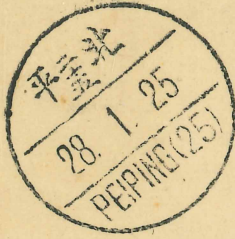
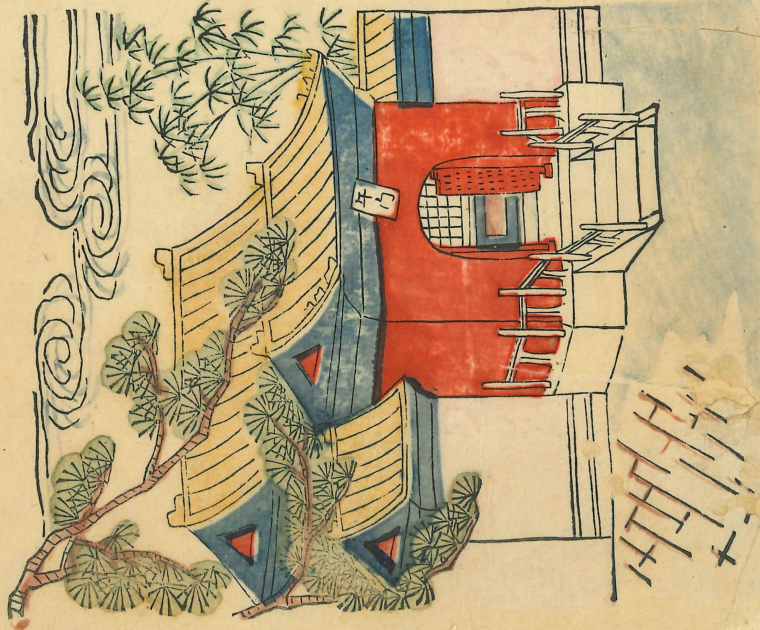


Rev. J P Leynse

An illustrated and hand painted envelope from Rev. Leynse of the Presbyterian Mission in Peking sent to the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in New York in January 1925.

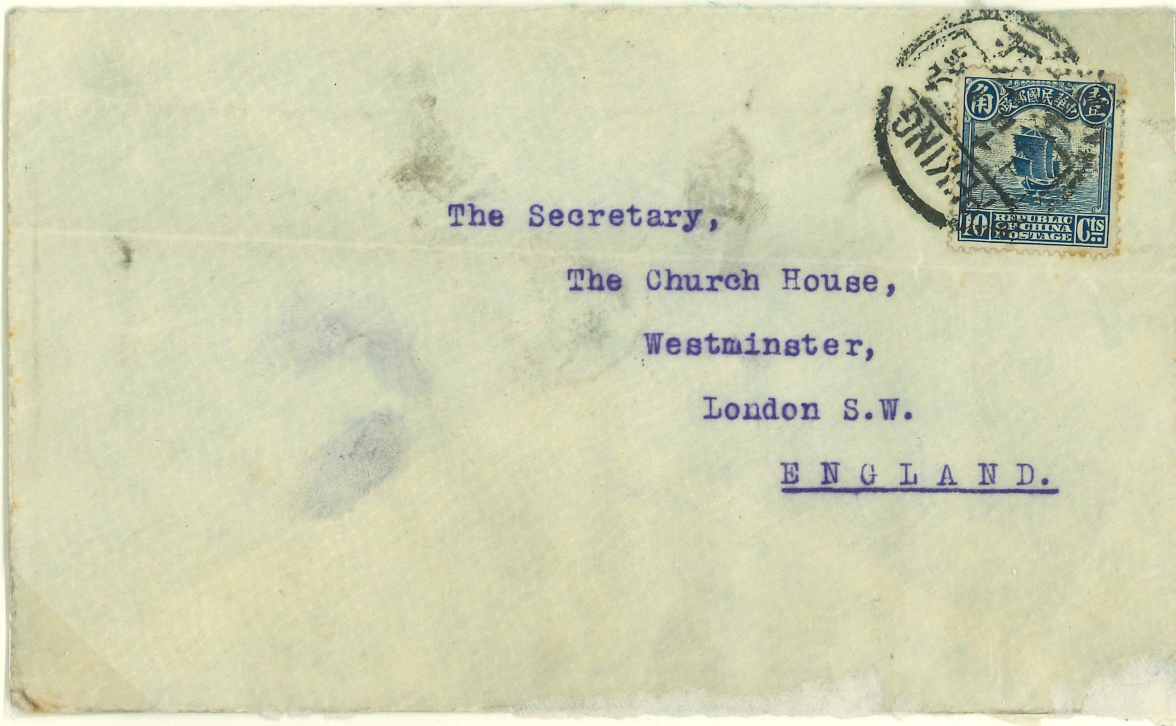
REV. J. P. LEYNSE,
THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
PEKING, CHINA



Miss Helen Kittredge,
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
U. S. A.

