



# The Revealer



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John J. Walsh, Editor

## THE HARRISON COILS WITH CONTROL LETTERS

By Malcolm G. O'Reilly, E. P. A.



The British Empire edition of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, the one major catalog which lists and prices control letters (and the stamp attached thereto) for the British typographed values overprinted by Messrs. Dollard and Thom for Irish use, denies the existence of control pieces from the two overprintings made by Harrison and Sons for their coils. Gibbon's statement reads, "The Harrison printings [sic] being issued in rolls only, are unobtainable with control attached." This statement would be correct if it were qualified to read, "--unobtainable with full control attached." for, as the three illustrations show, the Harrison overprintings are obtainable with sufficient control letters attached to readily identify the control. Each is a 1 1/2d. value, two of the five-line overprint and one of the three line overprinting.

The logical reason for Gibbon's statement is found in the fact (and to the best of my knowledge it is true) that none of the Harrison overprintings have ever appeared in other than coil form, i.e. singles or horizontal and vertical multiples. The coils are manufactured from panes of 120 stamps (which have been previously overprinted) by splicing the panes into the desired form to permit cutting into vertical or horizontal strips depending on whether the coil is to be an 'end-delivery' or 'side-delivery' coil. The stamps are joined by attaching each succeeding strip to a selvage-remnant left, 1) on the bottom of the preceeding strip, if an end-wise coil, and 2) to the right side of the strip, if a side-wise coil. The only exceptions to this 'rule-of-selvage' occur, 1) in the lead stamp of a "Delivery Top End First" coil where the stamp is attached to the leader by a selvage-remnant from the top of the strip; 2) in the trail stamp from a "Delivery Lower End First" coil where that stamp is attached to the trailer by a selvage-remnant from the top of the strip and 3) in the case of the lead stamp from a "Delivery Left Side First" coil where the stamp is attached to the leader with a selvage-remnant from the left side of the strip. As there were no "Delivery Right Side First" coils prepared there is no exception for that type. (None of the affixing machines, those instruments which necessitated the manufacture of the coils, required right-side-first delivery.)

(continued on page 565)

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## LITERATURE

Recently I received a booklet to review. It is a copy of The Baile Atha Cliath (dublin) Postal Handstamps 1922-1962, by Noel J. Langton, EPA Member #335. Published by O.M. Richards 10 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen, Scotland. Copies are available from the publisher at 50¢ each plus 10¢ postage. I can take orders for the same. To me this booklet entailed a lot of research in order to compile this comprehensive 11 chapter booklet on the capital city of Ireland. This definitive work distinguishes the cancellations used on various forms of mailing such as Registration, Prepaid Bulk Mail, Customs Clearance, Telegraph Office, Official Paid, etc., all illustrated on 6 pages. This is a good reference book for collectors of first day covers and used stationery as most of the first issues are cancelled from various Dublin Post offices.

Also available from Fred E. Dixon, 15 Terenure Road East, Rathgar, Dublin 6 Ireland is his booklet on the Blogan Cancellations of the Republic of Ireland 1922-59. Price 2/9 by post.

In the November 1962 issue of the Great Britain Philatelist, there is an excellent article on "Irish Republic" American Sponsored Fenian Essays, compiled by H.G. Leslie Fletcher, T.D. and continued in the February 1963 issue. Later in the year, Mr. Fletcher will have an article on the 1908 and 1916 Sinn Féin Propaganda Labels, also in the Great Britain Philatelist.

