

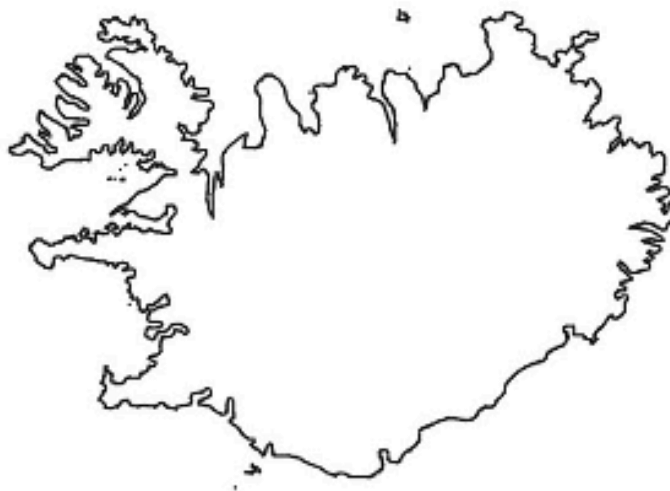
ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



Newcastle on Tyne Ship Letter

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Special Issue January 2026

SPECIAL # 24 – Newcastle on Tyne – 202 V1

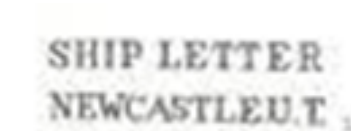
Compiler: Jakob S. Arrevad: jsa@agadvokatfirma.dk.

This is a part of a series published online which summarizes, supplemented by recent discoveries, information published over the years in IslandsKontakt and elsewhere. We must all be grateful for the sustained efforts of all those who, over the years, as Editors or Authors have contributed to the gathering and dissemination of information relevant to the philately of Iceland¹. Ebbe Eldrup and Harald Thoma have given valuable contribution to this issue².

History:



Robertson S1 – 1813 –



Robertson S2 - 1839-1846



Robertson S3 – around 1869
see the following example

¹ Response from the readers and further copies are appreciated.

² Harald Thoma has also done the transcriptions and translation of the German text on the cards.



Letter from "Thronthjem 24.6.1869" sendt via Newcastle on Tyne to Stranraer, Scotland. On the front "SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE TYNE".

1886

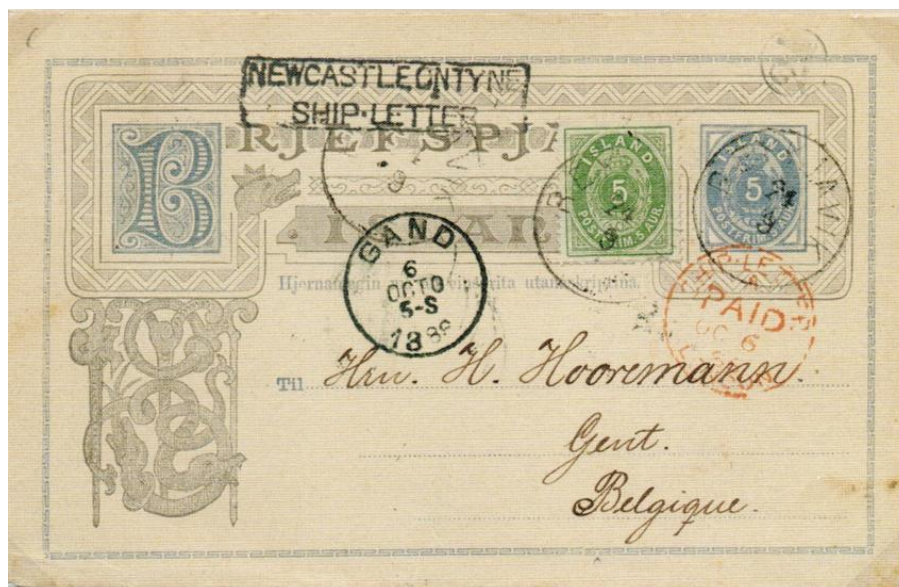
**NEWCASTLE ON TYNE
SHIP-LETTER**

Robertson S4 – 1883-1886
Perhaps from 1881? – until 1887

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?	24.9.86	Reykjavik	OC 5 86	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



Letter to Leipzig – Reykjavik 24.9 box NEWCASTLE ON TYNE SHIP LETTER and LONDON SHIP LETTER paid³



Brejfsjald from Reykjavik 24.9.1886 to Belgium with transit cancellations NEWCASTLE ON TYNE SHIP-LETTER – LONDON SHIP LETTER - OC 6 89 and arrival in Belgium the same day.