Bishop Frank Lushington Norris

An envelope with enclosed letter from Bishop Norris in Peking sent in January 1920 to the Secretary of Church House in London asking if letters to him could be kept at Church House until his return to England. Bishop Norris was a member of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel which was founded in 1710.



Bishop Frank Lushington Norris

The enclosed letter from Bishop Norris in Peking sent in January 1920.

GAH
write

January 9th. 1920.



The Secretary,
The Church House,
Westminster,
London S.W.

Dear Sir,

I am not a member of the Corporation of the Church House, and the present state of my finances forbids my becoming one. But I am assured that I am not trespassing unduly on the courtesy and helpfulness of the staff, if I ask that any letters addressed to me at the Church House be kept for me till called for or until I send an English address. I cannot say when I shall be in England, but I hope to be there about the middle of June, possibly earlier. And I imagine the Church House will be a rallying point for many "Bishops from overseas", so that it will be a great convenience if I may use it as an address for letters.

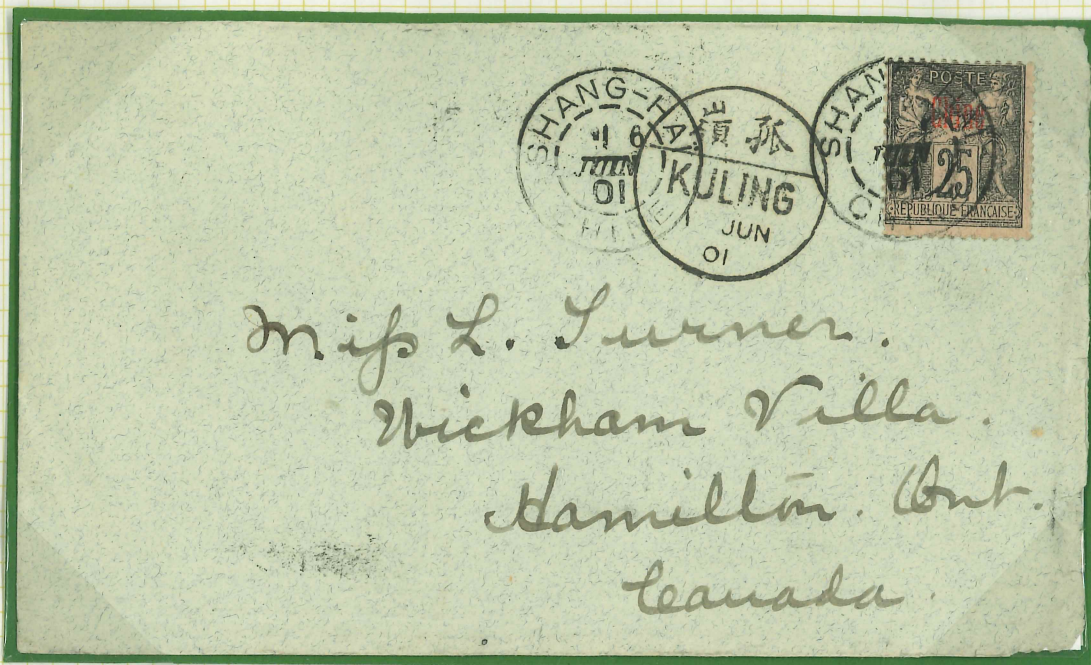
Yours very truly,

Frank L. Norris

Bishop In North China.

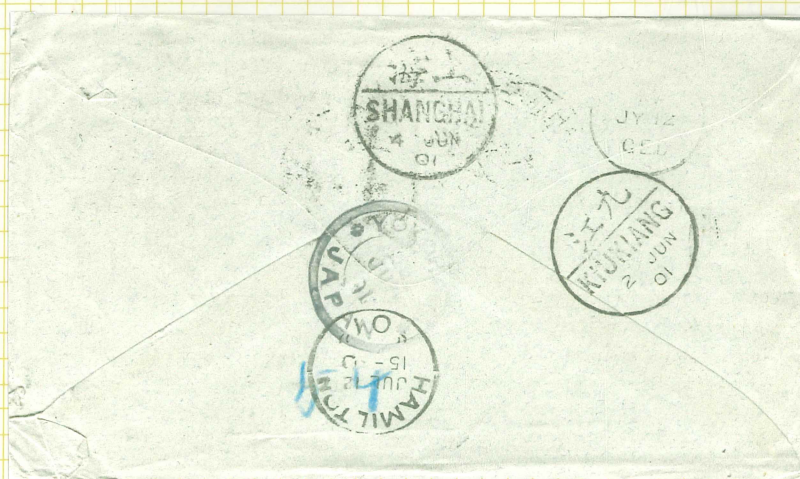
S Horne

An envelope sent by S Horne of the China Inland Mission at Kuling to Canada in June 1901.