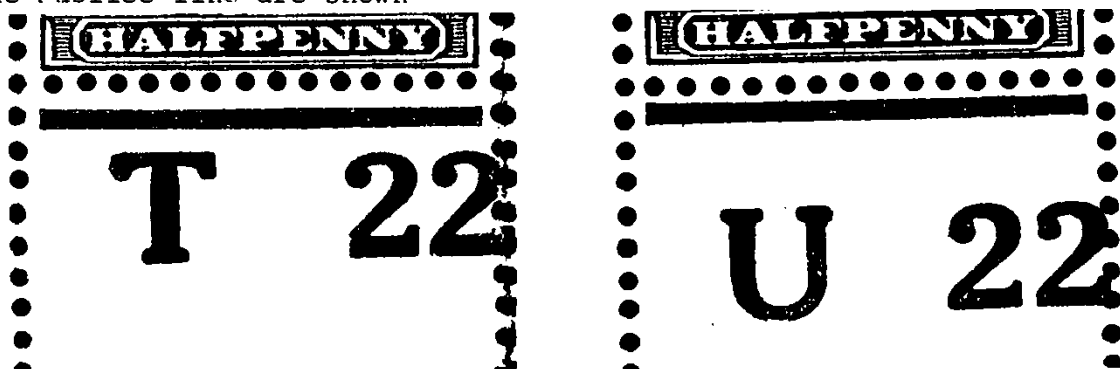
William P. Hickey

Our good member, Robert D. Corless 1826 W. Indianola Ave., Phoenix 15, Arizona has been nominated for the post of Secretary of the American Philatelic Society. Your support and seconding of his nomination by our members who are also members of the A.P.S. will be deeply appreciated. Bob is a well-known philatelist and we are sure that he will make a very fine Secretary.

Have you mailed in your vote on the proposed constitutional changes? Please do so.

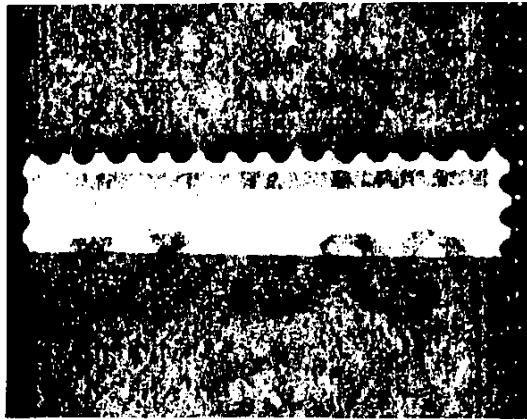
# THE HARRISON COILS WITH CONTROL LETTERS (continued)

From a knowledge of the position of the control letters it can be reasoned that they can be found only on lengthwise coils. Examination of some 110 joined pairs from vertical coils shows that the width of the normal selva-remnant used for joining is approximately 3 1/4 mm and ranges from 3 to 3 1/2 mm. The measurements on the three control pieces illustrated measure approximately 4 mm. A study of the control pieces from the Dollard and the Thom overprintings make it fairly obvious that but a few electros (as distinguished from control letters) have the control letter in a position sufficiently close to the Jubilee line to show, even in part, after the selva is cut to within 4 mm of the perforation line. The measurements given here are an average of the distance between the edge of the joined selva and the middle of the perforation holes at both sides of the stamp as this was the easiest way to take measurements from the backs of so many pairs. To illustrate the wide range that can be found in the spacing of the control letters from the stamp, enlargements of one control only 1 mm from the Jubilee line and another slightly over 4 mm from the Jubilee line are shown

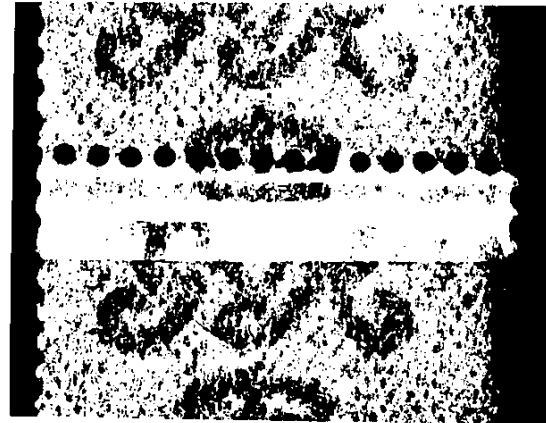


(This is the normal way to measure controls, that is from the top of the Control letters to the bottom of the Jubilee line.) A listing of the electros which have the control letters sufficiently close to the Jubilee line (hence the perforation line) would seem, at first glance, a logical addition at this point. However, as none of the control pieces illustrated could be identified with electros from any Dollard and Thom overprintings having the same control letter (presently in my collection) and as I do not have sufficient information on the unoverprinted controls to offer any real value such a listing was dismissed as too limited to be of sufficient value. As can be detected from the illustrations the two T 22 controls on the 1 1/2., five-line overprint are from different electros.

