

# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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## *The Britannia issues of Barbados.*

*Charles Freeland takes a look at these elusive issues beginning on page 4.*





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**January issue:** Deadline November 15, mailing December 30

**April issue:** Deadline February 15, mailing March 30

**July issue:** Deadline May 15, mailing June 30

**October issue:** Deadline August 15, mailing September 30

# Barbados: More on the Britannia issues

*By Charles Freeland*

This article is based in general terms on the write-up prepared by Geoff Kellow RDP and Peter Jaffé RDP for Peter's Barbados exhibit at the 1999 Melbourne International. It has been rewritten into a continuous article for members' information in the same manner as already done for St. Christopher and St. Lucia in the *British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin*. While this text may duplicate more extensive works by Bayley, Roett and others, there are some differences that are worthy of further research. In any event, we hope it may still prove to be a useful tool for those seeking to write up a Barbados collection.

The Jaffé Barbados presented in a superb catalogue was sold by Spink on November 8, 2006. Many of the lots were still on the exhibit pages written up by the two distinguished RDPs.

## THE BRITANNIA DESIGN

A request for postage stamps for Barbados from the Co-

lonial Secretary was received by Perkins, Bacon & Co. in December 1851. The Colonial Office agreed to the use of the Britannia design which had been engraved in 1848



*Figure 2*  
*Secondary die engraved with  
Barbados name inserted.*

lonia for Mauritius and Trinidad as an undenominated plate (*Figure 1*). A similar die proof, ex-Jaffé, exists marked "Die sinkage 58 x 75mm on thin paper." This was recorded dated December 21, 1848 in Perkins, Bacon's *Engraving Book*. Subsequently, a secondary die was engraved with the Barbados name inserted (*Figure 2*).

## 1852-1855 BLUED PAPER

The use of the Britannia die, also used for Mauritius and Trinidad, required the manufacture of a plate with the country name inserted, known as the secondary plate. The Barbados plate comprised 110 units in 11 horizontal rows of 10, but there were no denominations marked as it was assumed the illiterate islanders would find it easier to identify the values by the color of the stamps.

## HALFPENNY

The first printing of the ½d in GREEN was printed in the week ending February 21, 1852. The first four consignments have been allocated to the blued paper printings, but allocation of shades to printings is not practicable as dated cancellers were not in use at this early date.



*Figure 1*  
*Britannia design engraved in 1848 for Mauri-  
tius and Trinidad as an undenominated plate.*

The four consignments are:

February 18, 1852: 30,000  
 September 13, 1854: 50,000  
 September 28, 1854: 50,000  
 May 25, 1855: 50,000

### ONE PENNY

Nine consignments invoiced between February 16, 1852 and May 25, 1855, totalling 500,000 stamps, are allocated to the blued paper printings. Accurate allocation of shades is not possible, since the shades of used stamps are difficult to match with the London remainders, but the survival of a number of covers enables the dedicated collector to guess at the sequence. Shades encountered are:

VERY DEEP BLUE  
 (on cover February 18, 1853)  
 MILKY BLUE  
 BLUE  
 STEEL BLUE  
 GREENISH BLUE  
 (on cover May 1, 1855)  
 DULL GREENISH BLUE

### TWO PENCE

Ten thousand stamps printed in "purple" in December 1851 were lost at sea in transit. A replacement consignment was invoiced on January 16, 1852. It has now been proven that these stamps were intended for the 2d value, and are more properly described as GREYISH-SLATE.

It is believed that the Colonial Postmaster was dissatisfied with the similarity in shade between the 1d and 2d stamps, and usage of the 2d was very limited. The non-arrival of a consignment of 1d stamps ordered in April 1854 resulted in the utilization of bisected 2d stamps to cover the shortage (*Figure 3*).

### FOUR PENCE

In the week ending December 9, 1854, 478 sheets of "red" stamps were printed. These were intended for the 4d denomination, and 50,000 stamps were invoiced on December 28, 1854. The stamps are in shades of BROWNISH-RED. Covers are known around 1860 bearing this stamp in conjunction with the subsequent pin perf 1ds.

Beginning around the turn of the century and continuing for about two decades, Perkins, Bacon produced reprints of the Britannia die derived from transfer rollers still in their possession. Some are on thin and some on thick card. While not hard to identify, as most are in color, collectors need to take care when acquiring these reprints as some are of relatively little value. Reference to the article by Col. Robert H. Pratt in *The American Philatelist* of December 1984 is strongly advised.<sup>1</sup>

### THE UNISSUED STAMPS

London remainders exist in two shades which do not correspond to any issued stamps. It is believed that these come from surplus sheets left over from the first printing made in the week ending January 3, 1852. This comprised 555 good sheets - 460 blue and 95 "purple" (deep slate).

Sheets of 110 units (11x10) have survived of the unissued shade in slate-blue. These include the constant plate flaw on position 104 (11/4) that shows a colored flaw on the sails of the ship at right and a gash in Britannia's throat at position 109 (11/9).

### 1856-1858 WHITE PAPER

Imperforate printings after mid-1855 were on unwatermarked paper showing no trace of the previous bluing.



*Figure 3*

*The non-arrival of the consignment of 1d stamps ordered in April 1854 resulted in utilization of bisected 2d stamps as shown on this cover.*

**HALFPENNY**

YELLOW-GREEN

- September 11, 1857 - 100,000 stamps invoiced.

GREEN

- November 24, 1858 - 100,000 stamps invoiced.

**ONE PENNY**

There are five consignments of the 1d, totalling 500,000 stamps. The first can be identified from dated examples, but allocation of the other shades is more difficult.

PALE DULL BLUE

- May 9, 1856 - 100,000 stamps invoiced. Seen dated October 20 and December 23, 1856.

BLUE

- Seen dated February 11, 1858.

**ONE PENNY**

DEEP BLUE

- Seen dated March 9, 1859.

SLATE-BLUE

- Seen dated January 7, 1859.

Perkins, Bacon provided an estimate for new 6d and 1/- stamps for United Kingdom postage on July 30, 1858. A single imperforate printing of each value was provided. Die proofs were entered in the Perkins, Bacon engraving book on September 18, 1858 (*Figure 4*, three recorded). The plate of 110 units was completed on September 29, 1858.

**SIX PENCE**

- October 14, 1858 - 82,500 stamps invoiced.



*Figure 4*

*One of three recorded die proofs of the 1858 6d denomination.*

**ONE SHILLING**

- October 14, 1858 - 55,000 stamps invoiced.

The printer described these stamps as "brown," and a mixture of this color is seen in many 1/- stamps.

**1860 PIN PERFORATIONS**

With an order for 1d stamps despatched by the Colonial Secretary on September 17, 1859, it was requested that the supply be perforated. They had another machine manufactured, fitted with a series of wheels to perforate the full sheets in one operation for each direction. The resultant pin perforation was not very satisfactory; two sets of wheels were produced in different gauges, which seem to have been used concurrently for the two consignments involved.

**PIN PERFORATION 14**

There were two consignments of pin-perforated stamps: February 9, 1860 - 100,000 1d; April 28, 1860 - 100,000 ½d and 100,000 1d stamps.

**PIN PERFORATION 12½**

1d seen used on cover dated October 25, 1860. The ½d has not been seen on cover.

**1861 CLEAN-CUT PERFORATION 14-16**

The January 1861 printings of the ½d and 1d were perforated on a new machine gauging 14-16. The clean-cut state of this machine lasted only a short time.

**HALFPENNY**

DEEP GREEN

- January 1861 - 100,000 invoiced.
- This stamp has not been recorded on cover.

**ONE PENNY**

- January 1861 - 100,000 stamps invoiced.

PALE BLUE or BLUE

**1861-1870 ROUGH PERFORATION 14-16****HALFPENNY**

The eight consignments of ½d stamps invoiced between 1863 and 1869 showed rough perforations. Assignment of shades to consignments is tentative since dated stamps are scarce.

DEEP GREEN

- October 29, 1863 - 100,000 stamps invoiced.

## BLUE-GREEN

- April 13, 1865 - 100,100 stamps invoiced.
- April 28, 1866 - 49,940 stamps invoiced.

**1861-1863 ALTERATIONS TO PLATES**

The introduction of perforation introduced the need to identify pinning points on the printed sheets of stamps if accurate perforation was to be achieved. For this purpose, vertical guidelines were engraved in the top and bottom margins of each plate. The Perkins, Bacon engraving book records these alterations being introduced on the following dates:

- Undenominated plate: September 4, 1863
- 6d: March 20, 1861
- 1/-: April 14, 1863

**1866 INTRODUCTION OF PLATE 2**

The undenominated Plate 1 continued in use for all printings up to 1866. On June 4, 1866 this plate was destroyed, having become worn, and was replaced by Plate 2, which was used for all subsequent printings. Plate 2 had a small identifying number engraved in the left margin opposite stamp No. 1.

**1861-1870 ROUGH PERFORATION 14-16****HALFPENNY**

## OLIVE-GREEN

- August 14, 1867 - 59,950 stamps invoiced.

## GREEN

- June 15, 1868 - 6,000 stamps invoiced.
- July 9, 1868 - 54,000 stamps invoiced.

## GRASS-GREEN

- December 14, 1868 - 60,000 stamps invoiced.
- November 13, 1869 - 38,000 stamps invoiced.

