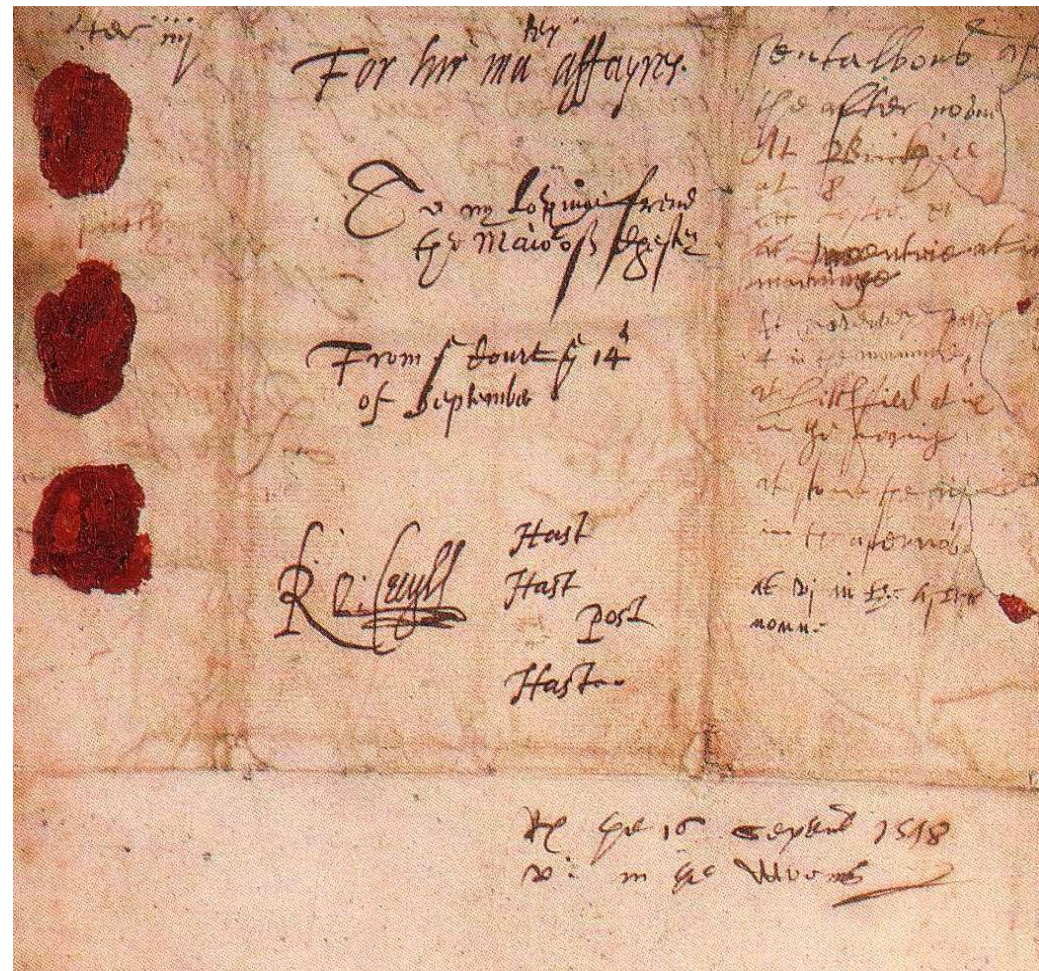


**A short Story on the Origins of the
First Public Post of Great Britain
and the Status of the UK Post as
„Craddle“ of Marcophilie**

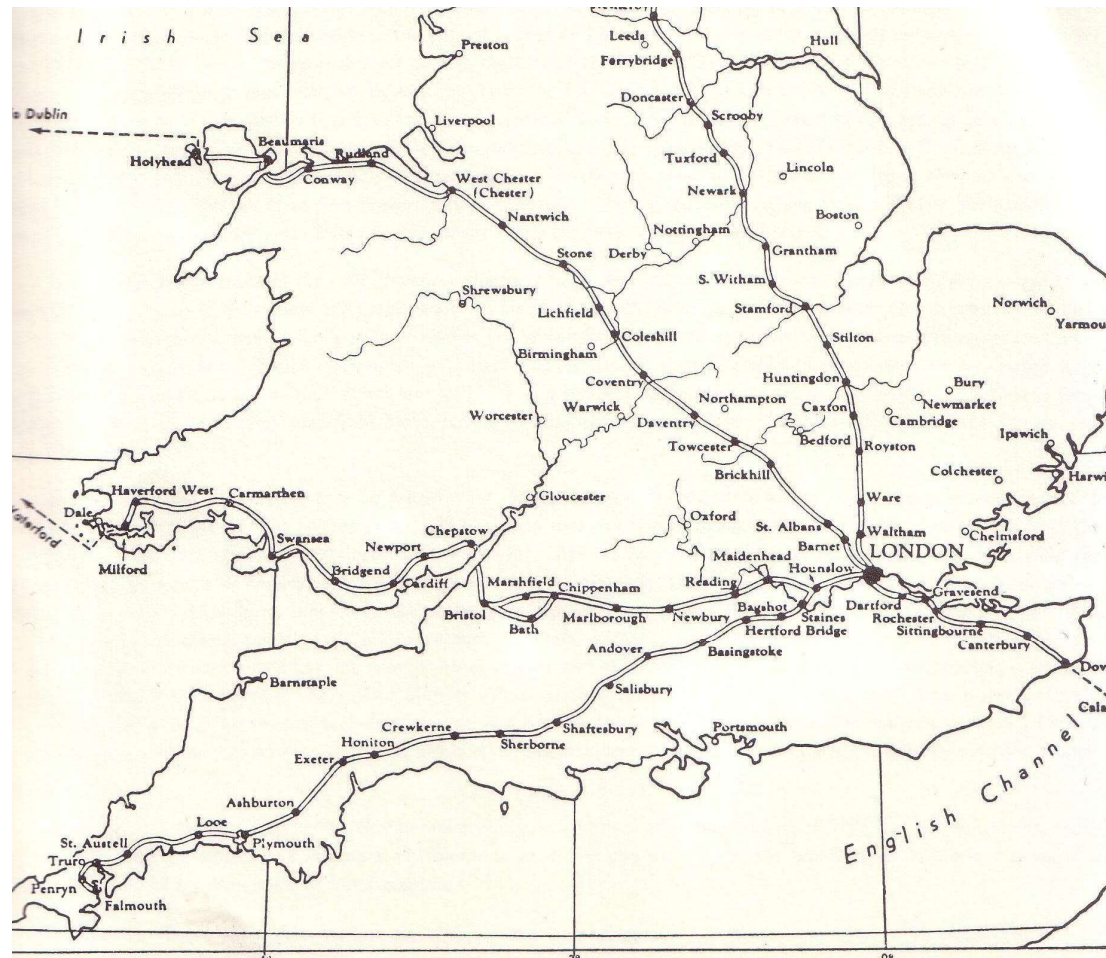
„Haste Post Haste“

September 14, 1598,
London to Chester in two
days

(For each change of horses a
written note had to be made at
each postal station)

