

The West Africa Study Circle

St. Helena & Ascension Supplement No. 26



St. Helena

WEST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE

ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

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WEST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE

ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

EDITORIAL

As usual we took our family holiday in late May, where we spent a not so sunny week in Devon. The only consolation being that the rest of the country was having worse weather than we were. Since returning home I have devoted the time to preparing Supplement No. 26 for the printers.

This issue is a little disappointing, as there are no articles on Ascension, although it was heartening to receive an article on some rare St. Helena Specimens from one of our new members (Victor Dyball) who fortunately lives quite close. Also in this issue is information on a forthcoming South Atlantic Auction, Part Two of Trevor Hearl's article on Saul Solomon. My grateful thanks go to Mr. Dave Tarry, of Cavendish Auctions for the photostats of some very important St. Helena Post Office documents that I have illustrated on pages 24/36. I have illustrated as many of these as I had room for, as I felt they were of significant importance, and also make interesting reading; my thanks to Jeremy Martin for bringing them to my attention.

My thanks must also go to Sir Adrian Cadbury for kind permission to re-produce an article first published in the Bournville Works Magazine. Sir Adrian feels that the author, F. Castle was possibly one of the firm's export representatives.

I have printed this issue in a DUTCH font on my word processor. The previous Supplement No. 25, was printed in COURIER. Personally I prefer the DUTCH style, but I look forward to your comments etc.

I am now completely devoid of material for the next Supplement, so I look forward to hearing from you.

I may not be able to make the next WASC meeting scheduled for early November, as it clashes with my Wedding Anniversary, but Bob Deakin and I are trying to arrange a meeting for the Ascension and St. Helena members of the Society. Could you please get in touch direct with Bob if you would be interested in attending such a meeting.

BERNARD MABBETT

34 VERONICA GREEN,
GORLESTON,
GT. YARMOUTH,
NORFOLK. NR31 8LE.

TEL (01493)656147

DISPLAYS WANTED

Calling all St. Helena & Ascension members, are you prepared to give a display of Stamps, or Postal History at Future West Africa Study Circle meetings? Your display can be long or short. If you are prepared to help please contact the President: Mike Roberts, 13. Thorpe Lane, Almondbury, Huddersfield HD5 68TA.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

ST. HELENA

THE POSTAL, CENSOR & INSTRUCTIONAL MARKINGS

In the July 1987 Supplement No. 8, pages 24/25, Roger West and myself put out a request to the membership for information in the hope of putting together a new book covering all the following areas:- Forwarding Agents, Oval Date Stamp, Circular Date Stamps, Castle Handstamps, Instructional Markings, Censor Markings, Paquebots, Military Handstamps, Soldiers Mail, Departmental Handstamps, Post Office Handstamps, Dumb Cancellations, Postage Rates etc.

Unfortunately Roger, due to pressure of work had to pull out after doing sterling work on the Circular Date Stamps, and the Dumb Cancellations. I have been ploding on with the book which is slowly coming together, and hopefully will be ready later this year to go before the Society Publications Committee. I am making one last request for any additional information that members may have, or a new cover or cancellation that they might have just acquired so that the book can be as up to date as possible. If you have anything that you feel may be of help, no matter how insignificant, please drop me a line with a photostat of the relevant item. Remember The book will only be as good as the information it contains.

SOUTH ATLANTIC PHILATELIC AUCTION

OCTOBER 24, 1996

St. Helena, Ascension, Tristan da Cunha,
Falkland Islands, Antarctica, and Sub-Antarctic Islands.
Also, Boer War, Napoleonic, and Darwiniana Lots.

Consignments include:

Postage Stamps, Postal History, Rare Books and
other Literature, Prints, Maritime Collectibles,
Autographs, Island Artifacts, and Ephemera.

This unique mail bid auction is being conducted by the
St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society
in celebration of the Society's 20th anniversary.

The auction is open to all.

Over 400 lots have been consigned by members and nonmembers.

The consignments range from rare and unique items to
more common material. Most lots relate to

St. Helena, Tristan da Cunha, the Falklands Islands,
and Antarctica.

There is a 10% buyer's fee.

The auction is being co-ordinated by Society members
Mr. David Allen, who has worked with a philatelic auction house,
and Mr. Bradley Brunsell, a lifelong philatelist who
has held offices in several philatelic societies.

Auction catalogues are US\$3.00 in North America and Canada;
US\$4.00 elsewhere in the world.

Catalogues may be paid for in U.S. currency, mint U.S.
postage stamps, or by U.S. dollar cheque.

Catalogues may also be paid for with sterling cheques
if the payee line is left blank.

To order a catalogue, contact:

Michael D. Mueller, President
St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society
Regent House, Suite 401
3201 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC20016

THE BLUE-BLACK SURCHARGE (S.G. 8a)

by Roger Morgan

In Supplement No.4, page 6 Roger West reported on a variety he had seen, in which the first "N" of the "PENNY" surcharge was noticeably shorter than the rest of the type; and he stated that the item was then receiving an expert opinion. Recently I have acquired a used copy of S.G. 8a which shows this surcharge variety

After discussing the matter with Roger the following interesting facts emerge. His copy was unused and a photograph of it together with a further note can be found on page 35 of Supplement No. 9. [Reproduced below]. He kindly sent me some notes of his own, from which I saw that the stamp had been plated as 19/12. My copy is from the same sheet position, thus proving that there were originally at least two sheets of the blue-black surcharges, (One with reversed watermark).

Further comments were obtained from the R.P.S. Expert Committee who reported that they had records of 6 unused and 8 used and that they believed the stamps to have been properly issued even if originally of proof status.



PENNY

THE SHORT N



Since we know the position of the short "N" on the forme, there ought to have been similar copies from positions 3/12, 7/12, 11/12 and 15/12 on the sheet; but to the best of our knowledge none of these have been recorded; and so far as is known the variety has never been recorded on the normal black surcharges.

The only suggestion I can offer is that the blue-black surcharges are far from easy to differentiate from the ordinary black ones and consequently many of them, including others with the variety have gone the way of all flesh. I have seen photos of other blue-black surcharges in auction catalogues but most if not all have a normal surcharge, the only possible exception being Lot 1823 in the I.D. Lampart Sale of December 1986. So it is well worth keeping an eye open for this very rare variety and we would welcome any further information.

