



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 65

JUNE 1970

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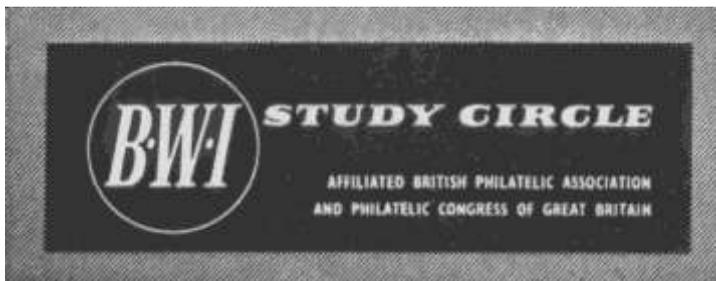
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OBJECTS

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.

MEMBERSHIP

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".

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

LONDON 25

PROVINCIAL 137

Buckinghamshire	4	Leicestershire	2
Cambridgeshire	1	Lincolnshire	1
Cornwall	1	Middlesex	6
Derbyshire	3	Northamptonshire	2
Devonshire	5	Northumberland	2
Co. Durham	2	Nottinghamshire	3
Essex	8	Oxfordshire	1
Gloucestershire	4	Shropshire	1
Hampshire	8	Staffordshire	2
Herefordshire	3	Suffolk	1
Hertfordshire	3	Surrey	20
Huntingdonshire	2	Sussex	12
Isle of Wight	1	Warwickshire	8
Kent	1	Wiltshire	3
Lancashire	6	Worcestershire	1
		Yorkshire	4
Eire	1	Scotland	11
Northern Ireland	3		

OVERSEAS 105

Australia	5	New Zealand	1
B.W.I.	12	Nigeria	1
Canada	14	South Africa	2
Columbia	1	Spain	1
Hong Kong	1	U.S.A.	64
Japan	1	U.S. Virgin Islands	2

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 267



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18th-26th September, 1970

Don't forget the joint meeting with the British Caribbean
Study Group on Monday, 21st September, 1970

ANNIVERSARY MEETING

The Sixteenth Anniversary Meeting was held in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association at 446 Strand, London, W.C.2, on Saturday, April 11th, 1970, at 3 p.m. and was attended by seventeen members and two visitors. The chair was taken by the President who extended a warm welcome to those present which included Lt.-Col. D. G. N. Lloyd-Lowles, O.B.E., who was making his first visit to one of our meetings. Apologies for absence were received from R. J. Scott and Rose Titford.

G. W. Collett Trophy

Mr. P. T. Saunders, in his capacity as Founder, announced that the judges who had been appointed had decided that the outstanding contributions to our Bulletin during the years of 1968 and 1969 had been made by Mr. E. V. Toeg - our President. He - Mr. Saunders - then presented to Mr. Toeg a Tudor Rose dish appropriately inscribed. Mr. Toeg in a brief speech said how proud he was to receive the trophy particularly since he had always been immensely impressed by the Tudor Rose design.

The Minutes of the Fifteenth Anniversary Meeting held on March 8th, 1969, as published in Bulletin No. 61 pp. 2-6 were taken as read and with the approval of the Meeting were signed as correct by the Chairman.

Report of the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Saunders first referred to the sad loss the Circle had sustained by the death of five members - Cdr. G. Bridgmore Brown, A. A. Hershman, W. E. Lea, William B. Stitt and Col. T. Sutton, O.B.E. After allowing for these, resignations and those whose subscriptions had lapsed the present membership totals 267. With regard to the Accounts he asked members to note that the balance on the main account did not allow for the cost of printing the December Bulletin amounting to £94 11s. There being no questions the adoption of the accounts was proposed from the chair and seconded by Mr. R. H. Austin, M.B.E.

Report of the Hon. Editor

Following the formal confirmation of his appointment as from 1st January, 1970, Mr. Radford echoed the plea of his predecessor for a steady flow of contributions for the Bulletin.

At this stage the President intervened to announce that the Committee had decided to confer Life Membership on Mr. Benwell as a mark of appreciation for the many years he had served as Hon. Editor and that a tangible gift would be presented to him at a later date.

Report of the Hon. Librarian

In the absence of Rose Titford this was read by the Hon. Secretary.

"Greater use has been made of the Library and requests for the loan of books have been made almost weekly. Work on the 'Scrap Book,' which continues to be used by members, goes on continually.

The Circle is indebted to Mr. J. Dempster who has donated a photo-stat copy of Alfred Charlton's Handbook on "Grenada" which will ease the pressure on the demand for the loan of this work.

I regret that due to prolonged illness it was not possible to include an up-to-date List in the December, 1969, Bulletin, but I hope to complete and send this to members in the Autumn. In order to avoid the heavy cost of setting up and printing, it is suggested that the List be duplicated from typescript.

I conclude with my customary request to members, to send me any unwanted literature on B.W.I. philately they may have and, in particular, new works produced by our members and others, whenever costs permit this to be done, will be gratefully received."

Report of the Chairman, Publications Sub-Committee

Mr. Toeg stated that little had transpired during the past twelve months. He had had the opportunity of inspecting a very fine collection of MONTSERRAT and when time allowed he hoped to write some notes that would supplement the information given in the Circle's Paper on this colony. In addition further notes had been received from Mr. Marriott on TRINIDAD and it is hoped that these will be published at a later date. Mr. Toeg stated that he would like someone else to take over the leadership of this Sub-Committee which Mr. L. E. Britnor volunteered to undertake.

Annual Subscription

The President announced that following a discussion by the Committee it was recommended that the subscription be raised to £1 10s. (£1.50p.) commencing in 1971. The increase was proposed by Mr. W. A. Townsend, seconded by Mr. A. H. Latham and carried unanimously.

52nd Congress of Great Britain

This is being held at Folkestone, Kent, from 8th to 13th June, 1970, and the Circle's Delegates are Messrs. W. A. Townsend and A. J. Branston. Mr. Branston agreed to furnish the Hon. Editor with a report of the proceedings including the Study Circle meeting covering B.W.I. to be led by Mr. Townsend.

PHILYMPIA 1970

After lengthy discussion it was agreed that the joint Meeting with the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) would be primarily a general 'get together' between members with common interests. It was hoped to provide a 'background' of selected pages covering all the colonies in the

ANNIVERSARY MEETING (Cont.)

group. Members wishing to attend the Luncheon who have not already sent in the appropriate form should do so immediately and so avoid disappointment.

Seventeenth Anniversary Meeting

It was agreed that this should be held on Saturday, April 17th, 1971.

Election of Officers and Committee

There being no nominations and the present holders being eligible and willing to continue it was proposed by the President that they be re-elected en bloc which was carried unanimously. There being a vacancy on the Committee it was proposed by Mr. W. A. Townsend and seconded by Mr. A. J. Branston that Mr. J. C. Loach be invited to serve. The President expressed his appreciation of Mr. Branston's work as Hon. Auditor and proposed his re-appointment which was seconded by Mr. B. B. Benwell.

Following a vote of thanks to the Officers proposed by Mr. E. Shields Forshaw the meeting closed at 5.10 p.m.

DISPLAY

The Circle gave a display to the Wimbledon Philatelic Society on Wednesday, 18th March, 1970, and Messrs. B. B. Benwell, L. E. Britnor, A. J. Branston and A. H. Latham represented the Circle.

The following is a summary of the displays by Mr. Benwell and Mr. Britnor:-

Mr. Benwell entitled his display "Varieties from Barbados" and amongst the sheets he displayed were:

1. 1852-55 2d. greyish slate bisected and used for 1d. rate on cover,
2. Examples of the 1861-70 issues imperforate including the ½d., 1d. and 6d.
3. 1861-70 1d. blue perf. 11 to 12.
4. 1861-70 1d. blue on cover showing "coloured spot on sail" variety.
5. S.G.34 1s. black on cover showing double perforation.
6. 1874 1d. blue bisected on cover.
7. 1906 Nelson Centenary varieties including a reconstructed sheet.
8. 1907 Kingston Relief Fund: sheets showing different settings.
9. 1882-86 1d. rose bisected and used on cover.
10. Varieties on the 1892, 1938-47, 1965 issues including the 4c. imperf. A pair used on cover.
11. Postage dues - sheets of the 1c. and 6c. showing "St. Edward's Crown."
12. Finally, several stamps of the Britannia issues used on cover and showing interesting postmarks.