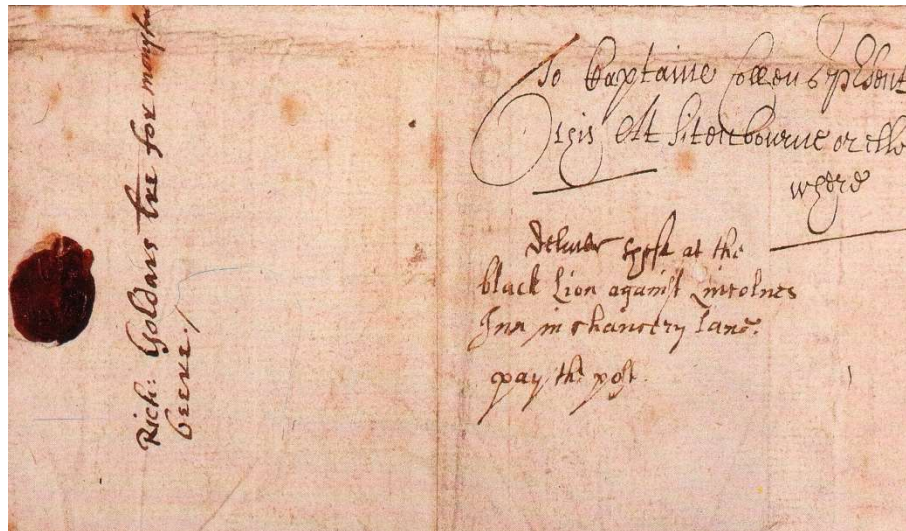


Roads to and from London

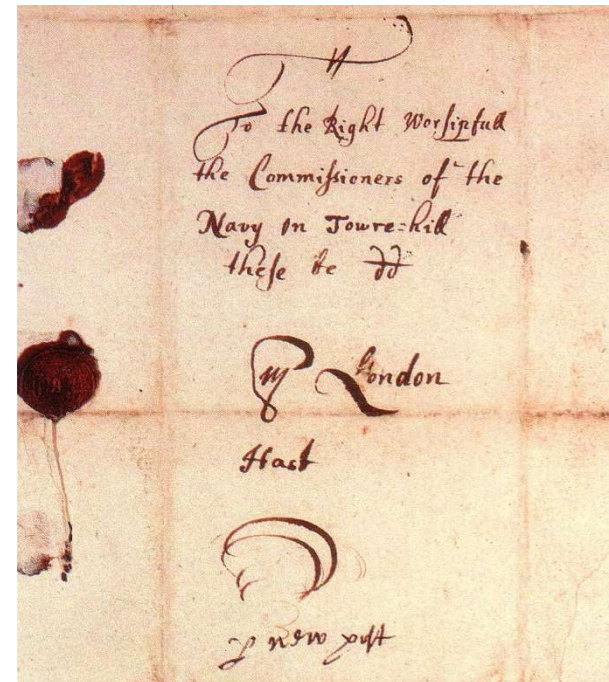


The „new“ Post

Juli 1, 1644, Dover to London
- manuscript „pay the Post“



Mai 7, 1653, Bristol to London
- „p new Post“



Henry Bishop

Postmaster General

1660 - 63

...took on lease the British
Post for the sum of 21.500
Pounds Sterling.

His name will be
connected for ever to the
first date handstamp
worldwide,
the **Bishop Mark**.

The date handstamp was
overtaken by Ireland
(1670), Scotland (1693),
the USA, Canada and
Jamaica.

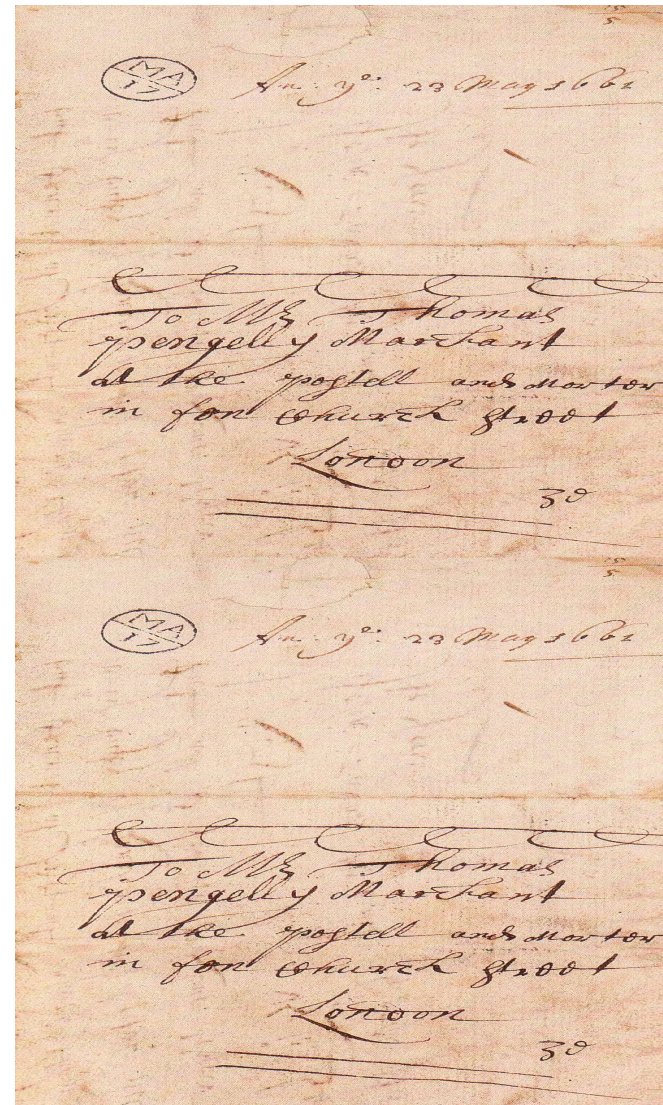


The Bishop Mark

This handstamp was introduced to get control on the whereabouts of letters, because the delivery of letters often was delayed or the letters even disappeared completely.

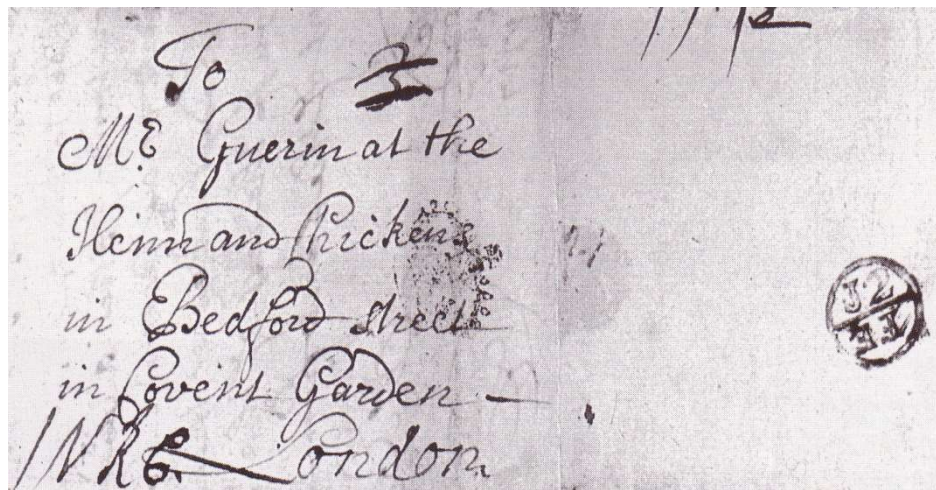
15. May 15, 1661, Yarmouth to
London

to pay by addressee
– 3 d. for the delivery of a one
page letter over a distance of 80
up to 140 miles (Tariff 1857)