The single-copy control piece illustrated on the front page was lot number 101 when the "Agnew" collection was sold by H. R. Harmer on May 26th, 1930. It was described as follows: "June 1922, Harrison Rialtas Overprint, 1 1/2., a ,int copy from a joined pair, with Control T 22, imperf., exceedingly rare and unique piece." Fortunately the lot was illustrated and the accompanying illustration is an enlargement from the photo-plate in the sale catalog. (Courtesy of the Collectors' Club Library, New York, N.Y.). The other two control pieces [illustrated on the following page] are less clear having been photographed from the back while in a sea of benzene; neither of the owners wished to separate their pair. Each of these two control pairs was also sold at auction but not described in keeping with their rarity and with their real identity known only to the fortunate purchasers, their present owners.



1 1/2. chocolate  
HARRISON 3-LINE OVERPRINT  
Control U 22 Perf.  
"O'REILLY" Copy



1 1/2d. chocolate  
HARRISON 5-LINE OVERPRINT  
Control T 22 Perf.  
"ZERVAS" Copy

In forty-one years there have been reported only three Harrison control pieces; two of the three in this article. Perhaps as a result of these notes a new search will be made and more control pairs uncovered. Let us hope so.

N.B. To those of you who follow Meredith religiously do not be misled by his reference to the Harrison control letters for those to which he refers are those of the Post Office letter-code which identifies the type and size of the coil.

(A follow-up article of the other hidden treasures to be found in joined pairs of the coils will appear in a coming issue. Adrien Boutrelle, 230 Jay Street, Brooklyn 1, New York prepared the photo reproductions for this article)

#### RANDOM NOTES by F.E. Dixon

In the January-February issue of the Revealer (page 554) it was reported that there was no special cancellation for the September Conference of the International Air Transport Association held in Dublin, although there was a cachet. Thanks to Mr. Brady that must be corrected. There was a cancellation of the temporary type, inscribed "I A T A MEETING DUBLIN". Yet I was assured at the time that there was none.

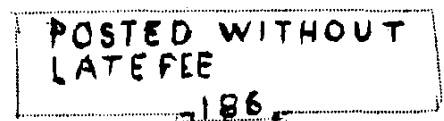
Also thanks to Mr. Brady, I depict a Dublin POstage Due marking of 1871 - in the period when the Penny Postage covered only 1/2 ounce. It was extended to 1 ounce the following year.

Mr. Brady's third discovery is a variant of the POsted without Late Fee handstamp, used in 1958 on the Dublin-Cork T.P.O.

Rather more difficult to draw is this rubber stamp, which I saw for the first time recently. My example is only a pull on part of a telephone slip, but

I suspect that it was used as the franking stamp of the Convention's Secretariat.

The term "precursor" covers a great variety of items. I offer this Dundalk handstamp as a precursor of the Irish forms of postmark. It occurs on a picture postcard of November 1911 but was applied before the stamp was affixed.



# Printings of the Irish Provisionals.

THE DOLLARD PRINTING  
HOUSE, LTD. OVERPRINTS.

Supplement No. 12

Éire Philatelic Association  
1963

July-August, 1963

## DOLLARD OVERPRINTS ON LOW VALUES

Compiled by H.G. Leslie Fletcher

After the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty on 6th December, 1921 it was realized that it would be some time before designs could be chosen and stamps produced; in consequence it was decided to overprint the current British stamps as a provisional issue.

J.J. Walshe, Postmaster General to the Provisional Government suggested using a five line overprint in Irish characters, -

"Rialtas Sealadac na hEireann 1922" "Irish Provisional Government 1922"

Dollard Printinghouse, Dublin, Ltd. were allocated the overprinting of,,  
1/2d; 1d; 2 1/2d; 3d; 4d; 5d; 9d; 10d in the low values.

### First Setting

It has been assumed by many writers that the plate of the First Setting was laid down as a complete plate from a single matrix, substantiating this from the facts that all the overprints are exactly alike and the overprints appear to be in perfect alignment.

On closer examination of large blocks and other material it can now be definitely stated that the plate was made up of 16 stereotypes of 15 overprints 3 x 5. These cliches of 15 were apparently made from a single matrix and were joined together very carefully. However, on the examination of large blocks it is apparent that the overprints were not quite in alignment horizontally, also the overprints are spaced 5 3/4 mm. horizontally in the cliches, but this varies between 4 3/4 to 5 1/4. A printing cliche of 15, 3 x 5 is known to exist. A block of 2 1/2d with red overprint with mixed settings 1 and 3, showing the misplaced junction of 4 cliches is also known to exist.

