

STAMPS THAT DELIGHT THE EYE



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Another little selection.



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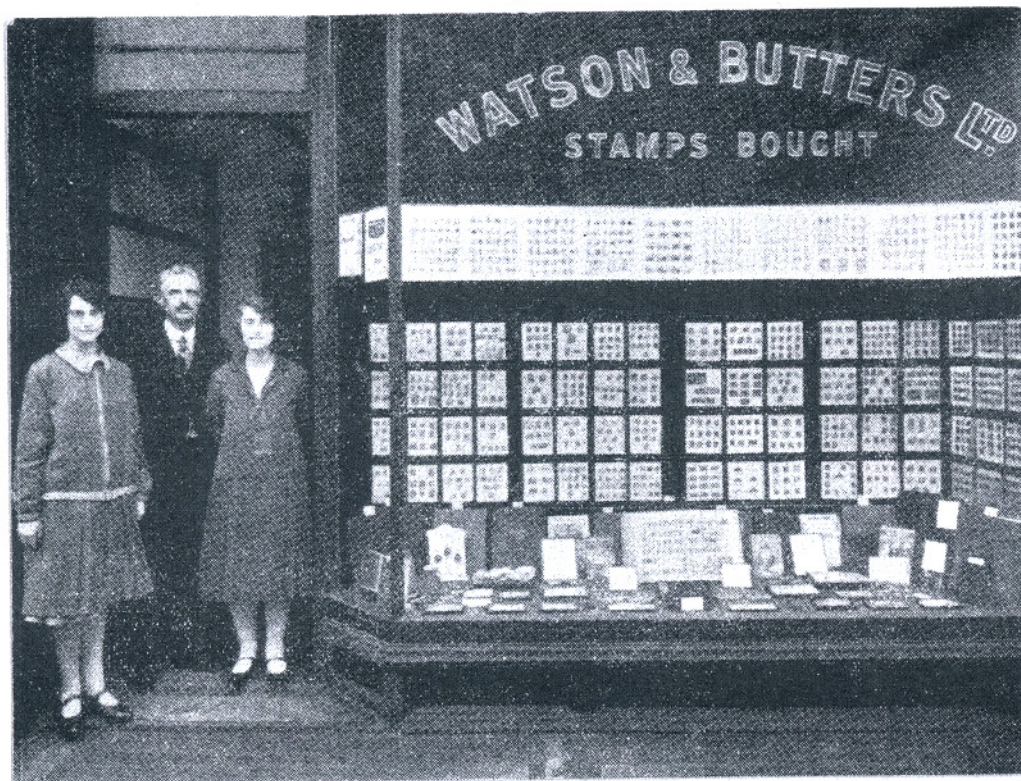


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A young Postman had had much trouble with a dog at one of the houses on his daily delivery. As he had been bitten, he was asked to furnish a brief report. He did, and it ran "The dog, 'Ginger' by name bit me hard. 'He is now dead'. Yours truly W Smith.



1. AN ORIGINAL SEPIA PHOTO circa 1870 of Sir Rowland Hill. In outstanding condition. Photos of Hill are very rare. Would make an outstanding front piece to the collection. **£220**
2. ROWLAND HILL. A HAND WRITTEN AND SIGNED LETTER written from his home in Hampstead and dated 17th April. Written to 'professor rogers' (Thorold Rogers, a liberal politician). Neatly folded twice. Hills signature is lovely and clear. A SUPERB CENTREPIECE TO THE COLLECTION. **£750**
3. 1825 TRURO MILEAGE MARK. A superb strike on entire to London. Endorsed '2/-' intact black seal and dated double ringed CDS in red. **£45**
4. 'PAID AT GLASGOW'. 1832 entire with a fine example of this framed, indented corners handstamp. Used sparingly and only in use between 1832 – 1833. Clean, uncreased. A blue Glasgow CDS reverse flap. **£50**
5. PLATE 1a 1d grey black VERY WORN IMPRESSION. A superb example lettered RA with good – huge – ENORMOUS margins showing top of adjoining adhesive. A very light maltese cross in red. **£475**
6. PLATE 1b 1d intense black. A lovely single lettered CC. Perfectly cut and a bright orange – red Maltese cross. Clear and crisp. Very fine. **£350**

