Ship owners and shipping agents, Huddart, Parker & Co. ran the Huddart Parker line of coastal shipping vessels carrying cargo and passengers between Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland and other ports. They also had an extensive business as agents for freight shipment and passenger booking with other lines between Tasmania, the mainland and overseas.

These records are interesting and provide information about shipping and freight exports and imports. There are also occasional snippets of general information, such as early fruit fumigation requirements, a missing case of "native weapons" consigned to Bishop Montgomery (1893 H.2/1), another case consigned to the Tasmanian Museum in 1905 (H.2/14), Huddart Parker's ship "Sophia Ann" had her mast placed in her with the help of Alex. McGregor's ship "Asia" in 1894 (H.2/17), the risk of ship owners being liable for maintenance of paupers travelling in their ships as booking clerks were warned when a Catherine Seelley was expected to travel to a charitable institution in Melbourne (11 Aug. 1897 H.2/20), and the practice of stamping "not accountable for freight" across receipts for freight. However the records are difficult to use, as they consist largely of press copy books (ie volumes of thin tissue paper for taking copies by impression) containing pressed or carbon copies of routine letters sent and copies of receipts and returns and often the copy is incomprehensible because the printed part of the form is not included in the copy and letters refer to correspondence received which has not survived. The dates of copy books are sometimes uncertain, too, as only the last figure of the year date was recorded.
CORRESPONDENCE: LETTER BOOK COPIES

H.2/1-14 Sydney Office 1892 - 1906
Copies of letters addressed to the Sydney Office, in pressed copy letter books. The letters concern routine matters relating to the sailings of the "Tasmania", "Tambo", "Woolloomooloo", "Oonah", "Elingamite" and other ships and passenger bookings, cargo carried, especially coal, wool including Piesse & Co's wool shipment, sheep and cattle, fruit, iron ore etc., freight rates, transhipment of cargo to and from overseas vessels, forwarding of manifests and invoices, rough passages causing delays or loss of sheep, sales of fruit, manifests, invoices and fumigation certificates for fruit forwarded, missing cases (including a case of "native weapons" consigned to Bishop Montgomery by "Elingamite" (H.2/1), a case for the Tasmanian Museum (14)) and other miscellaneous matters such as criticism of the practice of stamping "not accountable for hands" across shipping receipts and the return of the "boys Hamilton and Douglas by "Tasmania"") (1). Letters were signed by A.C. Piesse, John Murrell, J.W. Evans or just "Huddart, Parker".

1) 3 Feb. 1892 - 14 July 1893
2) 15 July 1893 - 10 May 1894
3) 3 Jan. 1895 - 29 July 1895
4) 2 Aug. 1895 - 6 Mar. 1896
5) 5 Mar. 1896 - 17 Aug. 1896
6) 6 Mar. 1897 - 30 Aug. 1897 (damaged by damp)
7) 30 Aug. 1897 - 4 Mar. 1898
8) 4 Mar. 1898 - 6 Aug. 1898
9) 8 Aug. 1898 - 31 Jan. 1899
10) 1 Feb. 1899 - 2 Aug. 1899
11) 2 Aug. 1899 - 6 Apr. 1900
12) 3 Apr. 1900 - 20 Nov. 1900
13) 31 May 1902 - 11 Sep. 1903
14) 9 Feb. 1905 - 26 May 1906
(14 quarto vols. press copy books (ie. pages of thin tissue paper)

15 Claims June 1892 - Jan 1894, Jan. 1897
Copies of letters to the Sydney Office about claims (1892-4) and copies of letters to the Melbourne Office (Jan. 1897).
(press copy book partly unused)

16-21 General Correspondence - letter book copies 1894 - 1897, 1902-1904
Copies of miscellaneous letters, including letters to firms about freight charges, sailings, freight brand marks, transhipment, wharfage, fruit, passenger bookings on vessels of overseas shipping lines to London etc. and other matters such as a request to Alex. McGregor for permission to use his ship "Asia" to place the mast in Huddart, Parker's "Sophia Ann" (16 May 1894), a comment about landing cattle from the "Tambo", and a warning that a Miss Catherine Seelley was applying for admission to a charitable institution in Melbourne but by carrying her in the "Coogee" Huddart, Parker & Co. might be liable for her as a pauper and so booking clerks should refer to Head Office before issuing a ticket (11 Aug. 1897).

16) 16 May 1894 - 20 Nov. 1894 (index of recipients)
17) 22 Nov. 1894 - 31 July 1895 (index of recipients)
18) May 1894 - Apr. 1896 (freight & manifest queries)
19) 1 Aug. 1895 - 9 July 1896 (index of recipients)
20) 9 July 1896 - 27 Oct. 1897
Huddart, Parker


(6 press copy books)

22-23  White Star Line ("Aberdeen" etc.) correspondence 1895 - 1898
Copies of letters to Dalgety & Co. and others about freight and passengers via the
White Star Lines' "Aberdeen", Thermopylae", "Australasian" etc., including fruit for
Covent Garden Market, London.

22)  29 Jan. 1895 - 16 Sep. 1895
23)  18 Sep. 1895 - 26 Feb. 1898 (damaged by damp)

(2 press copy letter books)

24-25  Canadian-Australian Shipping Line
Copies of letters about freight, passengers etc.

24)  1 May 1896 - 30 Sep. 1897
25)  4 Oct. 1897 - 13 Sep. 1900

(2 press copy books)

Correspondence about freight and passenger bookings between Tasmania,
mainland ports and New Zealand on "Tambo", "Coogee", "Anglian" etc. Passengers names
are sometimes given. Freight was mainly wool, but also other items such as fish etc.,
also 500 Cooks Tasmanian Accommodation Guide.

