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Annual General
Meeting
at SESCAL,
October, 17-19,
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USA: RICHARD KELLY *address above***APS Representative: JOHN B. SHARKEY** *address above***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE****By Richard Kelly**

I hope this autumn issue finds all of our members well and refreshed after the summer. With the warm weather receding it is now time to get back to the important things in our life. STAMP COLLECTING! Of course with an emphasis on Ireland

Our Annual General Meeting will be held during SESCAL in Los Angeles this year. Details are in this issue and we hope to have a good turnout. It has been some years since the last AGM on the West Coast. Bill O'Conner has prepared a presentation on "The Numerical Cancells Of Ireland, 1855-1892" which should be of interest to all. Please stop by and say hello.

CHAPTER COORDINATORS

The Association Secretary provides Coordinators with names and addresses of new members. Coordinators welcome new members and invite them to join the local Chapter.

Commodore John Barry Chapter

Members reside in NJ, NY, PA
 Coordinator: David J. Brennan,
 221 Claremont Rd, Bernardsville, NJ
 07924

Connecticut Chapter

Members in CT & Western MA
 Coordinator: Michael J. Conway,
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Members reside in MD, VA, DC
 Coordinator: Liam Malone
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 20056

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Members reside in Northern CA
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 Fallbrook, CA 92028

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Eighth Page	3.625 X 2.50	\$30	\$105

CAMERA READY COPY REQUIRED**Contact Richard Kelly at kellyrd@sbcglobal.net**

President's Message continued:

The key issue we will be discussing at this AGM, is what should Phase 2 of our website project consist of. Please take time to review the updated website and give us your comments. If you're happy we would like to hear that but if you're unhappy I very much want to hear your thoughts and hopefully some constructive ideas. The board has spent a significant effort in updating the website and it is important that we receive the widest feedback. If you are not tech savvy, have your grandchildren look and get their opinion.

The second major event this fall is the annual Stamp show in Dublin. Details are in this issue. This show is the premier show for Irish collecting with all of our dealer advertisers present. The offering range from the common stamps to the most specialized material. This show should be on the bucket list of all members and also makes a nice vacation. The contacts made will serve one well in their collecting endeavors.

As I write this, two mail auction sales are planned for early October. If you are not on the e-mail list of our advertisers you will be missing out on some material that we do not see in the US. With the internet, e-mail and on line auctions the stamp market is truly global in nature.

I don't know if you have noticed that the quality of our recent articles has been improving. We are always looking for new authors and will help those that have ideas but may be hesitant to write. Contact our Editor and he will connect you with assistance. Thank you to our authors that share their knowledge with us.

We have just had the Super Moon, Sept. 8th and look forward to the Harvest Moon next month. My farmer friends tell me that this year's crops will set records. We should never forget God's bounty and that our hobby is part of that bounty. We want to make the EPA part of the enjoyment you receive from collecting Ireland.

2015 Dues Notice

Please check your mailing label.

If the "Expire" date does not read 2015 or higher, you owe dues.

A dues submission envelope is included with this issue.

Paypal or direct deposit to Bank of Ireland is also available.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

2861 Palermo, Christopher E, 2400 W El Camino Real, #809, Mountain View, CA 01757

Resignations

2683 Boelke, Brendan E, 3 Aerial Circle, Milford, MA 01757

2800 Harris, Donald W, 198 O'Connor Dr NW, Milledgeville, GA 31061-8752

2979 Richards, Glenn K, 55 Lake Delaware Dr, Delhi, NY 13753-7440

New Email Addresses

If you changed your email address or if the address shown below is not correct, please contact Barney Clancy, EPA Treasurer at: bclanz@aol.com

2861 Palermao, Christopher E, cpalermo@h35g.com

Membership Status

Members as of July 24, 2014	362
New Members	1
Reinstatements	0
Deceased	0
Resignations	3
Drop for Non Payment	0
Adjustment	-3
Membership as of September 11, 2014	357
Life members of unknown status	12
Complimentary mailings	23
Total Mailings	392

From Ireland to Germany (1840 to 1875): Postal History on Covers, Part 1

by Hans Bergdolt

This article describes on the basis of covers the postal fees and routes to "Germany". It also shows the handling of mail correspondence with the (many) German states at this time. The many different routes and postal fees, especially the territorial fragmentation and the high number of postal administrations make this an extensive collecting area. The presented covers are an extract from the author's collection.

Introduction

The main philatelic collection area of the author is the Postal History of Ireland from the 1840s to the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). Ireland at this time was part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, (UK).

In his collection the author lays the emphasis on destinations, postage and routes, documented with postmarks and notes. Just those things on an old letter that are most important to a collector of Postal History. Stamps on the covers are, though interesting, not really necessary for postal historians. Therefore we prefer letters with fees and transit marks to letters with stamps only. Business connections from the UK to Central Europe were not as well developed as for many other countries, e.g. to Spain, France, Australia and the USA. Thus, letters from Ireland to the German States before the establishment of UPU are not common. This is especially true for the 1840s and 1850s. Letters sent abroad from Ireland well into the 1850s were almost always paid in cash and not franked with stamps. For example until 1847 there were only stamps available at 1 penny (d) and 2 pence (d). And there was not space enough for the necessary amount of stamps on the envelope. Moreover smaller post offices that were mostly privately managed did not stock the later higher values.

Some facts about currencies and rates must be noted beforehand:

- The ounce as unit of weight has approx. 28 grams (g), ½ oz. approx. 14g, ¼ oz. approx. 7g; an ounce equivalent to about 2 German Loth.
- The schilling (s) as currency in the UK had 12 pence (d).
- In the UK postmarks and notes were always on the front of the letter. For paid fees they were always red, for unpaid fees always black.

Postal History Situation

"Germany" before 1871 was not a single state like many other European states. During the period covered here it was divided in many parts. Duchies, principalities, kingdoms, free cities and so on. Each could insist on their independence and until the late 1850s on their postal sovereignty (**Fig. 1a**). Although Napoleon had in the early 19th century eliminated many small secular and the ecclesiastical states, and the Congress of Vienna in 1815 confirmed this, we collectors of the postal history of this time need to work with 17 German postal administrations (**Fig. 1b**).

