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POSTAL TABLE.

PLACES.	Mails of the 7th.	Mails of the 17th.	Postage at rate of	Time out, days.	Time for Replies, days.	Time home, days.	Course of Post, d-y.
Antigua	1	1	1 0	25½	15	21½	65
Barbadoes	1	1	1 0	21	15	29	65 ^a
Bermuda	—	1	1 0	32	30	18	80 ^b
Cartagena	1	1	*2 3	32½	9½	38	80
Chagres	1	1	*1 0	34	5	41	80
Denierara	1	1	1 0	26½	7½	31½	65
Dominica	1	1	1 0	24½	15	25½	65
Grenada	1	1	1 0	23	15	27	50
Guadaloupe	1	1	*1 5	25	15	25	65
Havana	1	—	*2 3	35½	4	25½	65 ^c
Honduras	1	—	1 0	46½	2	46½	95
Jacmel	1	1	*1 5	27½	12	25½	65
Jamaica	1	1	1 2	28½	9	28½	65 ^d
La Guayra	1	1	*1 0	27	6	32	65
Martinique	1	1	*1 5	25	15	25	65
Madeira	1	1	*1 10	7	—	—	—
Montserrat	1	1	1 0	25½	15	24½	65
Nassau	1	1	1 0	41½	1	22½	65 ^e
Nevis	1	1	1 0	26	15	24	65
Porto Cabello	1	1	1 0	28	2	35	65
Porto Rico	1	1	*1 5	30	13	22	65
St. Jago de Cuba	1	1	*2 3	31	2	32	65
St. Kitt's	1	1	1 0	26	15	24	65
St. Lucia	1	1	1 0	24	15	20	65
St. Thomas	1	1	*1 5	27	15	23	50 ^f
St. Vincent	1	1	1 0	23½	15	26½	65
Santa Martha	1	1	*2 3	31½	11½	37½	80
Nicaragua	—	1	*2 3	36	1	43	80
Tampico	1	—	*2 3	47	5	43	95
Tobago	1	1	1 0	23½	12	29½	65
Tortola	1	1	1 0	27	15	23	65
Trinidad	1	1	1 0	25½	9	30½	65
Vera Cruz	1	—	*2 3	42½	17½	34½	95

* Postage must be prepaid.

- ^a Bridgetown can correspond 15 days earlier.
^b St. George's can correspond 30 days earlier.
^c 2nd only for Mails. Passengers can go via St. Thomas and Bermuda
^d 10½ days from England.
^e Town of Kingston, 1s. postage.
^f 2nd via Havana with Mails. Passengers can also go on 17th, via Bermuda.
^g St. Thomas (town) can correspond 15 days earlier.

Postal services from Britain to the Caribbean in 1845
(see the article by M. H. Ludington, page 49)

Other Features:

- Bahamas Postal Markings*
- Belize Forwarding Agents*
- Bermuda's Soldiers' and Seamen's Rate of 1891*
- Dominica Village Postmarks*
- Cayman Islands War Tax Variety*
- Jamaica's 6d Pictorial*
- 'Posted on non-contract Vessel' Handstamp*



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Belize Forwarding Agents

by CHARLES A. FREELAND

In the past, a number of attempts have been made to list the forwarding agents who handled transit mail to and from Guatemala via the port of Belize. The best known is the listing in Rowe's book on forwarding agents, but other writers (W. Lind in *The Philatelist* and Chuck Cwiakala in earlier issues of this journal) have also listed the Belize agents' markings. As with all such checklists, new information has continued to be assembled, and I believe members would now be interested to see illustrations of the wide range of marks available to collectors, together with some information on the period of activity of the agents in question.

The role of the agents is not very well known, and I cannot claim to have conducted new research in this area. Clearly, several agents were active at any one time, as their dates overlap. The best known agent is Mathé, who was appointed by the Guatemalan government to forward Guatemalan mail in the period between May 1858 and February 1860, when all outward mail had to be prepaid by British stamps. Figure 1 shows that during 1859

Mathé charged 22 pesos 4 reales for the British stamps he had affixed to forwarded letters. This would represent postage for something over 100 letters to Europe.

Satisfechos á D. Antonio Mathé de Belice, saldo que resultó á su favor, de la cuenta de fraucatura en aquel Establecimiento, de la correspondencia remitida á Europa en el año de 1859.....	22 4
Suma....	\$ 1,100 7½
Demostracion.	
Cargo.....	4,977 7½
Data	1,100 7½
Exist. en dinero y deudas	3,877 00
Guatemala, Mayo 31 de 1860.— <i>Dom: n-go Castillo.—José Justo Millu.—V. B. Cerczo.</i>	

Figure 1

No. 2

To be forwarded immediately
care of Charles Evans Esq
Honduras

Recommended to
care of
Marshal Bennett Esq

Forwarded by John Middlebrook
Middletown Prov. H.
Belize 26 Jan 1838

No. 3

No. 5

No. 4

Encaminada por
F. Ramirez y

No. 6

Belize Honduras 31st January 1844
Forwarded via New York by
Board of Directors

No. 7a

Care of Mr Alexander
Belize
(British Honduras)

No. 7b

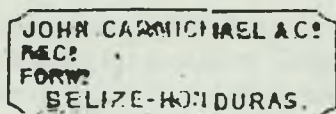
Family in Honduras and letter to
Mr J. ... Belize
Honduras



No. 8b



No. 8c



No. 9a



No. 9b



No. 10

Few of the covers with G.B. stamps from Guatemala have survived (although several pieces have). By coincidence, the most spectacular of these was offered by Harmers in London while I was preparing this article. A beautiful cover, ex-Glassco, it fetched £6,500 plus premium.

In my experience, all the agent's markings are rare, with the exception of the second oval Mathé and the Alexander manuscripts – nearly all of which come from the same correspondence between the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brussels and its consul in Santo Tomás. Mathé appears to have used his cachet more assiduously than others, but it is still much sought after because the strikes are unusually clean.

The list below contains both actual forwarding marks and instructions for forwarding by those who wrote the letters. The dates in brackets after each name refer to the known period of activity of the agent in question, determined either from historical sources or from recorded marks. In some cases, the period of activity is almost certainly considerably longer.

I would like to thank Joan Harper for sending me photocopies of covers in her collection. I hope this article, in a modest way, will help to perpetuate the memory of two fine gentlemen, Henry Madden and Ed Addiss, both of whom cooperated with me on unpublished versions of the list.

- 1 *Woodburn & Co.* (14 April 1827) – Letter from Jamaica to Omoa, endorsed 'care of Messrs A. Woodburn & Co. / Belize / Honduras' (ex-Addiss, lot 2184); illustration unavailable.
- 2 *Charles Evans* (30 January 1830–September 1839) – London to Guatemala, sent 28 June 1839 (Madden collection).
- 3 *Marshal Bennett* (25 January 1835–20 March 1845) – London to Guatemala, sent 15 November 1839 (Madden collection).
- 4 *F. Camoyano* (27 May 1835–2 October 1854) –

Guatemala to Washington, D.C.; Belize 2 October 1854 (Madden collection).

- 5 *Stuart Thompson* (representing Middleton, Gray & Co., 26 January 1838) – Sonsonate to Bordeaux, 26 January 1838 (ex-Addiss, lot 2185).
- 6 *Evans & Schurer* (20 January 1844–1845) – Guatemala to Bristol, via New York, 31 January 1844 (Madden collection); there was a similar example in the Addiss sale (lot 2144).
- 7a *Alexander* (12 August 1834–1856) – Seen on a number of covers, including here, from the Madden collection with a Belize c.d.s. dated 10 September 1854.
- 7b *J. Alexandre & Cie.* (presumed to be the same Alexander as in 7a) – Guatemala to London, via Belize, 14 September 1852 (ex-Addiss, lot 2186).
- 8a *Antonio Mathé* (May 1850–2 January 1865) – Manuscript mark; not seen, reported by W. Lind; used in May 1850.
- 8b *Antonio Mathé* – Three strikes, recorded on covers between November 1859 and 16 March 1860.
- 8c *Antonio Mathé* – Recorded on more than a dozen covers between November 1859 and 2 January 1865.
- 9a *John Carmichael & Co.* (May 1854–1855) – Seen on a cover to Santo Tomás de Guatemala, 1854 (Harper collection).
- 9b *John Carmichael & Co.* – In blue, seen on a cover to Santa Ana, 1855 (Harper collection).
- 10 *B. Cramer* (9 August 1862–30 September 1869) – On a cover to New York, 25 October 1867 (ex-Addiss, lot 2171). Note that this is probably not a forwarded cover, but Cramer was an agent and may well have used the cachet on forwarded letters.

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Red Cross Stamps and Charity Labels: More Information

by HOWARD L. GODWIN

Following the publication of my article on this subject in the September 1992 journal (vol. 32, no. 3 – W/N 164), members of the Group have supplied data that supplement the information given in that article.

Jamaica

A letter from Stephen Hopwood of Clearwater, Florida, sheds more light on the Ashenheim story. He writes as follows:

In 1971, at the time of the Tercentenary of the Jamaican Post Office, I had the pleasure of a visit from the late Tom Foster and discussed the cover [shown in Figure 1] which I had in my collection at the time, and we both agreed that the cover was philatelic. Mr Gunter (later Sir Geoffrey Gunter) was an avid philatelist and a member of the Jamaica Philatelic Society up to his death in the 60s.

As can be seen, the cover bears the same date (JY 20 / 16) as that illustrated as Figure 15 in the September article; it also has a backstamp of the same date. One wonders how many covers were prepared and where they are today? While philatelic in nature, these covers do prove that Ashenheim did, in fact, have and use the special facility

granted by the Post Office. There must have been covers genuinely used for Red Cross business – what happened to them?

While it is a fact that prepared “philatelic” items are often frowned upon by purist collectors, it is equally true that thanks to the work of these “manufacturers,” we have information that might otherwise have been subject to query or perhaps might never have been known or recorded.

Bahamas

The letter received from S. Graham Hoey of Glasgow, Scotland proved to be a veritable mine of information! He supplied the following details.

1917 Issue

Three essays are known for this issue. They were described as follows in the catalogue of the Robson Lowe sale of De La Rue Archives in Bermuda in February 1979:

Lot 87 Three Hand Drawn Essays of the Overprint, each on a separate piece of tracing paper (c. 55.60 mm x 65.70 mm) each with a Cross in Red (two smudged), two with date in black below (“1.1.17.” and “1st. Jan. 17.”) and the third [shown in Figure 2] as issued and marked “Approved WHM 29/12/16”

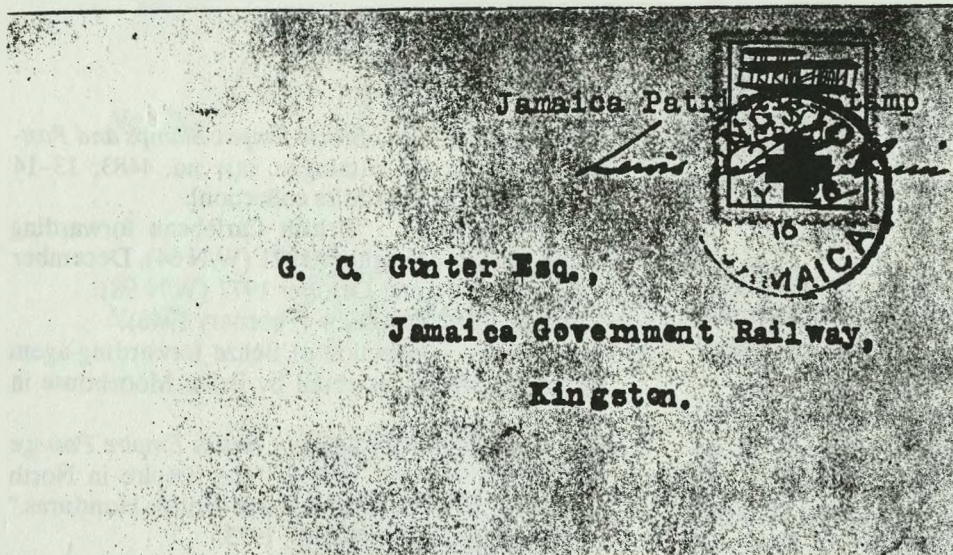


Figure 1

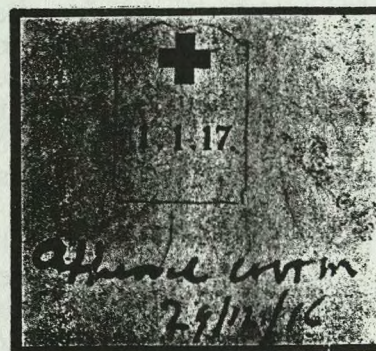


Figure 2

A typewritten note attached to the lot gave the following additional information: "240,000 'Queen's Staircase' overprinted Red Cross and date were requisitioned on 125 December 1916. These were submitted on December 28th, and Sir William Mercer approved 'c' on December 29th."

There were two printings of this issue, as the entries in the De La Rue Day Book "AC" (4th July 1916 to 31st March 1919) show, and the final number actually delivered was only 238,380 stamps:

Page 153, April 4th 1917. Requisition No. 114/16 Red Cross stamps. Making a temporary Overprint plate with Cross and date '1.1.17.'

Q Staircase. 2000 sheets 1d x 60. 120,000 stamps

Page 166, April 27th 1917. Requisition No. 114/16 Red Cross stamps. 1973 sheets 1d x 60. 118,380 stamps.

Specimen stamps were printed for this issue, and a double-check of page 153 of the Day Book confirmed that 379 copies were prepared but, for an unknown reason, were not charged out. The known specimens are in the slightly deeper carmine shade, so the paler shade can probably be attributed to the second printing. The shade difference is very slight.

Thanks to this information, a query arises: Did the Bahamian authorities really expect to have this issue available for January 1st when the requisition

was only received by the printers in mid-December?

