



THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 17, No. 4 November 2009
(Serial number 52)



Illustrated and Advertising Stationery - Alfred Smith & Co. Stamp Dealer - see p 16

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The Management Committee

The affairs of the Society are managed by four officers:- Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and a number of ordinary committee members.

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DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN	Michael Lockton
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The Postal Stationery Society Web site: www.postalstationery.org.uk

SOCIETY CALENDAR 2010

Saturday March 20th 2010

At the meeting room in the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, starting at 10.30 am and finishing at approx. 4.00 pm.

In the morning Brian Trotter will show "The King's Head Postal Stationery of South Africa". Brian has a wonderful collection of postal stationery from this period which he will be sharing with us at this meeting.

Brian's display will be followed by the society's One Sheet Competition, with all members present being asked to vote before lunch for their choice of winner.

The session after lunch will be for members' displays. Members are asked to bring along a maximum of 32 sheets on a postal stationery theme, and to give a display of not more than 10 minutes with a further 10 minutes for viewing.

We will arrange to eat in one of the restaurants close by, and all members are invited to join in. The cost should be no more than £15 each, including wine.

Saturday 1st May 2010

At **Worpex**, Oldbury Park Primary School, Oldbury Road, St John's, Worcester WR2 6AA

Members are invited to display up to 32 sheets from their collection and to give a short explanation of about 10 minutes maximum. There will be about 30 dealers at this event covering all aspects of postal stationery, so apart from meeting other PS members and showing some of your material, you will also be able to add to your collection. There will also be a reasonably priced catering facility within the event and plenty of free parking.

Sunday 9th May 2010

London 2010 at the Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, London N1 0QH.

We will be having a meeting on the Sunday morning at this International Exhibition and we have booked a room within the Design Centre. The room will be available from 10.00am with the meeting starting at 10.30am. We have to finish by 1.45pm when it will be used by another society.

We will have two displays. Michael Lockton will show Queen Victoria Penny Pinks and Ross Towle will be coming over from the USA to show part of his collection of postal stationery; more details on both these displays later this year. But expect some great material from both speakers.

Saturday 12th June 2010

At **Swinpex**, St Joseph's Lower School, Octal Way, Swindon SN3 2LR,

Members are invited to display up to 30 sheets from their collection and to give a short explanation of about 10 minutes maximum. There will be plenty of dealers at this event, (over 40) so there will be ample opportunity to add to your collection, and there is an excellent catering facility within the fair.

Swinpex will be open from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm with ample free parking.

Saturday October 30th 2010

At the meeting room in the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London. AGM, Auction & Tony Chilton Competition.

Full details will be included in a later issue of the Journal.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT – NOVEMBER 2009

I read our Secretary's notes in the last journal with interest as I too think that 'Sticky Tape' on envelopes should be banned. Quite often ones sees one which would fit into ones collection only to find that it has some of the dreaded 'Sticky Tape' either on the front or back.

My offering this time is a Belgian card. On the reply side it has a cachet for 'Errington & Martin, Stamp Importers, South Hackney, N.E.' and is dated 6th March 1878. The message is an order for '6 litres of olive oil'. There seems to be a number of these cards from various countries with cachets for 'Errington & Martin' on and one wonders what the connection is?

Midpex in July was well attended but I thought that the new venue was very hot and crowded with very little room to move although the Society's stand on the end of a row did have a little more room than other stands. It will be interesting to see what happens for the next show.

By the time that you read this the Annual General Meeting will have taken place and another year passed. I hope that you will all have an enjoyable Christmas and good philatelic hunting next year.

Edward Caesley



SECRETARY'S NOTES - NOVEMBER 2009

Before I retired about seven years ago I worked on a number of road construction sites to earn the odd crust or two and to afford some of those nicer items of postal stationery. On one of the projects that I was involved with we had an inspector who used to say that the three months covering the period "six weeks before Christmas to six weeks after" was the worst time in the year to get any work done. The days were short and the weather usually poor. I think he was probably grumping because he had little opportunity to work any overtime rather than being put out by the long winter nights.

I was reminded of his remarks when I came to start my notes for this November Journal. The inspector's observation is just as true for me today as it was several years ago. But now it means that I will not be able to get out into the garden to do any of the outside jobs rather than being held up professionally. But I will have much more time to spend studying the auction lots that I bought over the summer months and had to put to one side while I cut the grass and battled with the weeds. I suspect this will be equally true of many of you, except of course for members living in the Southern Hemisphere or near the tropics. But

your time will come, or has just been, depending on your outlook.

So with plenty of time to spare I wonder what you will do this winter. I'm going to start writing up those sheets I have been planning to get down to all summer long. Perhaps I might even think about the two society competitions next year.

NEW MEMBERS

We have attracted more postal stationery collectors to our society and we are pleased to welcome the following.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Simon Burke | from Surrey who collects International Postcards, especially GB 1½d |
| Anthony Pinder | from North Wales who collects Great Britain, Air letters |
| Dr MRC Rodrigo, | from Sri Lanka, who collects Ceylon and Sri Lanka |
| Geoff Leece | from Somerset who collects Great Britain and the Commonwealth |
| Stephen Walker | from Derbyshire who collects Great Britain, excluding air letters. |

We also welcome

Geoff Poppitt from Cheshire and
Brian Thomson from Stirlingshire who have joined following our listing in the Stamp and Coin Mart Magazine in September.

I hope that all these new members will enjoy their membership with us and gain knowledge from the society's activities. Perhaps they can also be persuaded to share what they have learnt.

SWINPEX 2010 - BACK TO THE FUTURE

There is a change to the venue for Swinpex 2010. It will not be at the Steam Museum as reported in the August Journal, but will remain at St Joseph's Lower School, Octal Way, Swindon SN3 2LR where it was held this year. Full details of the event will be given in the Journal next year.

2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Minutes of the Society's AGM held at the Royal Philatelic Society's premises, 41 Devonshire Place, London, on Saturday 24th October 2009.

The meeting was attended by a total of 15 members. Apologies for absence were received from Michael Lockton, Alan Huggins, John Fowler, Chris Howe, Lars Engelbrecht, Graham Barker and Arthur Roberts.

Minutes of the AGM 2008. These were published in the November 2008 Journal and were accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Society Notes. The Stamp and Coin Mart magazine have invited members to submit articles for publication which would be paid for and would also promote the society. Details are available from the secretary.

Sales of the postal stationery catalogue by Alan Huggins and Colin Baker are going well, with most of the copies printed having been sold or distributed to wholesalers. It is expected to be out of print soon.

Swinpex will not after all be moving to the Steam Museum at Swindon, but will remain at St Joseph's Lower School where it has been held for the past few years.

Chairman's report. Edward Caesley reported that we had enjoyed a number of meetings this year, including a joint meeting with the British Thematic Society at Swinpex. All had been excellent and he hoped we would be able to have more joint meetings in the future. Midpex proved to be good for the society, although the venue was very crowded and hot. He hoped this would be sorted out for the next Midpex in two years time.

Edward finished by thanking John Barker for his continued hard work in producing four excellent issues of the Journal each year.

Secretary's report. Colin Baker said that at the end of 2008 there were 244 members, but 27 of these failed to renew in January 2009. However, we received 22 applications for new membership making our current total 239. One new member has already joined from January 2010.

Recruitment during the year had mainly been from visits to our website, with thanks to Lars Engelbrecht for his continued hard work in keeping the site up to date. We also attracted new members through the continued sales of

the new postal stationery catalogue, and by displays at events such as Swinpex, Worpex and Midpex. In addition we placed an advertisement in the September issue of Stamp and Coin Magazine, along with about a dozen other societies, and we picked several more members that way.

We held four meetings during the year, two in London, one at Swinpex and one at Worpex. All were successful and we intend to continue with these in the future. Reports on all meetings have been published in the Society's journal.

Treasurer's report. (See the balance sheet reproduced on page 6) John Fowler was not present, but his report was read out to the meeting.

"The accounts for the year ending 31st August show that the society has ended the year with a surplus. Again I have identified that part of the subscription income which is attributable to this financial year, thus enabling us to see clearly the true income and expenditure. This reveals a surplus of £3976, which coincides with our share of the 2009 profit on the new catalogue. It is not anticipated that there will be any further profit share (with the Great Britain Philatelic Society) in 2010.

Although our expenses this year show an increase of £170, this includes an outlay of £250 on a Postal Stationery trophy, to be awarded at the London 2010 International Exhibition.

The auction results show that this service to members made a profit this year, but this is dependent on Neil receiving lots of sufficient value to enable us to cover the catalogue printing and postage costs.

