
SECTION 2 -

THE ROYAL POSTAL OFFICERS



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

ROYAL MESSENGERS OF THE COURT

Our early postal service was carried out by Royal Messengers who were responsible for carrying letters for the Sovereign when Court and Monarch were absent from London. Costs were paid for by the Monarch.

In 1558 there were six Messengers in the service, namely Robert Gascoigne, John Forster, John Wynter, Thomas Clerke, John Man and Robert Kytchman and during 1565 Messenger Gascoigne became Poste of the Courte. In the 1640's one James Hicke appeared to be a Royal Messenger for the King.

Many royal letters continued to be delivered by hand privately by the Messengers from the 1840's through to 1932. On 30 June that year, King George V abolished the Messengers and all duties were subsequently undertaken by the Post Office. Regular services had included the Royal Yacht at Cowes, Windsor Castle and Newmarket. Occasional services were Aldershot and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. His Majesty's Private Secretary wrote on the 13 April 1932: "I have laid before His Majesty your proposals for the despatch of mails to Windsor, Aldershot, Newmarket and Cowes and there is no objection to making a trial of the proposed system.

"The evening despatch will be one of special bags containing despatch boxes and special correspondence from Ministers of State and Government Offices for His Majesty and Suite. The despatch about midday will consist of redirected correspondence, etc, enclosed in a special cover to the Court Postmaster and will not, it is thought, be of a bulky nature."

The Controller of the London Postal Service subsequently wrote: "His Majesty, The King proposes to discontinue His Own Messenger Service, and to devolve on the Post Office the whole of the arrangements for the circulation of correspondence, pouches, etc, when His Majesty is absent from London.

"As the Secretary is no doubt aware, special postal arrangements are, as a general rule, at present only made when His Majesty visits Sandringham House and Balmoral Castle. When His Majesty visits places other than Sandringham and Balmoral, The King's Own Messenger Service has hitherto been employed and no special postal arrangements have been necessary other than the occasional circulation of a special bag made up at, or for, Buckingham Palace.

"The special arrangements in the case of visits to Sandringham and Balmoral involve the Post Office in special expenditure which will be increased when the Messenger Service is discontinued. So far as London is concerned, mails containing the bags or pouches for, or from, The King are not despatched via the Post Office (London) Railway, and, if a suitable van service is not available a special van is arranged for. Moreover, in every case a guard is provided to accompany the bags in their transit through London. In addition special deliveries and collections are sometimes made. It is possible that special expense is also incurred in the Provinces; when His Majesty is at Balmoral special trains are run in Scotland. It is

not known whether the Post Office receives credit for the services, but so far as this Office is aware, no steps are at present taken to estimate the costs of the services rendered beyond the recording of the pouches as special postings. The Secretary will no doubt say whether any effort should be made to assess the cost of the services to the Post Office."

It transpires that the three Home Service Messengers who had made special journeys to the King every day whenever he was away from London retired together and as an economy measure they were not replaced. They had carried red and black leather boxes stamped with the Royal Arms which contained State documents for His Majesty's attention.

