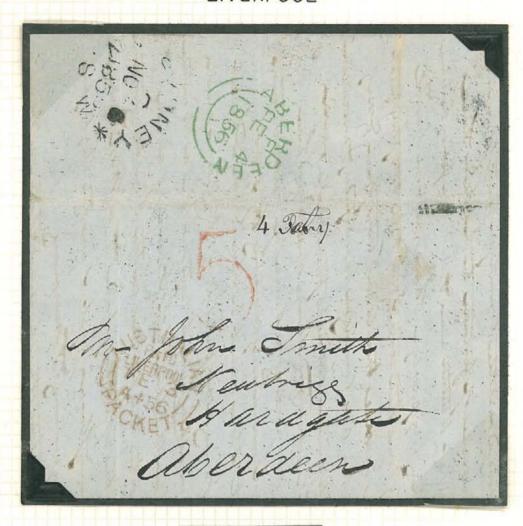
A SYAN SYAN

PACKET LETTERS ROYAL MAIL

THORD & MARTIN CORP NABIRA NO PAR

PACKET LETTERS LIVERPOOL





Nov. 6, 1855. Letter prepaid at Sydney, New South Wales for Aberdeen, Scotland.



Feb. 3, 1856. Paid Australian Packet Mail mark, arrival at Port of Liverpool.

of Liverpool.
Letter three months en route.



Feb. 4, 1856. Aberdeen receipt mark.

BRITISH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY

AUSTRALIAN PACKETS

Because of the Crimean War, some of the P. & O. packets were comandeered as transports. Subsequently, the Australian mail contract was suspended. This resulted in the increased carrying of mail by private ships at the 6d. "Colonial" rate.





6d. rate (see above) cancelled by "dumb" Adelaid obliterator.



Nov. 21, 1855. "Paid" handstamp noted "p James Baines via Mel-

Mar. 4, 1856. Letter received at L'pool at Adelaid. Letter and marked with the "Australia Packet" paid receipt stamp.

bourne". Much of the mail during the 1855-56 period was carried by the fast sailing woolclipper ships. Here voyage took 35 months.

March 5, 1856. Receipt backstamp at Dundee, Scotland.

Cf Robertson E/62/8

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY

U.K. TO AUSTRALIA - via Brindisi

With the onset of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, travel across France was uncertain. The British then began to use the Italian port of Brindisi on the Adriatic Sea, which became a port of call for the British Packets. It was found that this route was faster than the old route "via Marseilles".





March 17, 1871. Letter to Victoria from Glasgow, Scotland. "159" is the British Post Office number, Scotch Series, of Glasgow. Triple rated letter 1 shilling 6 pence at 6d. per ½ ounce.

SS NUJIA SAILED FROM SOUTHAMPTON MAR. 18, 1971, SO LETTER WAS DE-ENDURSED WITH BRIMSSI" 951 BANGALURE

SS. MODLEAN

SS GRELONG



May 13, 1871. Melbourne receipt backstamp.

RRINDISI MAR 28.1871
ALEXANDRIA 31
SUEZL APR Z
ADEN 6
GALLE 18
GALLE 18
KGS MAY 5-6
MELBO WHF 13-15

DOUBLE PATE U/A ERINGISI 9 d EFF DEC 161870

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY NEW SOUTH WALES - Rates of 1854

In 1854 the rate for letters between N.S.W. and the U.K. was set at a uniform 6d. per ½ ounce - prepayment optional.



35

0 AP6 Z (1876 /) N 5W

(AP7 (1876))

April 6, 1876. Letter posted at Goulburn, N.S.W. to the U.K. at the 6d. rate. "35" is the "country" Post Office number of Goulburn.

April 7, 1876. Transit backstamp of Sydney.

4Y EDINBURGH MY23 76

May 23, 1876. Edinburgh receipt backstamp.

PACKET LETTERS

From the early years of the century, an unframed "Packet-Letter" was employed. Such marks lasted into the 1860's, later specimens having sans-serif lettering, as below. It appears that these unnamed marks are connected with London.



Jan. 2, 1863. Letter in transit through London to Devenport.

PACKET LETTER

London mark to show means of rating letter.



Backstamp: Jan. 2, 1863. London transit stamp.



Backstamp: Jan. 3, 1863. Letter rated 6d. due from recipient. In 1857 a standard "colonial" rate of 6d. per ½ oz. by Post Office Contract steamer extended to most of the empire.

BRITISH POSTAL MARKINGS

LONDON PACKET LETTER MARKS

An unusual type of packet mark was used at the London Chief Office from the 1860's into the early years of the present century on letters for despatch by various packets. The letters "D", "L", and "N" can be found in the center. Later specimens have the entire year numerals in the lower section.





Aug. 18, 1864. Brighton Post Office backstamp. cancel "132". Note repetition of office number at bottom of circular date stamp.

Aug. 19, 1864 London transit

R.M.S. Europa.

Depart L'pool. Aug. 20, 1864 Arrive Boston Sept. 2

stamp.

British Exchange Office accounting London Packet



Sept. 3, 1864. Boston, Mass. receipt stamp.

BRITISH POSTAL MARKINGS



In 1860 the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, which held the contract for the Holyhead and Kingston route, put new steamers into service, on which mails could be sorted and date-stamped. Postage stamps on letters posted on board were also cancelled on board.





Mar. 19, 1867. London Inland Office obliterator. No. 2 refers to stamp number.



Mar. 20, 1867. Holyhead and Kingston Packet transit mark struck aboard packet.

1800

BRITISH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY

CONTINENTAL MAIL VIA HULL

HIII.I.
FEEIIISOO

Workers

Lorth Incolnohire

1800

H U L L FEB111800

Docket notes letter received from Popple (Poppel), Belgium.

Feb. 11, 1800. A&H Type 236. One rarely sees this straight line mark, which was applied to mail incoming from the continent. This type, straight line with date beneath has been noted in use since 1797 at Bristol, Chester, Falmouth, Hull and Lynn. These dated stamps occasionally, as here, show portions of the large circular rim of the hand-stamp around the office name and date. This is a very scarce mark.

Letter rated at the 8d. Belgian Packet Letter rate. Hull to Louth is but 26 miles, and would normally take the Act of 1796 rate of 4d.

LONDON

FOREIGN OFFICE MARKS

PACKET LETTERS

OUTGOING MAIL



June 30, 1802. Letter written at London and put into Foreign Post Office, London, which struck this handsome mark. 2sh.2d. prepaid letter to Oporto, Portugal. Letter probably went through British Packet Office at Lisbon and forwarded to British Office at Oporto.

July 20, 1802. Docket notes receipt of letter on this date at Oporto.



LONDON

FOREIGN OFFICE MARKS

PACKET LETTERS

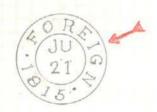
INCOMING MAIL



June 10, 1815. Letter written at Lisbon (Lisboa), Portugal and posted unpaid to London.

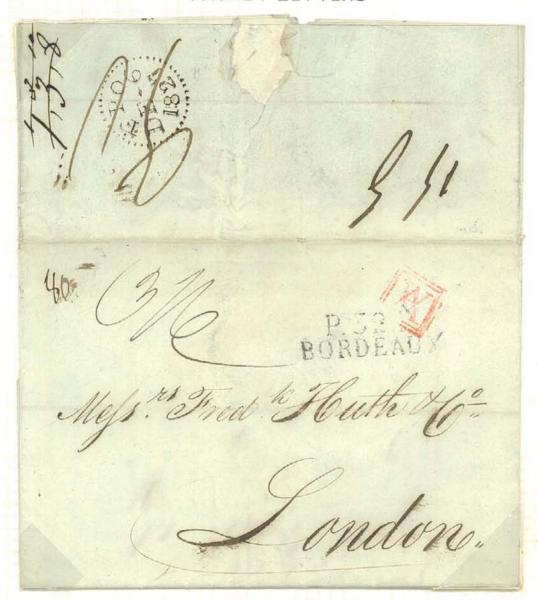
LISBON

Origin of letter mark. Probably applied at the British Packet Agency at Lisbon.