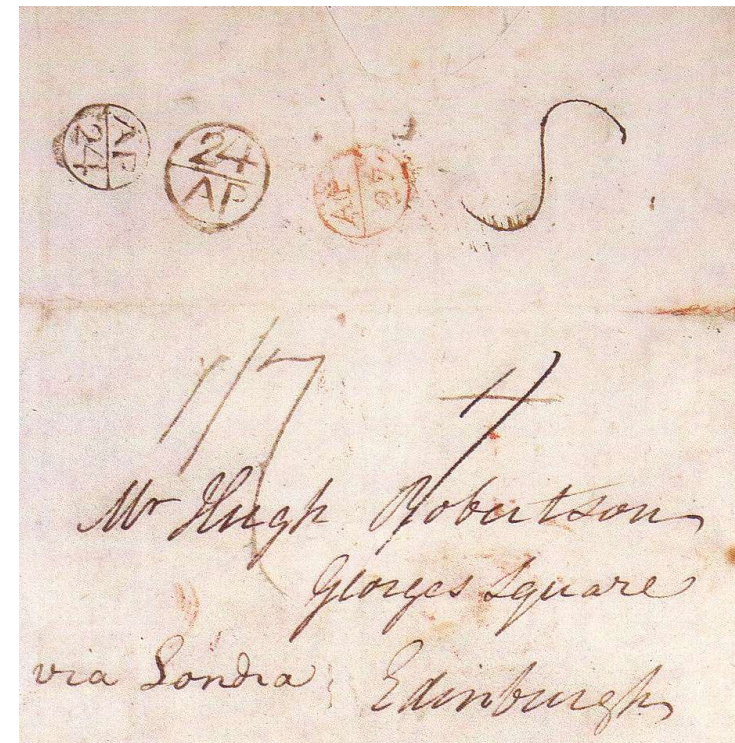


The Bishop Mark

1717 - tête – bêche Bishop Mark



1787 – Rome via London to Edinburgh - Bishop Marks of
the General Post, the Foreign Office and Edinburgh



Bishop Mark Type

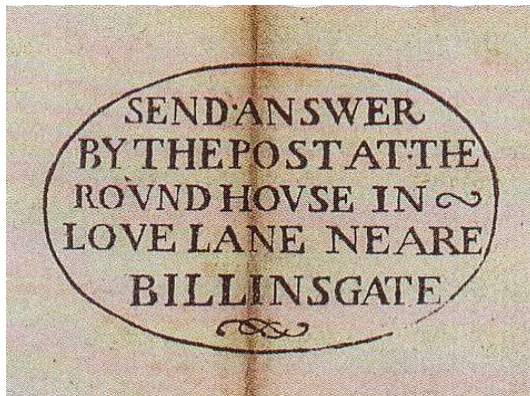
Since 1697 „movable“
handstamps came into use
for **Ex**eter and **B**ristol
which were similar to the
Bishop-mark.

Not until 1787 a „movable“
handstamp is known for
London.

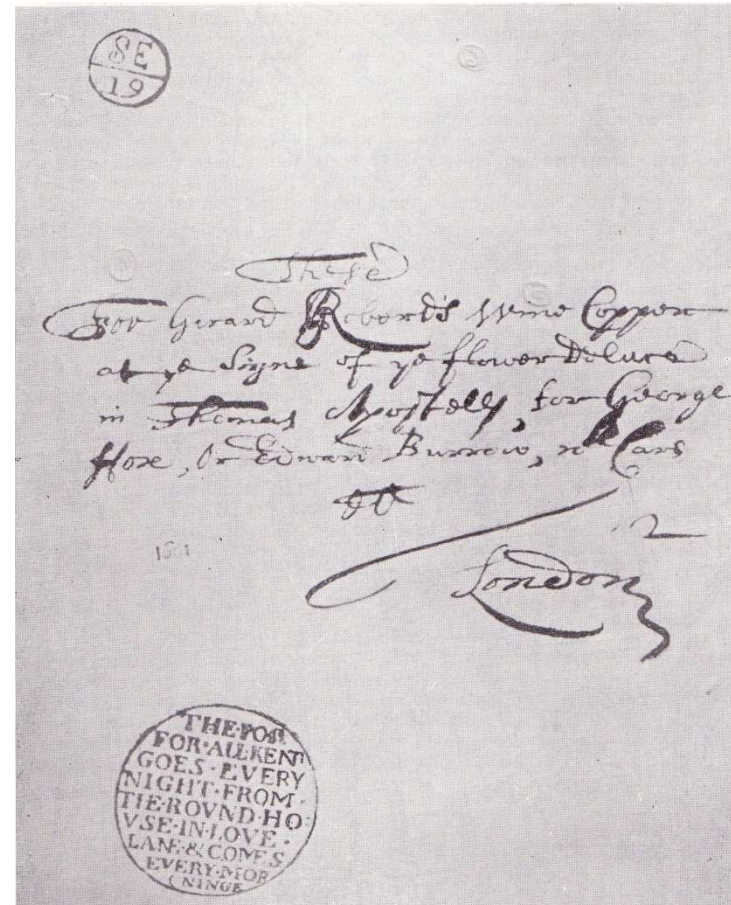


Advertisement for the KENT ROAD

1661 - „Send Answer / by the Post at the / Round House
in / Love Lane neare / Billingsgate“
(Dover – London – Holyhead)



1661 – The Post / for All Kent / Goes every / Night
from / the Round Ho / use in Love / Lane & comes /
every Mor / ninge

