

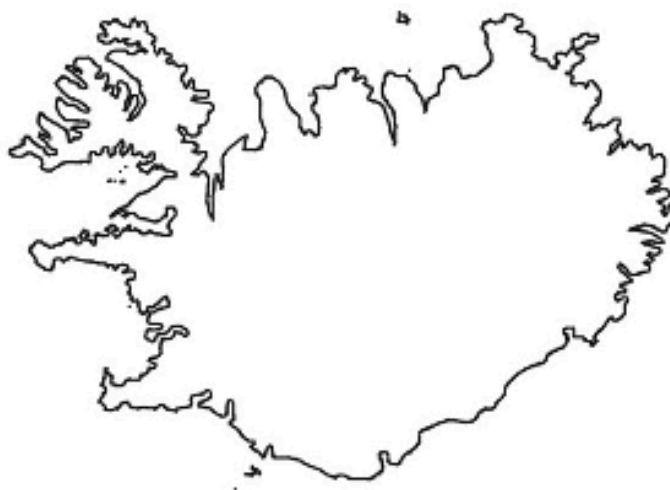
ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



Ship Letter Methil

Copyright © Jakob. S. Arrevad 2022



EDITOR
Brian Flack
E-mail address
flackbp@gmail.com

Special Issue February 2023

SPECIAL # 28 – 2023 V1 – METHIL

This is a part of a series published 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 Editors¹ or Authors have contributed to the gathering and dissemination of information relevant to the philately of Iceland.

Compilations of other British postmarks and other issues in the series “IslandsKontakt Special” can be accessed for free at <https://www.nfvskandinavia.com/artikelen-ijisland.php>

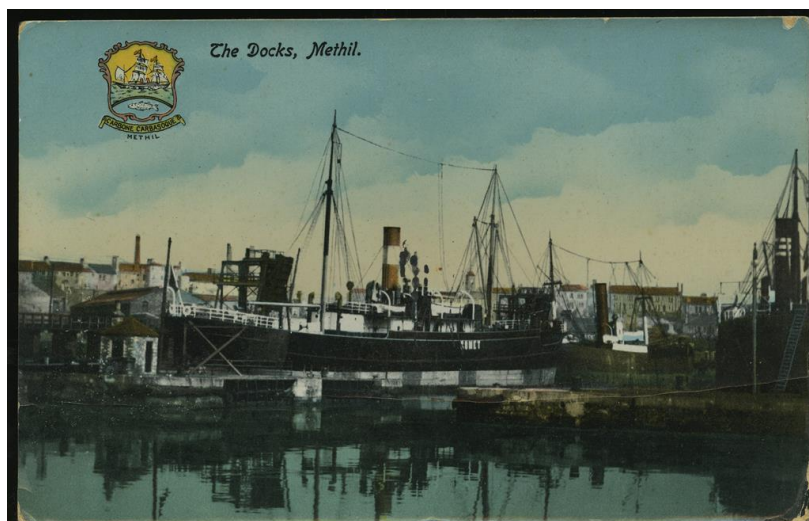
Compiler: Jakob S. Arrevad: jsa@agadvokatfirma.dk

“**Methil** ([Scottish Gaelic](#): Meadhchill) is an eastern coastal town in [Scotland](#). It was first recorded as "Methkil" in 1207 and belonged to the Bishop of St Andrews. Two Bronze Age cemeteries have been discovered which date the settlement as over 8,000 years old. Famous for its High Street having the most pubs per mile in Scotland, it was part of its own [barony](#) in 1614 and also part of the former [burgh](#) of [Buckhaven and Methil](#). This burgh existed between 1891 and 1975 (following the reorganisation of local government). It is situated within a continuous urban area described as [Levenmouth](#).

Methil lies geographically between [Largo Bay](#) to the east and Wemyss Bay to the west. Previously an industrial maritime powerhouse of the region and once Scotland's greatest coal port, it is now redirecting itself towards a green energy future. The [River Leven](#) delineates Methil from adjacent towns”. (Wikipedia)



¹ Among editors are highly reputable philatelists: Ebbe Eldrup, Jørgen Steen Larsen and Ole Svinth.



1896

A beautiful letter from Seydisfjörður with METHIL twin arc cancellation number 254 - and LEVEN number 229 (suburb) and arrival in Copenhagen on the back



1906-1925



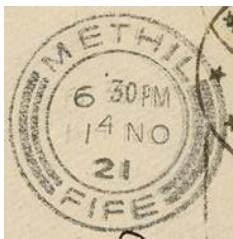
From 1906 – 1916²



3



Only in 1908



In 1921 and 1922 – twin-arc



One arc from? Used in 1922 and 1925 until?

² Schilling: "Fremde Anladstempel aauf Islanpost" 1996 and later supplements

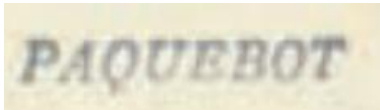
³ Schilling: "Fremde Anladstempel aauf Islanpost" 1996 and later supplements

PAQUEBOT



From 1907 until 1910⁴

when it was broken



only 1922?⁵



Post office – Methil.

⁴ Robertson: "A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles" /E 214/A: Issued for use at Kirkaldy Head Office and **Methil Sorting** Office, July 3rd, 1907. Mike Dovey & Keith Morris "Paquebot cancellations of the world and more...." ("Hosking 4th edition") 2010 # 314

⁵ Mike Dovey & Keith Morris "Paquebot cancellations of the world and more...." ("Hosking 4th edition") 2010 # 320



1906

SHIP ⁶	DEPART	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	BEMÆRKNING
EROS	23.04.1906	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	4KR.