June 21, 1815. Foreign
Office applied this mark to
incoming foreign mail. This
type (Robson Lowe 461a) in use
1806-1816. Prior to this a
similar type, larger letters
and FOREIGN-OFFICE was used 17971806. Rate of 2sh.6d. due.

LONDON FOREIGN OFFICE MARKS PACKET LETTERS



P.32 P. BORDEAUX

Nov. 29, 1827. Bordeaux, France receipt mark.



Dec. 6, 1827. Receipt mark of the Foreign Post Office, London. This mark was used on incoming packet letters.

1837

BRITISH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY THE DOVER TO CALAIS POST OFFICE PACKETS

Because of the short (22 miles) distance from Dover to the Continent, this route had for many years been the established way for travellers, and consequently mail, to travel between Britain and the Continent. Before 1814, frequent wars with France made the Dover route somewhat erratic, but after the ending of the Napoleonic Wars, this route became prime. In 1837 the Post Office packets were taken over by the Admiralty.







July 7, 1837. Letter posted at Frankfurt and noted "Franco Calais" or Paid to Calais. The P.F. = Payee au Frontier, i.e. to the French "Frontier" at Calais.



July 12, 1837. Incoming mark at London. (A&H 99). 10d. due from recipient for postage Calais-Dover, Dover-London.

First type to include the word "London", and was used on incoming foreign mail at the Foreign Office from 1836-38.

BRITISH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY THE DOVER TO OSTEND POST OFFICE PACKETS

The Dover to Ostende packet route, like that Dover to Calais, suffered much interruption by wars with France before 1814. At that time a new postal treaty was signed between Britain and Belgium. 1824 saw the formation of the General Steam Navigation Company and in 1845 the Belgian Government put three Belgian steamboats on the service. By 1847, Belgian steamers were making six crossings weekly and British steamers eight times a week.



PD

May 10, 1866. Belgian stamp cancelled by "12" in lozonge of dots at Anvers (Antwerp). Stamped "Paid to Destination" and endorsed, "via Ostende".



May 10, 1866. Belgian transit backstamp "England via Ostend".





May 11, 1866. London receiving PAID stamp.

TRANSATL ANTIC MAIL

SHIP LETTER

FORWARDING AGENT R.T. Breed, Liverpool

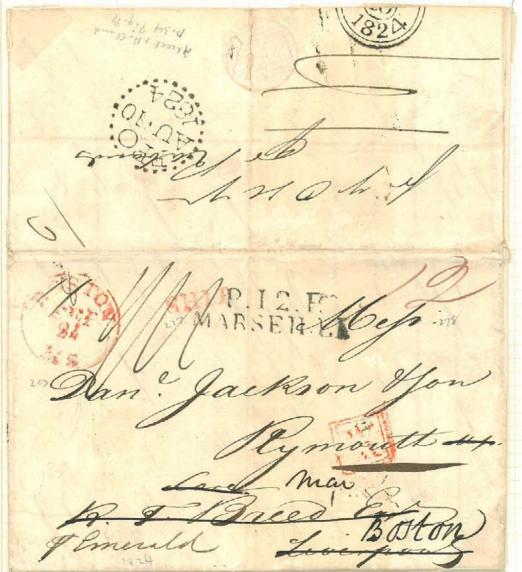
P.12.P MARSEILLE

August 1, 1824. Letter posted unpaid at Marseille for Plymouth, Mass, c/o R.T. Breed, Esq., Liverpool who acted as a forwarding agent.





August 10, 1824. Incoming mark of the Foreign Post Office, London, also unpaid mark of the General Post, backstamps. Pate of 1sh. ld. paid by R.T. Breed, who forwarded letter to Plymouth "per Emerald". Note mms. inscription on the reverse.





SHIP

Sept. 24, 1824.
Letter arrived at
Boston where it
was rated as an
unpaid ship letter,
12¢ due, calculated
as follows:

30-80 mile zone rate of 10¢ single, plus 2¢ ship letter charge.

1832

LONDON FOREIGN OFFICE

FUMIGATED MAIL



Letter posted June 1, 1832, prepaid 1 sh. 1ld. (red mms.), London to Genoa, Italy, via France.



ANGLETERRE

11 GIUGNO

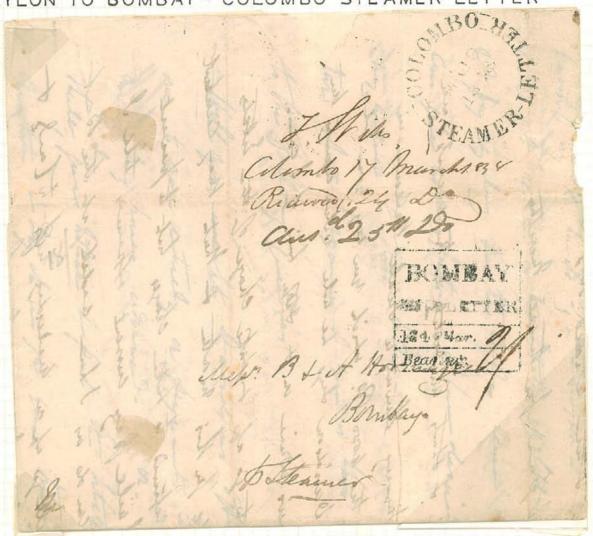
London Foreign office Transit mark. Use of "80" is unknown, probably sailing designation.

French transit indicating English origin.

June 11, 1832. Genoa receipt date stamp.

Cover was fumigated at Genoa, Italy by first slitting (note on cover) and then exposing to the fumes of some gas. Many materials were used for this purpose such as sulfur, tobacco, gums and resins, etc., etc.

BRITISH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
CEYLON TO BOMBAY - COLOMBO STEAMER LETTER



COLOMBO MR19 MR19 1848 LEVA ER-LEVA

March 19, 1848.
Letter posted unpaid at Colombo, Ceylon, and marked as a steamer letter.

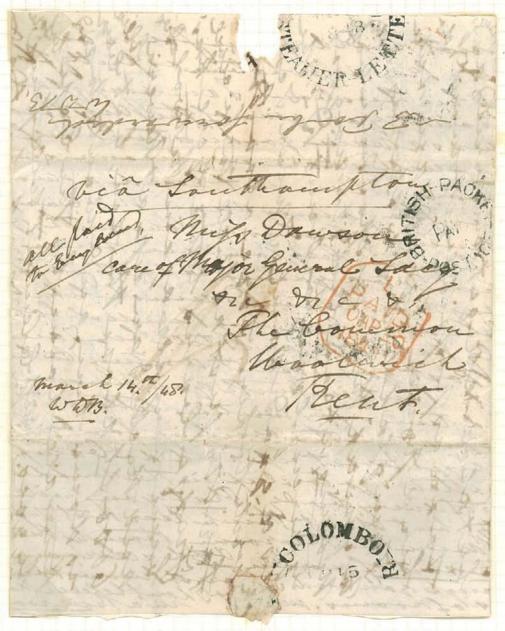
RL HS22

BOMBAY
SHIP LETTER
1849Mar.
Bearing.