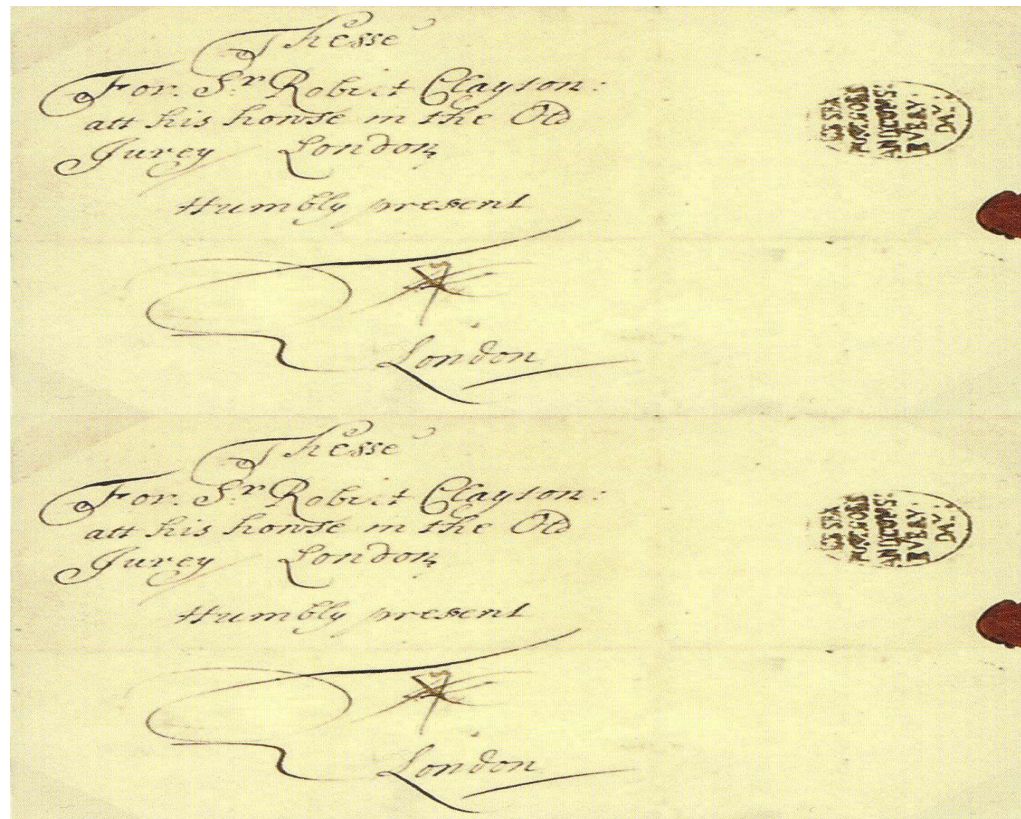


Advertisement Essex Road

**ESSEX
POST GOES
AND COMES
EVERY DAY**

(1674 – 75)

via Colchester to Norwich

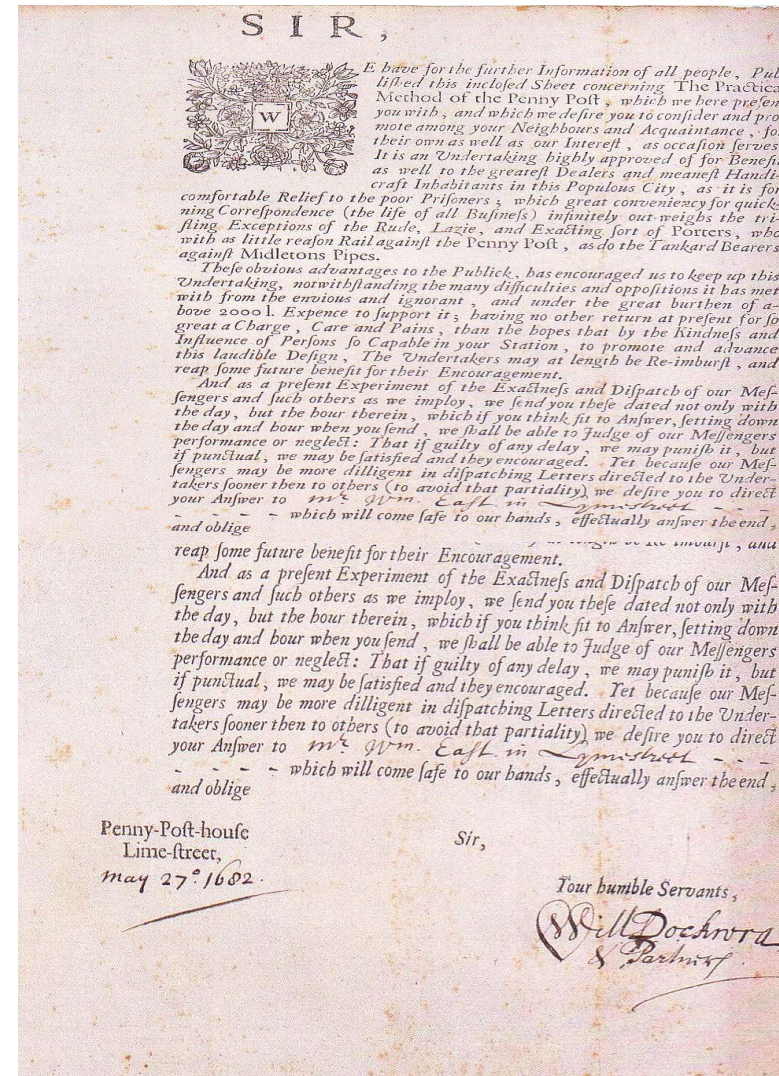


First handstamps for prepayment

William Murray, Hugh Chamberlain, **William Dockwra** and so called undertakers installed the first town-post on March 27, 1680, in London.

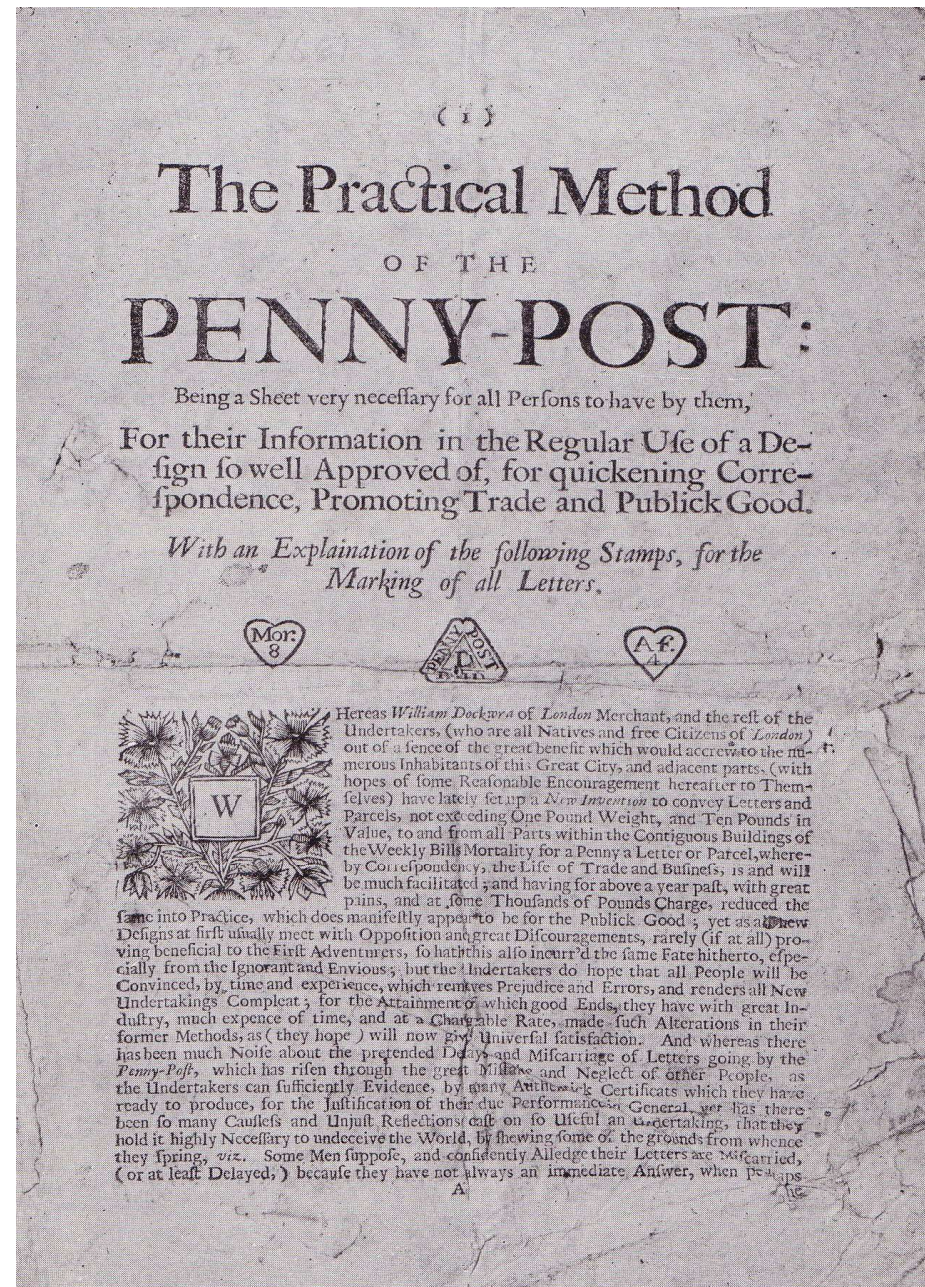
London was divided in 7 districts given a sorting-bureau to each of them.

