CAMEO

The Journal of the West Africa Study Circle



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Editorial

Every cloud has a silver lining, or so the old saying goes. One or two of our regular advertisers have decided not to take space in this issue - which means less income for the Study Circle, but does mean that I have managed to find room for a few more items than before. In the last issue I proudly boasted that there were more articles in that edition than any previous *Cameo*; there are even more in this one! Can this trend keep on going forever? Each issue now has just over fifty pages, but this time around there are not too many long multi-page articles so there should be lots to dip into.

For several editorials I have been musing on the balance of articles between the main countries that this journal covers. I have now done some rough calculations which yielded the following numbers:

Country	% of members	% of pages in Cameo
Cameroons	13	10
Gambia	17	20
Gold Coast	18	21
Nigerias	24	19
Sierra Leone	17	22
Togo	11	8

This was better balanced than I feared may be the case, with perhaps the Nigerias losing out to Sierra Leone a little.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

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Front Cover

A reproduction of a panel taken from an engraving titled *Plan of Yamyamakunda Factory on ye Gambia*. It is not dated, but perhaps originates from the eigtheenth century.

My thanks to Mike Roberts for providing the original.

Scope : The West Africa Study Circle covers The Gambia, Gold Coast, The Nigerias, Sierra Leone, Ascension, Cameroons, St. Helena, Togo and nearby British Postal Agencies.

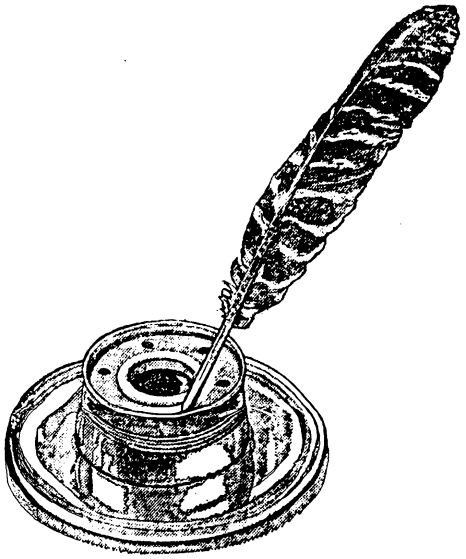
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Access to the internet? Then please try visiting the West Africa Study Circle Web Site at :

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/FrankWalton



Letters to the Editor

Should anyone wish to reply to any of these letters, please do so through the Cameo editor in the first instance to enable a consolidated follow-up to be published in conjunction with the study editors as appropriate.

Correspondence on any subject is always most appreciated. Any form of contact is welcome, whether by letter, telephone or email.

My addresses are listed on the front page of all Cameo issues.

Frank Walton

BSAA to Chile

Dear Frank,

Jeremy Martin's 31 January 1946 cover by BSAA to Chile (*Cameo* Vol. 6 p83, July 1998) is the earliest recorded southbound cover by this route that I have seen. Readers will have noted that the original endorsement *North Atlantic Service* has been crossed out and replaced by *British South American Airways*.

Writing in the *Aero Field* for March 1946, N.C. Baldwin noted that the British Post Office was slow to inform the public of the new service, a press release on 24 January 1946 announcing that 1400kg of mail had been carried on the 21 January service. From the first regular flight of 23 March 1946 the rate was reduced to 1s 6d per half ounce, compared with the 2s 6d rate imposed on mail sent via the North Atlantic and OAT from the United States.

Richard Beith
Chester

✧ ✧ ✧

President Ahidjo

Dear Frank,

Regarding my article on the Cameroons U.K.T.T. overprints (*Cameo* Vol. 6 pp96-98, July 1998) might I draw attention to a necessary correction to the spelling of the name of the Cameroun President - it should be AHIDJO, and not AKIDJO as thrice seen on page 98.

Bob Maddocks
Oswestry

✧ ✧ ✧

Sierra Leone Boxed Handstamp & Railway Telegram

Dear Frank,

I have a boxed handstamp reading 'ARE YOU SUBSCRIBING TO THE WAR CHARITIES FUND?' struck in red on an internal cover from Makeni to Freetown in 1941. Any further information would be most appreciated.

In the last journal (*Cameo* Vol. 6 p78, July 1998), Jeremy Martin illustrated a Sierra Leone Railway Telegram asking if anyone had seen a similar item. I have an identical card, but addressed to 'Decker (no initials), 157 Regent Road, Freetown'. Mine too offers no indication of the date it was used.

Ray Revell
Cambridge

✧ ✧ ✧

Most Travelled *Cameo*?

Dear Frank,

Thank you very much for putting together another fine issue of *Cameo*. The July 1998 edition arrived on 31 July having been posted by

you on 17 July - not bad when one takes into account the 'MISSENT TO AUSTRALIA / BRISBANE 4013' handstamp!

May I ask you to include my telephone number and email address in future editions to enable North America members to contact me more easily?

Jack Ince
Stirling
Canada

Editor's response:

I was astonished to learn of the adventure that Jack's journal underwent. Can anyone match this epic route? Please note that the additional information on how to contact Jack is also included on the masthead page as he suggested.

✧ ✧ ✧

Gambia Plating Studies

Dear Frank,

You include an enthusiastic review by Oliver Andrew of a new study of the plates etc., on the 1883-87 issue of the Gambia Cameos. I have not yet seen this work, but agree that omission of any plating study was a sorry gap in the WASC handbook on the Gambia. This was a reasonable attempt to update Dalwick and was drawn together from several different contributors, but as Oliver himself says in the forward, Colin Graham's untimely death before his work was finished prevented the completion of any satisfactory contribution.

I myself had gone as far as I could with plating the imperforate issues, but without access to the Dale-Lichenstein collection, which was not then available, felt that my conclusions were based on viewing too few multiples and therefore incomplete.

I no longer have a collection of stamps and, of course, the Dale-Lichenstein material has been sold and dispersed. I would be delighted to lend the study to anyone interested in extending it and publishing as complete a guide to the two first issues of 1869 and 1874 as can be made recognising that at best it will only be a partial work. If anyone wants to take up this challenge, members have my address, and any other serious collector can write to me through the editor.

John Sacher
London

✧ ✧ ✧

Sierra Leone 'Anomaly'

Dear Frank,

In the last issue (*Cameo* Vol. 6 p74, July 1998) you raised a question about the UK and UPU rates in 1890-91. I recall reading somewhere that there was a somewhat premature announcement of a lowering of the rate from 4d to 2½d, beginning in January 1890 but this really did not take effect until June or July 1890). Perhaps if this was announced in Sierra Leone in 1890, it might have caused the writer to make the comment you cited?

Peter Newroth
Vancouver Island
Canada

✧ ✧ ✧

Trans-Atlantic Airmail Rate

Frank,

I suspect that the 7s 0d rate mentioned in the last issue (*Cameo* Vol. 6 p87, July 1998) may be made up of 5s 6d double-Atlantic Sierra Leone to London, plus 1s 3d London to Switzerland plus 3d registration.

Stewart Duncan
Cruden Bay

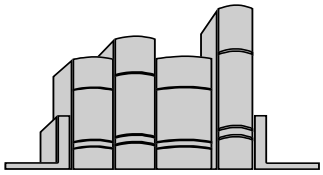
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Gold Coast Manuscript Cancels

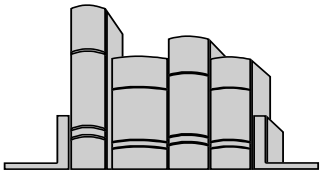
Dear Frank,

In response to Roy Cooper's question regarding manuscript cancels (*Cameo* Vol. 6 p56, July 1998), surely this is likely to have been effected by the local District Officer or the Officer in Charge

(Continued on page 111)



Bookshelf



New Books

The Postal Services of the Gold Coast Edited by Michael Ensor ISBN 0-9525687-4-8. Published by the West Africa Study Circle. Available from Dudley Ingoldby-Williams, Field House, Northfield Avenue, Shiplake, Henley-on-Thames RG9 3PB, United Kingdom. Price £30 Retail or £24 to WASC Members. Postage & packing £3.50 UK, £4.50 Europe airmail, £10.00 Zone 1 airmail (eg USA), £11.50 Zone 2 airmail (eg Australia) or £5.00 surface mail worldwide. 247 A4 pages, hardbound, includes 12 plates of which four are in colour. Reviewed by Jeremy Martin.

The topics covered include stamps and postal stationery, postal services, postal rates, cancellation and transit marks, airmails, censorship and instructional marks. Michael has had the help of several members of the Study Circle,which he has fully acknowledged, but the final work is his as is the majority of the research. With over 240 pages of text and illustrations, all aspects of the stamps, postal services and postal history have been covered. It has been well laid out, easy to follow and easy to use with a clear font that makes reading it a pleasure.

This book is the first that the West Africa Study Circle has published that includes colour plates, although the green shades in the colour printing have not reproduced very accurately.

If you collect Gold Coast - or are thinking about doing so - this book is a must. Michael is to be congratulated on a first class book.

The Impressed Duty Stamps of the British Colonial Empire by William A. Barber. 164 pages. ISBN 0-9613725-2-4. Obtainable from the author at 804 Sugar Maple Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322, United States. Price US $30 + p&p. Reviewed by Jeremy Martin.

This new book from America is the first attempt, to your reviewer's knowledge, to cover this subject. The author describes it as 'a preliminary listing' and, as always, the book will bring about many new items. The West African territories that are covered are Gambia, Gold Coast and Ghana, Lagos, Nigeria, Northern Nigeria, Southern Nigeria, Sierra Leone and West Cameroons.

Mr Barber is to be congratulated on a first class effort in dealing with this back-of-the-book subject. Those of us who have cheques or other documents with stamped duties will now know where to look for further information.

The Empty Sleeve, the Story of the West India Regiment by Brian Dyde. Paperback, 208 pages. ISBN 976-8163-09-7. Obtainable from Readers Book Club, PO Box 257, Welwyn AL6 9DH, United Kingdom. Price £11.95 + p&p £2.00 in UK or £5.50 worldwide. Reviewed by Brian McCloy.

This book provides the story of the the West India Regiments of the British Army from 1793 to 1927. It covers the actions in the West Indies and West Africa. Written for the general reader and not for the student of military or postal history. However, it does give a good insight into campaigns in Gambia, Gold Coast and Sierra Leone. The Asante, Hut Tax War 1898 and many other actions are included in detail and makes one realise the difficult conditions that prevailed in West Africa at the

time. The illustrations include 'The Storming of Tubab Kolon' Gambia 1866, 'The Capture of Toniataba' Gambia 1892, 'Payday for the 2nd West India Regiment' Gold Coast 1874 and 'The West India Regiment in Action in Sierra Leone' 1894. It is a book I enjoyed reading and mail from the officers in the West India Regiments has survived and is in many West Africa collections.

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 1 British Commonwealth.

The edition which is marked as being 1999 (although published in 1998...) contains the usual array of new additions and price increases as in previous years. However, of particular note this year for West Africa collectors is the complete re-numbering of the Nigeria King George V keyplate series SG 1 - 29. This issue has for numerous years been somewhat haphazardly ordered by Gibbons but, after Peter Fernbank's recent research, a more logical listing is now given.

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Letters to the Editor *Continued from p109*

at the local garrison. Please refer to *The Postal Service of the British Nigeria Region* by Ince & Sacher, p260. In effect, by a Post Office Proclamation, various Government Officers (including the military) were appointed to the Postal Department in those areas where, as yet, no post office had been established eg Residents, District Officers etc and officers in charge of detachments of the W.A.F.F.. Probably the same applied for Gold Coast as Nigerias.

Jack Ince
Stirling
Canada

✧ ✧ ✧

Early Zaria Manuscript Cancel

Dear Frank,

I recently purchased a small piece bearing a pair of Northern Nigeria King Edward VII ½d stamps which have each been cancelled with a clear manuscript endorsement *Zaria 22/2/07*. There is a further datestamp of 11 March 1907, but the town name is unfortunately unclear.

Ince & Sacher's *The Postal Service of the British Nigeria Region* list on page 286 such manuscript cancels for Zaria, but they list the earliest recorded date as 5 May 1907 which is a few months after my example.

Robin Davis
Caversham

✧ ✧ ✧

Sierra Leone Numeric Postmark Codes

Dear Mr Walton,

In response to your note in *Cameo* Vol. 5 p4, January 1995, requesting details of further information on these curious codes, I can provide some more examples. These codes have always puzzled me; I have assumed them to be 11, 12 and 13 rather than 1, 2 and 11 as given in *Cameo*.

Code	Earliest	Latest	Total
11	16 Jan 1898	22 Dec 1898	10
12	31 May 1898	22 Aug 1898	3
13	18 Jun 1898	4 Sep 1898	5

M. A. Warwick
Reading

✧ ✧ ✧

Gambia Spitfire Labels

Stewart Duncan

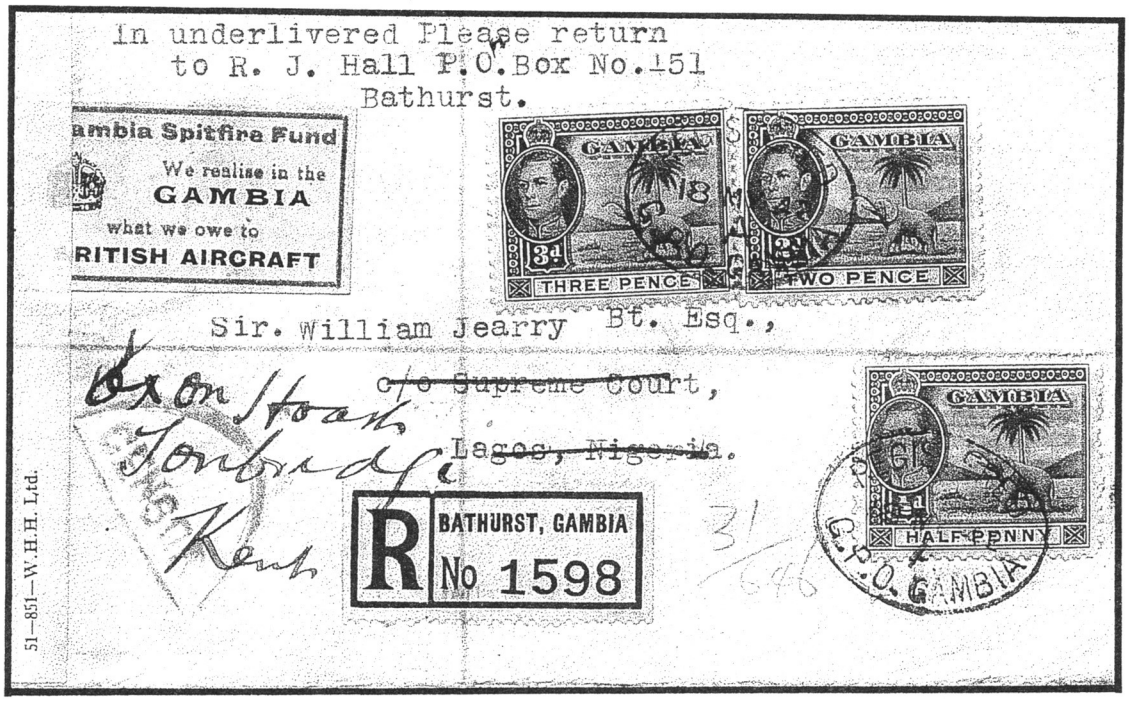


Figure 1 : 18 May 1942 - Bathurst to Lagos, Nigeria redirected to Tonbridge, England

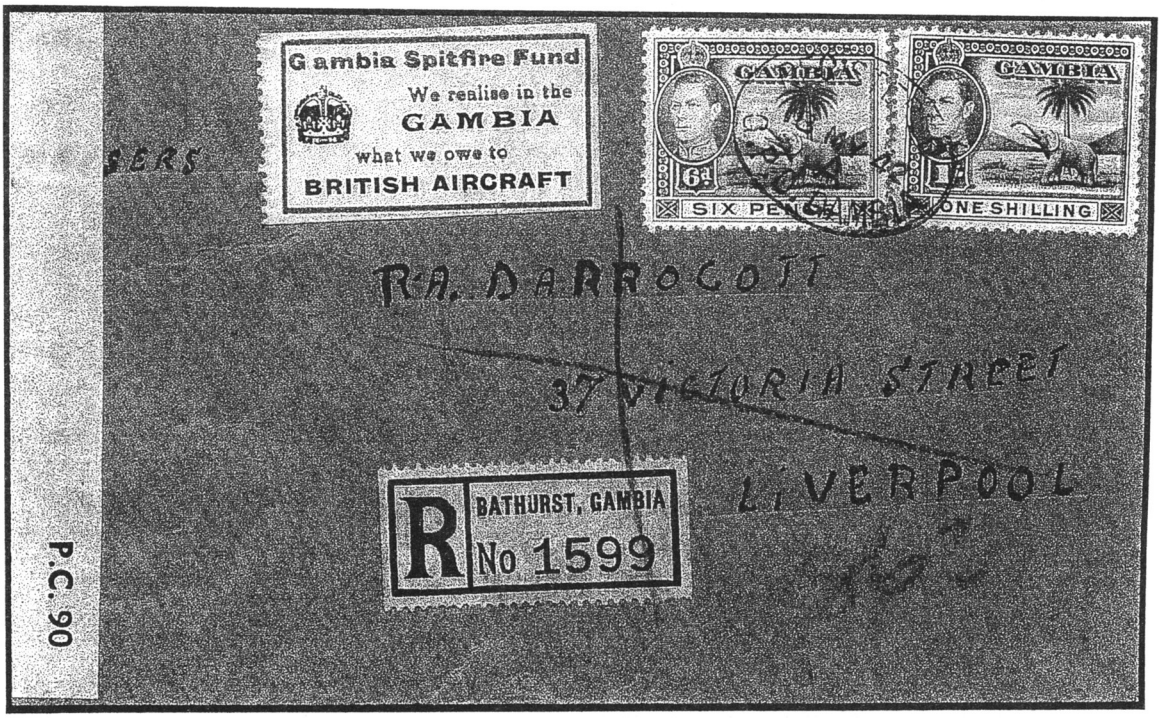


Figure 2 : 18 May 1942 - Bathurst to Liverpool, England

These ‘Spitfire Labels’ were sold during World War II in an attempt to raise additional funds for the war effort. Although similar items for Gold Coast are documented (Refs. 1, 2 & 3), I can find no reference to Gambian labels. They are not listed in the Gambia Handbook (Ref. 4).

I understand that Gambia used labels on either yellow, blue or white paper. Both of the two examples I have are on yellow with a combination of red, black and mauve inks.

The two illustrated came from the same dealer, but were purchased six years apart. They are remarkable in that they are both dated the same day (18 May 1942) and were given consecutive registration numbers. One (Fig. 1) was sent surface mail to Nigeria before being redirected to Kent in England. The second was sent airmail to Liverpool, England. Both are censored in Gambia by civil label Type 1K1 number 5453 (Ref. 5), and thus provide a new earliest recorded date for this label. The first cover also received a Nigerian half-moon Type 2 civil handstamp (Ref. 6).

It would be interesting to see a thorough survey of Gambia Spitfire Labels in terms of colours and dates of use. Could any members who have further examples please send them in to the *Cameo* editor for tabulation.

