BARBADOS POSTAL HISTORY 1656 - 1881

INTRODUCTION

GEOGRAPHY & HISTORY

Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands in the Caribbean Sea. The island is 21 miles (34km) long, 14 miles (23km) wide, has an area of 166 square miles (430 square kms) and a population of 280,000 people. Bridgetown is the capital and commercial centre of the island. The island's name came from the Portuguese, who christened the island "Los Barbados" ("the bearded ones") after the aerial roots of the fig trees growing there, which look like beards.

The first inhabitants on the island were tribes of Amerindians: the peaceful Arawaks and the more fierce Caribs from whom the entire region is named. It is suspected that the cannibalistic Caribs drove the Arawaks off the island but abandoned it themselves by the early 1600's. The Spanish may have taken them as slaves or they may have migrated to the north and south but there were still some Amerindians on the island when the Portuguese stopped there in the early 1500's on their way to Brazil.

When the English Captain John Powell arrived in 1625, he found the island uninhabited and claimed it for King James I of England. Powell returned to England with enthusiastic descriptions of the island. Eighty settlers were sent out soon thereafter and arrived in February 1627 at the site which is now known as Holetown.

During the next two decades the population grew dramatically for two reasons. Political unrest in England due to the struggle between Oliver Cromwell and Charles I caused the arrival of many English subjects. The introduction of sugar cane as the island's main crop brought many slaves from Africa. In subsequent years, Barbados moved towards the formation of an independant society with the slaves being emancipated in 1834. Barbados is unique among the islands of the Caribbean because it has had unbroken British rule from its beginnings. This has helped create a foundation for stability in a country composed of different races and creeds.

POSTAL HISTORY

Regular mails between Barbados and Great Britain were established at an early date in the island's development and the British Mail Packet Agency in Bridgetown was opened in 1688. This Agency was a sub-office of the General Post Office in London and it was not replaced by a Colonial Post Office until 1858 although an Inland Post Office had been established in 1852. From the early period one distinguishes between Packet Mail and Ship Mail. Packet Mail was carried by Mail Packet Vessels, fast sailing ships, in some cases owned by the British Government but more generally hired on contract from the Commanders who owned and ran them. Mail Packets operated in 1702-1711 and from 1755 onwards. Ship Mail was carried by Private Ships and the practice of sending letters by private ships continued to flourish also when Packet Mail had been introduced. Most of the Coffee Houses in London openly kept bags for the collection of letters to be forwarded by merchant ships. The British Post Office decided to control this traffic which legally it couldn't stop. In 1799 the Ship Letter Act was passed which empowered the Post Office to place overseas mails on any British ship at the rate of 2d. per letter. From 1711 the Captain of a Private Ship received a "Master's Gratuity" for each letter he carried, as an inducement to hand over such letters to the Postal Agent at his first port of call in the country to which the letter was addressed. Initially this was 1d. per letter but this was increased to 2d. in 1799.

On the following pages the introduction and development of the postal markings and postal rates is described. Barbados joined the Universal Postal Union on 1 September 1881.

RARITY, RESEARCH AND LITERATURE

The rarity statements in the exhibit are based on research carried out over a large number of years, both by the exhibitor as well as by other collectors and specialists of the area, notably Michael Hamilton in England, using auction catalogues spanning over a period of more than 50 years, and collections formed over more than 75 years.

The exhibitor has given displays at the British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC) meetings and has also contributed with articles in the quarterly Bulletin issued by the society.

The exhibitor has also contributed significantly to the book about Barbados Postal History published by Ted Proud (2006), which is part of his series of books about the Postal History of the British Colonies. Postmark type numbers are taken from "Barbados Post Office Markings to 1981", BWISC, 1982.

THE EXHIBIT - PLAN AND DETAILS

This exhibit is a very comprehensive collection of postal history of Barbados and, as far as the pre-stamp period is concerned, it is the best that has ever been assembled. It contains a large number of rare and unique items and many of the earliest recorded examples of postal markings used in Barbados. The pre-stamp section shows examples of all the different markings used in Barbados and is unique thus.

THE EARLY YEARS (1656-1699) (frame 1)

The exhibit starts with the early **pre-stamp** period and shows the **earliest known** cover from Barbados (1656) as well as a number of other **rare** 17th Century covers, both inland and to England.

THE 18TH CENTURY (frames 1 to 2)

The **18th Century** period shows a wide variety of mail including the **third earliest** use of any postmark in Barbados (1758), two examples of the **rare** large straight line BARBADOES (A1) marking, and a 1785 Forwarding Agent's letter.

19TH CENTURY PRE-STAMP COVERS (frames 2 to 4)

The **19th Century** pre-stamp period includes **one of four known** examples of the dated double line postmark (A3, 1800), the **earliest and latest known** examples of the small straight line postmark (A4, 1801 and 1812), the **earliest known** example of the Fleuron cds (A5, 1812), the **only known** example of the recently discovered **PAID TO ENGLAND** marking (PD1, 1815), exotic destinations including Ionian Islands (1833) and India (1849), the **earliest known** example of the first double arc cds (A6, 1838), the **earliest known** example of the Ship Letter marking (D2, 1848) which is also the **only known** use during the pre-stamp period, **one of two known** unpaid covers with a Parish marking (1857), and a number of examples of the Paid at Barbadoes Crown Circle (B1) including **one of two known** examples to St Thomas, **one of two known** examples to France, the **only known** example to Spain, **two of three known** Soldier's Letters and the **only known** example with a British 1d. stamp added for onward transmission.

THE IMPERFORATE STAMP PERIOD (1852-1860) (frame 5)

The **imperforate stamp period** 1852-1860 starts with the **earliest known** use of Barbados stamps (1852), **one of two known** examples of four imperforate ½d. stamps on cover (1860), two 1854 **bisect** covers including the **only known** example with a diagonal bisect, the **earliest known** cover to a foreign country (non-GB, BNA or US) with Barbados stamps (1857), the **earliest known** use of the imperforate 1/- stamp (1859) which is also the **only known** use in combination with other imperforate stamps, and a **unique** cover with 1/- imperforate to Canada (1860).

THE PERFORATE STAMP PERIOD (1860-1881) (frames 6 to 8)

The **perforate stamp period** 1860-1881 shows a detailed study of the postal rates used during the period, including a **unique** 11d. combination to Canada (1862), several covers with the **scarce** Parish markings, **one of very few** recorded examples of a **bisected** 1d. stamp used as ½d. (1863), **rare** consignees mail with 1d. stamps, the **only known** example of the 1s.1d. rate to France (1875), **one of three** examples of the 1s.0½d. rate to Europe (1878), four **rare** Late Fee covers (1860, 1868, 1871, 1872), **rare** examples of Soldier's Concessionary mail (1861, 1863 and 1873) and Officer's Mail (1869), two **registered** covers (1872 and 1879), the latter showing the **only known** example of the REGISTERED handstamp (J2a), the **largest known** multiple franking of Britannia stamps, 24 1d. stamps (1880), and the **only known** example of a Barbados Puerto Rico combination cover (1865).

DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXHIBIT

This exhibit has not been shown since 2002 and a large number of major items have been added since it was last displayed. Several of the items mentioned above have not been shown before and these include the earliest known cover 1656, the 1815 Paid to England marking, the 1848 Ship Letter marking, the 1857 unpaid Parish marking, the 1852 earliest known use of Barbados stamps, the 1860 cover with four imperforate ½d. stamps, the 1859 earliest known use of the 1/- stamp, the 1865 Barbados Puerto Rico combination cover, and the 1879 cover with the Registered handstamp.

THE POSTAL MARKINGS

Exactly when the first postmark was introduced in Barbados is not known but the earliest recorded use of a postmark is from April 1747 (type A2). Obliterators were introduced at the same time as the first stamps and they were used to cancel the stamps whereas the datestamps were applied elsewhere on the letter. Barbados is divided, for administrative as well as ecclesiastical purposes, into 11 parishes. Each parish, for postal purposes, was alloted a number and these numbers appear in the obliterators, bootheels and in some of the datestamps.

BARBADOES

Large Straight Line
Type A1 (1765-1770)
A very scarce marking.
Ten examples recorded.

BARBA DOES

Double Line
Type A2 (1747-1798)

BARBADOES
DEC 11800

Dated Double Line
Type A3 (1799-1800)
A rare marking.
Four examples recorded.

BARBADOES

Small Straight Line
Type A4 (1801-1812)

Fleuron
Type A5 (1812-1836)

Serifed Double Arc
Type A6 (1838-1850)

Sans-serifed Double Arc
Type A7 (1845-1858 +
1858-1887 by Colonial P.O.)

PAID TO ENGLAND
Type PD1 (1815)
Very rare. One example recorded!

Crowned Circle
Type B1 (1849-1858 in red,
re-used in 1893 and 1896)

BARBADOS
SHIP-LETTER

SHIP-LETTER
Type D2 (1848-1877)
Rare. Five examples recorded.

Obliterator
Type C1 (1852-1863)
numbers "1" to "11"

Bootheel
Type C2 (1863-1885)
numbers "1" to "11"

Open Bootheel Duplex
Type C4 (1876-1899)

Parish Datestamp
Type E1 and M1 (1852-1867)
numbers "1" to "11"

Barbados Datestamp
Type E2 and M2 (1863-1901)
numbers "1" to "11"

There were also a number of instructional markings in use during the 19th century, which are not illustrated here.

POSTAL RATES

Before 1840 the postal rates are very complicated. They are often a combination of the sea rate (packet or ship) and the British inland rate. Rates to other countries are often even more complicated, especially for mail going via Great Britain. In these cases there are normally three or more parties involved in the calculation of the total rate. The rates below are primarily to Great Britain since that is where most of the mail from Barbados was sent. The rates listed are for Single Sheet letters prior to 1840; subsequent rates are for letters of ½oz.; Double Sheet letters or heavier letters pro-rata.

PACKET LETTERS TO GREAT BRITAIN

For the definition of packet letters see page 1. Between 1797 and 1840 the rates for packet letters are listed to Falmouth and London only; to other destinations the British inland rate has to be added. From 1840 there was no extra charge for any destination within Great Britain.

1702	9d.
1705	1s.6d.
1712-1754	no Packet Vessels
1765	1s.
1797	1s. to Falmouth; 1s.8d. to London
1805	1s.1d. to Falmouth; 2s. to London
1813	1s.2d. to Falmouth; 2s.2d. to London
1840	1s.
1854	6d.
1863	1s.

SHIP LETTERS TO GREAT BRITAIN

For the definition of ship letters see page 1. The rates for ship letters are listed to Great Britain. Ship letters to other countries were charged the ship letter rates in use in that country.

1657	British Inland Postage only
1711	British Inland Postage plus Master's Gratuity 1d.
1796	4d. (including Master's Gratuity 1d.) plus British Inland Postage
1799	4d. (including Master's Gratuity 2d.) plus British Inland Postage
1814	6d. if in Sealed Bags, plus British Inland Postage
	1d. if not in Sealed Bags, plus British Inland Postage
1819	8d. (including Master's Gratuity 2d.) plus British Inland Postage
1840	8d.
1854	6d.
1863	3d.

OTHER RATES, FEES AND REGULATIONS

Very little has survived in the form of information about foreign rates from Barbados before they became members of the UPU. Various snippets have been found in official archives and have been confirmed to be correct through surviving letters.

1710	to USA 4d.
1711	Inter-island 4d.
1795	Soldier's rate by packet: prepaid 1d., unpaid 2d.
	Soldier's rate by ship: prepaid 3d., unpaid 4d.
1814	Soldier's rate by ship: full ship rate
1837	to the French border 2s.3d.
1843	to France 2s.1d.
1850	Soldier's rate by H.M.Ships: 1d.
	Soldier's rate by private ship: 1d. plus 2d. Master's Gratuity
1851	Inter-island 4d. plus 1d. inland rate on both islands
1852	Inland 1d., Newspapers ½d. each
1855	to France 1s., to Italy 1s ½d., to Germany etc 1s.4d.
1858	Registration fee 6d.
1858	Compulsory pre-payment of postage
1860	Late fee 1d.
1862-64	Additional inland fee of 1d. on incoming letters abolished
1867-69	Officer's rate 6d.
1872-73	to Demerara, Northern Islands, Canada and USA, 2d. per ½oz.
1872(c)	Registration fee 4d.
1874	Late fee 4d. up to half an hour, 1/- for more than half an hour
1878(c)	to USA and Canada, 4d. per ½oz.

MAP OF BARBADOS

1758 French map from the Bellin Atlas of the World. Jacques Nicolas Bellin (1703-1772), French Hydrographer to the King of France, Censeur de l'Academy de Marine and member of the Royal Society of London. He was commissioned by the French King to map all known coasts of the world.
Numbers 1 to 11 on the map refer to the Parish numbers as used in the postmarks from 1852 onwards.

1656 - THE EARLIEST KNOWN MAIL

The first settlers arrived in 1627 and a well organised society was slowly established. Trade with England was important and ships carried the goods to and from the West Indies.

1656 THE EARLIEST KNOWN LETTER FROM BARBADOS

RATE: None, the letter was sent before Ship Letters were mentioned for the first time in any Post Office Act (in 1657) and this letter does not seem to have been handled by the Post Office, but was probably delivered privately or through a Coffee House.

CARRIED BY: Endorsed "Per ye Samaritan Q(uem) D(eus) C(onservet)", latin for "Whom God may protect".

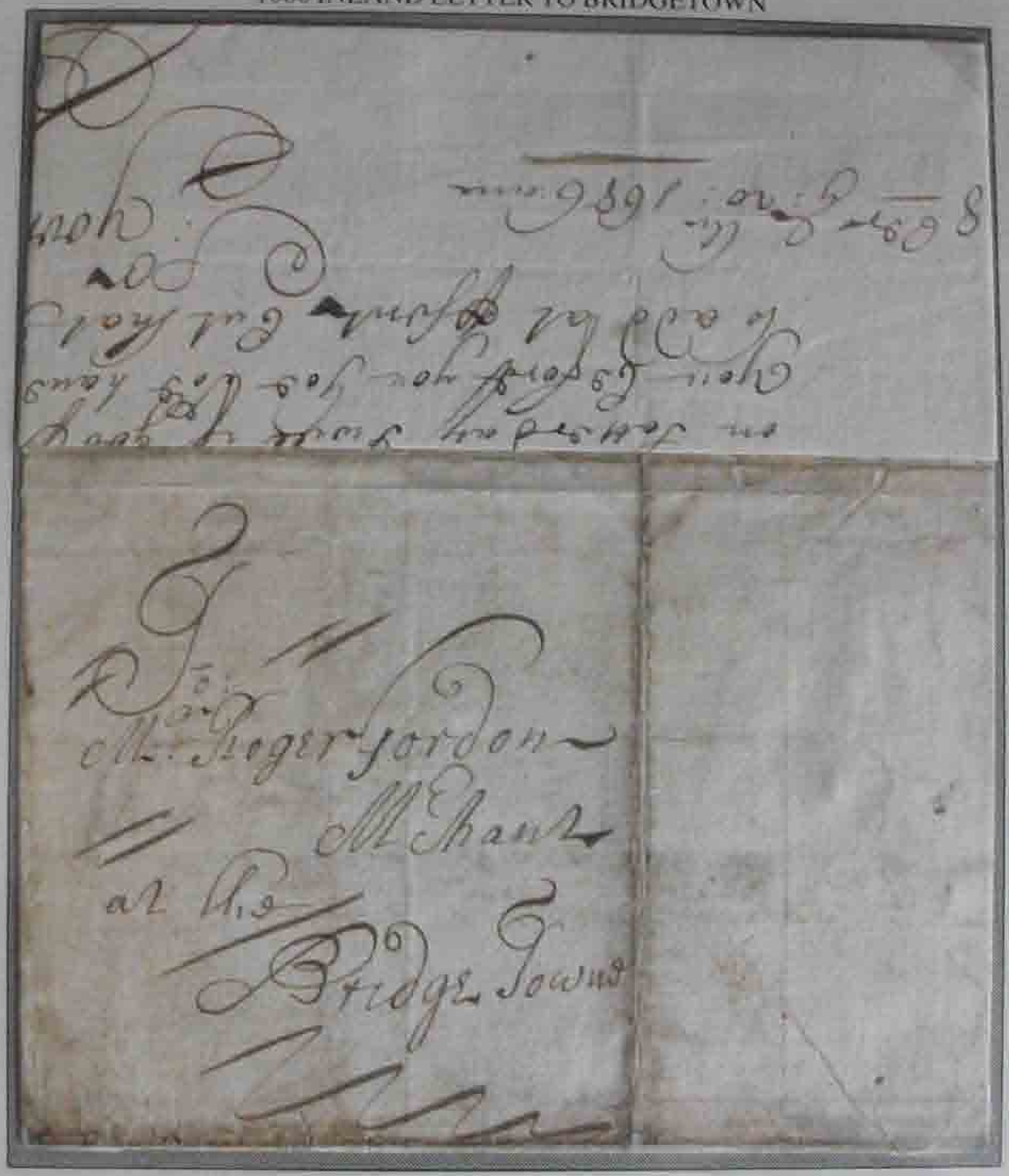
COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados December ye 18th 1656" and was sent by Merchant Edward Jacob, and is addressed "To Mr Thomas Pengelly Merch.t, at ye 3 Lions in Canning Street, in London". Another letter from the same correspondence is known but the date on that letter is unclear.

THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED LETTER FROM BARBADOS AND ONE OF THE EARLIEST KNOWN LETTERS FROM THE WEST INDIES.

1686 - VERY EARLY INLAND MAIL

After the first settlers had arrived in 1627, the population grew dramatically and by the end of the 17th century a well organised society had been established with Bridgetown as the commercial centre of the island.

1686 INLAND LETTER TO BRIDGETOWN



RATE: None, the letter was carried by a messenger, probably a slave, to the addressee. Inland postal service was not introduced until 1852. Before then people had to arrange themselves for their mail to be carried.

COMMENT: The letter is addressed to "Mr Roger Gordon, Merchant at the, Bridge Town" and is dated "8ber (October) ye 20th 1686" and was written by a Mr Hull. "Mr Roger Gordon, I hope this will find you in good health, as I am at this present. I would have been at the Bridge before now but I could not have a convenient opportunity, but if you do not sail on Saturday I will if God permits come and see you before you go. So having no more to add at present but that I am, your ready servant, J Hull".

THIS IS ONE OF THE EARLIEST RECORDED INLAND LETTERS FROM BARBADOS.

1688 - THE FIRST POST OFFICE

The British Mail Packet Agency in Bridgetown was opened in 1688. This Agency was a sub-office of the General Post Office in London and it was not replaced by a Colonial Post Office until 1858.

1687 LONDON GAZETTE PUBLISHING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POST OFFICE

Numb. 2296

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday November 17. to Monday November 21. 1687.

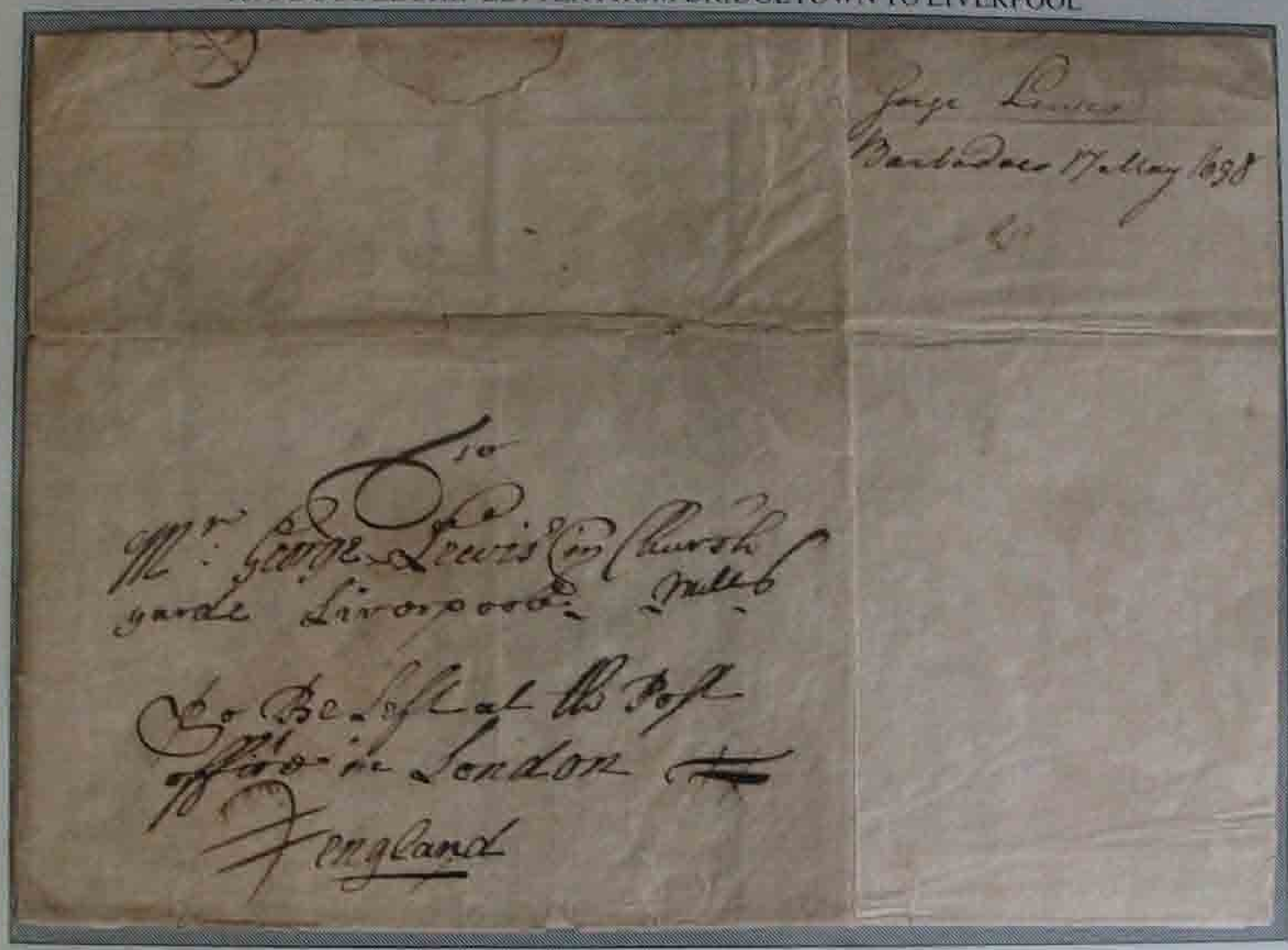
THE following Address has been Presented to them that immediate proof of the taking them into his

COMMENT: London Gazette of November 17 to 21, 1687, publishing the establishment of the first Post Office in Barbados: "All Masters of Ships and others that carry Letters to the Islands of **Barbados** and Antigua, are to take Notice, that His Majesty will **Establish a Post Office** in each of the said Islands, of which Captain George Saintlo is **Post-Master**, unto whom, or his under Officers, they are to deliver their Letters, when they arrive in the said Islands"

1698 - "IN ALL"

When an original charge was altered in the early days, the words "In all" were often used as a prefix to indicate the correct amount to be collected from the addressee. In early cases this phrase was in manuscript, but later appropriate handstamps were introduced.

1698 DOUBLE SHIP LETTER FROM BRIDGETOWN TO LIVERPOOL



RATE: First charged "7"d. but this was deleted and altered to "In all 6"d. (6d. (2x3d.) double inland rate to London 1653-1711)

ARRIVAL MARKING: London Bishop Mark "IY 11" (July 11) in sans-serifed characters.

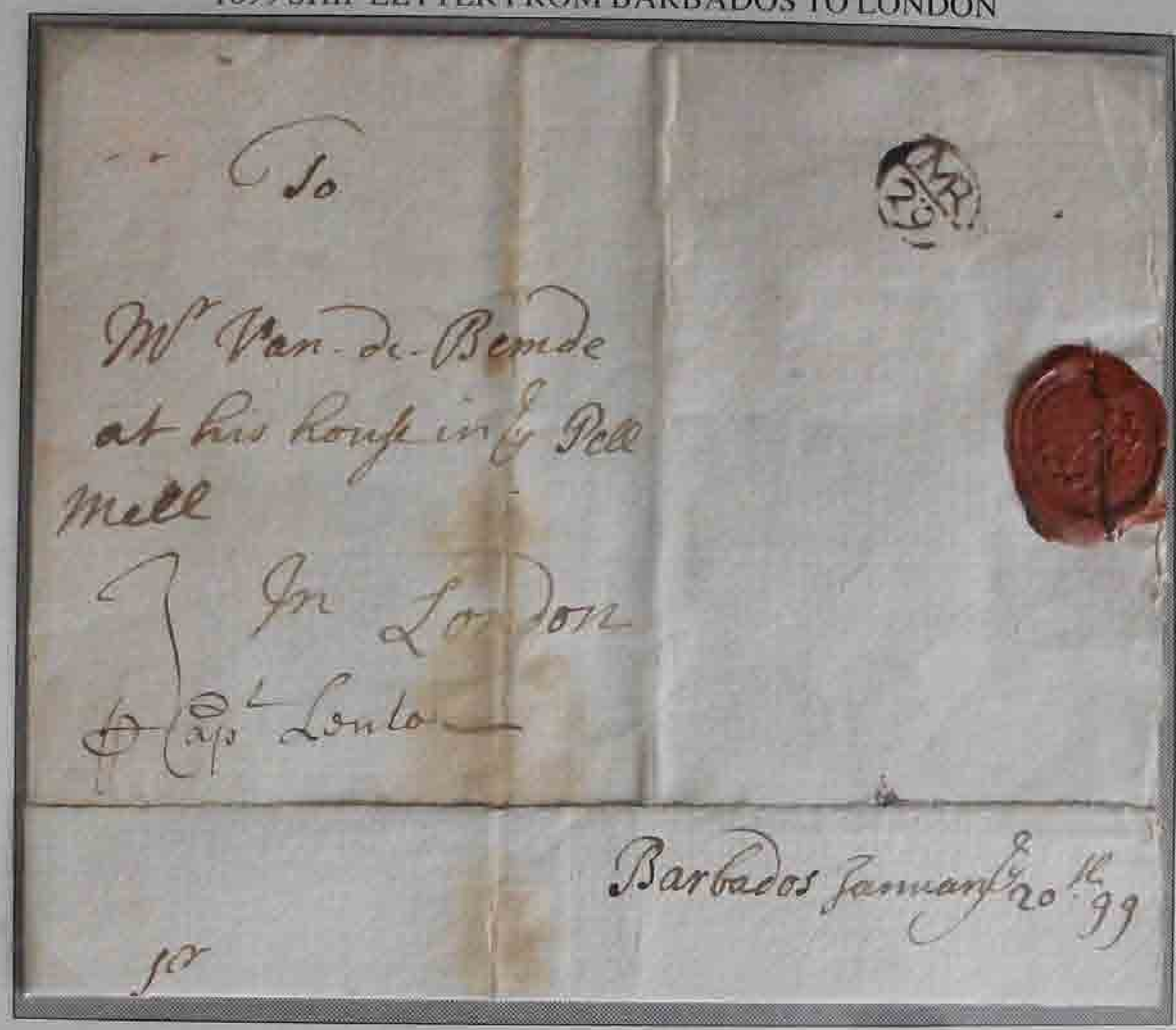
COMMENT: The letter is addressed to "Mr George Lewis, in Church yarde, Liverpool, to be left at the Post office in London, england" and is headed "Bridgetown, Barbados, May 17th 1698". It concerns the sale of a cargo shipped from England to Barbados.

THIS IS A VERY EARLY LETTER FROM BARBADOS, HANDLED BY THE BRITISH POST OFFICE.

1699 - EARLY SHIP MAIL

Regular mails between Barbados and Great Britain were established at an early date of the island's development and the British Mail Packet Agency in Bridgetown was opened in 1688. A distinction between ship mail and packet mail was not established until the Royal Warrant of 1702 introduced a separate rate for packet mail. Up to 1711 there were no extra charges for ship mail to Great Britain; it was just the inland rate from the port of arrival to the destination.

1699 SHIP LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO LONDON



RATE: Charged "3"d. (3d. inland rate to London 1653-1711)

ARRIVAL MARKING: London Bishop Mark "MR 29" in sans-serifed characters.

COMMENT: The letter is addressed to "Mr Van de Bemde, at his house in ye Pell Mell, In London". It was sent by John Blackman "Barbados January ye 20th 1699" and contains information regarding affairs in England. The letter has a manuscript note "per Capt. Lonton".

THIS IS A VERY EARLY LETTER FROM BARBADOS, HANDLED BY THE BRITISH POST OFFICE.

1720 - SHIP MAIL WITH 1D. MASTER'S GRATUITY

In 1711 a system was introduced which gave a Private Ship's Captain 1d. for each letter he carried, as an inducement to hand over such letters to the Postal Agent at his first port of call in the country to which the letter was addressed. This 1d. is called "Master's Gratuity".

1720 DOUBLE SHIP LETTER TO SCOTLAND

RATE: First charged "11"d. but the letter was double so this was deleted and altered to "In all 1N9" (1s.9d.) (1d. Master's Gratuity 1711-1795 + 8d. (2x4d.) double rate to London 1711-1764 + 1/- (2x6d.) double rate from London to Scotland 1711-1764)

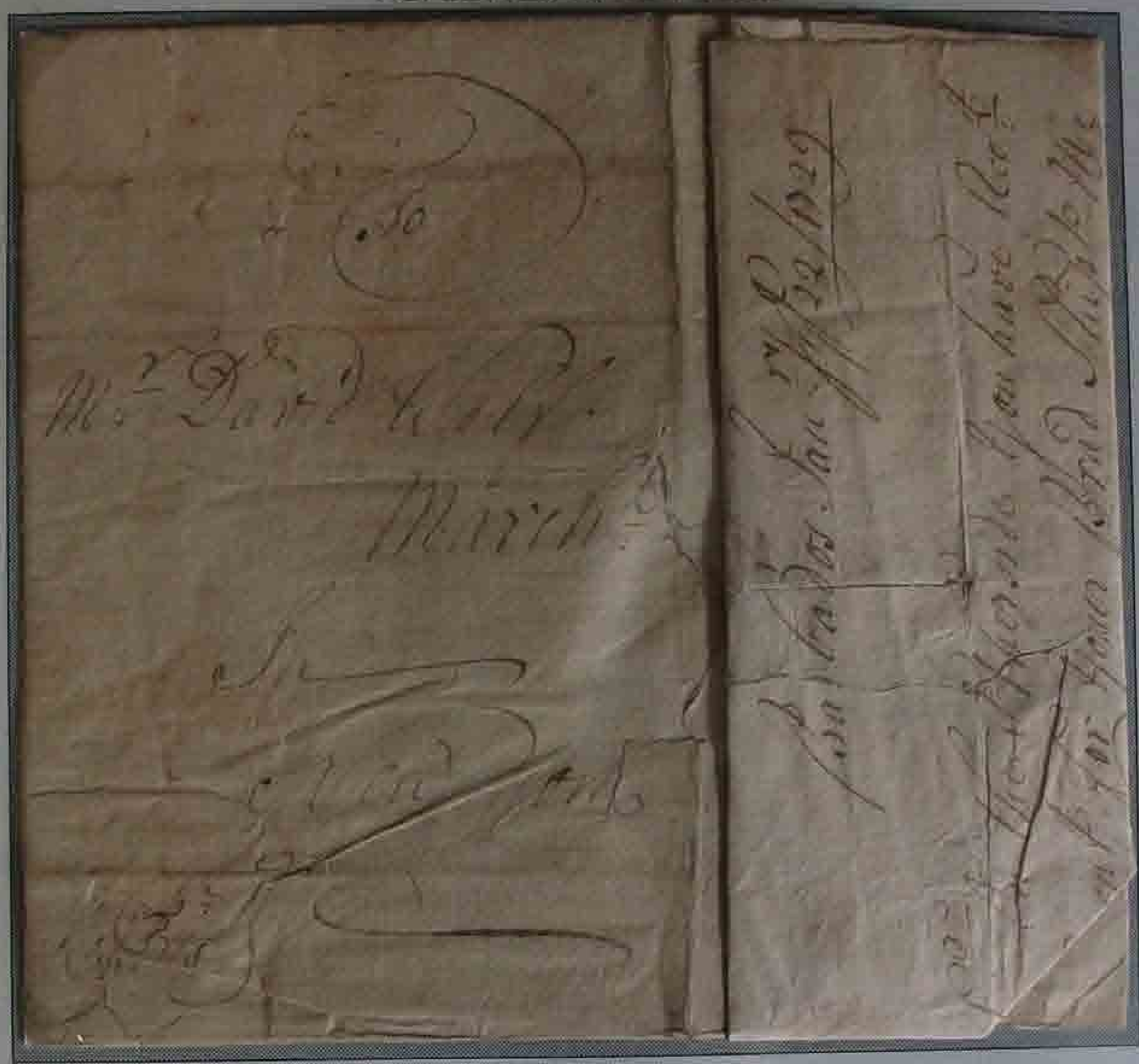
ARRIVAL MARKING: London Bishop Mark "26.AP" in serifed characters.

COMMENT: During the early part of the 18th century the letter "N" is found used as an abbreviation for Shillings in the postal charge. Formally it is an abbreviation for "and", the above example being "1s. and 9d.".

1729 - THE EARLIEST KNOWN MAIL TO NORTH AMERICA

In the early days, most communication from Barbados was with England, but during the 18th century more contacts were established with the growing societies of North America.

1729 LETTER TO NEW YORK



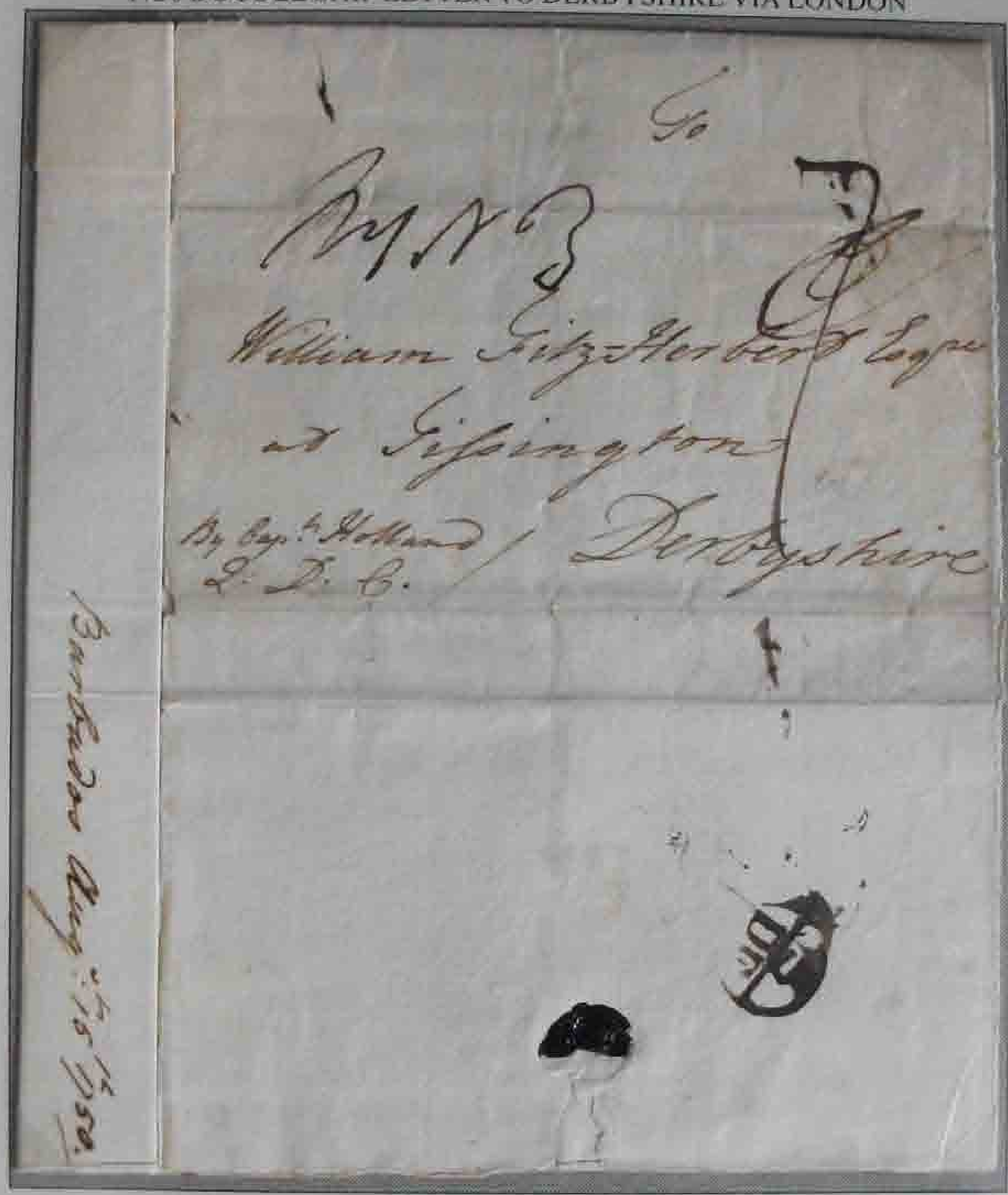
RATE: None, carried by a private ship and delivered privately to the addressee. Endorsed "Per Captain Hutts".

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados January 22 1729" and is addressed "To Mr David Wolf, Marcht In, New York".
THIS IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY THAN GB.

1750 - SHIP MAIL VIA LONDON

In the early days all letters were routed via London and the initial charge was that between Barbados and London. If a letter was addressed to a place beyond London the original charge was deleted, the additional inland postage added, and the total amount due inserted.

1750 DOUBLE SHIP LETTER TO DERBYSHIRE VIA LONDON



RATE: First charged "7"d. but this was deleted and altered to "In all 1N3" (1s.3d.) (1d. Master's Gratuity 1711-1795 + 6d. (2x3d.) double rate to London 1711-1764 + 8d. (2x4d.) double rate from London to Tissington 1711-1764)

ARRIVAL MARKING: London Bishop Mark "5.DE" in serifed characters.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note "By Capt.n Holland Q(uem) D(eus) C(onservet)", latin for "Whom God may protect".

1758 - THE "BARBA" "DOES" DOUBLE LINE POSTMARK (TYPE A2)

For a long time it has been believed that the first postmark in Barbados was introduced in the 1760's. However two examples from 1747 and one from 1758 prove that it must have been introduced much earlier.
All the pre-stamp markings were in use in the office of the British Mail Packet Agency but there were very few Packet Vessels from Barbados before 1800 so the markings appear mostly on ship mail handled by the Packet Office.

1758 SHIP LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Charged "5"d. (1d. Master's Gratuity 1711-1795 + 4d. rate to London 1711-1764)

POSTMARK: BARBA / DOES (type A2) double line, in use between 1747 and 1798

ARRIVAL MARKING: London Bishop Mark "24 JY" (24 July) in sans-serifed characters.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE THIRD EARLIEST KNOWN example of this postmark and of any postmark from Barbados. The letter is dated 12 May 1758.

1764 - INTRODUCTION OF POST OFFICE PACKETS TO BARBADOS

In 1764 the British Post Office established Post Office Packets betwen Falmouth and Barbados, as well as to certain other islands in the West Indies, and ports in North America.

1764 LONDON CHRONICLE PUBLISHING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POST OFFICE PACKETS

Vol. XV. [41] N° 1162.

The London Chronicle: OR, UNIVERSAL EVENING POST.

From THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, to SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1764.

34 THE LONDON CHRONICLE for 1764. Jan. 10—12.

were burglaries, which he has lately committed in that neighbourhood.

Sittings before Sir Charles Pratt, Lord Chief Justice, in and after Hilary Term, 1764.

Middlesex.		London.	
Wednesday,	Jan. 25	Tuesday,	Jan. 31
Wednesday,	Feb. 1	Friday, —	Feb. 3
Tuesday, —	7	Wednesday, —	8
After Term.		After Term.	
Tuesday,	Feb. 21	Wednesday,	Feb. 15

B. L. The Jealous Wife, with the Rites of Hecate.
C. G. Nature's Freaks, but his own, with the Citizen.

On Saturday last was performed at Drury-Lane Theatre, the tragedy of *Zara*, the part of Lusignan, for the first time, by Mr. Powell, whose performance of this part was very natural and affecting. We have before given it as our opinion, that the powers of this Performer are peculiarly adapted to the expressions of the pathetic. It will not therefore be surprising, that he should do particular justice to the tenderness of those speeches relative to his children, as well as to the feeling remonstrances, in behalf of Christianity, to his new-found daughter Zara. His deportment, as well as elocution, was well adapted to the character; but we could wish, that on the next representation, he would raise his voice something higher, and that he would take particular care to give to his features and eye-brows the marks of age, with a few judicious strokes of chalk and Indian ink. Mr. Garrick was particularly excellent in this art, and gave a new face, as well as manners, to almost every character. Mr. Holland did great justice to the part of

GENERAL POST-OFFICE,

JANUARY 7, 1764.

HIS Majesty's Post-Master General having been pleased to establish Three Packet-Boats, at Falmouth, of 140 Tons and 18 Hands each, for the Conveyance of Mails, Expresses and Passengers, to Barbados, Grenada, St. Christopher's, Jamaica, Pensacola, St. Augustine, Savanna, Charles-Town, and back to Falmouth.

The first Mail will be dispatched from this Office on the 23rd of February next; the second on the 12th of April, the third on the 14th of June, and upon the Return of every Packet. Notice will be given, when the next Mail is to be dispatched from hence, which is calculated for once in two Months, or thereabout.

The Postage of all Letters and Packets sent from London, must be paid upon their Delivery into this Office; the Inland Postage to London, from all Places in Great Britain or Ireland, must also be paid, over and above the said Rates.

The Postage from London to his Majesty's Islands in the West-Indies, is at the Rate of 1s. 6d. for a single Letter; to the whole Continent of America, including Florida, at 1s. per Letter, the double, treble and Ounce Letters and Packets in Proportion; the like Rates will be charged in Return, at this Office, upon the Letters and Packets coming from those Places respectively.

All Letters for any of his Majesty's Islands in the West-Indies, not herein mentioned, may be directed by the Way of Barbadoes, Grenada, or St. Christopher's, and if not so directed, they will be left at St. Christopher's, to be forwarded from thence as Occasion may offer.

By Command of the Post-Master General,

ANTHONY TODD, Secretary.

This Day was published,

Neatly printed in two Pocket Volumes,

Price Five Shillings sewed, or Six Shillings bound,

THE REVERIES, or, A Flight to the PARADISE of FOOLS.

By the Editor of the ADVENTURES of a GUINEA.

Printed for T. Becket and P. A. de Hondt in the Strand. Of whom may be had,

CHRYSAL, or the Adventures of a Guinea. The Third Edition, in two Volumes, Price Five Shillings sewed, or Six Shillings bound.

This Day was published,

In two Volumes, Twelves, Price 5s. sewed,

With Notes and Observations relating to our Colonies, and a Map of Louisiana.

THE History of LOUISIANA; or of the Western Parts of Virginia and Carolina; containing a Description of the Countries that lie on both sides of the River Mississippi; with an Account of the Settlements, Inhabitants, Soil, Climate, and Products. Translated from the French, lately published by M. DE PAGE DU PRATZ.

Printed for T. Becket and P. A. de Hondt in the Strand.

HOUSHOLD FURNITURE,

(Being the completest Book of the Kind extant)

This Day was published,

In one large Volume, Folio, Price 1l. bound,

THE GENTLEMAN and CABINET-MAKER'S DIRECTOR. Containing one Copper-plate, elegantly engraved from Designs of the most elegant and ornamental Household Furniture; Consisting of Chairs, Beds, Sofas, Book-Cases, &c.

COMMENT: London Chronicle of January 12 to 14, 1764, publishing the establishment of Post Office Packets from Falmouth: "GENERAL POST-OFFICE, January 7, 1764. His Majesty's Post-Master General having been pleased to establish Three **Packet-Boats**, at Falmouth, of 140 Tons and 18 Hands each, for the Conveyance of **Mails**, Expresses and Passengers, to **Barbados**, Grenada, St. Christopher's, Jamaica, Pensacola, St. Augustine, Savanna, Charles-Town, and back to Falmouth.

The first Mail will be dispatched from this Office on the 23rd of February next; the second on the 12th of April; the third on the 14th of June; and upon the Return of every Packet. Notice will be given, when the next Mail is to be dispatched from hence, which is calculated for once in two Months, or thereabout.

The Postage of all Letters and Packets sent from London, must be paid upon their Delivery into this Office; the Inland Postage to London, from all Places in Great Britain or Ireland, must also be paid, over and above the said Rates.

The **Postage** from London to his Majesty's Islands in the West-Indies, is at the **Rate of 1s. 6d.** for a single Letter; to the whole Continent of America, including Florida, at 1s. per Letter, the double, treble and Ounce Letters and Packets in Proportion; the like Rates will be charged in Return, at this Office, upon the Letters and Packets coming from those Places respectively.

By Command of the Post-Master General, ANTHONY TODD, Secretary."

