



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

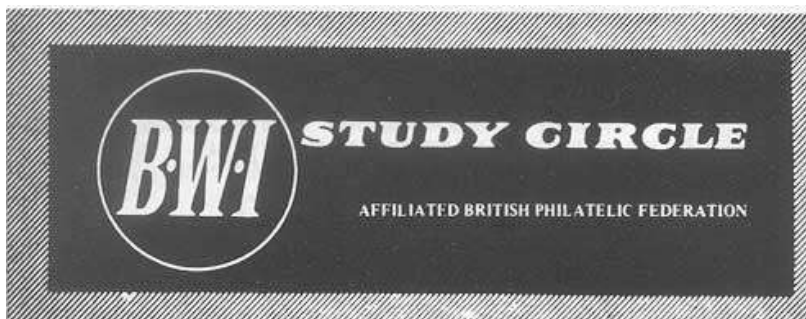
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NEW ENGLAND STAMP CO.

CHRISTIE'S ROBSON LOWE

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BRIDGER & KAY Ltd



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OBJECT

1. **TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. TO loan books from the Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear postage both ways. List supplied upon application.
4. TO publicise 'wants'.
5. TO furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

MEMBERSHIP

is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be **advanced** or new collectors. The ANNUAL Subscription, payable on **1st January** each year, is **£4** for members residing in the UK or Europe, and **£6** for members residing elsewhere in the world. The latter rate includes an element to cover Air Mail postage of the Bulletin and charges where the subscription is paid in non-sterling currency or by cheques drawn on foreign banks. Overseas members are requested to make payment by International Money Order in sterling, or by sterling draft on a UK Bank if possible. Cheques, IMO's and PO's are to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

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PROGRAMME

1986

Wed., Mar. 19th	6.00 p.m.	Display Jamaica by D.G.Charlesworth
Sat., Apr. 26th	2.15 p.m.	AGM and AUCTION SALE

The evening meetings will be held in Committee Room J at the Law Society Building, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC1 1PL.

The AGM and Auction Sale will be held at the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London WC1 4BH

Fri., May 23rd 1-5 p.m. Ameripex

Joint Meeting of BCPSG, Roses Caribbean Society and BWISC in the TWA Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago

Speakers will be Jay Fredrick on British Virgin Islands and Al Branston on BWI Forgeries.

A reception, and cash bar are scheduled at the Holiday Inn, across the street from the Convention centre from 5.30 - 7.30 p.m. to follow the Joint Meeting.

VIEWING OF AUCTION LOTS

Members wishing to view auction lots may do so at the stand of P. Styllis, 27 King Street, London WC2 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Thursday 24th. and Friday 25th. April 1986 and also between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday 26th. April. To avoid disappointment would you please ring Mr Styllis on 01-240 1028 before calling.

Lots may also be viewed for about 15 minutes immediately before the sale.

Please note that bids for the auction should be sent to Derek Nathan at 52 Morrish Road, London SW2 4EG.

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE
STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

for the year ending 31st December 1985

<u>1984 £</u>		<u>INCOME</u>		<u>1985 £</u>	
1,757.60			Subscriptions		1,451.44
550.50			Advertising		551.00
			Donations:		
		412.53	Auction (Note 1)	367.23	
419.53		<u>7.00</u>	Misc.	<u>10.50</u>	377.73
3.00			Opinion Fees		2.00
			Sundries :		
		8.45	Room Collections	5.80	
16.57		<u>8.12</u>	Postages refunded	<u>18.67</u>	24.47
-			Convention net surplus		5.79
			Interest : (Note 2)		
		16.54	Bank Deposit A/c	26.19	
2,990.75	243.55	227.01	Building Society A/c	157.84	184.03
			Library (Note 3)		2,596.46
			Britnor Bequest	50.00	
		-	Postages refunded	69.29	119.29
			Publications :		
			Sales		715.17
			Less costs		414.94
<u>188.72</u>	168.25				<u>300.23</u>
<u>3,179.47</u>			TOTAL FOR YEAR		<u>3,015.98</u>
<u>1984 £</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>1985 £</u>	
		1,090.10	Printing - Bulletins	1,291.00	
1,064.75		25.35	Less transfer to stock	<u>52.35</u>	1,238.65
20.00			Affiliation Fee	26.00	
			Less o'paym't refunded	6.00	20.00
35.05			Tel. & Stationery (Note 4)		247.09
		463.48	Postages	504.65	
426.10		37.38	Less refunds		504.65
51.00			Insurance		60.42
45.79			Sundries & Travel		103.17
136.00			Room Hire		121.50
			Library :-		
		55.00	Acquisitions (Note 3)	167.15	
		50.00	Rebinding costs	-	
1,975.47	196.78	91.78	Packaging	-	
			Misc Expenses	11.38	178.53
			Publications Purchased:		2,474.01
		28.00	Postal Rates to 1900		
			Barbados Censorship	300.00	
			Binders	115.50	415.50
		28.00	less transfer to stock		415.50
			Forward Payments :		
			'85 Convention		-
		4.10	Future Publications	20.12	<u>20.74</u>
<u>20.74</u>	16.64				<u>2,494.13</u>
<u>1,996.21</u>			Total for year		<u>521.85</u>
<u>1,183.26</u>			Balance - Excess of Income over Expenditure		<u>3,015.98</u>
<u>3,179.47</u>					

