

G. Marconi

Guglielmo Marconi, Entrepreneur Nobel Prize for Physics 1909



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It all started when Annie Jameson, grand-daughter of the founder of the famous whiskey company, went to Bologna in 1859 to study “bel canto.” She was 19.

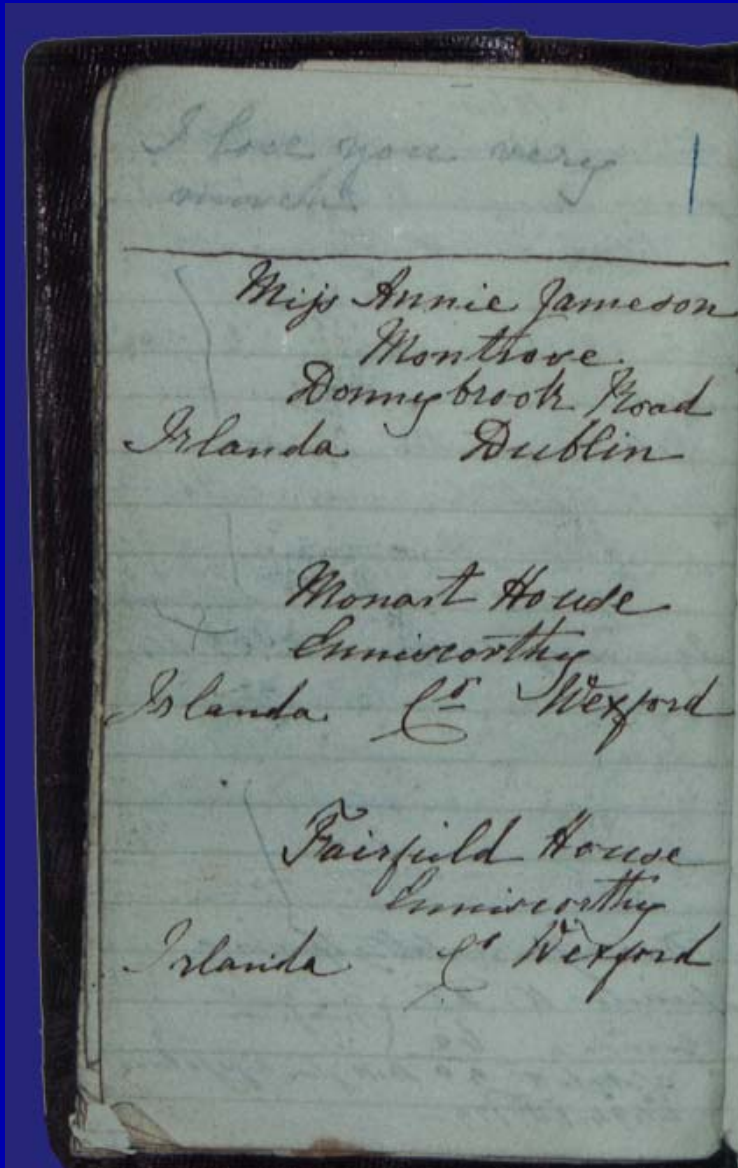
She stayed with the de Renolis family, whose son-in-law was Giuseppe Marconi

It was love at first sight; she abandoned the “bel canto” and went home to ask permission to marry Marconi.

Her parents refused, because she was too young.

But Giuseppe and Annie kept in contact...





From Giuseppe
Marconi's notes:
Miss Annie
Jameson's address





G. Marconi

When she was old enough, Giuseppe and Annie married 16 April 1864 in Boulogne-sur-Mer and went to live in Bologna.

Their first son Alfonso was born the following year.

Guglielmo was born on 25 April 1874.





Villa Griffone, near Bologna, Italy.

G. Marconi

His mother was very attentive...



Darling Baby

Do not go for your
bath until Alfonso
comes home at 4

o'clock, and do not
stay long in the sea
for you have your
master at 5.

