

The Postage Stamp

Contents:

Jamaica Jottings By Astley Clerk (from the Jamaica Times)	2
The Jamaica Philatelic Association (JPA).....	2
The Ser-ets	2
U.S. Proposal	2
Our Last	2
Jamaica Jottings By Astley Clerk (from the Jamaica Times)	3
Reduced, Rates Wanted.	3
Stamps and Coins.	3
Simplified Collection of Jamaica.	3
Jamaica in the New Gibbons.	3
The Ser. et, 5d.....	3
Caymania.	3
Jamaica Jottings By Astley Clerk (from the Jamaica Gleaner 27 Nov 1909)	4
The New Jamaica 6d. Introduced	4
The 1909 Jamaica 6d Described.	4
The First Stamp Journal.	4
Jamaica Simplified By J. Ireland	5
Official Records of Jamaican Stamps 1890-1912 By Astley Clerk.....	6
1890; 2½d on 4d.	6
1891; (First) 2½d.	6
1900; Red Llandovery.	6
1891; Black Llandovery.	6
1903; 2½d and ½d Arms (Single).	6
1904; 1d (Arms. Single).	6
1904; 5d (Single Arms).	6
1906; 5/- (Mult., Arms).	7
1906; 1d (Mult., Arms).	7
1906; ½d (Mult., Arms).	7
1909; 6d Lilac (Mult.)	7
1910; 3d Queen (Mult.).....	7
1910; 2d., 4d., 1/-, 2/- (Mult.)	7
1911; 2d Edward.	8
1911; 6d (Arms, Mult.).....	8
1911; 4d red on yellow	8
1912; 3d Georgian.....	8
1912; 2d Georgian.....	8
1912; 1/- Georgian	8
1912; 6d Georgian.....	8
Jamaica Philatelic 'Chronicles' By Astley Clerk	9
Our 3d Georgian.....	9
Ye Goode Olde Dayes.....	9
Jamaica Post Office in 1850	9
Prices Current of Jamaican Stamps	9

Jamaica Jottings By Astley Clerk (from the Jamaica Times)

The Postage Stamp Vol. 4?, 1909? Pages 52 & 53.

The Jamaica Philatelic Association (JPA)

Mrs. Few, the Secretary of the *Jamaica Philatelic Association*, takes exception to just one line in the paragraph entitled 'Proposed Club' for study in our last column, and sends us the following communication:- "I have just been reading the *Times* philatelic column, and regret that you should have mentioned the J.P.A. as you have done, you are quite correct in saying that we hold no gatherings, nor give lectures, but to say that the club has not a dozen members is incorrect, and I must ask you, on behalf of the Association, to correct this as it will otherwise give a wrong impression to philatelists desiring to join. The Jamaica Philatelic Association was established in 1893, and is therefore 16 years old — during which time we have had over 130 members. The Earthquake of January 14th, 1907, reduced our numbers considerably, as many suffered so much loss (some even losing their entire collection) that they were unable to continue their membership. Since then we have had an average membership of twenty. The J.P.A. was formed to assist and promote stamp collecting in the Island by exchanging. While I agree with you that a Club to hold meetings to study stamps and read papers would assist our holding, I do not see why you should have written so slightly of such an old Association as ours; it can serve no good and only creates a wrong idea; it would have been more to the mark if you had, as a keen philatelist, advised collectors desiring to exchange to join us—and no doubt each club would be helpful to the other. Perhaps in your next issue you will publish these facts about the J.P.A., and so correct the wrong impression your circular will cause.

"On reference to the paragraph to which Mrs. Few takes exception it will be seen that the objectionable line is portion of a *circular* for which I did not claim authorship, still I endorsed it, and so will accept the correction — I am glad that Mrs. Few agrees with the idea of study suggested in the circular, and will be obliged if she will bring the matter to the notice of her membership. Readers who wish to *Exchange* their duplicates will get all information about the J.P.A. from Mrs. Few.

The Ser-ets

Linn writes asking if I have ever seen the *Ser-i-et* variety of the *Ser-ets* as she has got the ½d and 2½d among her set. Yes! I have the stamp. I wonder if Linn knows the *Sep et* variety copies of which are also in my collection, as well as the *Servict* variety. These *Ser-ets* are worth studying as one can easily trace the deterioration of the letters, commencing with the V, until the error and its varieties appear.

U.S. Proposal

A Massachusetts Congressman proposes to make U.S. stamps usable in England for mail matter for the U.S. and vice-versa—his object "to facilitate exchange between the two countries and render it practicable to maintain a more satisfactory postal arrangement." What will Britain say?

Our Last

The well known Queen's Head 2s Jamaica has at last made its appearance with the multiple watermark. The multiple list now stands as follows :—

Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf 14.

