

The Protectorate of Southern Nigeria

By HERBERT G. PORTER.

POLITICAL HISTORY.

When the Charter of the Royal Niger Company was revoked by the Crown, that portion of its Territories lying between Idah and the coast were added to the Niger Coast Protectorate. At the same time by an Order in Council dated December 27th, 1899, the Niger Coast Protectorate was constituted the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria. The new administration comes into this history on the 1st January, 1900, being transferred from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office control.

The earlier history is given in the article on the Oil Rivers and Niger Coast Protectorate.

In 1901 the Niger Coast Protectorate troops were organised into a regiment of the West African Frontier Force, and towards the close of this year preparations for the Aro expedition were commenced. These operations were directed against the Southern Ibo people in general and the Aro or Inokun tribe in particular.

The Aro's, who may be described as the dominant section of the great Ibo family, held paramount power over a large extent of the country lying between the Niger and Cross rivers. They had established a powerful fetish, probably derived from Benin, known as the long Juju, which exercised an extremely evil influence on the ignorant and superstitious natives for miles around. After five months of arduous campaign the field force accomplished the subjugation and disarmament of the Aro tribe, the destruction of the Long Juju, and brought under Government control that portion of the territories as far north as about the 5th parallel.

Between 1905 and 1909 several expeditions were sent into the hinterland with the object of opening up trade and civilization with previously unexplored tracts of country. The principal operations were the Bende-Onitsha Hinterland Expedition 1905-06 and the Niger-Cross River Expedition of 1908-09. As the troops progressed through the country new administrative districts and stations were formed, broad roads constructed in all directions, and many new markets established.

The eastern frontier from the Cross River rapids to the sea was surveyed by an Anglo-German Commission in 1905-06 and from the Cross River rapids to Yola in 1907-9. For some years before these delimitations there had been frequent raids across the border by German native levies from the Kameruns, which were invariably accompanied by robbery and violence, and even after the boundary line had been demarcated this violation of British Territory continued.

By an Order in Council dated 16th February, 1906, the Colony of Lagos and its protected territory were amalgamated with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria under one administration, and the combined territory was elevated to the dignity and rank of the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

For administrative purposes the country was divided into three main divisions:—The Western Province, formerly the Colony and Protectorate of Lagos; the Central and Eastern Provinces, which previously formed the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria. The next few years were spent in building up an extensive system of communications. The railway from Lagos to Ibadan was extended over the Northern Nigeria border to Jebba, thence across the Niger to Zungeru and finally linked up with the railway in operation from Baro to Kano, which was the great Mohammedan trade centre of the North. Thus there is a direct railway connection between Lagos and Kano, a branch line to Baro and a light railway joining the main line at Zaria with the tin fields of Bauchi.

Broad main roads were constructed in all directions and telegraph lines laid between important administrative and trade centres. Large areas in the North Eastern portion of the Protectorate, notably the country inhabited by the warlike and intractable Munshi race, were brought under Government supervision.

By an Order in Council dated 22nd November, 1913, and which came into operation on the 1st January, 1914, the Protectorates of Southern and Northern Nigeria were combined and the name changed to the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

SITUATION AND AREA.

Southern Nigeria extended along the coast stretching from Ogbo on the borders of Lagos to the mouth of the Rio del Ray at 9 degrees east longitude. On the east the German Kameruns formed its border, Northern Nigeria on the north and to the west the Colony of Lagos. The total area of the Colony was about 48,000 square miles excluding Lagos, which was not added to the administration until February, 1906.

ADMINISTRATION.

The administration of the Protectorate was placed under the charge of a High Commissioner with fourteen District Commissioners, four Divisional and four Travelling Commissioners, and about thirty-eight assistant District Commissioners.

In 1904 there were sixty-one churches in the Pro-

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tecorate, and mission schools were established in all mission centres. The Colony had its own Board of Education.

The native inhabitants were dealt with principally under their own chiefs, there being native councils presided over by the chiefs, but subject to appeal to the British Courts. Europeans were subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts under Orders in Council. Order was maintained by the West African Frontier Force Regiment.

POSTAL HISTORY.

Although the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria came into being on January 1st, 1900, it did not issue special stamps of its own until March, 1901, and during the intervening period use was made of the Niger Coast Protectorate stamps. Official reports for the years 1901 to 1905 unfortunately are not available, so for this period reliance must be placed on such information as is already known, supplemented by what can be gleaned from a study of the postmarks.

The Post Offices already established by the Niger Coast Protectorate remained in operation and during 1900 four additional offices were opened, followed in 1901 by three new sub-offices.