CERTIFYING STAMPS

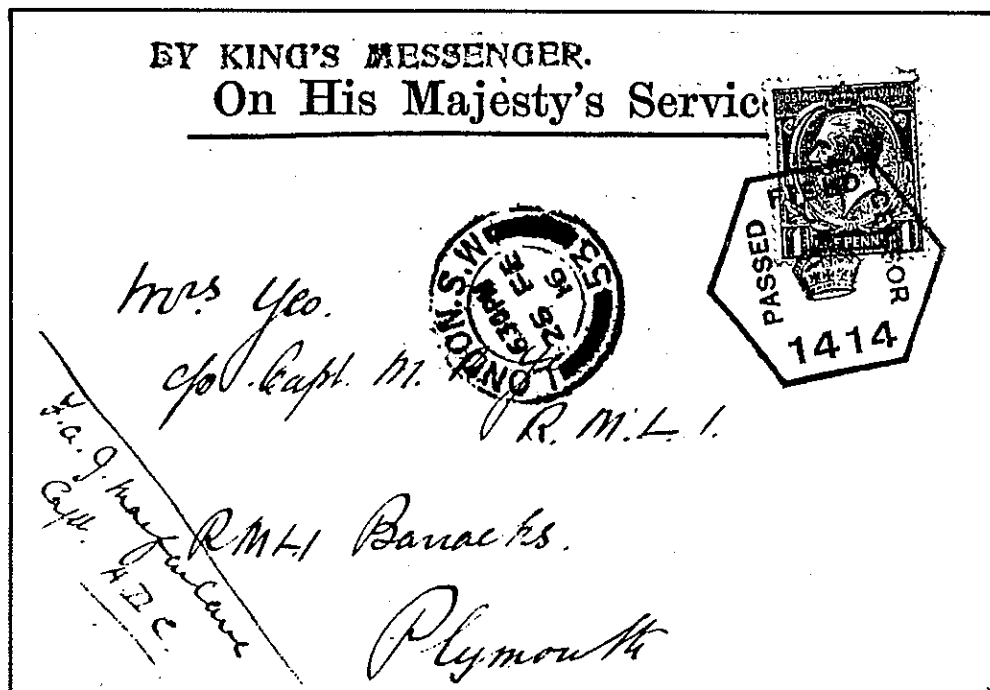


Fig. 2.1

2.1 BY KING'S MESSENGER straight line unframed. Seen 1916 in red.



Fig. 2.2

2.2 K./CROWN/M./PRIVILEGED double rectangular frame. Seen 1917 in violet with War Department certifying stamp together with a London official paid cancellation in red.

POSTE OF THE COURTE

The position of Poste of the Courte was founded on 5 August 1565 during the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the First when a Warrant of the Privy Council was issued.

The holders of the title were:

5 AUGUST 1565 - ROBERT GASCOIGNE

He was responsible for taking the royal letters to the nearest Post House in London from the Court and was also responsible for laying new stages, arrangements regarding the Royal Progresses and the supervision of the Standing Posts.

Gascoigne had previously been a Queen's Messenger and was an Ordinary or Standing Post to the Court at this time. He received a salary of four shillings (20p) per day when the Queen was travelling through England. He laid an Extra-ordinary Post to Bristol via Hounslow, Maidenhead, Newbury, Marlborough and Chippenham in 1580 and in the following year was responsible for establishing the Posts on the Holyhead Road.

During 1582 he surveyed the Queen's Posts on the London to Berwick Road and found great cause for concern when examining the books maintained by the Postmasters. This included causing serious delays to the Court mail. In consequence, every Postmaster was issued with a set of instructions called "Orders by Queen and Council to be observed by all the Posts between London and Berwick." They read:

"Every Postmaster receiving any packet of letters from Sir Francis Walsingham, or any of the Council for Her Majesty's affairs, is to affix a label, subscribed with his name, of the day and hour that it came into his hands.

"To keep a paper book, wherein he shall enter the day and hour of the receipt of such packets, agreeing with the label.

"To keep two or three good horses in his stable, for speedy conveyance of such packets, the person carrying such to ride six miles an hour.

"If any of them break these orders, it will be to their uttermost peril."

During his term of office Gascoigne was accused on more than one occasion of being guilty of fraud and ill-conduct but no charges ever seem to have been pursued.

8 APRIL 1603 - ROWLAND WHITE

The latter agreed to execute the duties of the place for one third of Buckbury's wages. This arrangement would probably have worked smoothly enough, but as no wages had been paid for several years, Wytton at length found himself in trouble with his creditors, some of whom, in 1637, petitioned the Lord Chamberlain to have the benefit of the law against him. The petition was granted, but Wytton was allowed a short period in which to endeavour to give his creditors satisfaction.

The Petition read: "Petition of John Wytton, Deputy Postmaster of the Court, daily attending your Majesty, the King. For his wages of 10s (50p) per diem there is due to him about £1,400; neither has he allowance of diet, or horsemeat, or any other perquisite, the non-payment whereof has brought him much into debt. Some of his Creditors have petitioned the Lord Chamberlain to have the benefit of the Law against him. He has granted the request, unless the petitioner give satisfaction by the middle of the Michaelmas term. Prays that the Lord Treasurer may make present payment of what is due to petitioner, and meanwhile that he may have a protection."

