

II.A. Maltese Cross Period : 1840 - 1844

Packet "Skylark" - landed at Cove
Packet rate 1/ corrected to 2/3

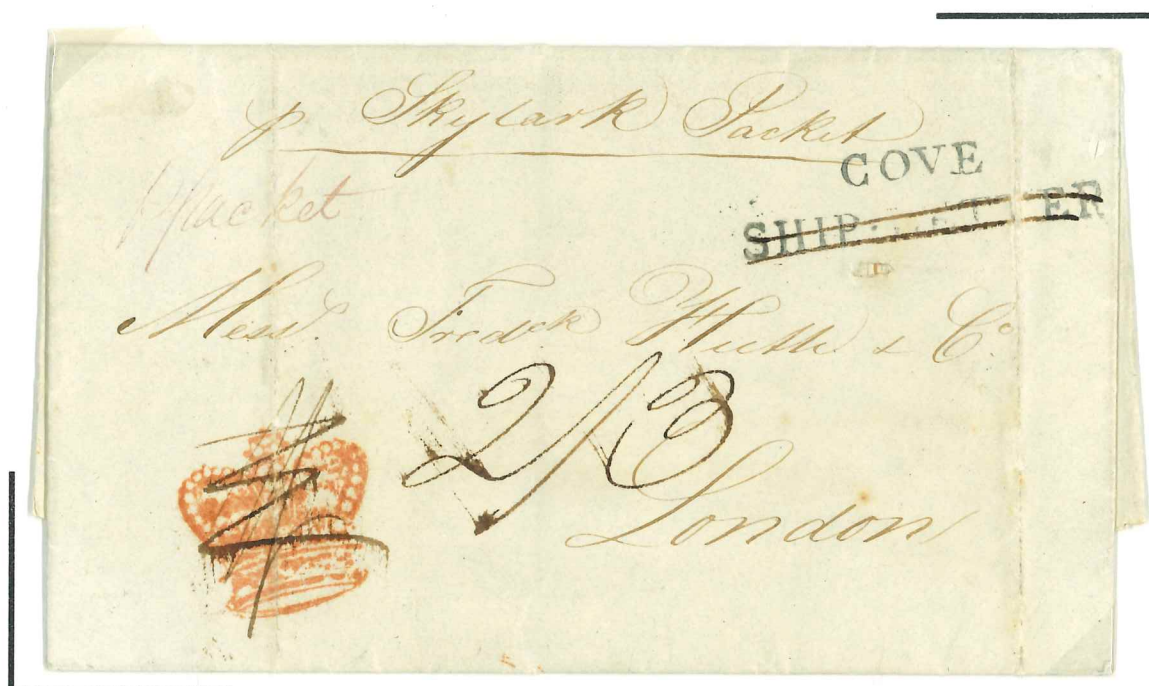
28 November 1840

In November 1840 the Falmouth packet *Skylark* was blown off course and landed its mails at Cove on the south coast of Ireland.

Letter from Tampico, Mexico - endorsed by sender *p Skylark Packet*

In Cove: **COVE/SHIP LETTER** handstamp applied, with SHIP LETTER crossed out.

A manuscript rate of 1s - the West Indies packet rate - charged.



In London - Inspector's crown hand stamp used to eliminate 1/ rate. New rate of 2/3 charged - the correct packet rate, established 10 January 1840, for packets from Mexico.

Manuscript in red *p packet* most likely written in Cove to explain the rate charged.