W. Dockwras house in the Lime Street became the central station.



First handstamps for prepayment

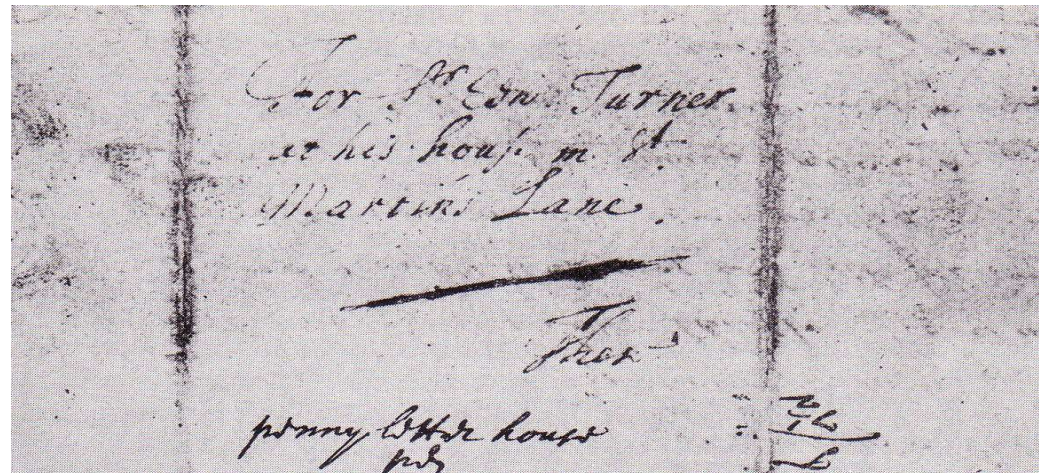
Advertising leaflet for the
Penny Post from 1681



First handstamps for prepayment

W. Murray probably was
the initiator for the London
Penny Post,
while W. Dockwra
organized the system.

May, 18, 1680 (*Chichester* -letter)
to St. Martins Lane
m.s. „**penny letter house pd**“;
endorsed in the Temple Office
(*T / 7 ½*)

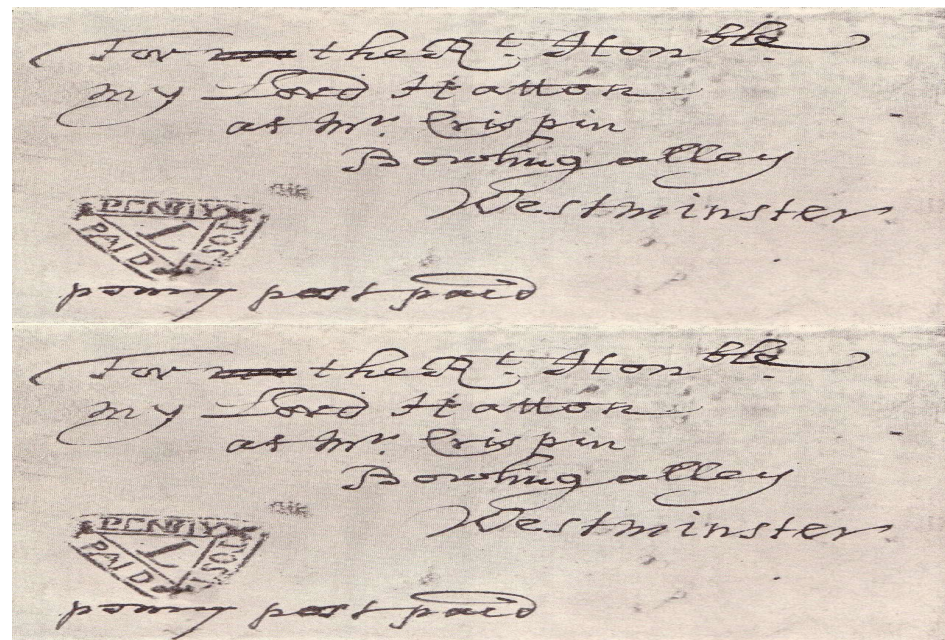


First handstamps for prepayment

There exists a high degree
of probability that
W. Murray was the one,
who designed the first
triangular handstamps.