In 1901 the number of Post Offices was said to be eighteen and from a study of postmarks the names of these were most probably:

The Head Office at Old Calabar, Asaba, Agberi, Akassa, Bakana, Benin, Bonny, Brass, Buguma, Burutu, Forcados, Idah, New Calabar, Opobo, Qua-Iboe, Sapele, Sombreiro and Warri.

An additional postal launch was put on the service between Forcados and Idah to deal with the fortnightly European mail, which arrived at Forcados, and the postal staff was enlarged owing to the increasing number of mails dealt with.

In 1904 the principal mail routes under control of the Southern Nigerian postal service were:— Calabar and Bonny via Eket and Ekwanga—weekly by launch and canoe;

Calabar and Obukun via Itu, Afikpo, Obubra and Okuni—weekly by canoe and runners;

Itu and Ikot-Ekpene—weekly by canoe and runners; Bonny and Akassa via Bakana and Degema—weekly by launch;

Bonny and Owerri via Bakana and Nsokpu—fortnightly by canoe and runners;

Warri and Benin City via Sapele—fortnightly by runners;

Asaba and Ogrugu—fortnightly by canoe.

The earliest official reports available are those of 1906, and the following details extracted therefrom are of interest to the Philatelist.

The prevailing postal tariff in 1906 was as follows:—Letters within the Colony — 1d. per oz.; Letters to the U.K. and British Empire—1d. per oz.; Letters within the Postal Union—2½d. per oz.; Newspapers within the Colony — 1d. per 4ozs.; Newspapers elsewhere—½d. per 4ozs.; Parcels, internal for West African Colonies up to 3lbs., 4d.; up to 7lbs. 8d.; up to 11lbs., 1/- . Previously the parcels rates were 3d. per lb. or part thereof.

During 1906 additional weekly mail services were established between the following places:—

Itu to Aka	} by canoe and runners.
Itu to Ikot-Ekpene	
Ikot-Ekpene to Uyo	
Sapele to Kwale—by runners.	
Benin City to Ifon—by runners.	
Benin City to Agbor—by runners.	

The canoe services between Bonny-Akassa and Bonny-Degema, via Bakana, were replaced by launch services, expediting delivery of mail to such places.

In May, 1906, Mr. P. L. H. Archer was appointed Postmaster-General for the whole of the territory and as Lagos was amalgamated on May 1st, 1906, the task of supervision over the whole district, bringing the various postal offices under the same working rules, teaching native staffs their duties, etc., must have been enormous. The territory was split up into three main divisions and the head post office was transferred from Old Calabar to Lagos.

The following is a list of the post offices:— *Eastern Province.*—Afikpo, Akassa, Aro-Chuku, (originally called Ochuku), Bende, Bonny, Brass, Calabar, Degema, Ekwanga, Eket, Ikot-Ekpene, Obubra, Okuni. *Central Province.*—Aboh, Benin City, Forcados, Idah, Onitsha, Sapele, Warri. *Western Province (formerly Lagos).*—Abeokuta, Badagry, Ebute-Metta, Epe, Ibadan, Ikorodu, Jebu-Ode, Lagos, Shagamu, Shaki. This gives a total number of 30 post offices, but it will be noticed that Asaba, Bakana, Burutu and Opobo are not included. Whether these offices were temporarily closed down at this period and the work performed by the nearest town office cannot be said, but these four offices were certainly operating again later.

Shaki evidently did not do very much postal business as the total revenue from this station is given as 18/7 for stamps, etc., sold.

During 1907 an inspection was made of various post offices and among the names mentioned are Opobo and the postal agencies at Bakana, Opobo Town and Norah Beach. This is evidence that Opobo and Bakana offices were at work during 1907, and it will be noticed that two new names are added,

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viz. Opobo Town and Norah Beach. I have never come across any postmarks of Norah Beach nor is it mentioned in the 1907 summary of post offices.

Thirty-eight post offices are tabulated in the 1907 report. These include all the offices mentioned under the three Provinces on previous page with the exception of Egwanga, the new names being those of Agbor, Benin River, Ifon, Ilesha, Kwale, Ode-Ondo, Opobo, Owerri and Oyo.

During 1907 new postal agencies were appointed at Atani, Munankor, Oshogbo and Siloko.

A new post office building was completed for Ibadan, and work was commenced there on November 1st, 1907, the old post office, which was an old mud building at Iddo gate, being closed down. At Oyo a portion of the new telegraph office was utilised as a post office. At Oshogbo work on a new building was started for a Post and Telegraph office and at Old Calabar the existing post office was greatly enlarged. As regards Opobo, owing to the increased amount of mail, the post office took over entirely the building formerly used as a combined Customs and Post Office. During this year a railway service was extended to Oshogbo.

