

Miscellaneous
No. <i>Confidential. C. 24a.</i> 394/09

1908.

WZ

DEF/NCA/1#1

Comber

Secretary of State.

(SUBJECT.)

1908

1 July

Coal and other Naval Stores
at Port Stanley

Previous Papers.

394/09.

(MINUTES.)

C.S,

The best way to give effect to the wishes of the Lords of the Admiralty with regard to the deficiency in the stock of coal would I think be to appoint a Commission of enquiry consisting of yourself and Mr Hurst, and I therefore appoint you accordingly for the purpose of making a report upon the questions raised.

Should a formal Commission be requisite please have same prepared.

You will of course require to visit the Naval Depot, measure the coal now in stock, and ascertain whether ~~it~~ all necessary steps have been taken to prevent ~~its~~ any being removed without authority.

The last Admiralty auction realized such very poor prices, many of the more valuable articles being simply given away, that it seems to me that it is worthy of consideration whether it would not be better for the Admiralty's interests if the Govrt were to offer to take over the whole of the articles marked in red for a lump sum.

This could be looked into later.

*S. H. ...
18. 4. 7.*

Subsequent Papers.

277/09

WZ, C

15/8/08

H.E. the Governor.

We had hoped to be in a position to present our report in time for transmission by the incoming mail, but regret that we are unable to do so, as there are various matters in regard to which we have not yet been able to satisfy ourselves, and are seeking further information.

H.E.W.T.
6.9.08

C.S.

Our small staff and the "exigencies of the service" are an all sufficient reason for our report not coming home by this mail.

W.H.
7.8.08

H.E. the Governor.

Report herewith.

H.E.W.T.
2.10.08

C.S.O. No. S. S. Graf.
1.7.1908

Departmental No. _____

C.S.
I am much obliged to you
and N. Hurst for your com-
prehensive and valuable
report.

Please let me have
three typed copies for P.S.
(I attach same type
writing paper)

(Conf. despatches
with drawings)
W.C.
2.10.08

Hon. G. Hurst.

For your information.

W.E. Grant
C.S.
2.10.08

Hon. Col: Secretary

Many thanks

G. Hurst
2.10.08
As Treasurer

H.S. the Governor.

Three typed copies of the Report herewith.

2. Mr. Hurst & I were glad to be of service in this matter.

H.S. V.T.
3.10.08

C.S. Typed copies of the Report withdrawn with minutes.

W.L.C.
3.10.08

Minute from H.S. the Governor,
dated 8.4.1909

For action

H.S. the Governor.

I have taken a copy of the Admiralty letter to be filed with the papers, so that the Comd. despatch can be withdrawn.

H.S. V.T.
16.4.09

Departmental No.

C.S,

The Officer on Charge of the Naval Depot (Atkins) shd now hand over to Govrt the articles marked 'X' on the attached list in Conf. despatch of 27 Febry, and ~~strike~~ strike same off the Naval Depot stock list.

Vrs shd then be passed in favour of the Admiralty for £35 and credited to Navy Funds in the usual way. The amount shd be charged to a new item 'Purchase of Stores from Admiralty'. The articles so purchased shd be taken into stock and issued in the usual way to the different Departs as required.

The stores unticked on the Admiralty statement attached constitutes the balance of stores at the Naval Depot in charge of the Colonial Govrt.

Later, when effect has been given to the above, ~~we~~ please return me the Conf. despatch.

W.C.A.
22 April, 09.

Minute to Officer in Charge. *Mr. P. 277/1909.*
S.D. *Done*
24.4.09

Minutes from Governor of 24.9.09.

H.E. the Governor

H.E. the Governor
H.W.J.
27.9.09

A.C.S.
— Thanks. W.C.A.
Withedance. 27.9.09



A. C. S.

Some time ago

there was an enquiry
held into a shortage

of these coal at the
Naval Dept.

The S. S. Conf. despatch
of 27 Feb. 09 in connection
wherein does not
appear to have been
returned to me.

Please return.

W.C.C.

24-9-09

Naval Coaling Depot
Falkland Islands.

Aug 9th 1905.

Mr Dunning
Sir

Will you please let me have a Receipt in duplicate for the 5½ tons, also 7 tons. of Coal. Issued on the 21st July 05. from the Admiralty stock of Coal, now stored in the F. I. Co. Hulk Garland. Also I shall be glad if you will let me know the charge per day for storage of Day Coal in the Hulk Garland. The Admiralty have requested that this information be forwarded.

I am
Sir
Yours Sincerely
E Herring
Esq.

Naval Coaling Depot.

Stanley. 5 April 05.

Mr. Harding
of Sci

Will you please arrange to let me have another Buick, anchored near the Caunter at the Naval Coaling Depot.

As we have nearly completed the discharge of the Vear of Dray.

I shall be glad if you could arrange to let me have the Buick along side first thing tomorrow morning.

