



THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 23, No. 4 November 2015
(Serial number 76)



**Code Numbers/Letters, Missing Dots and Watermarks - all have a meaning in:
The Development of the German Domestic Rate Postal Card 1873 - 1900 - See page 14**

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The Postal Stationery Society (Founded 1992)

For collectors of postal stationery worldwide no matter what their area of interest.

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The Postal Stationery Society Journal **EDITOR: John H. Barker**

The Journal is published four times a year and distributed free to members. Contributions for publication in the Journal should be sent to the Editor, John H Barker, 35, Portia Avenue, Shirley, Solihull. B90 2NW. or via email:

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Articles on any aspect of postal stationery are welcomed. Items for illustration should be good quality colour scans or photocopies or should be sent to the Editor for scanning.

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Society Calendar 2016

Saturday March 12th 2016 Keith Hanman - Bahamas.
Society's One Sheet Competition, Members
Displays at the RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place,
London, 10.30 am. 4.00 pm.

Saturday 11th June 2016 Swinpex, Members
Displays. St Joseph's Lower School, Octal

Way, Swindon SN3 2LR, 2-4.00pm.

Saturday October 22nd 2016 Society's AGM, Tony
Chilton Competition & Auction at the RPSL, 41
Devonshire Place, London, 10.30 am. 4.00 pm.

**Full details can be found in the programme card
enclosed with this issue of the Journal**

Postal Stationery Society Journal Index

Members wishing to locate articles in past issues of the Journal will find these on the RPSL web site:

<http://www.rpsl.org.uk/home.asp> Click on the tab 'Catalogue', in the left box enter 'Postal Stationery Society Journal' as a search term; in the middle box select 'Cumulative Indexes' and in the right box click on 'search'. In the new window click on the word 'Indexes' on the blue bar. In the next window click 'Click here to show articles'.

The contents of all PSS Journals up to 2009 should appear!

On the PSS website (**postalstationery.org.uk**) you can browse through the indexes to all Journal from 2003 to date.

Past issues of the Journal are available from the Editor: See page 23 for details

Auctions

Could members keep lots coming in for future Society auctions. If possible put each lot in a plastic protector with a brief description and a reserve. Post to the Auctioneer, Neil Sargent, 24, Wheal Regent Park, Carlyon Bay, Cornwall PL25 3SP

Library

The Society Library holds over 200 items on many areas and aspects of Postal Stationery, see the latest list on the Society Website

Postal Stationery Society Website

Did you know that there are links to 40 Top Class Postal Stationery Exhibits covering a wide range of subjects. The contents of the Postal Stationery Society Journals for the past 10 years are also listed together with articles selected from past issues. Visit the Society's website:-

www.postalstationery.org.uk

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - NOVEMBER 2015



Many thousands of newspaper wrappers are offered for sale annually. But a newspaper wrapper with the original contents (a newspaper as opposed to commercial literature) is offered very rarely. In fact over the last fifteen years I have only ever experienced two instances. The first time was some ten years ago, this was before I realised just how rare they were, and I didn't buy the item because I thought the price was too high. However when a second opportunity presented itself earlier this year, I was a little wiser, and did not hesitate.

The newspaper was "The Journal of Commerce". This was a daily newspaper, published six days a week, and which was first established in 1826 in Liverpool. In the 1950s it was one of the last two newspapers in England, "The Times" being the other, to keep the old style format of advertising on the front page. There were still several other newspapers, at the time, in Scotland and Ireland, which still retained this format. With Liverpool being a major port, much of the contents of the newspaper was devoted to serving the shipping industry. However, the decline of shipping in Liverpool in the 1970s, did in the end also result in the demise of the newspaper. In September 1981 the company producing the newspaper went into liquidation after serving the city and the shipping industry for over 150 years.



Jan Kościński

Postal stationery newspaper wrappers with a "The Journal of Commerce" overprint are known from about 1908 to about 1965 during which time there were some 20 different major or minor design changes in the overprint. Some of the major design changes are illustrated on this page.

The newspaper is from Saturday 22 January 1944 and it was posted that same day to Canada. Amongst the reports in the newspaper are - Navy Supports Fifth Army; Very Heavy Raid on Berlin; Jap Cruiser Sunk; Merchant Navy Roll of Honour, 155 Names in Latest List of Casualties. Needless to say, being wartime, most of the news was war related.

Including the wrapper the total weight of the item is 32 grams (1.13 ounces), the postage cost in 1944 was just 1d to Canada. Sending the item today would cost a total of £3.15, which converted to old money is 756d.

SECRETARY'S NOTES - NOVEMBER 2015

Subscriptions 2016

With this edition of the Journal you will find a subscription notice for your membership next year. Subscriptions remain the same as 2015 for those who want to receive paper copies of the Journal etc, but for members who only want to receive the Journal and auction lists by email, the rate has been reduced to £12.50. Any member who elects to have paper copies can also have the

electronic version as well at no extra cost. Just tick the appropriate box on the renewal form.

Please read the subscription notice carefully, chose which option (or options) you would like and send your remittance to the Treasurer, Dr Paul Jones.

Please pay this promptly and not wait for reminders to be sent to you. Sending out reminders takes a lot of time and our membership secretary has more important things to do.

Email Addresses

Would members please notify the membership secretary of any change to their email address. It is very easy to get in touch with members via email; it saves us postage and keeps you up to date on important matters, which would otherwise have to wait until the next edition of the Journal. If we do not have an up to date email address you may find you are missing out.

Programme for 2016

Also enclosed with this Journal is the Society's programme for 2016 and the provisional programme for 2017. I can only encourage you to take full advantage of our meetings and see some of the displays on offer and join in the debates that are often generated. There's a great deal to learn from these meetings and everyone goes away feeling a little more knowledgeable.

AGM REPORT

Eighteen members attended the Society's annual general meeting, held on Saturday 24th October 2015 at the Royal Philatelic Society's meeting room in London.

Apologies for Absence were received from **Edward Caesley**,

Chris Howe and **Prof Iain Stevenson**.

Minutes of the AGM October 2014

These were published in the November 2014 Journal and were accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Secretary's Notes

Colin Baker said he had nothing to report that would not duplicate other officer's reports.

Chairman's Report

Jan Kosniowski said 2015 was another good year for the Society with one extra meeting, at Europhilex, in addition to the usual three.

Maurice Buxton was in the chair for the March meeting due to my absence because of surgery to remove my gall bladder a few days prior to the meeting. From the report I read, all went very well at the meeting.

The May meeting at Europhilex 2015 was a great success with two very excellent displays, one from **Professor Iain Stevenson**, of ½d pink embossed stationery, which included some unique items, and the other from **Dr Jean Alexander**, of illustrated worldwide postal stationery on the theme of waterfalls. There were a good number of overseas members present at the meeting, including **Wayne Menuz**, president of the United Postal Stationery Society and **Stephen Schumann**. The two hour slot we had in the meeting room was perhaps a little short for the displays, the viewing and the discussions they generated.

Swinpex was again a success this year. Even though there were only ten members in attendance, there were in total seven displays which resulted in a very enjoyable afternoon for all, a little more leisurely than at Europhilex.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped throughout the year. **Colin Baker** for his work as secretary, **John Barker** for his work as editor, **Neil Sargent** for his work as auctioneer, **Edward Caesley** as membership secretary and **Paul Jones** as treasurer. These are all jobs which at one time or another I have done in the past, in other organisation, and know first-hand how much some of these jobs involve.

Treasurer's Report

Paul Jones issued copies of the year's balance sheet to members and explained what the figures meant and how these related to last years balance sheet. He said that taking everything into account, the Society's income was more than its expenditure this year, and he anticipated that this would improve in the current financial year. He made no recommendations for subscription increases.

Paul went on to explain that the balance sheet for 2013/14 had been presented in a different way to his balance sheet this year, which made it difficult to compare the two, but the Society's

financial examiner was satisfied that both sets of figures were an accurate representation of the year's financial activities.

Journal Editor's report

In 2015 the Journal and auction list etc, were made available to members in electronic format which they could receive as email attachments. As a pilot scheme, members living overseas could receive all their correspondence from the Society in this format for a reduced subscription. The service was made available to UK members as an additional option to receiving paper copies. Those opting for this service seem well pleased.

I am very grateful to all those members who have contributed to the Journal throughout the year whether their contributions have been main articles or simply notes and comments. Please keep the contributions coming in. As usual, my thanks go to our advertisers who help to keep down the cost of publishing; their support is very much appreciated.

Membership Secretary's report

(Read on behalf of **Edward Caesley**.) "At this present time the membership of The Postal Stationery Society has not changed much over the past year. The Society has 198 paid up members and once again most of the new members have joined via the Societies website."

Librarian's report

(Read on behalf of **Chris Howe**.) "Book requests are now at about one every two months. Borrowers continue to be "regulars". H&G requests are normally met through the use of scans sent by email, CD or hardcopy. I get a few queries that sometimes can be answered either by myself or through contacts with librarians of other UK specialist societies.

As I have said before the library is a bit dated and could do with some new books in particular current catalogues. As ever, donations from members of books or articles are most welcome perhaps requests from members to acquire specific books would also be useful.

