



STUDY CIRCLE

RICHARD FODEN TURKS ISLANDS DISPLAY AT BWISC / BCPSG 2010 MEETING



1879 1d imperf between with throat flaw on lh stamp.



1881 Provisional Issue.

Setting 5 – Complete sheet of 30, showing ten settings.
The only complete sheet of any setting of 2½d overprint.



BULLETIN No. 227 December 2010



Affiliated to the Association of British Philatelic Societies and the American Philatelic Society

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BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

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.
- 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 paragraph 1 above.

**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

- Saturday 16 April 2011 AGM and Auction.
At Grosvenor Auction premises 399 Strand, London, 3rd floor.
Ring the bell on the right of the inside door to request entry.
Auction viewing from 11:00; AGM at 1:15; followed by auction at 2:15.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Elsewhere in this Bulletin is an obituary to our late President, Victor Toeg. The Study Circle owes Victor a lot as he was President for over 40 years and I am sure it would be his wish that the Study Circle should continue to run smoothly after his passing. With this in mind, as an interim measure and with the agreement of the Committee, I have appointed Charles Freeland as Acting President and Steve Jarvis as his replacement as Acting Vice-President. The Committee will be putting these two names forward for election in these respective positions at the AGM next April for the membership to consider. If there are any other nominations for either of these positions, would they please be communicated to me well before the AGM.

MEMBER DISPLAYS

The Gold Medal exhibit at London 2010 by Stefan Heijtz on Barbados Postal History has been loaded to the web site Gallery.

Congratulations to Graham Booth for winning a Gold at JOBURG 2010 with his entry entitled 'The Cayman Islands Post Office 1889-1945'.

- 2 Feb 2011 Tim Pearce showing Grenada to Sevenoaks & District PS at the Red Cross Hall TN13 3QG, commencing at 7:30.

Please inform the Editor of any other displays being undertaken.

VICTOR TOEG, FRPSL 1916 – 2010

Our President, Victor Toeg died on the 28th of July after a short illness. He was 94.

Victor Toeg was born in Shanghai, China, in 1916. As a young boy, his parents sent him over to England with a governess to be educated, and he attended a preparatory school at Seaford, Sussex. He went on from there to Clifton College where he excelled at sport, becoming a very good tennis player and a fine cricketer. Whilst at the school, he broke a batting record and was presented with a silver trophy which is in his son's possession to this day.

After leaving school, he progressed to Lincoln College, Oxford to study Law. After graduation, the War intervened and he joined the RAF. It always amused him to relate his abortive attempt to train as a pilot; an attempt doomed to failure because of his height! After several different postings, he ended up in Gibraltar with the force guarding the rock. Thankfully, it was never attacked. After the war, he returned to London, married and joined a firm of solicitors in Holborn, namely J. Tickle & Co., where he progressed to become a partner. He worked there for 30 years before retiring in 1978.

He then went into business as a stamp dealer with his wife Lettie, trading as 'E. V. & L. TOEG'. Close observers of past Bulletins will notice that when he became a dealer, he had to resign from the Royal as was the requirement in those days, and thus drop the 'FRPSL' after his name. He was reinstated as a Fellow some time after his business ceased trading, as did many stamp businesses at that time.

Victor had been a member of the BWISC from its inception in 1954; he joined the Committee in 1962 and was elected Vice-President in 1965. He took over as Acting President in late 1967, following the death of Geoffrey Groves and was confirmed in that position at the AGM the following year. The 41 years of Victor's tenure as President were marked by an expansion in membership and the acceptance by the whole philatelic community of the BWISC as the foremost society dealing with BWI philately. Most members' memories of Victor came from meeting him at the bi-ennial BWISC Convention which he faithfully always attended; there he was always willing to spend time encouraging younger members and sharing his extensive knowledge. After having openheart surgery in 1995, he later decided that he could no longer participate as much as he would like in the organization of the Circle. In consultation with the then Committee, it was decided that the positions of President and Chairman would be separated, and Victor would continue as President in an Honorary role. He remained President until his death; the last time he attended a meeting was in 2004 at the Royal Philatelic Society celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Study Circle, an event which gave him much pride.

Newer members of the Circle may not be aware of the extent of Victor's achievements as a BWI collector. Most will have seen the Robson Lowe auction catalogue of his outstanding Antigua, that had won Gold at the 1980 London Exhibition, but this was not his complete Antigua collection, as additional interesting pieces (e.g. fiscals, forgeries and flaws) were offered separately. Only this August a GV flaw was offered on eBay, still on a piece written up in his neat solicitor's hand. But until 1966 he collected the whole BWI and sold most of it to concentrate on three specialised areas. Then in 1971 he sold his very fine Leeward Islands in a major auction whose timing was unfortunate as it just preceded the 1970s boom and eventual bust. In 1983 Victor decided to focus solely on Antigua when he sold his Montserrat, first the small but select postal history, which included the famous 'Montserrat Paid' soldier's envelope, now in the Army Museum, and in March 1984 the stamps, including proofs and essays in abundance. Again, however, some items were sold separately, one being the famous marginal block of the QV 4d blue with CA watermark bought for him by Bill Lea in the first Charlton Henry auction. In later years he collected Lady Boat covers and BWI forgeries, and was an active bidder in the Circle's auctions. Indeed, Victor was a true all-rounder who was able to appreciate the finer points of BWI philately. So it was not so strange that he became the author of the Dominica handbook even though it was not a specialised collecting



area of his; he based it on notes left by Philip Saunders, founder of the Study Circle. It was published in 1995. His other work was the Leeward Islands Adhesive Fees Stamps, published in 1991. Although he never wrote any books about his specialised subjects of Montserrat and Antigua, he wrote many thorough and detailed articles about them in the Bulletin.

Victor's wife, Lettie predeceased him in 2003 and he is survived by his son, Nigel, to whom we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

BWI

MODERN FORGERS – AT IT AGAIN

BY ED BARROW

As many members frequent eBay I thought that I should mention a newly discovered source of dubious used stamps. At the outset I should say that I have no idea if the seller is the ultimate source of these or an unsuspecting dealer.

Over the last year or so I have noticed the seller who goes by the eBay handle les12132 selling a number of improbably cancelled Trinidad stamps. The stamps have been sold in dribs and drabs but when you assemble a number of them together the pattern looks clearer – see below.



First all the Trinidad stamps were cancelled at 11am in June with the same machine cancel; the day and year seems to have been altered. Second it seems almost beyond belief that all these stamps would have attracted SON (socked on the nose) machine cancels. The reasons are myriad: Postage Dues were hand cancelled, the odd one might have been struck by a machine cancel when a piece of unclaimed mail was making its way back through the system, but that would be exceptional and there would be evidence of the original hand cancel. In addition machine cancels are applied at high speed by a machine; hence strikes are often messy and contain lines or parts the slogan cancel – these show none of this. Finally high values like the £1 are unlikely to have been on mail that would travel through a machine, philatelic covers were hand cancelled to guarantee a neat cancel and parcels tend not to fit through cancelling machines.

I will leave to others to comment on the used material from other colonies which tends to sport unusually well struck, neat and flat handstruck date stamps.

eBay is not the only venue for selling modern forgeries. Recently a vendor was caught peddling BWI rarities at a more traditional venue, a mid-sized US auction house. I did not manage to get a name, only that the vendor operated out of Canada and that he was subsequently reported to the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. The forgery of most interest was a British Guiana \$1 KGVI Definitive perf 14x13 (SG:317a). This was concocted by removing the design from a properly watermarked perf 14x13 stamp (which colony and which stamp I do not know). Then an image of a cancelled \$1 KGVI Definitive was printed on the freshly prepared canvas. A few things gave the game away. The paper is thin, most probably from the process of removing the initial stamp design. The applied print surface was flat and the applied image shows wobbles and flaws in background lines. The final nail in the coffin was that the applied image was stretched to fit the paper. This made the late King look as if he had gained weight and is abundantly apparent when the forgery is put alongside a regular example of the stamp.



For the sake of full disclosure, the same seller also offered re-perfed KGVI varieties, MNH Specimen Perfins (assumed to be forgeries), watermark varieties (made by sandwiching the cheaper variety of stamp with another stamp which has the desired watermark but with its design removed).

BWI**CHEMICAL TESTING FOR SECRET MESSAGES DURING WORLD WAR II****BY ED BARROW**

During WW II German agents were active in both North and South America. They communicated with their masters back in Germany using the mail system but obviously took great pains to conceal their messages. One of the important functions of British Censor Stations in the Caribbean and Bermuda was to intercept these messages and disrupt the enemy's networks. It may sound like a schoolboy fantasy from the days when children played with chemistry sets, but German spies did use invisible inks. To counter this, British Censor Stations had scientific sections specially equipped to ferret out these hidden communiqués.

The cover shown in Figure 1 was sent surface mail from Venezuela to Switzerland in the closing months of the War (February 1945). It was intercepted in Trinidad as the censor label attests. What is interesting is the enclosed letter (see Figure 2). It has been treated with what appears to be lines of chemical reagents (I count at least eight in all). There is no sign of it being opened anywhere else so I presume it was tested by the Censorship Department in Trinidad.

I have managed to locate a few similar examples of chemical testing but here the chemical lines tend to be applied to the envelopes. Figure 3 shows a typical example. Judging by the pattern of lines it appears that the flap of the envelope was steamed open and the lines applied across the back of the envelope with the flap open. It was then resealed and there are 2 US censor labels at the edge. Interestingly the destination of this cover is also Switzerland and it was sent in the final months of the War (June 1945).