1907

EROS	16.05.1907	REYKJAVIK	22.05.1907	METHIL	
------	------------	-----------	------------	--------	--



The same day a letter passed Methil at 3.30 pm from KAABER in Reykjavik to Miss Astrid Thomsen at Faeros Island – passed Edinburgh 6.15 pm the same day. Unfortunately, the further trip took some time.

It arrived Trangisvaag 7.6.07 but the young lady was gone. The letter was returned to Iceland.

⁶ Þór Þorsteins has compiled the list of sailings paid for caring mail from Iceland, and that is the basis for the registration – other dates can appear, but then there is no amount registered for caring the mail.



BUT: on the 24.6 a letter was sent from Thorshavn to Reykjavik, addressed to Mrs Astrid Kaaber!⁷⁸

⁷ The story was told by the late President of the Danish Iceland collector's association, Ib Schock in a "Christmas letter 1998" to the Iceland collectors in Stockholm printed in Rapport December 1998 # 112.

⁸ Alice Bertine Thomsen was married to Ludvig Emil Kaaber (later Governor of the Icelandic National Bank) on 28.5.1907.



ISAFOLD	13.06.1907	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	6KR.
---------	------------	-----------	--	--------	------



		NO 28 07	METHIL	
--	--	----------	--------	--



1908

		HAVNEFJORD	07.06.1908	METHIL	3 KR.
--	--	------------	------------	--------	-------



9

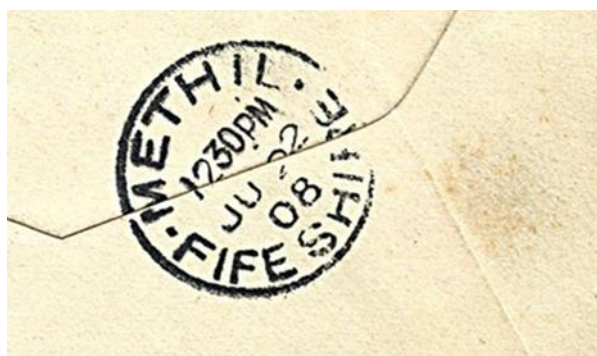
ISAFOLD	15.06.1908	REYKJAVIK	22.6.1908	METHIL	24.06.1908
---------	------------	-----------	-----------	--------	------------

⁹ Shilling

					Zaandam
--	--	--	--	--	---------



On the back



1909

KAPRI	28.03.1909	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	2KR.
JAMAICA	05.04.1909	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	2KR.
EMBLA	10.04.1909	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	1,50KR.
URANIA	14.04.1909	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	1KR.

LITRA	17.05.1909	REYKJAVIK	24.05.1909	METHIL	1KR.
-------	------------	-----------	------------	--------	------



			JU 30 09	METHIL	
--	--	--	----------	--------	--



HILDI	30.06.1909	REYKJAVIK	07.07.1909	METHIL	2KR.
HILDI	02.07.1909	Hafnarfjörður	07.07.1909	METHIL	

209. Has not enjoyed
your brother at our house,
and as September has
been a pleasant time
to visit, please give us
a note to arrange it.

A circular postmark from Bethlehem, PA, dated May 16, 1963. The text "BETHLEHEM, PA." is curved along the top, and "MAY 16 1963" is curved along the bottom. A red "Brit" stamp is partially visible over the top right.

Wm. H. Hansen

G. fontaney 35th Aug.

Vally Copenhagen
Danmark.

RJEFFS JALD

PAQUEBOT

Hjernamegin má að eins rita utanáskriptina.

Handwritten:
Boghandler Aaf Norti
Christiania
Norge

30/6 1909.
 Hóir-De hár roget Ötþf.
 i Behold af Egils Fara
Skallgrímsson (1/2r) og
Njalsdaga (1/4r) budið det
 snarast setur fr. Pakke-
 port. Ö. b. S.



¹⁰ " Two copies 5 aur Two kings perf. 12 on very rare ship postcard from Havnefjord canc. in transit "METHILL JU 7 09" and sent to Frederikstad, Norway. "PAQUEBOT"





10 aur two kings on brejfsjald written on the Danish warship “Hekla”, cancelled with number 157 = Hafnarfjörður, Island. Dated 2.7.1909. Send via Methil Fefehire d. 7.7.1909 + PAQUEBOT to Copenhagen. Forwarded to Jebjerg rectory.¹¹

The following is ALSO canceled in Iceland with # 157 – bur without date, only Methills paquebot. I received it with the following message:

“Dear Jacob:

I noticed your article mentioning the Methil Paquebot strike on a postcard with the stamp cancelled 157¹². I have a similar one bought at a large British auction house --the 157 was mentioned but not the paquebot! - for the price of a poor-quality numeral item. Regrettably, the item is not dated.

...

Best wishes

Wilbur Jonsson”



¹¹ Fyns Frimærke Service lot. 925, sept. 2006.

