

BARBADOS PARISH NUMERAL CANCELS 1852-1900

The purpose of this exhibit is to show how the numeral cancels allocated to the 11 Parish Post Offices evolved from the time of the first issue of postage stamps in 1852. The period up to 1900 covers 4 different types, as follows:-



C1 Cancels
1852-1863



Bootheel
1863-1884



Parish Numeral
1883-1887



Parish Name
1887-1900+

Note. A red dot (•) indicates the exhibit item has an Expert Certificate.

Exhibit Plan

The exhibit illustrates cancels on a selection of stamps issued up to 1885.

C1 Cancels 1852-1863

The first cancels were handstamps made of brass with a wooden handle and the numeral in the middle was immovable. Two sets of numerals 1-11 can be made on the 1d blue stamps, on both the first imperforate examples and on the earliest perforated stamps, but not on other values as numeral 2 is known only on the 6d and the 1/- was issued only to St Peter.

Although covers with a 1 are plentiful, 10 is difficult and the others even more so.

Bootheel Cancels 1863-1884

A replacement in the form of 16 circular wedges was used until 1884, except for the St Michael GPO 1 used to only 1873. Apart from the 1 cancel, numerals on stamps issued up to 1874 are elusive, although less so on the 1d, 6d, and 1/- reflecting the postal rates then in force until Barbados joined the UPU in 1881. Bootheels on the 1875-78 stamps are readily found, and sets from 2-11 can be made on all their values, although the 2 is the hardest to find. Bootheels on the 1882-86 lower values to 4d (higher values were not issued to the parishes) are more difficult, since they soon gave way to the circular parish cancels. Covers can be found with some of the 1875 stamps, but not the 1882-86 issue.

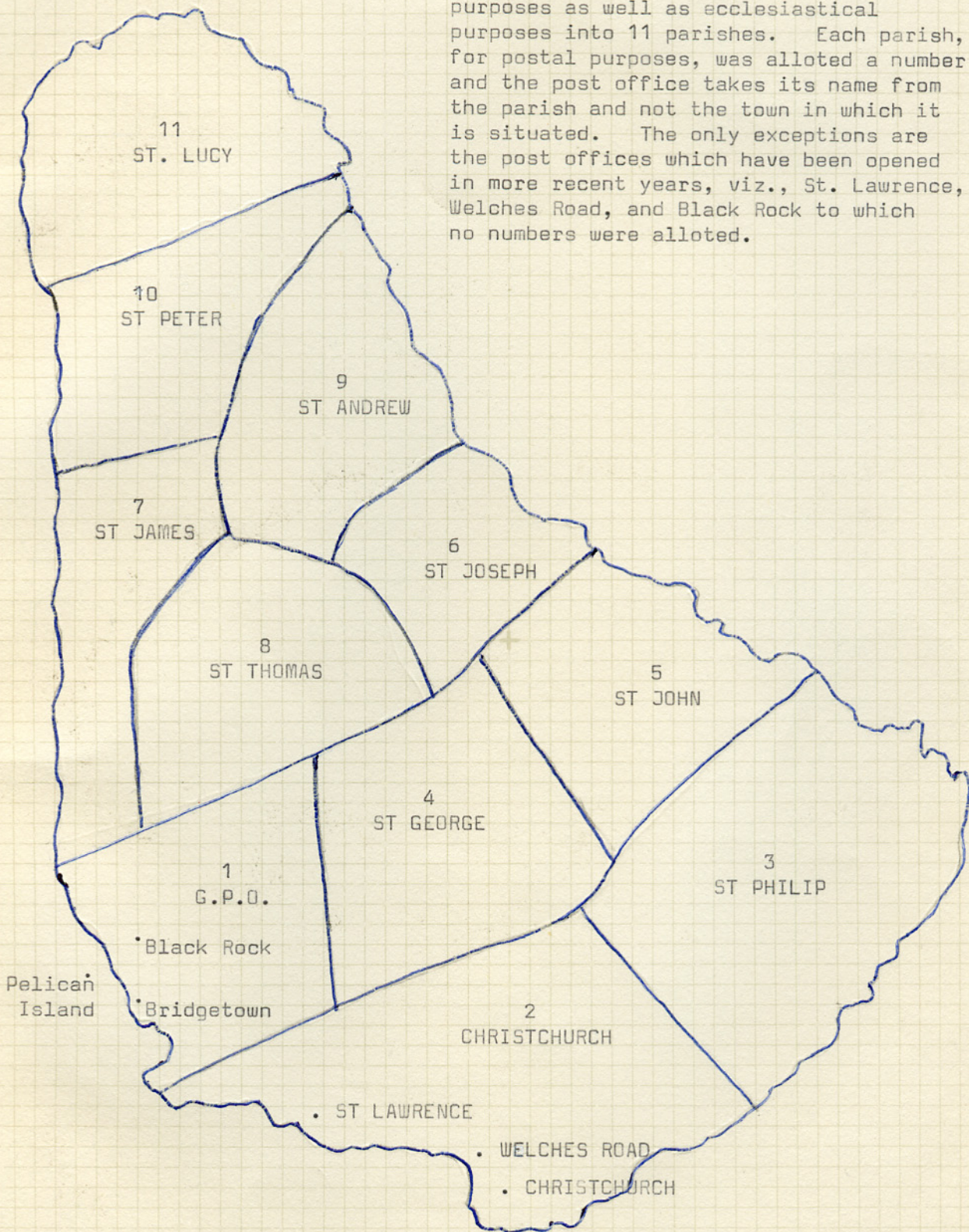
Circular Cancels showing the Parish numeral and name 1883-1900+

