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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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**BULLETIN No. 60**

**MARCH 1969**

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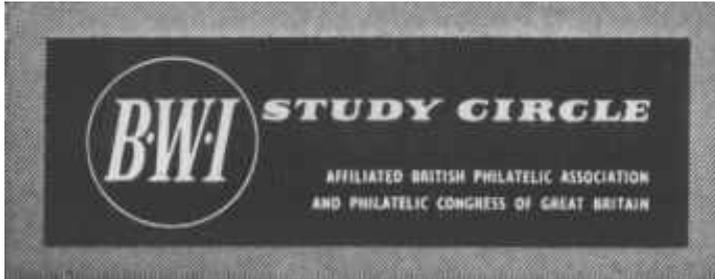
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1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of:

**ANTIGUA • BAHAMAS • BARBADOS  
BERMUDA • BRITISH GUIANA • BRITISH  
HONDURAS • CAYMAN ISLANDS • DOMINICA  
GRENADA • JAMAICA • LEEWARD ISLANDS  
MONTSERRAT • ST. KITTS-NEVIS • ST. LUCIA  
ST. VINCENT • TRINIDAD and TOBAGO  
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS • VIRGIN ISLANDS**

2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.

3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only).

4. To publicise 'wants'.

5. To furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be advanced or new collectors. The ANNUAL subscription is £1 or the equivalent in local currency, due 1st February. If remitting in currency please add 30c to cover collection charges. Alternatively a draft for £1 DRAWN on London is acceptable. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING

### FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

This will be held in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association at 446 Strand, London, W.C.2 (opposite Charing Cross Station, British Rail), on **Saturday, March 8th, at 3 p.m.** It will be appreciated if you will bring a few sheets for display and a note of any problem upon which you seek enlightenment.

## DISPLAY

### **Midweek Meeting of the British West Indies Study Circle, held on Wednesday, the 4th of December, 1968, at 6 p.m. at the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association.**

On Wednesday, 4th December, 1968, at 6 p.m., in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association the British West Indies Study Circle held the first of its 'Midweek Evening Meetings.'

The meeting was well attended with a total of 17 persons present: 14 members and 3 guests. Mr. L. E. BRITNOR, the guest speaker, gave a fascinating display of Postal History which was as follows:

This display was divided into four sections:

1. CONVEYANCE OF MAIL. An early letter from Barbados (1657) without any postal markings - before even the Bishop Mark was introduced. A letter carried by the Dummer Packet "Frankland" in 1708. One carried by Merchant Ship (1719) during the interval between the cessation of the Dummer Packets (1711) and the beginning of the Government Packet Service (1755). Various Packet Letters, with some details of the Packet Boats which carried them; later Ship Letters and letters carried by War Ships. A letter by the R.M.S.P. Go's. "Thames" on its first return journey from the West Indies, with internal comments on the new service, and one carried by the "Tweed" as a Ship Letter when she sailed from Southampton to operate the inter-Island connections in the West Indies. Stamps, and die proofs of same issued by the Company to defray expenses involved in continuing its service to some of the Islands when the Government subsidy was reduced in 1875. This section concluded with examples of Air Mail letters, including one carried by "Los Angeles" airship from Bermuda to the U.S.A.

2. **POSTAL MARKINGS.** Starting with examples of the straight line marks, e.g. IAMAICA, MONTSERRATT, and ST. KITTS; an early dated mark, produced following a plea to the P.M.G. from the Underwriters of Lloyd's. The fleuron marks included an example of the scarce Montserrat fleuron. These were followed by straight line Town stamps of Jamaica, manuscript markings, circular date stamps, obliterators, code letters of Grenada and St. Lucia, etc. Miscellaneous markings included, from Jamaica, 4, 6, and 8 rate marks, "Missent to Jamaica," "Paid to England," "Too Late," and "Jamaica/Transit"; specimens of the "Paid Marks" from Jamaica, Dominica, and St. Georges, Bermuda, and various "Crowned Circle" stamps. An entire from one of the Out-Islands of the Bahamas, with the adhesives pen-cancelled and then with the "A05" of Nassau superimposed before forwarding the letter overseas.

3. **POSTAL RATES.** A series of entires showing the various postal rates from and to the West Indies, from the end of the 18th up to the beginning of the 20th century. Several original Post Office Notices were included in this section, giving details of the rates and dates of their introduction.

4. **ADHESIVES.** Several examples of G.B. used in Jamaica and Nevis, either on entire or piece. Pages of typical issues from most of the West India Colonies. Numerous types of Provisional issues; surcharges, either printed or in manuscript; fiscals used postally: bisepts, with or without surcharge; Antigua used in St. Kitts, and Jamaica used in Cayman Islands; Postmasters' Initials; provisional use of the "Crowned Circle" marks in Barbados and St. Lucia. Several of the items shown in this section were on entire.

Mr. Alan Robertson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. BRITTINOR at the conclusion of the display and this was endorsed by everyone present. The meeting terminated at 8 p.m.

A further midweek meeting has been arranged for Wednesday, 14th May. 1969, at 6 p.m., in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association when Messrs. J. J. CHALLIS and RAYMOND AUSTIN will give a display of the stamps of Turks Islands and the Bahama Islands respectively.

