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STUDY CIRCLE

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'Missing Virgin' variety for sale at Spink Auction on 20 March 2003

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OBJECTS

- 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 (BELIZE) and the Postal History and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period that they were under British administration or control, and those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, and Central or South America.
- 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. Lists supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an S.A.E. (9" x 6½") – 2nd Class postage for 150 gm rate required.
- 4 TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
- 5 TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBERSHIP - is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

SUBSCRIPTION -The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is £10.00 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £14 / \$20 for members who reside elsewhere.

Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1 January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, in sterling (by personal cheque or standing ORDER drawn on a UK Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency notes - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).

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PROGRAMME OF SOCIETY EVENTS

AGM & Auction

26 April 2003 to be held at the County Hotel, Upper Woburn Place, London

AGM commences 2:15 pm

Auction: Viewing 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm; Bidding following the A.G.M.

The County Hotel is situated just down from Euston Road. Upper Woburn Place is almost opposite Euston railway station. Euston is the nearest Underground station. Coming from Euston, the hotel is on the left hand side being the same side as the Bonnington, which is about 400m further on.

Biennial Convention

Friday 19th to Sunday 21st Sept 2003 (at the end of Stampex).

To be held at the Manor House Hotel Leamington Spa, further details to follow.

Golden Jubilee 2004 Charles Freeland

Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st October 2004.

The Circle will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2004. The Committee has appointed Charles Freeland to head up a steering group to develop ideas for the event. Charles asks me to inform you that the group will recommend that the event be held in London on the weekend of 30-31 October 2004, which coincides with the regular fall Postal History show 'Philatex', organised by Trevor Davis. Please mark down the dates in your calendars - and it goes without saying that volunteers to help run the event will earn brownie points from our revered leader.

EDITORS COMMENTS**Feedback on Articles**

My thanks to Bill Taylor, who made the effort to write to me to express his enjoyment of the recent articles, particularly the Barbados articles by Peter Longmuir and Clary Holt. He eagerly awaits Peter's follow up article which I am pleased to report has been received and should appear in the June bulletin.

Bill informs me, he re-commenced collecting in 1996 after a gap of 49 years – can any one beat this record?

Publication Timetable

June Issue - Draft available for proof reading: 30th April.

I am in the wonderful position of having several substantial articles awaiting publication at the moment, so I hope contributors will be patient if their labours do not appear immediately they have been submitted. I am conscious of the fact that I have neglected some territories lately but hope to redress the balance shortly. Bob Swarbrick and I have produced an article on Jamaica Highway TPOs that I have had to defer for two bulletins running – so I am trying to be unbiased!

I am always interested in snippets of half to one page to slot in at any opportunity.

EVENTS AND MEMBER'S INFORMATION**Exhibitions & Displays**

I am pleased to report that Michael Oliver received a Gold Medal and best Commonwealth prize at Chester 2002 for 'Leeward Islands – The Federal Issues'

Study Groups

Leeward Islands Group Michael Oliver.

Some two years ago when the Circle decided to form groups of interest, I accepted the invitation to be the leader of this Group. After writing to all 19 recorded members with and requesting suggestions for activities and communication, response was minimal.

I arranged a meeting at Leamington, 2001 at which seven members attended. A major project was proposed and agreed unanimously for publication within two years, with me to act as co-ordinator and editor. The following week I circulated suggestions as to how we may proceed in submitting information and for cross-referencing between us.

18 months has now passed and I have received only one response, from Peter Brooks who was on duty and unable to be present at Leamington, comprising very detailed and comprehensive information. Where do we go from here? Maybe you should consider someone else who can attract more interest than I have been able to do.

BCPSG annual meeting, Tortola BVI, 1-2 November 2002 By Charles Freeland

This meeting, long in the planning, was attended by nearly 30 persons affiliated to the BCPSG, of which about one third were what our US cousins call "significant others". The BWISC members present included Brian Brookes, David Druett and Graham Booth from the UK; Mary Kerr (with Felix in tow as our expert photographer) and Charles Ricksecker from the islands; Peter Kaulback from Canada; and Del Harris, Clary Holt (well done Clary!!), Dan Walker, Ed Waterous and Rob Wynstra from the USA. The bulk of the organisation was handled by Giorgio Migliavacca and Peter Kaulback, the Presidents of the BVI Philatelic Society and the BCPSG respectively. Who said being president is mainly ceremonial? However, they would be the first to acknowledge the support they received from BVIPS members Roger Downing and Joanne Warner and from Ms "Fixit" Astrid Wenske, the BVI tourist director.

The indefatigable Giorgio had persuaded the keepers of the Royal collection that the BVIPS's tenth exhibition was a good location to display its wares - an amazing piece of opportunism, for it was the first time a display has been mounted outside the UK excepting major internationals. The Queen's display filled six frames, of which the Virgin Islands, with the "Missing Virgin" the highlight of the Show, taking up two frames with a wealth of rare essays and more recent artwork and proofs. There was also a marvellous frame of Bermuda with three Perots and several rare early die proofs.

in colour and in black. Other frames covered Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks. Peter Jennings in Gibbons Stamp Monthly reported more fully on the contents.

To supplement these gems, Rob Wynstra, Giorgio Miglavacca and I brought 14 more frames comprising Virgin Isles (all three of us), local postmarks (Rob) and Barbados or St Vincent (myself). Giorgio's two frames were all VI, the highlights being a large part sheet of the Nissen and Parker 6d blue plate proof and 1899 imperfs between stamp and margin on 1/2d, 2d and 2 1/2d; he also showed a cover from the last voyage of the SS Rhone before she sank off Salt Island on 29 October 1867. Rob's frame was devoted to the village mail of the Virgin Islands, including TRDs on cover from East End and West End and the Anegada TRD on stamp. These were supplemented by a few covers franked with TRDs of Anguilla and Montserrat and manuscript mail from Dominica. Modesty forbids a full description of my own material, but it was traditional philately with proofs, stamps and covers, one frame of the Barbados Nelson set, three frames of BVI and five frames of St Vincent. On the social side the event will not easily be forgotten. I missed the opening cocktail party and the BCPSG AGM and auction because my island hopper broke down and left me in St Maarten for 18 hours, but I soon caught up with the island tour, unofficial dinner for the exhibitors and trip to Virgin Gorda, all most enjoyable events. The opening of the show and the gala dinner were attended by the Island's top nobs (Governor, Prime Minister and, it seemed, most of his Cabinet), with endless citations, speeches, votes of thanks and loyal messages to Her Majesty. Who will forget the marvellous picture in the Island Sun of Peter Kaulback biting the shoulder of Miss BVI at the gala dinner? I even managed to get a peck on the cheek (from her, not him) when I received a generous gift from Giorgio for my display.

I have been to many islands in the Caribbean, and can confirm that Tortola is definitely not to be missed, with splendid views from the tops of the many steep hills (if you like 20% gradients this is the place to go) and a picturesque harbour. Our arrival coincided with the first ever set of traffic lights on the island - close to our hotel and inevitably accompanied by many screeches of brakes. Another feature was the number of times I was offered the opportunity to buy an offshore company - they could have fallen off the back of a lorry. Our hotel was delightful, with splendid views over the marina, and the hospitality outstanding - the local society and organisers must have been pleased that so many turned up for this special event.

Jay Frederick

by Charles Freeland

Jay Fredrick passed away in late October, a few days before the BCPSG meet in his beloved Tortola. Jay was a gentle man and excellent researcher, best known for his studies of the Virgin Islands but knowledgeable about many aspects of BWI philately. Many will remember him from the joint BWISC/BCPSG meeting at the London International in 1990 or - if you go back that far - in 1980 when he was the President of the visiting team. That was the first time I met him and was immediately impressed by the efficient way he ran the BCPSG annual meeting and the obvious respect in which he was held.

Apart from his long service to the BCPSG, Jay's main contribution to BVI philately was the series of important notes he wrote in the journal in the mid-1980s, following up with several more meaty articles on the postal markings. Jay was a serious and well-organised philatelist who maintained an enormous card file of BVI data. His collection sold at Christies on 27 October 1992 was impressive, all the more so when you realise that he had allowed several friends to cherry-pick some of his most saleable material. The overall results probably suffered, but that was Jay's character and you cannot say that the retention of these treasures in the hands of BCPSG members was a bad thing.

In recent years I visited Jay more than once in his retirement home in California, where he spent much of his time nursing his wife Olga. He remained in good physical shape and was sufficiently alert mentally to maintain his card files, actively collect War Tax varieties and buy items from APS approval books that found their way into the BCPSG annual auctions.

Jay will be greatly missed by his many philatelic friends. Our sincere condolences go to Olga and their children.

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St. Kitts-Nevis

SG 41	1922 2d slate-grey. UM sheet of 60, separating. Some good flaws - list enclosed. £30	CW 12e	1948 3d. FUM sheet (some reinforcement) couple of folds and bends. All expected flaws except #3. Unusual multiple. £195
CW1-10	1938 'Specimen' set of 10. FM, usual perf faults, but fresh, ex Baldwin. £110	SG 73g	1950 3d chalky paper. VFUM Plate block of 16 (R9-12/2-5). £58
CW 6-14a	1938-50 2d-1/- Various multiples (27) on stocksheets, mostly marginal, a few Plate pieces. £125	SG 73g, 74d	1948-49 3d and 6d chalky paper. VFUM TL corner Plate blocks of 6 (R1-2/1-3), 6d one fold. £40
SG 68a-74c	1938-50 Plate no. group, all VFUM. 1/2d LR block of 4, 1d TL block of 8, 2d bottom strip of 5, 2 1/2d LR block of 8, 6d 'LR' block of 3. £28	SG 74d	1948 6d chalky paper. VFUM Plate block of 17 (R7/4-5, 8-12/3-5). £60
SG 71ba	1942 2d deep frame, perf 14. VFUM marginal block of 6 (R5-6/3-5). £100	CW 14	1943-45 1/- VFUM LL corner Plate block of 4. £18
SG 71c	1949 2d chalky paper. VFUM Plate block of 12 (R1-4/1-3). £20	SG 75c	1949 1/- chalky paper. VFUM bottom 4 rows of sheet, all appropriate flaws. £60
CW 12	1942 3d perf 14. VFUM TR corner block of 4 with sheet number. Scarce multiple. £120	CW 15	1942 2/6d. VFM example. £50
CW 12b	1945 3d dull reddish lilac and scarlet. VFUM marginal block of 6, HPF #43. Scarce. £75	SG 76a	1943 2/6d. FUM left marginal block of 6, R9-10/1-3. Centred low. £45
		SG 77a	1942 5/- VFM left marginal block of 4, very well centred. Hinged on one stamp only. BPA Certificate (1997). £340

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DE LA RUE SCHEDULES OF PRICES 1904 AND 1911

By Michael Oliver

I purchased recently a hard cover booklet 8½ x 13 ins., enclosing 22 pages comprising five separate printed Schedules dated from July 1900 with amended lists stuck over the originals or added to them dated up to January 1904. The booklet is handbound with glued paper bindings. The five Schedules of prices are headed:

- 1 June 1901 - Surface Printed Stamps (printed by machine) in five different sizes from key plates of 240, 168, 120 & 80 forme, in one or two operations in singly or doubly fugitive inks, with the note, "We to be at liberty to print either by Hand or Machine", priced per 1000 according to the quantities ordered.
- 2 July 1900 - Surface Printed Stamps in the same five formes, including a separate Table for the Universal Key Plates, with only two prices - less than one ream or one ream or more and watermarked paper charged extra. It also includes Tables for Postage Stationery, Banknotes, Stamped Papers, Dividend Warrants, Postal Orders, Charges for Control, De La Rue's Obliterating Inks & Stamping Fluid, Post Office Hand Dating & Cancelling Stamps, Dating Stamps, Prices for Dies, Plates, Overprint Plates, embossing Dies, Plugs, Presses etc and other accessories.
- 3 July 1900 - Special Schedule of Prices (not falling under the Schedule of general prices). This includes items for 15 colonies, one for Natal postage stamps, six for envelopes or postcards and the others for various revenue or judicial items, e.g. Summary Jurisdiction Stamps & Opium Bands (Br. Guiana), Cigar labels (Jamaica) and Opium bands (Trinidad).
- 4 October 1902 - Adhesive Stamps Printed by the Copper-Plate Process by Hand or Machine in four different sizes by quantity, exclusive of paper and including costs of Plates.
- 5 Undated - Adhesive Stamps, Stationery, Stamped Articles, etc., Printed by Lithography in one colour only for two different sizes in one and two operations, all items of Postage Stationery, Black Obliterating Ink, Post Office Hand Dating & Cancelling Stamps and Dating Stamps. Envelopes are only 13, 8¼ and 9½, Commercial & Office pouch sizes in A, B, & O qualities only.

