



STUDY CIRCLE

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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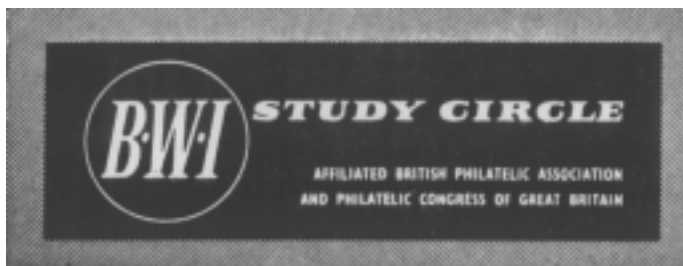
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P. T. SAUNDERS, F.R.P.S.L.
"Little Caymans", Kingshorne, Hereford.

Hon. Editor :

R. RADFORD
53 Woodcrest Walk, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0JW
Tel. Redhill 61613

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OBJECTS

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

ANTIGUA • BAHAMAS • BARBADOS
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HONDURAS • CAYMAN ISLANDS • DOMINICA
GRENADA • JAMAICA • LEEWARD ISLANDS
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ST. VINCENT • TRINIDAD and TOBAGO
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2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.

3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways.

4. To publicise 'wants'.

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

MEMBERSHIP

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be advanced or new collectors. The ANNUAL subscription is £1.50 or the equivalent in local currency, due 15th February. If remitting in currency please add 40c to cover collection charges. Alternatively a draft for £1.50 DRAWN on London is acceptable. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

FOR YOUR DIARY

1972

April 15th	Annual General Meeting	3 p.m.
May 11th	Evening Meeting	6 p.m.

Meetings are held in the B.P.A. Board Room at 446 Strand, London. WC2R ORA unless otherwise stated.

DISPLAY

A midweek meeting of the B.W.I. Study Circle was held on Wednesday, 17th November, 1971, at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association.

The meeting was attended by nine members. Mr. E. V. Toeg welcomed those attending and then each of the following members displayed "nine sheets":-

Mr. M. Sheppard. Covers from Barbados, including the 2-line marking BARBA/DOES dated the 4th April, 1747, covers to England and Demerara and a modern cover with an 'Air Mail' Cachet, registration stamp, machine cancellation and handstamps thereon. He also showed a small news-sheet called the Barbados Gazette, dated 19th May, 1753, which caused considerable interest.

Mr. C. A. Freeland. The 'Staircase' stamps from the Bahamas illustrating varieties and the use of different vignettes. The stamps included the 'Special Delivery,' 'War Tax,' 'War Charity' and 'Red Cross' overprints.

Miss B. J. Collinson. Queen Victoria stamps from Barbados with die proofs of 30th January, 1882, the 1882/86 issue complete including 'Specimen' stamps of that series in respect of the 6d, 1/- and 5/- values. The display also included some Village postmarks, the 'Seal of the Colony' stamps issued in 1892 with an essay colour trial of a 3d value.

Mr. J. J. Challis. Displayed the postal use and practice in the West Indies, including the use of British stamps before the arrival of local definitive issues, the use of stamps with colour only indicating value and Revenue stamps used postally. Postmarks were also shown indicating that Villages were often given numbers.

Dr. D. Woolfson. Antigua covers of 1851 and 1852. He also showed 3 examples of Anguilla Forces Mail with red, blue and black datestamps. A Bahamas cover was shown with a Ship Mail rubber datestamp and Purser's handstamp dated 27th July, 1971. SS IBERIA.

Mr. L. E. Britnor. The early postmarks of St. KITTS, including the 'Fleuron' marks and hand datestamps which had provided Mr. Britnor with information for an article.

Mr. E. V. Toeg. A collection of Antigua covers showing the use of the 'Crowned Circle' marks in the periods 1850/58 and 1860/69 and the use of Great Britain stamps in the period 1858/60.

DISPLAY (Cont.)

Another meeting of the B.W.I. Study Circle was held on Thursday the 6th January, 1972, at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association. The meeting was attended by 14 members who were welcomed by Mr. E. V. Toeg. It was unfortunate that there were no visitors as well as the items shown proved to be extraordinarily varied and interesting as will be seen from the short summaries of displays mentioned below.

The members present requested that when the Committee of the Study Circle next meets it arranges a programme of displays at meetings up to the Annual General Meeting in 1973. A short summary of each display now follows:-

Mr. S. Goldblatt. Postmarks of British Guiana up to 1910 being a selection of code letter marks, named village cancellations including the American type, double ring and single ring cancellations of various types and cork cancellations.

Mr. A. H. Latham. Mostly Jamaica pre-adhesives all with manuscript town markings such as Black River (in black), Little River Post Office and Green Pond (in red and black), Rodney Hall and Chapelton (in black). Also "Too Late" and "More to Pay" in manuscript, with example of the latter in the form of a red handstamp. There was also an early Registered Letter endorsed "Money Letter." Finally the Trelawny Advertiser with Great Britain 1d. red cancelled with Falmouth A39 obliterator.

Mr. F. D. Fitzgerald. A general display of St. Lucia commencing with a pre-adhesive cover dated 11th April, 1857 and ending with used Queen Victoria and King Edward VII postal stationery items.

Dr. D. Woolfson. He also displayed St. Lucia including Queen Victoria plate blocks of the 1891-98 ½d. and 2d. mint followed by a general mint display of the next three reigns.

Mr. J. C. Loach. Showed three Barbados covers: the first one to Massachusetts, with 2½d. postage including a pair of the 2d. with upright "Kingston Relief Fund. 1d." surcharge; the second cover was to Washington with violet AIR MAIL in a wavy lined box which the meeting decided was not a Barbados Post Office mark: the third cover was a Registered cover to Connecticut with AR boxed in black and the meeting concluded that this was a Barbados postmark. Mr. Loach also showed four modern covers from Grenada including one with a mail bag seal mark.

Mr. R. Radford. Displayed Barbados. First, a Registered Air Mail cover with AR boxed in black similar to Mr. J. C. Loach's cover, but he also had on show an Advice of Delivery Form which was incorrectly filled up. Then followed a further Registered cover with "FIOM" handstamp stated to mean "Found In Ordinary Mail." This was followed by a display of Official Paid marks on various stamps and four pages with coloured photographs of some of the Post Offices, i.e. G.P.O. Bridgetown, St. George, St. Peter and St. Lucy.

Mr. W. D. Cribbs. Startled the meeting with a set of unapproved die proofs in colour of the 3c, 10c, 12c and 50c Antigua Postal Centenary stamps by Bradbury, Wilkinson dated 23rd May, 1962, and a further set of approved die proofs in colour dated 28th May, 1962. He also exhibited approved die proofs in colour of the 1c, 2c, 24c and 42c Montserrat Churchill issue by Harrison together with blocks of four of the 1c and 2c stamps with differing doctor blade flaws.

Mr. L. E. Britnor. Displayed a Soldier's Letter dated 1779 from St. Lucia describing the perils of the Island and also a letter from Great Britain to St. Lucia. He also exhibited a letter written to a soldier in Jamaica at the privileged rate of 1d. and finally a copy of a letter by a Post Office Surveyor to Sir Francis Freeling stating that he had borrowed a warship named William Pitt to carry mail to the West Indies.

Mr. C. A. Freeland. Exhibited St. Lucia, mostly mint, being a general display including King George VI "Specimen" and coil stamps.

Will members attending the next Mid-week Meeting on the 11th May, 1972, please bring up to nine pages for display.

NOTES AND QUERIES

ANGUILLA

HISTORY OF THE 1967 OVERPRINTS

Technical details of the stamps involved:- the complete Definitive issue of St. Kitts, Nevis & Anguilla, Scott # 145 to 160: S.G.129 to 144. Issued 30th November, 1963: designed by Victor Whiteley; printed by Harrison & Sons in England by the Photogravure process.

