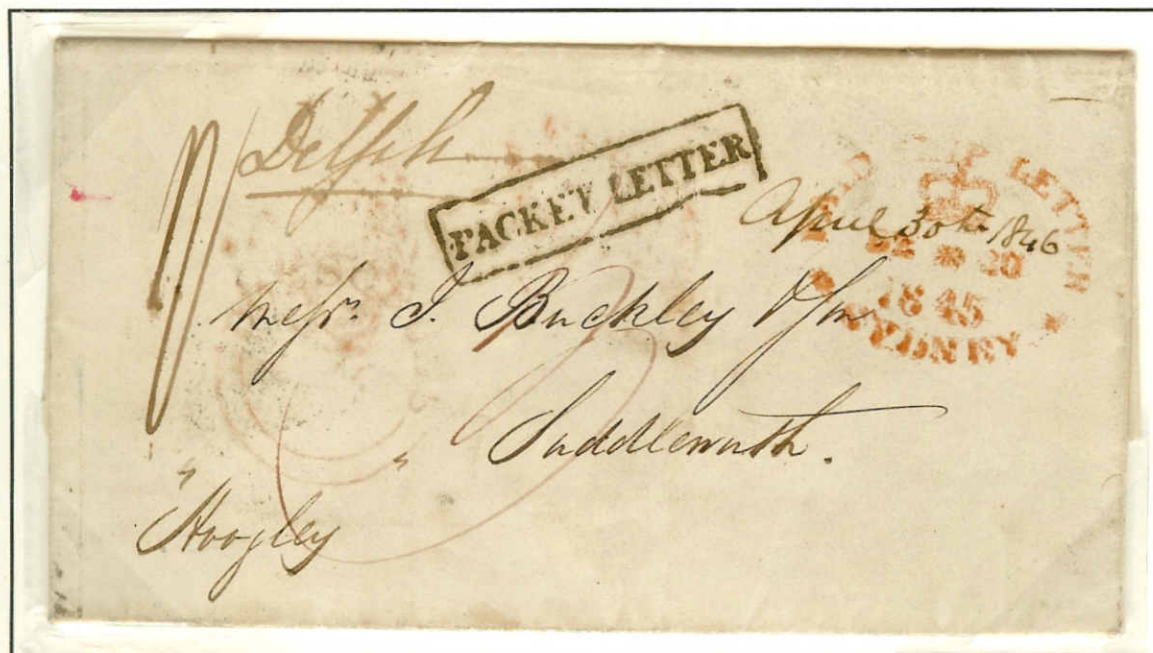


BRITISH PACKET MAIL

Toulmin Packets 1846-1849

The first contract for a monthly packet service between Great Britain and New South Wales provided for packets to Australia in 1844 but the first packet from Sydney was in 1846. The contract was with the Toulmin Brothers and lasted until 1849. Mail not endorsed "by private ship" was held over to the next contract sailing.

First Toulmin voyage from Sydney by the "Hooghly"



Rate

Threepence overseas Ship Letter rate prepaid. Ms. "1/-" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate due on delivery.

Route

Toulmin Packet "Hooghly", sailing on 2.1.1846 and arriving at Penzance on 25.4.1846.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"

(30.12.1845, type SL2), "PACKET LETTER" applied in London.

On reverse:

Date-stamps for London and Manchester (27.4.1846).

10 December 1845

Third Toulmin voyage from Sydney by the "Eweretta"

Rate

Tenpence prepaid (7d Inland plus 3d General Letter rate). Ms. "1/-" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate due on delivery.

Route

Campbell Town to Sydney by road. Toulmin Packet "Eweretta", sailing on 5.3.1846 and arriving at Deal on 10.7.1846.

Markings

"CAMPBELL TOWN / POST PAID" (type P11)

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"

