London Postal History Group

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NOTEBOOK

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EDITOR'S NOTES.....

We have just finished our year with a most entertaining session of the Foreign Branch. What appeared to be a possibly unrewarding subject proved quite the opposite, not the least being Martin Willcocks producing a selection of items (mainly unmounted, of course!!) which others present were inclined to save him the effort of taking home again. Caxton Hall has been our venue for some time, but by the simple process of doubling the charges from 1st.January next, we are forced to seek alternative facilities. There are one or two in prospect but there is almost sure to be a delay in printing the programme while matters are finalised. The next meeting, however, will be on Saturday 21st. January, even if it is the Editor's study!

Harris publications are offering groups, such as ours, the chance to obtain items from their stocks at a 12½% discount, if ordered through the Hon. Sec. As one who churns out a large number of album sheets which seem to require correction all too soon, the Editor will be placing an order very soon. For those unable to collect either at meetings or from the Editor during the week, in central London, Dulwich at weekends, there is to cost of postage to check before rushing into what may prove to be a ' non-saving ' buy.

Several sections of London's Postal History are awaiting first type draft; it is hoped to have some on offer with the next Notebook, this to be issued, with any luck and further contributions from members, before the end of the year.

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LONDON MONEY ORDER OFFICES 1846, contributed by Michael Champness

In Volume 5 of the Proof Impression Books (Steel) in Post Office Records, is a list of London Offices that were issued with dated stamps for use on money orders. This explains why these dated marks are of the utmost rarity used on letters; indeed, the only two likely to be found would be the last two on the list which follows. Bye letters surviving the ravages of time and the label collector were never plentiful, but they are always worth looking for.

Battle Bridge
Bloomsbury
City Road
Camberwell
Camden Town
Chelsea
Dockhead
Grays Inn Lane
Hackney
Hammersmith
Islington
Kennington Cross
Kingsland
Lambeth
Lewisham
Limehouse
Norwood
Old Kent Road
Oxford Street
Piccadilly
Pimlico
Ratcliff Cross
Stand (Two stamps in use)
Tottenham Court Road
Upper Baker Street
Whitechapel
Wapping
Barking
Harrow
Shooters Hill
Stanmore
Clerkenwell Green
Coventry Street
Great Surrey Street
Great Tower Street
High Holborn
Mile End
Shoreditch
Walworth
Westminster Broadway
East India Road
Bayswater
Erith
Brixton
Waltham Green
Blackheath *
Greenwich *

* uses the money order stamp for the Bye letters

NUMBER INCROSS

NUMBERS IN CROSS

One of the items in the recent auction, possibly unrecorded by the vendor but spotted when preparing the catalogue,was a number 8 in cross dated 14th.April,1843, which moves the date a few notches.

New Remarks of London

or, a survey of the Cities of London and Westminster, of Southwark and part of Middlesex and Surrey, within the circumference of the Bills of Mortality, containing

The Situation, Antiquity and Rebuilding of each Church; the Value of the Rectory or Vicarage; in whose Gifts they are; and the Name of the present Incumbents and Lecturers. Of the several Vestries, the Hours of Prayer, Parish and Ward Officers, Charity and other Schools, the Number of Charity-children, how maintained, educated and placed out Apprentices, or put to Service. Of the Alms houses, Work-houses and Hospitals. The remarkable Places and Things in each Parish, with the Limits or Bounds, Streets, Lanes, Courts and Number of Houses.

Likewise an alphabetical Table of all the Streets, Courts, Lanes, Alleys, Yards, Roes, Rents, Squares, &c within the Bills of Mortality, shewing in what Liberty or Freedom they are, and an easy Method for finding any of them. Of the several Inns of Courts, and Inns of Chancery, with their several Buildings, Courts, Lanes, &c.

Collected by the COMPANY OF PARISH - CLERKS

To which are added

The Places to which Penny post Letters are sent, with proper Directions therein. The Wharfs, Keys, Docks, &c. near the River Thames. Of Water-carriage to several Cities, Towns, &c. The Rates of Water men, Porters of all Kinds, and Car-men. To what Inns Stage-coaches, Flying-coaches, Waggons and Carriers come, and the Days they go out.

The Whole being very useful for Ladies, Gentlemen, Clergymen, Merchants, Tradesmen, Coachmen, Chair-men, Porters, Bailiffs, and others.

LONDON, Printed for E. Midwinter, at the Looking glass and three Crowns in St.Pauls Church-yard. MDCCXXXII.

(page 399 et seq.)

PENNY - POST - OFFICE

PENNY-POST-OFFICE is a very convenient Project, and principally under the Care and Inspection of a Comptroller; and, by Act of Parliament made 9th of Queen Anne, for establishing a general Post-Office, it is there enacted, That, for the Port of all and every the Letters and Packets passing or repassing by the Carriage called the Penny-Post, established and settled with-in the Cities of London and Westminster, and Borough of Southwark, and Parts adjacent, and to be received and delivered within TEN English Miles distant from the said general Letter-office in London, ONE PENNY.

Now, the Custom of the Office is to receive one penny upon the Delivery of every Letter or Parcel, not exceeding one Pound in Weight, over and above the one Penny which is paid at the Time of putting in every Letter or Parcel; and there are sufficient Number of Receiving-houses in Town and Country, for the Ease of the Subject, and the more speedy forwarding their Letters or Parcels by Messengers, appointed for that Purpose. In London, Westminster and Southwark, Letters and Parcels are received (and ought to be delivered) every Hour, viz. from 8 in the Morning till 10 at Night, Sundays and Part of Christmas-day excepted.

And for the better ordering of this Affair, the Penny-Post is divided into 6 Offices, where all Letters and Parcels, that are brought in, are registered, and who dispatch them to the several Places in each of their Divisions, as hereafter mentioned, and observe, that the Number of Figures plac'd before each Town, Village, &c. shews how often Letters or Parcels are convey'd thither and back again in every Day.

Penny Post Office, continued.....

The Names and Places of the six Offices, whence Town and Country Letters and Parcels are daily conveyed.

The general and chief Penny-Post-Office, which has the Inspection and Management of all the rest, is kept in St.Christopher's-Church yard in Threadneedle-street, near Stock-market, which collects, receives, conveys and delivers Letters and Parcels to and from the following adjacent Places, besides what it delivers in its own proper District in London.