## NOTES AND QUERIES

Supply of material for future issues of the Bulletin is again very short, I would like to remind members that articles written for publication in the Bulletin may be accepted for judging in the Gilbert W. Collett Memorial Trophy award.

To overseas as well as country members, the Bulletin is the only means of contact with the Circle and it is therefore essential that we maintain a lively and interesting Publication. May I therefore urge members, particularly those who have never contributed, to send in articles or short notes on their particular interest for inclusion in future issues of the Bulletin. I would appreciate receipt of copy - **Typewritten Please** - not later than **6 weeks prior to publication**.

## BARBADOS

I don't know whether or not it may be of interest to other members of the B.W.I.S.C. but checking my collection against "The Postal Markings of Barbados" and its Supplement I find I have c.d.s. type C.2, all of parish number 1, struck on adhesives, dated:-

? February, 1872  
21 August, 1872  
12 Sept., 1872  
29 June, 1873  
29 April, 1874  
29 October, 1874  
27 March, 1875  
1 April, 1875

*R. G. Carr*

Since publication of Paper No. 2, I have acquired a cover dated 25 June 1863 with type C.2. No. 1 struck on the adhesive. As the c.d.s. was only sent out from London in May 1863 this is a very early date of use. I would be interested to hear from members who have earlier or later dates than the list printed below.

	<b>E.D.K.</b>	<b>L.D.K.</b>
No. 1	25.6.1863	?
2	9.7.85	?
3	28.6.84	30.12.86
4	6.5.85	9.4.86
5	29.11.84	10.1.87
6	28.11.83	?
7	9.1.84	5.4.86
8	18.4.84	16.8.86
9	?	?
10	29.9.83	9.9.86
11	29.5.84	20.5.86

*Editor*

## BARBADOS (Cont.)

*Comments on Note by Mr. L. R. Coasby, Barbados Cancellor R6, BWI Study Circle, Bulletin No. 58, p.44.*

I read with interest the comments on the Barbados R.L.O. Cancellor No. R6 in B.W.I.S.C. Paper No. 2 made by Mr. L. R. Coasby. In reply to his call for covers carrying this cancellation, I have some fifty or so ranging from 26 Sept. 1906 (on stamps of the Nelson issue) to 11 May, 1955, and there is no doubt whatever that the purpose of the mark was to cancel stamps on registered letters.

This cancellor was sent to Barbados from the G.P.O. London, on Aug. 29, 1906. Paper No. 2, referred to above, gives the earliest known date as 15 Oct., 1906. I have the mark dated March 11, 1907 on a one-penny Nelson.

I suppose that between October, 1921, and some time in 1961, when use of the mark seems to have been discontinued, I must have received from correspondents in Barbados over 500 registered letters carrying this mark but I cannot produce them now, having saved only the stamps.

It is possible that the mark was also used officially on letters to be returned to senders, but I would consider this most unlikely, since there is an official mark provided by the Barbados Post Office for this purpose, as mentioned by Mr. Coasby in his note.

I would be much surprised to see a well-organized and efficient Department such as the Barbados Post Office, adopt the irresponsible expedient of giving official sanction to the use of the mark "RLO" to mean "Return Letter to Owner" when the mark had been provided for such an important purpose as the cancelling and identification of mail registered at the General Post Office. It is much more likely that the use of the No. 6 cancellor on Mr. Coasby's cover was simply a mistake by a careless or uninformed clerk.

Regarding the current cancellor for registered mail, the R8 cancellor may still be in current use. The one used on the registered letters I receive from the Island is similar to R8 but has the letters "W.I" inserted after "BARBADOS." It is not recorded in Paper No. 2.

*Colin H. Bayley*

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Although for many years I have been familiar with the Barbados "R.L.O." postmark (cancellor R6), the letter of your correspondent Mr. L. R. Coasby in Bulletin No. 58 for the first time made me think about the significance of the letters - which of course do stand for "Returned Letter Office," the registration department of the post office being properly called the "Registration Branch."

What Mr. Coasby suggests at the end of the letter is correct, as from enquiries at the Barbados Post Office I am assured that the R.L.O. cancellor has been used both for returned letters and registration.

It would appear that soon after the canceller arrived in Barbados in 1906 it was pressed into service by the Registration Branch and, except for the period when Cancellor R7 was in use i.e. approximately 1932-60, the R.L.O. mark was used as frequently as any other in cancelling registered letters. It came back into full use, being the principal canceller used at the GPO registration front desk from 1960 until comparatively recently as my enquiries from the post office clerks have revealed. In those days it was kept as part of the equipment of the Registration Branch, but it has now been returned to the keeping of the Returned Letter Office. It is, however, still sometimes used as a relief registration mark, but only on bulk postings of registered mail coming principally from government departments. The reason for this is that some of the registration cancellers are becoming worn and occasional dates are defective: these are apparently not used for front desk registrations. The R.L.O. canceller being a higher quality product with revolving time and date marks, can still strike every day without trouble, where some of the more recent registration cancellers depend on date and time figures which have to be slotted into the face of the canceller. Some of these have apparently been lost, or are defective.

I may say that the Postmaster General was unaware that the R.L.O. canceller was used to date stamp registered letters! The Registration Branch and Returned Letter Office being physically next to each other apparently made it easy for the exchange to take place originally, and it has continued as a matter of convenience between the clerks of the two branches.

