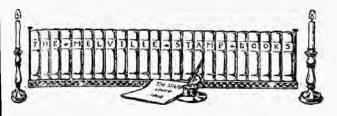




The One Penny Stamp bisected and used as a half-penny, as authorised in 1861.



INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

AMAICA is in the Jubilee year of the establishment of its Post Office under Colonial management. Although the erection of a Post Office in the island was first mooted 222 years ago, when lames the Second was King, it was not until twenty years after the Postal Reform in Great Britain that the Colonial authorities were, under some pressure, obliged to set up for themselves a separate establishment.

The Post Office Department since that time has kept pace with postal progress, successively adopting the conventions of the General Postal Union, and the Universal Postal Union, and being among the early adherents to the Imperial Penny Postage arrangement. The philatelic record of the island is clear of the

imputation of illegitimate speculation.

A study of the stamps presents a straightforward succession of administrative and technical changes, only disturbed by two stamps which provide scope for the display of philatelic prowess. None of the Jamaica stamps proper come within the limited area of the costly farties of philately, and in fifty years the output of different stamps has scarcely exceeded an average of see stamp per annum. The issues, being neither amerous nor exclusive, are popular with collectors, and in Jamaica itself there has grown up a keen interest the pursuit of philately. Historical records, which

have been scanty in the past, are now being searched for, and new documents are being placed permanently upon record for the future student. The newspapers of the Colony in future should be of great service for definite information, and Mr. Astley Clerk's regular articles in the Jamaica Gleaner on philately should prove a useful record of the progress of our knowledge

on the stamps of the Colony.

In preparing this handbook, we gladly acknowledge our indebtedness to the published studies of Dr. Stanley Taylor, Mr. W. Buckland Edwards, and Mr. Astley Clerk, appearing in the pages of Gibbons Stamp Weekly, to the publishers of which, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., we are indebted for permission to avail ourselves of the articles in question, and for the loan of the plates illustrating the settings of the 2¹2d on 4d Provisional, and the Halfpenny "Official" Overprint. Both Dr. Taylor and Mr. Edwards have added to the value of our little work as an authentic philatelic record by assisting us in the revision of the proofs and by various suggestions.

Mr. Charles Nissen and Mr. Herbert F. Johnson have revised our list of British stamps used in Jamaica, so that we feel confident the list is as complete as

it is practicable to make it at this time.

In view of the exceptional circumstances of the work appearing as an unofficial Jubilee record of the Jamaica Post Office, we have endeavoured to present in the early chapters a more complete history of the Jamaica Post Office than has hitherto been accessible to students.

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Jamaica.

CHAPTER I.

Early Postal Arrangements, 1688-1860.

Jamalca is first mentioned in connection with the British postal system in the reign of James II. An Order in Council of 1688 authorised the setting up of a Post Office in the Colony, and it fixed rates of postage for both packet and inland communications. It was ordered (July 22, 1688):

That a General Letter Office be crected and established in the Town of Port Royall or elsewhere in His Majesty's Island of Jamaica, from whence all Letters and Packets whatsoever may be with speed and expedition sent to any part of the said Island of Jamaica, or into any part of his Majesty's Kingdomes of England, Scotland, and Ireland; and to that end that the Right Honourable the Earle of Rochester, his Majesty's Post Master Generall, do constitute and appoint a Deputy Postmaster in the said Island of Jamaica, as well to erect and settle one or more Letter offices in the said Island, for the taking up and delivering such Letters as shall be directed to Merchants and Inhabitants of the said Island, as to Settle such and so many Stages or running Posts in the severall most convenient parts of the said Island, as to him shall seem requisite for the distribution and speedy dispersing of all Such Letters according to their

directions; and for the same the said Deputy Postmaster is to ask, receive, and demand the particular Rates, within the said Island following, That is to say, For the Port of every letter not exceeding one sheet from England unto the said Town of Port Royall in Jamaica Six pence of English money, and for the like Port of every Letter not exceeding two sheets one shilling, and proportionably to the same Rates for every Packett of Letters: and for the Port of every other Packett of any kind of greater Bulk two shillings for every ounce weight; and for the Port of Such Letters or Packetts as shall be conveyed or carryed from the Town of Port Royall unto any other Place or Places within the Island of Jamaica, or from any other place unto the said Town, or to, or from any other place within the Said Island according to the Rates or Summs of English money hereafter following, Vizt., For every Letter not exceeding one sheet to or from any place within Forty English Miles distance from Port Royall or any other place, where Such Letter shall be received, Two pence; and for every Letter not exceeding two sheets four pence, and proportionably to the same Rates for every Packett of Letters, and for every packett of greater Bulk Eight pence for every ounce weight; and for every Letter not exceeding one sheet to be carryed or Conveyed a further distance than Forty English Miles Four pence, and for the Port of every Letter not exceeding two sheets Eight pence, and proportionably unto the Same Rates for the like Port of every Packett of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packett of greater Bulk One shilling for every ounce weight; and his Majesty is also pleased to order that letter offices be settled in such other of his Majesty's Plantations in America. as shall, by the said Earle of Rochester, be found convenient for his Majesty's service, and for the ease and benefit of His Subjects according to the Method and Rates herein settled for his Majesty's Island of Jamaica.

The letters carried under these rates were doubtless all conveyed by such vessels as might be setting out on trading expeditions to the West Indies, the captains of the vessels receiving a gratuity of a penny per letter.

The establishment of a British packet service was begun in the same year, but was not extended to the

EARLY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS. 13

West Indies until 1702, when the first packets were started between Falmouth and Jamaica, Barbados, and certain places in North America. At this period the voyage to the island and back is said to have taken from 90 to 116 days. So far as we know, the rates of postage established in 1688 remained in force until 1705, when in March the rates were raised to:—Single letter, 1s 3d; double letter, 2s 6d; ounce, 6s.

This considerable increase was made at the instigation of a naval surveyor, Edmund Dummer, who about this time himself undertook the contract for the service. A curious lesson is afforded by his experiment in doubling the rates. Mr. Herbert Joyce, in his History of the Post Office, shews that although this at first had the effect of doubling the revenue (owing to public ignorance of the change), it very soon fell back. "To double the postage, he took for granted, was to double the returns. Abler men than he and men living nearer to our own times have fallen into the same error, but seldom, probably, has it been sooner or more strikingly exposed."

The amount of postage on letters conveyed by these packets may be seen from the following:—

TO THE WEST INDIES.

Date of Packet from			h.		Am Po	ount stage			
anuary	25,	1705.	-	-	£44	1	4		
February	22.	,,	-	-	59	10	7		
March	29,			_	100	5	3	(new	rates)
April	26.		4	_	129	2			ĺ
May	31,		-	-	93	7	9		
June	28,		-	-	75	19	3		
July	26,	••	-		62	2	0		

Joyce. History of the Post Office, p. 79.

FROM THE WEST INDIES

Date of a					Amo Post				
February 1			-	-	£316	19	0		
April 1	8,	••		- 6	622	11	6	(new	rates)
August	6,	,,			629	15	6		
September	3,	**	-	-	384	19	6		
October	1,	11		-	369	6	6		

In 1706 the Jamaican House of Assembly appointed a committee of three members, Richard Banks, Francis Marsh, and Thomas Finch, to prepare a bill for the erection of a post office in the island, presumably for inland posts, but the report of the committee does not appear to be on record.

Dummer's charges were superseded by those fixed in 1710 by the Act 9. Anne c10. The new rates were:

All Letters and Packets passing / Single, One shilling sixpence. from London unto Jamaica, Barbadoes, Antegoa, Montserrat, Nevis, and Saint Christophers in America. and from any of those places to London.

Double. Three shillings.

Treble, Four shillings sixpence

Ounce, Six Shillings.

All Letters and Packets from Double, Eight-pence. any part of the West Indies Treble, One shilling. to New York.

Single, Four-pence. Ounce. One shilling four pence

This Act obliged "any Masters of any Ship or Vessel, or any of his Company, or any Passengers therein" to deliver up letters they might be conveying to the Deputy Postmaster at the port of arrival on pain of forfeiting the sum of five pounds of British money for every offence.

The short history of the Jamaica Post Office in the

Iamaica Handbook states that-

EARLY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS. 15

On the 14th April, 1749, we find John McCulloch* being summoned to appear at the Bar of the House to explain under what authority he exercised the duties of a Postmaster and collected postages, and he stated that he did so under warrant from Elliot Benger, Her Majesty's Deputy Postmaster-General of the North American and British West Indian possessions. The rate of postage was then 6d for each letter not exceeding 100 miles, and Is sterling for any letter above that, and so on in proportion for a double and treble letter.

From the cessation of Dummer's packets (1714) there appear to have been no regular packets to the West Indies until 1755. Then followed the period which has contributed so much to the romantic associations of the sea-faring life, and which has its own historian.

One of the most stirring stories of the sea centres around a vessel in the packet service trafficking between falmouth and Jamaica. This was the Antelope, which set sail from Port Royal, Jamaica, on November 27, 1793, and was off Cumberland Harbour, Cuba, on the morning of December 1, when a couple of schooners save chase. In the race one of the schooners was left behind, but the other, a French privateer, kept up the chase, and the two vessels came to close combat on the 3rd of the month. With a mere handful of able-bodied men (twenty-three all told) the Antelope achieved a crushing victory over the privateer Atalanta with its crew of sixty-five. The commander of the packet,

^{*}McCulloch's widow was subsequently cited to appear to explain the reason of delay of certain packet letters; she stated she was estilled to discharge the duties of Postmistress under the warrant body by her late husband; that she farmed the office to another lany; that the mails were conveyed by mules or slaves as most convenient.

Arthur Norway. The History of the Post Office Packet

Captain Curtis, and the steward were slain, and the surgeon succumbed later from exhaustion after attending to the numerous wounded. But the boatswain, John Pasco, brought the ship and with it the Atalanta as his prize to England. Detailed accounts of the action are given in many naval records and in Norway's History of the Post Office Packet Service. The Jamaica House of Representatives voted five hundred guineas to be distributed as a reward amongst the Antelope's crew, and Pasco was rewarded both by the Jamaica authorities and by the British Postmaster-General.

Long's *History of Jamaica*, published in London in 1774, gives an interesting account of the inland posts of

that time. He says :-

The general post office for the island is kept in the town of Kingston. This place is in the appointment of the Postmaster General of Great Britain, and is supposed worth about 10001, sterling per annum. With respect to any convenience which the inhabitants at present derive from it, much cannot be said; nor can, indeed, the deputy well afford to make it more useful to them, until the roads shall be further improved and the country better peopled. The several mails are dispatched from Kingston but once a week; and if a merchant there sends a letter by this conveyance to his correspondent at Savannah-la-Mar, he must wait twelve days before he can receive an answer. The present deputy, however, has had the credit of regulating the inland post upon a better plan than any of his predecessors. The following are the distances computed at his office; agreeably to which the postage is demanded and paid.

Rates of the Inland Postage for any distance not exceeding sixty English miles.

		s.	d.					
Single,	_	0	75	Jamaica	currency	or	1	Ryal.
Double,	-	1	3	.,	••	οr	2	
Treble,		1	3	••	**	or	2	. 11
Ounce,	-	1	10 7	••	11	or	3	**

EARLY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS, 17

For any distance upwards of sixty and not exceeding one hundred English miles.

Single, - 0 7½ Jamaica currency or 1 Ryal.

Double, - 1 3 ..., or 2 ...

Treble, - 1 10½ ..., or 3 ...

Ounce, - 2 6 ... or 4 ...

For any distance upwards of one hundred and not exceeding two hundred miles.

Single, - 1 3 Jamaica currency or 2 Ryalls.

Double, - 1 10½ , , , or 3 ,
Treble, - 2 6 . , , or 4 ,
Ounce, - 3 9 , , or 6 ,
and in proportion for every Ounce Weight.

Rates of Postage from this Island to Great Britain per Act 9 Anne, c10.

s. d. s. d.

Single, 1 6 sterling. 2 1 Jamaica currency.