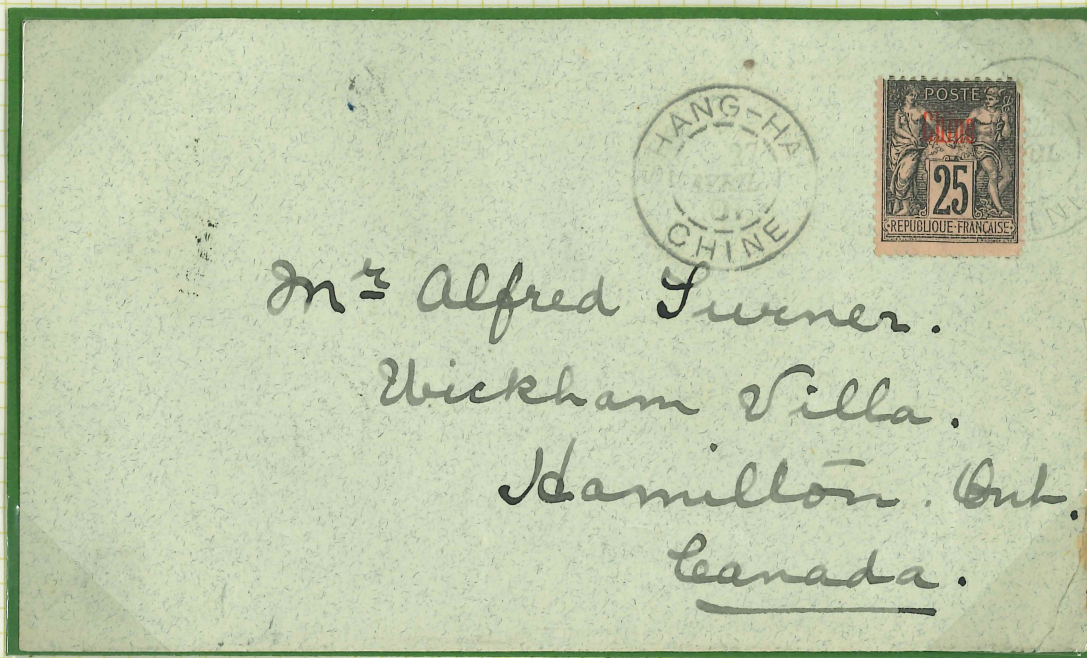
The following postmarks are on the reverse:

| | | |
|---------|----------|---------|
| Transit | Kiukiang | 2 June |
| | Shanghai | 4 June |
| | Yokohama | x June |
| Arrival | Hamilton | 12 July |



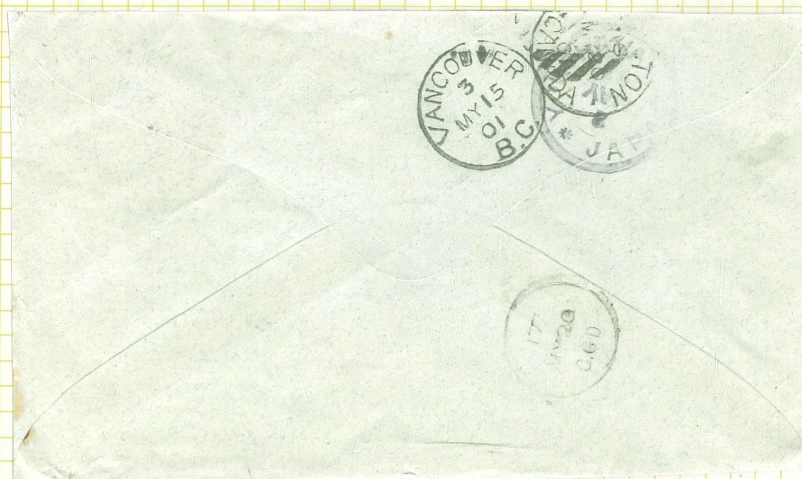
S Horne

An envelope sent by S Horne of the China Inland Mission at Kuling to Canada in April 1901.



The following postmarks are on the reverse:

