



# BRITISH WEST INDIAN PHILATELIST

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EDITOR E. F. AGUILAR

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Edited by Arthur Blair

Assisted by W. B. Haworth, M.A.

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## Editorial

### Reprint of Articles From Jamaica Philatelist

The B.W.I. Philatelist will in future issue a number of articles reprinted from the Jamaica Philatelist - from the first edition up to No. 22-23 publication. These articles will be carefully chosen, and will be of interest to collectors of the B.W.I. They will be mostly specialized on stamps of the B.W.I. with one or two general articles. Such writers as C. G. Phillips, L. C. C. Nicholson, G. C. Gunter, Astley Clerk, who have written numerous articles, will be abridged and be re-published.

The first of these articles will be found in this magazine.

As Collectors know a complete set of the Jamaica Philatelist is extremely scarce, and rare, and few complete sets are known except for Libraries.

Any-special article that readers might be interested in they should write at once to the Editor, and every effort will be made to publish the type of article required.

## News Here And There

### Cayman Islands – 1940 1<sup>st</sup> Air Mail

The first air mail from the Cayman Islands was flown by Captain William Cleveland in a Douglas sea 'plane NC 14208. Mail for this flight was closed on the 12th of February, 1940, and letters postmarked were as follows:- \_ .

- 36 Registered letters to the USA
- 4 Registered letters to Jamaica
- 193 ordinary letters to the USA
- 29 ordinary letters to Jamaica
- 1 ordinary letter to Colombia
- 1 ordinary letter to the Virgin Islands.
- 1 ordinary letter to North Ireland
- 3 ordinary letters to Venezuela
- 1 ordinary letter to Nicaragua
- 1 ordinary letter to Panama
- 13 ordinary letters to Great Britain
- 2 ordinary letters to Cuba

Unfortunately the 'plane did not arrive until the 13th and the mail was re-postmarked and the final figure was as follows:

- 48 Registered to the USA
- 4 Registered to Jamaica
- 237 ordinary letters to the USA
- 33 ordinary to Jamaica
- 14 ordinary to Great Britain
- 3 ordinary to Cuba
- 1 ordinary to the Virgin Islands
- 1 ordinary to Colombia
- 3 ordinary to Venezuela
- 1 ordinary to Nicaragua
- 1 ordinary to North Ireland

It will be noted that all the first set of envelopes will bear double dating, while the latter will have only one date (such as 14 envelopes that were already mailed to the USA, and 4 to Jamaica; these bear only the one date.)

The Douglas sea 'plane flew by way of Miami and mail was transhipped through Miami to Jamaica, or up to New York, again postmarked.

The total amount of mail carried was 6 lbs. 8 ozs.

These envelopes are extremely scarce, and collectors should keep a lookout for them. There was no cachet used.

### Brazil -- The Sao Paulo Philatelic Exhibition

The Sao Paulo Philatelic Exhibition will take place from the 6th to the 11th November, 1954. Collectors interested can write to the Exhibition Committee - Attention Niso Vianna, P.O. Box 710, Sao Paulo, Brazil. There will be 2,500 frames available, and the rental of these will be at \$2:00 per frame.

### India -- The Indian International Philatelic Exhibition

The Indian International Philatelic Exhibition (INDIPEX) will be held in New Delhi, from the 1st. to the 15th. October, which will commemorate the Centenary of the first issue of Indian Postage stamps. The prospectus can be obtained by writing to the Director,

International Postage Stamp Centenary Celebrations, Eastern Court, Queensway, New Delhi INDIA.