½d	Green and Black	Arms
½d	Green	
1d	Carmin and Black	
1d	Carmin	
1½d	Ultramarine and Black	
3d	Olive Green	Queen's Head
4d	Orange Brown	
5d	Orange and Black	Arms
6d	Orange	Queen's Head
1s	Purple Brown	
2s	Red Brown	
5s	Violet and Black	Arms

Jamaica Jottings By Astley Clerk (from the Jamaica Times)

The Postage Stamp Vol. 4?, 1909? Pages 165.

Reduced, Rates Wanted.

The Jamaica Guardian, of May 8th, commenting on the recent decision of the Government of the Leeward Islands to fall into line with other W.I. Governments, who are using a farthing stamp for newspaper and other mail matters, pleads ably and justly for a reduction in our existing halfpenny newspaper rate. Our Post Office makes a handsome profit every year, all of which goes to the revenue of the Island, it can therefore afford to reduce its rates on newspapers, a power for good and an educative influence in Jamaica. In fact, its past history demonstrates the fact that the Post Office will gain by this reduction. Let us have a farthing newspaper rate - we can do without the special stamp.

Stamps and Coins.

'Numismatic' asks me to call the attention of my readers to the article "Where Stamps meet Coins", in *"The Postage Stamp"* (April 17th). He feels certain that it will appeal to philatelists as much as to numismatists showing as it does a kinship between the two.

Simplified Collection of Jamaica.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News has, for several numbers, been printing opinions on the "Future of Stamp Collecting," and, needless to say, these opinions cover a wide field - a good many, however, have voted for "General collecting without watermarks, perforations or shades," or, in other words, a simplified collection. Now I will not quarrel with those who, wearied with the increasing bulk of their catalogues consequent on the yearly growth of "varieties," clamour for a less complicated method than at present exists, the same time I, a specialist in Jamaica and Jamaica only ask "if collectors want the unscientific or simplified method why do they not stick to it, for it is there and no one prevents them from so collecting?" "But," says our growler, "the catalogues list these differences." Quite true, but that does not mean that you, Mr. Simplified, must of necessity collect everything in your catalogue, a guide-book which you consult but are not compelled to follow. It is, I claim, the duty of the catalogue to call attention to all varieties - it is left to the owner's choice to select the country or countries, which appeal to him and collect them as he likes, that is with or without watermarks, perforation, shades, etc. "Everyone to her liking" as the old lady said when she kissed her cow, so please yourself, Mr. Growler, no one will grumble, but what I cannot understand is why should you grumble with me because I choose to collect as I do? My object, however, in writing on this subject was born of the thought, "what would a simplified collection of Jamaica look like?" My Gibbons 1904 Jamaica calls for 92 varieties all told. Well, let us simplify this number, and after doing away with so-called superfluities (shades, surcharges, etc.) and considering only designs and colour we get thirty-one (31) thus :-

1. Fiscals:-1d. rose; 1s. rose; 3d. purple; 5s. lilac; 1½d. Blue 5
2. Queen's Heads:-1d. blue; 2d. rose; 4d. orange; 6d. lilac; 1s. brown; 3d. green; ½d. maroon; 2s. brown; 5s. lilac; cut 1d. for ½d. 10
3. Queen's Heads:-1d. carmine; 2d. grey; 6d. yellow; ½d. green 4
4. Queen's Heads:-1d. lilac and mauve; 2d. green; 2½d. lilac and ultramarine 3
5. Llandoveries:-1d. red; 1d. black and red 2

6. Arms:-1d. black and carmine; ½d. black and green; 2½d. black and ultramarine; 5d. black and yellow; 5s. black and lilac 5

7. Arms:-1d. carmine ; ½d. Green 2

It may be that, from the grumbler's point of view, I have done wrong in including the "cut 1d. for ½d." - someone may even think that my list is not simplified enough and may insist on my striking out the contents of sections three and seven as well as one of the Llandoveries, which, although different in colour, are certainly similar in design. In this way Jamaica would be simplified to 23. Would the grumblers and the growlers be satisfied then, I wonder? May be so, but it would not be the first occasion that I have heard of people who think that plum pudding without sauce is finer eating than with it.

Jamaica in the New Gibbons.

E. L. Writes - "Gibbons Part I to hand. Very little difference in Jamaica. Isn't it ridiculous that the 5d is still catalogued at the old figure? I do not think he would sell them at these prices, especially the multiple. He pays no attention to Jamaica at all for the errors multiple are still given in full although they do not exist.