May I take this opportunity to thank Colin Baker and John Barker for their help through the year, John Barker and Neil Sargent for their efforts in obtaining advertising revenue and auction commission, and Alan Huggins and Colin Baker for their sterling efforts in producing a winning publication, of which we, the Society, are the main beneficiaries."

Auctioneer's report. Neil Sargent said he was pleased to report that two further auctions had been held during the season, a public auction in October 2008 and postal auction in May 2009. Both auctions were successful and maintained similar levels of interest. The postal auction generated higher sales at just over £4,000. The two sales have given the society £844 in commission. Overall results for the auctions were:

	October 2008		May 2009	
Total lots	554		572	
Lots sold	350	63%	277	48.5%
GB lots	393		327	
GB lots sold	240	63%	204	62%
Non GB lots	161		245	
Non GB lots sold	110	68%	73	30%
Vendors	11		15	
Buyers	54		40	
Total sales	£3,676.50		£4,073.5	
Commission	£372.15		£472.20	

He went on to say that GB lots remained the most popular and valuable, although non GB sales were above average. Two or three bidders were unsuccessful in every sale and some lose lots through submitting equal bids later than those previously submitted.

There have been few a few adverse comments received, mainly relating to delays in supplying information on lots. A Neil has previously commented that the role of the auctioneer is time consuming and due to him working full time and having many other outside commitments he cannot always give it the time he would like to. He added that he had to rely on vendors' descriptions, not having time to check or verify each lot. Despite these comments the auctions appear to be popular and successful.

Journal Editor's report. John Barker told the meeting that in May 2009 the 50th issue of the Journal was published. The first issue of the Journal was back in February 1993 and the current 24 page A4 format was adopted in February 2001 and its frequency of publication increased to a quarterly Journal in 2003.

The last cumulative index to be published was in November 2005 covering issues up to No. 36. An updated index has now been produced for the Royal Philatelic Society of London's Digitised Philatelic Archives Project. This will appear on the RPSL web site in due course and will be available to all visitors to the site to search along with similar indexes from other participating Societies. At present the updated PSS Journal index has not been published in paper form but copies of the Excel file version can be obtained from the Editor (address on page 2 of the Journal) who will send it to members as an email attachment on request.

In preparing the Journal in electronic form for printing John said he used colour scans or photocopies for illustrations wherever possible. Hopefully, when issues of quality and costs have been resolved colour will be introduced into the Journal.

John finished by saying that as usual he welcomed items for publication to enable the Journal to cover all aspects of postal stationery collecting.

Librarian's report. Chris Howe was not at the meeting and his report was read out. He reported that business continued at a slow pace, adding I try to provide a prompt service and am always happy to hard-copy or e-mail copies of items of interest, sections of H&G and so on. This saves the cost of postage and also the risk of Royal Mail losing something difficult to replace; but of course I have to keep an eye of the copyright rules. There have been only a couple of purchases this year and some steer as to what to buy for the library would be welcome. I think a couple of modern Michel catalogues would be a good idea. If somebody is looking for a particular book or journal I am happy to use the Internet to try to help and even purchase the item for the library if it seems likely to be welcomed. Gifts of books, articles and journals are always welcome.

Website Manager's report. Lars Engelbrecht was not able to be present and his report was read out as follows. "The society website – www.postalstationery.org.uk - has had 5826 visits in the past year – 40% more than the previous year. It has been

updated 10 times during the last year with the content of the new issues of the PS Journal, the society meetings and auctions, the library list, links to postal stationery exhibits on the internet and results from postal stationery exhibits at international exhibitions. This year the society website got a sponsor – Eurooffice – who is paying the Society £200 to have small adverts on website for the next two years."

Election of Officers and Committee Members. There was only one candidate for each position in the society's committee and they were elected en bloc as follows.

Chairman – Edward Caesley

Deputy Chairman – Michael Lockton

Secretary – Colin Baker

Treasurer – John Fowler

Committee Member - John Barker

Committee Member - Neil Sargent

Committee Member - Mike Smith

Vote of Thanks. Edward Caesley thanked all the officers and committee members for their hard work over the last 12 months and for giving their time so freely. He said without them the society would cease to exist.

Programme for 2010/2011. The secretary gave details of the society's programme for the next two years (see details on inside front cover). Members were reminded that there was a One-frame competition held at Spring Stampex each year and they should consider entering their Tony Chilton Competition entries for that competition as well.

Proposed Change to Secretary. The proposed changes to the secretary's role were agreed. There will now be a Secretary who deals with all normal correspondence, etc. a Programme Secretary whose job it will be to arrange venues, speakers and the society's programme, and a Membership Secretary who will maintain the register of members, handle applications for new membership and prepare reminder notices. The constitution will be amended to include these new two roles.

Proposed Changes to the Tony Chilton and One Sheet Competitions. After some discussion it was agreed that up to two entries may be submitted for the Tony Chilton Competition, but photocopies of entries would only be acceptable from members resident outside the United Kingdom. They would have to declare that these were copies of their own entry and not the property of anyone else. For the One Sheet Competition no limit on the number of entries from a member is to be imposed, but the Chairman of the meeting would have the absolute right to restrict the entries from any one member if he considered the total number of entries to be too large.

Any Other Business.

i) A proposal by Alan Huggins (not present) that a further £50 be made to sponsor five more frames at the London 2010 exhibition was carried unanimously.

ii) Iain Stevenson said a series of seminars were being arranged next year on the subject of communications. Details would be given in the Journal as soon as they were known.

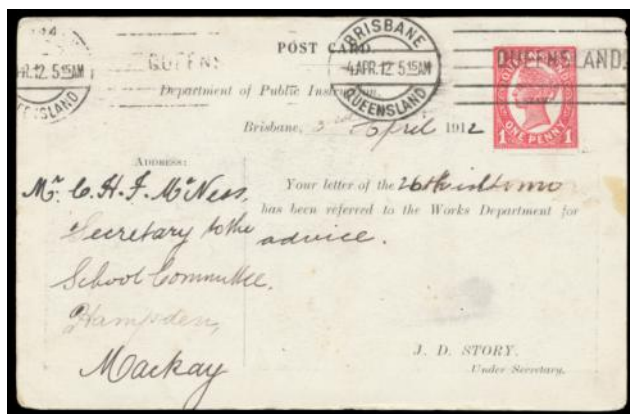
iii) Iain Stevenson said he was now a member of the Guild of Stationers and Newspaper Makers and would be happy to give a guided tour of the Guild's headquarters to any member. Anyone interested should contact him.

The meeting ended at 12 noon.

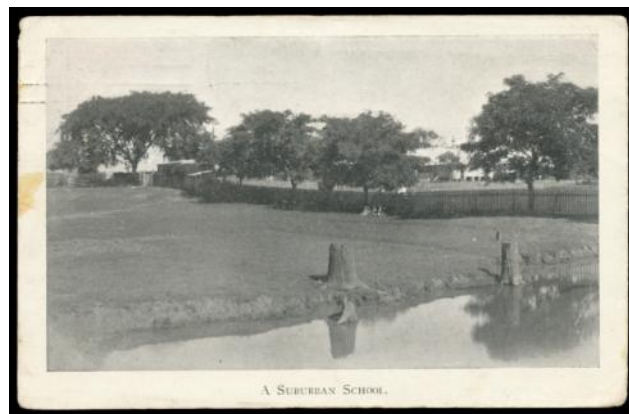
A NEW QUEENSLAND POSTAL CARD

Gary Watson

Recently, while trawling through a box of mullock from a deceased retail dealer's estate, I came across a postcard with a black & white photo captioned "A SUBURBAN SCHOOL". While this is a singularly unappealing view, I instantly recognised the format and caption as of the type used for the 1910 1d scenic Postal Cards of Queensland, and thought I had discovered a previously unrecorded view in that series.



Imagine my surprise, then, to flip over the card and be confronted by a beast I had not previously handled. My hunch that this was a Queensland item proved to be correct. However, the printed heading and text showed it to be a Printed to Private Order (PTPO) issue for that State's Department of Public Instruction (or Education Department).



I have since learned that Bernie Beston has hitherto recorded three similar cards but that the new discovery is, indeed, a previously unrecorded view.

This issue is remarkable for a number of factors. Firstly, neither the Higgins & Gage Catalogue, nor Phil Collas in his textbook on Queensland Postal Stationery, recorded any PTPO Postal Cards from Queensland.

