

# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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## *Trinidad & Tobago Shades and Flaws*



*See the in-depth report by Ed Barrow beginning on page 7.*



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CAYMAN ISLANDS	Mr. T.E. Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355 USA. Tele: (209) 571-1345; email: teg43@aol.com
CENSORED MAIL	<i>Vacant</i>
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**Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 117 Cedar Breeze South, Glenburn, ME 04401-1734 USA**

**Telephone: (207) 573-1686; email: eparker@ne.twcbc.com**

*Please address correspondence regarding articles in this publication to the Editor.*

**Membership Director: Mr. Bob Stewart, 7 West Dune Lane, Long Beach Township, NJ 08008 USA**

**Telephone: (609) 492-4379; email: rstewart19@comcast.net**

*Please address membership questions to the Membership Director (this includes address changes).*

**Advertising Manager: Mr. Tom Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA**

**Telephone: (209) 571-1345; Email: teg43@aol.com**

*Please address advertising questions to the Advertising Manager.*

**Awards Editor: Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA; email: PALStamp@aol.com**

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### DEADLINES FOR THIS PUBLICATION

**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



# British Colonial postmarks made in America

By David Horry, FRPSL  
An Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

Ebay once again provides a source for interesting postmarks. I recently picked up a British Honduras KGV 1921 four-cent stamp bearing a black, smudgy, undated, small TRO which I failed to identify (*Figure 1*). Dr. Ian Matheson reassures me it is a New Orleans, Louisiana receiving mark (*Figure 2*).

*Figure 1*  
British Honduras  
four-cent KGV stamp  
with small TRO  
marking.



*Figure 2*  
Oval  
"NEW ORLEANS,  
LA" (Louisiana)  
receiving mark.

It bears an uncanny resemblance to the late series of TROs which were issued to many villages of the colony in 1940. It is slightly larger but basically the same overall design and feel (*Figure 3*). In previous articles, I have begged the question -- who made these cancellers?



*Figure 3*  
TRO issued for  
All Pines, British  
Honduras.

They do not follow the style of other postmarks issued from London. I identified the manufacturer as Henry Blanks of Cauldwell, Louisiana due to self-addressed Roger Wells' envelopes that were sent c/o H.W. Blanks (*Figure 4*).



*Figure 4*  
Cover addressed to Roger Wells in care of H.W. Blanks in Columbia, Louisiana, U.S.A.

Blanks ran the Mint Stamp Bank, whatever that was (*Figure 5*), and in 1940 moved his printing business to nearby Dallas, Texas (*Figure 6*). If the New Orleans cancel was Blanks' handiwork then it would seem to



*Figure 5*  
H.W. Blanks ran the "Mint Stamp Bank" in Columbia, Louisiana as evidenced by this Bahamas cover.



*Figure 6*  
The printing business moved to Dallas, Texas in 1940. Notice the sign, "Blanks Engraving Co."

confirm that he was making cancellers for the outlying and remote post offices in British Honduras, with assistance of Roger Wells, back in Grimsby.

the colony had to be manned by British policemen or ex-Army sergeants (*Figure 8*). Rubber and chicle were vital to the economy at that time. In those days, almost all intelligence gathering had to go through the mails. The Guatemalans even released a redesigned stamp in September 1939 showing Belize as part of the Guatemalan map (*Figure 9*).



**Figure 7**  
*Jorge Urbico was the head of a right-wing government in Guatemala during this time.*

At the time, the right-wing Guatemala government of Jorge Urbico had taken advantage of Britain’s declaration of war in Europe and had amassed troops of the border with British Honduras (*Figure 7*). Urbico had spies “everywhere,” and the vulnerable, rural post offices of



**Figure 10**  
*Cover addressed to Montgomery Ward in Chicago.*

Another American company that had much business in the colony was the mail order company Montgomery Ward of Chicago (*Figure 10*). Their receiving mark bears close resemblance to the railway cancellations of Jamaica and some later postmarks issued during the war in the British Solomon Islands. Henry Blanks’ nephew Cauldwell was stationed at Tulagi during World War II. The Jamaican Railway cancellers were in use from 1901 until just after World War II (*Figure 11*). Did Henry Blanks make these too, I wonder?



**Figure 8**  
*Rural post offices were staffed by British policemen or military personnel.*



**Figure 11**  
*“Jamaica Gov’t Railway” postmark dated December 29, 1945.*



**Figure 9**  
*Redesigned stamp showing Belize as part of the Guatemalan map.*



# Cayman Clippings

By Tom Giraldi

I recently acquired several Cayman items on eBay which change the dates of usage or are new discoveries. Please let me know of any new dates or discoveries that you may have made.

1) FORCES AIR LETTER Aerogram mailed from the Hell Post Office to the United Kingdom (*Figure 1*). I have not come across this type of aerogram used in the Cayman Islands. Anybody have any thoughts?



**Figure 1**  
*Forces Air Letter to Devon, England, from the Hell Post Office, 1973.*

2) Registered cover mailed from BODDENTOWN to the United Kingdom, franked with the New Constitution 2 1/2d and 1/- set cancelled by “BODDENTOWN GRAND CAYMAN” circular datestamp Type 3 (new Last Known Date [LKD]) with registry Type 1 and Georgetown registry Type 14 (new LKD) alongside (*Figure 2*). This is the first time I have come across this



**Figure 2**  
*Cover from Boddentown to England.*

Georgetown registration handstamp used on a cover from one of the sub post offices.

3) A 1974 Registered OHMS legal size commercial cover to the United Kingdom from the Police Department (*Figure 3*). It is cancelled with “COMMISSIONER OF POLICE CAYMAN ISLANDS POLICE” TRD (Type 3OV11) and Registry label (Type R18). Both of these are earliest known dates. Up until now, this label was only seen on mail from the Philatelic Bureau.



**Figure 3**  
*A 1974 Registered OHMS legal size commercial cover to the United Kingdom from the Police Department.*

4) A new Hell Post Office circular datestamp. Approximate EKD is July 6, 2016 (*Figure 4*). Thanks to Ivan Burges on letting us know!