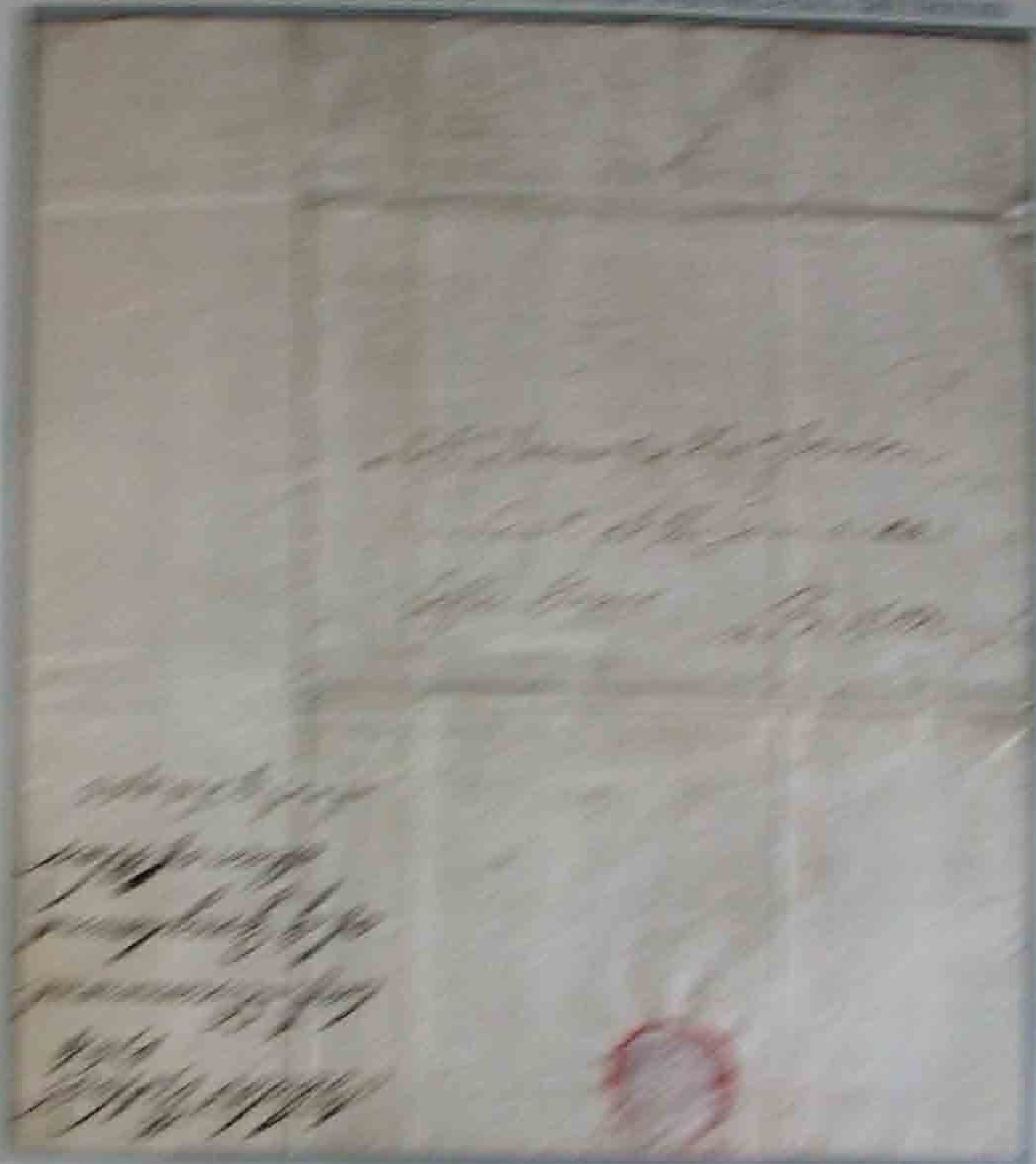
1764 - PRIVATELY CARRIED MAIL

Through history mail has always been carried privately. A friend, relative, business acquaintance or ships's Captain going away, may be asked to carry a letter to his destination, or to a place he may call on his way. Not only is this the cheapest way to send mail, it is often the safest and fastest as well.

1764 LETTER TO NORTH AMERICA

RATE: None, privately carried from Barbados to the North America.

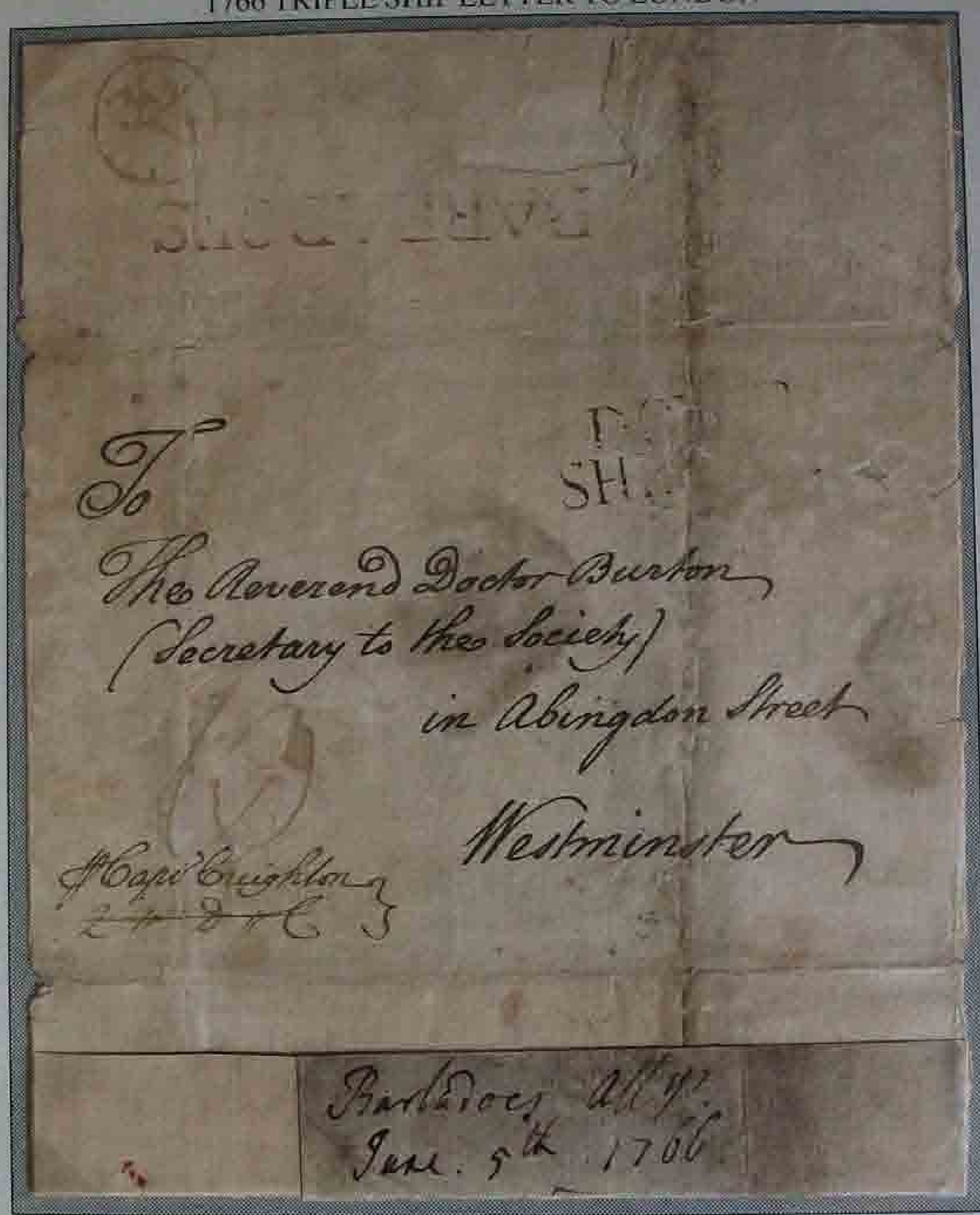
COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbadoes January 5th, 1764" and the first line explains that it would be privately carried: "Gentlemen, Having this opportunity by the way of New York, I thought to acquaint you of my safe arrival after a passage of nineteen days."



1766 - "GOD SAVE THE CAPTAIN"

The number of ships lost, for various reasons, was quite high in the early days. Religion played an important role in the society at that time and by adding the abbreviation "Q.D.C." ("Quem Deus Conservet", latin for "Whom God may protect") after the Captain's name on a letter, it was hoped that it would reach its destination safer.

1766 TRIPLE SHIP LETTER TO LONDON

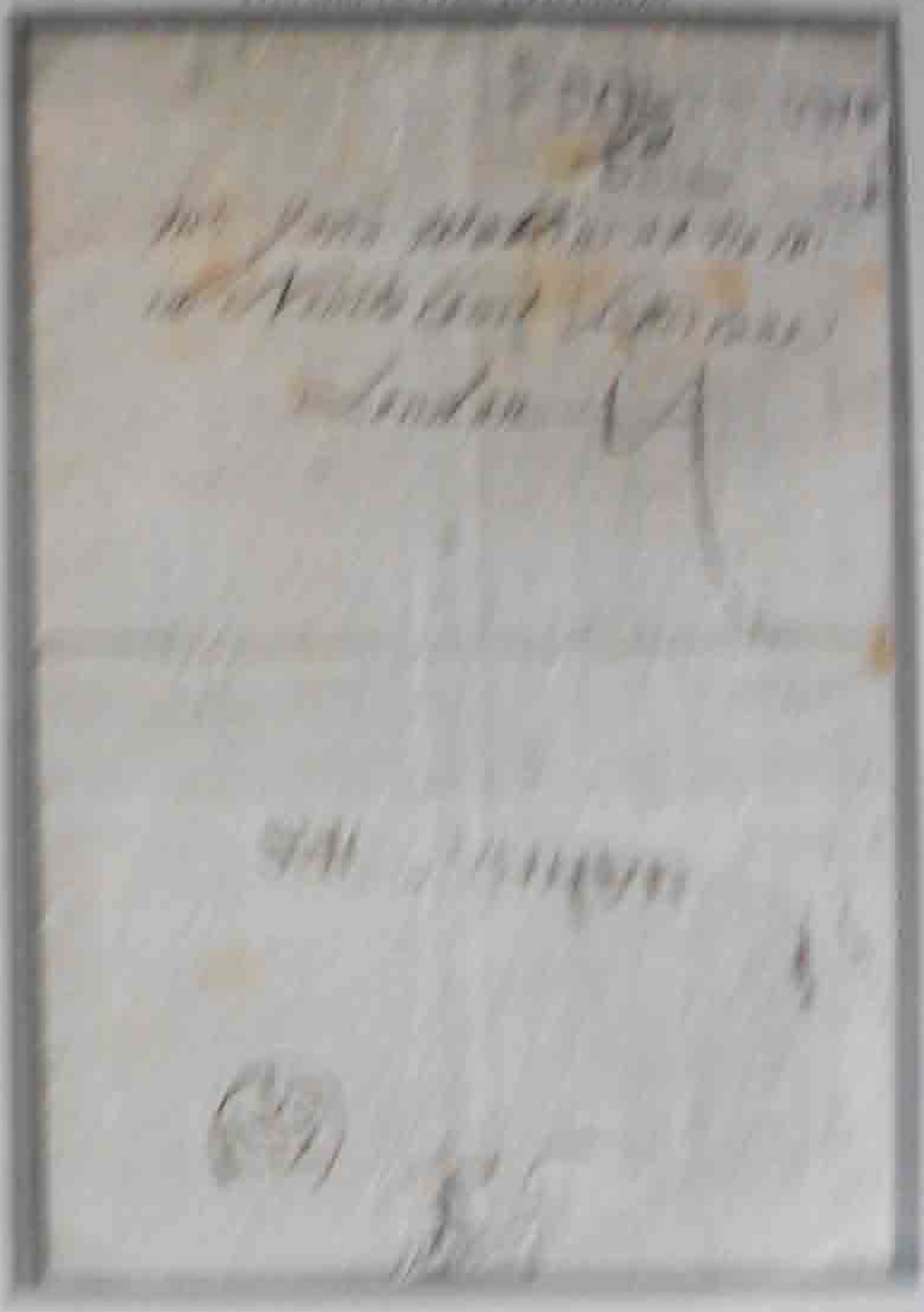


RATE: Charged "10"d. (1d. Master's Gratuity 1711-1795 + 9d. (3x3d.) triple rate to London 1765-1783)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES (type A1) large straight line, in use between 1765 and 1770.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKING: DOVER SHIP LRE; London Bishop Mark "30.AU" in serifed characters.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE SECOND EARLIEST KNOWN example of a ship letter marking on a letter from Barbados. The letter is dated 5 June 1766 and has a note "per Capt. Creighton, Q(uem) D(eus) C(onservet)", latin for "Whom God may protect".



1772 - MISSENT MAIL

Pre 19th century missent mail is quite unusual, mainly because the quantity of mail sent was relatively small but also because of the system that the addressee paid the postage, greater care was taken to assure that all letters arrived at their destination without detours.

1772 SHIP LETTER FROM LONDON TO MADEIRA MISSENT TO BARBADOS

RATE: First charged "4"d. but this was deleted and altered to "In all 1N4" (1s.4d.)

DEPARTURE / ARRIVAL DATES: Manuscript "London 23 June 1772"; manuscript "received 7th January 1773".

TRANSIT MARKINGS: BARBA / DOES (type A2) double line, in use between 1747 and 1797, two strikes; DEAL SHIP LRE: London Bishop Mark "14 DE" (14 December) in serifed characters.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note "Per the Rebecca, Captn Birch". The letter was sent from London to Barbados and then back to London again before being sent to Madeira. It was in transit for more than six months!

1774 - BRITISH SHIP LETTER MARKINGS

From about 1765 ship letters addressed to or routed through Great Britain normally received a ship letter marking, to distinguish them as ship letters and to explain the charges. A large number of British ship letter markings have been recorded since every port has had a number of markings. These markings make it much more easy to separate ship letters from packet letters.

1774 DOUBLE SHIP LETTER TO LONDON VIA DEAL

RATE: Charged "7"d. (1d. Master's Gratuity 1711-1795 + 6d. (2x3d.) double rate from Deal to London 1765-1783)

POSTMARK: BARBA / DOES (type A2) double line, in use between 1747 and 1798.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: DEAL SHIP LRE; London Bishop Mark "5 JA" (5 January) in sans-serifed characters.

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados 29 August 1774"

1774 AND 1794 - EARLY INWARD MAIL

Pre 1800 mail to Barbados is quite scarce; most of it has not survived the tropical climate and only items that were removed from the tropics soon after they arrived there, have survived.

1774 PAID PACKET LETTER FROM IRELAND TO BARBADOS

RATE: Marked "Post Paid 1s/10d" (4d. rate from Athlone to Dublin 1711-1784 + 6d. from Dublin to London 1711-1797 + 1/- packet rate 1765-1797).

POSTMARK: ATHLONE straight line.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: Large Dublin Bishop Mark "MR.28" in sans-serifed characters; red circular POST PAID.

COMMENT: The letter is dated March 24 1774.

1794 MILITARY LETTER FROM LONDON TO BARBADOS

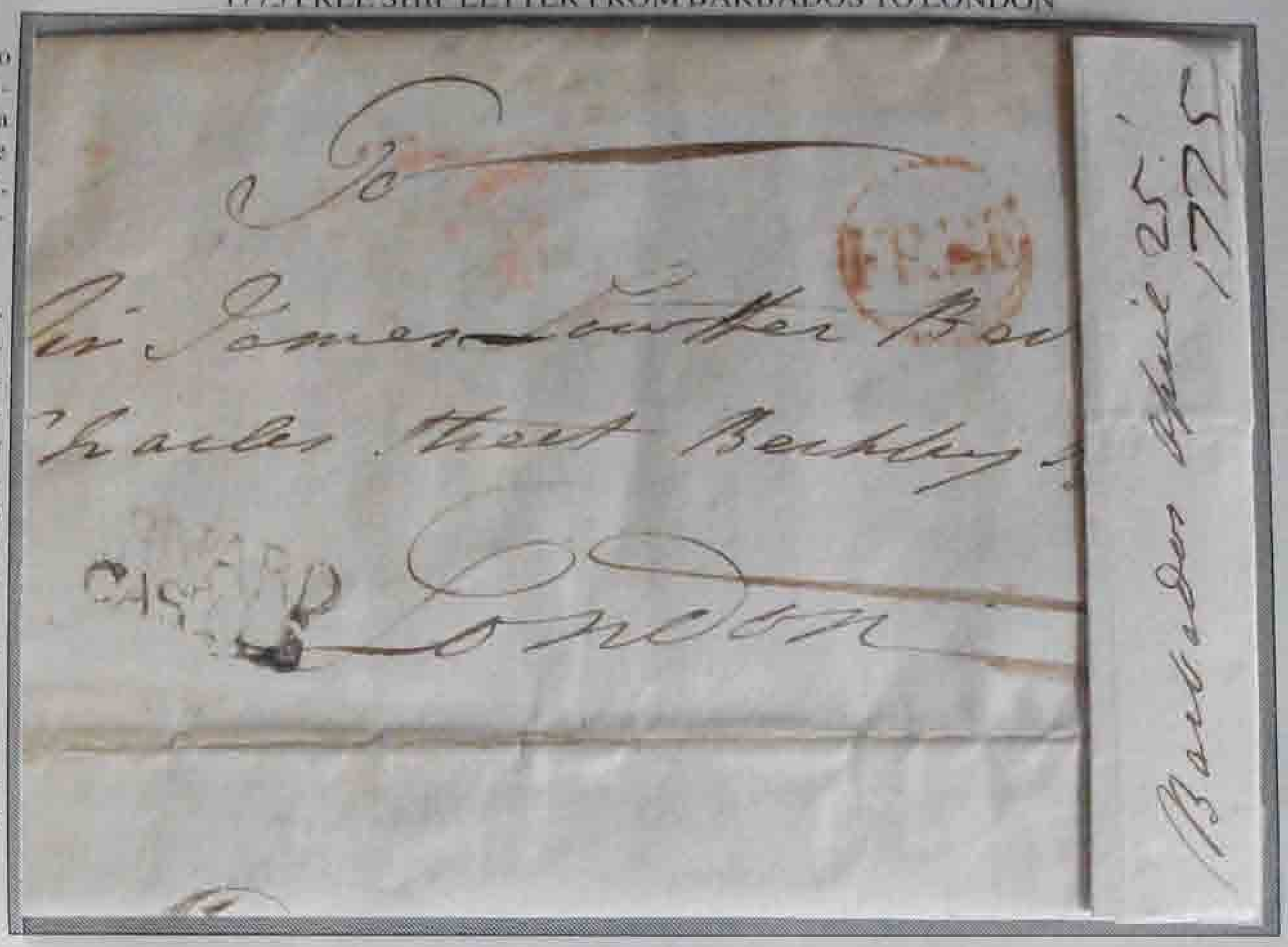
RATE: None, probably carried by a Naval vessel.

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Westminster 1 January 1794" and is addressed to Lieutenant Watkins, 15th (Brigade), Barbadoes".

1775 AND 1812 - HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT FREE MAIL

For many years members of both Houses of Parliament were able to send and receive letters without charge, using the "FREE" Frank system. This system ceased upon the adoption of the Uniform Penny Post in 1840.

1775 FREE SHIP LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO LONDON



RATE: Zero rate, letter addressed to a member of the House of Lords, Sir James Lowther, Bart.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: BARNARD CASTLE ship letter marking: London Bishop Mark "7 JY" (7 July) in sans-serifed characters; red circular "FREE".

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados 25 April 1775"

1812 FREE SHIP LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO LONDON, RE-DIRECTED TO EXETER

RATE: First charged "1/-" but this was altered to "1/3" (1s.3d.) (4d. ship letter rate 1796-1814 + 11d. rate from Liverpool to London 1812-1839). Manuscript "Foreign postage paid" and letter re-directed to Exeter and sent free, letter addressed to a Member of Parliament.

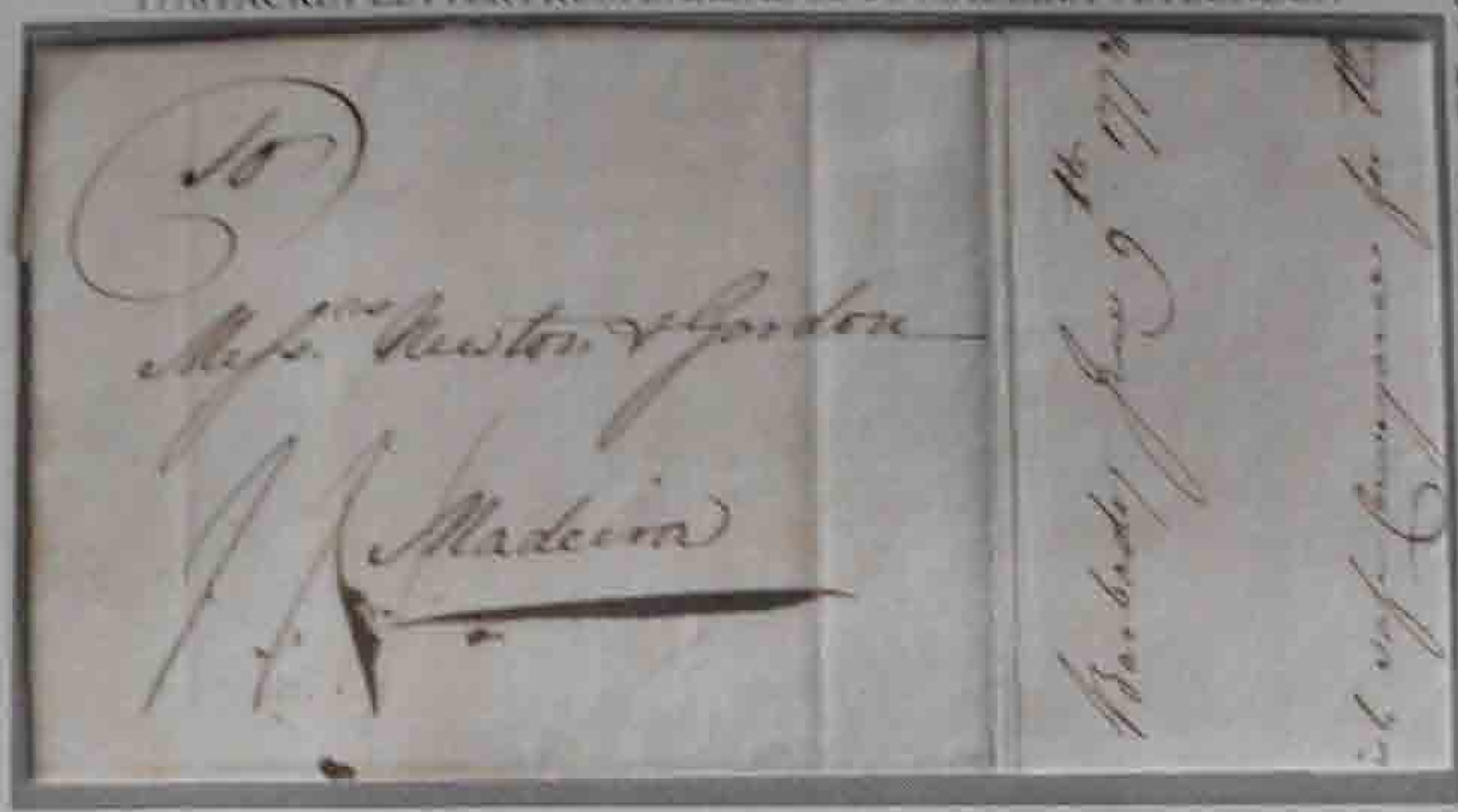
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LIVERPOOL SHIP LETTER: London double rimmed circle 23 OC 1812; red crown FREE 23 OC 1812

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados 8 September 1812"

1778 AND 1847 - MAIL TO MADEIRA

The Madeira Islands is a group of islands west of Africa, about 400 miles from Morocco. They are famous especially for the Madeira wine, first produced in the 15th century, but they were also used as an important point for sailing vessels in distress and in demand to re-supply their stores of water and food. A number of merchants were established on the islands and they made business worldwide.

1778 PACKET LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO MADEIRA VIA LONDON



RATE: Charged "1N" (1s.) (1s. packet rate to England 1765-1797)

TRANSIT MARKING: London Bishop Mark "7.OC" in sans-serifed characters.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Manuscript "Recd the 31 Octob"

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados June 9th 1778" and contains an order for "3 hogsheads of your best Madeira wine".

1847 PACKET LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO MADEIRA VIA LONDON

RATE: Charged "2/10" (2s. 10d.) (1/- packet rate to England 1840-1854 + 1s.10d. packet rate from England to Madeira 1849-1859); charged "160" Reis in Madeira.

POSTMARKS: BARBADOES JY 9 1847 and JY 24 1847 (type A7).

TRANSIT MARKINGS: Bound "Detained for Postage No.6378" in red; manuscript "Returned for Postage" in red; black charge mark "2/10" crossed out and replaced by red charge mark "2/10" after the postage had been paid; London PAID 31 AU 1847 in red.

1783 - FORWARDING AGENTS - ENGLAND

A Forwarding Agent is a person or firm who undertakes to see that the goods or correspondence of another are transported without himself acting as the carrier. The official Postal system prior to 1874 for the transport of mail from one country to another was unreliable, expensive and slow, and the public, and particularly business houses, frequently preferred to use private means of communication rather than the Mail Packets. The Forwarding Agent would hand a letter directly to the captain of a ship for transmission either to its destination or to another forwarding agent en route.

1783 SHIP LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO IRELAND FORWARDED VIA ENGLAND

RATE: First charged "10"d., then "1/-", both being deleted and altered to "1/2" (1s.2d.) (4d. rate from Bristol to London 1711-1784 + 6d. rate from London to Dublin 1711-1797 + 4d. rate from Dublin to Cork 1711-1784)

FORWARDING AGENT: Manuscript "Bristol 9th September 1783. Forwarded by Sir your very humble Serv.t John Morgan"

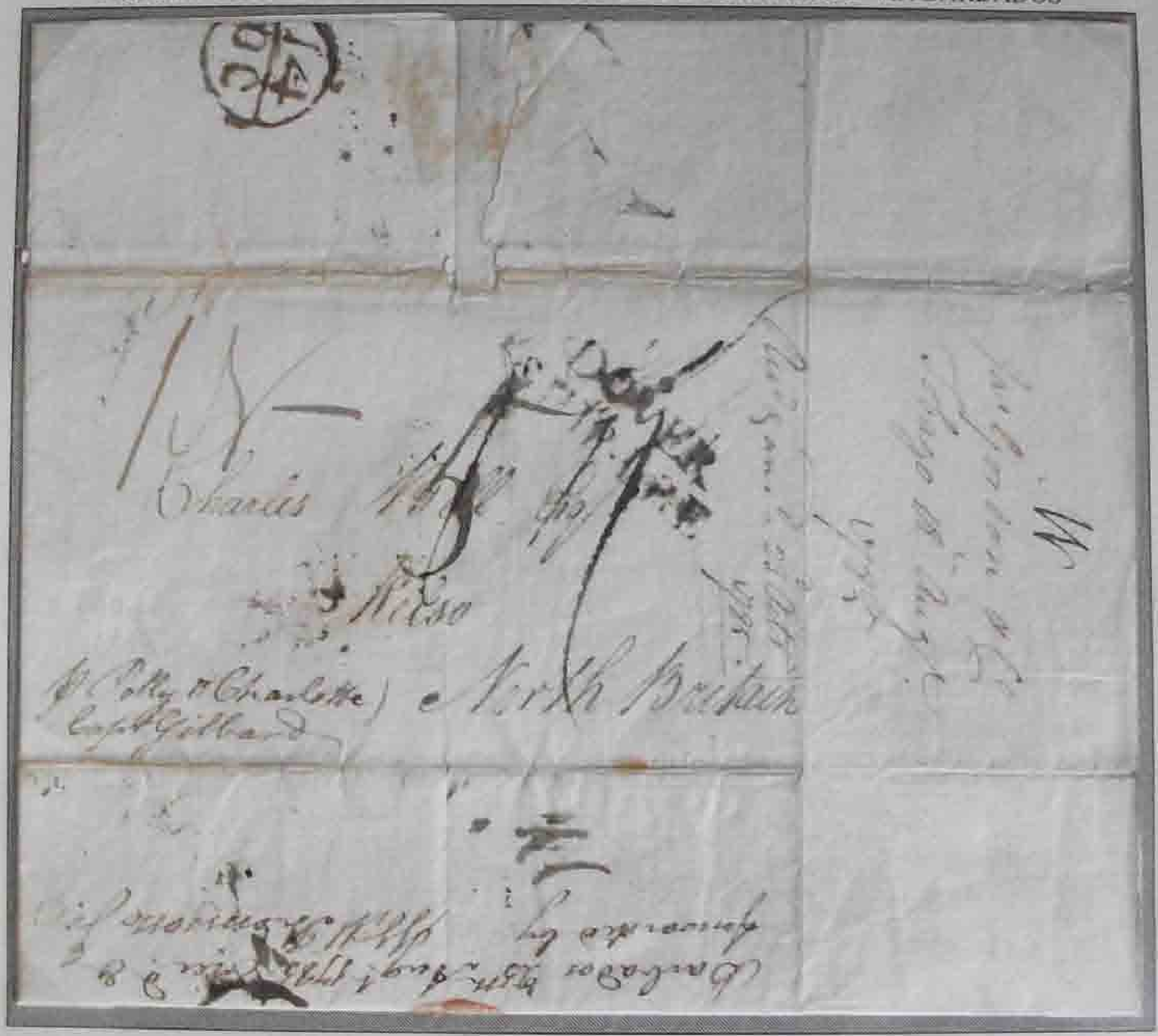
TRANSIT MARKINGS: BRISTOL straight line; Dublin Bishop Mark "SE.14" in sans-serifed characters.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados July 30 1783" and was carried privately to Bristol where it entered the General Post.

1785 - FORWARDING AGENTS - BARBADOS

A Forwarding Agent is a person or firm who undertakes to see that the goods or correspondence of another are transported without himself acting as the carrier. The official Postal system prior to 1874 for the transport of mail from one country to another was unreliable, expensive and slow, and the public, and particularly business houses, frequently preferred to use private means of communication rather than the Mail Packets. The Forwarding Agent would hand a letter directly to the captain of a ship for transmission either to its destination or to another forwarding agent en route.

1785 SHIP LETTER FROM TOBAGO TO SCOTLAND FORWARDED VIA BARBADOS



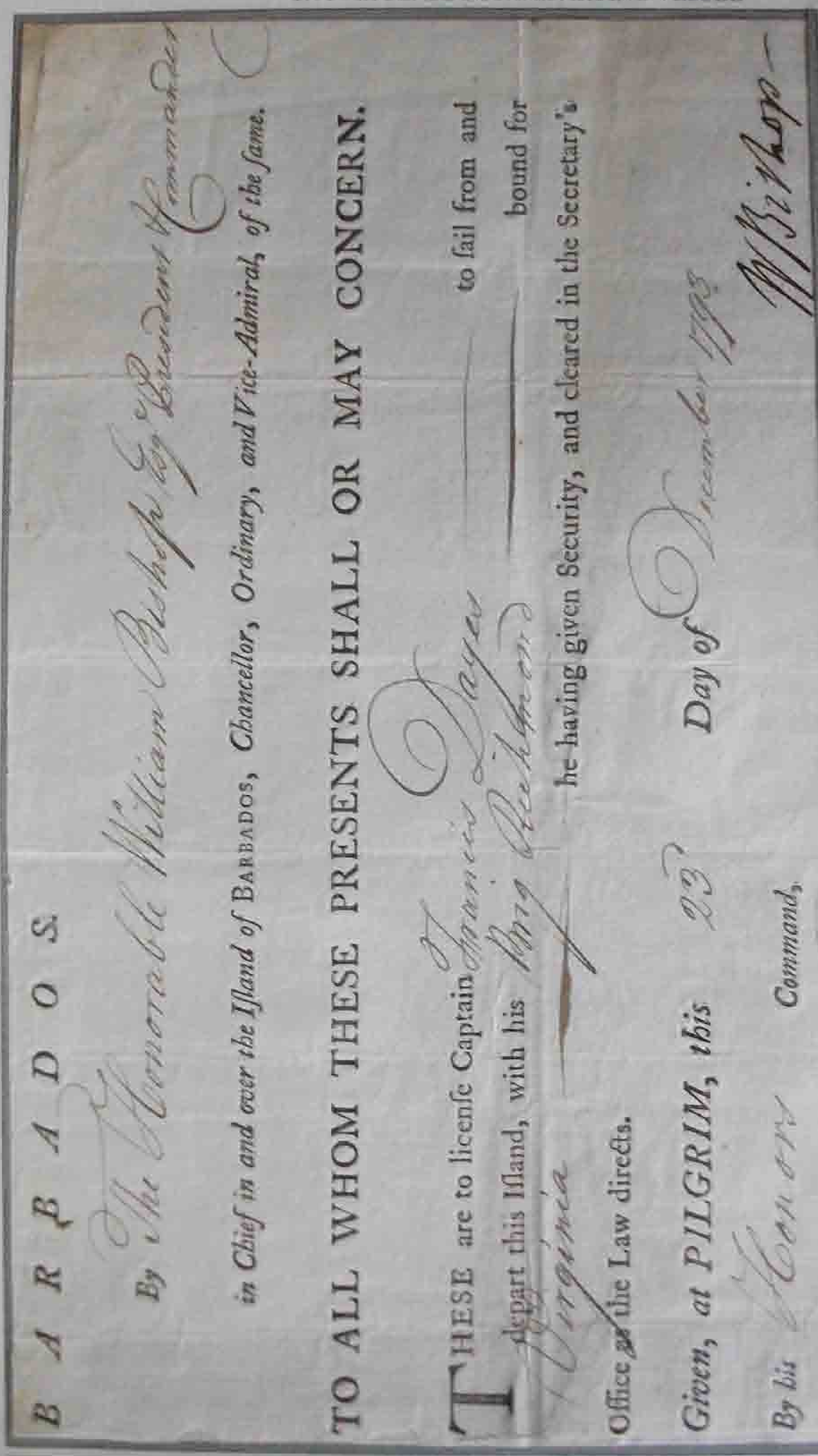
RATE: First charged "5"d., then "7"d. was added, both being deleted and altered to "1N-" (1s.) (1d. Master's Gratuity 1711-1795 + 4d. rate from Dover to London 1784-1795 + 7d. rate from London to Kelso 1784-1795)

FORWARDING AGENT: Manuscript "Barbados 25th Aug.t 1785, Rec.d & forwarded by Will Thomson Jr".

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: DOVER SHIP LRE: London Bishop Mark "14 OC" in sans-serifed characters.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Tobago 18 August 1785" and has a note "per Polly & Charlotte, Capt. Gilbard".

1793 - LICENSE FOR DEPARTING VESSEL



BARBADOS

By the Honorable William Bishop Esq President

in Chief in and over the Island of BARBADOS, Chancellor, Ordinary, and Vice-Admiral, of the same.

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL OR MAY CONCERN.

THESE are to license Captain Francis Dayes with his Brig Richmond to sail from and depart this Island, with his bound for Virginia

having given Security, and cleared in the Secretary's Office as the Law directs.

Given, at PILGRIM, this 23 Day of December 1793

By his Command,

Nathaniel Forster

Any vessel departing from Barbados had to obtain a departure license to be allowed to clear the island. Almost all the vessels departing from the island carried mail.

DATE: 23 December 1793

VESSEL: Brig "Richmond", Captain Francis Dayes

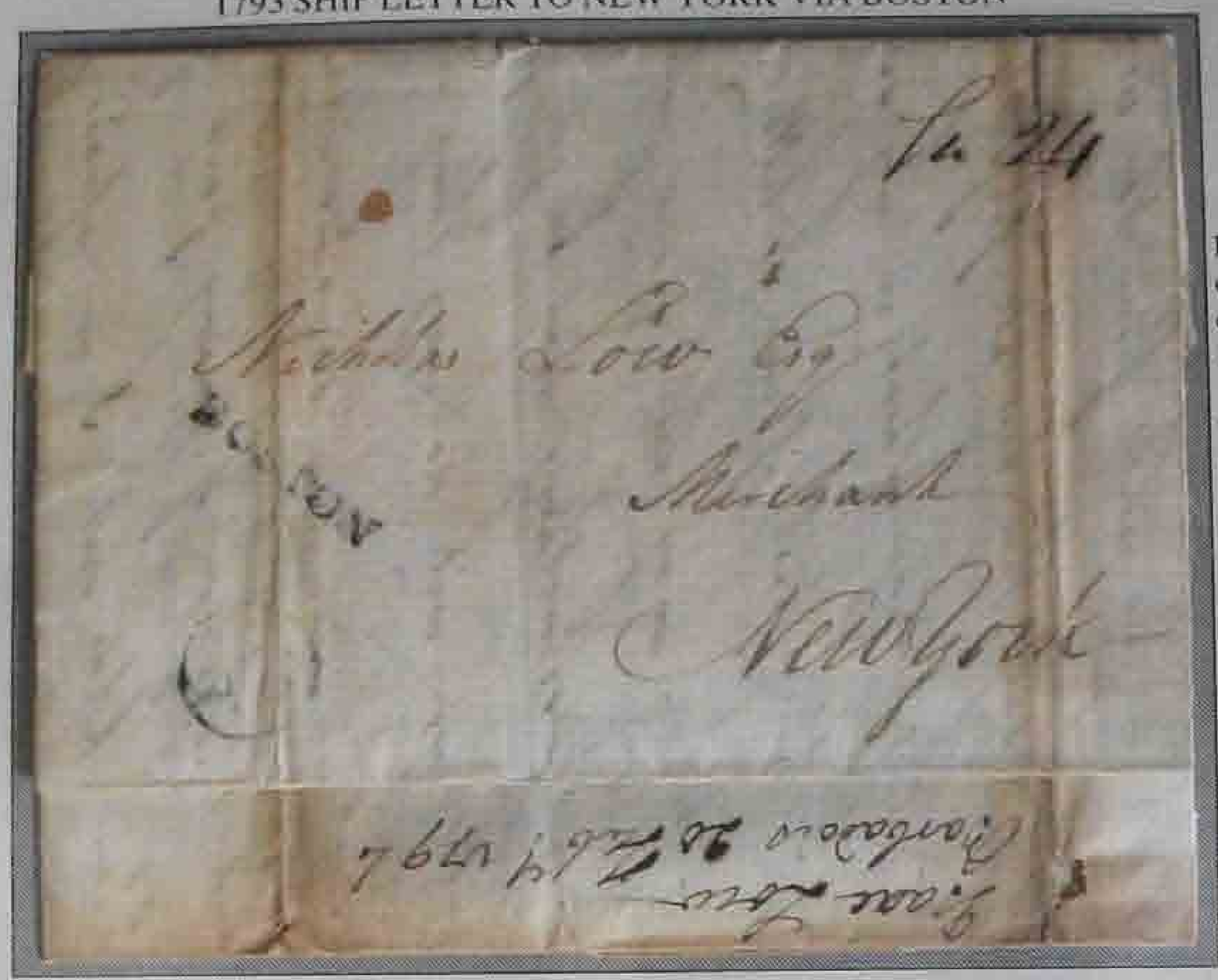
BOUND FOR: Virginia, USA

COMMENT: This document, specifically printed for Barbados is signed by William Bishop, President and Commander in Chief of Barbados.

1793 AND 1797 - EARLY MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

After the War of Independance 1776, the United States of America was formed. Trade with the islands in the West Indies continued as before.

1793 SHIP LETTER TO NEW YORK VIA BOSTON

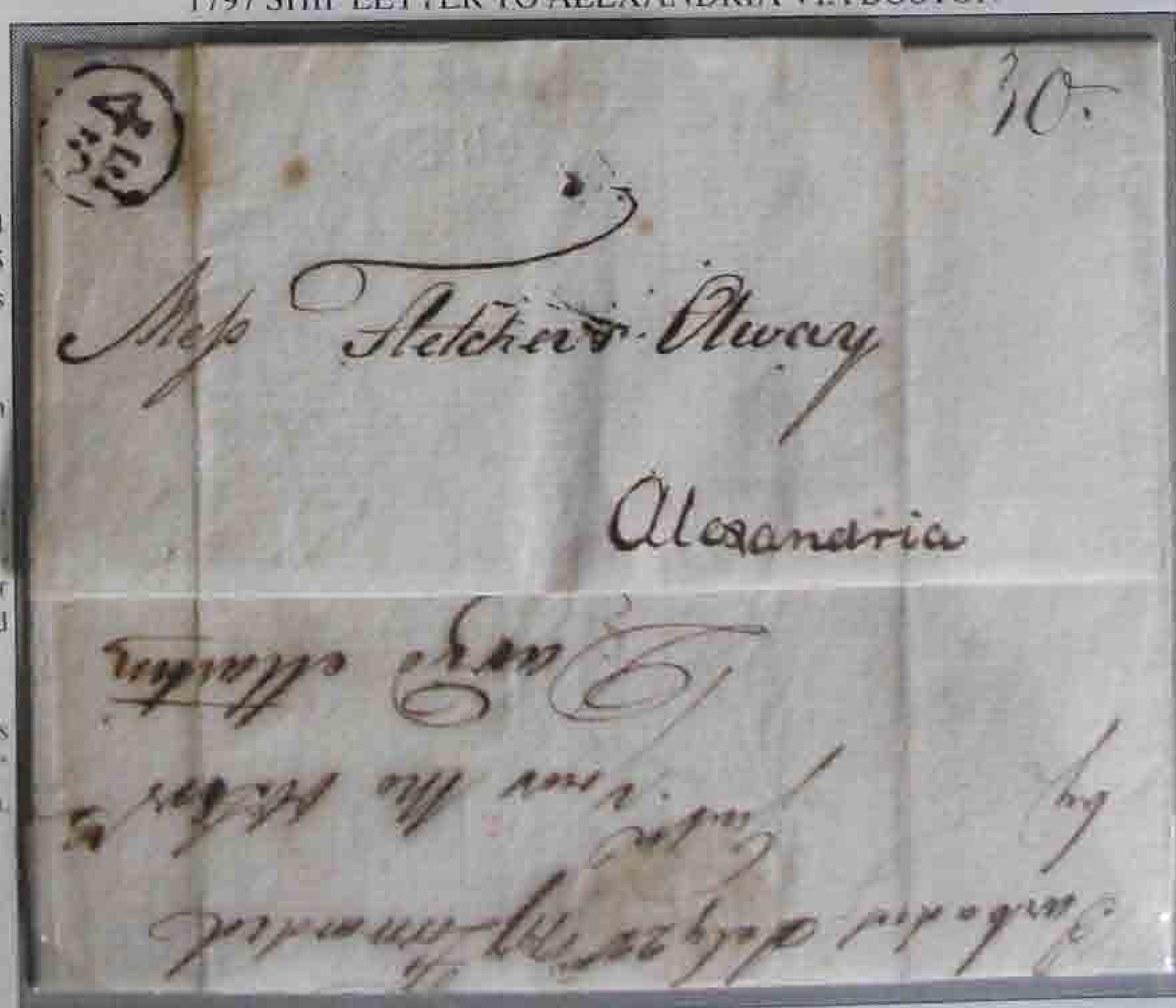


RATE: Charged "24" cents (4 cents Ship rate 1792-1799 + 20 cents inland rate between 250 and 350 miles 1792-1799)

TRANSIT MARKINGS: BOSTON straight line; Boston Bishop Mark "2 AP".

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados 20 Feb.y 1794" and is addressed to a Merchant in New York.

1797 SHIP LETTER TO ALEXANDRIA VIA BOSTON



RATE: Charged "30" cents (4 cents Ship rate 1792-1799 + 25 cents inland rate over 450 miles 1792-1799 + 1 cent drop rate?)

TRANSIT MARKING: Boston Bishop Mark "4 SE".

FORWARDING AGENT: "Barbados July 22 1797. Forwarded by Gent.n your mo(st) ob(edient) Serv.t David Martin".

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados 4 July 1797" and is addressed to Alexandria, Virginia.

1796 AND 1802 - MAIL CARRIED BY PRIVATE VESSELS

Small ships were virtually never employed as official mail carriers, the risk for loss was too large. However, private individuals or companies occasionally used small ships to carry mail, especially if they were going directly to the destination of the intended mail.

1796 LETTER TO BRITISH GUIANA

RATE: None, privately carried by a small vessel sailing for British Guiana.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados August 2 1796" and has a manuscript note on the front "per Sloop Flyer".