Mr. Britnor followed by showing items illustrating the conveyance of the mail, beginning with a letter from Barbados of 1657, and one from Jamaica carried by the Dummer Packet "Frankland" in 1708. These were followed by a selection of Ship Letters. Several of the Packet Letters were accompanied by illustrations of the Packets and some of the actions in which they were involved. A few letters carried by War Ships were shown, distinction being made between those carried by favour of the Captain (Ship Letters) and those carried by a Naval vessel hired by the Post Office during an emergency (Packet Letters). Items carried by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. included one by the "Thames" on its first return journey from the West Indies in 1842; this letter contained interesting comments on the 'new service.' A few of the Rural Post items of the Cayman Islands were shown, and a letter from Bermuda to the U.S.A. by the Airship "Los Angeles." This portion of the display concluded with a selection of the adhesive stamps from the various Islands, and showed among other things types of the provisional issues, including bisects on entires, Postmaster's Initials, crowned circle surcharges and 'Revenues' used on entires.

A few original Post Office Notices and other documents relating to the conveyance of the mail were interspersed in the display.

NOTES AND QUERIES

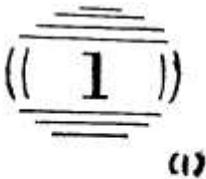
BARBADOS

THE No. 1 (G.P.O. BRIDGETOWN) BARRED OBLITERATOR

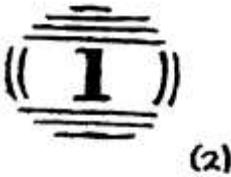
When Mr. Britnor and I were studying the barred obliterators before the "Postal Markings of Barbados" was published in 1961, we felt there was scope for further study on the No. 1 barred obliterators. From material I have both collected and seen since 1961, I conclude that there were three barred obliterators made and used at the G.P.O., Bridgetown, All three obliterators have four bars above and three below the figure 1. So far I have been unable to trace where they were made but were probably sent out from the G.P.O., London, and were in use from 1852 until 1863.

BARBADOS (Cont.)

Briefly the three obliterators can be described as follows,



Tall slim numeral with more pointed serifs. Approx. 6½mm. high. In use until at least 9 June 1855. Strikes of this obliterator are invariably clean and the impression is generally sharp.



Shorter slightly thicker numeral with square cut serifs approx. 6mm. high. In use from 1855? until at least 21 Nov. 1857. The strike generally appears a little heavier and the two arcs are thicker.



Broad numeral with thick square serifs approx. 63mm. high. The oval of bars appears more condensed, they are thick and tend to join at the ends. The arcs usually appear as one thick arc (smudging ?).

Earliest dated copy 18 Oct. 1860.

As most of the stamps having this postmark applied are off cover, it is very difficult to assess the period during which each obliterator was in use. I would therefore, appreciate help under the following headings from members who possess clear strikes of the No. 1 obliterator on cover.

S.G. No., Date of Postmark, From, To, Type 1, 2 or 3, Comments.

Basil B. Benwell

A new post office 'Eagle Hall' opened on 20th October, 1969. It is situated about ½ mile from Black Rock post office which is now closed. I have seen two cancellations from this office, one inscribed Eagle Hall D.O.1 and the other Eagle Hall D.O.2. They are both of the current double ring variety with the name of the office at the top and Barbados at the bottom separated with spacing lines.

I would like some help concerning a recent registered cover from Barbados. The stamps are cancelled with the normal Registration Branch c.d.s. but in addition it bears two strikes from a rubber stamp reading F.I.O.M. in purple ink. Does anyone know what this means and where it would have been applied?

R. Radford

BRITISH WEST INDIES

POSTAL RATES

Judging by the number of queries I have received during the last few months there certainly seems to be the need for some form of comprehensive listing of Postal Rates.

I have recorded most of the relevant information contained in the Post Office Notices in the files of the G.P.O. Record Office, but this source is limited. Additional data has come to light from various newspaper cuttings and other documents. There still exist, however, many unsolved problems. It is probable that only a combined effort could produce anything approaching a complete listing of the Postal Rates, and with this end in view I am appealing for your help. If you have any information on this subject, however trivial it may seem, I would be most grateful if you would let me know. A few Members have already done so; to them my sincere thanks.

With some of the pre-adhesive material in particular there often appears to be some anomalies. To quote just one problem I have had recently: Two Ship Letters, of 1778, from Dominica to London, each bearing a m/s charge of '4.' At that period Ship Letters were subject to two charges, viz. (a) the U.K.. Inland Rate from the port of entry; in each of the above cases the distance was over 80 miles for which the charge should be 4d.; (b) the Master's gratuity, 1d.

Hence, why the charge marked on the letter, '4,' and not 5d.? Any comments will be welcome.

Just one final query. Several listings of the Inland Rates in the U.K. in the 18th century give, for example, "One Post Stage." What was this distance precisely? Some of the 'authorities' I have consulted on this point disagree.

L. E. Britnor

CAYMAN ISLANDS

I have copies of S.G.209, 210 and 211 which show a distinct 'shift' at the top of the emblem. It is quite pronounced on the 3d. and 5s. values and just discernible on the 9d. value. I have reason to believe that in the case of the 3d. a whole row or column may show the variety. I will be glad to know if any member has examples and, if so, whether its position on the sheet can be given.

T. E. Giraldi

DOMINICA

In Bulletin No. 64 reference was made to a handstamp reading

VISIT DOMINICA B.W.I.
LAND OF NATURAL BEAUTY

This stamp was first used in August, 1969. I have it on piece dated 30th Aug., 1969. It was presented to the Dominican Government by Mr. Arthur Tonge - a Dominican now living in the United States. It is applied to both Air and Surface mail.

D. Woolfson

JAMAICA

I thoroughly enjoyed Mr. Carr's comments on Jamaica War Stamps which appeared in the latest issue of the Bulletin and I am grateful to him for adding to my knowledge of these interesting issues. Now here I go again with the hope Mr. Carr will continue the discussion. He mentions the 'no stop' variety of S.G.75 first appeared in April, 1917, on No. 11 First Pane and was corrected a few months later. Just how was it corrected? It is this stamp, No. 11 First Pane, that has the stop inserted by hand and the 'P' impressed a second time. I have an identifiable block of four with gutter and margin to validate this. Is this the correction? On two similar blocks I found No. 11 with a very interesting 'half moon' stop. In the opinion of the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society "for a time part of the cliche became loose and after the break off of the top of the full point (which would give the appearance of this 'half moon' type print) it finally fell out giving the 'no stop' variety as listed in Gibbons." This they have described as a 'stop' variety and have issued certificates to this effect.

Mr. Carr doubts that any or many of these stamps will appear with both the 'no stop' and the inverted overprint. I have not seen one but Scott does list it (Scott 9d.) as well as its counterpart in the 1½ pence (Scott 8d.). This is certainly not proof but it does suggest the double error exists. Interestingly enough, I have similar blocks of four with gutters and margins to show this 'no stop' variety also present on No. 11 First Pane for S.G.73a, 74a and 75a, indicating all three values were overprinted using the same defective plate. As all three values are also known with the inverted overprint this should broaden the possibility of finding the double error. From the catalogue value of S.G.73d as compared with S.G.75c it would appear the inverted overprint

variety was relatively common to the halfpenny value. This too should increase the chances of finding the double error on at least one of the three values as both errors are common to all three.

Mr. Carr also mentioned the 'no stop' variety appeared together on Nos. 36, 42 and 48 Second Pane at a later date. I have two marginal blocks of eight to confirm this and would like to add that No. 30 in the same pane has an almost indiscernible stop in both instances.

At the Marquess of Bute sale of war stamps held by Robson Lowe on the 20th May, 1959, a corner pair (Nos. 59 and 60 Fourth Pane) of S.G.75d (overprint sideways, reading up), one stamp without the overprint, was illustrated in the catalogue and sold during the auction. As the under-bidder, I have often wondered what happened to this item. Gibbons lists only one variety with the overprint omitted in a pair, S.G.70b, and the above mentioned pair should certainly be considered a major variety. Does anyone know of the whereabouts of this pair? S.G.70b was also offered at this sale.

