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Vertically imperforate St. Lucia postage due pair found!



This horizontal strip of three of the St. Lucia 2d postage due (S.G. D2) is imperforate between the right stamps (between columns 4 and 5 and 5 and 6). Note the pencil line between 10228 and 10218 (very faint) and the fold between these two stamps. This strip also shows "POSTAGE DUE" at the top due to misperforation of the sheet (should be at bottom of stamp). Below is the reverse side of this strip. The light pencil mark can be faintly seen near the left.



See article by Hap Pattiz beginning on page 4.



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January issue: Deadline November 15, mailing December 30

April issue: Deadline February 15, mailing March 30

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October issue: Deadline August 15, mailing September 30

St. Lucia postage due pair found vertically imperforate

By Hap Pattiz

My friend Guy Kilburn, a very serious St. Lucia collector, recently acquired a wonderful item which appears to be a horizontal strip of three of the 2d first issue postage due stamp, imperforate between (see *Figure 1*). This was described as imperforate between in the Cherrystone Auction from which Guy acquired the strip. I have reviewed the item and believe

Since each stamp was individually numbered, the placement of this variety on the sheet can be easily identified. But prior to Guy's discovery, no pairs imperforate *vertically* were known. In the same sale, I was able to acquire a substantial group of the 1d and 2d values from the first issue stamps. All the other stamps came from the same sheet as the discovered 2d variety. With this material it is



FIGURE 1

This horizontal strip of three of the St. Lucia 2d postage due (S.G. D2) is imperforate between the right stamps (between columns 4 and 5 and 5 and 6). Note the pencil line between 10228 and 10218 (very faint) and the fold between these two stamps. This strip also shows "POSTAGE DUE" at the top due to misperforation of the sheet (should be at bottom of stamp). Below is the reverse side of this strip. The light pencil mark can be faintly seen near the left.



the auction description is accurate, even though there are some dents in the paper (especially on the back) where the row of perforations would have been.

The 2d first postage due stamp of St. Lucia (S.G. D2) has long been known to have pairs imperforate horizontally (S.G. D2a) [see *Figure 2*]. Currently this variety of issued vertical pairs catalogues at £7,500. There were six pairs created of this variety where the horizontal perforations were missing on the 116th sheet, between rows three and four.

possible to piece together what likely happened to allow this variety to exist.

The story

When the first issue of St. Lucia dues was prepared, they were locally printed and left unnumbered until readied for use at the post office. This variety came about on the 171st sheet (numbered 10201 to 10260) from the second printing. After the printer had completed the work, groups of sheets were perforated in batches of several

sheets at a time. After perforating (line perf) was completed, the still unnumbered sheets were stapled onto a cardboard or similar backing by the left margin and placed in storage until needed.

At the time a book of sheets was needed, it was removed from storage and in the post office, each stamp was numbered by hand (from upper right to lower left). Sheet 171 was likely the last sheet in the batch being perforated for the rows of perforation are quite weak, especially on the last two vertical columns (between columns four and five, and five and six). In addition, the perforating became weaker from the top of the sheet to the bottom (see Figure 3).

The lack of perforations must have been noticed in the post office as there is a thin pencil line between the fourth and fifth columns (see Figure 1). As can be seen in the enlarged photos (Figures 4, 5, 6), the stamps in the rows above the strip of three were actually separated by being torn after the columns had been folded to make separation easier. As can also be seen in Figure 3, no stamps from the bottom two rows of the sheet are now present. It is likely that the block of six of the 9th and 10th rows from columns 4, 5, and 6 (numbers 10209-10230) will show the same imperforate vertically variety, but I have no reference to

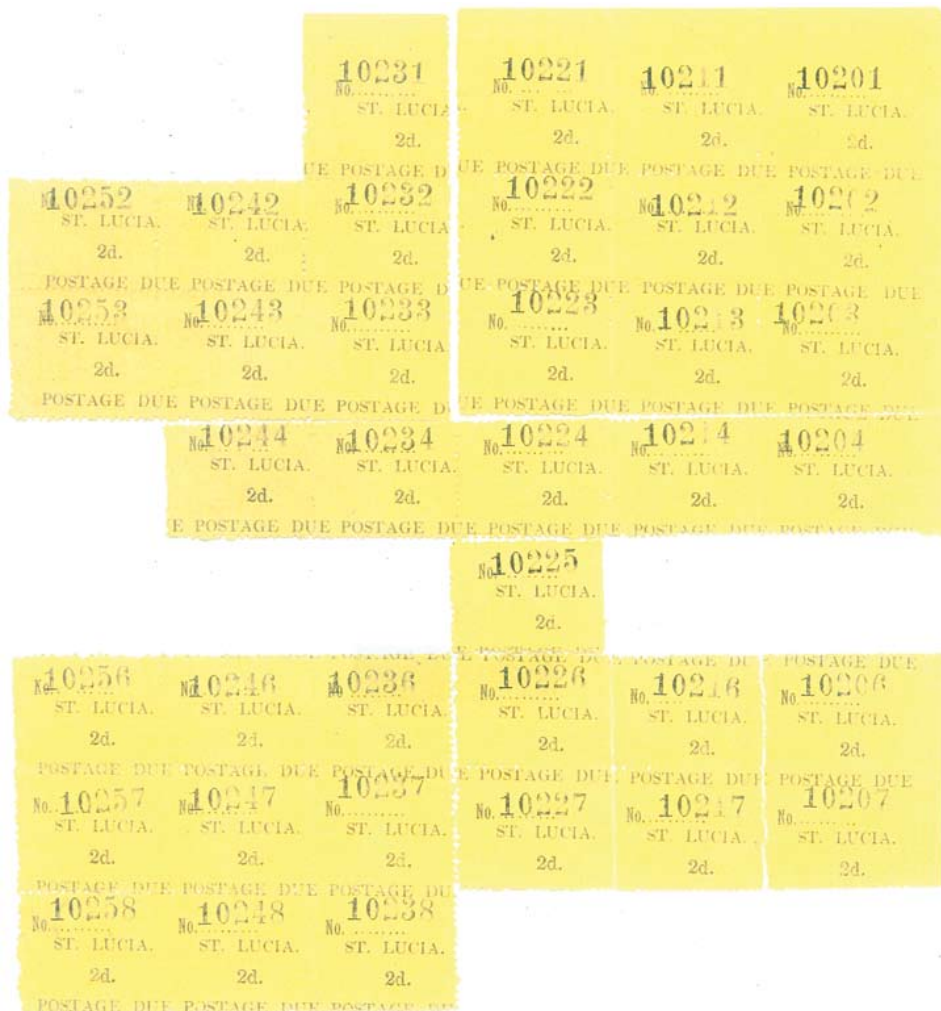


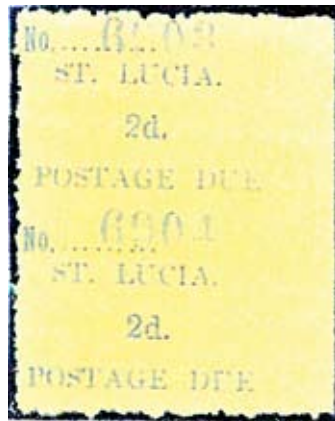
FIGURE 3
The rest of sheet 171, in which the newly discovered strip was included (just below stamps 10227, 10217 and 10207, at right). No other stamps from this sheet have yet been recorded and no used copies are known.

these stamps still existing. Since the early 1960s a census of these issues was maintained by several collectors, most seriously and thoroughly by Harry Whiten. Upon Harry's passing, I have continued his work and can now include over 5,000 individual stamps in our census. This is of an original total issue of 40,800 stamps, including both values.

This major new discovery showing a horizontal strip of three imperforate vertically between the stamps has been reviewed by the British Philatelic Association (BPA). The expert committee "agreed" that the vertical perforations were missing entirely between the left two stamps and only impressions of blind perfs could be seen between the right two stamps. And yet the BPA indicated (gratuitously!) that this is NOT a "true imperf between variety." I disagree. Read on and make up your own mind!

Continued on page 6

FIGURE 2
The listed variety, vertical imperforate horizontally between (S.G. D2a). This example, from the right margin, is one of six, of which five are now known. This pair was offered in a German auction in 2011 with an opening bid of £10,000.



Examining the strip carefully, especially from the back, some indentations can be seen where the vertical perforations were meant to be placed. But these dents do not break the paper (they are not “blind perfs”) and only occur between the fourth and fifth columns (between stamps 10218 and 10228). There are not even these indications of intended perforations between stamps 10208 and 10218; but, rather, only a light pencil line.

The research

Several serious collectors have been studying these curious St. Lucia issues for over three decades. Our research has revealed many details of the printing, issuance, and use. We have been able to determine the sequence of printings and the likely process of numbering each stamp, and we have been able to catalogue numerous varieties, especially doubled (or even tripled) numbers.

