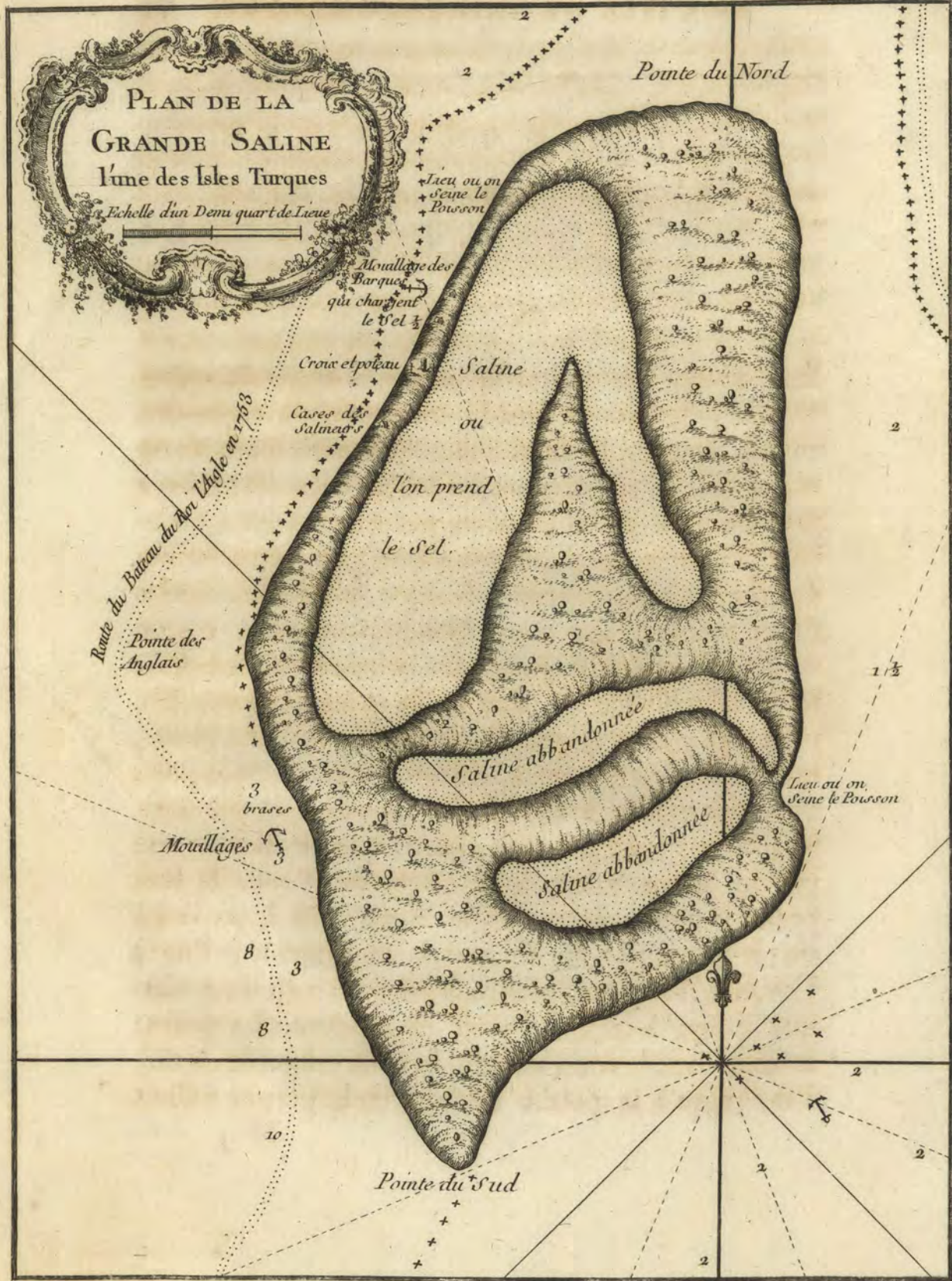






# Turks Islands

Pl. XXIII.



Pl. XXII.



685  
1246  
20



# Turks Islands

## 1802 Q & A FOR POTENTIAL SALT INDUSTRY INVESTORS

### QUERIES

At what time of the Year are the Shares at Turks Islands regulated?

What is the average Quantity of Salt per Share annually at the Turks Islands?

What is the annual Quantity of Salt Shipped at Turks Islands?

What is the Annual Number of Shares at the Turks Islands?

From whence do the Annual Supplies at Turks Islands derive?

What becomes of the money arising at Turks Islands annually?

Grand Key    Turks Islands

### ANSWERS

By the Regulations of His Majesty in Council, the Shares are to be regulated Annually on or before the Tenth day of February which is always done.

Upon an estimate lately made, the average quantity of salt for Twelve Years was Three Hundred and Forty Bushels or thereabouts per Share.

This is impossible for me to tell. Annually there are more or less shipped as the Demand in America requires it, and when St. Martins and other Ponds to the Windward Islands make Salt, very little of that article is shipped from here.

Upon the Estimate before spoke of as near as could be come at the average number of Shares annually at Turks Islands for Thirteen Years were about One Thousand and Nine.

Turks Islands is chiefly supplied with Provisions from North America and during the late War with France have been supplied with that article in American Bottoms by virtue of the Governor General's Proclamation. Dry goods & co. we are always supplied with here by Merchants through the medium of Bermuda and lately the Caicos.

As mostly of the Salt Rakers annually emigrate from Bermuda where they leave their Family's so at the conclusion of the Season they return and carry with them or send what small sums they may have left after paying for their expenses which frequently happens that many have not in their power to do - and as appears from the Custom House Books from the 5<sup>th</sup> July 1801 to the 5<sup>th</sup> July 1802 there has been shipped from this Post 62,50 Tons of Salt allowing 30 Bushels to a Ton or 187'500 Bushels, 30 Quarts to a Bushel...

30<sup>th</sup> December 1802

Snr. Good J.P.  
Snr. Stiles J.P.

Answers.

By the Regulations of His Majesty in Council the Shares are to be regulated Annually on or before the Tenth day of February which is always done.

Upon an estimate lately made, the average quantity of salt for Twelve Years was Three Hundred and forty Bushels or thereabouts per Share.

This is Impossible for me to tell, Annually there are more or less Shipped as the Demand in America requires it, and when St. Martins and other Ponds to the windward Islands make



## Turks Islands



*Turks Island July 21-1804*

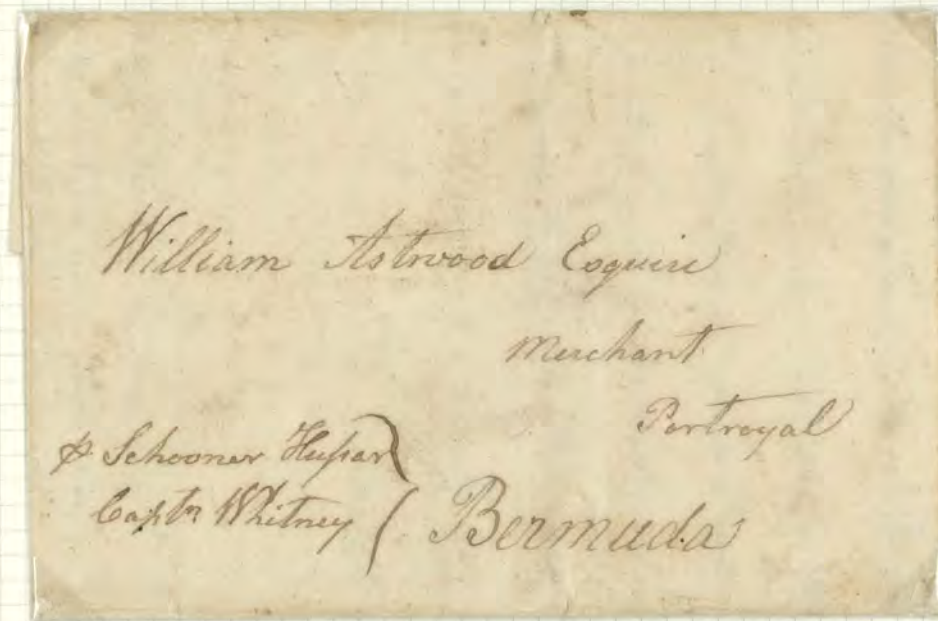
**1804 Entire Letter to Mr. John Quinby, a Merchant in Portland, Maine from SAMUEL FREEMAN, the Captain of a vessel calling at Turks Islands, which reads :**

*Sir: I arriv<sup>d</sup> hear this morning all well  
I came ashore to try the Marqu<sup>t</sup> but  
find I can sell No part of the Carg hear  
to advantage & shall proceed on for Jamaica...*

**Manuscript note from the recipient on the front gives details of sender but dates the letter 1805 ; given the scarce literate nature of the writer's text, it is difficult to know which to believe.**

**In any event, this is the EARLIEST KNOWN LETTER WITH POSTAL MARKINGS FROM TURKS ISLANDS, being 5 (or 6) years earlier than that recorded by McCann (to Philadelphia, datelined 5<sup>th</sup> November 1810).**

**Rate :** Carried privately, landed at New London, CT ; charged "17" cents for domestic postage (between 150 and 300 miles) from the port of entry to Portland.



*Turks Islands August 8<sup>th</sup> 1811*

**1811 Entire Letter to William Astwood in Port Royal, Bermuda, from the local Merchant GABRIEL DARRELL, who explains how there is almost no corn for sale at Turks Island, nor does he have any funds left to make a purchase in any event. He goes on to say :**

*Our salt raking still continues. I have raked about 325 bushels to a share and if it does not rain within fifteen days I shall rake another hundred to a share...*

**The letter is date-lined 8<sup>th</sup> August and so, with the hurricane season not due to start until September at the earliest, this looks a reasonable prospect.**

**A postscript offers social insight :**

*A melancholy sight to be seen here tomorrow morning, a Negro man to be hung for breaking into Messrs. Wood & Jack's house and attempting to murder Mr. Whyn, their Clerk, who is now brave of his wounds.*

**Rate :** No postal markings ; carried privately by the Schooner "Hussar", Captain Whitney.



*Grand Key Turks Islands*

**1815 Merchants' Letter to Mr. Moses Brown in Newburyport, Massachusetts, from DAVID PATCH of Salt Key, written at Grand Key.**

**The letter is poorly scripted, as follows :**

*I have only one moment's time to wright.  
I have enclosed a Coppy of my Protest.  
I shall sail tomorrow in the Brig "Struggle",  
Capt. Falls of Portsmouth, N.H.  
I must conclude for the want of time...*

**Rate :** "Ship 26" cents made up of 2c. Ship Fee plus 24c., double weight domestic postage (up to 40 miles) from Beverly, including the 50% surcharge levied between 1<sup>st</sup> February 1815 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 1816 to help defray the costs of the War of 1812-14 (i.e. 8 x 2 = 16 cents + 50% = 24 cents).

