

C.S.

TREASURY AND CUSTOMS

(Customs)

1923

No. 863/23

SHI/CUS/1 # 4

Col. Treasurer.

SUBJECT.

1923

s.s. "FALKLAND"

9th November

Correspondence respecting entry of:

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

*Minute from Col Treasurer of 9th Nov 1923 — Encl (1)*

*Note from Collector 7th Nov 1923 — Encl (1a)*

*Copy of Lr to Manager of S.S. 9th Nov 1923 (1b)*

*J.E. Submitted  
G.R. 13  
Dir/Sec  
14 Nov 1923*

*I regret that so much incon-  
venience was caused to the Collector  
and his department before commenting  
further I will await the explanation  
of the Company*

*W.H.H. 14 November 1923*

*Hon Treasurer.*

*To note  
G.R. 13  
Dir/Sec  
14 Nov 1923*

Subsequent Paper.

*PA  
24/11/23*

Hon:Col:Sec;

I beg to submit herewith for His Excellency's information the reply received from the Manager, Falkland Islands Company, dated 9th November, with my reply thereto.

2. To anyone not acquainted with Customs work in this Colony, it would naturally appear that the request made by the Company for the "Falkland" to be entered on her arrival at Stanley would entail no inconvenience whatever and so it should not have done under ordinary normal conditions, but unfortunately in the Falkland Islands, things are not always normal.

3. Under the circumstances I thought that it might be just as well to place the within mentioned occurrence on record in order that it may be seen what the Collector is more or less expected, in this Colony, to do.

4. Having assured the Company that all necessary arrangements would be made, I think it was up to me to see that no mistake was made in carrying them out, on the part of the Customs. I naturally expected the Company to take such steps as were necessary to notify the Master of the Falkland regarding the arrangements asked to be made.

5. I venture to think the matter may now be allowed to stand as it is, as the Company will be asked to pay for the services of Mr. Atkins and that of the officer despatch to mail boat, to await the arrival of the Falkland on her return to Stanley, unless His Excellency is of opinion that no charge should be made.

*Bathurst*

Colonial Treasurer &  
Collector of Customs  
15th November 1923.

*V.G. Submitted  
W.L.B.  
DiC/Sec  
16 Nov 1923*

The charge should certainly  
be made

16 Nov. 23

Hon Treasurer

To note  
G.R. 13  
Oil/sec  
16 Nov 1923

Hon. Col. Secy

Nokia  
hws  
17.11.23.



No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

MINUTE.

9th November 1923 19

From Colonial Treasurer

To

Stanley

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

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I submit herewith for the information of His Excellency a copy of the letter sent today to the Manager the Falkland Islands Co in Stanley, and at the same time I append hereto a copy of a note made regarding the Collector's movement of the afternoon of the 7th November.

*B. Thompson*

Colonial Treasurer &

Collector of Customs.

ember 7th:- It was necessary for the Collector to visit the mail steamer "Oropesa" anchored in Port William, to see the Customs Officer. (Mr. Riches is away at the South Shetlands). One of the Catchers belonging to the s.s. "Maudie" is expected and arrangements had to be made for the "Falkland", expected from the West Falklands, to go alongside the mail steamer and discharge cargo. The "Pithia" is also expected. The Collector was able to secure a passage in the Government Launch "Penguin" leaving the Dockyard Jetty shortly before 3.p.m. with visitors from off the mail boat to see the Penguins at Sparrow Cove. The Collector returned on shore on the deck of a motor boat, nearly frozen, and as soon as he got on shore he was informed that the "Pithia" would arrive at about 6.p.m. He was nearly an hour trying to find an officer to enter these vessels. It was raining hard all the time, and the Collector got drenched to the skin.

No. 536/23.

COLONIAL TREASURY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

9th November 1923.