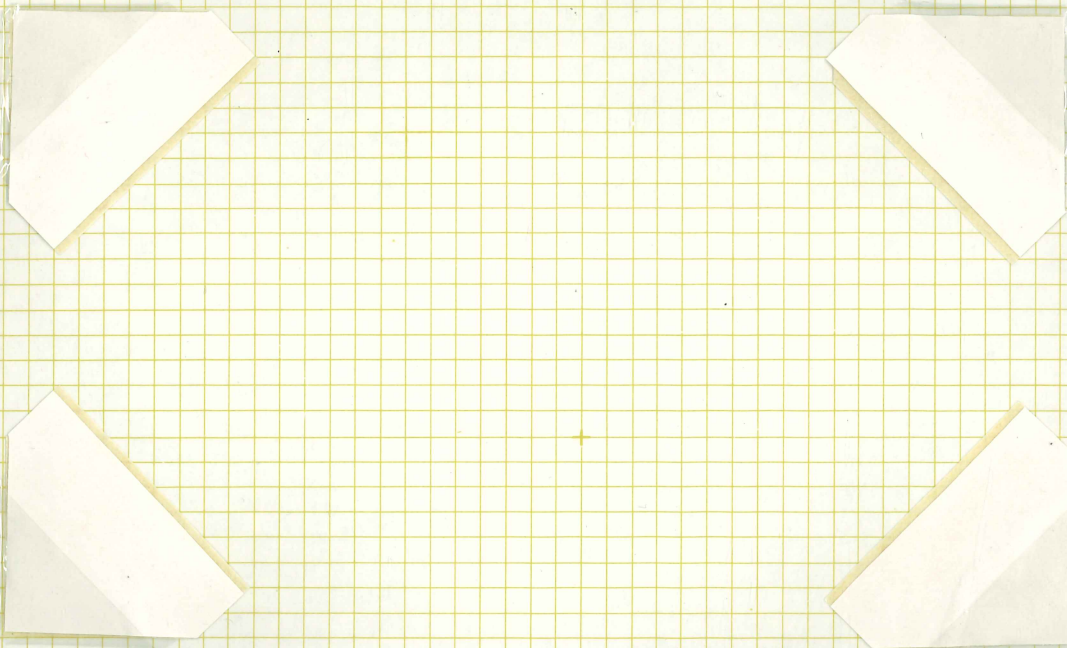
| | | |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| Transit | Yokohama | 2 May |
| | Vancouver | 15 May |
| Arrival | Hamilton | 20 May |



Mrs Mary Isabella Bryson
(wife of reverend Thomas Bryson)

Thomas Bryson was appointed as a missionary by the LMS and sent to Hankow in 1864. He married Isabella Carruthers in 1875. They moved to Tientsin in 1884. Thomas Bryson was awarded the medal of the Chinese Field Force by the British Government for his services during the siege of Tientsin by the Chinese Boxers. Mrs Bryson was a prolific writer of books and magazine articles and it appears that she wrote all correspondence with the LMS.

The reverse of an envelope sent from Tientsin to London in May 1903. It is franked with a 10 kop Russian Post Office stamp cancelled by the single circle Tientsin postmark.



There is a single strike of the Tientsin postmark on the front. The cancellor is in the damaged state T&S type 4x.



George Purves Smith



Dr Smith, a graduate of Edinburgh University, was appointed by the LMS as a medical missionary in 1898. After a short spell in Mongolia, he moved to Tientsin. He returned to Mongolia in 1890 and finally came back to Tientsin in 1899 until his retirement in 1906. He then established an eye hospital and was also appointed as an ophthalmic surgeon to the Imperial Chinese Railways. He died in Tientsin in 1921, aged 71.

Shown below is an envelope sent by Dr Smith to London in August 1903.

The envelope is franked on the reverse with two 5c Chinese stamps cancelled by the single circle bi-lingual Tientsin postmark. The front is franked with a 10 kop Russian Post Office stamp cancelled by a Yankow Field Telegraph Post Office postmark.



The remains of a missing stamp has been cancelled by the arrival postmark showing it had been removed in transit.