1918 Issue

In the case of this stamp, the De La Rue Day Books show that the printers in fact delivered rather more stamps than the number ordered:

Page 539, Oct 16 1918. Requisition No. 71/18 Making a Temporary type Overprint plate 'WAR CHARITY 3-6-18'
Postage Stamps 4160 sheets 1d x 60
249,600 stamps
378 Specimens

Regarding the imperforate stamps of this issue, Graham makes the following comment:

I have never been able to see any reason why anyone should make a colour trial of an existing overprinted stamp and I therefore tend to support the theory that they are imperf copies of the finished stamps, retained by De La Rue, contrary to regulations, either as a reference collection, or for some official of the company. Originally there seems to have been blocks of six of all De La Rue issues for Bahamas between about 1910 and 1920 and similar blocks are known for almost all the other De La Rue colonial issues. In the case of the two stamps in question, I know of the existence of an imperf block of four of each, but I have never come across the other missing pairs.

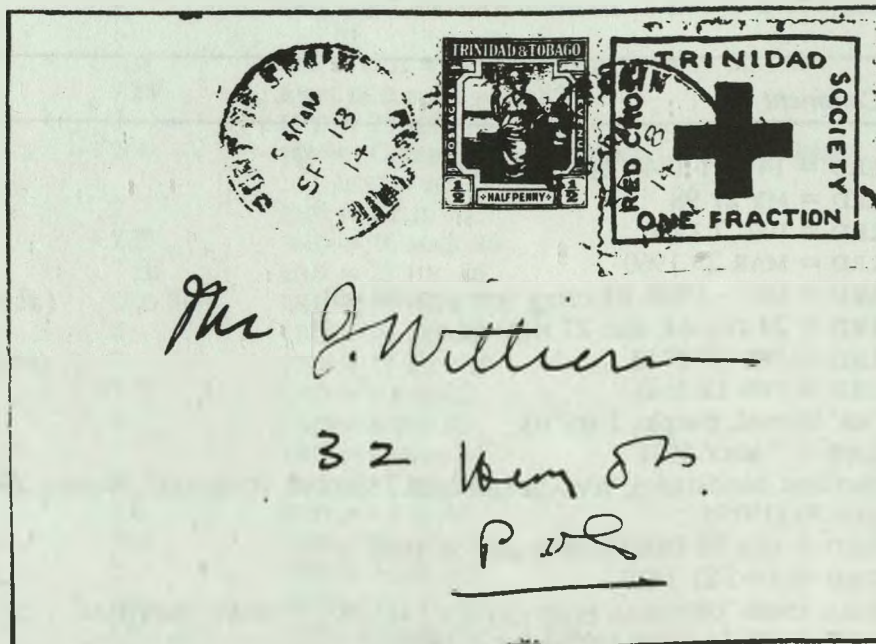


Figure 3

Trinidad

A letter from H. Leon Aussprung of Wilmington, Delaware provided an interesting point regarding the Trinidad 'ONE FRACTION' label used on September 18, 1914. A cover he has recently acquired (Figure 3) shows the label and the then-current ½d definitive stamp. From the photo it can be seen that the time shown in the postmark is 9.30 AM on September 18, 1914, and I do not doubt that the cover and postmarks are genuine.

It must be borne in mind that the use of the label *alone* as postage was only permitted for a once-only mailing by the Red Cross Society. This took place on the afternoon of the 18th. The labels were no doubt available to the public, one of whom posted

the letter early on that morning. However, as it was not the Red Cross mailing, the postage was paid by the halfpenny stamp and not by the label.

This is the only example I know of where the label received a cancellation along with the postage stamp. All other examples have only the stamp cancelled. It is also the only cover, other than the Red Cross covers, that I have seen or heard of with a label having a day-of-issue cancellation.

I am grateful to these members for taking the time and trouble to let me have this information – all of which goes to increase the known data on one of the byways of Caribbean collecting. Any further information, for or against the data and assumptions made, will be most welcome. Please write to me at P.O. Box 360, Montagu 6720, South Africa.

Bahamas Postal Markings: Date Extensions and Other Updates

by E. F. ADDISS

[The following is a list of date extensions and new postmark types relative to the information contained in M. H. Ludington's *Bahamas Early Mail Services and Postal Markings* (published in 1982). The list, found among the papers of the late Ed Addiss, was prepared by him in late 1991 or early 1992. Possibly prevented by ill health, he did not submit it for publication in this journal at that time, but he clearly intended to do so eventually, being

strongly encouraged in this by Mr Ludington himself. The type numbers below are drawn from the latter's book. The new data are presented by order of type number, which in some cases results in breaks in the chronological sequence for individual post offices. Readers who can provide further updates are requested to contact the editor. Note: ERD = earliest recorded date; LRD = latest recorded date.]

Nassau

<i>Type</i>	<i>Comment</i>
B6	ERD = 14 OCT 1847; arc damaged
B7 II	LRD = MY 21 98
MP1	LRD = DEC 7 1970
S12	LRD = MAR 29 1960
S14	LRD = DEC - 1968; lettering very spread out
N9	LRD = 24 JUL 44; also 27 NOV 58
M2a	LRD = FEB 27 1940
M2b	LRD = FEB 12 1941
–	'AR' in oval, purple, 2 MY 93
RO3	LRD = 7 MAY 1921
–	two-line handstamp, 'BY AIR SERVICE / NASSAU TO MIAMI', Nassau, 29 JAN 19, Miami (b/s) JAN 30 (1919)
AM02	ERD = FEB 11 1935; LRD = SEP 11 1938
AM03	ERD = AUG 21 1939
–	c.d.s. reads 'GENERAL POST OFFICE / M.O.O. / NASSAU BAHAMAS'
–	ERD = MY 11 1894; LRD = OC 1 1896
–	c.d.s. reads 'GENERAL●POST●OFFICE / P.O. 5B / ?'
–	ERD = OC 12 1897

Out Islands

<i>Location</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Abraham's Bay	7 II	LRD = 1 JAN 79
Alice Town	7 I	LRD = 23 APR 69
Arthurs Town	7 II	ERD = 1 JUL 70; LRD = 12 APR 85
	7 III	LRD = 23 MAY 80
	TRD 2OV	black, OCT 10 1981, FEB - 1983
	TRD C	black, MAR 8 1976
Bannerman Town	7 III	blue, LRD = JUN 1 1978
Behring Point	7	ERD = 6 SEP 60; LRD = 1 JUL 80
Bennett's Harbour	7	LRD = 3 MAY 80
Betsy Bay	7	LRD = 9 MAY 85
Bimini	TRD C	LRD = 6 MAY 85
	7 II	ERD = 19 NOV 58
	TRD 2C II	LRD = 18 DEC 65
	8	black, new dates recorded = 14 DEC 68, 2 MAY 69
	8	blue, ERD = 14 JAN 69
Binnacle Hill	TRD C III	LRD = DEC 14 1979
	8	LRD = 12 SEP 77
Black Point	7	ERD = 10 DEC 56
	8	ERD = 9 MAY 80; LRD = 13 SEP 85
Bowen Sound	TRD (2OV)	LRD = APR 14 1978
Bullocks Harbour	8	ERD = 28 MAR 58; LRD = 18 OCT 79
Burnt Ground	7 I	LRD = 21 OCT 60
	7 II	LRD = 22 OCT 81
Cargill Creek	TRD C	LRD = APR 7 85
Cherokee Sound	7 II	LRD = 19 AUG 85
Chester	TRD 2OV	LRD = FEB 10 1949
	7 II	ERD = 17 OCT 59; LRD = 12 JUN 79
Church Grove	TRD 2OV	LRD = JAN 25 1969
	8	LRD = 1 JUN 87
Clarence Town	7 I	LRD = 31 DEC 46
	7 III	LRD = 17 JAN 78
	-	new type? distance between 'c' and 'b' is ca 3 mm; ERD = 12 MAR 85
Colonel Hill	3LF	black, ERD = SEP 1982; LRD = NOV 22 1984
	7 IV	blue, LRD = 22 AUG 85
Coopers Town	7	LRD = 29 JUN 77
Crooked Island	2OV	reads: 'Commissioner's Office / Crooked Island Bahamas', black,
		ERD = JUL 5 1977
Crossing Rocks	7	LRD = 2 JUL 77
Deadman's Cay	7 II	ERD = 16 MAR 36
	7 III	LRD = 23 JUL 85
	TRD 3LF	LRD = NOV 6 1958
Deep Creek (Andros Is.)	8	LRD = 24 SEP 85
	7	LRD = 17 OCT 79
Deep Creek (Eleuthera)	7 II	LRD = 6 JAN 82
Devil's Point	8	LRD = 6 SEP 82
Driggs Hill	7	LRD = 6 MAR 64
Dundas Town	8	LRD = 17 JUN 77
	7 I	ERD = - JUN 45
Eight Mile Rock	7 II	ERD = 21 APR 70; LRD = 20 MAR 80
	8	ERD = 6 JUL 85
	TRD	violet, ERD = 1891
	TRD 2OV	violet, ERD = SEP 27 1982
Fairfield	TRD 3C	LRD = JUN 5 1954
	7	LRD = 27 APR 81

<i>Location</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Farmers Cay	7 I	LRD = 12 JUL 69
	7 II	LRD = 6 DEC 84
Fox Hill	TRD 2OV	LRD = NOV 13 1969
	7 I	ERD or LRD = 19 OCT 67
	7 II	ERD = 4 FEB 70; LRD = 17 JUL 85
Fox Town Freeport	8	blue, LRD = 5 MAR 81
	TRD 2OV	blue, ERD = 17 JUN 64
	TRD 2OV II	LRD = APR 28 1968
	TRD C I	LRD = DEC 27 1970
	8 IV	LRD = 16 MAY 81
	D1/M?	tourism slogan, ERD = 5 OCT 72
	D1/M?	250th anniversary of Parliament (1979), ERD = 15 OCT 79
Fresh Creek	TRD 2C I	ERD = 4 JUL 1951
	7 II	ERD = 13 DEC 54; LRD = 14 JAN 69
	7 II	maroon, LRD = 25 APR 85
	TRD 2C III	LRD = DEC 20 1971
	TRD 3LF	'COMMISSIONERS OFFICE / [date] / FRESH CREEK, ANDROS', ERD = JAN 19 1978
	TRD C III	LRD = JAN 19 1978
Gambier	7 I	blue, ERD = 12 NOV 69
George Town	7 IV	LRD = 14 SEP 77
	8	ERD = 7 JAN 82; LRD = 26 SEP 85
Governor's Harbour	2a	LRD = MR 18 05
	7 III	LRD = 12 AUG 77
Grants Town	8	ERD = 6 FEB 76; LRD = 21 JUL 80
Grays	7 II	LRD = 1 MAR 78
	8	ERD = 6 MAY 81; LRD = 2 NOV 82
Great Guano Cay	TRD C	LRD = FEB 1977
	TRD 2OV	'GREAT GUANO CAY / [date] / ABACO' (violet); ERD = 26 MAY 1978
Green Castle	7 II	LRD = - JUL 85
Green Turtle Cay	1	ERD = 11 MR 91
	7 III	LRD = 16 AUG 85
Gregory Town	7 II	ERD = 8 APR 35
	8(?)	ERD = 2 OCT 80; LRD = 10 JAN 83
Harbour Island	7 I	ERD = 10 AUG 06
	8	LRD = 23 SEP 85
Hatchet Bay	TRD 4LF	ERD = JAN 28 1971; LRD = NOV 29 1977
High Rock	8	LRD = 20 JUN 77
Hope Town	TRD 2OV I	'HOPE TOWN / [date] / BAHAMAS'; purple; ERD = APR 27 1977; LRD = JAN 10 1986
	TRD 2OV II	same wording?; black; 1979 (one badly distorted example seen)
	7 II	LRD = 7 NOV 38
Inagua	8 I	LRD = 7 FEB 83
	TRD 2OV	'Commissioner's Office / [date] / Inagua, Bahamas'; purple; ERD = AUG 6 1975
	7 I	LRD = 21 MAY 52
Industrious Hill	8	LRD = - AUG 86
	7 I	LRD = 10 JAN 38
James' Cistern	TRD 2OV	black; LRD = AUG 29 1975
	TRD 2OV	purple; ERD = APR 10 1980
Kemps Bay	8	LRD = - SEP 79
	8 II	small letters; ERD = 9 MAY 81; LRD = 2 NOV 82
Knowles	7 I	ERD = 6 MAR 49
	7 II	LRD = - JUL 85
Little Bay	7 I	LRD = 11 SEP 67
	7 II	LRD = 12 JUL 82