However, until now, the only major perforation varieties found was the aforementioned imperforate between vertical pairs (S.G. D2a), which has been known and noted

in the catalogues for decades. Now a new major perforation variety has been found. Keep looking -- you may even find the adjacent strips. Good hunting!

I welcome any correspondence about these and other St. Lucia dues to haplaw@roadrunner.com.

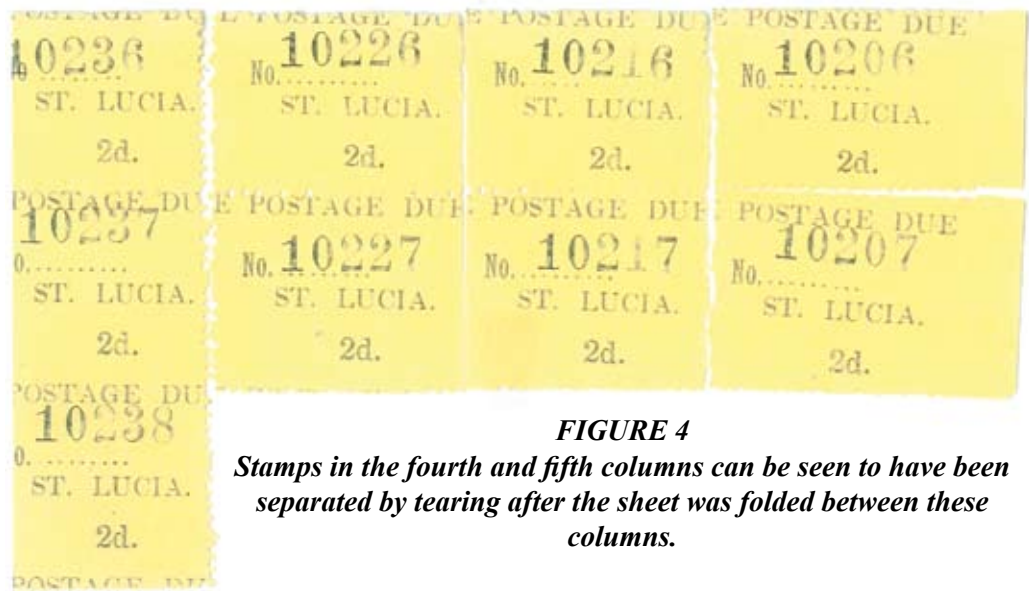


FIGURE 4
Stamps in the fourth and fifth columns can be seen to have been separated by tearing after the sheet was folded between these columns.

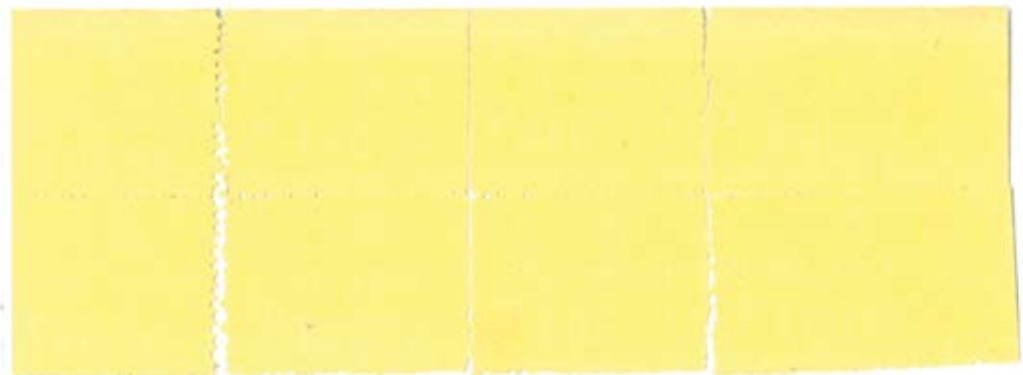


FIGURE 5
This is the reverse of the stamps in Figure 4, where the separation of the stamps by tearing is seen more clearly.

FIGURE 6
The stamps in the sheet in the rows adjacent to and above the discovery strip.



Jamaica's Llandoverly Falls stamp on picture postcards

By John Wynns of the USA

With the start of the 1900s, the popularity of picture postcards from Jamaica soared with the increase in the tourist trade and picture postcard collecting. The bi-colored Llandoverly Falls stamp (Scott #32, SG #32), released on September 25, 1901, was popular and was widely used on picture postcards for many years.

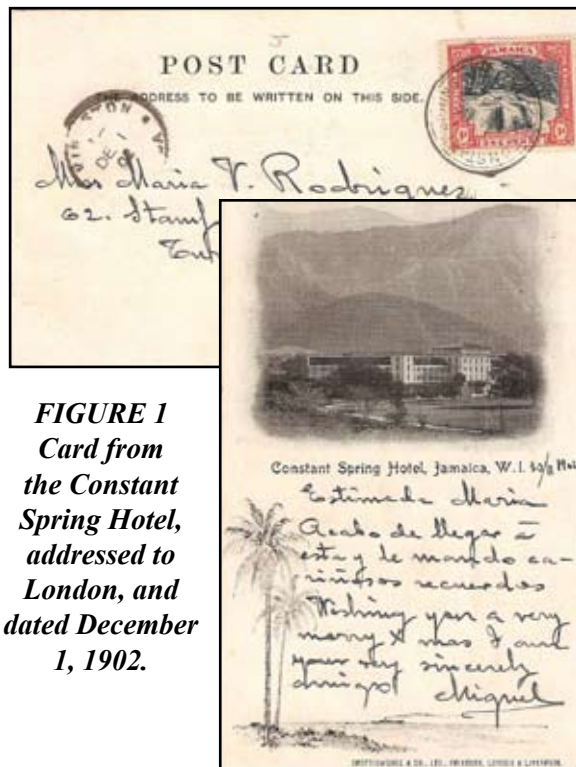


FIGURE 1
Card from the Constant Spring Hotel, addressed to London, and dated December 1, 1902.

The earliest usage I have in my collection is from Constant Spring (north of Kingston). The card is canceled "1 DE 02" and is addressed to London (*Figure 1*). After only two years I am still looking for usage in 1901 and the 1900 single color stamp (Scott #31; SG #31) used on a picture postcard. The next Constant Spring card is canceled "JA 12 04" to North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (*Figure 2*).

Guernsey (Channel Islands) is the destination for the card shown in *Figure 3* which pictures "Moortown, Port Antonio, Jamaica." The cancel is not clear, but it's from Port Antonio in January 1904.

The Titchfield (Hotel) which is near Port Antonio opened a seasonal office which provided lodging for the postal clerk. This card (*Figure 4*) has a three line datestamp. Starting in 1904 the date type became worn and distorted. A manuscript date was used, "29-1-04" at the hotel. The card was sent to Huntington, Pennsylvania via the Port Antonio Post Office, which canceled the card "JA 29 04." *Figure 4a* shows the three line cancel without the date type.



FIGURE 2
Postcard from Constant Spring, Jamaica to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The next two cards (*Figures 5 & 6*) are both postmarked from Constant Spring on "27 JA 05" to South Wales, England. Both cards show "Market Women" -- one is Number 14 (*Figure 5*) and the other is Number 16 (*Figure 6*).

The Mandeville "MR 12 06" squared circle postmark on *Figure 7*, picturing the entrance to the Mandeville

Continued on page 8



FIGURE 3

Guernsey in the Channel Islands was the destination for this 1904 postcard.

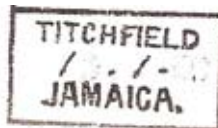
Hotel, was sent to Woodstock, Vermont.

The first picture postcard I have with the stamp on the picture side (European style), is canceled Port Antonio



FIGURE 4

Postcard with three line datestamp for the Titchfield Hotel, near Port Antonio. The three-line cancel without the date type is shown at right.



“JY 31 06,” and was sent to Buenos Aires, Argentina. The card is No. 37 in a series and is titled “Coolies Washing,” a delightful picture even if title is not PC (**Figure 8**).

The last card (**Figure 9**) is the-then new UPU approved split address and message side picture postcard, canceled at Half-Way Tree on “SP 24 06” to Essex, England. It is a wonderful picture of White River Falls and the Llandovery Falls stamp in the upper right corner.

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FIGURE 5
This card and the one shown in Figure 6 were mailed from Constant Spring on January 27, 1905 to South Wales, England. Both cards show “Market Women.” The designs differ: this one is marked “No. 14.”





FIGURE 6

This card, also to South Wales, England shows "Market Women" and is marked "No. 16."



FIGURE 7

Mandeville postmark dated "MR 12 06" on card to U.S.



FIGURE 8

Stamp on picture side of postcard canceled at Port Antonio "JY 31 06."



FIGURE 9

UPU approved split address and message side canceled Half-Way Tree "SP 24 06" to Essex, England. The card shows White River Falls and has the Llandovery Falls stamp in the upper right corner.