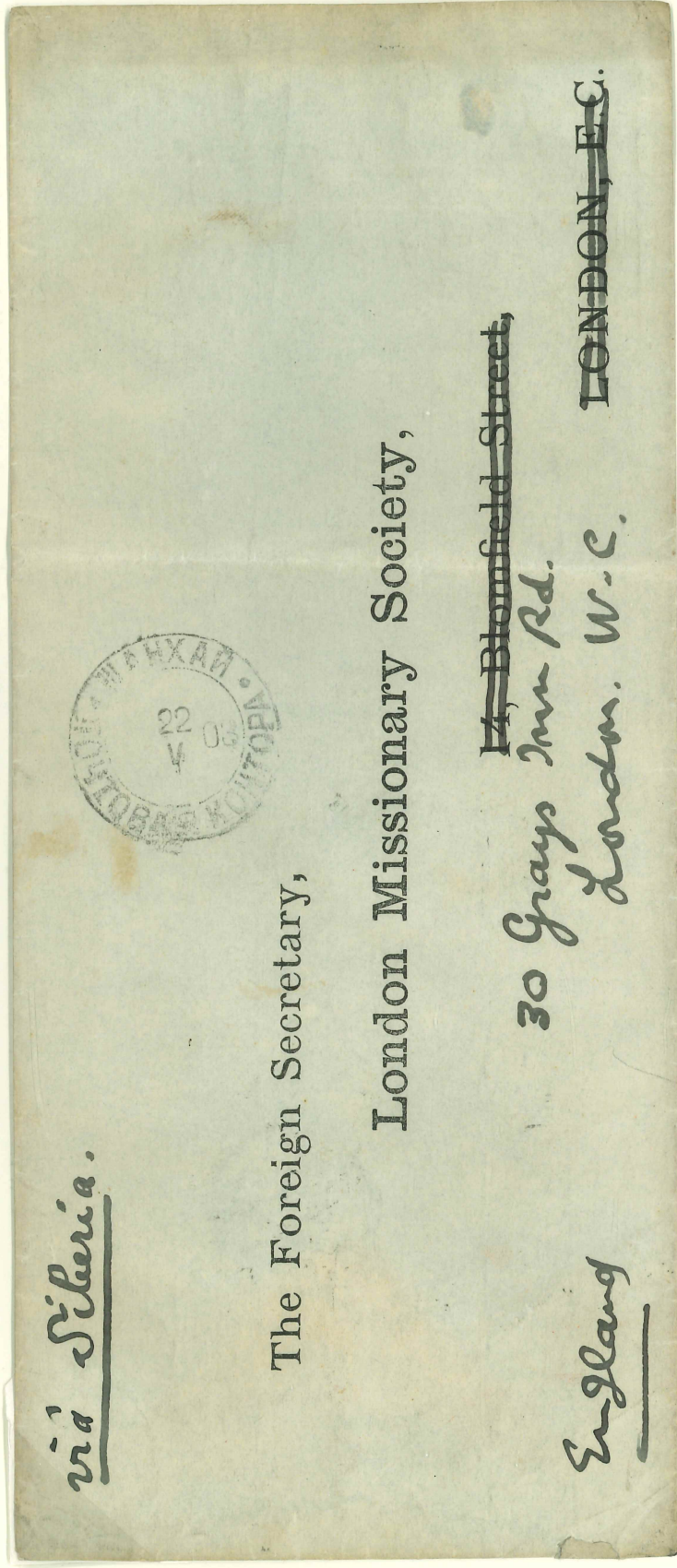
T&S type NN (RR)

HOPKIN LLEWELYN WILLETT BEVAN

See reverse

The Reverend Bevan was born in London but studied and was ordained in Australia. He was appointed as a missionary by the LMS and sent to Shanghai in 1900. In 1903 he was appointed headmaster of Medhurst College in Shanghai.

The envelope shown below was sent by him from Shanghai to the LMS in London in May 1903. The envelope is franked on the reverse by a 10 kopek Russian Post Office in China stamp cancelled by a double circle Shanghai postmark. The same postmark can be seen on the front: it is type 1 in Tchilinghirian and Stephen's classification.



There is also a single circle London arrival postmark dated 16th June on the reverse

RT. REV. L. H. ROOTS, D.D., BISHOP
HANKOW

S. E. SMALLEY, TREASURER
6B SEWARD ROAD
SHANGHAI

CABLE & TELEGRAPH ADDRESS
FOR ALL PLACES IN CHINA
"JESSFIELD"

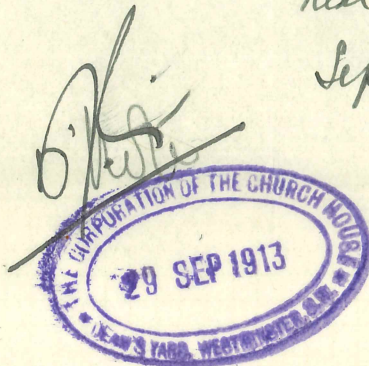
AMERICAN CHURCH MISSION
DISTRICT OF HANKOW
CHINA

MISSION OFFICES
43, TUNGTING ROAD
HANKOW

聖公會

S.S. "Kutwo"
near Shanghai
Sept. 10, 1913.

Office of the Church House
Drum Yard
Westminster
London



Gentlemen:-

I took the liberty of having a parcel addressed to me in your care a few weeks ago, when I expected to travel to New York via Siberia & London. The Rebellion in China has changed my plans, and I go via the Pacific a month later than I expected. May I trouble you, if the parcel is being held for me, to hold it till some time in December, when I expect to be in London on my way back to China? If this is not convenient, would you kindly forward it to me, as I shall be obliged if you will also forward letters for me, to 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, NY, USA and I will see that the postage is refunded to you.

With many thanks for your courtesies.

Faithfully yours

L. H. Roots
(Bishop.)

Bishop L H Roots

An envelope and enclosed letter from Bishop Roots of the American Church Mission in Hankow sent to London in September 1913. The letter appears to have been posted on board the SS "Kutwo" near Shanghai. He mentions that his plans have changed due to the (Sun Yat-sen) rebellion in China.

