


STUDY CIRCLE


TURKS ISLANDS QUEEN VICTORIA DEFINITIVE ISSUES

TURKS ISLANDS · QUEEN VICTORIA · DEFINITIVE ISSUES


1881 (1 Jan) · ½d. on 1d. Dull Red · SG17-18 · * · ppp · Complete Sheet ·




Small Star
Sideways



Throat Flaw
R3/4




Type 9



Type 10

Setting 10 :- Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet. Ten are Type 9 (Rows 1 & 2), Five are Type 10 (Row 3).
 ? 4000xT9
 ? 2000xT10

The setting comprises two rows of five T9, the SG Catalogue illustration of which is misleading as the 2 is to the left of the 1 except in the case of Variety 10 where the 2 is under the 1. The 1 is thick with a short sloping serif and the bar is long and thin and varies somewhat in each variety. The 2 is thick with a curly tail. The third or bottom row has thin numerals with a curly tailed 2 and the bar is usually to the left.



Complete sheet of 30 · Lacking bottom margin as always · Brilliant original gum · Throat Flaw is prominent on R3/4 · Superb condition and very rare · A magnificent item.

1 · Neck Base Flaw on R3/5 gradually disappearing on R1/6, R2/6, R3/6, R1/7, R2/7, R3/7, etc.

The 1881 overprints.

For a larger scan see Andy Hearn's article.



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BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

OBJECTIVES

- 1 TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the West Indies. In addition it should include Bermuda, The Guyanas and Belize, and the interaction with applicable countries on the littoral of the Caribbean Sea.
- 2 TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features of BWI interest. The BWISC BULLETIN was presented with the ABPS Specialist Society journal Award in 2004.
- 3 TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aims of the Circle. The BWISC has published over 20 books or Study Papers over the last 12 years, some of which have received prestigious awards.
- 4 TO hold an annual auction for the sale of members' material.
Normally, prior to the auction, the BWISC holds its Annual General Meeting.
- 5 TO organise occasional display meetings including a biennial weekend Convention and bourse. This offers further opportunities for members to buy and sell material.
- 6 TO maintain an internet website where information about Circle activities is publicised and where much other relevant information is posted.
- 7 TO maintain a specialised library from which home members can borrow books.

**Opinions expressed in articles in this Bulletin are those of the authors
and not necessarily those of the BWISC, its Editor or its Officers.**

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SOCIETY PROGRAMME OF EVENTS & INFORMATION

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Saturday/Sunday 5/6 October 2019 BWISC Convention at the Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke RG21 7LX

Invitation to Bermuda Our sister society, the BCPSEG, holds its AGM every 5 years in a location covered by the collecting interests of the Society. This year it is at the Grotto Bay Hotel in Bermuda from 7 to 10 November and they have extended an invitation to members of our society. It is not cheap, a double room with taxes and service charge is just under \$250 per night; but if anybody is interested and would like further information please contact John Puzine on puzine@comcast.net or on 941 979 8117. With suitable extension it should be a great holiday.

Saturday 25 April 2020 Study Circle Auction at Stanley Gibbons, 399 Strand, London, WC2R 0LX

Saturday 2 to Saturday 9 May 2020 London 2020, BDC Islington, London, N10 0QH
 Saturday 2 May, 2pm Study Group AGM at London 2020 followed by member displays.
 Wednesday 6 May, Study Circle table at London 2020 including auction unsolds.

Congratulations to the following for their achievements with their entries at Stockholmia and China 2019:

Stockholmia 2019

Traditional Philately

David Cordon, De La Rue, Bermuda Queen Victoria stamps and their uses, Large Gold
 James Podger, Cayman Islands, Queen Victoria & King Edward VII, Vermeil

Postal History

Graham Booth, The Rise and Fall of the American Merchant Marine as a Trans Atlantic Mail Carrier 1800–1868, Large Gold
 Simon Richards, Mail by British Packets from the West Indies 1663–1863, Large Gold

Philatelic Literature

Charles Freeland & John Jordan, Antigua – The Stamps and Postal History, Gold
 Charles Freeland, Roy Bond and Russell Boylan, St. Vincent 1899 1965, Large Vermeil

China 2019

Philatelic Literature

Peter Fernbank, Bahamas – Stamps and Postal Stationery, Large Vermeil

James Podger's Cayman Islands collection is being auctioned by Stanley Gibbons on 24 September. Stanley Gibbons have stated that members can request a catalogue, please see details in their advert.

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 reversed. A corner copy. Unmounted mint. SG 107y.

£300

BARBADOS. 1892 DLR Seal of Colony vignette die proof
 'BEFORE HARDENING' dated '2 FEB.92'.

£275

BRITISH GUIANA. 1878 (1c) on 6c corner block of four
 with Current No '1'. Very fine mint. SG 137.

£125

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1888 2c on 6d rose with slanting '2'.
 Very fine mint. Ex Tucker. BPA Cert. SG 25c

£2250

GRENADA. 1922 1/- black/green watermark inverted
 in corner block of four. Unmounted mint. SG 98dw.

£325

JAMAICA. 1916 3d 'WAR STAMP' block of four with
 'S' in 'STAMP' omitted (R.6/6). Very fine mint. SG 72b.

£500

LEEWARDS. 1951 £1 corner block with Sheet No '020'.
 Very fine used ST JOHNS/ANTIGUA c.d.s. SG 114c.

£140

ST. LUCIA. 1950 12c claret (Perf 14½ x 14).
 Very fine used with G.P.O. CASTRIES c.d.s. SG 153a.

£375

ST. LUCIA. 1930 2d Due imperf between (vertical pair).
 Very fine unused. Exceptional rarity. SG D2a.

£6500

ST. VINCENT. 1877 6d pale green (Perf 11 to 12½ x 15).
 Very fine mint. Ex Baillie. SG 23.

£350

TOBAGO. 1896 1/- corner Plate block of four, top pair
 with sloping value tablets. Very fine mint. SG 24c.

£125

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO. 1969 6c Oil imperforate pair.
 Unmounted mint. SG 342b.

£250

TURKS ISLANDS. 1881 '4' on 6d pair (Types 29 and 30).
 Very fine used with 'T1' obliterator. Scarce. SG 43/44.

£375

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BOOK REVIEW**BY DINGLE SMITH****Postal Stationery Newspaper Catalogue, Parts 1,2 &3 by Jan Kosniowski**

This long-awaited study was published in June of this year and is a comprehensive work of real philatelic scholarship. It is published in three volumes and lists in an annotated catalogue format the newspaper wrappers of the world. Part 1 deals with countries A-F, Part 2 with G-Z and Part 3 is devoted solely to Great Britain. Each Part has a length of some 400 pages and in total there are some 5,000 illustrations all in colour and for each country there is a bibliography to the sources used.

For each entry the listings are given under four headings. The first for 'Post Office Issues' followed by 'Stamped to Order' (otherwise known as 'Printed to Private Order'), 'Official Issues' and 'Private Overprints'. The last category applies to both Post Office and Stamped to Order issues that have additional printing and/or illustrations added by the sender. Part 3, for Great Britain, has illustrations of close to 3,000 Private users arranged in alphabetical order. An especially noteworthy feature is that all known specimen wrappers are listed.

The catalogue presents estimated values, in pounds sterling, for mint and used copies. These are based on collector buying prices rather than dealers' sale prices and for rarer items, such as proofs, recent auction realizations are given wherever possible.

The full catalogue is a 'must have' for all Society libraries and would be an invaluable addition to the personal library of any British West Indies postal stationery collector.

British West Indies Wrappers

All former British West Indies territories are listed, although Turks and Caicos never issued wrappers, and the information far exceeds that available in previously published catalogues. I have always been fascinated of the differences in the issuing policy for newspaper wrappers between the British West Indies islands, for example the design of the stamps, dates of first issue and, in many cases, cessation of the wrappers. There are of course similarities in design especially as De La Rue was the printer for so many of the colonies. The wording of the five lines of instructions on their wrappers remained essentially unchanged for some hundred years although Jan's catalogue carefully lists and illustrates minor variations in the lay-out of these instructions which again vary in detail between the islands and in most cases have not been previously described.

I have no doubt that this study will encourage BWI postal stationery collectors to check their wrappers against the those listed in the new catalogue. Jan has made it very clear that he would welcome corrections and additions. A longer article describing the value and use of the new catalogue by John Courtis, an Australian-based wrapper enthusiast, is recommended, see Courtis (2019, in press). My personal interest in BWI postal stationery is focused on Jamaica and readers may wish to consult an illustrated account of more unusual Jamaican wrappers that I wrote on receiving my copy of the new catalogue, see Smith (2019, in press).

Jan is to be congratulated on a publication which Alan Huggins in the Foreword describes as '... the most comprehensive listing of postal stationery newspaper wrappers to-date and secondly, a fascinating insight into the range of organisations who use them'.

References

Courtis, J. K., 2019 (In press). Characteristics of the Kosniowski Catalogue of Newspaper Wrappers. *Postal Stationery Collector*, published by the Postal Stationery Society of Australia.

Kosniowski, J. 2019. *Postal Stationery Newspaper Catalogue*. Eastleigh:UK. Parts 1, 2 & 3.

Smith, D. 2019 (in press). Introducing the Postal Stationery Newspaper Wrapper Catalogue, illustrated with Jamaican Examples. *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*.

How to Order

Full details are available on www.stampdomain.com/catalogue/

The price for all 3 parts is £110.00, Parts 1 & 2 are £75.00, plus delivery charges which are given for all major destinations. Payment can be by Bank transfer, Pay Pal or UK cheque. Bank transfers from the USA, Eurozone & Australia are available without extra fees.

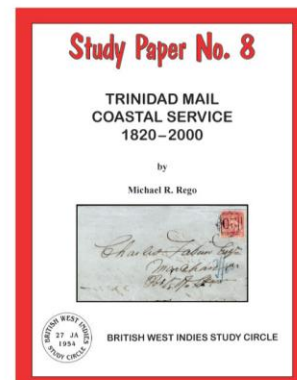
The contact for Jan Kosniowski is jan@stampdomain.com

Study Paper No. 8

TRINIDAD MAIL COASTAL SERVICE 1820–2000

by Michael R. Rego

This Study Paper traces the history of the mail service via the steamers that plied the coastal waters of Trinidad and Tobago from the early 19th century. There is much information on the vessels that sailed on these routes with tables of timings, lists of prices for various items sent by mail as well as many images of contemporaneous paintings of the ships and their ports of call. Any collector interested could not find a better reference book.