**Further details of letters pre-1815 can be found in article in March 2010 BWISC Bulletin.**



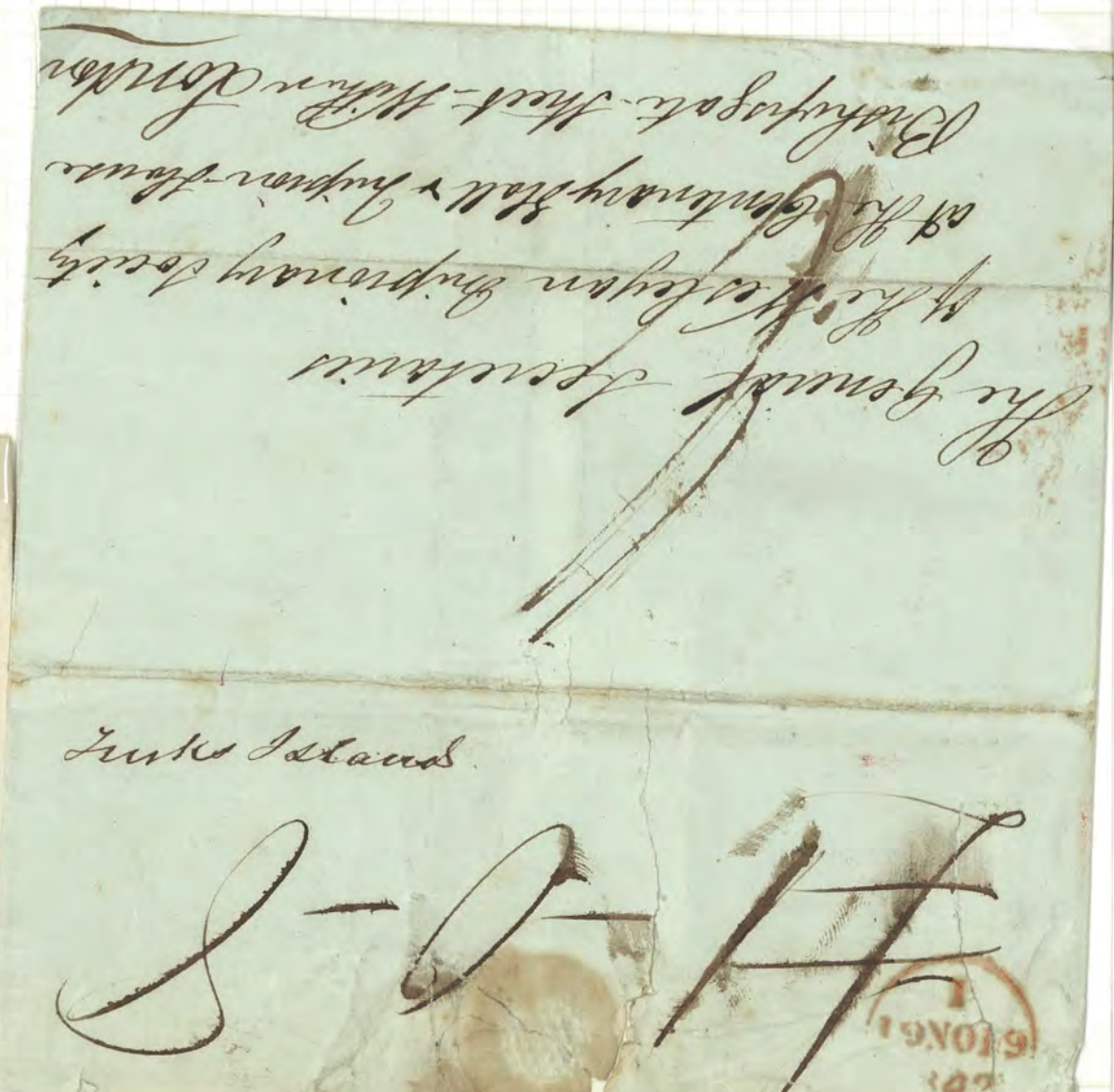
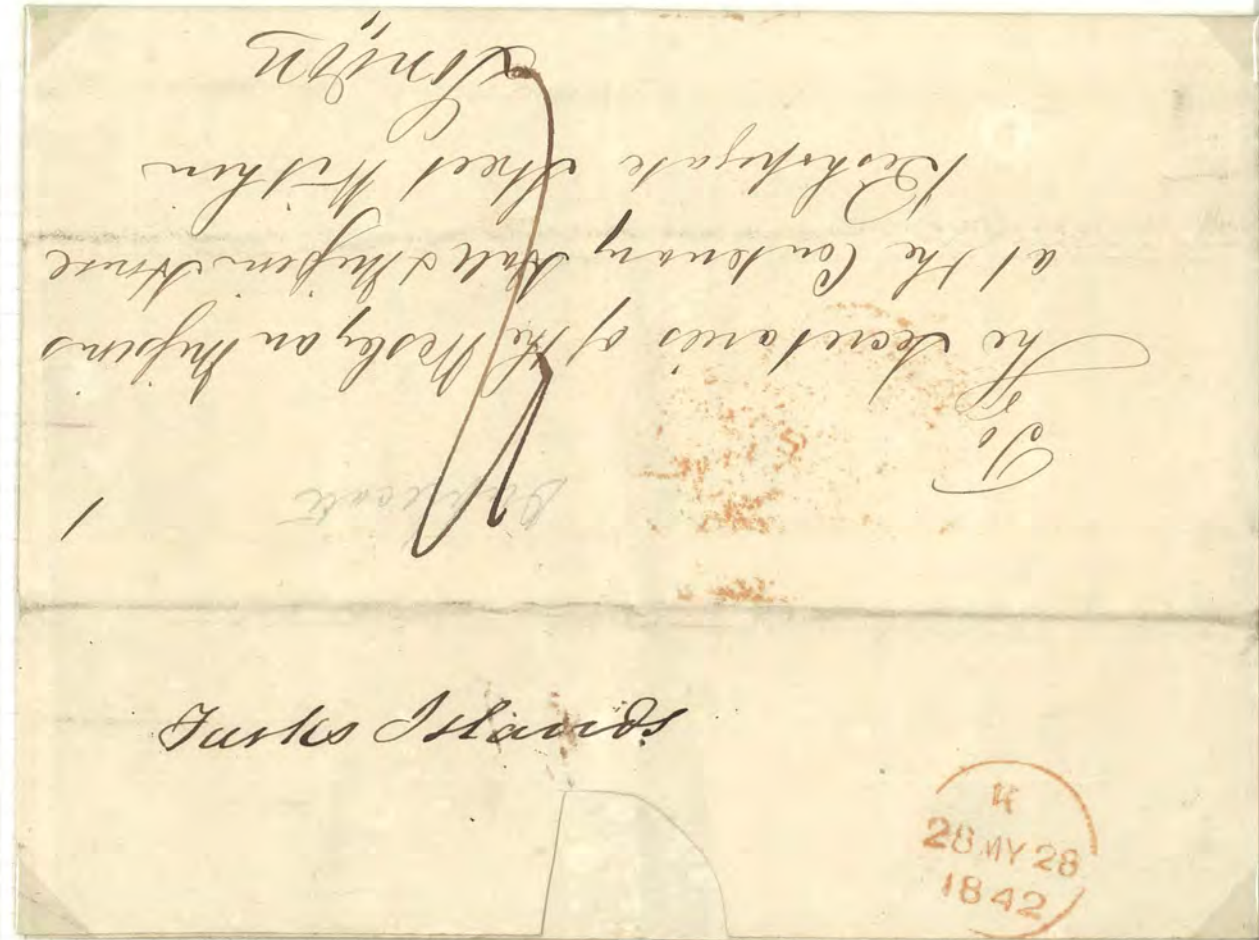
# Turks Islands

## THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET CO.

The brainchild of James McQueen, a "comprehensive regular mail service by steamships throughout the entire West Indies area" began service in January 1842, leaving from Southampton, calling in at Falmouth to collect the mails, and on (via Coruña & Madeira) to Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, St. Croix, St. Thomas and then Turks Islands, which was one of its three hubs from which ran the subsidiary branch lines. After Turks Islands, the steamers continued on to Nassau and Bermuda before setting back home via Fayal in the Azores.

Unfortunately, the local harbour was not ideal for transferring passengers, having difficult access particularly during stormy weather. As if any further proof were needed as to its unsuitability, in May 1842 the R.M.S. Medina ran aground approaching Grand Turk. Before the end of the year, the routes were changed to utilise St. Thomas in its stead.

- (1) From US via branch line to Jamaica ; RMSPCo Agent's manuscript *Turks Isl<sup>ds</sup> ...*
- (2) ...as also found in June 1842 to London
- (3) Havana branch line to Turks, then to Falmouth (by RMS Trent) and on to France
- (4) Full *Turks Islands* annotation in May (by RMS Solway) as also seen on ...
- (5) ....last service arriving in November





# Turks Islands



**OUTGOING MAIL  
A MISCELLANY  
1846-1865**



**TOP LEFT :**

**1846 EL from the Missionary THOMAS PEARSON to the Wesleyans in London. Carried by PRIVATE ship and thus rated "8" in accordance with the January 1840 Ship Letter Act which introduced an all-inclusive 8d. per half-ounce charge for delivery anywhere in the British Isles. VERY FEW ITEMS FROM TURKS ISLANDS RECORDED WITH BRITISH SHIP LETTER MARKS (only two from Liverpool).**

**MIDDLE LEFT :**

**1863 Letter from Grand Turk to Horatio Stubbs "care of Lewis G. Tucker, Esquire, Commissioner of Taxation" in Berbice. Charged 4d. (inter-island, via St. Thomas) , then 5d. collection fee when re-directed to Demerara. ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE OF THIS "5" MARK.**

**Provenance :**

**Nathan**

**LOWER LEFT :**

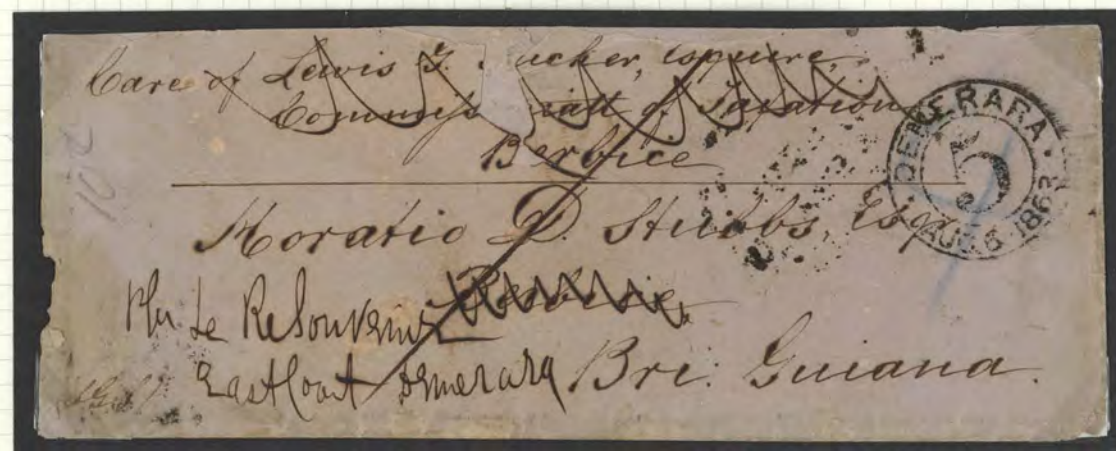
**1865 Letter from Salt Cay to Connecticut with variety of interesting marks : "SHIP", oval boxed "Due 6", straight-line "Due 6 cts." and red Boston transit.**