### London – RPSL 1954 Display of Jamaica by G Collett

On March 18th, Mr. G. W. Collett, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P. gave a display of his Jamaica collection at the Royal Philatelic Society composed of 600 pages, which were as follows-

- 32 pages of pre-stamped covers one of the most interesting items being written by the Governor, Lord Albemarle, dated 12/2/1678.
- 34 pages were shown of Great Britain stamps used in the Colony, with such interesting obliterator numbers as A 29 Bath and A 66 Porus, both with the 4d value on cover.
- 50 pages were shown of the Pineapple issue including proofs, specimens, and envelopes. One of the very fine sets being the pine apple ½d, 1d, 4d., 6d., and 1/- imperf. proofs. While proofs overprinted specimen on thick glazed card ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, and 1/- the issue of pine apples was to be seen in mint Mocks in various sizes from a block four to a block of twenty four, and contained all the rare shades and varieties. The CC issue contained all the proofs, and 1d. blued block 12, and variety imperforate, also similar were the 1/- and 5/-.
- The CA issue mint copies of the ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, and 6d in the rare perf. 12. This perf. is extremely scarce, many of the collectors today do not know of this. One does find odd copies in the used condition from time to time.
- The 1890 Provisional there was a complete study of the three recorded settings, with varieties with several mint blocks, six different types of this overprint were displayed.
- The key plate 1889-91 issue die proof, on thick glazed card, was displayed without value, while another die proof on thick card, with the value 2½d was shown. Both these items are very scarce.
- Llandovery Falls 1900 issue colour trial in red and vermilion, and a block four mint of the 1d black and red on blued paper.
- The Arms issue die proof in black on thick glazed card of the 2d, 2½d, and 5d frames, and the vignette, while the ser. et errors are complete. The 5d. being in a block 9.
- 1905-11 issue MCA Queens mint blocks of four and nine of the dollar varieties, while the George V issue 1912 - 20 blocks of four mint of the specimen stamps.
- The first Pictorial issue 1919/21 had a complete set of the scarce colour sample set imperf. of De La Rue & Co. with and without the word specimen. Most of the die proofs were to be found in this issue.
- In the unissued Slavery 6d. value imperforate colour trial in green or violet, while the die proof in sepia photograved. Two die proofs of the 'centre unfinished and finished sets, and a die 'proof of the frame. All being very scarce items indeed.
- While the scarce 10/- Pictorial Script wmk. double printed at the foot, is certainly a very good item indeed.
- The 1927 issue had examples of the bow error, and the very scarce booklets of the Silver Jubilee issue. In the 1890 ½d green the four settings of the thin overprint, were fully worked out and included a strip of three of the well known variety "OFF C AL" both "I's"

missing. And the extremely rare item of the 2d gray without overprint, while the even scarcer item the 2d green with overprint mint. (Incidentally this latter item used is known for this Colony Jamaica.)

- The collection of obliterator numbers comprised of 173 pages, and this is known by most collectors today, and have some of the finest material and rarest items to be found, among which was A 54 type H, three copies of this scarce item along with A 79 type H, on a 6d pineapple. The same number on a 3d and 6d wmk. CC showing the missing 7.
- The only known cover of the 'A' obliteration proving it is used from Milk River Bath - was on display. The example of the rare 'D' on the 4d. CC was also shown.
- This display was fully appreciated by the different number of members, and fellows who turned out to see this fine collection.

#### **London – Harmers Auction sale (Braham Jamaica)**

On September 21st, Messrs. H. R. Harmers, Bond St., London, have in their auction sale, one of the most outstanding Jamaica collections, that has been up for sale for quite a considerable time. Among the lots offered 8 being of the pre-stamp covers, while another 8 consist of the GB stamps used in the Colony, with many of the early postmarks, a complete section of specimen stamps from the early pine apple and two examples of the Slavery stamp.

The issue of Jamaica stamps from 1860 onwards to 1948 covers over 100 lots, among which are some extremely fine items. This sale includes a number of imperforate stamps as well as all the dollar varieties, and colour trials, and errors in the 2½d, and 4d. printing 1890 issue.

Very nearly all the settings of the Official are to be found. The overprint with both "I's" omitted also inverted with the "L's" omitted, on another item. The prices realized from this item will be in the December edition of this magazine.

