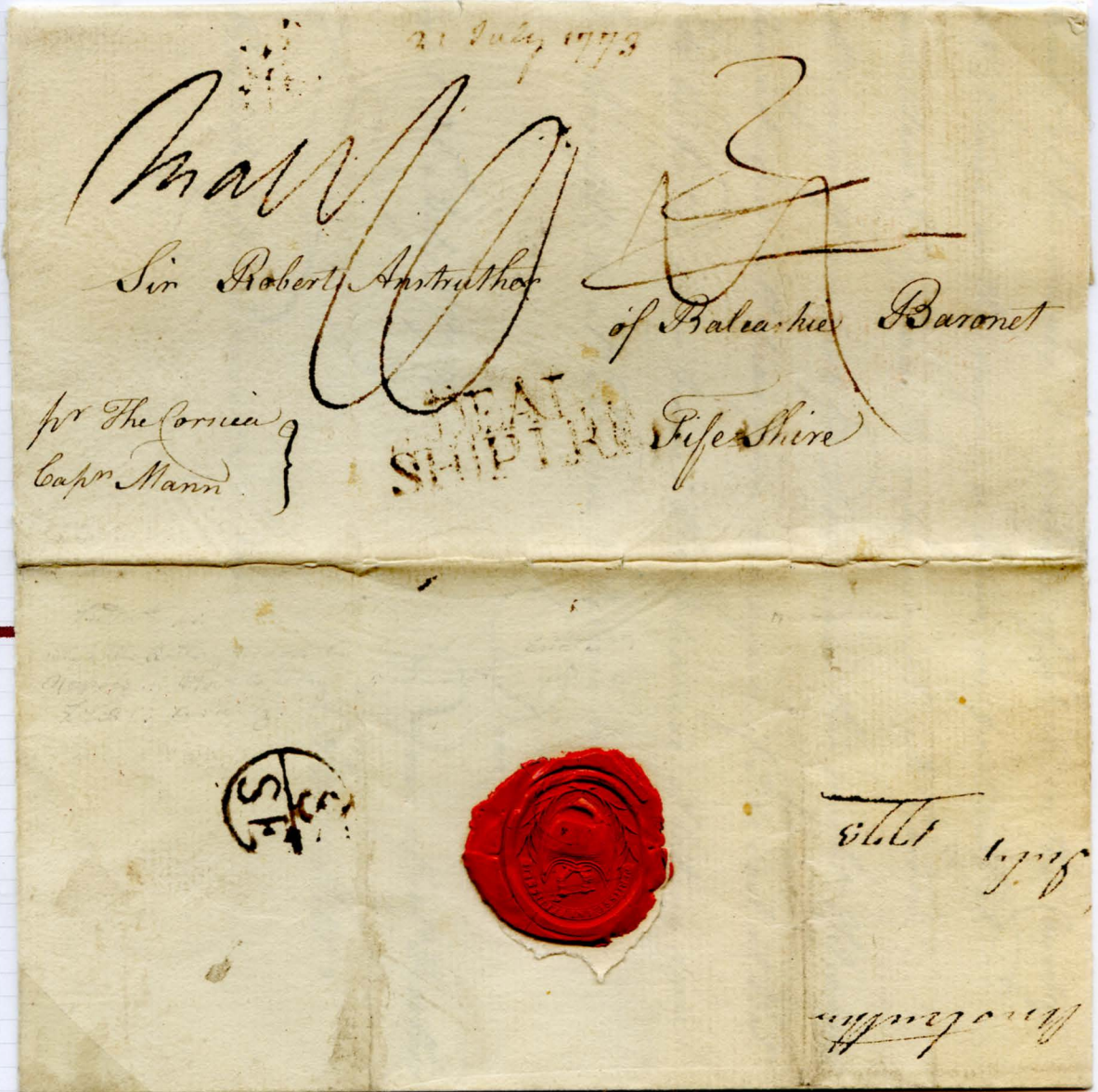


MONTSERRAT

A Deal Ship Letter from Montserrat dated 21 July 1773 which describes the purchase of an estate on Mount Anthony and negroes for £7387 6s 7d together with a plea to his brother, Sir Robert Anstruther, for help in paying for it. According the 2005 House of Commons research paper on the value of the pound this is equivalent to a sum of some £1,500,000 today



Dear Brother,

I wrote to you a few lines about ten days ago by the ship Ottley for London ... You are no stranger to the distresses which too many have been put to, on account of the failures at home, we have felt our part as will appear by this settled account sent you by Mr Gordon, therein we fall short of the original stock no less a sum than £1577.11.6 currency each partner the 1/2 of which is £788.15.9 at 65 per cent is £475 or thereabouts. This is a heavy sum & at once swallows me up unless your kind assistance keeps me out of the gulf. I formerly wrote you that by advice of Mr Gordon I had become joint purchaser with Anthony Gordon of the estate and negroes Mount Anthony, the amount of which £7387. 6s 7d is to our debit with AG & Co. Our accounts against the Partnership & the remainder of stock for which we have cr reduces that to £3440... This Balance I know not how to discharge & much less how to settle your account, unless Anthony and I sell the Estate, which if we do, God only knows what we can do next.....you may depend no improper use shall be made of the money, the scarcity of which in this country makes us look at it twice as the saying is before we part with it.

Anthony, Bob and myself embark for Dominica this night. If I cannot get away 1st August you will hear from me again, if I do sail at that time, tis to be hoped soon to have the pleasure of taking you by the hand.

Compts to all friends and believe me
Dear Sir Your afft Brother

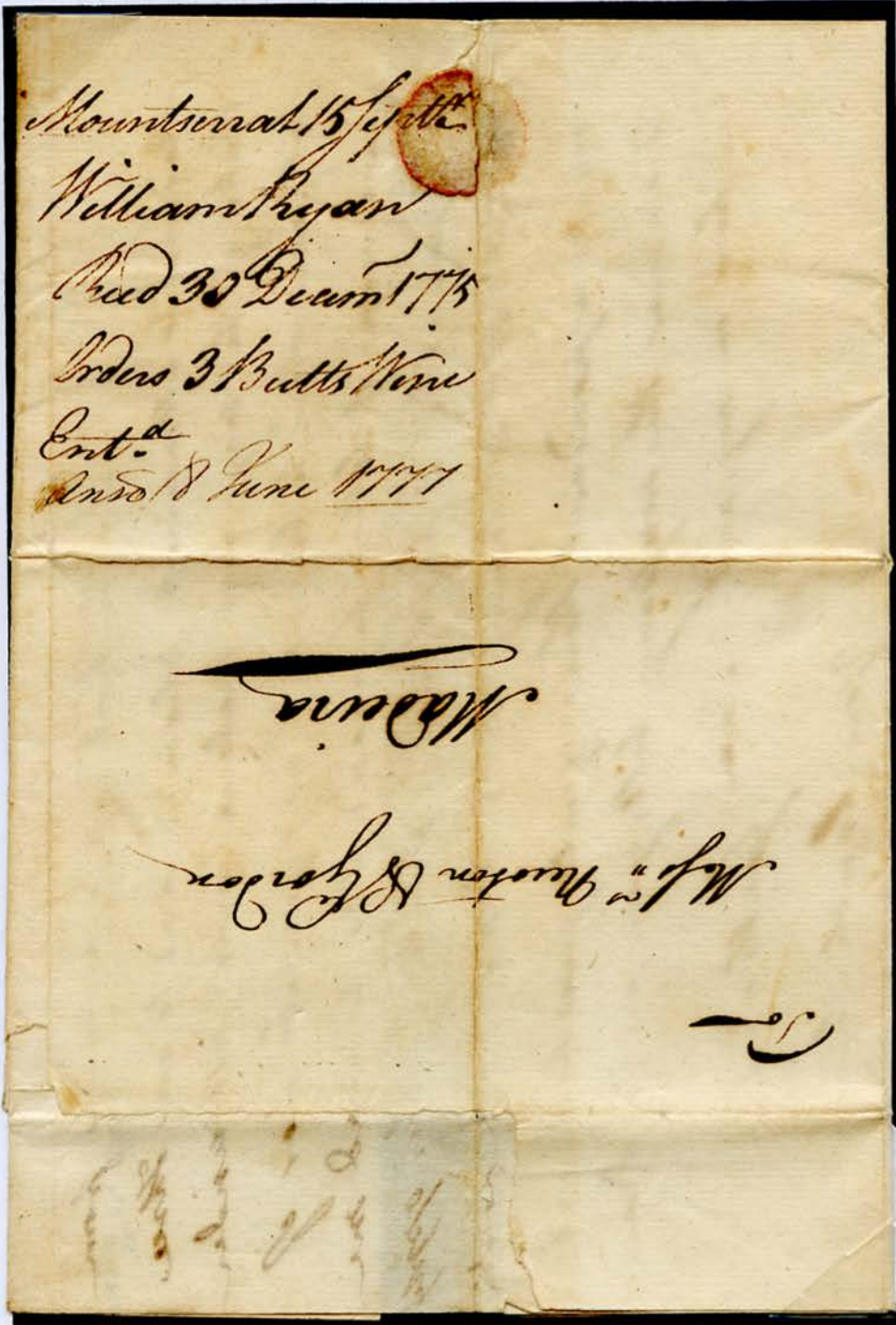
Anstruther

Montserrat 21st July 1773
To CA, British Coffee House London

MONTSERRAT

An entire letter from Montserrat dated 15th September 1775, received 30th December 1775 ordering 3 butts of the very best Madeira wine. A butt or pipe was two hogsheads or about 475 litres. There are no marks as to how the letter was conveyed.

The order for the second lot of 3 further butts was fulfilled on 18 June 1777



Montserrat 15th Sept^r
William Ryan
Recd 30 Decem 1775
Orders 3 Butts Wine
Ent^d
Duro 18 June 1777

Madras

Mr^s Newton & Gordon

W

To Messrs Newton &
Gordon, Madeira

Montserrat
Sep the 15th, 1775

Gentlemen,

By the first safe opportunity from Madeira to Montserrat please to send to me three Butts of the very best Madeira wine not under two years old (to be ent' red as pipes) For fear of miscarriage of letters, be pleased also to send me the year after 3 butts more. I write by this opportunity to Mr Wm Manning, No 15 St Mary Axe, London, my correspondent there, & will give him order to answer the necessary bills you are to draw on him on my account. I am gentleman your humble servant

Wm Ryan

MONTSERRAT

The first postal markings from Montserrat were used in 1790 - a straight line handstamp 39mm long. Britnor originally listed two similar handstamps and certainly the lower one appears the larger. However it is thought that there was only one instrument, the variations being accounted for by ink spread.



Dated from Montserratt
- two Ts - OC 14 1790 -
this letter arrived in
London on New Year's
Day 1791



Dated from Montserratt
JA 10 1791 this letter
was apparently received
in Madeira on 23 June
1791. The London
receiving mark on the
reverse shows 25 91 but
the month is
indecipherable

MONTERRAT



This letter dated from Montserrat 4th August 1794 was landed at Falmouth on September 20th 1794 but has no Montserrat marking or packet prepayment rating



Dated from Montserrat June 11th 1796 this letter carries the straight line Montserrat handstamp together with a 1/- rating for prepayment. It arrived in London on July 21, 1796

MONTSERRAT

Not many early postal markings from Montserrat have survived but this is hardly surprising as for many of the years between 1775 and 1812 Britain was at war - first against America in the War of Independence and then with France against Napoleon. Many packet ships were lost or attacked by privateers and it was considered a captain's duty to see that the mail bags were sunk rather than to fall into enemy hands. Quite often they were hung over the stern ready to be cut down at a moment's notice. From 1760 till 1815 the Falmouth packet service to the West Indies lost 92 seamen killed in action. Travel was equally as hazardous for passengers. The cost of travel to the West Indies from Falmouth rose from £12 in 1703 to £58 6s for a cabin and £32 0s 6d steerage in 1810. This fell to £38 and £20 with the introduction of steam ships in 1835. The biggest scourge however was yellow fever. 99 passengers and crew on the West Indies Falmouth packets died of the disease between 1780 and 1828. As a result some mail was cut open, fumigated and soaked in vinegar rendering much of the contents unreadable.

