

BWISC Convention 2013  
Informal Display  
By  
Brian Brookes  
ANTIGUA





Two letters dated 6<sup>th</sup> May, 1771 from Samuel Redhead at Antigua sent 'P Capt Hope'. On arrival at Dover they were handled by different clerks and show two different handstamps and manuscript markings.

To  
S<sup>r</sup> William Coorington Bart<sup>o</sup>  
to the care of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Coorington & Miller  
Merch<sup>ts</sup> in  
London  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Hope

DOVER SHIP LRE

1771

To  
Mess<sup>rs</sup> Coorington & Miller  
Merch<sup>ts</sup> in  
London  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Hope

DOVER SHIP LRE

SR 32  
1771

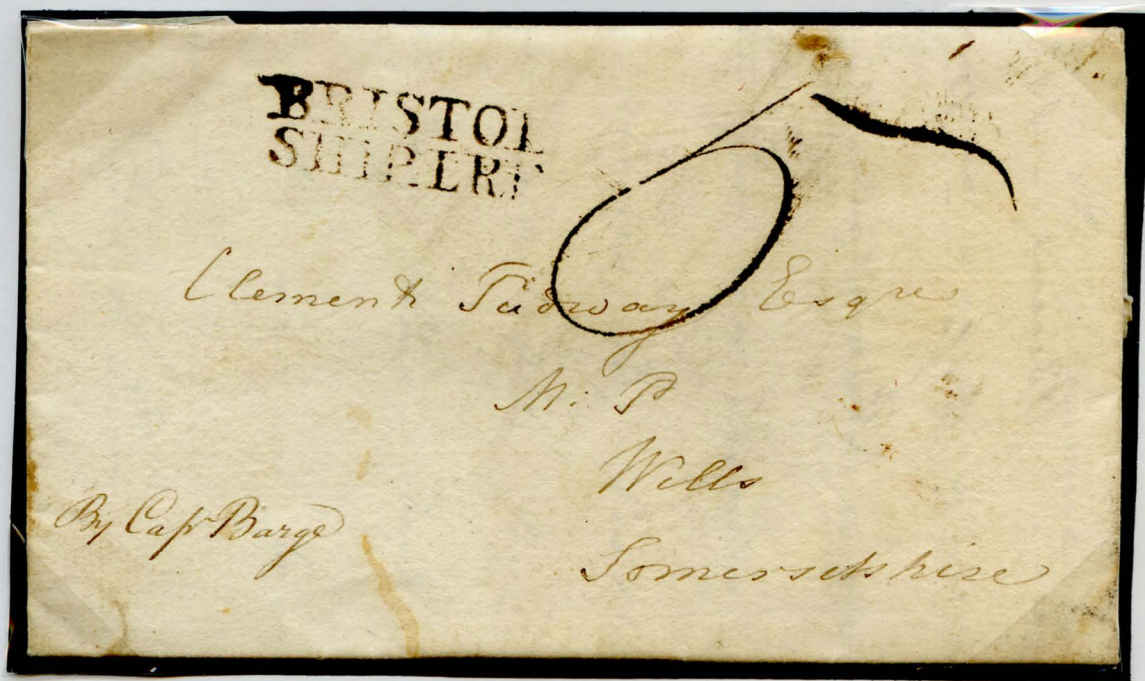


Antigua letter carried by private ship dated 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1780 fro Langford Lovell addressed to Sir William Codrington in London. Endorsed 'P.C.French' landed at Helstone where the straight line 'HELSTONE' was applied with the manuscript 'Ship Lre'. Arrived London on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 1780 re-directed to Dodington on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 1870 by the London Receiver 'R.B.' then forwarded to Tewksbury. Reverse shows the three lined 'WOOTON/UNDER/EDGE'. Charged 8d.

*HELSTONE*  
*Ship Lre*  
Sir William Codrington Bart  
~~London~~  
~~London~~  
P.C. French  
at Tewksbury  
~~London~~



Antigua to Wells by private ship dated 19th June, 1788. Landed at Bristol and received the first type 'BRISTOL/SHIP LRE' used 1768-1801 before being forwarded to Wells. Endorsed 'By Cap. Barges' on front and charged 5d. this being Inland Rate under eighty miles (1784-1796).