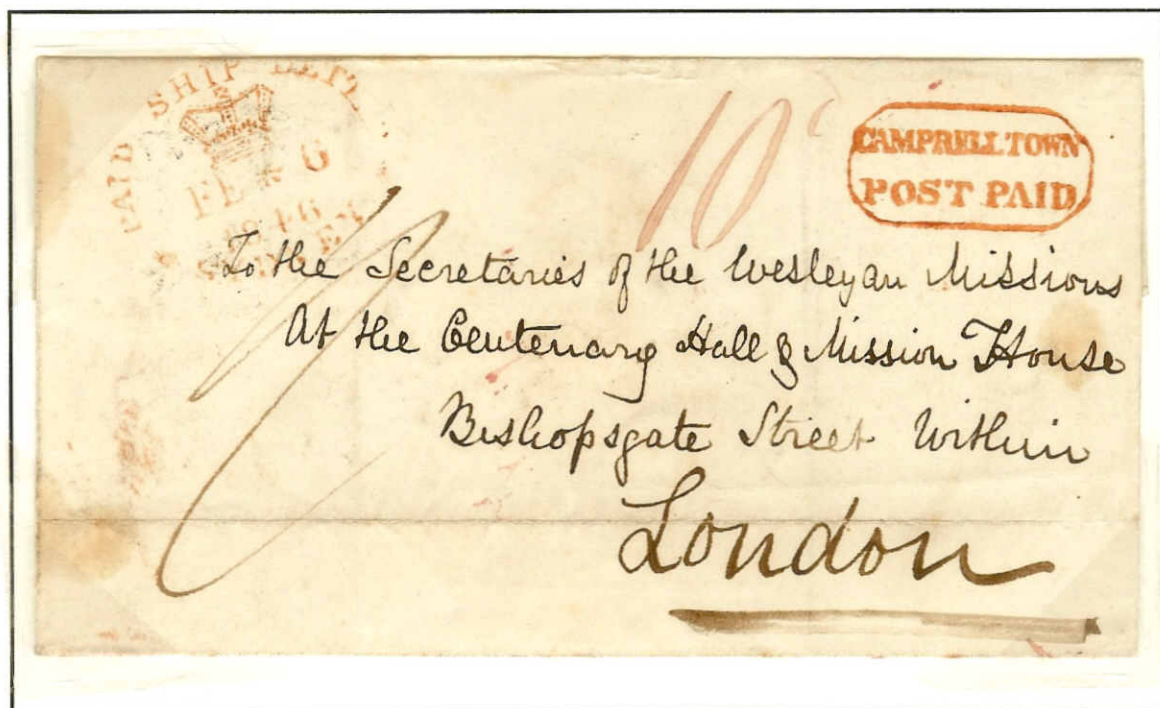
(6.2.1846, type SL3).

On reverse:

"CAMPBELL TOWN / NEW.S.WALES"

(5.2.1846, type C65),

London date-stamp (10.7.1846).



5 February 1846

BRITISH PACKET MAIL

Toulmin Packets 1846-1849

The normal northbound route of these packets was via Cape Horn. In 1846 five homeward packets carried the mails to India via Torres Strait to Calcutta or Galle. The mail was transferred to a P&O ship and forwarded via Suez.

First Toulmin voyage via Torres Strait, Calcutta and Marseilles by the "Lloyds"



21 April 1846

Rate

Sevenpence prepaid (4d Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate). Ms. "2/7" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate (1/5d packet plus 4d India plus 10d French transit rates) due on delivery.

Route

Toulmin Packet "Lloyds" to Calcutta, P&O SS "Hindostan" to Suez, camel overland to Alexandria, P&O SS "Ariel" to Malta.

Markings

"PAID AT / MAITLAND" (type P15)

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"

(29.4.1846, type SL3).

On reverse:

"MAITLAND / NEW.S.WALES"

(25.4.1846, type C67).

Date-stamps for Calcutta, London (21.8.1846) and Evesham (22.8.1846).

Second Toulmin voyage via Torres Strait, Calcutta and Marseilles by the "St. Vincent"

Rate

One shilling prepaid (9d Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate). Ms. "2/2" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate (1/5d packet plus 4d India plus 5d French transit rates) due on delivery

Route

Toulmin Packet "St. Vincent" to Calcutta, P&O SS "Precursor" to Suez, camel overland to Alexandria, P&O SS "Oriental" to Malta.

Markings

"PAID AT / BATHURST" (type P15)

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (25.5.1846, type SL3).

On reverse:

"BATHURST / NEW.S.WALES" (type C65).

Date-stamps for Calcutta, London (23.9.1846) and Birkenhead (25.9.1846).



20 April 1846

BRITISH PACKET MAIL

Toulmin Packets 1846-1849

Toulmin voyage via Torres Strait, Calcutta and Marseilles by the "Eagle"



27 July 1846

Rate: Sevenpence prepaid (4d Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate). Ms. "2/3" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate due on delivery.