The Sacred Mails

Of the many contributions of service to modern civilisation which Britain can be proud to record there can be few of such unassailable and universal benefit as the postal system. It is true that Posts were organised in Europe long before couriers bearing the royal Arms of England galloped northwards on the King's business more than four and a half centuries ago. But it was the Royal Mail which first became a right for all instead of a privilege of the few. The plans of a succession of bold and imaginative men brought a cheap and efficient service which became at first the envy of, and later the example for, other countries. The tradition that the mail is sacred, that its expedition on its journeyings precedes almost every other consideration, stems from this country. It is a remarkable fact in the troubled times in which we live that the world postal organization is the nearest approach to complete international understanding and co-operation that can be found. The ability of any person in the world to send a letter to another, wherever he may be, is regarded as a natural thing. No better testimonial could be required as to the sound basis on which the posts were built from the very beginnings of a rudimentary system fifteenth-century England until the present time with the peoples of the world "held together by a postage stamp".



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Hampstead, N. H.
17th April

My dear Sir,

Capt. Galtton wishes to
defer his visit to the Pol. Co.
Club till the four meeting. If I
do not hear to the contrary, I will,
if you please, assume that I may
use your name for that meeting -

Faithfully yours

Rowland Hill,

Triffin Rogers

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7. 1d black plate 1b. lettered KH. With good – large – huge margins especially at top. A full and upright maltese cross in black. **£375**
8. 1d black plate 1b. Lettered LG with large – ENORMOUS margins and a sharp Maltese cross in black. **£385**
9. 1d black plate 1b. A good – large margined example lettered NI tied to wrapper to Worcester by a red maltese cross. When opened out the wrapper shows a bold watermark to the paper:- WHATMAN TURKEY MILL 1840. Reverse a good BIRMINGHAM CDS for JAN 21 1841 in orange. The adhesive shows the listed variety:- N retouched. Fine & uncreased. **£425**
10. 1d grey black plate 2. A stunning example lettered NB with good – large – huge margins and a perfectly struck Maltese cross in red. Light , clear and upright. In all respects outstanding. **£450**
11. 1d VERY GREY BLACK PLATE 3. An outstanding example lettered HI. Perfectly cut with half an upright maltese cross in bright orange – red. **£385**
12. 1d black plate 3. A FABULOUS SINGLE LETTERED MA. A stunning strike of a Maltese cross in red. In all respects exceptional. **£525**
13. 1d black plate 4. A magnificent single lettered GB. Choice margins and an orange – red Maltese cross just over one corner. **£350**
14. Plate 61d intense black. Lettered JG with generously cut margins and a full and upright Maltese cross in bright orange – red. Very fine. **£350**
15. 'MANCHESTER FISHTAIL' Maltese cross. 1d black plate 9. Lettered DJ. 4 excellent margins and a crisp strike of this distinctive cross **£350**
16. PLATE TEN. 1d black. With 4 excellent margins lettered DI being tied to uncreased wrapper by a black maltese cross. Addressed to Feckenham with a fine Birmingham CDS in black for March 6 1841 on reverse flap. The adhesive shows a good vertical guide square line NE square. Also bottom line by D square extends below. This is a rare plate on cover. **£825**
17. 1840 2d blue plate 1. A lovely adhesive lettered NH. With good – large margins and a fine upright maltese cross in orange – red. **£575**
18. 1840 2d pale blue plate 1. A lovely example lettered BA. Very well cut margins and a particularly lightly placed Maltese cross in red. **£450**
19. 1840 2d deep blue plate 1. With four choice margins. Lettered KH. A complete Maltese cross in black. The colour is exceptional. **£325**