RARE
ST. HELENA SPECIMENS

by Victor Dyball

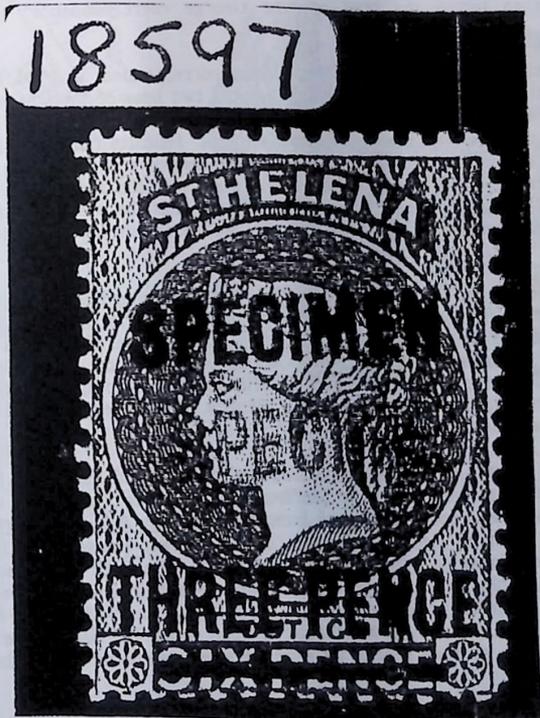
The Queen Victoria 1890-97 Key Plate set is known with two types of 'SPECIMEN' overprints, or handstamps. Although the handstamped set is not to difficult to find from the 1d. to the 10d. value, finding the ½d. value is another matter. Roger West illustrated a copy of the ½d. value handstamped 'SPECIMEN' in Supplement No.9, page 36, commenting that this was the only copy he had so far seen. I have a second copy of this stamp handstamped 'SPECIMEN' which I have had certificated and I illustrate it below.

Roger West's illustration from
Supplement No. 9.



1887 CROWN CA
PERF 14 3d.

Another unusual Specimen I have is a copy of the 1887 perf 14 3d. value handstamped twice in blue with the SH2 handstamp. Has any other member seen copies handstamped twice?



DISCOVERING 'THE LIMES'
THE 'GEORGE' CORRESPONDENCE

by Trevor Hearl

Driving from Marlborough into the busy cathedral city of Salisbury, past Victorian and Edwardian villas with tree-shaded gardens, I felt that here must have been the home of that unidentified "Mrs. E. George" whose address in 1901, "The Limes, Marlborough Road, Salisbury", has become so well known to Postal Historians with an interest in faraway St. Helena. But an appointment at the Local Studies Library gave me no time to check my hunch and I drove on to follow the trail of "the George correspondence" through the City archives.

The possible identity of Mrs. George's St. Helena correspondent in 1901 has exercised the imagination of not a few collectors. It has prompted two lines of thought: either that it was a St. Helenian writing to a relative, or a serviceman writing home. 'George' being a common surname on the island offered the possibility that a St. Helenian family lived at 'The Limes', or perhaps that Mrs. George had come as house-keeper with an Army officers' family returning from service in the Colony. But then again, with the 3rd Wiltshire Regiment then guarding Boer POW Camps there, it was no less likely that the writer was a serviceman, or an employee of the Eastern Telegraph Company at The Briars, or even an expatriate civil servant of the St. Helena Government.

Bernard Mabbett, editor of the St. Helena & Ascension Supplement of the British West Africa Study Circle, admired the writer's care in addressing letters; "most of the covers from the George correspondence are endorsed with the name of the vessel that it was to be sent on." [Supplement No.15, January 1991, p.17]. The President of the St. Helena, Ascension & Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society, Michael D. Mueller, has since appealed to the St. Helena Heritage Society for help in nailing the writer's identity. So the least I could do was to trace 'The Limes' and its residents.

At the Library my hopeful hunch was soon dispelled by a helpful librarian. Contrary to the image, Marlborough Road did not lead to Marlborough, nor was 'The Limes' a large house in a leafy suburb. But it was soon pinpointed from the Salisbury & District Directory of 1897, with its occupier: "Edmund George, Manager of the Market-House". In fact I was then sitting in his Market House, a palatial Victorian building with Bath stone facade in the city centre, now housing Salisbury Library. 'The Limes' was almost a mile away in a treeless district of modest Victorian artisan dwellings, easily found from the large-scale Ordnance Survey map of 1901 for, not only is Marlborough Road short, but despite the numbers, 'The Limes' at No.5 remains, as always, with its semi-detached neighbour No.7, the only building on the West side.

Having found 'The Limes' and Mr. - if not Mrs. - Edmund George, it seemed logical to trace later occupants as the writer may prove to have been one of them. Edmund continued to live at 'The Limes' during the Edwardian years, to be joined in 1912 at No.7 by "W. George". By 1925 "W.E. M. George" was the occupier of No.5, with "R.M. George agricultural merchant" at No.7. A Miss M.S.M. George was also briefly at this address, but from

1927, at least until 1956, she lived at nearby Swaynes Close. William E. George was listed at 'The Limes' until 1950, but by 1953 the name had given way to others. Today, No.7 is an empty shop; 'The Limes' a boarding house.

So far, so good. But we would still like to know their connection with St. Helena!

THE LIMES in 1901



'THE LIMES' in March 1996

Is that an aged Lime tree ?

SALISBURY O.S. Map 1901

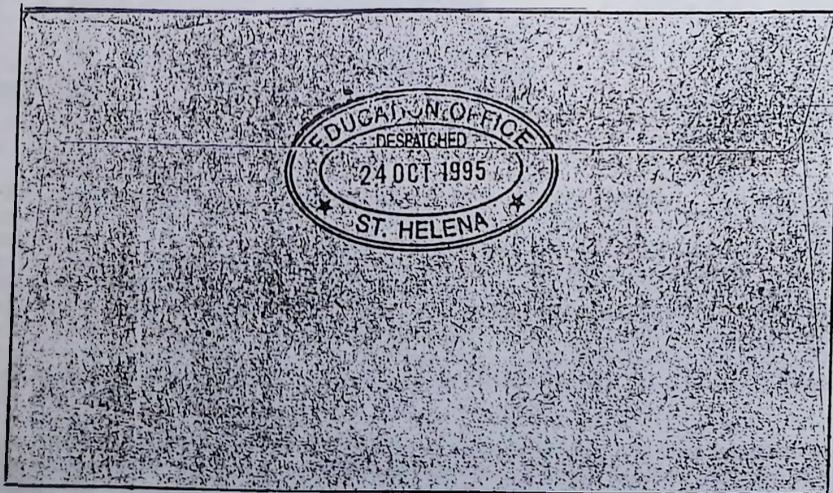
(with acknowledgment to the
Local Studies Library
Market Place, Salisbury)

EDUCATION OFFICE HANDSTAMP

Mr. Wilf Vevers has forwarded to me a photostat of a cover bearing a new style of "EDUCATION OFFICE" handstamp. The handstamp dated 24th October 1995 is struck in a blackish-purple. Since Wilf forwarded me the photocopy I have since obtained a copy for my own collection on a large O.H.M.S. cover to the U.K. dated 13th November 1995. The handstamp on my cover is also in a blackish-purple.



