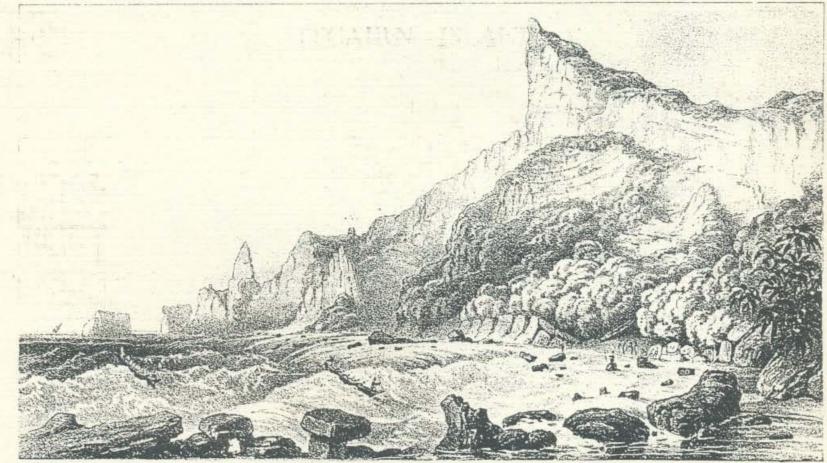




The Barque AMERICA was a whaler out of Bristol, R.I. and first appeared off Pitcairn Island in 1841. One can only guess as to who Thusting and Parker were and why the former was not wanted on shore. He might have been a member of the AMERICA's crew who displeased the Islanders on the voyage to Elizabeth Island.

Elizabeth Island was named for the ship ELIZABETH which had visited the Island.Later the name was changed to Henderson Island after the captain of the ship HERCULES which had made the discovery in 1819.

Previous to 1920, an Austrian wood-carver, by the name of Laeffler, came to Pitcairn and taught the art of carving flying fish, turtles, birds &c to be sold to passing ships. The sale from the carvings and woven baskets, along with postage stamps, accounts for most of the public revenue generated on the Island. The carved objects are made from Miro wood, which is found on Henderson Island, a durable red wood similar to cedar. In 1820 the whaler ESSEX was was rammed and sunk by a sperm whale in the mid-Pacific. Two life-boats landed briefly on Henderson and were later picked up off the coast of South America. One of the epics of the sea that resulted in cannibalism and was the inspiration for Melville's MOBY DICK.



Mainer ache 3 Weilungton S. Sorana

From a Drawing by Gye " Breacher

LANDING IN BOUNTY BAY.

Fibrarm Fuday 2 1843 the Ship or to Lizabeth Island, and Let them see The Island and then tome back to this Island, as soon as you think they have Examined it Infficient, They are to Becauit Ing This when you Between they find all of this provision over and back a gain they take the Boat over with them and we must fear one of ours here your Fillent Richand Bl Send my Frunk on Those

PITCAIRN ISLAND 1843 SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

Captain Gilbert Richmond, Barque AMERICA, orders the first mate to take an exploring party of eleven Pitcairn Islanders to Elizabeth Island and back: "Mister Macomber I want you to take the Ship over to Lizabeth Island and Let them see the Island and then come back to this Island, as soon as you think they have Examined it sufficient..." They are to provide their provisions over and back and take their own boat "as we must leave one of ours here/Yours Gilbert Richmond..P.S. Send my Trunk on Shore." The date "Friday 2 1843" is transparently wrong as Friday was on the 3rd making Thursday the 2nd.

The AMERICA sailed for Elizabeth Island on Saturday, March 4th and returned the following Saturday March 11th. The exploring party did not give a favourable report on the Island, which is located about 105 miles N.E.

PITCAIRN ISLAND Mister Maromber Banque Innerion - Jibearing 12 1843 Muster macomber Thusting on board, as the People doe not wont him on chose, Last fundan There want has a monner for bere for bitding that People should hand upon this Island Excepting upon the account of sickness Send Mister farker and any of the Jours & Richmond Do not tet the dearling on Show

"Mister Macomber You will oblige me to keep Mister Thusting on board, as the people doe not want him on shore.Last Sunday there was a manowar here [H.M.S. TALBOT, Capt.Sir T.Thompson, Bart, Mar.5th.] for bidding that People should Land upon this Island excepting upon the account of sickness. Send Mister Parker and any of the Men that you think Proper Yours G Richmond/ Do not let Me see him on shore./GP".

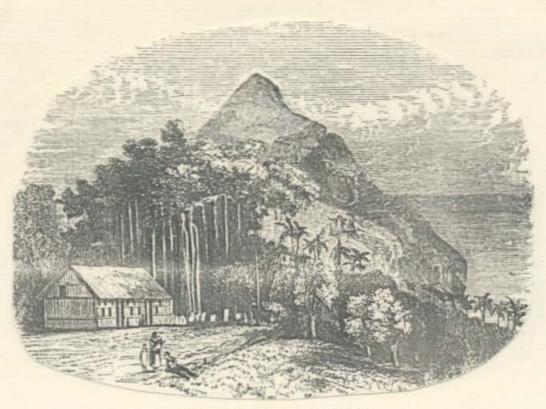
Captain Richard Luce, of the whale ship Margaret Scott of New Bedford, writes a letter in three stages off the coast of Chile and Peru: ".... I am now off the Island of Chiloe* after a long and tedious passage of 128 days - I never had so boisterous a passage in my life - I shall not get to the N.W. coast this season - I hope it will be for the best. I shall cruise for Sperme Oil until the Chili season, which I shall take for Sperm & Whale, from thence to the N.W. coast - Iam in hopes to get 500 lbs of Sperme....I have a good ship as their is in this ocean and first rate officers - All we want is the Fish - I wrote by the ship Elizabeth - sent them by her first officer Mr Avery of Edgartown..... The day after I spoke Capt Marchant in the Barque Cavalier I took a fair wind that carried me around Cape Horn with a gale of wind to my stern with Hail, snow & wind - I was 15 days between Falkland Islands &

....[SEE below for Latitude & Longitude position which would place the ship about 400 miles west of Chiloe. .This was good time for going around the Horn.Captain Bligh, in H.M.S.Bounty, stood off Cape Horn for two weeks, fighting the wind and the sea.He finally gave up and turned eastward around the Cape of Good Hope]....I spoke a French ship - he told me the Valpariso had gone home full - Some of the N.W.fleet have done well....Ship Margaret Scott Lat 43.00 Long 81.00.



May day....Since writing the above I have cut <u>Black</u> <u>Skin</u> [Black fish - Small,black,toothed whales] A whalemans phrase - I have got one 70 lbs S whale - I saved about 50 bls it blowing a gale off the Island of Chiloe - I touched at the Island of Juan Fernandez* - Went on shore found a man very sick with constipation of the bowels - the way I shoved Castor Oil in to him was a caution to old folks - I touched at the Island of St Felix - from there to the coast of Peru.I did not get around in time for the N.W.Coast - I shall touch at Callao soon - I saw Capt Osborn ship Marcas out of Telecahanne - his crew gave him the measels....I shall be quite a Dr. yet...Callao May 11th 1848 - I am now in Callao[Peru] all well - I send this by Ship Taralinta of New York....Richard Luce."

Letter arrive at New York as per postmark NEW YORK SHIP/OCT 11 (1848) 7 cts in red. Four months later Luce was still in the South Pacific off Pitcairns Island. See letter of September 7,1848. *SEE MAP.



CHURCH AND ACHOOL-HOUSE PITCAIRS.

OFF PITCAIRNS ISLAND SEPT. 7, 1848

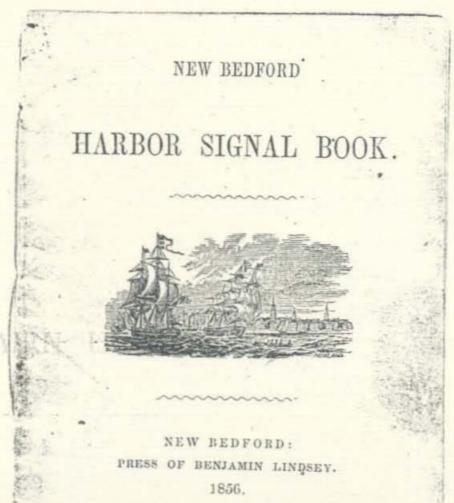
Letter written by Capt.Richard Luce Jr. from the "Ship Margaret Scott At Sea/June 5th A.D., 1848/On the Equator Long 104.00 De. "The following extracts are from the letter: "I have not been very fortunate in getting oil - have not seen any whales - in hopes to soon - I am in hopes I shall do better on Chili [coast of] so as to make up a good amount of oil - A few days ago I fell from aloft accidentely injured me some. I think inwardly, say nothing....I feel...better - the first time that I lost my hold aloft My boats were down - I was in the act of leaving the Mast head to lower my boat - how I lost my hold I cannot tell - I am in hopes to make up 300 of S[Sperm] oil this cruise - I have good officers - all we want is to see the Fish -June 25th 1848."

"Off Pitcerns Island Sept 7 1848 This is the residence of the Mutineers of the Ship Bounty, or their children and grand children - a community of 140 souls, as good and fine a people as ever existed in our age thanks that their is one community that exists free from Slander - They are a fine people virtious to a word - Profanity & Vulgarity is a stranger to them and all kinds of vice. Their Chif Magistrate is chosn yearly by vote - I had the honor of Dining with him. The fair sex are allowed to vote - they talk god English and dress in that style -The Ladies have fine looking features - by the by - cannot compare with the Yankee lasses or at least some of them. I should think from appearances they populate faster than they depopulate. I am now bound to the coast of Chili - I hope [for] 1000 bls. - R L in haste"

Captain Luce doesnot indicate what ship he handed the letter to. It was four months, from the date "off Pitcerns Island", that the letter arrived at HOLMES HOLE, Ms, on JAN 6 and was rated "Ship 6" in red.

The Margaret Scott was one of nine ships listed which touched at Pitcairns Island in 1848. In the log list Lucas is named Captain in error for Luce.

This is the norder of the Mutimer or their children and grande Childera a community of the sents, as grove and firsto a fulle as low opisted Wirting to a course, Profamily & Mulying to a stranges The second of th in the and the second hord - a 4 1 how 10 Anne and a second and a second and a second and a second 1/1000 ire de Sect, My This this magitate is thom Justy by bete I have the hound of Dining with his boards. The fair ster ane allower to vote the latte gad English and anys in that tyle the Valies and fine looking futures by the y cannot romban with the yunker lafes or at leest some of them of should think from appearence they populate fister than the dipopulate I am now bene to the cost of buting it hope I ano but Ro & in herty



SHIP MARGARET SCOTT

is listed as a bark with designation

number 2645 in this HARBOR SIGNAL BOOK.

According to the

Scott was one of nine ships to call

See Captain Richard Luce Jr, letter of

from Pitcairn Island.

September 7,1848

in 1848.

log, kept by the Islanders, Margaret

SIGNAL BOOK.

Designating Numbers to Merchants' 'Private Signals.

NEW BEDFORD.

- 1212 Gideon Allen & Son. 1213 Charles Almy. 1212 Onton Almy.
 1213 Charles Almy.
 1214 Philip Anthony.
 1215 Abraham Ashley, 2d.
 1216 Abraham Barker.
 1221 George F. Barker.
 1223 Jonathan Bourne, Jr.
 1224 I. H. Bartlett & Sons.
 1225 James Beetle.
 1226 William O. Brownell.
 1281 Chapman & Bonney.
 1232 Cook & Snow.
 1233 O. & G. O. Ciocker.
 1233 Rodney French.
 1236 Alexander Gibbs. 1235 Rodney French.
 1236 Alexander Gibbs.
 1241 Robert Gibbs.
 1242 William Gifford.
 1243 David R. Greene & Co.
 1244 Lawrence Grinnell.
 1245 I. Howland, Jr., & Co.
 1246 William Penn Howland.

Pitcairn Island Letter of 1849 Discovered

A four page letter, complete with envelope, written from Pitcairn Island in 1849 by the granddaughter of one of the "Bounty" mutineers has come to light in America. This predates by 24 years the previous earliest known surviving letter from Pitcairn Island.

The letter was written on August 6th, 1949 by Jemima Young and was addressed to The Honorable Arthur A. Cochrane, care of the manager of Coutts (an English Bank) of 59 Strand London. The envelope carries the manuscript notation "From Pitcairn's Island". The address and this inscription are all in Miss Young's handwriting.