The new scale of postal charges recommended by the Postal Union Congress held at Rome in May, 1906, was put into operation, these being:—Letters for the U.K., British Colonies and Egypt—1d. per oz.; Letters for foreign countries—2½d. for first oz. and 1½d. for each additional oz. In 1908 a halfpenny inland postcard was introduced for the first time operating from the beginning of the year.

Additional postal agencies were established at Iking, Oron and Itu.

The new post offices at Igbein Hill (Abeokuta) and at Oshogbo were opened for business in February and June respectively, and the new office at Oyo completed. The Branch Post Office at Lagos was removed during August to a larger building in Catholic Mission Street.

New launch services were established between Calabar and Creek Town and between Forcados and Sapele, the latter service greatly accelerating the delivery of mails for Sapele and Benin City, which formerly were sent via Warri. The launch service between Lagos and Siloko was extended to Sapele and a weekly canoe service put on between Lagos and Ikorodu. The railway service which from the beginning of 1908 operated between Lagos and Oshogbo was extended to Ilorin during August and the mail service for Ode-Ondo which formerly went by launch via Agbabu was improved by sending it by rail via Oshogbo.

During 1908 the inland parcel rates were revised

to the following scale:—Not exceeding 3lbs., 7d.; not exceeding 7lbs., 11d.; not exceeding 11lbs., 1/3d.

Forty-three post offices are mentioned in the statistical report of 1908, which given in alphabetical order comprised:—Abeokuta, Aba, Aboh, Afikpo, Agbor, Akassa, Aro-Chuku, Asaba, Badagry, Bende, Benin City, Bonny, Brass, Calabar, Degema, Ebute-Metta, Eket, Epe, Forcados, Ibadan, Idah, Ifon, Igbein Hill (Abeokuta), Ikom, Ikorodu, Ikot-Ekpene, Ilesha, Itu, Jebu-Ode, Kwale, Koko, Lagos, Obubra, Ode-Ondo, Onitsha, Opobo, Oshogbo, Owerri, Oyo, Sapele, Shagamu, Shaki, and Warri.

This list is obviously incomplete but probably some of the smaller postal agencies are included in the returns of the nearest town offices.

In 1909 a new postal agency was established at Ogbomosho. Mention is made that as regards the postal order system it was in operation at 45 offices where postal orders are issued and cashed. This postal order system was extended to the following stations:—Abakaliki, Aro-Chuku, Burutu, Oban, Ogoja, Oyo and Uyo. As several of these names have not previously been mentioned, they are given to enable collectors to identify postmarks.

Dealing with various post offices that had been inspected during this year, among others are mentioned the following postal agencies:—Creek Town, Oron, Bakana, Buguma, Norah Beach, and Opobo Town.

At Ibadan the post office was enlarged to cope with increasing business and additional accommodation made for the offices at Calabar, Opobo and Forcados. A new post office was built at Burutu in August, as hitherto the residents of this town had to transact their postal business at Forcados.

A new weekly mail service was inaugurated at the end of January, 1909, operating between Lagos, Bonny and Calabar, this service being carried by the regular mail steamers of the Elder Dempster line.

Stamps to the value of £1969 were sold to philatelists in 1909 as compared with £478 19s. 0½d. in 1908. The increase in the sales was due to the new issue of stamps for Universal Colour requirements.

During 1910 new postal agencies were opened at Ahoado, Meko, Obudu, Okwoga, Ubiaja, Udi and Uyo. A new post office was opened at Itu to replace the postal agency established there in 1908, and the new building for the General Post Office at Lagos commenced. At Bonny and Warri sanction was obtained to build new post offices for these two important towns, whilst increased accommodation was asked for to deal with parcels at Forcados. At

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Burutu, where a room was used as a post office, it was found necessary to ask for increased space.

Commencing from the 18th February, 1910, the letter and newspaper mail for Ilorin and Zungeru districts of Northern Nigeria were landed at Lagos and forwarded by railway. Parcels for these districts and all mails for the Lokoja district were still forwarded by the River Niger route.

The mails for French and Belgian Congo now had a regular service via Kotonu, from which place they were trans-shipped by the French mail steamers leaving Kotonu on the 8th of each month.

The value of the stamps sold to philatelists during 1910 dropped to £674. This was a falling-off compared with 1909 of £1022, brought about by the fact that there was not a new issue of stamps in 1910 so that sales to stamp collectors resumed their normal proportions.

Record is made that a packet containing stamps to the value of £71 12s. 1d. sent to replenish the stock at Eket post office was stolen during transit and was not recovered.

Nothing of great interest is recorded for the year 1911, except that the sale of stamps to philatelists amounted to £506 19s. 10d.

