

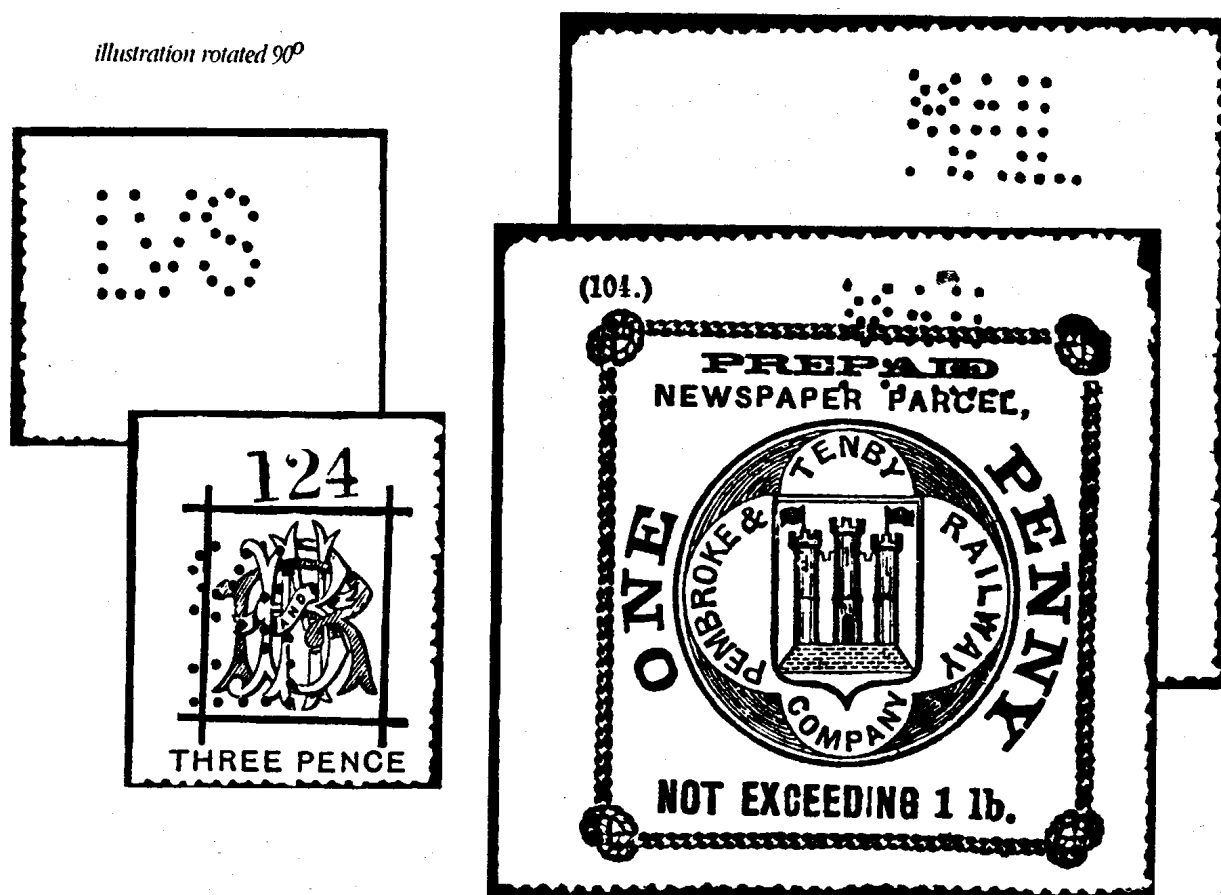
WELSH RAILWAY NEWSPAPER STAMPS WITH PERFIN

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The following illustrations show two newspaper parcel stamps in my collection which were issued by small Welsh Railway companies and were security perforated.

The small stamp was issued by the Neath & Brecon Railway, a line which only had 9 intermediary stations between Neath and Brecon. The stamp was perforated vertically with 'LVS' reading upwards. Although this railway opened in 1864 the period of issue and use of the four values of newspaper stamps are unknown.



The large newspaper parcel stamp illustrated was issued by the Pembroke & Tenby Railway and was security perforated with 'MAIL'. The Pembroke & Tenby Railway was a very short line and only had 5 stations between Tenby and Pembroke Docks.

This is a rare security perforation and is believed to be only the second example recorded. As can be seen in the illustration of the perfin, two, possibly three, pins are missing. The second pin up on the left leg of the 'NT' and the second pin up on the right leg of the 'A' are both missing. A pin representing the horizontal bar of the 'A' also appears to be missing.

The first newspaper stamps issued by the 'P & T' were used between 1866 and 1890 and the type shown above were later issued with control numbers. As the railway was taken over by the GWR in 1896 the period of use of this stamp must have been very short. Ewen even suggested stamps without serial numbers were possibly proofs but this perfin rules out that idea.