Old style Education Office Handstamp.



A VISIT TO SAINT HELENA

by F. Castle

At five on a spring morning I was turned out of my berth on the S.S. "Garth Castle", and went on deck to see the outline of that rugged and interesting island, St. Helena. An hour later the vessel was anchored in the bay of Jamestown, the chief town. On entering the bay there had been the usual animated scene with small rowing boats alongside, and hawkers (mostly half-caste women and girls) boarding to sell souvenirs in the form of lace goods and articles made from dried fruit seeds, and dyed in numerous colours. We landed in a small boat at the same crudely constructed stone quay along which Napoleon Bonaparte had gone to his island exile, and at which in our own time General Cronje had landed with some two thousand Boer prisoners. The island is of volcanic origin, and may be well likened to an emerald set in granite. Practically the whole of the coast is of a very rough character, and one frequently sees masses of rugged stone and pumice rising vertically from the sea to a height of 500 to 1,500 feet, while in some cases the cliffs overhang the sea to an appreciable extent. The strata of the cliffs is of various tints, grey, brown, and oxide-of-iron red. In the sunlight the whole of the island looks delightful from the sea, and more beautiful still when inland. There is one piece of coast line between Flagstaff Hill and Turk's Cap, which very much resembles Striding Edge of the English Lakes. The island is 10½ miles long by 6¾ miles broad. It lies 760 miles south of Ascension, a British naval and coaling station, 1,200 miles from the coast of Africa, and 1,800 miles from South America. It was discovered by Juan de Nova Costella, a Portuguese commodore returning from India in 1502. No colonisation took place until 1513, when Fernandez Lopez, a Portuguese nobleman, was exiled here with a few negro slaves. In 1645 the Portuguese abandoned the island, and the Dutch took possession, leaving it six years later. The island was taken over by the English East India Company, who held it until 1672, when the Dutch again landed, only to be driven out in the following year by Sir Richard Munden, then being re-granted to the East India Company, who flew their own flag until 1687, when the King's flag was substituted for it.

Halley, the astronomer, visited the island in 1676, and pitched his tent on a high ridge on the Eastern side for the purpose of making observation. The place where he stayed is now known as Halley's Mount.

In 1815 Napoleon Bonaparte arrived on board the "Northumberland" (under Admiral Sir John Cockburn), attended by Count Montholon, Count de Casan, General Gourgoud and suite. The house at Longwood, formerly occupied by the Lieutenant Governor, was allotted to him, where he lived till his death in 1821. Longwood is in a delightful position about three miles inland, and 1,780 feet above sea level. We could see the spot from the coast signal station, but unfortunately time did not permit a visit there.

Napoleon was buried in Geranium Valley. The grave in which he rested is in charge of a French officer, Monsieur Morilleau, who lives on the island. In 1840 the body was exhumed, and the remains deposited, with funeral honours, in the "La Belle Poule", which sailed for France.

No doubt readers will remember the imprisonment of the Boers on the island in 1900. Their camps were at Deadwood, about five miles from Jamestown, and Broadbottom, about 8

miles distant. During their imprisonment the Boers were allowed free run of the island, having to return to the camp at night. A few of the prisoners, by their own desire, remained on the island, and have since taken up occupations, some farming, while others have opened small shops.

The climate of St. Helena is delightful, and extremely healthy. Generally the English residents go to the lower parts of the valley in the hot months of the year. Although within the tropics, the winds temper the heat, the maximum temperature at sea level being 84°F., and minimum 57°F., the average rainfall being 35 inches.

The Governor of St. Helena is Lieutenant Colonel Sir Henry L. Gallwey, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., and his administration is aided by an executive Council consisting of four members, nominated by the Governor, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

The diocese of St. Helena, formed in 1860, includes the neighbouring island of Ascension and the British residents at Rio. There are four churches, and three chapels on the island, and the Salvation Army appears to be very much in evidence. The total population is about four thousand, chiefly West Africa settlers, and about twenty percent English. The English language is generally spoken, with many localisms and foreign phrases.

Walking along the quay towards the town, we passed several small houses erected against the high rock, and crudely built in stone, coated with a yellow wash, and with corrugated iron roofs. Many were empty, and those occupied were used as warehouses. Over a quaintly constructed bridge, built in the 17th century, we passed into a large open square, round which were most of the public buildings, the Post Office, Revenue Office, Customs, etc., and Council Chambers. We went through this last building, and entered our names in the book provided. The interior was plainly furnished, having well polished floors and elaborate chandeliers. The gardens adjoining were in full bloom, quite equalling in luxuriance our English gardens in July. All the buildings were of stone, the outer walls covered with the yellow wash which seemed to be characteristic of the town generally. Most had corrugated iron roofs, and partitions of this material were largely used inside the buildings.

On the side of the square facing the sea was Mail Street, which led to Upper Jamestown, and indeed to other places in the island. At the corner of this street stood St. James' Church, a small edifice with a single clock tower and spire, quite in common with an English country village church. Standing on the bridge looking inland one can see up the valley for a distance of about two miles. The valley, as the illustration shows, rises gradually, and is not more than half a mile wide at any place.

On both sides, the hills—chiefly of rocks and pumice—rise at an angle of about 45 degrees and to a height of about 1,500 feet. Occasionally the barrenness is broken by palms and large cacti growing in crevices where fertile soil has collected. Eight hundred feet up is a kind of plateau, a mile long. Here is the coastguard and signal station, commanding a delightful view of the sea, the town, and the inland hills. The man in charge of the station was born there some fifty years ago, of English parents who went out there in a small sailing ship early in the eighteenth century. He was a happy, jovial fellow, and gave me abundant information about the island. The island telephone exchange is at this station. In his pretty garden grew roses, petunias, geraniums, begonia, and other flowers in full bloom, while the peach trees growing up the walls were laden with quantities of fruit. For a distance of about half a mile, and facing the sea, are eight small guns and two six inch guns which control the bay. At the back of this fortification is a large open drill yard and barracks, the headquarters of any military staff stationed on the island. Since the departure of the prisoners of Boer War, however, no military staff—with the exception of about a dozen soldiers who live in the town—has been stationed here, and the barracks have been closed down.

Ladder Hill, on which the signal station and barracks stand, derives its name from the straight ladder, or better, a straight run of steps, built in the rocks by the Royal Engineers in the 'seventies. There are exactly seven hundred steps between the town and the signal station, without a single break or resting place. Beside the steps the Engineers built a zig zag road for vehicle and horse traffic. The town is lit by paraffin lamps and candles. The lamps were introduced to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Until that time the streets were in total darkness after nightfall. There is scarcely any twilight, and darkness sets in in half an hour.