### Second Setting

The type was originally set up on a monotype machine in five rows of three overprints, 3 x 5; from this a matrix was taken and stereotypes made. 16 stereotypes were locked together in four rows of four to make a complete printing plate. However well these were fastened together, especially after use, the stereotypes were not in complete alignment with each other so that you get pairs out of alignment between stereotypes.

### Third Setting

The plate was made the same as for the Second Setting, using 16 stereotypes of 15, 3 x 5; similarly there are the same out of alignment pairs at the junction of the stereotypes.

# SETTINGS OF THE DOLLARD OVERPRINT

## First Setting

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

Rialtas 12mm long.  
r(s) to right of  
final A of Sealadac.

Sealadac 15mm long.  
1 above centre of  
n of na.

hEireann 14½ mm long.  
1 centrally over 1  
of 1922.

na 3½mm long.

1922 6½ mm long.  
antique numerals,  
9 long tail  
no stop.

Overprints spaced 5  
¾ mm horizontally  
from final c on left  
to S of Sealadac on  
right.

Overprints spaced 7  
¾ mm vertically,  
from below 1 of date  
to 1 of hEireann.

## Second Setting

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

|              |             |                                |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
|              | l/na<br>1/1 | r/A<br>l/na<br>1/1<br>raised c |
|              | r/A<br>l/na | 1/1                            |
| l/na<br>in/l | l/na<br>1/1 | r/A<br>l/na                    |
| 1/1          | r/A<br>1/1  | r/A<br>l/na                    |
|              |             | r/A<br>l/na<br>1/1             |

## Third Setting

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

RIALCAP  
Sealadac  
na  
hEireann  
1922

|               |                    |                                |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| r/A<br>l/na   | r/A<br>l/na<br>1/1 | r/A<br>l/na<br>1/1<br>Raised c |
|               | r/A<br>l/na        |                                |
| l/na<br>in/na | 1/1                | 1/1                            |
| 1/1           | r/A<br>1/1         | r/A<br>l/na                    |
| r/A<br>l/na   |                    | r/A<br>l/na<br>1/1             |

r/A (R/Se) - vertical of r(s) of Rialtas directly  
over final A of Sealadac  
l/na - 1 of Sealadac above right leg of n of na.  
1/1 - 1 of hEireann directly above 1 of 1922.  
Raised c - final c of Sealadac raised above other  
letters.

## "Proofs" without and with rubber stamp and initials.

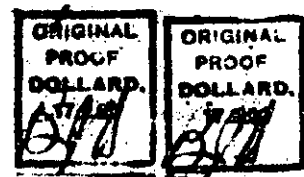
It is very doubtful whether these are true proofs taken before overprinting the stamps, they are rather considered to be philatelic proofs produced for a Dublin dealer with the connivance of Dollards.

Two types of rubber stamps are known:

Type 1, Large - Frame 20mm x 22mm  
Lettering 2mm high

Type 2, Small - Frame 20mm x 21mm  
Lettering 1mm high

### 1. Large type



### 2. Small type



#### Proofs seen:

|         |           |                            |                      |
|---------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Black - | Setting 1 | with rubber stamp type 1,  | initialled B.J.B.    |
|         | 2         | without stamp or initials. |                      |
| Red -   | Setting 1 | with rubber stamp type 1,  | initialled B.J.B.    |
|         | 1         | " " " "                    | 1, not initialled    |
|         | 2         | " " " "                    | 1, initialled B.J.B. |
|         | 2         | " " " "                    | 2, initialled B.J.B. |
|         | 3         | " " " "                    | 1, initialled B.J.B. |
|         | 3         | " " " "                    | 1, not initialled.   |

Large blocks with mixed settings 1 and 3 in red with rubber stamps type 1, with and without initials have been seen.

## Varieties of Dollard Overprints

- 1/2d. Overprint inverted - from Setting 1, known used 29th March 1922.  
overprint misplaced, S of Sealadac on margin.
- 1d. Overprint inverted - from Setting 2, known used 28th August 1922.  
overprint fainter, misplaced on one sheet.
- 1d. Overprint double - known used 26th April 1922.
- 1d. Watermark inverted -
  - Bad alignment - between stereos, especially Settings 2 and 3.
  - Broken letters - occurs in many places in all three Settings.
  - Misplaced overprints - to right, left or up and down.

