



# ISLANDS *Kontakt*

**SPECIAL # 11 – 2020 V3 – LERWICK**

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"Lerwick is the main port of the Shetland Islands, Scotland, located more than 100 miles (160 km) off the north coast of mainland Scotland on the east coast of the Shetland Mainland. Lerwick is about 210 miles (340 km) north-northeast of Aberdeen, 230 miles (370 km) west of Bergen in Norway and 230 miles (370 km) south east of Tórshavn in the Faroe Islands."<sup>1</sup>

The beginning is true, as the information mainly is from Ib Karup Rasmussens study: "Den danske Regerings postkibsfart mellem Danmark og Island 1774-1880" – but it is complicated.

## 1873 – 1876 – Skilling

I start in 1873, and in that year, and in 1874, 1875 and the first trip in 1876 "Diana" is sailing via *Lerwick* or **Granton**. DFDS takes over partly and sailed with "Arcturus" in 1876 until 1.7 one trip via *Lerwick* and two via **Granton**"<sup>2</sup>.

Diana	1873	1.4 – 5.4	15.5	25.6 – 26.6	1.8	13.9	26.10	7.12
Diana	1874	1.4 – 4.4	15.5 – 15.5	25.6 - 23.6 <sup>3</sup>	7.8	13.9	26.10 – 29.10	7.12
Diana	1875	After 1.4	13.5 <sup>4</sup>	26.6	7.8	13.9 – 14.9 <sup>5</sup>	26.10 – 28.10	7.12 – 13.12
Arcturus	1876/1	31.3	15.5	24.6 <sup>6</sup>	4.8 – 5.8			
? <sup>7</sup>				9.6				

<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia. See also Iceland Philatelic Magazine # 18 page 18

<sup>2</sup> The time is approximately – 8 days after departure in the tree first year and five days before arrival in 1876. *Lerwick* is in cursive an yellow and **Ganton** in bold. Red dates are calculated from the actual recorded departure.

<sup>3</sup> It is a transfer cancellation from Edinburgh – so the correct day in Granton may be 22.6.

<sup>4</sup> Letter cancelled 13.5.1875 in Lerwick. See more in Iceland Philatelic Magazine # 13

<sup>5</sup> Arrival day from Þjóðólfur 30.9.1875, se letter in "One hundred years of Icelandic Stamps" Jón Aðalsteinn Jónsson

<sup>6</sup> It is not clear why both Diana and Arcturus are expected to be in Scotland almost at the same day – but it is the same in 1877

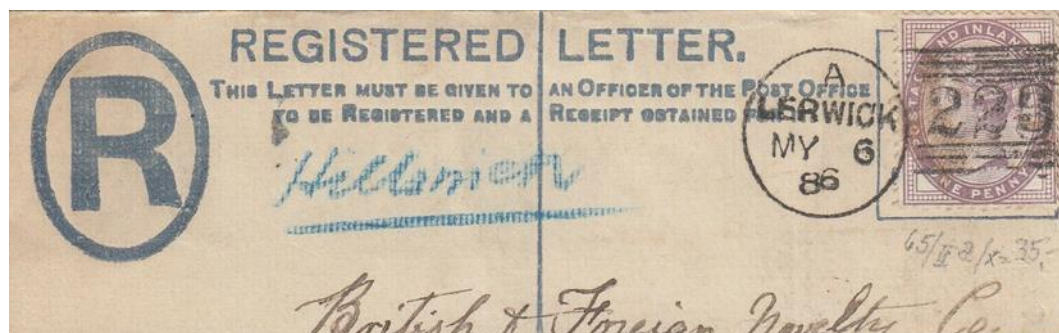
<sup>7</sup> Letter from 1 og 2 June 1876, send with "English coffardir- steamer" over Edinburgh.



The letter mentioned in note 3

1886

A Duplex in-between on UK mail:



1895



Cover sent to Denmark with 16 aur canc. "ESKIFJÖRDUR 20.5". Postage due handstamp "T" mistakenly applied and then crossed out. Akureyri as well as Lerwick transit 1 JU 1895.