In 1799 members of Lloyds Coffee Houses suggested that dated handstamps should be used for mail from the West Indies to help cut down on fraudulent claims and this was acted upon.



This is an example of the first circular datestamp from Montserrat. Dated JAN 9 1805 it reached London on Feb 13. The EKD for this CDS is 23 JA 1804 and the LKD is 8 JU 1809. No postal markings have been recorded from Montserrat from this date until 27 SP 1836 twenty seven years later

MONTSERRAT

No Montserrat postal markings have been recorded on letters between 1809 and 1836.

These two, apparently to same addressee, both bear London receiving marks

Right: Sent per packet from Montserrat 10 AU 1818 and rated 2/2 it arrived London 25 SP 1818.

It concerns a new arrival to the island and their right to an inheritance to a farm which was doing "very badly"

Below: A 1½ oz Deal Ship Letter sent by the Euphemia 14 FE 1829 and rated 8/- it reached London 7 AP 1829.

It concerns two actions against the exectutors of a D Meade and a W Meade and confirms the loss of two gentlemen on their passage to Antigua in 1759



MONTSERRAT

Two letters which have no Montserrat markings but both have arrival marks. This one dated 2/2 and dated May 1831 arrived on 11 JU 1831 complete with a PACKET LETTER stamp in red brown



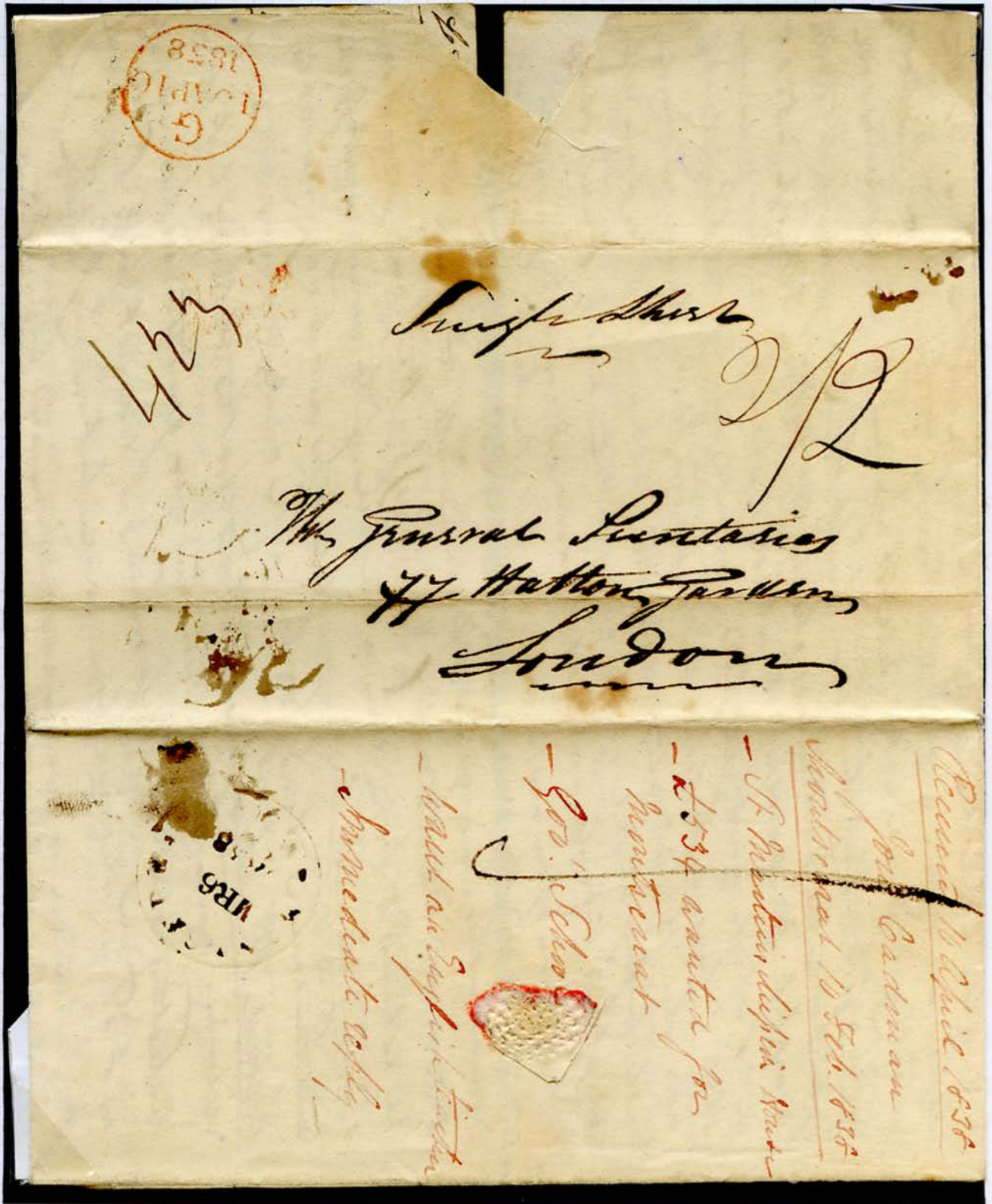
This one rated 1/- and dated March 14, 1845 arrived on 9 AP 1845



MONTSERRAT



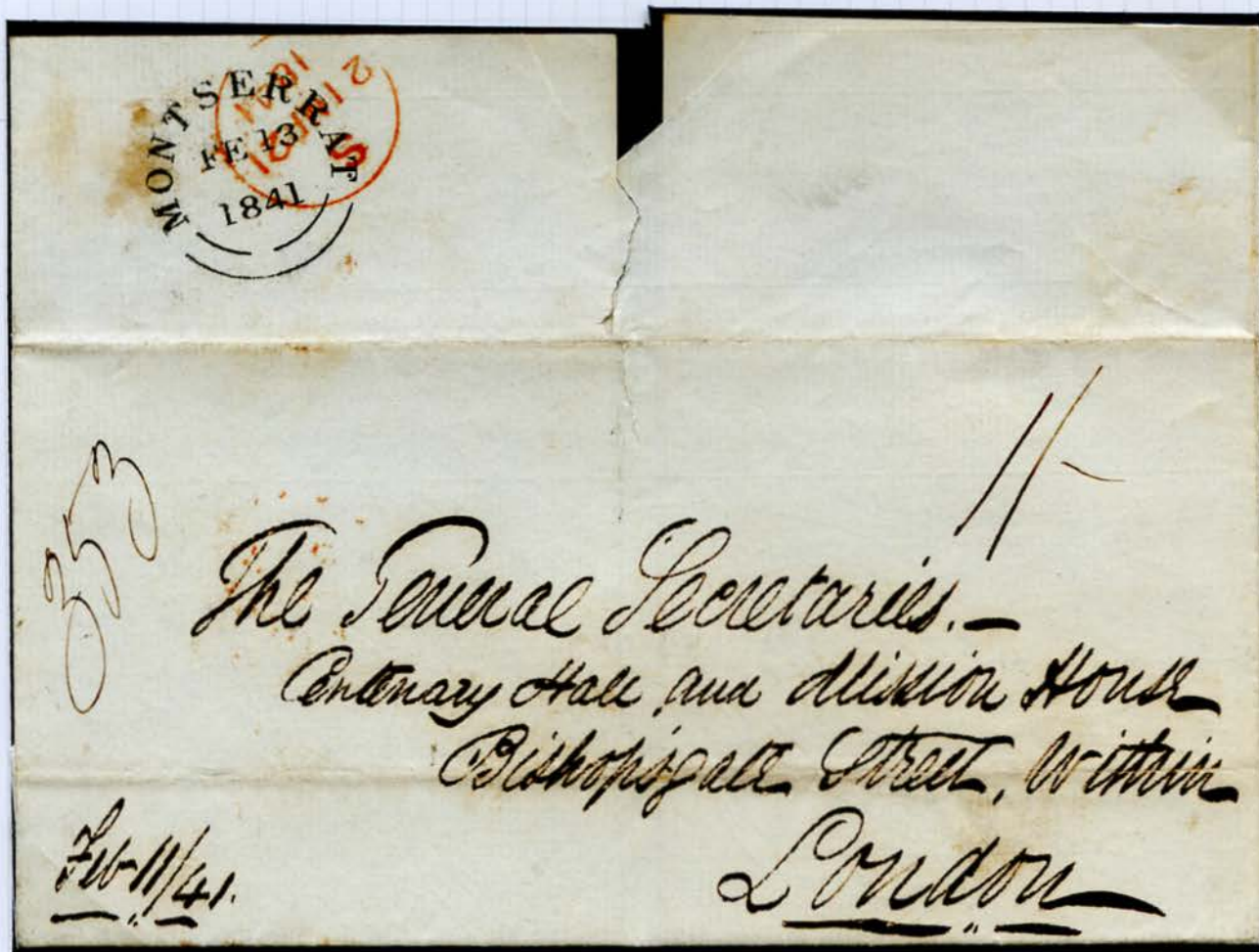
The Montserrat "fleuron" which was sent out from the GPO on 5 July 1836 ended the apparent complete lack of postal markings from Montserrat since 1809. The earliest date of use currently recorded is 27 SP 1836 and the last is 3 JY 1838. This example dated on a letter dated 10 FE 1838 - the missionary was suffering from a fever at the time of writing - and posted on 6 MR, rated at 2/2, reached London on 10 AP 1838



MONTSERRAT

The next datestamp was sent out from the GPO on 16 November 1840. Both these examples are rated at 1/-. The first was posted on Christmas Day 1840 and reached London on St Valentine's Day 1841.

The second, sent 13 FE 1841, reached London on 21 MR 1841. This mark is known used between the dates of 20 DE 1840 and 27 NO 1847



MONTSERRAT

The next date stamp sent from the GPO on 16 DE 1847 is illustrated here



These two examples of its use are dated 28 AP 1848, arrived London 22 MY 1848 and below 23 NO 1849, received 24 DE 1849. Both include the "A" at the bottom but on the lower one the month and year slugs have been inverted and reversed



The General Secretaries of the
 Wesleyan Missionary Society,
 Bishopgate Street, Bethel,
 London.

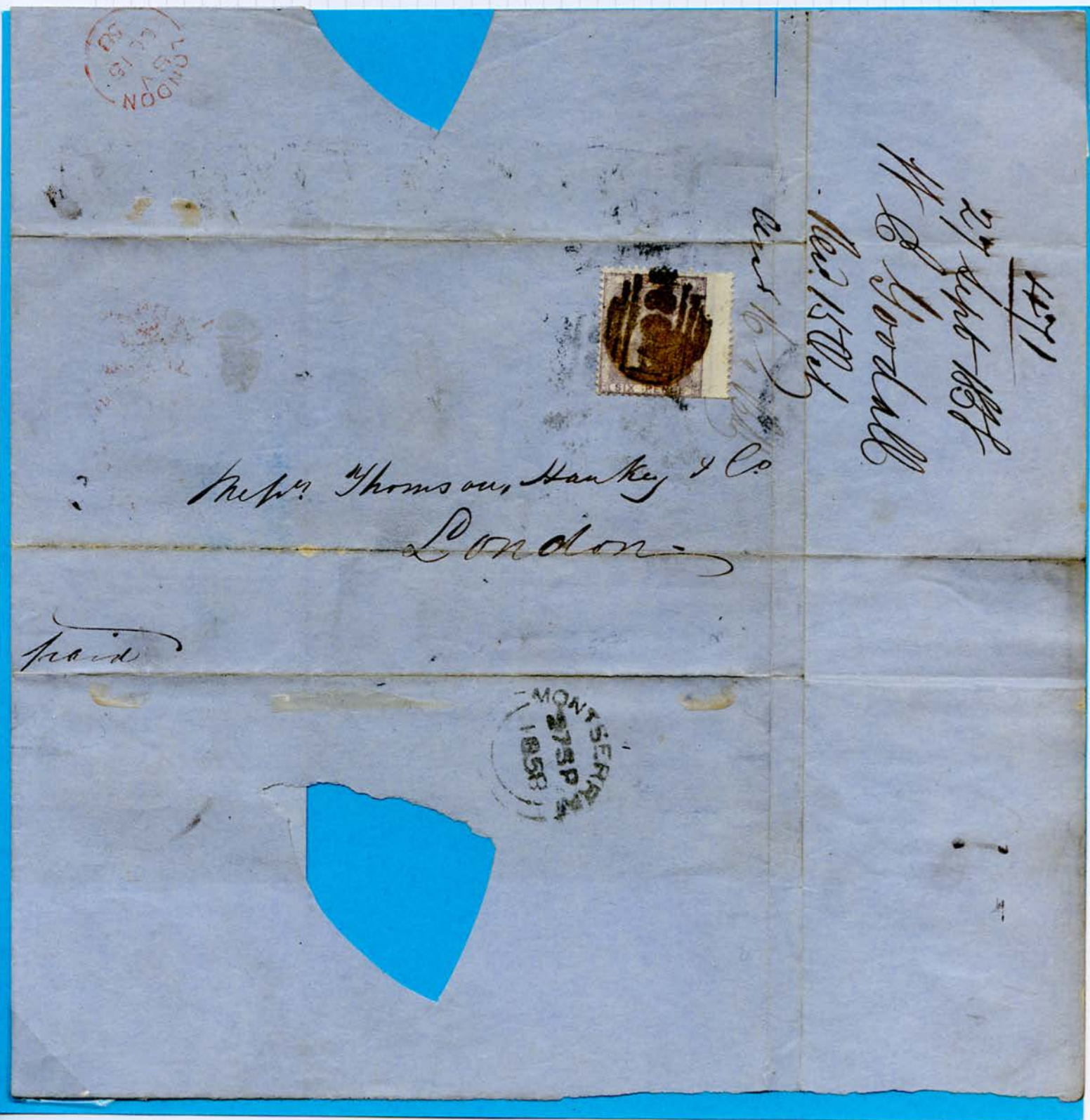
12050
 Mr. [unclear]
 Mr. [unclear] London [unclear]
 per Steamer -



