

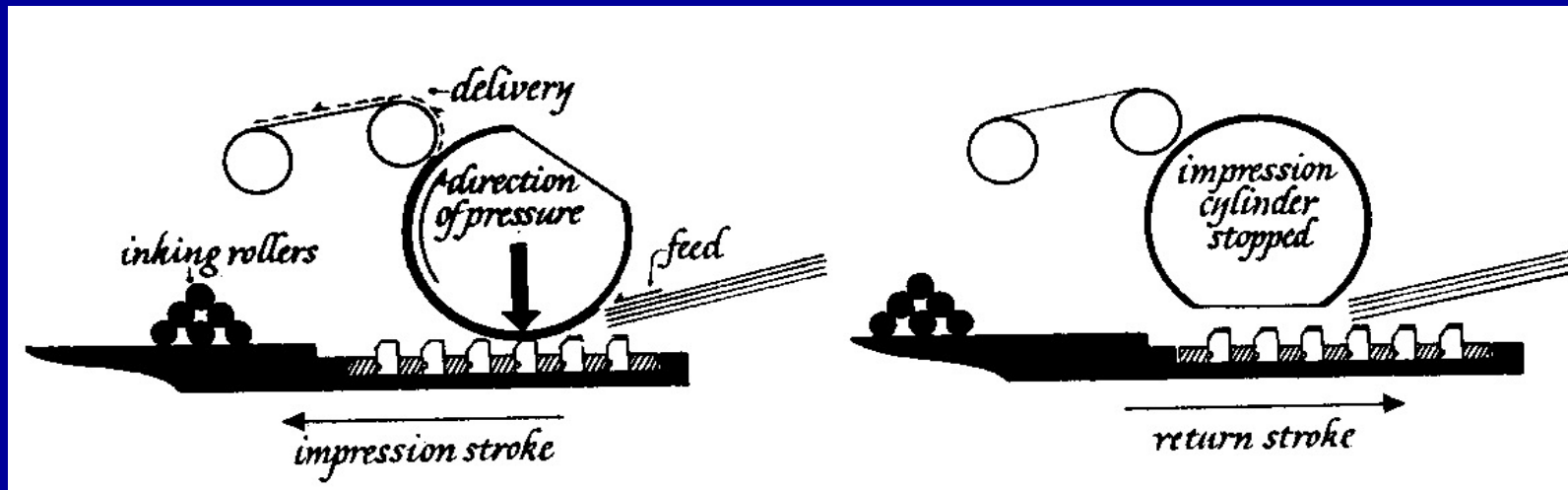
Methods of Stamp Printing

Letterpress

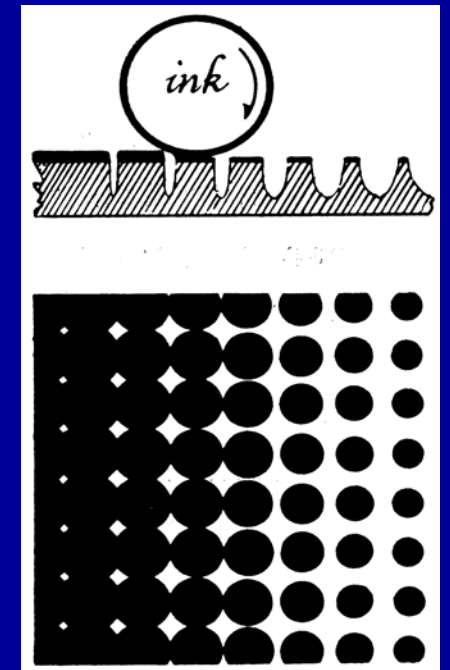


Letterpress Printing

- The printing process used for text
- Can print large areas of solid colour
- Better simulation of tone than intaglio
- Higher speed and cheaper than intaglio
- Dies produced by engraving
- Not of the same fine quality as intaglio