Jamestown has on several occasions suffered much damage by the falling rocks and loose shale, which generally occurs after heavy rains. In 1890 in the middle of the night several hundreds of tons of rock gave way and completely destroyed many of the houses in the vicinity, killing nine persons, and wounding many. A fountain in mail street was erected in memory of those who lost their lives.

Twice a year, generally in March and October, the sea is greatly disturbed by waves known as "rollers," which are the cause of a considerable amount of damage to the coast and shipping. In 1846 these rollers played havoc with the coast and shipping and caused much loss of life.

The inland soil is very fertile, and almost anything will grow. Flax, aloes, and cotton flourish; colonial fruit and English vegetables do well. They are able to obtain two crops of potatoes each year.

There are about seven thousand head of cattle on the island. Apart from farming, there are industries in lace, needlework, beads, and wood carving, but in spite of these the natives are in a state of semi-starvation, and the Governor is trying to create new industries. One of these is whaling, which commences in April or May of this year. To the voyager who had not been ashore for many days, there was much of interest in this tiny English colony isolated amid the ocean, and I hope I have been able to pass on that interest to readers of the Magazine.

STAMP NEWS

100 YEARS OF MARCONI RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Due to the vision and perseverance of a young, scientifically minded Italian by the name of Guglielmo Marconi, the world has enjoyed for a century the immeasurable benefits of radio and all that stem from it. St Helena, situated in the middle of the vast South Atlantic Ocean, with an infrequent shipping service and no air travel facilities, is particularly indebted to this great invention. Radio and related communications have done much to educate St Helenians of events happening in the outside world and also to reduce the feeling of total isolation for all who live here.

On Thursday, 28 March 1996 the Post Office will mark the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Marconi Radio Communications by releasing a set of two postage stamps. These stamps were designed by Mr Nick Shewring and printed in the UK by Walsall Security Printers Ltd, using the lithography process. The stamps size 31.75 x 48.26mm (slightly larger than usual), are in sheets of 50 (2 panes of 25) with perforations 13.7 per 2cm on CA watermarked paper.

The design for the Official First Day Cover is that of Guglielmo Marconi superimposed against British Patent No. 12039 which was issued to him on 2 June 1896.

Denominations and designs are as follows:



60p This stamp depicts four pieces of Marconi equipment found on St Helena

1. Inmarsat back-up Communications System used by Cable & Wireless Plc
2. MK 214D Transmitter and Modulator used in the early years of Radio St Helena
3. Single Frequency Fixed Station - First radio communications used by the St Helena Police Force
4. MF Communications Transmitter Type TGM.541 - was used by Cable & Wireless Plc for ship to shore communications and as a NDB (Non Directional Beacon) for Aircraft

£1.00 This Stamp is designed in two parts - the upper right half of the stamp shows Marconi transmitting from his yacht and the lower left half shows a full picture of the yacht "Electra".

Mint sets costing £1.60 and Official First Day Covers with liner cards at £1.90 will be on sale for a total of fifteen months from the date of release provided stocks last.

---ST. HELENA-----
POST OFFICE

Philatelic Bureau

JAMESTOWN
 ISLAND OF ST HELENA
 SOUTHERN ATLANTIC OCEAN

FAX No. (290) 2242



THE ST. HELENA/NORTH AMERICA
PACKET RATES
1863-1878

by Bernard Mabbett.

REFERENCES:

- Hibbert, Edward: St. Helena Postal History & Stamps 1979
Montgomery, Malcolm M.B.E.: The Postage Rates of
The North Atlantic Mails (1635 - 1950)
St. Helena Supplement No. 25, January 1996

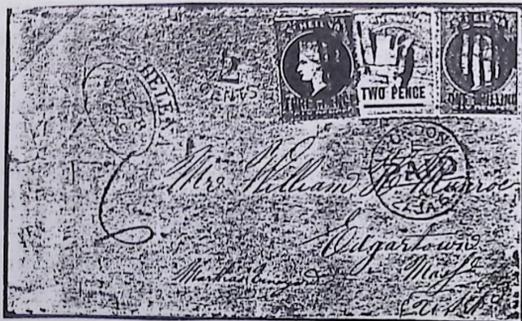
The accountancy marks, and postage rates of the Canadian/U.S.A. mail from St. Helena has been an area that has bothering me for some time. According to Hibbert (page 138) the Packet Rate to the U.S.A. between 1863 and 1876 was 1/5d.; he also illustrates a cover on page 43, where he states that the manuscript "3" was for the remainder of the postage rate being paid for in cash. My own feeling is that the "3" was an accountancy marking, and not to indicate prepayment for part of the postage in cash; also I can find no reference to a Postage Rate of 1/5d. from St. Helena. In Supplement No. 25, on pages 27 and 32 I illustrated Postal Regulations of 1854 and 1863 both of which state the rate to Canada and the U.S.A. as 1/2d. Although clearly from covers recorded a Postage Rate of 1/5d. did exist for at least 7 years (August 1863 until March 1870), so perhaps there was an amendment to the Post Office, Ordinance No. 2, of 1863 regarding the rate to Canada and the U.S.A. that we are not aware of.

I have listed all the covers I have recorded from St. Helena to Canada and the U.S.A. below with the manuscript accountancy markings where known:-

- August 29th 1863 to Canada, 1/5d. postage, 1/4d. accountancy mark.
- December 28th 1863 to Canada, 1/5d. postage, 1/4d. accountancy mark.
- December 28th 1868 to U.S.A., 1/5d. postage, 6d. accountancy mark.
- March 1870 to U.S.A., 1/5d. postage, 6d. accountancy mark.
- October 26th 1870 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage, 3d. accountancy mark.
- October 1870 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage, 3d. accountancy mark.
- April 27th 1871 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage, 3d. accountancy mark.
- April 19th 1872 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage rate, 3d. accountancy mark.
- May 22nd 1873 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage rate.
- April 14th 1875 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage rate.
- June 9th 1877 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage rate.
- May 13th 1878 to U.S.A., 1/2d. postage rate.

Now to get to the accountancy markings. It will be noted on the two covers to Canada of 1863 that they have an accountancy mark of 1/4d.; this was for the sea postage from St. Helena to the U.K. and from the U.K. to Canada; only 1d. of the total 1/5d. postage going to the St. Helena Post Office. From January 1st 1868 this method of accountancy was changed with a fine being imposed on mail to the U.S.A. where the sender has not indicated on the cover by which route the letter is to be sent [viz by U.S. Packet etc]. This fine was set at 6d. on 1st January 1868 and at least two covers show such a mark. Half the fine

was to be retained by the source nation, and half credited to the addressee nation. [Montgomery, page A3-10]. On 1st January 1869 this fine was reduced to 2d., but on 1st January 1870 was increased up to 3d. [Montgomery, page A3-10]. If any member has any additional information on the St. Helena postage rates to the U.S.A. or Canada or, has a cover in their collection that is not in the list on the previous page I would like to hear from them. Illustrated are two covers showing the accountancy marks of "6d" 1868 and "3d." 1870.