Schedule 1 - Prices for overprinting standard small and large size stamps are stuck over, dated June 1904.

Schedule 2 - has undated inserts stuck in the margins for Key Plate printing in 240 set plates overprinted 120 set. The Embossed Envelopes have a revised Table 30 stuck over dated 1st January 1904. Stamped Papers from the Universal Plate (Table 44) undated, and Postal Orders (Table 46) dated by hand 1st November 1903, are also stuck over.

Schedules 3, 4 & 5 have no amendments.

The booklet has the appearance of not having been used and it will not remain intact if opened out for reproduction. Fortunately, Richard Maisell has sent me photo-copies from a similar Schedule of Prices dated March 1911. The format and presentation for both are very similar although some items of Postage Stationery are combined into one page in 1911 (Figure 4). These photo-copies appear to be incomplete, but probably include all Tables for surface printed and copperplate postage stamps and stationery. However, the following inconsistencies suggest that they may form parts of two lists when none of the pages are dated. The Tables run from 1 to 49, but above 46 is Table 74 (Dividend Warrants) and below 49 is another Table 74 (Dominica envelopes), both having the appearance of being stuck onto the page before photo-copying.

Table 46 occurs twice - the first as part of a page for Cyprus newswrappers and the second on a separate page for Gibraltar and Jamaica thin post-cards. The title page is used as the title of this article and the Introductory page is Figure 1.

This article is mainly confined to recording Tables from the Schedules for Postage Stationery which reveal new information to the archive data available upon which PART V of my "Notes to

Philatelists" was based. I also include some other items from these Schedules which may be of interest to B.W. I. collectors.

Figures 2 & 3 illustrate the considerable reductions in De La Rue's prices between 1904 and 1911, when inflation was no more than 5% over this period. They were making vast profits until 1910 when the British contract was to be renewed, yet they refused to lower their prices a little or share it. It was awarded to Harrisons who had never before printed a postage stamp. With almost half their total stamp production lost, much of Bunhill Row suddenly became idle.

The Crown Agents contract comprised only some 2% of their total stamp production until 1910 but it also included many orders for revenue and fiscal stamps, labels, warrants and banknotes. Although the contract constituted numerous small orders, De La Rue actively pursued the aim to become printers to the Empire with their economic high security printing, fugitive inks and keyplate designs - and questionable business practice.

In 1922, they sued Waterlows for damages in breaking an agreement between them not to compete according to which method of printing banknotes was ordered. To support their case De La Rue stated that they had had a similar arrangement over many years, whereby the principals compensated each other in cash for De La Rue to have the colonial and Waterlow the foreign contracts.

King Edward VII died in May 1910 and the Empire would be requiring stamps with the new Monarch's head. De La Rue, in anticipation of Crown Agents orders for the 50 or so colonies for whom they acted (see Fig. 5), commenced preparing new Dies. Unbeknown to them Crown Agents had invited the Royal Mint to submit prices for engraving and producing Dies and these were much less than De La Rue charged. However, they managed to convince Crown Agents that they could not produce acceptable work unless they engraved the Dies and made the plates. Their cost for an original King's Head Die was £85 in 1911 compared with c£200 in 1904.

The 1911 Schedules when compared with those of 1904 clearly indicated the predicament that De La Rue were in, when should they lose the Crown Agents contract they were unlikely to survive. In the event not only did the orders increase considerably within a few years, they also secured the contract in 1914 for the first British banknotes. Whilst this cushioned the loss of the British contract, due to poor management, the Company was almost bankrupt by 1922. It survived and retained the Crown Agents contract for over half a century, albeit, it much reduced with the demise of the keyplate types.

The Postage Stationery - Letter Cards are double folded postcards, as replycards but with gummed perforated edges on three sides. Messages were sealed inside and could not be read by others as on post and replycards.

In 1904 envelopes were available in eleven different qualities and six sizes, including a size F, different to that for Registered Envelopes. An R quality was added in the 1911 list. The only qualities I can positively identify are 'B' and 'O' from 1926, when given in the CS Books against specific requisitions. The Leeward Islands envelopes of 1891 were stated to be as "for Newfoundland and Ceylon" which were charged under Schedule 3 at 14s 0d per 1000, the quality not stated. This and the embossed stamps appear to be no different to those of other colonies and also later known printings of B quality when printed in the minimum quantities of 5000 per requisition, but charged at almost three times the cost of B quality and 40% more than M quality in Table 30.

Figure 2 is a copy of Schedule 2 - Table 30 from the 1904 booklet which corresponds with Table 21 of the 1911 Schedule for embossed envelopes.

Under Schedule 3, higher prices were also charged for other envelopes:

Bahamas - Postage Envelopes

Embossed with a 2½d stamp, size about 6 x 3½" - 14s 6d

Embossed with a 4d stamp, size 8½ - 8s 6d

Barbados - Postage Envelopes embossed with a 1d stamp:

Size 13 "A" - 9s 0d

Size 13 "C" - 5s 6d

Size 9 "D" - 7s 9d

The prices are per 1000, minimum order 5000. Whilst it is thought that the letters refer to the quality, there is no quality D in Table 30.

The 1911 list has only two special prices: Special envelopes supplied to Dominica not included in the Schedule, with a Surface printed 1d or 2½d stamp size 13, minimum order 5000... 15s 6d per 1000.

Special postcards for Jamaica (and Gibraltar) printed by Copper-plate, thin size 4½ x 3½ ins, inclusive of paper:

1000 or less	13s 8d single	19s 2d reply
5000	8s 1d single	14s 3d reply
10000	6s 4½d single	12s 5d reply
100000	2s 7d single	5s 4d reply
1000000	1s 11d single	4s 0d reply

The numbering of sheets was included at 1s 0d for 100 sheets. Although some colonies introduced numbering from 1912, it was 1929 before Leeward Islands did.

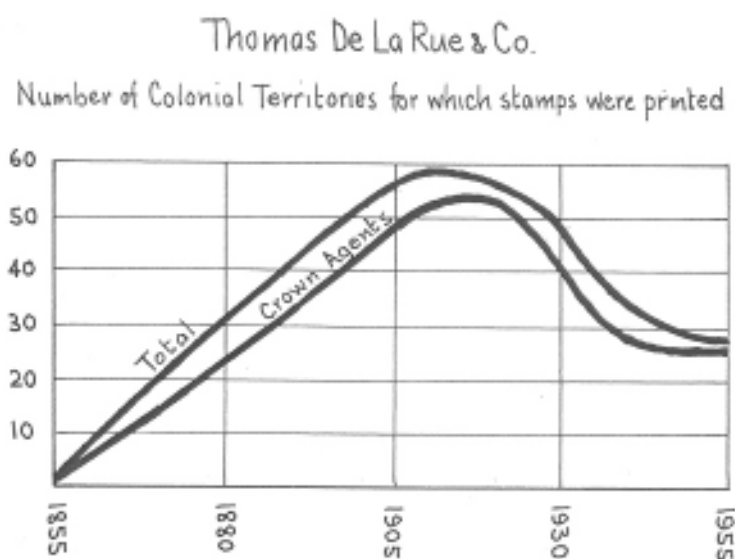
In 1904, overprinting Postage Stationery for "*Postal Union purposes*" (SPECIMENS) was 6s 7d per 750. In 1911 it was 3s 6d per 404 and "*any further lots of the same size printed at the same time, 1s 7d per 404.*" From 1906 the number for UPU distribution was 404 and it was only exceeded between 1927 - 31 to a maximum of 425. Why the price for a second set of SPECIMENS was included, presumably at the request of Crown Agents, seems inexplicable. Most items of Stationery are readily available in unmounted condition which does beg the question as to how so many managed to return to this country in that condition. Nevertheless for Leeward Islands Stationery, the CS Books record only one overprinting, with the quantity and no requisitions for additional overprintings of SPECIMENS were found.

Dating Stamps - it is of particular interest that from their descriptions, De La Rue supplied CDS postmarks. This suggests that Crown Agents sent orders for these to De La Rue who in turn sent them to Messrs Pearson Hill - unless they made them themselves. Without research of other archive files I cannot answer this. De La Rue employed on Appendix sheets (c1885) illustrating their fugitive inks the obliterator part of the B01 duplex. Their inks, I expect, were also Pearson Hill's London Empire Inks.

From about 1909, I found no new Leeward Islands postmarks in the G.P.O. Impression Books. Perhaps De La Rue did start manufacturing orders for postmarks following the loss of the British Contract and that only those made by Pearson Hill were entered.

Any comments or requests for further information will be welcome.

Figure 5



(CONFIDENTIAL).

SCHEDULE OF PRICES
OF
ADHESIVE STAMPS,
BANK NOTES,
POST CARDS AND OTHER STAMPED ARTICLES,
DIES, PLATES,
EMBOSSING PRESSES,
AND
OBLITERATING INK.

Figure 1

March 1911

THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES desire to call attention to the following points:—

Stamps cannot be produced at one operation unless a special die and plate are purchased for each value which it is desired should be so printed. This will only be found to be worth while where the number of Stamps required is, and is likely to remain, very large.

The prices quoted throughout the Schedule are for printing in singly fugitive ink. The extra charge for doubly fugitive ink will be found at the head of the various tables. It is only worth while to use it for Stamps which are largely cancelled with ordinary writing ink.

The Colonies could, in many instances, effect considerable saving by ordering a year's supply or more of Stamps at one time. If they are kept in tin boxes until they are required they will not be affected by a hot or moist climate.

