

## IX.—MAKERS OF CLAY PIPES RECORDED IN NORTH-EASTERN ENGLAND, II

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Since the publication in 1960 of a number of stamps of clay pipe makers<sup>1</sup> other unpublished material has been brought to the author's attention. Much of the material here published comes from archæological excavations. Numbers 5, 26 and 34-47 are casual finds. The stamps from Corbridge, Ebchester<sup>2</sup> and Halton Chesters were found unstratified during excavations on Roman sites. Those from Walbottle came from excavations in the ditch of Hadrian's Wall and are also unstratified. They, with the casual finds mentioned above, were reported by members of the Walbottle Campus Archæological Society, through Mr. E. W. Sockett. The stamps from Cowpen Bewley,<sup>3</sup> Monkwearmouth<sup>4</sup> and Newcastle upon Tyne<sup>5</sup> are from excavations of later sites. I am indebted to all those who have been kind enough to allow me to see finds from their excavations in advance of final publication.

In the lists that follow there are four types of stamp. The seventeenth-century type impressed upon the flat heel occurs only once (number 21). The second type has the lettering across the stem of the pipe, arranged in two or three lines and usually enclosed within a circle or ellipse. The type seems to have been in use in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Six of the seven stamps from the village

<sup>1</sup> M. G. Jarrett, *Makers of clay pipes recorded in north-eastern England*, AA<sup>4</sup> xxxviii (1960), pp. 238-239.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. A. Reed drew my attention to this stamp.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. L. Still allowed me to see this stamp.

<sup>4</sup> Miss R. J. Cramp placed this material at my disposal.

<sup>5</sup> Miss R. B. Harbottle placed this material at my disposal.

of West Whelpington, deserted c. 1725, are of this type.<sup>6</sup>

The third type of stamp consists of two initials on the right and left sides (to the smoker) of the spur below the bowl; they were moulded with the pipe. Mr. Adrian Oswald<sup>7</sup> has stated that the initial on the left indicates the Christian name and that on the right the surname of the maker, but the evidence of the pipes from Monkwearmouth suggests that this may not be invariable. The large number of stamps with W/I and I/W appear to be from the same firm which was probably situated in the Sunderland area.

The fourth type of stamp consists of large and bold lettering along the stem, recording the name of the maker and often the town where he worked. The stamp is often in two parts, with the second part opposite the first.

Only four out of fifty-four makers in the list that follows were certainly not working in the north-east. Two of these are French, and the others are from London and Bedford. The Paris stamp found at Walbottle (number 28) may conceivably be a relic of the *émigré* settlement commemorated by Frenchman's Row and the Royal French Arms.

In the list below the following symbols and abbreviations are used: D = County Durham; N = Northumberland. / between two letters indicates a stamp of the third type, with the left initial first / between two words indicates a stamp of the fourth type, with the division between the stamps on either side of the stem. Square brackets are used to mark broken or illegible portions of a stamp. National Grid references for all sites are given. Where there is no indication to the contrary, stamps are of type two.

<sup>6</sup> Jarrett, *op. cit.* numbers 4-10, and AA<sup>4</sup> xl (1962), p. 218.

<sup>7</sup> A. Oswald, *The archaeology and economic history of English clay tobacco pipes*, JBAA<sup>3</sup> xxiii (1960), p. 50.

*Corbridge* (N). NY 983649

1. HAMILTON/HAMILTON

Entwined border, bold *sans serif* lettering. *cf.* number 4.  
Nineteenth or twentieth century.

*Cowpen Bewley (Low Grange)* (D). NZ 468254.

2. W.T.B. / LONDO[N]

*Ebchester* (D). NZ 104544.

3. J. WATSON / GATESHEAD

*cf.* number 23.

*Halton Chesters* (N). NY 996685.

4. G. HAM[ ] / [HE]XHAM

Small *sans serif* lettering in plain border. Perhaps  
Hamilton, the maker of number 1.

*Heddon-on-the-Wall* (N). NZ 134669

5. R A O B

On a bowl decorated with buffalo horns. Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes. See Oswald, *op. cit.* p. 52.  
Nineteenth century.

*Monkwearmouth (Parish Church)* (D). NZ 402577

6. [ ]:

COATS

7. ROB[ ]

COL[L]

I∩

8. W: DENTON

Along stem.