**ONE PENNY**

There were 14 consignments of this denomination with rough perforation, invoiced between September 26, 1861 and November 13, 1869, and totalling 1,885,430 stamps. The shades vary from pale blue to deep blue.

**TRIAL PERFORATION 11-12**

This rare perforation used by Perkins, Bacon & Co. is known only as a trial on several stamps -- the Barbados ½d, 1d and 6d; Antigua 6d; Bahamas 1d; Grenada 6d and Great Britain 1d. The stamps seem to be trials of a machine that was never brought into general use.

**FOUR PENCE**

There were four consignments of the 4d stamp with rough perforation, invoiced between September 26, 1861 and December 14, 1868, and totalling 107,200 stamps. These four printings can be distinguished on the basis of shade.

## DULL ROSE-RED

- September 26, 1861 - 50,000 stamps invoiced.

## DULL BROWN-RED

- April 3, 1865 - 24,200 stamps invoiced.

## LAKE-ROSE

- June 15, 1868 - 11,000 stamps invoiced.

## DULL VERMILION

- December 14, 1868 - 22,000 stamps invoiced.

The stamps are closest in shade to the 1865 printing, but are clearly printed from Plate 2 and therefore related to one of the 1868 printings.

**SIX PENCE**

There were seven consignments of the 6d stamp with rough perforation, invoiced between March 30, 1861 and November 13, 1869. These seven printings can be distinguished on the basis of shade.

## ROSE-RED

(Similar in shade to the imperforate stamp.)

- March 30, 1861 - 100,000 stamps invoiced.

## ORANGE-RED

- April 28, 1863 - 50,000; April 28, 1866 - 30,250; August 14, 1867 - 33,000 stamps invoiced.

## BRIGHT ORANGE-VERMILION

- June 15, 1868 - 11,000 stamps invoiced.

## DULL ORANGE-VERMILION

- December 14, 1868 - 30,000 stamps invoiced.

## ORANGE

- November 13, 1868 - 25,000 stamps invoiced.

**ONE SHILLING**

The consignment of 50,000 1/- stamps despatched on April 28, 1863 was by mistake printed in blue, the color of the 1d stamps. With the discovery of the error in the colony, the Colonial Secretary wrote to Perkins, Bacon requesting that, in view of the mistake, a new supply of 1d stamps would be required in a revised design. When

the printer pointed out that this would entail the expense of a new die, the colony agreed to a replacement supply of 1/- stamps in the correct color of black. Fourteen examples in blue are recorded, all with traces of manuscript cancellations. This is one of the most important stamps of the whole of the West Indies (*Figure 5*).

In writing to Perkins, Bacon on September 25, 1863, the Colonial Secretary stated that the error stamps "... will be returned to you, if you desire it, only a few having been disposed of for a postage stamp album." It has been assumed in the past that the surviving examples derive from this album.



**Figure 5**  
*The notorious 1/- error of color.*

However, a London origin for the stamps should not be ruled out. The Perkins, Bacon printing records show that 468 1/- sheets in blue (51,480 stamps) were printed, of which 455 (50,050 stamps) were "good," indicating a surplus, portions of which could have survived for release with the other remainder stock in the 1890s.

There were six consignments of the 1/- stamp with rough perforation, printed in shades of black, and invoiced between October 29, 1863 and November 13, 1869, totaling 192,250 stamps.

### 1861 THE "CANCELLED" STAMPS



**Figure 6**  
*Barbados stamp obliterated with "CANCELLED" handstamp.*

In April 1861, Ormond Hill, the nephew of Rowland Hill, wrote to Perkins, Bacon requesting specimens of stamps printed by the firm for distribution to several friends. Eventually, the firm provided six examples of most of the Colonial stamps printed by the firm, using stamps from surplus stock held in London. The stamps were obliterated with a "CANCELLED" handstamp in horizontal or vertical blocks of six. Barbados stamps used were the

1861 ½d clean-cut perforation, and the 1861 1d blue and 6d rose-red rough perforation (*Figure 6*). No 4d or 1/- stamps are recorded.

### 1870-1 WATERMARK LARGE STAR ROUGH PERFORATION 14-16

The Large Star watermarked paper was introduced for the stamps of Barbados with the consignment despatched on September 14, 1870, comprising all denominations. The next consignment was despatched on July 12, 1871; the philatelic evidence indicates that only the ½d stamps from this printing were on Large Star paper. Two shades of the ½d exist; it is suggested the green stamps are from the first consignment, and the yellow-green stamps from the second.

September 14, 1871

HALFPENNY GREEN: 33,000  
ONE PENNY BLUE: 165,000  
FOUR PENCE DULL ROSE-RED: 22,000  
SIX PENCE ORANGE-VERMILION: 33,000  
ONE SHILLING BLACK: 24,000

July 12, 1871

HALF PENNY GREEN: 100,000

### 1871 WATERMARK SMALL STAR ROUGH PERFORATION 14-16

The first use of the Small Star watermarked paper was for the consignment despatched on July 12, 1871. The 1d, 4d, 6d and 1/- printings were on this paper, and were the last stamps to be perforated using the "A" machine in its rough state.

July 14, 1871

ONE PENNY: 264,000  
FOUR PENCE: 22,000  
SIX PENCE: 44,000  
ONE SHILLING: 44,000

### 1872 WATERMARK SMALL STAR CLEAN CUT PERFORATION 14½ TO 15½

The Small Star paper continued in use for the next consignment, involving all denominations, was despatched on July 10, 1872. The "A" perforation machine had been renovated to produce clean-cut holes gauging 14½-15½. This was used for all denominations, but on all the ½d and 4d the horizontal perforations were made by the "B" machine gauging 11-13.

#### **HALF PENNY**

• July 10, 1872 - 33,000 stamps invoiced.

#### **ONE PENNY**

• July 10, 1872 - 253,000 stamps invoiced.



## DEEP BLUE - BLUE

**FOUR PENCE**

- July 10, 1872 - 22,000 stamps invoiced.

**SIX PENCE**

- July 10, 1872 - 22,000 stamps invoiced.

**ONE SHILLING**

- July 10, 1872 - 33,000 stamps invoiced.

**1873-1874 WATERMARK LARGE STAR  
CLEAN CUT PERFORATION 14½ TO 15½**

The Small Star paper was not suited to the size of the Barbados plates, and in 1873 further Large Star paper was made specifically for the Barbados stamps. These were all perforated on the renovated "A" machine.

**HALF PENNY**

- April 28, 1873 - 60,000 stamps invoiced.

**SIX PENCE**

- April 28, 1873 - 12,000 stamps invoiced.
- March 28, 1874 - 33,000 stamps invoiced.

The IMPERFORATE stamps are from unfinished sheets retained in London, but quite a number of used copies have been recorded, so some must have reached Barbados. One used pair is recorded, but fake perfs have been added to give the impression of an imperf between pair.

**FOUR PENCE**

- April 28, 1873 - 12,000 stamps invoiced.

**ONE SHILLING**

- April 28, 1873 - 15,000 stamps invoiced.
- March 28, 1874 - 33,000 stamps invoiced.

**1873 THREE PENCE**

On January 18, 1873 the Colonial Secretary requested Perkins, Bacon to provide a 3d plate, and send 20,000 stamps. A new die was prepared, and the plate was of 120 impressions in 10 rows of 12. Die proofs were entered in Perkins, Bacon engraving book on March 13, and hardened on March 21, 1873. The plate was finished on April 5, 1873.

The stamps were invoiced on April 28, 1873, printed on Large Star paper. The sheets were comb-perforated 14 at Somerset House, accounting for the poor centering, so well-centered examples are to be prized.

**THREE PENCE**

- April 28, 1873 - 20,000 invoiced.

**1873 NEW DENOMINATED DIES**

The consignment of April 28, 1873 was the last printed from the undenominated plate. At the same time as those stamps were ordered, the Colonial Secretary requested that ½d, 1d and 4d stamps in future "have the value inserted in the plates." These were engraved by Perkins, Bacon on the following dates:

The **HALF PENNY** proof was entered in Perkins, Bacon engraving book on March 19 and hardened on March 24, 1873.

The **ONE PENNY** proof was entered in Perkins, Bacon engraving book on March 20 and hardened on March 24, 1873.

The **FOUR PENCE** proof was entered in Perkins, Bacon engraving book on March 21 and hardened on March 24, 1873, but note that Perkins, Bacon made no printing from the Four Pence plate.

The new ½d, 1d and 4d plates were 120-set in 10 horizontal rows of 12. Perkins, Bacon made only a single printing each of the ½d and 1d prior to the transfer of stamp printing to De La Rue. The **HALF PENNY** plate was finished on April 26, 1873.

Sixty-six thousand **HALF PENNY** stamps and 66,000 **ONE PENNY** stamps were invoiced on March 28, 1874. They were printed on Large Star paper and comb-perforated 14 at Somerset House.

**1873 FIVE SHILLINGS**

A 5/- stamp was ordered at the same time as the 3d value. Perkins, Bacon used the original undenominated die used also for Mauritius and Trinidad to derive a vignette for a large-size stamp. Die proofs were entered in Perkins, Bacon engraving book on March 17 and hardened on March 21, 1873 (*Figure 7*). Plate proofs exist in black and maroon.