Double, 3 0 , 3 4½ , . .,

Treble, 4 6 , 6 3½ , . .,

Ounce, 6 0 , 8 4¼ , . .,

Merchants' accounts exceeding one sheet of paper, bills of exchange, invoices, and bills of lading are all to be rated and

laxed as so many several letters, per 6, George I.

Considering the great and continual commerce which this island maintains with the mother country, and the extensive correspondence carried on by letter with merchants, absentees, and others; the frequent orders for insurance and for goods, the transmission-in-voices, bills of lading, bills of exchange, and accounts, with duplicates; we may suppose the revenue gains a considerable annual sum from these articles; perhaps the clear emolument, to speak within compass, is not less than 60001. sterling, or upwards.

In 1776 the House of Assembly appointed a committee to inquire into the state of the Island Post Office, but the report recorded in the journals of the House adds nothing to our information. A further committee appointed for a like purpose reported in

1814 that the Post Office was established under the Acts 9 Anne. c. 10, and 5 Geo., c. 25. The inland rates fixed under the provisions of the latter Act were:
—Single, 11d; double, 1s 10d; treble, 2s 6d; ounce, 3s 4d; and the following additional rates for the conveyance of packet letters, viz., single, 1s 3d; double, 2s 6d; treble, 3s 9d; ounce, 5s. There were in certain cases additional unauthorised fees claimed by the clerks of the post office as their perquisites.

The revenue of the post office during the period 1815 to 1820 averaged £10,450, while the expenditure.

chiefly on salaries, amounted to £7244.

In 1840 the packet system came to an end so far as the West Indies were concerned, and a contract was entered into between the British Postmaster-General and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At this time the old style of charging letters as single, double, etc., according to the number of sheets or enclosures was in vogue, but in 1843 this practice was superseded by the method of charging by weight. Under the new method, however, charges by distance still remained. These were:—On letters not exceeding ½ oz., 4d for a distance not more than 60 miles; between 60 miles and 100 miles, 6d.; between 100 miles and 200 miles, 8d; and so on, adding 2d for every hundred miles.

The increase of weight corresponded with the British scale. Newspapers were charged of each, and pamphlets up to 16 oz. in weight were charged 1d per ounce.

In 1847 the question was first raised that Jamaica and the other British West Indian Colonies should take over the control of their various post office establishments from the British Postmaster-General, but the matter was not proceeded with on account of the

objections raised in the Colonies. About 1850 Mr. O'Connor Morris was sent out from the General Post Office, London, to act as Deputy Postmaster-General In Jamaica at a salary of £1,200 a year." the transfer of the Colonial posts was again discussed. was the desire of the home authorities that the transfer of the posts to the Colonial authorities should reflected, but, unlike some of the Colonies in other narts, the Island Colonies did not at first welcome the oroposal, and the Jamaica House of Assembly passed resolution against the Colony taking The compulsory administration of its own posts. prepayment of postage on letters passing between Great Britain and Jamaica (in both directions) came ato force in 1858, and in that year also the British Post Office began to supply postage stamps of Great Britain to Jamaica. Lord Colchester says in reference h this innovation --

It having been found that the use of English postage stamps at Malta, Gibraltar, and Constantinople led to no forgery, the privilege has been extended to the British West Indies, and to the foreign ports touched at by the Mail Packets on the Western Coast of Africa. It is obvious that such an arrangement is applicable only when the whole of the postage belongs to the British Post Office.†

The date of the introduction of the use of stamps of Great Britain is fixed by the following:—

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, 8th May, 1858.

The Postmaster General having been pleased to sanction the introduction of Postage Stamps for the prepayment of Packet

The salary had been as much as £3000 during a predecessor's tem of office.

Fifth Report of the Postmaster-General, etc., p. 18.

Postage, notice is hereby given that from this date the Public will be supplied with stamps of the respective value of 1d, 4d, and 6d, on application to the General Post Office, Kingston, between the hours of 8.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

For the present the use of stamps is restricted to packet

correspondence.

Arrangements will be made for supplying the several Post-masters throughout the Island with Postage Stamps as soon as possible.

(Signed) MAURICE O'CONNOR MORRIS, Deputy Postmaster General.

From this date we get the ordinary postage stamps of Great Britain on letters and packets posted from Jamaica. The chief office at Kingston used the cancellation number "A01," and the various sub-offices had numbers allotted to them running consecutively from "A27" to "A78," and the majority of the intervening numbers will be found distinguishing various denominations of the stamps of the mother country used in Jamaica. A list of the known specimens is given in the check-list.

In 1858 the revenue of the Jamaica Post Office was £9,595 17s 6d; expenditure, £9,898 19s 1d; shewing

a deficit of £303 Is 7d.

The home authorities were anxious to develop their policy of transferring the control of the posts to the Colonial Governments in spite of the reluctance of Jamaica and other West Indian Governments to accept the responsibility. Anthony Trollope, the author of the Barsetshire novels, who was at this time in the service of the General Post Office, was despatched on a special mission to the Colonies in 1858. His chief duty was to place before the Colonial authorities the desirability of managing their own postal affairs. Incidentally he drafted a new scheme of routes to be

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followed by the Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company, which the Postmaster-General, with expert advice, declared to be superior to the existing routes both in respect of saving of mileage and from a nautical point of view. The contract with the Company did not enable the Postmaster-General to insist on a change of route, and the Directors did not then adopt it. We mention there for it shews that at this period of early steam navigation the mails did not go direct to Jamaica. They were first sent to the "unhealthy station at St. Thomas" and thence forward by another vessel to lamaica.

The contract time between Southampton and St. Thomas was 14 days 12 hours, the contract speed 10 thots: between St. Thomas and Jamaica, 9 knots.

The quickest voyage out during 1859 was—

Southampton and St. Thomas, St. Thomas and Jamaica,	-	Days. 12 2	Hour 4 21	5
		15	1	

The mails went twice a month.

The result of Mr. Trollope's visit to the West Indies was that shortly after his return the various Governments were informed that the home Post Office Department would cease to charge itself with the management of the West Indian Posts from May 1, 1860, and that the Colonial Governments must from that date undertake the control of the posts. In the case of Jamaica a proviso was made that the date might be postponed to the land ultimately, as we shall see, the change did not come into effect until August 1.

Mr. Morris has left an interesting account of Irollope's visit, and is a little scornful of the wheels

within wheels which enabled Trollope to combine his official duties and his search for literary material.' He says:—

Mr. Anthony Trollope, the famous novelist who had long combined romance writing and the assiduous chase of the fox with the light duties of the Surveyor's Department in Ireland, and had lately been promoted to a surveyorship in England, was sent out by his brother-in-law Mr. (now Sir) John Tilley, who had become Secretary to the General Post Office, on a special mission to Jamaica to see what could be done in the way of transferring the Department to the island, and reporting generally on its status. Mr. Trollope, on landing, shewed me his credentials, which gave him no authority over me, but he very soon tried to arrogate superiority, and on one occasion desired me to report my reasons in writing why I had not come

to my office by a certain hour.

The insolence was so excessive, and the manner so impertinent, that I asked him whether he really meant it, as I should report the matter at once to headquarters; he saw me doing so, when, finding he was in an untenable position, he begged me as a favour to tear the report up; I did so, but the Mr. Trollope made his reports to the matter rankled. Department, confidential or otherwise. I never saw them, nor do I know what he said. He came out with the major object of bookmaking, and devoted himself to it assiduously with his usual practised skill and success. Had it been possible to send him to the Mountains of the Moon, or the Pigmy Forest of the Dark Continent in the combined interests of literature and "the Department," I feel convinced Mr. Tilley would have despatched him forthwith, for the hunger for copy material must be fed, and what is the good of being Secretary to the Post Office if you cannot satisfy the cravings of a kinsman in That Mr. Anthony Trollope was a very able man no one could question for a moment; his offensive manner, precipitancy and haste prevented his being as valuable a public

^{*}Trollope wrote a book on his travels in the West Indies, and there was little perceptible break in the publication of his long series of novels, for which he is said to have received £70,000 in his lifetime.

EARLY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS. 23

servant as he might have been. I believe Mr. Trollope had a thousand good qualities of head and heart which were disguised in a most unfortunate and repelling manner.

Doubtless, Mr. Trollope's visit to the West Indies settled the transfer question in the minds of the home authorities. It was still unfavourably received in the Colonies however, and the Jamaican House of Assembly adopted in December, 1859, a committee's report that the Island Post Office having been satisfactorily conducted under the old regime it was not advisable to make the change, and that the Island could ill afford the extra burden upon its finances. The deficit, as we have seen, was £303 Is 7d in 1858.



CHAPTER II.

Fifty Years of the Jamaica Post Office, 1860-1910.

reluctance that it was with considerable reluctance that the West Indian Islands accepted the burden of separate control of the Colonial Post Offices. Indeed, the transfer had to be insisted upon in Jamaica by the home Government pointing out that, failing local arrangements to take over the posts, the Colony would be without postal arrangements after June 1, 1860. The other islands had only been given up to May 1.

A Postal Bill was passed in April, 1860, by the

lamaican legislature.

This Act, which is of considerable length, provides for the continuance of the rates of postage in force under the Imperial control, but making it lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, to reduce any such rate by warrant under his hand. Prepayment of inland postage was optional. The Executive Committee (§16) was to provide proper and sufficient adhesive stamps and dies, or other implements for expressing and denoting such rates, and the Receiver-General was to issue such stamps to the Postmaster.

The usual clauses respecting the fraudulent use of or counterfeiting of such dies or adhesive stamps are also

included.

The reluctance of Jamaica to assume the responsibility of postal control and a loss of about £300 a year delayed the transfer beyond the extended time granted to Jamaica over that granted to the other island colonies. It was not until August 1, 1860, that the transfer was actually effected. The Postal Act of 1860 abolished the office of Deputy Postmaster-General of Jamaica, and Mr. O'Connor Morris was evidently considered too expensive a luxury for the Island when paying its own piper. He was not even offered the post of Postmaster under the Colonial Schedule appended to the Act, but his head clerk was given the position at the salary of £600 a year, just half what the Imperial Government had been paying Mr. Morris.

The following letter fixes the date of the transfer on

August 1, 1860 :-

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 23rd July, 1860.

Sir,—I am desired by the Governor to acquaint you that the Order in Council specially confirming the Act 23 Vic., Cap. 1 (Session III.) will be published on the 1st August next, from which date the Post Office Department will be transferred to the Colonial Government.

2. Mr. Brymer, the present Chief Clerk of the Department, will be appointed Postmaster for Jamaica under that Act.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

HUGH W. AUSTIN,
Governor's Secretary.

M. O'CONNOR MORRIS, Esq.,
Deputy Postmaster-General, Kingston.

In the same year, 1860, the first Jamaica postage stamps were manufactured by De La Rue & Co., of Bunhill Row, London, and were issued in the Colony on November 23. It is interesting to record that this firm has continued to print the Jamaican postage stamps during the fifty years from 1860 to the present date. At this period the inland letter rates were for ½-oz. letters, 4d for distances not exceeding 60 miles; 6d up to 100 miles; 8d over 100 miles. In 1861 a ½-oz. letter rate of 6d up to 100 miles was introduced, and the minimum ½-oz. letter rate was fixed at 3d up to 30 miles. The book-post was reduced this year from 1d per oz. to ½d per oz.

The following year (1862) the 3d minimum letter rate was extended to ½-oz. letters conveyed distances up to 60 miles; letters for greater distances were

charged 4d.

The rate for letters to and from the United Kingdom by mail steamers was raised in 1863 from 6d per ½-oz. to 1/-; the rate on letters by non-contract vessels was at the same time reduced from 6d to 3d.

The 4d inland rate, which provided for a ½-oz. letter to be conveyed any distance, was reduced to 3d per

½-oz. in 1865.

In the year 1868 the Postal Department was remodelled, this time closely upon the regulations of the Post Office of the United Kingdom, and a new law was passed to supersede that of 1860 already quoted. The same year witnessed the introduction of a general weekly mail within the Island.