No		No		No	
1	Aldersbrook	3	Hagerstone	1	Ripple side
1	Avery-hatch	1	Ham east and west	1	Ruckfolds
1	Barking	1	Hoxton	1	South-gate
1	Bednal green	1	Jenkins	2	Stepney
2	Bishops-hal	1	Ilford	3	Stratford
3	Bow	1	Kingsland	1	Tottenham
3	Bromley in Middlesex	1	Layton-stone	1	Tottenham high Cross
1	Bush-hall	1	Loughton-hall	1	Valentines
2	Cambridge-heath	1	Low-layton	1	Upton
1	Chigwell and Row	1	Lucksford	1	Walthamstowe
1	Dalston	1	Mile-end	1	Wansted
1	Edmington	1	Newington-stoke and Green	1	Winchmore-hill
1	Green-man	3	Oldford	1	Woodford
1	Green-street	1	Palmers-green	1	Woodford-row and Bridge
2	Hackney	1	Plaistow in Essex		

St. Paul's Office is kept in Queen's head-alley in Paternoster-row, which collects, receives, conveys and delivers Letters and Parcels to and from the following and adjacent Places, desides what it delivers within its own proper District in London.

3	Black-mary's-hole	3	Frog-lane	3	Sir John Old - castle's
3	Boarded River	1	Holloway upper and lower	3	Torrington-lane
3	Cambray-house	3	Islington	3	Wood's-close
3	Cold Bath	3	Mount-mill		
3	Copenhagen				

Temple Office is kept in Chichesters-rents, in Chancery-lane, which collects, receives, conveys and delivers Letters and Parcels to and from the following and adjacent Places, besides what it delivers within its own proper District in Town.

2	Battle bridge	1	Frog-lane	2	Pinder of Wake-field
1	Bone-gate	2	Hamsted	1	South-green
2	Brill	2	Highgate	1	Totteridge
1	Colcharbour	1	Hornsey	1	Whetstone
1	Coneyhatch	2	Kentish-town	1	Wood-green
1	East-barnet	1	Mussel-hill		
1	Finchley	2	Pancrass		

Westminster Office is kept in Pump-court near Charing-cross, which collects, receives, conveys and delivers Letters and Parcels to and from the following and adjacent Places, besides what it delivers within its own proper District in Town.

3	Abery-farm	1	Acton east and west	1	Acton-wells

(published in this order at the foot of a page; the listing reverts to vertical format immediately - Ed.)

Penny Post Office, continued.....

1 Barry's-walk
1 Base-watering
2 Blacklands
2 Bloody-bridge
2 Bluncoat- ane (sic)
2 Bollow-lane
2 Boston-house
2 Brentford old and new
2 Brentford-end
1 Brent's Cowhouse
2 Brook-green
2 Broom-houses
2 Brampton-Park
2 Bridland-house
1 Burrows
1 Castle-bear
1 Childs-hill
2 Corney-house
1 Cow-house-farm
2 Chelsea great and little
2 Chelsea College, Common and Fields
2 Chiswick
1 Count??s-bridge*
2 Crabtree-house
1 Dowel-street
2 Daws-lane
1 Dollars-hill
1 Ealing great and little
1 Ealing-lane
2 Earls-court
1 Foordhook
2 Frog-lane
1 Fryars-place
2 Fulham
2 Fulham-fields
2 Gagle-goose-green
2 Great and little holland-house
2 Gibbs-green
2 Grain-house
1 Greenman in Uxbridge Road
1 Gunnersbury
1 Guttershedge
2 Hammersmith
1 Hanger-lane and End
1 Haven
1 Hendon
1 Hide
2 Hog-lane
1 Holsdon-green
1 Hoywood-hill
2 Hudicon-fields
1 Kilborn
2 Kensington
1 KensingtonGravel-pits
2 Knights-bridge
1 Lawrence-street
1 Leafing-green
2 Limekilns
2 London stile
1 Lord Mayor's Ban - quetting-house
1 Maddox lane
1 Mary-bone and Park
1 Masha mapes and Masha-brands
1 Mid-hill
1 Neesdon
3 Neathouses
2 Noman's-lands
2 North-end
1 North-high-way
1 Notting-hills
1 Paddington and Green
2 Paddingwick-green
3 Pimlico
2 Purser's-cross
1 Pages-street
2 Parsons-green
2 Sandy-end
1 Shepherds-bush
1 Shevrick-green
1 Shoot-up-hill
2 Sion-hill
2 Sion-house
2 Sion-lane
1 St.john's-wood
2 Stanford-brook
2 Starch-green
2 Strand on the Green
2 Sutton-court and Little-sutton
1 Tatnam-court
2 Turnham-green
1 Tyburn Roaf and House
2 Waltham-green
1 Wembley and Green
1 Westburn green
1 Westfield
1 West-end
1 Wilsdon-green
1 Windmil-lane

* original printing faulty, two letters missing

Southwark Office is kept in Green-dragon-court near St. Mary Overy's Church, which collects, receives, conveys and delivers Letters and Parcels to and from the following and adjacent Places, besides what it delivers within its own proper District in Southwark and London.

1 Balam
2 Barn-elms
2 Barnstown
2 Battersea and
2 Battersea-ryes
2 Deptford upper & lower
1 Dulwich and Com- mon
2 East and west Sheen
1 Eltham
1 Gammon-hill
2 Blackheath
2 Bristow-causeway
1 Brockly upper and lower
1 Burntash
2 Long-barn
2 Long-hedge
2 Loughberry-house
1 Martin Abbey and Mills
2 March-gate
2 Mitcham
2 Camberwel
1 Charlton
2 Clapham and Com. mon
3 Coleharbour
2 Putney Heath and Green
2 Redhouse
1 Rickle-marsh
2 Roehampton
2 Rotherhith
1 Sidnam

Penny Post Office, continued.....

2 Garrets-green
2 Greenwich
2 Grove-street
1 Ireland-green
2 Kennington
2 Kew and Green
1 Knights-hill
3 Lambeth
3 Lambeth marsh
1 Lee
1 Lewisham
2 Limekilns
2 Mortlack
2 Morder
1 Mottingham
2 Newington-butts
2 New Cross
2 Nine Elms
1 Norwood
2 Peckham Town & Rey
2 Pigs march
1 Plumstead
2 South Lambeth
2 Stockwell
2 Stretham
1 Tooting upper and lower
3 Vauxhall
2 Walworth
2 Wandsworth and Common
1 Wimbleton
1 Woolwich

Hermitage Office is kept in Queen-street on Little Towerhil, which collects, receives, conveys and delivers Letters and Parcels to and from the following and adjacent Places, besides what it delivers within its own proper District in Town.