You will notice that the colour-names of the 6 pines have been changed." E.L. is wrong, the errors (ser-et) do exist on multiple paper. While on this subject of "ser-et" errors it surprises me to see that Gibbons still catalogues a 5s error. I wonder if he ever saw one, for I have never seen it, nor have I been able to find a collector who has done anything but express grave doubts as to its existence. The Stamp Commissioners office is emphatic in its statement as to the non-existence of this 5s. error.

The Ser. et, 5d

A few months ago I stated in this column the 5d. Ser. et was selling in Kingston for £6 to £8. From a letter, dated April 22nd 1909, written by a well-known London dealer, I am pleased to find that as I thought, the Kingston price was considerably below value. He writes:—"I have nothing special in Jamaica in the way of proofs, essays or errors, excepting one copy of the 5d. C.A. error, Ser.et. the central stamp of a strip of three, for which I want £7 10s. Another London dealer has one but will not take less than £15 for it. Shortly before Xmas I sold a similar strip of the same stamp, but multiple watermark, for £6 cash." And if the thoughtful reader will bear in mind that only 98 sheets of the C.A. 5d and 50 of the multiple (a total of 148 sheets) were printed, they will realise that this stamp especially the latter watermark is cheap at even £20. Of the 148 I lost two in the fire of Jan. 14th, 1907 Mr. George Kinkead lost another two and a lady friend one, which brings the total known copies down to 143. Did any other collector lose their 5d error on the 14th January? I would like to know.

Caymania.

Speaking about the Cayman Islands scandal, G.S.W. says: "The group is a tiny dependency of Jamaica, and the stamps of Jamaica should be used there." So say I, it is simply ridiculous that this 17 x 7 strip of sand should be issuing a special set of stamps and sad to know that she has been permitted to use them to as she has used them.

Jamaica Jottings By Astley Clerk (from the Jamaica Gleaner 27 Nov 1909)

The Postage Stamp Vol. 5?, 1910? Page 171.

The New Jamaica 6d. Introduced

So we have got a new 6d stamp, but we are disappointed in it, for it is only another "Queen's Head", and we, not only stamp collectors, but stamp users are all heartily sick of Queen's Heads. Why cannot we have something different? Even a King's Head would be more welcome than this nightmare of a Q.H. This is what *The Postage Stamp* of October 23rd says about the matter: "Evidently this colony cannot make up its mind to discard the old Queen's head plates, for we learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that the last supply of stamps included 3d. and 6d. stamps in the new colours and printed from the old Queen's head plates." You are correct, *Postage Stamp*, but if you people in the big Isle had had such a Queen as we of the little Isle, you too, would never wish to see her juvenile profile removed from your stamps—

And so we keep her memory green,
Despite collectors' cry,

A Queen who left us years ago
And yet will never die.

"Long live our Queen ! God bless our Queen,"
We murmur as we see

Jamaica's stamps transmitting still
Her youthful effigy.

The 1909 Jamaica 6d Described.

"Have you seen the new 6d stamp? What is it like?" are the questions that I have answered again and again — at last I went "on strike" and advised my questioners to send to their post offices and buy the marvel. However, as there may be a few of my readers who are "hard up" for the spare amount, I give herewith the Official Notice which appeared in the advertising column of the *Gleaner* of November 17th :-

Stamp Office,

15th Nov., 1909.

The following is a description of a new design of a Sixpenny Postage Stamp which will be put in circulation on the 19th inst.

"The design of the stamp is denoted by a laureated profile of Queen Victoria to left on a ground of horizontal lines, enclosed in a hexagonal frame following the shape of which are white labels above and below with the inscription 'Jamaica Postage' above and the word 'sixpence' below in small coloured block letters. The corners are filled in with arabesques. The colour is lilac and the paper is watermarked multiple Crown CA.

A. H. MILES,
Stamp Commissioner.

You will note that the Stamp Commissioner calls the stamp 'a new design', but if you will compare the earlier issues of the same denomination you will also find that the only thing new about this latest 6d is the change of colour. 'Design', therefore, I take it, means change of colour, which is miles in advance of the philatelic acceptance of the meaning of the word, but the Stamp Commissioner is not a philatelist. I congratulate him, however, on his minute description of the stamp, it is not only interesting, but the only way to safeguard the public. Since writing above I learn from the post office that they have no intention of putting the 6d stamp on the market before the 1st December. The unfortunate window clerk is getting cross, if she can get cross, because of the many enquiries she receives and her inability to supply. Query — why were the stamps authorized as from the 19th November if there was no intention to sell them to the public before the 1st December?

The First Stamp Journal.