A mint pane of sixty of S.G.75c with the overprint inverted was also on the block at this sale. If this block has not been broken up it might contain a 'no stop' variety if it was either the First or Second Pane. Can anyone shed any light on this one?

At the Charlton Henry sale held by Harmer, Rooke on 5th April, 1961, a corner block of four of S.G.68c inverted overprint, one stamp without stop, was sold. This is another example of the double error that deserves recognition. And to cap it all, a marginal block of four of S.G.75d overprint sideways, one stamp without stop, was auctioned off. This is the rarest of the Jamaica War Stamps listed and suggests that all of the inverted overprints probably exist without a stop. Can the members of the Study Circle help with this one?

Crawford D. Paton

LEEWARD ISLANDS

R.M.S.P. SOLENT. A NEW COVER

In a small bundle of rather poor B.W.I. cards and covers addressed to Sandbach, Parker & Co., of Demerara, British Guiana, another 'SOLENT' cover has recently been found.

It is a Leeward Islands Q.V. 1d. postal stationery envelope, cancelled 'Solent' in red ink by the same hand as that illustrating the article by Mr. E. V. Toeg on p. 82 of Bulletin No. 63, December, 1969. It is backstamped Castries, St. Lucia 26/5/99 and has the arrival c.d.s. Georgetown, B. Guiana 31/5/99. It has not got the violet 'Solent' handstamp shown in Mr. Toeg's illustration but it is noteworthy for its excellent condition, probably having remained with the

LEEWARD ISLANDS (Cont.)

other items since they were accumulated by their original owner who was employed by Sandbach, Parker & Co. and who collected stamps in a small way.

Perhaps Mr. Toeg might be good enough to make a list of all Eden, Esk and Solent covers which are known to members, so that earliest and latest dates and perhaps the place, or places, of origin can be established.

F. W. Collins

I have a photostatic copy of the Leeward Islands Gazette dated 8th July, 1897, which contains the official notice of the Sexagenary issue and that it would go on sale 22nd July for a period of one week.

I have also a second photostatic copy of the Gazette dated 1st October, 1897, which lists the number of each value sold in each presidency and the number of returns which were offered for sale in lots by tender. It also notes that the die used for over-stamping this issue had been destroyed officially.

I am assuming from this that the stamps remained on sale far beyond the one week originally scheduled. In fact, Major Hopkins has reported the 2½d value could still be purchased at the St. John's, Antigua, P.O. as late as 1902. Tenders were invited up to the 31st December, 1897, and it must be assumed that many of the remainders were disposed of. In 1902, however, tenders were again invited for one complete sheet of each value. As the original tenders were for three lots as listed in the Gazette, it is my guess that two lots were sold and that the balance were sold over the counter at the Post Office in St. John's until the final eight sheets were disposed of by tender in 1902.

Major Hopkins was apparently able to secure the official figures of the original number of each value allotted to each of the presidencies. He notes that the advertised remainders exceeded the unsold balances, particularly in the higher values, suggesting that additional quantities had been over-printed before the die was destroyed. I am including a table which recaps the entire transaction as follows:-

1897 Diamond Jubilee Set

	<i>Number Allotted</i>	<i>Number Sold</i>	<i>Remainders Offered</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Halfpenny	15,600	12,963	2,637	0
One Penny	15,600	12,811	2,789	0
Two Pence Halfpenny	15,600	9,833	5,407	-360
Four Pence	6,000	4,747	1,493	+240
Sixpence	3,480	2,690	1,030	+240
Seven Pence	3,480	2,687	793	0
One Shilling	1,800	1,743	600	+543
Five Shilling	900	784	600	+484
	62,460	48,258	15,349	+1,147

I have never been able to completely understand the relationship or the logic between mathematics and economics in the valuation of stamps and this particular situation doesn't help much. For example, the latest catalogue I have available lists the One Shilling Sexagenary unused at \$27.50 and the Five Shilling Sexagenary at \$185.00. If we assume, for sake of discussion, that half of the stamps sold over the counter post offices were used to pay postage this would mean that about 1,432 of the One Shilling and about 952 of the Five Shilling were in unused circulation at one time. In fact, the difference may not be this great as it is very likely that more of the One Shilling were actually used for postage.

As mentioned previously, I have seen many forged copies of the Five Shilling but very few of the One Shilling which suggests there are as many unused copies of the Five Shilling, good or bad, floating around as there are of the One Shilling. I don't know how many thousands of collectors are interested in British Colonies but I am sure there are not enough of either value to satisfy the need. Why, then, is one worth almost seven times as much as the other? I have a feeling that catalogues tend to create artificial prices without sufficient evidence to justify them. Logically, the One Shilling is woefully under-priced or the Five Shilling is over-priced.

Crawford D. Paton

I was surprised to see the suggestion in Bulletin No. 56 that the total issued quantity of the 5s. value (S.G.8) was only 2,640 because this figure is impossible to reconcile with the information one has about remainders. The Leeward Islands handbook of 1949 tells us that, among the stamps offered for sale as at 15th December, 1903, no fewer than 13,171 were of the 5s. value; these must all have been S.G.8, unless some of the fiscal labels were being offered at the same time (a possibility I should entirely discount). No doubt the above remainders (whose later history is unrecorded) were a fruitful storehouse for the forgers of the Sexagenary issue. However the number of *genuine* Sexagenary overprints has been preserved: 784 were sold throughout the islands by 1st October, 1897, and 600 were then offered as remainders - probably most of these were unsold and were put back on sale in one or more of the principal post offices. Presumably 12 sheets in all (1,440 stamps) were overprinted and the 56 stamps unaccounted for may have been distributed as specimens (e.g. the ULTRAMAR sets). Thus we have some 14,600 stamps accounted for before considering the quantity absorbed and used during the life of the definitives. Certainly S.G.8 is elusive in used condition - when one finds it, it is almost always used in Antigua - and its principal purpose was clearly fiscal since it is several times more common in this condition but it is nothing

LEEWARD ISLANDS (Cont.)

like as elusive as S.G.13, 14, 15 or 16 used so far as I can judge. Taken all in all I should have thought that the total number issued would be between 18,000 and 20,000. Perhaps only the original 2,640 were from Plate I and the balance from Plate II; from observation at least most copies have the white gum of the latter Plate.

S. Goldblatt

ST. LUCIA

Occasionally a used B.W.I. stamp, especially a high value, is rejected because of a cancellation other than the usual date stamp. Most often these are fiscals, e.g., Bermuda where, in the U.S.A. Scott prices revenue cancels on a few high denominations presumably to protect the novice collector.

However, as the photograph (page 43) of a portion of parcel wrapping I mailed back from St. Lucia shows, not all peculiar markings are fiscal. The bold sans serif "CASTRIES/ST. LUCIA" (in black) clearly originated in the Post Office. Off cover, I suspect more collectors than not would refuse such a stamp.

N. D. Thetford

S. Goldblatt refers to ANSE LA RAYE in the March, 1970, Bulletin (No. 64).

This office was established on 31st Oct., 1905, and its first datestamp was misspelt AUSE LA RAYE. This type was in use for over 30 years.

This office was then issued with a datestamp correctly spelt.

W. A. Townsend

TRINIDAD

SOLDIER'S LETTER

A short while ago I obtained an early soldier's letter. Readers of the Bulletin might be interested in details, and also in the contents of the letter. It is possible that someone may be able to add to the story or give more background information.

The letter is addressed to Ann Tuck, No. 3 Back Hill, Hatton Garden, Holborn, London. Written across the top of the address side in the usual way is "From Corporal Charles John Tuck 81 Regt., No. 296." Again in the usual

(Continued on page 44)

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

LIST OF MEMBERS 1969

KEY. – Names of colonies are given in a three-letter code, consisting in most cases of the first three letters of the name. "All" means all the colonies within the Circle's field of study. Meaning of symbols:-

C – Cancellations and postal markings; D – deals in material specified; M – Mint **only**; PH – Postal history or pre-adhesive material; PS – Postal stationery; U – Used **only**; x – Except.

