ST HELENA POSTAL HISTORY 1677-1903

INTRODUCTION

St Helena is a small island situated in the South Atlantic Ocean, more than 2000 km West of the African Mainland,

and more than 3000 km from Cape Town. The island was discovered in 1502 by Portuguese navigator Joao da Nova. The Dutch made the first claim to the island in 1633, but the British East India Company were the first to establish a proper settlement in 1659. The Dutch occupied the island in 1673, but British rule was soon re-established, and the island has remained under British rule up to the present day.

POSTAL HISTORY

In 1661, Charles II granted the East India Company a charter to hold St Helena, and the island was not returned to the British Crown until 1834. Early mail was carried to and from the island either by East India Company ships, or by other passing ships. In the very early years of the island's history, letters were left under large stones for onward transmission by the next vessel to call at the island. Seven such Post Office stones have been found on St Helena, and they are dated between 1645 and 1676.

The first Post Office on St Helena was opened on 23 February 1815, and with this the introduction of the first postmark, the ST HELENA PACKET LETTER datestamp. A packet service was established between Great Britain and the island on 11 July 1815, but this was suspended on 12 July 1819. On 17 October 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte arrived to spend the rest of his life in exile on the island. The next six years became very busy for St Helena, but after Napoleon died on 5 May 1821, life returned to a slower pace, and the postmark was taken out of service and not replaced with a new one until 1855. The Post Office was virtually closed and not officially re-opened until 1839. A number of Forwarding Agents were active on the island, mostly

between 1830 and 1877, and mail handled by them was marked, mostly in manuscript, but they also used a number of different cachets, creating an interesting sideline of the postal history.

The first stamp, a single 6d., was issued on 1 January 1856, and it was not joined by any additional values until 1863, when 1d. and 4d. stamps were issued. Except for the 1861 delivery of 6d. stamps, all these early stamps were imperforate. All Queen Victoria stamps issued before 1890 were in fact 6d. stamps with the correct denomination overprinted as required.

The postal rate for mail to Great Britain was 6d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce in 1856, but this was increased to 1/- in 1863. Apart from a temporary reduction to 6d. between July 1876 and March 1877, the rate was not reduced to 6d. until 1884, and there were no further reductions until 1896.

An oval datestamp ST HELENA was introduced in 1855, and remained in use until 1870. It can be found struck in red, black or blue. This was replaced by a circular datestamp with ST HELENA in a straight line in 1870, and from 1897 regular circular datestamps were introduced.

St Helena did not join the UPU until the 1 October 1896, and postal rates before that date were high compared to other Colonies.

Between 1900 and 1902, during the Boer War, St Helena had prisoner-of-war camps which kept a total of almost 6000 prisoners, but they were all taken off the island during the second half of 1902. A number of different Camp- and Censor-markings were used.

Other interesting markings found on mail from St Helena include the CASTLE handstamps used by the Government, the POST OFFICE ST HELENA markings used on official Post Office mail, OFFICIAL PAID markings also used by the Government, as well as a number of different instructional cachets.

REFERENCES

Literature used includes "St Helena Postal History and Stamps" (Hibbert, 1979), "St Helena, the Postal, Instructional and Censor Markings 1815-2000" (Mabbett, 2002), and much personal research.

THE EXHIBIT - PLAN AND DETAILS

This exhibit is a very comprehensive study of the postal history of St Helena, starting with the earliest known mail from the island, a 1677 letter from the Governor to the East India Company in London, the earliest known postally handled letter sent from St Helena in 1703, and other 18th and early 19th century mail. The earliest (1816) and latest (1820) recorded examples of the ST HELENA PACKET LETTER handstamp are shown, as well as a comprehensive range of Forwarding Agents mail, including examples of all the different cachets. The first use of the postage stamps in 1856 is shown, and examples of many different postal rates and destinations from the Queen Victoria period. The last frames also contain a number of the interesting markings found on mail from St Helena, as well as mail addressed to St Helena.

PRE-STAMP AND STAMPLESS MAIL (frames 1-3)

1677 the earliest known mail from St Helena, 1703 the earliest known postally handled letter from St Helena, 1816 the earliest and 1820 the latest recorded examples of the ST HELENA PACKET LETTER handstamp, 1819 and 1860 Soldier's Concessionary mail, 1855 the earliest and 1870 the latest recorded examples of the oval ST HELENA datestamp, accountancy markings, interesting destinations and rates.

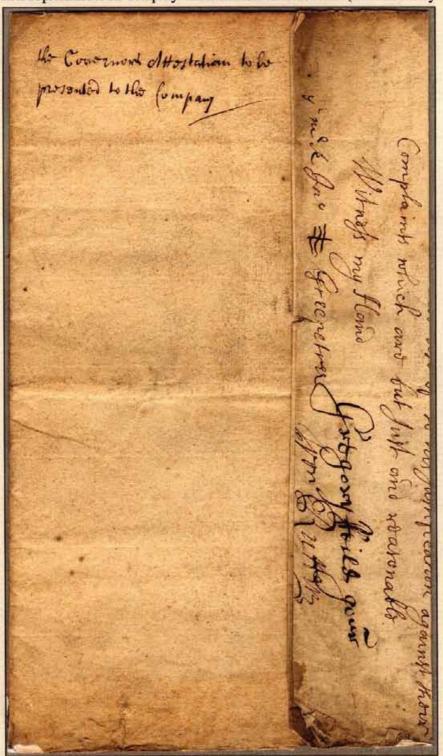
FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL AND CACHETS (frames 4-5) Examples of all the six different Forwarding Agents cachets: Boxed S.SOLOMON, SOLOMON MOSS GIDEON (two known), boxed T BAKER (one known), circular T BAKER (one known), GEORGE W KIMBALL, and boxed CARROL & KIMBALL (one known). Examples of manuscript endorsements from all the different known Forwarding Agents are also shown.

THE QUEEN VICTORIA PERIOD 1856-1903 (frames 6-8) 1856 cover showing early use of the first stamp, 1864 cover with pair of the first stamp, 1863 cover to Canada with all the three different imperforate stamps 1d.+4d.+6d., 1864 with 6d.+4d. imperforate on the earliest known registered cover, 1869 and 1870 covers showing the first REGISTERED handstamp, 1868 covers with the "2" accountancy markings, 1868 the only known example of the ST HELENA three line marking, 1870 and 1875 Soldier's Concessionary mail, 1867 and 1869 covers with the 1s.5d. rate to USA, 1867 and 1869 single and double rate covers to France, 1871 and 1881 covers showing the single 1s.2d. and double 2s.3d. foreign rates, the rare 8d. foreign rate in use only between July 1876 and March 1877, as well as other unusual rates and markings in use, including registered mail, 1882 Swedish&Norwegian Consulate handstamp, 1899 French Consular Agency handstamp, the Castle and Official Paid markings including the earliest known Official Paid cover 1878, the Post Office markings, a number of instructional cachets including the Tax-markings, and inward mail.

THE EARLIEST KNOWN MAIL FROM ST HELENA

Captain Gregory Field was appointed Governor by the London Office of the East India Company on 19 December 1673, but he retired during the first half of 1678 and returned to England. Deputy Governor and Keeper of the Stores during this period was Anthony Beale, who had been Governor before the Dutch occupation in early 1673.

1677(c) Despatch from Governor Field to the East India Company in London - the earliest known letter from St Helena - marked "The Governor's Attestation to be presented to the Company" and it mentions an Astronomer (Edmund Halley visited St Helena in 1677)



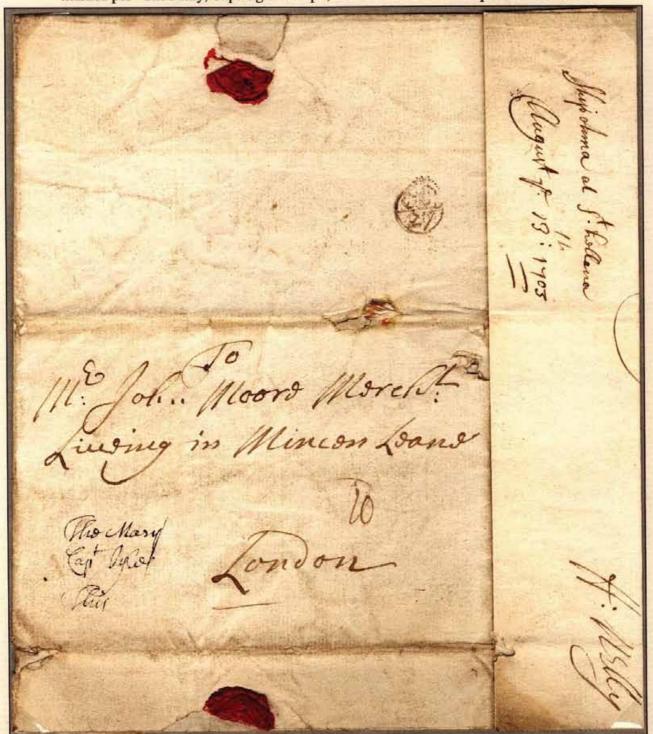
Rate: None, carried with other despatches by one of the East India Company's ships to London.

1677 - from St Helena to London - the earliest known letter from St Helena!

THE EARLIEST KNOWN POSTALLY HANDLED MAIL FROM ST HELENA

Very few letters are known from St Helena before 1815 and almost all of the ones recorded are privately carried letters or despatches addressed to the East India House in London. Unlike ship letters, the letters addressed to the East India House were not handled by the British Post Office and they were not subject to any postal charges.

1703 (13 August) Ship letter headed "Ship Anna at St Hellena" to London, marked per "The Mary, Capt Ogle's Ship", and with London Bishop Mark "OC.27"



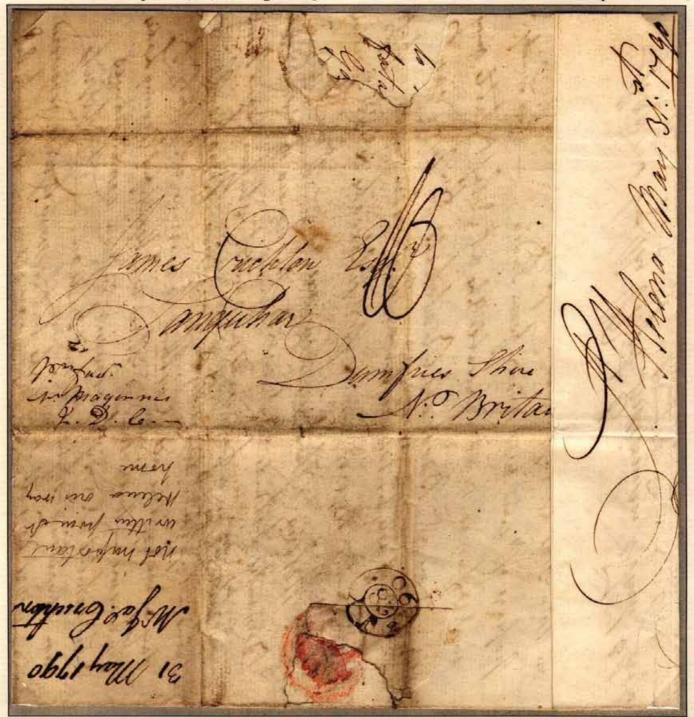
Rate: Unmarked, but with all probability charged 2d. (British inland rate to London 1653-1711)

1703 - ship letter to London - the earliest known letter from St Helena handled by the British Post Office!

EARLY SHIP MAIL CARRIED PRIVATELY TO ENGLAND

Because there was no postal service on St Helena until 1815, mail was often carried privately to England by ship's captains or other people travelling there. Upon arrival in England these letters were handed over to the Post Office.

1790 (31 May) From St Helena to Dumfries, Scotland, marked "per fav(our) Mr Maginnis Q.D.C." and with London "28.JY.90" datestamp



Rate: Charged "10"d. (1d. Captain's gratuity + 9d. inland rate from London to Dumfries)

1790 - early ship letter to Scotland, carried privately to England

EARLY SHIP MAIL VIA THE UNITED STATES

In the early days there were few connections between St Helena and the outside world, so every opportunity had to be taken with ships departing, even if they didn't go in the same direction as the destination of the mail.

1794 (12 April) From St Helena to Dumfries, Scotland, marked "per Paquet Q.D.C.", with LONDON SHIP LRE marking and London "20.JU.94" datestamp, the letter sent by "an opportunity of an American Ship bound to Rhode Island"



Rate: Charged "1/7" 1s.7d. (1s. packet rate from USA + 7d. inland rate from London to Dumfries)

1794 - early ship letter to Scotland via USA

EARLY SHIP MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

St Helena became an important port of call for ships bound from the Far East to Europe and although there was no Post Office in St Helena until 1815, mail was left to be collected by ships going in the same direction as the letters.

1802 (21 December) One ounce ship letter to Rhode Island, sent by a ship captain sailing from Muscat to England, with SHIP and BOSTON MS MR.23 markings in red



Rate: Marked "1oz", charged "42" cents (2c. ship rate + 4x10c. quadruple inland rate from Boston to Providence)

1802 - early ship letter to USA

MAIL TO THE BATAVIAN REPUBLIC CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

By the Treaty of Amiens, the Cape of Good Hope was handed back to the Dutch on 20 February 1803, and the Batavian Republic Administration brought back into use the VOC handstamps of the late Dutch East India Company. In 1806 the Cape was once again occupied by the British. Very few examples of mail from St Helena to the Batavian Republic Cape are known.

1804 (4 January) From St Helena to "Mr Willem Houthuysen, Clockmaker in the Main Street in the middle House of Nonje Smitts, Cape of Good Hope", with "VOC 6St" marking (Vereenigde Oos-Indische Compagnie 6 Stuivers)



Rate: Charged "VOC 6 St" (6 Stuiver payable by the addressee on mail to the Cape); 6 Stuivers equalled 6d. British Currency.

1804 - letter to the Batavian Republic Cape of Good Hope

EARLY SHIP MAIL

In 1796, a separate ship letter charge of 4d, was introduced in England on incoming ship letters. In addition to this charge, the inland postal rate from the port of entry to the destination had to be paid.

1807 (25 April) Ship letter to London, with WEYMOUTH Ship Lre marking and London JUL.1.1807 datestamp



Rate: Charged "1/1" 1s.1d. (4d. ship rate + 9d. inland rate from Weymouth to London)

1807 - early ship letter to London

EARLY LOCAL MAIL BETWEEN SHIPS AT ST HELENA

It was the custom for several ships of the East India Company to assemble at St Helena for both outward and homeward journeys before sailing in convoy. H.C.S. (Honourable Company's Ship) Earl Howe was of 876 tons and made eight such voyages between 1794 and 1811. Written messages between ships at anchor at St Helena was forwarded by rowing boat.

1810 (12 May) From Dr Lamb of HCS Penang, St Helena, to Dr Robert Wilson, Surgeon, HCS Earl Howe, St Helena



Rate: None, carried by rowing boat between the two ships.

1810 - early local mail between two ships at St Helena, carried by rowing boat!

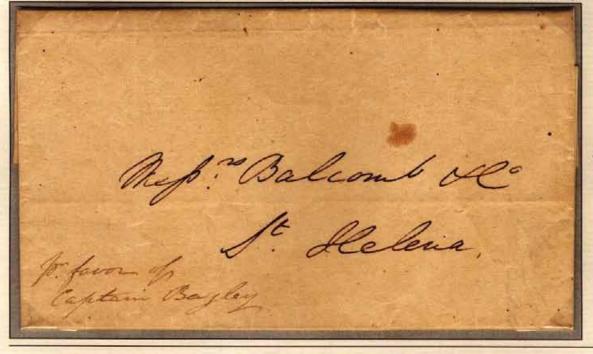
EARLY MAIL TO AND FROM INDIA

Early mail between St Helena and India is surprisingly scarce, considering that the East India Company was in command of both India and St Helena for a long time, and many of the Company's officers must at times have been based in both places.

1813 (18 February) From St Helena to Chandernagore, Bengal, India, with SHIP LETTER CALCUTTA Bg Ptg 4a NOV.7.1819 and "Inld Ptge 2, Ship Do. 2" markings



1815(c) From India to St Helena, marked "per favor of Captain Bayley" of HMS Wellesley



1815 - from India to St Helena, carried privately

MAIL TO THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE AND THE UNITED STATES

Early mail from St Helena is normally addressed to Great Britain, other destinations being very unusual. The reason for this is, of course, that the island was in the hands of the British East India Company from 1661 until 1834.

1813 (3 April) From St Helena to Cape Town, marked "pr Bonnitta", with SHIP LETTER CAPE OF GOOD HOPE marking

1813 ship letter to Cape Town

Rate: Charged "4"d. (incoming ship rate)



1817 (9 April) From St Helena to Rhode Island, with FALMOUTH marking, arrived 15 August



1817 ship letter to the United States

Rate: Marked
"Pd 1/3" (Paid
1s.3d. packet rate
from Falmouth
to USA);
charged "18½"
cents (6 cents
ship rate + 12½
cents inland rate)

THE FIRST POST OFFICE

The first Post Office on the Island of St Helena was established by Royal Proclamation of 20 February 1815, , and certain rates of Postage thereby appointed to be paid for Letters transmitted from, or brought to the said Island.

An Ordinance to amend the Laws relating to the Post Office at St Helena, referring to the establishment of the Post Office in 1815



Signed, G, MIDDLEMORE.

AN ORDINANC

TO AMEND THE LAWS RELATING TO THE POST OFFICE AT ST, HELENA.

WHEREAS, by a Proclamation bearing date the 20th day of February, 1815.9 a Post Office was established at the Island of St. Helena, and certain rates of Postage thereby appointed to be paid for Letters transmitted from, or brought to the said Island; and whereas, it is expedient to alter the said rates, and make regulations for the management of the Post Office.

1.—Be it enacted, that from and after the 1st day of April, 1839, it shall be Postage of Letters lawful for the Post Master to demand, receive and take, to and for the use of Her to be levied ac-Majesty, her Heres and Soccessors, for the post and conveyance of all Letters, cording to scale. Packets, Newspapers, and periodical Publications, not specially exempted from Postage, by an Act passed in the First Year of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets by the Post free from the Duty of Postage," which shall be carried or conveyed to, or from the Island of St. Helena, according to the several Rates and Sums hereinafter mentioned, that is to say,

> For every single Letter..... 0s. 3½d. For every double Letter or other Letter, less than one ounce in weight 0s. For every ounce in weight...... 1s. Od.

For every Newspaper, Pamphlet, Magazine, Review, and other periodical Publication, which shall not have been previously charged with, or liable to Postage; and provided the same be without a cover, or in a cover open at the sides, each 1s. Od.

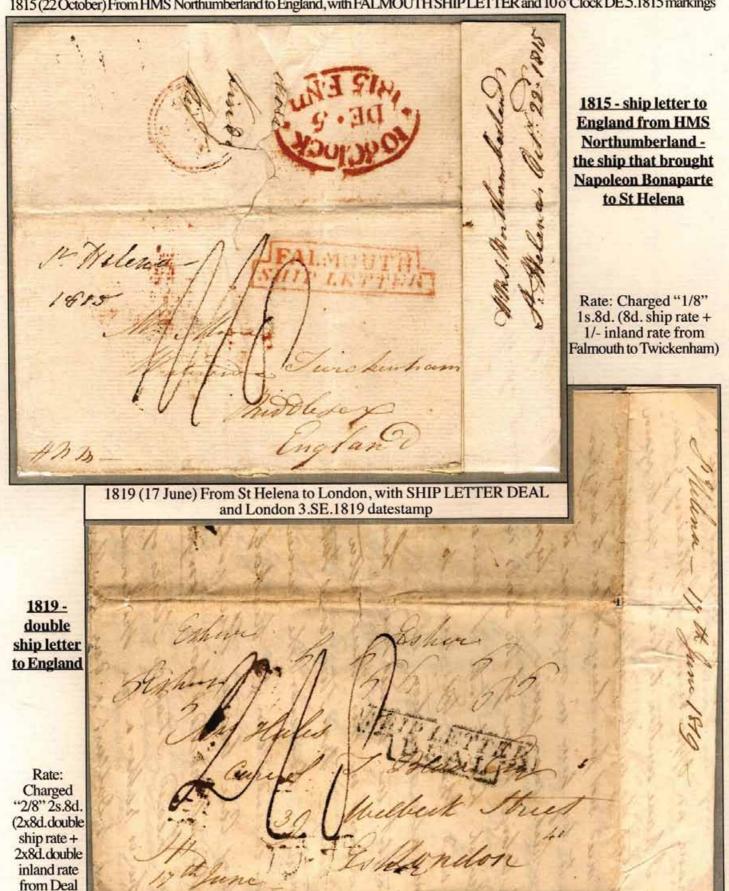
2.-And be it further enacted, that all single Letters sent by any Non-com- All single Letters missioned Officer, Seaman or Private in Her Majesty's Navy, Army, Artillery, or sent by any Non-Royal Marines, to any other place than Great Britain or Ireland, shall be subject ficer, Seaman or to the Postage of one penny only for the conveyance of any such Letter, to be paid Private of Her on the delivery at the Post Office; provided always, that on such Letter shall be Majesty's Service, to any other place. superscribed the name of the writer, and his class or description, in the Vessel, than Great Britain Regiment, Corps or Detachment, to which he shall belong; and that upon every to pay one penny such Letter, there shall be written in the hand-writing of, and signed by the Commanding Officer for the time being of the Ship or Vessel, Corps, Regiment or

1815 - establishment of the first Post Office on St Helena

SHIP LETTERS TO ENGLAND

Although a mail packet service was established with the newly opened Post Office, the packet rates were very high and ship mail continued to be the less expensive alternative, although the ship rate in England had increased to 8d. in 1815.

1815 (22 October) From HMS Northumberland to England, with FALMOUTH SHIPLETTER and 10 o'Clock DE 5.1815 markings



to London)

"BOOT LEG" AND PACKET MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

On 11 July 1815, the packet service between England and St Helena was introduced, and a fast and secure connection was established. The packet rate for mail was very high though, 3s.6d. for a single letter, so it is understandable that "Boot Leg" letters (carried by persons going near the destination and mailed there) became popular.

1816 (19 April) "Boot Leg" letter to England, with PORTSMOUTH 20 JU.1816 and 10 o'Clock JU.21.1816 datestamps



1816 "Boot Leg"
letter to
England,
mailed in
Portsmouth

Rate: Charged "8"d.(inland rate from Plymouth to Twickenham)

1816 - Double packet letter to Scotland, sent before the Packet Letter handstamp was introduced

Rate: Charged "9/4" 9s.4d. (2x3s.6d. double packet rate + 2x1s.2d. double inland rate from London to Ayr) + Scottish toll "½d." 1816 (23 May) Packet letter to Scotland, with INDIA PACKET LETTER LONDON 22.JY.1816 and GLASGOW datestamps

Grand English Company

THE "ST HELENA PACKET-LETTER" HANDSTAMP

The first Post Office was opened on 23 February 1815 with William Brabazon as Postmaster. With the arrival of Napoleon in October 1815 and his entourage, plus the additional troops to guard him, the population of the island almost doubled overnight. The first postmark of St Helena was introduced in August 1816 or earlier. Only 14 letters are known with this marking.

