

G A M E O



Journal of the
British West Africa Study Circle

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 8

JULY 1983

Do you collect British West Africa Postal History?

IF SO WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU

Our stocks consist of British Commonwealth Postal History (with post-cards from some colonies). If you would care to inform us of your collecting interests, we would be delighted to send you photocopies of any relative items we obtain.

Besides being members of the B.W.A.S.C. we are members P.T.S. (London) A.S.D.A. (New York)

CHRIS RAINEY 5 KELLY ROAD, BOWERS GIFFORD
BASILDON, ESSEX SS13 2HL, U.K.

TELEPHONE BASILDON (0268) 726687

ROBSON LOWE LIMITED

The Philatelic Branch of Christies
10 King St., St. James's, London, SW1Y 6QX

Telephone: 01 839 4034

Telex: 916429

With sales in the following categories

POSTAL HISTORY

GREAT BRITAIN

BRITISH EMPIRE

OVERSEAS

GENERAL

CINDERELLA

SPECIALISED ONE COUNTRY, AREA OR GROUP

held regularly in

LONDON, BOURNEMOUTH, NEW YORK, ZURICH AND MILAN

WE SELL STAMPS WHERE THEY SELL BEST

WHETHER BUYING OR SELLING YOU CANNOT
AFFORD NOT TO KNOW US

Send for free brochure of sales service to Miss Louise Burman,
39 Poole Hill, Bournemouth, BH2 5PX



Editor:

J. J. Martin,
22 Constable Way,
West Harnham,
Salisbury, Wilts.
SP2 8LN.

Hon. Secretary:

P. O. Beale,
10 Cornfield Road,
Seaford,
Sussex BN25 1SW.

Hon. Treasurer and Admissions Secretary:

J. R. Merchant,
10 Bushmead Avenue,
Bedford,
Beds.

Hon. Advertising Manager:

Apply to the Editor.

EDITORIAL

At the March 1983 meeting of the Circle, your editor raised the question of the study of modern definitives. Many issues contain much of interest for the student and it was felt that Cameo should try and record information on new releases as it becomes available. This should include booklets and postal stationery. Would country editors please note. Perhaps members with information could contact them so that it can be collated.

It is not intended to record details of commemorative issues which are usually less interesting and better covered by the general philatelic press.

WHOLE NUMBER 18**CONTENTS**

AUCTION REALISTATIONS	165
PROPOSED AERIAL SERVICE TO BWA 1931	165
P/W CENSORSHIP 1943	166
AMENDMENTS TO 'ASCENSION STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY'	166
ASCENSION STAMPS in 1949	168
CAMEROON LETTERS IN 1915	169
GAMBIA MAIL RATES 1841-42	169
DR NICOLE IN GAMBIA 1820	169
CAPE COAST GAZETTE – DR NICOLE	170
ASCENSION F.P.O.'s	170
GAMBIA E7 PLATE FLAWS	171
GAMBIA COLOURED PAPERS	171
GOLD COAST ACCOUNTANCY MARKS	171
GOLD COAST – PROVISIONALS AND CANCELLATIONS	171
GOLD COAST WAR TAX	172
GERMANY – GOLD COAST 1939	172
LAGOS CANCELLATIONS	173
THE CALABAR MISSION	173
LUCAYA?	174
ST HELENA REQUESTS	174
ST HELENA OVAL DATE STAMP	174
ST HELENA POSTMARKS 1982	175
R.M.S. ST HELENA	176
SIERRA LEONE W.W.I. CENSORSHIP	176
SIERRA LEONE SUSPENSION OF AIR MAILS	176
ST HELENA AIR SERVICE 1949	178
BIAFRA NEWS	178
SIERRA LEONE THE 2WIR PERFIN	179

BRITISH WEST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying and recording, without the written permission of the copyright holder. Application for which should be addressed to the Secretary of the Circle. Such written permission must also be obtained before any part of this publication is stored in a retrieval system of any nature.

AUCTION REALISATIONS

Harmers of London December 7th – 9th 1982

Gold Coast 1900 Registered Official env. from "The Pay & Quartermaster, G.C.C./The Cantoments, Accra" to London, bearing oval "OFFICIAL PAID /G.P.O. /ACCRA /GOLD COAST COLONY", and datestamps of December 4 1900, a little toned and vertical filing crease, otherwise fine. £28.30 + 15% VAT (£15).

Niger Coast 1892-94 ½d – 1/- set of six hand-stamped 'SPECIMEN', part o.g; fresh, mostly fine. £168 (-).

St. Helena 1903 2/-. Die Proof of frame in black on glazed card, marked "BEFORE /HARDENING" and dated "9 JAN.03" in blue, trace of soiling at left but fine £131 + 15% VAT (£50).

Harmers of London February 1st – 2nd 1983

Gold Coast 1907-13 Chalky Paper 20/- purple and black on red, optd. "SPECIMEN" (Samuel type D9) part o.g., a few minor faults but previously unrecorded and thought to be unique. £866 + 15% VAT (£750). Note: This stamp was described in Cameo 8, July 1978, by Mr. Macrae.

Robson Lowe Ltd. February 9th 1983

Ascension 1924 Master die proof in black on glazed card (92 x 60mm.) with uncleared value tablets, vignettes and surrounds. £205 (£250).

Ascension 1924 4d die proof of the frame in black on glazed card (92 x 60mm.) marked "BEFORE HARDENING" £124 (£150).

Phillips March 3rd 1983

Lagos 1869 E.L. to London showing small "LAGOS" c.d.s. ** to ***, endorsed "p Lagos" and backstamped London arrival c.d.s. in red. £192.50 (£40-£50).

Neales of Nottingham March 9th – 11th 1983

Gold Coast registered cover from Elmina 1893 to G.B. with 2 x 2½d showing Cape Coast transit and red R oval .*. £50.60 (£20/£30).

Gold Coast Parcel Post receipt with 2 x 6d (SG 17) and 1 x 5/- (SG 22) showing Accra c.d.s. 1897 * £68.20 (£20/£30).

Bournemouth Stamp Auctions April 7th 1983

Gold Coast 1876-79 1d pair with a diagonal bisect on piece with clear "B 27" and portion of Quittah c.d.s. alongside £100 (£75).

Estimates in brackets.

ANGLO-AFRICAN AIRWAYS – PROPOSED AERIAL POSTAL SERVICE TO BRITISH WEST AFRICA 1931

J. J. MARTIN

In previous issues of CAMEO, details have been given of air routes to West Africa.

These details of a proposed new aerial postal service were set out in a letter (File M14303/1928) from Anglo-African Airways Ltd., London, to the G.P.O. in August 1931. P.O. Archives have given permission for this to be reproduced.

"We have the honour to inform you that we are prepared to provide an Aerial Postal service between London and the British West Africa Colonies viz. Gambia and Sierra Leone and would be glad if you will inform us whether you would consider making a contract for such a service.

The question has been discussed with representatives of the Colonial Governments at Bathurst and Freetown and it has been ascertained that an Aerial Postal Service is very much wanted.

At present we could only offer a weekly service with a maximum load of 1,000lbs. of mail including

packages but this load and the number of flights per week would be increased as the demand arises.

We should be prepared to make a contract without any subsidy or financial assistance from H.M.'s Government beyond a guaranteed minimum pay load of 200 kilos between Dakar and Freetown, and to commence a service within one month from the date of signing a contract but could possibly make the first flight within a shorter period.