Wytton presented a counter claim to the Lord Treasurer praying for the payment of the wages due to him, and for protection against his creditors. He may have obtained the protection, but he certainly did not receive his wages, for in 1639 he presented a petition to Sir J Coke, from which it appears that in 1637 when the office of Postmaster General was vested in the two Secretaries of State, Wytton was turned out of office, there being due to him eight and a half years wages, amounting, according to Wytton's calculations, to be above £530. Wytton's Petition also stated: "I can make it appear by bills that during the time the debt grew I have disbursed almost £300 out of purse in executing the place, and I do humbly conceive that my own attendance, my keeping of lodgings and horses in town for eight years and a half may be thought worthy of the remainder above mentioned."

1636 - RICHARD POOLE

Mr Poole was a servant of Sir John Coke from 1627 and had originally received 2s (10p) per day wages plus the normal wages of a Messenger. During James's reign it rose to 10s (50p) per day.

OCTOBER 1661 - THOMAS PARNELL

The sum of £182:10s:0d (£182.50), i.e. 10s6d (52.5p) a day, was paid to Parnell in 1663.

12 MAY 1666 - PERCIVAL STANNEY

23 JUNE 1684 - SIR THOMAS DEREHAM

4 DECEMBER 1697 - WILLIAM VAN HULS

7 DECEMBER 1700 - JAMES DE CARDONELL

On 25 March 1705 a payment of £366 was made.

23 JULY 1705 - HENRY ANDREWS

Twenty shillings (£1) a day was given to Queen Anne's Poste of the Courte, Henry Andrews, in 1705. His duty was to carry the mails from the royal residence to the first Post Stage or Post Office. His wages were paid for out of the Post Office profits and a payment of £365 was made on 25 March 1706.

25 MARCH 1715 - DENNIS BOND

1746 saw a payment of £600 for 311 days work being made and in the next year Mr Bond received ninety days pay at 40s (£2) a day, amounting to £180.

21 APRIL 1746 - HENRY PENTON SENIOR

In 1747 54 days pay was given amounting to £108 and in 1748 payment for 366 days work was received which totalled £732.

24 MARCH 1761 - HENRY PENTON THE YOUNGER

Most postal officers, including the Poste of the Courte, failed to ever turn up for duty. Instead they employed a deputy to whom they paid an annual allowance from their own salary and this arrangement appeared to have been quite normal during this period. The office was, therefore, a sinecure. Penton was no exception and paid a deputy the sum of £58 per annum out of his salary of £730. For details see the section "The Memorial of Thomas Collier" on pages 25 to 28.

On Lady Day 1802 (5 April) a salary of £730 was received for 365 days work and in 1803 (5 April) a salary of £550 for 275 days work. In 1812 (5 April) a salary of £730 received for 365 days work, out of which £60 was paid to his deputy, who passed on £24 to a sub-deputy. Finally, in 1813 (5 April) the General Accounts show a payment of £20.

15 JANUARY 1812 - OFFICE CEASED

The post ceased by order of the Privy Council on 21 June 1793 (not effective, though, until the death of Penton), postal arrangements being treated in the same manner as the King's Officers of State henceforth, but still retaining free postage.

COURT TELEGRAPHIST

A Court Telegraphist was appointed sometime between the establishment of public telegraph services (the Electric Telegraph Company first opened offices in London and the larger provincial towns in 1848) and the takeover of the private Telegraph Offices by the Post Office in 1870. That year the Court Telegraphist was placed on the establishment of the Post Office (Southampton Office) and his salary was recoverable from the Privy Purse.

Only two people were ever to hold the post.

c. 1870 - GEORGE WARREN

It was stated that the Court Telegraphist needed to be "experienced in telegraphing in French and German as well as the English language". Mr Warren had previously been on the staff of the Electric and International Telegraph Company and was on a pay scale of £136-£6-£160 but was paid a special salary commencing at £154 a year in view of the duties that he undertook. At his death he was receiving £210 which was fixed under arrangements between His Majesty's Private Secretary and the Post Office Department, being sanctioned by the Treasury. During 1874 his allowance increased from 8s4d (41.5p) to 9s4d (46.5p) per day. In 1876 travelling expenses of 7s6d (37.5p) per day were allowed.

A Mr Edney of Southampton office was substituted in 1894 during a period of absence by Mr Warren and received overtime and subsistence allowances. Two years later on 21 April 1896 Mr Warren died of cancer, having completed thirty seven and-a-half years service, thirty four of which had been on telegraphic business at the Royal Palaces performing "very high class work and long hours of constant attention to duty".

