

SG172 - Penny Lilac 1881



This replaced the provisional issue 1d of 1880 and was used until 1901, when the EVII 1d was issued on Jan 1 1902. Unlike the 1d provisional the Penny Lilac does not have corner letters. See sheet reconstruction.

Instead of the word POSTAGE it has POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE. This was because it could now be used for both postage and revenue purposes.

The 1d stamp was used to prepay letters between 1840-1918, it was the most used of all the stamps. During 1840-1900 (56.6bn) followed by the ½d (19.5bn) and then the 6d (1.0 bn).

Numbers issued

Die I (14 dots) 12 July 1881	495,984,000
Die II (16 dots) 13 Dec 1881-1901	33,600,000,000
(compare to 1d venetian red 1880-81)	1,462,584,000



22

[illegible]

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

Britain's Penny Lilac: 34 billion printed, many ways to collect

Great Britain's Penny Lilac stamp served as the workhorse of the British post office for 20 years between 1881 and 1901. This stamp is shown in the middle in Figure 1.

It replaced the 1d Venetian Red shown on the left in Figure 1 (Scott 79) and preceded the first 1d scarlet Edward VII stamp (Scott 128) shown on the right.

The Penny Lilac was the first 1d stamp without corner letters and was the final 1d stamp issued during the reign of Queen Victoria. An estimated 34 billion stamps of this design were printed.

There are two different versions of the stamp, die I and die II.

Die I (Scott 88), shown on the left in Figure 2, was in use for only a few

months. It has 14 dots, or pearls, in each corner angle. Die II (89), pictured on the right in Figure 2, has 16 dots in each angle.

Why the second die was modified has never been satisfactorily explained.

To determine whether a stamp is from die I or die II, collectors do not need to go through the tedious task of counting the individual dots.

A glance at the "O" in "One Penny" shows the "O" of the 14-dot version to be squat, a little depressed at the top and bottom. On the 16-dot version, the "O" is more round.

Vol. 1 of the Stanley Gibbons *Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue*

describes the difference: "In die I...the 'O' of 'One' is a horizontal oblong and in die II it is a vertical oblong."

Because this stamp is common and drab in color
Please turn to page 20



Figure 1. The Penny Lilac (middle) of 1881 replaced the Venetian Red (left) and preceded the Edward VII 1d scarlet of 1902 (right).



Figure 2. Die I (left) of the Penny Lilac has 14 dots or pearls in the corner angles and a squat "O" in "One." Die II (right) has 16 dots in each angle and a rounder "O."



Figure 3. The Penny Lilac was the first British issue to have control letters in the sheet margin.

Continued from page 18
and design, it is often ignored by collectors. However, several features can make this common stamp

interesting to collect.

This was the first British stamp to have control letters in the sheet margins. An example is shown in Figure 3. The control letters indicated specific accounting periods of the printer, De La Rue, and allow collectors to establish the year of printing.

Control letters first began to appear in 1884, and they were changed about every six months. Letters A through X exist.

Some collectors enjoy acquiring stamps with margins showing the control letters still attached.

British philatelist Ron A. G. Lee wrote the basic research books for this issue in two volumes: *The Penny Lilacs: Part 1* in 1963 and part two in 1990.

Lee estimated that, over the course of 30 years, he examined 3.5 million examples of this stamp. He identified and illustrated 1,250 major flaws that exist on printings from 67 plates.

Another way for collectors to make collecting Penny Lilacs interesting is to find fiscal uses.

Stamps to receipt the collection of small taxes and fees, and stamps to pay postage, had been two separate series until 1881. The Penny Lilac was the first stamp issued to serve both postage and fiscal purposes.

Note the words "POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE" around the top of the oval frame of the queen's profile.

The two uses can be distinguished by collectors. Stamps used to pay minor taxes and duties were usually canceled in manuscript with pen and ink, as shown



Figure 5. Penny Lilac stamps can be found overprinted: an inland revenue Official is shown on the left, a commercial security overprint for a gas company in the middle, and a British territorial issue of Bechuanaland on the right.

on the top in Figure 4. Stamps that paid postage usually bear post office applied cancellations, as pictured on the bottom.

The Penny Lilac also was overprinted. Figure 5 illus-

trates three types of overprints: Official overprints, such as the Inland Revenue stamp (Scott O4) on the left; commercial security overprints, represented by the gas company example in the middle; and British protectorate overprints, including Bechuanaland (Scott 33), on the right.

Collectors of postal history seek out examples of how the Penny Lilac was used by patrons to mail items. Figure 6 shows a triple-rated cover totaling 7½d mailed from Newcastle-on-Tyne to Olean, N.Y., on Feb. 6, 1890, paying the rate for an item weighing one and a half ounces.

At 34 billion printed, the Penny Lilac should not be ignored by collectors. ■



Figure 4. Manuscript cancellations by pen in ink (top) are examples of Penny Lilac stamps used to receipt fiscal tax payments, while machine cancellations (bottom) indicate payment for postage.

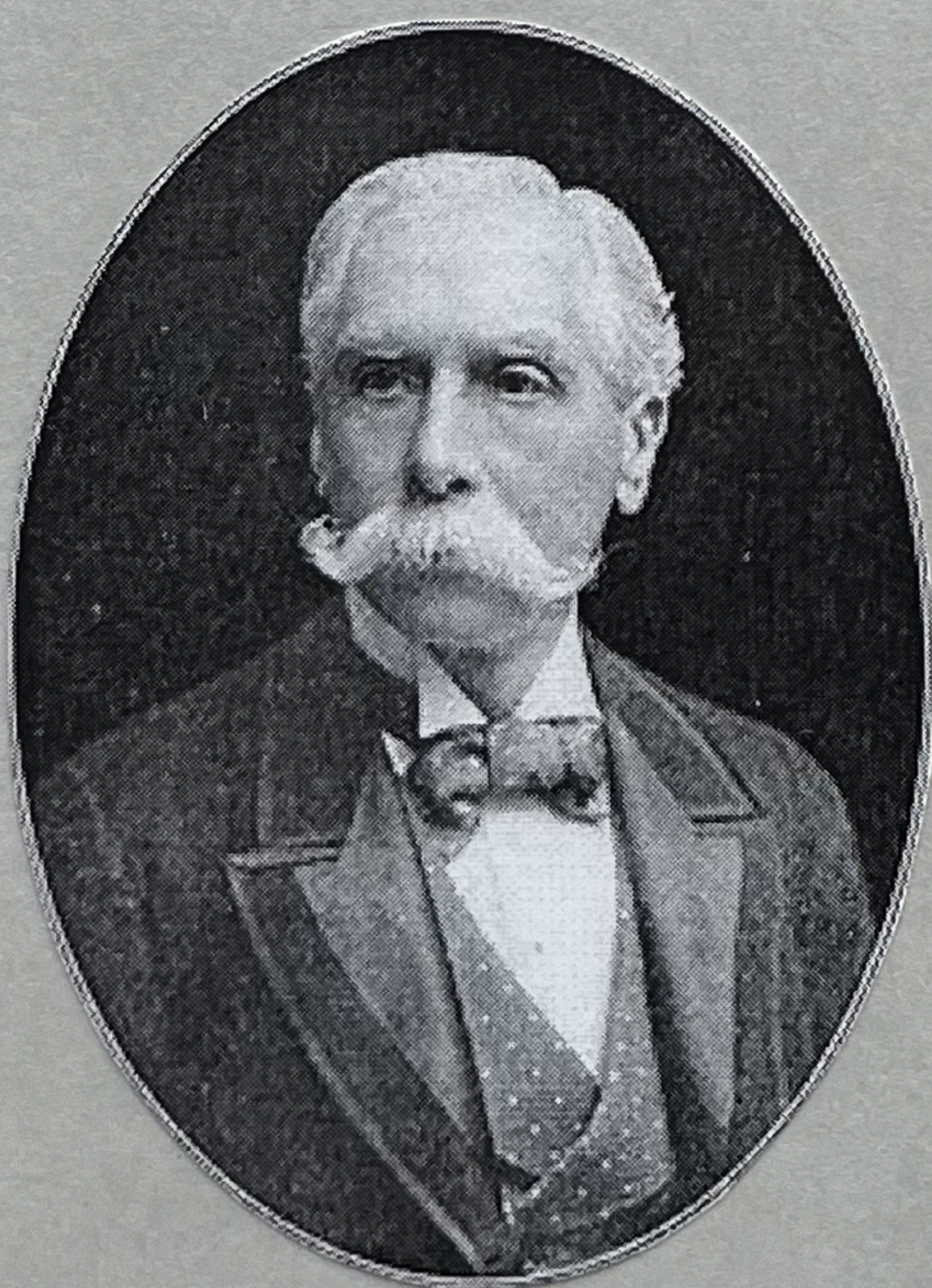


Figure 6. This trans-Atlantic triple-rate cover to New York from 1890 bears seven Penny Lilac stamps.

One Penny Domestic Letter Rate



Cover from the American ambassador to **Alfred Austin**, posted "South Kensington S.W. 1:30 PM FE 2 95" with "Ashford Station Office F*P FE 2 95" receiver backstamp. Austin (30 May 1835-2 June 1913) was appointed Poet Laureate in 1896, a post that had been vacant since the death, in 1892, of Alfred, Lord Tennyson.



A Poem – To England

Now upon English soil I soon shall stand,
Homeward from climes that fancy deems more fair;
And well I know that there will greet me there
No soft foam fawning upon smiling strand,
No scent of orange-groves, no zephyrs bland;
But Amazonian March, with breast half bare
And sleety arrows whistling through the air,
Will be my welcome from that burly land.
Yet he who boasts his birth-place yonder lies
Owns in his heart a mood akin to scorn
For sensuous slopes that bask 'neath Southern skies,
Teeming with wine and prodigal of corn,
And, gazing through the mist with misty eyes,
Blesses the brave bleak land where he was born.

Inland (Domestic) Rate



A One Penny Lilac pays the inland rate on this registered cover to Bournemouth, posted 25 September 1897. Earlier, on 22 June, the rate of one penny was established for letters weighing up to four ounces.