MONTSERRAT

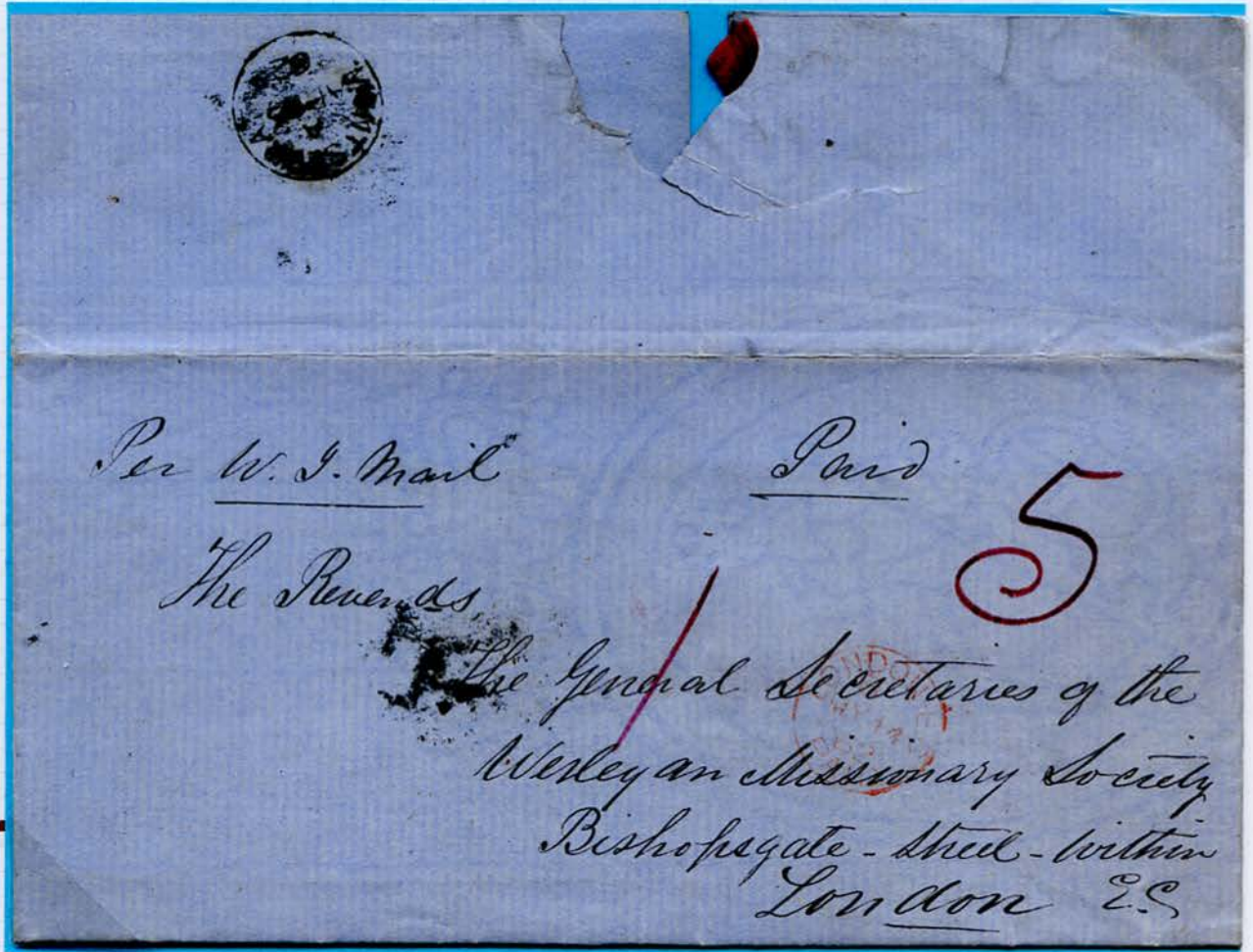
In 1852 the GPO opened a branch office at the capital, Plymouth and approval of the use of English postage stamps was granted following the Fifth Report of the PMG (Lord Colchester, 1857). The stamps placed on sale in Montserrat on 8 May 1858 were 1d, rose red, 4d rose and 6d lilac.

This wrapper sent from Montserrat 27 September 1858 carries a 6d pale lilac (SG70) "wing variety", a heavily inked impression of one of the two A08 obliterators sent out from the GPO on 14 April and 28th April 1858 and a London receiving mark 15 OC 58



MONTSERRAT

In 1860, as with the other islands, use of English stamps was withdrawn and Montserrat took over control of its Post Office. For the next 16 years until Montserrat issued its own stamps postage was paid at the time the letter was handed in to the post office and the amount paid was added in manuscript.



This letter sent from Montserrat in April 1862 with the figure 5 added in manuscript. It arrived in London 14 JY 1862.

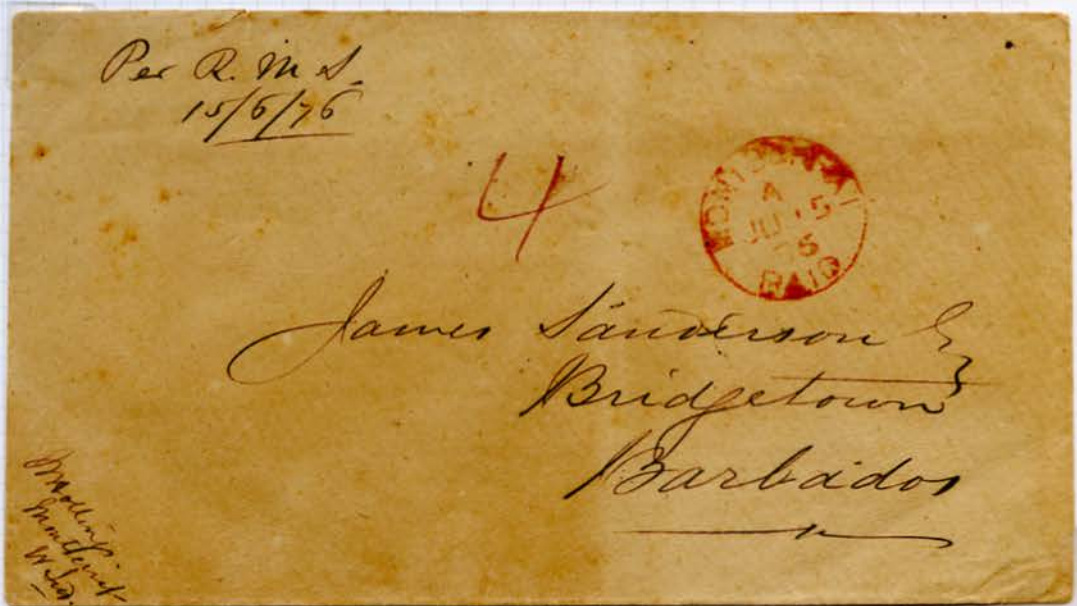
The datestamp appears to be the same as the one used on the postcard below 7 AU 1885. Its use has not been recorded between 1868 and 1883 when the Montserrat Paid handstamp was the standard GPO mark



MONTSERRAT



The "Crowned Circle" paid handstamp was sent out from the GPO on 15 July, 1852 and was in use until 1876 except when GB adhesives were in use. This piece shows its use, struck in violet, apparently validating a 1d revenue stamp for postage.



The first circular PAID date stamp sent out from the GPO 14 August 1861. Struck in red or reddish brown examples are known from 10 SP 1870 until 15 AU 1876. This example is dated 15 JU 1876 with a manuscript 4 for the 4d postage rate. Backstamped with a Barbadoes receiving mark 20 JU 1876.

This PAID mark was converted to a regular date stamp when stamps were introduced in 1876. It is shown here in use on a postcard dated 11 FE 1880



MONTSERRAT

13



MONTSERRAT INLAND REVENUE STAMPS.

MONTSERRAT INLAND REVENUE STAMPS.

One Penny each — One Shilling per Sheet.

NS/B

Four used examples in various shades. The left hand one is in aniline-rose with a perf of 12



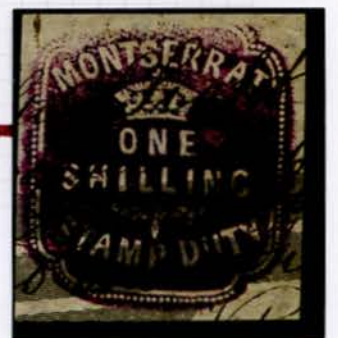
In 1866 Harrison and Sons printed 1d Inland Revenue stamps in sheets of 12 perf 12½ in carmine lake, carmine and aniline rose. The three examples below appear to have been used postally. The piece carries Montserrat "A" and "P" CDSs 16 SP 87. The other two are dated 8 SP1881 and 6 SP 1887



This second type was printed in the early 1880s on Crown CA paper perf 14



Two embossed fiscal stamps, 6d and 1/-, the latter backstamped by the Bank of England



MONTSERRAT

In 1876 Montserrat applied to use the stamps of Antigua or to have a separate issue of its own for the prepayment of postage. The GPO, however, unwilling to incur the expense of a separate issue, suggested overprinting the stamps of Antigua. Accordingly 100 sheets of 1d and 50 sheets of 6d were ordered to be overprinted with the word MONTSERRAT with a line through "Antigua".

The sheets were in ten rows of 12 and there were two settings of the overprint plate. One was a complete pane for 120 stamps but the other was for 60 stamps and the operation was done twice. On this plate on the 3rd stamp in the second row the "S" was inverted so two of this variety can be found on each sheet overprinted this way.

One sheet of the 6d green of Antigua was overprinted but it was not issued and a different brighter green was used for the Montserrat stamps.



A proof of the vignette of Victoria used for the stamps of Antigua

Specimens Samuel type D8 of the 1d and 6d Crown CC watermark and perf 14



S inverted



From the unissued sheet in Antigua green



The "Malburin" flaw - a dot below the S of SIX



On the top two stamps the overprint is very low and the bar does not obscure Antigua as intended. This block is apparently from rows 5 and 6 of the setting of 60 where the operation was done in two stages



A used block of four



Watermark inverted and reversed



Watermark inverted

MONTSERRAT



1876 1d carmine - strip of four - cancelled in manuscript October 10th. Faint Montserrat "A" Paid CDS 11 OC 1883. Liverpool arrival CDS 27 OC 1883 on reverse



1876 6d green - a pair cancelled Montserrat PAID cds in red 25 SP 1883 with a London PAID arrival mark 15 OC 78 on large part front

MONTSERRAT

The 1d and 6d Bisects and Trisects

Although there are no official Post Office notices as to their use there now seems to be no doubt that it was genuine. Some of the examples shown here are commercial although some are clearly "philatelic". Until early 1883 the lowest postal charge in Montserrat was 1d. However, changes in postal rate necessitated a ½d stamp and although this was ordered on October 30th 1883 supplies did not arrive in the island until 1884. Additionally in December 1883 there was a shortage of 2½d stamps and the Postmaster allowed the trisecting of the 6d stamp.