1802 LETTER TO JAMAICA

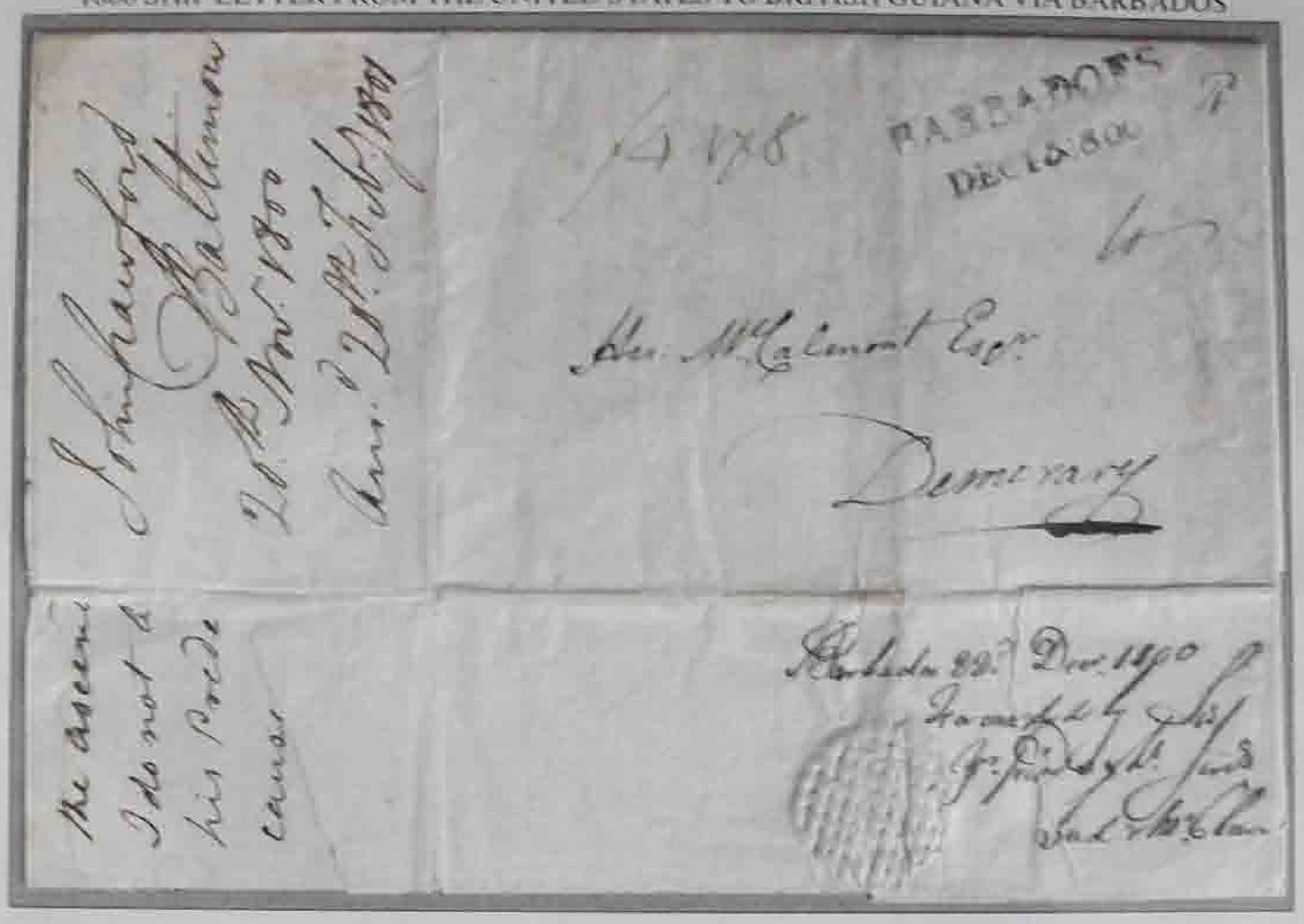
RATE: None, privately carried by a small vessel sailing for Jamaica.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados August 26 1802" and is addressed to Sir John Duckworth K B, Commander in Chief, Jamaica.

1800 - THE "BARBADOES" DATED DOUBLE LINE POSTMARK (TYPE A3)

This mark was introduced in 1799 to avoid fraudulent insurance claims and it is the first dated postmark from Barbados. It was only in use in 1799 and 1800, probably because it was too impractical to change the date. Subsequently, it is the rarest of all Barbados postmarks, only four examples have been recorded.

1800 SHIP LETTER FROM THE UNITED STATES TO BRITISH GUIANA VIA BARBADOS



RATE: Charged "4d" (4d. inter-island rate from Barbados to the other islands and British Guiana 1711-1801)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES DEC 15 1800 (type A3) dated double line, in use between 1799 and 1800.

FORWARDING AGENT: Manuscript "Barbados 22 Dec. 1800. Forwarded by yr friends Seed & McClare"

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Baltimore 20 November 1800" and was carried privately from the United States to Barbados where it was handed over to the Packet Office.
THERE ARE ONLY FOUR KNOWN LETTERS with this marking, this being the latest known example.

1801 AND 1812 - THE "BARBADOES" SMALL STRAIGHT LINE POSTMARK (TYPE A4)

This marking was introduced in 1801 to replace all the earlier markings which were by now obsolete or worn out. This was to be the last undated postmark from Barbados and it was in use until being replaced by the Fleuron datestamp in 1812.

1801 THE EARLIEST RECORDED DATE ON PACKET LETTER TO BATH

RATE: Charged "1/9" (1s 9d.) (1/- packet rate to Falmouth 1797-1804 +9d. rate from Falmouth to Bath 1801-1805). The rate was paid in Bath and the letter was re-directed to South Lincolnshire and first charged "7"d. but this was deleted and altered to "11"d.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES (type A4) small straight line, in use between 1801 and 1812.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BATH 109.

COMMENT: The letter is dated 13 April 1801.

1812 DOUBLE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Charged "4/-" (4s. (2x2s.) double packet rate to London 1805-1812)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES (type A4) small straight line, in use between 1801 and 1812.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London double rimmed circle "20 FE 20 1812" with code letter "B", in red.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE LATEST KNOWN example of this postmark.

1803 - THE RED STAR MARK

Red ink was used for rate marks indicating that postage had been paid. If a rate mark had been written in black ink, which would indicate that postage was unpaid, but it should have been in red ink, a red "Star" was occasionally used to cancel the black rate, and the rate was written in red instead.

1803 RED STAR ON PACKET LETTER TO MADEIRA VIA LONDON

RATE: First charged "2/2" (2x 2d.) in black but this was deleted with a red Star and altered to "2/2" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1x 8d. packet rate to London 1797-1805 + 6d. GPO rate from London to Lisbon); charged "260"Reis (rate from Lisbon to Madeira?)

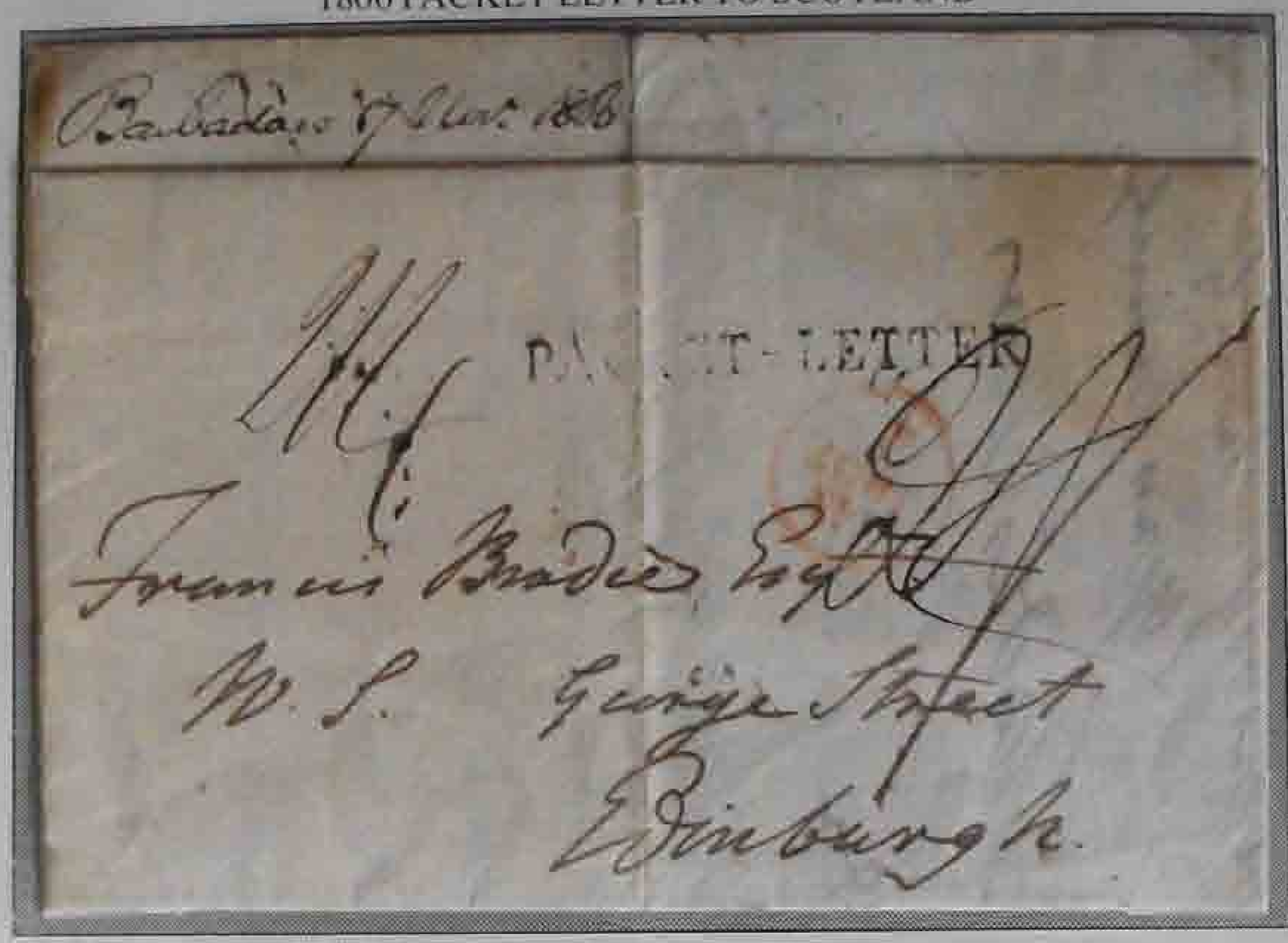
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: FOREIGN OFFICE 45 1804 in red, manuscript "Whitehall 10 Febru.y 1804" and "Recd 19 April 1804".

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados Decemb.r 31 1803" and has manuscript notes on the front "Favor of Mr Donaldson, via London" crossed out and "Via Lisbon" added. It contains an order for wine and pipes.

1806 AND 1839 - BRITISH PACKET LETTER MARKINGS

In 1802 Packet Letter markings were introduced and they were used on vessels hired by the British Post Office to carry mail. The first types were simple straight lines "PACKET LETTER" but later types indicate either port of arrival, place of origin or both.

1806 PACKET LETTER TO SCOTLAND

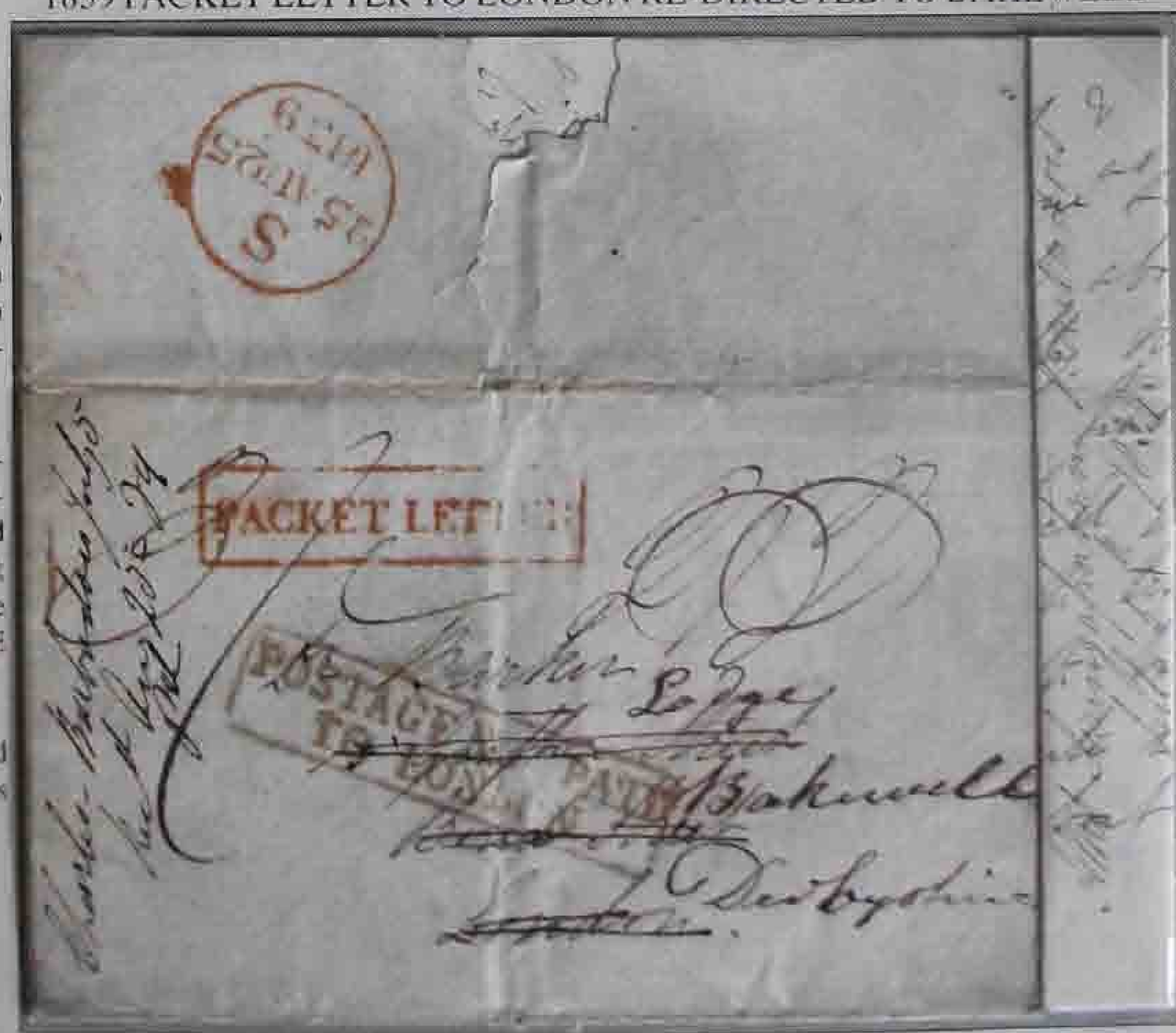


RATE: First charged "2/-" (2s packet rate to London 1805-1813) but this was deleted and altered to "2/4" (2s.4d.) (1s.1d. packet rate to Falmouth 1805-1813 + 1s.3d. rate from Falmouth to Edinburgh via Bristol 1805-1812)

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: PACKET-LETTER applied on board the packet vessel to England; London single rimmed circle DEC.29.1806; Edinburgh single rimmed circle JAN.1807.1

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbadoes 17 November 1806".

1839 PACKET LETTER TO LONDON RE-DIRECTED TO BAKEWELL



RATE: First charged "2/2" (2s.2d.) but this was deleted and altered to "3/-" (2s.2d. packet rate to London 1813-1840 + 10d. rate from London to Blakewell, Derbyshire 1812-1839)

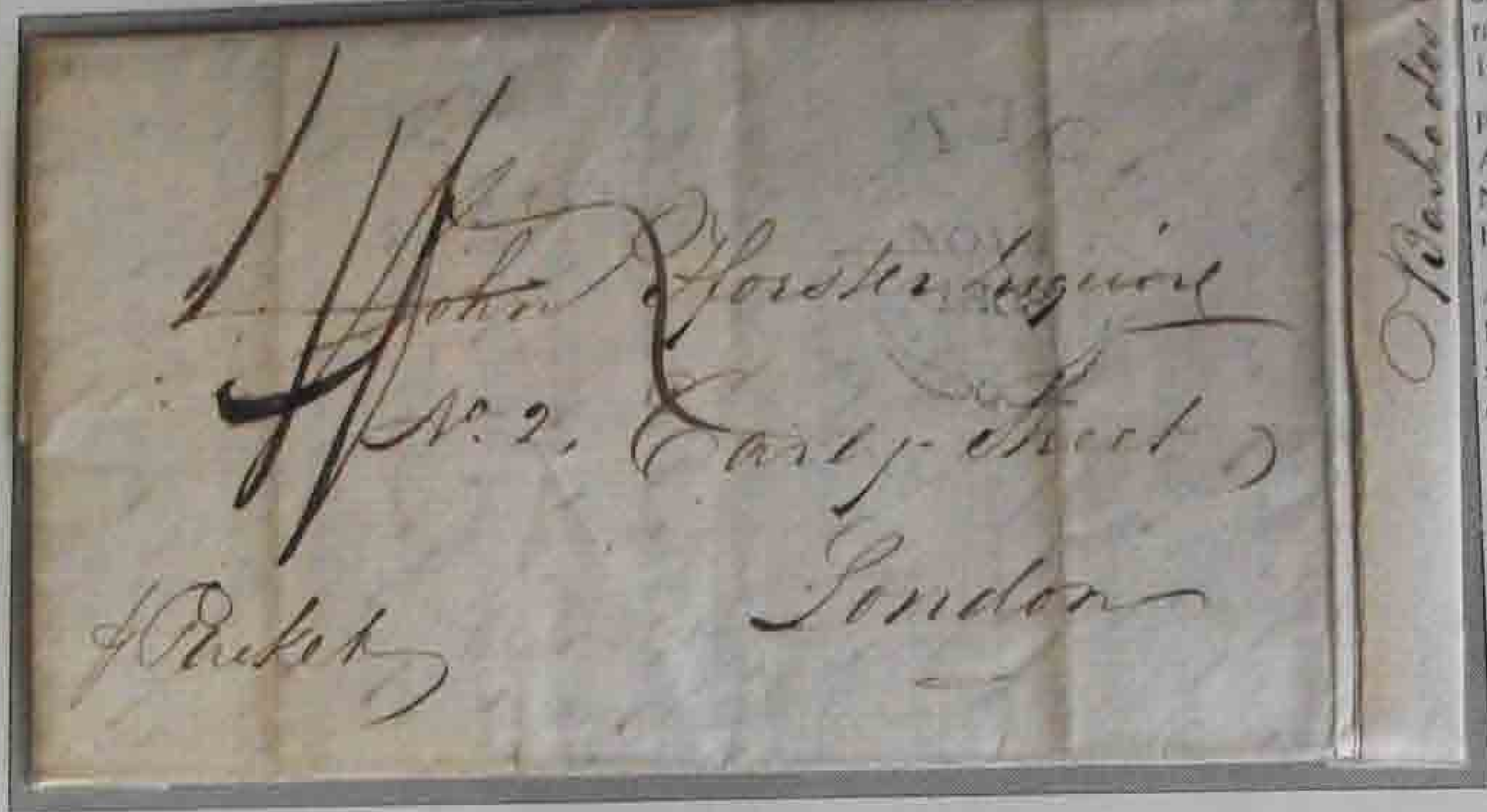
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: Boxed PACKET-LETTER in red applied on board the packet vessel to England; London single rimmed circle 25.AU.25.1839; boxed POSTAGE NOT PAID TO LONDON.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "HMS Seringapatam, Barbadoes July 5th 1839".

1808 AND 1851 - MAIL ENTERING THE GENERAL POST ON OTHER ISLANDS

At times there were few direct mail packets to England, and in those cases it was sometimes quicker to let a friend or a small vessel going to one of the other islands in the West Indies, to carry mail to that island and post it there.

1808 LETTER TO LONDON POSTED ON ANTIGUA



RATE: Charged "4/-" (4s. (2x2s.) double packet rate to London 1805-1812)

POSTMARK: ANTIGUA NOV 4 1808 large fleuron.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London single rimmed circle "JAN 15, 1809" with code letter "c", in red.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados October 27 1808" and was carried privately to Antigua where it was posted.

1851 LETTER TO LONDON POSTED ON ST VINCENT

RATE: Charged "2/-" (2s. (2x1s. double packet rate 1840-1854).

POSTMARK: ST. VINCENT AP.15, 1851 serifed double-arc.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London single rimmed circle "8 MY 1851" in red.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados 8 April 1851" and was carried privately to St. Vincent where it was posted.

1812 AND 1814 - THE "BARBADOES" FLEURON DATED POSTMARK (TYPE A5)

In 1812 the Fleuron datestamp replaced type A4 and this is the first circular datestamp in the postal administration of Barbados. It was in continuous use up to 1836 by which time it had become very worn. Clear strikes of this postmark are very scarce.

1812 THE EARLIEST RECORDED DATE ON DOUBLE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Charged "4/-" (4s (2x2s.) double packet rate to London 1805-1812)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES 14 FE.14 1812 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London double rimmed circle "3 AP 3 1812" with code letter "A", in black.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED DATE of this postmark.

1814 PACKET LETTER FROM CUBA TO LONDON VIA BARBADOS

RATE: Charged "2/2" (2s.2d. packet rate to London 1813-1839)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES 1 AP 1 1814 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

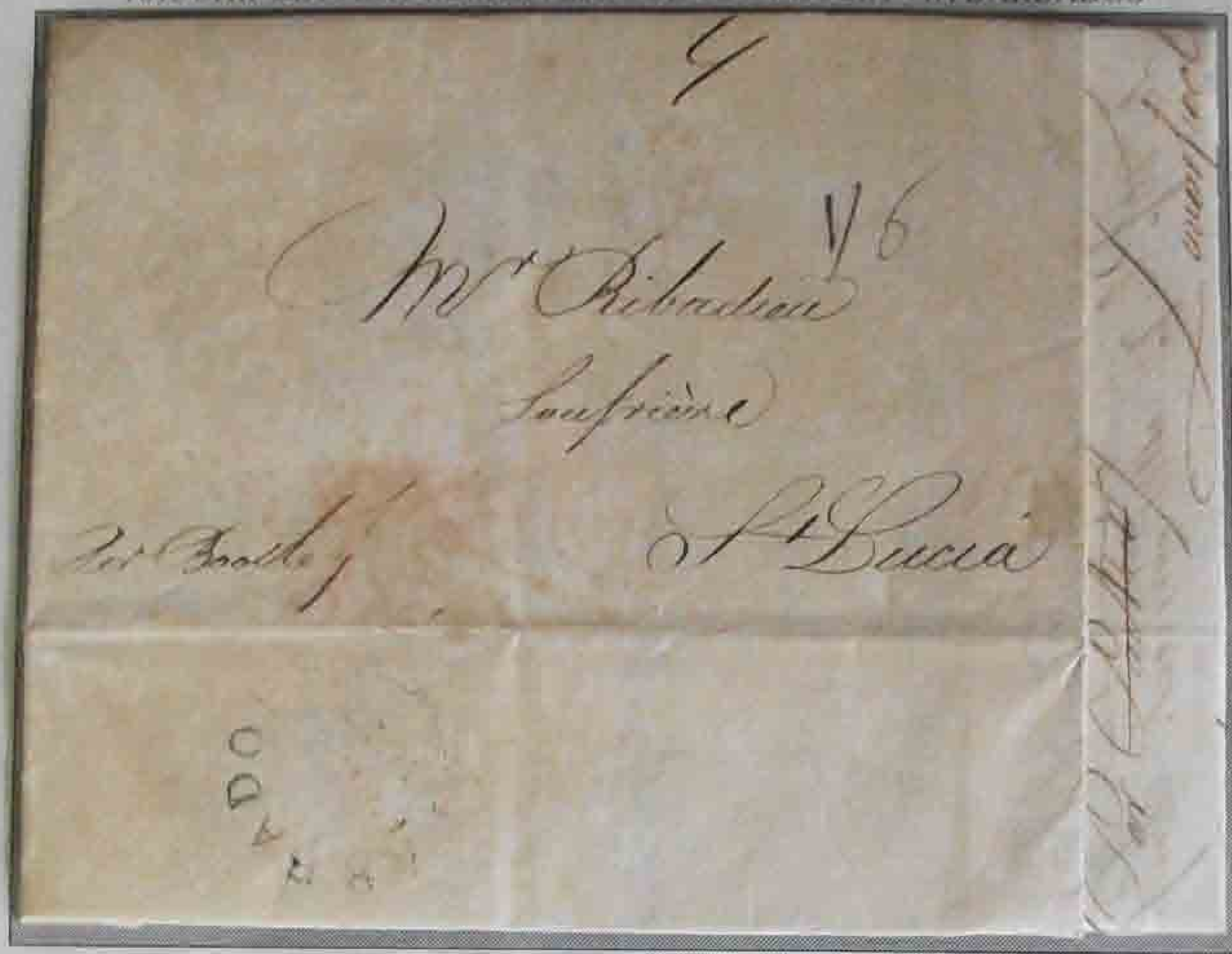
ARRIVAL MARKING: London double rimmed circle "19 MY 19 1814" with code letter "F", in red.

COMMENT: The letter has a filing note: "Havannah Feby 1814". It was carried privately from Cuba to Barbados where it was handed over to the Packet Office.

1813 AND 1831 - TRANSIT MAIL

From time to time, and in particular during periods of war, the mail was sent safe but rather long ways, and Barbados was used as a transit island during some periods.

1813 SHIP LETTER FROM LIVERPOOL TO ST LUCIA VIA BARBADOS



RATE: Charged "1/6" (1s.6d.) (1s. rate from Liverpool to British port of departure + 6d. ship rate 1814–1819) + also charged "4"d (4d. inter-island rate 1711–1891, from Barbados to St Lucia)

TRANSIT MARKING: B A R B A D O E S 10 AU 1813 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Liverpool 24 May 1813" and has a manuscript note "per Packet" crossed out. Ten Packets were lost in 1812-13 during the war with America.

1831 SHIP LETTER FROM JAMAICA TO GRENADA VIA BARBADOS

RATE: Charged "1/8" (1s.8d.)

MARKINGS: KINGSTON JAMAICA COMMERCIAL ROOMS; FORWARDED BY H N GAGE & Co. ST THOMAS; BARBADOES 26 NO 1831 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Jamaica 16 August 1831" and has a manuscript note on the front "Care of Robert Dickson, New York (crossed out), Per Packet Schooner E T Ellicott, Wm Day" and was obviously forwarded via St Thomas and Barbados.

1814 - THE LEEWARD ISLAND FALMOUTH DATESTAMP

Between 1810 and 1843, the Falmouth Packet Office used a set of datestamps on incoming packet mail to indicate their origin. They show the country (or island) of origin, the letter F and a date, and they were always applied in green. Mail from Barbados would not normally receive this marking since the island was not one of the Leeward Islands.

1814 PACKET LETTER TO SCOTLAND WITH THE LEEWARD ISLAND F DATESTAMP

RATE: Charged "2/5" (2s.5d.) + ½d. (1s.2d. packet rate to Falmouth 1813-1840 + 1s.3d. rate from Falmouth to Stirling 1812-1839 + ½d. Scottish Toll 1813-1839)

CARRIED BY: Grace Packet, dep. Falmouth 1/10 1814, arr. Barbados 27/10. Dep. Barbados 10/11, arr. Falmouth 2/1 1815

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LEEWARD ISLAND F JA.3.1815 in green, applied in Falmouth; Edinburgh octagonal JAN.8.1815 in red; boxed "Add ½" Scottish toll marking.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "On board HMS Bedford, Barbados 9 November 1814" and was written by the Quartermaster of the 93rd Regiment.

1815 - THE "PAID TO ENGLAND" MARKING (TYPE PD1)

"PAID TO ENGLAND" markings were used in many of the islands in the West Indies, mostly on mail treated under the "Withdrawn Ship Letter" scheme of 1814-1815, which is one of the most obscure charges in the history of the British Postal system. A ship letter had to be taken to the Post or Packet Office, and a charge equal to one third of the packet rate (rounded down to the nearest halfpenny) had to be paid. The letter was marked with the "PAID TO ENGLAND" marking, and the sender could then send the letter by any ship he chose. The "PAID TO ENGLAND" marking used in Barbados is very rare, only one example is recorded!

1815 THE "PAID TO ENGLAND" MARKING ON DOUBLE WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER TO ENGLAND

RATE: Marked "1/6" in red (1s.6d.) indicating that the withdrawn ship letter rate had been paid (single packet rate to Falmouth 1s.2d. 1813-1839 + single inland rate Falmouth to Lancaster 1s.2d. 1813-1839 = total 2s.4d. divided by three rounded down to nearest halfpenny = 9d. Double rate = 2x9d. = 1s.6d.). Charged "1/4" in black (1s.4d.) (2x8d. double inland rate from Liverpool to Lancaster 1813-1839)

POSTMARKS: PAID TO ENGLAND in red (type PD1); BARBADOES AP 29 1815 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

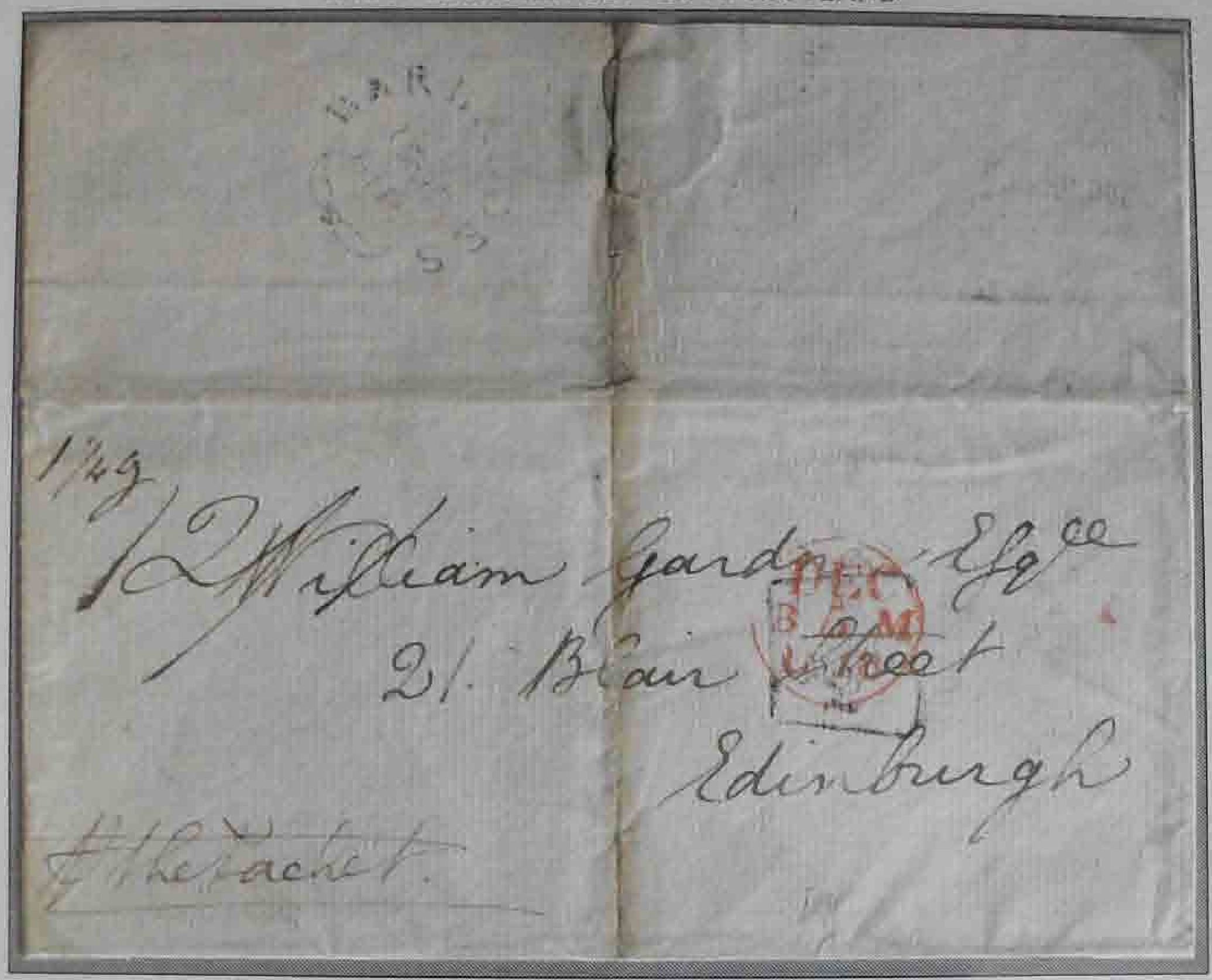
TRANSIT MARKING: SHIP LETTER LIVERPOOL Crown over the red "1/6" rate marking.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE of the Barbados "PAID TO ENGLAND" marking.

1818 - OUNCE LETTERS

Prior to 1840, most postal rates were based on the number of sheets. One sheet paid a single rate, two sheets a double rate and so on. A letter could also be calculated by the ounce; one ounce equalled four sheets and paid a quadruple rate.

1818 1¼OZ PACKET LETTER TO SCOTLAND



RATE: Marked "1¼oz", charged "12/1" (12s.1d.) + ½d. (5s.10d. (5x1s.2d.) 1¼oz packet rate to Falmouth 1813-1840 + 6s.3d.(5x1s.3d.) 1¼oz rate from Falmouth to Edinburgh 1812-1839 + ½d. Scottish Toll 1813-1839)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES 17.OC.1818 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836

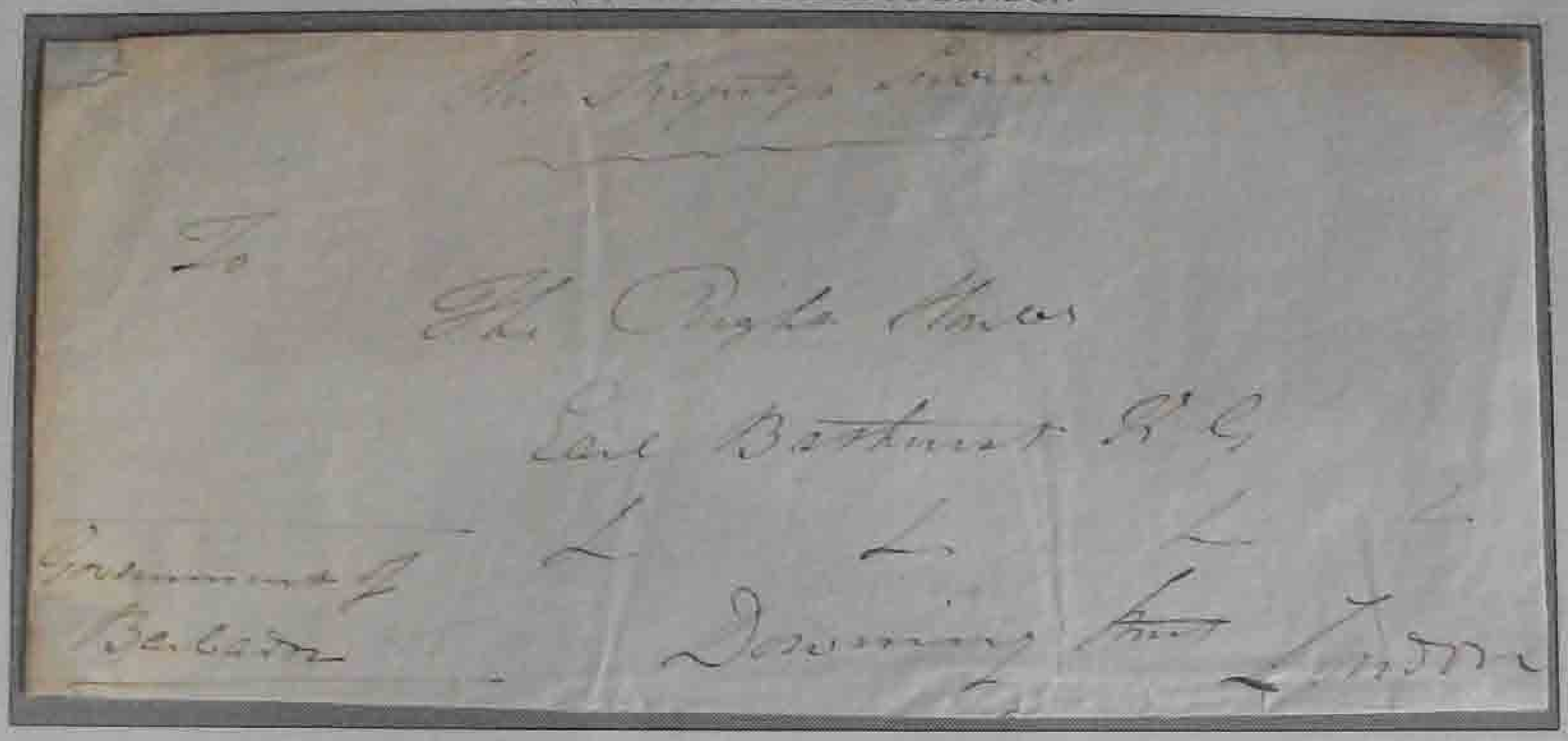
ARRIVAL MARKINGS: Edinburgh single rimmed circle "DE.5.1818" in red; boxed "½" Scottish toll marking

COMMENT: The letter is marked "Per the Packet" and "1¼oz" and shows an extremely high postal rate. Mail charged by the ounce is most unusual.

1820 - O.H.M.S. MAIL

Official mail between Government Departments of the British Empire and the Colonial Government in England was forwarded without charges during most of the Colonial period. For this reason, very little has survived and the number of early O.H.M.S. items from Barbados is very small indeed.

1820(C) O.H.M.S. LABEL TO LONDON



RATE: None, official mail marked "His Majesty's Service" and "Government of Barbados".

COMMENT: This is an address panel of a package addressed to "The Right Honorable, Earl Bathurst K.G, Downing Street, London". Earl Bathurst was a member of Parliament from 1783 and minister off and on until 1830. He was Colonial Minister between 1812 and 1827.

1828 AND 1833 - THE RED CROWN MARK

When it was necessary to alter the amount charged on a letter, the alteration was occasionally accompanied by a "Crown" impressed in red, particularly during the early part of the 19th century. The Crown mark seems to have been used especially to re-charge letters, first charged as single letters but which were found to be double letters.

1828 RE-CHARGED DOUBLE PACKET LETTER TO GERMANY

RATE: First charged "2/2" (2s.2d.) but this was deleted in manuscript and with a red Crown and altered to "4/4" (4s.4d.) (2 x 2s.2d. double packet rate to London 1813-1840)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES SP 25 1828 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

TRANSIT MARKING: London double rimmed circle "19.NO.19.1828" with code letter "G", in red.

COMMENT: The letter is addressed to Bertholsdorf, Saxony, Germany, care of an address in London. It was sent under cover from London to Germany.

1833 RE-CHARGED DOUBLE SHIP LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: First charged "1/11" (1s.11d.) but this was deleted in manuscript and with a red Crown and altered to "3/10" (3s.10d.) (1s.4d. (2x8d.) double ship rate to England 1819-1854 + 2s.6d. (2x1s.3d.) double rate from Cove to London 1812-1839)

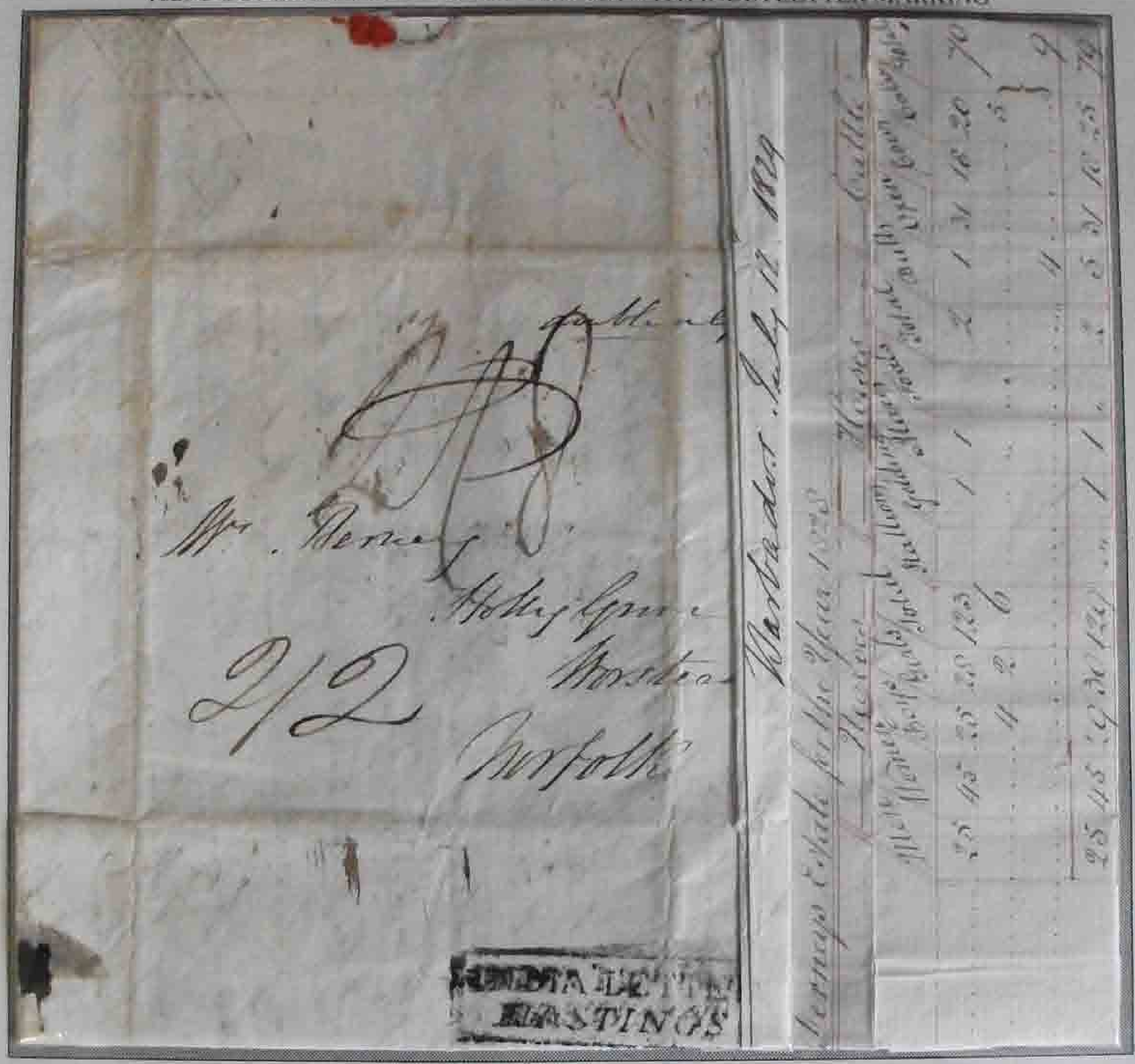
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: COVE SHIP LETTER; London double rimmed diamond "FE.21.33" with code letter "2A", in black; London single rimmed circle "23 FE 23 1833" with code letter "A", in red.

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados 8 January 1833".

1829 - INDIA LETTER MARKINGS

India Letter markings were applied on mail from India, the Far East and Australia, but also on some mail from Africa and South America. Mail from the West Indies occasionally received India Letter markings by mistake.

1829 DOUBLE SHIP LETTER TO NORFOLK WITH INDIA LETTER MARKING



RATE: First charged "2/8" but this was deleted and altered to "2/2" (2s.2d.) (1s.4d. (2x8d.) double ship rate to England 1819-1840 + 10d. (2x5d.) double rate from Hastings to Norfolk)

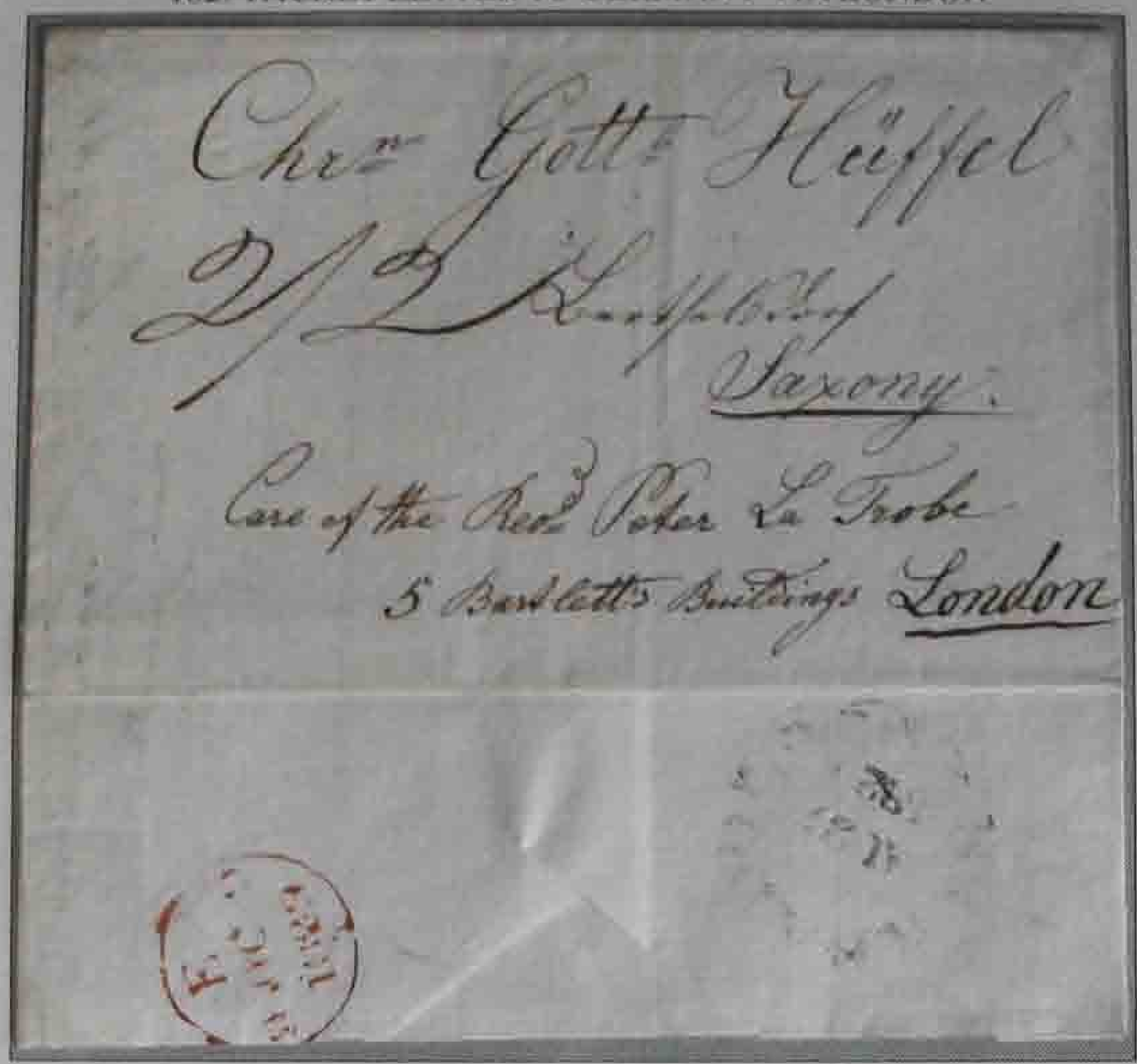
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: INDIA LETTER HASTINGS; SHIP LETTER HASTINGS (rather faint); London double rimmed circle "31 AU 31 1829" with code letter "E" in red.