We would point out that this offer is made in conjunction with the Cie Generale Aeropostale and that mails can be carried by either French or British Machines or both. If you are prepared to consider this proposal we would suggest an interview when details and contract price for mails could be discussed."

No guarantee was forthcoming so the scheme came to nought.

P/W CENSORSHIP/WEST AFRICAN FORCE

Mr. C. Rainey has shown the writer a photostat of the above cachet. This appears, in violet, on a Prisoners of War Post postcard, Army Form W 3493* from an Italian P.O.W. to Milan and is dated 20th May 1943.



The writer of the card mentions that he has just been moved from South Africa to East Africa but says nothing about West Africa. However, the Sender's section shows "No. 1 Prisoner of War Camp, Great Britain" with "Great Britain" deleted and W.A.F. substituted. Underneath this is a violet straight-line "WEST AFRICAN FORCE".

Any information would be welcomed.

AMENDMENTS TO "ASCENSION – THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY"

JOHN H. ATTWOOD

The publication of my book on Ascension by Robson Lowe Ltd. has brought forth from many widely located Ascension collectors new information, constructive and helpful criticism on the contents and some very kind words.

As regards the new information and constructive criticism, when this is added to information I have gleaned since publication of the book, it underlines the fact that I have still a long way to travel on the learning curve of Ascension philately. However, maybe the following information may go some way to answer questions raised by corresponding members.

PART I

CHAPTER 1. Pre-Stamp Cover and Entires Period 1816 to 1859

– The Captain Payne 30 September 1832 entire, although sent to the Commissioners of H.M. Navy still bore a charge of "2" manuscript (2d). The entire was carried by the French sloop "Thetis" which not being a British or Royal Navy vessel possibly explains the postal charge.

This entire letter is headed "Island of Ascension".

– The R. Edwards 1833 entire was mailed from Ascension on 15 August 1833 and a postal charge of 1/3d made. The entire was addressed to John Edwards Esq of 3 Elm Court, Temple, London and arrived on 3 October 1833. This entire letter is headed "HMS ISIS, ASCENSION" and shows on the reverse "INDIA LETTER /PLYMOUTH".

– A later entire from Edward Heywood exists, dated 18 December 1839 which was addressed to John Archer Esq at Liverpool where it arrived on 3 February 1840. This entire was then redirected by John Archer to E. H. Heywood at Whitehaven, Cumberland from Liverpool on 19 February 1840.

– The John Edmondson 1845 entire is marked "Paid 1d" and has an additional "2" stamped thereon. According to a G.P.O. notice of August 1835 letters to and from soldiers and seamen on St. Helena, The Cape of Good Hope, The East Indies, New South Wales, Van Dieman's Land and Swan River would be handled for 1d; Ascension, St. Mary, Sierra Leone and the Coast of Africa for 3d.

Therefore John Edmondson only paid the 1d St. Helena rate and a further 2d was added and charged to bring the letter up to the correct rate for Ascension.

– The Michael Walling entire was posted on 31 December 1847 and not 1848 as stated in the text. On the reverse of the entire is the octagonal "LIVERPOOL/SHIP" date stamp of 29.FE. 1848 and also a 24mm c.d.s. with a crown surmounting the "1 MR 1, 1848" date. This latter c.d.s. could well be unique to the Admiralty.

The letter itself bears in red brown, the circular date cachet of the Director General of the Naval Medical Service and dated "MAR 2, 1848".

– The September 1849 letter from Lt. Townsend was not I believe carried by H.M.S. Wolverine but only the reply to this particular letter.

– The actual markings on the cover from Bangkok, Siam to the U.S.A. are:-

"Consular Agent"

"Rec'd from the Island of Ascension 23rd
Dec. 1843 and forwarded by the U.States"

The cover is also handstamped "SHIP" and bears the Salem arrival c.d.s. of 8 March 1844, both in red.

CHAPTER 2. G.B. (Queen Victoria) used in Ascension Period 1860 to 1866

– In addition to the use of the G.B. 1d "Star" (S.G. Type 1) on the quoted Andrew Newberry May 1860 cover,

a half cover exists also with a 1d "Star", corner letters C-I, from Andrew Newberry and backstamped with the Edinburgh c.d.s. of 26 May 1860.

- Examples of the use in Ascension of the 6d lilac, S.G. Type 18, as given in the book text are not complete and should be as follows (see Cameo 16, pages 126 and 127):-
- An unstamped cover of 1864 from Midshipman Long of H.M.S. Archer exists with a postal charge of "6" (6d). The letter enclosed is dated 1st April 1864 and the cover is backstamped with a c.d.s. of "LONDON.2P.AP25.64" and of "B.ARUNDEL.26.AP.64".

Period 1867 to 1882

- In addition to the quoted seven 1868 covers from John Clark (e), Boiler Maker, the following additional two are known:-

Date Posted in Ascension/ Arrival Port in England	Remarks
15 June 1868 Devonport	Cover stamped "DEVONPORT. A.JY.6.68" c.d.s.
15 August 1868 Devonport	Cover stamped "DEVONPORT. F.H.M.S.SP.5.68" duplex.

- The two 1878 letters sent to E. A. Seagrove were addressed to "The Hard, Portsea".

Period 1883 to 1901

- A total of six 1898 letters from C. T. Johnson are known to exist and these are dated 19 February, 16 July, 18 August, 30 October, 26 November and 30 December.
- An 1892 1d orange-red on buff U.P.U. postcard with an Ascension 20mm. c.d.s. of 23 November 1903 exists.

CHAPTER 6. Pictorial Postcards

- In addition to those pictorial postcards, c.1902 Series, quoted, the following are known to exist:-

47.	Dew Pond,/2,800 ft above /Sea Level,/Ascension	B	Z
48.	View from foot of /Green Mountain /Ascension, 3,000/ft. above sea level	not known	
49.	View of S.W. of Island, from /Green Mountain /Ascension.	B	R
50.	St. Mary's Church /Ascension	B	Z
51.	Admiralty /Cottage /Ascension	B	S
52.	"Wideawakes (Sooty Terns) and eggs, Ascension." (multicoloured)	-	W
53.	The Gardens, /Green Mountain, /2,000 feet above /sea level, /Ascension	AA	R
54.	Top of Green /Mountain,/ showing rain/water catchments,/Ascension	B	P

CHAPTER 7. Cancellations 1862 to 1921

- A date stamp sent out to the island by the G.P.O. (London) in February 1858 was composed of a semi-circle for the bottom half and the word "ASCENSION" for the top half of a 20mm circle. This included the index letter A and is known used on the Captain W. Burnett correspondence August 1858 to

This postcard has been used as a Christmas Card and has on the back a privately taken 82mm x 52mm black and white photograph of Ascension from the sea off Georgetown.

CHAPTER 3. G.B. (King Edward VII) used in Ascension

- A further registered cover exists which was mailed in Ascension on 20 June 1911 and bears stamps with values of 1d, 2d and 3d bisect.
- A 1d carmine on buff U.P.U. postcard exists with an Ascension 20mm. c.d.s. of 2 May 1903 and a Chiswick arrival c.d.s. of 18 May 1903.

CHAPTER 4. G.B. (King George V) used in Ascension

- The following postal stationery is known to exist:-
Registered letter with an embossed 3d. (Registration 2d plus postage 1d.), an Ascension c.d.s. of 24 November 1914 and a Putney arrival registration Oval of 10 December 1914.
Registered letter with an embossed 4d. (Registration 2d plus postage 2d.), and 2 x 1/2d definitives to make up the 1921 postal letter rate of 3d.