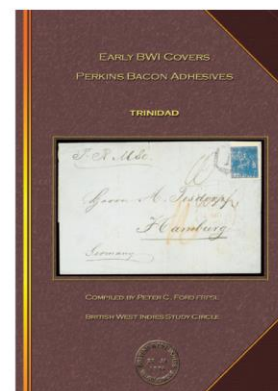


Price: £22.00 (BWISC Members' discount £2.00)

EARLY BWI COVERS PERKINS BACON ADHESIVES TRINIDAD

Compiled by Peter C. Ford FRPSL

For many years, there has been a listing of early Trinidad covers on the BWISC website; this book is an extension of that listing but now separating them into areas of destination. There have been many additions to the original listing and the book contains many high quality illustrations. This should be of great help to both dealers and collectors when researching the provenance of any particular cover.



Price: £20.00 (BWISC Members' discount £2.00)

Both of these books (and others) are available from the Pennymead Books (pennymead.com)



BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

BRITISH HONDURAS

THE ENIGMATIC SAN ESTEVAN TRIPLE-CIRCLE TEMPORARY RUBBER DATESTAMP By John Swales

The enlarged photocopy of the stamp shown in Fig. 1. belonged at one period to John Forrest, Robson Lowe's son-in-law. Sometime in the 1970s he sent this photocopy (along with other material) to Ed Addiss and Ian Matheson as they were preparing what would become Addiss's well-known monograph on the village postmarks of British Honduras (Addiss, 1990). Fig. 2. shows a stamp I obtained at the latest BWISC auction as part of a small collection of San Estevan postmarks. As readers can immediately see, it is obviously the same stamp; according to Dr Matheson, it may well be the only example of this TRD that has so far come to light.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

Dr Matheson's typescript update of Addiss gives the estimated dimensions of the circles and shows in both size and lettering that it is very similar to TTC1 from Riversdale (Proud's D2), except that the separators are slightly longer and thicker in the San Estevan example. The Riversdale TRD is known used from 1921 to 1926. The San Estevan is struck on SG103, 3 cents orange, which was issued in 1917 and is one of the most common used British Honduras stamps from its date of issue through the following decade.

The very small post office at Riversdale only operated from 1914 to 1928 and postal items are generally very uncommon. San Estevan was a different story; its population at that time was over three times larger than Riversdale and it had a long-lived steel canceller from London that was in use from 1903 to 1928. Examples of this are quite common; in fact, I have four examples on SG103 alone, all from 1917–1919. Why then this TRD? Perhaps the local post-office found it redundant and it was soon discarded. In any case, any further information gratefully received.

References

- Addiss, E.F. (1990). *'The 'town' cancels of British Honduras, 1880-1973'*. British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group; Monograph No. 10.
Matheson, I. (n.d.) *'The village postmarks'*. (typescript)
Proud, E. (1999). *'The postal history of British Honduras'*. Postal History Publications Co.

Articles wanted for future Bulletins
Anything West Indies related considered

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GRENADA

A BOOK ABOUT GRENADA PHILATELY

(continued from Bulletin 261 p23 – 28)

BY TIM PEARCE

Chapter 6: The First Revenue Issues

An understanding of the overprinted Revenue issues of 1875, 1879 and 1882 is essential to a subsequent understanding of the Provisional Issues of 1883, and 1886–91. The origins of the order to create only one die for these issues and for the Postage issues of the same period was described in the previous chapter. In December 1874, the Colonial Secretary ordered 2,000 sheets of twelve different values of Revenue stamps from 1d to £1 alongside the 1s postage stamps. Attached to this letter as a model for the new Grenada Revenues was a copy of Straits Settlements 1867 first Crown Colony issue 8 cents on 1865 India 2 annas yellow, overprinted in green, with a small crown in green at the top (Fig. 1):



Fig. 1. Straits Settlements 1867
8 cents on 2 annas



1875 Grenada revenue
'SHILLINGS' error top right

In his letter of 10 December, 1874, Sam Mitchell, the Colonial Secretary wrote:

'The value of the Revenue Stamps required are numerous being 1d. 1½d. 2d. 3d. 4d. 6d. 1/- 2/- 5/- 10/- & 20/-; if therefore these values are printed upon the yellow stamps in a manner similar to the one here affixed together with a small crown above, it will meet present necessities. It is not supposed that the charge for printing the different values upon the stamps will be much, and therefore you are hereby authorized to strike off 2,000 sheets of yellow stamps each containing 120 and to have printed on them in green ink as follows...'

He then lists the number of sheets for each value, including the 9d, which he appears to have omitted at first (if de Worms has copied the letter correctly). Of the first twelve values, the 1½d, 3d, 6d and 9d were never reprinted, and one must assume that the 1½d saw little use as it was used up for a provisional Revenue in 1884 and a provisional Postage stamp in 1886. The printers do seem to have followed instructions to use a small and rather undistinguished crown.

As indicated in the previous chapter, the method of production which necessitated the basic undenominated stamp plate, which had been completed by 3 February, 1875, and a series of overprint plates did cause Perkins Bacon some difficulty (Fig. 2) and Mitchell noted that the order had not been received by 25 May. The printing of the 2,000 sheets of the undenominated stamp took place in the weeks ending 27 February and 6 March. The overprinting took from approximately 28 March to 1 May. The sheets were sent to Somerset House for perforating on 22 May, returned to Perkins Bacon on the 25th and invoiced on the 28th and eventually sent off on 1 June with the accompanying apology:

'We trust they (*the stamps*) will give you satisfaction when you receive them & greatly regret the long time which it has taken to execute the order. The time required for altering the forme from one denomination to another has been much greater than we could have supposed, but we hope you will not have been put to too much inconvenience by the delay.'



Fig 2. Bill of exchange, with 1s used 1883, showing SHILLNG error.

Mitchell acknowledged receipt on 25 June. He ordered another 600 sheets of the 1d Revenue stamps on 27 July and these were sent to Somerset House for perforation on 11 October. In October 1878, a further order for 1d, 2d, 4d and 2s Revenue stamps was sent and these were sent for perforation in January 1879, after which Somerset House wrote to inform the printers that they would no longer perforate stamps for them. George D Robertson of the Stamping Department of the Inland Revenue at Somerset House wrote on 7 January 1879:

'Upon this occasion I will have the Grenada stamps which you sent this morning perforated for you at our machines and as there is such a small quantity no charge will be raised against you for the work. I should however inform you that we shall be unable to perforate any more stamps for you the Board having decided that none but the stamps of this Revenue shall be perforated here. Messrs De La Rue are now perforating their own work.'

This, to some extent accounts for the acquisition at Perkins Bacon of the 14¼ gauge perforator which was used for the last few issues of Grenada that they produced, including in 1881, the order for another 2000 sheets of Revenue stamps of 1d, 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s and £1 values.

Check List

1875 Watermark large star upright, perforation 14 clean cut, orange-yellow and yellow-green					
Value	Number Printed	Value	Number Printed	Value	Number Printed
1d	1st 36,000 2nd 72,000	4d	6,000	2s	30,000
1½d	12,000	6d	48,000	5s	9,000
2d	12,000	9d	6,000	10s	6,000
3d	24,000	1s	48,000	£1	3,000

1879 Watermark small star upright & sideways, perforation 14 clean-cut, same colours, though Morley calls the issue orange and deep yellow-green	
Value	Number Printed
1d	72,000
2d	12,000
4d	12,000
2s	30,000

1882 Watermark small star upright & sideways, perforation 14¼ rough, same colours, though Morley calls the issue orange and blue-green.	
Value	Number Printed
1d	72,000
1s	36,000
2s	72,000
5s	24,000
10s	24,000
£1	12,000

Local Overprints and Varieties



Fig. 3. Curved serif, Straight serif, 'PFENCE' variety, figures 8.25mm & 10mm

1884 Watermark large star, perforation 14 clear-cut, locally overprinted 1d. surcharge in black on 1875 1½d number printed unknown, (Fig. 3.)

Note: there are two different surcharges, one with a 9mm '1' with a curved serif and a similar '1' with a straight serif. The usual 'HALF PENCE' varieties are known with this overprint.

1887 Watermark small star, perforation 14¼, locally overprinted 1d 'REVENUE' surcharge in black on 1882 2s

Note: again there are two version of this surcharge which somewhat oddly has the 'd.' placed vertically above the '1'. In one version, the 'd.' over '1' is 8.25 mm tall and in the second the figures are 10mm tall.

Morley records two varieties on the 1884 provisional 1d on 1½d of a dropped stop, which may usually be seen with the straight serif '1' and a double surcharge, and on the 1887 provisional a Roman capital for '1'. No inverted overprint is recorded for the 1887 provisional, even though at least one sheet with inverted overprint was used for the postage provisional in 1890.

The Postage and Revenue issues of 1890 will be dealt within the next chapter.

Typographical varieties on these issues abound, (Fig. 5.) and some are important as they reappear in the provisional issues of the period 1883–91. As with the overprinted postal issues of 1875 and 1881, the typesetters appear to have used a mixed set of print, so that some letters are bigger than others. The more important varieties, however, consist of either typographical errors or extra spaces. The 1½d which was used both for provisional revenues and for provisional postage issues has several recognised varieties: 'THREE HALF PFENCE', 'THRFE HALF PENCE', 'THREE HALF IENCE' and 'THREE HALH PENCE', of which all except 'IENCE' are catalogued among the provisional postage issues. 'TWC PENCE', 'TVVO PENCE', 'THRFE PENCE', 'THREE PFENCE', 'THREE PENG', 'FONR PENCE' are recorded for the next three values, though none on the 6d or 9d values, (Errors such as 'SIV' for 'SIX' and 'PENSE' for 'PENCE' are consequences of broken type). There is an important error, missing second 'l', on the 1s: 'ONE SHILLNG', which is recorded on the postage issues and 'ONE SHILL-NG' and 'ONE SHILLINGS' are known on the revenues. The 'TWO' of 'TWO SHILLINGS' appears as 'TVVO' and 'OWT', while the 'SHILLING' can be 'SHILLNGS' or 'SHILLING S'. Finally there are 'FIVE SHILLNGS', 'FIVE SHILLING-S', 'FIVE SHILLINGs' and 'TEN SHILLNGS' & 'TEN SHILLINGs', also minor varieties produced by broken type.



Fig. 5. 1d unused, 2.5mm space, SHILLNG inpair with normal, £1 2.5mm space

The normal space between the overprint words is 1.5mm but on the 1d a variety shows a 2.5mm space between ONE and PENNY. The same wide space occurs on the first £1 issue and may be normal for that (Fig 5). An additional variety appears on the 4d on small star watermark which is a space between the F and OUR of F OUR. The 2s and s printings of 1881, issued 1882, are also known in pairs and at least one triple (5s) imperforate vertically.