A newspaper cutting at the time read: "The Queen has placed a substantial ornamented cross over the grave in Whippingham churchyard, where lie the remains of Mr George Warren, who for 34 years was Telegraphist to Her Majesty at Osborne. The inscription on the cross states that it is erected by Queen Victoria as a mark of regard for faithful and zealous service".

1896 - JOHN M HILEY

Mr Hiley advised the Head Postmaster at Windsor that Mr Warren had died and wasted no time in recommending himself as the ideal replacement for the post. His letter partly read: "Steps will no doubt be taken to fill the vacancy on the return of Her Majesty to England and I beg respectfully to offer myself as a candidate for the office.

"I have acted as Deputy Telegraphist at the Castle (Windsor) during the past twelve years and I am fully acquainted with the peculiar requirements

of the office. I have received several tokens of satisfaction with which my duties have been performed". That May Mr Hiley became Court Telegraphist at Windsor Castle. According to Lord Stamfordham Mr Hiley had "gained the confidence and respect of all those who have had the opportunity of realising his work and the excellent manner in which it has been performed. He has established a character of probity, capacity and industry".

His promotion was at the express wish of Queen Victoria in view of the twelve years good service rendered as Deputy Court Telegraphist under Mr Warren. He was previously Senior on the class of Clerks on a scale of £110-£5-£140, and was responsible for operating the Morse Code circuit to Windsor Head Post Office, which began functioning about 1890. His salary was increased from £140 to £150 rising by £5 instalments to £180. By 1908 he had reached £180 with an allowance of £25 per annum for overtime performed on holidays and for extra work and responsibilities in connection with Osborne House Post Office. In addition, payment was received for all time worked on Sundays, Bank Holidays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and a subsistence allowance of 5s (25p) a day whilst travelling. Board and residence was provided at the royal residence where the Court Telegraphist was employed.

He worked virtually as a Sub-Postmaster at each location and was frequently required to be in attendance to the Sovereign both in England and overseas. Additionally, his attendance was deemed to be "...of a very prolonged and exacting nature and his bedroom is situated close to the telegraph instruments so that he can be called up any hour of the night. He personally deals with and is responsible for the King's private pouch and despatch boxes of which he holds the key. In all respects his duties are more onerous than they were in the late Queen's reign." Accordingly, it was agreed that his allowances should be increased to the sum of £50 per annum.

As previously stated, Hiley was boarded and lodged free at the various Royal Palaces but he also maintained a home for his wife and family. He was seldom free from duty, and was frequently on the move. Hiley was to receive payment at overtime rates for time spent travelling on a Sunday from 1903.

Mr Hiley was placed in charge of the newly opened Sub-Post Office at Osborne in 1897. On 17 February 1898 the sale of postage stamps and postal orders by the Court Telegraphist began when the Court was residing at Windsor. However, a Post Office within the Castle was considered unnecessary as the Castle adjoined the Head Post Office. He had already been selling stamps but only on an occasional basis prior to 1898.

Mr Hiley was attached to the London Postal Service when employed in London and was mentioned for an improved salary on more than one occasion but later entries in the PMG Minutes revealed that his salary continued at the same level.

During 1903 the Court Telegraphist was occupied with both postal and telegraphic business when at Balmoral or Sandringham but frequently received help from various members of the staff of Aberdeen and King's Lynn Post Offices.

1906 - OFFICE CEASED

Upon Mr Hiley's promotion to Court Postmaster (at the express wish of the King) the office of Court Telegraphist was dispensed with. He was then on a salary of £180 plus a £50 special allowance per annum to cover overtime on ordinary days. For Sundays and Bank Holidays he could charge overtime and in 1902 this had amounted to £95.