COMMENT: The letter is marked "double only" and is headed "Barbados July 12 1829" and contains "An Abstract for Lower Berneys Estate for the year 1828" with a table of the "Negroes, Horses and Cattle" on the estate. By mistake it received an India Letter marking and the initial postal rate charged was based on that. The mistake was discovered and a Ship Letter marking was applied and the postal rate re-calculated.

1829 AND 1845 - MAIL TO GERMANY

Mail to Germany from the British West Indies is uncommon pre 1850. There were no natural connections and very few German subjects had settled or established businesses there. But that changed dramatically during the second half of the 19th century.

1829 PACKET LETTER TO GERMANY VIA LONDON



RATE: Charged "2/2" (2s.2d. packet rate to London 1813-1840)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES AU 27 1829 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

TRANSIT MARKING: London single rimmed circle "9.OC.9.1829" with code letter "E", in red.

COMMENT: The letter is addressed to Bertholsdorf, Saxony, Germany, care of an address in London. It was sent under cover from London to Germany.

1845 TRIPLE PACKET LETTER TO HAMBURG

RATE: Charged "3/-" (3s.) (3x1s. triple packet rate to England 1840-1854) + charge from England to Hamburg making the total "48" Sgr.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES DE 24 1845 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London single rimmed circle "20.JA.1846" in red; Hamburg St.P.A. 23 Jan 46.

1829 AND 1847 - DISINFECTED MAIL

Right up to the 20th century there were constant outbreaks of yellow fever in the West Indies. The fear of diseases being spread through mail had been around for a long time and by disinfecting the mail with smoke through slits, it was believed that any such threats would be avoided.

1829 DISINFECTED SINGLE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Charged "2/2" (2s.2d. packet rate to London 1813-1839): marked "Single"

POSTMARK: BARBADOES 31 JY 1829 (type A5) Fleuron, in use between 1812 and 1836.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London double rimmed circle "14 SE 1829" with code letter "C".

COMMENT: The envelope has disinfection slits through front and back to enable thorough disinfection by smoke.

1847 DISINFECTED SINGLE PACKET LETTER TO EDINBURGH

RATE: Charged "1/-" (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1840-1854).

POSTMARK: BARBADOES FE 23 1847 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: London Crown 22 MR 22 1847 in red; London M F MAR 23 1847 in red.

COMMENT: The envelope and the letter have disinfection slits through fronts and backs to enable thorough disinfection. The letter was written by an Officer in the Army who had recently been transferred from Malta. They had just arrived in Barbados and were still on board their ship and he mentions: "We have not heard one word on the probable length of our quarantine."

1833 AND 1849 - MAIL TO THE IONIAN ISLANDS AND INDIA

Mail to far-away countries from Barbados is very scarce and the postal rates are very complicated, especially prior to 1840 but in general until Barbados joined the UPU in 1881.

1833 PAID LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO THE IONIAN ISLANDS

RATE: Marked "Pd 1/11" (Paid 1s.11d) in red denoting that postage had been prepaid and "6" in red indicating ship rate to England (8d. ship letter rate to England 1819-1840 (including 2d. Master's Gratuity) + 1s.3d. GPO rate from England to the Ionian Islands)

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London single rimmed F 25.4.1833; A.T.F. (Angleterre Transit France); ANGLETERRE· NAP (Neapel) 13.GIU.1833; CORFU 12 GIUGNO 1833.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados 12th April 1833".

1849 PAID PACKET LETTER TO INDIA

RATE: Marked "2/- paid" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1840-1854 + 1/- packet rate from Great Britain to India 1840-1856).

POSTMARK: BARBADOES JY.27.1849 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT MARKING: London PAID 22.AU.22.1849 in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "per mail Steamer via Southampton" and is addressed to a Captain of H.M. 83rd Regiment in Bombay.

1835 AND 1850 - SHIP LETTERS TO THE UNITED STATES

The Ship Letter rate into the United States during this period was 2cents plus the internal US rate from the port to the destination. Most ships from the West Indies would go to the southern part of USA which meant that letters to the northern parts would get quite high charges.

1835 SHIP LETTER TO COOPER'S TOWN VIA NEW YORK

RATE: Charged "39½" cents (2 cents ship rate + 37½ cents rate from New York City to Cooper's Town)

TRANSIT MARKINGS: SHIP in red; NEW - YORK APL 20 in red.

FORWARDING AGENT: Manuscript "Favoured by Messrs Tucker & Laurie, New York".

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados 16 March 1835".

1850 SHIP LETTER TO NEW HAVEN FORWARDED VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: Charged "7" cents (2cents ship rate + 5 cents inland rate from New York to New Haven)

FORWARDING AGENT: Handstamped "FORWARDED BY WHITMORE & Co ST THOMAS" in red.

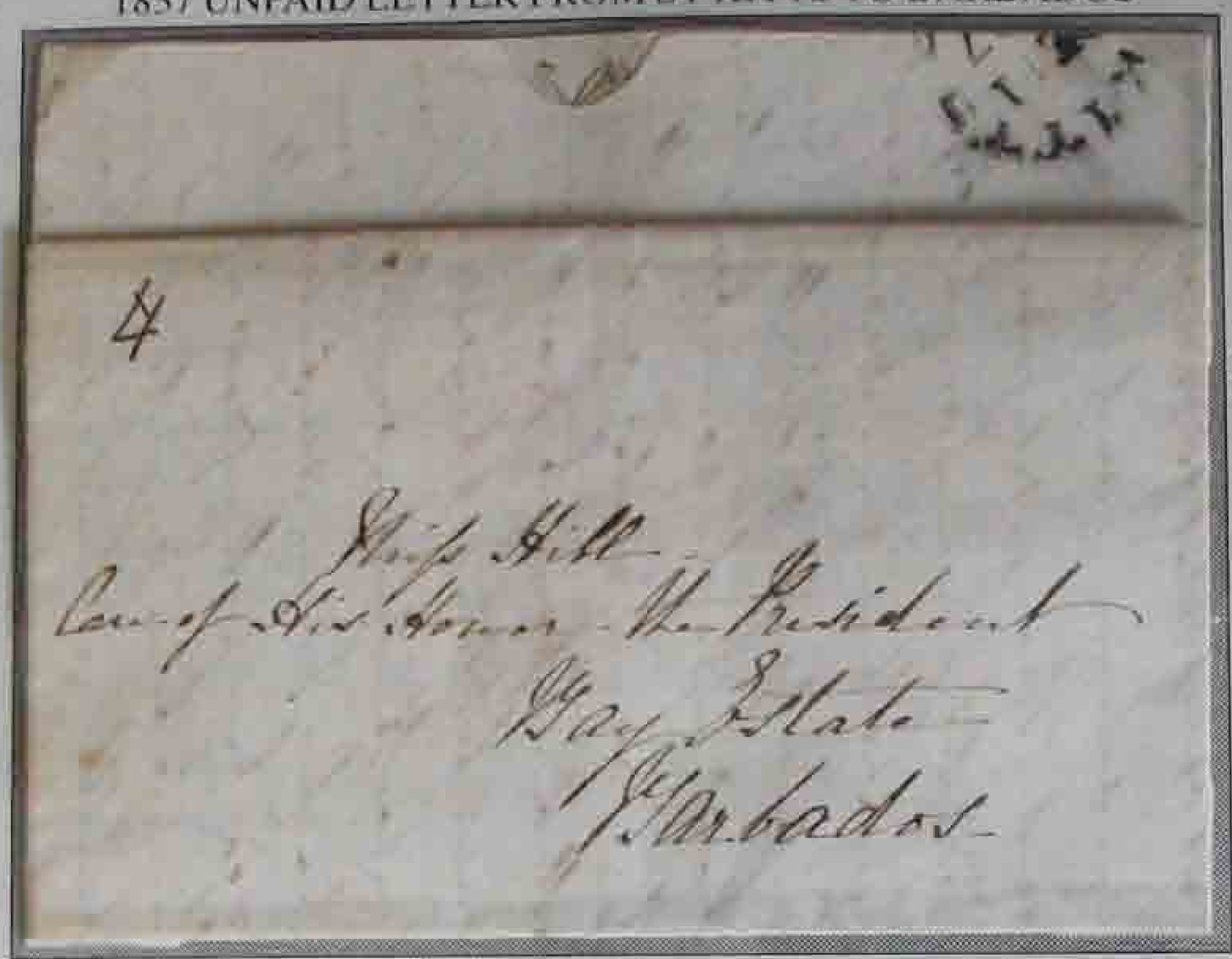
TRANSIT MARKING: NEW YORK SHIP FEB 27 7cts in red.

COMMENT: The letter contains a Prices Current dated "Barbados 2 February 1850".

1837 AND 1840 - MAIL TO BARBADOS FROM ST KITTS AND ITALY

Most of the mail addressed to Barbados was sent from Great Britain. Occasionally other countries of origin are found.

1837 UNPAID LETTER FROM ST KITTS TO BARBADOS



RATE: Charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

POSTMARK: ST KITTS DE.11 1837 Fleuron.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Manuscript "Answered March 24th 1838"

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Brimston Hill, St Kitts, 5th December 1837" and is addressed to "Miss Hill, Care of His Honor the President, Bay Estate, Barbados".

1840 PREPAID PACKET LETTER FROM ITALY TO BARBADOS

RATE: Marked "P 1/-" (Paid 1/-) in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate to Barbados 1840-1854)

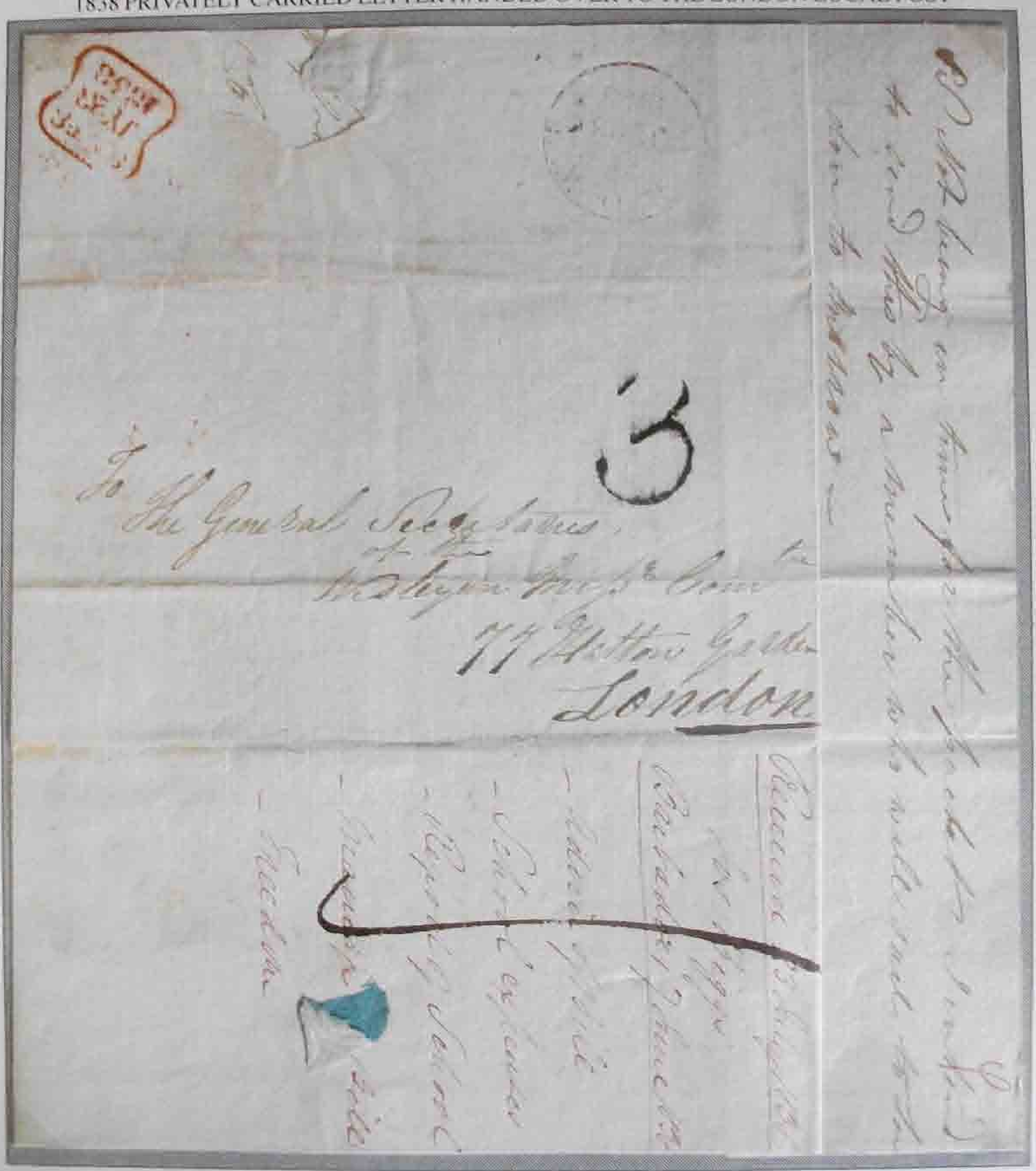
POSTMARKS: London Twopenny Post "T.P. Ebury St"; London PAID 7 JY 7 1840 in red.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Sorrento May 24, 1840" and describes a journey through France and Italy. It was privately carried to London and mailed there. It is addressed to the "Commander of the Forces, Queen's House, Barbadoes".

1838 - MAIL SENT THROUGH THE LONDON TWOPENNY POST

Mail carried privately to England would normally be handed over to the Post Office upon arrival. If the person carrying the letter was going to the same city as the letter, it would be handed over to the Local Post Office.

1838 PRIVATELY CARRIED LETTER HANDED OVER TO THE LONDON LOCAL POST



RATE: Handstamped charge mark "3"d. (3d. unpaid local London rate at the London Twopenny Post 1801-1839)

ARRIVAL MARKINGS: BOW JY 23 1838 circular type in red; 8 NT 8 JY 23 1838 indented type in red

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbadoes 7 June 1838" and has an interesting PS "Not being in time for the packet, I intend to send this by a member who will sail to London tomorrow".

1838 AND 1843 - THE "BARBADOES" SERIFED DOUBLE ARC DATED POSTMARK (TYPE A6)

In 1838 this postmark replaced the by now very worn Fleuron (type A5) datestamp, and it remained in use until 1850 although it had been joined by type A7 in 1845. Clear strikes of this postmark are very scarce.

1838 THE EARLIEST RECORDED DATE ON PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

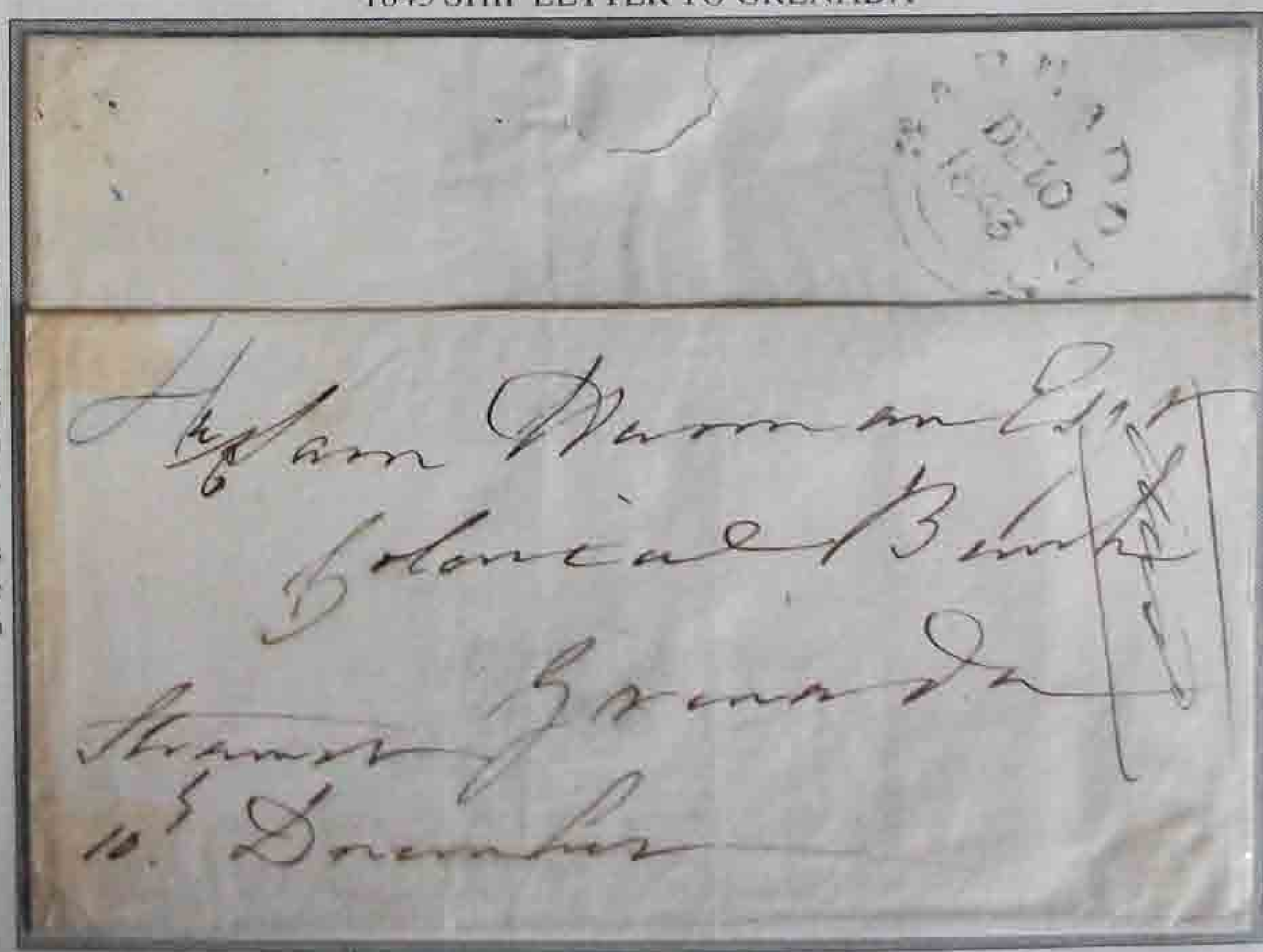
RATE: Charged "2/2" (2s.2d. packet rate to London 1813-1839)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES JA.5.1838 (type A6) serifed double arc, in use between 1838 and 1850.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London single rimmed circle "27 FE 27 1838" with code letter "B", in red.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED DATE of this postmark.

1843 SHIP LETTER TO GRENADA



RATE: Charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES DE 10.1843 (type A6) serifed double arc, in use between 1838 and 1850.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front, per "Steamer 10th December".

1842 AND 1843 - PREPAID PACKET MAIL TO BARBADOS

With the Great Post Office Reform of 1839-1840, prepayment of mail from Great Britain became much more common, whether going inland or overseas.

1842 PREPAID LETTER TO BARBADOS MISSENT TO LIVERPOOL

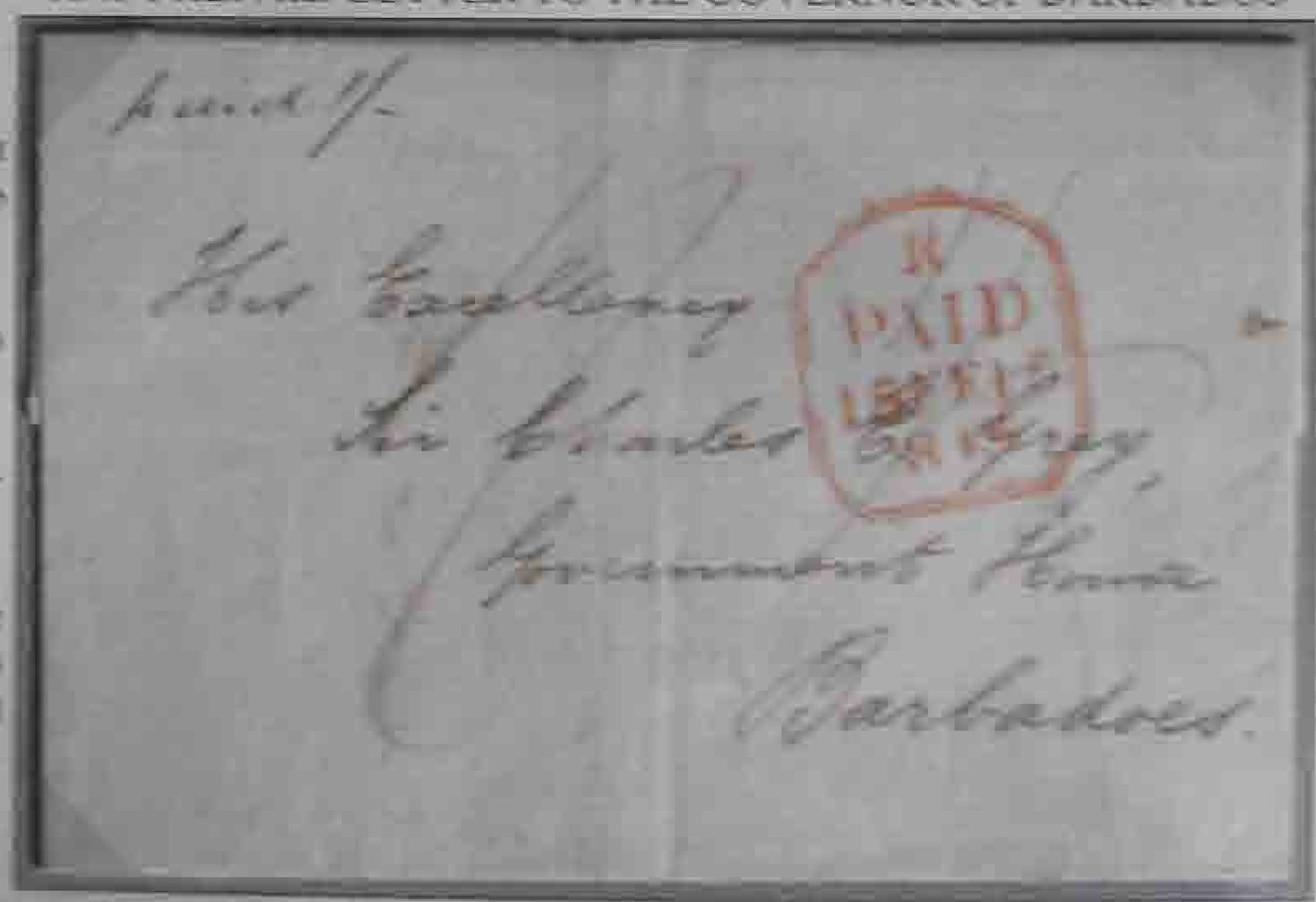
RATE: Marked "P 1/-" (Paid 1/-) in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate to Barbados 1840-1854).

POSTMARK: KESWICK JA 31 1842.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: MIS-SENT TO LIVERPOOL; LIVERPOOL L JA 31 1842; London PAID FE 1 1842 in red.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "Paid" and "Jany 30 1842" and is addressed to Queen's House, Barbados. Queen's House was the Headquarters of the Commander in Chief of the British troops in Barbados from 1780.

1843 PREPAID LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS



RATE: Marked "1/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate to Barbados 1840-1854).

POSTMARK: London PAID 15 FE 15 1843 in red.

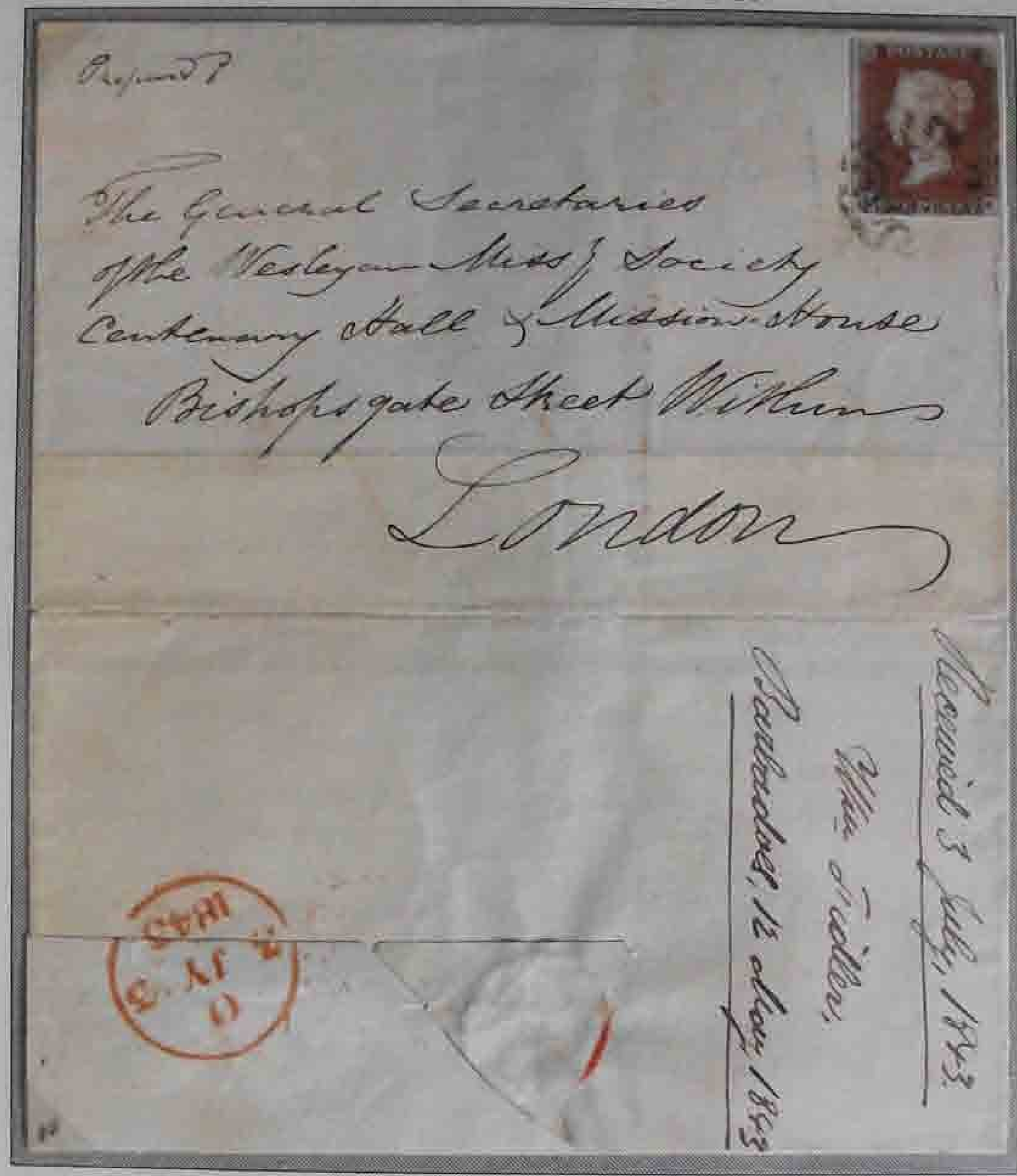
ARRIVAL MARKING: Manuscript "R(eceived) March 16 1843".

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "Paid 1/-" and is addressed to His Excellency Sir Charles E Grey, Government House, Barbados.

1843 - PREPAID PRIVATELY CARRIED MAIL

With the introduction of the Uniform Penny Post in Great Britain in 1840, with the effect that the postal rate for a ½oz. letter was 1d. to anywhere in the country, it became very easy and much more economical to send a letter with a friend, relative or ship's captain who was going to England, and put a British 1d. stamp on the letter to pay the inland postage. This should be compared with the official Packet rate which was reduced to 1/- in 1840.

1843 PREPAID LETTER TO LONDON



RATE: 1d. (Privately carried from Barbados to England; 1d. British inland rate 1840-1918)

STAMP: Great Britain Queen Victoria 1d. 1841 POSTMARK: Black Maltese Cross.

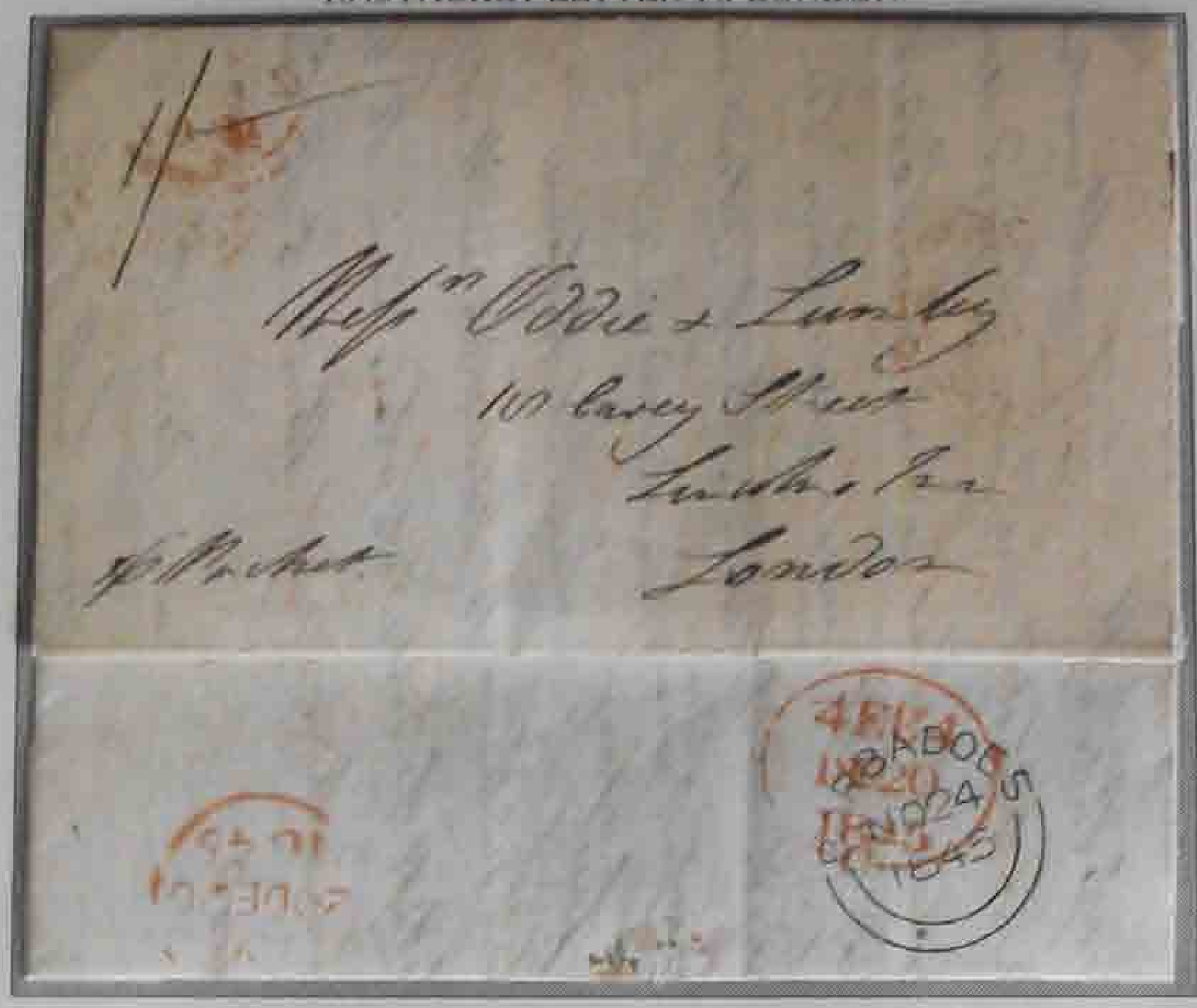
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: WOLVERHAMPTON JY 3 1843; London single rimmed circle "3 JY 3 1843" with code letter "O", in red.

COMMENT: The letter is dated "Barbados 12 May 1843" and has a manuscript note on the front "Prepaid 1d.".

1845 AND 1846 - THE "BARBADOES" SANS-SERIFED DOUBLE ARC DATED POSTMARK (TYPE A7)

This was the last postmark to be introduced by the British Mail Packet Agency. It was produced in 1845 and when the Mail Packet Office closed in 1858, it was handed over to the Colonial Post Office where it remained in use until 1887.

1845 PACKET LETTER TO LONDON



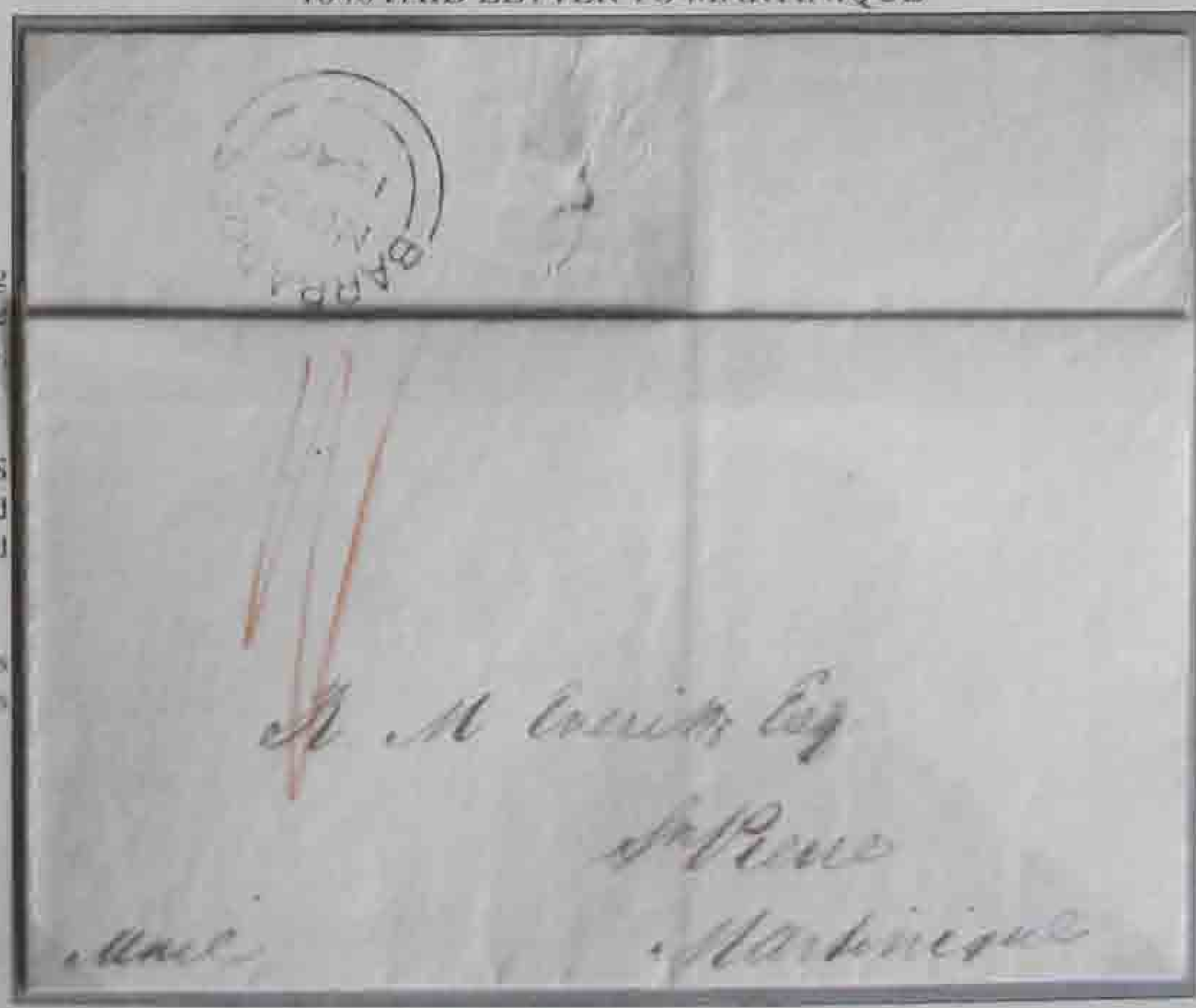
RATE: Charged "1/-" (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1840-1854). Manuscript "per Packet" on the front.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES NO 24 1845 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London double rimmed circle "20 DE 20 1845" with code letter "V", in red; London single rimmed oval "DE 20 1845" with code letter "4Eg4", in red.

COMMENT: This is one of the earliest recorded dates of this postmark. It was delivered to the G.P.O. in London on 8 August 1845.

1846 PAID LETTER TO MARTINIQUE



RATE: Marked "1/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- rate to French islands in the West Indies). Manuscript per "Mail" on the front.

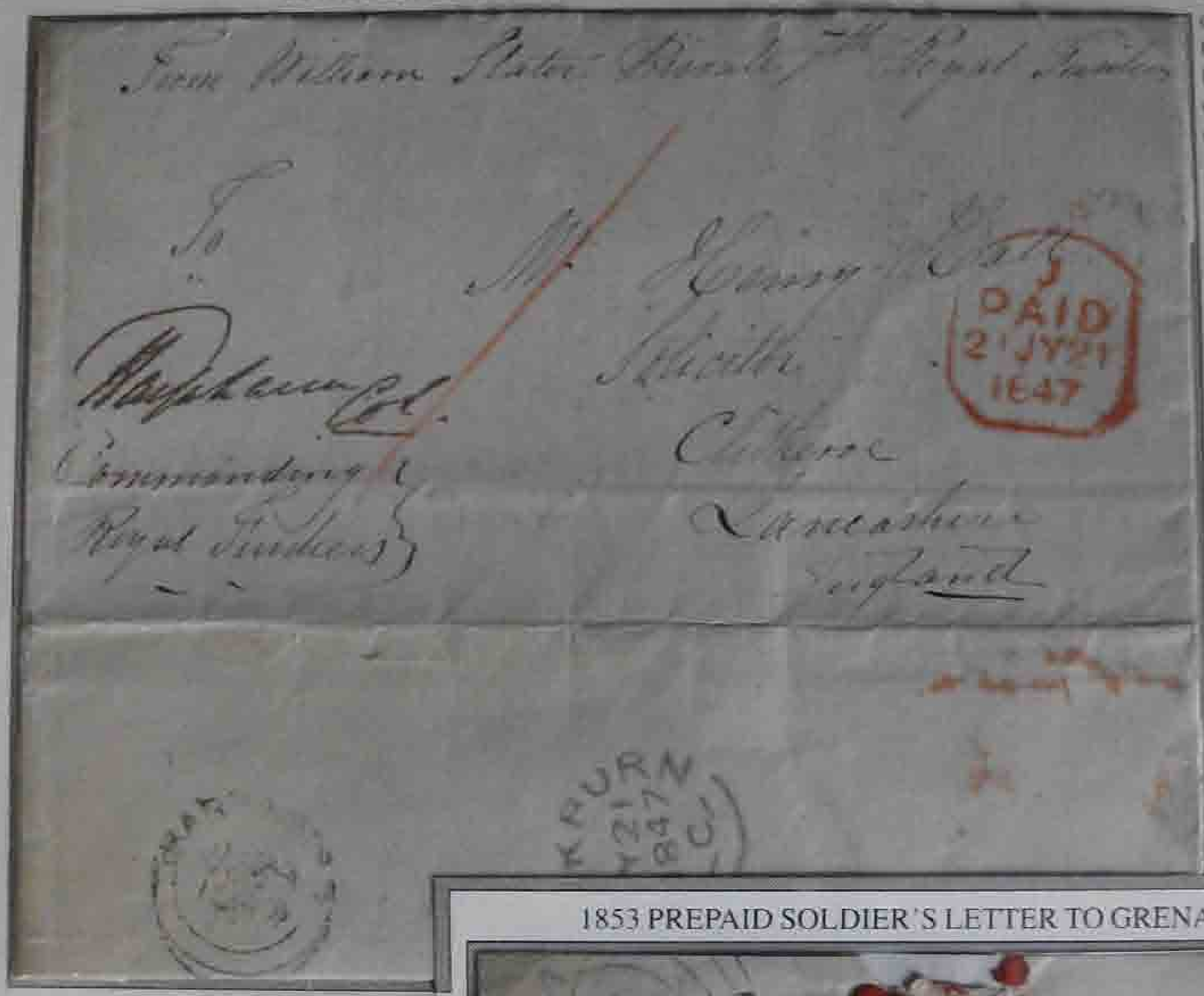
POSTMARK: BARBADOES NO 24 1846 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

COMMENT: Mail between Barbados and French islands in the West Indies is very scarce.

1847 AND 1853 - SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY MAIL

From time to time, many Soldiers were stationed throughout the British Empire including the West Indies. The high rates of postage were a real hardship to serving personnel and their families and concessionary rates were introduced as early as 1795, the rate for prepaid mail being 1d. for Soldiers, Seamen and Non-commissioned Officers. All concessionary mail had to be counter-signed by the Commanding Officer and the sender had to write his name and rank on the address side of the letter.

1847 PREPAID SOLDIER'S LETTER TO ENGLAND



RATE: Marked "1" d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1d. concessionary Soldier's rate 1795-1898)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES JU 24 1847 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London PAID 21 JY 1847 tombstone, in red; BLACKBURN JY 21 1847, CLITHEROE JY 21 1847.

COMMENT: Marked "From William Slater, Private, 7th Royal Fusiliers" and counter-signed "F Farquharson, Colonel, Commanding Royal Fusiliers".

1853 PREPAID SOLDIER'S LETTER TO GRENADA

RATE: Marked "1" d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1d. concessionary Soldier's rate 1795-1898)

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES AU 05 1853 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: GRENADA AU 7 1853.

COMMENT: The letter is marked "Paid" and is addressed to "Bombardier S J Haycock, 9th Battery, Royal Artillery, Grenada". THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED inter-island Soldier's letter within all of the British West Indies.

1848 AND 1849 - PREPAID MAIL

For most of the British Colonies letters could be sent either prepaid or unpaid until the latter half of the 19th century. When a letter was sent unpaid, it was the duty of the postal clerk to enter the amount of postage to be paid by the addressee in black ink on the letter, whereas if the postage was prepaid it was entered in red ink. During the 19th century, particularly after the Napoleonic Wars (1815), the practice of prepaying postage grew slowly, and in Barbados it became compulsory in 1858.

1848 PREPAID DOUBLE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Marked "2/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (2/- (2x1/-) double packet rate to Great Britain 1840-1854)

POSTMARK: BARBADOES AP 28 1848 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London "PAID 23 MY 23 1848" circular datestamp, in red.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "Prepaid" and also "per Packet".

1849 PREPAID SHIP LETTER TO USA

RATE: Marked "1/- paid" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- ship rate to the east coast of the United States) + charged 7 cents US inland rate.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES AU 27 1849 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

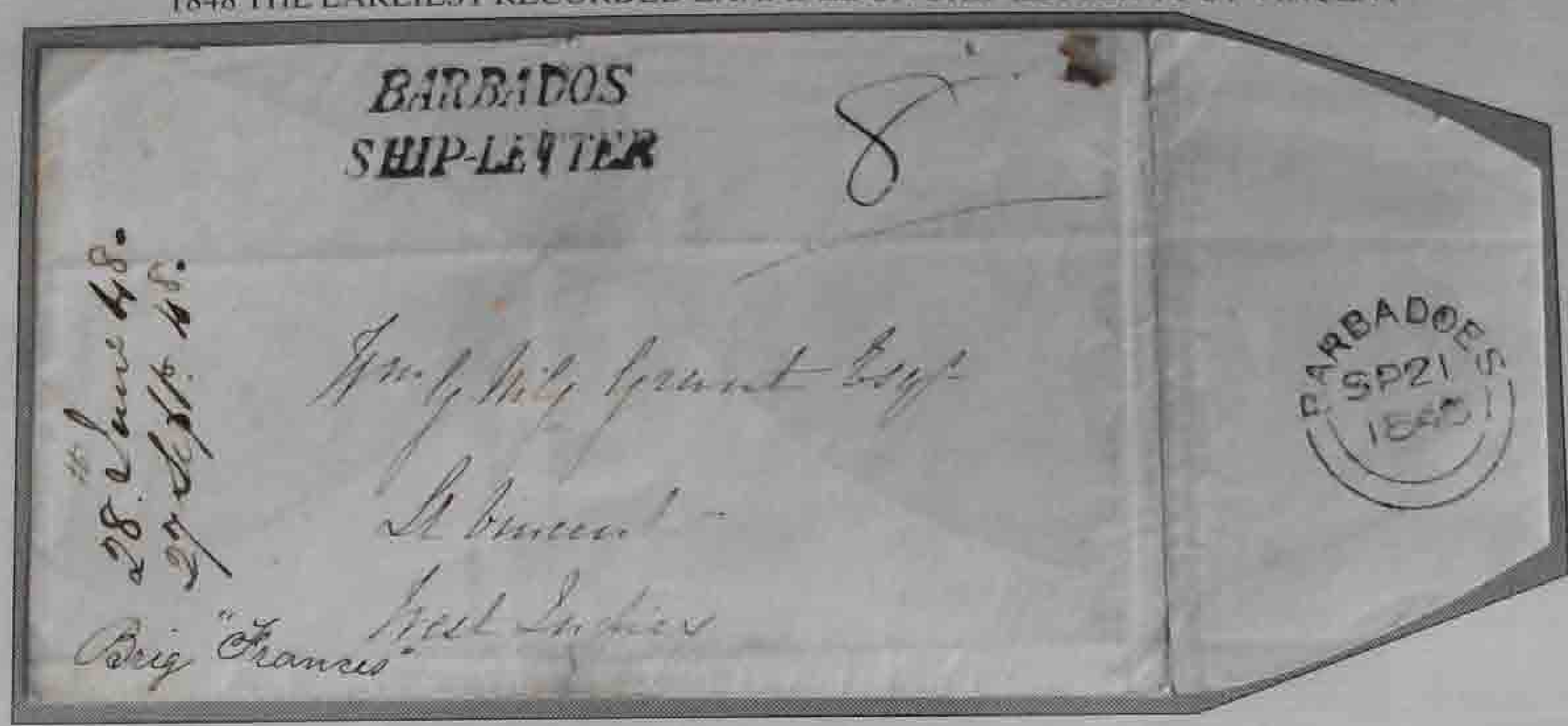
TRANSIT MARKING: NEW YORK SHIP SEP 9 7cts.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "Prep'd" and also "per Steamer".