References

1. Martin J.J., "Gold Coast Spitfire Fund Labels", *Cameo*, Volume 4 p68, WASC, January 1991
2. Martin J.J., "Gold Coast Spitfire Fund Labels", *Cameo*, Volume 4 p252, WASC, January 1994
3. Ensor M. (Ed), *The Postal Services of the Gold Coast 1901-1957*, p79, WASC, Dronfield 1998
4. Andrew J.O. (Ed), *The Stamps and Postal History of The Gambia*, Christie's Robson Lowe with WASC, 1985
5. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p24, WASC, 1993
6. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p49, WASC, 1993

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Bathurst Code B Cancellation

John Rose

The handbook mentions a single copy of Bathurst code B, Type 13B, dated 4 April 1889 (Ref. 1). I have a copy of a 1s Deep Violet with Bathurst and code B for 12 October 1887. However, it is not any type which has been previously mentioned and is certainly not Type 13. The diameter of the cancel is 23mm (only Type 16 is listed as having this measurement), but the spacing and arrangement is different to any other Bathurst cancel. Does anyone have another example?



[Editor's comment : Although I'm certainly no Gambia postmark expert, this looks to me very similar to the Type 14B cancel.]

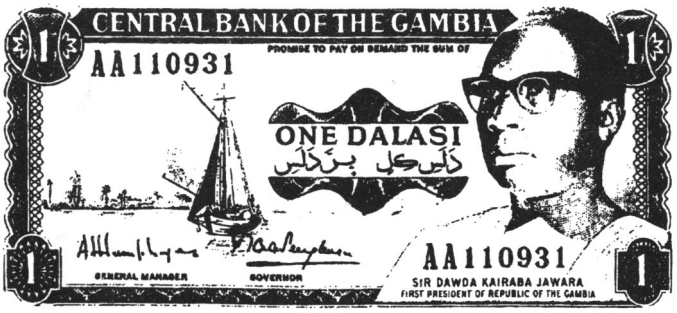
Reference

1. Andrew J.O. (Ed), *The Stamps and Postal History of The Gambia*, p127, Christie's Robson Lowe with WASC, 1985

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Dalasy?

Does anybody know how you spell the currency unit of Gambia? The Central Bank obviously prefers Dalasi, but why do Gibbons give Dalasy?



Gambian Airmail after the Closure of German Service

John Rose



24 August 1939 - Bathurst to Norfolk, England

This letter was sent by a passenger on the RMS Accra and has a 1/- definitive stamp to prepay the airmail rate via the German service to the UK. The cancel is dated 24 August 1939 and the addressee had the same name as the sender. Clearly the cover missed the last flight of the German service and then transferred to Dakar to be carried on the French service. Two Senegal stamps have been affixed, totalling 7Fr and these are cancelled 29 August 1939. Alongside there is a two ring cachet with CONTROLE POSTALE, Commission B, AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE FRANCAISE, in black. A note on the reverse states that the letter was received in England on l3 September 1939.

The 7Fr stamps were insufficient to be for postage due and are too little to pay the rate via the French service. Was there an interim agreement between the Gambia and Senegal postal authorities to carry letters after the closure of the German service and before the biweekly interim services by the French? If so, who paid the extra postage cost? I presume it to have been paid by the Gambian postal authorities. Furthermore, was the cover carried by air, as it did take 15 days to delivery from Senegal?

The contained letter is most interesting, with a description of what happened on board prior to war being declared. There is also an enclosed note from the sender/receiver, who states that the letter was posted on 24 August 1939 to connect with the German Air Mail. "The German catapult ship was in the Gambia River off Bathurst on Saturday 26th of August. The ship left without ceremony on the 27th of August". The writer reached England by sea on 8 September.

I don't know if anyone else has a cover like this that might throw more light on the situation, but I would be glad if anyone can.

Gambia Official Franks

Oliver Andrew

The acquisition of a quantity of these covers has enabled me to analyse some of their features in what I hope is most useful detail. Most date from 1964/5 and are addressed to the Crown Agents from a variety of sources. Most are marked airmail, only one surface mail after 1961. Many are registered, usually with some instruction in manuscript or typescript although in one case by a handstamp, a label then being applied at the post office. Of these labels most are BATH, GAMBIA (Ref. 1, Type 8a), although from 23 September 1964 to 30 October 1964 the previous label (Type 8c) returned: 8a resumed on 31 October 1964. A few have the manuscript instruction but no post office markings. Some from the Medical and Health Services, Headquarters, have the old rectangular handstamp (Type R4) with manuscript number inserted. This was used to save registered labels: the top cover would carry the label, eg 3414 and subsequent covers would have 3414/1 etc in manuscript. One has a hand-drawn copy of a label; strangely enouh I have from another source the cover with the 'base' label. In every case covers so marked are from the same origin, posted on the same date to the same addressee.

All but one of these covers has in the bottom left corner the handstamp of the Government Service concerned along with the authenticating signature or initials. The date in these handstamps has sometimes been completed by hand.

Every one of these items has the well-known OFFICIAL PAID (Ref. 2, Type OFF 2) handstamps at the top right of the envelope in red, though two examples appear to be in a mixture of black and red. Note that Type OFF 3 is often found in black. Registered mail has the oval registered mark on the reverse of the envelope.

All of the envelopes are ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE even after independence. The earliest example I have of an envelope printed ON THE SERVICE OF THE GAMBIA GOVERNMENT is 14 September 1965, although examples are known with OHMS struck through and OSGG substituted. The latest of these I have seen is an economy gummed label from Yundum College on 11 March 1967.

The Postmaster General's office seems to have specialised in cutting envelopes down for re-use. I have several examples from 1964/5 and one as late as 1976. Sometimes they had to be remarked OHMS and, although there are manuscript examples, there was a handstamp for this purpose. The PGO also had a large CONFIDENTIAL mark struck in red. The Government Printer naturally had a mark PRINTED MATTER.

Some of the sources are quite easy to find, such as MEDICAL AND HEALTH HEADQUARTERS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS etc. But many of the smaller ones, especially branch offices, must be very uncommon. One item has no source marked at all.

I am slowly making a list of all the Government Agencies that used the franking service along with the handstamps that they utilised. Anyone who would like a copy of this provisional list with a view to adding to it is invited to contact me.

References

1. Andrew J.O. (Ed), *The Stamps and Postal History of The Gambia*, pp143-5, Christie's Robson Lowe with the West Africa Study Circle, 1985
2. Ibid, p129

Gambian Mourning Cover to France in 1887

John Rose



22 January 1887 - Gambia Bordeaux, France

This mourning cover was sent to France on 22 January 1887; it is franked with two 1d maroon stamps of the 1881 issue, third printing, comb perf and upright watermark. Both stamps are tied with complete but faint Gambia Paid code C cancellations and there is a third complete, but very faint, strike on the cover. There are no arrival or transit markings on the reverse and no other markings that might suggest that it was under-franked.

I note that the letter rate to France at that time was 4d. The cover is very small and looks as though it was designed to take either a calling card or a small condolence card. Is it possible that there was a printed paper rate of 2d for items of this type?

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Gambian Cameo Plate Flaws

Eric Greenberg

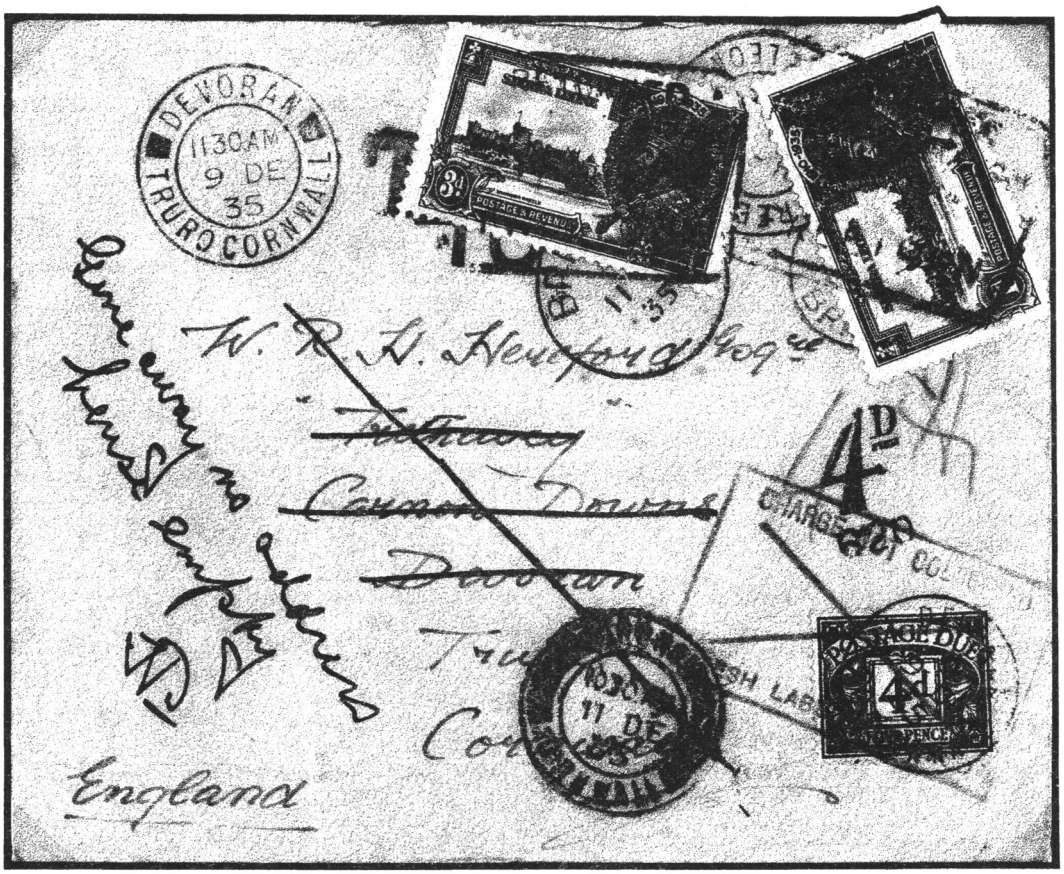
Brian Davies' article in the last Cameo (Ref. 1) prompted me to review my own collection of sheetlets. I found frame line breaks on the 1880 second printing 3d between the 'G' and 'A' of GAMBIA and on the 1886 2½d between the 'G' and 'A' (position 1 / 3) and also above the 'A' (position 1 / 1). I also noticed a gouge in the frame on the left side about 3½mm from the bottom (position 1 / 2) on the 1886 aniline crimson and dark carmine 1d. Are these also constant varieties?

Reference

1. Brian Davies, "Gambian Flaws", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p65, WASC, July 1998

Sierra Leone 1935 Returned Letter

John Cooper



28 November 1935 - Freetown to Truro, England

This interesting 1935 cover was originally sent unpaid from Freetown to Cornwall. At Freetown on its outward journey it picked up 'T' and '40c' tax marks. On arrival in England it received a $4^{\underline{D}}$ / 620 tax handstamp (620 = Plymouth) and a 4d postage due adhesive. Various transit marks of Devoran (9 December 1935), Truro and Bristol (both 11 December 1935) were added to the front as well as a manuscript *'Gone away no address / house empty'* endorsement. The postage due stamp is cancelled with a large rectangular purple CHARGE NOT COLLECTED / FRESH LABEL REQUIRED handstamp; a boxed UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED / RETURN TO SENDER instructional mark is on the reverse.

On its return to Sierra Leone, the original 'T' and '40c' tax marks were partially covered by the addition of Sierra Leone 3d and 1d adhesives from the George V Silver Jubilee series. These in turn were cancelled in black by the scarce Sierra Leone boxed handstamp RETURNED / LETTER BRANCH / FREETOWN dated 14 January 1936. I have not seen this Type M19 mark used to cancel stamps before.

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United Kingdom Postal Service to Sierra Leone

Royal Mail announced that from 30 July 1998 they re-introduced a direct airmail service to Freetown. Surface mail would be sent every four to six weeks.

Sierra Leone - Double Censorship

Mike Roberts

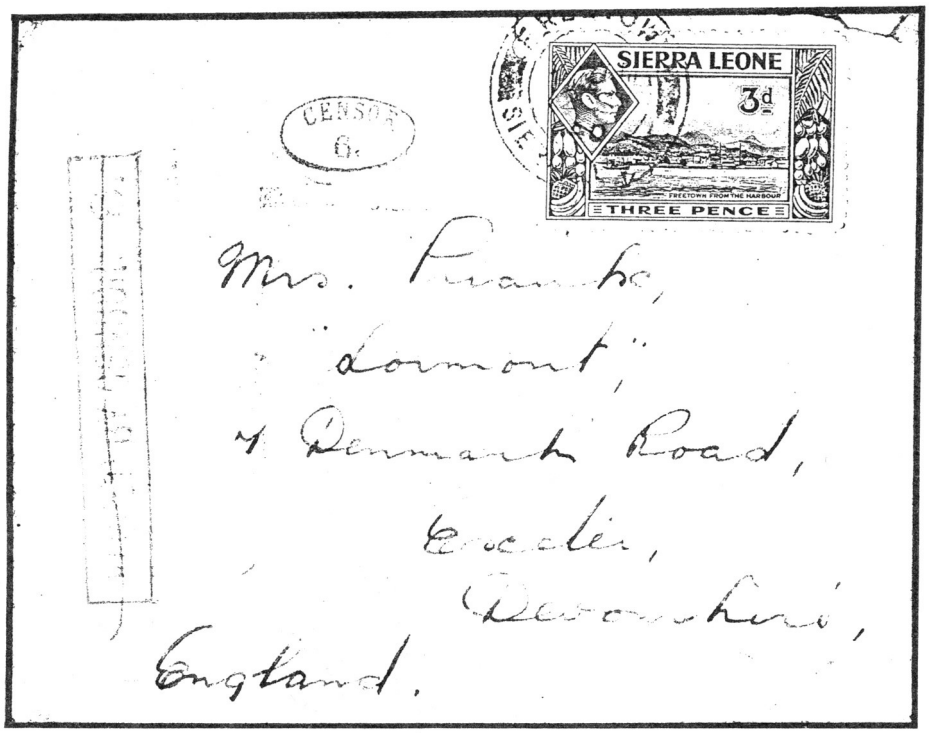


Figure 1 : 12 September 1940 - Freetown to Exeter, England

These two interesting Sierra Leone World War II covers both shown civilian handstamps Type 2 and 3 (Ref. 1) most unusually used in conjunction with one another.

Figure 1 shows a cover rated 3d posted at Freetown on 12 September 1940 with both civil censor Types 2 and
3 numbered 6. The boxed Type 2 has been struck through with a single pen stroke. The Type 2 number 6 mark predates the earliest recorded date given in Martin & Walton by some 15 months. There are no backstamps on the envelope. *[Editor's note : Sorry to steal Mike's thunder, but there is an even earlier date of 14 February 1940 reported in the list of revisions to the censorship book in Cameo (Ref. 2)].*

The second example (Fig. 2) is a registered cover rated 6d with postmarks from the GPO Freetown of 13 March 1941. The sender is a 7662454 Cpl J Miller, 74 R.A.P.C. Freetown, BWA. As with the first example, the small oval Type 3 civil censor handstamp has been used together with the larger boxed Type 3. This time they are both numbered 1. The envelope has been re-sealed by a civil tape, Type 1e.

I am unable to offer any explanation, other than over enthusiasm or simple mistake, for these double censorships. As ever, further examples or explanations would be welcomed.

References

1. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p76, WASC, 1993
2. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., "West African Censorship - An Update", *Cameo*, Volume 5 p173, WASC, July 1996

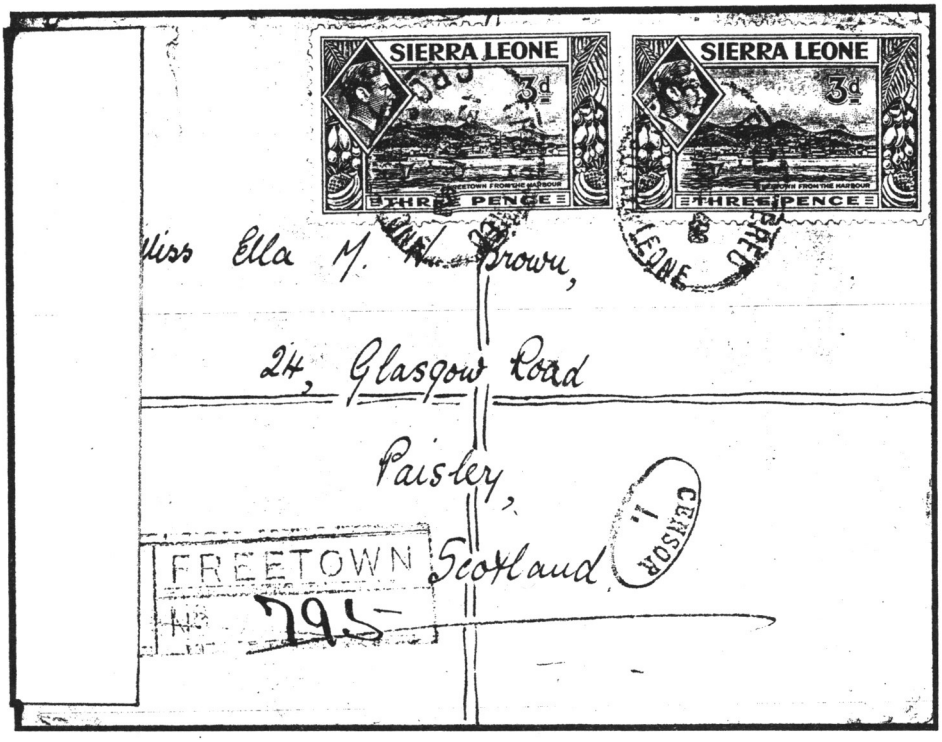
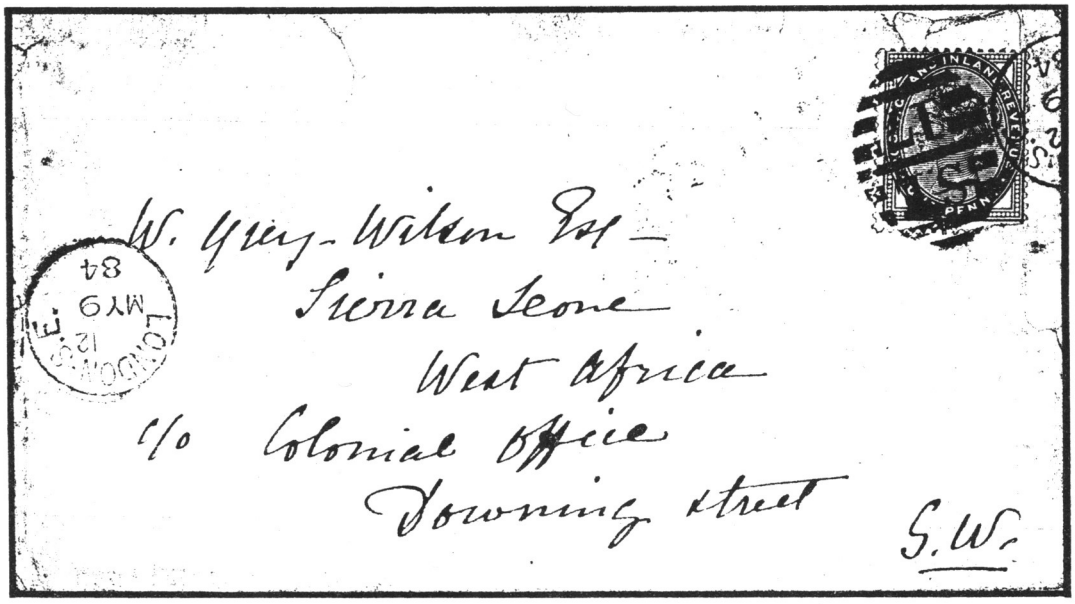


Figure 2 : 13 March 1941 - Freetown to Paisley, Scotland

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Diplomatic Mail to Sierra Leone?