Yours Sincerely
E. Herring.

u so.

Naval Coalina Depot

S. Stanley.

26th April 05.

Mr Harding

Dear Sir

Will you please make arrangements to remove the Dulse anchored near the Naval works, as we shall complete her discharge this afternoon.

I shall be glad if you will let me have the Capricorn Dulse anchored in the same place tomorrow morning, the 27th April.

Trusting the above will meet with your approval.

I am

Sir

Yours

Sincerely

E. Herring.

W 50

Naval Coal's Depot
Stanley.

6th Mar. 05.

Mr. Girdling

Dear Sir

Will you please arrange to let Mr. Clifton
have the necessary gear for discharging
the lighter, which is anchored near the
Naval Wharves.

1 Winch. 2 Blocks. Rope. Shunt. also some
Tackles.

I understood the lighters were supplied
with lifting gear winch &c. for discharging
Cargo.

Trusting you will attend to this, as the
work at present, is at a standstill.

Yours Sincerely
E. Herring
N.S.O.

Naval Coalings Depot
Stanley, F.I.
14th Feb. 05.

Mr Harding,
Sir

I received your letter dated the
14th Feb. and beg to acquaint you
that the Sofala is at the present
moment under demurrage at the
rate of £36. per day.

If this is to continue for a week
it will be a very serious matter for
the Admiralty

I therefore earnestly trust that you
will see your way clear to make
some arrangement for receiving the
Coal from the ship.

and save this heavy expence

Yours Sincerely

E. Herring,

U.S.O.

Navy Point

22nd Sept 00.

Mr Harding

I understand you propose to keep a certain amount of coal in one of the hulks for a time.

I should like to suggest that the deck be properly cleared of all coal.

& that the hatchway be properly secured & sealed.

Please state no of tons placed in Doublers which you intend to remain at anchor.

Yours Truly
Ed Ferris

Naval Coalining Depot
Falkland Islands
19th April 06.

Mr. Girdling

Dear Sir

At your request I enclose the amount of
Coal Issued to the F. I. Company from
the amount allowed by the Admiralty
viz 200 tons.

To April 5 th 06, in small amounts	Tons
	99.
S.S. Admiralen	100.
	<hr/>
	199.

Yours Sincerely
E. Herring
28 50

37 1/2
26 1/2
30

99

Naval Works

29th Jan 04.

Mr Harding

I Rec^d. the Admiralty forms
and wish to thank you for same.
The no. of tons issued on the 27th Jan 04
to H.M.S. Dwyer is 100 tons.

E Herrin

N.S.O.

The Harbour Master,

The Commander of H.M.S. Beagle has requisitioned for the delivery alongside his ship of 95 tons coal belonging to the Admiralty at present stored in the hulk Vicar of Bray. We propose to move this hulk this afternoon and I should be glad to be informed if the fee for moving will be demanded in this case.

Stanley, December 1st, 1903.

The Manager
F. J. Co.

W. Harding
Manager F. J. Co.

No fee is required for
moving hulks to ships of war

W. H.
1.12.03

Naval Works

18th July 04.

Mr Harding

Dear Sir

I should like to point out that the amount of coal in the Vicar of Bray according to your tallyman's report John Pappas should be 5 tons. not 8 as stated in your note of the 15th July.

Also the Sissie had permission to use our coal during the discharge of St. Hubert to save time.

I prefer that no coal be taken from the Hulk Yardland, as I wish as much as possible to remain, as it is likely that a Service Ship will be here shortly. The amount due from Vicar of Bray, can be taken from Naval Coal Shed.

Trusting this will meet with your approval

Yours Sincerely

E. Henning

N.S.O.

Amount taken from Hulk

H.M.S Beagle. 10th Mar. 04.

Terra Nova. 23rd June

Discovery. 15th July

Tons

70.

161.

180

411.

W

Naval Coaling Depot
Falkland Islands.

9th April 06.

Mr. Girdling
Dear Sir

Will you please let me have a receipt
in duplicate for the 26 tons of Coke
purchased by the F. I. Co from the Adm.
I should also be glad if you would let
me know the arrangements made by the
Commodore with Mr. Harding, about
payments, as I am not quite sure about
the matter, and wish to send some
statements with regard to the same
by next homeward mail.

I am
Sir

Yours Sincerely
E. Herring

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY LIMITED

STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS,

6th February 1926.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your second letter No: 261 of today's date.

I have taken due note of the first paragraph of your letter. The charge already made for the use of tugs towing ~~the~~ the lighters is confined to her services for towages to and from the ship "Sofala" to the Naval depot, but I quite concur in your proposal to refer the matter to the Admiralty.

