

Whaling  
South Shetlands  
No. 316/23

C.S.

Whaling Officer

SUBJECT.

1923

13 February

Previous Paper

Treatment of Stowaways.

Complaint against Capt Sinclair  
S/S Sevilla at South Shetlands (Season 1922/23  
for despoiling authority.

MINUTES.

P.A.  
10/12/23

- Letter from Whaling Officer 13 Feby 1923 (1)
- Letter from Asst - do - do -  
to Whaling Officer 2nd April 1923 (1a)
- Statement by Asst. Whaling Officer  
9th Feby 1923 (1b)
- Correspondence bet Capt Sinclair  
& Asst Whaling Officer 1c to 1i.
- Letter from Mr Bennett to Mr Hardy.  
3rd Feby 1923 (1j)
- Letter from Mr Hardy to Magistrate  
South Georgia 21 Mar 1923 (1k)
- Note by Mr Bennett (1l)
- Telegram from Whaling Officer to  
Magistrate So Georgia 5 Feby 1923 (1m)
- Telegram from Magistrate So Geo  
to Whaling Officer recd 23 Feby 1923 (1n)
- Correspondence between Mr Hardy  
& doctor of Sevilla 1o to 1z

Subsequent Paper.

Suggested form of examination of Capt Sinclair  
& formulated charges A to E.  
Extract from Governor's minute 18/4/23 (2)  
Magistrate South Shetland.

Passed to you with M. P. 315/23

9 307/23.

J.R.H. B  
O.C.S.O.  
25 April 1923

Hon. Col. Sec.

My observations to follow please Encl. (2)  
J.R.H. Hamilton  
Magistrate, Shetland  
7/6/23

Hon. Col. Sec.

My observations herewith Encl. (3)  
please.

J.R.H. Hamilton.  
Magistrate  
S. Shetland.

2/7/23

V.R.

Submitted

J.R.H. B  
O.C.S.O.  
2 July 1923.

Copies of the Magistrate's report and of  
① ② and ③ herein should be made  
for the S.O.S.

I also wish to see Messrs Bennett  
and Hardy before writing the despatch. Any  
hour tomorrow will suit - R.O. if that  
is convenient to them

W.H. 9 Aug 1923

When returning this please attach  
copy containing despatch advising  
that Captain Sinclair should  
not be further employed

~~W.H.H.~~ 11 Aug '23

Y.P. Submitted with M.P. 317/23

G.R.B.  
D.C.S.  
15 Aug 1923

Mr. Hamilton's report here in deals  
mainly with the incidents between  
Mr. Hardy and Dr. Lornie. I agree  
in his conclusions.

I wish however for a <sup>separate</sup> report from  
him on the subject of the <sup>treatment of the</sup> 'show-up',  
the reports now having been com-  
pleted by the letters from the  
Magistrate South Georgia.

Mr. Binnie considers that the  
issue of clothing was ample for  
men working entirely below decks  
Mr. Hardy's point is that it was scanty  
and that after two months continual  
work with coal it was reasonable  
to suppose that further clothing was  
necessary.

~~W.H.H.~~ 16 Aug.

Government Naturalist.

For report accordingly.  
G.M.L. by  
D.C. Sec  
17 Aug 1923

Hon. Col. Sec.

My report herewith please.

J. Hamilton, Esq. (C)  
Magistrate  
South Shetland  
20/8/23.

78.  
Submitted  
G.M.L. by  
D.C. Sec  
20 Aug 1923

Draft Despatch herewith  
Please note that the enclosures  
are correctly arranged and made  
up

TTTTT  
21 August.

Despatch to S. of S. No. 117 of the  
22nd August, 1923. Encl. (7)

78.  
Submitted  
G.M.L. by  
D.C. Sec  
22 Aug 1923



C.S.O. No. 316/23

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 3

At the end of para. 5 will  
you please add the words  
"at the time of his appointment"

Done  
24/11/23

ttll 24 Aug.

Deception Island

13 February 1923.



Sir.

Following up the rumour that S/S Meko took Hump-backed whales, season 1921/-22 while here, I placed Mr ~~A.G. Hardy~~ A.G. Hardy on the Sevilla (Capt Sinclair who had Meko last season). I fear that the rumour is only too true. for it is the subject of general conversation, I found two labourers on "Ronald" who were on Meko last season, their statement was that Meko took 43, or about that number, of Hump-backs, and that the whaler commanded by gunner Beckmann caught 12. (Beckmann is this year with Sevilla), On my reducing this to writing they refused to sign or to swear to the truth of the statement. They then shuffled as to what they had actually seen. I dropped them as a result. It also appears that sworn depositions are inadmissible as evidence within the Colony <sup>without the production of the</sup> (Merchant Shp Act 1907 <sup>witness.</sup> s 395 s691.) Gunner Christoffersen of whaler Paul belonging to Maudie was a gunner on the Meko last season. I suggest that he should be examined in Stanley, either as a witness or as a principal, on the arrival of the Maudie. Two other gunners are also required for the same purpose, Beckmann now with Sevilla, and a Christensen now with either Sevilla or Meko. Sec 7 of Whal Fishery Ord 5 of 08 requires Two J.Ps. to sit on these cases.

As a result of Mr Hardy's presence on board Sevilla much unpleasantness has been meted out to him, not directly by the Captain, but undoubtedly at his instigation through the ships doctor.

I had to make a trip down as a result, I instructed Mr Hardy to remove to Southern Queen as his life had been made untenable on board.

To the Honourable the Colonial

Secretary.

Stanley

On board Sevilla there are 7 negro natives of St Vincent Cape Verde Islands, stowaways on the Neko, and transferred to Sevilla at South Georgia. They appealed to Mr Hardy as the British Government Officer for some justice, to which he is bound to listen. These people are very bad at stowing away on ships, and cannot for one moment be encouraged, neither have they any legal claim as stowaways. The question is, are they at present really stowaways? I contend they are not. They were not charged as such at S Georgia, but merely transferred, not with a view of repatriating them but to use them as workers of coal during the season, the ship being short of such workers, the whole under the guise of taking them back.

Capt Sinclair stated that he had a right to their labour for their food, they work coal all night, but if they work by day as well he would pay them overtime rate. This is purely organised slavery under the British Flag. I suspect that Messrs Salvesens call at St Vincent for the express purpose of getting such labour.

I inspected them, and found they ~~possessed~~ <sup>possessed</sup> almost no clothing. The entire clothing ~~possessed~~ by one was an oilskin coat given him by one of the crew, and none sufficient to go on deck with. Without going on deck they cannot keep well. They were lodged in two places, called for the want of a better name rooms - vile places into which daylight cannot enter, minus blankets. For tropical peoples in the antarctic this is impossible, further it is cruelty in a bad form. I wired Mr Binnie for the conditions he sanctioned their transfer, to date 13.2.23 I have no reply.

Mr Hardy wrote both the Capt, and the doctor on board, on the subject, received replies not satisfactory. From the doctor gentleman also a large amount of abuse coupled with threats of assault, this he admitted to me and further threatened to carry out.

Had Mr Hardy feared this insignificant person I should have dragged him to Deception and bound him over, as it is I consider it best to have the whole matter dealt with in Stanley.

I have framed a number of charges (herewith), it is my intention to forward them to you by the first chance for your advice.

I beg you will be good enough to instruct me by radio (code) should I clear either or both of these vessels to Stanley direct, or via S Georgia, for one gunner on each will be required

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I think it as well to point out that up to now I have no ~~XXXXXX~~ witness for the Crown in the Hump-back infringement of 1921-22. But the examination of the gunners in the Court in Stanley will carry the desired weight, which an enquiry here by me would not, even if my powers allowed such a course.

Therefore it is desirable that on the arrival in Stanley of S/S Maudie

Gunner Christoffersen of Whaler Paal.

An oil boiler on Maudie (Meko last year) should be examined on the subject, together with the other gunners above mentioned

I am.

Sir.

Your obedient servant

*A. Bennett*

Whaling Officer.

13 Feb 1923

15/2/23

*Mr Hardy informs me that he bought from his own pocket some clothing for the natives of St Vincent, before he left the ship.*



Deception Harbour.  
South Shetlands.

2nd April. 1923.

Sir,

I beg to submit for your  
consideration the enclosed  
correspondence with appended  
statements.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Antony Hardy,

Asst. Whaling Officer.

A. G. Bennett, Esq.,  
Whaling Officer.

STATEMENT.

on the <sup>^</sup>Seville.

On Sunday morning the 28th of January last, Mr Foster - who was engaged as second steward but afterwards put working in the coal-gang - came to me and said, "the niggers are coming along to see you about clothes." "Is that so," I remarked, "well, they must ask the Captain for clothes first before coming to me," I added. "Aye!" he exclaimed, "but they've been to the old man and he won't give them any!" "In that case," I observed, "I shall be pleased to see them and do what I can!"

Just after one p.m. Mr Foster came to my cabin and said, "the niggers are coming along about two o'clock," I told him to tell the English speaking one to come along and the one we called the soldie negroe. Slightly after two o'clock I was pacing the deck amidships when, Mr Foster came up to me and said, "haven't they been along yet?" "No," I replied, "I'm just waiting for them!" - with that they came along and the two negroes Mr Foster and I went down to my cabin; I invited the negroes to sit down while we two remained standing. I asked them what they wanted to see me about and they replied that, having been to the Captain for clothes and on being told they would get no more they thought that I might be able to help them. They told me that they were getting no wages and it appeared that if it had not been for members of the crew giving them odd bits of clothing, those the Captain had supplied would have been worn out before now. They both had on dungaree trousers of a very poor quality and the soldier negroe had neither coat nor waistcoat; his boots were all broken away at the uppers - they had been given to him by one of the crew - the pair the Captain had supplied had given out. After inspecting their clothing I said that I would see the Captain on their behalf, then bid them good-afternoon.