The Growing Interest in Postal Stationery

By Darryl Fuller
Of Australia

This is an article in two sections. The first is general commentary on the growing interest in postal stationery using my own exhibit of Leeward Islands postal stationery as an example. The second illustrates the attraction of Leeward Island stationery by looking at examples of items that I have managed to find over the last four years or so.

It was the sale of Paul Larsen's QV-KEVII Leeward Islands collection in December 2008 that caused me to think about how the interest in Leeward Islands postal stationery has changed over the last 40 years. For the record, the auction of Paul's material by Victoria Stamp Company went very well with most lots selling, and a few surprising results especially the original key plate die proofs. There were 31 lots of stationery including a few proofs and all but one of these lots sold. The few stationery proofs sold below estimate as did some mixed lots, but a number of stationery items sold well above their estimates. The only other surprise was the relatively low prices of the postal stationery with manuscript ship cancels compared to covers with stamps that had the same manuscript cancels. To my mind the stationery items, although selling above estimate, were still relatively cheap.

One of the issues with used postal stationery is the dichotomy between the item's value and its interest as postal stationery versus its value as postal history. There is always some competition between the two that often sees stationery collectors and postal historians vying for the same item. In addition, stationery is often a good source for examples of usage of a stamp, so a third force comes into play. There is additional interest in Leeward Islands' material because an item can be of interest to a collector of the Leeward Islands or a collector of the individual colony.

I first started collecting the stamps of the Leeward Islands when I was about 16 years old. I was collecting Australia at the time but the 1970s boom meant I couldn't afford much, so I looked around for something else to collect. The Leeward Islands looked a good choice as

there weren't a lot of stamps, they were no longer issuing stamps and even back then there were only a few stamps that seemed out of reach at the time. So began a 40 year adventure. A few years after I started collecting the Leeward Islands I bought my first stationery lot in an auction. I knew virtually nothing about stationery at the time but these few mint items really interested me. I then started chasing Leeward Islands stationery, which wasn't that easy back then – especially in Australia. However, it was an ideal time to start collecting postal stationery. It was relatively cheap and I had little if any competition. The few other collectors at that time, such as Paul Larsen and Michael Oliver, I knew nothing about. In about 1985 I decided that there was too much competition for the stamps so I focused on stationery only. The rest is history and needless to say it was the best stamp decision I ever made. I have also been lucky in that key material was released onto the market when Paul Larsen (twice), Michael Oliver and to a lesser extent Eric Yendall, Robert Wynstra and Charles Freeland, all decided to sell all or part of their collections.

Over the 40 years I have seen the interest in Leeward Islands postal stationery increase greatly. Interest in the KGVI stationery grew strongly as collectors expanded their interest in KGVI stamps. Again I was lucky when it came to the KGVI stationery. I bought an accumulation of stamps and mainly First Day Covers in about 1978 in an auction in Australia. Where this lot came from I don't know but it was heavily duplicated and appeared to have been collected in the Leeward Islands. It included hundreds of copies of low value stamps in very variable condition. I searched through these and found a number of quite scarce postmarks and some useful KGVI errors, worth much more than the cost of the collection. In addition there were eight covers with a KGVI £1 stamp on them used locally. I sold these off for many times the cost of the lot. However, for me the key was a few stationery cutouts including KGVI envelopes. This was where I noticed that the envelopes came with a range of interiors, blue or black and different patterns. I then started to chase these items and the result of my research has been published in the BCPSG *Journal*.¹ This was definitely the right time to specialize in this material.

More recently the other reigns of Leeward Island stationery

nery are now holding their own. Collectors are starting to realize how scarce some of this material really is. In addition, the stationery remains attractive to postal historians as many registered envelopes represent multiple

been done to Paul's material this time round. I believe that there would have been limited bidding and the mixed lots would probably have gone to dealers. Instead the material was well lotted and many individual items sold for prices much higher than if they had been grouped. There were still one or two groups of material that you will notice sold below estimate, and one or two of the items from these should have been an individual lot -- the postal stationery wrapper to New South Wales, for example. But overall, the material was well lotted and sold well. The sooner some major auction houses realize that there is value in splitting up stationery lots the better off both collectors and vendors will be.

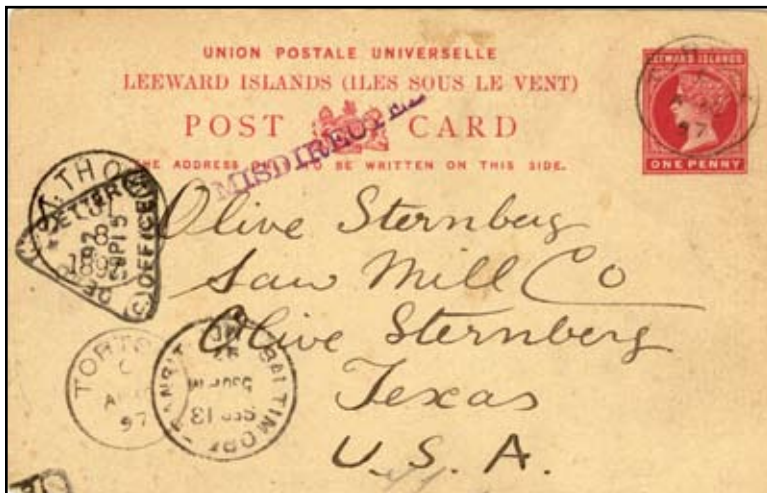


FIGURE 1

Queen Victoria 1d postcard used in the British Virgin Islands.

weight steps, there is a good range of destinations available and they often have higher denomination stamps on them -- overall an attractive mix.

One final point I would like to make relates to the lotting of postal stationery items and I will use the sale of Paul Larsen's collection² as an example. Thirty years ago the

Recent Finds

I am now in the position where, if I purchase a new item for my exhibit it usually means removing an item from the exhibit; hence, I don't buy a lot. However, as the following examples illustrate, there are still gems to be found and there is often much to recommend an item besides it being stationery.

Some of these items were found on eBay but over the years I have found only limited useful Leeward Islands stationery material for my exhibit on eBay. There have been a few gems, including items I have missed such as a KGV registered envelope commercially used in Barbuda, but overall the range is not there when compared to stamps.

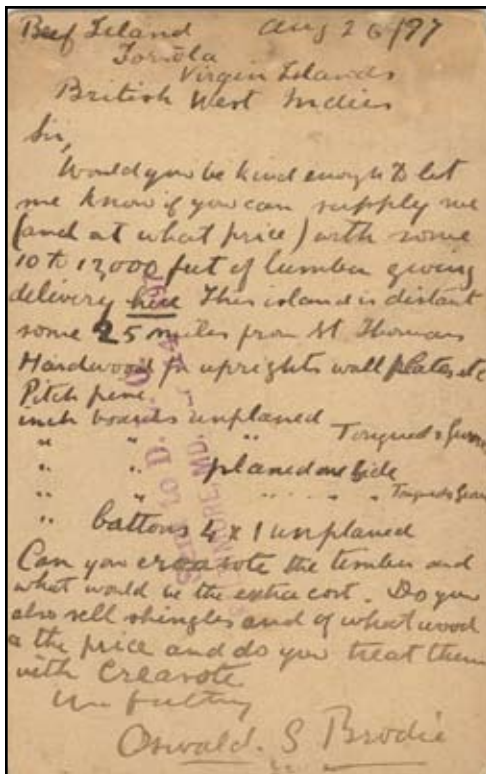


FIGURE 1a

Reverse side of postcard in Figure 1.

few proof items would have been individual lots, as would the manuscript ship cancels. The remainder of stationery items would have been handled one of three ways: slipped into stamp-related groupings, sold as one lot or at best sold as groupings by type. I m a g i n e if this had

The card illustrated in *Figure 1* is an excellent example of the postal history value of a stationery item. The QV 1d postcard is probably the most commonly seen item of Leeward Islands stationery. There were 30,450 issued in 19 printings. The survival rate has been quite high and in general they are not expensive to buy. However, I have a number used to unusual destinations or with interesting maritime use. This particular card was an unsold lot in a European auction. I decided to purchase it because I didn't have a commercial usage of the card from the British Virgin Islands. This card was an attractive commercial usage, the writer seeking lumber to build a house. The card was missent to Baltimore rather than Texas but I am not sure whether it was ever returned to the sender. Overall the card is quite attractive and a suitable addition to my exhibit.

However, it wasn't until I actually received the card that I realized it was also a very interesting piece of postal

Continued on page 12

history. As you will be aware, any commercial mail from the British Virgin Islands prior to about 1910 is quite scarce. My own research³ on populations indicated that there were only 12 Europeans in the islands in the 1890 census. This card was written on Beef Island which is

marked in Tortola on August 30, 1897. This suggests it took four days to reach the post office. As far as I am aware, there was no internal mail system in the islands so the sender probably had to wait for someone with a boat who was travelling to Tortola. The card then passed through St. Thomas (as usual) on its way to the United States. The card is an excellent example of a common stationery item with strong postal history interest.