3 Blackwal
3 Isle of Dogs
3 King David's Fort
3 Limehouse and Hole
3 Poplar
3 Ratcliff
3 Stepney-causeway

Considering, that several of the before-mentioned Places are remote, it is desired, that you put in your Letters and Parcels before 6 of the Clock over night at the Receiving-houses, from whence they will be collected and brought into the proper Offices, otherwise, diverse of the Country Messengers going on their Walks by 6 of the Clock next Morning, they may lose a Day's Time in the Delivery: But, for those Places that are nearer, Letters are collected and delivered 2 or 3 times a Day, as above specified. All general Post Letters, both foreign and domestick, directed to the Places above-mentioned, not being Post Towns, are convey'd from the aforesaid Offices every Day at 12 o'Clock, and Answers thereunto being put into the Receiving houses in the Country-Towns, will next Night be safely carried to the general Post-Office, Officers being appointed for that Purpose.

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PARLIAMENTARY POSTAGE

Written Answers to Questions Monday 13th.June,1977:

Postage - Mr. Cormack asked the Lord President of the Council whether, in view of the further increase in postal charges, he will arrange for supplies of envelopes and postcards prepaid at second-class rates to be made available to hon.Members.

Mr. Foot : No. There would be no saving to public funds from the use of second-class prepaid envelopes as the postage charges to the House by the Post Office is based on envelope size not class of delivery.

THE REFORMS OF 1794

The following notice appeared in the " Evening Mail " Number 870 for Wednesday, September 24, to Friday, September 26, 1794.

PENNY POST OFFICE, Sept. 8, 1794.

His Majesty's Post Masters General, in carrying into effect a more frequent and expeditions Delivery of Letters by the Penny Post, have established the following Regulations:

Instead of five principal Penny-post offices in London, as heretofore, there are now two principal offices only; namely, the Chief, which is removed to and held in Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street, and the Westminster, removed to and held in Gerrard-street, Soho.

From these offices, by two sets of letter carriers being employed upon the town walks, each set going out alternately, and by a considerable addition to the number of letter carriers, both in town and country, as also by the letters being conveyed to and from the country letter carriers twice a day by riding messengers, and a third time outwards by the Mail Coaches, six deliveries of letters are given to all parts of the town, and three deliveries and two returns of post, to most parts of the country; and General Post letters arriving in town by the Mails in the morning are also dispatched the same morning to all parts of the Penny Post delivery.

The time by which letters must be put into the Penny Post, as also the time by which they are delivered, both in town and country, is as follows:

For the Town delivery

a. If put in at any of the Receiving Houses in Town.

b. At either of the two principal Offices

c. Or at the principal Office for the same District of the Town in which the place is situated *

d. For the

e. They are delivered in general between the Times undermentioned

	a	b	c	d	e
	H	H M	H M	For the	o'clock
Overnight by	8	9 0	9 30	1st delivery	½ past 7 & 9
Morning	8	8 30	9 0	2d ditto	½ past 9 & 11
-------	10	10 30	11 0	3d ditto	½ past 11 & 1
Noon	12	12 30	1 0	4th ditto	½ past 1 & 3
Afternoon	2	2 30	3 0	5th ditto	½ past 3 & 5
---------	5	5 30	6 0	6th ditto	½ past 6 & 8

The town is divided between the two principal offices thus, all parts to the east ward of Gray's-inn-lane, Holborn bars, Chancery-lane, with its communications, Temple-bar, Narrow-wall, Surrey, Lambeth-marsh, and the Asylum, are at the district of the Chief Office; and all parts to the westward of these places inclusive, are in the district of the Westminster Office.

For the Country Delivery
At Places having three Deliveries

a. If put in at any of the Receiving Houses in Town

b. At either of the two Principal Offices

c. Or at the Principal Office to which the Place is attached *

d. For the

e. They are delivered in general between the Times undermentioned

	a H	b H M	c H M	d For the	e o'clock
The preceding evening by	5	5 30	7 0	1st delivery	7 & 9 o'clock
Morning	8	8 30	9 0	2d ditto	10 & 1
Afternoon	2	2 30	3 0	3d ditto	4 & 7

At Places having but two deliveries

Morning by	8	8 30	9 0	1st delivery	10 & 10 o'clock
Afternoon	2	2 30	3 0	2d ditto	4 & 7

At Places having but one delivery

Morning by	8	8 30	9 0		10 & 10 o'clock

* The Principal Office to which the several places in the country are attached is pointed out by the letters C and W in the following list, which signify the Chief and Westminster Offices.

List of Places in the delivery of the Penny Post

Showing also to which of the Two Principal Offices each Place is immediately attached, the number of deliveries a day given to each, and the time fixed for the departure of the Post from such where Receiving Houses are established.

N.B. Those having no time of Departure specified, are such as have no Receiving Houses.

a. Places Names

b. Principal Offices

c. No. of Deliveries

d. Time of Departure from the undermentioned places

a.		b	c	d Morn. H. M.	d Aft H. M.
Acton and East do	Midd.	W	3	8 30	3 30
Bagnigge Wells*	Midd.	C	3		
Balham	Surry	C	3		
Ball's Pond	Midd.	C	3		
Barking	Essex	C	3	8 0	3 0
Barnes	Surry	C	3	8 30	3 30
Battersea	Surry	C	3	9 0	4 0
Battle-Bridge	Midd	C	3		
Bayswater	Midd.	W	3		
Bethnal Green	Midd.	C	3	(7 45) (11 45)	4 45
Blackheath	Kent	C	3	9 15	4 15
Blackwall *	Midd	C	3	(7 0) (11 0)	4 0

a.		b	c	d Morn. H. M.	d Aft H. M.
Bow	Midd	C	3	9 45	4 45
Brentford	Midd	W	3	9 0	4 0
Brixton Causeway	Surry	C	2		
Bromley	Midd.	C	3		
Brompton	Midd	W	3	9 15	4 15
Bush Hill	Midd	C	3		
Camberwell	Surry	C	3	9 15	4 0
Cambridge Heath	Midd.	C	3		
Camden Town	Midd.	C	3	9 30	4 30
Charlton	Kent	C	2	9 0	4 0
Charlton New	Kent	C	2		
Chelsea and Little do.	Midd	W	3	9 0	4 0
Chigwell	Essex	C	2	8 15	3 15
Chingford	Essex	C	1	----	2 30
Chiswick	Midd.	W	3	9 0	4 0
City Road near the Turnpike	Midd.	C	3		
Do. near the Shep. and Shepherdress*	Midd	C	3		
Clapham	Surry	C	3	9 30	4 30
Clapton	Midd.	C	3	9 15	4 0
Colney Hatch	Midd	C	2	8 15	3 15
Crouch End	Midd.	C	2	8 45	3 45
Cuckhold's Point*	Surry	C	3		
Dalston	Midd.	C	3		
Deptford	Kent.	C	3	9 15	4 15
Deptfd.Lower-rd near ChinaHall*	Surry	C	3		
Dog and Duck-rd St.George's-flds	Surry	C	3		
Dulwich	Surry	C	2	8 30	3 30
Ealing	Midd.	W	3	8 15	3 15
Ealing.Little	Midd.	W	2		
East Bernet	Herts	C	2	7 30	3 0
East Ham	Essex	C	3	8 30	3 30
East Sheen	Surry	C	3	9 0	4 0
Edmonton	Midd	C	3	9 15	4 15
Eltham	Kent	C	3	8 0	3 0
Enfield	Midd	C	3	9 0	4 0
Ditto-Highway	Midd	C	3	8 15	3 15
Finchley	Midd	C	3	9 0	4 0
Fryern Barnet	Midd	C	3	vide Colney Hatch	
Fulham	Midd	W	3	8 30	3 30
Grange Bermondsey	Surry	C	3		
Gray's-inn-rd.near the WelchSchool *	Midd.	W	3		
Golder's Green	Midd	C	2		
Greenwich	Kent	C	3	9 0	4 0
Greenland Dock*	Surry	C	3	(7 0) (11 1)	4 0
Hackney	Midd	C	3	9 15	4 0
Ditto Road near the Nag's Head*	Midd	C	3		
Haggerstonor Agaston*	Mid	C	3		
Ham	Surry	C	3	8 15	3 15
Hammersmith	Midd	W	3	9 15	4 15
Hampstead	Midd	C	3	9 0	4 0
Hanse Town	Midd	W	3	9 15	4 15
Hanwell	Midd	W	2	8 0	3 0