International Surface Rate



A pair of One Penny lilacs and a half penny vermillion make up the 2 ½ d UPU rate for a letter weighing ½ ounce or less, sent from London on 10 April 1897. Boxed "Ship Sailed Prior to Receipt." Subsequently, letter was forwarded to Bournemouth. "Bournemouth 3:45am 26 AP 97" back stamp.

International Surface Rate to Italy

1d Late Fee

Consulate General of Switzerland.
LONDON.



Monsieur V. Cérésolo
consul Suisse



Venise.

Italy

Cover from the Consulate General of Switzerland, London, posted May 24 1887 to the Swiss consul in Venice, Italy, sent at the 2 ½ d international surface rate, with a **one penny lilac** paying the 1d late fee (Whitney type 7/7 duplex with hexagonal datestamp). Backstamped Milan travelling post office, No. 1. on 26 May and "Venezia 26/5 87 SS" arrival cancel.

UPU International Surface Rate

Three One Penny lilacs overpay the 2 ½ d UPU international surface rate on this cover to Germany in 1894.



GREAT BRITAIN

Post Card Rate to Germany



The One Penny Lilac paid the post card rate on this card of Rochester Cathedral to Germany in 1902. From 1 July 1875 to 12 June 1921, the post card rate from Great Britain to anywhere in the world was one penny.

1d post card rate to New York

POST CARD - GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



Miss Louise Hawthorn
256 East Avenue
Rochester

U.S.A.

New York



Cover posted in Bath, December 19, 1897 at the 7 ½ d rate
for a letter weighing 1.5 ounces, to Austria, with December 21
receiver cancel on reverse.

14 2878

18/3/01

ONE YEAR EARLY

POST CARD.

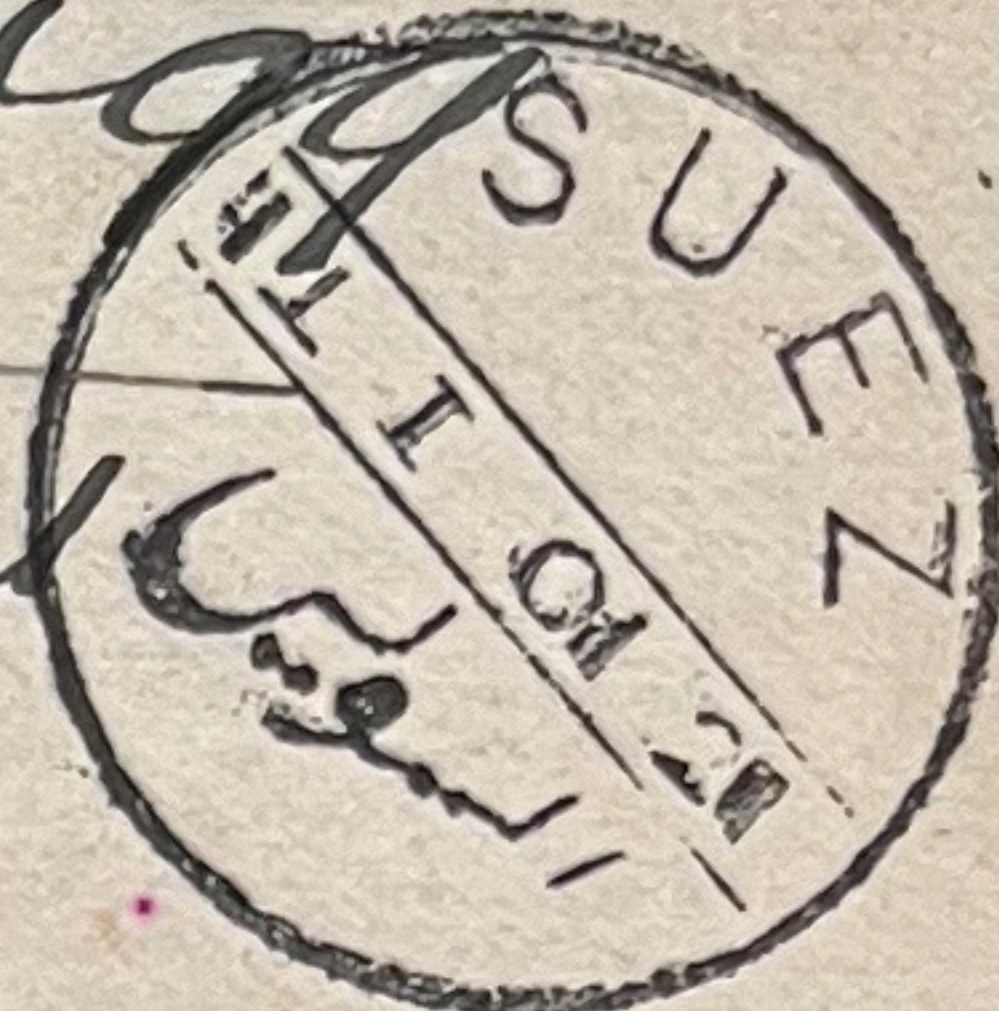
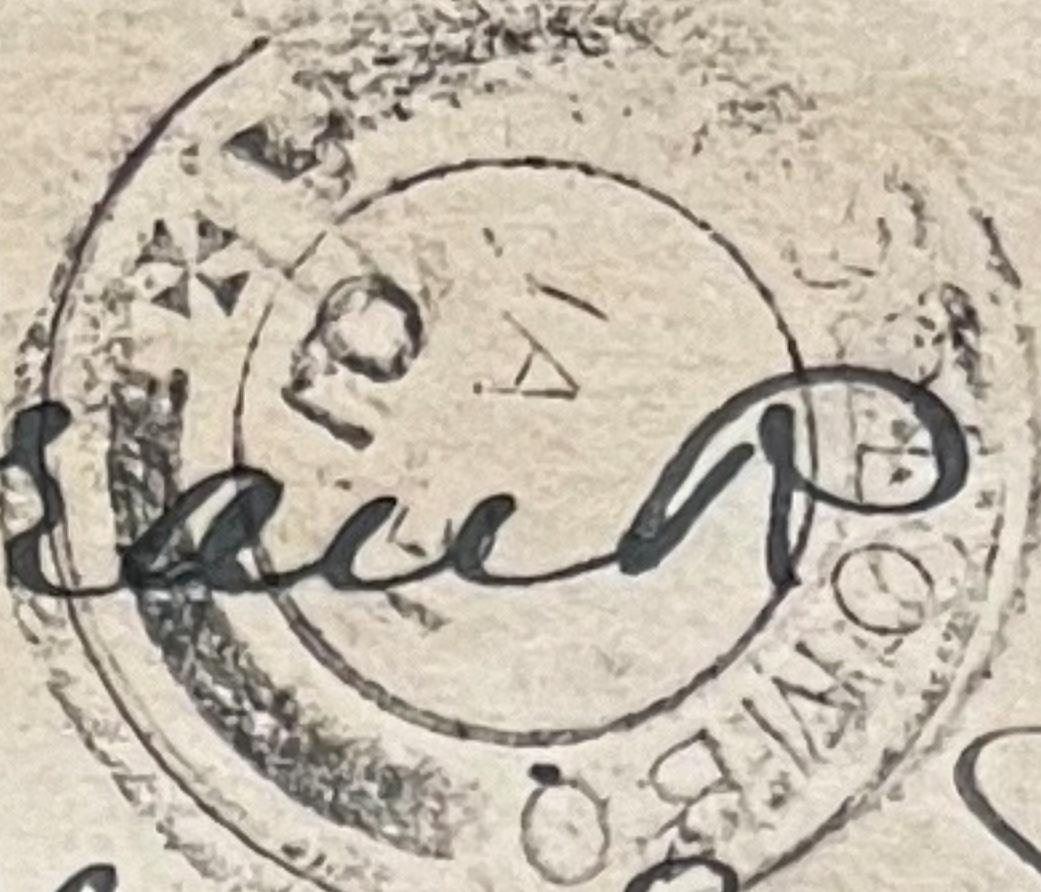
THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

PAQUE BOT



31.4.01

Miss Frank & Lucy
P.O. Collins Street
Melbourne
Victoria
Australia



GREAT BRITAIN

Post card rate to Crete



A one penny lilac paid the international surface rate for a post card from Ayr, Scotland to Xania, Crete in December 1901. The picture side is "Rough Sea," Raphael Tuck & Sons' post card No. 1506, a scene at the Giant's Causeway.

Penny Lilac Overprinted "British Bechuanaland"



A one penny lilac overprinted for use in British Bechuanaland uprates this postal card to pay the 2 ½ d postcard rate to a foreign country. Posted at Ramoutsa to Nymphenburg, Bavaria in 1896 to the well-known German stamp dealer Otto Bickel.