All the examples of chemically tested envelopes I have seen have US censor labels and were sent from either South America or Mexico (surface mail) to Switzerland in the late stages of the War. This small body of evidence has led to the opinion that this was a US program. However this Trinidad cover suggests that it might have been a broader Allied program which included British censorship. There is also the intriguing question of why were the Allies so interested in detecting secret messages between Latin America and Switzerland near the end of the war. My pet theory is they were worried about Nazi money laundered through Switzerland making its way to South America.

I would like to thank Charles LaBlonde for providing information and the image in Figure 3.

FIGURE 1



Images at 75%.

FIGURE 2

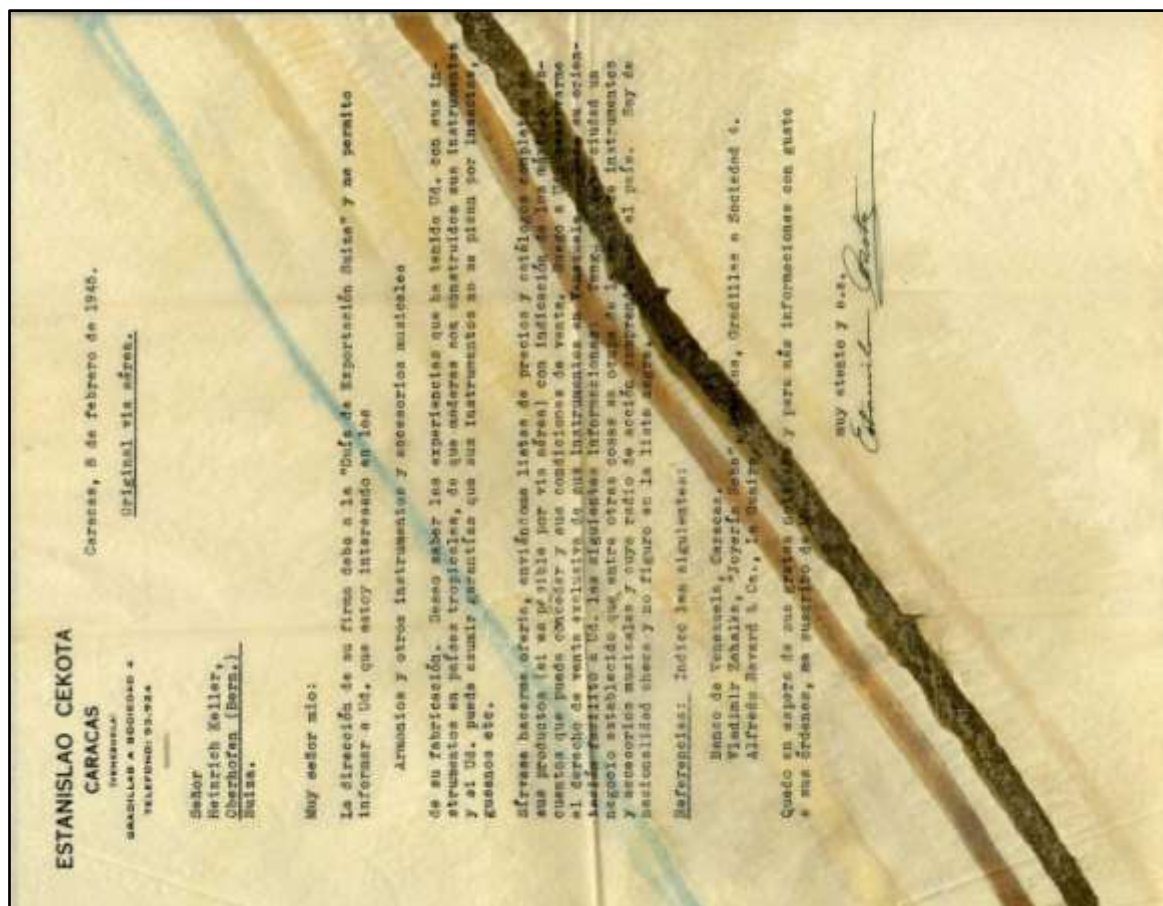
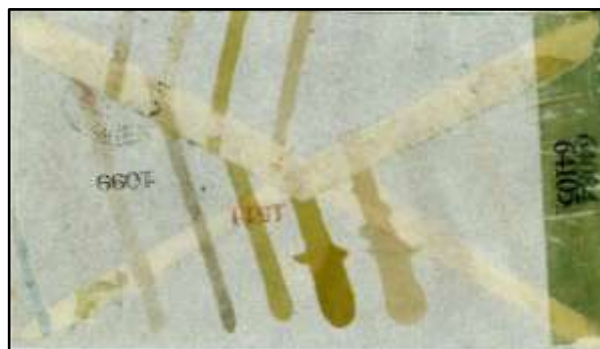


FIGURE 3



Images at 50%.

BERMUDA

KING GEORGE V 2s6d (SG:52)

BY SIR GEOFFREY PALMER

I thought this rather spectacular error with the large frame break below 'M' of 'BERMUDA' leaving an exposed gap above the crown might be some interest to Keyplate specialists. I have sent a copy to Hugh Jefferies at Gibbons to consider putting in his next catalogue.

David Cordon tells me that most of the printing was used for Fiscal purposes – hence the rarity of even mint singles and especially blocks of four and six.





Stanley Gibbons

Commonwealth Department

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

St Lucia SG 122 Die Proof of Frame



1936 2s6d, die proof of frame in black on unwatermarked wove (28x40mm).

[N.B. This value was missing from the large part 'Danson' set of proofs (RL 2/6/71, lot 268)].

St Lucia SG 124 Die Proof of Vignette



1936 10s, die proof of vignette (badge of colony and KGV head) in black on unwatermarked wove (40x28mm). An important and desirable proof which was missing from the large part 'Danson' set of proofs (RL 2/6/71, lot 268).

St Vincent SG 154 Interpane



1938-47 3d orange and purple, interpanneau block of 4 from an uncut printer's sheet with upper and lower pairs separated by margin showing full imprint, brilliant o.g. (hinged on one stamp only). Insignificant wrinkles but a remarkable survival, the first such item we have handled from this period. [It seems most unlikely that such uncut sheets were ever distributed in this form].

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BWI MARITIME

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY

The following three articles are in response to Michael Medlicott's article in the previous Bulletin #226), concerning a cover from Sierra Leone dated 15 June 1905 to the USA, with 'S.S. SOLENT' cachet but no transit marks.

BY MICHAEL OLIVER

In response to Michael Medlicott's question, I can only suggest a possibility.

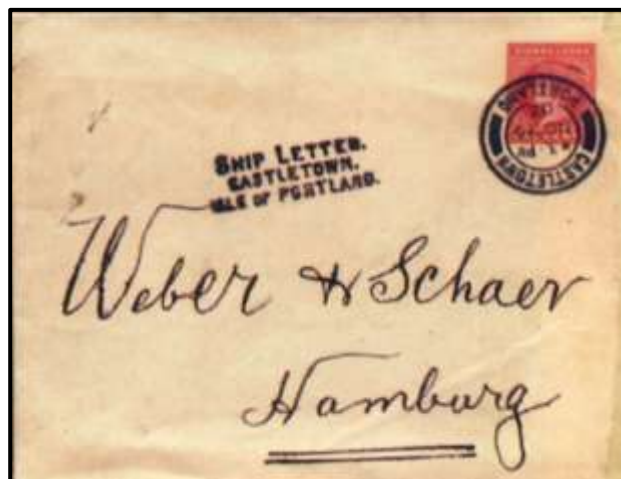
Doubtless, most ships carrying mail from Sierra Leone were heading for England. If the one carrying this letter called at the Azores or Vigo en -route it could have been transferred there onto a RMSP transatlantic ship. The RMSP's contract with the Postmaster General included calls at these ports, as and when required, en-route to Barbados. I think what might have happened is that the letter was transferred onto the *Solent* on the inter-colonial Northern route to St. Thomas, where again it would have been transferred onto an American ship heading for Philadelphia or New York. Unfortunately, from my experience both St. Thomas and the port of arrival in the USA, almost always applied arrival postmarks, which casts doubt on this possibility.

The routing of mail from Sierra Leone did produce some surprises as shown on the 1902 cover, Figure 1, when a letter to Hamburg was landed at Castledown, Portland Bill.

RMSP commenced cruises with their three inter-colonial steamers, *Eden*, *Esk* and *Solent*, in November 1904. They comprised three different lengths of voyage each connecting with the transatlantic arrivals and departures at Barbados and/or Jamaica following the contracted mail delivery and collection routes, as shown in Figure 2.

I am quite sure that the *Solent* remained on her inter-colonial passages until after the subsidised mail contract ended in July 1905.

FIGURE 1



BY STEVE JARVIS

Frank Walton (a specialist Sierra Leone collector who has copies of the local Gazettes) informs us:

- There is no record of the *Solent* at Sierra Leone in this period.
- There are no ship departures to the UK on the 15 June 1905, the only departure on this date is the SS *Bonny* which left Freetown on 15 Jun 1905, southbound to Liberia and the Gold Coast.
- The next northbound ship, on or after 15th, was the SS *Tarquah* on 19 Jun 1905 destined for the Ivory Coast, Canary Islands and the UK.

The following information has been extracted from the *Jamaica Gleaner* archives:

- 1 May 1905: *The Barbados Globe* says: *The tourist season now being practically over, the Royal Mail authorities have placed the Solent once again on the regular route. The Severn still continues, while the Esk has gone north and may remain to be docked at St. Thomas.*
- 22 July 1905: A despatch from St. Lucia, dated July 14th says: *Sir George Melville, Administrator of this Island, leaves by R.M.S. Solent for England today.*

A search of the National Archives database only records SS *Solent* arriving from Barbados in July 1900.