Overprint details:- Inspired by the London Stamp Dealers, Messrs. John Lister & Co. Ltd. and whose Director, Mr. John King, became responsible for co-ordinating the work involved - made all the more difficult due to the limited facilities available in the area for this kind of printing. Subsequently, Mr. King, accompanied by Anguilla's Chief Executive, Mr. Ronald Webster, flew to the island of St. Thomas, in the U.S. Virgin Islands and the order was placed with the ISLAND PRESS INC., using linotype supplied by the HOME JOURNAL, a St. Thomas 'daily.'

Mr. William Bracken, the Island Press Manager, was in charge of the work, and which he later described as "a very difficult job." In all, 1,431 sheets of 25 stamps were involved and two settings of 25 were set-up, one for the horizontal and the other for the vertical formats. Two or three sheets were spoiled with inaccurate placings of the overprint and to avoid further problems all remaining sheets were stripped of their margins - thus no stamps exist with margins on any side or position. In all, nine sheets were spoilt during the process and these included two of the nine only panes of \$5 and which received inverted overprints. All nine sheets were destroyed in the presence of Bracken, King and Webster. The work complete, the stamps were handed to Mr. Webster and he and Mr. King returned to Anguilla. They were put on sale on September 4th, 1967. The stamps were not sold over the counter in the normal way; one handed the letter or letters, along with the cash, to the Postmaster, and the stamps were affixed by the P.O. staff. This precluded trade speculative buying.

Overprint FORGERY details:- Forger:- . . . Richardson (full name omitted in fairness to him, in that he was prosecuted and subsequently paid his debt to society). St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla are full of 'Richardsons,' thus identity is obscure.

ANGUILLA (Cont.)

PRINTER:- the firm involved was located in another West Indian island but the name was not disclosed to me; whether or not, they were prosecuted I do not, and never will know. STAMPS:- as it was illegal to use or import St. Kitts stamps into Anguilla after the secession, these must have been bought in St. Kitts and taken straight to the printer for overprinting. The total number of sets involved is not known but thought not to exceed thirty.

I first became aware of the forgery through a friend of mine on the island of Martinique: I promised never to involve him in the matter and therefore he will be identified as 'John Smith,' the British equivalent to the American 'John Doe.' John Smith employed a great number of Anguillans in his business and, without being a collector, he started to buy Anguilla overprints from members of his staff as they arrived on the incoming mail. By mail (I have never met him), I advised him on what to pay for the various values offered and also on what to look for in damaged copies, etc. We even exchanged and both benefited considerably by, being able to complete short sets through this medium. Around the end of March in 1969, John Smith wrote to me that he had been offered a complete set of the overprints in MINT condition, was enclosing them and were they "all right." He did not feel quite happy about them, but his experience was such that he thought it best to seek professional advice. They were most certainly not "all right," this was my first sight of the forgeries. They were pathetic and it amazed me that John Smith, who had bought quite a number of them, had then not noticed the so-obvious error, in that, the printer had placed ALL the values, whether horizontal or vertical in format, in a vertical position for overprinting. Thus only the ½, 2, 3, 15, 25, 60, \$1 and \$5 values, received the correct overprint. The blacking-out process had been badly done in Indian ink and in fact, the effort was so poor as to be ridiculous. However, I realised that if John Smith had not noticed the real error, the stamps constituted a positive danger to an investor and non-collector.



Original Forgery



Corrected Forgery

I wrote to John Smith, told him the truth and asked him to tell Richardson that I had sent the stamps to London in order to get a good price for him, meantime, could I have a further set to send to London. My purpose in requesting a second set was to check if the printer's error was constant. In due time, two more sets arrived and John Smith advised me that he would not mention to Richardson that we had discovered the forgery. The first of the two sets subsequently received was identical with the originals inspected and returned by me, but the second set amazed me.

The printer had corrected his original mistake and the blacking-out had been done with great care. The type used in ALL the stamps, that is the three sets I had under inspection, was dangerously close to the genuine overprint and would fool even an experienced collector unless he had been previously warned. This proved to me quite clearly that we had on our hands very passable forgeries of the overprints and that action must be taken.

I did not wish to cause panic among Anguillan collectors and, perhaps for all time, damage the image the island of Anguilla had created among collectors and thus I decided to report it to Mr. Harrigan, the Postmaster at the Valley P.O. In turn, he brought it to the notice of Mr. Webster, the Chief Executive and it was agreed that I would not mention it to anybody until given the green light. In the end, it was decided to call in Scotland Yard and on April 26th, 1969, I received a letter from Mr. Harrigan thus:

" Further to my last letter I have had a discussion with Detective Inspector O'Hara who came to see me to-day. Up to now this matter has been treated in a most confidential manner. Mr. O'Hara has asked me to let you know that he will be coming to St. Thomas on Wednesday to have a talk with you. He would be grateful therefore if you would arrange for him to meet you in office " (This being the F.B.I. Office in St. Thomas) - my note).

I subsequently met the Scotland Yard man who admitted that he was ignorant on philatelic matters and I thus provided him with all the evidence he would need to prove his case, once the man was arrested. I handed over to him the stamps from the original set and explained, quite truthfully, that the other stamps had gone to London to be photographed in the interests of Postal History and this was eventually undertaken by a Professional, who produced first class prints in both black and white and in full colour.

I heard later that Richardson had been picked-up, charged and pleaded guilty to the charge. In view of his co-operation with Scotland Yard, he was not sent to prison, being fined, I seem to remember, around \$250. (E.C.C.). *R. C. Coleman*

ANTIGUA

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF ENGLISH HARBOUR

To me, the postal history of English Harbour, Antigua, and the surrounding area of St. Paul's Parish, has long been a source of great interest. Upon my return from Antigua in the summer of 1970, I began to study in detail the numerous queries and opinions which have appeared in this Bulletin and in the Journal of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG), and have gathered such data - as best I can interpret it - in chart form. This graphical presentation will, I believe, serve as a baseline from which to co-ordinate and attempt to resolve all bits of "English Harbour/St. Paul's Parish" information which have been published in both this Bulletin and the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal (BCPJ), and in certain issues of the *Leeward Islands Gazette*.

ANTIGUA (Cont.)

A most important point must be made at the outset: The assumption of closing and re-opening dates of the English Harbour Post Office. The actual dates of this pair of significant events have long been the subject of conjecture, but I feel that I have now examined sufficient official documentation to enable me to state that (1) English Harbour appears to have closed in late 1878 or early 1879, and (2) English Harbour definitely re-opened not later than 28 November, 1881.

My reasoning behind this statement is as follows: The *Leeward Islands Gazette* (LIG) of 2 January, 1879 refers to Antigua Act No. 12 of 1878, a document bearing the rather cumbersome title "An Act to Abolish the Post Office and the Office of Deputy Postmaster at English Harbour." In this LIG, in an announcement dated 27 December, 1878, the Colonial Secretary's Office stated that Act 12, previously passed by the Legislative Council, had been approved by the Governor, in the LIG of 10 April, 1879, the Colonial Secretary's Office announced that Her Majesty would not be advised to exercise her power of disallowance with respect to the Act.

I have not seen a copy of the Act itself. Therefore, I can state neither its effective date, nor the English Harbour closing date directed by it (point 1 on the chart), nor the reasons for the closing. (It would be a worthwhile task for some member of our Circle, having access to official Leeward Islands documentation, to attempt to locate a copy of this Act and to reproduce it in a future Bulletin: such data would clear up the mystery of the English Harbour closing once and for all). Mr. Mark W. Swetland, writing in BCPJ No. 23, refers to a statement by Mr. Stan Durnin that " . . . the English Harbour Post Office was abolished on January 1, 1879 . . . "

I do not know the source of Mr. Durnin's information, but the 1 January, 1879 date certainly appears logical. Nevertheless, I admit that I am troubled by certain bits of conflicting data. The first of these appears in the *Report of the Postmaster of Antigua for the year 1878*, a report which is dated 19 June, 1879 and which was printed in the LIG of 10 July, 1879. (The report contains four paragraphs, lettered A through D; Paragraphs A, B, and C describe Money Order affairs only). I quote Paragraph D:

" . . . D. The Inland Post Department shows an unsatisfactory result for the year's transactions; the expenditures exceeding the receipts by £64.0.9d. 7,120 letters and papers passed through the Office, the postage on which amounted to £51.3.5d. The wages of postmen and salaries of two Receiving Officers at "All Saints" and "Old Road" amounts to £115.4.0d., leaving a loss of £64.0.9d."