March 24, 1848. Letter received at Bombay as an unpaid SHIP LETTER, i.e., not carried by any contract steamer. Rated 2 anna as an "outward" letter, rate being for letters not exceeding 3 tolas. The tola weighed .4 oz., thus 3 tolas = 1.0 oz. The tola was actually the weight of a 1 Rupee coin.

Rates established under the United India Post Act No. XVII, 24 July 1837.

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY CEYLON-COLOMBO STEAMER LETTER



March 14, 1848.
Letter written at Calcutta and inscribed "via Southampton" and "all paid to England".
1/- (faded red mms.) prepaid.



March 15. Letter handed into Colombo, Ceylon, which office applied this "Steamer Letter" transit mark.



Colombo, Ceylon transit mark to indicate letter prepaid all the way.



April 20, 1848. London transit "tombstone" mark. All "Paid" and no inland postage or ship charges due.

S.S. Bentinck SS. Hindostan

Galle Mar. 18

Alexandra April 11

Adeu 28-28

Malta 16-17

Suez April 6

Southampton 29

BRITISH STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY"Limited"

S.S. Moulmein, Akyab to Calcutta via Chittagong



July 11, 1864. A 1 anna letter sheet posted at Chittagong (backstamp), and endorsed: per Steamer Moulmein.

The Bengal Hurkaru & The Indian Gazette:
July 14. Arrived Calcutta. Steamer Moulmein
Paterson (sic), from Akyab, 11th July, touched
at Chittagong 12th.

Backstamp at the Calcutta General Post
Office shows an incoming Steamer Letter (S.L.)

July 18, 1864. Advertisement in the Hurkaru.

CALCUTTA G.P.O. wi.13

> British Steam Navigation Company "Limited" For Chittagong and Akyab

The Moulmein, Captain J. Patterson, or other Steamer, will have despatch as above about 20th July. For Freight or Passage apply to MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

Bengal Hurkaru: Notice is hereby given, that the Mails for Chittagong and Akyab, for transmission per Str. "Moulmein" will be closed at this office on Thursday the 21st inst. at 6 P.M.

Calcutta Post Office

WEST AFRICAN MAIL

AFRICAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO. S.S. Athenian

Gorée, French West Africa to France via Teneriffe and England

Gorée is a French Colonial town of West Africa, one mile S.E. of Dakar and of the Point of Cape Verd. It covers 2/3 of the dry and rocky island of Gorée. It is called the healthiest place in West Africa, but the water supply is deficient. Pop.2452 (1880).



November 21, 1860. Unpaid letter posted to Bordeaux at Gorée. This is a very scarce origin of mail. The French rate of Jan. 1, 1857, by British Closed Mail was 6 decimes per 7½ grams, unpaid. Letter weighed between 7½ and 15 grams and took a collect rate of 12 decimes (120 centimes or 1 franc 20 cent.) shown by the blue charge mark. This rate applied to Senegal and Gorée. This letter went by local coastal steamer to Teneriffe in the Canary Islands.

THE TIMES (LONDON) WED. DEC. 12, 1860
THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA

LIVERPOOL TUES. NIGHT (Dec. 11)

The African Mail steamer Athenian has arrived with advices of the West Coast of Africa, 1837 oz. of golddust, 3800 l. in specie, and a full cargo consisting of palmoil and ivory.

Her dates are: - Fernando Po, Oct. 28; Cameroons, 30th; Old Calabar, Nov. 1; Bonny, 5th; Benin, 8th; Cape Coast Castle, 14; Sierra

Leone, 21st; Teneriffe Dec. 1 and Madeira, 3d.



Dec. 13. French entry mark struck aboard the Ambulant (RPO) Calais to Paris. Dec. 13. Backstamp, Paris to Bordeaux TPO, day train (octagonal center.) Dec. 14. Bordeaux arrival backstamp.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY, LTD.

Southampton-Lisbon-Madeira-Tenereffe-South and East Africa

S.S. Atherian

Built 1882 by Aitken & Mansel, Glasgow. 3882 tons, 365' x 45', iron hull, single screw, 16 knots, entered England-Cape Town run. Sold to the Canadian Pacific Line in 1897.



77 JAN 1893

January 17, 1893. Portugese letter card put into the mails at Funchal, Madeira Island. It was endorsed Per ss. "Athenian" of the Union Line. Madeira was one of the ports of call on the Cape Town route.



London <u>Times</u>. Monday Jan. 23. The Union Line s. ATHENIAN from the Cape, arrived at Southampton (Hurst Castle) at 10 45 p.m. yesterday.

N.B.: Hurst Castle is on a westerly point on the main coast of the Solent across from the Isle of Wight.

Textbook strike of the SOUTHAMPTON PACKET LETTER arrival mark.

Jan. 23. Leamington Spa arrival backstamp.



U.S. TO SIERRA LEONE VIA BRITAIN HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

S.S. Columbia, New York to Southampton BRITISH & AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

S.S. Loanda, Liverpool to Freetown, Sierra Leone





June 7, 1893. Company backstamp. N.Y. duplex cancel obliterates 5¢ U.P.U. rate.

N.Y. <u>Tribune</u>. OUTGOING STEAMERS, Thurs. June 8: Columbia, Hamb.-Am., Hamburg, Mails close 9 AM, Sails 12M.

London <u>Times</u>, Fri. June 16. The Hamburg-American s. COLUMBIA, from New-York arrived at Southampton at 2:50 PM yesterday.

June 16. London transit backstamp directing letter to Liverpool. London <u>Times</u>, Mon. June 19. The British & African Company's s. LOANDA left the Mersey on Saturday morning (June 17) for West Africa ports.

July 4. Freetown, Sierra Leone receiving mark. Loanda, 2700 tons, 328 x 39', 10½ knots, built 1891. Russian Junona sank her in collision 3/08.

1893

WEST AFRICAN MAIL

AFRICAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO. S.S. Mandingo

Lagos to Germany via Liverpool





October 27, 1893. Penny post card, U.P.U. format, pays the post card rate to U.P.U. countries. Posted at Logos, a British Colony on the West Coast of Africa.



Dec. 7, 1893. The Times of Dec. 8 noted: The African Company's s. Mandingo, from Africa, arrived in the Mersey yesterday.



Dec. 8. Arrival mark at Hamburg, Hohenfelde district.

LAGOS TO ENGLAND VIA LIVERPOOL BRITISH & AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY S.S. Bonny, Lagos to Liverpool



AP 15 AP 15 Z 95 P

April 15, 1895. Lagos receiving backstamp. It would appear that this was a 6X U.P.U. rated letter at $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. Lagos became a member of the U.P.U. in 1879. The rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. x 6 = 1sh.3d. (15 pence) is restated in red manuscript on the cover face. Rate paid by 10d. lilac & yellow and 5d. lilac & green, Issue of 1894.

The progress of the $\underline{\text{S.S.}}$ $\underline{\text{Bonny}}$ of British & African Steam Navigation Co. is recorded in the London Times:



Friday, April 12. s.BONNY left Brass for Liverpool on Tuesday.

Wed., April 17. s. BONNY left Lagos on Saturday (sic.)

Fri., May 3. s. BONNY left Grand Canary for Liver-pool on Tuesday.

Fri., May 10. The British & African Company's s. BONNY arrived in the Mersey yesterday.



May 9. Letter received at Liverpool as PAID by British Packet. Same day arrival backstamp at Brighton.