Secondly, reminiscent of the 1908 American Fleet issues for all States except Victoria, the word 'STAMP' is printed on the card underneath the 1d red stamp impression.

Thirdly, and peculiarly, the partly printed message is on the right-hand two thirds of the face of the card, while the space for the address is at the left! This was contrary to the postal regulations.

The purpose of the card was to advise a correspondent of the receipt by the Education Department of his letter and of it being forwarded to the Works Department for attention. It is expected that many thousands of these cards would have been printed, and

used.

However, to date only four examples have been identified. Clearly there was a series of cards with different views, but one can only speculate as to how many there were. (My guess is that there would have been at least a dozen.)

The year of issue is also unknown. The printed header indicates that they were in use by at least 1910. This example was used in 1912. Were there subsequent similar Kangaroo or KGV issues? Indeed, were there earlier Queensland issues?

This item poses more questions than it answers. But it proves that new postal stationery discoveries can still be made, even 100 or so years on, and that they can materialise in the most unlikely of places.

The card will be offered at auction by Prestige Philately on 5th December, with an estimate of \$1500, a figure that reflects more the few blemishes than the undoubted rarity of this exciting new discovery.

IRANIAN PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE RESEARCH

Sassan Pejhan writes "I am conducting research on the postal stationery of Persia on behalf of the Iran Philatelic Study Circle (www.iranphilatelic.org) and I was wondering if I could get some help from your members in this regard. I am specifically trying to put together an inventory of the following three postcards, which are quite uncommon:

1931 2-chahi Reza Shah postcard (IPSC catalog 10P60; Farahbakhsh postal stationery catalog 10P63)

1938 50-dinar airmail postcard (IPSC catalog 10P79; Farahbakhsh postal stationery catalog 10P86)

1942 1 rial Reza Shah postcard (IPSC catalog 10P81; Farahbakhsh postal stationery catalog 10P88)

For mint examples, I would be grateful if your members could just indicate the number of each card that they have in their collections.

For used examples, it would be ideal if they could kindly send me scans of both sides (as you can imagine, we are trying to determine routes and dates of usage, as well as registered, airmail, etc. usage). Alternatively, they can send me details of postmarks, manuscript dates, additional adhesives used, etc.

spejhan@avixel.com

STRANGE USE OF BRITISH FIELD SERVICE POSTCARDS - AN UPDATE

Colin Baker

In February 2008 I wrote an article on “The Strange Use of a British Field Service Postcard” (PS Journal Volume 16, No. 1). It concerned pre-stamped postcards issued in 1914 for use by British forces fighting to stop the German advance into France and Belgium. When I originally purchased this item I had thought it was

probably unique. Little did I realise how many of these cards must have been captured and used by German soldiers. Since the article was published I have been sent details of more of these and thought it would be a good idea to bring the 2008 article up to date.

Catalogue Number*	Date of use	Used to	Postmark	Reported by	Illustration Number
FCP3	23 Nov 14	Leipzig	D54 Reserve Division	Colin Baker	1
FCP3	5 Dec 14	Munchen (Munich)	D54 Reserve Division	H.W. Hoenes	2
FCP1	6 Dec 14	Wiesbaden	Armee Feld Post Station No. 7	Argyll Etkin †	3
FCP3	6 Mar 15	Altona (Nr Hamburg)	D54 Reserve Division	Peter O’Keeffe	4
Unstamped card	10 May 15	Dortmund	52 nd Res. Inf. Division	Peter O’Keeffe	----

* From Huggins and Baker 2007

† The illustrations and other information are reproduced by kind permission of Argyll Etkin

One question that immediately springs to mind when considering the strange use of these cards is why the German soldiers wanted to send British postcards home and why the authorities allowed them to be used.

As far as German soldiers were concerned, many would have wanted to let their families know how they were getting on at the front. In the first few months of the war soldiers on both sides were simply doing a job. After all at the end of that first year there was a long “truce” along sections of the front when Allied and German soldiers exchanged presents, played football and generally forgot about the fighting. So to send a British card home was not that surprising for a German soldier. Yes the British were the enemy, but they were all soldiers whatever side they fought on.

Unlike their English counterparts, the German “Feld Post” postcards did not need to be stamped and any type of postcard could be sent by a German soldier. This was particularly so for soldiers from former Prussia. Other troops seem to have had their mail censored rather more. However, there does not seem to have been quite the same degree of censorship as was adopted by the British Military. In addition, the German authorities did not seem to be concerned that enemy postcards were being used by their own troops, and so a number of British cards that had been captured during the fighting were posted back home to show the families of German soldiers how their British opponents kept in touch with their loved ones.