The following, told by Mr. Thomas Kitt, in *The Philatelist* of January, 1867, is the story of the first English philatelic journal:-

"Towards the middle of the year 1862, when Philately was becoming very popular, appearances led me to conclude that a periodical entirely devoted to that subject would prove a great boon to collectors, and also a lucrative investment to its proprietors. Accordingly, in the summer of the year named, I inserted an advertisement in the *Boys' Own Magazine*, requesting any gentlemen who were of a similar opinion to join me in the undertaking. This advertisement was productive of innumerable replies, requesting further information but so many as half a dozen of them spoke favourably of my scheme. In order to 'leave not a stone unturned' for the attainment of the end in view, I had personal interviews with many of the leading English collectors residing in or near London, and in consequence of its being 'Exhibition year', I was enabled to meet several from the country; but public opinion seemed so much against me that I reluctantly abandoned the enterprise, thinking it folly to undertake what my superiors in the knowledge of Philately thought so unpromising. My voluminous correspondence on the subject and earnest endeavours to bring about the consummation of my wishes were, however, rewarded with success, for Mr. A. Perris of Liverpool (one of the few gentlemen who thought favourably of my plans) entered warmly into the matter; but from reasons above stated I declined rendering him any pecuniary assistance, although I placed my pen at his service, of which he availed himself. However 'finis coronat opus' — on 15th December, 1862, the harbinger of a new style of literature made its appearance in the shape of the *Monthly Advertiser*, afterwards known as the *Stamp Collectors' Review*. This publication, after having proved of great service to philatelists, and as an investment tolerably successful, died out in 1864, the last number having been issued on the 15th June of that year. Such is the history of the first philatelic periodical published in England, and of which I must, with pride, claim to be the primary originator."

Jamaica Simplified By J. Ireland

The Postage Stamp Vol. 7, 12 Nov 1910 Page 51

Jamaica is an excellent little country to take up if the different printings - designated by varieties of watermark and shades of colour - are not taken into account. It is, in fact, not a difficult or very expensive matter to complete it unused ; and now that the Colonial Colour Scheme has invaded, what is to all intents and purposes, the first or Queen's Head-issue, the developments should be interesting, not to say somewhat extraordinary.

*First Issue. 1860. Queen's Head.
Inscribed "Postage."*

1	½d	marone (1872)
2	½d	green (1885)
3	1d	blue
4	1d	rose (1885)
5	2d	rose
6	2d	grey (1885)
7	3d	green (1863)
8	3d	olive (1883)
9	3d	lilac on yellow (1909)
10	4d	brown
11	4d	red on yellow (1910)
12	6d	lilac (1860 to 1890, re-issued 1909)
13	6d	orange (1890 to 1909)
14	1s	brown
15	1s	black on green (1910)
16	2s	brown (1897)
17	2s	purple on blue (1910)
18	5s	lilac (1897)

Of the above, Nos. 9, 10, 12, are still current and 2, 3, 8, and 13 are quite easy to obtain unused. Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are however, not so commonly met with in this condition and in my humble opinion are worth full catalogue. This only refers to unused, however, the used stamp being quite common.

*Second Issue. 1889. Queen's head.
Inscribed " Postage and Revenue."*

19	1d	lilac
20	2d	green
21	2½d	lilac and blue (1891).

The foregoing stamps are quite common. The 2d value appears to have dropped out of use, but since when, I do not know. It is rather remarkable what little use there appears to be for a stamp of this denomination in this part of the world; even the business manage to conduct their vast postal business without a 2d stamp, or have done up to the present, I hasten to add.

Third Issue. 1903. Arms, bi-coloured.

22	½d	black and green
23	1d	black and rose
24	2½d	black and blue
25	5d	black and yellow
26	5s	black and violet (1905)

Of this issue the ½d, 1d, and 5d values are obsolete, the first two having been re-drawn in 1906, and the 5d withdrawn from use about eighteen months ago. The latter should be a scarce stamp in a short time.

1906. Arms design re-drawn.

27	½d	green
28	1d	red
29	2½d	blue

It was mentioned in a recent number of *The Postage Stamp* that the 2½d would still be in the old design, but I take leave to doubt this as the ½d and 1d values have been re-drawn for the single colour printing.

[The reference appears to have been made to the non-introduction of the reigning sovereign's portrait on several values, and was not to be read as implying that the 2½d arms design would not be re-drawn.-ED.]

Commemorative Issue.

1900. Llandoverly Falls.

1d	red
1d	black and red (1901)

I regret to being ignorant of what the above issue was to commemorate. The stamp was first of all printed in red and afterwards in two colours; exactly the reverse of the usual proceeding. The (bi-coloured) specimen in my collection has the frame re-drawn, a solid line of colour replacing the two thin inner lines; this line of colour is also extended to the tablet containing the numeral of value. I do not place this on record as a wonderful discovery as it probably exists on all the bicoloured stamps. My uncoloured stamp is also on a slightly yellowish paper whereas the bi-coloured is on white, but this is no doubt owing to the action of the climate on the gum. It is curious that none of my specialist friends nor new issue chroniclers appear to have noticed these slight variations from the normal.

