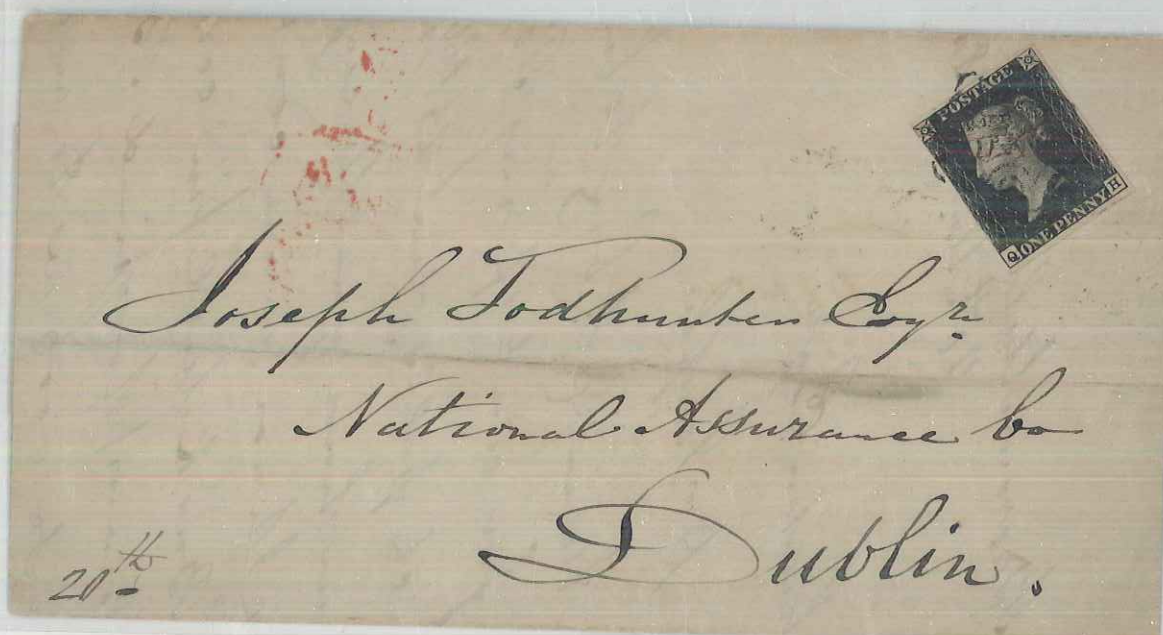


**Maltese Cross  
Double Weight**

25 February 1841

Double weight letter franked with 2 1d black adhesives, canceled with the standard Maltese Cross in an unusual pinkish red ink.



**II.A. Maltese Cross Period : 1840 - 1844**

**Colored crosses**

**Blue of Portglenone and Newry**

**12 November 1842**

**1 May 1842**

Besides the official Black Composition, crosses were sometime struck with the same color as the date stamps.

Standard Maltese cross - blue in color. Matching Portglenone CDS.



Blue cross used at Newry.

Crosses of any color other than red (on 1d black adhesive) and black are scarce from Ireland.