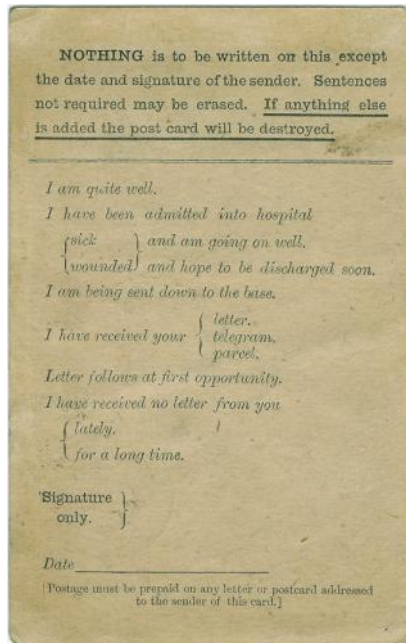


Illustration 1



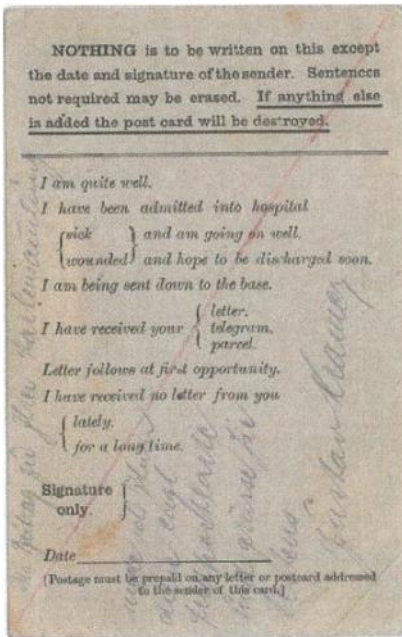


Illustration 2

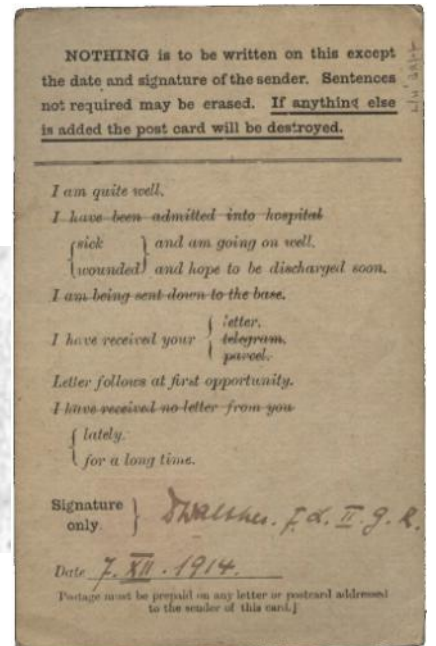


Illustration 3



Illustration 4



A VICTORIAN REPLY PAID POSTCARD

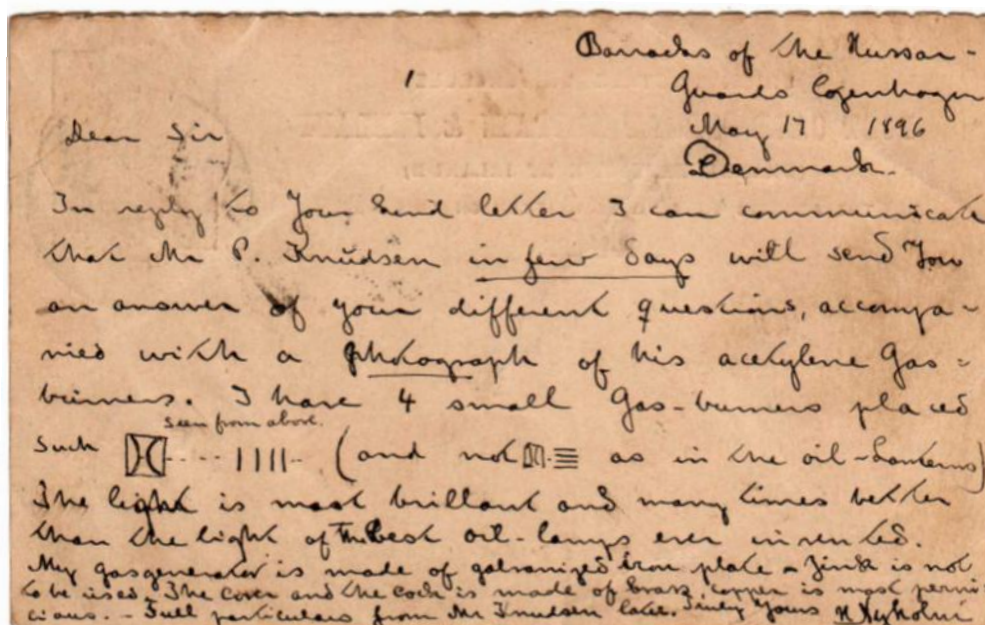
Colin Baker

A quick glance at the reply half of the 1d + 1d Queen Victorian postcard (Huggins & Baker CP28) illustrated here seems to indicate that it is quite normal. But first appearances can be deceptive. If you look again you will see that stuck squarely over the top of the printed stamp is a Danish 10 ore adhesive paying the foreign postcard rate. I have no idea why this should be. These reply cards were valid for use back to Great Britain from almost any country in the world, including Denmark. They were widely used and their validity should have been common knowledge. Was the addition of a Danish stamp ignorance on the part of the sender, who appears to have been a soldier in the Hussars based in Copenhagen? Or was it that the local postal clerk was unsure of the regulations? Probably we will never know, but if anyone can throw any light on this postcard, please let the editor know.

However, as most of you will know, I am never satisfied with just looking at the front of anything, especially postcards. Turning this card over reveals an interesting message. The writer is extolling the virtues of acetylene lamps, and says "The light is most brilliant and many times better than the light of the best oil lamps ever invented. My gas generator is made of galvanised iron plate as zinc is not to be used. The cover and cock is (sic) made of brass as copper is most pernicious." I'm not sure I understand his drawing of the four lights, but the rest of the message seems to be clear enough.

Acetylene was discovered by Edmund Davy in 1836. It was used to fuel lamps in the Victorian period as it was relatively safe and easy to use. It also gave off a very good light, as the writer of the card notes. For many years acetylene has also been associated with cutting and welding steel. It is the best method for this work as it burns at such a high temperature.

Acetylene gas that burnt in lamps in the 19th and 20th centuries was generated by dripping water onto calcium carbide, which was made by heating lime and carbon at extremely high temperatures. As soon as the water was turned off the chemical reaction stopped, as did the production of acetylene gas, and the light would go out.



GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

NEW ISSUES

Envelopes - Post Office issues

In volume 17 No.1 and No.2 various reports were made regarding the gradual appearance of the Post Office and STO envelopes with the text encircling the Queen's portrait reading 'POSTAGE PAID ROYAL MAIL' in place of 'POSTAGE PAID POSTAGE PAID'. More items have now appeared and it has become clear that a number of other features need to be taken into account in producing a classification and what follows is a preliminary attempt

and will doubtless be subject to amendment as further information becomes available.

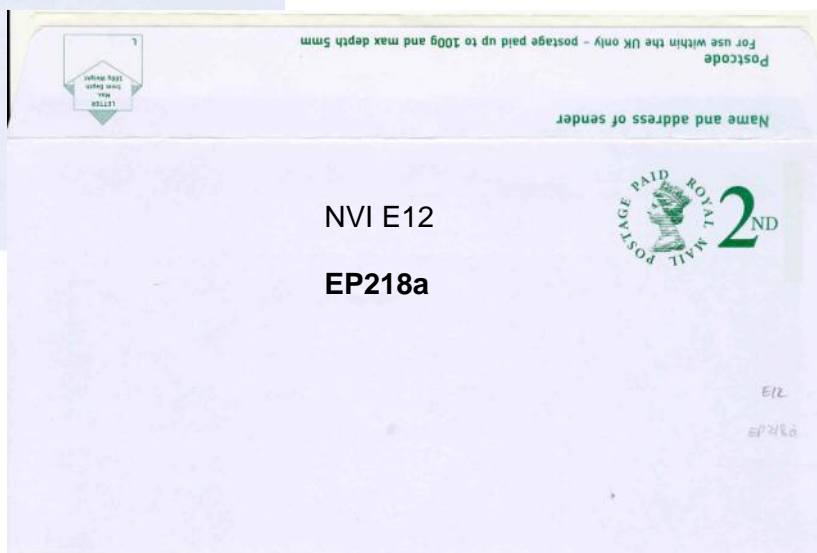
With regard to Post Office envelopes the following features are relevant:-

- stamp image and size; envelope size;
- text on reverse; flap pattern;
- lining pattern; phosphor band colour;
- print code .

In some cases STO envelopes can appear very similar to the Post Office issues but comparison of the features listed above will usually enable their identification.



NVI E11
Grey honeycomb
EP215b



NVI E12
EP218a

Lining Pattern



Criss-cross **EP216a**



Diagonal dots **EP216b**



Diagonal lined **EP216c**

2009 Circular Machin NVI stamps E11 and E12 (25mm*) with 'POSTAGE PAID ROYAL MAIL'; with '100g and max depth 5mm' on reverse together with envelope symbol; white paper, peelable strip on 30mm flap, no slits.

Size Q/DL

- EP215 1st class blue NVI stamp E 11 window envelope
 \$ a pale blue diagonal lined pattern inside; envelope symbol 21mm wide (?)
 b grey honeycomb pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (B); code O?X220 Reel Peel & Seal
- EP216 2nd class green NVI stamp E12 window envelope
 a blue criss-cross pattern inside; envelope symbol 21mm wide (C)
 b blue diagonal dot pattern inside; envelope symbol 25mm wide (C); code 202/2/409
 c pale blue diagonal lined pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (C); code 15 04 09
 d grey honeycomb pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (PB)
 code O?X220 Reel Peel & Seal 27
- EP217 1st class blue NVI stamp E 11
 a pale blue diagonal lined pattern inside; envelope symbol 21mm wide (C); code 15 03 09
 b grey honeycomb pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (B); code O?X220 Reel Peel & Seal
- EP218 2nd class green NVI stamp E12
 a blue criss-cross pattern inside; envelope symbol 21mm wide (PG); no code
 b blue diagonal dot pattern inside; envelope symbol 21mm wide (PG); code 15 03 09
 \$ c grey honeycomb pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (?)

Size R/C5

- EP219 1st class blue NVI stamp E11
 a pale blue diagonal lined pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (PB); no code
 \$ b grey honeycomb pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (?)
- EP220 2nd class green NVI stamp E12
 a pale blue diagonal lined pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (C); no code
 \$ b grey honeycomb pattern inside; envelope symbol 16.5mm wide (?)

Size S/C4

- \$ EP221 1st class blue NVI stamp E11
 \$ EP222 2nd class green NVI stamp E12

* Diameter of stamp measured between top of 'A' of 'POSTAGE' to top of 'A' of 'ROYAL'
 \$ These items are likely to have been/be produced but have not yet been reported.

Air Mail Letter Sheets - Post Office issues

- | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| AP53 | White paper with star; | MSE 320/08 (15.11.08); 165/09 (14.1.09) | |
| AP54B | White paper without star; | MSE 132/09 (12.5.09); 133/09 (13.5.09). | (Courtesy Arthur Roberts) |

New Items Reported

Post Office Envelopes

- QEII Circular Machin NVI stamp E8
EP201a 2nd class size CS, no slits, sender details central on 35mm flap and clear phosphor, no print code
 (Courtesy Ray Downing)

Stamped to Order Envelopes

- QV Compound stampings - dated dies
ESC14B 1d + 1½d (7 + 9) used (Courtesy Jan Berny)
ESC74 6d + 2d (5 + 2) used; N.B. This is a correction to Vol. 17 No.1 where **ESC160** was reported used in error
 (Courtesy Wayne Menuz)
- QV Compound stampings - floret dies
ESC445A 2d + 2½d + 3d (20b + 21a + 22a) mint
 (Courtesy Wayne Menuz)

KGV Larger size envelopes with House of Commons embossed seal on open flap.

½d (**ES42**) 92 x 225mm side opening;

1½d (**ES53**) 92 x 225mm top opening
 (Courtesy Michael Goodman)

KGV Compound stamping
ESC743 ½d + 3d (29 + 35) Piece from W.H. Smith? wrapper with 'RIALTAS SEALADACH NA HEIREANN' (Provisional Government of Ireland) overprint in black. Overprint appears to be over the 'FS' cancels - status unknown, may be bogus



(Courtesy Tony Stanford)

KGVI Compound stamping

ESC812A* 2½d blue + 1d red (64 + 61)Wo Country Life wrapper used (AKH) .