The first of this type of cancel has the parish numeral below Barbados at the top of the stamp, with a postage date. A set of numerals 2-11 can be made on the 1d stamps, although a clear 8 is difficult.

For the second type, with a parish name (with or without numeral), usage was plentiful, so "sets" of each parish can be made on the 1/2d, 1d, 2 1/2d and 4d values.

Although collector interest has increased in recent years there is still scope for a "find" of the more difficult numeral cancels, perhaps from an old time collection. It is a challenge to expand beyond a collection of stamps alone. This exhibit includes examples on cover, on a locally addressed postcard and on a complete used Reply card.

BARBADOS is divided, for administrative purposes as well as ecclesiastical purposes into 11 parishes. Each parish, for postal purposes, was allotted a number and the post office takes its name from the parish and not the town in which it is situated. The only exceptions are the post offices which have been opened in more recent years, viz., St. Lawrence, Welches Road, and Black Rock to which no numbers were allotted.



BARBADOS Imperforate issues 1852-1858

1/2d Green Cancels 1 3 5 7 8 9 10 11
1d Blue Cancels Set 1-11



Identification Aid

1 5 6 7 8 9	4 bars above 3 bars below
2 3 4 10 11	3 bars above 4 bars below

It is therefore possible to distinguish between a 6 and a 9
between a 3 and a 5 and between a 3 and a 8

May 1855 Cover with 1d Blue from St Peter to Bridgetown, St Michael



Ex Hackmey and Jaffé

January 1858 Cover with 1d Blue Pair from St Peter to St Michael,
Re-addressed to Bridgetown, and returned to St Peter.



Imperforate issues 1852-1858

2d grey slate	Cancel	9
4d Brown-red	Cancels	1 2 7 9
6d Rose red	Cancels	1 3 5 9 10 11
1/- Black	Cancels	1 10