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
SS MINSK?	8.10.1886		OC 15 86	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	Time "6 G"



Carried by SS MINSK: In the newspaper from 1st October: "The steamship Minsk arrived here on the 27th of m. from Newcastle with products from Lauritzen & Co." and 8th October: "The steamer Minsk left here on the 6th with 1300 sheep and 130 horses.

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
SS NORGE	3.9.87	BERGEN		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	Time "6 G"

³ See further IslandsKontaktsPECIAL # 37– LONDON SHIP LETTER – 2023 V1.

1887



BERGEN-NEWCASTLE – letter "Bergen 3.IX.87", transit cancellation in red "Paid Ship-Letter London SP 6 87" send to Melbourne, Australia. Handwritten "pr. S.S. "Norge"" and with "NEWCASTLE ON TYNE SHIP-LETTER" in frame.

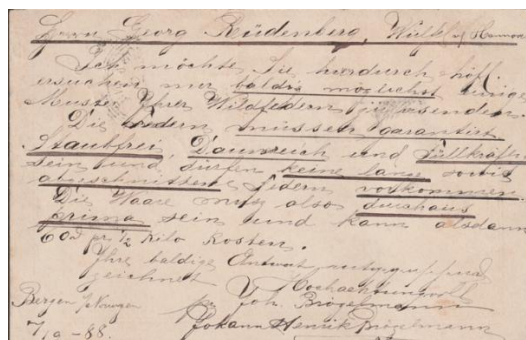
1888

**NEWCASTLE ON TYNE
SHIP LETTER**

Robertson S5 1889-1890

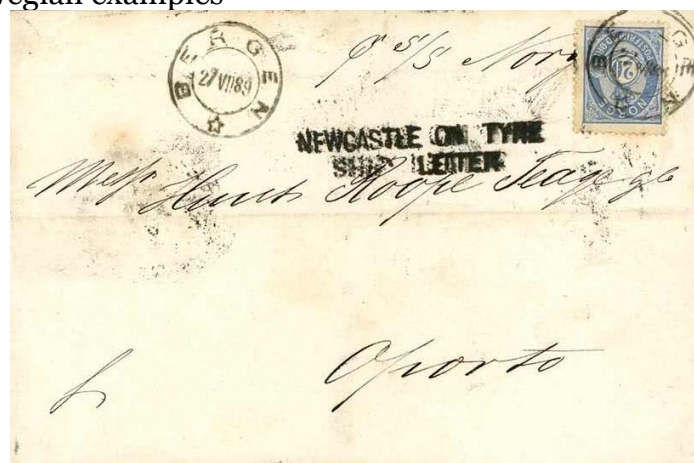
Used 1888 on the following Norwegian example and used until 1893.





1889

Here are again Norwegian examples⁴



Bergen 27 VII 89 sent with SS NORGE – NEWCASTLE ON TYNE SHIP LETTER to Oporto



NEWCASTLE ON TYNE - pair of 10 øre cancelled "Bergen 27.IX.89" "NEWCASTLE ON TYNE SHIP LETTER" and Newcastle on Tyne one ring cancellation SP 30 89, red "Ship Letter London OC 1 89" – sent to France.

⁴ See further Norwegian example IPM "London Ship Letter" Jakob S. Arrevad

1890

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
Mount Park			JY 8 1890	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



In the press from 4th July 1890: "Mount Park, L. Zöllner's steamer of Newcastle, arrived here on the 29th from the north and west of the country, and with it L. Zöllner himself. It returned from here to England yesterday with 434 horses."