FIGURE 2
KGV 1/2d postcard sent airmail to Trinidad.

off the Eastern end of Tortola (*Figure 1a*). Today it has a bridge connecting it to Tortola and is the site of a major airport. However, in 1897 there would have been little there. The card is dated August 26, 1897 but was post-

King George V 1/2d Postcard

Figure 2 illustrates a very fine commercial usage of a rare postal stationery card. This card was one of a set of six issued in 1926 in a new larger size, at a time when it was decided to stop issuing stationery for the individual islands. Of these six cards, all are very rare commercially used except this 1/2d card which is just rare. The six cards comprised 1/2d, 1d and 1 1/2d single cards plus 1/2d+1/2d, 1d+1d and 1 1/2d+1 1/2d reply paid cards. To date only the 1/2d, 1d and the message half of the 1/2d+1/2d cards are known commercially used. They all exist philatelically used mainly to the German dealer Beckhaus and French dealer Schoeller. The printing figures for these cards are as low as 1,002 and only the 1/2d card had more than one printing. When I state that the 1/2d card is only rare it is because I have recorded four or five commercial usages, but this includes one to Harry Huber from Barbuda and another used in Montserrat in about 1940. Despite the fact that the multiple printings would indicate significant local use I have yet to find one used locally. All examples seen to date have been uprated.

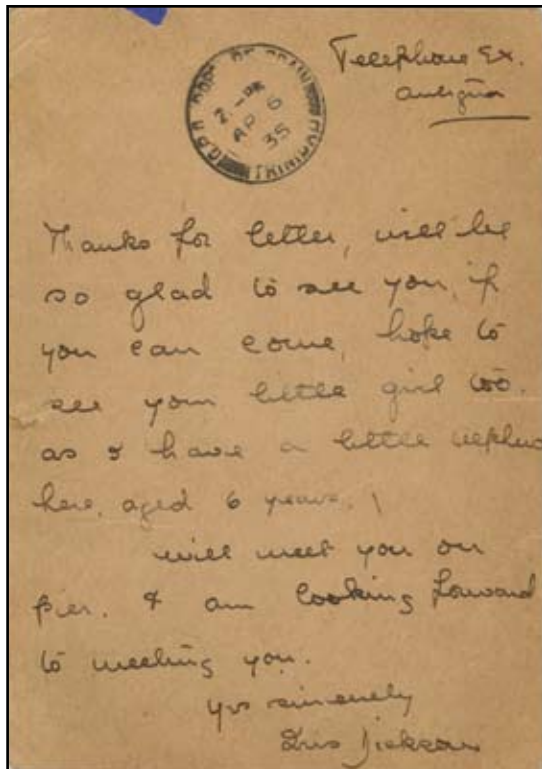


FIGURE 2a
Reverse side of postcard in Figure 2.

The card was posted in 1935 from someone in the telephone exchange in Antigua to a passenger on a ship at Trinidad (*Figure 2a*). In order to reach the person in time it was sent airmail and this is what makes this postcard so interesting. Postcards sent airmail in the 1930s are not common and it is hard to find examples of airmail postcard rates. In this case, the postcard rate is 1d plus 4d for airmail. What makes this card so interesting is that most cards sent airmail, when you can find them, will be to the U.K. or the U.S.A. It is very rare to get an airmail postcard in this period sent from one small island to another within the British West Indies.

This card will definitely find its way into my exhibit, but what I also like about this card is that it fits another one of my collecting interests. I also collect Caribbean commercial airmails in the period from about 1929 to circa 1950 that were posted from within the Caribbean (including British Guiana) to another island. This is, in

fact, not an easy task as the vast majority of airmail covers in this period went to the U.K., U.S.A. or Canada. Again, this is an example of a postal stationery card that fits into at least three collecting areas – Leeward Islands, Antigua and commercial airmails.

1934 King George V 1½d “Airmail” Envelope

The envelope illustrated in *Figure 3* is another very rare item. I have labelled it an airmail envelope as I believe that this was its intended use but it is in fact a security-lined pelure paper envelope. For a long time this envelope was only known from a single used example. A search of the De La Rue records showed that there was a single printing of 5,350 in 1934. A similar 1d envelope was also issued at the same time. The 1d was unknown until I discovered a cutout back in the 1970s. Over the years a few more have shown up including one mint example of each, two used copies of the 1d envelope and two used copies of the 1½d envelope. The envelope illustrated is now the third known used copy. The question always arises as to what happened to the rest of these envelopes. They are far rarer than examples of the KGV

envelopes that had lower printings. All known usage is in Antigua and one used in Barbuda, suggesting that the whole printing was sent to Antigua.

As a stationery item this is a great rarity, but as a postal history item it is fairly common. I purchased this item on eBay and it is without doubt the best bargain I have ever had on the site. The seller obviously didn't know the rarity of the envelope and listed the cover only on



FIGURE 3
KGV 1½d airmail envelope.

eBay in the U.K., not on eBay.com. He correctly listed it at a starting price of £9.99 which would not be unreasonable for what is a fairly common Paquebot cover. The final price of around £18 was obviously a bargain for the stationery item but a good price for a paquebot cover of this nature. In this case the postal stationery value far outweighs the postal history value for this envelope.

King George VI ½d Newspaper Wrapper

The fourth item, illustrated in *Figure 4*, is an example of the KGV ½d newspaper wrapper used in 1943. It is a complete wrapper but was torn completely across on opening. This wrapper had the highest printing of any item of KGV stationery with 14,400 printed, but used is one of the rarest items of Leeward Islands stationery. Very few of these wrappers were kept on receipt and this is a new find. It is only the third used example of this wrapper recorded by me. Interestingly, all three are used in St. Kitts. The postal history value in this item is as an example of the ½d newspaper rate which is not easy to find.



FIGURE 4
Third recorded example of the KGV ½d newspaper wrapper.

This item was a very fortuitous purchase on eBay also. It was in a mixed lot of Leeward Islands covers, the majority of which had little interest or value. The image of the seven covers was not large and normally I wouldn't look that closely at such a group. It was only luck that I noticed what looked like a newspaper wrapper in the lot. At first I thought it was the KGV ½d wrapper, which is also rare used, but I took

Continued on page 14

the image and expanded it and saw this wrapper. I was quite excited and put a significant bid on it. Luckily for me, and for Leeward Islands stationery collectors, I did manage to purchase the lot quite cheaply. So now there are three recorded used examples of this wrapper.

Queen Victoria 1½d Postcard Reply Half

The card illustrated in *Figure 5* belonged to J.A.C. Farmer and was sold as part of a group of Leeward Island stationery items in a lot in a sale at Spink in 2012. This sale appeared to have nothing specific I needed (as this item was not specifically described) for my exhibit so I put in no bids. However, luckily an English dealer looked through the lots and noticed this card. It is an extremely rare commercial usage of a reply card half used from Martinique back to Dominica. It is the first I have seen although I gather there is at least two other reply halves used this way (but of unknown denomination). It is one of the few items I actually needed for my exhibit. Luckily the dealer was in Canberra where I live earlier this year and I overheard a conversation about the sale. Needless to say as soon as I heard what he had, I asked that he offer it to me first. I am now the proud owner.

What surprised me about this card was the fact that it was not a lot on its own in the sale but hidden away in a mixed lot. It is a very rare and valuable card to a stationery collector and worth more than some of the proof items that sold in the sale. It is a good example of how the value of a stationery item can be overlooked and it

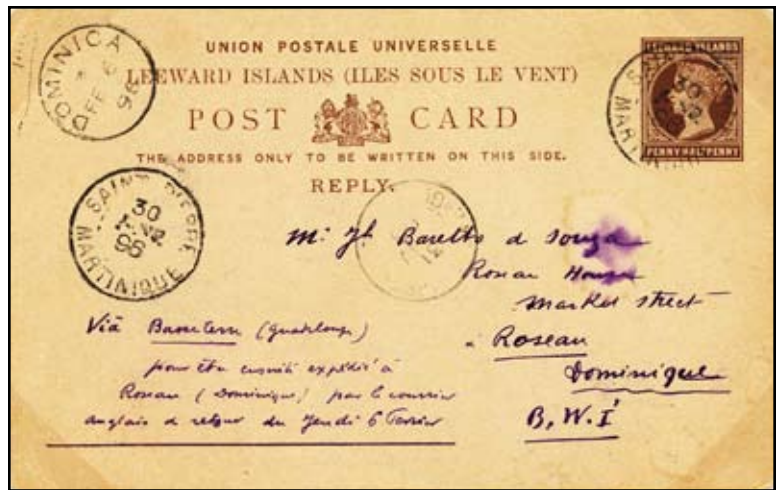


FIGURE 5

QV 1½d postcard reply half used back to Dominica.

was most fortuitous that I heard about it, otherwise my exhibit would still be missing an important item.