Prices of Dies and Plates for Stamps will be found on the opposite page. It should be remembered that it is not possible to make a plate without a die.

Prices of all other Dies and Plates will be found at the foot of the various tables.

Prices are not quoted for Bank Note Plates or Moulds for Watermarking Paper, because they vary of necessity according to the elaboration desired; but any Colony requiring Bank Notes can have designs submitted and prices quoted.

N.B.—Whenever at the rates set out in this Schedule a smaller number of Stamps would cost more than a larger quantity, the price charged for the smaller quantity will not be permitted to exceed that for which the larger quantity would be supplied—e.g., under Table 2.

80,000 Stamps, 1/8 per 1,000								\$6 13c. 4d.
For 90,000 " 1/3 "								\$5 16c. 3d.

The charge for 80,000 would be £5 16s. 3d.

Figure 2

ENVELOPES

Table 30

Jan 1st. 1904

Bearing Embossed Stamps

Quality	No. 13 4½x3½ ¹¹ / ₁₆ in	No. 8½ 5½x3½ ¹¹ / ₁₆ in	No. 9 5½x3½in	No. 9½ 5½x4½in	No. 9¾ 5½x4¾in	F 6½x4½ ¹³ / ₁₆ in	Commercial Pouch 5½x3½ ¹¹ / ₁₆ in	Official Pouch 8½x3½ ⁷ / ₁₆ in
	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d
A	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	12 6	15 4	-----	-----
AA	6 6	6 6	7 6	7 6	9 0	11 6	-----	-----
B	5 9	5 9	7 3	7 3	8 9	11 0	-----	-----
C	7 0	7 0	8 6	8 6	10 0	12 6	-----	-----
F	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	7 6	10 0	-----	-----
L	8 0	8 0	9 9	9 9	10 6	15 6	-----	-----
M	10 6	10 6	11 9	11 9	12 0	16 6	-----	-----
N	6 0	6 0	7 3	7 3	8 0	12 0	-----	-----
O*	5 6	5 6	6 9	6 9	7 6	11 9	-----	-----
P	8 0	8 0	10 3	10 3	10 6	16 3	-----	-----
POUCH	(with Flaps Ungummed for Open Postage)					-----	5 0	8 0

Prices per 1000 – not less than 5000 of a duty or kind supplied

* For Foreign Correspondence

The Pence series banded in 24s and parcelled in 240s

The Cents series banded in 25s and parcelled in 250s

March 1911

Table 21.

POSTAGE ENVELOPES

The "Pence" Series of Envelopes are banded in 24's, and parcelled in 240's.				No. 13	No. 8½	No. 9	No. 9½	No. 9¾	F	Commercial Pouch	Official Pouch
The "Cent" Series of Envelopes are banded in 25's, and parcelled in 250's.				4½ x 3½ ¹¹ / ₁₆ in.	5½ x 3½ in.	5½ x 3½ in.	5½ x 4½ in.	5½ x 4½ in.	6½ x 4½ ¹³ / ₁₆ in.	5½ x 3½ ¹¹ / ₁₆ in.	8½ x 3½ ⁷ / ₁₆ in.
A Quality	(inclusive of paper)	Price per 1000		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
AA	"	"	"	6 10	7 2	8 5	8 10	10 9	12 0	-----	-----
B	"	"	"	5 11	5 11	6 6	6 5	7 11	9 0	-----	-----
C	"	"	"	5 4	5 4	6 4	6 1	7 9	8 10	-----	-----
F	"	"	"	6 5	6 5	7 1	7 0	8 10	10 0	-----	-----
L	"	"	"	4 1	4 4	4 5	4 0	4 10	6 0	-----	-----
M	"	"	"	7 0	6 0	7 5	7 0	7 1	12 0	-----	-----
N	"	"	"	8 0	8 0	8 11	9 7	9 8	12 8	-----	-----
O	"	"	"	5 6	4 11	5 10	5 6	5 7	9 1	-----	-----
P	"	"	"	5 0	4 0	5 8	5 4	6 3	9 2	-----	-----
P	"	"	"	7 3	7 3	9 0	8 8	8 9	12 11	-----	-----
P	"	"	"	6 6	6 6	7 11	8 3	10 2	11 3	-----	-----
POUCH	{ With Flaps, Ungummed, } for Open Postage	"	"	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	4 1	6 5

Not less than 5,000 of a duty and kind supplied.

The above prices are for Envelopes with an Embossed Stamp, for which a Die would have to be supplied (for price, see Table 42).

Envelopes can be supplied with a surface-printed Stamp at an additional cost of 1s. 6d. per 1,000, for the printing of which single Electrotpe Printing Plates would have to be prepared from existing Dies at a cost of £1 each.

Figure 3

120 set Surface Printed Universal Key Plate
stamps printed in Singly Fugitive ink

Quantity	Printed in one operation		Printed in two operations	
	1904	1911	1904	1911
12,000* or less	s d 6 d	s d 6 d	s d 6 d	s d 6 d
60,000* or less	2 6	2 0	3 1	3 0
60,000+	1 6	1 3	2 1	1 8
120,000	1 6	0 10	2 1	1 0½
240,000	1 6	0 9½	2 1	0 10¾
960,000	1 6	0 6¾	2 1	0 7½
4,800,000	1 6	0 3½	2 1	0 4

*1904 - Price changed when more than one
ream (500 sheets) ordered.

*1911 - Minimum charge
Doubly fugitive ink 1d per 1000 extra in
1904 and 2d in 1911.

Cards and Newswrappers

Quantity	International (5½x3½ins)				Newswrappers	
	Postcards		Replycards		1904	1911
1000	23s 0d	14s 0d	44s 0d	20s 0d	16s 0d	12s 10d
5000	15 3	8 9½	28 6	16 0½	10 0	6 10
10000	12 6	6 4¾	21 9	12 7½	8 6	5 8
20000	9 0	4 6½	17 6	9 0	6 9	4 1½
50000	7 6	3 4½	15 0	6 10	6 0	3 0¼

REGISTERED ENVELOPES are bonded in 25's.

F and G are parcelled in 500's.

H, H2, I, and K are parcelled in 250's.

REGISTERED ENVELOPES.

Table 22.

						1911	1904
						Per 1,000.	Per 1,000
						s. d.	s. d.
For quantities of any one duty, ordered at one time—							
"F" size, about 5½ x 3½ in. (price per thousand, inclusive of paper)	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0
"G" " 6 x 3½ in.	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	25 0
"H" " 8 x 5 in.	...	...	...	...	...	37 0	55 0
"H2" " 9 x 4 in.	...	...	...	...	...	33 0	55 0
"I" " 10 x 7 in.	...	...	...	...	...	60 0	80 0
"K" " 11½ x 6 in.	...	...	...	...	...	61 0	80 0

The above prices are for Printed Envelopes with an Embossed Stamp, for which a Die would have to be supplied (for price see Table 42).

Envelopes can be supplied with a surface-printed Stamp at an additional cost of 1s. 6d. per 1,000, for the printing of which single

Electrotype Printing Plates would have to be prepared from existing Dies at a cost of £1 each.

REGISTERED ENVELOPES can be supplied unstamped at 1s. 6d. per 1,000 less than the above prices.

Interleaving Envelopes with Blotting or Wax Paper, 1s. per 1,000.

Figure 4

March 1911

NEWS LETTER
WRAPPERS. CARDS.

POST CARDS.

Tables 13 to 20.

Post Cards, News Wrappers or Letter Cards, of any one duty ordered at one time, of the following quantities:—	THIN. (Size 4 1/2 x 3 1/2 in.)		STOUT. (Size 4 1/2 x 2 1/4 in.)		INTERNATIONAL. (Size 5 1/2 x 3 1/4 in.)		Size (about 1 1/2 x 5 in.)	
	Single. TABLE 13.	Reply. TABLE 14.	Single. TABLE 15.	Reply. TABLE 16.	Single. TABLE 17.	Reply. TABLE 18.	TABLE 19.	TABLE 20.
	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.
1,000,000, or more (price per thousand, inclusive of paper)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
500,000	1 6	3 2	2 8	7 3	2 4	4 10	2 3 1/2	6 2
100,000	1 7 1/2	3 5	2 10	7 6	2 6 1/2	5 3	2 4	6 3
70,000	2 3 1/2	4 9	3 6	8 10	3 1 1/2	6 4 1/2	2 8	6 5
50,000	2 6	5 1	3 9 1/2	9 1	3 2	6 5	2 9 1/2	6 9
40,000	2 8 1/2	5 6 1/2	4 0	9 3	3 4 1/2	6 10	3 0 1/2	7 2
30,000	2 11 1/2	6 0	4 2 1/2	9 6	3 7 1/2	7 3	3 3	7 7
20,000	3 3	6 6	4 6 1/2	9 8 1/2	3 11	7 10	3 6 1/2	8 3
10,000	3 10 1/2	7 7	5 2	10 7	4 6 1/2	9 0	4 1 1/2	9 0
7,000	5 8 1/2	11 1 1/2	7 0 1/2	14 0 1/2	6 4 1/2	12 7 1/2	5 8	11 2
6,000	6 9 1/2	12 9	8 4 1/2	16 0	7 10	14 10	6 3	12 2
5,000	7 0	13 0	8 7	16 5	8 0 1/2	15 2 1/2	6 6	12 6
4,000	7 8 1/2	13 6	9 4	17 8	8 9 1/2	16 0 1/2	6 10	13 0
3,000	8 2 1/2	14 0	9 10	18 2	9 3 1/2	16 6 1/2	7 8	13 9
2,000	9 5 1/2	15 5	11 1	20 2	10 6	17 8	8 2	14 10
1,000	10 8 1/2	16 5	12 3 1/2	21 7	11 9 1/2	18 6 1/2	9 5	17 3
	13 0	18 6	14 6	25 0	14 0	20 0	12 10	24 4

N.B.—Any quantity less than 1,000 charged as 1,000.

Single and Reply Post Cards, News Wrappers and Letter Card Plates £3 each. Renewals of Plates supplied free of charge.

SINGLE POST CARDS.—The "Pence" Series are banded in 12's, and banded in 240's. The "Cent" Series are banded in 10's, and banded in 250's.**REPLY POST CARDS** are banded and banded in half the above quantities.**NEWS WRAPPERS.**—Halfpenny are banded in 120's, and banded in 480's. Penny are banded in 120's, and banded in 240's. The "Cent" Series are banded in 100's, and banded in 500's.**LETTER CARDS** are banded in 12's, and banded in 120's.

THE PROBLEM WITH CHALK - CORRECTION**BY MICHAEL OLIVER**

Thanks to Peter Brooks who has pointed out a significant error in my article in the December bulletin. The first paragraph on page 10 should read:

The Leeward Islands issue of 1905-08 also questions dates of issue. Stanley Gibbons states that the ½d & 3d were issued on chalk surfaced paper in 1908. The one requisition comprising the ½d (60,000) & 3d (6,240) only on MCA watermarked paper was dispatched in August 1904 and a second printing of the 3d (6,240) was made in December 1906 together with the first printing of the ½d & 2½d in the UCS. This suggests that the 1904 printing was on ordinary paper and that of 1906 was on chalk surfaced paper. There were four more dispatches of the ½d (51,000) in the UCS before the SG catalogue date of issue of July 1908 for the ½d purple & green on chalk surfaced paper. After nearly three years in storage this, I think, was most unlikely.