And then a big time jump to

1900

Ship	Departure	From	Arrival	T0	Comments
			19 JA 1900 <sup>8</sup>	LERWICK	

			18 DE 1900 <sup>9</sup>	LERWICK	
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1901

SMS Zieten	14.06.1901	REYKJAVIK	20.06.1901	LERWICK	
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SMS Zieten was a German warship. It came to Reykjavik 11 July and left 14 July 1901<sup>10</sup> All the lettercards are from German mariners:



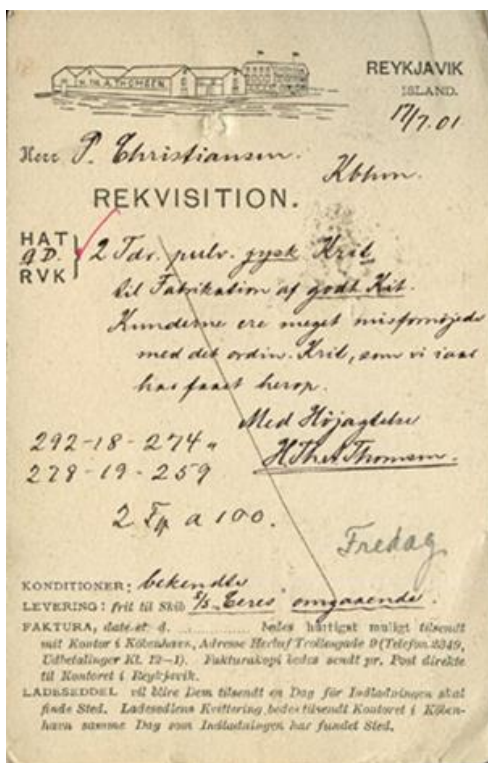
<sup>8</sup> Reference unknown.

<sup>9</sup> Information from an old list of Ole Svinth

<sup>10</sup> SMS Zieten was the first aviso built for the Imperial German Navy (Kaiserliche Marine). She was built in Britain in 1875–1876. See more on Wikipedia



?		24.07.1901	LERWICK	
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The request for delivery by SS Ceres immediately is hard to understand. The card is written on 17 July 1901 in Reykjavik and Ceres is expected to leave Copenhagen pr. schedule on 27 July – and it is not going direct to Reykjavik but around the island – plus, the card is not sent by the ordinary mail ships. The next ordinary mail ship direct is SS Laura scheduled to leave on 25 July.

But the ships are not on schedule.

The carrying ship is nevertheless hard to find.

1902

None until now.

1903

	29.01.1903	SYKKIS- HOLMUR	31.01.1903	REYKJAVIK	And probably left 3 February
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BREIFOUD	03.02.1903	REYKJAVIK	09.02.1903	LERWICK	8KR.
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	27.03.1903	REYKJAVIK	02.04.1903	LERWICK	
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EROS	30.03.1903	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	2KR. via Keflavik
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NORDLYSET	04.04.1903	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	3KR.
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		REYKJAVIK	18.06.1903	LERWICK	
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HILLEWAAG	10.09.1903	REYKJAVIK	16.09.1903	LERWICK	3KR.
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6 aur grey, red 1 GILDI perf. 12 (single, pair and strip of three) & 4 aur Chr. IX, two pairs on reg. cover from "REYKJAVIK 5.9.1903" via "LERWICK 16 SP 03" to Copenhagen. Noted "via Leith".

ITALIEN	19.09.1903 and 22.09.1903	REYKJAVIK	29.09.1903	LERWICK	2KR.
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Side: 7