a	b	c	d Morn.	d Aft.
Hendon	Midd.	C 2	8 0	3 0
Highgate	Midd.	C 3	9 15	4 15
Highwood Hill	Midd.	C 2		
Holloway Down	Essex	C 2		
Holloway	Midd.	C 2		
Holsden Green	Midd.	W 1		
Hornsey	Midd.	C 2	vide CrouchEnd.	
Hommerton	Midd.	C 3	9 15	4 0
Hoxton near the Hare*	Midd	C 3	(7 45) (11 45)	4 45
Hyde	Midd.	W 1	———	2 30
Ilford	Essex	C 3	8 30	3 15
Ilford, Little	Essex	C 2		
Islington	Midd.	C 3	10 0	5 0
Kennington	Surry	C 3	9 30	4 0
Kensington	Midd.	W 3	9 30	4 30
Ditto Gravel Pits	Midd.	W 3	9 0	4 0
Kentish Town	Midd.	C 3	9 15	4 15
Kent-street Road	Surry	C 3	10 0	5 0
Kew	Surry	W 3	8 30	3 30
Kilburn	Midd.	W 1		
Kingsbury	Midd.	W 1		
Kingsland	Midd.	C 3	10 0	5 0
Ditto Road, near the Ironmongers' Alms-houses *	Midd.	C 3		
Kingsland Crescent	Midd.	C 3		
Knightsbridge	Midd.	W 3	9 45	4 45
Lambeth, South of Church-street *	Surry	W 3	(7 45) (11 45)	4 45
Lee	Kent	C 2		
Lewisham	Kent	C 3	8 30	3 30
Leyton	Essex	C 3	8 30	3 30
Leytonstone	Essex	C 3	9 15	4 15
Limehouse *	Midd.	C 3	(7 45) (11 45)	4 45
Loughton	Essex	C 1	———	2 30
Marsh Gate	Surry	C 3		
Maryland Point	Essex	C 3		
Mertin or Martin	Surry	C 2	8 30	3 30
Mile - end Road East of the Green *	Midd.	C 3	(7 45) (11 45)	4 45
Mill Hill	Midd.	C 2	8 0	3 0
Mitcham	Surry	C 3	9 0	4 0
Morden	Surry	C 1		
Mortlake	Surry	C 3	8 45	3 45
Muswell Hill	Midd	C 2		
Neasden	Midd.	W 1		
New Cross	Surry & Kent	C 3	9 40	4 40
New Grove	Midd	C 3		
New Rd.Marybone *	Mid	W 3	(7 45) (11 45	4 45
Newington Butts	Surry	C 3	10 0	5 0
Newington Causew. South of the Turnp.	Surry	C 3	9 30	4 30
Newington Stoke	Midd	C 3	9 45	4 45
Newington Green	Midd	C 3	9 30	4 15
Nine Elms	Surry	C 3		
North End, Fulham	Midd.	W 3		
North End, Hampstd	Midd.	C 2		

a.	b	c		d	
				Morn.	Aft.
Norwood	Surry	C	1		
Old Ford	Midd.	C	3		
Paddington	Midd.	W	3	9 15	4 15
Palmer's Green	Midd.	C	2		
Pancras	Midd.	C	3		
Parson's Green	Midd.	W	3	8 15	3 15
Peckham	Surry	C	3	9 15	4 15
Pentonville	Midd.	C	3	9 30	4 30
Petersham	Surry	C	3	8 30	3 30
Pimlico beyond the Fire Engine *	Midd.	W	3		
Plastow	Essex	C	3	9 0	3 30
Plumstead	Kent	C	1		
Ponder's End	Midd.	C	3		
Poplar *	Midd.	C	3	(7 30) (11 30)	4 30
Putney	Surry	C	3	9 0	4 0
Richmond	Surry	C	3	9 0	4 0
Roehampton	Surry	C	3	8 45	3 45
Shacklewell	Midd.	C	3		
Shepherd's Bush	Midd.	W	2		
Shooter's Hill	Kent	C	3	8 0	3 0
Snaresbrook	Essex	C	3	9 0	4 0
Somers Town	Midd.	C	3	9 15	4 15
South End, Eltham	Kent	C	2		
South End, Lewisham	Kent	C	1		
Southgate	Midd	C	2	8 30	3 30
South Lambeth	Surry	C	3		
Stamford Hill	Midd	C	3		
Stockwell	Surry	C	3	9 30	4 0
Strand under Green	Midd	W	3		
Stratford	Essex	C	3	9 30	4 30
Streatham	Surry	C	3	9 0	4 0
Sutton, Little	Midd.	W	2		
Sydenham	Kent	C	2	8 0	3 0
Tanner's End	Midd.	c	2		
Tothill-feilds*	Midd.	W	3		
Tooting	Surry	C	3	9 15	4 15
Tottenham	Midd.	C	3	9 15	4 15
Tottenham-ct.-rd. N. of the New rd *	Midd.	W	3		
Totteridge	Herts	C	2	7 45	2 45
Turnham Green	Midd.	W	3	9 0	4 0
Vauxhall	Surry	C	3	9 30	4 0
Union Crescent Rd. St.George's-fields	Surry	C	3		
Upton	Essex	C	3		
Walcot Place	Surry	C	3		
Waltham Green	Midd.	W	3	8 30	3 30
Walthamstow	Essex	C	3	8 15	3 15
Walworth	Surry	C	3	9 30	4 45
Wandsworth	Surry	C	3	9 30	4 30
Wanstead	Essex	C	3	9 0	4 0
Wembly	Midd.	W	1		
W.End, Hampstead	Midd.	C	1		
W. Ham and Abbey	Essex	C	3	9 15	3 45
Whetstone	Midd.	C	2	8 0	3 0
Whip Cross	Essex	C	3		
Willsdon	Midd.	W	1	----	3 0
Wimbledon	Surry	C	2	8 30	3 30

	a.	b	c	d Morn.	d Aft.
Winchmore Hill	Midd.	C	2	8 45	3 45
Woodford	Essex	C	3	8 30	3 30
Woodford Bridge	Essex	C	2	9 0	4 0
Woolwich	Kent	c	3	9 0	4 0