**Provenance :**

**Jaffé**

**ABOVE :**

**1865 Merchants' Letter from Ponce, Puerto Rico, acknowledging safe receipt of "200 boxes of Agua Florida", sent "via Turks Islands" on the 3-masted barquentine "Edward Hill" during the very brief period of the direct mail service to New York (see Proud p.93).**





# Turks Islands

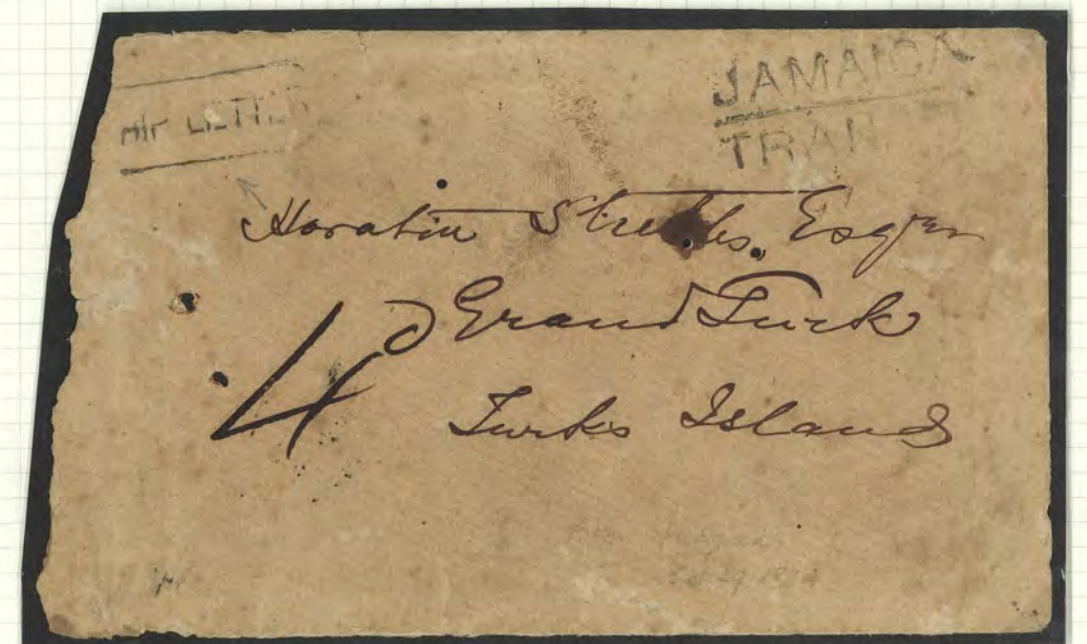
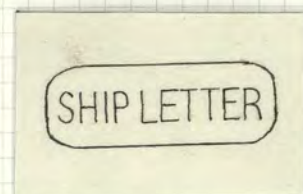
## INCOMING MAIL FROM OTHER WEST INDIAN ISLANDS 1858-1874

After the failure of the 1842 R M S P C plan to use Turks Islands as their central depot for WI mail, long (and mostly unsuccessful) negotiations took place between the local authorities and the G P O in London as to the establishment of a permanent direct mail service to and from the islands. The on-and-off, but nonetheless most consistent, solution was to have mail delivered to St. Thomas, although routes via Jamaica, Inagua and/or Nassau, Haiti, Belize and direct from New York were all tried for brief times.

In 1865, the mail schooner "Surprise" was officially appointed to leave Turks Islands on the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month for St. Thomas so as to be able to join up with the service of the West India Mail Packet Service from there to England via Kingston, Jamaica.

### THREE INCOMING LETTERS FROM OTHER WEST INDIAN ISLANDS (all at 4d. Rate) :

- (1) 1858 from Bridgetown, BARBADOS, bearing 1855-57 (1d.) Blue with "1" cancel, Barbados cds and St. Thomas transit on reverse
- (2) 1866 from Hamilton, BERMUDA, bearing 1865 6d. Purple with "2" cancel, and "BERMUDA / H / PAID" cds, St. Thomas transit and Turks Islands receiver on reverse
- (3) 1874 from Great Inagua, BAHAMAS, together with illustrations of the relative markings showing extraordinary route, travelling a total of 1'565 miles and taking 45 days to reach a final destination whose direct distance was only 130 miles away !





# Turks Islands



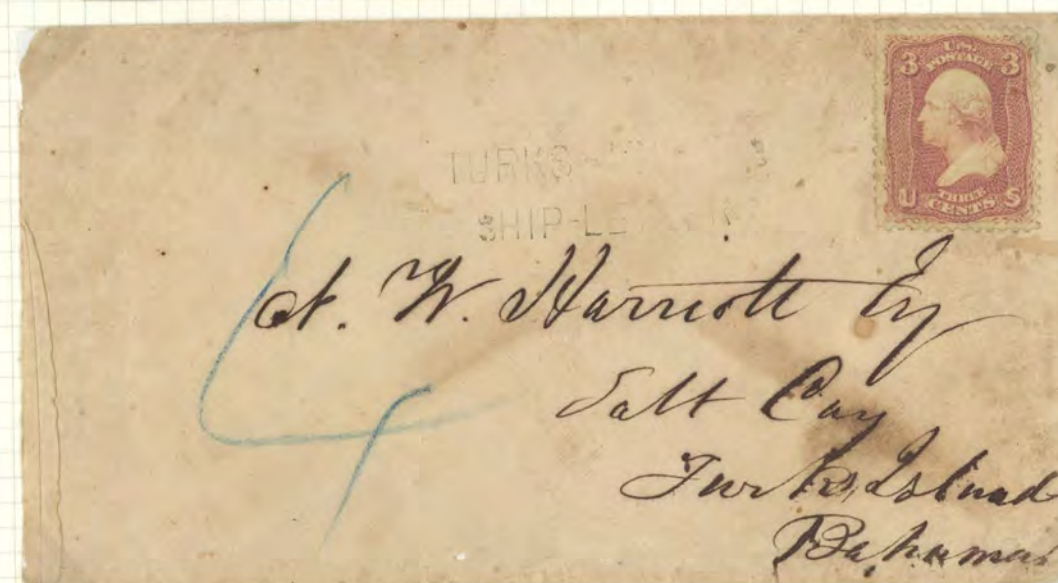
Applied - in reddish brown - to outgoing Ship Mail, always accompanied by Turks Islands double-arc cds.

ONLY EIGHT COVERS RECORDED, two each to Bahamas and Bermuda, four to England. EKD is "1853" if the Grant Glassco catalogue is correct although some doubt exists about this ; remaining usages are more closely grouped, between October 1857 and April 1862.

The cover above is a printed "REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR AND HEAD MASTER OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THESE ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1860", prepared by Thomas Ockenden and countersigned by the then President of the Islands, His Hon. W.R. INGLIS.

Rate : 1d. Printed Matter rate

Provenance : Ludington



TURKS - ISLANDS  
SHIP-LETTER

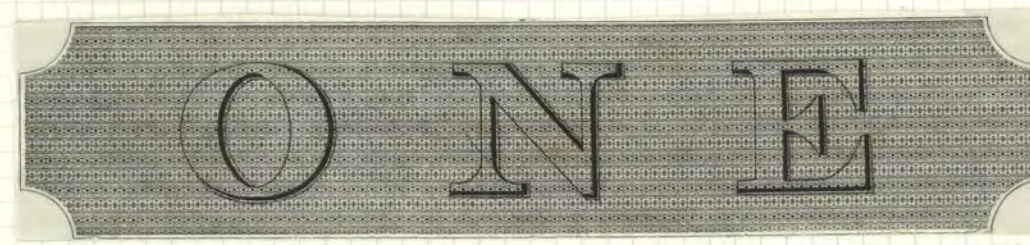
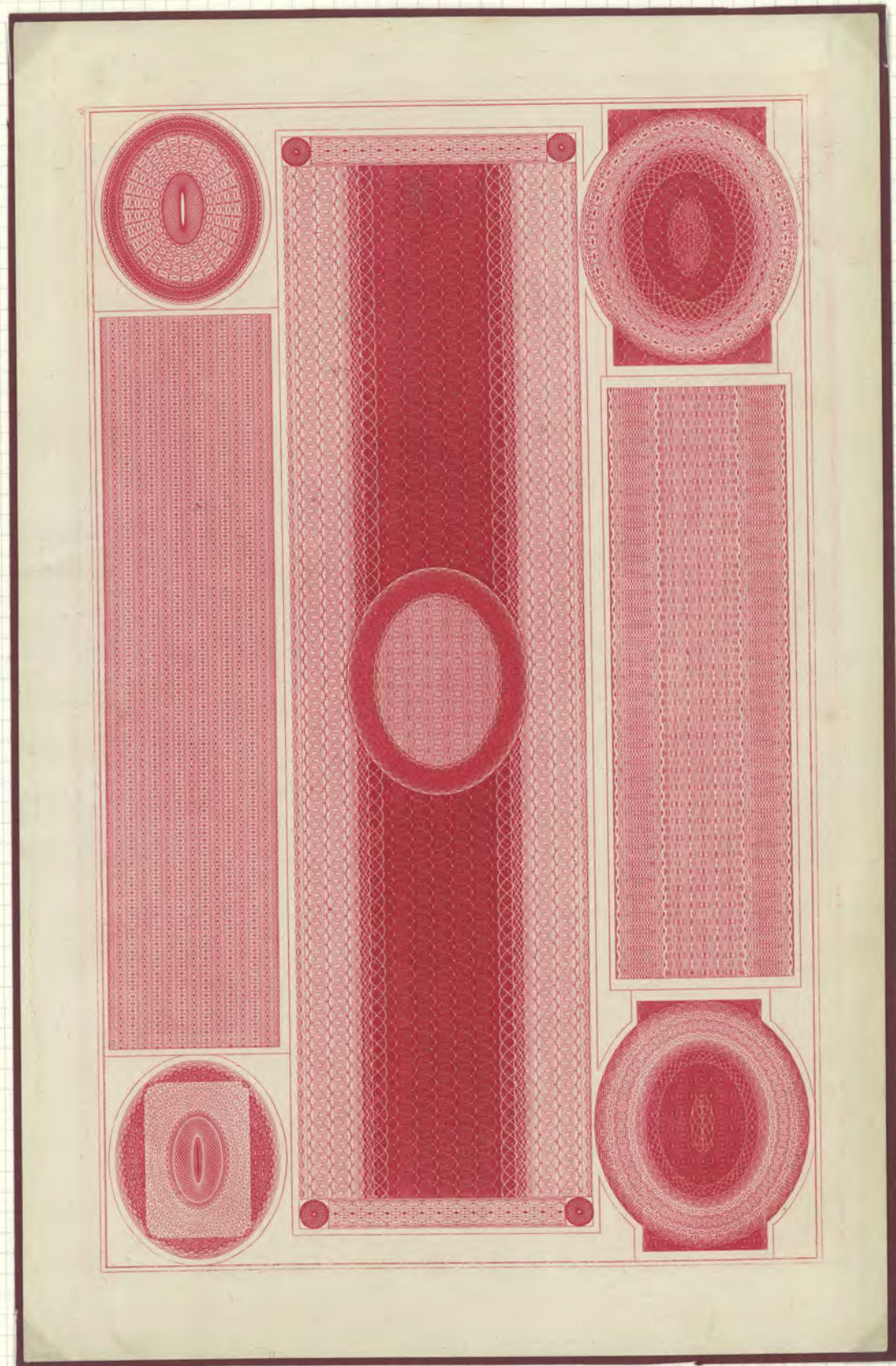
Applied to incoming Ship Mail from New York between 1863 and (maybe) 1868 ; always rather unsatisfactorily faint.

