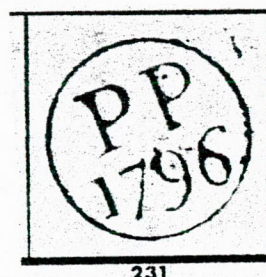
- 368 1787 E. to London with faint "LOUTH" and the short lived "MARCH 23/A" d.s. superb (W10) £ 55 - £ 38
- 371 1774 E.L. to Somerset showing, on the reverse, "Partington" superb and "16/IY" Bishop mark £ 29 - £ 17
- 374 1794 (12th Mar.) E.L. to Madeira "p. the Duke of Clarence, Capt. Cobbold at Torbay" showing the square framed experimental d.s. "POSTAGE/PAID" ** to *** though slightly blurred (W47). £ 120 - £ 210
- 376 Another via a vessel at Portsmouth, endorsed "past by without stopping at this Port" and showing the double ring "PAID" d.s. for "NO/26/94" (W49) *** Facinating £ 100 - £ 95
- 380 1703 E.L. to Fleet Street with "PAYD/PENY/POST" of Bishopsgate office, superb. £ 200 - £ 300
- 381 1704 E.L. with a superb "PAYD/PENY/POST" of Temple office and "P/Af/1" time stamp alongside. £ 70 - £ 105
- 383 1707 E.L. from Sherborne (?) to Putney with "IA/16" Bishop mark and dotted heart shape "F/AFT" *** (W 146) £ 375 - £ 350
- 386 1771 E.L. from Harbour Island, Bahamas to London endorsed "By Capt Wilson, the Leasure-Hour from Providence" showing "POST/PAYD/PENY" of Temple office, superb. Time stamp of Westminster and framed "NICHOLSON" Receivers h.s. * to **. Unusual. £ 200 - £ 230
- 392 1789 E.L. from Portman Square to the Strand showing, across the join, a faint Dockwra type and time stamp but a superb "J* BROOKS" Receivers stamp. £ 60 - £ 155
- 394 1823 E.L. to Chelsea showing, on the reverse, "2 A.NOON" and "4 EVEN" time stamps of Westminster office (W179) both being the " reversed figure " variety, mainly ***. The flap rather discoloured but a scarce cover. £ 25 - £ 15
- 395 1799 E.L. from London to Gravesend showing, on the flap, the very rare Late Fee c.d.s. "MAR/11.99" * to *** (W.321) £ 90 - £ 85
- 404 1818 E.L. from London to Madeira showing, on reverse, framed "Return'd/ for Postage" superb, in black (W686, and three years earlier than recorded). Some very slight staining and a little ragged around the seal. £ 30 - £ 37

- 405 1838 E.L. from New York to Madeira with framed "NOT PAID"(W674)*** and "160" Portuguese due mark. Uncommon. £ 20 - £ 32
- 577 1814 E.L. from Bombay to Aberdeen, a little creased, showing the scarce step type "LONDON/SHIP LETTER" (S31) superb, and large "Addl./ $\frac{1}{2}$ " £ 25 - £ 50
- 578 1815 E.L. to Madeira showing, across the join, c.d.s. "POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER/LONDON" almost *** £ 80 - £ 100
- 582 1818 E.L. from London to Madras showing c.d.s. "INDIA SHIP LETTER/GPO/LONDON" (In.1) cancelled by a "crutched cross" and crowned c.d.s. "INDIA PACKET LETTER/GPO/LONDON(in.P4) * to **. On the reverse is a "KINGS POSTAGE/INLAND POSTAGE"*** to ***. Unusual and scarce £ 60 - £ 62 $\frac{1}{2}$
- 584 1821 E. from Bombay to London, showing framed "INDIA LETTER/DEAL" cancelled by crowned "EXEMPT SHIP L^R", a much earlier type than those recorded by Robertson; mainly ** £ 75 - £ 100
- 585 1834 Soldier's E. from Madras to Clyde River, Nova Scotia showing circular framed "INDIA SOLDIER &/3/LONDON"(In.Sol.5)*** for this but the cover in poor condition. £ 20 - £ 31
- 586 1852 Soldier's E.L. from Belgaum to Tunbridge Wells showing red "BELGAUM/FREE" d.s. and circular "SOLDIERS & SEAMANS LETTER/4/BY SHIP" (In. Sol.7) mainly **. Somewhat worn and creased £ 35 - £ 39
- 651 Skeletons. 1903-19, three on piece, with "BATTERSEA"(3, in two different types), "EAST DULWICH", "ELTHAM", "MILL HILL", "NEW CROSS", "NEW SOUTHGATE", "SUN STREET"(2) and "ROYAL HORTICULTURE EX" mainly *** (11) £ 25 - £ 32

