

The Jamaica Philatelist



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE Jamaica Philatelic Society

(Founded April 14th, 1920)
CIRCULATED FREE OF CHARGE.

EDITOR: MR. ASTLEY CLERK
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: MR. H. COOKE

VOLUME II.

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, JUNE 1936

No. 10

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KINGSTON, P.O.

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I hereby apply to be admitted to
Membership of the Jamaica Philatelic
Society, and agree, if elected, to be
bound by all the Rules and Regulations
now existing, or as the same may be
modified or added to from time to time.

I enclose the sum of shillings
to pay the Entrance Fee of Two Shill-
ings, and being balance
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(Signed)*

Full Address

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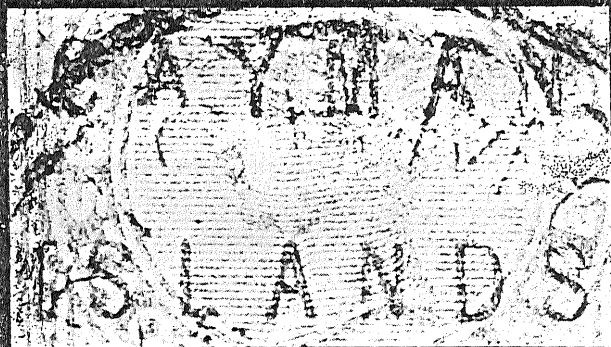
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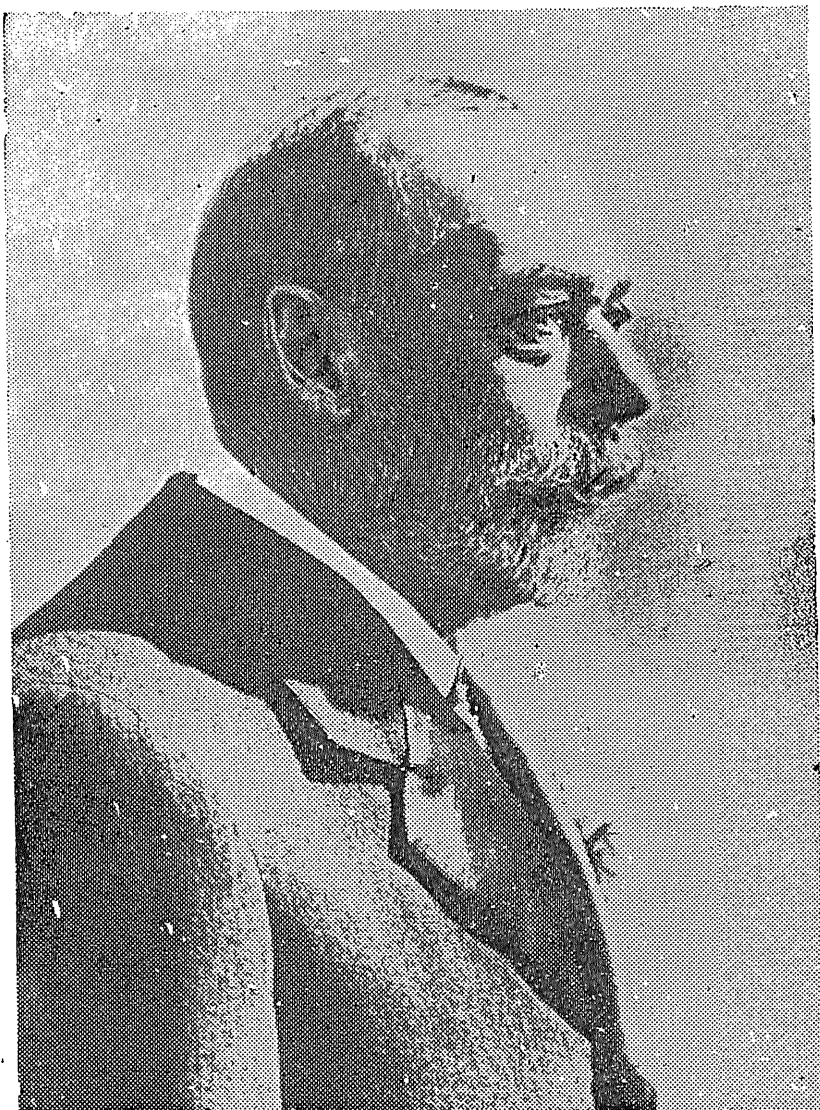


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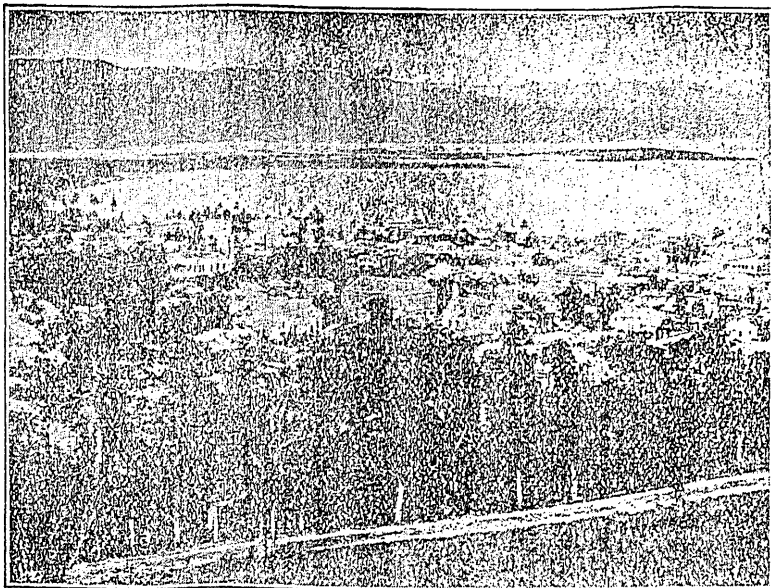


The Jamaica Philatelist.

VOLUME II.

JUNE 1936.

NO. 10



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The Jamaica Philatelist.

The Annual Magazine of the Jamaica Philatelic Society—Circulated throughout the world free of charge.

<i>Editor:</i>	MR. ASTLEY G. CLERK,	Kingston, Jamaica.
<i>Associate Editor:</i>	MR. H. COOKE	Kingston, Jamaica.
<i>Hon. Secretary:</i>	MR. G. C. GUNTER,	Kingston, Jamaica.

VOLUME II.

JUNE, 1936.

No. 10.

Editorial Perfs

Sire. Vale. At issue of our last edition, the Empire was celebrating the twenty-fifth year of the reign of His Most Gracious Majesty, King George V. Voluntarily there was fervent rejoicing, affectionate tribute paid by the peoples of the seven seas, to the King himself. We do not desire nor have the ability, to attempt to enlarge the descriptions that have passed into history, of the waves of enthusiastic loyalty that passed throughout the Empire, expressed in all the different parts of the world in different ways, but we do recognise that one and all were fired with but one impulse, viz., respectful and affectionate esteem and appreciation of the King, his personality and character. The world then saw the greatest demonstration it had been privileged to see; no commanded, mass demonstration, but that of a people in their hundreds of millions, free to do as they willed, and willing that they should honour their King.

This edition also refers to history, to another demonstration, similarly large, but sombre in tone and expression, that vented the grief, sorrow and regret experienced by the same millions of the seven seas, at the death of the same King whom they had but recently joyfully honoured. Once more has Empire and world paid honest and sincere tribute, again from the same impulse. Both demonstrations showed that our King had the good will of the world, he was respected and honoured throughout, something that may be stated of but few. Our loss is very real and very heavy.

Respected and honoured as King and Emperor, he was loved as a

man, and in that respect was known to us as a stamp collector, imbued with ideas and enthusiasms experienced by most of us, so that he shared with us and we with him, one of the pleasant hobbies of life, that brings to its devotee relaxation, as well as enthusiasm. It may be enjoyed and appreciated in like manner, by any and all that range in life's stations, from King to labourer and labourer's son. The words of the late Mr. Rudyard Kipling, have full application:—

"Cooke's son, Duke's son, son of a millionaire".

To His reigning Majesty, King Edward VIII, we loyally tender our humble duty, and beg to be permitted to offer to Him, the Queen Mother, and all members of the Royal Family, our loyal, heartfelt sympathy in their sorrow, sorrow that is also ours. May God bless His Majesty, guide and keep Him, so that his years may be full, and that He with the Empire may enjoy long years of peace and prosperity.

Jubilee Stamps. Supplies printed for Jamaica, are reported to have been:

	1d.	1½d.	6d.	1/-
	9,330,000	633,880	189,360	137,940
Approximate distribution				
to the Postal Union	740	740	740	740
Reported as destroyed	3,445,921	89,737	8,664	15,999
	3,446,661	90,477	9,404	16,739
Nett Sales 	5,883,339	543,403	179,956	121,201
Total: 	9,330,000	633,880	189,360	137,940

Second printings of the 1½d. and 6d. in September, 1935, are included. The 1/- was reported from England as similarly reprinted, but we have not been able to obtain the figures, nor official confirmation that it was. Assuming that the figures above are reasonably correct, the 1/- ought to be quite a good item for considerable appreciation in the near future. As it now is the set sells locally for 5/-, quite readily.

With acknowledgment to "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain", January, 1936, we have compiled a check list of all Colonial Jubilee stamps in the Windsor Castle design, with varieties known up to the time of going to press. The "Kite" variety probably is unknown to most of our readers, and the publishers of the "Journal" here mentioned, fix its existence in printings by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., No. 60, the last stamp of the pane, and describe it as "a curved line thickened at the end to resemble a kite, rising from the low trees at the extreme left of the vignette", "varies considerably in intensity on different specimens", "when the kite is least distinct, a small near-

ly vertical dash appears on the water", 'above OR of WINDSOR'. The key of symbols used, that appears immediately below, saves us space and enables reading of the check list.

PRINTERS. Waterlow = W, Bradbury Wilkinson = B, de la Rue = R.

DENOMINATIONS. $\frac{1}{2}$ =A, 1d=C, $1\frac{1}{2}$ d=D, 2d=E, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d=F, 3d=G, 4d=H, 5d=J, 6d=K, 1/-=L.

Annas & Rupees 1 anna = M, 2A = O, 3A = P, 1 Rupee = Q.

Piastres $\frac{1}{4}$ Pi = S, $1\frac{1}{2}$ Pi = T, $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pi = V, 9 Pi = Y.

Cents 2 = ca, 3 = cb, 4 = cc, 5 = cd, 6 = ce, 7 = cp, 8 = cf, 9 = cg, 10 = ch, 12 = ci, 20 = cj, 24 = ck, 25 = cl, 30 = cm, 50 = cn, 65 = co.

REPRINTED, stamps printed twice or more = X.

KITE variety = Z, Double flag pole = 2.

Antigua	.... R, CX, DX, FX, LX.	Hong Kong	.... B, cb, cd, ch, cj.
Ascension	.... W, DXZ, EX, JXZ, LXZ.	Jamaica	.... B, C, DX2, KX2, L2.
Bahamas	.... R, C, F, KX, LX.	Kenya U & T	.. R, cjX, cmX, coX, LK.
Barbados	.... W, C, D, F, LXZ.	Leewards	.... W, C, D, F, LXZ.
Basutoland	.... R, CX, E, GX, KX.	Malta	.... B, A2, F, K2, L2.
Bechuanaland	.. B, CX2, E2, GX, KX.	Mauritius	.... R, cd, ci, cj, QX.
Bermuda	.... W, C, D, F, LX.	Montserrat	.... W, CX, DX, F, LX.
Br. Guiana	.... R, caX, ceX, cix, ckX.	Newfoundland	B, ccX, cdX, cpX, ckX.
Br. Honduras	.. B, cb, ccX, cd, ciX2.	Nigeria	.... W, DX, EX2, G, L.
Br. Sol. Isles	.. R, DX, GX, KX, LX.	N. Rhodesia	.... R, CX, E, GX, KX.
Somaliland	.... W, M, OZ, PXZ, QXZ.	Nyasaland	.... W, CXZ, E, GZ, LZ.
Cayman	.... R, AX, FX, KX, LX.	St. Chris-Nevis	W, C, DZ, F, L.
Ceylon	.... R, ce, cg, cj, cn.	St. Helena	.... R, DX, EX, KX, LX.
Cyprus	.... W S, TX, V, Y.	St. Lucia	.... R, AX, EX, FX, LX.
Dominica	.... R, C, D, F, LX.	St. Vincent	.... W, C, D, F, LX.
Falklands	.... B, C, F, H, LX2.	Seychelles	.... B, ceX2, ciX2, cjX2, X2.
Fiji	.... R, DX, EX, GX, LX.	Straits	.... W, cd, cf, ci, cl.
Gambia	.... B, DX2, GX2, K2, LX2.	Sierra Leone	.. B, C2, GX2, JX2, LX2.
Gibraltar	.... B, EX2, GX2, KX2, LX2.	Swaziland	.... B, CX2, E2, GX2, KX2.
Gilbert & Ellice	B, C, D, G, L.	Trinidad and Tobago	.... B, caX2, cbX2, ceX2, ckX2.

Gold Coast B, C2, GX2, KX2,
 LX2.
 Grenada W, AXZ, CX, DX,
 LX.

Turks & Caicos W, AZ, GZ, KZ, LZ.
 Virgins W, CZ, DZ, FZ, LZ.

In addition there are, the attempted hand correction on the stamp itself, of the "double flag pole variety, reported by Gibbons as existing on the 6d. and 1/- of Gambia, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d., 1/- of Malta.

Double "flag Pole" variety. This item when found is located on the forty-ninth subject of the sheet of sixty stamps, enumerating across from the top left. Discovery was reported in Gibbons "Monthly Journal" for September, 1935, where it was recorded as found on Bechuanaland 2d., Gambia 3d., 6d., 1/-; Gibraltar 2d., 3d., 6d.; Gold Coast 1d., 6d.; Jamaica $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1/-; Malta $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1/-; Seychelles 6c., 12c., 20c., 1R; Sierra Leone 1d., 3d., 5d., 1/-; Swaziland 2d., 3d.; Trinidad 2c.; but was not then reported from British Honduras, Gilbert & Ellice, the stamps for which places are stated to have been printed also by Bradshaw & Wilkinson. Since then existence has been affirmed on Jamaica 6d., Trinidad 3c., 6c. and 24c., as well as the 2c., and discovery on the 1/- Falkland Islands was reported. In so far as Jamaica is concerned, we are informed that large numbers of sheets in all three denominations, have been examined without success to find the variety. and that comparatively it is but few sheets that did show it. Messrs. Gibbons published experience, confirms that inconstancy, something that is probably explained by the use of more than one plate for printing, one of which was defective. From Trinidad we learn of similar inconstancy, so that apparently theory of more than one vignette plate is sound.

Locally, there was a deal of suppressed excitement throughout the island, when the local press reported the discovery, among those who had access to the stamps, and that was largely stimulated, by speculative buying by people not particularly conversant with philatelic matters, who very probably had visions of another 1/- with inverted frame or centre, forgetful of the result of the violently speculative purchase of the first issue of the 3d WAR STAMP with overprint in red, and interested merely and entirely for what they hoped to make out of it, to earn in cash. In their "Journal" for September, 1935, Gibbons offered the variety on the following stamps and denominations:—Gibraltar 2d. at 3/-; Gold Coast 1d. at 2/6; Jamaica $\frac{1}{2}$ d. at 3/-; Malta $\frac{1}{2}$ d. at 2/6; Seychelles 6c. at 2/6, 20c. at 3/-; Sierra Leone 1d. at 2/6. Those prices do not suggest that Messrs. Gibbons, regarded the variety as of alarming importance, but in Jamaica the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. is said to have been bought and sold at any price above 5/- and up to 20/-. It is not improbable that Gibbons prices have hardened, since that first offer in September, especially so if as seems possible, unwarranted speculative buying has created strong demand and market for the item, as it is in the nature of legitimate things, for merchants to exploit the market there may be for their wares. One

does not care to prophesy, as the individual collector is an unknown quantity, and specious, plausible argument may be advanced in support of the claim for recognition, but we are reminded of other similarly famous items such as, "the spot of the King's nose", "the disappearing man"; who appeared and disappeared on this or that stamp; and others of that ilk. The collector is the ultimate consumer, and he will keep the market strong, the price high, by demand for the item, or cause the bottom to fall out of it if sanely and logically, he reasons with himself in effort to solve the old controversial question, "What is variety of real philatelic interest and importance", as opposed to that which is dubious, fictitious or nearly so, ephemeral and speculative, deriving its interest and value from "thimble rigging". *What is this variety?* A sharp well defined line, across the face of one of the subjects on one of the plates used for printing, rises from the top of the Castle beside the smaller tower or turret. For convenience it is described as an additional "flag pole", but bears little semblance to the genuine pole, that rises from the larger and main tower. By large majority it does not appear on all the printed sheets of stamps, it does appear on some. It is not an error in design, not change in design caused by accident or deliberation, it is not damaged design, but freakish and no doubt accidental introduction of something that should not be there, rather similar to that caused by accidental introduction of fibres into the printing ink, resulting in impression to show what we have seen proudly displayed as "hair lines", that appear on some stamps anywhere, anyhow in the

sheet, running in any old direction across the face of the printed stamp, have no meaning and do not create change real and understandable, from the original and normal. Gibbons in their "Journal" for December, 1935, report receipt of a small further supply of the stamps of Gambia, on the 6d. and 1/- of which were discovered traces of effort, presumably by the printers, to remove this extra "flag pole", but the retouch was not done on the plate, it was done *by hand on the stamps themselves*, "ruffled fibres of the paper", showed what had been done. Here we have a potential sub-variety, that of necessity will be far more uncommon than the variety itself, capable of being manufactured by anyone exercising a little care, skill and patience. What do you Mr. Collector and the speculators, propose to pay for this exceedingly rare and absorbingly interesting item, it is rather more than probable that we can procure a few for you, all locally manufactured, at very reasonable prices, and appeal to you to support local industry.

* * * *

Here is an excellent "specimen" of philately gone mad. It is copy of a dealer's advertisement, that appeared in a recent edition of an English philatelic magazine.

"Offer of South African Jubilee varieties."

UNIQUE BLOCK of 6			
showing 3 varieties	£20	0	0
Sets in pairs with dots	2	0	0
Block of 4 sets with sheet numbers	3	0	0
1d block of 6 with <i>cleft</i> skull	0	10	0
1d block of 6 with <i>gashed</i> ear	0	10	0

Set in pairs with *PIMPLE*

on the head	....	....	1	5	0
Block of 16 normal	....	....	30	0	0

There now, what do you think of that?, broken skulls, chewed ears, and *pimples* offered quite seriously as philatelic varieties of real interest and importance?, why, in some of the older issues of some countries, it is not difficult to find copies showing broken arms, bandy legs, knock knees, and things of the kind. Get busy and hunt them up, quite probably you will find some wise folk ready to snap them up at unbelievable prices, you may make a small fortune, you should if such things as advertised above have a vogue at the moment. A flat foot, a broken nose, a black eye, all of these should pass as items of absorbing interest, and they are all there to be found.

* * * *

Since writing the foregoing, we have received Gibbons "Monthly Journal for January, 1936, and are gratified to note that our appraisal of the "double flag pole" variety, concurs with theirs. *They do not propose to list the variety in their catalogue*, it is a minor variety of interest, but not of importance, and incidentally, *they are sold out*. Now see the absurd prices that have been asked and paid. S Those of our readers who L were lucky enough, to obtain U supplies and sold, realising M high prices, congrats, you were P. wise; to those who purchased at high prices, regrets, and those who still have, may be assured of a premium over face any way; as the normal stamps are worth that now; but nothing like several hundreds per cent.

* * * *

Mr. L. C. C. Nicholson, one of our

members resident in England and distinguished in the philately of Jamaica, through the medium of "Godden's Gazette", tells of another minor variety on a stamp of Jamaica that is common locally, viz., the ½d. Georgian of 1927. Our local members should have readily both the material and incentive, to search all available copies with zest for a find, if they will think of the "\$hilling" and "Ser . . et" varieties. The Moguls who go in for whole sheets and panes to know the exact position, will find it on the 48th stamp of the lower left pane, and for general purposes the description is:—

Observe the curved label below the medallion of the King's head, that bears the word "JAMAICA"; bear away to the right and up to the ornamental frond, the two lowest leaves of which are curved right back, to rejoin the stem below their original junction with it. The effect is formation of a bow, very like that commonly known as a "true lover's knot", without the ends. A variant shows in addition to the bow, at the top inside section of the label, a cleft irregular in shape, there is similar damage to the line of the oval at that point, and the upper part of the foliate ornament in the right lower corner of the stamp, fails to print in its entirety.

Mr. Nicholson places issue at some time in 1930, as he possesses copies dated 12th December, 1930, to 3rd April, 1933. We have seen copies dated in February, 1933, May and June, 1934, February, 1936, and know that the variety was obtainable in whole sheets on issue, at more than one Post Office during that month. Mr. Nicholson states that sheets are known which do not show it, hence

the belief that it was discovered and corrected, and sales as late as 1936, indicate that old stocks of the P. O. were then being issued. He further states that this stamp is printed from plates 1 and 3 in 240 set exclusively, i.e. the Head. We do not wish to appear to challenge a statement made by Mr. Nicholson, but the evidence we have does not support him fully. The first issues sold here, were from plate 1 apparently in 240 set, and we have seen the right lower pane of a sheet from plate 3, suggesting that the whole sheet was from that plate, but by far the majority of sheets placed on sale here, are from plates 1 and 3 in that combination, both of 120 set.

* * * *

Those interested in covers, locally used prior to introduction of postage stamps, may obtain very desirable interesting and valuable information, from a booklet written by Mr. Nicholson and published by "Goddens" (Frank Godden, Ltd., 359 Strand, London, W.C.2.) at 1/6. We have seen and read the booklet, and strongly recommend it to all who, possessed of covers used prior to 1860, wish to have positive and reliable knowledge on the subject and those who may wish to extend their collections of Jamaica, to take in that field.

* * * *

"The fortunes of Bartolomeo Portugeses", from the pen of Mr. D. S. M. Clark, that appears in this edition, strictly is not a philatelic item, is rather more in the historical sense, "piratical", but as piracy in the Caribbean and off the Atlantic coast of America, is a subject with which most of us are familiar, again in the historical sense, is closely related to the

history of Port Royal, which in turn has its place in our philately, because of its appearance on the recently obsolete 6d. stamp, "The fortunes of Bartolomeo Portugeses" should have some appeal.

* * * *

International Philatelic Exhibition, the third of its kind, will be at the Grand Central Palace, New York, U.S.A., 9th to 17th May, 1936. We are writing prior to the period of the Exhibition, so cannot comment on its accomplishments, but all the present indications are, that it will be one of great interest and should not be missed by any who can afford to be present. At the time we go to press, the Exhibiting will have passed into history, we trust with as great a record as did its predecessors. Members of the J.P.S. will be gratified to learn, that the Society is a member of the "Association for Stamp Exhibitions", under the auspices of which this Exhibition will be held, and that our Honorary Secretary, Mr. G. C. Gunter, expects to have been present, representing the Society there.

* * * *

It is quite some time since the local press announced certain new stamps for Jamaica. It was stated then that the current 3d, 4d, 1/- and 2/- denominations, shortly would be replaced with others in new pictorial designs, but to the present they have not appeared. Our authorities seem to be going dead slow in the matter, but they will need now to take definite and early steps, to provide new issues that will bear the likeness of His Majesty, King Edward VIII. Those of us who collect Empire issues, face a hectic time in 1937, to cover all the new issues that will appear then, and those who do not have

their Georgians, in the desired state of completion, need to hurry up to acquire those still current and available at face.

* * * *

We feel sure our members will experience a thrill of gratified pride, and learn with very real pleasure, that our Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. C. Gunter, has received the distinction and honour to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society. The distinction dates as of 13th February. We congratulate Mr. Gunter, and are grateful that through him, our Society also is honoured, as it is within its frame work, that his effort for philately, Jamaican in particular, has borne fruit, that no doubt has caused this recognition and very pleasant reward. Members, while we have no sort of doubt that unstintingly you felicitate our Secretary, have we failed to appreciate (we certainly have in expression of it) and honour him as we should?.

* * * *

Mr. Gunter expects to be in England in time for this years Congress, at Faighton 8th to 12th June, where with Mr. D. M. Samuel, Vice President of our Society, and Mr. Nicholson, one of our members resident in England and another FRPS, they will represent Jamaica, as the delegates from its Society.

* * * *

Those of our members who may wish opinion and advice relative to any Jamaican War Stamps they may possess, may have that service free of charge, from a local resident, but in every instance self addressed prepaid cover for return must be supplied. Dealers and collectors abroad are making use of this service, that is now placed at your disposal. During absence from the Is-

land of our Secretary, stamps on which opinion is desired, should be sent to the Associate Editor at 12 Ripon Road, Cross Roads P.O. Do not forget to enclose stamped envelope for return.

* * * *

We have learned that there is on Exhibition; permanently so for the present at least; a display of Jamaican Pictorial stamps in the current types, at the General Post Office of the United States at Washington. The Exhibition covers the issues of sundry other countries, special attention having been given to issues of those places that are within the American sphere of influence, viz., countries of the Caribbean, North and South America, and others contiguous to those continents, Bermuda and Falklands for instance. The Jamaica exhibit has excited a deal of interest, so that explanatory literature has been added for the convenience of those interested, and on another page we give verbatim, the matter wrritten specially relative to our 2d., 2½d., and 6d., stamps, which had not been written up before. The older stamps already had been well covered in philatelic magazines and copy of that detail has been provided.

* * * *

6d. Slavery. These pages have recorded existence of the stamp, on both MCA and script watermarked papers, with the "Specimen" overprint, in private and commercial hands; two blocks of four each with the respective watermark, without the overprint are in the collection of His late Majesty, King George V, and at one time and another there have been rumours of a copy without over-print in private hands. We actually saw that copy, and recently the Hopkinson collection was dispersed, when a copy that we

believe to be the one seen, changed hands. We learn now that a dealer in England noted for his activity in rare items, possessed a block of four, minus the overprint, broke it to sell a pair, and we have traced what we believe to be one of those, to a collection at St. Daniels, Pa., USA. Both single copies mentioned are said to be script watermarked, and apparently, exclusive of those held by His Majesty, there are five copies extant without overprint, possibly six.

* * * *

The stamp referred to immediately above, was suppressed. Prepared and issued in "Specimen" copies to the Bureau of the International Postal Union at Berne, those supplies were re-issued to the several Postal Administrations concerned, and supplies on both papers, water-marked MCA and script CA, were received in the Island, but the local Government decided not to issue, and the supplies were destroyed, all except the few mentioned in the previous paragraph, that somehow have found their way into other hands. The official explanation that the stamp "was considered a most unsatisfactory production", is rather weak, and the unofficial or semi-official idea, that its subject "The Abolition of Slavery", was believed at the time to be of an inflammatory nature, dangerous to have been issued when there was so much alleged unrest in a certain part of the Island, that special police precautions had to be taken, is by far the more reasonable and acceptable.

* * * *

"JAMAICA" still in the foreground. Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., writing under date of 28th March very kindly advise that they exhibited the book at the "Liphinprex Exhibition" at Brussels, under the auspices of the Federa-

tion Internationale de la Presse Philatelique, and have received in common with similar exhibitors of non-competitive works, a certificate of thanks from the Committee, and forward the certificate to the Jamaica Philatelic Society, as the trustees to whom the authors who compiled the book, assigned the credit of its production. All but one of the authors were and still are members of the Society, and it will be remembered that the book at publication in 1928 by Messrs Gibbons, was received by the press with very favourable comment, as the standard work on Jamaica, that should be in the hands of every collector interested in the issues of our island home. Messrs Gibbons still advertise the book for sale.

* * * *

Our Post Office officials are usually most patient, and in many instances, complaisant folk. We know from experience, but even their trained patience, is hard put to the test at times, by letters from stamp collectors abroad, who proffer the most extraordinary, impossible and ignorant requests. We know of complaint by a gentleman, who asked to be advised of all the denominations of stamps, with descriptions of them, in issue. The Postmaster's Department obliged with a letter that filled a page of foolscap, giving all the detail. The gentleman then remitted \$1.25 to pay for a complete set ½d to 10/-, including registered postage. He computed the 6d as worth 12c, the 1/- at 3c, the 10/- at 21c. It is not clear how he arrived at those figures, but presumably he possessed a Scott catalogue, where he could have seen the Jamaica currency stated as "12 pence = 1/-", and if he computed the 1d at 2c, twelve times two in the kindergarten would be stated as 24, after that it should have

been easy to get at the rest. Yet another gentleman complained that he did not get a mint set of the Jubilee stamps, face value $1/8\frac{1}{2}$ d., for the international reply coupon, value $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., that he enclosed. Most of us in Jamaica would very gladly purchase mint U.S. 24c stamps at 16d. each. Any for sale?

* * * *

Mr I. C. Bricker of Elora, Ont., Canada, invites correspondence and exchange of anything out of the ordinary in Jamaica issues, plate numbers, first day covers from newly opened post offices, etc. He is an old member of the Society and takes great interest in the philately of Jamaica, so much so that with the aid of some finely coloured slides of Jamaica scenery, possessed by the Government of Canada, he is lecturing and advertising the island, using some of his stamps for the purpose as well. These lectures are reported in the press, so the island is receiving quite a bit of free advertising through his efforts, which do not stop there, as the young idea also obtains stimulus from him directly or indirectly. The latest effort in that direction, is an outlined map of Jamaica, cut from card board, about four feet long. The main towns are located with pictures of them, there are pictorial representations of the products, and photographs of our peasant people, as well as stamps of the island. That effort has had so much appeal, that Government School Inspectors, have borrowed it to take around to various schools, for the benefit of those scholars. The idea is worthy of adoption here, it is certain that our own folk would know more about their island home, than they do now.

Miss M. E. Foster of Knutsford, Browns Town, St Ann writes:—"It is more than three years since I had the pleasure of perusing a copy of the Jamaica Philatelist, and I should so much like to see another. Would you be so very kind as to let me have one?, either your last publication or a previous one. I should be most grateful. Also, on behalf of 3 stamp enthusiasts whose addresses I enclose, may I request as a favour that a copy even a back number, if you have it to spare—be sent to each. All would greatly appreciate it, I feel sure, and would read your journal with keen interest." We thank Miss Foster most sincerely, and hope she will not object, to a little preening of our feathers. She was kind enough to enclose voluntary monetary donation to aid in the publication of our Nos. 8 and 9. On our behalf and on that of the Society we thank Miss Foster very much for both contributions. It is most refreshing to receive those signs of appreciation.