Mike Roberts



9 May 1884 - London to Sierra Leone

The cover illustrated above is apparently an example of Victorian mail to Freetown by Diplomatic Bag. The Great Britain 1d lilac adhesive is cancelled by a S.E. / 17 with LONDON S.E. / 12 / MY 9 / 84 duplex obliterator; there is a LONDON S.W. / DP / MY 9 circular datestamp on the reverse, but no African receiving marks. There is a crest on the flap of the envelope with the legend SEMPER VIGIIANS. The cover is addressed to "W. Grey-Wilson Esq., Sierra Leone, West Africa, c/o Colonial Office, Downing Street, S.W.". It would be appreciated if any reader could provide any further information about either the manner in which this letter was carried or the addressee.

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London to Freetown Mail Bag Label

Frank Walton



This label is printed in black ink on emerald green card, and dates from the 1990s. Labels such as these are most important to postal staff as for much of a letter's journey it is these labels that ensure correct delivery rather than the address written on the envelope.

King George V Nigeria 1s on Yellow-green Paper

Peter Fernbank

The Stanley Gibbons catalogue lists the 1915 printing of the Nigeria 1/- on Multiple Crown CA paper on both *yellow-green* (SG 8b) and *blue-green* (SG 8c) backed paper. Amongst the various colonies using the Imperium style key plates this is the only value listed on this shade of paper. I have searched various dealer's stock books over the years attempting to find the *yellow-green* back shade, but have never found one that satisfies my own perception of *yellow-green*. However, Neville Jones recently showed me examples of this shade from within his own collection. There were two shades that, when placed side by side, appeared to be the *yellow-green* and *blue-green* back (SG8c). I compared these with a number of examples of my own from various colonies of a consistent shade that I considered to be *blue-green*. I found that my *blue-green* examples corresponded precisely in shade to Neville's *yellow-green*, and that Neville's example of the *blue-green* paper was in a much deeper shade of blue than mine. The only printing of the King George V 1/- value of Northern Nigeria may serve as a shade guide here (amongst a number of others), it being identical to the Nigeria *yellow-green*.

The policy adopted by the catalogues of assessing colour shades solely within the confines of an individual territory generally works well when dealing with ink shades, but creates a degree of confusion when applied to the coloured paper shades. To describe exactly the same paper shade as *green*, *blue-green* or *yellow-green* within different colonies can only lead to confusion for the collector, particularly since these are somewhat imprecise colour definitions. The various batches made of the coloured papers were used for all colonies and each batch generally shows a large degree of shade consistency. The *blue-green* shade of paper was available for use both before and after the *white back* era (July 1913 to March 1914) and continued in use until mid-1916.

Neville believes that his examples originated from the Porter collection, and that these stamps, together with their shade descriptions, have remained intact on the album page to the present day. There is much evidence to suggest that Porter's collection formed the basis for the original catalogue descriptions employed for Nigeria. I believe that a more accurate and meaningful shade description would be *blue-green* (SG 8b) and *deep blue-green* (SG 8c).

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Nigeria 1965 Sixpence Colour Variation

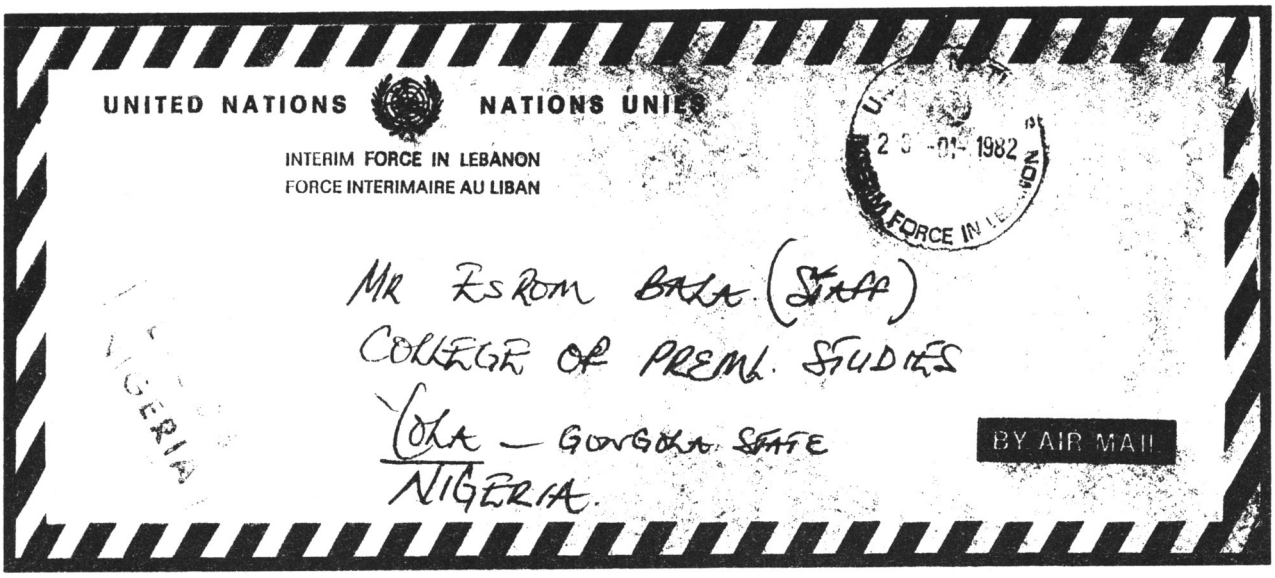
Larry Hughes

In an auction lot of mostly ordinary stamps collected by a Scottish doctor who resided in Nigeria, I discovered an unusual item. One of the Delrieu 1965-1966 animal definitives, the 6d SG178, has the stork’s bill, the denomination, and the background water in apple green, not the normal bright yellow.

The colour difference is striking; I can see no other differences from the normal stamp. The slogan cancel bears no date. Has anyone seen this colour variation?

Nigerian Forces in Lebanon in 1982

Allan Deeds



23 January 1982 - Lebanon to Yola, Nigeria

In the early 1980s I was teaching at a college in Yola and obtained this cover from a fellow member of staff who had a relative serving with the Nigerian Battalion of the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon. The sender gives his address as FMR NIBATT UNIFIL, with a Beirut box number. I only saw one other similar item during my time at the college; unfortunately this was an aerogramme and this addressee was unwilling to part with it as it had the message written on the other side.

At the time I was curious to know what the postal arrangements were for Nigerian forces serving abroad and therefore enquired from some of my acquaintances in the 15th Infantry Brigade, but no-one in Yola seemed to have any idea.

Does any member have any information about the postal facilities for Nigerian troops abroad at this time?

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Nigerian King George VI Watermark Varieties

The following item appeared in the recent *Sixth Sense* (Ref. 1), and is reproduced here with permission from the publishers:

"Bob Allen (who first reported the Nigeria 3d sideways watermark) has now found an example of the Nigeria King George VI 1d mauve-purple (SG 50b, CW3) with an inverted watermark."

Reference

1. "Nigeria", *Sixth Sense*, Issue 18, p6, Murray Payne Ltd., 1998

Nigerian Double Fraud

Larry Hughes

Recently I received two letters from Nigeria, which I first suspected were related to my interest in Nigerian stamps, or from one of my Nigerian friends. However, they were both scam letters, promising to pay my company a retainer of 30% of an alleged $25.5+ million in contractor overcharges, if only I would supply vital information about my company's bank account so they route the money through a foreign bank! This incomprehensible proposition and the strangely stilted language in which it was phrased immediately exposed the letter as a scam.

But then I looked at the envelopes and discovered the second scam, forged copies of the SG525d Rock Bridge issue (50 naira). Not merely forged, mind you, but simply colour-photocopied on slick paper and very badly perforated. One is indistinctly cancelled but both delivered the letters to my office. Some time later I received a similar letter, posted from Lome using legitimate Togo stamps.

A quick search on the internet revealed how the scam works. The criminals secure names from industry directories (they got mine from a geophysical directory). The initial letter tries to secure bank account identification details. If this is successful, the victim is convinced to open and deposit money into a joint account, which is quickly depleted by the crooks. Who would ever succumb to such a prank? According to the U.S. Commerce Department, Nigerian scams like this one cost U.S. businesses some $250 million a year. Some victims, lured to Nigeria or other places, have been held for ransom or killed. Hardly worth the receipt of a few badly forged stamps.

Let us hope the recent political changes in Nigeria will bring an end to this kind of activity, and the greater abuses of the past regime.

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Internal Airmail in Nigeria in 1944

Neville Jones

An auction lot of Nigerian covers threw up three most interesting internal items:

- Cancelled at Port Harcourt on 19 July 1944 addressed to Aba with a manuscript note *First flight new service Enugu - Port Harcourt*. 2d postage. Backstamped Aba 20 July 1944.

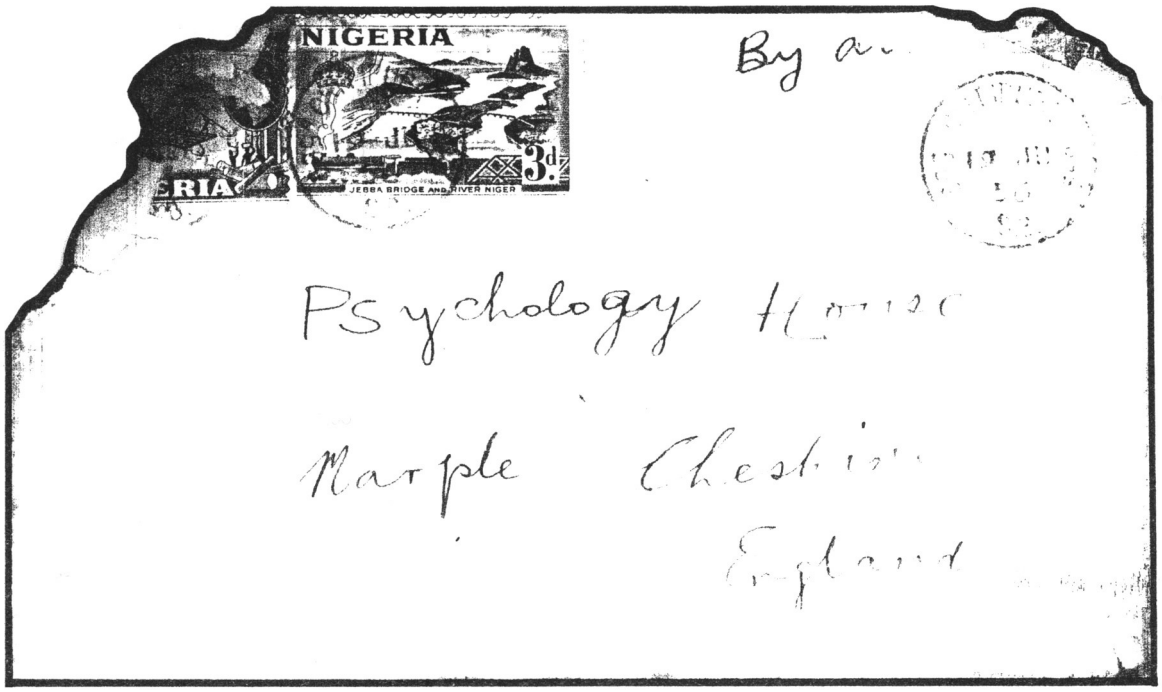
- Cancelled at Aba 20 July 1944 addressed to Lagos, with manuscript note *First flight Port Harcourt - Lagos*. 2d postage. Backstamped Port Harcourt 7pm 20 July 1944.

- Cancelled at Aba 20 July 1944 addressed to Lagos with manuscript note *1st. Air Mail P.H. - Lagos*. 1s 3d postage. Backstamped 20 July 1944, but with an indecipherable town name.

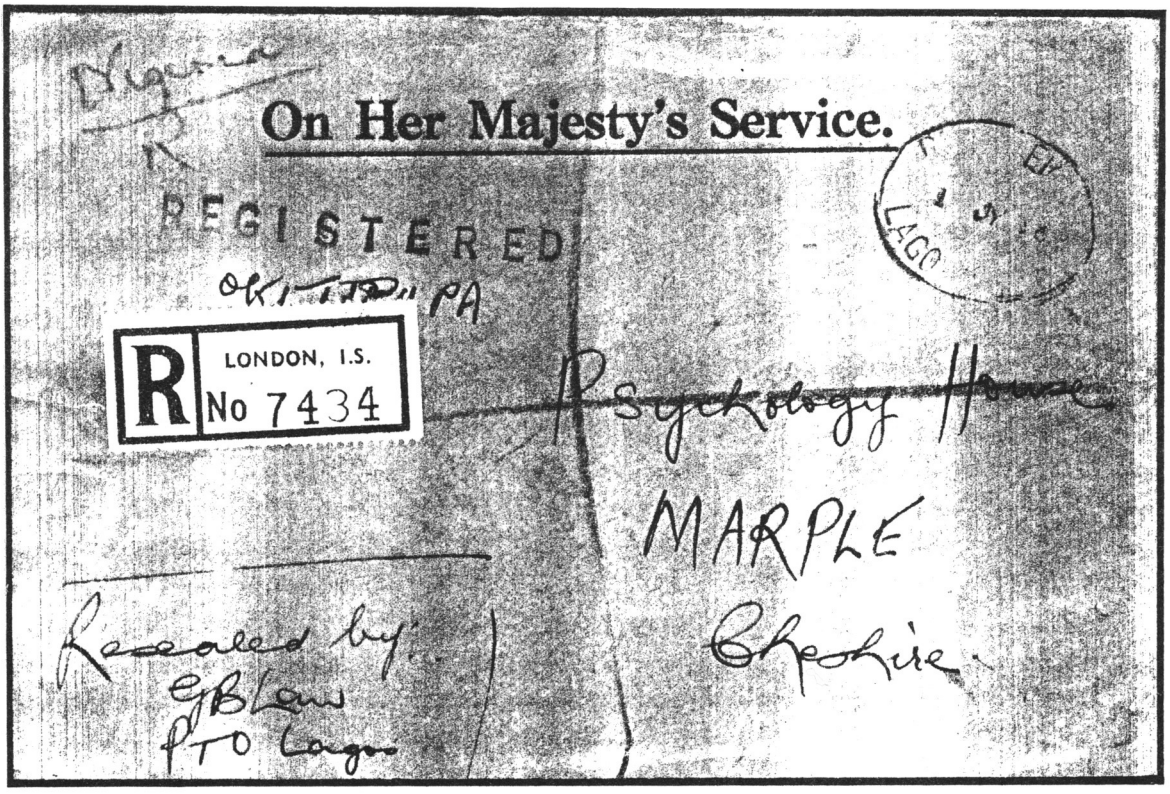
These three covers would appear to point to a possible unrecorded internal airmail service set up during the war. Does any member have any further examples or information relating to this service?

Nigerian Air Crash Covers

Michael Wright



19 June 1956 - Fire Damaged Cover from Okitipupa to Marple, England



1 July 1956 - Outer cover protecting damaged mail

Not knowing of the background to the cover illustrated opposite, I undertook research by looking at the microfilm copies of *The Times* in the Kensington & Chelsea library. The film was very difficult to manipulate but I managed to identify the exact date of the crash as Sunday 24 June 1956 at Kano.

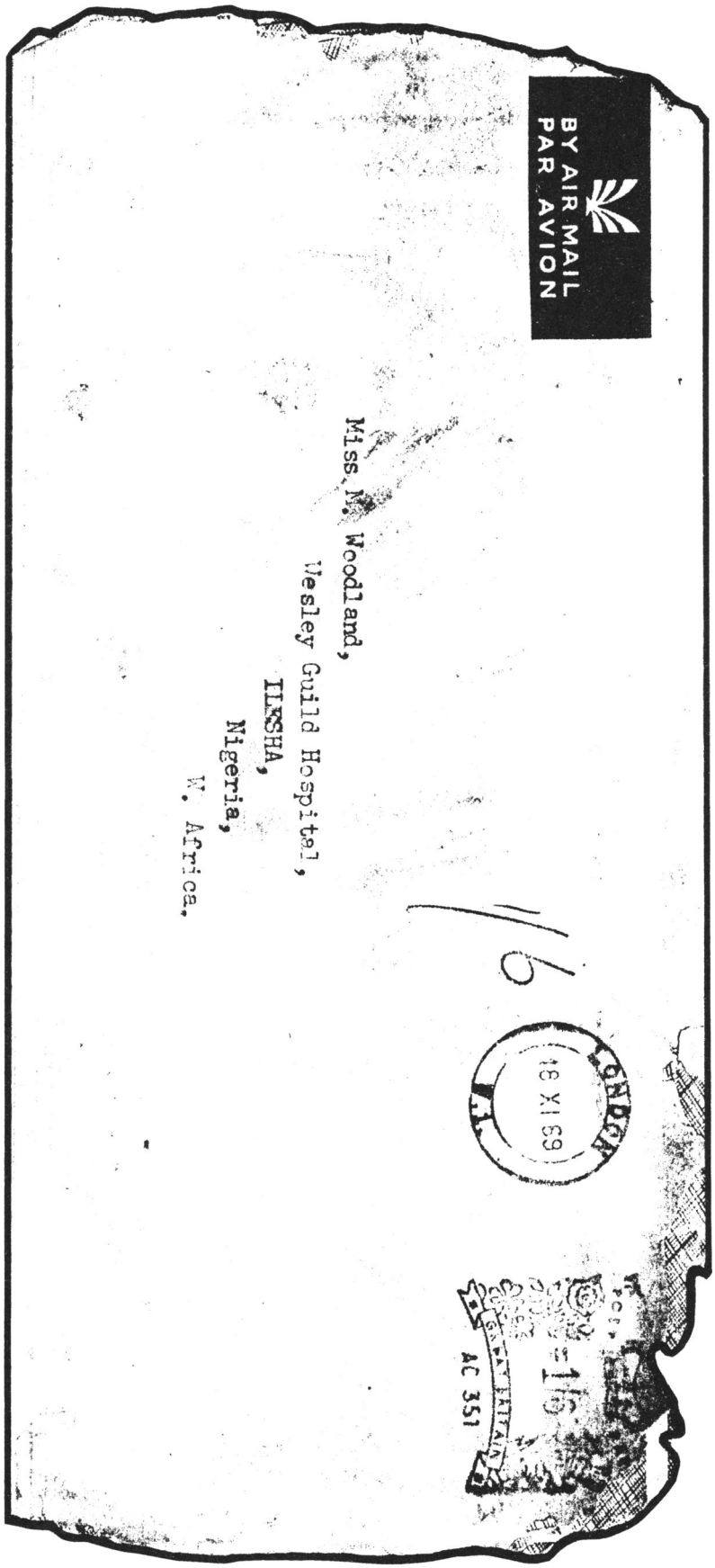
I searched a little further and discovered that 30 out of the 45 passengers and crew on board the BOAC Argonaut had died.

The R E G I S T E R E D handstamp on the replacement cover has not been recorded anywhere before to my knowledge.

The letter illustrated on this page is from a Nigerian Airways VC 10 that crashed near Lagos on 20 November 1959.

The Times reported very little information about this second crash other than stating that all 87 people on board had died.

Salvaged mail was handled by the GPO in Lagos who sent out a cover note explaining the background to the damaged mail. A copy of the note that accompanied this cover is illustrated overleaf.



