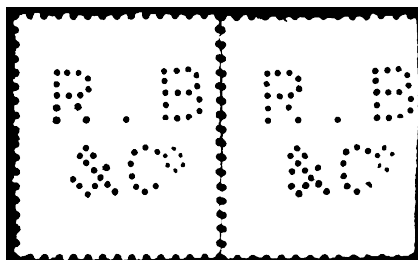


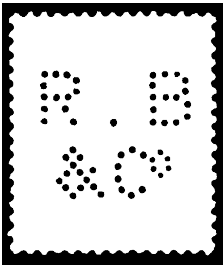
ATTENTION TO DETAIL!

Roy Gault

How many times are we collectors faced with the dilemma of whether to split a multiple to provide an example to trade, or to leave it intact for posterity? Illustrated below is a once-joined pair sent in by **Peter Peniket**. I hasten to add that the pair was not split by Peter, but separated way back in the mists of time, and somehow the two stamps managed to stay together. The stamps involved are Queen Victoria Surface Printed 6d values from plate 12 in Grey, issued on 24th April 1873, with lower corner letters S-G and S-H. The London Chief Office postmark (a diamond in a barred oval) is dated 26th September 1873.



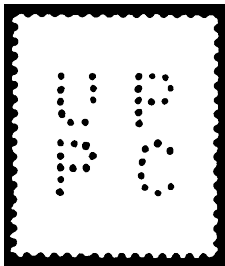
The “R.B./&C^o” perfin is an unpublished die, allocated R0470.03, for which only two other examples have been reported. The fact that there are different missing pins in Peter’s two examples, and that they are on adjoining stamps from the same sheet, provide overwhelming evidence that the die was multiheaded and so becomes R0470.03M.

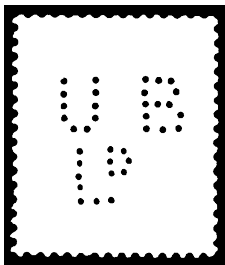
1872-1877	
	Dates: 26 Sep 1873. Issues: QV 1d (SG43) - plate 157 QV 4d - plate 15 (green) QV 6d - plate 12 (grey)
R0470.03M	Pmks: (L)ondon.

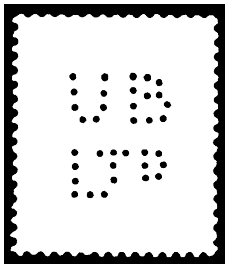
Can anyone report any more examples of this scarce die to help establish a more accurate die in use date range?

Attention to detail can also pay dividends as the following illustrates.

While looking through material ready to update later in the year the low-volume letter ‘U’, I noticed a distinct difference in the shape of some of the holes making up the pattern for “UB/L^d” (U0250.03). The fact that the “L^d” portion does not sit symmetrically below the “UB” also rang alarm bells. Removing the three ‘different’ holes forming the lower loop to the “B” from the top line suggested it was once “UP”, and sure enough, a quick search yielded a candidate in “UP/PC”.

1915-1920	
	<p>Dates: 20 April 1916.</p> <p>Issues: I(RC) ½d, 1d, 2d</p> <p>Note: Probably a Sloper die which sat on the shelf unused after c1920.</p> <p>Ident: United Petroleum Products Co Ltd, Baltic Buildings, 21 Bury St, London EC.</p> <p>Pmks: (L)ondon.</p>
U1580.01	

c1939	
	<p>Dates:</p> <p>Issues: Q ½d, 1½d, 2d</p> <p>Note: Probably produced ‘in a hurry’ by Slopers before they made U0270.01 (see below). The “L” uses two holes from the “P”.</p> <p>Ident: Ø Unwin Bros Ltd, Printers, London, and Old Woking, Surrey.</p> <p>Pmks:</p>
U0250.03	

1939-1941	
	<p>Dates:</p> <p>Issues: Q 2½d</p> <p>Note: Although listed as “UB/L^d” in the Sloper m/s ledger, this is thought to be the single headed die believed destroyed in the “Blitz”.</p> <p>Ident: Ø Unwin Bros Ltd, Printers, London, and Old Woking, Surrey.</p> <p>Pmks:</p>
U0270.01	

All three dies are relatively scarce, *so can anyone add any more details to those listed above?*