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st December 1985

ACCUMULATED FUND

	As at 1st January 1985	£	5,143.16
ADD	Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year		<u>521.85</u>
		£	<u>5,665.01</u>

REPRESENTED BY :

<u>1984 £</u>				
	105.73	Cash at Bank - Current Account	49.30	
	316.54	- Deposit Account	211.82	
	3,027.01	Building Society Deposit	3,657.84	
3,554.28	105.00	Cash floats	115.00	4,033.96
		Sundry Debtors		391.15
123.85		Stocks of :		
	27.30	Binders	94.71	
	257.90	Bulletins	299.90	
	20.00	B.W.I. Postal Rates	8.00	
	461.25	History of Sailing Packets	438.75	
	727.50	Barbados Post Office Markings (Bound)	637.50	
	460.00	- Do - (unbound)	460.00	
<u>1,953.95</u>	=	Barbados Censorship	68.00	<u>2,006.86</u>
5,632.08				6,431.97
		LESS Sundry Creditors :		
	247.32	Subscriptions received in advance	256.81	
	241.60	B.B.Benwell & Co (December Bulletin)	380.00	
	-	Leonard Hartmann (see Note 3)	127.15	
<u>488.92</u>	-	F.Deakin (Sub overpaid)	3.00	<u>766.96</u>
<u>5,143.16</u>				<u>5,665.01</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Auction receipt is net after costs of producing the Catalogue have been deducted.
2. Interest for the Bank Deposit Account is for the full year. Interest for the Building Society is the amount credited to 30 June 1995, the Society having again changed their accounting year to that date. The amount of Interest which should be credited for the second half of the year is estimated at £170.00

In addition to the £50 received in cash for the Britnor Bequest books to the value of £55 were also purchased and passed to the Circle's Library. The amount due to Leonard Hartmann (see Sundry Creditors) is offset by a similar amount due from Leonard Hartmann in respect of books purchased by him.

4. Expenditure on stationery includes the purchase of a stock of envelopes for the despatch of Bulletins to members which should be sufficient for two to three years.
5. Expenditure on Sundries and travel includes the sums expended on gifts to new Life Members as agreed by the Committee.

SUB-ACCOUNTS

1. PUBLICATIONS

A breakdown of Sales and Costs (i.e. reduction of stock values) of Publications during the year, with 1984 figures for comparison, is as follows :

Qty	<u>1984</u>			<u>ITEM</u>	Qty	<u>1985</u>		
	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Net</u>			<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Net</u>
158	87.99	7.90	80.90	Bulletins	207	115.45	10.35	105.10
16	41.85	33.60	8.25	Binders	22	66.50	48.09	18.41
9	35.50	18.00	17.50	B.W.I. Postal Rates	6	23.00	12.00	11.00
5	64.00	18.75	45.25	Sailing Packets	6	48.00	22.50	25.50
12	127.63	90.00	37.63	Barbados P.O. Markings	12	126.50	90.00	36.50
-	-	-	-	Barbados Censorship	58	335.72	232.00	103.72
	<u>356.97</u>	<u>168.25</u>	<u>188.72</u>			<u>715.17</u>	<u>414.94</u>	<u>300.23</u>

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Balance held on 1st January 1985 being payments in advance £ 247.32
 Receipts during the year :

For current year	1,226.73	
For 1985 and onwards	<u>201.20</u>	
		<u>1,467.93</u>
	Total Receipts	1,715.25

LESS :

Refunds Paid	4.00	
Refunds due (F.Deakin)	3.00	
Balances carried forward for :		
1986	198.31	
1987	32.50	
1988-93	24.00	
1994	<u>2.00</u>	
		<u>263.81</u>

Attributable Subscription Income for 1985 £ 1,757.60

3. 1985 Convention

<u>Income</u>	£	£	£
Table Rentals		144.00	
Convention Fees		131.00	
Luncheon Payments		422.50	
Raffle Ticket Sales		61.00	
Discount given by Hotel		20.79	
Members Table Commission		123.87	
Donations received		<u>11.50</u>	<u>914.66</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Printing Convention Leaflet	107.50		
Sherry Party	68.00		
Room Hire	65.00		
Morning Coffees	36.40		
Afternoon Teas	36.40		
Luncheons	487.50		
Frames	30.14		
Raffle Prizes	20.23		
Gratuities - Hotel staff	15.00		
Donation - Warwick & Leamington Philatelic Society	10.00		
Miscellaneous expenses : postages, tel., raffle, tickets, badges etc	<u>32.70</u>	908.87	
Surplus carried to General Account		<u>5.79</u>	<u>914.66</u>

THE OFFICE OF HON. SECRETARY

At the last Annual General Meeting Ian Chard indicated that as he was approaching the date when he would be retiring and possibly moving to Scotland, it would be desirable for someone else to become Hon. Secretary.