18 November 1969 - London to Ilesha, Nigeria

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPT. OF POSTS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
G.P.O. BUILDINGS
L A G O S

Telegrams: TERPOST
Telephone: 59500/100

Ref. No. PCL.15/15/4446/69
Date 24th NOVEMBER, 1969

Dear Sir/Madam,

Salvaged Postal Items From Burnt Mails
In The Nigerian Airways V.C. 10 that
Crashed on 20th November, 1969

Enclosed herewith is/are postal item/s salvaged from the burnt mails which were on board the Nigerian Airways V.C. 10 aircraft that crashed near Lagos on 20th November, 1969.

The incident which was beyond our control is deeply regretted.

Yours faithfully,

J. E. Onyibe
(J.E. Onyibe)
f. POSTAL CONTROLLER,
LAGOS TERRITORY.

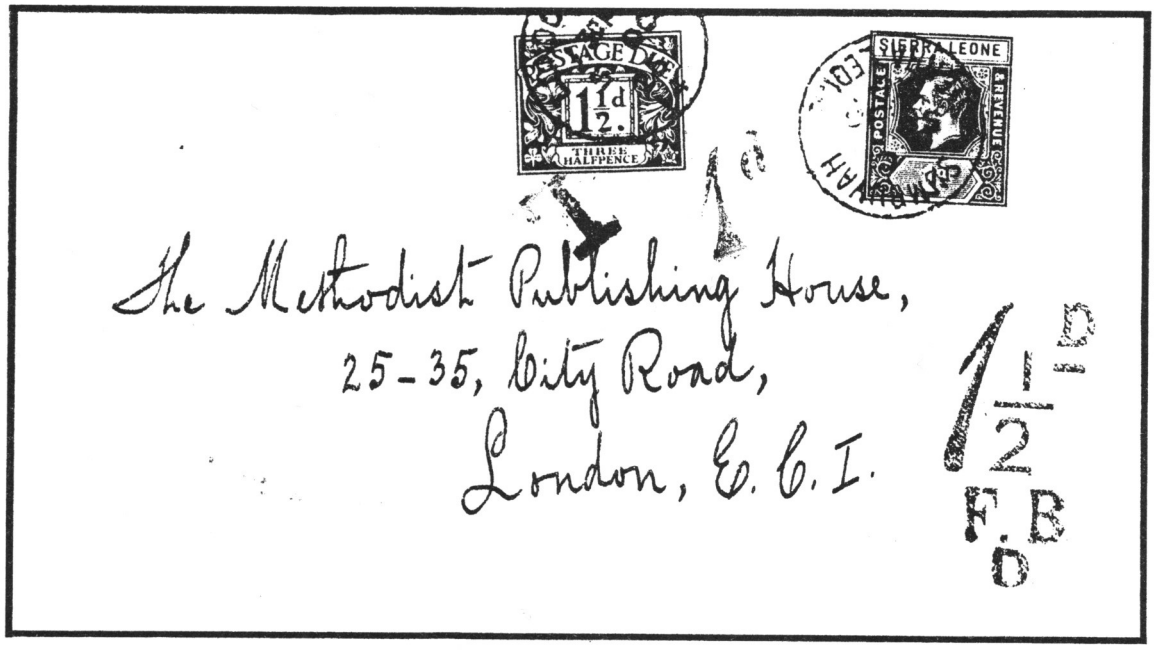
Miss M. Woodland.
Wesley Guild Hospital
Ilesha

Letter of apology relating to salvaged mail.

(See article on previous page)

Sierra Leone Handstruck Postage Due Markings

Philip Beale



16 September 1925 - Sumbuyah to London, England

Further to the two excellent articles in the last *Cameo* (Refs. 1 & 2) by Ray Revell and Frank Walton I can illustrate another example where the Sierra Leone post office has applied a 1d postage due handstamp which was uprated to 1½d on arrival in the UK. All of these Sierra Leone handstamps are most elusive.

References

1. Ray Revell, "Sierra Leone Handstruck Postage Due Markings", *Cameo*, Volume 6 pp80-81, WASC, July 1998
2. Frank Walton, "UPU Postage Due Charges from 1921", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p82, WASC, July 1998

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Sierra Leone Postage Due Handstamp Dates

Frank Walton

As inevitably happens, when one attempts to publish a 'definitive' table of earliest and latest dates of use for anything, members will write in and extend the ranges known. I am grateful to Nigel Lutwyche who wrote in providing new latest dates for the 10c and 40c marks, to Bernard Mabbett who included an example in the *Cameo* supplement (Ref. 1) relating to the 5d handstamp, to Peter Richards who showed me an example of a 6d handstamp and to Philip Beale whose 1d cover illustrated above is after the previous latest recorded. We now have:

1d latest 17 Sep 1925 **5d** earliest May 1894 **6d** earliest 5 Apr 1935 **10c** latest 20 Jul 1938 **40c** latest 1 Sep 1939

Reference

1. "From the Auctions", *Cameo St Helena & Ascension Supplement*, Number 30 p30, WASC, July 1998

Postage Due Charge from Sierra Leone to France, 1923

John Whiteside

I would like to make some observations on the cover to France illustrated in the last *Cameo* (Ref. 1). These may be and probably are, utterly naive and incorrect. I have looked up in Furfie (Ref. 2) the rates from the UK to UPU non-Empire countries, which are:

1 May 1940	3d for first ounce, then 1½d per ounce
1 Oct 1950	4d for first ounce, then 2½d per ounce
1 Oct 1957	6d for first ounce, then 4d per ounce.

I am unsure whether British Crown Colonies were members of the UPU in their own right, but irrespective of that, am I being unrealistic in expecting that Colonies that used sterling currency might be anticipated to use the UK rates for most of these rate periods, at least? If this is perhaps the case, the 2d due mark on this cover would be explained as 1d deficiency of a 4d rate, doubled.

The real puzzle to me is the treatment in France. Firstly, one would expect a due charge to be levied in Paris when the item was presented to the first address. The dues would then be cancelled when the post office was told to readdress it and a second lot would be applied at Bazas. Two possibilities occur. firstly that Paris missed it, which seems a bit improbable, or secondly, that the need to readdress was known to Paris.

It is the amount of the charge that is extraordinary. From 1 May 1951 to 30 June 1957, the French foreign postage rate was 30 francs for the first 20g. The charge of 23 francs is ¾ of this, rounded to the franc above. Why this fraction has been used is a mystery. If my reasoning above is correct, it should be ½, or 15 francs. If it were considered to be two-thirds, the charge should be 20 francs. The inland letter rate was 15 francs for 20g, but I do not think there was a charge for redirection within France at this time. The final thing is that, in France at this period, there was a minimum postage due charge of 10 francs. You can play about with these *ad nauseam*, but things get no clearer. The information is taken from Richardson (Ref. 3).

References

1. Ray Revell, "Sierra Leone Handstruck Postage Due Markings", *Cameo*, Volume 6 pp80-81, WASC, July 1998
2. Furfie M., *British Postage Due Mail 1914-1971*, Author, Ashford 1993
3. Richardson D.,*Tables of French Postal Rates, 1849 to Date*

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Freetown Datestamp with Code P

Nigel Lutwyche

I have come across several examples of what appears to be a code 'P' in a Freetown circular datestamp. This is used on official mail that has stamps affixed rather than unpaid mail with an OFFICIAL PAID date stamp. Although none of the covers have a year die, I suspect that are from 1946 by the stamps used.

If any other member has examples I would like to hear from them.

Special Printing of Gold Coast King Edward VII 5s & 10s

Peter Fernbank

Michael Ensor's impressive new work on the Gold Coast mentions (Ref. 1) that the standing order for the Gold Coast postal authorities to supply King George V with a block of four of the King Edward VII 5s green and yellow and the 10s green and red values had not been complied with. Since the remaining stocks of these values had been destroyed upon the introduction of the new King George V key plate series the authorities were placed in a rather embarrassing position. It was therefore decided to order a special printing of one sheet of each value from the printers, De La Rue. The two sheets were despatched to Accra and the blocks of four duly supplied to the King. The remainder of each sheet was probably destroyed. These facts were elicited from notes made available by Mr Norman Williams, based on access to the Gold Coast records during World War II.

A few years ago I came across this order in the De La Rue records. Requisition 8/15 was received from the Crown Agents on 21 January 1915 and Mr A.J. Hayes, the Works Director, promised delivery within one week. The *Colonial Stamps* book (Ref. 4) records that four sheets of each of the coloured papers was issued (which included a spoilage allowance on such a small printing) and that the order was completed and packed on 15 February 1915. The charge of £2 2s (two guineas) was based on a similar order received the previous year for the Straits Settlements $25 and $500 of the King Edward series, also missing from the King's collection.

The handbook also states (Ref. 2) that both values had a single green jubilee line (the page from the Royal Collection containing these special printings, printed from key plate 2, is illustrated in the book). In the case of the 5s value the block supplied for the Royal Collection is unique, since the only other printing of the King Edward 5s green and yellow, also from plate 2, had double jubilee lines (the outer line in red). This does raise an interesting point - when and why was the outer jubilee line removed from the 5s duty plate?

The 5s duty plate used for the Edwardian issues continued to be employed for the King George V series. All printings of this value for the Georgian issues up to 1919 featured only one jubilee line, until the 5s duty plate was replaced in 1920. The new plate reverted to the original format, producing a double jubilee line on the printed sheet. I consider it highly probable that a new 120-set duty plate was made for the 5s value for the new King George V series. Support for this contention is provided by the series of duty die proofs on one piece, the 2d, 2½d, 6d, 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s, and 20s, marked 'Mar 5 12 leads from each', listed in Michael Ensor's book (Ref. 3). For the Imperium issues for all colonies these '12 leads' proofs are only known during the period c.1911 to 1913, and indicate the making of duty plates by stereotyping (none of which were provided with a jubilee line). The 'Mar 5' date on the proofs is probably from 1913, the plates being increased in size from 60 to 120-set just prior to the first Georgian printing of all values in April 1913. Many other colonies had their duty plates increased in size at around this time, but none of the Imperium duty plates made or increased in size by stereotyping for any colony were provided with a jubilee line.

References

1. Ensor M. (Ed), *The Postal Services of the Gold Coast 1901-1957*, p12-13, WASC, Dronfield 1998
2 Ibid, pp10 and 13
3. Ibid, p5
4. *Colonial Stamps Book,* Volume 12, p41

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Queen Victoria Gold Coast Forgeries

Peter Newroth

This article describes examples of Gold Coast forged stamps and forged cancellations on genuine stamps that I have not seen previously reported. While this material has been under preparation for some time, a visit to London in September 1998 provided additional information. It seems timely to present it to Circle members in the hope that more details can be incorporated in the book under preparation.

Forged Cancellations on Genuine Stamps



Figure 1 : Forged Cancellations with Handstamp on Reverse

Several years ago, I was offered for sale a large lot including what appeared to be a partial strike of the Type "R" cancellation described in Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia (Ref. 1). This he illustrated as a circle comprising seven parallel bars surrounding "GC" and "OO". The first record and illustration of the Type "R" cancellation was in Spowart (Ref. 2), and this may have been the basis for Lowe's publication nearly twenty years later. Several other writers later referred to this mark as rare. I have been searching for a copy for nearly 20 years, and found but one reference to it in auction!

After purchasing the lot, I was disappointed to find the Type "R" and two other cancelled stamps (see Fig. 1) were marked on the back "FORGED CANCELLATION" in blue ink!



Figure 2 : Forged 556 Cancellation

Jean de Sperati forged both SG 24 and the 554 and 556 cancellations. I have copies of his reproductions. Figure 2 illustrates a copy of SG 25 with a forged 556 cancellation that is considerably smaller than either genuine markings or the Sperati forgeries. The forgery illustrated here looks "wrong" and appears to have been applied over a pen cancellation.

Forged 1888 Two Shilling Value



Figure 3 : Forged and Genuine Two Shillings Values

Figure 3 shows the unused forgery on the left, with a genuine example on the right. The forgery may have been lithographed and has a "CA watermark" which appears impressed. Key distinguishing characteristics of the forgery include thinner inner frame lines, the irregularity of the round white areas surrounding the Queen's head and differences in shading, particularly of the chin. In September 1998 I was offered by a London dealer a "used" example of the two shillings forgery. Also, 1d, 4d and 6d values (with CC impressed) were shown with apparently similar characteristics; all were attributed to the Italian, Erasmus Oneglia. The forged two shillings value was not reported by Earee (Ref. 3).

Perhaps other Circle members have other examples of these fabrications, or can offer help with the mystery of the Type "R" marking or the origin of the expertization marking indicating forged cancellations.

References

1. Lowe R., *The Encyclopædia of British Empire Postage Stamps Volume II Africa*, p334, Robson Lowe, London 1949
2. Spowart H.A., *The Postage Stamps of the Gold Coast*, p52, Stanley Gibbons, London 1929
3. Earee Rev R.B., *Album Weeds*, 3rd Edition, Stanley Gibbons 1906-7

"Official Paid" and Unofficial "Paid" Markings: Queen Victoria Gold Coast

Peter Newroth

This article documents two types of "PAID" markings on Victorian Gold Coast covers and provides information on official mails in the Gold Coast Colony. I hope this report will interest readers while stimulating further comments and research. I am grateful for insightful comments and suggestions made by Michael Ensor.

Official Paid

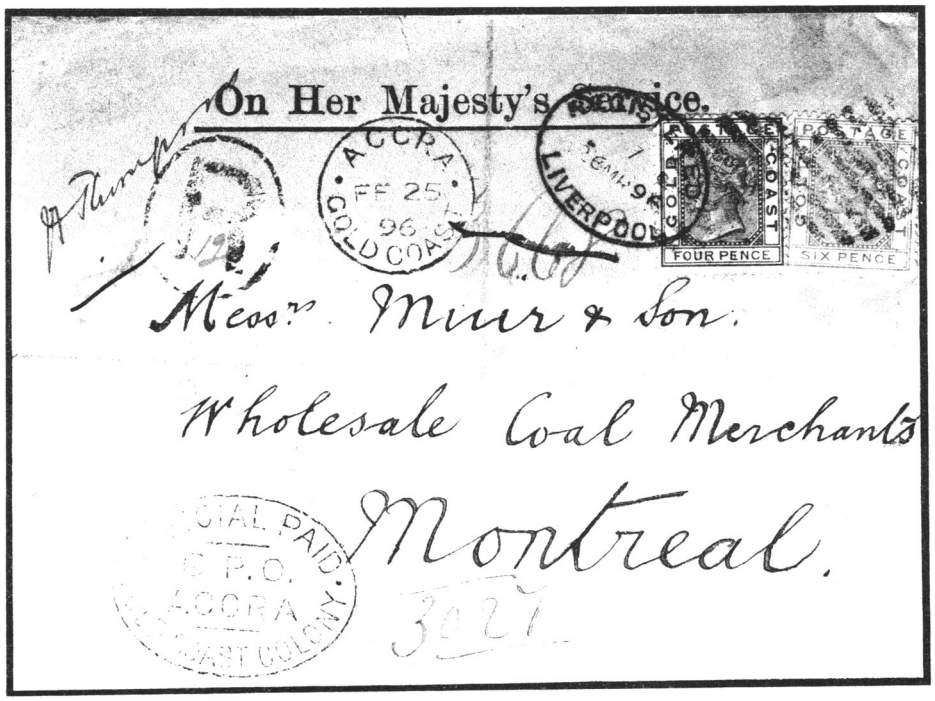


Figure 1 : "Official Paid" 25 February 1896 Accra to Montreal, Canada

I have an envelope with an oval marking (outside dimensions 37 mm x 27 mm) lettered "OFFICIAL PAID / —— / G. P. O. / ACCRA / —— / GOLD COAST COLONY" (see Figure 1). Apparently this was not previously recorded in *Cameo*, other WASC publications, or in Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia. The WASC publication on *The Post Office Impression Books* (Ref. 1) does not show this mark, although nearly identical brass and steel "Official Paid" markings were shown for Gambia (1900) and Sierra Leone (1899). Proud (Ref. 4) illustrates two types of the oval marking: "Officially Paid", designated by him as PD4 and the same as shown here, and "Official Paid" (his PD5). The latter resembles my Figure 1, but appears slightly larger.

The example in Figure 1 is on a brown OHMS envelope mailed from Accra on 25 February 1896 to Canada, registered number 12. Also, I have another OHMS envelope of identical type (see Figure 2), sent the same day but to France, registered mail number 14. The latter is without the "Official Paid" marking, although both are franked with stamps and signed by the post office official Thompson.

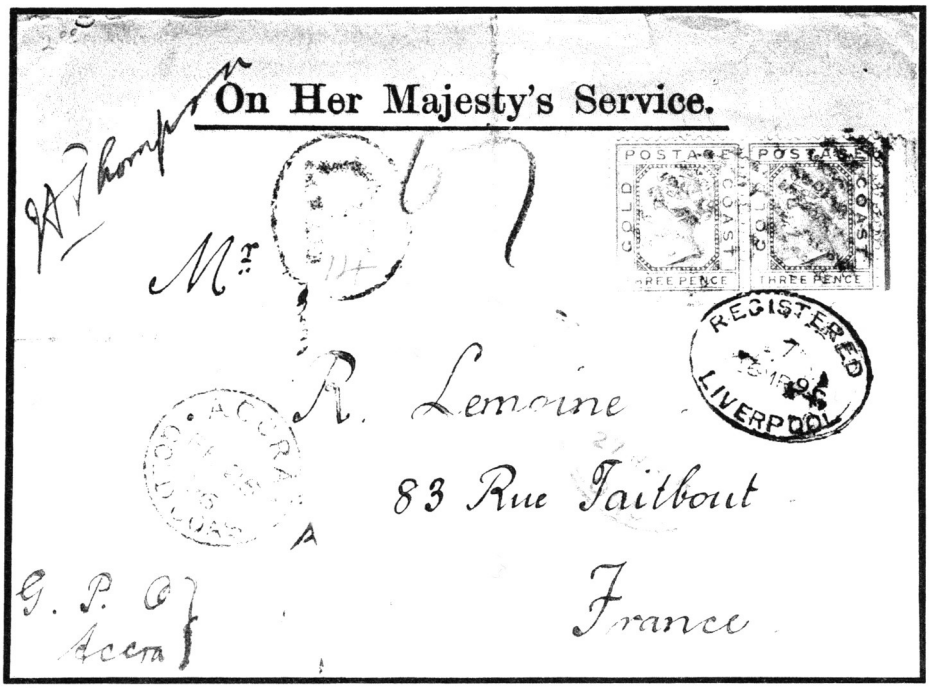


Figure 2 : 25 February 1896 Accra to France, without "Official Paid"

Several references to other examples of this "Official Paid" marking in major auction sales and dealers offerings have been discovered:

- 18 July 1898 OHMS letter from Colonial Secretary, Victoriaborg, Accra to the Agent General, Compagnie Francaise De Kong, Grand Bassam, and a similar item sent registered 9 January 1900; (Ref. 5; Lots 392,393).
- 2 May 1900 Book Post wrapper from Accra to the Agent General, Royal Niger Company, Akassa and marked OHMS in manuscript (Ref. 2; Lot 585)
- 12 October 1899 Book Post wrapper to England and marked OHMS in manuscript (illustrated in colour plate in Ref. 4).

All of these were stampless items.