GREAT BRITAIN

Postage Due

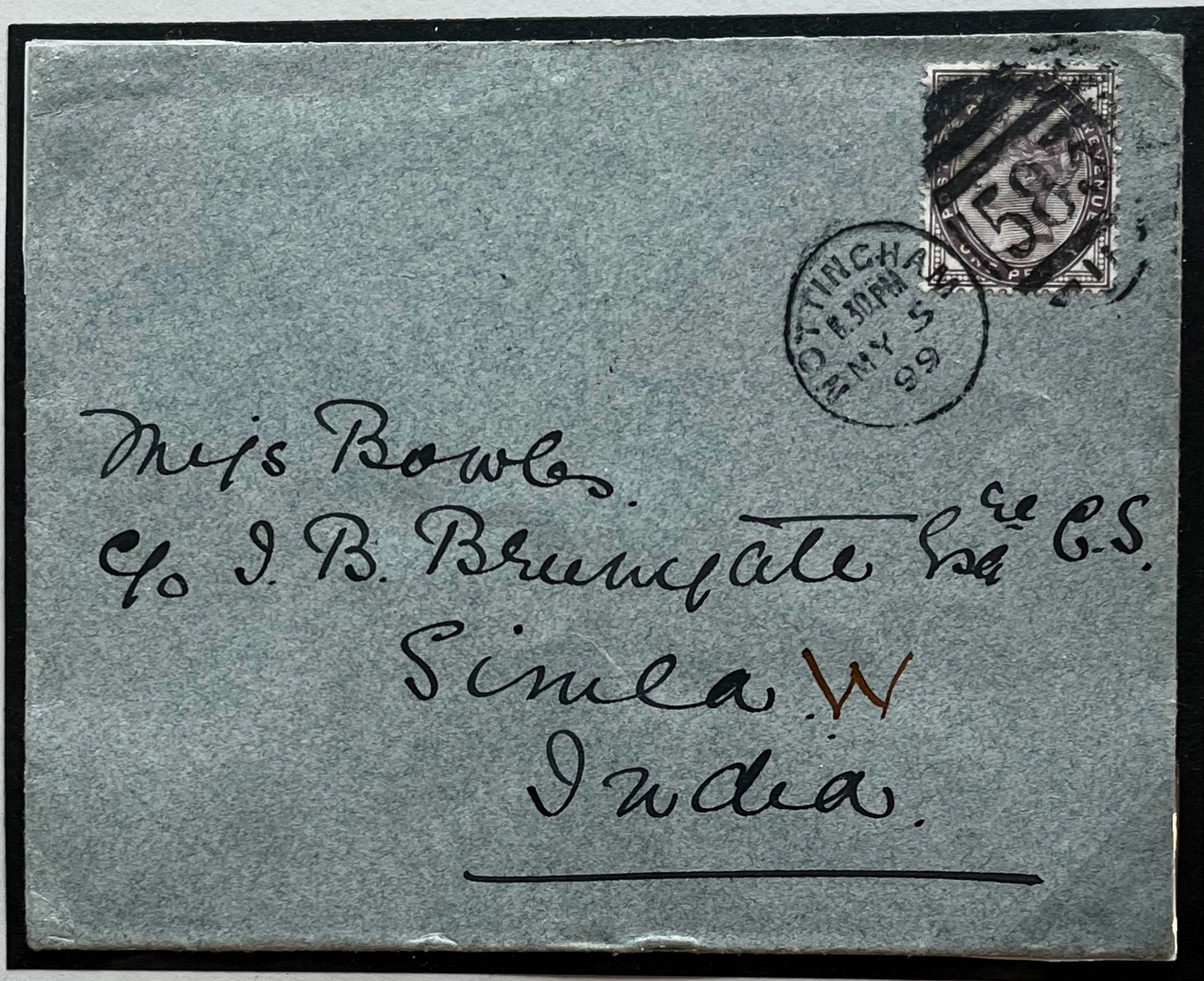


The half-penny post card rate was made up with a bisected one penny lilac, a practice that was disallowed by the post office. The result was one penny postage due, or double the deficiency, as indicated by the standard charge mark "1d 938" applied in Croydon.

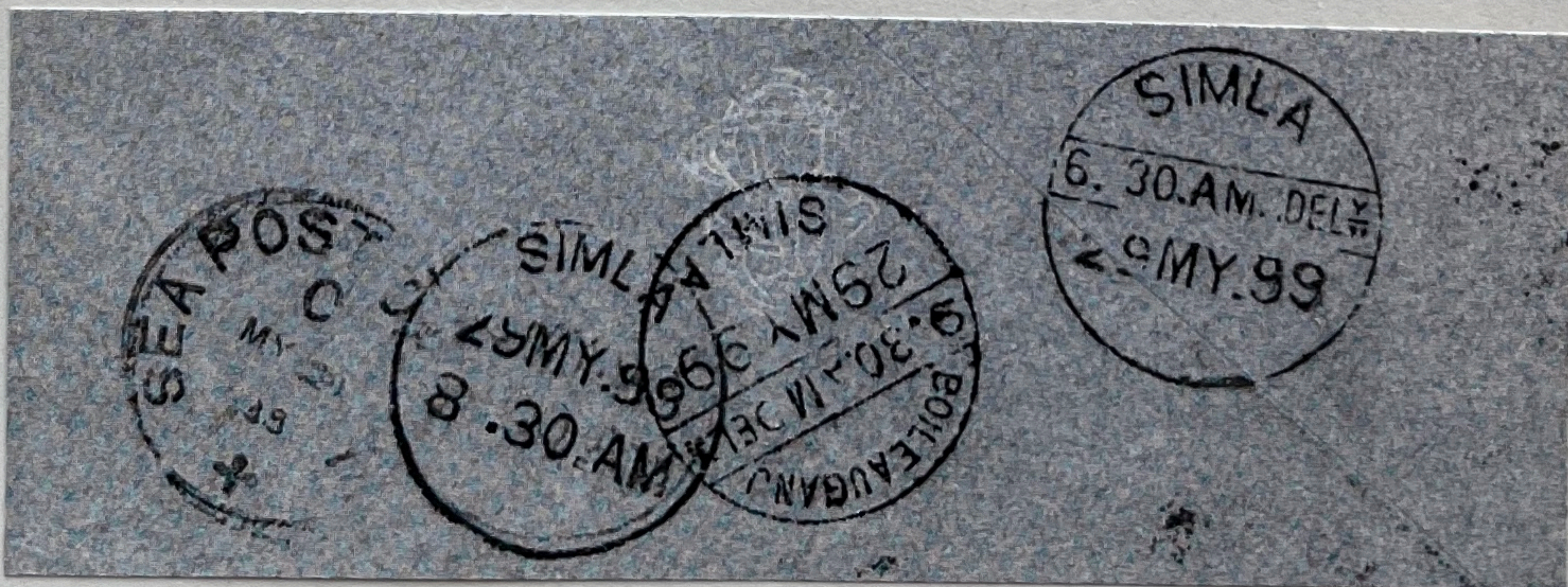
Jim Lays
E Colorado
er, CO 8022

GREAT BRITAIN

International Surface rate

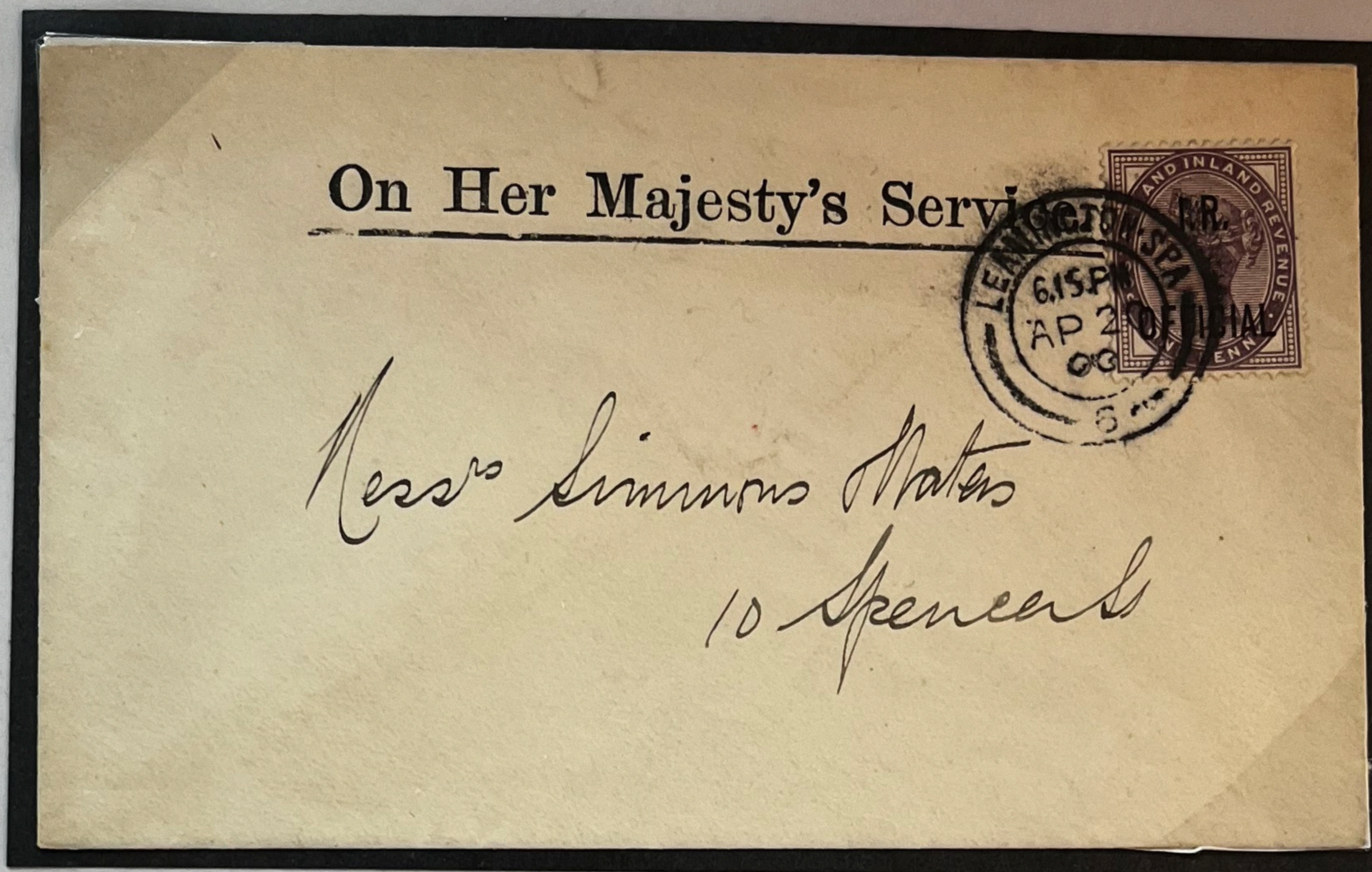


Cover mailed to India at the *Imperial Penny Post* rate of 1d per ½ ounce, which was introduced on 25 December 1898 to members of the British Empire. The cover was 24 days in transit.