Via Siberia



Office of the Church House
Draus Yard
Westminster
London
England



Bishop F R Graves

An envelope and enclosed letter from R J Graves of the American Church Mission, Bishop of Shanghai, sent to London in June 1909. He asks that letters he sends to his wife be held at Church Mission to await her return to England.

via Siberia



*A. W. Plamank Esq
The Church House
Dean's Yard
Westminster
London
Eng.*

BISHOP'S OFFICE:
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

CABLE ADDRESS:
"JESSFIELD SHANGHAI"

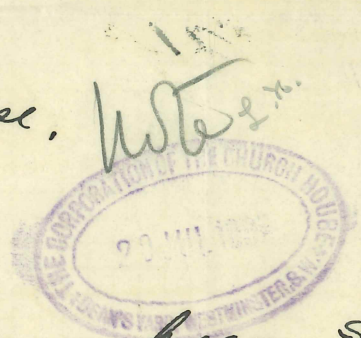
Telephone 203

AMERICAN CHURCH MISSION
DISTRICT OF SHANGHAI

聖公會

SHANGHAI, June 30, 1909.

S. W. Blamankin
Secretary, The Church House.



Dear Sir,

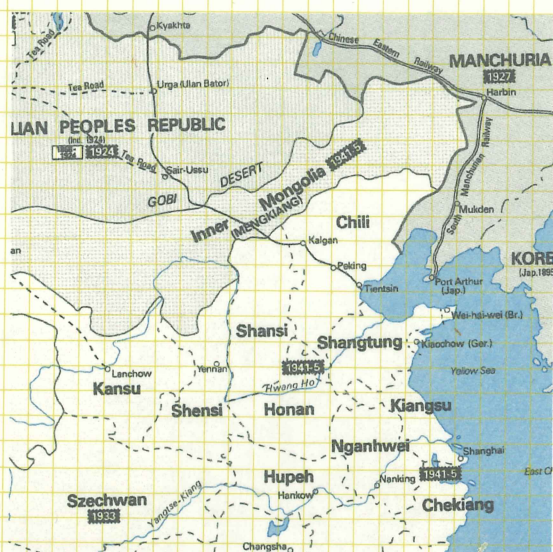
You have always been so kind in the matter of receiving letters for me when I have been in England that I am taking the liberty of sending letters for my wife to the care of the Church House and of asking that you will take charge of them till she calls for them. Mrs Graves will reach England about July 17th or 18th and will be going on to the United States in August.

Thanking you in advance for this kindness
I am

Yours very sincerely
J. R. Graves

MISSIONARY MAIL FROM CHINA 1901 - 1903

At the time of this correspondence, overseas mail from China was handled by foreign post offices. Mail from outwith the main cities was usually franked with Chinese stamps to cover the postage to the main city and then by stamps of the foreign post office to cover the remainder of the postal charges. As Russia had a strong presence in Manchuria at this time, it is natural that much of this mail was carried by the Russian post Office via the Siberian route.



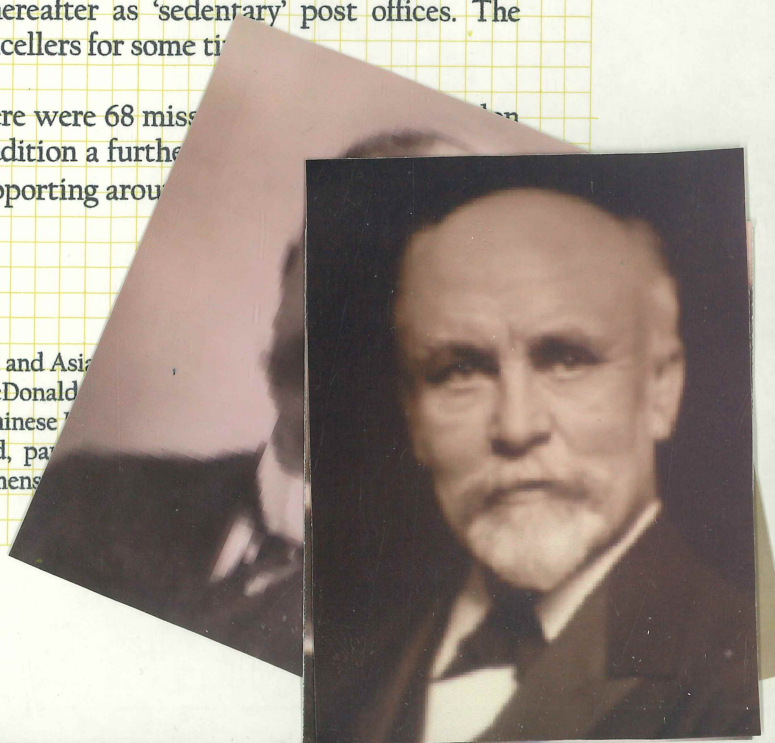
The map on the left shows the Chihli (or Chili) region of China in the centre. Mail from the Tientsin and Peking area would usually be taken to Yingkow (Newchwang) in Southern Manchuria and then via the Chinese Eastern Railway up to Harbin and then eastward on the Trans-Siberian railway to Europe. Mail from southern locations would tend to be taken to Shanghai and then transported by ship via Suez. This map is taken from reference 2.