In the latter part of the after-noon I went up to the Captain on the lower bridge and said, "I wish to speak to you about the negroes!" "Well, what is it about," he enquired. I then told him of their having come to me complaining of being able to get neither wages nor clothes, at which he enquired what it had to do with me. "Are you aware of the act relating to stowaways," he asked. "No," I replied, "then," he exclaimed, "you will mind your own business and not come interfering with mine," I observed that if he brought men into South Shetlands and gave them no wages then he must clothe them. I mentioned that I was aware of what had been given them, "so do I know what they have had," he replied, adding at the same time that they had had "a complete change of clothing," and he named the articles. Seeing that he was somewhat heated I said that I would write him a letter on the matter, "you can write as many letters as you like," he said angrily, "But they'll get no more clothes from me!" He further added that they had caused nothing but trouble since having come on board and he wished everyone of them over the side. I informed him that I intended inspecting their quarters, and that if I could get no satisfaction from him I would get Mr Bennett down by the first opportunity to enquire into the matter; we were then interrupted by the steward and realizing it was useless to continue the argument I walked away.

I visited their quarters as intended and found one of the two places they occupied, dirty and draughty. All the negroes were miserably clad but some had been more fortunate than others in getting some old clothes from members of the crew, but they all required clothes for they could not wash what they had unless they went about naked. Their bedding was composed of one blanket and one straw-mattress. I made no thorough search for clothes as I could not conceive of anyone continually going about in so deplorable a condition if they had better clothes to use, and, from what they had told me and confirmed by the Captain, I judged their sole supply was on their backs.

Next morning I wrote to the Captain requesting the favour of the lists of clothing he had supplied to each of the negroes, which lists he forwarded the same day. These lists did not appear to me as being at all satisfactory so I wrote to the Doctor (which I knew would cause some perplexity) after which further letters passed between us.

In the meantime, Mr Foster, who was working with the negroes said they were asking about clothes, and that if they got none by Saturday they would refuse to work. I told him to say that they must not go on strike as I was trying to get them clothes and that I would come and see them.

The following night I was on my way to their quarters when, I stopped and watched two of them working with the second mate and two Norwegians. One of the catchers was being coaled and baskets of coal were being drawn up through a partly covered hatch in the fore part of the ship, between-decks. The two negroes with the second mate were tipping the baskets of coal into two barrows alternately, which were then wheeled a short distance away by the two Norwegians, then upended through a side port on the same level.

I stood at one side to be out of the way and also to avoid the draught. From the side port there was a strong cold draught racing through, passing up through another hatchway above the workers heads and so out on deck. I took particular notice of the two negroes and saw they were shivering with the cold, and after watching a little while longer time was called and worked ceased. Giving the negroes time to get to their quarters I went down myself. When I entered they all came around me and I told them that I had come to see their clothing and to take note of that which they were in most need of. I took notes of that which I considered absolutely essential until I could get further advice, and I also informed them that I was writing to the Captain and Doctor and that they must wait more days, which they appeared to understand; I then wished them goodnight and went back to my cabin.

The next morning, the 1st of February, just before taking my seat at the breakfast-table, Dr Lornie, who was already seated complained of my manners in humming or whistling in the saloon; I was, as a matter of fact doing either one of the two things but very softly. I, however, replied that I was quite as capable of looking after my manners as he was after his. "It is a pity you do not mind your own business as well," he said, "as you have caused nothing but trouble since you have come on board of the ship." I have no desire to discuss the matter with you", I answered, and, I then picked up a sealed envelope which bore no address that was on my plate. I put it on one side and the Doctor said, "that is for you," "Oh, no it isn't," I replied, "there is no address on it." He repeated something similar to that which he had said before while I in return denied ownership. He then snatched it up scribbled my name and title on it and threw it on the table remarking at the same time, "you will open it now"; I picked it up studied the writing, and said, "I will open it at my leisure!" "You will open it now", he declared, while I replied, "yes, at my leisure". He then appeared to lose all control of himself and said, "I will punch your face"; "try it on," I said, "yes and Ill do it too!" he continued, "well, get on with it then!" I suggested; it did not happen. "Do you know who you are talking to," he demanded indignantly, "Yes," I replied "and, do you know who you are talking to", which I followed up by saying, "you are talking to the Government Representative". "Government Representative", he sneered, "why, you are nothing more than a bally customs officer and a junior one at that"; he thereupon slurred at the position and sneered at the fact that I was previous only a shop-keeper. His next remark was that I was a damned nuisance and that the Captain was contemplating putting me in irons for attempting to stir up mutiny on board of the ship and that the Captain had a message ready to send to Stanly informing the Government of my conduct.

I told him not to talk rot, and after a few other remarks which I don't remember, he was called away to attend to the second mate, who had, unfortunately, just had an accident. No one else was present during this scene, for, as the ship was being freshly moored the Captain was still on the bridge; after breakfast I told the steward what had occurred.

During the morning I wrote my second letter to the Captain which he received the same day.

I had sent a wire to Mr Bennett requesting him to come down as soon as possible - I did not wire urgent as I thought he might hire a catcher. He, however, arrived on Saturday afternoon the 3rd of February in one of Solstrieff's boats, having arranged to give them a week's humpback fishing for the convenience.

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In the morning of the 3rd February, there were two negroes on the deck amidships, and one of these spoke to the Captain. After talking some little while the Captain left and both the negroes crossed the deck and came and spoke to me, asking for clothes. I said that I could do nothing for them at present as I was waiting for one more "Excise-man." The day previous the Captain had sent me a letter forbidding me to interfere with the crew. While we were talking a third negroe came up, this was the soldier, and, as before, he was miserably dressed still having neither coat nor waistcoat.

I have had no experience with negroes and their alleged cunningness but, I am thoroughly convinced that these poor unfortunate beings were speaking the truth when, they complained of having no clothes, when, without any undue ostentation they appealed once again to me for clothing, I felt sick with anger and saw with regret that I stood helplessly by, while, what appeared to me as being glaring and irrefutable acts of slavery went on, yes, went on in British territory on a British ship belonging to half-hearted British firm.

In the latter part of the afternoon Mr Bennett arrived. I was, all this time incensed with the threat of being put in irons, and, it was in no way lessened by dwelling on the sneering attitude which had been adopted towards me since having come on board, so, thinking that perhaps some excuse might be found for an enquiry, I had written down, between the 1st and 3rd of February, questions which I thought might worry the Captain in the event of being cross-examined.

Having no confidence in this man I endeavoured to remember anything which might show him in his true light, so, as these questions came to my mind I committed them to paper, which, in the event of an enquiry I thought could be drawn upon.

Mr Bennett while greatly sympathizing did not feel justified in holding an enquiry, and said that, if anything could be done in the matter, it could be more drastically dealt with by persons higher in authority. He, however, interrogated the negroes and felt that they had been before Mr Binnie at South Georgia. They told him that the gentleman with whom they spoke at South Georgia said they were to be paid and they also informed him that they had been stowaways on the Neko but at South Georgia they were transhipped to the Sevilla - presumably with the Captain's consent. Mr Bennett afterwards saw the Captain who said that he made no arrangements whatever with Mr Binnie concerning them, and, that, as these men had practically no clothing when they came on board he had given them a good supply and that no doubt they were stowing it away.

I had had the list of the scanty supply he had given them, and wondered what they could stow away, and, if what he said was true concerning their arrival on board, was it unreasonable, when, after two months continual work with coal they came to him for more. If he thought clothes were being hidden how long would it have taken to find out, and, if none were found (considering the cheap labour) why not risk giving them the benefit of the doubt and give them a fresh supply stating at the same time how long it must last.

In my opinion these men were brought purposely to the South Shetlands as the cheapest of labour, to work with coal, for in that capacity they are considered good workers, but the Captain was no doubt endeavouring to save every penny he could on these unfortunate creatures. So that, when the time came to get rid of them, they could be put ashore, the ship charged with fictitious wages and clothes on their account and the money put in his own pocket.

I consider the Doctor in the light of an annoyance and I am quite certain that the two pills he was asked for, on different occasions, (and he gave me two at one time and twelve in a box at another) and the asperins he offered to cure my headache with, will, when explained, bear no argument in his favour. Both his accounts rather suggest trying to obtain money by threats. I can produce the box of pills containing ten; on the lid of the box he has written "to be taken with precaution not to be taken with impunity" I also have the box of asperins containing ten out of the twelve.

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In reflecting now on the whole matter I feel that I shall probably incur displeasure in exceeding my duty, for after all my appointment was simply as a whaling and customs officer. I can only say that I interfered as a last resource on learning that the Captain had no intentions of clothing these men in anything like a reasonable manner. It was probably indiscreet to go to their quarters without an officer of the ship, but, in the first place I told the Captain I would do so and in the second I stood by the second mate before going there, therefore making no secret of my whereabouts.