The Post Office and its Story. Bennett 1912

The sub-postmistress is of course often one of the village folk herself, and she is frequently exposed to gossip and unworthy suspicions. The lady who had charge of a certain village post office was strongly suspected of tampering with parcels entrusted to her care. If anything went wrong with them in any part of the Kingdom, she was to blame. One day a rosy-cheeked youngster, dressed in his best clothes, entered the post office and carefully laid a huge slice of iced cake on the counter. "With my sister the bride's compliments, and you will please eat as much as you can". The sub-postmistress smiled delightfully "How very kind of the bride to remember me. Did she know of my weakness for wedding cake?" "She did", answered the youngster coolly, "and she thought she'd send you a bit of it this afternoon, just to take the edge off yer appetite before she posted boxes to her friends".



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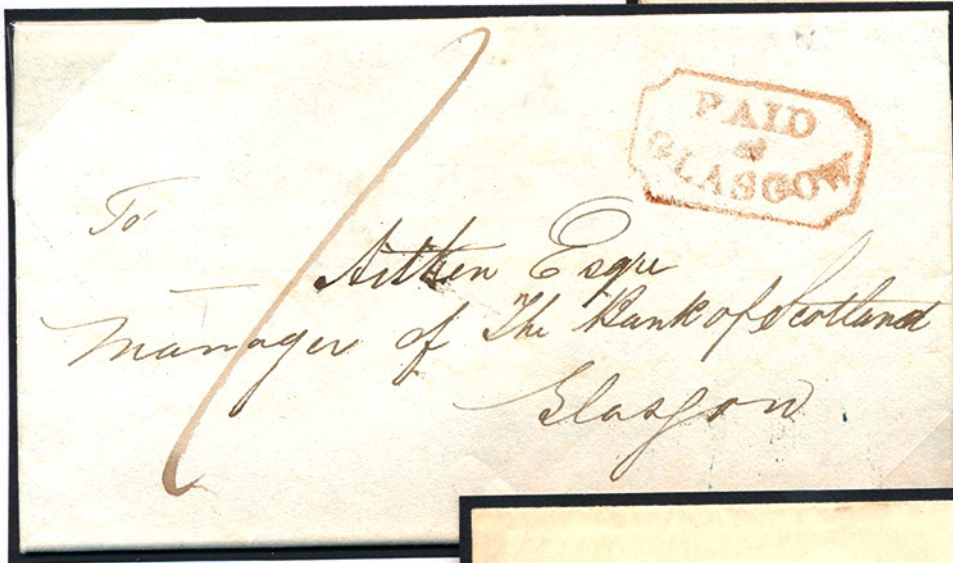


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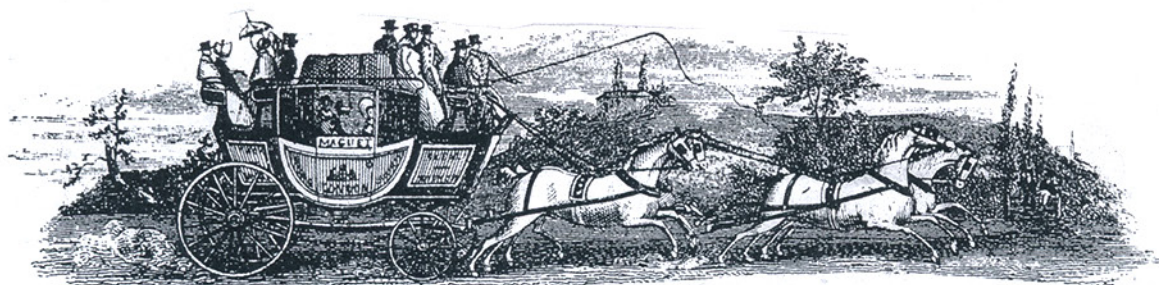
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An old print showing the interior of the travelling post office van. 1838