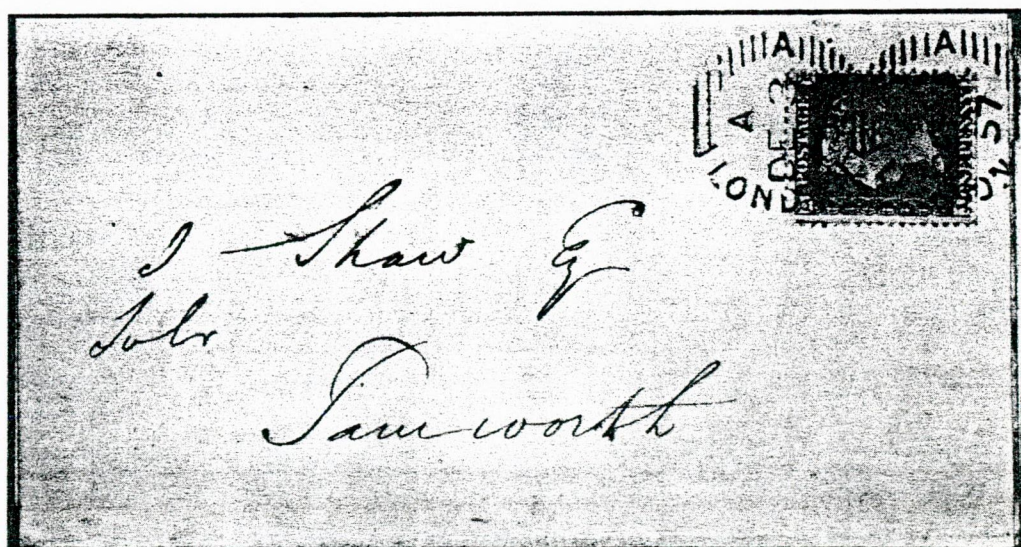
7th.October. 1977

- 49 1838 E. from Canton to London, via India and Egypt (French P.O.) endorsed "Care of Mr.Waghorn", with disinfection slits and showing a variety of transit stamps including "FORWARDED/BY/REMINGTON & CO.", "BRITISH/FOREIGN" and the scarce "To the care of/M^R WAGHORN" ** to *** though overstruck by light London arrival c.d.s. Full of character. £ 200 - £ 380
- 153 1618 E.L. to "Sir Edward Courcy Kt. at Boswel House on the Bank syde of St Clemons without Temple Barr". In good condition £ 50 - £ 67 $\frac{1}{2}$
- 189 1761 E.L. to London showing on reverse, "GLOU/CESTER" and "24/NO" Bishop mark with reversed "N" variety (W5)** to *** £ 40 - £ 65
- 192 1794 E.L. to London with faint town stamp overstruck by scarce square "POSTAGE/PAID" d.s. (W4T) almost *** £ 120 - £ 180
- 193 1794 large part E. to Ackworth School, Yorks, showing the octagonal "POST/PAID" d.s.(W48) and large "NEWING^N B./1" ** £ 60 - £ 75
- 196 1770 E.L. from Chobham to London with "PENNY/POST/PAID" of General office *** and double ring "GRAPE-STATIONER", a legible though slightly smudged strike £ 45 - £ 75
- 199 1807 E. to London, re-directed to Ayr, with large unframed "Postage to London/ Not Paid" (W261) and 1833 E.L. from France to Oxford, re-directed twice, showing framed "L.C.O./POSTAGE NOT PAID/TO LONDON"(W266);mainly ** £ 35 - £ 42
- 200 1813 E.L. (light filing crease) from Cork to Lewisham showing "CORK/124" and, on reverse, crowned "Too Late for/Morning.Post" superb but not quite complete (W331 but two years earlier than recorded) £ 30 - £ 50
- 202 1823 large part E. from Kensington to New Bond Street showing h.s. "3" and the scarce "WR" (W281) almost *** £ 30 - £ 30
- 203 1836-40 E.L.(4) and F.(5) mostly showing evidence of Cross Post trans - mission, with h.s. including "Shooters Hill/Penny Post"(2) and similar for Croydon (partly inked in) and Kingston, framed "Hounslow/PV Post"(4) and "T.P/Hampton; * to *** £ 30 - £ 115