The bothersome point here is that even though an Antigua Act of 1878 proposed to do away with the English Harbour Post Office, that office is not mentioned at all in the Postmaster's Report covering the activities for *that year*. I believe I am correct in assuming that, in the case of Antigua, "Inland Post" would define and include all postal activity other than that directly transpiring between St. John's and any other political entity: this definition would relegate English Harbour to the jurisdiction of the Inland

Post. But if we study the above report we are led to believe that, in all of 1878, nothing in the way of Inland Post business happened on the island except at the villages of All Saints and Old Road, where a pair of officers functioned in some nebulous postal capacity.

I cannot accept the premise that the English Harbour Post Office existed but lay dormant like a hibernating bear for an entire year. I would rather believe that, due to the obvious existence of the office per Act 12 of 1878, the Antigua Postmaster should have mentioned the Inland Post goings-on at English Harbour, but for some reason didn't.

Another factor that bothers me is the chance that, prior to its closing, English Harbour was *not* considered part of the Inland Post. Note that the Act of 1878 specifies the abolishment of the Deputy Postmaster there. The designation *sub*-post office, I would think, would be the only one applicable to an office included in the Inland Post Department. Has anyone ever heard the term *Deputy* applied to a Postmaster at a sub-post office? I have not.

The philatelic waters are indeed muddy at English Harbour, at least during 1878.

The *Report of the Inland Post of Antigua for the year 1880*, which was published in the 13 January, 1881 LIG, is similar to the Report of 1878 in that English Harbour still is not mentioned. About all this 1880 document does is compare the Inland Post expenditure and receipt figures for the three years 1878, 1879 and 1880. The major portions of the report read as follows: "STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF LETTERS, PAPERS AND OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS BY INLAND POST FOR THE YEARS 1878. 1879 AND 1880

<i>Year</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Papers</i>	<i>Official Documents</i>	<i>Total Paid Letters and Papers</i>
1878	4,670	1,463	987	6,133
1879	7,881	1,220	1,282	9,101
1880	9,831	1,280	1,252	11,111

REVENUE. (1880)

Paid letters: 9,831 at 1d.	£40.19.3d.
Papers: 1,280 at 1d.	£5.6.8d.
Official Documents: 1,252 at 1d.	£5.4.4d.
Total:	£51.10.3d.

EXPENDITURE (1880):

6 Postmen, 52 weeks at 7/- each per week	£109.4.0d.
1 Receiving Officer at All Saints:	£4.0.0d.
1 Receiving Officer at Old Road:	£2.0.0d.
Total:	£115.4.0d.

M. W. GRAY, *Postmaster.*"

Notice that the mysterious "Receiving Officers" are still doing something at All Saints and Old Road, but nowhere else. (Notice also that the salary of the former was *double* that of the latter, this suggests that the bulk of the inland postal traffic occurred in the central portion of the island than in the southwest coastal area).

With regard to the *re-opening* of English Harbour (point 2), I quote the applicable portion of the *Antigua Inland Post Amended Regulations*, which appeared in the LIG of 24 November, 1881: "ANTIGUA INLAND POST AMENDED REGULATIONS"

ANTIGUA (Cont.)

1. Letters and newspapers will be received for transmission by Inland Post at the General Post Office in St. John's, and at the following Inland Post Offices:

- DISTRICT A: The Police Station at Bolans
 The School Room at Old Road
- DISTRICT B: The School Room at All Saints
 The Police Station at English Harbour
- DISTRICT C: The Police Station at Parham
 The Police Station at The Grange
- DISTRICT D: The Police Station at Barnes Hill

2. Inland mails will be despatched from the several Post Offices every day except Sunday at the hours mentioned in the following table:

DISTRICT	STATION	ARRIVE	LEAVE
B	English Harbour	..	8 a.m.
	All Saints	10 a.m.	10 a.m.
	St. John's	12 noon	2 p.m.
	All Saints	4 p.m.	4 p.m.
	English Harbour	6 p.m.	..

3. These regulations shall take effect from Monday, the 28th November, 1881."

These regulations prove that English Harbour was again functioning as some type of postal entity at least as early as 28 November, 1881. The wording of the publication, however, gives no clue whether the post office was in fact re-established *specifically* on that date. (The same comment applies to the four locations whose names now appear as *post offices* for the first time in this LIG - Barnes Hill, Bolans, Parham, and The Grange. Perhaps these offices, too, were established on 28 November, 1881, but we cannot tell for certain. *The Grange*, incidentally, was another name for *Newfield*).

In addition to English Harbour, this chart also incorporates activity concerning the following sub-post offices located in St. Paul's Parish, which are either operating today or were operating at one time and have since closed: Bethesda, Dockyard, Falmouth, Liberia and Swetes.

I would appreciate the efforts of any member who would offer comments to the statements and opinions I have presented in this article and in the KEY.

KEY

- 1 (Discussed previously).
- 2 (Discussed previously).
- 3 English Harbour and Bethesda sub-post offices both closed (the former for the second time) on 1 January, 1932, per *Leeward Islands Gazette* (LIG) Volume LIX, No. 54, dated 24 December, 1931. See 25 below). The Falmouth sub-post office opened on the same day.
- 4 Proof strike was sent out from the GPO, London, on 4 November 1904 (Mr. Peter Jaffe, *The West End Philatelist*. Sept.-Oct., 1953, page 67).
- 5 Earliest Known Date (EDK) 15 August, 1905. (Mr. Bill Cornell, referring to comments of Mr. Stan Durnin in BCPJ No. 51).

- 6 Latest Known Date (LDK.) 26 November, 1913. (Col. Fred F. Seifert, BCPJ No. 52).

NOTE: I have bought the theory, after discussing the matter with Bill Cornell, that the St. Paul's cds was actually used at English Harbour, and that the switchover from this cds to the "2nd Type English Harbour" cds (see 24 below) took place at some time during this eight-year period from 1913 to 1921. (See my article "Some New Antigua Data" in BCPJ No. 59).

- 7 Mr. E. V. Toeg, in his "Why Not Collect Antigua?" article in BWISC Bulletin No. 64., states that ". . . the Crowned Circle handstamps continued in use up to the time of the issue of the first adhesive stamp in August, 1862 and stayed on in use as late as 1869 . . ." May I respectfully ask Mr. Toeg if his use of the *plural* (handstamps) in his statement infers that utilization of *both* the 'Crowned Circle Antigua' and 'Crowned Circle English Harbour' marks extended to 1869?
- 8 The Crowned Circle English Harbour stamp was sent out from the GPO, London, on 10 December, 1857 (Mr. L. E. Britnor, BWISC Bulletin No. 62).
- 9 Per Cornell, in BCPJ No. 39, the Crowned Circle English Harbour stamp could have been used during a temporary shortage of Great Britain adhesives, such adhesives normally available from approximately 1 May, 1858 to 1 May, 1860.
- 10 On page 32 of BWISC Bulletin No. 18, reference was made to ". . . a letter from Willoughby Bay to Nevis, 17 July, 1861, the only known letter bearing the English Harbour Crowned Circle . . ." Does this mean the sole example of this mark known on an *entire letter*, or on *any piece of paper whatsoever*? If the latter is true, then I am unable to understand Mr Toeg's statement made under 7 above that the Crowned Circle English Harbour mark was used until 1869 (assuming that he did indeed mean that *this* mark, as well as the 'Crowned Circle Antigua,' was used until that year). Has he seen examples of the Crowned Circle English Harbour on paper (other than letters) struck subsequent to the Willoughby Bay-Nevis cover of 1861 ?
- 11 Per Cornell, in BCPJ No. 39, the Crowned Circle English Harbour stamp could have been used during a temporary shortage of Antigua adhesives.
- 12 Cornell reports seeing this mark on a scrap of cover dated 11 November, 1861 (BCPJ No. 40).
- 13 Exists as a handstruck mark dated 1863 (Cornell, BCPJ No. 40).
- 14 Per Mr. Toeg (BWISC Bulletin No. 64): "Between 1875-77 examples are known of a circular shaped handstamp 'ENGLISH HARBOR - ANTIGUA' with date in centre." I assume that Mr. Toeg is referring to Robson Lowe Type PN, specifically because of the spelling of HARBOR without a "U."
- 15 Obliterator was sent out from the GPO, London, on 1 June, 1858 (Jaffe, The West End Philatelist, Sept.-Oct., 1953, page 66).
- 16 Mr. Toeg, in BWISC Bulletin No. 64, states "The latest example of the obliterator 'A18' (English Harbour) in my collection is on a cover posted in 1885 to England." Two questions: Does Mr. Toeg's cover also incorporate the "1st Type English Harbour" cds? If so, is it in fact the Urwick cover referred to under 21 below?