Wharfedale stop-cylinder press

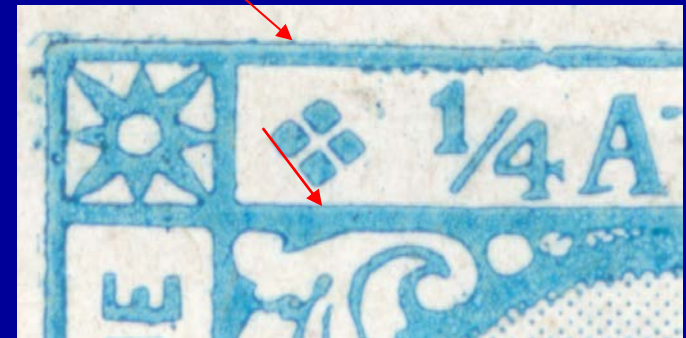


Tone representation in letterpress

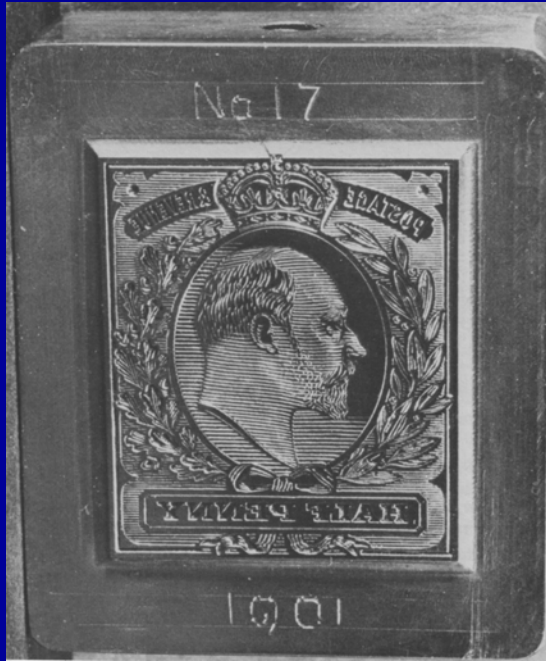
Letterpress Examples



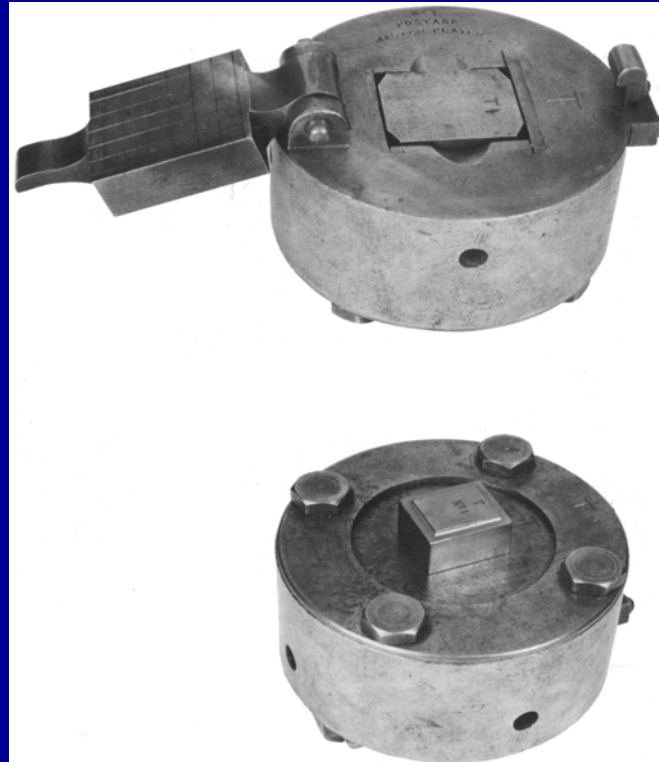
In letterpress printing the ink tends to be squeezed to the sides of a printed area giving a darker edge



Letterpress Dies



The engraved die



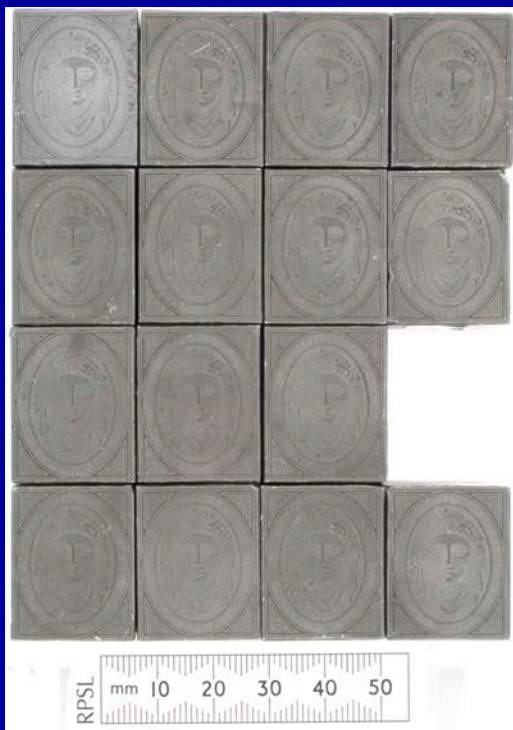
The die is placed in the base of the collar. A blank lead and the plunger are placed in the top



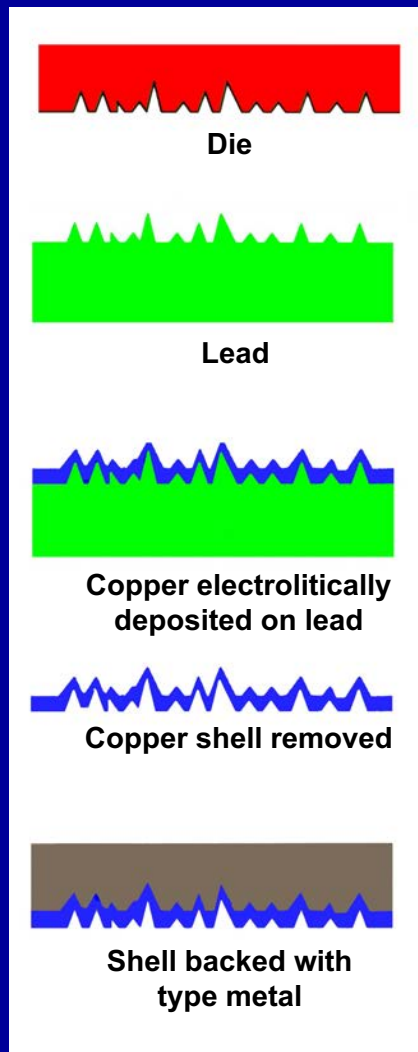
The collar is placed in the hydraulic press which forces the plunger down impressing the die pattern into the lead

Making the Letterpress Printing Forme

- The leads are assembled into a printing chase with the require no of stamps
- The leads are coated with graphite to improve electrical conductivity
- The whole is placed in an electro-plating bath and a copper or nickel shell deposited
- The shell is removed and backed with type metal
- The whole is then suitably mounted on a base to bring it to type height (diameter of 1s).