CHAPTER 5. World War I Censor Markings

- The Censor Mark "CENSORED" is usually 63mm long by 7mm high and in dull blue ink. However, on a 1915 censored cover with the dated oval cachet of the Superintendent of The Eastern Telegraph Company Ltd. the word "CENSORED" is only 59mm long by 7mm high and is in violet ink.
- The "PASSED CENSOR /ASCENSION" two line marking also exists in dull violet ink on at least one cover.

June 1861. This Ascension c.d.s. has been referred to as Type 1.

- Apart from the above mentioned date stamp the Post Office Impression Books record the following circular date stamps as having been sent out to the island:-

Diameter (mm)	Index Letter (s)	Date sent from London
20½	A	June 1864
20	C	August 1879
22	C	December 1898
21	C	November 1901 (plus plugs for year 02, 03, 04, 05 and 06)
24	A, B and C	October 1909 (for years 09 to 20)

I have some problem in matching up some items in my collection with the above as for example in the years 1879 to 1906, the index letter is usually A not C. Also the diameters do not always exactly correspond to the exact half or one mm. Quite probably not every circular date stamp was faithfully recorded in the Impression Books or the search to date of the relevant records is not one hundred percent complete.

Two of the 1878 covers bearing a 6d. Grey S.G. Type 43 have the stamp cancelled "B16". One of these

two covers was addressed to Limerick, Ireland and the other to Portsea, so the "B16" obliterator could not, as stated in the book, be that for Limerick.

A more correct assumption is that the "B16" cancellation is that of a mail boat and I believe not previously recorded. On page GB56 of Stanley Gibbons 1982, Part 1, British Commonwealth Catalogue, the known obliterations allotted to mail boats are quoted as A80 to A99, B03, B12, B56, B57 and C79.

STAMPS IN USE IN ASCENSION IN 1949

The following extract is from the "Handbook of British Colonial Stamps in Current Use September 1949" and the material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. It is hoped that Circle members will find the background information of interest.

THE island of Ascension is one of the dependencies of St. Helena – the others being Tristan da Cunha, Nightingale, Inaccessible and Gough Islands, though the last three are uninhabited. It lies in the South Atlantic, at latitude 7° 53' S. and longitude 14° 18' W. The area of the island is 34 square miles, and the population at the 1946 census was 292, of whom 228 were St. Helenians.

The currency, in common with St. Helena, is Sterling.

Stamps are available only at the post office in Georgetown: but they are also stocked at the G.P.O., St. Helena, for the convenience of travellers and purchasers by post as Ascension is difficult of access. The first separate issue of stamps for this island consisted of the then current St. Helena issue overprinted "Ascension". That was in 1922. The present range of stamps comprises 11 denominations engraved and recess printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., as follows:-

DENOMINATION	COLOURS	SUBJECT	DATE OF ISSUE
½d.	Black and Violet	Georgetown	12.5.38
1d.	Black and green	Three Sisters	1.6.49
1½d.	Black and claret	The Pier	1.6.49
2d.	Black and red	Green Mountain	1.6.49
3d.	Black and grey	Long Beach	8.7.40
4d.	Black and blue	Green Mountain	8.7.40
6d.	Black and light blue	Three Sisters	12.5.38
1/-	Black and sepia	Georgetown	12.5.38
2/6	Black and carmine	The Pier	12.5.38
5/-	Black and brown	Long Beach	12.5.38
10/-	Black and bright purple	Three Sisters	12.5.38

The medallion portrait is copied from a photograph by Messrs. Bertram Park.

½d. and 1/- Georgetown. This is the only town and port of the Island. It is situated in Clarence Bay.

1d., 6d. and 10/- Three Sisters. A range of low-lying volcanic hills which owes its name to the three dominant mounts.

1½d. and 2/6 The Pier. This is really a concrete jetty. It is situated at Georgetown and constructed on a reef.

2d. and 4d. Green Mountain. This is the highest point of the island, rising to 2,000 feet. At the summit there is a farm which supplies dairy and other products to the inhabitants.

3d. and 5/- Long Beach. A long, shallow, sandy beach, opposite Georgetown.

J.J.M.

LETTERS TO THE CAMEROONS IN 1915

J. J. MARTIN

By courtesy of P. O. Archives we are able to reproduce this 'tongue in cheek' letter from Sandle Brothers, London to the G.P.O. It was dated Jan. 21st 1915.

"Dear Sir,

Finding a notice in the "Post Office List" that Parcel Post packages can now be sent to the Cameroons we despatched some a few days since and we presume that they went out, owing to the fact that Great Britain had taken over that German possession, but on writing our letters and turning to your "Post Office Guide", as issued this month, we find that on page 718 you have the Postage down as 2½d which according to the rule would imply that that Colony is still in the hands of Germany.

We paid the 2½d rate, but thought it better to enquire of you concerning this matter, as if British it should be 1d and if still German, we do not see how letters can be carried there.

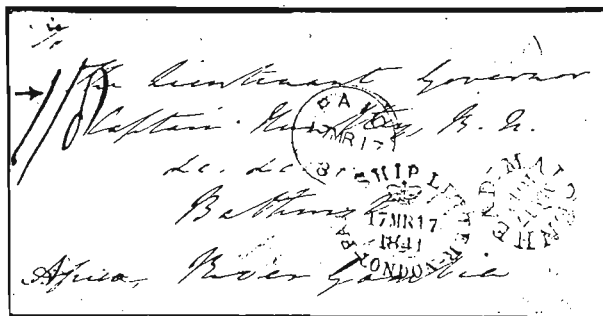
Yours faithfully,
Sandle Brothers
pp. S.J.S."

GAMBIA MAIL RATES 1841-44

J. SACHER

Two problem items. Firstly, shown (below), a letter from London to the Gambia in 1841. This was after the introduction of the uniform 8d ship letter rate. Although there was a U.K. transit rate of 1/8d, this letter originated in Maidenhead. I can, therefore, discover no reason for the 1/8d charge to have been raised.

The entire is addressed to The Lieutenant Governor Captain Huntley, R.N. Bathurst River, Gambia, Africa.



The second problem concerns a letter from the Gambia to London in 1844 sent by French mail via Le Havre and Calais. It was apparently charged 2/1d. There is also a "4/2" marking on the back.

Mr. Beale has noted that a letter in the London G.P.O. Records informed the Governor in Gambia that mail was put aboard a French vessel in 1865 and that

Continued on page 8.

DR. NICOLE IN THE GAMBIA: 1820

R. F. BAVINGTON-JONES

This is a transcript of a letter from Dr. Nicolle (also Nicoll, Niccole) who was evidently principal Medical Officer to Sierra Leone and Inspector of army hospitals in other British settlements, together with an extract from the Cape Coast Gazette of 29th April, 1823, both of which may have information of interest to members.

Bathurst, St. Marys – River Gambia.
Africa. 4th January, 1820.

My dear Brother John,

I received David's last letter some months ago at Sierra Leone – I was glad to hear you had recovered your health and that all the family were well. I am very well.

The Governor and myself arrived here from Sierra Leone a month ago on a tour of inspection and we have been a great way up the river Gambia. This is the most pleasant season of the year in Africa. The rainy season is very sickly to new comers, sometimes even to old ones. I had a severe fever last rains but soon recovered afterwards.

I have a great deal of duty to perform not so much in attending sick people but in carrying on the official duty of the medical department – on the 25th June last I had another step of promotion to Inspector of Army Hospitals. The Medical Staff is strong on this coast and I have twice a year to visit every British settlement on the West Coast of Africa – The fact is that more than ½ the year is taken up in going and returning from one place to another – This employment is a healthy one.