1816 (24 August) The earliest recorded example on packet letter to Scotland, with INDIA PACKET LETTER LONDON 16.0C.1816 and GLASGOW datestamps



Rate: Charged "4/8" 4s.8d. (3s.6d. packet rate + 1s.2d. inland rate from London to Ayr) + Scottish toll "2d."

1816 - "ST HELENA PACKET-LETTER", the earliest recorded example, on packet letter to Scotland

1817 (29 March) Packet letter to England, with London 26.MY.1817 datestamp

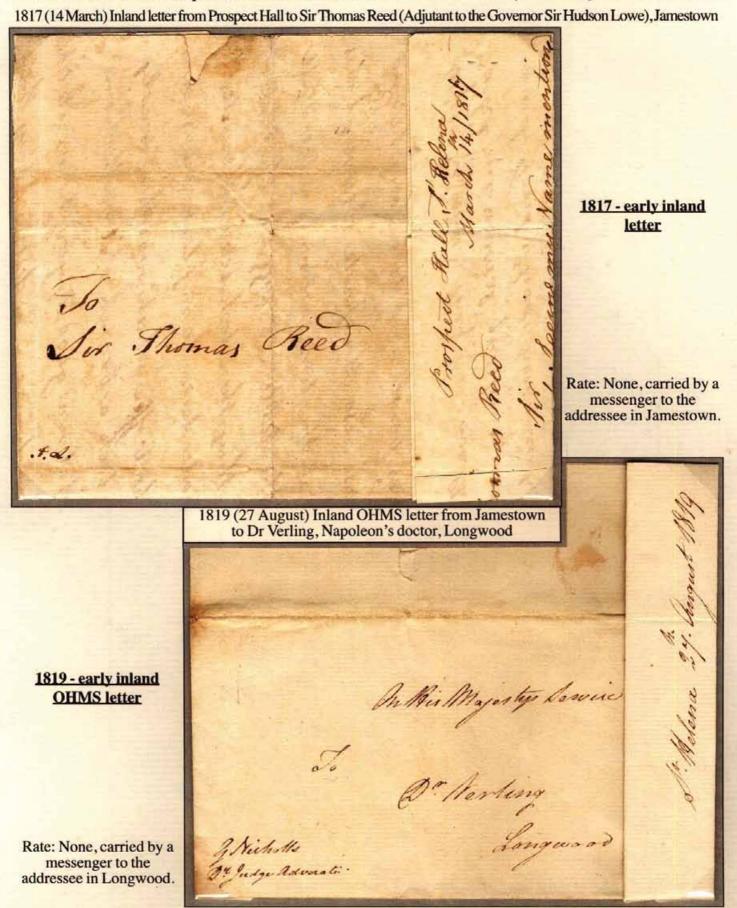


Rate: Charged "4/2" 4s.2d. (3s.6d. packet rate + 8d. inland rate from London to Wickham)

1817 - "ST HELENA PACKET-LETTER", on packet letter to England

EARLY INLAND MAIL

A proper inland mail service was not established until 1965, but by the end of the 19th century it was possible to send local mail although the sender had to leave his mail in the Post Office, and the addressee had to collect it in the same place! Earlier local mail had to be hand carried by a messenger to the addressee.



SOLDIERS CONCESSIONARY MAIL

From time to time, many Soldiers were stationed throughout the British Empire including St Helena. The high rates of postage were a real hardship to serving personnel and their families, and a concessionary rate of 1d. per letter was introduced as early as 1795. This rate also applied to mail sent to the serving personnel. These rates had to be prepaid.

1819 (26 April) Concessionary letter from Scotland to St Helena, with PAID and INDIA PACKET LETTER LONDON datestamps



Rate: Marked "P1" (Paid 1d.) in red (1d. Soldiers concessionary rate). The full postage + packet rate would have been 4s.8d.

1819 - Soldiers concessionary letter from Scotland to St Helena

SOLDIERS MAIL

Soldiers mail sent as ship mail was not forwarded at the concessionary rate, this only applied to packet mail. But when there were few packets, letters to and from soldiers were sent as ship mail and charged the full inland and ship rate.

1819 (16 August) Paid ship letter from Scotland to Sergt Rayside, 66th Regt, St Helena, with PAID SHIP LETTER LONDON marking



Rate: Marked "P1/11" (Paid 1s.11d.) inred, "Half Packet Rate" (1s.2d. Paisley to London + 2s.7d. packet rate from London = 3s.9d. divided in half)

1819 - Soldiers ship letter from Scotland to St Helena

1820 (9 October) Paid ship letter from Ireland to Sergt Rayside, 66th Regt, St Helena, with POST PAID SHIP LONDON marking

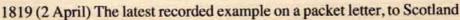


Rate: Marked "P 3/8" (Paid 3s.8d.) in red" (9d. Cashel to Dublin + 2d. Dublin to Holyhead packet + 1s. Holyhead to London + "Half Packet Rate" from London to the East Indies 3s.6d. divided in half = 1s.9d.)

1820 - Soldiers ship letter from Ireland to St Helena

THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE "ST HELENA PACKET-LETTER" HANDSTAMP

The Packet service was suspended on 12 July 1819 and the Post Office was virtually closed. Instead the India Letter system was introduced for mail to and from St Helena but there were no changes to the Ship Letter system. With the Packet service suspended, there was no longer a need for the Packet Letter handstamp and only one later example has been recorded.





Rate: Charged "4/7" 4s.7d. (3s.6d. packet rate + 1s.1d. inland rate from London to Edinburgh) + Scottish toll "2d."

1819 - "ST HELENA PACKET-LETTER", the latest recorded example on a packet letter, to Scotland

1820 (2 March) The latest recorded example, on ship letter to London, with SHIP LETTER marking



Rate: Charged "1/6" 1s.6d. (8d. ship rate to England + 10d. inland rate to London), correctly treated as a ship letter.

1820 - "ST HELENA PACKET-LETTER", the latest recorded example, to London.

The only known example after the Packet service was suspended in 1819

MAIL TO ST HELENA

After the Packet service had been suspended in 1819, the postal rates to St Helena were not clear. Some mail was sent paying the India Letter rates, although this was never officially sanctioned, whereas others paid the "Half Packet" rates.

1826 (6 January) Liverpool to St Helena via Cape of Good Hope, with POST PAID SHIP LR LONDON marking

1826 - Paid India Letter to the Governor of St Helena. via the Cape of Good Hope

Rate: Marked "1/1" 1s.1d. in red (11d. Liverpool to London + 2d. India Letter rate)



1827 (21 May) "Free" letter from London to the Governor's Wife, St Helena



1827 - "Free" letter to the wife of Governor Walker, St Helena

Rate: Free, official mail.

1830 (25 October) England to St Helena, with POST PAID SHIP LONDON

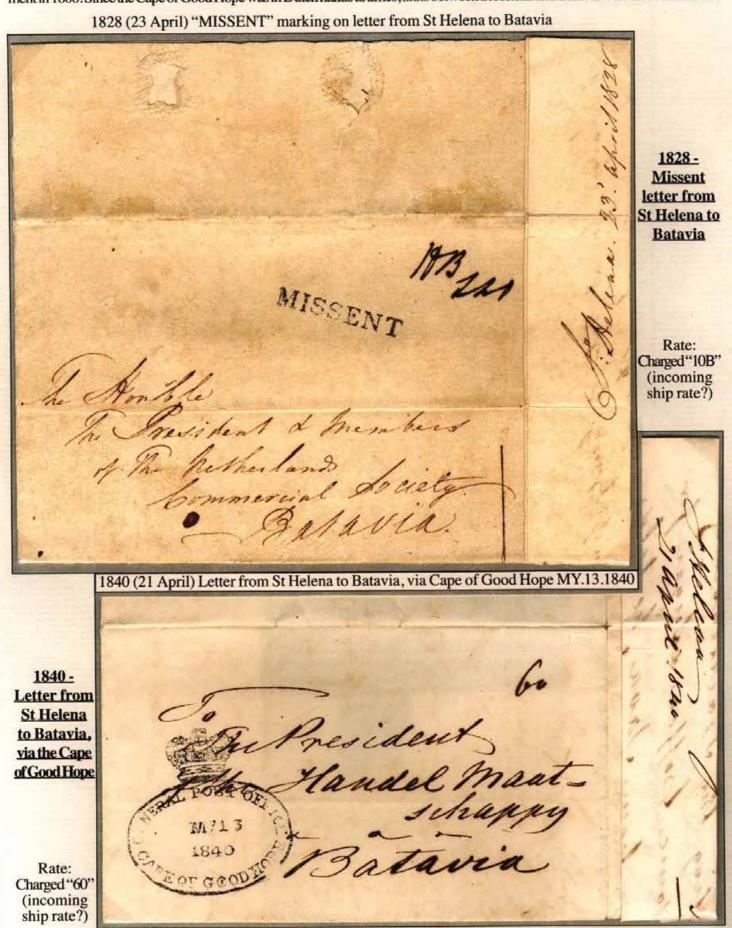
1830 - Paid ship letter to St Helena

Rate: Marked "Pd 1/7" (Paid 1s.7d.) in red, "Half Packet Rate" (7d. Launceston to Falmouth + 2s.7d. packet rate from London = 3s.2d. divided in half)



MAIL TO BATAVIA, DUTCH EAST INDIES

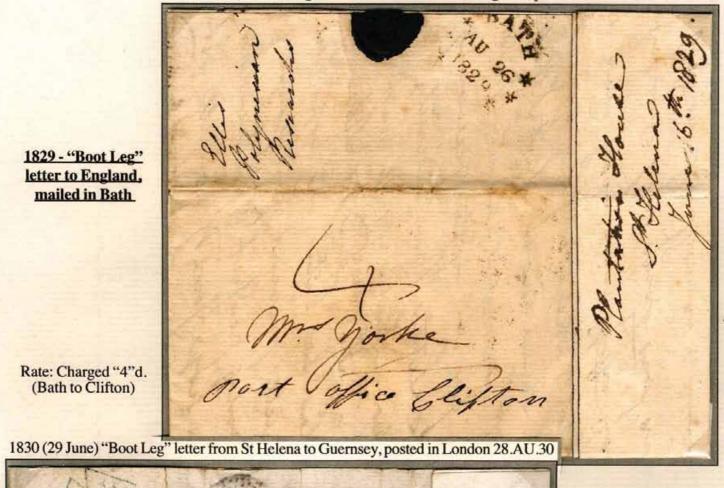
In 1619, the Dutch East India Company established itself in Batavia (now Jakarta, Indonesia), but it was taken over by the Dutch Government in 1800. Since the Cape of Good Hope was in Dutch hands at times, links between St Helena and Batavia were also established.



"BOOT LEG" MAIL

"Boot Leg" mail was letters carried privately (and at times secretly) by persons going to the country of destination, and which was then mailed in that country. Huge savings on postage costs could be made by using this method.

1829 (6 June) "Boot Leg" letter from St Helena to England, posted in BATH AU.26.1829



The all Surgerange The Sammary Mann Son

1830 - "Boot Leg" letter to Guernsey, mailed in London

Rate: Charged "1/1" 1s.1d. (10d. London to Weymouth + 3d. Weymouth to Guernsey)

SHIP MAIL TO THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE AND INDIA

Because of the influence from the East India Company, connections between St Helena, the Cape of Good Hope and India remained strong for as long as the Company was in charge. St Helena was returned to the British Crown in 1834.

1831 (24 June) From St Helena to Cape Town, marked "Per Diamond", with CAPE TOWN JY.26.1831 marking



1835 (6 November) From St Helena to India, with CAPEOFGOOD HOPEDE.17.1835 and MADRAS SHIPLETTER 19 FE.1836 marks



1835 ship letter to India, via the Cape of Good Hope

Rate: Charged "A4" 4 annas (2as ship rate + 2as inland rate)

DOUBLE USED LETTERS

During periods of shortage of paper, entire letters or letter sheets were sometimes turned inside out and re-used. If the original letter is still attached to the re-sent one, an interesting combination of markings and rates can be found.

1832(20 April) First use from St Helena to England, with SHIPLETTER crossed out and replaced with INDIA LETTER KINGSBRIDGE 1832 (1 June) Second use from WINDSOR to Peckham, Surrey



1832 - First use, India Letter from St Helena to England

Rate: Charged "1/3" 1s.3d. (4d. India Letter rate + 11d. inland rate from Kingsbridge to Peckham)

1832 - Second use, from Windsor to Peckham

Rate: Charged "6"d. (inland rate from Windsor to Peckham)

SHIP MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

Direct mail between St Helena and the United States was carried by private ships, in many cases whaling vessels returning from the South Atlantic with whale oil, or small trading vessels returning from the Far East with cargo.

1832 (17 May) Ship letter to Maine, marked "per Bark Derby, Capt Cheeves", with SALEM MS JUL.1 datestamp



1832 - ship

Rate: Charged "12" cents (2c ship rate + 10c inland rate from Salem to York)

1846 (20 July) Ship letter to New York, "by a Whaling Vessel direct", with EDGARTON MS SEP.21 datestamp

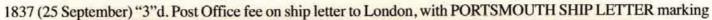


1846 - ship letter from St Helena to the United States by Whaling Vessel

Rate: Charged "7" cents (2c ship rate + 5c inland rate from **Édgarton** to Willseyville)

THE 3D. ST HELENA POST OFFICE FEE

In 1815, when the Post Office was opened, a St Helena Post Office fee of 3d. on outgoing mail was introduced. Exactly how and when this fee was charged is not known, but occasionally manuscript marks show the fee. A local Post Office of some form was maintained after 1819, and it is possible that this fee was charged for the handling of mail.



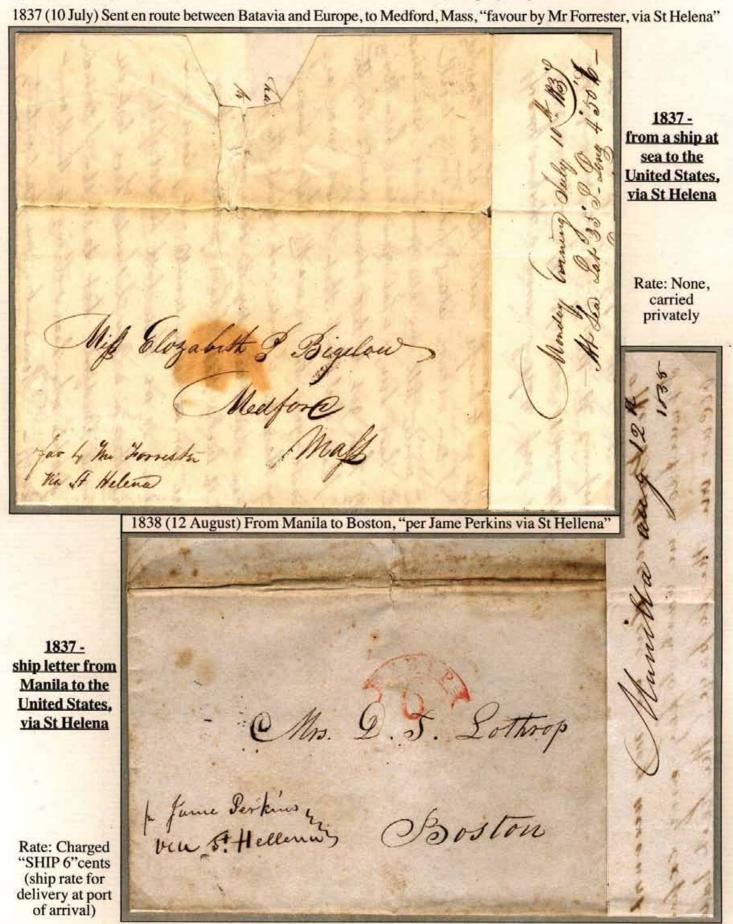


Rate: Marked "3"d. St Helena Post Office fee; charged "1/4" 1s.4d. (8d. ship rate + 8d. from Southampton to London)

1832 - 3d. St Helena Post Office fee, on ship letter to London

MAIL FROM THE FAR EAST TO THE UNITED STATES VIA ST HELENA

St Helena was an important transit port for mail from the Far East to the United States. Mail was forwarded by ships or people going to St Helena, where it was collected by ships going towards the United States.



"INDIA LETTERS" FROM OR VIA ST HELENA

Although the India Letter rates were never formally applied to mail from St Helena, letters charged these rates are not infrequent. The reason for this was that mail from St Helena was mixed with mail from India and the Cape of Good Hope.



"SHIP LETTERS" FROM ST HELENA

Mail from St Helena was supposed to be charged the ship letter rates rather than the cheaper India Letter rates. However, there was a confusion in the postal system, and letters were often incorrectly charged the India Letter rates.

1838 (1 February) From St Helena to London, with DARTMOUTH SHIP LETTER marking



1838 - double ship letter to London

Rate: Charged "3/2" 3s.2d. (2x8d double ship rate + 2x11d. double inland rate from Dartmouth to London)



1837 - single ship letter to London

Rate: Charged "8"d. (ship rate)

THE 35D. ST HELENA POST OFFICE FEE

In 1839, when the Post Office was re-opened, the St Helena Post Office fee on outgoing mail was increased to 3½d. Exactly how and when this fee was charged is not known, but it is possible that this fee was charged for the handling of mail.

1840 (6 February) "32" d. Post Office fee on ship letter to London, with PORTSMOUTH SHIPLETTER marking



1840 - 31d. St Helena Post Office fee. on ship letter to London

Rate: Marked "31"d. St Helena Post Office fee; charged "8"d. (8d. ship rate; no inland charge from 10 January 1840)

1840 (19 October) "31"d. Post Office fee on double ship letter to Canada, with SHIP LETTER marking

1840 - 31d. St Helena Post Office fee. on double ship letter to Canada

Rate: Marked "3½"d. St Helena Post Office fee and "St Helena prepaid to England"; charged "4/4" 4s.4d. (2x8d. double ship rate + 2x1s. double rate England to Canada + 1s. Canadian rate)



MAIL TO FRANCE

Mail to France could either be sent via England, or direct, as opportunities offered. The postal rates were in many cases rather complex, being a combination of ship rates, British rates and French rates.

1843 (27 December) From St Helena to London, re-directed to France, with DEAL SHIP LETTER and L.C.O. POSTAGE NOT PAID TO LONDON markings



Rate: Charged "8"d. (ship rate to England); charged "17" decimes (1Fr 70c) (ship rate + French inland rate)

1843 - ship letter to London, re-directed to France

1844 (8 June) From St Helena to Marseille, by ship direct to France



1844 - ship letter to France direct

Rate: Charged "11" decimes (1Fr 10c) (French ship rate + inland rate)

BULK MAIL FROM ST HELENA POSTED IN LONDON

Shipping Agents in St Helena sent circulars to advertise the businesses and services they could offer to ships arriving at the island. To save postage costs, these circulars were bulk posted to England, and mailed from there.

1844 (February) Circular sent by Saul Solomon and Thomas Baker, to France, posted in London with PAID 27.DE.44 datestamp

1844 - circular from St Helena to France, posted in London

Rate: Marked "10"d. in red and PD (Paid to Destination) (10d. rate from England to France)



1855 (29 June) Circular sent by Solomon & Moss, to London, posted in London with a GB 1d stamp postmarked AU.9.55



1855 circular from St Helena to London, posted in London

Rate: 1d. British inland rate

ORIGINAL AND DUPLICATE LETTERS

During the days of sailing ships, mail quite often did not arrive at its destination, but disappeared on the way, either being shipwrecked, looted by pirates, or stolen in transit. Therefore it was normal for businesses to send their correspondence in duplicates, using different ships for the original and the duplicate letters.

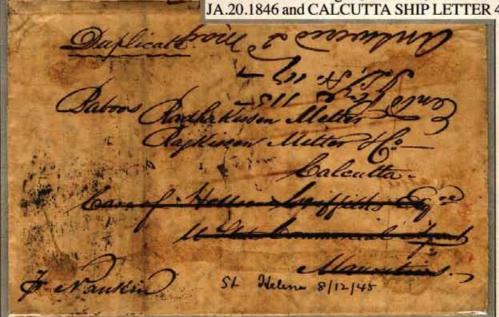
1845 (8 December) Original from St Helena to Calcutta, per "Rustonyio Corvasjie", via US Commercial Agent, Mauritius, with MAURITIUS POST OFFICE JA.24.1846 and CALCUTTA SHIP LETTER 14. March. 46 datestamps

1845 - "Original" from St Helena to Calcutta, via Mauritius, arrived 14 March 1846

Rate: Charged "4-6" 4as 6pies (2as ship rate + 2as 6p inland rate)



1845 (8 December) Duplicate from St Helena to Calcutta, per "Nankin", via US Commercial Agent, Mauritius, with MAURITIUS POST OFFICE JA.20.1846 and CALCUTTA SHIP LETTER 4.April.46 datestamps



1845 - "Duplicate" from St Helena to Calcutta, via Mauritius, arrived 4 April 1846

Rate: Charged "4-6" 4as 6pies (2as ship rate + 2as 6p inland rate)

MAIL FROM ENGLAND TO ST HELENA

A new Packet service to St Helena was introduced in August 1848 at the rate of 1s. per half ounce. But it was still possible to send letters as ship mail and the rate for this was 8d. per half ounce until 1854, and 6d. thereafter.

1852(30 July) Paid packet letter from Bath to St Helena via Ascension, marked "By Extra Mail to Cape or other Ship" and "Recd Sept 14th 52 pr HMS Bloodhound from Ascension"



1852 - paid packet letter to St Helena, via Ascension

Rate: Marked "1/-" 1s. in red (packet rate to St Helena)

1851 (5 April) Gosport to St Helena "per Scritian", carried privately

Justice 1851

1851 - letter to St Helena carried privately

Rate: None, carried privately.

G. W. Mellifs and Lawyor Las

1854 (11 July) Paid ship letter from Waterford to St Helena, "By Earl of Derby or first vessel"



1854 - paid ship letter to St Helena

Rate: Marked "8"d. in red (ship rate to St Helena temporarily reverted to 8d. between April and October 1854 because

there were no packets) and "3"d. (St Helena's share)

THE "ST HELENA" OVAL DATESTAMP - IN RED

In 1854 a request was made by the St Helena Postmaster, J McDaniel, that he be supplied with sixpenny postage stamps and a steel shifting stamp. The steel shifting stamp referred to was the oval datestamp which was introduced in 1855. From 1855 to 1862, and also from 1868 to 1870 impression are mostly in red.

