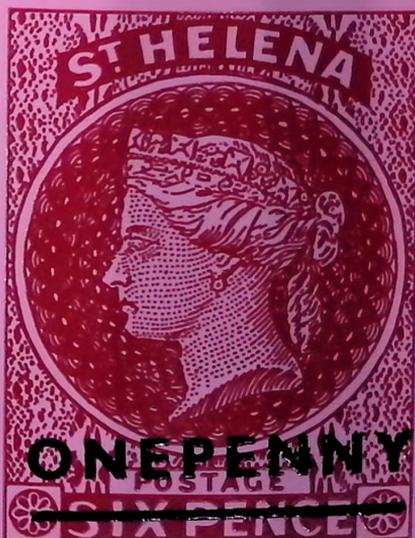


The West Africa Study Circle

Saint Helena Supplement No. 7



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The West Africa Study Circle
Saint Helena Supplement No. 7

EDITED BY ROGER B WEST

CONSULTANTS:

BERNARD J MABBETT - BOER WAR
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CLIFFORD MASTERS - POSTCARDS
TREVOR HEARL - LOCAL

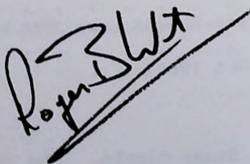
EDITORIAL

By the time this Supplement is published, the Gibbons sale of the Don Lampart Postal History collection will be behind us. However, as this is being written, we are looking forward to witnessing the sale of probably the finest St Helena Postal History collection ever formed. A report will appear in the next Supplement, although I suspect that most readers would have received the catalogue and prices realised.

Despite the sale, I am delighted to say that Don will be continuing his role as Postal History Consultant, and he will be happy to answer any queries in this field.

Finally, a lot of work (and even more thought) goes into the production of the Supplements, and if you have ANY comments or ideas for improvements, please let me know.

Roger B West
The Corner Shop
Binfield
Bracknell
Berkshire RG12 5HR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger B West". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single stroke.

Bracknell (0344) 54060

CORK CANCELLATIONS

by Roger B West

In the main the early cork cancels have been well documented in Edward Hibbert's handbook. This describes and illustrates 55 types which he divides into three groups:

CNA - 21 types first used between 1856 and 1870

CNB - 21 types first used between 1870 and 1899

CNC - 13 types first used between 1900 and 1902

From time to time, a new cancel comes to light and I list here a selection. I have continued with the ABC grouping although there are anomalies with this system. I have also introduced 'a' numbers where obvious similarities exist.



CNA 2a



CNA 6a



CNA 18a



CNB 3a



CNB 4a

CNA 2a Irregular squares arranged 3 x 3 (struck in red on 6d imperf)

CNA 6a Four segments of a circle widely spaced (struck in red on rough perf 6d)

CNA 18a Similar to CNA 18 but with four arrows

CNB 3a A similar cancel to CNB 3 but smaller all round

CNB 4a This cancel is quite common and is a mixture of CNB 4 & 5 - with the open cross of type 4 and the corners of type 5.



CNB 6a



CNB 10a



CNB 14a



CNB 15a



CNB 17a

CNB 6a A similar cancel to CNB 6 except the blocks are arranged 3 x 6

CNB 10a Seven horizontal lines contained within a (smallish) circle.

CNB 14a A very slim version of CNB 14 and slightly taller

CNB 15a This cancel is between CNB 15 and CNC 5, having 8 (or 9) bars in the shape of a rhomboid.

CNB 17a Cross with two quarters divided. On some copies, the edges of the canceller have left dots forming an outer circle. This feature often occurs on CNB 17 & 18.



CNB 19a



CNB 22



CNB 23



CNB 24



CNB 25

CNB 19a A similar basic shape to CNB 19, but four rows of blocks

CNB 22 A common cancel made up of small squares contained in a circle

CNB 23 Four segments forming a rough circle almost touching at points

CNB 24 Four triangles or segments widely spaced.

CNB 25 Four segments forming a circle but closely spaced.



CNB 26



CNC 1 (amended)



CNC 1a



CNC 1b



CNC 4a

CNB 26 Three segments or triangles

CNC 1 (amended) It would appear that Hibbert's diagram is incomplete, the full cancel having an extra row of four bars.

CNC 1a Short bars arranged in rows of four forming a rectangle.

CNC 1b Similar to CNC 1 but made up of rows of three bars.

CNC 4a Six thick lines contained within a circle but without the break.



CNC 6a



CNC 8a



CNC 12a



CNC 13a

CNC 6a A cancel between CNC 6 & 7 showing seven prongs. These cancels often appear to be contained within a broken circle.

CNC 8a A Maltese cross but without the surrounding circle.

CNC 12a A Maltese cross with frilled edges that meet in the centre.

CNC 13a A coronet type cancel made up of three groups of four prongs.

These early cancellations represent an area where there is still considerable scope for further study. I have barely touched on the numerous types of 'dots', 'lines' and 'sunbursts', with the intention of looking at them at a later date. Meanwhile, I would be delighted to hear from any body currently involved in such a study.

R.B.W.

AUCTION RESULTS - CHRISTIE'S-ROBSON LOWE (ZURICH) 5th NOVEMBER 1986

	Est/Realised
12½% buyers premium	
Crowned Queen's Head proof in green (as per 1956 issue) . . .	SF 250/300
As above but in carmine and brown.	SF 500/1200
1937 Coronation imperf set, perf Specimen.	SF 600/700

£1 = SF 2.35

POSTAL RATES 1

Philip Beale has been rummaging through the archives again and has come up with the Ordinance of 1839 reproduced below.

No. 23.—1839.

V.



R.

AN ORDINANCE

To amend the Laws relating to the Post Office at St. Helena.

WHEREAS, by a Proclamation bearing date the 20th day of February, 1815, a Post Office was established at the Island of St. Helena, and certain rates of Postage thereby appointed to be paid for Letters transmitted from, or brought to the said Island; And whereas, it is expedient to alter the said rates, and make regulations for the management of the Post Office.