I am behind on updating the library list but will get on to this ASAP, mostly listing articles in other society journals. Some of the Societies which send exchange copies of their Journals have gone over to "electronic" versions. Articles requested from these issues can be sent as email attachments or by post as hard copies once I get them on the library list.

I did an audit of all the books earlier this year and find I am missing a few : Issues 1, 2, 3 & 4 of the AerogrammeR (The journal of the Aerogramme Society of Australia). Der Ganzsachensammler (Postal Stationery Collector) the Swiss PS Society's journal.

If you can provide any information about the where these books are, please let me know."

Webmaster's Report

Jan Kosniowski said that the society website continues to be updated with the contents of the PSS Journal and details of forthcoming meetings. The task of adding new pages using articles which appeared in past issues of the PSS Journal also slowly progressing, a number of new pages have been added onto the website. I would have liked to have done more but the work on my catalogue continues to consume all my spare time. The catalogue project is almost at the end which will allow me more spare time in the future.

The website continues to attract a similar number of visitors as in previous years. Including visits made by search engines, the average has gone up by 20 to about 400 per week. Looking at the activities of the search engines it does appear that they account for some 90% of the visits. This means the real figure is still about 40 visitors per week.

Election of Officers and Committee Members

The following officers were elected unopposed.

Chairman - **Jan Kosniowski**

Deputy Chairman - **Maurice Buxton**

Secretary - **Colin Baker**

Treasurer - **Paul Jones**

The following committee members were elected unopposed. **John Barker, Neil Sargent, Mike Smith, Edward Caesley and Michael Lockton**

Proposed increase in subscriptions

It was proposed that all subscriptions remained at their current level for another year, except for those members taking only electronic copies by email of all the Society's publications. The meeting agreed that the annual subscription for this type of membership should be reduced to £12.50 (10 members voted for the proposal and the rest abstained).



TONY CHILTON COMPETITION

There were only 5 entries for this year's competition which was judged by **Mike Smith**. He gave comprehensive review of all the entries and declared **Colin Baker's** entry to be the winner. The list of entries is given below.

- First - Colin Baker**, Queen Victoria Penny Pink Envelopes 1841 to 1851
- Keith Hanman** - Sierra Leone Queen Victoria postcards 1880 to 1893
- George King** - The Not Specimen GB Stationery of 1952
- George King** - The National Blood Transfusion Service QEII Stamped to Order Postcards
- Michael Lockton** - QV Penny Pink Envelopes, The Pink Seal Device

Colin Baker receives the Tony Chilton Platter from our Chairman, **Jan Kośniowski**

ALAN HUGGINS SPECIAL DISPLAY

At our meeting on 24th October, **Alan Huggins** filled 11 frames at the Royal's meeting room with some spectacular material showing the proofs and essays of embossed postal stationery stamps from the Penny Pink envelopes of 1841 to the last embossed issues of 1971. This gave members the opportunity to see rare material and to hear the story of the embossed issues spanning 150 years. The hand-out that Alan Huggins gave to members who attended the meeting is reproduced below.

PROOFS AND ESSAYS OF EMBOSSED STAMPS USED ON POSTAL STATIONERY FROM 1841 to 1971

With the less than enthusiastic reception given by the public to the Mulready design on the postal stationery issued contemporaneously with the 1d black and 2d blue adhesive stamps in May 1840, Rowland Hill rapidly decided to find a more acceptable replacement.

Fortuitously William Wyon had previously been commissioned to produce a design incorporating the head of Queen Victoria, for embossed stamps intended for stamping paper supplied by the public, and it was decided to further develop this for use on stamped envelopes to be sold by the Post Office.

The development of this design had involved both the engraver Alfred Deacon and the printer Charles Whiting, who also produced his own version in parallel. Apart from relatively minor modifications, the finalised design which was used for the 1d and 2d embossed envelopes issued in February 1841, remained in use throughout the Victorian era and continued to serve as a basic design concept for the entire period that embossed stamps were used on postal stationery.

For security reasons embossing was also chosen for the production of the 6d, 10d, and 1s adhesive stamps introduced between 1847 and 1854. These were superseded by the 4d, 6d and 1s letterpress designs printed by De la Rue. The redundant 6d and 1s embossed dies were adapted, by the incorporation of moveable date plugs, together with a new 4d embossed die, for the stamping to order service which commenced in October 1855. Subsequently further values were required, and new distinctively shaped designs were produced. Specific designs were also created for use on telegraph forms and registration envelopes.

This range of distinctively shaped designs continued for the King Edward VII embossed stamps, while the lower values became progressively more unified for the King George V and King George VI series. For the Queen Elizabeth II stamps however, the Sir Cecil Thomas Tudor Rose' design was used for all values. This was replaced in 1969 by an embossed octagonal Machin head design which continued with the change to decimal currency in 1971, but was then rapidly superseded by letterpress versions.

This exhibit traces the changes in the design and colour of the stamps throughout the period that embossed stamps were used for stamping postal stationery.

STAMP DEALERS MAIL - WHITFIELD KING Part 2

Edward Caesley

The second part of a display given to the Royal Philatelic Society of London on 18th December 2014

Envelope size 90mm x 142mm



Hugo Michel was a stamp dealer.

1½d pale-deep yellow (April 1892) embossed at Somerset House 14.11.92

3d pale rose carmine-deep carmine (1859) embossed at Somerset House 15.11.92

4½d postage would have paid 2½d for a ½oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee

-----XXXX-----



2½d grey-blue (May 1892) embossed at Somerset House 15.11.92

2d lake (October 1892) embossed at Somerset House 15.11.92

4½d postage pays 2½d for a ½oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee

Envelope size 90mm x 142mm



3d pale rose carmine-deep carmine (October 1855-1859) embossed at Somerset House 15.11.92

4d vermilion-vermillion (October 1855-1859) embossed at Somerset House 16.11.92

7d postage pays 5d for a 1oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee

-----XXXX-----



10d brown (May 1892) embossed at Somerset House undated.

1/- postage pays 10d for a 2oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee

Envelope size 95mm x 170mm



1d pink (1883) embossed at Somerset House (undated)

4d vermilion (1859?) embossed at Somerset House 8.9.92

This cover has been overpaid by ½d, the correct postage rate was 2½d postage for up to ½oz foreign letter rate and 2d registration fee making 4½d.

-----XXXX-----



1d pink (1883) embossed at Somerset House (undated)

10d brown (May 1892) embossed at Somerset House

1/2½d postage pays 1/½d for a 2½oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee

Envelope size 95mm x 170mm

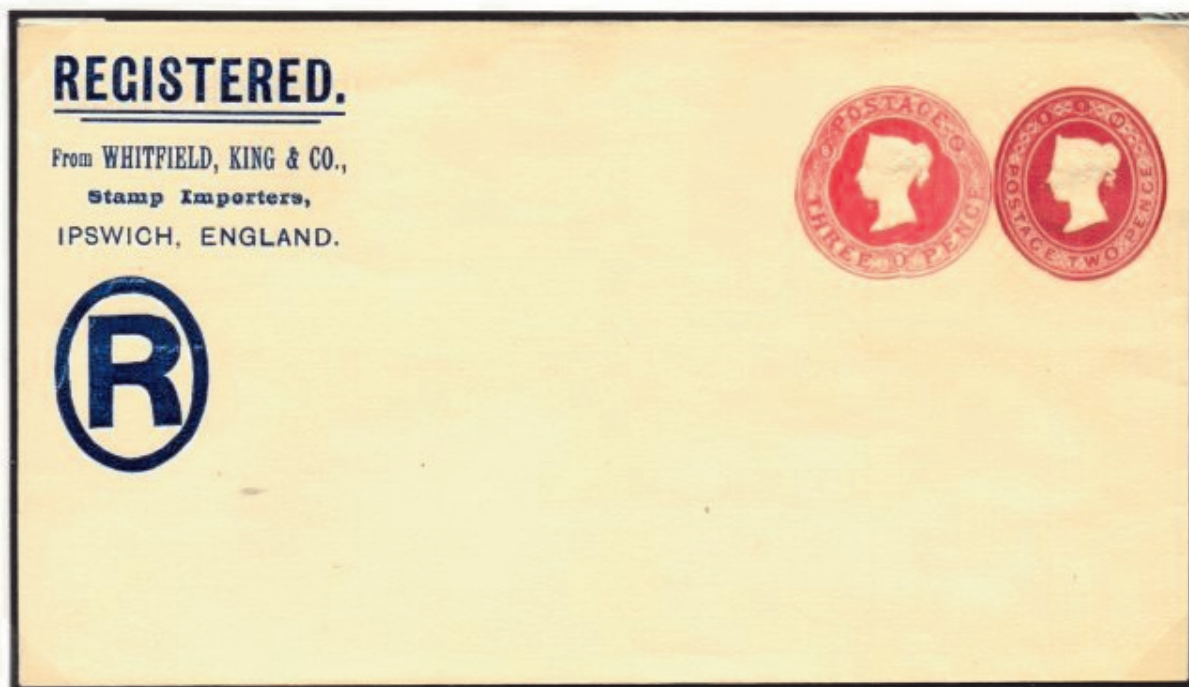


1½d yellow (April 1892) embossed at Somerset House (8.9.92)