FIGURE 2

ITINERARIES OF 65 DAYS' TOURS FOR £65.			
TOUR NO. 1.			
Leave SOUTHAMPTON by Mail Steamer	9th Nov., 1904.	Arrive ST. VINCENT morning	6th Dec., 1904.
Arrive BARBADOS early	21st "	" GRENADA evening	6th "
Leave BARBADOS afternoon by Intercolonial Mail Steamer	21st "	" TOBAGO 7 a.m.	7th "
Arrive ST. LUCIA	22nd "	" TRINIDAD (Port of Spain) afternoon	7th "
" MARTINIQUE	22nd "	" LA GUAYRA (time to visit Caracas)	9th "
" DOMINICA	23rd "	Leave LA GUAYRA	12th "
" GUADELOUPE	23rd "	* Returning by same route to BARBADOS (Homeward and Outward Mails leave and arrive.)	17th "
" MONTSERRAT	23rd "	Leave BARBADOS by Mail Steamer	19th "
" ANTIGUA	24th "	Arrive TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	20th "
" NEVIS	24th "	" JAMAICA 7 a.m. (stay 3½ days at Hotels)	23rd "
" ST. KITTS	24th "	Leave JAMAICA by Mail Steamer 5 p.m.	26th "
† " ST. THOMAS (stay about 4 days)	25th "	Arrive TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	30th "
Leave ST. THOMAS for BARBADOS by same route	29th "	" BARBADOS morning	31st "
Arrive BARBADOS	3rd Dec., "	Leave BARBADOS 5 p.m.	31st "
(Homeward and Outward Mails leave and arrive.)		Arrive SOUTHAMPTON, after calling at Plymouth	12th Jan., 1905.
Leave BARBADOS afternoon	5th "		
† Tourists can remain at any island en route instead of going to St. Thomas, joining the steamer on her voyage back to Barbados.			
* Or remain at Trinidad until the arrival of the Mail Steamer for Jamaica.			

ITINERARIES OF SEVEN WEEKS' TOURS FOR £55.			
TOUR A.			
Leave SOUTHAMPTON by Mail Steamer	9th Nov., 1904	Leave ST. THOMAS for Barbados by same route	29th Nov., 1904
Arrive BARBADOS early	21st "	Arrive BARBADOS (Homeward and Outward Mails leave and arrive)	3rd Dec., "
Leave BARBADOS in afternoon by Intercolonial Mail Steamer	21st "	Leave BARBADOS afternoon by Mail Steamer	3rd Dec., "
Arrive ST. LUCIA	22nd "	Arrive TRINIDAD (Port of Spain) early	5th "
" MARTINIQUE	22nd "	Leave TRINIDAD (Port of Spain) noon	6th "
" DOMINICA	23rd "	Arrive JAMAICA 7 a.m. (stay 3½ days at Hotels)	9th "
" GUADELOUPE	23rd "	Leave JAMAICA 5 p.m.	12th "
" MONTSERRAT	23rd "	Arrive TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	16th "
" ANTIGUA	24th "	Leave TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	16th "
" NEVIS	24th "	Arrive BARBADOS morning	17th "
" ST. KITTS	24th "	Leave BARBADOS 5 p.m.	17th "
† " ST. THOMAS (stay about 4 days)	25th "	Arrive SOUTHAMPTON, after calling at Plymouth	29th "

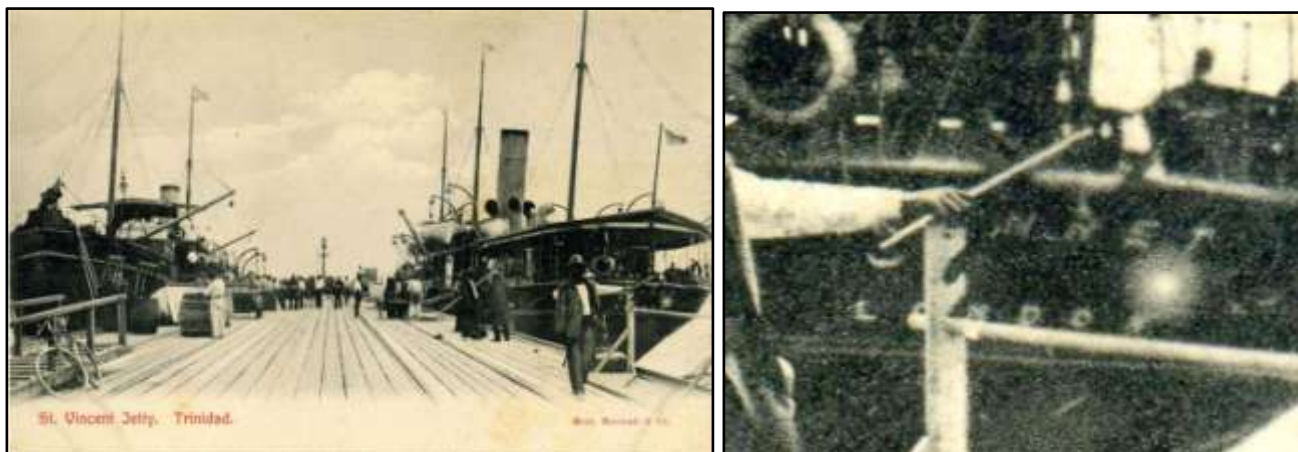
ITINERARIES OF "SOLENT" CRUISES.			
TOUR A1.			
Leave SOUTHAMPTON by Mail Steamer	4th Jan., 1905	Arrive SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO	23rd Jan., 1905, 1 p.m.
Arrive BARBADOS	16th "	Leave SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO	24th " Noon
Leave BARBADOS	16th " 8	Arrive CURACAO	26th " 1 p.m.
* Arrive TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	17th " 6 a.m.	Leave CURACAO	26th " 7 p.m.
Leave TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	17th " Noon	Arrive PUERTO CABELLO	27th " 6 a.m.
Arrive LA BREA PITCH LAKE	17th " 2 p.m.	Leave PUERTO CABELLO	27th " Noon
Leave LA BREA PITCH LAKE	17th " 3	Arrive LA GUAYRA	27th " 6 p.m.
Arrive GRENADA	18th " 6 a.m.	Leave LA GUAYRA	29th " 6 p.m.
Leave GRENADA	18th " 6 p.m.	Arrive TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	31st " 6 a.m.
Arrive ST. LUCIA	19th " 7 a.m.	Leave TRINIDAD (Port of Spain) by Mail Steamer	31st " Noon
Leave ST. LUCIA	20th " 7 a.m.	Arrive JAMAICA	3rd Feb., " 7 a.m.
Arrive MARTINIQUE	20th " 11 a.m.	Stay at Hotel 3½ days	
Leave MARTINIQUE	20th " 6 p.m.	Leave JAMAICA by Mail Steamer	3½ days 6th " 5 p.m.
Arrive DOMINICA	20th " 11 p.m.	Call TRINIDAD (Port of Spain)	9 hours 10th " "
Leave DOMINICA	20th " 7 p.m.	Call BARBADOS	8 hours 11th " "
Arrive ST. KITTS	22nd " 9 a.m.	Arrive SOUTHAMPTON	23rd " "
Leave ST. KITTS	22nd " 3 p.m.		
* Transfer to Yachting Steamer.			

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY

BY ED BARROW

I think I might be able to provide an answer to Michael Medlicott's question about which steamer is being serviced in his postcard (Bulletin #226). The postcard shown in Figure 1 is of a bustling St. Vincent Jetty in Port of Spain. If you look carefully at the ship moored to the right the name 'KENNET' can just be made out on the stern – (the 'K' and the 'E' are partially obscured). When this ship is compared with the one pictured in Michael's postcard the two are a very close match, at least to my eyes.

FIGURE 1



Close-up of stern

While on the topic of Trinidad's Costal Steamers I thought I would share two somewhat relevant, and I hope, interesting images. The first is a postcard titled Gulf Steamer, Warwick Bay (Figure 2). This I believe to be the *SS Naparima* as it bears a strong resemblance to the image of the *Naparima* in Proud (page 501). I have not been able to find Warwick Bay on a Trinidad map but given the topography and the vantage point from where the picture was taken I take this to be Teteron Bay. This was a stop for the Gulf Steamers and it seems to have just entered the bay and in the throes of some hard manoeuvring.

FIGURE 2



The last image was taken from a recent trip to Chacachcare (Figure 3). Except for the Lighthouse most of the buildings on the island are swiftly being reclaimed by nature. However I did come across this sign in front of the old post office which is perhaps the last remaining vestige of the Gulf Steamers.

FIGURE 3



REFERENCES

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Heathfield, Proud Bailey, 1997.

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BRITISH GUIANA**VILLAGE POSTMARKS: AN UPDATE ON TOWNSEND & HOWE PART 3****BY PETER FORD**

Continued from Bulletin #226, September 2010.