<i>Location</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Long Bay Cays	7 I	LRD = 23 OCT 39
	TRD C	LRD = OCT 88 [sic] 1947
	m/s	'L.B.C. / 27 Apr / 1970 / BAHAMAS'
	7 II	LRD = - APR 69
	7 III	ERD = 4 JUN 71
Long Cay	7 II	LRD = 10 SEP 77
Lower Deadman's Cay	TRD 2C	LRD = NOV 28 1953
	7	LRD = 17 JAN 78
Mackey Street	D1/M5	LRD = DEC 31 1971
Major's Cay	TRD C	ERD = JUN 18 1970
	8	ERD = 22 OCT 77; LRS = 5 JUL 81
Mangrove Cay	8	LRD = 27 AUG 84; also recorded in red in 1972 and 1977
Man-of-War Cay	7 II	LRD = - DEC 47
	8	ERD = - FEB 80
Marsh Harbour	TRD 2LF	LRD = - SEP 1970
	TRD	'Commissioners Office / [date] / Marsh Harbour, Abaco'; ERD = - SEP 70
	TRD 2OV	LRD = MAR - 1974
	TRD 2OV II	'Commissioner's OFFICE / [date] / MARSH HARBOUR'; black; ERD = AUG 15 1975
	TRD 2OV II	red; LRD = JAN 11 1978
	7 II	LRD = 30 SEP 85
	8	LRD = 7 MAY 73; also seen with date in manuscript and the initials 'M C D' below; ERD = '22-4-85'; LRD = '24-4-85'
Mastic Point	7 III	LRD = 3 JUN 77; also known with manuscript date '23d / Aug 1985'
Mayaguana	5	ERD = NO 26 27
	TRD 2OV I	'Commissioners Office / [date] / Mayaguana'; ERD = JUL 31 1951; LRD = JUL 9 1971
McKennons	TRD 2OV	ERD = JAN 30 1961
	8	LRD = 22 JAN 85
McLeans Town	8	LRD = - JUL 77
Mortimers	7	LRD = 20 JAN 61
	8	LRD = 29 MAY 83
Moss Town	m/s	'13 : 7 : 51'
Nicolls Town	5	LRD = AU 22 44
North Palmetto Point	7 III	LRD = 27 SEP 85
	7	LRD = 30 JUL 85
Old Bight	TRD C1	ERD = FEB 14 1945
	7 II	LRD = 26 JUN 83
Orange Creek	7	ERD = 22 FEB 80; LRD = - - - 85
Palmetto Point	7 I	ERD = - MAR 12
Pirates Well	8	ERD = 19 NOV 19
Pleasant Bay	7	LRD = '5/8/83' (in m/s)
Port Howe	7 II	LRD = 26 JUN 83
Ragged Island	1	ERD = JY 1 89
Rock Sound	7 I	LRD = 11 NOV 18
	7 III	ERD = 22 JUN 51
	TRD 2OV	LRD = JAN 1 1980
	8	LRD = 25 SEP 85
Rolle Town	8	LRD = 23 MAY 85
Rolleville	7 I	ERD = 14 MAR 49
	7 II	LRD = 17 APR 85
Roses	7 I	LRD = 17 FEB 68
	7 II	LRD = 6 JUN 83
Rum Cay	7 I	ERD = - OCT 45; LRD = 7 APR 64
	7 II	ERD = 2 FEB 68; LRD = 5 NOV 79

<i>Location</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Salt Pond	7	LRD = 10 MAR 83
San Andros	TRD 2C	LRD = SEP 12 1973
	TRD 2OV	PURPLE; LRD = MAR 15 1978
Sandy Point	7 II	ERD = 25 MAR 63
	TRD C II	LRD = JUL 26 1976
	TRD 2OV II	'COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE / [date] / SANDY POINT'; ERD = JUL 26 1976; LRD = NOV 4 1977
San Salvador	7 II	LRD = 5 FEB 85
Savannah Sound	8	LRD = 14 AUG 84
Scrub Hill	8	LRD = 14 JUL 81
Seymours	8	LRD = 2 FEB 79
Shirley Street	7 II	ERD = 14 FEB 79; LRD = 13 APR 83
Simms	3a	ERD = - MAR 05
	7 II	LRD = 15 APR 58
	7 III	LRD = 13 MAY 53
Spanish Wells	7 II	ERD = 23 JUN 51; LRD = 19 AUG 85
Spring Point	7 II	LRD = 4 JUL 69
Staniel Cay	8	ERD = 1 NOV 71; LRD = 17 SEP 82
Stanyard Creek	7 II	LRD = - JUN 77
Stella Maris	8	LRD = 3 SEP 85
Steventon	7 III	LRD = 21 JUL 77
	8	ERD = 27 MAY 83; LRD = 4 JUL 85
Tarpum Bay	7 I	ERD = 3 JAN 14
	7 II	LRD = 20 FEB 70
	7 III	LRD = - APR 85
The Bight	trd 2c	LRD = OCT - 1967
	8	LRD = 24 OCT 68
	TRD 4LF	'POST OFFICE / [date] / The Bight / Cat Island'; ERD = AUG 12 1976; LRD = - JAN 1980
	8 II	small letters; ERD = - MAY 1981; LRD = 17 JAN 85
The Bluff (Eleuthera)	mail bag	
	seal	on Scott no. 71
	7 III	LRD = 11 JUL 82
	TRD C	ERD = JUN 1 1981
	8	LRD = 1 MAY 1985
The Current	trd c I	LRD = FEB 22 1971
	trd c II	LRD = SEP 11 1972
	8 II	ERD = 3 JAN 78; LRD = 9 FEB 83
The Ferry	8	ERD = 6 NOV 70; LRD = 30 NOV 77
Treasure Cay	TRD C	LRD = JAN 31 1978
	8	ERD = 6 AUG [85?]
True Blue	7	LRD = 9 MAY 75
Upper Bogue	8	LRD = 7 MAR 83
Wemyss Bight	7 III	LRD = 6 OCT 82
West End	M1	LRD = DEC 17 1979
	8	LRD = 13 SEP 82
Williams Town	7 I	LRD = 18 JAN 59
	7 II	LRD = - JUN 70
	8	ERD = 6 NOV 70; LRD = 9 DEC 83

The West Indies in 1845

by M. H. LUDINGTON

I have acquired a fascinating small book with the title *Guide to the West Indies, Madeira, Mexico, Northern South America &c. &c.* by John Osborne, Superintendent of the Passenger Department of the London Office of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. It is the third edition, published in 1845, "considerably enlarged over the previous editions" and produced for "the benefit of passengers and merchants travelling to the Caribbean on the Company's steamers."

It contains a list of the steamers, their current captains, the schedule of the routes, fares, a postal rates table, regulations for passengers (in English, French, and Spanish), a cabin plan of a typical large steamer, and so on, over 300 pages in all. Thirty-four chapters are devoted to descriptions of the islands and ports of call; they include brief geographies and histories, and some statistics and practical

information for each place. As far as I can determine, it must be one of the earliest attempts to provide a useful small guidebook for the Caribbean area.

In 1845 the fleet of large steamers, each of about 1,800 tons, consisted of eleven ships:

<i>Avon</i>	<i>Medway</i>	<i>Thames</i>
<i>Clyde</i>	<i>Severn</i>	<i>Trent</i>
<i>Dee</i>	<i>Tay</i>	<i>Tweed</i>
<i>Forth</i>	<i>Teviot</i>	

Three others – the *Isis*, *Medina*, and *Solway* – had been lost in the previous three years. Two smaller steamers, each of about 700 tons, operated on branch lines – the *City of Glasgow*, from Grenada to Trinidad; and *Reindeer*, from Grenada to Demerara. The *Reindeer* had just been purchased to replace

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WEST INDIA PASSENGER FARES,

Which include the use of Bedding and Linen, Steward's Fees, and all other Charges, except for Wines, Spirits, Malt Liquors, and Mineral Waters.

This Company's Steam Ships leave Southampton at 2 p.m. on the 2nd and 17th of each Month, unless the latter should be a Sunday, and then on the day following.

Atlantic Voyages, by Steamer.

PLACES.	OUTWARD.			HOMEWARD.		
	Single After Cabin.	Single Fore Cabin.	Double Fore Cab. per Berth.	Single After Cabin.	Single Fore Cabin.	Double Fore Cab. per Berth.
Antigua	£45	£40	£35	£47	£41	£35
Barbadoes	..42	..37	..32	..47	..41	..35
Bermuda	..55	..50	..45	..40	..35	..30
Carthagen	..60	..55	..50	..55	..50	..45
Chagres	..60	..55	..50	..55	..50	..45
Demerara	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Dominica	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Grenada	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Guadaloupe	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Havana	..56	..51	..46	..50	..45	..40
Jacmel	..50	..45	..40	..50	..45	..40
Jamaica	..50	..45	..40	..50	..45	..40
Martinique	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Montserrat	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Nassau	..60	..55	..50	..50	..45	..40
Nevis	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Porto Rico	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
St. Jago de Cuba	..55	..50	..45	..50	..45	..40
St. Kitt's	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
St. Lucia	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
St. Thomas	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
St. Vincent	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Santa Martha	..60	..55	..50	..55	..50	..45
Nicaragua	..60	..55	..50	..55	..50	..45
Tampico	..67	..62	..57	..65	..62	..57
Tobago	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Tortola	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Trinidad	..45	..40	..35	..47	..41	..35
Vera Cruz	..65	..60	..55	..65	..60	..55
Madeira	..30	..26	..22	..17	..17	..17

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Outward and Homeward by Steamers—and Intercolonially by Sailing Vessels.

PLACES.	OUTWARD.			HOMEWARD.		
	Single After Cabin.	Single Fore Cabin.	Double Fore Cab. per Berth.	Single After Cabin.	Single Fore Cabin.	Double Fore Cab. per Berth.
La Guayra	£50	£45	£40	£50	£45	£40
Porto Cabello	..50	..45	..40	..50	..45	..40
Honduras	..60	..55	..50	..60	..55	..50

The difference in the rates of Passage Money between After and Fore Cabins refers merely to the position of the Sleeping Cabin; in all other respects the Passengers will be precisely on the same footing.

Arrangements, on reasonable terms, may be made by Invalids or others desirous to take the round of the Voyage.

TABLES OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

AT and FROM each Port.

Shewing the regular course of each Atlantic Steamer, from Southampton and back to Southampton, when not diverted by casualty, or orders from the Company's Superintendents abroad.

By this Table it is understood that the *Reindeer* performs the Route from Grenada to Demerara and back to Grenada; and that the *City of Glasgow* performs the Route from Grenada to Trinidad and back to Grenada.

The hours for Arrival and Departure will always be as shown; but the dates only apply to the month of 30 days: when the month has 31 days, the dates will be one day earlier than stated in this Table.

STEAMER OF 2ND OF EACH MONTH.

DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
.....	2nd 6 P.M.	Southampton	.....	.....
9th Midnight	10th 6 A.M.	Madeira	1,287	1,287
23rd Midnight	24th Midnight	Barbadoes	2,610	3,897
25th 6 P.M.	26th 6 A.M.	Grenada	140	4,037
26th 6 P.M.	26th 8 P.M.	St. Vincent	78	4,115
26th Midnight	27th 2 A.M.	St. Lucia	53	4,168
27th 7 A.M.	27th 9 A.M.	Martinique	45	4,213
27th 2 P.M.	27th 4 P.M.	Dominique	40	4,253
27th 9 P.M.	27th 11 P.M.	Guadaloupe	45	4,298
28th 6 A.M.	28th 8 A.M.	Antigua	70	4,368
28th Noon.	28th 2 P.M.	Montserrat	32	4,400
28th 6 P.M.	28th 8 P.M.	Nevis	33	4,433
28th 10 P.M.	28th Midnight	St. Kitt's	11	4,444
29th 2 P.M.	29th 4 P.M.	Tortola	128	4,572

STEAMER OF THE 2ND OF THE MONTH—continued.

DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
29th 6 P.M.	1st 6 P.M.	St. Thomas†	23	4,605
2nd 6 A.M.	2nd Noon.	Porto Rico -	65	4,670
2nd Midnight	3rd 6 A.M.	St. Thomas -	65	4,605
3rd 9 A.M.	3rd 11 A.M.	Tortola -	23	4,572
4th 4 A.M.	4th 6 A.M.	St. Kitt's -	128	4,444
4th 8 A.M.	4th 9 A.M.	Nevis -	11	4,433
4th 1 P.M.	4th 2 P.M.	Montserrat -	33	4,400
4th 6 P.M.	4th 8 P.M.	Antigua -	32	4,368
5th 6 A.M.	5th 7 A.M.	Guadaloupe -	70	4,298
5th Noon.	5th 1 P.M.	Dominique -	45	4,253
5th 6 P.M.	5th 8 P.M.	Martinique -	40	4,213
6th 4 A.M.	6th 6 A.M.	St. Lucia -	45	4,168
6th 2 P.M.	6th 4 P.M.	St. Vincent -	53	4,115
7th 6 A.M.	11th 6 A.M.	Grenada* -	73	4,037
14th Midnight	15th 6 A.M.	Jacmel -	720	4,757
16th Noon.	16th 6 P.M.	Jamaica -	255	5,012
19th 6 A.M.	19th Noon.	Santa Martha -	440	5,452
19th Midoight	20th 6 A.M.	Carthage -	105	5,557
21st 6 P.M.	22nd 6 A.M.	Chagres -	280	5,837
23rd 6 P.M.	24th 6 P.M.	Nicaragua -	240	6,077
26th 6 A.M.	26th 6 P.M.	Chagres -	240	5,837
28th 6 P.M.	29th 6 A.M.	Carthage -	280	5,557
29th Midnight	30th Noon.	Santa Martha -	105	5,452
2nd 6 P.M.	3rd 6 P.M.	Jamaica* -	440	5,012
4th Midnight	7th 6 A.M.	St. Jago de Cuba -	190	5,202
8th Noon.	9th Noon.	Jamaica -	190	5,012
11th Noon.	11th 6 P.M.	Jacmel -	255	5,267
14th Midnight	15th 6 A.M.	Porto Rico -	388	5,655
15th 6 P.M.	16th 6 A.M.	St. Thomas* -	65	4,605
21st 6 A.M.	22nd 6 A.M.	Bermuda† -	845	5,450
26th 6 A.M.	27th 6 A.M.	Nassau -	775	6,225
29th 6 A.M.	30th 6 A.M.	Havana -	360	6,585
4th 6 A.M.	17th 6 A.M.	Jamaica* -	740	5,012
18th Noon.	20th Noon.	St. Jago de Cuba -	190	5,202
21st 6 P.M.	24th Noon.	Jamaica -	190	5,012
26th Noon.	26th 6 P.M.	Jacmel -	255	5,267
29th Midnight	30th 6 A.M.	Porto Rico -	388	5,655
30th 6 P.M.	1st 6 A.M.	St. Thomas* -	65	4,605
14th 6 A.M.	15th 6 A.M.	Fayal -	2,249	6,854
22nd 6 P.M.	.....	Southampton -	1,373	.....
.....	Total	time out 140 days.	16,906	Miles.

* Meets Steamer from England. † Meets Steamer to England.

STEAMER OF THE 17TH OF EACH MONTH.