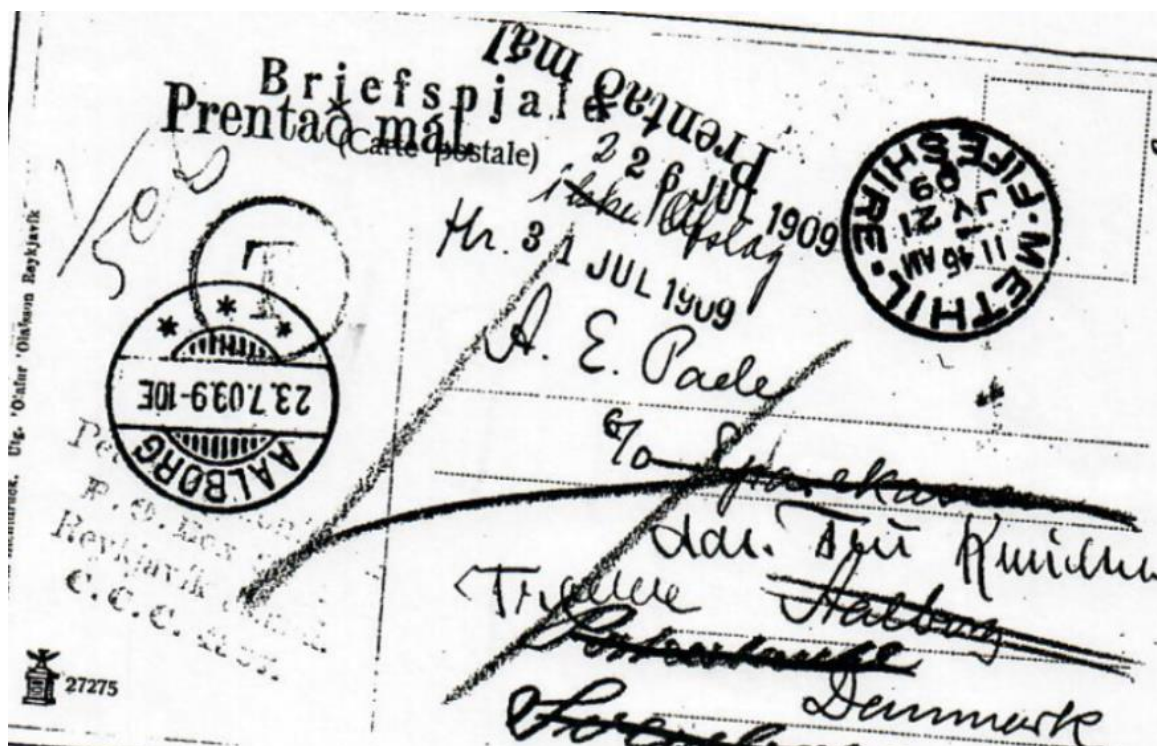
¹² Islandskontakt # 68



ISAFOLD	16.07.1909	REYKJAVIK	21.07.1909	METHIL	4KR
ISAFOLD	16.07.1909	REYKJAVIK	21.07.1909	METHIL og videre til AALBORG	



10 aur Two Kings perf. 12 on postcard from "REYKJAVÍK 15.7.09" with transit marks "METHIL FIFESHIRE JY 21 09" and "PAQUEBOT". "GLENKINDIE" arrival cancellation.



BODIL	24.09.1909	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	2KR.
-------	------------	-----------	--	--------	------

1910

VIGSNÆS	21.05.1910	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	2KR.
---------	------------	-----------	--	--------	------

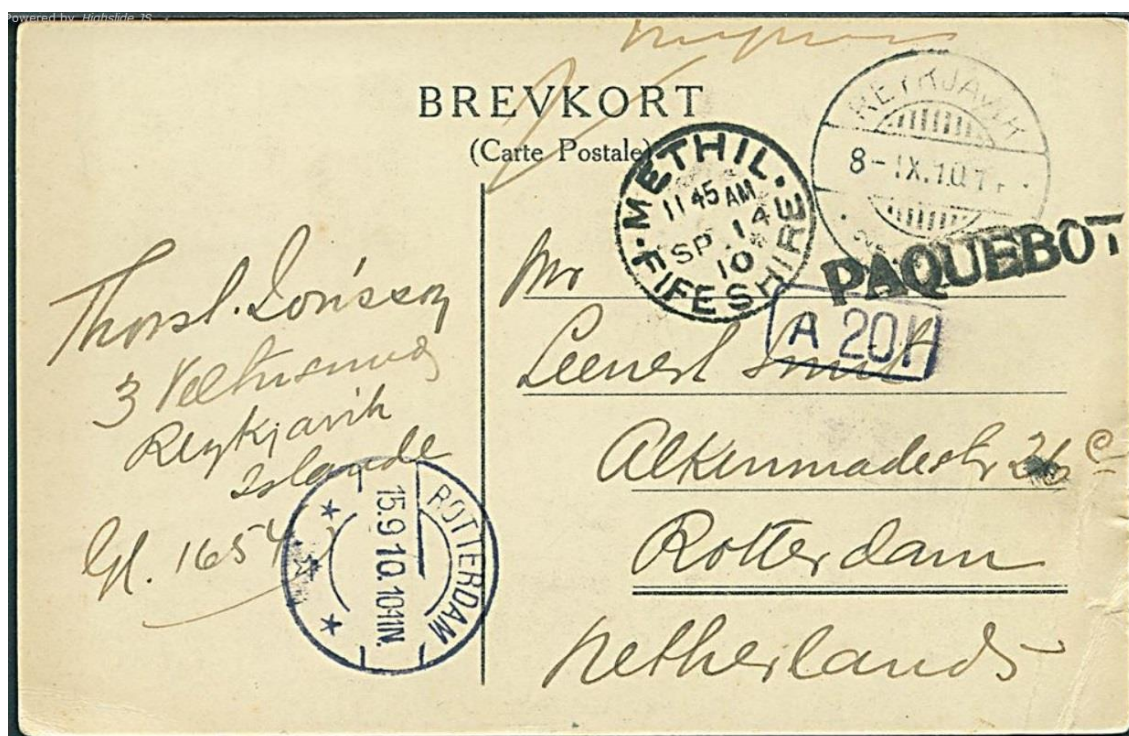
KARLA	21.06.1910	REYKJAVIK	04.07.1910	METHIL	2KR.
-------	------------	-----------	------------	--------	------