As regards the measurement of coal on "Sofala", I regret that I am unable to offer any definite explanation as to the shortage referred to. ^{Sir,} ^A Tallying the coal, I believe that it was customary to weigh an occasional basket and to strike an average. It is obvious that this average would depend in a great measure as to whether the coal actually weighed happened to consist of lumps or slack, and a large allowance for error should therefore be made in consequence. When making our own private importations it was our practice to allow a large percentage for waste on account of the high ^{wind,} ~~waves~~ which prevailed here, and our experience has been that this should be not less than six per cent. The receipt held by Mr. Herring, namely 25 tons, is quite correct.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Commodore Sir A.W. Paget,
R.C.M.G. R.N.

H.M.S. "Stylla".

(Signed) H. A. Herring

Immediate

"Scylla", at Port Stanley,

6th February 1906.

No:261. Sir,

In reply to your letter of today's date I desire to inform you that I accept your offer of 18^s/- per ton for the 14 tons of coke remaining in the hulk "Garland". As the "Scylla" is about to sail, payment should be made through your London representative to the Admiralty.

The question of the payment of the tug, etc., during the Squadron's stay here I am referring to the Admiralty, as I see by former correspondence the proposed charge for the use of the "Garland" included towage, etc.

Another point has arisen in regard to the "Garland". 861 tons of coal were tallied into her ex the "Scylla". The following amounts have been taken out:-

"Scylla"	435
"Letona"	301
Falkland Is. Company.	25
Total	<u>761</u>

This leaves a shortage of 100 tons and I shall be glad if you can throw any light on the subject. Mr. Herring as far as I can discover holds only one receipt of coal taken by you from the "Garland", namely 25 tons.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W.A. HERRING, Esc.

Falkland Islands Co.

By order,

A. Measham,
Commodore.

Naval Works

Sat 6th Feb 04.

Mr Harding

I have no duplicate of Bill of Lading.
St Hubert according to Bill of Lading
Tonnage. Coal - 2024 tons
5 tons. Cotton Waste - 100. cut 200 Bales. (23 x 12 x 14)^{inches}
Oil Olive 6000 Gallons.
" Min 6000 Gallons. } 462 Drums (28 x 20 1/2)

The Coal landed from Vicar of Bray to
Naval Works, Coal Shed 128 tons, 14 cut.

The Coal Issued to S.S. Scotia on 3rd Feb 04.
from F.S. Camp Hall. 38 1/2 tons.

In Coal Shed from St Hubert & Vicar of
Bray Total 1137 tons

E. Herring

N.S.O.

40 x 20 x 2' 3" = 450 cft

3311 "

40 | 3761 cft

94 Tons

S.S. Conf.
1.7.1908

Confidential.

Chief Constable.

Please let me have answers, in so far as you may be able to give them, to the following questions with regard to the issue of Admiralty coal during the time that the Depot has been in your charge:—

- (a) What steps were taken to ensure that the quantities issued did not exceed those paid for?
- (b) Were the issues made under your direct superintendence? If not, who represented you?
- (c) Who provided the actual labour for the issue of coal from store to lighters, and what method of tallying was adopted?
- (d) What was the amount paid for

for this labour, and at
what rate per Ton?

2. Please let me have
your answers on a separate
sheet of paper.

21. 8. 06

H.R. Wharfedale
C.S.

The Hon the Col Secretary
has with answers.

W.W.

26. 8. 08

Chief Constable.

I understand that 20 tons of coal is
still due to the S.S. "Lovart" from the Naval Depot?

W. B. Grant

Colonial Secretary.

For Hon

The Colonial Secretary

Per L.D.

W. Atkins
Chief Constable

1. 10. 08

The Hon. The Colonial Secretary

Sir With regard to your letter of 21. 12. 08 reference to issues of coal from Naval Station I have the following replies to make:-

The steps taken to ensure that the quantities of coal issued did not exceed those paid for were:-
That when the coal was issued to F. J. Co. & Ltd. I was personally present and on the occasion of coal being issued to S. S. Alexander the coal was tallied out to Stevedores men by Mr J. Shelling (Senr) and on the occasion of coal being issued to S. S. Lovat the coal was tallied out to Stevedores men by Mr W. W. Wannon and I can safely say that the work was as faithfully done by these two men as if I had been present but on the occasion of coal being issued to S. M. S. Sappho I was not present and the coal was not tallied out by anyone representing me.

As stated in previous answer I was present at some issues of coal and on other occasions was represented by Mr J. Shelling & 2 by Mr W. W. Wannon in each of whom I have perfect confidence on one occasion I was not present at issue of coal and I was not represented the occasion of issue of coal to S. M. S. Sappho.

On each occasion the firm receiving the issues of coal provided the labour for taking coal from sheds to Lighters and the method of tallying the coal was this that the coal was measured to Revers in the tipping trucks belonging to

Replies continued -

Naval Station and said to contain 21 cubs
which made the tallying very long

There was on no one occasion any money paid
for labour done with regard to taking coal
from stores to lighter at Naval Station.