* * * *

STOP PRESS. A letter received from Mr. Gunter while we were in the press, covers his report relative to the International Philatelic exhibition at New York 9th to 17th May. He was present at the opening, and with other distinguished guests, had the privilege of a preview. Unfortunately he fell ill and was in that condition for the period of his stay there and was unable to accept and make use of the many courtesies showered on him. On his behalf and on that of the Society, we wish to express our appreciation to those responsible, for the very kind and generously courteous reception given to him.

De Profundis.

In our last edition, it was our joyful duty to record our meed of praise to join the Empire-wide paean of joy, offered to His then reigning Majesty, King George V, celebrating his Jubilee of twenty five years of reign as our King. In this, it is our very melancholy duty to record his death and express our sorrow.

A year ago we joined our fellow subjects throughout the Empire; especially those who were stamp collectors and philatelists; in expression of our respectful, and sincerely affectionate esteem of Him who was our King and Patron. Unaffectedly, spontaneously we rendered homage to that King and Emperor, who was yet a man; who, as stated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, described himself as "a very ordinary sort of fellow". To us he was never that, he could not be, and in our view his words contradict the statement, as it is not by any means "ordinary", to find that measure of self humility among the great, and it was that simplicity which did so much to endear him to you and me, the common or garden "man on the street." We revered and honoured him as King, we affectionately esteemed him as a man, inspired by that worth, honesty of purpose, steadfastness and reliability that inately he displayed.

During the Jubilee celebrations at London, the radio brought us very near to all that happened. Those of us who have been fortunate to visit that great city, to have traversed some of its principal thoroughfares, to have seen there a Royal procession, were able in spirit to have revisited some of those familiar places, to conjure the

scene, to have been participants in the overwhelming display of affectionate loyalty, that greeted His late Majesty wherever he went. The prayer "God save the King", the toast "Gentlemen, His Majesty, the King, God bless, him", were echoed here with the earnest, heartfelt sincerity that distinguished the period of rejoicing.

And now, *misericordia*, our joy is turned to woe, as He whom we loved and honoured, is taken from among us. Full of years, acclaimed with honour, eminence, and fame that comes to those who do not seek but earn it, whose life and example demand and freely receive its recognition, he is laid to rest with his forefathers. The Empire and World have been left better places than they were, because of his having lived, as has been evidenced by the expressed world wide regret and sorrow that he is no more. We thank God that in our time, there has been such a King, that he was given to us, ours of the British Empire.

Our hobby in particular has been served; it was his as it is yours and mine. He brought to it, not merely the grace and distinction it would have received, because of the patronage of a King, but understanding of its worth, as well as the inspiration of his personality as a man, who showed always in this as in other matters, thoughtfulness and consideration for others, evinced in practical help, instance of which may be found readily in the record of his aid, given to philatelic war charities.

Sire, our Patron, with bowed heads in chaste sorrow, respectfully and affectionately we salute thee, King and Emperor, and for us of Jamaica, our

LORD SUPREME.

Jamaican Stamps Overprinted Cayman Islands.

By A. J. WATKIN.

This short article is written in the full knowledge that much has yet to be learned on the subject. No claim is, therefore, made that it is more than an outline, the facts of which appear to be well authenticated. If any reader has further information—no matter how unimportant it may appear to be—the compiler will be grateful to hear of it.

As the major part of Cayman philatelic research seems to consist of unearthing apparently unimportant scraps of information and then trying to piece them together, this request is extended to embrace any Cayman Islands subject, and to include the loan of any documents and/or correspondence that might prove of assistance.

Prior to 1889 the postal history of the Cayman Islands is wrapped in mystery. In 1848 and again in 1854 a petition was sent through Jamaica to the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying that arrangements might be made for Grand Cayman to become a place of call for the Royal Mail Steamship Company's ships which passed comparatively close to the Island on their journeys between Kingston and Belize, British Honduras.

In each case, the Admiralty, to whom the request was passed by the Colonial Office, approached the Shipping Company who refused on the grounds of the extra mileage that would have to be steamed annually and of the dangerous and unlighted nature of the Cayman coast which would render it unsafe to establish communication other than by daylight and would, in consequence, involve considerable delays on the voyage. The Caymanians were therefore denied the postal facilities for which they asked.

Whether it was as a result of these refusals is not established, but there is a solitary record that the Islanders opened a Post Office of their own. As soon as the Postmaster General (whoever he may have been!) heard of it, he promptly had it closed. On this point, however, no further details exist and, in fact, it may be that the record really does not refer to the Cayman Islands at all.

In 1889 a Post Office was opened at Georgetown as a branch of the Jamaican Post Office. In the "Annual Report of the Post Office Department" of Jamaica for that year the following occurs:—

"25. Arrangements were concluded during the year under review for the exchange of Mails between the Cayman Island and Jamaica by the Schooners which ply between the two places. The rates of postage in Jamaica, Inland and Foreign, apply equally to correspondence posted in the Cayman Islands."

A notice signed by the Postmaster for Jamaica slightly increases this scanty knowledge, viz:—

"The undermentioned arrangements have been approved . . .

"II. From the Cayman Islands.

"Letters, etc., originating in the Cayman Islands and intended either for delivery in Jamaica, or for transmission to any place over sea, will be treated by the Jamaica Post Office as though they had originated in Jamaica.

"The Custos of Grand Cayman is supplied with Jamaica postage stamps, so that all such correspondence may be fully prepaid.

FRED. SULLIVAN,
Postmaster for Jamaica.

"General Post Office,
"12th April, 1889."

An extract from "The Handbook of Jamaica" of 1895 (it may be that it appeared in earlier editions too) records that—

"Latterly irregular postal communication has been established between Georgetown in Grand Cayman and Kingston in this Island. The people are learning to appreciate this privilege, and are now

"seeking to have it extended to other ports and towns as well as to issue their own postage stamps and thus derive revenue therefrom."

This same paragraph figures also in the Handbooks of 1897, 1898, 1900, 1901 and 1902, possibly in the intervening ones as well, so that its value must be discounted to a certain extent for "latterly" is hardly the word to use over a period of eight years and the Cayman Islands had their own stamps in 1900.

In spite of the fact that the question of the cost of providing special stamps had been discussed in the correspondence of 1889, items of circumstantial evidence, which are recorded later, suggested that this reference in the Handbook of 1895 really marked the beginning of the history of the stamps forming the subject of this article.

Subsequent research has, however, carried the date of their preparation back to 1891, as will be seen when consideration is given to the faulty letters that occur in the type in which the overprint was set up.

It was the Custos of the Cayman Islands who originally expressed the wish that the Islands should have stamps of their town, but the idea did not find favour in Jamaica and the suggestion was rather adroitly sidetracked by the Postmaster.

The matter was evidently not allowed to die, for eventually it was referred to the Colonial Office in London and the Assistant Under Secretary of State sought the opinion of Sir Henry Blake who had relinquished the Governorship of Jamaica a few months previously. In his reply, dated 21st July, 1898, Sir Henry Blake expressed the view that it was—

"... desirable that the Cayman Islands should be allowed to have a distinctive postage, with the words Cayman Islands overprinted on Jamaica postage stamps."

"... The establishment of a distinctive Postage system will materially increase their revenue."

Such evidence as is available, however, points to the fact that, during his Governorship (1889-1898), Sir Henry Blake had already been considering the question and had actual-

ly issued instructions for some Jamaican stamps to be overprinted CAYMAN ISLANDS. Further, these instructions are said to have been issued to Mr. Pierce who was Postmaster for Jamaica (1891-1903).

Two copies of the 1d Keyplate stamp, so overprinted, which, as will be seen later, bear evidences of being genuine, were discovered in New York in 1909. It is worthy of record that it was the stamps themselves that were found first and that all the information about them and even the possibility of their existence was discovered subsequently.

That they had been found was duly recorded both in England and the United States some years before the War. The circumstances attending their discovery may well be repeated here in order to collect into one comprehensive article all the known information.

Mr. C. B. Bostwick of New York, who was undoubtedly the pioneer specialist of the stamps of the Cayman Islands, received, in January, 1909, a letter from a Mr. Vincent Gurdji, another well known New York Collector, saying that he had two Jamaican stamps surcharged CAYMAN ISLANDS. Mr. Gurdji did not himself specialise in the stamps of the Cayman Islands and was quite willing to exchange the two stamps for some unused duplicates which Mr. Bostwick could easily spare. He knew nothing beyond the fact that he had found them whilst searching through a lot of common Jamaican stamps.

No specialist at that time had ever heard of any such stamp and Mr. Bostwick immediately set on foot many inquiries with a view to finding out at least whether anything of the sort had ever existed and, if so, whether it was possible to obtain any authentication for his two copies.

In the former quest he had considerable initial good fortune, although unfortunately he did not live for many years to pursue it. In the latter he failed; but naturally the enquiries were continued and have now met with some small measure of success.

Mr. Bostwick was in touch by correspondence with many Caymanians, both in the Islands and abroad, and also with most other people who were at that time taking an interest—sometimes chiefly financial!—in the stamps of the Islands. He, therefore, in his enquiries, found means of approaching two members of a family whose name is well known in connection with Cayman matters, viz:—Hon. Edmund Parsons, J. P., who was first Custos and (acting) Postmaster of the Islands (1889-1896), and Capt. D. G. Parsons, who had been in the Post Office Department of Jamaica and was then in the Audit Department. It has been subsequently ascertained that Capt. Parsons was intimately connected with the investigations that took place prior to the establishment of the Post Office in the Cayman Islands.

The evidence of these two gentlemen, although given by them from memory after many years, cannot but be of considerable value, especially as their recollections tally to a remarkable degree.

There would seem to be little doubt that, on the authority of Sir Henry Blake, the Governor of Jamaica, instructions were issued to Mr. Pierce, the Postmaster, to have some Jamaican stamps overprinted CAYMAN ISLANDS. No official documents relating to the subject are at present known and so apart from philatelic research, this is the only evidence that is helpful in fixing the date of the overprinting. This must have been between 1891, when Mr. Pierce became Postmaster, and 1898, when Sir Henry Blake relinquished the Governorship. In one letter however, written in 1912, the Hon. Edmund Parsons did say that he had seen a sample of the stamps "for the first and only time" at the office of the Colonial Secretary in May, 1896. In another letter he says "In 1890, or 1, there were a lot of Jamaica stamps overprinted Cayman Islands, but never used." At first sight, this date seemed to be somewhat early, but evidence obtained from a study of contemporary Jamai-

can surcharges and overprints seems to give it ample corroboration.

As regards the denominations so overprinted the evidence is not conclusive. On the one hand the 2d. and 1d. are mentioned and on the other "stamps of different denominations" of "about £10 value to the best of my knowledge." (N.B. Ten sheets each of the 2d. and 1d. values would give a face value of £10).

On one point there is a difference of opinion in that the stamps were stated both to have been issued and used generally on Cayman mail and also to have been withheld until such "time as the different countries within the Postal Union could be informed; but before this happened it was decided to have our own stamps." The latter view is that of the Hon. Edmund Parsons: "I am certain they were never used in the P.O. here, I acted as P. M. until relieved in August 1896, and up to that time I am positively certain they were never used."

It seems inconceivable that if they were in general use on mail matter, the sole survivors of £10 worth—say between 3,000 and 4,000 stamps—should be but these two copies.

It is stated that the Custos, Mr. Parsons, made the first suggestion that the Islands should be admitted to the Postal Union in a letter dated April 1898 and another reference suggests that he had actually been endeavouring to obtain the special issue of stamps right from the beginning—1889.

All this evidence has been given at some length to show how nearly it fits together. Subsequent information, which is largely circumstantial, seems also only to require that one or two points should be elucidated in order to make the narrative complete and connected.

The first Commissioner of the Cayman Islands arrived there on 1st September, 1898. On the 14th March, 1900, he was in Jamaica and referred to a requisition for stamps that was in the hands of the Colonial Secretary on 17th January, 1900. Apparently the idea of overprinting Jamaican

stamps had been abandoned for he agrees "to limiting the denominations of stamps to an issue of 1d. and ½d. I have changed the colours of the stamps in my requisition to those fixed by Article VI of the Postal Union Regulations".

It is evident that other colours had, up till then, been in contemplation.

He goes on to discuss the legislation that was necessary in order to secure the admission of the Islands to the Postal Union. This question appears to have been a very vexed one for it keeps cropping up until finally disposed of on 22nd January, 1901*, by the Secretary of State for the Colonies who, on that day, sanctioned the separation of the Islands from Jamaica as a political unit and requested the Postmaster General to notify the Postal Union accordingly.

As far back as 30th September, 1899, the Secretary of State had asked the Governor to forward for transmission to the Postal Union "the requisite number of specimens (736) of each separate stamp which it may be decided to issue for the Islands".

The matter had, therefore, been well under discussion for many years, though to what extent the proposals applied to suitably overprinted Jamaican stamps has not yet been established. It certainly looks as though any question of a distinctive design did not arise till 1900.

In 1912 one doubtful point already mentioned above seems to have been settled from another source, when it was authoritatively stated that none of the overprinted stamps was ever issued and that the whole of the batch provisionally surcharged in the Government Printing Office, Jamaica, was retained intact by the Government of Jamaica until destroyed under the supervision of the Auditor General. The letter concludes "no genuine specimens of this surcharged batch are in existence", which of course, is only another way of saying that they were all destroyed!

This letter repeats the previous evi-

dence that the overprinting was done at the Government Printing Office, but doubts must exist on this point (it is, after all, only mentioned in parentheses) unless that was the customary, if flattering, method of alluding to "a local printer in Kingston, Camille Vendryes by name". He it was who printed the Surcharge of the provisional 2½d. on 4d. (Jamaica—not of course Cayman) and the "thin" OFFICIAL overprint on the ½d. stamp.

All the above information, probably will establish that at some time or other Jamaican stamps were overprinted with the words CAYMAN ISLANDS. It now remains to examine, as far as possible, the evidence available as to the authenticity or otherwise of the known stamps which have such an overprint. They number three: two—Mr. Bostwick's original ones—bear overprints which are alike; the third is entirely different, as can be seen from the illustrations.

Nothing could be easier than for anyone who possessed a toy printing press to place such an overprint on a stamp. Every opportunity has, therefore, been taken to obtain an opinion on these stamps with a view to establishing their genuineness or otherwise.

The type from which the overprint of the single copy (A) was made has been described as "10 point (or Long 'Primer') Modern", and endeavours have been made to identify the actual fount. Obviously the matter would be settled so far as that stamp is concerned if it were proved that the fount was only cast for the first time subsequently to, say, 1901.

A photograph was handed to a representative of one of the large type-founding firms in London with a request that he should, if possible, obtain these particulars. He made enquiries over a period of many months and studied a number of American and Continental catalogues but eventually returned the photo saying that although he had found several similar founts he had been unable to trace the actual one that had been used.

Mr. Bostwick's own description of

*The use of the Queen's Head stamps was thus first authorized on the day on which she died.

his two copies (B) is as follows, viz:—

"The surcharge measures 8½ mm. from the top to bottom and 16½ mm. at its greatest length. As the cut shows, the first 'A' of 'Cayman' is slightly above the line, and has a small bar on the left leg. There are no bars on the other two 'A's in the two words. The 'N' of 'Islands' is likewise a little above the line. The surcharge is not handstamped, but overprinted. One of these stamps is 'uncancelled' with most of the original gum remaining. The other copy is postmarked, but unfortunately rather illegibly. The date clearly shows as 'MY. 31 '97' but the name of the cancelling office is not clearly shown. It appears to be 'cancelled in Jamaica, and not in the 'Cayman Islands'.

All these stamps were examined and considered on two occasions by the Members of the Committee who edited the "Handbook on the stamps of Jamaica". On the first occasion an open verdict was returned on the single copy and an adverse one on the two that Mr. Bostwick had discovered. Mr. L. C. C. Nicholson was the first person to realise that the postmark was that of RICHMOND (Jamaica) and he argued that it was impossible for the postmark of an inland town of Jamaica to appear legitimately on a stamp of the Cayman Islands. The Committee, therefore, concluded that the overprints must be faked.

They did not give this as a final decision and the matter was reconsidered in the light of certain further information put forward by one of their number. It was pointed out that the type used for the overprints was identical to that employed, somewhere about the same time, by Camille Ven-

dryes for the thin OFFICIAL overprint on the ½d. stamp of Jamaica. Moreover the variety which was noted by Mr. Bostwick, viz., the "A" having a short leg with a small bar on it, also appeared in two settings of the word "OFFICIAL".

The Committee therefore came to the final decision that the overprints were genuine; that they were done by Camille Vendryes and that the postmark must have been applied either by accident or favour in order to obtain what appeared to be a used copy. They further came to the conclusion that the overprint on the other copy was forged.

The identification of the damaged A with the one appearing in the word "Official" prompted further investigation on the same lines, and closer examination of the letters forming the "Cayman Islands" overprint revealed in many of them characteristics from which it seemed possible that they might be identifiable with letters appearing in the Jamaican overprints and surcharges.

The whole matter was therefore referred to Mr. George Pearson, who has done so much research work in the settings of the Jamaican overprints and surcharges, and he compiled a table in which he identified in the "Cayman Islands" overprint six out of a possible nine letters employed in connection with the local "Officials" and Provisionals of 1890-2. These letters are as follow, viz:—

Letter of overprint	Characteristics of letter	LOCATION OF THE SAME LETTER IN:—			
		TWO PENCE HALF-PENNY		OFFICIAL	
		Date & Number of Setting	Position	Date & No. of Setting	Position
CAYMAN ISLANDS					
C	Thinned top (not broken)	February 1891 (No. 2)	7	—	—
A	Malformed left limb—at foot	—	—	Oct. 1890 (No. 2) March 1891 (No. 3)	16 11*
Y	Right stroke thinned	March 1890 (No. 1)	7	—	—
M	—	—	—	—	—

Letter of overprint CAYMAN ISLANDS	Characteristics of letter	LOCATION OF THE SAME LETTER IN:—			
		TWO PENCE HALF-PENNY		OFFICIAL	
		Date & Number of Setting	Position	Date & No. of Setting	Position
A	Right limb slightly shorter	Does not compare with any used in the local settings			
N	Weak first vertical stroke and cross bar	March 1890 (No. 1)	5 (Penny)	—	—
I	Both printings rather indistinct	—	—	Cannot trace	
S	—	—	—	—	—
L	The printing of the two letters is not identical. In the one the point of the foot tapers upwards and in the other downwards	Cannot be identified		—	—
A	Weak right limb	Feb. 1891 (No. 2)	8	—	—
N	Right hand stroke shortened	1892 (No. 3)	2 (Penny)	—	—
D	—	—	—	—	—
S	—	—	—	—	—

*This is the actual state of the letter in the "Cayman Islands" overprint.

On this evidence it is felt that the "Cayman Islands" overprint can now confidently be stated to be the work of Camille Vendryes.

But the information which has been deduced is of almost equal importance. The four letters in the words CAYMAN ISLANDS that do not appear in the Jamaican overprints or surcharges—viz., M, D and S (twice)—are apparently undamaged, and this suggests, beyond reasonable doubt, that the fount had been used for producing the Jamaicans before it was used for the Caymans. It is therefore necessary to consider the dates of the printings of the former, which Mr. Pearson classifies thus, viz:—

Printing.	Approximate date of printing.
1st Local Official (1d.)	Late March 1890
1st Provisional (2½d. on 4d.)	May 1890
2nd Local Official	October 1890
2nd Provisional	February 1891
3rd Local Official	March 1891
3rd Provisional	About 1892

By the time that the third printing of the Provisional was made, the type had become much worn and damaged by constant use, and, from the fact that this surcharge comprised a three type setting only, it might even be deduced that the greater part of the original fount had been discarded as no longer serviceable. The condition of the letters comprising the "Cayman

Islands" overprint is certainly not so bad as that of the letters used for this particular setting.

In addition to those printings mentioned above, two later (distinctive) printings of the Official stamps were made locally during 1894, appearing in January and October respectively. In these, the type, though of the same kind, presents a distinctly bolder appearance that can be identified at a glance, and gives the impression that the printer had acquired a new lot of type since the previous work had been prepared. No letter from the "Cayman Islands" overprint can be identified in either of these two settings.

The conclusion, therefore, arrived at is that the "Cayman Islands" overprint was done during 1891, i.e., after the type had been slightly damaged during the earlier printings, and before it got into the bad condition of the 1892 printing of the 2½d. on 4d.

This date agrees with that mentioned by the Hon. Edmund Parsons in the letter of his which has been quoted above.

One more point should be recorded as it may have a bearing on the case.

It would probably not be difficult to compile a list of collectors specialising in the stamps either of Jamaica or the Cayman Islands who have, between them, examined some half million Jamaican stamps for postmarks etc. In these circumstances it is rather remarkable that there is no known copy of a Cayman Islands postmark (on a Jamaican stamp, of course) bearing a date in the years 1896, 1897 or 1898. The second type of the Georgetown postmarks was evidently used in 1896 but the date still read "1895". No copy of the third type is known until January 1899. Has the date—1897—of the Richmond postmark any chance significance? At the moment, now that the dating of the overprinted stamps seems to have been estab-

lished, such a possibility does not appear to be likely, but it is with such problems that Cayman Islands specialism is full.

The hope is, therefore, again expressed that any reader who may be able to give information on this—or any other—matter connected with Cayman postal history (particularly the early history) will take steps to communicate it to those who, for many years past, have been endeavouring to unravel the tangled skein. No matter how trivial the new information may appear to be, it will most assuredly be of assistance; it may be a means of corroborating something already guessed at, of joining together facts already known or even of starting an entirely new line of investigation.

It may, perhaps, be well to record here that in 1909 the "Postage Stamp" published a paragraph "on no less 'reliable an authority' stating that certain Queen's head stamps of St. Vincent had been overprinted CAYMAN ISLANDS. The Editor at the time flatly refused to divulge any further information, and numerous subsequent efforts have failed to bring forth any corroboration from other sources that might have been expected to be helpful.

The collection of the material for this article has involved a surprising amount of research, and it is only appropriate that there should be made here some acknowledgment of the willing and generous assistance that has been received throughout the period of preparation, which, of course, has extended over many years.

The expressed wish of certain collaborators was that their names should not appear. It has, therefore, been deemed best merely, in a general way, to record how greatly the help of all of them has been appreciated.

St. Kitts-Nevis, 1903-18.

HARRY E. HUBER.

In 1871 the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands was constituted by Imperial Act (34 and 35, Victoria, chapter 107), and the colonies of Antigua; Dominica, Montserrat; St. Christopher with Nevis and Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands, became the five Presidencies of the Federation. To Nevis belongs the distinction of being the first of the Leewards to issue in 1861 definitive postage stamps. Antigua followed in August, 1862, the British Virgins in December 1866, St. Christopher on April 1, 1870, and after Federation (1871), Dominica and Montserrat, on May 4, 1874, and September, 1876, respectively. Each Presidency issued distinctive postage stamps, that served for the islands of its group, but Nevis; while of the group St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, that in 1882 was created the Presidency of St. Christopher-Nevis; continued to issue postage stamps on its own, distinct from those of St. Christopher. This was all changed by Leeward Islands General Stamp Act No. 3 of February 3, 1890, that ordered a uniform series of postage and revenue stamps for use throughout the Leeward Islands Colony. By proclamation of October 30, 1890, this act was declared in force from the following day, when one common series of Postage and Revenue stamps (in the DLR-1888, Queen Victoria keyplate type) was placed on sale at all post offices in the Presidencies. The individual Presidential series were withdrawn from sale and subsequently were disposed of by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London. With this common series of Federal stamps, the Presidencies lost their postal individuality, and much of their former postal revenue, as the sums received by each annually from collectors and dealers abroad, were now divided among them all. Antigua, the headquarters of the Federal Colony, benefited from these phil-

atelic sales at the expense of the others.

In 1898 the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands approved of the use of special stamps in the British Virgins (no formal order was made), and those in the design of the Madonna with Lilies appeared in January 1899. This privilege was subsequently extended to the other Presidencies by Leeward Islands Stamps Act of 1902, which provided that the Governor might from time to time, by Order in Council, direct that special stamps be used in each or any of the Presidencies, concurrently with the uniform Federal series.

The denominations and designs of these special stamps were announced in Order in Council made June 20, 1903.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Whereas, by section 3 of the Leeward Islands General Stamp Act, 1890, it is provided (inter alia) that there shall be a uniform stamp for use throughout the Colony whereby all postage rates and stamp duties shall be expressed; and,

Whereas, by section 3 of the Leeward Islands Stamp Act, 1902, it is provided that the Governor may from time to time by order in Council direct that a special stamp or stamps may be used in each or any Presidency, concurrently with such uniform stamp or stamps as aforesaid; now, therefore,

It is hereby ordered by the Governor in Council as follows:

On and after the 3rd. day of July, 1903, special stamps may be used in the Presidencies of Antigua, St. Christopher-Nevis, Dominica and Montserrat, concurrently with the uniform stamps now in use throughout the Colony of the Leeward Islands.

The several values of the said special stamps in the said Presidencies shall be ½d. 1d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 6d. 1s. 2s. 2/6d., and 5s.

The post cards shall be single ½d. 1d.; reply 2d. The wrappers shall be ½d. 1d. The envelopes shall be 1d. 2½d., and registration envelopes shall be large and small.

The design of the special stamps for the Presidency of Antigua shall be the same as that on the Public Seal of the Presidency for all values, with the exception of the 5s., which stamp will bear

the design of the head of His Majesty the King.

The design of the special stamps for the Presidency of St. Christopher-Nevis, shall be as follows:

For the ½d. 2d. 2½d. 6d. 1s. and 2/6d. values, the design to be Columbus sighting land, taken from the public Seal of the Presidency. For the 1d. 3d. 2/ and 5/ values, the design to be the group emblematic of the Sulphur Baths of Nevis, also taken from the Public Seal of the Presidency.

The design of the special stamps for the Presidency of Dominica shall be a design showing a view of Dominica from the sea, for all values, with the exception of the 5s., which stamp will bear the design of the head of His Majesty the King.

The design of the special stamps for the Presidency of Montserrat, shall be the design of the central figure on the Public Seal of the Presidency for all values, with the exception of the 5s., which stamp will bear the design of the head of His Majesty the King.

The post cards, wrappers and envelopes of the several Presidencies shall bear designs similar to those of the minor values of the postage stamps.

Made in the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands this 20th. day of June, 1903.

A. E. ELDRIDGE,
Acting Clerk of the Council.

Although this Order stated July 3rd. as the date on and after which these special stamps might be used, those for St. Kitts-Nevis were issued as early as May; Antigua followed in July, Montserrat, in August, and Dominica on September 4, 1903.

All denominations of the special stamps provided for Antigua, Dominica, and the 5s. of Montserrat were in receipt size (25 x 30 mm) and the others (St. Kitts-Nevis, ½d. to 5s., and Montserrat, ½d. to 2/6d) in conventional size (18½ x 22 mm). For the 5s. of Antigua, Dominica and Montserrat, the same head or keyplate profile portrait of King Edward VII) was used, with similar frame or duty plate inscribed with the name of the respective Presidency.

The stamps provided for St. Kitts-Nevis were designed, engraved en taille douce and printed from two plates in two colours, by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd. London, in sheets of 120 (2 panes of 60 each, se tenant separated by a narrow

gutter), on paper watermarked Crown over CA, and perforated comb 14. A broken marginal line (part of, and printed in the colour of the frame plate impression) surrounds each pane. There were separate border or frame plates for each denomination, and two vignette plates, one picturing the Seal of St. Christopher, and the other, the Seal of Nevis. Only the vignette plates were numbered, the numeral "1" (colourless on a circular disc of colour surrounded by a thin line) appears eight times on each sheet; on the upper margin over the 2nd. and 5th. vertical rows of each pane, and under the corresponding positions on the lower margin. The Seal of St. Christopher features Columbus sighting land through a telescope, an instrument not invented until some hundred years, after his death. The frame design is the same for all denominations with this vignette; the words "St. Kitts-Nevis" at the top, and the value in words at the bottom, conform to the oval of the vignette. At the sides are "Postage", and "Revenue", respectively. All lettering is colourless. Arabesques in the spandrels complete the design. A sulphur bath at Nevis, with three grouped female figures, is the design of the Seal of that Island. Used as the design for one of the vignettes of this series, with setting in the form of an upright rectangle, curved at the ends, it required a frame different to that used for the design of the Seal of St. Christopher. The inscriptions are similar and similarly placed, foliate ornaments complete the corners.

May 1903. Presidential Seal of St. Christopher (½d. 2d. 2½d. 6d. 1s. 2/6) of Nevis. (1d. 3d. 2s. and 5s.); engraved and printed by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, watermarked Crown over CA, perforated comb 14. Vignette plates No. 1.

- ½d. green and violet.
- 1d. carmine and black.
- 2d. brown and black.
- 2½d. ultramarine and black.
- 3d. orange and green.
- 6d. red violet and black.
- 1s. orange and green.
- 2s. black and green.
- 2/6d. violet and black.
- 5s. olive and gray black.

Change of watermark, 1905-10.

In 1903 a new dandy roll was made for watermarking the paper for British Colonial stamps, with the repeated device, Crown over CA, set closely together. The entire sheet was watermarked (instead of panes as before), so that portions of more than one device appeared in the space where formerly there was but one. The King Edward VII, series of Postage and Revenue stamps of the British Virgins, issued June 1, 1904, was the first to be printed on this new paper. At first ordinary paper was used, but about the beginning of 1906, to make more difficult removal of postal or fixed cancellations from used copies of stamps, a process of chalk surfacing was applied.

The ½d. 2d. and 2½d. of St. Kitts-Nevis on unsurfaced paper were issued in 1905, followed by the 3d. on January 31, 1907, the 6d. later in the same year, and the 1s. on November 6, 1909. On October 31, 1906, the 1d. appeared on chalk surfaced paper. Bi-coloured, this denomination was never printed on unsurfaced multiple watermarked paper. The 2d. appeared on February 28, 1909, the 3d. later in the same year, and the 6d. on March 26, 1910, and the 1s. on October 8, 1910, all on chalk surfaced paper.

1905-10. Types of 1903, but watermarked multiple Crown and Roman CA.

a. Ordinary surfaced paper.

½d. green and violet	....	1905
2d. brown and violet	..	1905
2½d. ultramarine and black	....	1905
3d. orange and green	..	Jan. 31, 1907
6d. red violet and black	..	1907
1s. orange and green	..	Novr. 6, 1909

b. Chalk surfaced paper.

1d. carmine and black	..	Octr. 31, 1906
2d. brown and violet	..	Febr. 28, 1909
3d. orange and green	..	1909
6d. red violet and black	..	March 26, 1910
1s. orange and green	..	Octr. 8, 1910.