**Figure 4**  
*New circular datestamp from the Hell Post Office. The EKD for this cancel is July 6, 2016.*

# Trinidad & Tobago

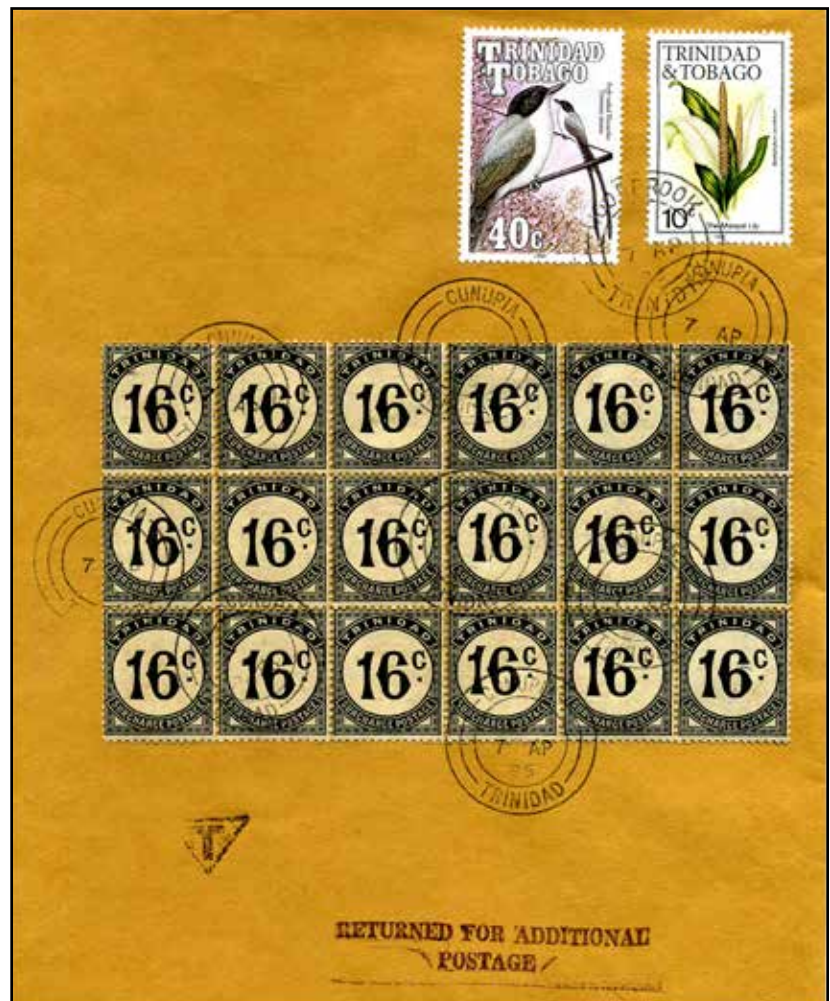
## *Postage Dues: Shades and Flaws*

By Edward Barrow

In 1885, Trinidad became the first British colony to issue postage due stamps. The basic design remained the same for many years, the only major change being a change in currency from Sterling pence and shillings to Decimal cents in 1947. While doing the rounds of Trinidad post offices in 1995, I came across what must have been the last of the decimal versions of these stamps in use at Cunupia Post Office. This means the simple design had a record breaking 110 year run.

Any stamp type with such a lifespan should have enough facets to satisfy even the most demanding collector. There are not only watermark varieties, there are also shades and plate flaws. Where plate flaws are concerned, it should come as no surprise that plates used for such a long period of time should be subject to damage and repair. I was lucky enough to recently acquire full sheets of the entire issue from the last sterling printings (1d to 1/-, circa 1945). Being full sheets, these proved invaluable in plating flaws, and since this was the last printing it revealed much of the accumulated wear and tear of previous years.

This article focuses on the shades and plate flaws. Judgments are made as to whether plate flaws are major or minor; these are, of course, subjective but I have attempted to be conservative. Trinidad's postage due stamps were printed by a key type process with the duty plates being used by other colonies that followed the simple design (Barbados, British Guiana, Grenada and Tristan Da Cunha, to name a few). As a result some of the duty flaws may be found on postage due stamps of other colonies.



*Figure 1*

*Late use of decimal postage dues on 1995 philatelic cover.*

### Printings and Shades

Such a simple monochrome design is not susceptible to striking shades variation.

That said there are a few easily recognizable shades. With the Crown CA and Multi Crown CA issues some printings exhibit a variance in shade between the value and the frame, with the frame being a grey shade and the value jet black. With the Multi Script CA printings there are shades of the 1d, 2d, 3d and 4d that would be best described as grey-black. Here both the frame and value are uniform in shade. In contrast, values of this series, which were printed in the early to mid-1940s, have a strong over-inked appearance. This might have been a deliberate ploy on the part of the printers to hide flaws and get a clean print from worn plates. The over-inking did have the effect of hiding some plate flaws and making the ds of the duty plate appear shorter.



**Figure 2**  
*Shades of the watermark CA  
and MCA printings.*



**Figure 3**  
*Shades of the watermark  
MSCA printings.*

At this point we should discuss this final printing of the sterling issue. Gibbons lists them as being released in 1944 and 1945, but the Crown Agents' records tell a different story. The last printing of the 1d and 3d was done in 1941 and the 1/- in 1943. In passing it is worth commenting on a theory that the last printing was done at the behest of Sir Harry Luke. In some ways he has become a philatelic bogeyman, accused of pursuing his collecting interests in unorthodox ways wherever his colonial appointments took him. And he exhibited a fondness for postage dues. In this case, the theory goes, that upon arrival in Trinidad, *circa* 1944, he was disappointed at the selection of postage dues available and so "suggested" the post office order more stocks of the high values (5d to 1/-). But careful study of used copies of the watermark Multi Crown CA postage dues shows that there were high values in use as late as 1944, thus these were not out of stock. And further, the printing records show that postage dues were ordered piecemeal, probably as needed, and likely without a hidden Machiavellian hand guiding the process.

***Table of the Last Printing of the Sterling Issues***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Requisition Reference</b>	<b>Values</b>
June 17, 1941	794/1	1d, 3d (smooth paper)
August 17, 1943	1385/1	2d, 5d, 1/- (rough paper)
April 26 to July 19, 1944	1710/1	2d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d (rough paper)

**The Decimal Issues**

*There were five printings of the Decimal issues and it is possible to separate them by studying appearances and paper types.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Requisition Reference</b>	<b>Values</b>
February 4, 1947	2467/1	2¢, 4¢, 6¢, 8¢, 10¢, 12¢, 16¢, 24¢

This, the first decimal printing, resembles the previous one in that it is on ordinary rough paper and somewhat heavily printed. By contrast, the later printings are all on chalky paper and the first three of these (1952, 1955 and 1958) are distinctively clear and sharp.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Requisition Reference</b>	<b>Values</b>
November 27, 1952	6593/1	2¢, 6¢, 12¢



This 1952 printing boasts the much sought after missing crown and St. Edward's crown errors; the former being much rarer than the latter. Without getting into the whole issue of how the paper was made, it is worth noting that not every sheet of this printing contains an error. In fact, there is an abundance of full sheets seen on the market. These, I believe, were speculatively purchased with the intention of looking for the errors. This is reflected in the low catalogue value of these three issues as mint stamps. This printing can be separated from the others by its thicker paper.

Date	Requisition Reference	Values
May 20, 1955	8459/1	2¢, 4¢, 6¢, 10¢, 24¢

The 1955 printing was done on thinner paper, with the design showing through clearly on the reverse.

Date	Requisition Reference	Values
July 21, 1958	1305/1	4¢, 8¢

The 1958 printing was on thicker paper than before.

Date	Requisition Reference	Values
July 20-September 15, 1961	4027/1	2¢, 4¢, 6¢, 8¢, 10¢, 16¢

This, the final printing, is distinctive for its almost brown-black appearance which is different from that of the other chalky paper issues. The paper is also thin and the design shows through clearly on reverse. Also by this point, the outer frame plate was over 75 years old, so some impressions are smudgy.



Figure 4

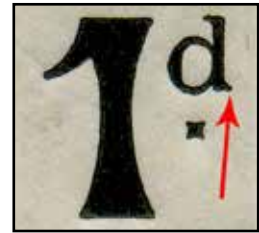
6¢ "Sliced C" variety on incoming cover from Germany.

Plate Flaws: 1d.

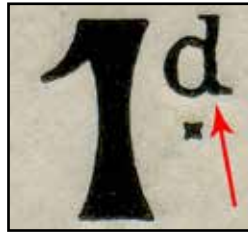
*Minor*  
R1/1 Nick in the top of 1 visible in some of the Multi Script CA printings, but not the last one.



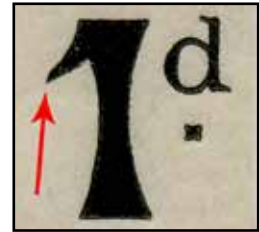
*Minor*  
R3/5 Short tail on d visible on last printings.



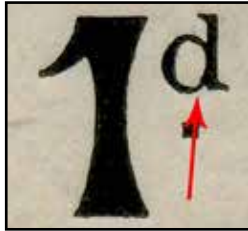
*Major*  
R1/5 Malformed d visible across printings.