In a different and bolder handwriting between the address lines, which have been crossed out, are the words, C/- H.M.S. Wellesley, indicating that the Honorable · Arthur Cochrane served in the Royal Navy. The letter was probably re-addressed when it arrived at Coutts Bank in London.

The letter almost certainly left Pitcairn on the H.M.S. Daphne which departed the island on August 12, 1849 as this was the only ship which called at Pitcairn in the latter part of 1849. H.M.S. Daphne, commanded by Captain Fanshawe, arrived at Pitcairn from Valparaiso on August 11, 1849, bringing to the Island the first cow and bull and some rabbits. The ship departed the following day.

"Stamp News" has not been able to trace the addressee of the letter, the Honorable Arthur A. Cochrane as his name is not



An engraving of George & Hannah Young, parents of Jemima Young. This engraving was based on a sketch by Lieutenant Smith who visited the island in 1825 on board H.M.S. Blossom (commanded by Admiral Beechey). The child in the arms of Mrs Young is probably Polly Young. Jemima Young was not born until 1828 — three years after this sketch was made. recorded in the Pitcairn Log kept by the islanders, nor is he mentioned in any of the early books on Pitcairn. Since all visitors who stayed on the island for any period at that time were recorded it is likely that Cochrane was a crew member of a ship which briefly visited Pitcairn. Miss Young in her letter refers to his having left "two years ago". Although 16 ships of various sizes visited Pitcairn in 1847 only one was a British Navy vessel, the H.M.S. Spy under the command of Captain Woodbridge who is mentioned in the letter. The Pitcairn Log states that the H.M.S. Spy remained only the one day at Pitcairn (February 26th) arriving in the morning and sailing at sunset. The ship's doctor (Dr Bowden) rendered aid to Reuben Nobbs who had been seriously injured in a fall the previous week.

If Arthur A. Cochrane was on board the H.M.S. Spy he certainly appears to have made a strong impression on Miss Young who was then 19, in a short space of time.

In all the reference books on Pitcairn in the "Stamp News" library we noted only one reference to the name of Cochrane. That was in the list of subscribers to "Pitcairn's Island and the Islanders in 1850" by Walter Brodie, published by Whittaker and Co of London in 1851, where Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane of 33 Belgrave Street, London is listed as a subscriber for one copy. Perhaps the Admiral was a relative (Father? Uncle?) of the Honorable Arthur A. Cochrane to whom Miss Young's letter was addressed. This would be an interesting line of research for some Pitcairn enthusiast based in London.

Very little is recorded about Jemima Young, other than she was born on October 1st, 1828, the daughter of George Young and his wife Hannah (nee Hannah Adams). George Young, who was born in the period 1794/5, was the son of one of the original "Bounty" mutineers, John Young. He died in 1831. Hannah Young (nee Adams) was born in 1800.

George and Hannah Young had a large family (as was the custom on Pitcairn in those days) and their progeny included Simon Young (born 1823) who later became the spiritual leader and teacher of the community after the return of several families to Pitcairn from Norfolk Island in 1859. Simon Young (Jemima Young's older brother) is depicted on the 3d value of the 1961 Pitcairn Island Return to Pitcairn series.

Jemima Young's letter (which is reproduced elsewhere) is an extraordinary document giving a vivid picture of life on Pitcairn and the thinking of the islanders in the period. The letter comprises three pages of news and greetings and a

The letter comprises three pages of news and greetings and a fourth page setting out a three verse Poem composed by Miss Young with the first letters forming an acrostic of the recipient's name — ARTHUR COCHRANE.

One interesting point about the letter is that it was written on English engraved stationery from Bath, evidently a gift at some time to the islanders from someone in Bath.

The letter pre-dates by 24 years the previous known earliest surviving letter from Pitcairn. This too was written by a member of the Young family, Benjamin Stanley Young, though whether he was a brother of Jemima Young is not clear from the sketchy Pitcairn Log records since there were several Young families on the island. Benjamin Stanley Young wrote his letter from Pitcairn Island on October 6, 1873 to a former shipmate, Frederick Vincent. This letter is reproduced in full in "The Pitcairn Islands Stamp Catalogue" (pages 11/12).

Jemima Young's historic letter is now housed in the Risvold Collection of Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S.A. to whom we are indebted for photos on which this story has been based. The photography of the cover and letter was carried out hy Professional Colour Service Inc of Minneapolis.

This is the envelope which bore Jemimina Young's 1849 letter from Pitcairn to London. The letter was addressed to the Honorable Arthur A. Cochrane c/s of Coutts (a London Bank). In London the address was erased and the letter was readdressed to Cochrane c/-H.M.S. Wellesley.

Dear and Honourable Sir

How the arthur I echianic have Alterisais

Jemima Young's Letter

Reproduced here is the letter written by Miss Jemima Young from Pitcairn on August 6, 1849, complete with acrostic poem. The letter contained a number of spelling and grammatical errors but we have reproduced these "as is". It is reproduced in its entirety except for one or two words which could not be deciphered.

Pitcairns Island August 6th 1849

As you have requested me to give you an account of my welfare and, of what was going on on the Island, so in com-pliance with your wishes. I have taken this opportunity to set down and pen these lines, thinking it the greatest pleasure if I can do anything in my power to please you. it was now two years ago since you left us, and although far away from me, still your are as fresh to me in memory glafs as the day when you was with us, how happy would I be to see you once more treading the soil of our dear little Isle. I can afsure dear Sir, that the kindnefs which you have shown me during your short stay among us, gives me the greatest satisfaction, and it had been our conver-sations for many a days. I have also receive the two books and the pair of gloves which you had so kindly sent on shore. Cap't Worth on board of HMS Calypso had brought us the joylul news of your safe arrival at Valparaiso, and the letter that Mr Wooldridge had so kindly sent by Cap't Worth was heartily received by us, and publictaly read in the school house in the hearing of the pitcairn Islanders, we had been invited on board of two HMsS, the Calypso and the pandora, and the treatment which we received from them whilst staying on board is more than I can express, their kindness is too much for utterance. have also sent you two letters by Mr Mc.leod, hoping that it will find you in good health and happinefs, is what I sincerely desire. since you left us we have had twelve births three marriages and one death which had happened one year ago, we have been afflicted with the Influenza from which we are not quite recovered yet, we have had a very foul weather, in the first of August, which had proved very disagreable to

in the first of August, which had proved very disagreable to us, the heavens were black with clouds and rain, and for the first time we have had hail for the last seventeen years, the wind was in its highest degree when a little schooner was seen a long way off, pointing towards the shore, the tempest was beating most piteously upon it, and it was so rugged that it was impofsible for a boat to float; but when it was toward evening the wind became quite moderate and our men went and took a whale boat and go on board, they and a boat from the 1 schooner returned on shore, they had hardly been on shore for about to hours, when the wind arose and blow the schooner out of sight the Cap't is now with us waiting most patiently for her return, and now 1 think it is almost time for me to conclude., and although we are seperated from each other by letter, and as it was not pofsible that we should see each other again in this world, still I hope that we should meet again in that bright world above where all who believe in Jesus will meet to part no more, give my best respects to your family and friends and to all your relations; and may God Almighty blefs, save and protect you all. My dear mother, brothers, and sisters sends you their of best respects, praying that God who seeth the hearts of all will lead you through all your trials . . . till you arrive on the blefsful shore of eternity — and may the same Lord which ruleth over all preserve us through the seas and storms of life, till we are brough to the haven of safety, where all our sorrows shall be buried in the praises of him who suffered that we might live unto him, with many wishes for your present and future happinefs, humbly parying that we may meet again in heaven where we shall see, admire, and celebrate the goodnefs of God and sing his praises for ever, Farewell, and believe me to be

Joy peace and gladnefs here below Attends your steps where'er you go May God his choicest blefsings send Ere you depart this world of sin Such is my prayer for you my friend Your ever sincere Friend and well-wisher Jemima Young

the number of the inhabitants are one hundred and fiftyone seventysix males and 75 females please to excuse all imperfections

An Acrostic on your name

Above in heaven where Jesus reigns Regenerate souls alone can go The blood of goats — and bullock stain How feebly they the way did show Unborn from sin we lie in wo Redeem'd by Christ to heaven we go

Christ and his love shall be our song On Caanan's shore when we arrive Christ and his grace employ our tongue His pardning love and righteousnefs

Redeem'd by him we'll blefs his name And sing his pleading love Nor cease to praise for from the flame Eternally he sav-d our soul

J Young

Dear and Honeurable Sir

To you have suguested me to just you an account of my welfare and of what was going on in the baland, is in compliance with your withes I have taken this opportunity to set down and pen these lines, thenking it the greatest pleasure if I can do any thing in any power to place you . it was now two fears ago prices you let us, and attrough far away from mit, still your are so fresh to me the memory glafs a the day when you was with the have see happy would I be to see you once more treading the soil of our dear little ble. I can afour dear dir, that the kindings which you have shown and during your short tay among in gives me the greatest patientation, and it had been our proversation - for many A days. I have also receive the two books and the pair of gloves which you say had as durdy out on shore. Git & Weith a bear i of tomas Colypso and brought withe Jog fut near y grow says ancient at balfiraises and the letter that the Wooddidge was so hindly out by Capit Worth we beautite miner by de and publichty her in the siche of house in the hearing of the peteringhole day a we had been invited in board of the Atment the folying and the mondard, and the treatment which we sourced of com them intertained aging so board warmente The Lass synchro thrived induspende too inuch for atterance. I have also pour you two letters by the As dead, hinning that it of will first you in good fracted and happyingle, is what I sindicity deater which had papyoned one gear age . we been applied with the Influence from which the are not quite recovered get . we have had a very fout wrather

Pleasing Island

pluguat 6 1849

An acrostic on your name

Above in heaven where Jesus juigns Regenerate sculs about can go The block of goats and bullock stain How feely they the way did show Unboin from sin we the in wo Reducend by Christ to heaven wigo

Christ and his love shall be our song On Cadrian's hore when we arrive Christ and his grace employ our tongue His pardning love and nighteousness

Redected by him we'll bly his mane And sing his pleading dove Not cease to praiseforfrom the flame Eternally he pased our poul

young

The Pitcairn Visitor Who **Became An Admiral**

By The Editor

As a direct result of an article which appeared in "Stamp News" earlier this year, it has been established that the recipient of the earliest known surviving Pitcairn Island letter (written in 1849) was an English sailor who later became an Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of the British Pacific Fleet.

He was Admiral the Honourable Sir Arthur Cochrane KCB who was the third son of Admiral Thomas Cochrane who played a leading role in helping the Chileans, the Peruvians and the Brazilians obtain their independence.

Arthur Cochrane was only 23 (and probably a lieutenant) when his ship HMS Spy visited Pitcairn Island briefly in 1847. He there met Miss Jemima Young, who was then aged 19. On August 6, 1849 Miss Young wrote a long four-page letter

to Arthur Cochrane and this letter almost certainly left Pitcairn on the HMS Daphne which departed from the island on August 12, 1849. The envelope containing the letter was addressed to "The Hon-ble Arthur A Cochrane, to the care of mgr Coutts, 59 Strand, London". On arrival in London Coutts Bank re-addressed it c/-HMS Wellesley.

Both the envelope and the letter have survived and are now in the Risvold Collection in Minneapolis, USA. The founder of the collection, Mr Floyd Risvold purchased the unique letter at a London auction several years ago and contacted me earlier this year after he had purchased a copy of "The Pitcairn Islands Stamp Catalogue" in which I had recorded the then earliest known surviving Pitcairn cover as being dated 1873.

As a result of my correspondence with Mr Risvold, I was able to publish an exclusive story in the March 1978 issue of "Stamp News" giving details of the letter and publishing a full transcript of its contents. This story naturally aroused an enormous amount of

interest amongst Pitcairn specialists. After publication of the "Stamp News" story, the English magazine "Stamp Collecting" sought and obtained permission to reprint the article. When this article appeared it resulted in Mr Alexander Cochrane, of Grange-Over-Sands, Cumbria, England, writing direct to Mr Risvold, giving full biographical details of Arthur A. Cochrane. In his letter Mr Cochrane explained that he was carrying out research into the Earls of Dundonald, a very an-cient and distinguished Scottish family whose name is also Cochrane. Mr Cochrane said the existence of the letter came to his notice in a very odd way as follows:

"a. In its issue of March, 1978, the Australian monthly philatelic journal, "Stamp News", contained a reproduction of the



letter and an article about it, in which the question of the identity of

the 'Hon. Arthur A. Cochrane' was raised. "b. In its issue of June 1, 1978, the British philatelic periodical, "Stamp Collecting", with the permission of the Australian editor, reproduced the article and the letter.