Type 23

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BETERVERWAGTING	C	7 Feb 44	16 Nov 62	7 Feb 41		
CANE GROVE	C	4 May 52	26 Mar 66	30 Oct 50	1 Apr 66	
CHARITY	C	13 Jan 42	1 Nov 58	7 Mar 39	17 Feb 66	
CHARITY	RC	2 Dec 59	12 Mar 66	29 Nov 51		
DE KINDEREN	RC	6 Jul 42	9 Jun 65			
LEGUAN	C	11 Nov 41	28 May 59			
MARA	R	10 Oct 40	21 Jul 41	6 Jan 38	7 Nov 42	
PROVIDENCE (I)	C	23 Dec 40	14 Feb 66			
PROVIDENCE (II)	S	16 Nov 62	26 Jun 65			
SUDDIE	RC	24 Jan 42	Oct 63		2 Dec 64	
VREEDENHOOP	RC	10 Oct 41	5 Jan 62			
WAKENAAM	C	7 Jan 52	4 Dec 65	24 Oct 51		

Type 23a

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
ALBOUYSTOWN	C	4 Aug 58	29 Jun 63		11 Dec 63	
ALBOUYSTOWN	RC	3 Dec 63	5 Feb 66			
ANNA REGINA	RC	21 May 52	24 Mar 66			
ARAKAKA	S	13 Jul 52	20 Sep 65			
AURORA	RC	21 Feb 56	25 Sep 61		13 Jan 65	
BARTICA	RC	27 Sep 44	22 Feb 60	12 Aug 44		
BLAIRMONT	RC	4 Dec 59	7 Feb 63			
BOURDA	RC	16 Jul 44	1 Apr 66	11 Dec 43		
BUXTON	S	31 Jan 57	1 Apr 66	11 Apr 56		
CHARITY	RC	7 Jun 52	11 Mar 65	29 Nov 51	14 Feb 66	
CHARITY	RC	27 Apr 59	13 Jun 61		14 Feb 66	
CLONBROOK	C	8 Jun 51	2 Mar 66	7 May 51	20 Dec 66	

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This is a reprint of Frank's original booklet, but the images have been re-scanned and the booklet is a far finer publication than the original. To tempt members, we are offering to the first 50 purchasers of this booklet a free customised CD with a commentary by Frank Deakin of the text of his work. All the illustrations are from his collection, sold at Harmers earlier this year. It's mouthwatering stuff!

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VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
COVE & JOHN	C	14 Jul 51	23 Mar 66	9 May 51		
DARTMOUTH	RC	9 Aug 44	4 Mar 63			
FORT WELLINGTON	RC	11 Feb 57	19 Sep 61	2 May 49	14 Dec 62	
GROVE	RC	1 Nov 55	10 Mar 66		30 Mar 66	
KWAKWANI	C	15 May 44	5 May 58	1 May 44		
MACKENZIE	RC	18 Jul 54	2 Sep 61	15 Feb 53		
METENMEERZORG	C	4 Jul 56	25 Jun 65			
NIGG	C	18 Jun 52	1 Apr 66			
PLAISANCE	RC	1957	5 Mar 65			
SKELDON	C	26 Jul 51	16 Oct 61	4 May 50		
SUDDIE	S	4 Sep 58	30 Jul 60		2 Mar 64	
TUMATUMARI	RC	1 Feb 42	30 Apr 52	8 Sep 41		
T'MARI	RC	26 Apr 52	22 Oct 61			
WALES	C	28 Jul 44	1 Mar 66	17 Jul 44		
WELDAAD	C	8 Jul 54	4 Apr 66	24 Jun 33		
WISMAR (I)	C	13 Jul 52	30 Nov 62	23 Mar 52		
WISMAR (II)	RC	6 Apr 55	15 Jun 60	31 Aug 54		

Type 23b

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BARTICA	RC	9 May 24	4 Oct 36			
CORNHILL	RC	30 Nov 43	31 Dec 52	22 Sep 33		
RELIANCE	RC	1 May 25	22 Aug 34		12 Dec 35	
TUSCHEN	RC	23 Jul 27	12 Dec 35	24 Dec 26		

Type 23c



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
LEONORA	S	17 Oct 25	23 Dec 38		11 Mar 39	
MACKENZIE	RC	20 Jun 24	27 Jan 39			
PROVIDENCE	S	21 May 25	21 May 49			
WAKENAAM	VS	27 Mar 25	10 Jan 31	3 Nov 24	9 Nov 31	

Type 24

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BLAIRMONT	C	15 Nov 22	19 Dec 50			
BOURDA	S	10 Mar 25	29 Feb 36			
PLAISANCE	S	8 Apr 29	1 May 36	21 Nov 28	21 May 36	

Type 24a

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
ALBOUYSTOWN	VS	28 Nov 34	28 Nov 38	31 May 28	19 Dec 38	
BETERVERWAGTING	RC	23 Jun 25	25 Jun 36		21 Jul 36	
MALLALI	S	16 Aug 23	12 Mar 64			
MAZARUNI	S	29 Jun 25	14 Dec 37		1 Feb 38	
SKELDON	RC	15 Apr 27	26 Jan 51			

Type 24b

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BUXTON	S	18 Aug 23	3 Jun 36			
EVERSHAM	S	31 Jan 27	31 Aug 35	14 Jun 26	6 Oct 36	
FELLOWSHIP	RC	12 Apr 23	5 Sep 49	4 Mar 22		
H.M.P.S.	VR	10 Jun 25	30 Jan 28	3 Jun 25	14 Sep 28	
MAHAICONY (A)	RC	15 Sep 24	4 Aug 56			
MAHAICONY (B)				19 Aug 31	23 Sep 55	
ROSIGNOL	S	8 Dec 23	20 Aug 46	25 Aug 23	2 Mar 47	
VREEDENHOOP	C	10 Jul 25	4 Sep 49		13 Oct 49	

Type 24c

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
DE KINDEREN	S	5 Oct 22	25 Nov 38	24 Jan 22		
POTARO	S	14 Feb 23	25 May 28		2 Sep 29	
TAYMOUTH MANOR	RC	4 Dec 19	16 Mar 28			
TUMATUMARI	RC	27 Jan 20	1 Aug 33		30 Jun 41	
WELDAAD	S	18 Jun 21	17 Feb 36		27 May 36	

Type 24d

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
ANNA REGINA	RC	2 Aug 21	15 Jun 35		26 Sep 35	
GROVE	RC	22 Feb 23	Sep 55	21 Jun 22	16 Mar 59	
MAHAICA	S	20 Mar 21	9 Apr 28		18 Feb 32	

Type 24e

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
METENMEERZORG	S	27 Feb 22	28 Jan 31			
MORAWHANNA	RC	17 Aug 21	26 Jul 28	10 Aug 21		

Type 25



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
MACKENZIE	RC	18 Oct 35	21 Mar 66	22 Oct 34		
MAHAICONY	C	16 Jun 43	19 Oct 65	24 Aug 42		
PLAISANCE	RC	17 Dec 36	4 Jul 61	12 Aug 36		
SOESDYKE	S	25 Mar 44	1 Apr 66			
WAKENAAM	RC	4 Jan 36	27 Feb 50			
WELDAAD	RC	11 Nov 36	30 May 53	31 Aug 36	23 Dec 53	

Type 26



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
ANNA REGINA	C	29 Apr 36	20 Jul 60			
BARTICA	C	28 Jul 36	7 Dec 65			
BUXTON	C	3 Aug 37	16 Jul 51	21 Jun 37	6 Sep 51	
EVERSHAM	C	25 Nov 36	11 May 53	6 Feb 36	27 Mar 57	
KURUPUKARI				3 Apr 46	13 Sep 54	
NO. 50	C	9 Feb 37	5 Jan 65	6 Feb 36	9 Jul 65	
RELIANCE	C	26 Feb 36	16 May 66			
TUSCHEN	C	10 Mar 36	13 Mar 65			
WALES			6 Dec 43	16 Mar 36	24 Dec 43	
WELDAAD	RC	11 Nov 36	30 May 53			

Type 27

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
NO. 19	RC	5 Oct 45	15 Oct 59	28 Aug 44		

Type 28

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BENAB	C	17 Sep 51	5 Mar 66		31 Mar 66	
CANE GROVE						
EVERSHAM	S	5 Nov 53	26 Apr 57		27 May 57	
PERIKA	S	21 Feb 52	26 Jan 53	31 Dec 51	27 Sep 53	
RELIANCE	C	26 Nov 53	30 Jun 65		1 Apr 66	
SUDDIE	S	21 Mar 55	9 Mar 65			
VREEDENHOOP	RC	11 Jan 52	1 Apr 66	1 Dec 51		
WAKENAAM	RC	29 Apr 52	Mar 65		2 Mar 66	

Type 29

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
EAST LA PENITENCE	R	24 May 65				

Type 30



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
AISHALTON	VR	5 Aug 65	2 Sep 65			
BUXTON						
CHARLESTOWN	VS	29 Jan 65	6 May 66	1 Oct 64		
KITTY	RC	29 Jan 65	12 Apr 66			

My thanks are due to various BG collectors, amongst others and in alphabetical order, John Forrest, Charles Freeland, Simon Goldblatt, Simon Greenwood, David Horry, Charles Kennard, Michael Medicott, the late Derek Nathan, Mike Oxley and Graham Williams.

My website has had a facelift!

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BRITISH HONDURAS

INFORMAL DISPLAY AT BWISC / BCPSPG 2010

BY IAN MATHESON

Extract from display entitled 'Items of interest' – full display on the web site.

COMPULSORILY REGISTERED

It was against regulations to post cash without registering the letter. Montgomery Ward was a mail order company so this letter probably contained cash and was "compulsorily registered". The letter was opened by the PO to confirm this and was surcharged to meet the registration fee.

Belize Post Office Re-sealing Strip →

BRITISH HONDURAS POST OFFICE	
Received open or torn and officially sealed	
	Clerk's Initials



15 October 1925. Cover sent from Belize to USA. 4c franking for normal USA rate. Struck with "BUY BRITISH GOODS / AND GET THE BEST" cachet. The cover was opened for examination and is endorsed in manuscript "Unavailable matter. Opened by Colonial Postmaster" and is initialed and dated by the Postmaster H.W.Beaumont. The re-sealing strips (3) are datestamped and also initialed by the Postmaster and by the clerk. The cover is endorsed "Compulsorily Registered" in manuscript, a registration label was applied, and the cover was struck with two hexagonal tax marks. Backstamped in New Orleans (20 Oct) and Chicago (21 Oct).