Plans for the new General Post Office at Lagos were approved and the estimated cost of the building given as £11,500. Parcels post at Lagos had reached such dimensions that it was necessary to extend the accommodation temporarily provided in one of the Customs for the parcels delivery. A new post office building at Itu was in course of construction, whilst that at Warri was completed.

New offices at Calabar and Bonny were to be put into work, the Bonny Office being reported in a very dilapidated condition.



THE OLD POST OFFICE, LAGOS, S. NIGERIA.

Replacement approved in 1911

The Protectorate of Southern Nigeria--

<u>Alphabetical list of Post Offices and Postal Agencies in operation at one time or other in the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, including Lagos Territory:—</u>	
<u>A.</u> Aba. Abakaliki. Abeokuta (Lagos). Aboh (late Agberi). Agberi (later renamed Aboh). Afikpo. Agbor. Ahoada (1910). Aka. Akassa. Aro Chuku (late Ochuku). Asaba. Atani (1907).	<u>J.</u> Jebu-Ode (Lagos). Jebba-Ibadan Travelling P.O. <u>K.</u> Kwale. Koko. <u>L.</u> Lagos. Lagos B.O. <u>M.</u> Meko (1910). Monanaoh. Munankor (1907). <u>N.</u> New Calabar. (^{RENAMED} DEGEMA). Niger Travelling P.O. Norah Beach. Nsokpu.
<u>B.</u> Badagry (Lagos). Bakana. Bende. Benin. Benin City Bonny. Bonny River. Brass. Brass River. Buguma. Burutu.	<u>O.</u> Oban. Obubra Hill. Obudu (1910). Obukun. Ochuku (now Aro Chuku). Ode Ondo. Ogbomosho (1909). Ogoja. Ogrugru. Oguta. Oka (later renamed Awka).
<u>C.</u> Calabar. Creek Town.	Okigwi. Okuni. Okwoga (1910). Old Calabar. Old Calabar River. Olokemeji (Lagos). Onitsha. Opobo. Opobo River. Opobo Town. Oron (1908). Oshogbo (1907). Owerri. Oyo (Lagos).
<u>D.</u> Degema. (^{LATE} NEW CALABAR) Duke Town.	<u>Q.</u> Qua-Iboe River.
<u>E.</u> Ebute-Metta (Lagos). Egwanga. Eket. Epe (Lagos). Eruwa (Lagos).	<u>S.</u> Sapele. Shagamu (Lagos). Shaki (Lagos). Siloko (1907). Sombreiro River. <u>U.</u> Ubijaja (1910). Uyo (1910). Udi (1910).
<u>F.</u> Forcados. Forcados River .	<u>W.</u> Warri.
<u>I.</u> Ibadan (Lagos). Ida (later Idah). Ifon. Igbein Hill. Abeokuta (Lagos). Ikang (1908). Ikom. Ikorodu (Lagos). Ikot-Ekpene. Ilesha. Itu (1908). Ishan. Iseyin (Lagos).	

The dates given in parenthesis are the opening dates of the Post Offices.

The Postmarks of Southern Nigeria

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Postal cancellers belonging to the Niger Coast Protectorate remained in use for some time and will be found on the early issues of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate. As fresh offices were opened new and additional cancellers were requisitioned and the following types will serve as a basis for further investigation and any additions from interested collectors will be welcomed.

Type 1.

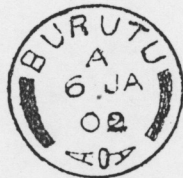


A single lined circle varying from 21 to 22 mm. diameter, with the name of the post office around the circumference and the date in centre in two lines. The date is surmounted by a letter, generally A, which is thought to indicate the time of posting. Type 1 is a canceller used by the Niger Coast.

Used by:—Bonny River, A; Brass River, C; Forcados River, A; Old Calabar River, A; Opobo River, A; Qua Iboe River, A; Sapele, A; Sombreiro River, A. *BAKANA 'C'.*

It is possible that Benin River and ~~Bakana~~ will be found, as these offices were still open in 1901.

Type 2.



A single lined circle about 23½ mm. diameter with the name of the post office at top and a thick bar at each side divided by an ornamentation like two A's laid sideways with a thin upright 0 between. The date is in centre surmounted by letter A.

Used by:—Agberi, Akassa, Asaba, Burutu, and Ida.

I have never seen this type used by any other offices.

Type 3.



A squared circle approximately 1 in. across with four inner circles, three of which are broken. This was also used by the Niger Coast.

Used at Warri, A.

Type 4.



3.

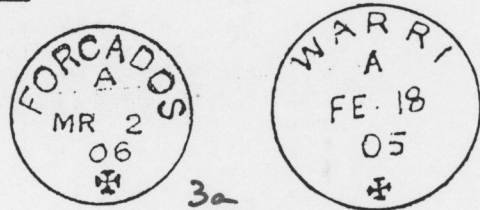
A single lined circle approximately 24 mm. diameter. A small Maltese cross is placed at the base of the circle. The earliest date found is February 3rd, 1903.