"c. The British paper was read by a philatelist who was also a friend of the Hon. Vere Cochrane, brother of Lord Cochrane of Cults, and a second cousin of Major Iain Cochrane, the present (and 14th) Earl of Dundonald.

"d. The philatelist sent a photo-stat copy of the letter and the article to his friend, the Hon. Vere Cochrane, at Cults, in Fife, Scotland.

"e. Only a matter of days before this happened I had been up in Scotland and had been discussing my researches with the Hon. Vere, who was therefore au fait with what I am doing. With my visit doubtless still fresh in his mind, he, in turn, sent on the photo-stat copy of the article and letter to me here in Grange, Cumbria, asking if I could identify the Cochrane who visited Pitcairn Island in 1847, and this I have been able to do."

Lord Cochrane

Mr Cochrane said in his letter to Mr Risvold, that Miss Young's letter was naturally of great interest to him, especially the Acrostic with which she concluded it. Mr Cochrane then added this comment: "From my researches into the family history, the 'Hon. Arthur A. Cochrane' to whom Miss Young's letter is addressed is clearly identified as being — as he later became — Admiral the Honourable Sir Arthur Auckland Leopold Pedro Cochrane, KCB. He was the third son of Admiral Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald, GCB who, before succeeding to the title, achieved fame as Lord Cochrane, the frigate captain who later helped the Chileans, the Peruvians and the Brazilians to achieve independence."

Mr Cochrane appended a genealogical chart of the Cochrane family which is too complicated to reprint here, but we do append below some biographical details of the recipient of the 1849 Pitcairn letter: Admiral the Honourable Sir Arthur Auckland Leopold Pedro Cochrane, KCB.

Born 24/9/1824 - third son of Admiral Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald, GCB.

4/1839 age 14 Midshipman in the Royal Navy. /1847 age 23 (as Lieutenant?) visited Pitcairn Island. (See

Jemima Young's letter of 6/8/1849). /1854, age 30, as Commander took part in the siege of Bomarsund in the Baltic.

/1854, age 30, Captain of HMS "Niger". 1/6/1857, age 33, took part in, and was wounded at, the Battle of Fatsun Creek in China during the 2nd Opium War. 1863, age 39, Captain of HMS "Warrior", the first iron

battleship.

· 1873-76, 49-52, Admiral and Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet.

Died 20/8/1905, age 81.

When Mr Risvold replied to Mr Cochrane's letter, he made this comment: "It seems strange that this letter appeared in London, came to Minnesota, entered the public domain in Australia, and then picked up by news media in London and now your letter to me in Minneapolis. It seems that Jemima's letter was destined to be preserved in history."



Piteairns Jaland March 25-1850 Dear friend But a few days has papered since you left we, and you are now far far away from us, so far that although I have but very lettle to write, get I cannot allow so for our able an opportunity to pape by, without writing to you Friendship you know can never be loquational hope therefore you will write to me by the earliest opportunity " you see I have not forgetten you, and you may rest afsured that I will not forget you soon I hope you and your dear husband will prosper wherever you go, and wherever you beggow will always have my best wishes, and sincere durine for your happines and I hope the bleping of heaven will ever rest upon you and yours. I am glad to have it in my power to inform you that we are all alive and well, but it is painful to think that while we are no our dear friends may now be weighed down by either sichness or sorrow. Providence however ordereth all things for the best. Toits care therefore I resign you. Hoping if we may never meet in This world, we may meet in that better one above, my dear mather and sisters sends you their love give our united loves to your dear hearband, haping to hear from

barolins - Adamy

in the fite ain deland 1 man gthe 1836 My Dear har Carnell manges and have push second your very kinds to considerate litter of the 1st of have 100 accure you I was delighted with it I cannot at first even quees who would be at the trouble of writing to me from Engle before reading the letter I looked it the Liquatice, & Theedby hardly tell you which they peelings were when I found it came from you. This was the first betime Atom had of your where about, since you a left the although I have made many Angueries concorning questiff & family Shand with ren several letters to that Howelle Coan tage taligouned, and enque after of whenciech, I had fortunate enough to weet any one acquainded in Uneter th the becauty, but all to no purpose, to I finally Concluded, that you much have fablein & kutim to the many fatal descared in California . 7 which we have heard wich derable accounts,

Pitcairns Island

April 9th 1856

My Dear Mrs Parnell,

I have just received you very kind & considerate letter of the lst March 1855. I assure you I was delighted with it I cannot at first even guess who would be at the trouble of writing to me from England before reading the letter I looked at the signature, & needly hardly tell you what my feelings were when I found it came from you. This was the first intimation I had of your <u>where abouts</u>, since you left us although I had made many enquiries concerning yourself & family I have written several letters to that "Horrible Country" California, and enquired after you whenever, I was fortunate enough to meet anyone acquainted in Exeter & its vicinity, but all to no purpose, so I finally concluded, that you must have fallen a victim to the many fatal diseases in California & of which we have heard such terrible accounts.

I find by your address that you are living near (I hope very near) a dear friend of mime The Rev'd Wm H. Holman a chaplain in the navy, he has resided with me nine months (during the time Mr Nobbs was in England) & you must endeavour to become acquainted with him as he is a very nice person, & I am sure he would be delighted to find one who is acquainted with our little Island & its inhabitants. His parents are living in Teignmouth. I hope you are living happily & enjoying a full share of the blessings which Providence bestows in this life. I hear or rather we have heard, that we are to be removed to Norfolk Island, in August or September next. I do think that many of us would hardly survive a removal from here, being born & brought up upon the Island, consequently, everything we hold dear is connected with it.

You must endeavour to keep up the correspondence, between us & write as often as possible & I promise to do the same, you had better address your letters to Norfolk Island, via, Sydney

My deal husband sends you his kind love & please to offer our kindest regards to Mr. Parnell & say we expect a line or two from him

You must always remember us in your supplications to the throne of grace, for we need your prayers, oh! my deal Celia, what is more gratifying, than to think that although so many thousands of miles apart our entreaties, to the throne of the Great Eternal ascend together as one.

With sincerest wish for your present & future happiness, believe me to be ever you

Affectionate friend

Caroline Adams

Mrs Celia Parnell)

P.S. In my anxiety to write I have quite forgotten to say that we still have the liveliest recollections of you & the rest of the passengers on borad of the schooner "Rose" where is Mr Mullen? he is a great friend of my husband & we have not heard of him since his visit, we are all well thank God

Pitcairns Island April 20th 1850

Kind Friend

As I may never have such an opportunity again of writing to you I have embraced this with pleasure - but although seperated by the vast and mighty ocean I can never forget you - and I hope you will not be offended when I ask for the same from you

Our little community was lately thrown into great agitation by the conduct of the Captain of an English Barque which arrived hear on the 24th of last month from Auckland having on board six passengers for California it was on Sunday morning that the vessel hove in sight - as soon as we could make her out to be a merchantman we put off in one of our boats to see what is wanted by the Captain having learned the Captain wants water only and that he intends to sail on the same day his vessel being very leaky - we of course thought it would be a work of necessity to help and get it for him. he while we were getting his water, landed in one of his boats bringing with him three of his passengers beside himself and the super cargo when our boat came round to the settlement they brought two other passengers - making in all 5 beside the Captain and Supercargo towards evening he told the passengers that they may remain on shore all night, as he intends to stop another day, and that in the following morning, he will come back and take off some things which he had ordered, and our boats will take off the passengers at the same time - he accordingly took one of (?) and went on board - the next day the wind blew pretty fierce with rain, which continued for two days the fourth day after (Wednesday) - she was seen, to the leeward of the islands, about 30 miles off. Thursday she passed by the island with a fair wind to come and take off her passengers, if the Captain was so minded but she passed by and was never seen or heard of after, leaving with us five passengers - two of which have been fortunate to get of lately in the bark "Colonist"

One of which has kindly undertaken to teach us, music, and I am happy in telling you that he has succeeded much to his satisfaction and our own - this and the birth of a child to day - a boy is the only news I have to impart - and now kind friend I bid you a kind farewell, praying that God Almighty may bless you and yours

> I remain your Ever affectionate friend and wellwisher

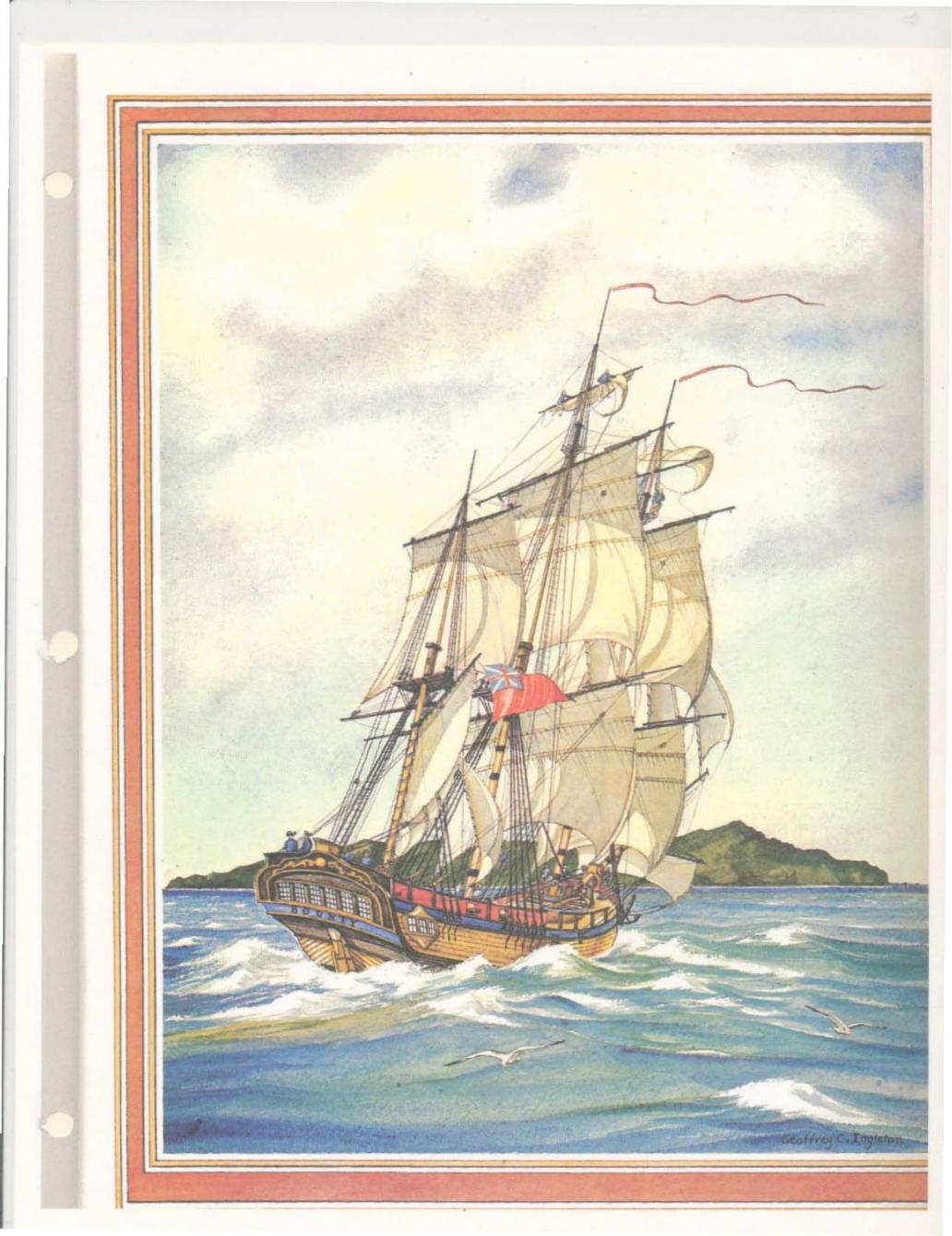
> > Caroline Adams

Miss C. J. Parnell) California)

Give my best love to your husband Likewise to Mr Geo Mullen My husband sends you all his kind regards.