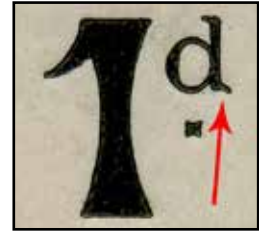
*Minor*  
R3/5 Short tail on d visible on last printings.



*Minor*  
R2/1 Malformed loop of d visible across printings.



*Minor*  
R6/3 Bent tail in d visible on last printing.



*Major*  
R3/4 Broken loop of d visible across printings.



*Minor*  
R9/6 Blunted corner on d visible on earlier Multi Script CA printings, but not on last printing.



Plate Flaws: 3d.

*Minor*  
R1/1 Minor damage to top of 3.



*Major*  
R9/1 Shaved serif on 3, short tail on d visible across printings, (including the inverted watermark variety D12w). It is interesting to note that Stanley Gibbons lists a similar flaw on the Tristan da Cunha 3d at the same position. But in that case it's the lower serif that is missing.



*Minor*  
R1/6 Missing tail on d.



*Minor*  
R10/6 Short tail on d.



Plate Flaws: 4d.



*Major  
R/3/1 Large loop  
in d.*



*Major  
Broken d's in column 5. Not visible in last  
printing because of ink and paper used.*



*Closeup of column 5  
from last printing.*

Plate Flaws: 5d.

*Minor  
R7/5 Tip of 5 looks  
reworked.*



*Minor  
R9/1 5 is heavily  
mottled.*



*Minor  
R10/1 5 is mottled.*



*Minor  
R4/4 Loop in d  
almost separated.*



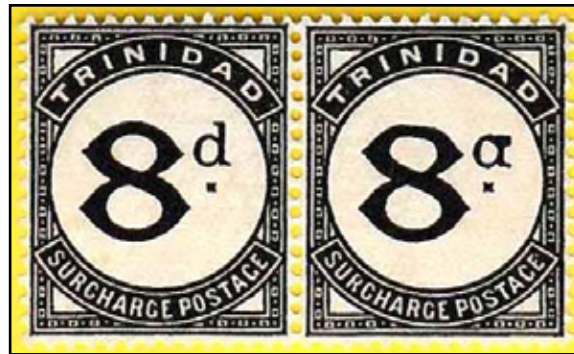
*Minor  
R4/6 Notch in loop in d.*





**Plate Flaws: 8d**

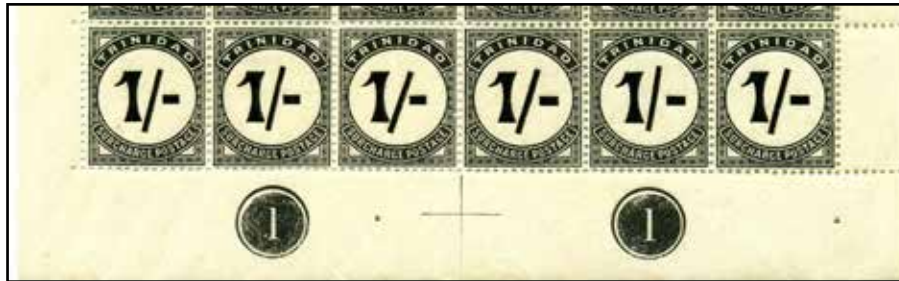
The 8d duty plate is perhaps the most interesting of the lot. Michael Medlicott reported an example that shows the upright of the “d” severely damaged. The sloping flat top of the “8” indicates that this was from position R8/6. There are two likely possibilities; either the damage occurred at the start of the print run, it was then noticed, the print run stopped while the plate was repaired and then the print run completed with the “d” now in its malformed state. The other possibility is that the damage occurred at the end of the print run. My belief is that it was the former case as the tail of the “d” still looks in a better state in the Medlicott example, indicating that it is an earlier state than the repaired one. The needed repair would also explain why this requisition took almost three months to complete and why only one example of the Medlicott flaw has been reported while those in the other state are relatively common.



*The Medlicott flaw.  
Reproduced with permission.*

<p><i>Major R9/1 Major flat top on 8.</i></p>		<p><i>Minor R4/3 Notch in d.</i></p>	
<p><i>Major R9/2 Minor flat top on 8.</i></p>		<p><i>Minor R6/1 Broken tail in d.</i></p>	
<p><i>Major R10/2 Notch in 8.</i></p>		<p><i>Major R8/6 Sloping flat top on 8; malformed d.</i></p>	
<p><i>Minor R10/3 Rough edge on bottom 8.</i></p>			

Plate Flaws: 1/-



*Major*  
 Column 5 upright “/” in “1/-.”

Decimal Currency

Plate Flaws: 2¢

*Major*  
 R9, 1-3  
 R10, 1-3, 2¢  
 shifted.



Plate Flaws: 6¢

*Major*  
 R4/1 Sliced top of c.



Plate Flaws: 24¢

*Major*  
 Dot in 4 at 3/3.



Plate Flaws: 10¢

*Minor*  
 R2/1 C malformed.  
 Visible on last printing.



*Minor*  
 R2/2 Edge rough  
 Visible on last printing.



*Minor*  
 Unknown location.  
 Malformed serif.

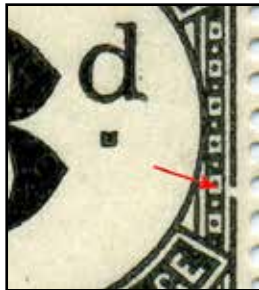


*Major*  
 R2/6  
 Dot on c.



### Flaws in outer frame plate

**R10/3 Frame break.**  
Visible on the last Sterling printings and the first decimal printings (2¢ and 4¢ so far). This flaw was first noted by Hap Pattiz.



**R9/6 Frame break.**  
Visible on the first two printings of the chalky paper issues (1952 and 1955): 2¢, 4¢, 6¢, 10¢, 12¢, 24¢ (10¢ has not been confirmed).



*There are undoubtedly more flaws to be found, so start looking!*

### Bibliography

British Library, Crown Agents Archives.

Herendeen, David. "Trinidad: The Birthplace of the British Colonial Postage Due." *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 38, No. 3, (Whole Number 188), September 1998, pp. 95-102.

Horry, David. "British Colonial post-World War II High Values (Part 1)." *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 55, No. 3, (Whole Number 256), July-September 2015, pp. 4-10.

### Acknowledgments

*Thanks to Michael Medlicott and Hap Pattiz for sharing information.*

*Reprinted from the September 2016 issue of the BWISC Bulletin. Thanks to editor Terry Harrison for assistance.*

## New Officers Elected for 2017-2019

The following officers have been elected by the Board of Trustees:

**President:** John Seidl  
**Vice President:** Nigel Mohammed  
**Secretary:** Eric Todd  
**Treasurer:** Bob Stewart  
**Membership Chairman:** Vacant  
**International Representative:** David Druett  
**Editor of the *Journal*:** Dr. Everett Parker

*The officers are elected for a two year term and assumed their office on January 1, 2017.*

Mary Gleadall, *Secretary*  
British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

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# “Hope with a Harp” Newspaper wrappers of Montserrat

By Dr. John K. Curtis, FRPSL

The little island of Montserrat is part of the Lesser Antilles of the West Indies, located in the Caribbean Sea almost 300 miles southeast of Puerto Rico. It is a British Overseas Territory and economically dependent on the United Kingdom. Montserrat has an annual six-month hurricane season. Many of the storms are very severe, and the year-round hazard to life and property results from the fact that the island is entirely volcanic, mischievously referred to as the “Pompeii in the tropics.” The island’s name came from Christopher Columbus in 1493 who named it “Santa Maria de Montserrat” after the Blessed Virgin of the monastery near Barcelona, Spain. According to one report, Montserrat is probably one hurricane or volcanic eruption away from eradication, in which case it would become a philatelic dead country.