Ex Hurlock



Ex Jaffe
See Bwisc Bulletin
January 1960

Ex Hurlock
Ex Wheeler



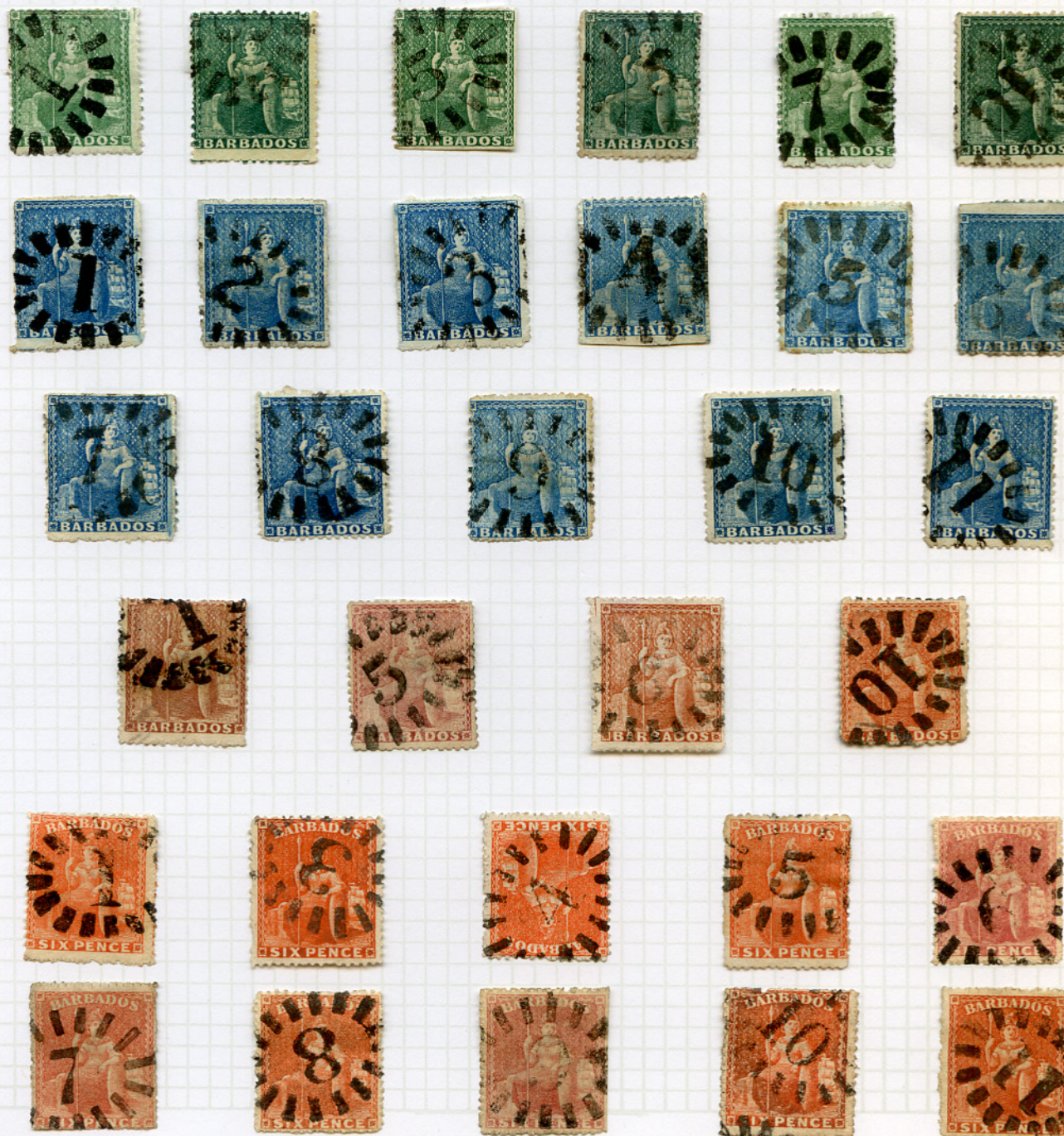
Perforated issues 1860-1863
First type Cancels

1/2d Green	Pin Perf	Cancel	4
1d Blue	Pin Perf	Cancel	10
1d Blue	Perforated	Set	1-11
4d Brown red		Cancels	1 5 10
6d Orange red		Cancels	1 2 3 5 9 10 11



Perforated issues 1861-1873
Bootheel cancels

1/2d	Green	Cancels	1 3 5 6 7 10
1d	Blue	Set	1-11
4d	Brown-red		1 5 6 10
6d	Orange	Set	1-11