Letters dispatched from the country in the morning are delivered in all parts of London between half past 11 and one o'clock the same day; and those dispatched in the afternoon are delivered between half past six and eight the same evening. Letters going through London, for example, from Enfield to Mitcham, or Richmond, and vice versa, and put in to go by the morning Post, are delivered the same evening; and if put in to go by the afternoon Post, they are delivered between 7 and 9 o'clock next morning; or if going to places having less than 3 deliveries, between ten and one o'clock next day.

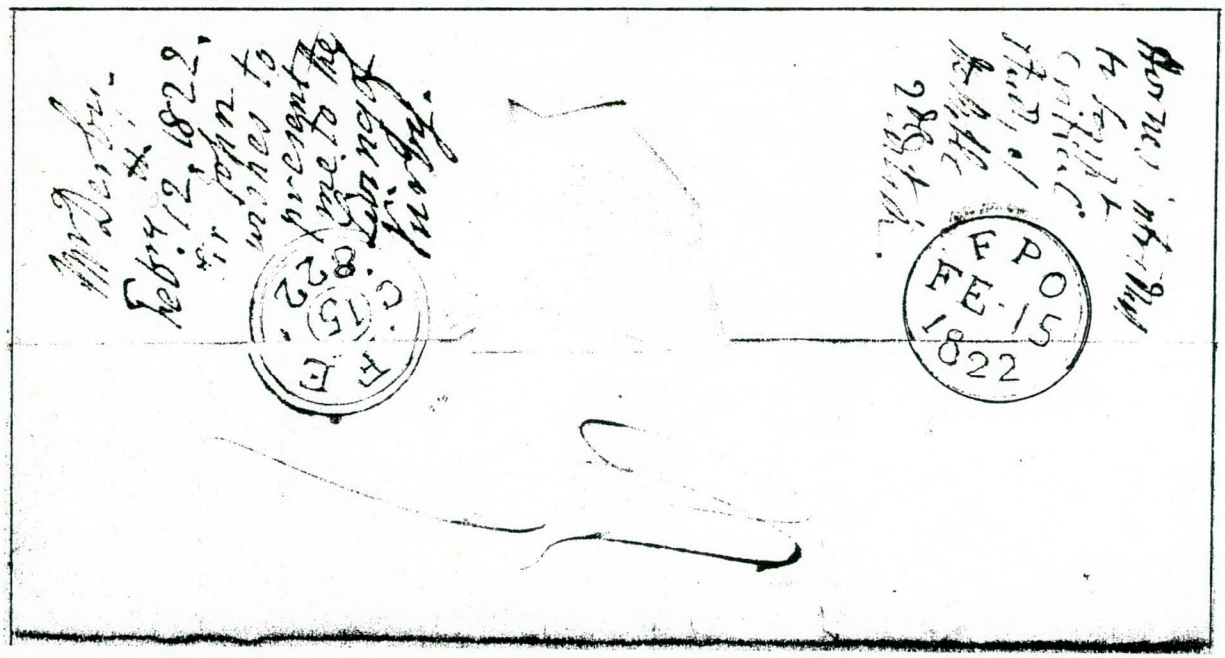
Also, letters dispatched from town by the Mails on Saturday nights, are delivered in all parts of the country, within the usual route of the Letter-carriers, on Sunday mornings.

Places marked thus * in the above List are served by the town Letter-carriers, but are too distant from the principal Offices to be served more than three times a day; the time therefore, by which letters must be put in for such places, is that stated in the above table for the 1st, 3d, and 5th town deliveries in which they are included; and the departure of the post also from such places, corresponds with the 1st, 3d, and 5th time of departure from the town receiving houses, (viz. that of 8 in the morning, 12 at noon, and 5 in the afternoon) but is something earlier, as a reference to each will show, on account of their distance, as is also the delivery in proportion later, for the same reason.

continued p.13

FOREIGN BRANCH

In a club packet - not LPHG - came an entire which struck immediately as being a bit off, though quite what was " wrong " was not certain.



However, RMW 658 clearly identifies a " dotted " circle, whereas the example has a solid line. Consultation with several collectors confirmed this solid circle to be a hitherto unrecorded, so yet another for the book.

POSTAGE

By an Act passed in the last Sessions, entitled, " An Act for regulating the Postage and Conveyance of Letters by the Carriage called The Penny Post; the Rates of Postage for Letters passing by that conveyance are as follows:

For every Letter or Packet passing from any part of the Cities of London or Westminster, the Borough of Southwark, and their Suburbs, to any other part of the said Cities, or Borough, &c 1

For every Letter or Packet passing to or from parts within, to or from parts beyond the Cities of London or Westminster, the Borough of Southwark, and their Suburbs, and within the District of the Penny Post, such Letters or Packets not passing to or from the General Post 2

For every Letter or Packet passing from any part beyond the Cities of London or Westminster, the Borough of Southwark, and their Suburbs, and within the District of the Penny Post, to any other part beyond the said Cities or Borough, &c, and within the said District 2

In any of the above Cases the Postage may be paid either at putting in, or on Delivery, at the option of the Writers.

For every Letter or Packet put into the Penny Post, to be forwarded to the General Post-office, and from thence to be conveyed by that Post 1

In the latter Case the Penny must be paid at putting in, and is not left to the option of the Writer.

For every Letter or Packet, first passing by the General Post, and then passing by the Penny Post (over and above the General Postage) 1

N.B. No Letters or Packets, exceeding four Ounces in Weight, can be sent by the Penny Post, unless such Letters or Packets shall first have been passed by, or shall be intended to pass by, the General Post.

CHARLES WALCOT, Comptroller

EDWARD JOHNSON, Deputy Comptroller

Persons applying at the Chief Office, in Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street; or at the Westminster Office, in Gerard-street, Soho, may be furnished with a copy of this advertisement.

WANTED.....