WAX SEAL

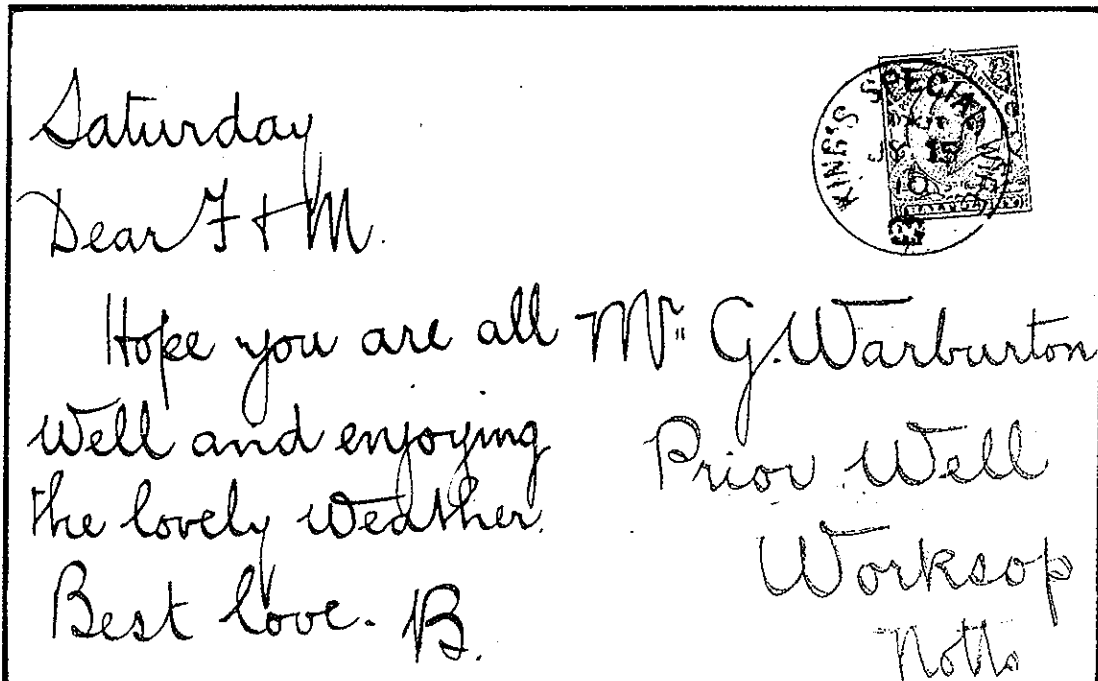
A wax seal worded "Court Telegraph Office" with the royal coat of arms is recorded in red wax on the reverse of a cover emanating from the Royal Household dated 1938. This was long after the position of Court Telegraphist existed but before the end of the telegram service.

CANCELLATIONS



Fig. 2.3

- 2.3 **KING'S SPECIAL WIRE/(CROWN)** single circle. Issued 8 January 1904. Post Office Proof Book states: "Supplied to the Secretary for Court Telegraphist". Seen 1904 to 1910, including incorrect usage cancelling postage stamps.



Incorrect usage of King's Special Wire cancellation

COURT POSTMASTER

The first Court Postmaster was appointed in 1906. There are currently two Court Post Offices both open all the year round at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. There is however, only one Court Postmaster in existence at any one time.

When the Royal Family are in residence elsewhere he also serves them from that location and collections from and deliveries to these other residences are made by him.

19 OCTOBER 1906 - 29 DECEMBER 1922 JOHN M HILEY, I.S.O.

Mr Hiley was a Sorting Clerk and Telegraphist at Windsor from 15 March 1882 and then a Clerk from 12 December 1886. He was allowed to travel first class on lines where there was no second class rail facility, and he was entitled to a subsistence allowance of 5s (25p) a day when travelling abroad. The King thought that he should receive a higher grade than that of Telegraphist and that he should receive the grade of Postmaster in order to put him on a level with other Postmasters. The following year in 1907 a nightly allowance of 1s6d (7.5p) was paid to the Court Postmaster when Her Majesty the Queen was in residence at Buckingham Palace or other royal residences and in 1913 Hiley received a salary increase from £350 to £360 per annum for which "he is very grateful". That same year he was awarded the I S O, presumably in recognition of services to the Sovereign.

A PMG Minute in 1914 referred to the possibility of promoting Mr. Wilson from Senior Counter Clerk and Telegraphist to Overseer to Mr Hiley. At this time the establishment at Buckingham Palace consisted of a Court Postmaster, 2 Counter Clerks, 2 Call Office Attendants and 2 Boy Messengers. It was not an especially busy office and, as such, Mr. Wilson would not normally have qualified for the position but as he had been employed since 1902 at the Palace and his "long experience and intimate knowledge of the special class of work performed there are invaluable to the King and His Court" it was desirable to retain his services. The Court Postmaster was still receiving a salary of £360 per annum whilst Mr. Wilson was on the scale 18s-62s (90p-£3.10) a week and was expected to take charge of the office during Court Postmaster absences. Accordingly an exception was made in this case and promotion to that of Overseer was granted by the Treasury.

