

C.S.

1924.

Scientific.

No. 323/24.

Government Naturalist

SUBJECT.

1924

9th April.

Previous Paper.

700/22.

Specimens for transmission to  
British Museum.

631/21. 749/23. 700/22.

MINUTES.

Telegram from Mr. J. E. Hamilton  
9th April 1924

Assistant Government Naturalist.  
This possibly refers to expenses  
in procuring whale specimens for trans-  
mission to British Museum.

Will you please say what specimens  
have arrived from the South Shetlands

W. H. B.  
D. J. S.  
28 April 1924

D in C.  
B.S.O.

Subsequent Paper.

Specimens so far as I am at present aware  
are "Yalk" Skeleton of Killer whale female,  
Skull Right whale, & flippers?

"Sound Toga I. Ex Ronald. Spine skull

~~PA 7/3/25~~  
~~PA 9/11/26~~

Ex Ronald Killer skeleton & fleshy parts  
prepared by Gov. Nat:

H&E the Gov. proposes to retain some of these  
here, in that case I presume this Gov. pays the  
bounty to the whale boat's crew for catching the animal

later H&E the Gov. has decided to retain for  
Stanley Museum { Right whale Ex "Falk"

Skulls. { Sperm " Ex Svend Fyn

So that "Falk" will only require a bonus of 148 Krone  
from Brit Mus funds.

I understand from Mr Turner that  
"Solstreif" was to have left the skull of a  
female Bottle-nosed whale here. This specimen  
is greatly desired by the Brit Mus.

I suggest that a telegram be sent to her  
as follows. "Hansen. Solstreif" Please forward  
Bottle nose skull. to British Museum London  
cheese freight from Norway to us."

I best to ask that 10 litres of Formalin be  
obtained from Monte Video per Oropesa by  
telegraph, to be used in an attempt at preservation  
of part of Right whale's skull.

A. G. Bennett  
and Natr  
30.4.24

This specimen  
is in a case  
labeled in  
the Dept. of  
Zool.

AGB  
30.4.24

Ass. Lateralist,

My instructions as acting Governor were intended to prevent the shipment to the B. K. of specimens until it can be decided whether we shall have our own Whaling Museum.

The skull of the Bottle-nose and the killer skeleton were as far as I know obtained at the request of the B. K. but I am not sure on this point. The Bottle-nose skull is fit to be sent to the Magellan? And the killer to sent then too?

W. H. H. 11/29/24

Hon. G.S.

I beg to express regret that I mis-understood the instruction re the larger skulls

Two skeletons = one Bottle-nose & one Killer female are in cases, as received, & ready for shipment. The male Killer can be cased in time for "Magellan". There are two pieces of this lost animal that should be plaster cast, i.e. the tail & back fin, for I fear they will not carry in their present condition. I would submit that they are kept back. The pieces of

If instructions are mis-understood  
it is the fault of the person  
who fails them  
W. H. H.

bone in the tail could go later on

Ag. Bennett  
asot Nat  
15. 5. 24

Y.S.  
Submitted

There is no room in the  
Museum for the larger skulls  
which are of great interest and value.  
The question of starting a Whaling  
Museum might be considered later?  
In the meantime the advice of  
the Anti-Naturalist is in respect of  
the other specimens to be taken  
accepted?

ttttt 17 May 24  
by  
19 May 1924.

Anti-Naturalist

Accordingly

ttttt 19 May 24

Hon. John Seely.

Three (3) cases are ready for  
shipment to London per "Magellan":—

- (1) 1 case. Bottle-nose skeleton  
Ex "Solstreif"
- (2) 1 --- killer skeleton female Ex "Falks"
- (3) 1 --- do do male Ex NY G.E. Hamilton  
+ "Ronalds"

There is the tail & back-fin belonging to  
the No 3. which I proposed above to plaster  
cast. \*

after further considerations I think that these two pieces might reach home fairly well in salt, and to this end I instructed Mr Turner in my absence to endeavour to get them away if possible ~~by~~ by "Magellan". The salt used will be that purchased for sealing purposes.

Might Brit Mus; be advised please of shipment of these valuable (scientific) skeletons, & the P.W.D. instructed to mark & ship cases, per "Magellan".

Three cases are now in the Dockyard. Customs duties will prevent me from being on shore

W Bennett  
Asst Nat  
20/5/24.

Letters acc  
22/5/24

Letter to Agents P. S. N Co.

22 May 1924 (3)

Memorandum to Colonial Engineer

22 May 1924 (4)

from Mr. - - -

Letter to Director Br Museum

22 May 1924 (5)

Assistant Naturalist.

For info.

The other charges I submit

comprise:

- Account for wood for packing cases £ 11. 10/2
- Bonus for crew of Zalk 9. 17/4
- Bonus for "A. Ronald" 4. 13/4

Will you please say if there are  
any other charges of which you  
are aware.

G. H. Brown  
for C.S.  
26 May 1924

Hon: C.S.