1d Red Perf 14
Montserrat
PAID
CDS Jy 14 83
Tied by A08



1d Red Perf 14
Montserrat
PAID CDS AU 10 83
Tied by A08
This letter to
Saint Martins
is annotated in
manuscript
Recd 18 Aug

MONTERRAT

The 1d and 6d Bisects and Trisects

1d Red Perf 14
Montserrat
CDS SP 2 83
Tied by A08
Received
SP 3 83



These examples show the use of
 $\frac{1}{2}$ handstamp which is thought to
have been applied by favour from
the Dominica Postmaster.

2 x 1d Red Perf 12
Dominica CDS JY 1 84
Two $\frac{1}{2}$ struck in
black. Tied by A08



1d Red Perf 12
Montserrat
PAID CDS JY 26 84.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ struck in black.
Tied by A08

MONTSEERRAT

The 1d and 6d Bisects and Trisects



1d Red Perf 12 Montserrat
PAID CDS MY 14 84.
Tied by A08
½ struck in red
Dominica CDS MY 18 84



1d Red Perf 12
Montserrat PAID
CDS JY 14 84. ½
struck in black. Tied
by A08 Dominica
CDS JY 17 84

MONTSERRAT

These two examples show bisects and trisects to make up the 2½d rate.

A "Kelshall" front with five Perf 12 1d red Montserrat PAID CDS MY 14 84. Tied by three AO8 obliterator strikes Dominica CDS MY 18 84



On this cover a 6d has been trisected and a 1d red Perf 14 bisected to make up the 2½ rate. Faint Montserrat PAID CDS 1 MR 84. Both tied by AO8. St Kitts CDS 5 MR 84.

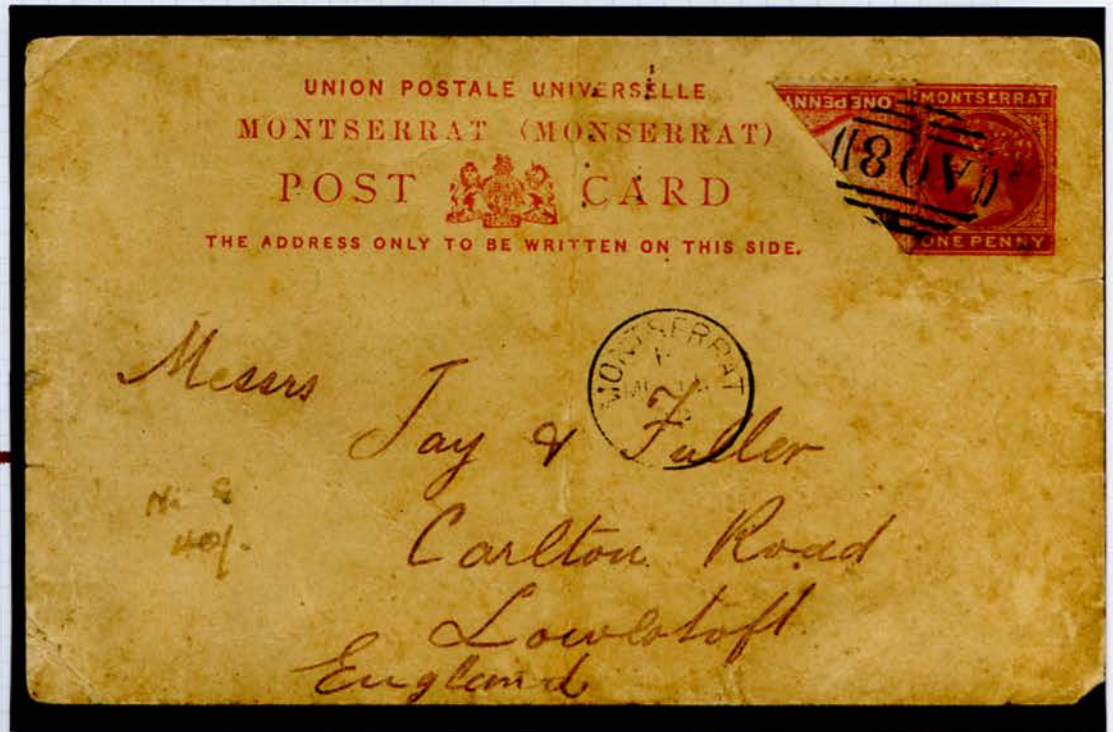


This cover was used in the "Centenary of the Postage Stamp" set issued on January 5th, 1976 for the 40 cent valued illustrated above.

MONTSERRAT

The 1d and 6d Bisects and Trisects

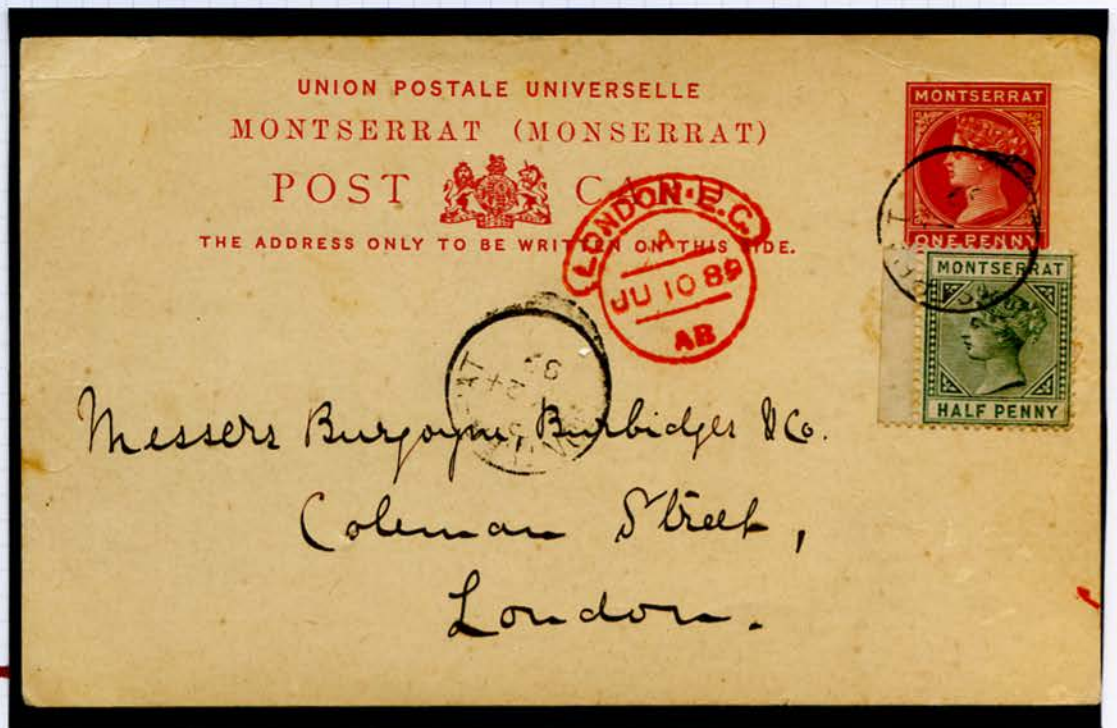
This example shows a One Penny Montserrat postcard uprated with a 1d Rose-red bisected to make up the correct 1½d rate for an overseas postcard. This usage is more than four years after previously known dates. Tied by A08 Montserrat P CDS MR 19 89



This small piece also shows a late usage of a bisect. Montserrat "P" CDS 3 SP 89? This CDS is not known before 1887



By way of comparison this example shows another One Penny Montserrat postcard similarly uprated but this time with an SG 6 - ½d dull green. Montserrat P CDS MY 24 89



MONTSEERRAT

January 1880 Wmk Crown CC Perf 14

Plate proof on
gummed paper



March 1883 Wmk Crown CA Perf 12



1884/5 Wmk Crown CA Perf 14



Inverted "S"

Watermark inverted



Detached
triangle



MONTSERRAT

Few covers from the first issues of Montserrat stamps from 1876 until 1890 appear to have survived although quite a number of postal stationery cards from 1880 onwards have been seen. In 1890 all the postage and revenue stamps for the Leeward Islands were unified and no further stamps were issue by Montserrat until 1903.



A cover to England bearing a 4d mauve and an early Montserrat "P" CDS 22 JY 87 and an interesting advertisement for Daniel Burke on the reverse



A cover to England with Montserrat "P" CDS 18 JA 1889 bearing a pair of the 1d rose red issue of 1885 and three 4d mauve. Birmingham arrival CDS 2 FE 89 on reverse

MONTSERRAT



In 1890 the Queen Victoria Keyplate issues for Montserrat were withdrawn and were replaced by the general issue for the Leeward Islands. There were eight values, 1/2d, 1d, 2 1/2d, 4d, 6d, 7d, 1s and 5s.



Examples of typical commercial mail of the 1890s. The lower one shows the "double ring" Montserrat A CDS 8 My 1894

MONTERRAT

Montserrat
"C" CDS
30 NO 92

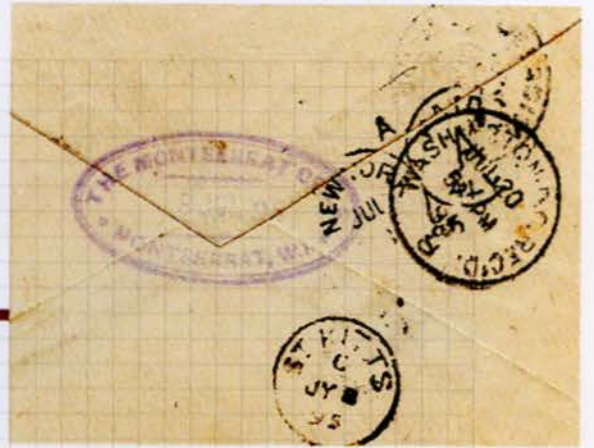


On December 25
1898 the rate for
mail to most parts
of the British
Empire was
reduced from
2½d to 1d per
half oz



MONTSEERRAT

A letter from the Montserrat Company
8 JY 1895 and below a very late use of the A08
killer sent out from the GPO 38 years previously



MONTSERRAT

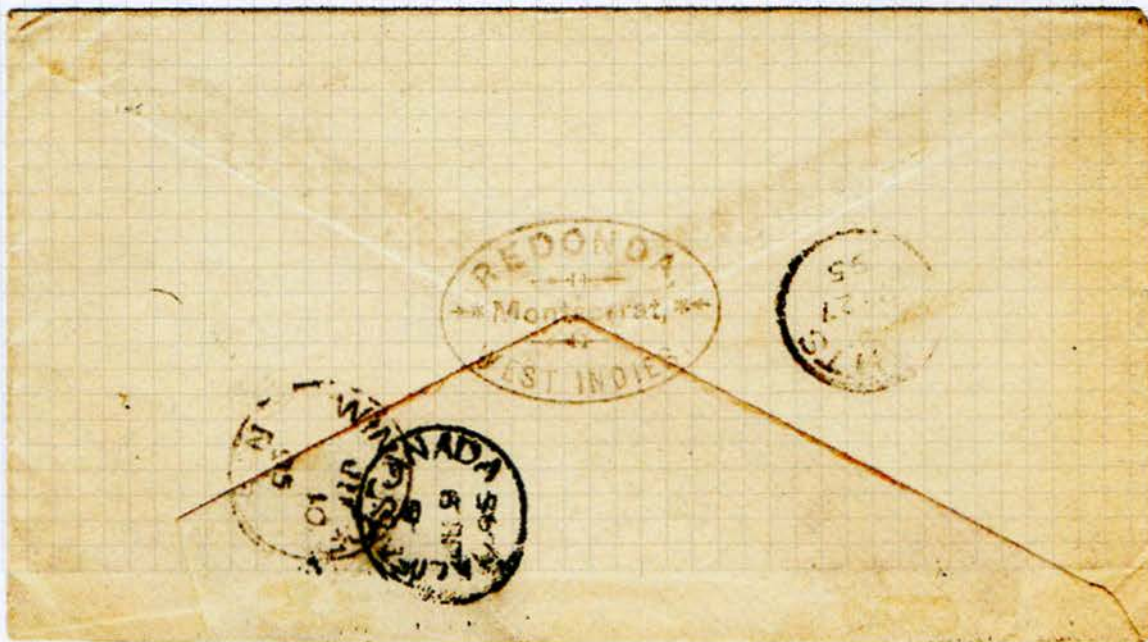
Two examples of registered mail carrying the large R overprint in use from about 1885 and the correct postage of 4½d, 2½ for the normal rate plus 2d registration fee. The lower one also shows the "double ring" variety of CDS