*Figure 7*  
**Die used to develop 5/-  
Barbados stamp in 1873.**

The plate consisted of 48 units in 4 horizontal rows

of 12 and was finished on April 10, 1873. The order for 10,000 5/- stamps was invoiced on April 28, 1873. One hundred sheets of the 5/- stamp were utilized for the 1d provisional in 1878, leaving a total issue of only 5,200 stamps. The stamps were printed on Small Star paper (sideways) and perforated 15½ x 15 at Somerset House. Examples are known handstamped "SPECIMEN" for U.P.U. distribution in 1881.

### **1878 "1d" ON FIVE SHILLINGS PROVISIONAL**

The non-arrival of the annual consignment of 1d stamps from De La Rue led to the creation in March 1878 of a locally-surcharged provisional made by bisecting the 5/- stamp and cutting off the value tablet to erase the words "5 shillings." Dated examples are found between March 29 and April 11, with occasional posthumous usage. Three types of surcharge are found.

The surcharges are found in equal quantities reading up or down, but the setting has previously defied solution as only two multiples (strips of 4 and 3) larger than unsevered pairs exist. The solution presented in the exhibit was based on a census of existing stamps, informed by the proportions of the different combinations of unsevered pairs.

The surcharge setting was of 48 surcharges (24 x unsevered pairs) to cover 24 whole 5/- stamps, the sheet being reversed in the press to complete the overprinting, and resulting in equal quantities of surcharges reading up and down, *i.e.*, 12 unsevered pairs of each.

#### **TYPE A**

- 7mm figure with slanting serif, appearing as unsevered pairs 12 times in the setting of 48.

#### **TYPE B**

- 7mm figure with straight serif, appearing three times in the setting.

#### **TYPE C**

- 6mm figure and small "D" appearing five times in the setting.

### **TRANSFER OF PRINTING PLATES**

Perkins, Bacon & Co. handed the Barbados printing plates to the Crown Agents on November 17, 1874, on the direction of the Colonial Secretary of Barbados. De La Rue & Co. continued to use these plates for printings from 1875 to 1882. Plate proofs were struck in black following the transfer of the plates.

### **DE LA RUE PRINTINGS FROM THE PERKINS, BACON PLATES**

De La Rue printings were made on Crown CC watermarked paper. The evidence of dated stamps indicates that the first two consignments of March 19 and July 14, 1875 (but excluding the 1d value) were perforated 12½. These comprised a single printing each of the ½d, 4d, 6d and 1/-. Printing on the reverse side of the paper was often deliberate to provide a better surface for intaglio printing. Indeed, the most efficient use of the Crown CC paper with the 110-set 6d and 1/- plates resulted in these two stamps being printed exclusively with watermark sideways, whereas the ½d and 4d were printed either with normal or with sideways watermarks.

#### **1875 PERFORATED 12½**

##### **HALF PENNY in green**

- 125,040 stamps invoiced.

##### **FOUR PENCE in red**

- 36,000 stamps invoiced.

##### **SIX PENCE in yellow**

- 26,510 stamps invoiced.

##### **ONE SHILLING in violet**

- 55,000 stamps invoiced (aniline ink).

#### **PERFORATED 14 - 1875**

The first 1d printing invoiced on March 19, 1875, and all printings of all values from 1876 were perforated 14. The 6d and 1/- continued to be printed with watermark sideways.

##### **HALF PENNY - seven consignments 1876-81.**

- 492,000 stamps invoiced - in shades of bright green.

##### **ONE PENNY - eight consignments 1875-1881.**

- 2,307,960 stamps invoiced in dull blue or grey blue.

The 1d grey-blue is recorded with watermark sideways; although highly rated, this stamp is frequently offered for sale and some 25 examples exist.

##### **THREE PENCE - four consignments 1876-1881.**

- 24,240 stamps invoiced - in mauve-lilac.

##### **FOUR PENCE - six consignments 1878-81.**

- 143,040 stamps invoiced in red, carmine or crimson-lake.

**SIX PENCE** - seven consignments 1876-1881.

- 169,620 stamps invoiced in chrome yellow or yellow; the scarcer yellow shade is paler and care needs to be taken in its acquisition. The sideways watermark can be found facing right or left, or reversed.

**ONE SHILLING** - six consignments 1876-81.

- 137,060 stamps invoiced in purple, dull mauve or aniline-violet; the sideways watermark can be found facing right or left, or reversed.

### SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS

Barbados joined the Universal Postal Union on September 1, 1881. Shortly afterwards a quantity of each current stamp was hand-stamped "SPECIMEN" locally for distribution to member countries of the U.P.U. The same overprint was probably also used on other presentation sets. File copies of the stamps are known hand-stamped Samuel D8 (Figure 8).



*Figure 8*  
**"SPECIMEN"**  
*handstamp overprint*  
*on Barbados stamp.*

### FOUR PENCE PERFORATED 14 x 12½

Approximately 20 examples of this rare stamp are recorded. These almost certainly emanate from London remainders, though one used example has been recorded. The only multiple is a pair, ex-Charlton Henry, that was in the Jaffé collection. This was formerly in the Creed collection that Peter acquired intact.

### 1881 1d FORMULA POSTCARDS

On December 5, 1881 the postcard rate to other West Indian islands was reduced from 1½d to 1d. To provide cards, a new formula card was printed locally, and the 1d De La Rue perforated 14 affixed prior to sale. The cards were issued on December 8, 1881, and several settings exist. Used examples are rare. Several printings of the card exist in varying sizes on different stocks, and it can be found either with or without comma after "Universelle." Membership of the U.P.U. required Barbados to provide foreign postcards. These were prepared by affixing De La Rue adhesives to a locally-printed formula card. Examples are known with the BAR 2 handstamp for circulation to U.P.U. members.

### DE LA RUE TYPOGRAPHED PRINTINGS

#### **1882 ½d, 1d, 2½d and 4d**

De La Rue used the opportunity of the worn state of the Perkins, Bacon 1d plate to advocate a change to typographed stamps using a key and duty plate system. The scheme was forwarded by the Crown Agents to Barbados in May 1881 and eventually adopted, an order for the necessary dies and plates being received by De La Rue on September 28, 1881. The initial order was for ½d, 1d, 2½d and 4d stamps only, first invoiced on April 14, 1882.

**HALF PENNY:** 11 consignments between 1882 and 1892.

- 1,534,800 stamps invoiced - in shades of dull green and green; an example with inverted watermark is known.

**ONE PENNY:** 14 consignments between 1882 and 1892.

- 4,182,000 stamps invoiced - in shades of rose and carmine; seen with inverted watermark.

**TWO PENCE HALFPENNY:** 19 consignments between 1882 and 1892.

- 902,400 stamps invoiced - in shades of deep blue and ultramarine; inverted watermarks have been recorded.

**FOUR PENCE:** two consignments in 1882 and 1883.

- 223,680 stamps invoiced, in grey.

#### **1884 3d and 4d BROWN**

The first order for a 3d stamp was despatched on September 8, 1884. Just prior to this, the Colonial Postmaster had complained of the similarity of the 4d stamps to those of the ½d under artificial light, and requested a change. The Crown Agents eventually chose brown for the color of the 4d stamp. Both the 3d and 4d brown were first invoiced on October 24, 1884 in deep purple. One hundred examples of each bearing D12 specimen were circulated by the U.P.U.

**THREE PENCE** - six consignments between 1884 and 1892.

- 47,040 stamps invoiced in shades of reddish purple and deep purple.

**FOUR PENCE:** Ten consignments between 1884 and 1892.

- 1,034,640 stamps invoiced in shades between pale and deep brown; examples are known with inverted, reversed and inverted and reversed watermarks.

## Update on Cayman Islands' first airmail flight

By Tom Giraldi

**W**e have discovered an earlier date of usage on AM4C 1947, a Cayman Islands first airmail flight. This looks to be a commercial cover sent to R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in North Carolina from "Tibbetts & Co. Aerated Water Makers" on Cayman Brac.

Also note the red "AIRMAIL" handstamp (Giraldi Brac Type 2) along with "Via Airmail" in manuscript not seen before on these flight covers. The cancellation is "Cayman Brac, 17 October 1947" and the backstamp (date readable but rest of circular datestamp is too faint) is November 10. The cachet is AM4A in red.



*Earlier date of use on AM4C 1947, a Cayman Islands first airmail flight. The faint backstamp (right) is November 10, 1947.*

### **Barbados: More on the Britannia issues** ————— (Concluded)

#### **1886 6d, 1/- and 5/-**

The first order for 6d, 1/- and 5/- stamps was despatched by the Colonial Postmaster on June 14, 1886 and first invoiced on August 23, 1886. Four hundred of the initial consignment of each of the three values were overprinted "SPECIMEN" by De La Rue for distribution to UPU members.

#### **SIX PENCE:** four consignments 1886-92.

- 14,640 stamps invoiced.

#### **ONE SHILLING:** seven consignments 1886-92.

- 35,520 stamps invoiced.

#### **FIVE SHILLINGS:** two consignments 1886-92.

- 3,600 stamps invoiced.

#### **1892 HALF-PENNY on 4d LOCAL SURCHARGE**

An order handed to De La Rue on June 3, 1892 for ½d stamps could not be supplied in time to prevent a shortage of that value. A provisional was created by surcharg-

ing 120,000 of the 4d brown at the West Indian Press in Bridgetown. These were placed on sale on July 11. The so-called double overprints are in fact trial surcharges in red overstruck in black. An example exists with both overprints in black. The missing hyphen occurs on several positions in the setting of 60.

