

## THOMAS MARTIN CORKER

The CORRESPONDENCE SERIES is an investigation into the background of recipients of British pre-stamped postal stationery. The "collection" was purchased in South Africa in 1999 as a job lot, the which took me six months to sort and mount, creating a collection spanning 140 years. I have no idea of the provenance.

The Reference work is British Postal Stationery, A K Huggins.1970. The first date with catalogue number refers to the year when the pre-stamped envelope was first issued; the second, the year when the envelope was actually used.

### **Philatelic Description of the item of Postal Stationery:**

1920 (RP32Gb)\_Major General Corker CB KHP Merrick Court, Bournemouth (actually used from Cork 20 ...21)

### **Comment:**

THOMAS MARTIN CORKER, CB (1915), K.H.P (1912), MA, MD (1879), LL.D (Honoris causa) (1920), M.R.I Gt. Britain, RUI, Surgeon-Gen (ret) R.A.M.C.

Major-General Thomas Martin Corker was born at Cork on 2 May, 1856, the son of Thomas Ware Corker of Rushbrooke, County Cork; and died in London on 24 February, 1937, aged 80. He was educated at Queen's College, Royal University of Ireland [RUI], Cork, graduating in 1876 as M.A. with honours together with a gold medal and scholarship in the Queen's University of Ireland; and again in 1879 with a M.D. and M.Ch. He served his internship at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He entered the British Army as Surgeon Captain on 6 March 1880, was promoted to Surgeon Major on 6 March 1892, Lieutenant-colonel on 6 March 1900, Colonel on 26 August 1905 and finally Surgeon-General on 11 December 1911, retiring on 26 December, 1917.

As an administrative medical officer, he served successively in the Scottish Division, 1905-9; Egypt, 1909-11; Lucknow Division, 1911; Poona Division, 1912; and Secunderabad, 1913.

He served in the North-West Frontier, India 1897-1898, on the Malakund and in the operations in the Mamund country; and in the Tirah campaign of 1897-8, taking part in the actions of the Arhunga and Sampagna Passes and in the operations in the Bazar Valley. He was mentioned in dispatches in the London Gazette of 5 April, 1898, and received the Frontier medal with two clasps.

He was made an Honorary Physician to the King (K.H.P.) in 1912, received the Companion of the Order of Bath (C.B.) in 1915, and the degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) from the National University of Ireland in 1920. He was a Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem; and a Member of the Royal Institution of Great Britain and of the British Medical Association. In 1886 he married Florence, daughter of the late Mr. J. E. Leslie of Lee Carrow, Passage West, Co. Cork.

**References:**

1. Family Search. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. <http://www.familysearch.org>
2. FreeBMD Home Page <http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>
3. Commissioned Officers of the Medical Services of the British Army 1660-1960. Vol.I. W Johnston. Gen.Ed. FNL Poynter. Publ. The Wellcome Historical Library, London. 1968
4. British Medical Journal [www.bmj.com/cgi/issue\\_pdf/admin\\_pdf/1/3974.pdf](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/issue_pdf/admin_pdf/1/3974.pdf)
5. British Medical Journal [www.bmj.com/cgi/reprint/1/3974/531-b.pdf](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/reprint/1/3974/531-b.pdf)
6. 326 Supplement to The London Gazette, 3 June, 1915. [www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29180/supplements](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29180/supplements)

Thomas Martin Corker was born Cork 2 May 1856. B.A. (Honours) M.A. The Royal University of Ireland [RUI] 1876, M.D., M.Ch 1879. Surgeon Captain 6 March 1880, Surgeon Major 6 March 1892, R.A.M.C. Major 6 March 1892,, Lt.Col. 6 March 1900, Colonel 26 August 1905, Surgeon-General 11 December 1911. North-West Frontier (Malakand & Tirah), India 1897-1898. CB (Companion of the Order of Bath) 1915 K.H.P. (Honorary Physician to the King) 1912

THOMAS MARTIN CORKER, *CB (1915), K.H.P (1912), MA, MD (1879), LL.D (Hon) (1920), M.R.I Gt. Britain, RUI, Surgn-Gen (ret) RAMC*

Major-General THOMAS MARTIN CORKER, C.B., late R.A.M.C., died in London on February 24, aged 80. He was born at Cork on May 2, 1856, the son of Thomas Ware Corker of Rushbrooke, County Cork, and was educated at Queen's College, Cork, where he graduated in 1876 as M.A. with honours and a gold medal and scholarship in the Queen's University of Ireland, and subsequently as M.D. and M.Ch. in 1879. He also studied for a while at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Entering the Army as surgeon on March 6, 1880, in the same term as the late Sir Alfred Keogh, he attained the rank of colonel on August 26, 1905, and of Surgeon General on December 11, 1911, retiring on December 26, 1917. As an administrative medical officer he served successively in the Scottish Division, 1905-9 ; Egypt, 1909-11; Lucknow Division, 1911; Poona Division, 1912; and Secunderabad, 1913. He served in the North-West Frontier campaign in India in 1897-8, on the Malakund and in thie operations in the Mamund country; and in the Tirah campaign of 1897-8, taking part in the actions of the Arhunga and Sampagna Passes and in the operations in the Bazar Valley, was mentioned in dispatches in the London Gazette of April 5, 1898, and received the Frontier medal with two clasps. He was made an Honorary Physician to the King in 1912, and received the C.B. in 1915, and the degree of LL.D. from the National University of Ireland in 1920. He was also a Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. In 1886 he married Florence, daughter of the late Mr. J. E. Leslie of Lee Carrow, Passage West, Co. Cork. He had been a member of the British Medical Association since 1888. and contributed letters from time to time to the British Medical Journal.