I know of no other charges  
on those specimens

A. Bennett  
asst. W.C.  
28. 5. 24

Y.R.  
Advance voucher submitted  
for favour of Y.R.'s approval

ttttt 30 June 24  
A. Bennett  
30 June 24

Hon. Treasurer

With adv. voucher  
for usual action please

ttttt 1 July 24

Hon. Col. Sec.

There are 3 separate  
sets of vouchers but only that  
for £18-18-10 has been  
fully signed by you and approved  
by the Governor.

There are 2 other vouchers  
for £9-17-4 and £4-18-8

Which failing an Imprest Warrant  
require approval.

M. Traiger Harker  
Asy. Treas  
8. 7. 24

Y.S.

Submitted

Will Y.S. be pleased to  
approve of the two further  
vouchers ~~sent~~ put up

11 July 24  
12 July 24

Hon. Asy. Treasurer.

Vouchers (signed) herewith

M.H.B.  
for C.S.  
11 July 1924

Hon. Col. Sec.

Vouchers withdrawn.

M. Traiger Harker  
Asy. Treas  
17. 7. 24

Letter from British Museum of 11 July 1924 - (7)

Acting Government Naturalist,

For note and favour of your  
comments.

M.H.B.  
for C.S.  
10 Oct 1924

Hon Col Seay

Notes, Sir S.F. Harmer has  
photographs + two teeth of a Bottle-nose  
not Berardius. that I obtained at  
S Orkneys in 1915. The Epi case was  
packed, I think on "Solstreif". + was  
not unpacked here before shipment.

Sir S.F. Harmer has written me,  
privately, for data which I am  
unable to supply.

AG Bennett  
10/10/24  
ag rat

Pa



TELEGRAM.

From : Mr. J. E. Hamilton,  
To : The Colonial Secretary.

<i>Dispatched</i> :	9th April.....	19	24	<i>Time.</i>
				7.28 a.m.
<i>Received</i> :	11th April.....	19	24	<i>Time</i>
				10.30 a.m.

Secretary  
Port Stanley.

Krones 296 and 148 owing Falk and Ronald British  
Museum advances whalers.

Hamilton.

S/S "RONALD"



OWNER N. BUGGE  
TØNSBERG, NORWAY.

Deception Island

South Shetland

2<sup>nd</sup> March 1924

I hereby certify that the sum of Kr 148,  
being £ 4:13:4 at Kr 30 = £1, which I believe to be  
the current rate, is owing to Hektor Company as  
bonus for the collection of one Killer Whale.

This amount should be charged as an  
advance against the British Museum,  
Natural History.

J. Hamilton.

Magistrate  
of Shetland.

Kr. 148

£ 4:13:4

631/21

*Handwritten initials and circled number 3.*

TELEGRAM.

From : Mr. J. E. Hamilton

To : The Colonial Secretary

Dispatched :	9th April.....	19 24	Time.	7.28
				a.m.
Received :	11th April.....	19 24	Time.	10.30
				a.m.

SECRETARY

PORT STANLEY

KRONES 296 AND 148 OWING FALK AND RONALD  
BRITISH MUSEUM ADVANCES WHALERS

HAMILTON.

*Faint mirrored text bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.*

322/24

22nd May,

24.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that four cases containing whale specimens are being addressed to the British Museum for shipment by the s.s. "Magellan."

2. The contents of the cases are as follows:-

*Handwritten signature: James H. ...*  
*Handwritten signature: ...*

- No. 1. Bottle-nose skeleton.
- " 2. Killer skeleton (female)
- " 3. Killer skeleton (male)
- " 4. Tail and dorsal fin.

3. The dimensions of these cases will be supplied to you by the Colonial Engineer, and I am to request that you will be so good as to arrange with him for their delivery.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. L. Brown,  
for Colonial Secretary.

The Agents of the Pacific Steam  
Navigation Company,  
Stanley.

322/24

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this letter, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

22nd May

24

.....19

*From*

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

*To*..... The Colonial Engineer,

..... Stanley.

I am directed by the Governor to attach a copy of a letter which has been addressed to the Agents of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, relating to the shipment by the "Magellan" of four cases containing whale specimens which are being prepared for transmission to the British Museum.

2. I am to request that you will cause the cases to be addressed "The Director, British Museum (Natural History) Cromwell Road, London, S. W." and numbered. I am also to request that you will supply particulars of the dimensions of the cases to the Agents and arrange for their delivery.

G. R. L. Brown,

for Colonial Secretary.

5a

THE COLONIAL ENGINEER'S OFFICE,

STANLEY.

22nd May, 1924.

(322/24)

Sirs,

With regard to the four cases containing whale specimens, to be shipped per the S.S. "Magellan", the following are the particulars.

Marks.	No.	Contents.	Size.
D	1.	Bottle-nose. Skeleton.	3'-1" X 5'-7" X 2'-4" <sup>5'</sup>
D.	2.	Killer Skeleton (female).	3'-6" x 6' 1" x 2' 6"
D	3.	Killer Skeleton (male)	6' 6" x 2' 7" x 4' 2"
B	4.	Tail & Dorsal fin.	8' 6" x 3' 6" x 1' 3"

Consigned to:-

The Director,

British Museum, (Natural History)

Cromwell Road,

London, S.W.