* = new number

QEII NVI envelopes

2008-09 1st class NVI stamp E11 with 'POSTAGE PAID ROYAL MAIL'

ES190* a black stamp 24.5mm size DLW (PB); DL (PG)
b black stamp 26mm size DL (PG); C4 (Y)

ES191* blue stamp 25mm size C5 (C)

ES192* green stamp 25.5mm size C5 (Y)

N.B. All the DLW and DL size envelopes (including a DL with the House of Lords Coat of Arms printed on the front) have '100g and max depth 50mm' text on reverse but the width of the envelope symbol varies from 18-21 mm. The C5 size envelopes with blue stamps occur with and without text on reverse (see Vol. 16 No.3 page 10 & Vol. 17 No.1 page 9); those with a green stamp have text with 'max depth 25mm' and 14.5mm wide envelope symbol. The only C4 envelope seen to-date has 'max

depth 25mm' and a 18.25mm envelope symbol on reverse with House of Commons printed on the front.

WILDLIFE & WETLANDS TRUST POSTCARD BOOK

In the last issue of the Journal (Vol.17 No.3 page 11) the status of the stamp images on the postcards produced in conjunction with the adhesive stamp issue was discussed. John Holman has kindly sent in the text of the notification of these published in the British Philatelic Bulletin Vol.33 pp.202-203 (1996) which is as follows and fully clarifies the matter:- 'A book containing 10 postcards will go on sale at the Bureau and Post Office Counters philatelic outlets on 12 March, price £2.95. Five cards will reproduce the stamp designs without the Queen's head and value, the other five will show WWT centres at Arundel, Martin Mere, Slimbridge, Llanelli, and Caerlaverock with reproductions of the 19p, 25p, 30p, 35p and 41p stamps superimposed. It should be noted that these reproductions are not valid for postage and collectors who wish to use the cards as maximum cards will need to affix the relevant adhesive stamps'.

GREAT BRITAIN - QUEEN VICTORIA PRE-STAMPED POSTCARDS SOLD BELOW FACE VALUE

Alan Huggins

The idea of using prepaid postal stationery as an advertising medium can be traced back to the 1840 'Mulready' envelopes and letter sheets, some of which were sold at reduced rates, the difference in cost being offset by the revenue from advertising. With the introduction in October 1855 of the Stamping to Order service whereby stamps could be printed on paper supplied by the public, the possibilities for advertising were further increased. In the 1880s a number of schemes were put forward, some of which were registered at Stationers Hall, for selling pre-stamped envelopes, letter sheets and postcards with printed advertisements below the face values of the stamp.

These proposals all depended on the income from the sale of advertising space covering the difference in the cost and sale price of the item returning a profit to the Proprietor of the scheme, and a number of companies were formed for the purpose of marketing such products. In the event the public was not very receptive to acting as the conduit for sending out advertising in order to reduce the cost of their personal postage. The result was that most schemes were short lived, even if they were actually put into operation.

The best known examples of companies which promoted this idea utilising postcards, were the Anglo Colonial Letter Co. Limited and the Farthing Letter Card Company Ltd. Both of these companies produced a number of issues and these were described by Welsh (1972, 1973), and Baker(2004) listed some items in the Frank Staff Collection held at the Bath Postal Museum. Some examples are shown in **illustrations 1-3**.

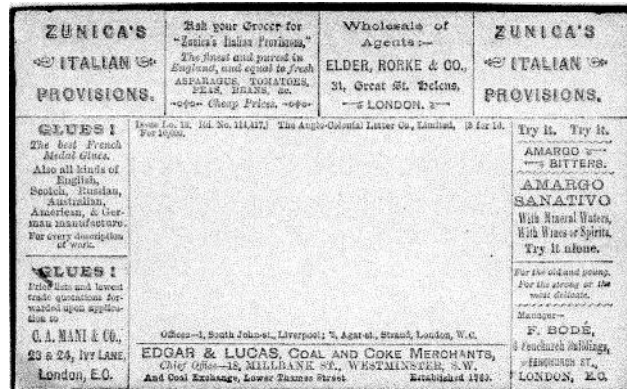


Illustration 1. Anglo Colonial Letter Co. Limited Cards (CS3) sold at 3 for 1d; printed in red, with

rectangular arrangement of multiple advertisements around rectangular space for message, with issue number Lo.13.

The following issues have been recorded to-date:- Lo.2., Lo.3., Lo.5., Lo.6., Lo.9., Lo.13., Lo.15., Lo. 16. & Lo.18.

More recently cards sold by William Owen of Westbourne grove, London have come to light which were sold at 10 for 4d (see **illustrations 4-6**). The first of these is a QV ½d Post Office card (**CP21**) with advertisements printed in red on the reverse and has the selling price in the bottom right hand corner. The other two cards have the same advertisements in yellow brown and red respectively but are STO postcards (**CS3**) but without any indication of the selling price. As with many of the surviving used examples of the Anglo Colonial Letter Company and of the Farthing Letter Card Company, the William Owen cards were used to respond to a competition run by 'Tit Bits' magazine to predict the numbers of visitors in the first week to the 1889 Paris Exhibition.

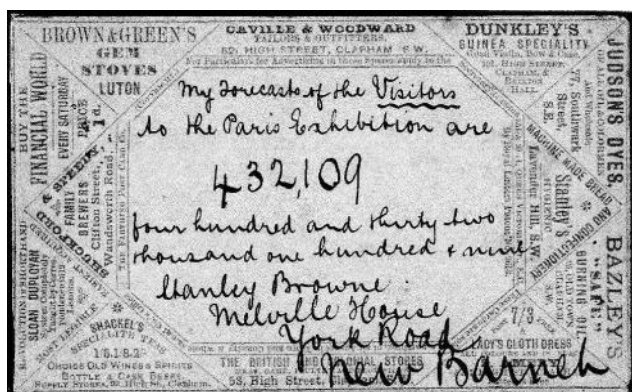


Illustration 2. Farthing Letter Card Company Limited

Cards (CS2 & 3) sold at one farthing each; printed in blue or red, with triangular arrangement of multiple advertisements around octagonal space for message, various imprints, no issue number.

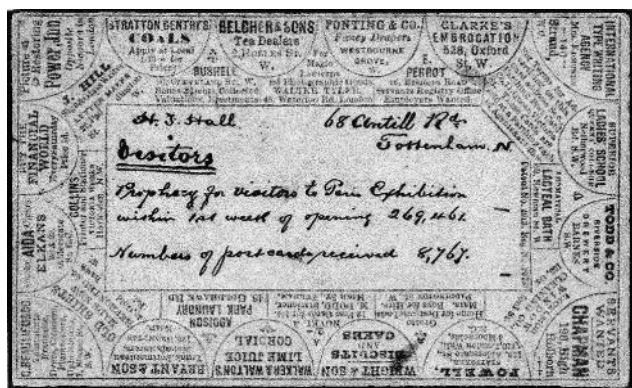


Illustration 3. Farthing Letter Card Company Limited

Cards (CS2) sold at one farthing each; printed in blue with looped pattern of multiple advertisements arranged around rectangular space for message, no issue number.



Illustration 4. Farthing Letter Card Company Limited

Cards sold at one farthing each; printed in blue (CS2 & CS3) or red (CS3) with rectangular arrangement of multiple advertisements arranged around rectangular space for message, no issue number.

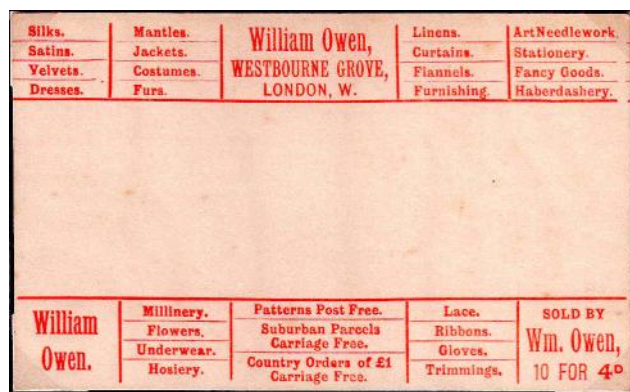


Illustration 5. William Owen

Cards (CS3) sold at 10 for 4d; printed in red with advertisements arranged above and below space for message and 'SOLD BY/ Wm. Owen./ 10 FOR 4d' in bottom right corner, no issue number.