December 13, 1861,
to Bowling Alley in Westminster

L – with fleur-de-lis
and **PENNY / POST / PAID**

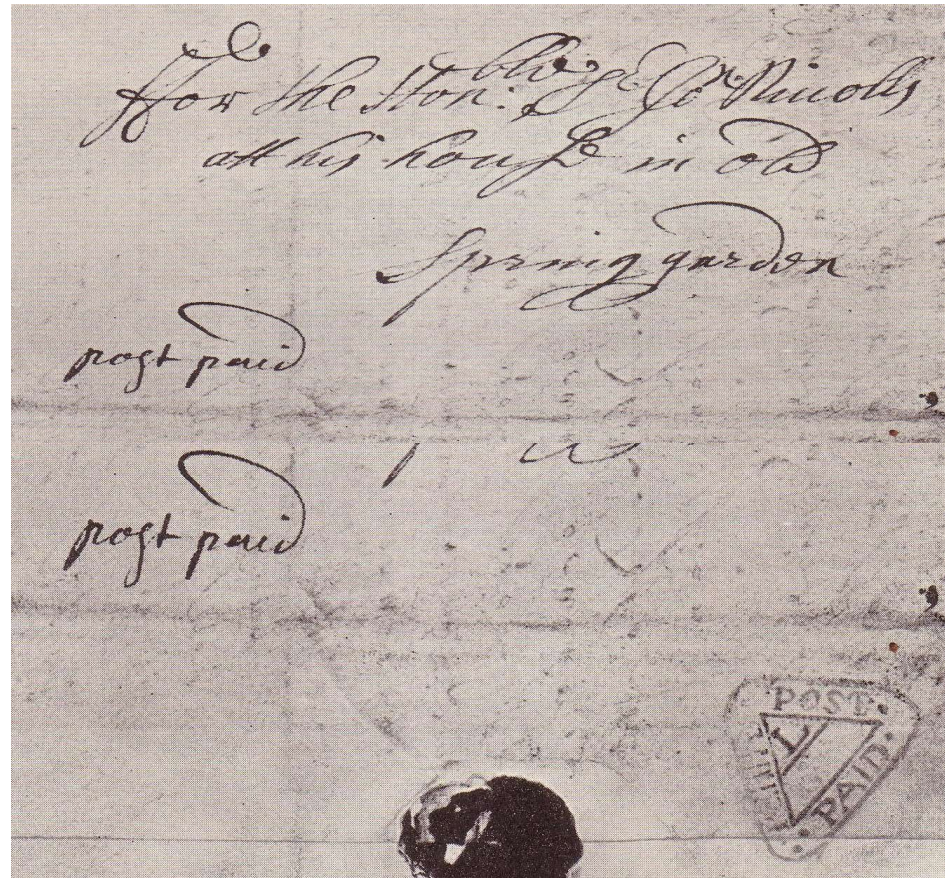


First handstamps for prepayment

The more elaborated
handstamps shall have
their origin from the
Murrays Post,
due to *Martin Willcox*.

March 22, 1681,
to Springgarden

L – within the bisected triangle



First handstamps for prepayment

The less elaborated
handstamps are attributed
to W. Dockwra.

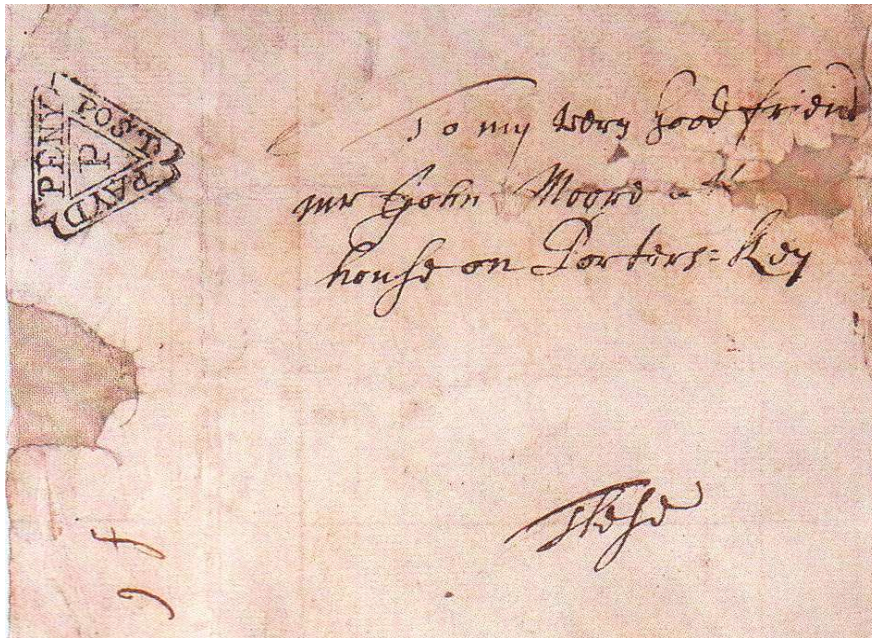
May 27, 1682, to Holborn
PENY / POST / PAID /
L

Handstamp from Dockwras
central station for the
London local Post in Lime
Street

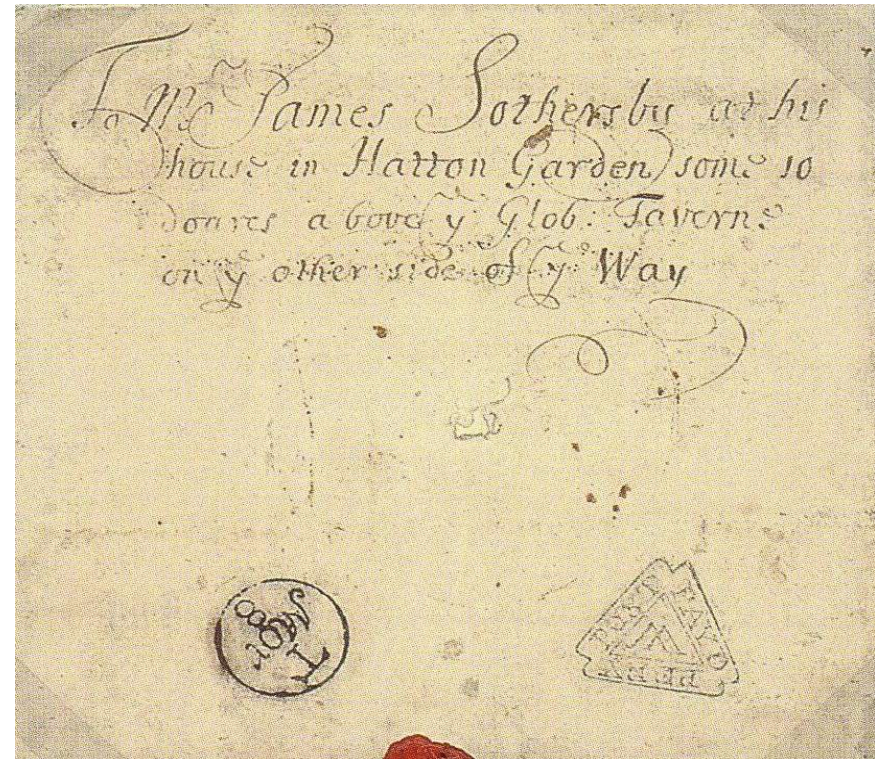


First handstamps for prepayment

May 27, 1683 – Government „Dockwra Type“ for the St. Pauls Office



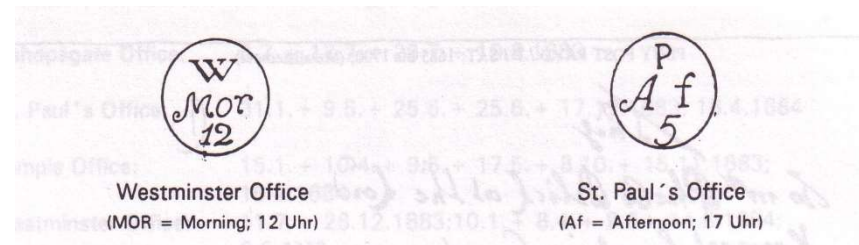
June 9, 1684 – Government „Dockwra Type“ for the Westminster Office, endorsed in the Temple-Office at 8 o'clock in the morning



First daytime/hour handstamps

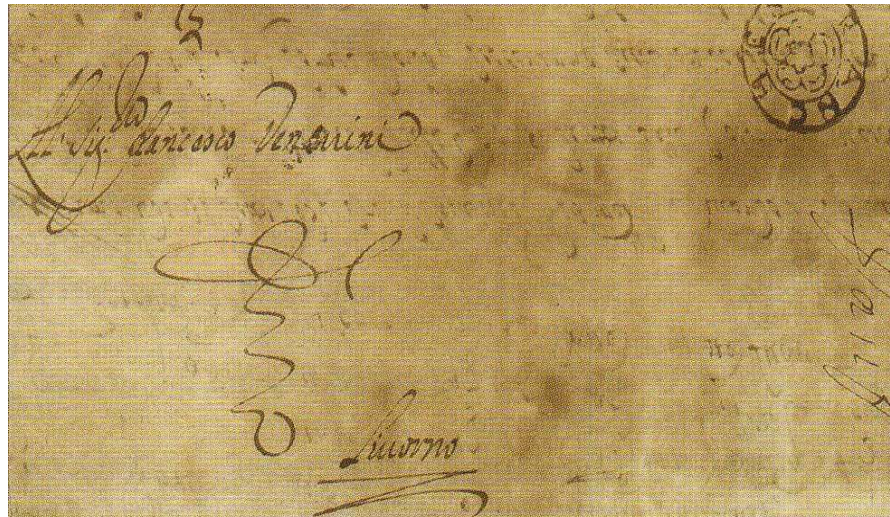
These handstamps were applied to letters of the General Post, delivered by the Penny Post,

in order to document the location of transfer and the most quick delivery by messengers of the Penny Post.