Route: Toulmin Packet "Eagle" departing Sydney 2.8.1846 and arriving in UK on 29.12.1846.

Markings: "PAID AT / MAITLAND" (type P15) and "PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (30.7.1846, type SL3).

On reverse: "MAITLAND / NEW.S.WALES" (28.7.1846, type C67). Date-stamps for Calcutta (10.10.1846), London (29.12.1846) and Evesham (30.12.1846).

Rate

One shilling prepaid (9d Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate). Ms. "2/3" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate due on delivery.

Route

Toulmin Packet "Eagle".

Markings

"PAID AT / GRESFORD" (type P15)

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (30.7.1846, type SL3).

On reverse:

Date-stamps for Calcutta (10.10.1846) and London (29.12.1846).



27 July 1846

BRITISH PACKET MAIL

Toulmin Packets 1846-1849

The normal northbound route of these packets was via Cape Horn.

Toulmin Packet "Ralph Bernal" via Nelson, New Zealand

The barque "Ralph Bernal" put into Nelson on 21.10.1848 to repair a leak, which she had sprung in a wind gale two days after sailing. She was delayed for a week before proceeding round Cape Horn.



21 August 1848

Rate

1/6d prepaid (1/3d Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate).

1/- inwards UK packet letter rate due on delivery.

Route

Armidale to Maitland by road, local ship to Sydney. Toulmin Packet "Ralph Bernal" departing Sydney 6.10.1848, arriving in UK on 10.3.1849.

Markings

"PAID AT / ARMIDALE" (type P15),

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (27.9.1848, type SL3).

On reverse:

"ARMIDALE / NEW.S.WALES" (19.9.1848, type C67)

London (10.3.1849) and Edinburgh (11.3.1849) date-stamps.

Port Phillip mail sent by Toulmin Packet "Ganges"

Rate

1/8d prepaid (1/5d Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate).

1/- inwards UK packet letter rate due.

Route

The Grange to Melbourne by road, thence by ship to Sydney. Toulmin Packet "Ganges" to UK.

Markings

"THE GRANGE / POST PAID",
"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (26.10.1847, type SL3).

On reverse:

"THE GRANGE / PORT PHILLIP" (15.10.1847),

"MELBOURNE / PORT PHILLIP" (18.10.1847),

Date-stamps for London and Glasgow (5.3.1848).



15 October 1847

PACKET MAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

France

Anglo-French Accountancy Marks

In 1843 a treaty was signed by England and France agreeing on the treatment of unpaid mail between the two countries. Subsequently handstamps were applied in London on unpaid or underpaid Australian mail to France. The handstamps refer to the article of the treaty and its revisions.

Rate

Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d General Ship Letter rate. Ms.

"1/-" in black denotes British packet letter rate.

Ms. "16" in black denotes 16 decimes due on delivery.

Route

From Sydney per Toulmin Packet "Ganges", sailing on 6.10.1846 and arriving at Falmouth on 13.3.1847. Thence to Boulogne and by rail to Argentan.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (3.10.1846, type SL3),
"COLONIES / &c. ART. 13."
(earliest recorded example),
"ANGL / 2-2 / BOULOGNE"
(15.3.1847) transit date-stamp.

On reverse:

Date-stamps for London (13.3.1847), Paris and Argentan (15.3.1847).



3 October 1846

Prussia

Rate

Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d General Ship Letter rate. Ms.

"1/-" in black denoting British packet letter rate (deleted).

"6" and "4" in black denote 6d British per ½ oz and 4d Prussian per loth (½ oz). "11¼" in red denotes 11¼ silbergroschen equating to 1s/2d sterling, representing 6d British, 4d Prussian and 4d Belgian.

Route

From Sydney per Toulmin Packet "Lima", sailing on 14.8.1847 and arriving at Deal on 12.12.1847. Forwarded by Coutts & Co, London to Bonn.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (7.8.1847, type SL3),
"Aus ENGLAND / Per AACHEN".

On reverse:

Date-stamps for London, Charing Cross (13.12. 1847), and Aachen Bahnhof (15.12.1847).



7 August 1847

PRIVATE SHIP MAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

Mauritius via South Australia



25 June 1839

Rate: Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d general ship letter rate. Ms. "7d" in black denotes 7d inwards ship letter rate due on delivery in Mauritius.

Route: Per brigantine "Abercromby" via South Australia. Arrived in Port Adelaide on 19.7.1839 and sailed on 21.8.1839 to Mauritius.