The Russian military presence was ostensibly there as a policing operation to protect the railway under construction from sabotage. Mail carried by the Russian Post Office passing through occupied Manchuria often bears military cancellations. The many Field Post Offices created by the military were transformed in January 1902 into civilian establishments and were known thereafter as 'sedentary' post offices. The civilian staff continued to use the military cancellations for some time.

During the period of this correspondence, there were 68 missionary societies operating in China. In addition a further 10 societies were active in China at that time supporting around a truly large scale operation.

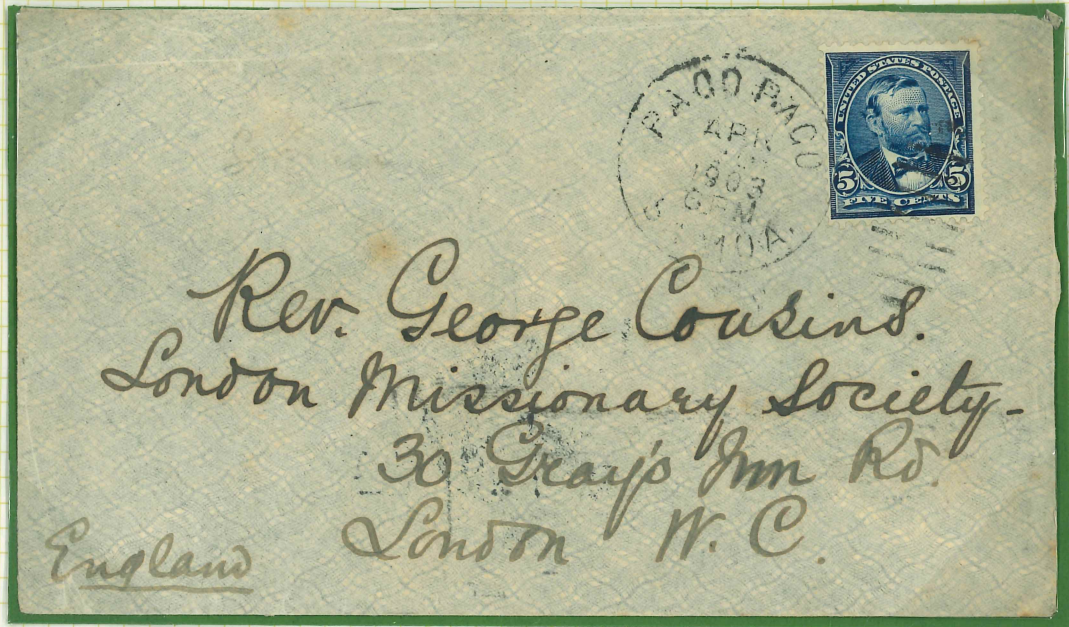
References:

1. LMS Archives - held by the School of Oriental and Asiatic Studies
2. World Stamp Atlas. Rossiter and Flower. MacDonald
3. "Tombstone" Postmarks. Padget, Journal of Chinese Studies
4. Stamps of the Russian Empire used abroad, part 1. The Trans-Siberian Railway. S D Tchilingirian and W S W Stephens

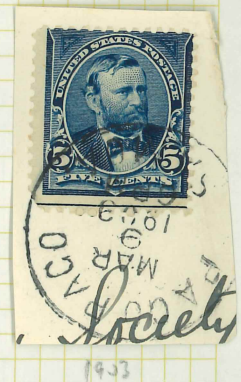


Missionary Mail from Samoa

An envelope sent from Samoa to George Cousins in London in April 1903. It is franked with a 5c blue stamp of the 1894 or 1895 USA issue which has been cancelled with a Pago Pago duplex postmark.