**Single Obliterator  
Receiving Houses**

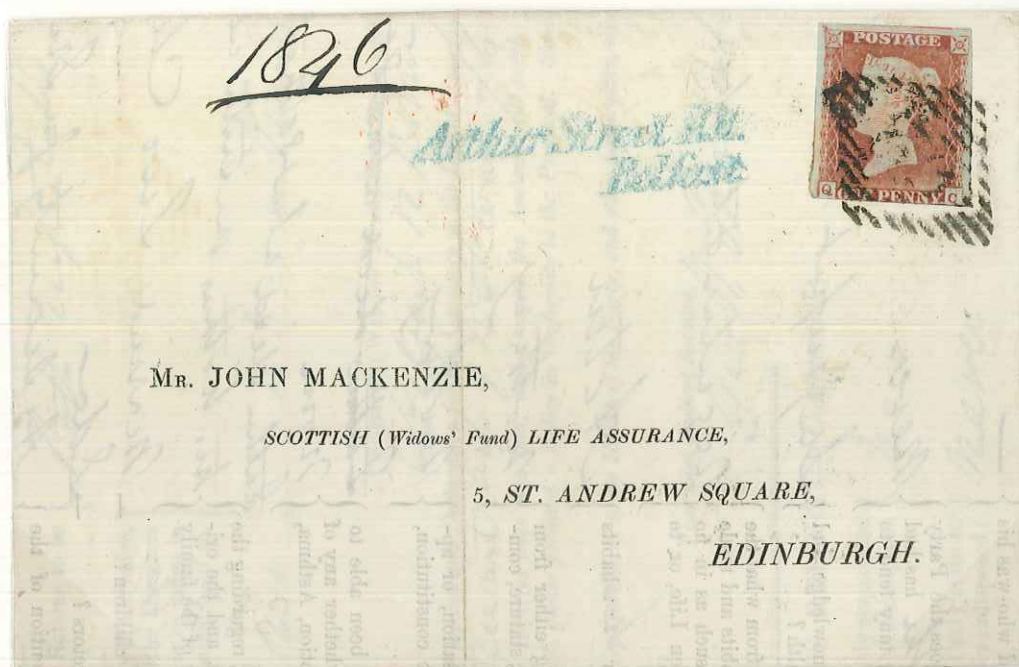
*June 1844*

13 November 1846  
22 December 1844  
21 September 1846

Receiving houses were sub-offices in cities or near post towns that collected mail for the surrounding area. Name stamps of various types were used in the pre-adhesive era. During the adhesive era it is likely that the receiving house stamp was applied to show proof of handling a letter, as only the main office had obliterator devices.

*Italic, two line, R.H. in name.*


Used at Arthur Street, Belfast from 1844 to 1853, known only in blue.





THE  
BELFAST  
STAMP  
SHOP

*prepaid* Holborn  
10. PA  
The Lord Bishop  
of Down & Connor & Downmore  
~~The Palace~~  
~~Repton~~  
~~Belfast~~  
Ballymoney Ireland



11 VICTORIA STREET, BELFAST, BT1 3GA NORTHERN IRELAND.







Q  
IRELAND 1841. Letter sheet addressed to Dublin bearing 1d red-brown imperf tied by combination of Black Maltese Cross & the 'ENNISKERRY/PENNY POST' h/stamp in black. Backstamped on arrival.







Very late usage of Mulready Wrapper in Ireland in 1849 from Dublin to London. Stereo A69.

THE  
BELFAST  
STAMP





**II.B. Numbered Series Period : 1844 - 1855**

**Variations on the single diamond obliterator**  
**Belfast - "split" 62**  
**Green and blue colors**

**13 October 1853**  
**5 October 1855**  
**15 August 1855**

One of the most notable variations of single oblitters is the Belfast cancel known as the "split 62"; commonly believed that the stamp was broken, and that its repair left a line bisecting the diamond.



Colors, other than black, are known from a few towns. Dublin used green ink in 1855 as with this single 186 obliterator on 1 ounce letter to Drogheda. Tullamoore, office code 438, used blue ink on several occasions.