1893

In Iceland Phil Magazine # 17 page 4 **Ellis Glatt** wrote:

"An interesting ship letter postal card

Just picked up this Iceland ship-letter postal card on eBay. I was especially attracted to the interesting Newcastle-on-Tyne cancellation on the card with adjoining grid cancel on the 10-aur imprint showing the number 545. According to one of Halfdan Helgason's old articles from 1980, numeral 545 was the British numeral cancellation associated with Newcastle back then. Must be a relatively scarce one on Icelandic mail, as I had not seen that one before. Interesting message in English on reverse."

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?			JY 25 93	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	

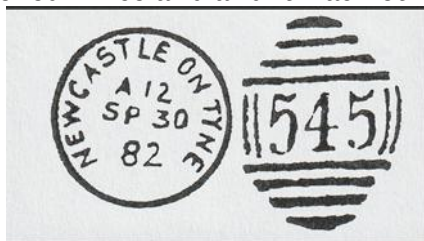


Patreksfjörður Iceland 19 July 1893
 My dear Miss Slattery! - I feel right
 we are on board of the steamer
 stopping at all the different
 trading places of the east and
 north coast of Iceland and making
 small excursions inland. when
 ever we had occasion to get
 provisions - we enjoy it immensely.
 The scenery is not quite so
 grand as in some Norwegian
 fjords, but still it is very
 beautiful. the air delicious
 is clear and pure with the delightful
 northern light from Reykjavik
 we shall make a great excursion
 inland - I wish you and Miss
 James were with us - We look quite
 forward to our Norwegian journey
 next year. Best compliments from
 your
 very
 truly
 your
 friend
 Ellis Glatt

Patreksfjörður 19. July 1893: The sender has been with the steamer “stopping at all the different trading places of the east and north cost of Iceland”. It might be SS Thyra.



Ellis Glatt also asked: “Perhaps readers might explain the presence of the “halfpenny Foreign Branch” mark?” My explanation is, that it was a simple mistake, as the postcard was not cancelled in Iceland and it was not realized, that it was a ship letter.



The type is known on single stamps – both the round part (see also from OC 15 1896 with “old time” and AU 22 1898 with “new time”) and the “545” mentioned by Ellis Glatt.

The following have the same ship letter cancellation –NEWCASTLE ON TYNE SHIP LETTER but no year.

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?	20.07.??	Reykjavik		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



1894

SHIP LETTER
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Robertsson S6 (around 1896)
Dovey/Morris (Hosking 4th) # 155 – from 1894

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?	14.10.1894	Reykjavik		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



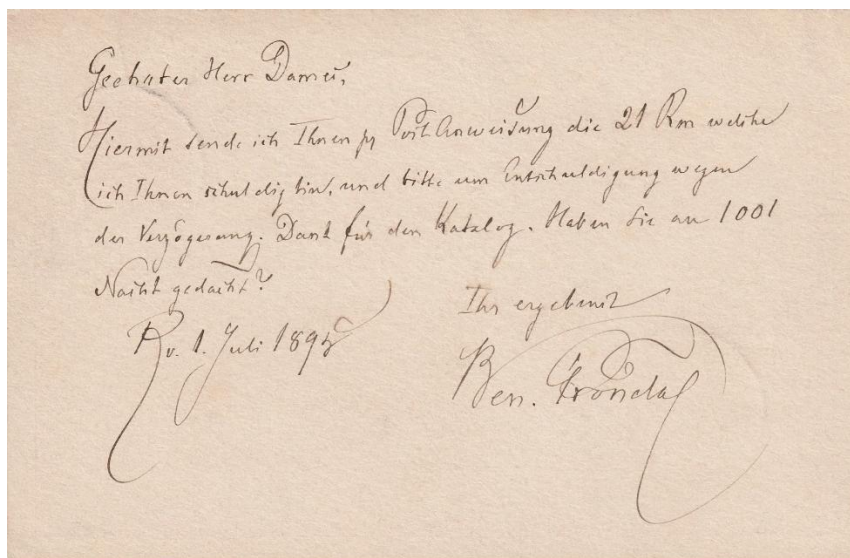
2 10 aur on letter from 14. October 1894 to Switzerland with SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

1895

In “Ísafold” from 03.07.1895 it is mentioned: “The steamship "Stamford" arrived from the west again the previous day and left yesterday for England with 470 horses for both Zöllner and Simon.