20. MAY 8 1840 THIRD DAY OF ISSUE. 1d Murleady lettersheet to NEWPORT PAGNIL. A very fine red maltese cross and 'TP STRAIGHTLINE' in black. Reverse a superb red 'PD' MY 8 1840 and a light but clear MY 8 1840 in black. Very fine condition for this. Nice and clean. **£1400**
21. NUMBER 4 in maltese cross on 1841 1d lettered DF. With 4 perfect margins and a lovely clear strike. Reverse shows a wonderful IVORY HEAD. **£190**
22. Number 6 in maltese cross on 1841 1d. Fine full margins. A very clear crisp and upright strike. **£65**
23. Number 10 in maltese cross on 1841 1d lettered LB. with excellent margins and a very good strike. **£140**
24. Number 12 in maltese cross. A lovely crisp strike on 1841 1d plate 36. Lettered BH with wonderfully cut margins. Super quality. **£200**
25. A DUBLIN MALTESE CROSS on a 1d red – brown from plate 37. Lettered RA with 4 GIANT MARGINS. Gem of a stamp. **£140**
26. A SCOTTISH MALTESE CROSS. A very fine strike on SG 8 1d lettered FF with fine full margins. **£45**
27. YORK. A fabulous strike of this most distinctive Maltese cross on 1841 1d plate 26. Lettered MB with outstanding margins. The cross is perfect and complete. Exceptional and a Royal certificate accompanies. **£425**
28. 1842 1d red – brown plate 22. Lettered HB with large – huge margins and tied to part wrapper of small size by a crisp maltese cross. Addressed to 'The governor of the New





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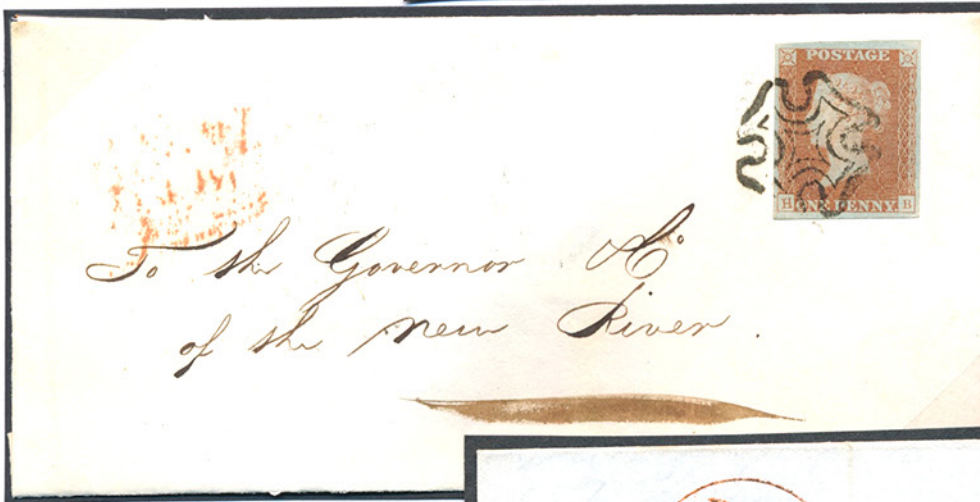
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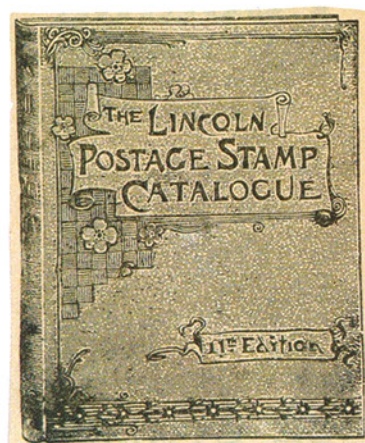
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- river'. A company that provided drinking water to London. Reverse cancel for June 15 1842. **£85**
29. 1843. Ten sided (Decagonal) 'Glasgow paid' on entire wrapper to Edinburgh. A crisp PAID alongside a reverse Glasgow CDS. All in orange, all very fine. **£45**
