

Wreck Cover

Adelaide to Norfolk, England 25 August 1857

Routing –

Adelaide to Melbourne 4 September 1857
Via Suez/Alexandria to Southampton
London 7 December 1857 and Wymondham the following day



Carried by E & A 'Emeu' which was stranded on a coral reef at Guttal el Bunna, 120 miles from Jeddah. Her captain took all the 'via Marseilles' mail and some of the 'via Southampton' mail by small Arab boat to Jeddah and they were picked up by P&O Madras in the Red Sea on 18 November, and the mail was landed at Suez on the 19th.

To Alexandria and then taken by 'Ripon' arriving Southampton 6 December.

Correct rate for ½ oz letter. 1/- registered rouletted 6½ - 7½. Handstruck '6d' was UK charge to addressee for a registered letter – abolished 1 September 1858.

Hepburn to Locarno 29 March 1858

- Routing
- Melbourne 31 March 1858, E&A 'Victoria' departing 16 April arriving Suez 6 June
 - Alexandria 8 June and by E&A 'Cambria' arriving Southampton 20 June, Calais the next day and arriving Locarno on 26 June 1858



5/8 correct rate for 1/2 oz letter shown by PD – Paid to Destination – and apportioned as follows:

1/-	Registration) endorsed 4/2
6d	Ship Letter	
2/2	UK	
2/-	France & Switzerland	
<u>5/8</u>		

Melbourne to Lynn, England 23 October 1858

Routing - Too late for the October voyage departed Melbourne on E&A 'Emeu' 16 November arriving Suez 21 December
E&A 'Teviot' arriving Southampton 11 January, London and Lynn next day.



1sh/6d correct rate for ½ oz registered letter to England. '6' incorrectly indicates registered fee of 6d payable by addressee to UK Post Office, actually abandoned on 1 September 1858. Late usage of 1/- imperforate to pay registration.

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The European and Australian Royal Mail lost considerable money with its services to Australia and went bankrupt. P&C already had a service to Mauritius and it agreed to extend this to Australia. This route only lasted to March 1860 when the route was changed via Suez and Galle.

Sandhurst to Edinburgh, Scotland March 12, 1859

Routing - Melbourne 14 March P&O 'Emeu' (bought from E&A) to Mauritius arriving 13 April. Transferred to P&C 'Bengal' to Suez 4 May. Alexandria to Southampton by P&O 'Pera' arriving 20 May, London 21 May and Edinburgh the following day.



6d. to be paid by addressee incorrect. This charge had been dropped on 1 September 1858

Handstruck '6' indicates registered fee of 6d payable by addressee to British PO. Incorrect as this had been withdrawn on September 1858.