Queen Victoria 2½d Envelope

The envelope illustrated in Figure 6 is a fairly easy to get item. Virtually all the Queen Victoria stationery is relatively easy to find used with the exception of the H2 registered envelope. What is so interesting about this envelope is its destination. Across all my Leeward Island stationery items I have usage to about 45 different destinations (the most unusual being the Russian Post Office at Chefoo in China from the Virgin Islands in 1901!). This envelope is the second I have managed to find used to continental Africa in the Queen Victoria period, and was sent in 1895 from Antigua to the Cape of Good Hope. A very rare destination, I would have thought.



FIGURE 6

QV 2½d envelope used to the Cape of Good Hope.

Having said that eBay isn't the best hunting ground, this item was picked up recently in a mixed lot. It was the only stationery item with a group of used stamps worth a few cents. When I looked at the image that appears at the top of eBay listings I thought it was used to Whittlesea in the U.K. and was not of interest. However, the next time I searched I looked more carefully and noted its use to the Cape. I am glad I did and I picked this up for a bargain.

Summary

The interest in Leeward Islands' postal stationery continues to grow. Of the colonies it represents, none really have enough stationery to form a decent exhibit, so the Leeward Islands is the way to go. The dichotomy between postal

Concluded on page 15

New Dundas Town, Bahamas cancel believed a new find!

By David Horry

An Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

It is a very rare event when an undiscovered, standard issue West Indian postmark turns up. I have just bought a large lot of Bahamas KGVI postmarks from Sandafayre (Knutsford, U.K.) and have been entering them up when I could hardly believe my eyes.

This Dundas Town mSC(1) is entirely different from Proud's D2! The date is as per the ERD of Ludington and Proud and so far is the ORD (only recorded date). This is a very remote post office on Abaco Island with very little postal traffic (mainly philatelic by the look of things).

This is, interim, the ERD for what is now mSC(2) May 4, 1958. LRD 6 3 1964 (Proud). Do any collectors out there have other mSC(1)s and dates? And what is now the ERD of mSC(2)? Does it go back into the KGVI period?

history and postal stationery remains with many a stationery collector ruing the price postal historians are willing to pay for an item. However, there is also the converse in that the postal history aspect of a stationery item adds interest to a display of stationery, as long as you get the balance right in a formal exhibit.

If any collectors of Leeward Islands' stationery can add new examples of the rare items such as any KGV or KGVI wrapper, or the KGV postcards please let me know at darryl.fuller@home.netspeed.com.au.

Footnotes

¹ D.J. Fuller, "Leeward Island Postal Stationery: the King George VI Airmail Envelopes," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*. Vol. 34, No. 3 (September 1994), 71-74.

² "Paul A. Larsen Collection of Leeward Islands," Victoria Stamp Company, Public Auction #25, December 6, 2008.

³ D.J. Fuller, "The Population of the Leeward Islands, 1871-1946," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*. Vol. 37, No. 4 (December 1997), 159-162.



Dundas Town, Bahamas, cancels reported in the article to the left.



Nuggets from the past ...

In the December 1992 *Journal*, Charles Freeland reported on Bermuda military mail during World War I, and Dr. Roger G. Schnell discussed the 1861 plates of Nevis. The article had several interesting illustrations. M.H. Ludington reported on the Bermuda Type K3a duplex datestamps, and Michel Forand provided a "Caribbean Round-Up" of postal news from the islands. There was an obituary for Edward F. Addiss (1930-1992), and President J.L. Fredrick provided a eulogy. R.V. Swarbrick discussed the Silver Jubilee booklets of Jamaica, and there was a full page of Trinidad & Tobago new postage meters.

WANTED

Wanted: KGVI and early QEII Bahamas/Jamaica postmarks. I pay good prices! Contact David Horry by email at: horry@talk21.com

More British Guiana covers

By *Charles Freeland*
of Switzerland

Never one to shrink from a challenge, I am responding to Michael Medlicott's invitation in the last *Journal* (Vol. 53, No. 2, #247) to show five covers bearing cancellations rated "ER" in Townsend and Howe (T&H)'s outstanding book published by the Royal Philatelic Society in 1970. Medlicott's article was in turn a response to Raj Ramphal's discovery of a second Yarikita cover reported in the previous journal.

Two preliminary comments: first, the rating "ER" is defined as cancels where only one or two examples have been seen by the authors. That means that Yarikita, for example, is not a true ER any more as now half a dozen examples have been seen including the two covers owned by Michael and Raj Ramphal. If I owned one, I might take a different view! But as Medlicott mentions, the ER rating has successfully stood the test of time, so I will abide by it.



FIGURE 1
Abary Type 2

Second, it was Fred Howe rather than Bill Townsend who was the cancel specialist and he is responsible for many of the covers sent to outlying posts in the 1950s and 1960s which resulted in a fascinating range of skeleton cancels. Many of these might never have been recorded but for Howe's efforts and these are very hard to find, even on philatelic covers. However, I am going to comply with Medlicott's self-imposed discipline and omit the skeletons from this survey because, as he points out, there may be more around than T&H saw at the time they were working on the book.

Here then are my five candidates.

Figure 1 is not listed in T&H at all, so complies with Michael's definition of ER. It is the Type 2 (Proud D3)

Abary that only came to light after 1970. This, to my knowledge, is the only cover recorded with this rare cancel. It was mailed to Newcastle on March 5, 1880.



FIGURE 2
Blairmont Type 2

Figure 2 is another cover with a cancel that is not recorded in T&H. This was cancelled with a Type 2 Blairmont (Proud Type D3) on April 3, 1880 and is unusually addressed to Surinam. As it happens, a small cache of four or five covers from this correspondence came on the market in the late 1980s so it cannot really qualify as ER, but strikes on single stamps are rare indeed.



FIGURE 3
Philadelphia Type 5b

Figure 3 shows a Philadelphia cover cancelled T&H Type 5b (Proud D3). This is illustrated in T&H on Plate 21, opposite page 144 and appeared in the Harmer's sale of Bill Townsend's collection in October 1969. This, needless to say, is another cancellation that I believe



FIGURE 4
Richmond Hill Type 10

is not otherwise known on cover. Sadly, the stamps are a little damaged but the cancel for February 1, 1882 is clear enough.

Figure 4 is a cover from Richmond Hill dated April 9, 1901 and bearing T&H Type 10 (Proud D1). This is addressed to the London trading firm Myerscough that some denigrate because the address is seen quite often, but I believe we should thank the firm for saving their commercial mail for collectors to cherish.

Now I begin to struggle slightly, as I do not want to duplicate Michael's offering by showing my Railway P.O.



FIGURE 5
Mariabba Type 2

Type 2 (also unlisted in T&H), or my Red Hill PA 12 cover (and in both cases the fact that we each own covers with these strikes makes the ER rating hard to defend). But **Figure 5** is a cover cancelled with the VR strike for Mariabba Type 2 (Proud D3) that is also to my knowledge unique on cover. This is a really neat cover franked with a pair of the 1878 (one-cent) on six-cents brown provisional. The Mariabba datestamp of June 2, 1879 was evidently applied on arrival.

What is striking about all these covers is that there are no gaps in the sequence of dates ... which shows how efficient the internal postal service was in those times. Would that we could obtain such fast and reliable service from our post offices these days!



FIGURE 6
Sparta Type 2

To close, since Medicott's article mentioned a third cancel that was not listed in T&H, **Figure 6** shows a fine example of the Sparta T&H Type 2 strike.

References

¹ Townsend, W.A. and F.G. Howe. *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. London: Royal Philatelic Society London, 1970.

² Proud, Edward B. *The Postal History of British Guiana*. United Kingdom: Proud Bailey Co., Ltd., 2000.

Nuggets from the past ...

In the March 1995 issue of the *Journal*, G. Osborn and H. Parsons wrote about marine sorting on the Royal Mail Steam Packet (R.M.S.P.) ships from St. Thomas in the late 1860s. Also, Richard Foden discussed stamp proofs and essays of the Turks Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands between 1867 and 1949, and Cliff Abram provided a synopsis of new issues from throughout the Caribbean islands.

Paul A. Larsen wrote about Leeward Islands Judicial FEES revenue stamps, and reported on some new discoveries on the subject. His article was lavishly illustrated with stamps of the Queen Victoria and King Edward VII era.

Virgin Islands First Day Covers add charm and interest to thematic collecting

By Giorgio Migliavacca
Of the British Virgin Islands

Although covers bearing postage stamps cancelled on the first day of issue might well have been mailed from the Virgin Islands during the late 1800s and early 1900s, it was not until the 1930s that the Road Town and West End post offices on Tortola became acquainted with the term "First Day Cover."



FIGURE 1

May 12, 1937: Unusual Registered cover with King George VI Coronation set mailed at the West End Post Office on first day of issue.

King George V, an highly knowledgeable and astute stamp collector, celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his accession to the throne in 1935. Interestingly but not surprisingly, the celebrations fell on May 6 -- the date marking the 95th birthday of the world's first stamp, the famous Penny Black issued by Great Britain on May 6, 1840. The Silver Jubilee saw a most remarkable philatelic tribute



FIGURE 2

May 12, 1937: Leeward Islands King George VI Coronation set mailed at the Road Town Post Office on first day of issue. At this time the stamps of the Federation of the Leeward Islands were in use concurrently with Virgin Islands stamps.