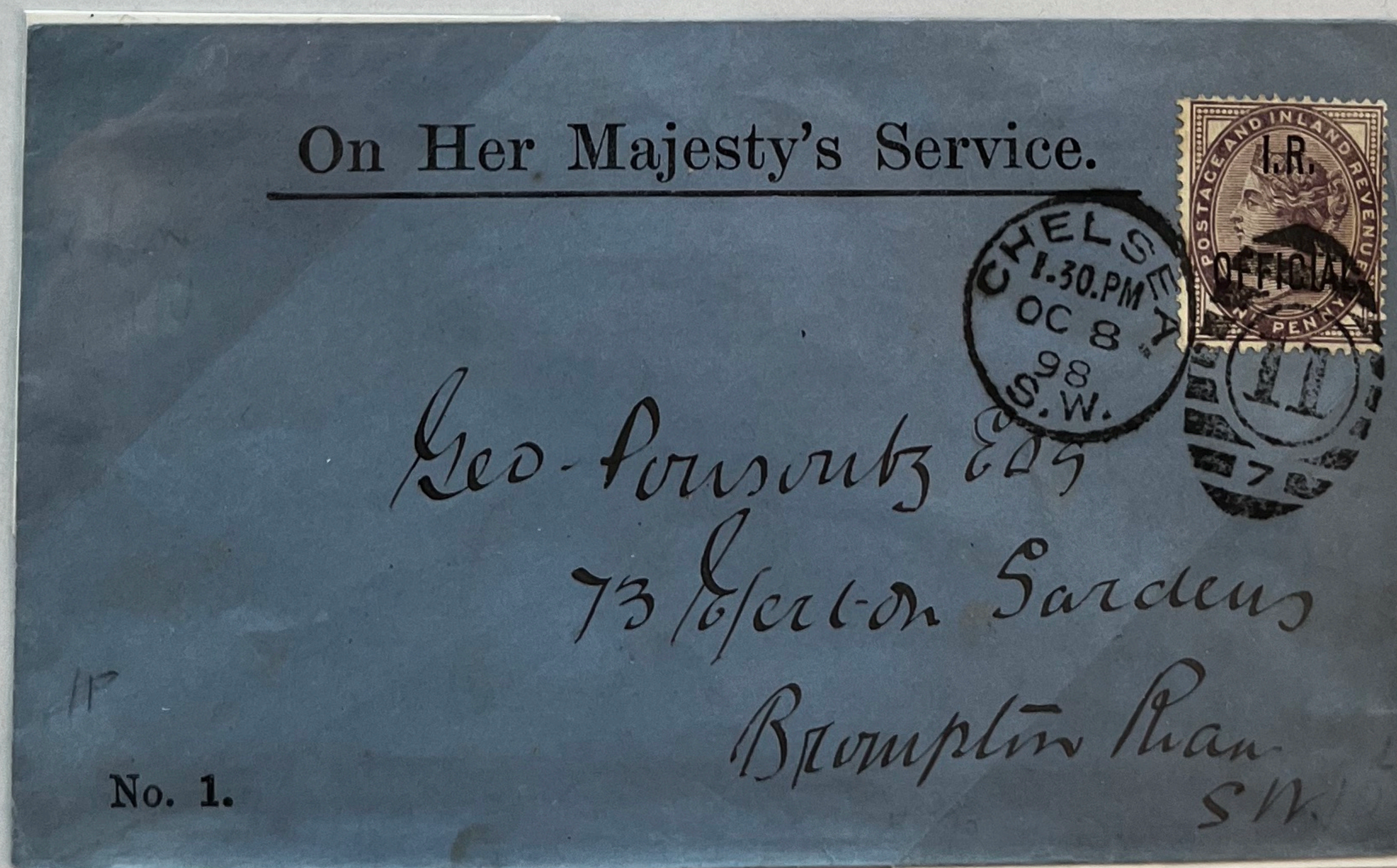
Backstamps

Penny Lilac Overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL"



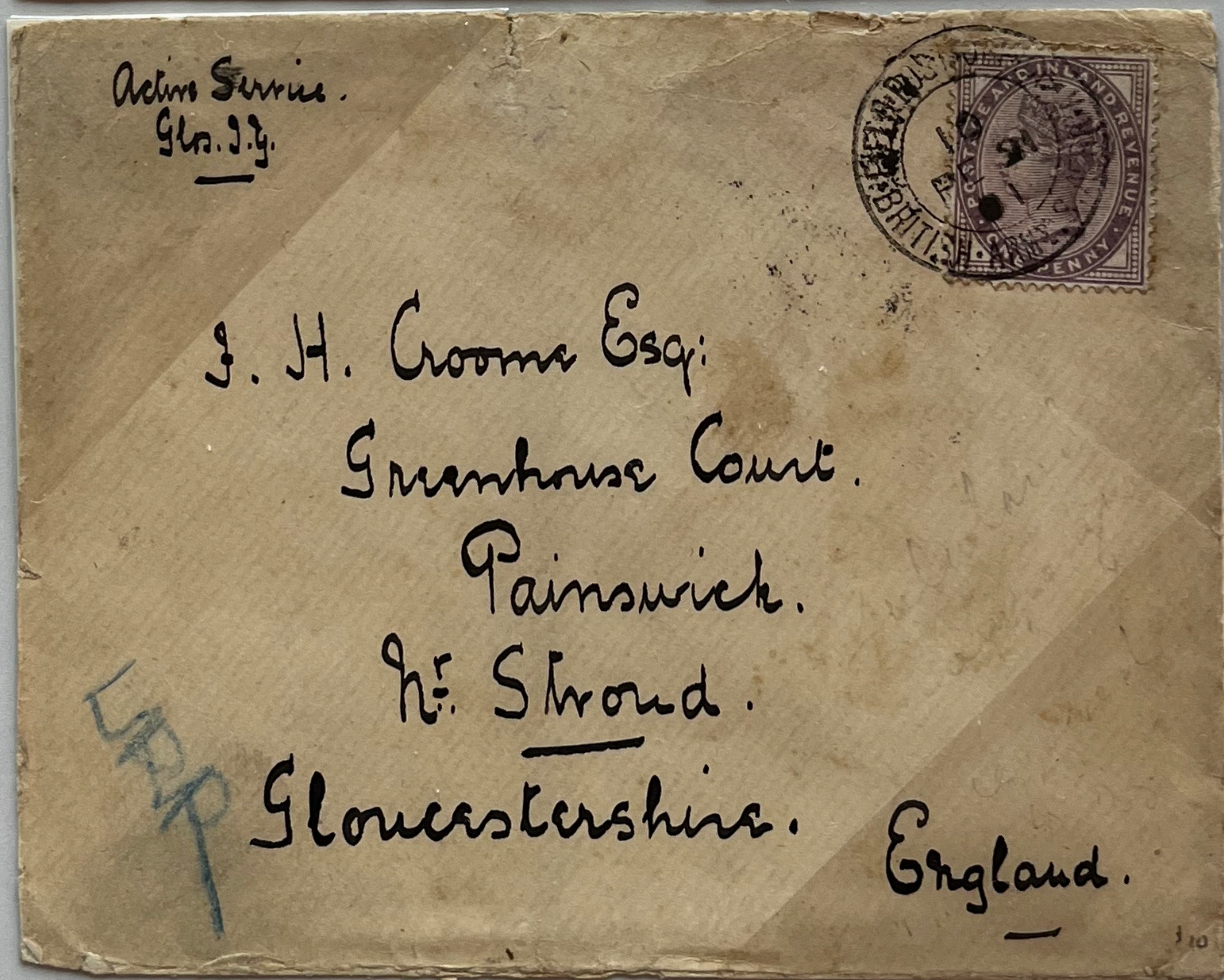
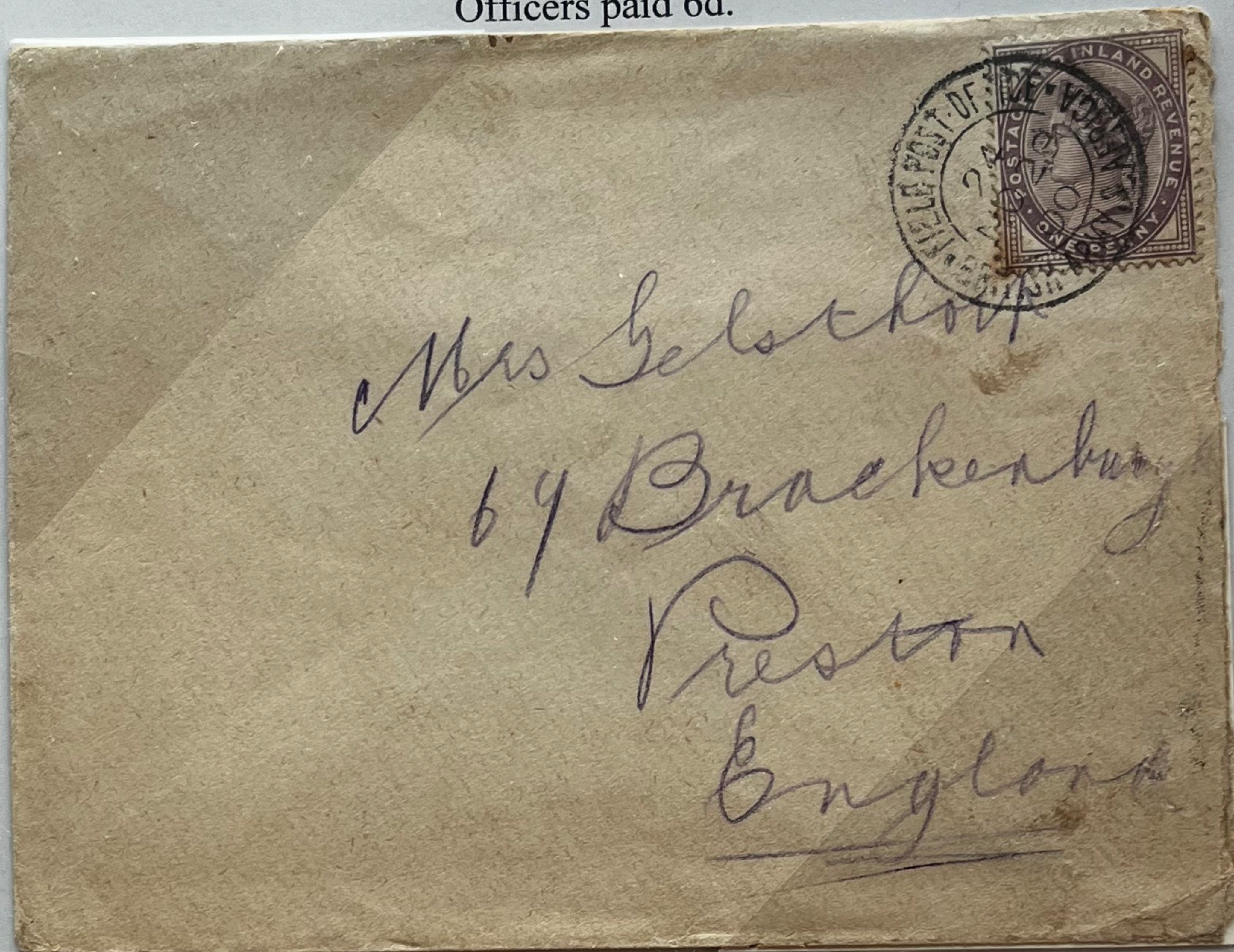
A Post Office Circular dated 26th September 1882 stated that, "The Postmaster-General has approved of the use, on and after 1st October next, of stamps overprinted I.R.Official, for denoting the Postage and Registration Fees on letters transmitted by certain officials at Inland Revenue, stationed outside the metropolis..."