#### **New York – Harmers Auction of BWI**

H. R. Harmer Inc. A number of interesting B.W.I. material has recently been sold. Some of the prices being BH 1888 issue CC perf. 12½ 3c on 3d. which went for \$145:00. While a Grenada 1883 ½d in mint condition pair sold for \$280:00. The George VI of the Commonwealth have been extremely popular. Few of the prices realized Bermuda 10/- - yellow, brown and green on green \$36:00. While the Grenada 10/- perf. 12 \$52:50 and the indications show that the George VI is as popular as ever with collectors.

#### **Jamaica – Amalgamation of Jamaica Philatelic Society and the British Caribbean Philatelic**

At the present time, the Jamaica Philatelic Society and the British Caribbean Philatelic Society have been discussing the amalgamation of the Societies. There will be a report on this in the December edition.

FIRST DAY COVERS B.W.I.

for all

QUEEN ELIZABETH

write for list

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### Temporary Rubber Date Marks Of Jamaica.

The T.R.D. Marks of Jamaica since the 1939 issue have become more and more popular with collectors, and as so many of these marks in recent years have been coming out at odd intervals, so as to keep collectors up to date, a check list is now made of these marks of all known types.

The collector will find that from the last listing many new types have been brought in to take care of the varieties. This will be listed in detail, when next brought out in the B.W.I. Philatelist. It will be noted that Content Gap has four distinct types, the first in the straight forward 37 in purple ink. Followed closely by what we call in the Colony here, the emergency type 37E. This was in use for quite a while, and followed by 37 c, which type can be found in use on many of the new T.R.D's coming out.

This fourth type is quite different in that the word "JAMAICA" is spread across the bottom of the type. The same measurements and size letters as 37c, but completely different spacing.

Collectors will also note that Fairy Hill has a variety namely 37E. This is not at all common, while Lookout, can be found in the scarce type 37E, which was used for a short period.

43a is the round double circle, which was in use for a considerable time, and which was changed to 37c. Mona originally "GIBRALTAR CAMP" has two distinct types 37 and 37c. While Main Ridge had the original 42a, and 44. This is an extraordinary mark made from a sealing wax die and was in use for about 10 days. It just shows the letters "MR" without the name of the country or the date.

One of the most difficult of the modern marks *which* was only issued over a long weekend, was Manchioneal in type 37e. This is extremely scarce, and doubt if many copies will get into collections. Fairy Hill in the double circle, is also rare, so much so that copy has never been seen on envelope.

Collectors having several copies of Treasure Beach will find that the earlier copies differ considerably from the 1944 strike, which has the word "JAMAICA" very widely spaced.

The last lot of Postal Agencies, to be opened, such as Central Village, Palmers Cross, Barking Lodge, Sanguinetti, King Weston, Westphalia, all these have had their T.R.D's, but only for a very short time. Some as short as 10 days, and none over 6 weeks. While Bull Savannah, Revival, Buxton Town, and other new Postal Agencies are not likely to receive their rubber stamp, as the single ring dies, are already in this Colony.

This list is made up to date, and is as thorough, as can be with the latest available information received from the GPO. Any part or item that is known otherwise in this series, by collectors overseas, we would be only too glad to receive the data.

#### TEMPORARY RUBBER DATE MARKS OF JAMAICA (1939 onwards)

Name	Type	Name	Type
Aboukir (St. Ann)	37	(Westmoreland)	
Allman Town (Kingston)	32	Carisbrooke (St. Elizabeth)	37-37e
Ashley (Clarendon)	35	Carmel (Westmoreland)	37a
Bailey's Vale (St. Mary)	37	Cauldwell (Hanover)	40b
Barking Lodge	37c	Clover Hill (St. Ann)	37a
Benbow (St. Catherine)	42c	Clydesdale (St. Ann)	42c
Bermaddy (St. Catherine)	37	Cole Gate (St. Ann)	37
Berry Hill (St. Catherine)	37c	Content Gap (St. Andrew)	37-37c-37e-
Bigwood (Westmoreland)	37		37b
Birds Hill (Clarendon)	37	Copse (Hanover)	42c
Blairs Hill (Hanover)	37	Crawl River (Clarendon)	37
Bogue	37c	Danvers Pen (Portland)	37
Bombay (Manchester)	40a	Delveland	37c
Braeton (St. Catherine)	42	Dias (Hanover)	37b
Brandon Hill (St. Andrew)	37	Discovery Bay (St. Ann)	41
Brixton Hill (Clarendon)	42a	Dressikie (St. Mary)	42b
Broadleaf (Manchester)	42a	Duff House (St. Elizabeth)	40c
Burnt Savannah	37a	Dumphries (St. James)	42