We are to embark tomorrow morning and the vessel by which this letter is to be sent is to sail almost immediately for England. I have therefore little time to spare. We have H.M.S. Thistle for our use.

I hope James Hutton and family are well. Remember me kindly to Andrew and the rest of the family – I hope my father and mother are well – my affectionate regards to them and to David and the whole I will write again after our arrival at Sierra Leone.

God bless my dear John.

Your affectionate Brother

Direct to me thus –
Dr. Nicoll,
Principal Medical Officer – Africa
Sierra Leone.

ASCENSION F.P.O.'s

J. A. DAYNES

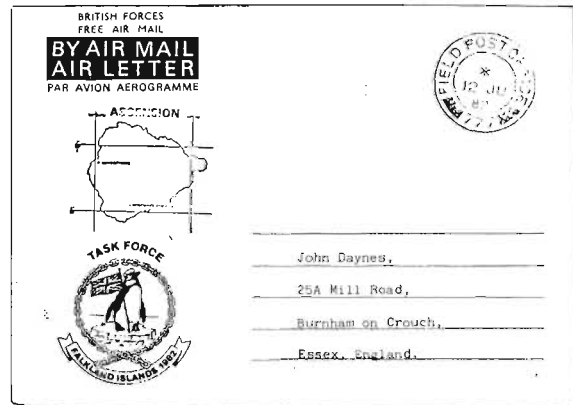
Mr. Daynes, Hon. Librarian of the Forces Postal History Society, has provided the following information.

"I enclose a photocopy of a FPO cover from Ascension.

The FPO there is type B2 (F.P.H.S. classification) and uses FPO 777, one of which is used in red ink on free air letters. I am not sure why this is being done as the FPO in the Falklands still uses black ink on air letters. I think it is a case of local initiative. It is only the second time since the 1939-45 war that a FPO has been used in red ink (apart from new meter marks which are rather different).

Although the Falklands now use meter marks on official mail, recent official mail from Ascension has British postage stamps so perhaps the volume there is not large enough."

The above was written in January 1983. The illustrated cover with "*" as the code is in red; another example code "A" dated 10 NO. 821 is in black. Mr. Daynes writes that the British Forces Postal Service are taking civil mail to and from Ascension.



DR NICOLE

Further extracts from the Cape Coast Gazette of 29 April, 1823.

Death of Dr. Nicolle,

With sorrow we communicate the intelligence of the death of Dr. Nicolle. This painful event happened at Accra on the 26. We insert the General Order on this melancholy occasion as any thing we could say would fall short of a due tribute to the merits of that deserving officer.

General Order

Port James Accra 26 A 1823.

The Commander of the Forces has been pleased to direct that the death of Dr. Nicolle, Member of Council, Deputy Inspector of Hospitals, in charge of the civil and military Medical Departments on the Coast of Africa should be in General Orders. This melancholy event occurred this day at half past one, p.m. on board of his majesty's ship Cyrene.

The Doctor had been dangerously ill nearly without any interval since the middle of Febr. last. With a crew prior to his intended return to Sierra Leone in company with his Excellency to try wither a change of air and voyage at sea would afford him any benefit he embarked on the 14 inst. at Cape Coast but the disease was then too deeply rooted and baffled all human skill.

To say that from Cape (?) Grace and the Officers of the Cyrene he received those marks of esteem and regard which he was so deservedly entitled to from Dr.

Pedlie he experienced to the very last moments of his existence, the most indefatigable and tender care combined with high professional abilities, may afford to such of his friends as are far away a melancholy satisfaction. It was known here that all was done that could be done to prolong his valuable life.

In him the Governor in chief his brethren in the Civil and Military Departments and all those who feel for Africa have lost a friend. He sought not by idle talk and ... but unwearied exertions to promote the cause of humanity; by the scientific knowledge and practice in his medical profession the upright and disinterested discharge of his duties of a magistrate by his unbounded ... the goodness of his heart and social disposition he contributed most essentially to raise up in the minds of the natives of Africa their esteem and respect for a British Officer and to endear to himself to all those with whom he has associated, thus although his career has been short, yet it has been useful and will stand as modle to his

As a Public mark of esteem and attachment to Dr. Nicoll, the Civil and Military branches of the Army on the Gold Coast will put on military mourning for 15 days.

The Funeral will take place tomorrow at seven o'clock with the honers and marks of respect to his rank and as the Deceased held the station of member of council 13 guns will be fired from the batteries.

By Command.

"there were no arrangement, for bringing such letters to account." The Governor replied that no British vessel had been to Bathurst for three months.

Would readers offer comments on the charges arising on both items?

GAMBIA EDWARD VII PLATE FLAWS

The best known plate flaw is the Glover variety on stamp six of the left hand page. This is a bulge in the frame line below the 'G' of Gambia.

John Slingsby has advised of two varieties. One is a break in the top outer line above 'MB' of Gambia on the 1906 2½d work MCA.



The second consists of broken shading on the King's neck on the 1906 4d work MCA.

R.E.R. Dalwick records a variety on the 7½d of 1905 where there is a break in the coloured ring round the King's head opposite the lower leg of 'A' in 'postage' at right.

Your Editor has a 1902-1905 4d and a 1904-06 2/- with a break in the outer frame at top right.



Any further information to the Gambia Editor, please.

GAMBIA COLOURED PAPERS

J.O. ANDREW

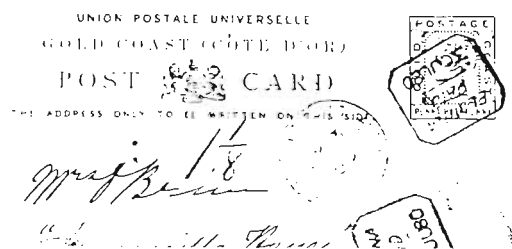
In an attempt to discover the true status of some Gambia KGV 1912 3d and 4d stamps on what seems to be white or barely tinted paper, I have subjected some 3d's to various indignities. These have included exposure to daylight and full sunlight for several weeks; thorough soaking in plain and soapy water, in lemon-scented Ajax, and in white spirit. Apart from ruining some nice mint stamps, this has produced little

or no change. I also have a 1922 4d on CA paper which is quite white: it looks exactly like the Script 1½d.

On the other hand, a 1/- Script CA Elephant-and-Palm, perf. 13¾ x 14, used, which was put to soak in clean lukewarm water, immediately lost much of the yellow in the paper. I rescued it quickly, but it is now a deplorable half yellow-buff, half yellow; a little problem for some future collector! Are any others of the Elephant-and-Palm set known to lose the colouring of the paper?

GOLD COAST ACCOUNTANCY MARKINGS

J. SACHER



This 1½d postcard from Elmina 30 JU 80 to Ireland has an interesting "1½" endorsement in red manuscript. Although I have never seen instructions to the effect, I presume that the implication was that 1½d should be credited to the G.P.O. London

Do readers have a better explanation?

(In the Gold Coast section of the International Encyclopaedia of Stamps, a similar postcard is illustrated. This was from Cape Coast Castle on 29 JU 80 to London with "1½" and also "3/8" both in red manuscript. Ed.)

GOLD COAST NOTES ON PROVISIONALS AND CANCELLATIONS

PETER R. NEWROTH

These notes describe several unusual Gold Coast items which may be of interest to Study Circle members and which may provoke others to check their collections for similar material.