Franches-handstamps

1670 und 1678 nach Livorno



„DE CROS FRANCHES“

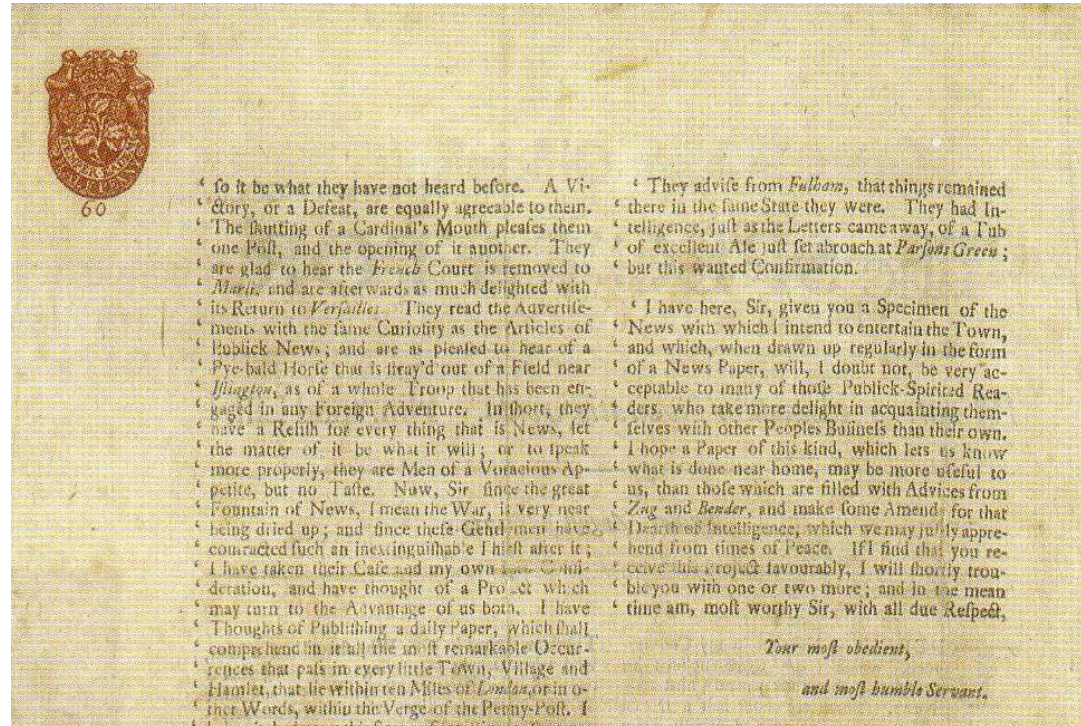


Newspaper- handstamp

„HALF PENNY“

Newspaper charge mark,
Type I, Plate 66, on the
back page of the
newspaper

„*The Spectator*“,
dated August 8, 1712



First Fancy cancel

The Perth Lamb

1750 - 51



Variety and richness of postal markings

March 27, **1811** - York to
Chelsea/London

„Not a Soldiers letter“,
therefore no reduction of
the 1 d. charge accepted;
- 9 d. to pay by addressee
(the addressee no longer an active
soldier – *Late Sergeant*)



Machine cancels

Pearson Hill – 1st. trial from September 17, 1857



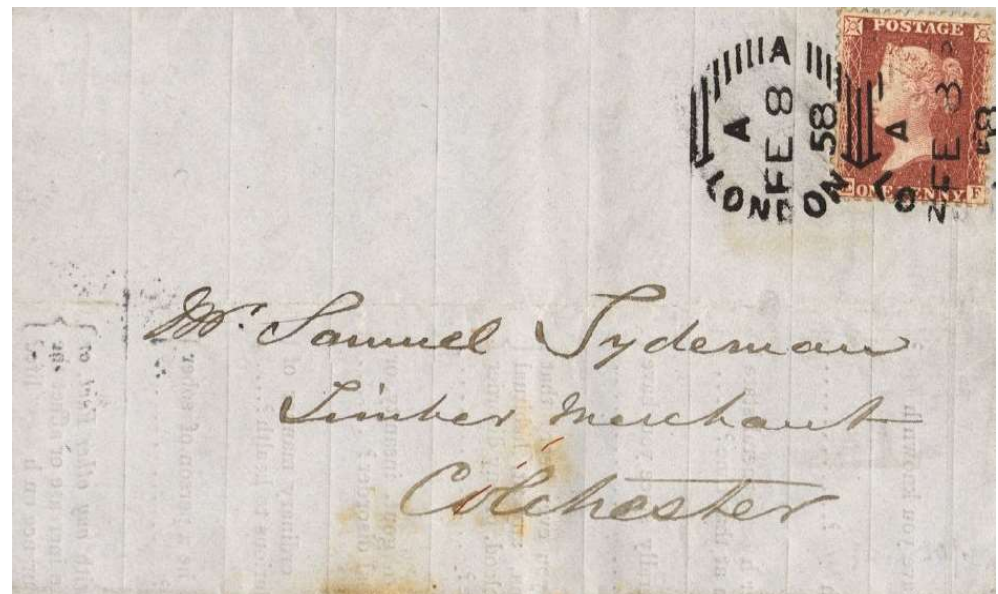
Machine cancels

**Maschine Pearson Hill (1857)
(Replica)**



2nd. trial (*Code A*)

September 21, 1857 – February 17, 1858



Machine cancels

3rd. trial - Code „C“
March 8 to 18, 1858

„CA“ for Monday und Thursday; „CB“ for Tuesday
and Friday; „CC“ for Wednesday and Saturday