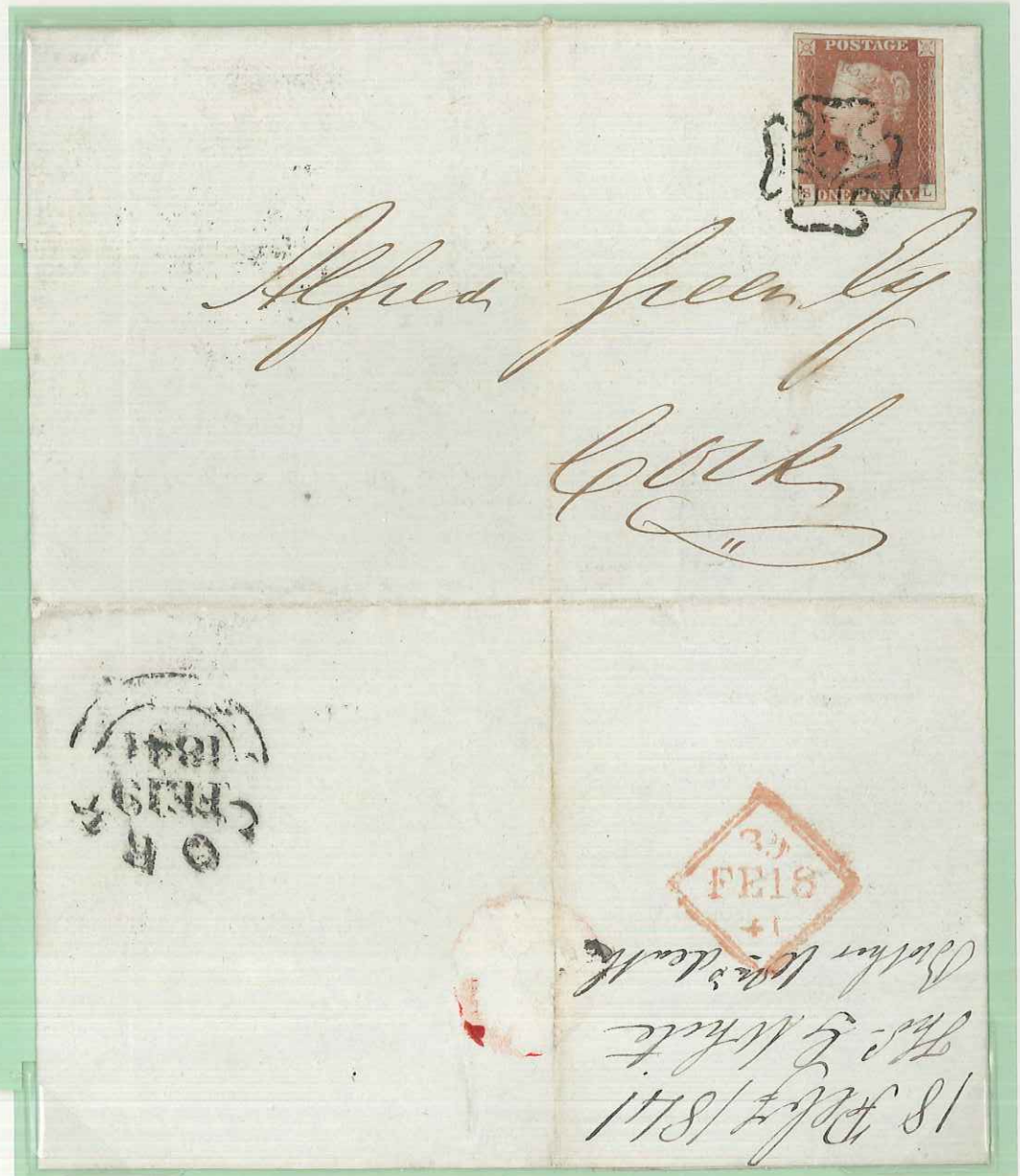


**Introduction of 1d red  
Change to "Black Composition"**

18 February 1841  
20 February 1841

**Instructions No. 3, 1841** informed all postmasters that an *immediate Alteration* is about to be made in the Adhesive Postage Label Stamps. The one penny red was issued on February 10th.

The "Red Composition" was not entirely successful in preventing removal of cancellations and in August 1840 an experiment with black ink was tried in London. In January 1841, post offices were informed that *It is intended, hereafter, to obliterate the Postage Stamps with Black Composition, a supply of which will be forwarded to you as soon as possible, but until you receive this supply you will continue to obliterate the Postage Stamp with the Red Composition as heretofore.* Supplies were furnished in February.



Old Labels were expected to circulate in common with the new ones *until the stock of the latter remaining on hand is disposed of...*

Dublin to Cork - franked with 1d red; local Dublin letter franked with 1d black; both obliterated with the new Black Composition.