In 1870 Mr. William Kemble, who had succeeded Mr. Alex. J. Brymer, resigned the Postmastership and was succeeded by Mr. Frederick Sullivan. Two years

later the prepayment of postage was made compulsory. It had already been so as regards letters going to the United Kingdom, but now, in 1872, letters posted unpaid were charged double postage on delivery, following the English plan. A house delivery of letters was started in Kingston, which, by the way, is not yet general throughout the Island. The inland letter rate was reduced to 2d per ½-oz. if prepaid; the newspaper

rate was also reduced from 1d to 2d prepaid.

The Postal Convention of Berne, October 9, 1874, which took effect in the United Kingdom and other of the original signatory States on January 1, 1875, was subscribed to by Jamaica in 1877, and the Colony was admitted to the Postal Union on April 1 of that year. This step necessitated a change of certain rates. Letters to other States within the Union were charged 6d per 1-oz. prepaid; postcards were charged 3d; newspapers up to 4 oz. in weight, 1d; book and pattern post, 2d per 2 oz.

Further reductions were made the following year as the result of the Paris Convention on June 1, 1878. Inland letters were rated at 2d per 2-oz. for the first oz., and 4d for each additional ounce or fraction thereof. The 3d postcard rate to countries in the Union was reduced to 1½d. Local town letters and letters left at the post office for callers were charged 1d per 2-oz. prepaid, and 2d per additional oz. Halfpenny postcards were introduced for town or office delivery, and a tegistration fee was fixed at 4d. About this time a toach line was established between Kingston and Mandeville, which was subsequently extended to Savannah-la-Mar and other towns.

In 1881 registered letter envelopes were introduced.

In 1884 an inland penny postage rate was established between Kingston and certain adjacent towns, and the penny radius was further increased in 1886. Parcel Post system of the United Kingdom was extended to Jamaica in 1885, and a similar post between the United States and Jamaica was established in 1887 In the latter year there was passed the Postage and Revenue Stamp Law (Law 18 of 1887, October 6) which is quoted in chapter VI. of this work. In 1890 Inland Penny Postage was introduced Uniform throughout the island; at this time the number of district post offices in Jamaica was ninety-four. 1890 also the rate of postage between Jamaica and the United States was reduced from 4d to 23d per half ounce, and the 22d rate was extended on January I. 1891, to Great Britain and other countries within the Postal Union.

In 1890 the system of franking official correspondence was abandoned in favour of prepayment by means of specially overprinted postage stamps which were intended to serve as a check on abuses of the franking privilege, and also as a means of accounting for the heavy total of Government postages to the Post Office

Department.

At Christmas, 1898, largely at the instance of the Canadian Post Office Department, the Imperial Penny Postage movement came into operation in a number of the British possessions. Jamaica entered upon this arrangement beginning with May 24, 1899. In the year 1899-1900 the number of letters despatched from the island to Great Britain was 127,385, rising to 150,835 in 1900-1901, and to the splendid total of 251,917 in 1901-1902. In the next year the Jamaica

Post Office was for the first time since the establishment under Colonial management worked at a profit, shewing an excess of revenue over expenditure of £920 9s 10d, without including official postages, in regard to which the franking system had been revived. The official postages of that year would have added £2500 to the profits if they had been charged for.

In October, 1903, the Postmaster-General, Mr. J. H. Pearce, who had served the Jamaica Post Office for thirty-eight years, retired and was succeeded by

Mr. Lucie Smith.

The past ten years have been years of continued prosperity for the Jamaica Post Office, and our record of the history of the Colonial Post Office may be fittingly concluded with the following table, shewing the state of the Department during the past decade:—

No. of		Letters and		Revo	nue.	Expenditure.		
icir.	Cur. Post Cards Offices dealt with.		Telegrams.	Post Office	Teleg'phs	Post Office Tel'gp		
-				£	£	£	£	
1900	148	5,202,957	85,052	22,859	4,715	28,390	7,426	
1901	154	5,390,060	91,898	22,642	5,010	25,517	7,371	
1902	159	5,529,457	101,712	27,483	5,522	26,562	7,798	
1903	159	5,694,714	97,306	28,129	5,195	36.2	17	
1904	158	6.475.462	89,495	28.655	4,792	31.7		
1905	159	7.193.051	101.989	31,601	5,983	32,1	16	
1906	164	7.694.887	109,859	33,277	6,614	32,1	94	
1907	167	8.637.002	109,115	34,673	6,489	33,4	72	
1908	176	8,429,017	103,471	34.574	6,220	34.2	33	



CHAPTER III.

The First Jamaican Stamps, 1860-1863.

T was not until November, 23, 1860, that the special stamps for Jamaica, which were ordered from Messrs. De La Rue & Co. of London, were issued. The series consisted of five denominations, 1d, 2d, 4d, 6d, and 1/-, a sixth value, 3d, being added

on September 10, 1863.

The stamps were surface printed from electrotype plates arranged in panes of sixty (ten horizontal rows of six). The stamps were among the first Colonial stamps to be printed by this firm, India and Great Britain having alone given contracts for British stamps to Messrs. De La Rue & Co. from 1855 to 1860. In the latter year Malta and Mauritius, together with Jamaica, were added to the list.

The stamps prepared for Jamaica in 1860 all bore a laureated profile portrait to left of Queen Victoria. This laureated portrait of the Queen was peculiar to Jamaica, and has been consistently maintained by the Colony on all its portrait stamp designs except one, which made its appearance in 1889. The original engraver of this portrait was M. Joubert, a French engraver who had long been settled in England.

and was the inventor of the process of acierage, by which copper plates could be faced with steel to serve the dual purpose of lengthening the life of the plate, and of making it suitable for printing certain colours for which copper was not suitable. M. Joubert was occasionally engaged by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. as an engraver, and had cut the portrait dies for the first surface printed stamps of Great Britain and India, and also engraved the general types of head dies for the surface printed Colonial stamps produced by this firm.

The Jamaica head die had been engraved several rears previously (circa 1857) and used for fiscal stamps. In use the die, which was of steel, was transferred to a number of discs of steel to form the separate dies for each denomination. The framework surrounding the head, which is different for each value, was added by

means of machinery.

The separate dies for each of the denominations were used for making 120 or 240 matrices in lead as required for producing the plates of each value. was done by means of a Nasmyth hammer. incular die is placed below a "box" of wrought iron, he aperture of which fits exactly round the design on he die. From above a piece of lead the size of the damp design, and cut absolutely true, is inserted in the box and rests upon the die, which has been inserted from he bottom. A plunger of steel or wrought iron made to fit the aperture in the box is then brought down with a sharp blow upon the piece of lead forcing it into the de and thus transferring the design.

A number of these lead matrices (120 or 240 arranged panes of 60), which are all of exactly the same size, are made up in a metal-bottomed chase and placed in

the battery. A deposit of copper is gradually formed in the set of moulds. This has to be done slowly to secure hardness and sharpness, and Messrs. De La Rue usually allow the process to take upwards of three days.

The copper deposit, when formed, is called the shell, and forms the basis of the printing plate. It is removed from the lead matrices, and any particles of lead remaining in the shell are washed out with ammonia. The shell is quite thin and is backed by pouring molten metal over the back and then planing it dead true, after

which it is mounted on an iron plate.

The Jamaica stamps were all printed from plates constructed in this way, but the copper electro was, we believe, in each case steel-faced by M. Joubert's process, a licence for which had been acquired by Messrs. De La Rue. In this process the electro shell, after being cleansed, is suspended in the depositing bath in a solution of sulphate of iron and chloride of ammonium. The details of the process have undergone several variations, but the result of all is to cover the copper shell with a perfectly hard and evenly deposited facing of steel, which does not perceptibly interfere with the sharpness of the lines of the electrotype.

For producing the best effects from these plates a dry rolled paper was used, and instead of the usual parchment tympan a satin tympan brought out the fine lines of the engraving in good style. The paper was hard and glossy, so that the ink does not penetrate into it, but remains on the surface, this being one of the essential advantages of surface printing, which is to render the stamps impervious to cleaning. The paper is usually of medium thickness, but is often quite thin, approaching pelure, so that the watermark shews

through very plainly to the front. Mr. Edwards has the 3d. stamp of this series on undoubtedly thick paper. The paper was watermarked with a device of a pineapple, one of these designs being allotted to each stamp in a pane of sixty.



The perforating was done on comb machines gauging 14. at Somerset House, for at this time Messrs. De La Rue & Co. had not apparently installed any perforating machinery of their own. The comb machine used was arranged for perforating sheets composed of panes of sixty side by side in twos. But in the centre the dividing space between the panes was perforated once down the middle instead of being perforated twice lonce down the right edge of the left pane and once down the left edge of the right pane). This centre one perforation produces the side margin varieties (at right or at left) commonly met with in British and

The frame design for each denomination is distinctive.

Colonial stamps perforated by these machines.

The One Penny, printed in blue. has the portrait on a circular gound of horizontal lines, with curved bands of colour, bearing white letter inscriptions, JAMAICA POSTAGE above and ONE PENNY below. The design is filled out lo rectangular shape by a tint of dots.



The stamp was printed from a plate which bore the current number 167. The shades lange from a pale greenish blue to deep blue, the latter being very scarce.

The Two Pence, colour rose, has the portrait placed



similarly to the One Penny, but the inscriptions JAMAICA POSTAGE above and TWO PENCE below are in coloured letters on white hands not conforming to the curves of the circle containing the portrait medallion. The corners not being filled out to rectangular shape give the stamp an unfinished appearance.

The current number of this plate

was 169, and there are shades of this value some of which may be due to exposure. Rose to deep rose covers the variations caused in the printing, the very pale specimens existing being faded copies.

The Three Pence, green, was not issued until 1863, but



it may be properly included here as belonging to the series watermarked Pineapple. The portrait medallion is in this case oval, and is completely enclosed in an oval band of colour bearing the inscription - * - JAMAICA POSTAGE - # -THREE PENCE. The corners are filled in with foliated ornaments.

The colour is a bluish green.

without much shade variation, but there is a yellowishgreen variety, which is uncommon.

The official notice announcing this stamp has been traced, and is as follows :-

GENERAL POST OFFICE. 10th September, 1863.

THREE-PENNY POSTAGE LABELS. For the convenience of the public, Postage Stamps of the denomination of three pence have been imported and can be obtained at this Office.

These Stamps are well adapted for Ship Letters.

(Signed) ALEX. J. BRYMER.

Postmaster for lamaica.

The Four Pence, brown-orange, has the portrait in

a circle similar to the One Penny and Two Pence, but the inscriplions, IAMAICA POSTAGE above and FOUR PENCE below, are in white letters on straight tablets of colour extending across the extreme top and bottom of the stamp.

The current number of this plate was 170. The shades are not very marked, but run to a deep brown-orange, which is scarce.



The Six Pence, lilac, has the portrait in a hexagonal

frame with an outer border of pearls. The oblique sides of the hexagon are bordered by white bands bearing the inscriptions in coloured letters, JAMAICA POSTAGE above and SIX PENCE below. The corners are filled out to rectangular shape arabesque ornaments.

The current number of the

Six Pence plate was 174. This stamp has the largest range of shades, but its colour was also one of the most liable to suffer from exposure. Pale to dark Mac and a bright purple represent the chief shade ariations

The One Shilling, brown, shews the portrait on an oval medallion surrounded by a



oval medallion surrounded by a broad oval band of colour with the inscriptions in large thin white capitals, JAMAICA POSTAGE. ONE SHILLING, a white dot separating the upper from the lower inscription at each side. The corners are filled out with arabesque ornaments.

The current number of the One

Shilling plate was 173.

On this plate at some period in its use a slight defect occurred in the second stamp of the second row of the first pane. This consisted in the marking of the letter S of SHILLING in such a way as to give it the appearance of a dollar mark. The variety has been found with the pineapple and the later watermarks Crown over CC and Crown over CA.

The shades of this stamp are brown to purple-brown. There is an important shade catalogued as yellow-brown. This and the purple-brown are both scarce.

Although newspapers had been transmitted through the post at one halfpenny each for some years prior to the issue of colonial postage stamps in Jamaica, no stamp of that denomination was provided until October 29, 1872. In 1861, however, the bisection of the One Penny stamp was regularly permitted under official authority. The following notice was issued by Mr. Brymer, the Jamaica Postmaster, bearing on this use of the One Penny.

THE FIRST JAMAICAN STAMPS. 37

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

20th November, 1861.