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DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
.....	17th 6 P.M.	Southampton -	.....	.....
24th Midnight	25th 6 A.M.	Madeira -	1,287	1,287
8th Midnight	9th Midnight	Barbadoes -	2,610	3,897
10th 6 P.M.	11th 6 A.M.	Grenada -	140	4,037
11th 6 P.M.	11th 8 P.M.	St. Vincent -	78	4,115
11th Midnight	12th 2 A.M.	St. Lucia -	53	4,165
12th 7 A.M.	12th 9 A.M.	Martinique -	45	4,213
12th 2 P.M.	12th 4 P.M.	Dominique -	40	4,253
12th 9 P.M.	12th 11 P.M.	Guadaloupe -	45	4,293
13th 6 A.M.	13th 8 A.M.	Antigua -	70	4,363
13th Noon.	13th 2 P.M.	Montserrat -	32	4,400
13th 6 P.M.	13th 8 P.M.	Nevis -	33	4,433
13th 10 P.M.	13th Midnight	St. Kitt's -	11	4,444
14th 2 P.M.	14th 4 P.M.	Tortola -	128	4,572
14th 6 P.M.	16th 6 P.M.	St. Thomas† -	23	4,605
17th 6 A.M.	17th Noon.	Porto Rico -	65	4,670
17th Midnight	18th 6 A.M.	St. Thomas -	65	4,605
18th 9 A.M.	18th 11 A.M.	Tortola -	23	4,572
19th 4 A.M.	19th 6 A.M.	St. Kitt's -	128	4,444
19th 8 A.M.	19th 9 A.M.	Nevis -	11	4,433
19th 1 P.M.	19th 2 P.M.	Montserrat -	33	4,400
19th 6 P.M.	19th 8 P.M.	Antigua -	32	4,368
20th 6 A.M.	20th 7 A.M.	Guadaloupe -	70	4,298
20th Noon.	20th 1 P.M.	Dominique -	45	4,253
20th 6 P.M.	20th 8 P.M.	Martinique -	40	4,213
21st 4 A.M.	21st 6 A.M.	St. Lucia -	45	4,168
21st 2 P.M.	21st 4 P.M.	St. Vincent -	53	4,115
22nd 6 A.M.	26th 6 A.M.	Grenada* -	78	4,037
29th Midnight	30th 6 A.M.	Jacmel -	720	5,267
1st Noon.	3rd Noon.	Jamaica -	255	5,012
7th Midnight	10th 6 P.M.	Havana† -	740	6,583
15th Noon.	16th Noon.	Vera Cruz -	810	7,393
17th 6 P.M.	22nd 6 P.M.	Tampico -	205	7,598
23rd Midnight	3rd 6 A.M.	Vera Cruz -	205	7,393
8th 6 P.M.	11th Midnight	Havana* -	810	6,583
13th Midnight	14th Midnight	Nassau -	360	6,225
18th Midnight	21st Noon.	Bermuda* -	775	5,450
7th 6 P.M.	.....	Southampton -	3,019	.....
Total time out, 110 days -			13,182	Miles.

* Meets Steamer from England. † Meets Steamer to England.

the *Actaeon*, lost in 1844.

In addition, three schooners – the *Larne*, *Lee*, and *Liffey* – were employed on minor branch lines, such as from Havana to Belize, British Honduras.

Other small sailing vessels were occasionally chartered locally to operate on short routes if, for one reason or another, no company-owned vessels were available.

The mails left Southampton twice a month, and the great majority of places received and sent letters by both mails, as shown in the tables.

It is interesting to note that the home port of Southampton, only three hours from London by railway, and far closer than the original mail port of Falmouth, two days away by stagecoach, was still undeveloped. No dock was yet available for the steamers, which anchored about five miles out and were served by the company's steam tender *Princess Victoria*. In fact, the steamers were only able to dock at three places abroad – St George's, Grenada; Kingston, Jamaica; and the Naval dockyard at

Ireland Island, Bermuda – at all of which they took on coal. Elsewhere, even at St Thomas at this time, the steamers anchored off the towns at distances varying from “close in” (a few hundred yards) to as far as seven or eight miles (beyond the bar at Tampico). At nine ports, the steamer's own boats took the mail and passengers ashore at no charge. At four ports, sometimes the ship's boats and sometimes boats from shore, for a fee, were used. At eleven ports, shore boats only were used, the charges being negotiated beforehand each time. In most places, there was a small wharf or pier, but at Plymouth, Montserrat, and La Guayra, Venezuela, at this time, local boats took the mails, passengers, and their luggage through the surf onto a beach, and sometimes the sea was too rough to land at all. At Chagres, New Grenada (present-day Panama), canoes took them up the river to Gorgone or Cruces, depending on the season and river currents – a trip that could take 18 to 36 hours. At English Harbour, Antigua, and Tampico, Mexico, the local

INTERCOLONIAL.**TRINIDAD ROUTE—One Steamer every 15 Days.**

Starting at 6 P.M. on the 25th day after the 2nd and 17th of each Month.

DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
.....	27 & 12, 6 P.M.	From Grenada - -	.....	4,037
28 & 13, 6 P.M.	7 & 22, 6 A.M.	To Trinidad - -	94	4,131
7 & 22, 6 P.M.	8 & 23, noon	„ Grenada - -	94	4,037
9 & 24, 6 P.M.	.....	„ Barbadoes - -	140	3,897

DEMERARA ROUTE—One Steamer every 15 Days.

Starting at Midnight on the 22nd day after the 2nd and 17th of each Month.

DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
.....	24 & 9, Mid.	From Barbadoes - -	.....	3,897
25 & 10, 6 P.M.	25 & 10, Mid.	To Tobago* - -	130	4,027
28 & 13, 6 A.M.	5 & 20, Noon	„ Demerara - -	320	4,347
7 & 22, noon	7 & 22, P.M.	„ Tobago* - -	320	4,027
8 & 23, 6 A.M.	.....	„ Grenada - -	85	4,037

LA GUAYRA ROUTE—One Schooner every 30 Days.

Starting at 6 A.M. on the 24th day after the 2nd of each Month.

DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
.....	26th 6 A.M.	From Grenada - -	.....	4,037
29th 6 P.M.	30th 6 A.M.	To La Guayra - -	320	4,357
30th Midnight	2nd Midnight	„ Porto Cabello - -	68	4,425
4th Midnight	5th Noon.	„ La Guayra - -	68	4,357
10th Noon.	15th 6 P.M.	„ St Thomas - -	480	4,605
26th 6 A.M.	26th 6 A.M.	„ Grenada - -	420	4,037

HONDURAS ROUTE—One Schooner every 30 Days.

Starting at Noon on the 30th day after the 2nd of each Month.

DATES.		PLACES.	Miles from place to place.	Miles from England.
Arrival.	Departure.			
.....	8th Noon.	From Havana - -	.....	6,583
18th Midnight	20th Midnight	To Belize, Honduras	500	7,083
1st Noon.	8th Noon.	„ Havana - -	500	6,583

* Courland Bay.

pilot boats were used – summoned, if necessary, by the firing of a gun.

At Bermuda, where the use of a pilot was mandatory and arrivals and departures could only be made during daylight hours, arriving mails and some passengers were usually taken ashore at St Georges by the pilot boat, returning after taking the pilot out. The departing mails and some passengers were taken out by the pilot boat when it went to pick up the pilot at Five Fathom Hole. However, many passengers embarked or disembarked at Ireland Island, from where there was a ferry service to Hamilton.

The passenger fares reflect the distances sailed by the steamers from and to England. For example, the fare to Bermuda was higher than that from Bermuda, because on the outward voyage the ships went first to the West Indies, whereas on the homeward voyage they sailed either directly to England or with only one call (at Fayal, Azores).

The schedules shown here are those under the

contract of July 1843 and survived unchanged until November 1847. However, they could not always be followed because of bad weather, engine breakdowns, or other accidents, or because the vessels had to wait at exchange ports to connect with other steamers, which might have been delayed.

The postal table (shown on the cover of the journal) provides the number of monthly mails, the postal rates, the number of days for deliveries from and to England, and the length of time available for writing replies.

One illustration in the book shows the cabin plan of a typical large steamer, the *Tweed*. This steamer was later wrecked, on 12 February 1847, on the uncharted Alacran Reefs, north of Yucatan, bound from Havana to Vera Cruz. The captain's cabin was on the starboard side of the main deck, with the Admiralty agent's inside cabin facing it. The Admiralty agent was in charge of the mails, and the bags were almost certainly stored in a small room marked "Parcels," just forward of the stairs. When the mails were very large, some bags are believed to have had to be stored in the agent's own cabin. The guide book clearly states that passengers' luggage required during the voyage was to be placed only in the cabins. All other luggage was to be stored in the hold, to which passengers could have access, if necessary, upon request. The "Parcels" room was thus not available to the passengers but, as stated above, was almost certainly used to store the mail bags.

Other information on the individual islands and ports of call is somewhat variable. Details of landing requirements, passports and visas, if required, and customs regulations are given, as is information about the availability of hotels and boarding houses. Population, size of the local garrisons, annual shipping, values of exports and imports are usually given for British colonies, as are the names of local newspapers and, more rarely, average wages and prices of provisions.

Some 20 pages, even at this early date, are devoted to discussions on the possibilities of building a canal across the isthmus of Panama, the river and lake of Nicaragua, or the isthmus of Tehuantepec, giving the advantages and disadvantages of each.

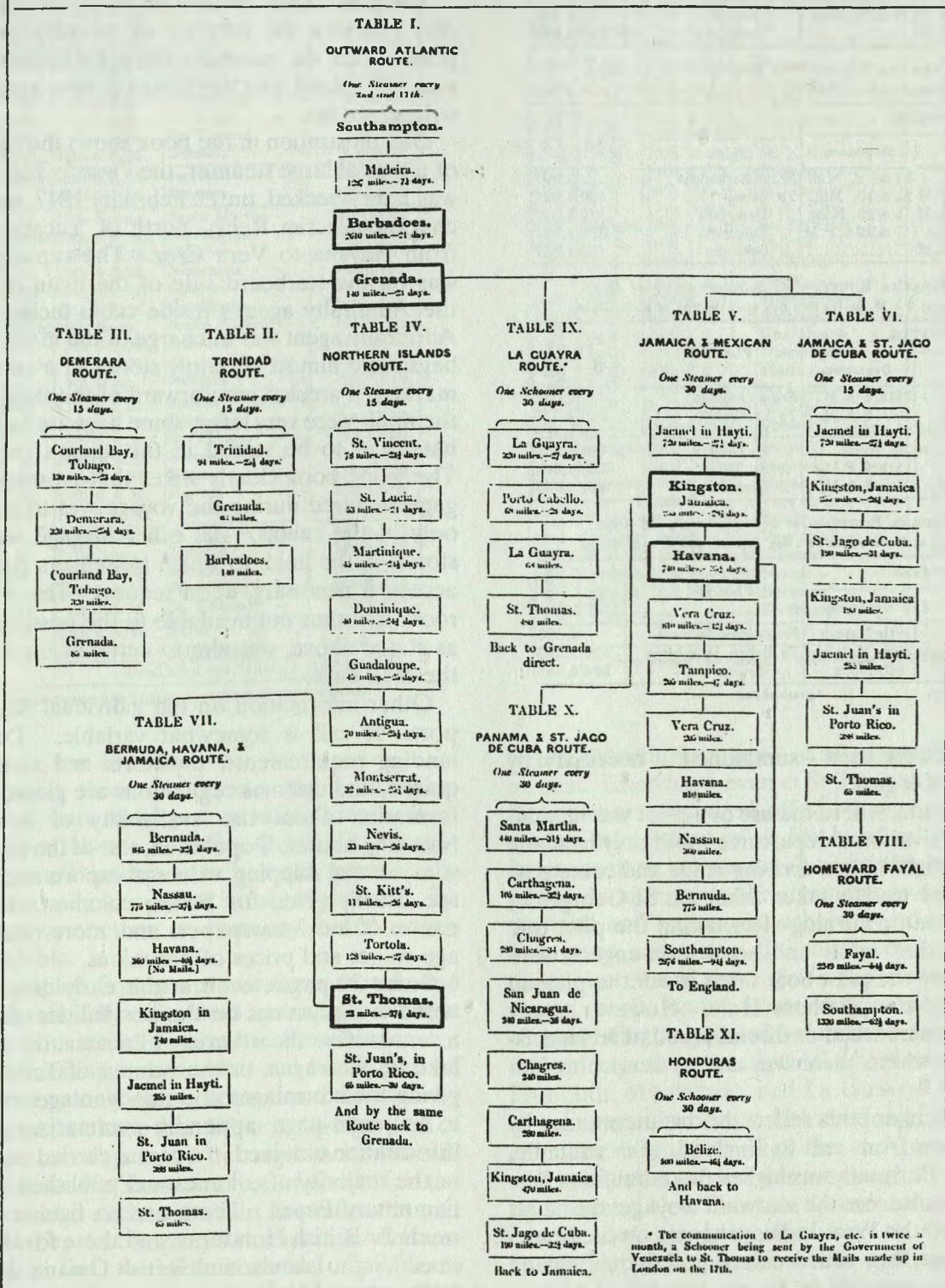
An eight-page appendix summarizes detailed information obtained in a census carried out in 1844 in the majority of colonies and published in a Parliamentary Paper. There are no figures for Bermuda or British Honduras; and those for the Bahamas, Virgin Islands, and British Guiana date from 1841, when their latest censuses were taken.

Finally, a second appendix lists the amounts of

exports to the United Kingdom from each colony in 1844 of sugar, molasses, rum, coffee, and cocoa. It is not known if the Royal Mail Steam Packet

Co. continued to publish new editions of their guide book in later years. If they did, these would be of equal, if not greater, interest.

PLAN OF ROUTES OF THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY'S VESSELS;
Shewing the Distances from place to place, and Time from England.