Official stamps, more correctly termed Departmental stamps, were withdrawn from use on 12th May 1904.



ANGLO-BOER WAR - 1d SOLDIER'S RATE

The 1d lilac paid the soldiers' concessionary rate.
Officers paid 6d.



"Field Post Office British Army S.Africa 10 FE 21 01"
Backstamped "Stroud-Glos 12:15AM MR 17 01"

Revenue usage of the One Penny Lilac

O V Dempster LONDON, W.C. Apr. 26 1894
 BO. OF THE WEST END CLOTHIERS COMPANY, LIMITED.
 242, Oxford Street,
 PRINCES STREET, OXFORD CIRCUS.
 WEST END BRANCHES:
 80 & 81, STRAND
 AND
 4, OXFORD STREET,
 CORNER OF TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.
 CITY BRANCHES:
 65, 66 & 67, GRACECHURCH STREET,
 CORNER OF FENCHURCH STREET.
 AND 37, LUDGATE HILL.
 BANKERS LONDON & SOUTH WESTERN BANK, LTD.
 TERMS NET CASH.
 3806
 Paid to order
 May 5 1894
 The W. E. C. Co.
 3 8 10 18

The Stamp Act of 1853 required a tax of one penny to be collected on each receipt of two pounds or more. The Customs and Inland Revenue Act of 1881 provided that from 1 June any stamp duty of one penny could be paid by the use of an adhesive postage stamp.

Jim Lays
E Colorado
er, CO 802

Edinburgh 21st April 1884. - Received from J. L. L. N. Lonsdale Esq.
Curator Nomis to Miss Isabella Law the sum of Two hundred
and two pounds 17/6 which sum has been or is to be expended
by me in meeting the sickbed & funeral expenses of the late Miss
Elizabeth Law & also the cost of maintenance of Miss Isabella
Law and household & funeral expenses, the said sum consisting of:-
1. Deposit Receipt with Royal Bank of Scotland — £ 150 . . .
2. Balance in account current with said Bank — 49 . 16 . 6
£ 199 . 16 . 6

3. Interest accrued on above Deposit Receipt to 20th March
1884 when same repaid by me. — 3 . 1 .
Divisible thus (per account) As before. £ 202 . 17 . 6

- 1. Sickbed & funeral expenses £ 99 . 18 . 3
 - 2. Household expenses & maintenance 99 . 18 . 3
 - 3. Further for same purpose 3 . 1 .
- £ 202 . 17 . 6

M

Susan M. Riddell



Miss Laws Curry

53 GEORGE STREET,
EDINBURGH, 19th February 1885

Bought by Order, and for Account of Messrs. Myles & Campbell
£350 Rent Charge Stock Great Western Railway Co @ 137 1/8 £ 481 . 13 . 9
Commission 1/2% 2 . 8 . 3
Stamp 50/- Registration Fee 2/6 2 . 12 . 6
£ 486 . 14 . 6

For Settlement 26th current

John B. Mackenzie



Subject to the Rules of the Edinburgh Stock Exchange.

Ward

GREAT BRITAIN

Revenue usage of the One Penny Lilac

QUADRANT HOUSE: 58, REGENT STREET, London

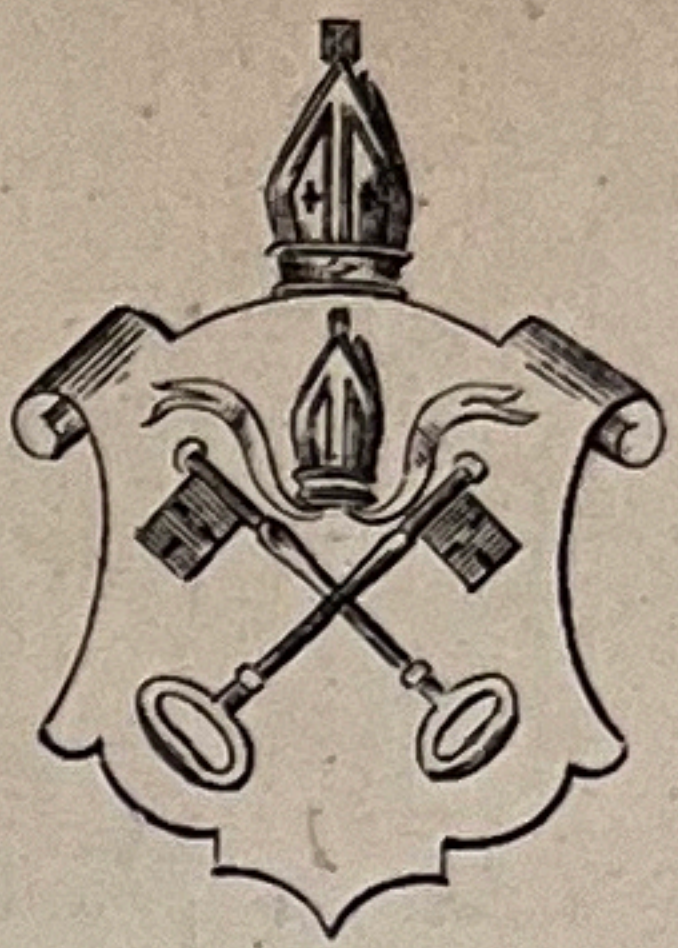
C. H. Hawley Esq *July 11th 1893.*



RIDING HABITS.



COURT LIVERIES.



GENTLEMENS
HUNTING COSTUMES

Telegraphic Address:-
"TAILLEUR, LONDON."

To J. PHILLIPS & SON,
Court Naval & Military Tailors,
CHEQUES CROSSED. CITY BANK. BOND ST. W.

TERMS - STRICT CASH - NO DISCOUNT.

*Grey Cashmere Morning
Coat. Vest & Trousers.*

Recd
Wm. Phillips Esq
Sept 11th 1893



3. 15. 0
1. 0. 0
£ 2. 15. 0

Invoice for coat, vest, and trousers totaling
two pounds fifteen shillings.

Lays
olorad
O 80

CASTLE GATE,

NEWARK-ON-TRENT,

The Executors of the Late

June 30th 1890

M^{rs} 276 Beth

Chemist, Melton Mowbray

D^r to Quibell Brothers.

Folio 513

1890

Jan^{ry}

1 Account-rendered

3 13 6

Aug 14th /89. Returned Case 2-9.

"

to 3-10-9.

No. 4000

QUIBELL BROTHERS REQUEST THEIR CUSTOMERS TO
ACCEPT NO RECEIPT UNLESS GIVEN ON ONE OF
THESE PRINTED FORMS.

18 Aug 1890

RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF

QUIBELL BROTHERS

THE SUM OF £



not will

Quibell Brothers, Agricultural Merchants, receipt in the amount of 3 pounds
10 shillings 9 pence received from a chemist in Melton Mowbray.

Machinery Stores, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, SWINEGATE,

LEEDS, August 3rd 1893

M. E. Hawley

Dr. to James Wood,

(LATE AMOS WOOD.)
ENGINEERS TOOL & GENERAL MACHINERY DEALER.

New and Second-Hand Lathes Drilling, Slotting Shaping, and Planing
Machines. Engines, Boilers, Wrought and Cast Pulleys, Shafting, Pedestals, Hangers, Belting, &c.

TERMS STRICTLY NETT CASH.

one new shaft 7' 6" x 2"	0. 11. 3
one pulley 22 x 6 x 2	0. 11. 9
three loose Colars with Set Screws	0. 3. 6
two pedestals for Shaft 2" Dia	0. 10. 6
Two new 10 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2	1. 14. 0
settled same time	1. 2. 0
l.g. for James Wood	
as	2. 19. 0
with thanks	
	0. 1. 6
	2. 2. 17. 6



BOUGHT OF

THORNTON & COMPY.,

PATENTEES AND MANUFACTURERS OF
Waterproof and India Rubber Goods.

THE REGISTERED

Gold Medal Waterproofs for Ladies.
Gold Medal Waterproofs for Gentlemen.

78 PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH.

WAREHOUSES—

EDINBURGH, LEEDS, BRADFORD, GLASGOW & BELFAST

SOLD BY

EXAMINED BY

DATE

Clout

45/-



36

20, Eldon Villas,
WOODHOUSE LANE, LEEDS

Aug. 24th 1893.

Mr Hawley. St. Mark's Cottage.

Dr to M & E. Moncaster.

Dress and Mantle Makers.

5 PER CENT. INTEREST CHARGED ON ALL ACCOUNTS NOT PAID WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER DELIVERY.

1 Blue Dy. Silk Blouse	1. 15. 0
2 Allening, Quip, Silk & Navy Den	1. 10. 8

1 Tweed Dress kind Velvet & Silk with extra Material & Velvet.	5. 4. 2
---	---------

Silk & lining Coat	4. 6
--------------------	------

Allening Sarge Skirt.	6
-----------------------	---

£ 8. 14. 10

Sell
1 Apr 24 '93



Moncaster

to M & E Moncaster. \$42.44

£ 8. 16. 10

2. 0

Telegram Address: MACASSARINE, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1793.

Telephone No 35006.

All communications should be addressed to Greek Street, Soho Square

Folio

179

8534

Breidenbach & Co. Manufacturing Perfumers.

(HEAD OFFICE.)

Greek St., Soho Square, W.

London, Sept. 4. 1896

M^r J. Williamson

TO BREIDENBACH & CO

Cheques should be crossed "BANK OF ENGLAND".