1855 (29 March) The earliest known example, on paid ship letter to France, via London

1855 - the earliest known example, on paid ship letter to France

Rate: Marked "1s/1d" in red (1s.4d, rate to France for ½oz; 1s.1d. credited to England + 3d. St Helena's share of the ship rate)



1856 (26 March) Ship letter to Cape Town

lomas madear los ANS. Royal Hoervatory, Cape Foron, Cape food Hope

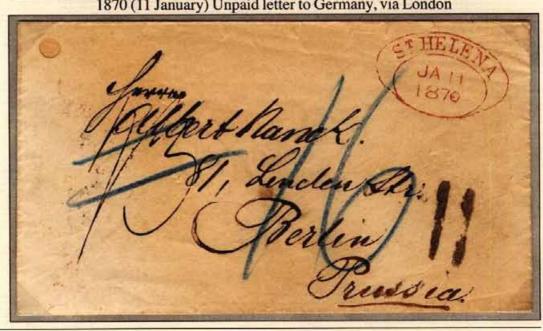
1856 - ship letter to Cape Town

Rate: Marked "3½"d.(St Helena Post Office fee); nofurthermarkings.

1870 (11 January) Unpaid letter to Germany, via London

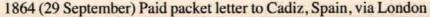
1870 - unpaid letter to Germany

Rate: Charged "1/5" (1s.5d. rate to Germany, converted to 14SGr + 2Sgr for local delivery)



THE "ST HELENA" OVAL DATESTAMP - IN BLUE

Between 1864 and 1868 most impressions of this datestamp are in blue, but there seems to be no logical explanation for this colour; both paid and unpaid mail is known with blue impressions.





Rate: Marked "1/4" (1s.4d.) in red (packet rate to Spain); charged "2" cuartos for local delivery.

1864 - paid packet letter to Spain

1866 (7 March) Unpaid packet letter to England



Rate: Charged "2/-" 2s. (double 1s. packet rate charged on unpaid mail. Prepayment was compulsory from 1858)

1866 - unpaid packet letter to England

THE "ST HELENA" OVAL DATESTAMP - IN BLACK

Between 1863 and 1864, but also later, examples of this handstamp are found in black. It is possible that the idea behind black impressions was that they should be used on unpaid mail, but red examples are also found on unpaid mail.

1868 (31 July) Unpaid ship letter to England



Rate: Charged "8"d. (double 4d. ship rate charged on unpaid mail. Prepayment was compulsory from 1858)

1868 - unpaid ship letter to London

1870 (10 September) The latest known example, on unpaid cover to France, via London



Rate: Charged "10" decimes (1Fr) = 10d. (8d. rate to France + 2 decimes French fine for non-prepayment)

1870 - the latest known example, on unpaid cover to France

ANGLO-FRENCH ACCOUNTANCY MARKINGS - "COLONIES ART-18" AND "GB 1F60C"

The first Anglo-French Postal Convention came into use in 1843, and was followed by many more. The "COLONIES ART" handstamps showed in which column ("Article") unpaid letters should be entered on the Way Bill. This in turn determined the charge for the mail. The "GB" + different amounts handstamps showed the bulk rate per 30 grams of mail.

1856 (17 April) "COLONIES ART-18" on unpaid ship letter to France, via London



Rate: First charged "6"d. and marked "3" d. (6d. ship rate to England; St Helena's share 3d.); charged "15" decimes (1Fr 50c) (the total British and French charges)

1856 - "COLONIES ART-18" on unpaid ship letter from St Helena to France - Rare, only two examples known!

1857 (21 March) "GB 1F 60C" on unpaid ship letter to France, via London



Rate: Charged "8"d. (= 8 decimes) and marked "3" d. (8d. rate to France; St Helena's share 3d.)

1857 - "GB 1F 60C" on unpaid ship letter from St Helena to France - Very scarce

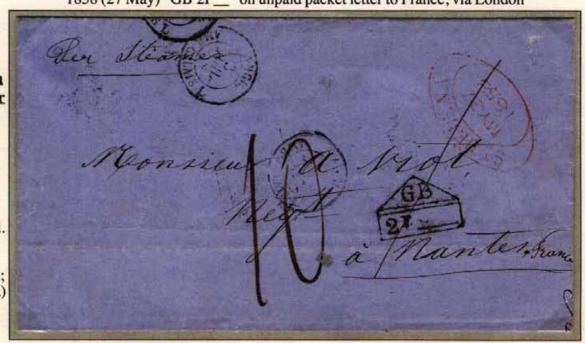
ANGLO-FRENCH ACCOUNTANCY MARKINGS - "GB 2F" AND "GB 2F87C 5/10"

The "GB" + different amounts handstamps showed the bulk rate per 30 grams of unpaid mail, according to the Anglo French Postal Conventions. All these markings are very scarce on mail from St Helena.

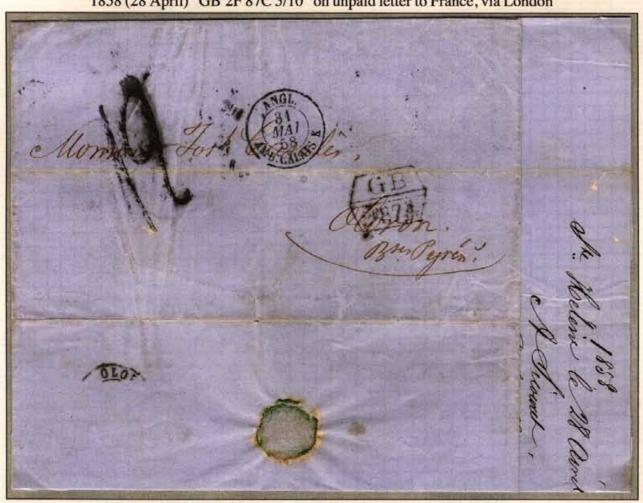
1858 (27 May) "GB 2F_" on unpaid packet letter to France, via London

1858 - "GB 2F " on unpaid packet letter from St Helena to France - Rare!

Rate: Charged "10"d. (= 10 decimes) and marked "1" d. (10d. packet rate to France; St Helena's share 1d.)



1858 (28 April) "GB 2F 87C 5/10" on unpaid letter to France, via London



Rate: Charged "12" decimes (= 1Fr 20c) (rate to France)

1858 - "GB 2F 87C 5/10" on unpaid letter from St Helena to France - Rare!

MAIL TO SPAIN

Mail to Spain could either be sent all the way through the postal system via England, or by using a Forwarding Agent in London, who would hand over the mail to the Post Office there.

1853 (23 November) From St Helena to Spain, marked "Care of Messrs D Dunbar & Sons, Limehouse, London"

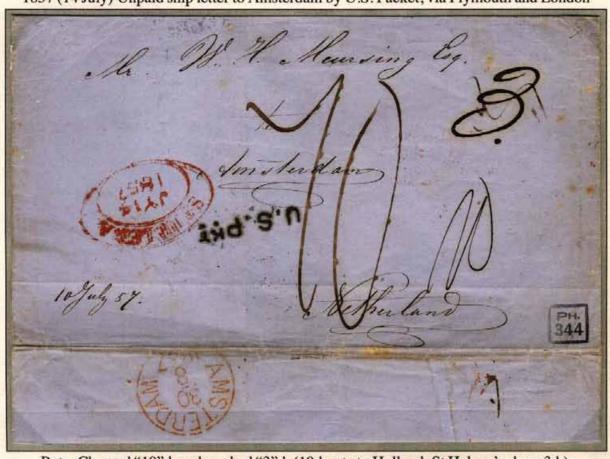


England + 1d. St Helena's share)

MAIL TO THE NETHERLANDS

Mail to the Netherlands was rather straight forward, but there were options of sending it as packet mail or ship mail, and whether sending it prepaid or unpaid, part of or all the way. As expected, different rates were also in use.

1857 (14 July) Unpaid ship letter to Amsterdam by U.S. Packet, via Plymouth and London



Rate: Charged "10"d. and marked "3"d. (10d. rate to Holland; St Helena's share 3d.); charged "70"cents (10d. = 50cents + 20cents for local delivery)

1857 - unpaid ship letter to the Netherlands, by U.S. Packet

1862 (30 July) Paid ship letter to Amsterdam, via London, not carried by Royal Mail Steamer



1862 - paid ship letter to the Netherlands

Rate: Marked "8"d.
in red (11d. rate to
Holland; 6d. ship
rate to England + 5d.
GPO rate to Holland;
8d. credited to
England + 3d. St
Helena's share);
charged "20"cents
for local delivery.

COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE

Compulsory prepayment of postage between Great Britain and St Helena (and vice versa) was introduced on 1 October 1858.

1858 (10 September) British Post Office Notice regarding Compulsory Prepayment

No. 37, 1858.

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COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON LETTERS FOR BARBADOES, TRINIDAD, AND ST. HELENA.

On the 1st October next, and thenceforward, the compulsory prepayment of postage will be extended to all letters addressed to

BARBADOES,
TRINIDAD, and
ST. HELENA.

The postage also of letters posted in those Colonies, addressed to the United Kingdom, will be required to be prepaid by the senders.

ROWLAND HILL,

Secretary.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, 10th September, 1858.



R P 9500 9-58 (5358)

1858-59 STAMPS UNAVAILABLE

During the second half of 1858 until the first quarter of 1859 there were no stamps available in St Helena. Therefore paid mail from this period does not bear any stamps. Prepayment of postage was compulsory from October 1858, but prepayment of postage by stamps was not compulsory until July 1863.

1858 (20 September) Paid packet letter to France, via London



Rate: Marked "1/-" (1s.) in red (1s.1d. rate to France; 6d. packet rate to England + 7d. GPO rate to France for ½oz; 1s. credited to England + 1d. St Helena's share)

1858 - paid packet letter to France

1859 (28 March) Paid packet letter to Greenwich



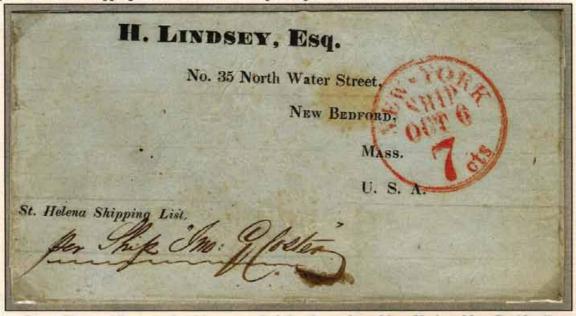
Rate: Marked "5"d. in red (6d. packet rate to England; 5d. credited to England + 1d. St Helena's share)

1859 - paid packet letter to England

UNPAID SHIP MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

For obvious reasons there were no direct packets from St Helena to the United States, packet mail had to be routed through England. There seems to have been plenty of ships though, so most letters were sent as ship mail.

1850 (c) Unpaid "St Helena Shipping List" to New Bedford, "per Ship Jno E Coster", with NEW YORK SHIP OCT.67cts marking



Rate: Charged 7 cents (2c ship rate + 5c inland rate from New York to New Bedford)

1850 - unpaid ship letter to the United States

1859 (4 January) Unpaid ship letter from Carrol & Kimball to Bath, Maine, via Boston, with SHIP and "5" markings



Rate: Charged "SHIP 5" cents (2c ship rate + 3c inland rate from Boston to Bath, Maine)

1859 - unpaid ship letter to the United States

PAID MAIL TO AND FROM THE UNITED STATES

From the 1850's onwards it gradually became possible to prepay the postage for mail between St Helena and the United States. The rate was 1s.2d. per half ounce between 1854 and 1863, and 1s.5d. per half ounce between 1863 and 1870.

1862 (1 July) Paid packet letter to New Bedford, via London, with N YORK BR PKT 5(cents) AUG.12 marking



Rate: Marked "1/1" (1s.1d.) in red (1s.2d. packet rate to USA; 1s.1d. credited to England + 1d. St Helena's share)

1862 - paid packet letter to the United States, by British Packet

1859 (22 April) Paid packet letter from SAGHARBOR, NY, to St Helena, via London, with NEW-YORK AMPKT APR.23 marking



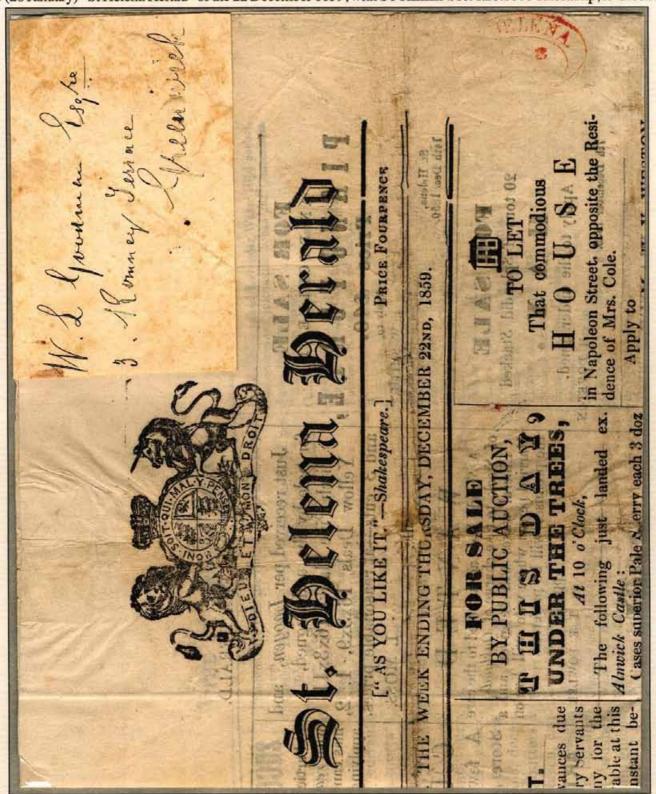
1859 - paid packet letter from the United States to St Helena, by American Packet

Rate: Marked "PAID 33"cents and "12" cents (33c rate to St Helena; 12c credited to England); also marked "1"d. in red (St Helena's share)

EARLY NEWSPAPER RATES

Newspaper rates from St Helena are first mentioned in 1839, when the rate was 1d. each to Great Britain. This rate was repeated in 1854 and 1863, and at the later date Newspapers could also be sent to most other countries at 2d. each.

1860 (28 January) "St Helena Herald" of the 22 December 1859, with ST HELENA JA.28.1860 datestamp, to Greenwich



Rate: Unmarked, but the Newspaper rate att this time was 1d. each. 1d. stamps were not issued until 1863.

1860 - Newspaper to England, with St Helena postmark

SOLDIERS CONCESSIONARY MAIL

From time to time, many Soldiers were stationed throughout the British Empire including St Helena. The high rates of postage were a real hardship to serving personnel and their families, and a concessionary rate of 1d. per letter was introduced as early as 1795. This rate also applied to mail sent to the serving personnel. These rates had to be prepaid.

1860 (26 February) Soldiers Concessionary letter from St Helena to Glasgow, counter signed by the Commanding Officer

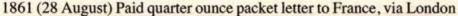


Rate: Marked "1"d. in red (1d. Soldiers concessionary rate, prepaid)

1860 - Soldiers concessionary letter from St Helena to Scotland

PAID MAIL TO FRANCE

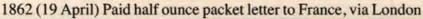
The rates to France were particularly complicated because the French calculated their rates per 7½ grams (about quarter ounce) whereas the British calculated their rates per half ounce (about 14 grams). Therefore rates to France were per quarter ounce.





Rate: Marked "7"d. in red (8d. rate per quarter ounce to France; 7d. credited to England + 1d. St Helena's share)

1861 - paid quarter ounce packet letter to France





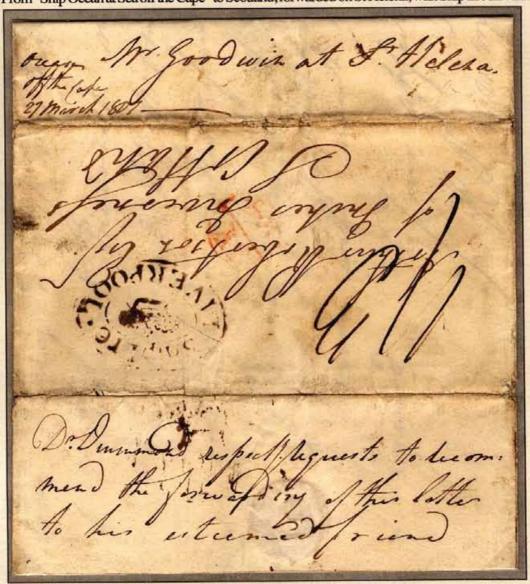
Rate: Marked "1/2" (1s.2d.) in red (double 8d. rate per quarter ounce to France; 1s.2d. credited to England + 2d. St Helena's share)

1862 - paid half ounce packet letter to France

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - THE EARLIEST KNOWN EXAMPLE

In the 19th century St Helena became an important point for forwarded mail and several Forwarding Agents established themselves on the island. A Forwarding Agent is a person or firm who undertakes to see that the goods or correspondence of another are transported without himself acting as the carrier. The official Postal system prior to 1874 for the transport of mail from one country to another was unreliable, expensive and slow, and the public, and particularly business houses, frequently preferred to use private means of communication rather than the Mail Packets. The Forwarding Agent would hand a letter directly to the captain of a ship for transmission either to its destination or to another forwarding agent en route.

1807 (27 March) From "Ship Ocean at Sea off the Cape" to Scotland, forwarded on St Helena, with Ship Lre LIVERPOOL marking



Rate: Charged "1/3" 1s.3d. (4d. ship rate to England + 11d. inland rate from Liverpool to Inverness)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Dr Drummond respectf, requests to recommend the forwarding of this letter to his esteemed friend Mr Goodwin at St Helena".

1807 - the earliest known letter forwarded on St Helena!

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - MISSENT LETTER

Ships sailing from India to Europe quite often bypassed the Cape of Good Hope because of the way the winds blow. Instead they stopped at St Helena and dropped off goods and mail to be forwarded to the Cape with the next available ship.

1830(12 July) From Brazil to Cape Town, missent to India and forwarded on St Helena, with MADRAS SHIP LETTER 28.OC.1830 marking



Rate: None indicated; possibly a flat ship letter rate charged upon arrival in Cape Town.

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Recd at St Helena 6 January 1831" without indication of the name of the forwarding agent.

1830 - from Brazil to Cape Town, missent to India, forwarded on St Helena!

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - BATAVIA TO LONDON

Saul Solomon was born in 1776 at Canterbury, Kent, England. As a young man he sailed for India but fell ill during the voyage. He was put ashore at St Helena where he started up his merchant business. He is one of the best known forwarding agents of St Helena.

1832 (23 September) From Batavia to London, forwarded on St Helena, with INDIA LETTER FALMOUTH marking



Rate: Marked "1oz", charged "4/4" 4s.4d. (4d. India Letter rate + 4x1s. quadruple rate between Falmouth and London)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by your obed Servant S. Solomon 27 Nov 1832".

1832 - from Batavia to London, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - BATAVIA TO USA

Batavia on the island of Java (now Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia) was the main city in the Dutch East Indies, and one the centres of trade between the Far East and the Western world, with many ships arriving and departing.

1833 (30 April) From Batavia to Providence, USA, forwarded on St Helena, with SALEM, MAS SEP.21 and SHIP markings



Rate: Charged "12" cents (2c. ship rate + 10c. inland rate from Salem to Providence)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded pr Neptune of Salem by yours obediently S. Solomon St Helena 1 August 1833".

1833 - from Batavia to USA, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - ST HELENA TO CALCUTTA

Letters written on board ships travelling between the Far East and Europe were often dropped off at St Helena, to be forwarded to its destination by another ship, and this was taken care of by the Forwarding Agents on the island.

1834(13 March) From a ship bound for St Helena, to Calcutta, forwarded on St Helena, with MADRAS SHIPLETTER 2 JY.1834 marking



Rate: Charged "Inld Ptge 1R8a, Ship Do 3a, = 1R11a" (3as ship rate + 1R8a inland rate from Madras to Calcutta)

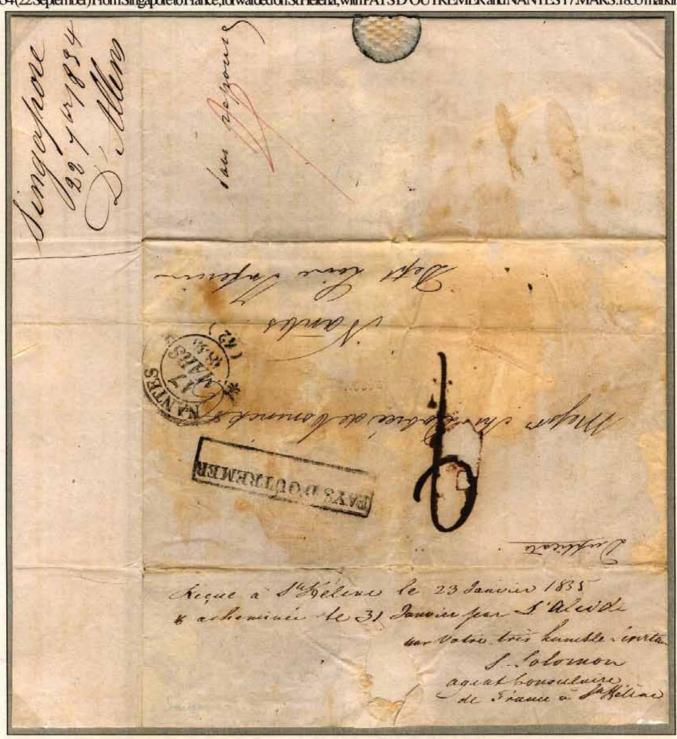
Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by your obed Servant S. Solomon 6 April 1834".

1834 - from a ship bound for St Helena, to India, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - SINGAPORE TO FRANCE

A few letters are known where Saul Solomon wrote his Forwarding Agents note in French rather than in English. These letters are normally addressed to France or other French speaking territories, which would explain the choice of language.

1834(22 September) From Singapore to France, forwarded on St Helena, with PAYS D'OUTREMER and NANTES 17. MARS. 1835 markings



Rate: Charged "9" decimes (=90 centimes) (French ship and inland rates)

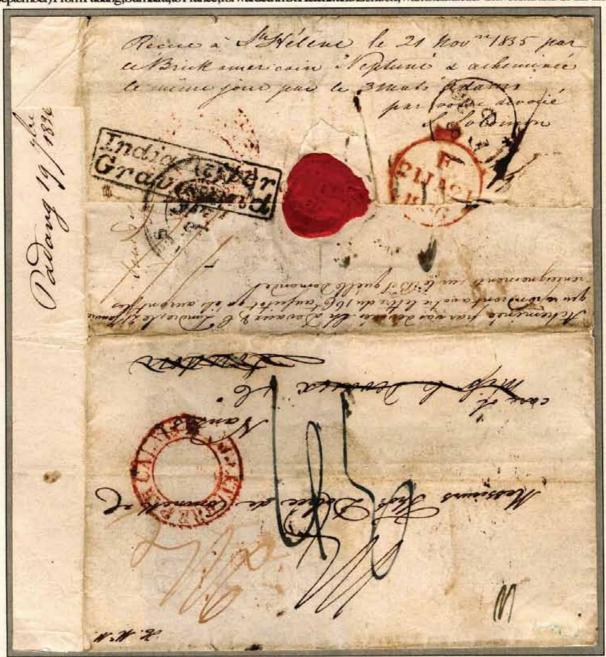
Forwarding Agent: Marked "Recue a Ste Helene le 23 Janvier 1835 & achemnée le 31 Janvier par L'Alcide par votre tres humble Serviteur S. Solomon, Agent Consulaire de France a Ste Helene".