1.—Be it enacted, that from and after the first day of April 1839, it shall be lawful for the Post-Master, to demand, receive, and take, to and for the use of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, for the post and conveyance of all letters, packets, newspapers, and periodical publications, not specially exempted from postage, by an act passed in the first year of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets by the post free from the duty of Postage," which shall be carried or conveyed to or from the Island of St. Helena, according to the several rates and sums hereinafter mentioned, that is to say,

Postage of letters to be as varied according to scale.

For every single Letter	Os.	3½d.
For every double letter, or other letter, less than one ounce in weight	Os.	6d.
For every ounce in weight	1s.	0d.
For every Newspaper, Pamphlet, Magazine, Review, and other periodical publication, which shall not have been previously charged with, or liable to postage, and provided the same be without a cover or in a cover open at the sides, each	Os.	1d.

All single letters sent by any non-commissioned officer, seaman, or private of Her Majesty's Service, to any other place than Great Britain, to pay one penny postage.

2.—And be it further enacted, that all single letters sent by any non-commissioned officer, seaman, or private in Her Majesty's Navy, Army, Artillery, or Royal Marines, to any other place than Great Britain or Ireland, shall be subject to the postage of one penny only, for the conveyance of any such letter, to be paid on the delivery at the Post Office; Provided always, that on such letter shall be superscribed the name of the writer, and his class or description, in the Vessel, Regiment, Corps, or Detachment, to which he shall belong, and that upon every such letter, there shall be written in the hand-writing of, and signed by the Commanding officer for the time being of the Ship, or Vessel, Corps, Regiment, or Detachment, to which such non-commissioned officer, seaman, or private may belong, the name of such officer and the name of such Vessel, Regiment, Corps, or Detachment.

Masters of vessels to receive one penny for every letter delivered by them, addressed to persons residing within this Colony, not delivered to them from Post Masters in Great Britain.

3.—And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Post-Master, to allow to the Master of any Ship or Vessel arriving at St. Helena, the sum of one penny for every letter addressed to any person residing within the Colony, which shall not have been delivered to such master by the Deputy, or Deputies of the Post-Master-General, at any place or Post Town in Great Britain or Ireland, and which shall be by him delivered at the Post Office: Provided always, that nothing shall be payable for any Despatch Box addressed to the Governor of this Colony, or any thing therein contained.

Post-Master within 48 hours after receipt of Mail or packet, to make out a list of the letters or packets not delivered, and send to the Collector of Customs to be exhibited.

4.—And be it enacted, that the Post-Master shall within forty-eight hours after the receipt of every Mail, or packet of letters, coming from foreign parts to the Island of St. Helena, make out a list of such letters or packets therein contained, which shall not at the time of making such list, have been delivered or forwarded to their destination: specifying therein, the names and address which shall be written or marked on each of the said letters, and shall send or deliver the said list to the Collector of Customs, to be exhibited at the Custom House, for the benefit of the masters, passengers, and crew, of all ships and vessels arriving at St. Helena.

Laws and Regulations of the Post Office of the United Kingdom to be in force at St. Helena.

5.—And be it enacted, that all the Laws and Regulations relative to the Post Office of the United Kingdom, shall as far as the same are applicable, and not repugnant herewith, be in force in St. Helena.

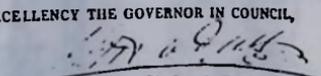
Certain Laws repealed.

6.—And be it lastly enacted, that all the local Laws and Regulations in the book called the Bye Laws, under the heads of "Postage," and "Packets," shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Given at St. Helena, this 14th day of March in the Year of our Lord 1839.

BY ORDER OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL,


Colonial Secretary.

CHARLES DARWIN'S VISIT TO SAINT HELENA 1836

I was recently presented with the Public Notice (opposite) relating to the special stamps commemorating the Centenary of the Death of Charles Darwin. In researching Darwin's visit to the Island, I was surprised by how little had been written. Two accounts however are interesting, and I reproduce them verbatim:

Tony Cross in 'St Helena' writes: "It is strangely ironic that one of the best detailed accounts of the island and its natural history dates from this time, when Charles Darwin came ashore from HMS Beagle in 1836 and in six days made a close and thorough examination of all he saw. The Castle at Jamestown still houses the copies of 'A Naturalists Voyage Round the World' presented by Darwin to commemorate his visit."

Simon Winchester's 'Outposts' states: "HMS Beagle stood off for six days in 1836 when Charles Darwin made as near as possible a complete inventory of the unique flora and fauna. (Not all of it home-grown: the British brought in furze and blackberry, frogs and rabbits, and an enthusiastic naturalist, Phoebe Moss, released five mynah birds at a country house in mid-island, and the colony is now thick with them. But the wirebird, a small fat plover which lives in the kaffir figs, is unique; and the depredations of the voracious native white ant have become a St. Helena legend. They had an eccentric liking for theological books, and contentedly munched their way through the entire library, leaving only the bindings. Hardly a house has escaped the attention of their jaws; the main staircase at the Castle collapsed with a roar one night and had to be replaced by a cast-iron model brought out at great expense from England.)"

The island was proud of its famous visitor and the commemorative stamps were well received.

R.B.W.



Charles Darwin



The Beagle off St Helena



Ring Necked Pheasant

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Issue of Postage Stamps

A set of St Helena stamps was released for sale today to mark the Centenary of the Death of Charles Darwin. The set consists of four stamps which depicts the following:

- 7p PORTRAIT OF CHARLES DARWIN
- 14p FLAGSTAFF HILL AND DARWIN'S HAMMER
- 25p PARTRIDGE AND PHEASANT
- 29p THE BEAGLE OFF ST. HELENA

These stamps, at 75p per set and first day covers at 95p each, will be on sale for a period of three months or until stocks are exhausted whichever is the earlier.

R. I. Ellick,
Postmaster.

The Post Office, St. Helena,
19th April, 1982.

21/130/1982

Printed at the Government Printing Office, The Castle, St. Helena,
A. A. BIZAARE, Government Printer.



INCREASE OF POSTAGE
ON LETTERS FOR
THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, NATAL,
ST. HELENA, and ASCENSION,
WHEN CONVEYED BY PACKET; AND
REDUCTION OF POSTAGE
WHEN CONVEYED BY PRIVATE SHIP.