Markings: "PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (25.6.1839, type SL2), and "MAURITIUS / POST OFFICE" (9.11.1839).

Cape of Good Hope via South Australia

Rate

Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d general ship letter rate.

Ms. "4" in black denotes 4d CGH inwards ship letter rate due on delivery.

Route

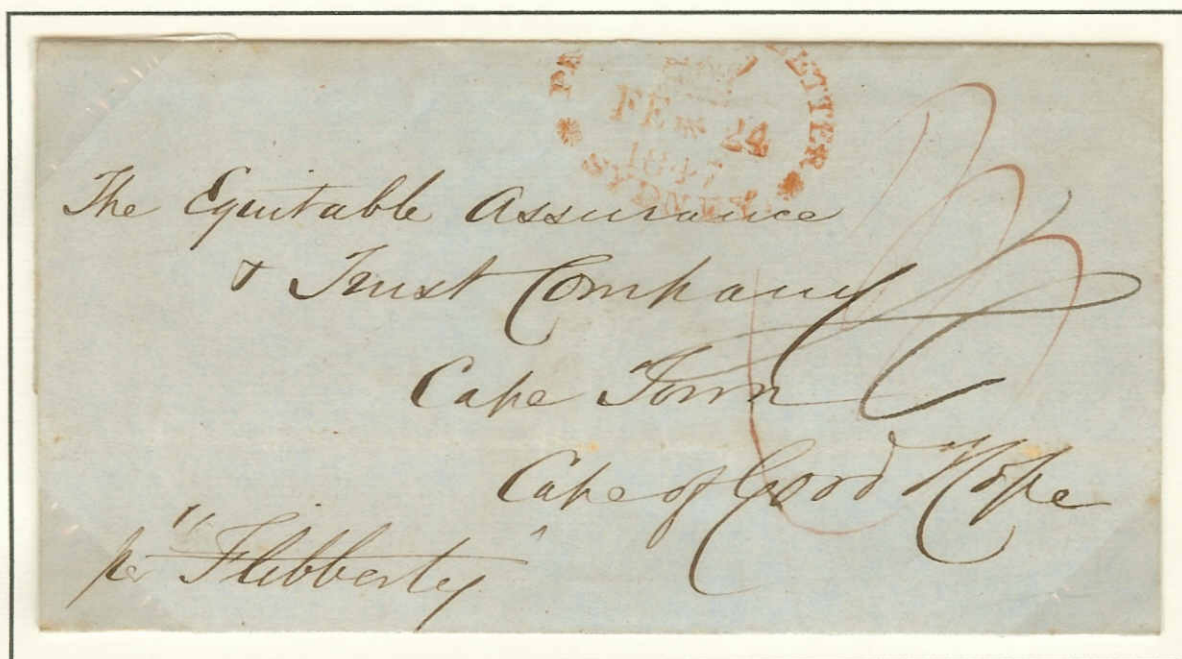
Per brig "Flibberty" sailing from Sydney on 1.3.1847. She arrived in Adelaide on 20 March, finally sailing westwards across the Indian Ocean to Mauritius and Cape Town on 20.4.1847.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"

(24.2.1847, type SL3).

Ms. docketing indicates arrival date of 21.6.1847 in Cape Town.



