

Commercial rooms forwarding agents



10th July 1829, Kingston to London  
Rated 6/8, "P. Ship Thames" in ms., CR6 on reverse  
Deal Ship Letter mark, arrived London August 28th



Commercial Rooms circular handstamp Type CR7  
"P. Paragon [?] via Liverpool" in ms. on front.  
Milford Ship Letter, arrived London 7th December 1832

Commercial Rooms CR8



June ?? 1841, Kingston to Liverpool.

Receiver August 14th

Red "SHIP LETTER" straight line handstamp (probably London)

Rated 1/4 (ms on front). The ship letter rate was 8d per 1/2oz from 1840, including British Inland Postage, and so this was presumably a double-rate letter.

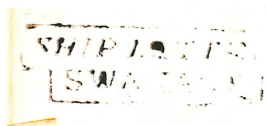
"P. Rawlins" also inscribed on the front.

Commercial Rooms CR4



March 18th 1822, Kingston to Edinburgh.

Addressed to James Dundas, St. Andrews Square. Receivers May 14th (reverse) and May 16th (front)  
Scottish wheel tax Ship Letter Swanage step mark (M7) on reverse



The letter is brief and simply states that the sender, John Riddell, has "drawn a bill on you for 50£ sterling for value received from William [unclear] Esq... which you will have the goodness to Honour"  
Ship letter charge 6d, Master's Gratuity of 2d, plus British Inland Postage.

## Commercial Rooms forwarding agents 1818-1843



Commercial Rooms - Foster Types CR2 and A.

Letter dated August 9th 1818.

Addressed to the Governor of Martinique and written in French by a French consular agent. Marked to go per the Intrepid, via Curacao.

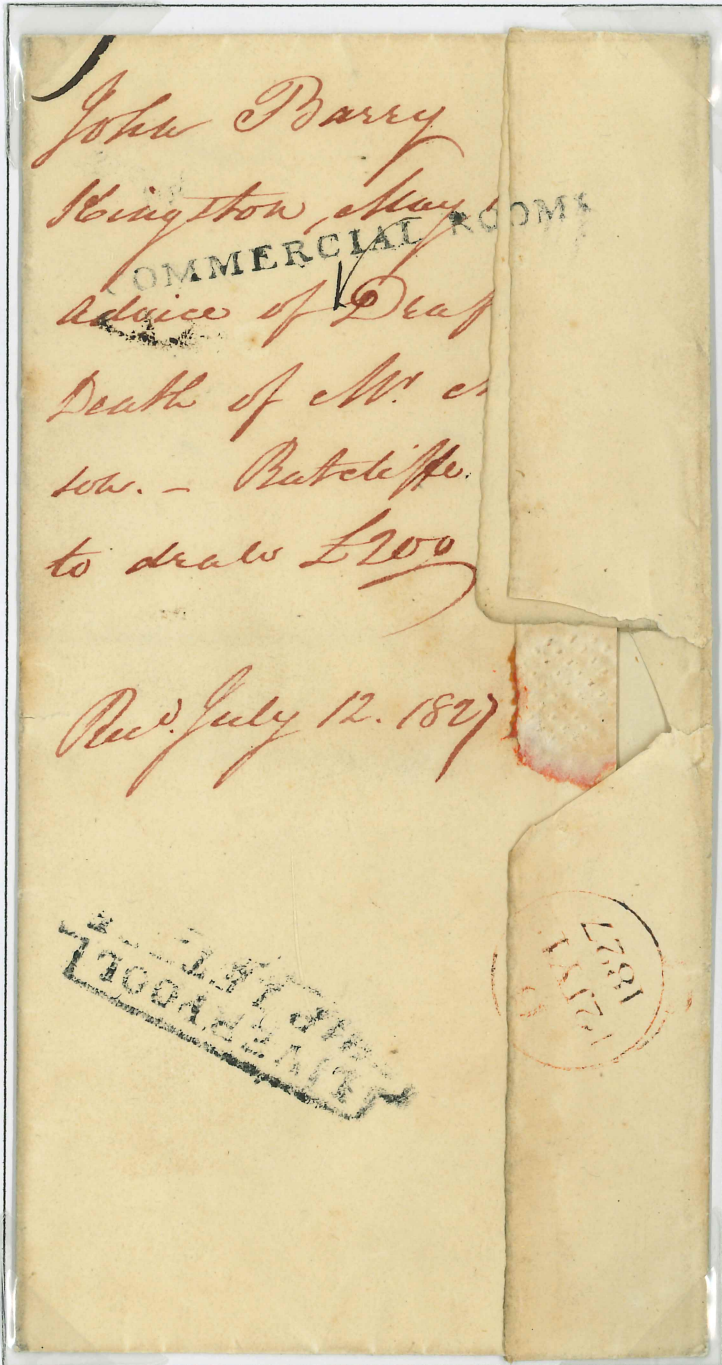
The letter describes an arrangement to evacuate French families on Martinique to France using French naval vessels.