1848 AND 1877 - THE "*BARBADOS SHIP-LETTER*" MARKING (TYPE D2)

This marking was produced by the GPO in 1847 to be used on incoming ship letters to separate them from packet letters. It was never used much and is rare; only five examples are recorded.

1848 THE EARLIEST RECORDED EXAMPLE ON SHIP LETTER TO ST VINCENT



RATE: Charged "8"d. (ship rate from England to the West Indies 1840-1854); marked per "Brig Frances".

POSTMARKS: *BARBADOS SHIP-LETTER* (type D2), in use between 1848 and 1877; BARBADOES SP.21.1848 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Manuscript "27 Sept 48"; despatch date also noted "28 June 48" and the letter probably arrived from England since the rate charged is the ship rate from England.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY FIVE KNOWN EXAMPLES of this marking.

1877 THE LATEST KNOWN EXAMPLE ON INTERNAL SHIP LETTER

RATE: Charged "2"d. (because of being sent unpaid, double the inland rate was charged, 2x1d. inland rate 1852-1907)

POSTMARKS: *BARBADOS SHIP-LETTER* (type D2), in use between 1848 and 1877; BARBADOS A open bootheel duplex (type C4) MY.7.77, MY.8.77 and MY.12.77; BARBADOS 2 MY.8.77 parish datestamp used in Christchurch (type M2).

COMMENT: The cover arrived on a ship to Bridgetown and was sent unpaid to Christchurch.
THERE ARE ONLY FIVE KNOWN EXAMPLES of this marking.

1849 AND 1858 - FORWARDING AGENT'S MAIL

During the 19th century, up to the formation of the Universal Postal Union in 1874, the business for Forwarding Agents grew worldwide. The increasing amount of mail sent and the demands from senders and addressees, made it possible for many companies to specialise in this field.

1849 SHIP LETTER FROM BRITISH GUIANA TO USA FORWARDED ON BARBADOS

RATE: Charged 12 cents (2 cents ship letter rate + 10 cents inland rate from Plymouth to Fairhaven, Vermont)

FORWARDING AGENT: Manuscript "Barbados 3rd December 1849 Received & forwarded by Your Obt Servants Innis & Walcott"

TRANSIT MARKING: PLYMOUTH N.C. JAN 4 in red.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Demerary 22 November 1849".

1858 COVER TO PHILADELPHIA FORWARDED ON BARBADOS

RATE: Charged 5 cents (2cents ship letter rate + 3cents inland rate from New York to Philadelphia)

FORWARDING AGENT: Handstamped "FORWARDED Griffith & Jeffray Commission Merchants BARBADOS W.I." in an oval.

TRANSIT MARKING: NEW YORK SHIP LETTER 5 (cents) DEC 21.

COMMENT: The enclosed letter is headed "White Park, Barbados, Dec 11 1858".

1850 AND 1852 - PACKET MAIL TO FRANCE VIA ENGLAND

According to the 1843 agreement between Great Britain and France, also known as the "British-French Postal Convention", both countries agreed upon a system for indicating charges to be paid and to make exchange between the countries easier by making reference to the Convention articles. For these reasons a number of handstamps were introduced including the "COLONIES &c ART." with a number, as well as the postage due handstamps (tampons).

1850 DOUBLE PACKET LETTER TO FRANCE VIA ENGLAND

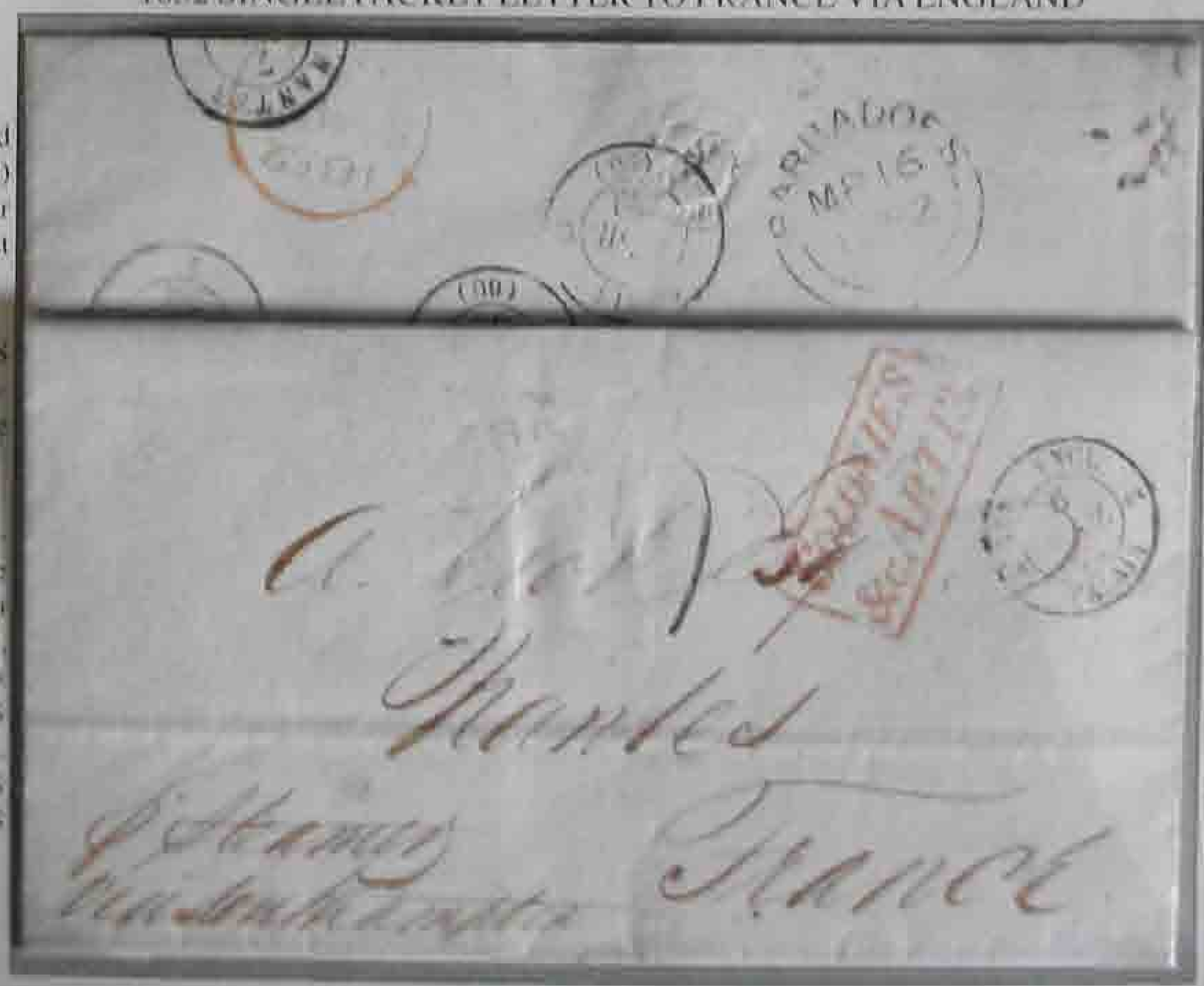
RATE: Charged "30" décimes (=3 Francs) for ½oz. (1.50Francs rate per ¼oz. for mail from the British West Indies).

POSTMARK: BARBADOES MR.16.1852 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London single rimmed circle "4.AUA 1850", in red; COLONIES &c ART.13, in red; "30" décimes ; ANGL. CALAIS 6.AOUT.50; BORDEAUX 8.AOUT.50.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "per Steamer".

1852 SINGLE PACKET LETTER TO FRANCE VIA ENGLAND



RATE: Charged hand-stamped "15" décimes (=1.50 Francs) (1.50Francs rate per ¼oz. for mail from the British West Indies).

POSTMARK: BARBADOES MR.16.1852 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London single rimmed circle "5 AP 5 1852", in red; COLONIES &c ART.13, in red; "15" décimes handstamp, ANGL. CALAIS 6 AVRIL 52; PARIS 6 AVRIL 52; LIGNE DE TOURS 6 AVRIL 52; NANTES 7 AVRIL 52.

1851 AND 1853 - THE "BARBADOES" POSTMARK (TYPE A7) IN RED, USED ON PREPAID MAIL

For a few years, the Barbadoes postmark (type A7) was used in red on prepaid incoming mail, to indicate that the postage hade already been paid by the sender, and that no further charges were due. This procedure must have been impractical and very few items are known.

1851 PREPAID PACKET LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO BARBADOS

RATE: Marked "1/-" in red, denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate from Great Britain to the British West Indies 1840-1854); also marked "p paid" (pre paid or postage paid).

POSTMARK / CACHET: SOUTHAMPTON AU.16.1851 in red; DUNLOP & SCHOALES ROYAL MAIL COMPANY, SOUTHAMPTON, SHIPPING AGENTS.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES SP.07.1851 (type A7) in RED denoting that postage had been prepaid.

COMMENT: VERY FEW EXAMPLES ARE KNOWN of this marking in red.

1853 LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO JAMAICA, RE-DIRECTED TO BARBADOS

RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate from Great Britain to the British West Indies 1840-1854).

STAMP: Great Britain Queen Victoria 1/- 1847.

POSTMARKS: Numeral cancellation "303"; LONGFORD JA.29.1853.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: KINGSTON JAMAICA FE.22.1853; ST THOMAS MR.3.1853.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES MR.07.1853 (type A7) in RED denoting that postage had been prepaid.

COMMENT: VERY FEW EXAMPLES ARE KNOWN of this marking in red.

1851 AND 1858 - THE "PAID AT BARBADOES" CROWNED CIRCLE POSTMARK (TYPE B1)

Prior to the issue of stamps, a Crowned Circle handstamp was introduced to be applied on letters with the postage prepaid. This postmark was sent out from the G.P.O. in London on 3 October 1849 and it remained in continuous use up to 1858. During this period it was always applied in red ink and the amount paid was written in red ink on the letter. The marking was re-used with black ink in 1893 and 1896 during shortage of stamps.

1851 PREPAID PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Marked "1/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1840-1854)

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES NO.13.1851 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London PAID 9.DE.9.1851 circular datestamp, in red.

COMMENT: Very few examples of this paid marking are recorded used before the introduction of stamps in April 1852.

1858 PREPAID PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: Marked "6"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863)

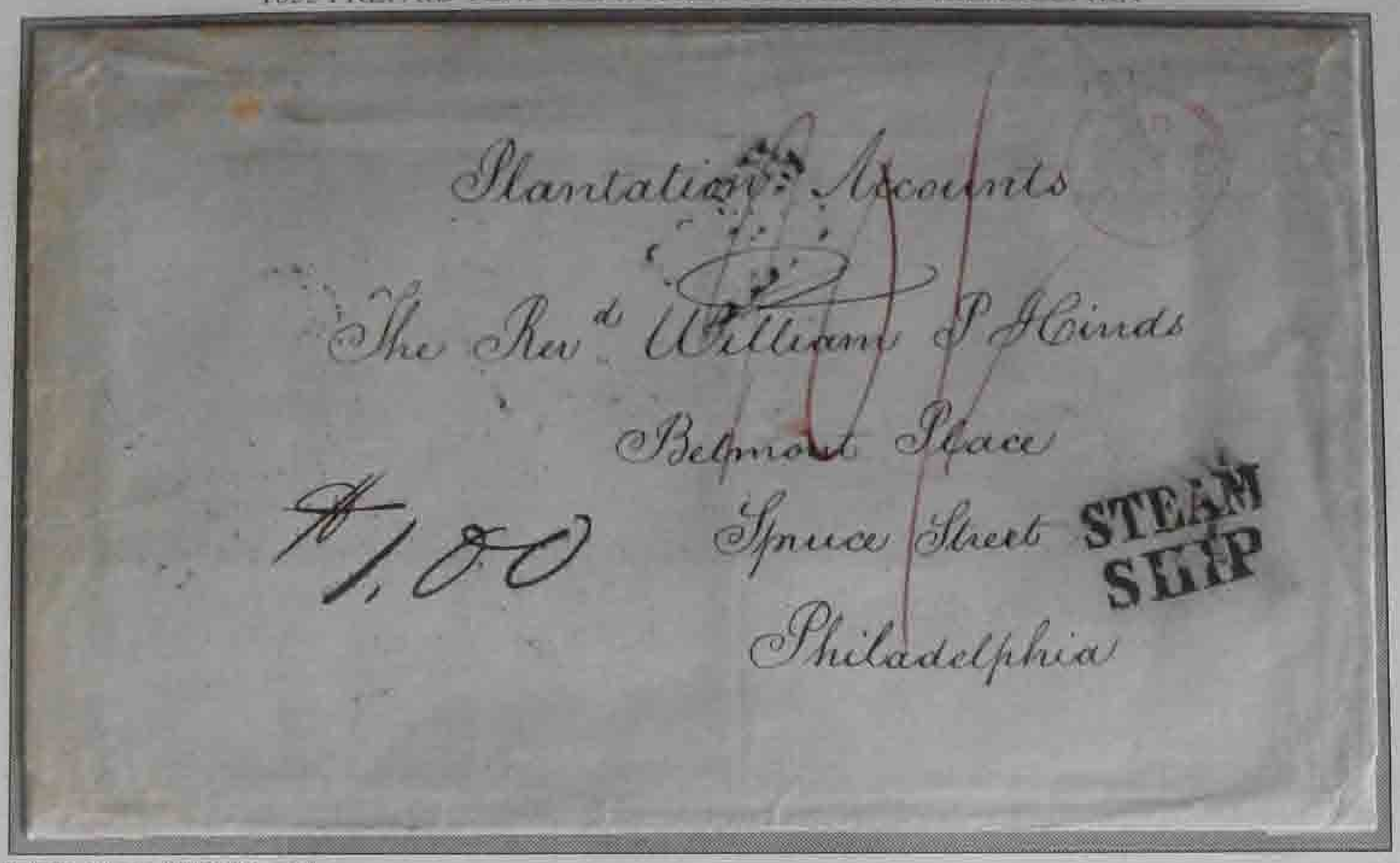
POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES OC.12.1858 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON PAID OC.31.58 in red; SHEFFIELD NO.1.58.

1853 AND 1854 - THE "PAID AT BARBADOES" CROWNED CIRCLE POSTMARK (TYPE B1)

Most of the covers with this marking are addressed to Great Britain or the United States. Only a small number of items have been recorded addressed to other destinations.

1853 PREPAID TENFOLD PACKET LETTER TO PHILADELPHIA



RATE: Marked "10/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (10x1/- tenfold packet rate to the United States); charged "$1.00" (10x 10cents tenfold ship rate).

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red; BARBADOES AU.09.1853 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS AU.14.1853; STEAM SHIP.

COMMENT: A remarkable cover which must have weighed close to 5 ounces.

1854 PREPAID PRICES CURRENT TO ST THOMAS

RATE: Marked "4"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red; BARBADOES FE.27.1854 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

1855 AND 1857 - THE "PAID AT BARBADOES" CROWNED CIRCLE POSTMARK (TYPE B1)

Very few covers with this marking to destinations other than Great Britain and USA are known. Only two to St Thomas, two to France, one to Spain and one to Madeira have been recorded.

1855 PREPAID DOUBLE PACKET LETTER TO SPAIN

RATE: Marked "2/8" (2x8d.) in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- (2x6d.) double packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863 + 1x8d. (2x10d.) double packet rate from Great Britain to the Spanish border 1843-1857); charged "8R" (Reales Spanish inland rate).

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES SP.27.1855 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1867; Parish datestamp "1" SP.27.1855 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London PAID 18.OC.18.1855 in red; PF (Port Frontiere) in red; ANGL. AMB. CALAIS 19.OCT.55; "8R" in blue; JEREZ DE LA F. CADIZ 27.OCT.55.

COMMENT: The letter has manuscript notes on the front "via Southampton", "paid" and "per Mail 27th Tbre (September)".

1857 PREPAID PACKET LETTER TO FRANCE

RATE: Marked "1/2" (1s.2d.) in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863 + 8d. rate from Great Britain to France).

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES AU.11.1857 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1867.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London PAID 31.AU.31 1857 in red; PD (Port Destination) in red; ANGL. AMB. CALAIS 31.AOUT.57; RHEIMS 2.SEPT.57

1854 - THE BARBADOS "6" CHARGE MARKING

When the packet rate between England and Barbados was reduced to 6d. in 1854, a "6" charge marking was produced, which was to be used on unpaid incoming mail to indicate the amount due. It was probably not used very much and only two examples have been recorded.

1854 "6" CHARGE MARKING ON PACKET LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO BARBADOS

RATE: First charged "5"d. but this was deleted and altered with the "6"d. CHARGE MARKING (6d. packet rate from Great Britain to the British West Indies 1854-1863)

POSTMARK / TRANSIT MARKING: CLIFTON SP.16.1854; London Crown 16.sp.1854 in red.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES OC.05.1854 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

COMMENT: The cover is addressed to "Captain Edgar, 69th Regt, Barbadoes".

THERE ARE ONLY TWO KNOWN EXAMPLES of this charge marking.

1854 MANUSCRIPT "6" ON PACKET LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO BARBADOS

RATE: Charged "6"d. (6d. packet rate from Great Britain to the British West Indies 1854-1863)

POSTMARK / TRANSIT MARKING: CLIFTON DE.1.1854; London Crown 2 DE 2 1854.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES DE.26.1854 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

COMMENT: The cover is addressed to "Captain Edgar, 69th Inf(antery) Regt, Barbadoes", the same person as the cover above, but this time the amount charged is in manuscript.

1857 - UNPAID MAIL FROM THE SMALL PARISH POST OFFICES

With the introduction of stamps in 1852, the small Parish Post Offices were issued with postmarks and obliterators. Although it wasn't compulsary to prepay the postage until 1858, very few letters were sent unpaid from the Parish Post Offices, possibly because the staff wasn't aware that unpaid mail could be accepted. Only two unpaid covers from the Parish Post Offices have been recorded.

1857 UNPAID PACKET LETTER FROM ST PETER TO LONDON

RATE: Charged "6"d. (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863)

POSTMARKS: **"0" (for "10" St Peter) NO.27.1857 (type M2)**; "1" NO.27.1857 (type E1); BARBADOES DE.26.1854 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc

ARRIVAL MARKING: London Crown 18.DE.1857 in red.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY TWO KNOWN EXAMPLES of unpaid mail sent from the small Parish Post Offices.

1858 - COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT

Compulsory prepayment of postage between Great Britain and Barbados was introduced on 1 October 1858.

1858 BRITISH POST OFFICE NOTICE REGARDING COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT

No. 37, 1858. 145

COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON LETTERS FOR BARBADOES, TRINIDAD, AND ST. HELENA.

On the 1st October next, and thenceforward, the compulsory prepayment of postage will be extended to all letters addressed to

BARBADOES,
TRINIDAD, and
ST. HELENA.

The postage also of letters posted in those Colonies, addressed to the United Kingdom, will be required to be prepaid by the senders.

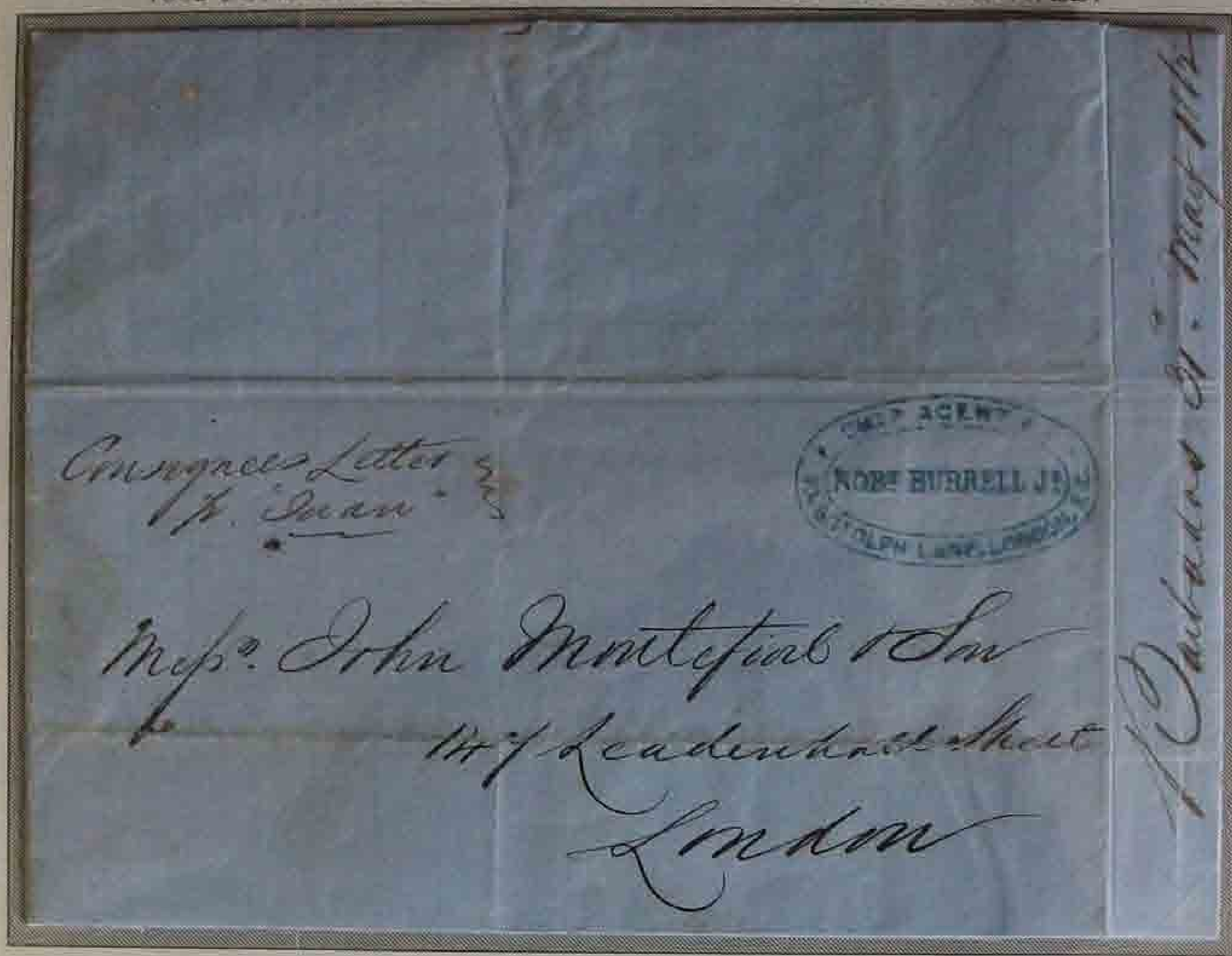
ROWLAND HILL,
Secretary.

General Post Office,
10th *September*, 1858.

1862 AND 1866 - CONSIGNEES MAIL

Letters addressed to certain categories of persons might be exempted from the normal charges made on incoming ship letters. The persons generally entitled to receive letters without paying the normal sea postage were the owners, charterers or consignees of any inward-bound vessel, and the owners, shippers or consignees of any goods on such vessels. Full inland postage had to be paid if the letters were sent on through the inland posts.

1862 CONSIGNEES LETTER TO LONDON DELIVERED PRIVATELY



RATE: None, privately delivered to the addressee by the ship agent or his representative.

TRANSIT MARKING: ROBT HURRELL JR, SHIP AGENT Co, 30 BOTOLPH LANE, LONDON EC.

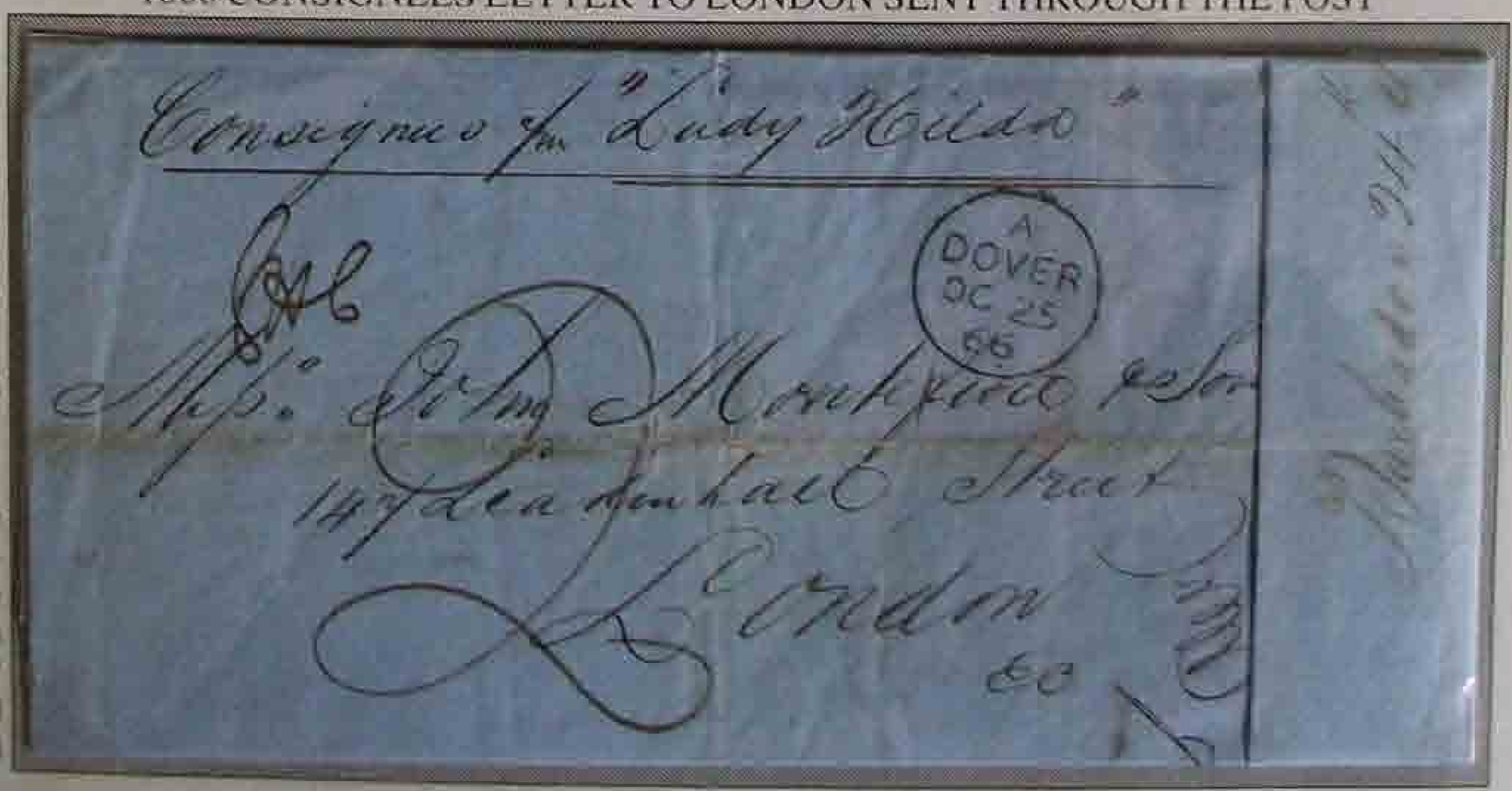
COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "Consignees per 'Ivan' " and is dated "Barbados 31 May 1862".

1866 CONSIGNEES LETTER TO LONDON SENT THROUGH THE POST

RATE: Charged "2"d. (1d. British inland rate 1840-1918, unpaid letters were charged the double)

TRANSIT/ARRIVAL MARKINGS: DOVER OC 25 66; LONDON EC OC 25 66 in red.

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "Consignees per 'Lady Hilda' " and is dated "Barbados 24 August 1866".



1852 - THE FIRST STAMPS

The Colonial Post Office was set up on 1 August 1851 and the first stamps were ordered on 11 December 1851. However, the first shipment of stamps from England was lost when the RMSP "Amazon" foundered in the Bay of Biscay on 4 January 1852. On 15 April 1852, the first stamps were put on sale at all Post Offices.

1852 THE EARLIEST KNOWN USE OF BARBADOS STAMPS ON COVER FROM ST ANDREW

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907)

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "9" (type C1); Parish datestamp "9" MY 1 1852 (type M1).

ARRIVAL MARKING: Parish datestamp "1" MY 1 1852 (type E1).

COMMENT: THIS IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN cover with Barbados stamps.

1852 1D. ON PACKET COVER FROM ST JOHN TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "1/-" (1/- packet rate to England 1840-1854)

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "5" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "5" JU 26 1852 (type M1), in use between 1852 and 1867; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JU 26 1852 (type A7); Parish datestamp "1" JU 26 1852 (type E1).

TRANSIT/ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London Crown 18 JY 1852 in red; CHEADLE 19 JY 1852.

COMMENT: A very early stamped cover to England. The stamp has a repaired margin.

1852 AND 1855 - EARLY INLAND MAIL

The Inland Post Office commenced its operations on 15 April 1852 and the inland postal rate was fixed at 1d. per ½oz. The first stamps were issued on the same day. They were in the values (½d.) green, (1d.) blue and (2d.) grey but they did not have any indication of denomination. The only way to separate them was by colour.

1852 2D. DOUBLE RATE COVER TO SPEIGHTS TOWN

RATE: 2d. (2d. (2x1d.) double inland rate 1852-1907)

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" NO.2.1852 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Parish datestamp (10) "0" NO.2.1852 (type M1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED double rate inland cover with Barbados stamps. One stamp is repaired.

1855 1D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO ST. MICHAEL

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907)

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" JU.9.1855 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

1855 AND 1858 - EARLY MAIL FROM THE SMALL PARISH POST OFFICES

The inland Post Offices commenced to function on 15 April 1852. Besides the GPO in Bridgetown (Parish no.1) there were ten small District or Parish Post Offices (numbered 2 to 11). Each Post Office was issued with an Obliterator (numbered 2 to 11, type C1, in use between 1852 and 1863) and a Parish Datestamp (numbered 2 to 9, 0 and 11, type M1, in use between 1852 and 1867). Mail from the Parish Post Offices is very scarce.

1855 1D. SINGLE RATE COVER FROM ST PETER (10) TO BRIDGETOWN

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) STAMP: 1d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "10" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp (10) "0" MY.16.1855 (type M1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Parish datestamp "1" MY.16.1855 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

1858 1D. SINGLE RATE COVER FROM ST PHILIP (3) TO BRIDGETOWN

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) STAMP: 1d. imperforate on white paper 1855-1858

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "3" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "3" DE.3.1858 (type M1), in use between 1852 and 1867.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES DE.03.1858 (type A7).

1856 AND 1858 - INTER-ISLAND MAIL

The inter-island rate of 4d. between British Colonies in the West Indies including British Guiana and British Honduras, was in force between 1711 and 1891, for 180 years! In Barbados (and in some other colonies) the inland charge of 1d., had to be paid on both incoming and outgoing letters in addition to the 4d., as from 1852.

1858 1D. INLAND RATE ON SINGLE RATE LETTER TO TRINIDAD

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMPS: ½d.(x2) imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES DE.21.1858 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING TRINIDAD DE.25.1858.

1856 2D. DOUBLE INLAND RATE ON SINGLE RATE LETTER TO DOMINICA

RATE: 2d. (1d.(Barbados) + 1d.(Dominica) inland rates 1852-1907) + charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" NO.27.1856 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES NO.27.1856 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: DOMINICA NO.29.1856.

1858 AND 1860 - DOUBLE RATE INTER-ISLAND MAIL

The inter-island rate of 4d. per half ounce between British Colonies in the West Indies including British Guiana and British Honduras, was in force between 1711 and 1891. Items weighing between half and one ounce subsequently cost 8d., plus double inland rates (2 x 1d.).

1860 2D. DOUBLE INLAND RATE ON DOUBLE RATE LETTER TO ST LUCIA

RATE: 2d. (2x1d. double inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "8"d. (2x4d. double inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMPS: ½d.(x4) imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES 27.FE.1860 (type A7).

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY TWO RECORDED covers with four ½d. stamps.

1858 2D. DOUBLE INLAND RATE ON DOUBLE RATE LETTER TO ANTIGUA

RATE: 2d. (2x1d. double inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "8"d. (2x4d. double inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); Parish datestamp "1" JU.11.1858 (type E1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JU.11.1858 (type A7).

ARRIVAL MARKING: ANTIGUA JU 14 1858.

1854 - THE BISECTED 2D. GREYISH SLATE

In 1854 there was a sudden shortage of 1d. stamps, the denomination mostly used. The General Post Office therefore authorised the bisecting of 2d. stamps, each half to do duty for 1d. This provisional was only used between 4 August and 21 September 1854 and very few examples have survived on covers.

1854 BISECTED 2D. USED AS 1D. ON SINGLE RATE LETTER TO BRITISH GUIANA

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMP: Diagonally bisected 2d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855, used as 1d.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" SP 5 1854 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES SP 05 1854 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: DEMERARA SP 7 1854.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT TEN KNOWN covers with bisected 2d. stamps used during this emergency and they are considered to be among the rarest items of Barbados philately!

1857 AND 1861 - FULLY PAID INTER-ISLAND MAIL

In Barbados (and in some other colonies) the inland charge of 1d., had to be paid on both incoming and outgoing letters in addition to the 4d., as from 1852. This extra charge was abolished when the colonies joined the UPU.

1857 6D. SINGLE RATE LETTER TO TRINIDAD

RATE: 6d. (1d. (Barbados) + 1d. (Trinidad) inland rates 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle in red; obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" JA 5 1857 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JA 05 1857 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: TRINIDAD JA 7 1857

1861 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO ANTIGUA

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 4d. imperforate on blued paper 1855; 1d. clean-cut perforated no watermark 1861.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES MY 26 1861 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: ANTIGUA MY 27 61.

1857 AND 1859 - PACKET MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

In 1854 the packet rate to Great Britain was reduced from 1/- to 6d. per ½oz. However, this caused major losses for the G.P.O. and the rate went up to 1/- again in 1863.

1857 6D. SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 6d. (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863); marked "6"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855.

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red; obliterator "1" (type C1); Parish datestamp "1" MA.13.1857 (type E1); BARBADOES MR.13 1857 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Red London PAID 1 AP 1 1857.

COMMENT: Before 6d. stamps were issued in 1858 this was the way prepaid letters were sent.

1859 6D. SINGLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 6d. (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863)

STAMP: 6d. imperforate 1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES SP 27 1859 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON PAID OC 18 59 in red.

1862 AND 1863 - MAIL FROM ST PETER TO ENGLAND

Besides the GPO in Bridgetown (Parish no.1) there were ten small District or Parish Post Offices (numbered 2 to 11). In 1863 each Post Office was issued with a new Obliterator (numbered 2 to 11, type C2, in use between 1863 and 1885) and a Barbados Parish Datestamp (numbered 2 to 11, type M2, in use between 1863 and 1901). Mail from the Parish Post Offices going abroad is particularly scarce.

1863 1/- SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER FROM ST PETER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMP: 1/- imperforate no watermark 1858.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "10" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "10" NO.9.63 (type M2), in use between 1863 and 1901; datestamp BARBADOS "1" NO.9.63 (type E2).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON DO PAID NO.30.63; LONDON CN NO.30.63; ASHBOURNE DE.1.63.

COMMENT: The bottom margin of the stamp is repaired.

1862 1/- DOUBLE RATE PACKET COVER FROM ST PETER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1/- (2x6d. double packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863).

STAMP: 6d.(x2) perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "10" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp (10) "0" JY.9.1862 (type M1), in use between 1852 and 1867; BARBADOES JY.9.1862 (type A7) sans-serified double arc, struck in transit in Bridgetown.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON EC PAID JY.28.62; ASHBOURNE JY.29.62.

1856 AND 1861 - MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

Mail to the United States could not be fully prepaid until separate agreements were signed between the Post Offices of Barbados and USA in the 1870's. Before then, mail could be prepaid to St Thomas only and the addressee had to pay the rest.

1856 5D. INTER-ISLAND RATE ON COVER TO NEW YORK VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "10" cents.

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red; obliterator "1" (type C1); Parish datestamp "1" SP.11.1856 (type E1); BARBADOES SP.11.1856 (type A7) double arc.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS SP.14.1876; STEAMSHIP 10 cents.

1861 5D. INTER-ISLAND RATE ON LETTER TO USA VIA CUBA

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "10" cents.

STAMPS: 4d. imperforate on blued paper 1855; 1d. clean-cut perforated no watermark 1861.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); BARBADOES AP.10.1861 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS AP.14.1861; STEAMSHIP 10 cents

COMMENT: The letter has a manuscript note on the front "per Mail via Havana".

1854 AND 1855 - PACKET MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

During the first half of the 1850's, packet mail to the United States could be sent via St Thomas using the Cunard Packets. There was a special rate of 1/- per half ounce to the port of arrival. The US inland rate was added and had to be paid by the addressee.

1854 1/- PACKET RATE ON COVER TO NEW YORK VIA ST THOMAS AND JAMAICA

RATE: 1s.1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 1/- packet rate to the US); marked "1/-", in red denoting that the packet rate had been prepaid; charged "6" cents.

STAMP: Vertically bisected 2d. imperforate on blued paper 1852-1855, used as 1d. during the emergency in 1854.

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1848; obliterator "1" (type C1).

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS AU.15.1854; KINGSTON JAMAICA AU.22.1854; "6" cents US charge marking.

COMMENT: The cover is marked "Per Packet 11th August" and "P.Paid" (Pre Paid or Postage Paid). The original stamp was removed from the cover at some stage and has been replaced with one that does not originally belong to it.

1855 1/- PACKET RATE ON LETTER TO BALTIMORE VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 1s.1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 1/- packet rate to the US), marked "1/-", in red denoting that the packet rate had been prepaid; charged "5" cents.

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red; Parish datestamp "1" AU.13.1855 (type E1); BARBADOES AU. 13.1855 (type A7) double arc.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS AU.13.1855; BOSTON BR PKT AU.29 5(cents).

COMMENT: The letter is marked "Per Mail via St Thomas". The stamp has a repaired margin.

1859 AND 1861 - PACKET MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

In the late 1850's, packet mail to the United States could either be sent via St Thomas, at the rate of 6d. per half ounce, or via England. The later option was more than twice as expensive.

1859 1S.2D. PACKET RATE COVER TO USA VIA ENGLAND

RATE: 1s.2d. (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863 + 8d. GPO rate from England to USA); charged "5" cents.

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) imperforate on white paper 1855-1858; 1/- imperforate 1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); BARBADOES MR.12.1859 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: Red LONDON PAID AU.5.59; PHILADELPHIA BR PKT APR.22; "5" cents US charge marking.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN USE of the 1/- stamp, and also THE ONLY KNOWN USE with other stamps.

1861 6D. SINGLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO BALTIMORE

RATE: 6d. (6d. packet rate to USA); charged "10" cents.

STAMP: 6d. imperforate 1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JA.12.1861 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS JA.16.1861, STEAMSHIP 10 cents.

1857 - FORWARDING AGENT'S MAIL

During the 19th century, up to the formation of the Universal Postal Union in 1874, the business for Forwarding Agents grew worldwide. The increasing amount of mail sent and the demands from senders and addressees, made it possible for many companies to specialise in this field.

1857 LETTER FROM BALTIMORE, USA TO TRINIDAD, MAILED BY FORWARDING AGENT ON BARBADOS

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891). STAMP: 1d. imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" JY 20 1857 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JY 21 1857 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

FORWARDING AGENT: Manuscript "Forwarded by Leon & Eve". ARRIVAL MARKING: TRINIDAD JY 23 1857.

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Baltimore June 12 1857" and is marked "via Barbados" which was crossed out when the letter was handed over to the Post Office by the Forwarding Agent.

1855 AND 1860 - EARLY MAIL TO CANADA

Mail to Canada could be sent directly, via St Thomas, via the United States or via England, depending on availability of ships. Very little information has survived as far as the postal rates are concerned but there seems to have been special rates in use.

1855 UNPAID COVER TO NOVA SCOTIA VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891) + charged "8d" total postage due.

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on blue paper 1852-1855.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); Parish date-stamp "1" AU 13 1855 (type E1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES AU 13 1855 (type A7).

TRANSIT/ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS; YARMOUTH SP 20 1855.

1860 5D. RATE ON PARTLY PAID COVER TO NEW BRUNSWICK VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the postage to St Thomas had been prepaid; in New Brunswick charged "MORE TO PAY" and "3"d. for provincial transit.

STAMPS: 4d. imperforate on blued paper 1855; 1d. pin-perforated no watermark 1860.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES AU 9 1860 (type A7).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS AU 13 1860; FREDERICTON NB SP 14 1860.

1859 AND 1860 - EARLY MAIL TO CANADA

Mail to Canada could be sent directly, via St Thomas, via the United States or via England, depending on availability of ships. Very little information has survived as far as the postal rates are concerned, but there seems to have been special rates in use.

1859 PARTIALLY PAID COVER TO CANADA WEST VIA ST THOMAS

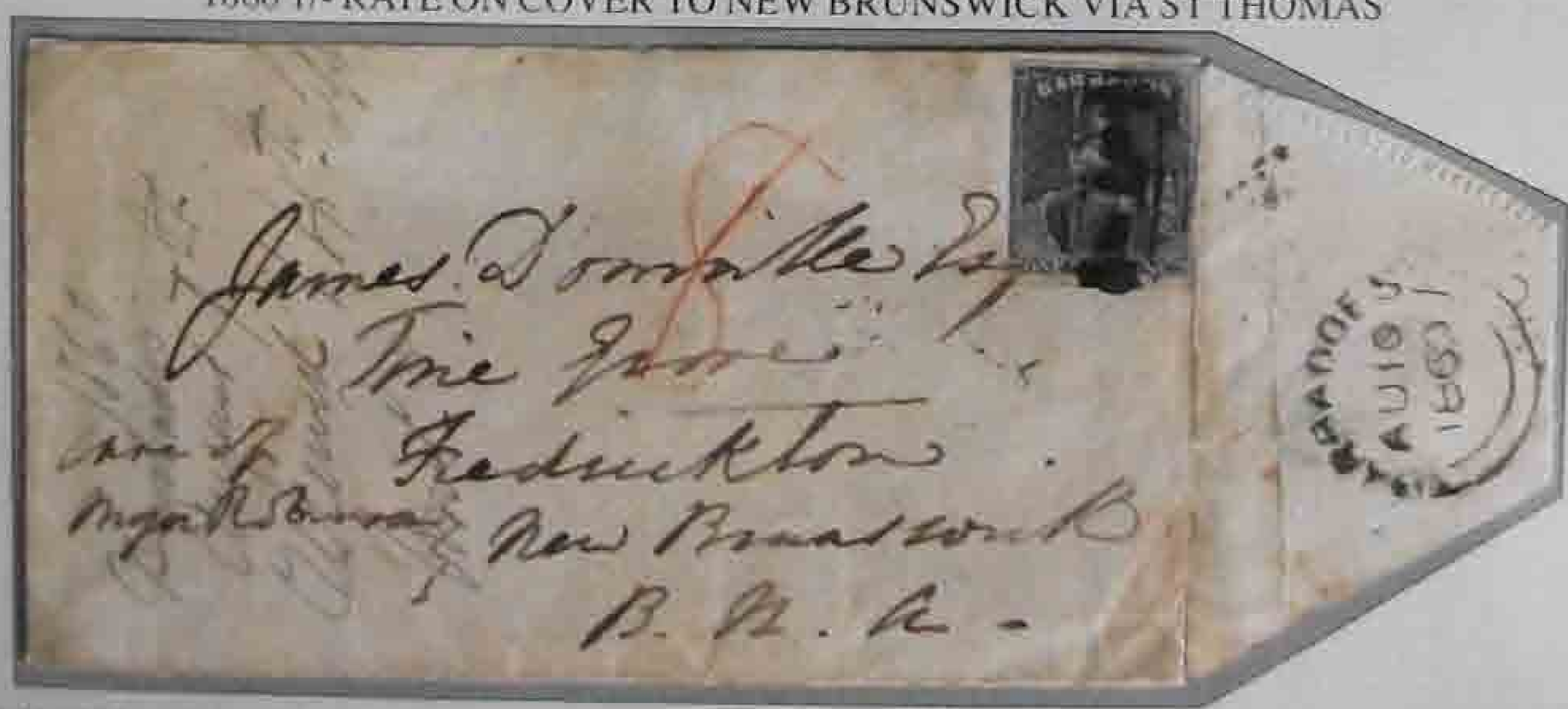
RATE: 6d. (6d. rate to the Canadian border); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the postage to St Thomas had been prepaid; in Halifax charged "MORE TO PAY" and "3"d. for provincial transit; marked "per English Steamer paid".

STAMP: 6d. imperforate 1858. CARRIED BY: "RMS Solent" to St Thomas; "Cunard Alpha" to Halifax.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES FE.11.1859 (type A7).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS FE.14.1859; QUEBEC MAR.14.1859; WINDSOR MR.17.1859; AMHERSTBURG MR.17.1859.