Fig. 6. 2.5mm space, inverted first S in SHILLINGS

On the distinctive printing perforated $14\frac{1}{4}$, there is an important spacing variety where the words of value on the TWO SHILLINGS has a 2.5mm space between TWO and SHILLINGS, (Fig. 6.). Sefi, in 1912, identified this variety as being the fourth stamp on the top row and the third stamp on the bottom row of the original sheet. (Sefi, *Grenada, 1912*, plate III p 25). There is also an inverted first S in SHILLINGS at position 19, 2/7, (Fig. 6. above left). The first stamp on a row sometimes shows a slightly dropped T in TWO. There is also a somewhat wider spacing between ONE and SHILLING on the last two stamps on the bottom row of the 1s sheet, (See Ch. 7) but it is not the 3.5 mm space catalogued by Gibbons (SG38c). The position of the very wide space is unknown.



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JAMAICA

THE FIRST STAMPED POSTCARDS OF JAMAICA: THE NEW ZEALAND CONNECTION BY DINGLE SMITH

In part this article is based on an account published in Capital Philately in 1983, see Smith (1983). This is the journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra but it does not appear to have had wide circulation. The article has been updated to include relevant material published since that date. The reproduction of parts of the original article have the full permission of the Philatelic Society of Canberra.

Jamaica produced two distinct series of provisional postcards prior to the issue of the first stamped postcards printed in London by De La Rue. All three issues consisted of ½d, 1d and 3d cards. These were initially described in Collett et al. (1928) which remained the definitive work for some years. However, Vokins (1979) published details based on the archival records of De La Rue and the Crown Agents which considerably modified the earlier account. The material illustrated in this current article was purchased in a London auction in mid-1975 and corresponds to the material described by Vokins. These include a handwritten duplicate of a letter from De La Rue setting out the printing costs for the new cards together with four Appendices with sample copies of the cards and associated material. Before describing the material, a brief background to the design and printing of the series is appropriate.

The first provisional issue was announced in the Jamaica Gazette date 28 March 1877 by Fred Sullivan, the Postmaster for the Colony. He also announced in the same Gazette that from 1 April 1877 Jamaica was to become a member of the General Postal Union and this required the production of a 3d card to meet the agreed overseas postal rate. Bendon (2015) gives details of the history of the General Postal Union to which Jamaica was admitted as 'a member of a British Colony'. The name of the international organisation was changed on 18 May 1978 to the more familiar UPU (Universal Postal Union). All writers agree that the first provisional series was officially issued on 1 April 1877, although a card postmarked 22 March 1877 is known.

The first provisional issue was printed in the Kingston General Penitentiary and has a distinctive lozenge border. A paid red circular handstamp was applied to denote that the ½d, 1d or 3d postage had been paid. There was a considerable demand for the first provisional postcards, both for public use and as philatelic items. A second provisional issue printed by the Government Printer was quickly prepared and issued with the border ornamentation changed to the 'floriate' design. The date of issue of the second issue does not appear to be given in official sources but the earliest known dated example is 9 April 1877. A detailed account of the floriate postcards is given in Swarbrick and Swetland (1997/98).

Until the publication by Vokins (1979) it had been assumed that the two provisional issues were produced due to the late arrival of the new pre-stamped postcards from London. It is now clear that the Jamaican Postmaster, Fred Sullivan, did not contact the Colonial Office until after the provisional issues had been made available by the Jamaican Post Office. In requesting the production of a series of stamped postcards for use in the island Sullivan comments that the two provisional series have been 'fully appreciated by the public'. He also enclosed an example of 1d postcard with '...a pattern of the neatest design of Post Cards I have met with, -viz: The New Zealand Issue'. An example this card was included with the De La Rue letter, dated 22 September 1877 and the Appendices in the auction material mentioned above. The card modified by Sullivan is illustrated here in Figs. 1. and 2.

The New Zealand Specimen Card

Fig. 1. is an example of the first postcard issued in New Zealand. It is described in Samuel (2006) with a quote from the Postmaster-General that proudly states '...the New Zealand post-card is a colonial production, having been manufactured in the Government Printing Office'. Later correspondence from De La Rue indicates that they supplied the paper (thin card) for the 1d postcards. Samuel also describes the cards with the printed message, shown here as Fig. 2. He comments 'these cards were sent as specimens, possibly to postmasters, newspaper offices or distinguished persons prior to the first day of issue'.

It is necessary to qualify the use of the word 'SPECIMEN'. Bendon (2015, p.17–18) notes that the practice of sending postage stamps to the UPU for distribution to member nations, often termed 'UPU Specimens', did not commence until 1878 and for stamped postal stationery in 1879.

The British Australasian Colonies (comprising the Australian Colonies, New Zealand and Fiji) were not accorded UPU membership status until October 1891. Bendon classifies various styles of specimen and that shown in Fig. 2. is best described under 'Presentation Specimens'. Several of the Australian Colonies in the late 1870s distributed similar specimen examples of their first issue of postcards. For example, the New South Wales Postmaster-General distributed copies of the Colony's first postcards with a printed message dated 30 November 1875, the date of issue was 10 October 1875. Stieg (2001 p.15) records that Victoria circulated its first postcard with a similar message dated 10 April 1876, the actual date of issue. None of these specimen cards are known with postmarks and were likely sent enclosed in envelopes. This was necessary because at these early dates the postcards were only postally valid for use within the Colony of issue. To the best of my knowledge the New Zealand card sent to Jamaica is the only known example sent to a distant overseas colony and almost certainly the only card to have acted as the model for a new issue.



Fig. 1. The modified New Zealand 1d postcard sent to the Colonial Office.

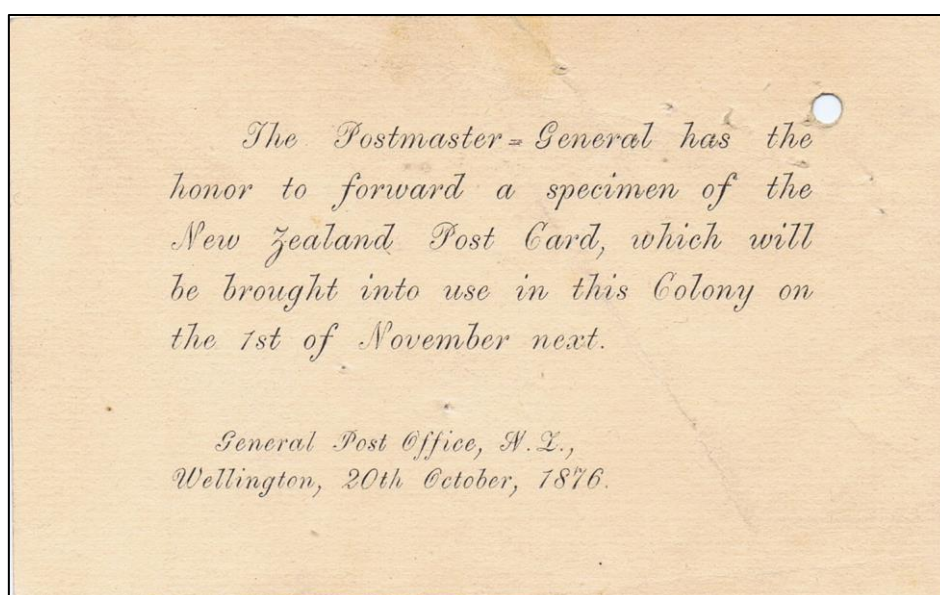


Fig. 2. The reverse of the New Zealand Card 'Specimen' card.

The Production Timetable

This is in part based on Vokins (1979).

<u>7 April 1877.</u>	Sullivan sends letter from Jamaica to the Colonial Office enclosing the modified New Zealand 1d postcard and requests that similar ½d, 1d and 3d postcards to be printed for use in Jamaica.
<u>1 May 1877.</u>	Secretary of State authorises the Crown Agents to proceed with the request for the Jamaican postcards.
<u>2 May 1877.</u>	Crown Agents pass on the request to De La Rue.
<u>4 May 1877.</u>	De La Rue submit designs based on the New Zealand 1d postcard, mentioning both 'thin' and 'thick' card.
<u>8 May 1877.</u>	De La Rue designs accepted by the Crown Agents.
<u>16 May 1877.</u>	Crown Agents order the printing plates.
<u>29 May 1877.</u>	De La Rue produce die proofs of 1d stamp, Fig. 3.
<u>6 July 1877.</u>	De La Rue produce die proofs of 1d, 2d and 3d stamps, Figs. 4a. b. & c.
<u>22 September 1877.</u>	Preparations are complete but De La Rue continue to promote the possible use of 'stout' cards, Fig. 5.
<u>26 September 1877.</u>	Invoice for the first printing of the Jamaican postcards.
<u>14 November 1877.</u>	½d, 1d and 3d cards issued in Jamaica.

This timetable confirms that the earlier comments were incorrect, ie. that the provisional cards were issued due to the tardiness of the supply of the first stamped postcards. The time taken from the initial request to the issue of the cards in Jamaica was about seven months. One can only be impressed with the speed of action of the Colonial Office, the Crown Agents and De La Rue.

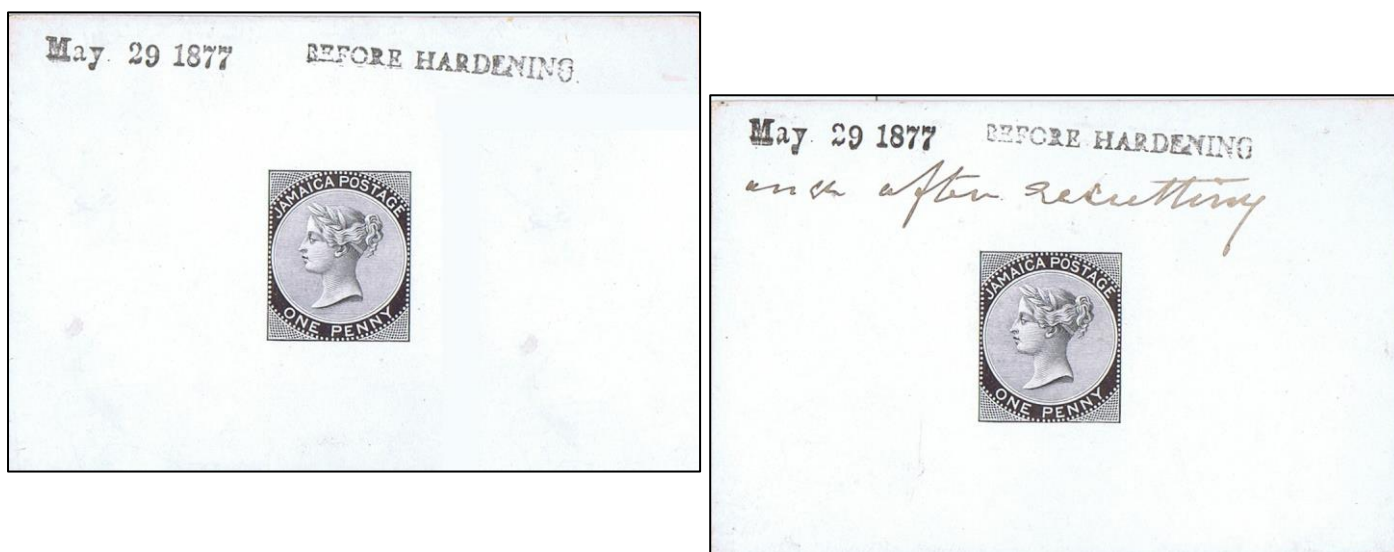


Fig. 3. De La Rue Die Proofs of the 1d stamp, 'Before Hardening' May 29 1877.