ONLY FIVE COVERS RECORDED, one to Harvard Grant in Grand Turk, two to Alexis W. Harriott in Salt Cay (both above with receivers dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1864 and 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1866) and two to Eugenius Jones in East Harbour.

[Challis's claim that the mark is "believed to exist in red" is yet to be verified ; likewise, his LKD of 20<sup>th</sup> September 1885 appears to be a misreading of the date of the 20<sup>th</sup> September 1865 example recorded]



# Turks Islands



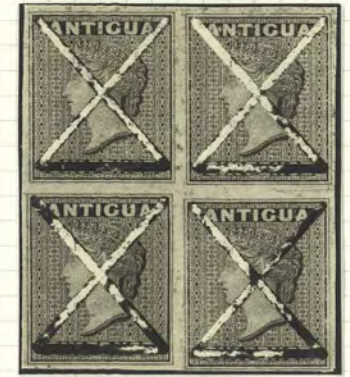
## THE PERKINS BACON ISSUES

The company was formed by two Americans : Jacob PERKINS and his son-in-law Joshua BACON who came across from Philadelphia to England in 1819 to campaign to gain the contract for the printing of Bank of England notes. The Turks Islands contract was the last one to be granted them by a British colony, and lasted from the first issue in 1867 until the handing over of the plates to De La Rue in 1881.

- (1) PERKINS & HEATH BACKGROUND DESIGN FOR BANK NOTES & STAMPS, in Red : the background used for the Turks Islands issues forms the LH middle strip
- (2) COMPOSITE PLATES : In Green and in Black, each including the Antigua / Turks Islands head
- (3) REPRINTED HEAD DIE PROOFS in 3 colours on different coloured papers
- (4) BACKGROUND PLATE, for Bank Note use, with the Turks Islands background



# Turks Islands



## THE PERKINS BACON ISSUES

The most direct forerunner for the first Turks Islands issue was the 1862 Antigua issue, using the same head design (but not in an oval) and the same background.

(1) DIE PROOF ON INDIA PAPER - (at most) six prepared, less recorded so far, one in Royal Collection, together with photographic enlargement

Provenance : Mayer

(2) ANTIGUA 1862 6d. Blue Green - on unwatermarked paper

(3) PLATE PROOFS : BLOCKS OF FOUR in Black and in Green

(4) DEFACED PLATE PROOF : BLOCK OF FOUR in Black on thick paper from the plate acquired by Messrs. T.. Thompson of Bishop Auckland in 1892 and later presented to the Dublin Science & Art Museum

(5) ANTIGUA 1863 1d. Rosy-Mauve - BLOCK OF SIX on paper with Watermark Small Star

(6) HEAD DIE PROOFS with oval surrounds, in Black and Blue



# Turks Islands

## THE 1867 FIRST ISSUE NO WATERMARK

### THE ORIGINAL LETTER TO THE PRINTERS MAKING THE FIRST REQUEST FOR TURKS ISLANDS STAMPS :

Post Office,  
Turks Islands,  
16<sup>th</sup> June 1866.

Messrs. Perkins & Co.  
69 Fleet Street  
London.

Sirs :

*This Government having determined on introducing the use of Postage Stamps in this Colony, I am directed to request you to be so good as to inform me at the earliest possible period what would be your charge for preparing two plates, each to produce sheets of 60 head. One Plate for 6d Stamps of a dark green colour, the other for 1d Stamps of a dark red colour.*

*Also, what would be the charge for striking off the Sheets as required, for gumming, perforating, etc. ; - and who you would recommend to have custody of the Plates.*

*I enclose herewith a St. Vincent stamp, which by substituting the words "Turks Islands" in a circular form, instead of "St. Vincent", will answer as a design for us.*

*We may require about 5'000 of the 6d and about 9'000 of the 1d Stamps in the course of the next Year.*

*Any other information which you can afford me on the subject will be acceptable by*

*Sirs,*

*Your most obt. Servant*

*(signed) ROBERT J. DARRELL*

*Postmaster,*

*Turks Islands.*

*P.S. : I have had to enclose another stamp, which by substituting "Turks Islands" in a circular form at the head instead of "Postage" as in this stamp will answer as to size, the colour to be as already mentioned. R.J.D.*

[GB 1865-67 6d, Plate 5, with hyphen, large uncoloured letters, SG 97, pinned to letter]



*Stamp, which, by substituting  
"Turks Islands" in a circular form  
at the head instead of "Postage"  
as in this Stamp will answer, as  
to size, the colour to be as already  
mentioned.*

*R. J. D.*

The Printers replied on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 1866 quoting 60 Guineas for the first Plate and £ 50 for the second Plate ; the actual printing would cost 1/9 per 1'000 stamps.

They went on to suggest that using a plate of only 30 Stamps would probably prove cheaper : the cost of preparation of the plates would be reduced to £ 45 each, but the cost of printing would be increased to 4/- per 1'000 stamps.

In September, the Postmaster wrote again, accepting the proposal for 30-stamp sheets and making a definitive order for 20'000 1d., 12'000 6d. and 12'000 1/- stamps. After some delay in their transportation this initial order was received and put on sale on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1867.

Additional printings - each also of 20'000 stamps - of the 1d. duty were invoiced on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1868 and 15<sup>th</sup> June 1871.



# Turks Islands



## THE 1867 FIRST ISSUE NO WATERMARK

- (1) **DIE PROOFS** on India paper
- (2) **PLATE PROOFS** on wove paper : in Black and in dull Rose-Red
- (3) **1d. :**       **BLOCKS** of NINE and TWELVE (largest known multiple - note "Throat Flaw" on second stamp in bottom row)
- 6d. :**       **BLOCK** OF SIX
- 1/- :**       **TWO BLOCKS** OF FOUR



# Turks Islands

## THE 1867 FIRST ISSUE NO WATERMARK

(1) LETTER TO PERKINS, BACON, written in May 1867 by the Postmaster, Robert J. Darrell, in which he asks the Printers for "Specimens" of two new duties, 2d. & 4d., to be produced in the same design as the original three duties but printed in the colours (blue and yellow) as per the pinned samples. This idea was eventually rejected and no stamps of these values were produced over the next 14 years.

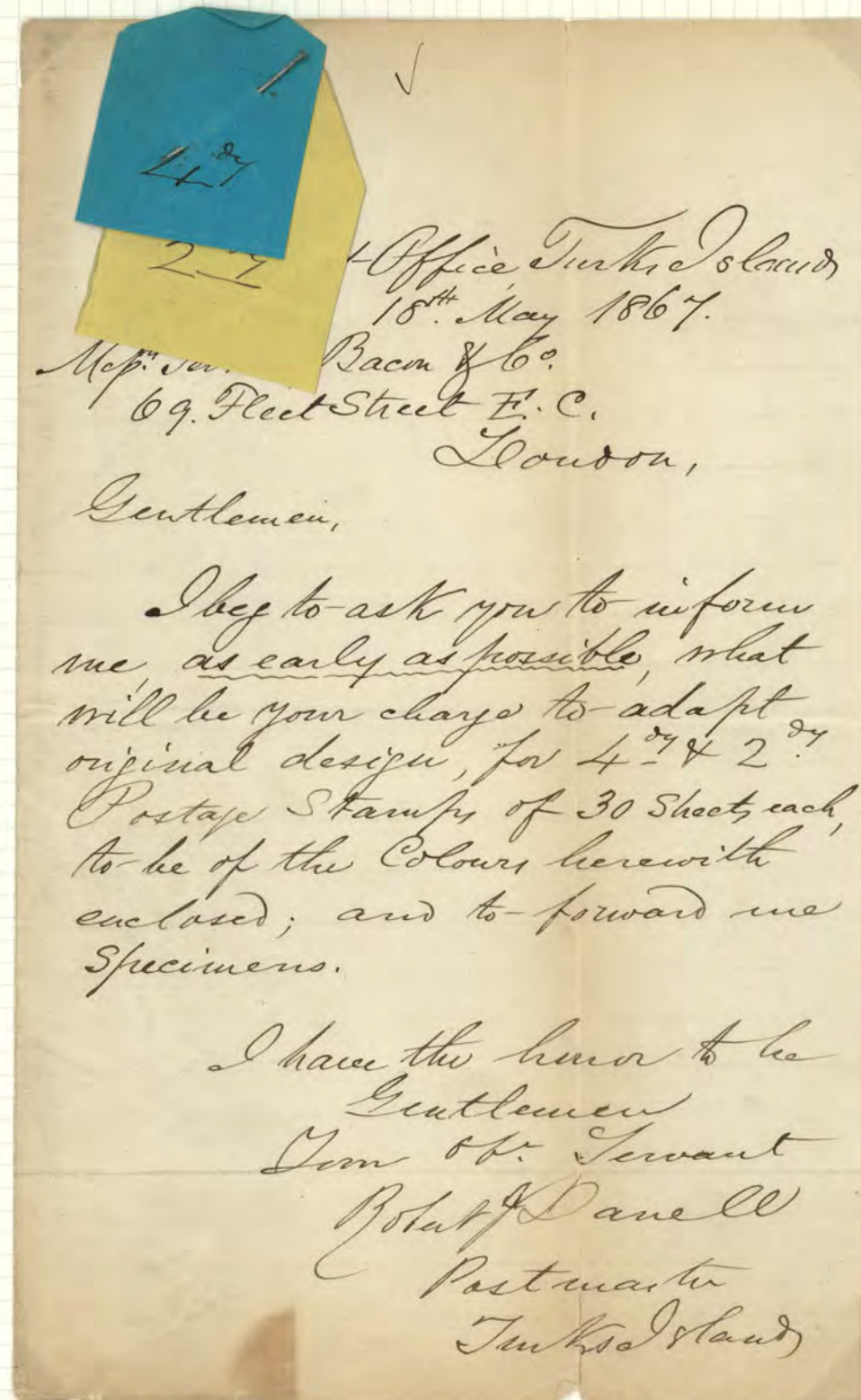
A year later, Mr. Darrell's career was to come to an abrupt end : on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1868, the President was informed that the Money Order Account at the Post Office was some £ 480 short. Darrell was summoned and confessed that he had used the money to pay off some debts and for his own purposes ; he asked for some time to sort out a suitable arrangement for repayment, and he suggested that he would pledge a Life Assurance policy he held in the sum of £ 500. However, that same night, Darrell absconded, most probably on the schooner "Burma" which was bound for Jamaica. A warrant for his arrest was issued immediately and the Provost Marshall set after him aboard the mail schooner "Surprise". He was not to be found, but a month later his son made a vain attempt to clear his father's name and proffer some form of financial solution. The affair dragged on. In order to settle part of the outstanding "defalcation", in 1869 the GPO in London withheld its annual £ 300 subvention to the islands to support the mail service.