Ian invited anyone interested to write to him but there has been no response so far.

I am therefore mentioning the matter in this Bulletin, and if any member is interested will he or she please get in touch with Ian or me. If a member who is attending the next Annual General Meeting is interested he or she could approach Ian or me on that occasion or by letter or telephone in the meanwhile.

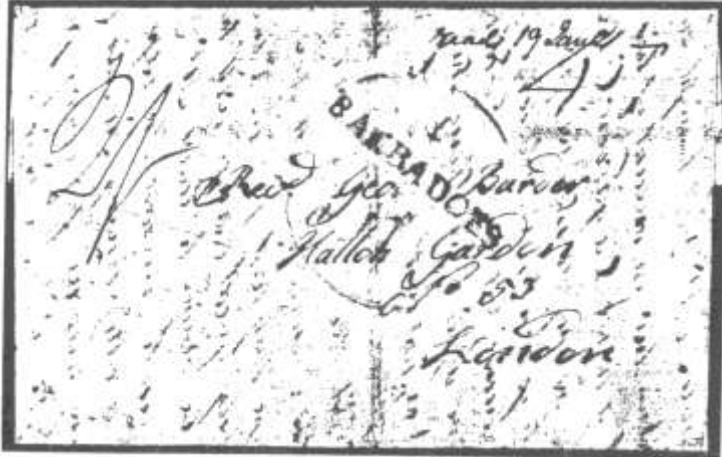
E.V. Toeg

NOTES and QUERIES

BARBADOS

TRANSIT HANDSTAMP

I would be very interested for any information regarding the Transit Handstamp (A4), on the address panel of an EL sent in March 1809 from Demerara to London via Barbados, which appears to be enclosed within a circular frame of some 42mm diameter.



No other strike of this handstamp which I have examined displays this phenomenon and I am at a loss to account for it. It has been suggested that the part circle was caused by over enthusiastic wielding of the handstamp, resulting in the metal backing coming in contact with the letter, but the strike does not appear to be excessively heavy, and in any case, surely a single line stamp of this nature would have had a rectangular mount. I should perhaps add that the name and circle are unquestionably in the same ink.

H. Knibb

EARLY LETTER

I was interested to read of Frank Deakin's Early Barbados Letter (Dec 85 Bulletin). A recent addition to my collection is a letter from Barbados dated March 31st 1685 addressed to Mr. John Dowe, Merchant in POARTH (UNDERLINED) Scotland and in his absence to his wife Janet Young in Sheffield. The letter relates to ship movements and "children born" and is written in the same flowery type of writing referred to by Frank including the embellished "To". There are no postal markings on either obverse or reverse.

David Woolfson

BRITISH GUIANA

PARAMARIBO FRANKED IN BRITISH GUIANA.

I recently acquired a fairly large piece bearing G.B. 4d and 1d (x2) cancelled A03. The piece is endorsed 'pr. Mail Steamer', and on what was the reverse bears three c.d.s.:-

Demerara H.S. 14 index B dated 7 June 1859
London transit in blue GG/LONDON/JU-29/59
Liverpool arrival A 10/LIVERPOOL/JU 30/59

Neat but so far nothing unusual.

However, underneath the two GB 1d adhesives, and partially obscured by them is a blue c.d.s. showing the following....PAR./5/6/1859/FRANCO. This is presumably Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana. It is not unknown for letters from French and Dutch Guiana to travel via Demerara to catch the English mail steamers (I have one from Cayenne endorsed 'Par la voie anglaise', but without British Guiana markings), but why should this letter have acquired British stamps at Georgetown? This must have been so, as they are well tied by the A03 cancels.

I can only guess that the letter arrived from Dutch Guiana, was advertised as unpaid, and then the postage was paid by the Georgetown representative of the addressee (who this was is not known, but it is very likely to have been Sandbach Tinnie in Liverpool). But this is an odd solution ... why would the Demerara Post Office advertise as unpaid a letter which had arrived already in the mail from Paramaribo.

The other alternative is that there was some arrangement between the Post Offices of British and Dutch Guiana whereby a letter paid (Franco) in Dutch Guiana could receive British stamps at Georgetown, presumably accounted for in some way between the two post offices.

Does anyone have any information that would help to solve this puzzle?

Michael Webster

Mailboat TPO Postmarks

Until the comparatively recent arrival of internal air services, British Guiana's waterways provided almost the only lines of communication between the remote settlements of the interior and the populous coastal plain.

Even the commoner TPO postmarks of the earlier period are difficult to assemble in quantities adequate for study, and so there is scant evidence of timing or regularity of steamer and launch services. A large hoard of postmarks has recently yielded no less than 252 pieces struck with the difficult 'MAIL BOAT' canceller type 11b, rated 'scarce' by Townsend & Howe ('up to 25 known'). All are from the period June 1916 - April 1923 during most of which Messrs. Sprostons Ltd ran the Upper Demerara River service on which the TPO using the 'MAIL BOAT' cancellers was based. Of these, 159 are reliably datable.