The design of the issued cards was based on the modified postcard submitted by Sullivan and shown here as Fig. 1. De La Rue replaced the Coat of Arms on the New Zealand card with that used on the first stamped postcards produced for Great Britain, the wording on this Coat of Arms had an error with the 'N' in 'Pense' reversed. This is described in Smith (2018) and for Jamaica, the error continued for many years.

Vokins (1979, p.29) gives the first printing numbers as:

½d cards 19,320 1d cards 47,736 3d cards 28,560

Vokins also lists the number of subsequent printings of the ½d and 1d cards, for the 3d card there was only a single printing. This was because the UPU international rate was reduced to 1½d effective on 1 April 1879. Examples of the 3d card correctly used to overseas destinations are rare, a card to the USA is illustrated in Fig. 6. The last printing of the ½d card was in 1902 and that for the 1d card in October 1888.

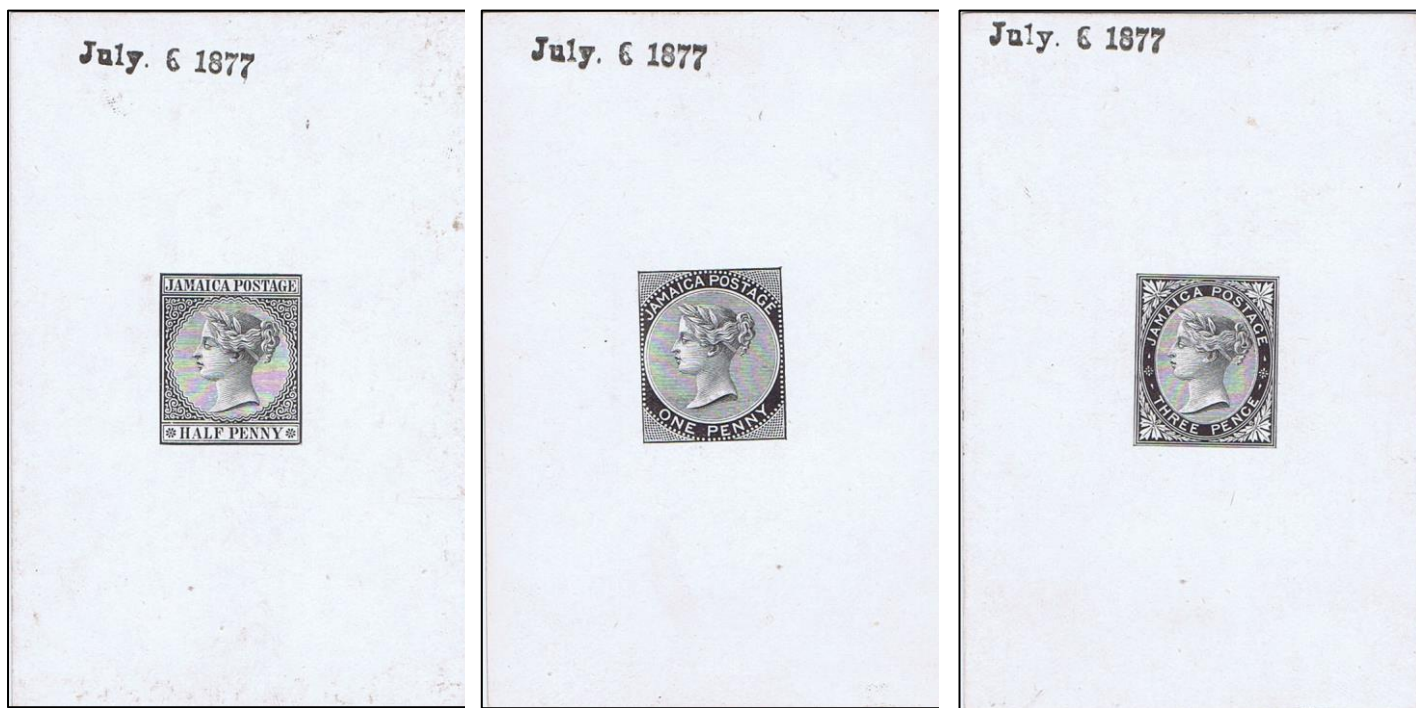


Fig. 4. De La Rue Die Proofs for the ½d, 1d & 3d stamps, July 6 1877

‘Thin’ and ‘Stout’ Cards

Although Jamaica did not respond positively to the requests from De La Rue to adopt the more expensive ‘stout’ cards, it is instructive to further describe this style of card. This summary is based on the comprehensive account for British postcards by Dagnall (1985). The first British stamped postcard at the ½d inland rate was issued on 1 October 1870 with De La Rue as the sole contracted printer. The cards proved to be extremely popular and in May 1874 Mr. Gladstone, the long-serving British Prime Minister, requested that the Post Office give consideration to ‘... a better class of Postal Card at 1d a piece – to be sold, if asked for, separately’. After much discussion the Post Office on 1 February 1875 issued, initially on an experimental basis, the ½d card on a much thicker card. This style was termed ‘Stout’ as opposed to the existing card which was referred to as ‘Thin’. The Stout cards also proved to be popular and from 1 August 1877 both styles of card could, for the first time, be purchased as single cards with the Stout cards sold at a slightly higher price. Stout cards therefore gained acceptance in the UK at the time of production of the first Jamaican postcards.

The De La Rue letter of 22 September 1877, shown in Fig. 5, includes the comments that:

‘...an improved kind of Post Card has, however, been recently introduced in England, and, while you decided to supply the Jamaica Government with the thinner kind, we understand you would wish us to furnish specimens of the better quality from transmission to the colony as soon as we could obtain them. We have consequently caused some of the impressions to be taken from each of the Jamaican Post Card plates upon the white cardboard which we employ for the English ‘Stout’ Post Cards, and these will be found in Appendix A to this letter, while in Appendix B we give a specimen of each duty of card printed upon the buff paper upon which the those under supply have been printed. As these specimens are glued to the Appendix sheets we have thought it desirable in Appendix C to give in an envelope loose specimens of either thickness of card, in order that there may be no difficulty in realizing the difference in quality’.

The philatelic significance of this is that a small sample of the ½d, 1d and 3d Jamaican cards were printed on the Stout card and were included in the auction purchase outlined above. It is thought that these cards are the only known examples. There is no difficulty in recognising the markedly different thicknesses of the ‘Stout’ and ‘Thin’ cards.

110 Bunhill Row,
London, E.C.,
Sept. 22nd 1877

Sir,

Jamaica.

We have the honour to inform you that we have now completed the printing of the Jamaica Post Cards ordered in your letter of the 14th of May last, and as we hope soon to effect delivery of the same we think it well to remind you that these Cards have been printed upon buff paper such as we use for the English 'Thin' Post Cards, seeing that the specimen New Zealand Post Card which was enclosed in the requisition as a guide for us to work to was of that quality having been made, in fact, from paper which we supplied to the New Zealand Government. An improved kind of Post Card has, however, been recently introduced in England, and, while you decided to supply the Jamaica Government with the thinner kind, we understood that you would wish us to furnish specimens of the better quality for transmission to the Colony so soon as we could obtain them. We have consequently caused some impressions to be taken from each of the Jamaica Post Card plates upon the white

J. G. Sargeant Esq., A. M. G.,
Crown Agent for the Colonies,
Downing Street.

Fig. 5. Extract of De La Rue letter of 22 September 1877.

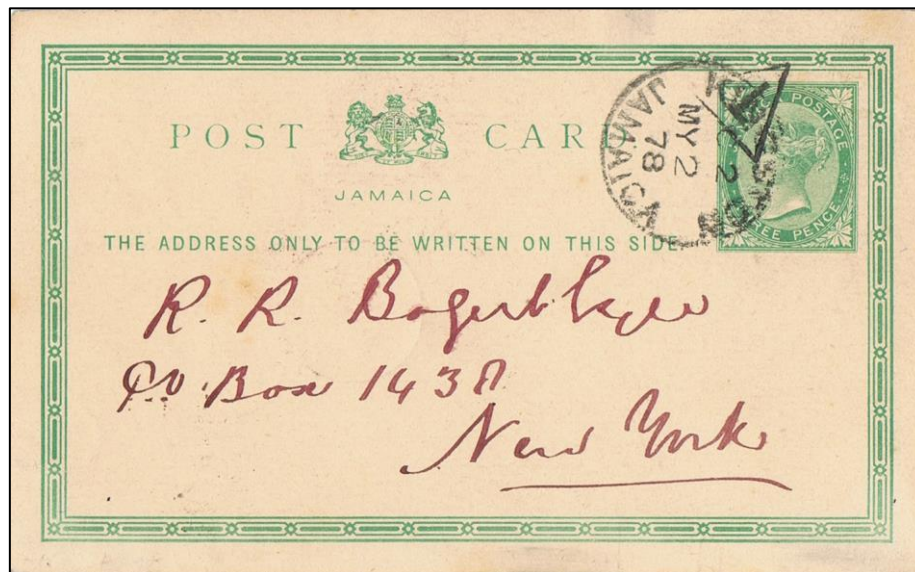


Fig. 6. The 3d postcard Kingston to New York, 2 May 1878. Ex. Swarbrick

If a further antipodal colonial example is permitted the initial requisition for the first ½d and 1d stamped postcards for Western Australia was dispatched to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on 9 July 1878, details are given in WASG (1979). The Western Australian Government was offered the choice of card at the same prices as those quoted for Jamaica but opted for the more expensive English 'Stout' card. The time between the initial request and the issue of the cards to the public on 1 May 1879 was some nine months. In contrast to the UK, Jamaica and New Zealand the cards were not widely used. The Postmaster-General's Annual Report for 1880 comments that '... only a small number [of postal cards] was sold during the past year and that the public have not availed themselves of this mode of communication to the extent which was anticipated when they were introduced' (WASG, 1979 p.156).