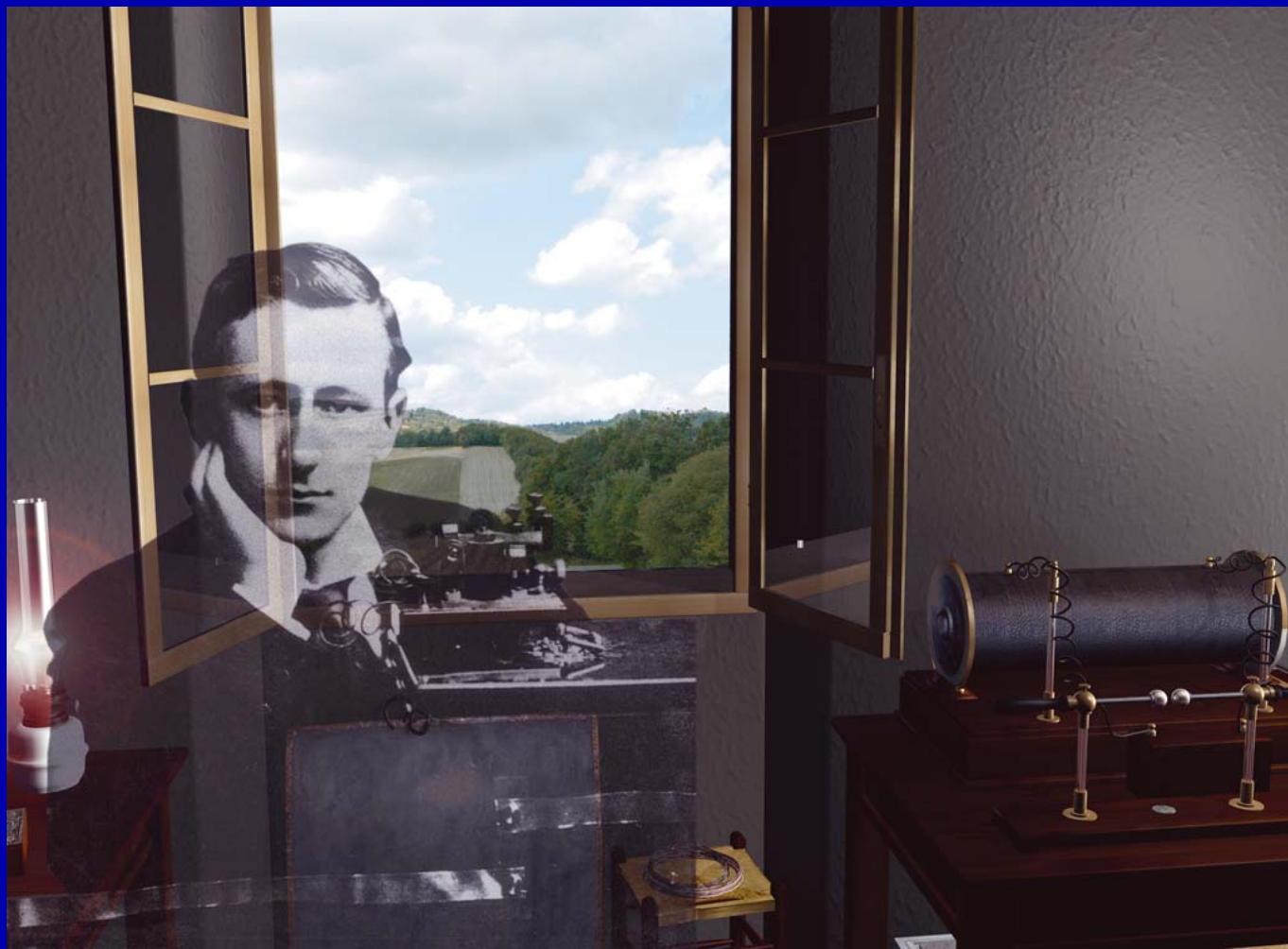
Your loving Mamma



G. Marconi

...and encouraged his experiments with wireless...







“I owe what success I have had more than anything to the encouragement and inspiration of my mother.”

I learnt from her my first words in Italian and in English, too.”





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His father felt his experiments were a complete waste of time...

“Perdità completa di tempo,” he said.

The Italian Minister of Post and Telegraph thought it was a complete waste of time...

So in January 1896, Guglielmo and his mother went to England...

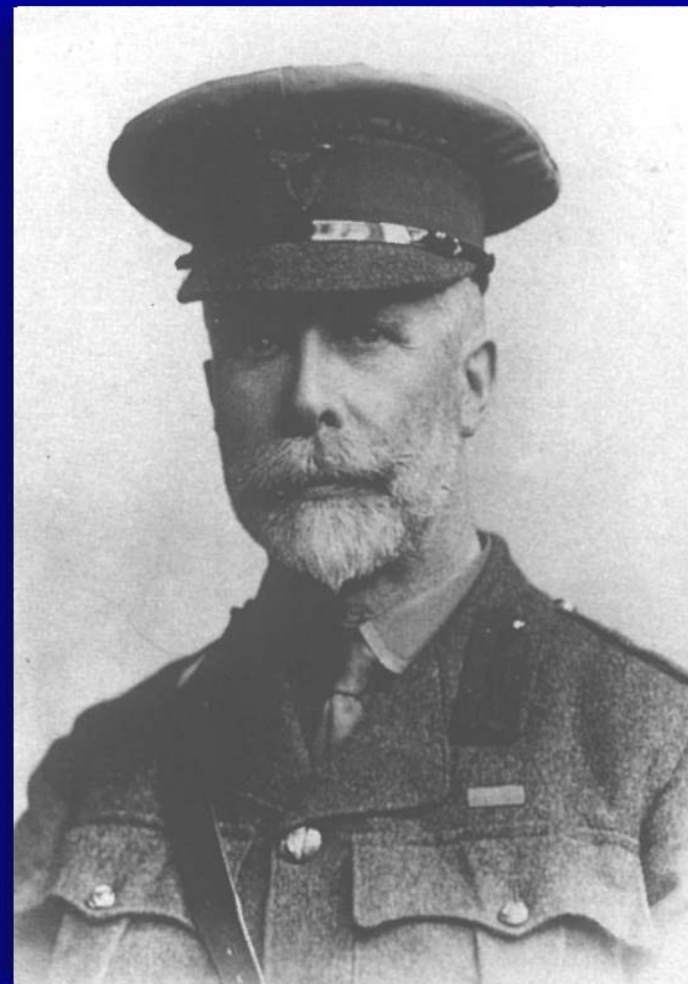


"I resolved to go to England with a view to launching the invention on a large scale.

