



Irish Provisionals.

"Dollard" Printing.

Black overprint.



SUPPLEMENT No. 16

EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

April, 1964



To produce the first postage stamps issued February 17, 1922, the Irish Provisional Government divided the work of overprinting the British stamps between the Dublin printing firm of Dollards and Messrs Alex Thom.

The values chosen for overprinting by the Dollard Printing House, Ltd. of Wellington Quay and Essex Street, Dublin were 1/2d, 1d, 2 1/2d, 3d, 4d, 9d, 10d and the three high values 2/6, 5/- and 10/-

On February 2nd, 1922, the Dollard firm submitted its bid and proofs to the postal authorities and was awarded the contract the same day. The work began immediately and the overprinted stamps were delivered to the Post Office in time for simultaneous release with the Thom printing on February 17th, 1922

The settings for the Dollard overprints on the low values was extensively discussed by Mr. H. G. Leslie Fletcher in Supplement No. 12. It is the purpose of this supplement to list the more common varieties of broken letters and misplaced overprints. The major typographical errors - the inverted overprints appeared in Supplement No. 14.

R
se

1. Shifted Settings or Overprints

(a) R over Se. Setting 1 of the Dollard overprints contains no R over Se shifts. The R over Se shift is fairly common in settings 2 and 3, occurring 80 times in setting 2 and 128 times in setting 3.

(b) Vertical Shift of Overprint as a result of improper feeding of the sheets of un-overprinted stamps to the press. Perry Adams in THE REVEALER (March-April 1956, pp.261-2) discussed these interesting varieties which resulted from such improper feeding. Not too many got into circulation because of the care used by the printers. Thus part of the overprint appears on the subject stamp and the balance on the next stamp vertically. Depending upon the position of the stamp on the sheet, some stamps actually are missing parts of the complete overprint. These are not listed in the standard catalogs and reference is made to Meredith's - "The Postage Stamps of Ireland 1922-1927" - an invaluable work to this day although out of print.

Date Omitted Entirely

Rialtas Missing Entirely

1/2d Dollard Meredith V-117

1d Dollard Meredith V-118

9d Dollard

1d Dollard Meredith V-140

Part Date at Top and Part at Foot

Part Rialtas at Top and Part at Foot

1/2d Dollard Meredith V-127

1/2d Dollard Meredith V-141

1d Dollard Meredith V-128

1d Dollard Meredith V-142

9d Dollard Meredith V-135

Date at Top of Stamp

Rialtas at Foot of Stamp

1/2d Dollard Meredith V-122

1/2d Dollard Meredith V-137

1d Dollard Meredith V-123

1d Dollard Meredith V-138

9d Dollard Meredith V-126

(c) Horizontal Shift of Overprint.

Our late member, Mr. Perry Adams discussed similar varieties caused by improper feeding of the sheets which were not classified by Meredith. These varieties were caused by the improper placing of the un-overprinted sheets horizontally in the printing press. This report by Perry Adams appeared in THE REVEALER, for July-August 1956 (p.278).

We have all seen copies of the stamps in which part of the overprint, particularly the final "c" of "Sealadac" does not appear on the stamp. Your editor has copies of shiftings to the left and also to the right.

To the left - 1/2d Dollard - part of the S of Sealadac and part of the h of hEireann is missing. Another in which all of the "S" and "h" is missing from the subject stamp.

To the right - the 1/2d Dollard - most of the c of "Sealadac" and most of the final "n" of "hEireann" is missing.

Perry Adams discussed what he called the "Birdshot" typeshift in which so greatly to one side was the shift of the whole cliché that the overprint from the stamp horizontally adjacent slid over to appear in part upon the subject specimen, leaving the center of the stamp free of any overprint.

Perry said that this appeared upon only the 1/2d and 1d Dollards with the single exception that he found it on a pair of the 2 1/2d (red) in the late Forties. He also said that he had been advised that there was a report of the Dollard 4d in red with such a shift.