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?	2.7.1895	Reykjavik		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	





The text reads:

Geehrter Herr Dames

Hiermit sende ich Ihnen per Postanweisung die 21 Rm welche ich Ihnen schuldig bin, und bitte um Entschuldigung wegen der Verzögerung. Dank für den Katalog. Haben Sie an 1001 Nacht gedacht?

Rv. 1. Juli 1895 Ihr ergebener

Ben. Prondal

Dear Mister Dames

herewith I send you the 21 Rm I owe you

per postal order and beg your pardon because of the delay. Thanks for the catalogue. Did you think of 1001 nights?

Rv. 1. July 1895 Yours sincerely

Ben. Prondal⁵

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			OC 29 1896	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



1896

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
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⁵ Rm = Reichsmark

Buchhandlung = bookstore - and a "Felix L. Dames library" still exists in Berlin.

	JY 1896			NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	
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Text from Hosking auction:

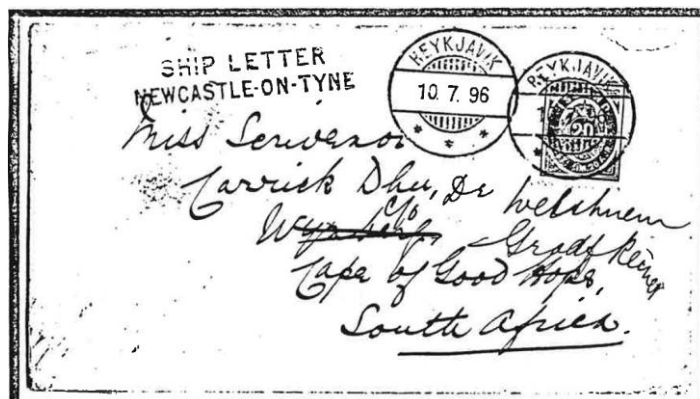
FINAL UNFRAMED "SHIP LETTER/NEWCASTLE ON TYNE" ON UPDATED ICELAND CARD TO GERMANY; 3/10 July 1896 usage of the Iceland 5a Postal Stationery PC (very slight corner wear) from "Talknafjord" to Hamburg uprated with 5a Green tied by a very fine Reykjavik c.d.s. but also having a very fine small rare "SHIP- LETTER/NEWCASTLE ON TYNE" (Rob.S6; only recorded by Robertson for 1896, but now a few other examples known 1894-26; see next lot) nicely placed on the front. Few known. [In Roger's Collection since at least 1971.] Exhibition Quality.

I haven't seen a copy.

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?	10.7.1896			NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



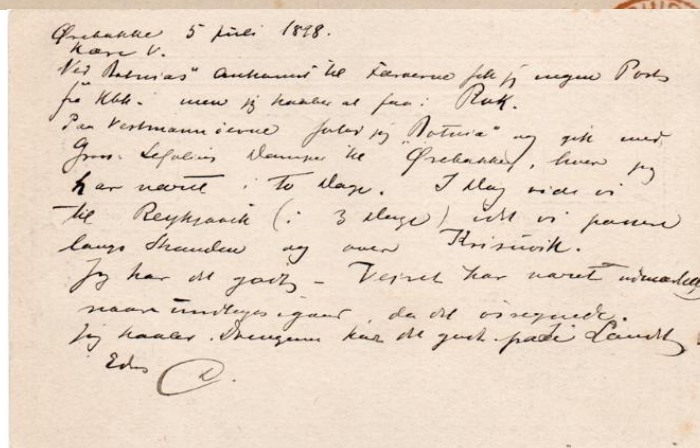
10 Aur on brejefspjald REYKJAVIK 10.7.96 to Hamburg, Germany



Reykjavik 10.7.96 SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE to South Africa

1898

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
?	6.7.1898	Reykjavik	?	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	London JY 12



Reykjavik 6.7.1898 - SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE and LONDON SHIP LETTER paid⁶ JU 12 98 to Annavej Hellerup Denmark.

⁶ See further IslandsKontaktsPECIAL # 37- LONDON SHIP LETTER - 2023 V1.

Part of the text: "Upon "Botnia's" arrival in the Faroe Islands, I did not receive any mail from Kbh, but I hope to receive it in Rvk.

