

Postal.

1907.

No. Confidential. C.2.

Postmaster.

(SUBJECT.)

1907

4th December

Previous Papers.

Representation by Deputy Postmaster,
Fox Bay, as to opening of letters
from West-Falklands in the Post
Office at Stanley —
Forwards

(MINUTES.)

H.E. the Governor.

Submitted.

2. I concur in the
Postmaster's recommendation as to
obtaining a further and fuller report
from D. Bolus, accompanied by
envelopes, etc.

H.E. W.G.

4.12.07

C.S.

I concur.

Subsequent Papers.

Please request Deputy Postmaster
to supply the fullest particulars.

W.G. 4.12.07

Postmaster.

For your information and
guidance.

5.12.07

H. E. W. Grant, C.S.

Two test-letters, addressed to
Dr. & Mrs. Bolus, respectively, placed
in Dr. Bolus' pigeon hole, in letter
rack, in postmaster's office.
C. 12.07

Hon Col: Secretary.

Letter from Dr. Bolus

He states that he has not kept
the envelopes of the letters alleged
to have been opened. He also
sends names of the persons complaining
of letters being opened — It is
very strange that the two persons
residing in Stanley district report
the matter to this office, or call
attention to the condition of the
envelopes, when the letters were delivered
to them. No complaint has been
made to me.

The two test-letters mentioned
in my minute of 6-12-07, having been

Departmental No.

lying in this office for sometime under my observation, but they have not been tampered with.

The two persons named in Dr. Botwin's letter of the 10th instant — Miss K. Smith and Miss E. Brown — are Melvins living in Stanley at the present time. I should be glad if some independent person could question them, as to how they received the letters, said to have been opened, and why they did not call the attention of some one in this office to the condition of the envelopes, when delivered to them

L. Hurst
Postmaster
31.1.08

H.E. the Governor.

Submitted.

2. I should be willing myself to act in this matter, but in view of possible future developments my doing so might prove to be inconvenient. I am inclined to think that it would be best for me.
Hurst

Hurst to follow up the en-
quiry himself.

W.E.W.
1.2.08

C.S. app!

W.E.W.
2.2.08

Postmaster.

For your guidance.

W.E.W. Grant
C.S.

3.2.08

Hon: Col: Secretary

I have seen Miss Brown
and Miss Smith with reference to
the letters alleged to have been opened
by some person in this office - Neither
of them received the letters personally
from the post office, ^{they} had sent
others for them

I cannot find any clue, which
would lead up, to prove, that the letters
had been opened in this office. And
I think that the Deputy postmaster
has been too hasty in bringing this
charge, so directly against the
Stanley post office

L. Hurst
postmaster
2 March 08

H.E. the Governor.

Submitted.

2. Inform Mr. Bolus that, after careful enquiry, no facts can be discovered leading to the conclusion that the letters in question were opened in the Stanley Post Office?

H.E. W.T.
3.3.08

C.S.

2. App!

W.T. 9
4.3.08

Letter to Mr. Bolus.

S.
/

Done
11.3.08

Postmaster.

For your information.

13.3.08

H.I. Grant C.S.

Hon Col. Secretary
Resu

13.3.08

Is Grant
Postmaster

but it seems quite beyond
doubt that the opening is
done before the letters leave
the P.O. — Hope you
will soon spot the offender —

Yours sincerely

P. R. Bolus

Fox Bay

Nov 25

Dear Mr Hurst,

I am writing in
this mail about mail
letters being opened in
the P.O. at Stanley: it
seems to be getting quite
a frequent thing & needs
stopping — idle curiosity appears
to be the motive as one of the
letters mentioned contained a
cheque & this was not taken —

Fox Bay
Nov. 25 - 07

G. Hurst Esq Postmaster Stanley -

Sir,

I beg to draw your attention to the fact that letters from the West Falklands are sometimes opened in the Post Office at Stanley -

Complaints of this have been fairly numerous, but I will only instance the recent examples in the case of letters sent by members of my own household -

At least four of these have been opened before delivery -

In all four cases the envelopes have been returned to Fox Bay by the addressees, & had obviously been purposely opened - In one instance at least the addressee received the letter direct in the Post Office at Stanley - I can give the names and addresses of sender & recipient in each case - The above-mentioned letters were all addressed to Stanley: a correspondent has written from England concerning a fifth letter from this house, saying that it had been opened and stuck down again - I have particulars of this case too but the envelope was not returned -

Should you wish for examples from other houses I can obtain some for you -

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

P. R. Bolus

Deputy Postmaster

Confidential

Hon. Col. Secretary

A letter attached, from Dr. Bolus, Topeka, in which he brings the serious charge against some person in this office of opening letters. Dr. Bolus has not given the names to whom the letters were addressed, that he alleges have been opened. But states that he has got the envelopes. I think that Dr. Bolus should be asked to furnish a further and more fuller report of the matter, and should forward the envelopes, which he states were returned to him, also the names and addresses, and dates of the letters.

As this is a very grave charge, ~~the~~ it cannot be allowed to rest, and must be either proved or disproved.

G. Hest

postmaster

H-12-07

Confidential

post office, Stanley

11th December 1907

Sir

With reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo alleging that certain letters from the West-Falklands have been opened at this office. I am directed to request you to furnish a further and fuller report, accompanied by the envelopes which have been returned to Fox Bay, and also the names of the senders.

In this connection I shall be glad if you will carefully watch the letters that are posted at Fox Bay and if any are found addressed to the person, who alleges that former letters have been opened, to place them under a separate cover, addressed to myself. It would also be as well if you addressed one or two letters to the same person, under cover to me. But before placing the letters in the envelopes I would suggest that a little gum be placed on one of the lower corners of the note paper. By doing this whoever takes it out of the envelope must tear the paper.

The postmaster

Fox Bay

I am Sir

Yours faithfully
L. Hurst
postmaster

are
● Miss L. Brown Fox Bay
Mrs Harvey Charlton
Mrs Fee Port Howard -

Received
27-1-08

Two recipients of returned envelopes opened before delivery

are:- Miss L. Smith Stanley
Miss C. Brown Stanley

I mention these two cases as I accept full responsibility for the letters leaving Fox Bay in sealed bags & effectually stuck down - Other instances have naturally not come to my notice until answered - I will send letters arranged as you suggest per next

Confidential

Fox Bay
Jan 10-7

Sir,

I have not kept the envelopes mentioned in my letter of Nov. 25th last - Formerly I used to disregard complaints on this head as improbable - Among those on the West who have complained of letters being opened before being delivered in Stanley

mail -

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

P. P. Bolus

Confidential.

17th March,

1903.

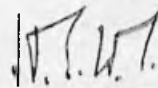
Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to inform you, with reference to your correspondence with the Postmaster, terminating with your letter of the 10th January last, on the subject of the alleged opening of certain letters from West Falklands in the Post Office at Stanley, that, after careful enquiry, no facts can be discovered leading to the conclusion that the letters in question were opened in the Stanley Post Office.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



Colonial Secretary.

DR. P.R. BOLUS,

&c., &c., &c.,

FOX BAY,

WEST FALKLAND.