For the greater convenience of persons availing themselves of the facilities afforded by the book post, and also for the pre-payment of newspapers forwarded within the Colony, His Excellency the Governor, in Executive Committee has been pleased to authorise the recognition of one-half of the present Penny Postage Label in pre-payment of the Half Penny Rate of Postage. The Label must be divided diagonally* so as to render the Half Penny triangular, the only shape in which it will be recognised in pre-payment of postage.

(Signed) ALEX. BRYMER,

Postmaster for Jamaica.

It was evidently deemed necessary to point out to the public during the next year that the One Penny stamp was the only denomination which was authorised to be bisected when required to do duty for half its face value.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, 28th August, 1862.

POSTAGE LABELS.

The attention of the public is requested to the fact, that the Penny Stamp is the only one which the Government have permitted to be made use of in a divided state, (thus forming the halfpenny label.)

All letters, &c., upon which portions only of Postage Stamps of any other denomination are affixed, will be treated as unpaid.

(Signed) ALEXANDER J. BRYMER, Postmaster for Jamaica.

[&]quot;The stamp, in spite of the directions to the contrary, was reasionally bisected vertically and the parts used in that form.



CHAPTER IV.

Issues of 1870-1872 (Crown over CC).

THE date of the issue of the stamps printed on the familiar Colonial stamp paper watermarked Crown over CC has always hitherto been given as 1871-72. The commencement of the series on this paper must, however, be dated back to some period in 1870. In the Stamp Collector's Magazine for December

1870, we find a statement to the effect that a correspondent had submitted:—

JAMAICA: 3d current issue, watermarked CC beneath crown; the pineapple seems to be disappearing, and the colony taking its mark as the rest of the crown colonies.

"Specimen" stamps of 3d pale green and 6d mauve with the new watermark were recorded in Le Timbre Poste in May, 1871, and it was there suggested that the watermark of the Jamaica stamps was to be changed.

"if it were not already changed."

The receipt of the three denominations, 2d. 3d and 6d (not "specimens") was chronicled in Le Timbre Poste of November, 1871. The 4d was not chronicled until December, 1872; some months later the 6d was listed as a novelty in The Philatelist and other journals, but it had been received by Le Timbre

Poste nearly two years previously. In October, 1873, the Belgian journal stated that :--

"The appearance of the 1 penny and 1 shilling with the watermark CC and crown completes the series with this

That the references in the contemporary philatelic press are confusing will be apparent from the following note in the Philatelical Journal, December, 1872:

JAMAICA, CC and Crown Watermark The 4p has appeared with this watermark, leaving only the 6p with the

pine-apple in the paper.

The Six Pence, as already shewn, was recorded, and act from a "specimen" copy, in November, 1871, but neither the one penny nor the one shilling were as yet expressly mentioned, nor were they listed until October, 1873

But in the confusing evidence of the contemporary periodicals one thing is clear, that there was a Three Penny stamp with this watermark in 1870, and this is confirmed by the discovery of a strip of four Three Penny stamps watermarked Crown over CC on a letter posted at Kingston, Jamaica, on March 24, 1870, and bearing the London arrival postmark of April 13, 1870.

The date of issue of the One Penny is of some interest as it has a bearing upon the official character of his stamp (watermarked Crown over CC), bisected for use as a One Halfpenny value. From December 1, 1872, as will be seen in a notice quoted hereafter, the half part of a Penny Postage label ceased to be recognised in the payment of postage, and if the announcement of the One Penny Crown over CC in Le Timbre Poste (October, 1873) is approximate to he date of issue of the stamp it will be obvious that the bsected Penny stamps with this watermark have not

the same authorised status as the bisected Penny stamps

watermarked pine apple.

The production of these stamps was on exactly the same lines as that described for the previous issue, the same plates being used, and the stamps being perforated by the comb machines gauging 14 at Somerset House.

There is little to record of the shades of this issue, which in the One Penny and Two Pence are limited to a few gradations from light to deep blue and rose respectively. The Six Pence mauve varies in shade, but faded copies are more commonly met with than unfaded ones.

The variety of the One Shilling with \$ for S in SHILLING occurs with this watermark. It is the second

stamp on the second row of the first pane.

In 1872 a Halfpenny stamp, which had long been required to meet the requirements of senders of book packets and newspapers was issued. It was duly announced in the following Post Office notification:—

GENERAL POST OFFICE, 29th October, 1872.

HALF PENNY POSTAGE LABELS.

Postage Labels of the value of One Half Penny each, having been provided, the Special Rule, under which one Half of a Penny Stamp has been permitted to be used in payment of the Half Penny Rate of Postage is no longer necessary.

The Public are, therefore, hereby notified: That on and after the 1st day of December next, the half part of a Penny Postage Label will cease to be recognised in the payment of Postage, and any Paper, &c., posted with the part only of the Penny Stamp affixed thereon, will be treated as unpaid.

The Half Penny Postage Label has been issued for use as of this date, the 29th day October, 1872, and can be obtained

at the several Post Offices on application.

(Signed) FRED SULLIVAN.

Postmaster for Jamaica.

The Half Penny, marone, bears the usual Jamaica

portrait on a circular medallion with a border of wavy lines, and arabesques in the corners forming a rectangular frame. The inscriptions are in letters of colour on white tablets extending across the top and bottom of the stamp. JAMAICA POSTAGE appears at the top, and ** HALF PENNY ** at the bottom.



The stamp was printed in sheets of two hundred and lorty, disposed in four panes of sixty. It was watermarked Crown over CC and perforated 14 at Somerset House. The *Philatelic Record* of July, 1883, states that—

The ½d has appeared in a fuller and brighter shade than before, denoting apparently a fresh printing, though not a very recent one, as the watermark is still Crown and CC; the

perforation also remains the same.

Up to 1875 the highest denomination of Jamaican postage stamps was One Shilling. In that year, however, on August 27, two new values were added, viz., the Two Shillings and Five Shillings. The issue was announced in the following notice:—

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

Issue of New Denominations of Postage Stamps.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

27th August, 1875.

His Excellency the Governor, for the greater convenience of the Public, having been pleased to authorise the introduction of new Denominations of Postage Stamps of the value of 5s and 2s respectively, the Public are hereby informed that such Stamps have this day been issued, and can be obtained at this Office.

(Signed) GEO. H. PEARCE, pro Postmaster for Jamaica.

The Two Shillings, red-brown, has the laureated



portrait on a circular medallion with border of pearls, and white curved bands above and below bearing in coloured letters JAMAICA POSTAGE above and TWO SHILLINGS below, and small triangular ornaments in the angles.

There are some distinct shade variations, due, no doubt, to several printings being required during the

long life of this stamp. The stamps were printed as before, by Messrs. De La Rue, but instead of being sent to Somerset House to be perforated by the comb machines, they were perforated 12½ by a guillotine machine which had been used by this firm for some years on line-engraved stamps (since 1864), but had not until lately been used for surface-printed stamps.

The Five Shillings, lilac, has the portrait in an



octagonal frame, six of the sides being bordered with pearls, and the four angles being filled with triangular ornaments. The inscriptions JAMAICA POSTAGE above and FIVE SHILLINGS below are in white letters on tablets of colour extending across the top and bottom of the stamp.

The colour presents no interest-

ing variations. The stamp was printed and perforated similarly to the Two Shillings stamp, just described.

On April 1, 1877, Jamaica joined the General Postal Union, being introduced "on the same conditions

as those prescribed for British India and the French Colonies, admitted in July, 1876, that is to say, at a reduced postage of 6d per half ounce for letters and in most cases a diminished charge also for other descriptions of correspondence."*

This rate of postage was reduced to 4d per half ounce as a result of the convention of the Universal

Postal Union in 1878.

Inland postcards had been fixed in 1877 at:—
For a Postcard Posted for Town or Office Delivery.

One Half Penny.

For a Postcard to be conveyed any distance within the Colony.

Postcards within the General Postal Union were three pence, which rate was reduced by the 1878 Convention to three halfpence.

Registered letter envelopes were issued in 1881, and were announced in a Post Office notice of January 1 of

that year.

^{*}Twenty-third Report of the Postmaster-General: London, 1877.



CHAPTER V.

Issue of 1883-1886 (Crown over CA).

In 1882 Messrs De La Rue began to use a new paper for the stamps supplied to many of the Colonies. This had the watermark Crown over CA (the letters CA signifying Crown Agents). The composition of the paper and the arrangement of the watermark devices was similar to the Crown over CC, viz., in panes of sixty, four such panes comprising a complete sheet.

The Four Pence red-brown was the first Jamaican stamp to be printed on this paper, its issue being recorded in the *Philatelic Record* of July, 1883. The One Penny blue is ascribed to the same year, but it does not appear to have been chronicled until September, 1884, in the *Philatelic Record*. The Two Pence Rose is recorded in the same journal and in *Le Timbre Poste* for July, 1884.

* For diagram of a full sheet see Gambia (Melville Stamp Book No. 4).

tLe Timbre Poste mentions it in February, 1884, on the authority of Der Philatelist, which, however, may have been describing it from a "specimen."

In 1885 various changes of colour were effected. The Half Penny, which had not been printed on the Crown over CA paper in the old colour was now printed on the new paper in pale green, the One Penny was printed in rose instead of blue, and the Two Pence in grey instead of rose. These changes must have been effected early in the year as they are all listed in the *Philatelic Record* for April, 1885. The 3d in the new colour, olive green, is first mentioned in Le Timbre Poste of January, 1887.

Of shades, this series presents quite an interesting variety. The Four Pence red-brown was at first a close copy of the colour of the stamp on Crown and CC paper, later it became an orange-brown colour. The One Penny blue did not have a long period in currency, but its successor, the One Penny rose, has a good range of shades from rose to bright carmine. The Two Pence rose was another short-lived stamp, but the same value in grey is found in a dark slate colour, the Three Pence in olive green and in sage green. The Half Penny is found in shades from pale green to blue green.

All the foregoing stamps on Crown and CA paper were perforated 14, the perforating being done at

Messrs. De La Rue's own establishment.

It is in this set that we find examples of the curious and rare perforation 12, which was used for the specimen (with and without overprint) series of the Great Britain 1880 issue, and of certain other Colonial stamps. All the values exist with this perforation.



CHAPTER VI.

Combined Postage and Revenue Stamps, 1889.

In 1889 Jamaica made its first departure from the handsome and distinctive head die which had been engraved for its fiscal stamps by M. Joubert in 1857. The new stamp design was an effort to introduce a general key plate for all the denominations of Jamaica stamps, the distinguishing indication of value being printed in at a second operation.

The new style of stamp was due to the adoption in 1887 of a law making postage stamps valid for the prepayment of fiscal duties, and from this period all the postage stamps of Jamaica served for either postal or fiscal duty. The following is an extract from the Statute Book:—

Jamaica. Law 18 of 1887.

THE POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMP LAW, 1887. (6th October, 1887.)

Whereas it is desirable to make postage stamps available for denoting payment of Revenue Stamp Duties, payment of which may be denoted by Adhesive Stamps, and also to make Revenue Stamps available for Postage purposes, and also to

POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS, 47

provide that, as from time to time stamp plates get worn out, new stamps shall be provided that shall be available for either Postage or Revenue purposes, and also to make further provision respecting the custody, issue, and use of Adhesive Stamps:—

Be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Council of

lamaica, as follows :--

From and after the passing of this Law, any stamps of the pattern heretofore in use for expressing and denoting payment of rates or duties of Postage, and issued by the Treasurer and Commissioner of Stamps under and pursuant to the provisions of Law 18, of 1868, may be also lawfully used for expressing and denoting payment, to the amount expressed by the same, of any Stamp Duties, payment of which may be lawfully expressed and denoted by Adhesive Stamps: and any Stamps of the pattern heretofore in use, and issued under the provisions of Law 33 of 1868 for expressing and denoting payment of the Stamp Duties imposed by the said Law, may be also lawfully used for expressing and denoting payment to the amount expressed by the same, of rates and duties of Postage.

Consequent upon the passing of the above quoted measure the Postmaster issued the following:—

NOTICE.