* - Specialised collection, i.e., a collection including Postal history, Proofs, Specimens, Cancellations, Postal stationery, etc., unless otherwise indicated. The absence of this sign indicates a 'straight' collection of adhesives and catalogued varieties, † Overseas Member.

EXAMPLES.- "ANT, BAR & C" in col. 2 with "CAY" in col. 3 means the Member has straight collections of ANTIGUA and BARBADOS with the Cancellations of these colonies; as a secondary interest he also collects CAYMANS. "CAY: KGVI, M" would mean that his CAYMANS are limited to stamps of King George VI and only Mint.

"StL*, StV*, xPS" followed by "C of All xBrG, xBrH" means the Member has specialised collections (as defined above) of St. LUCIA and St. VINCENT but excluding Postal stationery; he also collects Cancellations of all colonies within the Circle's field except Br. Guiana and Br. Honduras.

NAME	MAIN INTEREST	Other Interests
†Adams, J.M.G.	BAR*	
†Adelson, E. M.	BAH	
†Aleong, J.C.	StV*	
Allan, D. J.	LEE* MONT*	Barbuda (1922)
†Aman, Dr. P. M.	JAM*	
†Arnell, Dr. J.C	BER*	
Ash, S	JAM*	
Astridge, G. W.	LEE* BRG*	
Austin, R. H., M.B.E.	BAH*	BAR, BER, GRE, JAM, StK, StL, TRI
Bailey, J. M.	BAH*	
Baker, J. W.	St.L*	
†Barrow, T.D.	LEE* WIN*	
†Bartlett, Edmund		All & C
Bartlett, G. C.	StL*	
†Bayley, C. H.	BAR*	All xBrH
Baynes, E.	BAR* BER*	Most & C
Beardwood, Dr. H. K.	GUY*	
Beauchamp, A. R.		All
†Benwell, B. B.	BAR*	
Berman, J.	BAR* LEE*	
Berridge, J. M.	All	
†Betts, E. C., Jr.		All & C
Bishop, C. W.	JAM*	
Black, H. Moreton	BAH*	BAR from 1892
Blackburn, Dr. R. H.	JAM*	
Bodily, R.		D all
†Bogg, W. G.		D. All PH
†Bolling, R	BAR*	DOM
Bolton, K.	JAM*	
Bowman, G. W.	ANT*	
†Box, H. E.		All
Branston, A. J.	BAH*	
†Brassler, Norman		All xPH, xPS
Britnor, L. E.	BAR* xPS	PH & C of All xBrG, xBrH
Brooks, B.A.	St.K*	
Brown, G. Bridgmore, M.B.E.	BER*	All C of BAR, StV
Brown, Dr. H. V.	DOM*	GRE (C), ANT, StK, StL (C & PS)
Burdett, A.E.	BAR*	

NAME	MAIN INTEREST	Other Interests
Burns, T		1958 Federal Issues
Bush, Lt. E. R. W.	BER*	
†Butler, W.	LEE	
Butt, D.G.	BER	C of BAR, JAM, TR1
†Cameron, Byron R.	JAM*	CAY, TUR
Campbell, W.A.B.		All
†Campe, G. C.	CAY*	D
Carr, Cdr. R. G.		All
Cave, Major S. F.	BAR*	
Challis, J. J.	TUR*	
Chard, I.P.	BER*	
Chidley, A. H.	BAR* GRE* JAM	
†Churchill, J. C.	BAH* CAY* JAM	
Coasby, L. R.	BAH* GRE	All xBER, xBrG, xBrH
†Coleman, Dr. R. C.	VIR*	
Collins, Cdr. F. W.		D All
Collinson, Miss B. J.	BAR*	
†Cornell, W. G.	ANT* BARBUDA* LEE*	C of All
Courtney, L. A.	JAM*	PH & C of all
†Craig, Dr. R. M.	JAM*	
†Creed, E. G.	StV*	BAR, BER
†Crider, Dr. D. B.	DOM*	
Crow, W. H. H.	JAM*	C of all
†Curtiss, J. T.		All also Cuba & Puerto Rico
Davis, F. Leonard	LEE	
Day, S. J.	GRE*	ANT, BAH, MONT, StV
Deakin, H. F.	BAH* BAR* CAY* StV*	
†De Freitas, R. A.	BAR*, BrG*, GUY*	
†De Lise, M. B.		All M & U & Varieties
Delingpole, M. H.		All also Ascension, Falkland Islands
Demster, J.	GRE*	
†Devaux, R. J.	StL*	All
†Dickason, L. T.	GRE* to 1895	Haiti* to 1920
Dickson, I. W. D.	StL, StB & C	
Ditch, R. D.	BAH*	
†Doak, Dr. E.K.		
Donne, C. E.	VIR* xPS	
†Durmin, S. C.	LEE* (C)	
†Eden, O. K.	JAM*	
Eliel, K. W.	BrH* DOM* GRE* JAM*	
†Ericson, Edwin M.	JAM*	
Evans, J.F.	BrH* StL* TUR & CAI*	All others
Fairhead, M.A.	BAH*	
†Fashingbauer, R	BAH*	
Fawcett, V.	ANT* DOM*	
Fitz-Gerald, F. D. , o.B.E.		All xBER
Forshaw, E. S.	BrG*	
†Fredrick, J. L.	VIR* to 1900	
†Freeman, F. G.	JAM* xPS	
Garrard, Dr. N.	BAH*	All xBrG, xStV
Garrat-Adams, H.		Philatelic Literature
†Gaston, Howard J.	JAM*	GB used in JAM, CUBA, DOM, REP, HAITI, JAM used in CAY
Giffin, W. L.		All
Giraldi, T. E.	BAH* CAY*	Ant, StL, Guyana
Giraud-Saunders, N.C.	ANT* BAR*	BER, DOM, GRE, StL & StV,
Goldblatt, S.	VIR*	
†Gregson, J. M. A.	BAR* TRI*	
†Grimble, R.W.	ANT* GRE* JAM*	
†Grinevicius, A.		
†Griswold, Dr. A. S.	BAH* BER*	
Grogan, H. L.	BAR* GUY* JAM* TRI & TOB*	
†Group, R. E.	C of BrG & BrH,	
Hall, W. ff. D.		All including PH & C
†Halliday, R. W.		D
†Hamilton, R. W.	MONT* VIR*	
†Harris, Dr. Forest D.	BAR*	
Harris, Dr. H. C. A.	JAM*	
Harris, M. A.		D Pre-adhesives up to 1935
Heap, J. L.	BrG	
Hellings, N. B. B.	All	
Henriques, R	JAM*	
Herbert, J. A. C.	CAY*	
Hershman, R. E.	BAR*	
†Hicks, Dr. H. D.	BER*	
Higgins, A. H.		All
†Higgins, R. D.	ANT* BAH* BAR* BER* GRE*	
Hill, Dr. A. E.	TRI & TOB*	
Hoey, S. Graham	BAH*	