IN SEARCH OF SAUL SOLOMON
OF ST. HELENA
1776 - 1852

PART TWO

by Trevor Hearl.

A BOOM TIME FOR SOME

The Solomon empire continued to flourish for several reasons, not least its owners' business acumen. To lubricate local trade and show a profit, Solomon issues a token copper currency of 70,560 halfpennies "Payable at St. Helena by Solomon, Dickson and Taylor" - presumably London partners - which circulated alongside the East India Company's local coinage until the Crown took over the island in 1836. The family's businesses were then listed as:

SAUL SOLOMON	Merchant and Agent	GEORGE MOSS	Employ of Mr. Solomon
JOSEPH SOLOMON	Tavern Keeper	ISAAC MOSS	Boot & Shoe Maker
BENJAMIN SOLOMON	Merchant	S. MAGNUS	Jeweller
LEWIS GIDEON	Merchant, Jeweller & Notary Public.		

Jamestown boasted two other jewellers (Charles Oswald and Thomas Richards), a watchmaker (W. Tracy) and a silversmith (Joseph Saunders). They were trading when the Island was, wrote George Brooks Bennett, in "the full flood of its prosperity".

"Everybody and everything appeared to be flourishing. Money was abundant and trade was brisk. It could hardly be otherwise with so many and such splendid ships...arriving crowded with passengers. Jamestown was in a state of continual bustle."

During Saul's business career ships increased from 150 to over a thousand a year, St. Helena became a haven for American whalers and a base for the Royal Navy's anti-slavery squadron, with a Vice-Admiralty Court condemning slavers and unseaworthy vessels to the benefit of Jamestown's ship chandlers.

Solomon had funds for speculation when it mattered, which perhaps explains partners such as the shadowy Dickson and Taylor, George Janisch of Teutonic Hall, and Robert Morrison, who had the fact inscribed on his grave in 1865. (Daniel Hamilton's memorial in 1867 also records service to the Company). But when calamity fell, like the collapse of the St. Helena Whale Fishery Co., it was rivals, Thomas Baker, John Scott and others, who lost, not Solomon, Gideon or Moss. Ironically, forty years later his successors ignored, or were ignorant of, this experience and made a disastrous investment in the Island whaler, Elizabeth. If Saul speculated unwisely, it has yet to be discovered. At the watershed of St. Helena history - the Island's transfer from the Company to the Crown in 1836 - he was again among the winners, as old Company landed families sold out at a great loss, while merchants took their pickings and prospered.

Saul was no less skilful in climbing the social ladder as the Napoleonic era receded. Despite being 'in trade', which normally put one beyond the pale of polite society, he and his partners were invited to sit with 'gentlemen' on various committees - Benefit, Benevolent, Fire and those of other social welfare societies. Solomon, Gideon and Moss virtually ran the Annuity Fund Committee. Indicators abound of rising social status. In 1823 Saul's daughter Phoebe married Capt. T.M. Hunter of the St. Helena Artillery; in 1838 his son Henry

(1806-47) became Colonial Surgeon and Health Officer, whose widow married Governor Sir Patrick Ross; they were leading Freemasons, churchwardens and JPs. For 50 years they almost monopolised the prestigious post of Sheriff ("no salary") through Saul Solomon (1839-42, Lewis Gideon (1842-4, 1852-6), Nathaniel Solomon (1850-52, 1859-60), George Moss (1870-80) and Saul Solomon, jnr. (1880-88). In short, during the founder's lifetime, Solomon & Co. became pillars of the Establishment and of the Church, to be symbolised finally by Hornfray Welby Solomon (1877-1960), grandson of Bishop Welby, Churchwarden and Member of Council (from 1898), commercial and social Island Supremo - "King Sol". His death on 30th October 1960 at 83 ended the Solomon dynasty at St. Helena, and in 1974 the firm, dominating Island production and commerce, was 'nationalised' by the St. Helena Government. Among his Victorian competitors only W.A. Thorpe & Sons now survive as independant merchant-landowners.

A VOYAGE TO REMEMBER

But to return to Saul Solomon, the founder. In 1850 he visited England with an unmarried daughter, probably for medical reasons, staying at his son-in-law's fine house 'Eastwood' in Portishead, overlooking the Bristol Channel. There on 6th December 1852, he died from "softening of the brain, paralysis, apoplexy, 9 months certified", accompanied only by an illiterate nurse, Mary Devine. His death certificate gave his age as 75 and occupation "Consul", reflecting his appointments as "consul for Lübeck, Bremen, Hamburg, the Brazils, Spain and Austria; Vice-Consul for Belgium; Consular Agent for France; and Commercial Agent for Holland."

His wish to return to St. Helena was honoured in a rather bizarre sequel, revealed by Mrs. Harriet Tytler sailing home from India in 1853 on the S.V. Camperdown:

"At the Cape we...took in fresh passengers, among them a Miss Solomon...[who] confided to some of us a burden on her mind... Unknown to everybody she had brought her father's corpse on the ship to have it buried on his beloved St. Helena. The burden was a terrible one for fear that if the sailors found it out, they would chuck her father overboard. Of course we were all under vow not to disclose the terrible fact of a corpse on board, so that when we reached St. Helena and the contents of that case safely landed, her brother Nathaniel came on board and... invited us to his hotel as guests."

If the Camperdown's crew were unaware of the contents of Miss Solomon's luggage, people at St. Helena were not. Both local papers, recording the death of "our late Sheriff in London"[sic], had announced that he was to be buried on the Island, the St. Helena Chronicle reporting on 19th February "that his remains are at the Cape".

"As soon as the intelligence reached this place, the whole of the shop windows were immediately half closed, the greater part still remaining so on our going to press."

The St. Helena Herald welcomed the news "that he is to be buried on the Island".

"The will give many an opportunity of paying their last tribute of respect and attachment by following his remains to the tomb."

Both editors expected Solomon to be remembered more as a philanthropist than as a businessman, which reads curiously today given his firm's omnipresence and local amnesia about philanthropists! While he enjoyed "the ample rewards of commercial perseverance and successful speculation", remarked the Chronicle, "his heart and hand were ever open to the claims of distress and poverty."

"He was a liberal supporter of public institutions and joined heartily in the promotion of all schemes for the common good. He was a valuable and useful member of society and will long be remembered by many, amongst whom the writer is one, as a person not more distinguished for his remarkable success in life, than for the kindness towards others, the liberality and generosity of disposition by which he adorned it."

The Herald was more succinct:

"He had his faults, for who has not? Let them be forgotten. But he had also his virtues and amongst them not the least remarkable was his benevolence. We have many living witnesses of his kindness to the distressed and suffering; and to his readiness to impart to them more substantial proofs of sympathy than mere words."