1834 - from Singapore to France, forwarded on St Helena (in French)

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - SUMATRA TO FRANCE

Sometimes letters were sent through two Forwarding Agents before reaching their destination. The reason for this was that it was considered safer to send mail through Forwarding Agents than to entrust it to the Postal Authorities.

1835 (19 September) From Padang, Sumatra, to France, forwarded in St Helena and London, with India Letter Gravesend and CALAIS markings



Rate: Charged"1/4" 1s.4d. (4d. India Letter rate + 2x6d. double rate between Gravesend and London); marked "2/4" (2s.4d.) in red (2x1s.2d. prepaid double rate to France); charged "34" decimes (=3Fr 40c) (French inland rate)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Recue a Ste Helene le 21 Nov.re 1835 par le Brick americain 'Neptune' & acheminée le meme jour par le 3mats 'Adams' par votre devocié S. Solomon".

Second Forwarding Agent: Marked "Acheminée par Ch Devaux & Co, Londres le 21 Janvier...".

1835 - from Sumatra to France, forwarded on St Helena (in French), and in London

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - USA TO CHINA

China was another important centre for trade between the Far East and the Western world, and most countries were represented or had agents there. The Forwarding Agents on St Helena also handled mail to and from China.

1836 (14 March) From USA (probably) to Canton, forwarded on St Helena, with CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 3. SEP. 1836 marking



Rate: None indicated, possibly carried privately all the way.

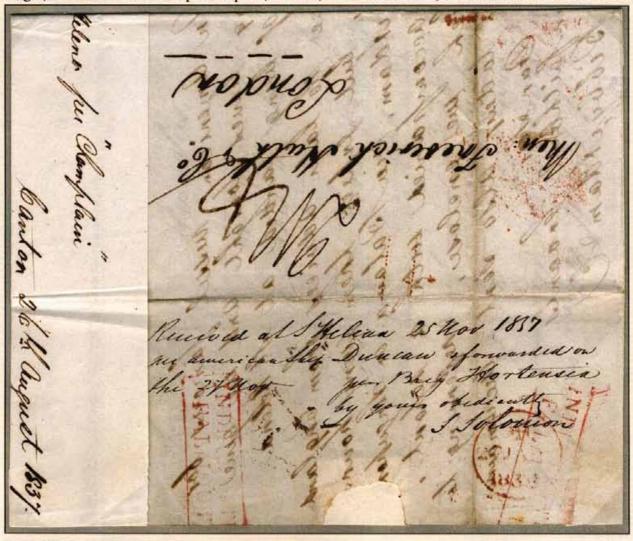
Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena May 30/36 by your ob.t Servant S Solomon".

1836 - from USA to China, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - CHINA TO LONDON

In the 1830's only American ships were allowed to call at Canton, so this necessitated transshipment of mail to other vessels at later ports of call. St Helena was an important such port used for the transfer of mail.

1837(26 August) From Canton "via St Helenaper Champlain", to London, forwarded on St Helena, with INDIALETTER FALMOUTH marking



Rate: Charged "2/4" 2s.4d. (4d. India Letter rate + 2x1s. double rate between Falmouth and London)

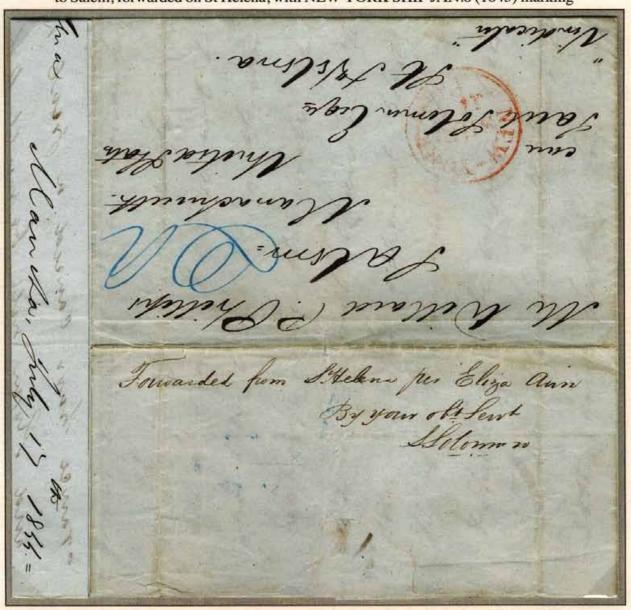
Forwarding Agent: Marked "Received at St Helena 25 Nov 1837 per american Ship Duncan & forwarded on the 27 Nov per Brig Hortensia by yours obediently S Solomon".

1837 - from China to London, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - MANILA TO USA

Manila, the capital of the Philippine Islands, was controlled by the Spanish for more than 300 years, and it was the Spanish main centre for their trade with the Far East during this period.

1844 (17 July) From Manila per "Vindicater, care (of) Saul Solomon Esqre, St Helena", to Salem, forwarded on St Helena, with NEW YORK SHIP JAN.8 (1845) marking



Rate: Charged "20¾" cents (2c. ship rate + 18¾c. inland rate from New York to Salem)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena per Eliza Ann By your ob.t Serv.t S. Solomon".

1844 - from Manila to USA, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SAUL SOLOMON - CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TO JAVA

Mail forwarded on St Helena going East, is considerably much scarcer than mail going West. The reason for this is that most eastbound ships would be carried much further South by the winds, which around St Helena predominantly blows towards the West.

1845 From or via Cape of Good Hope to Samarang, Java, forwarded on St Helena, with CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 1845 marking



Rate: Charged "60" cents (incoming ship rate?)

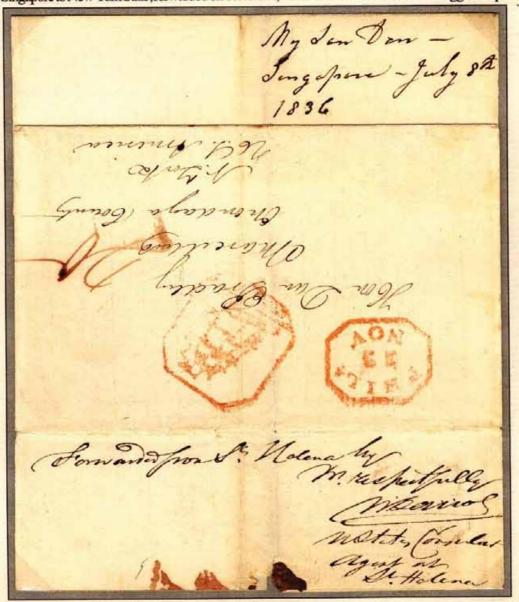
Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena 5 May 1845 by your ob.t Servant S Solomon".

1845 - from the Cape of Good Hope to Java, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - WILLIAM CARROL - SINGAPORE TO USA

William Carrol was the United States Commercial Agent on St Helena from 1831 until 1847. In 1860 he was appointed United States Consul on St Helena. He also acted as Forwarding Agent during most of this period.

1836(8 July) From Singapore to New York State, forwarded on St Helena, with PHILA NOV.13 and Full Rigged Ship in octagon markings



Rate: Charged "20%" cents (2c. ship rate + 18%c. inland rate from Philadelphia to Marcillus, New York)

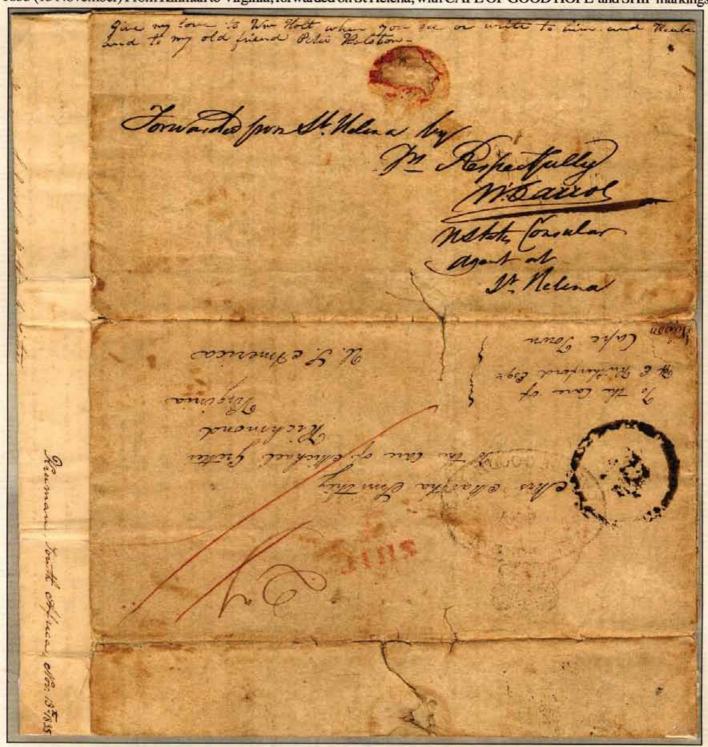
Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by Yrs respectfully W Carrol, U States Consular Agent at St Helena".

1836 - from Singapore to USA, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - WILLIAM CARROL - CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TO USA

Mail from the Cape of Good Hope to the United States would quite frequently be forwarded via St Helena since there were few ships going directly; many American ships would bypass the Cape because of the way the winds blow.

1835 (13 November) From Kinman to Virginia, forwarded on St Helena, with CAPE OF GOOD HOPE and SHIP markings



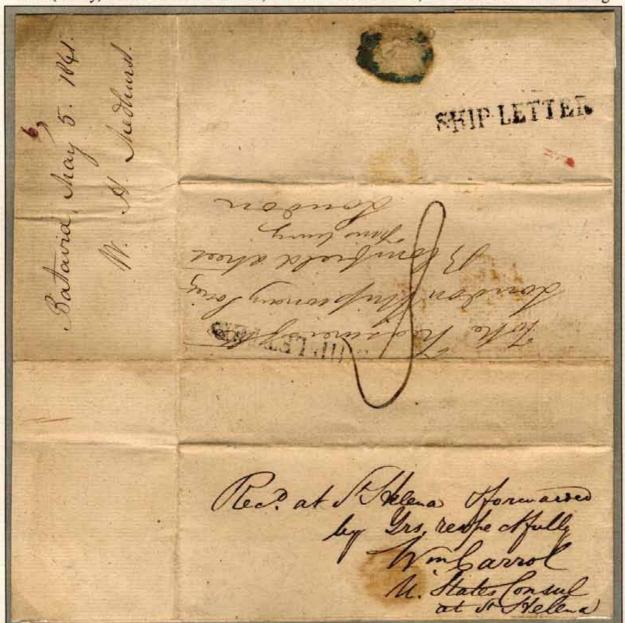
Rate: Charged "27" cents (2c. ship rate + 25c. inland rate to Richmond, Virginia)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by Yrs Respectfully W Carrol, U States Consular Agent at St Helena".

1835 - from the Cape of Good Hope to USA, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - WILLIAM CARROL - BATAVIA TO LONDON

Although William Carrol was not officially appointed as the United States Consul until 1860, there are examples of forwarded letters where he used that title long before 1860, so he may have been that unofficially.



1841 (5 May) From Batavia to London, forwarded on St Helena, with SHIP LETTER marking

Rate: Charged "8"d. (ship rate to England)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Rec.d at St Helena & forwarded by Yrs respectfully Wm Carrol, U States Consul at St Helena".

1841 - from Batavia to London, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - US CONSUL - SINGAPORE TO USA

Examples of forwarded letters are recorded which are signed "US Consul" only, without a name. These are not in the same handwriting as those signed by W Carrol, so they are likely to have been handled by somebody in Carrol's office.

1842 (9 November) From Singapore to Boston, forwarded in Singapore and St Helena, with red BOSTON marking



Rate: None indicated but probably charged 6 cents (ship rate for delivery at port of arrival)

Forwarding Agent: Cachet "FORWARDED BY BALESTIER, SINGAPORE"
Second Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by The U States Consul".

1842 - from Singapore to USA, forwarded in Singapore, and on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - US CONSULAR AGENT - BANGKOK TO USA

Examples of forwarded letters are recorded which are signed "US Consular Agent" only, without a name. These are not in the same handwriting as those signed by W Carrol, so they are likely to have been handled by somebody in Carrol's office.

1844 (11 January) From Bangkok to Ohio, forwarded on St Helena, with SHIP and NEW LONDON Conn JUL.8 markings



Rate: Charged "27" cents (2c. ship rate + 25c. inland rate from New London to Ohio)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by the U States Consular Agent".

1844 - from Bangkok to USA, forwarded on St Helena

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SOLOMON & MOSS

In 1814 Saul Solomon's brother Joseph married Hannah Moss, the daughter of Isaac Moss, a boot and shoemaker. When they joined the forwarding and shipping business it became known as Solomon & Moss.

1839 (31 October) From Surabaya to the Cape of Good Hope "Via St Helena", forwarded on St Helena

1839 - from Surabaya, Java, to the Cape of Good Hope, forwarded on St Helena

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded by your obed.t Serv.t Solomon & Moss".

Rate: Charged "4"d. (incoming ship rate)

Jonas Red by your chilt land

1853(15 July) From St Helena to France via London, forwarded on St Helena, with COLONIES & C. ART. 13 marking

Just Manner of x frame frame

on St Helena

1853 - from St Helena to France, forwarded

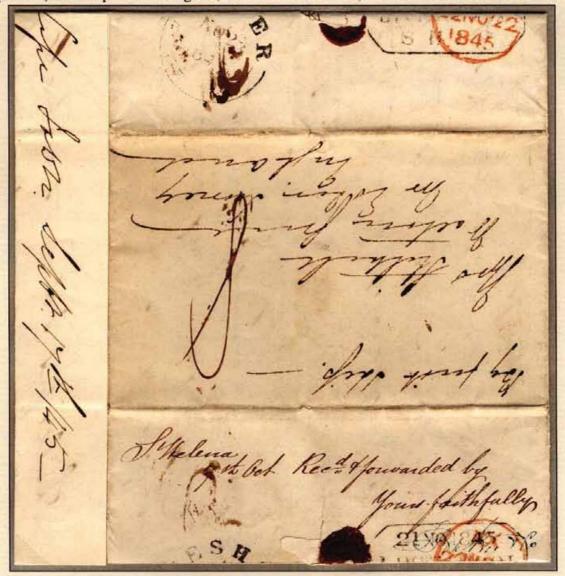
Forwarding Agent: Marked "St Helena July 1853 forw by your ob.t Servants Solomon & Moss".

Rate: Charged
"15"decimes (= 1Fr 50c)
(British rate +
French inland rate)

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - THOMAS BAKER

Thomas Baker was a Shipping and Forwarding Agent but little is known about him and his business. Only three items of forwarded mail have been recorded with his markings, one in manuscript and one each of the Forwarding Agents Cachets FAC3 and FAC4.

1845 (17 September) From Cape Town to England, forwarded on St Helena, with LIVERPOOL SHIP 21 NO.1845 marking



Rate: Charged "8"d. (ship rate to England)

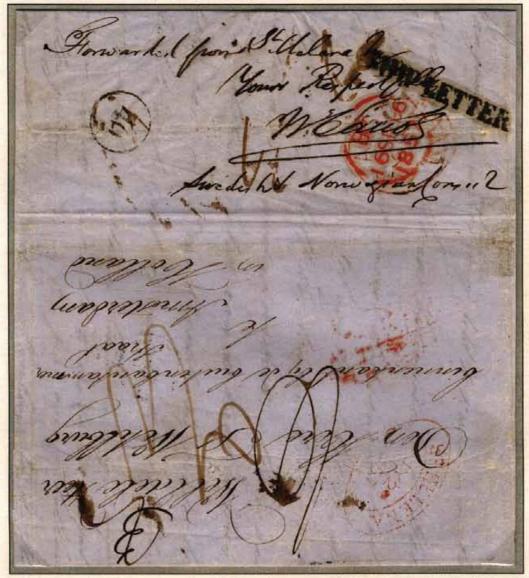
Forwarding Agent: Marked "St Helena 1st Oct Rec.d & forwarded by Yours faithfully T Baker & Co".

1845 - forwarded by "T Baker & Co" in manuscript - Unique!

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - SWEDISH & NORWEGIAN CONSUL

Besides being the United States Commercial Agent (later Consul) on St Helena, William Carrol was also the Swedish & Norwegian Consul on St Helena between 1843 and 1873. One item of forwarded mail is recorded where he used this title in his endorsement.

1857 (27 July) From St Helena to Amsterdam, forwarded on St Helena, with ST HELENA JY 29.1857 and SHIP LETTER markings



Rate: Charged "10"d. and marked "3"d. (10d. rate to Holland; St Helena's share 3d.); charged "70"cents (10d. = 50cents + 20cents for local delivery)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded from St Helena by Yours Respectfully W Carrol Swedish & Norwegian Consul".

1857 - forwarded by the "Swedish & Norwegian Consul" - Unique!

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - NICHOLS BROS & ERRIDGE

Little is known regarding this company but Mr W Erridge seems to have been the agent for the Colonial & Foreign Fibre Company from about 1870. Only two examples of mail forwarded by this company have been recorded.

1870 (26 April) From St Helena to London, forwarded on St Helena, with a QV 1/- stamp



Rate: 1s. (1s. per ½oz packet rate to England 1863-76)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded by Nichols Bros & Erridge St Helena".

1870 - forwarded by "Nichols Bros & Erridge" - two examples known!

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS - "S. SOLOMON" (FAC.1)

Some of the Forwarding Agents used special cachets to indicate that they had forwarded a letter. Six different cachets have been recorded from St Helena, all are rare and three are unique. The "S.Solomon" cachet is the most frequent one; five examples are recorded, on letters sent between 1846 and 1850.

1849 (17 August) From St Helena to France, forwarded on St Helena, with PACKET LETTER and COLONIES &c ART.13 markings



Rate: Charged "15" decimes (= 1Fr 50c) (10d. British packet and transit rate to France = 10 decimes + 5 decimes French inland rate)

Forwarding Agents Cachet: "FORWARDED BY Your Obe.t Serv.t S. SOLOMON. ST HELENA" (FAC.1)

1849 - Forwarding Agents Cachet "S. SOLOMON" (FAC.1) - Rare!

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS - "SOLOMON MOSS GIDEON & Co" (FAC.2)

In 1814 Saul Solomon's brother Joseph married Hannah Moss, the daughter of Isaac Moss, a boot and shoemaker, and Saul's brother Lewis Gideon Solomon changed his name to Lewis Gideon. Their business eventually became known as Solomon Moss Gideon & Co. Only two examples of this cachet are recorded.

1877 (12 March) From St Helena to USA via London, forwarded on St Helena, with two QV 4d. stamps



Rate: 8d. (single rate to foreign countries 1876-1877), marked "7½"d. in red (British share)

Forwarding Agents Cachet: "FORWARDED BY SOLOMON MOSS GIDEON & Co ST HELENA" (FAC.2)

1877 - Forwarding Agents Cachet "SOLOMON MOSS GIDEON" (FAC.2) - two examples known!

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS - "T. BAKER" (FAC.3)

Thomas Baker was a Shipping and Forwarding Agent but little is known about him and his business. Only three items of forwarded mail have been recorded with his markings, one in manuscript and one each of the Forwarding Agents Cachets FAC3 and FAC4.

1836 (18 June) From Canton, China to Edinburgh, forwarded on St Helena, with INDIA LETTER DEAL marking



Rate: Charged "1/6" 1s.6d. + "½"d. (4d. India Letter rate + 1s.2d. inland rate from Deal to Edinburgh + ½d. Scottish Toll)

Forwarding Agents Cachet: "FORWARDED BY T. BAKER SHIPPING AGENT ST HELENA" (FAC.3)

1836 - Forwarding Agents Cachet "T. BAKER" (FAC.3) - Unique!

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS - "T. BAKER & Co" (FAC.4)

Thomas Baker was a Shipping and Forwarding Agent but little is known about him and his business. Only three items of forwarded mail have been recorded with his markings, one in manuscript and one each of the Forwarding Agents Cachets FAC3 and FAC4.

1856 (5 November) From St Helena to England, forwarded on St Helena, with ST HELENA NO.17.1856 datestamp



Rate: Charged "6"d. and marked "3" d. (6d. ship rate to England; St Helena's share 3d.)

Forwarding Agents Cachet: "FORWARDED BY T. BAKER & Co SHIPPING AGENTS ST HELENA" (FAC.4)

1856 - Forwarding Agents Cachet "T. BAKER & Co" (FAC.4) - Unique!

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS - "GEORGE W. KIMBALL" (FAC.5)

George Kimball was the United States Commercial Agent on St Helena from 1852 and he became the first United States Consul on the island in 1857, a position which he retained until 1860. He also acted as Forwarding Agent during this period. Three examples of his cachet have been recorded, all on letters from 1855 and 1856.

1856 (January) From St Helena to New York, forwarded on St Helena, with NEW BEDFORD MAR 5 and SHIP markings



Rate: Charged "5" cents (2c. ship rate + 3c. inland rate from New Bedford to New York)

Forwarding Agents Cachet: "FORWARDED FROM ST HELENA BY GEORGE W. KIMBALL U.S. COMMERCIAL AGENT" (FAC.5)

1856 - Forwarding Agents Cachet "GEORGE W. KIMBALL" (FAC.5) - three examples known!

FORWARDING AGENTS CACHETS - "CARROL & KIMBALL" (FAC.6)

It would appear that William Carrol and George Kimball joined forces sometime after William Carrol finished as the United States Commercial Agent in 1847. They jointly offered their services as forwarding and shipping agents during the 1850's. Only one example of their cachet has been recorded.

1858 (August) From St Helena to Long Island, forwarded on St Helena, with BOSTON OCT.10.1858 and SHIP markings



Rate: Charged "8" cents (2cents ship rate + 2x3cents double inland rate from Boston to Long Island)

Forwarding Agents Cachet: "FORWARDED FROM ST HELENA BY CARROL & KIMBALL MERCHANTS" (FAC.6)

1858 - Forwarding Agents Cachet "CARROL & KIMBALL" (FAC.6) - Unique!

FORWARDING AGENTS COMPANY CACHETS - "SOLOMON & MOSS" (CC.1)

Some of the Forwarding Agents also used special company cachets on mail that they forwarded. Unlike the forwarding agents cachets, the company cachets do not include the words "Forwarded by". There are only two different company cachets recorded. Three examples of the "Solomon & Moss" cachet are recorded.

1854 (10 June) Written by a Mr Gautreau on St Helena, to France, forwarded on St Helena, with COLONIES &c ART.13 marking



Rate: Charged "15" decimes (= 1Fr 50c) (10d. British packet and transit rate to France = 10 decimes + 5 decimes French inland rate)

Forwarding Agents Company Cachet: "SOLOMON & MOSS, ST HELENA" (CC.1)

1854 - Forwarding Agents Company Cachet "SOLOMON & MOSS" (CC.1) - three examples known!