 30. A CLEAR BLUE NUMERAL on 1850s 1d red brown SG 8. Lettered IB. 4 choice margins and tied to piece by a numeral cancel in a bright shade of blue. **£120**
 31. A BLUE NUMERAL. SG 8 1d red – brown lettered DC with excellent margins. A crisp, light 802 numeral of BAMPTON in deep full blue. Very fine. **£110**
 32. NUMBER 2 IN MALTESE CROSS. A truly fabulous strike on 1841 2d blue plate 3. Perfectly cut and the best strike ever. What a stamp. **£725**
 33. 1841 2d blue plate 3. Lettered BD. Lovely balanced margins. A light, crisp maltese cross. Very fine. **£110**
 34. 1841 2d blue plate 3. A fine pair. Lettered NI – NJ. With full well cut margins and crisp maltese cross cancels. **£150**
 35. 1841 2d blue plate 3. A fine full margined strip of 4. Tied to envelope, refolded, to Henley in Arden by light 719 numerals of SOLIHULL. With margins cut clear – good – ENORMOUS. Contains original letter concerning a power of attorney. Fine Solihull CDS on reverse flap for AUG 5 1848. Very attractive. **£525**
 36. SG 13. 2d pale blue plate 4. A fine full margined single lettered EL with part sheet margin at right. A crisp upright London district duplex cancel. **£85**
 37. A SUPERB IVORY HEAD on 1841 2d deep blue SG 15 plate 4. With choice well cut margins and a numeral cancel. Lovely and clear. Even the check letters show through. **£80**
 38. Sg 29 1d. A fine QUEEN STREET BOX. A lovely strike. **£45**
 39. SG 34 2d blue plate 5. With a crisp dated circular cancel. Very fine for this issue. **£70**
 40. LATE USEAGE of SG 40 1d. A crisp LANCASTER CDS for Dec 8 1906. **£50**
 41. CROSS WRITING. 1869. SG 40 1d tied to small entire to BAYSWATER within a 3 page letter that has become a 5 page letter! Written in a clear hand. The cross writing can be made out with patience. Full of interest. **£45**