I suggested being allowed to clothe them on behalf of the Government being strengthened with the thought that they were not legitimate stowaways and I also felt that the Government would disapprove of such treatment, particularly in a climate such as the South Shetlands,

As will be seen I failed to do anything, but it might be as well to add that, on the day of my leaving the Sevilla I wrote a personal letter to the Captain enquiring whether he had any objections to my giving the negroes money and clothes of my own. He replied raising no objections, whereupon in the afternoon I took the first officer - an alleged nigger driver - along with me to their quarters and I told these men that as "Excise-man" I could do nothing for them, but, as these things were my own property I could give them away. This was Monday afternoon the 5th February and within a few hours of seeing the negroes I left the Sevilla for the Southern Queen.

Before concluding I should like to add, it has been my experience to find that ships in the South Shetlands are considered by their captains - to all intents and purposes - as on the high seas, and that anything arising other than in the whaling and customs regulations, and even these are resented, can and will be dealt with by the captain. Now I venture to suggest that if it be possible for the Government to make a case out of this matter the opportunity should not be lost, for, only by such means will it be brought home to some of these people that, in the South Shetlands they are in British territory and subject to British law and order, and that a whaling officer's position is not so insignificant as they would imagine, but is one of importance to the industry, and, further, a person holding that appointment enjoys the full confidence of his Government.

In conclusion, if I should learn that I have not exposed the Government to any adverse criticism; then, I shall get satisfaction in knowing that I have given these men a good lesson and gained, at least, a moral victory.

*Aubrey Hardy.*

*9th February, 1923.*

Asst. Whaling Officer,  
South Shetlands.

Copy.

S. S. Scilla  
Schobert Channel.  
South Shetlands.

21/11 January, 1923.

Sir,

In continuation of our conversation of yesterday when you confirmed that which the St Vincent natives had already complained of to me, to the effect that, "they must continue to work for their food alone and will receive neither wages nor any further supply of clothes" I now beg to enquire whether you will be good enough to furnish me with the list of wearing apparel and bed-clothing each negro has received from you since having come on board your ship.

I am,  
Sir,  
Yours obedient servant,

(sgd) Aubrey Hardy,  
Whaling Officer.

Captain Sinclair,  
s/s Scilla  
South Shetlands.

S/S " Sevilla " South Shetland, January 30th , 1923.



Goods supplied to the stowaways:

Manoel Hazar.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Forks, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
4 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongareejacket  
1 Cap  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Joaquim Lopes.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
3 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Roberto Rodriguez

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
3 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Manoel Cabral.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
2 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
2 Doz. Matches  
6 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket

Adriano Fortos

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
8 Plugs Tobacco  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket

João Santos

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Laces  
1 " Socks  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
3 " Cigarettes  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Bar Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Polinario Pio.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
2 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate.  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
4 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
3 Plugs Tobacco  
2 Bars Soap  
1 Cap  
2 Doz. Matches  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles.

Prices of goods supplied to the negroes.

(1e)

2 Suits Underclothes.	15/- 18/- Pa.	1 : 13 : 0
1 Pair Working Boots		1 : 1 : 0
1 -- Socks.		2 : 6
1 -- Laces.		6
1 Mattress		6 : 0
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Plate & Mug.		4 : 0
1 Blanket.		7 : 6
1 Pipe		3 : 0
4 Tins Tobacco.	6/- Tin.	1 : 4 : 0
2 -- Cigarettes		5 : 4
2 Bars Soap.	9/- Bar.	1 : 6
3 Dog Matches	1/- Dog.	3 : 0
5 Plugs Tobacco.	1/10 v 2/2 Plug = 2/- Plug.	10 : 0
1 P. Overalls.		10 : 0
1 Dungaree Jacket		9 : 0
1 Cap	Supplied to two men only.	3 : 0
1 Thread		7
1 Needles.		4

Approximate amount supplied to each negro. £ 7 : 4 : 3.

Copy.

S.S. Sevilla  
Schollaert Channel.  
South Shetlands.

1st February, 1923.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge, on the 29th of last month, the receipt of the lists of outfits as supplied by you to the seven negroes on board of your ship.

As I am not satisfied that you have supplied these men with a sufficient amount of clothing for their needs during the whaling season, I venture to suggest that I be allowed to make purchases for their comfort from the ship's stow-chest.

For all such purchases you will receive my signature, and as your firm is not prepared to defray the cost of these goods, I recommend that an account for all articles that I get be made out in the name of the Falkland Island Government to whom, in the near future you will have opportunity to submit it.

I would add that the medical adviser attached to this ship declines to furnish me with any information respecting wearing apparel and bed-clothing suitable for persons working with coal during the whaling season, therefore I am obliged to use my own discretion in this matter.

As I desire to make these purchases with as little delay as possible may I suggest that you will favour me with an early reply.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(Sgd)

Hubray Harby

Whaling Officer.

Captain Sinclair.  
S/S Sevilla

29 BERNARD STREET, LEITH.  
82 GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.  
CUSTOM HOUSE BUILDINGS, GRANTON.

CHR. SALVESEN & CO.,  
ESTABLISHED 1846.

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS, "SALVESEN, LEITH."  
TELEPHONES, LEITH 450, 290 & 274.

CODES, SCOTT, WATKINS, ZEBRA, A. B. C. (6TH EDITION).

Partners--

J. T. SALVESEN.  
F. G. SALVESEN.  
T. E. SALVESEN.

1923  
29 Bernard Street

*Leith*

S/S " Sevilla " South Shetland, February 2nd, 1923.

Whaling-Officer Hardy

S/S " Sevilla ".

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 1st February to hand and contents noted.

As mentioned to you verbally I can not see that you have any power to interfere with the discipline of my crew, therefore please desist from interfering with them and stirring up strife.

I will judge when any of them is in need of cloths or anything else.

Yours respectfully

*Jho Sinclair*

Master.

Copy.

S.S. Sevilla  
Schollaert Channel.  
South Shetlands.

2  
12

2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1923.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your reply to mine of the 1st inst., and pending further enquiries the matter will be now left in abeyance.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(sd)

Aubrey Hardy.

Whaling Officer.

Captain Sinclair,  
S.S. Sevilla.

Copy.

S.S. "Sevilla"  
Schollaest Channel.  
South Shetlands.

#  
10

5th February, 1923.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that I shall leave the "Sevilla" this afternoon to take up my stay on the "Southern Zeeu".

I shall not, however, return to the "Sevilla" as formerly intended, as my further stay on board your ship has been made untenable by the insufferable behaviour of a member of your crew; i.e. the doctor.

This alteration in my plans is, I would add, in accordance with instructions received from Mr Bennett — senior whaling officer.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(sgd) Aubrey Hardy

Whaling Officer.

Captain Sinclair  
s/s "Sevilla"

1K2

S/S. " Southern Queen"

South Shetlands.

Duplicate.

21st March, 1923.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr Bennett to enquire if you will inform the authorities at Stanley of any arrangements you might have made respecting the seven negroes which left South Georgia in the S/S "Sevilla" in November last.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(sgd) Aubrey Hardy.

Asst. Whaling Officer.

E. B. Binnie, Esq.,

Stipendiary Magistrate,

South Georgia.

(16)  
~~24~~  
11

Note

It is stated

Both "Albion" & "Overdale"  
two Salween, or ships,  
were loading at S Georgia  
at the time Peter's arrival  
& about to leave for North  
Island. It is stated that  
these 14 stormy's could have  
been returned by one of them  
without expense, the intention  
is without doubt organized slavery  
& the same might be proved true  
of a number of similar people  
at Salween, S Georgia Station  
at which place a large number  
of "stormy's" are stated to be working  
without pay

AJB  
1.4.23

Forlang kvittering — gis gratis.  
Please request official receipt given gratis.

Sent date.....

# Norsk Marconikompani

KRISTIANIA

STATION:.....

Prefix..... No. / Code..... Words.....

Office of Origin:.....

Service Instructions:.....

Via:.....

## CHARGES TO PAY.

19  
Ship charge ..... Total  
Coast charge .....  
Land or cable charge .....  
Delivery charge.....

Sent to ..... At ..... m. By .....

Læs betingelserne paa blankettens bakside.

Read the conditions printed on the back of the form.

To: *Bennie Georgia*

<i>What</i>	<i>Conditions</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>Ship</i>	<i>Stowaways</i>
<i>Sevilla</i>	<i>Ex</i>	<i>Neko</i>	<i>reply</i>	
			<i>Bennett</i>	

Afsenderens navn og adresse bedes angit paa blankettens bakside.  
Please print name and address on back of form.

Bennett.

~~14~~  
124

Radio-Telegram.

Tjenstlige bemærkninger.

good mat

Opst fra

Fün

den

232

kl.

av

Radio-telegram fra

Porto

nr.

ord

den

192

kl.

Your telegram stowaways  
stay father Mr. Pensford S. Billa  
during <sup>lock</sup> accommodation Mike stay  
should be treated vide section 237  
merchant shipping act 2.

Bennett.

Rec  
23/2/23

Notes would naturally  
have less crew ~~arriving~~ leaving  
S Georgia for S Shetlands  
than when arriving from the  
North for ~~whales~~ whales  
hunting boat 1875

Copy.

17/2/10

S.S. Sevilla  
Schollert Channel.  
South Shetlands.

30th January, 1923.