Writer gives list of vessels carrying sugar to London or Bristol during the season

Brig Lioness. Captain Norman  
Ship Lady Jane Captain Martin  
Ship Justineon Captain Young  
Ship James & Rebecca Captain Clarke  
Brig Diana Captain Brown  
Ship Hermit Captain Barges  
Ship Friendship Captain Wyne  
Ship Francis & Eliza Captain Stock  
The King George Captain O'Brien  
The Rockhampton Captain Ross  
The Bacchus Captain Hamilton.

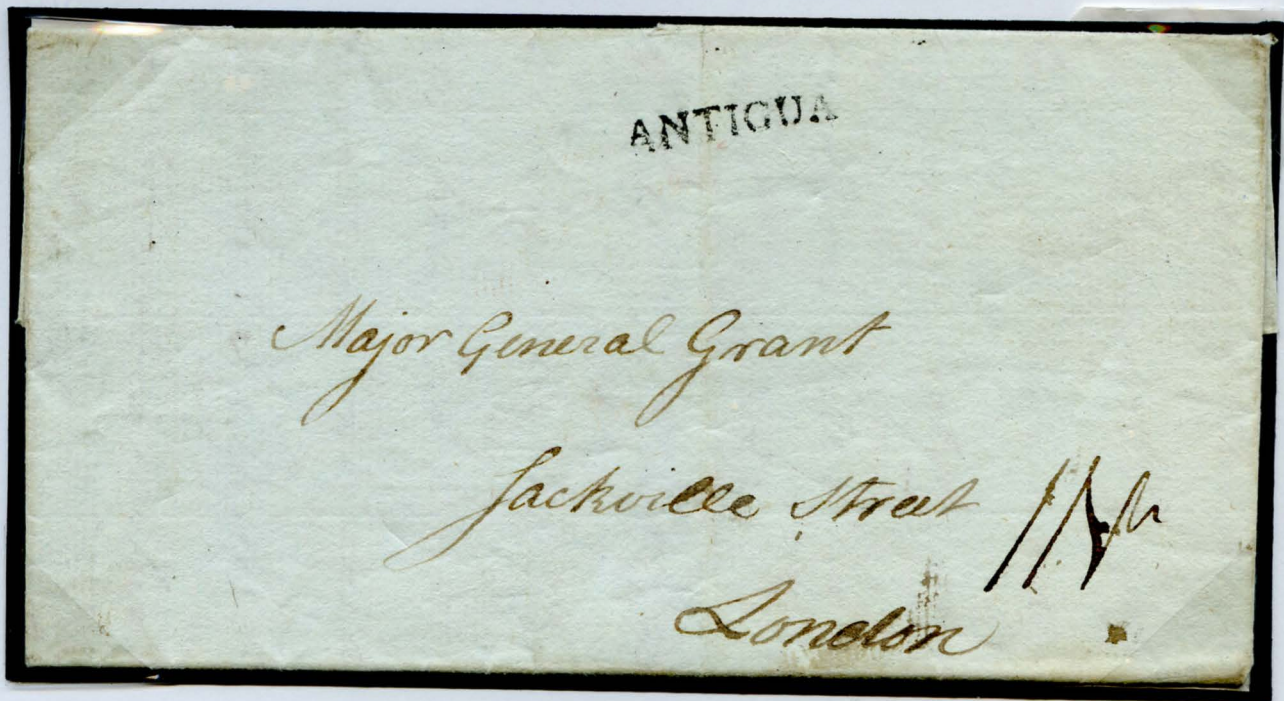


'ANTIGUA SHIP LETTER' second type in black used 1799-1800. Letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> June 1800 from Samuel Eliot at Antigua addressed to Clement Tudway at Wells. The handstamp being applied on departure. Endorsed 'By His Majesty's/Ship Invincible' and landed at Deal where it received the 'Crowned/Ship Letter/DEAL' used 1800 until 1814 Arriving 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1800 the charge of 2/6d being cancelled and a charge of 3/- inserted.





'ANTIGUA' fourth type straight line (27mm.by 31/2mm.) used from 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1782 until 20<sup>th</sup> August,1783 on a letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> December,1782 from James Lumsden at Morne Fortune in St.Lucia sent via Antigua addressed to his uncle Major General Grant in London. Arrived London on 22<sup>nd</sup> January,1783 and charged 1/- this being the packet rate to London from 1765 until 1797.