Wrapper Bands

Wrapper bands were used by De La Rue to package postcards and other postal stationery items into small bundles. These were specially designed for each of the value of card and it appears that proofs were supplied to clients together with proofs of the actual cards. This was certainly the case for the first issue of Jamaican cards with the wrappers sent as Appendix D, reproduced here as Fig. 7. These show the bands for the 'Half-Penny', 'One Penny' and 'Three-Penny' values, the colour corresponds to that of the actual cards. These small packets of cards were then put together into larger parcels each of 480 cards, i.e. 40 of the smaller packets. Vokins (1979) notes that for 'Stout' postcards the larger wrappers are for 240 cards rather than 480. Fig. 8 shows an example of a bundle of 12 'One Penny' cards. The wrapper bands were folded around the cards but were not gummed and they appear to have been sealed by the addition of glue to the overlap of the wrapper on back of the individual packets.

The published literature on such wrappers is sparse. An exception is Dagnall (1985, p.211–224) who illustrates wrapper bands produced by De La Rue for use with British postal stationery. These are from a selection of proof copies many initialed by Ernest Cleaver or J.S. Purcell in the period 1899 to 1905, although some of the designs correspond to those in Fig. 7. Dagnall also mentions 'bundle labels' printed on thin card which were placed at the top of smaller bundles of cards, De La Rue referred to these as 'Bundle Tops'. Fig. 9, in black and white and copied from Vokins (1979, Fig. 2, p.27), shows what is thought to be such a 'bundle top' although there is no discussion of this figure in the accompanying text.

Wrappers continued to be used for Jamaican postcards throughout the period prior to independence in 1958 although the border designs changed over time. A more comprehensive account of Jamaican wrappers would be a welcome addition to the literature on Jamaican postal stationery.



Fig.7. De La Rue Appendix D – the proofs for the wrapper bands.

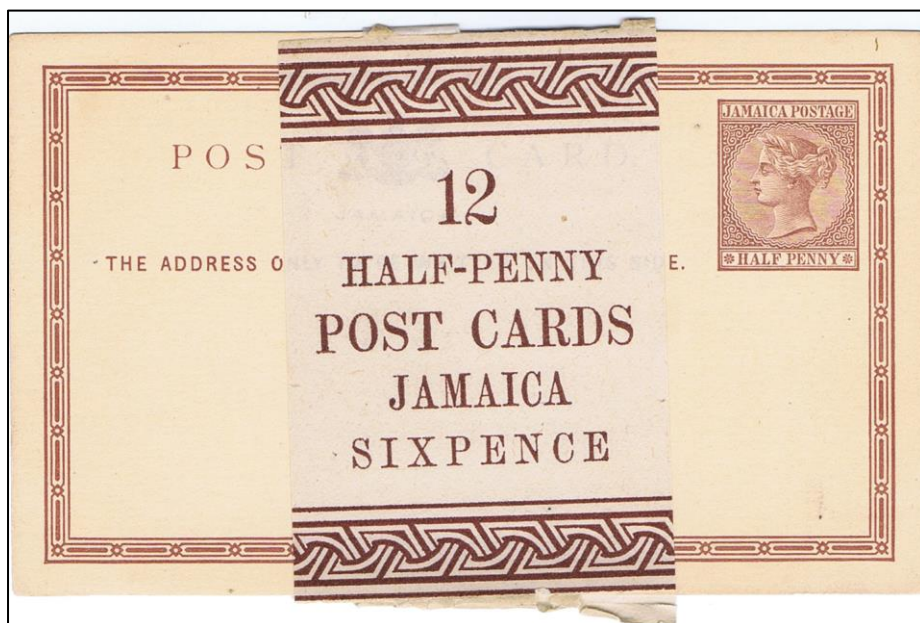


Fig. 8. Pack of 12 1d stamps with wrapper band.

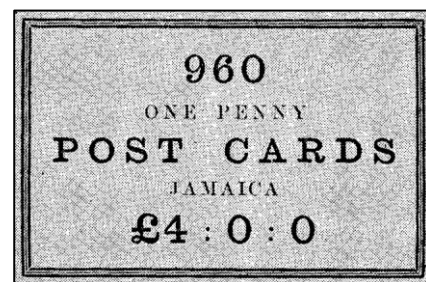


Fig. 9. 'Bundle Top' for 960 One Penny Post Cards, from Vokins (1979)

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THE TRDs OF JAMAICA PART IV

BY DAVID HORRY

The general drift of my recent articles on the TRDs of Jamaica has been that Kingston GPO was not fully in control of the Postal Services of Jamaica. The Boston Fruit Company had been responsible for much of the technological developments that were to ensure the wealth of the islands – the Post Office was somewhat lagging behind – especially after 1899 when the BFCo became the UFCo – the United Fruit Company. Being ‘a foreign entity’ makes this somewhat hard to swallow, but it was indeed the Crown Agents who encouraged them, mainly for financial reasons.

Most of the following information is gleaned from *The Daily Gleaner*, which are somewhat more forthcoming than the official *Post Office Gazettes* and *Blue Books*.

The whole situation can be summed up by events at Port Morant in 1908, after the disastrous earthquake of 1907. On Tuesday 5 March 1908, *The Gleaner* ran a long report entitled ‘Postal Needs’ which highlighted problems suffered by the Post Office at Port Morant. (Fig. 1). The problem was ‘the other Post Office’ over the Bay at the wharf at Bowden. According to the report, this office rendered itself, ‘largely independent of the postal and telegraph service.’ (Fig. 2) This was indeed the part of the port used exclusively by the Boston Fruit Company, which was owned by Andrew W. Preston and nine others – their President was Captain Lorenzo Dow Baker. (Fig. 3)

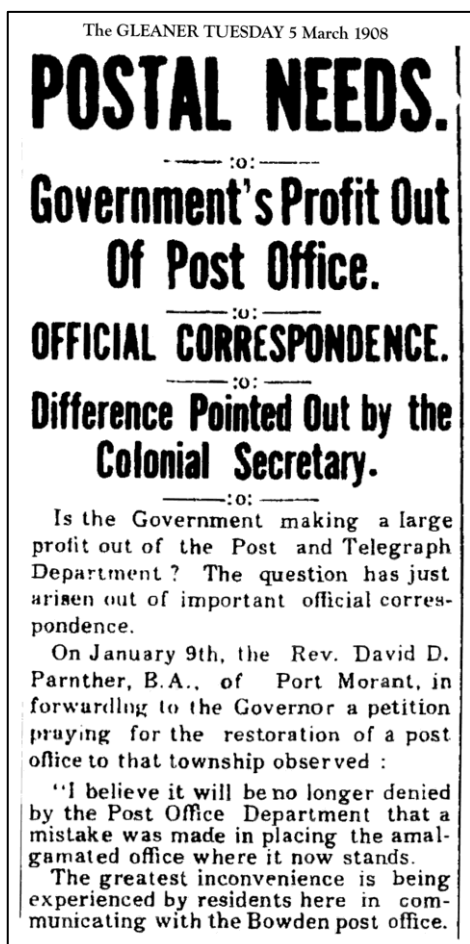


Fig.1.

“U. F. Company declined any longer to provide a building, rent free. The telephone service of this company renders it largely independent of the postal and telegraph service.”

Fig. 2.

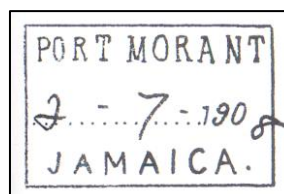


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

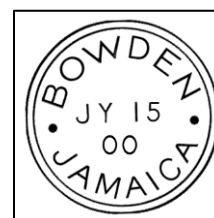


Fig. 5.

The Bowden office had been opened back in May 1896 and boasted a small Temporary Rubber Box (sTRB). (Fig. 4) A small Jamaica Double Circle (sJDC:) had followed up, issued by Kingston GPO. (Fig. 5) That was until a hurricane decimated the Bowden PO on 11 August 1903 and as Ted Proud noted, was subsequently fused with Port Morant by 1904. The Port Morant Squared Circle (SqC) ceased to be used after November 1904. (Fig. 6)

However, this arrangement appeared to please nobody. The UFCo refused to provide an office free of charge. Eventually a compromise was reached and an amalgamated post office was proposed. This was to be located at Phillipsfield a couple of miles to the north. This experiment was given a fair trial, but was wholly inconvenient for those who used the Bowden facilities. As can be seen from the map, there was absolutely no community at Phillipsfield. Bowden had enjoyed the use of the UFCo's own telephone system, the *Phantophone*, but the powers that be at Port Morant raised a petition to the Governor, demanding that the post office be relocated back to Port Morant. Here lay the community centre with its Collectorate, police station, Government school, church, market, shops and the Atlantic Wharf.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.

Between May and July 1908 a TRD for Port Morant was issued: (Fig. 7) exactly at which location this was used is unclear but it was surely for the interregnum at Phillipsfield? By now the UFCo were getting rather frustrated - their business was being compromised by the burden of a public service. The UFCo was akin to the East India Company and local government was of little interest in what they considered to be a 'Banana Republic'.

So why all the palaver? Back in 1902 The United Fruit Company and Elders had merged and were now running the entire mail services on behalf of the Government of Guatemala – and their railway and the shipping. The UFCo was highly efficient and the Kingston GPO was rather less so. However, their *Achilles Heel* was hurricanes and earthquakes. In 1904 two enormous hurricanes, both in August had wiped out the banana crop. By 1908 the UFCo were running into some financial hardships, with the complete destruction of their HQ at Ferry Inn and the Myrtle Bank Hotel in Kingston. Both were rebuilt over the ruins of the old Myrtle Bank by 1910, at no small cost. (Fig. 8) It was at that exact time that 'Leaf Spot' (Panama Disease) raised its ugly head. Britain and America were not getting on too well either with consecutive Presidents pressing adherence to the Monroe Doctrine hard.