ANTIGUA (Cont.)

- 17 Mr. Thomas Barrow reports, in BCPJ No. 30, a clear strike of a vertical A18 on a copy of *St. Vincent* S.G.14!
- 18 Cds was sent out from the GPO, London, on 10 December 1857 (Jaffe, *The West End Philatelist*, Sept.-Oct., 1953, page 66).
- 19 Mr. Mark W. Swetland, writing in BCPJ No. 14, notes his possession of a pair of S.G.15 with A18 obliterator on a piece of cover: the reverse of the piece shows this cds with mss. date of June 26, 1875 - with the "5" pen-changed to "6."
- 20 Exists used on 12 April, 1884 (Jaffe, *The West End Philatelist* Sept.-Oct., 1953, page 66).
- 21 A cover dated 1885 was in the Urwick collection (Swetland BCPJ No. 23).
NOTE: In the same issue of the BWISC Bulletin as referenced under 14 - in fact, in the same *paragraph* - Mr. Toeg states that ". . . the circular shaped handstamp 'ENGLISH HARBOUR - ANTIGUA' with date in centre was followed in 1885 by the cds 'ENGLISH HARBOUR' with A and date in centre." Again, is this 1885 reference in reality the Urwick cover mentioned in 21?
- 22 In BCPJ No. 11, Mr. V. Surtees refers to a cover dated 1886.
- 23 Mr. Surtees noted (BCPJ No. 21) an example of S.G. dated 1881.
- 24 EDK 17 August, 1921 (Surtees, BCPJ No. 21).
- 25 Dr. Arthur Griswold reports an illegibly-dated strike on a 3d. Antigua Tercentenary Stamp of 1932 (BCPJ No. 45). If the strike is authentic, the date could *only* be 1 January, 1932. And here we have an interesting situation where a cds is, at the same time, a first day cancel on a stamp and a last day strike for a post office!
- 26 The date of the Bethesda post office establishment is a mystery of the first degree. I have shown a heavy bar at 26, stretching from 1886 to 1900, a span covering the entire range of time when Bethesda could have been born. Bethesda is *not* included in a list of post offices specified in *Antigua Inland Post Regulations* published in the LIG dated 18 October, 1886: Bethesda is first mentioned as a *post office* in the LIG of 13 September, 1900.
- 27 EDK? LDK? Who knows anything about these strikes?
- 28 LIG evidence indicates that the Swetes sub-post office opened in 1932 at some date subsequent to 1 January.
- 29 LIG evidence indicates that the Falmouth and Swetes sub-post offices both closed in 1937, at some date prior to 28 September.
- 30 The Liberia sub-post office opened on 15 April, 1929, with Mr. G. A. Meade as first Postmaster. The present Postmaster, Mr. Thomas Daley, has held the position since 1949, per data supplied by Stan Durnin and referred to in "Some New Antigua Data," BCPJ No. 59.
- 31 Nelson's Dockyard sub-post office opened on 15 November, 1961. The office is still in operation: Mr. Duncan Lloyd has been sub-postmaster since its inception.
- 32 EDK 14 November, 1961 (Cornell, BCPJ No. 6). The fact that this date is one day earlier than the opening date of the post office specified in 31 is quite interesting and can be explained by the following announcement which appeared in the 13 November, 1961 edition of the *Antigua, Montserrat, and Virgin Islands Gazette*:

"NOTICE

The following postal arrangements have been approved for the Dockyard:

On 14th November a postal service, run by a staff of eight from the General Post Office, St. John's, will operate in the galley inside the Dockyard.

A sub-post office will, however, be opened on the 15th November. This will be situated at the gatehouse

Ministry of Public Works
and Communications
Antigua."

Obviously the special staff of eight was employed as a temporary facility for selling the new Dockyard Restoration Commemorative stamps, issued on 14 November, and also for handling the cancellation of souvenir covers.

33 On page 66 of *The West End Philatelist*, Sept.-Oct., 1953, Mr. Jaffe quotes an official Postmaster's Report as stating that no Inland Post existed in the Leeward Islands in 1888. Per the LIG of 27 December, 1883 (and as pointed out in BCPJ No. 42) there were ten post offices operating in Antigua at least as early as 6 January, 1884 - St. John's plus inland post offices at Parham, St. James, Bolans, All Saints, St. Stephens, Freetown, The Grange (Newfield), Old Road, and English Harbour. These same offices were again specified as operative as late as 18 October, 1886 per the LIG of that date.

I could find nothing in the LIG's of 1887, 1888 and 1889 to announce the demise of the Antigua Inland Post. Would Mr. Jaffe kindly state which specific Postmaster's Report he was referring to, or better yet, make arrangements, if possible, to have the pertinent portions of that report printed in the bulletin ?

Further interesting theories suggested, and facts emphasized, by an examination of the chart are these:

1. Chart points 1, A, B, and the LDK of the RL Type PN Handstamp could theoretically all be on the same date.
2. Similarly, chart points 2, C, D, and the EDK of the 1st Type English Harbour cds without A18 could theoretically all be on the same date. In other words, the practice of infrequently using the 1st Type cds without the A18 obliterator may not have started until after the post office re-opened.
3. The chart serves to diagram the statement of Mr. Toeg in BWISC Bulletin No. 24. inferring that duplex cancellations - A18 (or A02) obliterator and cds struck simultaneously with one blow - were *not* used in Antigua. (In discussing duplex marks of the entire Leeward Islands group, he writes that " ...I have only found duplex cancellers used in Nevis and St. Kitts and now apparently in Dominica as well.)" The only periods of time when A18 duplex marks could have been *possible* were the spans from chart point 15 to point A, and again from point D to the LDK point past 22.

George W. Bowman.

ANTIGUA (Cont.)

