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## MAILS BY ROCKET

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### FAILURE OF FIRST ATTEMPT

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

STORNOWAY, July 29

The first attempt to send a parcel of mails across a stretch of sea by rocket yesterday failed, but it is understood that Herr Gerhard Zucker, the young German inventor of the apparatus, will make another attempt on Monday. Yesterday Herr Zucker erected his firing apparatus on the beach at Scarp, a small island off the west coast of Lewis. His aim was to fire a rocket containing several thousand letters across the Sound of Scarp to the mainland of Harris, about half a mile distant. In winter Scarp is sometimes without mails for a week at a time.

When Herr Zucker pressed the electric switch there was a dull explosion, and a cloud of smoke drifted down the beach. When it cleared the wooden frame was seen lying broken on the sand; the rocket was twisted out of recognition, and the letters were strewn about it. The letters, some of which were badly scorched, were all recovered, and will be inserted in another rocket when the second attempt is made. Some of the letters were addressed to the King, the Prince of Wales, and prominent members of the Government. Herr Zucker believes that medical stores may be sent by rocket, and when the next attempt is made a bottle will be included as a test.

Mr. Macpnerson, Postmaster at Lochmaddy, represented the Postmaster-General at the experiment.

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