Writer mentions: The flank companies got orders to march to English Harbour to embark this island. Our Grenadier Company came on board the Prudent and the Light Infantry in the Dolphin. We embarked the 27<sup>th</sup> of October and arrived on 5<sup>th</sup> November.



'ANTIGUA/JUL15 1806' dated two line handstamp Second type, year in full, used 1799 until 1806 on a letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1806 from G.Ottley addressed to Clement Tudway in London, being re-directed to Wells. Arrived London on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 1806. The 2/- packet rate not being collected it received the red two line 'Postage to London/Not Paid' before being forwarded the next day to Wells where the final rate of 2/9d was collected (2/- Packet rate 1805 to 1813 plus inland rate of 9d. London to Wells (120-170 miles 1805 to 1812)



Writer mentions: I see clearly that while we give less freight than any other island we shall never have sufficient number of ships to take away our crops.



Antigua. Letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> September, 1810 from Charleston in South Carolina addressed to Madeira. Endorsed 'Postage from Antigua to England 2/- from England to Madeira 2/5d. total 4/5d. Letter probably sent via West Indies Packet Antigua to England then by the 'NOCTON' which sailed on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 1811 to South America calling at Madeira on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1811. Letter being received on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1811.

Messrs. N. G. & Scott  
Merchants  
Postage from Antigua to England 2<sup>/-</sup>  
do. from England to Madeira 2<sup>/5</sup>  
4<sup>/5</sup>  
Hiram, Madeira



Antigua to Wells by Naval vessel H.M.S.BENBOW  
Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> June, 1814 from Geo.Ottley at  
Parham House Antigua to Clement Tudway M.P. at  
Wells. Landed at Milford Haven where it was  
treated as a ship letter and received the red oval  
crown 'SHIP LETTER/MILFORD' known used in  
1814 before being forwarded via Bristol to Wells.  
Charged 2/6d made up of 2d. Captains Gratuity, 4d.  
ship letter rate and inland rate of 2/- being a double  
rate for 276 miles from 1812 until 1840.



Writer mentions: by the convoy which leaves  
tomorrow I request you to send from Ireland for the  
use of your estate about sixteen barrels of pickled  
pork annually directing it to be sipped any time  
after June so it arrives for Christmas.



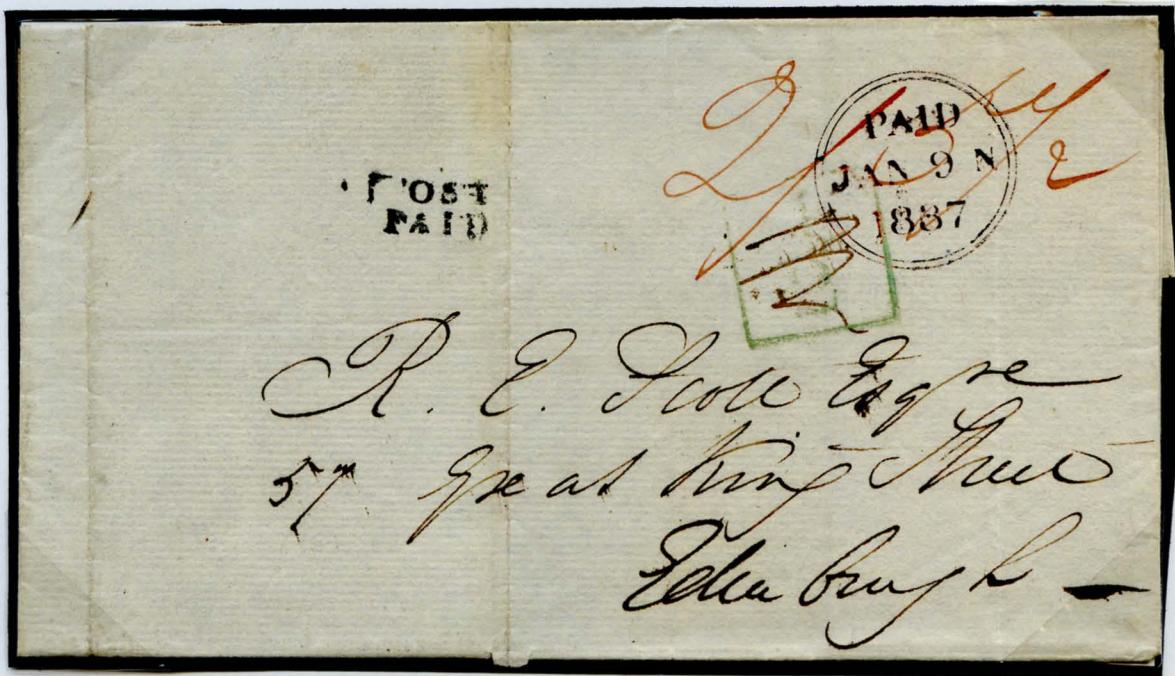
Antigua to England Naval Mail. Letter headed 'Euryalus Island of Antigua 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1819' from Mr. Riddell. Endorsed 'H.M.S. Euryalus Barbados 17<sup>th</sup> April, 1819' addressed to Thomas Scott, Berwickshire. Landed London on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 1819 and arrived on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1819.