UNDELIVERED MAIL

Cachets applied to undelivered mail in British Honduras.

REBUTS

Type RTS-7

**Refusé
Refused**

Type RTS-5a



Type RTS-4



10 April 1934. Underpaid cover from USA to Belize. Although endorsed "Refusé / Refused" in Belize, it appears as if the 4c postage due was paid, as a postage due label has been applied, and the cover was struck with the "REBUTS" handstamp and GPO Belize pointing hand mark. There is no US receiving mark to prove that it was ever returned.



23 July 1936. Cover posted from Los Angeles to Belize franked with three cents in postage (postal rate was 5c). The "New Orleans, La. / T-20 centimes." handstamp was applied prior to arrival in Belize. Four cents British Honduras postage due label cancelled in Belize (3 August 1936). Violet "Refusé / Refused" cachet applied in Belize (four strikes recorded) with weak strike of pointing hand, both in violet. The cover was then returned to sender in USA. Violet "REBUTS" cachet also applied in Belize.



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JAMAICA**'ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY' WEB PROJECT****BY STEVE JARVIS**

Items mentioned in the Bulletin can be accessed using this link:

<http://www.jamaicaphilately.info/bwisc>.

Special mention is due to member Andrew Fowles who has been battling with the Jamaica Post office, on my behalf. The Postal Corporation of Jamaica now publish current postal rates on their web site. This refers to them as amendments to the 1977 Post Office Guide. I had not been able to track down a copy of this guide, so I emailed the Jamaica Post Office to see if they had a spare one, to which they replied, to the effect – sure, just call in to buy one. I was surprised how easy it seemed to be and asked Andrew (who lives in Jamaica) to call in for me. It was too good to be true – they hunted high and low but couldn't find a copy. Andrew showed great persistence and even discussed the matter with the Postmaster-General. Eventually, they found their own master copy which they have loaned to Andrew and I have now scanned in and included on my web site.

Paul Wright and I have started trawling through the National Archives at Kew for any information not previously unearthed. The authors of the 1928 handbook, Foster and Proud have all been there before but you never know what has been overlooked, as information can be in disparate places. Separate books exist containing Jamaica Acts and I have been through from 1860 to 1941 extracting any that are relevant to the Post Office – these have been transcribed and can be viewed on the web site. Blue Books for 1821 to 1945 exist and I am currently working through these to see what emerges, they document official appointments. The early years just state the (Deputy) Postmaster-General at the time but later ones give Postmasters at individual offices with their date of appointment which may give clues to opening and closing dates of offices.

Foster's postal history does not identify the PMG in 1833–4 but the Blue Book for 1833 states that a Mr. John Morce was acting PMG and died without having made any return of the Office. The 1834 book states that William Anstey was (D)PMG (he was the predecessor of Moyce) but he was absent from the Colony for the whole year. Lord Sussex Lennox (brother of the GB PMG, the Duke of Richmond) was appointed PMG in April 1834 but it appears he only lasted in the post for six months. Use of this information has enabled me to identify that the Duke of Richmond's archive is held by the West Sussex record office (Chichester) and includes correspondence between the Duke, Anstey and his brother relating to Jamaica. This will be the next stop on my travels – unless anyone else out there cares to go exploring for me?

**peter singer**

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JAMAICA

SHIP LETTERS IN THE 18TH CENTURY

BY RICHARD FODEN

Perhaps the most diverse source of 18th century letters carried across the Atlantic from the West Indies and which were (first) landed in Great Britain – and hence bear a British Ship Letter mark – is correspondence from Jamaica.

After Admirals Penn and Venables had seized the island from the Spanish in 1655, the British established a most important plantation system, based largely around sugar production, which took over from the earlier dominance of Nevis and flourished for the majority of the 1700s. By the end of the century, its economic importance was starting to wane, not least because of the competition from beet sugar but also due to rising production costs.

In this article (which I hope will continue on into a series about 18th Century mail from various different islands) I look in some detail at just one letter, as it combines interest in terms both of the mark applied and of its historical context. Furthermore, given the claims about the mark made below, it seems an ideal starting-point for such a series.

The Entire Letter (EL) shown in Figure 1 was written from Westmoreland Parish, Jamaica by James Barclay on 18 June 1760 and sent to the Writer of the Signet (Note 1) in Edinburgh. It was carried per Captain Wakingshaw and rated '3'(d.).

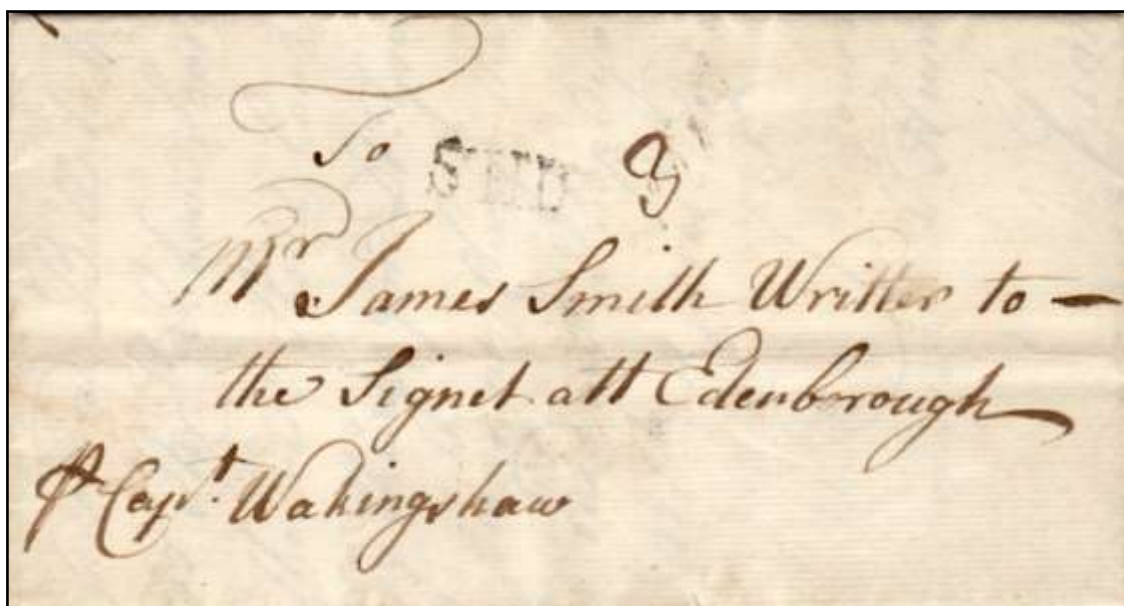
THE MARK

Whilst the 'SHIP' mark is light, it is a complete strike and undoubtedly important: identifiable by the large 'horned' serif to the 'S' it has been allocated to Greenock and this usage is the earliest recorded for any Scottish maritime mark. Several other examples have been recorded over a wide year-range (Note 2). Bob Binnie's collection, which was sold at Cavendish in September 2006, included a 1 January 1761 EL, from South Carolina, to the same addressee, but the letter illustrated clearly predates this. Not only does this make it the earliest Scottish mark (Note 3) but also it can lay claim to being the earliest British maritime mark on mail from the West Indies.

THE AUTHOR

(The almost certainly self-styled 'Colonel') James Barclay was the Custos, or Chief Magistrate, of Westmoreland. In 1758, he had married into the 'plantocracy' when he became the second husband of Mary Kirkpatrick, the widow of the late William Hall. Mary's father, Hugh, had died in 1752 and bequeathed his sugar estates to Mary. William Hall was a prominent plantation-owner (including the Irwin, Tryall and Johnshall Estates) and politician, member of the Assembly, and – along with his son Thomas – an active opponent of Governor Knowles's plan to move the island's capital from Spanish Town (St. Jago de la Vega) to Kingston in the mid-1750s.

FIGURE 1



For Jamaica Watermoreland 15th Jan 1766

I have just rec'd Bills of Exchange to the Value of four Hundred Pound Sterling. To Mr. David Currie and Son for the use of Mr. George's Relations, and have desired that you may have the money upon giving proper Discharge to Mr. Currie and Son and also to Mr. Wm. Graham and my self for what you may owe. I hope you will think Mr. George as we put them to no manner of Charge but what has been paid upon both. I mean what was justly due from Mr. George to her Creditors. Now was such a Rebellion known since Jamaica has been, as we have all present, this above 1200 Negroes Rised up in arms against us in this - Which I have scarcely shut my eyes this three Weeks nor even to sleep, this is for

It is a Dreadfull affair nor do I have either of it with, and but for this I let sails in the morning, I have ordered Bills to the Value of four hundred pounds Sterling. I have scarcely time to write you this, otherwise I should have sent you a note for one of every thing for Mr. Graham and my self give up Commissions nor Charge the least thing but what we have laid out, I hope you'll excuse giving any further acc't at present and am

Yours most Obedient & most Humble Serv't.

Jam: D. Barkeley

THE CONTENTS & HISTORICAL CONTEXT

After a relatively mundane opening few sentences, dealing with the correct procedure for the collection of some Bills of Exchange, the letter suddenly changes tack :

“Never was such a Rebellion known since Jamaica has been, as we have att present : ther’s about 1200 Negro’s ris’d up in arms against us in this Parish. I have scarcely shutt my Eyes this three Weeks nor even to shift. This is a Dreadful affair nor do I know where it will end butt as the fleet sails in the morning I have procured Bills to the value of five hundred pounds Ster(ling)...”