I checked for information that might explain use of the "Official Paid" marking from notes made in various archives, including Gold Coast official correspondence and reports in the Gold Coast Gazette. The Gazette of 5 December 1895 reported in the Annual Post Office Report for 1894 that "...with a view of dealing more expeditiously with Service correspondence, an official paid Stamps (sic) was introduced thus obviating the delay which hitherto attended the use of adhesive Stamps when there is an influx of official correspondence".

Other OHMS Book Post stampless wrappers I have seen without the "Official Paid" marking were sent from Victoriaborg to Kwitta on 3 July 1895 (see example in Ref. 3) and from Victoriaborg to Saltpond in March 1894, (Ref. 5; Lot 623). These may have pre-dated the use of the "Official Paid" device.

Preparation and use of this special handstamp reflected the large volume of Service letters or Official Correspondence that were sent as part of the business of the colony. Official mail sent or received by the Governor or Public Departments did not require postage to be applied, but "...postal matter sent by a Public Department shall be liable to Postage unless franked by the head of such department..." (Article 18, The 1888 Ordinance for Establishing Inland Colonial Post Office; published February 1893). Use of the overland mails for official communications was clearly very important to the Colony. Repeated notices were directed from the Gold Coast administration to all departments to use overland routes for mailing items (up to three pounds weight) and for officials to send only urgent items by Ocean Post due to cost.

Annual records were kept on the potential revenue to the postal department from this traffic, which travelled free in most cases. The 1888 Annual P.O. Report indicated 26,995 official letters and book packets were sent overland free of charge, upon which an estimated revenue of £337 could have been raised. By 1901, the number of official letters had grown to 112,632 at an estimated value of £3,444. The annual accounting of Post Office incomes and costs reported in the *Blue Books* recorded the official correspondence estimate as a "revenue", with a separate "disbursement" for "postage for all departments". Probably this disbursement (often a small amount, about £50 per annum) was the accounting record for those official mailings which required use of postage stamps, including Ocean Mails.

In conclusion, postage stamps were required if the official correspondence did not qualify for exemption from the postage charge. While the exemption of the need for postage stamps applied to mail to Britain and other West African colonies, it may not have been extended to other countries. Both items in Figures 1 and 2 appear to be in this category, judging from their addressees and destinations.

The example in Figure 1 is the only known item combining this "Official Paid" marking and use of postage stamps. This may indicate that the marking was applied in error by postal staff. Michael Ensor has suggested that a previously handstamped stock OHMS envelope might have been used in this case.

I found no reference to other examples for the "Officially Paid" type described in Ref. 4; perhaps it was seldom used.

Unofficial "Paid."



Figure 3 : "Paid." 1 October 1896 Accra to Württemberg, Germany

Another cover in my collection (Figure 3) shows a "Paid." marking in violet ink on a cover from Accra on 1 October 1896 to Wurttemberg. I found four additional records of stamped covers bearing the same marking:

- 1 April 1896 , from Accra to Freiberg (offered by dealer)
- 10 June 1897, from Accra to Württemberg (offered by dealer)
- 22 August 1897 from Accra to the same addressee as Fig. 3 (Ref. 5, Lot 390)
- 3 June 1900 from Akropong to Germany (with blue handstamp) (Ref. 5, Lot 391)

Also, Jeremy Martin showed me another cover sent from Accra on 13 April 1897 and addressed to the same person as the one in Figure 3.

No reports describing this marking were found in the literature or in official records. It may be an "unofficial" marking for commercial or personal use; Michael Ensor suggested these may be internal accounting marks for the Basel Mission.

I welcome further comments and suggestions that will help clarify these items.

References

1. Beale, P.O. and Martin J.J.. *The Post Office Impression Books*, BWASC 1981
2. Harmers of London Auction, Sale of 15-6 September 1992
3. Newroth P.R., "Gold Coast: Book Post Wrapper", *Cameo*, Volume 3 p252, WASC, July 1989
4. Proud E.B., *The Postal History of the Gold Coast*, p105, Postal History Publications Co., Heathfield 1995
5. Stanley Gibbons Auctions, *The 'Ashanti' Collection of Gold Coast*, Sale 5697, 24 January 1991

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Gold Coast King George V 1d Red Printings

Frank Walton

Despite the publication of the two excellent books by Peter Fernbank (Ref. 1) and Michael Ensor (Ref. 2), some Gold Coast and Togo collectors will still be searching for the precise printing numbers of the first George V one penny value. Peter omits these of course as they were not from the keyplates, and Michael gives the total figures. After an enquiry, Michael has kindly provided the following figures from his notes. Although the stamps were produced in large sheets of 240 in the format of four panes of 60, it is believed that they were guillotined once only to make sheets of 120 before being sent out to the colony. This is evidenced by some horizontal gutter pairs locally overprinted 'TOGO' that Jeremy Martin has recorded. Sheet numbers were only applied in the top right corner of the right hand pane.

From examples shown to me by Steven Sensibar it would appear that the top pair of panes from the original sheets of 240 were given odd serial numbers and the lower pair even numbers. The sheet numbers are not easily explained, as the ones seen so far are either four or five digits long up to 27884; clearly if the figures given below are correct then a different numbering principle must have been adopted than the normal.

Month of De la Rue's Reference	Sheets of 120
Feb 1913	1,500
Feb 1913	3,000
Feb 1913	5,640 ½
Dec 1914	2,533 ½
Dec 1915	2,342 ½
Jun 1916	5,056
Mar 1917	2,575
Aug 1918	5,084
Aug 1919	3,580 ½
Nov 1919	2,504
Mar 1920	6,317 ½
Aug 1920	6,360 ½

References

1. Fernbank P.E., *King George V Key Plates of the Imperium Postage & Revenue Design*, WASC, Banbury 1997
2. Ensor M. (Ed), *The Postal Services of the Gold Coast 1901-1957*, WASC, Dronfield 1998

Forces Airmail Concessionary Rates

Bob Maddocks

It was with great interest that I read Kurt Herrmann's article in the last Cameo (Ref. 1) as there is a certain enigma in the cover illustrated having been posted at Forces Concession rate. Unless I am sadly mistaken, the sender was a civilian and not a serving military person because the the writing is in the hand of none other than that of my friend the late former Archbishop of West Africa, the Most Reverend C.J. Patterson; the letter being addressed to his mother at Kew. At that time he was the Bishop on the Niger with his see at Onitisha where the Apaukwa Barracks were also situated. It is quite possible that 'C.J.' on a diocesan visit to the barracks may have been directly favoured by the postal officials there with the acceptance of his letter at the Forces Concessionary rate but more likely that he had one of his army friends, such as a chaplain, to post it for him. Kurt did not mention whether the sender's name and address were written on the back of the cover which may clarify this suggestion.

The Forces Concessionary rates within the British Commonwealth only which, to the best of my knowledge, still remained effective in 1964 was as follows:

Airmail

Aerogrammes	3d
Letters not over 1oz	3d
... 1oz to 1½oz	6d
... each additional ½oz	6d
Postcards	2½d
Printed Papers per ½oz	3d
Small Packets per ½oz	3d
... minimum charge	10d

Surface

Letters not over 1oz	2d
... each additional 1oz	1½d
Postcards	1½d
Printed Papers not over 2oz	1½d
... each additional 1oz	1d
Parcels not over 3lb	1s 6d
... not over 7lb	2s 6d
... not over 11lb	4s 0d
... not over 22lb	6s 0d

As Kurt surmised, Bishop Patterson's cover weighed over 1oz to attract postage of 6d as per the two 3d adhesives.

Reference

1. Kurt Hermann, "Nigeria Forces Airmail Concessionary Rate", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p84, WASC, July 1998

Togo Local Overprint Varieties

Steven Sensibar

I have begun a study of the various states of the 'No Hyphen' and other varieties which result from the 1915 local overprinting of 'TOGO / ANGLO-FRENCH / OCCUPATION'. It is possible that piles of unoverprinted Gold Coast sheets that were still in numerical order as supplied by De La Rue to Accra were used for the printing. It would be much appreciated if members who hold any positional pieces which bear sheet numbers could send me details via the *Cameo* editor to enable me to continue this research.

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Togo London Overprint Quantities

Peter Newroth

Peter Fernbank's book on King George V key plates (Ref. 1) records the numbers of Gold Coast stamps with London overprints for the Togo occupation, but he did not include the numbers of the 1d value (which was not a key plate design). My own records from the De La Rue archives indicate that a total of 727,680 1d Gold Coast stamps were overprinted, in consignments of March 1916, April 1918, August 1918 and September 1920. The 1d sheets were 240 set in contrast to the 120 or 60 stamp formats for other values. 376 Specimens were prepared for all the values.

The total quantity of London overprints recorded by Peter for the 2½d value should be amended from 58,680 to 61,680 as the 26 February 1919 printing of this value was 6,000, not 3,000.

Reference

1. Fernbank P.E., *King George V Key Plates of the Imperium Postage & Revenue Design*, p352, WASC, Banbury 1997

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French Togo at Musée de la Poste, Paris

Jeremy Martin

In November 1997 I visited the Postal Museum in Paris, essentially to research French Togo. I was shown all the books and articles on the area and was able to take photocopies. A second visit was made in January 1998 to meet Monsieur C.G. Torrence in charge of the archives. For French Togo these include essays and plate proofs of both the 1916 and 1921 issues. The plate proofs are imperforate, in issued colours and in two panes each comprising 25 stamps. The information obtained will be included in a book I hope to produce on the stamps of Togo 1914 - 1922.

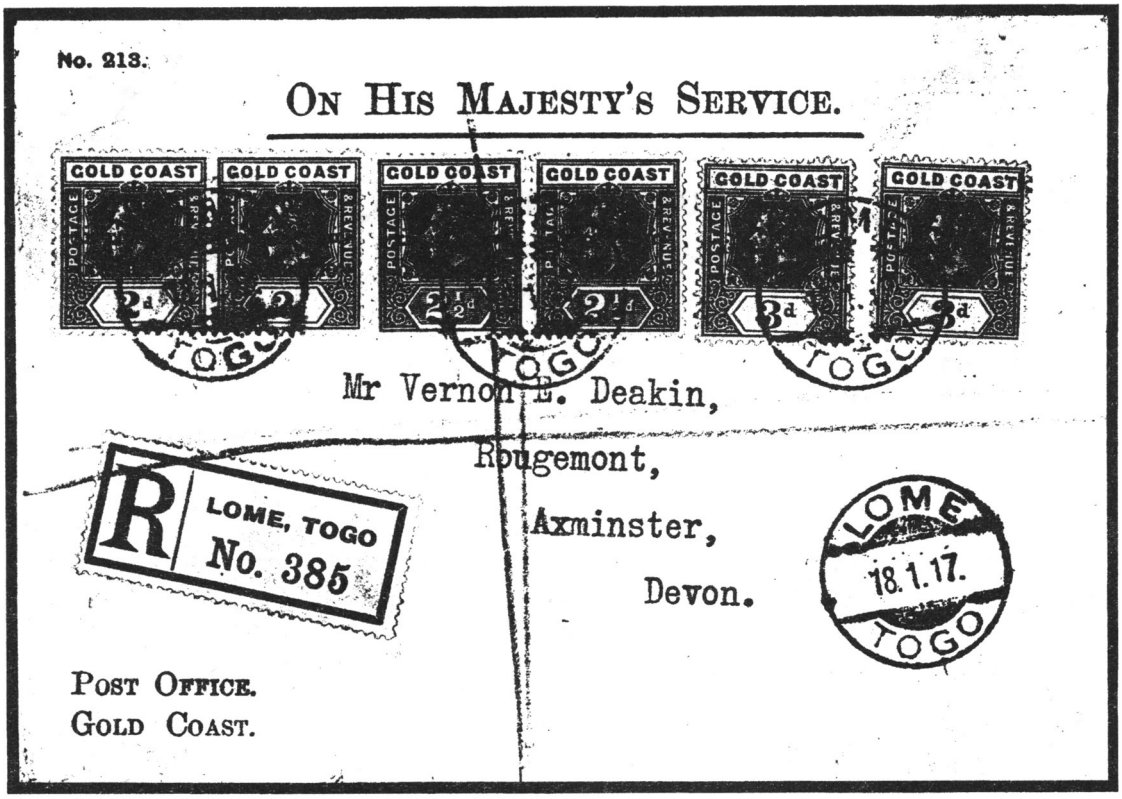
I only had a few moments to look at Cameroun, but the museum does have a tray of material including some imperforate plate proofs.

M. Torrence was most helpful, speaking very good English. Sadly for English researchers he is shortly taking up another position in the French Post Office.

Gold Coast & Togo Stamp Orders in 1917

John Mayne

I have found no information as to which office handled requests from abroad for Togo stamps, although logically this would have been the main post office at Lome. The following envelope with its contents throws some light on this subject.



18 January 1917 - Lome to Axminster, England

The cover was sent by registered post and over-franked at 1s 3d; the rate at this time was 1d per ounce plus 2d registration. It is an official POST OFFICE / GOLD COAST OHMS envelope with an official seal. It reached Plymouth on 12 February 1917.

The statement enclosed in the cover is from the General Post Office, Victoriaborg, Accra dated 5 January 1917 answering a request of 9 November 1916 requesting stamps including a Gold Coast 2s and a Togo 2s along with other (Togo) values totalling 8s 4d. The statement shows that two each of the 2d, 2½ and 3d values were applied to the cover.

I conclude from this that:

- The request for Togo and Gold Coast stamps was sent to Accra
- Accra probably processed the payment of 8s 4d
- The Gold Coast issue and the invoice were passed across to Lome
- Togo overprinted stamps were included at Lome
- The whole order left Lome on 18 January 1917.

I cannot think Gold Coast issues were sold in Togo or vice versa. Perhaps the correct procedure would have been for two orders to have been placed.

GOLD COAST COLONY.

No. 136/1916

In case of reply the number and date of this letter should be quoted.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
VICTORIABORG, ACCRA.

5 - 1 - , 1917

SIR,

In answer to your letter of 9th November 1916, containing an enclosure of £ 8 - 4, I have the honour to forward the postage stamps, &c., indicated below :—

No. of Stamps	Description.	Value.	£	s.	d.	Remarks.
8	½d. Stamps		-	-	4	
6	1d. „		.	.	6	
4	2d. „		.	.	8	2
4	2½d. „		.	.	10	2 } postage.
4	3d. „		.	1	.	2
2	6d. „		.	1		
	1s. „					
	2s. „		.	4	.	
	2s. 6d. „					
	5s. „					
	10s. „					
	20s. „					
	Post Cards (Inland)	½d.				
	Post Cards (International) ...	1d.				
	REGISTERED ENVELOPES :—					
	F size	3½d.				
	G „	3½d.				
	H „	4d.				
	Embossed Envelopes in pkts. of 24	2s. 4d.				
	Reply Paid Coupons	2½d.				
	Total ...	£	-	8	4	

Gold Coast Togo
1 1 - 2

W. & S. Ltd., London. 2,000—4/15.

Signature of officer certifying to despatch. A. C. Jones

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

G. T. Righton
Postmaster General.

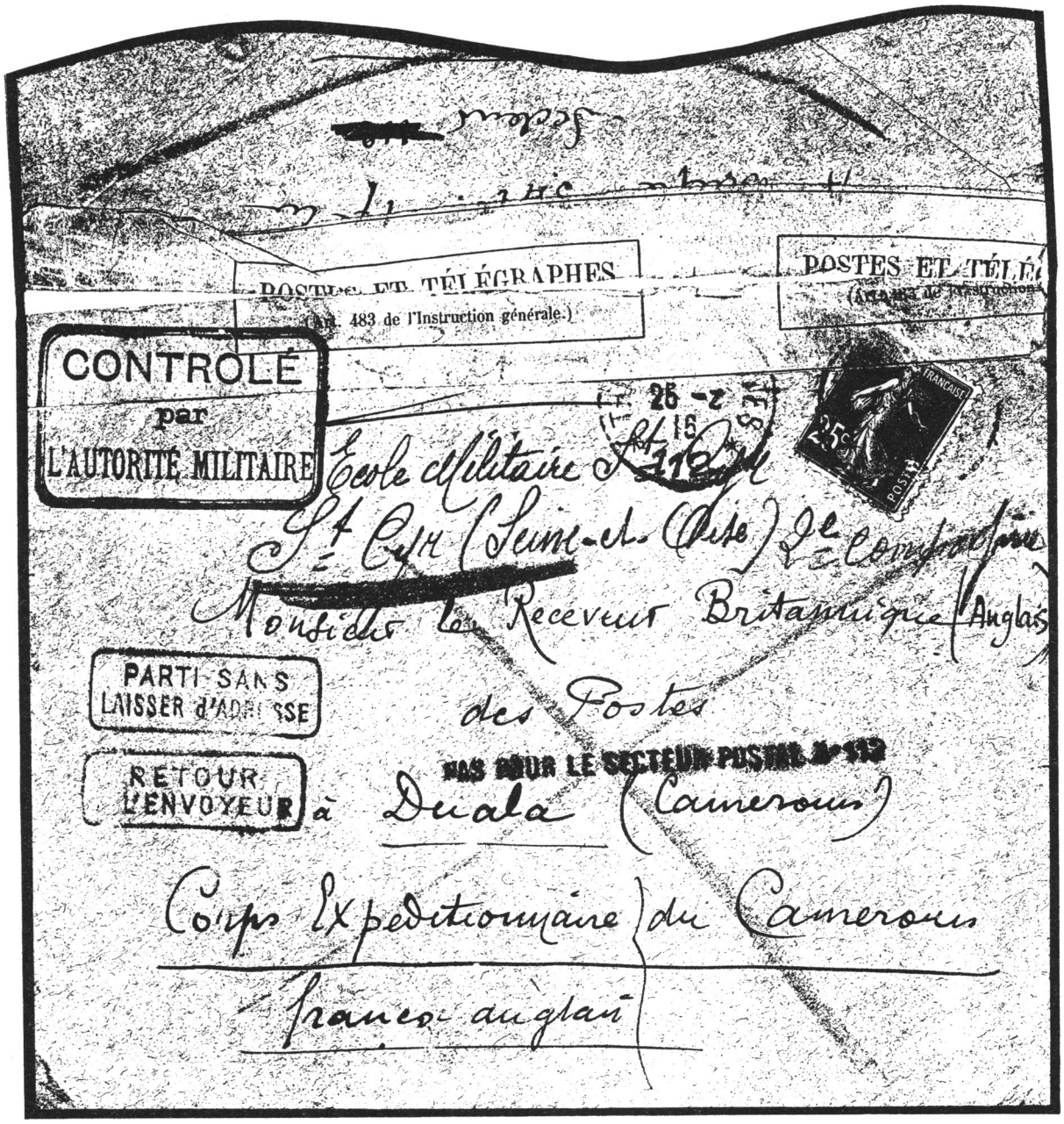
To Mr Vernon S. Deakin
Rougemont
Axminster.
Devon -

G. C. P. & T. 135.

Statement for order of Gold Coast and Togo Stamps

A French Finale to the C.E.F. Post Office at Duala

Bob Maddocks



"Gone Away without Leaving Address" and "Return to Sender" was how the French postal authorities in French Occupied Cameroun marked this cover which, addressed to the British Postmaster, C.E.F. Post Office Duala, they had received after the closure of that office on 31 March 1916 and after the departure of the British personnel of the Royal Engineers who had run it for the Allied Expeditionary Force.

On 1 April 1916 the captured German colony of Kamerun was, by an earlier agreement between the allies, divided for administration purposes into separate British and French spheres. Duala, the base of Allied Command, was transferred to French control and the troops of the British contingent of the now disbanded Expeditionary Force were withdrawn to England and her West African colonies - the British Sphere of Kamerun was to be administered as part of Nigeria.