According to Regulation No. 18, of 1887, the use of adhesive postage stamps is authorised for all uses where fiscal stamps are used: and also adhesive fiscal stamps can be used for the payment of postage. But in case where there is writing or marks of any kind upon the fiscal stamps they will be considered of no value and will not be accepted in payment of postage.

FRED SULLIVAN,

Postmaster-General of Iamaica.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, Oct. 12, 1887.

The first stamps of the new design referred to in the opening to this chapter were the 1d purple and mauve and the 2d green. Their issue was intimated by:—

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

8th March, 1889. No. 112. The Officer Administering the Government directs it to be

notified, for general information, that the issue of the following Unified Postage and Revenue Stamps has been authorised. viz. :---

Colour, light purple, Queen's head within a circle 1d. containing the words "Jamaica Postage and Revenue" with the denomination "Id" at the base.

2d. Colour, light green, similar in other particulars to the 1d stamp as above described, with the denomination "2d" at the base.

The general design of the stamps is printed from a



uniform key plate, which bears diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left on a circular ground of horizontal lines enclosed within a circular band of colour inscribed JAMAICA POSTAGE & REVENUE. The medallion inscriptions occupy the upper two thirds of the stamp design, and the inscribed band is broken into

at the bottom by an octagonal opening to receive the impression of the value or duty plate. The whole of the key plate design is filled out to rectangular shape by arabesques and enclosed in a pearled border and an

outer line of colour.

Only two denominations, 1d and 2d, were issued in this type on August 27th, 1889, and it was later used for a twopence halfpenny value, but as it is the most conventional and least successful of Jamaica's portrait stamps we cannot regret that its use was never extended to the other denominations, which still remained in the original laureated head designs.

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The Id stamp was printed in dull purple for the key plate and mauve for the duty plate. The 2d was printed all in green, but at two operations. The stamps were printed in sheets of two hundred and forty in four panes of sixty stamps, and they were perforated 14 by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. As the catalogue states, there are many shades of both the ld and 2d stamps, as both were in use for upwards of twelve years.



CHAPTER VII.

The Provisional Two Pence Halfpenny Stamp, 1890.



BOTH the Philatelic Record and Le Timbre Posle announced a provisional stamp of Jamaica in their issues of August, 1890. This was the Two Pence Halfpenny on Four Pence orangebrown. From inquiries made by Dr. R. Stanley Taylor and Mr. Astley Clerk, this would appear to have been issued on or about May 29, 1890. Mr. Clerk gives the result of inquiries pursued in the Colony:

As early as January 18th, 1890, the daily newspapers were urging on the Government the necessity of reducing the postage between the United States of America and Jamaica from 4d

to 2½d. Letters from Jamaica to U.S.A. then cost 4d, while from U.S.A. to Jamaica it was only five cents (2½d). The matter was questioned in the Jamaica Legislative Council on the 19th of March. On the 29th of May the official Post Office notice appeared in the Colonial Standard and other newspapers intimating that under certain conditions letters would be posted to America for 2½d each.

That the Two Pence Halfpenny on Four Pence red-brown was first issued at that period to prepay the letters to the United States at 22d per half ounce is further established by the discovery of a dated copy by Mr. W. Buckland Edwards as close to the aforementioned date as June 4, 1890 (six days after May 29).

The ordinary letter rates to and from Great Britain and India and the Colonies were reduced from 4d, 5d, and 6d to the uniform rate of 2½d. Jamaica, which had hitherto been under a 4d rate, announced the change in the following:—

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

Reduction in the rate of Postage on letters addressed to places over the Sea.

On and after 1st January, 1891, the letter rate of postage on correspondence addressed to the United Kingdom, as well as to all other places in the Universal Postal Union, will be two pence halfpenny per half ounce.

On all other mail matter the rates of Postage are unaltered.

By Order.

FRED SULLIVAN,

Postmaster for Immaicu.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, 29th December, 1890.

The change which brought all correspondence with States in the Postal Union within the twopence halfpenny rate of postage found Jamaica still without a permanent postage stamp to denote this duty. A stamp of that

denomination was on order from Messrs. De La Rue & Co., a first supply of which, however, did not reach the Colony for nearly two months after the new rate became established. In the interim the use of the provisional Two Pence Halfpenny on Four Pence orange-brown, watermarked Crown over CA. was continued.



Double Surcharge.

It will be seen, therefore, that the provisional had a fairly long life, during which period there were two different settings of the type used for the overprinting, and probably several printings. Dr. R. Stanley Taylor, in a very thorough study of these stamps in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly (Vol. VIII., pp. 246, et seq.) has placed it upon record that the overprinting was done under considerable

difficulties by a local job printer, Camille Vendryes, on a small hand press, a "Golding Jobber" platen press printing up to 8 in. by 12 in., which would only allow one pane of sixty stamps to be put in the press at one time. The same printer, using the same press, produced the locally overprinted OFFICIAL stamps, to which reference will be made later.

We are chiefly concerned to give in concise form the results of Dr. Taylor's researches, with some additional notes by Mr. W. Buckland Edwards, which appeared in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly following upon the article by Dr. Taylor (Vol. IX., p. 239). Dr. Taylor's illustrations of the settings are used by the courtesy of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., but for the full text of the articles the student should refer to the original source. In one setting, which we shall call the horizontal setting, the type was set up to print two horizontal rows of six stamps. As the types are distinguishable we number them

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

In the other setting, which is probably the earlier of the two, the type was set to overprint a vertical row of ten stamps. This we shall designate the vertical setting:

1234567890

In each case the pane of stamps had to be adjusted to receive several impressions of the type before the pane was completely overprinted. Five impressions of the horizontal setting (of twelve types) were necessary to overprint the sixty stamps of a pane, and six impressions of the vertical setting (of ten types).

Horizontal Setting.

The length of the TWO PENCE is 14-14½mm. The length of the HALF PENNY is 15-15½mm. The height of the letters is 2½mm. The spacing between TWO PENCE and HALFPENNY is in Row I. (types I to 6) 1mm; in Row II. (types 7 to 12) 1½mm.

The differences in the twelve types are as follows*:

See Folding Plate F, No. 2.

Type 1. The letter "H" in HALF PENNY has dropped.

 The letter "T" of TWO is placed centrally between the down strokes of the letter "H" in HALF.

 The letter "E" in PENNY is replaced by an "F," and there is a dot in the upper part of the "H" in HALF.

,, 4. The letter "T" of TWO is placed over the last down stroke of "H" in HALF; and the curve of the letter "P" in PENCE is thinned or broken.

, 5. The letter "T" of TWO is placed a little to the right of the last down stroke of "H" in HALF, and the second foot of the "W" is short and bent.

 The letter "E" in PENNY is broken, and there is a dot between the down stroke and the last up stroke of the first "N" in PENNY.

7. The letter "T" of TWO is placed slightly to the left of the last down stroke of the letter "H" in HALF, and the spacing between the two lines of surcharges is 1½mm.

. 8. The letter "T" of TWO is centrally placed between the down strokes of the letter "H" in HALF, and the top of the letter "C" in PENCE is broken.

NOTE.—It is difficult to determine whether the "C" in PENCE is really broken, or whether the defect is only due to being badly inked. The impression on the back of the stamp does not help much. However, the defect is very constant. Type 9. The letter "T" of TWO is placed between the

Type 9. The letter "T" of TWO is placed between the the letters "H" and "A" of HALF.

... 10. The upper half of the first down stroke of the letter "H" in HALF is broken off.

In the word PENNY the letter "E" is replaced by an "F," and the "Y" is represented by a "K" with the lower limb broken.

NOTE. In some specimens the "K" is complete, but from recent investigations Dr. Taylor has come to the conclusion that the "K" variety is a forgery.

Type 11. The letter "E" in PENNY is broken.

", 12. The letter "E" in PENNY is so broken as to almost resemble an "L."

^{*}As given by Dr. Stanley Taylor.

NOTE. In the very early printings the letters "C" and "E" in PENCE are in their normal position, but very soon in the process of printing the letter "E" seems to fall away and becomes detached or spaced.

Compare Plate F. No. 1.

As the printing went on, owing to the coagulation of the ink and letters breaking, numerous other peculiarities appeared, the most important of these being:

Type 2. The letter "H" in HALF becomes more blurred. as if the ink had begun to clog.

The down stroke of the letter "T" of TWO is 3.

broken

The last up stroke of the letter "W" in TWO is 4. thinned and jagged. The top bar of the last "E" in PENCE becomes detached from the down stroke, and the up line in the first "N" in PENNY is broken.

The first down stroke of the letter "W" in TWO is 5. broken.

The vertical bar of the letter "T" in TWO and the 6. horizontal bar of the letter "H" in HALF are broken.

The letter "T" in TWO and the letter "A" in 7. HALF are broken.

8.

- Both the "N's" in PENNY are damaged. The letter "N" in PENCE is broken, also the first down stroke of the letter "A" in HALF, and the lower bar of the letter "E" in PENNY is short.
- The lower bar of the first "E" in PENCE is short. .. 10.
- The top bar of the letter "F" in HALF and the first ., 11. "N" in PENNY are broken.

The letter "W" in TWO becomes more blurred. .. 12.

Dr. Taylor adds that "In these later printings I have said that many of the letters are broken, but it is extremely difficult to decide whether this is really the case, or if the defect is due to bad ink.

"It will be seen, therefore, that the only difficulty which arises is to recognise the difference between Nos. 4, 5, and 7, and the difference between Nos. 6 and 11. In Nos. 4 and 5 the position of the letter 'T' in TWO to the letter 'H' in

HALF is very marked, and in No. 5 the short, curved second foot of the letter 'W' in TWO is very constant; there is, however, greater difficulty in distinguishing No. 7 from No. 4, and this can only be done by noting the difference of the spacing between the two lines of the surcharge. In the later printings No. 7 can easily be recognised by the broken letters 'A' and 'O.'

"The difference between Nos. 6 and 11 can likewise be told by the spacing between the two lines of the surcharge, and also in No. 6 the lower bar of the letter 'E' in PENNY can be traced out, whereas in No. 11 it is cut off short; in other words, in No. 6 the irregularity is probably due to bad ink;

in No. 11 a broken 'E' has been used."

Vertical Setting (Folding Plate G).

The lengths of TWO PENCE and HALFPENNY are as in the horizontal setting. The height of the letters is the same. The spacing between the lines TWO PENCE and HALFPENNY is uniformly 1mm. The distance between the surcharge on one stamp and the one above or below is 18mm, except between types 5 and 6.

The varieties are thus described :

Type I. Final "E" in PENCE is slightly raised; the second foot of "W" is short. The first feature is constant, but the first stamp does not seem to shew the short "W" (vide Plate G in No. 202, G.S.W.).

Type 2. Thick "E" in PENCE.

". 3. Thick "N" in PENCE.

"4. Thick "F" in HALF.

These features may not be constant, but the exact position of the final "E" in PENCE over the "NY" below will greatly help, as reference to the plate will shew. The remaining types are easy.

Type 5. Thick "L," and thick "E" in PENNY.

,, 6. Thick "O" in TWO.

All the above six types have the letter "T" slightly to the left of the second down stroke of the "H" below.

^{*}By Mr. W. Buckland Edwards, B.Sc.

Type 7.

ype 7. "T" to right of "H" below.

"B. "T" over second down stroke of "H," and thick.

"B. "T" over second down stroke of "H," but thin.

"I" to right of "H," thick "L" in HALF.

These thick letters probably arose from their slight depression below the general type surface, which gave them more ink: all my copies shew that this feature may safely be taken as a guide, but Nos. 2-4 require confirmation.



CHAPTER VIII.

Issues of 1890-1897 (Crown over CA).

N June, 1890, Le Timbre Poste, on the authority of La Revue Philateliane appoint Pence, golden yellow," on Crown and CA paper, perforated 14, but in August of the same year it states that the stamp was not yet in use. Its issue appears to have taken place shortly afterwards. the old hexagonal frame type, and the colour is in shades of orange to yellow.

The following notice in the Jamaica Gazette heralded the arrival from Messrs. De La Rue & Co. of the regular 22d stamp to take the place of the provisional Two Pence Halfpenny on Four Pence orange-brown:

25th February, 1891.

