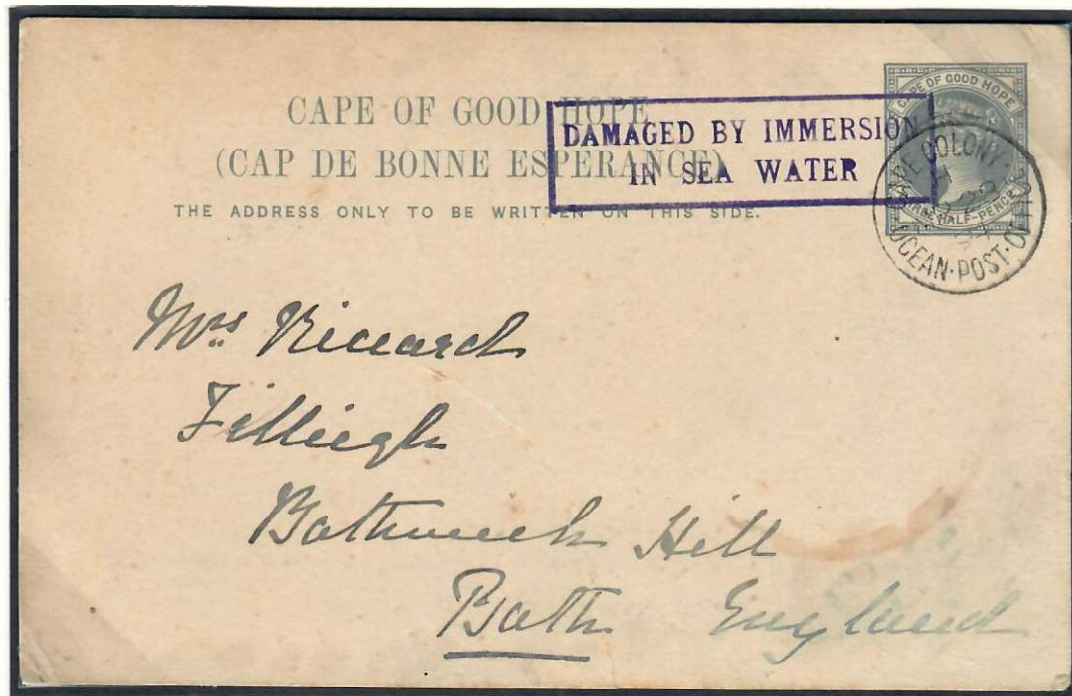


DAMAGED BY SEA WATER

Despite appearances, this card was not travelling from the Cape of Good Hope to England, but was written while going in the opposite direction.



Early use of generic cachet DAMAGED BY IMMERSION / IN SEA WATER, first recorded 1893. The accident has not been identified.

From the card's message "hope to go ashore tomorrow...everyone speaks enthusiastically of Madeira", and postmark (code H), it can be identified as posted aboard the Castle Line ship Roslin Castle (left Southampton 24 March, arrived Madeira 28 March). There it would have been transferred to the Union Line Athenian, which arrived Plymouth 2 April 1894.