- 204 1839 E.L. to Chippenham showing "T.P/Hampton", "Twickenham/Penny Post" almost *** and similar for "Hounslow" * to **, with, on the reverse, "HAMPTON/EV" c.d.s. *** £ 35 - £ 82½
- 228 1835 "O.H.M.S." cover to the Admiralty with octagonal "To be/delivered/Free"(W84) almost ***. Small tear at top £ 25 - £ 17
- 231 1796 E.L. from Hamburg to London showing, on the reverse, circular framed "PP/1796"(W666), a magnificent strike. £ 150 - £ 130
- 294 LONDON: 1810 E. from Amsterdam (?) to London showing the scarce "SHIP LETTER" c.d.s. (S16) ** to *** £ 80 - £ 62½
- 300 1841 (c.) Numbers in Cross 1 - 12, a complete set, each on 1d red off paper, fine clear strikes and at least half are four-margin examples; and one other (13) £ 50 - £ 95
- 303 1857 E.L. from London to Tamworth bearing 1d. red cancelled by a superb strike of the Pearson Hill experimental cancellation, Code "A" (Eur.C30). £ 150 - £ 250



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4th.March, 1977, Illustrations

1210

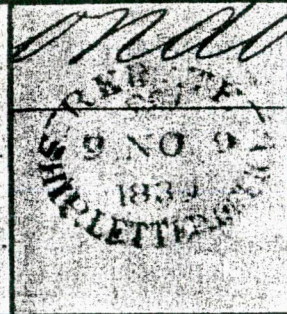


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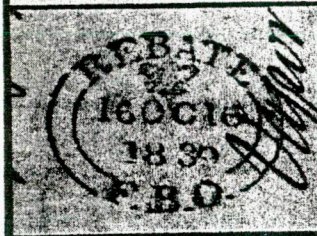
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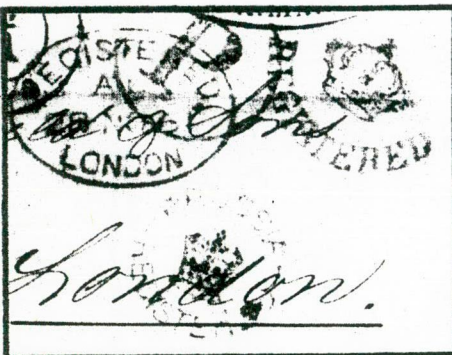
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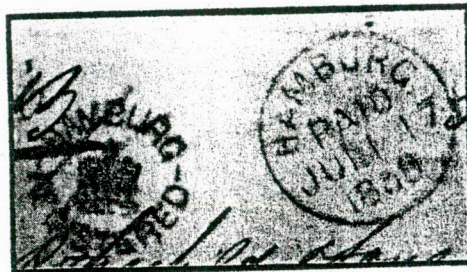
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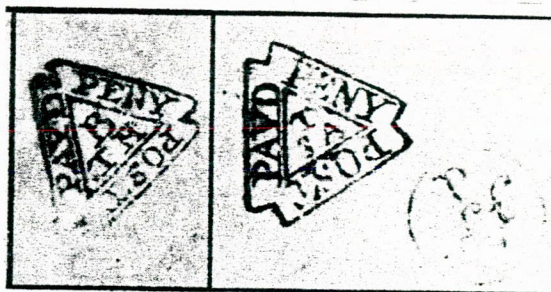


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8th. July. 1977, Illustrations