To make the postal service even more difficult, most German states had their own currencies and partly their own weight systems. Even on the routes for the mail from Ireland there were different steps in the weight progression, e.g. in the UK by ½ ounce, in France and Belgium by ¼ ounce. While there was the obligation to fully pay the letters from Ireland until 1843 they could not always be franked for the whole route in advance. There were all options open, from completely unpaid letter to partial payment until and through the transit country to full payment from sender to addressee. Since this differed and changed throughout the period the author has mentioned any variations in the description of the individual covers. Altogether, it is not surprising that the presented covers made even philately specialists from German states brood on fees and transit marks and not every rate could be finally clarified.

The treaty between the UK and Prussia in 1847 brought some simplifications that had an impact on the other states in Germany. But only the treaties of the UK with the German-Austrian Postal Union (founded 1852) under the leadership of Prussia and Austria, which among other things ended the transit fees within Germany, and with the North German Confederation (1867) brought serious progress. The founding of the German Empire (1871) brought further improvements. Only from 01 June 1875 and the establishment of the General Postal Union (GPU) later Universal Postal Union (UPU) uniform regulations within Europe were established.

The Routes

During the period covered here letters from Ireland to Central and Eastern Europe were sent via England. From the accepting post office to the General Post Office Dublin, then to Kingstown (now Dunleary / Dun Laoghaire), the port of Dublin, with the ferry to Holyhead and from there to London. From London to the German states there were the routes via the Netherlands (Rotterdam), Hamburg, Belgium (Ostende, Aachen) and France (Calais). The first two were abandoned in 1853. Usually the cheapest route led across Belgium (**Fig. 2**).

Mail could be carried in different ways. Most in ships, chartered from postal administrations / States, the "package Ships" or just "Packets". In addition, also "Ship Letters" were carried on private boats, the "Private Ships". Here we are talking only about letters which were transported by packets.

Treaties and Procedures before 1847

The determination of routes and fees is particularly attractive for letters from the 1840s. In this so-called pre-treaty period, there were usually only a few agreements between neighbouring countries.

1840. From India over Moville, County Donegal, to Mannheim, Baden

This letter is a particularly fine example of the difficulties and joys in dealing with the postal history. With 11 postmarks and 8 tax marks and deletions the cover illustrates the problems that arise in the interpretation of old letters. It also shows the former lengthy and expensive process for the settlement of postal charges. But they were necessary in a time without contracts and without international accounting between the postal administrations.

Harald Frank has described the handling of this letter in Moville and London in *Die Harfe* 45 (November 1993) in great detail. Therefore, the way to Moville and back to London will be mentioned here only briefly.

The letter was posted unpaid in India. It reached London by ship and was forwarded from there by stage coach, ferry and train via Holyhead and Dublin to Moville. From there it went back to London and on to Mannheim in the Grand Duchy of Baden. The letter was written on 14 Feb. 1840 in Chekowah / Siquah, Upper Assam (only partly legible). It went via Suddaya (05 March), Bombay (note at the top), London (08 May) and Dublin (09 May) to Moville (10 May).

Then it went on from Moville with a handwritten forwarding address **Poste Restante, Mannheim, Germany** back via Dublin (12 May) to London (14 May). The route from London to Baden led to France (see **Via France** and **CALAIS/03 June**) and Kehl on the river Rhine (**Fig. 3a and 3b**).

The carriage of up to ¼ ounce (about 7g) from India via Marseilles to Moville cost 2 Shillings (s) and 8 Pence (d), written **2/8(d)**, of which the UK received 1/10d and France 10d. The **10d** were noted at the top right and were cancelled by deleting the 2/8. For the forwarding route Ireland to Kehl 1/4d, total **4/-** (shilling) were added in black (because unpaid). The settlement of the whole distance India – Moville – France – Kehl was not possible with the Grand Duchy of Baden, therefore the exchange post office in London held back the letter and noted **NQ 6666/Detained for Postage and Returned for 4/- Postage (Fig. 3c)**.

The addressee, Mrs. Staples travelling on route to Mannheim was contacted by the General Post Office (GPO) London regarding the fees requirement for the route India to Kehl. Such a form is displayed in the FAI-article in *Die Harfe* 45 (see above). The order to pay the total fee for the route India to Kehl was sent from Mannheim to London. It was paid by an agent or a bank. This is documented by the postmark of London **Paid/1 Ju(ne) 1/1840**. The black **4/-** has been crossed out in red ink and replaced by a **4/-**, as always in red ink for paid letters (right under / beside the London Paid). As far as the author understands the letter in the exchange post office at Kehl was prized for the way forward as follows: For the way Calais-Kehl **20** (Kreuzer) to France, with the 1/4d already paid, and for the route Kehl to Mannheim **8** (Kr), altogether **28** (Kr). This total amount is marked in red crayon within the London-Paid. The letter reached Mannheim on 06 June 1840. The recipient picked up the letter and paid the 8 Kr for the distance from Kehl to Mannheim.

1840. From Clara, King's County (now County Offaly), to Hamburg

This letter to the Messrs. Heine was to be paid in a receiving office at Clara. Until 1843 prepayment was compulsory, thus the handwritten note **prepaid Nov(em)ber 23th** (**Fig. 4a**).

At the counter of the post office the postmark **CLARA/PENNY POST** was used. The postmark comes from the "Penny Post" in Clara and the surrounding area and was used at a sub-post-office there. Many Penny Posts were operating in 18 and 19th century by private persons and municipalities to guarantee the local businessmen a mail delivery on the next day. Letters sent within the area of a Penny Post cost one penny, hence the name. These Penny Posts were copied from the Post Office of the United Kingdom, for example in Dublin in 1831. The author did not know that a Penny Post existed in Clara. For more detailed information on this Penny Post he would be grateful.