Figure 1 illustrates three copies of S.G.20, all showing the 7mm spacing between the obliterating bar and the overprinted "ONE PENNY". The example to the left shows a typical overprint, but the middle example shows a particularly heavy overprint with an abnormally wide obliterating bar. The used copy to the right shows what appears to be a double strike, with a

clear double of the first "N" in "PENNY" and traces of a double obliterating bar.

The valuable check list of cancellations on Gold Coast adhesives prepared by the Study Circle some years ago describes Type 2 cancellations with the town name only (without code letter or date) on S.G. 4 to 8. Figure 2 illustrates another variation, a "WINNEBAH" cancellation on S.G. 17 with the code letter "C". Another "WINNEBAH" cancellation on an example of S.G. 7 shows the code letter "B" and "JY" (but no date). Yet another cancellation from the same town on S.G. 5 shows "JU" but no code letter or date. Figure 3 shows an example of S.G.13 with a "SALTPOND" cancellation without code letter or date. All of these cancellations are in black.

My own interests include review of plate varieties and cancellations on the first Gold Coast type and I would be pleased to correspond with other members sharing these interests.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

GOLD COAST WAR TAX

M. ENSOR

The Assistant Editor (Gold Coast), now working on the Gold Coast stamps of the reign of King George V would welcome help from any member who can answer the following questions on this tax which was approved in January, 1918 and continued in use until the signing of the peace in mid-1919.

First, was the tax payable only by the purchase of one of the 1d stamps surcharged 'WAR TAX ONE PENNY' or could it be paid, if a surcharged stamp was not available, by other means e.g. allowing an extra unsurcharged 1d stamp?

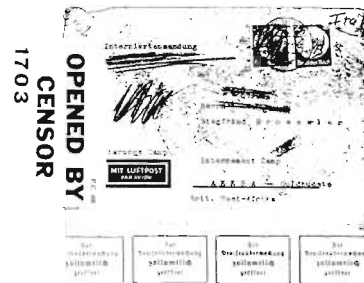
Secondly, did the tax come into force only when supplies of the surcharged stamp arrived in the colony in May, 1918 or was it payable earlier?

If any reader has a Gold Coast cover to an Empire destination (n.b. the tax was not payable on correspondence to foreign countries) dated between January 1918 and July 1919 that seems to bear 1d more of ordinary stamps than it should (i.e. more than 1½d for a letter, 1d for a postcard or 4½d for a registered letter) a photocopy would be greatly appreciated.

Please reply to Michael Ensor, Flat 1, The Paragon, Blackheath, London SE3 0NZ.

GERMANY – GOLD COAST 1939

By courtesy of Ian Warn, we are able to illustrate this cover from his collection. There is still much to be learnt on this subject.



Civil airmails, WW2 – Routes, Rates and Censor markings via Italy, Egypt and Sudan

Posted 18th November, Berlin. Paid 20pfg/5gms air fee + 25pfg/20gms surface. Addressed to enemy territory and at first marked 'Postverkehr eingestellt' and with a large cross to cancel the address. Being to an interned civilian German national, the instruction to return was later deleted. It was opened by German censor and resealed with pseudo currency-control labels.

Probably flown by Ala Littoria from Rome to Cairo, where opened by British censor (note PC66 Seal) before forwarding by Imperial Airways via Khartoum to destination. Marked on arrival, 'Passed by Censor/10/Gold Coast'.

LAGOS CANCELLATIONS

JOHN SACHER

I refer to my booklet "The Postal History of Lagos". On page 25 I refer to a type reported by Porter 22mm across (5A).

The original version of this cds was 20mm across with L to S (see below) 16mm. Examples have been seen up to 1889. Although minor variations exist, slightly more or less in measurement, there is one clearly larger type. It is 21mm with the L to S 17¾mm. Dates so far noted are:

14. 5. 1884
 5. 7. 1884
 29. 12. 1885
 24. 5. 1886

Members are requested to check their specimens and report back.

No one has been able to confirm the existence of Porter's 22mm cds.



THE CALABAR MISSION

J.F. INCE

In 1982, by courtesy of fellow member Gene Fricks of the U.S.A., I received photocopy of a letter from Old Calabar dated March 1851 which occupied four pages of manuscript. It was addressed to the United Presbyterian Synod in Canada from the brethren of the United Presbyterian Mission at Old Calabar, signed by Hope M. Waddell (the writer) and Hugh Goldie, and it acknowledged a letter of June 1849... "it was long of reaching us owing to the want of a regular mail to this coast and the distant intervals sometimes at which the trading ships arrive..."

The contents reflect vividly the difficulties under which these early missionaries to this part had to labour... "The people among whom we dwell are in all respects different, being sunk in ignorance and superstitions of degenerated and unreclaimed nature, broken into numerous petty tribes in various respects diverse from each other and speaking different languages, yes, none of which have been written, yet all

agreeing in the ruinous and atrocious practices of slavery and slave trading and all alike destitute of common law and government of truth, justice and benevolence."

"You have tenderly sympathised and condoled with us... on the early loss of mission sustained of two of its agents; our devoted, beloved, lamented brother Jameson and our worthy assistant Miller. Yet on the whole the Lord has been very gracious to us in affording to us generally a greater measure of health than we had at the outset been led to expect. These and an infant are the only deaths which have yet occurred to us in a region where it was long supposed white missionaries could not live at all... we have not the strength of labour here that we had even in Jamaica".

Rev. Hope Waddell had first arrived in Duke Town, Old Calabar, on 10th April 1846, having originated from Jamaica and travelled via Scotland. That initial party which included the lamented Jamaican assistant Ed. Miller (a teacher of African descent) was welcomed by Chief Eyo Honesty of Creek Town. When the Church in Jamaica first sought to send agents of both negro stock and home missionaries (who had become acclimatised in Jamaica to the tropics and experienced in work amongst Africans) the home society in Scotland had at first refused permission on the grounds that the Jamaica Mission Presbytery was too immature and lacked both means and personnel to support such an outreach. However an approach in 1842 met with approval and letters were written to the Calabar Chiefs for their agreement and for a grant of land and to Captain Beecroft, the British Consul in Fernando Po for official approval. Rev. Hope Waddell was appointed first representative both to the Churches in Scotland and to Calabar.

Rev. William Jameson, whose early death Waddell also relates, arrived from Jamaica at the end of 1846, Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Goldie followed in March 1847.

Goldie, Waddell and Rev. William Anderson (1848) were to form the triumvirate on which in those early days the foundations of the whole work were based. Waddell, father and founder was the leader of the Mission, Goldie was the scholar who translated the New Testament into Efik and a large number of his 300 hymns make up the present day Efik hymnbook. Anderson, "the strong warrior" with his wife was a tower of strength.

Slavery and slave trading was only one of the heathen practices which had to be fought. Even worse was the ritual slaughter of slaves on the death of a chief, the complete disregard for the sanctity of human life, and the widespread practice of witchcraft in its most evil forms.

One can but salute the faith and steadfastness of these brave and fearless men and women who gave up everything (including so often their lives) to bring light into such darkness.

(See "Calabar", the story of the Church of Scotland Mission 1846-1946 by D.M. McFarlan, pub. Thomas Nelson & Sons Ltd. 1946).

Historical Note

Missionary enterprise in Nigeria took the form of a three pronged attack; the Church of Scotland Mission occupied itself with Calabar; the Church Missionary Society established missions in the Niger Delta and up the Niger; the Methodists, the Church Missionary Society and the Baptists advanced into Yorubaland. In

all these areas freed slaves (mostly from Sierra Leone but also from Jamaica) played an important role.