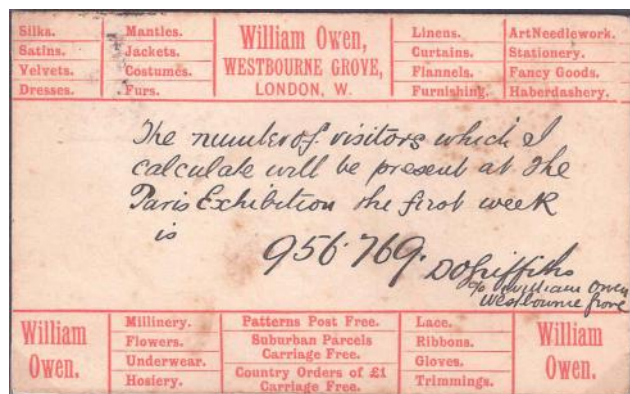


Illustration 6. William Owen

Cards (CS3) presumably sold at 10 for 4d; printed red or yellow-brown; with same advertisements arranged above and below space for message, but bottom right corner space with 'William/Owen'

All three companies described above produced their cards for advertising purposes, the first two by selling advertising space to third parties aimed to generate a profit for the company concerned. In the case of William Owen the cards were simply sold at a discount off face value. A number of other instances of this practice are known where cards were either sold actually below face value, or below the cost of purchasing cards from the Post Office (see illustration 7).

Some examples of such cards are shown in illustrations 8 & 9.

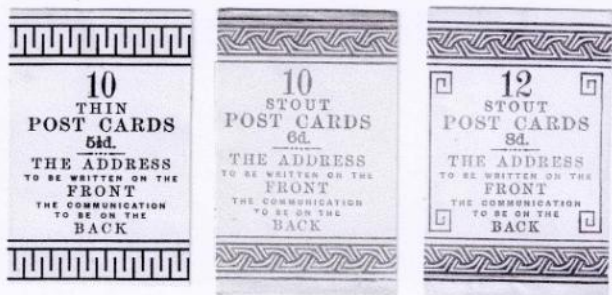


Illustration 7.

Contemporary wrapper bands for Post Office postcards showing retail selling prices.



Illustration 9.

Further examples of cards sold below Post Office retail price; CS2 - FULFORD, Stationer, Kings . Cross, London and ANDERSON & CO., New Cross, London.

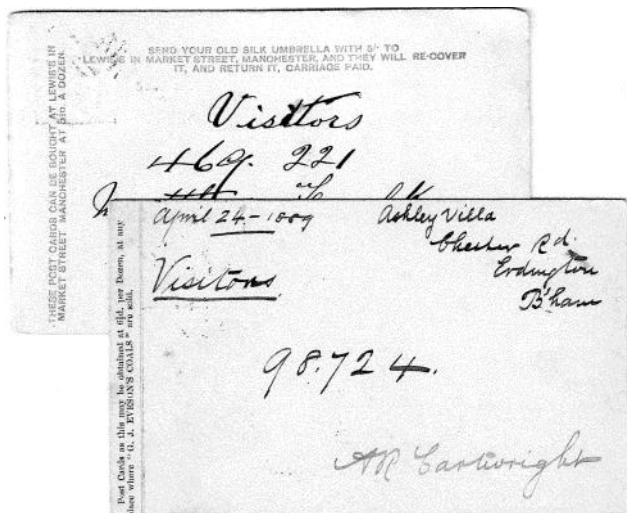


Illustration 8.

Examples of postcards sold either below face value or below Post Office retail price; CS3 - LEWIS'S. of Manchester priced at 5½d a dozen (12); CS2 - G.J. EVENSON'S COALS at 6½d a dozen.

References

A.N. Welsh GB Journal Vol.10 pp.62-64 (1973); Vol.11 pp.15-17 (1973)

C. Baker PSS Journal Vol.12 No.3 pp.19-20 (2004)

AN EARLY ONE PENNY PINK STAMPED TO ORDER LETTER SHEET

Alan Huggins



This early usage of a one penny pink stamped to order letter sheet recently appeared in auction (Cavendish 10.9.09) and is sufficiently unusual to merit being more formally recorded. The 1d embossed stamp is die 101 dated 10.5.58 and was sent on 9 December 1858 from Church Stretton to Newport in Shropshire, the 6d registration fee being paid by adhesives.

ILLUSTRATED AND ADVERTISING STATIONERY - 'ALFRED SMITH & Co, STAMP DEALER'

Following the publication of the first part of a series of articles by Colin Baker 'Illustrated and Advertising Postal Stationery in the period up to the First World War' in the May issue of the Journal and my appeal for more information in the August issue, I have had a good response from members who have submitted scans of a number of items not included in the May listing.

This information relating to postal stationery items carrying 'Alfred Smith' imprinted identification is summarised in the illustrations and table which follow.

ENVELOPES



- (1) Plain envelope with "ALFRED SMITH & Co." above the imprinted stamp and "BATH. / Foreign Stamp Importers. / Timbres-poste pour Collections" beneath the stamp.
- | Imprint / H&B illustration No. | Earliest & latest date of use |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 2½d lake 10a dated [21/12/90] | 10/02/92 - 11/05/92 |
| 1½d yellow 6b [3/5/92] | 10/09/92 - 03/11/92 |
| 2½d grey blue 10a [3/5/92] +
2½d grey blue 10a [3/5/92] | 20/05/92 - 28/01/93 |



- (2) Plain envelope with "ALFRED SMITH & SON, / BATH. / Postage Stamps for Collections. / Timbres-poste pour collections" printed in black in the top left hand corner.
- (3) As (2) above but overprinted in greyish green with two lines obliterating "Bath". "LONDON" inserted beneath. Return address (37 Essex Street ..) added in bottom right hand corner.
- (4) 2d lake **9b** (9 dots) 14/10/99



- (4) Plain envelope with return address (37 & 39 Essex Street ..) printed in black in the lower left hand corner.
- 1½d yellow **6c** (9 dots) 05/10/99
2d lake **9b** (9 dots) 07/04/99



- (5) Plain envelope with "REGISTERED 2d. / FRAGILE, With Care." in the top left hand corner and "R" in an oval and boxed return address (37 Essex Street..) beneath.
- ½d vermilion **1a** + 4d vermilion **13b** (9 dots) 05/10/98 - 10/05/99
3d carmine **12b** (9 dots) + 4d vermilion **13b** (9dots) 09/07/98

(Note the additional diagonal blue crayon lines on the envelopes indicating the fragile nature of the contents.)

- (6) Illustration of the Premises in Bath
Illustration and text above and below stamp in RED



R1

Illustration and text in GREEN



G1



G2



G3

G3 - the illustration is much sharper and has a thicker frame with a break in the top under the "R" of "REGISTERED"

The black prints are all much sharper, B1 & B1op do not have a break in the frame whereas B2 & B2op have a break in the bottom frame line near the left hand corner.