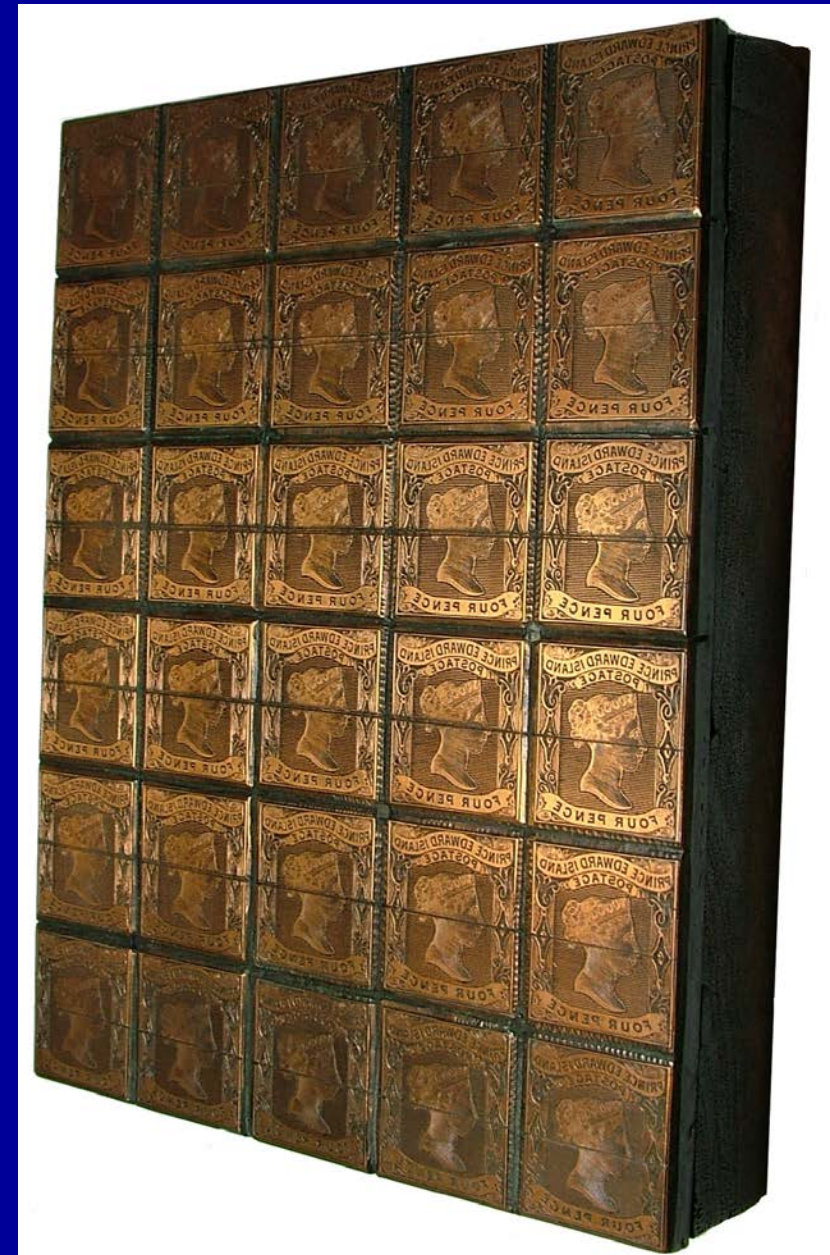


Making the Electro



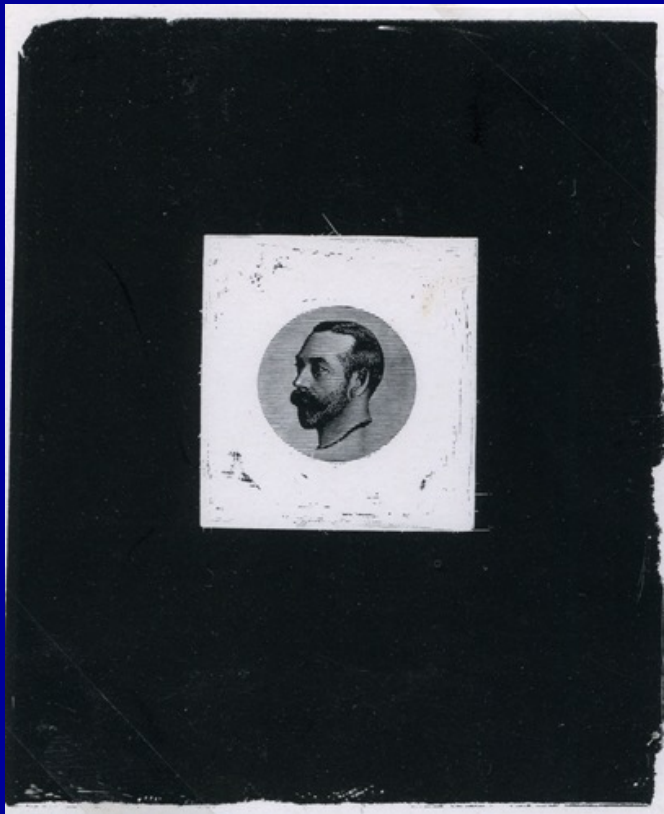
The stages of making an electro

Electrotype of the Prince Edward Island Two Pence printed by Charles Whiting. The thin layer of electrolytically deposited copper has been backed with type metal to a thickness of about 5 mm and the whole mounted on a wooden base to bring it to type height (diameter of 1s).