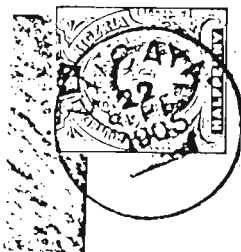
In the late 1830's a number of freed slaves from Freetown returned to their original homes in Lagos, Badagry and Abeokuta and trade links were built up. An appeal by them to the CMS in Sierra Leone resulted in missions being established.

Not least of these African evangelists was Samuel Crowther later to become the first black African bishop while it was the educated freed slaves whose children were later to contribute so greatly to the rise of Lagos as the "Liverpool of West Africa."

LUCAYA: SOUTHERN NIGERIA?

STEVE DREWETT

This postmark, dated 1905, is on a picture postcard. I can find no trace of the name. Can any reader help?



ST HELENA – ARTICLES WANTED

ROGER B. WEST

There are several 'grey' areas which seem to be virtually neglected – at least as far as published articles are concerned. Topics which readily come to mind are:

QV 6d SURCHARGES There is plenty of scope for study on the various settings used for this issue. There are also some good surcharge varieties which I hope will form the basis for a future article in *Cameo*. Any help in this respect would be most appreciated.

QV FORGERIES An article has appeared in *Cameo* introducing this topic but, again, there is plenty of scope for expansion (we now know of about a dozen distinct types).

CORK CANCELLATIONS Edward Hibbert illustrates 55 types of corks, but it has been suggested that there could be as many as 350.

EDWARD PICTORIALS Little is known about the so called 'blue papers' and it would appear that there was just one printing for each value. If this issue was studied in depth, I am sure some constant varieties would come to light.

GV PICTORIALS This issue could prove the most difficult to study but could also offer the greatest

satisfaction. There were up to 6 printings, all of which were produced during 1912-13. The 1916 date Gibbons suggest for 73a is thus a mystery, as is the existence of several very good shades and, I believe, thick papers on ALL values. I have noted a few constant varieties on the 1/2d frame but would suggest that there are similar flaws on other values as well as the vignettes.

DE LA RUE KEY PLATES The very high standard of production from DLR does not totally rule out the possibility of varieties. Apart from the 'Split A's' and a few flaws on the QV 1 1/2d (yet to be plated) I know of nothing else.

G VI DEFS Apart from the notable shades on the 1/2d, 1d and 8d values, there seems to be nothing else recorded for this issue. Printing details need to be extracted from the Printer's Day Books from which the various shades could be identified from used copies or covers. The stamps are not expensive and relatively easy to come by. Anybody who finds a constant variety on any of the values may well have a 'first'.

The notes are offered in the hope that someone might be inspired to submit their results for studies. We all hope that future editions of *Cameo* are over-balanced with articles dealing with St Helena Philately.

THE ST. HELENA POST OFFICE OVAL DATE STAMP

EDWARD HIBBERT

Interest in the rarest of St. Helena's date stamps has been aroused by the discovery of a hitherto unrecorded example.

The POST OFFICE/ST. HELENA date stamp (PO.1) has only been recorded in use for two short periods in 1864 and 1867. The date shown in one line and the closeness of the numerals for the day of the month and the year is unusual.



PO 1

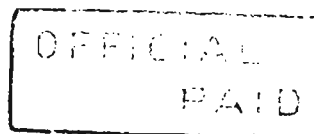
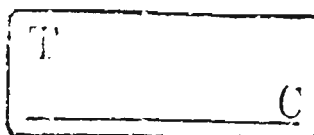
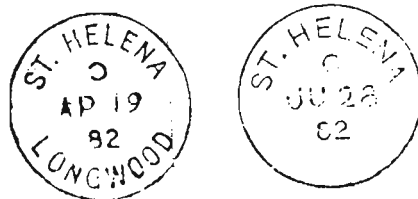
It is even rarer than the St. Helena Packet Letter date stamp, which was in use between 1816 and 1819. Ten examples of HS.1. have been recorded during that period, but I have only seen 6 of these, the remaining 4 being noted only from records. Only five examples of PO.1 have been recorded, the details of these being as follows:-

1. 5 April 1864. On a registered letter to London "On Her Majesty's Service" with 6d. imperforate and 4d. imperforate, both pen-cancelled.

2. 26 July 1864. On a cover to Mr. Goodman, Merrick Square, Borough, London, with a strip of three 4d. imperforate, pen-cancelled. (see illustration on p.37 of my book).
3. 20 September 1864. On a cover also to Merrick Square, London, with four 1d stamps, pen-cancelled.
4. 25 June 1867. On a cover to Sir Thomas Maclear at the Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope. The stamp has been removed from this cover.
5. 26 June 1867. On a cover to 'Allahabad, East Indies' with 1864 1/- deep yellow-green stamp. The cover is marked 10 in red.

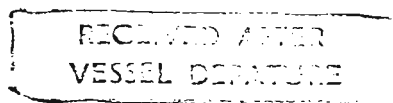
It will be seen that the first three examples were all used between April and September 1864 and are all in conjunction with stamps which are pen-cancelled. The last two examples were used on consecutive days in June 1867. The reason for the gap of 3 years, or for the use of this date stamp at all, is something of a mystery. The St. Helena oval date stamp (HS.2) was in use between 1855 and 1870, but it will be seen from the table of covers on page 146 on my book that no examples of HS.2 have been recorded between 22 March and December 1864 or between 31 May and 5 September 1867. The inference is that for some months in 1864, and in June 1867, the normal oval date stamp had either been mislaid or was being cleaned or replaced. By 1864 the oval date stamp had already been in use for 9 years and may have needed replacement.

The latest example of this rare handstamp (no.5 in the above list) fetched £475 at Robson Lowe's British Empire sale on 13 April 1983.



ST. HELENA POSTMARKS 1982

John Daynes, Librarian of the Forces Postal History Society, has received from a member of the Falklands Task Force photostat examples of date-stamps and cachets held in St. Helena between April and June 1982.



ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

PAQUETOT ON POSTAL SERVICE

MISSENT TO ST. HELENA

Returned to Post Office

THROUGH

TABLE TRAFFIC

RETOUR
NOT KNOWN AT
ST. HELENA ISLE
S.A.O

RETOUR

Ship: _____
Date of Despatch _____
Despatch No _____

R.M.S. ST. HELENA

J.A. DAYNES

Has any member any information about the R.M.S. St. Helena post office? As far as I can gather, the ship was requisitioned for the Falklands Task Force and, therefore, came under direct Ministry of Defence control. Their own office could not, therefore, be opened.

When the ship was de-requisitioned, their own office was opened (25 Aug. 82); however, the St. Helena is still with the Task Force (early 1983) but it is now on charter. Does anyone know if the office on board is open at all times or only when on the high seas?

Information please, c/o Editor.

SIERRA LEONE

W.W.I. CIVILIAN CENSORSHIP

J.J. MARTIN

At Accra in the Gold Coast, civilian mail was being censored as early as August 5th 1914 but it was not known when such censorship started in Sierra Leone.

The writer has a postcard to England, arriving February 12th 1915 but with no departure date, which has written on it in blue crayon 'Passed by Censor R.F.H. . . . P.C.' (Postal Censor).

The earliest cachet recorded is in 1917 and various types continued in use until 1918. All in black.