At the beginning of 1905 Old Calabar office changed its name to Calabar but continued to use the dating stamp by cutting out the "Old." The latest date I have seen for the full title "Old Calabar" being used is December 30th, 1904, so it would seem that the change of name took place January 1st, 1905.

Used at:—Benin City, A, F; Bonny, A; Degema, A; Calabar, A; Old Calabar, A; Niger Travelling Post Office, A.

The Bonny cancellation will sometimes be found struck in blue.

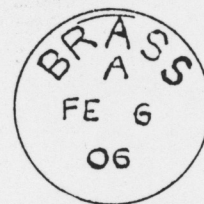
Type 5.



In 1905 a somewhat similar canceller to Type 4 appeared, the diameter is about 24 mm., but the letters and Maltese Cross are larger. Warri used two types, one 24 mm. diameter and a larger one about 28 mm. diameter as illustrated above. The earliest date seen of the larger canceller is February 18th, 1905.

Used at:—Afikpo, A; Bende, A; Forcados, A; Ifon, A; Obubra Hill, A, B, D; Onitsha, A; Warri, A.

Type 5a



4.

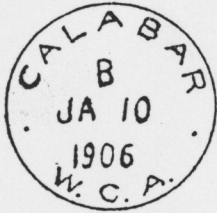
A single lined circle about 26 mm. diameter with large sized letters. There is no Maltese Cross at the bottom. This appeared in 1904.

Used by:—Aboh, A, C, D; Bakana, A, B, E; Benin, A; Brass, A, C; Egwanga, A, C; Sapele, A.

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Type 6.



TYPE 6A



Used by:—Abeokuta, A, F; Badagry, D; Calabar, B; Ebute-Metta, A, D; Epe, A, B, C, E, F; Ibadan, B, C, E, F; Ikorodu, D; Jebu-Ode, D; Ode-Ondo, B, E, A; Olokemeji (Lagos), A, C; Shagamu, C, D, E; Sekondi (Gold Coast).

Type 6a.

Creek Town used an obliterator differing from any other office, the size of circle was approximately 28 mm. The name Old Calabar appeared at top and two dots separated the words Creek Town.

Used by:—Creek Town (Old Calabar), A.

Type 7.



A canceller having the title "Southern Nigeria" in addition to the name of post office appeared in January, 1907. The diameter of circle varied slightly from 23½ mm. to 25 mm. for different offices and in some cases the words were separated by two dots.

Used by:—Aba, Abakaliki, Abeokuta, Aboh, Agbor, Akassa, Aro-Chuku, Atani, Benin City, Bonny, Brass, Burutu, Burutu, A; Calabar, A, B, D; Creek Town, A; Degema, Ebute-Metta, Forcados, Ibadan, Idah, Ikot-Ekpene, Ikom, Ishan, Itu, Igbein Hill (Abeokuta), Jebu-Ode, Kwale, Lagos, Lagos, A, B; Munankor, Oguta, Onitsha, Oron, Sapele, Uyo, Warri, also at Free Town (Sierra Leone), and Accra (Gold Coast). *A x 17. (9010 10157)*

Burutu used two types, one with dots each side, the other without. Certain of above offices, especially Ikom, Aro-Chuku, Abakaliki, and Kwale, used violet ink in addition to the ordinary black cancellation.

Type 8.



7.



7a.

A double ringed circle about 28 mm. diameter with name of post office at top and "Southern Nigeria" below. Two dots separated the wording. The earliest date I have noted is that of Opo, February 6th, 1908, and this canceller appeared to be generally in use between 1908 to 1914. Opo used two types, one had the letter A above the date and the year was in two figures only, the other was without the letter and had the year in full. See illustrations above.

Used by:—Afikpo, Agbor, Asaba, Aro-Chuku, Bakana, Buguma, Badagry, Benin, Bonny, Eket, Epe, Ibadan, Ifon, Ilesha A, B; Koko, Lagos, Obubra, Opo, Opo, A; Ochuku, Ode-Ondo, Oka, D; Oron, Ogoja, Owerri, C; Oshogbo, A; Oyo, A; Siloko, A; Travelling Post Office, A, B, C, D. *OBAN. BURUTU.*

Type 8a.



This is similar to Type 8 but two Maltese crosses take the place of the intersecting dots. The diameter of circle varies from 26½ to 30 mm.

Used by:—Abo, Ahoada, Ebute-Metta, Ibadan,

Ikorodu, Lagos, Lagos B.O., Ogbomosho, Okigwi, Onitsha, Sapele, Shagamu, Udi, Warri.