It is known that the service was bi-weekly from at least 1901, and this sample actually reveals that the appointed days of operation were Monday and Thursday from 1916 to 1923, so that the upper river service connected at Wismar with the lower river steamer (Wednesdays and Saturdays). For the statistically minded,

- 46% of the strikes are Mondays
- 47% of the strikes are Thursdays
- 3% of the strikes are Saturdays
- 3% of the strikes are Wednesdays



and there is one Sunday strike. The service was clearly both punctual and reliable.

As sometime happens in such hoards, Sprostons' postal officer's signature is discernible in a little quirk. Where day and year are the same number, he always varies his typesetting. Thus on 18 FEB 18 and 18 NOV 18 the two lines of digits are offset; on 21 MAR 21 and 21 JUL 21 the year is barred out. Sprostons ceased to operate the service in 1922, and the typesetting went to pieces – day and year transposed in August, year inverted in December. O tempora o mores!

Michael Medicott

BRITISH HONDURAS

Postal Markings used at Belize.

Continued from P.74 Bulletin No. 127 Dec, 1985

INSTRUCTIONAL HANDSTAMPS

Type H1 AP

Meaning and use unknown

19 x 14mm Rectangular Frame

Sent from GPO 12 July 1909

EKD LKD



Type H2 (a) (b) (c) AR
AVIS RECEPTION

These three stamps were sent from
GPO 25 Nov 1895. "Avis Reception"
was used when a receipt was required
by the sender of the letter

EKD LKD

Type H2 (d) AR
27 x 19mm Horizontal Oval Frame
Sent from GPO on 23 May 1903
Possibly intended for Grenada

EKD LKD

Type H2 (e) AR
19 x 14mm Rectangular Frame
Sent from GPO 12 July 1909

EKD LKD

Type H3 (a) MISSENT TO BELIZE

Straight line, letters 5mm high,
Length 82mm

EKD LKD

Type H3 (b)
Straight line, letters 6mm high,
Length 55mm.

Sent from GPO 12 July 1909

EKD LKD

To be continued.

Ralph Group



Type H2 (a) (b) (c)



Type H2 (d)



Type H2 (e)



Type H3 (a)



Type H3 (b)

BRITISH WEST INDIES

Some Forgeries of The West Indies.

Author 's Note

These articles do not cover all of the West Indian countries. Further, the data given here is not complete in many of the areas concerned. Information either about other forgeries or of those shown is most welcome. Write me at 11 Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 4DH, England.

This series of articles is based on my collection as it is today. Although it is the result of some 25 years work it certainly does not cover all of the W.I. forgeries which have been made. Also it is not good literary practice to include "bits and pieces" from the writings of others. The thinking behind this is - if it is in my collection it may well be hiding itself in yours!

The prime objective of these articles is to provide information.

Much historical information about the background of the forgers has already been written and Varro Tyler's "The Lives of The Forgers" looks after this aspect very

nicely. There is very little hard core matter available especially that about positive identification of the forgeries. There is a very good reason for this. There are two very substantial stumbling blocks (a) the genuine stamps were made in panes made up of individual clichés. Account has to be taken of the varieties and flaws on these panes especially those which occur during printing, when the identification of a forgery is embarked upon. The other (b) is that the forger nearly always produced a pane of stamps often smaller than the genuine. Absence of knowledge about the complete pane(s) adds to the difficulty particularly when only a few copies of the forgery are available.

The Rev. Earee, in 1892, recognised these difficulties but nevertheless went on at extreme lengths to fill some hundreds of pages about them in his well known book "Album Weeds". This book is sometimes very useful, at others annoying and disappointing and all because of those two large areas of non-knowledge.

With this in mind, and right from the start, the collection divided into two parts (1) the collection proper in which only forgeries classified as such on the support of sufficient information were included. The other, the Development collection, houses all of the forgeries lacking adequate identification process. This series is based on the first of these.

Invariably each value of every forgery is collected "in depth" on stock sheets. This process is continuous and thus, after a number of years provides some sort of evidence as to the possibility of it coming into the hands of other collectors.

Next and parallel with the stock sheets is the information, illustrations etc. about the genuine stamps. This area of work is very time consuming and often fragmentary and uncertain in character but neither of these is considered completely off-putting. Now for the work of identification.

The first step is to check the method of printing. The second concerns checking the perforation, paper, cancellation(s) and gum. Very few forgers made watermarks but produced stamps with substantial cancellations on thick paper on which the clear detection of a watermark becomes a near impossibility. Most forgers used the easy litho process, easy to detect but very subject to the same degree of examination and typing out, irrespective of the method of printing employed by the forger. If we are going to put a label on a forgery it should be a good one. In other words, all of the forgeries where the wrong process has been used are not lumped together and labelled "forgeries". In one or two cases where an engraved forgery calls for a more complete comparison to be made, this is done from the stamps and the results illustrated by side-by-side enlarged photographs.