4d vermilion (1859?) embossed at Somerset House 8.9.92

9½d potage pays 7½d for a 1½oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee

-----XXXX-----



2d lake (May 1892) embossed at Somerset House 8.9.92

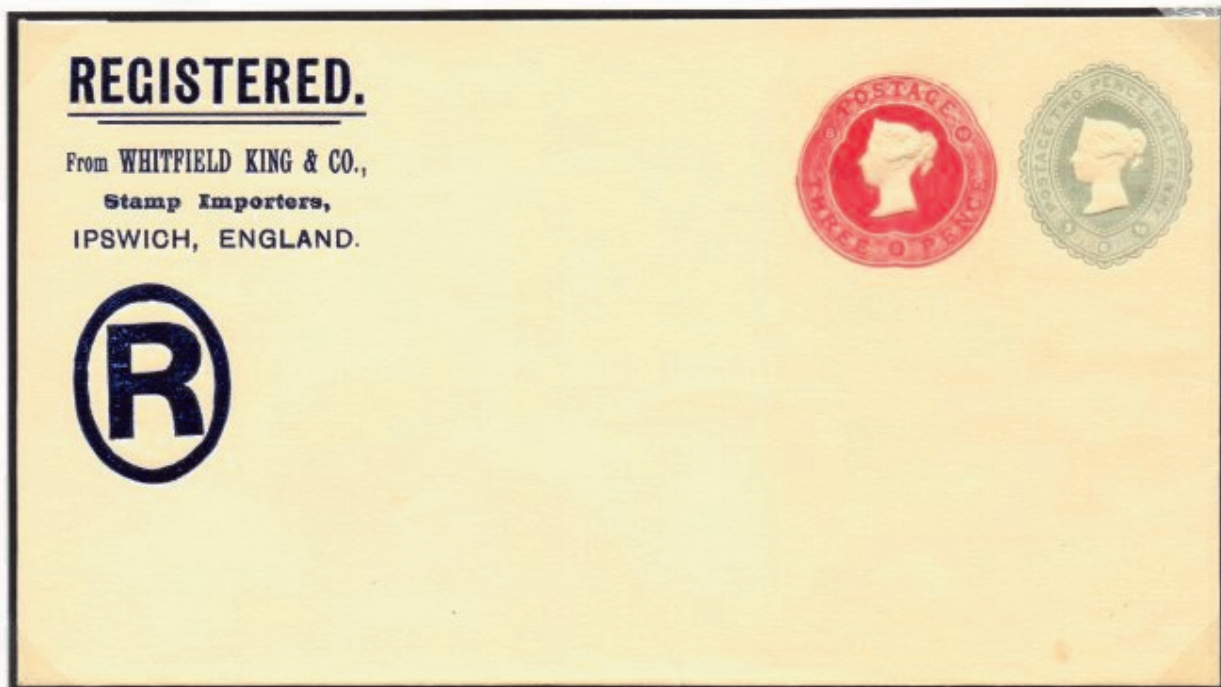
3d pale rose carmine-deep carmine (1859) embossed at Somerset House 8.9.92

5d postage would have paid 3d for an 8oz (1½d for first 2ozs, ½d for each additional 2ozs) inland surface letter and 2d registration fee

Envelope size 95mm x 170mm



2 x 2½d grey-blue (March 1892) embossed at Somerset House 3.8.92
 7d potage pays 5d for a 1oz foreign surface letter and 2d registration fee
 -----XXXX-----



2½d grey-blue (March 1892) embossed at Somerset House 3.8.92
3d pale rose carmine-deep rose carmine (1859) embossed at Somerset House 8.8.92
 5½d postage would have paid 3½d for a 10oz (1½d for first 2ozs, ½d for each additional 2ozs) inland surface letter and 2d registration fee

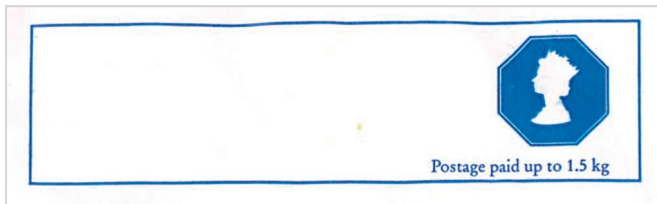
GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

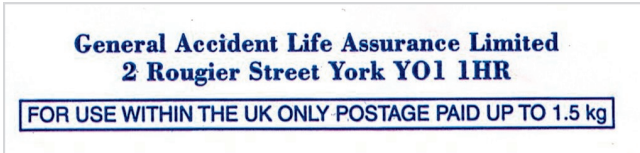
NEW ITEMS REPORTED

Envelopes - Stamped to Order Issues

George King reports a white plastic envelope measuring approximately 410x300mm. used by the general Accident Insurance Company with a blue octagonal QEII NVI stamp used in 1996. The stamp is 21x21mm within a rectangular frame with 'Postage paid up to 1.5kg', but without any indication of class of service.



The reverse has 'FOR USE IN THE UK ONLY POSTAGE PAID UP TO 1.5kg' within rectangular box beneath the address.



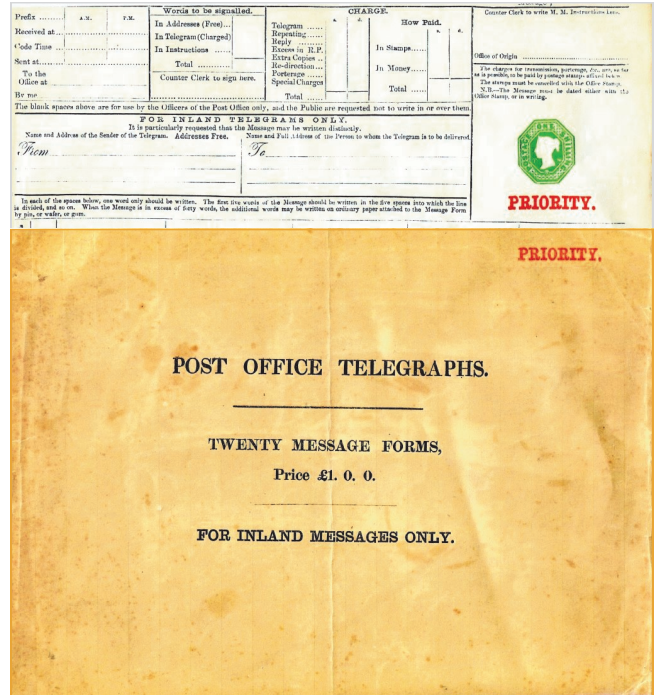
Envelopes - Official Issues

A further addition to the list of envelopes used by the Hon. Artillery Company has been reported by George King. This is similar in size and inscription to the QV envelope EO16 but has the KEVII 1d red embossed die and was used on 30.4.1903 (illustrated below).



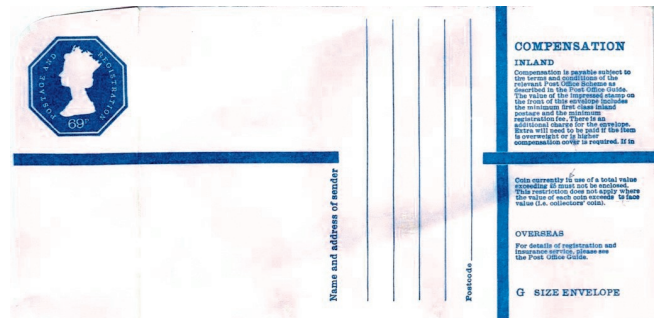
Telegraph Forms - Post Office Issues

Examples of the QV 1s octagonal forms TP1/2 and TP4d with 'PRIORITY' overprinted in red are well known and are thought to have been prepared for use by Government Departments. By courtesy of George King the booklet cover for TP4d (dated 1.8.74) is illustrated which also has the red 'PRIORITY' overprint.