FORWARDING AGENTS COMPANY CACHETS - "SOLOMON MOSS GIDEON & Co" (CC.2)

In 1814 Saul Solomon's brother Joseph married Hannah Moss, the daughter of Isaac Moss, a boot and shoemaker, and Saul's brother Lewis Gideon Solomon changed his name to Lewis Gideon. Their business eventually became known as Solomon Moss Gideon & Co. Only one example of this cachet is recorded.

1876 (21 April) From St Helena to England, forwarded on St Helena, with a QV 1/- stamp



Rate: 1s. (1s. per ½oz packet rate to England 1863-76)

Forwarding Agents Company Cachet: "SOLOMON.MOSS.GIDEON & Co ST HELENA" (CC.2)

1876 - Forwarding Agents Company Cachet "SOLOMON, MOSS, GIDEON & Co" (CC.2) - Unique!

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - ST HELENA TO FRANCE, FORWARDED IN LONDON

Early mail from St Helena was often sent under cover to England, and then put into the postal system there by a Forwarding Agent. Even so, the postal rates were often very high, and it was normally the addressee that paid.

1836 (11 April) From St Helena to France, forwarded in London, with ANGLETERRE PAR CALAIS marking



Rate: Marked "3/6" (3s.6d.) in red (3x1s.2d. prepaid triple rate from London to France); charged "48" decimes (=4Fr 80c) (French inland rate)

Forwarding Agent: Marked "forwarded by Baring Bros Co.".

1836 - from St Helena to France, forwarded in London

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - ST HELENA TO DENMARK, FORWARDED IN LONDON

Mail to unusual destinations was often shipped under cover to a Forwarding Agent, who then handled and posted it, often by pre-paying the postage. The St Helena merchants mostly used forwarding agents in London.

1854(4 March) From Solomon & Moss, St Helena, to Copenhagen, forwarded in London, with St.P.A. and KDPA HAMBURG markings



Rate: Marked "Pd 11½" (Paid 11½d.) in red (rate from England to Denmark via Belgium and Germany); also charged "2"sk in red, for local delivery in Copenhagen.

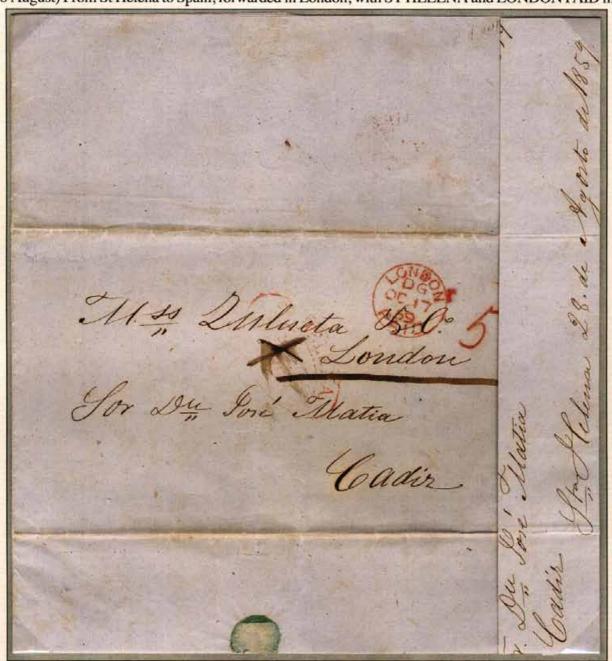
Forwarding Agent: Cachet "D. DUNBAR & SONS LONDON".

1854 - from St Helena to Denmark, forwarded in London

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - ST HELENA TO SPAIN, FORWARDED IN LONDON

Another way to send mail via Forwarding Agents was to send it through the postal system to the Forwarding Agent, who then arranged for it to be carried to its destination in bulk under cover.

1859 (28 August) From St Helena to Spain, forwarded in London, with ST HELENA and LONDON PAID markings



Rate: Marked "5"d. in red (6d. packet rate to England; 5d. credited to England + 1d. St Helena's share); no further charges so probably forwarded in bulk under cover.

Forwarding Agent: Adressed to "Mss Zulueta & Co." for onward transmission to "Sr Don Jose Matia, Cadiz".

1859 - from St Helena to Spain, forwarded in London

FORWARDING AGENTS MAIL - ST HELENA TO THE NETHERLANDS, FORWARDED IN LONDON

Postal rates from St Helena were much higher than from most other British Colonies all the way up to 1896, so business and shipping agents frequently sent mail in bulk under cover to Forwarding Agents in London, for onward transmission.

1868 (11 July) From Nichols Bros & Erridge, St Helena, to Amsterdam, forwarded in London, with LOMBARD STREET PAID marking



Rate: Marked "3"d. in red (3d. prepaid rate to the Netherlands via Belgium)

Forwarding Agent: None indicated, but obviously forwarded and mailed in London.

1868 - from St Helena to the Netherlands, forwarded in London

THE FIRST STAMP - 1856 6D. IMPERFORATE

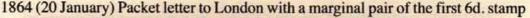
In 1854 a request was made by the St Helena Postmaster, J McDaniel, that he be supplied with sixpenny postage stamps and a steel shifting stamp. The first 6d. stamps were issued on 1 January 1856, but it was not until July 1863 that additional values, 1d. and 4d. stamps, were issued. About 15 covers with the first 6d. stamp are recorded.



1856 (4 September) OHMS ship letter to Ireland with the first 6d. stamp

Rate: 6d. per ½oz ship rate to Great Britain (1854-63); marked "3"d. in red (British share)

1856 - the first stamp on cover to Ireland - only three pre-1863 covers known with the first stamp!





Rate: 1s. per ½oz packet rate to Great Britain (1863-76); marked "11"d. in red (British share)

1864 - the first stamp in pair on cover to London - Rare!

THE FIRST STAMPS - IMPERFORATE 1D., 4D, AND 6D.

Although the first stamp, the imperforate 6d., was issued on 1 January 1856, it was not until July 1863 that additional values, 1d. and 4d. stamps, were issued. These two values were also imperforate, and they were issued to cover the 1d. newspaper and soldiers letter rates, and the 4d. ship letter rate which was introduced in 1863.

1863 (29 August) Cover to Canada West via London, with imperforate 6d.(pair)+1d.+4d.
- the earliest known use of the 1d. and 4d. stamps



Rate: 1s.5d. per ½oz to USA and Canada (1854-70), marked "1/4" (1s.4d) and "1"d. in red (1s.4d. credited to England + 1d. St Helena's share)

Comment: Only two covers are known with all the three imperforate stamps, this being the only one with the stamps tied by a postmark (the other cover has the stamps pen-cancelled only).

1863 - cover to Canada with all the three imperforate stamps.

Undoubtedly one of the most spectacular and important St Helena covers!

THE EARLIEST KNOWN REGISTERED MAIL

Registration of mail was authorised from 1852, but the earliest recorded registered letter from St Helena is from April 1864. The registration fee to GB was 1s. initially, but this was reduced to 6d. in September 1856. A straight line handstamp REGISTERED was introduced in 1869; earlier covers show the word "Registered" in manuscript.

1864 (5 April) Registered ship letter to London, with imperforate 6d.+4d. and the earliest known use of the oval POST OFFICE ST HELENA datestamp



1864 - the earliest known
registered cover
from St Helena only two known
registered covers with
the imperforate 6d.

Rate: 10d. (4d. ship rate to Great Britain 1863-76 + 6d. registration fee 1856-66); marked "2"d. in red (St Helena's share of the ship rate)

THE FIRST PERFORATED STAMP - 1861 6D.

The 1858 printing of the imperforate 6d. stamp was large; a total of 120,000 stamps were printed, but only a small number was sent to the Colony, the rest being kept by the printers or Crown Agents in England. In December 1860 6,000 stamps were perforated, and these were issued in the Colony in 1861. A further 24,000 perforated stamps were sent to St Helena in January 1864.

1861 (December) Packet letter to London, with 1861 perforated 6d. and LONDON PAID JA.2.62 datestamp

1861 - perforated 6d. on packet letter to London only three 1861 usages known!

Rate: 6d. per ½oz packet rate to Great Britain (1854-63); marked "5"d. in red (British share)



1871 (27 February) Packet letter to Plymouth, forwarded on St Helena, with 1861 perforated 6d. (pair)



1871 - perforated 6d. in pair to England. Forwarded by "Nichols Bros & Erridge" - two examples known!

Forwarding Agent: Marked "Forwarded by Nichols Bros & Erridge St Helena".

Rate: 1s. per ½oz packet rate to England (1863-76)

MAIL TO ST HELENA FROM GREAT BRITAIN

The packet rates for mail from Great Britain to St Helena were similar to those from St Helena: 6d. per ½oz 1854-63, 1s. 1863-76, 6d. 1876-77 and 1s. from 1877-83. Between 1867 and 1869 there was also an Officer's rate of 6d.

1861 (4 April) London to St Helena, via Cape of Good Hope, with GB 6d.



1861 - from London to St Helena, 6d, rate

Rate: 6d. per ½oz packet rate (1854-63); marked "1"d. in red (St Helena's share)

1868 (7 November) Officer's letter from Ireland to St Helena, with GB 1d.(x2)+4d.



1868 - Officer's letter from Ireland to Captain Oliver R.A., St Helena, Officer's rate

Rate: 6d. per ½oz Officer's rate (1867-69); marked "5"d. in red (British share)

1882 (23 May) Scotland to St Helena, with GB 1s. and ST HELENA JU.10.82 arrival marking



1882 - from Scotland to St Helena, 1s. rate

Rate: 1s. per ½oz packet rate (1877-83)

THE 1/- PACKET LETTER RATE TO GREAT BRITAIN

In April 1863, the packet rate to Great Britain was increased from 6d. to 1s. per half ounce. On 1 July 1876 the rate was reduced to 6d. but on 1 April 1877 it was increased to 1s. again. It remained at this level until the end of 1883.

1866 (27 September) Packet letter to England, with 1864 1s.



1866 - packet letter to England with 1s. - first period

Rate: First period 1s. per ½oz packet rate to England (1863-76); marked "1"d. (St Helena's share)

1878 (15 July) Packet letter to England, with 1864 1s.

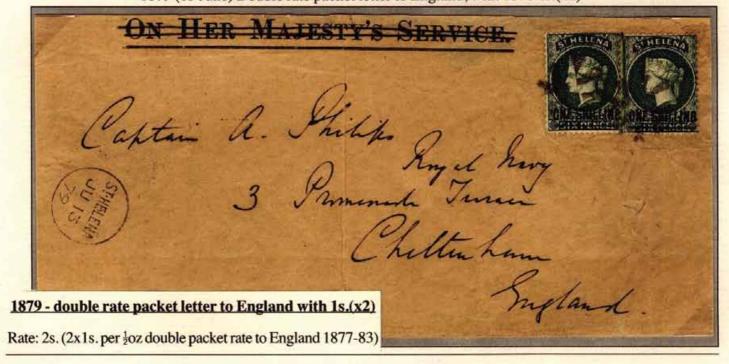
1878 - packet letter to England with 1s. second period

Rate: Second period 1s. per ½oz packet rate to England (1877-83); marked "6"d. in red (British share) Mrs. France S. Vortell.

Park Place Shrab.

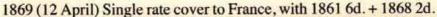
Condon. M.M.

1879 (13 June) Double rate packet letter to England, with 1876 1s.(x2)



THE 8D. RATE TO FRANCE

The rate to France was reduced from 1s.4d. per \(\frac{1}{2}\) oz to 8d. per \(\frac{1}{2}\) oz in 1863, and remained at that level until 1870, when the rate was reduced by another penny, to 7d. per \(\frac{1}{2}\) oz, to be in line with the general foreign rate of 1s.2d. per \(\frac{1}{2}\) oz.





Rate: 8d. per 1/40z rate to France (1863-70); marked "4"d. in red (British share)

1869 - 8d. single rate to France, with 1861 6d. + 1868 2d.

1867 (29 July) Double rate cover to France, with 1864 4d.+1s.
and the latest known use of the oval POST OFFICE ST HELENA datestamp



Rate: 1s.4d. (2x8d. per 4/oz double rate to France 1863-70)

1867 - 1s.4d. double rate to France, with 1864 4d. + 1s.

THE 1S.5D. PACKET RATE TO THE UNITED STATES

The rate to the United States and Canada was 1s.5d. per half ounce between 1 May 1854 and October 1870, when the rate was reduced to 1s.2d. per half ounce, a general rate introduced to many foreign countries.

1867 (28 August) To New York, with 1864 1d.+4d.+1s. and N. YORK AM PKT 5 cents marking



Rate: 1s.5d. rate per ½oz to USA and Canada (1854-70); marked "9"d. (British share) and "16cents" in red (US share); charged "due 5¢".

1867 - 1s.5d. rate to the United States, with 1864 1d.+4d.+1s.

1869 (30 June) To Long Island, with 1868 2d.+3d.+1s. and N. YORK BR PKT marking



Rate: 1s.5d. rate per ½oz to USA and Canada (1854-70); marked "6"d. (British share) and "2cents" in red (US share)

1869 - 1s.5d. rate to the United States, with 1868 2d.+3d.+1s.

THE 1/- SHIP RATE & 1S.2D. PACKET RATE TO THE UNITED STATES

Mail to USA, carried as ship letters from St Helena to England, was charged the reduced rate of 1s. per half ounce. In 1870 the rate to the United States (and to most other foreign countries) was reduced to 1s.2d. per half ounce.

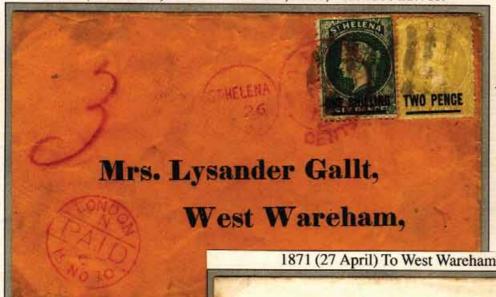
1867 (25 September) To Long Island, with 1864 1s. and N. YORK AM PKT 5 cents marking

1867 - 1s. ship rate to USA

Rate: 1s. ship rate to USA (1863-70); marked "10"d. (British share, 2d. of the 4d. ship rate + 8d. for the Trans-Atlantic carriage; St Helena's share 2d.) and "16cents" in red (US share); charged "due 5 cents".



1870 (26 October) To West Wareham, Mass, with 1868 2d.+1s.



1870 - 1s.2d. packet rate to USA, with 1868 2d.+1s.

Rate: 1s.2d. packet rate to most foreign countries (1870-76): marked "3"d. (St Helena's share) and "2cents" in red (US share)

1871 (27 April) To West Wareham, with 1868 2d.+3d.(x4)

1871 - 1s.2d. packet rate to USA. with 1868 2d.+3d.(x4)

Rate: 1s.2d. packet rate to most foreign countries (1870-76); marked "3"d. (St Helena's share) and "2cents" in red (US share)



THE ST HELENA "2"D. ACCOUNTANCY MARKINGS ON SHIP LETTERS TO GREAT BRITAIN

In 1863 the ship rate to Great Britain was reduced from 6d. to 4d. per half ounce, with St Helena's share being 2d. In 1868 only, two different "2"d. accountancy markings were used in St Helena, to show its share. Both markings are rare.

1868 (3 October) "2" (first type) on unpaid ship letter to France via England, with Falmouth Ship Letter and "GB 1F60c" markings

1868 - "2" (first type) on unpaid ship letter to France via England the only known example on unpaid mail!

Rate: Marked "2"d. (St Helena's share of the 4d. ship rate to GB); charged "10" decimes (=1Fr) (British and French rates)

1868 (3 October) "2" (first type) on 1868 4d. on ship letter to London, "4d. mail - per Asia"



1868 - "2" (first type) tying 1868 4d. to paid ship letter to England. Rare!

Rate: 4d. ship rate to GB (1863-76); black "2"d. on stamp (St Helena's share) and red "2"d. (British share)

1868 (10 November) "2" (second type) on 1868 4d. on ship letter to London, with SHIP LETTER mark

1868 - "2" (second type) tving 1868 4d. to paid ship letter to England. Rare!

Rate: 4d. ship rate to GB (1863-76); black "2"d. on stamp (St Helena's share) and red "2"d. (British share)



THE "ST HELENA" DATED THREE LINE MARKING (MM.1)

Only one example of this marking has been recorded, so it is therefore difficult to say for what purpose it was utilised. It may have been a marking used by the St Helena Guardian, or a marking used by the Post Office on certain categories of mail.

1868 (28 March) "ST HELENA 28TH MARCH 1868" three line marking, the only known example on the St Helena Guardian of the 26 February 1868 to London, with a QV 1d. stamp (replaced)



Rate: 1d. newspaper rate to Great Britain (1839-96)

1868 - the "ST HELENA" dated three line marking - stamp replaced but unique!

MAIL TO THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Postal rates to the Cape of Good Hope are first mentioned in 1854 and the packet rate then was 1s.2d. per half ounce. This was reduced to 6d, in 1863 and remained unchanged until 1896. The ship rate was 4d, per half ounce between 1863 and 1896.

1869 (8 September) Ship letter to Cape Town, with 1864 4d. and CAPE-TOWN SP.13.69 datestamp

1869 - ship letter to Cape Town, with 1864 4d.

Rate: 4d. ship rate to the Cape of Good Hope (1863-96); charged "6"d. (4d. Cape internal rate + 2d. fine for non-prepayment)



1873 (5 June) Packet letter to Government House, Cape Town, with 1861 6d.



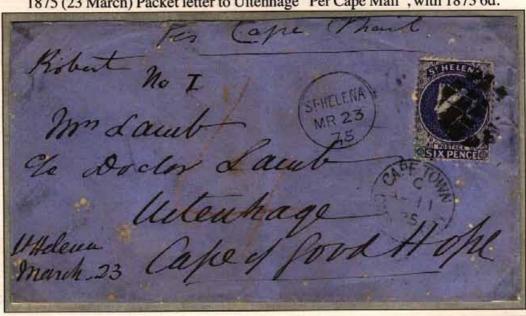
1873 - packet letter to Cape Town, with 1861 6d. - Rare!

Rate: 6d. packet rate to the Cape of Good Hope (1863-96); marked "4"d. in red (Cape of Good Hope's share)

1875 (23 March) Packet letter to Uitenhage "Per Cape Mail", with 1873 6d.

1875 - packet letter to the Cape of Good Hope, with 1873 6d.

Rate: 6d. packet rate to the Cape of Good Hope (1863-96); marked "4"d. in red (Cape of Good Hope's share)



THE FIRST "REGISTERED" MARKING

Registration of mail was authorised from 1852, but the earliest recorded registered letter from St Helena is from April 1864. A straight line handstamp "REGISTERED" has been recorded on seven covers between 1869 and 1879.

1869 (12 November) "REGISTERED" marking, the earliest known example, on Official cover to London



Rate: 4d. registration fee (1866-96); Official mail to England was excempt from ordinary postage; marked "2"d. in red (British share)

1869 - the first "REGISTERED" marking, on Official cover to London - the earliest known example!

1870 (12 January) "REGISTERED" marking, on packet letter to London, with 1868 4d.+1s.



Rate: 1s. packet rate to England (1863-76) + 4d. registration fee (1866-96)

1870 - the first "REGISTERED" marking, on cover to London - Rare!

SOLDIERS CONCESSIONARY MAIL

The Soldiers concessionary rate of 1d. was mentioned already when the first Post Office on St Helena opened in 1815, and again when the Post Office re-opened in 1839. The postage had to be prepaid and it required the sender to write his name and rank on the envelope, and it also had to be counter-signed by the commanding officer.

1870 (29 May) Soldiers Concessionary cover to Canada West, with 1868 1d.

1870 - Soldiers concessionery cover to Canada - unique!

Rate: 1d. Soldiers concessionery rate (1815-98)

Show from the Blyrappelle State of the Blyrappelle of the B

1875 (12 March) Soldiers Concessionary cover to London, with 1871 1d.



1875 - Soldiers concessionery cover to London

Rate: 1d. Soldiers concessionery rate (1815-98)

1895 (22 May) Soldiers Concessionary cover to London, with 1887 1d.

1895 - Soldiers
concessionery
cover to London,
with "St Helena
Detachment" cachet

Rate: 1d. Soldiers concessionery rate (1815-98)



THE 7D. RATE TO FRANCE & THE 1S.4D. RATE TO ITALY

In 1870 the rate to France was reduced from 8d. to 7d. per \(\frac{1}{4}\)oz, to be in line with the general foreign rate of 1s.2d. per \(\frac{1}{2}\)oz. The rate to Italy was 1s.4d. per half ounce between 1863 and 1876, when it was reduced to 8d.

1874 (11 July) 7d. rate to France via London, with 1871 1d.+6d.



Rate: 7d. per 1/40z rate to France (1870-76); marked "3"d. in red (British share)

1874 - 7d. rate to France - Rare!

1874 (9 October) 1s.4d. rate to Italy via London, with 1868 4d. + 1871 1s.



Rate: 1s.4d. per ½oz to Italy (1863-76); marked "5"d. in red (British share)

1874 - 1s.4d. rate to Italy - Rare!

THE 8D. FOREIGN RATE & THE 1S.4D. RATE TO INDIA

Between the 1 July 1876 and the 1 April 1877 there was a general foreign rate reduction to 8d. per half ounce. A few countries had special rates even after 1877. The rate to India was 1s.4d. per half ounce between 1881 and 1883.

1876 (14 July) 8d. foreign rate to Germany, with 1868 4d.(x2), with "71" d. St Helena accountancy marking



Rate: 8d. per ½oz foreign rate (1876-77); marked "7½"d. in red (British share)

1876 - 8d. foreign rate - Rare! The only known example of the St Helena "72" d accountancy marking!

1882 (4 November) 1s.4d. rate to India, with 1868 4d. + 1876 1s.



Rate: 1s.4d. per ½oz to India (1881-83); marked "10"d. in red (British share)

1882 - 1s.4d. rate to India - Rare!

MAIL FROM THE UNITED STATES AND THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

The postal rate from the United States to St Helena was altered frequently: 33cents (1857), 45cents (1863), 34cents (1868), 28cents (1870), 27cents (1875), 15cents (1876), 27cents (1877), 15cents (1885), 10cents (1892).