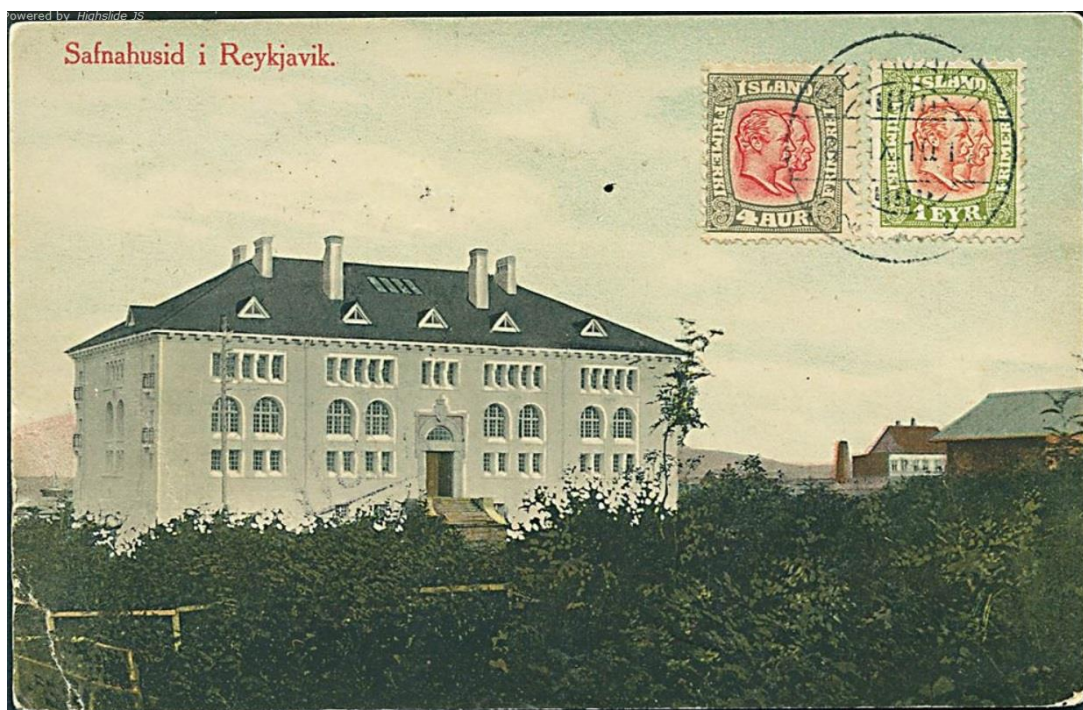


GARIBALDI	29.08.1910	REYKJAVIK	SP 5 10	METHIL	1KR.
-----------	------------	-----------	---------	--------	------

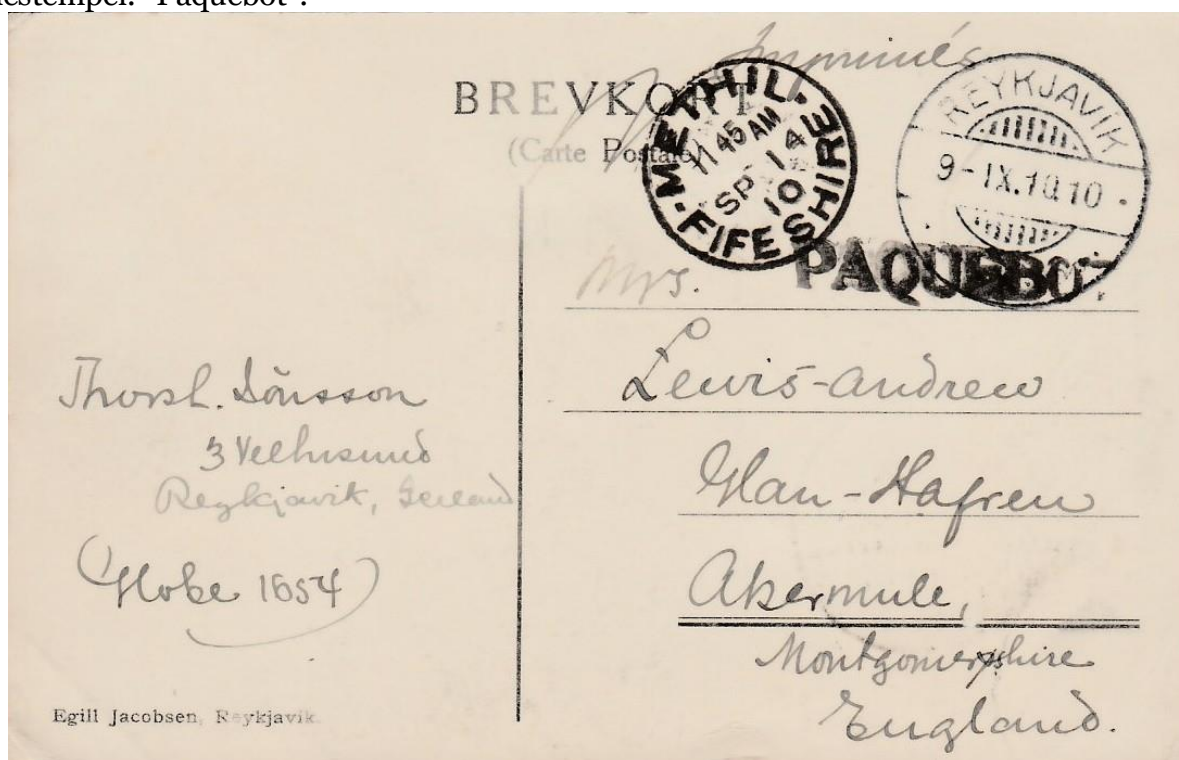


JENNY	08.09.1910 + 09.09.1910	REYKJAVIK	SP 14 10	METHIL	2KR.
-------	----------------------------	-----------	----------	--------	------



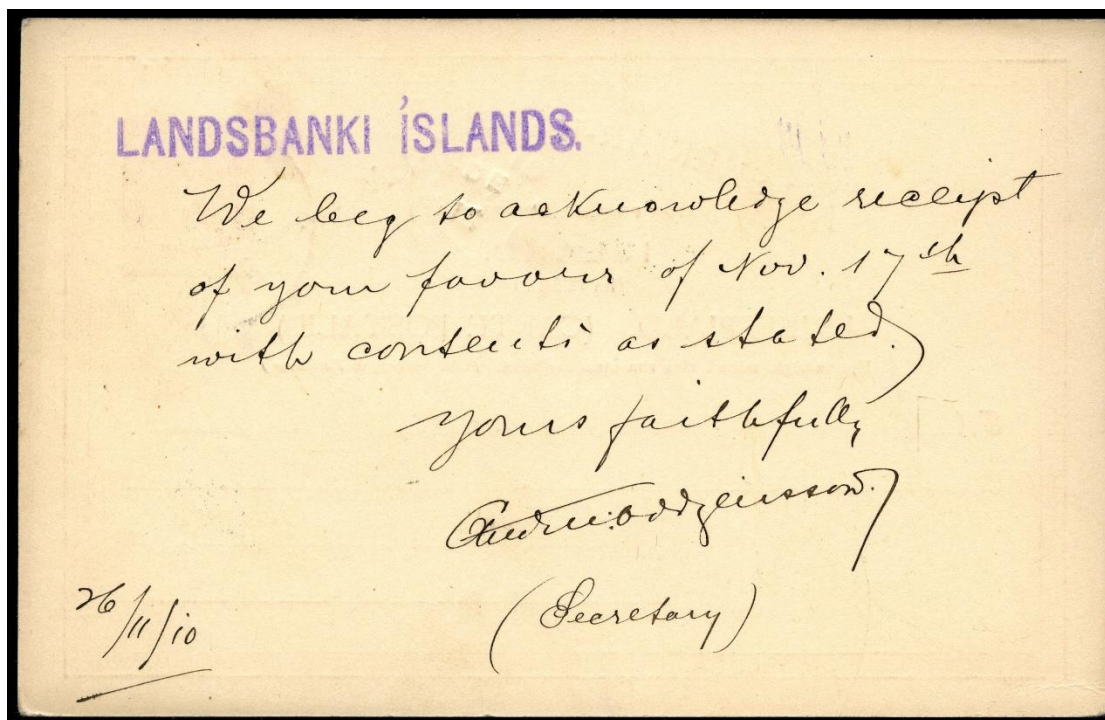