Mr David Wild  
Merchant  
Aman



Mr Henry Lamb  
No 11 Queen's Place  
Kensington Road  
London



G Davis  
Post office  
Cork

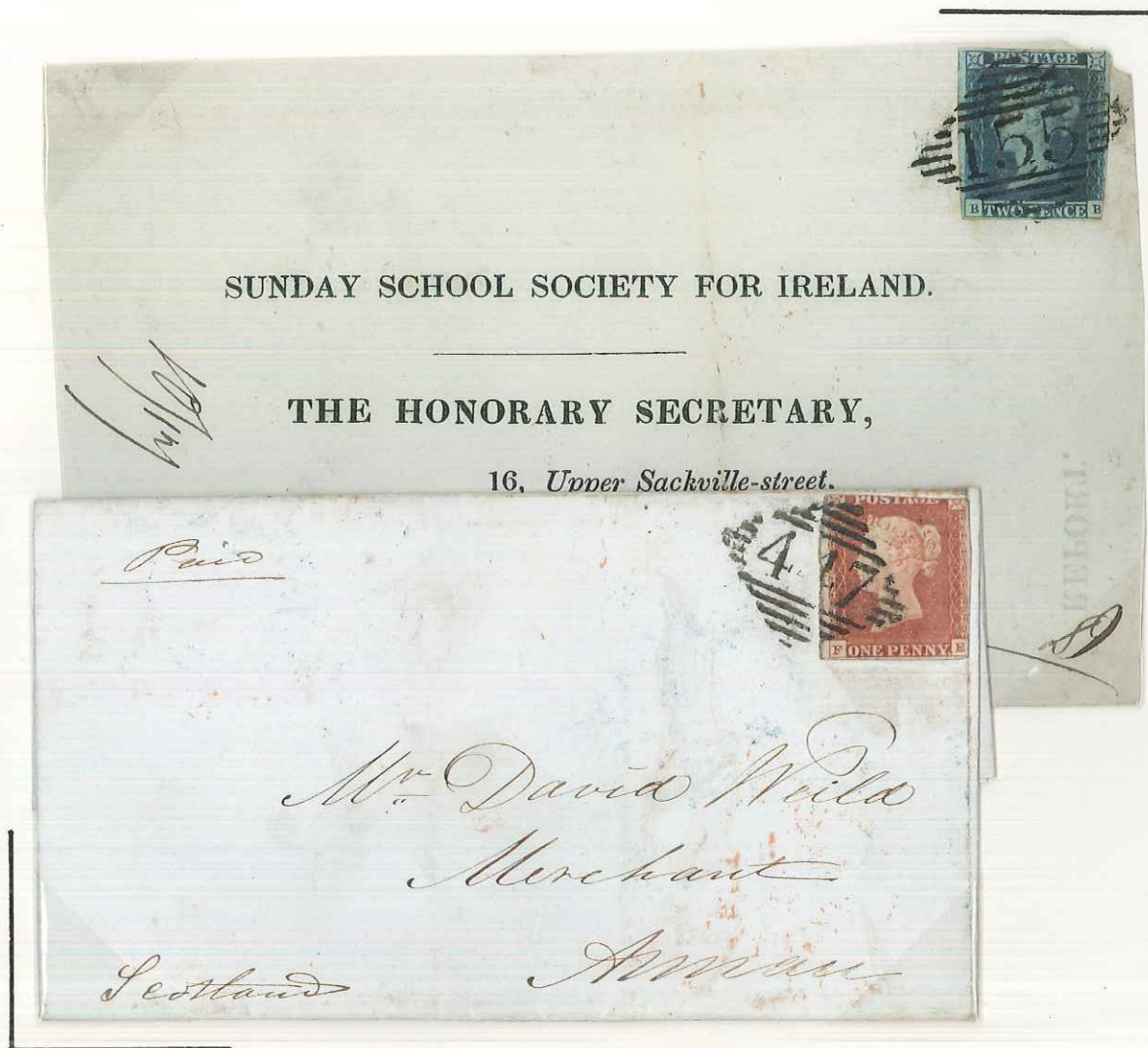


Single Obliterator  
Cootehill  
Westport

16 October 1844  
10 January 1848

The first oblitors were made in London, and distributed in Ireland starting in September 1844.  
The largest group (389 towns) had 5 bars at top, bottom and sides.

Double weight letter from Cootehill - office code 155 - to Dublin.



Westport - office code 447 - to Annan, Scotland.  
Based on shape and bar configuration; very likely the original stamp.