Officer's Letters from Staff Surgeon Major Poole

June 1868 6d Concessionary Rate — St Michael GPO 1



July 1870 1/- Non-Concessionary* Rate — St Michael GPO 1

* The concession was withdrawn with effect from 1 January 1870



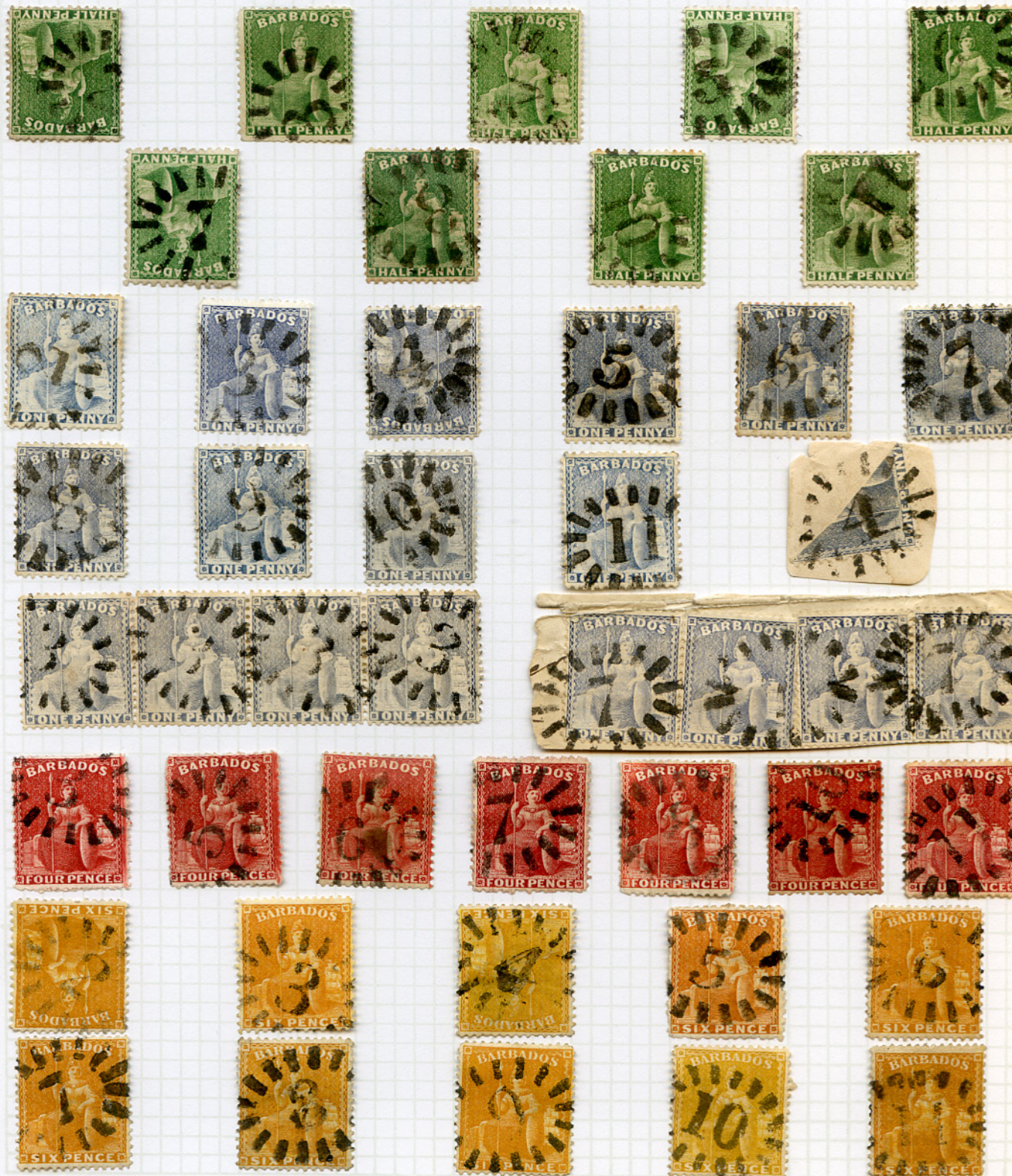
Perforated issues 1863–1874
Boothel cancels