"The remains of Mr. Saul Solomon" arrived on 2nd March 1853 - on the Perseverance, not the Camperdown, according to the Herald and were interred two days later in the lower burial ground. The Chronicle carried a brief account next morning:

"All the civil servants of the Government, a number of military officers, and a very large concourse of people attended at [St. James] Church and followed the corpse to the grave. The burial service was read by Rev R. Kempthorne, Rural Dean assisted by Rev. W. Helps, Garrison Chaplain and Messers. Escourt and Chambers."

The Herald, pursuing the philanthropic theme, mused that "even two years' absence prior to his decease could not cool [peoples'] remembrance of his kindness to them."

"The concourse of people attending the funeral was very large and many seemed deeply affected - proof of the strong affection which they must have had for S. Solomon.... This attachment seemed not confined to any particular class, for while the poor appeared most deeply to lament the loss of one whose kindness to them was most proverbial, there were mourners there from every rank of society."

A 21 minute-gun salute was cancelled "in consequence of the severe illness of a gentleman in town", a symbolic recognition both of his importance and his humanity.

"UNDER THE TREES"

The inevitable sequel, the Executor's Sale, was held at Jamestown's traditional auction site, "under the Trees", on 23rd January 1854. It was, the Herald commented, "no small land sale for such a small place as St. Helena." Indeed, it needs an economic historian to interpret its significance in the context of the Island's economy as the Executors divested themselves of prestige properties "offering a splendid opportunity for the profitable investment of capital". First to be offered among the "rare selection of most desirable dwelling-houses" were The Briars, The Brewery, and The Pavilion, "carefully preserved by the late Proprietor in the same state and with the same internal arrangement as used by the Emperor." The auctioneer, Isaac Moss, commended The Briars House, "with Coach Houses, Outbuildings and every convenience", as "one of the best and most commodious Residences in the Island" which,

"...from its elevated position and fresh pure air has always been in great request as a residence by those who seek to combine the Pleasures of the Country with the advantage of being within a few minutes distance from Town."

The grounds, "before [being] planted by the East India Company with Mulberry Trees" had been, he stressed, "one of the most profitable fruit gardens on the Island."

There followed another eight "valuable properties", no fewer than six in Main Street. Lacking names and numbers, they cannot easily be identified, though to Moss and potential purchasers they were "too well known to need many particulars". The house formerly rented by Captain Knipe, "well known as the best and most convenient in Town", was apparently to be sold with vacant possession, while tenants of the others doubtless viewed proceedings with some apprehension. Three of the most desirable, "of precisely the same character", were occupied by H. Weston, Lee Solomon and Dr. Marshall, "for many years past let to highly respectable tenants". James Scott's house and shop "in an excellent business situation was followed by the Jeweller's Shop and Dwelling House of W. Green, near the Market". This left two "spacious premises", one on the road to Ladder Hill occupied by Mr. Beattie, "well adapted for any purpose requiring extensive space", the other "the Blacksmiths' Forge and Yard [behind] Solomon and Moss's Stores", let to J. Truebody. Finally were offered shares in the St. Helena Hotel, "a safe and profitable investment".

"There has rarely been such a large sale, or one which excited such interest" declared the Herald. "A considerable number of buyers" were joined by others "interested in watching the value of property on the Island at the present time." Some good prices were realised, but others, in the paper's opinion, were "only middling".

"For instance a house which lets at £75 p.a. fetched £1,250, while another which lets for £40 p.a. only brought £211."

The sale raised "somewhere between £4,500 and £5,000."

Today the name Solomon is the best known in St. Helena. But only as a business. Saul Solomon is unknown, though his gravestone survives. I found it in 1971 by the north wall of St. James' Church, among those rescued when the Burial Ground was cleared to make a Children's Playground. It could hardly have been more modest:

Sacred to the Memory of S. Solomon, Esq.
who died in England
on the sixth of December 1852
Aged 76 years.

May this brief biographical reconnaissance encourage others to seek out more about the life and achievements of St. Helena's remarkable "Merchant King".

ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

R.M.S. ST. HELENA SCHEDULE 1996/97

VOYAGE	1986	1996	1996/97	1987
	31	32	33	34
CARDIFF	D. THU 9 MAY	THU 8 AUG	THU 24 OCT	THU 20 FEB
TENERIFE	C TUE 14 MAY	TUE 13 AUG	TUE 29 OCT	TUE 25 FEB
ASCENSION	C TUE 21 MAY	TUE 20 AUG	TUE 5 NOV	TUE 4 MAR
ST. HELENA	A THU 23 MAY D SAT 25 MAY	THU 22 AUG SAT 24 AUG	THU 7 NOV SAT 9 NOV	THU 6 MAR SAT 8 MAR
ASCENSION	A MON 27 MAY D TUE 28 MAY		MON 11 NOV TUE 12 NOV	
ST. HELENA	A THU 30 MAY D FRI 31 MAY		THU 14 NOV FRI 15 NOV	
CAPE TOWN	A WED 5 JUN D SAT 8 JUN	THU 29 AUG. SUN 1 SEP	WED 20 NOV SAT 23 NOV	THU 13 MAR SAT 15 MAR
TRISTAN DA CUNHA	A D		WED 27 NOV THU 28 NOV	
ST. HELENA	A THU 13 JUN D SAT 15 JUN	FRI 6 SEP SUN 8 SEP	MON 2 DEC WED 4 DEC	THU 20 MAR SAT 22 MAR
ASCENSION	A MON 17 JUN D TUE 18 JUN	TUE 10 SEP TUE 10 SEP		MON 24 MAR TUE 25 MAR
ST. HELENA	A THU 20 JUN D FRI 21 JUN	THU 12 SEP FRI 13 SEP		THU 27 MAR FRI 28 MAR
CAPE TOWN	A WED 26 JUN D SAT 29 JUN	WED 18 SEP SAT 21 SEP	MON 9 DEC WED 11 DEC	WED 2 APR SAT 5 APR
ST. HELENA	A THU 4 JUL D SAT 6 JUL	THU 28 SEP SAT 28 SEP	MON 16 DEC TUE 17 DEC	THU 10 APR SAT 12 APR
ASCENSION	A MON 8 JUL D TUE 9 JUL	MON 30 SEP TUE 1 OCT	THU 19 DEC FRI 20 DEC	MON 14 APR TUE 15 APR
ST. HELENA	A THU 11 JUL D FRI 12 JUL	THU 3 OCT FRI 4 OCT	SUN 22 DEC TUE 24 DEC	THU 17 APR FRI 18 APR
ASCENSION	A D		THU 26 DEC FRI 27 DEC	
ST. HELENA	A D		SUN 29 DEC MON 30 DEC	
CAPE TOWN	A D		SAT 4 JAN SUN 5 JAN	
TRISTAN DA CUNHA	A D		FRI 10 JAN SUN 12 JAN	
CAPE TOWN	A D		FRI 17 JAN MON 20 JAN	
ST. HELENA	A D		SAT 25 JAN MON 27 JAN	
ASCENSION	A D		WED 29 JAN THU 30 JAN	
ST. HELENA	A D		SAT 1 FEB SUN 2 FEB	
BANJUL	A THU 18 JUL D THU 18 JUL	THU 10 OCT FRI 11 OCT	SAT 8 FEB SUN 9 FEB	THU 24 APR FRI 25 APR
TENERIFE	C SUN 21 JUL	MON 14 OCT	WED 12 FEB MON 17 FEB	MON 28 APR SAT 3 MAY