1910. 1 Eyr rød/grøn og 4 Aur rød/grå Dobbelthoveder på forside af brevkort fra REYKJAVIK 8.9.1910 til Rotterdam, Holland. Transit stemplet METHIL/FIFESHIRE 14.9.1910 samt sort liniestempel: "Paquebot".



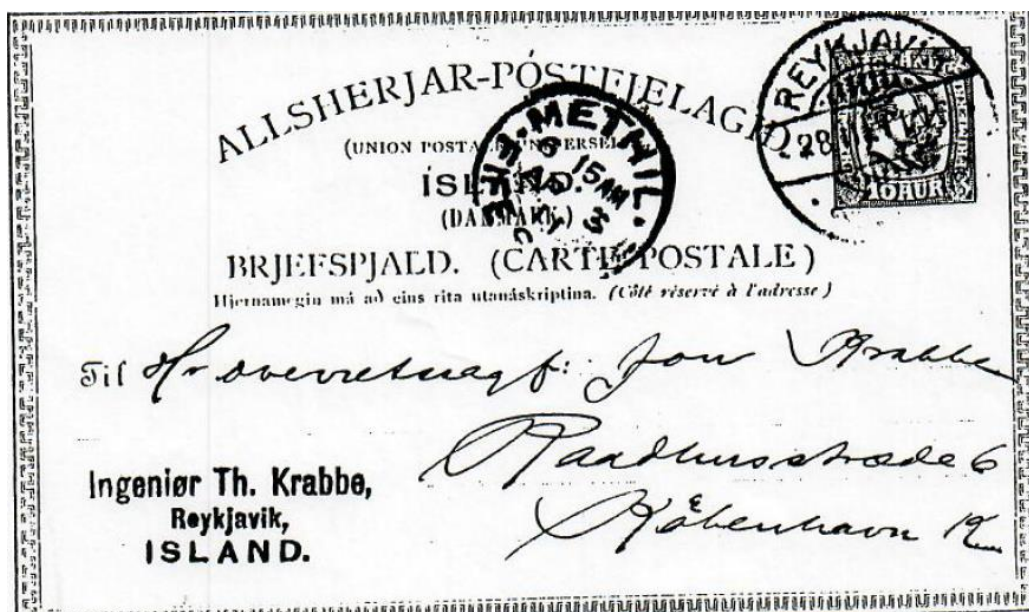
The stamp(s) are presumably on the front as above. Same sender "Torst. Jónsson" with the number "1654". Se further later.