Foster recorded only three covers with both these marks.

*OB*  
Monsieur le Baron Doucet  
Gouverneur de la Martinique  
Pech. Intrepid }  
via Curacao } A la Martinique 2

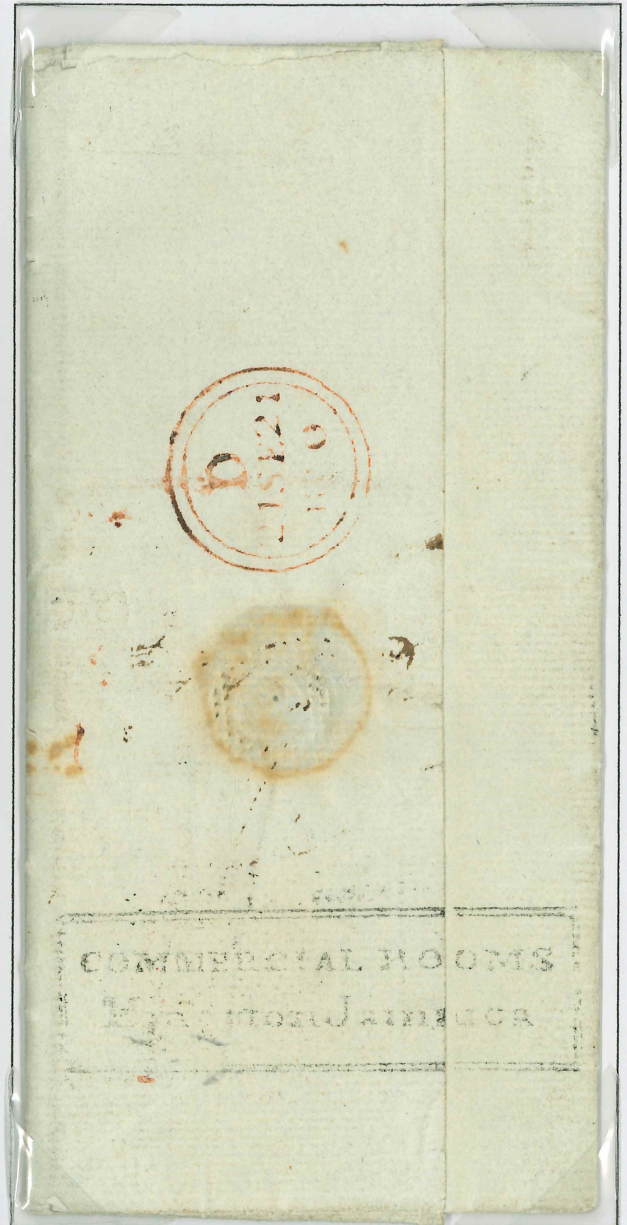
## Commercial rooms forwarding agents 1818-1843

**Commercial Rooms** The Commercial Rooms were a meeting place for Jamaican businessmen in Kingston. Nineteenth century Post Office regulations allowed merchants in the Colony to accept mail from the master of a private ship. Acting as a forwarding agent, they could then pass the mail directly to the captain of another ship heading to the intended destination. The Commercial Rooms operated this service until approximately 1843, when the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company began to provide a superior service.



Straight line 1818-25

CR 6



Boxed mark 1825-32

CR 3