FIGURE 3

August 1, 1938: Elusive Registered FDC with seven values from King George VI first definitive series mailed at the Road Town Post Office in the form of an omnibus issue -- the first ever of its kind for the British Empire.

By this time, stamp collectors worldwide were not new to First Day Covers and the market demand reflected a growing interest in them. In most instances, the day selected for the release of a new stamp is significant to the subject. For example, the set of stamps celebrating the



FIGURE 4

June 2, 1953: Homemade First Day Cover of Queen Elizabeth II Coronation, self-addressed in his own handwriting by Sir Olva Georges.

100th birthday of the Queen Mother was issued on the very day of her birthday, August 4, 2000. At a time when stamps were issued in ever increasing quantities, collectors saw FDCs as a means of making stamps printed in the tens or hundreds of thousands rarer. Indeed, quite often stamps cancelled on the day of issue are scarcer than those postmarked later on.



FIGURE 5

November 1, 1956: Elusive homemade registered first day cover of Queen Elizabeth II first definitive series; very few exist.

PIONEERS DAYS

On the wave of increasing demand and popularity, British stamp dealers saw the Silver Jubilee omnibus series as a highly marketable one and went out of their way with unprecedented advertising. Their offerings included FDCs from far-flung dominions and colonies. Collectors responded positively to these novelties and as a result post offices all over the empire were busy familiarizing with FDCs, servicing them and shipping them back to London dealers.



FIGURE 6

June 4, 1963: Homemade first day cover for Freedom From Hunger issue, produced by local philatelist and statesman Howard R. Penn and self-addressed in his own handwriting.

With virtually no notice, the Road Town Post Office received its share of FDCs and the postmaster must have been a bit intrigued by the many requests; however, in those hard times, it was a fair amount of unexpected revenue for the local treasury and as such it was most welcome. Local statesman H. R. Penn's name is often encountered on locally addressed FDCs as he was the Tortola stamp contact *par excellence* for many stamp dealers and collectors. One of the earliest native collec-

tors of local stamps and FDCs was another statesman, Sir Olva Georges.

FDCs and sets from the smaller colonies had a definite allure and the Coronation of King George VI provided the perfect circumstance for issuing the next omnibus. Major London, New York and Chicago stores had, at the time, a stamp department and FDCs had become "hot cakes." With plenty of notice, bundles of FDCs arrived in Tortola to be stamped and postmarked May 12, 1937.



FIGURE 7

April 23, 1964: Cacheted and registered First Day Cover for 400th Anniversary of the Birth of William Shakespeare.

A COLLECTION IN THE COLLECTION

First Day Covers were becoming a collection in the collection and the introduction of covers with a cachet added interest and charm. Most naturally, cacheted FDCs



FIGURE 8

January 27, 1986: Registered, Cacheted "Official" First Day Cover of Visiting Cruise Ships issue.

eclipsed those of competitors who produced covers with simple inscriptions and no cachet. The move also was a checkmate for collectors and small dealers who might have contemplated to venture into producing their own FDCs by using plain covers.

Continued on page 20

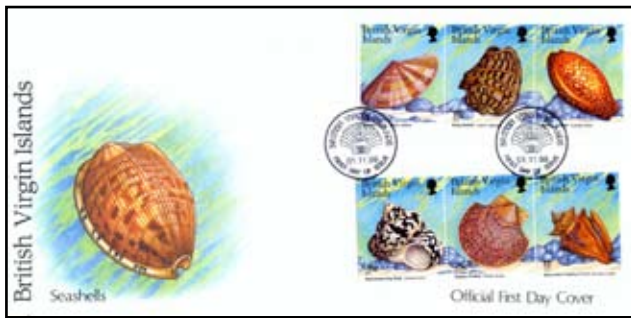


FIGURE 9

November 1, 1999: Cacheted Official First Day Cover with all six values of the “Sea Shells” set canceled by special pictorial first day of issue postmark -- this set exists in se-tenant strips of six stamps, and four values were printed in sheets but differ from those printed in se-tenant strips because they feature the date “1999” at the bottom right of the design. No official FDC for the four “1999” values was produced.

When the first series of definitive stamps depicting King George VI and the badge of the colony was issued on August 1, 1938, a few courageous dealers sent their self-addressed covers to the Road Town Post Office for the purpose of turning them into FDCs. The set included high values up to 2/6d and 5/- and this was a major deterrent. In fact, FDCs of this set are very difficult to find

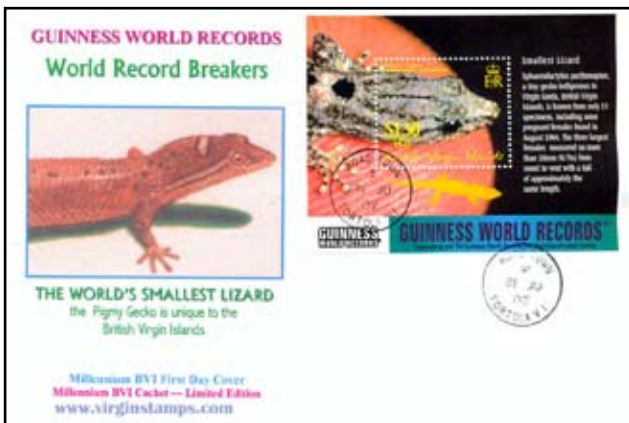


FIGURE 10

June 21, 2002: Cacheted First Day Cover with Miniature Sheet for “Reptiles” featured in the Guinness Book of Records, canceled by Road Town cds on day of issue. This is a private cachet because the post office did not produce an official FDC.

as are most of the Virgin Islands FDCs produced for definitive stamps of the 1950s and 1960s.

As the war came to an end, the omnibus series fever restarted: in 1946 an omnibus celebrating Victory; and in 1949 no less than two omnibuses celebrating the Royal Silver Wedding and the 75th anniversary of the Universal

Postal Union respectively. Hardly 15 months had elapsed when a 1951 mini-omnibus of Caribbean colonies was devised to celebrate the inauguration of the British West Indies University College which later became the University of the West Indies. Marketers did not lack initiative and collectors were enticed by low priced stamps



FIGURE 11

March 14, 2003: Cacheted first day cover for the se-tenant pair commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Island Sun newspaper, canceled by special first of issue pictorial postmark.

and colorful covers. Additional omnibuses followed suit: 1953, Coronation; 1963, Freedom from Hunger; 1963, Red Cross Centenary; 1964, 400th anniversary of the birth of William Shakespeare; 1965, International Telecommunication Union centenary and International Co-



FIGURE 12

From 1985: Black and white mock-up of a first day cover for a planned, but never issued, set commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the visit of Sir Francis Drake.

operation year; 1966, Churchill commemoration, Royal Visit, and 20th anniversary of UNESCO. All were cheap and resulted in more marketing of low-priced FDCs, but at this point in time the collector was beginning to feel exhausted by the omnibuses inflation.

GREATER THEMATIC FOCUS

By the mid 1960s, Virgin Islands pictorial and commemorative stamps had become the norm and thematic collecting was becoming increasingly popular. More and more attractive stamps and FDCs were produced and were eagerly snapped up by collectors worldwide. How could a collector resist stamps and covers from the exotic Virgin Islands featuring Long John Silver, Treasure Island, as well as pirates such as Blackbeard and Henry Morgan, game fish, paintings of great masters, discoverers, old maps, butterflies, birds, flowers and cacti?

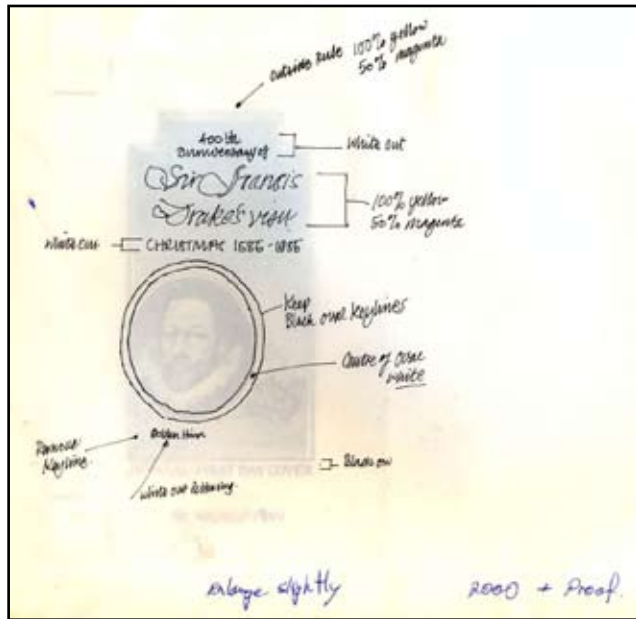


FIGURE 13

From 1985: Black and white mock-up of a first day cover for a planned, but never issued, set commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the visit of Sir Francis Drake, with indications of colors, etc.