1895

WEST COAST OF AFRICA

British & African Steamship Co. ELDER, DEMPSTER & CO., LTD.

<u>S.S. Teneriffe</u>





August 1, 1895. Postal card at the one penny U.P.U. rate was posted at Freetown, Sierra Leone.

The Elder, Dempster & Co., Ltd. steamers made regular calls along the West Coast of Africa.



August 16 (Lloyd's List). British and African Steamer TENERIFFE arrived in the Mersey yesterday (15th) from the West Coast of Africa. British Packet transit date stamp at Liverpool.



August 17. Arrival postmark at Lyon.

BRITISH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY WEST COAST OF AFRICA - LIVERPOOL, British Packet "The Long Way Around" Sierra Leone to the French Congo





Aug. 17, 1897. Card posted at Freetown, Sierra Leone to Libreville in the French Congo, down the coast. However, it went all the way to England, thence through France and back to Africa by French packet.



Sept. 4. T.P.O., Calais to Paris.

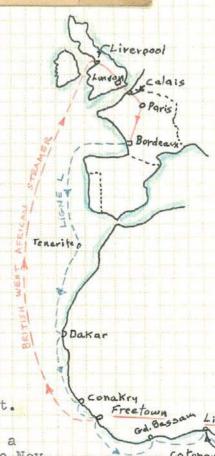


Sept. 3, 1897. Transit at the Liverpool Packet Office, terminus of the West African steamship routes.



September 5. Card went back out to Africa on the Sept. 10 sailing of the V. Maranhao of Ligne L, Ligne de Bordeaux a

Loango, she arrived Libreville Nov. 7. Incredibly, Ligne L called at Freetown!



LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA TO U.S. VIA LIVERPOOL BRITISH & AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

S.S. Olenda, Liberia to Liverpool
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Umbria, Queenstown to New York



March 21, 1903. Picture post card posted at Greenville, Liberia, a coastal in southern Liberia. Local steamer took mail to Monrovia. 3¢ U.P.U. postal card rate paid by the 2¢ bistre and black Issue of 1897 and 1¢ Official Overprint, Issue of 1900.

PAID LIVERPOOL BR PACKET 23 AP 03 6 A London Times, THURS., April 23. (FROM LLOYD'S &c.)

British and African S. OLENDA from West Coast Africa, arrived in the Mersey yesterday.

Card marked incoming at Liverpool as PAID by British Packet.

April 25. R.M.S. Umbria of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool.

(C)NV 4 0 12 - M 1903 MAY 4 85 330PM 6 37402 May 2, 1903. Arrived N.Y. S.S. Umbria (Br.,) Dutton, Liverpool April 25 and Queenstown 26th. with mdse. passengers and mails to Vernon H. Brown & Co. Southeast of Fire Island at 10:10 P.M.

May 4. Cincinnati, Ohio arrival stamps.



BATHURST, GAMBIA TO U.S. VIA LIVERPOOL BRITISH & AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

<u>S.S. Olenda</u>, Gambia to Liverpool CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Umbria, Queenstown to New York



April 6, 1903. Picture post card posted at Bathurst, Gambia, one of the major ports of call of the British & African S.N. Co. on the west coast of Africa. 1d. postal card rate paid by the Gambia Issue of 1902, King Edward VII "key" type.

London Times, THURS. April 23. (FROM LLOYD'S &c.)

British and African S. OLENDA from West Coast Africa, arrived in the Mersey yesterday.

Card marked incomong at Liverpool as PAID by British Packet.

April 25. R.M.S. Umbria of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool.

(Br.,) Dutton,
Queenstown 26th
and mails to Ve
east of Fire Is

(Br.,) Dutton,
Queenstown 26th
and mails to Ve
east of Fire Is

(Br.,) Dutton,
(Br.,) Dutton

PAID

LIVERPOOL BR PACKET

23 AP 03

May 2, 1903. Arrived N.Y. S.S. Umbria (Br.,) Dutton, Liverpool April 25 and Queenstown 26th., with mase. passengers and mails to Vernon H. Brown & Co. Southeast of Fire Island at 10:10 P.M.

May 4. Cincinnati, Ohio arrival stamps.

U.S. TO GABOON, WEST AFRICA VIA BRITAIN

CUNARD LINE, R.M.S. Campania, N.Y. to Liverpool

BRITISH & AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

S.S. Lagos, Liverpool to Libreville, Congo







October 13, 1898. A letter paid at the U.P.U. 5¢ rate to member countries at Philadelphia. 3 P.M. Philadelphia transit backstamp.

N.Y. $\underline{\text{Times}}$. Steamers for England:

Friday, October 14. None

Saturday, October 15. Campania, for Queenstown and Liverpool.

BY CABLE: London, October 28. SS Campania, (Br.,) Captain Walker, arrived at Liverpool from New-York to-day.



October 22. Arrival mark at Liverpool.
Although noted US PACKET, this letter actually arrived aboard a Cunard Line steamship, a British Packet.



London <u>Times</u>, THURSDAY, October 27. The British and African Company's s. LAGOS, for South-west African ports, left the Mersey yesterday.

November 26. Arrival backstamp at Libreville, French Congo.

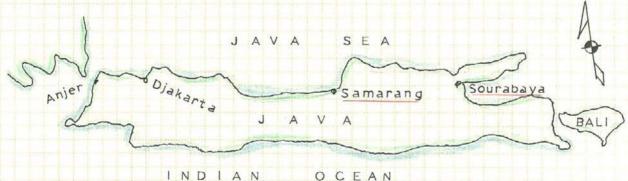
JAVA

American Ship Thomas Perkins

Sept. 15, 1838. Letter datelined at Samarang, Java to Captain Wm. Graves, Jr. of Newburyport, Mass., concerning rice shipments. The Thomas Perkins was ship rigged, 595 tons, built 1837 at Portsmouth, N.H. (she wasn't registered at the Port of New York until Dec. 11, 1840). At this date in 1838 she rested in the harbor at Sourabaya, Java. Dutch East Indies.



Internal Javanese postage paid (Franco = Paid) at 60 cents (100 cents = 1 Gulden). Covers showing early Javenese postal markings are extremely scarce.



OCEAN

Contemporary references describe Samarang as, "Its Samarang: harbor is not good and the town is unhealthy from contiguous morasses, and owes its importance to the adjacent country which yields large quantities of

coffee, pepper, rice, sugar and tobacco."

Sourabaya: "Its harbor is the best in Java, and is defended by many forts and batteries. Here are ship building docks, a naval arsenal, and a cannon factory."

THE FALMOUTH PACKETS

VERA CRUZ TO FALMOUTH

Packet Brig Reindeer

Following the assumption of the Falmouth Packet Service by the Admiralty in 1823, as new packet vessels were required they were provided in the form of 10 gun brigs. Reindeer was so placed in service in 1830.

April 7,1839. Letter datelined at Guaymas, Mexico on the western coast on the Gulf of California.



May 12.
Letter passed through the Mexican post office at Vera Cruz as paid (FRANQUEADO), 31 days in transit, Guaymas to Vera Cruz. Rein deer sailed from Vera Cruz the 15th of May.



June 30, 1839. Arrival backstamp at London, a very fine strike of this Foreign Office mark. Contemporary newspaper notes: Falmouth June 28: The Reindeer packet, Lieutenant Dicken, commander, arrived this morning from Mexico and Havannah. Her

dates are Vera Cruz the 15th, Tampico the 19th and Havannah the 31st ult.