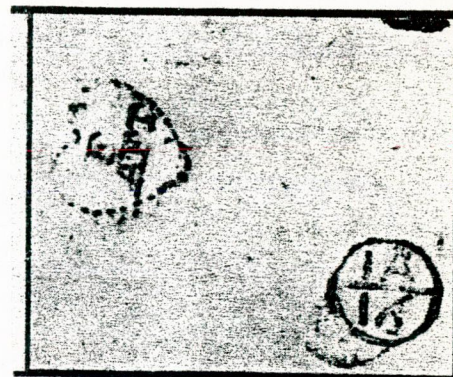


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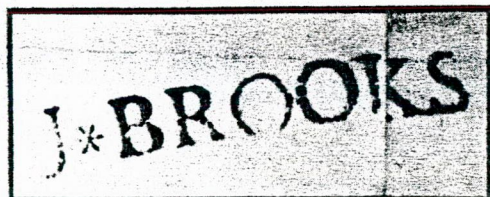


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POST OFFICE NOTICE : Mercurius Publicus, May 2. 1661**Advertifement from His MAJESTY'S Poft-office.**

All Gentlemen and others are defires to take notice that the Pft-Office hath been abufes by feveral perfons, who have falfely pretended themselves to be appointed to receive Letters from the Poft-Office, and have exacted a penny a letter above the due port, alledging it to be for carrying the fame to the Office, and fome fuch perfons have alfo deftroyed many letters to gaine the port to them felves.

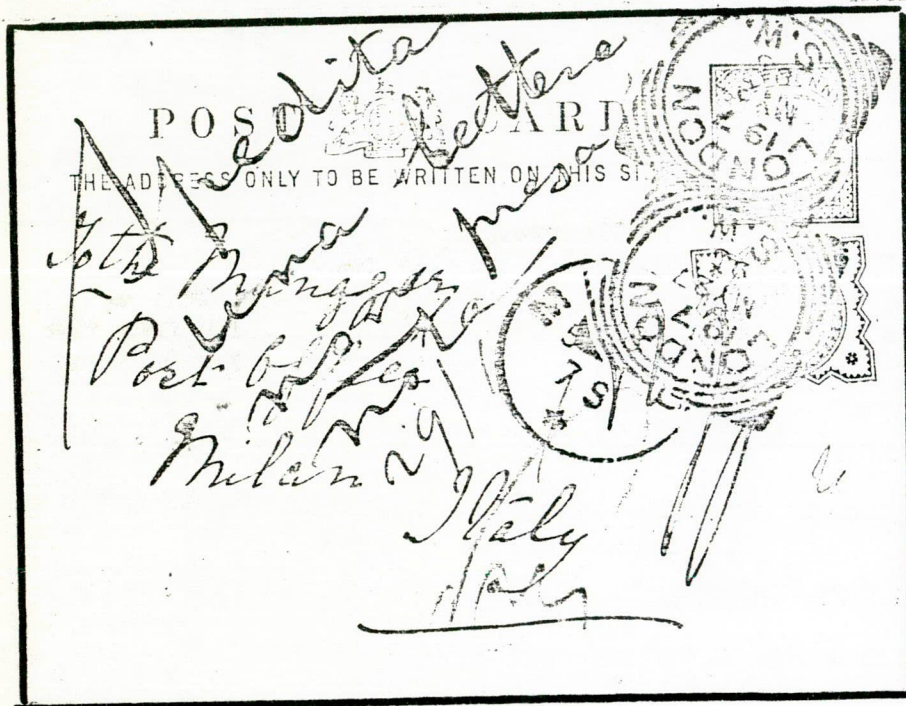
And to prevent the like abufes his Majefties Poft-Mafter generall hath appointed the perfons hereafter named at his own charge who have given fecurity & voluntary Oath for their faithfullneffe to **receive all Letters in their refpective places** for the Poft-office.viz. Weftminfter, Mr.Parker at Mr. Grincils Shop a Grocer, next door to the Sanctuary-Gate. Strand. Mr. Roberts a Grocer, at the Bay-tree over againft York houfe. Covent-garden. Mr. Magnes Stationer, in Ruffel-ftreet. Holborn. Mr.Place Stationer at Grays-Inn-gate. Fleetftreet, Mr Eales at his fhop in St. Dunftans Church-yard.

And if any of the faid perfons fhould happen to forfeit their fecurity by exacting more then the due port, its defires that complaint may be made thereof at the Poft-office, and that redreffs may be given to the parties injured.

