

## W.T. Wilson and a Philatelic Cover

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William Thomas Wilson was born in Ballitore, County Kildare, Ireland in 1848. He was a renowned stamp dealer, trading from his premises in Birmingham, and a close friend of EL Pemberton a founding member of The Philatelic Society of London. For a short time he was in partnership with TV Cheveley, the philatelic auctioneer, and from 1902 until his death on 17<sup>th</sup> December 1932 was in partnership with his son Frank.

His specialty was supplying "Stamps on Original Covers" and to this end would send covers to overseas postmasters for stamping, cancellation and return. Although purely philatelic they were much in demand and one such cover from the Falkland Islands is shown below.



This registered cover was sent from Port Stanley on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1929 to Wilson's last address in Birmingham and bears the 1/2<sup>d</sup> 1<sup>d</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> & 2 1/2<sup>d</sup> stamps of the King George V 1929 Whale and Penguins issue ( 26<sup>th</sup> September 1929 - 1937) together with a registration label. The manuscript 'Registered' appears to be in Wilson's handwriting.

This is a philatelically sent cover with the incorrect rate. The correct rate was 4<sup>d</sup>-1<sup>d</sup> for 1 ounce and 3<sup>d</sup> registration fee for British Commonwealth Letters.