Illustration and text in BLACK



B1

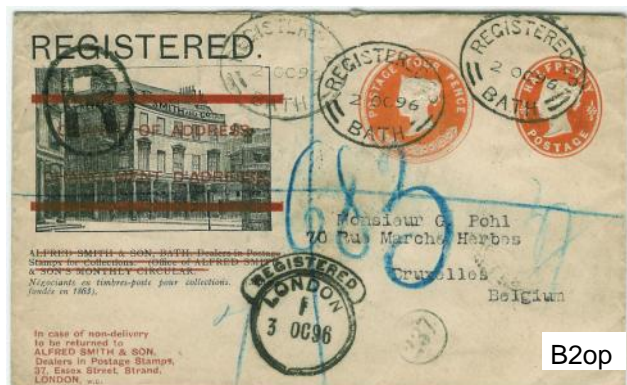


B2

Overprinted in RED



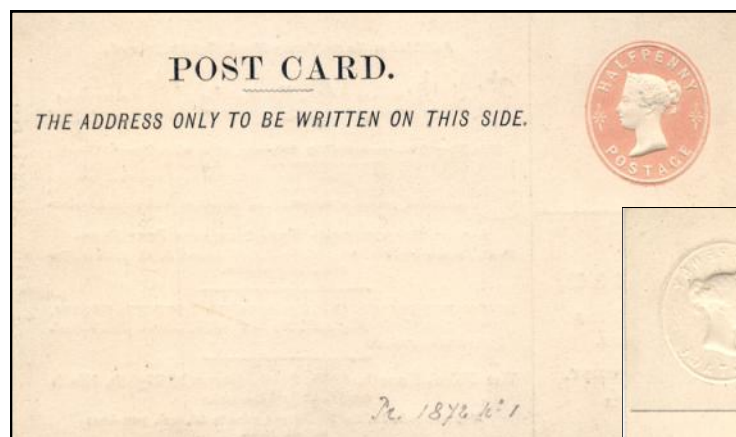
B1op



B2op


Postal Stationery Envelopes with Illustration of Alfred Smith's Premises in Bath						
Colour of illustration and printed text	Inscription above & below imprint	"REGISTERED" above illustration	Overprinted with London Address	Imprinted stamp(s) Huggins & Baker Illustration No.	Dates of use	
					Earliest	Latest
RED R1	Yes	No	No	½d vermilion 1a	04/02/93	18/01/94
GREEN G1	Yes	No	No	2d lake 9b (9 dots)	05/05/94	25/03/95
G2	Yes	Yes underlined	No	1d pink 5 + 6d violet 14b (9dots)	22/05/94	
G3	Yes	Yes	No	1d pink 5 + 6d violet 15	22/06/95	05/12/95
G3	Yes	Yes	No	1½d yellow 6c + 3d carmine 12b	30/01/96	24/04/96
G2	Yes	Yes underlined	No	3d carmine 12b	24/10/94	
G3	Yes	Yes	No	3d carmine 12b	31/10/94	
BLACK B1	No	No	No	1½d yellow 6c	22/08/95	21/09/96
B2	No	Yes	No	3d carmine 12b + 4d vermilion 13b	29/08/96	01/09/96
B1op	No	No	Yes	1½d yellow 6c	06/11/96	15/07/97
B2op	No	Yes	Yes	½d vermilion 1a + 4d vermilion 13b	02/10/96	24/04/97
B2op	No	Yes	Yes	3d carmine 12b + 4d vermilion 13b	17/10/96	14/05/97

POSTCARDS



STO Postcard with ½d vermilion **1a**. On the reverse is an advert for The Stamp Collector's Magazine.

In the lower left hand corner is Alfred Smith's Bath Address.



ALFRED SMITH & CO.,
Foreign Stamp Importers,
6, BATH STREET,
BATH.

Published on the 1st of every Month, forp. 4to, price 4d.

The Stamp Collector's Magazine.

This Magazine—commenced in February, 1863, when Stamp Collecting first acquired prominence—has retained its position as the LEADING ORGAN OF COLLECTORS. It contains the latest and most accurate intelligence respecting new and rare Stamps; articles from the pens of the most experienced philatelic writers; and numerous well-executed Illustrations.

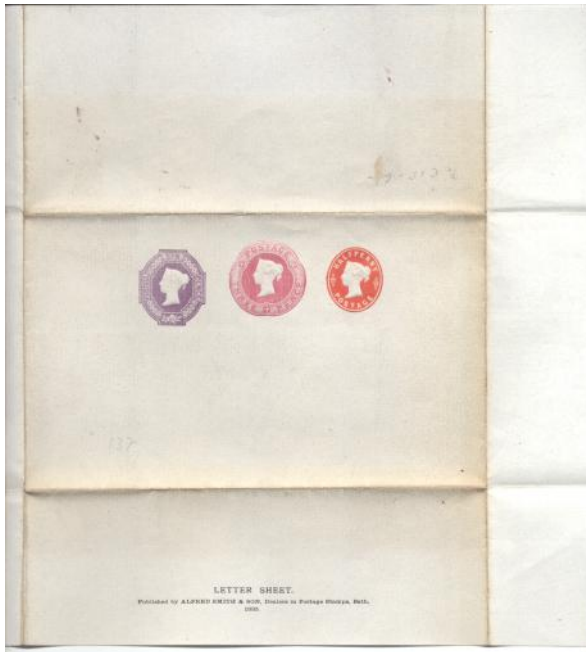
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: FOUR SHILLINGS, POST FREE;
To the Colonies and all Foreign Countries the Annual Subscription is Five Shillings Post Free.

EVERY PURCHASER IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE, GRATIS, WITH EACH NUMBER AN UNUSED FOREIGN OR COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMP.

The Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Volumes

May also be had of the Publishers; price 6s. 6d. each, post free; abroad, 7s. 6d.

LETTERSHEET



STO Lettersheet with
 1/2d vermilion **1a**,
 3d carmine **12a** (5 dots) and
 6d violet **15**.

Printed at the base is:

“ LETTER SHEET /

Published by ALFRED SMITH & SON, Dealers in Postage
 Stamps. Bath /
 1895”

NEWSPAPER WRAPPER

In some earlier correspondence, John Courtis reported an STO wrapper:

Alfred Smith Co. Ltd., Bath, Foreign Stamp Importer
 QV 1894 1 1/2d yellow **6c**



The card illustrated on the right was issued by Stamp Collecting Ltd as a Souvenir of the Unveiling of the Stafford Smith Memorial Tablet 21st June 1935.

The card carries the illustration which was used on the front of the Alfred Smith envelopes

The information and illustrations used in this article are courtesy of:

Colin Baker, Edward Caesley, Tony Hitchcock, John Jennison, Steve Pilgrim and Edy Pockele

**ILLUSTRATED AND ADVERTISING POSTAL STATIONERY
 in the period up to the First World War - QV Envelopes part 2**

Following the publication of the first part of this article I had a good response from members who submitted scans and details of items from their collections. Additional information on 'Alfred Smith' envelopes and other 'Alfred Smith' items is presented in the article on pages 16 - 19 in this issue of the Journal. I had hoped to receive a little more in the way of reports on other QV illustrated/advertising envelopes than I have. However I await members contacting me to make their contributions to the Journal in due course. In the meantime new items and updated information for QV envelopes are included in the following two pages.

I am grateful to have received the information and illustrations which have been supplied by **Colin Baker, Alan Cotton, B. Hewson, Tony Hitchcock, John Jennison, George King, Edy Pockele, Steve Pilgrim and Neil Sargent**. I would like to thank these members for their help and hope that it will be useful to those who collect this material.

In the next article in this series I will cover QV Postcards.



Art-Union of London,

STO envelope printed inside in black.

Stamp 1d pink type 3

Earliest d/u: 6 August 1857 Latest d/u:



Creswell Brothers & Schmitz, 1 & 2 Red Lion Square, London WC

STO envelope with fancy heading stating 'sponge importers, exporters and merchants'. Printed in green.

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: 26 January 1898 Latest d/u:

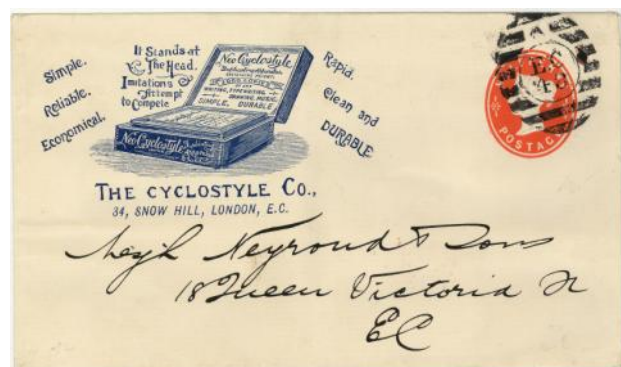


Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. 10 Mark Lane, London EC.

STO envelope with vignette printed in black of milkmaid carrying two pails.

Stamp 1d pink type 5

Earliest d/u: 29 June 1891 Latest d/u:

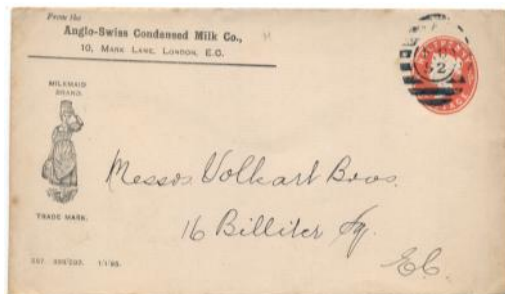


The Cyclostyle Co., 34, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

STO envelope with illustration of the 'Neo Cyclostyle Duplicating Apparatus Gestetners Patent'. Printed in blue.