The Downey Head Die

Engraving the Die from a Photograph



Die proof



Cleaned-up Die proof



Head Die

The Downey Head Die

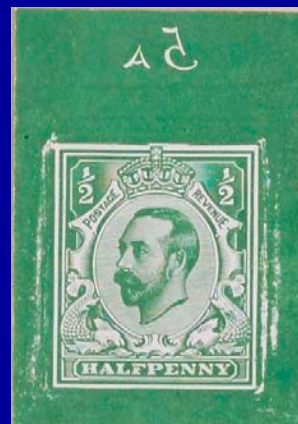
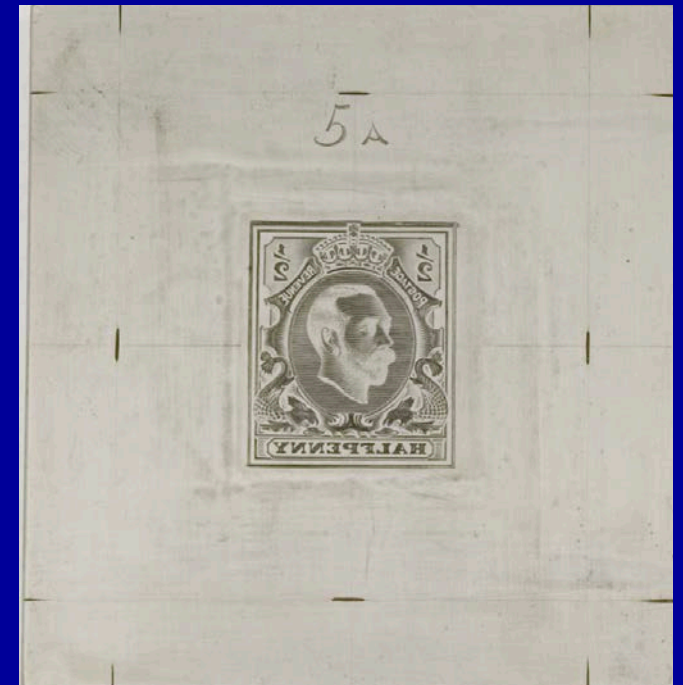
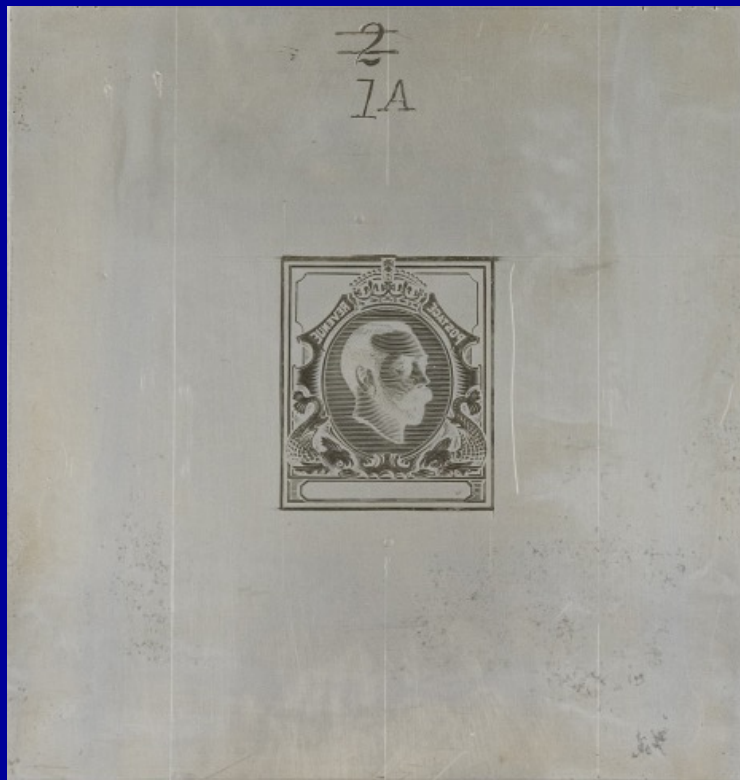
Head die transferred and Cleaned-up