Machine cancels

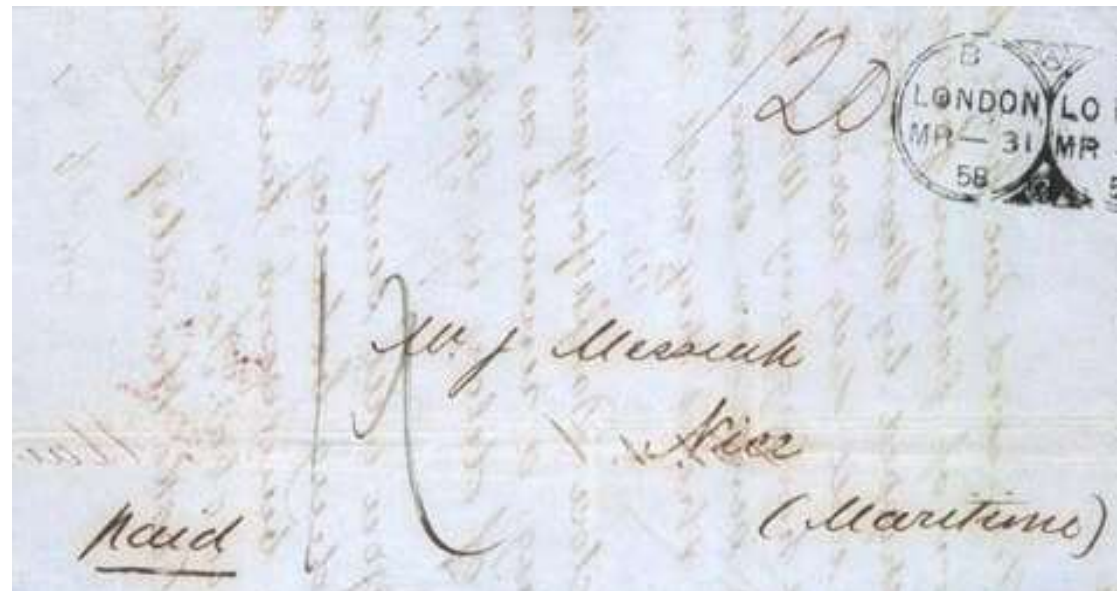
4th. trial

Pearson Hill „B“ Maschine



the „Opera glass“ cancellation

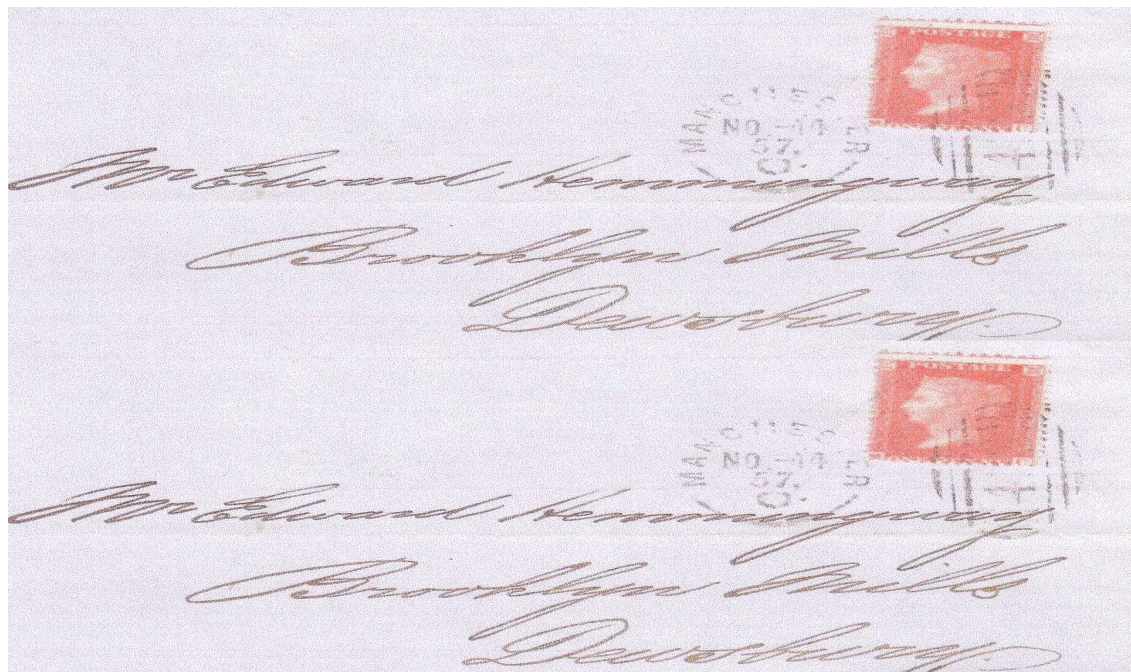
March 24 to April 9, 1858



Machine cancels

„French Stamping Machine“
November 8 to December 27, 1857

installed in Liverpool und
Manchester



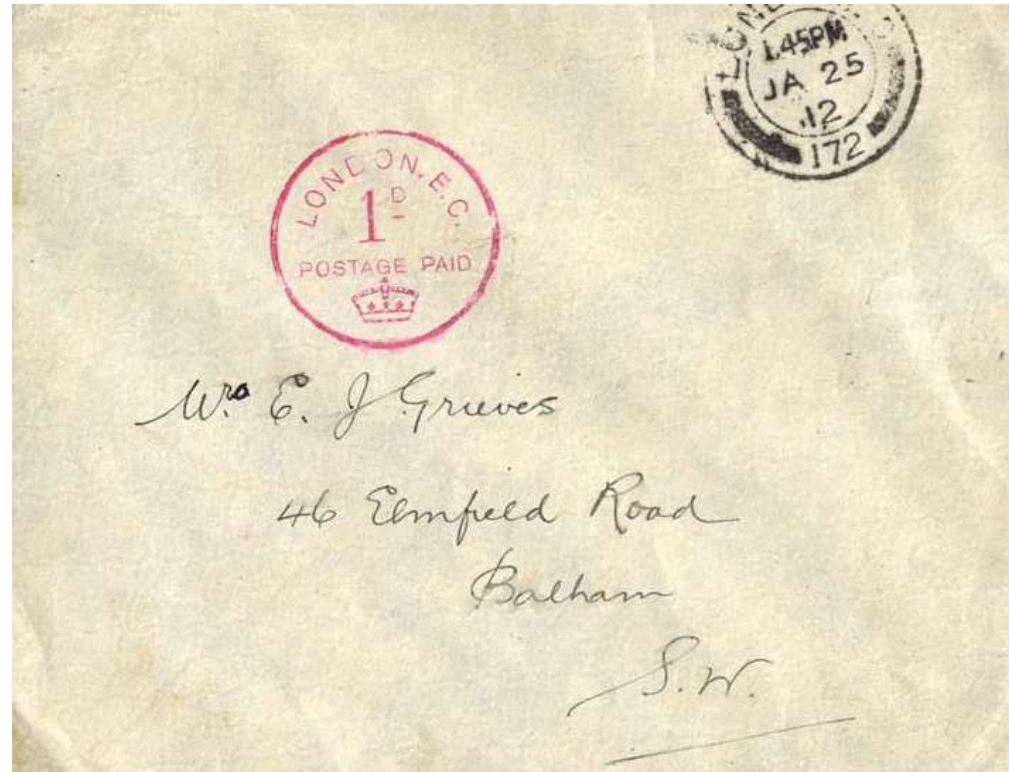
Machine Cancels

F. Wilkinson-Maschine
1912

(First day)

„Penny in the slot“

(This trial was finalized in August
1912 already)



First dated special cancellations

Special Post Office in the Hyde Park while
the 1st. International Exhibition in 1851



South Kensington while
2nd. Intern. Exhibition in 1862



Thank you very much for your interest
and kind attention.