This cover had originated from a French serviceman, A. Bayle, 17 Company, Secteur 112, presumably in France given the French postage stamp. It was most probably posted in February or March 1916 - certainly before the division of occupied Kamerun - although the impression of the postal date stamp TRESOR ET POSTES / 112 clearly shows the day (25) and the year (16) it is obscure as to the month, which could be an inverted 2. No other date stamp or marking is on the envelope.

The addressee's name and address have been crossed through and the sender's address on the reverse has been underlined in the same red crayon. This was no doubt done by the French postal authorities in Duala where two small boxed cachets reading PARTI SANS / LAISSER d'ADRESSE and RETOUR /L'ENVOYEUR were applied in mauve ink. These instructional markings are very early examples after the French take over at Duala.

The third and largest cachet CONTROLÉ / par / L'AUTORITÉ MILITAIRE had been struck in violet ink to tie the Postes et Telegraphes resealing tape to the envelope which had been opened at some stage for examination. It is difficult to determine whether this was carried out on the outward or return journey of the cover and at what point on the route.

The cover, having been returned to France, did not find the sender at his given original address of Secteur 112. Accordingly the number was blacked out in pencil and the single line cachet PAS POUR LE SECTEUR POSTAL Nº 112 applied in black ink on the front of the cover. Above this a forwarding address was added in manuscript with an indelible pencil "Ecole Militaire St Cyr, St Cyr (Seine et Oise) 2^{e} Compagnie". The words St Cyr had in turn been heavily underlined in blue crayon presumably by the French metropolitan postal authorities to highlight the ultimate destination of the returned cover in the final course of delivery to the original sender.

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Kumba Cancellations

Larry Hughes



The illustration above shows an interesting joined pair of Nigeria SG 61 with two Kumba cancels, one from Cameroons and the other from Nigeria. Has any member seen dual cancels like this beofre? And why was it done?

Upon close inspection, I noticed that the Cameroons cancel is dated 4 MR 47, while the Nigerian one has 4 MR 46. The year for the Nigerian postmark is clearly in error, as the stamp was not issued until 21 October 1946.

Posted Out of Course at Bamenda, Cameroon 1962

Bob Maddocks

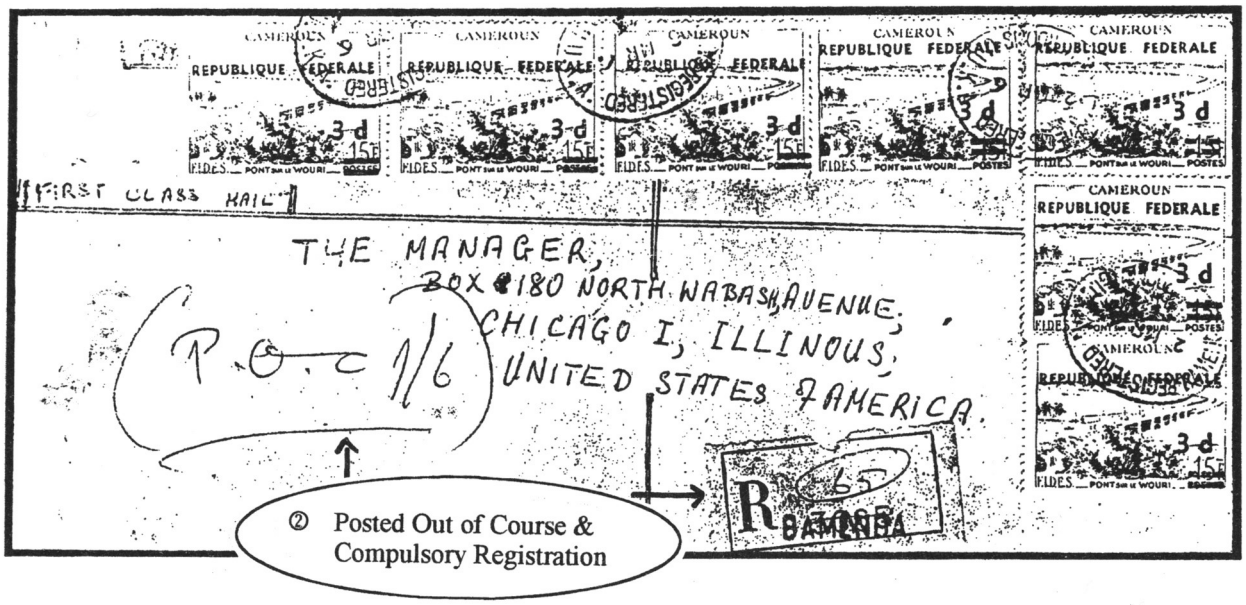


Figure 1 : 2 March 1962 Bamenda to Chicago, USA; Front (Reduced)

This registered cover (Fig. 1) posted to the USA from Bamenda, West Cameroon, Federal Republic of Cameroon featured in a postal auction several years ago. Because it had, in my opinion, a very high and unrealistic estimated value of £100 I did not bid but was able to obtain a photocopy which has provided the opportunity to write this article.

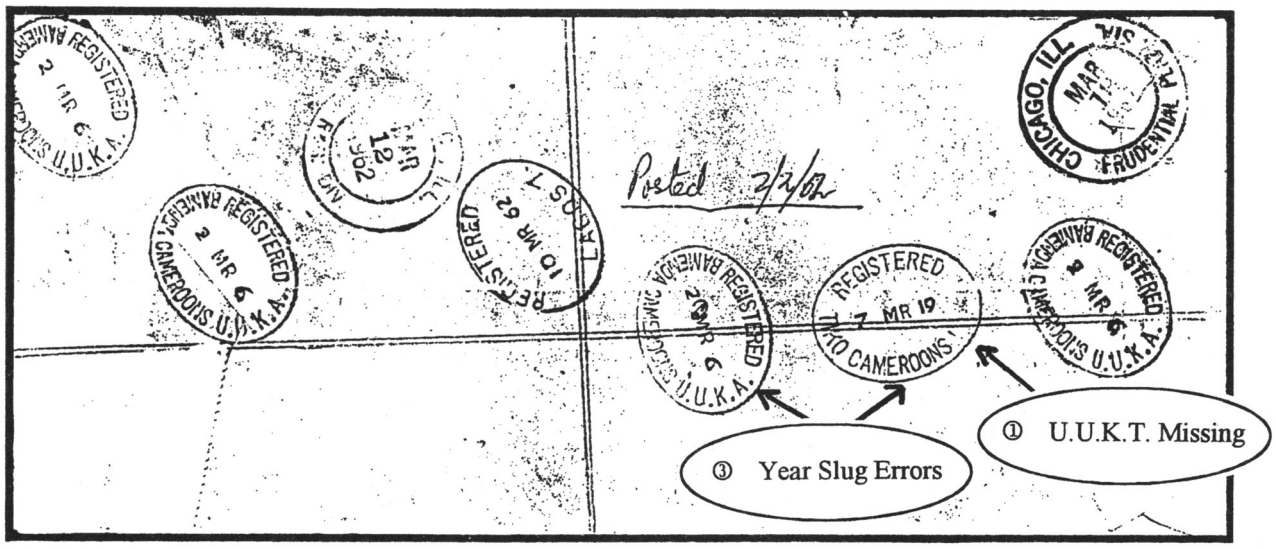


Figure 2 : 2 March 1962 Bamenda to Chicago, USA; Reverse (Reduced)

The high estimate is believed to have been due to the emphasis given in the lot description which made much of the fact that the Tiko registered date stamp, as applied in transit on the reverse, was missing the

usual letters U.U.K.T. after the words CAMEROONS and attributed this to having being removed by the local postal authorities after the reunification of the former British administered territory of Southern Cameroons with the Cameroun Republic on 1 October 1961 (see ① on Fig. 2). Since I have several later dated impressions of this Tiko postmark still showing these letters and also as I have not encountered any other former Southern Cameroons date stamps, postal or registered, where the letters U.U.K.T. or U.U.K.A. have been excised, I believe that their absence in this particular case is due solely to an uneven strike. Figure 3 shows two 4d Federal Republic overprints with the same hand stamp but dated 16 April (1962).

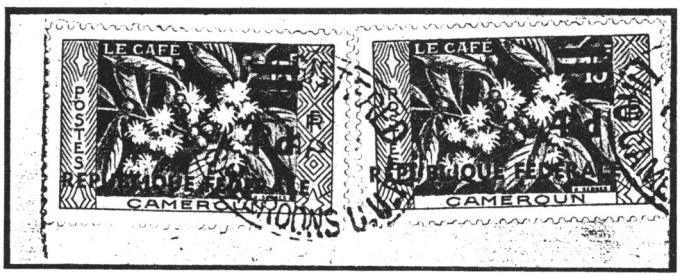


Figure 3 : Tiko Cameroons Registered Date Stamp with Letters "U.U.K.T." dated 16 AP (1962)

Overlooked in the description was the manuscript marking "*P.O.C 1/6*" which was of more interest to me as I was then researching similar markings found on several Nigerian registered covers which culminated in an earlier *Cameo* article (Ref. 1). P.O.C. stands for Posted Out of Course and it is assumed that the sender of this particular envelope, having drawn lines across both sides to indicate that registration was intended and franked it at 1s 9d, then placed it in the mailing box instead of handing it over a post office counter for acceptance in the usual process of registration. When it was found, the Bamenda postmaster made a compulsory registration, adding the provisional French type registration label handstamped BAMENDA over the printed serial number and inserting by hand in ink another number, 65 (see ② on Fig. 1). The number 65 may well have been taken from a separate series of numbers perhaps kept solely for such P.O.C. items. The surcharge of 1s 6d is probably based on the registration fee which had not been prepaid by the sender; however it is more than twice that the fee which was 6d at this date.

A third point of interest is the missing '2' from the year '62' in the Bamenda registered date stamp and also '19' instead of '62' in the Tiko one (see ③ in Fig. 2). With the change in the postal administration the new postal date stamps introduced by the Federal Republic did not include special ones for registration purposes as this type of mark was not used in the French orientated postal service of the former Cameroun Republic. Old habits died hard and for the two years following integration of the postal services the staff in West Cameroon struggled to maintain registration procedures learnt under the former British Nigeria Posts & Telegraphs regime, notwithstanding that year slugs were no longer available for the redundant registered date stamps. Hence the incomplete, missing and erroneous dates are seen on mail in 1962 and 1963 before such date stamps were finally withdrawn from use.

Reference

1. Maddocks R.J., "P.O.C. - Another Manuscript Marking on Nigerian Mail", *Cameo*, Volume 5 p115-6, WASC, January 1996

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Watermark Varieties on Cameroons WW I Overprints

Dudley Cobb

I have been examining the stamps of Moyen Congo and Congo Français which were overprinted Occupation Française du Cameroun and made available in Douala in April 1916. This note relates to the watermarks on the eight Congo Français values in this series (Yvert & Tellier nos. 57, 58, 60, 62-66; Stanley Gibbons nos. 22-29).

Under Congo, the Yvert & Tellier catalogue presents illustrations of the three watermarks, all found on the overprinted issue too. The thistle watermark on the horizontal 15c leopard design is "upright" when the flower is at the end bearing the value. The rose branch on the 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c and 75c, and the olive branch on the 1f and 2f, rise towards the top of the stamp design. It is worth noting that the watermarks do not cover the entire area of the stamps. They fit within the actual designs and do not extend to the margins, or the perforations, when properly centred - which is not always the case.

The Yvert & Tellier illustrations are as viewed from the front. The catalogue says that all the 1900-1904 Congo Français stamps can be found with inverted watermarks (*existent avec filigrane enversé*), and from the 20c onwards it assigns greater rarity / higher value to this variety. My aim recently has been to see what watermark varieties I can identify on the eight values overprinted Occupation Française du Cameroun.

On the overprints, I can report inverted watermarks on the 30c, 40c and 75c values, and reversed watermarks (ie watermarks which, when viewed from the back, appear as in the Yvert & Tellier illustrations) on the 20c, 1f and 2f. This is based on a sample of 10 to 15 authenticated copies of each value. Many collectors in France regard the study of watermarks as yet another English vice. Can WASC members cast any further light?

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More on Cameroons U.K.T.T. Overprints

Bob Maddocks

Further to my article in *Cameo* (Ref. 1) I include below comments found in the *Commonwealth Courier* (Ref.2) by way of further interest. The writer, who then handled new issues from a business in Liverpool, was obviously extremely annoyed and frustrated in his attempts to obtain a supply of the U.K.T.T. overprints from Nigeria and / or Cameroons. Note that he mentioned Lagos had none of the stamps; from this can we infer that Lagos did not handle the stamps which may or may not have been available in Northern Cameroons?

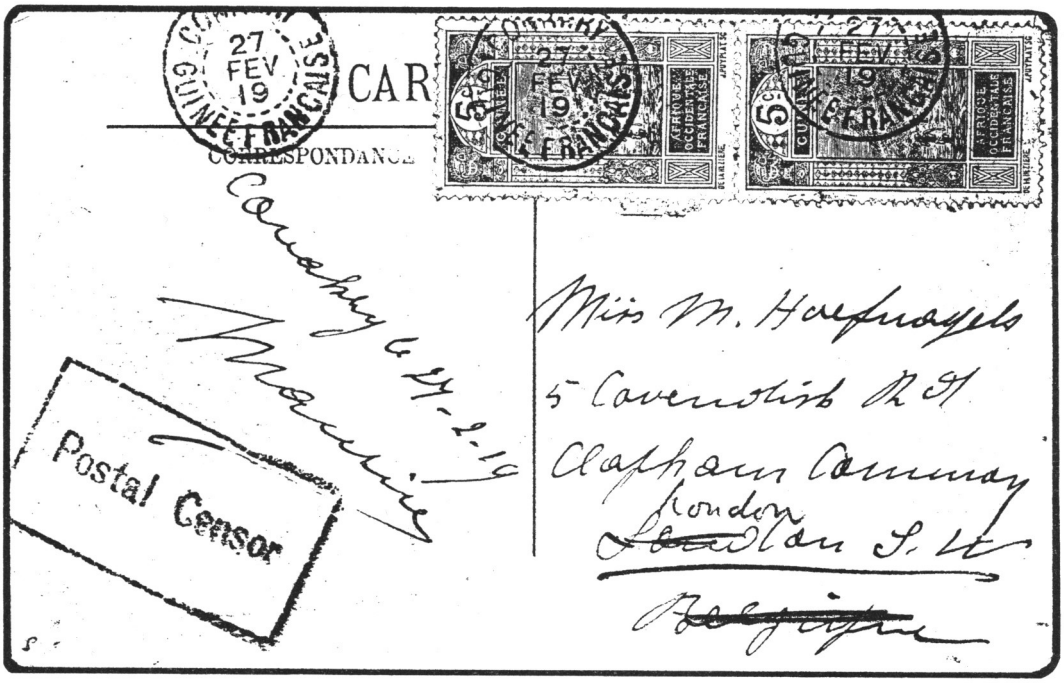
> "Incidentally it was a good job that the Crown Agents had stocks of Southern Cameroons stamps (they distributed none of the 2d however, as the small quantity available were needed for the territory, not that they would have been of the slightest use to cope with dealers demands if they had been offered) for there was no possibility of buying from the Southern Cameroons GPO. During the currency of the overprints we sent an order to the capital. In due course, we got our money back from Lagos in Nigeria, where it had been sent, for the order to be filled. Naturally, it wasn't, for they had none of the overprints."

References

1. Bob Maddocks, "Cameroons U.K.T.T. Acceptability and Availability in Northern Cameroons", *Cameo*, Volume 6 pp96-98, WASC, July 1998
2. Jim Crow, "Trends", *Commonwealth Courier*, February 1963

World War I Censorship in French Guinea

Jeremy Martin



27 February 1919 - Conakry, French Guinea to London, England

In the July 1996 *Cameo* (Ref. 1), Bob Maddocks wrote about an unusual CENSORED cachet on a Senegal postcard which was stampless and endorsed *On Active Service*. It was not dated.

I have a postcard of Conakry, the stamps cancelled 27 FEV 19 (after the war had ended) addressed to London. It has a boxed Postal Censor handstamp in black.

Where was it applied? Probably upon arrival in the UK, but possibly in an English speaking area in transit.

Reference

1. Bob Maddocks, "Censored Senegal Postcard", *Cameo*, Volume 5 p175, WASC, July 1996

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WANTED!

Gold Coast hexagonal censorship marks with the following numbers:

11, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25 and 28

Offers please to Maurice Tozer, South Africa (address as per membership list)

email toz@icon.co.za

Togo : Early Postal History of Anglo-French Occupation

John Mayne

Martin & Walton (Ref. 1) state "The postal rates in use during the first few weeks of the occupation are far from clear. The majority of material that has survived is endorsed *Posted on Active Service, No Stamps Available*". Two such covers are illustrated (Ref. 2) dated 16 August 1914 and 23 September 1914. Reference is made that mail from Lome on 9 September 1914 was endorsed *No Stamps Available* but no examples are quoted. I question this as Figure 1 illustrates a cover with a Gold Coast stamp clearly cancelled on that day.

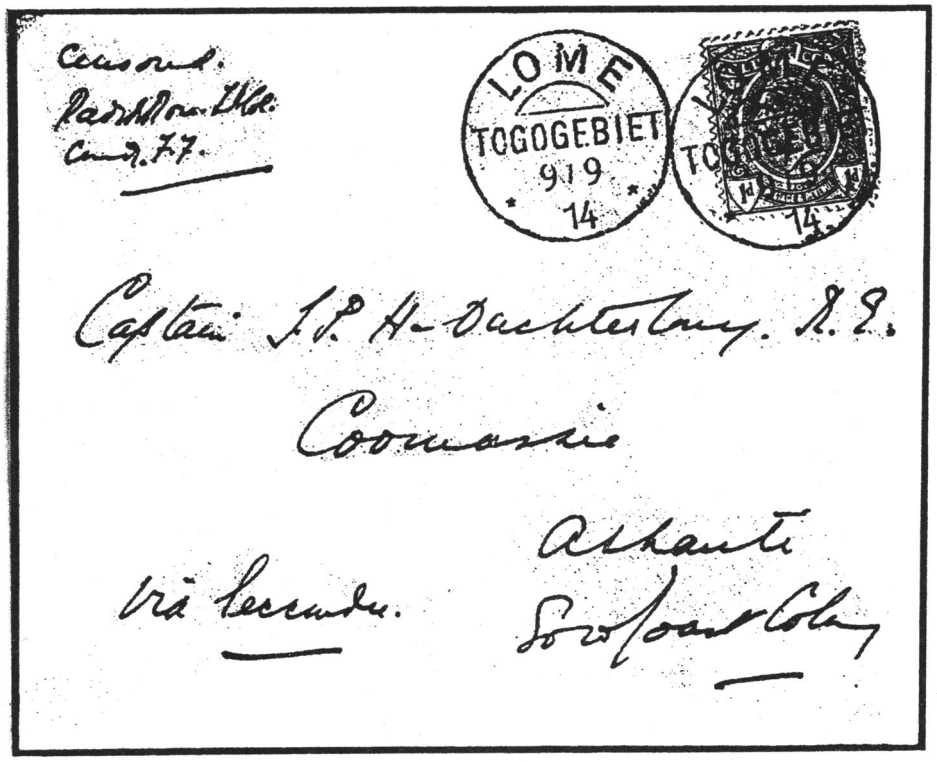


Figure 1 : 9 September 1914 - Lome to Ashanti, Gold Coast Colony

No similar mail is recorded from the French sector. I hold a postcard endorsed in English *On Active Service. No Stamps Available* which has the message written in French; the card is addressed to Lyons in France and is cancelled on the picture side with a datestamp of 4 October 1914 of Sansane-Mangu, which is 270 miles north of Lome. Sansane-Mangu was believed to be always in the French sector. This card predates this issue of the French yacht stamps; it is possible that the overprinted yachts never reached this northern outpost!