As a point of interest you may care to know that except of course for registration, only letters being returned outside Barbados receive the R.L.O. mark, and it would not appear on a stamp on any of these letters as it is used by the Returned Letter Office exclusively as a backstamp.

I myself, although I have a very large number of R.L.O. cancellations of stamps from 1907 onwards, have never seen an R.L.O. cancel on a returned letter!

I hope that this clears up what it seems has been a long disputed point,

*J. M. G. Adams*

## **DOMINICA**

If any member has an example of a *manuscript* cancellation, with or without a date, of any of the undermentioned post offices on early Dominica stamps or Leeward Islands issues prior to 19001 would be most grateful to receive full details.

COULIBISTRIE, DELICES, DUBLANC, LA PLAINE, MAHAUT,  
POINTE MICHEL, SOUFRIERE.

*P. T. Saunders*

# BRITISH WEST INDIES

The following pages, continued from Bulletin No. 59, March, 1968, are reprinted from a book belonging to Mr. M. H. Ludington entitled GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO A POSTMASTER IN THE BRITISH WEST INDIES.

19

## II. - DEAD LETTERS.

79. - A List of the directions of all Unclaimed Letters and Newspapers, which have remained in the Office more than *seven* days, is to be made out on the *1st of each month*, and placed conspicuously either on the Office door, or in any position which may be better calculated to attract public attention; and such list is to remain until it is superseded by that of the *next month*.

**List to be exhibited Monthly.**

80. - When Letters and Newspapers have remained in the Office the periods undermentioned, and every effort to deliver them has failed, the Postmaster will write in *Red Ink*, on the front of each, the true reason of its non-delivery, and affix an impression of his dated Stamp; he will then transmit them to London in the proper Printed Cover, together with a Form No. 4, stating the number of such Letters and Newspapers, and the Amount of Postage which has been charged upon him; which Amount he must claim, under the proper head, in the *Quarterly Dead Letter Account*.

**Reason of Non-delivery each Letter.**

**Postage to be claimed in Form No. 4.**

*When the Reason is:-*

"Deceased," "Refused" –  
or "Gone away, not – To be sent by first Packet.  
known where." . . . . .

**Periods of returning Dead Letters.**

"Not known," "Not – To be kept two months.  
called for," or "Un-".  
claimed.....

81. - Letters addressed to an Officer of any Regiment, who is not at the time serving with the Regiment, and whose address cannot be ascertained, are to be returned to London by the next Packet.

**Letters for Officers not serving with their Regiments.**

82. - Registered Letters received from the United Kingdom, which have been refused, or are from any cause undelivered, must be sent enclosed in a Packet addressed to the Dead Letter Office, which Packet must be entered on the Letter Bill for England; the Addresses of such Registered Letters must also be entered on the Form No. 4, in the place assigned for them, which must on no account be omitted.

**Undelivered Registered Letters.**

83. - Letters requiring the previous payment of the Postage, but put into the Office *Unpaid*, must be stamped with the dated Stamp, written upon in Red Ink "*Postage not Paid*," and sent under cover to the "*Inspector of Dead Letters, London*." by the first Packet.

**Letters requiring pre-payment if Posted unpaid.**

**Letters Posted without address.**

84. - Letters Posted without an Address, or addressed so imperfectly that their destination cannot be ascertained, must be sent under Cover to the "*Secretary of the General Post Office, London.*" by the first Packet.

III. OVERCHARGES AND ALLOWANCES.

**Covers of over-charged Letters to be obtained.**

85. - When application is made for the return of Postage stated to have been overcharged, the Postmaster must satisfy himself by ascertaining the weight of the Letter, that the claim is just before he makes the allowance; he must then obtain the cover of the Letter, if it can be spared, write upon it the actual weight when delivered, and the Amount allowed, and procure on it the Signature of the person to whom the Letter is addressed.

If the cover cannot be spared, the receipt of the person to whom the allowance is made must be obtained on the printed Form for that purpose.

**Amount to be claimed in Form No. 4.**

86. - The Amount of such Allowances must be claimed in the Form No. 4, and the Covers or Receipts sent with that Form as Vouchers: and subsequently, the claim must be inserted under the proper head in the Quarterly Dead Letter Account.

**Cases of doubt to be referred to the Surveyor.**

87. - If the Postmaster is in any doubt as to the fact of an overcharge having been made, he will refer the case for the decision of the Surveyor, sending at the same time the Cover; or if that cannot be procured, stating the weight of the Letter when delivered, the Stamps of the Offices which it bore, and the Postage charges marked upon it. In such cases the written authority of the Surveyor for the return of Postage is to be sent with the Form No. 4 as a Voucher.

**Letters refused after delivery.**

88. - No Postage can be returned upon Letters which are refused after delivery, on pretence of being anonymous, or on any other pretence, without special reference to the Surveyor.

**Letters wrongly delivered.**

89. - Should a letter intended for one Person be delivered to, and opened by, another of the same name (which the greatest care must be used to prevent), the individual who has opened it in error must attest the fact of his having done so, in writing upon the Letter. If the right Owner cannot afterwards be found, the Letter in question must be returned with the Ordinary Dead Letters in the Form No. 4, and the reason of its non-delivery must be stated on it.