The following Handbooks on the Stamps of Jamaica can be had from Mr. W. K. Peckitt, 47, Strand, by those desirous of further information :-

"Jamaica and Cayman Islands," 25 pp. Edward J. Nankivell. 4d., post free 4½d.

"Jamaica," 90 pp. By Fred J. Melville. 6d., post free, 7½d.

Official Records of Jamaican Stamps 1890-1912 By Astley Clerk

THE POSTAGE STAMP VOL. 11, 28 December, 1912, Pages 152 & 153; and 4 January 1913, Pages 163 & 164.

Mr. Astley Clerk, who brings his 'Philatelic Gleanings' in the *Jamaican Gleaner* to a close with the 96th of the series, fittingly concludes with a collection of the official notices relating to the issue of Jamaican 'stamps', from 1890 to date.. This interesting collection will be found, of reference value to future historians of the stamps of the colony, and we are glad to have the opportunity of giving it in these columns. [EDITOR.]

1890; 2½d on 4d.

(From Colonial Standard; May 29, 1890).

"Post Office Notice

Reduction in. the rates of postage correspondence for places abroad carried by vessels not under contract with the Imperial or any other Government.

His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, has been pleased to direct that on and after the 1st June, 1890, the rates on such correspondence shall be, as under :-

Letters.-For each half ounce or fractional part thereof, two pence half-penny.

etc., etc.. etc.,

FRED SULLIVAN, Postmaster for Jamaica.

General Post Office,

24th May, 1890.

Referring to the above the Colonial Standard, among other things, remarks:- "For a long time it has been considered an inexplicable hardship that whilst a letter from America only costs the sender twopence halfpenny (5 cents) a letter in reply from Jamaica could not be carried under the greatly increased charge of fourpence. All this is now at an end, and the postage between the two points from the 1st instant has been equalized."

* * *

1891; (First) 2½d.

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Feby. 26, 1891).

No. 103. 25th February, 1891.

The Governor directs it to be notified, for general information, that the issue of the following unified Postage and Revenue Stamp has been authorized, viz. :-

Twopence Half-Penny. Colour light purple, Queen's head with a circle containing the words 'Jamaica Postage and Revenue' with the denomination '2½d' at the base.

By Command,

J. ALLWOOD,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

* * *

1900; Red Llandoverly.

(From the Jamaica Gazette, May 3, 1900).

"Stamp Office

2nd May, 1900.

The following is a description of a new design of one penny. Postage and Revenue Stamps which have been put into circulation on the 1st inst.:-

Colour: Carmine.

Shape: Rectangular.

Design: A view of Llandoverly Falls.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,

Stamp Commissioner.

* * *

1891; Black Llandoverly.

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Sept. 26, 1901).

Stamp Office

Kingston, 25th September, 1901.

The following is a description of the new issue of one penny Postal and Revenue Stamps which are to be put into circulation on the 25th inst.

Colour: Black centre and carmine border.

Shape: Rectangular.

Design: A view of Llandoverly Falls.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,

Stamp Commissioner.

* * *

1903; 2½d and ½d Arms (Single).

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Nov. 19, 1903).

4-4 Stamp Office

14th Nov., 1903.

The following is a description of a new design of 2½d and ½d Postage Stamps which will be put into circulation on the 16th inst. The design of the 2½d stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of drab, and in a frame of blue.

The design of the ½d stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of dark drab, end in a frame of pale green.

The respective face values of the above stamps are shown in numerals on either side of the word 'Jamaica' at the top of the stamp, and in words at the foot thereof.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,

Stamp Commissioner.

* * *

1904; 1d (Arms. Single).

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Feb. 25, 1904).

4-1 Stamp Office, Kingston,

20th February, 1904.

The following is a description of a new design of a 1d postage stamp which will be put into circulation on the 24th instant.

The design of the stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of drab, and in a frame of carmine.

The face value of the above stamp is shown in numerals on either side of the word 'Jamaica' at the top of the stamp and in words at the bottom thereof.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,

Stamp Commissioner.

* * *

1904; 5d (Single Arms).

(From the Jamaica Gazette, March 3, 1904).

Stamp Office, Kingston,

25th February, 1904.

The following is a description of a new Postage Stamp of the denomination of five pence (5d.) which will be in circulation on the 1st March, 1904.

The design of the stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black set in a ground of drab, and in a frame of yellow.

The face value of the above stamp is shown in numerals on either side the word 'Jamaica' at the top of the stamp and at the bottom thereof.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,

Stamp Commissioner."

The Postage Stamp

1906; 5/- (Mult., Arms).