Sir,

I have the honour to remind you of the request made to me over the phone, when you informed me <sup>that</sup> the s.s. "Falkland" was expected to arrive at Stanley from the West Falklands, at about 8.p.m. on the night of Wednesday last, the 7th instant, when I was asked to make arrangements for this vessel to be entered by the Customs on her arrival and to make such other arrangements as would permit her to proceed at once alongside the mail boat "Oropesa" and discharge her cargo of Wool.

2. When I informed you that all necessary arrangements would be made, I reminded you that Mr. Riches was away at the South Shetlands and that Mr. Bennett was the only officer in Stanley, and in consequence it would be necessary to engage the services of extra officers for this work, and as I understood at the time, you had no objection as regards this extra expense.

3. I have now to inform you that an extra officer was engaged and sent off to the mail boat and Mr. Bennett was instructed that should the "Falkland" come alongside the s.s. "Oropesa" when she arrived in Stanley that he was to enter her and to place the officer provided in charge of her.

4. I have also to inform you that at about 7.p.m., on the night of the 7th, when I was notified that the "Falkland" had not gone alongside the "Oropesa" as I had expected, but that she had come to anchor in the Inner Harbour, I sent off another officer (Mr. V. Atkins) to receive the master's local report and enter her.

5. That officer now

The Manager

The Falkland Islands Company Ltd

Stanley.

5. That officer now informs me that when he boarded the s.s. "Falkland", he was told by Captain Roberts the master of the vessel that he did not desire his ship entered that night as he had no intention of going alongside the mail boat. On the other hand Mr. Bennett reports that the master of the "Falkland" came to him on board of the mail boat with his papers and requested Mr. Bennett to enter his vessel at 9.p.m., the same night.

6. Up to the present I have heard nothing further from you regarding this matter, and under the circumstances, and view of the action of the Master of the s.s. "Falkland", I shall be extremely obliged to receive some explanation from you please.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

  
Colonial Treasurer &

Collector of Customs.

COLONIAL TREASURY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands

10th November 1923.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date and I desire to thank you for the explanation therein contained.

2. With regard to para: 5 of my letter of the 9th, I would explain that my instructions to that officer was to proceed on board the "Falkland" and enter the vessel and when <sup>he</sup> returned and reported that that Captain Roberts declined his services I naturally assumed that he had gone on board, and it was not until the receipt today of your letter under acknowledgement that I was aware that Captain Roberts had met the officer on the jetty when proceeding in a great hurry to the Post Office with the West Falkland mail.

3. I may add, and no doubt you are aware that the night in question was a very unpleasant one, owing to the wind, rain and cold.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant.

Colonial Treasurer

The Manager

The Falkland Islands Co.Ltd

Stanley.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited,  
Stanley,

9th November, 1923.

536/23.

Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of to-day's date dealing with the question of the entering of the s.s. "Falkland" and the arrangements made by you for allowing her to proceed alongside the R.M.S. "Oropesa".

2. In reply I beg to inform you that it was our original intention to discharge cargo into the mail boat if time and weather permitted.

Finding that there was a Northeasterly swell running into Port William the Master of the s.s. "Falkland" considered it inadvisable to place his vessel alongside and therefore proceeded to the inner harbour and berthed alongside the "Great Britain". Captain Roberts then landed immediately and met Mr V. Atkins on the jetty and informed him that as he was not discharging cargo into the "Oropesa" he would not require to be entered. Captain Roberts later in the evening proceeded on board the mail boat and finding that the s.s. "Pythia" had arrived and would be received the following morning thought that Mr Bennett would not be available in the morning at 6 a.m. and requested him to enter the "Falkland" in order that the work of discharge could be commenced first thing in the morning.

Captain Roberts would have asked Mr Atkins to enter the vessel had he not been in a great hurry to reach the Post Office with the West Falkland mail which it was desired to post per the "Oropesa".

3. In conclusion I have to thank you for the arrangements which you made, and to say that my Company will be respon-

The Honourable the Colonial Treasurer  
and Collector of Customs.

2.

sible for any expense in connection with the employment of extra officers, which unfortunately was found to be unnecessary.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*W. H. B. Gresham*

Manager.