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Type 9.



A large single lined circle approximately 29 mm. diameter as illustrated above.

Used at :—Abeokuta Station, Lagos, F, D.

Owing to the amalgamation of Lagos with Southern Nigeria certain of the old Lagos cancellers will be found on Southern Nigeria stamps, of which have been noted :—



Lagos Type 3.

A plain ellipse consisting of eight thick bars struck in black approximately 20 mm. wide by 27 mm. deep.

Used at :—Lagos.



Lagos Type 6.

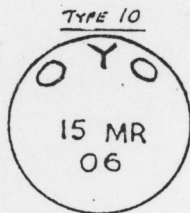
A single lined circle about 23½ mm. diameter with the letters W. Africa below.

Used at :—Lagos, B.

Lagos Type 9.

A large single lined circle about 28½ mm. diameter with the words "Post Office" at top and "Lagos W.C.A." at bottom.

Used at :—Lagos, E, F; also at Branch Post Office, Lagos.



Lagos Type 10.

A single lined circle varying from 24 mm. diameter. Used at :—Ogbomosho, Oyo.

The following cancellations of Northern Nigeria will also be found.

Northern Nigeria Type 4.



A large double ringed circle about 28 mm. diameter as illustration.

Used at :—Kaduna, Lokoja. *J.C.B.A.*

Northern Nigeria Type 5.



A large double ringed circle, but the words "Northern Nigeria" were omitted.

Used at :—Katagum.

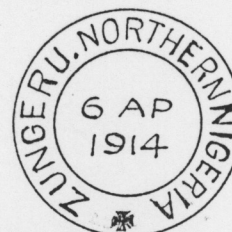
Northern Nigeria Type 7.



A double ringed circle about 28 mm. diameter as illustration.

Used at :—Ilorin, Minna.

Northern Nigeria Type 8.



A large double ringed circle approximately 30 mm. diameter with large letters.

Used at :—Zungeru.

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Manuscript Cancellations.

As noted in the case of Northern Nigeria, Ibi Post Office had to use manuscript cancellations owing to the absence of the regulation postmarkers. I have seen this Ibi pen and ink cancellation on Southern Nigeria stamps, 2½d. values, of the 1904-5 MCA issue. In addition the postmark of Calabar was struck showing that such letters travelled *via* this port.

PARCELS POST CANCELLATIONS.

Type 10.



A large single lined circle about 29 mm. diameter as illustration.

Used at :—Calabar, A; Forcados; Owerri; Lagos, A, C. WARRI. B

Type 11.



Another postmarker was the familiar double ringed design so often seen on British parcels mail. This was similar to the type used by the Niger Coast Protectorate, but differed slightly by the addition of two thick horizontal bars across the centre of circle. The approximate diameter of circle was 28 mm.

Used at :—Bonny, Brass, Forcados, Lagos.



Type 12.

A large double ringed circle about 29 mm. diameter lettered "Parcel Post Lagos" at top and "Southern Nigeria" below.

Used at :—Lagos.

There must be other offices using parcels mail cancellers, but unfortunately the writer has not had many examples to examine.

The stamps of Southern Nigeria were allowed to be used up in the new Administration of Nigeria and the following Nigerian postmarks will be found.

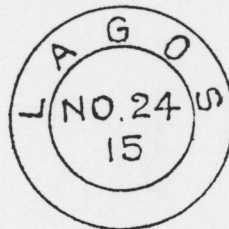


Nigeria Type 1.

A double ringed circle varying from 28 to 29 mm. diameter.

Used at :—Kaduna, Lagos, Patani, Port Harcourt, Travelling Post Office, Warri.

Nigeria Type 2.



A double ringed circle about 29 mm. diameter with name of post office in widely spaced capitals. Used at :—Lagos, P. Harcourt.

Nigeria Type 3.



A single lined circle about 29 mm. diameter. Used at :—Victoria, Cameroons.

Nigeria, Type 8.

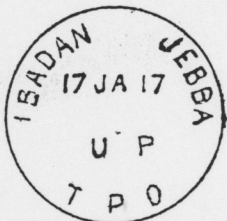


A small single lined circle about 24 mm. diameter. This was left by the ex-German postal authorities. Used at :—Buea, Kamerun.

Postmarks of Southern Nigeria

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Nigeria Type 17.



A single lined circle used by the Travelling Post Office attached to the railway operating between Jebba and Ibadan.

Lettered :—Jebba—Ibadan T.P.O., down; Ibadan—Jebba T.P.O., up.

Nigeria Type 23.

Telegraph cancellation used postally.
Used at :—Eket. *EQWANGA.*

Nigeria Type 24.