1860 1/- RATE ON COVER TO NEW BRUNSWICK VIA ST THOMAS



RATE: 1/- (8d. inter-island rate 1711-189) + 8d. rate from St Thomas to Canada); marked "8"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMP: 1/- imperforate 1858. POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES AU.10.1860 (type A7).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS AU.12.1860; FREDERICTON SP.14.1860.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN cover to British North America with an imperforate 1/- stamp.

1857 - EARLY FOREIGN MAIL

The postal rates to other countries than the West Indian islands, England, British North America and USA were very complicated and are often a combination of the rate from Barbados to England, plus the GPO rate from England to the destination. Very few covers exist to foreign countries.

1857 1D INLAND RATE ON SINGLE RATE LETTER TO GERMANY

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "10"d. (5d. (6d. less 1d. paid) packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863 + 5d. (6d. full rate less 1d. British inland rate) GPO rate between Great Britain and Prussia, Germany 1857-1870), converted to "12"Sgr.

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on white paper 1855-1858.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; Parish datestamp "1" AU.11.1857 (type E1), in use between 1852 and 1867; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES AU.11.1857 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

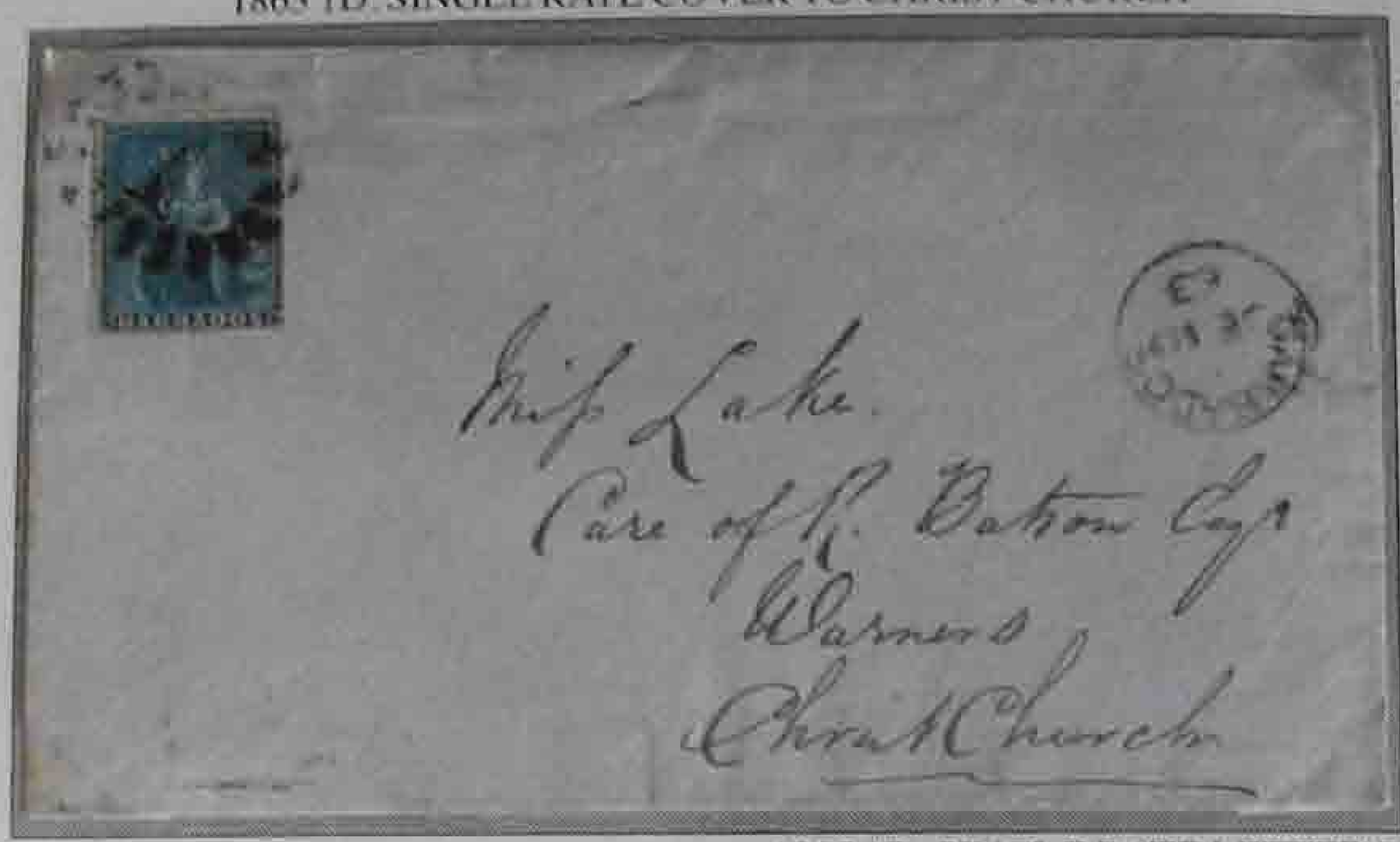
TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: Red London CB 31.AU.1857; COELN 1.9.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN letter to a foreign country with Barbados stamps.

1863, 1867 AND 1874 - INLAND MAIL

The inland postal rate of 1d. per ½oz. remained unchanged from 1852 to 3 January 1907 when it was reduced to 1d. per oz.

1863 1D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO CHRIST CHURCH



RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907)

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "1" DE.10.63 (type E2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOS "2" DE.10.63 (type M2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

1867 1D. SINGLE RATE LETTER POSTED TOO LATE

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907)

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2), datestamp BARBADOS "1" OC.7.67 (type E2).

INSTRUCTIONAL MARKING: TOO-LATE (type G3a), the earliest recorded date.

COMMENT: The letter is addressed to "Plantation Edgecombe" and the "TOO-LATE" marking was applied because the letter had missed the outgoing inland mail transport of the day.

1874 1D. SINGLE RATE LETTER TO ST PETER

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907)

STAMP: 1d. perforated watermark Large Star 1874-1875.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY.16.74 (type E2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOS "0" (10) MY.16.74 (type M2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

1863 - THE BISECTED 1D. DEEP BLUE

In April 1863 there was a shortage of ½d. stamps so 1d. stamps were bisected and used as ½d. for a short time. A new supply of ½d. stamps were invoiced in October 1863.

1863 BISECTED 1D. USED AS ½D. ON LOCAL NEWSPAPER

RATE: ½d. (½d. inland newspaper rate 1852-1892).

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870 bisected and used as ½d.

POSTMARK: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863.

COMMENT: The stamp is attached to a November 2 1861 issue of Punch which has been sent locally. It is addressed to W.L. Jordan, Newstead, St Peters.

THIS IS ONE OF VERY FEW KNOWN EXAMPLES of a bisected 1d. stamp on a newspaper.

1878 - THE 1D. ON BISECTED 5/- PROVISIONAL

In January 1878 the Post Office stock of 1d. stamps began to get very low and before a new shipment arrived, the stock of ½d. and 1d. stamps had run out by the end of March. Therefore 5/- stamps were overprinted locally and perforated in the middle, thus giving two 1d. stamps each. A total of 9 600 1d. stamps were produced and they were in use between 29 March and 11 April 1878.

1878 INLAND LETTER WITH THE 1D. ON BISECTED 5/- PROVISIONAL

RATE: 1d. inland rate (1852-1907)

STAMP: 1D. on bisected 5/- Provisional 1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" AP.1.78 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

COMMENT: The letter is addressed to "The Hon ble F Flemings, Attorn. General, Barbados". The whole is an impressive forgery which does not stand up to a close examination!

1860 AND 1864 - INTER-ISLAND MAIL

In Barbados (and in some other colonies) the inland charge of 1d., had to be paid on both incoming and outgoing letters in addition to the 4d., as from 1852. This extra charge was abolished when the colonies joined the UPU.

1860 1D. PIN-PERFORATED ON SINGLE RATE LETTER TO BRITISH GUIANA

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + first charged "4"d. but this was deleted and altered to "5"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891 + 1d. inland (British Guiana) rate).

STAMP: 1d. pin-perforated 14 no watermark 1860.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1), in use between 1852 and 1863; sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES SP 2 1860 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: DEMERARA A SP 5 60.

COMMENT: The 1860 pin-perforated stamps are very scarce, particularly on cover. They hardly ever show complete perforation; this example shows perforation on two and a half sides.

1864 6D. SINGLE RATE LETTER TO TRINIDAD

RATE: 6d. (1d.(Barbados) + 1d.(Trinidad) inland rates 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" MR 19 64 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: TRINIDAD MR 22 1864.

1858, 1863 AND 1870 - MAIL FROM TRINIDAD TO BARBADOS

In the 19th century there was much trade between Barbados and Trindad, and therefore also a lot of mail.

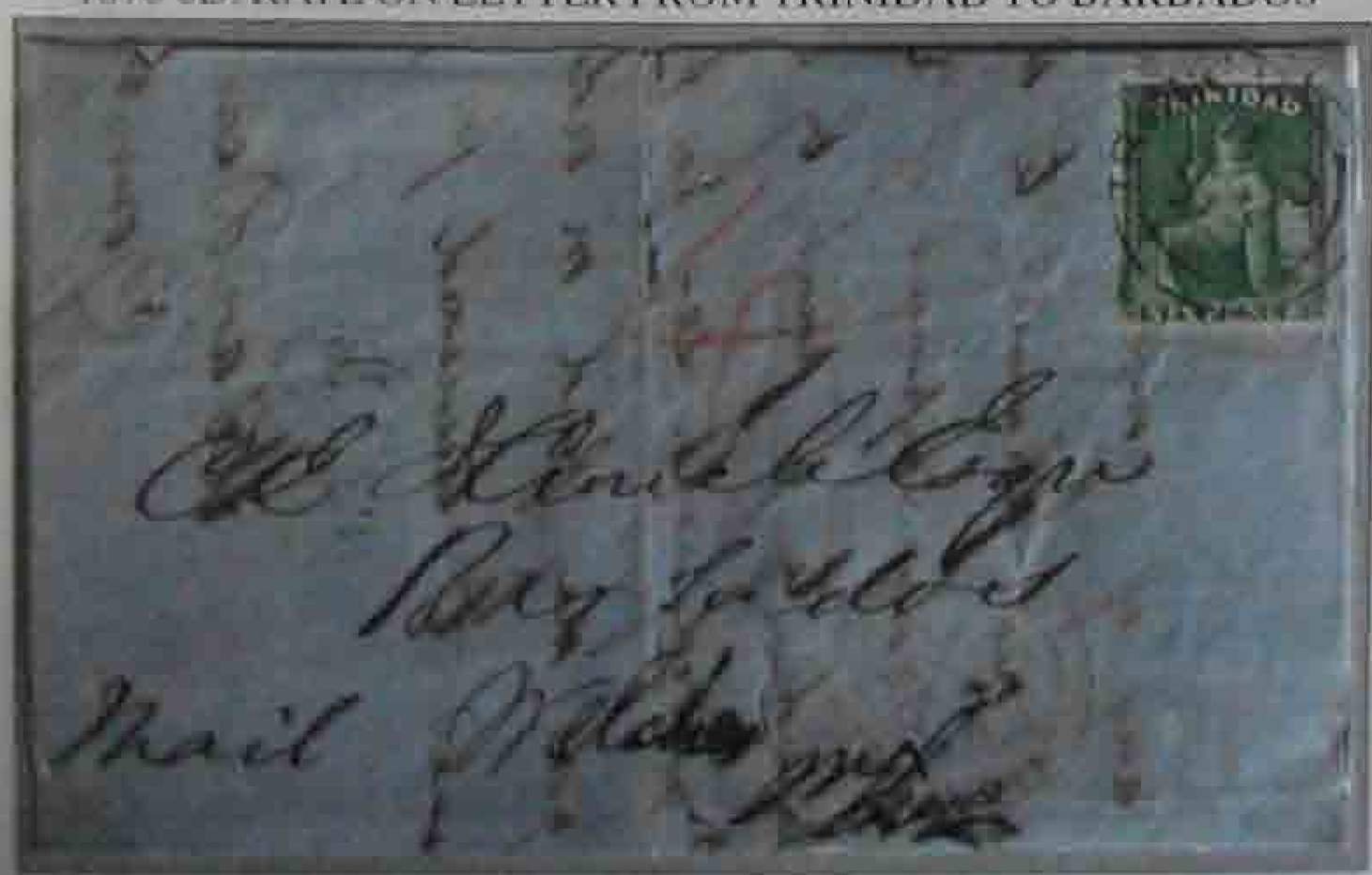
1858 UNPAID COVER FROM TRINIDAD TO ST PHILIP, BARBADOS

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate) + first charged "4"d. but this was deleted and altered to "5"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891 + 1d. inland (Barbados) rate)
STAMP: Trinidad 1d. imperforate 1857.
POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1"; TRINIDAD MY.22.1858 datestamp.
ARRIVAL MARKINGS: BARBADOES MY.27.1858 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc; Parish datestamp "3" MY.27.1858 (type M1).

1863 PREPAID 5D. COVER FROM TRINIDAD TO BARBADOS

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been pre-paid.
STAMP: Trinidad 1d. perforated 1862-1863.
POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1"; PAID AT TRINIDAD crowned circle in red; TRINIDAD JU.23.1863.
ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOS JU.25.63.

1870 6D. RATE ON LETTER FROM TRINIDAD TO BARBADOS



RATE: 6d. (1d. (Trinidad) + 1d. (Barbados) inland rates 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 6d. perforated watermark Crown CC 1863-1880.

POSTMARK: TRINIDAD JY.9.1870.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOS "2" JY.17.70 (type M2).

1862 AND 1863 - INTER-ISLAND PRINTED MATTERS

The postal rates for newspapers, books and printed matters were not very clear and they seem to have been interpreted differently in some of the West Indian colonies. Basically the rate for printed newspapers and printed prices currents was 1d. per 2oz.

1863 1D. RATE ON PRICES CURRENT TO TRINIDAD

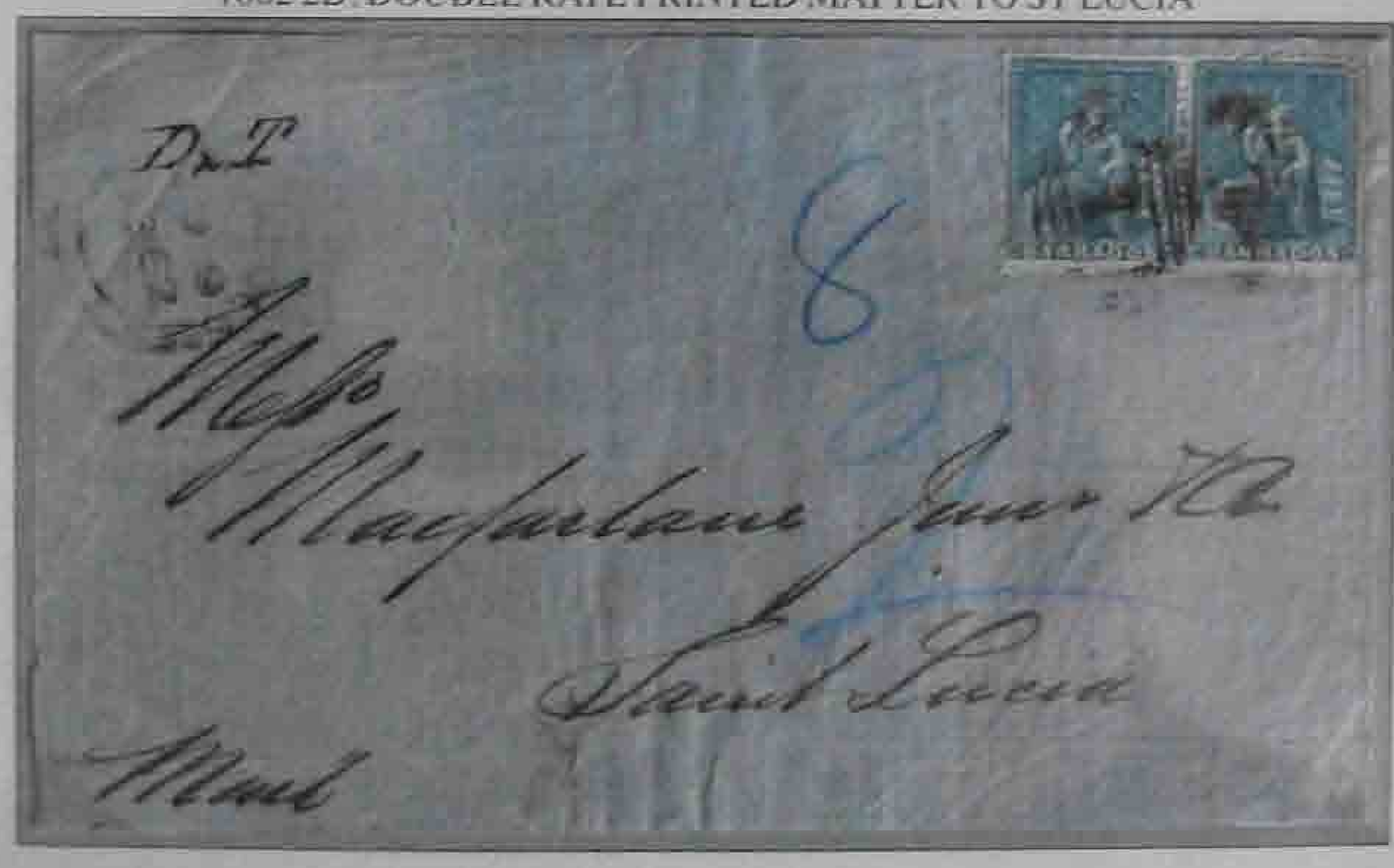
RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931); marked "1"d. in red denoting that the rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Boxheel "1" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "1" SP 18 63 (type E2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

COMMENT: This is a printed copy of the "Barbados Prices Current" of 18 September 1863.

1862 2D. DOUBLE RATE PRINTED MATTER TO ST LUCIA



RATE: 2d. (2d. (2x1d.) double newspaper rate 1837-1931); marked "2" for double rate but charged "8"d. (8d. (2x4d.) double inter-island postal rate 1711-1891).

STAMPS: 1d. (x2) perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Oblitérator "1" (type C1); BARBADOES JU 9 1862 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

COMMENT: This is a printed shipping time table which should have been charged the newspaper rate.

1868 AND 1869 - THE 6D. INTER-ISLAND RATE

In Barbados (and in some other colonies) the inland charge of 1d., had to be paid on both incoming and outgoing letters in addition to the 4d., as from 1852. This extra charge was abolished when the colonies joined the UPU.

1869 6D. SINGLE RATE LETTER TO ST LUCIA

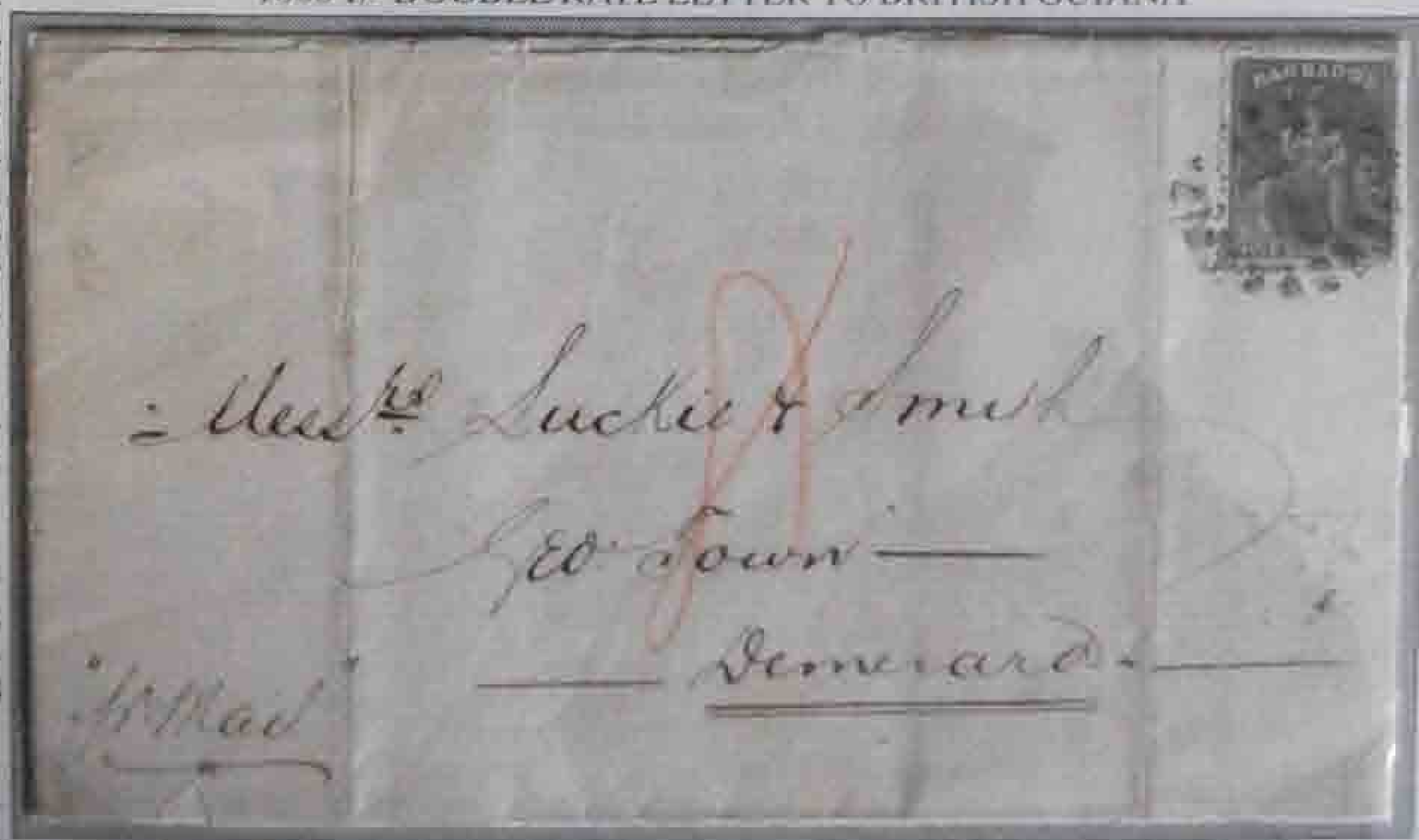
RATE: 6d. (1d. (Barbados) + 1d. (St Lucia) inland rates 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARK: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" NO.1.69 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: ST LUCIA no.2.69.

1868 1/- DOUBLE RATE LETTER TO BRITISH GUIANA



RATE: 1/- (2x1d. (Barbados) + 2x1d. (Br Guiana) inland rates 1852-1907 + 2x4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "8"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 1/- perforated no watermark 1861-70.

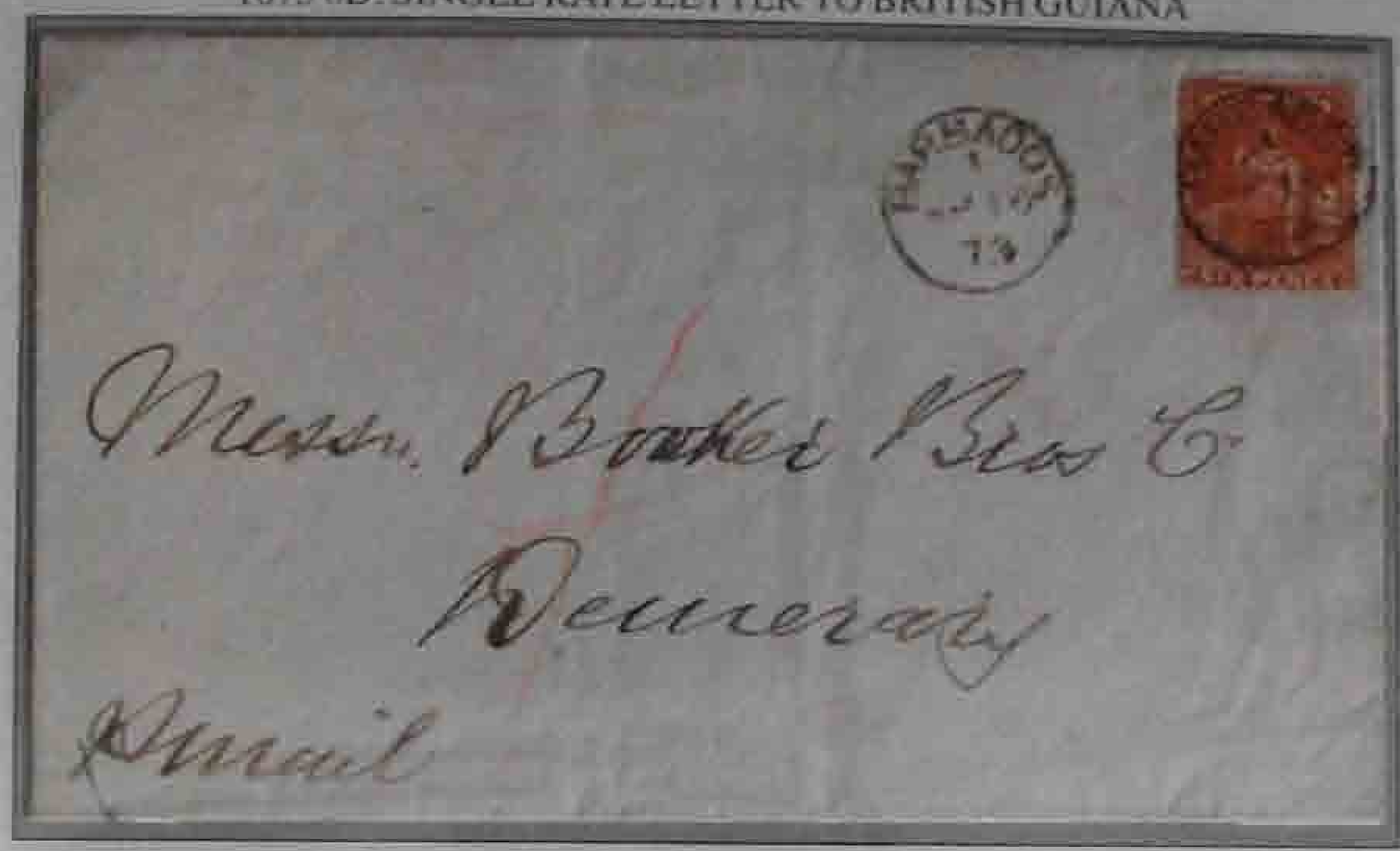
POSTMARK: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" AP.18.68 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: DEMERARA 21.AP.68.

1873 AND 1874 - INTER-ISLAND MAIL

In Barbados (and in some other colonies) the inland charge of 1d., had to be paid on both incoming and outgoing letters in addition to the 4d., as from 1852. This extra charge was abolished when the colonies joined the UPU.

1873 6D. SINGLE RATE LETTER TO BRITISH GUIANA



RATE: 6d. (1d (Barbados) + 1d.(British Guiana) inland rates 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 6d. perforated watermark small star 1871.

POSTMARK: Duestamp BARBADOS "1" AP.1873 (type E2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

1874 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO ST THOMAS

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870, 4d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES AP.10.1874 (type A7) sans-serified double arc., in use between 1843 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: ST THOMAS AP.13.74

1864 AND 1872 - MAIL FROM BAHAMAS AND ST THOMAS

There was much communication and trade between the islands in the West Indies, and this of course generated mail between the islands as well.

1864 UNCLAIMED COVER FROM BAHAMAS TO BARBADOS

RATE: 5d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "1"d. (Barbados 1d. inland rate 1852-1907) crossed out since the letter could not be delivered.

STAMP: Bahamas QV 4d. perforated watermark Crown CC 1863-1877.

POSTMARKS: "A05" obliterator; BAHAMAS AP 26 1864.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS / NOTES: ST THOMAS MY 13 1864; BARBADOS "1" MY 20 64 (type E2); manuscript "Unclaimed" and "Can't be found. EWH" and "E McField, Nassau".

1872 LETTER FROM ST THOMAS TO BARBADOS

RATE: 5d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); charged "1"d. (Barbados 1d. inland rate 1852-1907).

STAMP: Great Britain QV 4d. 1870.

POSTMARK: "C51" ST THOMAS PAID AP 16 72 duplex; Sender's cachet LAMB & Co ST THOMAS W.I.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES AP 19 1872 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

1865 - MAIL TO PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico, at that time a Spanish Colony in the West Indies, had no mail agreement with Barbados. Mail to Puerto Rico was forwarded to St Thomas, and the postage could only be paid that far, and the addressee had to pay the postage from St Thomas to Puerto Rico. Only one combination cover, with Barbados and Puerto Rico stamps, is recorded.

1865 COMBINATION COVER TO PUERTO RICO

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate to St Thomas had been prepaid; charged handstamped "1" Real Plata (Puerto Rico rate from St Thomas to Puerto Rico).

STAMPS: Barbados 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870, 4d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870. Spanish West Indies 1 Real Plata Isabella 1864.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" JU.9.65 (type E2); Puerto Rican "Parilla" obliterator.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS JU.15.65; octagonal S.TOMAS marking used in Puerto Rico to indicate origin; PUERTO RICO 17 JUN 65.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN combination cover with Barbados and Puerto Rico Stamps. The original Barbados stamps were removed from the cover at some stage and have been replaced with ones that do not originally belong to it.

1877 AND 1879 - MAIL TO ST BARTHOLOMEW

St Bartholomew (St Barts), an island close to St Martin, was a Swedish Colony up to the 16 March 1878, when it was sold to France. Mail to and from St Barts, especially during the Swedish period, is very rare.

1877 PRINTED MATTER TO SWEDISH ST BARTHOLOMEW

RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931)

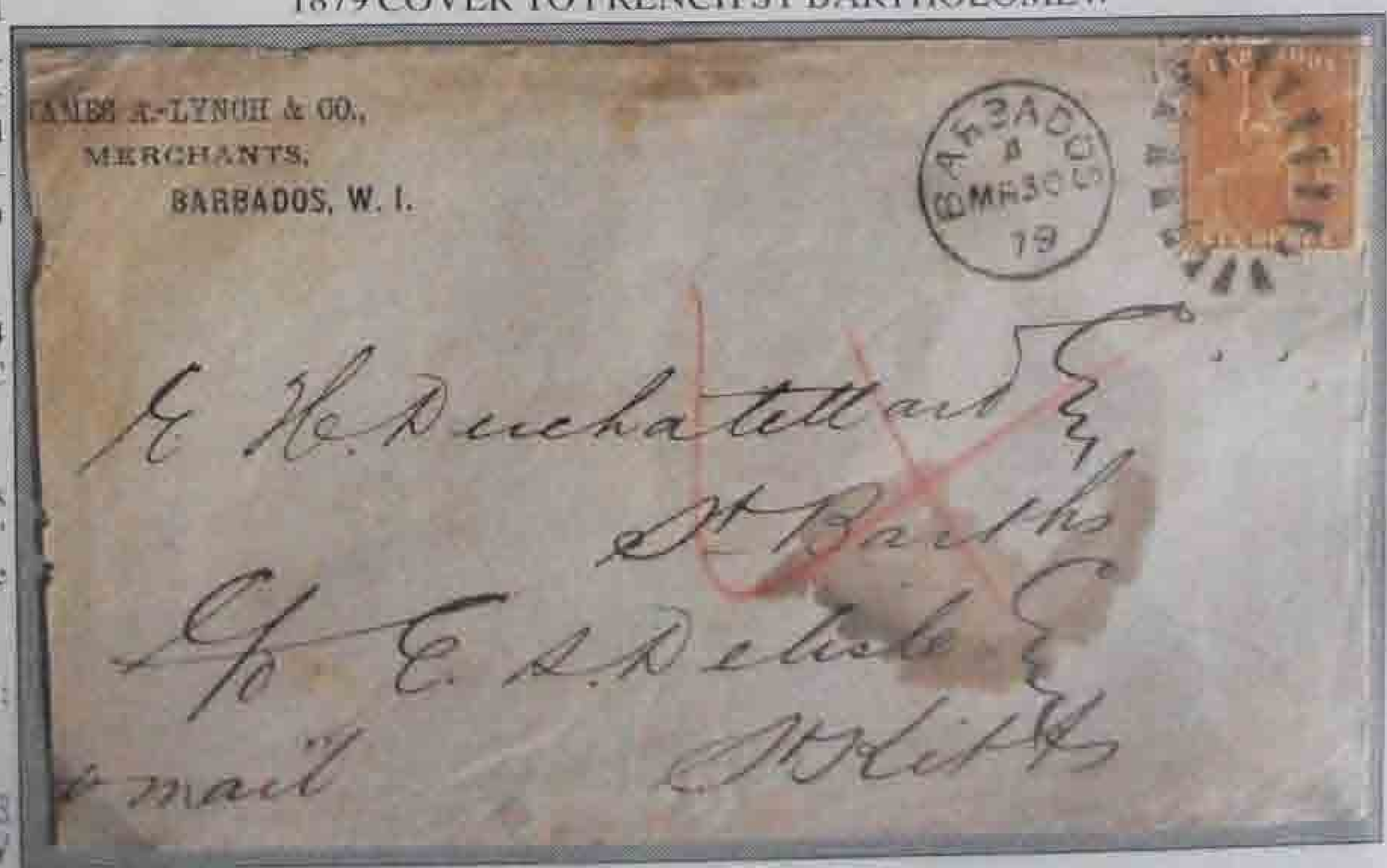
STAMP: 1d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1880

POSTMARK. Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" SP 10.77 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

TRANSIT MARKING: ST KITTS SP 13.77.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN cover from Barbados to Swedish St Barts.

1879 COVER TO FRENCH ST BARTHOLOMEW



RATE: 6d. (1d. (Barbados) + 1d. (St Kitts) inland rates 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMP: 6d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1880.

Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" MR 30.79 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

TRANSIT MARKING: ST KITTS AP 2.79.

COMMENT: THERE ARE VERY FEW KNOWN covers from Barbados to French St Barts.

1862, 1868 AND 1873 - PACKET MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

In 1863 the packet rate to Great Britain reverted to 1/- per ½oz. after having been reduced to 6d. per ½oz. between 1854 and 1863. The 1/- rate remained unchanged until Barbados joined the Universal Postal Union in 1881, when the rate was reduced to 4d. per ½oz.

1862 SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO DUBLIN VIA THE H& K PACKET

RATE: 6d. (6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863)

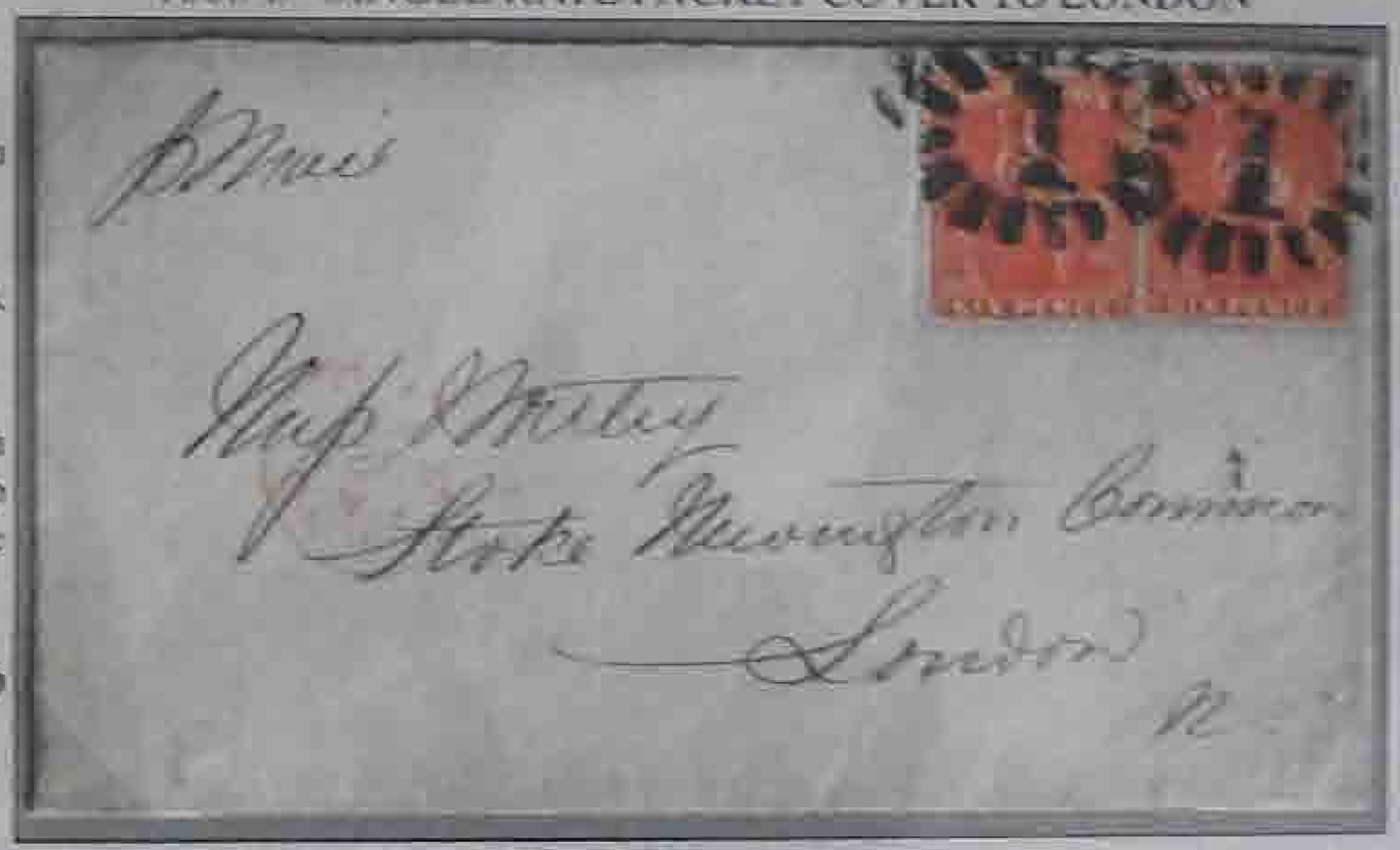
STAMP: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-70

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JU.26.1862 (type A7).

TRANSIT MARKINGS: LONDON PAID JY.14.62 in red; H & K PACT JY.15.1862 (Holyhead & Kingstown Packet).

COMMENT: An improved packet service between Holyhead and Kingstown came into operation in 1860. Special Postal Train Services connected with these ships, and the final sorting of the mails took place on board.

1868 1/- SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO LONDON



RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 6d.(x2) perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "1" AU.9.68 (type E2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON PAID AU.25.68 in red.

1873 1/- SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO LONDON

RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 4d.(x3) perforated watermark large star 1870.

POSTMARK: Sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES FE.26.1868 (type A7), in use between 1843 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON NO.28.73 in red; Foreign Section quartered handstamp "MSEA".

COMMENT: One stamp has a repaired corner.

1868 AND 1875 - MULTIPLE RATE PACKET MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

In 1863 the packet rate to Great Britain reverted to 1/- per ½oz. after having been reduced to 6d. per ½oz. between 1854 and 1863. Subsequently the rate for a 1oz letter was 2/- and the rate for a 1½oz letter was 3/-.

1875 2/- DOUBLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

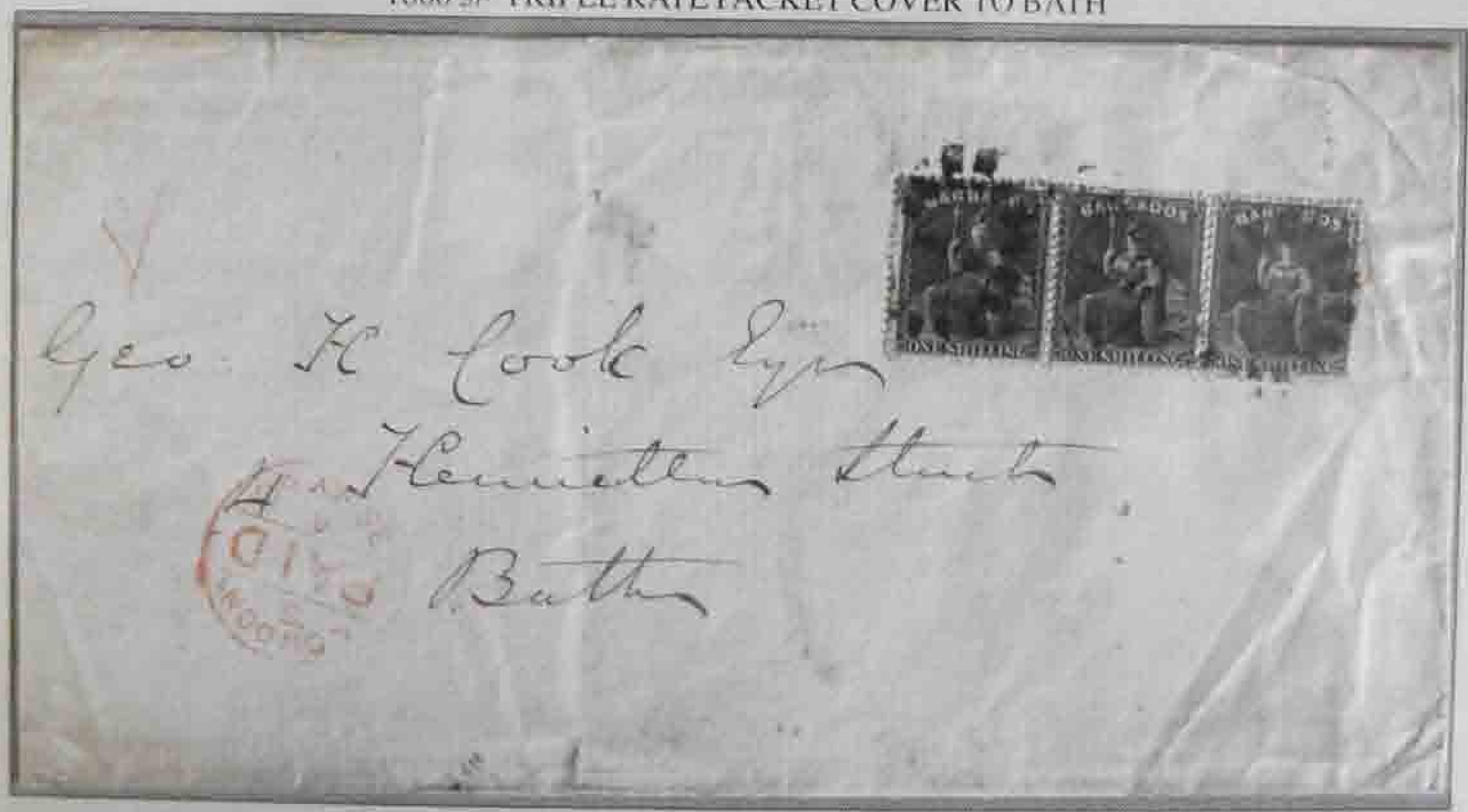
RATE: 2/- (2x1/- double packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 1/-(x2) perforated watermark large star 1870.

POSTMARK: Sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES MR.12.1875 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON EC PAID 31 MR 75 in red.

1868 3/- TRIPLE RATE PACKET COVER TO BATH



RATE: 3/- (3/- (3x1/-) triple packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881).

STAMPS: 1/-(x3) perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Brotheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY.10.68 (type E2).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON PAID 28 MY 68 in red; BATH MY 28 68.

1876 AND 1877 - THE COLOUR CHANGE OF THE 1/- STAMP

In 1875 the contract for printing Barbados stamps was transferred from Perkins, Bacon & Co to De La Rue & Co using their well known Crown CC watermarked paper. With the change of printers the colour of the 1/- stamp was altered as well, from black to purple.

1876 1/- SINGLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMP: 1/- perforated 12½ watermark Crown CC 1875.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" FE 29 76 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON PAID 16 MR 76 in red.

1877 2/- DOUBLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: 2/- (2x1/- double packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMP: 1/-(x2) perforated 12½ watermark Crown CC 1875.

POSTMARK: Sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES AP 10 1877 (type A7), in use between 1845 and 1887.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON EC PAID 28 AP 77 in red.

1877 AND 1880 - MULTIPLE RATE PACKET MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

The packet rate to Great Britain remained 1/- per half ounce until Barbados joined the UPU in 1881. Subsequently the rate for a 1½oz letter was 3/- and the rate for a 2oz letter was 4/-.

1877 3/- TRIPLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: 3/- (3x1/- triple packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 1/-(x3) perforated 12½ watermark Crown CC 1875.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" MR.29.77 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON EC PAID 12.AP.77 in red.

1880 4/- QUADRUPLE RATE PACKET LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: 4/- (4x1/- quadruple packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 1/-(x4) perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" MY.10.80 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE HIGHEST KNOWN RATE pre UPU on any cover from Barbados.

Per Northern, European &

U A

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

1856 AND 1878 - PACKET MAIL FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO BARBADOS

On 1 August 1854 the packet rate from Great Britain to Barbados was reduced from 1s. to 6d. per half ounce. It reverted to 1s. in 1863, just as the packet rate from Barbados to Great Britain.

1856 PREPAID PACKET LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO BARBADOS

RATE: 6d. (6d. packet rate to Barbados 1854-1863)

STAMP: Great Britain Queen Victoria 6d. 1854.

POSTMARK: "53" BATH MR.2.1856 duplex.

TRANSIT MARKING: London 3.MR.1856 in red.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES MR.21.1856 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

COMMENT: The letter is marked "By Royal W.I Mail Packet via Southampton" and "2nd March" and is addressed to "Lieutnt Henry Luard, Royal Engineers, Barbadoes, West Indies".