Update on Early Dominica Post Offices

by ROBERT WYNSTRA

Since the publication of the original article on early Dominica post offices (see *BCPJ*, March and June 1991), a number of Group members have come forward to suggest new areas of inquiry. The following is a brief summary of this ongoing effort to unravel the story of the beginnings of the rural posts in Dominica.

Crowned-Circle 'PAID AT DOMINICA'

It appears that the crowned-circle 'PAID AT DOMINICA' handstamp is somehow connected to the village postal system. First issued about 1845, the handstamp is known used some 30 to 40 years later on early low-value Dominica postage stamps.

Reported examples, especially a strip of 1882-83 bisects on piece, struck with the crowned-circle Paid mark (Figure 1), point to its use as a canceller. There is virtually no evidence to support the long-held notion that it served as a surcharge during shortages of higher values.



Figure 1

Group member John Tyacke reports use of the handstamp on loose stamps, including SG4, 11, 15, and 21. These ½d and 1d issues were in use during a period spanning approximately 1877 to 1887.



Figure 2



Figure 3

The Paid mark is not known used on higher values or on cover. Shortages of higher values appear unlikely to have occurred during this period. In fact, during March 1886 both the 6d and 1 shilling values were in such large supply that they were overprinted for ½d and 1d usages.

The Robson Lowe volume on Leeward Islands reports that the mark was probably "used for local postage on letters addressed overseas, part of the postage being prepaid in cash." Tyacke speculates that "country post office letters (no high denominations being available) going overseas had the prepayment of overseas postage confirmed at Roseau by cancelling with the crowned circle paid at Dominica."

Three examples of the Paid mark overstriking a village manuscript cancel have been recorded – Portsmouth, February 7, 1882; Colihaut, January 3, 1879 (Figure 2); and Colihaut, December 9, 1886 (Figure 3). The mark presumably was applied at Fort Young during the police period of postal administration and then transferred to the General Post Office in Roseau during the early civilian administration. Possibly the practice died out during the late 1880s as the 2½d value needed to pay the overseas rate became available in the village post offices.

Early Civilian Postmasters

On June 3, 1886, the *Dominica Official Gazette* formally announced the appointments of several deputy postmasters: Louis Delsol at Soufriere, Lazarus Jacobs at Colihaut, E. J. Diggs at Portsmouth, L. Royer at Vieille Case, H. B. Leslie at Wesley, L. A. Mangere at Laplaine, and Roger Blanc at Grand Bay. The name of Peter Jno. Charles, who was the original appointee at St Joseph, was omitted from the published listing. Other sources confirm that Charles died sometime between the date of his appointment and the official announcement. By July, J. B. Basil was in place at St Joseph as the new deputy postmaster.

The exception to this new civilian scheme was the office at Rosalie, which remained under temporary control of the local police constable. Finally, on January 1, 1887, Mrs M. E. Girandel, the mistress of the newly opened local school, was

Table 1 Inventory of Dominica Village Cancels

	Police	Civilian	Leeward Is.	Unknown	Total
Castle Bruce	2	—	—	0	2
Colihaut	7	2	0	0	9
Coulibistrie	—	—	0	0	0
Delices	—	—	0	0	0
Dublanc	—	—	0	0	0
Felicite	1	—	—	0	1
Grand Bay	0	1	0	0	1
Laplaine	—	1	0	0	1
Mahaut	—	—	0	0	0
Pointe Michel	0	—	0	0	0
Portsmouth	6	28	0	2	36
Rosalie	4	1	0	0	5
St Joseph	4	2	1	1	8
Soufriere	0	0	0	0	0
Vieille Case	0	7	4	0	11
Wesley	16	21	21	0	58

— The office was not open during this period; 0 = no example recorded.

formally appointed deputy postmaster for Rosalie.

The initial salary for these new deputy postmasters was set at three pounds per year. The postmasters were directly authorized to sell ½d and 1d stamps. Depleted stocks of stamps could be replenished only up to a total value of 5 shillings.

Portsmouth 'A07'

As noted previously, the recorded manuscript cancellations for Portsmouth come to a sudden halt with an example dated July 6, 1887. The first Portsmouth datestamp, however, did not make its appearance until 1893. One explanation for this hiatus centers on the two horizontal 'A07' obliterators issued to the General Post Office at Roseau respectively on April 14 and April 28, 1858. These horizontal obliterators were superseded in Roseau during 1879 by a new vertical A07. The vertical mark continued in use there as a primary canceller into the early 1900s.

Of the two horizontal marks, the one issued on April 14, 1858 apparently continued in use at Roseau through 1882 and possibly as late as 1886 (Figure 4). Impressions from this mark are clear and show no damage even on late use. The best guess is that this horizontal A07 was occasionally used during 1879 to 1886 as a backup to the main vertical canceller.

The second horizontal A07, issued on April 28,

1858, can be identified by the close spacing between the 'A' and the '0' (Figure 5). Late impressions show that part of the third horizontal bar at the bottom is missing. Also, on late impressions the two vertical bars on the left side have a distinct "S" shape. Probably this device suffered damage in a fire or other accident sometime prior to the 1880s.

As noted in the original article, this second-type

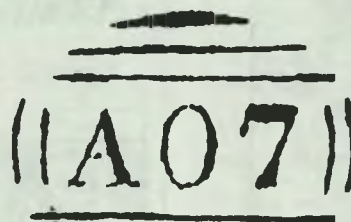


Figure 4

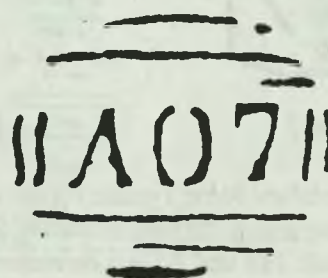


Figure 5

Table 2 — Range of Dates of Manuscript Cancellations of Dominica

	EDK	LDK
Castle Bruce	September 2, 1875	August 17, 1880
Colihaut	January 3, 1879	January 16, 1889
Felicite	August 12, 1885	—
Grand Bay	April 27, 1887	—
Laplaine	March-August 1886	—
Portsmouth	March 3, 1876	July 6, 1887
Rosalie	February 20, 1886	July 23, 1888
St Joseph	August 7, 1876	October 1890 or later
Vieille Case	March 22, 1887	August 7, 1900
Wesley	July 30, 1875	July 25, 1897

horizontal A07 was in use as a canceller at Portsmouth by July 31, 1897. Several covers dated through 1902 carry both the A07 and the Portsmouth datestamp. With no earlier covers so far recorded, the search continues for clues to its probable use at Portsmouth prior to 1897, possibly as early as 1887. John Tyacke has even suggested 1886 as the date, coincident with the transfer from police to civilian control.

Castle Bruce

A large grouping of Dominica revenue cancels provided by Group members Cyril Bell and Michael Medicott has cast considerable doubt that any use of 'CB' on a loose stamp can be attributed to Castle Bruce. The revenues stamps show numerous examples of 'CB' and 'CBD'. These apparently stand for "Colonial Bank" and "Colonial Bank Dominica." At this point, only the two recorded covers can definitely be attributed to Castle Bruce.

'D.P.' in Oval



Figure 6

Evidence suggests the possibility that a handstamp with 'D.P.' inside an oval was in use at one of the village post offices or at the Fort Young police station in the early period of police control (Figure 6). Speculation about this elusive handstamp suggests that 'D.P.' may be an abbreviation for "Department of Police" or "Dominica Police." The handstamp has been recorded only on the 1d stamp with CC watermark and 12½ perforation (SG1), which was in use from 1874 to about 1877.

Updated Survey Results

Based on additional information received since the original article was submitted for publication, the latest survey of recorded village manuscript cancels is shown in Table 1.

Dates of Use

The range of dates for the various Dominica manuscript cancellations, based on current information, is shown in Table 2.

Acknowledgments

A number of Group members were especially helpful in their responses to the original article on the early Dominica post offices. Special thanks are due to John Tyacke, whose detailed responses opened up several new areas for investigation. Bill Ashley once again supplied important information from his storehouse of documents from archives in Dominica and London. Cyril Bell, Mike Spaven, Michael Medicott, Barry Friedman, and Peter Jaffé also provided valuable new clues for unraveling the remaining puzzles surrounding the development of the rural posts in Dominica.

References

- Robson Lowe, *The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps*, volume VI, "Leeward Islands."
- Robson Lowe Auctions, *Dominica*, London, March 12, 1975 (Nabarro sale).
- Phillips Auctions, *The Beaver Creek Collection of Dominica*, London, November 17, 1988.

The Jamaica 6d Pictorial Issue, 1921-27

by KENNETH BOLTON

The December 1992 issue of the *London Philatelist* contained an article by Bob Swarbrick on the two printings of the Port Royal issue. Since I consider the date of issue of the longer format to be incorrect, I have put pen to paper in an effort to stimulate further research into this particular value.

Using a travelling microscope, or alternatively vernier calipers, I too have accurately measured approximately 100 stamps of the Port Royal type, and I agree with Bob's conclusion that there are two distinct length formats but that the length of the vignette remains constant if one allows for the paper stretch during the printing process. The short-format stamps in my collection have an overall length varying between 45.04 and 45.86 mm with an arithmetic mean length of 45.37 mm, the vignette length varying between 41.36 and 41.90 mm and an arithmetic mean length of 41.59 mm. In addition, I have two copies with the 'SPECIMEN' overprint, these having an overall length of 44.92 and 45.09 mm, respectively. Since the plate was set five by eight, then over five stamps the effective sheet width would be 226.85 mm, if one assumes the arithmetic mean length of 45.37 mm. Using similar measuring techniques on the much scarcer long format, the overall length was found to vary between 46.50 and 46.76 mm, with an arithmetic mean length of 46.64 mm, while the vignette length varies between 41.60 and 41.86 mm, with an arithmetic mean length of 41.69 mm. Using the same premise as for the short format, the effective sheet width would be 233.20 mm – a difference of 6.35 mm.



Figure 1

Let us now consider the date at which the long-format stamps made their initial appearance. While I would not dispute the fact that the block of four in the Royal Collection has the added note that "this was from a delivery made on June 30th 1927 and consisting of 696 sheets at 20 per sheet," the long-format stamp was in use prior to this date. The example shown in Figure 1 has an overall length of 46.52 mm and a vignette length of 41.86 mm, and is clearly postmarked June 1926.

No reference has been made to the suppressed Abolition of Slavery issue that was intended for release in June 1921 – an issue for which specimens had been distributed prior to suppression. Here we find that from the outset there were two different length formats in that the Crown C.A. example in my collection has an overall length of 45.10 mm with a vignette length of 41.92 mm, while the Script C.A. example has an overall length of 46.73 mm and a vignette length of 41.88 mm. The fact that two different format plates were produced is intriguing but can be attributed to the individual impressions being spaced slightly wider apart in the case of the long-format variety.

At first glance, the block shown in Figure 2 would appear to be "normal," but in fact stamps 4 and 9 are of the short format, and stamps 5 and 10 are of the long format. Stamps 4 and 9 have an overall length of 45.56 mm and a vignette length of 41.86 mm, while stamps 5 and 10 have an overall length of 46.70 mm and a vignette length of 41.86 mm. In addition, stamps 4 and 9 have 30 full pin perforation holes, while stamps 5 and 10 have 31 full holes. Although the length of 46.70 mm is only 0.06 mm different from the arithmetic mean value of 46.64 mm for the long format, it has been suggested that the longer length is due to a "perforation jump." This explanation seems clearly unsatisfactory due to the fact that the perforation holes themselves are cleanly punched and that the vignette is reasonable well centred: in my view, if the long format was simply due to the extra perforation hole, then the vignette would be offset by approximately 1.50 mm.

I fully appreciate that if we consider the accepted methods of producing plates, then this particular block should not exist. Should any member have any thoughts as to how this particular block might have origin-



Figure 2

nated, I would be pleased to receive their expert opinion. Please write me at 55 Church St., Harle Syke, Burnley, Lancs., U.K.

[Note: This article expands upon the brief notes on this stamp that appeared under "Jamaica Jottings" in the December 1992 issue of the journal.]

Type	Range in mm	Mean length in mm	Actual length in mm	Remarks
Overall length				
Abolition of Slavery	—	—	45.10	Crown CA wmk
	—	—	46.73	Script CA wmk
Port Royal	45.04 to 45.86	45.37	—	short format
" "	46.50 to 46.76	46.64	—	long format
" "	—	—	46.52	long format, used June 1926
" "	—	—	45.56	block of four, stamps 4 and 9
" "	—	—	46.70	block of four, stamps 5 and 10
Vignette length				
Abolition of Slavery	—	—	41.92	Crown CA wmk
	—	—	41.88	Script CA wmk
Port Royal	41.36 to 41.90	41.59	—	short format
" "	41.60 to 41.86	41.69	—	long format
" "	—	—	41.86	long format, used June 1926
" "	—	—	41.86	block of four, stamps 4 and 9
" "	—	—	41.86	block of four, stamps 5 and 10

Bermuda: A Short-Lived Soldiers' and Seamen's Privilege Rate

by G. A. OSBORN

The illustrated seaman's privilege letter (Figure 1), once in the collection of the late George Ulrich, has now been researched, and what it revealed is a short-lived soldiers' and seamen's rate not hitherto recorded.

It is, of course, general knowledge that the penny privilege rate to England had long been established. For soldiers' and seamen's letters sent via New York, the rate of 2d (the extra penny being credited to the United States) was introduced in 1880, and this is well set out in Chapter 7 of Ludington's book on Bermuda. An example is shown in Figure 2.

The cover in Figure 1, prepaid 1½d, raised eyebrows, but I was fortunate enough to be in possession of the Bermuda Almanack of 1892. On page 4 of that reliable publication is a summary of postal rates and the following note: "Franked letters from soldiers or seamen of the Royal Navy or letters addressed to soldiers or seamen may be sent by mail via New York at 1½d. each from 1st October, 1891."