This letter was rated under the 22 June 1825 rates (6 Geo. IV. Cap 44)

This letter was rated under the 22 June 1825 rates (6 Geo. IV. Cap 44) for Colombia and certain parts of Mexico to and from London at 3 sh. 1d. single or 12/4d. per oz. Letter was marked "1½-oz.", thus rate was 3sh.1d. x 6 rates = 18sh.6d. due, shown as 18/6 on letter face.

EUROPEAN MAIL IN TRANSIT MARITIME MARKS

International agreements were entered into by Great Britain for the conveyance of letters from British Colonies and British Post Offices abroad to certain European countries. In addition to charge marks indicating the amount of postage due England, a series of London rectangular stamps in red were applied to indicate that letters fell under the agreement.



THE TIMES (London), MONDAY, JAN. 8, 1849. WEST INDIA MAILS

SOUTHAMPTON, SATURDAY, JAN. 6

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's ship Thames, Captain George Abbott, arrived here at 1 P.M. to-day with the usual British and Foreign West India mails, in charge of Lieutenant Strover, R.N., Admiralty agent. Her dates are:-

St. Juan Nicaragua	Nov.25	St. Vincent	Dec. 9
Puerto Cabello	Dec .4	St. Lucia	11
St. Jago de Cuba	5	Martinique	11
LaGuayra	7	Guadeloupe	12
Jamaica	8	Dominique	12
Jacmel (Hayti)	10	Antigua	12
Puerto Rico	13	Montserrat	13
Demerara	5	Nevis	13
Tobago	7	St. Kitts	13
Trinidad	10	Tortola	14
Grenada	9	St. Thomas	15
	200	Fayal	30

The Thames also brings mails of the following dates from the West Coast of South America, brought to Panama by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's ship Equador, Captain Pearson, in continuation with the the company's steamer New Grenada:-

Valparaiso	3	Oct.30	Payata	Nov.16	
Coquimbo	3	31	Guayaqui (Equador)	17	
Huasco	} - Chili	Nov. 1	Buenaventura (New Gre-		
Copiapo)		1	nada)	Nov.21	
Cobija F Iquique	Bolivia)	Nov. 3	Panama	11 22	
Arica Islay	- Peru	5			
Pisio	3	8			
Callao)	13			

The Thames, for the first week of her voyage, had fresh trade winds with heavy sea, after which until her arrival at Fayal, moderate breezes, with fine weather; and thence to Southampton contrary winds and thick cloudy weather.

POSTAL CONVENTION MARKS GREAT BRITAIN-FRANCE

Britain - France Postal Convention of 1856 agreed to exchange each other's mail, and special accounting marks were employed to indicate "the rate at which the dispatching office shall have delivered these letters to the other office."





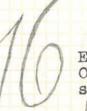
Feb. 21, 1858.
Pernambuco, Brazil, British
Post Office.



Mar. 16, 1858. London transit mark.



Postmark showing amount (in
francs and centimes) due Gr.
Britain for her
services in conveying letter
to France.



French
Exchange
Office rate
stamp.

16 Decimes due.



Mar.17,1858 (a) Calais tran sit mark.



Mar. 17, 1858
Paris arrival
mark. (Backstamp.)

DIRECTED BY RMSP TYNE, endursement U.L. of face.

POSTAL CONVENTION MARKS GREAT BRITAIN-FRANCE

A Postal Convention between the two countries came into being on September 24, 1856. Agreement was reached for inter-country mail, and also for the exchange of each other's mail from elsewhere. It was laid down that where one or the other country levied sea or transit charges on unpaid letters, special stamps in black should be impressed to indicate "the rate at which the dispatching office shall have delivered those letters to the other office."





May 11, 1875 British Office Valparaiso, Chile receipt mark.



London Stamp indicating amount (in francs and centimes) due Gt. Britain for her services in conveying letter to France.



June 28, 1875 London transit.



June 28. Calais transit.



Paris to Bordeaux Train stamp.



June 29, Bordeaux receipt mark.

CAPE PACKET LETTERS



Letter posted June 11, 1866 at King Williams-Town for Marlborough, England.





Backstamp: June 5, 1866. June 11, 1866. July 17, 1866. King Williams-Town receipt. Cape Town transit Devonport "Paid" Cape

stamp.

Packet transit mark.

Backstamps, Transit marks.





l sh. rate for double letter, standard "Colonial" rate was 6d, per 2 oz. by Post Office Contract Steamer after 1857.

PACKET LETTERS CAPE PACKETS



Letter posted Sept. 8, 1866 at Pieter-Maritzburg, Natal, South Africa for Armagh, Ireland.



Sept. 8, 1866. Natal town receipt stamp.



Oct. 22, 1866. Devonport "Paid" Devonport "Paid" Armagh, Ireland Cape Packet transit receipt backstamp. mark.



Oct. 23, 1866.

Two singles, S.G. #12, franking letter for 6d. Cape Packet rate, which was the standard "Colonial" rate per 2 oz. by Post Office Contract Steamer after 1857.

DIAMOND COMPANY

S.S. Kaffraria

FUNCHAL, MADERIA TO HAVRE VIA FALMOUTH



,1866. Oct. Letter posted unpaid at the British Consular Post Office at Funchal. The Diamond Co. steamer Kaffraria picked up the Maderia mails this same date en route from the Cape of Good Hope to England.





London Times:

THE CAPE MAIL

FALMOUTH OCT. 10

The Diamond Company's steamer Kaffraria arrived here this afternoon. Her dates are as follows:- The Cape, Sept. 3: St. Helena, 12th; Maderia, October 2. She brings the mails, 34 passengers and cargo. She has experienced strong easterly winds from the Cape Verd Islands.









Oct. 11. French mails from Britain entered France aboard the Calais to Paris T.P.O. The letter was marked with the Franco-British exchange mark under Article 32, credit to Britain

of 1 Franc per 30 grams, mail through Britain for France from Portugal, Lisbon, Porto, Maderia, Funchal and St. Vincent of Cape Verd. Ten decimes due, rate of Jan. 1, 1866 of 1 franc (10 decimes) unpaid letter via England.

DONALD CURRIE & CO.

S.S. Waldmer Castle

NATAL TO PLYMOUTH VIA CAPE TOWN



April 3, 1875. Letter posted at Pietermaritzburg and endorsed: Per S.S. Florence, a local steamer to transport letter to the Port Natal at Durban on the Indian Ocean. In 1857 post office numbers were issued to Natal, Pietermaritzburg, being the capital, was given No. 1.

Letter rated at 1/-, Jan. 1, 1864 rate to Britain by Packet.
This same 1/- rate was re-enacted Jan. 1, 1868, as by direct packet or via Southampton and Mauritius.

April 5. The Colonial Mail Steamship Walmer Castle departed from Port Natal.

May 6, 1875. Arrival backstamp at Plymouth as a Ship Letter.

London Times, Friday, May 7, 1875 THE CAPE AND NATAL

The Colonial Mail steamship Walmer Castle, belonging to Messrs. Donald Currie & Co. from Capetown April 10 and Maderia May 1, 8:30 a.m., arrived at Plymouth at 10 a.m. yesterday, being 25 days 12 hours from the Cape and 32 days from Natal, inclusive of stoppages. She brings 143 passengers and landed 30 at Plymouth. The mails having been landed, the Walmer Castle sailed for London at 12 40 noon.

May 7. Mallow, Go. Cork, Ireland, arrival backstamp.





DONALD CURRIE & CO.