I chose England for various reasons chief among them being the fact that I possessed numerous relatives and friends there and that Great Britain at that time was at the very summit of its financial and industrial development."



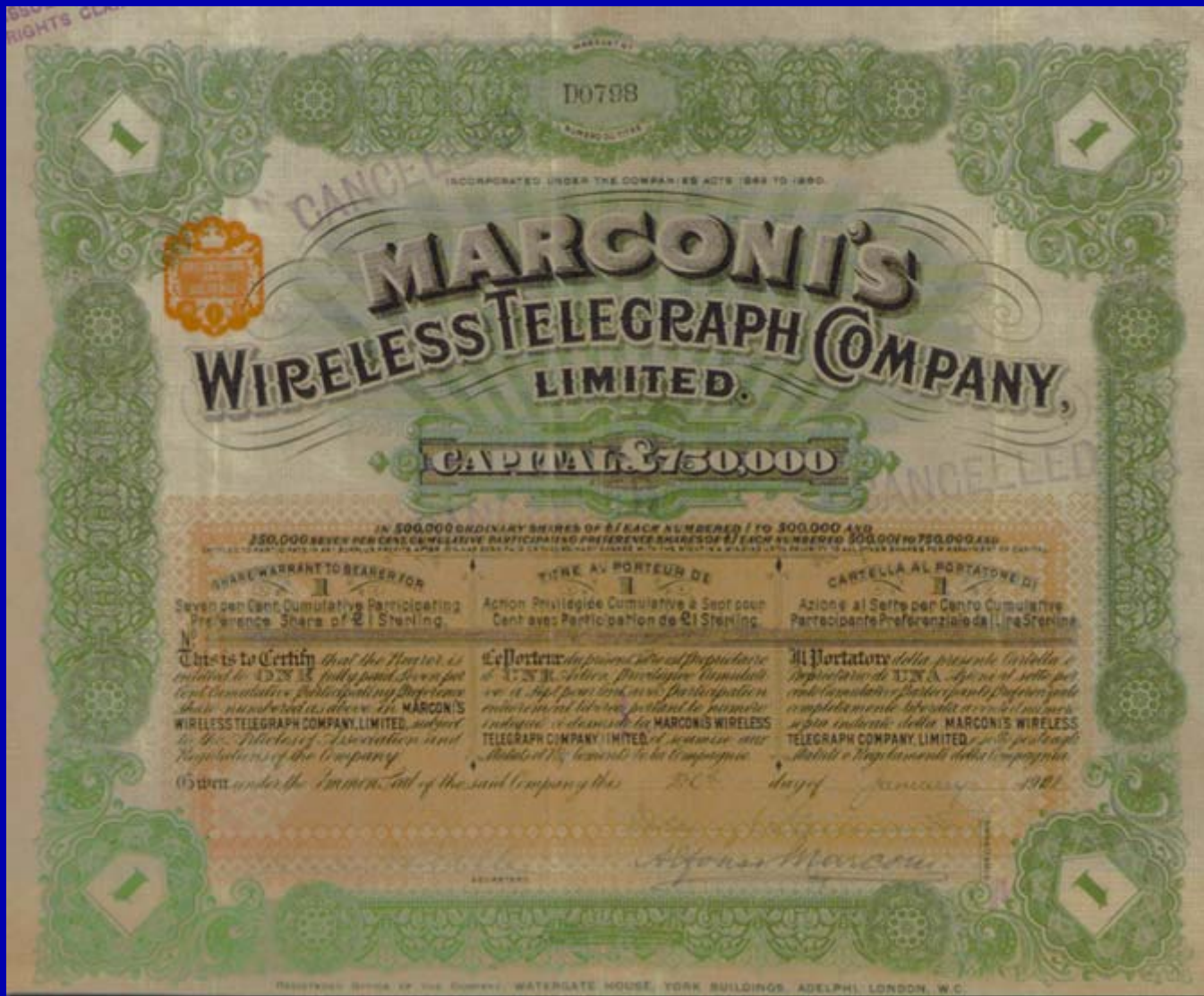
His cousin, Henry Jameson Davis, arranged a meeting with Sir William Preece, Chief Engineer of the General Post Office, and demonstrations of his invention began.



