

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 1/1	r/A l/na 1/1 raised c
	r/A l/na	1/1
l/na in/l	l/na 1/1	r/A l/na
1/1	r/A 1/1	r/A l/na
		r/A l/na 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 l/na	r/A l/na 1/1	r/A l/na 1/1 Raised c
	r/A l/na	
l/na in/na	1/1	1/1
1/1	r/A 1/1	r/A l/na
r/A l/na		r/A l/na 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.

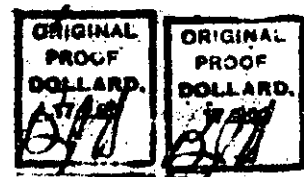
It is very doubtful whether these are true proofs taken before overprinting the stamps, they are rather considered to be philatelic proofs produced for a Dublin dealer with the connivance of Dollards.

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 Sealadae na h6ipeann 1922	RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 1922	RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 1922	RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 1922
RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 2022	RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 2022	RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 1922	RIALCAP Sealadae na h6ipeann 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.