BWI TAXED COVERS; A CHALLENGE**BY MICHAEL MEDLICOTT**

The practice of handstamping unpaid or underpaid covers with a 'T' mark could have begun with the introduction of compulsory prepayment of postage, but more plausibly dates from a colony's full membership of the UPU.

A fairly cursory look at such handbooks as I have indicates that 'T' marks are not known, however, much before 1890. Joe Chin Aleong's much lamented WISPHR (No.18, June 1984) gives 1 DEC 1892 as the earliest recorded date for Trinidad, later slightly advanced to 7 NOV 1892 in his book for Proud-Bailey. Clarke, Redford and Cave give 1895 for Barbados; Proud gives 30 FE 1885 for British Guiana, 10 MY 1888 for British Honduras, and 18 FE 1918 for Bahamas; Charles Freeland gives 26 JY 1909 as the despatch date for Montserrat's first handstamp; Ludington's earliest date for Bermuda is 20 JY 1882; Pierce, Messenger & Lowe give 1894 as the proof date for St. Vincent's first handstamp.

The Trinidad cover illustrated may, therefore, be the earliest taxed cover known for any BWI colony and dates from JA 8 1876. It came to light in a mixed lot of pre-stamp covers in the final batch of material from Sir John Marriott's collection sold by Spink on 17 October last. The 'T' measures 11.5mm both in height and width, and is supported by manuscript '1-10' (one shilling and ten pence) in blue.



Can anyone produce an earlier taxed cover (or piece) from any BWI colony?

ANTIGUA**1898 LETTER CARD****BY MICHAEL HAMILTON**

As an addition to the inventory of Leeward Island Postal Stationery I submit an illustration of a "Letter Card." printed in fancy typeset in black ink on eggshell coloured stock having an opened out overall size of 161x122mm. It was mailed with Leeward QV 2½d dull mauve and blue (SG.3) and pmk'd by the Antigua fleuron-at-base cds for DE 7 98 to an E. Alexander in London a couple of weeks prior the introduction of the Empire Penny Post rate on DE 25 1898. The backstamp is Camberwell (S.O) S.E for 1.15pm/DE 21 98.



The commercial text is written by Daniel W. Scarville(?), proprietor of the Observer - "I forward you today specimen copy of the Observer. I also enclose card on which you will find rates for advertising".

In view of the obvious connection with a printery workshop I draw the conclusion that this "Letter Card." was a private production and not supplied from London.



peter singer



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Stock	ANTIGUA	Price
24700	1876 QV 1d blue Stamp Duty CA, good m/script used showing "cracked cog" variety.	£18
29845	1876 QV 3d Stamp Duty CA, imperforate Plate Proof. Fresh with gum, full clear margins.	£175
29446	1884 QV 6d deep green (SG.29), mint block of four Positions 70-71, 82-83 showing the Iremonger re-entry. Minor reverse toning.	£175
	BAHAMAS	
26483	1855 wrapper "Abaco 1 May 1855" to London rated 1/-, clear N. YORK AM. PKT transit cds dated 21 JUN with 2 due charge above address.	£60
24546	1918 1d WAR TAX (SG.93), fine mint with "full extra tree-trunk".	£24
29757	LOWER DEADMAN'S CAY (violet TRD 2C) NOV 14 1952, very fine full on KG6 2d green.	£18
	BARBADOS	
27194	1873 5/- Britannia (SG.64), fresh top marginal DLR imperforate Plate Proof block of four with wide clear margins. Exhibition multiple.	POR
26551	1897 attractive mourning cover to Locust Hall, St. George with Belgium 5c blue, pair 10c brown all with not for Sunday delivery tags attached. Brussels Exposition 1897 labels on reverse plus A/JY 26 97 arrival.	£100
24756	1897 2½d D. Jubilee (SG.119), fine used pmk'd B/FE 18 98 with "L & Co" perfin.	£10
24604	1906 1d Nelson (SG.147), fine mint showing "epaulette re-entry" above right shoulder.	£8
29609	1920 ¼d Victory SG.201, two complete sheets of 60 fresh u/m showing Plates 1 and 2.	£40
29677	1920 3d Victory (SG.206y), u/m block of four MCA INVERTED wmk. Cat.£120.00.	£40
	BERMUDA	
27657	1903 (SP 3) cover to New York with unusual combination QV 6d dull mauve and QV 6d bright mauve (SG.7,10a) pmk'd Hamilton.	£120
24716	1918 KGV £1.00 purple & black/red (SG.55), fresh w/centred mint ov'p'd SPECIMEN.	£150
27658	1942 (OC 13) KG6 3d cover to Massachusetts, C./8121 censor label (CL6a) at left.	£12
	BRITISH GUIANA	
24236	British Occupation AP 22 1796 - MR 27 1802: Entire headed "(Plantation) Success Demerary 18 Aug. 1801" to Vans Hathorn, Edinburgh. Marked "p. Mary" rated 1/4 showing good Ship Letter/crown/DOVER (S6b) and red NO/5 arrival on address panel. Difficult period.	£160
28120	1866 (JU 9) cover with 24c green (SG.80) to Linlithgow, Scotland.	£48
25792	"E R" code DEC 11 78, fine full on (1c) on 6c brown (SG.142). Cat.£100.00.	£50
29586	ANNA REGINA (T.2) MAR 2 1880, fine/very fine fullish tying 1c slate (SG.126) to piece.	£28
24199	1899 TWO CENTS on 15c (SG.224), three m.m singles all showing wonky "T" and chipped "W" in TWO, and each with raised quad after TWO (two different states), one stamp with much darker red-brown vignette. Pos. 26.	£25
24470	1904 4c dull blue PSRE (T+H type 9), fresh unused ov'p'd SPECIMEN.	£20
24159	1902 (DE 21) GB KE7 ½d green Post Card to Georgetown from Rathruane, Cork showing superb boxed "DUE" h/stamp appended "2" in blue crayon (PD2 but in violet) on face.	£120

Stock	BRITISH HONDURAS	Price
25599	GUINEA GRASS (violet TDC1) AUG 12 19-- good part strike on KE7 1c MCA (SG.95).	£18
24497	1913 KGV 1c blue-green MCA (SG.101), u/m lower left corner marginal Plate 2 block of six (3 x 2). Cat.£22.50.	£12
	CAYMAN ISLANDS	
24762	1905 KE7 2½d bright blue MCA (SG.10), fine mint with short left leg of "M" of CAYMAN found Position 25.	£28
24715	1917 1½d on 2½d deep blue WAR STAMP (SG.54b), fresh apparently u/m with "straight serif". Cat.£70.00.	£48
24550	1936 KGV 2d Cat Boat (SG.100), u/m corner marginal vertical pair showing "flag on small cat boat" R11/1.	£25
	DOMINICA	
29317	1936 underpaid cover to Huddersfield with 2 x KGV ½d (SG.71) pmk'd Plymouth MY 19 36 showing Plymouth seriffed "T" and British tax h/stamps and GB 1d postage due (perf fault).	£48
29303	1936 underpaid cover to UK with KGV ½d (SG.71) indistinctly pmk'd. Two Roseau "T" sans-serif tax h/stamps.	£28
	GRENADA	
26399	GRENADA NO 25 1846 dbl-arc (A11), very fine/superb displaying on top flap of entire to St. Pierre, Martinique marked red "1/- Paid". (Compulsory pre-payment to Foreign Ports).	£240
27945	REGISTERED LETTER receipt form signed by Postmaster with superb blue Parish "D" cds dated 23 FE 91. Clean & attractive.	£80
25823	1922 KGV 1/- black on green/emerald back (SG.98dw), fine m/m MCA INVERTED wmk.	£45
	JAMAICA	
26230	1802 hand-made bluish-grey wrapper addressed in French to Captain Brone, 5th Battalion, 60th Regiment, Up Park Camp, Jamaica rated 3/8. Reverse with mainly intact red wax seal (V)ON BRAUN.KON.PREUSS.GRENADIER. BATA LL(ONS (around Imperial Eagle) and London AU 18 1802 d/ring transit. Full enclosure in old German signed Fernand von Braun, Major & Commandier Grenadier Bataillons. Written from Quedlinburg (town mid-way between Hanover and Leipzig) 3rd Aug. 1802. (Note: recipient countersigned a St. Vincent soldier's letter from St. Vincent MY 12 1796 - see Gerald Sattin article BWISC 147).	£800
26224	Entire "Spanish Town Jamaica 13th July 1816" to George Watson Taylor, London re-addressed Ryde. Carried by writer on packet with fine FALMOUTH str. line in red and two strikes Crowned FREE on address panel, the 1/- rate mark deleted.	£200
24766	Litho perforated forgery of the 1860 QV 2d in very deep rose with corner cancel. Very fine.	£24
24304	1860's top half wrapper to Barclays McDowell, (Kingston) with horizontal strip of six QV 1d blue Pine (SG.1b) clearly tied "A73" numerals. Part St. Anns Bay cds SP -- 6-. Most attractive, ex HOOTON MITCHELL (1972).	£175
29266	QV 1½d on 3d UPU Post Card to Bedford, UK with design pmk'd clear upr. "193" numeral with COLD SPRING 8 JU 83 cds alongside.	£125
24294	"AO1" (Type E), very fine full facing 3 o'clock on 1902 GB KE7 1d scarlet ARMY OFFICIAL.	£30
29478	1916 KGV 1½d WAR STAMP (SG.71w), u/m marg. block of four MCA INVERTED wmk. Cat.£60.00.	£24