BOOKS FOR SALE

Are you interested in books on St. Helena, Ascension, Tristan and other South Atlantic islands (As well as West Africa). Please contact David M. Nemeth who is selling a large collection of books relating to these areas. Please contact David direct with your Wants-list/enquiries at the following address:-

MR. DAVID M. NEMETH
FLAT 3, 135 CHARLTON CHURCH LANE,
CHARLTON, LONDON SE7 7AA

TEL 0181 858 9113

FROM THE AUCTIONS

ST. HELENA P.O. NOTICES &
P.O. COMMUNICATIONS ETC

by Jeremy Martin

The Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd sale of 22nd September 1995 included eight lots of P.O. Notices, letters to and from the Postmaster, and other similar items.

The story is, that a visitor to the island found a pile of archives from the P.O. being destroyed. Fortunately, the visitor was able to 'rescue' some of the material.

A list of the lots together with realisations is set out below and many of the individual items are herewith reproduced with kind permission of Cavendish Philatelic Auctions. [Many of the photostats have had to be reduced to fit the pages].

LOT 869 POST OFFICE NOTICES: 1900-26 Group of notices referring to Parcel Post between the U.K. & St. Helena. (10 notices) EST£120 REAL£85

LOT 870 POST OFFICE NOTICES, LETTERS TO & FROM THE POSTMASTER ETC: 1915-26 Group of notices etc referring to Registered Mail inc scarce 1925 Ascension Certificate of Posting receipt. (10 items) EST£100 REAL£140

LOT 871 POST OFFICE NOTICES, POST OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC: 1901-37 Group referring to a variety of subjects inc P.O. Mailbags, lost packets etc. (12 items)

EST£100 REAL£130

LOT 872 CIRCULARS EX DOWNING ST. TO ST. HELENA: 1896-1910 Referring to the sale of postage stamps both items with "THE CASTLE/ST. HELENA" receiving marks.

EST£75 REAL£90

LOT 873 POST OFFICE NOTICES-1912 "ACCOUNT OF DEAD LETTERS" FORM emanating from the Returned Letter Office in London. EST£50 REAL£34

LOT 874 CIRCULAR EX DOWNING ST CONCERNING FREE DELIVERY OF UNPAID/INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID LETTERS AND POSTCARDS: 1915 dated June 19th. with oval "POST OFFICE/CROWN/ST. HELENA" and "THE CASTLE/ST. HELENA" handstamps. EST£75 REAL£75

LOT 875 POST OFFICE NOTICES: 1917 (3) referring to Registered & Parcel mail lost at sea during First World War. EST£70 REAL£80

LOT 876 WAY BILL FROM ST. HELENA TO ENGLAND CONVEYED BY THE PACKET "BALMORAL CASTLE": 1815 Way Bill. EST£75 REAL£95

One other lot that may be of interest to members from the same sale was Lot 868 1961 Tristan Relief Fund set in marginal unmounted mint. Cat £4,000.

EST £1600 REAL£1900

CIRCULAR.



Downing Street,

19th June, 1915.



Sir,

With reference to my predecessor's Circular despatch of the 9th of March, I have the honour to inform you that the arrangement therein referred to has been extended so as to allow the delivery free of charge of unpaid or insufficiently prepaid letters and postcards bearing an indication of having been posted by members of any of the Allied Armies.

2. I shall be glad if a similar concession may be made in the case of such letters or postcards received in the territory under your government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

A. BONAR LAW.

*The Officer Administering
the Government of*

ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

L.P.S. No. 190. (O.E.—No. 3.)
 Controller's

Address reply to—
 The Controller,
 London Postal Service,
 London, E.C.

Quoting Registered No., L.P.S. 71870/15



POST OFFICE,

LONDON,

21 September, 1915.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you that the Postal Packet described below is stated to have been duly delivered to the addresses on the 15 May 1915. Addressees admit receipt.

Date and No. of communication under reply . . . } 18. 8. 15. 350/15.

Description of Postal Packet Registered Letter.

Address Messrs Greenlass & Sons,

Bozellpark, Glasgow.

Date and place of posting 20th April, 1915, St. Helena

Sender's Name and Address Mrs Stella Smith,

Jamestown, St. Helena.

Contents Correspondence and Postal Order 120^Y 641715
for 21s. 0d.

I am,

The Postmaster,

SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

ST. HELENA.

R. BRUCE,

Controller.



WAY BILL.

MAILS from ST. HELENA, &c., conveyed by the
Packet "*Balmoral Castle*" from ST. HELENA on the
9th day of *December*, 1915.

From—	No. of Bags for				Total Number.	*Including _____ Bags from England.
	ASCENSION.	TENERIFFE OR LAS PALMAS	SOUTHAMPTON.	LONDON		
St. Helena	<i>1</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	Received the Mails for Ascension <i>T. Olin</i> Postmaster. _____ day of _____ 1915.
Ascension	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	Received the Mails for Tenerife or Las Palmas _____ Director of Posts. _____ day of _____ 1915.
Teneriffe	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	Received the Mails for England _____ Postmaster of Southampton _____ day of _____ 1915.
Las Palmas	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	Received the Mails for London _____ For Superintendent G.P.O., London. _____ day of _____ 1915.

Arrived at St. Helena the <i>9th</i> day of <i>December</i> 1915, at <i>5th</i> M.	Arrived at Ascension the <i>11th</i> day of <i>Dec</i> 1915, at <i>1st</i> M.	Arrived at <i>Portsmouth</i> the <i>21st</i> day of <i>December</i> 1915, at _____ M.
Received the Mails from St. Helena <i>6</i> in number.	Received the Mails from Ascension <i>5</i> in number.	
Sailed the <i>9th</i> day of <i>December</i> at <i>5th</i> M.	Sailed the <i>11th</i> day of <i>December</i> at <i>1st</i> M.	
<i>W. H. G. P. O.</i> Commander.	<i>W. H. G. P. O.</i> Commander.	<i>W. H. G. P. O.</i> Commander.