24 February 1847

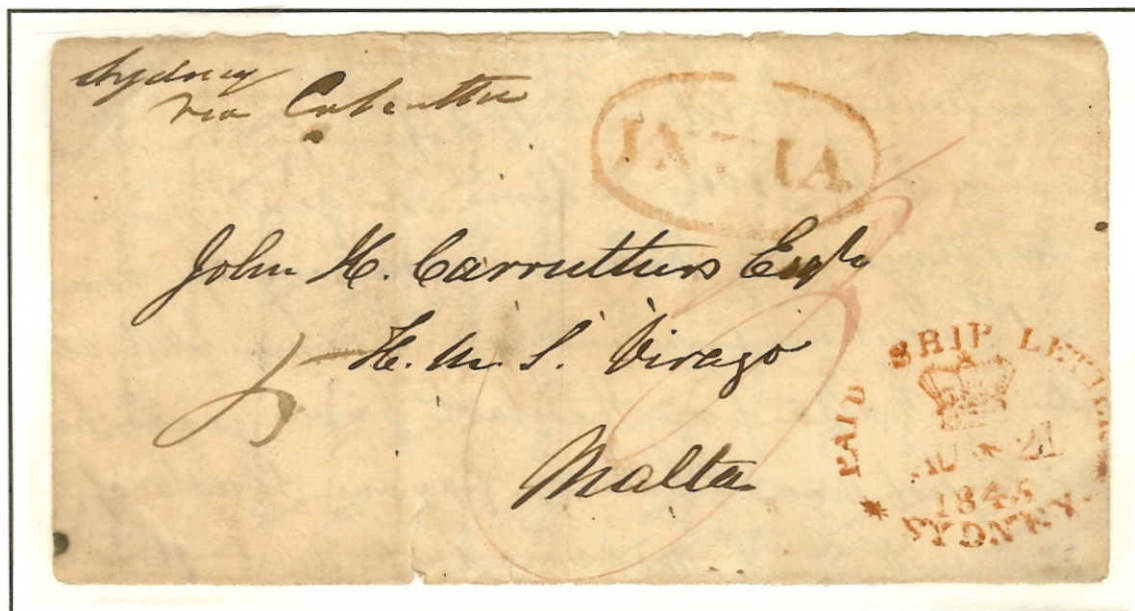
PRIVATE SHIP MAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

Malta via England



19 March 1844

Malta via Calcutta



21 August 1845

Rate: Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d general ship letter rate.

Ms. "5" in black denotes 5d due on delivery in Malta.

Route: Front sent by Indian mail from Sydney to Calcutta, then by P&O steamer to Suez, overland to Alexandria, and P&O steamer to Malta.

Markings: "PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (21.8.1845, type SL3). Oval "INDIA" applied at Calcutta.

Rate

Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d general ship letter rate.

Ms. "8" deleted, re-rated "2/5" in black denoting 2s/5d due on delivery in Malta, consisting of 8d UK inwards ship letter plus 1s/9d for a ½ oz letter to Malta by French Packet.

Route

From Sydney across the Pacific Ocean to Cape Horn then across the Atlantic Ocean to London. By train across France to Marseilles and by French Packet to Malta.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (19.3.1844, type SL3).

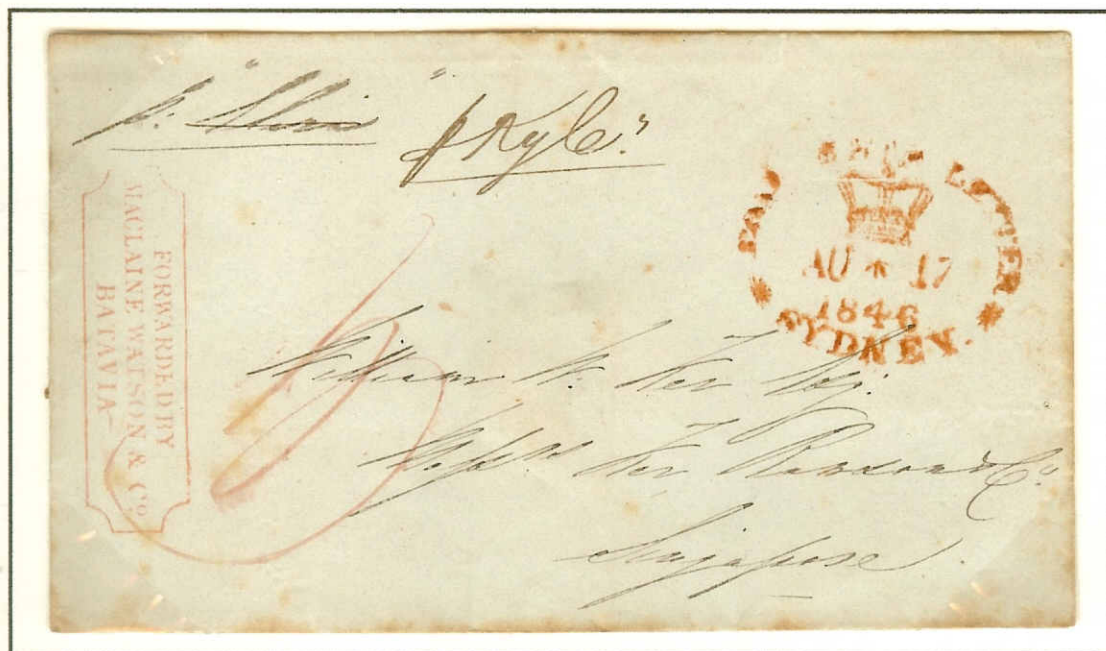
On reverse:

Straight line "SHIP LETTER" and London date-stamp (20.7.1844).