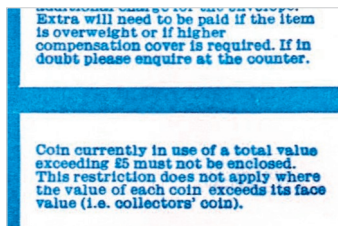


Registration Envelopes - Post Office Issues

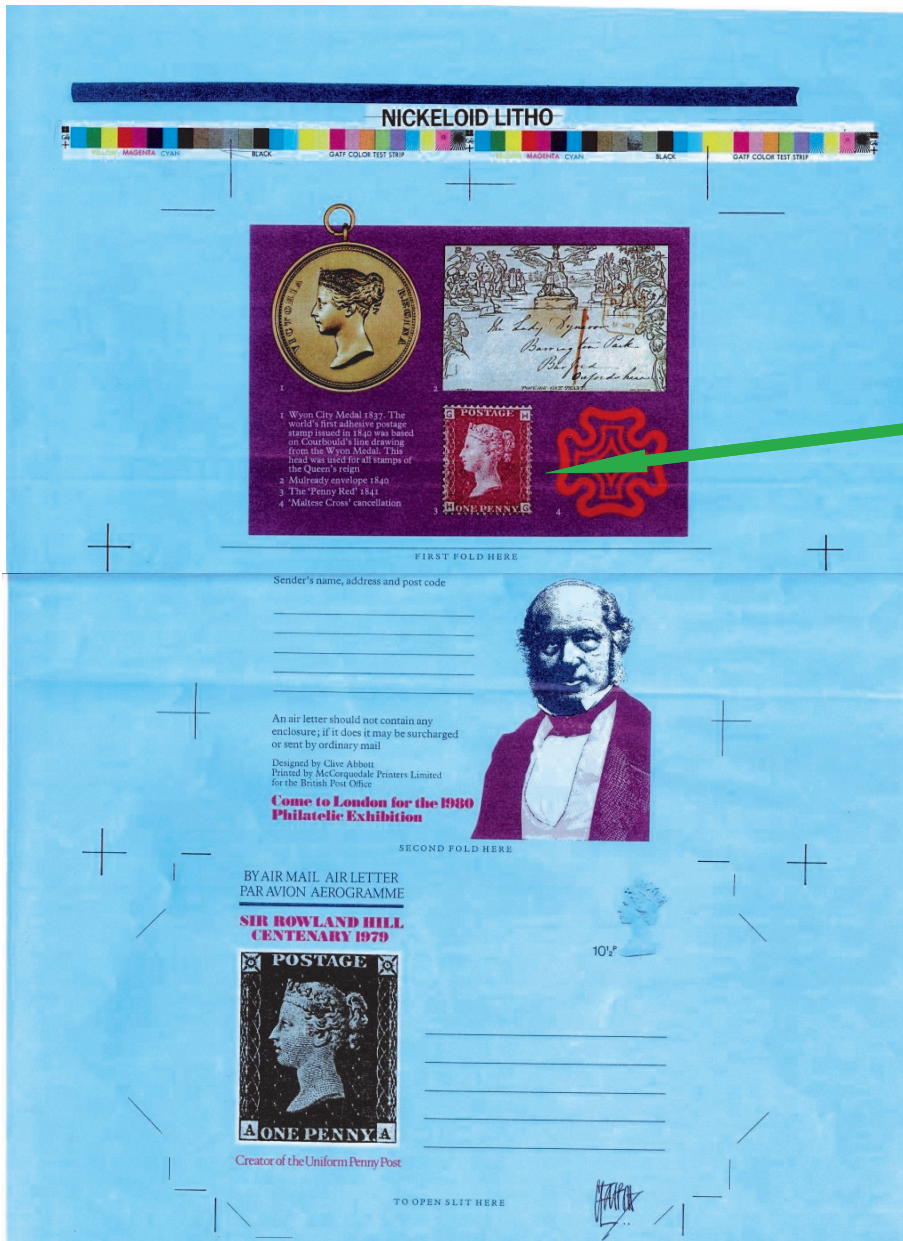
The 1977 69p size G registration envelope RP110 (Illustrated below) has been found with a missing line of text and three spelling errors in the text on the reverse.



Above the horizontal blue line, there is a line of text missing ('doubt please enquire at the counter.'). Two lines above there is 'is' instead of 'if'. Below the blue line there is 'iu' instead of 'in' in the first line, and 'ts' instead of 'its' in the fourth line of the first paragraph (see illustrations).



RP110 with Correct Text



Air Mail Letter Sheets - Post Office Special Issues

The imperforate proof (ex the Peter Jennings Collection) of the 1979 Rowland Hill death centenary issue shows the original proposed vignette with a perforated QV 1d red adhesive stamp instead of an imperforate one (see illustration). This mistake was corrected in the issued sheets.

Letter Cards - Post Office Issues

A further QV example of LCPI with advertising inside has come to light which was used by Hardinge's Tailors of Gracechurch Street, London in 1895 (see illustration below).

Finally although not within the accepted FIP definition of postal stationery, an interesting new development with images appearing on C9 class mail is the reproduction in colour of actual adhesive stamp designs in conjunction with the Royal mail C9 symbol (illustration below of example used by British Heart Foundation courtesy of **Chris Board**).



ADVICE OF NEW PUBLICATION**THE MULREADY POSTAL STATIONERY - Its Genesis, Production and Usage.** Alan Huggins and Alan Holyoake

This new book on the Mulready Postal Stationery by Alan Huggins and Alan Holyoake is published jointly by the Great Britain Philatelic Society and the Postal Stationery Society.

This publication makes a major addition to the literature on this subject, is fully illustrated in colour, and provides not only a comprehensive source of reference, but brings together in one place images of many of the iconic items, demonstrating their involvement in the initiation of the reforms of the postal system.

Approximately 216 pages it comprises an overview of the origins of pre-stamped stationery, the proposals made during the period of postal reform, and the subsequent production, issue and usage of the Mulready letter sheets and envelopes. This is followed by an eight frame international award winning study entitled 'The Introduction and Usage of the Mulready Postal Stationery, which demonstrates how the story of this postal historically important area can be presented as an exhibit. The contents are set out below:-

- Early proposals for pre-paid postal stationery
- The Mercantile Committee Campaign for Cheaper Postage
- The Treasury Competition for Suggestions for the Collection of Postage
- The Genesis of the Mulready Design
- The Production of the Mulready Postal Stationery
- The Distribution and Usage of Mulready Postal Stationery

An Exhibit of Mulready Postal Stationery

- Introduction
- Frame One - The Evolution and Concept of Design
- Frame Two - One Penny Letter Sheets
- Frame Three - One Penny Envelopes
- Frame Four - Two Pence Letter Sheets
- Frame Five - Two Pence Envelopes
- Frame Six - One Penny - Early May Dates
- Frame Seven - The Maltese Cross
- Frame Eight - Printed Advertisements and Notices
- Bibliography; Stereo Index; Index

Available from the Secretary of the Postal Stationery Society at £40 / \$60, plus postage and packing. Members can save the costs of postage and packing by placing a firm order with the Secretary, Colin Baker (contact details on p2 of this Journal), and collecting their copies at the meeting of the Great Britain Philatelic Society at the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY on Thursday 10th December.

Any member wishing to purchase a copy of this book should contact the Secretary for details of postage and packing costs and method of payment.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2016 ARE NOW DUE

Subscriptions for 2016 are due on 1st January. If you have not already paid your subs for next year do not delay payment; details of how to pay your subscription are to be found on your renewal notice enclosed with this copy of the Journal. Would members please note that these reminders were prepared at the beginning of October, so if you have paid your subs since then please ignore the notice.

Please pay on time to avoid the Membership Secretary having to send a reminder to you.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GERMAN DOMESTIC RATE POSTAL CARD 1873 - 1900

John Barker

This article was first published May 2015 in 'Germania' the Journal of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society. It is based on one by the same author published in August 1994 (Issue 4) of the Postal Stationery Society Journal and is reproduced here with minor modifications.

The concept of the 'postal card' was to provide a convenient single item to convey a short non-confidential message without the need for folding paper, inserting it into an envelope, sealing the flap and pasting on the appropriate adhesive stamp to pay the postage, ideal for speeding up business communications. By standardising the size and formatting an address panel, the handling of such cards was quicker and cheaper than for letters. This enabled postal authorities to charge less for conveyance of postal cards than for letters, thereby encouraging greater use of the postal service. Soon after the first postal card had been issued by Austria in October 1869, their popularity increased rapidly to exceed all expectations.

Due partly to the changes associated with the unification of Germany, postal cards were not issued until 1873. However, prior to this, 'formula' cards were available from 1870.

1873: the first German postal cards

It was in 1873 that the Deutsche Reichspost issued its first postal cards. These measured 140 × 90mm, a size which was adhered to, with one exception,¹ until 1925. Two cards were issued in January 1873, one was imprinted with a ½ groschen stamp (Mi. P1) for use in the northern regions and the other imprinted with a 2 kreuzer stamp (Mi. P2) for use in the southern regions. The imprinted stamps were unlike the contemporary adhesive stamps, the latter being printed with an embossed eagle in the centre (Fig. 1a), unsuitable for use on the card used for postal card production. The stationery imprints therefore had their own specific design printed by letterpress (Fig. 1b).



Fig. 1a



Fig. 1b

All the printing on the card was done in one operation in brown (Fig. 2). A *Fraktur*² style font was used for the wording of the text.

The heading is:

'Deutsche Reichs-Post. | Postkarte.'

Beneath which is an instruction to write only the address on the front:

'Auf die Vorderseite ist nur die Adresse zu schreiben.'

Of the five dotted lines for the address, the first three lines are long with the first one being preceded by 'An' (to);

these three lines were intended for the title and name of the recipient.

The fourth line is preceded by:

'(Bestimmungsort)' (destination),

and the fifth by:

'(Wohnung)' (residence - street, house number, etc.).