The next step is to detect three or four major differences between the genuine and forged stamps in the execution of the design work on each. Those selected need to be proved up on all copies of the forgery and as many of the genuine stamps as are available. Most of the genuine stamps are now very expensive or hard to come by, it is a matter of time, patience and opportunity. For the collection these differences are reproduced by hand drawings about 2" x 3" and reduced to album size photographically. These identification clues have been conveniently termed Idents.

Some Idents do not lend themselves readily to descriptive treatment as is needed in an article such as this one. In those cases alternative Idents have been located wherever possible.

Whenever possible the accepted attributions are given, the absence of an attribution indicates that the forger is unknown to me.

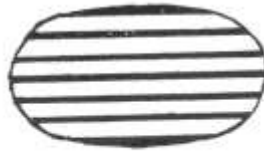
No one forger's work is exactly the same as any other and the series is therefore arranged in alphabetical order of country with types (1), (2), etc. under that country.

Explanatory Notes

1. Colours. The colours given in this series are those of forgeries. The dates are those of the genuine stamps which the forger tried to copy.
2. Descriptions of the cancellations used by the forgers
 - (a) An outline of bars. A cancellation having short bars at each end and longer side bars thus forming an oval. These are described numerically. Thus 2.3.2.3. indicates that the cancellation has two short bars each end and three long bars each side.
See (Diagram A).
 - (b) A barred oval refers to an oval filled with bars extending over the whole of the major axis.
(See Diagram B).
 - (c) An oval of bars indicates an arrangement of parallel bars without a containing line.
(See Diagram C).
 - (d) A square of bars or dots (or a diamond) is self explanatory.



A. An outline of bars.



B. A barred oval.



C. An oval of bars.

3. Spiro Perforations. Spiro of Hamburg was a prolific forger and the perforations on his litho products are nearly all found either torn or cut off or just a short line of diamond shape indentations. In fact he used a line perf 12 or 13 machine but failed to clear the waste pieces of paper from the bottom plate of the machine. He had little or no control of the direction of perforating hence his typical "perforations" so often met with.
4. Fournier album paper. When Fournier died his massive "factory" in Geneva was closed. The stock of stamps and dies was ultimately sold to the Geneva Philatelic Society who employed students to cut them up and mount them into books (some 420 were made). A typical cream coloured paper with a deep blue border was used and pieces of these albums come on to the market occasionally and serve as positive identification of his works. There are notes in the series about these.

A personal note. It is likely that members of the Group will have specialised interests and a wider and better knowledge of the forgeries they have encountered than I have. It is particularly desired that other collectors should also ultimately become aware of information not included in this series. All and any advices to me will therefore be most welcome.

The series will cover the following countries:

1. Antigua 2. Bahamas 3. Barbados 4. Bermuda 5. British Guiana 6. British Honduras 7. Dominica 8. Grenada 9. Leeward Islands 10. Nevis 11. St. Christopher 12. St. Lucia 13. St. Vincent 14. Trinidad 15. Turks Islands 16. Virgin Islands

Al Branston

(c) AJB 1985

THE ABOVE ARTICLE IS THE INTRODUCTION TO A SERIES ON WEST INDIES FORGERIES BY ALFRED (AL) J. BRANSTON. PAPERS ON INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES WILL APPEAR IN SUBSEQUENT BULLETINS. THESE ARTICLES ARE COPYRIGHT AND NO MATTER IN THE SERIES WHETHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART MAY BE REPRODUCED IN ANY FORM WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR.

ED.

MISPLACED CROWN CC and CROWN CA WATERMARKS.

Misplaced watermarks are not uncommon in early to mid period stamps of Queen Victoria. Bad trimming during manufacture or incorrect positioning of the paper when printing are the two most likely causes. The end product often gives rise to doubt as to which particular stamp one is trying to identify when they are single copies of stamps issued in either watermark in the same colours, values and perforations. Depending upon the degree of displacement some reversed watermarks can also be missed.

Watermarks can serve a useful function in identifying plate positions particularly those on the edges of a pane. In these cases any misplacement can be either a help or hindrance!

To help in correct identification it is essential to have detailed knowledge of the Dandyroll used to watermark the paper and the following information has been extracted from "The De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps" by J. Easton, "Postage Stamps in the Making" by F.J. Melville (re-written by J. Easton) and "The Foundations of Philately" by Winthrop S. Boggs in collaboration with Arnold M. Strange in the hope that it will assist those who do not have access to these books.