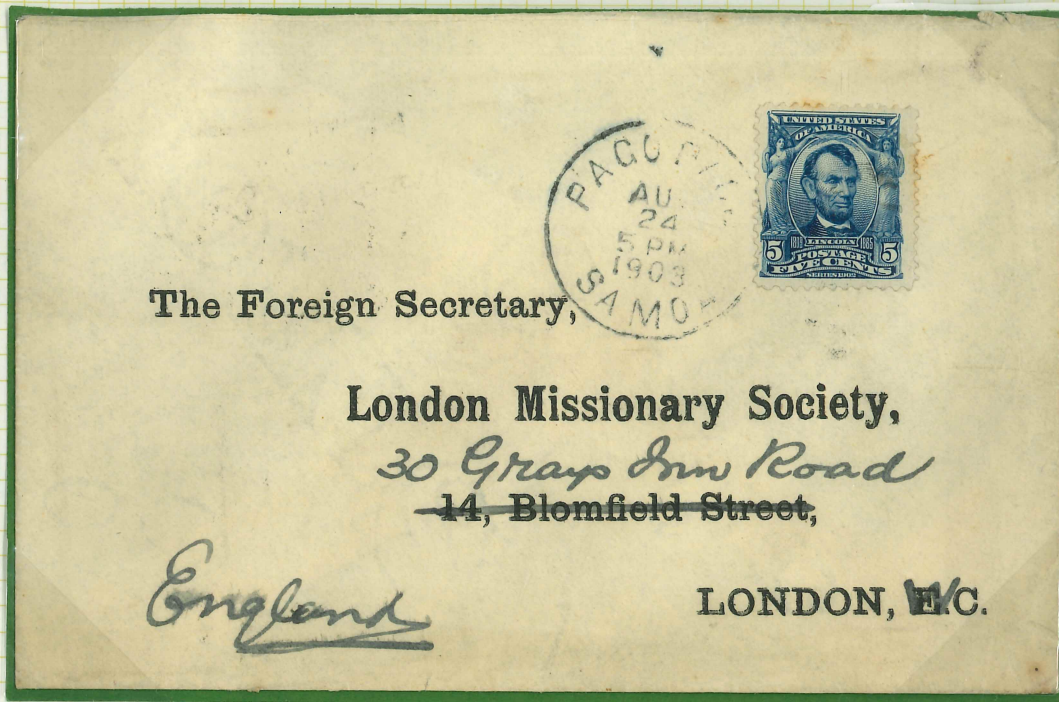


There is a San Francisco transit postmark dated 4 May and a London arrival postmark dated 13 May on the reverse.



Missionary Mail from Samoa

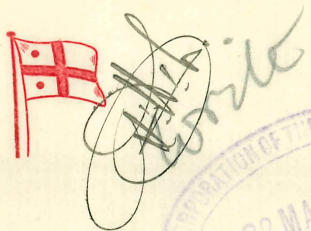
An envelope sent from Samoa to the LMS in London in August 1903. It is franked with a 5c blue stamp of the 1901 USA issue which has been cancelled with a duplex postmark of Pago Pago.



There are no postal markings on the reverse.

Bishop Charles John Corfe

A letter and envelope from Rear Admiral Hamilton on HMS Good Hope at Portsmouth in March 1909 to Church House enquiring how a letter should be addressed to Bishop Corfe who has gone to Manchuria. Bishop Corfe was the first Bishop in Korea from 1889 - 1904. Latterly he became a Naval Chaplain.



H.M.S. GOOD HOPE,
2ND CRUISER SQUADRON.

March 20th 09

Sir

Will you very kindly inform me how a letter should be addressed to Bishop Corfe who has recently gone to Manchuria

Yours truly
Rear Admiral

Rear Admiral

Westminster
London

5/10



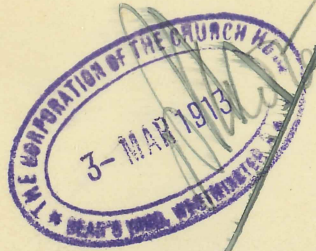
William Laughton

A fragment of an envelope or wrapper sent by William Laughton of the American Bible Society. It is franked with a 10c green Chinese stamp and a pair of 10c purple/red stamps of the 1892-96 hong Kong issue.



Archdeacon Bernard Holmes

A letter and envelope from Bernard Holmes sent in February 1913 to Church House, London stating that he is giving his home address as Church house for the next few months. He was to arrive on March 8th at Southampton and will come to Church House to pay what is required. The envelope is franked with a 1d EVII stamp which is cancelled by a double circle King Williams Town postmark.



Feb 18th 1913

THE RECTORY,
KING WILLIAMS TOWN,
CAPE COLONY

Dear Sir

I am venturing to give Church H. West; as my home address for the next few months. I shall arrive on March 8th at Southampton & will come to Church House soon after to make what payment may be necessary

Yours faithfully

Bernard Holmes

Archdeacon of K.W.T.

The Secretary C.H. 21



The Secretary
Church House
Westminster
London

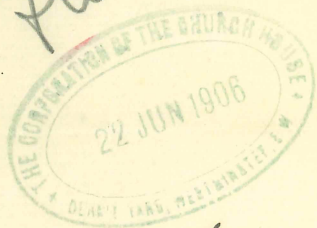
W.

Bishop Walton

The enclosed letter from Bishop Walton in Antigua sent in June 1906 to the Secretary of the Corporation of the Church House in London.



Fletcher Esq.



BISHOP'S LODGE,
ANTIGUA,
B.W.I.

June 2nd 1906.

My dear Sir,

*I received your note
of April 25th by last mail,
and I am posting you a
cabinet photograph of myself,
in accordance with your kind
desire.*

Yours

Believe me, my dear

*Yours Sincerely
Walter Antigua.*