(From the Jamaica Gazette, May 10, 1906).

4-1 Stamp Office, Kingston
5th May, 1906.

The following is a description of a new design of five shillings Postage Stamps which has been put in circulation.

2. The design of the stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of drab, and in a frame of lilac.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,
Stamp Commissioner.

* * *

1906; 1d (Mult., Arms).

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Sept. 20, 1906).

Government Notice 6-1 Stamp Office,
15th September, 1906.

The following is a description of a new design of a one penny postage stamp which will be put into circulation on the 1st October, 1906.

The design of the stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony, set in a ground of carmine and in a frame of the same colour. The four ends of the shield of the Arms are in white, and on the shield are five pine apples.

The face value of the above is shown in numerals on either side of the word 'Jamaica' at the top of the stamp and in words at the bottom thereof.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,
Stamp Commissioner.

* * *

1906; ½d (Mult., Arms).

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Nov. 15, 1906).

Stamp Office,
8th November, 1906.

The following is a description of a new design of a half-penny stamp which will be put in circulation as from this date:-

The design of the stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in light green set in a ground of same colour, and a frame also of green.

The face value of the above is shown in numerals on either side, the word 'Jamaica' at the top of the stamp, and in words at the bottom thereof.

E. JORDON ANDREWS,
Stamp Commissioner

* * *

1909; 6d Lilac (Mult.)

(From the Gleaner, Nov. 17, 1909).

Stamp Office,
15th Nov., 1909.

The following is a description of a new design of a Sixpenny Postage stamp which will be put into circulation on the 19th inst. The design of the stamp is denoted by a laureated profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a ground of horizontal lines, enclosed in a hexagonal frame following the shape of which are white labels above and below with the inscription 'Jamaica Postage' above and the word 'Sixpence' below, in small coloured block letters. The corners are filled in with arabesques. The colour is lilac and the paper is watermarked multiple Crown CA.

A. H. MILES,
Stamp Commissioner.

1910; 3d Queen (Mult.)

(From the Gleaner, March 19, 1910).

Stamp Office, Kingston,
18th March, 1910.

4-1 Notice.

The following is the description of a threepenny postage stamp which was put into circulation on the 10th inst.:-

The design of the stamp is denoted by a laureated profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a ground of horizontal lines enclosed in an oval frame in which are the words 'Jamaica Postage' on the top and 'Threepence' below in small block letters. The colour of the stamp is brown, the paper yellow, and the watermark multiple Crown CA.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.
* * *

1910; 2d., 4d., 1/-, 2/- (Mult.)

(From the Gleaner, Sept. 24th, 1910).

4-1 Notice. Stamp Office,
21st September, 1910.

The following is a description of the 2½d, 4d, 1/-, and 2/- Postage Stamps which are to be put into circulation the design being the same as the old ones, but printed in different colours. The design of the 2d stamp consists of the Arms of the Colony set in a panel having perpendicular sides and curved edges at the top and bottom, surmounted by the word 'Jamaica' on each side of which in the upper corner is printed 2½d in numerals. At the lower corner are printed the words 'Twopence half-penny'. The whole stamp is printed in blue on white paper.

The design of the Fourpenny Stamp consists of a laureated profile of Queen Victoria facing to the left on a ground of horizontal lines, set in a frame with circular opening with beaded panels filling up the four corners of the stamp. The words 'Jamaica Postage' and 'Fourpence' appear in black letters in horizontal bands running across the top and bottom of the stamp. The Stamp is printed in black on yellow paper, the lettering being of ground colour.

The design of the One Shilling stamp consists of a laureated profile of Queen Victoria facing to the left on a ground of horizontal lines set in a frame with oval openings round which is a band with the words 'Jamaica Postage' in the upper half, and 'One Shilling' on the lower half, in block letters. The corners between the oval and the margin of the Stamp are filled with light scroll work. The stamp is printed in blue on green paper, the lettering being of the ground colour.

The design of the Two Shilling stamp consists of a laureated profile of Queen Victoria facing to the left on a ground of horizontal lines, set in a frame with a circular opening, surmounted by line of beads. The words 'Jamaica Postage' and 'Two Shillings' are printed in black letters in bands running across the Stamp above and below this circle and following its curve; the corners of the Stamp are filled with suggestions of ornamental design. The stamp is printed in purple on blue paper, the lettering being purple.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.
* * *

The Postage Stamp

1911; 2d Edward.

(From the Gleaner, February 3, 1911).

3-1 Notice.
Stamp Office

25th January, 1911.