MONTSERRAT

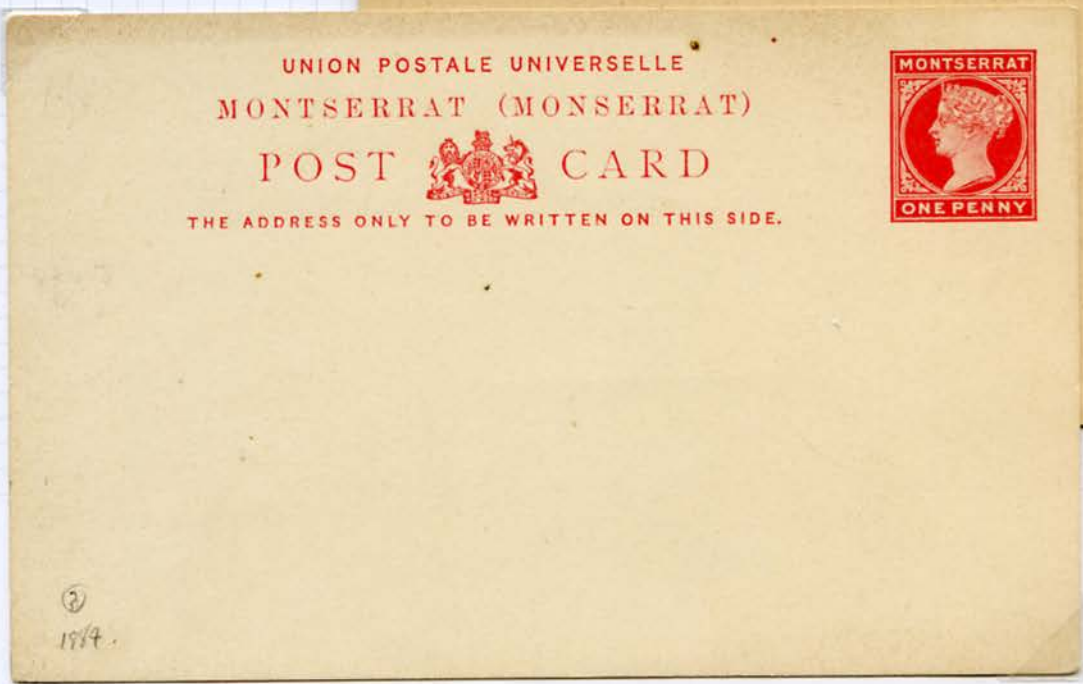


This letter to the Gypsum Packet Co, Nova Scotia hides an interesting story on its reverse. Backstamped Redonda, Montserrat, West Indies this volcanic island 14 miles north west of Montserrat was named the island (right) Santa María la Redonda, meaning Saint Mary the Round, by Columbus on his second journey shortly after he named Montserrat. In the 1860s, the island became a British possession and for about 40 years the rich guano (phosphine oxide) deposits of Redonda were mined for fertiliser, with an annual yield of up to 7,000 tons. The island has only been inhabited by workers during this period. There were 120 there in 1901. Mining operations ceased during the First World War

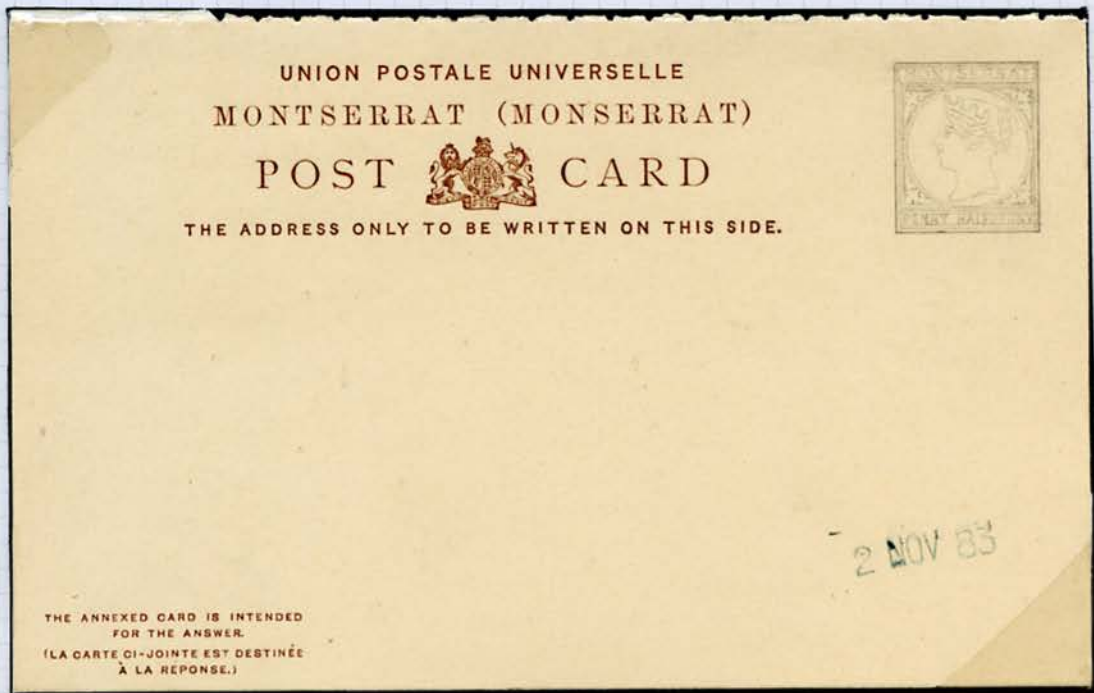


MONTSEERRAT

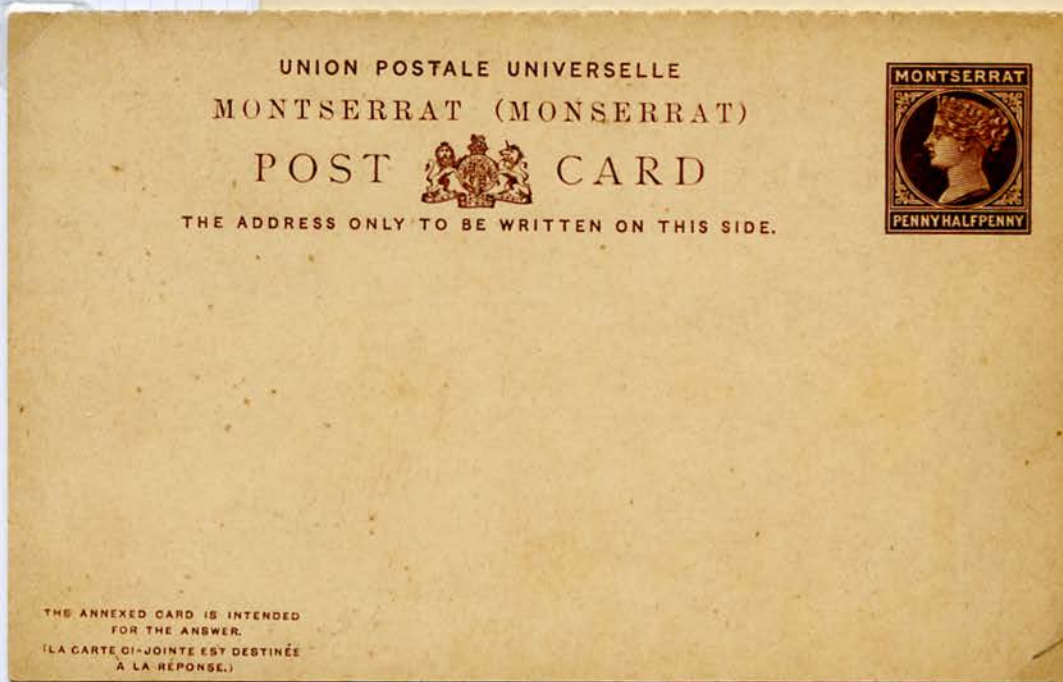
Montserrat joined the Postal Union on July 1, 1879 which made the provision of post cards obligatory. Its first post card, produced by De la Rue & Co, had a value of 1½d. This was followed in 1884 by a new version in thicker card with a different image of Queen Victoria. At the same time a reply paid system was introduced together with a 1d value for local post



MONTERRAT



1883 De La Rue proof impression of the 1½d + 1½d reply card with the artist's drawing of Queen Victoria's head in pencil and the inscription for the 1884-7 issue. Dated "2 NOV 83" the drawing is repeated on the reply portion. The proof is of the version on white card perf 6. There was a later printing on buff card, perf 7

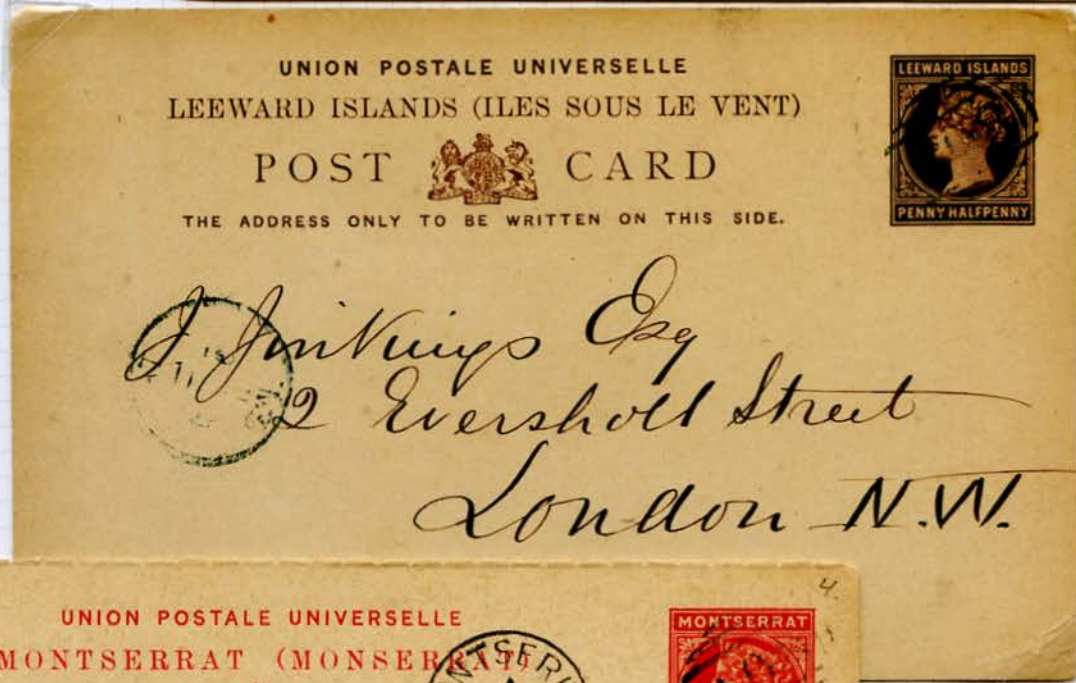
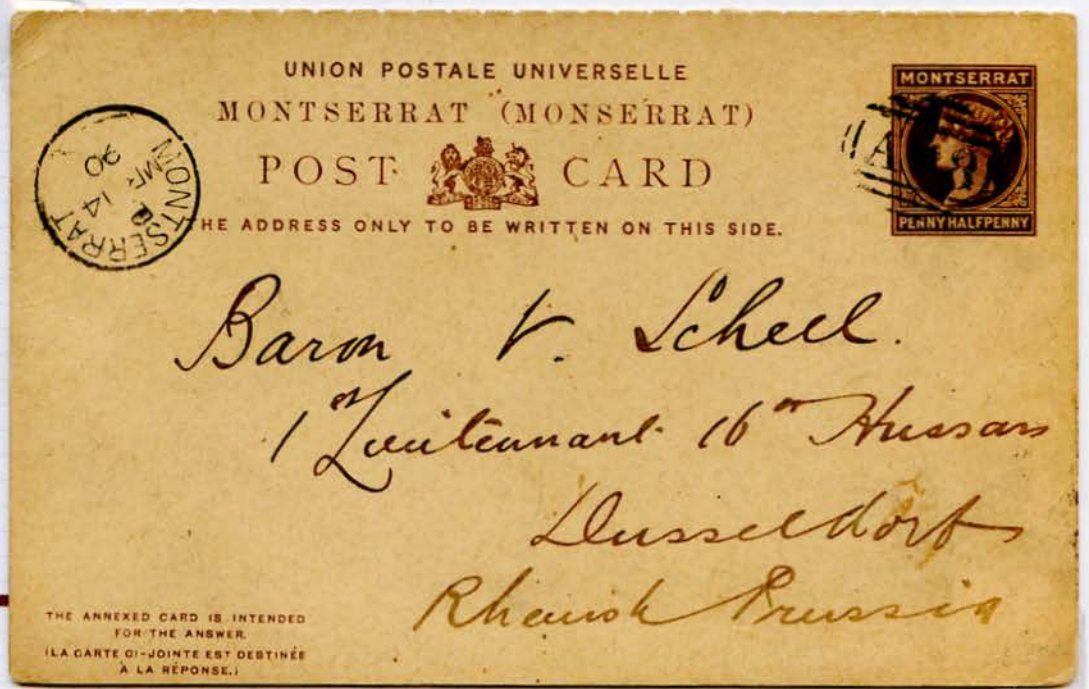