I have the honor
to be Sir

Your obedient servant

W. Atkin

Officer in Charge Naval Station

The Hon. The Colonial Secretary.

Sir

In reference to the shortage of coal reported to be at the Naval Station I have the honor to make the following report and while I am not prepared to verify the following statement I see no other way to account for the shortage, and I think the following might be taken as a fairly feasible manner in which to account for the said shortage.

I have spoken to Mr Harding in connection with the above coal as the chief manager of the Falkland Islands Company & Co. and as the Admiralty coal passed through the company's wharves I have elicited from him the following information. At the time of the transshipment of the coal from the two vessels, the Steamer "St. Dubois" and the sailing vessel "Sofala" although the arrival of the Steamer and sailing vessel did not occur at the same time, still on each occasion very bad weather accompanied by high winds prevailed, and as the coal had to go through several stages of transshipment. First out of the large vessels into wharves, out of the wharves into lighters and out of lighters into the coal sheds at Naval Station there must have been a considerable loss in this manner, which would account for some of the shortage. I also understand from Mr Harding that as the coal was transhipped to the company's wharves it was never measured, which was a great mistake, which leaves the fact to remain as this. That there is no certainty as to whether the correct measurement or weight of coal was delivered there were also five fire places, the Naval Store penner

and Dredge to be kept going with Coal.
 No doubt the Coal for these several departments
 had been used with a free hand. This again
 in my opinion would help to show what
 load caused the shortage of Coal at the Naval
 Station.

I again express Regret not having the
 Coal ~~received~~ from the ~~Naval~~ ~~Station~~
 Naval Station.

W. Allison
 Officer in Charge, Naval Station
 August 25. 09

S.S. Conf.
1.7.1908

Survey of Coal at Naval Depot
on 21st August, 1908

Coal in West side of shed, said to
be 44 "Sofala".

Found stacked in the form of
a prismoid.

Approximate measurements:—

Length of base	95 ft.
Breadth of do.	44
Length of top	65
Breadth of do.	16
Height	12

$$\frac{1}{6} \times 44 \times 12 (65 + 2 \times 95) = 22440$$

$$\frac{1}{6} \times 16 \times 12 (95 + 2 \times 65) = 7200$$

29640

Coal in East side of shed — ? 24
"Sofala" and "St. Hubert."

$$\text{Sofala} :— 46 \text{ ft.} \times 37\frac{1}{2} \times 7 = 12,075 \checkmark$$

$$\text{do do} 25 \times 13 \times 7 = 2275$$

9800 \checkmark

St.

St. Hubert: —

$$37 \text{ ft.} \times 48 \times 7 = 12,432$$

Recapitulation

Sofala	29,640
Do.	9,850
St. Hubert	12,432
Solidity	<hr/> 51,872 ft.

According to the Engineers, Architects, and
Contractor's Pocket-Book, 1862
(Lockwood Pl., Stationers' Hall Court)
page 297 —

The space occupied by 1 Ton
in cubic feet (economic weight)
of Nixon's Mather's coal is

$$43.32$$

$$51,872 \div 43.32 = 1197 \sqrt{\text{tons}}$$

Admiralty survey	1188
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Difference	<hr/> 9
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Naval Coalina Depot.
Falkland Islands.
14th July 1906.

Remaining quantity of Steam Coal to be transferred to the Colonial Govt.

Description.	Date when Received	Tons. Cwt. qrs.
Niscon's Navigation Steam Coal.	3 rd Sept 03.	998. 10. 0
Harrison's Deep Navigation S.C.	20 th Feb 05.	2235. 0. 0
		3. 233 $\frac{1}{2}$

July 14th 1906
LWS

Sale of Stores from Naval Works. at Port Stanley

To. S. S. "Alejandro"

Date	Quantity	Descrip. of Stores	Price	£	s	d.
May 15 th 07.	61 Tons	coal	35/- per ton	106	15	0.
" 30 th	45 "	"	"	78	15	0.
June 11 th	55 "	"	"	96	5	0.
" 29 th	35 "	"	"	61	5	0.
Aug. 3 rd	240 "	"	"	420	0	0.
Sep. 11 th	385 "	"	"	673	15	0.
"	100 "	half cut bales of waste	20/- per cut	50	0	0.
"	2600 galls	mineral oil	8 per gal	86	13	4.
"	100	empty drums	2/- per drum	10	0	0
				<u>£1583</u>	8	4

Issued to S. S. "Sappho"

Date	Quantity	Descrip of Stores
Feb. 12 th 1908	319 Tons. 878 Galls. 700 " 12 cut.	Coal. Olive Oil. Mineral Oil. Waste.

Sale of Stores continuedTo the Colonial Government.