Before forwarding the letter to Dublin the necessary circular postmark **CLARA/NO(vember) 23/1840** was applied on the back of the cover (**Fig. 4b**). That the letter had been prepaid in Clara is also documented "officially" by the red ink postmark from Clara and the red colour of the paid postmarks of the next POs, the Dublin **PAID/NO-24M/1840** and the London **N/PAID/25-NO-25/1840**. Letters up to ½ oz. on the direct route to Hamburg, as in this letter from London down the Thames (Thames Packet) and across the North Sea, cost the considerable amount of 1/8d since the beginning of the 19th Century. The total postage to Hamburg including the domestic fee of 2d from Ireland to London came up to the noted **1/10d**. Pence were noted in the UK after the shillings with both slash and pence usually marked rather strikingly. This made the numbers sometimes hard to read. Unfortunately, the clerk in Clara also used a very thick pen and impressed quite strongly.

The "international" fee of 1/8d included the transport by packet to "Hamburg". However, for the British post "Hamburg" meant the port of Cuxhaven (near Hamburg) where the British mail ships disembarked their cargo. For transportation to Hamburg the addressee had to pay. This fee is marked by a red **4** in Hamburg Schilling Courant = approx. 4d. The *Stadt-post Hamburg* delivered the letter on **30 April 1840 (Fig. 4b)**.

Additional Fees for International Letters

Here an additional comment is necessary. For the carriage of letters sent abroad the British post always charged an extra fee for the way to London when the letters were sent from London to the continent. Until 9 January 1840 these rates were charged according to distance. This fee was added to the postage rate which had to be paid to the foreign country. On 10 January 1840 (introduction of the Penny Post in the UK) the old mileage rates for outgoing international letters were replaced by new reduced fees that were collected per ½ ounce. For places which were more than 20 miles away from London ("beyond London") this extra fee was 2d. Of course all places in Ireland are more than 20 miles away from London, so for all the letters shown here a 2d charge applies. The relevant literature suggests that this extra fee was discontinued from 06 April 1841. The whole UK became a uniform postal territory for mail sent abroad.

1841. From Delgany, County Wicklow, to Darmstadt, Grand Duchy of Hesse

The carriage of mail in "Hesse" was held by the famous house of Thurn and Taxis which had postal treaties with Prussia and France, not the United Kingdom though.

The sender of this letter noted on top of the sheet "Sunday night, Bellevue (Road), 2 April 1841". The post office marked the total fee paid in cash: **Paid 1/10** in the top right corner. The cover was postmarked on the back with Delgany/Ap 3/1841. From there it went via Dublin (**PAID/AP 4M/1841**), London (**N/PAID/5 AP/1841**) and Calais (almost invisible, red double-circle postmark right below the Dublin-PAID) to Darmstadt (on the back: **D 4-9/4**) (**Fig. 5a**).

The note **Via France** marks the route. This was necessary because otherwise the UK post would have forwarded the letter via Hamburg. The Hamburg route was more expensive, but more profitable for the UK Post Office as no shares had to be given to France or Belgium.

The fee on the route via France was 10d up to ½ oz. (since 1836) from the UK to Calais. From France to Darmstadt the letter cost 12d according to an agreement in which various fees to different German cities were listed. The total amount was thus 1/10d. This was obviously known to the Irish postal clerks as they charged the exact sum in cash.

On the back of the letter **35 xr** (Kreuzer) are listed (**Fig. 5b**). This sum is the equivalent to the fee of 12d for the route Calais-Darmstadt, most likely written by the T & T-Post. On the front we find **5 / 3** Silbergroschen. 8 Sgr were the equivalent of 12 d. But who got the 5 and who got the 3 Sgr? France, Prussia, T & T? This really simple letter has kept several philatelists busy. Unfortunately the author has not been able to clear up matters further. Also the German philatelists could not answer all questions asked.

Treaty with Prussia of 01 January 1847 to 31 July 1852; Transit via Belgium

The carriage of mail became faster; the amount of mail grew accordingly. And competition did not sleep, so national states agreed on detailed postal treaties with cheaper rates for postal customers. Prussia, the largest and most important German state and an important transit country to other German states and Northern and Eastern Europe, was in the forefront with its UK-treaty of 1 January 1847.

Before 1847 (or 1845 resp.) the British post routed its letters via Hamburg if the sender had not prescribed otherwise. On this route England had the highest profits while it was more expensive and also slower compared to the route via Belgium. In 1843 the railway line from Ostend to Cologne via Verviers and Aachen was completed. Focal point for this much faster and now more frequented route via Belgium was Aachen. The town's importance can be judged according to the large number of letters with Aachen postmarks.

Because of the treaty of 1847 (or earlier agreements of 1845) the so-called normal route changed completely. All the letters now passed through Belgium, unless the sender decreed otherwise. The letters could be prepaid in Ireland again for the complete route. Thus the addressee had in general no extra fees to pay. And unpaid letters were carried for the time being at the same rate as paid letters.

1850. From Belfast to Cologne, Kingdom of Prussia (Rhenish Prussia)

The letter from Grattan and Co. was posted unpaid in Belfast on the evening of the 14 December: **BELFAST/DE14/1850/EV(enin)G** (pm), then passed via London **16 DE 16/1850**, via Ostend and **Aus ENGLAND Per AACHEN/18/12** to **COELN/18-12/9-10** (Fig. 6).

The fee for letters via Belgium and Aachen was actually 12d (1s): 6d for the UK, 2d for Belgium and 4d for Prussia. The shares of Prussia and Belgium were recorded in the UK on the letters as 6 and 2, mostly on the right. This, however, applied only for letters up to ¼ ounce, because the weight progression was different in the UK and in Belgium. In the UK and in Prussia the letter rate was for ½ ounce – *British Scale* (about 14gr.), in Belgium, influenced by France, only for ¼ ounce (about 7.5 grams) – *French Scale*. This means that for letters from ¼ to ½ oz. the proportion in the UK and in Prussia could only be raised once, whereas the transit share for Belgium was raised twice.