NAME	MAIN INTEREST	Other Interests
Horton, A. G.		
Irving, W.	Classics of All	
†Ishibara, M.	StV* (&PH)	
†Jaffe, Peter	StV*	GRE to 1901, PH of LEE, StL, C of BAR, BrG BrH, DOM, GRE All M & U
Jailet, Mrs. C.		
James, H. A. H.	JAM*	
Jex Long, I.D.	ANT* BAR* BrG* GRE* StL StV VIR	
†Johnson, A. N.	JAM*	CAY, TUR
Johnson, B. E.	GRE*	All, particularly PH
Johnson, F. M.		
Jones, C. E. R.	BER	
†Jones, Russell	GRE*	
Kimber, H. E.	StL, StV	
King, J. M.	ANGUILLA	
†Kitchen, Dr. P. F.	CAY from 1937, JAM	All
†Kopf, Dr. K	TOB* TRI*	BAR, BER
†Larsen, P. A.	LEE	
Latham, A. H.	JAM, BAR (C)	
Lea, W. E.		D all
Lee, R. A. G.	CAY*	StL
Leverton, A. M.		D All
Lewis, V		All
Lickfold, E. K.	StV	
Limrick, B		QEII & postmarks
Lisle, F. B.	BAR, BER, BrG, TRI & C	
Lloyd-Lowles, D. G. N., o.B.E.	CAY*	
Loach, J. C.	BAR* (& PH) StK* (& PH) TRI* (& PH)	ANT, BAH, BAR, BER, GRE, StV VIR
†Lockie, Dr. J. M.	CAY* StL*	KG V onwards (BAH, BAR, BrG, JAM, StK, TRI & TOB, TUR & CAI)
Lowe, Robson	BAH: Chalton Heads	
†Ludington, M. H.	BER*	PH & C of BAH, TUR & PH
†Lyman, R. W.		D All (Classics)
Lyons, Mrs. S.	TRI*	BAR, JAM
M Caughey, D.	CAY*	
Macmillan, H. B.	JAM*	All
†Malin, L. R.	BER, BrG, JAM, TUR & CAI	
Manning, K. J. A. O.	ANT* DOM* MON* StK* VIR* xPS to 1935	All to 1936 x JAM, StV
Marriott, J. B.	TRI* to 1910	
Marshall, L. M. W.	ANT* xPS	GRE LEE StV xPS BER
Mason, Dr. S.A.	JAM*	All others
Matthews, W. H.	TOB* TRI* TRI & TOB*	All others & Venezuela
Messenger, J. L.	GRE* StV*	All others
†Michael, J.M.	NEV*	
Mills, P. V.	TRI & TOB*	
Mitchell, Hooton	BAR* TRI* xPS	All others except StL & TUR
Mitchell, Dr. T. J.		All, particularly C & PH
†Mosely, T.E.	JAM*	
†Mounsey, R. C., Jr.	BAR* BrG*	
Murray, Col. A.		D PH & C of all
Nabarro, F. J. N.	DOM* to 1935	
Neale, H. A.		All (KGV only)
Nissen, H.		D all
Norris, Lt. Col. F. S. J.	DOM*	
†O'Connor, Harvey	GRE*	All
†Osborn, G. A.	BER* to 1901	GRE to 1901
Oxley, H. M.	GRE	
Palmer, C	StL*	
Parker, C. Angus		D all, specially PH, C, Ps, Covers, Proofs, etc.,
Partridge, R. F.	GRE & C	
†Paton, C. D.	LEE* JAM (War Stamps)*	
Paton, I. M.	LEE from 1937	All others from 1937
Pattiz, H. A.	BER* CAY*	JAM Inter Island Mails
Payne, C.M.	GRE*	
Pearl, Brigadier A.G.	LEE*	
Pilkington, G. L.	GRE* to 1890	StC. LEE ©
†Plass, Gilbert.N..	VIR*	LEE
Powell, D. H.	MONT*	PH of all
Pratt, R. G.	StV	
Pritchett, G. C.	BAH, BAR, GRE, StL, STV, TRI	All from 1953 M xANT BrG & BrH
Proffitt, B.	JAM*, LEE*	
Proud, E. B.		D all & PH
Pullar, G. L.	StL (M)	ANT, BAR, MONT (M)
Pywell, J. G.	ANT, BAR, StV, C & PS	
Radford, R.	BAR*	
Ramkissoon, R. A.	TRI* & TOB*	
Ransom, Mrs H. S.	TRI* TOB*	
Ransome, R.	TRI* TOB*	
†Raymond, Gale J.	BAH (PH) LEE (PH)	ANT, BrH, Anguilla, Barbuda (PH)

NAME	MAIN INTEREST	Other Interests
Renshaw, E. B. †Ritchie, G. W. S.	ANT, BAH, BAR, BER, JAM, StL, TRI & TOB BER* from 1953	ANT, BrH, Anguilla, Barbuda (PH) BAH, BrG, BrH, CAY, DOM, JAM, LEE, StL, StV, TUR From 1953 All (QEII)
Ritchie, J.M. Roberts, J. Roberts, T. V. Robertson, K. J. †Robinson, A. G. Rockett, R. C.	JAM, LEE ANT, DOM, GRE, StK, JAM* BER* JAM* LEE* CAY*	StL, TRI & TOB All others (KG VI & QEII)
Sam, W. P. Samuel, M. F.J. †Sancho, G. E. Sargeant, K. S. Saunders, P. T. Scott, R.J. †Seifert, Col. Fred F. Shaxted, J. †Shepard, J.H. Shephard, A Shephard, M †Shilstone, H. M. Jr. Skinner, P. R. Sibley, R. A. Skinner, P. R. Smith, C Hardeman Smith, Lt.-Col. G. Saville †Spelman, H.M. III Spencer, E. Spreckley, A. E. Stephenson, G. M. Steppler, Prof. H. A. †Stone, R. G. †Strachan, T. J. Surtees, V. N. F Swarbrick, R. V. Swetland, M. W. Tatham, W.C.	TRI (PH) DOM* JAM* StL* BAR* StK* StL* BAR* BAR* BAH* BAH* MONT* StK* VIR* BAH* ANT, GRE, MONT, StL, StV JAM* BAR* BAR*, StV StV* TRI* & TOB* LEE & WIN, BAH LEE* JAM* JAM* ANT*, BER*, JAM* JAM*	All (specimens & Revenue) D PH of all PH of Herefordshire All C & PS of all TRI & TOB All All others D all (C) G.B. used abroad BAH BER BrG, BrH All others xBrC, xBrH
Taylor, J. †Taylor, Mrs. P. K. †Tennison, P. J. Terry, W. †Thefford, Dr. N. D. Thompson, B. E. Thompson, E. K. Titford, Rose Todd, J. D. Toeg, E.V. †Topaz, R †Towers, Dr. R. P. Townsend, W. A. †Tse, T.H. †Tucker, Sir H. J. †Vooyo, D. W. Walker, B. Walsh, R.C. Ward, R. Warren, Capt. D.C. Watkinson, R.J. Watson, W. K. Watts, M.D. †Weeks, C. A.	BER*, JAM* CAY* St.K, LEE*, VIR* All (KGVI & QEII) ANT*, BAR* DOM* ANT*, LEE*, MONT* JAM* GRE* PH of all BER* JAM* TRI & TOB*	D All P.B. issues & covers BAH (PH) BrG (PH) BER D all Canada (PH), PH of Herefordshire and Mid Wales TUR All All others D Registered covers BrH* GRE, StV Philatelic Literature BAH, BAR, BER, StV
Wells, R. W. Wellum, F.E. Whalen, J. B. Wheeler, L. S. Willem, J. M. Wilson, E.H. Winters, F. A. Wood, Dr. P.J. Woodhead, L.A. Woodward, I. R. Woodward, R. G. Woolfson, Dr. D. Worthington, H. B.	GRE* TRI* JAM* BAR* ANT* MONT* StL* All C PH PS & 1st Flights ANT* BER*, GRE*, JAM*, StL* JAM* JAM* DOM*	DOM, StL, StV BAR, DOM, GRE, StV, Anguilla All M & on cover
Wright, D. A. †Yary, Dr. I. M. †Zambriani, V. †Zeit, L. E. Jr.	ANT* BAR* GRE* MONT* TRI & TOB* BAH, BAR, BER, TRI TUR from 1901	PH & C of all xBrG * BrH All from 1953



way the letter is signed in the lower left corner by the "Lt. Col. Comg. 81 Regt." The signature is difficult to decipher but is possibly C. Challcote.

The postal markings are PD in manuscript and London Paid tombstone date stamp of 3 MY 1841, both on the obverse in red. On the reverse is the Trinidad double line circle date stamp in black, the date of which is illegible.