No. 103.

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

TWO PENCE HALFPENNY.

Colour, light purple. Queen's head within a circle containing the words "Jamaica Postage and Revenue," with the denomina-tion "2½d." at the base.

By Command.

I. ALLWOOD. Acting Colonial Secretary. This stamp, like the 1d and 2d of the same unified type was printed in sheets of two hundred and forty in four panes of sixty on Crown and CA paper and

perforated 14.

In March, 1897, the American Journal of Philately announced that the One Shilling brown, Two Shillings red-brown, and Five Shillings violet had been issued with the Crown over CA watermark, these three stamps completing the series of the Jamaica Queen's head stamps on this paper. The designs are as before, indeed, with the exception of the unified Postage & Revenue design for the Id, 2d, and 2½d, the original types with the Joubert head die had been consistently preserved.



CHAPTER IX.

The Penny Pictorial Stamps, 1900-1901.



now come to an interesting and curious departure from the portrait type of stamps. The novelty was announced in the Jamaica Gazette of May 3, 1900, as follows:

STAMP OFFICE, 2nd May, 1900. The following is a description of a new design of One Penny Postage and Revenue stamps which have been put into circulation on the first inst. :-

Carmine.

Colour.

Shape, Rectangular.

A view of Llandovery Fall. Design,

E. JORDAN ANDREWS, Stamp Commissioner. It seems clear that the Jamaican authorities, in departing from their previous philatelic traditions, were desirous of emulating the example of British Guiana and other British possessions in using the boon of Imperial Penny Postage (started by Canada at Christmas, 1898, and followed by Jamaica on May 24, 1899) as a means of introducing the attractions of Jamaica to Britons at home and in other Colonies.

The stamp, however, did not possess the attractiveness of the British Guiana stamps, which had the advantage of being bi-coloured. The all-red colour of the first Llandovery stamp, while it may be intensely British, is artistically hopeless, and this failing was remedied later by the adaptation of the same design to

two-coloured printing.

The size of the stamp is larger than the regular stamps issued previously, measuring 30mm. by 25mm., and the method of printing was line engraving, a process which we have described in detail in *Great Britain*: Line Engraved Stamps, and which it should not

be necessary to discuss here.

The view of Llandovery Falls has puzzled collectors having no knowledge of the island, and even the late Mr. Edward J. Nankivell wrote that "this view has been recognised as a bit of Welsh scenery, and I have never seen any explanation as to its appearance on the Jamaica stamp." A glance at the place names of Jamaica—the three counties Surrey, Middlesex and Cornwall; the districts St. Ann, St. James, Trelawney, Portland; and the towns, e.g., Kingston, Falmouth, etc.—should be sufficient to lead to the inquiry as to where the scene with the Welsh name was to be found in Jamaica itself.

^{*}The Melville Stamp Books No. 1.

The Tri-Weekly Gleaner (Jamaica) in its issue of May 3, 1900, describes the stamp, and thus allocates the scene:

The centre piece is a representation of the Llandovery Falls, in St. Ann, shewing both vegetation and water. The name is comparatively unknown. The view may illustrate one of the many aspects of Jamaica the land of wood and water but it certainly gives no idea of the "wood" with which nature has endowed Jamaican scenery. The view might very well depict a scene one of many in Wales. The photograph is one of a series sold by local photographers, and in the original the charm of the light and shade and almost perfect delineation of tropical wealth of foliage never fail to impress. But these charms have been lost in the representation the engraver has given us.

Mr. Astley Clerk, in a detailed article in Gibbons Stamp Weekly (X., 417) points out that just above the RY of LLANDOVERY in this stamp is a rock which

resembles the figure of a man.

This has been most seriously stated, locally at least, to be Sir Henry Blake, Governor-General of the island at the time the photo of the Falls was taken; but Dr. James Johnson, who took the picture, from which the design of the stamp was afterwards copied (without his leave), assures me that neither Sir Henry Blake nor anyone else was there at the time, and that the supposed man is but a rock standing out of the waters.



This stamp was printed in sheets of sixty on Crown over CC paper instead of Crown over CA, and the watermark is sideways. Inverted, reversed, and inverted and reversed watermarks are to be found.

According to a schedule supplied to Mr. Clerk by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. at the instance of the Jamaica Government there were but two printings of this stamp in carmine, but it will be noted that the date given for the first printing is later than the date on which the stamp was first issued to the public. Messrs.

De La Rue & Co. inform us that the first shipment of these stamps was made early in April, 1900, although they were not invoiced until July 10. That first shipment formed a portion of the 64,768 stamps. The schedule gives the following particulars:—

July 10, 1900, - - 64,768 stamps. February 4, 1901, - - 28,150 ,,



The unsatisfactory appearance of the single-coloured stamp was doubtless in a large measure responsible for the adaptation of the design for two-colour printing, and on September 25, 1901, the bi-coloured stamp made its appearance. The following official notice, which is simply a modification of the notice of May 2, 1900, appeared in the Jamaica Gazette, September 26, 1901:—

STAMP OFFICE, KINGSTON.

25th September, 1901.

The following is a description of the new issue of One Penny Postage and Revenue stamps which are to be put into circulation on the 25th inst:

Colour, - Black centre and carmine border.

Shape. - Rectangular.

Design, - A view of Llandovery Falls.
E. JORDAN ANDREWS,

Stamp Commissioner.

The design of the stamp presents no other variation than was necessary to secure the correct register in printing the frame plate after the centre plate. The centre plate is without any frame line, and the inner lines of the design on the frame plate have been strengthened.

There were six printings, totalling to 261,924 stamps,

as follows :--

July 4, 1901		29,818	stamps
October 11, 1901, -		48,970	
March 26, 1902, -		48,286	**
December 18, 1902,		18,000	**
April 21, 1903, -		39,350	- 17
November 27, 1903,	-	77,500	.,

Both the Llandovery view stamps were used for both postage and revenue purposes, and the latter of the two stamps, although an improvement in artistic effect, was a failure for receipt purposes, as writing did not shew up across the black centre. Some varieties have been recorded of the bi-coloured stamp (additional to the vagaries of watermark which are found here as before). A partly double printed stamp exists with the lower right hand portion of the frame printed twice, which, coming from the lower left corner of the sheet, could scarcely have been anything else than a double off-set. In another variety reported the bottom stroke of the second L of FALLS is missing, making the word read FALIS. There also is a variety printed on slightly bleuté paper.



CHAPTER X.

Issues of 1903-1910.



HE next series of Jamaica Stamps made its first appearance on November 16, 1903, two denominations, the ½d and 2½d appearing in a new type, shewing the Arms of the Colony in black within a coloured border. The issue was announced from the Stamp Office as follows:—

[&]quot;Arms: arg., on a cross gu., five pine apples or. Crest: Above an esquire's helmet, an alligator. Motto: Indus uterque serviet uni. Supporters: Dexter, a female Blackamoor, holding in her dexter hand a basket of fruit ppr. Sinister, an Indian warrior, holding a bow, plumed ppr.

STAMP OFFICE, November 14, 1903.

The following is a description of a new design of 2½d and 2d postage stamps which will be put in circulation on the 16th inst.

The design of the 2½d stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of drab and in a frame of blue.

The design of the ½d stamp is denoted by the Arms of the

Colony in black, set in a ground of dark drab and in a frame of pale green.

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

E. JORDAN ANDREWS, Stamp Commissioner.

These stamps were surface printed from a general plate for the centres, and separate colour plates for the frames, which bore the denomination both in words and figures. The plates were constructed to print two hundred and forty stamps to the sheet in four panes of sixty. The paper was watermarked Crown over CA.

In the early part of 1904 the 1d and 5d stamps were issued in this type. The centre plates were printed in black in each case, the frame being in carmine in the case of the 1d, and yellow for the 5d.

All these stamps being printed from the same general plate for the centre portion of the design, they all present an interesting variety, which was caused by an accident to one of the designs on this "arms" plate. The motto on the arms reads INDUS UTERQUE SERVIET UNI, but on one stamp in each sheet of two hundred and forty the letters VI of SERVIET were damaged and read "SER. ET." The position of the variety was the second stamp in the fourth horizontal row.

In this type of stamp Jamaica seems to have fallen completely behind its old traditions. In departing from the original portrait design an elegant and graceful stamp has been replaced by a coarse and clumsy daub, so crude that it could present little difficulty to the forger. At a first glance one would expect to find the minute inscription of the motto on the arms reading FINE OLD JAMAICA RUM instead of INDUS UTERQUE SERVIET UNI.

The authorities themselves were probably not com-



pletely satisfied with the new type, for when further printings were required of the 3d, 4d, 6d, and 1s stamps they appeared in the old Queen's head types on the new multiple Crown over CA paper. At the same time the ½d, 1d, 2½d, and 5d

were printed on the new paper in the same colours as before, and a 5s stamp in black and violet was the only addition to the series in the arms type. Chalk-surfaced paper was used for the five stamps in the arms types, and ordinary unsurfaced paper for the Queen's head types. The "SER. ET" for "SERVIET" variety was still on the plate from which the armorial centres were printed, but it may have been corrected. We have not been able to trace the error on the Id, 2½d, or 5s. Dr. Taylor has it in the ½d and 5d. The following is a synopsis of the types on the Multiple Crown over CA paper:—

Arms Design. Chalk-surfaced Paper.

dd black and dull green (October, 1905).

d ..., carmine (December, 1905).

d ..., ultramarine (? November, 1907).

d ..., yellow (April, 1907).

5s ., violet (1905).

Queen's Head Design. Ordinary Paper. 3d pale olive green (May, 1905). 4d red-brown (June, 1908). 6d orange-yellow (September, 1906).

1s brown (November, 1906). 2s red-brown (November, 1908).

In 1906 the 1d and 1d stamps were issued in a new



arms type, each printed at a single impression in one colour. The whole of the frame design was redrawn for the new stamps. In the 2d the inscriptions of JAMAICA and HALFPENNY are in white letters on tablets with rounded ends instead of straight tablets. The words POSTAGE—& REVENUE are in white letters on coloured

grounds at the sides instead of in minute coloured letters at the base of the design. Some palm leaf ornamentation has been added at the base in colour on a white ground.

In the new 1d design the word JAMAICA appears in coloured letters on a white scroll at the top, and the figures of value at the upper corners are in white ovals. The words POSTAGE—& REVENUE are in coloured letters extending up and down the sides. The words ONE PENNY at the bottom are in coloured letters on a tablet ornamented at the ends, and there is a white palm leaf ornamentation at the base.

The 1d, printed all in green, was recorded from a "specimen" copy in the Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal on October 1, 1906. It was stated in Ewen's Weekly

Stamp News of October 6 that—

The 1d rose is also expected. Old stamps (the set now current) will be demonetized on 1/11/06 and may no longer be used for postage after that date. They may, however, be exchanged for the new stamps up to 15/11/06 inclusive.

The 1d printed in carmine made its appearance in October, 1906, but the ½d was not in use until

December of the same year.

In 1909 printings were made in new colours of the 3d and 6d stamps in the Queen's head design. The 3d was in lilac on yellow paper, and the issue of this denomination was delayed until March 10, 1910. The 6d, printed in violet (instead of dull orange), was issued on November 19, 1909. Both of these stamps are on unsurfaced paper, watermarked Multiple Crown over CA, but as it has been decided to print in future all stamps above the face value of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d in doubly fugitive ink on chalk-surfaced paper, subsequent printings have been made on chalk paper instead of ordinary unsurfaced paper. The watermark is, however, the same for both papers.

lamaica has adopted the new colour scheme for the stamps of British Colonies printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., but it is doubtful whether any further change will be made in the colours of the present designs, except the 21d ultramarine, 4d black and red on yellow, Is black on green, and 2s purple and blue on blue, which have just been issued (September 24th, 1910). It is confidently anticipated that most of the Colonies will adopt the portrait of His Majesty King George V. as the central feature of their stamps issued in the new reign, and although Jamaica is one of the lew Colonies which did not present any postage stamp portrait of the late King Edward," we are of opinion that the island, with which our present King has the happiest of associations, will adopt the royal portrait for its future stamps.