The following is a description of a new design of 2d Postage and Revenue Stamp which is to be put in circulation on the 3rd February, 1911. The design of the stamp consists of a profile of the late King Edward the VII, facing to the left in an oval set in a rectangular frame on a ground work of slate colour. On the top of the oval is a Crown, on either side of which is the numeral and letters '2d', the word 'Postage' being on the left and the word 'Revenue' on the right of the frame and at the bottom thereof the word "Jamaica."

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.
* * *

1911; 6d (Arms, Mult.)

(From the Gleaner, Aug. 17, 1911).

Notice. Stamp Office,

14th August, 1911.

The following is a description of a new sixpenny Postage and Revenue Stamp which will be put into circulation on or before the 31st inst.:-

The design consists of the Arms of the Colony set in a panel having perpendicular sides and curved edges at the top and bottom, surmounted by the word 'Jamaica'—on each side of which, in the upper corner is printed '6d.' At the lower corners are printed the words 'Postage' and 'Revenue', and across the foot of the stamp the words 'Sixpence'. The whole stamp is printed in magenta on white paper.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.

(In reality this stamp was on sale at the G.P.O. from Friday, August 18th and before the Queen's head 6d was exhausted.

* * *

1911; 4d red on yellow

(From the Gleaner, Sept. 23, 1911).

Notice. Stamp Office, Kingston,

19th September, 1911.

It is hereby notified that the colour of the Four Penny Postage Stamp which was gazetted on the 29th September, 1910, has been changed. The stamps are now printed in red on yellow paper.

The stamps will be put into circulation on the 3rd October, 1911.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.
* * *

1912; 3d Georgian

(From the Gleaner, March 6, 1912).

3-1 " Stamp Office,

2nd March, 1912. The following is a description of a threepenny Postage Stamp which will be put into circulation on the 6th March, 1912.

The design of the Stamp is denoted by a profile of King George the Fifth to the left on a ground of horizontal lines enclosed in an oval frame and surmounted by a Crown on either side of which is threepence in numerals, and to the left and right of the frame respectively are the words 'Postage', 'Revenue', and underneath 'Jamaica'. The colour of the Stamp is brown on yellow paper.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.
* * *

1912; 2d Georgian

(From the Gleaner, July 31, 1912).

3-1 Stamp Office,

29th July, 1912.

The following is a description of a twopenny Postage Stamp which will be put into circulation on the 2nd August, 1912. The design of the stamp is denoted by a profile of King George the Fifth to the left, on a ground of horizontal lines enclosed in an oval frame, surmounted by a Crown, on either side of which is inserted '2d' and to the left and right of the frame respectively, are the words 'Postage' and 'Revenue' and underneath 'Jamaica'. The colour of the stamp is grey on white paper.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner."
* * *

1912; 1/- Georgian

(From the Gleaner, July 31, 1912).

3-1 Stamp Office,

29th July, 1912.

The following is a description of a One Shilling Postage Stamp which will be put into circulation on the 2nd August, 1912.

The design of the stamp is denoted by a profile of King George to the left on a ground of horizontal lines enclosed in an oval frame, surmounted by a Crown, on either side of which is inserted '1/-' and to the left and right of the frame respectively are the words 'Postage', 'Revenue', and underneath 'Jamaica'.

The colour of the stamp is black or green paper

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner."
* * *

1912; 6d Georgian

(From the Jamaica Gazette, Nov. 14, 1912).

Stamp Office

8th Nov., 1912.

The following is a description of a new sixpenny postage stamp which will be put into circulation on the 14th inst. :-

The design of the stamp is denoted by a profile of King George Fifth to the left on a ground of horizontal lines enclosed in an oval or purple surmounted by a crown, on either side of which is '6d' in numerals, and to the left and right of the stamp respectively are the words 'Postage' and 'Revenue' and underneath 'Jamaica'.

The colour of the stamp is purple printed on white paper.

GEO. S. THOMPSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.

Jamaica Philatelic 'Chronicles' By Astley Clerk

THE POSTAGE STAMP VOL. 12, 16 August 1913, Pages 236 & 237.

Mr. Astley Clerk, who discontinued his weekly philatelic notes in the *Jamaica Gleaner* some months ago, has recommenced them in the *Jamaica Chronicle* of June 23, 1913.

Some of his recent notes are of special interest to the numerous collectors of Jamaican stamps and we take the following from the first two of his 'philatelic chronicles'.