Universal Colours, 1907-08.

In 1907 the Crown Agents for the Colonies, announced a colour scheme for British Colonial stamps, standardizing the colours used for the re-

spective denominations, and embodying the recommendations of the Universal Postal Union, that stamps of the denominations of ½d. 1d. and 2½d., or their equivalents (the international postage rates for printed matter post cards and letters) be printed in green, red, and blue, respectively. Chalk surfaced paper was reserved for the 3d. and higher denomination. The scheme in its entirety was not adopted by St. Kitts-Nevis, but the ½d. 1d. and 2½d. were printed in required single colours, to conform with the Postal Union regulations. The 1d. and 2½d. monocoloured were issued in 1907, and the ½d. on October 31, 1908.

1907-08. Type of 1903, in changed colours, on unsurfaced paper.

½d. green	....	Octr. 31, 1908
1d. carmine	....	1907
2½d. ultramarine	....	Apr. 30, 1907

Reciprocal penny postage with the United States, April 1, 1915.

In his annual report for the year ended June 30, 1914, the Postmaster General of the United States, wrote:

"A proposal has been submitted to each of the 33 countries and colonies of the Western Hemisphere with which we do not now have such conventions, for the conclusion of postal conventions providing that the United States domestic letter rate shall apply to letters from the United States for each of said countries and colonies, and that the domestic letter rate of each of said countries or colonies shall apply to letters therefrom destined for the United States. Early consideration of the proposal has been effected and it is hoped that by the end of the current fiscal year, it will be possible to send a letter for 2 cents from the United States to any country in the Western Hemisphere, and have the reply sent at the domestic rate of the country in which the reply is mailed."

A measure of success attended these proposals, and in the following year he was able to report:

"Conventions have been concluded with the Bahamas, Barbados, British Honduras, Leeward Islands and the Dutch West Indies, and are now in effect. In view of the great advantages resulting from the reduced rates, the proposals to the remaining 28 countries and colonies have been urgently renewed and will be pressed for consideration in the hope that eventually the reduced rate for letters will apply between the United States and every other country in the Western Hemisphere."

The Leeward Islands Federal Colony was among the first to accept the proposals of the United States Post Office Dept., and on April 1, 1915, reciprocal 1d. (instead of 2½d.) postage was made effective between the Presidencies of the Federation, and the United States.

ORDER IN COUNCIL—altering the Rates of Postage on Letters addressed to places within the United States of America.

At an Extra-ordinary Meeting of the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands held at Government House, Antigua, on Monday, the 18th. January, 1915.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Whereas by section 6 of the Post Office Act, 1909, it is provided that the Governor in Council may from time to time fix the rates of postage or other sums to be charged in respect of postal packets and parcels transmitted, conveyed or delivered for conveyance by Post;

And whereas it has been deemed expedient to amend the Order in Council of the 3rd August 1907, in so far as the rates of postage on letters addressed to places within the United States are concerned;

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered by the Governor in Council, as follows:

That from and after the 1st. day of April next, the prepaid rates of postage for letters addressed to places within the United States of America shall be as follows:

On letters not exceeding 1 ounce in weight, 1d.

For every additional ounce or fraction thereof, 1d.

Made by the Governor in Council this 18th. day of January, 1915.

E. D'A. TIBBITS,
Clerk of the Council.

British West Indies Regiment And Local War Effort.

Following outbreak of the World war in August, 1914, British Colonies were informed by the Colonial Office, London, that each was expected to organise a local defence force, and in the Leewards this was done.

"Considerable anxiety was felt so long as the German cruisers roamed West Indian waters but an excellent spirit prevailed among the members of the various defence forces, and it is certain that any attack on the islands would have been vigorously resisted. Martial Law was proclaimed immediately, but very little action had to be taken under it, be-

yond fixing the price of food in some of the Presidencies."

The British West Indies were not content with home defence measures, voted money towards the war expenses of the Mother country. Uppermost in their minds was the idea of a West Indian Regiment, for service overseas. White volunteers from all the islands went to Canada or England, at their own expense, and enlisted with the Canadian or Imperial forces, but these, small in number, could not be created individual units and were merged in some Canadian or English regiment. For several months, the Home Government refused to consider contingents from the islands, but in May 1915, an offer made by Jamaica to send a contingent of 100 to 200 men, black, coloured and white, was accepted—and it was intimated that any number which the Colonies might wish to send would be most welcome. The local desire generally was that these men should preserve their identity as a unit, and in the "London Gazette" of October 26, 1915, the announcement was made that—

"His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the formation of a Corps from contingents of the inhabitants of the West Indian Islands, to be entitled The British West Indies Regiment."

Recruiting spread to all the islands, and from the Leewards four contingents were dispatched and attached to the British West Indies Regiment. Of the seven officers and 345 men sent to the front, 17 made the supreme sacrifice. The Regiment saw service in Egypt, along the Canal, in France, with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force in Palestine, and with troops from the Union of South Africa in East Africa. At St. Kitts-Nevis considerable sums were spent on local defence measures, and in 1914 the Presidency made a gift of £5000 to the National Relief Fund. In 1917, an airplane, named "The St. Christopher" costing £2000, was presented to the Imperial Government, and "Our Day" drive of the Red Cross Society, in the same year yielded £386. In all, St. Kitts-Nevis contributed to the various war funds,

£11666, of which £7000 was by Government grant.

In October, 1917, owing to difficulty to obtain sufficient supplies of Sea Island cotton for aeronautical purposes, the British Government found it necessary, to commandeered all the sea island cotton produced in the Leewards. Its exportation was prohibited, and a price scale fixed ranging from 3s. to 4/7d. per pound. During the year St. Kitts-Nevis exported 300,581 pounds of cotton lint, and had on hand, at the end of the year, awaiting shipment, over 80,000 pounds.

Permission to issue a Red Cross stamp, sought by the Presidency in 1918, was refused by the Colonial Office.

1d. War Tax On Letters, 1916.

Excess of expenditure over revenue, largely due to voluntary contributions to the Imperial Government war funds, and expense of local contingents attached to the British West Indies Regiment, caused serious concern in most of the Caribbean Islands after the second year of the world war. Public works had been reduced to the minimum, and local taxes of various kinds imposed, but it was not until 1916 that taxes on postal articles were levied. As early as April 15, 1915, a war tax of 1c. was imposed in Canada on all letters and post cards passing within the Dominion, to the United States, Mexico, and the British Empire. A fiscal tax of 2c. on Money orders, receipts, checks, etc. was also levied. Ordinary postage stamps were usable for prepayment of these taxes, but special 1c. and 2c. stamps were prepared, usable also for all postage purposes, and issued April 15, from supplementary dies of the 1c. and 2c. King George V. postage stamps, bearing the additional words "WAR TAX." At Jamaica, postal war taxes were made effective April 1, 1916,—a 1d. tax on all post cards and letters, and of 3d. on parcels leaving the island for British Empire destinations, and on those subject to custom duty arriving from abroad. British Honduras, on the same date, levied a 1c. tax on letters and post cards. Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent in the Windward group,

effective June 1, 1916, levied a 1d. war tax on letters and parcels leaving the islands, for British Empire destinations. By an Order in Council of August 9, 1916, effective 1st. September, 1916, until 31st. March, 1917, the letter rate from Antigua, Dominica, and St. Kitts-Nevis, to places within the British Empire, beyond the Federal Colony limits, was increased by 1d. as a war tax. (The 1d. letter rate on local letters, and those passing between the Presidencies was not affected).

RULE

In addition to the postage now chargeable on letters posted in the Presidencies of Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis and Dominica, and addressed to any place in the United Kingdom, or in any other part of the British Empire, outside of the Colony of the Leeward Islands, there shall be charged on every such letter the following additional postage:

On every such letter 1d.
This rule shall come into effect on the 1st. September, 1916, and shall remain in force until the 31st. day of March, 1917.

Made by the Governor in Council under the authority of section 6 of Leeward Islands Act No. 9 of 1909, this 9th. day of August, 1916.

E. D'A. Tibbitts,
Clerk of the Council

Another Order in Council of August 9, 1916, effective 1st. September, 1916, and without a time limit, ruled that letters from the British Virgins to British Empire destinations, beyond the Leeward Islands Colony, should be taxed 1d, parcels leaving the Presidency, and those arriving from abroad containing dutiable matter, should be taxed 3d.

By another Order of December 29, 1916, effective 1st February, 1917 unlimited in time, the increase was applied to letters addressed to the United States.

RULE

In addition to the postage now chargeable on letters posted in the Presidencies of Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis and Dominica, and addressed to any place in the United States of America, there shall be charged on every such letter the following additional postage:

On every such letter 1d.
This rule shall come into effect on 1st February, 1917.

Made by the Governor in Council under the authority of section 6 of Leeward Is-

lands Act No. 9 of 1909, this 29th. day of December, 1916.

E. D'A. Tibbets.
Clerk of the Council

A further Order in Council of February 12, 1917 deleted the fixed period of application of the earlier Order of 9th. August, 1916, substituting the words "until rescinded".

RULE

In addition to the postage now chargeable on letters posted in the Presidencies of Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis, and Dominica, and addressed to any place in the United Kingdom or in any part of the British Empire, outside of the Colony of the Leeward Islands, there shall be charged on every such letter the following additional postage:

On every such letter 1d.
This rule shall come into effect on the 1st. April. 1917, and shall remain in force until rescinded.

Made by the Governor in Council under the authority of section 6 of Leeward Islands Act No. 9 of 1919, this 12th. day of February, 1917.

E. D'A. Tibbets.
Clerk of the Council

By Order in Council dated August 9, 1916, effective 1st. September, 1916, with no time limit, all letters from the British Virgins to Empire destinations, beyond the Leeward Islands Colony, were taxed 1d., parcels leaving the Presidency, and those arriving from abroad containing dutiable matter were taxed 3d. The letter tax of 1d. was applied to the United States by Order of December 29, 1916, effective 1st. February 1917. The Order relative to Montserrat, made May 9, 1917, with effect 15 May, 1917 "until rescinded", imposed a 1d War Tax on letters to places without the limits of the Federal Colony within the British Empire, and to the United States.

With these war taxes in force the letter rate from Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat and St. Kitts-Nevis to the British Empire, and to the United States was 1½d., and from the British Virgins, 2d. The 1d. Postage & Revenue stamps of Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat and St. Kitts-Nevis and the 1d. and 3d. of the British Virgins were appropriately overprinted, and issued.

The United States entered the world war on April 7, 1917, and by Act of Congress, approved October 3, 1917, the letter rate in the United

States (and applicable also to the Leeward Islands Presidencies, etc.) was increased from 2c. to 3c. per ounce, effective November 2, 1917. The 2c. letter rate was restored July 1, 1919.

The following notification was given by the St. Kitts, General Post Office, of the impending tax on letters.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

On and after 1st. September all letters posted to places in the British Empire (except Antigua, Montserrat, Dominica and the Virgin Islands) must bear an extra 1d. stamp, in addition to the usual postage.

1d. stamps surcharged WAR STAMP will shortly be on sale for this purpose. Until these are ready ordinary stamps can be used.

The reference in the Post Office Notice, to stamps being "surcharged WAR STAMP" was incorrect, as they were overprinted WAR TAX.

The 1d. green, St. Christopher Seal type of 1903, overprinted WAR TAX (11 x 3 mm) in black, was placed on sale in October 1915. The overprint was applied in London to full sheets of 120 stamps (2 panes of 60 each). The first printing was in blue green on thin paper, but subsequent printings were on medium paper. About 1918 a new overprint plate was brought into use, that gave sharp impression, clear, clean cut, as compared with those from the original plate. (These two types of overprint may be found also on the London overprinted 1d. WAR TAX stamps of Grenada and St. Lucia).

As in some other Colonies, use of the overprinted stamp, was not compulsory. Ordinary postage stamps were usable for war tax, and conversely, overprinted stamps for postage and/or registration.

October 1916. Type of 1903 (St. Christopher Seal), overprinted by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd. London, WAR TAX in black.

1d. blue green (thin paper).
a. on medium paper (Novr. 1916).

1½d. WAR STAMP, July 24, 1918.

There being great need for a 1½d. stamp (to prepay the combined letter rate and tax), a duty-frame plate was made for that denomination, to fit the St. Christopher Seal vignette plate.

Printed in orange, on thin paper, in full sheets of 120 (2 panes of 60 each), overprinted "WAR STAMP" (12 x 2 mm) in small thin caps, this stamp was issued at Basseterre on July 24, 1918. There is a variety of "WAR STAMP" in slightly smaller letters on stamps 55 and 56 of the right pane. The official notice relating to its issue follows:

Administrator's Office,
St. Kitts-Nevis,
26th. July, 1918.

It is hereby notified for general information that the postage to all parts of the Empire (outside of this Colony) to the United States of America, and to certain other places, being now 1½d. per ounce, a St. Kitts-Nevis Postage & Revenue stamp of this value, overprinted WALT STAMP, has, for public convenience, been introduced.

These stamps are now on sale at the several Post Offices in the Presidency.

GEORGE H. KING,
Postmaster.

The first printing was exhausted in October 1918; a second supply was received in December, 1918.

The formal Order in Council legalising the issue of this 1½d. stamp was made February 21, 1919, and published in the "Leeward Islands Gazette" of February 27, 1919.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Whereas by section 3 of the Leeward Islands' General Stamp Act 1890, as amended by the Leeward Islands Stamp Act 1902, it is enacted that "there shall be a uniform stamp or stamps for use throughout the Colony whereby all Postage Rates and Stamp Duties may be respectively denoted or expressed, and such stamps shall be adhesive or embossed or impressed or otherwise, as the Governor may by Order in Council from time to time direct— provided that the Governor may from time to time by Order in Council direct that a special stamp or stamps may be used in each or any Presidency concurrently with such uniform stamp or stamps as aforesaid"—

And whereas by section 4 of the Leeward Islands General Act, 1890, it is enacted that the Governor from time to time shall by Orders in Council fix the design or designs and the mode in which each design shall be used and the several values of the stamp or stamps to be used in accordance with said Act;

And whereas it is desirable that there should be special stamps of the denomination of one and a half penny for use in the Presidencies of Antigua and St.

Kitts-Nevis concurrently with the stamps of the Colony;

Now, therefore, the Governor in Council doth hereby order: direct—

(1) that there shall be special stamps of the denomination of one and a half penny for use in the Presidencies of Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis concurrently with the stamps of the Colony;

(2) that the special stamp for use in the Presidency of Antigua shall be adhesive, and shall be of the same design as the special stamps now in use in the said Presidency.

(3) that the said special stamp for use in the Presidency of St. Kitts-Nevis shall be adhesive, and shall be of the same design as the special stamps now in use in the said Presidency.

Made by the Governor in Council this twenty-first day of February, 1919.

F. D'A. TIBBITS,
Clerk of the Council.

Many printings of both the 1½d. and 1d. war tax stamps of St. Kitts-Nevis caused numerous shade varieties. A fourth printing of the 1½d. was dispatched in March 1919. In November of that year the 1½d. and 1d. were not obtainable at St. Kitts, but the 1½d. was on sale at Charlestown, Nevis, during the first quarter of 1920.

July 24, 1919. Type of 1903 (St. Christopher Seal), printed and overprinted by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, WAR STAMP, in black.

1½d. orange on thin paper.

a. WAR STAMP in smaller letters,
Nos. 55 and 56, right pane.

1917-18 Printings.

As many printings were made of the lower denominations of the regular series 1½d. to 1s., these exist in numbers of shades. In 1917 the 1d. appeared in scarlet instead of the former carmine, and in May of the following year, the 5s. was issued on paper with the multiple Crown and Roman CA watermark. The 2s. and 2/6d. in the 1903 types were never printed on this paper.

The 2d. was exhausted in 1919, and subsequent to issue of the King George V and Presidential Seal type series of June 15, 1920, the remainders in the 1903 types were withdrawn from sale and destroyed.

1917-18. Type of 1903 (Nevis Seal), watermarked multiple Crown and Roman CA; chalk surfaced paper for the 5s.

1d. scarlet. 1917.

5s. olive green and grey violet (C). May 1918.

1920-31.

St. Kitts-Nevis was the second of the Leeward Islands Presidencies to discard the designs for their special postage and revenue stamps, as prescribed in the formal Order in Council of June 20, 1903; Montserrat, the first, having brought out a complete new series in the King George V. and Presidential Seal type (conventional size) on October 10, 1916.

During the summer of 1919, a report was current in philatelic circles, that there would be separate series of Postage and Revenue stamps for St. Christopher, and for Nevis;— despite the union of the two Presidencies in 1882, the post office establishment in each is separate and distinct from the other. This report proved incorrect, the Crown Agents' Bulletin for the closing quarter of 1919, announced that a complete new series of stamps was in preparation for the United Presidency.

"A complete new issue is in hand. The design consists of two medallions, one containing the portrait of His Majesty the King, and the other, the Arms of St. Kitts, and of Nevis, which will appear alternately on the following duties: ½d. Columbus, 1d. Bath Springs, 1½d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 6d. 1s. 2s. 2/6d. 5s. and 10s. The stamps will be printed in two colours, and follow the Universal colour scheme."

The stamps were released to stamp dealers in London, by the Crown Agents, on May 15, 1920, and advertised for sale in the English stamp journals of the following week. The formal Order in Council by the Federal Government, was not made until June 7, and the stamps not placed on sale at Basseterre, St. Kitts, until June 15, and at Charlestown, Nevis, until July 1, 1920.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Whereas it is enacted by section 13 of the Leeward Islands' General Stamp Act, 1890, as amended by the Leeward Islands Stamp Act, 1902, that "there shall be a uniform stamp or stamps for use throughout the Colony whereby all postage rates and stamp duties may be respectively denoted or expressed, and such stamps shall be adhesive or embossed or impressed or otherwise as the Governor shall by Order in Council from time to time direct—provided that the Governor may from time to time by Order in Council direct that a special stamp or stamps may be used in each or any Presidency concurrently with

such uniform stamp or stamps as aforesaid";

And whereas it is further enacted by section 4 of the Leeward Islands General Stamp Act, 1890, that the Governor shall from time to time by Order in Council fix the design or designs and the mode in which each design shall be used and the several values of the stamp or stamps to be used in accordance with the said Act;

And whereas it is desirable that there should be a special stamp of the designs and denominations set out herein for use in the Presidency of Saint Christopher and Nevis concurrently with the stamps of the Colony;

Now, therefore, the Governor in Council doth hereby order and direct as follows:

On and after the 15th. day of June, 1920, special stamps may be used in the Presidency of Saint Christopher and Nevis concurrently with the uniform stamps now in use throughout the Colony of the Leeward Islands.

The several values of the said special stamps shall be ½d. 1d. 1½d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 6d. 1s. 2s. 2/6d. 5s. and 10s.

The post cards shall be single ½d. 1d. reply 2d. The wrappers shall be ½d. 1d. The envelopes shall be 1d. 2½d., and the

registration envelopes shall be—large 3d., small 2½d.

The design of the said special stamp for the Presidency of Saint Christopher and Nevis shall be in two medallions, one containing the head of His Majesty the King, the other containing designs taken from the Arms on the Public Seal of the said Presidency, in alternate values, that is to say:

For the ½d. 1½d. 2½d. 6d. 2s. and 5s. values, the design emblematic of Columbus sighting land.

For the 1d. 2d. 3d. 1s. 2/6d. and 10s. values, the design emblematic of the Sulphur Baths at Nevis.

The post cards, wrappers and envelopes shall bear designs similar to those of the corresponding values of the postage stamps.

Made by the Governor in Council this 7th. day of June, 1920.

E. D'A. TIBBITS,
Clerk of the Council.

The stamps of this series of twelve denominations, ½d. to 10s., were designed, engraved and typographically printed from two keyplates, and denominational duty plates, by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, in sheets of 60 (5 horizontal by 12 vertical), watermarked multiple Crown and Roman CA (sideways to the right), and perforated comb 14. Yellow paper was used for the 3d. and 5s., green for the 1s. and 10s., and blue for the 2s. and 2/6d. Chalk

surfacing was applied to paper used for the 3d. and higher denominations. Contrary to usual practice no plate number was given to either the frame or twin vignette plates. At double marginal line (broken at the line of perforation for the frame, and irregularly for the twin vignette plate impressions) surrounds the pane of sixty subjects, the inner in the colour of the frame, the outer in that of the vignettes.

The design of the frame, common, except for the designation of value, to all of the series, measures 30 x 25 mm, surrounds twin rectangles modified at top and bottom to convex terminations, that printed permitted entry on the impression, of the medal lions of the twin vignettes. The Imperial Crown is placed at top central above the vignettes, supported at left and right by ribbons, bearing the words respectively, "Postage" "Revenue". Space above, below, at the shortened corners of the rectangles, and between them, are completed with foliate ornaments. At both lower corners of the stamp, left and right, are the value tablets, and between them the words "St. Kitts-Nevis" in colour on white. Considerable economy was practiced in the production of the vignette plates, as use was made of the dies of the Seals for the 1903 series, and the head of King George V. was from the Nyasaland keyplate die. The effect is not entirely pleasing, as "corner pieces" were necessary to make the ovals containing the head of King George V., and the Seal of St. Christopher, conform to the irregularly shaped opening required for the Seal of Nevis (straight sides, curved at top and bottom). Local opinion was "they are awfully ugly, and so large". The idea of design of combined King's head and Seal is an adaptation of that used by Barbados for the 3d. 4d. and 6d. stamps of the series issued August 13, 1912, at accession of King George V. to the throne; in later designs of other colonies much of its effect is lost by crowding the Seal portion into a small circle, or shield. Stamps of conventional size (18½ x 22-mm) issued by British Guiana in 1913, and

by Montserrat in 1916, are instances. The idea was used for the June 15, 1920, series of St. Kitts-Nevis, in receipt size (30 x 25 mm), so that the master dies of the Seal of St. Christopher, and of Nevis, made for the 1903 series, might be used. Large numbers of the 1½d. (representing the letter rate to the British Empire, and the United States were required, and three consignments were sent out during 1921. Although the printing of ½d. and 1½d. war tax stamps ceased shortly after the Armistice (Novr. 11, 1918), was signed, the orders of December 29, 1916, and February 12, 1917 (increasing by ½d. the letter rate to destinations within the Empire (beyond the Colony) and to the United States, remained in force.

June 15, 1920. King George V. and Presidential Seal of St. Christopher. (½d. 1½d. 2½d. 6d. 2s. 5s.) or of Nevis (1d. 2d. 3d. 1s. 2/6d. 10s.) engraved and typographically printed by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd., London, watermarked multiple Crown and Roman CA (sideways to right), and perforated comb 14. Chalk surfaced paper for 3d. and above.

- ½d. blue green.
- 1d. carmine.
- 1½d. orange.
 - a. watermark reversed.
- 2d. gray.
- 2½d. ultramarine.
- 3d. violet and dull violet on yellow (C).
- 6d. red violet and dull violet. (C)
- 1s. black on green. (C)
- 2s. ultramarine and dull violet on blue. (C)
- 2/6. red and black on blue. (C)
- 5s. red and green on yellow. (C)
 - a. watermark reversed.
- 10s. red and green on green. (C)

Unfair Discrimination, 1920.

Coincident with issue of this new series of stamps, collectors and dealers who remitted direct to the local Post Offices for supplies, were informed by the Postmaster at Basseterre, that in future orders should be sent to some local stamp vendor. A letter addressed to the Administrator questioning this action brought the reply, that the ruling had approval, not only of the local administration, but of the Governor of the Leeward Islands Federal Colony, and of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Administrator's Office,
St. Kitts, West Indies,
20th. October, 1920.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 6th. October, and to inform you that the action taken by the Postmaster of this Presidency is that directed by the Governor of the Leeward Islands, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have the honour to be—

Sir,

Your obedient servant,
J. A. Burdon, Administrator.

The notice issued by the Presidential Postmaster, did not state that the ruling had the approval of the Colonial Office, but was revised subsequently, and took in the following terms:

IMPORTANT.

It has been ruled by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that orders for stamps accompanied by remittances, are no longer to be sent to the Postmaster of St. Kitts, or the Postmistress of Nevis. These should be sent to a local stamp vendor. Names of Vendors are sent herewith.

Names Of Vendors Recommended—

A. M. Losada,	Bassterre
W. F. Malone,	"
E. Pereira	"
Miss L. Todd	"

George H. King,
Postmaster, St. Kitts,

27th September, 1920,

The function of any Post Office is to transact postal business, and the sale of postage stamps to the local individual who passes money over the counter, or to the collector abroad who sends through the post 5s. 10s. or £1, is part of that business. No line reasonably can be drawn. In fact, there is far more profit from sales—to collectors and dealers abroad, as stamps so sold are seldom if ever used for any postal duty.

Postal stamps are not issued usually to satisfy the demands of stamp collectors, but it is usual that every Postal Administration, endeavours to secure revenue that will cover cost of operation, and if possible provide a surplus. Obviously, sale of stamps is the chief means by which that revenue may be obtained, and therefore any sale that may be made legitimately, should be made.

In some small colonies, sale of postage stamps is the factor most closely watched, that determines for the Government, annual deficit or surplus, yet some Colonial Postmasters object to render the smallest courtesies to their best customers, viz. those who from abroad try to do business with them through the post. They do not care whether or not the stamps requested and paid for, are supplied in defective damaged or sound copies; how they are put up or packed for despatch, so that they reach their destination creased or stuck together, useless to the collector, who finds that he has wasted his money. Others care for these prepaid requisitions, in manner with which no fault can be found, and excite in their customers, very grateful appreciation.

At Barbados, where the Post Office serves a population of over 156,000, the Colonial Postmaster (H. W. Collymore) wrote in his 1918 report:

"22.—The value of postage stamps sent abroad to collectors during the year was more than £1500. This represents a clear profit to the Government as few, if any of these stamps are ever used for postal purposes. The putting up of such stamps to go abroad takes up a great deal of time of two responsible clerks; the stamps have to be carefully packed, as any tear or crease would make the specimen unfit for a collection."

There is no sound reason for refusal of prepaid requisitions, received through the post, when supplies permit of satisfaction. If stocks are low, such requisitions that cannot be filled completely, may be held for replenishment of stock. In some islands when that condition arises, the Postmaster advises by letter receipt of order and remittance, states his inability to supply, and engages to do so as soon as new supplies reach him. He exercises control of his stock, and is able to guard against low stocks being depleted to inconvenience. Local demands must be met, or are met more readily than those from abroad, and the local vendor making that demand, is placed in position of unfair advantage, as if the stock of any denomination is exhausted; something to which he will have contributed, enabled to do so with the money entrusted to him from abroad; he is enabled to exact a premium from those

whose money he will have used, on the quantity he may be able to supply; definitely an abuse, permitted by the mistaken official policy:

In the Leewards the discount to stamp vendors was 5% (lowered in 1922 to 2½%), and no commission was charged by them (of St. Kitts) for filling orders from abroad.

As the result of many letters of complaint addressed to the Colonial Office, in London, the former practice of supplying stamps, was resumed before the close of the year (1920).

Downing Street,
20th November, 1920.

Sir:

I am directed by Viscount Milner to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th. November, regarding the sale of postage stamps in the Leeward Islands, and to inform you in reply that the Colonial Government has recently been asked to adopt the standing arrangements in other Colonies, which provide that an application from a collector or dealer in stamps for postage stamps in current use, accompanied by a remittance in full, should be complied with by the local Postmaster, if he is able to do so, as with any other applications for stamps on the part of the public.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
G. Grindle.

It was learned, that the original ruling was made with the idea to relieve local Post Offices of the extra work, necessary to fill these orders. Careful attention is required and at understaffed Post Offices, the work has to be done usually after office hours.

Sale Of Colonial Stamps In London.

Early in 1920, at the suggestion of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, arrangements were made to supply British Colonial stamps in London, at face value to stamp dealers. The procedure was; a communique was issued usually at the end of each quarter to bonafide stamp dealers, giving news of impending changes, new printings of Colonial stamps, and to ascertain their requirements. A fee of 10s. was charged on each parcel of stamps supplied. The sums from

such sales were credited to account of the Colony concerned.

When supplies of stamps were received from the printers, orders in hand were filled and delivery (to the dealer) was made on receipt of advice that the stamps had been issued in the Colony concerned. The King George V. and Presidential Seal series of St. Kitts-Nevis, was in the hands of dealers in London, being sold by them in May 1920, although in the Presidency they were not on sale until June 15th. During 1921 complaints reached the Colonial Office from the Colonial authorities, due to representations made by colonial collectors against the practice of selling these stamps in London, before they were made available in the Colony. Considerable inconvenience was also caused local Post Offices and vendors, who had to hold remittances, amounting to hundreds of pounds for long periods, before the stamps were available to them. At the beginning of 1922, the Crown Agents discontinued supplying stamps to English dealers, until a scheme was perfected that ensured issue in the Colony before or simultaneously with release in London to dealers. Use of the system is denied to dealers beyond the United Kingdom. American dealers and others, must as before, remit direct to the Colonies.

4 Hillbank, Westminster,
London, S.W.1.
5th October, 1921.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st. September, enclosing a cutting from the . . . on the subject of the supply of Colonial postage stamps to dealers. In reply I have to inform you that we have been authorised by several of the Governments for which we act, to retain, when shipping consignments of new stamps, those required by dealers in this country, in order to avoid the delay and inconvenience of sending them to the Colony, and then having them returned in response to orders sent out by those dealers to the Colonial postal authorities. These stamps are not issued by us until the supply has reached the Colony, and the arrangement does not affect stamp dealers in countries other than in the United Kingdom, who should send their orders as hitherto to Colonial Postmasters.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
For Crown Agents.

The stamps of St. Kitts-Nevis 1920 series, were among the first to be supplied in this manner, and since then, the practice has been applied by many other Colonies. Under this arrangement English dealers have their supplies as soon as the stamps are issued in the Colony, a distinct advantage over dealers in other countries, who must remit weeks ahead of the anticipated date of issue, and then await receipt three to four weeks after issue while the stamps are in transit. Much can be said in favour of the practice. So far as the smaller Colonies are concerned, it ensures a sufficient supply of stamps to care for English dealers' requirements, plus the local demand, providing against shortage that might occur, should the local authorities underestimate the overseas demand. The local Post Offices are relieved of the work of filling and preparing these English orders for dispatch.

Script CA watermark introduced, 1921-22.

With the advent of the Georgian issues, rumours had been circulated, that a change was in contemplation of the type of watermark used for British Colonial stamp papers, and in November, 1920, official announcement was made by the Crown Agents, in a special Bulletin, that the change had been effected.