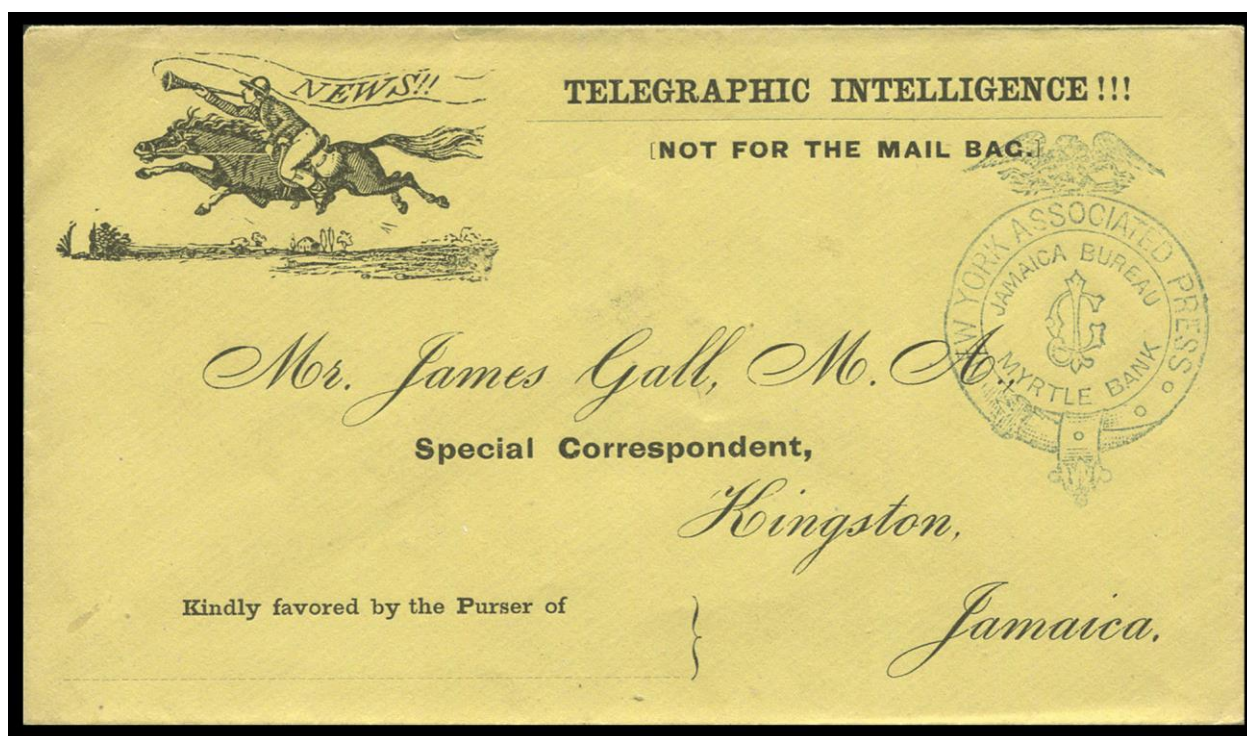


Fig. 8.

Post World War I the banana trade had taken-off once more, with the Panama Canal now in full operation. In 1923 the UFCo had boldly issued a second TRB for Port Morant. Unhappily Potter conflates the two Port Morant TRBs, but they are assuredly different, as per Proud; incredibly only one example is recorded – 14 May 1923.

This is not an isolated case. Back in 1896 The Boston Fruit Company was trail-blazing up at Skibo in Portland Parish, and the neighbouring post office at Bybrook was suffering. In those days Skibo was a collecting centre for the banana trade, but the roads to the BFCo storage depot at Kildare, Buff Bay and the docks at Port Antonio were rather too rough to transport fruit destined for the London markets. (Fig. 9) Bananas demand a smooth ride in order to avoid bruising, and that was provided in 1896 by a private Tramway between Skibo and Spring Garden towards Buff Bay, where lay the northern railway. (Fig. 10)



Fig. 9.

The Skibo Tramway

Mr. W. G. Russell next spoke of the monopoly which the Boston Fruit Coy enjoyed in the Skibo district by reason of their Tramway services from that place to Spring Garden. He thought that the rates of carriage should be reduced, or the road made wider so as to allow wheel traffic with safety. The same Coy was also seeking to have "sidings" put up at their Kildare property, which would give them the privilege of sending all their fruit to Port Antonio and thus hold monopoly of the Fruit trade here. To meet the deficit in the revenue we suggested the taxing of bicycles.

Fig. 10.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 11.

The Railways were taken over by the Boston Fruit Company in 1890 in order to hasten their fruit to market and give Governor Blake cash aplenty to pay for his much desired Jamaica Exhibition of 1891. All the postmarks for the Jamaica Railway were provided by the Americans and are similar to those used at Montgomery Ward (Fig. 11). The three line date is typically American and is also found in the British Solomon Islands towards the end of WWII.

Around 1893 The Boston Fruit Company developed its own telephone system, the *Phantophone* which operated via the Post Office's Telegraph wires, using 'vibratory superimposed telegraph circuits'. Each railway office had one and later some twenty post offices boasted this system, which reportedly was far superior to the Post Office's own telephone system. (Fig. 12)

By 1926 there were 62 Jamaican post offices using the GPO telephone system and a further 26 post offices used the *Phantophone*: they included the offices at Myrtle Bank, Titchfield and Constant Spring Hotels as well as Bowden, Laughlands, Grange Lane, Priestman's River and Blackstonedege. They were all accommodated on properties belonging to the all embracing United Fruit Company. In 1915 in excess of £3,000 was collected from the Direct West India Cable Co., and the West India & Panama Cable Co. for supervision. The *Pantaphones* were made in Liverpool by British Insulated and Helsby Ltd., and were introduced by Sir Alfred Jones of the Elders Shipping Company. He was known as the richest man in Jamaica and had hosted Guglielmo Marconi, when he addressed the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce in 1908. (Fig. 13) A similar phonic device was used in Australia which went by the name - *Pantophone*.

The United Fruit Company generated its own electricity which was used at all its stations and hotels. They also supplied lighting to both the Theatre Royal which was destroyed in the earthquake 1907 and the Ward Theatre, which replaced it; the gift of Colonel Charles Ward, then Custos of Kingston, in 1912. (Fig. 14)

TRD proofs in 1938 (Long Road) and 1946 (Paul Mountain) clearly show they were struck on Crown Agents cartridge. A 1949 cover links the Crown Agents to the Jamaica Agricultural Society. Thus it can now be clearly established that it was the United Fruit Company who, with the Crown Agents blessing, were issuing the TRDs and not GPO Kingston.

They were originally made by Philippe Vendryes and later by George Goubalt. It is interesting to note that senior officers of the Jamaica Philatelic Society, Herbert Cooke and Geoffrey C. Gunter, (Fig. 15) were in the employ of the United Fruit Company (The Purchaser) and The Jamaica Government Railway (Chief Accountant) respectively.

L. C. C. Nicholson in his 1938 monograph credits Messrs. Frank Godden with kindly lending the TD dies. (Fig. 16) These were in fact from George Crawford Odom who used the pseudonym Frank Godden Junior and lived in Jamaica from 1921 until his death in 1959 at Montego Bay. He was a Crown Agent working to Sir Harry Luke. (Fig. 17)



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.



Fig. 15.

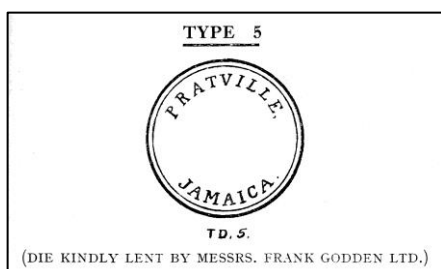


Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.



Fig. 18.

The United Fruit Company made itself completely autonomous by issuing tally to the workers. These were issued at Bowden (B) and in Portland (PL) from c.1900–1914. (Fig. 18) In 1956 Harry Belafonte sang a song about it all in *The Banana Boat Song*.

Day-o, day-o
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Day, me say day, me say day, me say day
Me say day, me say day-o
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Work all night on a drink of rum
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Stack banana 'til de mornin' come
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Come, mister tally man, tally me banana
Daylight come and me wan' go home

Come, mister tally man, tally me banana
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Lift six foot, seven foot, eight foot bunch
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Six foot, seven foot, eight foot bunch
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Day, me say day-o
Daylight come and me wan' go home
Day, me say day, me say day, me say day
Daylight come and me wan' go home
A beautiful bunch o' ripe banana
Daylight come...

To sum up the Boston Fruit Company, later the United Fruit Company, in Jamaica ran a Railway, a Tramway, several large hotels, an independent telephone system, an electricity company, issued its own stamps (the 'Llandoveries'), postmarks (TRDs), and not forgetting the Great White Fleet and Elders & Fyffes. They failed to take over the Post Office who survived more by luck than judgement.

To be continued...

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA

Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

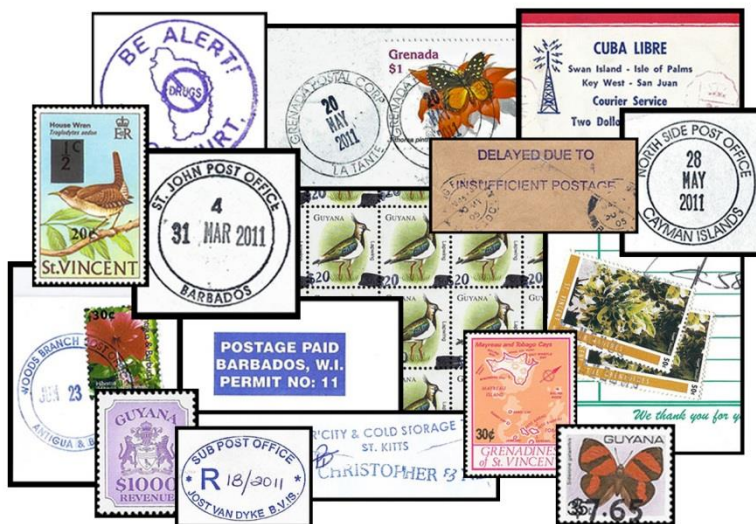
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JAMAICA KING GEORGE VI PLATE FLAW**BY GEORGE DUNBAR**

Plate flaws exist on a number of King George VI issues of Jamaica. The one illustrated is, I believe, previously unrecorded. It consists of a short line in the vignette, from the top left of the value tablet to the river shoreline above (top right hand stamp). It is unspectacular, but interesting because it can be plated. The stamp is comb perf, and therefore from one of the printings with CP3 (FP6) from October 1950 onwards. The sheet centre guide mark appears in the frame colour two positions to the left, at the bottom left of the stamp, and so the flaw is at row three, column seven. In fact CP3 with FP6 was normally set 120, without a separate index for the two panes of 60, and so we can only say that the flaw exists here on one of the panes.