Stock	JAMAICA	Price
29332	1945 KG6 New Constitution (SG.134/140), set of 7v fine mint perf. SPECIMEN. Cat.£140.00.	£80
25785	1962 2d Bugler (SG.193), u/m imperforate with BLACK OMITTED.	£25
29477	1964 3/- Blue Marlin INVERTED "J" wmk (SG.229aw), u/m corner marginal block of four. Cat.£44.00.	£20
28390	FAIRY HILL (violet TRD 16) 10/7/1(914), good fullish upr. on KGV 2d grey (SG.60).	£24
	LEEWARD ISLANDS	
26209	KE7 Great Seal of the Leeward Islands in black embossed on white card (89 x 87mm). Rare and superbly attractive.	£325
29428	1910 KE7 3d MCA (SG.41) fine unused ovp'd "SPECIMEN" with purple "ULTRAMAR" h/stamp. Attractive.	£36
24144	1919 cover to Chicago with KGV 1d (SG.48a) tied St. John's JY 26 19. Very fine local "T" tax h/stamp (due no War Stamp) and NY due 2c.	£48
24742	1940 KG6 1d scarlet (SG.99), fresh u/m top left corner marginal Plate 3 block of six (2 x 3).	£8
	MONTserrat	
26487	Entire headed Montserrat 23 rd Nov. 1810 from Galways Estate to London marked "p. packet" carried loose or smuggled. On arrival very fine strikes upr. red FALMOUTH str. line added above address panel with London DE 26 1810 receiving cds top flap, rated "11". An almost certainly unique and fine exhibition item as landed during the Falmouth mutiny period OC 24 1810 to FE 15 1811 (full account Britnor's History of the Sailing Packets to the West Indies Pages 93-98).	£750
27998	1866 QV 1d pale rose INLAND REVENUE, fresh u/m single from preparation sheets on UNISSUED VERTICAL LAID paper.	£75
24183	1928 cover to USA with Leeward KGV 5d with very fine local str. line "REGISTERED" h/s.	£50
	ST. CHRISTOPHER	
27353	1885 QV 1/- olive (SG.R6), fine fiscally used 29 MAY 90 showing broken "T" in SAINT.	£16
24182	Village manuscript "23/3/97" at top Leeward QV 1d carmine UPU Post Card pmk'd "A12" duplex to New York requesting "New York Philatelist". Reverse with superb John Skeritt/ Cayon/St. Kitts senders handstamp. Few known.	£240
29668	1918 1½d WAR STAMP (SG.23/a), fresh u/m right-hand pane with row 10/1 short overprint.	£24
28106	1920 KGV ½d printers sample in blue & brown imperforate ovp'd SPECIMEN on brown card.	£125
	ST. LUCIA	
24606	D/DE 9 10 (D1, Dennery), fine full facing 11 o'clock on KE7 1d carmine (SG.67).	£12
24035	Consignee's Letter to London with pair KGV ½d MCA tied large purple "PAQUEBOT" h/stamp. Undated but very attractive.	£75
24201	1938 (FE 18) publishers advertising cover with Suid-Africa 1d pmk'd Durban to PMG, Castries Fine "T" over 10c vertical oval on face.	£12
24185	1949 (OC 10) reg. cover with 5c, 6c UPU to Southern Rhodesia with PLUMTREE 15 DEC arrival d/ring on address panel re-addressed to Belgium Congo.	£20

Stock	ST. VINCENT	Price
24146	1880 QV 1d olive-green (SG.29), pmk'd "A10" with full centrally placed EXTRA ROW of VERTICAL PERFORATIONS.	£120
24763	"Cut throat" plate variety on 1887 QV 1d red and 1897 THREE PENCE on QV 1d mauve (SG.48b, 63) both fine mint.	£12
25981	1889 QV 2½d on 1d milky blue (SG.49), bright colour shade fine mint ovp'd SPECIMEN.	£40
24108	OFFICIAL PAID h/stamp (PML.82) very fine from Administrator pmk'd Kingstown FE 24 93 to London. Cover has "Government Office" printed flap.	£120
26080	1895 cover to Bury St. Edmunds with QV 2½d on 1d (SG.55a) tied Kingstown A/NO 1 95 cds.	£50
26096	1899 QV Keyplates (SG.67-75), complete set of 9v fine mint ovp'd SPECIMEN. Cat.£170.00.	£90
27541	1913 2/- MCA (SG.118), fine used pmk'd fine part BARROUALLIE cds. Cat.£25.00.	£12
	TOBAGO	
26502	KE7 2d PSRE with added 2½d to USA neatly pmk'd four Tobago C/NO 15 7 cds on face.	£36
	TRINIDAD	
24095	Arriving issue date GB 1d black: wrapper dated 24 March 1840 to Glasgow p. "Witham" rated "8", fair clear GREENOCK/MAY 6 1840/SHIP LETTER (S14) above address. Stapled Trinidad Bill of Exchange enclosure.	£75
29363	1877 (FE 27) mourning cover to London with 1/- chrome-yellow (SG.78). Colourful.	£125
29345	1894 QV 5/- maroon (SG.113), perfect fresh mint block of four. Cat.£200.00.	£120
24174	1896 10/- Britannia CA (SG.123), generally fine unused horizontal strip of three ovp'd SPECIMEN. Attractive.	£50
24126	Black TRINIDAD OFFICIAL/14 AU 2/PAID d/ring (normally in red), fine strike on OHMS cover to London. Botanical Dept. cachet and POS cds. This being the only black strike as listed and illustrated in WIPHR No.17 Page 10.	£225
24530	USA 1c Liberty UPU Post Card to Finlayson & Co, Trinidad offering American shoes, fine POS I/AP 14 03 arrival cds on address panel.	£5
	TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	
29794	1905 ½d Badge MCA (SG.110) fresh u/m block of 48 (6 x 8) margins 3 sides. Cat.£240.00.	£48
26511	Rare 3-line FORWARDED BY/W.R. TATEM & CO./SALT CAY, T.I. on pair ¼d Cactus, KE7 ½d cover A/JA 10 11 to Tunbridge Wells.	£725
24472	USA 1c McKinley Postal Card with added 1c to Harriott, Salt Cay with fine Turks-Islands A/MY 11 14 arrival cds above address panel.	£18
27087	1919 KGV 3d WAR STAMP (SG.151x), u/m with MCA REVERSED wmk. Cat.£32.00.	£16
29772	1938 KG6 ¼d Raking Salt (SG.194), fresh u/m complete sheet of 60 stamps with full margins.	£18
	VIRGIN ISLANDS	
24069	1884 QV 2½d ultramarine (SG.31w), fine mint with CA INVERTED wmk. SG unpriced.	£125
26696	1887 1/- brown (SG.41), superb neatly pmk'd full "A13". Cat.£70.00.	£45
26426	1901 attractive cover to Ohio with pair, single 1d Ursula (SG.32) tied "A91" with very fine Virgin Islands */MR 22 01 cds above address.	£325

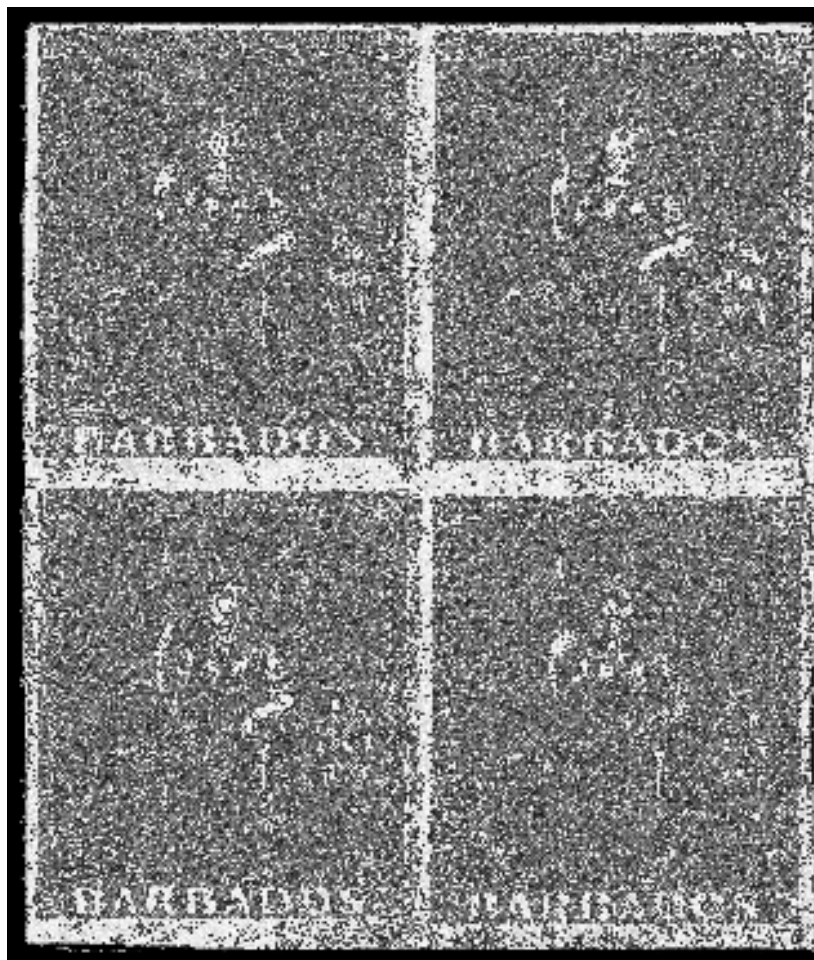
Michael Hamilton

**6 Winbrook Fold, Winfrith Newburgh,
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BARBADOS:

BITS AND PIECES

BY FITZ ROETT

Despite having had two books written about the postmarks of Barbados, new information continues to come to hand. These brief notes are intended to update the pertinent data given in the standard text by Clarke et al. ("Barbados Post Office Markings to 1981" By G. L. W. Clarke, R. Radford and S. Cave. British West Indies Study Circle (1982)).



Type G 17 B Boxed 'LATE FEE' mark:

Recorded on SG 75 with additional postmark dated April 10, 1879. This pushes the E.D.K. back by over 6 years and fits in well with the despatch date from the G.P.O. in London of December 14, 1878.



Type E 11a

Recorded on COVER with a full set of the 1906. Nelson issue dated Sept. 5 1906 (as stated in the auction catalogue). The envelope is addressed to Messrs. Ewens, Palace Square, London. Obviously a philatelic cover but the mark used to cancel the stamps and NOT used only for official post office business.



Type N 2

Recorded on cover dated 13 ?? 1983 from Worthing Type M 15 to Sweden.

Editor note: The covers are reproduced in reduced size due to them having been obtained from the internet with low resolution.

FROM THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICER (Peter Ford)

My life has now settled down after my move and I hope to get down to generating some more publications in the not-too-distant future. At the moment, we have a slight logistical problem insofar as I seem unable to obtain paper similar to that used in the previous volumes of our Jamaica Encyclopaedia. I was hoping to have Volume 9 'The Military, Censorship and Patriotic Mails' out by now; I am working on the problem and hope (keep your fingers crossed) to have it available by the time of the AGM in April. Also, we hope to have Volume 8 'Airmails' out at least by the end of the year.

Meanwhile, if there are any more budding authors out there, wanting to spread the word on their chosen specialisation, please don't hesitate to contact me, or any member of the Committee for advice.

BARBADOS POSTAGE DUE MARK**BY EDMUND A. BAYLEY, SCM, FRPSL**

In Bulletin No. 195 [December 2002], my good friend and legal colleague from North Carolina, W. Clary Holt FRPSL, is seeking information about a Postage Due Cover sent from Barbados to Missouri, USA, bearing a GPO, BARBADOS c.d.s. 12 AU 38 as well as an unknown Tax mark. I do not have the answer to his query but thought that I would furnish for the benefit of readers, who may not know, information on how the tax system was supposed to function.

The Postal Union Convention of Madrid required the taxing of unpaid and insufficiently paid correspondence. A letter dated 12 December 1921 from the General Post Office, London; to the Colonial Postmaster in Barbados states:

According to the rules laid down by the Postal Convention of Madrid, the sums to be collected on the delivery of unpaid and insufficiently paid correspondence are to be indicated by the Office of origin in centimes of a gold franc according to the equivalents of the Postal Union basic rates adopted by the Office of origin. This method is, however, not suitable in the case of letters exchanged at reduced rates under the Imperial Postage Scheme. As those rates are no longer the equivalent of a single basic rate. I am therefore directed by the Postmaster General to suggest that the charges on unpaid or insufficiently paid letters under the Imperial Postage Scheme should continue to be calculated at the rate of 90 centimes = 1 penny or its equivalent in local currency. Moreover, as it will be inconvenient to calculate the charges on letters on this basis while adopting the Postal Union basis for the calculation of charges on postcards and other articles; I am to suggest that the arrangement now proposed should be applied to all classes of correspondence exchanged with the offices including the Imperial Postage Scheme.