G. Marconi

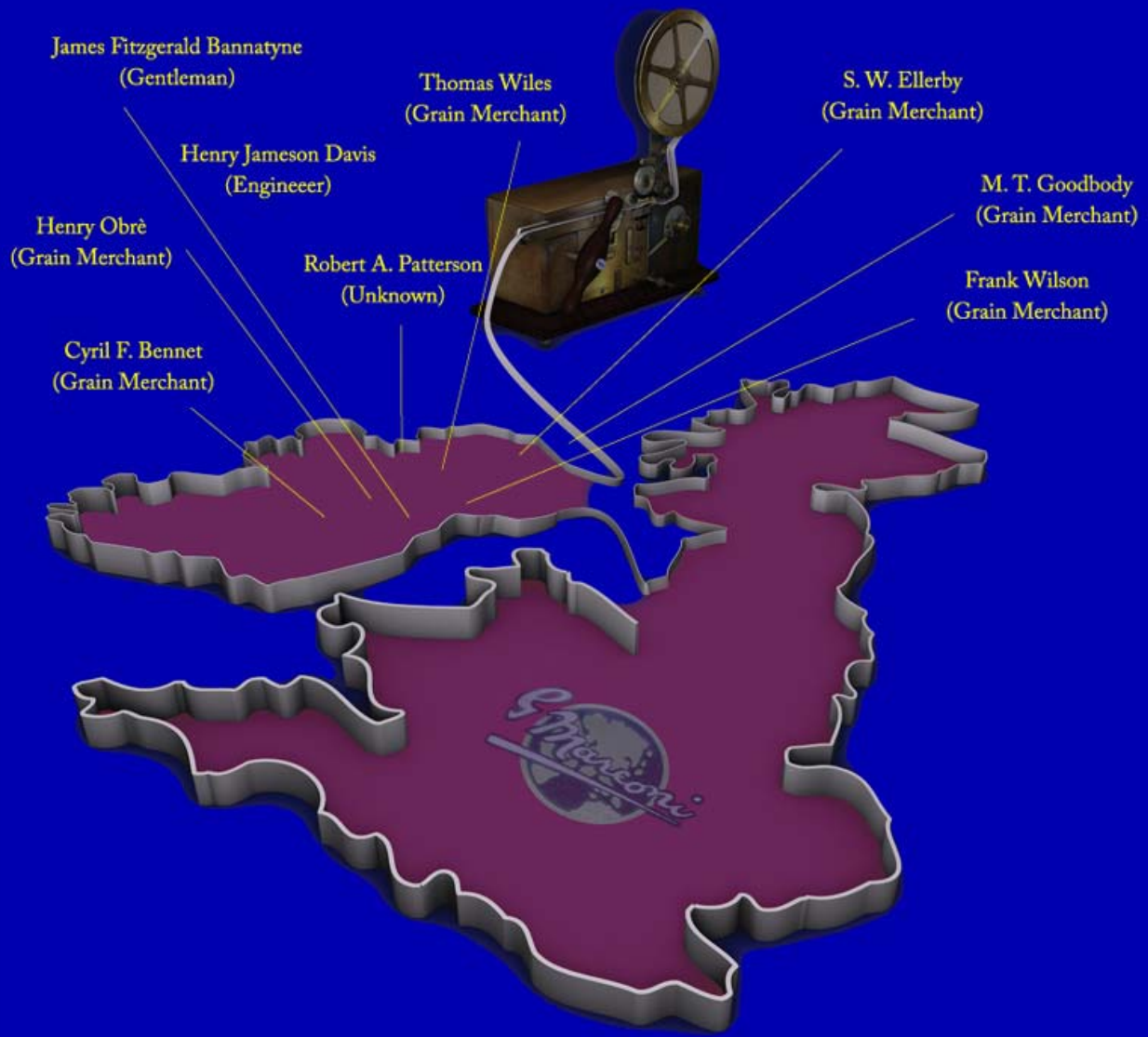
He founded the Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company in 1897...





Most of the investors were Irish grain merchants...





G. Marconi

He came to Ireland in 1898...

...and made the world's first live broadcast of a sporting event...