9. I / H

Plain nineteenth century bowl.

10. W / I

Eight times on fluted nineteenth century bowls, once  
on a plain nineteenth century bowl, and once on a similar  
bowl with a mullet or star above the letters.

11. W / [ ]

Plain nineteenth century bowl.

12. C / L

Plain bowl of late eighteenth or nineteenth century.

13. [ ] / M

14. I / W

Twice (in one case with mullet above) on plain nine-  
teenth century bowls.

15. [ ] / W

Plain nineteenth century bowl.

*Newcastle upon Tyne (Castle) (N). NZ 252638*

16. IOHEI  
THOMP  
SON

Recorded also at Durham and West Whelpington, using a different stamp.<sup>8</sup> Probably a local maker, working in the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century.

17. [ ]SON / [ ]N  
18. TENNANT / NEWCASTLE

For William Tennant of Newcastle, see Jarrett, *op. cit.* number 1 (Chester-le-Street), and for W. Tennant, working in Newcastle 1875-1925, see Oswald, *op. cit.* p. 98. The firm occupied premises in the Blackfriars, and when production stopped c. 1930 it was claimed that the Tennant family had been pipemakers for over two centuries.<sup>9</sup> No pipes of this family of earlier date than the nineteenth century are recorded. The family may be connected with the Berwick firm of Tennant and Son (see below, number 25), but so far there is no evidence to support this.

19. T / M  
Eighteenth or nineteenth century fluted bowl.  
20. T / P  
The bowl probably dates to the first half of the eighteenth century.  
21. T R  
On the flat heel of a pipe which should probably be assigned to the late seventeenth century.  
22. As number 5.

*Walbottle (N). NZ 168667, except numbers 26 and 34 which are casual finds from 169673.*

23. J. WATSON / GATESHEAD  
*cf.* number 2.  
24. T & J [ ] / [NEWCAS]TLE  
25. [ ] & SON / BE[RWICK ? ?]

Mr. William A. Cocks has drawn my attention to a stamp in his collection of TENNANT & SON / BERWICK.

26. Gambier  
Paris  
m.M.  
Déposé

<sup>8</sup> Jarrett, *op. cit.* numbers 3-5.

<sup>9</sup> I am indebted to Mr. Foster Pelton for this information.

27. I / F
28. R / G
29. H / H or H / M
30. W / P ?
31. T W

On a bowl fragment once, enclosed in an ellipse; also on a more complete bowl of eighteenth or nineteenth century date. This has on the right of the bowl a heart with lozenge pattern. There are fragments of two other stamps of this maker.

32. T / [ ]
33. As number 5.
34. S. BELL / BEDFORD

*Westerhope* (N). NZ 192678

35. [R ?]. LENH[ ] / [ CL ? ]IRS
36. [ ]ON  
Along stem.

*Newburn area (various sites)* (N)

37. T / E  
Two specimens, one on a bowl decorated with conventionalised vegetation. Probably Thomas Elsdon of Gateshead, recorded in 1827.<sup>10</sup>
38. F.J. FI[NN] / NE[WCASTLE]  
Recorded in 1900.<sup>11</sup> *cf.* numbers 39-41.
39. F.J. FINN / GATESHEAD
40. [ ]FINN / GATESHEAD  
These two stamps are not the same; 39 is about 2 mm. high, and has serifs, 40 is almost 4 mm. high, *sans serif*. Both have entwined borders.
41. F.J. FINN / [ ] CUTTY  
Lettering similar to that on number 40.
42. [ ]LENN[ ] / [B]URNS CUTTY
43. C STONEH[ ] / [ ]JURES CUTTY  
This stamp is very indistinct, apart from the following letters: STON / CUTTY
44. [ ]SCOTLAND  
Along right side of stem; nothing on left.
45. Two fragments, as number 5.

<sup>10</sup> Oswald, *op. cit.* p. 69.

<sup>11</sup> *ib.*

## 46. BURNS CUTTY

Along right side of stem; nothing on left.

## 47. THE PLUG PIPE

In three lines, enclosed, on the back of a late nineteenth century bowl. There is a ledge round the internal basal angle of the bowl, either to prevent tobacco from blocking the end of the stem, or, more probably, to keep the tobacco at the bottom of the bowl dry.