#### **FOOTNOTE**

<sup>1</sup> Robert H. Pratt, "Perkins Bacon & Co.: Their Trade Samples, Brought Up to Date," *The American Philatelist*, Vol. 98, No. 12, December 1984, pp. 1175-1183.

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

*Thanks to Geoff Kellow.*

# Jamaica and Trinidad updates

By David Horry, FRPSL

Michael Hamilton has discovered a bad “typo” on a QEII Jamaican postmark. When he sent me a copy, via email, with the simple message, “OMG” -- I didn’t twig straight away. The offending canceller is the IRWIN TRO\*(1) dated 30 Jan 1963:



**Figure 1**  
Irwin TRO\*(1), January 10 & 30, 1963, “JAMAICA” misspelt!

Typos are fairly rare, but as human beings are involved, do occur. I can think of an unissued Trinidad New Birmingham, incorrectly inscribed, “CALIFORNIS” (Figure 3) – it should, of course, been “CALIFORNIA” (Figure 4) but was never used.

Another offending Jamaican TRO\* was from GRANVILLE and issued on November 7, 1949 (Figure 5) – it read “GLANVILLE”! It was replaced by a denticulated tTRO in July 1951 (Figure 6). Another tTRO which has been noted was for DUMFRIES



**Figure 2**  
Irwin TRO\*(2), July 19, 1965  
“JAMAICA” spelled correctly.

it reads “JAMAICA” at the base (Figure 1)! This canceller was issued three weeks earlier on January 10, 1963 and as far as is recorded was replaced by TRO\*(2) on July 19, 1965 (Figure 2). That was replaced by TRO\*(3) on May 22, 1967 and finally a steel instrument sSC was in use by July 1971.

– misspelt “DUMPHRIES” and reported by Blackburn in 1946. If you have a copy I would welcome a scan.



**Figure 3**  
Trinidad “CALIFORNIS”  
NB\* PR typo, July 30, 1958. (Illustration enlarged to show detail.)

Another scan I am looking for is from ASHLEY, a pretty remote and scarce office (Figure 7). The TRO\* in question is unlike TRO\*(1a and 1b) issued April 14, 1949 (Figure 8). It apparently has “ASHLEY” italicized and was thought to be a fake or Aguilar confection and is dated January 27, 1950.



**Figure 4**  
Trinidad – “CALIFORNIA” NB\* - PR. September 21, 1959, January 21, 1960, typo corrected. (Illustration enlarged to show detail.)

Ashley was provided with a “Registered” oval in April 1950 and it was used intermittently until October 1955 (Figure 9). This is only one of two known Aguilar covers that bear an RO, making it very rare.

I am presently writing a book on the mysterious “Registered” ovals of Jamaica and Trinidad which will be published by the BWISC. Last year many of you sent in your dates for the ROs at these 28 offices; it was a great help. Ian Potter, Tom Foster, Bob Topaz and Clint von Pohle all wrote about these strange devices and the lack of information about their origins. Quite a few covers have come to light and all but Buff Bay, Lucea (Lucy), Tower Isle and Williamsfield are very difficult to find. If anyone has any further examples there is still time to include

them in the book.

The 11 ROs from the early 1950s on Trinidad covers are very hard to come by and again if you have any please let me know, bearing in mind that

East Dry River, Les Efforts, Maracas Road are common but less so on early covers. Mucurapo is rare indeed! Any Caratal, Charlieville, Clark Rochard, Cocoyea, Diamond or Point Cumanas in your collection? I'd love to hear from you.



**Figure 5**  
*Jamaica – GLANVILLE TRO\* - ERD*  
*November 7, 1949 – misspelt.*



**Figure 7**  
*Ashley Postal Agency, in Clarendon Parish, miles off the beaten track. The photograph was taken in 2015.*



**Figure 6**  
*Jamaica – GRANVILLE tTRO\*, September 27, 1951, corrected.*



**Figure 8**  
*Jamaica – ASHLEY TRO\*(1), May 9, 1950.*

Finally, has anyone got a Trinidad - Fishing Pond Skeleton (Sk) from June 1952? Jim Gordon of Bristol, Tennessee had one; however, I do not know what happened to his collection after his death three or four years back.

I can be contacted at [horry@talk21.com](mailto:horry@talk21.com) or through Michael Hamilton.

**Figure 9 (right)**  
*Jamaica – Ashley RO\* on Everard Aguilar cover dated May 17, 1952.*

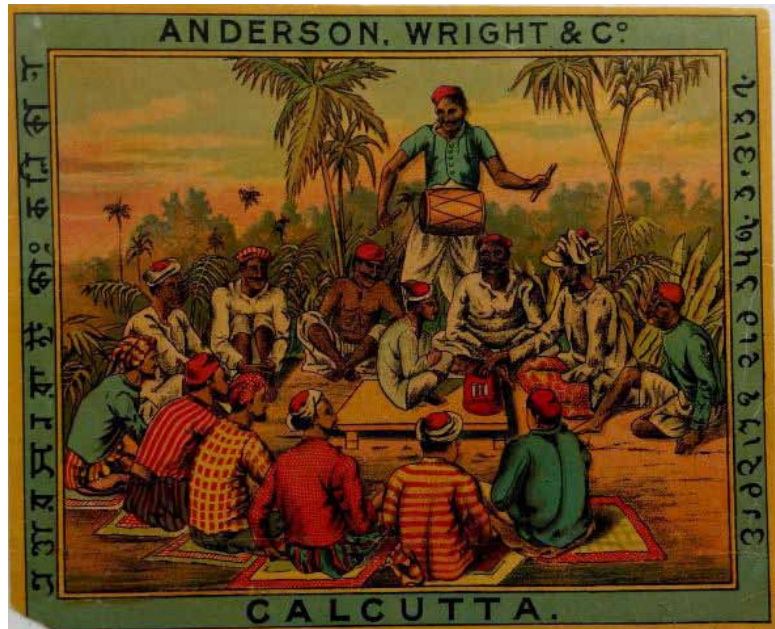


# Post Office Stationery Wrappers of St. Lucia

By Dr. John K. Courtis, FRPSL

The business archives of the large British managing import/export agency Anderson, Wright & Co. in Calcutta, India were the repository of almost one-third of the extant post office postal stationery used wrappers of St. Lucia.

This mass of wrappers bearing the same address is an example of “clustering” where quantities of old wrappers are saved from destruction when archives are cleared of unwanted paper documents. Someone salvaged at least 16 wrappers addressed to Joseph Goodman, care of this firm and these wrappers have made their appearance over the years on the eBay market. The firm was responsible for controlling tea and jute companies in India and importing oil from the world market. A vintage trade illustration is shown as *Figure 1*.



*Figure 1*  
Vintage Trade Illustration of Messrs. Anderson, Wright & Company.

As explained in previous articles on wrappers published in this journal, the author has hand-collected daily the images of used post office postal stationery wrappers listed for sale on the Internet site eBay. Between September 2001 and the time of writing, the size of the author’s worldwide database has grown to 41,000 different images. Of these, there are 42 examples of used wrappers from St. Lucia and it is this sample that is examined in this paper.

			
E1/001: 1887	E2/002: 1887	E3/003: 1905	E4/004: 1905
			
E5/005: 1912	E6/006: 1912		E7/007: 1913

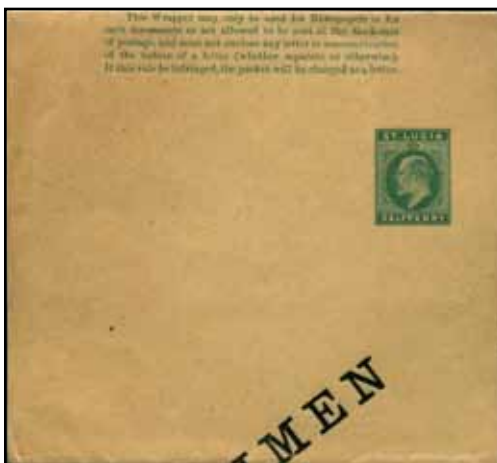
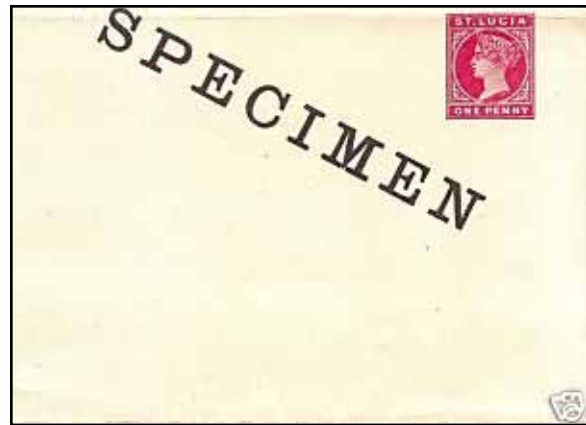
*Figure 2a*  
Indicia used on wrappers of St. Lucia.