PRIVATE SHIP MAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

Singapore via Batavia Forwarder

"FORWARDED BY / MACLAINE WATSON & Co. / BATAVIA" (only recorded example), and the only pre-stamp entire to Singapore.



Rate

Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d general ship letter rate. Native ms. annotation on reverse.

Route

Per barque "Eliza" sailing from Sydney on 22.8.1846 bound for Guam, and then per "Kyle" from Batavia to Singapore.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (17.8.1846, type SL3).
"FORWARDED BY / MACLAINE WATSON & Co. / BATAVIA".

17 August 1846

Netherland Indies

Rate

Ms. "3" in red denotes prepayment of 3d General Ship Letter rate. The recipient was charged 60 cts in Batavia.

Route

Per ship "Mellish" sailing from Sydney on 18.7.1839.

Markings

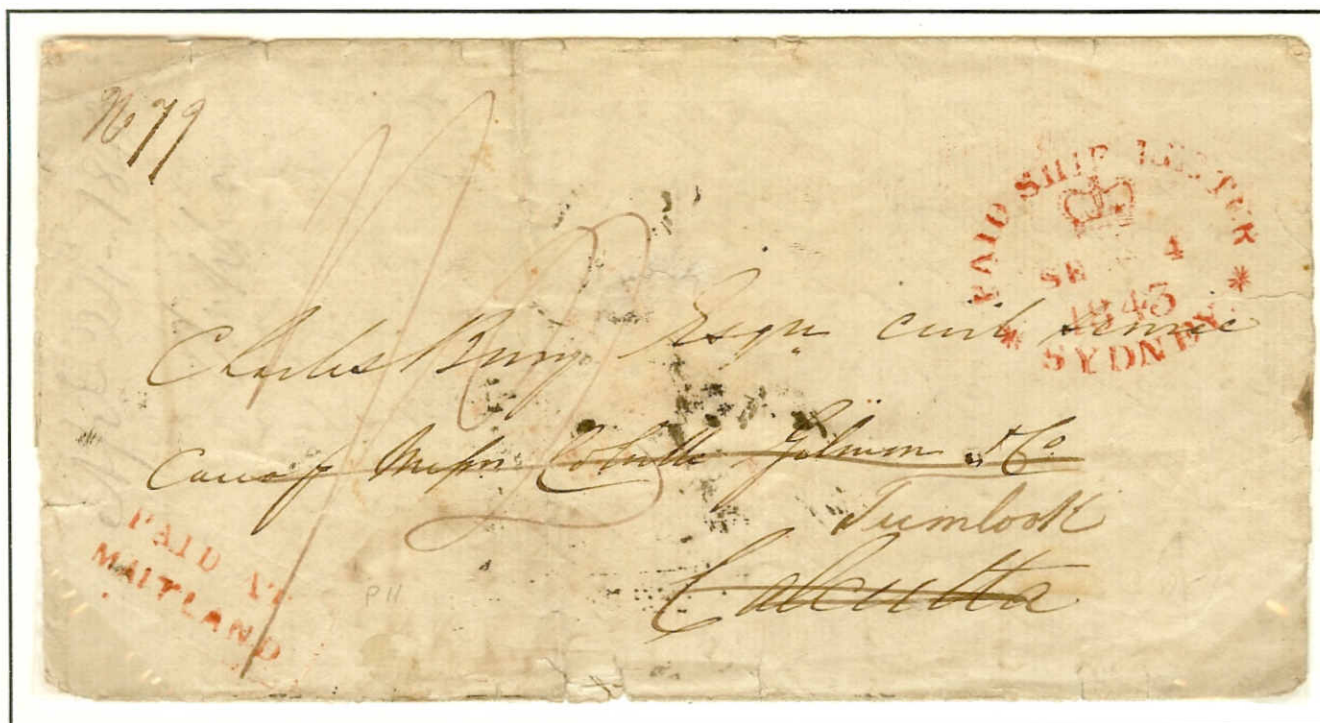
"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (13.7.1839, type SL2).
Dutch Indies "ZEEBRIEF / [posthorn] / ONGEFrankeerd" and "60 ct", both in blue.