The following year's almanac, that of 1893, reads: "Franked letters from soldiers or seamen of the Royal Navy or letters addressed to soldiers or seamen may be sent by mail via New York 1d. each." It must be borne in mind that the almanac was prepared during the course of one year so as to be published and on sale at the commencement of the next named year. So, together these two almanacs imply that the soldiers' and seamen's earlier rate of 2d via New York to Britain was reduced by a half-penny from 1st October 1891 and by a further half-penny to 1d at least by 1st January 1893.

To obtain confirmation and more precise information, I searched the G.P.O. Records in London and turned up the relevant file of correspondence between London and the Governor of Bermuda. This produced an interesting sidelight on the October 1891 reduction of normal postage from Bermuda to Britain from 4d to 2½d having been delayed because of the reluctance of the Bermuda Post Office to forgo the revenue! Most of the

British West Indies had enjoyed the lower rate from the beginning of 1891, but Bahamas was another exception, as the reduction in that colony was effective on 1st May of that year.

But that correspondence file did not contain any mention of the soldiers' and seamen's rate. All I could find in other files was that the 1d concessional rate was subject to increase when such mail was routed through a foreign country. Some examples were given, but no mention of Bermuda privilege mail sent via New York.

Research was then switched to Bermuda and the files of the Royal Gazette. Colonial Post Office notices appeared from time to time, including that relating to the reduction in the normal rate mentioned above (Figure 3). But again, no mention of the soldiers' and seamen's rate. Perhaps the post-



Figure 1

letter was posted at Ireland Island on 23rd December 1891 to catch the mail closing at Hamilton at 11 a.m. the next day. For further evidence that this is not an overpaid 1d letter by direct service to England, I quote from the same Annual Report: "All Bermuda mails are now carried to New York under the new contract with the Quebec Steamship Company." Lacking any annotation that it was to be routed otherwise, there remains no doubt that this

letter was sent via New York, and at the correct rate then in force.

Hence, two new facts have been added to the well-researched postal history of Bermuda: 1) the soldiers' and seamen's privilege rate on letters to Britain via New York was lowered from 2d to 1½d on 1st October 1891; 2) a further reduction to 1d was made on 1st January 1892.

New Issues of the Caribbean Area

by CLIFF J. ABRAM

Having assumed the duties of *BCPJ* columnist for new issues of the Caribbean area, I would like to tell you of my ideas to revamp this section of the journal. It is my feeling that the new issues should not only be presented as a listing but should also be accompanied by comments and thoughts regarding those issues. In that regard, I invite each of you to please make comments or suggestions that you feel will add to the column.

Letters have been mailed to the various bureaux within the Caribbean area and to agencies representing them, requesting that they provide me with continuous data on all new issues. They are also being asked to provide information on all postal stationery and postal rates. These, I am sure, will be a welcome addition to the column.

This first column will deal with some of the issues released since the column last appeared. As this represents a gap of 18 months, it would be futile to try and catch up on all of those issues.

Going back over that 18-month period, I was struck by the number of subjects that have been shown on the stamps issued. The thematic or topical collector (whichever you prefer) will have had a field day. Among the topics depicted on those issues were sports, religion, service organizations, medicine, explorers, art, flora, and fauna. These last two had subjects galore – mushrooms and medicinal plants, butterflies and hummingbirds, to mention but a few.

One subject that really caught my eye (and my fancy) is model trains. It is a fact that none of us are too old to play with model trains, even on paper, or at least to have rekindled an interest in this popular hobby. Three countries in the Caribbean area issued stamps on this theme: Dominica, Grenada, and Guyana.

The Dominica set (eight stamps – 15¢, 25¢, 55¢, 65¢, 75¢, \$1, \$3 – and two \$6 souvenir sheets) portrays model trains from around the world, also manufactured all over the world. The Grenada set

depicts American types of model trains dating from 1907 to 1931. The denominations in this case were 15¢, 25¢, 50¢, 75¢, \$1, \$2, and \$4, plus two souvenir sheets, each with a \$6 stamp. As for the toy trains shown on the Guyana set (eight sheetlets of nine stamps each), they represent the United States, France, Scotland, England, and Germany; however, all the trains depicted were made in Germany. All three sets were designed by William R. Hanson and printed in offset lithography by BDT International Security Printers.

The Royal Air Force celebrated its 75th anniversary in April 1993. A mini-omnibus was prepared, with a number of Caribbean-area countries taking part – Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, and St Kitts among them. The stamps in this series depict different airplanes used by the RAF over the years – the Handley Page Victor, Hawker Hurricane, Supermarine Seaplane, DeHaviland Mosquito, etc.



Among the non-Caribbean countries represented are Ascension, the British Indian Ocean Territories, the Falklands, and Fiji. I was particularly intrigued by one of the B.I.O.T. stamps, which portrays a Bristol Bulldog aircraft with what I believe to be the Gunners stripe on the fuselage. If this is so, it is from No. 6 Squadron, a unit I served with in the late 1940s. No. 6 had been an Army co-op unit during the First World War and had been awarded the Gunners stripe in appreciation of their spotting for artillery units. If anyone can confirm my speculation, I would be most grateful. My address appears in the masthead (p. 39).

Caribbean Round-Up

Compiled by JOHN F. BETHELL

Bahamas: New Machine Cancel



As I live in the Bahamas, it is fitting to start with a new machine cancel used on January 26, 1993 to commemorate International Customs Day. I have asked the Postmaster general for more details on its use - i.e. how long will be in use? - but to date have not received a reply (Figure 1).

Bahamas: Coil Vending Machines

M. H. Ludington sent the following item:

Further to "The Coil Stamps of the Bahamas" by S. Graham Hoey in the journal of December 1991, the enclosed illustrates (Figure 2) a KGV coil stamp used on 'OCT 13, 1931' from a badly adjusted machine. I believe that the early machines were



placed outside the wall of the post office and were unable to withstand the humid climate without constant attention, which they did not always receive. Later the machines were placed inside, which protected them much better. (I questioned the postmaster, Mr. John Saunders, about this. He confirms the above and goes on to say the machines were removed shortly after because of the humidity problems experienced. JFB)

Bermuda: Military Matters During WWI

Mr Ludington also contributed this item:

Regarding the query about military matters in Bermuda by Charles Freeland in the journal for December 1991: according to Bushell's *Handbook*,

1938 edition, the Bermuda contingent in WWI was attached to the 1st Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment, but I do not know where they served in France. The first group of 89 left Bermuda on 1st May 1915 and were in France by 23 June 1915. A second group of 33 left on 19 May 1916 and were in France by 24 September. There were also individual Bermudians who served in other units of the British Army, but Bushell gives no details. As for the infantry garrisons stationed in Bermuda, there is a plaque at Prospect recording the names of all the units from 1701 to 1957. This does not give exact dates of arrival and departure, but only the year dates. The 2nd Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment was in Bermuda in 1918-19 and a wing of the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment from 1919 to 1921.

Anguilla Postal Markings

The items shown here were sent by Ben Ramkissoon.

1967 - 1969

Figure 3a ANGUILLA'S INDEPENDENCE
FROM ST. KITTS-NEVIS

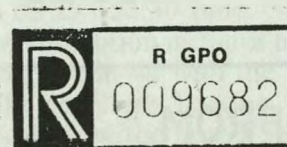


Figure 3b



Figure 3c

On Postal Service

Figure 3d

Figure 3a shows the Anguilla Independence cachet used on 9th January 1969, when the Independence definitive set was released. The handstamp was made by postmaster G. K. Harrigan from a kit. Two handstamps were subsequently made available, and they have been seen in both black and purple. Figure 3b shows a G.B.-type adhesive registration label, simply marked 'R GPO' in blue on white, on a cover dated 12 OCT 1989. Does anyone know when this label was first introduced? Figures 3c and 3d are markings seen on an official GPO envelope printed for and used by the postmaster. This cover is dated 25 AUG 1989.

British Honduras: Prepaid Franking from Belize City

From M. Forand:

A long time ago (1971!), a former member, John A. Riveroll, who was a resident of Corozal, British Honduras, sent the item shown in Figure 4 at the time. Somehow, it slipped through the cracks and was never included in the journal. Mr Riveroll wrote on March 10, 1971: "This is the first time that [this prepaid marking from the G.P.O. in Belize City] has been known to me. It was put on a circular sent out to investigate the need of more telephone services in the country. As it is, only Belize City has an adequate telephone service, they are considering extending the services to the [Corozal] district, which I hope that they will do as we are in desperate need of such a service."

As I have not seen any mention of this franking before now, it is possible it has never been reported until now.

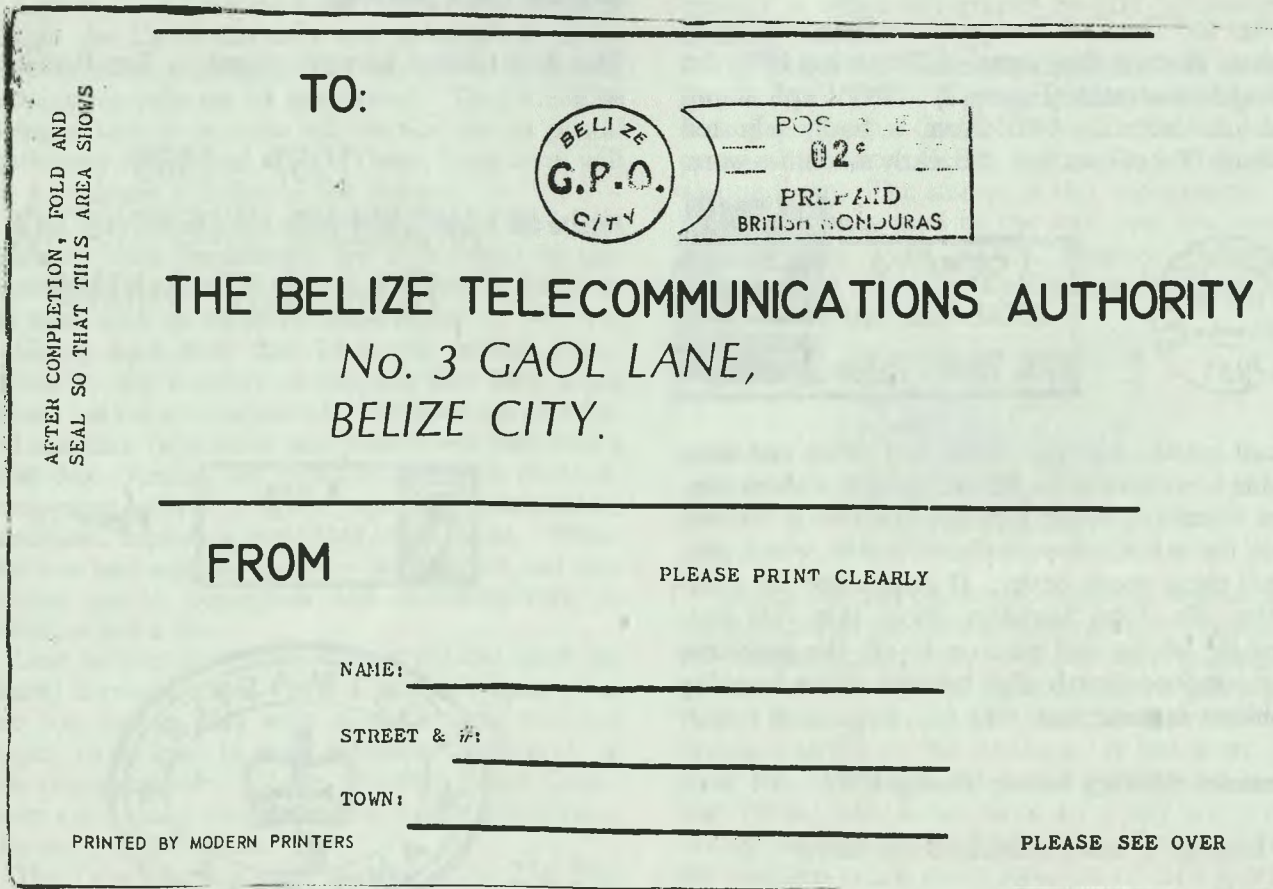


Figure 4

People, Events, and Places

Compiled by M. FORAND

BWISC's 40th Anniversary

The British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC), our sister organization in Britain, will be 40 years old in 1994. This anniversary will be celebrated in several ways:

9 October 1993 (Saturday): "Anniversary Convention" at the Regent Hotel in Leamington Spa (about an 1½ hours from London by train); informal gathering on Friday evening and Sunday morning; Autumn STAMPEX this year will be held on October 12-17, at the usual location (Horticultural Halls, London).

26 February 1994 (Saturday): One-day meeting immediately preceding STAMPEX, to be held in the Derby Room at the Bonnington Hotel (Southampton Row, London), with static displays, a bourse, members' sale table, opinion service table, a BWISC publications table, and a dealer's auction; no charge to members attending.

1-6 March (Tuesday-Sunday): Spring STAMPEX; the BWISC will provide an invited display of approximately 80 frames to cover, as far as possible, all aspects of British West Indies philately.

23 April 23 (Saturday): BWISC annual general meeting and auction at the Bonnington Hotel; this will be followed by a wine and cheese party at a non-philatelic evening to which spouses or companions are specifically invited; there will be a nominal charge for those attending.

11-16 October (Tuesday-Sunday): Autumn STAMPEX; the BWISC will hold a meeting on October 15, at which there will be two invited displays.

Michael Wilson, who provided these details, writes: "The Study Circle will be delighted to see any members of the BCPSG at any of these meetings and get-togethers. Anyone seeking more information on these activities may write to: Comm. Michael R. Wilson, "Timbers," Chequers Lane, Tharston, Norwich, NR15 2YA, U.K.

Philatelic Foundation: the Caribbean Connection

Linn's Stamp News reported in its 12 April edition that a copy of the rarest stamp of Dominica - the

1886 'One Penny' surcharge error (Scott 14, SG 18a), of which only 12 copies are believed to have survived - had been withdrawn from a Christie's Robson Lowe stamp auction in early March when it was discovered that this example had been taken from the Philatelic Foundation's reference collection.