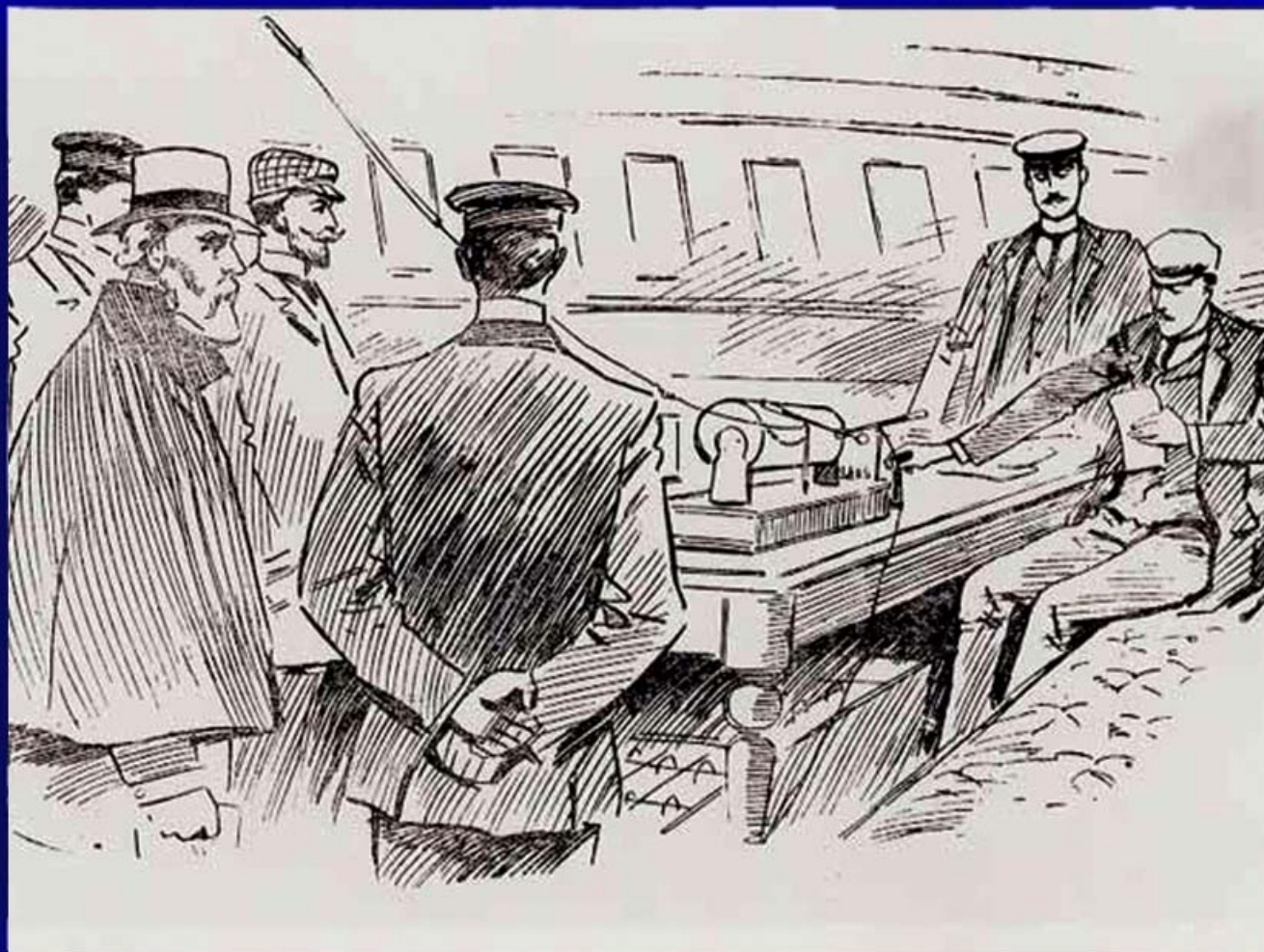




*“Dearest Papà,
now I am in Dublin to install my
apparatus aboard various yachts
that have to take part in the
regattas on the 19th , 20 th, and
21st of this month, and I am sure
that everything will go wonderfully.
My Irish relatives are all kind to
me, and they asked me to say
hello to you and Mamma... I am
always very busy and my work
keeps increasing as the practical
applications of my invention grow.
Say hello to everybody at Griffone
and in Bologna.”*

[Letter written by Guglielmo
Marconi to his father on July 13,
1898]





He came to Crookhaven, Co. Cork in 1901...

Crookhaven was the last/first safe port for ships crossing the North Atlantic



Why Crookhaven?

Reuter opened a telegraphic agency in London in 1851, and in Queenstown (Cobh) in 1853.

The “Telegraph Dispatch,” based in Cork, carried reporters out to ships arriving from America, who then took the train back to Cork to file their stories.

Reuter got a four-hour head-start by putting a telegraph station in Crookhaven, 80 miles west, and building a telegraph line to Cork...





G. Marconi

The Cork Examiner denounced Reuter in 1863 as “a clever foreign speculator” who wanted to monopolise the foreign news.





G. Marconi

Reuters and Lloyd's worked together on a station at Brow Head, Crookhaven, signalling to passing ships with flags by day and lights by night.

Marconi brought wireless in 1901...



Crosby House
- Pollock 550.

253

TELEGRAMS
EXPENSE, POOLE.17 June 1901
/ St.HAVEN HOTEL,
SANDBANKS,
NEAR POOLE.

Dear Mr Kemp.

I am leaving on Wednesday
for Brook house ~~the~~ between which
and Pooleham I am going to
continue long distance experiments.

I wish you to erect ^{at once} two more
^{in the hills} masts ^{opposite to those already}
~~set out adjacent~~

up. I am certain that



The local newspaper reported:

“Last evening, Mr. Marconi, the inventor of wireless telegraphy, and some engineering assistants, travelled from Cork to Skibbereen by the 4PM train on his way to Crookhaven, where we understand a number of experiments are to be conducted in connection with the establishment of a receiving station at Brow Head for the transmission of messages to and from the liners.”



“Mr. Marconi was absolutely frank and stated he really had no information to impart and that he was going to Crookhaven to inspect the Marconi station which had been established there.

Mr. Marconi was rather surprised that his visit to the southwest should have been known...”





Marconi Station, Crookhaven. Co. Cork.



Mr. Marconi receiving a message
at Crookhaven from Lake Champlain
June 27th 1901.



Proof of Concept: The “225 mile” experiment...







Poldhu Hotel, Mullion, 29th June 1901

G. Marconi Esq.

Dear Sir

Many thanks for your
Wire & letter duly received
& I am pleased to know that
you can allow me a little
more time with the masts.

I am pleased to say the
10 tons of Railway Metals
are at the Station, but the
people of Helston cannot
cut them for me, consequently
I have got timber waggons
to carry them out here &
hope to cut up some of them
this evening with the help of
the Village Blacksmith.

I have just received 5 logs
of Pitch Pine which are
more or less crooked & showing
signs of dry rot. I have wired
the office to know what is
to be done with them, for I

wish to get a good allowance
on them before I start to
cut them, in case the rest
goes right through them.

I have not written to the
office in connection with
my salary, as I thought
you could do the thing much
quicker & more quiet.

At the same time I think it a
great shame for them to attempt
to do me out of this months Extra
Pay after your kindness in getting
it for me.