[&]quot;We learn that the philatelists of Jamaica have petitioned the Governor with a view to securing "the historical and philatelic succession" by issuing one stamp with King Edward's portrait, to which an official reply has been sent "that it is proposed to make arrang ments for the issue of such a stamp."



CHAPTER XI.
Fiscal Stamps Used for Postage.

of 1887) gives authority for the use of postage stamps for fiscal purposes, and also for fiscal stamps to be used for the prepayment of postage. But even prior to the passage of this Law certain of the fiscal stamps, notably the 1d rose, had been used for postal purposes. The list of the fiscal stamps which are known to have done postal duty are:



Queen's Head Design. Perforated 14.

Id rose, watermark pine apple.

This stamp is not uncommon pen-cancelled, and consequently collectors should be on their guard against cleaned copies offered at times as unused.

ld rose, watermark CA over Crown sideways.

This is a fiscal paper, differing from the well-known Crown over CA paper, the whole watermark occupying the space of two stamps of this type.

Id rose, watermark Crown over CC.



Arms Design. Perforated 14.

				-			
					paper,	no	watermark.
1 d	**,	**	white	,,	**	11	11
3d p	urple	,,	blue	**	**	••	••
3d			lilac		**	••	**
3d 3d			white		11	".	, ,,
)d	**	wate	ermark	ed Cro	wn over		∵.



Large Queen's Head Design. Perforated 15½ × 15.

Is rose on blue.

⁵s lilac on blue.

¹⁰s green on blue.



CHAPTER XII.

Stamps for Official Correspondence.





PREVIOUS to 1890 the correspondence of Government Offices was franked through the post without any particular indication of the postage. The stationery used bore the usual initials O.H.M.S. (On Her Majesty's Service) and the signature of the chief of a department either in MS. or produced by a handstamp was usually added in the bottom left corner.

On April 1, 1890, owing probably to abuses of the old method, the franking privilege was withdrawn and it was notified that in future the Government Departments would be required to prepay all postages by means of certain of the ordinary stamps overprinted OFFICIAL.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 144.

2nd April, 1890.

The Governor directs it to be notified, for general information, that from and after 1st instant, the privilege of sending or receiving Official Correspondence free of Postage in this Island is withdrawn.

2. The following are the Rules which have been approved by His Excellency with respect to the payment of Official

Postages.

By Command.

NEALE PORTER, Colonial Secretary.

Rules with respect to the Payment of Official Postages.

From and after Tuesday, the 1st day of April, 1890, the permission either to send or to receive Official Correspondence FREE OF POSTAGE will be cancelled with the following exceptions:—

His Excellency the Governor, his Private Secretary, and his A.D.C., and also (for the convenience of the general community and the general management of the Postal Department) the Postmaster for Jamaica.

2. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary will also retain the right to frank, by his own signature, correspondence posted

by himself in his official capacity.

3. Correspondence to or from Heads of Departments or other Public Functionaries who have not been specially exempted will be liable to the following Rates of Postage:

Letters, - Id per half-ounce. Book Packets not exceeding 5 lbs., dd per 4 ounces. Parcels not exceeding 8 ounces, 1d per 2 ounces.

4. Prepayment of postage on correspondence to or from a Head of a Department or other Public Functionary is OPTIONAL except in the case of registration; but, when prepayment is effected, it must be by means of Official Postage Stamps, which can be purchased from any Post Office. If the ordinary postage stamps be made use of the article so prepaid will not be recognised as Official, but will be surcharged as an ordinary letter.

5. Official Postage Stamps are ONLY available for the prepayment of postage by Heads of Departments or other Public Functionaries. Prepayment of correspondence from the Public to such Officials must be effected by means of the ordinary postage stamps.

6. Correspondence which may be wholly unpaid or partly prepaid will be surcharged at the above stated prepaid rates of postage. The postage on such unpaid correspondence must be

paid for, IN CASH, before delivery.

(Signed) FRED SULLIVAN, Postmaster for lamaica.

GENERAL POST OFFICE. 11th March, 1890.

The 3d green stamp of 1885 was overprinted with the word OFFICIAL in thin sans serif capitals by Vendryes, the local job printer, to whom reference has already been made (Chapter VII.). This locally printed stamp was for temporary use only, a stock of 1d, 1d, and 21d stamps overprinted OFFICIAL having been ordered from England.

Dr. Stanley Taylor has described four settings of the local overprint OFFICIAL. Of these we give a precis, but reference should be made by the student to the fuller original in Gibbons Stamp Weekly (VIII., 295).

First Setting (Plate A).

The word official is 17 to 173mm, in length, the letters being 24mm, high. The type was set in three horizontal rows of six:

10 9 13 14 15 16 17 18

printed three times, the first row (numbers 1 to 6) being impressed a fourth time to complete a pane of sixty.

The setting is recognised by-No. 4. A broken "E" is used for the first "F."

No. 5. A blot appears in the upper part of the letter "A." No. 7. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 8. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 10. The top bar of the first "F" is short.

No. 12. The top curve of the "O" is thinned, and the top bar of the first "F" does not touch the down stroke. (This is not constant.)

No. 13. Á broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 15. The top part of the letter "C" is broken.
No. 16. The first down stroke of the letter "A" ends in a blot.

No. 17. The top part of the letter "A" is blunted.

No. 18. The top parts of the first "1" and the letter "C" are thinned or cut off, thereby giving an appearance of being

lower than the rest of the surcharge.

ERRORS.-Among the errors which occurred during the printings from this setting are:-1. "OFF.C.AL" ("I's" omitted). This error also exists in a double overprint. 2. ".FFICIAL" ("O" omitted). 3. "OFFICIA." ("L" omitted). 4. Overprint inverted. 5. Double overprint. 6. Double overprint, one of the impressions being inverted. 7. Double overprint, one impression reading vertically down the stamp, the other horizontally across the stamp. 8. Double overprint, one impression being slanting, the other straight.

Second Setting (Plate B).

The word OFFICIAL is 15 to 16mm. long, the letters being closer together than in the first setting. The type was in two rows of six stamps:

6 8 9 10 11 12

repeated down the pane of sixty, five impressions being required to complete the overprinting of the pane.

Points of distinction are :--

(151mm. long), broken "E" for first "F." No. 1.

(151mm. long), a blot in the letter "O." No. 2.

(151mm. long), short top to the second "F." No. 3.

No. 4. (15½mm. long), broken "E" for second "F."

No. 5. (15mm. long), short top to first "F."

(16mm. long), blurred first "F." No. 6. No. 7. (16mm. long), blurred second "F."

(16mm. long), broken "E" for second "F." No. 8.

No. 9. (153mm. long).

No. 10. (16mm. long), broken "E" for second "F."

No. 11 (16mm. long), short "A.

No. 12. (151mm. long).

Third Selling (Plate C).

The word OFFICIAL is 17 to 173mm. long as in first setting. but is printed in two vertical rows of ten:

impressed three times across the pane of sixty stamps. The irregularity of the horizontal alignment clearly indicates the manner of overprinting in the two vertical rows. Minor points of distinction repeated in the proper positions across the pane are as follows:

The top bar of the first "F" is short.

No. 4. The "C" is thicker than the other letters.

No. 5. A broken "E" is used for the first "F.".
No. 9. A broken "E" is used for the second "F." No. 11. Both the "F's," especially the second, appear to be

replaced by broken "E's.

No. 13. The first letter "1" is broken. No. 14. The top bar of the second "F" is short.

No. 17. The "O" is of a different font.

Fourth Setting (Plate D, Nos. 5, 7, 8).

With regard to this setting Dr. Taylor states that the illustrations, Nos. 5, 7, and 8, on plate D, appear to be parts of another setting, but the blocks are not large enough to shew how the type was set up. The font is the same, the length of the surcharge is 17-172mm., and the height of the letters is 24mm. On examining the blocks it will be seen that the whole surcharge on each stamp looks irregular, and from the general appearance the type seems to have been put up in single rows of six, repeated ten times down the pane. Two of the blocks are postmarked 1894-5, and the few single specimens in Dr. Taylor's possession are postmarked 1894-5. These specimens cannot be allocated anywhere in the three settings just described. There is no doubt that owing to an exhaustion of the De La Rue issue the "thin" OFFICIAL was again brought into circulation in 1894-5, and the probability is that these were the remainders of those stamps surcharged by Vendryes in 1890-1, and perhaps these blocks represent the manner in which the type was set up, but until larger blocks appear nothing can be said with any certainty respecting this setting.





The De La Rue overprints were applied to the 1d and 2d stamps of the first unified design, but on impressions of the unified plates in distinctive colours. The 1d was overprinted OFFICIAL in black on a special printing of the 1d stamp in rose, and the 2d was similarly overprinted on a special printing of the 2d in grey. The De La Rue overprints are in thick capitals, the length of the word OFFICIAL being 16mm., the height of the letters 2\frac{3}{4}mm. Both the 1d and 2d were in use in the early part of 1890. The \frac{1}{2}d stamp with the De La Rue overprint was in black on green, and was not issued until the following year (1891).

Dr. Taylor has a copy of this overprint on the 2d green, which appears to have been a proof impression.



CHAPTER XIII. Bibliography.

COMPLETE WORKS.

BACON, E. D. [Article on] Jamaica in The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Postcards, and Telegraph Stamps of the British Colonies in the West Indies, etc. London, 1891. The Philatelic Society...*

Mr. Bacon's article on Jamaica is on pp. 89-104, and

there are Addenda on p. 181.

NANKIVELL, E. J. Jamaica and Cayman Islands, pp. 25. Tunbridge Wells, 1909.

Mr. Nankivell's notes are also contained in *The Captain* and the *Postage Stamp*, 1., 35, from the latter of which the above booklet is reprinted.

INDEX TO THE CHIEF PRINTED ARTICLES AND PAPERS IN PHILATELIC PERIODICALS.

NOTE. Roman figures thus V. denote the volume, and Arabic figures—135, indicate the page. In a few cases the date takes the place of the volume number, and in E.W.S.N. the whole number of the issue is given.

B.P.S. -Bazaar Philatelists' Supplement.

B.S.B. Boston Stamp Book.

E.W.S.N. Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.

G.S.W. Gibbons Stamp Weekly.

L.P. London Philatelist.

M.W.S.N. Meekel's Weekly Stamp News

P.R. Philatelic Record.

P.J.G.B. Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

P.S. The Postage Stamp.
S.C.F. Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.
S.G.M.J. Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal.
S.M.C. Smith's Monthly Circular.

T.P. Le Timbre Poste.

BRITISH STAMPS used in Jamaica [Nissen & Bernstein], G.S.W., VI., 293, 326, 344, 358, 371; [Johnson], P.J.G.B., VII., 202.

COLLECTIONS. Taylor collection awarded extra bronze medal, London, 1906], S.G.M.J., XVI., 246; [Breitfuss], S.G.M.J., XVIII., 35.

COLONIAL COLOUR SCHEME. The Colonial Office Journal, II., 348.

DUTY ON STAMPS in Jamaica, S.G.M.J., XV., 105,

GENERAL. [Edwards], S.C.F., X., 79; [Greenwood]. S.C.F., XII., 145; [Laffan], P.J.G.B., XIV., 60; [Nankivell], P.S., I., 35, reprinted in booklet form, see "Complete Books"; [Pemberton], P.J.G.B., XVIII., 114; [Taylor], G.S.W., VIII., 246, 295, 312; [A Young Reader], Junior Stamp Collector, I., 116.

See also Catalogue for Advanced Collectors, New

York; reprinted from 2 A.J.P., VI., 9.

Guide to Values, S.C.F., VII., 43, 50.

Newspaper Wrapper, S.M.C., 1888, p. 68.

OFFICIAL STAMPS [Taylor], G.S.W., VIII., 246, 295; [Withdrawal of], S.C.F., IV., 67; M.W.S.N., XI., 65 ; 2 A. J.P., XI., 75.

PERFORATIONS [Bacon and Napier], S.G.M.I., XIV., 53. 96.

PETITION respecting proposed Columbian series. M.W.S.N., IV., 18, 4; 2 A.J.P., VIII., 186.