Sir,

I shall be grateful if you will favour me with your advice as to what, in your opinion, should be a reasonable amount of wearing apparel for a person to have, to be conducive to good health whilst working with coal during the whaling season at South Shetlands.

May I suggest that you make a list including at the same time a suitable supply of bed-clothing.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Dr. A.C. Lornie,  
S.S. Sevilla.

(sgd) Aubrey Harby,  
Whaling Officer.

S. S. Seville.

1/3  
2/5  
—

30<sup>th</sup> June. 1923.

Sr.

With reference to your communication regarding meaning appeared re. for a person working among coal in S. Shilland. I should like to point out that there is a fee of £1.0.0. chargeable for report on same. I. the want of submitting such report who will be responsible for payment of fee?

I am  
Yr. O.

Albert C. Loring  
Surgeon.

S. S. Seville.

Mr Hardy.

Whaling Office.

Copy.

2/19  
S. S. Sevilla,  
Schollaert Channel  
South Shetlands.

30th January, 1923.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to day's date and desire to inform you that, your fee of £1:1:0 (one guinea) will be paid on the instant of receiving the required information. I trust that you will be as prompt with your receipt.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(Sgd) Hubner Hardy  
Whaling Officer.

Dr. A. C. Lonnie,  
S. S. Sevilla

S-S. Swille. 17  
31<sup>st</sup> Jan 1923.

Li

In reply to your previous communications beg to state that I do not see what you require the information for. If it is just a piece of idle curiosity on your part I will not affect you much if your curiosity is not satisfied.

As you are quite aware you are just a Customs Officer, junior at that, and it is none of your business what is the amount of wearing apparel required for men working in the coal in S. Shetland. You have nothing whatever to do with the health of the ship. That is my duty, and I will not have my duties so interfered with or required into by any Tom, Dick or Harry.

You are supposed to be in the South Shetlands in the interests of the Whales & customs regulations & even then you are only a junior. Apart

L. S. Sevilla <sup>20</sup>  
31-1-23. (15)

To Dr. A. P. Jones.

L-1-0.

Copy.

S. S. Sevilla  
Schollaert Channel,  
Smith Shetlands.

21  
17

31st January, 1923.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of  
your further reply, of to-day's date,  
and to inform you that, you will, no doubt,  
be enlightened at a later date as to why  
you were appealed to for advice in the  
matter under discussion.

In the meantime, taking into consid-  
eration the form of your reply, I am,  
indeed, at a loss to understand why an  
account for £ 1:1:0 (one guinea) should  
be enclosed - which under the circum-  
stances appears ludicrous.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Dr A. E. Lornie,  
S. S. Sevilla

(Sgd)

Aubrey Hardy,  
Whaling Officer.

(10)  
29  
S. S. Swales.

31<sup>st</sup> Jan 1923

Sir

In reply to yours of today's date kindly note that in your first note to me you asked for my advice as wearing apparel for men working among coal in S. Shatterlands. In my last letter to you you got my advice which was to the effect of minding your own business. That is my advice and for which I claim my fee of £1-1-0 (one guinea)

Yours etc

Wm. H. H. H.  
Custom Office

Albert J. Swales,  
Supton  
55 Swales

(10)

(18)  
S. S. Deville  
1st Feb. 1922.

Sir.

Enclosed please find  
account for professional  
attendance, payment of which,  
in accordance with orders from  
the owners, is to be made to  
the Captain.

I should be much obliged  
if you kindly settle the other  
account I enclose. If not I fear I  
shall have to report to the Falklands  
that you are running up debts  
with no intention of payment

W. Hardy  
Autons

Yours etc.  
Albert C. Lewis  
Surgeon



(12/2/23)

Copy,

S. S. Sevilla.  
Schollaert Channel.  
South Shetlands.

2nd February, 1923.

Sir,

I shall be glad if you will forward me a detailed account of your alleged professional attendance.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy  
Whaling Officer.

D. Lorne,  
S. S. Sevilla.

L. J. Harris

2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 1892. ~~2/1~~  
(12)

Sir

Enclosed please find detailed  
account as requested.

As you do not seem to be going  
to settle my account of £1-1. for  
advise, in spite of your written  
word that you would pay the £1-1.  
on receipt of advice I try to inform  
you that I am reporting to Stanley  
by wireless the facts that you have  
been trying to interfere with my  
duties and that you refuse to pay your  
legitimate debts.

Yours etc.

Wm Hardy.

Junior Customs Officer Surgeons

Albert Harris

J. S. Hewitt

2nd Jan 1904

12

Mr Hardy,

To Dr. A. C. Lowe.

Dec. 18. One professional visit  
and medicine £1-1-0.

Dec. 28 One professional visit  
and medicine £1-1-0

---

£2-2-0.

CAPTAIN SINCLAIR.

27  
A

Name?

Are you the master of this ship?

Did you leave the U.K.?

Where was your first place of call?

When did you arrive?

Were there any other ships in that port?

What were they?

Did you visit any?

How and where did you become aware that

the Neko had stowaways on board?

Were you aware that the Overdale would

shortly leave S.G. after you arrived?

Had you any reason to believe that she

would call at either Las Palmas or St. Vincient?

With whom did you make arrangements to have

seven negroes on the Sevilla?

Did you speak with any gentleman at S.G.

about these negroes?

What did he say?

What did you say?

Were the negroes present?

Did he speak with the negroes then or at

any other time?

When did you have these negroes transhipped?

Was there any other ship about to leave

S.G. when you were there?

What was her name?

Did she belong to your Company?

Would she call at either St. Vincient

or Las Palmas?

Why did you not send the negroes back

in either of these two ships?

Why did you not leave the negroes at S.G.

When did you give the negroes their

first allowance of clothing?

In the first week in December did the

negroes demand wages?

What did you say?

Did the negroes go on strike?

What action did you take?

On leaving the U.K. did you consider that

you had sufficient crew?

On signing on the second steward had you

in mind to take him for coaling?

How many times have the negroes requested

wages?

When did you first tell the negroes that

they would get no further supply of clothes?

Did you tell anyone else? Who?

What instructions did you give your storekeeper

regarding these men?

Did you consider them sufficiently clothed?

Have you had negroes on board of your ship

in S.S. before?

Did you pay them?

Have any of the negroes with you now been sick?

How many?

What did the doctor tell you was the matter

with them?

How do you expect to get rid of these negroes?

What are they working at?

At what time of the day?

How many men have you on board?

How many work in the galley?

Does the baker help with the other cooking?

Have there been any complaints about the bread?

Did you take any steps in the matter?

Who brought the complaint to you notice?

Do you consider this a merchant ship?

P.T.O.

Is it a B. of Trade regulation to supply men with rum below a certain latitude?  
When did you last supply same?  
Previous to that when?  
Do you consider these negroes stowaways?  
Is this ship under the British Flag?  
How many British persons have you on board?  
Where do you get your stores?  
Is it all Norwegian food?  
Is there any provision made in the food for British subjects?  
Do you pay the men overtime?  
Are there any alterations made in their books?  
Have you any complaints to make against the whaling regulations?  
What are they?  
When did you first start whaling in S.S.  
Were you the manager of the factory then?  
Have you always kept to the whaling regulations?  
Did you get any penguin eggs at Admiralty Bg this year?  
Were they good or bad?  
How many did you take?  
Why did you not get a licence?  
Before Christmas do you remember the Spuma bringing in a 'big' whale and a small one?  
Did the whaling officer draw your attention to it?  
What did you say?  
Are you aware that there is a regulation against killing baby whales?  
Had you informed your gunner of this?  
Why did you not reprimand him for breaking the regulation?  
Did you get a letter from the whaling officer requesting the list of clothing you had supplied the negroes?  
What did you do?  
Do you consider he had the right to enquire into this matter?  
Why did you send detailed lists back?  
Did you know that he had written the doctor on the subject?  
Who told you?  
Have you found the whaling officer difficult to get on with?  
Did you know that the whaling officer had gone to the negroes quarters one night?  
Who told you? What did you say you would do?  
Did you tell the doctor what you would do?  
Was it on your authority that the doctor spoke to the whaling officer about it?  
Did you say to anyone that the whaling officer was stirring up strife?  
What did you say you would do?  
Did you resent the whaling officer being on board?  
Did the whaling officer tell you he was instructed to help the whalers and not hinder them?  
Did the whaling officer remind you ever that he was not there to spy but that it was for both parties to do the right thing?  
Did you tell the whaling officer that you were glad he was there as you thought the Gov. had a bad opinion of the Neko?  
Did you say that another whaling officer had reported adversely on the Neko?  
Were you asked how you came by the knowledge?  
What did you say?  
Did you discuss the question of moorings with the whaling officer?