90. - All letters whether scaled or unscaled, printed or written, marked "*On Her Majesty's Service*" or not, are liable to Postage.

**All Letters liable to Postage.**

Except those addressed, on Service, *by the Surveyor to Foreign Ports*, which are exempted by special authority.

**Exception.**

Letters addressed *to the Surveyor*, however, are to be charged with the full Rates.

91. - The Postage charged on Letters addressed to Postmasters by the *Surveyor* or other persons, provided they relate solely to the Business of the Office, may be claimed, with the *over-charged Covers* and Receipts, in the *Form No. 4*, and in the *Quarterly Dead Letter Account*.

**Postage on Official Letters may be claimed.**

The Covers of such Letters, or the Letters themselves, must accompany the *Form No. 4*, as Vouchers, and upon each (except those received from the Surveyor) must be written a short statement of the contents, and of the manner in which the subject has been attended to.

92. - In cases where the Governor is authorised to claim the Postage charged upon his Official Despatches, the Postmaster will obtain from His Excellency a Certificate of the Amount, upon the Printed Form for that purpose, and transmit it to London with the *Quarterly Dead Letter Account*, in which there is a place appropriated for the entry of such claims.

**Governor's Certificate for official Postage.**

## PART XI.

### REMITTANCES.

93. - Remittances must be, invariably, made by Certificate from the Commissariat Office in all cases where an Officer of that Department is stationed.

**Commissariat Certificates to be remitted.**

Where there is no Commissariat Office, Bills payable in London, at not more than *thirty days sight*, may be remitted. Such Bills must be made payable to "*Thomas Young, Esq., Receiver General of the Post Office Revenue - Or Order.*"

**Exception.**

94. - Remittances must be made Monthly, the Amount of the Instalment being fixed by special Instruction from the Secretary. The Balance due to the General Post Office, as shown in the Quarterly Account Current, must be remitted at the expiration of each Quarter.

**Remittances to be made Monthly.**

95. - Remittances must be sent in the proper *Printed Form*, addressed to the "*Receiver General,*" and the addresses of Letters containing Remittances must be entered at the foot of the Letter Bill for England.

**Remittances to be enclosed in proper Form, and the Address entered on the Letter Bill.**

*Further pages will be reprinted in future issues of the Bulletin.*

*Editor*

## JAMAICA

I have a pre-adhesive cover from Kingston, addressed to Leicester, England. There is no indication of any charge having been made but there are three strikes on the back of the envelope –

1. KINGSTON JAMAICA (both curved round a one inch circle, joined at the side by two short arcs: in the centre, horizontally, JY 26/1857. This is in black.
2. LEICESTER in the top half of a one inch circle, joined round the bottom with two long arcs; in the centre, horizontally, AU 18/1857/D. This is also in black.
3. A single circle about  $\frac{7}{8}$ in. in the centre, horizontally, EQ/18AU18/1857. This strike is in red. My query is concerned mainly about this red strike. What is the meaning of "EQ" which was applied apparently in England.

My second query started from a statement by A. N. Johnson in his booklet "Jamaica, A Review of the Nation's Postal History and Postage." Johnson says (p. 34) - referring to the "Birmingham" type postmarks - "Why do some of the B3's have stars and others do not? - Perhaps someone will come up with the answer(s) as a result of study - or by accident."

My query is - has anything yet been discovered about the purpose of the star (or asterisk). Johnson rather suggests that it is only found in the "Birmingham" type postmarks but I have many examples of the star on single ring postmarks. It does not refer to the importance of the post town - I have Kingston with and without star and many small villages have stars and others do not.

I would welcome any information on these two queries.

*L. A. Woodhead*

## ST. VINCENT

I was most interested in Mr. Moray Stephenson's letter (Bulletin No. 58, pp. 50, 51) on the subject of the reversed Code Letter "C" in the Georgetown Datestamp. Unfortunately I can provide no information to help Mr. Stephenson in his researches. I feel however that the following similar cases might be usefully recorded and enquired into:-

- (1) Mayreau - I have two examples of the Mayreau Datestamp (proofed in London 2 Nov. 1894) with the Code Letter sideways. In neither case is the Date clearly decipherable.
- (2) Layou - The later Datestamp (proofed in London 25 Jan, 1909) appears with the Code Letter sideways on 2 Feb. 1911 and 8 Nov. 1912.
- (3) Parcel Post - I have an example of the first Parcel Post Datestamp struck on a 2½d. blue (S.G. 56) with the Code Letter sideways but again the date is not clear.

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1968

1967			INCOME	1968		
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
181	16	0	Advertisers	198	12	0
5	11	4	Donations and Opinion Fees	5	4	8
-	-	-	G.P.O. Compensation for lost Registered parcel	6	0	0
38	0	0	Sale of back issues of Bulletin	24	12	0
-	-	-	Sale of 'Cordex' Binders	29	7	6
232	18	4	Subscriptions	238	18	10
20	0	0	Subscriptions paid in advance	42	0	0
261	17	7	Cash at Bank.	273	5	1

£740    3    3

£818    0    1

## PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

1967				1968		
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
	6	7	Donations	-	-	-
17	17	6	Sales: Paper No. 4	5	0	0
307	9	8	Cash at Bank	322	5	5

£325    13    9

£327    5    5

I have examined the above Statement of Accounts and certify it to be correct and in accordance with the Books and Vouchers produced to me.

