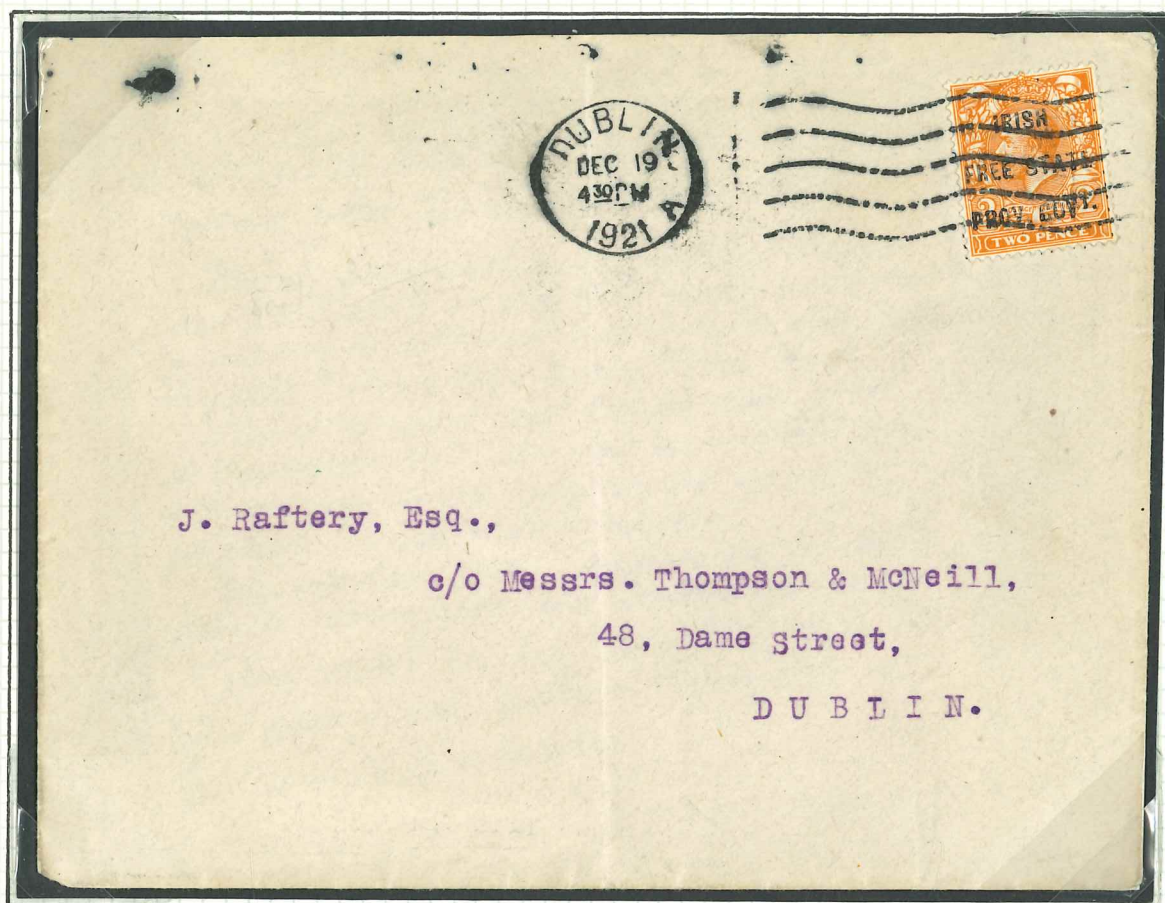


IRELAND

THE TREATY PERIOD

UNOFFICIAL OVERPRINTS

IRISH
FREE STATE
PROV. GOVT.



After the signing of the Treaty on December 6, 1921 and prior to ratification by the Dail on January 14, 1922, an unofficial overprint made its appearance as shown above. The four lowest values of the then current British stamps (2d, 1d, 1½d and 2d) were overprinted using a stereo setting.

There seems to have been three distinct batches of posting bearing the overprints. One lot was posted from Dublin dated December 19, 1921 (as above), another batch from Kingstown (Dunlaoghaire) on January 17, 1922 and the third batch from Blackrock, Dublin on January 18, 1922.

No attempt was made to collect any surcharges on these items which were apparently in breach of postal regulations.