The letter is dated Trinidad April 11th, 1841, and reads as follows:

My Dear Sister,

I must begin this letter as I always do by begging pardon and saying I am very sorry which I really am indeed and you must forgive me - I received your kind letter dated February 2nd 1840 and it gave me pleasure to read all your small talk but I like your style of writing and you must forgive (me) for not answering it (I will tell you the truth about that letter). Your letter did not arrive until March and they were moving the Troop in the West Indies from one Island to another and we were shifted to another barracks. In the bustle your letter was mislaid and I could not find it until I had received your second which is dated 14th June and I am very glad to hear you are well and that you got my little presents safe. Mother has sent one dated November 2nd and she tells me Bettsey is married to Spinks and I hope she will be very happy. Tell her I should be glad to hear from her and her husband and not to forget to send a newspaper now and again - Dear Ann go and see Ellin for me and tell her not to think that I have forgotten her or that I ever shall as long as I live - No Ann I love her as dear as a brother should love a sister (she was my dearest friend often when nobody knew it) but knowing that my letters are read and explained to all my family I always put as much news in them as I can and intend that everyone should have an equal share of my remembrance - there is my sister Dinah I never wrote to her in my life (as I remember) but I have not forgot her, I have a parrot for her when I can send it but nobody goes home from here. If Walker had come here I would have sent it by him.

I must now give you some account of myself and travels and the Country we are in - in the first place I am Corporal Tuck Mess Man 81st Regt. Since last August I took the Mess in a very bad country place - and time - but my officers stood to me, advanced me money. I gave them satisfaction - paid them and made a little for myself. It is not much for I have only been a short time at it and now the mess is so small that I do not gain anything by it but my pay is good and my wife and family found in rations and I keep my old situation as mess waiter, so put that and that together I am not badly off. We left Barbados January 25th and arrived at Trinidad on 27th. This is a very fine looking country. The background is all mountains covered with woods and the lowlands is all cultivated with sugar cane coffee and cocoa and always looks

green - but the most unhealthy place I was ever in my life. The sun is very hot in the day and the dew falls very thick in the night so when the sun rises in the morning there is a mist comes up from the earth that brings fevers and ague and the soldiers cannot stand it. The Blacks do manage it a little better but there has been very many of them cut up this season. We had not been here a fortnight when some of the men took the fever and since then they have died very fast. I took the fever myself and was very bad. I was 13 days in bed but I was kept in my own Quarters and did not go to hospital so I got more attention and care and was saved for the present. I am not quite well yet. We have lost a great many fine men, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, 12 privates, 3 women, 7 children out of only 2 companies besides 1 store keeper 1 barrack sergt 1 gunman in less than 2 months. My little family are all pretty well. My wife has another girl named Susan - Bill is a fine boy (and) goes to school - everything here is very dear (but turtle that is only 5d. per lb.) Clothes is very dear and the Blacks will not work only when they like - there is very many curiosities here such as fire flies, lantern flies, praying mantis and the sensitive plant grows here like a weed. If you only tread on one leaf the whole does creep up directly - there is a great lot of serpents and wild cats and other beasts in the woods and the handsomest birds I ever see but they will not live if you catch them so the officers shoot and stuff them - we get all our meat and fowls from the Spanish Main - we are only about 40 miles from South America. The market people come over in one night. It is the Holy Days now and we can hardly get anything to eat. They will not work until next week here for nobody. Dear Ann look to my little girl now and again and put her right, I hope she will do well. I hope to live to see her again but this is a bad place. God's will be done.

My wife joins with sending our kind love to my mother and brothers and sisters and all enquiring friends - I hope this will find you and all the family in good health and that you will write me a letter soon and send me all the news - forgive my past neglect -

and I remain dear sister
Your ever affectionate Brother and Sister
Charles and Margaret
Tuck 81 Regt.

Direct to Corporal Tuck 296
Mess man 81 Regt
St James
Trinidad.

J. B. Marriott

TRINIDAD (Cont.)

STAMPS USED IN CIUDAD BOLIVAR. VENEZUELA

Various Trinidad stamps are known cancelled with the D22 killer at Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela. The following have been recorded:

1863 Watermark Crown CC Perforated 12½: (1d.), 6d.

1872 Watermark Crown CC Perforated 12½: 4d.

1876 Watermark Crown CC Perforated 14: (1d.)

The following entires have been recorded:

Ciudad Bolivar

Paid c.d.s. in red

<i>Paid c.d.s. in red</i>	<i>Trinidad c.d.s.</i>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Collection</i>
1. SP 1 69	—	Philadelphia, U.S.A.	Wickersham, Glassco
2. JY 15 73	JY 18 1873	Trinidad	Charlton Henry
3. SP 12 73	SP 15 1873	Trinidad	Granger
4. OC 12 73	OC 15 1873	Trinidad	Hurlock
5. DE 27 73	DE 30 1873	Trinidad	Yates, Marriott
6. JA 16 74	JA 20 1874	Trinidad	Hurluck, Glassco
7. FE 20 75	FE 23 1875	Trinidad	Hurlock

All are franked with a single 1863 Watermark Crown CC Perforated 12½ (1d.) except for No. 4 which is franked by a pair. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 show single line SHIP-LETTER in red; Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 have a manuscript 2 in blue; No. 1 is marked 4d. in manuscript and is backstamped St Thomas SE 14 69.

The writer would be most grateful if anyone can add to the above information.

John B. Marriott

VIRGIN ISLANDS

WHY NOT COLLECT THE VICTORIAN STAMPS OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS?

When sugar and slaves nourished the economy of the West Indies, the British Virgin Islands were a flourishing group: about a score of inhabited isles and islets, another score a haven for land crabs and mangroves and the occasional buccaneer. A lazy, sun-swept, rain-washed, wind-lashed necklace of islands, dominated by steeping Tortola and contented Virgin Gorda (the "plump virgin") each with its 4,000 or 5,000 souls. Nearby in the Danish West Indies, now the U.S. Virgins, lay bustling St. Thomas, the hub and focus of Caribbean trade.

One hundred years later the well of prosperity had dried up. Hurricanes, blighted crops, civil insurrection and the bright lights of Europe had each taken their toll. When the first British stamps reached Tortola the population had slumped to half, and for almost the rest of the 19th century the residents of British, indeed European, origin could be numbered on the fingers of one hand.

Melville has recorded post office revenue from the sale of stamps to the public in the opening years after 1866. The weekly turnover averaged just about half-a-crown!

This article will deal with issued Virgin Islands stamps of the 19th century, leaving to another occasion and probably to another writer, specimens, proofs and essays, as well as postal history. Even the issued stamps are not common, and their characteristics are not always easy to follow from the Stanley Gibbons catalogue, detailed and admirable though it is. At one point, indeed. Homer himself may be seen to nod; and so, with diffidence, if not temerity, these notes are offered by way of a helping hand.

THE STAMPS OF NISSEN & PARKER

Quite why this tiny firm was given the Virgin Islands contract may be hard to explain, especially as the work of engraving the original dies, and possibly the actual lithography, was sub-contracted to Waterlow's: apparently their well-known engraver, J. B. Rapkin, was the man who did the initial work. Nevertheless, orders from the Colony seem to have been handled with economy, efficiency and speed; and the end-product was a thoroughly individual series of stamps, which admirably echoed the individuality of the islander himself.

THE 1d. STAMP (1866 to 1876)

(1) Perf. 12. (S.G.1, 2, 5, 6). This was a single printing of 22,000 stamps in sheets (or panes) of 25. Two basic colours of ink were used - dull green and myrtle-green, as nearly as the writer can define them - but each shade ranges from pale to intense. The paper was a stout, good quality, wove paper, of a texture used for most of the Nissen & Parker issues: usually the paper on these 1d. stamps is toned a slightly dirty grey, but copies may be found on pure white or very sandy paper, both comparatively scarce. If the collector's first four examples broadly reflect the four catalogued variations, he should rest content there; for, if he acquires a fifth example, he may need twenty others to do justice to the stamp!

(2) Perf. 15. (S.G.8, 9, 12). Between 1868 and 1876 there were 10 separate printings in this perforation, totalling 37,800 stamps in all; and each new printing came from a freshly prepared lithographic stone. Quite possibly, too, two panes were printed side by side, at least with the later printings, producing further slight variations between the corresponding stamps on each pane. Thus it is a practical impossibility to allocate the stamps accurately to the three categories which Gibbons allows; and the stamps are perhaps as well graded by size as by any other test. The smaller stamps are the commonest and the latest in date, while the larger stamps are the earlier, and quite scarce. Largest of all are the stamps of the first printing, of 50 sheets of 20: the colour is grass-green on quite deeply toned paper, with usually one or two typical blind perforations

WHY NOT COLLECT VIRGIN ISLANDS (Cont.)

to be seen; examples are valuable and somewhat rare. This printing apart, the toning of paper is best ignored: going by shade, size and general appearance, the keen-eyed collector will not find examples of some 6 or 7 different printings difficult to amass.