As regards the minimum surcharge of 30 centimes prescribed by the Madrid Convention, it is suggested that this minimum should not be taken into account by the Office of origin in marking the correspondence for taxation, but that the Office of destination should be left to apply its own regulations as to the collection of a minimum surcharge.

The matter was discussed by the local Post Office and a plan of action formulated. I would like to quote from a Memo dated 4.1.22 from Mr. H. W. Collymore, Colonial Postmaster, to his acting Accountant; Mr. L. A. Grant:

I take it that all we are required to do is to notify on the unpaid or insufficiently paid correspondence leaving Barbados, the amount to be collected in centimes and leave it to the Country of Destination whether they will or will not collect the minimum charge, if the tax does not amount to 30 centimes. I shall be glad of your advice.

Mr. L. A. Grant's reply dated 21.1.22 stated:

Yes sir- I take it to mean that we must indicate, in centimes, the amount of the tax to be collected by the receiving office without taking into account the minimum charge of 30 centimes. In other words - continue the practice hitherto carried on.

A reply from the Colonial Postmaster to the GPO, London was sent off on 21 January 1922 setting out the decision.

Based on the above, it was therefore the duty of the Office of Origin, in this case Barbados, to indicate to the Office of Destination that the letter was "unpaid" and to indicate to the Office of Destination the amount of the unpaid duty. However, this appears not to have been done in this case, as the amount of tax due [10 cents] appears to have been applied by the New York Post Office. The "T" Tax mark shown on the letter next to the G. P. O. Barbados looks like it could be, and it certainly should have been a Barbados Tax Mark. However, in all of the sixty (60) years that I have been involved in Barbados' philately, I have never seen or heard of this Tax Mark before and it seems therefore to have been previously unrecorded.

Based on pure speculation I would hazard a guess that this was probably a Barbados Tax Mark which was very rarely used, and I am strengthened in my speculation in that the Tax Mark appears right alongside the Barbados c.d.s., and as Clary mentions, the ink used for the Tax mark appears to be the same as that used for the Barbados c.d. s. I am aware that many readers may not agree with me, but can they come up with a better answer? After all, we had Tax marks which were circular and heart shaped, why not a diamond too?

BARBADOS

SG 67 ½D BRIGHT GREEN PERF 12½

BY PETER LONGMUIR



It is generally thought that the issue date of the ½d green was at the same time as the first De La Rue other four values in July 1875 (see Bayley page 65).

However, a recent exchange of views with an overseas BWISC member led me to examine my own examples and I discovered a clear E2 date stamp of May 20 75. The shipment arrival date from the UK was in April 1875.

Has anyone an earlier dated example, please ?

BRITISH GUIANA

TAX MARK

BY DEREK NATHAN

I have been lucky enough to have recently been presented with the postcard illustrated, because the donor knew that I had no copy of this card in used condition. I am most grateful, but even more so for the puzzle it has posed with regard to the triangular Tax mark.



Common sense decrees that the mark should have been applied in Georgetown, indicating that the item was underpaid and that the deficiency should be collected from the recipient. The 2 cent postcard had been uprated to 4 cents, the Empire rate, but the foreign rate was 5 cents.

A Tax mark was therefore required. I have no previous record of a Tax mark applied in 1959, BUT in both 1958 and 1961 it was a large bold serifed capital T in a heavy circle, which I have in my study numbered T 19. The only items I have for 1960 are both in manuscript, although both are from small village post offices which probably had no instrument.

My question is 'Has anyone seen anything else like this, and if not, how do we treat it?'

Please send your answers to the Bulletin, rather than to me, although I should be fascinated to get suggestions.

Bulletin Binders:

Binders are now available to fit the new size of Bulletin.

These are available from Mike Spaven at a cost of £7.00 (postage included).

NICKERIE POLICE BOAT – LATER OPERATION**BY GRAHAM WILLIAMS**

This service between Nickerie in Suriname and Benab and later Skeldon in British Guiana is discussed on page 231 of Townsend and Howe. It is noted there that this service is not mentioned after the 1912-1913 P.O. report. The authors therefore presumed that the service was discontinued.

However I have recently acquired a letter which seems to demonstrate that some form of service operated into the 1920's. The letter was posted in Nickerie on 26 July 1927, addressed to the Royal Bank of Canada in Georgetown. It was backstamped Skeldon on the same day, New Amsterdam on 27 July and on arrival in Georgetown on 28 July.

The only other item in my collection which went by this route (but in reverse) is a wrapper from the US to Plantation Waterloo in Nickerie. It is not possible to determine where the wrapper was posted as it is cancelled by an obliterator and it otherwise escaped postal markings, except being backstamped Skeldon on 3 December 1900.

Is anyone able to provide any further information?

CAYMAN ISLANDS**CAYMAN ISLANDS 2½ D BLUE****BY GRAHAM BOOTH**

After completing my original article published in the December 2001 bulletin further research led into a deeper mist of confusion. I acquired at auction a sheet of 120 stamps of S.G. 54. How could this exist if Aguilar and Saunders were correct that there was only one print and this was clearly sourced from requisition 94/16 in sheets of 60 (James Podger's article on the De La Rue Day Books in the June 1997 BCPJ)? Then I acquired a copy of an article in Stamp Collecting of August 18th 1917 extensively quoting an article by Harry Huber writing in Mekeels Stamp News. Huber wrote "In the case of the second setting, SG 54, the overprint was set up together for 120 subjects, so that varieties appearing on the left pane are not repeated in the complementary stamps of the right", and in commenting on Huber's article the Editor of Stamp Collecting made reference to "the sheet before us".

So the information derived from the De La Rue Day Book appeared to be wrong. If it was wrong for SG 54 might it also be wrong for SG 53? About this Huber said "the first printing of the Cayman Islands 1½d on 2½d War Stamp shows the same characteristics as the November printing of the 3d Jamaican War Stamp. The ½d and 1½d stamps of Jamaica are in sheets of 240, four panes of 60 each, while the 3d is in sheets of 120, two panes of 60. The War Stamp overprint was set up to take care of 240 stamps at one operation, and when the 3d came to press a change was necessary. Examination of sheets of the Jamaican war stamps shows that panes 1 and 4 of the four-pane setting were used for overprinting the 3d stamps. The 1½d portion of the surcharge was set up to cover but 60 stamps, so that two operations were necessary to add this value to the sheets of 120 of the 2½d already overprinted with War Stamp. The sheets of 120, it has now been ascertained, were not cut up into the Post Office sheets until the surcharging was complete".

I had been doing an analysis of stamps that had attached to them a complete central gutter, or a piece of gutter that had been guillotined, to see if it could be of help in allocating particular shades to particular print runs, but if I could not rely on the De La Rue information this seemed pointless. Then Richard Maisel wrote to me and pointed out that Peter Fernbank's book on the George V key plates includes a printing of the 2½d blue that was omitted from both the De La Rue index and James's article. Requisition 46/17 had two parts - one for 758 sheets of 120 invoiced on the 10th of July 1917, and the other for 2,604 sheets of 60 invoiced on the 2nd August 1917. The clouds of confusion began to lift, and then research in the Cayman Archives provided the answer.

My first article suggested that the primitive facilities available in the Cayman Islands provided all sorts of opportunities for mixing print runs. It was much worse than I imagined. The story begins with Commissioner Hearst's death in the summer of 1912. In the autumn of that year the new Acting Commissioner, Hutchings, discovered £12,000 of stamps in an unlocked cupboard in an unlocked office in the Commissioner's office/residence, to which his servants had access 24 hours a day. £12,000 was an enormous sum at that time. He was appalled, and promptly sent £10,000 to Jamaica to be kept under lock and seal by the Stamp Commissioner. It is not clear exactly what denominations he sent; but it is clear bookkeeping was restricted to the denominations and

whether it was a Queen's, Edward's or George's head. Print runs and plate numbers were of no concern, and this was not really to change until Hutchings became Commissioner in 1919.

On 12th March 1914 the new Commissioner, Aubrey Robinson, ordered that 160 panes of 60 of 2½d Edward's head should be returned from Jamaica, and simultaneously ordered 256 panes of 60 of 2½d George's head from London. This in due course became requisition 33/14, Plate 1B, invoiced on the 29th May 1914. What happened to them on delivery is not recorded. Whether they were sent to Jamaica or kept in Georgetown whilst they finished off the Edwards is not known.

A second requisition for 2½d blues was placed in early 1916 - Requisition 38/16 for 25,000 stamps (420 panes of 60), Plate 5, invoiced on 16th June. It arrived in Georgetown in July 1916 but where it was stored is unknown - probably Georgetown. Faced with a shortage of revenue, Robinson came up with a proposal for a War Tax stamp, which was approved by the Governor in Jamaica on the 24th August. At that time Robinson was on leave in Jamaica, and on 1st and 2nd September his replacement, Acting Commissioner Mellish, requested another shipment of 2½d blues from the Crown Agents in London - Requisition 94/16, 840 panes of 60 of Plate 5 - 50,400 stamps, invoiced on 23rd November 1916. He simultaneously sent 400 panes, not 420, to Jamaica for surcharging. I argued in my previous article because of all the different shades in SG 53 that this may have included some sheets from the first printing - Plate 1B, but until somebody comes up with a Plate 1B War Stamp this remains speculation. What is certain is that at least twenty sheets of plate 5 were left in stock and were not over-printed.

On 23rd September J.C. Ford, the Superintendent of the Government Printing Office in Jamaica, wrote to say that he had completed the surcharge, that it was extremely difficult, that he had destroyed one pane in the process, and was returning 399. On 12th December (Robinson was still on leave) Mellish wrote to Jamaica to say that he understood there was a circular from 1905 giving instructions about what to do about the issue of new stamps when one couldn't satisfy demand. He said that he couldn't find it, and such was the volume of orders that he would do nothing, and would wait for instructions or until additional supplies arrived. In connection with this he requested Jamaica to intercept the parcel on its way from London and have it overprinted. He also requested that a message be passed to Robinson to order more stamps. On 3rd January he wrote to say that the intercept had been unsuccessful, the parcels had arrived in Georgetown, and he was returning them immediately, seals intact.

The packing notes with the shipments are still on file. They show that tin 2 was supposed to contain 175 sheets of 60, but presumably that was the original number of sheets of 120 before being guillotined. It is corrected in pencil to show 350, of which 5 were spoiled. Tin 1 contained 250 sheets of 60. This is uncorrected. These came from Requisition 94/16, invoiced on 23rd, November, which was for 850 sheets of 60. It is probable that tin 1 should have been adjusted to show 500 sheets of 60. In any event, on the 17th January 1917 Ford said that he was forwarding 850 overprinted sheets of 60, less 5 damaged in the process. He made two interesting comments: that he had tried Mellish's proposal for a red overprint but the blue colour killed it, and in future would he please send sheets of 120, which would make the overprinting much easier.