Head background shaped to intended frame
This is not the head used in the 1/2d

The Downey Head Die

Frame and Value added to give Master Die

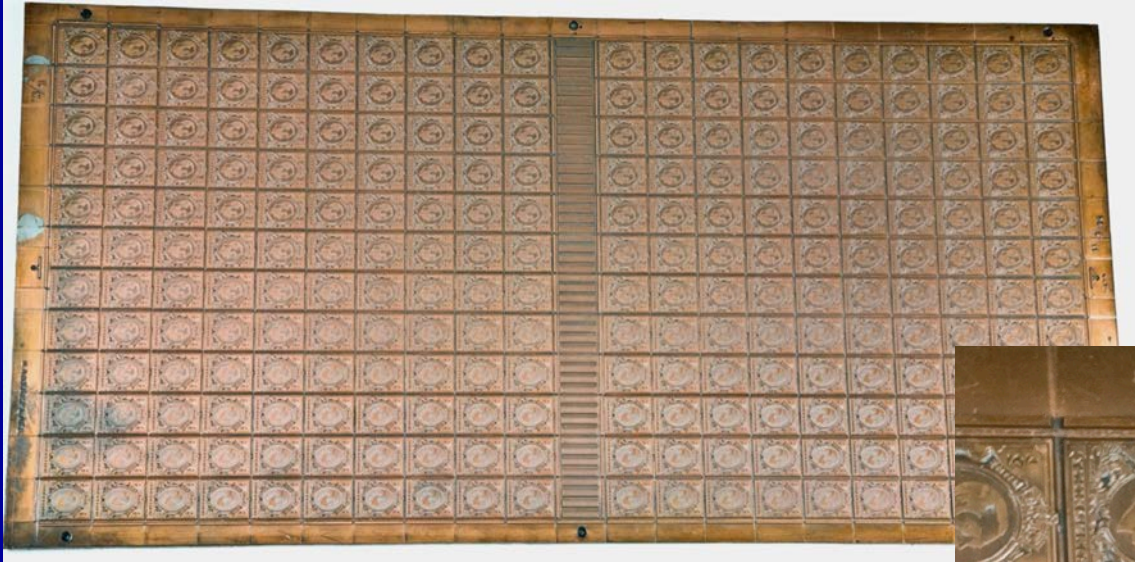


The Downey Head Die

Die for striking leads

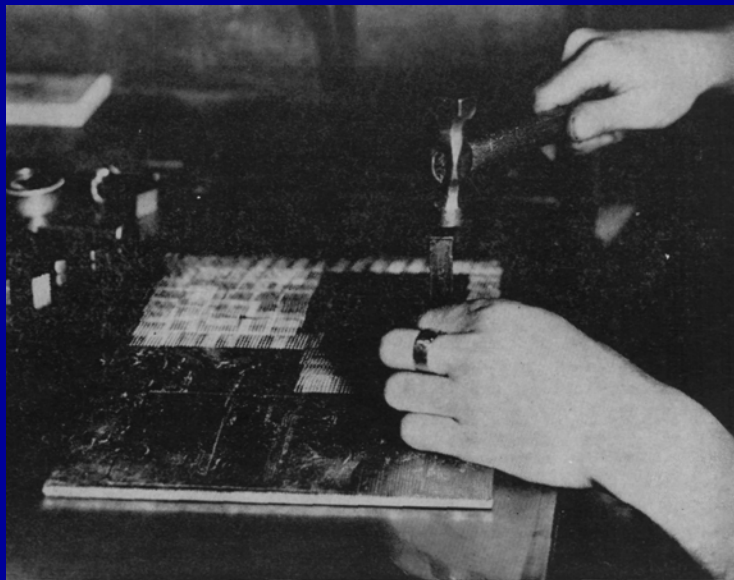


Finished Electro

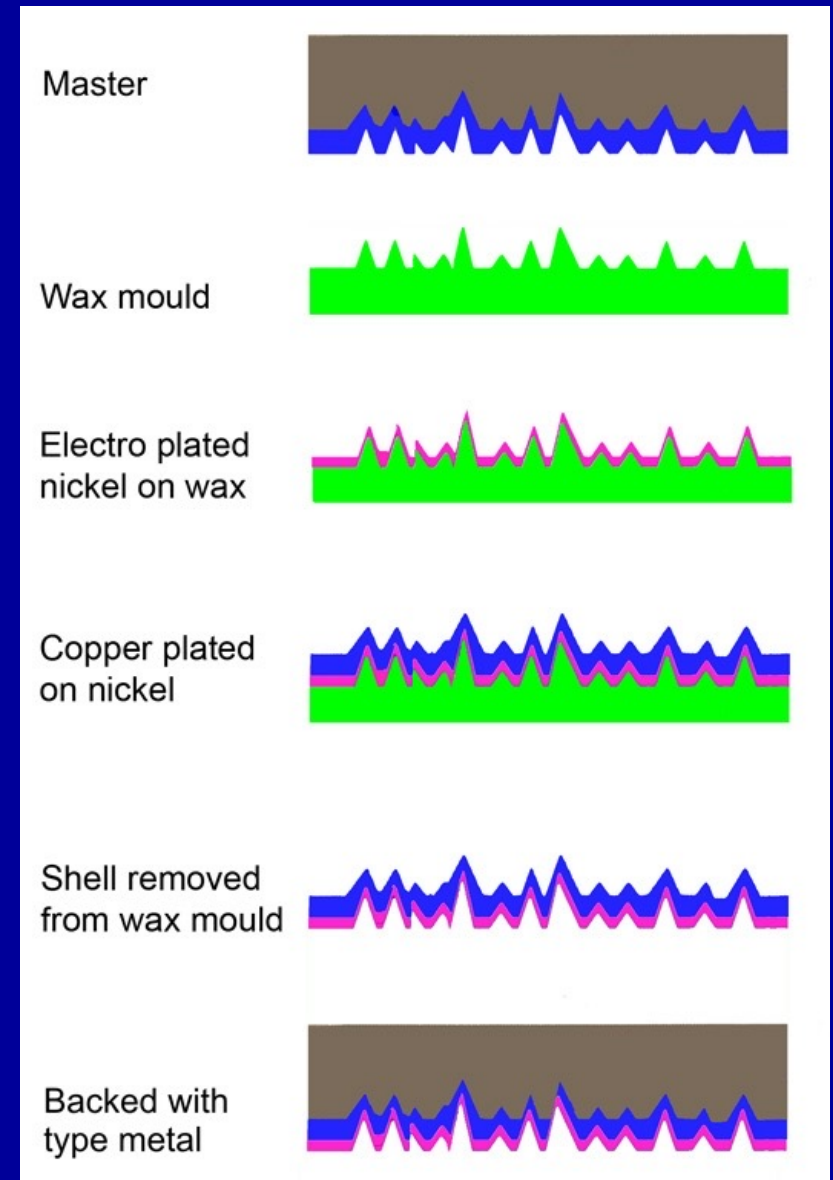


Making the Working Plate

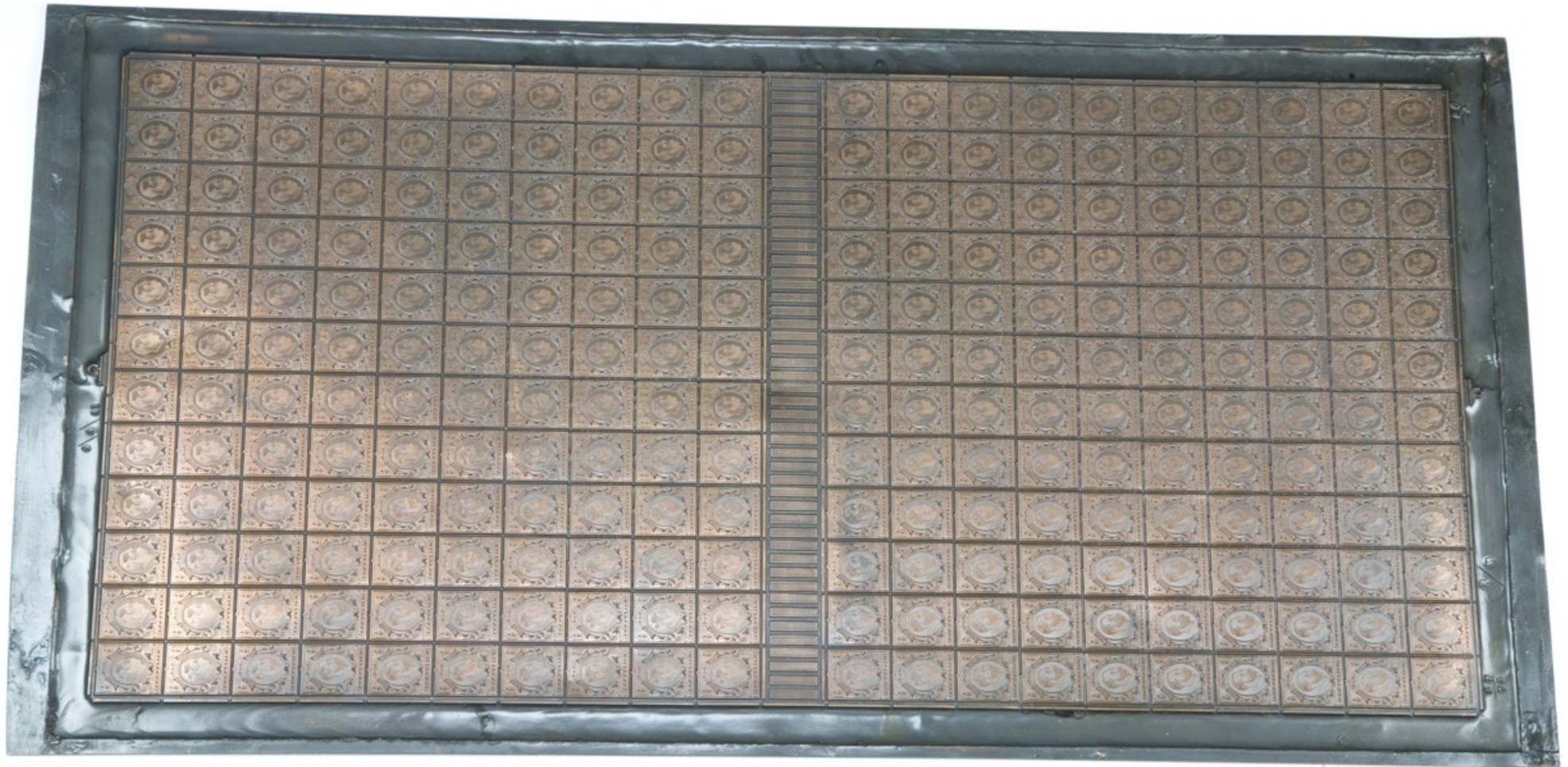
- A wax mould made from the copper master plate
- The printing surface is coated with graphite
- This is electroplated with copper or nickel.
- The nickel is then plated with copper
- The shell is backed with type metal and slabbed



Slabbing – To get the printing face flat



Wax Mould after Plating



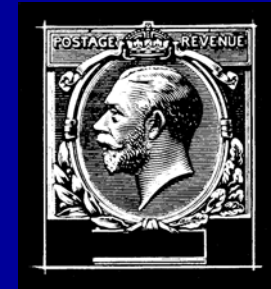
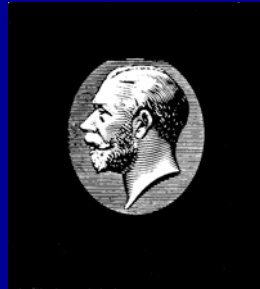
Nickel Shell

Nickel shell, before backing, made by electroplating the wax mould



Harrison Letterpress Dies

Mackennel Medal Head



Progressive die proofs. The head is rolled in and the frame engraved round it.