(3) Compound perf. - S.G.7b (perf. 15, 12, and at times imperf.). At some time during the 1866 printing the perforating apparatus (line 12) evidently went on strike. Two or more sheets were only partly perforated - one pane, for instance, showed a full line of perforation and a 'ghost' perforation between the first two vertical rows of stamps, while other rows were left wholly or partly blank. At a later date the job was more or less completed in perforation 15, and the sheets concerned were probably sent out to the Colony at that time. (Something similar once happened to at least 1 pane of NEVIS, S.G.22). Examples of this very rare variety may be perf. 15 on 1 or 2 sides, or possibly 3, while the other sides are perf. 12 and occasionally imperf. at left. If you believe you have a copy in your own collection, do not raise your hopes too high: good forgeries are not found in Virgin Islands, but perforations of genuine stamps are all too often re-cut with subtlety and skill.

THE 4d. STAMP (1867-1868)

(S.G.15, 16, 17). I have no real quarrel with the catalogue descriptions here, although the intensity of shading varies quite significantly on both the buff and pale rose papers, as indeed do the tints of the papers themselves. 12,000 stamps were sent out, in two parcels, to the Colony in 1867, and a further 1,000 the next year; but examples on rose paper, while scarcer than their fellows, are far too easily come by to be the 1868 consignment, as some authorities have suggested. Indeed, if the two printings are distinguishable, the writer has yet to find the key; though what one can separate, is two distinct settings from the same lithographic plate. The second setting (as common as the first) is a 'tidied-up' version of the first: from the latter only comes the broken 'A' in 'ISLANDS,' a pleasing minor variety, which is definitely hard to acquire.

THE 6d. STAMP (1866-1868)

(1) Perf. 12. (S.G.3, 4, 4a, 7, 7a). This printing is contemporary with the 1d. perf, 12, a single printing of 11,000 stamps in panes of 25. As with the 4d., there were two variations of the same lithographic plate, particularly noticeable in the case of the large 'V' variety - the first stamp in the second row in every pane. As before, the paper, though it varies in toning, is uniform in quality and weave; and it may well be that the variations are due to climate and the elements, rather than to any basic difference in the paper used: nowadays, however, quite sandy paper is found on the large majority of stamps, and all

others may reasonably be classified as white. About one stamp in five or six - on all tones of paper - shows traces of the papermaker's watermark - 'A COWAN & SONS EXTRA SUPERFINE A C & S.' The shades (particularly on toned paper!) display an enormous range, from the palest blush of the Virgin St. Ursula, to a wine-dark alcoholic flush. As an exercise in hunting rarities, the reader might like to search for a watermarked version of the large 'V' variety, pale rose on pure white paper: it should keep him busy for the rest of his philatelic days.

(2) Perf. 15. (S.G.10, 13). This is a rare but uncomplicated stamp issued in 1868. It comes from a new lithographic plate of 20 impressions, and is therefore an almost exact parallel of the first printing of the 1d. perf. 15. The paper is again stout and of uniform texture, in white or grey or sandy tones. The rose colouring of the stamps is very pale, almost insipid, and a majority of copies show a slightly jaundiced tinge; these may be classified as S.G.13.

THE 1s. STAMP (1867-1868)

Even old hands find it difficult to understand the 1s. stamp, because the catalogue (or Homer) leads one astray. Two basic 'types' are separately illustrated, when in fact only one such type exists. May we wipe the slate clean and begin afresh?

In 1867, 11,000 stamps were printed, each having as its outer frame the twin lines - thin, parallel and sometimes merging - known as the double-lined frame. Some were left in that state: these are S.G.11, 14 or 14a. The vast majority, probably 10,000, were then treated by the super-imposition of 6mm. bands of rose-carmine colour between the stamps and around the panes: these are the coloured margins of S.G.18, 19, 20, and one can always see traces of the double-lined frame beneath.

In 1868 the frame lines of the original plate were re-touched, the double lines being converted into a single line of the same total width. 2,000 stamps were printed: these are S.G.21 and 21a.

Thus all the 1s. stamps are blood relations, and all types could legitimately be incorporated within the framework of a single reconstructed pane.

As to papers, these are thick or thin. The thick papers, in the now familiar ranges, from white or off-white to deeply toned - belong to S.G.18, 19, 21 and 21a. The thin papers belong exclusively to the rest. The latter are always at least a little blued, and the allocation of the double-lined frame stamps between white, blued or toned paper is somewhat unreal, although the toning is at times as prominent as on any other stamp. S.G.20 is seldom recognised, but should never be missed: its colour is quite distinctive, and the outer margins of the marginal stamps (7 in every 10) are always perforated outside the colour bands. Perhaps the thin papers would not withstand three printing operations

WHY NOT COLLECT VIRGIN ISLANDS; (Cont.)

(including the centre Virgin) and subsequent perforation through the colour margin - that could be why S.G.20 is scarce, and 11, 14, 14a exist at all.

The 'missing Virgin' should not really be mentioned in these notes. The black figure of the Virgin used to be typographically printed upon the partly finished pane from a complete and rigid setting of 20 impressions, centred with reasonable accuracy upon the gaping 'glory' in each stamp. We shall never know whether accident or trial produced a pane (or half a pane) with the Virgin omitted; but this glamorous variety was never issued. It seems that the top two rows were for years retained by the printers, and eventually released with an assortment of essays and proofs. So the missing Virgin scarcely deserves her catalogue status. All the same, if the writer owned a copy, he might change his mind!

THE 4d. ON 1s. SURCHARGE (1888)

It was probably thrift and not shortage which evoked Virgin Islands' only surcharge of Victorian days. By 1888 some thousands of the 1s. stamp (by now almost uniformly tropicalised to S.G.19!) were still in stock, and 2,500 of these were sent to Antigua to be converted by means of a violet handstamp for 4d. use. The job was done with fair competence; a very few stamps received a double surcharge and just one, it is thought, received the surcharge upside down. The average collector, if he cannot bear gaps on his pages, must content himself with photographs of these two varieties.

(To be continued)

S. Goldblatt

Mr. Goldblatt in Bulletin No. 64 March, 1970, refers to my illustrations of postmarks in Bulletins 36 to 38 and he quite rightly points out that two different types of illustration (4) exist. When I prepared illustration (4) I did not realise that there were two types and I confirm from examples in my own collection that the type with the last two numbers only is more scarce.

With reference to types (12), (13), (14), and (15), I have a number of these and the distinctiveness of "TORTOLA" varies considerably. In this connection I have the outward half of a reply card with the Leeward Islands King Edward VII 1d. red stamp printed thereon addressed to a place in Switzerland; the stamp is postmarked with illustration (15) and the postmark including the word "TORTOLA" is very light and only three-quarters of it appears to have registered. I have no reason to believe that this postmark is not genuine.