Covers, Wimbledon Tennis, Chelsea Flower Show, also Postage Due labels on covers (not current design) London SW3; SW7; SW12 endorsements.....

W.W. Foster, 98 Riverside Drive, Mitcham, Surrey.

TWOPENNY POST MAP

The map issued with the previous edition of ' Notebook ' was very kindly made available by Les Roberts. Not until after being issued was it possible to track it down in P.O. Records, where it turns out to be one of three in Part 4 of the 21st. Report of the Commission of Enquiry into Revenue, dated 1830.

As a very useful bye-product came a letter from Peter Bathe. Readers will no doubt recall his investigations into the Shooters Hill area. It appears from his research into original documents that one cannot place too great a reliance upon those who draw up reports, since to his certain knowledge Shooters Hill was not a walk based on Blackheath as the map would imply, but based rather on Woolwich. He offers PMGs Reports and these are reprinted below. As the Shooetrs Hill Letter Carrier had to deliver to houses between the Earl Maira and Blackheath one could consider Blackheath, at least in part, as being a walk based on Woolwich.

Post 42/147 PMG Reports Vol55 No. 833 p.64

29 November 1831

My Lord,

The enclosed Report transmitted by the Comptroller from Mr. Smith, proposing some additional accommodation at Shooter's Hill, and the Neighbourhood is clearly drawn, and I agree with Mr Musgrave that in the spirit in which your Grace has seen and provided for the imperfections of the Country part of the Two Penny Post Delivery, the aid required should be afforded. It can be effected by employing an Assistant Letter Carrier at 10/- a week or £26 per annum.

The advantages are well summed up by Mr Smith: Part of Shooter's Hill will be served 3 times instead of twice a day: - Part that has now only one delivery will have two and the district about Shooter's Hill, New Charlton and Woolwich will all receive their Letters earlier. I have no doubt the expence will be amply repaid, and I presume your Grace will think the neighbourhood entitled to this increase of accomodation.

All which &c &c

F. Freeling

Approved Richmond

To: J.M. Musgrave Esq

Twopenny Post Office
28 November 1831

Sir,

Applications having been made to you from some of the Inhabitants of Shooter's Hill for further accommodation more particularly from Mr Longden, who complains of the late delivery of his Gen^{l} Post Letters, you directed me to Survey the District to ascertain if the Letter Carrier could extend his delivery, and if this could not be done, the measure best to be adopted to give the accommodation required. I now beg to report to you the result of my Survey.

The Shooter's Hill Walk is attached to the Woolwich District & the Letter Carrier attends at that place for his letters. The Delivery begins at Woolwich near the Grand Depot, and after serving Woolwich Common and the Cadet Barracks he serves Shooter's Hill. The delivery formerly finished in the Hill about ½ past 1 o'clock then it did not extend beyond the Lord Moira in the Shooters Hill Road, but within this 2 years some Houses have been built between this point & Blackheath. At first the Letters were left at the Lord Moira, but the inhabitants having complained of this, the Letter Carrier was directed to serve them once a day, the consequence is from the increase of Houses here and other parts of the Walk, the delivery cannot be completed till ½ an Hour later than formerly.

It is now frequently after 2 o'clock before the delivery is (Much too late) finished. Mr Longden lives at the extremity of the Walk. He complains of this,he

TWOPENNY POST MAP, continued.....

says that although there has been considerable improvements in the Post Office, that he is worse off than he was some time back. There is also another inconsistancy in the delivery on Shooters Hill, that part of it near the Receiving House gets 3 deliveries a day, but the part where Mr Longden and Mr Ward the Banker lives is only served twice a day, viz the noon and evening, there is also a House called " Shrewsbury House " that does not get a delivery: the Letters are left at the Receiving House.-- these regulations certainly do appear inconsistant, but the fact is that the neighbourhood of Shooters Hill, like most places in the Twopenny Post delivery have considerably increased and the Office being anxious to afford every accommodation the Letter Carrier has been directed from time to time to extend his delivery, and I am now quite satisfied that he cannot be called upon to do more, indeed I consider the duty to be very laborious.

Should you therefore from the above statement consider it necessary to apply to his Grace the Post Master General for further assistance, I consider that an Auxiliary Assistant Letter Carrier will be sufficient to afford the additional accommodation. I propose that he should be employed to take the morning Collection from Shooters Hill to Woolwich, and that he should assist at the noon or General Post delivery on the Shooters Hill and New Charlton walks.

By the conveyance of the collection from Shooters Hill in the Morning, the regular Letter Carrier will be relieved from this Duty, which will enable him to extend the delivery to all parts of the Hill as well as to the New Houses in the Shooters Hill Road, and by the relief that will be given him at the noon delivery, he will be able to complete it about 40 minutes earlier than at present. I also propose that the assistant shall relieve the New Charlton Letter Carrier, it is frequently 2 o'clock before he can complete the delivery, the ground that he will be relieved of will enable him to do so about 30 minutes earlier.

The advantages resulting from this arrangement will be as follows -- that part of Shooters Hill that is served but twice a day will have 3 deliveries, the Houses in the Shooters Hill Road, that have but one delivery will have a second delivery. Shrewsbury House that does not get a delivery will be served twice a day, and the General Post delivery on the Shooters Hill and New Charlton walks will be completed more than ½ an hour earlier than at present. For this service I should propose that the assistant be paid 1-/- per week or £26 p^{r} Annum.

I am, Sir,
Your most Obt
humble Servant
R. Smith

Note:
The letter from Musgrave to Freeling reiterates Smith's report and adds nothing new.

HEREWITH MY FRANK: Supplement No.3, from J.W. Lovegrove

Mr. A.J. Rawlings of Old Portsmouth, Hampshire, is the source of three new finds in the ' O ' Code story. Each throws new light on the use of the code or its status among postal markings of its time.

Item 1: A front from OSTEND dated the 18th.May, 1815, addressed to Francis Freeling Esq., the Post Office, London, and signed by A. Rosenhagen. It bears the ' O ' code stamp of the 20th. May, 1815. On the reverse side is a pencilled note "Comp. of Army Accounts ".

This is the first piece which has turned up of a continental origin. Clearly the ' O ' stamp was applied on arrival in London, in place of the normal Free mark which would refer to that park of the journey within the UK. There is no other charge mark.

Item 2: A front from Llandilo dated February 4, 1839, addressed to Mr. Rees Davies, St. John St., Clerkenwell, London, and signed by James Williams. It bears the 'O' Code stamp of the 5th. February, 1839, evidently applied in London as before.

However, it also carries an Inspector's Star, Willcocks fig.117, and the manuscript charge of 11d which has been crossed out. The normal use of this star was in con - junction with an increase of postal charge or the cancellation of a Free mark and the addition of a charge instead. Its use in this instance in cancelling the postal charge and applying the ' O ' code adds more evidence of the use of the code in relation to ordinary stamps.