Date	Quantity	Descrip. of Stores	Price	£	s	d.
Aug 9 th 06	½ Ton	Coal	35/- per ton		17	6.
Oct. 3 rd	½ "	"	"		17	6.
Nov. 30 th	½ "	"	"		17	6.
Feb. 26 th 07	½ "	"	"		17	6.
June 18 th	½ "	"	"		17	6.
July 13 th	½ "	"	"		17	6.
Sep. 23 rd	¼ "	"	"		8	9
Oct. 2 nd	1 "	"	"	1	15	0
" "	¼ "	"	"		8	9.
Nov. 26 th 07	On account of Deposit from Naval Works.			1	2	0
	Rent of Quarantine Station from Mar. 14 th to Dec. 31 st 07 inclusive			23	19	0
				£ 32	18	6

Sale of Stores continued.

To the Falkland Is. Company, Ltd.

Date	Quantity	Descrip. of Stores	Price	£	s.	d.
July 23 rd 06	2 Tons	Coal				
Sep. 15 th	5 "	"				
Oct. 10 th	44 "	"				
Nov. 8 th	5 "	"				
Dec. 14 th	8 "	"				
" 21 st	20 "	"				
Jan. 8 th 07	2 "	"				
"	25 gallons	Olive Oil	22/6 per gal	3	2	6
"	25 "	Mineral Oil	@ 8 "		16	8
" 19 th	3 Tons	Coal				
Feb. 4 th	11 "	"		£ 3	19	2

Sale of Stores continuedTo the S. S. "Lovart"

Date.	Quantity.	Descrip. of Stores.	Price	£	s	d.
1908 Jan. 15 th	50 Tons	Coal	35/- per ton	87	10	0

Total Sum received for Stores sold etc:-

	£	s	d.
To S. S. "Alejandro"	1583	8	4
Col. Government	32	18	6
F. S. Company Ltd.	3	19	2
S. S. "Lovart"	87	10	0
	<u>£1,707</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>0</u>

M.P. 229/06.

Chief Constable.

His Excellency the Governor authorizes the issue to the Falkland Islands Company of five tons of steam coal from the Naval Depot.

2. Payment will be adjusted hereafter.

J. E. W. Grant

Colonial Secretary.

4/9/06.

M.P.356/1906.

CHIEF CONSTABLE (In Charge of Naval Depôt).

With reference to the instructions given to you to issue to the Falkland Islands Company one hundred tons of coal from the stock at the Naval Depôt, please note that the supply is to be made from the cargo ex "Sofala."

2. The method of delivery is to be the same as that adopted for former supplies.

N. S. Grant

Colonial Secretary.

26th OCTOBER, 1906.

S.P. Conf.
17.10.08

Fram

Falkland Islands.

In the matter of the estimated deficiency in the stock of coal on ~~ledger~~ charge at the Naval Depot.

His Excellency the Governor.

In compliance with your Excellency's directions, we have enquired into the matter of the estimated deficiency in the stock of coal on ~~ledger~~ charge at the Naval Depot, referred to in paragraph 2 of the letter N.S. Coal 1362/9513 of the 25th June, 1908, from the Admiralty to the Colonial Office, and have the honour to report as follows.

2. On Friday, the 21st ^{August last} ~~ultimo~~, we visited the Depot in the company of the Officer in Charge, Mr W. Atkins, the Chief Constable, and inspected the coal in stock. It was under lock and key in the coal shed and was stacked in three lots, one on the West side of the shed and two on the East. The coal on the West side of the shed was believed to be ex "Sofala", and was by far the greatest in bulk of the three lots. Of the two lots on the East, one was supposed to be ex "Sofala" and the other ex "St. Hubert". The Officer in charge could

not

not be certain on these points.

3. No coal had been issued since the 319 tons charged to H.M.S. "Sappho" in February, 1908.

4. The stack of coal on the West side of the shed ex "Sofala" was more in the form of a prismoid than in that of any other solid, but its dimensions were in such irregular outline as to make it exceedingly difficult, if not practically impossible, for anyone like ourselves, unfamiliar with the methods of surveying coal, to obtain accurate measurement for the purpose of ascertaining its content.

5. Treating this stack as a rectangular prismoid of the following approximate dimensions-

Length of base	=	95 ft.
Breadth of do	=	44 "
Length of top	=	65 "
Breadth of do	=	16 "
Height	=	12 "

we found the content,, by the prismoidal formula, to be 29,640 ft.

6. Taking the following as the approximate measurements of the remaining two stacks of coal, namely-

- Ex "Sofala", 46 X 37½ X 7ft.,
- Less 25 X 13 X 7 ft.,
- Ex "St.Hubert", 37 X 48 X 7ft.,

the total content" was found to be as follows:-

Ex "Sofala"	29,640 ft.
Do.	9,800
Ex "St.Hubert"	12,432
	<hr/>
Total	51,872
	<hr/>

7. The description of coal transferred to the Col. Government on the 14th July, 1906, was stated to be as follows:-

- (a) Nixon's Navigation Steam Coal, 998 tons, 10 cwt.;
- (b) Harrison's Deep Navigation Steam Coal, 2235 tons.

