

NEWSPAPER DUTY

THE STAMP TYPES

Five different types of newspaper duty handstamps are recorded in the duties of halfpenny and one penny. The ordinance also described duties of sixpence and three shillings, but these were not intended for newspapers and no copies are recorded in private hands. Most surviving copies of the handstamps are cut from their original newspapers as demonstrated below.

1827. FIRST ISSUE

Halfpenny duty. Tall crown. Flower motif below the crown. Halfpenny was the duty payable per supplementary page of a newspaper.



One penny duty. Two different dies were used. Both showed the flower motif. Die 1 was struck directly on the newspaper. Die 2 was sometimes used for preparing sheets of stamped paper to be cut out and applied to the sheet of paper prior to printing.

Die 1.
Text close to top of crown.



Die 2.
Text close to upper frame line. Larger letters



News type printed on top of handstamp.

1844. SECOND ISSUE

Halfpenny and one penny duties. No flower motif in design.

Half Penny



Handstamp struck on top of news type.

One Penny



Handstamp struck on top of news type.