The revenue derived from letters conveyed by Packet between the United Kingdom and the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, St. Helena, and Ascension having been found to be wholly insufficient to cover the expense of the Packet Service, it has been decided to revert to the former rate of postage of ONE SHILLING for letters, to and from those places, not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight, and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have, by Warrant, directed that this increased rate shall be charged *on the 1st April next, and thenceforward.*

Simultaneously, the scale of progression for charging letters addressed to any of the foregoing places will be modified by substituting for the existing scale, a scale of weight having half-an-ounce as an unit throughout, with the postage advancing by single rates, as follows:—

Not exceeding 1 oz.	Above 1 oz. and not exceeding 1 oz.	Above 1 oz. and not exceeding 1 1/2 oz.	Above 1 1/2 oz. and not exceeding 2 oz.	Every additional 1 oz.
1 0	2 0	3 0	4 0	1 0

At the same time, in order to provide a yet cheaper means than at present of sending letters, not requiring great speed and punctuality, to and from the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, St. Helena, and Ascension, the postage by Private Ship will be reduced from Sixpence to Fourpence the half-ounce, increasing for heavier letters at the rate of Fourpence for each half-ounce, according to the above scale of progression.

The postage upon letters for the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, and St. Helena, whether conveyed by Packet or by Private Ship, may either be paid in advance or left, to be paid on delivery; but in all cases where the postage is not prepaid, the letters will be charged on delivery with one additional rate besides the usual postage.

The postage on letters addressed to Ascension *must be paid in advance*, or they cannot be forwarded.

By Command of the Postmaster-General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
24th March, 1863.

ROWLAND HILL,
Secretary.

AUCTION RESULTS - WESTERN AUCTIONS 28th JUNE 1986

	Est/Realised
£2 per lot handling charge	
1884 ½d emerald with reversed wmk. block of 60 showing spaced 'NY' and 'HFL' flaw. . . . .	.1000/650
1884 ½d green block of 120 (half sheet). . . . .	.65/110
1884 ½d green complete sheet	150/330
1884 1d red block of 48 with 'HFL' flaw.	45/85
1884 1d pale red lower 12 rows (with 'HFL' flaw)	170/270
1884 3d deep mauve block of 84	120/210
1903 8d die proof of frame marked 'Before Hardening'	225/210
1922 1d Badge die proof of frame marked 'Before Hardening'	250/220
1922 1½d die proof of frame without endorsements	225/220
1922 2s die proof of frame marked 'After Striking'	250/220

PLATING AND PROBABILITIES

by Roger B West

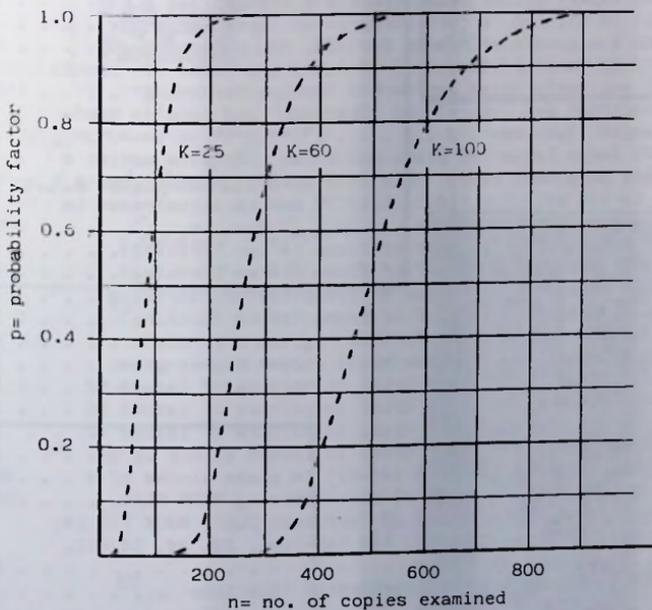
Some time ago I had a discussion with Prof Ralph Stanton on the probability of being able to study every stamp on a sheet. In practice, I had found that to do this involved having a very large quantity. This reminded me of early school days when I collected cigarette and trade cards. I recall having duplicates before collecting ten cards, and still requiring certain numbers when in total I had enough for 4 or 5 sets. Our discussion concluded with my mentor promising to look into the matter.

Several days later I received the following formula, eighteen inches of computer print-out and Ralph's own explanation.

$$P(n,K) = (1-1/K)^{n-1} P(n-1,K-1) + P(n-1,K)$$

where K = No of stamps on sheet
n = No of stamps examined
P = Probability factor

Prof Stanton is Head of Computer Science at the University of Manitoba, and needless to add, is a brilliant mathematician. Regretfully, I'm not so hot, and the best I could do was plot some of his results onto the following graph. The three curves for $K=25$, $K=60$ and $K=100$ represent most St Helena sheet formats, although $K=60$ is likely to be of greatest significance. The professor's own interpretation relating to the Badge Issue ($K=60$) is "if you look at $n=400$ stamps, then there is a probability of 0.93006 that all 60 positions will be represented. More numerically, if 1,000 collectors look at 400 copies of the stamp each, then 930 of those collectors will have all 60 positions."



PROBABILITY CURVES REPRESENTING SHEET FORMATS OF 25, 60 AND 100 STAMPS

AUCTION RESULTS - PHILLIPS 25th SEPTEMBER 1986

A very fine collection of essays, proofs and specimens, being the property of Mrs B.M. Halford of Moness. Listed below is a selection of some of the more important items. Members with a particular interest in this sort of material are strongly advised to try and obtain a catalogue from the Auctioneers.