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



STO envelope Company name and address in top left hand corner. Printed in grey. Printer's information in lower left hand corner contains date '1/1/95'

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a



Hay's Hygeian Flour

STO envelope with quotes from 'The Lancet', 'British Trade Journal', 'Good Health' and 'Health News'. Illustration of trade mark of two maidens holding sheaf of corn. Printed in blue

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: 28 March 1898 Latest d/u:



STO envelope with vignette of milkmaid carrying two pails. Vignette redrawn, shorter and with different font. Printed in grey

Stamp 1d pink type 5

Earliest d/u: 29 January 1898 Latest d/u:



Moore's Maltine Vinegar - (User unknown)

STO envelope with vignette of wooden barrel. Moore's maltine vinegar 5 gallons, cask and tap free. Printed in red.

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: 20 September 1895 Latest d/u: 26 September 1895



Samuel Mason, 55 & 56 Dale End, Birmingham Beer engine manufacturer, bar fitter and general pewterer.

STO envelope with reproductions of two medalls and Royal Coat of Arms.

Stamp 1d pink type 5

Earliest d/u: 3 October 1887 Latest d/u:



Steven Bros., & Co, 4, Upper Thames Street London E.C.

STO envelope with illustration of Cooking Range on back with 'x' shaped lists of products manufactured on either side. Printing in dark olive green.

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



W. Williams & Son Bread Street, London. E.C.

STO Envelope with trade mark (Wreath & Lion) and address in the top left hand corner. Printing in maroon.

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: 6 March 1899 Latest d/u:

Additions & Amendments to envelopes described in PSSJ No. 50

Blundell, Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull

Similar vignette but without 'book post'. Printed on the back of the envelope.

Stamp 1/2d vermilion type 1a

Earliest d/u: 22 January 189(4)? Latest d/u:

Cooke, Sons & Co., Liversedge, Yorkshire

Stamp 2 1/2d lake type 10a dated [11/4/88]

Earliest d/u: 3 December 1888

Stamp 2 1/2d grey-blue type 10a dated [21/11/93]

Earliest d/u; 19 January 189(4)? Latest d/u;

Stamp 2 1/2d grey-blue type 10b Latest d/u; 1 August 1901

John Oakey & Sons, Wellington Mills, 172 Blackfriars Rd., London.

Smaller size.

Stamp 1d. pink type 4.

d/u; 3 September 1889

Stamp 1d. pink type 5.

d/u; 19 January 1894



Parkins & Gotto

Post Office envelope EP8a. Different advert with new address: 24 & 25 Oxford Street.

Stamp 1d. pink type 2.

Price's Patent Candle Company ..

Stamp 1/2d. vermilion type 1a. Latest d/u 18 October 1900

Stamp 1d pink type 5 Latest d/u; 4 September 1897

Stamp 2 1/2d. grey-blue type 10a dated [11/2/(92)?]

d/u; 1 December 1892

Stamp 2 1/2d. grey-blue type 10b.

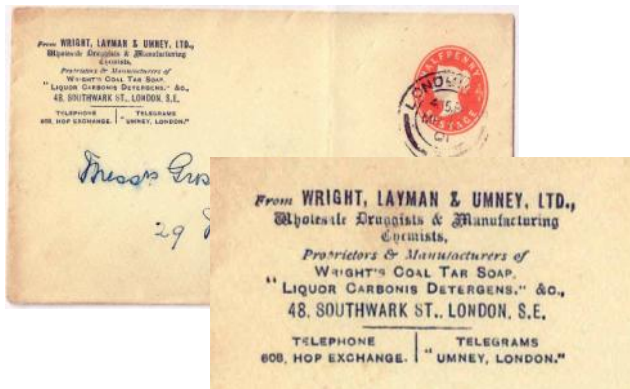
Earliest d/u 25 November 1898

Latest d/u; 26 April 1904

Quaker Oats Ltd, St George's House, 6 & 8 Eastcheap, London EC.

Stamp 1d pink type 5

d/u; 7 September 1901



Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., 48 Southwark Street, London S.E.

Change to address and telephone No. added

Stamp 1/2d. vermilion type 1b.

Latest d/u 12 March 1901

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

G.B.AIRLETTERS

Arthur Roberts regrets that in this column in the August issue of the Journal he gave the year of print for MSE 343,344 and 345 as 2008. This should have read 2007. Arthur apologises for this error. Any future announcements of new printings of G.B. airletters will be made in GB Postal Stationery News thus keeping all new issue announcements together in one place.

QUERIES AND REPLIES

QUERY - Panama Canal Zone Registration Envelopes

David Zemer who is researching the production of the Canal Zone registration envelopes has written asking "Does any member have any further information regarding the registration envelopes produced for the Panama Canal Zone postal authorities."

About a year ago Alan Huggins told him "These envelopes were produced by the American Bank Note Company and not in the UK. You may find the article by Irwin Gibbs in the UPSS Postal Stationery publication volume. 46 no. 3 May-June 2004, pages 61-64 of interest."



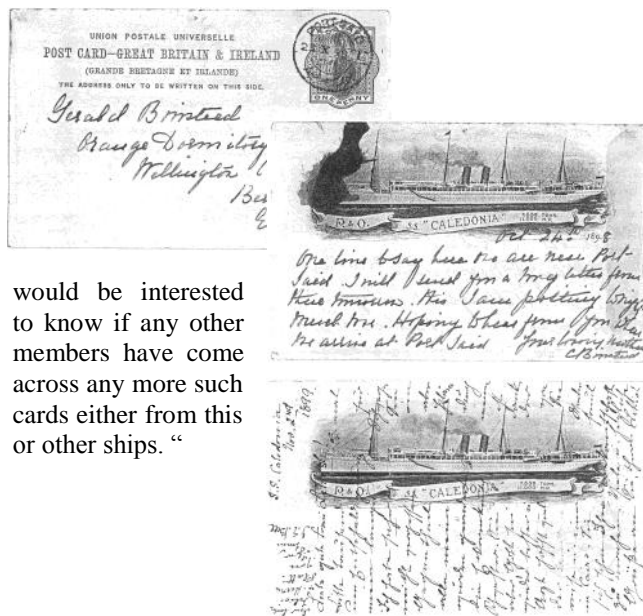
David now says "Since then I have looked more closely at the British registration envelopes (I bought some QV and KGV ones on ebay to examine) and they are so close to those of the Canal Zone and Panama that I feel pretty sure that the Panama ones were not manufactured by the American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) but made under contract. Most likely by the same company that made the British ones(?). I also have obtained documentation that indicates that the ABNCo did not make them for Panama, at least the first batch. Maybe Thomas de la Rue made most or all of them around 1916 - 1924?"

If anyone can help on this subject, please contact the editor who will pass on the information.

QUERY - Shipping Cards

Roy Maltson writes "I enclose a photocopy of two shipping cards that I have acquired. As you will see, they are identical pictures of P & O S.S. Caledonia. The messages show quite clearly that they emanated from that ship."

I have collected shipping cards for many years and this is the first I have found on a postal stationery card so I



would be interested to know if any other members have come across any more such cards either from this or other ships. "

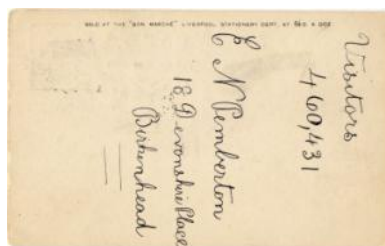
QUERY - "Bon Marche"

John Fowler writes "I don't know when you last illustrated items similar to the attached. This is my only example, with: 'SOLD AT THE "BON MARCHÉ" LIVERPOOL, STATIONERY DEPT, AT 6½D A DOZ.'"



The card is Huggins & Baker CP6.

I'd be interested to know how many other similar items members have in their collections. I know there are examples of stationery sold at or below the face value of the stamps, but I don't know whether these are being discounted (the court size stiff cards were 6d for 11).



WANTS

Looking for UPU specimens of Antigua A4, Barbados C5, C11b and C12a, Grenada C10, C10b and E10, Montserrat A2 and Tobago C1. Charles Freeland, Ob Batterieweg 45, 4059 Basel, Switzerland, charles.freeland@hotmail.com

SALES

Breaking up collection of BWI stationery, wants lists invited. Charles Freeland, Ob Batterieweg 45, 4059 Basel, Switzerland, charles.freeland@hotmail.com

GROSVENOR

AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS

Postal Stationery at Auction



1844 (March) embossed 1d. pink envelope uprated with 1841 2d. blue plate 3, superb and rare. To be included in our Specialised Great Britain auction on 10 & 11 December 2009.

The Grosvenor team offers a friendly and flexible approach for both buyers and sellers. Andrew Claridge, James Grist, Nick Mansell, Charles Napper, Glyn Page and Richard Watkins provide the wealth of experience that you require to bring the very best results.

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POSTAL HISTORY*

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