### Post Office Issues

Following other British West Indies Colonies keyplate wrapper issues, those of St. Lucia first appeared on December 19, 1887 with the Queen Victoria diademed profile printed by De La Rue, London. There was a ½d green and a 1d red, both printed on two types of paper: cream and buff. While it is tempting to claim that the lower denomination was intended for domestic and inter-island use in the Caribbean to comply with the ½d printed papers rate for 4 ounces, the evidence points elsewhere. Of the 16 wrappers addressed to Anderson, Wright, 14 of the ½d E1 type were addressed to Calcutta, India and one of the 1d E2 type (and one of E5).

A change in monarch brought about another keyplate pair in 1905 bearing the head of King Edward VII in the same colors and denomina-

**Figure 2b**  
*Specimen overprint wrappers*





tions. Yet another change in monarch heralded in the King George V keyplate issues in 1912, again in the same colors and denominations. One year later in 1913 there was a change in color in the 1d red to brown. All printings were done by De La Rue, London. These seven indicia are shown in **Figure 2a**, taken from the forthcoming catalogue of wrappers by Jan Kosniowski with his kind permission. The “E” Higgins & Gage catalogue numbers and Kosniowski catalogue numbers are shown also.

All seven types have counterpart “Specimen” overprints applied to meet U.P.U. requirements for member countries, and each of these is shown in **Figure 2b**. For the E6 overprint, there is another horizontal “SPECIMEN” in upper-case type (this second version was provided courtesy of Jan Kosniowski). This could have been applied for many non-UPU reasons. Anecdotally, sometimes it is easier to find Specimen overprint wrappers on eBay than used examples.

### Supply Listed on eBay

All types have been listed on eBay over the past 14+ years with the exception of the 1912 1d red King George V (E6)m a used example of which has never appeared. This must surely be one of the most elusive wrappers. Table 1 summarizes the quantities of each post office type that appear in the database.

**Table 1: Quantities of St. Lucia Wrappers Listed on eBay since September 2001**

Post Office Issues			Address Destinations		Destination Countries
H&G E#	Quantity Listed	Uprated	Local	Non-local	
1	25	0	0	25	India (15), GB (3), Germany (3), Panama, British Honduras, USA, Sudan (1 each)
2	8	1	0	8	Germany (4), Sierra Leone (2), Switzerland, St. Thomas (1 each)
3	4	1	0	4	British Honduras, Austria, Panama, unreadable (1 each)
4	2	0	0	2	Austria (2)
5	2	0	0	2	India, Cuba (1 each)
6	0	0	0	0	
7	1	0	0	1	Germany (1)
<b>O'all Totals</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	

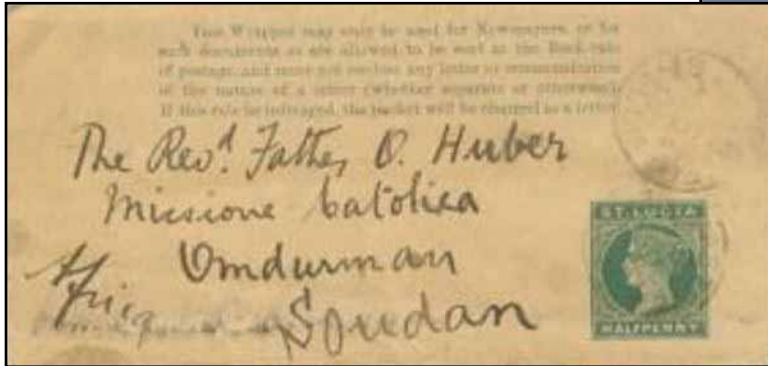
For the postal history collector, there are 14 countries represented as destinations: India (16), Germany (8), Austria and Great Britain (3 each), Panama, British Honduras and Sierra Leone (2 each) and Cuba, Switzerland, U.S.A., Sudan and St. Thomas (1 each) and one unreadable. The postmarking on the 16 wrappers addressed to Anderson, Wright in Calcutta, India are all circular date stamps “ST LUCIA” and a sole E5 example marked “CASTRIES” and dated “MR 2 15.” All other postmarks addressed to this firm are between the dates January 18, 1891 and January 27, 1896.

Overall, the wrappers of St. Lucia are unremarkable because there are no auxiliary markings, no identified ship names, no postage due, no registered usage, no private printing added and no seals, cinderellas or consular markings. The postmarking shows either “ST LUCIA” and/or “CASTRIES.”

Examples of particular interest are wrappers addressed to Sudan and Sierra Leone in Africa, arguably exotic destinations for such wrappers and these two cases are shown as **Figure 3a** (next page).

Used examples of an Anderson, Wright wrapper and E4, E5 and E7 are shown as Figure 3b on page 19.

**Figure 3a: Two Cases of Exotic Destinations of St. Lucia Wrappers**

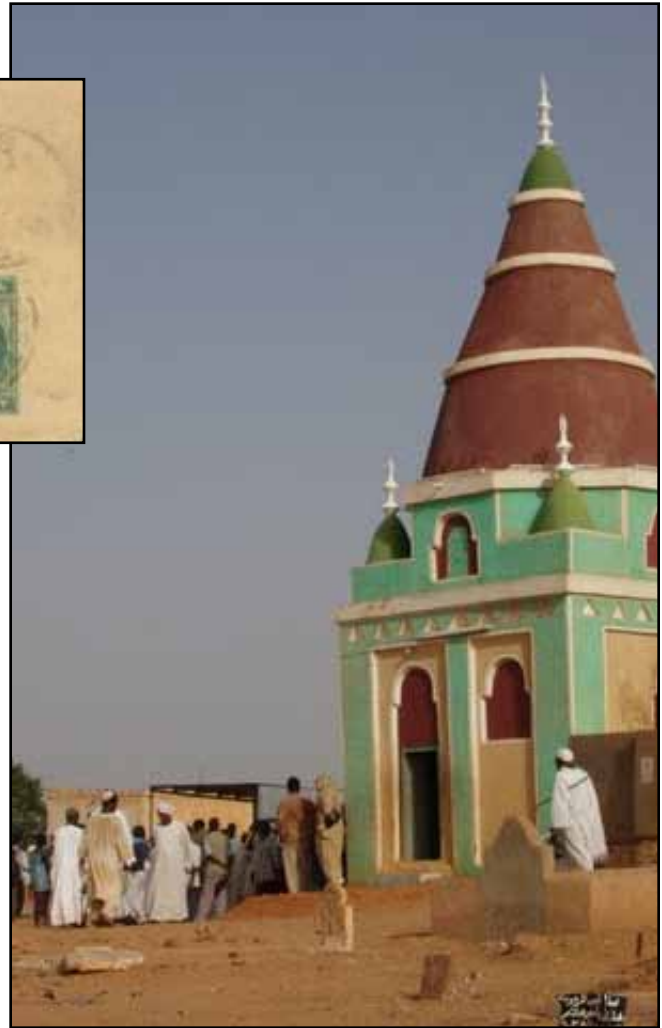


*(Above)*

**Addressed to Rev'd Father Q. Huber, Catholic Mission, Omdurman, Sudan. Postmark details illegible but circa 1894.**

*(Right)*

**Omdurman is the largest city in Sudan and Khartoum State, lying on the western banks of the River Nile, opposite the capital, Khartoum.**



*(Left)*

**Addressed to Mr. S. Remban, Freetown, Sierra Leone, postmarked "JY 29 04."**

*(Below)*

**Freetown is the capital and largest city of Sierra Leone. It is a major port city on the Atlantic Ocean and is located in the western area of the country. Postcard dated "20-1-04" (from eBay).**

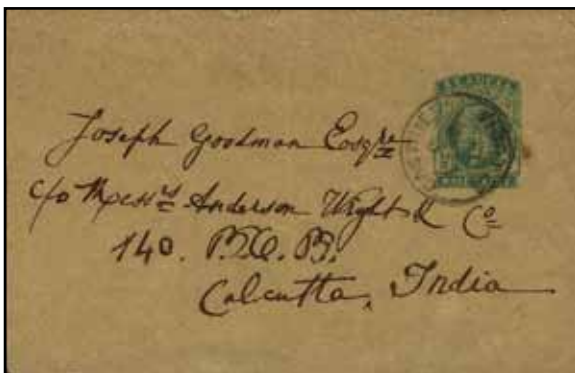


**Figure 3b: Examples of Wrappers of Interest**

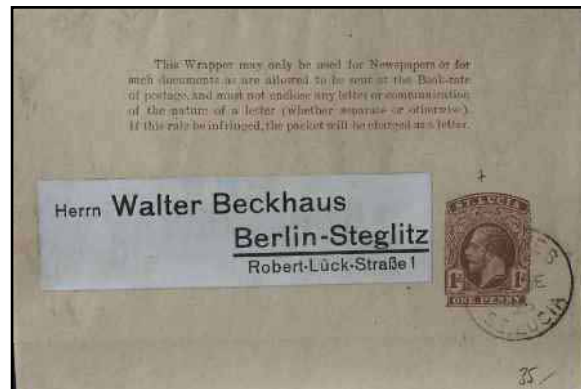
**Joseph Goodman Esq., c/o Messrs Anderson, Wright & Co., Calcutta, India.**



**E4: addressed to Austria.**



**E5: Later 1915 example to Anderson, Wright.**



**E6: Sole example, to philatelic provider, Germany.**

**Sales Demand (eBay)**

Another database developed by the author is information about daily sales of used wrappers on eBay. These sales figures have been hand-collected daily since March 2006 and the size of this database is almost 16,500 transactions. Of these, only 16 refer to the wrappers of St. Lucia. Collector interest in these wrappers is low; only one transaction stands out with eight bidders seeking a particular copy of an E2 wrapper. (The database does not track individual items listed to their eventual sale.) Sole bidder transactions dominate with 88 percent accounting for 14 of the 16 recorded sales.

