

# 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>