Name	Type	Name	Type
Epsom (St. Mary)	37	New Green (Manchester)	40
Essex Hall (St. Andrew)	37	Newton (St. Elizabeth)	37a
Fairfield (St. James)	37c	Nine Turns (Clarendon)	40
Faith's Pen (St. Ann)	32-35	Padmore (St. Andrew)	37c
Flint River (St. Mary)	37	Palisadoes (Kingston)	37-42a
Flower Hill (Hanover)	37e-42c	Perth Town (Trelawny)	37
Freeman's Hall (Trelawny)	37	Pisgah (St. Elizabeth)	37
Frome (Westmoreland)	32-33	Pleasant Valley (Clarendon)	41a
Gibraltar Camp (St. Andrew)	37	Plowden (Manchester)	42a
Glanville (St. James)	40b	Porters Mtn. (Westmoreland)	42b
Granville (St. James)		Portland Cottage (Clarendon)	37b
Grove Town (Manchester)	37a	Prickley Pole (St. Ann)	41
Haddington (Hanover)	37	Quickstep (Trelawny)	37c
Haddo (Westmoreland)	37b	Refuge (Trelawny)	37
Haining (Portland)	37	Retirement (St. Elizabeth)	37
Irish Town (St. Andrew)	37	Rio Grande (Portland)	42a
Jacks River (St. Mary)	37	Ritchies (Clarendon)	40c
Jeffrey Town (St. Mary)	37b	Robins Bay	37a
Johnson Mtn. (St. Thomas)	42a	Rock Spring (Trelawny)	33a
Kelly (Kingston 14)	37c	Roehampton (St. James)	42a
Kensington	42a	Rowlands Field (St. Thomas)	42
Kentish	37c	Salt Marsh (Trelawny)	37
King Weston (St. Andrew)	37c	Salt Spring (St. James)	37
Kingsvale (Hanover)	37	Samuel Prospect(Trelawny)	42b
Lancaster (Manchester)	37c	Sandy Gully (Clarendon)	36
Lances Bay (Hanover)	37	Sanguinetti	37c
Leeds (St. Elizabeth)	37	Shirley Castle (Portland)	40c
Lime Tree Garden (St. Ann)	37	Silver Spring (Clarendon)	38
Linton Park (St. Ann)	34-35	Slipe (St. Elizabeth)	40c
Lloyds (St. Thomas)	37	Somerset (St. Thomas)	40a
Lookout (Portland)	37c-37e-43a	Spot Valley (St. James)	37c
Lydford (St. Ann)	32	St. Gregory	37c
Madras (St. Ann)	42a	St. Pauls (Manchester)	34
Main Ridge (Clarendon)	42a-44	Strathbogie (Westmoreland)	37
Manchioneal	37e	Success (Hanover)	42a
Mona (St. Andrew)	37-37c	Top Hill (St. Elizabeth)	37h
Morgan's Pass (St. Catherine)	42	Tower Isle (St. Mary)	42c
Mount Moreland (St. Catherine)	37	Tranquility (Portland)	37
Mt. Airy (Westmoreland)	37	Treasure Beach (Clarendon)	37-37d
Mt. Industry (St. Catherine)	37	Tweedside (Clarendon)	37
Mt. Pleasant (Portland)	42b	Vaughansfield (St. James)	42a
Muir House (St. Ann)	37a	Watchwell (St. Elizabeth)	37
Mulgrave (St. Elizabeth)	37	Whitehall (St. Thomas)	37
		Whithorn (Westmoreland)	42c