Dec. 13
Jan. 10

To Goods

1 19 9
9 5

2.9.2

Strictly Nett.



With Compliments our printed receipts only can be recognized

"B & Co" Perfin Breidenbach & Co.

Francis Henry Breidenbach married Emily Ann Page, a Court Perfumer's daughter, and took over the family business, which had been established in 1793 during the reign of King George III. He changed the name from Page to Breidenbach in 1836.



Wood Violet
registered as
trademark on
12 January 1876.



Jim Lay
1 E Colorado
Ave, CO 80101

A 50-cent postage stamp from the 'FIMBLED ORE' series. The stamp is rectangular with a decorative border. At the top, the word 'STAMP' is printed. In the center, there is a large illustration of a person, possibly a Native American, standing and holding a staff. To the left of the illustration, the words 'FIMBLED ORE' are printed vertically. To the right, the word 'ORE' is printed vertically. A large '50' in a circle is positioned at the bottom center. The entire stamp is framed by a decorative border with the word 'STAMP' repeated on the sides.

Al

10

not

Twenty

Value in Ru

2012

630

No. 295

1860

892

For

91.8

of Exchange

100

James M. Jones M.D.

Quantities for change as advised.

1863

10



H33.
Constance,

Marchioness of Lichfield
Clicking Hall
Wiltshire



To Barclay & Son,

TO HER MAJESTY

AND
H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES,

Manufacturers of Wax, Tallow & other Candles & Oil Merchants,

ELECTRIC LIGHT ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS,

MAKERS OF DUPLEX EXTENSION, SUSPENSION IRON & COPPER TABLE LAMPS,
TO BURN A I KEROSENE OIL.

65. South Audley Street. London.

BANKERS. BARCLAY, BEVAN, TRITTON, RANSOM, BOUVERIE & CO.

<i>1897.</i>				
<i>May 8.</i>	<i>36th Transp. Wax Candles</i>	<i>S 3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>18</i>
	<i>18 " " " "</i>	<i>S 12</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>19</i>
	<i>Box</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Sept. 10.</i>	<i>36th Composite</i>	<i>S 4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>14</i>
	<i>Box</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>26</i>
			<i>7</i>	<i>10:6</i>
<i>May 18.</i>	<i>Credit</i>		<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>
	<i>By Box returned</i>			



Barclay & Son
London
May 18 1897

Checkprint on illustrated Rollhead

Proceeds credited to J. Warner's Exors
14 May 1898.

No 2, Royal Exchange Buildings,
London, May 13 1898
E.C.

RECEIVED
16 MAY. 98

Sold for J. Warner Esq & E.B. Pomeroy Esq.

Norwich Bank

per order of Messrs Barclay & Company Limited

£104. 3. 8 Concols 2³/₄ per cent

@ 110⁵/₈ per cent

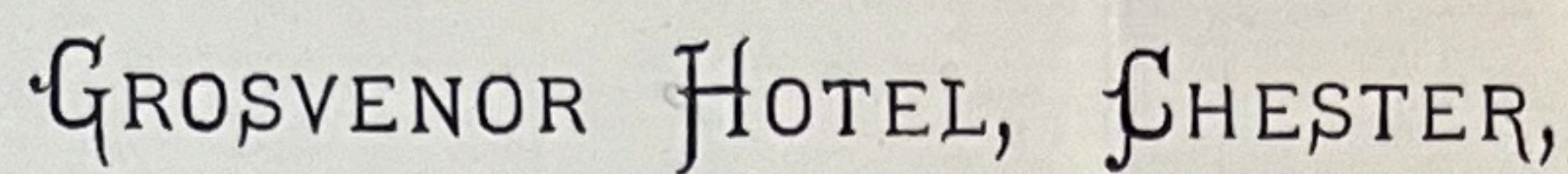
Commission & Stamp

£

£	s	d
15	13	10
	1	
15	12	10



Ellis to

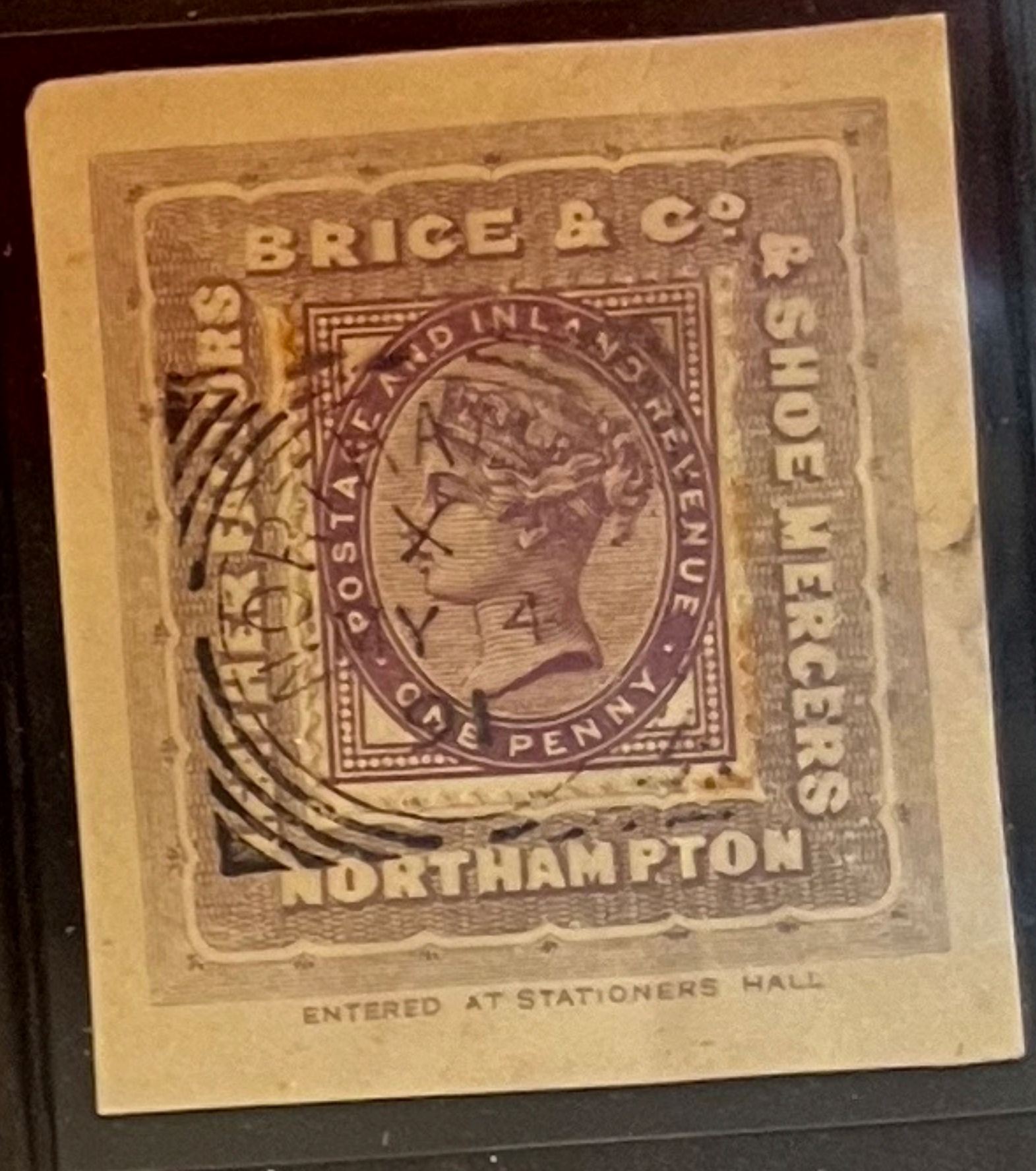


June 18 88.

Visitors not having Apartments in the Hotel will be charged 6d. attendance each meal. A charge of 1/6 per day will be made to each Visitor for attendance. The Proprietors will not be responsible for any property left in the Hotel, unless given in charge of the Manager. Visitors may lock up their Rooms, leaving the key at the Office. Visitors are requested not to pay any money without a bill. *To prevent mistakes, Visitors are requested to settle their Accounts weekly.*

Apartments No. 34 & 35		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward					2	36				
Apartments		7								
Attendance		3								
Baths										
Messenger										
Fires and Lights										
Breakfasts										
Luncheons, &c.										
Dinners										
Dessert and Ices										
Biscuits and Sandwiches										
Teas and Coffee										
Soups										
Suppers										
Arrowroot and Gruel										
Servants' Board										
Sherry										
Champagne										
Claret										
Port										
Moselle										
Hock										
Burgundy										
Madeira										
Chablis and Sauterne										
Negus										
Carragee										
Brandy										
Whiskey										
Gin and Hollands										
Rum										
Liqueurs										
Ale, Stout, &c.										
Aërated Waters										
Cigars										

Jim L
E Colo
er, CO



23.6.290

Sundries...
Stationery...
Newspapers...
Paid out...
Postage...
Washing Bill...
Stabling, as per Bill...
Carried forward