The troubles had started over the Easter weekend when Tacky, a Coromantee Chief (Note 4) who was the overseer of the Frontier Plantation in St. Mary’s Parish, had mustered a small group of followers and persuaded them to take control of the estate, and the neighbouring Trinity Plantation, and kill their masters. Encouraged by the ease of their success, they went down into the storeroom at Fort Haldane, killed the storekeeper and made off with four barrels of gunpowder and 40 firearms. By the end of the day, Tacky’s forces had swelled, and even been ‘blessed’ by the local Obeah-men (Note 5) who gave them all a powder which they claimed made them invincible in battle.

However, one slave had already betrayed them and alerted other plantation owners. A posse of 70 to 80 mounted militia, together with some Scott’s Hall Maroons (Note 6), set out to quell the rebellion. To dispel the myth of invincibility, an Obeah-man was ritually hanged. Many of the rebels soon then gave up the cause. Tacky himself tried to fight on but was tracked down and killed by the Maroon sharpshooter Davy who then beheaded him and displayed his trophy on a pole in Spanish Town; the 25 or so remaining rebels performed a mass suicide in a nearby cave in order to evade the inevitable consequences of their impending capture.

Over the following months, many more similar uprisings spread throughout the island: during this period, at least 50 white people and maybe as many as 500 slaves lost their lives. These rebellions were perhaps the most important of the 18th century and were a precursor to further revolts which eventually led to emancipation in 1834 and full freedom in 1838.

NOTES

- Note 1: ‘The Writer to the Signet’ relates to an independent society of Scottish solicitors, originated in 1594, which still exists and now forms part of the College of Justice. Its core mission is to promote the very highest standards in legal services. The Signet was the private seal of the Scottish Kings. For more information see the website of The Society of Writers to Her Majesty’s Signet at www.thewssociety.co.uk.
- Note 2: Current records would suggest 1760 to 1792 as the period of use for the Greenock ‘SHIP’ (S.1) mark. Robertson himself illustrated (page E.106/A) a 1790 usage, also from Jamaica to Edinburgh.
- Note 3: The few earlier Ship Letter marks are all believed to be of Irish origin: I know of the existence of three examples of a Waterford (or maybe Dublin) ‘SHIP’ from 1712/13, the ex-Field circular ‘SHIP / G R / 2’ mark from 1740, and (at least) two types of ‘SHIP’ mark from 1746 which have both been attributed to Derry.
- Note 4: The Coromantees (derived from the British spelling of the 16th century Dutch settlement of Kormantin on the Cape Coast of Ghana) were a sect of the Akan tribe, a mix of mostly Ashanti and Fanti, and imported to the West Indies as slaves in extraordinary numbers. Burnard (in his ‘Mastery, Tyranny and Desire’, 2004, University of North Carolina Press) reckons that “between 1700 and 1760 nearly half a million slaves were brought to Jamaica to work on the sugar plantations”.
- Note 5: The Obeah-men and Obeah-women were the local practitioners of witchcraft and held great importance in black society. The colonial authorities were so worried about their influence at the time that, in December 1760, the Jamaica Assembly put forward an Act that included the clause that “any Negro or other Slave who shall pretend to any Supernatural Power and be detected in making use of any Blood, Feathers, Parrots’ Beaks, Dogs’ Teeth, Alligators’ Teeth, Broken Bottles, Grave Dirt, Rum, Egg-Shells, or any other materials related to the practice of Obeah or Witchcraft in order to delude and impose on the Minds of other shall upon Conviction thereof before two Magistrates

and three Freeholders suffer Death or Transportation” (Copy of an ‘Act to Remedy the Evils arising from irregular Assemblies of Slaves, etc.’ held in the Boston College Library).

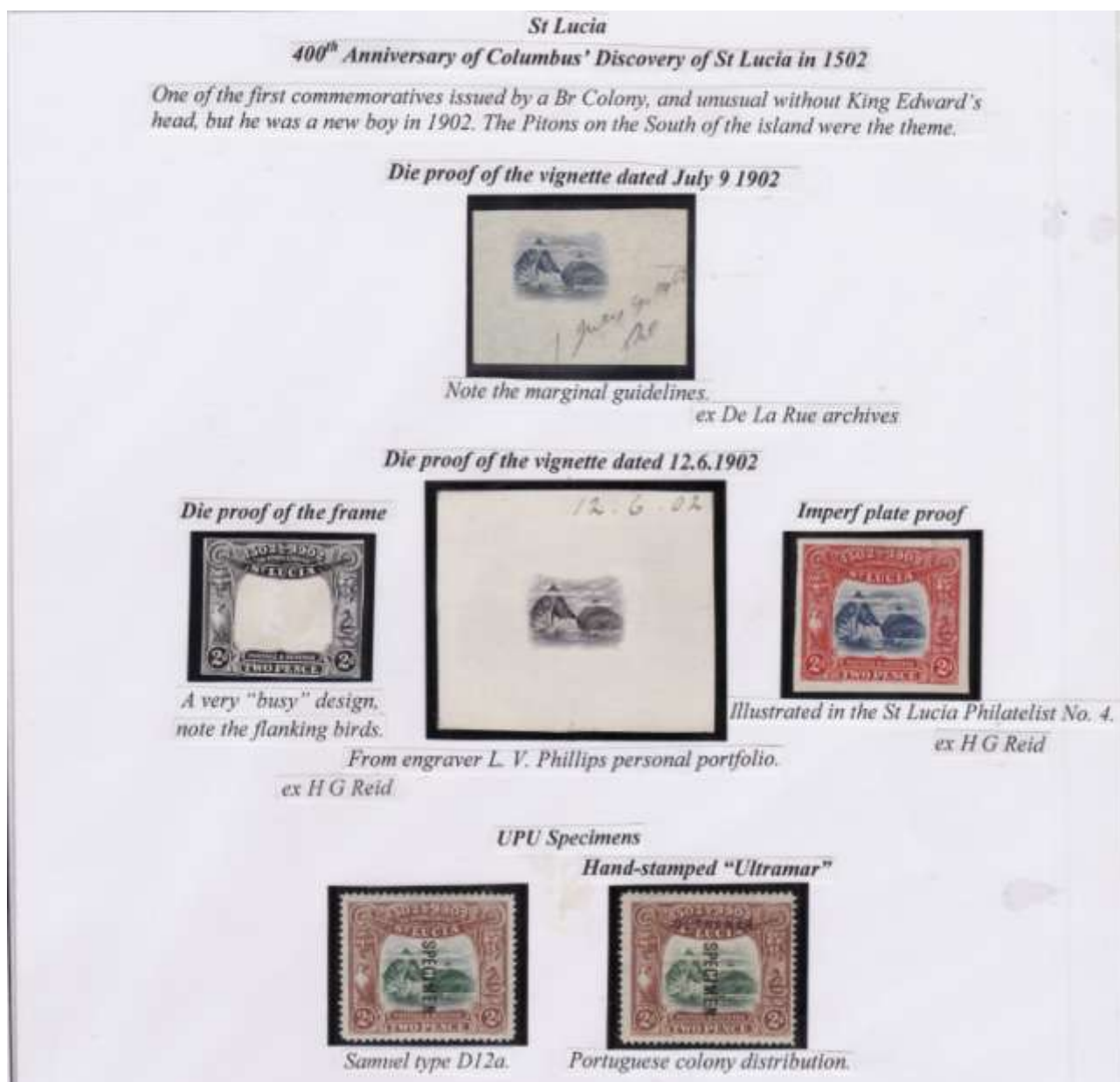
Note 6: The Maroons (derived from the Spanish ‘cimarron’ meaning wild or untamed) were initially formed from the slaves who had fled into the hills at the time of the British seizure. Their numbers were greatly increased in 1690 when their community was joined by rebel Coromantee slaves from Clarendon. Under their leader Cudjoe they were organised into a guerrilla-style army and made many raids on the plantations. A treaty was agreed in 1738 between Cudjoe and Colonel Guthrie under which the Maroons were granted quasi-freedom in their five main towns (including Scott’s Hall) and agreed to help the British maintain the peace. They were offered a bounty of two dollars for each runaway slave they subsequently captured and brought back.

ST. LUCIA

INFORMAL DISPLAY AT BWISC/BCPSG 2010

BY CHARLES FREELAND

Extract from display– full display on the web site.



ST. LUCIA**KGVI PERFORATION VARIETIES**

BY ALLAN LEVERTON

Further to the articles in the last two Bulletins:–

The 1c (perforation 14) and 2c (perforation 14½ x 14) values were released in sheet and coil form and are common.

The 12c (perforation 14½ x 14) was available in London (Healey and Wise – Mr. Berry) at about £20 each. A sheet was found in St. Lucia and sent to London for private treaty sale – blocks exist.

The 4c (perforation 14½ x 14) is rare (numbers unknown) but did exist in commercial BWI used mail selections. I have traced twelve copies – more examples remain to surface. The mint copy sent for certificate is a photographic fake, although the original printer said it was genuine! The used examples are known cancelled at Castries, Patience and Micoud.