"Early in the year it was found that the dandy roll used to manufacture the all-over watermarked papers used for the issues of Colonial Postage and Revenue stamps since the year 1903, was completely worn out. It was decided to manufacture a new dandy roll bearing an Imperial Crown and the letters C A (Crown Agents), shown in script capitals. This has now been done, and the old roll has been destroyed. Supplies of white and blue papers have already been made from the new roll, and as the existing stocks of green, yellow and red papers are used up, the new paper will be brought into general use."

The first stamps printed on white paper with the script CA watermark, were the 1d. and 2½d. of the first Legislative Tercentenary series of Bermuda (double medallion type), issued at Hamilton, on November 11, 1920. Blue paper was first used for

the 2s. of the small Seal series of Barbados, placed on sale at Bridgetown on November 14, 1921. The letters CA are in script capitals (similar to those of the G v R watermark introduced in 1912 for the King George V. stamps of Great Britain), and the Edwardian Imperial Crown is substituted for one of the Victorian type.

The ½d. and 1d. stamps of St. Kitts-Nevis, on script CA paper, were issued in the United Presidency, in July 1921, but the Crown Agents supplied them to English dealers some months earlier. In February 1921, there was shortage of the 1d. Presidential series, and until 1d. script CA stamps arrived, the 1d. Leeward Federal series was used exclusively. The ½d. was similarly affected for several months in the same year, and the 2d. early in 1922. Three shipments of 1½d. stamps were sent out in 1921, all on Roman CA watermarked paper. On May 13, 1922, the 2d. and 2½d. ultramarine were issued on the new paper. The latter had a very short life, as stock was exhausted in less than three months, fairly large quantities had been secured by English dealers through the Crown Agents. The 2s. on blue, script CA, was issued July 21, 1922. The script CA watermarked ½d. 1d. 2d. and 2½d. have a double marginal line, but on the 2s. it is single,—that of the vignette plate (King George V. and Seal of St. Christopher) having been removed.

1921-22. Types of 1920, but multiple Crown and script CA watermarked, (side-ways to the right). Chalk surfaced paper for the 2s.

½d. blue green.	(DML) July 1921
1d. rose red.	" July 1921
2d. gray	" May 13, 1922
2½d. ultramarine	" May 13, 1922
2s. ultramarine and violet on blue (C)	July 21, 1922

Madrid Convention (1920) Postage Increases, 1922.

The seventh Congress of the Universal Postal Union, which should have been held at Madrid in September 1914, postponed because of the world war, was formally opened on October 1, 1920, in the Senate House, by the King and Queen of Spain, in

person. Subsequent meetings were held in a suite of rooms in the Madrid Post Office. At this Congress many radical changes were approved, relating to the interchange of mails between the members of the Union. Maximum rates for postage on international mail were fixed, and the international payment for the transit of mails was established on the basis of the gold dollar rather than the franc.

A scheme had to be found that would be approved by those who desired increased rates, and at the same time, those who desired no change. The long cherished uniformity of rates had to be abandoned, and the final decision fixed upon maximum rates on a gold basis, with the provision that members might retain those previously in force, or fix others not to exceed the maximum rates approved by the Congress.

Letters.

50 centimes for the first 20 grams or fraction thereof, and 25 centimes for each additional 20 grams or fraction thereof.

Post Cards.

30 centimes for a single card, and for each of the two parts of a reply card.

Printed papers, commercial papers and samples of merchandise.

10 centimes for 50 gr. providing that the minimum charge on commercial papers be not less than 50c., and that the minimum charge on samples of merchandise not less than 20c.

Registration fee.

50 centimes.

Literature for the blind.

5 centimes for 500 gr.

The revised conditions and agreements were approved and signed November 30, 1920, for general application, 1st. January, 1922. Previously, the Universal Postal Union had made the rates, and insisted that they be adhered to, except in cases of special agreements between governments, as for instance between the United States and the Leeward Islands Colony, but under the 1920 Convention, each country was allowed to fix its rates, provided the approved maximum rates were not exceeded. With the transit charges on gold

basis, many countries with depreciated currencies, found it impossible to continue the previous charges.

The 1d. letter rate from the United Kingdom to the British Colonies had been abandoned June 1, 1918, for one of 1½d., and two years later (June 1, 1920) this gave way to a rate of 2d. for the first ounce, and 1d. for each additional ounce, only to change again, as on June 13, 1921, the rate for each additional ounce was made 1½d. Post cards (inland, Empire and foreign) were raised to 1½d., and at the same time, the foreign letter rate from 2½d. to 3d. for the first ounce, and 1½d. for each additional ounce. The registration fee, previously 2d. was increased to 3d. In the Leeward Islands early in 1922 the rates on parcels, letters, post cards, etc., were increased; the principal changes were:

Order in Council of November 29, 1921; effective January 3, 1922.

Parcels to the United Kingdom or any British possession outside of the Leeward Islands Colony:

	Old rate	New rate
Not exceeding 3 lbs.	1s.	2s.
Over 3 lbs. and not exceeding 7 lbs.	2s.	3/9d.
Over 7 lbs. and not exceeding 11 lbs.	3s.	5s.
(If sent via Canada, 3d. 6d. and 9d. additional, respectively).		

Order in Council of January 9, 1922; effective February 1, 1922.

Letters to United Kingdom, British Empire and the United States of America	1½d.	2d.
Letters to foreign countries	2½d.	3d.
Post cards (British Empire, U. S. A., and foreign)	1d.	1½d.
Registration fee	2d.	3d.

On May 29, 1922, postage rates in the United Kingdom were reduced as follows:

Letters, inland post

Not exceeding 1 ounce ..	1½d.
Exceeding 1 ounce but not exceeding 3 ozs.	2d.
For every additional ounce or fraction thereof	½d.

Post cards, inland.	
For every single post card	1d.
For every reply post card	2d.
Letters to British possessions generally and the U. S. A.	
Per ounce	1½d.

High denomination, £1, added, 1922.

The addition of a £1 denomination to the Presidential series of stamps, was authorised by Order in Council of January 9, 1922.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Whereas by an Order in Council dated the 7th. day of June, 1920, and published in the Leeward Islands Gazette No. 24 of the 17th. June 1920, special stamps of the designs and denominations set out therein were ordered for use in the Presidency of St. Christopher and Nevis, concurrently, with the stamps of the Colony;

And whereas it is expedient to add to these values a stamp of One Pound in the design emblematic of Columbus sighting land;

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered by the Governor in Council, under the authority of the Leeward Islands General Stamp Act, 1890, as amended by the Leeward Islands Stamp Act, 1902, as follows:

On and after the 1st. day of February, 1922, there shall be in addition to the several values of stamps fixed by the hereinbefore recited order, a stamp of the value of One Pound, of the design emblematic of Columbus sighting land;

And it is further ordered that the proper dies and other implements to be used in connection with the said stamp be provided accordingly.

Made in the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands, this 9th. day of January, 1922.

W. D'A. TIBBITS.
Clerk of the Council.

This stamp was received at Basseterre on June 9th., and issued for sale three days later, June 12, 1922. It was printed in black and violet on red paper, multiple Crown and Roman CA watermarked, sideways to the right, in sheets of 60 stamps. Red paper was originally made for 1d. stamps, but transferred by the Crown Agents colour scheme of 1907, to stamps of £1, or near equivalent, for which the demand is comparatively small. The vignette of the £1 stamp is of King George V. and the Seal of St. Christopher, and the frame design follows that of the other denominations, except for the necessary change in the value tablets.

Stamp issues of the British West

Indies, do not include many of £1 but it was included in the contemporary series of Bahamas, British Honduras (\$5), St. Vincent, and Trinidad & Tobago. British Guiana at one time had a \$5 stamp, but in the King George V. and Colonial Seal series of 1913, the highest denomination was 96c. Bermuda in the North Atlantic issued a £1 stamp on March 30, 1918, and a stamp of this denomination was issued by Antigua on September 1, 1922, while that authorised by order of March 24, 1922 for Monserrat was never requisitioned.

June 12, 1922. Type of 1920 (King George V. and Seal of St. Christopher) multiple Crown and Roman CA watermarked, sideways to right.

Chalk surfaced paper.

£1 black and violet on red (C) (DML).

Colour Changes, 1922.

With increase of the foreign post card and letter rates, by Order in Council of January 9, 1922, effective February 1, 1922, colour changes were necessary to permit printing of the 1½d. stamp in red (foreign post card rate), the 3d. in blue (foreign letter rate), to accord with the regulations of the Universal Postal Union. This necessitated re-arrangement of the colours then being used for the 1d. 1½d. 2½d. and 3d., which under the Crown Agents' colour scheme of 1907, had been printed in red, orange, blue and violet on yellow respectively. At St. Kitts-Nevis, the 2½d. in brown (the colour assigned to the ½d. denomination in the Crown Agents' colour scheme), and the 3d. in ultramarine, were issued on July 21, 1922. A new colour was introduced, deep violet (officially termed "blue purple"), for the 1d. in which it was issued August 21, 1922.

These stamps were printed from frame and vignette plates as before, but on the 2½d. and 3d. the marginal line is single, not double—the line of the vignette plates having been removed. Oddly, the 1d. from the same vignette plate (Seal of Nevis) as the 3d., has a double marginal line.

July-August, 1922. Types of 1920; multiple Crown and script CA watermarked, sideways to right; unsurfaced paper.

1d. deep violet. (DML) August 21, 1922

2½d. brown SML July 21, 1922

3d. ultramarine SML July 21, 1922

Columbus' Spyglass.

In the September 1922 Bulletin of the French Astronomical Society "great indignation" was expressed over what was termed the "latest example of general ignorance of matters astronomical", i.e. on certain values of the St. Kitts-Nevis double medallion type stamps issued in 1920, Christopher Columbus is shown looking through a telescope, an instrument not devised for more than a hundred years after Don Christopher had passed..

"Le Petit Parisien" (September 30, 1922) quoted the comments of the Society on this "howler", and these were copied far and wide. Few others than stamp collectors seem to have known that the blunder (?) was not of recent making, had existed on the stamps issued by the United Presidency since 1903, and likely to continue for years to come, unless the Seal of St. Christopher is changed by omission.

"The News" (London) promptly took up the subject, and added a few remarks on its own:—

"Since the poet may take liberties for the sake of his metre, and the freedom of his muse; since sculptors may immortalise 20th. century worthies in flowing robes, that they would have been ashamed to wear, why this pique of the French Astronomical Society over the spyglass of Columbus? The designer of the stamps for these two Leeward Isles has represented their discoverer making use of an instrument, which was not invented until Columbus had been dead for a hundred years. Astronomers, of course, are not permitted anything but meticulous accuracy, but let them not be too hard upon the rest of us. What the artist says in effect is—think how much Columbus might have discovered if he had used a spyglass!!!"

When this came to the attention of the local folk, one of the officials contributed the following explanation:

"Under the caption of 'Columbus given a spyglass', the 'Overseas Daily Mail' recently referred to a criticism by the Bulletin of the French Astronomical Society, of a glaring anachronism appearing on the postage stamps of St. Christopher-Nevis, issued in 1920. They are mistaken in thinking that the error is due to those responsible for the present stamp design, as when designs for the new series were being considered, it was questioned whether the great discoverer should continue in the false position as

shown. The decision was that as he had been there for at least a hundred years, there was no great point in making a change at this time. The stamp design is merely a reproduction of the ancient seal of the island of St. Christopher, which continues to this day unchanged, and those responsible for the anachronism are beyond the reach of criticism. The stamps are interesting as well as instructive, if only from the negative point of view, and it is possible that at some not far distant date the design will be changed. Then stamp collectors will all the more prize the anachronistic ones."

Tercentenary of the Founding of St. Kitts, 1923.

On January 2, 1923 a special series of stamps, in thirteen denominations, ½d. to £1, was issued to commemorate the 300th. anniversary of the founding of St. Kitts, by Sir Thomas Warner. The 5s. and £1 were printed respectively on yellow and red Roman CA watermarked paper, and the others on script CA. The 10s. was the first British Colonial stamp to be printed on the new green paper script CA watermarked. The vignette in black common to all denominations, pictures a 17th. century sailing vessel, in Old Road Bay, St. Kitts, with Mount Misery (3711 ft.) in the distance. The stamps were sold only during 1923, and the unsold remainders were burned on March 7, 1924. Local sales amounted to £3,953 13 0½d. (211,704 stamps), and those sold by the Crown Agents in London to £2,648 11 4½d. (66,947 stamps), total £6,602 4 5 (278,651 stamps). Stamps of the double medallion series of 1920 were more or less withdrawn from sale during 1923, but requests were supplied.

1924-25 printings.

During 1924 printings were made of the 1d. violet and 2½d. brown, together with the 6d., the latter for the first time on script CA paper. Oddly, this 6d. (issued Sept. 1, 1924) has the watermark sideways to the left, instead of to the right, the normal position on other denominations. In addition, a plate number (1) was added to the vignette plate (King George V. and Seal of St. Christopher), and appears as a colourless numeral on a solid disc of colour, with a narrow band surrounding it

twice on the lower margin, under the 1st. and 5th. stamps of the sheet. All denominations in this 1924 printing have a double marginal line.

Although the 1½d. postcard rate to the destinations beyond the Federal Colony, remained in effect, increase in the letter rate to the Empire and to the United States, effective February 1, 1922, from 1½d. to 2d., caused considerably lessened demand for the St. Kitts-Nevis 1½d. stamp, so that further supplies were not required until 1925. (The 2d. letter rate had been applied by the Virgin Islands, as early as September 1, 1916). This new printing was in red on paper watermarked script CA sideways to the right, issued locally August 15, 1925. The vignette (head of King George V and Seal of St. Christopher) plate number "1" appears twice on the lower margin, in the positions described as applicable to the 6d. of September 1, 1924. A consignment of 1d. stamps received at the same time, vignette King George V and Seal of Nevis, showed that plate number "1" twice in similar positions on the lower margin. Both showed double marginal lines.

1924-25. Types of 1920; multiple Crown and script CA sideways to the left (6d.), or to the right. Chalk surfaced paper for the 6d. Vignette plate 1 (except for 2½d.)
 1d. deep violet. (DML) 1925.
 1½d. red. (DML) August 15, 1925
 2½d. brown. (DML) 1925.
 6d. red violet and dull violet (C). (DML) Sept. 1, 1924

Colonial Office Circular of January 29, 1924.

On January 29, 1924, a circular dispatched by the Colonial Office at London, to Officers administering the Governments of all Colonies and Protectorates, notified that:

"No new postage stamp of a particular denomination should be brought into use until all the remaining specimens of the previous issue of the denomination have been either sold, or if unduly large stocks exist, destroyed. Apart from the irregularity and inconvenience to foreign postal administrations of allowing two different stamps of the same denomination to circulate simultaneously, there is the further consideration that if comparatively poorly paid officers are permitted to retain in their possession simultaneously stamps of the same denomination

and of different issues, they are subject quite unfairly to the temptation of attempting to induce members of the collecting public who are foolish enough to do so, to pay a premium for the obsolescent issues."

Apparently intended by the Colonial Authorities at London, to refer to change of design, some colonies on receipt of stamps with script watermark, destroyed existing stocks of those with Roman CA watermark. Local authorities at St. Kitts did not apply that meaning and action, so that stamps with Roman CA watermark were sold until exhausted, concurrently with those having script watermark. In September, 1925, the following stamps of the Presidential series were available at the G. P. O., Basseterre:

Script CA.—½d. 1d. violet, 1½d. red, 2d. 2½d. brown, 3d. blue, 6d. 2s.

Roman CA.—1½d. orange, 3d. on yellow, 6d. 1s. 2s. 2/6d. 5s. 10s. £1

The 1½d. orange, Roman CA was exhausted by the end of the year, and the 2½d. brown and 3d. blue script CA, in 1927.

Stockholm Convention agreements, 1924.

The eighth Congress of the Universal Postal Union was convened at Stockholm, Sweden; the delegates welcomed, and the convention declared open by His Majesty King Gustav on July 4, 1924. At Madrid in 1920, maximum rates in gold had been established, and at Stockholm, minimum rates on the same basis were agreed upon.

Letters.

25 centimes for the first 20 gr. (1 oz.), or fraction thereof, and 15c. for each additional 20 gr. or fraction.

Post cards.

15c. for single cards, and 30c. for reply cards.

Printed papers, commercial papers, and samples of merchandise.

5c. for each 50 grs., (2 ozs.)

The conventions and agreement as revised were signed August 28, 1924, with effect from Oct. 1, 1925.

Effective April 15, 1925, a number of the United States domestic postal rates were increased, among them the rate on private post cards from 1c. to 2c. (Government cards remained

unchanged at 1c.), and the registration fee from 10c. to 15c. On August 28, 1925, an order of the Post Office Dept. increased—the post card rate to foreign countries (excepting those of the Pan American Postal Union), from 2c. to 3c., with effect October 1, 1925. This was not consistent, as it made the rate on post cards from the United States to the Leeward Islands, and other British Colonies in the Caribbean, one cent higher than on Letters.

Increase, in rates on post cards (including private mailing cards) and reduction in rate on reading matter for the blind, addressed for delivery in foreign countries.

Second Assistant Postmaster General.
Washington, August 28, 1925.

In view of the adoption by the Universal Postal Congress of Stockholm of 3 cents (15 centimes) and 6 cents (30 centimes) as the standard postage rates respectively, for single and reply post cards (including private mailing cards) in the international mails, said postage rate of 3 cents for single cards, and 6 cents for reply cards will be applicable, effective October 1, 1925, to Government post cards and private mailing cards in the United States for delivery in foreign countries generally.

In view of the above increases, the rate applicable to post cards (Government and private) when addressed to those countries participating in the provisions of the Pan-American Postal Convention of Buenos Aires, and certain other special postal conventions, is increased from 1 cent for single and 2 cents for reply cards, to 2 cents for single and 4 cents for reply cards. Said countries are Argentine, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Republic of Honduras, Meriso, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador (El), Spain, and its colonies, and Uruguay.

The rate on packages containing reading matter for the blind is reduced to 1 cent (5 centimes) for each weight unit of 2 pounds 2 ounces (1,000 grams) or less.

W. IRVING GLOVER,
Second Assistant Postmaster General.

Effective December 1, 1925, the registration fee on any article, (Postal Union or International Parcel Post) mailed in the United States, addressed to a foreign country, was raised from 10c. to 15c. No change was made in the limit of indemnity payable.

Under date of January 29, 1926, an order was issued by the Postmaster

General, Washington, correcting the incongruity of the post card rate, and the 2c. charge was made applicable to all countries to which the 2c. letter rate was applicable.

Reduction in Postage Rates on Post Cards.
Office of the Postmaster General.
Washington, January 29, 1926.

Effective February 1, 1926, the postage rates of 2 cents for each single card and 4 cents for each reply paid card will be extended to post cards for the following foreign destinations:

Bahamas.
Barbados.
Bermuda.
British Guiana.
British Honduras.
Dutch West Indies (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius and the Dutch part of St. Martins).
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Haiti.
Irish Free State.
Jamaica, including Turks, Caicos and Cayman Islands.
Leeward Islands (Antigua, Anguilla, Barbuda, Dominico, Montserrat, Nevis, Redonda, St. Christopher or St. Kitts, and Virgin Islands (British).
New Zealand, including Samoa, Western (British), and Cook Islands.
Trinidad including Tobago.
Windward Islands (Grenada, Grenadines, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent).

HARRY S. NEW,
Postmaster General.

Color changes, 1926.

By Statutory Rules and Orders No. 5 of 1926, March 1, 1926, of the Leeward Islands effective April 1, the rates on foreign letters and those for the British Empire and the United States were reduced from 3d. and 2d. to 2½d. and 1½d. respectively. With return of 2½d. as the foreign letter rate, it became necessary for this demonstration to revert in colour to its former blue, and the 3d. to violet on yellow. The 2½d. and 3d. of St. Kitts-Nevis, in these colors, printed on script CA chalk surfaced paper, were issued October 20, 1926. (Yellow paper, script CA watermarked, was first used for the 5c. Federated Malay States issued March 1, 1922). Two printings of the 1½d. in red were dispatched to St. Kitts during 1926, due to increased demand with restoration of the 1½d. letter rate to the British Empire and the United States. These denominations (1½d. 2½d. and 3d.)

were from vignette plates bearing plate number (1) the numeral positioned as before.

October 20, 1926. Types of 1920; multiple Crown and script CA watermarked, sideways to the right; chalk surfaced paper; vignette plate 1.

2½d. dark blue (C) (DML).

3d. violet and dull violet on yellow (C).

New Series Disapproved, 1927.

About the summer of 1926, the local authorities sought permission of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to prepare and issue Postage & Revenue stamps, in new design of more conventional size, similar to those then in use at Antigua, Monserrat, and Virgin Islands. As the three subjects of the head of King George V, and the seals of St. Christopher and Nevis cannot successfully be accommodated in the available space of 18½ x 22 mm, the intention probably was, to use, as before, two vignette plates, one each of the Seals of St. Christopher and Nevis, on alternate denominations, each in combination with design of the King's head. About the close of the year, rumour had it that sanction had been obtained, but the dies and plates were in process, but the idea did not develop into fact. Five years between issues in new designs, is said to be the minimum period that must elapse, before the Colonial Office at London, will consider proposals for change, and then only for some acceptable reason, having no relation to desire for or need of increased revenue. The twin medallion series, introduced in 1920, had been in use for little more than three years, when in 1923 the set commemorative of the founding of St. Kitts, was issued.

New Printings, 1927.

At the end of July, 1927, a consignment of stamps received at Basseterre, consisted of the denominations mentioned as on order, in the Crown Agents' Bulletin of April—June, and in that for July-September, as dispatched: i.e. ½d. 2½d. 3d. on script yellow, 6d. 2s. and 2/6. (the latter on script CA blue paper for the first time). These stamps were printed as before in sheets of 60 (five horizontal

by twelve vertical), on script CA watermarked paper sideways to the right. Sheets of the 6d. 2s. and 2/6d. had a single marginal line, and the 2½d. and 3d., double line, with plate "I" positioned as previously described

surfaced, as it had appeared. The 2½d. was on ordinary paper, not October 20, 1926. The 6d. script CA issued September 1, 1924 with double marginal line was exhausted about the close of 1926, and until this new lot was received, that on Roman CA watermarked paper was reverted to. The 2/6 on script CA blue paper, was issued August 5, 1927; that on Roman CA paper was exhausted soon after. The 3d. blue, script CA., although superseded by the 3d. on script yellow, October 20, 1926, was obtainable up to July 1927. The 6d. and 2s. Roman CA were still available at Basseterre, at the end of 1927, although the script CA varieties had been issued Sept. 1, 1924, and July 21, 1922, respectively. The 1s. 5s. 10s. and £1 of the double medallion series of the original printing, on Roman CA watermarked paper, were still on issue at the end of 1927, and the £1, lasted to early in 1928. The revenue and expenditure of the Presidency for the seven months' period, April 1—October 31, 1927 was £48,215 18/9 and £53,588 12/6½ respectively; for the same period the revenue from the Post Office, Telephones and Telegraphs was £4810. 12. 10, and the expenditure £3439. 16. 4½d.

August 5, 1927. Types of 1920; multiple Crown and script CA, sideways to the right. Chalk surfaced for 6d. and above. Vignette plates 1.

2½d. blue (ordinary surfaced) (DML).

August 1927.

6d. red violet and dull violet (C) (SML) August 1927.

2s. ultramarine and blue on blue (C). (SML) August 1927.

2/6d. red and black on blue. (C). (SML) August 5, 1927.

Rearrangement Of Stamp Duties 1928.

By Statutory Rules and Orders No. 15 of 1928, made by the Governor in Council at a meeting of the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands, at Basseterre, St. Kitts, on April 26, 1928. 25 denominational varieties of Postage and Revenue stamps (£5.

11. 1½d.) in use in the Federal Colony, and in the five Presidencies, were abolished; two added (30s.), and in the re-arrangement, for the Colony and Presidencies, there are 63 varieties (£4. 8. 9½d.) instead of 86 (£8. 9. 10½d. face).

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

General Government.

Statutory Rules & Orders 1928, No. 15. The Stamps Order, 1928, dated April 26 1928, made by the Governor in Council under sections 3 and 4 of the Leeward Islands General Stamp Act (No. 3) 1890. At an ordinary meeting of the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands at the Council Chamber, Basseterre, St. Christopher,—the 26th. day of April, 1928.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Whereas it is expedient to consolidate and amend certain Orders in Council relating to stamps for postage rates and stamp duties;

Now, therefore, the Governor in Council doth hereby order as follows:

1. Short title.

This Order may be cited as the Stamps Order, 1928.

2. Definition.

In this Order, the term "stamps" means adhesive stamps for postage and revenue, and includes envelopes, post cards and wrappers stamped for postal purposes.

3. Leeward Islands Stamps.

The uniform stamps for use throughout the Colony shall be of the values and descriptions specified in the first schedule hereto.

4. Presidential Stamps.

There shall be in use in the Presidencies of Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Christopher and Nevis and the Virgin Islands, respectively, special stamps of the values specified in the second schedule hereto for use in the said Presidencies form stamps.

5. Designs.

The designs of the several stamps hereby authorised shall be as specified in the third schedule hereto.

6. Dies.

(i) The several dies and other implements required to give effect hereto shall be provided.

(ii) The several dies and other implements hitherto provided in respect of stamps heretofore authorised, but not specified in the first or second schedules hereto, shall be destroyed.

7. Repeal.

The Orders in Council specified in the fourth schedule hereto and all orders made prior to the date hereof under the authority of the Leeward Islands General Stamp Act, 1890, authorising the issue of adhesive stamps are hereby rescinded:

Provided that any stamps heretofore duly authorised but not specified in the first and second schedules hereto may continue to be used unless or until otherwise ordered, and such stamps may continue to be sold until the existing stocks are exhausted.

Herbert Boon;

Acting Clerk of the Council.

The First Schedule—Leeward Islands Stamps.

Adhesive stamps.—½d. 1d. 1½d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 6d. 1s. 2s. 5s. 10s. £1.

Post Cards — Single ½d. 1d.

Post Cards, reply. — ½d. 1d. on each portion.

Envelopes.— 1d. 1½d.

Registered envelopes. — 3d.

Wrappers—½d. 1d.

The Second Schedule. — Presidential Stamps.

Adhesive stamps. — ½d. 1d. 1½d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 6d. 1s. 2/6d. 5s.

The Third Schedule. Designs. —

1. Leeward Islands.

The Head of His Majesty King George V.

2. Antigua.

Two medallions, one containing the Head of His Majesty King George V., and the other a representation of the device used on the public seal of the Presidency.

3. Dominica.

Two medallions, one containing the Head of His Majesty King George V., and the other a representation of the device used on the public seal of the Presidency.

4. Montserrat.

Two medallions, one containing the Head of His Majesty King George V., and the other a representation of the device used on the public seal of the Presidency.

5. St. Christopher and Nevis.

Two medallions, one containing the Head of His Majesty King George V., and the other representations of the devices used on the public seal of the United Presidency, as follows:

(a) The device emblematic of Columbus sighting land, stamps of the following values: viz., ½d. 1½d. 2½d. 6d. 6s.

(b) The device emblematic of the sulphur baths at Nevis, 1d. 2d. 3d. 1s. 2s. 6d.

6. Virgin Islands.

Two medallions, one containing the Head of His Majesty King George V., and the other representation of the device used on the public seal of the Presidency.

The Fourth Schedule. Orders in Council rescinded.

3 Sept. 1901 New Stamps for the Leeward Islands.

20 Feb.	1909	Adding new stamps for Leeward Islands.
25 Sept.	1916	New Stamps for Montserrat.
7 June,	1920	New Stamps for St. Christopher—Nevis.
29 June,	1921	New Stamps for Antigua.
12 Sept.	1921	New Stamps for Dominica.
9 Jan.	1922	Adding new stamps for Leeward Islands.
9 Jan.	1922	Adding new stamps for Antigua.
9 Jan.	1922	Adding new stamps for St. Christopher—Nevis.
24 Mar.	1922	Overprinting the word "Barbuda" on Leeward Island stamps.
24 Mar.	1922	New Stamps for Virgin Islands.
24 Mar.	1922	New Stamps for Montserrat.
24 Mar.	1922	New Stamps for Antigua.
12 May,	1922	Adding new stamps for Dominica.
17 May,	1922	Adding new stamps for Leeward Islands.
8 Octr.	1922	Stamps on Wrappers, envelopes and post cards for Leeward Islands.
8 Octr.	1926	Adding new stamps for the Virgin Islands.

The denominations in the Federal, and in the five Presidential series, abolished by these Orders, were as follows:

Leeward Islands			
Federal series:			
4d. 5d. 2/6d. 3s.			
4s.	5	10	3d.
Antigua: 4d. 2s.			
3s. 4s. £1	5	29	4d.
Dominica: 4d. 2s.			
3s. 4s. £1	5	29	4d.
Montserrat. ½d.			
4d. 5d. 2s. 3s.			
4s.	6	9	9½d.
St. Kitts-Nevis.			
2s. 10s. £1 ..	3	32	0d.
British Virgins:			
5d.	1		5d.
	25	£5 11	1½d.

With this re-arrangement, each of the five Presidencies has a series of ten denominations (½d. 1d. 1½d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 6d. 1s. 2/6d. and 5s., total face 9/10½d.), while in the Leeward Islands Federal series, the 2/6d. is omitted, and ½d. 2s. 10s. and £1 included face value £1 19/4½. Publication of the Orders of April 26, 1928, brought increased demand to the Presidential Postmasters, for the discontinued denominations. The St. Kitts

£1 0. 0. was exhausted about May, the 2/ on script about two months later, but the 10/ Roman CA, lasted to January, 1932. About June, 1928, the Postmaster disposed of more than half of his large stock of the Leeward Islands 5d., to an English dealer. Two years later, March 12, 1930, the 5d., 2/6, 3/, 4/, Leeward Islands series, were still available at Basseterre, the 4d. only was not.

Colour changes, 1928

By Order in Council, January 9, 1922, the rate on postcards to destinations beyond the Leeward Islands Federal Colony, had been increased, with effect February 1, 1922, from 1d. to 1½d., but was amended by S. R. & O. No. 21, October 8, 1926, that restored the former rate of 1d. British Empire destinations and to the United States. The restored rate became effective to all destinations August 1, 1928, by S. R. & O. No. 10 April 13, 1926. Restoration of the universal rate of 1d. to postcards, made necessary other changes of colours in the stamps then in current use. The Crown Agents' Bulletin July-September, 1928, announced as on order, the 1d. in red and 1½d. in chestnut brown, for Leeward Islands and Montserrat. The October-December edition stated that these had been despatched, along with similar denominations and colours for the Virgin Islands, and 1½ in the new colour for St Kitts; issued at Basseterre December 29, 1928.