BOSTAD	06.11.1910	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	1KR.
--------	------------	-----------	--	--------	------



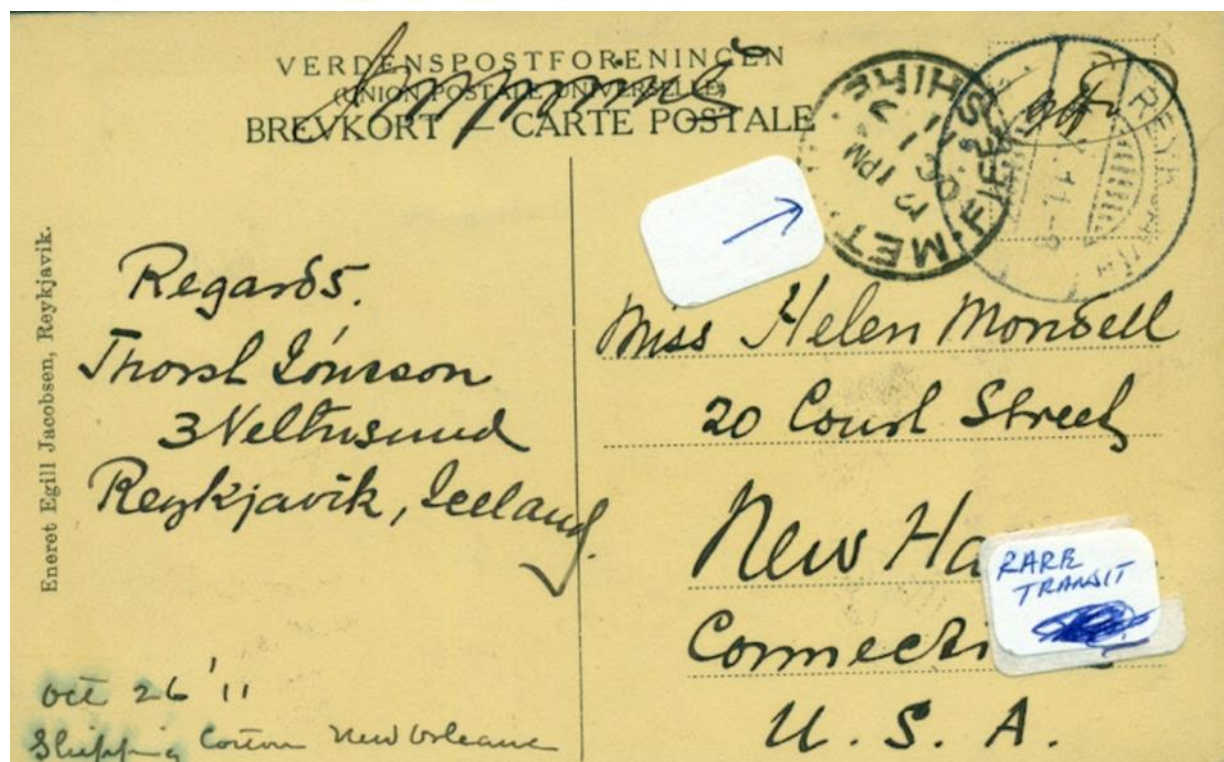
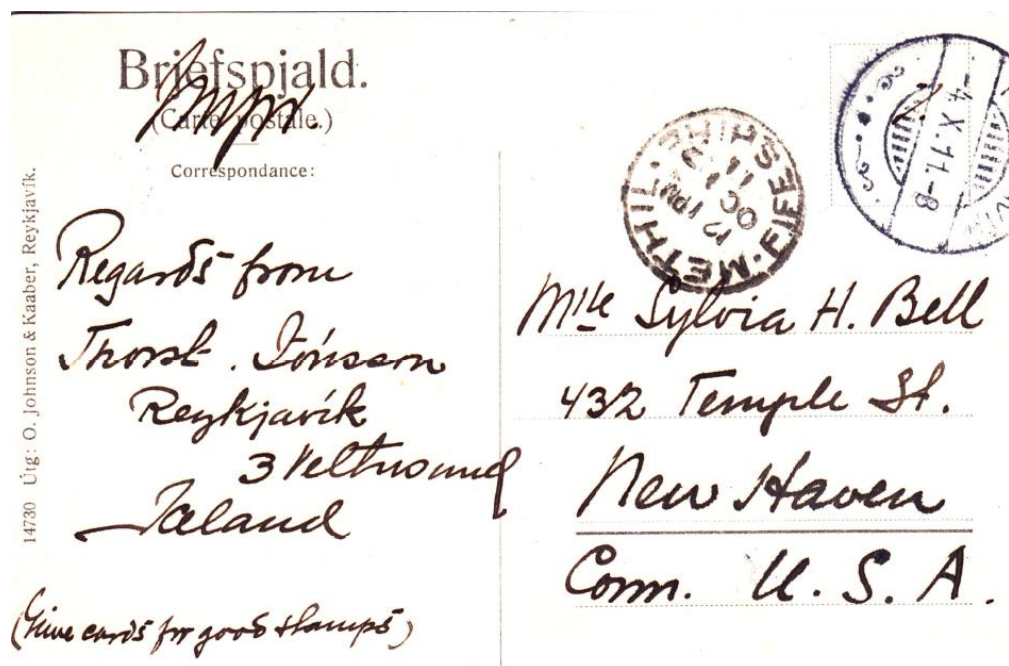
1911

GERDA	23.02.1911	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	1KR.
RINGFOND	18.03.1911	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	1KR.
CAPRI	28.03.1911	REYKJAVIK	03.04.1911	METHIL	1KR.