Martin & Walton indicate that the postal rates in use during the first few weeks of the occupation are far from clear (Ref. 3). Greenwood (Ref. 4) noted that during the first days of the issue of overprinted yachts all were sold at and considered as 1d. In an article Williams (Ref. 5) states 10pfg was treated as 1d and the normal cost of sending a letter was 1d. In support of this exchange rate a cover is known from Lt Col Bryant to Dahomey dated 23 December 1914 franked with a 25pfg German overprinted value. This would equate to the then current 2½d foreign letter rate.

A full tariff was introduced on 15 December 1914 (Ref. 6). At this time the homeland rate for standard weight registered mail was 3d (ie 1d postage plus 2d registration). The 3pfg and 5pfg stamps were overprinted ½d and 1d respectively for use as the basic inland rates, but the other values were left

unchanged. There is no contemporary documentation to confirm the value that these other values were sold at, but the cover illustrated in Figure 2 supports Greenwood's theory. If each stamp is considered as 1d, then the cover is correctly franked.

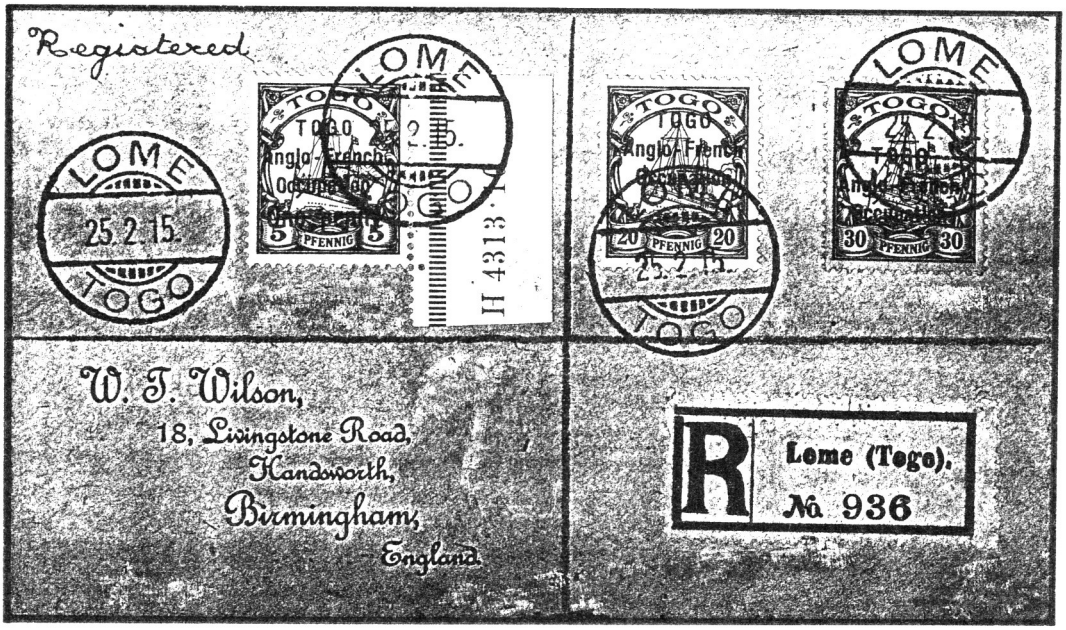


Figure 2 : 25 February 1915 - Philatelic Cover from Lome to Birmingham, England

The marginal inscription on the 5pfg stamp on the above cover is of great interest in that it confirms that stamps from the 1910 printings were used for overprinting.

One further cover is worth describing, but unfortunately it is too dark to reproduce here. This is a commercially used registered local cover used within Atakpame on 9 April 1916. This bears two 1d overprinted 5pfg stamps and one 20pfg stamp. According to Martin & Walton the internal rate for Atakpame under French control was 10c letter rate up to 20g and 25c registration (Ref. 7). This cover has a German registration label type RG3 with the name Atakpame; this is previously unrecorded (Ref. 8).

References

1. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *Togo : The Postal History of the Anglo-French Occupation 1914-1922*, p23, WASC, Sheffield 1995
2. Martin & Walton, pp17-18
3. Martin & Walton, p23
4. Greenwood C.H., *Togo. The Stamps of the British and French Occupation*, p19, David Field, 1916
5. Williams J.A.J., "The Allied Seizure of the German Colonies and its Philatelic Results", *Stamp Collecting*, p907, June 1968
6. Martin & Walton, p24
7. Martin & Walton, pp27-28
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Early Sierra Leone Mail

John Sacher

Frank Walton illustrates a most interesting example of the use of the services of Zachary Macaulay, Secretary to the Sierra Leone Company, as a forwarding agent (Ref. 1). There are other early correspondences, but none that I have seen have used such a route, the majority being handled as ship letters. I list them below.

From Sierra Leone

Origin	Addressee	Route	Charge	
2 Jun 1786 Sierer Leone (sic)	Mrs Marey Liverpool	Deal SHIP LRE London Bishop Mark 1SE	1d Ship Letter 4d Deal - London 5d 1d Ship Letter 5d Deal - Liverpool 6d	(Fig. 1)
24 Jun 1794 Sierra Leone	Chas Cox Holborn, London	LONDON SHIP LRE	1d Ship letter 1d Within London 2d	(Fig. 2)
31 Oct 1795 Freetown	Charles Cox Holborn	Handed in at the London Chief Office 25 Dec 1795	1d Local Delivery	
28 Jul 1802 Sierra Leone	Charles Cox Holborn	SHIP LETTER LONDON 4 Oct 1802	4d x 2 Double ship 8d letter within General Post	(Fig. 3)
13 Jan 1817 HM Ship Inconstant Sierra Leone	Winchester	DOVER SHIP LETTER London 24 Mar 1817	8d Ship letter 8d Dover - London 1s 4d 8d Ship letter 10d Dover - Winchester 1s 6d	
13 Mar 1823 HM Ship Cyrene Sierra Leone River	Sir S B Marland Pall Mall, London	"With a canoe pr favor of Mr George Hodgson, Brig. Lively"	Carried privately	
26 Dec 1826 Sierra Leone	The Secretaries Wesleyan Missionary Society, London	SHIP LETTER SHEERNESS London 9 Mar 1827	8d Ship letter 8d Sheerness - London 1s 4d	(Fig. 4)
1827 Sierra Leone	George Morley Hatten Garden London	"By favour of S. Gabbidon"	8d Ship letter 11d Liverpool - London 1s 7d	(Ref. 2)

From Sierra Leone, continued

Origin	Addressee	Route	Charge		
12 May 1829 HMS Eden Sierra Leone	Mrs Milleau Awlson Montreal Lower Canada	"c/o Amos Hayter Esq, 14 Lower Thames Street London"	*British charge* 8d 11d 1s 7d	 Ship letter Plymouth - London Paid by forwarding agent	(Fig. 5)
			To New York 2c 18½c 20½c	 Ship letter To Canadian border	
			1s 0d 7d 1s 7d	Converted at Montreal into Canadian currency Inland	
8 Sep 1829 Sierra Leone	The Secretaries Wesleyan Missionary Society, London	SHIP LETTER DEVONPORT	8d 11d 1s 7d	Ship letter Devonport - London	

To Sierra Leone

Origin	Addressee	Route	Charge		
Nov 1786 Barbados	Capn Thomas Makin Schooner Assistance Seralone (sic)				(Ref. 3)
2 Jan 1815 Glasgow	M Macmillan Sierra Leone	via Zachary Macaulay 26 Birchin Lane, London	1s 2d ½d 1s 2½d	Glasgow - London Additional halfpenny	(Ref. 1)
2 Feb 1826 London	Rev Piggott Wesleyan Missionary Sierra Leone	POST PAID SHIP LR LONDON Received 3 Apr 1826	1s 4d	Double rate	(Fig. 6)
9 Aug (Apr?) 1826 London	Rev Piggott Mission House Freetown Sierra Leone	POST PAID SHIP LR LONDON By the Brig Salmon River Received 23 Sep 1826	1s 4d	Double rate	(Ref. 4)
6 Feb 1828 London	Dr Barry Dep Inspector Hospitals Freetown Sierra Leone	POST PAID SHIP LR LONDON	1s 4d	Double rate	(Ref. 5)
24 Mar 1843 London	Lieut Glen 3 West India Regnt Sierra Leone	PAID SHIP LETTER LONDON Wrapper from War Office		OHM Service	(Fig. 7)

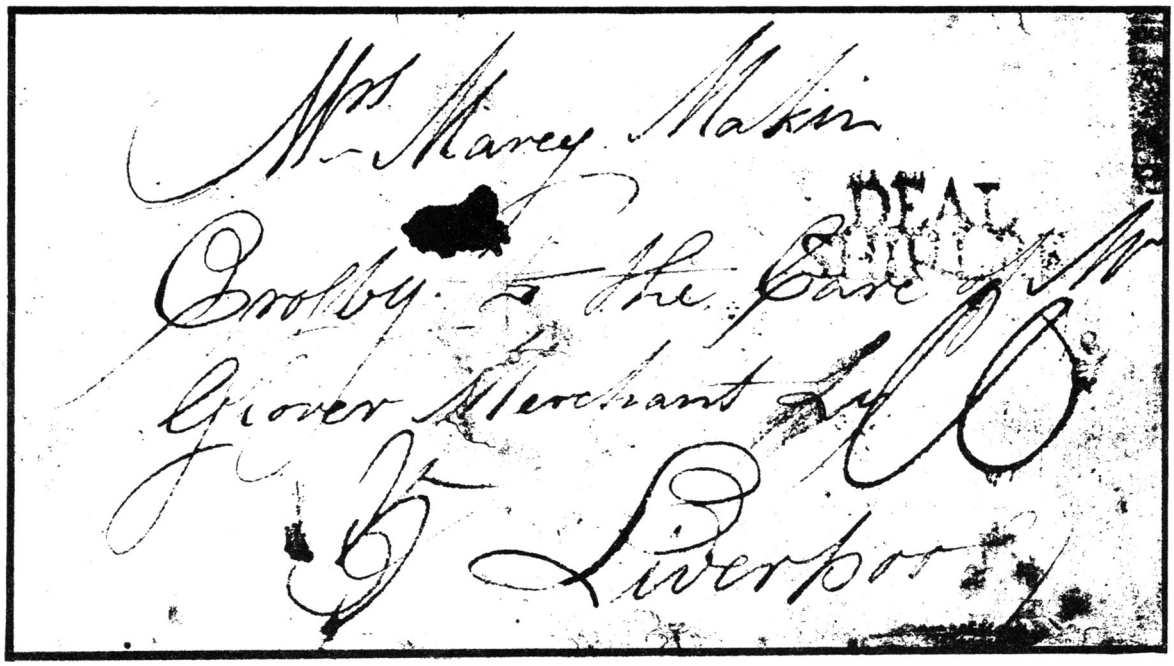


Figure 1

2 June 1786
Sierer Leone
(sic) to
Liverpool
via Deal
Ship Letter

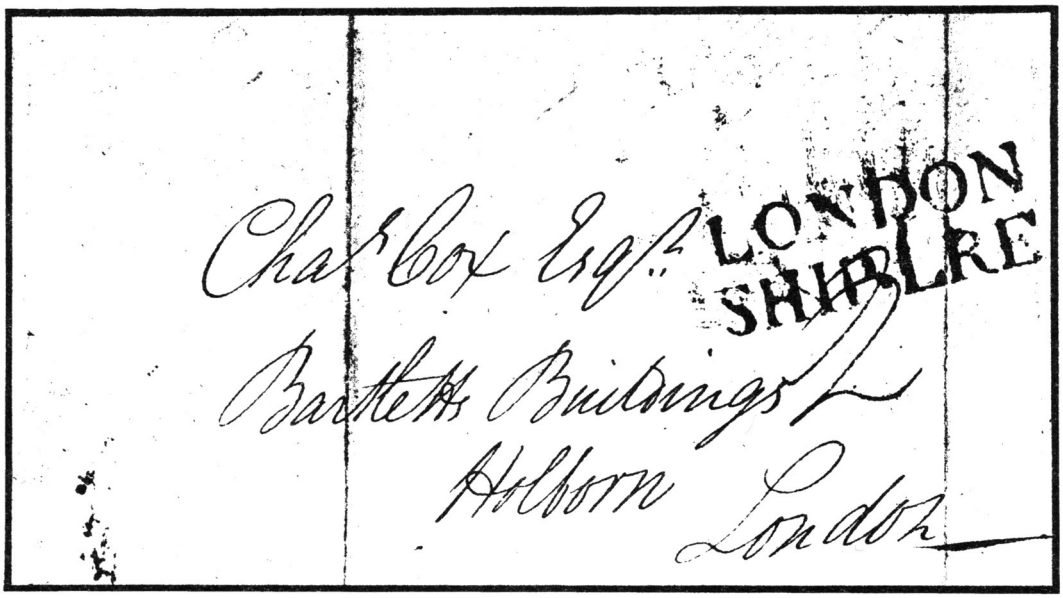


Figure 2

24 June 1794
Sierra Leone
to London
via London
Ship Letter

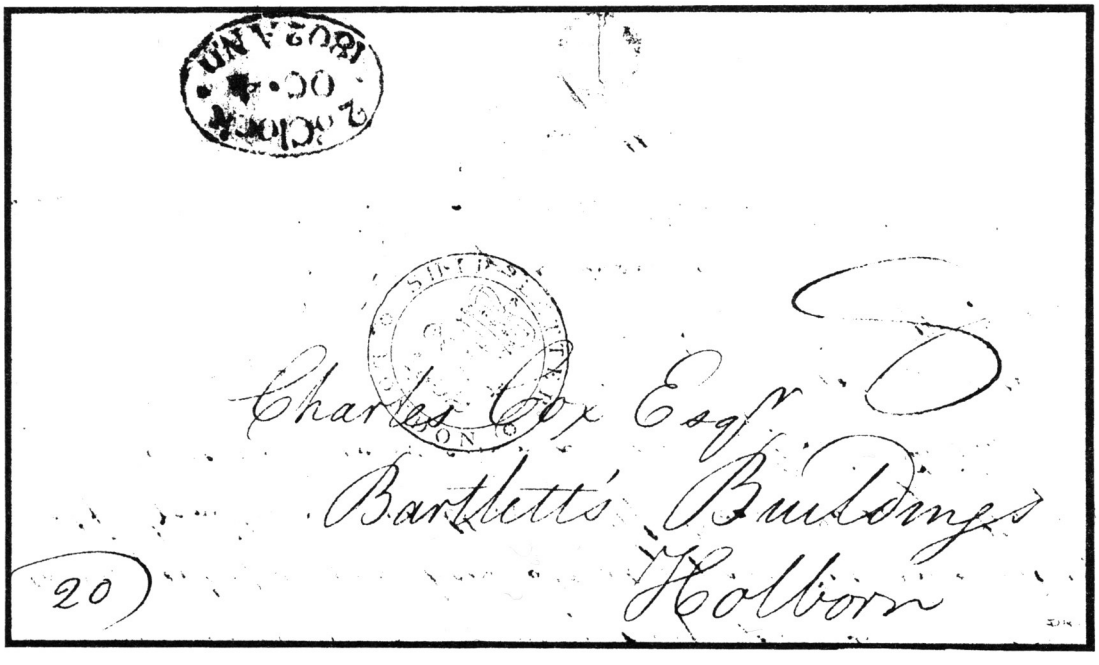


Figure 3

28 July 1802
Sierra Leone
to London
with SHIP
LETTER
LONDON
OCT 4 1802
(70%)

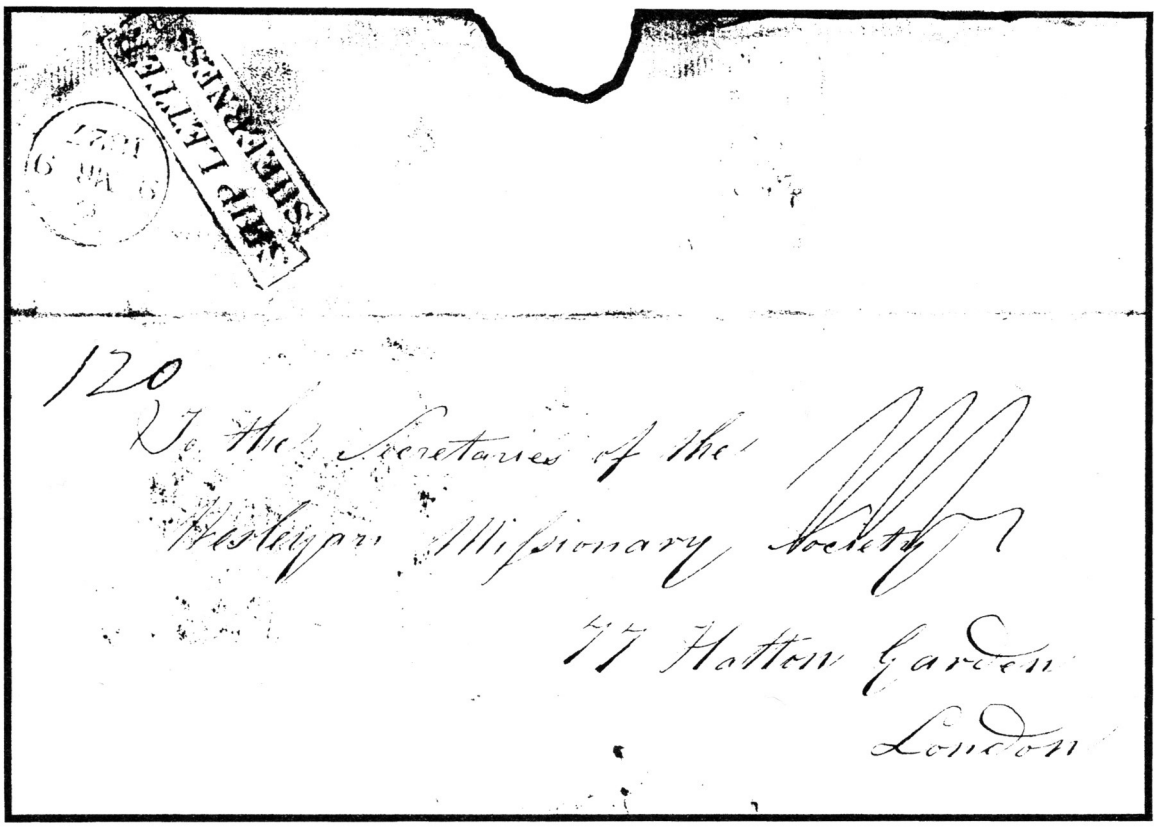


Figure 4

26 Dec 1826
Sierra Leone
to London
with SHIP
LETTER
SHEERNESS

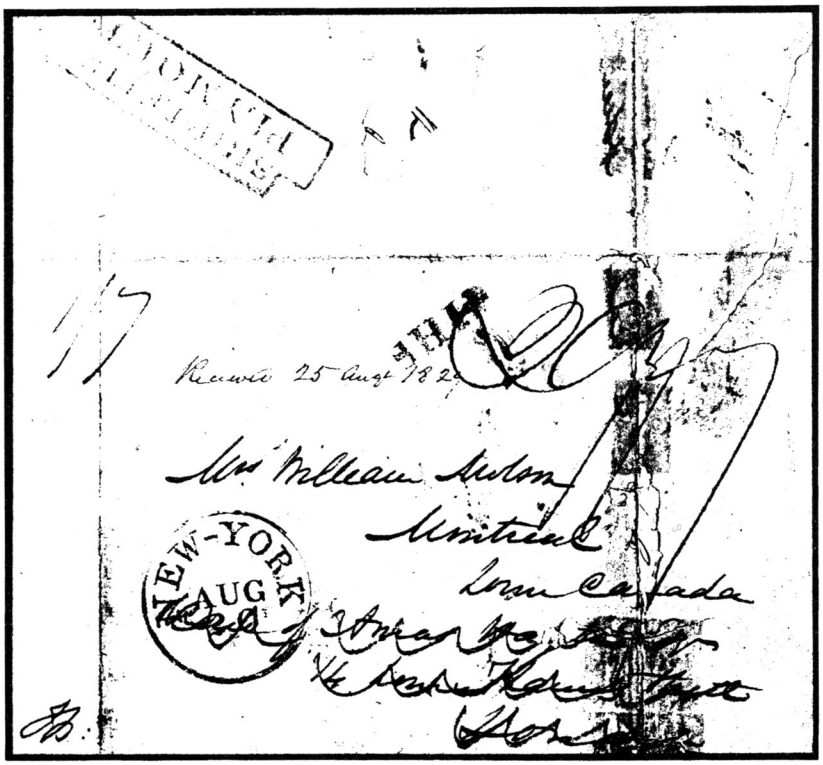


Figure 5

12 May 1829
Letter from HMS Eden of the
Fernando Po Squadron at
Sierra Leone to Montreal, sent c/o
Amos Hayter, London and then by
SHIP LETTER PLYMOUTH
and NEW YORK.