1875 (20 June) 28cents rate from Boston to St Helena, arr. cds ST HELENA JY.22.75

1875 - 28cents rate from Boston to St Helena

Rate: 28cents to St Helena (1 January 1870 - 30 June 1875), marked "110" centimes in red (=11d, British share)



1875 (6 September) 27cents rate from Westport to St Helena, with NEW YORK SEP.7 110c and ST HELENA NO 3.75 cds



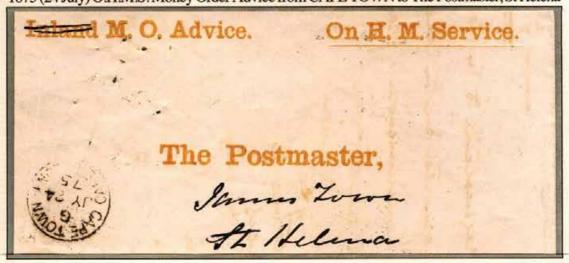
1875 - 27cents rate from Westport to St Helena

Rate: 27cents to St Helena (1 July 1875 - 30 June 1876), marked "110"centimes (=11d. British share) and "1"d. in red (St Helena's share)

1875 (24 July) O.H.M.S. Money Order Advice from CAPE TOWN to The Postmaster, St Helena

1875 - Money Order Advice from Cape Town to St Helena

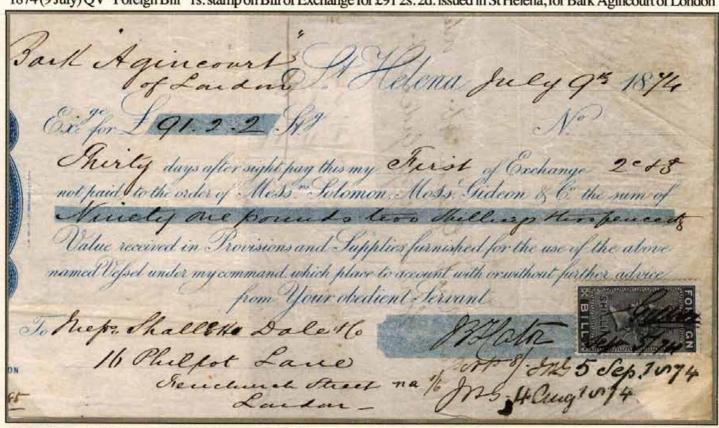
> Rate: None, official mail



ST HELENA BILLS OF EXCHANGE

The Forwarding Agents on St Helena were also shipping agents, and carried out refitting and repairs for passing ships. The payments for these services was organised through Bills of Exchange issued in St Helena, but paid in England or USA.

1874 (9 July) QV "Foreign Bill" 1s. stamp on Bill of Exchange for £91 2s. 2d. issued in St Helena, for Bark Agincourt of London



1881 (16 September) QV "Foreign Bill" 1s (x2) stamps on Bill of Exchange for \$705.50 issued in St Helena, for Whaling Bark Morning Star of New Bedford



THE 1S.13D. FOREIGN RATE

On the 1 April 1877 the general foreign rate was reduced to $1s1\frac{1}{2}d$, per half ounce. However, no $\frac{1}{2}d$, stamps were available until 1884, so the single rate was rounded up to 1s.2d, whereas the double rate was 2s.3d.

1883 (21 March) Single rate to the Island of Sylt, Germany, via London and Hamburg, with 1880 2d.+1s.



Rate: 1s.2d. for ½oz foreign rate (1877-83); marked "7½"d. in red (British share)

1883 - 1s.2d. single foreign rate, to Germany

1881 (20 March) Double rate to Vineyard Haven, Mass, via London, with 1876 1d.+2d.+1s.(x2)



Rate: 2s.3d. for 1oz double foreign rate (1877-83); marked "1/3" 1s.3d. in red (2x7½d. British share)

1881 - 2s.3d. double foreign rate, to the United States - the only known example!

EVASION OF HIGH POSTAL RATES

The continued high postal rates from St Helena, encouraged the evasion of these costs by forwarding letters as "Boot Leg" mail, which meant that mail was carried privately to a country with lower postal rates, and mailed from there.

1879 (22 June) From "U.S.S. Ticonderoga, St Helena" to Philadelphia, carried privately to England and mailed there



Rate: 2½d. foreign rate from England to USA; rate from St Helena to USA 1s.2d.

1879 - "Boot Leg" letter from St Helena to USA, mailed in England - saving 11d. postage

1890 "Sent from St Helena" to Albany, carried privately as "Ships Letter" to New Bedford and mailed there



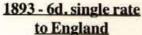
Rate: Charged "DUE 4" cents, with 2c(x2) US Postage Due stamps (double inland rate); rate from St Helena to USA 7½d.

1890 - privately carried ship letter from St Helena to USA, mailed in USA - saving 5½d. (=11cents) postage

THE 6D. RATE TO GREAT BRITAIN

On 1 January 1884 the rate to Great Britain was halved, from 1s. to 6d. per half ounce, but this was still a high rate compared to many other colonies. It was not until 1896 that the rate was reduced further, to 2½d. per half ounce.

1893 (9 May) Single rate to Harrogate, with 1884-97 ½d.+1d.+1½d.+3d.



Rate: 6d. per ½oz to Great Britain (1884-96)



1884 (7 October) Double rate to Bristol, with 1876 6d.(x2)

W. Turton Engre

1884 - 1s. double rate to England

Rate: 1s. (2x6d. per ½oz double rate to Great Britain 1884-96)

Rvistal 1888 (26 November) Triple rate to Darlington, with 1887 6d.(x3)

1888 - 1s.6d. triple rate to England

Rate: 1s.6d. (3x6d. per ½oz triple rate to Great Britain 1884-96)



THE 4D. REGISTRATION FEE TO GREAT BRITAIN

The registration fee to Great Britain was reduced from 6d. to 4d. in 1866, and there were no further reductions until St Helena joined the UPU in October 1896, when the general registration fee worldwide became 2d. A new oval registration marking "REGISTERED ST HELENA" was introduced in 1879, and remained in use until 1910.

1896 (11 April) Registered single rate to Birmingham, with 1884-94 4d.+6d. and REGISTERED ST HELENA marking



Rate: 10d. (4d. registration fee 1866-96 + 6d. per ½oz to Great Britain 1884-96)

1896 - 10d. registered single rate to England

1895 (July) Registered double rate to England, with 1884-94 4d.+6d.(x2) and REGISTERED ST HELENA marking



Rate: 1s.4d. (4d. registration fee 1866-96 + 2x6d. per ½oz double rate to Great Britain 1884-96)

1895 - 1s.4d. registered double rate to England

THE 7 D. FOREIGN RATE

On 1 January 1884 the general rate to foreign countries was reduced from 1s.2d. to 7½d. per half ounce, but this was still a high rate compared to many other colonies. It was not until 1896 that the rate was reduced further, to $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per half ounce.

1885 (9 April) Single rate to Pocassett, Mass, with 1880-84 ½d.+1d+6d.

1885 - 7¹d. single rate to USA

Rate: $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz foreign rate (1884-96); marked " $1\frac{1}{2}$ "d. in red (British share)



1888 (16 March) Single rate to France, with 1876-87 ½d.+1d.+2d.+4d.



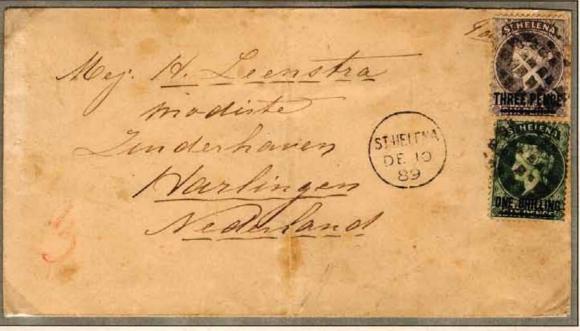
1888 - 7¹d. single rate to France

Rate: 7½d. per ½oz foreign rate (1884-96)

1889 (10 December) Double rate to the Netherlands, with 1880-87 3d.+1s.

1889 - 1s.3d. double rate to the Netherlands

Rate: 1s.3d. (2x7½d. per ½oz double foreign rate 1884-96); marked "3"d. in red $(2x1\frac{1}{2}d.$ British share)



THE 6D. FOREIGN REGISTRATION FEE

The foreign registration fee was reduced from 8d. to 6d. in 1877, and there were no further reductions until St Helena joined the UPU in October 1896, when the general registration fee worldwide became 2d.

1892 (16 April) Registered single rate to New Bedford, with 1880-90 12d.+1s. and REGISTERED ST HELENA marking



Rate: 1s1½d. (6d. foreign registration fee 1877-96 + 7½d. per ½oz foreign rate 1884-96); marked "1½"d. in red (British share)

1892 - 1s1 d. registered single rate to the United States

1890 (2 October) Registered double rate from "U.S. Consulate St Helena" to Pennsylvania, with 1880-87 3d.+6d.+1s.



Rate: 1s9d.(6d.foreignregistration fee 1877-96)+1s3d.(2x72d.per2ozdouble foreignrate 1884-96); marked "3"d.inred(2x12d.British share)

1892 - 1s9d, registered double rate from the "U.S. Consulate St Helena", to the United States

SHIP MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

Until at least the end of 1892, there was a separate ship letter rate for mail from St Helena, both to Great Britain and to other countries. The ship rate to Great Britain was 2d. lower than the packet rate; to other countries pro-rata.

1892 (14 June) 6d. ship rate to New Bedford via London, with 1887 3d.(x2)



1892 - 6d. ship rate to USA rate split equal between St Helena and Great Britain

Rate: 6d. (4d. ship rate to GB 1877-92 + 2d. GPO ship rate from GB to USA); marked "3"d. (British share, half of the ship rate)

1892 (9 September) Taxed ship letter to New Bedford direct, with 1880-90 12d.+1s.(x2), and US 2c+10c Postage Due stamps



Rate: 3s.1½d. packet rate, underpaid by 1s. (5x7½d. per½oz 5-fold foreign rate 1884-96); marked "7½"d. in red (5x1½d. British share); but carried as ship letter direct, with "SHIP" marking and charged "12" cents postage due (double inland rate for 2-3 oz)

1892 - taxed ship letter to USA, with US Postage Due stamps

MAIL TO WILLIAM GREY-WILSON, COLONIAL SECRETARY AND GOVERNOR

William Grey-Wilson was appointed Colonial Secretary of St Helena in 1886, acting Governor 1887-89, and Governor between 1890 and 1897. As Governor, mail to him could be sent by diplomatic bag.

1886 (7 October) From London to W Grey-Wilson, Colonial Secretary, St Helena, with arr. cds ST HELENA OC.23.86



Rate: 6d. per ½oz from Great Britain to St Helena (1884-88)

1886 - from London to W Grey-Wilson, Colonial Secretary, St Helena - paying full 6d. postal rate

1888 (6 December) From London to W Grey-Wilson, Governor of St Helena, via Colonial Office, Downing Street



Rate: 2d. (2x1d. per 2oz double GB inland rate); by diplomatic bag from London to St Helena; rate from GB to St Helena 8d. (2x4d.)

1888 - from London to W Grey-Wilson, Governor of St Helena, by diplomatic bag - saving 6d. postage

MAIL FROM GOVERNOR WILLIAM GREY-WILSON SENT BY DIPLOMATIC BAG

William Grey-Wilson was acting Governor 1887-89, and Governor between 1890 and 1897. As Governor, he could send his mail to England by diplomatic bag, and just pay the GB inland rate of 1d. instead of the 6d. rate from St Helena to GB.



REGISTERED OFFICIAL MAIL

Official mail was forwarded without charge to Great Britain, but in the early days, postage beyond GB as well as registration fees, had to be accounted for to the GPO in London. This was done by the usual red markings.

1873 (9 August) From "Post Office, St Helena" to Italy, marked "Registered" and "Paid"



THE FIRST ST HELENA TAX MARKING "T" (T.1)

The first tax marking used on St Helena was a simple "T" (T.1) and it was introduced in 1878 or earlier. Only a handful examples are recorded and they were used between 1878 and 1886.

1881 (4 July) "T" marking and ST HELENA JY.4.81 cds, on taxed cover to Trieste, Austria

1881 - "T" marking, on taxed cover to Austria

Rate: Taxed "6"d. (St Helena's share); charged "110" centimes (=11d.) (6d. for St Helena + 2x21d. double GB rate to Austria). converted to "64" kreuzer.



1883 (16 July) "T" marking and ST HELENA JY.16.83 cds, on taxed cover to Paris



1883 - "T" marking, on taxed cover to France, with French 30c(x4) Postage Due stamps

Rate: Taxed "6"d. (St Helena's share); charged "1F20c" (=12d.) (2x6d, double St Helena's share)

"T" marking and ST HELENA JY.2.86 cds, on taxed cover from Uruguay

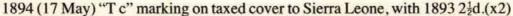
1886 - "T" marking. on taxed cover from Uruguay to St Helena. with Uruguay 10c stamp

Rate: 7½d. foreign rate less paid 10c (=1d.) = remaining unpaid 61d. +fine 62d.=charged"1s.1d."



THE SECOND ST HELENA TAX MARKING "T c" (T.2)

The second tax marking used on St Helena is a "T" (Taxe) with an added "c" (centimes). So far only three examples have been recorded, all used in 1894, and a new tax marking was delivered in 1895.





Rate: $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. foreign rate (1884-96), underpaid by $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and taxed "25" centimes (= $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.) + fine $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. = to pay "5d."

1894 - "T c" marking, on taxed cover to Sierra Leone - Rare!

1894 (11 July) "T c" marking on taxed cover to London, with 1887-90 1d.+ $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.



Rate: 6d. to GB (1884-96), underpaid by $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. and taxed "35" centimes (= $3\frac{1}{2}$ d.) + fine $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. = to pay "7D."

1894 - "T c" marking, on taxed cover to London - Rare!

THE SWEDISH AND NORWEGIAN CONSULATE HANDSTAMP

The Swedish and Norwegian Consulate was opened in Jamestown on 29 April 1843, and it was closed on 6 September 1928. A handstamp was used on some of the mail sent from the Consulate. It is inscribed "KONGL. SVENSKA OCH NORRSKA CONSULATET PÅ ST. HELENA" (The Royal Swedish and Norwegian Consulate on St Helena).

1882 (7 October) The Consulate handstamp, on cover to Norway, with 1876 2d. + 1880 1s.



1882 - Consulate handstamp, on cover to Norway - Rare!

Rate: 1s.2d. for ½oz foreign rate (1877-83); marked "7½"d, in red (British share)

1884 (20 May) Part of the Consulate handstamp and manuscript "Royal Swedish & Norwegian Consulate, St Helena", on cover to London, with 1876 6d.

1884 - Consulate handstamp, and in manuscript, on cover to London - Rare!

Rate: 6d. per 20z to Great Britain (1884-96)



THE FRENCH CONSULAR AGENCY HANDSTAMP

The French Consular Agent on St Helena had his own handstamp. It was used on some of the mail sent from the agency. It is inscribed "AGENCE CONSULAIRE DE FRANCE A STE HELENE" (Consular Agency of France at St Helena).

1899 (17 April) French Consular Agency handstamp, on cover to France, with 1896 21d.



EARLY "OFFICIAL PAID" MAIL

Official mail without stamps is known from the 1860's and 1870's. At some stage it was decided that these letters should be marked "Official Paid" and a handstamp with this wording was delivered by the GPO in 1894; the earliest known use is from 1898.

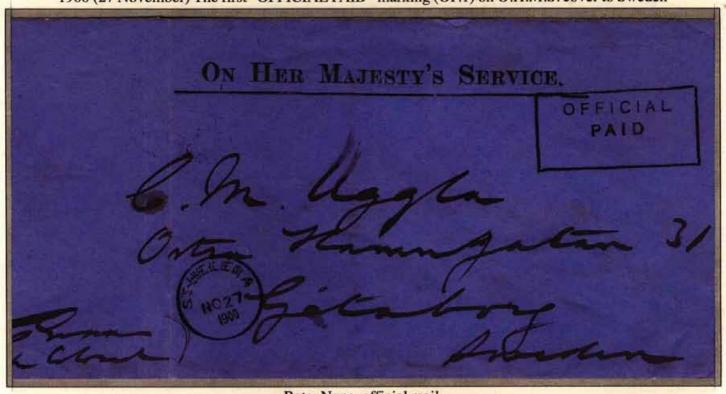
1878 (18 May) The earliest known "Official Paid" cover, to the United States



Rate: None, official mail; marked "72" d. in red (British share of foreign rate), only St Helena's share 6d. did not have to be accounted for.

1877 - the earliest known "Official Paid" cover

1900 (27 November) The first "OFFICIAL PAID" marking (OP.1) on O.H.M.S. cover to Sweden



Rate: None, official mail.

1900 - the first "OFFICIAL PAID" marking (OP.1) - Rare, three examples known!

THE "POSTAGE PAID" MARKING (MM.2)

The "Postage Paid" marking (MM.2) has only been found used in 1896, and only three examples are recorded. Exactly why and how it was used, and when it was introduced, has not been established.

1896 (11 April) The "Postage Paid" marking, on cover to Germany, with 1893 2½d.(x3)



1896 - the "Postage Paid" marking, on cover to Germany -Rare, only three examples known!

Rate: $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz foreign rate (1884-96)

1896 (8 September) The "Postage Paid" marking, on cover to Birmingham, with 1890-93 1d.+2\d.(x2)



1896 - the "Postage Paid" marking, on cover to England - Rare, only three examples known!

Rate: 6d. per ½oz to Great Britain (1884-96)

THE SECOND "POST OFFICE ST HELENA" MARKING (PO.2)

The second "Post Office St Helena" marking was delivered by the GPO on 9 April 1887, and it has been recorded on covers between 1890 and 1899. Apart from the wording, it has the St Edward's Crown in the centre.

1891 (8 January) "POST OFFICE ST HELENA" marking on O.H.M.S. cover to Amsterdam



1891 - "POST OFFICE ST HELENA", to the Netherlands

Rate: None, official mail.

1897 (7 August) "POST OFFICE ST HELENA" marking on O.H.M.S. cover to Havana

1897 - "POST OFFICE ST HELENA", to Cuba

Rate: None, official mail.

1 A m 8 Ha hours V. Place Eog.

1899 (25 September) "POST OFFICE ST HELENA" marking on O.H.M.S. cover to California



1899 - "POST OFFICE ST HELENA", to USA the latest recorded example

Rate: None, official mail.

TAXED SHIP MAIL

Full prepayment of postage with stamps became compulsory in November 1875; after that date unpaid or underpaid letters were charged twice the deficiency in postage due, which had to be paid by the addressee.

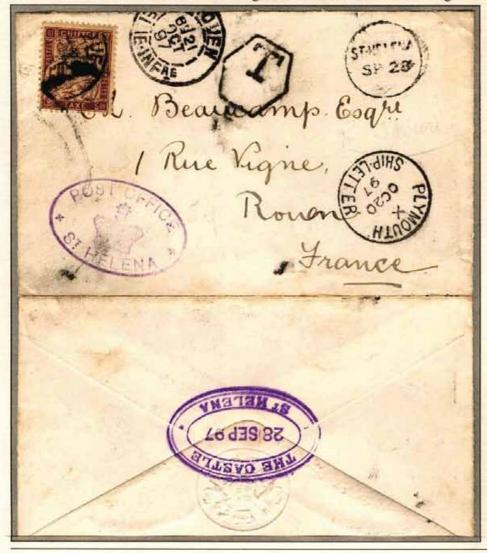
1893 (6 March) Taxed unpaid "Ships letter" with ST HELENA MR.6.93 cds, to England

1893 - taxed unpaid ship letter to England

Rate: Charged "2/-" 2s. (2x6d. per ½oz double ship letter to England + 1s. fine)



1897 (28 September) Official ship letter to France, with "THE CASTLEST HELENA 28 SEP.97" and "POST OFFICE STHELENA" markings, taxed and with French 50c Postage Due stamp



1897 - taxed official ship letter to France, with French Postage Due stamp

Rate: None, official mail, but not accepted in France where it was taxed 50centimes (25c foreign rate + 25c fine)

PRE-UPU MAIL FROM USA, ENGLAND AND RUSSIA

Because St Helena did not join the UPU until 1896, special rates were in use also for mail from different countries addressed to the island. This all changed once St Helena joined the UPU on 1 October 1896.



THE 2½D. UPU RATE TO GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EMPIRE

On 1 October 1896 St Helena joined the UPU and the rate to Great Britain and the Empire was more than halved, to 2½d. per half ounce. The registration fee was also reduced, from 4d. to 2d.

1897 (21 January) Single rate to Canada, with 1896-97 ½d.+2d.

1897 - 2¹d. single rate to Canada

Rate: $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz Imperial rate (1896-98)



1897 (15 July) Registered single rate to England, with 1896 2d.+2½d.



1897 - 4½d. single registered rate to England

Rate: $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. $(2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz Imperial rate 1896-98 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)

1896 (2 October) Registered double rate to Canada, with 1896 2d.+5d.



1896 - 7d. double registered rate to Canada

Rate: 7d. (2x2½d. per ½oz double Imperial rate 1896-98+2d.registration fee 1896-1926)



"THE CASTLE, ST HELENA" MARKINGS

The Government offices are located in the Castle in Jamestown. Several different markings "THE CASTLE, ST HELENA" with date have been used on mail from the Castle, the earliest example being from 1887.



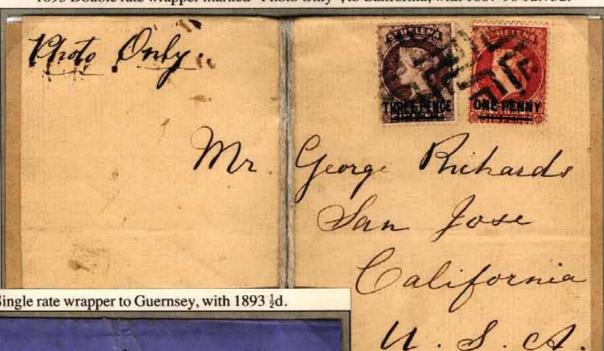
PRINTED MATTERS

Book Post from St Helena to Great Britain was introduced in 1853, at the rate of 6d. per half pound, but this was reduced to 3d. per quarter pound in 1857, and 1d. per ounce in 1863. The foreign rate was 2d. per ounce from 1863. The general worldwide printed matter rate of ½d. per two ounces was introduced in 1896.

1895 Double rate wrapper marked "Photo Only", to California, with 1887-90 1d.+3d.

1895 - 4d. double rate printed matter to USA

Rate: 4d. (2x2d.per oz double foreign printed matter rate (1863-96)



1901 Single rate wrapper to Guernsey, with 1893 ½d.

Miss M. Solway It Helena

1901 - \(\frac{1}{2}\)d. single rate printed matter to Guernsey

Rate: ½d. per 2oz printed matter rate (1896-1921)

1900 (27 June) Double rate wrapper to Philadelphia, with 1896 1d.

1900 - 1d. double rate printed matter to USA

Rate: 1d. $(2x^{\frac{1}{2}}d. per 2oz double$ printed matter rate 1896-1921)

1215 Harrison Messes Rowland, Carlisle, Boyd, 123 So. 36 Sty Philavelphia. - Penu, U.S.a.

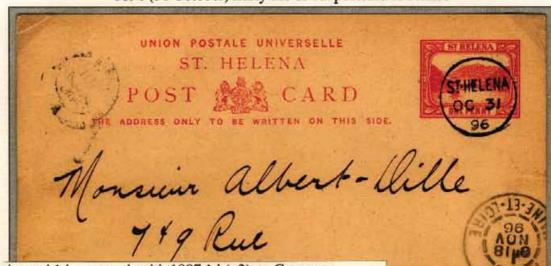
1D. POSTCARDS

The first postal stationery to be introduced on St Helena was 1d. postcards and 1d.+1d. reply postcards, which were both issued when St Helena joined the UPU on 1 October 1896. The 1d. rate was valid worldwide.