ALFRED J. BRANSTON,  
*Hon. Auditor.*

11th January 1969

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1968

1967			EXPENDITURE	1968		
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
18	10	0	Advertising	12	1	0
2	2	0	Bank Charges	-	-	-
43	19	5	Books, Catalogues and Periodicals	91	14	1
	10	0	Cheque stamps		10	0
			'Cordex' Binders	43	15	0
			Engraving 'Collet' Trophy	1	5	0
7	11	2	Entertainment, Hire of Meeting Room.	5	12	0
2	0	0	Exhibition Fees	1	8	0
	11	6	Gratuities		6	0
53	12	11	Postage	52	0	1
275	19	7	Printing and Blocks	278	17	3
19	7	7	Stationery	34	4	1
			Subscriptions:			
			B.P.C.S.G.	£	s.	d.
			B.P.A.	1	5	0
			P.C. of G.B.	3	3	0
				<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
14	15	11		7	11	0
1	0	0	Subscription (Members) refunded	2	0	0
26	18	1	Telephone and Travelling Expenses	27	0	10
-	-	-	Typewriter Repairs	3	15	0
-	-	-	Typing	2	4	0
273	5	1	Cash at Bank	253	16	9
£740				£818		
	3	3		0	1	

## PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
	5	0	Cheque Stamps		15	4
3	3	4	Postage	326	10	1
322	5	5	Cash at Bank			
£325				£327		
	13	9		5	5	

PHILIP T. SAUNDERS,  
*Hon. Treasurer.*

## ST. VINCENT (Cont.)

Possibly some member can provide dates between which these misdemeanors were committed.

*J. L. Messenger*

*This article was previously published in Bulletin No. 59 but as so many errors appeared it has been reprinted above in full, duly corrected. The Editor expresses his apologies to Mr. Messenger and members of the Circle.*

## VIRGIN ISLANDS

The following correspondence has taken place between Mr. E. V. TOEG and Mr. L. R. COASBY in connection with the A91 "killer" which may be of interest to members. As members will note, finality has not been reached and any information from members will be welcomed. For example, if members have any covers with the A91 "killer" could they please indicate the dates on the covers if these are known.

The correspondence is as follows:-

5th May, 1968.

Dear Mr. Toeg,

About five years ago you wrote a piece in our bulletin on the postmarks of the Virgin Islands. I was particularly interested in "A91." No doubt you are aware that Brumell in his handbook on British Post Office Numbers states that in the 1874 list it is assigned to Virgin Islands and the 1887 list to Southsea, Hants. The Portsmouth Philatelic Society has a postal history collection of the City and it includes about half a dozen items of this postmark. They cover the period 21st October, 1881, to 20th September, 1893. You in your article state that it was used on Virgin Islands and Leeward Islands from about 1872 to 1909. These two periods overlap and I am wondering if you have any stamps or covers that come within the time it was used at Southsea. If this is so we have the extraordinary case of the same style canceller being used in two different places, The alternative of being used in the Virgin Islands, returned to Southsea and back to the Virgin Islands would be equally remarkable.

Yours sincerely,

L. R. COASBY.

15th May. 1968.

Dear Mr. Coasby,

Thank you for your letter of the 5th May concerning the Cancellor "A91."

I think the best thing for me to do is to list below the items that I have in my collection of Leeward Islands, as follows:-

1. Cover to London with Leewards SG.3 2½d. cancelled "A91" and Tortola c.d.s. 18.9.1893.
2. Cover to Nova Scotia with Leewards SG.3 2½d. cancelled "A91" and Tortola c.d.s. 7.11.1898 and backstamped at St. Thomas on 8.11.1898.
3. Leewards SG.12 4d. cancelled "A91" (at least on or after 22nd July, 1897).
4. Leewards SG.22 2d. cancelled "A91" (1902 set).
5. Leewards SG.34 6d. cancelled "A91" (1905-S set).

If I am right in understanding what you are saying, you will observe that the first Cover is within the period 21st October 1881 to 20th September, 1893, and it comes within the period when the same cancellation was used at Southsea, Hants. It seems clear from the information I can supply you that the same canceller was being used in the Virgin Islands and at Southsea, Hants, at the same time. I do not pretend to know the answer to this conundrum but I venture a guess based on my philatelic knowledge on what occurred in the Post Offices in the West Indies generally and it is that in all probability the "A91" Canceller was withdrawn from use in the Virgin Islands and re-allocated to Southsea, Hants. The postal authorities in the United Kingdom having issued the edict, nevertheless had to rely on the Virgin Islands postal authorities either returning to the United Kingdom all the Cancellers or destroying in the Virgin Islands all the Cancellors. As so often happened in the British West Indies, postal regulations were not properly obeyed and either the whole consignment of the "A91" Cancellors were not returned to the United Kingdom on official withdrawal from use in the Virgin Islands or if the stock of Cancellors was destroyed locally only some of them were destroyed and the rest were retained and continued to be used. It is my guess therefore that the "A91" Canceller continued to be used in the Virgin Islands when it should not have been and was also being used at the same time at Southsea, Hants.