PITCAIRN ISLAND barolins - Adamy

Titeains Islance April 20 - 1850 Hind Friend As I may never have such an opportunity again of writing to you I have embraced this with pleasure - but although seperated by the wast and mighty ocean I can never for get, you - and I hope you will not be offended when I ask for the same from you Our little somewhiley was lately thrown, call quat agostation by the conduct of the laftain of an English Bargue which mend here on the 24 - of dast month from Auchland having on board. six papengers - for lalipsinices Stwarma Sunkay morning that the reput hove in sight = as soon as we could make her out to be a merchantman we put off in one of our boats - to done see what is wanted by the laptain. having learned that the laptain wants water only and that he intendes to sail in the same day this refuel being very leaky - we of course though it would be a work of hereforty to help and get



56 LINN'S STAMP NEWS APRIL 16, 1984

Earliest known Pitcairn Island letter tells of long voyage in search of whales

By Donna O'Keele The earliest known letter from Pitcairn Island has been discovered by Floyd E. Risvold and is in the Risvold collection in Minneapolis.

The letter is dated 1848 and was written in two stages by Capt. Richard Luce of the whaling ship Margaret Scott (Figure 1).

The first part is headed "June 25 A.D. 1848/On the Equator 104.00W." The contents tell of the loneliness and rigors of the long voyage in search for whales.

Capt. Luce writes, "It is now 7 long months since I left Bedford with a heavy heart. I have not heard one word since ... I have not been fortunate in getting oil, have not seen any whales ...

"A few days ago I fell from aloft accidentely injured me some . . . the first time that ever I lost my hold aloft."

The second part is headed "Off Pitcairn Island Sept 7 1848."

The captain writes, "This is the residence of the mutineers of the Ship Bounty, or their children and grande children, a community of 140 souls, as ever existed

chosen yearly by vote. I had the honour of dining with his honour."

He says, "The fair sex are al- Wellesley." lowed to vote."

pulate." (Population in 1983 She was 19,and he was 23. was only 45.)

Figure 1. This is the earliest known letter from Pitcairn Island. It is dated 1848 and was written by Capt. Richard Luce of the whaling ship Margaret Scott.

written from Pitcairn Island on Aug. 6, 1849 (Figure 2).

The letter was written by good and pious a people as Jemima Young to "The Hon" ble Arthur A. Cochrane/to the "Their Chief Magistrate is care of mgr Coutts/59 Strand/London."

Upon its arrival in London, it wo was readdressed "C° HMS

It is believed Jemima Young He also observes that "they met Arthur Cochrane when his populate faster than they depo- ship visited Pitcairn in 1847.

Cochrane's ship, HMS Spy,

20

"The blood of goats - and lecting. bullock stain

"How feebly they the way did show

"Redeem'd by Christ to

heaven we go

our song

arrive

"Regenerate souls alone can reprinted in the June 1978 British publication, Stamp Col-

It was read by a philatelist, who also was a friend of Vere Cochrane, brother of Lord Co-"Unborn from sin we lie in chrane of Cults, and a second cousin of Maj. Iain Cochrane, the present earl of Dundonald. The philatelist sent a copy of "Christ and his love shall be the article to Vere Cochrane.

Alexander Cochrane of "On Canan's shore when we Grange-Over-Sands, Cumbria, England, who was involved in "Christ and his grace employ research into the earls of Dun-

The How the arthan de. Essen felore in

Figure 2. This early Pitcairn Island cover was sent in 1849 by Jemima Young to Arthur Cochrane, whose ship, HMS Spy, was docked at the island for a short time. The letter was sent in 1849.

his letter was forwarded to Risvold.

He stated in his letter:

the family history, the 'Hon Arthur A: Cochrane' to whom Miss Young's letter is addressed is clearly identified as their/voyage to California." being - as he later became -Admiral the Honourable Sir Arthur Auckland Leopold Pedro Cochrane, K.C.B.

"He was the third son of Admiral Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald, G.C.B. who, before succeeding to the title, achieved fame as Lord Cochrane, the frigate captain who later helped the Chileans, the Peruvians and the Brazilians to achieve independence." (Lord Thomas Cochrane is pictured on Peru Scott 226.)

Another letter from Alexander Cochrane to Floyd Risvold confirms that Arthur Cochrane visited Pitcairn Island in 1847

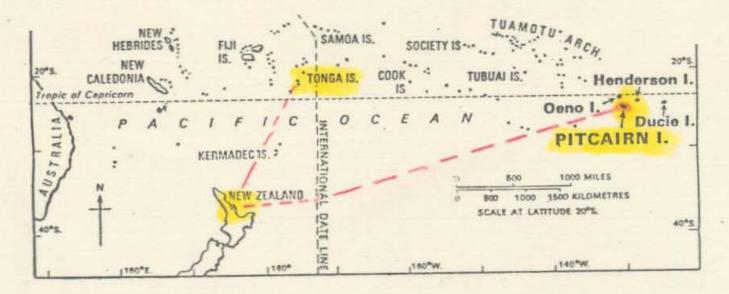
brary in Minneapolis where Adams by Capt. Frederick Chamier R.N., published in New York in 1853.

The book bears a manu-"From my researches into script dedication by Caroline Adams to "John & Celia Parnell/who visited Pitcairn Island/March 1850 on

Three original letters were found at the back of the book addressed to Celia Parnell. They probably were placed in the book by Mrs. Parnell as a memento of their visit.

Two are from Caroline Adams and one is from Susan Quintall. The letters are dated March 25, 1850, April 20, 1850, and April 9, 1856, and contain insights to the island and its history.

The April 9, 1856 letter from Caroline A'dams is particularly interesting as it was written three weeks before the islanders left Pitcairn to settle on Norfolk Island because the set-



In 1921 the New Zealand government agreed to accept "unstamped" mail,from Pitcairn Island at the regular prepaid rate,with the charges to be collected from the recipient.By 1927 the New Zealand Postal Agency was established on the Island and stamps of that country were put in use. In 1940 the Pitcairn Post Office was established and the first postage stamps were issued. There are more than a dozen types of the "NO STAMPS AVAILABLE" in red, violet,purple and black known.

POSTED AT PITCAIRN ISLAND NO STAMPS AVAILABLE. 1924



Cover shown above was posted from Pitcairn Island in January and arrived at AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND on February 13,1924 as per postmark.It was then forwarded to NUKUALOFA, TONGA in the FRIENDLY ISLANDS, where it arrived on March 17th.It was held in the post office until it was picked up on April 24,1924, as per the postmark on reverse.SEE chart above for location of PITCAIRN, TONGA and AUCKLAND.

Pitoain Island, Sept 19,1926.

Dear Mother Smith -

Thank you very much for your kind ness to me Thanks for The big parcels and especially The cutasol now please excustme for calling you mother fam aure you are a dear loving mother to us all you take too much trouble about us, I mean on family and mpelf. How are

The mother of Floyd McCoy writes to a friend:".... Floyd like to go to New Zealand, if can to study Wirelass(radio), dont know if he will go or not - We are expecting the S.S.Rotorua - the boys just catch the message that she will be in one oclock to night Harriet McCoy." Note on the letter "I send an old letter from Mrs McCoy.She is the great grand daughter of Flecher Christian the mutineer and she married one of the McCoys Mentioned in the book." Mrs.E.B.Smith. Cover was carried by the S.S.Rotorua to New Zealand and thence via the Canal

and thence via the Canal Zone, as per partial strike of the postmark "PAQUEBOT". The "T" in the circle indicates that the postage was collect.

POSTED AT F Mr. E. B. Smith

new York T

338 North Columbus avenue Juckahoe

Peteiun Island South Prayer Green health as my suter & myself had could & couple. many of the people here have bassed here last the motor ship Rangitance passed ma, R. G. Folman Jip, Pennsylvania Dear Su many of an proper have have had beet last the motor ship is in it is in the passed here last New york week without calling. She had 600 passenger + mails from England & America in port Inent rading as we would he next a dis to d with ma mr R. G. Jolman 20 asst Purser by e. S. California me 11 Panama Pacific Line New York unda. Engine is being sent from to build another more 3 of our people returned from " envelopes. expect some season is almost ship our orange season is almost over. letter . but the pine apples are coming in also

mar R G Solman asst Pursy Ritcairn Island I.J. Pennsy vania South Paciful Leby 2nd 1930 New York. on fang 29th per I received your letter & backet Dear di much , was just wantery Pen-nibs , by same mail got copyes of a Vancouver baper sent me as it mentioned about me going on board S. S. Cana + talking write he 28 Canada Ina R.G. Jola Emma & Trip an asst= Purser with her , I.J. Pennsylvania She Jays each othe Panama Parific Line Vancose New York .. e again no Hid. a. meloy a about 2 months before while leaving a frieght boat d. J. Bradavon on a rough day, he was visited by 2 Doctors from Passinger Chips. who advised him never to go in the boats again, to keep quiet as he had a weak heart. he seemed to be recovering when he took the Heart. The seemed that finished them. I ampleased to hear from you at any time, there is g of the standers in Wellington NZ. at present. 4 men 2 Women 3 girls they are all working Jod Bless you .. I remain yours Sincerely Rectand 12 10.







RICHARD BENTLEY FAIRCLOUGH standing "outside the porch of Gordon Christian's house where I live"on Pitcairn Island. Richard had been given a permit to move to Pitcairn from England. He arrived about the first of July 1927 and spent the rest of his life on Pitcairn where he died and is buried. The letter on the opposite page is the last of five that he wrote to Robert G. Tolman. They give an excellent description of life on the island .. This letter tells of 2 men who were "landed here from S.S.Corinthie. They had been on board seeing friends off for England" and the boat sailed with them on board. The ship let them off at Pitcairn to catch the S.S.Mataror due in 2 days, but failed to stop. They had to stay about a month for the S.S.Lainue to take them back to New Zealand. Postmarked at Pitcairn June 4, arriving at CRISTOBAL, C.Z. JUN 17 830 AM PAQUETBOT 1930. It arrived at NEW YORK June 23rd.

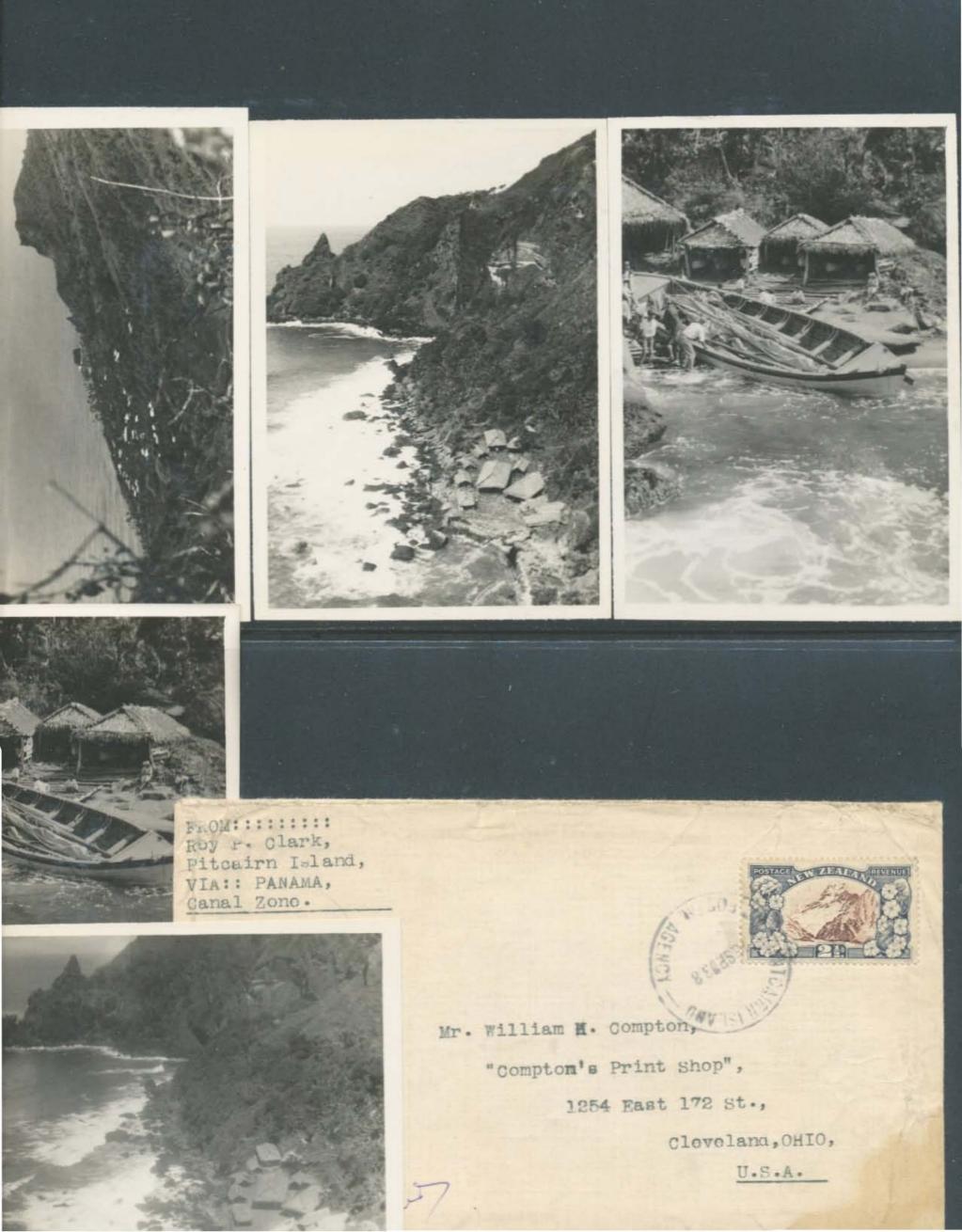
JUN 17 Im R.G. Mennan Kostin Purser S.S. Pennsylvania Panatina Pacific Line New York U.S.a.