Paul Kiderlen

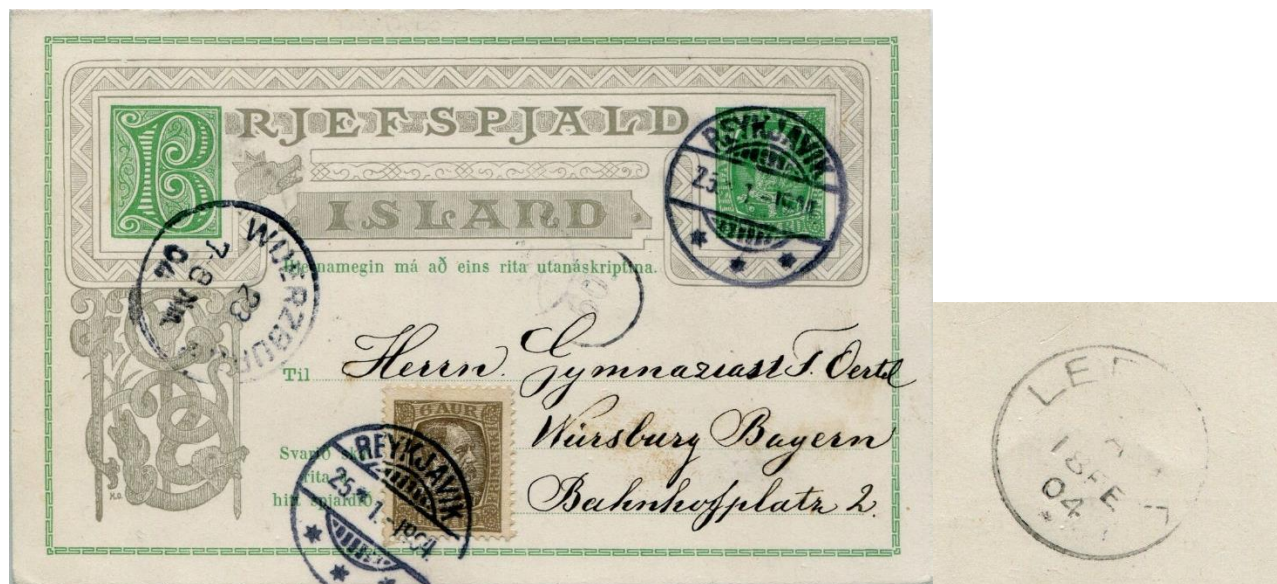
Paul Kiderlen was a German stamp dealer who dealt from Ulm, Wurtemberg, Germany from about 1890 to 1910. See: POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR Volume 11 No 2: Issue No 42 August 2005 page 42 MESSRS. KIDERLEN & BICKEL - FRIENDS OR FOE Bernie Beston F.R.P.S.L., FAP. <https://postalstationeryaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/psc42aug05.pdf>

He dealt extensively, although not exclusively, in the postal stationery of British Colonies but Iceland could also be of interest – but to him!



1904

	25.01.1904	REYKJAVIK	16.04.1904	LERWICK	
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ELVIRA	06.02.1904	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	8KR.
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	21.04.1904	ISAFJORD	29.04.1904 30.04.1904	VOE LERWICK	
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Was in Ib Schocks collection – thereafter Shilling and sold Postiljonen 185 lot 836 - € 650.  
The cancellation VOE is unique.



NEPTUN	29.09.1904	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	1KR.
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## 1905

No ship carrying mail has been registered in Iceland, but there is at least this day known:

??	??	??	26 JY 05	LERWICK	1KR.
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## 1906

FORSITE	04.01.1906	REYKJAVIK	09.01.1906	LERWICK	2KR.
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TORSETE	11.05.1906	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	1KR.
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EVVIVA	13.06.1906	REYKJAVIK	18.06.1906	LERWICK	2KR.
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INGA	01.08.1906	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	1KR.
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INGA	14.09.1906 ?	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	4KR.
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FORSETE	31.10.1906	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	2KR.
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14.11.1906:

“E/s „Esbjerg” fer héðan (líkl. Á Fimtdag) til Lerwick í Hjaltlandi — **ekki** til Kaupmannahafnar.”

1907

DANA	15.06.1907	REYKJAVIK		LERWICK	2KR.
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11

	15.06.1907	REYKJAVIK	19.07.1907	LERWICK	24.06.1907 COPENHAGEN
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			01.08.1907		
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<sup>11</sup> Note – the card is from Seidisfjord

1908

			08.06.1908	LERWICK	
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1909

Skonnert "Svend"			01.08.1909	LERWICK	
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1911

	21.04.1911	Reykjavik	05.05.1911	LERWICK	
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Letter from REYKJAVIK 21.4.11 to England. On the back LERWICK 5 MY 11

1915

			24.09.1915	LERWICK	
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The following from Stig Österbergs collection is cancelled 30.09.15