26)  28 Dec. 1893 - 16 Sep. 1895 (damaged by damp)
27)  Feb. 1902 - Sep. 1903 (damaged by damp)
28)  1906 (damaged, unfit for production)

(3 press copy books)

29-31  Manager's (Capt. Evans) Letter Books 1892-98, 1902-03
Copies of letters mainly signed by J.W. Evans, but including a few signed by A.C.
Piesse and John Murrell, mainly on routine matters to the Melbourne Office - for
example shipping movements, new flag, passenger fares - also quotation requested by
Messrs Piesse for shipping 100 tons ore, Gray Bros. Saw Mills timber to New Zealand,
letter to Capt. Arthur of SS "Warrimo" (4000 tons) with instructions on berthing and
lighter "Frederica" shipping of piano to New Zealand, letter to New Zealand Agents
asking if a General Martin was floating a company to manufacture a cleansing compound
known as Austro-woolloo or Renoo. Also (especially the later volumes private letters
of J.W. Evans M.H.A (condolences, congratulations etc.).

29)  14 June 1892 - 1 Nov. 1897
30)  5 Nov. 1897 - 18 Nov. 1898
31)  30 May 1902 - 5 Oct. 1903 (damaged by damp)

(3 press copy books)

32  Capt. Evans' Telegrams 1919 - 1920
Purchase of ship, personal, influenza at Electrona, etc.

(bundle)
ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNT BOOKS & LEDGERS

H.2/33 Ledger 1886 - 1890
Accounts include: trade expenses, C.A.Plesse, bark, wool (including individual wool accounts), fruit, Burbury, Bidencope, Cook, Cornish, Johnson, Morgan, ship owners. Index of account names.
(ledger vol. 43 cm x 8 cm)

34 Monthly income 1 sept. 1926 - 31 July 1932
Income for the month, noting: date, on what account and from whom received, bank deposit, agency suspense, coal ledger collections, freight ledger collections, passenger money ledger collections, sundries, totals.
(large vol., 50 cm. x 37 cm. x 5 cm., half bound calf)

35 Freight Charges, Monthly Oct. 1902 - Dec. 1904
Recording monthly under heading of name of vessel: freight charges, port of departure.
(folio account book)

DAILY OR COUNTER CASH, ETC.

36 Counter cash receipts: New Zealand & Australia steam Ship Co. 10 Nov. - 19 dec. 1892
Recording: date, from whom received, by whom, ticket, steamer, voyage number, freight, Warrimo passenger money, Wioura passage money, provedore (6 pages only used).
(vol. 27 cm x 36 cm 4 cm)

37-41 Daily cash receipts: shipping 1894 - 1901
Recording: name, cash or cheque, number of ticket, name of steamer, number of voyage, freight amount, ledger folio, "Coogee" passage money, "Tambo" passage money, sundries.
37) 2 Jan. 1894 - 4 Sept. 1895
38) 4 Sept.1895 - 6 Mar. 1897
39) 8 Mar. 1897 - 1 Sept. 1898
40) 2 Sept. 1898 - 29 Jan. 1900
41) 30 Jan. 1900 - 22 Jan. 1901
(5 folio vols)

42 Daily cash receipts: Coal Department 2 Jan. 1894 - 14 May 1900
Recording: name, cash or cheque, ledger folio, amount.
(1 vol.)

43-46 Daily cash books
Recording: date, from whom, receipt number, freight, passage money, coal, sundries, folio, total.
43) 1 Aug. 1917 - 7 Aug. 1918
H.2  Huddart, Parker

44)  3 Feb. 1942 - 12 July 1944
45)  15 Nov. 1946 - 17 Sept. 1948) used on alternative months
46)  18 Dec. 1946 - 12 Aug. 1948
(4 vols. 40 cm x 28 cm x 4 cm)

47-48  Passages Issued 1940-42, 1951-53
  Counter passage book recording: number of ticket, voyage, saloon/steerage,
  Launceston-Melbourne, Burnie-Melbourne, local orders, total, remarks (1940-42
  remarks include "tourist/defence", "R.A.N.
  47)  7 Sept. 1940 - 3 Mar. 1942
  48)  9 Mar. 1951 - 27 Feb. 1953
(2 vols. 40 cm x 28 cm x 7 cm)

CASH RECEIPTS

49-56  Cash receipt copies 1892 - 1907
  Pressed or carbon copies of receipts for cash payments for freight, passages,
  coal, fruit, etc.
  49)  1892 - 1893 (damaged by damp)
  50)  1894 - 1895
  51)  3 Aug. 1898 - 1900  June 18 (mainly coal, also passages)
  52)  1898 - 1900
  53)  26 July 1900 - 1904
  54)  1902 - 1904 (mainly coal)
  55)  1904 - 1907
  56)  July 1905 - 1907  July
(8 press copy books)

TRAFFIC RETURNS

57-64  Traffic Returns copy books 1890 - 1907
  Copies of statements of freight, coal, passenger tickets, railway tickets, etc.
  booked as agents.
  57)  Dec. 1890 - Aug. 1893
  58)  Aug. 1893 - Dec. 1894
  59)  Oct. 1895 - Aug. 1896 (damaged by damp)
  60)  Sept. 1896 - July 1897
  61)  Oct. 1899 - Feb. 1900
  62)  Jan. 1902 - Apr. 1903 (damaged by damp)
  63)  Feb. 1903 - July 1904
  64)  ? 1903 - 1907
(8 press copy books)

BANK CHEQUES

65  Cheque book butts  Commercial Bank, Hobart 1946-1947
   Petty cash etc.
MISCELLANEous

H.2/ 66 Photographs of fruit being unloaded from "Sumatra" at Hamburg 1914
    Showing tray holders and stack of boxes (West Australian apples) and cranes.
    (2 photos)