FYLLA	08.04.1911	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	1KR.
CONDOR	26.08.1911	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	2KR.

ELISABETH	11.10.1911	REYKJAVIK	OC 17 11	METHIL	2KR.
-----------	------------	-----------	----------	--------	------



Thorst. Jónsson again.



¹³ “Postcard from “REYKJAVIK 10.X 11” via “METHILL FIFESHIRE OC 17 11” to Lugano, Switzerland.”

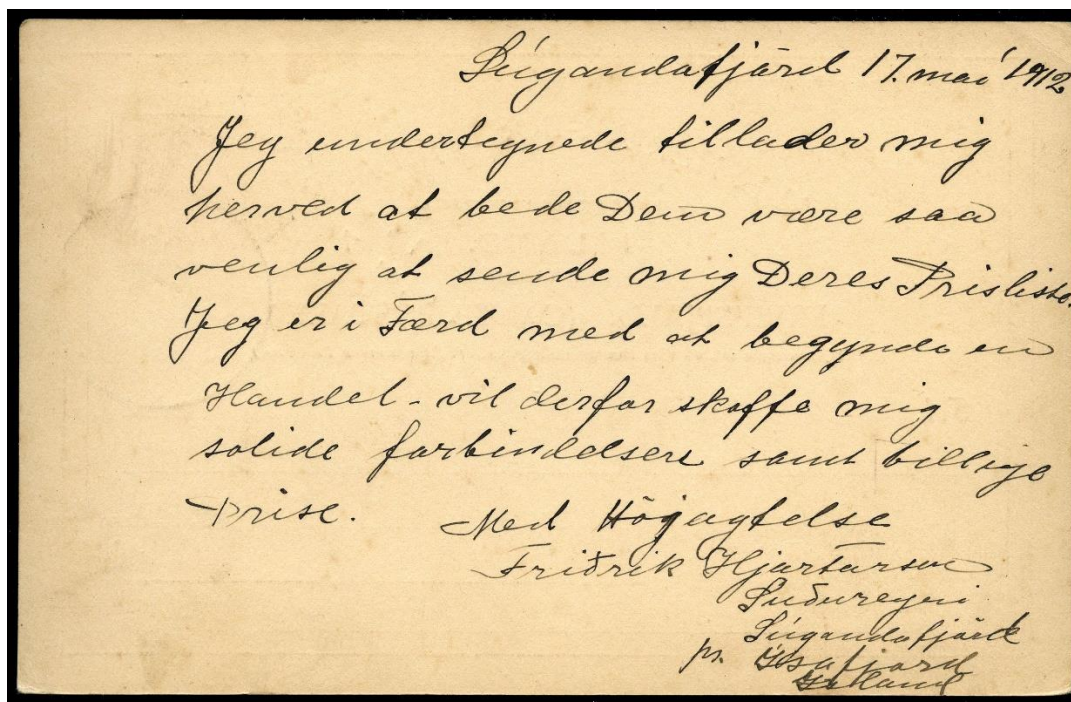
ELISABETH	06.11.1911	REYKJAVIK		METHIL	4KR.
TRYG	01.06.1911	REYKJAVIK		METHIL + PARIS	2KR.