Item 3: A more enigmatic use of the sideways ' O ', on a front from Dunfermline on the 20th.October, 1831 to a Mrs Oswald of Kircaldy, and signed Elgin. The letter clearly would not have travelled via London; whoever applied the sideways ' O ' has made the mistake of dating it on the same day as the manuscript form put on in Dunfermine. It could not have been in London and Dunfermline at the same time. The item is unique so far in that it is the first discovered not showing an obvious link with the Anson family, although the details of the damage of the stamp and the ir - regularities in the lining up of the date symbols correspond exactly with those noted in former cases where the reference to the Anson family is self apparent. Mr. Rawlings may be correct in suggesting this item also came from the Anson coll - ection originally.

From Mr. P. Squibb of Keswick in Cumberland comes further information. He has sent the original to inspect of a front sent from Swindon to Liphook on the 26th.December 1832. It has a clear strike of the sideways ' O ' stamp dated for the same day as the manuscript.

This discovery confirms Item 3 above - a similar use of the sideways ' O ' in October, 1831, or so one is led to believe by the manuscript and stamp dates. But as in the earlier case the stamp has been applied to an item which would not go by way of London - where the stamp was presumably lodged - and the date on the stamp corresponds to the very date of posting, allowing no interval for travel by way of London.

These two finds have thus raised the whole matter of the sideways ' O ' for new scrutiny. Clearly it was not confined to the Anson correspondence. Is that a comment perhaps on some area of genuine use ? For reasons already mentioned I cannot regard the use in these cases as genuine, that is in the postal sense, with confidence. Neither can it be confused with the genuine ' O ' code stamp: the differences in crown detail and the rim features are evident and as described in "HMY", though the illustration there is of a very worn state of the stamp.

Frankly I am puzzled, unless it was that a dealer, or group of dealers -(or for that matter collector(s) ,Ed) - have been applying the sideways ' O ' code stamp, complete with a box of numbers to hand, to fronts sent Free in the provinces, thus not carrying any other mark of the posts.

LONDON INSPECTORS' STARS, by V.B. McDermott

Under the heading " Instructional Stamps of London " there is a group of four - pointed star markings known as " Inspectors' Stars " which are said to have been in use between 1797 - 1842. Even today, their exact purpose has not been determined and it only when fresh information comes to light from the study of a concentrated group or collection does a pattern tend to reveal itself and, hopefully, one more piece of the jig-saw drops into place. This is, of course, common to most facets of postal history and even when further research does not reveal spectacular new facts, confirmation of suspected or known information from an independent source often lends greater force for future argument and reference. Such it is then, with Inspectors' Stars,

Meanwhile, here is what certain postal historians have said already about these marks:

"...used on letters posted out of course or wrongly charged "(Robson Lowe).

" Letters out of course, delayed internally etc. in the General Post "(R.M.W.)

"...said to have been used on letters found to be out of course - apparently so stamped when free postage was disallowed - solid frame with parts of outer circle found on wrongly charged letters - on others with no clue as to their use." (Alcock and Holland)

Nobody could possibly disagree with the last remark!

However, it would appear if the precise definition of " posted out of course " is ignored, that only the phrase " so stamped when free postage was disallowed " is much nearer the truth. This hypothesis is based on examination of covers in my collection spanning the period 1700 - 1850 and which have revealed a number of solid and open four-pointed stars but only for the period 1806 - 1830. I have set these out below as list A and List B respectively.

It should be added that, in addition to the four-pointed stars used in the General Post, there is only one type as used in the Two Penny Post. This is a cross in circle - generally known as the quartered circle. Not much is known about that either but most evidence shows it was used when letters from abroad were transferred from the General Post to the Two Penny Post and a delay could have occurred. I have one such cover from Rome to London dated 1837.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

London Inspectors' Stars, continued.....

LIST A. - SOLID STARS

Year(s)	Star Diam.	Comments
1700-1805	nil	
May 1806	23 mm	Showing outer rim of circle
May 1808	23 mm	
Nov 1807	22 mm	
July1814 to Aug 1815	22 mm	Showing outer rim of circle

Note:
(See Figs 1 and 2 on previous page). Except for the slightly larger diameter there appears to be nothing new in this List A. The dates fall within the years recorded in " The Postal History of Great Britain and Ireland " (Willcocks); all have a London date stamp appropriate to the year and with either the Code letter C or D.

LIST B - OPEN STARS

Year(s)	Star Diam	Comments
1816-1820	nil	
3. 1.1821	24 mm	London evening duty date-stamp.Day in centre circle.Year in full for first time.Duty Table A.
1821	24 mm	No London date-stamp (see fig 3)
10.1822	24 mm	Boxed " Addl.½2 " London date-stamp. Code C
4. 1.1823	23 mm	5 mm.cross in place of code letter in London date-stamp
8.1823 to 1.1825	23 and 22mm	London date-stamp with 5 or 5.5mm cross(see Fig.4)
3.1826 to 12.1826	20 mm	London date-stamps with 4 mm or 4.5mm cross(Fig.5)
12.1826 to 10.1828	19 mm	London date-stamps with 4 mm cross (see Fig. 6)



Fig. 3

London Inspectors' Stars, continued.....

LIST B - OPEN STARS, continued

Year(s)	Star Diam	Comments
12.1828 to 2.1830	18 mm	London date-stamps with 4mm or 4.5mm across
1831	nil	
1832	nil	
1833	nil	
7.1834		5mm cross in London date-stamp but NO Inspectors' Star (see Fig.7) Crowned circle " FREE " (no code) has been deleted in manuscript
9.1841		4mm cross in London date-stamp, NO Inspectors' Star (see Fig.8)

Note: List B shows the development from January 1823 of a Maltese-type cross in the London date-stamp; this varies in size according to its counterpart Inspector Star. The Inspectors' Stars disappeared in 1830. No reliable view can be ex - pressed as to the date-stamp cross of 1834 or 1841 - used by a " super official checker " ? The 1834 cover, however, did provide a clue which is mentioned later.