Received 25 August 1829
(80%)

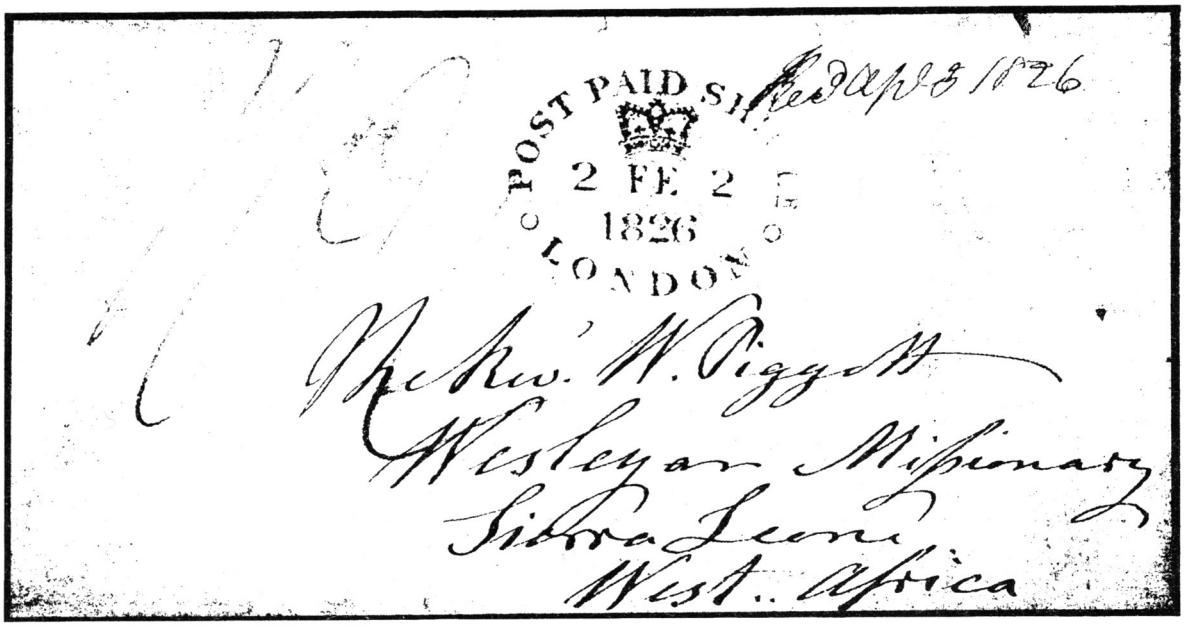


Figure 6

2 Feb 1826
London to
Sierra Leone
with POST
PAID SHIP
LR LONDON
2 FE 2 1826

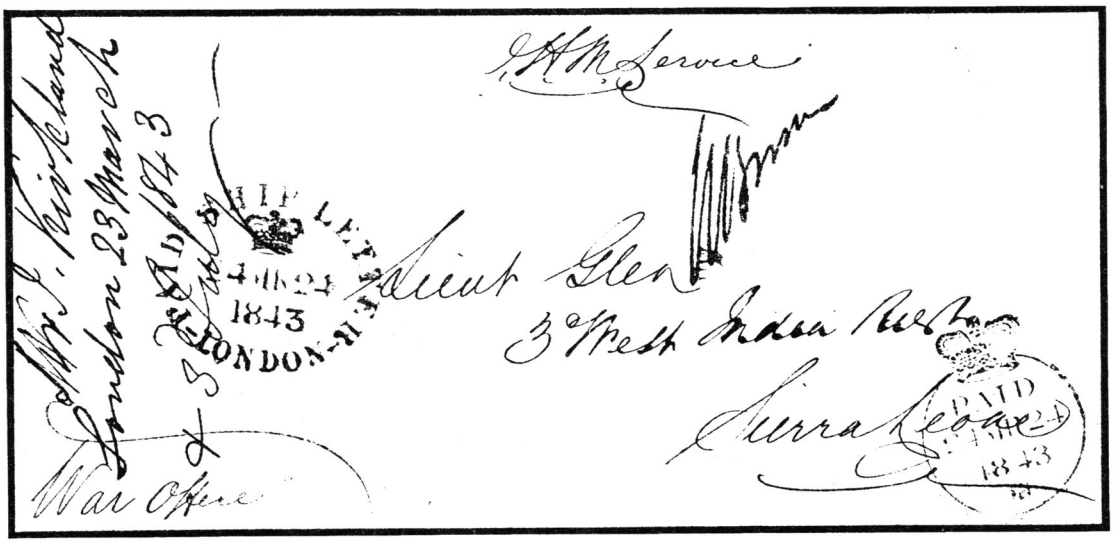


Figure 7

14 Mar 1843
War Office,
London to
Sierra Leone
with SHIP
PAID LETTER
LONDON
24 MR 24 1843
(80%)

References

1. Frank Walton, "1815 Letter to Sierra Leone", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p92-93, WASC, July 1998
2. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...* , p3, RPSL, London 1988
3. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...* , p2, RPSL, London 1988
4. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...* , p5, RPSL, London 1988
5. Information sent in by Brian McCloy, and inserted into this article by the *Cameo* Editor

Internet Web Sites

Frank Walton

Over the last few years a number of web pages have found their way into my 'favourite sites' list on my PC at home. I thought that some readers may welcome a list of either general philatelic or West African web pages that I have found of interest. Please send in any new locations that you feel others may enjoy.

West Africa Philatelic Sites

West Africa Study Circle	http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/FrankWalton
Sierra Leone Stamp Collector	http://sapphire.surgery.wisc.edu/stamps
Picture of Togo Postman	http://www.refer.org/togo_ct/tur/lome/infra/telecom/tel7.htm

General Philatelic Sites

American Philatelic Society	http://www.west.net/~stamps1/aps.html
Joe Luft Philatelic Index	http://www.execpc.com/~joeluft/faq/toc01.html
Wardrop's Philatelic Index	http://www.wardrop.co.uk
George VI	http://www.kg6.com/g6

Non-Philatelic West African Sites

News from Sierra Leone	http://www.Sierra-Leone.org/slnews.html
Ghana	http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/ghana.html
Ashanti	http://www.ashanti.com.au/

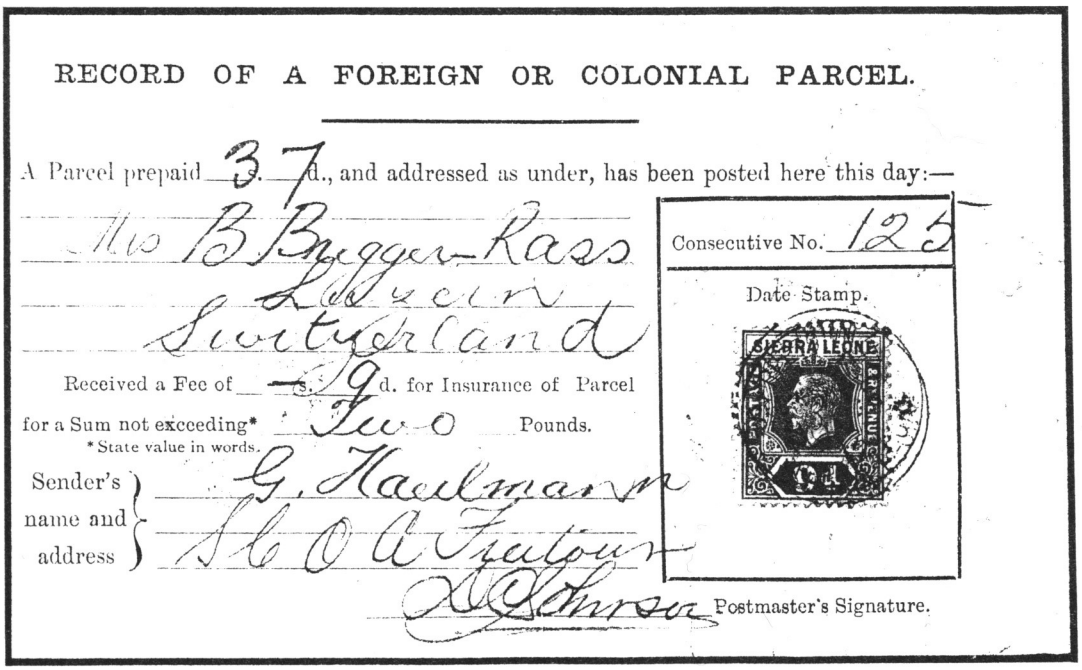
Non-Philatelic General Sites

Amazon Books	http://www.amazon.com

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Sierra Leone Insured Parcel Receipt

Frank Walton


RECORD OF A FOREIGN OR COLONIAL PARCEL.

A Parcel prepaid 3s. 7d., and addressed as under, has been posted here this day:—

Mrs B Bugge-Kass
Lucern
Switzerland

Received a Fee of 9d. for Insurance of Parcel for a Sum not exceeding* Two Pounds.
*State value in words.

Sender's name and address: G. Haukmann
Leo A Tratour

Consecutive No. 125

Date Stamp.

SIERRA LEONE

Postmaster's Signature.

November 1912 - Insured Parcel Receipt

This fascinating item was part of a larger lot sold at a Cavendish auction earlier this year.

I have been doing research into the postal rates of Sierra Leone, but I cannot trace a parcel rate in 1912 of 3s 7d to Switzerland or an Insurance Fee of 9d for cover of £2.

Any ideas?

Antidote to the Internet...

Editor's Note: This amusing article first appeared in *The Philatelic Quill* (Ref. 1); it is reproduced with the kind permission of the editor, Tom Wilson. It provides the perfect antidote for those members who didn't understand a word of the article on the previous page!

Major Technological Breakthrough

Reference

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BOOK never crashes or requires rebooting, though like other display devices it may become unusable if dropped overboard. The 'browse' feature allows you to move instantly to any sheet, and move forward or backward as you wish. Many come with an 'Index' feature, which pinpoints the exact location of any selected information for instant retrieval.

An optional BOOKmark accessory allow you to open BOOK to the exact place you left it in a previous session - even if the BOOK has been closed. BOOKmarks fit universal design standards; thus, a single BOOKmark can be used in BOOKs by various manufacturers. Conversely, numerous BOOKmarkers can be used in a single BOOK if the user wants to store numerous views at once. The number is limited only by the number of pages within the BOOK.

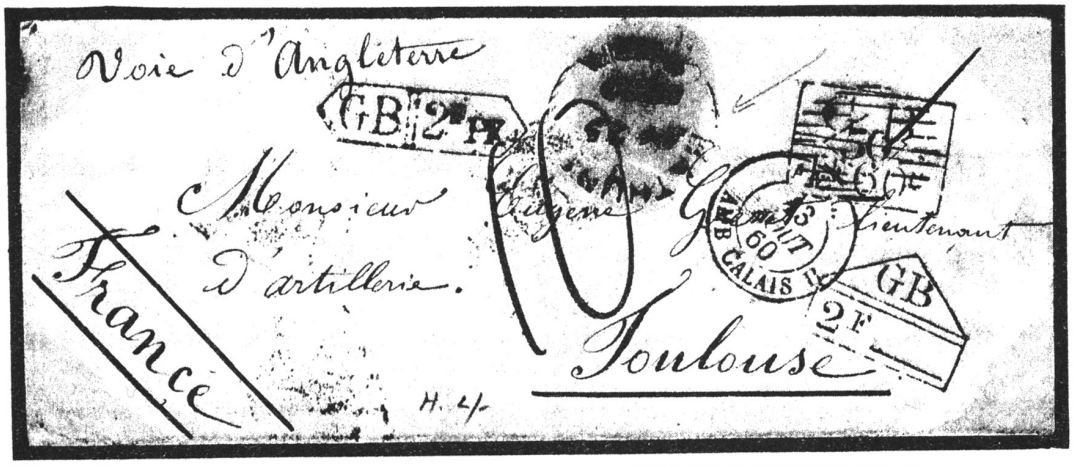
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1. "Review: Major Technological Breakthrough", *Philatelic Quill*, Volume 14 Number 4 p59, Philatelic Writers' Society, October 1998

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SG 40ba	1944 1½d perf 13. VFM, R5/1 'davit' flaw	£40
CW 28c	1949 1½d black and carmine. VFUM corner block of 8. R3/1 cut mast and railings	£75
SG 42b	1950 3d. VFUM positional block of 8, R6/5 sky retouch	£45
SG 42b	VFUM Plate and imprint block of 8, R10/4 major sky retouch and 10/3 'extra rocks'	£45
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ST. HELENA, 1919. "WAR TAX 1d" on 1d, a strip of three overprinted SPECIMEN on small piece, all cancelled by circular handstamp "POSTES ET TELEGRAPHES MADAGASCAR COLLECTION DE BERNE" in red, applied by postal authority in Madagascar to stamps received from the U.P.U. in Berne. £250.

CAMEROONS, 1900. A 20pf blue, no watermark, with large part of blue "NGAUNDERE" c.d.s. (used only in 1914). Stamp has a few thins, but strike is very good for this difficult cancel. £75.

CAMEROONS/GERMANY, 1903. A picture postcard of Bellstadt, Kamerun, written from Duala to Kiel, franked by Germany 5pf tied by Marine Schiffspost No.9 c.d.s. of SMS 'Habicht', with Kiel c.d.s. below. £125.

ST. HELENA/BOER WAR, 1902. A registered cover franked St. Helena 2d, 2.1/2d, cancelled by Maltese Cross in circle handstamp, addressed to Germany, censor triangle "St. Helena/Head Office", sent via London (25 July) & Missunder-Faurhaus 27 July. £350.

ST. HELENA, 1896. A notice, 4" x 5", announcing St. Helena having joined the U.P.U. on 1st Oct. 1896, old stamp issue withdrawn, & listing stamps & postcards available, signed by Postmaster. £95.

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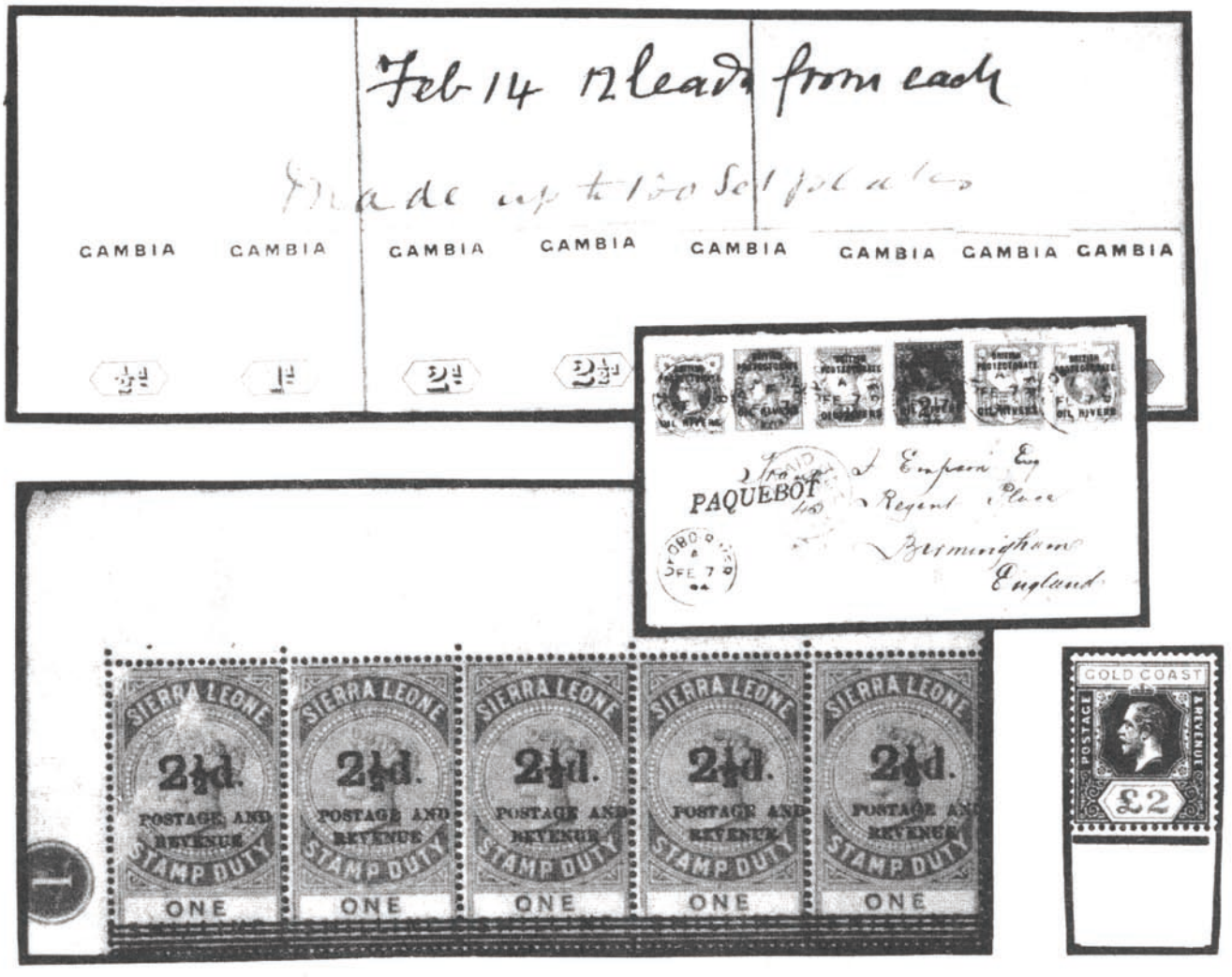
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