Our 3d Georgian

Our present threepenny stamp was put into circulation on the 6th March, 1912, just a bit over a year ago, and was printed on chalky and non-chalky yellow back paper. I was therefore much surprised to find the G.P.O. selling on the 2nd April this year (1913) a 3d Georgian printed on a white back paper. I promptly bought a pane of 60 of these stamps for my collection and then enquired of the Stamp Office if the stamp was a paper error. The officers of that department had already noted the alteration in paper, but could not say if it was intentional or not, they, however, told me that, even if the white back paper was an error it would not be a rarity as all the stamps they then had in stock were printed on the same paper. I should suppose that Messrs. De La Rue ran short of the yellow back paper and used the white back to print the now current 3d on — but I do not suppose the (forced) error will be repeated, still, if you, my reader, are a live collector get some duplicates at once, as delay is always dangerous. I may say that the face colour — the brown — of this white back 3d is so different to the issue of March 6th that the very blind will notice it.

* * *

Ye Goode Olde Dayes

The post in this island is by no means so well regulated as in the mother country. A mail arrives but once a week from Kingston at the different parts of the island, Spanish Town excepted. It is conveyed on a mule, the postman (a negro slave) riding another, at the average rate of about seventy miles in the twenty-four hours. This very slow travelling is in a great measure owing to the delays in forwarding the mail at the intermediate post offices: the more of these there are between any two places, the longer the post is in performing the journey. As the mules which convey the post are in general well-trained, accidents seldom occur and very few instances of attempts to rob the mail have been known, though the postmen go quite unarmed: but it is sometimes placed in jeopardy by the swelling of the rivers in consequence of heavy rains. There are forty post offices throughout the island, besides the general post office. The rate of postage is 1s, 3d and 7½d according to the distance, for single letters. The letters from Great Britain are conveyed monthly by the packets; these are fast-sailing ship-rigged vessels of from two to three hundred tons burthen, well armed and manned, especially in war time. They have been known to run the passage direct to Jamaica in twenty-four days. A master of a packet is entitled to one hundred guineas if he arrives in Jamaica on or before the 20th of each month. All foreign post-letters for Jamaica, as well as those from the British possessions, must pass through the general post office of Great Britain. Stewart's "View of the Past and Present of Jamaica" (published 1823).

* * *

Jamaica Post Office in 1850

Post Office Department.— There is a general Post Office in Kingston, and there are forty-two provincial offices. There is but one daily mail, and that is carried between Kingston and Spanish Town. Mails are despatched from Kingston every Monday and Thursday afternoons, at half-past five o'clock, to all parts of the island. The return mail arrives on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and delivered at nine a.m., making two country mails per week. A letter not exceeding half an ounce, to be conveyed not exceeding 60 miles, is charged 8 cents, over 60 miles and under 100, 12 cents, over 100 and under 200, 16 cents (From Bigelow's Jamaica in 1850).

Hem! mails twice per week! and yet in these present days of progress and motor-car mail vans we can surpass that record, for I have positively known more than one letter, correctly addressed, to be placed in the addressee's hand six to eight weeks after it is written. That takes the cake, does it not and puts to shame and confusion the miserly twice-a-week service of 1850. Of course there were no stamps in Jamaica in 1850, although the mother country had been using them for ten years previously; we were still collecting the money at the Post Office windows, writing the amount on the surface and cancelling the envelopes, introduced into the Island a couple years previously, with a red circular hand-stamp, reading thus, for instance, 'Kingston, Jamaica, Ju, 1849, Paid'. In 1850 Sir Chas. Ed. Grey was Governor of Jamaica.

Prices Current of Jamaican Stamps

Discussing recent Gibbons catalogue changes in the prices of Jamaican stamps, Mr. Clerk notes the following alterations:-

		<u>Increases.</u>	New	Used
14	½d	Marone	1s	
17	2d	Rose		6d
18	2d	Deep Rose		6d
20a	4d	Red Brown		2s
26	½d	Green	2d	1d
28	1d	Blue		2d
30	1d	Carmine		3d
32	2d	Grey		3d
33	2d	Slate		2d
35	4d	Red-brown		3d
37	2d	Green	3d	3d
40	2½d	Purple and Blue		1d
47	½d	Black and Green	1d	1d
50	5d	Black and Yellow	1s	
51	½d	Ser-et	7s	
52	1d	Ser-et		3s 6d
55	½d	Black and Green	2d	
56	1d	Black and Carmine	6d	
57	2½d	Black and Ult	6d	
62	6d	Golden Yellow		1s
63	1s	Brown		1s
64	2s	Red-Brown	3s 6d	
73	1d	Carmine	1d	
73a	2d	Grey	5d	
74	2½d	Ult	1d	
75	3d	Purple on Yellow	4d	2d
76	4d	Black on Yellow	15s	
77	4d	Red on Yellow	2d	6d
78a	6d	Purple	3s 6d	2s
78b	6d	Dull and Bright Purple		1s 10d
79	1s	Black on Green	1s 2d	1s 4d
		<u>Decrease</u>		
53	2½d	Ser-et	1s 6d	
67	½d	Ser-et	1s 6d	1s 6d