30 DECEMBER 1922 - 13 JUNE 1929 F G WILSON

Mr Wilson was born on 3 March 1869 and became a Counter Clerk and Telegraphist at the South Western District Office with effect from 30 May 1885, becoming Overseer on 15 April 1914. He was appointed Court Postmaster from 30 December 1922, a position he held until retirement in 1929.

A Mr A G Logan was his Overseer from 1923 on the Counter and Telegraph establishment of the London Postal Service.

14 JUNE 1929 - 31 AUGUST 1935 FRANCIS AUGUSTUS MASON

Mr Mason was born on 14 September 1871 and, like his predecessors, started his Post Office career as a Counter Clerk and Telegraphist but in the London Postal Service from 9 September 1889. He then became Overseer (Telegraphs) on 15 May 1920 followed by an Assistant Superintendent on 17 October 1928.

His appointment as Court Postmaster came into effect from 14 June 1929 under "difficult circumstances" that the Post Office files failed to record. Apparently he "has had a formidable task and one that has required a considerable amount of tact and discretion".



Captain F A Mason in 1935

Whilst Mr Mason was the Court Postmaster the carrying of important messages to and from Sandringham and Balmoral was transferred to the Post Office.

1 SEPTEMBER 1935 - 31 AUGUST 1940 G P WYLES

On 28 November 1878 Mr Wyles was born, entering the Post Office on 16 December 1896 as a Counter Clerk and Telegraphist with the London Postal Service. Subsequently, on 24 April 1928 he became Overseer, followed by Assistant Superintendent from 10 January 1934. He became Court Postmaster on 1 September 1935 in Jubilee year.

In 1936 the officers of the Court Post Office were commended for their devotion to duty during the illness and death of His Majesty King George V and the Court Postmaster received an audience with King Edward VIII.

Mr A Day the Overseer at Battersea acted as a substitute for Mr Wyles in his absence of 1940 but as there was some doubt as to his personal suitability for the post of Court Postmaster he was turned down when the replacement for Mr Wyles was needed.

1 SEPTEMBER 1940 - 20 OCTOBER 1945 T E RIDOUT

Mr Ridout entered this world on 4 September 1883 and joined the Post Office as a Counter Clerk and Telegraphist on 2 December 1900. He became Overseer on 28 October 1931 and Assistant Superintendent (Telephones) with the South Western District of the London Postal Service from 13 August 1938. His appointment as Court Postmaster took effect from 1 September 1940 during the second world war.

21 OCTOBER 1945 - 15 JANUARY 1952 EDWIN JOHN BURT

Mr Burt was born on 7 July 1889, became a Counter Clerk and Telegraphist on 24 October 1910 followed by Overseer at Battersea Counters and Telegraphs District on 14 May 1938. He became Court Postmaster on 21 October 1945, a position he held until his retirement in 1952.

The grade of Court Postmaster was abolished in 1946 and the post was then filled by an Assistant Superintendent who was allowed to retain the courtesy title of Court Postmaster. In 1951 it was decided that perhaps the Post Office had been "....a bit hasty in abolishing the grade in 1946".

16 JANUARY 1952 - 1962 R D NORTON

Mr Norton was born on 10 March 1897 and was appointed a Counter Clerk and Telegraphist on 19 October 1916. It was not until 21 January 1944 that he was upgraded to Overseer and then in 1952 his grade became that of Assistant Superintendent (Court Postmaster).

1962 - 1967 W A KING

1967 - 1975 L A BUTTERS

Mr Butters died in service during 1975.

1975 - 1981 L R PENGELLY

1981 - BRIAN G JOHNSTON

Mr Johnston was still Court Postmaster as of August 1989.

Unfortunately, details about the holders of the office during the current reign are almost looked upon as State secrets and consequently very little can be recorded beyond their name.