(2) 1872 COVER TO ENGLAND, bearing 1/- Blue

Provenance : Snowden, Burrus, Ludington

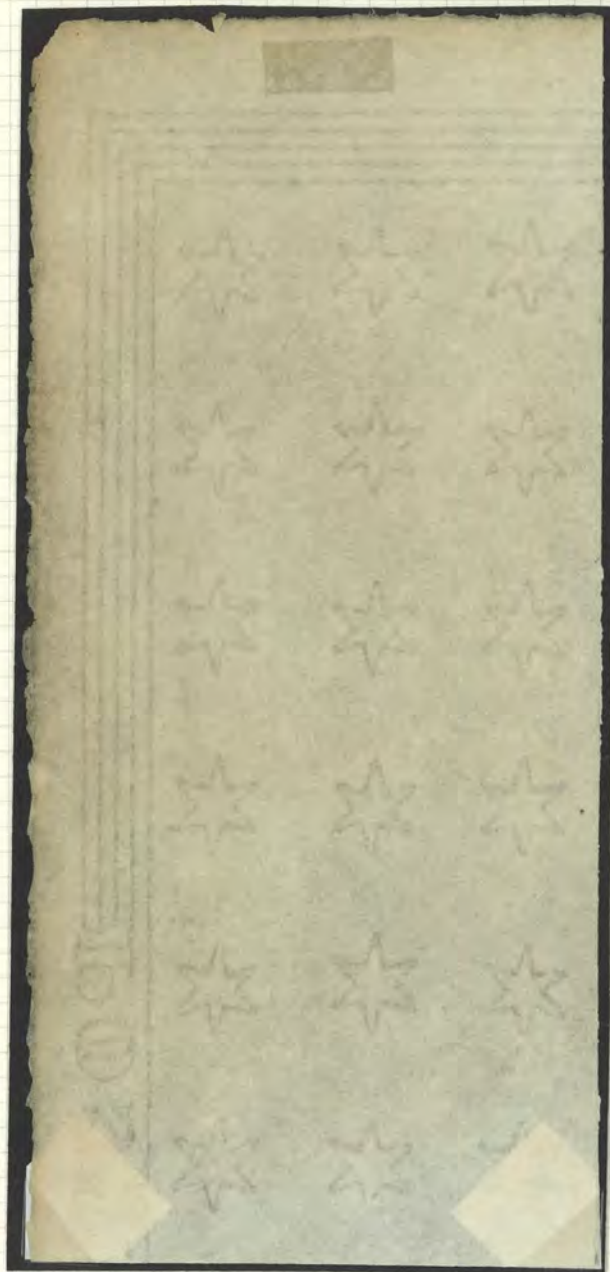
(3) USED STRIP OF FOUR of 1/- Blue. The largest recorded multiple

Provenance : Schneider





# Turks Islands



## THE 1873-79 ISSUE WATERMARK SMALL STAR

Recess-printed by Perkins, Bacon on white, wove paper watermarked with a small six-rayed Star ; sent out to the islands in three printings of 20'000 each in July 1873, October 1875 and January 1879. The first two printings generally with the watermark upright (and occasionally sideways), the third printing normally with watermark sideways and rarely upright.



**BLOCKS OF FOUR** from each of the Printings : the First in dull rose-lake (unusually with watermark sideways), the Second in the paler shade (watermark upright) and the Third in dull red (watermark sideways)

Note "Throat Flaw" on lower LH stamp of First Block

Provenance : Charlton Henry, Amundsen





# Turks Islands



## THE 1873-79 ISSUE WATERMARK SMALL STAR

- (1) PAIR OF 1d. DULL ROSE-RED, IMPERFORATE BETWEEN (with photographic enlargement)

Most probably one of only three (or, at most, six) possible examples. Note "Throat Flaw" on LH stamp.

Provenance : Hearn, Snowden, Ludington, Gilbert

- (2) THE 1878-79 1/- LILAC :

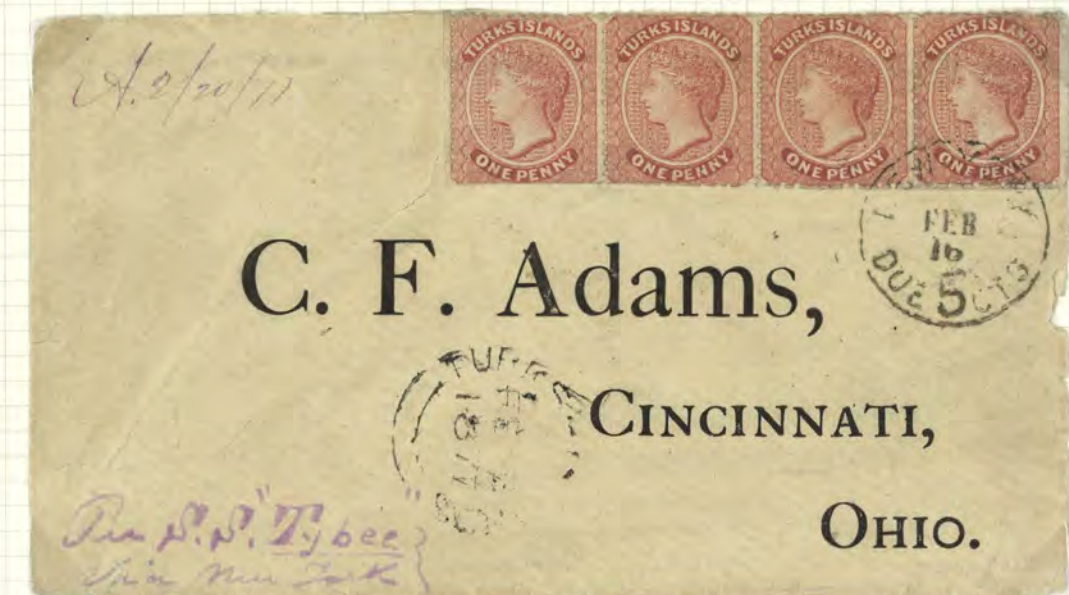
THREE UNUSED SINGLES & THREE USED SINGLES

UNUSED SINGLE WITH PAPER FLAW

Provenance : Carlson, Melat

No multiples known.

Even though in the final version of the order for the 1867 First Issue stamps, the Colony had requested the 1/- duty to be printed in "Violet", as has been seen it was actually produced in "Slate-Blue". With this printing of the 1/- on watermarked paper - dispatched by R.M.S. Para in November 1878 but generally regarded as being issued in January 1879 - the printers finally got it right, even if purists refer to the colour as "Lilac". The vast majority of this order for 5'000 1/- Lilac stamps was used for the 1881 Provisional Overprints ; estimates vary as to how many remain without overprint, but probably less than 200.



- (1) 1876 COVER TO THE U S A, bearing STRIP OF FOUR of 1d.

Provenance : Ludington

- (2) 1877 COVER TO THE U S A, bearing STRIP OF FOUR of 1d.

Both covers sent by George Gibbs, Salt Merchant (see Forwarding Agents' cachet as applied on reverse and reproduced, enlarged, above, as well as embossed seal on front), by the Wm. P. Clyde & Co. steamer S.S. Tybee.

4d. Ship Rate, pre-paid, to the Americas, 5 cents due (for inland mail) applied in New York.

- (3) USED STRIP OF THREE of 1d. ROSE-RED with watermark sideways



## NEW POSTAL RATES

Since the introduction of stamps in 1867, the postal rates had been :

Letters to England	1/-
Letters to W Indian Colonies	6d.
Newspapers	1d.

Although Jamaica, to whom the Turks Islands had been annexed since 1873, had been admitted into the General Postal Union in April 1877, the islands only followed suit at the start of 1881. Official correspondence from the UPU in Berne (dated 21<sup>st</sup> January 1881) confirms their acceptance on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1881 and that the Sterling equivalent to be charged for French rates would be 2½d. for 45 centimes, 1d. for 10c. and ½d. for 5c.

New stamps would be required to accommodate for these new rates. Perkins, Bacon had already lost the printing contract to rivals De La Rue for the majority of Commonwealth colonies, so it was only natural that DLR would be the ones asked to produce the new duties required (in March 1881 for the new 4d. letter rate, and in June 1881 for the ½d. & 2½d. rates).

## Turks Islands

No. 33.



### Entry of additional West India Colonies into the Postal Union

ON the 1st of January next the West Indian Colonies of Grenada, St. Lucia, Tobago, and Turk's Islands, will enter the Postal Union, and prepaid correspondence for them will then be subject to the following reduced rates of postage—

LETTERS	- - - - -	4d. per ½ oz.
POST CARDS	- - - - -	1½d. each.
NEWSPAPERS	- - - - -	1d. per 4 oz.

PRINTED PAPERS & PATTERNS	- - - - -	1d. per 2 oz.
COMMERCIAL PAPERS	- - - - -	} The same as for Printed Papers, but with a minimum charge of 2½d.

Unpaid letters will be charged on delivery with double postage.

Letters, Post Cards, Newspapers, Commercial Papers, Printed Papers, and Patterns, addressed to these Colonies may be registered; the registration fee being in all cases *two-pence*, which, in addition to the postage, must be prepaid. The sender of a registered letter, or any other registered article, may obtain an acknowledgment of its delivery by paying in advance an additional fee of 2½d.

Correspondence for these Colonies will be subject in every respect to the conditions of transmission applicable to correspondence addressed to Countries of the Postal Union generally.

By Command of the Postmaster General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE  
14 December 1880.

Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by W. P. GARRARD & SON, Prince's Square, Old Bailey, London, E.C.

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "½" OVERPRINTS

### Setting I

*Two varieties of T 2 side-by-side, repeated 15 times in a sheet. Only found on 6d. Black*

A Pair, showing both varieties.

**Provenance :** Snowden, Gilbert



### Settings II & III

*Three varieties of T 3 in a vertical strip, repeated ten times in a sheet. Middle stamp has longer bar in Setting III. Setting II found on 6d. Black & 1/- Blue ; Setting III only found on 1/- Blue.*

(1) STRIPS OF THREE of Setting II on both 6d. & 1/- Blue

**Provenance :** Caspary, Lilly (for 6d. Strip)

(2) BLOCK OF NINE of Setting III on 1/- Blue



## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE EXPLANATION OF DISPLAY

In the period between joining the UPU and the arrival of the new stamps, the PO decided to have provisional overprint surcharges produced locally ; this was done over the course of most of the year 1881 and in several stages, producing a wide variety of different surcharges. The first attempted classification of these overprints was made by Baron A. de Reuterskiöld in The London Philatelist in the issues published in March and April 1894 ; this was much improved upon by Sir Edward Denny Bacon in his 1917 work "The Postage Stamps of the Turks Islands" and his 1936 Supplement in collaboration with Major Thomas Charlton Henry. The 1953 sale catalogue of the collection formed by C.J.L. Snowden added significant further detail.

The underlying stamps were printed in sheets of 30, arranged in 3 rows of 10. As can be identified from looking at multiples of the provisionals, it becomes clear that the surcharges were generally applied in SETTINGS covering either two stamps (side-by-side) repeated 15 times on the sheet, or three stamps (in a vertical column) 10 times on the sheet, or 15 stamps twice on the sheet. (In the case of the "4" Provisionals, the Settings also come in blocks of six stamps in two columns). The individual surcharges vary greatly in the shape and style of the numbers used and have been given TYPE numbers (as per the Stanley Gibbons listings, from "T 2" to "T 30") - and, finally, one can sub-divide the Types into further distinct varieties. For each Setting, details of the sheet arrangement, the Types involved and their varieties are provided (*in italics*).