1896 (31 October) Early use of 1d. postcard to France

1896 - early use of 1d. postcard, to France

Rate: 1d. postcard rate (1896-1922)



1901 (7 June) Registered 1d. postcard, with 1887 1d.(x2), to Germany



1901 - registered 1d. postcard, to Germany

Rate: 3d. (1d. postcard rate 1896-1922 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)

1901 (25 November) 1d.postcardaddressedlocally, missentto Jamestown (Cape Colony), marked "Try St Helena"

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE ST. HELENA

1901 - 1d. postcard addressed locally, missent to Jamestown. Cape Colony

Rate: 1d. postcard rate (1896-1922)

1D.+1D. REPLY POSTCARDS

1d.+1d. reply postcards were also issued on 1 October 1896 when St Helena joined the UPU. The reply card was intended to be used for the reply from the country of destination back to St Helena.

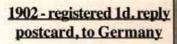
1901 (4 March) 1d. reply postcard to Germany



1901 - 1d. reply postcard. to Germany

Rate: 1d. postcard rate (1896-1922)

1902 (3 May) Registered 1d. reply postcard, with 1893 ½d.(x2) + 1902 1d. to Germany



Rate: 3d. (1d. postcard rate 1896-1922 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)

1900 (20 December) 1d. reply postcard to Cape Town, re-directed locally with Cape ½d. stamp

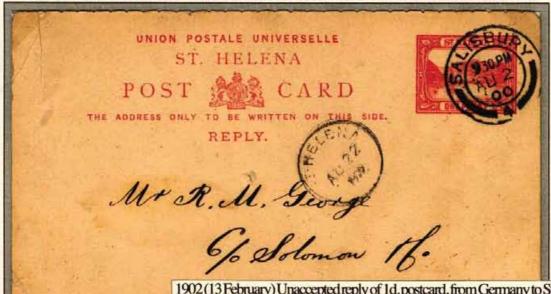
1900 - 1d. reply postcard, to Cape Town. re-directed with Cape of Good Hope 3d. stamp

Rate: 1d. postcard rate (1896-1922); ½d. local postcard rate within the Cape Colony.

REPLY HALVES OF 1D.+1D. REPLY POSTCARDS SENT TO ST HELENA

UPU rules dictated that the reply halves of postcards with prepaid replycards could be sent from anywhere in the world back to the country of origin. Correctly used such reply halves to St Helena are very scarce.

1900 (2 August) Reply of 1d. postcard, sent from Salisbury, England, to St Helena



1900 - reply of 1d. postcard, from England to St Helena

Rate: 1d. postcard rate (1896-1922)

1902 (13 February) Unaccepted reply of 1d. postcard, from Germany to St Helena, with added 10pf stamp

1902 - unaccepted reply of 1d. postcard, from Germany to St Helena. with added 10pf stamp

Rate: 1d. postcard rate, but unaccepted; German 10pf postcard rate.

POST THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON

1901 (6 September) Registered reply of 1d. postcard, from Transvaal to St Helena, with added \(\frac{1}{2} \) d. stamps



1901 - registered reply of 1d. postcard, from Transvaal to St Helena. with added Transvaal stamps

amb

Rate: 1d. postcard rate + 4d. Transvaal registration fee

FOREIGN REPLY POSTCARDS SENT FROM ST HELENA

In the same way that reply halves of St Helena postcards with prepaid reply could be sent from anywhere in the world to St Helena, reply halves of postcards from other countries could be sent from St Helena to the country of origin.

1900 (12 March) US 1c. reply card, sent from St Helena to USA, with added St Helena 1893 2d.



THE 1D. RATE TO GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EMPIRE

On 25 December 1898 Imperial Penny Post was introduced on St Helena, as in most other countries of the Empire, with the effect that the rate for letters to Great Britain and most of the Empire was 1d. per half ounce.

1900 (20 December) Single rate to Cape Town, re-directed to Wynberg, with 1890 1d. and added Cape 1d. stamp



1900 - 1d. single rate to Cape Town, redirected with Cape of Good Hope 1d. stamp

Rate: 1d.per ½oz Imperial rate (1898-1906); 1d. Cape of Good Hope inland rate.

1901 - 2d. double rate to England

Rate: 2d. (2x1d. per ½oz double Imperial rate 1898-1906)

1901 (8 October) Double rate O.H.M.S. cover to Newcastle, with 1890-97 ½d.+1½d.



REGISTERED AND INSURED MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

The registration fee was 2d. between 1896 and 1926. Insured mail is first mentioned in 1908, but it is known to have been used as early as 1903. The insurance fee for up to £12 value was 5d. until at least 1922.

1903 (29 May) Registered single rate to England, with 1893-94 ½d.(x2)+2d.

1903 - 3d. registered single rate to England

Rate: 3d. (1d. per ½oz Imperial rate 1898-1906 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)



1902 (14 January) Registered double rate to London, with 1894 4d.



1902 - 4d. registered double rate to England

Rate: 4d. (2x1d. per ½oz double Imperial rate 1898-1906 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)

1903 (March) Insured (for "£12") cover to Salisbury, with 1887 6d.

1903 - 6d, insured rate to England

Rate: 6d. (1d. per ½oz Imperial rate 1898-1906 + 5d. insurance fee up to £12 1896-1922), marked "£12", "Fr300" and "13G".



THE EXTRA HALFPENNY FOR MAIL CARRIED BY PRIVATE SHIPS

In 1901 and 1902 an additional halfpenny was charged for letters carried by ships other than the regular Mail Steamers. A Post Office Government Notification of 11 June 1902 confirmed this additional charge.

1902 (11 June) Government Notification confirming the extra halfpenny charge

1902 (27 August) "By Cattle boat or first boat" in manuscript, to the Cape Colony, with 1893 ½d. + 1902 1d.



The Governor in Council has, under Clause 1 of "The Post Office Ordinance 1898," approved and fixed from this date the following additional rate of Postage viz:—

All Letters and other "Postal Packets" (except Parcel Post) sent by Steamers other than the regular Mails must have an extra **Halfpenny** Stamp in addition to the ordinary Postage.

By order,

T. R. BRUCE, Postmaster.

The Post Office, St. Helena, 11th June 1902



Rate: 1½d. (1d. per ½oz Imperial rate 1898-1906+½d. additional charge for carriage by ship other than Mail Steamer 1901-1902)

1902 - Extra Halfpenny charge "By Cattle boat or first boat"

1901 (30 January) Extra Halfpenny charge, to Transvaal, with 1893 ½d. + 1896 1d.



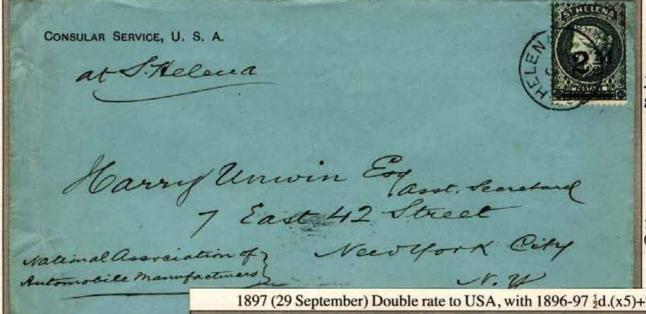
Rate: 1½d. (1d. per ½oz Imperial rate 1898-1906 + ½d. additional charge for carriage by ship other than Mail Steamer 1901-1902)

1901 - Extra Halfpenny charge, to Transvaal

THE 23D. UPU RATE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

When St Helena joined the UPU on the 1 October 1896, the general foreign rate was reduced to a third, from 7½d. to 2½d. per half ounce. In 1907 there were further reductions; to 2½d. for one ounce plus 1½d. for additional ounces.

1902 (26 March) Single rate from "Consular Service USA at St Helena", to New York, with 1893 2½d.



1902 - 2¹d. single rate to USA

Rate: 2½d. per ½oz foreign rate (1896-1907)

1897 (29 September) Double rate to USA, with 1896-97 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.(x5)+2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

1897 - 5d. double rate to the United States

Rate: 5d. (2x2½d. per ½oz double foreign rate 1896-1907) Charles John Thumer, Esq.

United States of a.

1901 (14 February) Single rate to Algeria, with 1896 21d.



1901 - 23d. single rate to Algeria

Rate: 2½d. per ½oz foreign rate (1896-1907)

REGISTERED MAIL TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Before St Helena joined the UPU on the 1 October 1898, the registration fees to GB and other countries were different, 4d. to GB and 6d. to other countries. From the 1 October 1898 the worldwide registration fee was 2d.

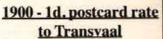
1902 (6 January) Registered double rate to the United States, with 1887-94 3d.+4d.



THE 1D. POSTCARD RATE

When St Helena joined the UPU on the 1 October 1896, the general postcard rate became 1d. to any country in the world. This rate remained unchanged until 1922 when the rate to foreign countries was increased to 11d.

1900 (22 December) Postcard to Transvaal, with 1893 ½d.(x2)



Rate: 1d. Imperial postcard rate (1896-1939)



1902 (17 July) Registered postcard to Jersey, with 1896 2d. + 1902 2d.



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSI ST HELENA THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SID



1902 - 3d. registered postcard rate to Jersey

Rate: 3d. (1d. Imperial postcard rate 1896-1939 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)

1904 (13 January) Taxed postcard to France, with 1902 2d. and French 10c Postage Due stamp

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE ST. HELENA

POST CARD

HE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



1904 -taxed postcard to France, with d., and 10c Postage Due stamp

Rate: 1d. foreign postcard rate (1896-1922); taxed 1d. = 10 centimes

* Madame Degony 45 his R. de Gille



THE 13D. FOREIGN POSTCARD RATE

The foreign postcard rate was increased to 1½d. on 25 January 1922. It remained unchanged until November 1939.

1932 (18 August) Postcard to Argentina, with 1923 1½d. (with "Broken mainmast")

1932 - 1½d. foreign postcard rate to Argentina. Stamp with "Broken mainmast"

Rate: 1½d. foreign postcard rate (1922-1939) This is a Real Photograph.

Correspondence

Law to leste pinto te derico Rossiy Flia

Nesse is la fire a

peral ple ester

Suerus aires

Nisturado Tor less

Buerus aires

1934 (29 September) Postcard to Czechoslovakia, with 1934 1¹/₂d.

CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENCE

CHIS Charie Machons

Gruo-Obramy

Cichne 128

Chechslorakia

1934 - 1 d. foreign postcard rate to Czechoslovakia

Rate: 1½d. foreign postcard rate (1922-1939)

1922 (9 August) Registered 1d. reply postcard to Argentina, with 1913 12d. + 1922 12d.

1922 - Registered postcard to Argentina

Rate: $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. $(1\frac{1}{2}$ d. foreign postcard rate 1922-1939 + 2d.registration fee 1896-1926)



THE 2D. IMPERIAL RATE

The Imperial rate was increased to 2d. per ounce on 17 July 1916. It was changed to 2d. for the first ounce plus 12d. for each additional ounce on 27 March 1922. It remained unchanged at that level until 1939.

1923 (25 January) Single rate to England, with 1912 ½d. + 1922 1½d.

1923 - 2d. single rate to England

Rate: 2d. Imperial rate (1916-1939)

Major Morgan

1934 (16 November) Single rate to Ipswich, with 1934 2d.

On His Majesty's S



1934 - 2d. single rate to England

Rate: 2d. Imperial rate (1916-1939)

Mr. h. W. Tropes

1932 (19 March) Double rate to Northern Ireland, with 1922-23 ½d.+1d.(x3)









Ronald a King Esy 9 Seymour 5!-Lisburn Northern Ireland.

1932 - 33d. double rate to England

Rate: 3½d. (2d.+1½d. double Imperial rate 1922-1939)

REGISTERED MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN

The registration fee was 2d. between 1896 and April 1926, and 3d. between April 1926 and November 1939. 1926 (15 March) Registered single rate to London, with 1922-23 1d.+3d.



1926 - 4d. registered single rate to England

Rate: 4d. (2d. Imperial rate 1916-1939 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)

1926 (13 August) Registered single rate to Manchester, with 1922-23 1d.+4d.

1926 - 5d, registered single rate to England

Rate: 5d. (2d. Imperial rate 1916-1939 + 3d. registration fee 1926-1939)

1934 (11 July) Registered single rate to London, with 1934 2d.+3d.





F. W. VERRINDER

20. KING STREET

ST. HELENA

PORTMAN SQUARE LONDON WI ENGLAND

1934 - 5d. registered single rate to England

Rate: 5d. (2d. Imperial rate 1916-1939 + 3d. registration fee 1926-1939)

THE 3D. RATE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

On 25 January 1922 the foreign rate was increased to 3d. for one ounceplus 1½d. for additional ounces. This remained unchanged until 1939.

1931 (16 January) Single rate to Austria, with 1913 3d.

1931 - 3d. single rate to Austria

Rate: 3d. foreign rate (1922-1939) Mr. W. Morgenstern Weneliftyasse 93/8

1935 (22 February) Double rate to the United States, with 1934 12d.+3d.

1834 ST HELENA 1934

ST HELENA

3-1

C. Phurrov

Mr Robert C. Murror. 34 hood Cawn Place Longmendow 1935-44d.double rate to the United States

Rate: 4½d. (3d.+1½d. double foreign rate 1922-1939)

1935 (11 November) Triple rate to the United States, with 1935 6d.

1935 - 6d, triple rate to the United States

Rate: 6d. (3d.+1½d.+1½d. triple foreign rate 1922-1939)



M. Edward a lelapp,

Byrene Mfgr Co.,

560 Belmont are.

Newark N. J.

U. S. a.

REGISTERED MAIL TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The registration fee was increased to 3d. on 1 April 1926, and remained unchanged until November 1939.

1932 (13 May) Registered single rate to the United States, with 1923 3d.(x2)



THE FIRST AIR MAIL

In June 1936 an Airmail service was introduced via South Africa. The Airmail fee was 6½d. per 10 grams (to the UK) and had to be added to the ordinary postage. The mail was carried by ship from St Helena to South Africa, and by air from there.

1936 (6 December) Single rate to England marked 7gr and I, with 1923 ½d.+8d.

1936 - 8¹d. single rate to England

Rate: $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. (2d. Imperial rate 1916-1939 + $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. Airmail fee for 10 grams)

1936 - 1s.3d. double rate to England

Rate: 1s.3d. (2d. Imperial rate 1916-1939 + $2x6\frac{1}{2}d$. Airmail fee for 20 grams)



1937 (26 April) Double rate to England marked 18gr and II, with 1922-36 ½d.(x2, one with "Cleft rock")+2d.+6d.(x2)





1936 - 11 d. registered single rate to England

Rate: $11\frac{1}{2}$ d. (2d. Imperial rate 1916-1939 + $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. Airmail fee for 10 grams + 3d. registration fee 1926-1939)

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CONNECTION - ASCENSION, ST HELENA AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA

Both Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha are closely linked to St Helena, not only for geographical and communication reasons, but also for having their postal systems administered by or dependent on that of St Helena.

1938 (12 April) From St Helena to Ascension Island, with 1923 2d.



mr. Blandford.
The Brians.

St Helena

1933 - Ascension to St Helena

Rate: 2d. Imperial rate (1916-1939)

MAIL TO ST HELENA

Communication with the outside world was surprisingly good and mail from many different countries can be found.

1900(10 December) Parcel label and Customs Declaration from the Cape of Good Hope, with 1d(x9)



ST HELENA GARRISON MARKINGS

From time to time, British troops were stationed on St Helena. Some of these Garrisons used cachets on their mail.

1899 (19 January) "ORDERLY ROOM WEST INDIA REGT" marking on O.H.M.S. cover to England, with 1896 1d.



THE FIRST WORLD WAR - WAR TAX

Between 9 September 1916 and 27 March 1922, a War Tax of 1d. per letter to GB and the Empire had to be paid. Regular 1d. stamps were overprinted to include the War Tax; 1916 overprinted "ONE PENNY", 1919 overprinted "1d.".

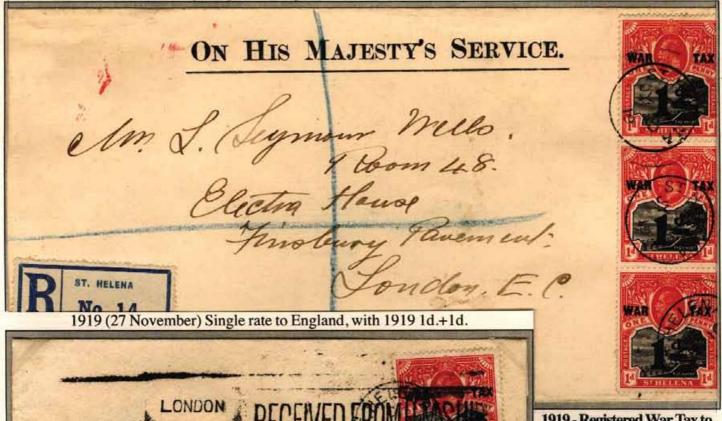
1919 (5 January) Single rate to England, with 1916 1d.+1d.

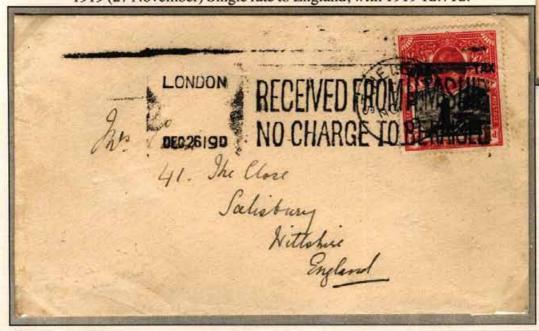
1919 - War Tax to England with 1916 1d.+1d.

Rate: 1d. Imperial rate + 1d. War Tax (1916-1922)



1919 (10 July) Registered triple rate OHMS to London, with 1919 1d.+1d.(x3)





1919 - Registered War Tax to London with 1919 1d.+1d.(x3)

Rate: 6d. (3x1d. triple Imperial rate + 1d. War Tax + 2d. registration fee)

1919 - War Tax to England with 1919 1d.+1d.

Rate: 1d. Imperial rate + 1d. War Tax (1916-1922)

THE FIRST WORLD WAR - ON ACTIVE SERVICE

Soldiers On Active Service were allowed to send mail to their families free of charge. They could either use pre-printed cards or letters, or just write the words "On Active Service" on their letters and postcards.

1915 (22 October) "On Active Service" St Helena postcard to Cape Town, with "2nd S.A. Infantry" cachet and CAPE TOWN PAQUEBOT NOV.13.1915 ds, sent by a member of the small South African Amy unit stationed on St Helena during the First World War



Rate: None, On Active Service mail.

1915 - On Active Service postcard sent by 2nd South African Infantry unit - Rare!

1919 (30 November) "On Active Service" St Helena postcard to England, with London 26.DEC.19 and RECEIVED FROM H M SHIP - NO CHARGES TO BE RAISED markings, sent by a British soldier on St Helena



Rate: None, On Active Service mail.

1919 - On Active Service postcard sent by British soldier on St Helena - Rare!

THE FIRST WORLD WAR - PRISONERS OF WAR

According to international agreements, Prisoners of War were allowed to send mail free of charge to their families. No prisoners of war were held at St Helena during the First World War, but there were some on board passing ships.

1916 (28 April) "POST FREE - P.C. -PRISONERS OF WAR" marking and manuscript "Service Prisoners of War" on postcard from St Helena to USA, sent by a prisoner of war en route to Europe via Gibraltar



Rate: None, Prisoners of War mail.

1916 - Prisoner of War card sent from St Helena to USA - Rare!

1916 (24 October) "PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA" and "CENSURACORRISPONDENZA -PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA" markings, on postcard from Italy to St Helena, sent by a prisoner of war

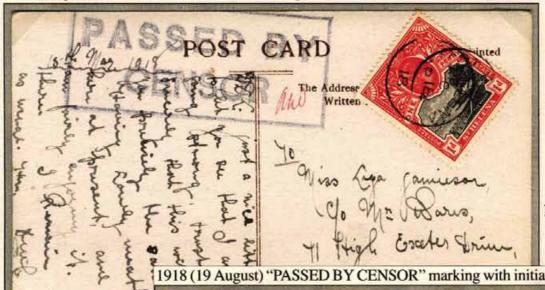


Rate: None, Prisoners of War mail.

1916 - Prisoner of War card sent from Italy to St Helena - Rare!

THE FIRST WORLD WAR - THE "PASSED BY CENSOR" MARKING

This marking was used on St Helena between September 1916 and September 1918, with or without the censor's initials. 1918 (4 April) "PASSED BY CENSOR" marking with initials, to Scotland, with 1912 1d.



1918 - "PASSED BY CENSOR" with initials, to Scotland

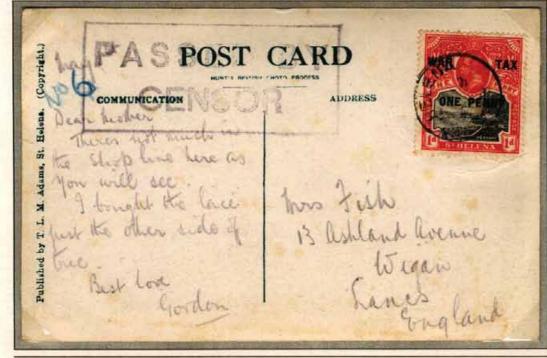
Rate: 1d. Imperial postcard rate (1896-1939)

1918 (19 August) "PASSED BY CENSOR" marking with initials, to England, with 1912 2d.

1918 - "PASSED BY CENSOR" with initials, to England

Rate: 1d. Imperial rate + 1d. War Tax (1916-1922)

1918 (9 May) "PASSED BY CENSOR" marking without initials, to England, with 1916 1d.+1d.



1918 - "PASSED BY CENSOR" without initials, to England

Rate: 1d. Imperial postcard rate (1896-1939) + 1d. War Tax (1916-1922) charged by mistake.

THE FIRST WORLD WAR - THE "PASSED PRESS CENSOR" MARKING

This marking was used on St Helena between December 1914 and April 1918, with or without the censor's initials.

1915 (20 April) "PASSED PRESS CENSOR" marking with initials, to Scotland, with 1912 1d.



Rate: 1d. Imperial rate (1898-1916)

1915 - "PASSED PRESS CENSOR" with initials, to Scotland - Rare!

1915 (21 April) "PASSED PRESS CENSOR" marking without initials, to England, with 1912 1d.



Rate: 1d. Imperial rate (1898-1916)

1915 - "PASSED PRESS CENSOR" without initials, to England - Rare!

THE FIRST WORLD WAR - CENSOR MAIL

Mail from or to St Helena was censored in transit in different countries; many different markings and labels were used.

1916 (20 November) "PASSED CENSOR" marking, to South Africa, with 1916 1d.+1d.

1916 - "PASSED CENSOR" marking, possibly applied on St Helena, to South Africa

Rate: 1d. Imperial rate + 1d. War Tax (1916-1922)



1917(11 January) "PASSED BY CENSOR No 3147" marking, to Egypt, with 1912 d.+1d.+1916 ld.+1d.