# ALBUMS

F.G. CADET loose leaf	.....	.....	.....	.....	12/6
" KENT " "	.....	.....	.....	.....	18/6
" SUSSEX " "	.....	.....	.....	.....	24/-
" GRADUATE — White or Jet	.....	.....	.....	.....	38/6
" WARWICK White or Jet	.....	.....	.....	.....	90/-
" DeLuxe in Red leather	.....	.....	.....	.....	£12.
Coronation Album	.....	.....	.....	.....	20/-
wk Suffolk World Album with 10 maps	.....	.....	.....	.....	25/-
wk Acme loose leaf	.....	.....	.....	.....	35/-
wk Ipswich Album for beginners	.....	.....	.....	.....	7/-
F.G. PostBoy Junior Album World	.....	.....	.....	.....	10/-
Stamp Hinges					
Packets of 1000 small or large	.....	.....	.....	.....	2/-
Tins of 2000 small	.....	.....	.....	.....	3/-
Tins of 5000 small	.....	.....	.....	.....	8/6
Trupel the modern hinge Pack	.....	.....	.....	.....	2/6
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**Jamaica**

### **Reminiscences Of Early Days. By Charles J. Phillips**

(Reprinted from the Jamaica Philatelist-June, 1929, issue No. 3.)

In the very year that I was born (1863) Mr. Stanley Gibbons made the best purchase of his life, and one upon which he based his future success.

At this time young Gibbons was an assistant to his father who was a well known pharmaceutical chemist, at 13 Treville Street, Plymouth. E. S. Gibbons was allowed to use one portion of the window to show samples, and one morning two sailors passing the shop saw them, and went in to ask if anyone there nought stamps. Next day the men turned up, one of them with a large kitbag over his shoulder.

They were asked into the back parlour, and turned out the contents of the bag on to a large round table. The stamps were all triangular Cape of Good Hope thousands and thousands of them, many in large blocks, woodblocks and Perkins Bacon printings all mixed up. Gibbons asked the men how they had got a sackful of triangular Capes, and one of them replied:-

"When our boat got to Cape Town we had leave, and some of us went on shore for a spree, and me and my mate here happened to go in a show we found folks crowding into, and found a bazaar going on. Some ladies persuaded me to take a shilling ticket in a raffle, and we won this here bag of stamps which the ladies had begged for all around Cape Town for the bazaar."

Well, the men were very pleased to get \$25:00 for sack of Capes. And I should fancy Gibbons was equally pleased with his purchase.

It may interest you to know the rates at which Gibbons sold Capes in those early days. The figures I quote are authentic, as I found Mr. Gibbons' letter book for March to June, 1864.

On March 16, 1864, he wrote to A. Rosenberg:- "I can supply you in any quantity 1d, 4d, and 6d Cape of Good Hope, twenty cents a dozen, genuine old woodblock, 75¢ a dozen." Next month prices were up, as he sent Mount Brown three dozen wood-blocks at \$2:50 a dozen.

About the same time, he sent J. Pauwels of Torquay some 1/- Capes at 35 cents a dozen, and quoted him \$1.00 each for 1d blue and 4d red woodblock errors. By June, 1864, the price of Cape errors had enormously increased, as he was then offering them at \$3.75 each!

In the same year young Gibbons wrote to his agent in Cape Town, and ordered some of the new rectangular 1d. and 6d. stamps, and at the end of the letter said, "Please not to send me 1d. triangular, unused, as they are no good to me."

He had so many unused that he could not use more at face value of 2 cents each.

Mr. Gibbons vouched for the truth of the following incidents, all of which-he well remembered. .

He had many correspondents in South America, one was a Mr. George Nunes, who sent him many thousands of the early Brazils. Among these there were some hundreds of the sloping figures 180r., 300r., and 600 reis.

From a student in Stonyhurst College, whose father was in Bolivia. Gibbons had scores of thousands of the Bolivia first issue Eagle, among these he estimated he had quite 5,000 of the 10c brown.