For the unpaid folded letter shown here the UK received 6d from the Prussian post (listed in black for unpaid). In addition, the Head Post Office in Belfast noted the transit fee for Belgium. The UK received the contractual amount for Belgium because Belgium settled accounts with the UK. Since the weight of the letter was between ¼ and ½ oz., the UK was credited 2x2d for the Belgian share, i.e. 4d: Therefore the **6 4** (top right corner).

Prussia charged from the addressee the total fee: 6d for Ireland, 4d for Belgium and for the home

Treaty with Prussia of 01 August 1852 to 30 June 1859

The UK concluded a new postal treaty with the German Austrian Postal Union (DÖPV), founded in 1850. The DÖPV negotiated on behalf of the German states. The rates in all areas of DÖPV were now 8d per ½ oz. The route via Belgium and Aachen was cheaper than the route across France and became even more important.

August 1853. Port Stewart / Coleraine, Co. (London-)Derry, to Clausthal, Kingdom of Hanover

In the Receiving House (a small post office) **Port Stewart / Coleraine** the letter was paid in cash. It was then transported via Coleraine (**Au 26**), Dublin (**Au 27**) and London (**29 Au**) to Ostend and Aachen. In Aachen the letter arrived on 30 August: **FROM ENGLAND PER AACHEN-FRANCO/30 VIII/B**. FRANCO, because it had been paid in full in Ireland. On the back it received the arrival mark **CLAUSTHAL 31/8** (Fig. 7).

The sender decreed with his **Via Ostend** the route via Belgium and thus via Aachen. Hanover had joined the DÖPV in 1851. Therefore the postage should only have amounted to the 8d mentioned above: 3½d for the UK, 1d for Belgium and once again 3½d for Hanover.

However, the Irish post collected 9d, because 1d was raised on top for transit through the principality of Lippe-Detmold which at this time was not a member of DÖPV. This transit could be paid already in the UK. From the total of 9d the UK post kept 4½d: 3½d for themselves and 1d for Belgium. The share of Belgium was low because the letters were carried as closed mail. The remaining 4½d went to Lippe (1d) and Hanover (3½d). These 4½d were converted to **4 Sgr.** (Silbergroschen) and noted on the cover (bottom right).

Roy Hamilton-Bowen

Auction # 91 October 25th, 2014

Mail-Bid and Live on-line!

Here are a few of the high-lights:



**ALL of the lots can be viewed on-line from
early October at
www.liveauctioneers.com/auctioneer/harpmann**

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 Oldenburg - Grand Duchy (including the principalities of Lübeck and Birkenfeld)
 Prussia - Kingdom

Hanover - Kingdom
 Mecklenburg Schwerin - Grand Duchy
 Saxony - Kingdom

Southern States

Baden - Grand Duchy
 Wurtemberg and Hohenzollern - Kingdom

Bavaria - Kingdom

Postal District of Thurn and Taxis

The four Free Cities listed above and:
 Hesse Darmstadt
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 Nassau
 Reuss

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 Saxe-Coburg-Gotha
 Saxe-Meiningen
 Saxe-Weimar
 Schaumburg-Lippe
 Schwartzburg-Rudolstadt
 Schwartzburg-Sonderhausen.

Fig. 1b. List of the German states and postal administrations (according to Moubray).

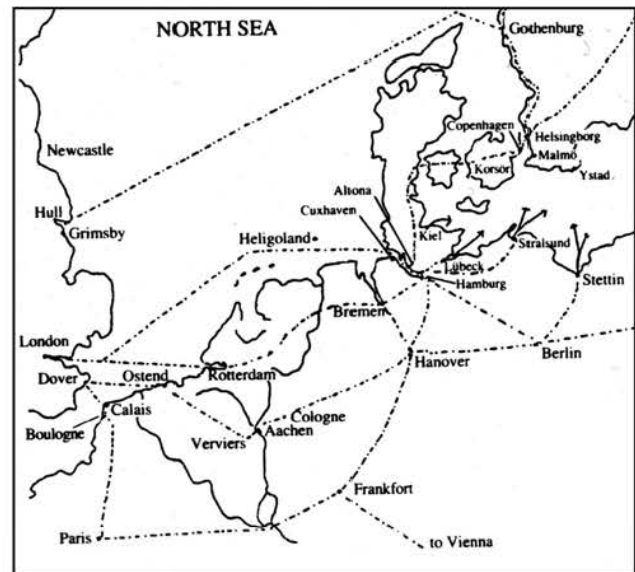


Fig. 2. Routes from London to Germany during the mid. 19th century (Moubray).



Fig. 3a. 1840. India – Merville – Mannheim. Front with an exceptional number of postmarks and notes.



Fig. 3b. 1840. India – Merville – Mannheim. Reverse



Fig. 4a. 1840. Clara – Hamburg via Cuxhaven. Front.



Fig. 4b. 1840. Detail of Reverse.



Fig. 5a. 1841. Delgany to Darmstadt with sharing of charges between Prussia and Thurn & Taxis in blue crayon



Fig. 5b. Detail: 35 (Kreuzer) = 12d, noted in Prussia.



Fig. 6. 1850. Belfast – Köln. weight ¼ – ½ oz.



Fig. 7. 1853. 1853. Port Steward – Clausthal with 1 d transit rate via Lippe – Detmold.

Auction News

The MacDonnell Whyte Ltd. auction occurred August 9, 2014, with good results for the Irish stamp market. It is a robust market and prices realized overall were solid as collectors continue to pay for quality material.

Some highlights include:

The lots featured on the catalog cover

Lot 434 Great Britain used in Dublin, 2d blue Victoria with blank lower corners so no letters, one of two known and only one in the market, sold for 4300 Euros

Lot 499 1865-67 Abortive Fenian 1c black on pale rose-mauve, unused with good margins, one of three known sold for 3400 Euros.