The Crown CC Dandyroll. This was brought into use in 1862 but was not invoiced until a year later. It was 22 inches in diameter and long enough to produce three sheets (joined) at a time. The finished sheet size was 21-3/4" by 11-3/4". The Dandyroll carried 720 bits each of a Crown above the letters CC so arranged as to provide 240 bits per sheet with each sheet being sub-divided into 4 panes of 60 bits in 10 rows of 6, each pane being enclosed in a rectangle with straight marginal lines thus forming a vertical and horizontal 'gutter' between the panes. The spacing of these lines (which also appeared as part of the watermark) (?) were such that the vertical gutter in the centre of the sheet separating the left hand panes from the right hand ones was 10mm in width, whilst the horizontal gutter separating the upper panes from the lower ones was 25mm in width. The bits were regularly spaced throughout the sheet both horizontally and vertically.

The horizontal gutter bore, as part of the watermark, the words CROWN COLONIES in double lined sans serif capital letters 14mm in height. This wording extended right across the sheet so that the first "C" was positioned centrally in the first column of bits and the final "S" centrally positioned in the extreme right hand column of bits. The same words were used along the left and right hand sides of the sheet, but twice on each side, those on the left reading upwards and those on the right reading downwards. The letters were also in double lined sans serif capitals but only 9mm in height. The pairs of words (extending along the complete length of the column of bits) were separated by a vertical cross aligned with the centre of the horizontal central gutter. There is no wording along the top or bottom edges of the sheet nor is there any record of any other positional cross in margins.

The Dandyroll remained in use for 20 years being described as "fairly worn out" in March 1881.

The Crown CA Dandyroll. A dandyroll with a bit comprising a Crown over the letter CA is known to have been in existence in 1872 but it was not until ten years later that this watermark was taken into use for paper intended for postage stamps. When a new Dandyroll was being considered in 1881 it was decided that to gain extra life it should be capable of watermarking four sheets instead of three. The finished sheet sizes were changed and became 21-1/4" by 11". This change probably occurred to meet the change in overall stamp dimensions when the old Perkins Bacon plates (then being used by De La Rue) would be taken out of use, and new plates introduced. Each sheet was still sub-divided into four panes of 60 bits enclosed by marginal lines, but the spacings between the panes changed so that the horizontal gutter became slightly wider at 1 inch (25.4mm) whilst the vertical gutter was narrowed to 6mm.

The wording in the central horizontal gutter read CROWN AGENTS appearing once only in double lined sans serif capital letters 12mm in height with the letter "C" being central in the second vertical column of bits and the letter "S" being central in the penultimate column of bits. The wording along the left and right hand sides read CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES - once only in each case - but still reading upwards on the left and downwards on the right. Double lined sans serif capital letters were used each 7mm in height. The central left and right marginal crosses appeared between the words 'FOR' and 'THE'. Marginal crosses also appeared in each corner of the sheet but were smaller than those opposite the central horizontal gutter.

Other than a change of one letter (from C to A) the bits are of the same size as that used in the Crown CC watermark being 22.5mm in height and were also regularly spaced both horizontally and vertically.

Misplacement. Both watermarks are found misplaced to the left or right, upwards or downwards, or a combination of both. The amount of displacement is often considerable so that the marginal lines appear along or near to the central vertical or horizontal axes of the stamp - sometimes both apply at the same time. Not all misplaced watermarks can be correctly assigned but knowledge of the sizes of the lettering and spacings between the margins will assist in correct assignment of the appropriate watermark.

Stephen Papworth

JAMAICA

THE DOUBLE-RING CIRCULAR DATE STAMPS OF KINGSTON.

Anthony Lewarn's series of articles on this subject appeared in BWISC Bulletins between numbers 101 and 122 but it was only in the last year that I have got around to studying the subject in detail. Now, with the help of Mr Lewarn, I am able to report material from my own collection which extends the information given in the original articles.

KDC2-2 Add alpha index W.

KDC3 I have a clearly struck item with numeral index omitted and alpha index Q sideways, dated 28th May 1892. Apart from KDC7A and B which were deliberately used without numeral index, the occasional absence of a numeral is puzzling as it has always been assumed that the numeral was an integral part of the die. Has anyone seen KDC3 marks with alpha index Q dated later than 28.5.92? If so, by a process of elimination we might be able to establish which numeral was removed.

KDC3-1 Add alpha index N. New early date: 8th November 1898.

KDC4-2 New late date: 19th July 1906.

KDC4-4 Add alpha indices D, L and B.

KDC5-1 Add alpha indices: B and G. New early date: 10th January 1906. Add WITHOUT alpha index. Impression very clearly struck and possibility of ink failure remote. Absence of alpha index also occurs in KDC8-1, KDC9-3

and KDC12-1. Could it have been that it was omitted deliberately to indicate a special circumstance? Mr Lewarn thinks this might be a possibility.