I am pleased to know you
are getting our signals O.K.
& hope you will let them know

when we get the Aerial out
to its proper place

I am pleased to know you
like Crookhaven & hope you
will have a great success
& the best of health before
you leave

I am Dear Sir

Yours Very Truly
G. Marconi



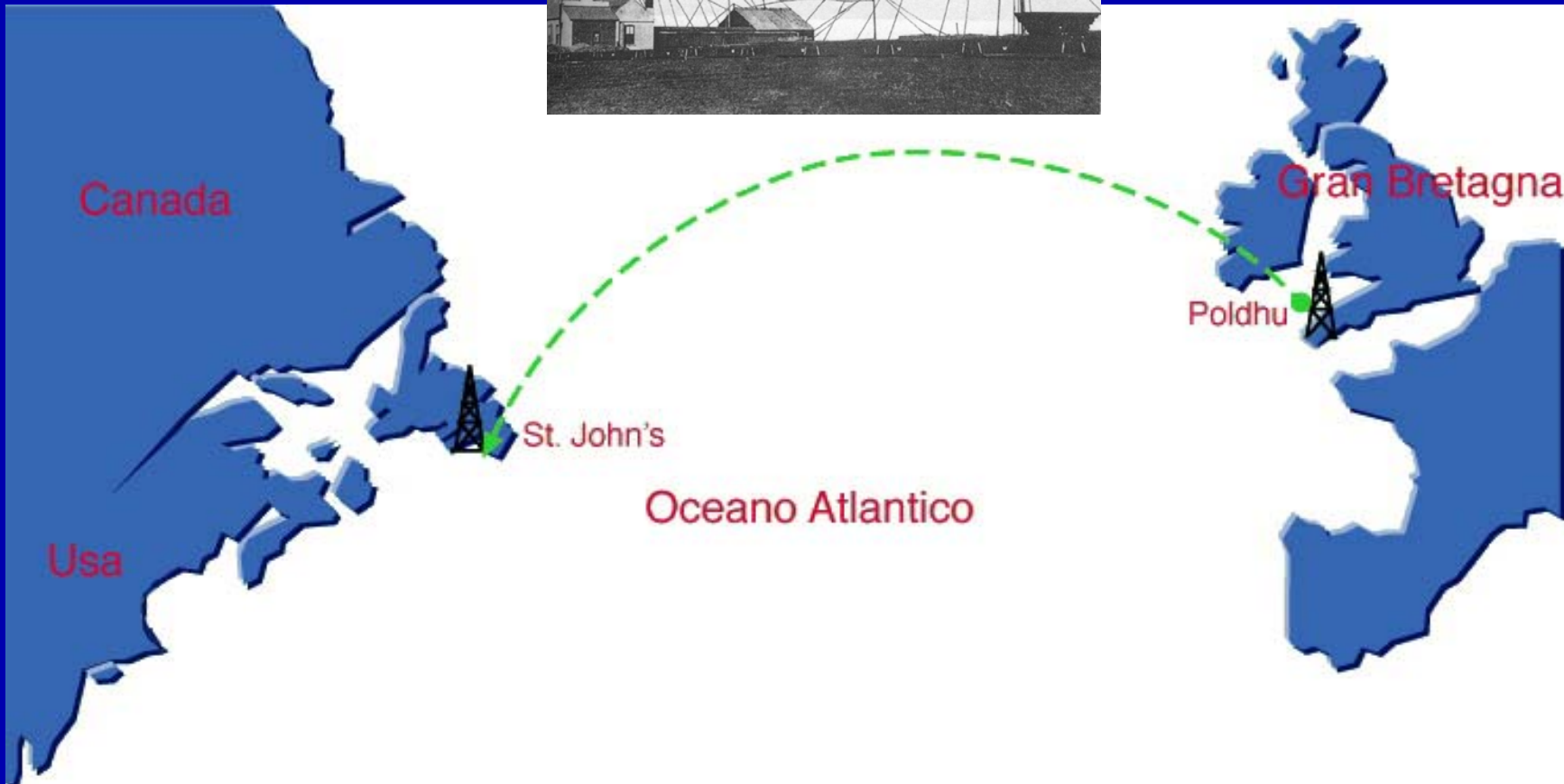
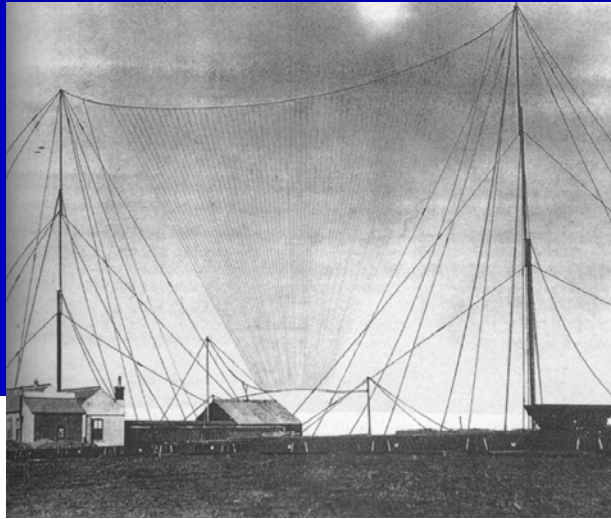
G. Marconi

With the concept now proven, Marconi left
Crookhaven on 1 Nov 1901, and returned to
Poldhu...



On 12 December 1901, a message was successfully transmitted from Poldhu to St. John's, Newfoundland.





12 December 1901:

Marconi receives in St. John's Newfoundland the first transatlantic radiotelegraphic signals. It was the most important success of his career.