YEAR	1857	1858	1860	1861	1862	1863
ENGLISH HARBOUR SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION	-----					
"CROWNED CIRCLE PAID ENGLISH HARBOUR" USED	(7)	(8)	----- -----	(10)	----- -----	(11)
ROBSON LOWE TYPE PN DATESTAMP USED			(9)			
A18 HORIZONTAL OBLITERATOR USED		(15)		(12)		(13)
A18 VERTICAL OBLITERATOR USED	(17)					
1ST TYPE ENGLISH HARBOUR CDS (WITH A18) USED	(18)					
1ST TYPE ENGLISH HARBOUR CDS (WITHOUT A18) USED						

YEAR	1886	1887	1888	1900
ENGLISH HARBOUR SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION	-----			
ST. PAUL'S CDS (DURNIN TYPE 14) USED			(33)	
2ND TYPE ENGLISH HARBOUR CDS (WITHOUT A18) USED				
BETHESDA SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION			(26)	
BETHESDA CDS USED	(27)			
SWETES SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION				
SWETES CDS USED	(27)			
FALMOUTH SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION				
FALMOUTH CDS (DURNIN TYPE 21) USED	(27)			
LIBERTIA SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION				
LIBERTIA CDS (DURNIN TYPE 22) USED				
DOCKYARD SUB-P.O. IN OPERATION				
DOCKYARD CDS USED				

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1971

EXPENDITURE

	£		£
Advertisers	214.70	Advertising	4.50
Bulletins (sale of back issues)	43.65	Bank Charges	8.46
'CORDEX' Binders	11.25	Books and Periodicals	21.76
Donations	1.84	Entertainment, hire of Meeting	
Opinion Fees	2.03	Room and travelling.	17.92
Subscriptions	373.11	Insurance	10.00
Subscriptions paid in advance	18.00	Postage	84.68
Sundry receipts	1.38	Printing and blocks	427.62
Cash at Bank as at 31.12.70	323.53	Stationery	59.48
		Subscriptions	9.30
		Subscriptions (members refunded)	9.00
		Sundries	8.36
		Telephone	19.03
		Cash at Bank	309.38
	<u>£989.49</u>		<u>£989.49</u>

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

	£		£
Sale of Paper No.4	1.85	Cash at Bank	170.30
Cash at Bank as at 31.12.70	168.45		
	<u>£170.30</u>		<u>£170.30</u>

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.

Signed

January 12th, 1972

A J. BRANSTON,
Hon. Auditor

PHILIP T. SAUNDERS,
Hon. Treasurer.

BAHAMAS

THE SPIRO FORGERIES

Four values of the first issue of the Bahamas were forged, viz. 1d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- and in a 5 x 5 format. It is known that at least the remainders were disposed of in the 1930s in complete panes and it would be very useful to learn the whereabouts of those sheets today. More particularly, it is urgently desired to ascertain if any member of the Circle has the 4d. value (of the forgery) with the marginal mark LL., also the position and pane number on which the white flaw just below the chignon of the Queen's head occurs and which is illustrated here. This flaw appears to be reasonably constant as three singles have been found so far.



A. J. Branston

BARBADOS

THE TWOPENNY BARBADOS STAMP OF 1852 By HERBERT BAYLEY

It seems difficult to believe that it took over 80 years to establish the face value of a Barbados stamp, but such was the case as this article will explain,

On the 15th April, 1852, when the Inland Post Office of Barbados was first opened to the public, the stock of stamps consisted of 150,000 blue and 10,000 purple stamps, as invoiced by the printers Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and recorded by the Postmaster. The Act establishing the Inland Post Office stated that the Inland Postmaster should have the exclusive privilege of conveying from one place to another, within the Island, all letters, except Official Letters and Communications sent to members of the Legislature and Public Officers, &c., &c.

The denominations not being expressed on the stamps the respective values were denoted by the colours; viz. blue was for 1d. and purple was for 2d. The word "purple" was no doubt a mistake on the part of the clerk who made the entry in the books of the printers, and would have been entered by the Postmaster in his books as such for purposes of record. Actually the colour was greyish-slate, but this was not definitely determined until many years later.

The postage rates then were 1d. per half oz., and 2d. for over half oz., but not exceeding one oz.

BARBADOS (Cont.)

To avoid incurring more than the minimum letter rate of half oz., most letters were written on one side of a sheet of paper weighing half oz., and philatelically termed letter-sheets. After the letter was completed the sheet was folded so as to form an envelope, and the address was then written on the back. Pieces of paper were then stuck over the folds to make the contents secure and private.

Barbadians being no doubt equally as economical in those days as in these, it is almost certain that few, if any, of the 2d. stamps were ever used. Consequently, in August, 1854, owing to a scarcity of 1d. stamps and to the fact that he had 2d. stamps in stock serving no practical purpose, the Postmaster bisected his entire stock of them and sold each half at a penny.

In due course these blue and bisected greyish-slate stamps would have reached the hands of collectors abroad, and been listed in all catalogues. This is confirmed by a reference to Handbook No. 5 on the stamps of Barbados, written by no less a personage than Sir Edward (then Mr. E. D.) Bacon, Curator of the King's Collection, in collaboration with Mr. F. H. Napier. and published in 1896 by the well-known firm of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. In this handbook the First Issue of Barbados is listed as follows:-

1. (½d) yellow-green *
2. (id.) dark green
3. (1d.) blue *
4. (1d.) dark blue
5. (4d.) brownish-red
6. (1d.) half (1d.) blue, right portion
7. (1d.) half (1d.) blue, left portion

* These shades were not included in earlier catalogues, but were, no doubt, added from time to time.

From all this it will be observed that although no 2d. value was listed even as late as 1896, such a value did exist. The first mention of this value was in 1865, when a local collector wrote to the Editor of the Stamp Collector's Magazine giving a "description of a hitherto unknown twopenny of the first issue of the island. Its appearance answers in every respect to that of the well-known green or blue, but the colour is the dull slate of the shilling stamp." This was the first intimation that the philatelic world received that the first issue of Barbados stamps included a 2d. stamp not listed in the current catalogues. It should be observed, however, that the catalogues were misleading, as they listed three values of ½d., 1d. and 4d. besides a bisected stamp of 1d. value which was assumed to have been of the same value of 1d. before bisection. It now seems clear that the Magazine correspondent was correct in his statement, and that the bisected stamp was the 2d. value of the first issue and not a variety of the 1d. blue as listed in the catalogues.

The appearance of this letter in that English magazine, caused, as one can imagine, great excitement amongst collectors. Immediately the Barbados correspondent was written to asking if he could confirm that the original value of his stamps was 2d. He replied that "the information has been substantiated by a gentleman employed in the

Secretary's Office who had referred to the order book and told him the colour, value and time when they were ordered. Also that the Postmaster recollected perfectly well when the 2d. stamps were used."

To be continued

BERMUDA

MAIL SERVICE, 1840-91

Some references to the service to Bermuda, gleaned from P.O. notices, were given in Bulletin No. 43 of December, 1964.

It is now possible to supplement these by information given in various contracts with shipping companies. Copies of these contracts are filed in the G.P.O. Record Office, London. (Ref. Post 51, Nos. 12, 42, 65).

(a) *25th June, 1840.* Contract with the Cunard Company for a mail service between Halifax (Nova Scotia) and Bermuda, to be operated by a fleet of not less than four sailing vessels of at least 100 tons each. To sail twice in each month from March to October, and once a month from November to February. The ships to remain four days at Bermuda.

N.B. These vessels would connect with the twice monthly sailings of the Cunard Mail Steamers from Liverpool to Halifax.

(b) *1st July, 1850.* New contract: Service to be operated by wooden steamers, screw driven, of not less than 350 tons and 80h.p. To sail between Halifax and Bermuda on alternate Saturdays from April to November, and on every fourth Saturday from December to March. There was also to be one sailing each month between New York and Bermuda.

(c) *28th February, 1851.* Contract for a monthly service between Bermuda and St. Thomas, by steamers of not less than 350 tons, to commence April, 1851. The contract to last until 1st January, 1861. Boats with not less than 4 oars, to be provided by the contractors for loading and unloading the mails at the ports.

N.B. This was evidently an extension of the 1850 contract, as a footnote, in manuscript, gives the times of sailings: Leave New York, 8th of each month; arrive Bermuda, 12th ...; arrive St. Thomas, about 18th of each month; leave St. Thomas, 20th of each month; arrive Bermuda, 25th of each month; arrive New York, about 31st of each month.

(d) 1st July, 1854. Contract for one steamer a month from Halifax to St. Thomas via Bermuda; and one steamer a month from St. Thomas to Halifax via Bermuda.

(e) 2nd December, 1867. Contract for one steamer a month between Halifax and St. Thomas via St. George's, Bermuda. To stay not more than three days at St. Thomas, then to return by the same route. The vessel not to spend more than 12 hours of daylight at Bermuda. The estimated time for the journey, either way, between Halifax and St. Thomas, was 200 hours, excluding the stop at Bermuda.

(f) 11th March, 1886. Contract with the Quebec Steamship Company for a service once a month between New York and Hamilton, Bermuda (at a speed of not less than 10 knots), to begin 1st April, 1886, and to last at least until 31st March. 1887.