During the first quarter of 1929, the Crown Agents announced supplies of the 1s. and 5s. on order, and for the first time would be printed on script CA watermarked paper. These were placed on sale April 3, 1929.

1928-29. Types of 1920; multiple Crown and script CA, sideways to the right. Chalk surfaced for 1s. and 5s. Vignette plates 1.

1½d. chestnut brown	Dec. 29, 1928
1s. black on green (C)	April 3, 1929
5s. green and red on yellow (C)	.... April 3, 1929

G.P.O., Branch and Sub-Post Offices, 1928.

Those interested in the stamps and cancellations of the Presidencies of

the Leeward Islands Federation, will find much information in Statutory Rules and Orders No. 14 of April 26, 1928, listing the Post Offices, branch and sub-Post Offices in operation.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

General Government.

Statutory Rules & Orders, 1928, No. 14.

Post Office.

Names, etc. of Post Offices.

The Post Office Rules, 1928, dated April 26, 1928, made by the Governor in Council under section 9 of the Post Office Act (No. 9) of 1909, as amended by the Post Office Act, 1909. Amendment Act, 1927 (No. 11).

1. Short title.

These Rules may be cited as the Post Office Rules, 1928

2. Post Office sub-divisions.

The Post Offices established in this Colony, or to be established hereafter, shall be divided into three groups, namely, General Post Offices, Branch Post Offices, and Sub-Post Offices.

3. General Post Offices.

The head post office in the chief town in each Presidency as specified in the first schedule hereto shall be the General Post Office for the Presidency, and all other Post Offices in the Presidency shall be managed and controlled thereunder.

4. Branch and Sub-Post Offices.

The remaining Post Offices (other than General Post Offices) in the Colony shall be Branch Post Offices or Sub-Post Offices

respectively, as specified in the first schedule hereto.

5. Control by the General Post Office.

Sub-Post Offices shall be managed and controlled under the appropriate General Post Office either directly or through a Branch Office as specified in the first schedule hereto.

6. Branch Postmasters.

The persons in charge of Branch Post Offices shall be styled Branch Postmasters, and they shall render such accounts and returns as the Postmaster may require.

7. Sub-Postmasters.

The persons in charge of Sub-Post Offices shall be styled Sub-Postmasters, and they shall render such accounts and returns as the Postmaster or Branch Postmaster may require.

8. Names of Post Offices.

The designations contained in the first schedule hereto shall be the official names of the several Post Offices and shall be used in all postmarks and for all purposes subject as hereinafter provided in respect of Money Orders.

9. Money Order Offices.

The Post Office, the names of which are printed in capital letters in the first schedule hereto, are Money Order Offices. These Offices shall be described in the headings of Money Order forms with the name of the Presidency first in the manner set out in the second schedule hereto.

10. Commencement.

These rules shall come into operation on the first day of October, 1928.

Herbert Boon,
Acting Clerk of the Council.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Name of Presidency.	General Post Offices.	Branch Post Offices under General Post Offices.	Sub-Post Offices under Branch Post Offices or directly under General Post Office as designated.
Antigua	ST. JOHN'S ANTIGUA	Nil	All Saints, Antigua. Barbuda. Barnes Hill, Antigua. Bethesda, Antigua. Bolans, Antigua. English Harbour, Antigua. Freetown, Antigua. Newfield, Antigua. Old Road, Antigua. Parham, Antigua. St. James, Antigua. St. Stephens, Antigua.
Dominica	ROSEAU. DOMINICA	Nil	Castle Bruce, Dominica. Delices Grand Bay, La Plaine, Mahaut, Pointe Michael Rosalie, Soufriere, St. Joseph, Calihaut, Marigot, Vieille Case,
		PORTSMOUTH	

Name of Presidency.	General Post Offices.	Branch Post Offices under General Post Offices.	Sub-Post Offices under Branch Post Offices or directly under General Post Office as designated.
Montserrat	PLYMOUTH, MONTSERRAT		Cudjoe Head, Montserrat Harris, " St. Peters, "
St. Christopher and Nevis	BASSE-TERRE, ST. KITTS	Nil SANDY POINT, ST. KITTS CHARLES-TOWN, NEVIS THE VALLEY, ANGUILLA	Cayon, St. Kitts. Dieppe Bay, " Old Road " Nil. Nil. Blowing Point, Anguilla. East End, " Forest, " The Road, "
Virgin Islands	ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA	Nil	Anegada. East End, Tortola. VIRGIN GORDA. WEST END, TORTOLA.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

Official names of Money Order Offices (to be printed in the headings of Money Order forms).

Antigua (St. John's)
Dominica (Roseau)
Montserrat (Plymouth)
St. Christopher-Nevis (Basseterre)
St. Christopher-Nevis (Charlestown)
St. Christopher-Nevis (Sandy Point)
St. Christopher-Nevis (The Valley)
Virgin Islands (Road Town)
Virgin Islands (Virgin Gorda.)
Virgin Islands (West End).

Colonial Office Regulations, December 15, 1928.

Remittances to the Federal, or Presidential Postmasters for current postage stamps, must be by Money Orders, bank drafts, etc., and not currency notes, as these latter will be returned. Instructions in paragraph 6 of the Colonial Office (London) circular dispatch of December 15, 1928, addressed to "Governors of all Colonies, Protectorates and Tanganyika Territory, and the High Commissioner for Palestine" state:—

"6.—It is not, however, possible for dealers outside of this country, or for private collectors here or elsewhere, to obtain Colonial postage stamps otherwise than from dealers, except by sending an order, accompanied by a remittance to a local officer in the Colony, and in a negligible number of cases, by purchasing them from Colonial Trade Agencies in London. I see no objection to the continuance of this practice of sending such

orders by post, and it is the duty of any Postmaster who receives an application for postage stamps in current use, accompanied by a remittance in full, to comply with it, if he is able to do so. It was suggested by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in 1896, that as a safeguard against improper practices, all orders above £5 in value should be dealt with by the Receiver General, and not by the Colonial Postmaster, but he did not issue specified directions that this should be done; and Mr. Alfred Lyttleton, in 1905, stated that he considered it desirable that all such orders should be passed through the Colonial Secretary for directions. While I realise that for local reasons it may not be practicable to adopt either of these practices, I consider that, where they are not adopted, it is not fair to the officers concerned that they should be subjected to the temptation of receiving remittances in such a form that their receipt cannot easily and quickly be traced. I therefore, request that you will issue directions that remittances received in the form of bank notes or currency notes should be returned to the sender with the intimation that orders for postage stamps cannot be met unless they are accompanied by a remittance in the form of a draft, Money Order, or a postal order, made payable to the officer concerned by his official designation. You will no doubt consider in consultation with your advisers what is the best machinery for dealing with the remittances received in these forms and bringing them to account and audit. I am taking steps to bring this new rule to the notice of collectors generally."

Pan American Airways, Inc., inaugurates air mail service, September 1929.

The first of the British possessions

in the West Indies, to benefit from foreign air mail contracts, awarded by the United States Post Office Dept. to Pan American Airways, Inc., during the summer of 1928, was Nassau, in the Bahamas, to where air mail service, thrice weekly, over FAM, route 7, was inaugurated from Miami, Fla., on January 2, 1929. Between Miami and Cristobal, Canal Zone, over FAM, route 5, service was inaugurated February 4, 1929, southward, and February 10, northward, and although overnight stops were made at Belize, British Honduras; Tela, Republic of Honduras, and Managua, Nicaragua, air mail deliveries at these points commenced only with the flight from Miami and Cristobal on May 21, 1929. FAM, route 6 between Miami and San Juan, Puerto Rico (1445 miles) was inaugurated January 9, 1929, and letters for the Leeward and Windwards could be flown to San Juan, for dispatch thence by sea, with some small saving in time. Between San Juan, P. R., and Port of Spain, Trinidad (752 miles), the route is FAM. 6, and beyond, to Paramaribo, Suriname (590 miles), FAM. 5. This service to Paramaribo was inaugurated by Col. Chas. A. Lindbergh, who with his wife and party (including Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Trippe, of the Pan American Airways, Inc.) left Miami, Fla., in the trimotored Fokker plane NC-147—H. on Friday morning, Sept. 20, 1929. The night was spent at Santiago de Cuba, and next morning, the flight was resumed to San Juan, with stops at Port au Prince and Santo Domingo City. On Sunday morning, Sept. 22nd, having changed to a Sikorsky amphibian plane, 142—M (with Chas. Lober, as co-pilot), and accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Trippe, in Plane (NC-8020), Col. Lindbergh took off for Port of Spain, Trinidad, stopping en route at St. Thomas; Basseterre, St. Kitts; St. John's, Antigua; and Castries, St. Lucia. The unscheduled stop at St. Kitts was to pay a courtesy call on His Excellency the Governor of the Leeward Islands, T. R. St. Johnston, there on an official visit from Antigua, his headquarters. On January 31, 1928, Col. Lindbergh in the

"Spirit of St. Louis", (in which he had crossed the Atlantic in May 1927), made a non-stop flight (of 10 hours and 15 minutes) over much of this same route (in the reverse direction), from Maracay, Venezuela, to St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands, a distance of over 1050 miles. On this Goodwill tour of Mexico, Central, South America and the West Indies, which began at Washington, D. C., on December 13, 1927, and concluded at St. Louis, exactly two months later, Col. Lindbergh carried air mails from Santo Domingo City to Port au Prince, and from both towns to Habana, Cuba. The night of Sunday, Sept. 22nd, was spent at Port of Spain, and next morning, the flight was resumed to Paramaribo with a short stop at Georgetown, British Guiana. Monday night and all of Tuesday were spent at Paramaribo. On Wednesday, Sept. 25, Col. Lindbergh and his party returned to Port au Spain (via Georgetown, British Guiana), where the air mail was transferred to another plane, and with that from Trinidad, was flown north by Jack Tilton, to San Juan, on Thursday, Sept. 26th. Stops were made en route at St. Lucia, Antigua, and St. Thomas. (Col. Lindbergh returned to the United States via Cristobal, Central America and Yucatan.) Mails were carried for other islands than those called at, and sent on by sea from the nearest point. Mail was taken from St. Kitts by Col. Lindbergh (on Sept. 22nd) for points south; and that for the north from St. Kitts was flown to St. John's, Antigua, by Col. Lindbergh, and was brought north by the plane from the south on Sept. 26th.

The air mail rates from the United States were 10c. per half ounce to St. Thomas; 25c. to Antigua, St. Lucia, and Trinidad; and 40c. to British and Dutch Guiana. Identical cachets were furnished Miami, San Juan and St. Thomas, for application to first dispatches to the south; the impression is a double lined horizontal rectangle, 77 x 57 mm., with cut corners, picturing a Spanish galleon with an amphibian plane in the upper left corner. At the upper right is FIRST

—FLIGHT in two lines, and across the bottom, in a single line, "San Juan—Paramaribo".

Miami dispatches.

This mail for the most part was Duplex handstamped "Miami, Fla. within a single lined circle, 25 mm; with the date "SEP 12—1.30 PM" in two lines in the center; "1929" between the circle and the ellipse (on end) of graduated bars (with "2" inset) at the right.

On Thursday, Sept. 12. the accumulation of mail at Miami, for the first flight to the south from San Juan, was postmarked, but not cacheted, and dispatched by the Friday plane to San Juan, to be made ready for dispatch from that point on Sunday morning, Sept. 22. Similar dispatches were made from Miami on Monday and Wednesday of the following week.

Only the mail which was collected at Miami subsequent to the departure of the plane on Wednesday, Sept. 18th. was cacheted at Miami, in violet, and flown on Friday morning, Sept. 20th. in the plane piloted by Col. Lindbergh.

San Juan dispatches.

All mail for points on the extension received at San Juan from Miami (except that brought by Col. Lindbergh) was repostmarked (on the face, not backstamped) at San Juan, the same as the mail originating there; i.e. "San Juan, P. R." within a single lined circle, 21 mm. "SEP 22—6 AM—1929", in the centre in three lines, and at the right the slogan die "Air Mail—Correo Aereo—(plane)—Saves Time—Ahorra Tiempo", and five horizontal lines. The special cachet was applied in magenta.

St. Thomas dispatches.

The air mail from St. Thomas to the south was cacheted in magenta, and machine cancelled "Saint Thomas, V. I. 1929", in a single lined circle, 21 mm; "SEP 22 — 7 AM" in the center in two lines, and at the right a flag of seven wavy lines.

When word reached St. Kitts that Col. Lindbergh would stop there, on his way south, a small mail was

prepared for dispatch by him to Antigua. (The stop at Basseterre was from 9.19 a.m. to 9.46 a.m., on Sunday, Sept. 22, 1929). The letters were postmarked "St. Kitts" within a single lined circle, 25 mm. enclosing "C-21 SP-29" in three lines. A special cachet was also applied in black "AIR MAIL—FIRST FLIGHT", the two lines measuring 27 and 38 mm. respectively, with an overall dimension of 33 mm. vertically. An air mail label was also attached, "AIR MAIL—Par Avion" colourless on pale blue, within a single lined frame, 35 x 14 mm. This mail was backstamped "St. John's, Antigua, B.W.I. SP 23-29", except, of course, that for destinations to the south, beyond Antigua.

The quantities of mail dispatched from St. Kitts were very small; the known figures being—

	Letters
To Antigua	28
To St. Lucia	?
To Trinidad	28
To British Guiana	7
To Suriname	?

The air mail for points north which Col. Lindbergh carried on Sept. 22nd. from Basseterre, to St. John's, Antigua, remained at St. John's until Sept. 26th. when upon arrival of the plane from the south, it was sent north, along with the Antigua air dispatches. The St. Kitts air mail was cacheted and postmarked (21 SP 29), the same as that for points south.

To St. Thomas	?
To San Juan, P. R.	?
To Sto. Domingo, D. R. ...	?
To Port au Prince, Haiti—none	
To Habana, Cuba	?
To Miami, Fla.	24

From Antigua the air rate to the United States and British Guiana was 1s. 3d., and to Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, St. Lucia and Trinidad 7½d. per half ounce with postage (1½d) and registration (3d.) additional.

Effective January 1, 1930 rates from the United States, Puerto Rico and St. Thomas to Antigua, St. Lucia and Trinidad were reduced to 20c., and to the Guianas to 30c. (instead of 25c. and 40c. respectively).

Revised rates from Antigua were

announced January 23, 1930, when the Air rate to the United States, St. Lucia and Trinidad was fixed at 11d.

G (ROYAL ARMS) R

Postal Administration of the Leeward Islands.

AIR MAIL.

Revised rates of Air fees per half ounce (in addition to ordinary postage) payable in the Leeward Islands on letters, etc. forwarded by air from ANTIGUA (including letters sent by sea to Antigua for onward transmission by air).

	s.	d.
Argentina	3	0
Bahamas	1	6
Barbados*	0	11
Bolivia	2	1½
Brazil	2	9
British Guiana	1	6
British Honduras	2	1½
Canada	1	1
Canal Zone	1	6
Chile	2	9
Colombia	1	6
Costa Rica	1	10
Cuba	1	3
Curacao	1	6
Dominican Republic	1	3
Dutch Guiana	1	6
Ecuador	1	6
French Guiana	1	6
Great Britain:		
via Miami	0	11
via Trinidad	0	11
Via Port Rico } and from	0	7½
} thence by		
} sea.	0	11
Grenada*	0	11
Guatemala	2	1½
Haiti	1	3
Honduras Republic	2	1½
Mexico	1	6
Nicaragua	2	1½
Panama	1	6
Paraguay	3	0
Peru	2	1½
Porto Rico	0	7½
Salvador	2	1½
St. Lucia	0	11
St. Vincent*	0	11
Trinidad	0	11
United States of America	0	11
Uruguay	3	0
Venezuela	1	6
Virgin Islands (British)	0	7½
" " (U. S.)	0	7½
Other countries via	Same as to	
any country men-		
tioned above	the intermediate	
	country.	

*via St. Lucia or Trinidad.

For special rates on letters sent by sea to London to be forwarded from thence by air to European countries, etc. apply at any Post Office.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Antigua.

23rd. January, 1930.

By Command.

EDWD. BAYNES,
Colonial Secretary.

Outward air mail from St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat and Dominica is sent by sea to Antigua, thence by plane; inward is flown to Antigua, and sent onward by sea. Tortola in the British Virgins receives and dispatches its mail, ordinary and air, via St. Thomas in the U. S. Virgins. The air mail rate from Tortola to the United States, and to Antigua (including the other islands of the Leeward Islands Federal Colony, via Antigua) is 7½d. per half ounce, plus postage and registration.

When weekly service between San Juan and Paramaribo was inaugurated September 22, 1929, the plane left San Juan on Sunday, spent the night at Port of Spain, and reached Paramaribo the next afternoon; in the reverse direction, the plane left Paramaribo on Wednesday. Commencing May 2, 1930, the flight day from San Juan to the south was changed to Friday, and from Paramaribo, north to Monday; and on July 2, 1930, to Tuesday (southbound), and Friday (northbound), with overnight stops at Port of Spain in both directions.

NYRBA inaugurates air mail service, February, 1930.

The first plane of the New York, Rio and Buenos Aires Line (commonly referred to as the NYRBA), inaugurating air mail service between the Argentine and the United States, left Buenos Aires at 3.30 a.m., February 19, 1930, with 100 pounds of mail for the United States and intermediate points. Although bad weather and legal troubles in Brazil caused considerable delay, some of this lost time was made up subsequently by night flying. On Monday, February 24th. the plane "Haiti" left Para, Brazil, and from Georgetown, British Guiana, at 5.30 p.m., the "Port of Spain" (ordered south from Trinidad that morning to relieve it), took off with the mails, and continued. The plane arrived at Port of Spain at 9.30 p.m. and after taking on fuel and mails, resumed the flight that night to Castries, St. Lucia;—Antigua, St. Thomas, San Juan and San Pedro de Macoria, D.R., were ports of call the next day, and shortly after mid-night.

February 26th. the plane left with mails for Santiago de Cuba, Camaguey, Habana, and Miami. Mail for the United States was turned over to the Post Office at Miami, late Wednesday evening, February 26th, and reached Pittsburgh on the 28th. The first NYRBA plane "Port of Spain" (NC-946-M) with air mails from the south arrived at St. John's on February 25 1930; however. the first air mail from Antigua to the north by NYRBA was dispatched on the day previous, by their plane, NC-944-M. "San Juan". The NYRBA Line carried no air mails from the United States, Cuba, Puerto Rico or St. Thomas, but service from Port au Prince, Haiti, south, to Buenos Aires, was inaugurated by them on March 7th. The first mails from the north, by NYRBA, were received at Antigua, on March 8th. (NC-943-M, "Haiti"), and the first dispatch south was made on that day. For practically six months (from February to August, 1930, when the NYRBA was absorbed by the Pan American Airways, Inc.) Haiti, Dominican Republic, Antigua, St. Lucia, Trinidad, British and Dutch Guiana dispatched and received air mails by planes of the two companies; both services were weekly.

"HMS Dorsetshire" Seaplane mail, Montserrat-St. Kitts, Febr. 23, 1931.

In June 1930, an excursion air flight was planned by the NYRBA from St. John's, Antigua, to Plymouth, Montserrat (35 miles), and mail was to be carried in both directions. That prepared at Plymouth was postmarked, cacheted and made ready for dispatch on June 6, but at the last minute a telegram received from Antigua, stated that because of high seas, the flight had been cancelled. (St. Kitts, Antigua and Dominica have world cable communication and with each other, but between Antigua and Montserrat there is a flashlight service only inaugurated June 1, 1914).

In February of the following year, H. M. S. "Dorsetshire" visited Plymouth, and when she sailed, left her seaplane behind, to follow to Basseterre, St. Kitts. This unexpected opportunity was embraced to dispose

of the air mail prepared in June 1930 and it was flown to Basseterre (60 miles) on Monday, February 23.

The details of this mail are as follows:

		Ordinary Registered	
		—	—
For	St. Kitts	211	4
	St. Lucia	—	52
	Trinidad	20	18
	British Guiana .	3	16
	Dutch Guiana	—	14

The mail prepared for dispatch on June 6, 1930, was postmarked "Montserrat" within a single lined circle, 28 mm., with "A—JU 6—30" in the center in three lines; and cacheted in magenta, or violet, "FIRST AIR MAIL—Montserrat", in two lines, enclosed in a single lined horizontal rectangle, 46 x 15 mm. Some of this mail was repostmarked on the day of dispatch by the H. M. S. "Dorsetshire" seaplane,— "G. P. O. Plymouth, Montserrat", within a single lined circle, 26 mm. with " *—FE 23—31" in three lines in the centre. For some reason only the ordinary letters were back stamped, or face stamped at Basseterre, "St. Kitts", (in heavy leads on either side broken at the bottom by a maltese cross), between the two concentric circles (26 x 16 mm) with "C—23 FE—31" in the centre in three lines. Report has it that this mail flown to Basseterre, was forwarded by sea to St. John's, Antigua (60 miles) and dispatched by the next plane of Pan American Airways, Inc. This is not confirmed by four covers seen, addressed to the United States, Haiti, Trinidad and British Guiana, three of which were registered, and one ordinary (that to Trinidad.) Those addressed to the United States and Haiti were sent south by error) and —are backstamped "Castries, St. Lucia, 27 FE—31"; the former was delivered at Pittsburgh on March 12, the latter at Port au Prince on March 9th., and are so backstamped. The letter to Trinidad is backstamped "Port of Spain, Trinidad, 11 a.m., FEB 28—1931", and that to British Guiana, "Registration, British Guiana, * 5 MR—31". At that time the P. A. A. plane was scheduled to

leave San Juan each Monday morning, and arrive at Port of Spain, Trinidad, late that afternoon, calling at St. Thomas, Antigua, and Castries en route. It is improbable that mail flown from Montserrat to Basseterre, St. Kitts, Monday February 23, 1931, could have been sent to St. John's, Antigua, by sea, and connected with the P. A. A. plane from San Juan, that would have arrived there about 10 a.m. Receipt of this mail at Castries, St. Lucia, on Febr. 27th., and at Port of Spain, Trinidad, on Febr. 28th., suggests that the "Dorsetshire" seaplane air mail was flown only to St. Kitts, and sent to destination by sea.

Postage rates to and from the United States increased Nov. 1. 1931.

Effective 1st September, 1931, the rate on letters from United States to Canada and Newfoundland, was increased from 2c to 3c per ounce, on postcards from 1c to 2c. The foreign letter rate; 5c for the first ounce and 3c for each additional ounce, post cards 3c single, 6c double or reply; was applied to Great Britain and Ireland, and effective November 1st, 1931, to mail to the British West Indies. To countries of the Pan American Postal Union, with effect April 1st 1932, the rates of 3c on letters, 2c on postcards were made. On 6th July the domestic letter rate in the United States, was made 3c.

"Second Assistant Postmaster General

Washington, September 23. 1931.

Commencing November 1, 1931, the rate of postage on letters and post cards to Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica (including Cayman and Turks and Caicos Islands), Leeward Islands (Anguilla, Antigua, Barbuda, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, Redonda, St. Christopher or St. Kitts, and British Virgin Islands), Netherlands (Dutch) West Indies (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius, and the Dutch part of St. Martins), New Zealand (including Cook Islands, British Samo, and Danger (Pakapuka), Manihiki, Palmerston (Avarua), Penrhyn (Tongatonga), Rakaanga, Savage (Ninc), and Suvaraw Islands), Trinidad (including Tobago), and Windward Islands (Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent) will be:

Letters for the first ounce or fraction	5 cents
Letters for each additional ounce or fraction	3 cents
Post cards (single)	3 cents
Post cards (double)	6 cents

Insufficiently prepaid letters and post cards for the above mentioned countries shall be treated as set forth in paragraph 2 of section 20 on page 209 of the July, 1931, Postal Guide.

With respect to the payment of postage on correspondence addressed to foreign countries, attention is invited to the importance of prepaying postage in full, since articles on which the postage has not been prepaid, or has not been fully prepaid, represent money which should be realised by the post office of mailing in this country, and when dispatched are subject to special treatment which necessarily involves more or less delay, in some cases sufficient to miss an intended steamship dispatch. Furthermore, as the deficiency in postage (double to most countries, including all the above) is collected on delivery, unpaid or short-paid articles may be refused by the addressees.

Postmasters will cause special notice of the foregoing to be taken at their offices, and the widest possible publicity without expense to the department, to be given thereon.

W. Irving Glover,
Second Assistant Postmaster General.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

General Government.

Statutory Rules and Orders, 1931 No. 15. Post Office

Rates of Postage, etc.

The Rates of Postage Rules, 1931, dated September, 16, 1931, made by the Governor in Council under section 3 of the Post Office Act (Cap. 123).

1. Short title.

These Rules may be cited as the Rates of Postage Rules, 1931.

2. Amendment of Post Office Rules.

The following words shall be deleted from paragraph 1 (2) of Schedule "A" to the Post Office Rules, 1931 (S R & O. 1930, No. 21) viz.,

"the United States of America, the Virgin Islands of the United States, Porto Rico, Alaska, Hawaii, and the Panama Canal Zone."

3. Commencement.

These Rules shall come into operation on the first day of November, 1931.

E. D'A. Tibbits,
Clerk of the Council.

These Orders cancelled the "favoured rates" then in force on letters addressed to the United States, etc., of 1½d. for the first ounce, and 1d. for each additional ounce or fraction; and substituted November 1, 1931, those applicable to "all other places" i.e.

2½d. and 1½d. respectively. The post card rates were maintained, i.e. 1d. single, and 2d. reply.

Geographical and Historical.

St. Christopher (or St. Kitts, as it is commonly called) is one of the British West Indian Islands lying in 62 degs. 45 min. west longitude, and 17 degs. 20 min. north latitude. It is oval shaped, 23 miles long, by 5 miles wide, with a total area of 68 square miles, and population of 22415 (1921). Basseterre, the capital, on the south-west coast, is a town of 7736 inhabitants.

The island is of volcanic origin, and very mountainous. A central ridge, running southeast to northwest rises to Mount Misery, 3711 ft. high, an extinct volcanic cone. At the south-east the main range of mountain peaks forms a semi-circle enclosing a fertile plain, at the southwest of which is Basseterre. The island is well watered, and the soil on the lower levels is rich and fertile.

St. Christopher was discovered by Columbus on his second voyage in November 1493, and was named by him, it is said, in honour of his patron saint. Tradition has it that he saw in the configuration of Mount Misery, a likeness to St. Christopher carrying the infant Saviour on his back, but, according to Mr. George H. King (historian of St. Christopher), all of this is legend, and the fact is that Columbus called the island Antigua, a name later transferred to its closeby neighbour, and some unknown sponsor gave the island the name it now bears. The Caribs knew the island as Liamuiga, (the Fertile Island) and later, the name Merwar's Hope was given to it—this latter being formed of the first syllables of Merrie-field; who arranged and fitted out an expedition to it; and its coloniser. Sir Thomas Warner. During the French occupation of the northern and southern portions, it was called L'Isle Douce (the Pleasant Isle). Though Barbados nominally was possessed in 1605, permanent settlement was not effected until 21 years later, and, to St. Kitts, colonised in 1623, belongs the distinction of being the first

Colony of the British West Indies. Sir Thomas Warner and his company of colonists landed at Old Road Bay, on the west coast of the island, January 28, 1623. He died there on March 10, 1648, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Thomas, the parish church of Old Road. By a treaty signed May 13, 1627, between England and France, the island was partitioned, the French taking the northern and southern portions, and the English the central, or as it was called "Middle Island."

The island for some time was the headquarters of the pirates and buccaneers, but combined forces of England, France and Spain drove them out. In 1629 successful attack by the Spanish, expelled both English and French settlers, but departure of the Spanish fleet, enabled D'Esnambuc to re-establish the French colony in possession of the island. The Treaty of Breda in 1667, reinstated English possession, but in 1689 France captured the island to be dispossessed during the following year by Sir Timothy Thornhill, who landed at Frigate Bay and took possession. England remained in complete possession for seven years, when in 1697 by the Treaty of Ryswick, that portion originally colonised by France was restored to that country. In July 1702, for the third time England regained complete possession, and remained so despite further attacks by France, cession being recognised by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. In 1727 the seat of Government was removed from Old Road, to Basseterre, the seat of French Government that had been, but the Courts of Justice were held at Old Road until 1750, when they too were removed to Basseterre. In 1782 the French besieged Brimstone Hill, and on 13th February the island capitulated to them, but following on Rodney's smashing victory over De Grasse, on 12th April, the Treaty of Versailles in 1783, again recognised England's possession. Villeneuve raided the colony in March, 1805, reaped his reward at Trafalgar on 21st October, and ever since British possession has been undisturbed.

Nevis lies to the southeast of St.

Kitts (in 62 degs. 33 min. west longitude, and 17 degs. 10 min. north latitude), separated from it by the Narrows, a strait barely 2 miles in width. Its area is 50 square miles, with a population of 11,569, of which less than 60 are white. Charlestown, 11 miles from Basseterre, is its capital, with a population of 912. Nevis is little more than a single volcanic cone, rising to a height of 3,596 ft. The island possesses mineral springs, celebrated throughout the world in earlier days. It became a fashionable resort in 1787 or 1789 with a Bath House (costing more than £40,000) and pump room, to provide in comfort, the desired cures, by "taking the waters".

Columbus discovered Nevis at the same time as St. Christopher, and named it Nieve (also known as Nevis), from the snow-like appearance of its cloud-capped peak. The island was incorporated in the grant to the Earl of Carlisle in 1627, and in the following year was colonised by English settlers from St. Kitts. A little later the settlement was destroyed, and in 1706 it was ravaged by the French who destroyed property to the value of a half million pounds sterling. Jamestown, its former capital, was destroyed and submerged by earthquake on April 30, 1680, the ruins are yet visible beneath the sea. Alexander Hamilton, the great American statesman, was born on this island, January 11, 1757 and Lord Nelson, then Captain of the H.M.S. Boreas, was married here to the widow, Mrs. Nisbet, on March 11, 1787.

Anguilla (63 degs. 5 mins. west longitude, and 18 degs. 12 mins. north latitude), lies 60 miles to the north of St. Kitts, of which it is a dependency. It has an area of 35 square miles, and a population of 4,230. It was colonised from St. Kitts about 1650, and seems always to have been more or less dependent on that island.