1/-	Black	Cancels	1 4 5 7 8 10 11
3d	Brown-purple (1873)		3 5 6
1/2d	Green (1874)		11
1d	Blue (1874)		3 4 5 7 8 10 11



1875-1878 issues — Bootheel cancels

1/2d Green	Cancels	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 11
1d Grey-blue	Set	2-11 Bisect 4
1d Grey-blue	Strips of four	3 and 7
4d Red	Cancels	3 5 6 7 8 10 11
6d Yellow	Set	2-11



1875-1878 issues

Bootheel cancels

1/- Mauve -Purple

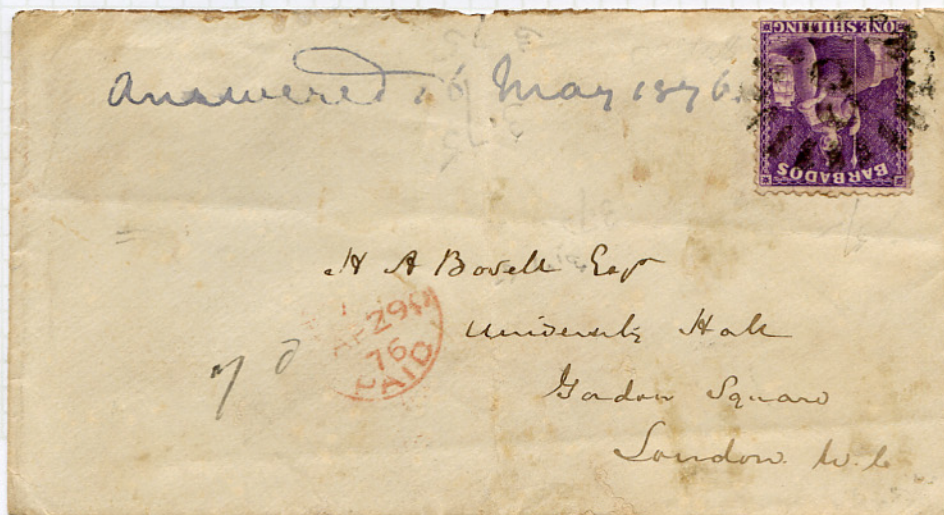
Cancels 3 4 5 6 7 10 11



September 1875 Cover to London with St Peter 10 cancel



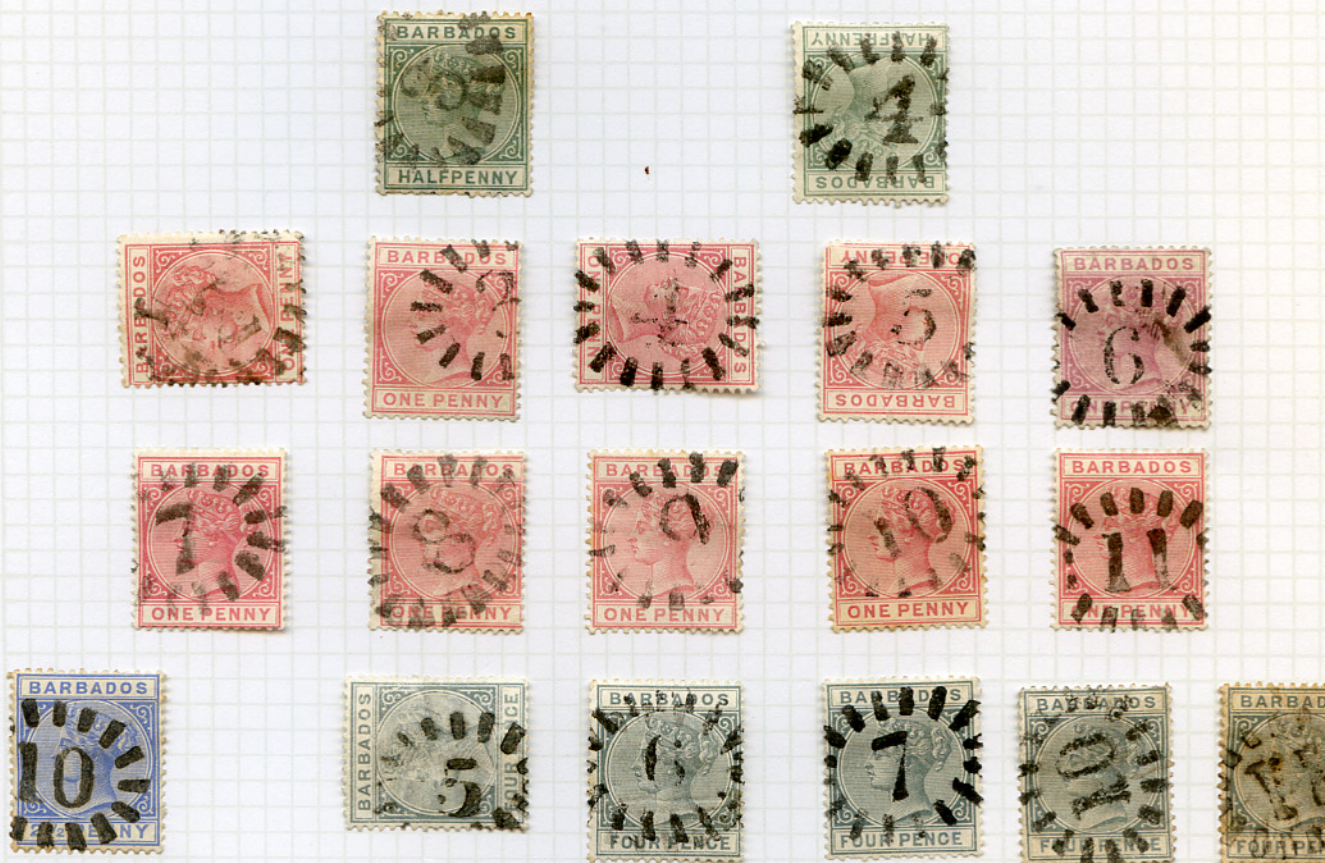
April 1876 Cover to London with St Thomas 8 cancel



1882-1886 issues

Bootheel cancels

1/2d	Green	Cancels	34
1d	Rose	Set	2-11
2 1/2d	Blue		10
4d	grey		5 6 7 10 11



1882-1886 issues

Parish Numerals

1d Rose	Set	2-11
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Parish Names

Cancels 2-11



1882-1886 issues Parish Names
Low values 1/2d -- 4d
Christ Church to St Lucy



1882-1886 issues

Parish Names

1d Rose Bisected with St James cancel



1d Rose Bisected (with a pair) on February 1892
Cover from St Lucy to Tobago

196 830



1882-1886 issues Parish Names

Reply card February 1892 sent to
St Joseph and returned to St Michael

I received your card Tuesday evening. We have been
to "Powells Spring" and it is very unpleasant and
would strictly advise you not to go there. We have
been to the place Mamma recommends & found
nothing objectionable in it, and we do not know
of any other clean shady spot near the station.
Please do not undress jacket keep it till I go
home. How very sad about Miss Stokes we heard
last night that there was no hope of her re-
covery. I shall be very glad to get the birds. We
are enjoying ourselves very much. The sea has
been lovely. With love I remain, yrs affectionately
Graham.

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
BARBADOS (BARBADE)
POST CARD

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



16-2-92
Miss A. J. Moore
Leuby House
Bathesda
St Joseph

THE ANNEXED CARD IS INTENDED
FOR THE ANSWER.
(LA CARTE CI-JOINTE EST DESTINÉE
À LA RÉPONSE.)