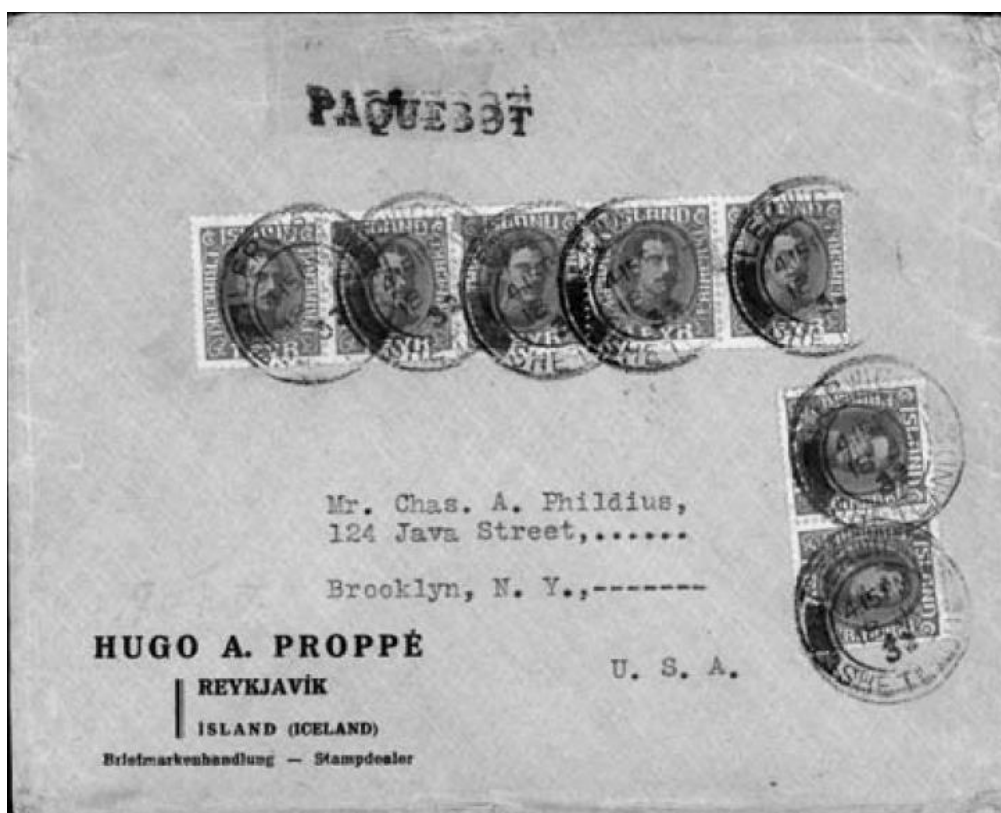


Printed matter send from Dyrafjorður 20/9 15 and on the back Lerwick 30 SP 15

The letter was sent as a printed matter the postage rate was 5 aur per 50 gram. Because of this the letter probably weighed over 50 gram if the printed matter postage rate was correct. The missing 10 aur was doubled to 20 aur since the punishment fee was twice the missing sum 2 1/2 d is in that case equivalent with the missing postage 2 1/2 d is added since the letter is forwarded.

1932

			18.06.1932	LERWICK	
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It was part of Hoskins collection and when sold at Cavendish the text was:

**LERWICK (SHETLAND IS.) - UNIQUE(?) "PAQUEBOT" MARK ON COVER TO U.S.A.;** June 1932 env. (minor creasing) to New York franked by Christian X 1e Red & Green (7) all tied by fine 2-ring "LERWICK/SHETLAND" c.d.s.'s matching a fine (though slightly 'doubled') "PAQUEBOT" mark (Hosking 331 - maximum rarity "DD" - "Very rare") alongside. Surprisingly this Lerwick mark is only known for 1932-33. Roger's album page unusually outlines this item's history; "*This cover was originally the property of Vernon Ardiff, the Californian collector, but possibly not fully appreciated by him since, when his collection was sold in San Francisco at the Wolffers auction in December 1972, it was embedded in a small lot of mixed Icelandic covers which Angus Parker bought for \$130. It was considerably more expensive when I bought it from the Parker estate at Cavendish Auctions in April 2009 [lot 1337; realised £632]. This cover testifies to the knowledge and wisdom of a great collector, dealer and friend.*" PHOTO - see above.

1970

			31.10.1970	LERWICK	
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## References

Ib Karup Rasmussens study: "Den danske Regerings postkibsfart mellem Danmark og Island 1774-1880"

Iceland Philatelic Magazine.

"One hundred years of Icelandic Stamps" Jón Aðalsteinn Jónsson

Bernie Beston "MESSRS. KIDERLEN & BICKEL - FRIENDS OR FOE"

POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR Volume 11 No 2: Issue No 42 August 2005 page 42

<https://postalstationeryaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/psc42aug05.pdf>