

**Unusual  
two-country franking  
on letter  
from Victoria to Queensland**

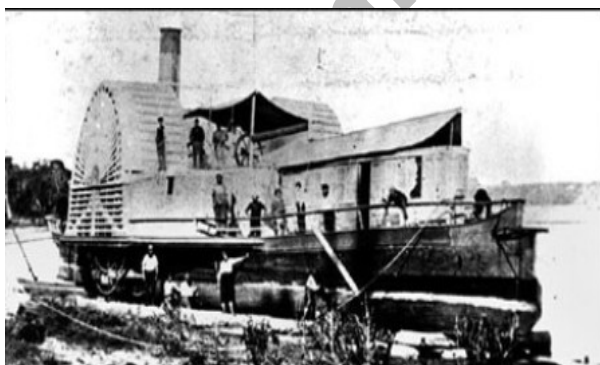




Per "City of Melbourne" 837 gross tons, from Melbourne 6 June, arrival in Sydney 8 June at 16 o'clock.

This Melbourne Mail was advertised for Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane and New Zealand. It would have been impossible for her to have gone to New Zealand via Newcastle and Brisbane. There is no way she would have gone to NZ via Newcastle and Brisbane, so changed ships at Sydney, hence the Sydney date stamp.

Per "Yarra Yarra" from Sydney 10 June to Brisbane 15 June  
The route Brisbane-Ipswich by river steamer up the Brisbane River to Ipswich.  
- the "Brisbane Courier" gives on 15 June three departures to Ipswich, so that "Ipswich" is as good as bet as anything.



River steamer Ipswich around 1860

The letter was too late for the main post office in Melbourne, where all letters had to be sent to reach the "City of Melbourne" by official mail. So the letter was brought to the ship without further ado (franked, but not cancelled) and transported by hand to Sydney, where it was stamped after adding the NSW stamp and entered the postal system. Please note that the NSW stamp is above the ship's name "City of Melbourne" as the Victorian stamp could not be placed in the normal position.

Sender of the letter:

Goldsbrough, Richard (1821-1886) Melbourne  
Born: 17 October 1821, Shipley, Yorkshire, England

Died: April 8, 1886, Collingwood, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Acting as:

Auctioneer (1850-1886) Victoria, Australia  
Wool broker (1850-1886) Victoria, Australia  
Money Lender (1860-1886) Victoria, Australia  
Livestock Breeder (1863-1886) Victoria, Australia  
Land speculator (1863-1886) Victoria, Australia  
Warehouse and Station Agent(1863-1886) Victoria, Australia

The addressee of the letter is also interesting: An Alfred Beasley.... in the Bank of Australasia, Ipswich, Queensland.

Officially this bank was founded only 1870 in Ipswich...!

Nice letter of the normal weight class, sufficiently franked with 6d Beaded Oval black SG 107 Die II. Since the stamp had no franking power when it arrived in NSW, a valid stamp 6d Diadem purple had to be post-franked.

The letter took ten days to cover a distance of more than 2200 km by sea through three colonies from Melbourne to Ipswich.

Walter Kunst