Did you say that if any factory went about S.S. putting down moorings that factory should always have prior claim to the place? Did the whaling officer say that the moorings might not be used for years therefore that was unreasonable? Did you say that the Hektor Company was favoured by the whaling officer at Deception? Did you say that Governor Young made a lot of "damn silly whaling regulations"? Were you asked to state them? Did you state them? Did you ask a gunner to enquire of the whaling officer where it was decided that he should come on board of the Sevilla? Did the whaling officer suggest a way by which you might still have prior claim on your moorings at Deception? Soon after the arrival of the whaling officer was the question of the Neko and Sevilla working in conjunction discussed? Whether in jest or earnest were you not continually damning the F.I. Government? Were you not continually resenting and questioning their right to levy taxes? Were you not continually harping on the need of a survey being made in the South Shetlands? What were you told? Were you asked for your opinion regarding a wireless station? Did you say that the Government had no right to tax the tobacco consumed between S.G. and S.S.? Did the whaling officer tell you that he had been to the Neko about the number of whales alongside? Did he quote the regulations and say that twenty at the most were allowed at one time? Did you say that the regulations said nothing about unlicensed whales? State the greatest number of whales you had alongside of Neko at one time last year. Did any of your gunners catch baby whales last year? (Gunner Beckman told me that he was not aware of this regulation - he was with Neko last year. He is gunner of the Spuma. Did you inform your other two gunners this year of this regulation? When? If you were asked at any time during the season how many barrels of oil you had within how many could you give the correct amount? Did you when at Admiralty Bay send the Spuma to the Straits without informing the whaling officer? Had you a printed slip informing you to do so? Did the wireless operator when at Admiralty Bay speak to you about messages between the two whaling officers? Did he ask you if they should be treated as notes or as ordinary messages? What did you say? Did the whaling officer come to you immediately afterwards? Did he ask you to say definitely if there would be any charge? Why has the name of the port of registration been changed three or four times on stern of Sevilla? How many men other than the crew did the Neko take from S.G. to Rotterdam last year? How many men other than the crew did the Sevilla take to South Georgia this year? Have you made a true declaration of spirits and tobacco on board of your ship?

(B)

CHARGE. 3

That *A G Lornie* Medical Officer of S/S Sevilla uttered threats of violence towards a Whaling Officer and Customs Officer in the South Shetlands and Graham's Land a Dependency of the Falkland Islands, whereby a breach of the peace may have been occasioned.

Sec 49 c of 5/02 - *L2*

*Sec 4*

With a view to prevent the said Officer Mr A.G. Hardy from lawfully enquiring into the conditions of seven Cape Verde natives the subjects of gross illtreatment on board the said ship.

Sec 4 of 2 /1896 *L20*

*A.G. Bennett*

Whaling Officer.



*Note charges 8, 9, 10  
are stronger + more to the point  
*aps**

C

CHARGE. 6

That Captain Sinclair of S/S Sevilla of Leith did  
cause unnecessary suffering, and cruelty by withholding  
proper clothing from seven natives of the Cape Verde Isds  
stowaways on S/S Eeko, that were transferred to the above  
ship at South Georgia, and since working under slavery  
conditions on board of a British ship, in the South  
Shetlands and Graham s land a Dependency of the Falkland  
Islands. Sec 3 of 2/ 1896

*A. G. Bennett*  
Whaling Officer



*2.30 p.m. 1923*

D

CHARGE. 8

That Albert C. Lornie, Surgeon on SS. Sevilla of Leith:  
Refused The lawful information demanded by the  
Customs and Whaling Officer relating to members  
of the crew (Stowaways Ex Neko-unpaid slaves on board)  
contrary to Secs 8,9, of the Quarantine Regs 1908.

- £20.

*A.J. Bennett*



CHARGE. 9

That A.C. Lornie. Surgeon on SS Sevilla of Leith:  
  
did unlawfully use threats to, and obstruct officer  
in the execution of his duty, also abusive language,  
contrary to Secs 9 of 7/08.

- £50

Note all Customs Officers are Quarantine Officers, vide  
Sec 44 of 6/03.

*A.J. Bennett*

Whaling Officer. J.P.



(E)

CHARGE. 10

That A.C.Lornie. Surgeon of SS Sevilla of Leith?

Did unlawfully, and knowingly by of certain letters endeavor to obtain by false pretences, money with threats from A.G.Hardy Customs and Whaling Officer in the Dependency of South Shetlands and Grahams land Season 1922-23.

- Misdemeanor.

*A.G. Bennett*

Whaling Officer. J.F.



Note charges 8, 9, 10 appear to me to fit the cases better than Nos 3, 4 which in my mind are too trivial  
AGB

Extract from the Governor's Minute of the 13th of  
April, 1925.

2

Para. 3. Further information is required from Magistrate,  
South Georgia as to what action he took with regard to  
the men who were stowaways from St. Vincent on board  
s.s. "Heko" and he should be asked for a report.....

P.S. With reference to my paragraph 3 it is unnecessary to  
write to Magistrate: letter could not be prepared before  
departure of catcher "Rosita". I have however spoken to  
Mr. Barlas who travels by "Rosita" and he will report  
on his arrival at South Georgia. Mr. Barlas tells me  
that stowaways arrive in South Georgia by almost every  
ship which touches at St. Vincent: when he travelled in  
s.s. "Orwell" 100 men were put onshore before the ship  
left the port and 60 men were found after vessel had been  
24 hours at sea. The men go to South Georgia in search  
of work and are good workers. They are employed in ships  
or at shore stations for the season and then are repatriated  
by the ship which brought them to the Dependency. They  
stand the cold well. They will not wear the clothes which  
are issued to them. These they invariably put away and  
instead wear their own rags.

The masters of ships proceeding to South Georgia have  
seriously considered the advisability of avoiding call at  
St. Vincent owing to the difficulties they have with regard  
to stowaways.

(Itld.) J.M.,

13th April, 1925.

In the absence of a detailed report from the Magistrate, South Georgia as to the terms on which these negroes were placed on Board Sevilla I would submit that it is not possible to arrive at a final opinion in the matter of their treatment.

2. The reference in the telegram from that Magistrate (1a) to the Merchant Shipping Acts is to the Section 237(2) which deals with discipline of persons whom the master of a ship is compelled to take on board or who place themselves on board without authority; such persons for purposes of discipline being considered as members of the crew and as if they had signed the same agreement.

3. With reference to Charge number 6 (C) against Captain Sinclair and dealing with his treatment of the negroes I suggest that it will be necessary to wait for Mr. Binnie's report before making a statement.

4. I would however submit the following on the subject of the charges made against Dr. Lornie.

Charge no. 3 (B). That Dr. A. C. Lornie uttered threats towards a Customs and Whaling Officer whereby a breach of the peace might have been occasioned (Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance Section 49). This section is definitely laid down as having application "within the town of Stanley or any other town defined and declared to be a town by the Governor in Council" and therefore cannot be applicable on board a ship in South Shetland.

Charge no. 4 (B) That he used violence or intimidated Mr. A. G. Hardy when engaged on a lawful purpose. This is made under the Conspiracy Ordinance no. 2 of 1896 Section 4(1) and would be much too serious having regard to the nature of the case.

Charge no. 8 (D). and Charge no 9 (D). Both made under the Quarantine Ordinance no. 7 of 1908. It does not appear how in any way the matter could be related to the subject of Quarantine and therefore I would submit that these charges have no reasonable grounds and could in no way be supported

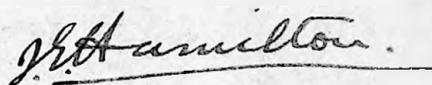
Charge no.10.(E). This, a charge of attempting to obtain money by false pretences is presumably based on Dr.Lornie's charge of one guinea for advice with reference to clothing suitable for persons working coal in South Shetland and I would submit that it is the result of taking an unnecessarily serious view of the matter.

5. The incident as a whole appears to have been the outcome of continued personal friction between Mr.Hardy and Dr. Lornie which came to a head on Mr.Hardy's enquiring into the treatment of the seven negroes.

6. While living in the same floating factory in South Shetland it is not possible to avoid the closest companionship and differences of outlook or behaviour being continually observable may become exaggerated until some sort of outburst takes place.

This is largely the result of the entire lack of distraction from the minutiae of daily life and of the effects of the physical conditions on the mind and spirits. The tendency of these conditions is towards depression and it follows that the general mental atmosphere during a bad season which in itself tends in the same direction, will accentuate the normal effects.

7. I would submit that the entire affair between Mr. Hardy and Dr.Lornie is too trivial to call for further action and that it should therefore be allowed to drop.



(J.E.Hamilton)

Government Naturalist.

Magistrate, South Shetland.

2nd July 1923

4



S.S.27/23.

The Magistrate's Office,  
South Georgia,  
17th. April 1923.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you ,that I have received a letter from the Whaling Officer at South Shetlands, asking me to report and arrangements I may have made regarding the stowaways which left South Georgia in the Factory "Sevilla" in November last.

2. The s.s. "Weko" arrived from St Vincent with 14 stowaways on board, and on arrival at South Georgia, the Master reported to me the circumstances, and that he could not accomodate more than half that number. I suggested to him that as the "Sevilla" was a vessel of the same company, and that according to Section 237 (2) of the Merchant Shipping Acts, the Master of the vessel or company was responsible for their repatriation, the remaining seven might be placed on board the "Sevilla" until an opportunity afforded for their return to St Vincent.

3. I spoke with the stowaways and explained the circumstances to them, and they expressed their willingness to go with the Sevilla to South Shetlands and return to St Vincent at a later date, as anything was better than returning to St Vincent at once, as it was very hard to live there. I further explained to them the necessity for their taking part in the general duties of the ship while on board, and also explained to the Captain that they should be treated as members of the crew ,which he understood.

4. I did not make any report on this matter before, as it is common for vessels coming to South Georgia calling at St Vincent to have at least from 15 to 40 stowaways, and it has always been a difficulty to repatriate them, usually a

*The Hon. Colonial Secy. Stanley*

2.