Lot 500 as above on green, unused sold for 2900 Euros

Lot 793 B7.1940 E wmk pane of 3 stamps + 3 labels unmounted mint wartime rarity, sold for 4400 Euros

The inside front cover featured the infamous withdrawn Irish Citizen Army stamp from January 2014

Lot 726 right margin single, unmounted mint sold for 625 Euros

Lot 727 as above sold for 700 Euros

Lot 728 as above sold for 625 Euros

Lot 729 left margin block of 4, unmounted mint sold for 2100 Euros

Lot 730 Upper left corner plate block, 1B with top margin, unmounted mint sold for 3100 Euros

(Since the summer Revealer there were no more auctions on eBay or Delcampe of this stamp.)

The inside back cover featured:

Lot 757 1922 cover from Canada to Dublin, prepaid 3c as domestic letter rate, thus taxed T2 or T30, so 1 1/2p was due, a Great Britain 1d postage due stamp was used along with a 1/2p 1922 Dollard Over print regarded as an unique combination sold for 1800 Euros.

Lot 803 1846 Great Britain postal stationery 1d pink with brilliant color blue AGHADOWEY/R.H. receiver .

The back cover featured:

Lot 416 Great Britain 1d red plate 29 OI, used on fancy 'Romeo & Juliet' gold on black decorative Envelope Dublin to Mayborough, probably a Valentine inside, tied by Dublin Maltese Cross

FE 16 1943, from F.E. Dixon's collection sold for 1850 Euros

Lot 734 Letter by balloon during Siege of Paris 1870 then by rail and sea to Dublin sold for 3900 Euros.

1922 Dollard 4-line Seahorse unmounted mint set Scot 12-14 sold for 320 Euros

1922 Thom 4-lines Seahorse unmounted mint set Scott 36-38 sold for 1450 Euros

1929 O'Connell set on 3 separate FDCs sold for 390 Euros

1937 St. Patrick Se watermark set of 3 unmounted mint sold for 350 Euros

1940 2B.2/-Booklet serial 22 complete mint with labels and fine panes sold for 9500 Euros

1972 2 Patriot Dead commemorative essays of unadopted design sold for 875 Euros

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**Joachim Schaaf, Brian Warren:
Irish Postal Rates 1839 to 2014 (Inland from 1839, Foreign from 1875).
FAI Literature Series Vol. 31.**

In 1995, the FAI published the second edition of "Irish Postal Rates before 1840". For the years subsequent to 1840 to the present time, there has been a demand for similar information on the Irish postage rates, particularly for the period following independence in 1922. In this publication, therefore, the authors have attempted to summarise all available information for the period since 1839 and list all the principal postage rates of interest to postal historians, if they wish to understand and explain the items in their collection. This publication does not provide information about parcel rates, postal rates for higher weight steps than 250g and bulk or advertising mail rates.

The different postal rates are listed in 17 tables which show all the changes in rates and services, particularly during the inflationary period of the 1970's and early 1980's. In the pre-decimal period there were special preferential rates for certain countries and certain classes of printed papers - both now abolished. Metric weight steps were introduced in 1977, "Swiftpost" in 1992, and in 1998 there was a reduction in letter rates and the amalgamation of the Letter and Printed Paper services. All such changes are reflected in the listings.

In the case of contradictory sources the tables are explained and supplemented by footnotes. The readers are invited to help with the few remaining gaps. Air Mail rates are listed from 1951 (Introduction of Uniform Air Mail Rates). As Air Mail Rates before 1951 varied per year and individual destination, they are intended to be collected and published in a separate booklet in the future.

The tables for the earlier years are based on information issued by the Department of Posts & Telegraphs. However, where possible, this information has been cross checked with relevant rates leaflets issued with Iris an Phoist (the weekly circular issued to post offices), copies of Eolaí an Phoist (Post Office Guide) or Almanacs/ Thoms Directories of the period. All rates since 1970 have been extracted from the relevant rates leaflets published at the time by the Department of Posts & Telegraphs/An Post.

The introduction to the listings is written in German and English, whereas the tables themselves are in English language only. A helpful table listing important keywords of postal communication is given in three languages English / Irish / German.

FAI - the Study and Research Group Ireland - was founded in Munich in 1982 and has now more than 200 members in twelve countries. Besides the literature series, the club magazine "Die Harfe" (The Harp) is issued four times a year (approximately 200 pages p.a.) and deals with Irish philately and its postal history. It is bilingual German/English.

Format DIN A4, 40 pages with several illustrations, selling price €12 + postage (€1,40 for inland, €5,50 abroad). Available from the FAI librarian: Wolfgang Fiedler, Am Mesterwinkel 12, 30952 Ronnenberg, Germany. Phone +49-511- 436996 , E-Mail: w.w.fiedler@web.de . Web: www.fai-germany.de

**2014 – 2016 ÉPA Election Ballot**

President: (Vote for one)
Richard Kelly, Illinois _____

Vice President North America: (Vote for one)
Raymond Murphy, Florida _____

Vice President Europe: (Vote for one)
Brian Warren, Ireland _____

Directors: (Vote for six)

Robert Benninghoff, NJ _____

David Brennan, NJ _____

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Otto Jung, Germany _____

William O'Connor, CA _____

Timothy O'Shea, MA _____

Write-in: _____

Please vote and return your vote in one of the following ways.
Please include your name and ÉPA number.

Name _____ EPA# _____

1. Return ballot by mail to: John B. Sharkey, Secretary
1559 Grouse Lane
Mountainside NJ 07092
2. Scan ballot and email to: jsharkeyepa@me.com
3. Indicate approval of entire ballot and email to: jsharkeyepa@me.com

SESCAL 2014

The 70th Annual Stamp Exhibition of Southern California

Sponsored by the [Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California](#)
will be held on

October 17 - 19, 2014

at the **Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel**

5711 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90045; 310-410-4000

The Irish Philatelic Association will have its annual general meeting in conjunction with SESCAL 2014. We are planning for a group dinner on Friday evening at 6:30 pm, which will be followed by a Board meeting. Our Annual General Meeting, which is open to all, will take place on Saturday at 2:30 pm and will include a presentation by Bill O'Connor on **"The Numerical Cancells of Ireland, 1855-1892"** and a member show-and-tell. Please bring an item of interest. Bill O'Connor and Darryl Templer make up the organizing committee for the Erie Philatelic Association.