The market went through some adjustment and turbulence when collectors could see the effects the multitude of stamps issued every year had on their wallets; this was compounded by the short-lived fad of collecting FDCs that had actually gone through the mails. The latter was some gimmick of marketers who attempted to disqualify earlier FDCs; in most cases the discriminative attitude fired back and a number of collectors refused to buy FDCs with any address on them. Now that all the dust has settled we can calmly say that addressed or un-addressed FDCs make no difference -- collecting is fun, over-regulating a hobby is boring.

The rocking of the boat had its effects and the local postal authorities who had begun to produce their own FDCs in the 1960s decided to add the word "official" to them. This simple move wiped out both confusion and competition. To add spice to local FDCs, official first

day of issue postmarks were adopted; these postmarks have, in the course of time, become more and more elaborate and, in most instances, are used solely on official FDCs -- third parties FDCs do not receive the "official" first day of issue postmark but simply the ordinary date stamp used at the post office counter. There have been a few instances at the beginning of the new millennium when the local Philatelic Bureau did not produce official FDCs for some of their new issues. This was remedied by the initiative of a local cachetmaker who produced a very small amount of FDCs.

WHAT'S THE EKU?

It must be pointed out that not all modern stamps of the Virgin Islands have had an officially designated first day of issue and instead were quietly placed on sale. Such was the case of the stamp issued in 2009 for the 70th anniversary of BVI Boy Scouts. Similar instances occurred earlier on: all of the stamps overprinted "OFFICIAL" in 1985, 1986, and 1991; all of the reprinted definitive stamps from 1970 to 2007; and the 2003 \$5 high value depicting the new profile of Queen Elizabeth II (despite what's stated by catalogues, there was no official date of issue for this stamp). Because such stamps do not exist on FDCs, collectors trace them back by postmarks that may point to the EKU (Earliest Known Use).

As would be expected, first days of issue in the Virgin Islands are uneventful, but the suggestion of this writer of holding an official first day of issue ceremony was embraced by the local authorities in the year 2000 when the Territory celebrated the new millennium with a set of stamps marking the golden anniversary of the local Legislative Council and depicting councilmen and chief ministers of the past. The impressive ceremony was held at the Legislative Council with Chief Ministers and top authorities in attendance and had a very positive impact. In more recent times, a first day ceremony attended by the Premier was staged in 2011 at the Royal BVI Yacht Club to salute the BVI Spring Regatta's 40th Anniversary stamp issue. It was equally well received and well publicized.

First Day Cover collecting appeals to a large number of collectors because it is fun and it adds a new facet and depth to one's speciality. Completeness is a mirage and quite honestly it is better like that because once a collection is completed the collector moves on to greener pastures. New discoveries are often made and what was "complete" 10 years ago is most likely incomplete now because new and interesting items surface every so often. They are the spice of stamp collecting: the hobby of kings and the king of hobbies.



BG Bits and Pieces

With Dr. P.J. Ramphal
Of Canada



Another postally used M.O.O. Georgetown in 1898 and unrecorded

About three months ago, shortly after I had submitted my last article for inclusion in the April 2013 issue of the *Journal*, I received an e-mail from Michael Hamilton urging me to view his “shop” with regard to an “M.O.O. GEORGETOWN” cancellation improperly used in 1898. The timing was uncanny. I had just submitted an article for publication which had been accepted but had not yet been published, on exactly the same Money Order Office hammer being improperly used to cancel a letter in 1885, from Georgetown to Georgetown.



FIGURE 1
“M.O.O. Georgetown” arrival cancel on
Barbados Jubilee.

I sought to see that item and bought it immediately. I offer it as the centerpiece of this article, *Figure 1*, as a follow up to my article in the previous issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*. Surprisingly, the cancellation resides on a Barbados 2½d 1898 Jubilee stamp and I am left to assume that it had arrived in Georgetown without a cancellation and was given an arrival acknowledgment with the nearest device at hand, in this case the “M.O.O. GEORGETOWN” hammer, dated “Fe 23, 1898.” I have no doubt that the device used on the Barbados stamp is the same as that used on my Georgetown cover of 1889. That they should have fallen into

my hands with so little effort on my part in such a short period of time is truly amazing. This leads me to suggest to readers to re-examine their stock with an eye out for other examples of the “M.O.O. GEORGETOWN” which just possibly, may be lurking there easily mistaken for a more common Georgetown postmark

With the available space allowed me by this short article, I will showcase also, two British Guiana covers which have been in my possession for several years. They were acquired separately and cheaply. One is franked by a pair of 12¢ Stabroek Market stamps, paying the correct 24¢ Air Mail rate to the U.S.A., whereas the other to Canada underpays the same 24¢ rate by 6¢, with only single 6¢ and 12¢ definitive stamps. Both covers are cancelled by sloganless GPO Electrical Machine Cancellations, the one to the U.S.A. dated “13 OCT 1947,” and that to Canada dated “25 Feb 1947.” But the most unusual feature of both covers is the presence of identical 30mm violet inked circles containing only a large letter “R.” On both covers, the “R” in circle handstamp cancels 12¢ Stabroek Market stamps which the EMC appears to have missed.

That is true for the cover to Canada, but on the other to the U.S.A., the EMC did not entirely miss the targeted Market stamp (*see Figures 2 and 3*). Certainly the letter “R” usually signifies registered mail but in these two covers all of the other accompanying features of registration are absent. There is no blue crayon on either front or back, in fact the backs of both covers are completely bare. No registration labels adorn either cover. I am completely at a loss to explain why this extremely prominent marking should be unrecorded. Once again I call on the readership to re-examine stock, especially in the decade of the 1940s, for other examples and more importantly, to try to determine what purpose this handstamp served. I really do not believe that it was a short lived registration marking experiment even though it is tempting to offer that as an explanation.



FIGURE 2
Airmail cover to the U.S.A. with EMC cancellation and large violet "R."



FIGURE 3
Airmail cover to Canada with EMC canceling pair of Stabroek Market 12¢ stamps and large violet "R."

The Dated Cancellers

By Roy Bond

Of the United Kingdom

PART 4: THE FLEURON CANCELLERS

This is the fourth of a series of five articles on the reasons the dated cancellers were brought into operation both in the United Kingdom and throughout the British West Indies at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries.

While the implementation of circular date-stamps in the United Kingdom went ahead in a very short time, there appears to have been some prevarication over the matter as far as the Imperial Packet Agency was concerned. Though the Horseshoe cancellers were put into effect, in some instances in a timely manner, it took much longer for the PMGs own efforts in the General Post Office to come into effect, as none of the fleuron cancellers appear to have been used prior to 1805.

Indeed, some may have been considerably later, as can be inferred from the Earliest Recorded Dates (dates taken from the Proud books) currently extant for the various colonies of the West Indies, below:

- Antigua:** August 15, 1808
- Barbados:** February 14, 1812
- Bermuda:** February 20, 1920
- Dominica:** March 3, 1806
- Jamaica:** January 21, 1805
- Montserrat:** September 27, 1836
- St. Kitts:** September 14, 1805
- St. Lucia:** December 31, 1818
- St. Vincent:** September 5, 1805
- Tobago:** April 12, 1805
- Trinidad:** January 10, 1812

I would say, however, that I would find it difficult to believe that the Travelling Surveyor of Posts would issue a canceller to other Deputy Postmasters, while the local office in Bridgetown was ignored for some seven years, until 1812. I would have thought that these instruments would have all been issued at, or about, the same time, *i.e.*, early 1805.

However, the mechanics of getting the instruments designed, manufactured and then issued and transmitted to the correct locations took time; further the issue of the instruments to the General Post Offices in the United Kingdom were given priority because of the security issues here in the U.K., *i.e.*, the distinct possibility of invasion.

So part of the *raison d'être* of the fleuron canceller was for the signing off of the bounty claims from the Royal Navy captains, on the Lords of the Admiralty, who paid out the bounty sum to The Royal Hospital at Greenwich, who then issued the bills for the sums accordingly to the officers and men of the ship or vessel concerned via their agents. However, with no record of their issue from the GPO then, who did cause them to be issued and by what process? Whilst this bounty system process relied heavily on timing and the dates of issue of various documents and the overall timing of this Act Of Parliament, this would be just one aspect of the military requirement for recording timing in communications. This initial purpose would have ceased in late 1815, once Napoleon Bonaparte had surrendered himself to the British Man of War at Le Havre and the war formally ended. The above act was duly repealed and the whole of the postal service restored to its normal peacetime operations. However, commercial and financial institutions had no doubt become used to having the datestamps on their mail, so the practice was maintained thereafter.