Meanwhile Mellish was becoming increasingly desperate and wrote to the Governor on 12th January 1917 proposing a new 1½d War Stamp, which the Governor approved. On 20th February Robinson, back from leave, ordered from the Crown Agents 1,500 panes of 2½d in sheets (sic) i.e. 750 sheets of 120, and 2,500 panes of 1½d. Presumably the second Jamaican overprint had already arrived in Georgetown and Robinson knew he could not satisfy demand. But he could not postpone their issue any longer. SG 53 and SG 54 were issued on the same day, 26th February 1917. SG 53 sold out on the same day and SG 54 by the end of March. Covers with cancels of these two adhesives between March and September mainly result from stamps that had already been sent out of the country in mint form and then returned on pre-addressed covers. Faced with the out-of-stock situation Robinson wrote to Jamaica saying "I have numerous orders in the office unanswered, please intercept the next shipment of the 2½d and have it over printed in Jamaica." This is requisition 46/17 - 1,500 sheets of 120, Plate 5, invoiced on 10th July 1917. On 10th August the Acting Colonial Secretary in Jamaica wrote to say that he had managed to intercept the post and 750 sheets of 120 had been overprinted and he was returning all 1,500. Prior to this, on 9th June the Acting Colonial Secretary in Jamaica had written to say that the Colonial Office in London had refused to sanction the order for a new 1½d on the grounds of cost - the duty plate would have cost £13.

It is not clear in exactly what sequence the next two events occurred, but they must have happened more or less simultaneously. The stamps that had been overprinted in Jamaica and the London overprints, SG 55 and 56, both arrived in Georgetown. The latter were from Requisition 46/17 (second part) invoiced on 2nd August 1917 - 2604 sheets of 60. There is a real possibility that this was a complete surprise to Robinson because somewhere along the way the message from the Colonial Office in London, that in cancelling the order for the 1½d stamp they had substituted the same volume of 1½d on 2½d, had been lost. It is probable that it is missing from the De La Rue index for the same reason. It was not a regular order from the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands. Robinson then went ahead and issued SG 54 in sheets of 120 and SG 55 and 56 in sheets of 60 on the same day, 4th September 1917. So finally we can conclude that Aguilar and Saunders commentary version of SG 54 is correct, and their summary version is wrong. Huber was wrong about SG 53 and, since at the time of writing he could have only seen the first print of SG 54, he was wrong when he said that the overprint was carried out in sheets of 120 and guillotined after receiving the overprint. It is clear from both Huber's comments and those of the Editor of Stamp Collecting, that the left and right panes of the first print of SG 54 do not have the same sequence of varieties, so Ford must have reconstituted sheets of 120 in some way - no wonder he found the operation difficult!

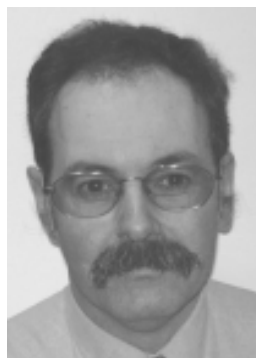
On 9th November, 1917 Robinson issued the plate 5 version of the 2½d definitive in sheets of 120 - SG 44a. This is part of the same requisition as the reissue of SG 54 (46/17, part one, invoiced on 10th July) and there is no reason to distinguish the colour. Finally, just to ensure that he didn't run out of stock again, Robinson wrote to Jamaica on 7th September 1917 saying "orders are pouring in" please order another 25,000 panes of the 2½d blue with the London overprint. This became Requisition 108/17, invoiced on 9th January 1918. Stocks of the first print of SG 56 ran out in the early part of January and the second print was issued on the same date as the green and orange versions of the War Stamp on 4th February 1919. It is clear that many dealers ordered quantities of the second print in the hope that they would find substantial differences to the first and were disappointed when this turned out not to be the case. They then turned their attention to selling the other colours and I will deal with these in a subsequent article. Surprisingly, despite the large numbers, none of SG 56 were remaindered, and in the ordinary course of events none would have been destroyed. Stocks finally ran out in 1919 but in October 1923, four years after they were issued Ewens had the nerve to return 5040 stamps "of the early 1½d on 2½d blue" (whether they meant SG 53 or the first print of SG 56 is not clear). As a special favour, and at a 5% discount, Commissioner Hutchings agreed to accept them and they were presumably destroyed.

As far as colours go it is very difficult to categorize with any degree of conviction, especially as the colour of many stamps has deteriorated over the intervening 80 years due to poor storage. All the issues have a variety of shades; some more than others, even after the influence of toning has been eliminated. It is clear that problems of continuity of supply of dyes were a real problem. Having said this, a few generalisations can be made. If we take as a fixed starting point the Edward 2½d which Gibbons describe as ultramarine, it seems reasonable to call SG 44 bright blue. The majority of SG 53 would be best described as deep blue; but there is a minority that is paler - the bright blue of SG 44. Whether they began life as SG 44 is speculation until we find a Plate 1B War Stamp, if we ever do. The argument that it is just differentiation within the same print run is strengthened by the fact that there is a very small quantity of the same pale shade in SG 54. It would be neat if we could record that the first print of SG 54 is a very vivid deep bright blue and the second print a duller deep blue with a touch of green in it; but we can't. Whilst there do not appear to be any of the vivid shades in the second print, there are dull, deep blue versions in the first. Giving different colour descriptions to the two prints would be useful, but the duller colour is not a clear indication of the second print. SG 55 and 56 are fairly consistent in colour. There are shades, but they are minor, and whilst the best description is deep blue it is clearly different to that which predominates in the second printing of SG 54. Finally, SG 44a, the Plate 5 definitive, is sourced from a very small quantity of the same requisition as SG 53 and a very large quantity of the same requisition as the second print of SG 54. It is different in colour to the plate 1B - SG 44 - but there is no justification for giving it a totally different description to all of the War Stamps. A big portion of the first print of SG 54 is far more worthy of the deep bright blue description than anything in 44a. Deep blue is probably the best compromise.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

EARLY EAST END POST OFFICE AND THE MACLAUGHLIN CORRESPONDENCE

BY KEVIN DARCY & JAMES PODGER



Kevin Darcy

Having recently purchased an East End Rural Post Item with the cancellation in black, our minds have again focused on this small post office and its paucity of information in the literature.

There are two early periods:

- 1901-1908
- 1911-1916

The MacLaughlin correspondence closed the period at 1916.

PERIOD 1: 1901 - 1908

A village post office of sorts opened at East End in 1901. It closed on 1st March, 1908 as reported in the local paper "The Caymanian".

It was situated in John Connolly's store at East End. It probably just consisted of a drawer under the counter containing some stamps and a cancelling device – The East End type I 28 mm dlc (see A & S p.88). Postal services were probably transacted for only a couple of hours per day. No covers seem to have survived and just a few stamps with part cancel are known.

In a letter of 13.07.12, Harry E Huber writing to A. J. Watkin states, when discussing the East End type 1 postmark:

"I've never run across a copy of this type but still I suppose you are the only one who has for I've never heard of it before now."

Not all mail appears to have been cancelled there for later in the letter Huber states:

"I have before me a letter mailed in March, 1905 from this place (East End) and it bears the Grand Cayman, Cayman Island postmark".

The post office closed in March, 1908 on instruction of Commissioner G. S. S. Hirst prior to the successful launch of the local postal service in late 1908.

A letter from E. W. Jennett to A. J. Watkin, 23.02.27, summarises events from the first into the second period.

About 1901, East End Post Office was first opened for the receipt and transmission of foreign mail during Commissioner Sanguinettie's administration. This continued until Dr. Hirst arrived in 1907. Some time after his arrival, about 1908 or 1909, he closed East End Post Office and established an Inland Mail Service from East End to West Bay, the carriers each had a rubber stamp, with which to cancel letters.

After Dr. Hirst's death in 1912, Mr. Hutchins became acting Commissioner. He arrived here in September, 1912 and left in March, 1913. During his administration at this time he again opened up East End Post Office, but not for receipt and transmission of foreign mail.

PERIOD 2: 1911-1916

This period of East End Post Office involves the integration of local and rural post services. The first development was the extension of the rural post service from just beyond Bodden Town where the post and freight wagon stopped. Here the messenger to East End took over on horseback. He transferred mail to and from East End District. As in the letter above, he was issued with the East End Rural Post Handstamp, first recorded use March 1911, which he applied cancelling the stamp. He almost certainly sold stamps as well.



Figure 1



Figure 2
Examples of worn East End Rural Post Handstamp
(showing different handwriting on covers)

As stated, a post office reopened in 1913; whether this was because the service had become so successful or with a change in commissioner opinions differed, we do not know. A similar arrangement to that described for 1901-1908 took place, this time in Austin Connolly's store. A new handstamp – East End Post Office dlc 28 mm, type II, as A & S p.88. This is recorded from September 1913. Examples are known until May 1915 or possibly later? The East End Rural handstamp was used concurrently: 3 examples are recorded in early 1914.

The second period is brought to a close by the MacLaughlin correspondence. This consists of 4 covers (1 part cover) sent over a four week period in July-August, 1916. All are cancelled with a very worn impression of the East End rural postmark and are in black, not the usual violet. They are dated by Bodden Town transit mark and all are to Georgetown (Figure 2).

JY 19 16 JY 24 16 JY 31 16 AU 16 16

They are unlike the many philatelic rural post covers. The handstamp is not carefully applied. The stamps are at any angle, upside-down, or on the back of the envelope. All four are addressed by a different hand. A clue to the proximity of this mail may be on the back of one cover with reference to a clause in Law 2. Perhaps MacLaughlin was a legal official or land agent?

Why the rural post and not the East End post office handstamp was used on this mail is unclear. There are various references in Watkin's correspondence in letters suggesting the East End post office handstamp was put out of commission around 1925 and not replaced because it was lost or never received.

The Watkin handbook / auction catalogue of 1946 and Aguilar & Saunders gives the period of use of the East End post office handstamp as 1913-16. What happened between 1916 and 1925 when it was lost is another mystery – a story waiting to be told.

References:

The A. J. Watkin research material (with kind permission of The Royal Philatelic Society, London)
Aguilar & Saunders, The Cayman Islands, Their Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks
Caymanian – local monthly newspaper, March 1908-1909.

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DOMINICA

1923 Badge Issue

By Roger B West

I am currently studying this issue and would be most interested to hear from anybody doing the same. I have noted several vignette and frame varieties, most of which are plated but a couple are still mysteries. I'd be delighted to hear from anyone with a similar interest. (61 Monument Lane, Codnor Park, Notts, NG16 5PJ. Telephone 01773 – 608899 e-mail avion@dircon.co.uk).

JAMAICA

1879 POSTAL STATIONERY OVERPRINT ISSUE

BY BOB SWARBRICK

Looking through some notes I made many years ago, I thought that it was curious that nobody has ever taken up the challenge to try to plate the overprint on the 3d De La Rue post card which was adapted for use with the UPU by means of an overprint; and devaluation. It is evident that these cards can be plated, and as there are many variations, and as they cost only a few pounds, it would seem to offer scope for research.