We are also planning to have a table at the entrance to the show on Friday through Sunday to be staffed by members for welcoming, recruitment, and all things philatelic. In addition, exhibitors will be offering a tour of their exhibits in the exhibit area on Friday and/or Saturday. Please stop by the ÉPA table for the schedule of events and to say hello.

Saturday evening is the Awards Banquet and the Irish contingent always has a grand time at this event. Whether we exhibit or not, it is the enjoyment aspect of supporting the hobby that is important. Arrangements can be made if any member is interested in attending mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady on Sunday morning.

The ÉPA is looking forward to welcoming you to Los Angeles. Please visit the SESCAL website for further information and the exhibit prospectus. Special thanks for our Board member and SESCAL host Bill O'Connor. Bill, may be reached at conocon@aol.com or by phone at 1-760-723-7372 for special needs or assistance.

The committee is looking forward to welcoming all to Los Angeles. Contact SESCAL.ORG for all information to book a room at the Hilton LAX, get a copy of the exhibiting prospectus, and order banquet dinner tickets. Contact Bill O'Connor conocon@aol.com or phone 1-760-723-7372 for special needs or assistance.

An Interesting Letter from the Department of Post and Telegraphs --- From 1948

By Robert Benninghoff

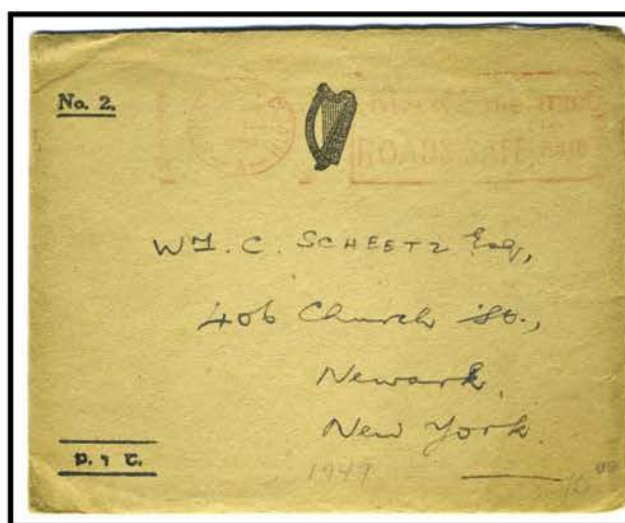
I came across an Official Post and Telegraph envelope at BALPEX 2014 postmarked 1948 and addressed to William Sheetz in Newark, New York (the rest of the date stamp is unreadable). The envelope contained a price sheet on Official P and T watermarked stationary of the stamps and other items available from the post office in 1948.

It appears that all the commemorative stamps were still on sale including the first issue in 1929 of the Catholic Emancipation Centenary through to the 1946 Davitt -Parnell Centenary. The November 1948 Wolf Tone commemoratives are not on the list, which probably puts this correspondence earlier in the year.

What is also notable is that both SE and E watermark Definitive (Permanent Issues) stamps were still on sale including the 2/6, 5/- and 10/- values. There is no specific mention of coil rolls or coil stamps available for purchase either the experimental coil from 1946 or earlier coils or any of the paste up coils. The postage due stamps were available for purchase, but the list does not indicate if the 1/2d, 1d and 6d were Se or E watermark stamps. The 5d postage due listed would be the E watermark. The Price list stated that information concerning new issues released to the press shortly before the date of issue. Information on future commemorative issues was not listed. which is in part a reason for the scarcity of some early first day covers.

A hand written note on the bottom of the list stated that 3d and 6d airmail stamps were available (even though they are listed near top of the list under Permanent Series, as well as 3d stamped envelopes, 2d postcards and 3 1/2d letter cards. The correspondence concludes that there are no control numbers on Eire Stamps.

Editor's note: customers purchasing stamps were to send their orders to the 'The Controller, Philatelic Section, G.P.O., Dublin, Ireland. This same address was still in use well into the 1990s when he still purchased stamps directly from the G.P.O.



STAMPA 2014

The 43rd annual Stampa is October 17-19, 2014. at the RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin.

Membership information is contained within this Revealer.

Membership includes exclusive miniature sheets and a commemorative booklet, many of which have greatly increased in values according to auction prices.

S.Y. 243.

Irish Postage stamps available for Sale

Permanent Issues

(Watermarked "SE" or "E")

1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 10d., 2s.6d., 5s., 10s.

(Watermarked "E" only)

½d., 5d., 9d., 1s.

½d. (Watermarked "SE" or "E") and 1s. (Watermarked "E") stamps of the former issue (Sword of Light design) are also available. Air Mail issues 3d. and 6d. (Watermarked "E").

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES. (Watermarked "SE").

1929	Catholic Emancipation Centenary	2d.	3d.	9d.
1930	Shannon Hydro-Electric Power Scheme		2d.	
1931	Royal Dublin Society Bi-Centenary		2d.	
1932	31st International Eucharistic Congress	2d.	3d.	
1933	Holy Year	2d.	3d.	
1934	50th Anniversary, Gaelic Athletic Association		2d.	
1937	Constitution of Ireland	2d.	3d.	
1938	Father Matthew Centenary	2d.	3d.	
1939	150th Anniversary American Constitution	2d.	3d.	
1941	25th Anniversary 1916 Rising (Overprint)		2d.	

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES (Watermarked "E").

1941	25th Anniversary 1916 Rising		2½d.	
1943	50th Anniversary Gaelic League	½d.	2½d.	
1943	Rowan Hamilton Centenary	½d.	2½d.	
1944	Bro. Rice Centenary		2½d.	
1945	Young Ireland Centenary		2½d.	6d.
1946	Davitt-Parnell Centenary		2½d.	3d.