Your editor can report the 1d Dollard in two shifted positions. A shift to the right, so that the complete overprint appears on the stamp and in addition, the c of Sealadac and part of the final "n" of hEireann of the adjoining stamp to the left. In the other, the shift is so pronounced that the final "r" of "Rialtar", the c of Sealadac and part also of the final "a" of Sealadac and the final "n" of hEireann is missing on the right and appears on the left.

Your editor can also report the 5d Dollard with the final "c" of Sealadac and the final "n" of hEireann missing on the right and compensated on the left.

2. Defective and Broken Type

While these are not particularly significant, the average collector may want to collect some of these interesting varieties. We shall not attempt to list broken letters, of which there are a great many, except for constant ones:

(a) Raised c of Sealadac. The 1st, 3rd, 9th and 12th stamps of rows 1, 6, 11 and 16 of settings 2 and 3 of the Dollard overprints have the final "c" of Sealadac raised, more pronounced in setting 3 than in setting 2.

Black - 1/2d, 1d, 3d, 5d, 10d. Red - 2 1/2d, 4d (also carmine) and 9d

(b) No dot on "c" of Sealadac. The c is also raised. 9th stamp 1st row and 3rd stamp of the 11th row. Setting 2.

Black - 1/2d, 1d, 3d, 5d, 10d. Red - 2 1/2d, 4d and 9d

(c) R:altar. 10th stamp, 11th row. Setting 1

Black Dollards - 1/2d, 1d, 2 1/2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 9d, and 10d.

(d) Flaw through "Sealadac" - Stamps 1, 2 and 3 of the 12th row. Setting 2.

Black Dollards 1/2d, 1d, 10d.

(e) .922 7th stamp, 17th row. Setting 2 Black - 1/2d, 1d and 10d.

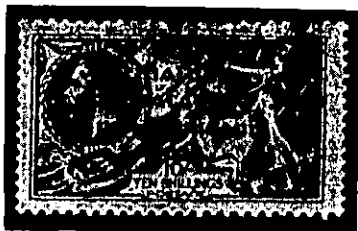
(f) 192² 3rd stamp, 16th row. Setting 3

Black - 1/2d, 1d and 3d Red - 2 1/2d, 4d and 9d

Dollard Red Overprints of April, 1922.

It was decided to discontinue printing the 2 1/2d, 4d and 9d values with a black overprint on and after April 1st, 1922, and thereafter these values were overprinted in red. The reason for the change was that the black overprint was unsuitable on the dark colors of these particular stamps. It was originally intended to overprint the 1/2d and 10/- values in red, but nothing definite was decided and no alteration was made. The 4d appears in a carmine shade.

2 1/2d red - 1,298 sheets 4d red - 1,798 sheets 9d red - 2,602 sheets
Page 66 (E-6)



#14, 10/-

High Value Varieties.

"Dollards"

Messrs Dollard also first overprinted the high values 2/6, 5/- and 10/-. They were overprinted from a single plate, consisting of two sections of twenty overprints each, arranged 4 x 5 in the same manner as the low values. To overprint the complete sheet of forty stamps for the high values, the two identical sections were placed together, one above the other.

The number of sheets of the high values overprinted for issuance on February 17th, 1922 were:

2/6	1,000 sheets (40,000 stamps)	5/-	650 sheets (26,000 stamps)
	10/-	500 sheets (20,000 stamps)	

SHORT THIRD LINE VARIETY ON HIGHS

There were no significant printing varieties for the high values, except the one major variety which is called the "Short Third Line" and occurs six times on the sheet of forty stamps. In this variety, the third line of the overprint measures only 21 mm instead of the usual 21 1/2mm. Thus, this variety is often confused with the later Thom overprint on the high values in a somewhat similar type (Scott Nos. 36-38).