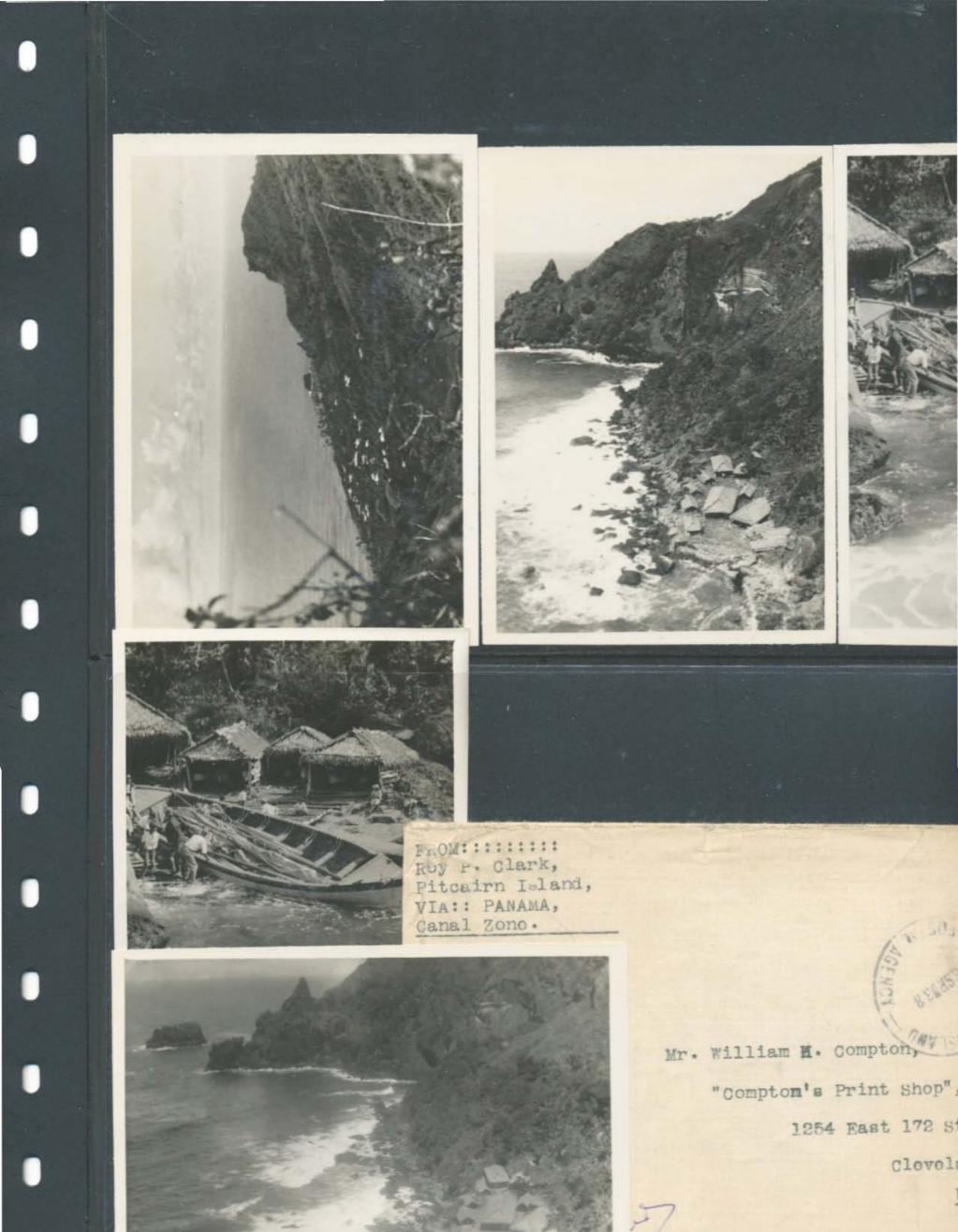
mar R. G Johnan Petcain Island South Pacific Ocean June 2nd/30 Sis Pennsylvania New York. Dear Si from you since I wrote you last thank you very much for them. they were a long while in did not call in they had to come up from New Lealand. we had a letter to day from mas Emma Smith she is on a Cruise to Bermuda. & says she entends to leavell da. for England in June to escape the hot summe in america, about 6 weeks ago 2 men were landed here from I. J. Committic, they had been on board sering some friends off for England & the ship sailed with them on board. they wanted to get back to N.Z. so the Captain arranged with the magistrate to let them land to catch the mataroa due to call in 2 days. but she never called . so the men were here for a month, they leved at magertrates house & were invited out to meals by most of the people on the Island. To it cost them nothing . they had the time of their life time . The J.J. Jamie took them to N.Z. the Purser said he would give them som work to do for their passage, a Pileaux man + gill also left for N.Z. They had to pay passage 210 each. There are 10 Islanders in Wellington N.Z. they have gone down these this last 7 months. I think they had better step at

this Island, we went out early this morning to S.S. Rangetata for mails + to ship oranges for N.Z. the motor boat + 3 Whale boats went out. I went on board selling cocos-nut shells 3 ply wood panels & mother of Pearl shells on which I had painted Venis of Piteaun. we were on our way to the short at sun-rise it was almost dead calm. so different from yesterday there was a gale blowing & heavy sea. I enclose a copy of my photo taken about 8 months ago by an Islander. I am stood outside the porch of Gordon Christian's ponce where I live. my sister is quite well now & wishes to be remembered to you. our Grange season is now on the Pine apples will soon be in . it is not the season yet for allyator Pears. Please dont send any more pens & sencils for the present. I with you every success in your work. may God Bless & protect you. I remain your sincerely Richard B. Fairclough

Pitcairn Island In Robi-le Tolman South Pacific Cean asst Pueser Nov 30th 1928 S. S California Panama Pacific dine N.Y. Dear me Tolman my Cousin hers Emma B. Smith wrote asking me to write to you, she sent your & her son George's Photo, but did not send name or address, so I could not write to you. I have been on Peterian Island 1. year 5 months. my SFEB 2 L 1020 ma Robt. G. Jolman asst, Purser S. d. California Panama. Pacific Line New york. U.S.a. committee for Public Works, in times part there used to be a Parliament of 7 men. both men & women have Votes .. as there is no ordained minister here maining an performed by magistrate after notice is posted up in Public Place. the magistrate & secty act as Postmaster & mailman , the Post office is only

ma R. G. Jolman Petiacen Island South Pacific Guan and Fuere S.S. California march 19 # / 29 New york Dear Lu many thanks for pack E of yeierday. circulars of ships voyages . I am gled m STOBA a APR 5 Wet_ CA HacAM fr HUER, My Jolman a asst. Purserver-I 1980 -O.S. California -10 Ca-Panama, Pacific Line im an ech 2 New york. 0 U.S.a. e 1 his New Navigation . of you could let me know the cost I would be very glad. of course any magequies + papers are always welcome. book myself I serve are well. will be pleased to hear from you at any time. is George Smith still on S.S Californica I close with best wester fremain etc (Dick) Richard B. Fair clough





25º04'S. 331 STRUE LONGITUDE 130°05'W 72 Miles Poser CRHISTIAN iteairm.Izland VISITED BY U.S.S. NORTH STAR DETHE UNITED STATES ANTARCTIC SERVICE esselling ENROUTE TO ANTARCTIC REGIONS Chicago Lijug. 1939 BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION Mr Floyd E Risvold IO O E Risvold & Sons. 4801 Upper Terrace. Edina. Minnesota. 55435 US.A. COUNTRY OF DESTINATION Magple, Mudgee, New South Wales

BILL HORNADGE I Sterling St. Dubbo.NSW. Australia 2830. 22nd J

Dear Floyd,

Yours of 27th June just to hand with photostat of the Byrd cover which I have always regarded as one of the really uniq Pitcairn items - and also one of the hardest to find which is dif to explain as 794 of them were created. They SHOULD be a lot comm than they are and the only explanation I have is that mostof them up in non-philatelic hands andwere either lost or are still among old souveniers awaiting to surface.

I have been chasing one of the darn things for years with success. About three years back thought I had landed one as a U S. dealer tracked one down for me and was negotiating a sale at \$1000 when he up and died rather suddenly and of course I have no idea w the owner was (other than it was a woman related to one of the sai on the North Star). I have heard of or sighted about six conject



BILL HORNADGE I Sterling St. Dubbo.NSW. Australia 2830. 22nd July 86

Dear Floyd,

Yours of 27th June just to hand with photostat of the nice Byrd cover which I have always regarded as one of the really unique Pitcairn items - and also one of the hardest to find which is difficult to explain as 794 of them were created. They SHOULD be a lot commoner than they are and the only explanation I have is that mostof them ended up in non-philatelic hands andwere either lost or are still amongst old souveniers awaiting to surface.

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Gifts of Civilisation.

Mr. Hare and his family took with them many useful gifts for the Pitcairn Islanders. These included a motor engine, d 0 which was fitted into one of the boats, giving it a speed of 10 knots and en-8 abling it a few weeks ago to go miles out to intercept the Norwegian motorship Vestvard, bound to New Zealand. Another very welcome present was 'a wireless receiving and transmitting set, which soon after it had been set up communicated with steamers 100 miles away in daylight. and nearly 200 miles at night. Mr. Hare also took to Pitcairn Island bees, New Zealand flax plants and a number of Norfolk Island pines. He also presented the islanders with the first piano which had been seen there.

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From many points of view, said Mr. Hare, the Pitcairn Islanders are a happy community. They are deeply religious, they neither smoke nor drink alcoholic liquors. In spite of inter-marriage they are a remarkably healthy people and there is very little sickness on the island. "There are no flies or fleas and very few mosquitoes, and there are no blights or pests to spoil their crops. They have a law prohibiting immigration without a written permit from their council and one from the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific as well." The present inhabitants of Pitcairn

Island were not the first to dwell on it. Stone axes and chisels and other imple-ments, stone pillars and figures like those of Easter Island and skeletons with pearl shells placed beneath their heads have been found on Pitcairn. Why the original dwellers disappeared is a mystery like that of Easter Island. Mr. Hare has brought back many beautifully fashioned stone implements and some interesting photographs of rock paintings of human beings, animals, birds and curious designs like wheels.

Returning to the Island,

Mr. Hare stated that he had come back to settle his business affairs and that he and his-family would return to Pitcairn Island in a few months. They had been given the "freedom of the island" and the inhabitants were building a house the inhabitants were building a nouse specially for their accommodation. Mr. Hare said they would probably stay for two years next time and two of his sons were going to act as schoolteachers. "We shall remain there until we get tired of the life." he added the life," he added.

Hospitality of Islanders.

The visitors were received with open arms by the Pitcairn Islanders, who, during the whole of their stay, showed them They visited the greatest hospitality. every home on the island and were accommodated in a comfortable furnished house, which was set apart for their special use.