Die I
12 July 1881
SG Spec K7s



Die II
12 December 1881
SG Spec K8t



Laid paper variety
SG Spec. K8b



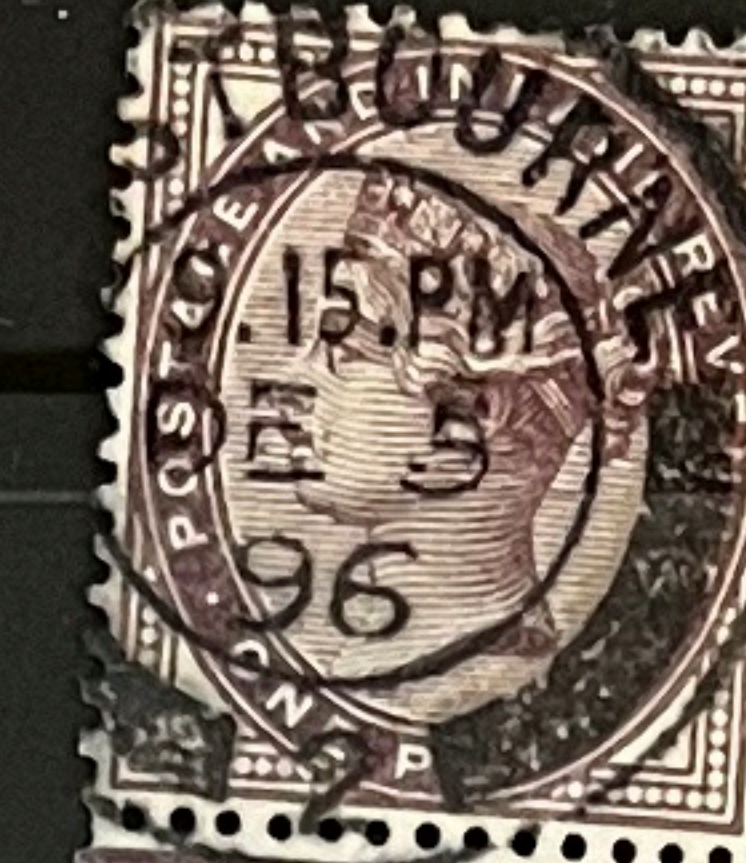
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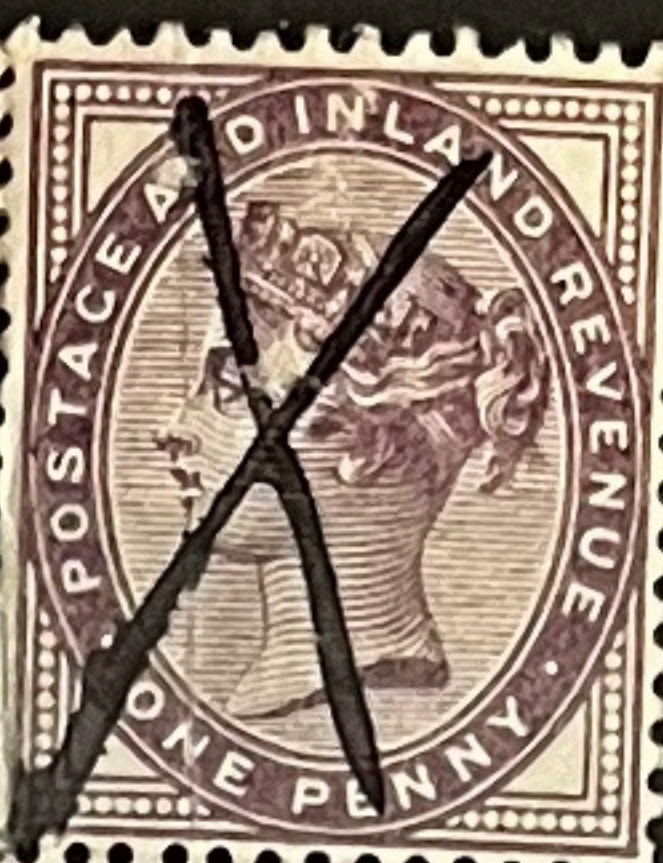
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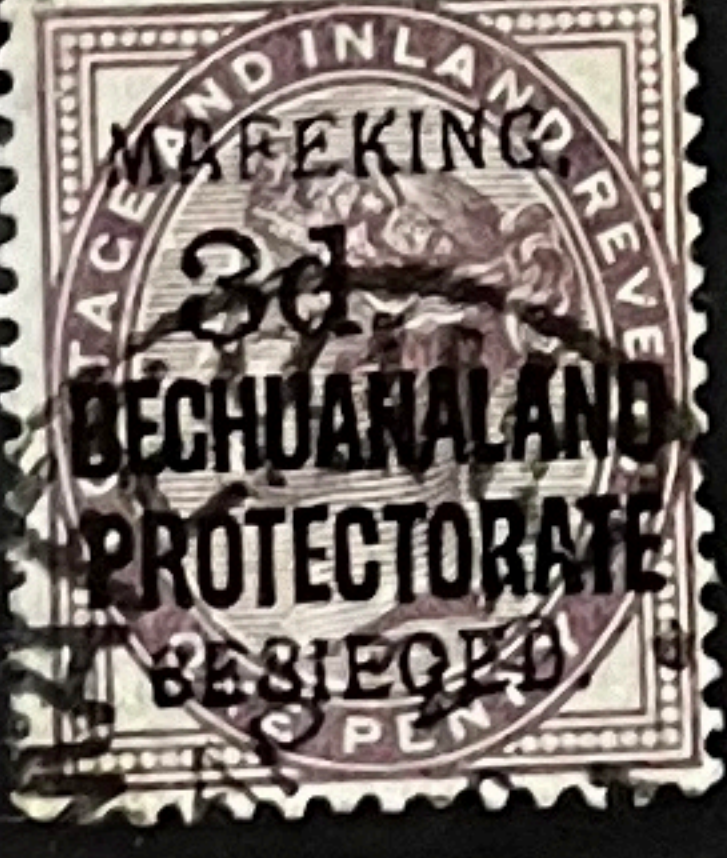
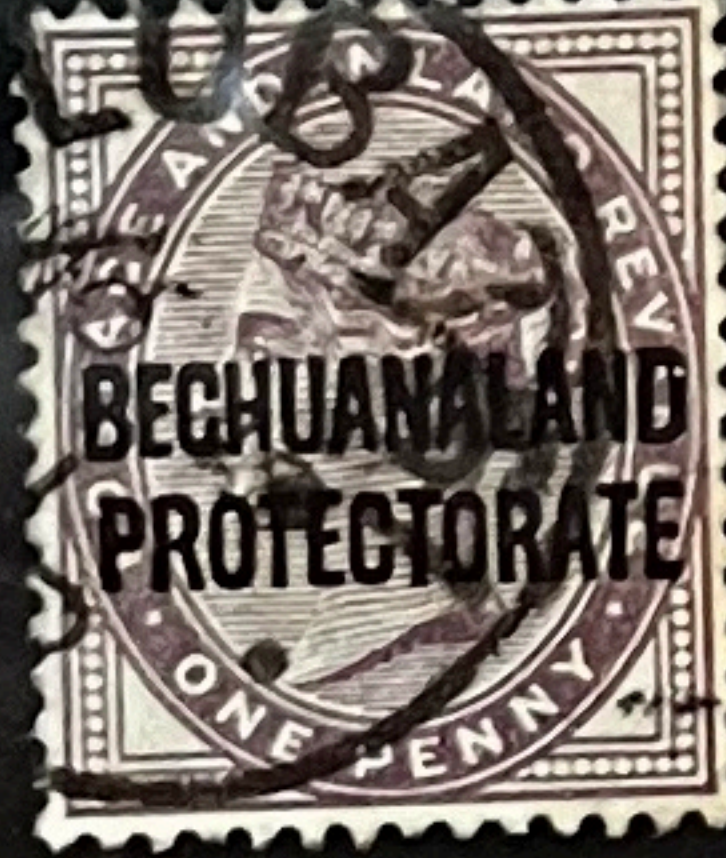
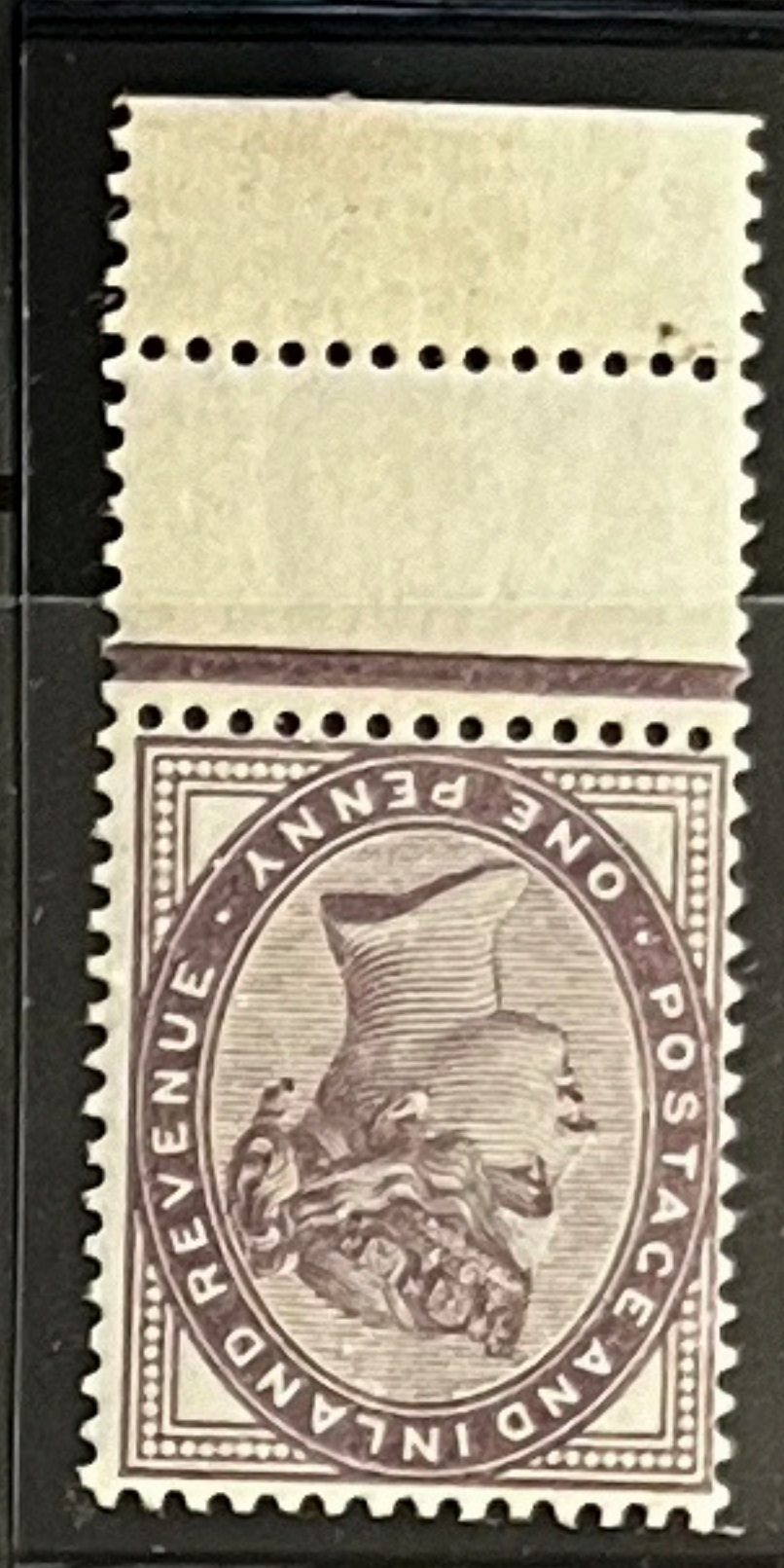