On Vestmannaisland I left "Botnia" and went over on grosses Lefolii Steamer⁷ to Ørebakke (Eyrarbakki), where I was two days. Today we ride to Reykjavik (for 3 days), We expect? Road over Krisuvik.

The text does not fit into the schedule for Botnia - but with notes in the newspaper "Island" from the 5th July 1898: Daniel Bruun⁸, an archaeologist who has travelled here before, came with "Botnia" to Vestmannaeyja. From there he took the steamboat "Oddi" to Eyrarhakka. He plans to travel through Reykhólasveit in the west this summer and look at the dowels, which have recently been found there."⁹



Reykjavik 6.7.98 SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE to Copenhagen

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			AU 22 1898	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	New type



New part of "one ring + 545" - now with "new time" 10.45 AM. Arrival AU 22 1898

⁷ "Gb Oddi" owned by J.R.B. Lefolii, see "Skibe og forsendelser omkring Island - Islandske Fjordskibe" (2006) Jakob S. Arrevald page 65.

⁸ Peter Daniel Bruun (born 27 January 1856 died 22 September 1931) was a Danish officer, explorer, archaeologist and author.

⁹ See Daniel Bruun: "Arkæologiske Undersøgelser paa Island" i Geografisk Tidsskrift, Bind 15; 1899

1899

GWENT	7.8.1899	Reykjavik	AU 12 1899	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	New type
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Ísafold (09.08.1899): “The horse merchant ship Gwent come and go here some days ago”



NEWCASTLE ON TYNE - AU 12 99 – new circular two ring stamp with on arc.



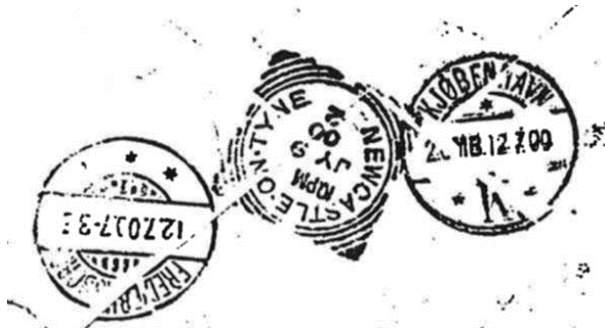
Reykjavik 7.8.99 SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE to Copenhagen

1900

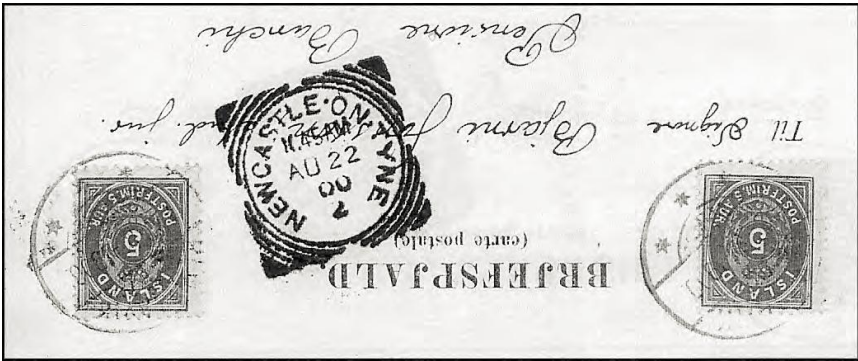
SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
	4.7.1900	Reykjavik		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			JY 9 00	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			AU 22 00	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



1901

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
	4.7.1901	Reykjavik		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	New York



Reykjavik, June 28, 1901.

The American Newspaper Association,
New York.

Supplement: -

I have noticed your advertisement in the Success: "The new 1901 Werner edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica". I will kindly ask you for particulars of the work and the price - cash paid - with and without the book case.

I suppose you would not send it on quarterly payments, although I am American citizen and can and can furnish best of references.

Yours respectfully,
Jon Stefansson,
Reykjavik, Iceland.

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
	21.8.1901			NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



5 aur BRJEFPJALD sent as printed matter from Reykjavik 21.8.1901 to Gütersloh, Germany. Transit mark Newcastle "SHIP LETTER - NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE".

