

ACROSTIC

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.

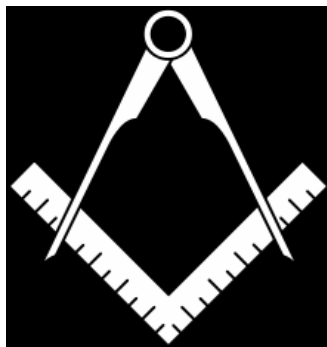
The Reference work is British Postal Stationery, A K Huggins.1970. The first date with catalogue number refers to the year when the pre-stamped envelope was first issued; the second, the year when the envelope was actually used.

Philatelic Description of the item of Postal Stationery:

1904-1911 (LCP3a)_ "Acrostic", G.S.W., 391 Strand, London, W.C. (canceller an indistinct AP 08)

Comment:

Presumably Acrostic ¹ was a *non de plume* and GSW is an elected Lodge Officer in the order of Freemasons, namely the Grand Senior Warden.



The Masonic Square and Compasses.

References:

1. Acrostic. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acrostic>
2. Masonic Abbreviations in Freemasonry Watch. www.freemasonrywatch.org/masonic_abbreviations.html
3. Freemasonry <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freemasonry>

¹ An acrostic is a poem or other form of writing in an alphabetic script, in which the first letter, syllable or word of each line, paragraph or other recurring feature in the text spells out a word or a message. As a form of constrained writing, an acrostic can be used as a mnemonic device to aid memory retrieval.