(g) 9th October, 1888. Further contract with the Quebec Steamship Company. (Similar to former contract).

BERMUDA (Cont.)

A Packet Minute of 19th February, 1891 (No. 55R/1891), refers to a contract between the Bermuda Legislature and the Quebec Steamship Company for "the conveyance of all mails, whether for America or elsewhere, at a cost of £750 a year, as compared with £500 a year, the amount heretofore fixed for the conveyance of letters addressed to America only."

L. E. Britnor

BRITISH GUIANA (Guyana)

Very few cancellations from this territory remain to be described or explained, since Mr. Townsend and Mr. Howe published their epic work on the stamps and postal history of British Guiana. On page 366, however, a short reference to "PMG 1" invites both speculation and comment.

I have three stamps which show part of this strike and have seen others, always on the Revenue issue of 1888: My examples are:-

S.G. 176. The strike is in violet, and the stamp bears also a SANTA ROSA postmark for 14.8.99.

S.G. 178. The strike is in black, and there is a NAAMRYCK postmark for 23.2.01.

S.G. 183. The strike is in black, and there is a GEORGETOWN postmark for 22.8.01.

Two more stamps should here be mentioned, each being S.G. 223:-

The first bears a GROVE postmark for 14.3.99, together with some markings in violet of which only the date 1899 in sans-serif figures is decipherable.

The second bears a BOURDA GEORGETOWN postmark for 14.3.99 together with a boxed violet strike (the outer frame consists of three parallel lines all round) in which the words TREASURY, BRITISH GUIANA, and the date 14 MR, can all be made out.

In each of the five cases cited, the postmark appears over the mystery strike.

A possible clue to the significance of strikes such as these is given by chapter 32 headed "Miscellanea." This indicates the intermittent use of official rubber stamps by various Departments for different purposes, such as free registration in cases where registration was required by law.

It is suggested, therefore, that PMG 1 and other mystery strikes were in use on mail outgoing from the Postmaster General, the Treasury, and perhaps other Departments at the turn of the century, either for franking certain types of mail or to indicate some official privilege or practice; but that the office to which such letters were addressed would normally itself cancel the stamp for a second time on arrival - hence the diversity of postmarks, all superimposed, in the examples cited.

I have previously ventured the opinion that the various cork obliterations are themselves Departmental strikes at an earlier period (note the frequency with which they are found on OFFICIAL stamps).

May we have more views and evidence, either for or against these hypotheses.

Simon Goldblatt

GRENADA

LIST OF CURRENT P.O.

Following Simon Goldblatt's excellent effort in Bulletin No 71 I would like to correct his listing of Grenada Post Offices, accurate as to November, 1971. Most of these offices I have on items of 1970 or 1971, so the listing may be taken as complete and accurate.

St. George's Parish

{ G.P.O
{ St. Georges - not now used
Grand Anse Mt. Moritz Snug Corner Woburn
Happy Hill New Hampshire Springs River Rd.
Morne Jaloux St. Pauls Térnpe Callisté
Fontenoy

St. John's Parish

St. John until 1907 }
Gouyave since 1907 } Parish Branch P.O.
Concord
Florida
Grand Roy

St. Mark's Parish

St. Mark's until 1907 }
Victoria from 1907 } Parish Branch P.O.
Duquense
Union

St. Patrick's Parish

St. Patrick's until 1907 }
Sauteurs from 1907 } Parish Branch P.O.
Chantimelle Morne Fendue
Hermitage Tivoli
La Taste Mt. Rose (now closed)

St. Andrew's Parish

St. Andrews until 1904 }
Grenville from 1904 } Parish Branch P.O.
Birch Grove Munich
Crochu Post Royal
Dunfermline (still open in September 1971)
Hope Plaisance
La Digue Byelands
Paraclete

St. David's Parish

St. David's (Parish Branch P.O.)
Corinth Vincennes
Piedmontagnes or Perdmontemps (alternative names)

Carriacou

Hillsborough }
Carriacou } Branch P.O.
Belmont Mt. Pleasant
Belvidere Petit Martinique
L'Esterre Windward
Dover (closed 1956)*

*Information from Head Postmaster at Hillsborough

Total number of Branch Offices and S.P.O. in operation at present is 49 including the Head P.O. at St. George's.

J. A. Cronin

ST. LUCIA

In reply to some of Mr. Bartlett's queries on page 86 of the December, 1971 Bulletin:

1. The only new post office opening that I have heard of in recent years is Garrand - N.E. of Grand Ans, one mile inland - on 15 March, 1971. I know of Augier but unfortunately do not know its opening date.

2. I have found the registration marks of St. Lucia most complicated. The earliest date of registration label (Castries) that I have is 12 May, 1937. Those of Vieux Fort do not seem to come into use until 1944. The rectangular hand-stamp with the number in manuscript was, I know, used at the G.P.O. Castries in March, 1964, for the F.D.C.'s of the new definitives issues on March 1st. I think that it is still in use, concurrently with the blue/white label particularly when there are numerous letters for registration and insufficient postal clerks to undertake the work.

Dr. J. M. Lockie

ST. VINCENT

A LOCAL ISSUE

The privately owned island of Mustique in the St. Vincent Grenadines, opened its official post office on 1st September, 1971, when an air mail service was inaugurated to St. Vincent.

The owners of the island received permission to make a surcharge of 10c on each letter carried on the first flight and four labels were issued for this purpose of a similar design but with varying background colours as follows:

Orange	1,931	issued
Blue	555	"
Yellow	254	"
Mauve	64	"

It is believed that the Orange labels were used by residents and tourists, the Blue and Yellow by various grades of employees and the Mauve labels by the owners.

Mike Wilson

TURKS and CAICOS ISLANDS

WHY NOT COLLECT TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS?

An article on Turks Islands is all the Editor said. At least there is no spate of literature on the subject and in fact apart from contributions in the B.W.I. Study Circle Bulletin the only authority is "The Postage Stamps of the Turks Islands" by E. D. Bacon published in 1917 by Stanley Gibbons and long since out of print. In 1936 a supplement was issued by the then Sir Edward Bacon and Major Charlton Henry, whose outstanding collections were auctioned some years ago.

In order to become interested in the collection of these issues I feel a little should be known of the geography and history of the Island and its associated Caicos Islands.

These in common with many others in the Caribbean are coral Formations continually growing and it is of interest to note that the great shallow lagoon encompassed by the Caicos Islands was formerly deep enough for the ships of Columbus who landed on Turks Island in 1492 and even Lord Nelson, centuries later. The native Lucayan Indians who called the island Guanahani or Island of the Iguanas were decimated following the cruelty of the Spaniards though in the last century the population has been around 5,000, predominantly West Indians.

The Islands followed the usual pattern of occupation by Spain, France and Britain but I know of no 18th century covers. From early times the control of the Islands rested in the Bahamas and on becoming independent in 1848 a President was elected. This was commemorated by the handsome Salt Raking issue of 1900 and again by the seven values of 1948. The fact that several West Indian islands had Presidents doubtless accounts for the error on the Montserrat definitives of 1951 and 1953 when it was corrected.

In 1873 the Islands were incorporated with Jamaica which appointed Resident Commissioners, at least one of whom, E. J. Cameron, has left to collectors a wealth of covers of the period addressed to himself or his wife and whilst I have no doubt these contained correspondence, many are philatelically inspired. Separation from Jamaica in 1962 was followed by a re-association with Bahamas and now the Governor of Bahamas is also Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Up to the time of writing all Turks Islands stamps have been in sterling but for many years American Dollars were used for large amounts and external trade although Sterling was available. The Colony issued its own currency notes in 1905 and in 1937 Jamaican bank notes became the official legal tender.