A large double ringed circular cancellation about 34½ mm. diameter, lettered "Lagos Government Telegraphs. Southern Nigeria Telegraphs."



REGISTRATION CANCELLATIONS.

Various sizes of registration postmarkers were used and although the types were more or less the same, there are several points of difference. The first cancellers had small crosses, later certain offices had the crosses omitted. Illustrations below show the chief types.

Registration Type 1.



A small oval cancellation with the word "Registered" at top and name of town at bottom, with date in centre surmounted by letter A.

Used at :—Old Calabar, A; Asaba, A; Burutu, A.

Registration Types 2 and 3.

Type 2— *Rz. Rza. Rzb. Rzc.*
Type 3— *Rj. Rja.*

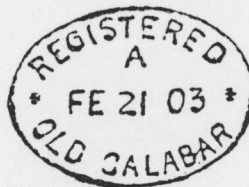
The size is larger than Type 1 and the lettering used is larger.



Type 2 with Crosses or Dots.

Akassa, A, C, D; size 30 by 23 mm.
Benin City, A, F; size 28½ by 23½ mm.
Bonny, A; size 30 by 23 mm.
Brass, A, C; size 30 by 23 mm.
Degema, A; size 30 by 23½ mm.
Forcados, A; size 30 by 24 mm.
Forcados, A; size 28½ by 23½ mm.
Niger Travelling Post Office; size 30 by 23 mm.
Old Calabar, A; size 31 by 24 mm.
Opobo, B. *NEW CALABAR. 'A'*
Sapele, A, B, D; size 30 by 23 mm.
Warri, A; size 29 by 23 mm.
Warri, A; size 31 by 25½ mm.

Also Calabar only, the "Old" having been removed from the dating stamp.



The Postmarks of Southern Nigeria

By HERBERT G. PORTER.

Type 3, no Dots or Crosses.

Aboh, A, C, D; size 31 by 25 mm.
Afikpo; size 31 by 25 mm.



Afikpo, A; size 31 by 25 mm.
Benin, A, C; size 31 by 25 mm.
Brass, A; size 31 by 25 mm.
Egwanga, A, C; size 31 by 25 mm.
Forcados, A; size 31 by 25 mm.
Ifon, A.
Onitsha, A; size 31 by 26 mm.
Sapele, A; size 31 by 25 mm.



Registration Type 4.

A single lined circle about 28 mm. diameter with the word "Registered" at top and date in centre.
Used by :—Abeokuta; Lagos, W.C.A., F; Lagos, Southern Nigeria.



Type 5.

A single lined oval with "Registered" at top, and name of Office and "Southern Nigeria" at bottom, date in centre. Size of oval approximately 32 mm. by 26 mm.
Used by :—Duke Town, A; Lagos, A; Lagos, B; Calabar, A; Creek Town, A; Travelling P.O., C.

Type 5a.



A single lined oval similar to last but slightly larger, size 33 by 26 mm. Two dots appear at the sides intersecting the words. The lettering "Lagos Southern Nigeria" is slightly smaller and of more open type than the previous canceller.

Used by :—Lagos, Owerri, D; Opobo, A. The Opobo canceller is larger than the others, measuring approximately 35 mm. by 28 mm., see illustrations.

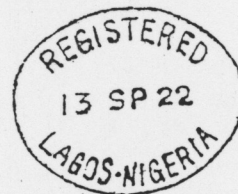
Type 6.

This is a departure from the usual method, in that the name of town appears in centre above the date. So far only Idah has been traced using this type of date stamp.



Nigeria Type 1.

This is a Nigeria canceller, consisting of a small oval with word "Nigeria" in place of "Southern Nigeria."

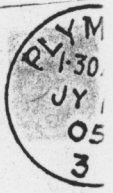
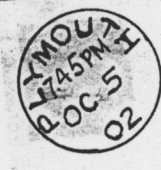
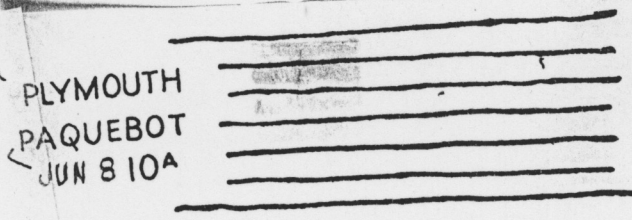
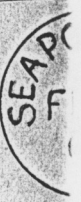


Used at :—Lagos.

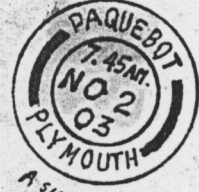
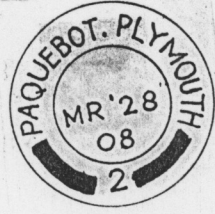
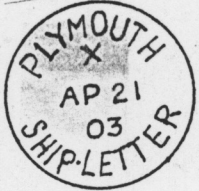
SHIP LETTER, PAQUEBOT AND PORT OF ENTRY POSTMARKS FOUND ON THE STAMPS OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.