A wonderful lot came one day from Georgetown, British Guiana. This consisted of between three and four hundred of the circular stamps of 1850. There were some scores of the 4c orange, a smaller number of 8c green, and the rest consisted of over 300 of the 12c circular.

About 1863, Mr. Gibbons began to import stamps direct from the British Colonies, and got many consignments that in later days turned out to be rarities.

The Postmaster at Albany, Western Australia, in sending \$100 worth of stamps for which Gibbons had remitted, apologized for charging 12¢ each, for some new 2d. stamps printed in the colour of the 6d. but he had to do this as the higher authorities had charged him 6d. (12c) each. This 2d. proved to be the rare error of 1879. Gibbons did not know what they were and sent them out at \$1.25 each. This price gradually rose to \$10.00 at which price his supply was exhausted.

From 1885 to 1890 I dealt in stamps in Birmingham, before I moved to London and purchased the business of Stanley Gibbons. I can remember a couple of good purchases of those days. About

1887 I had a large parcel of Italian proofs and essays and other stamps, that a London dealer named Bannister wanted. He could not pay cash, but he brought down a large parcel of other stamps. which I took in exchange.

These consisted of many hundreds of the large 10/- and £1 stamps of Great Britain, watermark both Cross and Anchor.

The 10/- were taken at 25c each and the F-1. a: 60c each. There were also several dozen of the £5. stamps, for which I had to allow \$1.25 each in exchange.

From 1890 I lived for a few years at No. 8, Gower Street, London. One evening a man came in with one of those old Lallier albums well filled with nice old stamps. He asked me to make an offer, but as is usual in the trade, I said, "No, you are the seller, you must name your own price."

After some talk he told me he had a catalogue at home and that he would value the book, and come in the following evening. I was ready for him with a good wad of nice clean Bank of England notes, as I expected to have to pay a few hundred pounds.

The next evening came and so did the man. I said "Well, have you fixed your price for the album?" He replied that he had worked at it nearly all night and fixed the price at \$150! After had paid him, and got a receipt and the album, I asked him what catalogue he had used, and he said a Mount Brown of 1864.

In looking through the files of the stamp papers of some thirty years or more ago, I have come across notes on prices in the olden days which may be amusing to present day collectors.

In 1833 in an interview, Mr. Edward Stanley Gibbons was asked what were the highest prices he got for any stamps before 1880, when he was in Plymouth.

He said the best prices he could remember getting was \$25.00 each for several Hawaiian Islands 1851, 13 cents.

Cape of Good Hope, Woodblocks, errors, 1d blue and 4d red no sold in 1864 at \$1.00 each.

Later on he remembers having 500 or 600 British Guiana, 1862 Type-set provisionals a great many on original covers, which he floated off. These he sold at \$4.00 to \$6.00 each.

Soon after Gibbons went to Gower Street, he bought from C. G. Wyatt a large parcel of British Guiana first issue, circular, comprising about 30 of the 4c yellow, 15 of the 8¢ green, and 700 of the 12c blue. Best copies of these were sold at \$5.00 each.

Mr. Gibbons got many good parcels of stamps through his brother - Commander Gibbons, R.N

On one occasion Captain Gibbons visited Suva, Fiji Islands, and bought up all the original Fiji Times Express stamps, and Stanley Gibbons said he remembered that he sold them at double face value.

Writing of British Guiana reminds me of an incident that happened in Birmingham about 1888.

I founded the Birmingham Philatelic Society and our President was James Botteley, then recognized as the third largest collector in Great Britain. One evening I was dining at Mr. Botteley's home with my host and Thomas Ridpath of Liverpool, one of the very early stamp dealers.

We began to talk about the rarity of British Guiana stamps, and I asked Ridpath if he had handled many of them. He said that some years earlier, probably about 1880 he had a letter from Trinidad asking what he would pay for fine copies of the large oblong 4d. red 1856. He quoted \$5.00 each if large copies and corners not cut. Some time later on he received a large registered letter containing 80 to 100 of these stamps with a draft drawn on him at sight for the amount. He remembered this well as he was short of cash and had difficulty in borrowing enough to enable him to meet the bank draft.