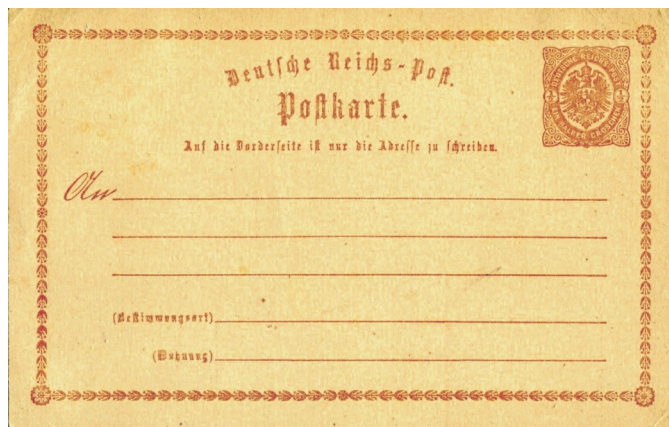


Fig. 2 1873: the first German postal card Mi. P1.

Keeping the destination and residence separate from the recipient's name and title made it easier for postal clerks to sort the mail.

The development of postal cards was influenced over the years by a number of factors associated with: their manufacture, their business and personal use, their ease of handling by post office workers.

Other postal cards were issued during this period, including foreign-rate and reply-paid cards, but these have been excluded from this article for the sake of simplicity.³

1875: the 5 'Pfennige' violet

By 1875, when the new pfennig/mark currency was introduced, the public were more familiar with the standardised formatting of addresses. Also, the use of over-extensive titles for recipients was becoming less prevalent. The inland rate for postcards was fixed at 5pf. The prepaid postal stationery cards were imprinted with the same design and in the same colour, violet, as used for the adhesive stamps (Fig. 3). The rest of the printing was in black.

The heading, now in an *Antiqua*² style font is

'DEUTSCHE REICHSPOST. | POSTKARTE.'

'An' appears to the left and above two long dotted lines for the recipient's name and title; 'in' precedes the short third line (for the destination) and the fourth line is intermediate in length (for the street, house number, etc.) All four lines are aligned to the right (Mi. P5).

Unlike Great Britain, at the time, the Reichspost permitted cards affixed with appropriate adhesive stamps to be posted at the postcard rate. Hence cards of a similar

format to the postal cards but without an imprinted stamp were frequently used.



Fig. 3 1875: the new 5 ‘Pfennige’ violet imprint on a redesigned card Mi. P5.

The Post Card Takes Off

The convenience of postal cards for business and domestic use was now firmly established. Vast quantities of cards were used daily and to keep up with the demand, the Reichsdruckerei (the state printers) obtained cardstock from a number of manufacturers for their printing requirements. The card stocks which were purchased were of varying quality⁴. To keep track of which printings were made on each batch of card, a system of printing control markings and devices evolved. This was initiated towards the end of 1875. Initially, when printings were made on a new batch of card, this would be identified by removing one or two of the dots from the third line of dots of the address panel. Later dots were removed from the fourth line of dots of the address panel. These missing dots are referred to in the German catalogues as

‘*Punkt-lücken*’ (literally ‘dot gaps’ or ‘missing dots’).

By 1879 a more systematic approach was taken. When a dot was removed, it was done so as to conform to a pattern. The dots removed were from the fourth row, being the 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th or 30th dot from the left end; or the corresponding dots from the right end (Fig. 4).

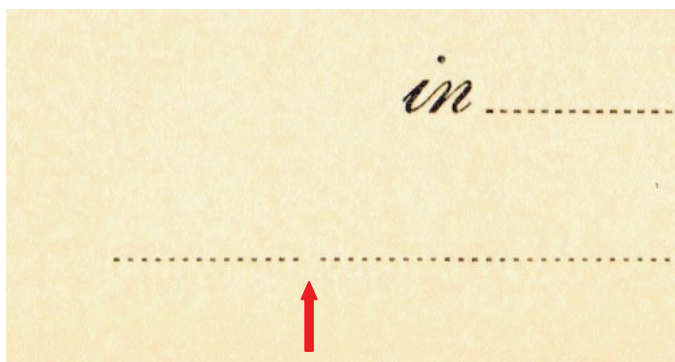


Fig. 4 Removal of the 15th dot from the left of the fourth line. (*Punkt-lücke left 15*)

The printing control marks and devices

In the years to follow, three systems were used to denote printing information on the postal cards:

Punkt-lücken (Fig. 4) were the first control marks to be used and continued in use until 1901. From their introduction in 1875 these marks identified the source of the supply of the card. However from the middle of 1894, *punkt-lücken* were used to identify something completely different; the month of printing.

Numbers or numbers plus a lower case letter

(Figs 6 - 9) printed in the lower right hand corner of the card were introduced in 1882 and continued until 1900. The numbers were used to record the month and year of printing, whilst the letters, introduced eight years later, in August 1890, were used to identify the source of the supply of the card.

Watermarks (Fig. 11) down the left hand side of the cards were introduced in 1894 and continued in use until 1910.

Each of these systems is explained in the sections which follow.

1880: the 5 ‘Pfennig’ violet

In 1880 the wording of the value on the imprinted stamp was altered to ‘Pfennig’ (ie. without an ‘e’ at the end of ‘Pfennig’) in line with the change to the definitive adhesive stamp. Otherwise the card was unchanged (Mi. P 10).

Although records may have been kept of the dates on which printings were made of each batch of cards, there was up till now no indication of these dates on the actual cards. This situation was remedied in 1882 when the date of printing was indicated in the bottom right-hand corner of each card as three or four digits. The last two digits were the last two digits of the year and these were separated by a small space from the preceding digit(s) being the month of the year (Mi. P12/01) (Fig. 5). In March 1884 the space between the month and year digits was removed (Mi. P12/02).



Fig. 5 1880 - 1889: 5 ‘Pfennig’ violet imprint. The figures in the bottom right hand corner identify the month and year of printing

For many year previous, postcards without imprinted stamps can be found with a thick black line printed under the third address line (the destination) to draw attention of postal clerks to the intended destination of the card so as to speed up sorting (Fig. 6).



Fig. 6 Non-stationery card with thick line printed under the third address line, used in 1881.

Surprisingly, the Reichspost did not take up this idea for postal cards until February 1887! First of all, a batch of cards with the wording:

'Wohnung | (Strasse und | Hausnummer)' printed to the left of the fourth line of the address was issued (Mi. P16) (Fig. 7)



Fig. 7 February 1887: text at start of the fourth address line Mi. P16. Printing date code '287' (February 1887). Punktücke in fourth address line (15th dot from the left) indicating the card supplier.

In the following printings the third address line (preceded by 'in') was extended to the same length as the fourth line with a thick black line printed about 1.5mm beneath (Mi. P18) (Fig. 8).

(It is interesting to note that a thick black line was present under the 'destination' line of the address panel of the formula cards issued in 1870 by Baden, Bavaria, the North German Confederation and on the postal card issued

in the same year by Württemberg as well as on an early formula card issued by the Reichspost in 1872.)



Fig. 8 February 1887: addition of a thick line beneath the third address line Mi. P18. Printing date code '287' (February 1887). Punktücke in fourth address line (15th dot from the right) indicating a different card supplier to that shown for Mi P16).

1889: the 5 Pfennig green

In June 1889 postal cards were imprinted with the new 5pf definitive stamp in green. All other printing on the cards was now in the same colour, no longer in black. Although the layout of the card was very similar to the previous cards, there was a return to the use of Gothic (Fraktur) fonts. 'An' was now moved to the right, so as to be almost above 'in'. This made the printing on the face of the card more compact. Was this a cosmetic move to make the printing on the card appear more balanced, or a functional reason to leave a clear space at the left of the card which had traditionally been used by business recipients to log details of sender's name, date of sending and other details (Mi. P20) (Fig. 9).



Fig. 9 1889: the new 5pf green postal card Mi. P20. Printing date code '889' (August 1889). Punktücke in fourth address line (15th dot from the right) indicating the card supplier.

Introduction of the Lower Case letter

From August 1890 a lower-case letter was inserted after the last digit of the printing date code (**Mi. P24**) (**Fig. 10**).

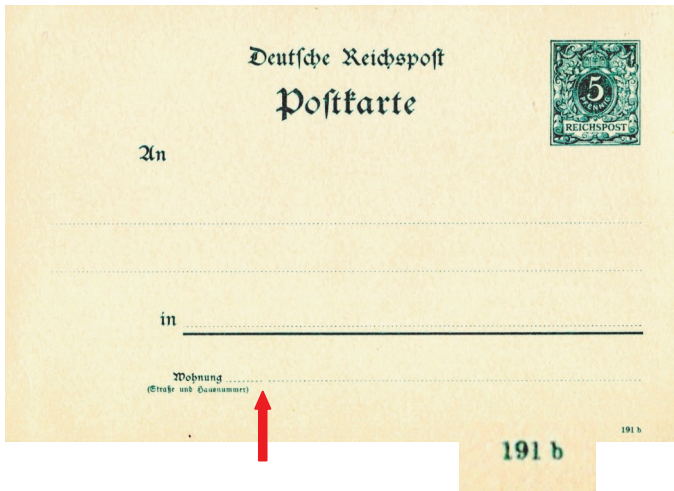


Fig. 10 Mi. P24: a lower-case letter follows the print date code: 191 b (January 1891). The card supply is identified by the two systems used concurrently: code letter 'b' and Punktücke at left 10.