	Est/Realised
+10% buyers premium	
501 1d Composite essay in pink and red on sunken card mostly handpainted. Illustrated in colour in Hibbert's book . . .	1500/1250
511 1903 1d imperf colour trial (green & dull violet)	100/170
512 1903 imperf colour trial (purple & orange)	100/170
513 1911 1d all red 'error' overprinted 'Specimen'	120/90
514 1908 die proofs of frames for 2½d, 4d, 6d & 10s	600/650
519 1912 ½d-3s complete set of 10 frame and value die proofs all variously dated and marked 'Before Hardening'	1500/1400
524 Monochrome set overprinted 'Specimen' and locally hand-stamped 'Specimen'	40/55
525 1922 Badge Issue 7/6 black and brown composite artist's essay on sunken card. This item sold at Robson Lowe's De La Rue sale for £1600 21/12/78 and is illustrated in colour in Hibbert's book.	2000/2400
531 Badge Issue 5d die proof of frame (After Striking)	150/145
538 Badge Issue 2s die proof of frame (After Striking)	150/145
543 Badge Issue 10s die proof of frame (Before Striking)	150/145
547 Badge Issue f1 die proof of frame (After Striking)	150/220
549 Badge Issue imperf colour trial (green & purple)	100/130
550 Badge Issue imperf colour trial (brown & grey-green)	100/130
551 Badge Issue perf colour trial in colours of issued 8d	100/140
552 Badge Issue perf colour trial in colours of issued 6d	100/140
553 Badge Issue perf colour trial in colours of issued 2d	100/220
554 Badge Issue perf colour trial in issued colour of ½d	100/160
556 Badge Issue MCA set of 5 (4d-f1) in plate blocks of 4	700/1300
564 Badge Issue f1 in marginal block showing TORN FLAG	1000/1350
576 Badge Issue Plate blocks of four with CLKFT ROCK for ½d, 1d (2), 1½d rose-red (2), 1½d car-rose, 2d, 3d, 5d (2), 6d, 8d (2), 1s, 1/6 & 2s.	350/620
596 1935 Silver Jubilee set perforated 'Specimen'	30/45

Several items from this sale appeared in Bennie Illman's exhibit at Johannesburg 100 (6-11 Oct) which was awarded a LARGE GOLD medal.

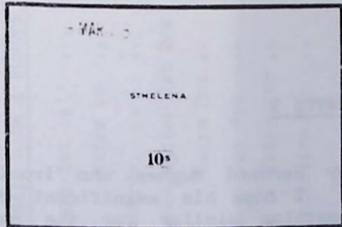
Jan. 12th 1922



Approved as regards
Gordon & Co. Ltd.

Carlton M. Smith
14. 1. 22

LOT 510



LOT 511

B



The approved design
1915

LOT 501



LOT 504

SOURCES FOR EAST INDIAMEN RESEARCH

by Trevor Hearl

Inspired by I.D. Lampart's fine article on the East Indiaman's log, (Supplement No 6, page 28) members requiring further reference to East Indiamen should turn to:

'Lords of the East - The East India Company and its Ships' by Jean Sutton, with a foreword by C. Northcote Parkinson, published by Conway Maritime Press, 1981. At £9.50 it is excellent value, being lavishly illustrated, with appendices of facts that only an expert such as Mrs Sutton - Secretary of the Poole Maritime Trust - could have amassed. For example she gives details of dates, tonnage and number of completed voyages for something like 1,300 Indiamen between 1600 and 1834, as well as wage-rates for crews, ships accounts and details of building and maintenance, all in the most readable text for the layman. She has chapters also on the Company's steamers and Marine.

Another authoritative source is Sir Evan Cotton's 'East Indiamen, The East India Company's Maritime Service', published by Batchworth Press, 1949. This has references to about 370 ships as well as general information, including the role of St Helena in the Company's shipping operations.

From these two sources, one would learn about the East Indiaman mentioned by Mr Lampart, the 'COUTTS INDIAMAN', that his log book referred to its maiden voyage to China, that it was one of the Company's five largest ships at approx 1,500 tons, that it completed eight voyages under the Company's flag between 1796 and 1813.

POSTAL RATES 3

The table opposite was compiled by Bernard Hughes who ironically enough, is an Ascension specialist. I hope his magnificent effort will inspire someone to produce something similar for the earlier period.

<u>SEAMAIL - UK & EUROPE</u>		21	23	24	14	30	9	1	1	1	6
		Oct	Oct	Nov	Feb	July	Jan	Apr	Feb	Aug	Mar
		22	22	39	40	40	48	59	67	69	71
Letters 1st oz	..	2d	..	3d	..	..	..	..	4d	..	5d/2p
Extra oz	..	1½d	..	2d	1½d	..	..	..	2d	..	2d/1d
Postcards	..	1d	..	1½d	..	..	..	..	2d	..	4d/1½p
Printed Matter 1st 2oz	..	½d	..	1d	..	..	..	..	..	..	4d/1½p
Extra 2oz	..	½d	..	1d	..	..	..	..	..	..	2d/1p
Samples 1st 4oz	..	1d	..	1½d	..	..	..	..	..	2d	4d/1½p
Extra 2oz	..	½d	..	1d	..	..	..	..	..	..	2d/1p
Registration..	..	3d	..	4d	..	..	..	..	..	..	9d/4p
<u>SEAMAIL - FOREIGN</u>											
Letters 1st oz	..	3d	..	4d	..	..	..	6d	8d	..	10d/4p
Extra oz	..	1½d	..	2d	1½d	..	2d	3d	4d	..	5d/2p
Postcards	..	1½d	..	2d	1½d	..	2d	3d	4d	..	5d/2p
Printed Matter 1st 2oz	..	1d	..	1½d	..	..	1d	2d	..	..	5d/2p
Extra 2oz	..	½d	1d	1½d	..	..	1d	..	..	..	2d/1p
Samples 1st 4oz*	..	2d	..	2½d	..	3d	1d	2d	..	..	5d/2p
Extra 2oz	..	1d	..	1½d	..	..	1d	..	..	..	2d/1p
Registration..	..	3d	..	4d	..	..	..	..	..	..	9d/4p

*1st 2oz from 1948

"EMPIRE" includes Commonwealth, Eire, South Africa & Pakistan

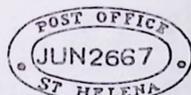
HANDSTAMPS

by Edward Hibbert

Some time ago Edward Hibbert sent me some revised notes on the various handstamps including several items not mentioned in his book.