The humble petition of the undersigned members of the Jamaica Philatelic Society to the Honourable Sir Neale Porter, K.C.M.G., Colonial Secretary for Jamaica, sheweth

That your petitioners respectfully submit for the consideration of H.E. the Governor resolutions passed at a meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Association (sic) on the

14th day of May last.

The resolutions set forth that the meeting approved of certain postage stamps to commemorate the fourth centenary of the discovery of Jamaica by Columbus, viz., of the values 3d, 1d, 2d, 24d, 43d, and 5d; that it will be of advantage to the revenue of the Island to issue these stamps in 1894; that the proposed stamps will act as an advertisement of the island; that the expenses consequent on the making of all plates, etc., will be recouped by the quantity sold to philatelists, many of which will never be used in service; that collectors and dealers will keep several in stock as curiosities to be sold by them in future; and finally, that the stamps be only circulated for the period of one year.

PICTORIAL ISSUE, 1900-1; S.G.M.J., X., 262; [Clerk], G.S.W., X., 417; [on bleuté paper], E.W.S.N., 232; S.G.M.J., XIV.. 184; [FALIS],

G.S.W., X., 475.

POSTAL FISÇALS. M.W.S.N., VII., 105; S.C.F.,

II., 34; 2 A.J.P., IX., 481.
POSTAL NOTICES. T.P., XVIII., 123 (No. 347), translated in L.P., I., 150: M.W.S.N.; S.G.M.J., XIV., 113.

Postcards [Bacon], P.R., VI., 61; S.M.C., 1878, pp. 1, 51, 67; 1879, p. 114; 1883, p. 67;

1890, pp. 40, 63; 1892, p. 34. PROVISIONALS. 2 d on 4d, B.S.B., II., 66; [Taylor]. G.S.W., VIII., 246, 295, 312: [Edwards]. G.S.W., IX., 239; Halfpenny OFFICIAL [Taylor]. G.S.W., VIII., 246, 295.

Remainders. L.P., VIII., 193; S.G.M.J., IX., 204.

The following were offered for sale at not less than face value in 1899: Adhesives 2s, face value, £856 12s 0d; 1s, £7 5s 0d; Postcards, 3d, £149 3s 3d; 1d, £6 5s 0d; 1½d, £0 9s 0d. The adhesives were watermarked CC.

SER..ET varieties, see VARIETIES.

SHEETS. [Thiele], The Adhesive, May, 1904.

SPECIMEN STAMPS, see COLLECTIONS [Breitfuss].

TELEGRAPH STAMPS, Postal use of. 2 A.J.P., VII., 236.

VARIETIES. Is imperforate, M.W.S.N., X., 40; Is brown, double printed, see Collections [Breitfuss]; Is (dollar sign for S in SHILLING), CC, E.W.S.N., 320; CA, G.S.W., IX., 64; Id, bisected [Slade], B.P.S., March 25, 1896; SER..ET for SERVIET, S.G.M.J., XVI., 41, XVIII., 25; E.W.S.N., 310, 398, 330. See also Provisionals, Pictorial Issue.

NOTE. Mr. Astley Clerk of the Jamaica Philatelogical Society, Kingston, writes philatelic notes regularly in the Jamaica Gleaner, files of which should prove useful for research. We have had access to most of the articles up to August, 1910.



CHAPTER XIV.

Check List of British Stamps Used in Jamaica, 1858-1860.

HE stamps of Great Britain found with Jamaica postmarks are:—

(1) Id red, large Crown, perf. 16.

(2) 1d red, large Crown, perf. 14.

(3) 2d blue, large Crown, perf. 14.

(4) 4d, no letters.

(5) 6d, no letters.

(6) 1s, no letters.

The office numbers by which the stamps may be identified are (together with an index to the stamps on which the various marks are known):—

A01. Kingston, 1d perf. 16, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d, 1s.

A27. Alexandria, 2d, 4d.

A28. Anotto Bay, 1d perf. 14, 4d. A29. Bath, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A30. Black River, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A31. Brown's Town, 4d, 6d.

A32. Buff Bay, 4d, 6d. A33. Chapelton, 4d, 6d.

A34. Claremont, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A35. Clarendon, 4d, 6d.

A36. Dry Harbour, 1d perf. 14, 4d.

A37. Duncans, 4d, 6d.

A38. Ewarton, 6d.

A39. Falmouth, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A40. Flint River, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d, 1s.

A41. Gayle, 6d, 1s.

A42. Golden Spring, 6d, 1s.

A43. Gordon Town, 6d.

A44. Goschen, 4d, 6d.

A45. Grange Hill, 4d, 6d. A46. Green Island, 4d, 6d, 1s.

A47. Highgate, 4d, 6d.

A48. Hope Bay, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d. A49. Lilliput, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A50. Litte River (none found).

A51. Lucea, 4d, 6d.

A52. Machioneal (none found).

A53. Maudeville, 1d perf. 14. A54. May Hill, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A55. Mile Gully, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A56. Mongeaue, 6d.

A57. Montego Bay, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d, 1s.

A58. Montpelier, 6d.

A59. Morant Bay, 4d, 6d. A60. Ocho Rios, 4d, 6d.

A61. Old Harbour, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A62. Plantain Garden River, 1d perl. 14, 4d, 6d.

A63. Pear Tree Grove, 6d.

A64. Port Antonio, 4d.

A65. Port Morant, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d. A66. Port Maria, 1d perf. 14, 6d.

A67. Port Royal, 6d.

A68. Porus, 6d.

A69. Ramble, 1d perf. 14, 4d, 6d.

A70. Rio Bueno, 4d, 6d. A71. Rodney Hall, 4d, 6d.

A72. St. David (none found). A73. St. Ann's Bay, 4d, 6d.

A 13. St. Anns Bay, 4

A74. Salt Gut, 6d.

A75. Savannah-la-Mar, 1d perf. 14, 2d, 4d, 6d, 1s.

A76. Spanish Town, Id perf. 14, 4d, 6d, 1s.

A77. Stewart Town, 4d, 6d. A78. Vere, 1d, 4d, 6d, 1s.



CHAPTER XV.

Check List of Stamps Printed for Jamaica by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. of London.

1860-1863.—Watermarked pine apple. Perforated 14. 1d blue.

Shades.

Bisected for use as 3d (authorised 1861).

2d rose.

Shades.

Bisected for use as 1d (unofficial).

3d green (November, 1863).

Shades.

Watermark inverted.

On thick paper.

4d brown-orange.

Shades.

6d lilac.

Shades.

Is brown.

Shades.

Variety with 8 mark for S in SHILLING.

1870-1875.—Watermarked Crown over CC. Perforated 14, except the 2s and 5s, which are perforated 12½.

d marone.

Shades.

Imperforate.

1d blue.

Shades.

Bisected for use as 1d. Watermark inverted.

2d rose.

Shades.

Watermark inverted.

3d green.

Shades.

4d orange-brown. Shades.

6d mauve.

Shades.

Is brown.

Shades.

Imperforate.

Variety with 8 mark for S in SHILLING.

2s red-brown, perf. 12½.

5s lilac, perf. 12½.

1883-1886.—Watermarked Crown over CA. Perforated 14.

d green.

Shades.

Perforated 12.

1d blue (1883).

1d rose (1885).

Shades.

Perforated 12.

2d rose (1884).

2d grey (1885).

Shades.

Perforated 12.

3d olive-green.

Shades.

Perforated 12.

4d red-brown.

41

Shades.

Perforated 12.

1889.—Combined "Postage and Revenue." Water-marked Crown over CA. Perforated 14.

Id dull purple and mauve. Shades.

2d green.

Shades. Watermark inverted.

1890, May 29.—Provisional stamp. Overprinted TWO PENCE HALFPENNY in black on the Four Pence. Watermark Crown CA.

21d on 4d orange-brown.

Shades.
Double Overprint.

ERRORS. "F" for "E" in HALF-PENNY (PFNNY).

(PFNNY).
"F" for "E" and "K" for "Y" in
HALFPENNY (PFNNK).

NOTE. The authenticity of this "K" variety is doubtful (see page 54).
"F" for "E" and broken "K" (Y) for

"Y" in HALF-PENNY (PFNNY).
For description of settings of this overprint see
Chapter VII.

1890-1897.—Watermarked Crown over CA. Perforated 14.

(Being additional to the 1883-1886 series).

2½d purple and blue.

6d yellow.

Shades.

Perforated 12.

Is brown.

Variety, 8 for "S" in SHILLING.

2s red-brown.

5s violet.

1900-1901.—Engraved in taille douce. Water-marked Crown CC sideways.

1d red (1900).

Watermark inverted. Watermark reversed.

Watermark inverted and reversed.

Id red and black (1901).

Watermark inverted, Watermark reversed,

Watermark inverted and reversed.

FALIS for FALLS. On bleuté paper.

1903-1904.—First Arms type. Watermark Crown over CA. Perforated 14. Arms in black.

d black and green.

SER..ET for SERVIET (in motto).

1d black and carmine.

SER ET for SERVIET.

21d black and ultramarine.

SER..ET for SERVIET.

5d black and yellow.

SER..ET for SERVIET.

1905-1910.—Watermarked Multiple Crown over CA. Perforated 14.

Arms in black, paper chalk surfaced.

d black and green.

SER..ET for SERVIET.

1d black and carmine.

(?) SER..ET for SERVIET.

21d black and ultramarine.

(2) SER..ET for SERVIET.

5d black and yellow.

SER..ET for SERVIET.

5s black and violet.

(?) SER..ET for SERVIET.

```
Arms in Re-drawn Frame. Unsurfaced paper.
    d green (1906).
     1d carmine (1906).
    21d ultramarine (1910).
  Old Designs—Queen's Head in various Frames.
                On unsurfaced paper.
     3d pale olive green (1905).
     3d lilac on yellow.
                Unsurfaced paper (March 10, 1910).
                Chalk surfaced paper ( , 1910).
    4d red-brown (1908).
    4d black and red on vellow (1910).
    6d orange-yellow (1906).
                Shades
    6d violet.
                Unsurfaced paper (1909).
                Chalk surfaced paper (1910).
     ls brown (1906).
     Is black on green (1910).
     2s red-brown (1908).
     2s purple and blue on blue (1910).
                         Watermarked Crown CA.
   OFFICIAL STAMPS.
   1890, April 1.—Provisional. Overprinted OFFICIAL
in black by Camille Vendryes.
     d green.
                Overprint 15 to 16mm, long,
                         17 to 175mm. long.
                         inverted.
                         double.
                                one inverted.
                                one vertical.
                         reading "OFF.C.AL."
                                            (double).
                               ".FFICIAL
                               "OFFICIA.
```

(For description of settings see Chapter Xi!)

1890-91.—Overprint in black by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in London. Thick overprint.

 $\frac{1}{2}$ d green.

Short O in OFFICIAL.

1d rose.

Short O in OFFICIAL.

2d grey.

Short O in OFFICIAL. Without overprint.

FISCAL STAMPS USED FOR POSTAGE.

1878-81.—Queen's Head designs. Perforated 14.

ld rose, watermarked pine apple.

Id rose, watermarked CA over Crown sideways.
(See note on page 70).

Id rose, watermarked Crown over CC.

Arms design. Unwatermarked. Glazed paper. Perforated 14.

1 d blue.

On blue paper. On white paper.

3d purple.

On blue paper. On lilac paper. On white paper.

On white paper, watermarked Crown CC.

Large Queen's Head design. On unwatermarked blue paper. Perforated 15½ × 15.

ls rose.

5s lilac.

10s green.



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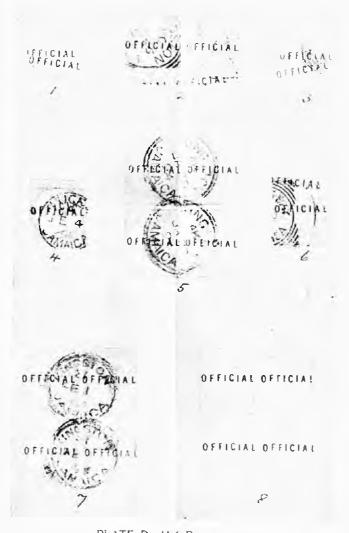


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