“Hope with a Harp” or the “Lady with the Harp” is the Colony’s seal based on its Irish roots. Those roots date to 1632, when Thomas Warner, the first British governor of nearby St. Kitts, banished that island’s Irish Catholic settlers to Montserrat. They were joined in 1651 by slaves from Africa and some Irish forcibly exiled by Oliver Cromwell during his 1649-53 invasion of Ireland. The design of the indicium of the post office postal stationery wrappers of Montserrat is the seal showing an allegorical female symbolizing Ireland embracing a cross and holding a harp, making three references in all to Catholic Ireland.

## Early Postal History

In 1871, the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands was constituted by British law, comprising Antigua, Montserrat, St. Christopher (Kitts), Anguilla, Nevis, Dominica, and the British Virgin Islands. These entities then became “presidencies” of the Federation. On February 3, 1890, the Leeward Islands General Stamp Act dictated uniform postage and revenue stamps throughout the Leeward Islands. A common set of Queen Victoria key-type issues was placed on sale on October 31, 1890. The consequence was that the policy deprived the presidencies of their postal identity and also most of their usual postal revenue from collectors worldwide. Stamp income, such as it became known,

would be pooled and then divided five ways.

In 1898, the Virgin Islands received approval from the executive council of the Leeward Islands to produce stamps with their own name, which were then issued the following year. Subsequently, the Leeward Islands Stamp Act of 1902 decreed that “the Governor may from time to time” authorize “special stamps” in the presidencies, for concurrent use with the uniform stamps used throughout the Leeward Islands. The permitted denominations of “special stamps” were specified in an order of the Leeward Islands’ executive council of June 20, 1903, as were the designs for each of the islands. The design of the Montserrat issues was to be “the central figure in the Public Seal of the Presidency” for all values.<sup>1</sup>



In 1903, a set of two denominations of wrappers was issued bearing the seal of the colony. They were printed in London by De La Rue and adopted the design on the stamps (*Figure 1, below*). Specimen overprinted wrap-



*Figure 1*

pers reading upward on a diagonal were printed also by De La Rue for distribution to U.P.U. member countries. The population of Montserrat in 1903 was approximately 12,000. At best, European settlers accounted for



*Figure 2*

*Wrapper addressed to Switzerland.*

two-thirds of this total. The need for post office postal stationery wrappers for local usage is likely to have been low. Nevertheless, it was important for Caribbean countries such as Montserrat that it issue its own identifiable stamps and postal stationery for purposes of national identity and pride. Stamp income from the sale to overseas collectors is possibly another important consideration behind the issue. The print run for the Cayman Islands issue was 5,000; the print run for Montserrat may have been similar.

### Extant Copies

The author's database of images of used post office wrappers is approximately 45,000. These images have been hand-collected on a daily basis from listings on the Internet site eBay since September 2003. There are two examples recorded of the ½d green and two cases of the

1d scarlet. Other copies may have been sold on other Internet sites, by dealers at bourses and elsewhere, and through traditional philatelic auctions. The elusiveness of these wrappers and the fact that only four copies have been recorded means that each case can be illustrated and discussed.

The addressee, Mr. F. Salzmänn, 30 Justice, Berne, Switzerland appears to have been a stamp collector. A Google search reveals that his name and address appears on postal stationery envelopes from Victoria, Australia, listed on eBay. The wrapper shown in *Figure 2* is cancelled with a single circle "MONTSERRAT A JY 12 1905."

Google failed to provide any information about Stefan Hellmich of Bohemia, Austria. What differentiates this wrapper is that it is uprated with a 1908 1d carmine Seal of the Colony (Scott #32) tied with a circular datestamp, "MONTSERRAT A OC 24 1915" (*Figure 3*).

Postal stationery addressed to Rev. L. Meister is well-known. As noted by Dr. Eric Bateson,<sup>2</sup> while Rev. Meister was a priest and a stamp collector, at one time he was also a part-time stamp dealer. He placed an advertisement in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* requesting want lists from customers for certain issues. After he returned to the U.S., he was for a time a stamp dealer and provider of covers from the Caribbean nations. The circular datestamp reads "MONTSERRAT A AP 9 1901" and is likely to have been philatelically inspired (*Figure 4, next page*).

The author's database has 15 examples of Meister addressee wrappers from Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Leeward Islands, Trinidad and St. Vincent. The Rever-



*Figure 3*

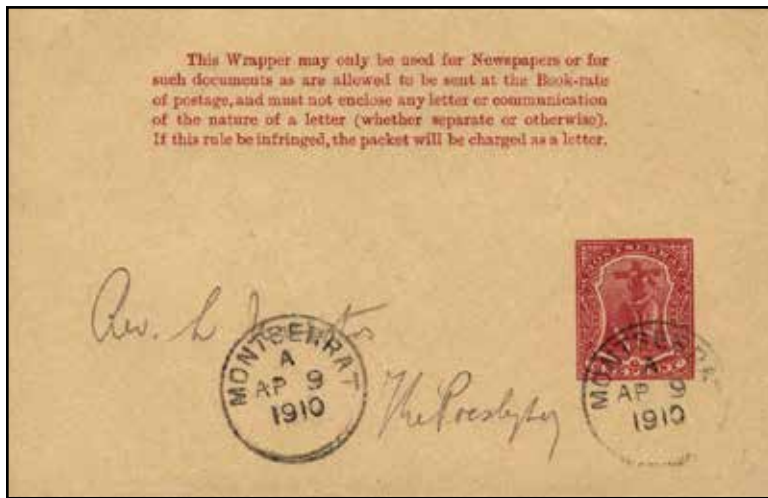
*This wrapper was sent to Austria.*

end was one of many philatelic cover providers.

Hermann Meyer of Dömitz a. d. Elbe, Germany was a stamp dealer who wrote the preface to *Philatelistisches Wörterbuch Deutsch-Englisch/Englisch-Deutsch*, a forerunner about many philatelic terms and their transla-

at the time, there is an elusiveness of used Montserrat wrappers, at least based on eBay evidence. Sovereignty considerations aside, one *raison d'être* for the printing of a large proportion of these wrappers was to meet the demand from worldwide postal stationery collectors. That three, possibly four of the four extant copies appear to have been philatelically contrived is consistent with this speculation.

With regard to sales, only used copies have been recorded. Anecdotally, the author has noted several sales of mint copies. However, based on the available evidence, there does appear to be only a small collector base for these wrappers. The average number of bidders on the four sales was 2.5. Even if all bidders were different collectors there were only 10 such individuals vying for the four wrappers.



**Figure 4**

**Wrapper addressed to the well-known Rev. L. Meister.**

tions. This wrapper (**Figure 5**) may have been philatelically-inspired for his business. The circular datestamp reads "MONTSEERRAT A JU 22 1904."

Of the four recorded wrappers, three appear to have been philatelically inspired with the uprated wrapper possibly the only extant example of a commercially used wrapper.

### Sales on eBay

It was once remarked by an exhibit judge that it is sometimes easier to obtain a Specimen overprint copy of some countries than a used example of the wrapper. The author's database of Specimen overprinted wrappers shows that two copies of each denomination were listed on eBay over the data-collection period of almost 13 years. One of each of these was sold, realizations being a modest US \$10.05 with two bidders for E1 and \$9 with a sole bidder for E2.

Another database has recorded daily eBay sales transactions since March 2006 to the present. There have been two sales of E1 for \$2.49 with two bidders and \$18.38 with four bidders. There have been two sales also of E2: \$10.08 with three bidders and \$40.00 with one bidder.