2. Freight etc. to be charred to the Colonial Government.

3. Cases will be ready at the Dockyard Jetty for delivery to lighter at 1 p.m. to morrow or when convenient to you.

The Agents,

P.S.N.C.

Stanley.

I am,

Sirs,

Your obedient servant

*R. Raschley*

Colonial Engineer.

5

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

22nd May.....19 24.

From The Colonial Engineer.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

(M/P. 322/24).....

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

The Hon. Col. Secy.,

I beg to submit herewith copy of letter to Agents P.S.N.Co. in respect of the four packages to be shipped per s.s. "MAGELLAN".

5a

2. It is hoped to ship the cases to morrow afternoon.

*W. B. as chg.*

Colonial Engineer.

22/5/24.

322/24

22nd May,

24.

Sir,

With reference to your letter to the Colonial Office, dated the 14th of January, 1921, I am directed by the Governor of the Falkland Islands to inform you that four cases, containing whale specimens which were obtained at the South Shetlands during the past whaling season, have been addressed to you for despatch by the s.s. "Magellan" on the 25th inst. The specimens have been packed as shown below:

Case D/1 size 3'1" by 5'7" by 2'4" containing  
Bottle-nose skeleton.  
Case D/2 " 3'6" by 6'1" by 2'6" containing  
Killer skeleton (female)  
Case D/3 " 6'6" by 2'7" by 4'2" containing  
Killer skeleton (male)  
Case D/4 " 8'6" by 3'6" by 1'3" containing  
tail and dorsal fin of killer  
(male) in case 3.

2. The Pacific Steam Navigation Company have been asked to charge the freight on these cases to the British Museum. Vouchers in respect of the sums paid to the crews of the whaling vessels for their services in procuring the specimens and the charges incidental to the preparation and packing of the specimens for the voyage will be sent, in due course, to the Crown Agents for the

The Director,

Colonies/

The British Museum (Natural History)

Cromwell Road,

London, S. W.

*File N.P.  
131/21*



Colonies for recovery from the Museum of the  
amounts paid.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. Henniker-Heaton,

Colonial Secretary.

Telephone:—  
WESTERN 7118 & 7119.

GRAMS:—  
NATHISMUS, SOUTHERNS, LONDON.



BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON, S.W.7.

July 11, 1924.

Sir,

I was very greatly interested in your letter (No 322/24) of May 22 last, referring to four cases containing whale material from the South Shetlands. The cases have just arrived, and I have made a preliminary examination of their contents. It will not be possible to examine them completely until a certain amount of cleaning has been done, and this will take time.

2. So far as I can see, the specimens agree with the list you were good enough to send, with one exception. Case D/1 proves to contain the skull and lower jaw only, and not a complete skeleton. The animal is a Berardius, and the absence of the skeleton is of less consequence, as you had sent us another skeleton of the same species not long ago. I am anxious to ascertain whether this is the only species of Bottle-nosed Whale which occurs in the waters of the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies. There is considerable reason for thinking that there is also an entirely different species, belonging to the genus Hyperoodon. I should expect this to have a very inflated forehead, the front edge of which, in an old animal, would make nearly a right angle at its junction with the front part of the snout. It would be very interesting to obtain definite evidence on this point. The species in question is what whalers in the North know as the Bottle-nose, or Nābhval. The Berardius may have been taken by them to be the same species, but it is really quite different.

3. I note that we shall in due course receive accounts for expenditure in connection with these specimens. I should like to express my personal appreciation of your kindness in arranging for the despatch of these specimens. In view of the forthcoming "Discovery" Expedition, it is very important that we should have as good a series as possible of Antarctic Whales.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. Henniker-Heaton, Esq.,

S. F. Harmer

Colonial Secretary's

Office,

Stanley,

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

P.S. May I venture to point out the importance of sending the flippers (fore limbs) of whales in an entire condition, without even removing the skin. So far as I have been able to ascertain at present, this was not done with the present consignment. If the bones of the hand are allowed to come apart it is impossible to re-arrange them with any certainty that they are in their natural positions. Each flipper should be carefully separated at the shoulder-joint (or left attached to the shoulder-blade in the case of small specimens) and sent without cutting it in any way.

S.F.H.

Y.E.

Mr Bennett called this morning and asked if Your Excellency would see him with regard to the plates of balen in the Naturalist Office. I knew Your Excellency had an interview at 10.30 and Mr Bennett said he would wait until Monday.

Mr Bennett asked me to say that he thinks only a few of the plates would be acceptable to the British Museum. He suggests that most of them should be given to Mr C. Sturdy who is willing to take them for sale as curios. The balen of it is to be kept well require to be cleaned immediately and of Mr Sturdy to take it over as it is it would save the Government any further trouble on the matter.

Y.E.  
12 Oct 1925

Is there any correspondence on the subject?

Y.E.  
12 Oct 1925

Y.E.

M. Ps. 322/21 701/22 729/23 651/21  
attached

Y.E.  
12 Oct 1925

O.C./C.S.O.

Mr Bennett says he proposes to dispose of the matter so  
Y.E. 13 Oct 1925