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KEVIII A colour photocopy
of 1s Essay (unadopted) in red
wearing Sovereign's badge of Victorian Order
– Design background Union Flag – SOLD

Leeward Islands

KGVI 5d and 8d Keyplate, private printing?
On watermarked paper in grey / red / blue etc.
– SOLD



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| KGVI BK 1948 List (AML) @ £10 | BK KGVI (1991) @ £15 |
| BK Five Reigns (1980) @ £15 | Potter Shelton reprint (BK 1997) @ £35 |
| Australia Airmails – Eustis (1997) @ £30 | Bermuda Key Plates – Yendall (2009) @ £60 |
| De La Rue Vol I (BK 1984) @ £45 | Postal Agencies – Donaldson (BK 1994)) @ £11 |
| De La Rue Vol II (SG 1990) @ £60 | Newfoundland – J Walsh (2002) @ £38 |
| Queen Mother Centenary – Jennings (2000) @ £14 | British Stamp Exhibitions – Morgan @ £15 |
| Canada – The Gerald Wellburn Auction (The Published Book, 1987) @ £65 | |
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EARLY MISSENT TO ST. VINCENT MARKINGS

BY CHARLES FREELAND

Michael Medlicott opened a can of worms in the June Bulletin. One problem is that there are errors both in the published version of his article, as Ted Proud notes in the September Bulletin, as well as in PML. Moreover, it is unwise to rely on measurements taken from scans, photostats or illustrations in books that may be shrunk or enlarged (Michael's strike on a postcard in the June Bulletin is enlarged). Although all look exactly the same with the unusual underscoring of the 'T' in 'ST', their apparent measurements differ: PML97 63 x 4.3mm (incorrectly recorded as 75 x 4.3mm in the handbook), Proud I-10 65 x 4.3mm and Medlicott 61 x 3.5mm.

I show here an accurate size illustration. While thoroughly philatelic, used in the early life of the Lady Hawkins, the strike is clear and the backstamp 18 SP 1929 equally clear. It must have been landed at St. Vincent where the usual procedure was to apply a Paquebot marking. But it seems from the Proud book that the GPO had no such instrument in its drawer at that time, so an overzealous clerk must have decided to apply the Missent mark. This and my other example

(Proud's EKD) have the same measurements as Michael's example ie 61 x 3.5mm, and so has a fourth example I have recorded, dated 1912. So Ted Proud is plainly correct in saying that the sightings we have are all from the one instrument.

However, I believe Michael is also correct in



saying that none of these is the actual instrument illustrated in PML and Proud. Both sources state that the instrument was sent out on 14 December 1866, but why then has no usage been recorded until the EKD of 1 September 1905? While ink spread or its absence can lead to small differences in measurement, the difference between heights of 4.3 and 3.5 seems conclusive.

Another reason for doubting that the recorded marks are from the 1866 instrument is that a second Missent mark (50 x 4.3mm) was proofed in 1894 (PML98 and Proud I-11) and this has at least one reported usage, on 24 December 1895. Why would this instrument have been ordered and used if the earlier one was still serviceable? It seems far more likely that the 1894 instrument was lost in the 1898 earthquake, in which case no earlier instrument would have survived unscathed. So my conclusion is that a third instrument, inspired by the 1866 one but shorter in height and length, was brought into use after the 1898 earthquake.

As a postscript, in the Peter Jaffé collection there was an 1861 cover addressed to San Vincente with a manuscript 'Missent to St Vincent W.I.' in a hand that did not appear to look contemporary. While one cannot prove this was not genuine, there were other directional markings in a different hand and Spink's description was ambivalent.

REFERENCES

1. Pierce, A.D., Messenger, J.L. & Lowe, Robson: *St. Vincent*. Robson Lowe Ltd., 1971.
2. Proud, Edward B. and Chin Aleong, Joe: *The Postal History of St. Lucia and St. Vincent*. Proud Publications Ltd., 2006.

WANTED – ST. VINCENT FLEURON CANCEL IMPRESSIONS**BY ROY BOND**

I am endeavouring to build as complete a picture as possible of the usage, condition and damage to the St. Vincent fleuron canceller.

The life of this instrument started in 1805 with an ERD of 5 September that year, and it continued in service at Kingstown until mid-1842. It was then replaced by the double arc canceller.

During that period the device suffered various levels of damage due to wear and tear.

It started out printing 'St VINCENTS' before the final 'S' disappeared for a while and then returned, for between 12 and 18 months, before it disappeared completely. Next the letter 'C' became crushed down at the top, thus flattening the character.

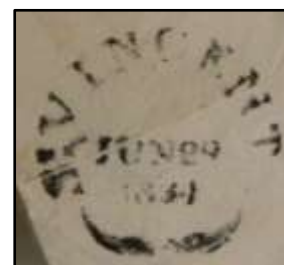
Finally slugs were, worn out, lost, or damaged, and so gradually the day was lost, then the month and finally even the year. Until eventually there was just the outer frame and no indication as to the date of cancellation whatsoever.

I want to make the time line of these 'occurrences' as precise as possible, so that everyone can know what should be on the letter, even if it is a poorly printed cancel.

I therefore request that all those St. Vincent collectors who have any of these cancellations they could either advise me in detail as to the condition and date of the cancellations, or better still send me jpeg pictures of them to rbond2@toucansurf.com or post the picture to me at 44 Burnham Road, WORTHING, West Sussex, BN13 2NJ. UK.

When the study is complete then the results will be published.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support in this study.



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TURKS ISLANDS

RICHARD FODEN'S TURKS ISLANDS FORMAL DISPLAY AT 2010

BY STEVE JARVIS

A full transcript of the talk (and audio recording) is available on the BWISC web site, together with more scans.

FIGURE 1



1842 RMSP from the USA via Turks to Jamaica. The only recorded example of the agents' annotation not used to England.

FIGURE 3



1842 RMSP from Havana to Turks Islands, then to Kingston, Falmouth, London and to Bordeaux.

FIGURE 4



1863 Letter from Grand Turk to Berbice. Charged 4d. (inter-island, via St. Thomas), then 5d. collection fee when redirected to Demerara. The only known example of this '5' mark.

FIGURE 5



1865 Letter from Salt Cay to Connecticut with variety of interesting marks: 'SHIP', oval boxed 'Due 6', straight-line 'Due 6 cts.' and red Boston transit.

FIGURE 6



1874 from Great Inagua, BAHAMAS, following extraordinary route, travelling a total of 1,565 miles and taking 45 days to reach a final destination whose direct distance was only 130 miles away.
cds: Kingston 29 Oct, St. Thomas 16 Nov, Turks 10 Dec, plus Ship Letter and Jamaica / Transit marks.

FIGURE 7



14 Aug 1861 Crowned Circle Paid At Turks Islands. 1d. Printed Matter rate.

Richard commenced his display with an introduction to the history and geography of the islands, including early maps. He explained that several items were of large format which would not fit on standard pages, and consequently he had arranged for special sheets the size of two Godden pages to be made, to preserve the best visual impact.

The display ran all the way through to 1900 at which date (purely in a philatelic sense) the Caicos Islands were adjoined.

Richard jokingly expressed his occasional frustration associated with collecting this territory.

- Most auction sales skip straight from Tristan da Cunha to Uganda.
- If you are at specialist West Indies sales, now that the Virgin Islands has been promoted to 'B', the only thing that usually comes after Trinidad and Tobago is the capital letter sign 'END OF SALE'.

The scarcity of material has also meant that, over the years, he has added a wide range of collateral material relating to the islands and to the printers involved in the stamp designs.

POSTAL HISTORY

For postal history up to 1815 there are maybe a dozen items known and Richard showed several of these (see BWISC Bulletin #224, March 2010).

From 1816 to 1830 there is absolutely nothing recorded, probably because the reduction of naval operations restricted opportunities for exchanging letters and due to three hurricanes in that period.

In 1842 the RMSP decided to use Grand Turk as the hub for their new West Indies service. This arrangement only lasted for a brief period (ten months) due to the inability to dock at the quay side, requiring tendering, and was brought to a climax when the *Medina* packet (with Lord Elgin on board) was wrecked off the Islands. Four of the ten or so known covers were shown (Figure 1) which bear the manuscript notes inscribed by the RMSP Agent. These exist in two forms – with 'Islands' written in full or with 'Islds' abbreviated (Figure 2).

FIGURE 2



Richard highlighted a further cover from this period which bore no inscription other than the sender's "par vapeur anglais".

It was from Havana to Bordeaux, and would have travelled from Havana to Turks Islands, then via Kingston, Falmouth and London; and finally across to Bordeaux (Figure 3).

Grand Turk was replaced by St. Thomas towards the end of 1842 and these later covers are slightly more common, as the service goes by mail schooner to St. Thomas and then joins the rest of the system (Figures 4 to 7).

POSTAGE STAMPS

Richard then showed us a fine selection of Perkins Bacon issues which were used from 1867 to 1881. Splendid coloured generic proof material used for bank notes and stamps was followed by Antigua proofs and issued stamps which were the direct forerunner to the Turks designs.

Original correspondence from the Postmaster of the Turks included the 1866 letter to Perkins Bacon requesting 1d, 6d and 1s Turks Islands stamps, in the same design as St. Vincent but apologising in a postscript that a GB stamp rather than a St. Vincent stamp needed to be enclosed, and the 1867 letter requesting specimens for 2d and 4d stamps – but these were never printed.

The 1867 issued stamps with no watermark were shown in blocks, together with die proofs in black and plate proofs in black and dull rose-red (see Figure 8).

The 1873–79 issue of the 1d on watermark small star (see also Figure 8) included blocks of four from each of the three printings (1873, 1875 and 1879), a sheet, examples of the throat flaw and the very rare horizontal pair, imperf. between which included the throat flaw (front cover) – not to mention lovely covers! Seven copies of the 1s lilac were shown (4 unused and three used), probably less than 200 exist without overprint.

FIGURE 8 – 1867 AND 1873–79 ISSUES



Die Proofs of the 1867 Issue.