1878 UNDERPAID PACKET LETTER FROM SCOTLAND TO BARBADOS

RATE: 3/- (3x1/- triple packet rate to Barbados 1863-1881), underpaid by 2/- with "DEFICIENT POSTAGE, HALF FINE___" marking, charged "3/-" (2/- deficient postage + 1/- half fine charge). Also marked "3" to indicate triple rate.

STAMP: Great Britain QV 1/- 1876.

POSTMARK: "108" DUMFRIES MY.1.78 duplex.

ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOES MY.16.1878 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

1880 - THE LARGEST RECORDED MULTIPLE FRANKING

This multiple franking is an example of a young boy's sense of humour. The cover is addressed to The Editor of the "Boys' Own Paper" in London.

1880 24 1D. STAMPS ON PACKET COVER TO LONDON

RATE: 2/- (2x1/- double packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881); by mistake marked "1/-" in red instead of 2/, denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 1d.(x24) perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" MY 26.80 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON JU.14.80 in red.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE LARGEST NUMBER of Britannia stamps recorded on a cover from Barbados.

1868 AND 1870 - MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

Before about 1878 the normal practice for mail to the United States was that the postage could be prepaid to St Thomas (or some other island in the West Indies) only and that the addressee had to pay the postage for the remaining route.

1868 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO USA

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); charged "10" cents, altered to "13" cents (10cents ship rate + 3cents inland rate)

STAMPS: 1d.(x5) perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY.10.68 (type E2).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: N.Y. STEAMSHIP 10 cents. PROVINCETOWN MASS. MAY 22.

1870 10D. DOUBLE RATE COVER TO NEW YORK VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 10d. (2d. (2x1d.) double inland rate 1852-1907 + 8d. (2x4d.) double inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "8"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "20" cents (2x10cents double ship letter rate)

STAMPS: 4d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870, 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" JA.24.70 (type E2).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS JA.26.70, STEAMSHIP 20 cents.

1870 AND 1874 - MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES BY PACKET FROM ST THOMAS

Before about 1878 the normal practice for mail to the United States was that the postage could be prepaid to St Thomas only and the addressee had to pay the Steamship or Packet postage for the remaining route.

1870 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO USA VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); charged "10"cents (10cents steamship rate)

STAMPS: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-70. 4d. perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARK: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" AP 9 70 (type E2)

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: N.Y. STEAMSHIP APR 21 10cents; boxed APR 21 6PM.

COMMENT: The cover is marked "P Steamer via St Thomas".

1874 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO USA WITH 4D. COMPOUND PERFORATED

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate + 4d. inter-island rate); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "10"cents (10 cents steamship rate)

STAMPS: 4d. compound perforated 11x15 watermark small star 1872. 1d. perforated watermark large star 1874.

POSTMARK: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" SP 10 74 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: NEW YORK SEP 20 DUE 10c.

1874 AND 1877 - MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES VIA CANADA AND PANAMA

There were very few direct ships from Barbados to USA before 1880 so therefore mail had to be routed to a transit port to catch a ship destined to a US port. The normal transit port was St Thomas in the Danish West Indies but other ports were used as well.

1874 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO USA VIA CANADA

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "10" cents (10cents ship letter rate)

STAMPS: 4d. rough perforated watermark small star 1871, 1d. clean-cut perforated watermark small star 1872.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES MR.1.1874 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in red-brown.

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS MR.4.74; NEW YORK MAR 20 DUE 10 (cents) U.S. CURRENCY.

COMMENT: The cover has a manuscript note on the front "per Mail, Halifax N(ova) S(cotia)".

1877 1D. ON TAXED PRINTED MATTER TO USA VIA PANAMA

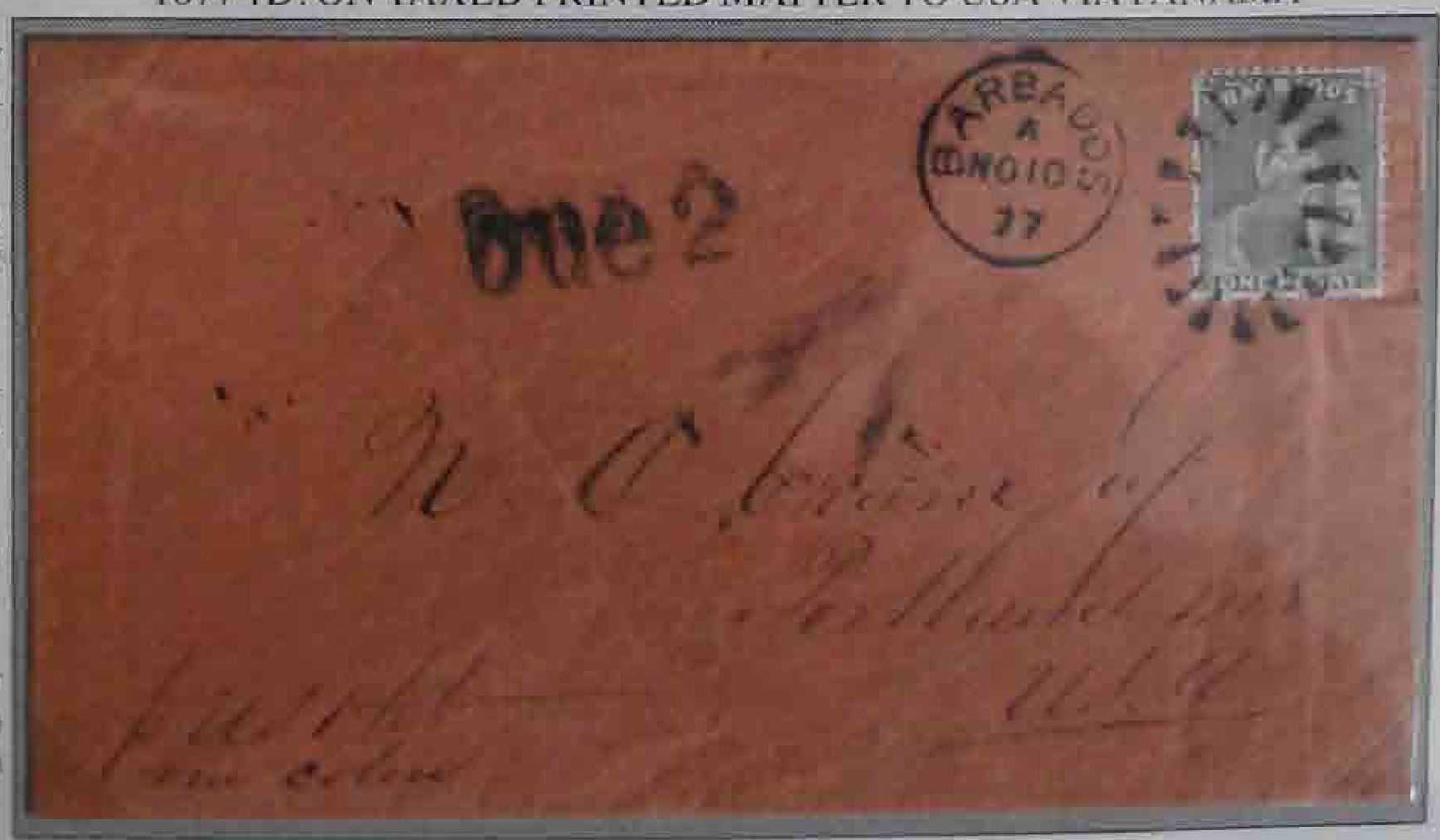
RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931); taxed with a US marking "Due 2" cents.

STAMP: 1d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78.

POSTMARK: Open boot-heel duplex BARBADOS "A" NO.10.77 (type C4).

TRANSIT MARKING: Due 2 cents.

COMMENT: The cover has a manuscript note on the front "per US Pkt via Colon".



1868 AND 1880 - THE BISECTED 6D. STAMP USED AS 3D.

Bisected stamps were used in Barbados during stamp shortages; bisected 1d. stamps used as ½d. are the ones most frequently seen but there are also bisected 2d. stamps used as 1d., bisected 4d. stamps used as 2d., bisected 1/- stamps used as 6d., and bisected 6d. stamps used as 3d. Only two examples of bisected 6d. stamps have been recorded, one on piece and one on cover.

1880 BISECTED 6D. USED AS 3D.

STAMP: 6d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78.

POSTMARK: Sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES JA.10.1880 (type A7).

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN piece with a bisected 6d. stamp.

1868 BISECTED 6D. USED AS 3D. AND 1D.(X2) ON 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER TO USA

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "10"cents (10cents steamship rate).

STAMPS: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-70 bisected and used as 3d., 1d.(x2) perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" JU.10.68 (type E2).

TRANSIT MARKINGS: ST THOMAS JU.13.68; N.Y. STEAMSHIP JUN.20 10cents.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN bisected 6d. Britannia stamp on cover. Although bisected 6d. stamps are not listed in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue, this cover has been examined by a number of experts and found to be genuine. Detailed certificate is attached which lists no less than 12 examination points.

1879 - TAXED MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

Before about 1878 the normal practice for mail to the United States was that the postage could be prepaid to St Thomas only and that the addressee had to pay the postage for the remaining route. During 1878 a 4d. rate was introduced but this seems not to have been applied all the time

1879 4D. RATE ON COVER TO USA CHARGED 5 C. US INLAND RATE

RATE: 4d. (4d. rate to USA and Canada 1878(c)- 1881), charged "5" cents US inland rate.

STAMPS: 4d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78, USA 5cents Postage Due 1879.

POSTMARKS: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" NO.19 79 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899; PHILAD'A PA. DEC.6 10PM REC'D.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: NEW YORK DEC.6 DUE 5 CENTS. PHILAD'A PA. DEC.6 10PM REC'D.

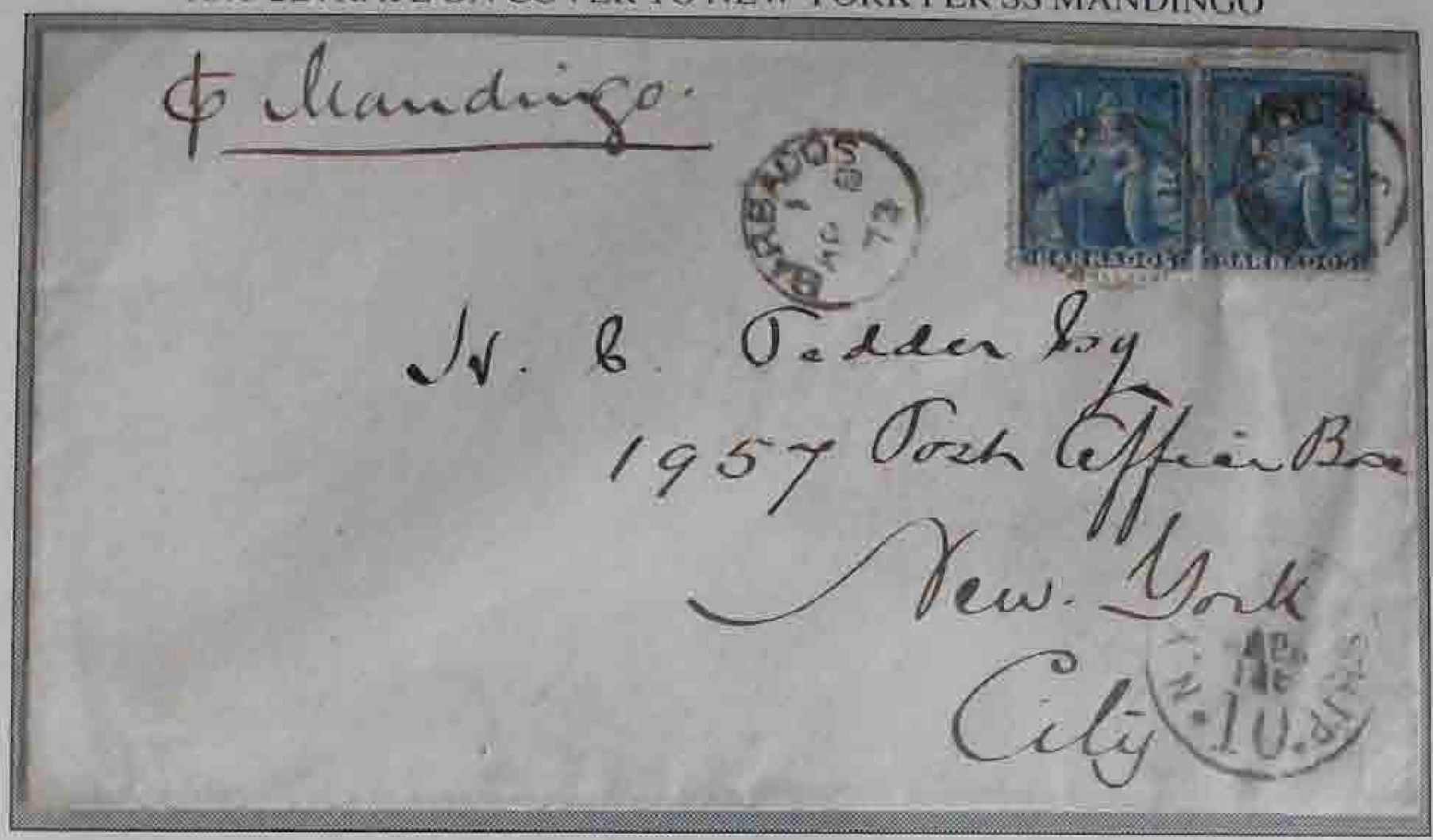
COMMENT: The cover has a manuscript note on the front "per Steamer 'Bahamas' via New York 19 Nov."

1873 AND 1881 - MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES WITH SPECIAL RATES

The unusual letter rate of 2d. per ½oz. to USA and Canada was applicable to mail carried by the SS Mandingo, SS Lagos and SS Trinidad in 1872 and 1873. Post Office Notices were published in the newspaper "The West Indian" on 24.10.1872 and 21.8.1873.

A letter rate of 4d. per ½oz. to USA and Canada was introduced in about 1878 and remained in force until Barbados joined the UPU in 1881.

1873 2D. RATE ON COVER TO NEW YORK PER SS MANDINGO



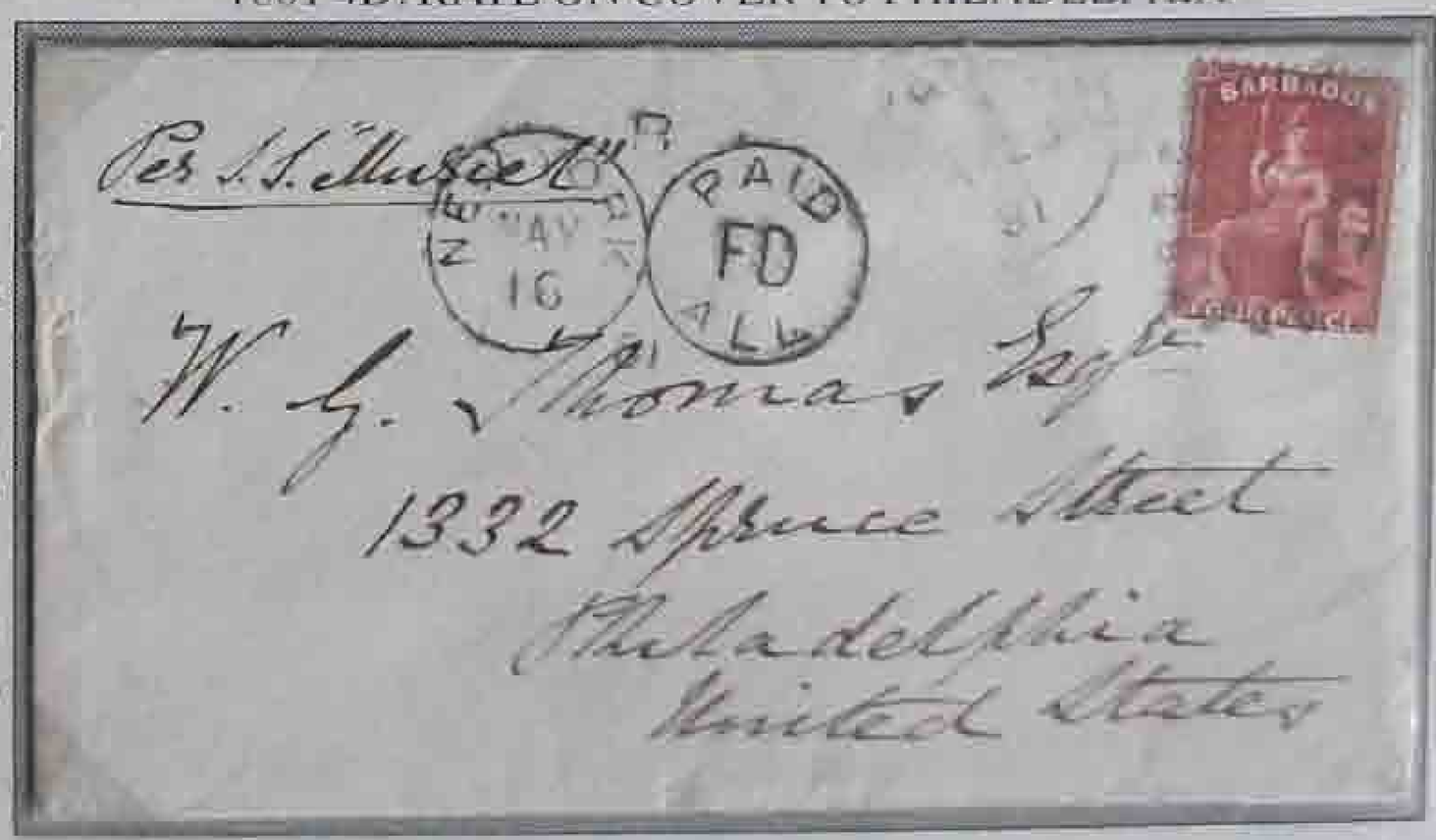
RATE: 2d. (2d. special rate per SS Mandingo, SS Lagos or SS Trinidad 1872-1873); charged "10" cents (10cents ship rate)

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) clean-cut perforated watermark small star 1872.

POSTMARK: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" AP.8.73 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: N.Y. STEAMSHIP APR.18 10 cents.

1881 4D. RATE ON COVER TO PHILADELPHIA



RATE: 4d. (4d. rate to USA and Canada 1878(c)-1881)

STAMP: 4d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" AP.28.81 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: NEW YORK MAY.16 PAID ALL FD, PHILADELPHIA MAY.16.

1878 AND 1879 - MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES WITH SPECIAL RATES

During the 1870's a number of other special rates were in force from the British West Indies to USA and Canada. All of these rates are still not fully understood.

1878 9D. RATE ON COVER TO USA

RATE: 9d. (9d. special ship or packet rate?); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "5" cents US inland rate.

STAMPS: 3d.(x3) perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" DE.11.78 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

TRANSIT/ARRIVAL MARKINGS: NEW YORK DEC.24 DUE 5 CENTS; PHILAD'A PA. DEC.24 10PM REC'D.

1879 2D. RATE ON COVER TO USA PER SS BAHAMA

RATE: 2d. (2d. special ship rate to USA and Canada per SS Bahama(?) c.1879-1880); charged "5" cents US inland rate. The blue "9" is not believed to be a charge mark but a Post Office note, since the letter is addressed to a Post Office.

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878. POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" FE.18.79 (type C4).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: NEW YORK MAR.5.79 DUE 5 CENTS; ST LOUIS MO MAR.7 10AM RECEIVED.

COMMENT: The cover is marked "Per Mail, Bahama". There seems to have been a special rate for mail carried by the SS Bahama during 1879.

1862 AND 1864 - EARLY MAIL TO CANADA

Mail to Canada could be sent directly, via St Thomas, via the United States or via England, depending on availability of ships. Very little information has survived as far as the postal rates are concerned but there seems to have been special rates in use.

1862 11D. RATE ON COVER TO CANADA EAST VIA ENGLAND

RATE: 11d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863 + 4d. G.P.O. rate from England to Canada); marked "10"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid, and "via England".

STAMPS: 1d., 4d., 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-70. POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); BARBADOES DE 24 1862 (type A7).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON E C PAID JA 14 63 in red, MONTREAL FE 2 63, WEST FARNHAM FE 3 1863.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE of the 11d. rate to Canada via England.

1864 PARTIALLY PAID COVER TO CANADA EAST VIA ST THOMAS

RATE: 6d. (6d. rate to the Canadian border); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the postage to St Thomas had been prepaid; charged "UNPAID 5" cents for provincial transit.

STAMP: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-70. POSTMARKS: Boxbeed "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" SP 9 64 (type E2).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS SP 12 1864; QUEBEC OC 13 64; MONTREAL OC 14 64.

1866 AND 1873 - MAIL TO CANADA VIA ST THOMAS

Mail to Canada was normally sent via St Thomas or directly, depending on availability of ships. Very little information has survived as far as the postal rates are concerned but there seems to have been special rates in use.

1866 6D. RATE ON LETTER TO NEW BRUNSWICK

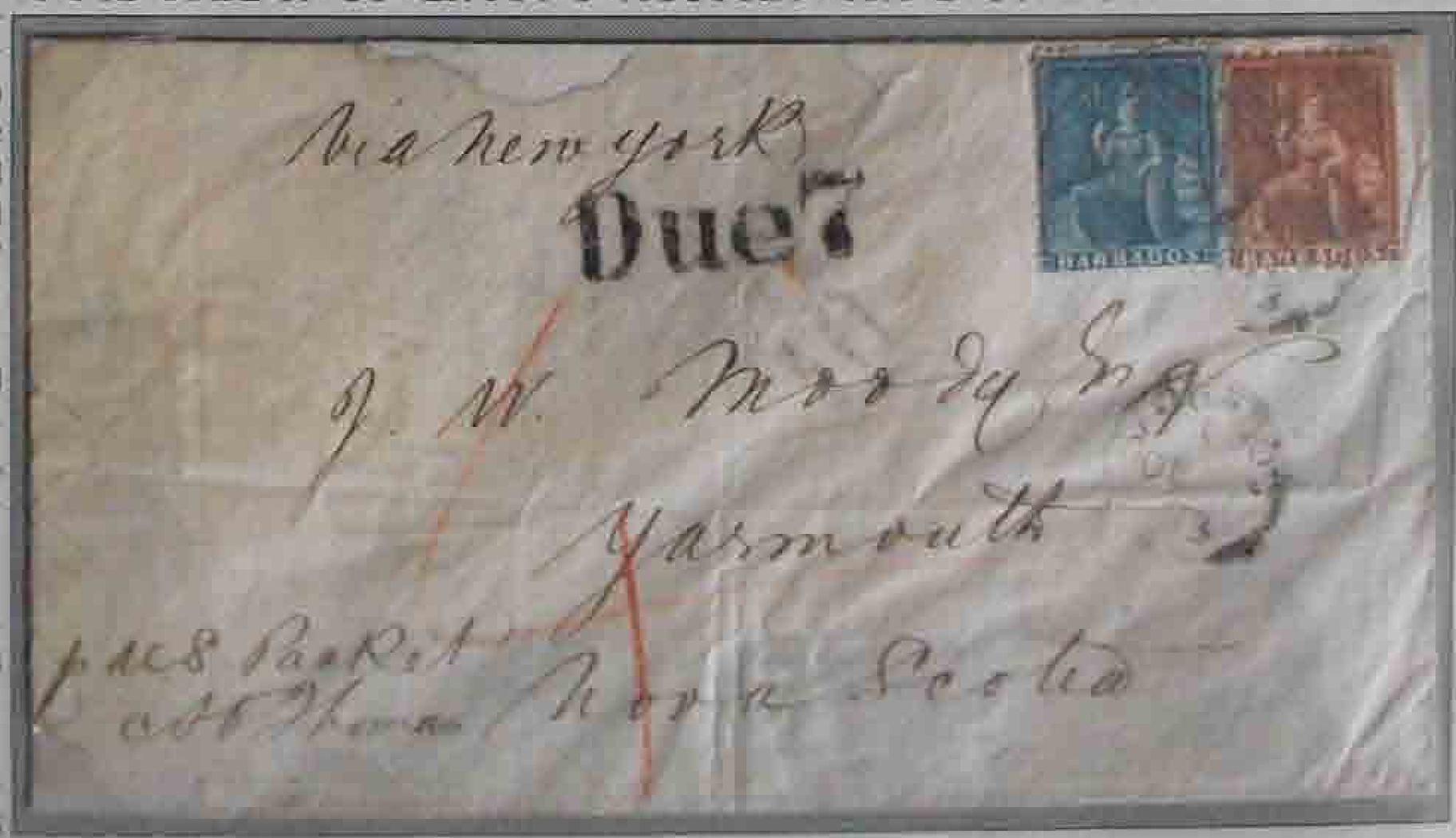
RATE: 6d. (6d. rate to the Canadian border); charged "MORE TO PAY" and "5"cents for provincial transit.

STAMP: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" SP.9.66 (type E2).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ST THOMAS SP.12.1866; ST JOHN'S NEW BRUNSWICK OC.4.1866.

1873 5D. RATE ON COVER TO NOVA SCOTIA WITH 4D. COMPOUND PERFORATED



RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid; charged "Due 7"cents and "10" cents.

STAMPS: 4d. compound perforated 12½x16 watermark small star 1872, 1d. perforated watermark small star 1872.

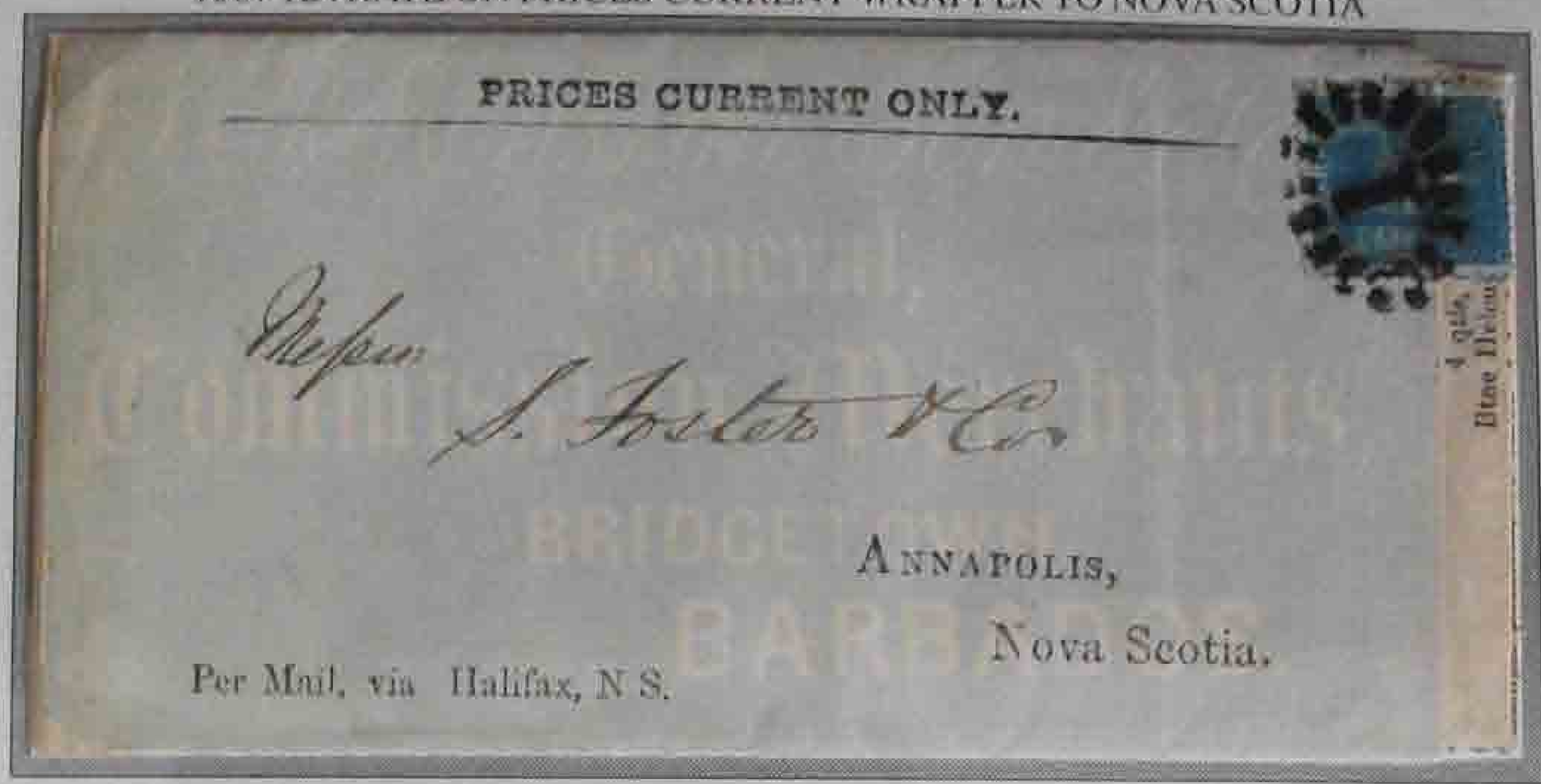
POSTMARK: BARBADOS "1" DE.13.73 (type E2).

COMMENT: The cover is marked "per US Packet, St Thomas" and "Via New York".

1867 AND 1875 - MAIL TO NOVA SCOTIA

Mail to Canada was normally sent via St Thomas or directly, depending on availability of ships. Very little information has survived as far as the postal rates are concerned but there seems to have been special rates in use.

1867 1D. RATE ON PRICES CURRENT WRAPPER TO NOVA SCOTIA



RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931)

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "1" JU.26.67 (type E2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

TRANSIT MARKING: ST THOMAS JU.29.67.

COMMENT: The wrapper contains a printed copy of "S P Musson, Son & Co's Circular for the B(ritish) N(orth) A(merican) Provinces" of 25 June 1867 and is marked "PRICES CURRENT ONLY".

1875 10D. DOUBLE RATE COVER TO NOVA SCOTIA

RATE: 10d. (2d. (2x1d.) double inland rate 1852-1907 + 8d. (2x4d.) double rate to Canada); marked "8"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

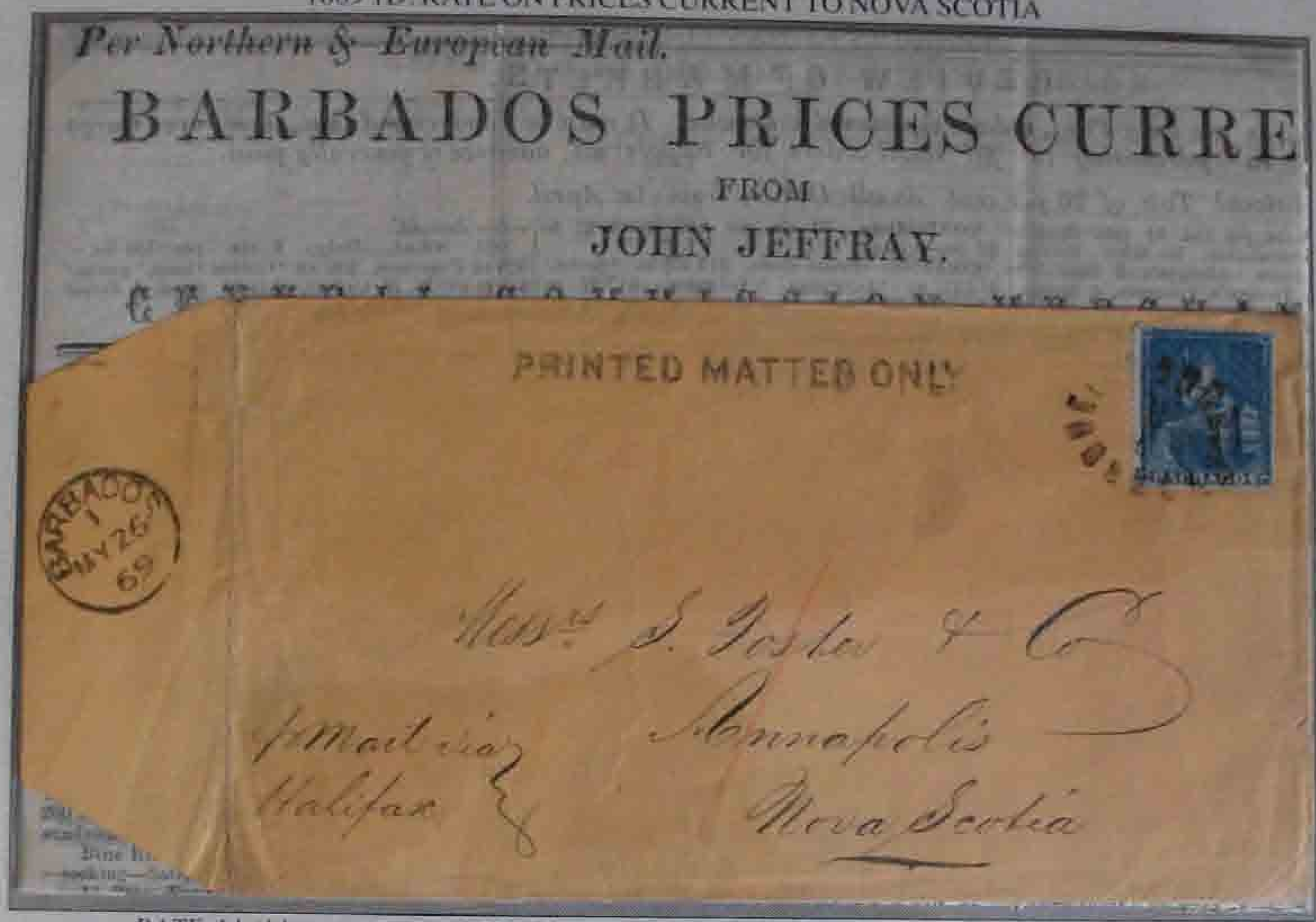
STAMPS: 4d. perforated watermark small star 1871, 6d. perforated watermark large star 1873.

POSTMARK: BARBADOES MY 1.1875 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887.

1869 AND 1879 - PRINTED MATTERS TO CANADA

The postal rates for newspapers, books and printed matters were not very clear and they seem to have been interpreted differently in some of the West Indian colonies. Basically the rate for printed newspapers and printed prices currents was 1d. per 2oz.

1869 1D. RATE ON PRICES CURRENT TO NOVA SCOTIA



RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931); marked "1"d. in red denoting that the rate had been prepaid.
STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870 CACHET: "PRINTED MATTER ONLY".
POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY.26.69 (type E2).
COMMENT: The cover contains a printed copy of the "Barbados Prices Current from John Jeffray".

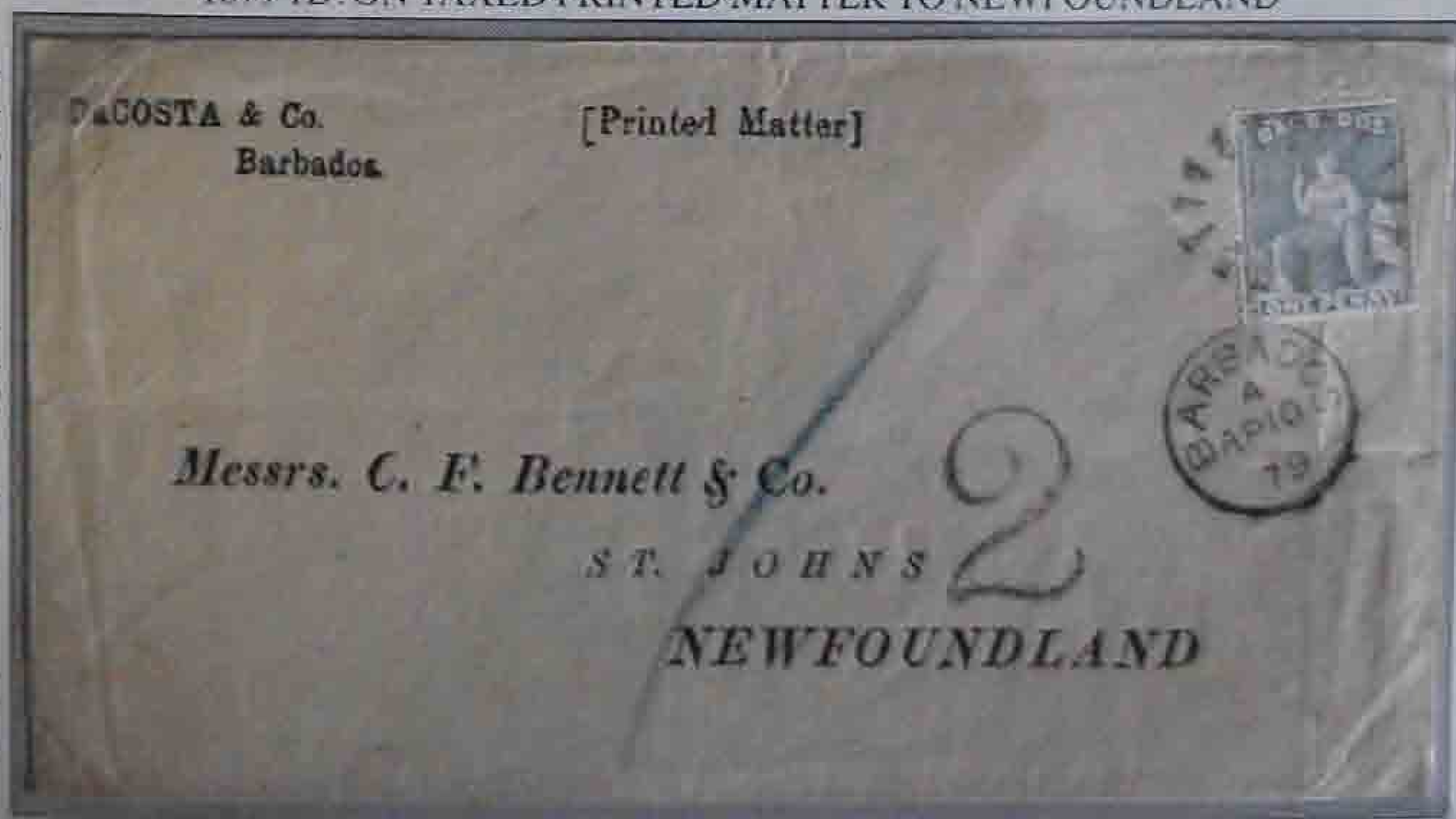
1879 1D. ON TAXED PRINTED MATTER TO NEWFOUNDLAND

RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931); charged "1"d. in blue; taxed with a Canadian marking "2" cents.

STAMP: 1d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" AP.10.79 (C4).

ARRIVAL MARKINGS: "2"; ST JOHNS MY.1.79.



1878 AND 1880 - MAIL TO CANADA WITH SPECIAL RATES

A letter rate of 4d. per ½oz. to USA and Canada was introduced in about 1878 and remained in force until Barbados joined the UPU in 1881.

1878 5D. RATE ON COVER TO CANADA

RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. rate to USA and Canada 1878(c)-1881); marked "4"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 1d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878, 4d. perforated 12½ watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" FE.9.78 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: HALIFAX N. S. MR.10.78, HARVEY N.B. MR.16.1878.

1880 2D. ON TAXED COVER TO CANADA

RATE: 4d., underpaid by 2d. (4d. rate to USA and Canada c.1878-1881); taxed with a New York "T"-marking and charged "4" cents in blue.

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78.

POSTMARKS: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" SP.22.80 (type C4).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: NEW YORK F.D. OCT.& New York tax marking "T"; ARICHAT N.S. OC.11.80.

1873 AND 1880 - MAIL TO CANADA WITH SPECIAL RATES

The unusual letter rate of 2d. per ½oz. to USA and Canada was applicable to mail carried by the SS Mandingo, SS Lagos and SS Trinidad in 1872 and 1873. Post Office Notices were published in the newspaper "The West Indian" on 24.10.1872 and 21.8.1873.
Also mail carried by the SS Bahama in 1879 and 1880 seem to have been forwarded at reduced postal rates.

1873 2D. RATE ON COVER TO NOVA SCOTIA PER SS LAGOS

RATE: 2d. (2d. special rate per SS Mandingo, SS Lagos or SS Trinidad 1872-1873); charged "10" cents (10cents ship rate).

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) clean-cut perforated watermark small star 1872.

POSTMARK: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" MR.18.73 (type E2).

TRANSIT MARKING: N.Y. STEAMSHIP MAR.31 10 cents.

1880 PRICES CURRENT TO NOVA SCOTIA PER SS BAHAMA

RATE: 1d. (1d. special printed matter ship rate to USA and Canada per SS Bahama(?) c.1879-1880); taxed with a New York "T"-marking and charged "10" cents, but this was deleted and altered to "3" cents since it was a printed matter.

STAMP: 1d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78. POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" NO.27.80 (type C4).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: New York tax marking "T", PORT HAWKESBURY N.S. DE.31.80; ARICHAT N.S. JA.1.1881.

1868 - MAIL TO MADEIRA

The Madeira Islands is a group of islands west of Africa, about 400 miles from Morocco. They are famous especially for the Madeira wine, first produced in the 15th century, but they were also used as an important point for sailing vessels in distress and in demand to re-supply their stores of water and food. A number of merchants were established on the islands and they made business worldwide.

1868 LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO MADEIRA VIA LONDON

RATE: Privately carried from Barbados to England; 1s.6d. from England to Madeira for 1-1¼oz 1866-1875.

STAMPS: Great Britain Queen Victoria 6d. and 1/- 1867.

POSTMARKS: London LOMBARD ST AU.8.68; PD in red.

ARRIVAL MARKING: Manuscript "Recd 17 August".

COMMENT: The letter is headed "Barbados 10 July 1868" and contains an account for the sale of 8 casks of wine.

1872 AND 1875 - MAIL FROM USA AND DENMARK

Very little pre-UPU mail into Barbados has survived, except mail from Great Britain. Even mail from the United States is very scarce, and from other countries it is quite rare.

1872 COVER FROM USA TO BARBADOS

RATE: 10 cents rate to St Thomas; charged "4"d. but this was deleted and altered to "5"d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMPS: USA 2c.(x2), 3c.(x2) 1870-1871.

POSTMARKS: Cork cancellation; BOSTON MASS APR.19.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: NEW YORK APR.23; ST THOMAS AP.30.72; BARBADOS "1" MY.19.72 (type E2).

1875 LETTER FROM DENMARK TO BARBADOS

RATE- 108 ore rate via England, marked "1sh" in red denoting that the packet rate from England had been prepaid.

STAMPS: Denmark 48sk 1870 (counted as 100 ore), 8 ore 1875.

POSTMARKS: Numeral "1"; KJOBENHAVN 13.1.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON PAID 16 JA 75; BARBADOS "1" FE.1.75 (type E2).

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN pre-UPU cover from Denmark to Barbados. The original 48sk stamp was removed from the cover at some stage and has been replaced with one that does not originally belong to it.

1875 AND 1878 - MAIL TO FRANCE AND ITALY

The postal rates to other countries than the West Indian islands, England, Canada and USA were very complicated and often depended on which route was used. In 1855 rates of 1s. was introduced for mail to France and 1s.½d. for mail to Italy.

1875 1S. 1D. RATE TO FRANCE

RATE: 1s.1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 1s. rate to France 1855-1881); marked "1/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 1d., 1/- watermark large star 1873-1874.

POSTMARK: BARBADOS "1" AP.29.75 (type E2) in brown; in use between 1863 and 1901.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON PAID 15.MY.75 in red, PARIS 16.5.75.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE of the 1s. 1d. rate to France.

1878 1S. 1½D. RATE ON COVER TO ITALY

RATE: 1s.1½d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 1s.½d. rate to Italy 1855-1881); marked "1/0½"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMPS: ½d., 1d., 1/- perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-78.

POSTMARK: Open boot-heel duplex BARBADOS "A" NO.20.78 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON PAID 16.DE.78 in red, NAPOLI 19.12.1878.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY THREE KNOWN EXAMPLES of the 1s. 1½d. rate.

1876 AND 1877 - PRINTED MATTERS TO FRANCE AND HOLLAND

A special printed matter rate of 2d. per 2 ounces to France and other countries in Europe, was introduced in the 1860's. A newspaper rate of 1d. was also in force during this period.

1876 2D. RATE ON PRINTED MATTER TO FRANCE

RATE: 2d. (2d. printed matter rate to France c.1865-1881)

STAMPS: 1d.(x2) perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARKS: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" AU 30 76 (type C4).

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: ANGL AMB HAVRE 23 SEPT 76; LE HAVRE 24 SEPT 76.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY TWO KNOWN EXAMPLES of the 2d. printed matter rate to France.

1877 1D. RATE ON NEWSPAPER WRAPPER TO HOLLAND

RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate to Europe c.1860-1881)

STAMP: 1d perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" JA 29 77 (type C4), in use between 1876 and 1899.

ARRIVAL MARKING: GRONINGEN 13 FEB 77 12M-4A, boxed C 9 mailman's delivery marking.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY TWO KNOWN Barbados Britannia covers to Holland.

1869, 1871 AND 1879 - MAIL FROM THE SMALL PARISH POST OFFICES

Besides the GPO in Bridgetown (Parish no.1) there were ten small District or Parish Post Offices (numbered 2 to 11). In 1863 each Post Office was issued with a new Obliterator (numbered 2 to 11, type C2, in use between 1863 and 1885) and a Barbados Parish Datestamp (numbered 2 to 11, type M2, in use between 1863 and 1901). Mail from the Parish Post Offices going abroad is particularly scarce.

1869 1/- SINGLE RATE COVER FROM ST PETER (10) TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMP: 1/- perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "10" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY.10.69 (type E2), struck in transit in Bridgetown.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: DERBY MY.27.69; ASHBOURNE MY 27.69.

