

# MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON, BOURNEMOUTH

The CORRESPONDENCE SERIES is an investigation into the background of recipients of British pre-stamped postal stationery. The "collection" was purchased in South Africa in 1999 as a job lot, the which took me six months to sort and mount, creating a collection spanning 140 years. I have no idea of the provenance.

The Reference work is British Postal Stationery, A K Huggins.1970. The first date with catalogue number refers to the year when the pre-stamped envelope was first issued; the second, the year when the envelope was actually used.

**Philatelic Description of the item of Postal Stationery:**

1889 (CP23b)\_Messrs. Bright & Son, The Arcade, Bournemouth, England (actually used MY 14 97)

1898 (RP22G)\_Messrs. F J Bright & Son, 1071 Arcade, Bournemouth (actually used Gresham House, London date unknown)

**Comment:**

Frederick John Bright was born 24 December 1832 Castle Hedingham, Essex, England; christened at the Independent Church, Castle Hedingham 18 Jun 1833. He died 2 December 1905 at "Roccabruna", Branksome Wood Rd, Bournemouth (so. John Bright & Sophia Reeve) m. June QRT 1861 Julia Eilza MAY (born March QRT 1839 Swanage, Dorset, England). Together they had one son, Percy May Bright born 1864 Mizoiuerrupp, India. He married in the June QRT 1897.

Together, father and son were proprietors of Bright & Son, Bournemouth, professional photographers and dealers in photographic mechanise, and later book publishers. Later, Frank Higby Oliver (1867-1947), manager of a printing works, became a partner in the firm; and eventually sole owner in 1924.

The 1881 Census of England and Wales reveals the following:

Dwelling: Arnewood, Holdenhurst, Hampshire, England

Household:

| Name                  | Relation | Marital Status | Gender | Age | Birthplace                        | Occupation                       |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------|--------|-----|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Frederick John BRIGHT | Head     | M              | Male   | 48  | Castle Headingham, Essex, England | Bookseller Stationer             |
| Julia Eliza BRIGHT    | Wife     | M              | Female | 42  | Swanage, Dorset, England          |                                  |
| Percy May BRIGHT      | Son      |                | Male   | 17  | Mizoiuerrupp, India               | Undergraduate London University  |
| Lucy H. MATTHEWMAN    | Boarder  | U              | Female | 33  | Barnsley, York, England           | Income from Investments          |
| Adelaide L. NEWLAND   | Boarder  | W              | Female | 50  | Fareham, Hampshire, England       | Widow of Congregational Minister |
| Diana S. FIPPARD      | Visitor  | U              | Female | 35  | Swanage, Dorset, England          | Housekeeper to Father            |

|                  |         |   |        |    |                                  |                                     |
|------------------|---------|---|--------|----|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Emily WHIZZEN    | Servant | U | Female | 37 | Morden, Dorset, England          | Cook                                |
| Amelia MILLER    | Servant | U | Female | 23 | Bere Regis, Dorset, England      | Housemaid                           |
| Ellen L. SMART   | Servant | U | Female | 20 | Whitecross, Dorset, England      | Housemaid                           |
| Emily E. MARKS   | Servant | U | Female | 17 | Poole, Dorset, England           | Kitchen maid                        |
| Barbara HOLLOWAY | Visitor | U | Female | 54 | Boston, Lincoln, England         | Income Interest of Money & Property |
| Ann VEAR         | Boarder | U | Female | 67 | Gunby, Lincoln, England          | Housekeeper                         |
| Martha WILKINSON | Boarder | U | Female | 40 | Welton Le Wold, Lincoln, England | Parlour maid                        |
| Helen C. WEBBER  | Boarder | U | Female | 25 | London, Middlesex, England       | Daughter of Physician               |
| Amy M. BENECKE   | Boarder | U | Female | 24 | Camberwell, Middlesex, England   | Daughter of Merchant                |
| Charlotte FROST  | Boarder | U | Female | 57 | Mayfield, Sussex, England        | Domestic Servant                    |

**References:**

1. Family Search. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. <http://www.familysearch.org>
2. FreeBMD Home Page <http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>