POST OFFICE HANDSTAMPS (PO SERIES)

PO 1 The first type, which is a date stamp, is very rare - I have only recorded 5 examples.



PO 1

PO 2 The second type has a St Edward's Crown in the centre and was recorded in the books of the G.P.O. on 9th April 1887. Example noted on cover to Leicester 26 April 1895.



PO 2

PO 2A There is an earlier type than PO 3 illustrated on p21 of my book. This has an Imperial Crown in the centre and a dot under the T of ST. It is recorded in the books of the G.P.O. on 6th June 1902 and I have designated it as PO 2A. It is very similar to one currently in use but is smaller in size with smaller lettering. The oval is 32mm across and has been noted on a cover of 1909 from the Post Office.



PO 2A

PO 2B 38 x 25mm - not yet recorded on cover, but is known used on archive material. The original handstamps (two) were made in London by A. Neuman & Co at a cost of 1/6 each. The firm's invoice for them was dated 26th November 1911.



PO 2B

PO 3 On this handstamp, the T of ST should be smaller than that illustrated in my book and should have a dot underneath. The oval is 37mm across and the earliest date recorded is on an O.H.M.S. cover to Switzerland postmarked at St Helena on 18th July 1924.



PO 3

PO 4 Sans-serif lettering
48 x 3mm
Earliest recorded date 3 November 1954

ON POSTAL SERVICE

PO 4

PO 4A Serif lettering
49 x 3mm
In current use

ON POSTAL SERVICE

PO 4A

PO 4B Serif lettering
36 x 2mm
In use 1974/75

ON POSTAL SERVICE

PO 4B

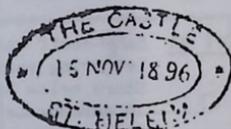
OFFICIAL HANDSTAMPS (OFF SERIES) THE CASTLE

OFF 1 Sans-serif capitals
Stop below T of ST
47 x 27mm



OFF 1

OFF 1A Sans-serif capitals
Large T with stop after
44 x 24mm



OFF 1A

OFF 1B The outer oval is double and the lettering is serif with a smaller T in St. Noted on an O.H.M.S. cover to U.S.A. of 14th November 1898. 42 x 27mm.



OFF 1B

OFF 1C A further variation of OFF 1 has been noted on an O.H.M.S. cover to London from the Governor of St. Helena dated 2nd January 1909. It has the words 'THE CASTLE' in serif capitals and 'ST HELENA' in sans-serif capitals. Another example has been noted on an O.H.M.S. cover to Portsmouth from the Treasurer, St. Helena, dated 4th February 1919. The oval measures 44 x 27mm.



OFF 1C

OFF 1D Sans-serif capitals
THE CASTLE widely spaced
Stars below axis
43 x 27mm



OFF 1D

OFF 2 Sans-serif capitals
Double outer oval
Large T in ST
Recorded in use from 1922
50 x 32mm



OFF 2

OFF 3 Serif capitals
Large T in ST with stop after
Double outer oval
50 x 32mm



OFF 3

OFF 3A Sans-serif capitals
Lettering very close
Stars below axis
In current use
51 x 33mm

EDITORS NOTE The remainder of the original OFF series (Official Paid) were dealt with on page 32 of Supplement No 5. No amendments or additions have been received to date.



OFF 3A

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT HANDSTAMPS

In addition to 'The Castle' handstamps, most other St Helena public departments use similar oval handstamps, eg.

1. Attorney General
2. Department of Agriculture and Forestry
3. Department of Public Health

4. Education Office
5. Colonial Treasury
6. Electricity Undertaking
7. Information Office
8. Police Headquarters
9. Public Works Department
10. Savings Bank
11. Supreme Court
12. Magistrates Court
13. Audit Department
14. Social Welfare Office



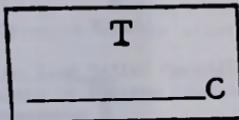
TYPICAL PUBLIC
DEPARTMENT HANDSTAMP

These, however are modern handstamps, and while interesting, are not important philatelically.

TAX MARKS

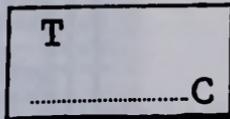
This is a new section. Under U.P.U. regulations, unpaid or under paid correspondence had to be impressed with a 'T' mark (standing for 'TAXE' to be paid). Three different marks have been in use in St Helena:

TAX 1 This mark was entered in the G.P.O. books on 22nd March 1895. It has the T in the centre at the top of a rectangle 43 x 21mm. Underneath the T is a space for the tax payable (double the amount of the deficiency) to be entered in Centimes. Earliest usage on cover to Russia dated 16th August 1900, although most examples seen were used in 1901.



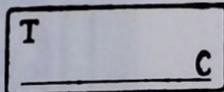
TAX 1

TAX 2 The second type was entered in the G.P.O. books on 6th June 1902 and has the T at the top left corner, the C at the end of a dotted line contained within a rectangle 43 x 21mm. The earliest use is on a postcard dated 20 Sept 1905



TAX 2

TAX 3 In use from at least 1926 and is still current. Rectangle 42 x 16mm.



TAX 3

POSTAL RATES 4

The following appeared in the St Helena News Review for 26th March 1982:

New Postal Rates for Overseas Mail

With effect from 1st April 1982, the Post Office will introduce new postal rates for overseas mail. These increases are the direct result of the additional charges which the Post Office has to pay to have mail delivered to its destination.

Surface mail (except to Ascension) will be increased from 7p to 11p and airmail (except airletter forms) will be at a flat rate of 15p. Parcel postage is being increased likewise and the new rates to the United Kingdom will be:

3Kg	5Kg	10Kg	15Kg	20Kg
£4.24	£6.30	£10.29	£14.95	£19.50

and to South Africa:

3Kg	5Kg	10Kg	15Kg	20Kg
£2.26	£3.16	£4.94	£6.71	£8.86

Although letter mail to Ascension is to be increased from 5p to 7p, the present postage on parcels remains unchanged.