Those who follow developments on the philatelic scene will know that the New York-based Foundation has had to face great difficulties - financial and other - over the past six to nine months, leading to the resignation of its chairman and most of the Trustees, the dismissal of the staff, and the temporary closing of the offices. One of those problems, according to *Linn's* 3 May edition, is the disappearance of 100,000 dollars' worth of stamps (including the Dominica stamp) from the Foundation's reference collection. The matter has been turned over to the judicial authorities in the State of New York.

Despite these difficulties, the publication by the Foundation of Robert G. Stone's long-awaited *A Caribbean Neptune: The Maritime Postal Communications of the Greater and Lesser Antilles in the 19th Century* was due to take place in late May, with its distribution to be handled by a major philatelic literature dealer, according to the May 1993 edition of *Philatelic Focus*, the Foundation's newsletter.

Auction Sales

Stanley Gibbons have just announced that their last sale of the 1992-93 season will feature stamps and postal history of the Cayman Islands and Leeward Islands. The auction will take place at their London offices on 29 and 30 June.

The Caymans section includes many rarities, such as the 1908 2½d on 4d with the surcharge double and a 1900 envelope bearing two Jamaica 1d stamps cancelled by the boxed Stake Bay, Cayman Brac postmark. The Leewards group includes one of only three known blocks of four of the 1897 Jubilee 5s stamp, scarce items among the King George VI set, and a nice section of village postmarks. Further information may be obtained from Stanley Gibbons Auctions Limited, 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX, U.K.

Another interesting sale this month (25-26 June) is that of the William Hart collection by Cavendish Philatelic Auctions. Of special BWI interest are the nearly 50 lots of covers posted by or addressed to Boer POWs in Bermuda in 1901-02. Details from the firm at Sitwell St., Derby DE1 2JP, U.K.

Virgin Islands: War Tax Stamps

by DENIS DANT

The Virgin Islands issued two War Tax stamps. One, the 3d, is known with the watermark inverted. A question that has been puzzling me is: How many sheets are there with this inverted watermark?

It was thought by some that only a half-sheet (60 stamps existed). To date, however, I have been able to establish, using marginal pieces (with selvedge), that there must have been at least four sheets of 120 units. They are all believed to come from plate/cylinder number 6.

Could readers check their Virgin Islands 3d War Tax stamps for inverted watermarks, especially

stamps with margin (selvedge), and as a census project let me know what they have? Does anyone have an inverted-watermark 3d with a plate/cylinder number other than 6? Do you know of any dealer with multiple or margin copies – corner blocks, gutter pieces, etc.?



I will be happy to report the results of this census project in a future issue and help us all reach a better understanding of the total quantity of this variety. My address is: 2422 S.W. 16th Avenue, Portland, OR 97201.

Cayman Islands: A War Tax Variety

by GEORGE L. KING

In early 1987, my wife and I took a cruise through the Caribbean. When our ship called at Georgetown in the Cayman Islands, I sought out the only stamp store in the islands, which was in fact primarily an antique store. I asked the dealer, Charles J. Adams, to show me his older Caymans stamps, and I eventually bought the pair of 1½d/2d War Tax overprinted stamps shown here. Mr Adams also had two full sheets of this stamp in his stock.

The stamp on the left, which has the normal overprint with the sloped serif in the numeral '1', is catalogued as SG 54. In the stamp on the right, the serif in '1' is straight rather than sloped downward. The pair shows clearly that the straight-serif variety is in position 2 of the 10th row of



stamps (these were printed in sheets of 60 – ten rows of six stamps). This is confirmed by photocopies of the two bottom rows of the sheets that Mr Adams sent me after I returned home.

Although the straight-serif variety is quite visible to the naked eye, it was not listed in the major catalogues. In correspondence with Stanley Gibbons catalogue editor David Aggersberg in 1987, he acknowledged that this was a variety worthy of mention, and it has been listed as SG 54b since the 1989 edition of Part 1 of the Gibbons catalogue. Interestingly, there is another variety in this sheet, the missing fraction bar in position 4, row 6 (SG 54a, indicated by the arrow on the left), located not far from the straight-serif variety.



An Unrecorded Handstamp: 'Posted on non-Contract Vessel.'

by M. BILHAUT, FRPSL

The letter shown here was sent by E. Dranger & Co. in early April 1897 from Paramaribo, Dutch Guyana, to 'Messrs L. Poulain & C. Barbier' in Nantes, France. That it was clearly intended to travel by a British ship is shown by the manuscript endorsement, 'Via Plymouth'.

The letter was not cancelled at Paramaribo; it must have been entrusted to the captain of a passing vessel who took it to Barbados, where letters for England via Plymouth were gathered and placed in bags. Upon arrival in Bridgetown, the capital of Barbados, the cover was given to the General Post Office, where it was cancelled on 17 April 1897 by the squared-circle postmark used at that time.

Posted on non-Contract Vessel:

Logically, the 'Posted on non-Contract Vessel'

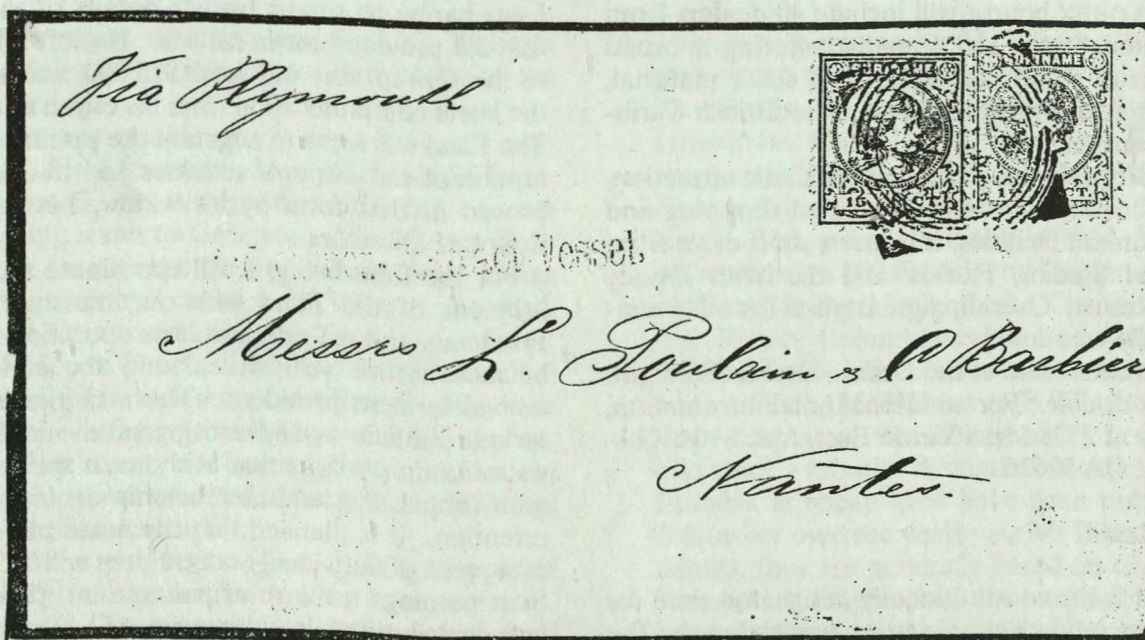
handstamp must have been applied when the letter went through the GPO in Barbados before being placed aboard the British ship that was to take the mails to Europe. The cover has a London transit mark of 28 or 29 April 1897 and a Nantes arrival datestamp of 30 April.

This straight-line handstamp has not been found in Barbados and has not been seen on other Barbados-related covers from this period. However, the 'Posted on British Packet' handstamp seen on

Posted on British Packet

maritime mail is made up of letters a similar font, and this suggests that the mark on the cover shown here is indeed from Barbados. If anyone can throw some light on this mark, I would be pleased to hear from them through the editor.

[Translated by M. Forand]



President's Message

by JAY FREDRICK

1993 Annual Meeting

The BCPSG will hold its annual meeting this year in conjunction with FLOREX 93, an APS-accredited show (part of the Champion of Champions series) that is to take place in Orlando, Florida, on November 5-7.

The show will be at the Omni Hotel Expo Center complex in downtown Orlando. Two groups will be featured among the exhibits this year – the Scandinavian Collectors Club and the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. In addition to the awards given by the FLOREX organization, the BCPSG will provide a range of awards for British Caribbean exhibits, as well as its Byron Cameron Trophy for the best exhibit in this area. Dr Peter McCann, vice president of the Group, will chair the jury, which will also comprise two other BCPSG members, Ann Triggler and Stephen Schumann. Those who wish to exhibit may obtain a prospectus and application form from James A. Estes, Exhibit Chairman, 2663 Derbyshire Road, Maitland, FL 32751-3665.

In addition to the meeting and exhibits, the Group will maintain a welcoming table at the exhibition and a hospitality suite in the host hotel as gathering places for its members. Non-members are invited to drop by. Overall BCPSG on-site arrangements are being coordinated by Mr Lynn M. Cohen, a Group member and Orlando resident.

The FLOREX bourse will include 40 dealers from the United States and Canada, offering a broad spectrum of worldwide stamp and cover material, including strong representation in the British Caribbean countries.

In addition to this particular philatelic attraction, Orlando offers conveniently located shopping and entertainment facilities; it is just a short drive from Universal Studios, Florida and the Walt Disney World Resort. Overall, a great place for a November family vacation!

The FLOREX rate at the Omni Hotel is \$85/night, single or double. For additional hotel information, write me at 2775 Mesa Verde East, Apt. S104, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

Call to Arms!

This Fall is the constitutionally designated time for the democratic election and/or re-election, by the membership, of three persons to the Group's Board

of Trustees for three-year terms. Therefore, in the best interests of the Group, now is the time to step forward to volunteer your potential services or suggest someone else who you feel would be qualified!

The following trustees will continue to serve until elections in 1995 or 1997:

Cyril F. Bell	Michael R. Rego
Charles A. Freeland	Robert V. Swarbrick
Barry Friedman	Michael R. Wilson

Those trustees whose terms expire this year are as follows:

Thomas E. Girdali	Dr Peter P. McCann
Jack Harwood	

Once the election of the Trustees is completed, they have the responsibility for selecting the following six officers:

President	Vice-President
Secretary	Treasurer
International Director	Editor

These officers will serve two-year terms (1994-95). Again, volunteers or suggestions are invited for consideration.

Please submit your name or other suggestions to Jay Fredrick, president (see address on the inside front cover).

Edward F. Addiss Memorial Fund

I am happy to report further details of the Fund that Ed provided for in his will. He left a bequest to the Group that will total \$15,000, according to the latest communication from his estate's attorney. The Fund will serve to augment the public relations aspects of the Group's activities and has been approved in that form by his widow, Lee, and the Board of Directors.

For the time being, I will coordinate the establishment of the Fund with our treasurer, Barry Friedman, and will administer its operations for the balance of this year – i.e., until the end of my second term as president. The activities involved include publicity and advertising, promotional materials, Group participation at shows, a speakers' bureau (hopefully), and membership acquisition and retention. It is planned that the necessary funding in support of individual undertakings will be derived from earnings on the principal amount, plus voluntary contributions in Ed's memory. At some later date, approved expenditure of part of the principal

could be made for a major worthwhile project.

Once the Fund has been formally established and the necessary coordination with the involved committee chairman completed, a more detailed report will be provided.

Those desiring to make contributions to this Fund are requested to send their checks so designated to our treasurer. Further, if readers have any ideas or suggestions relating to our overall public relations effort, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Regional Meeting Planned for SESCAL 93

Members planning to visit SESCAL 93 are cordially invited to attend an informal regional meeting of

the Group at the "Hyatt at Los Angeles Airport" Hotel (6225 West Century Blvd. at Sepulveda). We will be meeting on Saturday, October 9th. Discounted validated parking will be available.

Instead of a single speaker, we will have a "show-and-tell" period by all attendees (members and guests), just like last year's successful event. If you plan to attend, please drop me a postcard outlining the details of your participation.

These regional meetings provide an excellent opportunity to meet with fellow collectors and share knowledge and expertise with them. It has been a primary function of the Group since its inception to foster and encourage such occasions for achieving lasting friendships and personal philatelic growth!

From the Editor's Desk

- Once again, members who are planning to be Caribbean collectors for a long time are encouraged to take up a life membership in the Group, as this will remove the bother of having to renew their membership every year. Many people tend to forget to renew, and this causes headaches and confusion for those who prepare mailing labels, membership lists, etc. Life membership rates, which are very reasonable, appear on the inside front cover of the journal.

- The following has been received from Mary Green, coordinator for the Group's 1995 meeting, which is to be held in Barbados:

- 1 How many members are thinking, however tentatively, of coming to Barbados for the meeting?
- 2 I assume people won't come here and only stay for a few days. How many would be interested in visiting other islands? (I am taking some to Grenada.) Would they fly or sail on a cruise ship or take a West Indian "poor man's" cruise to St Vincent, Trinidad, and Venezuela?
- 3 What are people's interests in Barbados besides rum and the post offices? We have deep-sea fishing, potteries, crafts, hiking tours, nature tours, bird-watching, etc. besides the usual island tours of important old buildings and historical sights.
- 4 Can the members suggest anything they would like to do or see, or do they have any questions? Our temperature at the end of April (tentative date for the meeting) is usually

29-30°, with good brisk winds of 20-30 kph. Very pleasant.

For additional information or suggestions, please write to me at 6 Shandre Close, Rendezvous Terrace, Christ Church, Barbados, W.I. The meeting is less than two years away: let us make sure it will be a great success!