The Euryalus being employed against privateers coming out of the troubled Spanish Central American ports and most interesting contents include the following passage 'the deliberate butchery of two English Officers (one a surgeon) who were taken in a small vessel in the Gulf of Paria and instantly laid over the gunwale of the boat and their throats cut like sheep'.

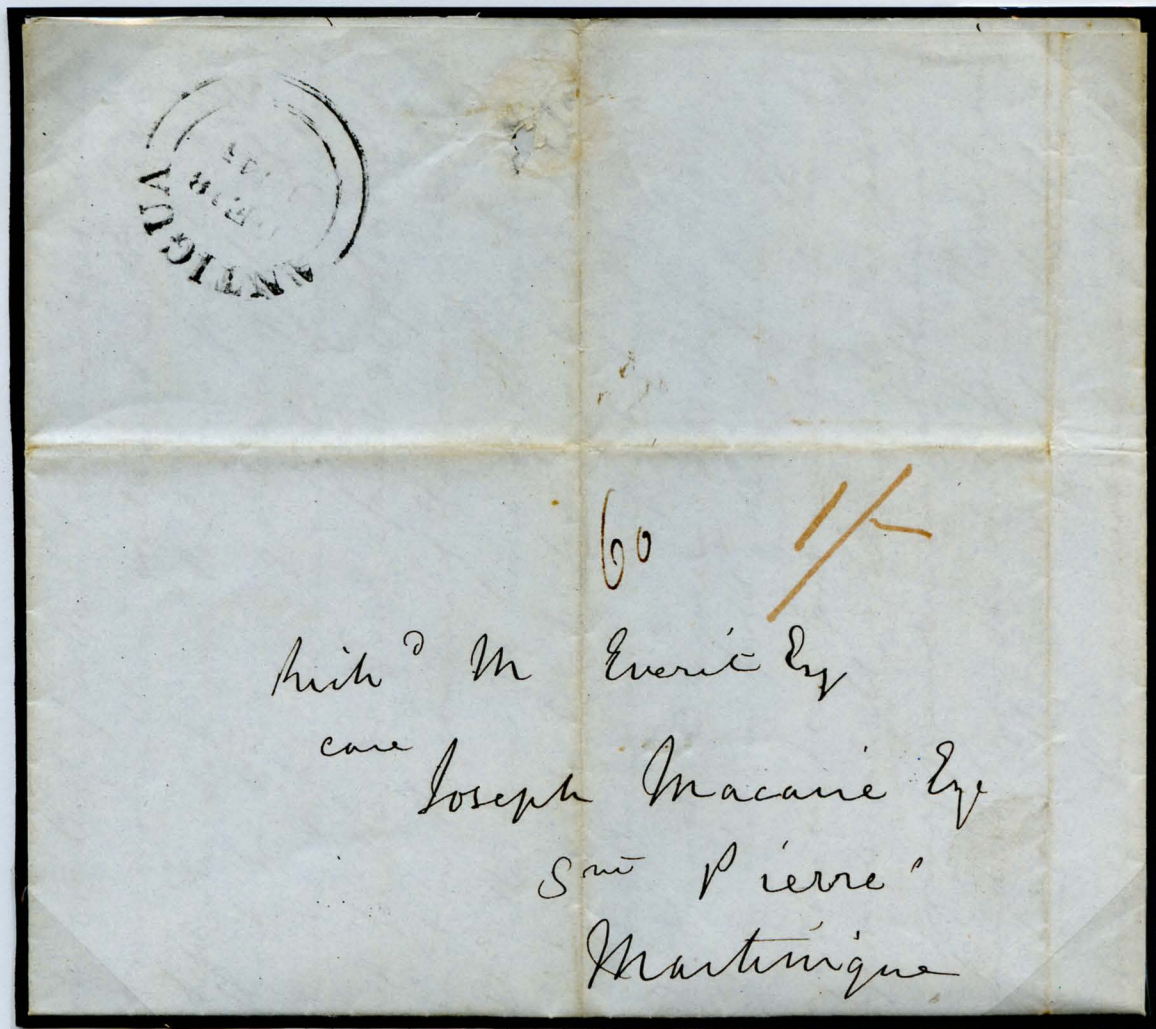


'POST PAID' two lines in black used between the 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1836 and the 4<sup>th</sup> Mrch, 1837 on a wrapper from Antigua with the small fleuron of 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1836 on reverse addressed to Edinburgh. Landed at Falmouth where it received the Green boxed '1/2' used from 1823 until 1839 before being forwarded to