# Turks Islands

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "1/2" OVERPRINTS

### Setting IV

Three varieties in a vertical strip, repeated ten times in a sheet :

TOP : T 4 ("1" to right of "2") - wedge-shaped bar  
 MIDDLE : T 5 ("1" above "2") - blunt serif on "1"  
 BOTTOM : T 6 ("1" leaning to left of "2") - short bar

Only found on 1/- Lilac.

- (1) BLOCK OF FIFTEEN, showing five complete Settings
- (2) Vertical Pair from the top two rows (T 4 & T 5)



Both of the above items show the same (non-constant but previously unreported) "bullet-hole" flaw on the Queen's neck - clearly visible on the 4<sup>th</sup> stamp in the top row of the Block, as well as on the upper stamp of the Pair.

### Settings V to VII

Three varieties in a vertical strip, repeated ten times in a sheet (Types as in Setting IV) :

	<u>Setting V</u>	<u>Setting VI</u>	<u>Setting VII</u>
TOP :	T 4 (no bar)	T 4 (as in IV)	T 4 (short bar)
MIDDLE :	T 5 (as in IV)	T 5 (as in IV)	T 6 ("1" above "2")
BOTTOM :	T 6 (as in IV)	T 6 (no bar)	T 6 (as in IV)

Setting V only found on 1/- Lilac ; Settings VI & VII found on both 1/- Lilac and 1/- Blue (Setting VII catalogued as found on 1d. Red also, but only one used example recorded in Royal Collection).

- (1) STRIPS OF THREE of Setting V and Setting VI on 1/- Lilac ; reconstructed Strip of Three on Setting VI on 1/- Blue

Provenance : VI (L) : Caspary, Dale-Lichtenstein

- (2) DOUBLE SURCHARGES of T 5 and T 6 (no bar), the latter believed UNIQUE (first sold at Plumridge in 1925).

Provenance : T 5 : Manus  
 T 6 : Dale-Lichtenstein





# Turks Islands

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "1/2" OVERPRINTS

### Settings VIII & IX

Three varieties in a vertical strip, repeated ten times in a sheet. In Setting VIII, the fraction bars are very short; in Section IX they are much longer and thicker. Both settings only found on 1d. Red.

- (1) BLOCK OF NINE of Setting VIII, showing three complete Settings (right)

Provenance : Challis

- (2) BLOCK OF FOUR of Setting IX (below)



### Settings XI & XII

Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet, top two rows T 11 (except for second stamp on top row T 9, i.e. with "1" to right rather than left of "2"), the bottom row being four T 12 (the fourth stamp in Setting XI with no bar and thus T 13) followed by one T 14.

- (1) STRIP OF THREE from top row, showing two T 11 followed by T 9 (hence fifth stamp of LH Setting, then first two stamps of RH Setting)

- (2) STRIP OF THREE from bottom row, showing T 12, T 13 (with "Throat Flaw") & T 14 se-tenant



### Setting X

Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet, top two rows T 9, the bottom row T 10.

- (1) BLOCKS OF FIFTEEN on 1d. Red & on 1/- Lilac, showing complete Settings

Provenance : Challis (for 1d. Block)

- (2) Single on 1d. Red, T 10 with DOUBLE SURCHARGE

Provenance : Charlton Henry, "Samos"

- (3) Single on 1/- BLUE, T 10 : extremely rare, less than 10 recorded, probably only one sheet overprinted





# Turks Islands

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "2½" OVERPRINTS

### Setting I

*One variety only, T 15, with fraction in very small type. Probably a trial overprint. Only found on 6d. Black.*

#### FOUR SINGLES.

Only 10 examples recorded. Only Ferrary in the past has had more than one example (two, one of which was later in the Hearn & Snowden collections). Others with traceable provenances include one in the Royal Collection (exhibited by the Prince of Wales for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the London Philatelic Society in 1894) ; and those from the sales of Manus (1933), Col. Green (1944) and Crouch (1957).

#### Provenance :

Upper LH : Jaffé (2006)  
Upper RH : Duveen (1923), Insley Blair (1937), Dale-Lichtenstein (1990)  
Lower LH : Hind (1934), Gibraltar (1996)  
Lower RH : Charlton Henry (1961), Isleham (1987), "Samos" (1991)



### Settings II & III

*Setting II (on 6d. Black only) : Two varieties of T 16 side-by-side, repeated 15 times in a sheet.*

*Setting III (on 1/- Lilac only) : Composition unknown, the T 17 overprint very similar to T 16 but with the placement of the fraction higher up.*

(1) STRIP OF FIVE, showing the two varieties of T 16 (A B A B A). Largest known multiple.

Provenance : Moens, Ferrary, Hind, Charlton Henry, Amundsen, Jaffé

(2) Single from Setting III, showing T 17

Provenance : "Dallas", "Samos"



### Setting IV

*Three varieties of T 18 in a vertical strip, repeated ten times in a sheet. Only found on 6d. Black.*

RECONSTRUCTED STRIP OF THREE, showing the three varieties of T 18.

Provenance : Jaffé





# Turks Islands

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "2½" OVERPRINTS

### Setting V

Three varieties of T 19 in a vertical strip repeated ten times in a sheet. Only found on 1/- Lilac.

COMPLETE SHEET OF THIRTY, showing ten Settings. Interesting to note the consistency and strong horizontal alignment of each of the trios of overprints, even if some are a little under-inked.

The Royal Collection contains only one reconstructed vertical strip of this Setting - and, indeed, the largest block of any of the "2½" Provisionals therein is that of 15 of Setting IX.

Possibly the only complete sheet of the "2½" overprints that still remains intact.

Provenance : Ferrary, Charlton Henry, Amundsen, Jaffé



### Setting VI

Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet, top two rows T 20, the bottom row T 21 ; the varieties of fraction are the same as those in Setting X of the "½" Provisionals. Only found on 1/- Lilac.

THREE SINGLES, two T 20, one T 21.

Less than 10 recorded of either Type. No multiples known.

Provenance : T 20 (LH) : "Sovereign"  
T 20 (RH) : Champion  
T 21 : Unknown



### Setting VII

Three varieties of T 22 in a vertical strip, repeated ten times in a sheet ; the varieties of fraction are the same as those in Settings II (on 6d.) or III (on 1/- Blue) of the "½" Provisionals.

On 6d. : TWO SINGLES, "½" as Setting II

On 1/- : ONE SINGLE, "½" as Setting III

Less than 10 recorded of either Type. No multiples known.

Provenance : 6d. (LH) : Unknown  
6d. (RH) : Yardley  
1/- Blue : Champion





# Turks Islands

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "2½" OVERPRINTS

### Setting VIII

*Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet, top two rows T 23, the bottom row T 24 ; the varieties of fraction are the same as those in Setting X of the "½" Provisionals. The position of the large "2" varies as this was applied separately, which also explains the existence of the "Double ½" varieties.*

(1) Vertical Pair on 1d. Red with two T 23 from the top two rows

(2) BLOCK OF NINE on 1/- Lilac, showing both Types

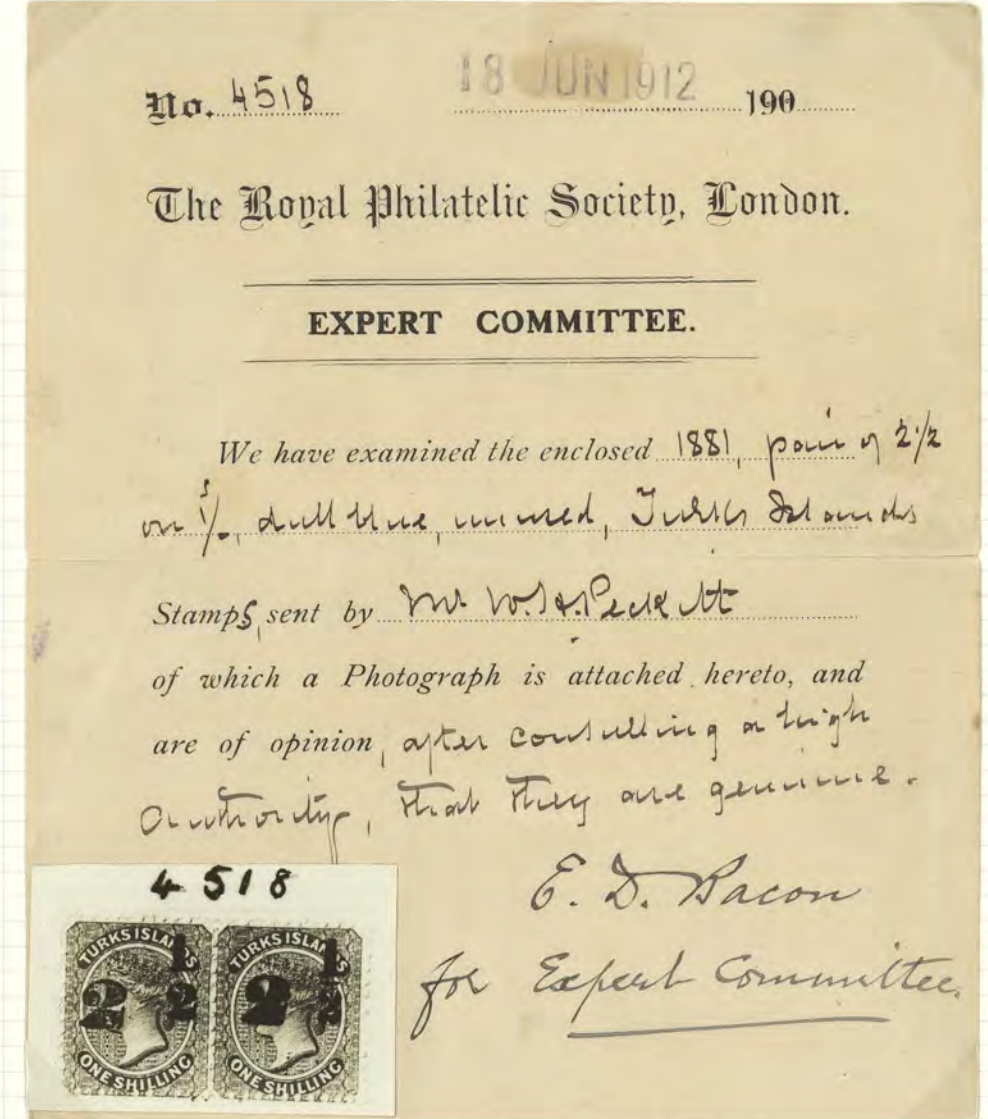
Provenance : Charlton Henry, Amundsen

(3) Vertical Pair on 1d. Red with T 23 & T 24 from the second & third rows

Provenance : Caspary

(4) "DOUBLE ½ " Varieties

Provenance : On Type 23 : Frazer  
On Type 24 : Jaffé



### Setting IX

*Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet, top two rows T 25, the bottom row consisting of three T 26, followed by one T 26 with no bar and one T 27 ; the varieties of fraction are the same as those in Setting XI of the "½" Provisionals. Only found on 1/- Blue.*

(1) BLOCK OF FOUR, top pair T 25, lower pair T 26. The only recorded Block of Four and the largest multiple of this Setting in private hands ; both the Tapling and Ferrary collections had complete Blocks of 15, the former being bequeathed to the British Museum in 1891 and currently held in the British Library, the latter acquired by King George V for the Royal Collection in 1922.