ALSO WITH LETTER D AT BASE.

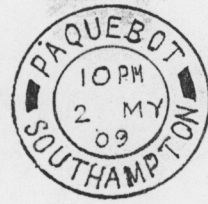
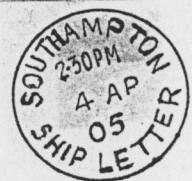


PLYMO PAQUE 5AP



A SIMILAR STAMP WILL ALSO BE FOUND WITHOUT FIGURE AT BASE

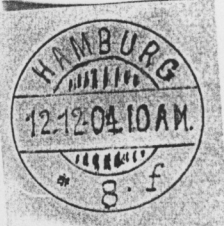
ALSO WITH FIGURE 2 AT BASE



ALSO.



Foreign Branch.



FIGURES AT FOOT VARY.

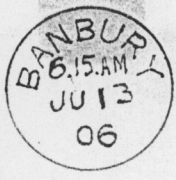
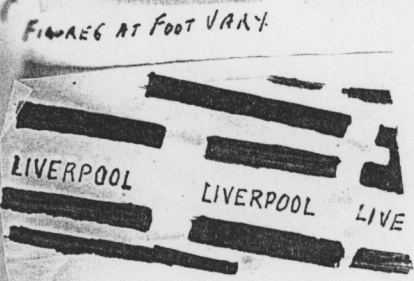


FIGURES VARY



PAQUEBOT

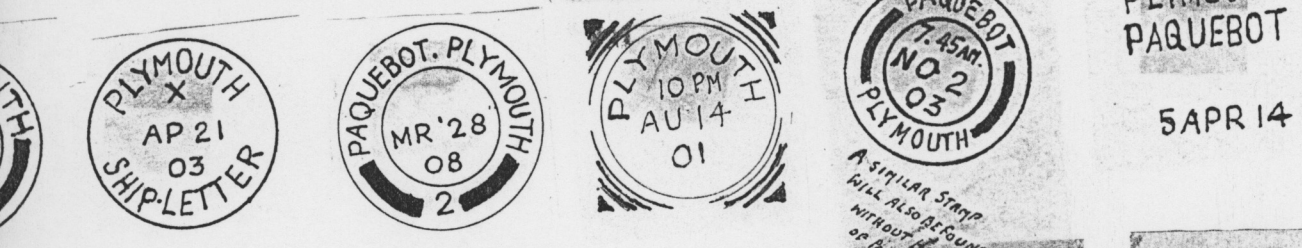
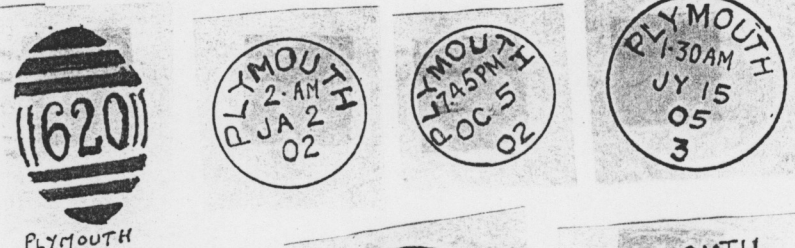
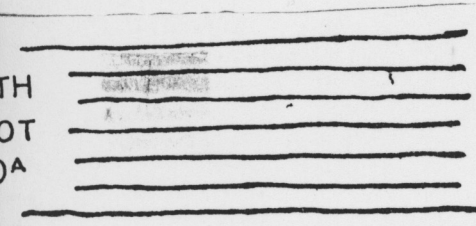
I



SHIP LETTER, PAQUEBOT AND PORT OF ENTRY POSTMARKS FOUND ON THE STAMPS OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.



ALSO WITH LETTER D AT BASE.



A SIMILAR STAMP WILL ALSO BE FOUND WITHOUT WORD OF PAQUEBOT

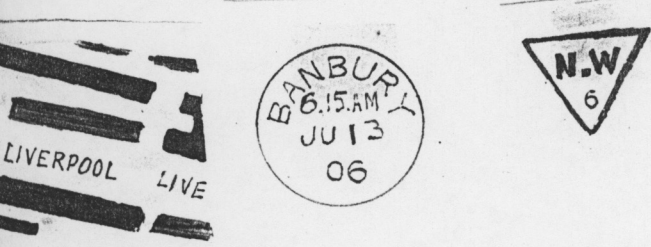


ALSO. F.S. 157



FIGURES AT FOOT VARY.

FIGURES VARY



continued over