E. V. Toeg

AUCTION GLEANINGS

**H. R. HARMER LTD., Sale of October 20th, 1969 Highlights from the
"W. A. Townsend " Gold Medal BRITISH GUIANA**

1850

- 4c. orange, S.G.2, initialled "W.H.L.," cut octagonally (frame just touched at top), dated Demerara canc. **£300**
- 4c. lemon-yellow, S.G.3, initialled "E.D.W.," cut round, showing a good proportion of outer frameline. Dated Sept., 1851, cancel (the earliest recorded date of use - Auctioneers' note). Ex Ferrari **£310**
- 8c. green, S.G.4 (initials undecipherable), circular Demerara dated pmk. (thinning in lower-left margin) **£440**
- 12c. blue, S.G.5, cut square, initialled "W.H.L.," light Berbice dated canc. R.P.S. cert. **£800**
- 12c. dull blue, without initials, cut round (frame almost touched at two places). Well tied to piece by "DEMERARA AU 2 1850" pmk. Ex Ferrari **£220**
- 12c. blue, cut round, frame line complete (slight crease), tied to complete letter to Georgetown and with dated markings of Nov. 1850. R.P.S. cert. **£380**
- 12c. indigo, S.G.6, initialled "E.D.W.," cut square, outer frame clear on two sides. Berbice dated canc. R.P.S. cert. **£240**
- 4c. pale yellow on pelure paper, S.G.8, cut round (initial undecipherable). Demerara dated pmk. (natural paper creasing). R.P.S. cert. **£280**
- 1852, Litho., lc. black on magenta. Type B, light circular dated pmk. (tiny surface thinning at lowerleft corner) **£250**
- 1853, lc. vermilion, S.G.11, light cancel **£115**
- 1858-59, lc. dull red, Type B, S.G.14, well tied to letter-wrapper to London by "DEMERARA DE 17 59" canc., the wrapper has two stains; shows "6" marking in ms. **£105**
- 1853-59, 4c. blue, 1st Stone, S.G.19, used **£57.10**
- 1853-59, 4c. pale blue, 2nd Stone, Type 1, S.G.20, light circular dated pmk., on small piece **£40**
- 1853-59, 4c. pale blue, 2nd Stone, Type 3, circular dated pmk. **£44**
- 1856, Type-set, 4c. black on magenta, S.G.24, initialled "E.D.W.," cut octagonally, used on complete letter to London. The letter was posted on Wakenaam Island and shows "B G W FE 7 1856" marking. Postage was paid in cash, "Paid 4 Cts." in ms. The stamp was affixed at Demerara and cancelled "DEMERARA FE 8 1856."
This is the earliest date recorded for this issue (Auctioneer's note).

MISCELLANEA (Cont.)

- A ms."6" in blk. denotes the delivery charge on London. The letter, which has two filing folds, bears Demerara and London (20 MR 1856) dated markings on reverse. R.P.S. cert. **£750**
- 1856, Type-set, 4c. black on rose-carmine, S.G.25, initialled "E.D.W.," cut square, light dated canc., small margins, a trifle thinned and tiny pinhole **£250**
- 1856, Type-set, 4c. black on blue, S.G.26, initialled "E.D.W.," used on slightly stained and folded cover to Mahaicony, cut close and clipped at corners, a few tiny surface abrasions; dated markings of October, 1856. B.P.A. cert. **£700**
- 1860, Litho, thick paper, perf. 12, 1c. pale rose, S.G.29, part o.g., centred a little to top. R.P.S. cert. **£57.10**
- 1860, Litho., thick paper, perf. 12, 8c. brownish rose, bisected diagonally, well tied to cover, to Demerara by circular "B G A IC NO. 12 1861" cancel; dated "DEMERARA NO. 12 61" marking on reverse; (the cover has slight crease at top, just touching the bisect). (Accompanying this cover is an original official notice signed by E. T. E. Dalton on the "habit of affixing fractions of Postage Stamps" which was contrary to P.O. regulations) **£230**
- 1863, medium paper, perf. 12½-13, 24c. green S.G.64, mint block of 4 from right of sheet. This block is of great interest as it proves that there were only two horizontal rows in the sheet. This was not known until this item, believed to be unique, was discovered. (Auctioneer's note) **£170**

Congratulations are offered to the following members on their recent awards:-

STAMPEX 1970

Silver Medal: H. F. Deakin, B. E. Johnson, G. Moray Stephenson, G. G. Oxley, E. V. Toeg.

Bronze Silver Medal: G. F. Oxley (2), J. D. Todd (3).

The Collectors' Club of New York

1969 Medal for best display of the year: Robson Lowe for 'U.S. Locals.'

1970 Alfred P. Lichenstein Memorial Award: Robson Lowe.

OBITUARY

THE PASSING OF BILL LEA

It is with profound shock and sadness that all those who knew him learned of the sudden and unexpected death on the 31st January, 1970, of our member William Edward Lea (Bill Lea).

Bill had reached the position of being one of the foremost Dealers in the world in classic issues and was one of those lucky people who loved stamps although stamps were his livelihood. All members of the Study Circle will have heard of Bill Lea and many members will have made a purchase from or through him with the feeling of utmost satisfaction that goes with having acquired a splendid item. One of his finest characteristics was his complete integrity and reliability as a Dealer which inspired confidence in those who transacted business with him.

Apart from being a Dealer, Bill had other interests in philately. He was, at the time of his death, Chairman of the Expert Committee of the British Philatelic Association having been on that Committee for several years and this enabled him to give to others his vast knowledge and experience and in turn it enriched his own knowledge with which he was never satisfied. He was also on the Executive Committee of Philypia 1970, thus helping to promote and organise this great international exhibition for the benefit of philately generally.

Bill was also a keen collector, having formed some years ago fine collections of the stamps of Great Britain and Canada and, among other Societies, he belonged to the Great Britain Philatelic Society, the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, the Society of Postal Historians and the Postal History Society. Probably the honour which he treasured most was bestowed on him when he signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and in so doing he became one of a small band of professionals to achieve this.

Bill therefore knew what it was like to be both a Dealer and a Collector. He was particularly keen on discussing matters in which other Collectors were interested and his contributions to a discussion were always to the point and invariably fruitful. It is quite fair to say that anyone who went to him for help over a problem would be given that help without stint despite the fact that Bill led a busy life. Those who did business with him could rely also on the fact that he would bear their interests in mind over the years.

Philately can ill afford to suffer the loss of Bill Lea particularly as his death occurred when he was comparatively young yet it is probable that he achieved virtually all his ambitions in philately at the time of his death both as a Dealer and as a Collector.

A large number of people consisting of relatives and numerous members of the Trade and Collectors including your President, Mr. E. V. Toeg, attended the Cremation Service.

Bill leaves behind his wife, Joan, his sons, Michael and Billy, and his daughter, Joanne, to all of whom the members of this Study Circle extend their most sincere sympathy.

E. V. Toeg

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Dear Member,

Fortunately in contrast to 1969 I was able to attend our Sixteenth Anniversary Meeting, details of which you will have read elsewhere. During the past year no less than five of our members have died which is a great loss to our Circle. Of these I cannot refrain from making specific mention of three of them. Firstly, Cdr. G. Bridgmore Brown, who was Chairman from April, 1958, to March, 1965, in addition to which he rendered valuable service to the Publications Sub-Committee. Secondly, Mr. W. E. (Bill) Lea who frequently attended our meetings and gave us the benefit of his wide knowledge in solving many problems. Thirdly, Mr. William B. Stitt who was one of our most enthusiastic members resident overseas. I received many letters from him written in a most informal way and always containing interesting information. As I write these lines I have before me a copy of the Robson Lowe catalogue of his collection. By the time this bulletin reaches you I have no doubt many members will have acquired some of the outstanding items for their own collections. Nowadays the main subject of interest in the philatelic world is naturally "PHILYMPIA 1970" and I cannot emphasise too much how we are looking forward to meeting many of our opposite numbers in the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Incidentally, there are still a few reservations available for the Luncheon to be held on September 21st, 1970, so if you wish to attend please complete and return the form that is in your possession without further delay. It was not without great reluctance that your Committee decided to recommend an increase in the annual subscription to 30s. (£1.50p.) to take effect from 1971. With the ever rising costs in printing together with the increases in postal charges this action is imperative if the existing standard of the bulletin is to be maintained. If you are one of those who kindly cooperate by paying your subscriptions by Bankers' Order please note that a fresh form will be included with our December issue for favour of your signature and return. In conclusion it gives me much pleasure in welcoming on your behalf the following new members: Major S. F. Cave (Surrey), H. L. Grogan (Barbados), H. A. Pattiz (U.S.A.), D. H. Powell (Canada), R. A. Ramkissoon, M.D. (U.S.A.), M. Sheppard (Surrey), B. E. Thompson (Essex), J. B. Whalen (U.S.A.).

P.T.S.

Advert

F. W. COLLINS

The notice of members is drawn to the forthcoming book entitled *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. The joint authors are W. A. Townsend, F.R.P.S.L. and F. G. Howe. The edition is limited to 500 numbered copies for sale at £15 plus postage. Orders should be sent to: The Secretary, The Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London, W1A 1PE

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