

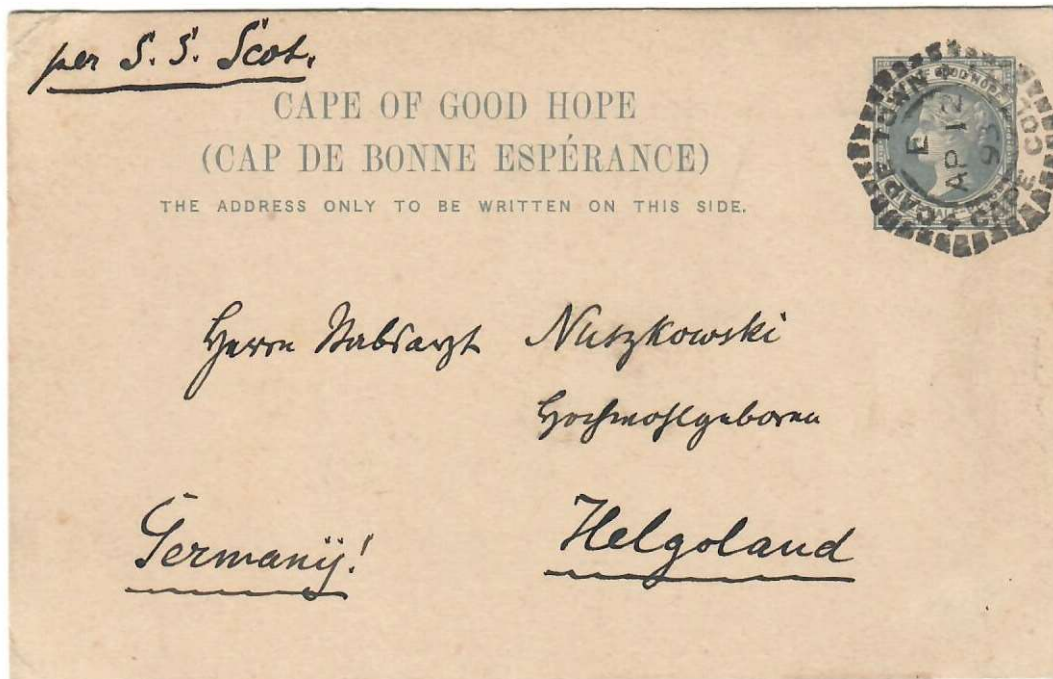
Cape of Good Hope

EXPERIMENTAL DATESTAMPS
1882-1892

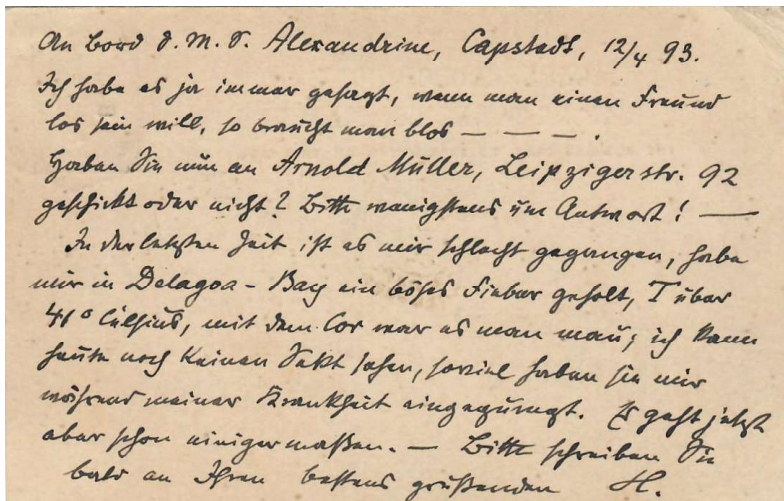
COMPASS WHEEL ISSUED 1892
USAGE 1893

CAPE TOWN TO HELIGOLAND

By July 1893 the datestamp appears to have deteriorated and it was soon to be replaced by another experimental cancellation the square circle, which re-appeared. The example below is addressed to a rare destination some two months before withdrawal of the ODS.



1893 Card written on board the SMS¹ “Alexandine” and stamped with the Compass Wheel datestamp. On the top left in manuscript per S.S. Scot. The card was addressed to Heligoland.



At left the back of the card; written on board the ship “Alexandine” (above) and dated by the writer as 12.04.1893.²

Britain ceded the Heligoland islands to Germany in 1890 in the Heligoland–Zanzibar Treaty, which explains the exclamation mark on the address after Germany!

¹Seiner Majestät Schiff (His Majesty's Ship), ship prefix in Kaiserliche Marine and K.u.K. Kriegsmarine

²At the time the Alexandine entered the dry dock in Cape Town for overhauls, after which they were sent to South America on 20 May. By mid-June, they had reached Brazil, and thereafter made stops in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Montevideo, Uruguay.