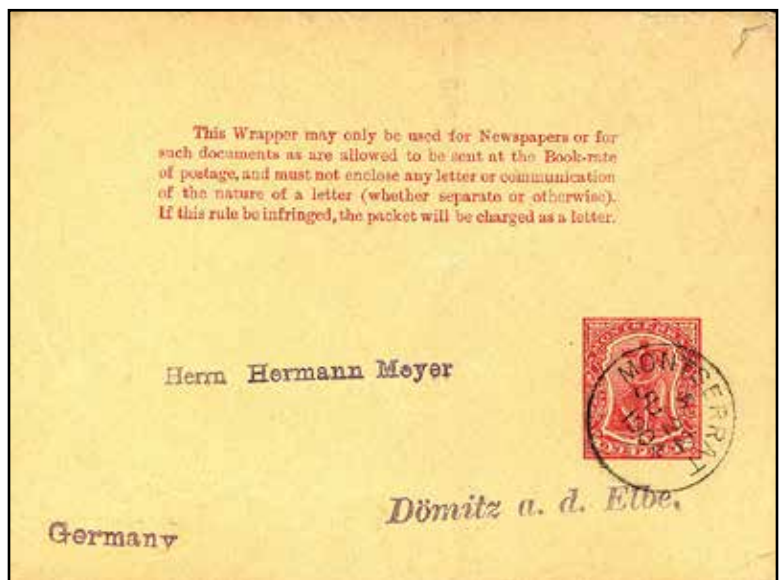
It is hard to generalize from such a small sample of four wrappers and four sales. Whatever the local demand for wrappers might have been

### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Kathleen Wunderley, "The Story of Tiny Montserrat is an Intriguing One," 2015. Available online at [www.linns.com](http://www.linns.com).

<sup>2</sup> Eric M. Bateson, "The Rev. Meister Mystery: Who was he and what was his BWI connection?," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 51, No. 4, (October 2011), pp. 11-14.

**Dr. John K. Courtis FRPSL, can be reached by email at: [acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk](mailto:acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk)**



**Figure 5**

**Wrapper addressed to a stamp dealer in Germany.**



# Current proof cancellations of Montserrat

By Klaus Hahn

Being a collector of small British islands, I've recently extended my collecting interests to Montserrat. After searching for philatelic literature, I was interested in getting all available postal instructional markings and post office cachets actually in use from the General Post Office in Brades.

Brades, as we know, is the interim capital of Montserrat. The official capital of Montserrat at Plymouth in the south of the island was abandoned in 1997 after it was buried by the eruption of the Soufrière Hills volcano. Interim government buildings have since been built at Brades, becoming the new capital in 1998. The move was initially intended to be temporary, but it has remained the island's de facto capital ever since.

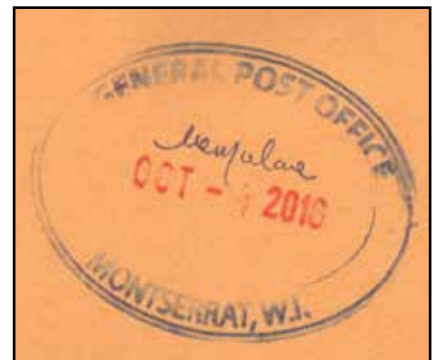
I sent a request in mid-July to the General Post Office Brades in a registered letter together with an Advice of Delivery (AD) form. The first sign of my efforts came in mid-October when the AD form was returned. It was correctly filled out with the datestamps of the GPO Brades, "No. 4" on the reverse and the datestamp No. 1. Both datestamps are also shown on the proof sheet.

At the end of October, I received a large-sized envelope from the General Post Office, registered and struck with



Large envelope mailed to author in Germany from the Montserrat Post Office in Brades.

an oval, multi-colored post office cachet signed by a postal clerk. Inside was a large sheet of paper with the proofs of postal markings.



This "General Post Office/ Montserrat, W.I." cachet was stamped on the lower lefthand corner of the envelope sent to Germany.

There are some interesting aspects of the strikes shown. The Brades G.P.O. datestamp was struck three times, with No. 1, 2 and 4. There is no Number 3. Four oval post office cachets are in use: "SORTING SECTION," date with red ink; "PARCEL POST," date with red ink; "ACCOUNT SECTION," date with blue ink; and the plain canceller -- date with red ink, seen only on the envelope. I've not previously seen these multi-colored cachets.



Advice of Delivery (AR) form sent to Montserrat from Germany and returned.



Beside the numbered G.P.O. Brades datestamps were struck two similar datestamps:

“POSTAGE PAID” and “PARCEL POST.” In use also, obviously available at the GPO, are village datestamps of Salem, Look Out, Davy Hill, Johns, Cudjoe Head and St. Peters.

It seems as if duplicate village datestamps are available at the GPO. One might ask when they came into use. Unclear for me remains the usage of the boxed registration cachet, unclear because the GPO is currently using the UPU registration label. Perhaps it’s for local usage only?



**Proof sheet of cachets and cancels in use on Montserrat.**



**Proof strikes of the village datestamps of Salem, Look Out, Davy Hill, St. Johns, Cudjoe Hill and St. Peters.**



**International UPU registration label currently in use on Montserrat.**

Brades is located at the northwest end of Montserrat. It lies to the north of St. Peters and Bunkum Bay, in the vicinity of Carr’s Bay and Little Bay. The main road of the island reaches its farthest north at Carr’s Bay and then heads southeast, past the airport in the center of the island. The village of Davy Hill lies off the main road in close proximity to the northeast. The Collins River passes between the settlements and flows into Little Bay. To the northeast of Brades, in the center, the island becomes hilly, reaching an elevation of 403 meters at the peak of Silver Hill.

*Frommer’s Travel Guide* said of Brades: “Overall, you’ll get the sense of a small community galvanized into new forms of self-reliance and cooperation, with lots of emphasis on somewhat gritty business-related visits from construction crews and British and international relief agencies.”<sup>1</sup> Brades contains several small shops, a bank, a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada on the Brades Main Road, government offices, the post office, a library, and a pharmacy.

To the south, the Soufrière Hills volcano’s last major eruption occurred on July 12, 2003, when almost two-thirds of the Soufrière volcanic dome collapsed, sending ash and rocky debris as much as 15,000 meters (49,213 feet) into the sky over Montserrat. In the aftermath, some islanders found themselves shoveling “drifts” of volcanic debris off their verandas and out from the bottom of their swimming pools.

Today a visit to Montserrat can solicit hundreds of stories about heroism, endurance, disappointment, sacrifice, and backbreaking labor. About half the island is earmarked as an “exclusion zone,” which you’re supposed to avoid. In contrast, the other half is luxuriant and tropical.

**FOOTNOTE**

<sup>1</sup> *Frommer’s Travel Guide*, AARP Caribbean, John Wiley & Sons, May 29, 2012, p. 90.

# Arthur Rowe Spurling of Bermuda A World War I Hero (Part 1)

By Hap Pattiz

**A**rthur Rowe Spurling (1896-1984), universally known as “Rowe,” was a genuine Bermudian war hero (*Figure 1*). But he did not start out that way. This is the first of two articles about him and what his letters home to his mother and sisters tell us about his war experiences and his family during World War I.

Rowe was born in Bermuda on May 19, 1896 to Arthur and Alice Spurling. He had three older siblings: his half-sister Ethel Helene Harnett from his mother’s previous marriage, and two sisters, Viola Gladys and Olive Mabel. His father passed away in 1912 while on a business trip to Canada. The family lived in their home known as Penarth (the name of a Welsh village) above Hamilton in Pembroke West.