CERTIFYING STAMPS



Fig. 2.4

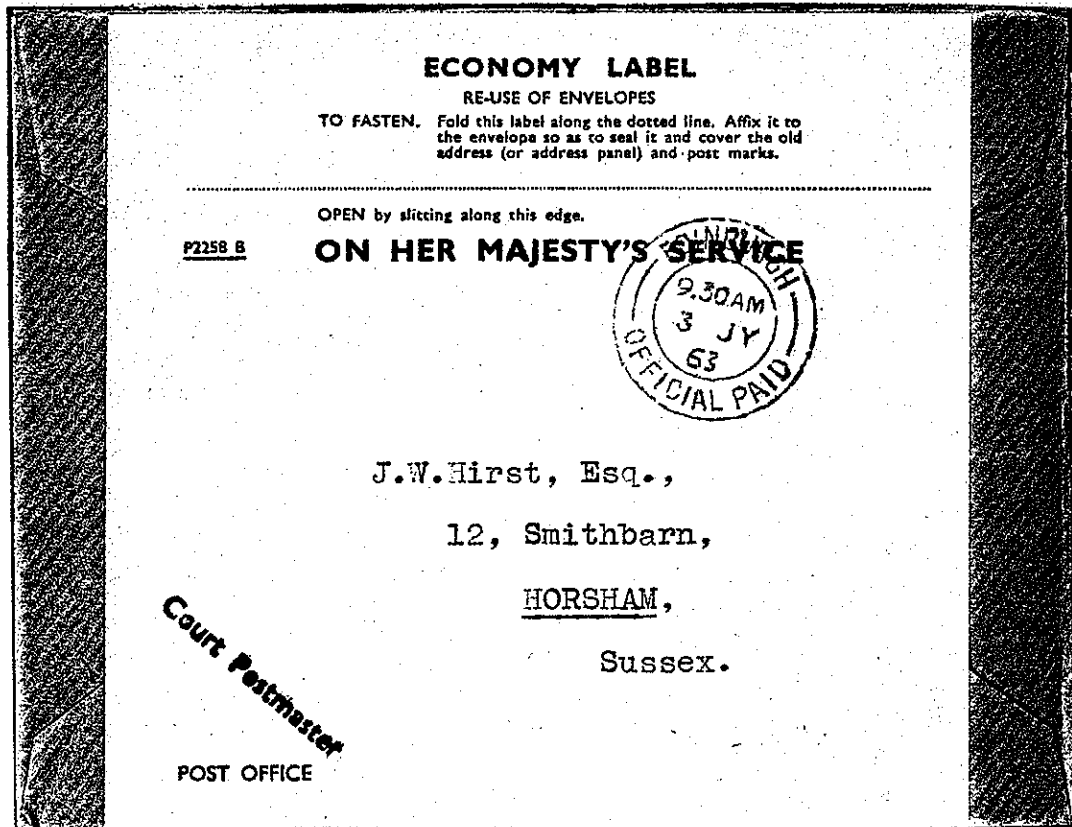


Fig. 2.5

Court Postmaster

Fig. 2.6

- 2.4 OFFICE OF THE/COURT POSTMASTER** triple circle with royal monogram of King George V in centre. Bright magenta ink seen on mail emanating from the Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert in 1933.
- 2.5 OFFICE OF THE/(DATE)/COURT POSTMASTER** single circle. Seen 1934 in red/violet on a "Telegrams for Transmission" envelope emanating from Buckingham Palace.
- 2.6 Court Postmaster** straight line unframed. Seen 1963 in violet from Edinburgh.



THE MEMORIAL OF THOMAS COLLIER

On 13 June 1801 a letter to the Treasury partly read:

".... the only Patent place for Life in the Department of the Post Office is that of the Office of Court Post, which in the 10th Report of the Commissioners of Enquiry is stated to be altogether unnecessary; that the Duty may be very properly performed by any of the Messengers in Waiting at the Secretary of States Office, and therefore they (the Joint Postmasters General) were of the opinion that on the Demise or Resignation of the present Patentee this Office ought to be abolished..."

Subsequently in January 1812 the Postmaster General was advised that the Court Post Henry Penton had died via a newspaper report that read:

"Mr Penton's Salary is £2 p. diem or £730 per annum which will be paid to the day of his Death. It was ordered by His Majesty in Council on the 21st June 1793 that the Office of Court Post should be discontinued on the decease of Mr. Penton, and the sum of £730 per annum will consequently fall to the Revenue...."