Edinburgh. Shows the red '2/5 1/2d' paid in advance with the Falmouth '1/2' cancelled in manuscript being made up of the Packet rate 1/3d. (1817-1840) the 1/2d and the inland rate less 1d. of 1/2d. from Falmouth 500 to 600 miles (1812-1840).





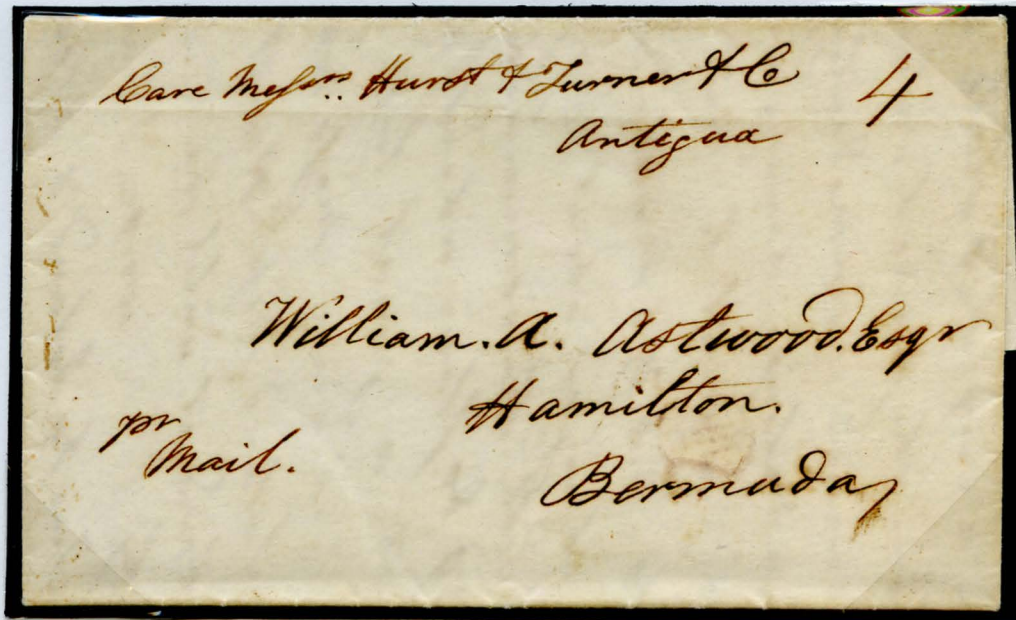
Antigua to Martinique by the R.M.S.P. Company.  
Letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> December, 1845 from Hurst &  
Turner addressed to Richard Everit in Martinique.  
Charged 1/- in red this being the rate between a  
British port and a Foreign port within the West  
Indies. (the rate on the same Packet to another  
British port being 4d.). Postal regulations required  
prepayment on mail to Foreign ports.



This being the only known prestamp example  
carried by R.M.S.P. to a Caribbean port.