1. PASSED BY CENSOR in serrified capitals 70 x 4 mm with censor's number in blue crayon.

Date	Censor Number	Notes
20 MR 17	2	Freetown. With 'OPENED BY/CENSOR/No' label
24 APR 17	2	Freetown. 'Officially sealed' tape used
24 MY 17	9	Freetown
16 JUNE 17	8	Freetown. 'DAMAGED BY IMMERSION/IN SEA WATER' cachet
8 OCT 17	3	Daru
2. PASSED BY CENSOR. Not struck clearly. Measurements 65mm approx.		
28 NOV 18	3	Freetown
3. PASSED BY CENSOR in sans serif capitals 50 x 4.5mm.		
25 MR 18	no number	Freetown

4. During 1918 another cachet was introduced together with a numbered handstamp with the censor's number in an inverted half oval. Sans serif capitals 52 x 4.5mm.

PASSED BY CENSOR.



Censor	Town	Dates
1	Freetown	8 MR 18 – 15 JUN 18
2	Hill Station	6 APR 18
2	Pujehun	31 MY 18
2	Freetown	22 JUN 18
3	Freetown	23 OCT 18
3	Bonthe	25 OCT 18
11	Freetown	22 JLY 18 – 6 NOV 18

Any further information would be welcomed.

SIERRA LEONE:

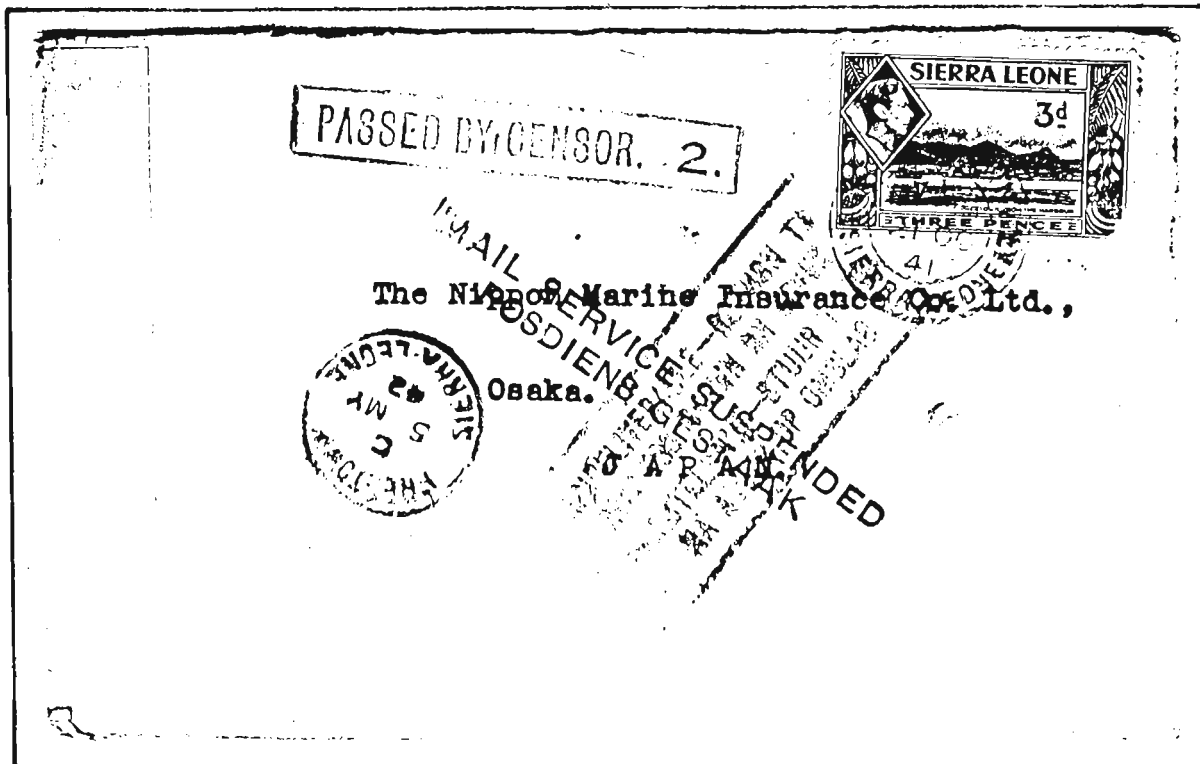
SUSPENSION OF MAIL SERVICES W.W.II

By courtesy of Robert Johnson, we are able to illustrate this Service Suspended cover. The large mark reads "UNDELIVERABLE – RETURN TO/ADDRESS

SHOWN ON COVER/UNBESTELLBAR STUUR
 TERIC/NA ADRES OP OMSLAS".

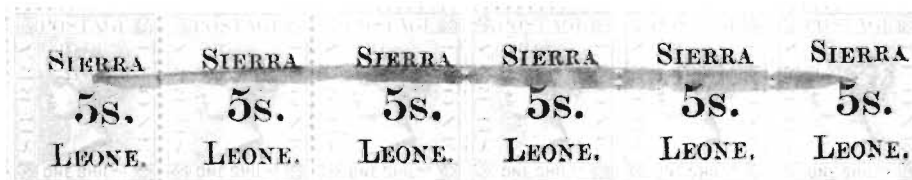
and Japan. Sent by surface mail it probably got well
 beyond South Africa to where it was returned and dealt
 with by having the two explanatory marks applied.
 Posted 21st October 1941 and back in Freetown on
 the 5th May 1942.

This letter from Sierra Leone to Japan was posted
 before war was declared between the United Kingdom



SIERRA LEONE

The 5 s overprint. The final line of stamps. See Cameo Vol 2 No 7.



AIR MAIL SERVICE TO ST. HELENA 1949

J.J. MARTIN

During 1948 complaints were received at the G.P.O. about the air mail service to St. Helena. By courtesy of P.O. Archives, I am able to reproduce two notices found under reference 5756 P 8219/1850.

The first is an instruction to the Foreign Section of the G.P.O.

F.S. Order No. 71

Regd. 4981/48

30th March, 1949

Subject: AIR MAIL CORRESPONDENCE FOR
ST. HELENA

On and from the 30th March, 1949, an air mail service as far as South Africa will be available for

St. Helena. A selection has been provided at the West Africa (British) Air Mail Division and the air mail correspondence should be included in bundles labelled "St. Helena" and transferred to the South Africa Air Mail Division for inclusion in the air mail despatches to Cape Town (Cape Province).

There will be no A.V.2 advice.

The second is the official notice from St. Helena confirming that the experimental service, which commenced on April 1st 1949, was to be continued.

NOTICE

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 ½ oz.)	- 1/-
Post Cards	- 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,
20th June, 1949.

Reproduced at the Government Printing Office, The Castle, St. Helena,
J.A. Sim, Government Printer.

BIAFRA NEWS

As a result of a visit to Nigeria by Bishop Patterson, a few items of interest to the Biafra collector have been obtained. Bishop Patterson was able to contact an ex senior postal administrator who served in the Biafran Postal Service and the following information can be regarded as authentic.

The 'POST PAID' rubber stamps were a standard issue, being made centrally at the Government Printing Department, Enugu.

The informant personally arranged the collection of the Nigeria animal definitives from both Eastern and Mid Western Post Offices for overprinting. The

overprinting was carried out locally at the Government Printing Department.

The first Biafran First Day Covers were prepared in Lisbon at the time the adhesives were printed but the cancellations were affixed in Enugu.

The set issued to commemorate the Pope's visit was printed in Italy.

The decisions about stamps and policy were taken by the 'Postal Division' in Enugu but were subject to the final approval of the Head of State.

The information so far gained does confirm the original sleuthing and guesswork which is very

gratifying. There is now a possibility that contact can be re-established when our informant hopes to visit the U.K. There are many questions that can be asked and hopefully we shall get some interesting

replies. Our grateful thanks should be extended to Bishop Patterson for so diligently following up this matter on our behalf.