This Way Bill to be handed by the Captain of the Vessel to the Receiving Officer at Port of arrival in England.



ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

P 572
-19



Postmaster
St. Helena.

I have to report that a registered Postal packet posted at this Office on 5th August 1919, is stated by the sender not to have reached the addressee.

The packet was addressed as follows :-

Miss Eliza Thomas,
Half Tree Hollow,
St. Helena,

and was forwarded from Ascension to St. Helena on 6th August 1919, per s.s. "Cawdor Castle" - entered at No. 10 - Registrati on No. 35.

I shall be glad if you will be good enough to inform me as to whether the packet in question has since reached the addressee.

Ascension,
11th September 1919.

H. M. A.
for Deputy Postmaster.

O.E.—No. 3.

Address reply to

Manchester

Quoting Registered No.

N^o. 90/11



POST OFFICE,



Manchester

22nd Dec. 1919.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you that the Postal Packet described below was delivered on the 1st April last to the signature of E. Brown. The addressee admit receipt.

Date and No. of communication under reply . . .

? : No. 511.

Description of Postal Packet

Registered Letter : St Helena, 32:

Address

Bohrani Sons & Co.

Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

Date and place of posting

3rd March 19, Jamestown, St. Hel.

Sender's Name and Address

Mr. C. Hagg,

Jamestown, St. Helena.

Contents

Correspondence & Postal Orde.

I am

SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

The Postmaster,
St. Helena,

Chas. Anderson

Postmaster.

ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

Address reply to—
"The Controller,
London Postal Service,
London, E.C. 1."

L.P.S. 190 (O.E. 3.)
Controller's



Quoting Registered No., L.P.S....120,122.....



POST OFFICE,
LONDON, E.C. 1.

10th November, 1920.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you that the Postal Packet described overleaf records of registered correspondence dealt with during May and June 1918 have been destroyed in ordinary course, and the disposal of the Postal Packet described overleaf cannot therefore be furnished.

It has, however, been ascertained that the Money Order No. 1674 was cleared at the Money Order Office on the 8th of July, 1918, through the London County Westminster and Parrs Bank and bears the signature of "D. Corcoran".

I.....am,.....,

SIR,

The Postmaster,
St. Helena.

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES C. SANDERSON,

Controller.

Wt.3504 SP1382 14,500(2) 6/20 DSG61945

ST. HELENA & ASCENSION SUPPLEMENT NO 26

POST OFFICE, ST. HELENA,

N^o P 44

19th July 1824

Sir,

I am directed by the Postmaster to inform you that the Postal Packet described below is stated not to have reached the Addressee. The Postmaster asks, therefore, that your Administration will be good enough to make any inquiries in its power, and to acquaint him with the result.

Description of Postal Packet Registered packet.

Address Melrose J. Parkers Esq
1 Kensington
London. W. 8.

Date of Posting 14. 3. 24.

Place of Posting Jamietown St. Helena.

Senders Name and Address Mr. M. Hicks
Cablebank.
St. Helena.

Contents Watch and Correspondence

Despatching Office St. Helena.

Date and Time of Despatch 14. 3. 24 / Mr. S. S. Girth Codd.

To what Office Despatched G. P. O. London.

Number on List 3. List 3. Sheet 2
of Jour. N^o 496.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. D. Lewis.
Clerk

of the Secretary.
G. P. O.
London.



ACK.

REFER TO *Mr. [unclear]*
TO DEAL WITH AND RETAIN

26/8/1944

The Secretary

Post Office

St. Helena

Receipt of the item is

admitted by the addresses



*England
& Somali*

[Handwritten initials]

NO. C. 10127.10.2

3

Oakbank.

25th October, 1924.

The Postmaster,
Post-office,
Jamestown.

Dear Sir,

In reference to your P¹¹³/₂₄ dated
17th July, 1924, I shall be glad
to know to-day if you have
received any information from
the Secretary; general Post-office
respecting Registered Packet No. 496,
which was despatched by you
on the 14th March.

Yours faithfully,
W. Hicks

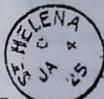
Your reference.....
P.O. reference..... 183050/24.
All communications should be addressed to
THE SECRETARY,
General Post Office.



GENERAL POST OFFICE,
LONDON, E.C. 1.

9 December, 1924.

*M. P. 9
25-*



Sir,

[Handwritten signature]

I am directed by the Postmaster General to inform you that enquiry has been made of this Department regarding six registered packets addressed to Mr. Oswald Marsh, 26 The Avenue, Norwood, London, S.E.19, which are stated not to have reached the addressee.

The packets in question are stated to have been sent by the addressee to Ascension for registration and posting, and according to a letter sent to Mr. Marsh from your Office (copy enclosed) they were numbered 154 to 159 and were included in the mail despatched from Ascension on the 27th of January last and conveyed by the S.S. "Goorkha". Registered articles bearing those numbers and received by that mail are, however, recorded as having been addressed and delivered, together with those from Ascension numbered 131 to 153, to Messrs Ewens, 52 Palace Square, London S.E.19. Mr. Marsh and Messrs Ewens are both stamp dealers;

The Postmaster,
St. Helena.

dlj

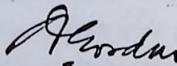
dealers; but the two firms are quite distinct.

The Postmaster General would be glad, if, in the circumstances, you would be so good as to furnish him with particulars of the names and addresses to which the registered articles numbered 151 to 159 shown on the enclosed copy of the relative registered list were directed.

If they were all addressed to Messrs. Ewens, perhaps particulars of the despatch of those addressed to Mr. Marsh can be furnished.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



for the Secretary.



Date and No. of communication under reply } No. 802/23

Description of Postal Packet Registered letter St. Helena 321

Address MESSRS. Cochran Sons & Co.,
Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

Date and place of posting 31st August, 1923. St. Helena

Sender's Name and Address A.C. Quinn,
Jamestown, St. Helena.

Contents

POST, OFFICE.

PSO
26

ST. HELENA.

18. 7. 26

Sir,

The Postmaster Ascension has requested me to inform you that your registered letter No 100 addressed to Messrs Lemnards, Queens Road, Bristol was delivered on the 22nd October 1926 to the signature of W. Pugh, Postmaster-Surveyor, & Bristol Post Office.

I am Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Postmaster.

Mr, J. Williams.

Jamestown.

No. 100

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OF A REGISTERED POSTAL PACKET.

A letter addressed as under, upon which a Fee of 3 00 pence has been paid.
(State amount in words.)

in addition to the Postage (of) has been registered and posted here this day: -
(for Parcels only.)

Lemnards Ltd
Queens Rd
Bristol

Postmaster's Signature W. Pugh (A. Notice here)

3 00
25

receipt pinned to letter on other side