S.S. Hawarden Castle, Cape Town to Plymouth, England INMAN LINE, S.S. City of Richmond, Queenstown to New York



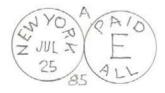
June 15, 1885. A letter paid at Durban, Natal by the half penny blue green and one penny, Issue of 1884 and 6d. Issue of 1882. As Natal did not enter the U.P.U. until July 1, 1892, this letter from a non-member country had to be prepaid at triple the U.P.U. rate or $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. x 3 = $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. A credit of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. was allowed to the receiving country (U.S.) shown by the red manuscript " $2\frac{1}{2}$ ". The conveying country (Britain) received double the U.P.U. rate or 5d. (10¢.)

London <u>Times</u>. Saturday June 27. Messrs. Donald Currie & Co.'s Castle packet Hawarden Castle, with mails and passengers for England, sailed from Cape Town at 5 p.m. Wednesday (June 24) for Plymouth via Lisbon.

Monday, July 13. Packet Hawarden Castle from Cape Town, with mails and passengers from Natal and Cape Colony, arrived at Lisbon at 5 p.m. on Saturday and proceeded for Plymouth, where she may be expected on Tuesday morning.

Wednesday, July 15. Messrs. Donald Currie & Co.'s Castle Packet Harwarden Castle, London Line to the Cape Colonies, arrived at Plymouth Sound at 3 a.m. yesterday with 146 passengers and 55 sacks of mails. After landing 50 passengers and the mails, she left for London.

July 16. Thursday. The Inman Line steamer City of Richmond arrived at Queenstown at 10 p.m. yesterday, embarked mails and passengers and proceeded for New York.



New York <u>Times</u>. Arrived at N.Y. July 24. Steamer City of Richmond (Br.,) Lewis, Liverpool via Queenstown, 10 ds. to Peter Wright & Sons.

July 25. N.Y. arrival backstamp.

DONALD CURIE & Cº

S.S. Roslin Castle, Cape Town to Plymouth, England WHITE STAR LINE, S.S. Britannic, Queenstown to New York



August 8, 1885. A letter paid at Durban, Natal at $7\frac{1}{2}d$. by the half-penny gray-green and one penny, Issue of 1884, and 6d., Issue of 1882. As Natal did not enter the U.P.U. until July 1, 1892, this letter, from a non-member country, had to be prepaid at triple the U.P.U. rate, or $2\frac{1}{2}d$. $\times 3 = 7\frac{1}{2}d$. A credit of the U.P.U. rate of $2\frac{1}{2}d$. was allowed to the receiving country (U.S.) shown by the red manuscript " $2\frac{1}{2}$ ". The conveying country received double the U.P.U. rate.

August 19. S.S. Roslin Castle departed from Cape Town.



London <u>Times</u>, THURSDAY, September 10. Messrs. Donald Currie & Co.'s steamship Roslin Castle, from Cape Town August 19, and Lisbon Sept. 6, arrived in Plymouth Sound at 5 a.m. yesterday: length of passage exclusive of stoppages, 20 days 12 hours 15 min...The Roslin Castle brought 113 passengers, 43 sacks and 2 packets of mails, and a full general cargo of colonial produce, wools, &c. Having landed

at Plymouth 44 passengers and the mails, the Roslin Castle proceeded for London at 6 30 a.m.

September 9. London transit backstamp.

September 10. S.S. Britannic departed from Liverpool.



N.Y. <u>Times</u>. Arrived September 20, S.S. Britannic (Br.,) Perry, Liverpool and Queenstown 9 ds. to R.J. Cortis.

DONALD CURRIE & Cº

S.S. Dunottar Castle, Cape Town to Plymouth via St. Helena NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD: S.S. Lahn, Southampton to N.Y.



3



October 13, 1891. A non-U.P.U. letter posted at St. Helena, which did not enter the U.P.U. until Oct. 1, 1896. Here paid at 9d. = 18¢ U.S. As mail ultimately transited U.S., a 3d. (6¢) credit for transatlantic mail (U.S. Packet) + U.S. Inland was made to the U.S. Rate from U.S. to St. Helena was 15¢, effective August'84 to July 1892.

Most probable transit "Via England" was by Donald Currie's Castle Line which made periodic voyages Cape Town-St. Helena-Las Palmas-Madeira-Lisbon-Flushing-Plymouth-London.

London <u>Times</u>, Oct. 23. The S.S. DUNOTTAR CASTLE with mails and passengers for England, left Cape Town at 6 p.m. on Wednesday (Oct. 21) for Plymouth \underline{via} Madeira.



London <u>Times</u>, Nov. 7. Messrs. Donald Currie & Co.'s S.S. DUNOTTAR CASTLE, from the Cape arrived at Plymouth at 9 P.M. yesterday, landed over 100 passengers, 90 sacks and one packet of mails, and 32 cases of post parcels.

Times, Nov. 12. NDL S.S. LAHN, from Bremen with Contintental mails for the U.S., arrived at Southampton yesterday afternoon where she embarked English mails and sailed at midnight for N.Y.





Nov. 19. Norddeutscher Lloyd Lahn arrived N.Y.

Nov. 22. Transit backstamp at the Mexican Tampico border town of Nuevo Laredo, entry point for overland mail from the United States.

Nov. 24. Mexico City arrival backstamp.

DONALD CURRIE & CO.

S.S. Norham Castle

Cape Town to East India Docks, London





March 4, 1893. Cape of Good Hope post card of the ½d. denomination augmented by the 1d. rose, Issue of 1885, to make up the postal card rate to Britain.





London Times, March 27. Messrs. Donald Currie & Co.'s NORHAM CASTLE, from Cape Town, passed Gravesend yesterday for E.I.D. She brought £ 93,475 in raw gold and £ 2,329 gold coin.

The card was forwarded to Mr. Allan Forbes at Leamington. Receipt and forwarding shown by "hooded scroll" datestamps at London's East Central office.

Southern Rhodesia to El Paso, Texas via Britain

S.S. Moor, Cape Town to Plymouth

R.M.S. Lucania (Cunard,) Queenstown to New York

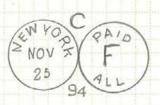
(In a Transatlantic Race with the American Line Paris)



October 19, 1894. Mail from non-U.P.U. countries. The 1892 Southern Rhodesia rates to countries overseas were noted (R. Lowe) as Bechuanaland rates plus 2d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. In this case $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. + 2d. = 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., paid by the 6d. Issue of 1890 and ha penny Issue of 1891.

The circular date cancellation has a rather unusual story. In August 1888 Rev. J.S. Moffat, Asst. Commissioner of Northern Bechuanaland, started a runner service Mafeking to Gubulawayo, 5 stations in all, each issued with the town name, as GUBULAWAYO/BECHUANALAND. The runner post lasted about a year when a mail cart was introduced. The above handstamp remained in use, but with BECHUANALAND chisled off, although faint traces can be seen. None of the other 4 town stamps were so change. Southern Rhodesia joined the U.P.U. 1900.

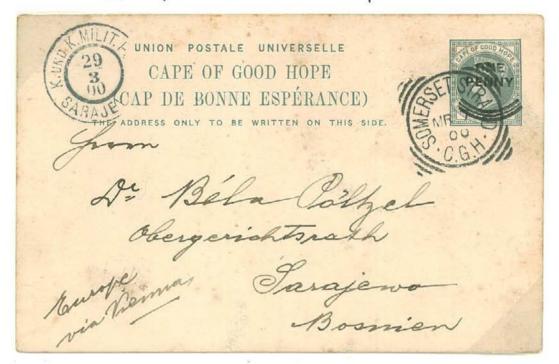
October 24, 1894. The Union Castle Line steamer Moor departed from Cape Town, arrived at Plymouth November 10.