1912

	13.05.1912	Isafjordur Sigandafjord	JU 7 12	METHIL	
--	------------	----------------------------	---------	--------	--

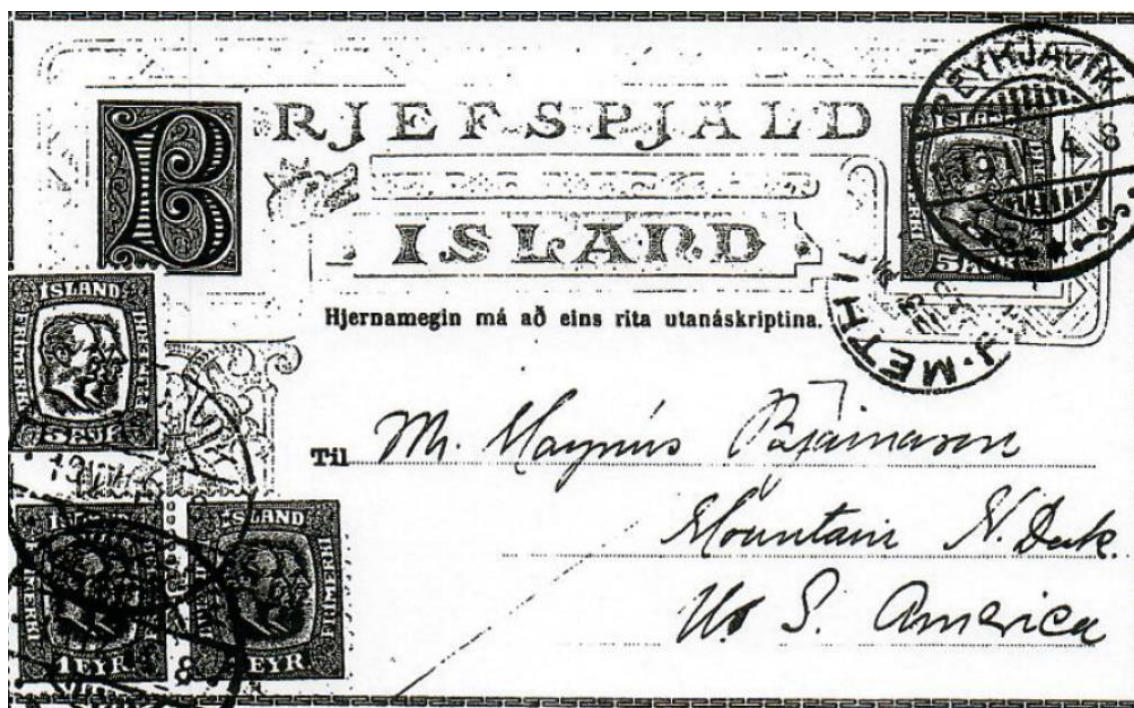


Dated Sigandafjórd 17.5.1912



1914

	16.04.1914	REYKJAVIK		METHILL	
--	------------	-----------	--	---------	--



It is difficult to read on a bad copy – but the Reykjavik date can be verified.

	14.10.1914	ISAFJORD REYKJAVIK	19.10.1914	METHIL	
--	------------	-----------------------	------------	--------	--



1916

			07.09.1916	METHIL	Sweden
--	--	--	------------	--------	--------



¹⁴ Shipletter to Sweden with 1, 3 x 3 and 10 aur. Scarce side canc. "METHIL 7 SP 16" and censored.

¹⁴ Postiljonen # 203

1921

M/S Lardal ¹⁵	8.XI.21	Larvik	14 no 21	METHIL	Return to Horten Norway
--------------------------	---------	--------	----------	--------	-------------------------------

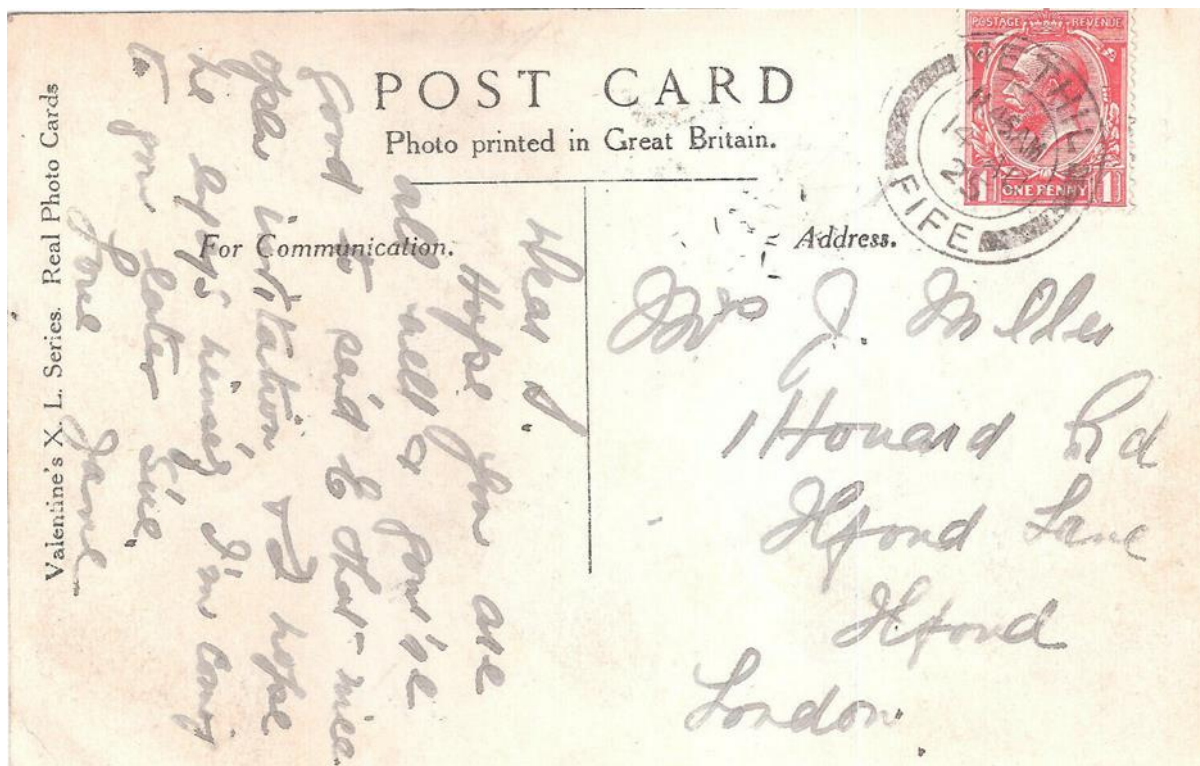


¹⁵ The first motor vessel in Larvik, Norway

1922



1925



References

Robertson: "A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles" /E 214/A

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

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

Paquebot.Info

<https://www.postiljonen.se/> - unfortunate with limited possibilities for copying

Collectors and friends from around the world: Henk Burgman, Árni Gústafsson and many other.