- KDC5-2 Add alpha index 1. New early date; 28th December 1905. New late date: 29th July 1909.
- KDC5-4 Add alpha index G.
- KDC5-5 Instrument not previously recorded. I have shown Mr Lewarn two strikes, neither sufficiently clear and complete to enable the standard set of measurements to be given. General characteristics similar to those of other KDC5 instruments. Major points of difference from KDC4-5 are that in the assumed KDC5-5 the index line and the month/day line are further apart and the lower points of K and final N in KINGSTON are well below the index base line. Mr Lewarn is reasonably satisfied that KDC5-5 has been identified but full confirmation awaits the appearance of better quality strikes.
Details: Alpha index L. Date: 28th February ?? (on SG46, issued in 1905).
Alpha index M. Date: 19th August 1910.
Both strikes show considerable wear and tear of the die. If indeed it is KDC5-5, the difficulty of finding strikes suggests to Mr Lewarn that its major function was non-postal.
- KDC6-2 Add alpha indices B and R.
- KDC6-6 Add alpha index W.
- KDC7A Add alpha index J. New late date: 12th Sept 1921.
- KDC8-5 Add alpha indices F and G. Early date: 5th October 1920 (previously the only recorded date). New late date: 6th December 1920.
- KDC9-2 Add alpha indices G, M, R and T. Also variety M inverted.
- KDC9-3 Add alpha indices K & S. New late date: 5th May 1928.
- KDC11-2 Add alpha indices E and J.
New early date: 23rd January 1928.
- KDC12-2 Add variety W inverted. New late date: 18th August 1945.
- KDC13 In addition to the uses previously recorded for NO5 this mark was used to service First Flight Covers as follows:

BWIA 4th September 1946
BCA 31st March 1949
BWIA 1st April 1950 to Miami
BWIA 1st April 1950 to Nassau
BOAC 6th April 1950

Hugh James

ST. VINCENT

EARLY POSTAL MARKINGS.

The handbook of St Vincent by Pierce, Messenger and Lowe records the earliest usage of straight line ST VINCENT mark (PD) as 1793 and surmises that it was sent out to coincide with the re-organised schooner service through the islands.

Evidence of earlier strikes which have come to light in the last few years invalidate this theory and it seems sensible to put the record straight on St Vincent's earliest postal markings.

As collectors will already be aware the earliest known letters emanating from St Vincent - but without any markings from the island - are the four from the 'Barrie' correspondence sent in October and December 1772. Details of these are fully recorded in "St Vincent to Florida: The Letters of Robert Barrie 1772" (published in June 1965 as a supplement to *The Philatelist & Postal Historian*) by Walter Skrine.

The next letter known is one from St Vincent to Madeira dated 11 June 1775 and carried by the Hillsborough Packet Boat. She made her maiden voyage carrying mails on 12 July 1774 and was captured by American privateers in May 1780. There are no St Vincent postal markings on this entire letter. This was, of course, a turbulent time in Caribbean history as the American Revolution raged and in 1779 St Vincent was captured by the French, remaining in French hands until the Treaty of Versailles under which possession was restored to the British on 1 January 1784.

An entire letter has now been recorded with the straight line St Vincent marking written on 24 October 1787 by Robert Glasgow to his brother James Glasgow at Beith, in Scotland; arrival mark 22 December 1787. The letter requests payment for labour costs incurred - presumably on one of the estates. The St Vincent straight line mark, struck across the folded insert, is rather faint, and the NCE (of VINCENT) does not show at all. Nonetheless one can deduce from the clarity of the letters which do show that the instrument was in good condition and not smudging as happened in later examples.

The Forsyth collection sold in 1978 at auction contained an entire of 1788 but without any St Vincent markings. Lot 1 in the sale, it was described as "1778 letter to Edinburgh, MS 9 and Ship Letter, straight-lined 'IRVINE' and red Bishop Mark, the letter soiled and a trifle damaged." No further details are known of the contents.

The following year another entire is recorded which does have the straight line St Vincent. It changed hands a couple of times at auction in the 1970's and was fully described when sold by specialist dealer, Michael Hamilton in October 1979: "A rare 1789 entire letter per Portland packet to Inverness dated January 1788 (sic) in error by sender. Rated 2/- and changed to 3/2 with smudged but very clear black strike of the scarce straight line St Vincent handstamp on reverse. Also Bishop Marks in red for

MR 23 and in black for MR 20, 89 with some damage around the wax seal....." At the time this was thought to be the earliest known St Vincent marking.

No further examples of the mark are known to me until 1793 but it is recorded in 1794, 1796 and 1797. Although it is not possible to be certain, as early auction records are insufficiently precise, it would appear that there are 10 examples known, so the description of 'scarce' would seem to be justified.

In addition to Michael Hamilton, acknowledgement is also due to Joe Chin Aleong and to Arthur Groten for their help with the above information.

Vincent Duggleby

TRINIDAD

TRINIDAD USED IN CIUDAD BOLIVAR.

The use of Trinidad stamps cancelled "D22" in Ciudad Bolivar is well recorded but this is the first time I have come across Trinidad postal stationery used there.



This 1884 1½d card has the company handstamp of "BLOHM & CO CIUDAD BOLIVAR" in lilac. At top there is the forwarding agent handstamp of J.N. Harriman & Co in reddish lilac and below in the same colour ink a straight line handstamp "Pr. Royal Mail Packet". The date is 26 May 1887, on reverse are London and Brussels cds's. Incidentally, the forwarding agent mark is only recorded in Rowe's book as existing in blue between 1874-76.