There were 11 recorded sales of St. Lucia overprinted "SPECIMEN" wrappers. These were evenly spread over six of the issues, the E6 overprint not having been recorded in normal or overprinted versions. Bidder interest was weak also for these overprinted copies, adding weight to the argument that there appears to be few wrapper collectors of St. Lucia. Sample sizes are too small to make any significant observations about pricing. The evidence that does exist shows that there was only one sale above US\$20 for a post office issue and none above US\$14.50 for the specimen overprints. Only 30 percent of sales exceeded \$10.

**Conclusion**

There has been a smattering of St. Lucia used post office postal stationery wrappers listed on eBay over the past 14+ years. The total of 42 copies out of a database of worldwide used copies represents one St. Lucia wrapper per 1,000 listed. On the face of it, this low proportion would imply some scarcity factor but from a collector demand point of view this is not apparent. There is little interest in these wrappers more so because they are unremarkable with no postal history appeal other than destinations, of which two are noteworthy -- Sudan and Sierra Leone. Even so there

# *Federico Borromeo and Giorgio Migliavacca* *share study group's prestigious honors*

By Charles Freeland

The Award Committee comprising Ed Barrow, Keith Moh and myself decided to make the following awards for 2015:

### The Addiss Award

The Addiss award for lifetime contribution to philatelic writing and research is awarded to Federico Borromeo for his book on Nevis published by the British West Indies Study Circle.

### The Durnin Award

The Durnin award for the best research article in the BCPSG *Journal* goes to Giorgio Migliavacca for his ar-

ticle titled "Virgin Islands vs. St Thomas: How Tortola lost its battle for postal supremacy in the West Indies." The article was published in the April 2015 issue of the *Journal*.

Interestingly, neither of these awards went to native English (or American) speakers, demonstrating that a linguistic handicap is no impediment to winning our awards.

At our AGM in New York when I announced these awards, I used the opportunity to recall with deep regret, the recent death of my predecessor as chair of the Awards Committee and distinguished editor of this journal, Michel Forand.

## Post Office Stationery Wrappers of St. Lucia *Concluded*

was no flurry of excitement; bidder interest remained passive when wrappers from this country have been listed for sale. Of the sales details recorded, only 11 of 16,463 sales are of St. Lucia, this representing one transaction per 1,000 sales. None of the realized sales figures are of any special significance, with 88 percent of sales falling below \$20.

The one challenge that does exist, however, is for collectors to find a used copy of E6 being the 1d red King George V. This wrapper was issued in 1912 and was short-lived, being replaced in 1913 with the 1d brown. No used example of this wrapper has been sighted by this author from eBay or other sources. If for no other reason the analysis of the supply and demand of the wrappers of St. Lucia has been worthwhile to unearth this observation. The reason behind a second type of "Specimen" overprint for the E6 issue is another matter for consideration.

Table 2: Sales of Wrappers of St. Lucia since March 2006

H&G #	Sales Details (Ranked Low to High in USD) & Number of Bidders per Sale (in Parentheses)	# of Sales	Mean Sale Price	Mean # of Bidders
<b>Post Office Issues:</b>				
1	1.99 (1), 5.53 (1), 9.50 (1), 9.99 (1), 13.99 (1)	5	8.20	1.00
2	1.60 (1), 8.95 (1), 13.50 (2), 19.17 (8), 19.99 (1), 24.00 (1)	6	14.54	2.33
3	6.99 (1), 7.99 (1)	2	7.49	1.00
4	7.00 (1), 9.95 (1)	2	8.48	1.00
5	0.99 (1)	1	0.99	1.00
6	No sales recorded	0	0.00	0.00
7	No sales recorded	0	0.00	0.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>10.07</b>	<b>1.50</b>
<b>Specimen Sales:</b>				
1	1.51 (1), 12.27 (2)	2	6.89	1.50
2	2.99 (1), 9.00 (1)	2	6.00	1.00
3	9.00 (1)	1	9.00	1.00
4	4.32 (2), 9.00 (1), 14.50 (4)	3	9.27	3.50
5	9.00 (1)	1	9.00	1.00
6	No sales recorded	0	0.00	0.00
7	9.00 (1), 12.49 (2)	2	10.75	1.50
<b>Totals</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>8.46</b>	<b>1.55</b>

### Acknowledgments

*Once again, I offer my sincere thanks to Allan Gory for reading and commenting on an earlier draft. He asks insightful questions that result in a strengthening of the paper. My thanks, too, to Jan Kosniowski for granting permission to copy his indicium images taken from his forthcoming catalogue in 2016 of worldwide wrappers.*

# 2016 Annual General Meeting

## British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Thursday, June 2, 2016, World Stamp Show, New York City, New York.

**Officers, Trustees and Honorary Members in attendance:** P. Bondor, D. Cordon, P. Elias, G. Frantz, C. Freeland, M. Gleadall, J. Harwood, D. Larson, R. Maisel, D. MacKenzie, J. Pare, P. Ramsaroop, J. Sawicki, J. Seidl, B. Stewart, D. Sukham, E. Todd, M. Wozniak.

**President's Welcome and Opening Remarks:** The meeting was called to order by President Duane Larson at 2:10 p.m. He welcomed members to New York City and this AGM. All present then introduced themselves.

**Apologies for absence:** G. Booth, I. Burges, D. Druett, P. Ford, S. Greenwood, P. Larsen, E. Parker, D. Wade, E. Waterous, D. Wilson, J. Wynns, R. Wynstra, S. Zirinsky.

**Minutes of AGM of May 16, 2015 (Denver):** The minutes were distributed and approved (proposed Richard Maisel, seconded Don MacKenzie, carried unanimously).

**Matters arising: none**

**President's Report:** Duane Larson reported that 2015 had been a good year and the society was heading in the right direction. The death of Michel Forand of Canada was reported with special mention of his excellent contribution as the society's editor over many years. The resignation of V.P. Bill Gompel was announced and his replacement will be discussed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board has approved an annual dues increase of \$2 as from January 2017.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Seidl distributed the 2015 financial statements. Expenditure exceeded income by \$2,837. Dealers' advertising helped, with thanks to Tom Giraldi, but the postage expenses were high. The executive meeting has approved a change in banks. It was decided to sell 100 of the Trinidad books back to BWISC.

**Secretary's Report:** Mary Gleadall reported that three trustees were appointed for the six year term of office ending December 31, 2021: Eric Todd, Maurice Wozniak and John Wynns. Sincere thanks to retiring trustees Tom Giraldi, Bob Stewart and Stephen Schumann whose terms ended December 31, 2015.

**Membership Chairman's Report:** Bob Stewart reported that presently we have 262 members (includes 18 complimentary, 41 electronic memberships). This is a decrease of 20 since the Denver show a year ago. Difficulty in attracting new members and collecting delinquent dues.

**Awards Chairman's Report:** We are in good shape with medals but when we need more in a couple of years suggest sourcing them locally rather than from Germany. Also request previous recipients to donate their unwanted medals. Paul Larsen, who purchases the awards, stated that shipping is now very expensive and suggested awardees may like to rather donate to their charity of choice. There was a need for a local member at each AGM to receive the medals for the awards.

**Future AGM dates:** 2017, Nov 17 - 19 CHICAGOPEX; 2018, May, Eleuthera, Bahamas (West Indies island destination chosen every five years). Jack Harwood described Eleuthera as a primitive island with a population of 10,000 served by 40 post offices, thus requiring our group to be centrally located. Direct flights from Florida. He will write a full description for the *Journal*. For 2019 and beyond, WESTPEX (easy to get to, well attended); TEXPEX (February/March; Peter Elias offered to co-ordinate); PIPEX (Portland).

**Any other business:**

**Awards:** Charles Freeland, on behalf of his three man team, announced the Addiss Award (lifetime achievement in writing/publishing around the topic of British Caribbean philately) is awarded to Federico Borromeo for his Nevis book and the Durnin Award (outstanding article for BCPSG *Journal*) is awarded to Giorgio Migliavacca for his article on BVI airmails. Paul, acting for Rob Wynstra, announced the Cameron Award (best British Caribbean Exhibit by BCPSG member) would be presented at the banquet that night. The Cooley Award (service to BCPSG) was presented to Charles Freeland for his truly committed service to the group over many, many years. The Jimmy Stern Award for first time exhibitor was not awarded this year. The previous year it had been awarded to Peter Ford for his British Guiana exhibit at the Denver Show.

**BCPJ article:** Everett Parker needs more articles urgently (he used to have a backlog of two years). Please send him articles.

**Future dues increase:** \$2 as from January 2017.

**Journal scanning** (October 2010 – current) is being undertaken by the BWISC but they need help with the old issues.

The meeting adjourned at 2: 55 p.m. (proposed John Paré, seconded Eric Todd).