Reference

James, H. A. H. (1999). *Jamaica: The definitive and commemorative stamps and postal stationery of the reign of King George VI*. Study Paper No. 15, King George VI Collectors Society.

(CP is Hugh James' notation for 'centre plate')

LEEWARD ISLANDS**STAMPS WANTED****BY SIR GEOFFREY PALMER**

I am looking for the following GV plate numbers (Singles, pairs or blocks of 4):

1912–20 Multiple Crown CA

SG48a 1d bright scarlet plate 3 & plate 6

SG49 2d slate-grey plate 5

1921–32 Multiple Script CA

SG60 1d carmine-red plate 28

SG71 5d dull purple & olive green plate 11

SG72 6d dull & bright purple plate 28

SG73 1s black/emerald plate 28

SG75 2s6d black & red/blue plate 16

SG77 4s black & red plate 10

SG78 5s green & red/pale yellow plate 11

SG83 1d bright scarlet plate 23

Please respond via the Editor.



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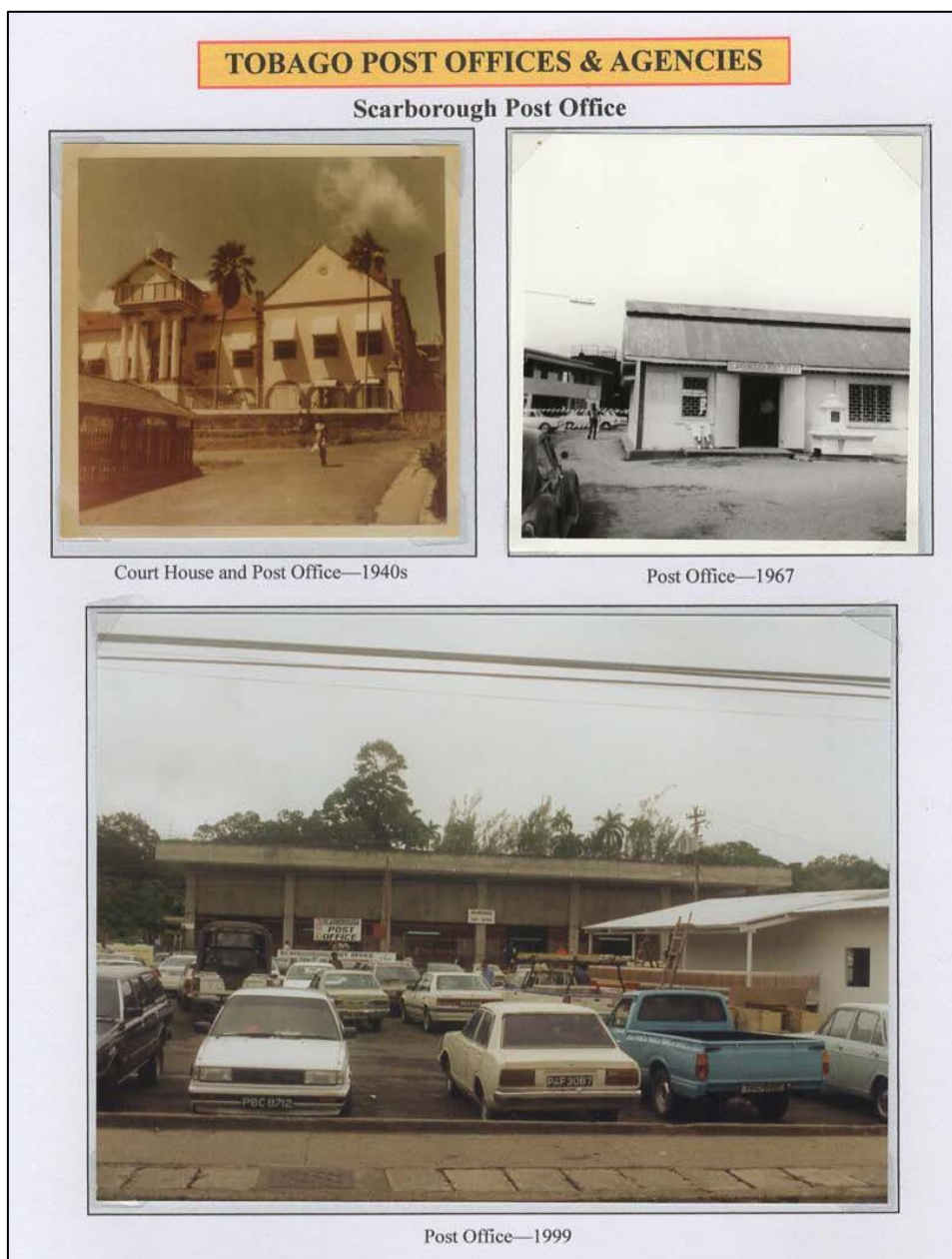
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

TOBAGO POST OFFICES

BY IAN POTTER

The story is - I bought the black and white photographs at a BWISC meeting more than 20 years ago and determined to go to Tobago and take my own photographs. I first went to the head P.O. in Scarborough and bought a complete set of the then current definitives and also obtained a list of all the Offices and Agencies on the Island. For my first trip I hired a car with driver and covered the easier ones and also obtained a feel for the conditions on the island. The second trip I hired a car and drove it myself and the third trip I hired a jeep to get to the more remote agencies. At each office / agency I took a photograph and bought a stamp and asked them to cancel a cover with it on both over the stamp and clear of it. I have since been trying to gather covers relating to the black and white photographs. I feel it is now time for another set of photographs to be taken to see how things have changed. Unfortunately due to my age and medical condition I can no longer afford the insurance for a trip to the Caribbean. Any volunteers? Tobago is a wonderful scenic and welcoming island approximately the size of the Isle of Man and this trip provides an excellent excuse for visiting its remote parts. When I was there the T & T postal service was expecting to be taken over by New Zealand Post. What happened?

The complete display now runs to 72 sheets, further scans will be shown in future Bulletins.



TOBAGO POST OFFICES & AGENCIES

Scarborough Post Office



Single ring Dated cancel for "A / MY 2 / 38"
First day of issue for George VI definitives.

Single Ring Dated cancel for "26AUG53B"



Roger Wells,
Great Cortes Road,
Grimsby. England.



Double Ring Dated cancel with line spacers for "B / 18 DE / 75"

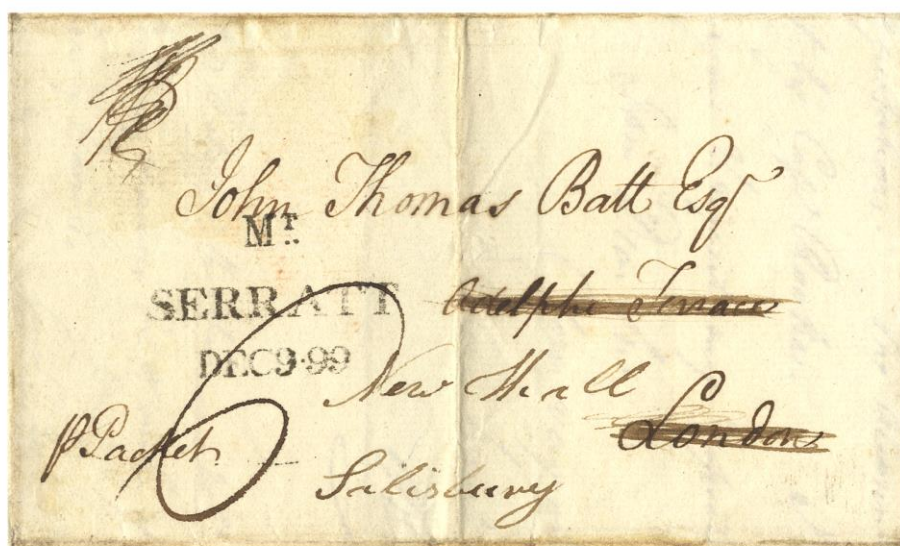
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November 23, 2019 at The Collectors Club, New York City



Our 38th Public Auction will feature the Charles Freeland Collection of Montserrat, the Barry Friedman Collection of British America, selections from the John Cooper Collection of commercially used Silver Jubilee covers, Basutoland postal history, a Sarawak collection, Lots and Collections and more!



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TRINIDAD1916 RED CROSS OVERPRINT

BY ED BARROW

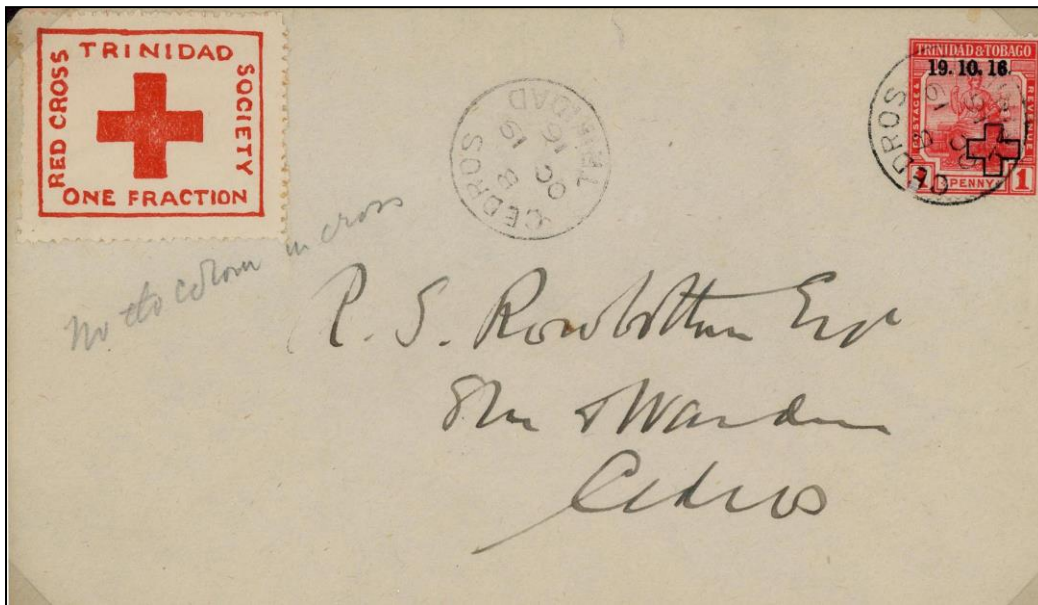


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

In Bulletin No. 256 – March 2018, Michael Hamilton asked if anyone had a Trinidad & Tobago 1916 Red Cross overprint with the red shading of the cross omitted on cover (SG175c). The stamp on the cover shown in Fig. 1. also shows an absence of the red ink in the cross. To be fair the ink is not totally absent, but like Michael's example there are traces of the ink, suggesting that the variety was the result of a dry plate rather than totally missing the overprint operation, (see Fig. 2. for a close up).