Really fine and rare stamps are as good as an investment as anything I know, and to prove this I will quote a few well known details that I can vouch for:

In 1893 I went to Bordeaux, and bought from M. Piet Lataudrie the Mauritius 1d. and 2d. "POST OFFICE" for \$3,400.00. I sold these to Sir William Avery and when he died the stamps were sold to Mr. Henry Duveen for about \$10,000.00. After Mr. Duveen's death, some 18 years after, he had purchased them, the same two stamps were sold to Mr. Arthur Hind for \$35,000.00.

In 1894, I was in Brussels and had a long chat on old time; and old prices with Mlle. Jean Moens. She told me that she remembered selling unused Tuscany 3 lire, and Nova Scotia 1/- at 5 francs each.

When in Boston in 1895 I met the well known early American stamp dealer F. Trifet, who told me that he once offered Mr. Stanley Gibbons 100 New Brunswick 6d. yellow at sixty cents each but he refused them as too dear.

Trifet also told me that in 1876, he arranged the Government Collection of Washington, and far doing this the authorities gave him 1,800 full sets of the 1857 issue. These he offered at first at 75 cents a full set mint.

From the same source he also had a full sheet of the 3 cents grilled all over, but no one would look at these so Trifet used them on his letters. I happened to mentioned this to Major E. B. Evans, who confirmed what Trifet stated as he had a 3 cent grilled all over, on a cover, he had received as ordinary mail from Trifet. When we bought the famous Breitfuss collection from St. Petersburg, we found very many interesting records of Old Time Prices, for Breittuss, marked the cost of all stamps on the hinge and he taught me his cypher. Some examples are:-

- Nevis 4d. orange, engraved, uncut sheet of the 12 types, \$2.25.
- St. Vincent 5/- Star watermark, cost \$2.00 in 1881.
- Tobago, £1. C.C. from Moens for \$7.00.
- Western Australia, 2d. Indian red bought in 1870 from J. W. Palmer for 60 cents.
- Western Australia, 2d. lilac, error, from Gibbons \$10.00.
- New Zealand, 1856, 1/- green on blue, from J. W. Palmer about 1877, cost \$1.25 unused.
- New Zealand, 1872, 1d. brown, wmk. N.Z. bought from Basset-Hull, cost 2 cents.
- United States 1867, grille all over, pair of 3c unused bought from Moens for \$1.50.
- Switzerland, Zurich, horizontal lines, unused strip of the 5 types from Moens cost \$27.50.

About 1891 a lady came into our shop in the Strand with a small album which we looked over. We told her that there was only one stamp in the book of the least use to us, and asked her to name her price for us to pick out any – stamp we wished. She replied that she did not want any money but if we would give her Russian Locals to the Catalogue value of £8. (about \$22.40) we could take the stamp. She had a beautiful lot of multi-coloured locals - we had a United States 1869, 30c flags inverted and unused, which afterwards passed to Mr. Worthington in Cleveland, and is now - I believe in the collection of Mr. Arthur Hind.

Some fifteen years ago, an old gentleman living at Hampstead, a northern suburb of London - in looking over old books in his

library, found his old school boy stamp collection and put it on one side to give to his grandson. A friend went in that evening and was shown the little volume. He knew just a little about stamps and he advised the old gentleman to have it examined before giving it away, so the next day he sent a servant with it to the City to get an opinion on the value. Eventually it was taken to Puttick & Simpson, well known stamp auctioneers, and they pointed out that one stamp in the book was very valuable. It was then placed in their hands for sale. The gem in the collection was a Mauritius POST OFFICE, 2d. deep blue, unused, superb margins. I had a commission from the Richport Museum, an Berlin, of about \$7,000,00 but the stamp was bought for \$7,250,00 for H.M. King George V.

Quite a romance might be woven around a pair of British Guiana 1850, 2 cents, pale rose, that I recently sold to Mr. Arthur Hind of Utica New, York for about \$15,000,00.