8. We have been unable to obtain any information as to the economic weight of (b), but, according to the Engineers, Architects, and Contractors Pocket Book, 1862, Lockwood & Co (the only authority available) the space occupied by 1 ton in cubic feet (economic weight) of "Nixon's Merthyr" coal is 43.32.

9. Taking this as a term applicable to all the coal in stock, our survey yields the following result:-

Coal in stock,	Tons.
21 Aug., 1908	1197
H.M.S. "Sappho"	
Survey	1188
	<hr/>
Difference	9
	<hr/>

4

10. Assuming that our survey is approximately accurate- and it practically confirms that of the Admiralty- no deficiency in the stock of coal has arisen since the issue to H.M.S. "Sappho" in February last, which would seem to indicate that, if deficiencies have occurred during the time that the Depôt has been in the charge of the Colonial Government, their origin must be sought in the direction of issues in excess of those authorised in the cases of the S.S. "Alejandro", the Colonial Government, the Falkland Islands Company, the S.S. "Lovart" and H.M.S. "Sappho". *We have been unable, however,*

To discover any reason for suggesting that excesses might have occurred in respect of those issues.

11. The issues of $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons to the Colonial Government and 100 tons to the Falkland Islands Company were superintended by the Chief Constable. The issue of 821 tons to the S.S. "Alejandro" was tallied by Mr. J. Skilling, a Customs Officer, and the issue of 50 tons to the S.S. "Lovart" was tallied by Mr. W. Mannan, also a Customs Officer, the Chief Constable being present on neither occasion. He expresses his conviction, however, that the tallying was done faithfully by those officers, and we have no reason to think otherwise.

12. On the occasion of the issue of the coal to H.M.S. "Sappho" in February last, the Chief Constable was not present, nor did anyone represent him.

We are unable to state the amount paid for this labour or the rate per ton.

13. The actual labour for the issue of coal by the Chief Constable or his representatives was provided in every case by those to whom the coal was issued.

14. The coal was tallied by measuring it in the tipping truck belong to the Naval Depôt, computed to hold 21 cwt. We have verified the holding capacity of the truck and find it to be correct.

15. If no deficiencies in the stock of coal have occurred during the time that the Depôt has been in the charge of the Colonial Government, and so far we have been unable to discover any evidence in support of the conclusion that deficiencies have so occurred, it follows that the amount taken on charge by the Chief Constable must have been erroneous as suggested by the Surveying Officers of the "Sappho".

16. We do not know in what way admiralty surveys are held but if, in holding such surveys, it is considered that a cargo of coal imported for the Depôt and deposited there should ^{be} equal in quantity to that disclosed by the Bill of Lading relating to such cargo, we think that material error must have crept in.

17. The

17.. The Manager of the Falkland Islands Company, Ltd., has kindly placed at our disposal correspondence between the naval authorities and his Company on the subject of transactions in coal imported for the Depot. A copy of a letter from Mr E. Herring, the Officer in charge of Naval Stores, dated 6th February, 1904, is attached. *(Appendix A)*

It appears from that letter that, according to the Bill of lading, the coal imported by the "St. Hubert" amounted to 2024 tons.

In the Statement of Receipts and Issues of Coal, enclosed in Admiralty letter of the 25th June, 1908, to the Colonial Office, that quantity is entered as having been received. Having regard to local conditions, we do not think it possible that any coal in bulk can be landed from a vessel in the harbour without material loss in transit.

18. On the question of loss of coal in transit from a vessel to store, we invite attention to a letter from Commodore Sir A.W. Paget to Mr. W.A. Harding, the Manager of the Falkland Islands Company, Ltd., dated the 6th of February, 1906, and to Mr Harding's reply of the same date, copies of which are annexed hereto. *(Appendices B, and C)*.

19. It will be observed that Commodore Sir A.W. Paget drew attention to the fact that 861 tons of coal were tallied into the

the

7

the hulk "Garland" ex the "Sofala" which yielded only 761 tons on removal, showing a deficiency of 100 tons, and that Mr Harding, in accounting for this deficiency expressed the opinion that owing to the high winds prevailing in the Falklands, the allowance in respect of waste arising from a transshipment of coal should not be less than six per cent. This, Mr Harding stated, had been the experience of his Company when making their own importations.

20. Assuming six per cent to be a correct estimate of the waste occurring in respect of one transshipment of coal, it will be seen that a large allowance for error must be made when coal has been received into lighters, conveyed across the harbour, unloaded from the lighters, and deposited in the Depot.