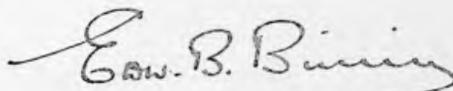
usually, a steamer must make a special voyage for the purpose. In 1921 the "Woodville" on leaving St Vincent had on board over 100 stowaways hidden in the coal bunkers and the deck cargo. In this case the vessel put back and sent on shore all that could be found, however some days later no fewer than 40 were found to be still on the ship. These were taken to South Georgia and repatriated with some difficulty later.

5. All vessels now trading regularly to South Georgia make their coaling place at Las Palmas on account of the difficulty of preventing stowaways coming on board at St Vincent. One vessel arriving at St Vincent en route for South Georgia hired several policemen for the purpose of guarding the ship against stowaways and it was afterwards discovered that one of the Policemen had stowed away himself and come to South Georgia,.

I have the honour to be,

sir,

Your obedient servant



Magsistrate.



5

S.G.No 35/23

The Magistrate's Office,  
South Georgia,  
2nd. May 1923.

Sir,

I have the honour (with reference to my letter No 27/23 of 17th. April) to submit for His Excellency's information a further report on the question of the 7 stowaways on board the s.s. "Sevilla" at South Shetlands

As the result of enquiry I learned that Captain Sinclair on leaving South Georgia in November last, issued to each man 2 suits of Dongaree, which with the clothes they already had was considered sufficient until arrival at South Shetlands and work started, when a further supply would be given them. Vide list attached Numbered 1, as handed to the whaling officer at South Shetlands. A Cabin was fitted for them with 10 beds and electric light installed. This cabin has been examined and declared by the Norwegians going home in it, to be very comfortable. The stowaways were never asked to work on deck, always working with coal below decks which latter place on a whaling factory is anything but cold.

On asking for an explanation of how this controversy between the Master and the whaling officers commenced, I was informed that, after the whaling Officer Hardy had been living on board for some days, he approached the Master on the bridge one afternoon, and asked to make a complaint.

The Captain answered 'What is your complaint?'

I am complaining about the Negroes.

In what way? I don't think they are sufficiently fed and clothed. The Captain replied 'I think you are exceeding your duties, so I would be glad if you would not interfere with my crew, if any complaint is to be made the men can

The Hon.  
Colonial Secretary  
Stanley

can, make it themselves. Mr Hardy replied 'If you will not discuss this matter with me I will write you a letter' to which Captain Sinclair answered 'Do so with pleasure'.

Here follows the correspondence which is attached.

The Captain continued; I heard nothing more for two days, when Dr Lornie came to me, and said he had received a letter from the whaling officer, being the subject of a complaint against the Master. No further discussion had taken place to my knowledge except between the stowaways and the whaling officer either in the Officer's Cabin, or in the cabin of the stowaways, which took place without my knowledge or consent as master of the vessel.

I asked Captain Sinclair if the stowaways had made any complaint to him, and was informed, that the only time they complained was that they would not work overtime without payment, to which Captain Sinclair agreed and paid them <sup>3</sup>1/- per hour. He informed me at the same time, that after the whaling officers had both been on board and had audiences with the stowaways, they approached him and asked, 'On what conditions had they been shipped at South Georgia?' The result was a telegram was sent to the Magistrate at South Georgia for this information. The Captain also took the opportunity of telling the whaling officers that, if the stowaways had any complaint to make it would perhaps be better for them to make it to the Shipping Master at South Georgia on their return, as the men were taken over from Neko with his sanction and mutual consent of all parties concerned.....

I asked the Doctor if any complaint had been made to him of discomfort on board by the stowaways, and he said, 'Except in cases of illness, or when they had been fighting and received black eyes, he had heard nothing from them.'

I append herewith a list of all the clothing etc, that was issued to these men at South Shetlands Numbered 2, and which

3.

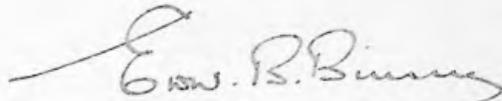
which, I am of opinion was ample clothing for men working entirely below decks.

In the course of my enquiry, I was informed that The Asst. whaling officer, had made presents to the men of £1 each to make purchases from the Slop chest for their comforts, but that they immediately went to the chief officer and asked him to guard it for them until they got to St Vincent, by which action it does not seem that they were suffering any serious discomfort. The heavy clothing which they received from the Slop chest was carefully put away for taking home with them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. B. Binning". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "Magistrate.".

Magistrate.

List no I

50

S/S " Sevilla " South Shetland, January 30th , 1923.

Goods supplied to the stowaways:

Manoel Hazar.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Forks, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
4 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongareejacket  
1 Cap  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Joaquim Lopes.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
3 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Roberto Rodriguez

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
3 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Manoel Cabral.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
2 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
2 Bars Soap  
2 Doz. Matches  
6 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jackett

Adriano Portos

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
3 Plugs Tobacco  
2 Bars Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket

João Santos

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
1 " Laces  
1 " Socks  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
3 tins Tobacco  
3 " Cigarettes  
4 Plugs Tobacco  
1 Bar Soap  
3 Doz. Matches  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles

Polinario Pio.

2 Suits Underwear  
1 Pair Working Boots  
2 " Socks  
1 " Laces  
1 Straw Bed  
1 Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mug, Plate.  
1 Blanket  
1 Pipe  
4 tins Tobacco  
1 " Cigarettes  
3 Plugs Tobacco  
2 Bars Soap  
1 Cap  
2 Doz. Matches  
1 Overalls  
1 Dongaree-Jacket  
1 Reel Thread  
1 Bdl. Needles.

list no 2

Mano Hazar. 2000 000

Roberto Rodriguez

1	Suit-Underwears (Heavy)	£ 200	180	00	2	Suits Underwear	£ 1	13	0
1	" " " " (Light)	150	150	00	1	Pair Working-Boots	1	0	0
1	Pair Working-Boots	1	1	00	1	" " Laces	0	7	6
1	" " Socks	0	2	60	3	" " Socks	0	7	6
1	" " Laces	0	0	60	1	" " Straw-Bed	0	6	0
1	" " Straw-Bed	0	6	00	1	" " Knife&Fork	0	1	0
1	" " Knife & Fork	0	1	00	1	" " Spoon	0	1	0
1	" " Spoon	0	1	00	1	" " Mug	0	1	0
1	" " Mug	0	1	00	1	" " Plet	0	1	0
1	" " Plet	0	1	00	1	" " Blanket	0	7	6
1	" " Blanket	0	7	60	1	" " Pipe	0	3	0
1	" " Pipe	0	3	00	6	Tins Tobacco	1	16	0
1	tin Tobacco	0	16	00	3	" Cigarettes	0	8	0
1	" Cigarettes	0	8	00	2	Bars Soap	0	1	6
1	bars Soap	0	1	60	3	Pckt. Matches	0	3	0
1	Pckt. Matches	0	3	00	2	" " Overalls	1	0	0
1	" " Overalls	1	0	00	1	" " Boiler Suit	0	16	0
1	" " Boiler suit	0	16	00	2	" " Dongaree-Jack	0	18	0
1	" " Dongaree-jackets	0	18	00	5	Plugs Tobacco	0	9	6
1	" " Cap	0	3	00	1	Reel Thread	0	0	7
1	tin Tobacco	0	10	00	1	Bdl. Needles	0	0	4
1	" " Plugs-Tobacco	0	9	60	2	Working-shirts	0	17	0
1	Reel Thread	0	0	70	1	Pair Pants (Heavy)	0	9	0
1	Bdls. Needles	0	0	40					
1	" " Working-shirts	0	17	00					
2	Pair Socks	0	5	00					
1	" " Pants ( Heavy )	0	9	00					
1	tin Tobacco	0	6	00					
		<b>Total</b>					<b>£ 11 - 1 - 5</b>		

Total £ 11 - 1 - 5

Total £ 11 - 5 - 1

Joaquim Lopes.

2	Suit Underwear	£ 1	13	0	2	Suits Underwear	£ 1	13	0
3	Pair Socks	0	7	6	3	Pairs Socks	0	7	6
1	" Working-Boots	1	1	0	1	" Working-boots	1	1	0
1	" Laces	0	0	6	1	" Laces	0	0	6
1	Straw Bed	0	6	0	1	Straw-bed	0	6	0
1	Knife&Fork	0	1	0	1	Knife&Fork	0	1	0
1	Spoon	0	1	0	1	Spoon	0	1	0
1	Mug	0	1	0	1	Mug	0	1	0
1	Plet	0	1	0	1	Plet	0	1	0
1	Blanket	0	7	6	1	Blanket	0	7	6
1	Pipe	0	3	0	1	Pipe	0	3	0
6	tins Tobacco	1	16	0	6	tins Tobacco	1	16	0
3	" Cigarettes	0	8	0	3	" Cigarettes	0	8	0
2	Bars Soap	0	1	6	2	Bars Soap	0	1	6
3	Pckt Matches	0	3	0	3	Pckt Matches	0	3	0
2	Overalls	1	0	0	2	Overalls	1	0	0
1	Boiler-suit	0	16	0	1	Boiler-suit	0	16	0
2	Dongaree-jackets	0	18	0	2	Dongaree-jackets	0	18	0
5	Plugs Tobacco	0	9	6	5	Plugs Tobacco	0	9	6
1	Reel Thread	0	0	7	1	Reel Thread	0	0	7
1	Bdl. Needles	0	0	4	1	Bdl. Needles	0	0	4
2	Working-shirts	0	17	0	2	Working-shirts	0	17	0
1	Pair Pants (Heavy)	0	9	0	1	Pair Pants (Heavy)	0	9	0
		<b>Total</b>					<b>£ 11 - 1 - 5</b>		