These letters corresponded to the Punktücke (dot gap) signifying the supplier of the card stock.

Punktücke	Code letter	Punktücke	Code letter
left 5	a	right 5	g
left 10	b	(right 10	h)
left 15	c	right 15	j
left 20	d	right 20	k
(left 25	e)	right 25	l
left 30	f	right 30	m

(Letters 'e' left 25 and 'h' right 10 were not used as these sources of supply had been discontinued: 'left 25' was last used in October 1882 and 'right 10' was last used in December 1882. The card supply was now denoted on each card by two systems in use concurrently: the *Punktücken* and the lower-case letter.

In March 1891 the spaces between the first three address lines were increased to 15mm (previously 10/11mm) (**Mi. P28**). A further modification in May 1891 involved moving 'An' to the left, as moving the top address line higher up the card to create more space had resulted in a reduction in space between 'An' and the first address line (**Mi. P30**) (**Fig. 11**). These changes in format gave the sender of the card more space to fill in the address, thereby making it more legible for postal clerks to read and hence speeding up the sorting and delivery of the mail.

Fig. 11 (below) Mi. P30: 1891: address lines spaced further apart, 'An' moved to the left. 591 f Punktücke in fourth address line (left 30 = letter code 'f') both indicating the card supplier.

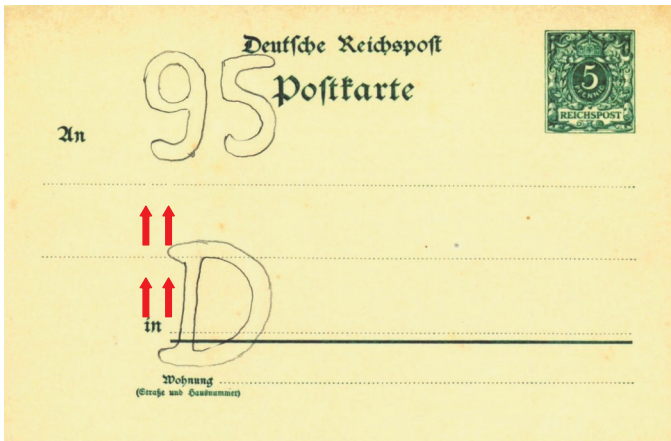


This latest format continued until July 1894 when the flat-bed printing press, used for all of the previous issues, was replaced by a rotary press to print the 5pf cards. Small differences in the word 'Wohnung' and a thicker line under the third address line may be noticed in these rotary printings (**Mi. P32**). Altering these new printing plates to amend the *Punktücken*, the printing date and the card-supplier letter was no longer a simple matter. Although removing dots from an address line could still be done by filing the projecting points of metal from the plate, replacing dots previously removed from the address line was no longer possible. Consequently when the plates were used for a subsequent printing, the *Punktücken* from the previous printing remained and an extra dot was removed for this next printing.

Removing the printing date and the card-supplier letter could be done by similar means, but replacing these involved the more difficult task of soldering the new ones on to the printing plate.

Two experimental printings were made in 1894 to determine what system of 'control markings' would be best to adopt in terms of function and feasibility. **Mi. P33** was issued with printing date and lower-case letter with or without *Punktücken* in address line 1 or lines 1 and 2. **Mi. P34** was similar but the card had a watermark with a large '94' indicating the year and beneath a large 'D' indicating the source of the card.

On the basis of these experiments the system of printing controls was amended (**Mi. P36**). The card-stock manufacturers now used watermarks to denote the origin of the card stock (in the form of a large upper-case letter, or an upper-case letter and a lower-case letter) and two digits to denote the year. The watermark can be seen from the front of the card running vertically down the left hand side (**Fig. 12**). This eliminated the need for printing the year and code letter for the card supplier in the lower right-hand corner of the cards. However, from now on, the *Reichsdruckerei* used the system of *Punktücken* to denote the month of printing, not the card supplier as previously. The system adopted was to remove dots from identical positions on the first two address lines (**Fig 13**).



The *Punktluken* now signify the dates of printing:

Punktluke	Month	Punktluke	Month
left 5	January	right 5	July
left 10	February	right 10	August
left 15	March	right 15	September
left 20	April	right 20	October
left 25	May	right 25	November
left 30	June	right 30	December

Fig. 12 1895: 5pf card (*Punktluken* left 25 + 30 on first and second address lines) with watermark outlined Mi. P 36. No printing date or code in the lower right hand corner.

To assign a date to a particular card with several *Punktluken* it is best to list the months denoted by the various *Punktluken* and then look for the longest gap in the sequence of the months (allowing the sequence to follow the yearly cycle of months with January following December). For example, the card illustrated (**Fig. 13**) is watermarked 97M and has three *Punktluken* indicated by the three red arrows. These are left 5, left 10 and right 30. Therefore this plate had been used in three different months,

January (left 5), February (left 10) and December (right 30). The longest gap in the sequence of months is between February and December indicating that the last time the plate was used was for the February printing in 1897 (the year being indicated by the watermark 97M). Calculating backwards, the plate had previously been used for printings in January (of the same year) and December which would have been in the previous year - 1896.

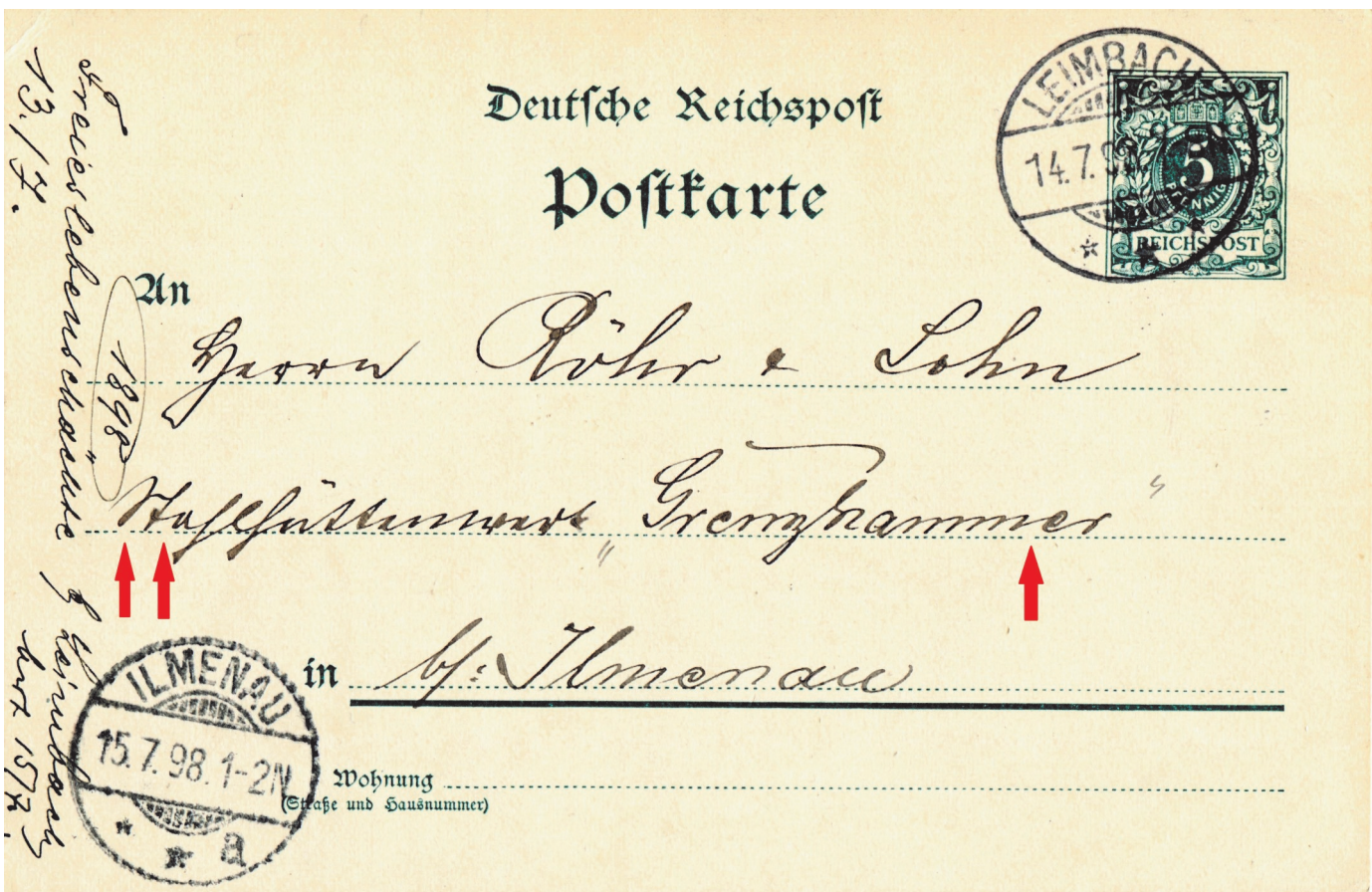


Fig. 13 Mi P36, watermarked 97 M with *Punktluken* left 5, left 10 and right 30. This card is assigned a printing date of February 1897; this being the last month in the sequence December-January-February.