Nov. 18. R.M.S. Lucania, Cunard Line, left Queenstown marking her time from Daunt's Rock and the American Line Paris, leaving concurrently, marked her time from the Needles. They immediately ran into foul weather and the Paris proved the better heavy weather sailer, beating Lucania by an elapsed time of 11 hours 33 minutes.

Nov. 25. <u>Lucania</u> arrived at N.Y. 8:30 AM.Bkstamp. Nov. 30. Arrival backstamp at El Paso, Texas.

S.S. Scott, Capetown to Southampton





March 6, 1900. A postal card dated at Somerset Strand in False Bay. It is addressed to Sarajevo, Bosnia and endorsed: Europe via Vienna. The postal card of the Cape of Good Hope is the three half pence surcharged ONE PENNY, the U.P.U. postal card rate.

March 7. S.S. Scott of the Union Castle Line departed from Cape Town for Southampton via Maderia. She touched at the latter port on March 19.



March 23. Scott arrived at Southampton.

March 29. Sarajevo, Bosnia arrival postmark. The card had been forwarded across Europe, presumably "via Vienna". This is an uncommon destination.

Pietermaritzburg, Natal to U.S. via Britain

S.S. Saxon, Cape Town to Southampton

S. S. Vaterland (International Navigation Ca) Southampton to N.Y.





Feb. 23, 1901. Letter paid at Pieter-maritzburg, Natal at the 2½d. U.P.U. rate by a vertical pair of the one penny rose and ½-d. gray green, Issues of 1884.

London Times, Sat., March 2, 1901. The Union-Castle Line s. SAXON left Cape Town at 7 p.m. on Thursday (Feb. 28) for Southampton viâ Madeira.

London <u>Times</u>, Mon. March 18. The Union-Castle Line s. SAXON from Cape Town, arrived at Southampton at 9:30 a.m. Saturday (March 16.)

March 17. S.S. <u>Vaterland</u> departed from Southampton for New York.

Mar. 25. N.Y. arrival backstamp.



N.Y. Times, Mar. 26. Arr. N.Y. Mar. 25 SS Vaterland (Br.,) Albrecht, Southampton and Cherbourg, March 17, to the International Navigation Co.

Mar. 26. Syracuse arrival backstamp.

1903

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TO U.S. VIA SOUTHAMPTON

UNION CASTLE LINE, <u>S.S. Walmer Castle</u>, Table Bay to S'hampton
INTERNATIONAL MARINE CO., <u>S.S. New York</u>, S'hampton to N.Y.



July 6, 1903. Letter posted at Graff Reinet, South Africa, a town in the middle of the country. Rate paid of 21d., U.P.U. rate to a member country.

London Times: Friday July 10. Union-Castle Line, s WALMER CASTLE left Table Bay (Cape Town) 8 P.M. Wednesday (July 8) for Southampton via Madeira.

Times: Wednesday July 22. Union Castle s. WALMER CASTLE, carrying the homeward South African mails, arrived at Madeira 9 A.M. yesterday and proceeded for Southampton.

Times: s. WAIMER CASTLE arrived Southampton 6:15 A.M. Sat., July 25. July 25. S.S. New York departed Southampton for New York.

(\$\frac{\partial \partial \par

N.Y. Times: August 2. Arrived N.Y. Aug. 1, SS New York, Passaw, Southampton and Cherbourg July 25 with mase., mail and passengers to International Marine Company. Arrived at the Bar at 2:10 P.M.

AUG 3 SRECEIVED STATION

August 1. Receipt backstamp at New York.

August 2. Letter forwarded to Somerville, Mass., receiving mark at N.Y. Station C cancels Cape stamps.

Aug. 3. Somerville arrival backstamp.

Johannesburg, Transvaal to Berlin via Southampton S.S. Briton





November 30, 1904. A Christmas and New Year greeting card dated at Johannesburg, greeting printed on the reverse of the one penny U.P.U. postal card rate of the Transvaal.

December 1. Card received into the mail at Johannesburg.

December 7. S.S. Briton of the Union Castle Line departed from Cape Town for Southampton via Maderia. She touched at the latter port on the 20th.

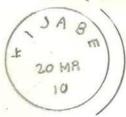


December 24. Briton arrived at Southampton.

December 26. Friedenau "near Berlin" arrival postmark.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA TO U.S. VIA ENGLAND P. & O. Line: S.S. India, Aden to Plymouth Conard Line: R.M.S. Campania, Queen stown to New York









March 20, 1910. A registered letter posted at Kijabe, East Africa with 27 cents postage and registry paid by the 15 cent ultramarine and 12 cent red violet on dull violet Issue of 1907 of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates.

March 22. Transit backstamp at Mombassa. Most logical transport of this letter was by local steamer to Aden.

London <u>Times</u>, Friday April 15. Peninsular & Oriental Co. SS India, Sydeny for London arrived Plymouth yesterday (April 14) and proceeded.

April 17. Cunard Line R.M.S. Campania departed from Queenstown, arrived New York April 23, 5 a.m.

April 24. Letter in transit as St. Louis as Registered Mail, backstamp.

April 25. Kansas City, Mo. arrival backstamp.

PACKET LETTERS





June 8, 1853. Letter posted at Port Louis, Mauritius for Bordeaux, France per the Steamer Indiana, via Marseille.



July 27, 1853. Port of entry receipt stamp at Marseille.



July 30, 1853. Bordeaux receipt, backstamp.

P. 2 O. LIVE

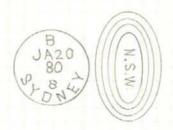
S.s. Avoca	Sydney	Jan. 20,1980
S.s. Stam	Melbourne	22
	Adelaide	25
	KGS Galle	79 T-eb. 10
S.S. Poons	Galle	11
	Aden	18
	- Suez Malta	23-26 -> Mar. 2
	Gih	6
5. s, ceylon	Alexandri	4 Feb. 27
	Brindisi	Mar. 1
CDS LON	000	Mor. 4

1880

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY NEW SOUTH WALES TO U.K.

Rates to U.K. via Brindisi, Effective I July 1876





January 20, 1880. Letter under ½ ounce to U.K. at the rates by G.P.O. notice of 5th June 1876 (effective 1 July 1876) of 8d. per ½ oz. Letter went "via Brindisi", British packet port in Italy on the Adriatic Sea. N.S.W. did not enter the U.P.U. until 1891.



March 4, 1880. London receipt stamp, "PAID".