Sugar is the principal industry of St. Kitts and Nevis, and at St. Kitts rum is distilled. Cotton is raised on all three islands. At Nevis there is

a large acreage planted with coconuts, and at Anguilla, cattle raising and salt raking are carried on. In 1925, 15,043 tons of sugar, and 422,592 lbs. of cotton were exported. The imports for 1925-26 were £292,817, and exports, £279,637. The revenue for 1924-25 was £93,228, expenditure £92,695, and the public debt at the close of the year was £59,250.

Government.

Both St. Kitts and Nevis appear to have had a constitution based on that of England; i.e. a Privy Council, His Majesty's nominated Council, and an elected House of Assembly. Between 1808 and 1863 the members of these two Houses numbered 10 and 26 for St. Kitts, and 8 and 15 for Nevis. Anguilla had no House of Assembly, but sent a representative to that of St. Kitts. In 1858 the Privy Councils were changed to Executive Councils, with administrative committees. Eight years later the constitutions of both islands were altered, the two Houses were replaced by a single Assembly, consisting in St. Kitts of 3 ex-officio members, 7 members nominated by the Crown, and 10 elected members. In 1878 the Crown Colony form of government was adopted; i.e. nominated Legislative Council. St. Kitts and Nevis were united by "The St. Christopher and Nevis Act", of 1882, of the Leeward Islands' Legislature, and with Anguilla, form a single Presidency of the Leeward Islands Federation. The Nevis Council was replaced by the Legislative Council of the United Presidency composed of ten official and ten unofficial members, appointed by the Crown, with the Governor and the Administrator. The Council was reduced in 1800 to six official, and six unofficial members, but in 1923 by Act of 1923 the number was increased to seven of each. Of the unofficial members, six may be appointed from among the people of St. Kitts and Anguilla, but one at least, and since 1923 two when practicable, must be from Nevis. The Council meets annually at Basseterre, St. Kitts, or at such times as the Governor or Administrator may ap-

point. Resident Magistrates administer the government at Nevis and Anguilla.

There is a Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Leeward Islands Federation, with headquarters at St. John's, Antigua. At Antigua, Dominica, and St. Kitts-Nevis the government is administered by Administrators and at Montserrat and the British Virgins, by Commissioners. There is an Executive and Legislative Council for the Federal Colony, and separate Executive and Legislative Councils for each of the four larger Presidencies; the British Virgins have an Executive Council only.

(a) Postal Survey, St. Christopher, 1858-1890.

An article on "Antigua Colonisation Tercentenary, 1932", in the 1933 edition of the "Jamaica Philatelist", recorded sale of British postage stamps in May 1858 at various ports in the Caribbean. Stamps so used at Basseterre, St. Christopher (1d. 4d. 6d. and 1s.) may be distinguished by the special obliteration A 12 within a horizontal eclipse of three graduated bars above and below the letter and numerals, with two bars at each side.

On May 1, 1860, sale of British stamps at all West Indian post offices, officially was discontinued, and control of the post offices in the Leewards was assumed by the respective Colonial authorities. Prepayment of postage rates in cash (the method in force prior to 1858) was reverted to, until such time as each island provided its particular postage stamps. On April 1, 1870, the first issue of distinctive postage stamps for St. Christopher appeared, 1d. rose, and 6d. green, typographically printed by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., on Crown CC watermarked paper, and perforated 12½. The design is of the head of Queen Victoria facing left in a circle, around which at the top is "Saint Christopher", and at the bottom "Postage". The value in words on a horizontal label at the bottom, was added from duty plates, the head plate acting as a keyplate. In 1875 the perforation was changed

to 14. Admitted to the Universal Postal Union on July 1, 1879, 2½d. (red brown) and 4d. (blue) stamps were issued in November of that year. Effective July 1, 1879, the foreign letter rate per half ounce was reduced from 6d., to 4d., in accordance with the terms of the Postal Treaty of Paris, June 1, 1878. During 1882, the ¾d. (green), a new denomination; 1d. (rose), 2½d. (red brown), and 4d. (blue) appeared on Crown CA watermarked paper.

The "Official Gazette of Saint Christopher" of March 11, 1882, announced reductions in rates to places not more than 300 nautical miles distant.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

After this date, the postage to the undermentioned places will be reduced to:

Letters, per half ounce	2½d.
Post cards, each	1d.
Newspapers, printed papers, books, etc., per 2 ounces	¾d.
Commercial papers, same as printed papers, except that the lowest charge for each packet is 2½d.	
Patterns, same as printed papers, except that the lowest charge for each packet is ¾d.	

Names of Places.

Antigua	Tortola	Saint Croix
Dominica	Martinique	Crab Island
Saint Lucia	Guadeloupe	Porto Rico
Montserrat	Saint Martin's	
Nevis	Saint Thomas	

March 11, 1882.

In 1884 the 2½d. was changed in colour to ultramarine, and the 4d. to grey. In March 1885 the 1d. rose, Crown CA watermarked, was diagonally surcharged "Half-penny" twice, for use in halves, each as a ¾d. stamp. In the same year, the 6d. green, Crown CC, perforated 14, was surcharged to provide "One Penny" (in two lines of caps), and "4d" provisionals. On each the original denomination was barred out. A shilling stamp, printed in violet, was issued in February 1887, and in May of the same year, the "Half-penny" stamp was surcharged "ONE PENNY" in two lines, with a bar through the original value at the bottom. In May 1888, the 2½d. ultramarine was overprinted "ONE

PENNY" in two lines of larger caps, and again the original value was cancelled by a bar. In February 1890, during a shortage of 1d. stamps, the 1d. rose red of Antigua, Crown CA, was used provisionally at St. Christopher, without distinguishing overprint. It can be distinguished only in used condition by the A 12 cancellation peculiar to St. Christopher. About May 1890, the 6d. was changed in colour to olive brown, Crown CA watermarked.

(b) Postal Survey, Nevis, 1858-90.

British stamps in the denominations of 1d., 4d., 6d., 1/- were placed on sale at Nevis about 1st May, 1858. The distinguishing cancellation is "A 09" set in a horizontal oval, composed of three graduated bars above and below; the ends are shortened, each of two thin bars curved inward. On May 1, 1860 control of the local Post Office passed to the local authorities. British stamps for local use, were withdrawn from sale, and in the following year the first definitive stamps for Nevis were issued.

The design was prepared from the Great Seal of the Island, that represents a woman giving water from the famous Bath Springs, to another woman—reclining in the arms of a third. This was adapted to frame designs similar to those of the corresponding denominations of contemporary stamps of Great Britain. The series was of four denominations, 1d. lake, 4d. rose, 6d. gray, and 1s. green, engraved and printed by Messrs. Nissen & Parker, London, in sheets of twelve, on bluish and/or grayish, unwatermarked paper, perforated 13. In 1866 the stamps appeared on white paper, perforated 15. At that time the letter rate to England was 1s.; registration fee 6d.; intercolonial letters and those to the United States 4d., papers and printed matter, 1d. In 1876, the same designs and denominations were printed by lithography, on white unwatermarked paper, in the same colours, perforated 15. The 1d. also exists perforated 11½. On July 1, 1879 Nevis was admitted to the Universal Postal Union, and shortly after to comply

with those regulations issued a 2½d. stamp, red brown, and 4d. blue typographically printed by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd. from their general keyplate DIE 1 (Queen Victoria), on Crown CC watermarked paper, perforated 14. The 1d. lilac in the same design, appeared in the following year. In 1882, the 1d. 2½d. 4d. blue, and in 1883, the 6d., green were issued in the same design, Crown CA watermarked, and perforated 14.

To provide halfpenny stamps in 1883, the 1d. of the lithographed issue was bisected, and used without surcharge, as was also the 1d. lilac CC and CA Queen Victoria. Later in the year (Sept. 4, 1883), the latter CA was overprinted "Nevis ½d." in black, or in violet, vertically twice on each stamp, to permit division and use in halves, each as a ½d stamp.

The ½d. green, 1d. carmine, 2½d. ultramarine, and 4d. gray, Queen Victoria, were issued in 1884; the 6d. chestnut brown, in 1888, and the 1s. lilac, in 1890. All four DIE 1 on CA paper.

(c) Postal Survey, Leeward Islands Federation, 1890-1903.

On October 31, 1890, a common series of Postage & Revenue stamps was placed on sale at all Post Offices in the Leeward Islands Federation superseding the individual Presidential series. This series authorised by order of February 3, 1890, comprised eight denominations (½d. to 5s.), typographically printed by Messrs. Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., on Crown CA watermarked paper, perforated 14. The design (DLR—1888 Postage & Revenue keyplate) is of a small profile portrait of Queen Victoria, facing left, inscribed at the left "Postage", and at the right "& Revenue". "Leeward Islands" and the denomination were added at top and bottom, respectively, from separate duty plates. These Victorian stamps were first printed from plate 1. About 1896, plate 2 was brought into use for all denominations. Plate 3 was used about 1899, for the ½d. 1d. and 2½d. Specialised collections of St. Kitts-Nevis should show specimens of this and subsequent Federal issues,

cancelled at an office in the Presidency.

A reduction in the letter rate within the Colony, and from the several Presidencies to the United Kingdom, was notified in "The Leeward Islands Gazette" of December 4, 1890.

REDUCED RATES OF POSTAGE.

It is hereby notified for general information that on and after the 1st. January next, the postage to the United Kingdom will be two pence halfpenny per half ounce instead of four pence, and that the postage in the Colony of the Leeward Islands from any one place within the Colony to any other will be one penny per half ounce.

FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary.

In celebration of the sixtieth year of Queen Victoria's reign, her Diamond Jubilee as Queen, all denominations of the Federal series, were issued July 22 1897, overprinted with the design of a buckled garter inscribed "Sexagenary 1897" enclosing monogram device of the letters "VRI". On Christmas Day, 1898, penny postage to the United Kingdom, and the British Empire generally, was made effective.

Queen Victoria died 22 January,

1901, and a new design showing the head of the reigning Sovereign, King Edward VII, was prepared in similar key plate form, for use by most of the Crown Colonies. Prior to issue of stamps printed therefrom for the Leeward Islands Federation, large existing surplus stocks of the un-needed 4d., 6d., and 7d. denominations: 37,200 of each; were surcharged "One Penny" and distributed to the Presidencies for issue August 11, 1902. The surcharge on the 4d. and 6d., was printed in two lines, upper and lower case letters, from heavy faced "pica" type, similarly on the 7d. from heavy faced 9-point Roman. A thin bar on the first two, and one short and heavy on the last, cancelled the original denomination. Stamps of the King Edward new series, were issued during September-October, 1902. The 4d. and 7d. denominations were omitted, and those of 2d., 3d., and 2/6 added. The period 1899-1903 brought restoration of individual series, for the respective Presidencies; beginning with the Virgin Islands; for issue, sale and use concurrently in the Presidency of issue, with stamps of the Federal series common to all.

Jamaica King's Head Types 1927 - 29.

Specially Written As Informative Matter For The Exhibition Of Jamaica Stamps At The United States General Post Office At Washington.

These stamps in more or less conventional designs, were prepared and printed by Messrs. de la Rue & Co., Ltd., on white wove paper water-marked Crown and script CA multiple, and are perforated 14 by comb machine. Each was described and announced for issue by notice in the Government organ, the "Gazette".

The 3d. was issued 3rd March, 1927. Printed by typography in sheets of 240 stamps, i.e. four panes each of 60 subjects arranged in rows of 6 horizontally by 10 vertically. The sheet is divided laterally in equal halves, by a strip of paper about the

height of one of the stamps in width, and as this is perforated in the process of perforating the stamps, the resulting pieces are each about the size of one of the stamps. The quartering is effected by narrow vertical strips of paper called gutters, that vertically divide the panes from each other, and the whole is surrounded by margins, about "1/2" in width. Two plates are used for each lateral group of 120 stamps, i.e., a key plate for the central design of the head, and a special name and duty plate that serves for the frame, and to identify the stamps with the Colony issuing

it. To obtain printings in sheets of 240 stamps, two key plates are clamped together, and used as one; similar action provides the frame. The whole design is very similar to that used for the Jamaica Georgians of 1912-19, and for Georgian issues for several other colonies, including Nyasaland for which it was first used.

Printings that have come to the Island, show that Head key plates 1 and 3 have been used in combination, as these show those numbers each twice on each sheet, viz., 1 on the upper margin above the 2nd stamp of the first row first pane, and again above the 5th stamp first row second pane; 3 below the 2nd stamp last row, third pane, and again below the 5th stamp last row fourth pane, thus each pane receives a plate number. In all but one printing that has been seen, plate 1 is the upper member of the combination, plate 3 the lower, but the fourth pane of a sheet has been seen that shows plate 1, indicating that in that printing the order was reversed, i.e., plate 3 may be inferred to have been the upper member, and plate 1 definitely was the lower. It would seem therefore that four plates must exist or have existed, each of 120 set, two with the number 1 each respectively on their upper and lower margins, and the two with the number 3 similarly positioned, and if that be so, the question arises, why the combination of different numbers?, as it would be possible to obtain printings in 240 set, each showing only the number 1 or 3, in the desired or necessary positions on each sheet.

The 1d., 1½d., and 9d. in less conventional design, are reminiscent of the famous 1d Black, the first postage stamp of Great Britain, and of more recent emissions such as that of Cayman Island, 1921, very effective because of their simplicity. All these denominations are recess printed from single line engraved working plates, in sheets of 120 subjects divided by narrow gutters into panes of 60 each, arranged in rows of 6 horizontal by 10 vertical, the whole surrounded by the usual margins. There are register marks on each margin, positioned

on the top and bottom margins between the third and fourth stamps, first and last rows of each pane, and on the dividing gutter at top and bottom, i.e., three on each margin top and bottom. At the sides similar marks appear between the fifth and sixth rows. This profusion of marks, eight in all, rather suggests that their purpose is to guide the perforation, as the stamps are printed from single line engraved plates, of subjects very closely set, and because of the shrinkage of paper that usually follows printing.

The 1d. was issued 15th March, 1929, and like nearly all stamps printed in shades of red. there is a wide variety of shades. Early in 1935 or late in 1934, printing from a new die was discovered. The chief difference may be observed under the word "JAMAICA"; in printings from Die 1 the lines of shading are straight; from Die 2 the lines are cross hatched. The margin of whole sheets printed from Die 2, shows the numeral 2 printed in the colour of the stamp, below the 59th stamp of the second or right pane, in addition to the marks that have been described.

The 1½d. was issued 18th January 1929, and the 9d. on 5th March of the same year.

"Jamaica Pictorials" 1932.

These stamps were prepared from pen and ink drawings by a local artist, who copied from photographs of the scenes depicted. Put to tender by the Crown Agents at London, proofs were submitted with the tender, and Messrs Waterlow and Sons secured the contract. Their proofs showed frames added by them, and were as they appear on the issued stamps. All three are recess printed from two line engraved plates of 60 subjects; each respectively of the vignette and frame; on white wove paper watermarked Crown and script CA multiple, in one sheet surrounded with margins about ½" in width, blank except for the imprint of the printers, that is shown on the lower margin. The perforation gauges 12½ effected by single line machine. The designs of the 2d. and

2½d. are upright rectangular in format, measuring 24½ x 30½ mm, arranged in rows of 6 horizontal by 10 vertical. That of the 6d. is treated in transverse rectangular style, measures 30½ x 24½ mm, arranged 10 horizontal by 6 vertical. Each was officially described in the Government organ, the "Gazette", and announced for issue on dates that will be shown later.

2d. "Columbus Cove." The edition published on 13th October, 1932, announced this stamp for issue on 4th November of the same year. The subject of the design is a small bay or cove, on the north coast of the Island in the Parish of St. Ann, and is passed by anyone, visitors specially, who may make the tour from Kingston to Montego Bay, via Moneague and St. Ann's Bay.

Christopher Columbus sailed from America on his last voyage, on 1st May, 1503. His fleet of two ships "Capitan" and "Santiago de Palos" were in very unseaworthy condition, quite too unsafe to venture the Atlantic crossing to Spain. He hoped to make Hispaniola to obtain help, and effect very necessary repairs there. He passed the Cayman Islands naming them "Las Tortugas"; a title still familiar to them; but was unfortunate enough to encounter a storm off the west coast of Cuba, and was forced to run for Jamaica, where he arrived 24th June at what is known as St. Ann's Bay, but not finding water there, carried on to "Don Christopher's Cove" close by, the "Columbus Cove" as we know it. There he beached his leaking, worm riddled, storm beaten ships, turning them into land living quarters for himself and followers, some 230 men. They found the natives unfriendly, from whom they could not readily obtain food, but eventually through the efforts of his son Fernando, and activities of a loyal and faithful follower, Diego Mendez, some measure of confidence was established, and the natives were won over. The hardships of the situation were not much lessened, as while food was less difficult to get sickness fell on them laying low Don Christopher himself. Lack of occupation and the difficulties of existence,

gave rise to a mutiny led by Francisco de Porras, captain of the "Santiago de Palos", while Columbus lay sick. He recognised that the only hope lay in obtaining help from Hispaniola, and publicly called for volunteers to make the venture. His call was not responded to, and Mendez undertook to try in the only available means of transport, an open dugout or burnt out canoe. It was arranged that he should be accompanied by Bartolome Fiesco in another vessel, to return and report safe arrival of Mendez, while Mendez should seek and obtain the desired help, then proceed to Spain to report to Their Majesties, with a letter entrusted to him by Columbus. On 2nd January, 1504, while Columbus was still ill, the mutineers siezed the ships, stores and ten canoes that Columbus had secured, in which some of them endeavoured to follow Mendez to Hispaniola. They failed, and although other efforts were made, they were compelled on each occasion to return.

*Mendez's heroic voyage was successful, as in March there arrived a ship bringing Escobar, a messenger from Ovanda who handed to Columbus a flask of wine, a piece of bacon and a letter that informed with regret, that no ship could be spared to come to his aid. Columbus stoically bore the disappointment, sent a letter to Ovanda requesting assistance, and saw Escobar leave. He sought to pacify the mutineers, by sending word to Porras of the arrival of Escobar, and offered pardon to those who would return and submit. Porras replied with a very definite "NO", stating that he would return when he wished, and take what he wanted. He did try on 19th May, but was met, defeated and captured by Bartolome Fiesco; who had evidently made safe return from his journey with Mendez to Hispaniola. With his usual gentleness, Columbus pardoned the rebels, even sparing the life of

* Mendez's voyage to Hispaniola is depicted on the 1c stamp, issue of 1890, Republica Dominicana, Scott's type A9. No. 100.

Porras, who had earned the sentence of death.

At long last, on 28th June 1504, after a twelvemonth of suffering, anxiety and trial, the Great Admiral sailed from Columbus Cove and Jamaica, in a ship commanded by Diego Salcedo, that had been procured and sent by Mendez, escorted by another sent by Ovanda, who apparently realising that Columbus was still a force to be reckoned with, decided that he would make a ship available.

24d. "Near Castleton". The edition of the "Gazette" published 18th February, 1932, announced this stamp for issue on 5th March of that year. The subject of the design is a view that is seen by many thousands of visitors, who go to the Island each year. Castleton is but 19 miles from the capital, Kingston, and is the object of a very popular motor ride. The Government botanical gardens on the banks of the Wag Water river, are situated there. They are kept in very good condition, and are attractive.

Approaching Castleton from Kingston, the view is readily recognised, and actually is of a property known as "Brandon Hill", the house of which is seen on the right of the stamp. In the central foreground is the Wag Water river, crossed by a bridge. The river flows north, crossing almost the entire breadth of the Island, and is so near to Kingston on the south, that a dam less than 13 miles from that city, impounds its waters for use as part of its supply. The scene is rightly regarded as a beauty spot and as such is recorded on the stamp.

ject of this design is a view that should be familiar to most travellers, who may make the tour from Kingston to Port Antonio, via Morant Bay, and is at a point about 13 miles from that town. The stamp was issued on 4th February, 1932, announced in the "Gazette" of the same date.

The scene brings itself to one's attention when going to Port Antonio by the suggested route. The vehicle in which one is travelling, descends a hill, negotiating several bends, twists and curves in the road to do so, crosses a bridge, turns sharply to the right and north. At once a magnificent land-sea-scape opens up before the traveller, that causes wonderment at its beauty. As portrayed on the stamp, on the right is the river, the far bank lined with groves of cocoanut palms, the near bank bound by the road. On the river, men of the peasant type may be seen fishing from canoes, hauling on a net for their catch of fish, bringing to the surface a fish pot made of native bamboo, with its toll of lobsters, cray and other fish. In the near distance, a line of surf and spray marks the activity of confluence river with the sea; a little further out and one may see a small sailing sloop, coastwise bound; still further out a fruit steamer bound to or from Port Antonio, for or with a cargo of bananas destined for America, and beyond all this, a sea horizon that is marvellous, especially so if the time be early morning. The cool morning air, gentle waves and azure sky, tinted beyond the skill of the greatest artist, the back ground of green hills; the wealth of natural beauty in its God given setting that surrounds, evokes a sense of subdued exhilaration, humble gratitude that one is alive, is able to see and appreciate it all.

6d. "Priestman's River." The sub-

The Early Hong Kong Post Office.

REV. C. S. MORTON.

If one hundred years ago, anyone had tried to discover the whereabouts of Hong Kong by studying a map, they would not have found it. The island was known to British sailors, as a place where fresh water might be obtained, and also as a great resort of pirates and smugglers, one smugglers' path being known at Petticoat String Lane.

Hong Kong had its beginnings owing to the first Chinese Opium War, when a naval base of operations was needed. These early military letters are rather interesting. The island and harbour of Hong Kong was ceded to the British Crown, 26th January, 1841, and this was reconfirmed by the Treaty of Nanking signed on 29th August 1842. No attempt was made for some months to establish a settlement, and letters were written on board the ships lying off port.

Gradually firms at Macao opened depots at Hong Kong, so that it was necessary to establish "a particularly small building cocked up on a little hill near the road" and label it "The Post Office". It was first opened for public use on 15th April, 1842.

No money was taken, else the Post Office would have been burgled nightly. A writer states (1843/46) that the town at Hong Kong was only kept under, because of the swarms of thieves and robbers, by a strong armed police force, and ladies were not then permitted to live there, as it was much too rough and unhealthy a place for families to reside, so that the families of foreign merchants congregated at beautiful Macao. Letters were sent by any chance merchant vessel going to India, and thence taken by the Australian Mail Packet to England. These letters generally bear the Calcutta, Madras or Bombay "ship letter" receiving mark, and frequently have stamped upon them the name of the merchant firm that forwarded the letter to In-

dia. Accounts were settled every quarter with these merchants firms.

When Hong Kong appeared likely to be a permanent British settlement, the G. P. O. London decided that it would take over the control, and in October, 1843 sent out postal date stamps, and Mr. T. J. Scales arrived in the Colony 21st March, 1844 to take charge of the Post Office.

Mr. Scales had a warrant in his pocket stating as Postmaster, he had power to enforce the British statute laws against the sending or receiving letters by ships, excepting through the Post Office. In theory this was excellent, but in practice nothing could prevent a Captain strolling up to have a chat with a friend, and leaving behind, accidentally of course, a few letters. The Postmaster confessed he could not condone the practice of the merchants using the captains as mail-carriers, but he would have to wink at it.

Probably for this reason G. P. O. letters are rather difficult to obtain now. Towards the close of the eighteen fifties, paid letters were stamped with a large 4, 6, or 1/ in red to denote the postage paid.

The introduction of postage stamps, was due to the endeavours of that energetic Hong Kong Governor, Sir Hercules Robinson, who with his dispatch to the Colonial Office of 9th March, 1861 enclosed a pen and ink sketch of the designs of the stamps considered suitable. He stressed the importance of simplicity. The designs were approved and very carefully copied and the stamps printed by Messrs. de La Rue & Co. They were issued in the Colony on 8th December, 1862 and found at first little favour. The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper, and it is a question amongst specialists as to whether the second consignment of stamps which soon followed, was printed on unwatermarked or water-

marked (Cr. C. C.) paper. Personally, I think the second consignment was printed on both papers—some sheets on watermarked and others on unwatermarked paper.

Stamps on early covers are scarce, probably because Hong Kong being the only place in the Far East at that date, that had postage stamps, schoolboys soon saw to it that these desirable acquisitions were soon soaked off the envelopes. The Hong Kong postmasters were much bothered for postage stamps, especially for the stamps of Thibet to which the official answer was:—

"Dear Sir, I can as soon supply you with the stamps of The Moon as the stamps of Thibet". They were also much annoyed at receiving very many requests for obsolete issues, when every well conducted P. O. clears away all out of date property, to make way for new improvements.

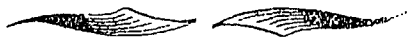
Owing to its geographical position the postal rates between Hong Kong and other countries were frequently revised, and soon had a rather lengthy list of values. To meet this difficulty decimal currency was decided and the values least in demand were surcharged 5 or 10 cents.

Hong Kong is remarkable for its lack of pictorial stamps, the reason being the Chinese dislike of any change. The stamp design is as sta-

ble as the British Parliament, and a native would not take readily to any alteration. The balance of scales on the "Postage Dues" soon convinces a native what is wrong with the letter, and to-day the lower values are issued in millions every year.

Postal Agencies were established in 1844 at the Treaty Ports of Amoy, Ningpo, Canton, Shanghai and Foo-chow, and placed under the care of the British Consul. In 1866 these and other Treaty Ports were supplied with Hong Kong postage stamps. Each Port had a special numerical killer assigned to it, and these are rather eagerly sought after. The one lettered N2 (Nagasaki) being very scarce. These numerical killers disappeared about 1885 and were succeeded by date stamps obliterating the postage stamps. Japan very much made good her sole right to conduct her own P. O., and the British Agencies were all withdrawn: but in China the conditions were so unsettled that it was not till 1922 that Hong Kong stamps had no further postal franking power.

As in a collection of Jamaican postage stamps, so in one of Hong Kong it is the postmarks that fascinate, and if one has little variety of postage stamp design, what one loses on the round-about one gains on the ewings.



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"Care of a Stamp Collection in the Tropics."

H. COOK.

That title is borrowed from an article by Mr. D. S. M. Clark, that appeared in our last edition. Editorial comment made then, directed attention to the article, promised further comment in this edition, and invited individual members and readers to state their experiences to the editor. We hoped to be able to collate, relate and compile the sum of those experiences in this article, in manner that would have been helpful to all, but response to the invitation has been exactly NIL. There is compelling wonder, amazement at that deplorable lack of interest, indifference to a matter that is a permanent and insidious danger to each and every collection of stamps held in the tropics. It is very real, as many collectors know to their cost, not a few of them among our local members, who bewail the loss of valuable stamps, not few in number, as well as others of less value, yet they have made no sort of effort to support the request for detail, that possibly could have been worked into a whole that they would have found very useful. That disinclination to help, the neglect to make use of the offer to co-ordinate and publish information, is so very discouraging that one doubts the worth of trying to help those, who decline to help themselves, but their primacy of self, is not the policy that can be followed in any successful philatelic society or publication. Those are channels through which member collectors seek help, through which it is the object to provide mutual help, something that some of us need to recognise and practise. For those reasons we are bound to recognise, that there are some members and readers, junior and inexperienced, who have little or nothing, to offer as information, and it is for those that this article is written, certainly not for the many who could have helped and have not.

It is well to point out that Mr. Clark's comment was helpful, but written as single personal experience. He was not dogmatic, and this is written in similar strain. To be dogmatic, the uses and methods would need to have stood the test of time, giving stable and reliable results over numbers of years, something that this writer cannot claim for the methods he proposes to describe, but such results as have been observed, limited by the time factor, are encouraging enough to suggest the probability of success and reliability.

The danger of great and far reaching importance, mentioned by Mr. Clark, is the brown stain that attacks our stamps and eventually destroys them. It is known throughout the tropics, and is not unknown in temperate climates, England for instance, where it is called "foxing", but before we try to deal with it in detail, we should know something about the stamps it attacks, which of them are most susceptible to infection, and of the paper from which stamps are made. The writer's experience places the order of resistance to attack, more or less as follows:—

Used stamps from which the gum has been completely removed, have higher resistance than mint, and the various papers used follow the order of the mint:—

Mint Stamps. Old issues on ordinary white paper, the Jamaica pines for instance.

Ordinary coloured paper, modern issues and old, Jamaica Fiscals for instance.

Coloured chalky paper.

White chalky paper.

Paper, you will have noted, has its influence on the resistance of the printed stamp to attack, and as that is the base on which our hobby is built, and the preservation of it in the form of stamps, is the object of

stamp collecting, it is necessary to know something of its manufacture, to understand a little about phenomena that puzzle, and leave us almost helpless to defend and preserve our treasures. Paper making is a highly complex and technical subject, that cannot possibly be covered in the scope of such an article as this, but we can learn in a very general way something of its composition, and of the processes that manufacture it. Fibres of various kinds, all of vegetable origin, are digested into pulp, with the aid of sodium oxide, sodium sulphite and sulphurous acid. The resulting conglomerate mass is cellulose in its crude state. Bleaching is effected by addition of mixtures principally of calcium chloride, and calcium hypochlorite, that create chlorine which in turn releases oxygen. Acidity is neutralized by additions of sulphite or hyposulphite of soda. The "cellulose" is "loaded" with china clay, which in its particular condition of "grittiness" and degree of quantity, is more or less responsible for what we know as "chalky paper", but that effect may be obtained also by "coating", yet another process. At this stage, colouring matter, if that be desired, is added. The fluid mass is passed under pressure through a strainer to remove such solids as may not be in suspense, on to a mould that allows the liquid to drain off, coagulates the solids, and by designs that are soldered to the mould, give the watermark. The form of mould used, determines the type of paper produced, viz., laid, wove, batonne, etc. After drying, the sheet of paper taken from the mould is absorbent, i.e. blotting paper, will not give good impressions from ink, and to ensure that it will, it is "sized" by treating the surface with a composition of gelatine and/or resin in solution. Subjected to further drying and pressure, the sheet may be trimmed to remove the deckle edge, and is ready for printing. Printing is done with inks of various kinds, usually chemical in composition. Gumming is done by painting the unprinted side with dextrine, i.e., a dilute composition of starch and nitric acid, with

or without hydrochloric acid or oxalic acid.