A printing was made in 1899 on unwatermarked paper, without control markings in the lower right hand corner and without *Punktücken* (Mi. P42). Most of the printing was overprinted for use in some of the colonies and post offices abroad. However, according to the Michel catalogue 3,000 unoverprinted cards were sold over the post office counters in

Frankfurt am Main.

A new design, depicting Germania, was introduced in 1900. This was used for both the adhesive stamps and the postal stationery cards. The development of these cards may be covered in a future article.

Summary of Control Markings used on Domestic-rate Postal Cards up to 1900

Mi. No. P	Imprinted stamp	First date of issue	Control markings indicating:			Changes to the address panel	Date range
			Card Supply	Year	Month		
1	½g r. brown	Jan. 1873	none	none	none		
2	2kr brown	Jan. 1873	none	none	none		
5 I	5pfe violet	Jan. 1875	none	none	none		
5 II	5pfe violet	End of 1875	Punktücken	none	none		
10	5pf. violet	1880	Punktücken	none	none		
12 I	5pf. violet	Jan. 1882	Punktücken	Printed number code		Date code printed lower right	1 82 - 3 84
12 II	5pf. violet	Feb. 1887	Punktücken	Printed number code		No space in code	384 - 287
16	5pf. violet	Feb. 1887	Punktücken	Printed number code		Text at start of 4 th line	287
18	5pf. violet	Feb. 1887	Punktücken	Printed number code		Thick line under 3 rd address line	287 - 989
20	5pf. green	Jun. 1889	Punktücken	Printed number code		'An' above 'in'	689 - 890
24	5pf. green	Aug. 1890	Punktücken & printed letter code	Printed number code		Letter after date code	890 - 391
28	5pf. green	Mar. 1891	Punktücken & printed letter code	Printed number code		Spaces between lines 15mm.	391 - 591
30	5pf. green	May. 1891	Punktücken & printed letter code	Printed number code		'An' to left of 'in'	591 - 794
32 I	5pf. green	Jul. 1894	Punktücken	None	None	No date code	
32 II	5pf. green	Jul. 1894	None	None	None		
33 I	5pf. green	Jul. 1894	printed letter code	Number code & Punktücken		Date & letter code	794 - 894
33 II	5pf. green	Jul. 1894	printed letter code	Printed number code			794
34	5pf. green	Aug. 1894	Watermark, number & letter code		Punktücken		894
36	5pf. green	Jul. 1894	Watermark	Watermark	Punktücken	No printed code	
42	5pf. green	1900	none	none	none		

Notes

- On 29 March 1900, 2pf greyish blue cards measuring 120 × 79mm were issued alongside standard-sized cards for the newly introduced local postcard rate. These proved unpopular and were quickly abandoned. Michel and other catalogues give 21 April as the date of issue but Rex Dixon in *Germania* 47/2 (May 2011), p. 96, quotes *Amts-Blatt des Reichs-Postamts* No. 20/1900, which gives the date as 29 March; he also shows their use before 1 April.
- Fraktur* is a calligraphic hand of the Latin alphabet and any of several blackletter typefaces derived from this hand. The blackletter lines are broken up – that is, their forms contain many angles when compared to the smooth curves of the *Antiqua*.
- The domestic-rate reply-paid postal cards developed parallel to the single cards with one or two exceptions. The development of the foreign-rate postal cards shared some of the features of the development of the domestic-rate postal cards but in addition there were a number of developments associated with UPU regulations.
- Examination of these cards shows wide variations in composition, colour, thickness, opacity and surface texture.
- Errors. As the printing controls described in this article were not related to the security of the printings, there would have been little need to scrutinise the changes made neither to the plates nor indeed to the orientation of the watermarked paper when feeding it into the press. Consequently errors do occur; dots sometimes were not removed when they should have been, sometimes two neighbouring dots were removed or a dot was removed from an inappropriate location. Watermarks may be found inverted, reversed or inverted and reversed.

References

Author's collection of correspondence of over 900 cards to a works in Ilmenau.

Detailed listings of the control markings for each issue (*Punktücken*, the date and letter codes, and the watermarks) are given in the following catalogues:

Michel Ganzsachen-Katalog Deutschland

Borek Ganzsachen Spezial Katalog Deutschland 1850–1932

Ascher Grosser Ganzsachen Katalog.

(Basically follows the Ascher listings)

(A more comprehensive coverage listing essays and also expands the Ascher listing)

POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY - Balance Sheet for the Year Ending 31st August 2015

	2014-5	2013-4	2013-4 AGM		
Cash Assets					
Bank -Savings Account	£5,266.37	£5,499.57	£5,499.57	Subscriptions	£3,317.73
Bank-Current Account	£2,760.21	£455.30	£455.30	Auction May 2014	£260.00
Cash in hand	£26.12		£115.46	Auction October 2014	£599.88
Editorial - float	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	Auction May 2015	£206.64
Paypal account	£193.26	£1,292.85	£1,292.85	Advertising	£560.00
				Sale of Monographs...	£43.91
Members Balance Fund			£895.85	Profit share of catalogue	£261.00
Cash balance	£8,345.96	£7,347.72	£8,359.03	Donations	0
				Personal	£0.00
Liabilities				Bank interest	£5.80
Journal	0	-£641.14		Auction cheque uncleared	£159.25
Members	-£59.86	NA		Total Cash Income	£5,414.21
Auction	-£159.25	NA			
Misc	0	-£147.81		EXPENDITURE	
				Journal Printing	£1,919.49
Debtors	£99.62	£260.00		Journal envelopes	£44.92
Cash Nett worth	£8,226.47	£6,818.77	£8,359.03	Journal Misc. Printing	£150.70
Postage float	£1,069.51	£2,279.89	£1,597.46	Journal extra postage	£19.00
Sum-nett cash & postage	£9,295.98	£9,098.66	£9,956.49	Auction List Printing	£574.93
				Auction postage	£216.48
				Professional	£50.00
				Room Hire/Refreshments	£806.20
				Bank charges	£35.00
				ABPS Subscription	£162.80
				Trophy	£250.00
				Misc.	£186.45
				General stationery	0
				General Postage	0
				Cash expenditure	£4,415.97
				Journal postage	£1,257.07
				Total Expenditure	£5,673.04

The cash assets held in the Society's Bank accounts and Paypal, account, along with the Postage float held by the Editor have been verified by Mr John Fowler for the start and the end of the financial year.

The statement of Income and Expenditure (2104-5) has been prepared by Dr Paul Jones, Hon Treasurer and have not been fully Audited.

BOOK REVIEW

UPU SPECIMEN STAMPS 1878 - 1961 by James Bendon; published by Oxford Book Projects; ISBN 978 1870696 05 0; 522pp. (2015) £85

Although this publication is an update of the Author's 1988 book with same title, it reaches an entirely new level with respect to both content and presentation.

The primary content is divided into six chapters covering:- The Universal Postal Union; Specimen Stamps; UPU Specimen Stamps; Distribution of Specimens by the International Bureau; Receipt of Specimens by Members of the UPU; and Catalogue Information. The main Catalogue follows and lists each separate sending of adhesive stamps to the UPU, together with the overprint type, the date of sending and the UPU reference number. A number of postal stationery items are also included, mainly for foreign countries, although more extensive listings are available on the United Postal Stationery Society web site (www.upss.org/upuspecimens) which has taken on the role of updating the original web site co-ordinated by James.