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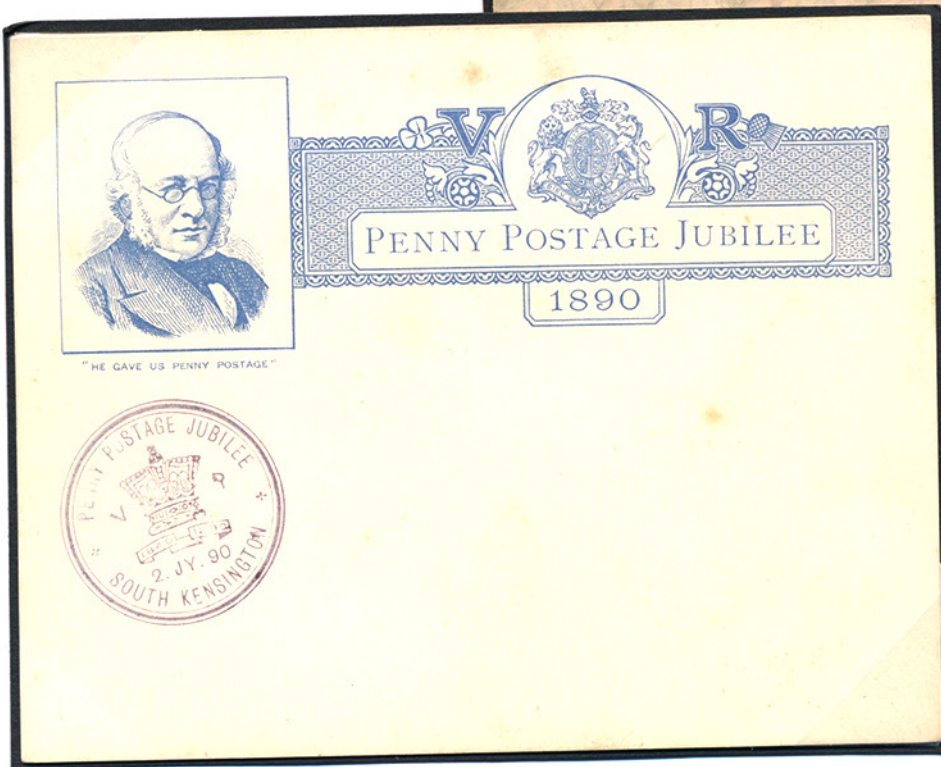
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42. RESERVE PLATE 16. 1d. with a very choice SOUTHAMPTON steel CDS. Finest quality. **£60**
43. RE-ENTRIES. Sg 45 2d plate 7. JB and KB re -entries. Both adhesive are lightly used. **£125**
44. SG 45 2d plate 7. A featherlight MALTA CDS. Superb **£65**
45. SG 45 2d BLUE PLATE 12. SUPERB MINT. Exceptionally fresh. Glorious colour. Wonderfully centred with single hinge remain. THE RAREST PLATE IN MINT CONDITION. **£825**
46. SG 47 2d blue plate 14. Superb mint. Fine and very fresh MM. A lovely single. **£185**
47. SG 52 1 1/2d plate 3. A nice clear CHESTER steel CDS. **£70**
48. SG 52 1 1/2d plate 3. A sharp NEWCASTLE CDS. Very fine. **£65**
49. SG 66 4d rose – carmine. With a crisp and complete DUNDEE steel CDS and part numeral cancel. **£50**
50. SG 87 9d straw. A perfectly centred example with a crisp clear BRUNSWICK STAR cancel. Finest quality. **£225**
51. SG 103 3d plate 6. An outstanding PRINCESS STREET steel CDS crisp and light. **£70**
52. SG 122 6d deep chestnut. A superb pair cancelled by a single complete CDS. A wonderful pair. **£110**
53. SG 141 2 1/2d rosy mauve plate 13. Very fine, a crisp corner CDS **£65**
54. SG 158 3d plate 20. With a light VENTNOR steel CDS. **£50**
55. SG 159 3d on 3d. A crisp BRIGHTON AND HOVE steel CDS. Lovely rich colour. **£95**
56. SG 159 3d and 162 6d together on piece. Cancelled by a single London district duplex. A lovely useage. **£75**
57. SG 160 1/- plate 18. A tiny part Liverpool CDS at corner. Entire profile clear. All fine as they come. **£50**
58. SG 169 5d indigo. Perfectly centred and a lovely crisp corner steel CDS **£70**
59. 1890 PENNY POSTAGE JUBILEE post card bearing the small type 1st day cancel. (Handstamp No 2). Lovely quality. **£60**
60. SG 178 2/6d. VFU a lightly applied LOMBARD STRRET steel CDS. Lovely condition **£80**
61. SG 180 5/- ROSE. A FABULOUS ADHESIVE. A choice COLCHESTER steel CDS. Finest quality here. **£225**
62. SG 180 5/- rose. A fabulous single. Half an upright DEWSBURY CDS leaving Queens features clear. **£120**