Michael's and this stamp have the date and cross in different positions on the stamp indicating that they came from different sheets. But given the scarcity of the flaw I think it unlikely that two full sheets were printed with the flaw. While there are no distinguishing marks to plate either example, and so confirm if they occurred at the same position on separate sheets, it is possible that the variety was the result of a plate flaw at one position for only part of the printing run. We see this phenomena on some of Trinidad & Tobago's War Tax printings, with some sheets showing wear or damage in certain parts of the overprint plate, which in turn cause faint overprints or sometimes complete missing letters at a particular part of a sheet. In my opinion, this is the most likely cause of the flaw.

TURKS ISLANDS

THE 1881 OVERPRINTS

BY ANDY HEARN

There are 12 settings of the 'half penny' of which this is the 10th. There are 30 stamps to each sheet. Although a complete sheet is imperative to locate each stamp, there is much enjoyment to be had by checking if your singles match up. In this case there are 15 different varieties repeated twice on the sheet so that increases the task considerably.

In addition, there are other points worth noting. Row 3/4 proudly shows the 'throat flaw' which is not seen on the same variety at row 3/9. The 'neck base flaw' (see illustration) starts at row 3/5 and gradually disappears on row 1/6, 2/6, 3/6, 1/7, 2/7, 3/7 etc. This has led to the interesting conclusion that the original master die picked up a small piece of metal which became attached to the die. It then slowly wore out and disappeared each time it was used. This means that the original plate was struck in the order row 1/1 then row 2/1 then row 3/1 and so on before picking up the small piece of metal on row 3/5 thence gradually disappearing. This is not mentioned in the regular SG Catalogue. Quantities produced are estimated at around 4,000 for SG17 Type 9 and around 2,000 for SG18 Type 10.

TURKS ISLANDS · QUEEN VICTORIA · DEFINITIVE ISSUES

1881 (1 Jan) · ½d. on 1d. Dull Red · SG17-18 · * · øøø · Complete Sheet ·



Small Star
Sideways



Throat Flaw
R3/4



Type 9



Type 10

Setting 10 :-
? 4000xT9
? 2000xT10

Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet. Ten are Type 9 (Rows 1 & 2), five are Type 10 (Row 3).

The setting comprises two rows of five T9, the SG Catalogue illustration of which is misleading as the 2 is to the left of the 1 except in the case of Variety 10 where the 2 is under the 1. The 1 is thick with a short sloping serif and the bar is long and thin and varies somewhat in each variety. The 2 is thick with a curly tail. The third or bottom row has thin numerals with a curly tailed 2 and the bar is usually to the left.



Complete sheet of 30 : Lacking bottom margin as always : Brilliant original gum : Throat Flaw is prominent on R3/4 : Superb condition and very rare : A magnificent item.

1 · Neck Base Flaw on R3/5 gradually disappearing on R1/6, R2/6, R3/6, R1/7, R2/7, R3/7, etc.

TURKS ISLANDS · QUEEN VICTORIA · DEFINITIVE ISSUES ·

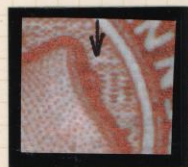
1881 (1 Jan) · 1/2d. on 1d. Dull Red · SG17 & 18 · * · ø · Sheet Reconstruction · Complete ·



Small Star
Sideways



Throat Flaw
R3/4



Neck Base
Flaw #1



Type 9 · SG17



Type 10 · SG18

Setting 10 :- Fifteen varieties repeated twice in a sheet. Ten are Type 9 (Rows 1 & 2), five are Type 10 (Row 3).

The setting comprises two rows of five Type 9, the SG Catalogue illustration of which is misleading as the 2 is to the left of the 1, except in the case of Variety 10 where the 2 is under the 1. The 1 is thick with a short sloping serif and the bar is long and thin and varies somewhat in each variety. The 2 is thick with a curly tail. The third or bottom row has thin numerals with a curly tailed 2 and the bar is usually to the left.

? 4000xT9 Total Stamps · ? 2000xT10 Total Stamps ·



V1 T9 V2 T9 V3 T9
Cert



V4 T9



V5 T9



V1 T9
#1



V2 T9



V3 T9



V4 T9 V5 T9



V6 T9



V7 T9



V8 T9



V9 T9



V10 T9



V6 T9
#1



V7 T9



V8 T9 V9 T9



V10 T9



V15 T10



V11 T10



V12 T10



V13 T10



V14 T10
Throat Flaw
ø ø



V15 T10
#1



V11 T10
#1



V12 T10



V13 T10 V14 T10



V15 T10

#1 · Neck Base Flaw on R3/5 gradually disappearing on R1/6, R2/6, R3/6, R1/7, R2/7, R3/7, etc.



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Trinidad 1861 SG59

1861 (June) 1s deep bluish purple. Position 4 from the original block of 6 (3x2), and one of five examples in private hands, forming a vertical pair with position 1 in the Royal Philatelic Collection.

P11212176 £9000

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AUCTION REPORT**BY GRAHAM BOOTH**

David Feldman sold the Gunnar Loshamn large gold collection of the Danish West Indies on 6 June. This was the second substantial postal history collection from this area of the Caribbean to come on to the market in 3 months, so it was not surprising that it did not do as well as the Hogensborg collection in March. Amongst the 215 lots there were some splendid covers; but there was rather a lot of routine R.M.S.P. mail going to Denmark from the 1850s and 1860s, over-estimated at +/- 200€ per cover, so it was not surprising that it was only 56% sold. A really nice strike of the St. Thomas fleuron estimated at 1,000€ did not sell; but in contrast the small St. Croix fleuron made 2,400€ against an estimate of 1,500€.

I commented last time on the strength of the market for HAPAG's own adhesives. Here a cover from Haiti to St. Thomas franked with a single 10 cents was hammered down at 4,400€ against an estimate of 2,000€. Other successes included an 1873 envelope to Bergen carried by N.D.L. from St. Thomas, sent by closed bag through Denmark and therefore not paying German transit charges, which achieved 8 times its estimate at 3,100€. Covers franked with early adhesives did well, as did postal stationary. An 1878 6 cents lilac P.S.C. from St. Thomas to London realised 1,800€ against an estimate of 500€, an 1876 envelope from St. Thomas to Nova Scotia franked with a GB 1d red made 400€, double its estimate, a 1905 five cents American P.S.E. with an S/L Valencia from Puerto Rico to St. Thomas more than doubled its estimate at 360€, and a cover from Cuba to Bordeaux via St. Thomas franked with a GB 2d blue cancelled C 51 paying a printed matter rate, the earliest recorded use on Trans-Atlantic mail, made 3,000€ against an estimate of 800€.

The St. Thomas Express Office marks were mixed, with an average blue mark estimated at 800€ not selling, whilst a very nice red mark almost doubled its estimate at 1,400€. The 'Returned for Postage' cover from St. Thomas to Madeira struggled to 1,500€, as did the 1855 black crowned circle, recorded as one of three known, to 3,000€. Finally, the two rare St Thomas marks 'S Thomas' and 'San Thomas' both comfortably exceeded their estimates at 2,200€ and 2,800€ respectively. I couldn't view and bought a cover that was so full of splits along the folds that it was practically falling apart, although there was no indication of that in the description - 'caveat emptor'!

On 10 July Spink featured a perfectly respectable collection of 56 lots of Barbados in their Collector's Series. A more miserable performance it would be difficult to imagine. Again, there were computer problems; but fortunately, these were short lived. I did not view so I can't comment on quality; but the provenance was good - Hackmey, Messenger, Maxwell Joseph, Frazer and Urwick were all represented. Nevertheless, more than half the sale was unsold and only 3 lots exceeded their high estimate. Covers that sold for £170 eighteen months ago sold for £70. I couldn't find a single area that showed any real strength. I don't consider that the lots were overpriced, there was just very little interest. One would have thought the weakness of the pound, which has lost 30 cents in the two years since the Brexit referendum, would have attracted more interest from across the pond. Across the range there were probably no more than 10 or 12 people occasionally bidding.

Gibbons general sale on 23 July was a little better with small lots of practically all the West Indies territories. Grenada did reasonably well, with the used version of the 1943 10s, SG 163c, achieving its low estimate of £550 and the mint block of 30 of SG2, the 1d green, selling for £580 against catalogue of £1,500. The small group of Caymans was 75% sold which hopefully portends well for James Podger's collection to be sold by Gibbons on 24 September; but the Trinidad hand painted essay of the 4d Britannia in carmine and yellow-green with a low estimate of £1,300 did not sell. In the main, the lot sizes for most colonies were too small to draw any strong conclusions, apart from Bahamas and Bermuda. There were 41 lots of Bahamas, of which only a third sold, possibly too much to digest after the Freeland sale. The Landfall blocks of 4 on cover with the COIUMBUS variety on the 4d sold for £1,000 but the mint block of four of the 8d with the same variety, estimated at £3,000, did not sell. The 83 lots of Bermuda, predominantly George V and VI keyplates, did rather better with 52% sold and 13 lots achieving their top estimate or better. The 1920 photographic essays for the Victory stamp from the D.L.R. archives, ex Ulrich, Baillie and Foxley realised £850 against a low estimate of £1,000; but the best result of the afternoon was a lovely 2s6d from 1941 with a broken tail on the lower right scroll, cancelled in St Georges, which made £700 against a top estimate of £600. Hopefully it is the summer or Brexit that is responsible, and interest will improve later in the year. Certainly the U.K. market could do with some impetus.



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Dented Frame**

1905 1d carmine, wmk MCA, showing variety 'Dented frame' (left pane, R1/6), very fine o.g. and rare thus.

Only 100 possible.

P190003910 £550



**1905 SG12a Mint 1s
Dented Frame**

1905 1s orange, wmk MCA, upper right corner example showing variety 'Dented frame' (left pane, R1/6), very fine o.g. (stamp unmounted). A rarity in this positional form and condition.

Only 20 possible !

P190003912 £750



**1902 SG4a Mint 1d
Dented Frame**

1905 ½d green, wmk MCA, showing variety 'Dented frame' (left pane, R1/6), o.g. A couple of shortish perfs, otherwise fine and fresh. Only 205 possible.

(cat £375)

P190003907 £325

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