MONTSERRAT

Three examples of the post cards mailed from Montserrat.
1½d + 1½d reply card sent to Rhenish Prussia - Montserrat P CDS 14 Mar 1890.

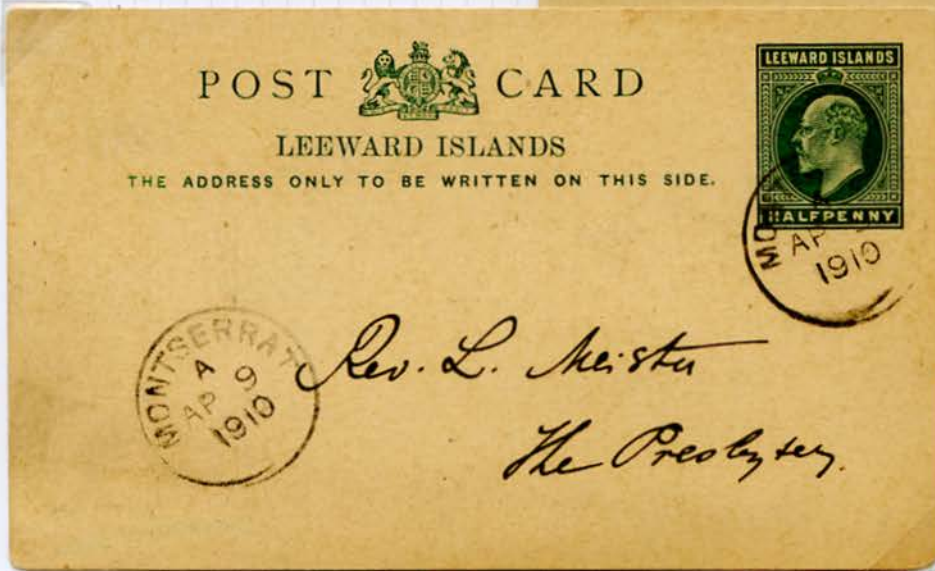
The 1½d card sent to London in February 1891 Only the A08 killer used and no CDS

Below: the 1d + 1d reply card to Leipzig. Montserrat A CDS 30 Oct 1895. London transit cds 14 Nov and 15 Nov receiving mark



MONTSERRAT

A New Year greetings card to Austria from the Rev L Meister and below an invitation to a party for him

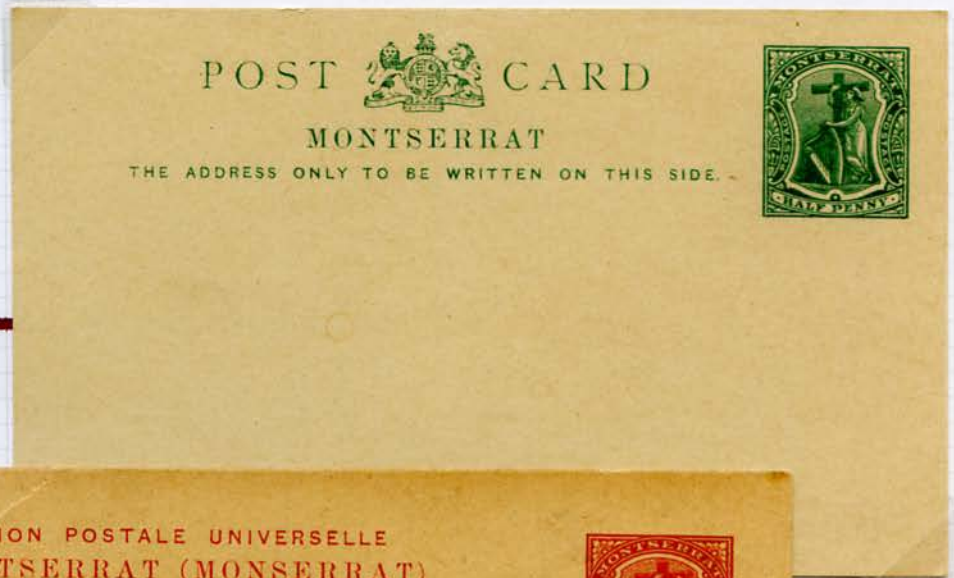


Examples of the three similar Edward VII Leeward Islands post cards in use at the same time as the Montserrat ones



MONTSEERRAT

In 1903 Montserrat issued three new postcards. A 1/2d green for internal use printed entirely in English, a 1d and a 1d + 1d reply card. In the example at the bottom the reply portion has been mailed to Germany



MONTSERRAT

In June 1891 Victorian Leeward Island postal envelopes were made available in two sizes - 140 x 78 mm and - 120 x 95mm - and two values 1d and 2½d. The Edward VII versions arrived in November 1902

SPECIMEN



SPECIMEN



SPECIMEN



SPECIMEN



MONTSERRAT



Three examples of Victorian postal envelopes used in Montserrat. Both the 1d have been uprated to 2½d. The top one shows the "double ring" variety CDS - MY 10 99 and the 2½d has a New York "PAID ALL" CDS - 7-18-95 on the reverse



MONTSERRAT

In August 1903 with a new monarch on the throne Montserrat again issued its own definitive stamps. However, the general issues of the Leeward Islands remained in concurrent use until 30th June 1956.

The design for the Montserrat stamps was taken from the public seal of the Presidency and represents the Figure of Faith embracing the Cross with her right hand and a harp with her left



A die proof of the frame and name, with thick uncleaned surrounds and right the final proof after hardening



A die proof of the frame and name, and value
THREE PENCE - 31 MR 03



About 20 imperforate colour trials of the HALF PENNY value on gummed paper were made by De La Rue & Co. This one is in the issued colours of the 1/- value

There appears to be no information about this Halfpenny printed apparently with the centre omitted. On Crown CA paper, there is little evidence of any gum on the reverse. Shown with a normal for comparison



MONTSERRAT



The 5/- value was of a larger format and was of the same design as that for Antigua and Dominica with the name altered. There were seven colour trials made and this one in scarlet with a grey centre was the closest to the adopted colours of scarlet with a black centre



Die proofs of the final design of the frame, name and value but with the centre blank. Before hardening 10 Mar 03 and After Hardening 11 Mar 03



The final printed values on Crown CA paper
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d , 1d, 2d, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3d, 6d, 1s, 2s, 2s 6d and 5s

MONTSEERRAT

1903 - 1908

After the first issue in 1903 new supplies of the stamps were printed on Multiple Crown CA paper. In 1904 supplies of the 1/2d, 2d, 3d and 6d were delivered. In December 1905 the 2 1/2d was issued on chalk-surfaced paper and in March 1906 the new 1/2d was delivered. The 5/- value appear in September 1907.



These covers and those that follow have been selected to show the use of each denomination

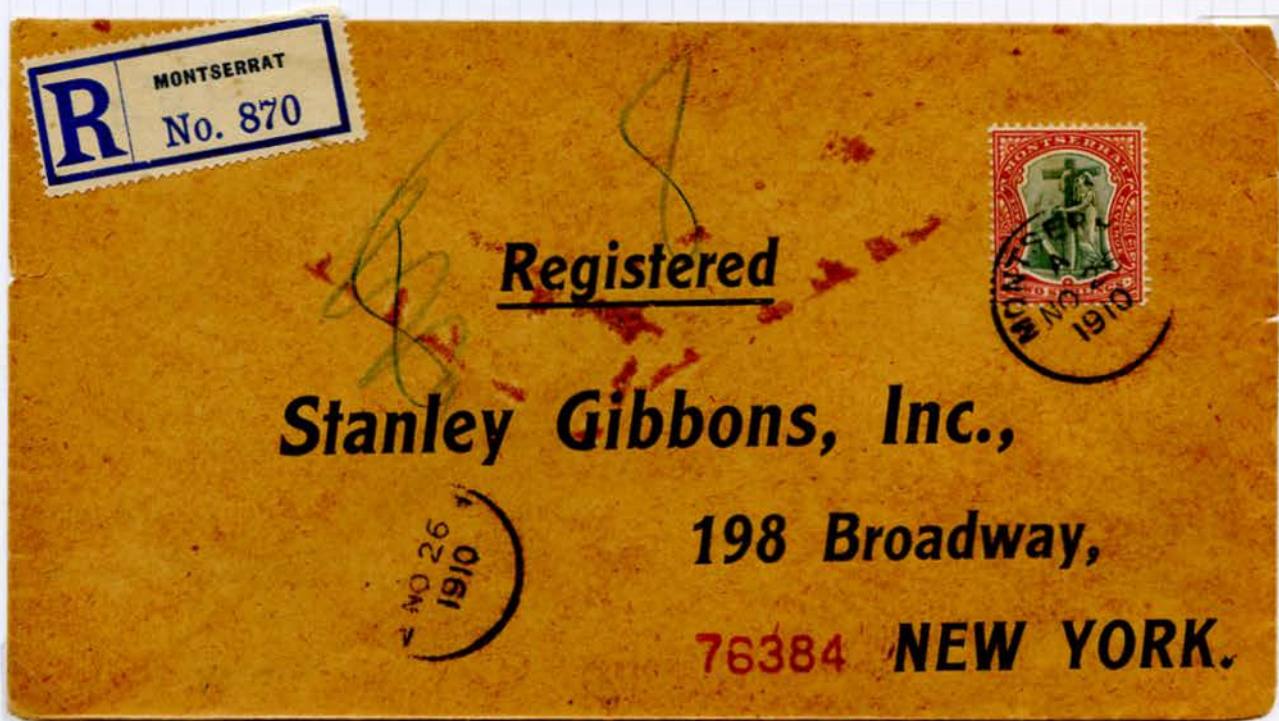
MONTSERRAT

1903 - 1908



MONTERRAT

1903 - 1908



MONTERRAT

1903 - 1908



MONTSERRAT



SPECIMEN

In 1903 Montserrat issued two types of postal envelopes - size G - 151 x 95mm - in both 1d and 2½d denominations. They are on white stock bearing a large and widely spaced watermark "Original Turkey Mill Kent". Some envelopes have no trace of the watermark



SPECIMEN



MONTSERRAT

Montserrat postal envelopes used
JA 28 1909, AP 1 1911 and the
Edward VII version in concurrent
use - dated MY 15 1909. All
Montserrat A CDS



Herrn Julius Seemann

Karlsbad

Elisabeth-Kai 1101

Austria



M^{rs} E. J. Cleave

C/o The Colonial Bank
13 Bishopsgate Street (within)
London. E. C.