At the same time of introducing these increased rates the Post Office is pleased to offer the following new, reduced rates:

1Kg parcels - £2.52 from £2.58 (UK)
 1Kg parcels - £1.64 from £1.78 (SA) and
 airletter forms - 10p from 11p

The airletter forms will have the words "POSTAGE PAID" printed at the top right hand corner and will not require a postage stamp.

BADGE ISSUE EXTRA PLATE

In Supplement No 6, I illustrated a Printer's sample of the 1d Badge issue (in purple and green) and suggested that such proofs were struck from an extra plate of six (3 x 2). I was delighted to receive the photocopy from Hymie Mervis of South Africa, which I illustrate below.

It is reasonable to assume that this plate was used to produce the colour trials as well as the Printer's samples. The latter were printed on gummed unwatermarked paper, but all colour trials that I have seen have been watermarked. It is likely that the sheetlets (4½" x 3½") were cut from standard size sheets, and that little care was paid to the orientation of the watermark.

A 1d colour trial in the issued colours of the 7/6 was sold at Warwick and Warwick 5/2/86 for £460. The paper was watermarked Script sideways. A similar trial in the colours of the issued 6d was sold in the Halford sale at Phillips on 25/9/86 fetching £140. In Supplement No 1, I reported that Steve Drewett had the 1d with sideways watermark. This is likely to be another colour trial, and seeing that all trials were produced from the 1d plate, this would be a neat way of distinguishing the issued stamp from the trial. I would be most interested to hear from any reader who can identify the watermarks of the other colours.

R.B.W.



NOT KNOWN AT ST HELENA HANDSTAMP

I am delighted to illustrate the cover below showing the 'RETOUR/NOT KNOWN AT ST HELENA ISLE/S.A.O.' handstamp. Speculation about this handstamp has been rife, but to the best of my knowledge, this is the only example of it recorded on cover.

R.B.W.



AIR MAIL SERVICE

Jeremy Martin sent me the Air Mail notice some time ago. As it has never appeared in Cameo, I thought it worth reproducing here.

AIR MAIL SERVICE FROM UNITED KINGDOM TO
ST HELENA VIA SOUTH AFRICA

With a view to improving postal communications from United Kingdom, Government has for some time been in correspondence with the Postmaster General, London.

2. The Postmaster General has now agreed to introduce an air mail service FROM the United Kingdom to St. Helena with transmission by air to South Africa. This service was introduced with effect from 1st April, 1949, as an experimental measure in view of the advantage likely to be gained during the greater part of the year.

It will be appreciated however that at certain times air mail letters may reach St. Helena considerably later than sea mail, according to the availability of ships from South Africa. The United Kingdom Post Offices are therefore warning the public that the air mail route will occasionally be slower than the ordinary surface route and also that the Post Office cannot advise on the choice of route. The Postmaster General has requested that any enquiries received here concerning the non arrival of air letters until after the arrival of ordinary correspondence posted in the United Kingdom at the same time or later may be answered in that sense. You are therefore requested to notify your correspondents accordingly.

3. The air mail postage rates from the United Kingdom to St. Helena via South Africa have been fixed as follows:-

Letters (per ½oz)	1s
Postcards	6d
Air Letters	6d

4. The continuance or otherwise of this new service will be decided according to its efficiency as revealed by statistics of the relative speed in transit of air and sea mails.

K.H. CLARKE,
Government Secretary

The Castle, St Helena, 20 June 1949

OBSOLETE POSTAGE STAMPS 1

by Roger B West

The following notice was issued by the Crown Agents in 1895. It concerns the excess stock of the 1s stamp watermarked Crown over CC and should not be confused with the later issues which were given the violet grille cancellation.

ST HELENA POSTAGE STAMPS

The Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of St Helena to dispose of the undermentioned Surcharged Postage Stamps of which no further supplies will be printed.

The Stamps are of the following description and quantity:-

9,600 - green 6d Queen's head - Surcharged one shilling in words overprinted in black. Face value £480. The Stamps are printed on Crown C.C. watermarked paper and they have been superseded by a Stamp printed on C.A. watermarked paper which will be used for all future issues.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the quantities, description and condition of the Stamps sold. A specimen Stamp can be seen on application at the Crown Agents' Office.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender, and no tender for a less amount than the face value, as specified above, will be considered.

Tenders will be received up to the 10th of December 1895.

Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies
Downing Street, London S.W.

The history books tell us that Mr T.H. Thompson purchased the entire quantity, although the price he paid is not recorded. It is hard to believe that he had to pay a premium over face value, although it must be remembered that this was long before the introduction of Philatelic Bureaux, and even 'New Issue' Dealers didn't exist as such. Maybe Mr Thompson was setting himself up as the first of

this new breed of dealer, for he was already well known as the purchaser of the obsolete Leeward Island remainders.

The outcome of this unprecedented sale is that the CC 1s (SG 30) is a very common stamp in mint condition, even in multiples.

WATERMARK VARIETIES ON THE PERKINS BACON 6d PLATE

Some additions to the checklist which appeared in Supplement No. 6 (page 34). The William Carson sale of 15th December 1979 contained two items which require verification:

Lot 50 P12½ 1s Type B (SG 18) Watermark REVERSED

Lot 53 P14 x 12½ 4d (SG 24) watermark INVERTED

The Sidney Waissel collection offered by Gibbons on 13th September 1974 contained the P12½ 4d (thick bar) with watermark INVERTED. Unfortunately it is not stated if this is the 18 or 19mm setting (SG 14 or 15). Can any member confirm?

Finally, since the list was compiled, I have acquired a used copy of the P12½ 1d type C (SG 8) with watermark INVERTED & REVERSED.

R.E.W.

AUCTION RESULTS - HARMERS 16/17 JULY 1986

'REPRINTS & FORGERIES'		Est/Realised
+10% buyers premium		
6d blue imperf litho sheet of 60 (Cohn)		40/46
6d blue perf sheet of 25 (Spiro)		20/42
Spiro sheets of 25 for 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 1s & 5s		50/130
Spiro sheets of 25 for 1d, 2d, 4d, 1s & 5s		30/80
Selection of values to 5s inc Spiro sheets, several hundred but condition generally poor. . . . .		.75/140

OBSOLETE POSTAGE STAMPS 2

by Roger B West

In 1981, I produced an article for Gibbons Stamp Monthly to celebrate the West Africa Study Circle's 30th birthday. The article appeared in the July issue and dealt with the cancelled remainders of obsolete Victorian issues. In recent months, I have received a copy of a Crown Agent's notice, the existence of which was unknown to me at that time. It is also apparent that certain aspects of the story are still confusing, so I will try and clarify the situation.