Canon Josa of Demerara, relates the following:-

"On Easter Day, 1896, Christ Church, Demerara, was financially in a bad way. We were overdrawn at our bankers to the tune of £ 100 odd. We had an instalment of the mortgage on our chief school due of E175, and other claims, and we were making efforts to raise some money, and our comparatively poor people gave an Easter offering of a little over E75. An old coloured lady, Miss Preston by name, sent me two stamps 4 cent:, deep blue, (lithographed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons 1852), and these I sold for \$;13.60 and on Easter Monday I wended my way to Miss Preston to thank her for the gift, and whilst there I inquired whether she had any more of these valuable stamps, especially as buyers were in search of the circular stamps of 1851 and for the 2 cents, rose, they were offering over E100. Miss Preston said she had given all her stamps away, she brought out an old basket filled with old receipts and bills; and I searched, when lo! and behold, there tumbled out of the basket an envelope addressed:-

Miss Rose, Blankenburg this being the name of one of our plantations on the West Coast of Demerara. This envelope contained two stamps -- an unsevered, pair, cut to shape - and they were

the very stamps that buyers had been in search of, and for which there were standing advertisements. The lady, Miss Rose, to whom it was addressed, waif present in the room. She was also a member of our church, and on hearing that the two stamps were worth a lot of money, she literally danced with joy and said Thank God! I am at last able to give something worth while." Both the old ladies, although they owned their house and land, were comparatively poor; and so I took my churchwarden, the late F. A. R. Winter, to thank them again and persuade them to receive a portion of whatever they might fetch. "Not a penny, sir, not a penny, sir." "These stamps were reserved for my dear old church."

Even the best posted experts must sometimes make mistakes against themselves. Two or three examples may prove interesting.-

Many years ago I was in my office upstairs at 391 Strand, London, when Lieut. F. H. Napier - a fine philatelist who helped to write many works for my firm - was announced. I was busy with a client and sent word for Napier to wait a short time. In due course, he came up and at once showed me a rare variety of a Transvaal, second type, and asked if I wanted to buy, I said, "Yes, I have been looking for a copy for a long time - what do you want?" He replied \$50.00. I agreed to purchase at this price which was cheap, and asked the cashier to make out a cheque in payment. While this was being done, I said - "By the way, Napier, where did you get that scarce variety?" He replied, "Out of your stockbook downstairs while I was waiting to see you. I paid \$1.85 for it!"

In 1922 I sold Mr. Arthur Hind a collection of Confederate States Locals, each stamp of which was priced separately. One was the New Orleans 5¢ brown, used, and priced about \$8.00. Afterwards when he had completed the purchase, Mr. Hind told me he found the stamp was printed on both sides, so he had a "sleeper" worth some \$300.00 for his \$8.00.

Two years ago I sent a parcel of early Canadian stamps on covers to a collector in Canada, and he kept a 1 cent of 1868 for some \$2.00 or \$3.00. Shortly afterwards I heard that this was a fine copy of the 1c on laid paper, and the only one used on cover that I know exists.

Never repine for a bargain sold to a collector, in the long run the publicity you get for the bargains you inadvertently sail, is worth more to you than the few dollars you lose at first.

Talking of bargain prices reminds me of an incident that occurred in Berlin some twenty years or more ago. I was travelling through Germany with my friend Mr. M. P. Castle, and in Berlin that fine German collector of stamps and philatelic literature - Judge Fraenkel - gave a dinner at his home to Castle and myself to meet some of the leading collectors of that City.

When we sat down to dinner I noticed by the side of my plate, three pencils, one about an inch long very thin and slender, one normal size, and one enormous one, very thick, and some 15 inches long. I knew this was a joke on me, and turned to my host and asked him to explain. He said "Well, Phillips, the big pencil is for the stamps you price too high, the middle one for the stamps priced about right. and the little baby one for the bargains you sell - you won't often use that one!"

(This article has not been abridged).

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