Total £ 11 - 2 - 7

Adriano Fortes, Portugal

Joao Santos, Portugal

2 Suits	Underwear	£ 1 - 13	08
1 Pair	Working-boots	" 0 - 10	08
1 "	Laces	" 0 - 00	65
3 "	Socks	" 0 - 78	88
1 "	Straw-bed	" 0 - 68	00
1 "	Knife&Fork	" 0 - 10	08
1 "	Spoon	" 0 - 10	01
1 "	Mug	" 0 - 10	40
1 "	Plet	" 0 - 10	01
1 "	Blanket	" 0 - 70	65
1 "	Pipe	" 0 - 38	07
6 tins	Tobacco	£ 150	08
18 "	Cigarettes	" 0 - 20	88
2 bars	Soap	" 0 - 18	88
4 Pckt.	Matches	" 0 - 48	01
2 "	Overalls	" 1 - 08	08
1 "	Boiler-suit	" 0 - 168	00
2 "	Dongaree-jacket	" 0 - 188	08
10 Plugs	Tobacco	" 0 - 00	08
2 "	Working-shirts	" 0 - 170	08
1 Pair	Pants(Heavy)	" 0 - 98	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 11</b>	<b>68</b>

2 Suits	Underwear	£ 1 - 13	08
1 pair	Working-boots	" 1 - 10	08
1 "	Laces	" 0 - 00	65
3 "	Socks	" 0 - 78	88
1 "	Straw-bed	" 0 - 68	00
1 "	Knife&Fork	" 0 - 10	08
1 "	Spoon	" 0 - 10	01
1 "	Mug	" 0 - 10	40
1 "	Plet	" 0 - 10	01
1 "	Blanket	" 0 - 70	65
1 "	Pipe	" 0 - 38	07
6 tins	Tobacco	£ 150	08
3 "	Cigarettes	" 0 - 20	88
1 bar	Soap	" 0 - 18	88
5 Pckt.	Matches	" 0 - 48	01
2 "	Overalls	" 0 - 08	08
1 "	Boiler-suit	" 0 - 168	00
2 "	Dongaree-jack	" 0 - 188	08
5 Plugs	Tobacco	" 0 - 00	08
2 "	Working-shirts	" 0 - 170	08
1 Pair	Pants(Heavy)	" 0 - 98	01
1 reel	Thread	" 0 - 00	00
1 bdl.	Needles	" 0 - 00	00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 11</b>	<b>28</b>

Appolinario Pio.

2 Suits	Underwear	£ 1 - 13	08
1 pair	Working-boots	" 1 - 00	00
1 "	Laces	" 0 - 00	68
4 "	Socks	" 0 - 10	00
1 "	Straw-bed	" 0 - 68	00
1 "	Knife&Fork	" 0 - 10	00
1 "	Spoon	" 0 - 10	00
1 "	Mug	" 0 - 10	00
1 "	Plet	" 0 - 10	00
1 "	Blanket	" 0 - 70	68
1 "	Pipe	" 0 - 38	00
7 tins	Tobacco	£ 2 - 28	00
1 "	Cigarettes	" 0 - 28	88
2 bars	Soap	" 0 - 18	68
2 Pckt.	Matches	" 0 - 48	00
2 "	Overalls	" 1 - 08	00
1 "	Boiler-suit	" 0 - 168	00
2 "	Dongaree-jacket	" 0 - 188	00
5 Plugs	Tobacco	" 0 - 98	28
1 "	Cap	" 0 - 38	00
1 reel	Thread	" 0 - 00	70
1 bdl.	Needles	" 0 - 10	40
2 "	Working-shirts	" 0 - 170	00
1 Pair	Pants(Heavy)	" 0 - 98	00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 11</b>	<b>38</b>

2 Suits	Underwear	£ 1 - 13	08
3 pair	Working-boots	" 1 - 10	08
1 "	Laces	" 0 - 00	65
1 "	Straw-bed	" 0 - 68	00
1 "	Knife&Fork	" 0 - 10	08
1 "	Spoon	" 0 - 10	01
1 "	Mug	" 0 - 10	40
1 "	Plet	" 0 - 10	01
1 "	Blanket	" 0 - 70	65
1 "	Pipe	" 0 - 38	07
6 tins	Tobacco	£ 150	08
3 "	Cigarettes	" 0 - 20	88
3 bars	Soap	" 0 - 18	88
3 Pckt.	Matches	" 0 - 48	01
3 "	Overalls	" 0 - 08	08
3 "	Boiler-suit	" 0 - 168	00
3 "	Dongaree-jackets	" 0 - 188	08
3 Plugs	Tobacco	" 0 - 00	08
1 Reel	Thread	" 0 - 00	00
1 bdl.	Needles	" 0 - 00	00
2 "	Working-shirts	" 0 - 170	08
1 Pair	Pants(Heavy)	" 0 - 98	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 11</b>	<b>28</b>

Total £ 11 68

Total £ 11 28

Total £ 11 28

Letter No 1. from Whaling Officer to Captain Sinclair.

s.s. Sevilla

Shollaert Channel

South Shetlands.

29th. January 1923.

Sir,

In continuation of our conversation of yesterday when you <sup>which</sup> informed that the St Vincent natives had already complained to me, to the effect that, "they must continue to work for their food alone and will receive neither wages nor any further supply of clothes". I now beg to enquire whether you will be good enough to furnish me with the list of wearing apparel and bed-clothing each negro has received from you since having come on board your ship,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy,

Whaling Officer.

Captain Sinclair, s.s. Sevilla.

r e p l y.

s.s. "Sevilla" South Shetlands February 2nd. 1923.

Whaling-Officer Hardy,  
s.s. Sevilla.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 1st. February to hand and contents noted. As mentioned to you verbally I can see that you have any power to interfere with the discipline of my crew, therefore please desist from interfering with



50

s.s. "Sevilla"  
Sholliaert Channel  
South Shetlands

No 2.

30th. January 1923.

Sir,

I shall be grateful if you will favour me with your advice as to what, in your opinion, should be a reasonable amount of wearing apparel for a person to have to be conducive to good health whilst working coal during the whaling season at South Shetlands.

May I suggest that you make a list including at the same time a suitable supply of bed clothing.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy, Whaling  
Officer.

Dr A.C.Lornie  
s.s. "Sevilla".

R e p l y.

s.s. Sevilla 30th. January 1923.

Sir,

with reference to your communication regarding wearing apparel etc. for a person working coal in South Shetlands, I should like to point out that there is to be a fee of £1 : 1 : 0 chargeable for report on same. In the event of submitting such report who will be responsible for payment of fee?

I am, &c.

Albert C. Lornie

Whaling officer.

(5d)

s.s. Sevilla Schollaert Channel

South Shetlands

Dear Sir,

I have a couple of old suits and some other clothing which I would like to give the Negroes. I also wish to give them each a pound note so that they may be able to buy something from the ships slopchest. These are purely personal gifts and if it is agreeable to you for me to do this, would you be good enough to let me know whether I should send the money to you or whether I should give it personally to them.

Yours truly

Aubrey Hardy.

Captain Sinclair,  
s.s. Sevilla.

R E P L Y.

Melchior Island South Shetlands, February 5th  
1923.

Mr Hardy.

Dear Sir,

Your letter from Schollar Channel un-dated to hand to day. You are at liberty to give presents to any member of my crew, but it is better you give it personally

Yours truly

Thos. Sinclair

Master.

No 3.

s, s, Sevilla,  
South Shetlands

Shollaert Channel

1st. February 1923.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge upon the 29th. of last month, the receipt of the lists of outfits as supplied by you to the seven negroes on board your ship.

As I am not satisfied that you have supplied these men with a sufficient amount of clothing for their needs during the whaling season. I venture to suggest that I be allowed to make purchases for their comforts from the ships Slop chest

For all such purchases you will receive my signature, and as your firm is not prepared to defray the cost of these goods, I recommend that an account for all articles that I get be made out in the name of the Falklands Islands Govt. to whom in the near future you will have opportunity to submit it. I would add that the medical adviser attached to this ship declines to furnish me with any information respecting wearing apparel and bedclothing suitable for persons working with coal during the whaling season, therefore I am obliged to use my own discretion in this matter.

As I desire to make these purchases with as little delay as possible, may I suggest that you will favour me with an early reply.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy, Whaling Officer.

No Reply.

5f

s.s. Sevilla  
Schollaert Channel  
South Shetlands

2nd. February 1923.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your reply to  
to mine of the 1st. inst, and pending further enquiries  
the matter will now be left in abeyance,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy Whaling Officer.

Captain Sinclair,  
s.s. Sevilla.

.....

s.s. Sevilla, Schollaert Chan.

South Shetlands

31st. January 1923.

11 5

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your further reply  
of to-days date, and to inform you that, you will, no doubt  
be enlightened at a later date as to why you were appealed  
to for advice in the matter under discussion.

I in the meantime, taking into consideration the form  
of your reply, I am, indeed, at a loss to understand why an  
account for £1 : 1 : 0 (one guinea) should be enclosed-  
which under the circumstances appears ludicrous,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy Whaling Officer,

Dr A. C. Lornie  
s.s. Sevilla.