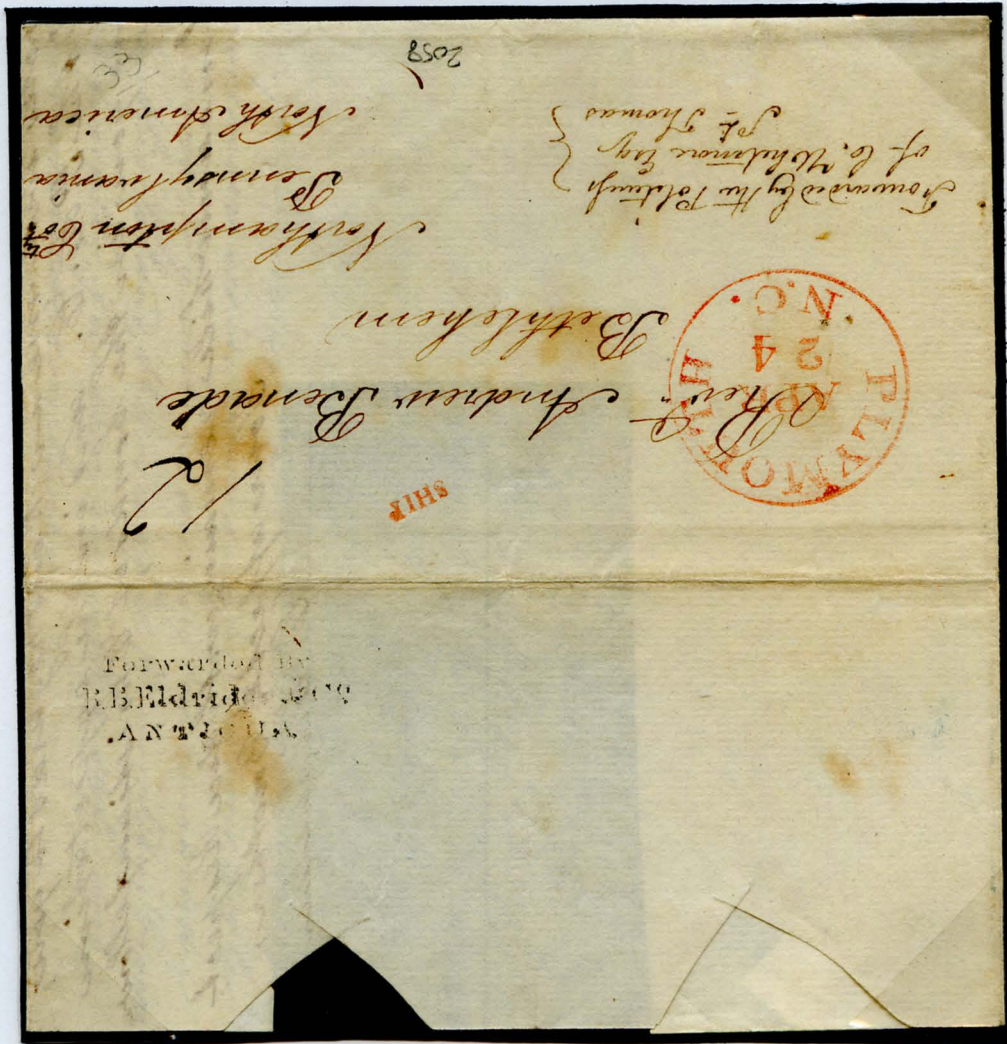


Antigua Forwarding Agents in manuscript 'Care Messrs Hurst & Turner & Co./Antigua' endorsed on front of a letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> April, 1846 from J.D.Young at St. John's addressed to William Attwood in Bermuda. Charged 4d. this being the inter island rate in operation from 1711 until 1879.





Antigua Forwarding Agents Cachet 'Forwarded by/R.B.Eldridge & Co.Antigua' in three lines in black 35mm.by 12mm. used during 1855 on a letter from C.le Thacker at Antigua sent via St. Thomas where the manuscript 'Forwarded by the Politeness of C. Whitmore Esq. St. Thomas' addressed to Pennsylvania arriving Plymouth N.C. on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 1855. Charged 12 cents.