1902

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
	25.8.1902	REYKJAVIK	AU 29 02	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	





SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
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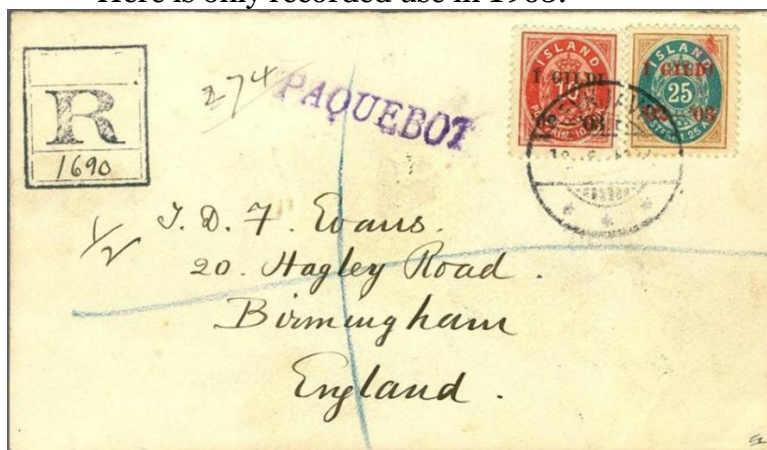
Þór Þorsteins has compiled the list of sailings paid for carrying mail from Iceland from 1903 until end 1911. His recordings are used in the following – but there are more to add and investigate.

1903

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
				NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	PAQUEBOT 1st omnibus

PAQUEBOT:

The Paquebot cancellation is the so-called “1st Omnibus type” - Dovey & Morris “Hosking 4th edition” # 22 (earlier # 7).
Dovey & Morris note used in 1905 in purple and in red in 1909.
Here is only recorded use in 1903.





Registered Newcastle-on-Tyne 18 JU 03 and Paquebot "1st Omnibus type" Leeds 19 JU 03 and Birmingham 19 JU 03



Dated Newcastle JU 18 03 –The Paquebot cancellation is the so-called "1st Omnibus type"

Same date on the back of the following cover to Denmark with 3 aur large "3", 5 aur and a pair of 6 aur, all perf. 12 3/4 "REYKJAVIK 10-6-1903" with a violet/purple "PAQUEBOT" on the side as well as transit and arrival mark on back.



FRIDTJOF	02.07.1903	REYKJAVIK	10.07.1903	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	3KR.
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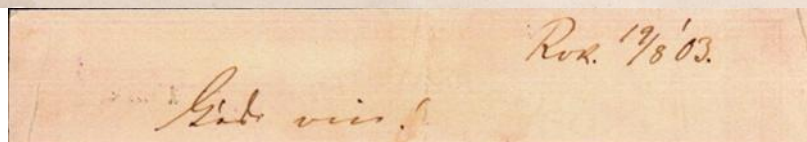


Newcastle on Tyne JY 10 03



Probably JY 10 03

FRIDTJOF	19.08.1903	REYKJAVÍK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	3KR.
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10

It is only identified as passing NEWCASTLE ON TYNE due to the departure day from Reykjavík. The Paquebot cancellation is the so-called “1st Omnibus type”

¹⁰ The copy is from Mike Tuttle's former collection and the clip from the back is what is shown.

1904

FRIDTIOF	07.07.1904	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.1KR.
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10 aur Chr. IX from Reykjavik 28.7.1904 transit "Ship Letter Newcastle-on-Tyne" to Frankfurt Germany

FRIDTIOF	24.08.1904	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	4KR.
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Brjefspjald with 4 and 6 aur Chr.IX from Reykjavik 24.8.04 to Aalborg Denmark

1905

	x.07.1904	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	
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Reykjavik x.7.1905 to Copenhagen

1906

RAITWAIT HALL	26.03.1906	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	3KR.
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No copy seen

FRIDTJOF	25.08.1906	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	5KR.
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Reykjavik 16.8.06
Credé herr.
Jeg havde oven af at skrive dem
i fjul og bestille hos dem in
Kataloz men desværre har jeg ikke
maataget des credé var men jeg
harbet at maatage des credé var
samt 1 Kataloz ved første lejlighed.
Adressen
Med mine Højskæler.
A. B. Hansen 16.
A. B. Hansen

10 aur Chr. IX answer part of double Card from Reykjavik 16.8.1906 transit SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE to Dresden, Germany - arrival Dresden 1.9.1906.