Provenance : Hind, Dale-Lichtenstein

(2) HORIZONTAL PAIR, showing T 26 (no bar) and T 27 setenant, together with the original 1912 Certificate signed by Sir Edward Denny Bacon, the then Keeper of the Royal Collection.

Provenance : King Carol of Romania, "Dallas"



# Turks Islands

## THE 1881 PROVISIONAL ISSUE THE "4" OVERPRINTS

### Settings I-VI

*Three basic types of overprint :*

**Setting I :** T 28 (8mm tall, pointed top) ;  
**Setting II-VI :** T 29 (5mm tall, "squat") & T 30 (6mm tall).

Quite a lot has been written about these "4" overprints but the evidence remains largely inconclusive ; many still suspect that all of the surcharges on 1d. Red were either produced at a later date or are forgeries.

(1) **Setting I :** T 28 on 6d. and on 1d. (Used)

(2) **Setting II-VI :** Pairs showing both T 29 & T 30

**Provenance :** On 6d. Black : Insley Blair, Prappas  
On 1/- Lilac : Caspary

(3) **Setting III :** BLOCK OF SIX showing complete setting (five T 29, one T 30). Largest recorded block.

**Provenance :** De Reuterskiöld (see Bacon, 1917)



### Setting III

*Six surcharges in two vertical columns, the first five stamps with squat "4" (T 29), the sixth stamp - at the bottom right of the setting - with 6mm "4" (T 30).*

**COMPLETE SHEET OF THIRTY** on 1/- Lilac showing five Settings. One of only two recorded sheets.

Used by Stanley Gibbons as the basis for listing the Double Surcharge varieties (on the first two stamps in the bottom row - the second surcharge almost albino).

Also to be noted are the double perforations between the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> columns, with further doubling seen on the bottom row, especially towards the right hand side of the sheet.

**Provenance :** Ferrary, Hind, Challis.





# Turks Islands



## DEVELOPMENT OF THE DE LA RUE HEAD

(1) 1905 Commemorative Card depicting J.F. JOUBERT DE LA FERTÉ, engraver of the 1855 GB 4d. from which the DLR Colonial Head was derived

(2) THE ORIGINAL COLONIAL HEAD :

- (1) EARLIEST KNOWN PROOF, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1858, with crown & hair cut away from the GB 4d. Head, as first used for the 1859 Sierra Leone 6d.
- (2) FINAL PROOF "Before Hardening"
- (3) COLOUR PROOF used for 1859 Malta 0,5d.

Provenances : (1) "Clive", Kayfetz ; (2) Kayfetz ; (3) Smith

(3) THE UNIFORM COLONIAL HEAD :

- (1) HEAD DIES, with lighter background and new diadem detail (as modified by Daniel Pound in 1863)
- (2) MASTER DIE PROOFS OF KEY-PLATE ISSUES, Die I (1879) & Die II (1890)

Provenances : (1) Kayfetz ; (2) Mayer (Die I) ; Crutwell (Die II)



# Turks Islands



## THE 1881 DE LA RUE ISSUE WATERMARK CROWN CC

The most urgent need for new duties was for that of Fourpence, the new Letter Rate. Correspondence between the Government of Turks Islands, the Crown Agents and De La Rue began as early as February 1881. As the International Postal Convention had not fixed any colour for 4d. stamps, they let DLR decide, who opted for "a bright blue, of the shade used for the Gold Coast 1d. Postage Stamps". The Crown Agents collected the Perkins Bacon plates on March 18<sup>th</sup>, and these were used by DLR for new (small) supplies of the 1d. (6'000), 6d. (2'010) & 1/- (2'100) which were the last printings using the Watermark Crown CC paper that was phased out at the end of April 1881. All four printings, and the cost of the new duty plate, were invoiced in June 1881.

### (1) PRINTERS' REFERENCE SPECIMENS - from the DLR Archives :

- (1) SPECIMEN TYPE D8 IN RED : 4d., 1d. (two examples, both advertised for sale as "Unique", and evidently capable of forming a pair), 6d. & 1/-
- (2) SPECIMEN TYPE D8 IN BLACK : 1d., 6d. & 1/-
- (3) SPECIMEN TYPE D11 IN BLACK : 1d., 6d. & 1/-

**Provenances :** Samuel, Latto & Challis

(2) Used Singles of all four values

(3) 1882 COVER bearing 4d.

(4) MULTIPLES OF 1d., 6d. (with wing margins) & 1/- (believed the only recorded such block)

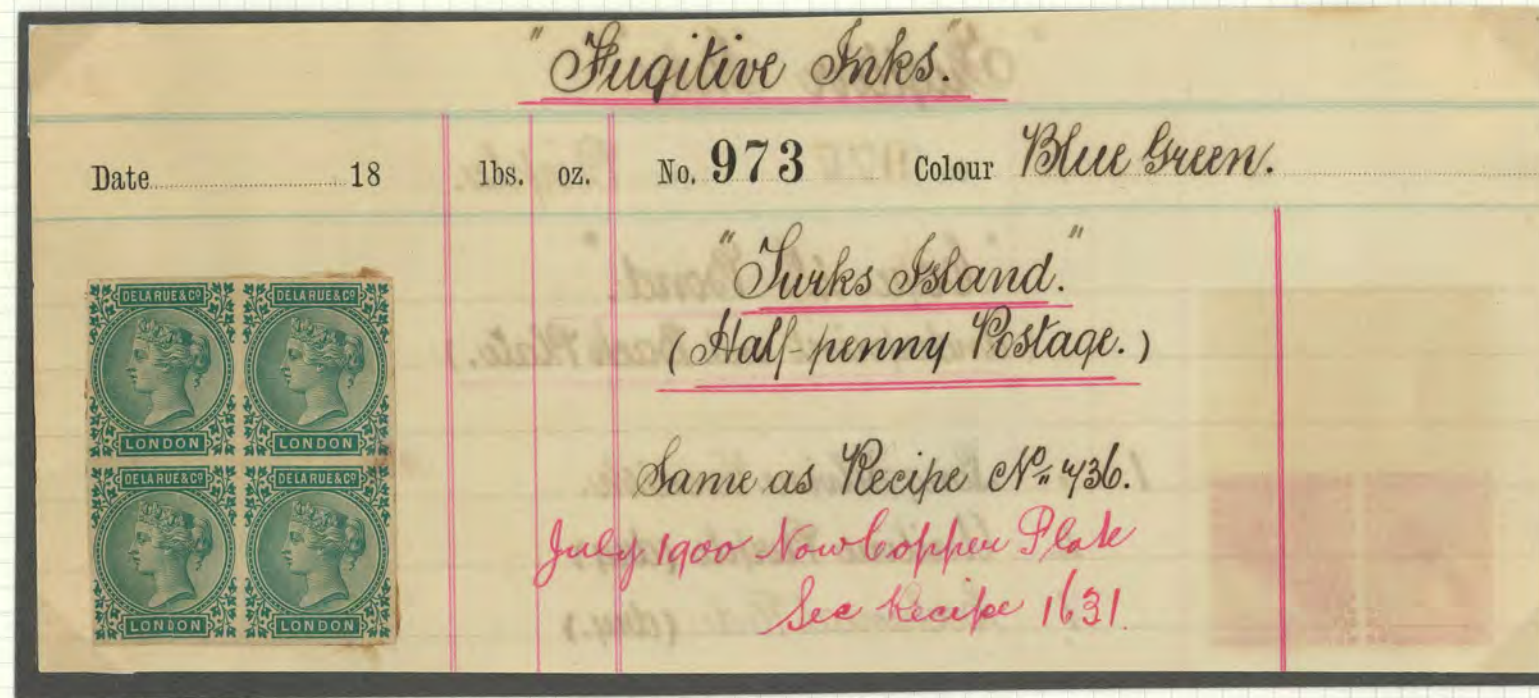




# Turks Islands



THE DE LA RUE ISSUES  
WATERMARK CROWN CA



## THE NEW HALF-PENNY DUTY

As Perkins Bacon had not previously issued this duty, De La Rue used Die I, Plate 1, of their own General Key-Plate design for the new Half-Penny. The first print run of 30'000 stamps - in Blue-Green - was invoiced in November 1881 and put on sale in the Islands in February 1882. Two further tranches of 30'000 stamps - both in Pale Green - were invoiced in December 1885 and March 1890, the latter using Plate 2.

### (1) BLUE-GREEN :

- (1) EXTRACT FROM DLR INK RECIPE BOOK
- (2) UNUSED BLOCK OF FOUR
- (3) IMPERFORATE COLOUR TRIAL ; PRINTERS' REFERENCE SPECIMENS (one Type D8, one "CANCELLED") ; Used Single

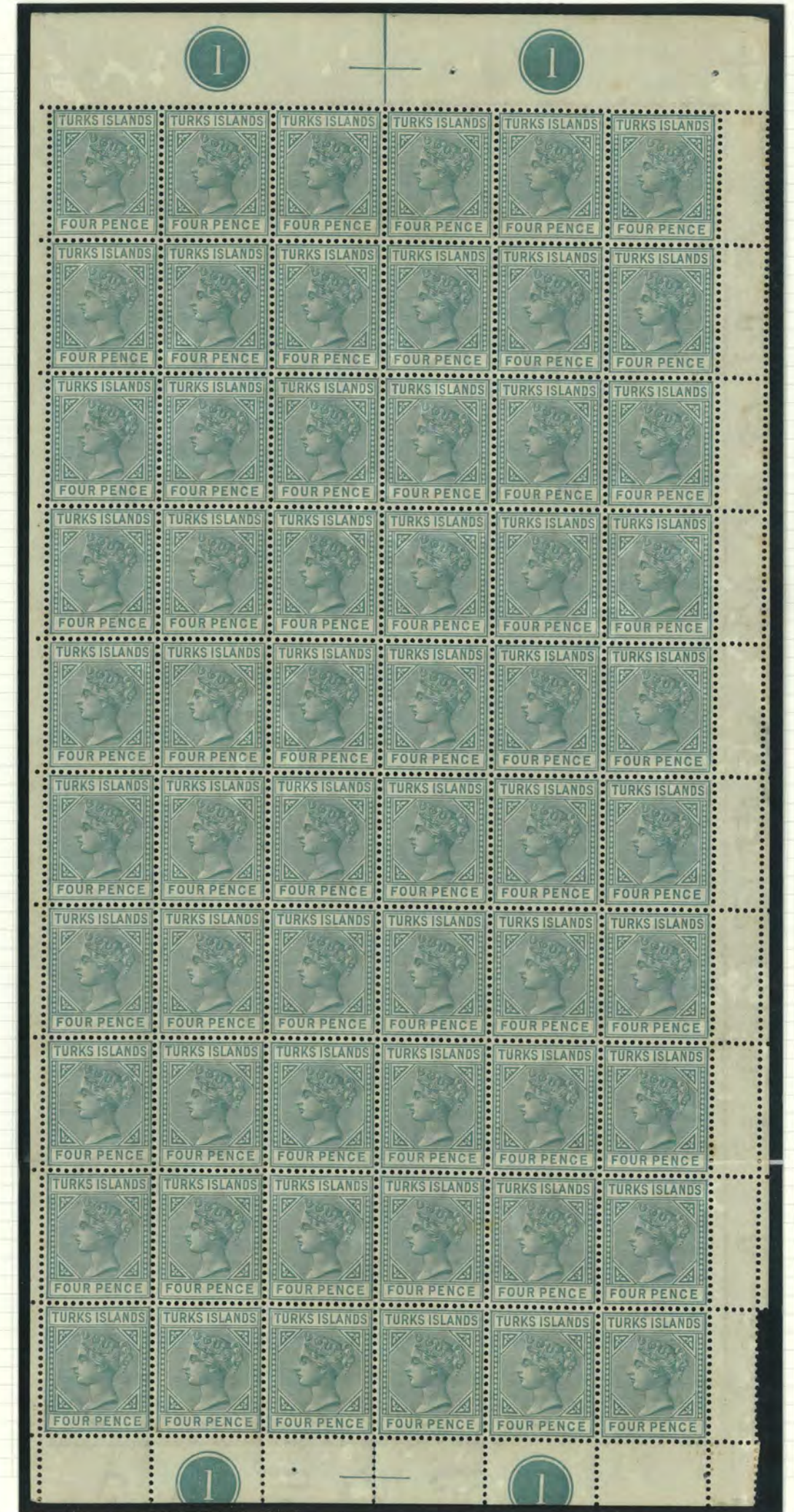
### (2) PALE GREEN :