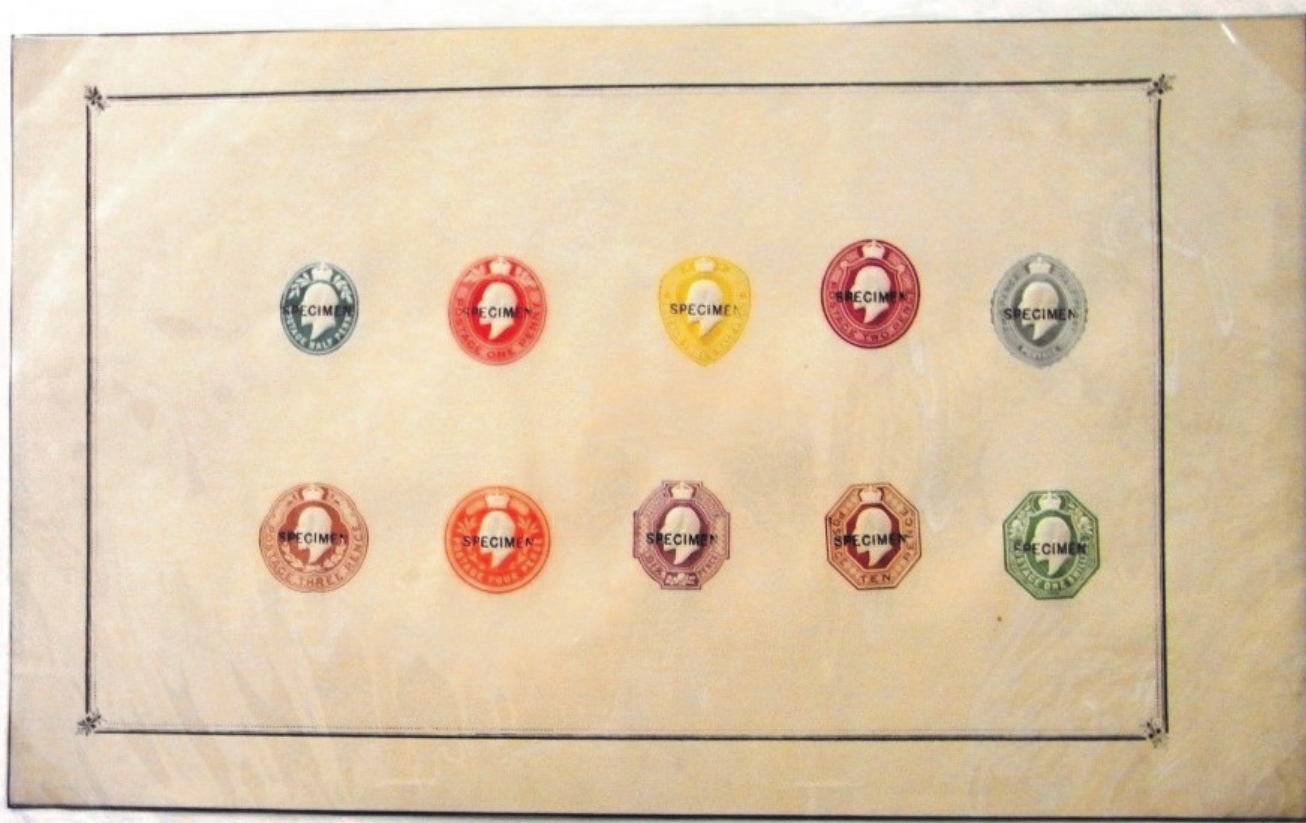
In addition there is also a section on Sources and Selected References and five Appendices - A. "The Distribution of Specimen Stamps by the Universal Postal Union" by Marcus Samuel published in 8 installments in "Stamp Collecting - 1964-65"; B. Numbers of Specimens Required for Distribution; C. Alphabetical List of UPU Member Countries; D. Chronological List of UPU Member Countries; E. British Printers Standard Types; and F. An Index to Territories in the Catalogue. Profusely illustrated in colour throughout (over 1800), this book a truly outstanding publication by the leading student of the subject, and brings together a great wealth of information in one volume.

The Preface lists a number of areas where new information has been incorporated, in particular the chapter on the "Receipt of Specimen Stamps by Members of the UPU" includes details of the archives of Goa, Mauritania and Tunisia released into the philatelic market. The chapter on "Specimen Stamps" gives details of the stamps of the Australian States, Commonwealth and Dependencies, Costa Rica, Dominican republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Iran and the Netherlands which used date stamps or other obliterations prior to dispatching their material to the UPU. There are also many references to postal stationery especially items that were protected using the same methods as those applied to the corresponding contemporary adhesive stamps..

The style used for the layout of the pages makes the book not only visually superbly attractive to the eye but also extremely easy to read and use. James is to be warmly congratulated on this masterly exposition of the subject which will certainly be recognised as the classic reference for the foreseeable future.

Alan Huggins

One of the Exhibits from Alan Huggings' Special Display on 24th October



1d blue green & 1½d yellow

c1903: COLOUR STANDARD FOR DIES IN CURRENT USE 1902-04

SPECIMEN overprint type PS9

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Recent Articles from the Philatelic Press

- Gibbons Stamp Monthly (September 2015)
- "Postal Stationery Matters" Peter van Gelder
- Gibbons Stamp Monthly (November 2015)
- "Let's Look at Letter Cards" Colin Baker
- Postal Stationery July/August 2015 (USA)
- "The Postal Cards of Finland -Part I"
- "U.S. Postal Card Separations - Part I"
- "The Austrian Postauftrag (Postal Mandate) Service"
- "British Occupation of Italian Somaliland"
- Postal Stationery September/October 2015 (USA)
- "South West Africa 1/2d Post Cards Surcharged ONE PENNY"
- "Postal Cards of Finland - Part II"
- "The Postal Stationery of Lesbos"
- "The 1891 Queensland 1/2d Green Newspaper Wrapper - Part 2"
- Postal Stationery Collector August 2015 (Australia)
- "Scenic Australia Formula Aerogrammes"
- "Canadian Xpresspost and Priority Stationery"
- "Heligoland Newspaper Wrappers: Availability and Demand"
- "Some Postal Stationery Errors"
- Book Review - Mexico Postal Stationery Catalogue
- Postal Stationery Collector November 2015 (Australia)
- "The Admonition Air Letter"
- "The 1891 Queensland 1/2d Green Newspaper Wrapper - Part 2"
- "Guide Marks on Queensland Newspaper Wrappers - Part I"
- "Completeness: Some Thoughts about its Interpretation"
- Postal Stationery Notes [BNAPS] August 2015 (Canada)
- "More Answers to Canadian Pacific E&E Statement Questions"
- "New PCF Varieties in the Black Box Caption on the Stamp Side of the Cards"
- "American Bank Note Company Postal Stationery - Order Book Summary (1897-1902)"

Keith Lloyd writes:

In his article "Ubiquitous postal stationery wrappers of W. H.

Smith" (Postal Stationery Society Journal, August 2015), **John K. Courtis** illustrates a wrapper to China which he states is the only wrapper examined which "was taxed postage due sent to Kiukiang China". The cover is addressed originally to Shanghai and would have arrived there at the British Post Office. It was then redirected to Kiukiang (now romanised as Jiujiang) and to get there it would have had to enter the Chinese Imperial Post. As China did not join the Universal Postal Union until 1 March 1914, the 2¢ stamp was to pay the CIP internal postage to carry the wrapper from Shanghai to Kiukiang. "Taxed postage due" usually refers to a charge made for an unpaid or underpaid item which is not the case here.,

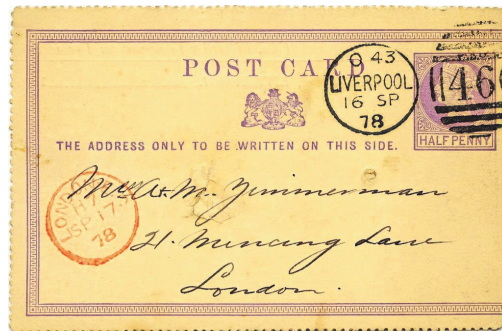
John Gledhill writes "I am trying to build up a collection of **overprints** on postal stationery of Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, who frequently have resorted to uprating existing stock by handstamp or machine overprint when rates rise. There doesn't seem to be a catalogue of postal stationery of these 3 postal authorities. Registration envelopes, airletters, reply coupons, anything else (not sure if they have done imprinted postcards and the like).

Are there any members of PSS who collect these please? I'd like to get in touch. *[Please contact the Editor if you are able to help]*

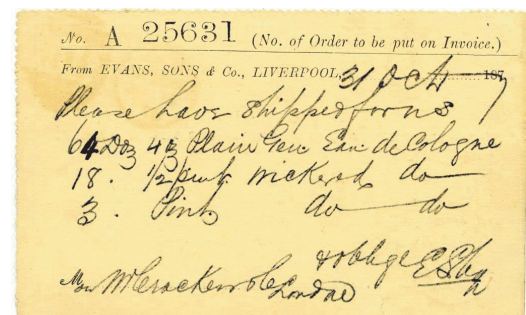
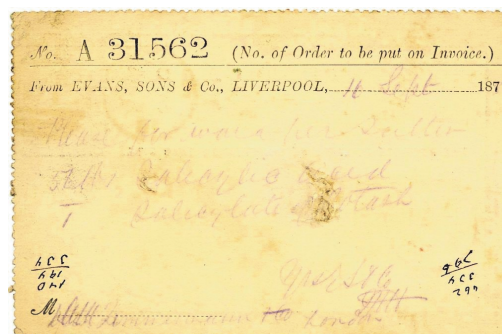


REPLY - Perforated Card (No. 75 p21)

Allen Cotton writes: On reading in the Journal about **Peter O'Keefe's** query I thought that he might like to know that these even occurred on the first issue and I have attached scans of the two in my collection. Interestingly both are from the same company as Peter's copies: Evans, Sons and Co. of Liverpool.



I do not think that there is any doubt about the fact that the Post Office issued these in uncut sheets for overprinting. There is a note almost to this effect in Alan Huggins original book under entry **CP1 & CP2**



GROSVENOR

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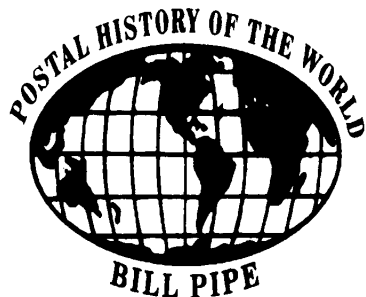
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