The appearance and ink will furnish a distinction as well as the measurements of other lines but there is one unfailing test which will distinguish this short third line Dollard from the subsequent Thom overprint of the same values. The h of hEireann is above the level of the other letters in the word (on the Thom, it is on the same level). In addition, the space between the inner sides of the shafts forming the h (1 mm) corresponds generally with the space (1 mm) between the outer side of the short right shaft of the h and the outer left side of the curve which forms the E.

The reason for the short third line is unknown. Meredith in his 4th Edition of "The POSTage Stamps of Ireland 1922-1927" stated that the variety appeared in five positions on the sheet 1 x 4 (sheet position 4), 2 x 4 (sheet position 8), 6 x 4 (sheet position 24), 7 x 4 (sheet position 28) and 9 x 1 (sheet position 33).

Our own member, Malcolm O'Reilly demonstrated that Meredith was somewhat in error. In "The Short Third Line Revisited" (THE REVEALER, July-August, 1956, pages 276-7), Mr. O'Reilly said:

"I have always felt the listing to be incomplete. The Dollard shillings were overprinted using one plate - which was made up of two identical stereotypes of 20 subjects for the forty positions. It was logical, therefore, to assume that since the Short Third Line was found in 9 x 1 (position 33) it had also to occur in 4 x 1 (position 13). Following this theory to a practical conclusion, involved obtaining sufficient material to prove that the Short Third Line does exist in position 13. The successful conclusion to this project was reached some time ago. But after the momentary exhilaration of success waned, the incident was forgotten."

"For the record, the Dollard Short Third Line may be found in the following positions:

LOCATING THE POSITIONS

"The three positions (6 plate positions) may be identified. Without side (or top) selvage they can not be identified on the sheet. They can be reduced to two possible positions:

.	.	.	X
.	.	.	X
.	.	.	.
X	.	.	.
.	.	.	.
.	.	.	X
.	.	.	X
.	.	.	.
X	.	.	.
.	.	.	.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF RIALTAS POSITIONS -SHORT THIRD LINE

Positions 4 & 24

RIALTAS
Sealadaic
na hEireann
1922

Positions 8 & 28

RIALTAS
Sealadaic
na, hEireann
1922

Positions 13 & 33

RIALTAS
, Sealadaic
na hEireann
1922

"1) Positions 4 & 24 - The tail of the r in h Eireann, if extended, would pass between the 1st and 2nd 2's of 1922. The i of Rialtas, if extended, would pass between the uprights of the h in h Eireann.

"(2) Positions 8 & 28 - The tail of the r in h Eireann, if extended, would strike the cap of the second 2 of 1922. The i of Rialtas, if extended, would pass through the large upright of the h in h Eireann.

"(3) Positions 13 & 33 - The tail of the r in h Eireann, if extended, would touch the rear of the 1st 2 of 1922. The i of Rialtas, if extended, would pass through the small upright of the h in h Eireann.

"The illustrations are slightly exaggerated to emphasize the points of identification. They are enlarged for the same purpose.

"While there are other points of differentiation, these should be sufficient for the purpose."

CHECK-LIST OF THE DOLLARD ISSUE

Scott No. 1	S.G. No. 1	1/2d	Green
1a	1a	1/2d	Green (the inverted overprint)
2	2	1d	Scarlet (shades)
	3	1d	Carmine-Red
2a	2a	1d	Scarlet (the inverted overprint)
3	4	2 1/2d	Ultramarine
4	5	3d	Violet
5	6	4d	Slate Green
6	7	5d	Yellow Brown
7	8	9d	Black Brown
8	9	10d	Light Blue
12	17	2/6	Brown (Chocolate Brown)
	18	2/6	(Sepia Brown)
13	19	5/-	Carmine Rose
14	21	10/-	Gray Blue
9	22	2 1/2d	Ultramarine (Red Overprint-April)
10	23	4d	Slate Green (Red Overprint-April)
10A	24	4d	Slate Green (Carmine Overprint-?)
11	25	9d	Black Brown (Red Overprint-April)