- Robert Swarbrick, our International Director, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, last November, as was François Piat, one of our members from France. Congratulations to both!
- Thanks to Commander M. Bilhaut, FRPSL, another BCPSG member from France, whom I had the pleasure of meeting at Spring Stampex in London last March, I have discovered *Britannica*, the quarterly journal of the Société Philatélique Franco-Britannique (Franco-British Philatelic Society). This group, founded in 1954, brings together close to 400 French and Belgian collectors of Great Britain, Ireland, the Channel Islands, the British Commonwealth, and the United States (the Scandinavian countries have recently been added). Mr Bilhaut (a B.W.I. specialist) is the president of the society, which holds meetings twice a month. A number of articles on the British Caribbean area have been published in *Britannica* over the years. As Mr Bilhaut readily admits, they are generally based on the existing literature in English and are intended mainly to keep SPFB members informed of the more interesting aspects of B.W.I. philately.

- Readers will note a significant increase in new applicants (all of whom, hopefully, will become full members), many of them sponsored by Jay Fredrick. This is the result of a large mailing of the Group's brochure to APS members who have listed British Caribbean countries, singly or together, as a collecting interest. Only a small number of those who have been reached this way have responded, but "direct-mailing" experts will tell you that this number is better than what most marketing approaches of this kind achieve. That is probably because the BCPSG has a far more personal approach than most direct-marketers. We welcome those new members and hope they will find something to learn from their association with the BCPSG and that they will impart their own knowledge to their new colleagues.
- The *BCPJ* continues to receive accolades in the

philatelic community. At the second Canadian philatelic literature exhibition, held in Ottawa in conjunction with "Royal 1993 Royale / ORAPEX" (30 April-2 May), the 1992 run of the journal was awarded a vermeil medal with felicitations of the jury, along with one of four Prix d'Honneur (the only one awarded to a periodical). This is not a trivial award, as there were approximately 240 entries from four continents (about 70 of them periodicals). The jury, chaired by Charles Peterson (who is a judge of philatelic literature at the international level and a member of the FIP literature commission), described the *BCPJ* as "an exceptional journal, packed with specialized material covering the whole gamut of British Caribbean philately," adding that "this publication is in its 33rd year and at the top of its form." The BCPSG is truly blessed in having so many members who make this distinction possible. — *Michel Forand*

Secretary's Report

Compiled by PETER KAULBACK

New Members

The applicants listed in the March 1993 issue of the journal have been admitted to membership in the Group.

New Applicants

AVERY, Susan, P.O. Box HM 598, Hamilton, HMCX, Bermuda; collects Bermuda, Canada, United States, Great Britain, New Zealand, Australia, and British Caribbean; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

BRIDGSTOCK, Guy, 115 Meredith Drive, St Catharines, ON, Canada L2M 6C5; collects Leeward Islands, St Lucia, and general West Indies; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

BURDSALL, Richard E., 608 S. Bennett Avenue, Palatine, IL 60067-6706; collects Barbados, United States, and U.S. officials; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

BURR, Dr I. Tucker, Walpole, NH 03608; collects British West Indies, United States, Great Britain, British Europe, Falkland Islands; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

CONN, Richard F., 2555 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Apt. #216, Washington, DC 20037; collects Bermuda; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

CORROON, Theodora, 106 Greenspring Road, Greenville, DE 19807; collects anything British, particularly Bahamas, Barbados, Antigua, and Great Britain; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

DARLINGTON, Dr Rick, 124 W. 5th Avenue, Stillwater, OK 74074; collects Caribbean, Ethiopia, United Nations, United States; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

DIERCKS, Col. F. O. (Ret.), 9120 Belvoir Woods Parkway, #216, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060; collects United States and Possessions, Canada, British North America, Bermuda, and Great Britain; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

DURHAM, James, 503 Buckboard Court, Richland, WA 99352; collects Jamaica, France, Italy, Germany and colonies, Canada; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

FISHER, John E., 2473 Berryhill Street, Harrisburg, PA 17104-2012; collects Leeward Islands, British Caribbean, British North America, and United States; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

FORREST, John, 10 Thorner Lane, Scarcroft, Leeds, LS14 3AR, United Kingdom; collects cancellations of the British Commonwealth; sponsored by Ian Matheson

FRANK, Leonard, 205 West Moore Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840; collects 19th century St Vincent; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

- GRAUNITZ, Wulf, RR #5, Bolton, ON, Canada L7E 5S1; collects general, used; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick
- KELLY, K. Ed., P.O. Box HM1555, Hamilton HMFx, Bermuda; collects postal history and stamps of Barbuda, Bermuda, St Kitts and Turks Islands; sponsored by Dr J. C. Arnell
- LALLEVÉE, Thierry, 18, rue du 8-Mai, 69110 Sainte-Foy-lès-Lyon, France; philatelic dealer (auctioneer); sponsored by R. V. Swarbrick
- LEBERMAN, Robert C., Star Route South, Rector, PA 15677; collects British Honduras stamps and postal history, and Pennsylvania postal history; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick
- SCHILLING, Jean, 38 Evergreen Lane, Carlisle, MA 01741; collects unused, mint Bermuda; sponsored by M. Forand
- SHOEMAKER, Robert E., 612 Hollen Road, Baltimore, MD 21212; collects Tobago and the postal stationery of British Honduras and British Guiana; sponsored by D. Walker
- SRSTKA, W. J., Jr., 415 North Dakota Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57102-0190; collects United States, British, Germany, Baltics; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick
- STANTON, R. J., Old Rectory, Salmonby, Horn-castle, Lincs. LN9 6PX, U.K.
- WARD, Richard A., 1801 Spring Drive, #L; Louisville, KY 40205; collects Jamaica, Great Britain, New Zealand; sponsored by J. L. Fredrick

Note: Mr Forrest and Mr Kelly are seeking life membership.

Reinstatements

- CRONIN, Ronald
FENELON, Michael
MENUZ, Wayne
WILLIAMS, Howard

Life Memberships

- FREELAND, Charles
MAISEL, Richard
PATTIZ, Henry

Deceased

- COHN, James
JOHNSTON, J. R. Vivian
THOMSON, Alex

*Resignations (R) / Non-Payment of Dues**

- DANZER, Robert C. (R)
FULLERTON, Andrew
HAYNES, Martin
HOLMES, Gilbert
KENNEDY, James
KREMPER, William G.
KRUZEK, Wayne R.
LATTO, Conrad (R)
LEA, W. E.
LEVERTON, Allan
MORRIS, Andrew
MUGGLESTONE, Barbara
POLLARD, Derek
ROBBINS, Colin (R)
ROSS, James
SHARP, Evan

*Some of these, from past years, were inadvertently omitted in previous journals.

Address Changes and Corrections

- BELCHER, S. J.: 37 Hughes Street, Rodbourne, Sindon, Wilts. SN2 2ER, U.K.
- BOYLE, M. R.: add post code SR3 2DE
- BRAINERD, Lyman: change zip code to 86339
- BURKE, Patrick: 16 Roche Gardens, Bletchley, Bucks. MK36 HR
- GOSNEY, Harold: 157 Springhead Gardens, Richmond Hill, ON, Canada L4C 5C3
- GUYER, Jack: 13728, 12th Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98166-1145
- MESCHTER, Elwood: 5801 South Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL 60559
- NEIL, Nigel R. J.: 53 Ullswater Road, Lancaster, LA1 3PS, U.K.
- PICKERING, Vernon: RushIt, Box 11156, St Thomas, VI 00801
- SHAW, Reid L.: P.O. Box 1768, Florence AL 35631
- SUTCLIFFE, A.P.D.: Flat 353, The White House, Regents Park, London, NW1 3UP, U.K.
- WYNNS, John P.: 5762 Jackson Avenue, Rosamond, CA 93560

Note: Does anyone know the current address of Richard Elliott? His March journal has been returned as undeliverable.

The Awards List



Compiled by PAUL LARSEN



AMERISTAMP EXPO 93, April 23–25, Kansas City, Missouri
 ARIPEX 93, January 22–24, 1993, Tucson, Arizona
 AUTUMN STAMPEX 92, October 13–18, 1992, London, U.K.
 MILCOPEX 93, March 5–7, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 ROYAL 93 ROYALE / ORAPEX, April 30–May 2, Ottawa, Canada
 SANDICAL 93, February 19–21, San Diego, California
 SARASOTA NATIONAL 93, February 5–7, Sarasota, Florida
 SPRINGPEX 93, March 6–7, Springfield, Virginia
 WESTPEX 93, April 23–25, San Francisco, California

- Abram, Cliff. "The letter: tracing its path" – ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: silver-bronze
 Arnell, J. C. "From sail to steam on the North Atlantic" – ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: Best postal history (general), gold, Grand Award; *Transatlantic Mail Study Group Newsletter* – ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: silver-bronze (literature)
 Arnell, J. C. and M. H. Ludington. *The Bermuda Packet Mails and the Halifax-Bermuda Mail Service, 1806 to 1886* – ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: silver (literature)
 Bowman, George. "The Rowe aerial achievements – From WIAE to Pan Am, 1927–1931" – WESTPEX 93: vermeil, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors award of honor
 Dickgiesser, Robert W. "Early Bermuda" – AMERISTAMP EXPO 93: gold
 Fernando, Quintus. "Nicaragua, 1862–1899" – SANDICAL 93: APS pre-1900 medal, gold, Grand Award
 Forand, Michel. *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, 1992 – SPRINGPEX 93: Best in class (periodicals), vermeil; ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: vermeil with felicitations, Prix d'Honneur (literature); *Congress Book 1992* – SPRINGPEX 93: Best in class (handbooks), gold, literature Grand Award; ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: vermeil (literature)
 Gallagher, D. Scott. "Kentucky in the civil War" – WESTPEX 93: gold, War Cover Club David Howell memorial award
 Gosney, Harold. "Canada 125" – ROYAL 93 / ORAPEX: certificate
 Greenwood, Simon. "British Honduras to 1920" – AUTUMN STAMPEX 92: BCPSG medal
 Griffiths, John. "Westward expansion of European man in North America: Aided by the Horse" – ARIPEX 93: American Topical Association gold, show gold
 Langabeer, James. "Postal stationery of Bermuda" – SARASOTA NATIONAL 93: silver
 Mack, Millard. "U.S. 3-cent issue of 1939" and "The U.S. 25-cent Trans-Pacific airmail stamp of 1935" – silver-bronze (both exhibits)
 McCann, Peter. "Turks and Caicos Islands postal history" – SARASOTA NATIONAL 93: Postal History Society medal, BCPSG medal, gold, Grand Award
 Ramkissoon, Ben. "Tobago, 1772–1913" – MILCOPEX 93: gold
 Schumann, Stephen. "Labuan postal cards" – AMERISTAMP EXPO 93: gold
 Stern, Jim. "Early Cayman Islands registration, 1901–1937" – ARIPEX 93: vermeil; SARASOTA NATIONAL 93: gold; SANDICAL 93: APS 1900–1940 award, vermeil
 Wynstra, Rob. "Leeward Islands village mail, 1858–1932" – MILCOPEX 93: gold

Note also that the Royal Philatelic Society, London has given its Tilleard Medal to Hugh Wood for his display of Jamaica given before the Society on 6 February 1992. Congratulations to Mr Wood and to all award winners!

Note to Advertisers

Advertising rates are as follows:

	Width	Height	Yearly rate
Full page	7"	9½"	\$125
Half page	7"	4¾"	\$75
Quarter page	3½"	4¾"	\$45
Eighth of a page	3½"	2¾"	\$30

The cost of back-page space, when available, is 10% above the regular rate. One-time ads are accepted at 40% of the yearly rate. The initial advertising copy should be sent to the Advertising Manager along with remittance, but changed copy should be forwarded to the Editor by the following deadlines: for the March issue, 15 January; for the June issue, 15 April; for the September issue, 15 July; for the December issue, 15 October.

Actual-size, camera-ready copy is preferred.

Checks to be made payable to the "British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group." Please forward payment to the Advertising Manager:

Mr Charles E. Cwiakala
1527 South Fairview Avenue
Park Ridge, IL 60008, U S A

Wanted

British Caribbean Philatelic Literature

Collector seeks complete and undamaged copies of the following (originals only) for his collection:

BCPJ, W/N 53 (will purchase complete run if bound)
British Guiana Philatelic Journal, nos. 1, 8-13, 20, 24-37
(will purchase complete run if bound)
BWI Philatelist (1949-58), vol. 1, nos. 1 and 2
Caribbeana, nos. 2 and 3
Jamaica Philatelist (1927-49), will purchase bound run
Trinidad Philatelic Review, 1946, 1947 and 1949.

Babcock, *Unusual Stamps of Jamaica* (1955)
Baldwin, brochures on Barbados and Trinidad airmails, reprinted from *The Aero Field* (c 1950)
Bailey, *Current Post Offices and Postmarks of Jamaica* (1968)
Beckton, *British Honduras Local surcharges*, reprinted from *The London Philatelist* (c 1925)
Morton, *Jamaica Post Towns, 1840-1875* (1921)
Poole, *Postage Stamps of British Honduras* (1910)
Raymond, "Grenada: Operation Urgent Fury" (1988)
Saunders, "The KGV issue for Bermuda: an attempt to examine and evaluate new evidence" (KGVICS, 1970)
Yardley, *Virgin Islands Issues, 1866-1890* (1921)

Please make offer. Other titles needed.

M. Forand, Box 20145, Ottawa, CANADA K1N 9P4

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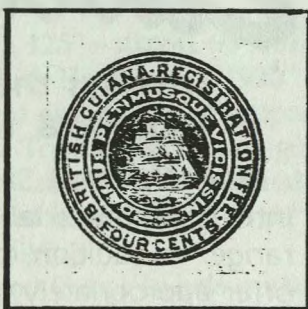
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4 <i>Jamaica Railway Town Cancels</i> , by Robert Topaz, Fred Seifert and Charles E. Cwiakala; and <i>Registration Markings and Labels</i> , by Reg Lant, Robert Topaz and Clint von Pohle, 1982; 41pp.	\$8.00	\$8.50	£5.30
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