Antigua. British stamps were authorized for use in Antigua from 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1858 until 1860. The 1854 4d. Rose used on cover dated 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1859 from Stephen Jordon Rigvad Bishop of Antigua until his death of Yellow Fever on the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 1859 in Antigua. His endorsement in front 'S.J. Antigua', addressed to Jamaica it went via St. Thomas on the 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1859 and arrived Jamaica on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 1859. 4d. being the inter colonial rate in operation from 1711 until 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1891. Shows a manuscript charge of 6d. on front.



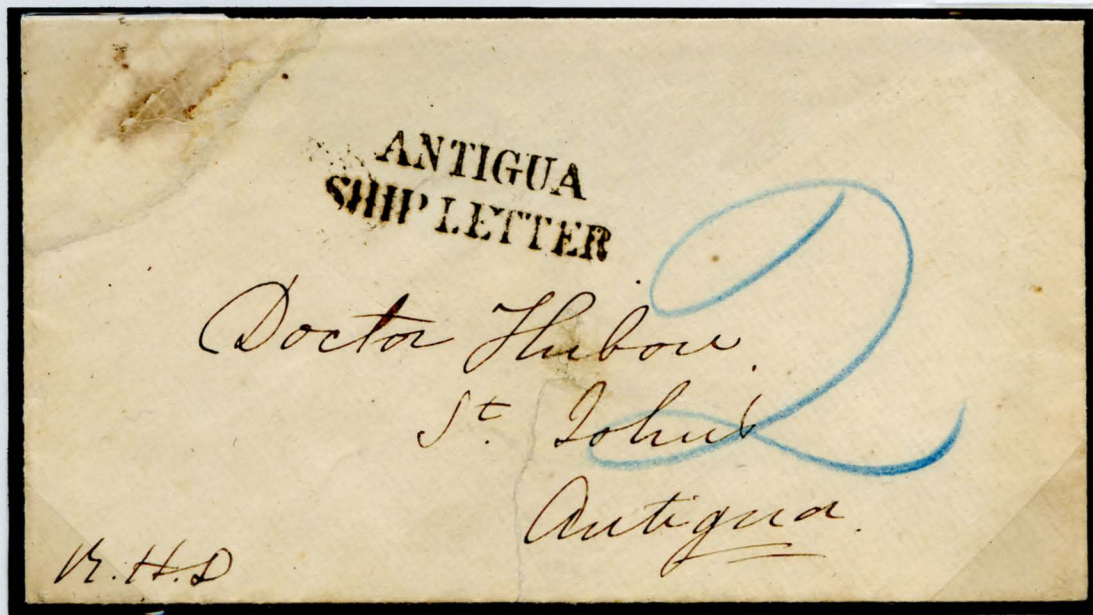


Cover from Antigua dated 11<sup>th</sup> April, 1866 addressed to London where it arrived on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 1866 shows the red crowned 'PAID/AT/ANTIGUA' double circle used (1850-1866). The packet rate being 1/- per half ounce from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1863. The '11' in red denoting the 11d. due to the British Post Office. On the reverse in blue the double circle 'Post Office/Antigua' dated 'AP/11/1866' used very rarely during 1866.





'ANTIGUA/SHIP LETTER' third type in black used from 1841 until 1866. This appears to be a local letter handed in at St. Johns Post Office by the Ships captain addressed to Doctor Hubour on 7th July, 1866. Shows manuscript '2' in blue possibly an inter-colonial letter as a similar rate is also found on a 1868 letter from Antigua to Nevis with the same ship letter handstamp.





Crowned Circle 'PAID AT ANTIGUA' in red used from 1850 until 1857, then provisionally in 1860, and 1866 until 1867 when short of stamps and awaiting new supplies from England. Endorsed 'Open Circular via Bermuda and Halifax' (unsealed printed matter) at the special 1d. prepaid rate. From McDonald & Co., General Commission Merchants, St. John's, Antigua 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1867, St. Thomas on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 1867 on reverse. Per Cunard ALPHA from St. Thomas on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1867 called at Bermuda on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1867 and arrived Halifax 9<sup>th</sup> July, 1867.





Antigua. Sub Post Offices. English Harbour opened 1857 'A18' used from 1857 until about 1880. Cover dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1875 from English Harbour addressed to Glasgow where it arrived 1<sup>st</sup> March, 1875. The pair of Sixpence Blue Green (1872) cancelled with a pair of 'A18' numerals paying the packet rate of 1/- from 1863 until 1875.