WIRELESS SIGNALS ACROSS THE OCEAN

Marconi Says He Has Received Them From England.

Prearranged Letter Repeated at Intervals in Marconi Code.

The Italian Inventor Will Now Leave St. John's, N. F., and Will Go to Cornwall to Continue the Transatlantic Experiments from His Station There.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Dec. 14.—Guglielmo Marconi announced to-night the most wonderful scientific development of recent times. He stated that he had received electric signals across the Atlantic Ocean from his station in Cornwall, England.

Signor Marconi explains that before leaving England he made his plans for trying to accomplish this result, for, while his primary object was to communicate with Atlantic liners in midocean, he also hoped to receive wireless messages across the Atlantic.

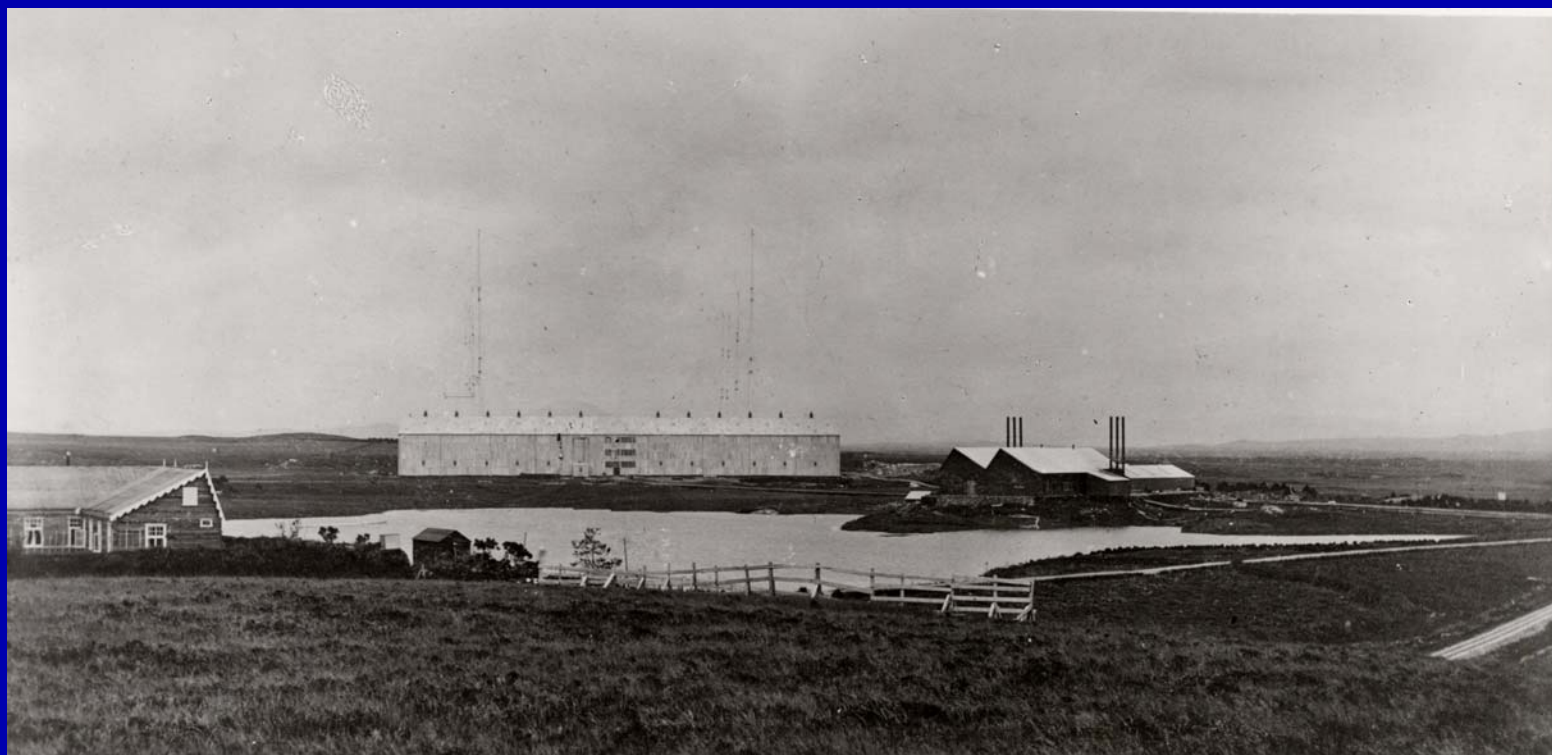
The Marconi station in Cornwall is a most

G. Marconi

In 1905, he built a station at Clifden, Co. Galway...







The Marconi wireless station, Clifden.



G. Marconi

...from which the first commercial wireless telegrams were sent 17 October 1907...



TRANSATLANTIC MARCONIGRAMS NOW AND HEREAFTER

ON THE morning of October 18, 1907, a young man sat at a telegraph key in a lonely station at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, and "talked" to Clifden, Ireland, not by a cable under the ocean, but through the air, as a man might talk with his friends across an alley. That marked the beginning of a new era in communication. Perhaps it will be regarded as an economic event as great as the opening of the first cable. At any rate, even though the wireless should not soon become a commercial competitor of the cable, to-day we must regard it as another link to bind the Old World to the New.