W

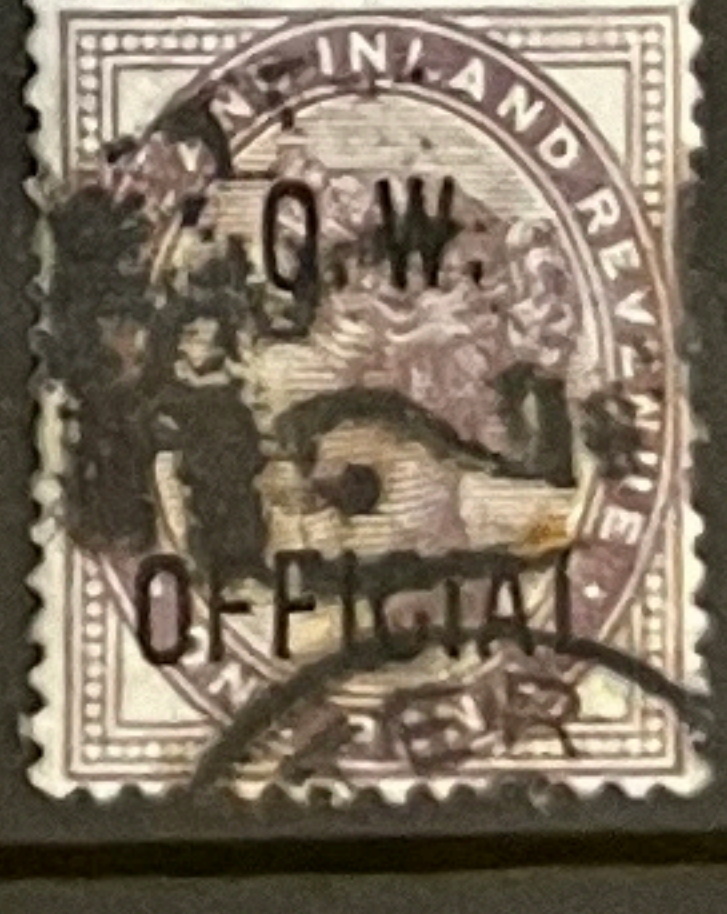
No
watermark



watermark
inverted



Forged
overprint



Gibbons Specialized lists
four shades:

Lilac
Bluish lilac
Deep purple
Mauve





Digby Colliery Co,
Nottingham



Guardian
Assurance Co., Ltd.



I J & G Cooper, Ltd.
Manchester



Osborn & Mercer,
London W1



Silber & Fleming,
London



Fore Street
Warehouse, London



Fore Street
Warehouse,
London



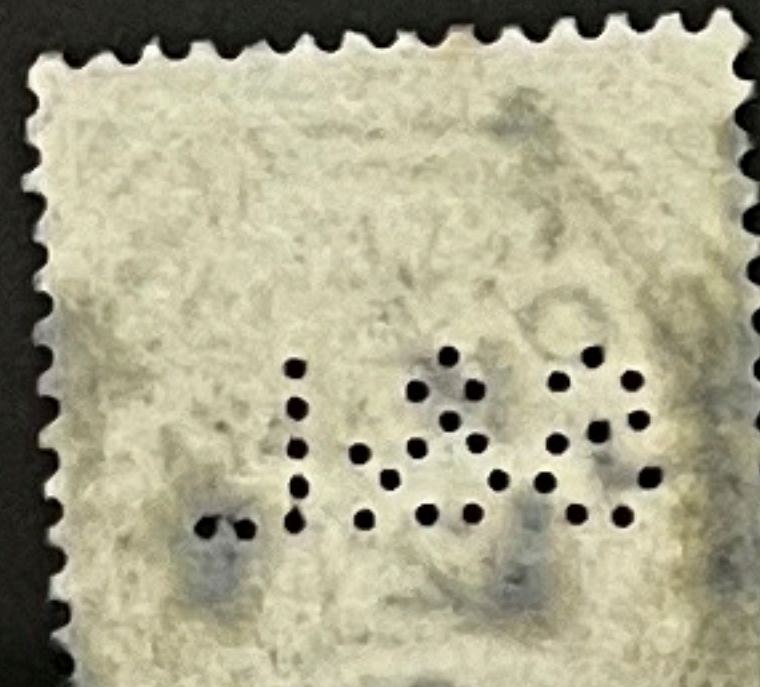
Spencer Turner & Boldero Ltd.
Lisson Grove
London NW



Stubbs Ltd.
Merchantile Offices
Birmingham



Arthur H. Godfrey
& Co., London EC3



James Shoolbread
& Co, London



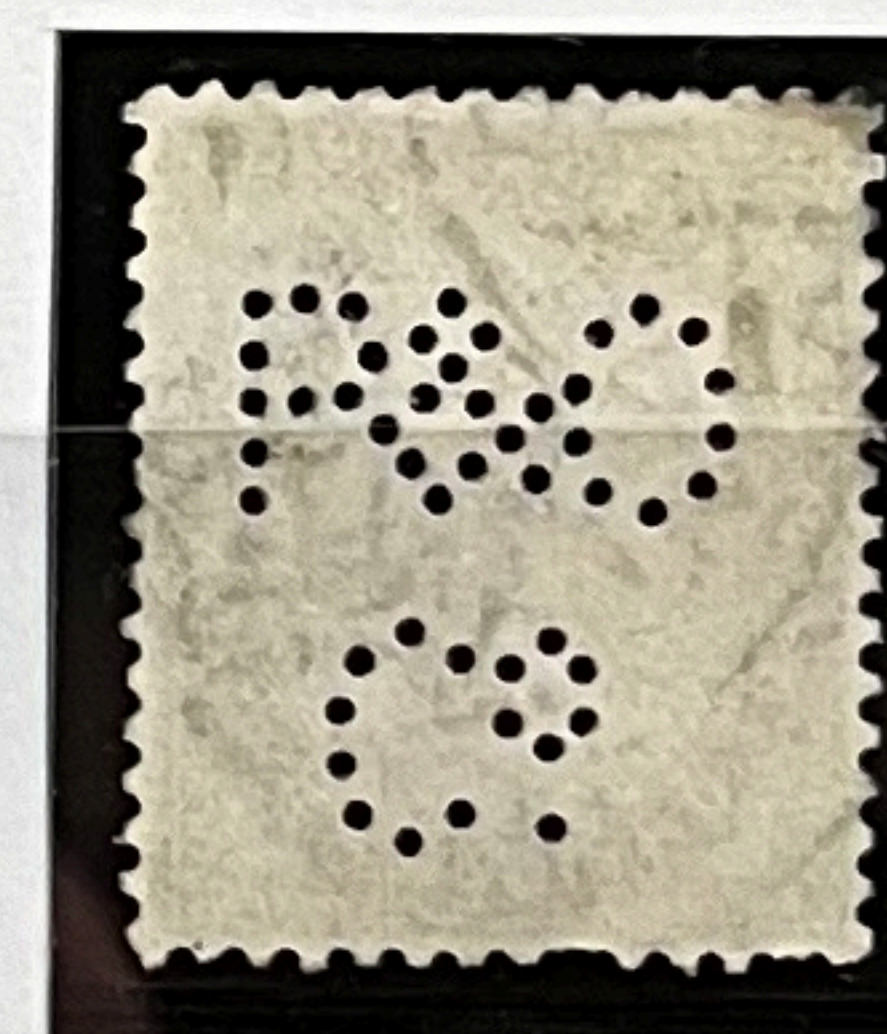
Blendell Silence
& Co., Hull



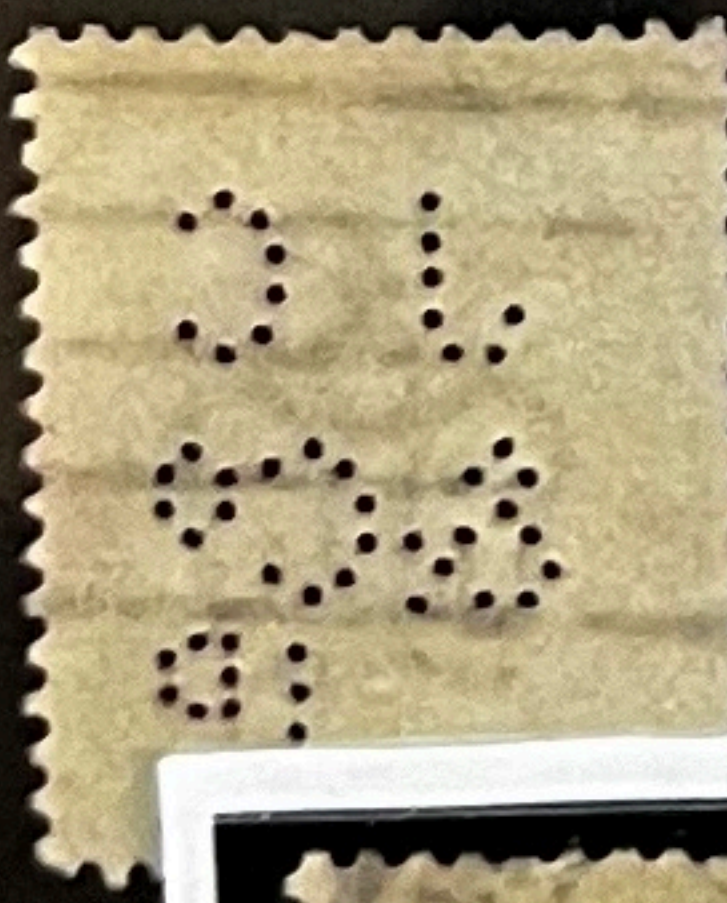
Alliance
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