- (1) PLATE BLOCK OF FORTY-EIGHT from the 1890 Plate 2 printing showing "DETACHED TRIANGLE FLAW" on third stamp of top row (R3/3) - only Turks Islands issue that shows this flaw



# Turks Islands

## THE DE LA RUE ISSUES WATERMARK CROWN CA



## THE OTHER 1882-84 DUTIES

### (1) 1d. ORANGE-BROWN (One Printing of 15'390 in 1883)

- (1) UNUSED BLOCKS OF NINE with Watermark Reversed and of FOUR with Watermark Normal
- (2) BISECTED on Wrapper to pay 1/2d. Book Post Rate
- (3) USED STRIP OF FOUR with second stamp showing "THROAT FLAW"

### (2) 2 1/2d. RED-BROWN (One Printing of 30'480 in late 1881, on sale in 1882)

- (1) DLR COLOUR TRIAL with blank tablets ; PRINTERS' REFERENCE SPECIMENS (with "SPECIMEN" types D11 & D8, & with "CANCELLED") ; Used Single
- (2) UNUSED PLATE BLOCK OF FOUR

### (3) 4d. GREY (One Printing of 60'000 in 1884)

- (1) COMPLETE PANE OF SIXTY with all 4 PLATE NUMBERS



# Turks Islands

## THE DE LA RUE ISSUES UNIFORMITY OF COLOUR & DESIGN

### (1) THE 1883 COLOUR TRIALS

Ever since De La Rue (DLR) had won the printing contract from Perkins, Bacon (PB) the firm had been keen to replace the stamps produced from the PB Plates (purportedly for security reasons) by their own designs. In 1883, they persuaded the Crown Agents to give them permission to send to several colonies a new Proposed Scheme of Colour - as per the example, for Turks Islands, reproduced to the left and accompanied by duplicates of five of the Colour Trials used.

The new colours were approved on February 20<sup>th</sup> 1884, but the proposal to scrap the PB Plates was rejected on the grounds of the extra expense involved in preparing new dies and that forgery was unlikely in such a small place.

### (2) THE 1888 UNIVERSAL KEYPLATE DESIGNS

In 1888, DLR introduced their Universal Key-Plate Designs, "IMPERIUM" samples of which were included on two Appendix Sheets: "A" in the "POSTAGE/POSTAGE" design and "B" in the POSTAGE/& REVENUE design.

Sept. 25. 83.

*Turks Islands Postage Stamps.*  
*Existing and proposed Schemes of Colours.*

Existing colours

Proposed Colours for surface printed stamps.

Proposed colours, being those established by the International Postal Convention for these three duties

Proposed colours.





# Turks Islands

## THE DE LA RUE ISSUES WATERMARK CROWN CA

### THE 1884-1893 ISSUES

(1) BLOCKS OF FOUR of the 1884 1d. Crimson-Lake, Perf. 12, with watermark reversed, the 1889 6d. Yellow-Brown and the 1885 1/- Sepia

Provenance : Ludington (for all 3 Blocks)

(2) 1897 COVER TO FRANCE, bearing TWENTY 6d. Yellow-Brown and NINE 1/- Sepia

Provenance : Burrus

(3) COMPLETE SHEET of the 1889 1d. Crimson-Lake, Perf. 14

(4) The "THROAT FLAW" on used 1884 1d., Perf. 12 ; and on four unused examples (in differing shades) of the 1889-1900 1d., the second with watermark reversed





# Turks Islands



Post Office Turks Islands  
Gentlemen, 7 August 1889  
Your favor of 17  
June, enclosing B/P for £1.  
or \$5. and 26 June enclosing  
M/O for £3., duly to hand  
The stamps are in the keeping  
of His Hon. the Commissioner of  
the Dependency and he is temporarily  
absent for a few days  
but on his return will send the  
stamps ordered, except the  
1d. surcharged, of which  
there are no more left.  
I will hold the £1. and  
£3. subject to your order.  
Yours truly  
J. Crisson  
Postmaster



## THE 1889 "One Penny" PROVISIONAL ISSUE

By the Spring of 1889, the Post Office had run out of their stocks of 1d. stamps. Having first tried using Jamaica stamps, in May the PO asked the local newspaper proprietor, Mr. Hugh H. Hutchings, to make a surcharge overprint, reading "One Penny" and to be applied on the current 2 1/2d. stamps.

- (1) JAMAICA 1d. (SG 27 - issued in March 1889) USED IN TURKS ISLANDS
- (2) UNUSED PLATE NUMBER BLOCK OF SIX, showing progressive flaws in the overprint with the overprint on the middle stamp in the bottom reading "Cne PeLny" (variety enlarged)
- (3) UNUSED PLATE NUMBER BLOCK OF TWELVE, all with sloping overprints, the first five columns reading "Penny One", the last "Penny" only
- (4) Used examples of SLOPING OVERPRINTS
- (5) Letter to Pemberton Wilson from the Postmaster, J.C. Crisson, dated 7<sup>th</sup> August 1889 and proving that demand had been high for these provisionals, presumably primarily from other overseas dealers :

"...The stamps are in the keeping of His Hon. the Commissioner of this Dependency and he is temporarily absent for a few days but on his return will send the stamps ordered, except the 1d. surcharged, of which there are no more left..."

- (6) Late usage of Provisionals on cover appropriately to Hugh H. Hutchings



# Turks Islands

## THE 1893 " 1/2d. " PROVISIONAL ISSUE

On this occasion it was the Halfpenny duty that had been exhausted, and again Mr. Hutchings was asked to make a provisional surcharge overprint. The underlying stamp used was the 1884 DLR Die I 4d. (S.G. 57), printed in sheets of 60 (10 rows of 6), with each Setting being applied to one full row. The new DLR Die II Halfpenny stamps arrived later in the year.

28 July 1893

Recd from Her Hon the Commr  
ten sheets of Stamps to be  
surcharged 1/2 d

Hugh A. Hutchings



Five Settings, the first with separate fraction bars on each stamp, the next four with continuous bars across the strip with differing distances between the two bars

(1) POST OFFICE DOCUMENTS : July 1893 receipt for the newly surcharged stamps, and revaluation of existing stock of stamps

(2) 1893 COVER to Jamaica with Provisional in combination with 1889 "One Penny" Provisional and 1889-93 1d.

(3) Singles from Setting I, Setting II (bars 10,75mm apart), Setting III (bars 11,75mm apart) with DOUBLE SURCHARGE, Setting III used with 4d. BISECT

(4) COMPLETE STRIP OF SIX OF Setting III

(5) STRIPS OF THREE from Settings IV & V (both with bars 11mm apart) - Setting V showing Positions 1-3, Setting IV (used) showing Positions 4-6

July 28/93

Postmaster

2 Sheets of 1/2	—	3.0.0
2 " 6d	—	1.10.0
12 " 2 1/2	—	7.10.0
16 " 1d	—	2.0.0
		<hr/>
		14.0.0
10 " 1/2	—	1.5.0
		<hr/>
		£ 15.5.0





# Turks Islands



**THE DE LA RUE ISSUES  
WATERMARK CROWN CA**



## THE DIE II ISSUES & THE NEW 5d. DUTY

In July 1892, the first requisition for more 2,5d. stamps since the approval of the 1883 Proposed Scheme of Colour prompted DLR to press for using a blue colour (as dictated by the IPC) ; this was approved. At the end of December 1893, DLR turned to the matter of the ongoing production of stamps from the PB plates and produced two sheets of nine essays (3 each for 1d., 6d. & 1/- values) but the Turks Islands rejected the idea.

(1) 1893 ESSAYS FOR CHANGE TO EITHER THE GENERAL OR THE UNIVERSAL KEY-PLATE DESIGNS

Provenance : Dale-Lichtenstein

(2) THE DIE II, PLATE 3 ISSUES : INTER-PANNEAU BLOCKS of the 1893 1d. Dull Green and the 1892 2,5d. Ultramarine ; PLATE BLOCK of the 1895 4d. Dull Purple & Ultramarine

(3) THE 1894 5d. DUTY :

- (1) MASTER DIE PROOF OF THE UNIVERSAL KEY-PLATE DESIGN
- (2) "IMPERIUM" COLOUR TRIAL in Olive-Green & Purple, first proposed for the 1893 Seychelles 10c. duty, but rejected by that colony
- (3) ESSAY WITH HAND-PAINTED TABLETS - from the DLR Archives, believed UNIQUE
- (4) PLATE BLOCK OF TWELVE





# Turks Islands

## THE DE LA RUE ISSUES SPECIMEN STAMPS

Between January 1879 and March 1886, the GPO was supplied with first 80 and then 100 examples of each new stamp of the Crown Colonies for their own records ; up until June 1884, these were in normal unused condition, thereafter they nearly all had "SPECIMEN" overprints. In April 1886, the GPO decided to distribute to the UPU Specimens in Strips of Three (horizontal or vertical), thereby increasing their demand to 345 stamps. When distributions were increased to quintuple multiples in July 1892, the quantity demanded rose to 730 and later that year the Crown Agents rounded off their demand to DLR to 750 examples.

Hence, from the standpoint of the Turks Islands, it is possible to find UPU Specimens as follows :

- (1) STRIP OF THREE from the 1889 6d. Yellow-Brown (but not the 1d. nor 1/- as they were introduced prior to 1886)
- (2) STRIPS OF FIVE of the new colour Die II 1892 2,5d. and 1895 4d. (but not the 1893 0,5d. as this was only a minor change from an earlier issue) and the 1894 5d. (although no full strip has so far been recorded)

The only other source of Specimens is directly from the Printers' records :

- (3) PAGE FROM THE DE LA RUE DAY-BOOK, first prepared in 1892 with examples of ALL the then current duties - including the only known examples of Specimens on the 1885 0,5d. Pale Green, 1884 4d. Grey, 1889 1d. Crimson Lake & 1885 1/- Sepia

[Note : The full page had - alas ! - already been cut in two prior to acquisition]