The population of Pitcairn Island is about 200. The village, called Adamstown, alter John Adams, one of the crew OD Hospitality of Islanders.

"Hines were received with open -ha dur-

MONDAY, OCTOBER

SPECTACULAR SYDNEY FIRE.

AVALANCHE OF HOT BRICKS.

FOUR MEN SUSTAIN INJURIES.

A fire at Paddington, Sydney, re-

EPISODES.

A unique holiday tour was comple last Friday when the Ruahine arrives Wellington from London and South ton, via the Panama Canal and Pit Island. Included among her passe were Mr. and Mrs. A. Hare, of Hutt, and their five sons and little of ter. The family joined the Ruah Pitcairn Island, where they had left by the same ship on her last ward passage.

17/10/28

ZEALAND HERALD.

EXPERIENCE

LIFE ON PITCAIRN.

UNIQUE , HOLIDAY TOUR.

LONELY BUT HAPPY PEOPLI

HUTT FAMILY'S

EW

It is an interesting story that M tells. He was running a motorvice between Wellington and Lov for some time until he sold ou! Railway Department a few mos He then decided to take his f a holiday and Pitcairn Island was Mr. Hare explained, because visited the place 36 years ago was travelling to America in ship, and he had made up h go back there again some da

Mr. Hare booked passages his wife, five sons and one the Ruahine. They left New the beginning of July and Pitcairn Island about nine was a dark night and blowi when the islanders came off n which Mr. and Mrs. H

amily, with all their bagg: inses of goods, including afely landed after a fiv with wind, and sea, of w oats' crews made light.

with ster and near also tool Zenland f folk Islan islanders been seen From Hare, the community they neith liquors.

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Mr.

them n

Islande

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which

giving

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very we

ceiving a

are a reman very lif cently, which destroyed several small There are shops and two factories, and resulted in mosquitoes, pests to spd the injury of two firemen and two other law prohibi men, provided thrilling episodes for the

written per hundreds of people attracted to the spot one from the Hazily, through a veil of smoke, the fire-Western Pa, Hazily, through a ven of smoke, the The prese men could be seen fighting the flames Island were while the walls and the roof collapsed, Stone were Stone axes a and while fusing electric wires writhing ments, stone on the ground further endangered their shalls along lives. shells placed lives. been found of A little boy was saved from a shower

THRILLING

nal dwellers d of white hot bricks, and four firemen were that of Easte of white-not bricks, and tone to beneath brought back seen to fall off a verandah roof beneath stone impleme a cascade of bricks from the tottering photographs o front wall of the premises. The damage beings, animals is estimated at over £10,000. like wheels.

heels. Returnt ous tasks in Mr. Miles' upholstery factory lare stat when someone raised the cry of "Fire!" Mr. Hare stat when someone raised the cry of "Fire!" Mr. Hare stat when someone raised the cry of "Fire!" to settle his bu and Messrs. S. J. Miles, son of the pro-and his family prietor, and W. Stewart, and other em-island in a few ployees ran to the rear of the promises given the "free to find a large heap of fibre blazing the inhabitants fiercely. While one telephoned to the specially for the fire brigade, the others attempted to subspecially for the fire brigade, the others attempted to the Hare said they due the outbreak. They slowly retreated wore going to ac strong wind, swept through the entire fac-shall remain the tory, and then commenced to spread to the life," he add the whole of the building. thud voby enly

Shopkeepers hurriedly left their prem ises, and, so rapidly did the flames enfold the building, that one shopkeeper at least, Mr. Kessel, was unable to save a single thing of value When the fire brigades arrived the building was completely sur-rounded by flames, which threatened to leap the narrow street to the long row of old houses apposite Bacom

munity. Any person wind mand M allotted share of work is fined £1 or pelled to do five days' extra work. Mr his islanders have four large boitts, which are employed in fishing and in going off hIr. Mks. arĩ der nll N 011his 5m d \$

The lich off p

Floyd H. McCoy of Pitcairn Island

"Stamps" Magazine 3/7/64

FLOYD H. McCOY, a direct descendent of William McCoy, one of the *Bounty* mutineers, died in his home on the island on September 15, 1963.

He had been in the American Hospital in Balboa, Canal Zone, from April 21 to July 20, 1963, and underwent two serious operations. The trip from the hospital to the boat was made in an ambulance, a distance of fifty miles. He had to be under sedation at all times, and was made as comfortable as possible in the ship's hospital quarters. His devoted wife, Vi, stayed close by and helped the ship's doctor care for him. After nine days on the open seas, they landed at Pitcairn. Vi's wish was granted that the ocean wouldn't be rough when he was taken in the small boat on the trip to the island. The sea was as calm and placid as a large lake.

Vi sends a message of thanks through STAMPS magazine to all those who made Floyd's last days as happy as possible. He received many get well cards and notes while in the hospital, and those that were received after he left the hospital were forwarded to the island. He was amazed that people who didn't know him would send messages to him just as a result of the item which appeared in STAMPS reporting his illness.

Floyd is very much missed on the island. He was a great leader, and the whole population depended on him for leadership. He was their only navigator who could take men to Henderson Island, a distance of 118 miles, for Miro wood. He was the ham operator who sent out calls for help when a doctor was needed, or to contact friends who sent packages of needed items. He was the Public Relations Officer and the Police Chief. He helped make a landing at Bounty Bay so that the women would not have to step into the water getting in and out of the boats.

Through the sale of stamps the island people were able to build a modern school and church. There are many exquisite curios that can be gotten in the island. Anyone wishing first day covers or curios can contact Mrs. Floyd H. McCoy, Pitcairn Island, S.P.O.

MYRTLE L. GRUBER

Mrs.Floyd H. McCoy Pitcairn Island South Pacific Ocean.

Dear Mrs. McCoy:

I am a collector of man maps of the American West 1790-1890. Th you will understand the circumstances w as follows:

A few motions ago I bought a f by a Mr. Robert G. Tolman and mostly wriletters there were five between the dat 1930, and all written by a Mr.R.B.Faire Tolman.At the time of these letters Mr. S.S.California & also S.S.Pennsylvania, the letters is a long 8 page descriptic Very interesting to say the least.

Now - we come to the sixth 1 for this letter to you. The letter I hav Harriet McCoy to a"Mrs.E.B. Smith, 338 No New York". In the letter Harriet mention "Floyd like to go to New Zealand, if ca if he will go or not." end quote. This Island, Sept 19,1926" and the envelope to marking "POSTED AT PITCAIRN ISLAND/NO S on this letter, apparently to Mr. Tolman Mrs.McCoy. She is the great grand daugh mutineer and she married one of the McC guote.

I thought you kight be intere is very interesting and historical to m by you will be greatly appreciated. I k I take STAMPS magazine and read of it t

write up in the National Geographic Magazine with the story of the his radio studio. I have always been thrilled with the story of the Bounty and Pitcairn Island sice I was a young boy - I am 53 now. Too bad I did not acquire these letters earlier so I could have addressed Floyd as well as you. I assume that Harriet is Floyd's mother as you are referred to as "Vi" in STAMPS magazine.? Set me straight.

I will be more than pleased to hear from you in the very near future. If you wish I will be glad to tell you about my collection and myself. I am the president of the compant which appears on this letterhead and we are in the infantswear business. We sell to the retail stores.

Pitcairn 18 S.P.O. Feb 2nd, 1966

Dear Mr Risvolu,

Your letter was here when I returned Jan 12th from the States where I spent the last I2 moths for my nealth 1 as very sick after the loss of my dear hus wan. & had gone through such a strain & with Rneumatoid Arthritis it flared up badly so 1 went away to get away from things for a while.

Your letteris most interesting as that it al 1 concerns my late husband's family ect.

Mr Fairclough by the way, Floyd got a permit for him to come n here & live & a few years later he got permission for his widowed sister to calle irow England also & they both ended their daysnere.in this h ome

Yes ,Harrist was Floyds mother, yes Floyd did go away to N Z that ime to learn radio but he mostly remainedat sea as an Able seaman for 20 years orr & on coming back here at intervals .o se his people & looked after them till the end. He served all through thelast world war at sea & then he sat for his Mates ticket & got that using it for eyear before coming back here bringing me for the first time when war was over. "e usecto take all the people here to Ceno island a sand atol 75 miles from Pitcairn for a nice rest as it has alovely legoon all aroundit a reef all around a mile or snore also he used to bring the men back from henderson "sland where they used to go for wood IIO miles from here.

May be I should list you down for our little monthly paper & you all continue to get the news events of our little Island from time time. I send out almost yo I buy them from the school & then I post them myself folks usually pay a dollar a year fror me to do this & at the same time helps me a wee bit. I do all kind of stamp work cards ect now as 1 naveto try to do sumet ing 100 for to bring in a little since Floyd hasgone. The curios are lovely all kindsof wood work if you woood like some. flying fish small or medium or large birds small & medium & turtles hand vases ect. baskets for the ladies. May be some friendswoood like some.

With only two regular ships calling here now our mails are extremely sevow. so far the one this year is theone I came homeon in Jan 12th. They are going to try & get a cargo boat to comein once a month & pick up mails sot

this mighthelp a bit for the mails g oingout. W 11 those coversyou havr with no stamp days here should be valuable. Did you get the three I D C or 4 now with Churchils that cameout here last year? Have a huge pile of mails to clean up so try to do a little each day. I would love to travel more in america & lecture on Fitcairn & show my slides & mera movie

Trustall is well with you & family,

sincerely. V.McCoy.

ook Floyd

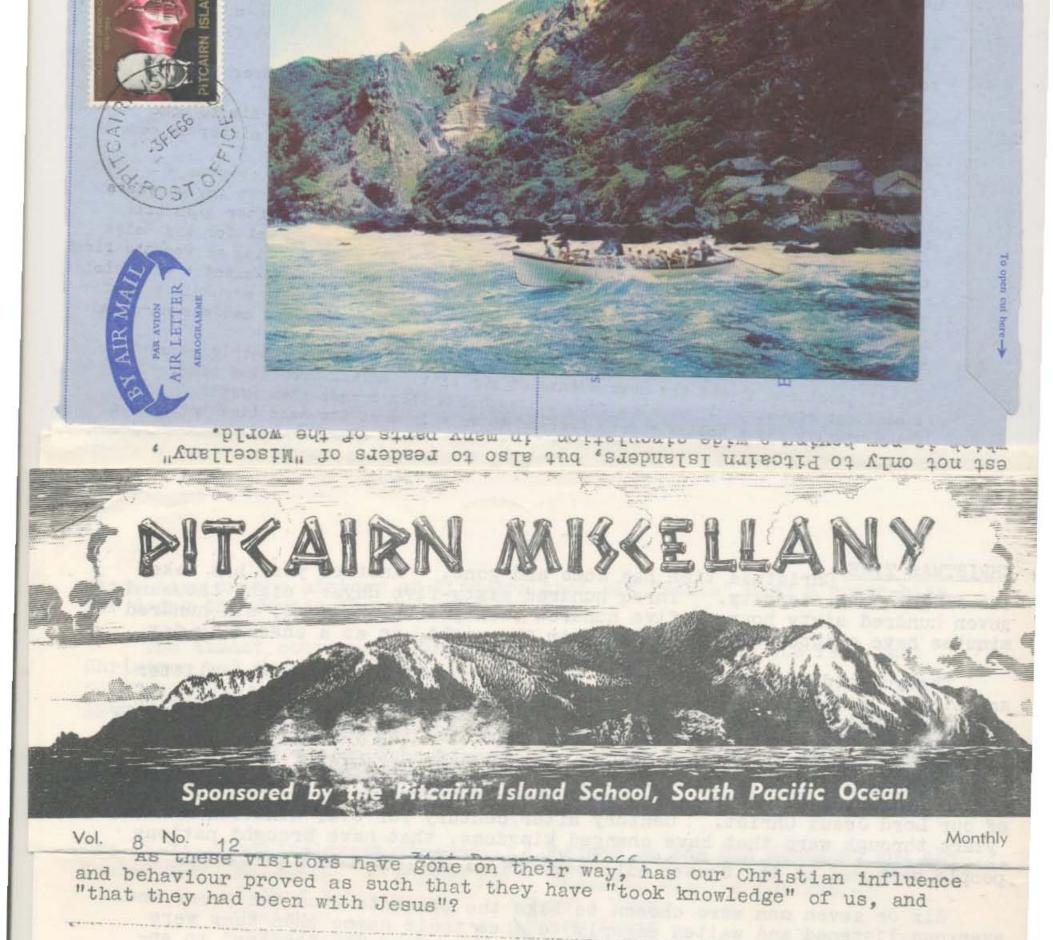
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ere.

stayed with us in 1962 for two months came homewith

My friend me again t I had sta

Total Rainfall f Total Raindays f 1966 was the wet "MISCELLANY" wish the



THANK YOU:

After blowing up a hundred balloons I felt like a whale myself, but that is part of the fun. I am sure I am voicing the thanks of all the children to Vi McCoy's friends, Mr J. K. May of Winnepeg, Canada, and Mr O. E. Risvold in Minneapolis Mium, U. S. A. for the beautiful ones and other gifts they so kindly sent for Christmas.