J. R. Lunn Esq., F.R.C.S.
Mayallone Infirmary,
Kotten Hill,
London.

MONTSERRAT

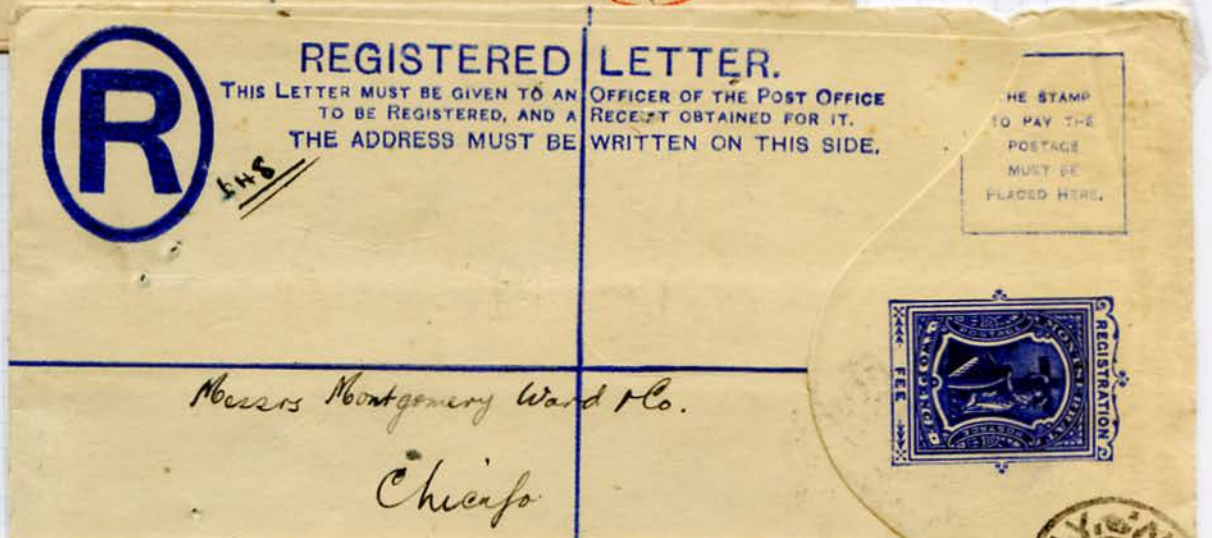
In 1903 Montserrat issued two sizes of Registered envelopes - fee 2d:
 G - 151 x 95mm and H2 - 226 x 102 mm.
 These examples bear a Montserrat A CDS FE 22 1904, receiving mark on the reverse 12/03/04 and a Montserrat A CDS JU 15 1905 backstamped with a New York receiving mark 6-30 1905



MONTSERRAT



Montserrat registered envelopes size G - 152 x 95mm - sent JU 3 1907 to London and a very late use - 1926 of the variety printed in blue with no apparent stamp for postage or Montserrat marking from "N L Nanton, Sugars, Montserrat" on reverse.



From the March 1905 printing where for the first time the embossed stamp was folded to the front. On earlier printings for Edward VII and all of the QV printings it was on the reverse

MONTSERRAT

A total of seven
newswrappers were
issued by the
Leeward Islands.
There were 18
printings from
November 1890 of
the QV 1/2d green. A
total of 223,320 was
printed

Below: The 1890
1d QV red version
of which there were
four printings and
35,688 issued

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers, or for
such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate
of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication
of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise).
If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

SPECIMEN



This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers, or for
such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate
of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication
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SPECIMEN



MONTSERRAT

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SPECIMEN

The King Edward VII versions issued in November 1902. There were three printings of the ½d green with 64,040 issued

Below: The 1d red version of which there were two printings and 13,224 issued

ly be used for Newspapers or for allowed to be sent at the Book-rate enclose any letter or communication (whether separate or otherwise). e packet will be charged as a letter.



SPECIMEN

MONTSERRAT

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SPECIMEN

Newswrappers were issued with the rest of the Federal Issue stationary and were on sale from November 1890 until well after last printing in November 1938. When in 1903 Montserrat again issued its own stamps, wrappers 125mm x 300mm in size were issued in 1/2d and 1p denominations. These were in use at the same time as the Leeward Island wrappers until those of the individual presidencies were withdrawn under the Stamps Order of 1923.



MONTSERRAT

The new design for King George V issued in August 1913. There were five printings of this 1/2d green with 28,879 issued

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SPECIMEN



SPECIMEN

Above: The only printing of a 1/4d newswrapper was made in February 1927 when the Presidential stationary was withdrawn. 25,440 were issued

Right:
The George VI issue of November 1938. There were three printings and 14,400 were issued

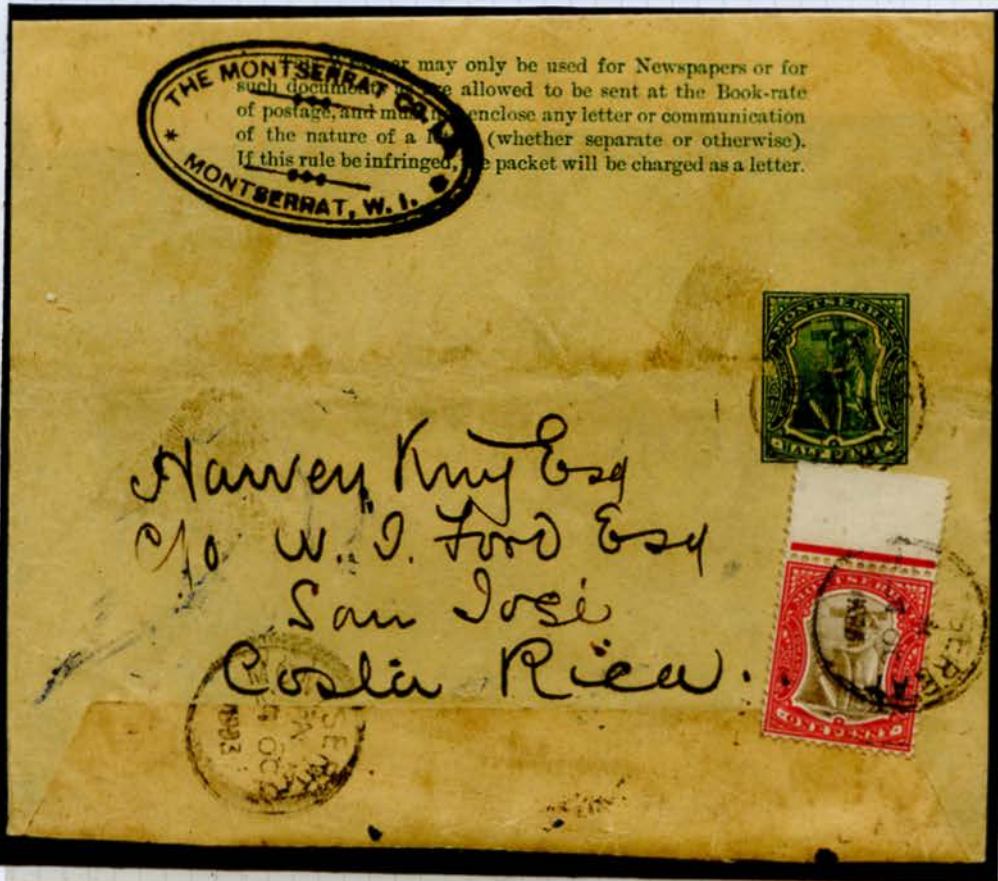
SPECIMEN



MONTSERRAT

such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

The 1d red used to
Holland Oct 6, 1906



The 1/2d green
wrapper charged as
a letter and uprated
with a 1d.
Mailed by the
Montserrat Co Ltd to
Costa Rica
21 Oct 1903

MONTSERRAT



Two ½d green
Leeward Islands
Queen Victoria
wrappers. One
mailed to Kent,
9 Dec 1896, above,
and, right charged as
a letter and uprated
with a 1d.
Mailed to Costa
Rica 13 Aug 1902

MONTERRAT

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

Harvey King Esq
of W. L. Ford Esq
San José
Costa Rica



Another 1/2d green wrapper charged as a letter and uprated with a 1/2d. This time King Edward VII. Mailed by the Montserrat Co Ltd to Costa Rica 9 May 1903



Below: The 1d red version mailed to Austria 14 Apr 1908. Received Vienna 6 May 1908

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Herrn J. Müller

Wien

Austria

VIII/2 Ringgasse 17



MONTSERRAT



This GPO date stamp is recorded as having been sent out to Montserrat on 25 September 1907 (Vol 51, p 118) but this is the only currently recorded use. The cover is backstamped St John's 26 No 1909



This postcard is currently the last recorded date of use of the date stamp with the "narrow date" with has an earliest known date of use as 7 DE 1898. This cover has a Montserrat "C" code 4 DE 1905 with the month slug inverted

MONTSERRAT - DUMB CANCELS



Very little seems to be known about these dumb cancels thought to be used on inter island mail. Clearly they were in use for some time but this post card may provide some clues. Written by the daughter of the US consul in Antigua when she was on a visit to Montserrat. Dated 10 MY 1904 it has a dumb cancel and what is presumably a St John's arrival mark. Any further information on the use of these dumb cancels would be welcome

MONTSERRAT - CINDERELLA

Gaston Fontanille founded the Societe La Propaganda Francaise in the early 1900s and with a staff of artists and military experts produced a vast array of patriotic and propaganda seals for French regiments. Business was brisk and he endeavoured to make further profits by integrating his creations with the then world-wide drive for Red Cross funds.

Seals were issued for more than fifty French cities as well as many overseas ones. Montserrat's French Red Cross Society was ensnared in the scheme and he issued this "Cinderella" around 1916-17 of which there was also a variety perf 11.

Fontanille was arrested on 20 June 1917 for illegal dealings in Italian military stamps and for unfulfilled agreements for sharing the profits from the sale of his Red Cross seals and seems to have disappeared beneath the radar after that. To date no cover using this seal has been recorded.



ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.



REGISTERED
NO 12
FIELD



LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT
WRITTEN ON THIS

H. M. S.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

REGISTERED
MUST BE GIVEN TO
REGISTERED, AND A
MUST BE

1-8
W. S. Clements Esq.
The Hermitage
Southdown
Chankerswood
Wants, England



Post Office,
Montserrat.

The first
OFFICIAL - PAID
handstamp sent out
from the GPO 3 JA 1904.
Here used with "B"
instead of "C" 5 SP 1908,
14 MY 1910 and with "B"
sideways 9 NO 1912



MONTSERRAT - OFFICIAL PAID



The second Official Paid handstamp. E K D SP 4 1917. Above: Used NO 23 1917 together with a regular Montserrat CDS. Left: OC 23 1919. Received London NO 19 1919. Endorsed by the Postmaster in each case

MONTSERRAT - OFFICIAL PAID

On His Majesty's Service.