The following is cancelled in Reykjavik 24.08.1906 – but the message on the text side is dated 23. Sept 1906?



Reykjavík d. 23. Sept. 1906.
 Hrn. Svendsen & Hagen,
 Maa þu hafa þu sendu mig með "Vesta" 9. Sept.:
 12 Mags Naale (íhlu Særlig Korke)
 5 Bradsataprójekt med Fillehús
 5 Møstere.
 Det er mig meget taknemmeligt at Naale er
 her omkring den 20. Sept.
 Erhødsigt
 Magnus Einarsson.

The date Reykjavik 24. Sept. 1906 but in the text there is a request: "May I ask you to send me with "Vesta" 9. Sept." "Vesta" was scheduled to leave Copenhagen on that day. The recipient Svendsen & Hagen, Kjøbmagergade 61, Copenhagen. — were known as surgical instrument makers — established 1872;

			DE 27 06	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	
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1907

FRIDTJOF	18.09.1907	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	4KR.
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No copy seen

URANIA	22.10.1907	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	3KR.
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No copy seen

SS INGOLF		DENMARK	25.11.1907	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	
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Up to Iceland:



“Per S/S "Ingolf" via Leith". Newcastle 25.11.07 with 2½d. Letter to Húsavík Island. Transit on the back Edinburgh 25.11.07, Leith 25.11.07 and violet Icelandic cancellation (unclear:fjordur 7.12 ..)

1908

GIMLI	01.03.1908	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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RINGFOND	16.05.1908	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	4KR.
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TRYG	20.05.1908	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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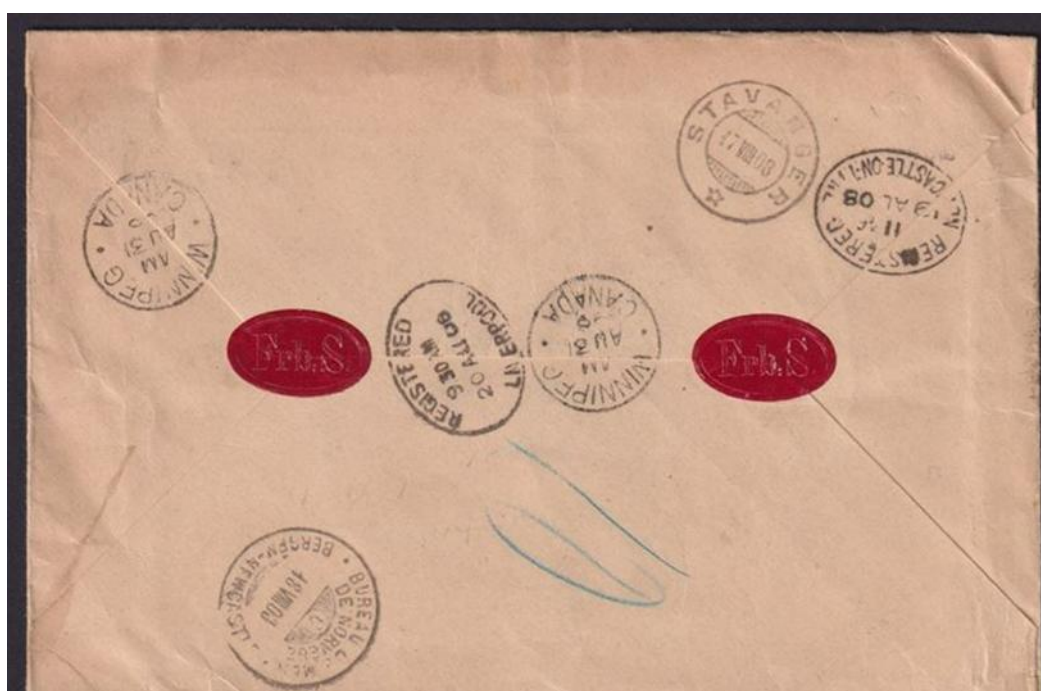
TRYG	27.07.1908	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	4KR.
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No copies in 1908 until here.