21. In paragraphs 11, 12, 13, and 14 of this Report we have dealt with the points (a), (b), (c), and (d) referred to in paragraph 2 of the letter from the Admiralty to the Colonial Office, dated the 25th June, 1908. On the points (e), (f) and (g) we have to report as follows:-

(e). Is there any likelihood of coal having been removed from the store during the absence of the Chief Constable or his representative?

as

8.

As already stated in paragraph 12, the Chief Constable was not present, nor did anyone represent him, when coal was issued to the "Sappho".

An examination by us of the coal shed with the view of ascertaining whether it was secure against illicit dealings with the coal, showed it to be satisfactory in this respect. The doors were ^{strongly} thoroughly bolted and it did not seem possible that an unauthorised entry could be effected.

In any circumstances, we think the possibility of any large quantity of coal being removed from the Depot, during the absence of the Chief Constable or his representative, without the fact becoming known, to be so remote, that, in accounting for any serious deficiency, it might be neglected. We have certainly been able to obtain no information leading ^{us} to suspect that coal has been so removed.

(f). Are the issues recorded on statement B correct, and do they represent all the transactions so far as can be ascertained?

The issues by the Chief Constable as recorded, are correct, and represent all his transactions with the coal, except that 20 tons are still due to ^{the} S.S. "Lovart".

WE are unable to verify the

issues

issues made prior to the departure of Mr Herring as he left no records at the Depot on the subject. It would seem, however, from the annexed copy of a letter from Mr Herring to Mr Girling of the Falkland Islands Company, Ltd., dated 9th April, 1906 (Appendix D) that 26 tons of coke should have been recorded as having been issued to the Falkland Islands Company in April and May, 1906, instead of 16 tons.

(g) Is there any sound and actionable reason for suspecting the bona fides of any person or persons in connection with these shortages?

We have been unable to discover any.

H. S. Grant

Colonial Secretary.

S. Hunt

Acting Colonial Treasurer.

Stanley, Falkland Islands,

2nd October, 1908.

Appendix A.

Mr. E. Herring, Naval Store Officer, to Mr. W.A. Harding.

Naval Works

Saturday 6th February, 1904.

Mr. Harding.

I have no duplicate of Bill of Lading.

St Hubert according to Bill of Lading

Tonnage. Coal - 2024 tons. inches.

5 tons. Cotton waste 100 cwt. 200 Bales (25 X 12 X 14)

Oil Olive 6000 Galls.

Min. 6000 Galls.) 462 Drums (28 X 20 1/2)

The coal landed from Vicar of Bray to Naval Works
Coal shed 128 tons 14 cwt.

The coal issued to S.S. "Scotia" on 3rd February, 1904,
from F.I. Company's Hulk, 38 1/2 tons.

In coal shed from St Hubert and Vicar of Bray total
1137 tons.

(Signed) E. Herring

N.S.O.

Appendix B.

Commodore Sir A.W. Paget to Mr. W.A. Harding.

No.261. "Scylla", at Port Stanley,
6th February, 1906.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of today's date I desire to inform you that I accept your offer of 18/- per ton for the 14 tons of coke remaining in the bulk "Garland". As the "Scylla" is about to sail, payment should be made through your London representative to the Admiralty.

The question of the payment of the tug, etc., during the Squadron's stay here I am referring to the Admiralty, as I see by former correspondence the proposed charge for the use of the "Garland" included towage, etc.

Another point has arisen in regard to the "Garland". 661 tons of coal were tallied into her on the "Sofala". The following amounts have been taken out:-

"Scylla"	435
"Latona"	301
Falkland Is. Company.	25
Total	<u>761</u>

This leaves a shortage of 100 tons and I shall be glad if you can throw any light on the subject. Mr Herring as far as I can discover holds only one receipt of coal taken by you from the "Garland", namely 25 tons.

I have, &c.,
By Order,
(Signed H.S. Measham.
Commodore.

Harding, Esq.
Falkland Islands Co.

Appendix C.

Mr. W.A. Harding to Commodore Sir A.W. Paget.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY LIMITED

STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS,

6th February, 1906.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your second letter No.261 of today's date.

I have taken due note of the first paragraph of your letter.

The charge already made for the use of tugs towing the lighters is confined to her services for towages to and from the ship "Sofala" to the Naval depot, but I quite concur in your proposal to refer the matter to the Admiralty.

As regards the measurement of coal on "Sofala" I regret that I am unable to offer any definite explanation as to the shortage referred to. In tallying the coal, I believe that it was customary to weigh an occasional basket and to strike an average. It is obvious that this average would depend in a great measure as to whether the coal actually weighed happened to consist of lumps or slack, and a large allowance for error should therefore be made in consequence. When making our own private importations it was our practice to allow a large percentage for waste on account of the high winds which prevailed here, and our experience has been that this should be not less than six per cent. The receipt held by Mr. Herring, namely 25 tons, is quite correct.

I am, &c.,

(signed) W.A. Harding.