That in a very general way gives some idea of how paper is made, and to very small extent, how stamps are produced. Note that the raw material used for paper, vegetable fibres, wood pulp and clay, each in itself is an active host for bacteria, that in every day life may be observed as visible fungoid growths. Note also that manufactured paper, the stamps from which they are made, and the conditions under which we keep those stamps, together provide the factors necessary for successful culture of bacteria, viz., paper provides a gelatinous culture bed, because of the gum and size used; we keep our collections, because we have to, in locked drawers and/or cupboards and so create one of the required laboratory conditions, i.e., freedom from light; our climate does the rest, providing both humidity and temperature. Against that theory is the fact, that in manufacture of paper, sundry chemicals inimical to life of any kind are used, but their content in the paper is overlaid by the gum and size, and in at least one instance activity is neutralized, possibly all are made quiescent to enable survival of the composite. In any event, we in Jamaica know one vegetable bacillus, that resists the action of chemicals, that of Panama disease, and in addition the brown mould has been identified as fungoid. The bacillus is not visible to the naked eye, it belongs to Pasteur's "world of the infinitely small", we know of its existence only after it has attacked our stamps, and the effect can be seen. Usually it appears as one or more brown specks at, or on the teeth of the perforation, often on the gummed side of the stamp, so that if it be mounted, unsuspected damage may be in progress, that is not discovered until it is well away, the condition perhaps hopeless or very nearly so. The printed face of the stamp is seldom attacked, but that is not unknown. The brown specks spread and merge until ruin is complete, all the size and gum are destroyed, and the stamp is little recognisable for what it was. Pages of

books are attacked in similar manner, but there are some, that seem to escape or are immune, particularly so in the instances of old editions. The writer possesses a copy of the "Jamaica Almanack", edition of 1796, now 140 years old, not carefully preserved through the years, the pages of which made of coarse and heavy paper, apparently with very little size, that show no signs of "foxing", are fairly white and clean. A later edition, that of 1869, printed on smoother and better paper, sized as compared with the "matt" condition of the former, shows general brown discolouration, such as is associated with the process of ageing, but there is no sign of "foxing".

In the fight against the brown mould over a long number of years, the writer has tried sundry experiments and expedients, all without reliable or permanent success. The last required several pounds in money, many hours of spare time, and unlimited patience, to unmount his collection, place each stamp in an appropriate "pochette", seal with paraffin wax to make it airtight, and remount. The result was disappointing; in several instances the pochette warped and crinkled, crushing the enclosed stamp to conformity with its contortions; the pochettes became discoloured, giving the enclosed stamps, dull, dingy, shopworn and unpleasing appearance, and in not a few instances brown mould was present. The pochettes were of French manufacture, said to be the best, and of course the last named condition, presence of brown mould is not attributed to them, as the stamps so affected may have been infected before they were enveloped.

The writer sought more than once to interest and enlist the aid, of collectors and philatelists known to be practising bacteriologists, chemists, and others, but in no instance was he vouchsafed the courtesy of reply, each just pinched the stamp of the prepaid, self addressed cover provided, and let it go at that. Reading an article in an English magazine, descriptive of the work done at the British Museum, to treat old prints that

showed "fox" marks, he wrote the responsible official, supplied a questionnaire that is here reproduced, with the replies of that generously courteous gentleman.

(Q.) May thymol be used in vapour to sterilise postage stamps, against infection by brown mould, without damage to the colours?

(Ans.) Yes.

(Q.) May chloramine T be used in solution, to remove spots created by brown mould, from postage stamps, without damage to the colours?

(Ans.) Yes.

(Q.) If the answer to 2 above be yes, what is the formula for the solution?

(Ans.) Two grammes in 100 cms. of distilled water.

(Q.) If the answers to 1 and 2 above be yes, presumably where fast colours are concerned, do those affirmatives apply also to stamps printed in colours from aniline inks?

(Ans.) As aniline dyes differ so much in composition, we cannot safely reply with an absolute affirmative. In such doubtful cases, try at first at a corner of the stamp, with an almost dry, fine brush of camel's hair. Fox marks indicate destroyed size, so if the middle of the spot be touched with an almost dry brush, enough of the chemical will be absorbed into the paper to remove the stain, but take care not to allow the liquid to spread over the face of the stamp.

NOTE. If treatment of album leaves is desired, melt thymol crystals into some sheets of clean white blotting paper, by using hot iron. The paper should then be interleaved between the album leaves, and the book kept under a weight for a few days. That will sterilise the book

and there is no risk of damage to the stamps.

That information, based as it is on pretty nearly exact knowledge and experience, should be very valuable to collectors resident in the tropics. The writer is applying the directions for sterilization, and has reason to believe that the processes described, will have satisfactory results. Thymol crystals may be bought at Kingston at about 3/ the ounce, but Chloramine T has not been found in pure state; compounded with something else, it has not been used. Thymol crystals scattered through the drawer or cupboard, used to store the stamps, has been found definitely to keep all insects out.

The other points commented on by Mr. Clark, are all worthy of serious attention and application. The writer supports him in efficacy, and necessity for a jacket of common, unbleached brown calico, for the covers of albums. Usually these are of card covered with varnished cloth, and appear to be very toothsome meals

for both roaches, and the grub that bores its way through and through. Real full, half, leather and the best of Morocco bindings, offer no sort of protection against the latter danger, but cloth without any dressing in it, does. The disaster that frequently visits lots of and single stamps, from Canada, America and other foreign countries, viz., close adherence to each other and/or to anything to which they may contact, entailing at best loss of the gum, may be avoided by lightly rubbing the gummed side of the stamp, with paraffin wax.

LIGHTLY is stressed, for the reason that the wax has an oil content, and if it be used in profusion, the oil will penetrate the gum and destroy the stamp. For the same reason, any stamp treated in the manner suggested, must not be subjected to even moderate heat, such as may be generated from indirect rays of the sun, proximity to an ordinary electric bulb. Little heat is necessary to set the oil free, with resulting damage to the stamp.



Nassau Pioneer Air Mail, 1919.

HARRY E. HUBER.

On Tuesday afternoon, January 28, 1919, two seaplanes (Lt. L. H. Cummings, U. S. N., in command), from the U. S. Naval Air station at Miami, Fla., flew to Nassau, New Providence in the Bahamas, in a little more than 2½ hours. The Nassau "Guardian" of January 29, describes the arrival of these planes in the following words:

"The long anticipated yet entirely unexpected happened yesterday afternoon, when two American aircraft from Miami, Fla., hove in sight from the west. Word reached the city over the telephone from Old Fort, twelve miles away, that they were coming towards Nassau, and almost as quickly the buzz of their propellers could be heard. As the aeroplanes came, immediately there was great excitement and the streets and yards were alive with people gazing at the novel sight; crowds thronged the waterside and eagerly watched every movement of the bird boats. The port officer and the commandant met the airmen at the western esplanade, the former boarding one of the planes and piloting her to safe moorings. On landing at Rawson Square there was happily present to meet them an officer of the British Royal Air Force, in the person of Lt. Sidney Farrington. After having visited the American Consulate the officers—four in number—proceeded to the Government House, where they spent the remainder of the afternoon.

"The distance from Miami—about a hundred and sixty miles—was covered in about one hundred and sixty minutes, and the course was practically a straight one. Lt. Cummings of U. S. Naval Air Service was in command. The visitors leave for Miami early to-morrow morning, taking a mail."

The Herald's correspondent, writing from Nassau on January 30th, describes the "liveliest excitement" caused by "the discovery of two hydroplanes hovering over the city."

NASSAU IN TUMULT OVER FIRST VISIT OF HYDROPLANES.

Business Halts and even Judge in Wig and Crown adjourns Court to view sight.

Nassau, Bahamas, January 30th.—On Tuesday afternoon, Nassau, quieter than usual at this time of the year, owing to the absence of American tourists on account of the war, with the Colonial Hotel shut up tight and "nothing doing", was

suddenly awakened into liveliest excitement by the discovery of two hydroplanes hovering over the city. The effect as the droning buzz of motors penetrated every ear and made everybody look skyward, was extraordinary.

Pedestrians, drays, cabs and trucks stopped wherever they happened to be. Hundreds of persons rushed into the streets, many hundreds more filled every window. Pedestrians and cart drivers left their safes wide open and shopkeepers their cash boxes unguarded to gaze at a sight never before seen in Nassau.

As the two hydroplanes, after graceful manoeuvring, came to rest in the harbour everybody rushed to the waterside, and Bay Street was so deserted a battery of machine guns might have fired through it without hitting a person.

Even the Supreme Court of the Colony, which was sitting, abruptly adjourned, and then was seen the strange spectacle, surely unparalleled in the history of the British Empire, of one of His Majesty's judges in all the glory of wig and scarlet robe, supported by the learned Attorney General on one hand, and the crier of the court on the other, gazing like everybody else at the novel sight above them.

"The hydroplanes belonged to one of the squadrons with headquarters at Miami, Fla. They made the journey from that place to Nassau, a distance as the crow flies of 130 miles, in two and a half hours. The officers had a warm reception from the large crowd, and after paying their respects to Mr. William F. Doty, the American Consul, they were escorted to the club, where every hospitable attention was shown them. A dance was given for the officers at one of the residences of the city, and the next night they were entertained at dinner, at the Government House by His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Allardyce, K.C.M.G., and Lady Allardyce. The Governor, in the morning, went up in one of the hydroplanes, for a short flight over the city.

"Arrival of the hydroplanes was a historic occasion for the Bahamas and has demonstrated the feasibility of establishing what has recently been much talked of—an aerial mail service between Miami and Nassau. Should this project be carried into effect soon it would be the first foreign postal air service between the United States and another country.

"This account of the visit of the hydroplanes is sent to the 'Herald' by the first mail ever carried by air from a British Colony to the United States."

Two bags of mail (about 600 letters and post cards) were flown from Nas-

sau to Miami, on Jan. 30th. Only the ordinary postage rates of 2d. on letters, and 1d. on post cards, were charged. The mail was postmarked "Nassau, Bahamas" within a single lined circle, 25 mm., with "29 JAN. 19" across the centre in one line, or "30 JAN. 19"; on some letters both dates appear.

Two special markings (neither of which was applied by the G. P. O.) appear on some of this mail, though letters and cards are known with neither.

One cachet is in three lines, "FIRST TRIP—AEROPLANE—NASSAU TO MIAMI" (red), and the other, in two lines, "BY AIR SERVICE—NASSAU TO MIAMI" (black).

On receipt of this mail at Miami, some of it was backstamped "Miami, Fla. JAN 30 5 PM 1919"; curiously, the "5" is inverted. Letters and cards are known to have been carried which were neither cacheted, at Nassau, nor backstamped at Miami.

From the "Miami Metropolis" of January 31, 1919, the following is taken:

LETTERS FROM NASSAU BY AIR.

The first serial mail delivery between Nassau, New Providence, Bahama Is-

lands, and Miami has been made, two seaplanes from the Miami naval air station bringing to this city two sacks of mail from Nassau, where the machines had flown from Dinner Key. The two planes were in command of Lt. Cummings of the naval air station.

It is expected that regular air mail service will be established between this city and the capital of the Bahamas, with seaplanes from the local naval air station used as carriers.

A letter from the Miami Chamber of Commerce, dated February 21, 1919, contains this statement, regarding this mail flight:

"The trip was made simply for a demonstration that the establishment of a route between the two points was feasible . . . It is our understanding that no definite contract has been made as yet between the United States and the English Government for the carrying of mail by aeroplanes . . . You are probably well aware of the fact that the question of entering into a contract between the two countries is a matter that must go through a lot of red tape, and we presume that in the very near future the line will be established."

January 30, 1919.

Nassau to Miami, Fla. (600 letters and post cards).

Rate: 2d. letters, 1d. post cards.

Postmarked: "Nassau, Bahamas, 20 JAN
Backstamped: "Miami, Fla. JAN 30 5
PM 1919" ("5" is inverted).

The Fortunes Of Bartholomew Portugues.

D. S. M. CLARK.

The Mid-Seventeenth Century found hordes of hardy adventurers, drawn from all the nations of Europe, gravitating to the Caribbean bent on making life a burden to the Spanish Colonists in the New World. Some were fired by the fierce hatred of religious bigotry, some by a spirit of vengeance, but all by the lust for loot.

The loose, rough and ready discipline of the Brethren of the Coast, who recognized no law save their own desires and no statutes but their own articles, which at most applied only

while "on the account", appealed to independent spirits, many of whom had recently chafed under the bondage of military discipline. Runaway bondsman and renegade priest, nobleman and disbanded soldier, artisan and courtier, men of all classes eagerly embraced the profession of buccaneering, often, from pride of family or other reasons, under an alias, their real names being unknown, even to their comrades in arms.

Such a one was Bartholomew Portugues, so named after the land of his birth, whose fame has come down

to us from the pen of Alexander Olivier Exquemelin, himself a buccaneer, not so much for acts of bloodshed and cruelty as is usually the case with pirate captains, but for a deed of daring and endurance probably never equalled before or since and well worthy of a better cause.

In common with many others of his calling Bartholomew Portugues seems to have made his headquarters in Jamaica, whence he set sail in a small vessel carrying four guns and a crew of thirty men for a cruise in Cuban waters. Fortune favoured him for he soon fell in with a great ship bound for Havana. Nothing daunted by the tremendous odds against him, for the Spaniard boasted a crew of seventy and carried twenty guns, the Portuguese attacked with vigour but met with such strong resistance that he was forced to draw off. On taking stock of the situation and finding that he had sustained no serious losses, he renewed the attack with such fury that he eventually triumphed and found himself in possession of a rich prize, her cargo consisting of coconuts (probably cacao beans since we are told they are "the chiefest ingredient of that rich liquor called chocolate") and 70,000 pieces of eight, having lost ten men killed, and four wounded.

After this stroke of luck he attempted to return to Jamaica but was prevented by contrary winds, so continued cruising along the coast of Cuba where he had the misfortune to encounter three large ships of Spain from which it was impossible to escape and to whom he appears to have surrendered without a struggle, not surprising when we consider the depletion of his crew.

The vessel on which the pirates were in durance became separated from her consorts during a violent storm two days later but managed to make the port of Campeche which was particularly unfortunate for the buccaneers for there Bartholomew Portugues was speedily identified by the worthy citizens "as being him who had committed innumerable excessive insolences upon these coasts, not only infinite murders and rob-

beries but also lamentable incendiaries", a serious indictment to face especially when coupled with the fact that Bartholomew had on a previous occasion been a prisoner in their hands and had escaped. The magistrates were particularly anxious that he should not repeat the performance so left him on board ship as being a safer place than the prison on shore, while a gibbet was being erected on which the buccaneer leader was to be hanged the following morning without trial. It was probably considered a wasteful formality which could well be dispensed with the verdict being a foregone conclusion. Bartholomew learned of this "future tragedy" perhaps from a guard who taunted his fallen foe, and seems to have felt no desire to play the principal role in the coming drama.

Like many another seaman, Bartholomew could not swim so he spent the day in preparing two empty wine jars by plugging them securely so that they could be used as floats to aid him ashore that night. He was, perhaps, carelessly guarded, but it is probable that these jars were in the hold or cabin where he was confined for who could foresee the use to which they would be put. However, when darkness came he found that he could not elude his guard, so, having obtained a knife, perhaps from one of his companions in misfortune (of whom, by the way, we hear no more) or perhaps snatched from the belt of his victim, he stabbed the sentry, killing him instantly and what was most important, without giving the alarm. Thanks to the jars he reached shore safely and immediately took to the woods which surrounded the town. There he lay concealed in a hollow tree while the hue and cry raged about him, but after three days during which he had no food but wild herbs, the Spaniards abandoned the search, no doubt giving him up as dead for the Central American jungle was no health resort. Seeing that his foes had given up the search the Portuguese decided to strike for Golfo Triste, 120 miles away through a pathless jungle, no

small feat for a well fed, well armed expedition but almost suicidal for one lone man, weaponless and starving.

We can picture him, a ragged, emaciated figure, scarred by brambles, swollen from mosquito bites, menaced at every step by venomous reptiles, floundering through mangrove swamps, tripping over slimy roots in the dank semi-darkness of the virgin forest, stumbling wearily along, sustained by the inherent will to live and what was possibly more powerful, the thought of future revenge. We can but dimly comprehend his sufferings from thirst and hunger aggravated by the everpresent fear of discovery, with sleepless nights of despair and horror rendered more hideous by the screams of jaguars and other wild beasts.

For food he found a few shellfish, while the problem of weapons he solved when by great good fortune he discovered a piece of driftwood with some large nails, from which by dint of hard rubbing on stone he fashioned rude knives, or at least instruments with a sort of cutting edge. With these he hacked down saplings and wove them into rafts to cross the many rivers he encountered. It is likely that he followed the coastline fairly closely but one assumes he must have kept off the beach, by day at least, where such existed for as a rule mangrove swamps reach right to the water's edge, while there was the risk of being seen by a Spanish vessel beating along the coast.

A fortnight after his escape Bartholomew Portugues arrived at Del Golfo Triste having, by his resource and courage surmounted all the difficulties man and nature had set in his path. There he was fortunate in finding a pirate vessel with whose crew he was well acquainted and by whom he was welcomed with open arms. To have reached safety after such hardships would have satisfied the average person, but not so Bartholomew, the super-man. Instead of

joining his friends and sailing safely away, he demanded from them a boat and twenty men that he might return to Campeche and capture the same ship which had taken him prisoner. An ambitious scheme, surely, but one in which his comrades concurred, whether in accordance with the unwritten law of the Brethren to aid a companion in distress, or from implicit confidence in the Portuguese. Probably the latter and small wonder. At all events we find this little company at Campeche, successful in their enterprise, eight days after taking leave of their comrades.

The Spaniards, expecting no such attack, believed that the small boat was bringing contraband goods from shore and were not prepared to defend themselves, so fell easy victims to the pirate assault. Having thus at a stroke recouped his fortune, for the vessel still contained rich merchandise although much had been landed, Bartholomew set sail for Jamaica, looking forward, one supposes to a spell of revelry and debauch at Port Royal, then the richest and wickedest city in the West Indies, where pirates in a single night threw away the proceeds of a whole voyage on wine, women and song, the latter being the least costly.

Whatever his intention it was rudely frustrated for a heavy storm drove his vessel on the rocks near the Isle of Pines, South of Cuba the pirates escaping in a canoe, in which sorry manner they returned to Jamaica. That Bartholomew still retained the confidence of his supporters is evidenced by his being outfitted afresh to seek his fortune anew, but the fickle Goddess never smiled on him again. The sands of his luck had run out.

We are not told of his end but there is plenty of precedent for assuming that such an adventurous spirit as Bartholomew Portugues did not die in bed.

“Inverted ‘d’ for ‘P.’”

H. COOKE.

That borrowed caption describes an alleged variety, of the 1916 overprint, employed for Jamaica War Stamps.

In a series of articles contributed over past years to the pages of this Journal, the writer has endeavoured to persuade his readers that, and to show cause why, in their personal and individual interests, it is very necessary to think for themselves in the making of their collections, to develop and use good judgment, to guide them surely and independently of the lists offered in the so-called “Standard Catalogues”. Those publications are prepared and published by firms of dealers in stamps, whose business it is to advertise their wares, whose prime object it is to find purchasers for the goods they have to offer; definitely, none is published in the interests of the collector of stamps, and as definitely, all are published in the interests of the stamp dealing firms that publish them. Some of the snags experienced by those, who blindly have relied on those publications, have been described, and it has been shown that the fate of the present day collector, who places that reliance on them, is little if at all better. The danger is double edged, as it may arise from either or both acts of omission or commission, in the sense of neglect of something, which good judgment would indicate should not be neglected, but which may not have been “catalogued”; acceptance of something that is “catalogued”, but which similar good judgment would advise is not worthwhile, even though all the “Standard Catalogues” may list it. It has been recorded for you, with specific instances, how some items of definite merit recognised as such by those of knowledge and experience, have been ignored by the “catalogues” for years, then suddenly bloom therein at high prices, and others listed and boomed for a while have been dropped from

those lists. Development of the necessary good judgment, based on sound, reasoned opinion, is something that can be undertaken by ourselves only. Published matter in philatelic magazines, even those not controlled by trade interests, may or may not be helpful, according to the measure of inspired self interest or ignorance that may pervade them, as opposed to similar measure of good and reliable information that they may convey, but in existing conditions, those articles cannot fully, completely cover all the ground, provide all the information desired and necessary, to compass the sphere of one's activity.

This is yet another effort to exhibit to you the unwisdom, to allow your thinking to be done for you, your decisions influenced and made for you by trade interests. Quite naturally they induce you to buy, but it is you the buyer who has the choice, with whom the decision rests, to buy what you *know* to be good and sound, or in ignorance to “take a chance”, accepting what the tradesman offers, stupidly relying on his representation of the desirability of his goods.

The writer saw this alleged variety of “inverted ‘d’ for ‘P’”, in certain special War Lists published 1914-18, where with sundry others it was at first noted as a minor variety. The War List published in December, 1919; two years after reported discovery and notation as a minor item; removed it from the notes, gave it place and number in the regular series, assigned to it value, which is now placed at £6. 0. 0. The writer accepted the record as that of something authentic, was able and did search a large number of mint sheets, from the first and subsequent printings, hunted through many thousands of used specimens, all without success to locate a single copy. Still accepting it as authentic, with others he was responsible for its inclusion

in the Congress List of "Jamaica", and wholly was responsible for the further inclusion in "Jamaica" published by Gibbons in 1928. Since then several copies said to be of the variety, from different parts of the world; one came from a firm of dealers in England; have been sent to him for opinion, and in no instance has it been possible to confirm existence. He sought to buy a copy that would satisfy him, from a publisher of one of the "Standard Catalogues", but "*it was out of stock*" and never has been supplied, although this firm asks collectors for want lists, and engages that if a much wanted item is not in stock, it will hold the item open for supply, just so soon as it obtains any. Those collectors with whom the writer has been in touch, who believed that they possessed the variety, yet had doubt on the point and permitted him to see their specimens, have been provided with data that seems to have convinced them, that they possessed it not, their treasured, expensive items were fictitious, even though "Standard Catalogues" listed it as authentic and sold as such.

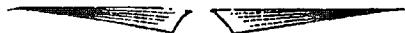
The alleged variety is recorded as appearing on the 1½d (1916) only. To one having some knowledge of the stamps and how they were produced, that fact in itself is suspicious, but certainly not a conclusive negative, as the natural query "Why not on the 1½d. and 3d.?", may be countered with the evidence of the "TAMP" variety on the 1½d., and 3d., not on the 1½d., the inserted "R" on the 1½d. and 1½d., not on the 3d., and there is the fact of at least one independent printing of the 1½d., the first in October, 1916, in which the "No Stop" appeared in profusion, a variety known also on both the 1½d. and 3d., but never on the subjects corresponding to those of the 1½d., and never in the same quantity or number per sheet. It is rather possible therefore, that variety appearing in the first printing of the 1½d., would not appear, reproduced in subsequent printings of that or any other denomination, as the type for that first was not left standing, but the alleged

variety, noted at the time of the first printing, should have appeared and been constant there throughout, something that the writer can state, it was not, as he failed to find it there, then or since, but the specimens submitted to him, and other "near" copies seen, provide the material for a little reasoned study, the detail of which is offered here to readers, with renewal of the plea for similar application by them to any stamp, offered as desirable and valuable addition to their collections, the status of which as genuine philatelic variety is not so clear, obvious and definite, as not to admit of doubt and argument.

It is necessary to remember that the type employed for this overprint, first applied in October 1916, had then been in use since the previous April for the earlier single line overprint on the 1½d and 3d., and had been so used to print upwards of 6000 sheets. The later of those single line printings, showed positive and considerable wearing of the type; the face had been flattened, so that the impression was much heavier, thicker than that of the early and first printings; there were instances of broken and distorted letters, numerous instances of missing points, serifs broken off or worn away, some letters showed the lines of their formation, irregularly thick and thin in parts. In some few instances, old letters had been removed and new thin type had been inserted. Gibbons for instance in their notes, list "narrow M", "small P"; with equal reason they could have listed "broad M", "thin W", "thin P", "broken R", etc., etc. Note also that the letters of the overprint are all capitals, viz., upper case letters, said to be 6 point Roman. The letter "D" from that case, inverted or not, cannot sanely be imagined to have semblance to "P" from the same case, and the obvious deduction of the meaning applied, in the description of this alleged variety, "Inverted 'd' for 'P'." is that the inverted 'd' is a lower case letter, as to the careless observer, that letter inverted, possibly would be accepted as a normal p' from the

lower case, but even then there are differences that, assuming letters in fairly good condition, enable identification one from the other, viz., "p" the serif crosses the foot of the vertical stroke, appears on both sides of it; "d" the serif turns back to the left from the top of the vertical stroke, appears on that side only. "p" and "d" from the lower case, show their loops almost identical in shape, so that with the latter inverted, and the former in imperfect condition, points missing, etc., reasonably one may have been mistaken for the other, but in the subject under our consideration, lower case 'd' is alleged to have done duty for upper case "P", and assuming that other points of difference have been destroyed, there are still the loops of the letters for comparison. The loop of each is discernibly distinct from the other, that of the upper case letter is wide and squat, the lower case letter shows it smaller, narrower, and taller in proportion. Should you

possess a copy of the alleged variety, take any normal specimen that shows the upper case "P" in reasonably good condition, compare your "inverted 'd' with it. If the respective loops are not identical in shape, it is probable that you have the variety, will be able to vindicate the lists in the "Standard Catalogues", and this writer will be most grateful for an opportunity to see it. All the evidence he possesses, accumulated over twenty years, is against the fact of existence, and indicates that the record of existence is merely another fiction, that those who rely on the "Standard Catalogues" accept because it is found there, and for which they are willing to pay. Yet again it is urged on you and stressed, that you undertake grave liability to place uninformed reliance, on the information published by tradesmen in their catalogues, even though these be advertised to you as "Standard" or "Great."



Jamaica Plate Numbers.

G. W. COLLETT, F.R.P.S.L.

When the Jamaica Hand Book was being written in 1928 it was intended to give a full list of the Plate Numbers to be found on the sheet of the Jamaica stamps and I gathered together a certain amount of information, but it soon became evident to the Compilers that cuts would have to be made to lessen the size of the Handbook and this portion had to be split up and incorporated in the various chapters. Most Plate Numbers are mentioned in the work but unfortunately the Plate Numbers given for the first issue of stamps are wrongly described, as they are the "Current Numbers" of Messrs. De La Rue & Co also the details of the Marginal inscriptions on the sheet of stamps is not correct.

The first sheets of Jamaica Postage Stamps contained 240 stamps arranged in 4 panes of 60, 10 horizontal rows of 6 the four panes being placed two above the other two.

The Plate Number "1" in an upright oval of solid colour measuring $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm x 10mm, surrounded by a coloured line appears twice on each sheet under the second stamp of the bottom row and above the last stamp but one of the top row for all five values.

The "Current Number" varying for each value is in colour within a rectangular frame hollowed at the corners, this also appears twice on each sheet, under the last stamp but one of the bottom row and above the second stamp of the top row.

The other inscriptions on the sheet of one penny stamps are as follows, at the left side of the two left-hand panes and at the right side of the two right hand panes, is "60 Jamaica Postage stamps 5.s" in all four instances reading upwards and below each of the four panes is Price 1d per label: 6d. per row of six:—"5s per sheet of sixty" in two lines. The sheets of the five values

have similar inscriptions except for the necessary alterations in price.

The sheet of the three pence value which was not issued until nearly three years later bore similar inscriptions but the Plate Number "1" was enclosed in a circle of solid colour 11 mm in diameter surrounded by a coloured line. Messrs De La Rue & Co. "Current Numbers" are 1d. 167, 2d. 169, 3d. 11, 4d 170, 6d 174, 1/- 173.

It is pleasing to get these in mint corner blocks of 4 and if you are fortunate enough to get a top left hand corner block of 4 of the 1/- value, you will also have an example of the \$ variety as the variety occurs once on each sheet and is the second stamp of the second row of the first pane.

In the CC watermark issue three new stamps appear, the 3d. value was printed in sheets of 240 disposed in 4 panes of 60, the Plate Number "1" is similar to the threepence measuring 11 mm and the "Current Number" is 54. The 2/ value was printed in sheets of 60, 10 x 6 the Plate No. 1 measures 11 mm and the Current Number is 2.

The 5/ value was also printed in sheets of 60, 10 x 6 the Plate No. 1 measures 11 mm and the Current Number is 3. All values on CA paper and MCA paper are similar in all respects.

The Key Plate issue of 1889-91 contains three new stamps all three values were printed from one common Key Plate but the Duty Plate was changeable—they were printed in sheets of 240—4 panes of 60, 10 x 6. Four plates are known of the 1d value 1, 2, 3, 4, three Plates only were known when the Handbook was written, but the Micawberish expectation expressed in it of the Plate 1 turning up in the 1d value has since been realised and is in the Royal Collection.

Plate 1 only is known with 2d value and Plates 2, 3, 4 are known in the 2½d value. I have examples of all

these in my collection except the Plate 1 penny value. Plate 2 in both the 1d and 2½d values is very scarce.

The Red Llandoverly stamp was printed from a single plate in sheets of 60, 10 x 6 and is known with Plates 1 and 3 in red figures, the first Plate bore no Plate Number. The Black and Red double plate was the same size and is known with Plates 1 and 2 in Black figures and I think Plate 3 should exist. The marginal sheet numbers to be found on the sheet are numerous—on the left hand side in the bottom margin Numbers 1, 2 or 3 in red may be found in conjunction with numbers 1, 2 or 3 in Black.

Examples which are known are

1	in red	over	2	in black
1	"	"	before	3
2	"	"	over	1
2	"	"	over	2
2	"	"	before	3
3	"	"	before	3

All on the left hand side bottom margin; the following are also known:

3	in red	on the left hand
3	"	"
4	in black	on the right hand
4	"	"

All of the above are, I should say, of considerable rarity. The only example I have been able to obtain for my collection is 2 in red over 1 in black.

All values of the double plate arms type, six in all were printed in sheets of 240 four panes of 60, 10 x 6 and all have the usual type Plate 1. The ½d and 1d value of the Single Plate arms type were printed in sheets of 120 two panes of 60, 10 x 6 both numbered Plate 1 in the usual type.

The Solitary King Edward stamp was printed in sheets of 120 in two panes of 60, 10 x 6. Number Plate 1 as previously. The King George issue M.C.A. work and the 6d value script CA work are all Plate 1. It is placed at each corner of the top and bottom panes second stamp on the sheet of 240 of the 1d and 1½d value and the original printing of the 120 set 2d and 1/ (and probably also the

3d and 4d) for which latter the 120 set key plate had its plate numbers so positioned. From the key plate the plate numbers were then removed from the bottom margin and it thus printed the 3d, 4d, 6d, 1/ and 5/ values. A second 120 set key plate was made with Plate numbers on the bottom margin only which printed the 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 6, 1/, 2/ M.C.A. and 6d script values.