Glenda Young.

The beauty of the house is order; The blessing of the house is contentment; The glory of the house is hospitality;

Pitcairn Is S.P.O. Feb IOth 497I

Dear Friends.

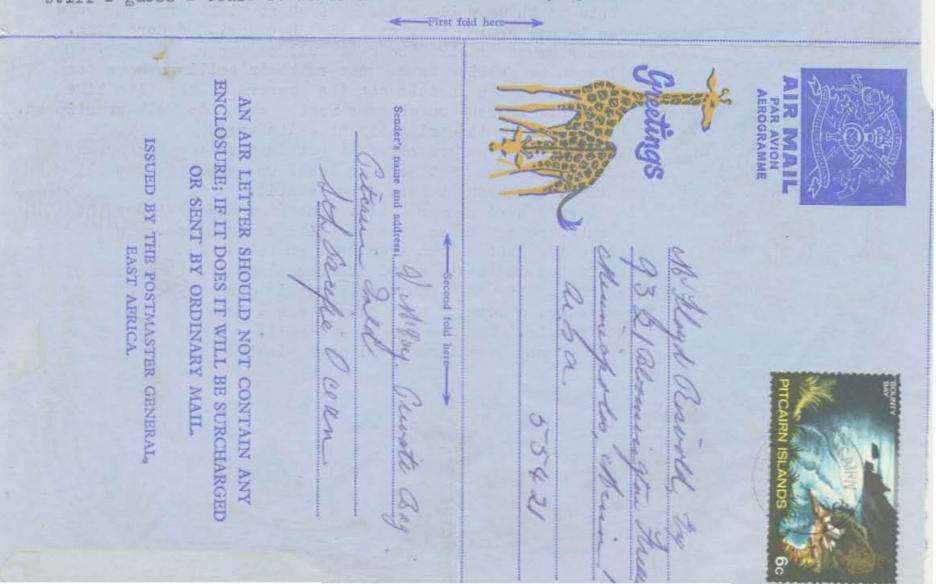
An unexpected ship from Panama way brought our mails & we were so happy as we had known mail was waiting up there for here. Your wonderful parcel again arrived it was well after xmas but I devided the things out to theones I kneww could use them Thistime we had a young baby born a little girl belonging to Tom & ^Betty Christian its their first & they were very happy & thrilled to death when I took along your wonderful pram or cot cover & the little blankets she so badly needed to say nothing of the wee dresses ect ect, so this is her year we will say to get a nice share, last year & so on back the same thing in t is way the thingsfit the ones they rae meant to

Many thanks indeed Betty painted some skeleton leaves & gave them t me to add to my little box of things for you folks. so in this same mail by surface there is a parcel I had betterlet you know in case of strikes ect still it has a nice basket mad by Norma & a shark made by Sammie Betty's leaves & a tiny baby fish by a little boy. a bird by John Chrisitan. do hope you like the m folks & they arrive safely.

The other news will bein the papers I now you will soon have them also as they are in the mail also.

Its sad about all the dead birds up Ducie, must bethe tests the french were doinglast year has left poison as all the coral is dead. only 300 m iles from us .no fish in the lagoon either dead & gone.

I cant write much but still try to punch away on t this & get by my arthrtis gets very bad its our weather. my feet have been so swollen & painful its hard to wear shoes anymore I livein slippers.as my feet are spreading. still I guess I could be worse off like some otherpeople.



how have you all been havent heard from ou for a long time but then we have had no ships thats the holdup this end. as you will see by thepapers what few we have had, & only averal of these for the year carry our mails here.

while I think ofit I dont know whom to ask, but you folks will understand. I am suffering a lot lately with continual little ulcers in my mouth under my teeth plate & oh how these can hurt I see advertised a simple thing here & wondered whom I could send to get one if you dont mind. sure would comfort me. a thing called RINSTEAD for trouble in the mouth. pastille dissolves in the mouth its oothing itshealing, antiseptic & getle bathes the in jured tissues. I guess its because I am s full of inflamation all the time from the tip ofmy poor tooes to the top of my head my oirculation is also bad my fingers will go dead right up to the second joints at times.

This month we will be having a short visit from our Duke the Queen is not coming they cant risk her coming ashore here. Well my poor house is like the rest full of borer & will soon be falling down, some of their ceilings have been, coming down as the insects eat the bearers up top, its like continual grit or sand under your feet & awful to walk or slip Pitcairn is gettingold, its homesits epole & elderly & sick we are all just gettingover the home left us all weak cant seem to leave us comes the roes all the time. was brought here from Tahitii. its been a hard summer & last winter we had that dropp s out here now wetoo have our bits of troubles How have the floods been treating you folks often listen in to the awful stories about the thousands people having to mave, now t ey havethis earthque at "os angeles. my how closeto home where I know

so many people. The space men did well. must go now Greetings & all good wishes from VI

AIR MA PAR AVION AIR LETTER AEROGRAMME PITCAIRN ISLANDS PITCAIRN ISLA PITCAIRN ISLANDS PAR AVION AEROGRAMME floyd & Risbold beg, O.E.Riswold & Sons, 932I Bloomington Freeway etings 9 321 Bloomington Minneapolis, Minn. 55420 U.S.A. 5542 ana. R M R AVION LETTER PITCAIRN ISLANDS GRAMME PAR AVION AEROGRAMME DITCAIRN ISLANDS OFFICE PITCAIRN ISLANDS O. C. Recorld. Tr 9321 Bloomington Juleuvay, Mr O.E.Risvo 1d, Greetings 9321 Bloomington Freeway, Minneapolis, Minn. 55420 Menneafeles allen 55420. U.S.A. Upa.

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NO FEB Moro Loger 2657 Indianapolio PITCAIR Des Maines 17. Soura u. S.A 1790 H.M.S.BOUNTY 1790

PAR AVION a 21. APR. 44 CE. Aurse E. Totenhope Pitcain Island Via n. Jealand 1753



Pitcairn Is S.I.O Feb 26th. 1967

Dear Mr Rievold. Thenk you for your two letters which arrived safely a week ago, & I can get the wood work for the boat this week end but if I cant it will follow on the next boat as I know the few men are very busy.

At the moment I have a guest in the home who is an engineer for harbour & bridge making & the Gov has him making a chart & examining Bounty Bay to see





Pitcairn Island Sth Pacific Ocean Sept 28th, 1966

Dear Friends,

Your letter est arrived safelytwo weeks ago for which I thank you & seeing our two regular boats are one almost together I am getting as much as will be ready for it as there wont he a ship again for sometime unless we get atanker or cargo to stop by a few minutes to pick up metro.So I hasten to get all mals. answered.

I have two is a beskets ready & so will read thase on with the books & Turtes act. & do that Hey will srive in good ther, in the event of them not I will slways read a snything, our the get such beshings eround its awful at times the way the some thread ner do just crushed sometimes, they get such weights put thebegs reputher travel frm clace to place. Its a wonder we get anything good all topo these.

lit paper & in t is way and the light be of interest it talls you more to you. Ofcourse is wont mention and if a should the tont the or the like we neard this loss and off the set to go & each time they are getoning wight to bright into they were forced to stop them but De Veul and the low has here to be a restrict orowd & is a sector at I have she would be ald ofceurse I shall ask my hash Its signation they were forced to stop

my hush couple her yours Now I am de want it can mint saves three mo

I t ink about two No.

the children are and snes.

N. PM

7.65

t her next time I wate I'g? forgot this time when I wrote prietterie slowed to the mail but it would be fun to write Telen Mc Chy if you likewr to the Post Office CM C/O tamp I bere it to we it mint se will sendit but of you to and back. kirdly sev ip future if you want ands its that important in andingout so much & or retarn & back again-

the store we have two young babies almost 6 months as be seen that the fike longtime since we had babies.

then they go lives orrons for me I usually gie them bubble gum in this way they get a greatkick out of it so if you should send some thing as you say in a packet I would appreciate something like t is as they last a long time in a tind dont melt . At xmas time we have a days outing in the public square where they put xmas trees up & everyone put things on the trees for each other from the youngest to the oldest , to get readyforthis event Ihave all kinds of things through he wear that folks sendme like used clothing toys sweets & anything they havefinished with & 1 sort these out according that to size & person & slao through the year we all h ve a birthday & each home puts on a dinnerfor this & again we give little presents of clothing so if you or your friends would like to save their used clothing or toys or things their folks have discarded we could use them but I know this will take postage & I will offer to pay postage ormay be I could get a curicor basket what ever they say

I willhaveto take this new ribbon out its a mess keeps jumping up in frontof the keys & makingme make shocking mistakes more than I do normally with my fingers, While I tink ofit incase the baskets should get a bitsquashed, stuff them with rushed up news paper or old clothing & take a warm iron & iron them again & they will be like new.they make these on a round wooden block.

One of my friends in N Y at the moment has my 16 MM coloured movie film

of Pitcairn I am wondering if you & your fiends would want to see it while it

is still in the tates let meknow at once by air sheet & Ill haveher direct it across to you younmight have to take up a hat collection to help pay for hiring a projector & postage back????

Ill leav at to you. It was made here a few years ago by the British Fatrolium people three of their men came here we housedone wheile here & when Floyd died they sent me this as a gift am sorry I wont be able to point Floyd out to you, but there are several spots I can explain where to watch for him when I write you if you want the filmincase letters crossor I get one from her

in this coming batch of mails & it beens so long before likely get back to you I might instruct her to send it on to you, she was a school teacher & the kide j just lovedit I took it with me on my trip last year& 1 eft it with friends & its still doing the rounds with a few that missed seeing it. Must close now went to do more letters.

We just had a bad storm & today its so wet & muddy to get abut but ofcourse good for planting.its time to get all the melon seeds & tomatoes ect in.

First fold here-

All the best & "reeings from far off Fitcairn, sincerely your friend-

approved by the Postmaster-General No, 99

To open cut here-

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE ; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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AR BAB 55420. No. 25 48. PITGAIRA 18. J n islar unally, RFD 3 ne na 5-5420 eno the che NON D 9321 B. Comington States Totals 9321 6 E. Rueveld 9 Mund contra action ۲ THE 3 e 0 0. ČČ COC it we bal to A a 6 ⊕ the

Dear Friends, At last

year. 27 bags of folks p Your wonderful parcel as A young couple was marri just out of this world t thrilled & Olive his win Steves father Ivan Chris for your help towards th Donald oung A son od F1 received things for her Carrol up above me on th the little red long pant year old. they all than also & they are from our leaf for not knowing the



from the Fanama brought the seed here her name was "attle from the states. It also gets a name Pinna leaf. but its a beautiful tree pink orchid.

The men are so busy & so much public & other work to be done & its ashot as fury this month Merch is end of summer really Feb but its been our hottest month again this year we all have to get up early to get anything at all done. Since the tests out here our weather seems to be so different I think the hydrogen Bombs are no good for gardens ect

ENCLOSURE: IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED AN AIR PITCAIRN LETTER SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL. TO OPEN CUT HERE The 'APSLEY' Air Letter A John Dickinson Product SHOULD NOT CONTAIN C 242 PITCAIRN ISLANDS Lacenar ANY

Pitcairn Island S.P.O Dec 31st, 1968

Dear Friends,

Just as the eld year gees away I want to wish you all the seasons Greetings & a very pleasant & prospersus New Year.

Its summer time here now but plenty of rain mostly at night & makes it very humid.

The mails as usual are very slow & we have to wait so long for our mails at time, because they dont keep a schedule like thepassenger boats used to have to run to time .