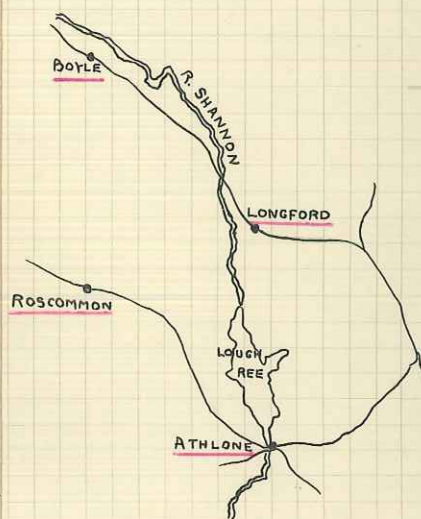


1843 GB 5c3  
Roscommon to Boyle

of Francis

CR

ROSCOMMON TO BOYLE 1843, THE LAST YEAR BEFORE POST OFFICE TOWN NUMBERS WERE USED AS THE MALTESE CROSS DID NOT INDICATE THE PLACE AT WHICH THE STAMP HAD BEEN CANCELLED. THIS ONE OBTAINED THE SEPARATE DEPARTURE HANDSTAMP OF ROSCOMMON, MAY 3 1843. BOYLE IS ONLY 25 MILES DIRECTLY FROM ROSCOMMON, BUT THE LETTER WENT ON POSTS VIA ATHLONE AND LONGFORD.





**II.A. Maltese Cross Period : 1840 - 1844**

**Non-Standard Maltese Crosses**  
**Limerick, more curly indentations**  
**Cork, straight sided**

**2 April 1842**  
**21 April 1844**

Limerick variety: outline thicker, indentations more curly.

Very early usage: recorded used from June 1842 to May 1844.



Cork - second of two types - recorded used 1843 until May 1844.

Distinguishing features wide inner diamond and deep indentations of outer cross.



**Maltese Cross  
Belfast Variation**

7 March 1844

Belfast variation - known used February 1843 - June 1844.



Distinguishing features: relatively wide inner cross, inner diamond runs to deep points.

Very similar to a Cork variation.



**Non-Standard Maltese Crosses**  
**Mullingar, notched ends**  
**Dublin, straight sided**

1 May 1843  
23 March 1844

The obliterations sent out on April 25, 1840 were relatively uniform in design. However, when normal wear or damage necessitated replacement, these sometimes were supplied locally, giving rise to more pronounced variations. Locally made stamps begin appearing in Ireland in late 1841..



The Mullingar Cross has notches in the outer ends - known used from December 1841 through late July 1843. Notches sometimes fill with ink, giving a more normal appearance.



Local type with straight lines to the inner and outer edges is generally associated with Ireland.

One of three Dublin variations: known used February 1843 through June 1844. Weight between  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 ounce - franked with 1841 issue 2d blue, white line added.



Undated Name Stamps  
Forwarded letter

19 October 1847

From London, 1d red canceled with oval numeral 15 killer, to Dublin.

Dublin city receiving house CLARE ST straight line known used 1845-46.



Re-directed to Birdstown, Londonderry.

Additional 1d red stamp applied, canceled with Dublin single obliterator - office code 186.

Derry receiving house handstamp, *Burnfoot R.H./Derry*, known used 1847 to 1848 in green.



**Handstamp 4 - unpaid double weight**  
**Underpaid - MORE TO PAY**

25 unknown month 1840s  
 12 November 1843

Unpaid double weight, over ½ ounce - 2d + 2d penalty: 4d due.

*Only recorded copy of distinctive small 4 - type unique to Ballymena.*

Partial letter sheet—back flap with date cut away. Sent *On Her Majestys Service* – if prior to UPP, then would have traveled free of charge. Official mail lost this privilege with the Uniform Postage Act. Incorrectly listed in William Kanes's *Uniform Fourpenny Post in Ireland*.

*Scale of postage by weight*

Not exceeding ½ ounce	1d
Not exceeding 1 ounce	2d
Not exceeding 2 ounces	4d
Not exceeding 3 ounces	6d
Not exceeding 4 ounces	8d
Each ounce additional	2d



From Castleblawney, paid 2d for ½ to 1 ounce. Marked *over 1oz*; Dublin applied small **MORE TO PAY** handstamp. Charge: *Postage of Double the Amount of the Difference between the Value of such... Stamps and the Postage to which such Letters would be liable as aforesaid if pre-paid.*

Rate for 1 to 2 ounces:	4d
Prepaid with adhesives:	2d
Deficiency:	2d
<b>Total due, double deficiency:</b>	<b>4d</b>



SINGLE OBLITERATOR  
Uniform Ship Letter Rate

12 September 1844

Entire to New York, franked with two 1d reds and a strip of three 2d blues to pay the 8d uniform ship letter rate, and canceled with the single obliterator "269" of Kil-kenny.