And to prevent any neglect of the Letter-Caryers in the fpeedy delivery of Le Letters, from the faid Office; Its notified that the days of the receipt of every letter at the Office is printed upon the Letter, and the Letter-Carryers ought to deliver them the fame day in the Summer, and the next morning at fartheft in the Winter: and if any fayler be complained of at the Poft-office, it fhall be redreffed.

Its likewife notified that the Office for the Kentift dayly poft is now kept at the Round Houfe in Love Lane nere Billingsgate for the convenience of traders into that County. And all Letters into Kent delivered at the Kings generall Poft-office fhall be fent thither dayly.

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

A SQUARED CIRCLE QUERY from Simon Kelly.

The postcard illustrated above was sent from London SW to Milan on 20th. May, 1895 and arrived the following day. Interest lies in the time code used in the London SW 3-arc squared circle which reads 19 7.

Is this a regular method of time coding, is it an error, or what ?

SQUARED CIRCLE CO-ORDINATOR

Reg Sanders has offered to act as co-ordinator on the Squared Circle portion of the London Postal History publication. Once he has done the initial spadework he will be contacting members generally for assistance. Meanwhile, those with a special interest in these stamps are invited to contact him now.

Reg Sanders,
Rickaby,
Killeston,
Alresford,
Hants. S024 ONL

NEWSPAPERS FOR RUSSIA

The following taken from Post Office notices issued in 1864 are reprinted without recourse to political comment (despite the temptation!).

No.38, 1864

NEWSPAPERS for RUSSIA

SEVERAL instances having lately occurred in which Newspapers sent from this Country addressed to Russia, have been returned, in consequence of the regulations of the Russian Post Office with regard to the transmission of Newspapers not having been complied with, the Public are again informed that it is forbidden to introduce into Russia, through the Post, political Newspapers, and that the only means by which persons residing in Russia can obtain such Newspapers from the United Kingdom is by subscribing for them at one of the Russian Post Offices.

The admission into Russia of Newspapers not of a political character is only premitted in those cases where they are addressed to the house of some established Bookseller.

By Command of the Postmaster-General

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
24th October, 1864.

No.43, 1864

NEWSPAPERS for RUSSIA

SINCE issuing the Notice No. 38, dated the 24th October last, respecting the conditions under which alone Newspapers can be forwarded by the Post to Russia, the Postmaster-General has been informed that an exemption from the ordinary regulations exists in favour of Political Newspapers, or of any other Publications, addressed to Members of the Royal Family of Russia, to the Imperial Ministers, and to Members of the Diplomatic Corps. Such Newspapers, &c., it is now stated, will be admitted into Russia although not subscribed for at one of the Russian Post Offices.

It appears, also, that Non-political Newspapers and Publications may be received by the Post, not only when addressed to established Booksellers in Russia, as already announced, but also when addressed to the Higher Schools, to the Imperial Public Library, and to the Academy of Sciences in Russia.

By Command of the Postmaster-General

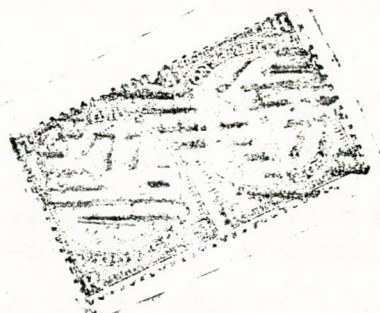
GENERAL POST OFFICE,
19th December, 1864.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

FOREIGN NEWSPAPER OFFICE, from Derek Holliday

According to Westley Inland Office double stamps numbered 75 to 80 were sent to the Foreign Newspaper Office. He further states that no number above 74 is known to collectors and he doubted " very much that these marks were ever actually put into use ".

I am pleased to report a number 77 has been discovered cancelling a pair of plate 9 4d.



London Postal History Group

" Notebook " is printed five times a year and is issued free to members.

Individual copies, where available, can be supplied at 50 pence each,
U.K. post paid

Publications, other than " Notebook ".....

1. Classification of Types of Undated Namestamps of England, Wales and Ireland 1840 - 1860, by M.V.D. Champness (1973) 20 pence.
2. Horizontal Oval Cancellations of London, by John Parmenter (1974)
(Out of print)
3. District and Branch Cancellations of London 1857 - 1900, Part 1,
by John Parmenter (1975)
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