I do not know whether you agree with my views above which I would wish to emphasise are purely guess-work and if you have an alternative theory, I shall be pleased to hear it.

Many thanks for writing.

Yours sincerely,

E. V. TOEG.

18th May, 1968.

Dear Mr. Toeg,

Many thanks for your letter of 15th May. I think your theory is as good as any, it would be nice if copies could be obtained of the letters that must have been exchanged between the G.P.O. and Postmaster. I was looking through the G.P.O. proof books earlier this week (not for Virgin Islands) and noticed there is at least one A91 recorded.

I am forwarding your letter to the Curator of the Portsmouth Society's Collection for any action he may desire to make in adding information.

Yours sincerely,

L. R. COASBY.

*E. V. Toeg*

## MISCELLANEA

### REVEIW THE BAHAMA ISLANDS\*

Despite sporadic publication over many years of articles and notes on the postmarks of the Bahamas, there has been no standard guide available except the chapters contained in the late Harold Gisburn's book published in 1950. Since then further researches have been made by M. H. Ludington and Gale J. Raymond - both of whom have contributed much important information individually on this fascinating subject over the years. This new work compiled by them jointly will, therefore, be very welcome to Bahamas specialists as well as by collectors generally, and the highest praise must be accorded to the authors for their concise presentation of the subject covering as it does a span of 165 years.

The Postal Markings used at the General Post Office in Nassau are divided into 9 specific categories, each fully annotated. These are followed by a comprehensive, indeed one might almost say encyclopaedic, chapter of the OUT-ISLANDS again subdivided into various categories, among which fall the popular Temporary Rubber Datestamps, all type listed. Indices of the Out-Islands Datestamps by types and of the Temporary Rubber Datestamps and Cancellations by types are a useful feature of the work. This chapter forms a major part of the work and as in the case of the Nassau Postal Markings is fully documented by dates recorded, relative rarity and additional notes relevant to the cancellations listed.

This Handbook/Catalogue is copiously illustrated and is a 'must' not only for the specialist of Bahamas but for all those who appreciate a philatelic book of this type.

*Rose Tifford*

*\*THE BAHAMA ISLANDS. A History and Catalogue of the handstamps and cancellations 1802-1967. By M. H. Ludington and Gale J. Raymond.*

Published by, and obtainable from Robson Lowe Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. 66 pages. Maps + Ills, c.b.. Price £3 (\$7.50), including postage.

## **BULLETINS**

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Nos. 8-59 5s. each (60c.) post free.

(Stock of Bulletins 12 and 16 is now exhausted).

NOTE:- Issues including articles on any specific colony will be gladly supplied and the following table covers Bulletins Nos. 159.

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## SUBSCRIPTIONS

These were due on **February 1st, 1969**. Both time and expense is saved in sending out reminders if payment is effected by Banker's Order. Any member who has not already adopted this method can obtain the appropriate form upon application to the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer. **Overseas members who are accustomed to remit in currency are requested to kindly add 30c. to cover collection charges.**

## OPINIONS SERVICE

Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. Group. A fee of 5/- (60c.) per stamp or 7/6 (\$1 ) per cover is charged. Members wishing to avail themselves of this service should send the stamp(s) and/or cover(s) to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing the appropriate fee and an addressed envelope (stamped additionally for Registration or Recorded Delivery). Every endeavour will be made to return the item(s) within fourteen days.

## AUCTION GLEANINGS

### **STANLEY GIBBONS AUCTIONS Ltd. Sale of September 11-13, 1968.**

- Bahamas:** 1859, 1d. on thick paper, S.G.1, light cancel **£90**  
**Bermuda:** 1938-53, 12/6, grey and yellow 'Lemon,' S.G.120b., large part o.g. **£52**  
**Grenada:** 1938-50, 2½d. perf. 12½ x 13½, S.G.157a, large part o.g., B.P.A. cert. **£130**

### **Sale of November 13-15, 1968**

- Antigua:** 1903-9, 5/-, Die Proof of the head and frame (uncleared) without country name, dated "22 December 1902" - "Before Hardening." (Also adopted for Dominica and Montserrat) **£30**  
" 5/-, Die Proof of the head, dated "13 February 1903" "After Hardening," with ms, "Antigua" and signature. **£38**  
" 5/-, Die Proof of the frame, dated "13 February 1903" - "After Hardening." **£26**  
**Cayman Is.:** 1908, 2½D. on 4d., S.G.24, o.g., B.P.A. cert. **£160 and £135**  
" 1908, 10/-, S.G.36, corner control block of 4 (bottom left of sheet) o.g. (Believed to be the only control block known from this position. Auctioneers' note) **£135**  
**Dominica:** 1903, 5/-, Die Proof of the frame, in black, dated "10 March 1903" - "Before Hardening" **£24**  
" 5/-, Die Proof of the frame, dated "11 March 1903" - "After Hardening" **£22**

<b>Montserrat:</b> 1903, 51-, Die Proof of the frame, dated "10 March 1903" - "Before Hardening."	<b>£22</b>
<b>St. Vincent:</b> 1902, 1d. Imperf. Colour Trial on gummed wmkd. paper, in green and violet (the issued colour of the 2/-)	<b>£22</b>
" 1911, £1, S.G.93a, corner control block of 4, o.g. (ex Charlton Henry)	<b>£370</b>