POSTAGE DUE LABELS.

½d., 1d., 2d., 5d., 6d.

Applications for stamps should be accompanied by a remittance (Money Order or Postal Order) of the face value of the stamps required plus the sum of 6d., to cover postage, registration etc., and should be addressed to:-

The Controller,
Philatelic Section,
G.P.O.,
Dublin,
Ireland.

NEW ISSUES. Particulars of new issues are announced through the Press shortly before the date of issue. Information in advance therefore cannot be given to applicants.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS are not sold or exchanged by the Department.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs,
Dublin,
Ireland.

J. 178-800-5/48

*Air mail stamps
3d + 6d 1948
Stamped envelopes 3d
" postcards 2d
" letter cards 3d
* No control numbers
on five stamps*

Special Offers: Update

Tim O'Shea

Just published by the FAI is "Irish Postal Rates, 1839-2014" by Joachim Schaaf & Brian Warren. This is their 31st volume, others have included such subjects as postal stationary, definitive issues, and the many different books of postal history. This 40 page book is filled with inland rates, rates to Great Britain, Europe and world wide with both surface and airmail. Included are registration and insurance fees and compensation amounts. Also, included are late fees, postage due surcharge, certificates of posting, International reply coupons and advice of delivery charges. Parcel rates are not included because according to the authors there was not sufficient information for a presentation of the rates. Airmail rates before the introduction of the Uniform Airmail Rates in 1951 are not included because the authors state it was not possible to determine and list the multitude of rates which applied to airmail services. In the future, though, the authors intend to publish a separate listing of pre-1951 airmail rates. If any reader has any information about these rates the authors would welcome it. This book is a welcome addition for the modern postal history collector.

New this month is the DVD of the journal *Die Harfe* issues 1-116. *Die Harfe* is published by the FAI, the Study and Research Group Ireland. (PDF files) and are easily accessible for viewing and printing. The journal is bilingual starting with issue number 96.

The FAI is also updating "Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-1860". If you would have any information that would help with the updating of the original FAI booklet #6 by Bill Kane you are asked to contact John Frazer john@johnfrazer.co.uk



I have a puzzle for our members:

I came across an overprint, which appears to have been overprinted on the wrong British stamp, I have what appears to be Scott's #34, Stanley Gibbons #42, and Hibernian #T37, This stamp in all appearances is correctly identified as the 10d, Turquoise, with the 5 line Thom overprint. The detentions of the overprint and the perforations are all correct. The only thing out of place is the watermark; the watermark is Great Britain's 35, which according to Scott's is Crown and Block GvR Multiple. This watermark is not listed on that stamp in any of the above references. Can anyone shed some light on this mystery?

Barton R Holcomb EPA Life member
Colirish@gmail.com

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The following may be ordered from Timothy O'Shea, 58 Porter St. Granby MA 01033-9516 USA toshea1@comcast.net. Prices include postage & handling within U.S. Outside the US write or email me for postage costs. Payment in US \$. Checks, payable to Tim O'Shea, must be on US banks. (nm = Non-member)

EPA PUBLICATIONS

The Adhesive Revenue Stamps of Ireland: 1858-1925

by James J. Brady » An award winning detailed analysis of Irish revenue stamps of the period. Profusely illustrated with catalog listings by type, bibliography, 20 p + addenda. \$5.50 (nm \$7.25).

The First 55 Years of Irish coils

by Peter Bugg » A comprehensive listing of all Irish coils with a check list of all leaders & tab ends, illustrated, bibliography, 40 p. \$8.50 (nm \$10.50).

Ireland, Identification of the Rialtas and Saorstát overprints

by Joseph E. Foley » Includes a clear plastic overlay with accurate reproductions of the various overprints and a reprint of an illustrated article from The American Philatelist. \$7.50 (nm \$10.00).

The Post Offices & Datestamps of the Co. Leitrim

by Dr. Brian de Burca, updated by James T. Howley 72 illustrations of handstamps, map, and descriptions of post office locations, 23 p. \$6.25 (nm \$7.80).

An Introduction to Irish Mileage Marks

by W. E. Davey » Explanation & illustrated listing of early markings, 22 p. \$4.50 (nm \$5.65).

Irish Airmail, 1919-1990

by William J. Murphy » Lists all known mail-carrying flights to and from Ireland since the Alcock & Brown 1919 trans-Atlantic flight. Background information is provided for each flight. Covers are illustrated for most flights & a valuation guide provided. 96 p, bibliography & index. \$16.25 + \$1.25 postage (nm \$20+ \$1.25 postage).

Airway Letters To and From Belfast, Including Air "Railex" Letters

by William J. Murphy » From the 1934 Railway Air Services to 1988, the airway letter covers are listed and examples illustrated with a brief description of the flight. 26 p, bibliography. \$3.00 (nm \$4.00).

Irish Airmail - Balloon Posts, Rocket, Helicopter, Parachute and Glider Mail

by William J. Murphy » Covers a variety of mail as indicated in the title, with illustrations of covers, descriptions of events, pricing code and a bibliography, 22 p. \$3.00 (nm \$4.00).

Irish Aerogrammes and Airgraphs

by William J. Murphy » Provides a detailed listing of the aerogrammes rates, private supplemental printings, Northern Ireland & special usages, pricing code & bibliography. Jung catalog numbers referenced, 46 p. \$4.00 (nm \$5.00).

O.A.T. and A.V.2. Markings on Irish Airmail

by William J. Murphy » Introduction to these markings used during World War II & catalog listing of known Irish covers with the markings. Appendix lists covers to and from Ireland so marked. Illustrated with bibliography, 25 p. \$3.00 (nm \$4.00).

DVD of past Revealers, Supplements & Index 1951-2009

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FAI PUBLICATIONS

Publications of the German based Forschungs-und Arbeitsgemeinschaft Ireland E.V. are also available to ÉPA members. All have text in both English & German.