Head A Frame 1



Head B Frame 3

Head A Frame 2

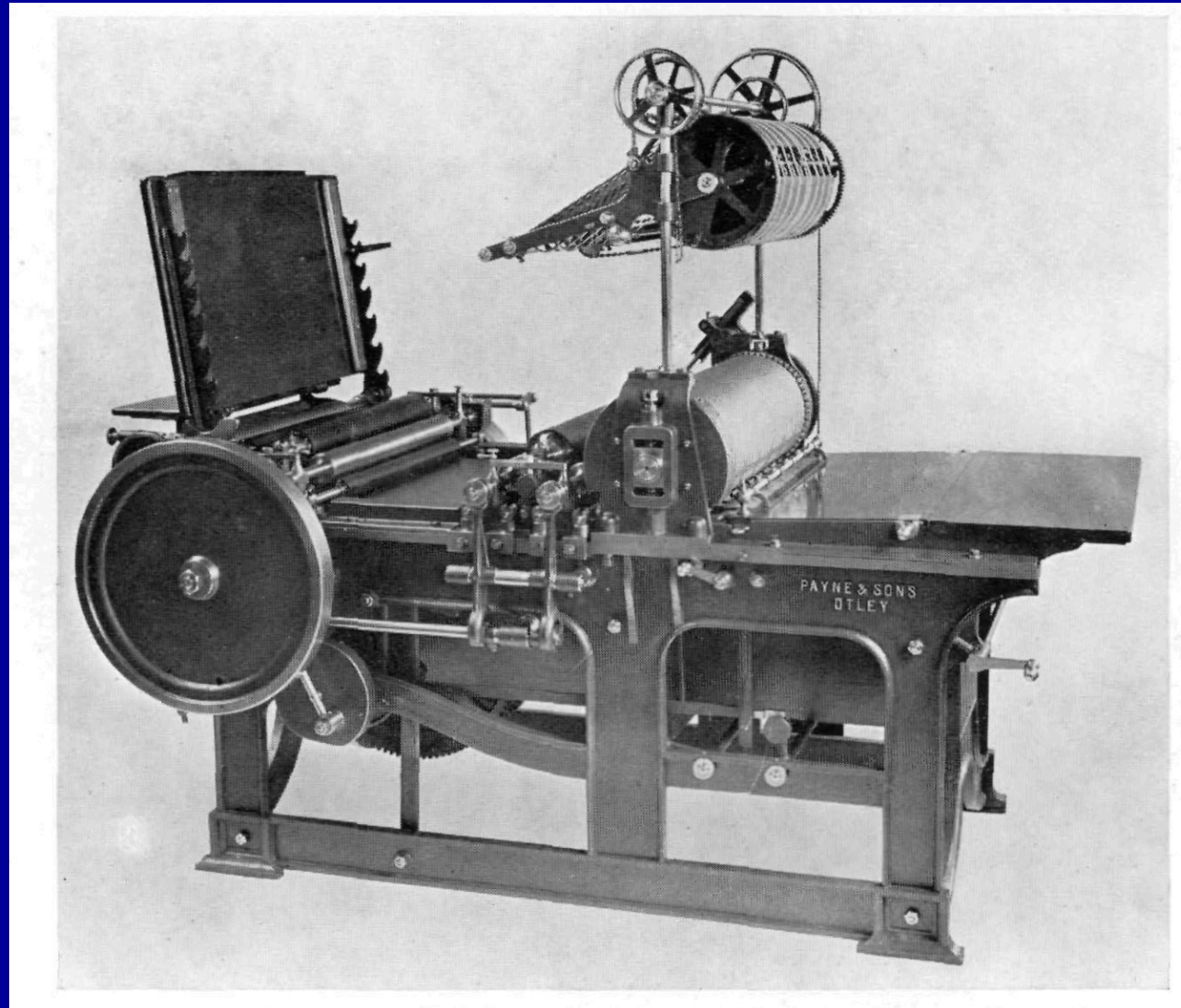


Head C Frame 4

Head C Frame 5

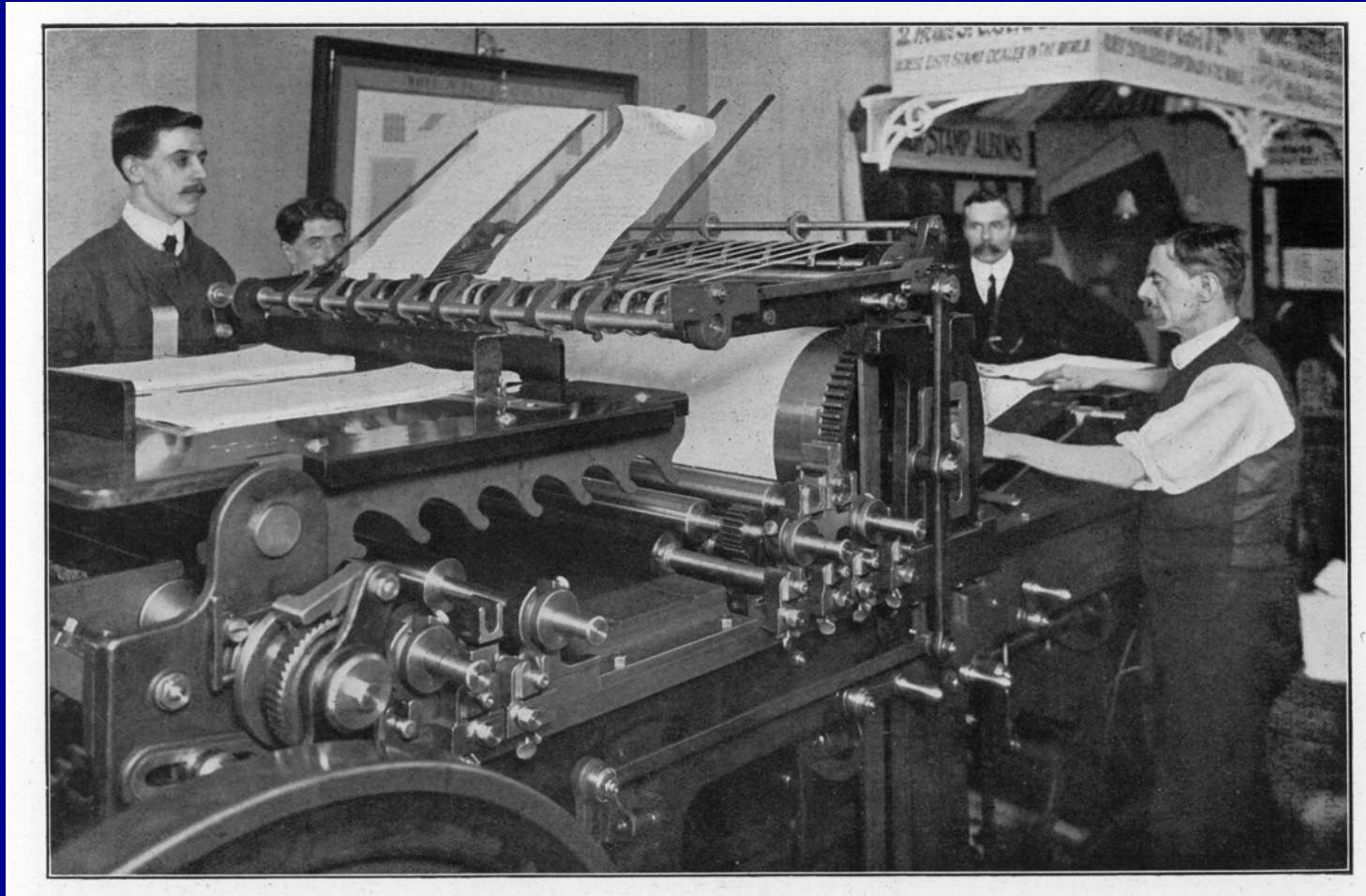


Wharfedale Cylinder Press



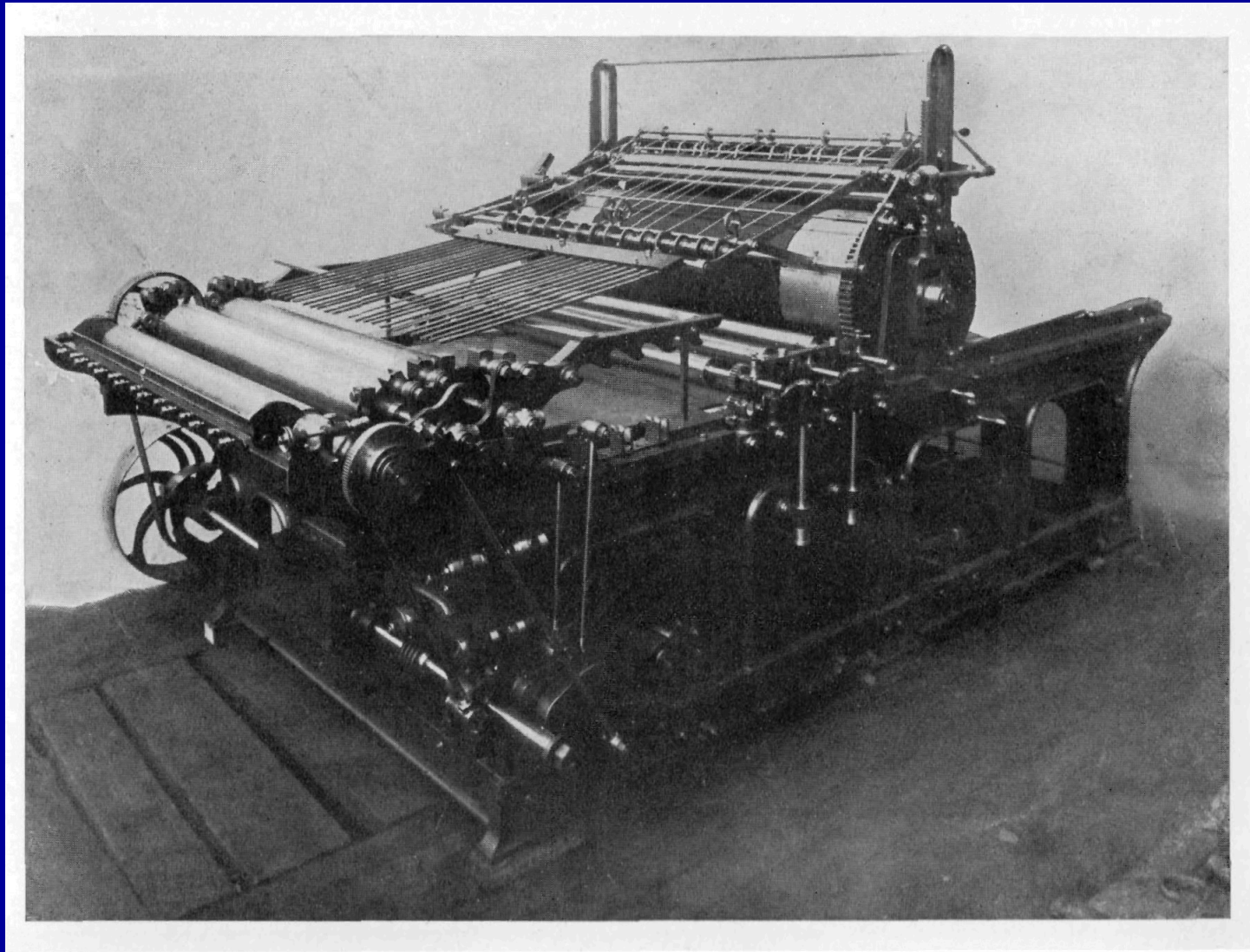
The sheet delivery board and transfer drum with canes has been lifted to give access

A Wharfedale Press in Operation



A Press used by Waterlow Brothers

De La Rue Wharfedale Press



Letterpress – Typeset

Nawanagar 1877



Dhar 1897–1900