**ROBSON LOWE Ltd.**  
**Sale of December 10, 1968.**

<b>Bahamas:</b> 1849 (29th Oct.), E.L. from Nassau "p packet" to London, with red crowned circle "PAID/AT/BAHAMAS." Backstamped c.d.s.	<b>£52</b>
<b>Bermuda:</b> 1848 (5th June) E.L. to Bannockburn with ms. "Prepaid" and red crowned circle "PAID AT ST. GEORGES BERMUDA."	<b>£100</b>
<b>British Honduras:</b> 1855 (10th May) E. to Stirling re-directed to Falkirk, Scotland, showing red crowned circle "PAID/AT/BELIZE" with "BELIZE" type PH backstamp, showing London transit and "C.R." (Caledonian Railway) marks on face.	<b>£140</b>
" 1888-89, CC, perf. 12½, 3 CENTS on 3d. chocolate, used. B.P.A. cert.	<b>£130</b>
<b>Dominica:</b> 1861 (7th Nov.), E.L. written in French and addressed to "Place du Palais de Justice 4 à Tours," showing red crowned circle "PAID/AT/DOMINICA," with Dominica c.d.s. backstamp and transit markings	<b>£46</b>
" Great Britain used in Dominica: 1857, 4d. rose cancelled "A07" used on 1859 entire to St. Lucia; (stamp rather heavily cancelled)	<b>£100</b>
" 1877-79, CC, perf. 14, ½d. and 1d. (four examples all with village cancels in pen and ink, three with date in addition; from Portsmouth, Rosalie, St. Joseph, Vieille Case and Wesley	<b>£140</b>
" 1877-79, 6d. green, used on small neat 1879 (26th Apr.) envelope to Antigua (Ex Charlton Henry)	<b>£260</b>
" 1882, ½d. in red on half 1d., double surcharge, unused (no gum), somewhat stained. B.P.A. cert.	<b>£190</b>
<b>St. Christopher:</b> 1885, Halfpenny on 1d., a block of 3 and a single used with FOUR PENCE on 6d. var. with stop after "PENCE," on 1885 (18th Mar.) enve. registered to New York	<b>£125</b>
" 1886, 4d. on 6d. used on 1886 (6th July) enve. to Ohio, U.S.A. with New York "PAID ALL" transit mark on reverse and Cincinnati arrival c.d.s.	<b>£70</b>

<b>St. Vincent:</b> 1861, intermediate perf. 14 to 16, 6d. yellow-green, used on 1862 (24th Jan.) entire to Edinburgh	<b>£320</b>
" 1863-66, imperforate var., 6d. deep green, unused pair	<b>£82.10</b>
" 1866 perf. 11 to 12½, 4d. deep blue, used block of 4 with top sheet margin	<b>£105</b>
" 1866, perf. 11 to 12½, 4d. deep blue, pair on 1867 (9th Feb.) entire to Paris, one central canc.	<b>£175</b>
" 1866, perf. 11 to 12½, 1/- slate-grey, marginal, mint (a few gum creases). R.P.S. cert.	<b>£250</b>
" 1871, Star, Rough perf. 14 to 16, 6d. blue-green, vert. pair on small piece with "RAB" cancel in red	<b>£70</b>
" 1872, Star, perf. 11 to 12½, 1/- dp. Rose-red used on 1872 (26th Oct.) enve. to Stafford, England	<b>£180</b>
" 1877, Star, perf. 11 to 12½ x 15, 1/- vermilion, var. Imperf, used with normal stamp on small piece. R.P.S. cert.	<b>£260</b>
" 1880, Small Star, perf. 11 to 12½, 6d. bt. green. Mint	<b>£100</b>
" " 1/- bt. vermilion, mint	<b>£75</b>
<b>Tobago:</b> 1886-89, ½ PENNY on 6d. orange-brown, vert. pair var. Surchage Double, used on 1895 (22nd June) enve. (flap missing). .	<b>£220</b>
<b>Trinidad:</b> 1847, Lady McLeod, 5c., used on 1847 (18th May) entire letter from Port of Spain to San Fernando, pen cancelled (scissors cut into design at left)	<b>£500</b>
" 1859, Imperf., 1/- indigo, used on large piece of entire to Switzerland showing Trinidad Crowned Circle in red, also London and Calais transit marks partly on stamp (ex Charlton Henry)	<b>£190</b>
<b>Jamaica:</b> 1811.E. to London, showing circular "PAID/ TO/ENGLAND" (PD1) and Jamaica large fleuron, both in purple. (Three only are known - Auctioneers' note)	<b>£280</b>

*This Catalogue listed many Lots comprising a fine study of Jamaica pre-adhesive markings covering very early items followed by the "JAMAICA" S/L handstamps, the fleurons, the Post Town, S/L handstamps. Ship Letter, 'PAID' and 'TO PAY' handstamps, etc., etc. For those who are not in possession of this Catalogue and who may possibly like to note certain items - it can be borrowed from the Circle's Library, on a lending period of two weeks only.*