On the above information I would expect that the fleuron cancellers would have been manufactured during 1804 and 1805 and issued to each overseas office as it became available from the manufacturer. There would have been one instrument issued to each individual Deputy Postmaster in each Imperial Packet Agency Office, this office being at the main port of the particular colony. But in the case of the West Indies, most of the capital towns were in fact the main ports, *e.g.*, Bridgetown in Barbados, Kingstown in St Vincent, etc. They would also have been issued to those non-British ports where the Imperial Packet Agency had an office. However, having said all that, there is absolutely no record of the issuing of the fleuron cancellers in the GPO canceller issuing list, which unfortunately was not brought into operation for the colonies until 1820.

If, as is most likely, the Central Sorting Office approached the Travelling Surveyor of Posts in the Bridgetown Barbados Imperial Packet Agency, the agency felt that in view of its Imperial title that it should have something extra to raise it above the level of the "General" post office.

So after some discussion, the fleuron was agreed to so as to allow the "Imperial" Packet Agency to demonstrate its superior position. However, it also meant that the fleuron datestamp, in general, took its place in the schedule behind the ordinary U.K. circular datestamp (CDS), which explains why it took years to get all the fleuron datestamps manufactured.

There is no record in the British Postal Museum and Archives, either in the canceller issuing records or in the PMG's Reports or Minutes from 1805 onward, of any further fleuron type cancellers being issued to any post office at a later date, the last one being initially issued, no doubt for commercial reasons as the war had ended, to St. Lucia in 1818. The only re-issue was the instrument issued to Kingston, Jamaica in April 1823, but no others to any overseas postal administration. I therefore conclude that there was in fact only one instrument ever actually issued to each Deputy Postmaster in each West

Indian Imperial Packet Agency office.

*The last article in this series is:
Part 5: The Fleuron Cancellor for St. Vincent.*

We (still) need articles!

Thanks to several recent contributions, our situation is not as critical as earlier, but we still need articles of any length to fill these pages. Please continue to prepare and send items for publication, and please be patient as not all material can be printed at once!

The Editor

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Leewards 1938 Plate 1 1/4d to 5/- blocks of four, sold for £1600 in Auction 14



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BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen
Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member exhibit participants and awards.

ARIPEX
April 19-21
Mesa, Arizona

John Wynns
British Guiana:
The 1899 TWO CENTS Surcharge Issue (SF)
Vermeil

Millard Mack
The 6-Cent Airmail Transport Stamp Goes to War
Vermeil, American Airmail Society Vermeil,
Military Postal History Society Award

WESTPEX
April 26-28
San Francisco, California

M. Fitz Roett
Barbados: Pre-Stamp Era to the end
of the Britannias
Gold, Chairman's Award - Best Traditional
Exhibit, BCPSG Award

ROPEX/
NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW 2013
May 17-19
Rochester, New York

Darrell Ertzberger
Beguiling Orbs of Beauty
Gold, American Topical Association
First Award for Best Thematic Exhibit

Nevis Revenues



Steven Zirinsky has reported five new revenue stamps have been released by Nevis. They are illustrated above.

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Membership Director's Report

By Bob Stewart

New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

New Applicant

Richard Maundell, 311 Oakfern Crescent, Calgary, AB T2V 4T3 CANADA. Email: crmaundell@shaw.ca.

Address changes

Dr. Raj Ramphal, 10 Granada Court, Thornhill, ON L3T 4V4 CANADA. Email: cmramphal@rogers.com

Resignations

John Davis, Alan Rigby, Frank Wadsworth, Daniel McAdam, Peter Flynn

Dropped for non-payment of dues

Doug Coakwell, Morgan Fitzgerald, Paul Carmichael, John Cress, James Hall, Michael Hamilton, Robert DeKeyser, John Flanagan, Derek Lilley, Donald Singh, Wolfgang Weitlaner

New email addresses

Alan Moser: amoser1537@yahoo.com
Richard Watkins: spitfire007@tiscali.co.uk

Donations

Thank You SO MUCH!

John Mitchell, Karl E. Groeber, Samuel Partain, Bradley W. Brunzell, John Baker, Thomas Olson

In the last *Journal*, we did not give proper credit for our new member Kristy Ramasir. Dr. Raj Ramphal was the sponsor.

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by email at stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

Also, if you have friends who might be interested in joining, let me know and I will send them a complimentary issue of the Journal.



*Please help...
us find new members!*



We need YOUR help in this important mission today!

Deadlines *Deadlines Deadlines*

We've all got them, and this journal is no different! Deadlines for receiving material for publication (and that means in the editor's hands, not mailed) and the anticipated mailing date for each of the quarterly issues of this publication are now found at the bottom of page 3.

Please take note of these dates!

DID YOU KNOW?

Our web site, www.bcpsg.com, now contains a members' area that includes past copies of the *Journal*. To access the site, you will need a login and password which can be obtained by contacting **Bob Stewart, Membership Chairman**, at stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

New stock is being added almost every day to my website. Recent additions have included a specialised collection of Bermuda postal stationery, Martinique covers, Trinidad Officials and postage dues in complete sheets and Cayman Islands postal stationery. Also regular additions of Caribbean postcards, old maps and prints and books.



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President's Message

By Duane Larson

As I am writing this message, our AGM in the Caymans is about two weeks away. Annual reports are being put together and agendas for meetings are being formulated. Hopefully, final plans are being made and presentations are ready to go. For those of you who did not attend, you will be able to read all about it in the next issue of the *Journal*. Our next Annual General Meeting will be held March 21-23, 2014 at the St. Louis Stamp Expo. Start thinking about your exhibit for this show now, as we would like to have plenty of exhibits and attendees for this centrally located annual meeting!

Last year's financial report (2012) is in and our expenses exceeded our income by about \$3,000. At the present time, we're okay financially, but may have to make some adjustments in the areas of dues and publication expenses. We welcome your help so feel free to contact any of the Officers, Directors or Trustees with your suggestions and/or comments.

John Seidl, our Treasurer and Auction Manager, has been working hard on this year's club auction to be held in the fall. The auction will be included with the October *Journal* and posted on our website, along with illustrations. The new deadline for consignments and donation lots is July 15. Remember, bidding on auction items not only helps the consignor, it also helps the BCPSG financially.

For anyone interested in providing more immediate assistance, the BCPSG is qualified as a tax-exempt organization under IRS regulations. For most U.S. members, that means that donations to the BCPSG are tax deductible, although any member contemplating a contribution is urged to consult with his tax advisor for specific details.



In many cases, a contribution of appreciated stock or other assets can both assist the BCPSG and provide substantial tax savings to the donor.

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THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP and
 THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE



TRINIDAD
A Philatelic History to 1913



by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medlicott
 and Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL

This book was conceived by John Marriott to follow on from his original 1962 Study Paper; unfortunately he did not live to complete the work. With the help, not only of the two co-authors, but many other Trinidad collectors, our two societies have collaborated to publish this book. As the title suggests, the book covers the Trinidad-only period before the advent of Trinidad & Tobago issues. It details all Postage Stamp issues within the period, as well as the Postal Markings; the coverage includes Postal Stationery, Postage Dues, and Revenue and Official Stamps. The final chapter examines the 'D22' markings of Ciudad Bolivar, the 'TOO LATE' marks, Ship Letters, Military Mail and many other more esoteric aspects of Trinidad philately. There are five Appendices which include a listing of Trinidad Governors and Postmasters-General, details of the printings of all the Postage Stamps as well as a census of the Lady McLeod stamp with many of these illustrated in colour. And lastly, there is a long list describing many of the early Trinidad covers, pre-1860. Price: \$70.00. BCPSG Members' Price: \$63.00

This fine book is limited to 400 copies and your individually numbered copy can be ordered from:- Edward Barrow, 16704 Briardale Road, Derwood, MD 20855, Tel:- 301-816-1157 or E-mail:- e.barrow1@gmail.com. For members in Britain or Europe, orders should be sent to David Druett, Pennymead Auctions, 1, Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:- 01423 865962 or Fax:- 01423 547057 or E-mail:- Pennymead@aol.com. Or log on to www.pennymead.com, where the book can be ordered with secure credit card check out facilities.

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BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

THE LOCALLY OVERPRINTED SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS OF BAHAMAS, 1916-17

by

Peter Fernbank, FRPSL

This Study Paper examines the Special Delivery agreement made between Canada and Bahamas in 1916. National Archive sources in both Canada and the UK have been investigated to provide an in-depth review of the Canadian and Bahamas Post Office procedures for dealing with such mail. There has been some misunderstanding regarding the full validity of Canadian covers with a Bahamas Special Delivery stamp affixed, and a grading system is provided for assessing such covers. Further sections define the three settings of the overprint for each position in the sheet, and go on to examine in detail the major errors that exist on this issue. This work sheds much new light on the subject and reveals that in the past there have been a number of misconceptions regarding this issue.

Price:— £19.00 (approx US\$30.00).

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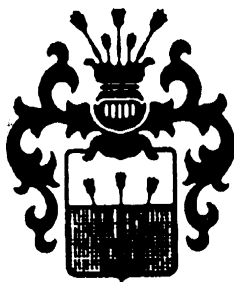
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