Submitted by  
Mary Gleadall, Secretary

## *New York Stamp Show was quite an event with many BCPSG activities!*

By Charles Freeland  
*Of Switzerland*

The U.S. Stamp Show that is held every 10 years took place in New York from May 28 to June 4. Typically, our U.S. hosts hired an enormous hall (the Javits Center that covered four blocks from 34th to 37th Streets on 11th Avenue). There were almost 700 competitive exhibits comprising over 4,000 frames, more if you include the 200 odd literature exhibits and the 100 or so invited exhibits or Court of Honor, hundreds of dealers and auction houses and dozens of specialist societies with manned booths.



*Peter Ford of the British West Indies Study Group (BWISC), left, and BCPSG President Duane Larson await visitors.*

Photo by John Paré

Most of these took the opportunity to organize specialist meetings in the downstairs catacombs, and I went down there for several convivial events. The BCPSG shared a booth with the BWISC and the Bermuda Collectors Society (BCS) and recruited four new members. We also helped to sell around \$1,500 worth of BWISC books on Caribbean topics. Activity around the hall seemed pretty lively and all the dealers I spoke to seemed satisfied with the business that they were conducting, which augurs

well for the future of our hobby. If there was a surprise omission, it was that Her Majesty the Queen regrettably had no invited exhibit owing to practical difficulties regarding insurance.

Although pre-registration for the show needed a certain amount of time, unregistered persons seemed to find no impediment to entry and the first thing we saw as we entered the hall was a whole pile of free brochures that included in its 80 pages an exhaustive list of all the exhibits, events and dealers and where to find them all. There was also a more substantial catalogue at \$10.

The exhibits were laid out in long rows in a side hall, excellently lit (remember Washington) and very clearly numbered so finding a particular exhibit was a doddle (although possibly a longish walk). Eight of our distinguished members competed and their awards were as follows, though as always some were disappointed:

**Championship (not scored):** Boylan St. Vincent De La Rue period, already a three times Large Gold winner, was wonderfully presented and had been substantially reinforced since I last saw it in 2010 in London. However, it had no chance in the Grand Prix race against the big hitters from the U.S., U.K. and China (for the record a Panama exhibit won the overall Grand Prix and Mongolia the Grand Prix International).

**Large Golds:** Darryl Fuller (Leeward Islands Postal Stationery) and Richard Maisel (The early sailing ships of British Guiana). Darryl's award was no surprise as it is the third time he has achieved LG after London in 2010 and Melbourne in 2013 (now into the intimidating Championship, Darryl!). But Richard's LG was a massive achievement as it was a first time entry and moreover comprised only 5 frames ... its title was intelligent as it allowed Richard to exclude the Cotton-reels.

**Golds:** David Pitts (Bermuda Postal History: Forerunners to the UPU) and Graham Booth (The Postal History of the Cayman Islands). There was a frisson of shock that David Pitts (and Art Groten's) exhibit had been downgraded from the LG it won in Rio to G, but we were told it had been docked five points for including the five Postmasters which were strictly not postal history but stamps ... gee, where was that Rio jury? Graham Booth, however, would have been delighted with another

er G for his Cayman Islands' postal history as it justified his recent decision to sell his stamps and beef up his covers. Actually, Graham's was a lovely exhibit, strong in Jamaica used in Caymans, with all the marks shown on cover including no less than three nice boxed Cayman Bracs. Not quite in the class of Richard Maisel's Cayman Islands exhibit that won three LGs, but still very impressive.

**Large Vermeils:** Our "team" won three large vermeils. David Cordon might have been disappointed that his two Bermuda exhibits (five frames of large keyplates replete with proofs and flaws and a single frame Docks) were unable to get those couple of extra points need for G but this was an international where he was up against the "big boys." Stefan Heijtz won a well deserved LV for his extraordinary collection of Puerto Rico Postal History, as well as showing three invited frames of New York's Postmasters Provisionals. BWISC member Keith Hanman also earned a LV for his Bahamas Postal Stationery, built up within an amazingly short time and based originally on our late member Graham Hoey's collection, albeit heavily supplemented with De La Rue proof material. Peter Elias had two minor literature exhibits, one in electronic form.



**BCPSG President  
Duane Larson,  
seated, and Mem-  
bership Director  
Bob Stewart.  
Photo by John Paré**

Others among our members played a prominent role in the exhibition. Peter McCann was Jury President while Bernie Beston, Dan and Pat Walker were among dozens of Jury members, while long-time member Steve Schumann was Commissioner General.

So far as the meetings were concerned, Colin Fraser and Richard Maisel organized an interesting one day seminar on BWI philately, while both the BCPSG and the BCS held their AGMs during the week. I expect Dwayne and

Mary will write up the AGM for us, but I was pleased to be there to announce the Durnin and Addiss awards (see separate short report). Fraser and Maisel's seminar was well-planned with expert slideshows on Barbados postal history (Stefan Heijtz), Bermuda (David Cordon), early Br. Guiana cotton-reels (Simon Greenwood), blockade mail during the U.S. Civil War (Richard Maisel), surface-printed British Guiana (Peter Ford), Cayman Islands' Panton covers (John Seidl), Dominica (Simon Richards), postal stationery (Wayne Menuz), 1935 Silver Jubilees (Gary Loew), BWI War Tax issues (Peter Elias) and short presentations by Ed Grabowski, Keith Harmer and John Pare. Fortunately, Gary Loew was on hand to sort out the technological hiccups! On the social side, a convivial dinner for BCPSG members was later held at a nearby restaurant.

Finally, the U.S. organizers worked hard to keep the show in the public eye. The inverted Jenny was a big feature with one of the actual Jenny aeroplanes on display in the forecourt and the finest graded example of the stamp on sale at a Siegel auction on the first Sunday when it fetched a staggering price of \$1.35 million plus taxes. There was also a presentation to hand over to the APRL a notorious Inverted Jenny, one of a block of four stolen from the APS in 1955, which had recently been identified after being consigned for sale to Siegel. The story obviously caught the attention of the media, as several camera crews from the likes of Fox and CNBC were spotted.

### ***Help needed with forthcoming new book research***

Charles Freeland, Roy Bond and Russell Boylan are writing a handbook on 20th century St Vincent. Charles asks members who have specialized collections containing interesting essays and proofs or plate number pieces from this island to contact him at [charles.freeland@hotmail.com](mailto:charles.freeland@hotmail.com). Particularly required are blocks from the lower right corners of the two GVI definitive sets.

### ***Illustration was actually from Brazil and not St. Lucia***

It appears we erred in the illustration and short article by John Scott of the Postal History Society, published in the July issue of the *Journal*. Mr. Scott said the letterhead illustrated showed a scene on the island of St. Lucia. However, our David Druett of the United Kingdom, and owner of Pennymead Books, said the view is actually of Brazil. He offered a website for the document at <http://bdlb.bn.br/acervo/handle/123456789/33394>.

*A book review*

# *Antigua: The Stamps and Postal History*

By Charles Freeland and John M. Jordan

*Review by Rev. Peter Brooks of the United Kingdom*

I moved to a new post as a Methodist minister in August 1970. I knew little more about stamp collecting than I had gleaned as a schoolboy. An elderly neighbor and one of his friends were keen stamp collectors. They introduced me to the wider world of philately and to a magazine which just at that time was featuring a series of articles by E.V. Toeg titled "Why not collect Antigua?" That may well be the reason why 45 years later I welcome this book which in one volume covers the stamps and postal history of the one country I have tried to collect in depth, although within the limitations of a Methodist minister's stipend and pension!

I joined the BCPSG. At that time a group of members were hoping to produce a handbook on Antigua and provisional chapters appeared in the *Journal*. Their book never appeared but the authors of this book published by the BWISC acknowledge their debt to that preparatory work. I would also like to put on record my own indebtedness to George Bowman, Bill Cornell, Mark Swetland and John Willem for their support, encouragement and friendship over the years. I learned much from them and their research.

The book begins with a brief description of the island and its history with both early and modern maps and further references to the historical background insofar as this affected early postal history. That postal history is fascinating in itself but fully covered for the collector with chapters on the handstruck postal markings found on both packet and ship letters. There is a brief mention (page 10) of packet letters receiving markings of the port of arrival and the later Maritime Mail chapter (page 253) explains this further. A description of the Falmouth Packet Letter handstamps applied to "loose" packet letters with illustrations would have been helpful as they are found on letters from Antigua and are much sought after. The boxed "PACKET LETTER" which performed the same purpose was probably applied in London (illustrated on page 254).

The first stamps to be used in Antigua were those of Great Britain in the period 1858 – 60 and the chapter on these is followed by a very full description of the first Antigua issues, the Queen Victoria stamps produced

from the same 1d and 6d plates from 1862 to 1890. Here is all that the collector of these issues needs. I remember corresponding with Bill Cornell and finding that nearly every stamp on the 1d sheet can be plated and many on the 6d. On the 6d, the large blob of color on the right leg of the first "A" of "ANTIGUA" at position 74 is more obvious than some plate varieties that are listed. Later other Victorian values were printed from the De La Rue key plates. The stamps of the following reigns are comprehensively covered.

There is a chapter on revenue stamps. Here as throughout, the illustrations are excellent and give these stamps an appeal that may encourage others to collect them. Postal stationery is well covered. There are chapters on registration services and maritime mail, consignment tables and an adequate section on postal rates.