URANUS VENUS	10.08.1908 17.08.1908	Akureyri Stavanger	Via Stavanger and Bergen 19.08.1908	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	Via Liverpool to Canada
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Registered cover sent from AKUREYRI on 10.8. 1908 to Winnipeg in Canada.



Firstly, cancelled in Akureyri on 10. August 1908 the day DS URANUS¹¹ left for Reykjavik and from there to STAVANGER. Transit cancelled on 17.8. 1908.

Then carried (presumably) by DS Venus¹² coming from Bergen and going to NEWCASTLE ON TYNE via STAVANGER. On the ferry got a BUREAU DE MER DE NORVÉGE – BERGEN-NEWCASTLE TYNE cancellation type C on the 18 VIII 08



and arriving in NEWCASTLE ON TYNE on 19 AU 08.



Over land and transit cancel from LIVERPOOL on 20.8.1908 before it's departure to Canada, finally arriving in Winnipeg on 31.8.1908.

FRIDTJOF	31.08.1908	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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No copies seen.

1909

THYNE	26.04.1909	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	3KR.
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NAPOLI	15.05.1909	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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¹¹ On 2 June 1908, "Uranus" was the first ship in the new Bergenske Steamship company route to Iceland. The route left from Oslo or Stavanger and called in Torshavn on the Faroe Islands and then to all the ports on the north coast of Iceland and finally Reykjavik.

¹² DS Venus were serving the Bergenske Steamship Company's route Bergen via Stavanger to Newcastle on Tyne for many years. Per Eirik Danielsen: "Sjø-Postreuter på Utlandet" (1991) page 26f.– same: "Norske Skipspost stempler" (1991) page 198.

MODESTA	01.06.1909	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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No copies seen from 1909

1910

SKULDA	25.04.1910	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	1KR.
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VIGSNÆS	28.06.1910	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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FRIDTJOF	28.07.1910	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	3KR.
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FRIDTJOF	27.08.1910	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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KNUT SKALGREEN	??.12.1910	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	5KR.
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No copies seen from 1910

1911

ROYLTON DIXON	20.02.1911	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	1KR.
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EUROPA	05.04.1911	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	2KR.
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ISBJÖRN	24.04.1911	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	50AUR.
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CORONILLA	08.07.1911	REYKJAVIK		NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	1KR.
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No copies seen from 19

1912

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
				NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



10 Aur cancelled "Reykjavik 3.VI.12" on Brjefspjald via Newcastle to Bergen, Norge



1912-1920 ??

1921

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			5 SP 21	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



1922 – 1925 ??

1926

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			29 JY 26	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	PAQUEBOT # 156



Paquebot Dovey & Morris "Hosking 4th edition" # 156



Newcastle on Tyne 29 JY 26 – stampers number "17"

SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	COMMENTS
			23 SP 26	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	



5 aur CX cancelled Newcastle on Tyne 23 SP 26

And same day



Letter cancelled NEWCASTLE ON TYNE 23 SP 26 and
SHIP LETTER NEWCASTLE- ON-TYNE

1927

GULLFOSS	3.8.1927	REYKJAVIK	10 AU 27	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	
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Visir from 4.8.1927



GOÐAFOSS	25 AU 27	REYKJAVÍK	8 SP 27	NEWCASTLE ON TYNE	
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20 aur - Newcastle on Tyne 8 SP 27 (stampers number 4) + Paquebot - Dovey & Morris
“Hosking 4th edition“ # 156.

References

Mike Tuttle "UTLÄNDSKA ANKOMST- & RANSITSTÄMPLAR -. Rapport # 168 - Translated into Swedish by Leif Nilsson/Kjell Idling.

Robertson: "A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles"

Mike Dovey & Keith Morris ("Hosking 4th Edition"): Paquebot Cancellations of the World.

Heinrich Schilling: Island: Fremde Anladestempel auf Islandpost, (1996 and later supplements).

Per Eirik Danielsen: "Sjø-Postruter på Utlandet" (1991)

Per Eirik Danielsen: "Norske Skipspost stempler" (1991)

Paquebot.Info

Philatelic Magazine # 69 page 17