Quite a number are still leavengus & our present teacher will be changing over shortly & a new family coming, they say this Mr Henry has three children & wants to bring a cat & a dog, plenty catsout at the school new, even wants to bring a cow, they mustbe real country people may be they will be in for a few surprises after all when they arrive here new.

With the shortage of man per

er we have so much machinery here now. Also the big power engine run by the Government is installed so we all use our power from that 2 have a meter reading in thehomes. but it eats the fuel a gallen every half hour. Its going to take someoil to keep it going They only put it on at dark each night & out mean at II.ooolock.

Hope you wont have too much snow this year to have bad weatherlike once before causing floods. You have somethingto be proud of with the spacemen they are all very brave & clever too to be able to work such scientific thin gs, the main thingis I think is to saty alive. We expect a ship shortly so have gotten a fewletters together. I have been bad with the arghritis this changable weather is no goed all the time & too m ch damp.

I am thinking serieusly of trying to find a place to live where it does not rain so much & is fairly dry. In that my Iwould be able to do some work to keep my expenses going. Ere I am not doing any work or on any pentions & with no trading ships new its hard to keep going as even here one haste use money to buy foods, I sell stamps over seas & in this way I do a little but not everyone wants stamps.

Costs of living afect us too, & more so because we have freights on top of high costs & some freights are higher than the goods so we just cant order them.& sometimes get speilt landingthem in bad weather.

Well dar people hope you are not overworked, would be nice to hear from you again when time permits. Have a very pleasant New Year.

Pirst fold here

Have a very pleasant New Year. very incerely, VI

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PITCAIRN ISLANDS

To open cut he

Own new Alline

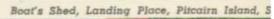
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itcaira Island

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PITCAIRN ISLANDS



Pitceirn Is S.P.O. March 21st, 1970

Dea Friends.

Here are our Flower set, t ought you might like sev eral covers while we can get them as they are alwaysonly out for three months short sets.





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SEPTICAIRN ISLANDS







Pitesirn Is Sept 6th, 1969

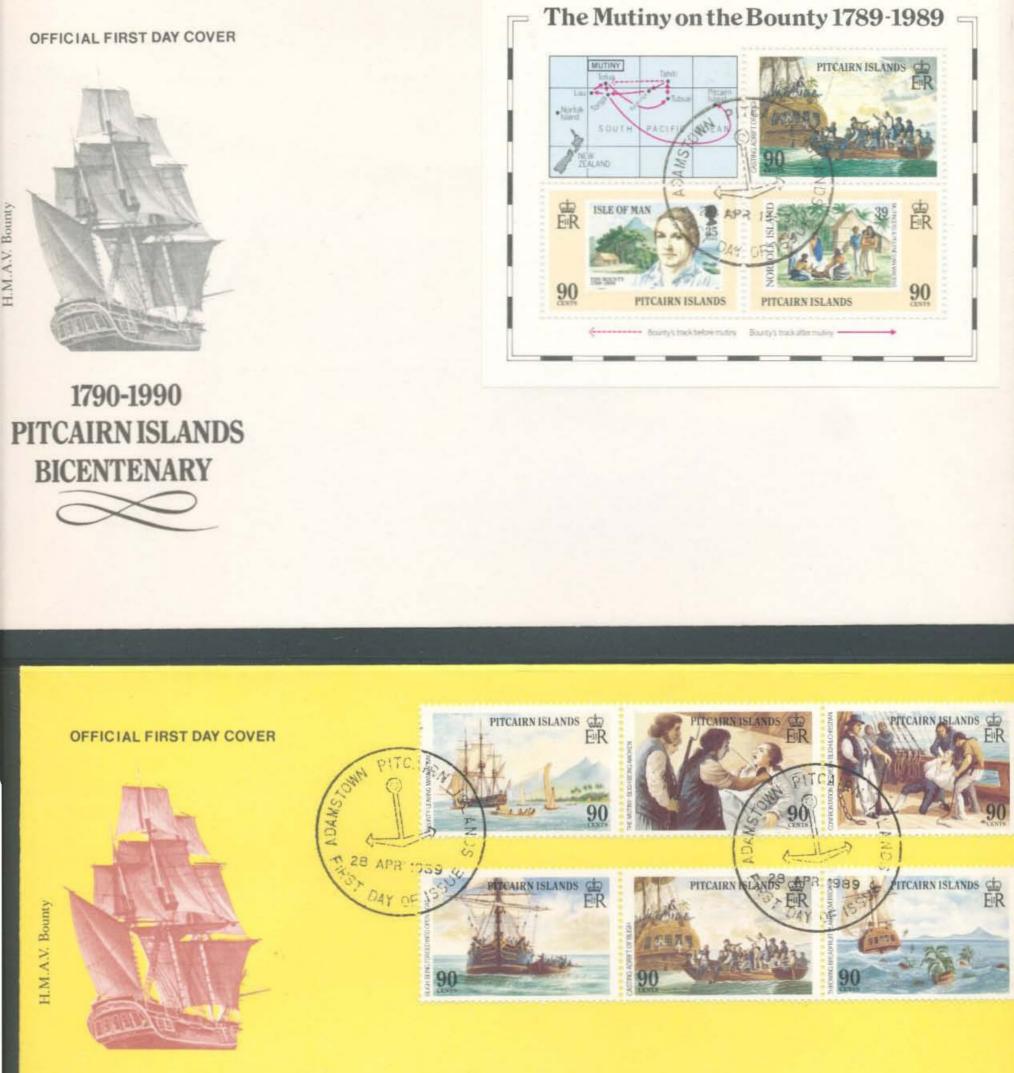




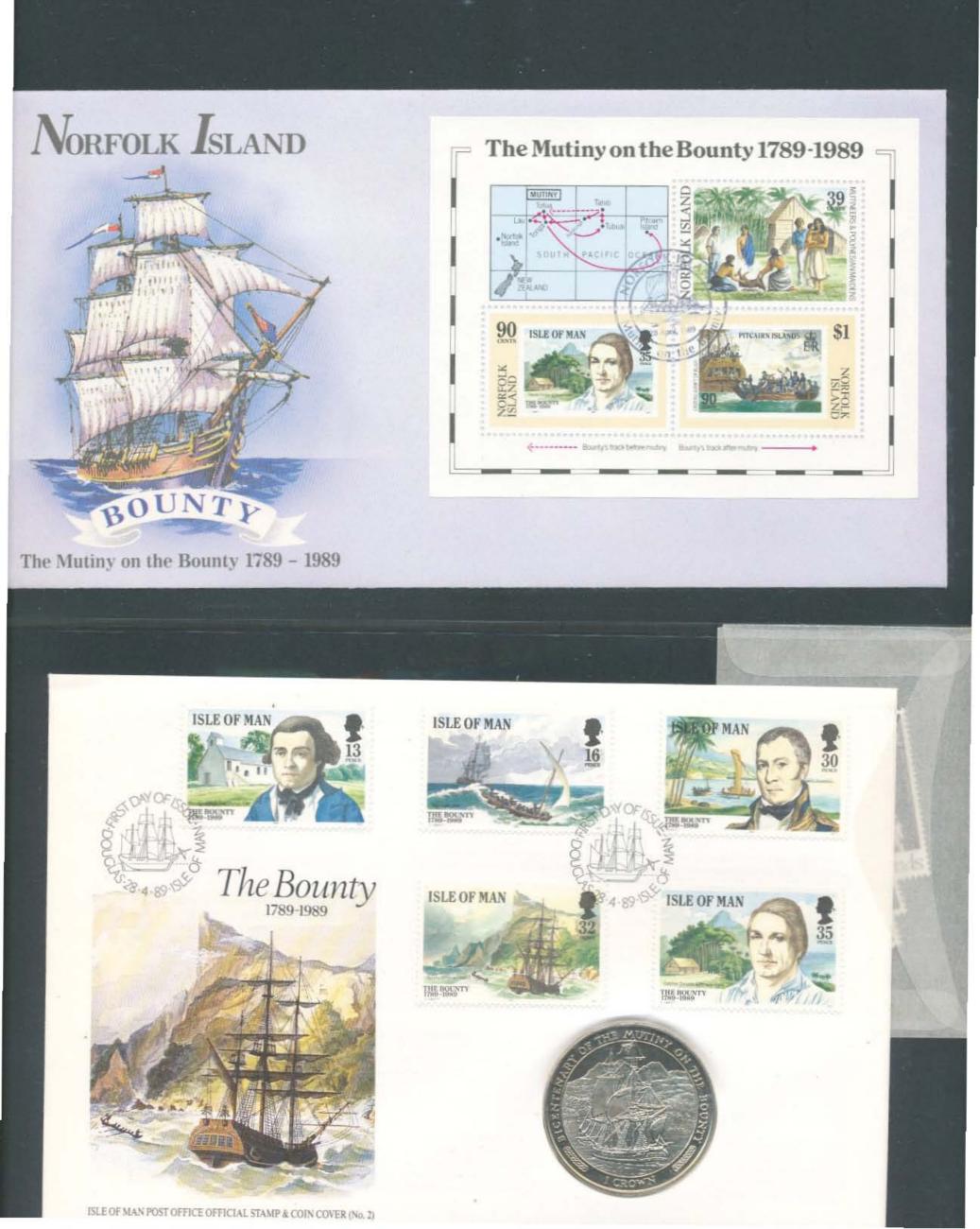
PITCAIRN ISLAND	
Pare Stamp PARCEL POST. [For use for Parcels to the United Kingdom and British Possessions and Colonies, and to Foreign Place to which the Parcel is addressed <i>Minnefolics</i> <i>Minnefolics</i>	and a second
Countries generally.] Form of Customs Declaration. 23420	
Description of Parcel. • Net Weight ID oz • To be filled in by Sender. Value as Merchandise.	
(State whether Box, Baster, Baster, Baster,	
1 2 cound work sechers finds	No. of House
Date Stamp of Office of Exchange. Parcel-Bill No. DE Scienced 9321	
Entry No. No. of rates prepaid Bloomingta Futuran	
INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY THE SENDER. applie allows I If not deliverable as addressed, the parcel should be abandoned. I If not deliverable as addressed, the parcel should be delivered to Manual 1997 or if that is not possible, returned to me.	
(Sender's signature)	
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Mr. Hoyd E. Ris oold Com 3708 - 10 th avenue Minineapolie Minin 4504 Maarland MyC.S. America



mon

My Correct & Sufficient address-s

OCEAN ISLAND CENTRAL PACIFIC Via Australia. 13-4-36.

Dear M" Recorded Your letter of Jan was handed to me for reply as way. Manning Ster was formerly & retured he is no longer in a pose As the Jubilee stamps ceased issue been able to execute your order for of which I have a few in reserve. specimens of the I + E. I. are hand buy the present usive comprising " rof. I's also that of Naum I, I. I'you send me a Maney order for any Islands I have practically none, nor par as I those there is no other collector there are no dealers with the t



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able to

M' F. E. Resvold

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OCEAN MLARM.

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No. 1136.

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Faus o de Campos Martins Moambique Company Beira Postuguese East Africa

T.E.Risvold 4504 Moorland Av. Minneanelis-Minnesota U.S.A. waitting T. E. Risvold My dear · . 4504 Moorland Av. lose in the mail the envelop are out of circulation. For 4242 , "Ba Minneapolis-Minnesota-

ou some new stamps of Mozamb



District Magistrates Court, Jesselton, Br: N. Borneo, 2512 March, 1936.

Dear Sir, lodae. marin

1936



I have the pleasure to acknowdated 181 to your letter w that 1 2. you in off envolope

MR. F. E. Risvold, 4155 Oakland Ave; Minneapolis, MINNESOTA. U.S.A.

ally a I can of North of your

I por are really keen and interested in collecting North Borneo Stamps will you please send a small remittance of a few dollars for a trial, and I shall endeavour to give you satisfaction in this matter.

Please note the change of mi address, I was transferred to the above-named office about 3 years ago

GLOVIS W. Mc.C. ANTIGUA United States and Foreign **Postage Stamps** FOR COLLECTIONS 5/10/25. J.E. Misoold Egy, 4510 Durel Que, Mpt. Minn 0.5. Dear Siv. The J.E. Rixudd Eg, card of fuly 4510 Duxel ave, state that v Myto, Minn, stamps to 1 Icana U.S.A. issues .--on approval, please send a deposit of 19- per money order Jain truly. 6 Lovis McGill