Fig. 4

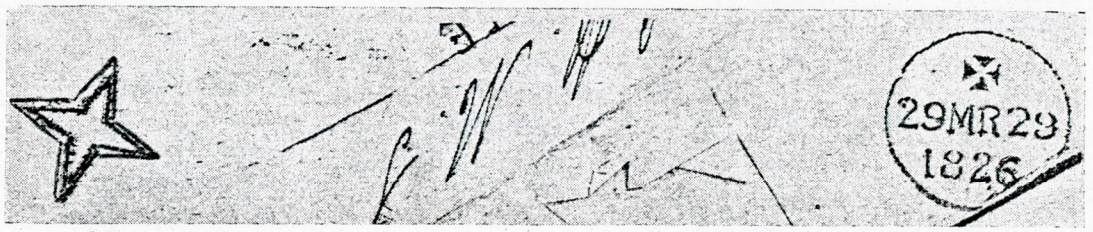


Fig. 5

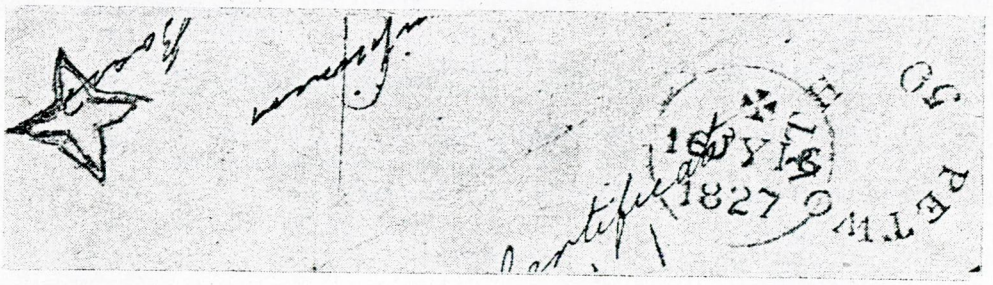

Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

London Inspectors' Stars, continued.....

All these letters have several features in common which are worthy of further consideration. (In general all these stars are colored red-brown. Some appear blackish but this is probably due to oxidisation of the ink.) There are no evening duty date-stamps after 1821. None have been delayed or posted out of course. None have handstruck paid or unpaid markings. All have manuscript charge markings in black - indicating postage unpaid. All are in the General Post - no Penny or Two Penny Post markings. All are addressed to London and come from various parts of England, Scotland or Wales. Nearly all purport to be official mail having been designated by the respective originator as " On Service ", or " O.H.M.S. " to a government department or to someone of official standing in a government office. None are marked " FREE " or bear free franks. Except for the first cover of May 1806, none has a London date-stamp falling on a Sunday. Also, whether by design or accident, there are no Tuesday or Friday dates; and after January, 1825 no more Saturday dates can be found either.

So what does it all mean ? Taking all the above facts together and throwing in a little calculated gueswork for good measure, it seems probable that letters denoted with the four-pointed Inspectors' Star, whilst not coming under the category as recognised by the Post Office as " official mail " - and so be stamped with the " FREE " crowned circle, or any other paid or unpaid mark, such letters were never-the-less allowed to proceed.

This leads to two further possibilities. Did the star denote postage had been paid, or that money had to be collected from the addressee ? Unlikely - the recipient was invariably a government department and it is doubtful if facilities were available for paying out such monies which often amounted to several shillings. The second possibility, and the one I consider to be the most likely, is that the Post Office official who had his own star-stamp and, to prevent the use of forged stars, his own date-stamp in addition, would tot up the postage in a little black book, noting the department, entering the anount and amending the manuscript charge if necessary. Quarterly, or annually as the case may be, the Post Office would then present the account for unpaid postage. The receiving department would no doubt keep the " Star " letters for a time to check on the account when rendered.

Looking for further answers to many questions, the cover of 1834 with the cancelled " FREE " frank appeared to be the odd man out. Could this be the missing link ? Feeling sure that at least the cross in date stamp would appear somewhere, I carefully extracted any crowned " FREE " marks to be found amidst mileage marks and town date-stamps and assembled these in date order, some 25 in all, covering the period 1808 - 1838, the originators and the recipient being similar, of course, to the letters being the Inspectors' Stars. The first " FREE " to be found with a Maltese-type cross below the year was one dated July 1830, the very year the Inspectors' Stars left off ! (See Fig.9) None were to be found before that date. The familiar London date-stamp was no longer there, having been replaced by the respective town date-stamp.

Unhappily for my hopes and endeavours, if appears that this crowned " FREE ", the Additional Morning Duty, type as illustrated and described in the recent publication " Herewith My Frank " (Lovegrove) came into use in 1822. Whether it is the identical type or not is open to question as, even according to the author who writes "...there are many varieties of types within defined limits of design ".

It is realised the evidence so far put forward is somewhat flimsey, particularly as regards dates. Also it must be remembered I am drawing conclusions from my own collection. But how nicely it all seems to fit in! Why should the stars disappear in 1830 when catalogues give circa 1840 ? Did the amalgamation of the Irish and English Post Offices in 1830 have any connection ? It has been the considered opinion of some postal historians there was a strong link between Inspectors' Stars and the crowned circle " FREE " but no firm evidence has yet been found to prove

London Inspectors' Stars, continued.....

it. Much-needed research may reveal further information.

On the introduction of Uniform Penny Postage on January 10th., 1840, free franking was abolished and the crowned circle " PAID " took over from the " FREE ". It is interesting to note on a cover I have of that date, and on others up to 1848, the same cross appears as hitherto.

This cannot be the end of the story as it is far from conclusive, but I hope these notes will prove useful to those who have formed, or attempts to form, a collection of these intriguing marks and perhaps go a little way towards solving the mystery surrounding one aspect of our postal history.

I would be pleased details from any reader who has any Inspectors' Star, with associated date-stamp outside the periods quoted.

My address is 7 Woodcroft Avenue, Stanmore, Middlesex - please keep the postman busy!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The article was first published in STAMP COLLECTING, May 5th.,1977 and is reprinted by kind permission of the publishers and Vincent McDermott.

EXPRESS POSTAL SERVICE

On a ' Postperson's ' holiday from the Postal Museum, Jean Farrugia came across the item reprinted below.

Evening Mail 30th.August - 1st.September, 1797

Post Office Notice dated 29th.August, 1797.

GENERAL POST OFFICE

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL, for the better Accommodation of Perfons refiding at Weft End of the Town, have been pleafed to order AN EXPRESS OFFICE TO BE OPENED AT NO 43, IN THE HAYMARKET, from whence letters may be difpatched by Exprefs at the fame Rates as at the General Poft-Office, in Lombard-Street, after the 31ft Day of this Month, to any place within this Kingdom.

By Command of the Poftmaster-General

ANTHONY TODD
FRANCIS FREELING } Joint Secretaries

A quick look into the standard reference books failed to produce any record of an Express Office; indeed, Howard Robinson had this to say when dealing with John Palmer and the Mail-Coach " The earlier system of expresses - a cause of much expense and inconvenience - almost ceased ".**

Were any particular markings applied, did the mail still go through Lomabrd Street or was the Express Office issued with its own set of date stamps ?

There's a handsome cat amongst the pigeons!!

London Postal History Group

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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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