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A New Masonic Perfin

In the New Identities, Page 139, are details of a new perfin die, 'LF'. A few weeks ago **Steve Dunderdale** wrote to tell me about this perfin and he sent the following, given to him by the Editor of the Masonic Philatelic Club's newsletter.

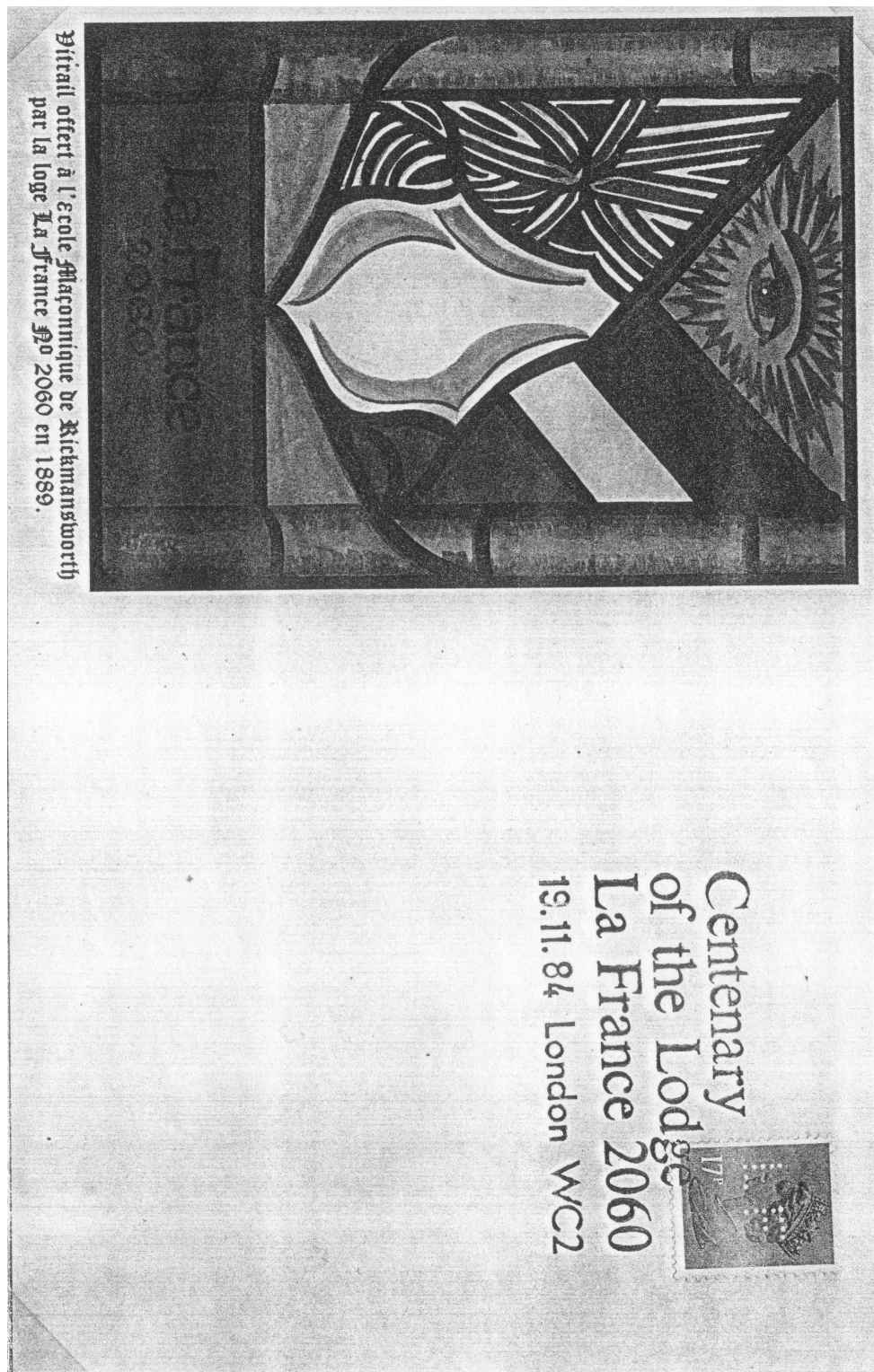
Lodge La France No.2060.

The 12½p stamp was perfined early for use on a commemorative cover/card, to be used on 19-11-84. The lodge then found that they required 1st class stamps, plus postal rates were to go up before the date the commemorative cover was to be used.

The 12½p stamps were used on regular correspondence etc with additional values to make up the postage. The number of covers/cards produced is not known (100/200?). None have been seen at Stamp Fairs etc so must be a low number. They may appear on covers from late '84 to Sept '85 with London area postmarks. He wrote to the Lodge in Sept '85 to enquire about purchasing some mint perfins but was informed they did not perfin their stamps and had used up all the 12½p values.

This photocopy of one of the commemorative cards is not to scale. It depicts the stained glass window given to the Masonic School for Girls at Rickmansworth in 1889.

The stamp (17p second class postage at that time) is perfined with the Lodge's initials 'LF' and is cancelled with a commemorative postmark.



I was also sent a photocopy of an envelope dated 25 SEP 85 with the perfined 12½p plus other non-perfined stamps to make up the postage. So keep your eyes open for this rather rare item.