1867 Plate Proof.



1867 Plate Proof.



1873–79 1d used strip of 3 with wmk sideways.



1879 Printing in dull red.



1867 1s dull blue
The largest recorded multiple.



1878–9 1s unused
with paper flaw.



1878–9 1s used on piece
with 'T1' or 'T1' postmark.

The 1881 provisional overprints, required for the new postage rates of ½d, 2½d and 4d, when the Turks Islands joined the UPU, were shown in all their glory! (Figure 10). These were produced by the man who ran the local newspaper, a Mr. Hutchins. Examples from all the settings of each denomination were shown with many blocks and surcharge double varieties. Richard's favourite was the 2½d from setting 1, with a large '2' and very tiny '½', only known on individual stamps. He told us "They don't seem to be able to be put together to make up pairs. Ferrari had two of these, the Queen has one. I think there are ten, but no-one else apart from Ferrari has had more than one, apart from the four you can see here!" The display also featured the only known sheet of the 2½d overprint (front cover) and the only known block of four (Figure 9) on a 1s blue (the Tapling and Royal collections have blocks of 15).

FIGURE 9 – SETTING 9

top pair T25
lower pair T26.

FIGURE 10 – THE 1881 PROVISIONALS

SETTING 5 TO 7

T6 surch double
without bar
believed unique.

SETTING 6



T6 Without bar.

SETTING 10



Less than 10 recorded.

SETTING 11/12

Strip of 3 from bottom row showing T12, T13
with throat flaw & T14 se tenant.

SETTING 1



T15.

SETTING 3



T17.

SETTING 6



T20.

SETTING 6



T21.

SETTING 7



T22.

SETTING 7



T22.

SETTING 2



Showing the two varieties of T16 (A B A B A). The largest known multiple.

SETTING 9



T26 (no bar) and T27 se-tenant.

SETTING 1



T28.

SETTING 1



T28.

SETTING 2 TO 6



T29 & T30.

SETTING 2 TO 6



T29 & T30.

The last section of the display covered the De La Rue period and contained much proof and specimen material (Figure 11). The two 1d with D8 in red were both sold as unique. He was fairly confident that “the pair that they form is a unique pair – maybe a unique pair of two unique stamps which would make it extremely unique!”.

FIGURE 11 – 1881 DE LA RUE SPECIMENS



Specimen D8 in Red.



Specimen D8 in black.



Specimen D11 in black.

Richard showed us a sheet containing a photocopy of the proposed colour scheme archive sheet dated September 1883. Unfortunately this item had eluded him at a Spink sale, so he was endeavouring to reconstruct it by obtaining individual colour trials – so far he has unearthed five, of which two are Turks Islands specific ones (Figure 12).

FIGURE 12 – 1883 COLOUR TRIALS



In 1889 the Turks ran short of 1d stamps and resorted to using the Jamaica key plate. These can be identified by the 'T1' / 'T1' postmark (Figure 13) and shortly after their own 2½d surcharged with 'One Penny' – Richard showed several examples of flaws and the misalignment of the overprint, culminating in an exhibition block of 12 showing how the 'one' omitted variety exists (Figure 14).

The 1893 ½d on 4d provisional was also shown including the elusive 1st setting, an unlisted double overprint and with a 4d bisect, on piece (Figure 15).

FIGURE 13

FIGURE 15 – 1893 PROVISIONALS



Jamaica
used in Turks.



Setting 1
bar under 1d not
continuous.



Setting 2
bar under 1d
continuous.



Setting 3
Double ovpt.



Setting 3
with 4d bisect.

FIGURE 14 – 1889 PROVISIONAL



1889 Overprint misalignment showing 'Penny One' and 'One' omitted varieties.

The key plate designs continued the extravaganza with even more proof material (Figure 16).

FIGURE 16 – KEY PLATE PROOFS



1893 Essays.



Master Die Proof of Universal Key Plate.



Imperium Colour Trail.



Unique Essay with hand-painted tablets.

Throughout the display Richard entertained us with amusing anecdotes concerning his visit to the Islands and his purchasing activities.

The presentation concluded with a lively question and answer session which covered:

- The seemingly relative high quantity of Perkins Bacon Die Proofs.
- The origin of the 1881 provisionals and the difficulty of finding used examples.
- The relationship between the Turks and Jamaica Government (when a Dependency).
- Whether the 'TI' (Turks Islands) overprint was in fact 'T1' (Type 1).

Peter Fernbank gave the vote of thanks.

AUCTION UPDATE**BY CHARLES FREELAND****MURRAY PAYNE 21 SEPTEMBER (NO BP)**

Once again the GVI specialists produced some enticing offerings. Another example of the Bahamas 'Rence' flaw on the Columbus 3d, this time in a positional block, fetched £3.4k while a large block of the 8d 'Coiumbus' was a massive £8.6k. The 1s on thin striated paper u/m was £650 and the accent flaw on a marginal 1940 ½d £375. In Bermuda someone paid over Gibbons for a superb marginal example of the line perf 5s '59' flaw, with plate plug of course, while an immaculate 2s6d line perf with the '17a' chin flaw was £1,600.

GROSVENOR 6–7 OCTOBER (17% BP)

John Davis' War Tax collection went well, very well in some areas where country specialists competed with War Tax collectors. There were some unsolds in the Turks Is. section, for which John had received a Large Vermeil at the London show, but the majority sold around their overall estimates. Among the essays and imperfs the Antigua 1½d essay was £1,150 and the die proof on archival piece £420. The two Montserrat overprint essays were £270 and £380 and the both the St. Kitts imperf marginal strips £1.6k, while the Turks Is. imperf pairs each sold for £650. But the Barbados imperfs were unsold. There was good demand for the many Madagascar specimens in strips and for the scarcer watermark varieties – the Jamaica 1½d with sideways watermark used fetched £1.4k but several scarce Dominica varieties which I had never seen offered before seemed relatively cheap at £100 each. The British Guiana 'returned for War Tax' cover ex Derek Nathan was £580 but nearly all the other covers were offered in mixed lots, which I regretted as there were some scarce commercial usages among the multiple philatelic frankings. But these mixed lots also sold strongly with bidders apparently willing to pay handsomely even for philatelic usages.

There were two other outstanding offerings. The small Antigua section contained a lovely 1903 essay for the Arms issue that was pushed up to £3.2 by one of our members and other Arms proof material went for well above the Mayer realizations, the last major Antigua sale. Attractive hand-painted essays attributed to A W Morley of some of the GVI values were each around £1,000, although there may have been doubts about their provenance. But bargains included £450 for a Thompson flaw on a respectable copy of the QV 1s and £50 for the very difficult St Ste(phens) cancel. A powerful Guiana collection that included four cotton-reels was keenly fought over by an enthusiastic room that included Simon Greenwood and Michael Medlicott. A 'new' buyer was former Malaya and Gibraltar collector Edward Young. The classics all fetched close to their upper estimates or more, including the perennial orphans the 1853–5 used 4c blues where a decent but not outstanding copy of SG:20 went for £350. It was no surprise that the 1862 typeset issues and the 1882 Baldwins went well but double estimate or more was willingly paid for some of the early ship sets in mixed condition. Elsewhere, imperf singles of the Barbuda 1922 set were £2.6k, a superb Jamaica inverted frame £21k and St. Vincent GVI 10s bottom imprint with inverted watermark used was £2.2k. At the more modest level St. Lucia QV 5s and 10s specimens each with broken 'M' flaw fetched £120 and fine copies of the two Montserrat QV specimens £110.

GIBBONS 2011 CATALOGUE

The new 'Part One' catalogue again shows price rises for nearly all varieties which rise by at least 10% in most cases. There have also been notable across the board price rises in the more popular countries such as British Guiana. Most of these are minor but significant because in the recent past the main changes have been in varieties, back of the book stuff and big ticket items where auctions such as Frazer and Tomkins have run ahead of Gibbons. If you have not been buying the catalogue in recent years, this is a good time to bite the bullet. Although some think we are in a bubble, I believe the prices reflect collector demand – my approval book sales have picked up markedly in the past two years, and don't forget the role that exchange rates play, prices in devalued pounds are not painful for those with a Swiss franc income!

FUTURE EVENTS

The **Grosvenor** sale on 9 December will have a good spread of West Indies and the next **Victoria Stamp Company** sale in the New Year will contain some rare early Bahamas in addition to the Barbados and Montserrat announced in the June Bulletin.

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Revisions to contact details should be provided to the Hon. Secretary, Charles Gee, address inside front cover.

In this issue and in future, membership updates will be issued as loose booklet style inserts for the membership booklet. An up-to-date Membership Booklet can be download from www.bwisc.org (please e-mail the Editor, info@bwisc.org, for access details).

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**IAN JAKES**

Library lists can be supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an S.A.E. (9" x 6½") – 2nd Class postage for 150 gm rate required.

If any member has a book which is not already in the library and which is surplus to requirements, perhaps that member will consider donating it to the library.

EDITOR & WEB-MASTER'S REPORT**STEVE JARVIS**

Peter Fernbank has completed scanning early editions of the Bulletin, which are all now on our web site. Peter has also brought the Index of Bulletins up-to-date (Bulletin #221). An updated listing is now available for download from the web site or printed copy by application to the Hon. Editor at £2.00 or \$US4.00.

Please view Charles Freeland's regular updates to his Auction Alert under 'Auction/Dealers'.

The proposed publication schedule for 2011 is as follows:

Edition 2011	March	June	September	December
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One full page b/w	£30.00	Full page colour	£50
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Please submit any enquiry re advertising to the editor.

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