The chapter on post offices and postmarks satisfies in every way with clear illustrations, excellent descriptions and set out in chronological order with full details of the village post offices. There is a useful resumé of Antigua marks at the end of the chapter. Date ranges of postmarks are always subject to extension. For example, OP1 has an EKD of April 8, 1891 and OP2 an EKD of January 13, 1908 (page 189). S16 (page 186): Proud is right to give a LKD for this postmark as 1938. A similar postmark but without the dots and the full stop equidistant between "ST" and "JOHNS" is also known in this period from 1933. The year date in full (as illustrated) is known only in 1932. S17 is best distinguished by the smaller letters and figures in the date.

Compared to the excellent and detailed chapters on World War II censor markings and on the U.S. postal services on the island in the same war, the chapter on air mails is a disappointment. Air mail is a significant area of postal history and deserved more despite its complexity. Tables of air mail rates such as in Michael Oliver's Leeward Islands' book (to which reference is made) could have been revised and included. George Bowman's research published in the BWISC *Bulletin* in 1970 (issues 68-70) would have provided much information. Interestingly, Antigua enjoyed what must have been the lowest air mail rate ever when in 1943, under an agreement with British West Indies Airways, rates to some other islands in the Caribbean were reduced by as



much as 80 percent to 2½d per ½ ounce all in, the same rate as surface mail for letters up to one ounce.

There is always human interest in postal history. A letter to a Rev. John Rigaud is illustrated on page 36. No doubt the letter concerned a relation, the Rev. Stephen Rigaud, a one-time fellow of Exeter College, Oxford (my own college) who had been consecrated bishop of Antigua in 1858 but died of yellow fever after only a few months on the island.

In Appendix C there are lists of many of the postmasters, both in St. Johns and in the village offices. The Freetown list is headed by the Rev. William Unsworth who served from 1907 to 1910. He was an uncle to the late Harold Green who helped me greatly in an area of Antigua philately that the book does not deal with. Leeward Island stamps were the only stamps available in the island from 1890 to 1903 and continued in concurrent use with Antigua issues until 1956. The authors refer the reader to Michael Oliver's book *The Leeward Islands Notes for Philatelists* to cover those issues. An Addenda and Corrigenda available on the BWISC website is a necessary supplement to this book as far as the stamp issues are concerned. Leeward Island stamps do figure in the Barbuda section as they were overprinted "BARBUDA" for use in Antigua's sister island.

It is to indulge in nit-picking to point out one or two glitches.

- Page 23: Type PD is also known as a receiving mark.
- Page 253: Letters are found with packet marks and ship letter markings from 1782 to 1789 (not just 1788).
- Page 281: "No internal postal rate existed before 1891" is incorrect. There was a 1d rate from at least 1880 onwards.

At the end of the book there is an excellent bibliography and many references to other books and articles within the text itself and in footnotes.

This book is a welcome and worthy addition to the library of philatelic literature. It is a splendid publication and an essential tool for all who would collect Antigua with serious intent. Indeed any philatelist would enjoy reading this lavishly illustrated, well written and excellently produced book. The authors and publisher are to be congratulated.

## WANTED

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

## BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS



# NEVIS



'NEVIS – THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY (1661–1890)' by Federico Borromeo, FRPSL and Charles Freeland, FRPSL. This is the first definitive handbook on Nevis to be published since the slim booklet by Fred Melville in 1910. Despite its small size, this island has attracted collectors from the earliest days. The book traces the pre-stamp history and examines the early Nissen & Parker issues in great detail and goes on to describe the evolution of the De La Rue printings. It also includes chapters on postal stationery, revenue issues and forgeries. This book is a must for all BWI collectors.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (viii) + 208 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-19-2

Price: £35.00 (approx. \$52.00). BWISC Members' Price: £32.00 (approx. \$48.00).



These books and others published by the BWISC can be ordered from:– David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:– 01423 865962 or E-mail: [Pennymead@aol.com](mailto:Pennymead@aol.com). Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by cheque or credit card. Orders from outside UK for heavy books will be dispatched per airmail M Bag. This service requires a street address and is not available to PO Boxes. All books published by the British West Indies Study Circle are displayed on [www.bwisc.org](http://www.bwisc.org) and on [www.pennymead.com](http://www.pennymead.com).

# 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 2016

**February 19-21, Mesa, Arizona**

David Cordon  
*Bermuda 1865-1901*

**Gold, Lighthouse Stamp Society Award**

*A Study of Bermuda King George V "Key Plates"*

**Gold, AAPE Creativity Award, APS 1900-1940 Medal**

David Pitts

*Bermuda Postal History from Early Days to the UPU*

**Gold, Collectors Club of Chicago Exhibitors Award**

John Pare

*The 1948 Wisconsin Statehood Issue:*

*Production, FDC and Postal Uses*

**Vermeil**

John Wynns

*Canada: Postal History of the 1927 Confederation Issue*

**Vermeil, AAPE Award, BNAPS Best BNA Exhibit**

*Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issue  
of British Guiana*

**Vermeil, AAPE Award**

*Peru's 12 Centavos Issue of 1905 (SF)*

**Gold**

**Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2016**

**May 13-15, Denver, Colorado**

John Wynns

*Canada: Postal History of the 1927 Confederation Issue*

**Vermeil**

*Peru's 12 Centavos Issue of 1905 (SF)*

**Gold**

**World Stamp Show 2016**

**May 28-June 4, New York, New York**

Russel Boylan

*St. Vincent: The Printings of*

*Thomas De La Rue & Co. 1882-1932*

**Championship Class**

Stephen Schumann

*New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940*

**Championship Class**

Darryl Fuller

*Leeward Islands Postal Stationery*

**Large Gold**

Richard Maisel

*The Early Sailing Ship Stamps of British Guiana 1852-82*

**Large Gold**

Graham Booth

*The Postal History of the Cayman Islands 1829-1945*

**Gold**

David Pitts

*Bermuda Postal History: Forerunners to the UPU:*

*Internal, External and Transit Mail*

**Gold**

David Cordon

*A Study of Bermuda KGV "Key Plates"*

**Large Vermeil**

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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.

George Bowman  
Richard Burdsall

## Deceased

Robert Roswell  
Donald Napier

## New Applicants

**Juan Farah**, P.O. Box 5604442, Miami, FL 33256 USA; email: juanlfarah@gmail.com. Collects Great Britain, Bahamas and Cuba. Free one year electronic membership.

**Klaus D. Hahn**, P.O. Box 14, Bondorf 711145 GERMANY; email: hahnstamps@t-online.de. Collects British Isles. He is now collecting British Caribbean postal history only. Active board member in the St. Helena, Ascension & Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society and belongs to others as well.

## Address Changes

Mr. Ian R. Woodward, 16321 Jackson St., Volente, TX 78641-6012 USA

## Resignations

Bradley Brunsell  
Keith Bayley

*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](mailto:stewartlbi9@comcast.net).*

*If I do not have your correct mailing address, you will not get your copy of the Journal.*

*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!

## BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

### ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY, VOLUME 9

#### MILITARY MAILS

by Paul Farrimond and Raymond Murphy

This book is based on the original written by the late Derek Sutcliffe; it has been thoroughly revised and largely re-written. It continues the aim of presenting the Jamaica Encyclopaedia in a new softback format with many illustrations now in full colour. **WINNER OF GOLD MEDAL AND GRAND AWARD FOR LITERATURE AT CHICAGOPEX 2015!**

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# President's Message

By Duane Larson

Welcome back to the 2016 fall season of philately! I hope you all had a refreshing summer. Summer kicked off in June with our AGM at the 2016 New York World Expo! We shared a table with the Bermuda Collectors Society and the British West Indies Study Circle and had a very successful all day seminar and society dinner. Our Executive Board meeting and AGM were well attended and very productive, producing a full slate of officers for the new year of 2017.

Major 2016 society awards were announced, honoring the following members: **Charles Freeland**, Cooley Award for outstanding service to the BCPSG; **Giorgio Migliavacca**, Durnin Award for best article for the *BCPSG Journal*; **Federico Borromeo**, Admiss Award for lifetime achievement in writing/publishing; **Graham Booth**, Cameron Award for best British Caribbean exhibit by BCPSG member. Congratulations, gentlemen! Thank you for your contributions to our society. (Look for minutes of the meetings, reports, pictures and awards elsewhere in this issue of the *Journal*.)



Next year's AGM will be held at Chicago, Illinois during CHICAGOPEX, November 17-19, 2017. It's not too early to start thinking about planning a Caribbean exhibit to WOW the judges!

We still have some Study Group leader vacancies ... volunteers are welcome! Everett can always use articles for the *Journal* so get the creative juices flowing and give Giorgio some competition for that Durnin award! Don't forget to visit our website, Bcpsg.com for the latest in club news, publications, auction listing, exhibits, etc. We are looking for exhibits to post on our website. If you would like to put your exhibit on the BCPSG website, contact our webmaster, Ed Barrow at [ed98102@yahoo.com](mailto:ed98102@yahoo.com).

**STEVEN ZIRINSKY**

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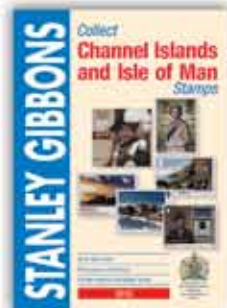
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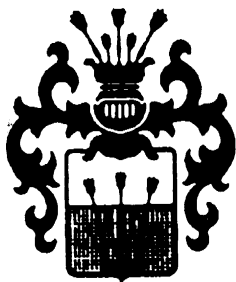
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