DUDLEY PRESTEDGE
Biafra Editor

SIERRA LEONE. THE 2WIR PERFIN

P O BEALE

The only perfin known to me from Sierra Leone in the nineteenth century is that showing 2WIR or Second West Indian Regiment. I have seen it on SG 28, the 1d stamp first issued in 1884, on SG 31, the 2½d first issued in 1891, on SG 49, the 6d issued in 1897, and on SG 74, the 1d issued in 1903. It was clearly intended for security purposes to prevent the theft of stamps from the Regimental Office and their subsequent usage. I have seen three covers all bearing the 2½d value and addressed to a Mrs Duggan.

After Sierra Leone became a Crown Colony in January 1808 the military presence consisted of The Royal Africa Corps composed almost entirely of white troops. Their severe mortality rate led to their replacement by a detachment of the West Indian Regiment which came from Barbados in April 1812 and which used Bunce Island as a recruiting depot. The men of the R.A.C. went to The Cape of Good Hope and in May 1819 five companies of the Second West Indian Regiment arrived from Jamaica to garrison

Sierra Leone, the Isles of Los and The Gambia.

The troops were supplemented for civil purposes by the Sierra Leone Police Corps founded in 1829 and later by the Frontier Police Force of 1890 formed before the Protectorate was established in 1896. This force was incorporated into the West African Frontier Force as the Sierra Leone Battalion in 1901. The need for troops in the Protectorate led to the formation of yet another military unit, the first battalion West African Regiment, which in its turn was incorporated into The West African Frontier Force. This WAFF eventually included all military units in British West Africa.

The perfins show that the Second West Indian Regiment maintained its separate identity in Sierra Leone until the beginning of this century. I would be interested to hear of any other stamps known with the perfin and of any other covers. The copy I have of SG 74 is used but unfortunately does not show the year.



FREETOWN 4.5.96



MORELY STAMPS

P O Box 28

Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 2LS

(0734 781477)

for BRITISH AFRICA

including Cameroons, Gambia, Gold Coast, the Nigerias, Sierra Leone, Togo, St Helena, Ascension.

Price Lists available on request.

Wants Lists welcomed.

WEST AFRICA AND ISLANDS

We hold substantial stocks of specialist material from GAMBIA, GOLD COAST, SIERRA LEONE, THE NIGERIAS, ST HELENA and ASCENSION.

Covers, Essays, Proofs, Specimens, Rare Stamps, and Postal Stationery. Photocopies available.

RITCHIE BODILY

72 Fitzjohn's Avenue, LONDON NW3

Tel. 01-435 8425

B.W.A. – SELECTIONS FROM STOCK

Ascension

- SG Z22 1902 GB KEVII 1d red. A superb used pair tied to piece by Ascension cds of MY 24 1911 £30
 GB KGV 1d red postal stationery cut-out cancelled by Ascension cds of 26 AU '16 £35
- SG Z31 GB KEVII 7d grey-black tied to piece by superb Ascension cds of AU 22 '10. Rare. £200
- SG Z32a GB KEVII 10d dull purple & scarlet. A superb used pair tied to piece by Ascension cds. Very rare £275
- SG Z44 GB KGV 3d violet. A control C13 example tied to piece by Ascension cds £25
- SG 12 1924-33 1½d rose-red. A very fine mint copy showing the 'line through C' flaw. Row 1/6. CW G12d. Scarce £90
- SG 45a 1944 2/6d black & carmine. A fine mint copy showing the 'davit flaw'. Row 5/1 £60

GAMBIA

- SG 24 1883-92 2d yellow-buff. A very fine used copy of this rare shade unlisted by SG but recorded by Dalwick £70
 QV key plate 2d (pair) & 3d tied to piece by superb Received Gambia cds. Scarce. £45
 1901 OHMS cover addressed to UK bearing QV ½d (pair), 1d & 6d key plates all tied by Received Gambia cds of 31 JY '01. Rare £245
- SG 41a 1902 3d deep purple & ultramarine. A very fine used copy of this rare shade. £80
- SG 60a 1906 2½d bright blue & ultramarine. A very fine mint copy showing the 'Glover' flaw. Row 1/6 left pane £40
 An amazing piece taken from a parcel bearing KGV key plates 4dx2, 5d, 6d, 7½dx4 & 10dx3 all tied by scarce Parcel Post Bathurst cds £70
 1921 cover addressed to Palestine bearing KGV key plate ½d, 2d, 2½ & 5d. all tied by Macarthy Is-M.O.O. cds. Rare cover. ... £75
- SG 86b 1912-22 ½deep green. A vfm copy showing the 'split A' variety. Stamp 45 left pane. (Other values available on request). £15
- SG 109 1921-22 1d carmine. A superb mint copy showing the watermark reversed. Scarce £50
 1929 cover bearing 'Elephant & Palms' 1d, 1½d, 2½d & 4d (pair) cancelled by scarce Kunta-Ur cds £85

- SG 120 1922-27 1/- purple/yellow. A very fine used copy showing the inverted watermark. £65

GOLD COAST

- SG 24 1889-94 20s green & red. A fine example of the scarce Sperati forgery signed on reverse. Rare £65
- SG 25 1894 20s dull mauve & black/red. Superb used copy with inverted watermark. £65
- SG 80a 1921 2/- purple & blue/blue. A very fine mint copy of the difficult Die II issue. ... £90

LAGOS

- SG 14a 1876 4d carmine. A fine used example with scarce Sideways watermark. £65
- SG 22 1884-6 1d rose-carmine. A very fine used copy with inverted watermark. Scarce. £40

NIGER COAST

- H & G 2 1894 1d carmine on buff postal card tied by Old Calabar cds of JA 22 '94 addressed to Sierra Leone £35
- SG 1 1892-94 ½d vermilion. A superb used control K strip of three cancelled by Old Calabar cds. Scarce piece. £65
- SG 68 1897-8 2d lake. A fine mint copy with reversed watermark. Scarce £65

NIGERIA

- 1921-32 1/- die proof in black printed on thick glazed card showing name and value tablet. Fine & scarce. £120
 1931 cover to UK bearing GV 1d and additionally tied by Lagos cds with GB 1d due and various tax marks £15

ST HELENA

- SG 55 1903 ½d brown & grey-green with inverted watermark. Scarce & unlisted. £80
- SG 96b 1922 £1 grey & purple/red. A vfm copy with the very rare Torn Flag variety. Row 4/6. Only 98 possible examples exist. £1650
- SG 98c 1922-37 1d grey & green. Superb mint corner pair showing Cleft Rock variety. £25
- SG 99e 1937 1½d deep carmine-red. A very fine used copy of this difficult shade £85

TOGO

- SG 34-36 1915 set in very fine mint condition all showing the small F variety. Rare £285
- SG 35g 1915 1d red showing the major error 'overprint double'. Very rare £125
- SG 45b 1915 10/- green & red/green. A very fine mint copy showing the thin G variety £85

We hold basic stocks both mint and used of the following countries including many perforation and shade variations not listed by Stanley Gibbons – wants lists Invited: Ascension, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Niger Coast, Southern Nigeria, Sierra Leone, St Helena & Togo

If you are not already on our mailing list write now for a free copy of our monthly list containing many specialised items of the British Commonwealth

STEVE ELLIS

2 Anvil Road, Claverham, Bristol BS19 4LZ

Telephone: Yatton (0934) 834352