13 July 1839

PRIVATE SHIP MAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

India



1 September 1843

Rate: 1/2d prepaid (double 3d General Ship Letter plus 4d Local Ship Letter rate). India postage due 2 annas.

Route: Maitland to Sydney by local vessel. Private ship to Calcutta, India, Redirected to Tumlook.

Markings: "PAID AT MAITLAND" (type P15) and "PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (4.9.1843, type SL2).

On reverse: "MAITLAND / NEW.S.WALES" (1.9.1843, type C65). Calcutta Ship Letter Bearing date-stamps in red and black (May 1844)

Tahiti

The only recorded example of pre-stamp mail to Tahiti.

Rate

Ms. "1/3" in red denotes prepayment of 1/- Inland Letter plus 3d General Ship Letter rate.

Route

Tarcutta to Sydney via Gundagai by road. Per barque "Ennerdale" sailing from Sydney on 11.8.1849 bound for San Francisco, via Auckland and Papeete, Tahiti.

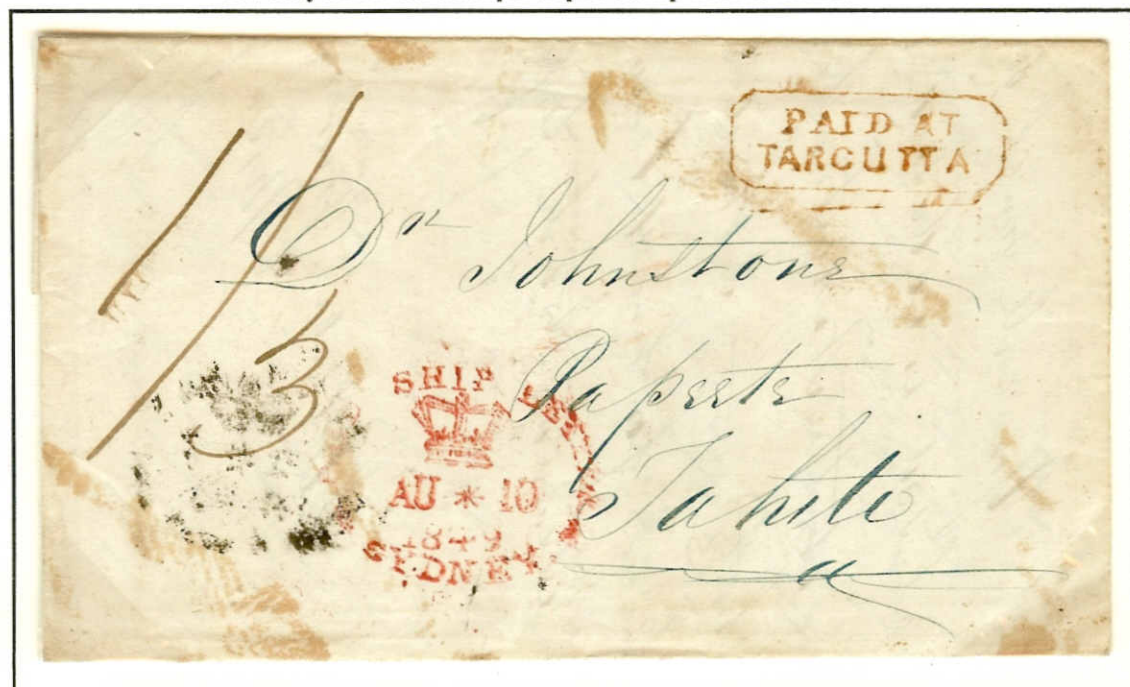
Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"

(10.8.1849, type SL3).

"PAID AT / TARCUTTA" (type P15).

On reverse: "TARCUTTA / NEW.S.WALES" (4.8.1849, type C68) and "GUNDAGAI / NEW.S.WALES" (7.8.1849, type C67).



4 August 1849

PRIVATE SHIP MAIL VIA INDIA & SOUTHAMPTON

Mails were carried by private ship to India to connect with the P&O steam packet service, the transfer ports being Calcutta, Madras, Galle or Singapore. For mail transferred at Point de Galle the via Southampton rate was only 1/- single, the India letter rate not being chargeable.

Mail transferred at Calcutta sent by "Royal Saxon"



Rate

One shilling & threepence prepaid (1/- Inland plus 3d General Ship Letter rate).

Ms. "1/4" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate (1/- British packet plus 4d India ship letter) due on delivery.