The aforementioned commemorative stamps and later colourful issues illustrate the industries of the Islands though some of these ventures were failures however the economy is being helped by tourism and land development, particularly in the Caicos group, now reached by air instead of the hazardous sea passage. The basic industry was the evaporation of salt from sea water and in the 19th century large quantities were shipped to North America for salting cod. The Common Seal of the Colony forms the basis of the salt raking issue and at least the engraver mistook the pile of salt for an igloo and drew an opening where now two baskets appear. In the old days the salt labourers were paid by tokens which could only be exchanged at their employer's store.

The postal markings have been illustrated in earlier issues of the bulletin and a complete collection would not amount to many covers however some are difficult to obtain owing to the relatively small numbers in use and the early covers with adhesives are extremely scarce.

The first stamp issue in 1867 printed by Perkins Bacon & Co. was based on the then current issue of Antigua on unwatermarked paper and was followed by further printings on small star watermark paper in different shades for the 1d. and in error in lilac for the 1/-. Of this stamp only 5,000 were supplied and the bulk of these were surcharged in 1881 to provide the provisional low values required to meet new postal rates introduced when the Island adopted the scales of the Universal Postal Union.

TURKS and CAICOS ISLANDS (Cont.)

The provisionals mentioned above were overprinted by the local Government printer and in view of the numerous settings it is thought that these were printed in small batches as and when the demand arose and since a large proportion were supplied to dealers this probably accounts for the fact that some settings are unknown used. There are forgeries of these surcharges, some on the wrong stamps, though some are very dangerous and there are also printings of the 4d. on 1d. which are thought to have been made with the original type a few years later. These include double and inverted surcharges, some with genuine cancelled to order postmarks. Several of the 2½d settings incorporate the existing settings of the ½d. though the first 2½d. setting with the very small ½ is believed to be a proof.

A peculiarity of the early stamps is that they were usually separated by scissors and cut perforations are frequently found, also all genuine sheets of the provisional issue that had the lower margin removed prior to printing the surcharge.

From 1881 De La Rue & Co. took over the Perkins Bacon plates of the engraved first type stamps and in the following years made numerous printings in varying shades of the three values in addition to printing the Key plate types. Many of these shades are uncatalogued.

The 1900 issue introduced the title of the Colony as Turks and Caicos Islands and for the first time the familiar Turks Head cactus made its appearance. These are no longer as abundant as when the main island was named after them by Juan Ponce de Leon in 1512. This issue introduces the unlisted line and comb perforations varieties which can be found also in the George V and Edward issues, also worth looking for are the inverted and reversed watermarks on some stamps. In some cases the printings were quite small, as the 2/- Salt Raking stamp of which only 1,800 were printed.

Of the later issues the most interesting variety is undoubtedly S.G. 161, the 1/- value of the 1921 Script issue of which one sheet is known to have been printed on what is probably an offset of the 6d. claret Cayman Islands stamp which was being printed at the same time.

Covers can be found showing the use of Turks Islands stamps on mail picked up by various ships which called at the islands as this was on many occasions the normal method of transit in view of the infrequency of the regular mail ships which often were unable to anchor off Grand Turk in bad weather.

Air mails began to be used in the war years, mainly through Haiti and Jamaica, though now practically all mail is carried on regular flights. There are now runways on some of the Caicos Islands as well as the U.S. Air Force runway on Grand Turk, built for use in connection with their missile tracking station.

The foregoing brief notes will I hope show there are numerous fields open in the study and collection of these issues and whilst I doubt not there are equally interesting varieties in the later Queens I leave to another an introduction to these issues as I cannot bring myself to collect the labels and omnibus series, which although bringing income to the Colony I feel bring philately into disrepute.

John J. Challis

MISCELLANEA

WANTS

Members who are able to supply any of these should send them (stating price asked) to the Hon. Secretary for onward transmission. If the member requiring them decides to purchase a cheque or postal order drawn in favour of "B.W.I. Study Circle" should be sent to the Hon. Secretary and the amount (less 10% and postage) will be remitted to the owner.

Turks & Caicos Islands

First World War WAR TAX issues on cover

BULLETINS

Copies of back numbers - some being XEROX copies - are obtainable (subject to being in stock) from the Hon. Librarian as follows:

Nos. 1-7 (reprint in one cover), 75p (\$2.00). All others, 25p (70c) each.

'CORDEX' instantaneous Self Binders each holding 20 issues can be supplied at 75p (\$2.00) each.

POSTAGE is extra in all cases.

OPINIONS SERVICE

Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. Group for which a fee of 40p (\$1.00) per stamp or cover is charged.* Members wishing to take advantage of this service should send the stamp(s) or cover(s) to the Hon. Secretary enclosing a remittance for the appropriate fee together with an addressed envelope (stamped additionally for Registration or Recorded Delivery). Every endeavour will be made to return the item(s) within fourteen days. **All stamps or covers submitted are accepted entirely at the sender's risk and neither the Circle nor any of its members, collectively or individually, can be held responsible for the loss or damage of any item or for any opinion expressed.**

**In instances where it is necessary to consult more than one specialist any additional postage will be charged to the sender.*

REVIEW

ST. VINCENT*

It is nearly eighty years since Napier & Bacon's Handbook was published (the standard handbook of its period) - and although many articles on various aspects of St. Vincent philately have appeared from time to time it is not until now that there has been a complete work of such magnitude and illustrating great skill as the book we are now privileged to review. This is quite simply entitled "ST. VINCENT." The work was commenced by Arthur D. Pierce (a founder member of the B.W.I. Study Circle) who, alas, died when his work was but half finished, and the challenge was taken up by two eminent philatelists - J. L. Messenger and Robson Lowe (incidentally we are proud that they are members of the B.W.I.S.C.) who joined forces to complete this important work.

The four sub-titles of the work are: The Postal History 1762-1915. The Postage Stamps 1861-1897. The Cancellations and Handstamps 1861-1915. The Revenue Stamps 1882-1897. These are dealt with in great detail in 9 Chapters and in addition

there are 7 fully documented Appendices and 3 Indices. From even a cursory glance through the pages it is obvious that here is a work on which no detail was ignored or thought to be too insignificant for comment and in every such case is of value to the reader. As one proceeds to read on it becomes readily obvious the amount of thought and expertise that has been given to its planning and production. Whether collectors lean solely toward the absorbing study of the Postal History of St. Vincent, or the fascination of the varied Postal Markings and not least of all the Village Date-stamps - or confine themselves to serious study of the postal issues (not forgetting the revenues and postal stationery), then here now is the standard work of reference for all of them - a work which will be a classic not only in the lifetime of the two distinguished philatelists who have completed satisfactorily the 'building' on which the 'foundations' were so surely laid by Arthur Pierce as 'architect,' but also for posterity.

The production with its numerous illustrations - there are 441, of which 124 are in full colour, is up to the splendid standard with which all associate with the publications of Robson Lowe Ltd.

Rose Titford

*ST. VINCENT by A. D. Pierce, J. L. Messenger and Robson Lowe. 9¾in. x 7½in. 200pp. 8 plates in colour. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JZ. Price £10. Distributors in the U.S.A.: H.J.M.R. Co., P.O. Box 308, North Miami, Florida 33161.