189015

PACKETS OF THE OSTENDE - DOVER RUN
Paquebots de l'Etat Belge Ligne Ostende - Douvres
La Flandre

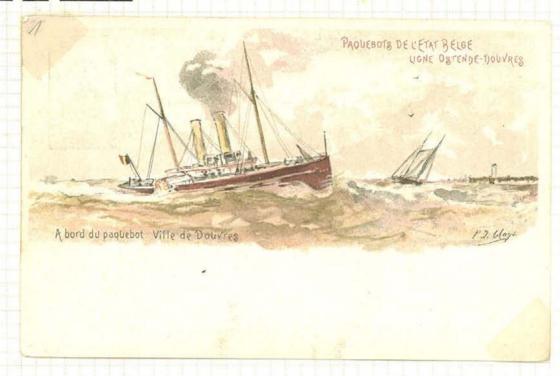


1800'5

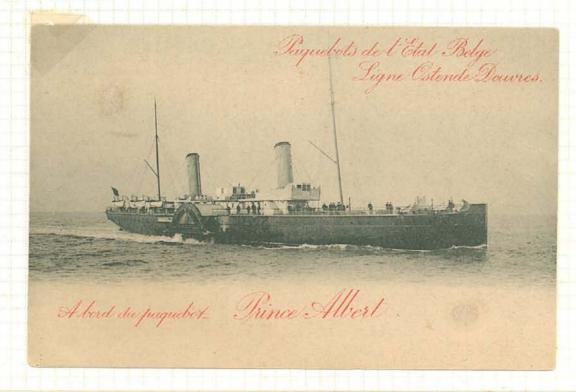
PACKETS OF THE OSTENDE- DOVER RUN

Paquebots de l'Etat Belge Ligne Ostende-Douvres

Ville de Douvres



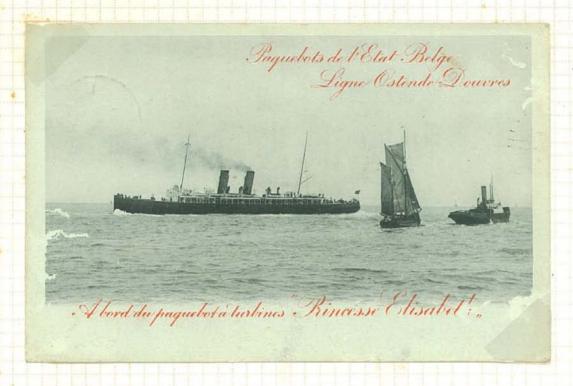
Prince Albert



1910

PACKETS OF THE OSTENDE- DOVER RUN Paguebots de L'Etat Belge-Lique Ostende-Douvres

Princesse Elisabeth



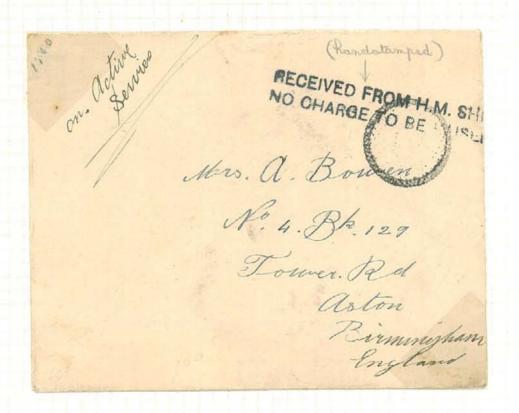
STE NO 24 AVRIL 11-12 10



1914 - 1918

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY MARKS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

Ships on active service abroad were frequently in places where no postage stamps were available. Letters to the U.K. were impressed with suitable marks to indicate postage was free.





Heavy, single circle Naval obliterator.

RECEIVED FROM H.M.SHIP. NO CHARGE TO BE RAISED

Handstamp showing letter Post Free a/c "On Active Service".

1914 - 1918

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY MARKS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

Following the outbreak of the First World War, a number of cancellations came into use by the Royal Navy. Since it was important that the position of a particular ship should not be disclosed by the postmark, circles, crosses, propellers, etc. were employed to cancel the stamps.





PASSED CENSOR



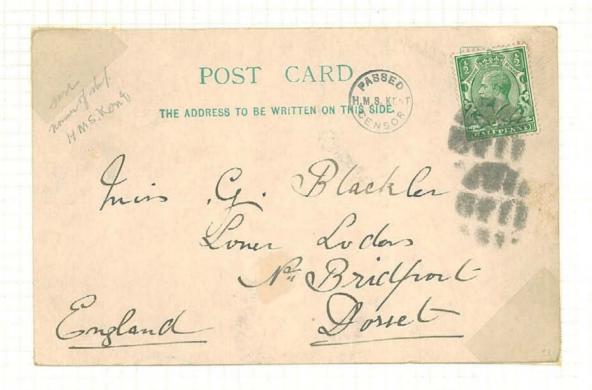
Heavy single circle naval cancellation mark.

Censor's cachet.

Feb. 15, 1915. Dartmouth receipt backstamp.

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY MARKS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

Many types of obliterators were employed besides standard types, i.e. cut corks, solid circles, many nameless types.







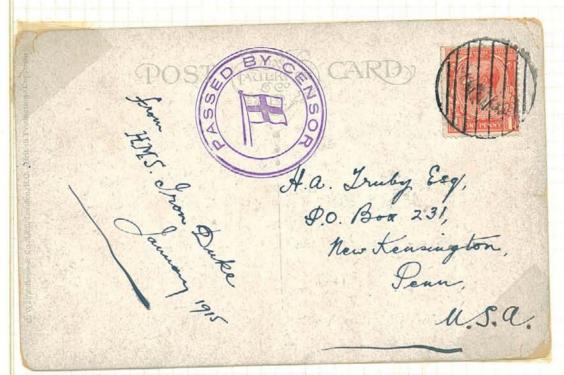
Grid type obliterator, probably cut from cork.

Censor's mark applied on board H.M.S. "Kent".

Card addressed on August 17, 1915 "at sea".

BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY MARKS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

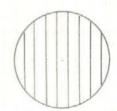
CENSORS' MARKS



Jan. 1915

H.M.S. "Iron Duke" censor's mark.





Standard Naval cancellation for use on mail from ships whose whereabouts could not be disclosed.

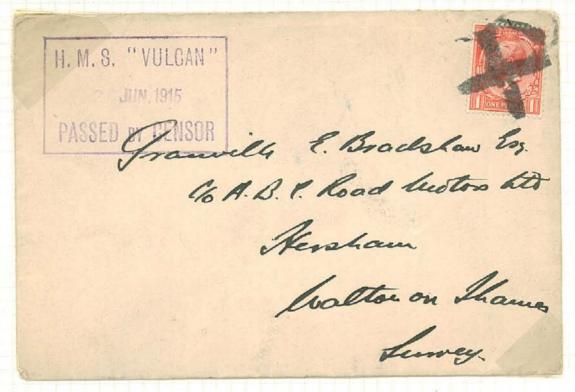
Nov. 12, 1915.

H.M.S. "Imperiemse" censor's mark.

1914 - 1918

MARKS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

CENSORS' MARKS







Standard Naval cancellation.

PASSED BY SHIP'S CENSOR No.3

Censor's mark applied aboard HMS "Lion". Letter within says, "Another Naval cancellation, this being posted aboard HMS Lion: which distinguished herself by sinking a German "Raider" - Blucher - on Jan. 24.

c.1938-40

BRITISH NAVAL MAIL

London Duplex Machine Obliterators



RECEIVED FROM H.M.SHIPS

Robertson No. N28. "RECEIVED FROM" 45 mm.
"H.M. SHIPS" 31 mm.

By March 1940 the c.d.s. portion of the doplex was being omitted (as here).

As a result of the Postal Union Congress at Vienna in 1891, the word "Paquebot" or its equivalent was adopted by most of the nations belonging to the Union for stamping at the port of arrival of letters posted on board ship. The same marks are also impressed on mails from abroad not cancelled before being taken on board. As correspondence posted on board ships at sea can be prepaid by postage stamps of the country to which the ship belongs, British postage stamps can be found with "Paquebot" cancellations of many foreign and colonial ports, as well as those of the British Isles.





As a result of the Postal Union Congress at Vienna in

PAQUERO

1891, the f to Jeom the port same mark before be da agina to which with "Paq as , adriog

no. E. 7. Underwood

Mrs. Gorden 7 crystle. England In owne U.S.A.

in the core of non-delivery





remielle let un 1208 ams 8021 Homestrad Pa . S. a