Route

Scone to Raymond Terrace by road, thence by ship to Sydney. Per "Royal Saxon" to Calcutta, thence per P&O packet.

Markings

"PAID AT / SCONE" (type P15),
"SCONE / NEW.S.WALES"
(28.3.1847, type C65)

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"
(30.3.1847, type SL3).

On reverse:

Date-stamps for London (29.8.1847),
Edinburgh (31.8.1847) and Forres
(1.9.1847).

27 March 1847

Triple Rate

Rate

Ninepence prepaid (triple 3d General Ship Letter rate for ¾ oz.).

Ms. "2/8" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate (double 1/- British packet plus 4d India ship letter for ¾ oz.) due on delivery.

Route

Per barque "Royal Saxon" sailing 13 April for Calcutta. Arrived at Calcutta on 5 August 1847 and mail transferred to P&O packet.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY"
(10.4.1847, type SL3).

On reverse:

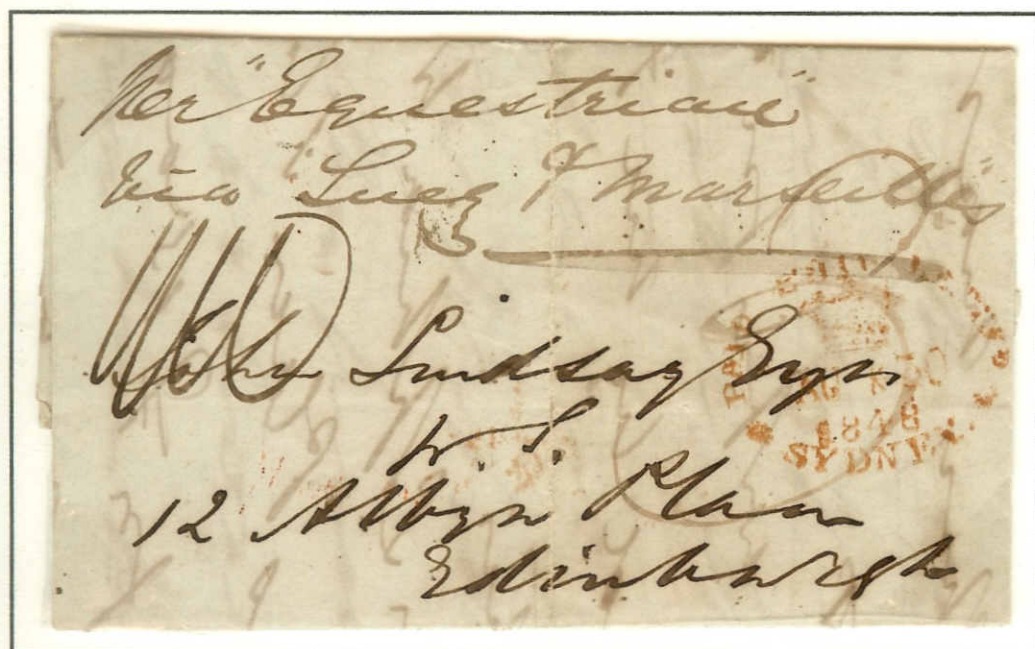
Date-stamp for London (29.8.1847).



9 April 1847

PRIVATE SHIP MAIL VIA INDIA & MARSEILLES

Mail transferred at Point de Galle sent by "Equestrian"



30 August 1848

Rate

Threepence prepaid General Ship Letter rate.

Ms. "1/10" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate (1/5 British packet plus 5d French transit) due on delivery. For mail transferred at Galle the 4d India letter rate was not chargeable.

Route

Per barque "Equestrian" sailing for Colombo on 4.9.1848, thence per P&O packet.

Markings

"PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (30.8.1848, type SL3).

On reverse:

Date-stamps for London (19.12.1848) and Edinburgh (20.12.1848).

Mail transferred at Singapore sent by "Beulah"



7 August 1847

Rate: Sixpence prepaid (double 3d General Ship Letter rate). Ms. "2/-" denotes inwards UK packet letter rate (double 1/- British packet rate) due on delivery.

Route: Per barque "Beulah" sailing 12 August for Singapore and Hong Kong, thence mail transferred to P&O packet.

Markings: "PAID SHIP LETTER / SYDNEY" (7.8.1847, type SL3). On reverse: Date-stamp for London (27.11.1847).