The Crown Agent's notice I referred to is reproduced below. The content is purely of academic interest except the condition "each line of stamps may be tendered for separately but the parcels cannot be otherwise broken up." This is in variance with my earlier text which was taken from Melville's book which states "for sale in lots of not less than £50." It might also be noted that the quantity of each value is such that there are no odd pence amounts. Melville's quantity of 2d stamps (32,080) is no doubt in error, although I have not seen the notice from which his data was taken.

This error is reproduced by Edward Hibbert, and on pages 164-166 of his book, he implies that these were the quantities that were actually sold in 1898. I would imagine that his notes were based on Robson Lowe's encyclopaedia, the contents of which I list in column B of the following table. Interestingly, there are three errors in this listing apart from the statement "sold as remainders in 1898" and of the QV key types "quantities not known." This listing appears on page 411 of the encyclopaedia.

ST HELENA OBSOLETE POSTAGE STAMPS

The Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of St Helena to dispose of the undermentioned obsolete Postage Stamps which comprise the whole stock remaining in the hands of the Government and of which no further supplies will be printed, the plates from which they were produced having been destroyed.

The stamps are of the following description and quantities:-

ST HELENA SUPPLEMENT NO 7

Duty.	Number of Stamps.	Plate from which struck.	Overprint or Surcharges.	Colour.	Paper.	Face value.		
						£	s.	d.
½d.	208,320	Sixpenny	Half penny in words	Green	C.A.	434	0	0
1d.	142,560	"	One penny "	Red	"	594	0	0
2d.	34,080	"	Two pence "	Yellow	"	284	0	0
2½d.	104,400	"	2½d. in figures	Blue	"	1,087	10	0
3d.	75,840	"	Three pence in words	Purple	"	1,380	0	0
4d.	82,800	"	Four pence "	Brown	"	1,460	0	0
6d.	58,400	"	No overprint	Blue Grey	"	906	0	0
1/-	18,120	"	One shilling in words	Green	"	1,332	0	0
5/-	5,328	"	Five shillings "	Yellow	C.C.	8,425	10	0
1½d.	72,960	Small Queen's Head (C.A. Universal)	... ..	Ruddish brown with green duty tablet, and name of Colony	C.A.	456	0	0
						8,881	10	0

Specimens of the stamps can be seen at the Crown Agent's Office, between the hours of 10 and 4, and 10 and 2 on Saturday.

Each line of stamps may be tendered for separately but the parcels cannot be otherwise broken up.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the quantities, description and condition of the stamps sold.

Offers must be sent in not later than 15th March (1898)

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender and no tender for a less amount than the face value will be considered.

Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies
Downing Street, London S.W.
10th January 1898

These inaccuracies were documented by John Marriott in his fine article in the London Philatelist (January 1974). He does however point out that in 1904 (six years later) a second attempt was made by the Crown Agent's to dispose of these obsolete stamps. He quotes from the London Philatelist of July 1904 (Vol 13, No. 151, p181) which carried the revised list and this is shown in column C.

	A	B	C
½d green Perkins Bacon	208,320	208,320	-
1d red "	142,560	142,560	-
2d yellow "	34,080	32,080	-
2½d blue "	104,400	104,400	76,460
3d purple "	75,840	75,480	53,882
4d brown "	82,800	82,800	68,216
6d blue-grey* "	58,400	58,400	47,650
1s green "	18,120	18,120	7,090
5s yellow** "	5,328	4,328	3,015
1½d brown & green Key	72,960		49,409
2d yellow Key Plate	-	quantity	58,394
2½d blue "	-	not	29,229
5d purple "	-	known	39,588
10d brown "	-		43,376

* 6d grey described as blue-grey

** 5s orange described as yellow

- A Quantity offered for sale in 1898 in accordance with the Crown Agents notice referred to in the first paragraph.
- B Quantities quoted in Robson Lowe's encyclopaedia (p411) including errors (underlined).
- C Actual quantities remaindered in 1904, cited by John Marriott with reference to the London Philatelist Vol 13, No. 151, p181.

The confusion is perhaps understandable. Both the original list of 1898 and the actual quantity sold in 1904 are in excess of £8,000. However, the make up is completely different. During the 6 year interim period, the individual quantities were greatly reduced, and the ½d, 1d and 2d values had actually been exhausted. On the other hand, other values in the 'key plate' set had now become obsolete and these were being offered for the first time. The whole quantity was cancelled with the violet grille cancel and sold en bloc as remainders to a well known dealer (Messrs Healey).

It is of interest to reflect that in that year (1904) there were no less than four issues available from the Jamestown Post Office - the Perkins Bacon 6d, the QV key plates, the Edwardian key ½d and 1d and the Edwardian Pictorial Issue. Such a situation together with the "urgent need of funds for local improvements" may have been deciding factors for the transaction. As for the outcome, I can do no better than quote from my original article.

"The effect this had on the philatelic world was quite shattering and much adverse criticism was directed at both the Crown Agents and the St Helena authorities. The London Philatelist of December 1904 summed up the situation - 'We cannot help thinking that St Helena has lowered its dignity by this transaction and that it has created an ugly precedent in our Colonial postal history. It had been better, alike for St Helena and for stamp collectors, had the remainder been consigned to the flames.'

"The London Philatelist of 1935 in an article by E.W. Mann gives a different account of the story. Mann states that stamps to the value of about £3,000 only were sold to Messrs Healey, the rest being destroyed. This figure included both line engraved and surface printed issues, but the breakdown is not stated.