That April Mr. Thomas Collier (who had been the Deputy Court Post to both Mr. Henry Penton Senior and to his son) presented a Memorial in an attempt to continue the allowance that had been paid to him previously. There then followed a series of fascinating letters back and forth, the contents of which are reproduced here:

To the Right Hble The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury. The
Memorial of Thomas Collier Deputy Court Post

Humbly Herewith,

That His Majesty by his Royal Letters Patent granted unto Henry Penton the Office or place of Post or Courier of all letters and dispatches between His Royal Court and Palace of Residence, and also between the offices of His Majesty's principal Secretary of State, and the first Post Stage or Post Office of Postmaster General, the same to be executed by himself or his sufficient Deputy or Deputies for and during the term of his natural life, with the salary of £2 by the day and all fees, perquisites, rights and privileges.

That your Memorialist has held and enjoyed the situation of Deputy Court

Post until the said Henry Penton and his father (who was his predecessor for upwards of fifty years), received from the said Henry Penton a salary or allowance of £60 per annum: out of which sum he pays £24 per annum to an assistant, whom he has been under the necessity of employing, for several years past, in consequence of an affliction from the effects of a paralytic stroke and other infirmities and that he is 79 years of age.

That the said Henry Penton departed this life on the 15th of January last and your Memorialist has been informed that under the recommendation of the Finance Committee the Patent Office of Court Post at Mr Penton's Death is intended to be abolished.

Your Memorialist therefore humbly prays that your Ldps will be pleased in Consideration of his great age, infirmities, and long and faithful services to continue the same allowance to be paid to him out of the Post Office Revenues, with the same privilege which he received and enjoyed in the lifetime of Mr Penton, or, as in your Ldps wisdom shall deem meet.

and your Memorialist-
(signed) T Collier

16 Winchester Place, Pentonville, 27 January 1812

Winchester Place, 8 April 1812

Sir,

I beg leave to inform you that in January last I presented a Memorial to the Lds Commrs of HM Treasury praying their Ldps would be pleased to continue to me the same allowance as was paid to me by Henry Penton Esq the late Court Post deceased, for acting as his Deputy - and having been informed that their Ldps were pleased to refer the same to the PMG but finding I have omitted in my Memorial to detail the precise duties attached to the situation of Deputy Court Post and actually performed I now take the liberty of enclosing a statement of the same for their Lordships information humbly requesting that it may be taken as part of my Memorial above referred to -

G Harrison Esq

I have the honour
(signed)

Statement of the Duties actually performed for His Majesty's Service by the Deputy Court Post.

To collect all letters or dispatches every evening at about 7 o'clock and on Tuesdays and Fridays twice, once at 7 o'clock as above, and once more between the hours of 11 at night and 5 o'clock next morning - to wait those hours till the dispatches are made up for The Foreign Mail - and then to convey them to the GPO in Lombard Street - The delivery frequently weighing 100lbs and upwards - from the undermentioned Departments:-

Secretary of States' Office - Home Department
- ditto - - Foreign Do
- ditto - - Colonial Do
Alien's Office,
India Board,
First Lord of the Treasury
and Chancellor of the Exchequers' House

Treasury Chambers, 14 April 1812

My Lords,

I am commanded by the Lords Commrs of HM Treasury to transmit to your Ldps a letter from Mr T Collier dated the 8th inst. enclosing a statement on support of his Memorial for a continuance of the same allowance as was paid to him by Mr Penton, the late Court Post, for acting as his Deputy and I am to request you will consider the same and report to my Lords what in your opinion may be yet to be done therein.

His Majesty's
Postmaster General

I am
(signed)
Geo Harrison

21st April 1812

Sir,

Having laid before my Lords the PMG your letter of the 14th inst. transmitting the enclosed letter from Mr T Collier with a Statement in support of his former Memorial for a continuance of the same allowance as was paid to him by Mr Penton, the late Court Post for acting as his Deputy requesting my Lords to consider the same and to report to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury their opinion what may be fit to be done therein - I am commanded by my Lords to acquaint you that upon an attentive consideration of the circumstances stated by Mr Collier he appears to their Lordships to be entitled to the favourable consideration of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

G Harrison Esq
Treasury Chambers

I have the honor
(Initialled)

Treasury Chambers
4 May

My Lords,

The Lords Commr of HM Treasury having considered your letter of 21st ulto on two applications from Thos Collier for a continuance of the same allowance as was paid to him by Mr Penton, the late Court Post for acting as his Deputy - I have it on command to authorise your Lordships to pay Mr Collier an allowance of Thirty Six pounds per annum to commence from the death of Mr Penton.

The Postmaster General

I am
(signed)
Geo. Harrison