Endorsed in manuscript "p. private ship", reverse shows Liverpool crowned ship letter and transit date stamps. Manuscript "6" is the US due rate of 6c for a letter delivered at port of arrival.



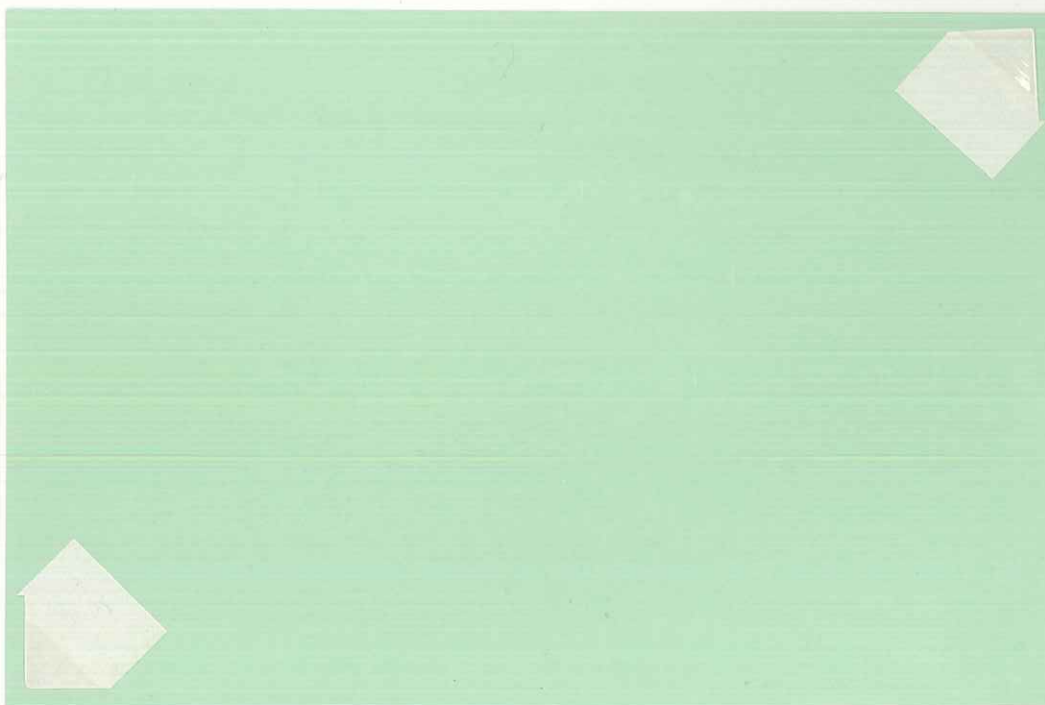
Registration - 6d fee - 1848 - 62

Registration - 6d to Australia - from 1857

10 July 1856  
12 August 1857

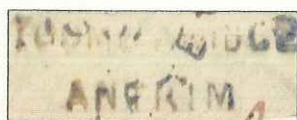
In March 1848 the registration fee was reduced from 1s to 6d, prepayment in money still required. In 1854 postage stamps were allowed to be used to pay the registration fee.

Registration fee of 6d paid with purple em-bossed adhesive, 1854 issue.  
Canceled with single obliterator, office code 325, of Maynooth, Co. Kildare.



A registration fee of 6d on letters to Australia came into effect 13 January 1857.

Mailed from Toome Bridge in County Antrim—manuscript red number 7 and *registered*. **DUBLIN AU 13 1857**  
**REGISTERED** in black and London date **REGISTERED M/14 AU 14/1857 G.P.O** plus crown **REGISTERED** in red.



Addressed to:  
Ensign Weyall  
77th Regiment  
Sydney  
Australia.

Paid the 1d soldier's concession  
rate plus 6d for registration.

Stamps canceled with numeral 23  
diamond obliterator of Antrim.