'There's been an accident!' they said,
'Your servant's cut in half; he's dead!'
'Indeed!' said Mr. Jones, 'And please
Send me the half that's got my keys.'



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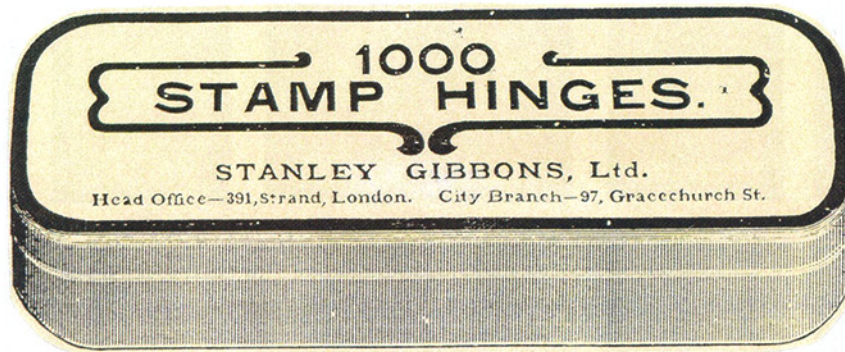
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63. SG 180 5/- rose. A superbly placed MANCHESTER TELEGRAPHS steel CDS. **£115**
64. SG 183 10/- ultramarine. A CHOICE PAIR. Cancelled by crisp MANCHESTER TELEGRAPH steel CDSs. **£725**
65. SG 189 2d lilac. A SUPERB MINT BLOCK OF 4. Flawlessly centred with lightest hinge remains. One adhesive mint unmounted the other 3 as good as. A lovely block of 4. **£575**
66. SG 191 3d lilac. Very choice with a crisp complete and upright WRAYSBURY CDS. The best **£90**
67. SG 194 6d with a choice and upright TAUNTON steel CDS. Outstanding. **£150**
68. SG 207a 5d. A quite lovely strip of 3 with pin sharp GREENOCK steel CDSs. **£55**
69. SG 208a 6d. such a pretty pair of singles tied to piece by crisp TODMORDEN CDSs for March 11 1901. **£45**
70. SG 209 9d. A handsome block of six with crisp HARROGATE steel CDSs. A very fine multiple. **£175**
71. SG 214 1/- with a lovely BLACKPOOL steel CDS. Very fine. The colours are wonderful **£55**
72. SG 218 1/2d A GUTTER BLOCK OF 12. As issued untouched unmounted. Very handsome. **£90**
73. 1909. A most attractive envelope to Como bearing 1/2d x 3 and 1d. All tied by CORNWOOD steel CDSs. COMO CDS reverse flap. very tidy **£45**



DECIPHERING THE "BLIND" LETTERS. 1890



Postman on stilts in the Landes, France. The stilts were useful in deep sand, but it was difficult to deliver letters to short customers and, as a French record points out, it was most awkward when the postman had imbibed too freely.



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The Undeliverable Packet

I am afraid a great many people furnish puzzle with malice aforethought, and the Department does its best to discourage such attempts to waste its time. An official may sometimes make an effort to deliver such packets, but there is no call upon him to do so. For instance, a letter was posted in London addressed to as follows:-

"From an old Bachelor
To a Young Lady
The youngest of three
Who lives in a house
Close down by the sea
The house is quite large
Part of it used for a shop
Where the relatives
deal in tea, bacca, and soap
In the scraggy end of the British Isles"
The letter was passed from one sorter to another, and was finally hung up. Then a sorter wrote in blue pencil across it:-

"Now postal officials don't curse so;
It's probably intended for Thurso"

74. SG 230 2 1/2d deep ultramarine. A wonderful block of 4 with crisp ABERCARN CDSs for Christmas eve 1904 **£75**
75. SG 249 7d. An attractive strip of three. Clear GUERNSEY steel CDSs **£25**
76. SG 249a 7d deep grey – black. A lovely example with a featherlight steel CDS and a Royal certificate. **£60**
77. SG 250 9d dull purple and ultramarine M39 (1) with a lovely upright FINCHFIELD steel CDS **£45**
78. SG 250 9d slate – purple and ultramarine. M39 92) with a crisp EALING steel CDS **£45**
79. SG 251 9d slate purple and deep ultramarine. M39 (3). A light and crisp LAURENCEKIRK steel CDS. **£45**
80. SG 254 10d dull purple and carmine. M42 (1) with a wonderfully struck TEWESBURY steel CDS **£45**
81. SG 254 10d slate purple and carmine pink. M42 (3). Wonderful colours and a crisp PENTRE (Wales) steel CDS. A Royal certificate. **£85**
82. SG 255 10d slate – purple and deep carmine, Chalky paper. M43 (3) A crisp GUERNSEY steel CDS. Lovely quality. **£65**
83. SG 257 1/-. A most attractive block of eight. Crisp DURHAM steel CDSs. A lovely block **£175**
84. SG 260 2/6d lilac. An immaculate Swansea CDS for Feb 11 1903. Absolutely magnificent. **£185**
85. SG 267 1/2d deep dull yellow – green. Blotchy print. M3 (4). A fine CDS example. **£30**
86. SG 271 1/2d bright green (fine impression). M3 (6). A superb example with a partial CDS placed to leave a completely clear profile. **£120**
87. SG 275a 1d Aniline rose. A crisp CHEPSTOW BISHOP steel CDS at **£110**
88. SG M5 1d deep blood – red. With incredible depth of colour. A crisp CDS. A fine sub shade and a Hendon certificate **£120**
89. SG 288 1 1/2d deep plum and deep green. M 10 (6). A very fine CDS example. A Hendon certificate. **£70**
90. SG 307 9d dull reddish purple and blue. M41 (3). A very light steel CDS. **£40**