Duttia 1899–1906

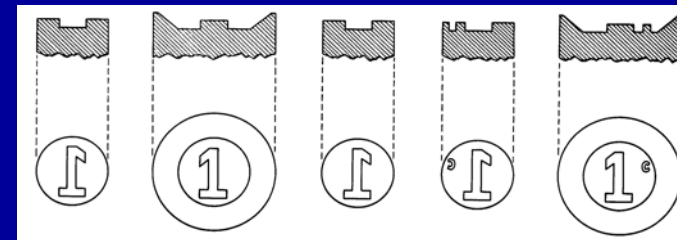
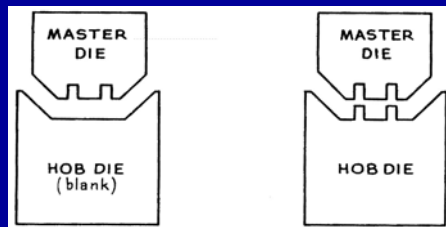


Each stamp is individually set in type with the borders made from type rules and ornaments.
Each stamp is different and can change during printing if the type is loose.

Embossed Stamps



Bavaria – Embossed seal



The stages in making a Die and Counterpart



Bavaria 1870 – 1875

Comparison Intaglio and Letterpress



Intaglio line perforated

Letterpress comb perforated

Time to View