## Rowe’s military story

When World War I began in August 1914, Bermuda had a unit of the British Army, the 2nd Lincolnshire Regt., stationed on the island. This was backed up by a long-established local militia, the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps (BVRC), authorized in 1892 and manned from 1895. The militia had the task of providing supplementary security and defense for the naval ship yards, primarily at Ireland Island.

The BVRC and the Bermuda Militia Artillery (BMA) were both established by Act of Colonial Parliament in 1897. The BVRC was an all-white unit whose members were mostly recruited from local civilian gun clubs, while the

BMA was a primarily black unit with white officers. Writing in the *BCPS Journal*, Charles Freeland, quoting Horst Augustinovic, indicates that the BMA saw considerable action with the Royal Garrison Artillery in 1916 and 1917.<sup>1</sup> But Cedric



*Figure 1*  
**Arthur Rowe Spurling wearing his Royal Air Force insignia.**

Joseph in *The British West Indies Regiment 1914-1918*, when comparing the treatment of black and white units in World War I, indicated that the BMA, as well as other primarily black Caribbean units, were “never allowed to be actively engaged in the fighting on the Western front, whereas the white (i.e., BVRC) were.”<sup>2</sup> The Free-



*Figure 2*  
**BVRC First Contingent training at Warwick Camp, 1914. Arthur Rowe Spurling is in the front row, second from left. From Wikipedia.**



land article includes interesting information about covers to Bermuda from the Trimmingham brothers who were serving as officers in the BMA, indicating that Joseph's statement about the BMA not being in action is incorrect.

On September 14, 1914 the 2nd Lincs were recalled to England, soon to be deployed to the front. In Bermuda there was a significant movement for the BVRC to join them in defense of King and Empire. But the loss of all the members of the BVRC to join the war effort would have stripped Bermuda of many of its young men and devastated the local economy. In response to "war fever" and local feelings, the Governor of Bermuda in December 1914 opened a list for volunteers from the BVRC and others for duty at the front. Initially, over 100 volunteers signed up. Not all BVRC members could leave Bermuda, but several of Rowe's friends who were already BVRC members had volunteered and Rowe joined them on February 11, 1915, under the command of Captain Richard Tucker.



**Figure 4**

**Postcard from Grimsby Camp, July 31, 1915, from "Rowe" to his mother in Bermuda, with Bermuda censor CM 13 in violet. From Weelsby Camp, Grimsby, training facility for the Lincolnshire Regiment, including the B.V.R.C. Spurling had crossed out "3rd Lincolns" and written in "B.V.R.C." He indicates his unit is going to the front in two weeks.**

The volunteer unit, known as the Bermuda Contingent of the BVRC, trained at Warwick Camp until May 1915 (**Figure 2**). Not all the volunteers were fit for duty, but those who were ready for deployment, consisting of Capt. Tucker and 88 men, were accepted into the First Contingent, which embarked for Canada on May 7, 1915 (**Figure 3**), and thence to England.

The initial plan had been for the Bermuda Contingent to join the ranks of the 2nd Lincs. However, the regiment had already left for the front, so the Bermuda Contingent joined the 1st Lincs at Grimsby Camp and, by spe-



**Figure 3**

**Postcard from Quebec dated May 8, 1915, from "Rowe" to his mother in Bermuda, with Bermuda censor CM13 in violet. The first contingent sailed from Bermuda on May 7, stopping at Quebec on the way to England.**

cial War Office dispensation, continued to serve as the BVRC unit within the 1st Lincs, bivouacking with the 1st Lincs in June 1915 for further training as machine gunners at Weelsby Camp in Grimsby (**Figure 4**). The work there was arduous but by the end of July the First Contingent was ready to move on. Rowe wrote home in mid-July to indicate that his troop was on its way to France which it reached about July 20, the first colonial unit to be so deployed.



**Figure 5**

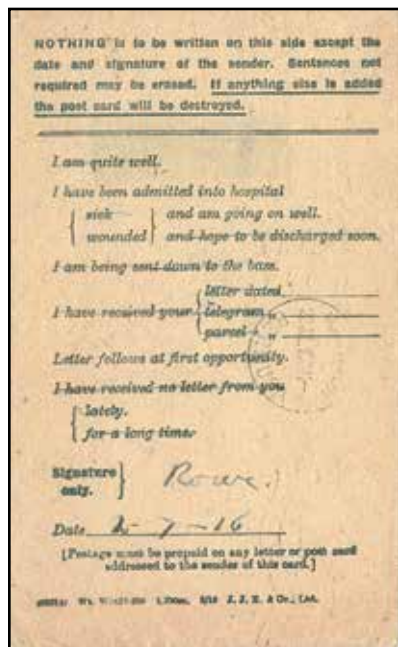
**"Field Service Post Card" with FPO "15 SP 15" datestamp, from Spurling to his mother in Bermuda. Bermuda censor CM13 marking in violet.**

The First Bermuda Contingent regrouped with the 1st Lincs at Rouen and moved up to the front on August 19, 1915. Trained as machine gunners on the Vickers gun, they fought in the trenches as a unit in support of the 1st Lincs continuously for over a year (**Figure 5**). Trench warfare was a hazardous business and the Contingent suffered over 50 percent casualties during this deployment. There were many wounded and nearly all those who were not wounded, including Rowe, fell sick, caused mainly by unclean water (**Figure 6**). During this

period Rowe was wounded twice, first a minor wound to his hand on July 3, 1916, and then a more serious wound to his foot on July 13, 1916 (*Figure 7*). It was at this time that he was also buried in debris for some time before being rescued. With the decimation of its ranks, the Contingent had fallen below the level required for an effective fighting unit, so it returned to England. But it was reinforced by a second Bermuda Contingent by August 1916, comprising one officer and 33 other ranks, and the reconstituted Bermuda Contingent was retrained as machine gunners on the new Lewis gun. After retraining, the troops returned to the front, but by 1918 the Contingent had lost so many more men that it was merged into other units. However, by 1917 Rowe had moved on.

As a result of his wounds and because of a bout of influenza (the Spanish flu), Rowe was sent back to hospital in Leicester in July 1916 (*Figure 8*). The flu swept the world killing tens of millions, but Rowe recovered and returned to Grimsby. By then he had had enough of trench warfare and volunteered to join the Royal Flying Corps, the precursor to the RAF. He was accepted by January 1917, and after taking leave to return to Bermuda for his sister Gladys' wedding, began several rounds of intensive training in May 1917.

Rowe took to flying and plainly excelled. He was accepted as a pilot trainee and earned his commission (as



**Figure 7**  
**“Field Service Post Card,”**  
**reverse side, signed “Rowe”**  
**and dated “2-1-16,” indicat-**  
**ing that Spurling had been**  
**wounded, admitted to hospital,**  
**and doing well.**

a second lieutenant) and later his pilot's wings. He was assigned to a bomber wing. At some point in 1918 -- perhaps on first deployment -- Rowe's plane crashed but he survived and continued with his flying career.