Commodore Sir A.W. Paget, K.C.M.G. R.N.
H.M.S. "Scylla".

Appendix D.

Mr. E. Herring to Mr. W.C. Girling.

Naval Coaling Depot
Falkland Islands

9th April, 1906.

Mr. Girling

Dear Sir,

Will you please let me have a receipt in duplicate for the 26 tons of coke purchased by the Falkland Islands Company from the Admiralty. I should also be glad if you would let me know the arrangements made by the Commodore with Mr Harding about payments, as I am not quite sure about the matter, and wish to send some statements with regard to the same next homeward mail.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) E. Herring.

C. C. Graf.
17.1.1908

C. S. with last dispatch of 27 Feb^{ruary} 04
- for some information that

the Commission Enclosed.

Will you please have the

744 $\frac{6}{20}$ last receipt written off

the accounts amended accordingly.

By Mr. [unclear] 35. was for

"the whole lot" ~~received~~ ^{articles} these, ticked

†. ~~will be paid~~
~~received~~
~~all~~.

W24
8/4/04

CS/My.

CONFIDENTIAL.

(COPY).

ADMIRALTY, S.W.

19th February, 1909.

N.S.GOAL 3119/1908.2728

N.S.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential letter of the 9th November, No.39882/1908, forwarding a copy of a confidential despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, on the subject of the coal and other Naval Stores at Port Stanley, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State, that in view of the circumstances therein reported, they have decided that a quantity of $744 \frac{6}{20}$ tons of coal may be written off charge as a deficiency due to errors on receipt and issue and loss in handling and wastage. According to Admiralty information this leaves a balance of 1188 tons in the Governor's charge as from February 1908 immediately subsequent to the issue of 312 tons to H.M.S."SAPPHO" and My Lords would be glad if you would acquaint the Governor in this sense and request him to cause the local accounts to be amended accordingly.

2. With regard to the Governor's offer of £35 for the stores to be put up for auction, My Lords assume that the stores referred to are those ticked \ddagger on the attached statement. I am to state that on this assumption the offer is accepted, and to request that the Governor may be asked to consider the stores unticked on the statement as constituting the balance of stores on the Governor's charge. Any of these remaining stores which are considered unfit for use may be disposed of to the best advantage at the discretion of the Governor, the proceeds being credited to Navy funds

funds in the usual way, and a report forwarded to the Admiralty at the time of disposal.

3. In conclusion I am to request that you will be so good as to cause the thanks of Their Lordships to be conveyed to the Governor and the Officers representing him for the care and thoroughness with which the work of the Board of Enquiry appointed by the Governor appears to have been carried out.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) W. GRAHAM GREENE.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,

COLONIAL OFFICE.

C. J. M.

CONFIDENTIAL.

(COPY).

ADMIRALTY, S.W.

19th February, 1909.

N.S.COAL 3119/1908.2728

N.S.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential letter of the 9th November, No.39882/1908, forwarding a copy of a Confidential despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, on the subject of the coal and other Naval Stores at Port Stanley, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State, that in view of the circumstances therein reported, they have decided that a quantity of $744\frac{6}{20}$ tons of coal may be written off charge as a deficiency due to errors on receipt and issue and loss in handling and wastage, According to Admiralty information this leaves a balance of 1188 tons in the Governor's charge as from February 1908 immediately subsequent to the issue of 319 tons to H.M.S."SAPPHO" and My Lords would be glad if you would acquaint the Governor in this sense and request him to cause the local accounts to be amended accordingly.

2. With regard to the Governor's offer of £35 for the stores to be put up for auction, My Lords assume that the stores referred to are those ticked on the attached statement. I am to state that on this assumption the offer is accepted, and to request that the Governor may be asked to consider the stores unticked on the statement as constituting the balance of stores on the Governor's charge. Any of these remaining stores which are considered unfit for use may be disposed of to the best advantage at the discretion of the Governor, the proceeds being credited to Navy funds

funds in the usual way, and a report forwarded to the Admiralty at the time of disposal.

3. In conclusion I am to request that you will be so good as to cause the thanks of Their Lordships to be conveyed to the Governor and the Officers representing him for the care and thoroughness with which the work of the Board of Enquiry appointed by the Governor appears to have been carried out.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) W. GRAHAM GREENE.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE.

S.S.Conf. / 1.7.1908.

Stores at Naval Depot.

Officer in Charge, Naval Depot.

His Excellency the Governor directs that you will be so good as to hand over to Government the articles marked ^x on the attached list and strike them off the Naval Depot Stock List.

2. These articles have been purchased from the Admiralty. They should be taken into stock and issued in the usual way to the different Departments as required.

3. The stores unticked on the Admiralty Statement constitute the balance of stores at the Naval Depot in charge of the Colonial Government.

4. When you have completed this transaction, please return the Statement.

H. W. T.

Colonial Secretary.

24th April, 1909.