AUCTION GLEANINGS

H. R. HARMER LTD, Sale of April 26-28, 1971

	£
BERMUDA. 1865-1903, perf. 14, 3d. yell.-buff. S.G.5, small part o.g.	20
JAMAICA. 1889, 2½d., tied to sm. piece by circular "GRAND CAYMAN P.O." dated canc., sl. stain. R.P.S.cert.	36
CAYMAN ISLANDS. 1908, 2½D. on 4d. S.G.24, part o.g., a little stained and soiled. R.P.S. cert.	95
TOBAGO. 1879, £1 mauve. S.G.6, part o.g. (faint crease and black initials on reverse). Foundation cert.	350

Sale of Sept. 13-15, 1971

BRITISH GUIANA. 1853-9, 4c., hor. pair, right stamp retouched. S.G.20, 20a (faint crease top left corner), c.d.s.'s	35
TRINIDAD. 1896-1900, 5d. surcharged 3d., prepared for use but not issued, o'ptd. "SPECIMEN," part o.g., few blunt perfs.	10
TURKS & CAICOS IS. 1928, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 2/-, 5/- imperf. Plate proofs in blue on thin, un gummed, unwmkd. card	40

Sale of Sept. 27, 28, 1971

CAYMAN ISLANDS. 1921-26, 4½d. Plate proof in blue on un gummed and unwmkd. paper, block of 14 (7 x 2) (badly creased at places and trifle soiled).	105
GRENADA. 1875 (Dec.). Large star, p. 15, 1d., S.G.15, light canc. (trace of thinning). R.P.S.cert.	170
MONTSERRAT. 1876, 6d., S.G.3, part o.g., centred a little to top.	67.50
NEVIS. 1866, 4d. orange, complete o.g. pane of 12.	52.50
NEVIS. 1866. 1/- yell.-green on laid paper, S.G.14a, few perfs. a little short. R.P.S. cert.	500
NEVIS. 1866. 1/- yell.-green on laid, var. crossed lines on hill (some damaged perfs. at R). (Possibly the only known example (<i>Auctioneers' note</i>). B.P.A. cert.	360
NEVIS. 1882-90, 4d., S.G.30, part o.g., block of 4 (small thinning).	85
NEVIS. 1882-90, 6d., S.G.32. block of 4, large part o.g. (perfs. cut at top and a sl. horiz. bend through lower pair)	230
ST. LUCIA. 1860, 4d., S.G.2, part o.g. block of 4, off centre, but fine	85
ST. LUCIA. 1864. 1d., var, imperf., S.G.11aa, large-margined horiz. pair	42

STANLEY GIBBONS LTD.

Sale of April 1-3,1971

BARBADOS. 1878 (Mar.) 1d. on half 5/-, unsevered pair showing Types 'A' and 'B' without the dividing perfn. (sm. corner crease and tiny closed tear), neat 'Bootheel' canc. R.P.S. cert. (Ex Charlton Henry). (<i>Believed to be unique - Auctioneer's note</i>)	740
BRITISH GUIANA. 1853, lc., S.G.11., horiz. strip of 4 tied by Demerara Feb. 29, 1856 date stamps, on small neat env. to Georgetown (2 stps just touched at bottom)	550
BRITISH GUIANA. 1934-51, 4c. Imperf. between (vertical pair), S.G.291a, top left corner block of 4 (comprising 2 pairs of this variety of which only 15 pairs exist - Auctioneer's note) o.g.	850
LEEWARD IS. 1938-51, £1 wmk. sideways, perf. 13, S.G.114ac, marginal block of 4, o.g.	575

Sale of May 19-22, 1971

BAHAMAS, 1861, 4d., S.G.5, large part o.g.	54
GRENADA. 1890, 1d. on 2/-, wide spacing, S.G.44b), block of 30, o.g. (age spots on rev.). Well centred	220
TRINIDAD. 1876, Perf. 14 x 12½, 6d., S.G.97a, faint thinning light pmk., R.P.S. cert.	360

Sale of October 27-29, 1971

BARBADOS

1852-55 (1d.). S.G.4, block of 10 on very thick paper, o.g.	42
1852-55 Prepared for use (no value) slate-blue, S.G.5a, marginal block of 16, o.g. (<i>ex Caspary</i>)	40
1861-70, var. Perf. 11 to 12, clean-cut (1d.) blue, S.G.37 var., slight ageing, centred to top and some short perfs., large part o g R.P.S. cert. (<i>ex Wheeler</i>)	110
1875-8, undated Colour Trials from the original 'unappropriated' Britannia die (showing cross hatchings in value tablet) on thin card in black, brown and vermilion, large surrounds	53
1875-8, 4d. red. S.G.76, block of 4 (very light gum crease on one stamp), o.g	70
1875-8, var. Perf. 14 x 12½, 4d. S.G.84, perf. pulled at top, large part o.g. R.P.S. cert.	330
1882-6, 5/-, S.G.103 tied on sm. piece by neat 'Boot-heel' pmk.	48

ROBSON LOWE LTD

Sale of July 15, 1971 (Postal History Auction)

GRENADA. 1881, printed postcards, 1d. blue, 1½d. brown unused	11
GRENADA. 1881, 1½d. brown, used to England ("MY 27 81") and on reverse, c.d.s. "IPSWICH - SORTING - TENDER."	34
JAMAICA. 1808, E.L. from London to St. George per "Prince Ernest Packet" showing, across the join, a slightly smudged though good "BUFF BAY/JA."	34
JAMAICA. 1877, printed postcards with h.s. value in red, ½d., used and unused, and 1d. used. Higgins & Gage 1 & 2	20

BOURNEMOUTH STAMP AUCTIONS

Sale of July 2, 1971

BARBADOS. 1806, E.L. to Edinburgh with S/L. "PACKET LETTER" in black .	750
ST. VINCENT. 1876-8, 4d. dp. blue, sideways wmk. mint	21
ST. VINCENT. 1877, 5/- rose-red, mint, from bottom row, o'ptd. "REVENUE" twice, one inverted (only 20 exist - Auctioneer's note)	21
TRINIDAD. 1905, 3d. on 5d essay, o'ptd. "SPECIMEN"	11
TURKS ISLANDS. 1873, 1/-lilac, used	75

Sale of October 1, 1971

BARBADOS. 1875-8, CC. 14. 1d., variety wmk. sideways, S.G.74a, used	60
ST. VINCENT. 1913. £1 mauve and black, mounted mint block of 4	48

Rose Titford

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Dear Member,

As you will have read in the last Bulletin Mr. Saunders has relinquished the post of Hon. Secretary to the Circle after 18 years. He is keeping his links with the Circle by kindly remaining as Treasurer. I am conscious that Mr. Saunders has set a very high standard of Secretaryship which it will be difficult to follow. I commence on a sad note when I record the passing of one of our members, Mr. Pilkington, whose chief interest was Grenada. On a happier note I welcome some new members to the Circle, they are: Captain I. W. Jefferson ('U.K.') who specialises in Jamaica, Mr. P. D. Robins (Essex) who specialises in Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados and Bermuda; Mrs. M. M. Thompson (Bahamas) who specialises in Bahamas, Jamaica and Trinidad; and Dr. J. P. Wilson (Co. Durham) who specialises in Jamaica, Caymans and Turks and Caicos Islands. Stampex will be over by the time the Bulletin comes out, I hope to meet some of you there and I hope to meet even more members at the next meeting which will be the A.G.M., on the 15th April, 1972.

Our congratulations are extended to Stan Durnin in his appointment as Assistant Editor of "The Western Stamp Collector" of Albany, Oregon, U.S.A. Members present at the Philypia luncheon may remember meeting Mr. Durnin who was then President of The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

Ian Chard

GIBBONS GALLERY

During March the display at the newly created Gibbons Gallery will be from the Grenada collection of J. L. Messenger, F.R.P.S.L.

The display commences with a few pre-adhesives including the oval "Ship Letter Grenada" and the two types of Carriacou handstamps followed by the stamps of Great Britain used in the island.

The 1861 issue is represented by Die and Plate Proofs and used and unused examples of the issued stamps.

Examples from the 1867-71 issues include covers and the 6d. Double print whilst the 1872 issue includes an imperf between pair.

The following line-engraved issues include blocks, covers and imperfs. and other varieties and a strip of four of the emergency printing of 1875. The 6d. Double print of 1878 is shown in the 1875 Die Proofs - first and second state.

The De La Rue emissions include artists' drawings, proofs and colour trials and there is a range of the surcharged fiscal issues with many varieties and both unused and used examples of the M/S "postage" of 1883.

The Gibbons Gallery is situated in Stanley Gibbons Rare Stamp Department on the first floor of Romano House, 399 Strand, London, W.C.2. Viewing hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Sat. 10 a.m.-12 noon.

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MONTSERRAT

A few copies still remain of The Standard Handbook by Leonard E. Britnor, Published in 1965 this very informative work contains 95 pp size 10in. x 5in. Illustrated, paper cover.

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