Irish Postal Stationery Stamped to Order

by Otto Jung » A detailed priced catalog and handbook, this 2003 edition includes updates since 1994. Illustrated, 174 p. \$20.00 (nm \$25.00).

The Mileage Marks of Ireland 1808-1839, 2nd ed.

by Hans G. Moxter » Illustrated listing of all known Irish mileage marks, 57 p. \$7.50 (nm \$10.00).

Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-1860

by William Kane » Listings of postal markings giving town names but no dates, includes information on Receiving Houses, illustrated, 63 p. \$7.00 nm \$8.75).

Introduction to The Post Offices of Co Clare, Ireland

by John Mackey & Tony Cassidy » Study developed from the postal archives of Dublin and London, 94 p. \$9.25 (nm \$12.75).

The Dublin Penny Post

by Manfred Dittmann » Based on extensive research in postal archives & museums in Ireland & Great Britain, this is a well documented treatment of the subject, illustrated, 312 p. \$35.00 nm \$45.00).

The Gerl Issues

by Otto Jung » A comprehensive listing of this definitive series. Written in German but with charts to help you understand the issues. \$3.75 (nm\$4.75).

75 years of Irish Stamps

An anthology by eight noted philatelists representing a variety of interests in Irish philately, with special postcard produced by An Post, illustrated, 139 p. \$20.00 (nm \$25.00).

Irish Postal Rates Before 1840, 2nd edition

by F. E. Dixon & Joachim Schaaf » Lists the Irish rates from 1637 to 1840, illustrated, bibliography, 37 pages. \$6.50 (nm \$9.00).

Irish Slogan Postmarks 1918-1994

by Uwe Netzsch » More than 300 illustrations by county, die and type, 116 p. \$17.50 (nm \$22.00).

The Irish Architecture Definitives

A detailed catalog covering the sheet stamps, booklets, FDCs & presentation packs, ill., 37 p. \$7.25 (nm \$9.75).

Irish Heritage and Treasures

by Otto Jung » Specialized catalog of this definitive set. \$10.00 (nm \$13.00).

Early Irish Stamp Canceling Machines Until 1922

by Manfred Schollmayer » \$11.00 (nm \$13.25).

The International Reply Coupons of Ireland

by Otto Jung » \$15.00 (nm \$18.75).

The Military Postal History of Ireland by Heinz-Jürgen Kumpf 364 pages \$73.00 (nm \$88.00)

Postal Stationery of Ireland by Otto Jung 260 pages \$62.00 (nm \$74.00)

DVD of issues 1-116 of the Journal Die Harfe by the Irish Study Group (FAI) based in Germany. Bilingual starting with issue #96. \$22.50 (nm\$28.00)

Irish Postal Rates, 1839-2014 by Joachim Schaaf & Brian Warren \$21.50 (nm\$27.00)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Irish Philatelic Society 1901-2001

by the Irish Philatelic Society » An interesting history which

the beginnings of Irish Postage Stamps, Exhibitions up to the Centenary Year 2001, 48 p \$13.25 (nm \$16.75).

The Dublin Spoon - 1855-57

by Cyril I. Dulin » Account of Ireland's 1st duplex obliterator, well organized with considerable detail, illust, value guide, bibliography, 48 p \$6.00(nm \$7.50).

The Rare Coil

compiled by Joseph E. Foley » Recounts the research in the Irish Post Office archives that firmly establishes the authenticity of this stamp together with background information, illustrated, 76 p. \$14.00 (nm \$16.75).

Ireland - Catalog of Perfins

compiled & edited by Richard L. Mewhinney » Punched for a 3 ring binder; catalog can also serve as an album. Published by The Perfins Club, 38 p \$9.00 (nm \$11.25).

Hibernian Handbook and Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Ireland 2014

Complete catalog of specialized Irish philately, 270 pp, full color with 4000 illust. \$50.00 (nm \$62.50).

Keeping In Touch, Communication through County Kildare before 1860

by N.P.J. Morrin » This book focuses particularly on the early postal system and examines how mail was carried along the country roads by various means of transport. Chapters are broken down by town with pictures of postal markings. 182 p. \$44.00 (nm \$54.00).

Uniform Fourpenny Post in Ireland

by Bill Kane » A 28 page study of the 4 penny post in Ireland published in 1990. \$10.00 (nm \$12.50).

Irish Crash Airmails 2nd Edition

by Ronny Vogt » \$20.00 (nm \$25.00).

Censorship of Mail in Ireland

by Hans G. Moxter » Covers mail censorship on the whole island of Ireland up to the present day, 126 p. \$25.00(nm \$30).

Court Circulars: A new perspective on Ireland Petty Sessions

by Peter Nansfield » Published by the Revenue Society of Great Britain, this booklet discusses the stamps, some of the documents on which they were used and the various duties of the Clerks. 40 p. \$13.00 (nm \$16.75).

Domestic Packets Between Great Britain and Ireland, 1635-1840

by Denis Salt » Deals with the Post Office Packet Services between Great Britain and Ireland. 50 p. \$25.00 (nm\$30.00).

History of the Irish PO » \$10.00 (nm \$13.00).

Uniform Penny Post in Ireland » \$7.00 (nm \$9.75).

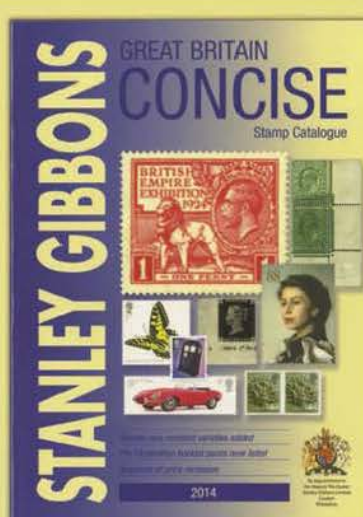
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Irish Provincial Penny Posts » \$6.00 (nm \$8.25).

Irish Postal Rates to 1840 » \$3.50 (nm \$5.50).

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