The mere wireless bridging of the Atlantic is no new thing. The new thing is the opening of a wireless "line" to the business of the world, the statement that some press messages will be accepted for transmission at the rate of five cents per word, and the sending of 10,000 words in one day at that rate. These things made the transatlantic wireless a servant of commerce.

The romance of this new marvel culminated on December 12, 1901, six years ago. On that day Mr. Marconi sat at a little flat table in an old barracks on Signal Hill, Newfoundland.

He held a telephone receiver to his ear and listened. The wire ran out to another wire that ran from the earth to a kite flying four hundred feet in air. The man at the receiver was quiet, contained, placid. For many minutes he sat unmoved; then a smile crossed his face. He handed the receiver to his assistant:

"See if you can hear anything, Mr. Kemp!" he asked.

The other man took the receiver and listened, while Mr. Marconi watched him closely. Suddenly a faint sound, like a distant echo, came over the wire. It might have been merely an accident, the flight of an insect against the suspended wire, or some little atmospheric disturbance. But it came again, still faint, but clear — the three dots that in the Morse code make the letter S. The thing was done.

A year later, December 16, 1902, the first long message was sent from the station at Glace Bay to the station in Great Britain, addressed to the London *Times*, from its own correspondent on the ground. Many other messages followed. In January, 1903, the station at Cape Cod sent greetings from



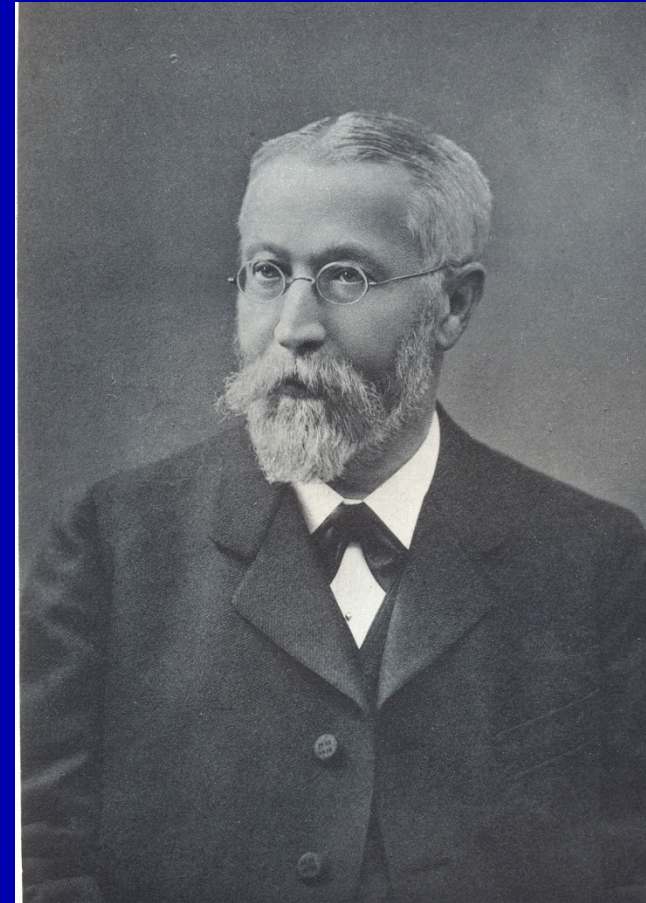
Alcock and Brown (first non-stop transatlantic flight 14-15 June 1919)



G. Marconi

Nobel Prize in Physics 1909 to

Guglielmo Marconi and Karl Ferdinand Braun



“in recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy”



“Broadcasting... is not the most significant form of modern communications, in so far as it is a “one way” communication.

A far greater importance attaches, in my opinion, to the possibility offered by radio of *exchanging* communications wherever the correspondents may be situated: whether in mid-ocean, or on the icepack of the pole, or in the water of a desert, or above the clouds in an airplane!”

Marconi, 1937



“With all our friction, jealousy and antagonism... the ideal of peace and fraternity remains unabated in us: we all yearn for a better life, based on a better understanding of one another...

In radio, we have a fitting tool for bringing the people of the world together...

a wide channel for the improvement of our mutual relations is available to us; we have only to follow its course in a spirit of tolerance and sympathy, solicitous of exploiting the achievements of science and human ingenuity for the common good.”

Marconi, 1937



“There cannot be many people who screwed up at school, failed to get into university, and then went on to win a Nobel Prize for Physics. But at least one did, and with good reason: he made radio happen.

In a few years of manic activity, Guglielmo Marconi managed to transform an obscure piece of maths into a social upheaval.”



“Marconi's 1909 Nobel prize seems all the more extraordinary when you consider that - unlike the physicist he shared it with, Ferdinand Braun - Marconi was not, by his own admission, any kind of scientist, or even much of an inventor.

He did not really make any fundamental discoveries, and radio was mostly a matter of assembling parts created by other people.”



“But the vision needed to see the possibilities of a new era of communication, and the unstoppable will to pursue it, were all his own.

No intellectual, Marconi earned his Nobel prize the hard way by dragging a great chunk of physics out of the lab and holding it up for the world to see, approve and, more importantly, buy.”





G. Marconi
10 Dic 1909

GUGLIELMO MARCONI

Premio Nobel

1909

2009

www.marconicentenarioionobel.it



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