1918(19 November) "OPENED BY CENSOR" label, registered to Austria, with 19122 d. + 1916 1d. + 1d.

1917 - "PASSED BY CENSOR No 3147" marking, applied in Egypt, to Egypt

1918 - "OPENED BY CENSOR" label, applied in England, to Austria

Rate: 4½d. (2½d. foreign rate 1896-1922 + 2d. registration fee 1896-1926)



THE BOER WAR - CAMPS ON ST HELENA

The Boer War lasted between October 1899 and May 1902. Boer Prisoners of War were kept on St Helena between April 1900 and the second half of 1902, and almost 6000 prisoners were kept in the two camps, Deadwood and Broadbottom.



THE BOER WAR - CAMPS ON CEYLON

Boer Prisoners of War were also sent to camps on Ceylon, in total almost 5000 prisoners, and with all these prisoners in different places, it is not surprising that there was inter-camp communication.

1902 (14 March) From BROAD BOTTOM CAMP to Diyatalawa Camp, Ceylon, with 1897 ½d.(x2)



Rate: 1d. Imperial rate (1898-1916)

1902 - from BROAD BOTTOM CAMP to Divatalawa Camp, Ceylon

1901 (7 January) From DIYTALAWA Camp to a POW in Cape Town, re-directed to St Helena with ST HELENA arrival cds and CENSOR PRISONER OF WAR marking



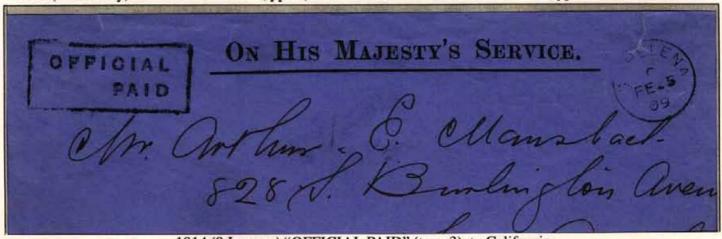
Rate: 6c. Imperial rate

1901 - from DIYATALAWA Camp, Ceylon, to St Helena

"OFFICIAL PAID" MARKINGS (TYPE 2 & 3 & 4)

"OFFICIAL PAID" marking type 2 is recorded as having been used between 1904 and 1909, type 3 between 1914 and 1917, and type 4 between 1919 and 1924. Types 3 and 4 are very similar but there are differences in the lettering.

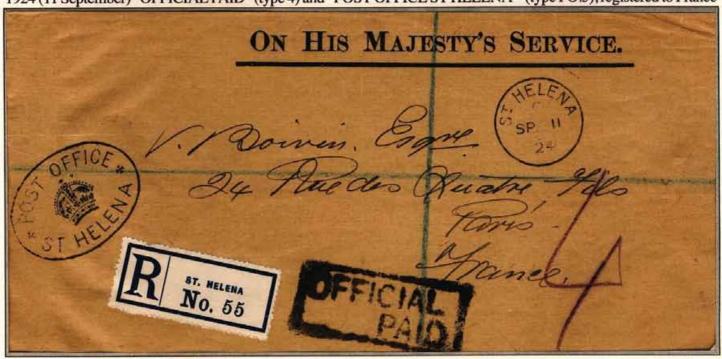
1909 (5 February) "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 2) and "POST OFFICE ST HELENA" (type PO.3), to California



1914 (9 January) "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 3), to California



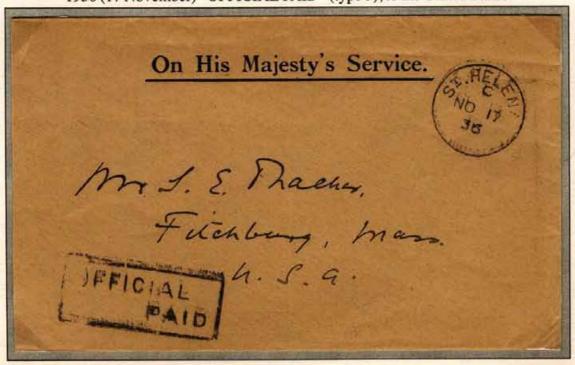
1924 (11 September) "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 4) and "POST OFFICE ST HELENA" (type PO.5), registered to France



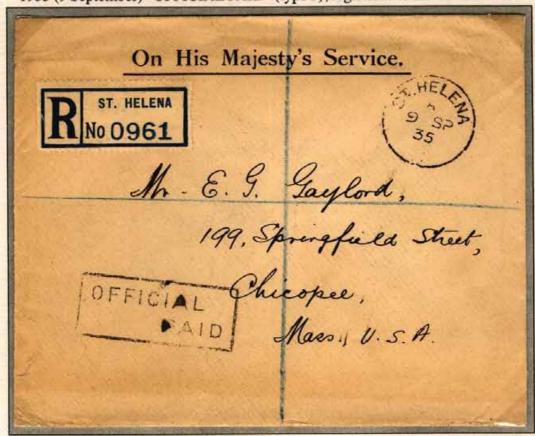
"OFFICIAL PAID" MARKING (TYPE 5)

The "OFFICIAL PAID" marking type 5 was introduced in 1925 and has remained in use until the present day.

1936 (17 November) "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 5), to the United States



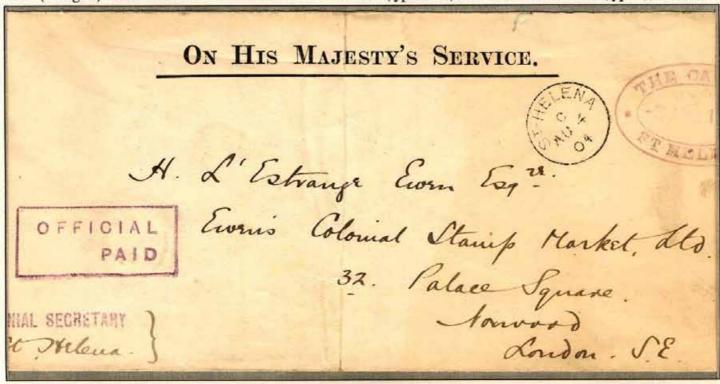
1935 (9 September) "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 5), registered to the United States



"THE CASTLE * ST HELENA" MARKINGS (CH.4 & CH.5)

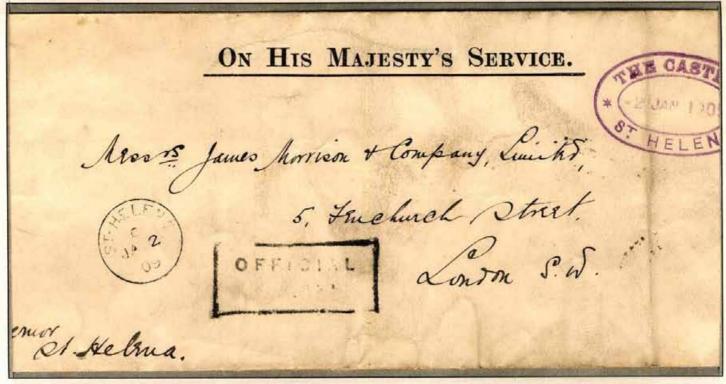
"THE CASTLE" marking type CH.4 is recorded used on archive material between 1903 and 1907, and on one cover from 1904; type CH.5 is recorded used on archive material between 1908 and 1919, and on one cover from 1909.

1904 (3 August) "THE CASTLE * ST HELENA 3.AUG.1904" (type CH.4) and "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 2), to London



1904 - "THE CASTLE * ST HELENA" (type CH.4) - the only known example on cover!

1909 (2 January) "THE CASTLE * ST HELENA 2 JAN.1909" (type CH.5) and "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 2), to London

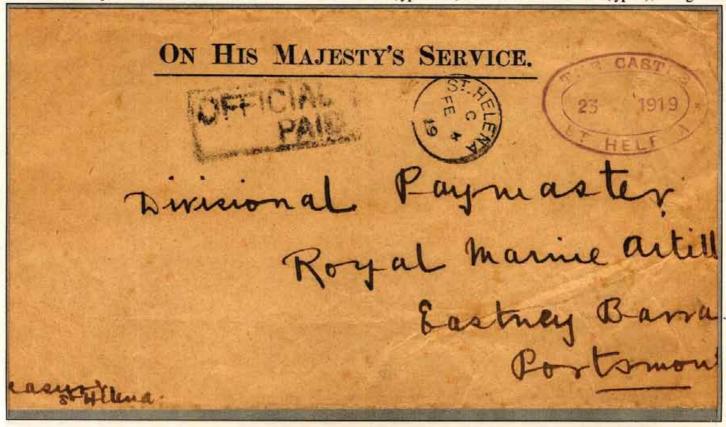


1909 - "THE CASTLE * ST HELENA" (type CH.5) - the only known example on cover!

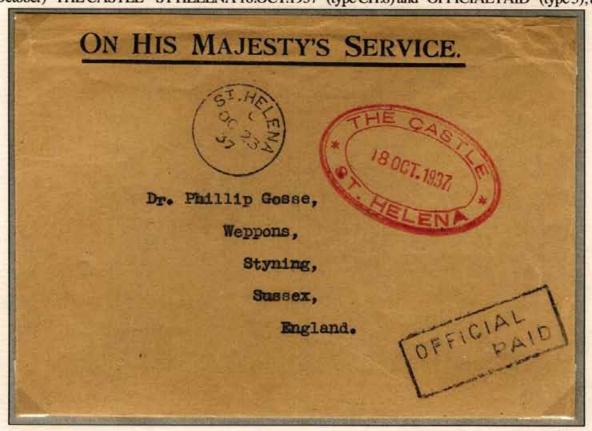
"THE CASTLE * ST HELENA" MARKINGS (CH.7 & CH.8)

"THE CASTLE" marking type CH.6 is recorded on archive material only; type CH.7 is recorded to have been used between 1914 and 1923; type CH.8 is recorded to have been used between 1923 and 1937.

1919 (23 January) "THE CASTLE * ST HELENA 23 JAN.1919" (type CH.7) and "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 4), to England

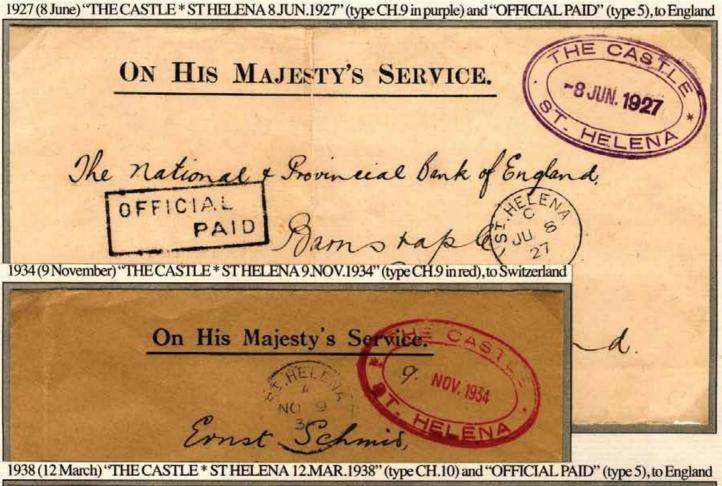


1937 (23 October) "THE CASTLE * ST HELENA 18.OCT.1937" (type CH.8) and "OFFICIAL PAID" (type 5), to England



"THE CASTLE * ST HELENA" MARKINGS (CH.9 & CH.10)

"THE CASTLE" marking type CH.9 is recorded to have been used between 1927 and 1938, and type CH.10 between 1938 and 1939.



On His Majesty's Service.

Dr. Phillip Gosse,

Weppons,

Styning,

Sussex,

England.





PAOUEBOT MAIL

Paquebot mail - mail posted on the High Seas - was normally postmarked in the first port of call, where the mail was handed over to the local Post Office. In many cases special Paquebot postmarks were used.

1902 (1 August) St Helena 1d. postcard to England, postmarked Capetown AU.7.02 and PAQUEBOT



1937 - "CAPE TOWN PAQUEBOT" marking

Rate: 1½d. foreign postcard rate (1922-1939)

ti collections let me iland and tel and englicates, but I thought you wanted single order ST. Helens was very thrilling to me actually llapolon apent his last day Worcetter, Well up levila before his death. W.

1933 (October) M.V. CITY OF NEW YORK SEA POST on St Helena 1912 1d.(x2) + 1922 1d.to USA, taxed 60c



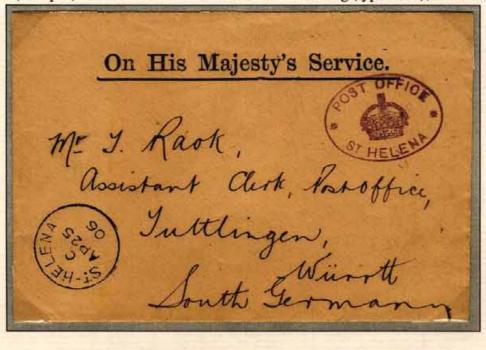
1933 - "M.V. CITY OF NEW YORK SEA POST" marking

Rate: 3d. foreign rate (1922-1939) but franking not accepted by St Helena Post Office and taxed "60c" (=6d.), double foreign rate.

THE "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" MARKINGS (PO.3 & PO.4)

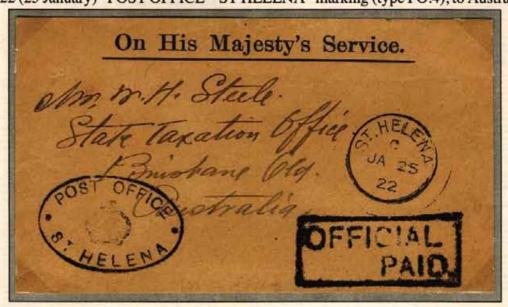
The "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" marking type PO.3 was introduced in 1902 and is known to have been used until 1909. Type PO.4 was introduced in 1911 and is recorded to have been used until 1922.

1906 (25 April) "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" marking (type PO.3), to Germany



1906 - "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" (type PO.3) - Rare!

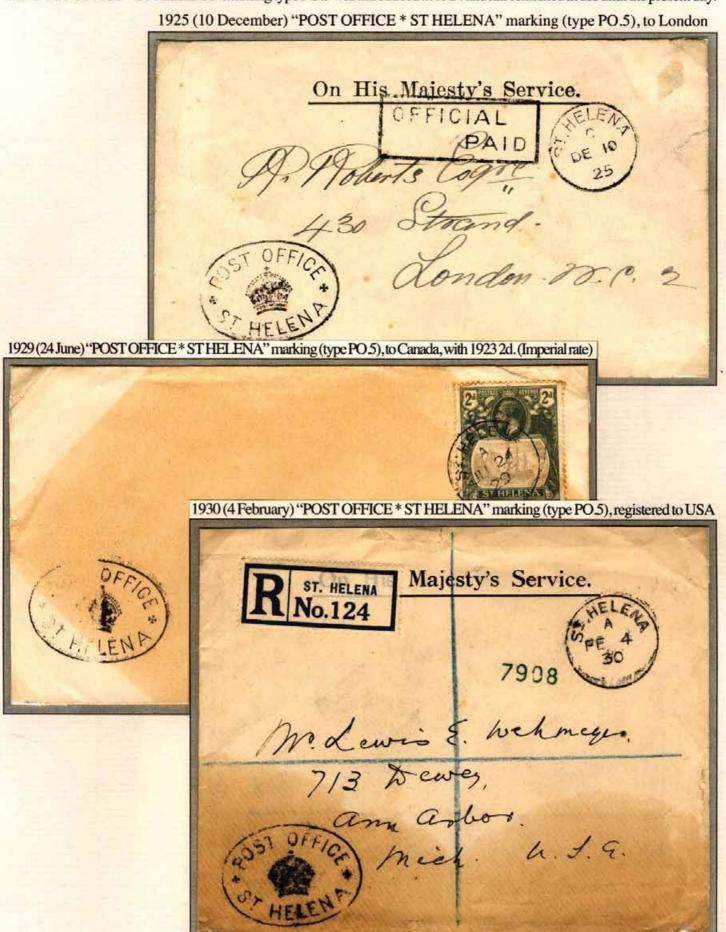
1922 (25 January) "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" marking (type PO.4), to Australia



1922 - "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" (type PO.4) - Rare!

THE "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" MARKING (PO.5)

The "POST OFFICE * ST HELENA" marking type PO.5 was introduced in 1924 and has remained in use until the present day.



THE "RETURNED LETTER" MARKINGS

The first "RETURNED LETTER" marking was introduced around 1900 and remained in use until the end of the Boer War in 1902. The second marking was delivered in 1912 but only one use is recorded, in 1933.

1900(12 October) "RETURNED LETTER" marking, registered to Transvaal, with 1890-93 1d(x2)+22d.



LIGUE CONTRE
LE POURBOIRE

Joseph James Sown

Aprique

James Sown

1933 - second
"RETURNED

LETTER" marking the only known
example!

THE UNCLAIMED MARKINGS

A number of other unclaimed markings were in use from the 1890's onwards. Most of them are very rare. 1896 (7 June) "UNCLAIMED * POST OFFICE ST HELENA", from USA



1896 - "UNCLAIMED * POST OFFICE ST HELENA" - Rare!

1910 (22 March) "NOT CALLED FOR * POST OFFICE ST HELENA", from Germany

1910 - "NOT CALLED FOR * POST OFFICE ST HELENA" - Rare!



1932 (4 February) "RECEIVED AFTER VESSELS DEPARTURE", from Trinidad



1932 -"RECEIVED AFTER VESSELS DEPARTURE" -Rare!

can.

THE "T c" MARKING (TYPE 3)

The first boxed "T_____c" marking was delivered by the GPO in 1895, but it is only recorded in use between 1900 and 1902.

1900 (6 August) "T c" with manuscript "25", to Holland, with 1896-97 ½d.+1d.(x2) and Dutch 25c Postage Due stamp



Rate: 5d. (2x2½d. double foreign rate 1896-1907), taxed "25" centimes (= $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.), 50c to pay = 25 Dutch cents.



c" with manuscript "15", to France, 1901 (18 January) "T_ with 1890 1d. and French 15c(x2) Postage Due stamps



Rate: 2d. (2x1d. double Imperial rate 1898-1915), taxed "10" centimes (= 1d.), 20c to pay = 2d.

Rate: 21d. foreign rate (1896-1922), taxed "15" centimes (= $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.), 30c to pay

THE "T c" MARKING (TYPE 4)

The second boxed "T.....c" marking was delivered by the GPO in 1902, and has been recorded in use between 1902 and 1910.



THE "T c" MARKING (TYPE 5)

The third boxed "T....c" marking has been recorded in use between April 1911 and October 1922. 1911 (16 April) "T....c" with manuscript "5", to the Cape Colony, with 1902 ½d.



Rate: 1d. Imperial postcard rate (1896-1939), taxed "5" centimes $(=\frac{1}{2}d.)$, 10c to pay = 1d.

Madlinger

Rate: 1d. Imperial postcard rate (1896-1939), taxed "5" centimes $(=\frac{1}{2}d.)$, 10c to pay = 1d.

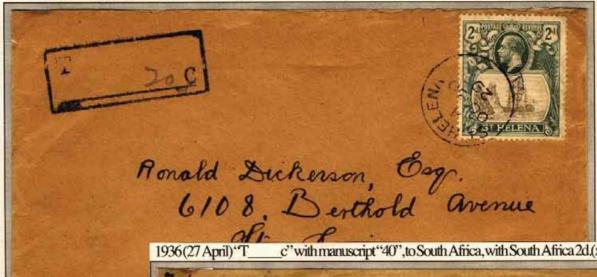
1922 (6 October) "T....c" with manuscript "5", to USA, with 1912 2d.+2d. and USA 2c Postage Due stamp



Rate: 3d. foreign rate (1922-39), taxed "5" centimes (= $\frac{1}{2}$ d.), 10c to pay = 2 US cents.

THE "T c" MARKING (TYPE 6)

The fourth boxed "T____c" marking was introduced in 1926 and has remained in use until the present day. 1929 (30 October) "T_ c" with manuscript "20", to USA, with 1923 2d.



Rate: 3d. foreign rate (1922-39), underpaid by 1d., taxed "20" centimes (= 2d.)

c"with manuscript"40", to South Africa, with South Africa 2d.(x2) Postage Due stamps

Mrs J. Daniell.

Rate: 2d. Imperial rate (1916-39), underpaid by 2d., taxed "40" centimes (= 4d.)

> 1934 (30 July) "T____c" with manuscript "10", printed matter to Switzerland, with 1934 2d. and Swiss 10c Postage Due stamp

Trinked matter. Mr E. Schmid 9.0 Box 255 Sirich 1.

Rate: 1d. foreign printed matter rate (1922-39), underpaid by ½d., taxed "10" centimes (= 1d.)

POSTAL FORMS - MONEY ORDER AND AVIS DE RECEPTION

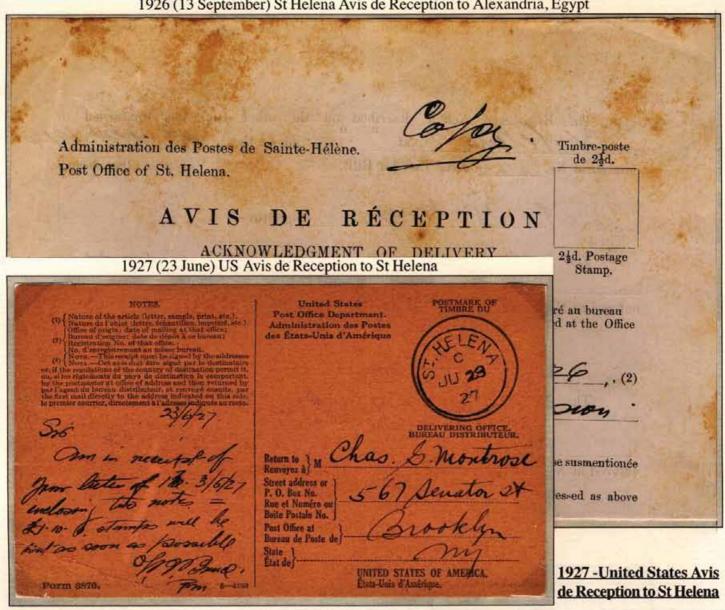
Postal Services including issueing Money Orders and Return Receipts (Avis de Reception). Special forms were used. 1912(12 February) St Helena Money Order for £4-10s to Potchefstroom, South Africa



1912 -St Helena Money Order to South Africa

> 1926 -St Helena Avis de Reception to Egypt

1926 (13 September) St Helena Avis de Reception to Alexandria, Egypt



TELEGRAM FORMS AND ENVELOPES

The first Telegraph cable laid between Cape Town and St Helena was completed on 24 November 1899, and the cable between St Helena and Ascension island on 15 December 1899. The Eastern Telegraph Company serviced St Helena.

1914 (23 April) Eastern Telegraph Company memo with their St Helena cachet, to the Postmaster