In order to promote some original research on the subject, I am willing to offer a small memento as a prize for the best research article submitted on the subject.

1½d on 3d. Overprinted 'UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION'.



P10 Overprint 78mm long

E.K.D.10 Apr 1879

L.K.D.?



P10a Overprint 74mm long.

E.K.D....?

L.K.D.?

Who applied the overprint? De La Rue or an Island printer – perhaps Vendryes

De La Rue would have supplied the cards in banded packs, so each card would have been overprinted individually, probably in two actions, very time consuming! Was the value added as a separate task, or was the blank card simply handled individually?

Can we determine dates of usage of the two types?

My particular interest centres around the revaluation, and in particular, the relative position of the letters 'O' & 'H'. Please send scans of any material to the editor to be posted on the web site for access by any researcher. Let's aim for competition results to be announced in 12 months time.

Entries to the Editor and I will pass on to Bob.

LEEWARD ISLANDS

MONTSERRAT REGISTRATION MARKINGS

BY CHARLES FREELAND

I offer some corrections to Michael Oliver's listing of registration marks and labels in the September 2002 bulletin. While his initiative is to be applauded, if Peter Fernbank's excellent bulletin index had been available when he prepared his listing, Michael would have been alerted to two addenda to the listing in the revised (1998) Britnor book on which he based his table. One of these, an article by Denis Charlesworth in bulletin 181, illustrates a different label to any of those in Michael's list, and the other by myself in bulletin 183 extends the periods for several of the types, based on new information acquired (as usual just after the book went to press!). The list below is a comprehensive update of the table in the September 2002 bulletin.

M1R EKD 14 Feb 1885	M8R LKD 6 Oct 1931
M3R I do not think this is of Montserrat origin, it looks like a US marking to me.	new type similar to M8R but different size EKD 20 Jan 1933 LKD 23 Oct 1933
M5R EKD 28 Jan 1909	M11R LKD 20 Jan 1940
M6R EKD 15 Feb 1914 LKD 9 May 1914	M12R LKD 2 May 1946
M7R EKD 4 Sep 1917	M14R LKD 16 Jan 1940

TRINIDAD**RETURN TO SENDER DECEASED HAND STAMP****BY DR A BONNICI KM. MD.**

This Malta 1930 George V, Registered Letter Envelope, was sent to Miss. E. Johnt Elize Jhor at Trinidad Leasehold Ltd, Forest Reserve, Nr Fyzabad, Trinidad. B.W.I.

It bears the following BWI - HAND STAMPS.

On the front a Violet RETURN TO SENDER / Deceased, hand stamp, together with a manuscript "Deceased" / G., in red ink.

At the back; A double ring REGISTERED / 8 - 2 - 30 B / TRINIDAD; Single ring San FERNANDO / FE 10 / 30; Double ring FOREST RESERVE / 10 - 2 - 30D 5 TRINIDAD.



This Registered letter remained in Trinidad up to the 10th May 30, as per "VIOLET Single oval ring REGISTERED / 3 / 10 MAY 30 / RETD. LTR. SECTION.", hand stamp at the back.

The combination of this Violet Returned Letter Section hand stamp, with the Returned to sender / Deceased hand stamp, on a Registration letter envelope originating from Malta, makes this Registration envelope unique.

It would indeed be interesting, to have comments about such BWI hand stamps, from my friends of the BWI study circle, both in the UK, and in the BWI.

(Dr A Bonnici is President and Journal editor of the Philatelic Society of Malta and the article appeared in the December 2002 edition of their journal, contact details in December 2002 BWISC bulletin – please copy the editor on any reply.)

CURIOS FROM MY COLLECTION - FORGERIES**BY CHARLES FREELAND****Montserrat**

The illustration features one of the more fantastic creations of the notorious Boston gang of philatelic forgers headed by Samuel Allan Taylor. A recent article in the BCPSEG suggested that the basis for their forgeries were the cuts taken from illustrations in the early Scott catalogues (or should it be vice-versa?). Be that as it may, if this was a Scott illustration, the editors must have got it badly wrong, because the Montserrat 6d was of course an overprint on the Antigua 6d green and no 6d value inscribed Montserrat was ever made from the QV general keyplate! Was someone getting confused with NEVIS?

**Barbados and Trinidad**

The finely engraved forgeries of the two illustrated 5/- values are uncommon and beautiful. Their origins are unknown to me but they appear to come from the same stable. Any thoughts on the perpetrators?



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AUCTION UPDATE**BY CHARLES FREELAND****London Stamp Exchange 8 November**

With this auction viewing is mandatory as the condition is variable and there are usually some sleepers in the many mixed lots. You can view in London on the morning of the sale or at a previous Stampex - the only alternative is to make the trek to West Sussex (where you need orienteering skills to find Ted Proud). On this occasion, there was much BWI on offer (including Barbados, Grenada, St Vincent, Trinidad and Turks from Ted Proud's own collection - previously offered in his Golden Stamp Exchange tender), but sadly many of the gems had been cherry-picked and the estimates were mostly prohibitive. Few lots sold (maybe 25% across the whole WI) and very few for more than the starting price. The only exceptions were some of the preadhesive Barbados covers, where there are signs of life after many years stagnation, and a few Turks markings. Maybe collectors are cottoning on to the fact that if they wait they may be able to buy retail without the 15% premium.

Grosvenor 27 November

This was my first visit to an actual sale as opposed to viewing in Grosvenor's cramped rooms besides Phillips/Bonhams, and my first advice is to take a note of the address before you set off, as the building in which the auctions are held has no name, just a house number. 12 St James Square is, however, an elegant location with more than a hint of good suits about it. The whole event was conducted in a professional manner with Andrew Claridge calling it efficiently, albeit a little too discreetly for those who wanted to take note of the buyers' numbers. At least five of our collector members were present, including Simon Goldblatt, Michael Oliver, James Podger and, if my memory is correct, S A Richards. Sadly for him, Richard Foden phoning from Barbados must have thought he was calling Iceland and came in an hour late, enabling some of us to sneak a few Turks items. Even then, the phone communication failed on one lot that he was wanting to bid on - but that can happen to room bidders too.

As mentioned in my last column, the John Sussex collection of QV and KE keyplates was a major collection of its kind and not surprisingly the room was full and the bidding rarely faltered. The catalogue was set out chronologically by keyplate type with mostly realistic estimates and very good quality colour plates. Given the range of material, it is no surprise that there were numerous bidders - I counted more than 100 successful numbers although my concentration wavered during some long periods of non-BWI interest. By the same token, there were no dominant buyers, but several, including inevitably John Taylor, went into five figures. The biggest spender by my reckoning was a blond lady who may have been fronting for someone - whatever, she proved difficult to beat. Surprise absentees were Gerald Bodily and Gibbons' Philip Kinns, but they were one of many successful bidders on the book or through agents.

The total for the sale on the day was £175,000 odd (all prices plus 15%) compared with higher estimates totalling £160,000 plus. There were few unsolds with the exception of many of the Imperium colour trials where the estimates proved too high unless the colours matched an issued stamp. While bidding was strong throughout, I did not note many "ridiculous" prices. The highest in my opinion were for some of the undenominated heads, for example the KE Postage-Postage at £2,300, though several others went for less than recent realisations. The many colour trials and proof pieces seemed to find ready buyers around upper estimate, for example the very important 1888 appendix sheet for the UPU 1/2d, 1d and 2 1/2d colours sold for £9,000 to one of our members on the phone. The plate flaws were uniformly strong, especially the detached triangles and malformed S flaws that appear on a few British Honduras stamps - although the popular Glover flaws seemed more affordable.

Forthcoming events

This bulletin may or may not reach members before the sale of Kenneth Griffiths' Boer War collection by Argyll Etkin on 6 March at the location used by Grosvenor. Better known for his character acting than for his stamps, he is reputed to have amassed a huge assembly of collateral material as well as stamps. For our members the main interest will be the 25 lots to or from Bermuda POWs. As the picture on our cover reveals, Spink will offer one of the few "missing Virgins" on 20 March - David Parsons says it came in over the counter - a pleasant surprise for any auctioneer. Spink will also shortly announce a "major" BWI offering. The Ian Potter collection of

Jamaica is to be auctioned by Cavendish on 10 or 11 April, together with some QV registered mail across the Caribbean. However, despite persistent rumours, the comprehensive Leuhausen collection of Bermuda has failed to make it to the auction block yet, the hold-up now being the Bermudian Government which is pondering whether it can meet the independent valuer's price for the Perots and some other key items.

Postscript

There are readers out there after all - I received two comments on my December column. My informant at the Ambassador sale is sure he correctly identified the successful bidder on the Barbados 1854 local bisect as a German agent, but a UK collector has now admitted to being the buyer. Secondly, Stuart Billington felt I had been unfair to Bonhams in my comments on the increase in their buyers' premium to 17 1/2 %, pointing out that their competitors in the London Art Market now charge 20% - as I have remarked in an earlier column, central London is gradually becoming uneconomic for auctioning stamps where the average value is relatively low. I should add that Bonhams have been happy to send catalogues free to members when something of BWI interest to them comes up, are very cooperative regarding viewing and photocopying and yes, Stuart, we do appreciate your full page ad in this bulletin!

Amendments to Members Details

Name	Init	Address	Phone / Fax / email	Interests
New Members:				
Aggersberg	DJ	Catalogue Editor Stanley Gibbons Publ. Parkside, Christchurch Rd Ringwood, Hants BH24 3SH	01425 472363 01425 470247 (F) catalogueeditor@stanleygibbons.co.uk	
Cooley (FIPSG)	TD	1840 Carriage Lane, #129 Charleston, SC 29407 USA		
Upcraft	R	10 Curson Road Tasburgh, Norwich NR15 1NH	01508 470700 (H)	BER (especially key plates & PH)
Ward	RB	13 Osborne Road Nether Edge Sheffield, S. Yorks S11 9AY	0114 255 2729 r.b.ward@shef.ac.uk	GRE & Carriacou, STV & Grenadines etc
West	RB	Ashleigh Monument Lane Codnor Park Notts, NG16 5PJ	+44 (0) 1773 608899 +44 (0) 1773 609821 (F) phoenix@avion.dircon.co.uk	DOM (esp Badge issue), TH
Revision of Details:				
Ellis	RM	Gable Corner Pasturewood Road Holmbury St. Mary Surrey RH5 6LQ	01306 731 740	BAR
Gordon	J H	PO Box 4127 Seminole Florida, FL33775 USA	(727) 393 4398 gordonjh@earthlink.net	BER (US, G6/HV) TOB, TRI, TRO (most codes)
Harman (FRPSL)	CG	Greylands, Yarmouth Rd. Melton Woodbridge IP12 1QE	020 7782 0060 (W)	Line Engraved for all colonies, RV, FO
Mattick	MJ	4 Winn Court Winn Road Southampton S017 1UZ	02380 557978	JAM
Mold	C	56 Gulf View Road Murrays Bay Auckland 10 NEW ZEALAND	(09) 478 9904 (09) 478 9846 c.mold@xtra.co.nz	JAM, BAH, STV, BWI PH
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