Mr Robert H. Lloyd
88 North Niagara Street
Tonawanda,
New York

Postmaster
Montserrat
MAY - REC'D

Two other examples of the second Official Paid handstamp. Are there any which include the year slugs? Again both endorsed Postmaster Montserrat

L. W. Pealer



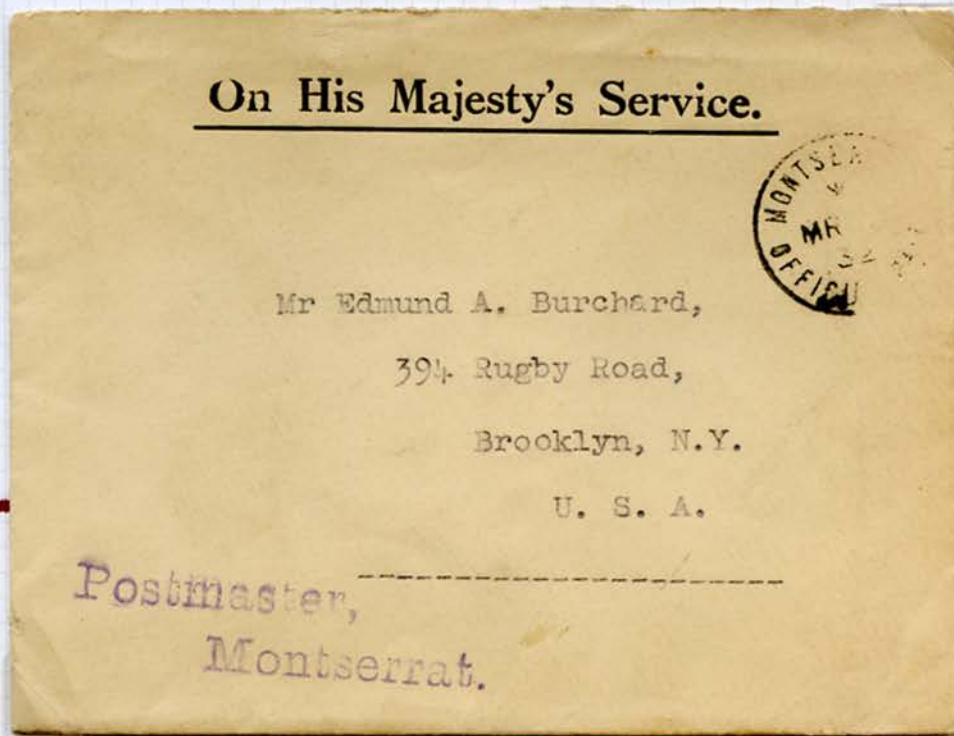
1424 Longfellow Street

Postmaster
Montserrat
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

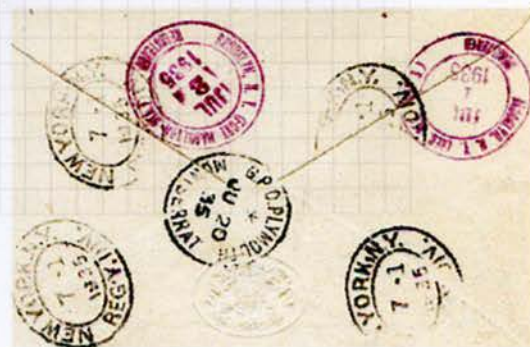
MONTERRAT - OFFICIAL PAID



The third Official Paid handstamp. No hyphen between Official and Paid EKD 18 JA 1932. LKD 17 MR 1933. This example MR 1932, endorsed Postmaster, Montserrat



The fourth Official Paid handstamp. Montserrat now at the bottom. EKD 6 AP 1933. LKD 3 DE 1940. Backstamped with a regular Montserrat CDS



MONTERRAT - OFFICIAL PAID

Mr Wm. C. Menninger, M.D.
The Menninger Clinic
Topeka, Kansas

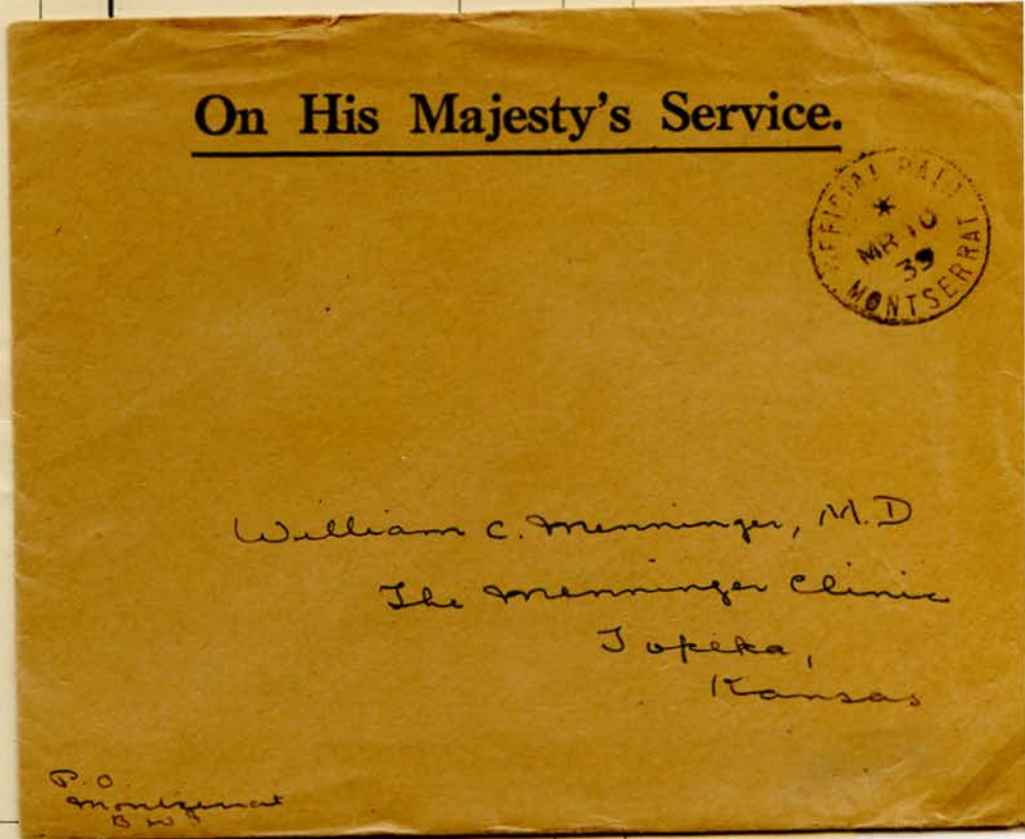
THE POSTMASTER of MONTERRAT has the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of

..... your letter of the 16th February 1939
forwarding a remittance of Pounds
Shillings Pence, and transmits herewith the following:

This Official Paid letter contained an order form for Montserrat and Leeward Islands stamps and noting the registration fee "from here to USA is 5½d per oz"

MONTERRAT STAMPS &c.				LEEWARD ISLANDS STAMPS &c.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Stamps at ½d				Stamps at ¼d			
... 1d							
... 1½d							
... 2d							
... 2½d							
... 3d							
... 6d							
... 1/-							
... 2/6d							
... 5/-							
Postage & Registration							
Total				Total			

List of stamps on sale herewith.



William C. Menninger, M.D.
The Menninger Clinic
Topeka,
Kansas

Remittance for stamps should be made by means of a money order, or Bank Draft. Currency Notes & coins are prohibited. The registration fee from here to U.S.A is 5½d per oz.

Montserrat B. W. I.

10th March 1939 J. C. Meade Postmaster.

MONTERRAT - OFFICIAL PAID

On His Majesty's Service.



Oswald Marsh Esq.
26, Dulwich Wood Ave
Norwood
London S. E. 19
England

Post Office
Montserrat
B.W.I.



The fifth Official Paid handstamp. This is the E K D 15 FE 1941. Tighter letter spacing and wider gap between words than the previous one. LKD 1 OC 1942. Below: Another use on 22 SP 1941. Both endorsed Post Office, Montserrat, BWI

On His Majesty's Service.



SP 22
41

Mr Albert Sully
937 Jefferson Ave.
Buffalo,
New York
U. S. A.

Post Office
Montserrat
B.W.I.

MONTSERRAT

1908 - 1914

In June 1908 to conform to the regulations of the Universal Postal Union the 1d all red and the 2½d were issued. In September 1909 the 2d was issued in in grey and the 3d, 6d, 1s, 2s, 2s 6d and 5s were issued in new colours conforming to the Crown Agents colour scheme. The ½d was issued in a single colour - dark green - in April 1910 In January 1914 the 3d was issued on a "white back". Specimens of the stamps are shown here together with the 6d dull and bright purple and the 5s additionally overprinted ULTRAMAR. All on Mult Crown CA, perf 14



MONTSERRAT

1908 - 1914

These covers and on
the pages that follow
are examples of use
of the new colours



MONTERRAT

1908 - 1914

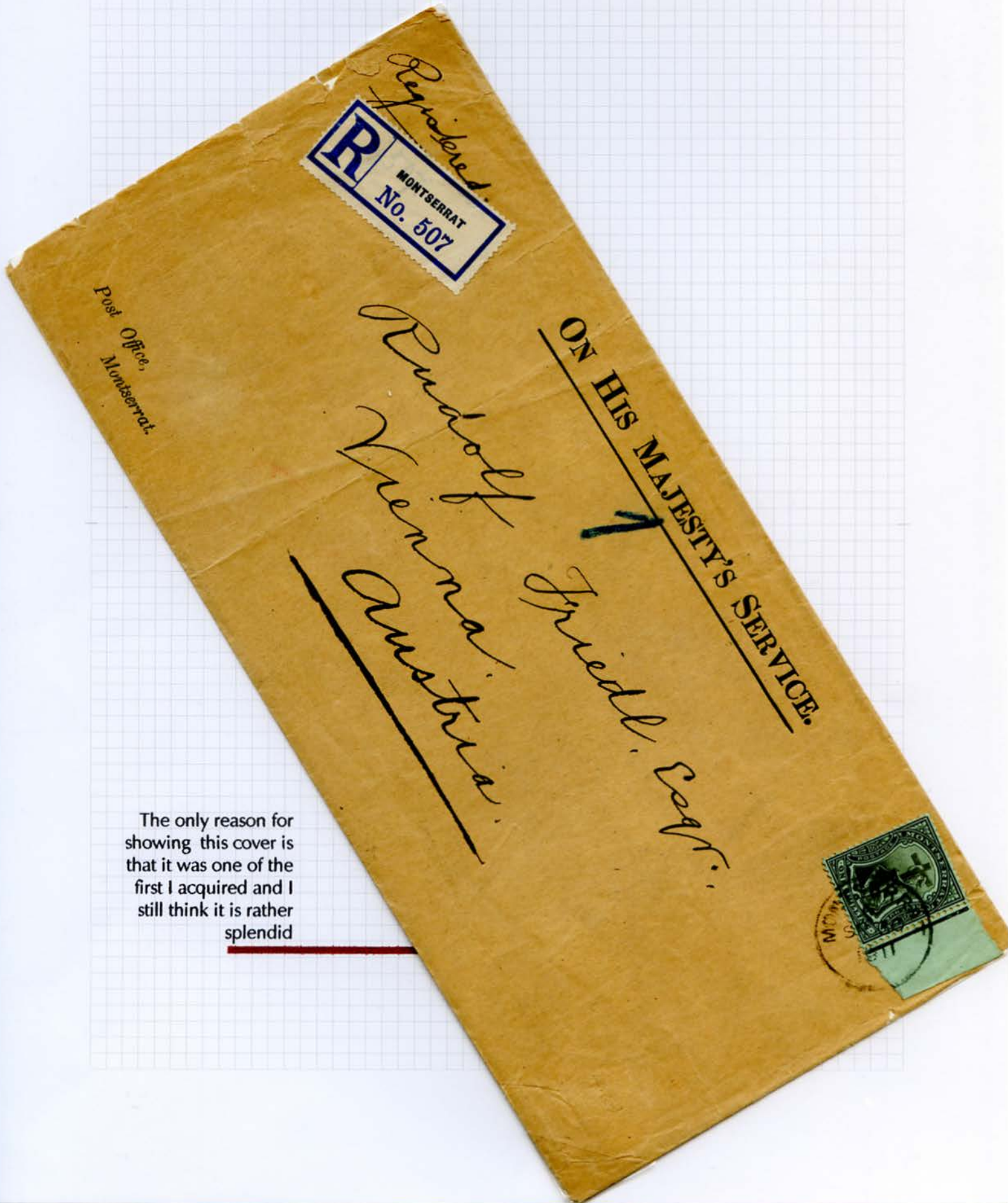


Examples of the use of both types of 6d together with the large Montserrat CDS struck in purple



MONTSERRAT

1908 - 1914



The only reason for showing this cover is that it was one of the first I acquired and I still think it is rather splendid

MONTERRAT

1908 - 1914



MONTSERRAT

1908 - 1914

These covers and on the pages that follow are examples of use of the King Edward VII Leeward Island issues which were in concurrent use