"It is speculative as to which of these accounts is the more accurate. The abundance of remainders would indicate the larger figure to be more reliable. Additionally, with the resulting controversy it would seem feasible that the Crown Agents would have responded with a defensive statement. Although not being able to erase the event, they could certainly have reduced the bad feeling if a smaller quantity had in fact been involved. Furthermore, it could be argued that the contradictory figure appearing in an article some 30 years later might in itself be open to doubt."

ST HELENA POSTCARDS

Cliff Masters gave a very impressive display of postcards at our specialist meeting on November 15th. He is currently classifying every card that comes his way, identifying them from upto six or seven separate printings. To assist in his studies, he appeals to all members to send him a list of any NUMBERED cards they might have. The number can appear as four digits in the rectangle where the stamp goes, or in the bottom left corner, or on the pictorial side as part of the legend. Please contact Cliff directly at 170 Hazeldene Road, Links View, Northampton NN2 7ND.

His studies so far have unearthed some amazing facts and these will appear at a later date. He has also met some interesting people including Norman Bruce, the son of Robert Bruce, one time Postmaster and designer of the Badge Issue. The picture opposite is from Norman's collection of original photos from which the Postcards were based. This picture of St Pauls by B. Grant is dated 1891.

R.B.W.

WANTED

St Helena forgeries - any quantity - just name your own price. Also required - cancelled remainders in blocks. Roger B West, 0344 54060

FOR SALE

I have a few oddments to dispose of namely several early engravings, postcards, some early issues (mint and used) and some modern material in blocks or gutter pairs. Roger B West, Bracknell (0344) 54060

The 'Wanted/For Sale' section is available to members free of charge space permitting.



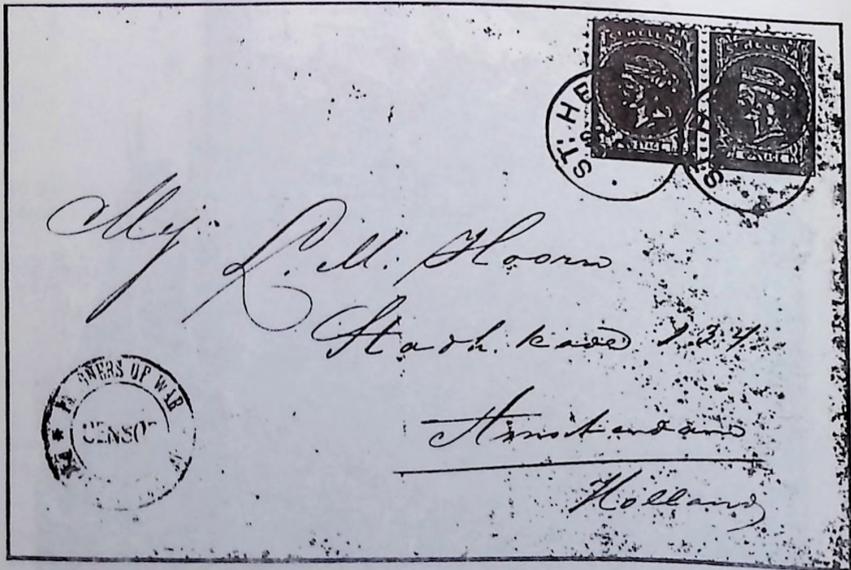
B. Grant 1894

FORGED BOER WAR COVERS

by Roger B West

At our St Helena meeting of November 15th, no less than four people (of the nine in attendance) own one of the forged Boer War covers illustrated below. Three of us actually brought them along to show believing them to be unusual. Despite this, it was agreed that they are quite difficult to get, but more importantly, it was suggested that they might all be numbered, the one below being No 134. To put this theory to the test, I would be most grateful to hear from any other member who has such a cover. All that is required is to let me know the address on the front, although a photocopy of the whole cover would be appreciated. Naturally, I will refund the postage and cost of photocopying. Thanks!

The covers, by the way, were produced by a Dutch chocolate manufacturer the 'stamps' being referred to as 'the chocolate box forgery'.



AUCTION RESULTS - CHRISTIE'S-ROBSON LOWE 30th SEPTEMBER 1986

	Est/Realised
+8% buyers premium	
1934 Centenary set of 10 values each imperforate and perforated 'Specimen' (type B9). All without gum. Ex Bradbury Wilkinson archives	1750/2600
1948 Silver Wedding 10s perforated 'Specimen' without gum.	200/375
1949 UPU 4d & 6d both without gum and perf 'Specimen'.	200/300
1961 Tristan Relief set unmounted marginals.	2000/2600

All lots subject to V.A.T. @ 15%

ALARM HOUSE

by Arthur H. Mawson, JP

On December 29th 1783, due to the alteration in the regulations for closing Punch Houses, the soldiers mutinied, and with drums beating and fixed bayonets, marched out of the barracks and up the Side Path to Alarm House.

About 10 pm Major Bazett with three Officers and 70 loyal men attacked the mutineers under Sergeant Burney at Alarm House. Field guns were fired without effect. Musketry was used on both sides for ten to twelve minutes when the mutineers gave way. Three were wounded and 103 taken prisoner. Major Bazett lost two killed.

The mutineers were all sentenced to death, but were decimated. Sergeant Burney and nine others were shot on 2nd January.

It is said that at midnight on every Christmas night, a file of the ghosts of ten soldiers in red coats and muskets marches past Alarm House.

Taken from 'St Helena Stories' by Arthur H. Mawson, JP. Produced for the St Helena Heritage Society, from whom copies of the booklet may be obtained.

JOHANNESBURG 100 (6-11 OCT 1986)

Hymie Mervis sent me the following details of awards for St Helena material exhibited at J'burg 100:

B.J. Mabbett. Boer Prisoner of War Mail. (VERMEIL). There were many Boer War entries but this one was very favourably received.

Bennie Illman. St Helena 1813 - 1934. (LARGE GOLD). Some of the delightful items on offer at the Phillips auction (Sept 26th in London) were in his frames in time to be judged.

H.P. Mervis. St Helena Pictorials of KEVII & GV (SMALL GOLD)

Many congratulations to the three of them and apologies if I've left any other St Helena entry out.

R.B.W.

"Rather an unusual collection of postal history, don't you think?"