## Overprint Missing

One sheet is known with the overprint so misplaced downwards that the overprint is missing on the top row of 12 stamps and in consequence occurs in the gutter margin. The sheet is known to be oil stained on the right side..

Control R 21 imperf., British Plate 72: Setting 1.

## Mixed Settings

In case of wear the damaged section was removed and replaced by new ones; examples are known of mixed settings 1 and 3 in red.

Dated copies showing the varieties would help in ascertaining the date the plate was first used.

## Proof in dark blue of First Setting

A block of 24, 12 x 2, the two top rows of the First Setting has been seen,

|                                               |                                               |                                               |                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>1922 | RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>1922 | RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>1922 | RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>1922 |
| RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>2022 | RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>2022 | RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>1922 | RIALCAP<br>Sealadae<br>na<br>h6ipeann<br>1922 |

STORES DEPT., G. P. O.  
ALDBOROUGH HOUSE DUBLIN

Mr. W.N. Jeffries was the officer in charge of the Stamp and Postal Order Section of the Stores Department and this is an example of a definite Proof submitted for approval by Dollards before printing.

### Second Setting

A half sheet of "Proofs" has been seen, signed, - "Genuine Proofs/For Dollard, Printinghouse, Dublin, Ltd. /B.J. Brennan/ Manager/ June 14' 1922"

Whether these were proofs taken from the plate before overprinting the stamps, the usual reason for taking a proof, and so giving the date the Second Setting was prepared; or whether they are proofs taken for philatelic reasons at a later date after overprinting it is not possible for me to say at present

Dated copies of stamps showing the varieties common to Setting 2 would help to fix the date.

### "Trial" overprint in Red on 1/2d.

A trial overprint was made in Red from Setting 2 on the 1/2d. It occurs without and with the rubber stamp, type 1, not initialled.

A control block of 6 is known, S 22 imperf, British Plate 68, with rubber stamp, type 1, no initials.

These are now thought to be in the nature of proofs, possibly in the same category as the previous proofs with and without rubber stamps and initials.

### Fake overprints

Fake inverted overprints have been seen on 1/2d; 1d; 2d (Bogus); 4d; 9d; 1/-

### Specimen Stamps

Stamps overprinted in black from Setting 1 have been seen with SPECIMEN in black at top. Specimen small sans serif letters, slope right: 10 1/2mm long, 1 1/2mm tall, apparently handstamped and smudged, on - 1/2d; 1d; 2 1/2d; 3d; 4d; 5d; 9d; 10d.

### Rubber Hand Stamp

A rubber hand stamp, similar in design to the Dollard overprints was supplied to various Government Offices for overprinting the remainder of British stamps they had in stock. They are mainly used for Fiscal and Customs Duties. A 2d Die 1 is known with overprint in violet, very carelessly done.

Galway, the capital of Western Ireland, is an important tourist centre both for its own attractions and as the doorway to the famous scenic areas of the West. Here on the fringe of the Connemara Gaeltacht (where the ancient language and customs of Ireland are still preserved) the English-speaking world meets the older, native culture of the Gael. Galway is a progressive business centre, with numerous relics of her medieval heyday, when this "Cite of the Tribes" was one of the most important ports in these islands and her merchant princes carried on an extensive trade with Spain.

Limerick is one of Ireland's oldest cities, standing on the site of an important ford of ancient times, where the Shannon River becomes tidal. It is an important transport and industrial centre, and has of late years gained considerable importance from its proximity to the Shannon Hydro-Electric Power Station at Ardacrusha and Shannon Airport at Rineanna.

The history of Limerick dates from about the middle of the ninth century, when the Danes used it as a base to plunder the hinterland, until Brian Boru finally sacked the town a century and a half later and drove out the invaders.

Cork is situated at the head of the tidal waters of the river Lee. The river in early times divided into numerous channels, most of which are now built over, leaving two main channels—the North and South Channels, crossed by many bridges—and a few quite, picturesque backwaters. The city has long since crept up the hills on both sides of the river, but the oldest part is still known as the "Marsh." Cork originally grew up around the Monastic school founded by St. Finbarr in the sixth century and passed in turn into the hands of the Norsemen and Anglo-Normans.