The ½d value of the Pictorial issue was printed in sheets of 160 two panes of 80, 8 x 10 with the usual Plate No. 1 on the top and bottom margins in the four corners between the first and second stamps from the end of the row the perforations cutting through the middle of the top margin Plate numbers; the 1d value was issued in sheets of 160 two panes of 80, 10 x 8 with Plate No. 1 but in the case appears sideways on the four corners of the side margins between the first and second stamps from the end. The 1½d value was printed in one sheet of 40, 5 x 8 on the M.C.A. W'MK paper and the first plate was unnumbered which was followed by Plates bearing the numbers 1, 2, 3 in small figures inside the Jubilee lines at the right bottom corner and later other sheets were issued with the figure 4 in larger type in the left margin.

The same plate, i.e. without number and 1 to 4 were used for the first printings on the script W'MK paper and were followed by other Plates 5 to 14, 5 to 8 appear directly below the register mark on that margin, 9 to 12 below and to the left of it, 13 and 14 beside and to the left sheets on this paper have been found with the Plate No. 6 on the top margin and without number in the usual place on the bottom margin. Plates 15 and 16 were said to exist and I have had correspondence about them in the Philatelic papers on several occasions—I have seen every collection of note that has been sold since the Handbook was written and I have quite recently asked in the Philatelic press for a sight of them but I have never seen them and I claim they do not exist.

The 2d value has never been found with Plate number.

The 2½d value on the MCA has not been found with Plate Number, but on the Script W'MK paper Plate 1 and 2 are known placed on the left margin next the register mark.

The 3d value is also known with Plates 1 and 2 placed in the centre of the left margin above the register mark on both the MCA and the script CA paper.

The 4d value has not been seen with Plate No. The 6d value is known with Plate No. 1 on the left margin below the register mark. No Plate numbers have been found on the 1/, 2/, 3/, 5/, and 10/ values.

The ½d value King George old type issued in 1927 has, to date, only been printed from Plates 1 and 3 in the usual type. The new design 1d King George issued in 1929 has been printed from two plates which differ. I have a block of the so-called Die 11 with the figure 2 in the lower right hand margin under the last stamp but one.

I have not seen a plate number on

the 1½d and 9d of the type or on the new pictorial 2d, 2½d, 6d values.

The Child Welfare issue was printed in sheets of 120, 12 x 10 without Plate Numbers.

In the Official stamps the ½d can be found with the Plate No. 1 and the current number 54.

In the Key Plate issue official I have the 1d rose with Plate Nos. 1 and 3 in the usual type and the 2d grey with Plate No. 3 only. In the Postal Fiscals I have a block of the 1d rose containing the current No. 12—but I have seen no Plate Number.

The 1½d arms type is known with Plate No. 1 and the 3d value with Plate No. 2, neither value has a current number. The large type 1/, 5/, 10/ values were printed in sheets of 240, 20 x 12 the 1/ is Plate No. 3 in an upright oval of solid colour surrounded by a coloured line, placed below the second stamp of the bottom row and possibly above the last stamp but one of the top row; the 5/ is Plate 4 and the 10/ is Plate 5.

Report of the 22nd Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

HELD AT BATH FROM 18TH TO 21ST JUNE, 1935.

The 22nd Philatelic Congress was held this year, in the very pleasant City of Bath, the Hosts being the Bath Philatelic Society. Bath, the home of two great postal reformers, John Palmer who re-organised the Mail Coach service and Ralph Allen who established Cross Posts, has much to interest the Philatelist as it was also there that Henry Stafford Smith the publisher of the first philatelic magazine, "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" lived.

In all, there were about a hundred delegates, unattached philatelists, and friends present at the various ses-

sions; a list of the members of the Jamaica Society present, will be given at the end. After the speech of welcome by Captain A. E. Hopkins, the Chairman, Mr. L. R. Ray set the ball rolling with his paper "A Puzzled Philatelist Looks at Philately, Philatelic Customs, and his Fellow Philatelists", an amusing and entertaining paper.

At next day's session, Mr. Fred. J. Melville gave the paper "The Lives of the Forgers" which won for him the Congress Cup. A most interesting piece of work delighting every one present with his tales of the Spiro

Bros. and the rogues Benjamin and Sarpy. It was followed by Mr. E. F. Hurt who took as his title "The Importance of Postal History". This provoked much discussion, it being regarded by some of the older members as heresy, but as with all papers the criticisms were given and taken in good part.

The last paper was given by Mr. P. Seiffert on the "History of Paper and Papermaking" illustrated with diagrams and exhibits. He gave it as his opinion that stamps issued before 1850 would last for several hundreds of years whilst moderns would have disappeared long before. However, as that would affect no one present, there was no alarm shown.

One of the most successful events of Congress was the Group Meetings. This was an innovation, introduced at Brighton in 1932 and it is to be hoped one that will not be allowed to lapse. It is an excellent means of meeting collectors interested in the same countries, whilst discussions are of interest to all. The West Indies room was very full, with Mr. Nicholson as guide, philosopher, and friend. We heard much of interest from the various members present and saw several things that were new. Mr. Nicholson had with him some choice items from his Jamaica Collection which were appreciated by all.

The Social side of Congress was excellently looked after. The weather unfortunately was anything but good and the Reception of the guests by the Bath Society arranged to be

held in the Parade Gardens, had to be held indoors. The garden party kindly given by Captain and Mrs. Hopkins nearly met a similar fate but the weather cleared and the guests were able to walk round and admire the lovely garden and house.

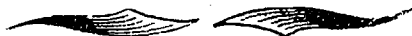
Every one was indeed sorry that the Secretary, Major J. B. Heron, who had given up so much time to organising this Congress was unable, through illness, to be present but as he had things so well organised, everything went off without a hitch. Banquets can be very dull affairs but this one was not in that category. Though all the speakers exceeded their allotted span of five minutes, the speeches were good. Mrs. Hopkins presented the Congress Cup to the winner, Mr. Fred. J. Melville.

The thanks of the Jamaica Philatelic Society is due to the Bath Philatelic Society for all the efforts made on their behalf and for four days of pleasure and instruction.

JEAN M. CAMPBELL.

MEMBERS OF THE JAMAICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY PRESENT AT CONGRESS.

Messrs. G. W. Collett
H. R. Harmer
Stanley Phillips
G. H. Tucker
W. Buckland Edwards
Dr. R. H. Urwick
Eugene Klein
Fred. J. Melville
Rev. C. S. Morton
L. C. C. Nicholson
Miss Jean M. Campbell.



Report on the Third International Philatelic Exhibition

GRAND CENTRAL PALACE, NEW YORK CITY, MAY 9TH TO MAY 17TH, 1936.

G. C. GUNTER—*Delegate.*

On Saturday, May 9, 1936, at 9 o'clock a.m. the members of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions Inc., members of the Jury and Distinguished Guests, were given an informal welcome to the Third International Philatelic Exhibition at the Grand Central Palace, by Mr. Theodore E. Steinway. A card sent to me before I left Jamaica indicated that I had been elected an Honorary Member of the Association, and an invitation handed to me on my arrival at New York on the 6th inst., bid me to attend the Opening Ceremonies and a Preview of the great Exhibition that was to be finally opened at 9.30 a.m. on the 9th May. In company with many distinguished guests, Post Office officials and Political leaders, I attended at the Lecture Hall where our good friend Mr. Steinway in his happy style bid us welcome to what is now historically the greatest Philatelic Exhibition ever presented to the Public. To the inexperienced visitor the Exhibition was at first bewildering, but as soon as one became familiar with the Splendid Exhibition Catalogue, and the lay out of the show, on the 3 great floors of the Grand Central Palace Exhibition hall, became an attraction that was not easy to resist. The 9 days devoted to the Exhibition was not one too many and when it is realized a walk of 6 miles was required to see all the exhibits set out in almost 3000 plate glass frames arranged in rows on the three floors, it is easy to visualize the vastness of this wonderfully organized show. During the 9 days nearly 100,000 persons bought tickets of admission. These were for the most part ardent philatelists, many of them from distant parts of the world and it was

a pleasure to see how keen each visitor was to cover the whole of the exhibition, an almost impossible task since they were nearly 3,000,000 Stamps contained in 3,000 frames, which carried an aggregate of 6000 sheets of Stamps. This estimate was made for the Association of Stamp Exhibition by statisticians who after viewing the magnificent array of Stamps and making their calculations would not commit themselves to a more exact calculation.

The Exhibits ranged from stamps in the Court of Honour in which were shown the first prepared postage stamps issued in England in May 1840, viz the classic 1d. black and 2d. blue, adhesive stamps bearing the head of Queen Victoria, engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Petch—Letter sheets and envelopes of the same values, printed from a design by Wm. Mulready R.A., depicting Britannia sending letters to her outlying possessions—these are known as "Mulreadys" The mother die of the first postage stamp was graciously loaned to the exhibition by the P.O. Dept. of Great Britain Surrounding this die and a generous exhibit of the 1d. black and, 2d blue stamps and Mulreadys, is a wonderful show of the first stamps issued by other countries, who seeing the wisdom of Great Britain in her adoption of Rowland Hill's great idea, followed her example and produced postage stamps of their own. Exhibits from these countries are set out under a beautiful massed group of the flags of the respective countries and here were seen the first stamps in their dated sequence of issue. After Great Britain the Canton of Zurich in Switzerland issued stamps, in March

1843, and it is surprising to see how these stamp issuing countries, led by little Switzerland, with that great country, then the Kingdom of Brazil, following takes us from Europe to South America, back to Europe; to North America, when in August 1847 the United States issued its first stamps with heads of Washington and Franklin, to the Indian Ocean when in Sept 1847 the little Island of Mauritius gave us the 1d and 2d locally engraved stamps which are regarded today by Philatelists as among the most priceless gems of the hobby from this small British colony, in the Indian Ocean and goes back to Europe, where in 1849 France, Belgium and Bavaria, in rapid succession, brought out their stamps, to be followed in 1850 by Spain, New South Wales, Victoria and the first Federal issue of Switzerland.

In several frames the contents of which were loaned by the British Government, numerous collectors, and dealers, were to be seen the various issues in the sequence of their appearance. From the end of the first decade, the number of stamp issuing countries grew rapidly until today there is not a country in the world that has not adopted Rowland Hills idea, and the postage stamp has become universal. So has the great Hobby of Kings—Stamp collecting and the organization that produced this great 3rd International Stamp Show at the Grand Central Palace has reason to be proud of its wonderful achievement and to be grateful to the President of the United States for his kindly act of support in formally opening the Exhibition to the Public from the White House in Washington and accepting the invitation to act as honorary patron of the show.

As the Official delegate to the Exhibition of the Jamaica Philatelic Society, I desire through this medium to express my happy appreciation of the kindness shown me by the Exhibition Committee. The Officials of this Committee spared no pains to ensure that my visit and that of the other visitors was to be full of entertainment, both philatelically and other wise, and were it not for illness that

suddenly prevented me from a continuation of the round of events scheduled for each day of the Show, my experience of the generosity of friends would have indeed been wider.

Among the most pleasant of my experiences must be counted the reception given by Mrs. Ogen Reid at the New York Herald Tribune where this charming lady received the foreign guests of honour for tea, and later welcomed them formally in the auditorium. A lecture on the newspaper plant then preceded a tour of the Editorial, Composing and Printing rooms. Following this brilliant reception I was entertained at the Collectors Club under the Presidency of Mr. Laurence B. Mason where at a buffet supper I met many noted philatelists of the United States, Europe, England, South Africa, Australia, Canada and the Countries of South America.

The programme of daily events was most generous, among these being Lectures, Dinners, Luncheons and Tours. The lectures were of the greatest interest and importance as they traced the development of Philately by means of moving pictures and talkies. Among these were the motion pictures shown by the General Post Office of Great Britain and the United States P.O. Dept. The British Films showed the start and finish of the beautiful Jubilee Stamps of Great Britain, as well as the introduction to the Public of the Rowland Hill stamps and Mulreadys.

The lecturers included, Miss Anna Jervis, Mrs E. A. Brown, Father John F. O'Hinley, Ernest A. Kehr, E. B. Power, Chas. J. Phillips, Gordon Enders, foreign advisor to the Grand Lama of Tibet, Alvin W. Hall, Mrs. Catherine L. Manning, Postmaster J. Sinnott, Prescott H. Thorp, Emil Bruechig, Hon C. P. Graddich, Supt. of Air Mail Service, P.O. Dept., Washington, Nicholas Sanahia Hon. R. E. Fellers, Supt of Stamps, P.O. Dept Washington D.C., Eugene Klein, Edwin E. Elkins, Capt. Tim Healy.

The Exhibition Reception and Dinner Dance was given at the Hotel Astor on the 15th May. This was the big official event of the Exhibition at

which the announcement of the Grand Award to Mr. R. W. Lapham, of Boston and the 12 Special Awards, was made by Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein Chairman of the International Jury. Mr. Theodore E. Steinway presided as toastmaster and introduced a few of the leading guests. I was honoured amongst these but unfortunately illness, which kept me in bed for five days prevented my acknowledgment of this great honour. It is interesting to note that the speeches at this dinner, as well as the announcements of the awards, were broadcast, and with perfect reception heard by listeners in at Kingston.

On Sunday, May the 17th at 8 p.m. the Exhibition was formally closed amid the warm congratulations of those who have shown their appreciation of the efforts of the Association for Stamp Exhibition by attending this great philatelic event in such large numbers.

In closing this rather disjointed

report I desire to tender my sincere congratulations to the Society for winning a Bronze Medal which was awarded under group V. Philatelic Journal and Periodicals to the Jamaica Philatelist "Volume 1, numbers 1 to 6. I also wish to congratulate those members of the Jamaica Philatelic Society who entered their fine collections at this Exhibition. Mr. C. Brinkley Turner's Jamaicans, contained many pre-stamp covers, British used in Jamaica, Pineapple issues in Specimens, and unused blocks, and the 1/ with inverted frame, in brilliant condition, and practically all known colour trials and proofs. All these were contained in 5 Albums. Miss Jean Campbell showed a collection of ships letters, Mr. Eugene Klein his United States packet cancellations, Heligoland under British rule, Hungary, and Steamship Coy. stamps—a truly wonderful range—Mr. K. N. Woodward—Salvador, Venezuela, and Paquebots.



Annual Meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society.

The 16th Annual General Meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society was held at the St. Luke's Church Hall, Cross Roads on Thursday 16th July, 1936, at 7.45 p.m. The election of Officers and Committee for the new year resulted as follows:

President Mrs. M. E. Spooner
Vice-President .. Mr. D. M. Samuel
Hon. Treasurer Mr. Eric Clark
Hon. Secretary .. Mr. G. C. Gunter

Committees:

Mr. A. W. Perkins, Mr. P. J. Fernandez, Mr. E. G. Dunn, Mr. D. M. Samuel, Rev. G. T. Armstrong.

Hon. Exchange Superintendent:

Mr. P. J. Fernandez,
 P.O. Box, 158,
 Kingston, Ja.

The following report for the year ended 15th April 1935 was presented. Ladies and Gentlemen:—

In submitting to you the 16th Annual Report the Committee have pleasure in recording their satisfaction at the sustained interest in the Society not only by the members in Jamaica, but by those residing abroad, as well as by Philatelists generally.

During the year 29 new members were elected, of which 8 were for Life and 10 were struck off for non-payment of dues so the year closed with a total of 117 members, an increase of 5 over last year.

It is with regret that the Society in common with all Philatelic Societies and loyal Philatelists throughout the British Empire, records its deep sense of the loss to Philately and the World, occasioned by the much lamented death of our late King, George the fifth, Lord Supreme of Jamaica, who passed away on January 20, 1936. His late Majesty's interest in Philately was maintained to the end and his contact with Philatelists of the Empire was so real that the most humble collector felt a nearness to him. His death has created a

wide-spread sense of bereavement throughout the Empire, and people far removed in temperament and race throughout the World received the news as a personal loss. We have lost a Great King, a great man and a great friend.

During the year the people of Jamaica welcomed to its shores two sons of His late Majesty. The Duke of Kent with his bride, Princess Marina and the Duke of Gloucester. In connection with the latter's visit the Post Office Department used a special cancelling cachet on all letters posted at Kingston from the 6th of March, the date of the Duke's arrival until the 16th when the Duke left Jamaica. The Post Mark Cancellation which reads "Jamaica Welcomes H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester" in three lines has been in great demand by collectors of Jamaica Post Marks and there is reason to believe that one of the first day cancellations is included in the collection of His late Majesty.

The Committee have pleasure in recording that the Jamaica Philatelist, the Society's Annual Journal, was issued as a double number in June last. The Magazine for 1934 was not published, and the issue of a double number in 1935 has thus established its continuity. The Magazine for the current year will be, it is expected, issued in the usual course. As will be noticed in the last Magazine, Mr. H. Cooke has undertaken to help the Society as the Associate Editor of the Magazine.

The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain was held at Bath from the 18th to 21st June, 1935. The Society's delegates were Mr. L. C. C. Nicholson, M. G. Tucker and Miss Jean Campbell. The Congress was much appreciated by our delegates and this opportunity is taken to publicly thank them for the time they placed at the disposal of the Society. Our

thanks are also due to Mr. Nicholson for the special evening he organized among the friends of the Society and those delegates at Congress who were specially interested in Jamaica. We also thank Miss Campbell for her report on the Congress which is printed in the current year's magazine. The delegates for the 1936 Congress to be held at Paignton are Messrs. L. C. C. Nicholson, D. Samuel and G. C. Gunter.

The Exchange Branch continues to be popular under the guiding hand of Mr. Fernandez, whose interest, continues unabated, not only on behalf of this Branch of the Society's activities, but also in connection with the New Issue Service the work on which has been particularly heavy this year.

The most outstanding New Issues of the year were the Jubilee stamps commemorating the 25th reign of his late beloved Majesty. The stamps were issued in Jamaica on the 6th of May and their sale closed on the 31st December, 1935, after which date the remainders were burnt.

The demand for these stamps has been universal, the total quantities issued bearing tribute to the popularity of the issue. The Secretary was requested by Philatelists from all parts of the world, many of the requests coming from non-members, to mail a considerable quantity of sets on the 1st day of issue and it is satisfactory to note that although the day was a Public Holiday and the Post Office was opened for a short time only, every one of the 500 sets ordered was mailed in time.

During the latter part of the year it was reported in the local daily press that a new issue of stamps consisting of four denominations was contemplated by the Government of Jamaica. The Society although not approached by the Post Office Department or by Government, submitted suggestions for subjects, seven of which were selected by the Post Master of Jamaica and submitted to Government along with suitable photographs presented by the Society. Up to the time of writing, no decision having been arrived at it is believed

that the contemplated issue has been suspended pending the decision regarding a complete new issue of stamps, in connection with the reign of Edward the Eighth, our present beloved Monarch.

Although not within the period covered by this Report mention must be made of the recent International Philatelic Exhibition at New York. The Exhibition took place during May and the Secretary of this Society was nominated to attend as a delegate from Jamaica. The Society entered for competition in "Section IX, Philatelic Journals and Periodicals," a handsomely bound copy of the first volume of the Jamaica Philatelist, containing Nos. 1 to 6, and notice has since been received that the Society has been awarded a Bronze Medal, and Certificate, for its exhibit.

During the year, several displays were arranged, Mr. Perkins' Jamaicans and Mrs. Cooper's Air Mails, being the chief items. The Committee uses this medium to appeal to members to take a greater interest in such an interesting matter and to present their stamps for inspection at our meetings.

At the suggestion of one of our Hon. Members, it was decided that the Secretary of this Society should become a member of the American Philatelic Society. A great many members of the A.P.S. regularly visit Jamaica yearly as Summer or Winter visitors and now that this Society is connected with the American Society the Committee feels that many of our visitors will refer to the Society for information regarding the stamps and other matters connected with the Postal History of Jamaica.

During the year the Society was asked for and was able to supply some of the earlier issues of the Jamaica Philatelist to the Royal Philatelic Society and the Royal Empire Society and we were grateful for the interest taken in our magazine by these two Societies.

The Committee have pleasure in reporting that special arrangements have been made with Messrs. Frank Godden Ltd. for the supply of Albums

and Philatelic accessories to members, who are asked to place their orders for such material through the Secretary.

The Committee places on record its congratulations to Mr. Eugene Klein, an Hon. Member of the Society, on his election as President of the American Philatelic Society in which office he will serve for two years. Congratulations are also tendered to Mr. G. C. Gunter on his election as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society.

The Committee also desires to place on record the thanks of the Society to the publishers of the "Australian Stamp Monthly" which has been regularly sent to us during the year, a copy of "Costa Rica Philatelica" for October, copies of "Goddens Gazette" and the Notes on the large cents and small cents issues of Canada, the latter from the Scottish Philatelic

Society. "Jamaica pre stamp covers 1760-1860" by Godden Ltd., a Christmas card from the President and members of the Paignton Philatelic Club, the Annual Report and Year Book of the Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh, Pa. for 1935, and the 1st Annual Philatelic Congress original papers on Philatelic Themes presented on the 27th and 28th December, 1935.

The Committee also thanks the St. Luke's Church Committee for the continued use of the Church Hall at Cross Roads, and to those members and friends who have given us their generous support, especially in connection with the publication of the Society's Annual Journal.

M. E. SPOONER,
Chairman.

G. C. GUNTER,
Hon. Secretary.



List of Members.

NAME.	ADDRESS.	NAME.	ADDRESS.
Angove, J. W.	16 West Heath Vil- las Bodmin, Corn- wall, Eng.	Gauntlett, H. G. ..	Resident Magistrate, Port Antonio, Ja.
Armstrong, Rev. G. T.	The Rectory, Cross Roads	Gregg, Miss M.	Georgia, Duncans
Bicknell, Mrs. L. B.	Rosebank, Retire ment Crescent, Cross Roads, Ja.	Hatten, Capt. J. C.	10 Duke St., King- ston, Ja.
Bland, Escott C.	Crossbrook, Marl- borough Rd., Park- stone, Dorset, Eng.	Hitt, Henry C.	Box 863, Bremerton, Washington, U.S.A.
Bourke, Miss W. ..	5 Winchester Rd., H. W. Tree, Ja.	Hine, Mrs. R.	43 Leinster Rd., Cross Rds.
Brandon, G. D.	44 Orange St., King- ston, Ja.	Hudson, Miss Gwen	New Hope, Little London, Ja.
Clark, D. S. M.	Bank of Nova Scotia, St. Ann's Bay, Ja.	Littlejohn, H. T. ..	Highgate, Ja.
Clark, Eric	99 Harbour St., Kingston, Ja.	Mais, W. A. R.	8 Lady Musgrave Rd., Cross Rds.
Clossy, P. J.	P.O. Box, 158, King- ston, Ja.	Marshall, Wm.	Belmont Castle, Meigla, Perthshire, Scotland
Condell, E. E.	Bank of Nova Scotia, Kingston, Ja.	MacGregor, C. M.	Highgate Ja.
Cole, E. E.	62 Violet Lane, Croy- don, Eng.	Melhado, Clifford ..	20 Church St., King- ston, Ja.
Coxe, H. Keith	Claremont, Ja.	Moon, Rev. G. H. ..	Montego Bay, Ja.
Cruchley, Dr. F. H.	Lucca, Ja.	Mortimer, P. E. M.	Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) King- ston, Ja.
Daley, C. G.	U. F. Co. Montego Bay	Palmer, Capt. Geo. (S.A.)	1d Lyndhurst Rd., Cross Rds.
DeMercado, H.	90 Hanover St., Kingston, Ja.	Pearce, Trevor D. ..	Barclays Bank, (D.C. & O.) Port Maria, Ja.
Derby, N. Lillie	Montego Bay, Ja.	Perkins, A. W.	Govt. Audit Office, Kingston, Ja.
Duffus, W. A.	Courts Office, Sav-la- Mar, Ja.	Powell, Rev. H. A. U.	Stony Hill, Ja.
Dumont, S. L.	c/o Machado's Fac- tory, Kingston, Ja.	Quinn, H. A.	P. W. Dept., Mon- tego Bay
Dunn, E. G.	Nathan & Co. Ltd., Kingston, Ja.	Roid, Edward G.	Montego Bay, Ja.
Fernandez, P. J. ..	P.O. Box 158 King- ston, Ja.	Rowe, E. S. B.	32 Church St., King- ston, Ja.
Finzi, John	149 Manchester Sq., Kingston, Ja.	Scherer, C. A.	1429 W. 31st St., No. 6 Milwaukee, U.S.A.
Fletcher, R. H.	Postmaster for Ja- maica, Kingston, Ja.	Simpson, Dr. Wm.	"The Ivies", 3 Ade- laide Rd., Andover, Hants, England
Forrest, G. L.	Ailsa, Black River, Ja.	Simms, Major A. A.	Half Way Tree P.O.
Foster, Mrs. A.	Montego Bay, Ja.	Whiting, W. J.	Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) Sav-la- Mar, Ja.
Fraser, Miss J. Ina	Montego Bay, Ja.		

LIST OF MEMBERS—(Continued).

LIFE MEMBERS.

NAME.	ADDRESS.	NAME.	ADDRESS.
Alcock R. C.	11 Regent St., Cheltenham, Glos., Eng.	Fojo, Eugenie	Asrea, Biscay, Spain
Allen, Thos.	^C Fraigard, ^S Blake Hall Rd., ^N Warrstead, London, E. 11.	French, Edgar	603 South 14th St., Newcastle, Indiana, U.S.A.
Aguilar, E.	11 West King's House Rd., H. W. Tree, Ja.	Gobault, Geo. A. ..	Eureka, Cross Rds., Ja.
Baker, Mrs. Joshuatt	Port Antonio, Ja.	Gunter, G. C.	Ja. Govt. Railway, Kingston, Ja.
Bartlett, Rev. S. H.	P.O. Box 69, Lancaster, Ohio, U.S.A.	Hall, C. Lyon	Spring Garden, Buff Bay, Ja.
Bellman, Capt. J. F.	R.A.P.C. England	Harmer, H. R.	131-134 New Bond St., London
Benson, J.	Faillie, Top Street Way, Harpenden, Herts, Eng.	Heron, Mrs. E. C.	Woodburn, Shooters Hill P.O.
Berry, D. A.	19 Corporation St., Manchester, Eng.	Hurt, F.	Dalkeith Rd., Harpenden, Eng.
Braun, Richard	Bel Retiro, Collins Green, Cross Rds.	Jackson, S. Norman	Cornwall College, Montego Bay, Ja.
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Bruce, Dr. H. Barnett	^u Cillaray Beach, Sydney, N.S.W., Aus.	Linden, G. H.	11 Cairn Ave., Ealing, London, W.5.
Carman, B. E.	Reading, Ja.	Lodge, L. J. Gilbert	c/o The Royal Philatelic Society 41 Devonshire Place, London
Cargill, J. H.	Kingston Ja.	Lewis, Mrs. A. M.	Brumelia, Mandeville, Ja.
Clark, Dr. Hubert Lyman	Cambridge, Mass, U.S.A.	Methado, Vernon K.	Green Pond Farm, Bethlehem Penna, U.S.A.
Clerk, Astley G.	Kingston, Ja.	Morrice, Fred. H.	Brown's Town, Ja.
Coles, Miss Julia W.	Colescroft, Glen Cove, Long Island, N.Y., U.S.A.	Morris, G. W.	Devon St., Simmons Town, South Africa
Collett G. W.	84 Jermyn St., London, S.W.1., Eng.	Murray, Mrs. Alexr.	San Jose, Costa Rica
Collins, Lient. T. F. J.	Ashdon Hall, Saffron Walden, Essex, Eng.	Norona, Delf.	1002—5th St., Moundsville, W. Virginia, U.S.A.
Hernandez, L. C.	Spanish Town, Ja.	Oberlander, Gustav	Birkshire, Knitting Mills, Reading, U.S.A.
Finzi, Eugene	Rekadam, Half Way Tree, Ja.		

LIST OF MEMBERS—(Continued).

NAME.	ADDRESS.	NAME.	ADDRESS.
Palmer, Mervin G. (F.R.G.S.)	... The Spinners, Addington, Surrey, Eng.	Spooner, Mrs. M. E.	Constant Spring, Ja.
Pearson, G.	... The Hacienda, Exford Ave., Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, Eng.	Stewart, C. A. F.	Woodfield, Walkers Wood, Ja.
Phillips, Stanley	... Managing Director, Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, W. C.2, Eng.	Taylor, Capt. A. L.	c/o Lloyds Bank, Cox and King's Branch, 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.
Pinto, Claude de S.	11 King St., Kingston	Tucker, Geo. H.	... 23 Dublin Crescent, Henleaze, Bristol, Eng.
Pratt, C. W.	... 180 Balmoral Rd., & Killingham, Kent, Eng.	Turner, C. Brinkley	... Stock Exchange Bldg., Philadelphia Pa.
Roberts, R.	... 430 Strand, London	Urwick, Dr. R. H.	... Council House, Shrewsbury
Ross, Mrs. F. M.	... Acton, Liguanea P.O.	Watkin, A. J.	... 20 Heathgate, London, N.W. 11
Samuel, D. M.	... 131 Harbour St., Kingston, Ja.	Westmorland, Mrs. W. H. W.	... Blackstonedge, Ja.
Sassenwein, P. W.	7-2 Amesberry Ave., Toronto, Canada	Whiteley, Leonard	Passley Gardens, Pt. Antonio, Ja.
Sendamore, G. G.	... United Fruit Co., Montego Bay, Ja.	Woodward, K.	... Chapaqua, New York, U.S.A.
Sharpe, Chas. F.	... Sun Life Assce., Compn., Montreal, Canada	Wright, Lt. Col. H. H.	... Leath Fort, Edinburgh, Scotland
Snypp, John F.	... Box 332, Bremerton, Washington, U.S.A.		

HONORARY MEMBERS.

DeSouza, Claude	Kingston, Ja.	Morton, Rev. C. S.	32 Vincent Square, <i>136. Brooke Road,</i> <i>Stoke Newington,</i>
Edwards, W. Buckland	... 1 Vanbrugh Park Rd., Blackheath, London, S.E. 3	Eng.	London
Egly, Eugene	... 25 Arncliffe Rd., West Park—Leeds, Eng.	Nicholson, L. C. C.	26 South Grove, Peckham, London, S.E. 15
Huber, Harry E.	... 5913 Rippey St., Pittsburgh, Pa. U.S.A.	Phillips, Chas. J.	10 West, 86th St., New York, U.S.A.
Klein, Eugene	... 200 South 13th St., Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.	Taylor, Dr. Stanley	c/o Westminster Bank, Iron Gate, Derby, Eng.
Melville, Fred. J.	10a Ardbeg Rd., Herne Hill, London, S.E. 24, Eng.	Vallancey, F. Hugh	15 St. Bride Street, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C. 4, Eng.

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