On July 23, 1918, with his observer, Sgt. F.A. Bell, Rowe flew with his unit on a bombing run over German lines in his DH 9 light bomber. With no radar or other fancy instruments, the unit flew through cloud banks to mask their location. When Rowe

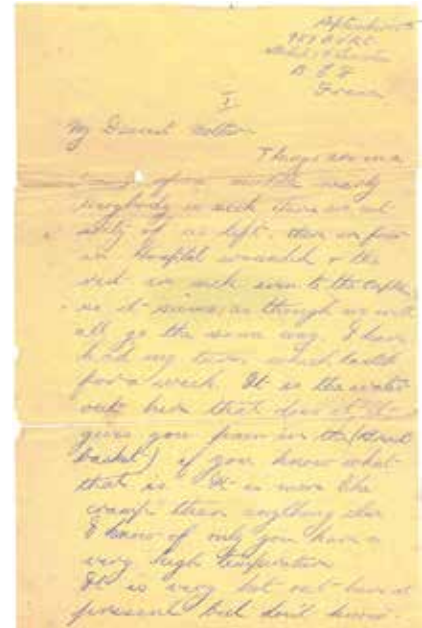
emerged from the clouds, none of his flight was visible. Deciding to return to British lines, Rowe flew back into the clouds. When he emerged some time later, having flown what he thought was sufficiently far to get back behind his lines, he descended towards an airfield. But it was a German airfield and he was immediately attacked by a Fokker D-VII fighter. Evading it skillfully, Rowe spotted a squadron of at least 30 other German fighters below him and in a daredevil manner dived among them,

shooting down three planes. The Germans regrouped and four or five Fokkers came at him, but with skillful flying and accurate shooting by his observer, two more Germans were shot down. The remaining enemy had had enough and fled.

Rowe was credited with five kills from this engagement, thereby becoming an air ace. Two days later he claimed another kill. For his rash but successful heroics, Rowe was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (a newly established award for the renamed RAF) and his gunner received the Distinguished Flying Medal (the equivalent award for a non-commissioned airman).

Rowe left active service on September 19, 1918 and later, after several bouts of illness, returned to Bermuda. On November 2, 1918 his award was announced in *The London Gazette* and he received his DFC from the Governor of Bermuda in person on March 3, 1920.

During his wartime service, Rowe was a steady correspondent to his mother and sisters. Early on, up to mid-1916, he received packages of clothes and food from home and an occasional sum of money, which was especially welcome as the costs of living in England were quite high. While in England, either in Grimsby or with



**Figure 8**  
**Letter from Spurling in France**  
**to his mother in Bermuda. Note**  
**that in the return address at**  
**upper right, Spurling is showing**  
**“989 BVRC/attached 1st**  
**Lincolns, BEF” (British**  
**Expeditionary Force).**



his friends in the London area, Rowe wrote of his interests, including meeting young women, and of the loss of his mates in the fighting.



**Figure 8**

**Front of Y.M.C.A. envelope from Spurling in Leicester, England, to his mother in Bermuda, dated July 30, 1916. There is a Bermuda CM15 censor marking in purple and a manuscript marking "Aug 20" indicating date of receipt in Bermuda.**

Throughout it all, Rowe was supported by the Bermuda Contingent Committee based in London. Bermudians joined the fight for God, King and Country through different avenues. Some volunteered for the British army, some for the Canadian forces, while some became part of the BVRC (Rowe was one of 136 to take this route) or BMA. All Bermudians served honorably and several achieved high distinction, among whom Rowe was prominent.

After the war, Rowe would have liked to have a plane in Bermuda so he could fly again, but there is no record of this ever happening. Instead, as World War II loomed, Rowe enlisted to help the war effort, first as a censor in Darrell Island air terminal and later in the Atlantic Ferry Service, where he rose to Squadron Commander. His service was again quite meritorious.

*In the next installment, in the April 2017 issue of the Journal, we'll learn more about Arthur Rowe Spurling's personal story.*

#### Footnotes for this Installment

<sup>1</sup> Charles Freeland, "Bermuda Military Mail During World War I: Additional Information," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 32, No. 4 (December 1992), p. 121-123.

<sup>2</sup> Cedric L. Joseph, *The British West Indies Regiment, 1914-1918*. (Georgetown, Guyana: Free Press, 2008), p. 28.

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Author's Note***New book on The Tudway Letters now available***

By Mary Gleadall

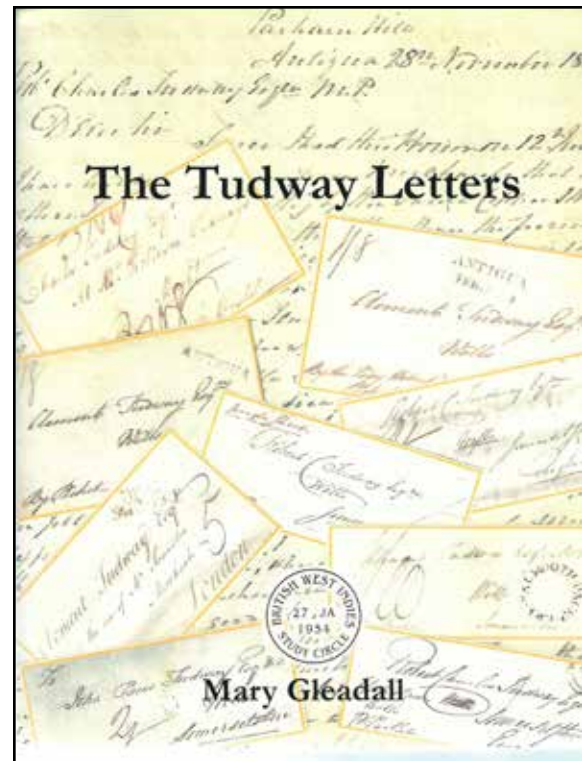
**A**fter several years of research and visits to distant archives, I have finally completed the book on the Tudway Letters. The book covers the 100 year period from 1751 to 1858 and is a study of the correspondence to the Tudway family of Wells, Somerset from their attorneys and managers of their Antiguan sugar estates of Old Work, New Work and Parham Lodge. They paint a vivid portrait of everyday life on an Antiguan sugar estate and provide on the spot comments on several wars of that period (American War of Independence, Napoleonic War, etc.), the abolition of slavery and the many difficulties encountered with the shipping of sugar and rum to England. These letters are certainly one of the richest collections surviving for any West Indian estate and as far as is known easily the most valuable for Antigua. In contrast, the Codrington papers are only briefly summarized in the "The Codrington Correspondence."

John Willem collected as many of the Tudway letters that he could trace between 1975 and his death in 1979 and made them the subject of several articles in both our British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) *Journal* and the British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC). Without his dogged determination to trace these letters, this book would not have been possible.

John wrote in 1978: "As to the Tudway material itself, it rivals and out distances 'The Codrington Correspondence' in volume and in detail, and adds materially to collector knowledge of early Antigua postal history. It includes the earliest Antigua handstamp known, and many handstamps not known to Codrington. Over a thousand pre-adhesive Antigua handstamps comprise the Tudway collection, and these are being catalogued. The correspondence is unique, insofar as it covers three generations of the Tudway family during the period 1760 to 1854, a period which includes the rise and fall of the sugar economy of the West Indies, the influence of the Industrial Revolution on sugar making, and the periods covering the abolition of the slave trade, the events leading to emancipation, the period of emancipation itself, and the post-Emancipation period. Plantation records, kept in detail, afford the scholar with an opportunity which, according to Professor John Ward, Department of Economic History at Edinburgh University, is unexcelled. Available for study to the British historian are volumes of London receiving marks, as well as Ship Letter cancellations."

In 2002 Mark Swetland, who acquired John Willem's collection, loaned the BCPSG three large boxes containing the transcripts, photocopies and research files relating to these letters. They are kept in the society's library and Mark hoped to turn the research into a finished product.

In writing this book, I have arranged the chapters into two sections: the social history of the Tudway Family,



*The cover of Mary Gleadall's new book.*

the Parham Estates, their attorneys and managers and a brief background on sugar plantation management from afar. The second section focuses on the philatelic interest of these letters, their markings, the rates applied, the time of travel between Antigua and Wells, Somerset and the ships that carried them.