<b>Jamaica:</b> 1860, 1d., 2d. and 4d. Artist's composite essays, in black using die proof of head with diadem and handpainted surrounds	<b>£110</b>
" 1872, ½d, blue and 1875 21- blue-grey, and 5/- red-brown, three composite Artist's drawings incorporating printed vignettes and hand-painted	<b>£180</b>

<b>Jamaica used in Cayman Islands:</b> 1889-94 first Georgetown cancellation, ½d. green, pair (one corner rounded) on enve. to Kingston, Jamaica with violet oval "GRAND CAYMAN/DEC 26 1891/POST OFFICE." Cachet of F. N. Lambert & Co., Gd. Cayman at back	<b>£240</b>
" used in Cayman Is. ½d. green, "OFFICIAL," block of 4 showing complete strike of "GRAND CAYMAN/NOV - 1893/POST OFFICE" (a few insignificant stains)	<b>£100</b>

### **H. R. HARMER Ltd. Sale of September 30 and October 1 1968**

<b>Bahamas:</b> 1861, perf. 11½, 12, compound with 11, 4d. dull rose, S.G.14, used (few perfs. clipped, slightly stained). R.P.S. cert.	<b>£75</b>
" Special Delivery, 1917, 5d. var. overprint double, one inverted, S.G.S2b, used with 1917 (May) 1d. on local cover, dated "NASSAU 28 MAY 17" (cover has fold, a few faint age stains). B.P.A. cert.	<b>£80</b>
<b>Dominica:</b> 1908-21, 5/- S.G.54, two blocks of 4 lightly tied to local enve. by "DOMINICA MR 6 19 G.P.O." postmarks. (Cover has few tiny rust stains and stamps few perfs. missing or short)	<b>£90</b>
<b>Grenada:</b> 1883 (Jan.), "POSTAGE," 1d. orange, bisected diagonally, well tied to small piece, S.G.27d	<b>£170</b>
<b>Montserrat:</b> 1876, 6d. blue-green, S.G.3, part o.g. R.P.S. cert	<b>£55</b>
<b>St. Lucia:</b> 1863, prepared for use but not issued, 6d. on 4d. indigo, S.G.10, small part o.g.	<b>£105</b>
" 1891-92, 1d. on 4d. surcharge inverted, S.G. 55b, used. R.P.S. cert.	<b>£65</b>
" Postage Due, 1931, 2d. black on yellow, vert. pair, var. Imperf. between, S.G.D26, unused (a trifle stained). Philatelic Foundation cert.	<b>£135</b>

### **Sale of November 4, 5, and 6, 1968**

<b>Bahamas:</b> 1861, 6d. grey-lilac, S.G.6, part o.g.	<b>£34</b>
<b>Barbados:</b> 1878, large numeral with straight serif 1d. on half 5/-, reading up, S.G.87, used . .	<b>£55</b>
<b>Grenada:</b> 1853, wrapper to London showing red Crowned Circle "PAID/AT/GRENADA" also black circular "GRENADA/NO 10/1853" and ms. 1/- rate mark	<b>£31</b>
" 1875, Die Proof of unsurcharged design as S.G. type 5, in black on card	<b>£16.10</b>
" 1878, 6d. dp. vermilion, var. Double Impression, S.G. 17a, used, slightly off-centre	<b>£130</b>
<b>St. Kitts-Nevis:</b> 1923, Tercentenary, £1, S.G.60, part o.g. (three tiny natural gum flaws)	<b>£110</b>

*Rose Titford*

## HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

DEAR MEMBER,

It is my custom to reply to all letters I receive within a day or two. Unhappily I was laid up for most of November and December last year with an attack of bronchitis and I trust that any member who wrote to me during that period will accept my apologies for any delay in receiving an acknowledgement. In a letter I received from one of our members resident in the U.S.A. he mentioned that he was mystified by my reference to 'Two Tier' Post in the December, 1968 Bulletin. In case there are others who are wondering what this was all about I hasten to state that this only applies to our internal mail. As most members will be aware STAMPEX is being staged in its new venue in the New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society, Greycoat and Elverton Streets, Westminster, S.W.1, **from Wednesday, March 5th to Thursday, March 13th inclusive**. With more space available there is little doubt that there will be much more to be seen than ever before. In accordance with usual practice an up-to-date List of Members will be included with the June Bulletin. If there have been any changes in either your main or ancillary interests do please let me know not later than April 12th next so that I can make the necessary amendments. Once again it is my pleasure to welcome, on your behalf, the following new members: R. Radford (Surrey), Russell A. Sibley (U.S.A.), John M. Willem (U.S.A.) and Dr. D. Woolfson (Essex).

*P.T.S.*

### STOP PRESS

**The Royal Philatelic Society, London, is holding an Exhibition to commemorate its centenary at 41 Devonshire Place, London, W.1. which will be open to the general philatelic public by invitation only from Sunday, 13th April to Sunday, 20th April, both dates inclusive. There is no entrance charge and catalogues will be available at 2/6d. each. Any member desiring to take advantage of this unique opportunity should send an application by FIRST CLASS mail to our Hon. Secretary at Little Caymans, KINGSTHORNE, Hereford, to reach him not later than 24th March, when he will be happy to arrange for an invitation to be sent direct.**

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