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In 1845, five years after the epoch-making introduction of the postage stamp, this item of news appeared in a German illustrated magazine: 'In England which has very insignificant yet regular postal service, The Post Office seals small square pieces of paper bearing the head of the Queen, and these are stuck on the letter to be franked. In this simple manner the postage due is paid. To prevent a label being used twice the Post Office cancels the little piece of paper on the letter received with a black cross. The Queens heads look very pretty and the English reveal their strange character by collecting these stamps.'

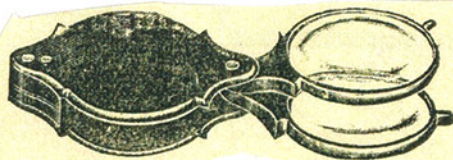
BEHIND THE LETTERBOX. Chesmore. 1938

Bang! went the door of the Post Office. An irate gentleman strode heavily towards the counter. He looked like a retired army officer. His face was very red. His eyes gleamed. He thumped the counter with a fist that resembled a club, and in his best parade-ground manner he roared: "I'd like to shoot the whole lot of you". The counter clerk fixed him with a cool polite glance, and in the soft voice that is supposed to turn away wrath, she replied, "Certainly sir. They will supply you with a gun licence at the other end of the counter!"

91. SG 317 2/6d. An outstanding adhesive. A lightly placed CDS. **£110**
92. SG 320 £1 green. A Magnificent sheet marginal pair. Additionally a 6d, all with crisp GUERNSEY steel CDSs. The POST(AGE) watermark within the margin is clearly visible. A remarkable piece and a UNIQUE USAGE. **£925**
93. SG 405 2/6d deep yellow – brown. A featherlight ARMY POST steel CDS. **£120**
94. SG 409 5/- bright carmine. Quite untouched mint unmounted. The freshness is amazing. **£625**
95. 1934 ROCKET MAIL. SUSSEX DOWNS TRAI FIRING 6 June. Bearing the 'ROCKET POST' stamp in red. Very fine condition and most unusual. **£95**
96. SG 010 10/- IR Official. A superb example cancelled by a crisp upright MANCHESTER ACCOUNTS CDS. A Wenvoe certificate accompanies. **£2250**
97. SG 044 2 1/2d ARMY OFFICIAL. A very fine BLOCK OF 4. Each adhesive a crisp steel CDS **£110**
98. SG 065 1 1/2d GOVT PARCELS. A BLOCK OF 4 with BRADFORD squared circle cancels. **£55**
99. SG 067 9d GOVT PARCELS. A magnificent corner of pane example. With single hinge remain. Very striking. **£240**
100. SG 0107 1/2d ADMIRALTY OFFICIAL. A pristine mint unmounted corner of sheet marginal block of 4. **£190**

Sir Lauder Brunton. Physician, on Philately.

"There are a great many people who die in this world from the very simple malady of having nothing whatever to do. They pass their lives in accumulating money, with no relaxation, and then when they retire from active work they die of ENNUI. They come to me and complain of so many things, and say 'what shall I do'. I tell them to collect, it will add ten years to their lives. The wise men do so, others do not and the wise men live on. That is the use of collecting stamps at the end of life.

**Clock Face**

A district near St. Helens, Lancashire, England.



An early English Post Office.