59

s.s. Sevilla

Schollaert Channel

South Shetlands.

5th. February 1923.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that I shall leave the Sevilla this afternoon to take up my stay in the "Southern Queen" I shall not however return to the Sevilla as formerly intended as my further stay on board your ship has been made untenable by the insufferable behaviour of a member of your crew i.e. the doctor. This alteration in my plans is, I would add, in accordance with instructions received from Mr Bennett senior whaling officer.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey Hardy.

Captain Sinclair, s s Sevilla.

6  
6  
31<sup>st</sup>  
30th  
3rd January 1923.

In Reply to yours of to-days date, kindly note that in your first note to me, you asked for my advice as to wearing apparel etc, for men working among coal, in South Shetlands. In my last letter to you, you got my advice, which was, minding your own business, that is my advice and for which I claim a fee of £1 : 1 : 0 (one Guinea)

Albert C. Lornie,

Whaling Officer

3  
30th. January 1923,  
s.s. Sevilla, Shollaert Channel  
South Shetlands

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-days date and desire to inform you that, your fee of £1 : 1 : 0 (one guinea) will be paid on the instant of receiving the information required; I trust that you will be as prompt with your receipt,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
Aubrey Hardy

whaling officer

Dr Ac C. Lornie  
s, s, Sevilla

5i

7

1st Feb  
1st Feb

vi

s.s. Sevilla 30th January 1923.

Sir,

enclosed please find account for professional attendance payment of which in accordance with orders from the owners is to be made to the Captain.

I should be much obliged if you kindly settled the other account I rendered. If not I fear I shall have to report to the Falklands that you are running up debts that with no intention of payment

I am, etc,  
Alber C. Lornie

Whaling Officer Hardy.

s.s. Sevilla  
Scholiaert Channel  
South Shetlands

2nd February 1923.

8

9

Handwritten scribble

Sir,

I shall be glad if you will forward me a detailed account of your alleged professional attendance;

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant

Aubrey Hardy. whaling off.

Dr A.C. Lornie.

VIII

9

9

2<sup>nd</sup> Jan<sup>(sic)</sup> 1922

58

13th and 28th. one guinea each.

Sir,

Enclosed please find detailed account as requested.

As you do not seem to be going to pay my account of one guinea for advice in spite of your written word that you would pay the £1 : 1 : 0 on receipt of advice. I beg to inform you that I am reporting to Stanley by wireless the facts that you have been trying to interfere with my duties and that you refuse to pay legitimate debts

I am, etc,

Albert C. Lornie,

Whaling Officer Hardy,

[This to be typed in despatch]

A. C. Lornie

2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 1922

Mrs Hardy

A. C. Lornie

Dec 18	One professional visit and medicine	£ 1. 1. 0
Dec 28	One professional visit and medicine	£ 1. 1. 0

s.s. "Sevilla"

31st January, 1923

52

Sir,

In reply to your previous communication I do not see what you require the information for. If it is just a piece of idle curiosity on your part it will not affect you much if your curiosity is not satisfied. ~~But~~ <sup>quite</sup> as you are <sup>just</sup> aware, you are a Customs Officer and junior at that <sup>and</sup> it is none of your business what is the amount of wearing apparel required for men working in the coal in South Shetland. You have nothing whatever to do with the health of the ship; that is my duty and bear that in mind I will not have my duties &c. interfered ~~with~~ or inquired into by <sup>any</sup> ~~every~~ Tom, Dick and Harry.

You are supposed to be in the South Shetlands in the interest of the whale and Customs regulations &c., <sup>and even there for me only a junior.</sup> Apart from that you have absolutely nothing to do with men's clothing, food, pay or quarters. You have no authority to ask for the information unless it is as I mentioned before, idle curiosity on your part.

The only circumstances under which I will impart any information is by request from either the Captain, Board of Trade or Board of Health.

I am, &c., &c.,

Albert C. Lornie

Mr. Hardy,  
Customs Officer.

*Corrections in red ink made from original herein  
J.H.M. 11/1/23*



3087

(6)

The main question in the matter of the treatment of the stowaways is whether the supply of clothing was adequate or not: the accommodation does not appear to have been unsatisfactory.

2. The issue of clothing ~~was~~ is not large, but that it was sufficient appears to be proved by the fact that the negroes gave the money which they received from Mr. Hardy to the chief officer instead of buying more clothing and by ~~the~~ their having put away some of the clothing received in order to take it home.

Enclos. 5  
last para.

3. This is in keeping with the statement of Mr. Barlas that the St. Vincent negroes "will not wear the clothes which are issued to them. These they invariably put away and instead wear their own rags."

Enclos. 2.

My recollection of the Cape Kaffirs working in South Georgia is that they wore surprisingly meagre attire, I think only a shirt or vest, and a two piece suit of overalls.

4. Having regard to these points I cannot consider that there are grounds for action against Captain Sinclair for his treatment of the negroes, especially since the Magistrate, South Georgia, is clear on the point that the men  
Enclos. 4 para. 3. fully understood the terms on which they were placed on board Sevilla

5. I would further beg to state that the complaints  
against

against Captain Sinclair with reference to his treatment of the stowaways were in no way responsible for my suggestion that he should not return to South Shetland. This suggestion was based on his general contumacious attitude towards Government control, on the unreliability of his whaling returns, and on the unnecessarily unclean condition in which he keeps his ship.

*J. E. Hamilton*

(J.E.Hamilton.)

Magistrate, South Shetland.

20/8/23.

M.P.317/23  
Enclos.5  
para.7.

7

ISLANDS.  
117.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
STANLEY,  
22nd August, 1923.

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to inform Your Grace that further information has now been received on the subject of the alleged ill-treatment of negro stowaways on board the s.s. "Sevilla" during the recent South Shetlands Whaling Season. Reference was made to this matter in the Whaling Officer's Report and in my despatch No. 90 of the 5th of July.

2. The following documents are enclosed :

- I. Report from Whaling Officer dated 15th February.
- II. Extract from Governor's Minute dated 18th April.
- III. Letter from Magistrate, South Georgia, dated 17th April.
- IV. Letter from Magistrate, South Georgia, dated 2nd May.
- V. Minute from Magistrate, South Shetlands, dated 20th August.

3. There appears to be no doubt that the master of the s.s. "Sevilla" was quite justified in resenting the interference of the Assistant Whaling Officer in the treatment of the men on board his ship. Mr. Hardy undoubtedly acted from humane motives; he was greatly distressed at the condition

BY GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE,

in/

P.C., K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

in which he found the stowaways. I quote three paragraphs from his report, which in the main throws no further light on the matter :

"I have had no experience with negroes and their alleged cunningness but, I am thoroughly convinced that these poor unfortunate beings were speaking the truth when, they complained of having no clothes, when, without any undue ostentation they appealed once again to me for clothing, I felt sick with anger and saw with regret that I stood helplessly by, while, what appeared to me as being glaring and irrefutable acts of slavery went on, yes, went on in British territory on a British ship belonging to half-hearted British firm."

"I had had the list of the scanty supply he had given them, and wondered what they could stow away, and, if what he said was true concerning their arrival on board, was it unreasonable, when, after two months continual work with coal they came to him for more. If he thought clothes were being hidden how long would it have taken to find out, and, if none were found (considering the cheap labour) why not risk giving them the benefit of the doubt and give them a fresh supply stating at the same time how long it must last."

"In reflecting now on the whole matter I feel that I shall probably incur displeasure in exceeding my duty, for after all my appointment was simply as a whaling and customs officer. I can only say that I interfered as a last resource on learning that the Captain had no intentions of clothing these men in anything like a reasonable manner. It was probably indiscreet to go to their quarters without an officer of the ship, but, in the first place I told the Captain I would do so and in the second I stood by the second mate before going there, therefore making no secret of my whereabouts."

From the last paragraph it is clear that he realized too late that he had no status in the matter and that he should have been contented with reporting his suspicions to the Whaling Officer, who was a Justice of the Peace, on the first opportunity. Mr. Hardy's action resulted in so much unpleasantness that he had to be removed to another vessel. He carried out

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his duties for the remainder of the season without friction.

4. The report written by Mr. Bennett at Deception Island shows the view taken by him at the time. He was personally satisfied that the clothing issued and the accommodation were insufficient. Allowance will doubtless be made for the strength of his remarks written at Deception Island in the midst of mental and physical discomforts.

Mr. Hamilton observes in the course of a minute "the tendency of the conditions is towards "depression and it follows that the general mental "atmosphere during a bad season which in itself "tends in the same direction, will accentuate the "normal effects." Mr. Bennett is, as Your Grace is aware, a conscientious and reliable officer, in whom the Government has confidence.

5. For the 1923-1924 whaling season, I propose to send Mr. Hamilton as Whaling Officer with the South Shetlands Fleet, and Mr. Riches, a Customs Officer with previous experience with the whalers, as Assistant Whaling Officer. The Governor would have carried out this arrangement last year, had Mr. Hamilton's duties in connection with the fur seal investigations permitted. Mr. Bennett has suffered in health through two successive seasons in the South Shetlands, although he was apparently fit at the time of his appointment.

6. The reports with reference to the

stowaways/

stowaways throws an interesting light on conditions  
in St. Vincent.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most obedient,

humble servant,

H. Henniker-Heaton.