There are no original letters amongst the papers in the BCPSG Library. However, if you have any letters that are not listed in the inventory (Appendix IV or on the BWISC website) I would appreciate a photocopy so I can transcribe and add it to our files and update the Inventory. The book, kindly published by the BWISC, is available in the U.S. from Ed Barrow (<http://www.westindia-co.com/>) [\$32.50 postpaid] and rest of the world from David Druett ([pennymead@aol.com](mailto:pennymead@aol.com)). It is priced at £20, and members of the British West Indies Study Circle receive a £2 discount.

## LETTERS

### To the Editor:

I read with interest the two articles by Gregory Franz concerning the Lady McLeod stamp in the last issues of the *Journal*. However, I am afraid I cannot let them go unchallenged. Mr. Franz, whom I met very briefly in New York, has obviously studied this issue in great detail but unfortunately comes to some erroneous conclusions.

Before I come to specifics, I must ask about these three new items which were not included in the BWISC listing on our website. I can understand where perhaps two of them came from, one cover placed on sale in Paris by Behr which unsurprisingly went unsold as it had neither provenance nor an expert certificate and the second may have been that unused item in the Jaffé sale which we mistakenly omitted to include in our listing. I would be interested to know whether these were amongst the three he mentions or are perhaps they are the three he has in his collection.

Now to some of the conclusions he comes to: the whole idea of machine-turning which he refers to is surely to make a uniform pattern, either as a background to the stamp or as a frame. Yet he says that in the bottom right corner the loops are stretched to fit the width of the stamp, hardly the work of a professional printer such as Perkins Bacon (of which more later). Debunking poor old Charles Petit as the designer of this issue is somewhat cruel; nobody has said that it is certain that he designed these stamps, it's just a possibility. As for the lack of machine turning on the lithographs, these were issued in a great hurry and were hardly produced in an orderly manner.

Let us look at the idea that Perkins Bacon printed these lithographed stamps; Perkins Bacon were security printers used to using their own patented process to produce banknotes and stamps and the idea that they would do a local lithographed stamp for Trinidad does not hold water. Why would they even entertain dealing with such a small order from a remote company and use a lithographic process to boot? Has any reference been made to the Perkins Bacon Archive or Percy De Worms' book? No, there is no evidence there that such an issue was ever printed by them.

Personally I believe that as much evidence as can be gleaned from documents over the years has already been recorded and anything else newly written is surely just speculation and unproven theory. However, the listing on the BWISC website is necessarily a work incomplete as there will always be more discoveries. I would be interested to have sight of Mr. Franz's three items and their expert certificates. They could then be added to our listing.

*Peter C. Ford*

### 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. 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.

## MILCOPEX 2016

September 16-18

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

John Paré

*The 1948 Wisconsin Statehood Issue:  
Production, First Day Covers & Postal Uses*

**Gold**

*The 1940 Bermuda 1/2d. on 1d. Provisional Overprint  
and Its Postal Uses (SF)*

**Gold**

Paul Larsen

*The Evolution of French Sudan & Niger*  
**Gold, France & Colonies Philatelic Society  
Grand Prix**

*French Equatorial Africa Issues of 1936-1946*  
**Vermeil**

## INDYPEX 2016

October 7-9

Noblesville, Indiana

John Paré

*The 1948 Wisconsin Statehood Issue:  
Production, First Day Covers & Postal Uses*  
**Gold, American First Day Cover Society Award**  
*The 1940 Bermuda 1/2d. on 1d. Provisional Overprint  
and Its Postal Uses (SF)*

**Single Frame Grand Award, Gold**

## WORLD STAMP SHOW 2016

May 28-June 4, 2016

New York

Literature

Peter Elias

*Stamping Around (2015, Volume 28)*

**Silver-Bronze**

*USPS Automated Postal Centers 2012-2014*  
(Electronic book on CD)

**Vermeil**

**STEVEN ZIRINSKY**  
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# Membership Director's Report

## 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 Applicants

None this quarter

## Resigned

None this quarter

## Donations

(And thanks!)

None this quarter

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.

*It is now time to renew your membership for 2017. To find out if your renewal is now due, please check the upper right hand corner above your last name on the mailing label. If the year listed is 2017, you need to renew now and you should complete the form on the reverse and return it per the instructions. If your mailing label shows 2018 or later, nothing is due at this time, but you can add additional years or make a donation by completing the form and sending payment per the instructions. If there are any questions on the attached membership forms, please contact me at [rstewart19@comcast.net](mailto:rstewart19@comcast.net)*



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## 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!**

A4 sized, perfect bound, (viii) + 458 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-24-6

Price: £29.00 (\$45.00). BWISC Members' Discount: £3.00 (\$4.50).

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# President's Message

By John Seidl

The BCPSG is governed by a Board of Trustees elected by its members; in turn, the nine trustees elect six officers for a two-year term (renewable) president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, international director, and editor who conduct the day-to-day affairs of the group.

I have the privilege of being named the next President of the BCPSG by the Board at our annual meeting this year in New York. I officially step into this role January 1, 2017 -- our leadership team has been working to transition responsibilities as we shuffle things around. Bob Stewart, our long time Membership Director, has agreed to move over and take on the Treasurer job from me.

For those of you who might not know me here are a few tidbits: I am 56 years old and live outside Atlanta, Georgia. I specialize in anything philatelic related to the Cayman Islands but have a large worldwide stamp collection. I am also the President of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors which is a great little group I encourage you to check out. I am the North American representative for our sister group, the BWISC, and active in the APS, my local stamp club and countless other philatelic groups.

We have a number of appointed officers (auction manager, librarian, publications chair, group leaders for each country represented, and others) who are responsible for carrying out activities in support of the group's overall goals. Have you thought about volunteering to take on a role in support of the group? Like any philatelic organization, we are only as good as our members choose to make us and we could use your help. Please contact me at [john.seidl@gmail.com](mailto:john.seidl@gmail.com) if you'd like to consider any role with our group.

I would like to thank Duane Larson for his leadership of the BCPSG and I look forward to continuing his efforts to grow our organization and contribute to the philatelic study of the British Caribbean area.

There are two things I'd like to ask every member to consider: who can you refer to join our group? Do you know someone in the BWISC who is not in the BCPSG? Do you know someone in your local club who also collects one of our focus countries? Are you participating in a stamp show where you could distribute information on the BCPSG? My second request is that you consider contributing an article to the *Journal*. The primary benefit of our club for most members is the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* and our publication deserves your support. Dr. Everett Parker, our long time editor, will work with you to finalize an article. Research is a critical part of our hobby and sharing your knowledge is a legacy we can all appreciate.

A few final ways you can support the BCPSG is to support our journal advertisers. When you shop with them be sure to mention you saw their advertisement in our journal. The money they pay to advertise with us is our primary source of income after membership dues. We also greatly appreciate financial contributions from our members and you can even donate your stamps that we will sell in support of the group in our next auction at the annual meeting later in 2017.



## WANTED

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### BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS



## ANTIGUA



'ANTIGUA - THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY' by Charles Freeland, FRPSL and John Jordan. Coming so early in the alphabet Antigua has always been one of the most popular of the small Caribbean islands. It has an interesting mix of early stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and De La Rue including a number of rarities. On the postal history front Antigua is especially well endowed, with the Codrington and Tudway estate correspondences. There is also a rich variety of early postal markings, including some unique marks. The original inspiration for this book was the Antigua Monograph published in successive issues of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal over a 15 year period between 1973 and 1988. This book collates all this information, updates it and presents it in a most readable form.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (x) + 299 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-25-3

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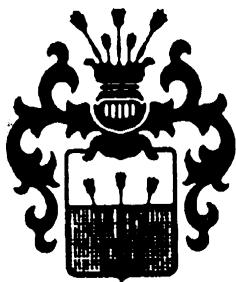
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