1871 5D. SINGLE RATE COVER FROM ST PETER (10) TO ANTIGUA

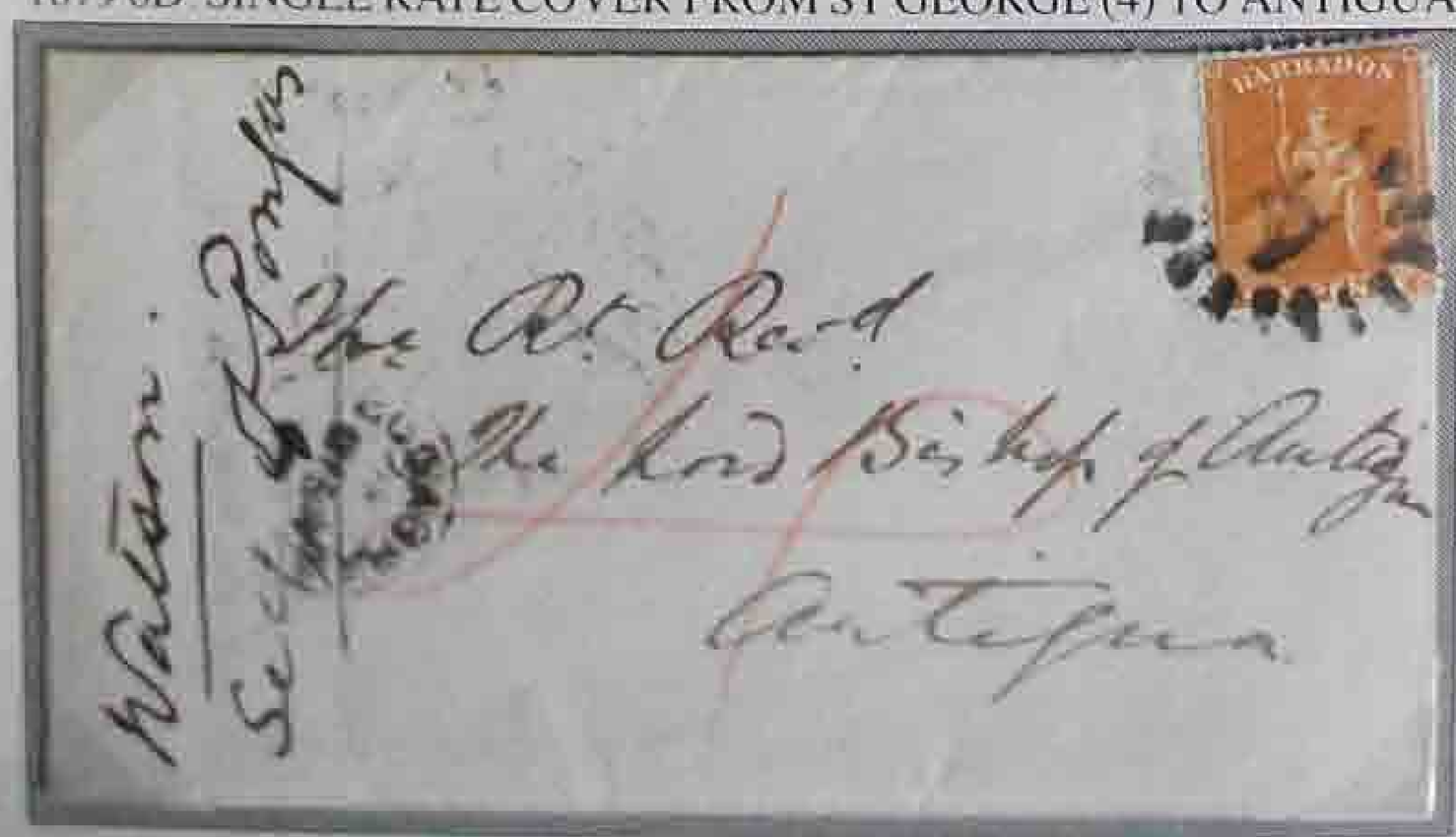
RATE: 5d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 1d.(x5) perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "10" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "10" JY.26.71 (type M2), in use between 1863 and 1901.

ARRIVAL MARKING: ANTIGUA JY.28.71.

1879 6D. SINGLE RATE COVER FROM ST GEORGE (4) TO ANTIGUA



RATE: 6d. (1d. inland rate (Barbados) + 1d. inland rate (Antigua) 1852-1907 + 4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891); marked "4"d. in red denoting that the inter-island rate had been prepaid.

STAMPS: 6d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "4" (type C2), in use between 1863 and 1885; datestamp BARBADOS "4" FE.10.79 (type M2, also an off-set in reverse on the front), in use between 1863 and 1901.

TRANSIT MARKING: BARBADOES FE.10.1879 (type A7) sans-serifed double arcs, in use between 1845 and 1887.

1856 AND 1863 - SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY MAIL

From time to time, many Soldiers were stationed throughout the British Empire including the West Indies. The high rates of postage were a real hardship to serving personnel and their families and concessionary rates were introduced as early as 1795. In 1850 the rate of 1d. was introduced for Soldiers, Seamen and Non-commissioned Officers. All concessionary mail had to be counter-signed by the Commanding Officer and the sender had to write his name and rank on the address side of the letter.

1856 PREPAID SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY RATE LETTER TO LONDON

RATE: Marked "1"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1d. concessionary Soldiers rate to Great Britain 1850-1898)

POSTMARK: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES SP.27.1856 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887; Parish datestamp "1" SP.27.1856 (type E1) in use between 1852 and 1867.

ARRIVAL MARKING: London PAID 13.OC.13 1856 in red.

COMMENT: The letter is marked "From Sergt Major R Milles Q.M.G. Office, Barbados" and is counter-signed by the Commanding Officer.

THERE ARE ONLY THREE KNOWN Soldier's letters with the Barbadoes Crown Circle.

1863 1D. SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY RATE ON COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1d. (1d. concessionary Soldiers rate to Great Britain 1850-1898); Marked "1"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARK: Bootheel "1" (type C2); BARBADOES MY.25.1863 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: LONDON PAID JU.13.63 in red; NEW BRIGHTON JU.13.63.

COMMENT: The cover is marked "Private Joshua Oakley" and is counter-signed by the Commanding Officer "Colonel, 21st Fusiliers, Barbados".

1873 AND 1878 - SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY MAIL

From time to time, many Soldiers were stationed throughout the British Empire including the West Indies. The high rates of postage were a real hardship to serving personnel and their families and concessionary rates were introduced as early as 1795. In 1850 the rate of 1d. was introduced for Soldiers, Seamen and Non-commissioned Officers. All concessionary mail had to be counter-signed by the Commanding Officer and the sender had to write his name and rank on the address side of the letter.

1873 1D. SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY RATE ON COVER TO IRELAND

RATE: 1d. (1d. concessionary Soldiers rate to Great Britain 1850-1898)

STAMP: 1d. perforated watermark small star 1873.

POSTMARK: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" JY.28.73 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: BALLY-CONNELL AU.16.1873.

COMMENT: The cover is marked "From Sergt John O'Grady, AH Corps" and is counter-signed by the Commanding Officer.

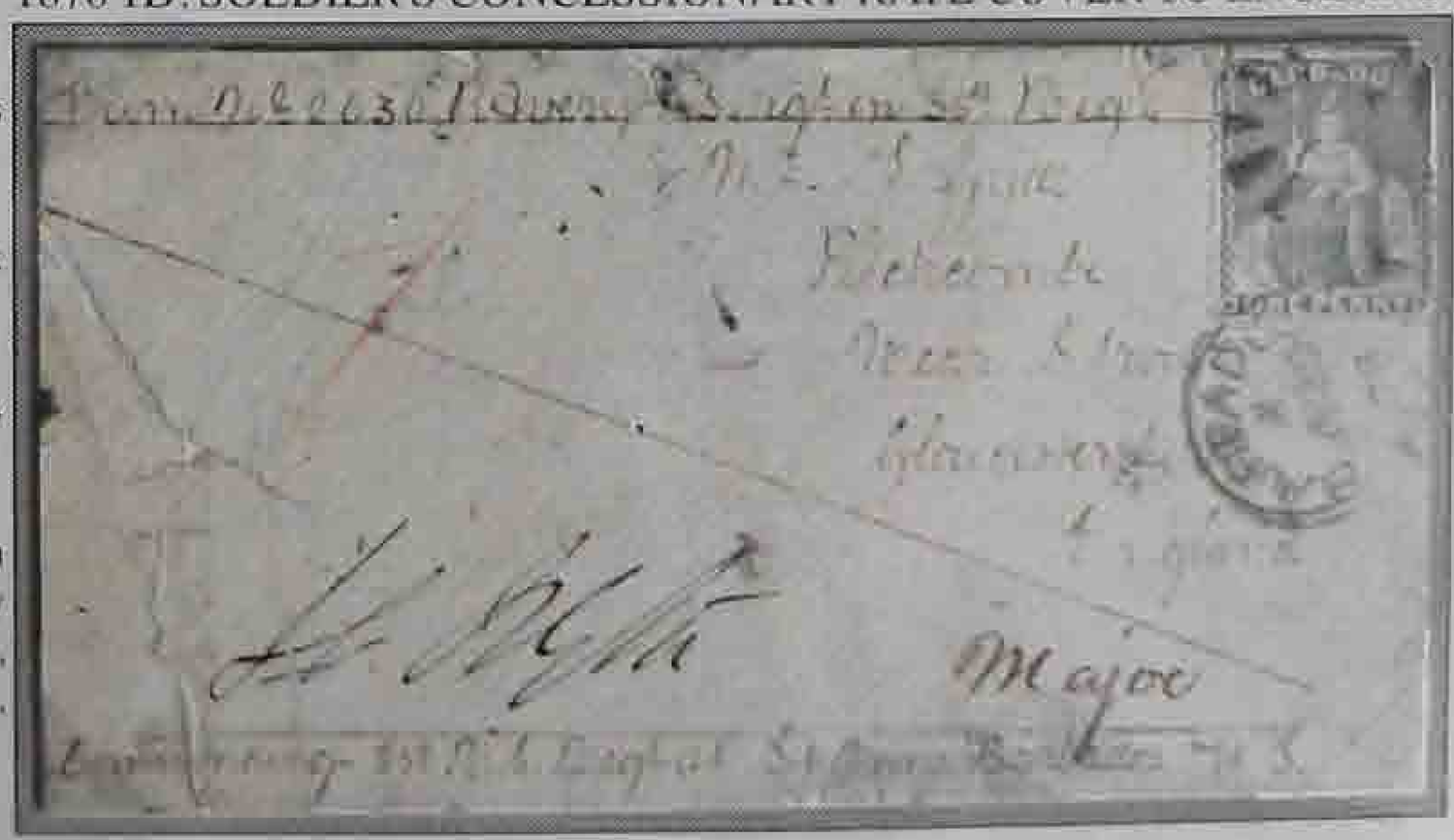
1878 1D. SOLDIER'S CONCESSIONARY RATE COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1d. (1d. concessionary Soldiers rate to Great Britain 1850-1898)

STAMP: 1d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" JU.29.78 (type C4).

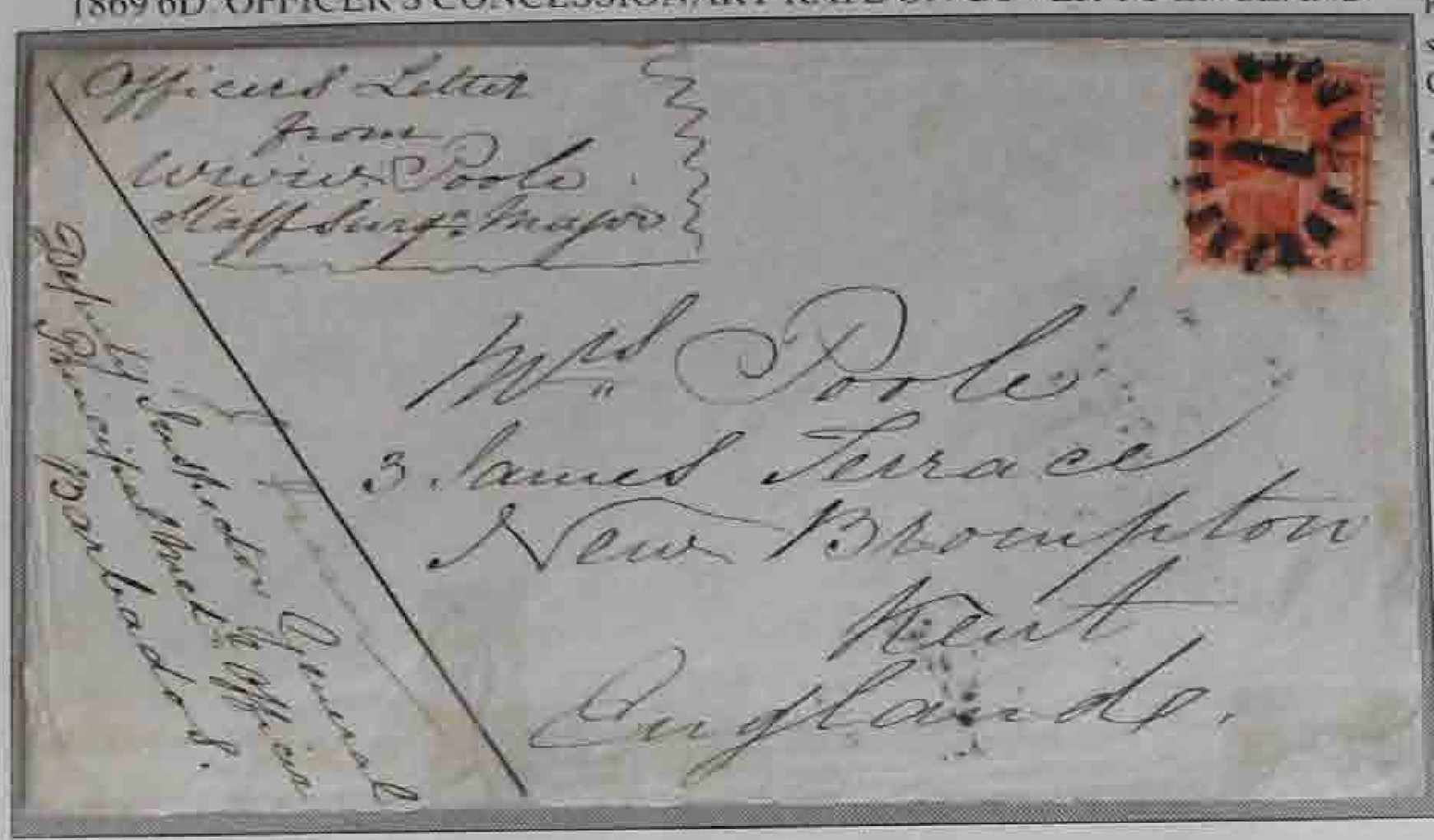
COMMENT: The cover is marked "From Sergt R Avery" and is counter-signed by the Commanding Officer "Major, Commanding 35th R.S. Regt at St Anns, Barbados".



1869 AND 1870 - OFFICER'S MAIL

From time to time, many Soldiers were stationed throughout the British Empire including the West Indies. The high rates of postage were a real hardship to serving personnel and their families and concessionary rates were introduced as early as 1795. In 1850 the rate of 1d. was introduced for Soldiers, Seamen and Non-commissioned Officers. Between 1867 and 1869 a rate of 6d. per ½oz. wasalso in force for Commissioned Officers' letters. All concessionary mail had to be counter-signed by the Commanding Officer and the sender had to write his name and rank on the address side of the letter.

1869 6D. OFFICER'S CONCESSIONARY RATE ON COVER TO ENGLAND



RATE: 6d. (6d. concessionary Officers rate to Great Britain 1867-1869)

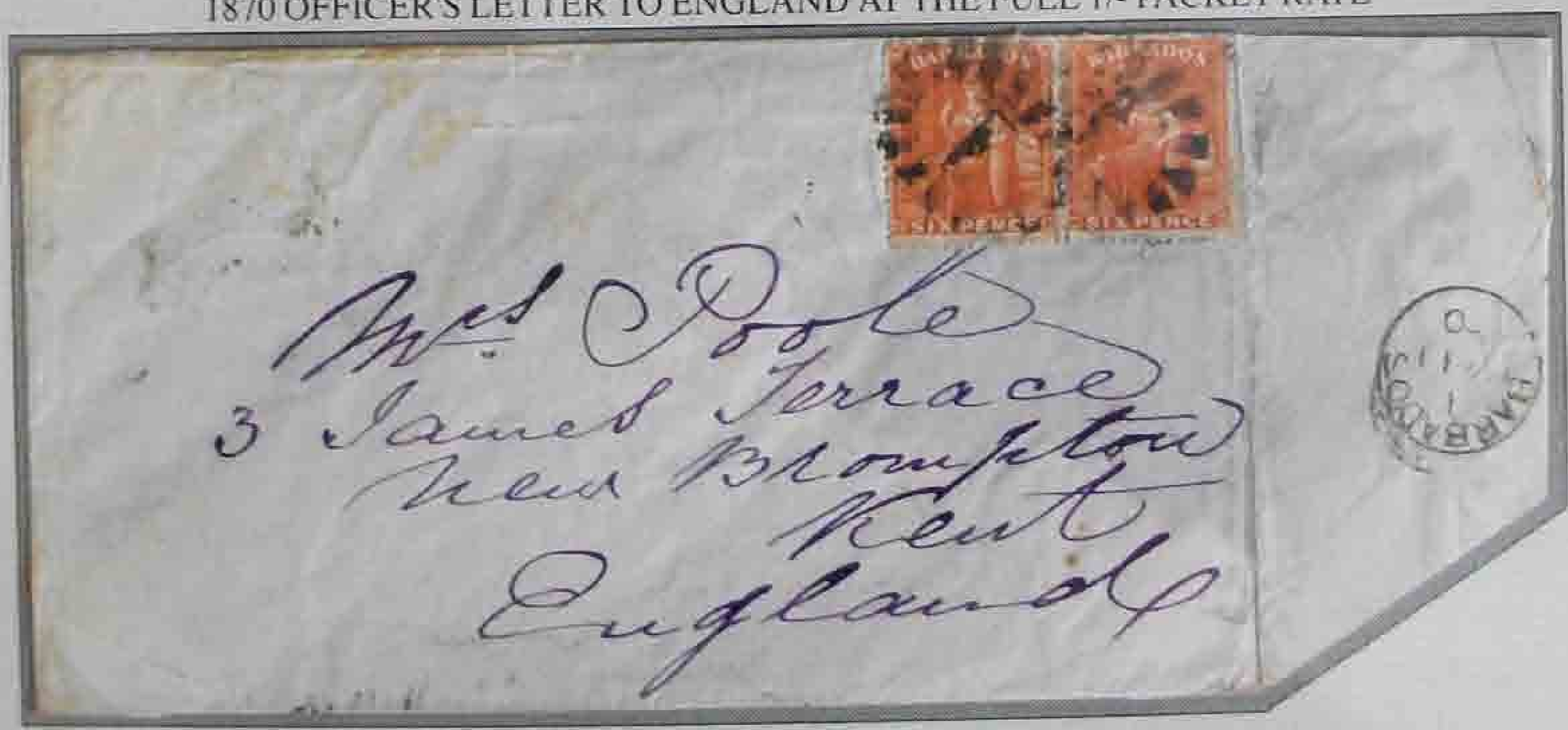
STAMP: 6d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" FE.9.69 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: CHATHAM MR.2.69.

COMMENT: The cover is marked "Officers Letter from WWW Poole, Staff Surgeon Major" and is counter-signed "J Fraser, Deputy Inspector General, Principal Medical Officer, Barbados".

1870 OFFICER'S LETTER TO ENGLAND AT THE FULL 1/- PACKET RATE



RATE: 1/- packet rate to Great Britain (1863-1881) instead of 6d. concessionary Officers rate.

STAMP: 6d.(x2) perforated no watermark 1861-1870. ARRIVAL MARKING: CHATHAM MY.31.70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY.11.70 (type E2).

COMMENT: The cover was sent by the same person as the cover at the top but the Officer's Concessionary rate had been discontinued at the end of 1869, so he had to pay the full normal rate instead.

1852 AND 1870 - RE-DIRECTED MAIL

In Great Britain Post Office regulations stated that re-directed letters would be forwarded without charge provided that forwarding took place within 24 hours of receipt. Otherwise full postage had to be paid.

1852 RE-DIRECTED SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: Marked "1/-" in red denoting that postage had been prepaid (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1840-1854) + 1d. (1d. British inland rate 1840-1918)

STAMP: Great Britain Queen Victoria 1d. 1841.

POSTMARKS: PAID AT BARBADOES (type B1) crowned circle, in red, in use between 1849 and 1858; BARBADOES JY.10.1852 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc, in use between 1845 and 1887; numeral obliterator "28" (Ashbourne); ASHBOURNE AU.3.1852.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: London PAID 2.AU.1852 circular datestamp, in red; ASHBOURNE AU.2.1852; London Crown 4.AU.1852 in red; MAIDSTONE AU.4.1852.

1870 RE-DIRECTED SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1/- (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881) + 1d. (1d. British inland rate 1840-1918)

STAMPS: 1/- perforated no watermark 1861-70, Great Britain Queen Victoria 1d. 1858-1879.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" SP.26.70 (type E2); "134" BRISTOL OC.14.70 duplex.

TRANSIT / ARRIVAL MARKINGS: BRISTOL OC.12.70, CLEVEDON OC.15.70.

1865 AND 1872 - REGISTERED MAIL

In 1857 the Colonial Office suggested that the Barbados Post Office should introduce a registration service with a fee of 6d. per letter. Official sources in Barbados do not mention this suggestion but in 1863 a local Act was passed authorising the Governor to make orders from time to time for a system of registration. The first printed reference to registration appears in an Official Gazette of 1874 and registration markings had been sent out by the G.P.O. in London in 1873. In 1872 the registration fee was 4d. and it was reduced to 2d. in 1885.

1872 1S. 4D. REGISTERED PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1s. 4d. (1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881 + 4d. registration fee 1872(c)-1884); marked "16" in blue denoting the postage paid.

STAMPS: 4d., 1/- perforated watermark small star 1871.

POSTMARK: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" JY.11.72 (type E2).

REGISTRATION MARKINGS: Manuscript "Registered" in red and "31" in green.

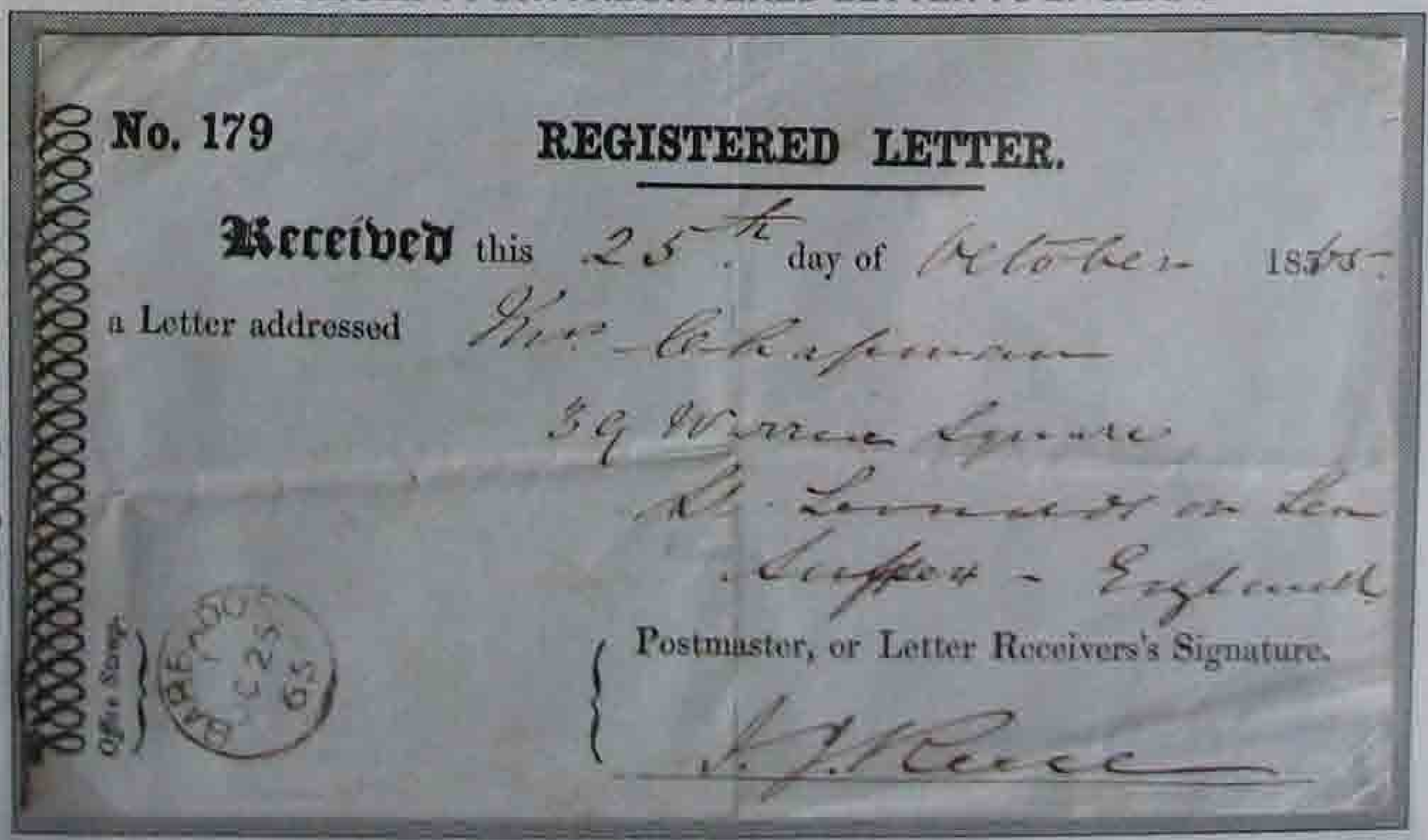
ARRIVAL MARKINGS: REGISTERED LONDON 29.JY.72 in red, REGISTERED W.D.O. JY.29.72 in red.

COMMENT: THIS IS ONE OF THE EARLIEST KNOWN registered covers from Barbados and one of very few recorded from the pre-UPU period.

1865 RECEIPT FOR A REGISTERED LETTER TO ENGLAND

POSTMARK: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" OC.25.65 (type E2).

COMMENT: A printed receipt for a "REGISTERED LETTER" sent to England, signed by the Postmaster.



No. 179 **REGISTERED LETTER.**

Received this 25th day of October 1865

a Letter addressed Mrs. Richardson
39 Warren Square
St. Leonards on Sea
Sussex - England

Office Stamp

Postmaster, or Letter Receivers's Signature.

1879 - REGISTERED BOOK POST

Two REGISTERED handstamps were sent out by the GPO, a boxed example in May 1873 (type J1, not recorded on mail), and an un-boxed example in July 1873 (type J2a, only one example is recorded on mail).

1879 6D. REGISTERED BOOK POST WRAPPER TO ENGLAND WITH THE REGISTERED HANDSTAMP

RATE: 6d. (2x1d. double book post rate to Great Britain 1869-1881 + 4d. registration fee 1872(c)-1884)

STAMPS: 6d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARKS: BARBADOES MY.29.1879 (type A7) sans-serifed double arc; REGISTERED (type J2) in red.

REGISTRATION MARKINGS: REGISTERED (type J2) in red; manuscript "12" in blue; manuscript "Book post registered".

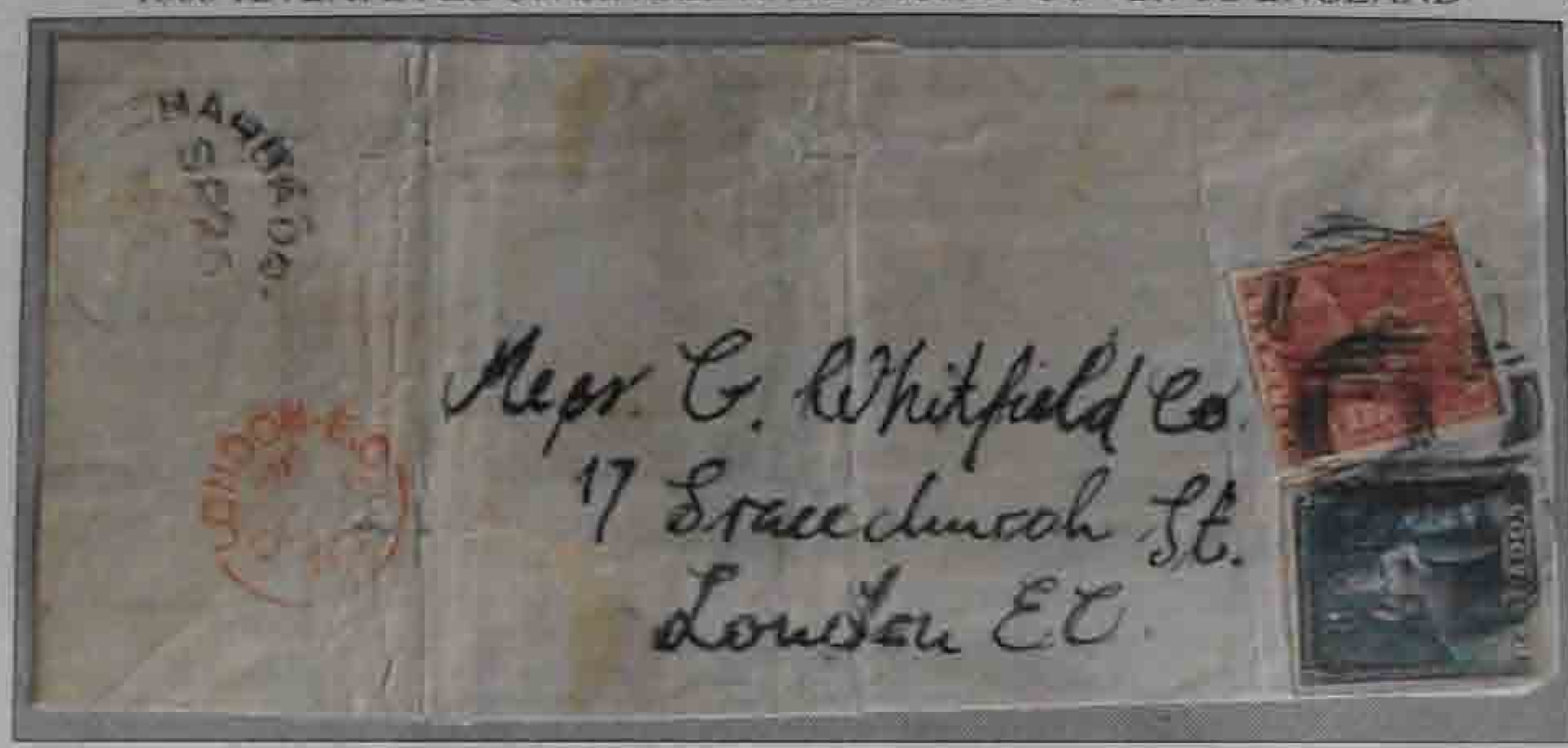
ARRIVAL MARKINGS: REGISTERED LONDON 11.JU.79 in red, LONDON S.W. JU.11.79.

COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE of the REGISTERED handstamps.

1860 AND 1868 - MAIL WITH 1D. LATE FEES

A late fee had to be paid if a letter was posted after the official closing time for an outgoing mail. Very little information has survived about the late fees; in 1874 it is very briefly mentioned in general terms about the West Indies and the fees are stated to be 4d. up to half an hour and 1/- for more than half an hour. However, a 1d. late fee was in use in the 1860's but it is unknown when it was introduced. Only a few 1d. late fee covers have been recorded from Barbados.

1860 1D. LATE FEE ON SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND



RATE: 7d. (1d. late fee + 6d. packet rate to Great Britain 1854-1863)

STAMPS: 6d. imperforate 1858, 1d. pin-perforated 14 no watermark 1860.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES SP 26 1860 (type A7).

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON E C OC 15 60 in red.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY THREE KNOWN 7d. late fee covers.

1868 1D. LATE FEE ON SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND

RATE: 1s. 1d. (1d. late fee + 1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-70, 1/- perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES FE 26 1868 (type A7).

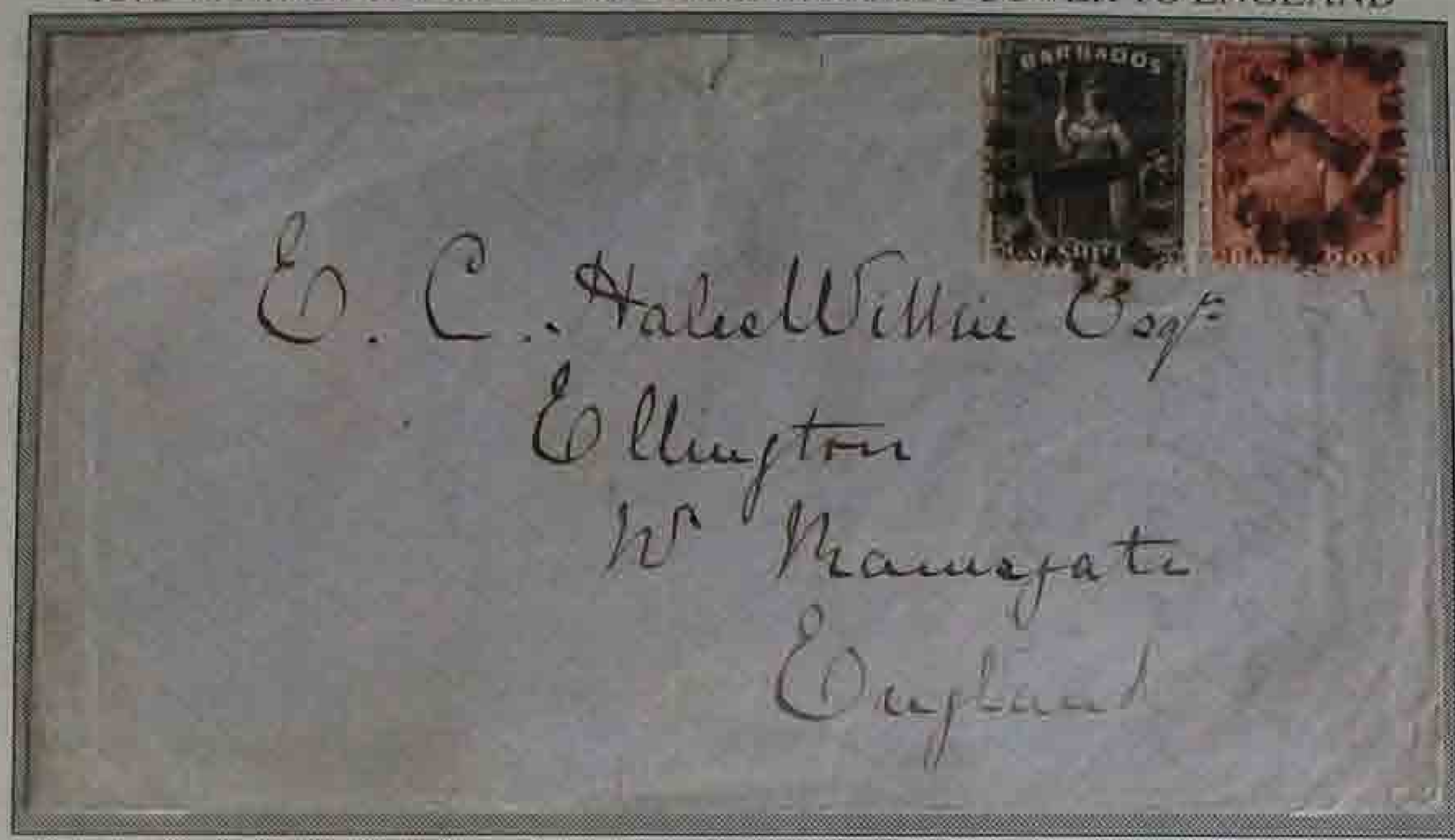
ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON PAID 16 MR 68 in red.

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY TWO KNOWN 1s. 1d. late fee covers.

1871 AND 1872 - MAIL WITH 4D. LATE FEES

A late fee had to be paid if a letter was posted after the official closing time for an outgoing mail. Very little information has survived about the late fees; in 1874 it is very briefly mentioned in general terms about the West Indies and the fees are stated to be 4d. up to half an hour and 1/- for more than half an hour. Only three covers with 4d. late fees have been recorded from Barbados.

1872 4D. LATE FEE ON SINGLE RATE PACKET COVER TO ENGLAND



RATE: 1s. 4d. (4d. late fee + 1/- packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 4d. perforated watermark small star 1871, 1/- perforated watermark small star 1871.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" JA.29.72 (type E2)

ARRIVAL MARKING: RAMSGATE FE.12.72

COMMENT: THERE ARE ONLY TWO KNOWN 1s. 4d. late fee cover.

1871 4D. LATE FEE ON DOUBLE RATE PACKET COVER TO LONDON

RATE- 2s. 4d. (4d. late fee + 2/- (2x1/-) double packet rate to Great Britain 1863-1881)

STAMPS: 4d. perforated watermark small star 1871, 1/-(x2) perforated watermark small star 1871.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" JY.26.71 (type E2)

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON EC PAID ? AU.71 in red.

COMMENT: THERE IS ONLY ONE KNOWN 2s. 4d. late fee cover.

1872 AND 1879 - UNPAID INLAND MAIL

From 1858 full prepayment of postage on mail was compulsary. Unpaid, or partly paid, mail was taxed and the addressee had to pay double the deficiency. Certain persons had free franking priviledges and this meant that their mail would be sent free of charge.

1872 UNPAID TAXED TOO LATE COVER TO ST LAWRENCE

RATE: Charged "2"d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907 + 1d. fine for an unpaid letter)

POSTMARKS: Datestamp BARBADOS "1" JY 25 72 (type E2); TOO-LATE (type G3a)

ARRIVAL MARKING: Datestamp BARBADOS "2" JY 26 72 (type M2).

COMMENT: The cover was posted too late to catch the outgoing mail transport of the day. It is marked "Per Anna".

1879 FREE COVER SENT BY THE BISHOP OF BARBADOS

RATE: None. Printed "ON SERVICE" and "John Barbados" (the Bishop of Barbados). The Bishop had free franking priviledges.

POSTMARK: BARBADOS "A" DE.11.79 (type C4).

COMMENT: The cover contains a printed invitation to a Church Council meeting in Bridgetown.

1859 AND 1867 - FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS

During the 19th century, up to the formation of the Universal Postal Union in 1874, the business for Forwarding Agents grew worldwide. The increasing amount of mail sent and the demands from senders and addressees, made it possible for many companies to specialise in this field and some of them used cachets on the mail they forwarded.

1859 GRIFFITH & JEFFRAY CACHET ON SINGLE RATE LETTER TO TRINIDAD

RATE: 1d. (1d. inland rate 1852-1907) + charged "4"d. (4d. inter-island rate 1711-1891)

STAMP: 1d. imperforate on white paper 1855-58.

POSTMARKS: Obliterator "1" (type C1); sans-serifed double arc BARBADOES. MR.21.1859 (type A7).

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHET: FROM GRIFFITH & JEFFRAY MERCHANTS BARBADOS.

ARRIVAL MARKING: TRINIDAD MR.24.1859.

1867 JOHN JEFFRAY CACHET ON PRINTED MATTER TO NOVA SCOTIA

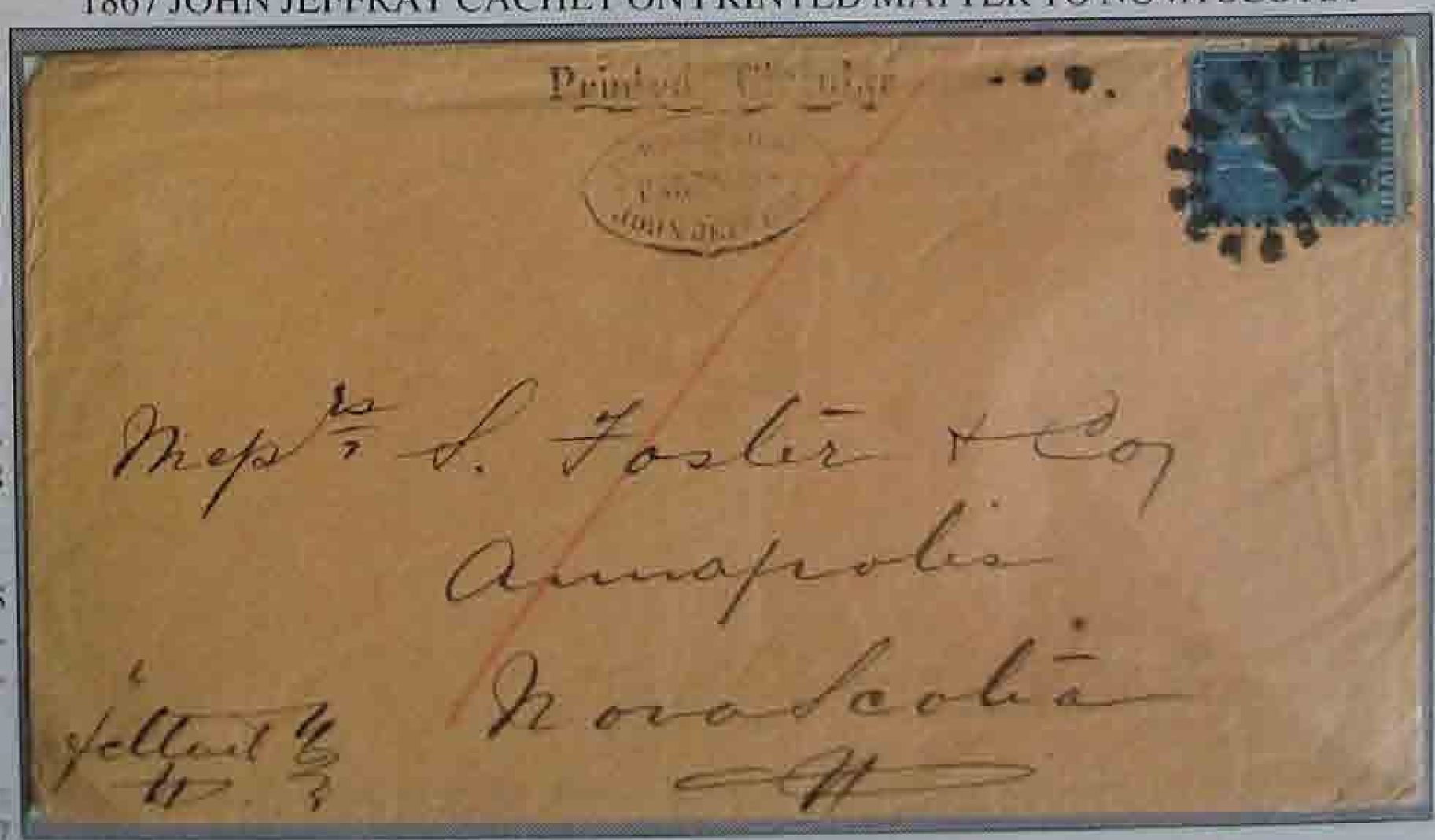
RATE: 1d. (1d. newspaper rate 1837-1931); marked "1"d. in red denoting that postage had been prepaid.

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-70.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); date-stamp BARBADOS "1" JU.26.67 (type E2).

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHET: FORWARDED BY JOHN JEFFRAY BARBADOS.

TRANSIT MARKING: ST THOMAS JU.29.67



1866 AND 1867 - CONSIGNEES MAIL FROM AND TO BARBADOS

Letters addressed to certain categories of persons might be exempted from the normal charges made on incoming ship letters. The persons generally entitled to receive letters without paying the normal sea postage were the owners, charterers or consignees of any inward-bound vessel and the owners, shippers or consignees of any goods on such vessels. Full inland postage had to be paid if the letters were sent on through the inland posts.

1866 CONSIGNEES LETTER FROM BARBADOS TO LONDON

RATE: 1d. (1d. Consignee's rate)

STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870.

POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" MY 25.66 (type E2).

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON PAID 12 JU 66 in red.

COMMENT: The letter is marked "Consignees per Judith".

1867 CONSIGNEES LETTER FROM LONDON TO BARBADOS

RATE: 1d. (1d. Barbados inland rate 1852-1907) STAMP: 1d. perforated no watermark 1861-1870. POSTMARKS: Bootheel "1" (type C2); datestamp BARBADOS "1" AP 26.67 (type E2) ARRIVAL MARKING: BARBADOS "10" (St. Peter) AP 26.67 (type M2). COMMENT: The letter is headed "London 18 January 1867" and has manuscript notes on the front "Consignees Letter" and "per Islander". The letter was handed over to the Barbados Post Office upon arrival and sent to the addressee. The stamp has been repaired.

1881 - UPU MEMBERSHIP - WHAT HAPPENED THEN?

On 1 September 1881 Barbados joined the UPU. This changed the postal rates dramatically and the rates to all other UPU members became 4d. per half ounce, including Great Britain. This meant that the postal rate to GB became a third of what it had been previously!
And in 1882 the Britannia stamps, a design which had been in use for 30 years, were replaced with a new design.

1881 4D. SINGLE UPU RATE COVER TO LONDON

RATE: 4d. (4d. UPU rate 1881-1891)

STAMP: 4d. perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" NO.29.81 (type C4).

ARRIVAL MARKING: LONDON PAID 13.DE.81 in red.

1882 1/- TRIPLE UPU RATE COVER TO USA

RATE: 1/- (3x4d. triple UPU rate 1881-1891)

STAMP: 1/- perforated 14 watermark Crown CC 1875-1878.

POSTMARK: Open bootheel duplex BARBADOS "A" SP.25.82 (type C4).

TRANSIT MARKING: NEW YORK PAID ALL OCT.10.