David Druett

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

A Fraudulent Variety? (continued from Bulletin No.127 p79)

The Defence calls for a halt in this case.

Whilst the Jury were out considering their verdict there was an interesting development in this case of fraud and intent to deceive.

The Counsel for the Defence asked to see the Judge on an urgent matter. He agreed. The Defence represented that the opening sentence of the direction to the Jury about the attribution of accumulated wisdom possessed by the Stanley Gibbons Company, in the context of this case, was not a matter of material fact. Also that it was liable to mislead the jury in a material aspect of the case. Further he asked that the case be halted immediately so that they could hear the testimony of an eminent specialist Alfred J Branston.

The case was halted.

The Counsel for the Defence said that the witness could show that the intent and activity of the Stanley Gibbons Company was to buy and sell stamps and to publish catalogues and other literature relative to their trading interests. Further the witness would demonstrate that the catalogue was not intended nor was it capable of competently advising its customers as to what was a forgery and what was not. The Judge directed the Jury to return and to hear the evidence of the witness in question.

The witness testified that he had bought stamps for over 40 years from Stanley Gibbons, had written books for them and exhibited his stamps in their Gallery in the Strand. They were occupied in the buying and selling of stamps. It was their standing practice that whenever the genuineness of a stamp was in question to submit and abide by the decisions of another body in no way associated with them. Their Catalogues were therefore not a guide to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamp illustrated and listed but of the price which should be paid. Further he offered to provide evidence that the very same variety as that on trial had been forged no less than five times on the stamps of the Bahamas and four times on those of Jamaica.

The catalogue lists the variety but makes no mention of the possibility of forgeries existing for those stamps. If collectors buy these varieties after looking at the catalogue and seeing no warning they run the risk of purchasing a worthless dud. He is suggesting, Counsel remarked, that the function of the catalogue as a guide to genuineness was dubious, that the accumulated wisdom attributed to the Company did not apply to stamps of which the authenticity was in doubt. It did apply to the buying and selling of stamps.

Counsel for the Prosecution asked the witness whether he would buy these two stamps in the market as genuine? The Witness replied in the affirmative subject to an Opinion of The Royal Philatelic Society. Asked what did this mean he replied that if the Expert Committee said that it was genuine he would complete the purchase.

Counsel, "If it was pronounced a forgery?" Witness, "That would be the end of the matter but he would gladly accept that stamp as a gift to add to his collection of forged stamps." (Laughter in Court).

The case continues.

Al Branston

A Fraudulent War Tax Variety?

Part II

Verdict. After a retirement lasting several days, the Jury returned with a verdict of GUILTY. They added a recommendation to mercy, in view of the Defendant's age.

Sentence. The Prosecution said that, so far as could be ascertained, there were no previous convictions recorded against the Defendant. On behalf of the Defendant it was said that he was very sorry to have been convicted, but that nobody seemed to have lost any money as a result of the fraud.

The Judge said that philatelic fraud was increasing every year and was costing collectors large sums of money. He took a very serious view of the case: there was nothing crude about the deception, it was a sophisticated, callous and calculating attempt to hoodwink the collecting public. But for the rider to the Jury's verdict he would have had no hesitation in ordering the Defendant to be destroyed. As it was, he felt that justice would be done by placing the Defendant on probation for the rest of his natural life. It was a condition of the probation that the Defendant reside only in suitable collections, properly labelled as a faked variety; and let the Defendant be warned that if he ever appeared before a Criminal Court again, no mercy would be shown.

After the Trial. The defendant left the court in obvious distress, and refused to comment on the case. His twin brother told us: "At first I was very disappointed in the verdict. But I knew I mustn't cry. Tears are very damaging to a stamp." He added that he and his brother would be consulting the probation officer as to where they should live, and went on: "I am glad that this business has been cleared up. Now that I know my status in the philatelic world, I feel that there is a whole new life ahead of me. Faked varieties have a part to play in educating stamp collectors everywhere, and I am grateful to philatelic justice for helping me to see the light,"

Note. This trial, the first of its kind for many years, has aroused much interest, because it was seen by some as one where the catalogue itself was on trial. In the event the catalogue has emerged from the proceedings with its reputation intact, and its authority enhanced. We think that it will be a long time before anyone copies the Defendant and issues such a bare-faced challenge.

Simon Goldblatt

NEWS ROUNDUP

Herewith as promised, photographs of the 1985 Convention, courtesy of Mark Swetland.



Tony Shepherd, Basil Benwell, Victor Toeg, Bill Townsend.



Bill Watson, Bob Swarbrick, Mike Wilson, Derek Sutcliffe



Ed Bayley, Michael Hamilton, Chris Rainey, Nigel Niel



Peggy Sheppard, Jean Benwell, Eve Townsend, Lettie Toeg, Jean Swetland

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