

POSTMARKS OF HAMBURG

1673 – 1867

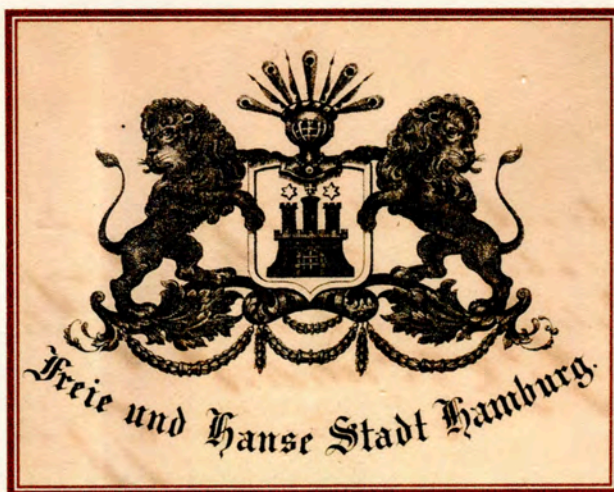


PORT. 1850

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LES MARQUES POSTALES DE HAMBOURG 1673 – 1867

SYNOPSIS

L'histoire postale de l'Allemagne a suivi de près l'histoire de ce pays. Hambourg, *ville hanséatique et ville-libre d'Empire*, a subi de nombreuses influences de la part des états voisins mais aussi des pays étrangers. C'est dans ce contexte que s'est élaboré cette collection qui se situe en **histoire postale** et en **marcophilie** mais avec un accent prononcé sur le **volet historique et social** de la ville de Hambourg.

Cette collection présente le tout début des marques postales de Hambourg y compris certaines marques litigieuses quant à leur appartenance. Naturellement, la maison princière de *Thurn und Taxis* va tenir une place importante puisqu'elle a détenu le monopole du système postal tout au long de l'existence du **Saint Empire romain germanique**.

Les guerres napoléoniennes vont apporter un grand bouleversement dans le système postal hambourgeois. L'annexion des états du nord, y compris Hambourg, par la France et la chute du Saint Empire romain germanique vont permettre de mettre en place un système postal '*à la française*'. Certains marteaux sont fabriqués à la hâte à Hambourg en attendant ceux de Paris. Ceci permet de mettre en évidence des **marques postales rares, provisoires et erronées**.

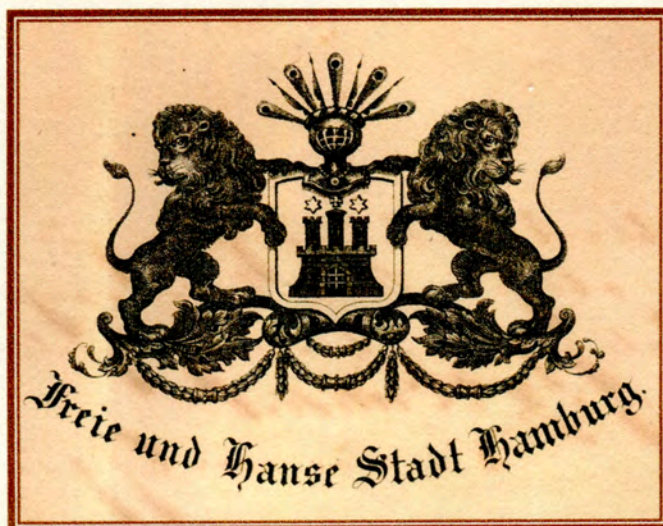
Avec la chute de Napoléon Bonaparte et le retrait des troupes de Hambourg, cette dernière va s'associer à une nouvelle structure politique : la **Confédération germanique**. Le service postal entre les états sera alors assuré par la Compagnie *Thurn und Taxis* jusqu'à la fin de la guerre austro-prussienne de 1866. À partir de 1867, la poste allemande sera dorénavant prussienne.

Au cours de la **Confédération germanique**, la ville-état de Hambourg va se développer; ainsi donc, le service postal avec la Grande-Bretagne et les pays d'outre-mer lui sera réservé.

Les états voisins dont les Royaumes de Hanovre, de Prusse et le Grand-Duché de Mecklenburg vont avoir leurs propres agences postales à Hambourg. Identifiées au nom de la ville, les marques postales auront cependant leur propre caractère. La poste prussienne surtout aura un développement remarquable et sera responsable du service postal à l'Est de Hambourg.

Les agences postales des Royaumes du Danemark, de Suède et de la Norvège seront aussi installées à Hambourg. Ces marques seront très particulières et très recherchées.

Cette collection présente les marques les plus intéressantes et qui reflètent l'histoire complexe de l'Allemagne et, plus particulièrement, de la *Ville libre et hanséatique de Hambourg*.



POSTMARKS OF HAMBURG 1673 – 1867

RÉSUMÉ

Germany's postal history closely mirrors that country's historical events. In the case of Hamburg, the Imperial Free and Hanseatic City, the influence of neighbouring states and foreign countries can also be felt. It is with regard to that context that was created this exhibit on **postal history** and **marcophily**, with a **specific focus on the historical and social aspects** of the City of Hamburg.

This exhibit shows the very first postmarks from Hamburg, including some marks contested because of their provenance. Of course, the Princely House of *Thurn und Taxis* will occupy a prominent position in this collection because of the monopoly it held on the postal system of the Holy Roman Empire.

The Napoleonic Wars brought important changes in Hamburg's postal system. The conquest and annexation of Northern States by France, including Hamburg, and the fall of the Holy Roman Empire brought about a new postal system *à la française*. While waiting for postal hammers from Paris, some were hastily manufactured in Hamburg. This allows us today to see **very rare, temporary or even erroneous postmarks**.

After Napoleon's overthrow and the departure of French troops from its territory, Hamburg joined a new political structure : the **German Confederation**. The postal service between states then became the responsibility of the *Thurn und Taxis Company* until the end of the Austro-Prussian War in 1866. Thus, starting in 1867, German post was a Prussian affair.

During the German Confederation period, the city-state of Hamburg signed trade treaties; as such, it was assigned with the postal service with Great Britain and other overseas countries.

Neighbouring states, including the Kingdoms of Hanover, Prussia, and the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg opened their own **postal agencies** in Hamburg. Bearing the name of the city, postmarks however exhibited their own specificities. Prussian Post in particular showed a remarkable development and was in charge of all postal services East of Hamburg.

Postal Agencies from the Kingdoms of Denmark, Sweden and Norway were also present in Hamburg. Their postmarks are quite peculiar and are highly sought after.

This exhibit presents some very interesting postmarks and is a reflection of the complex history of Germany, more specifically those of the **Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg**.

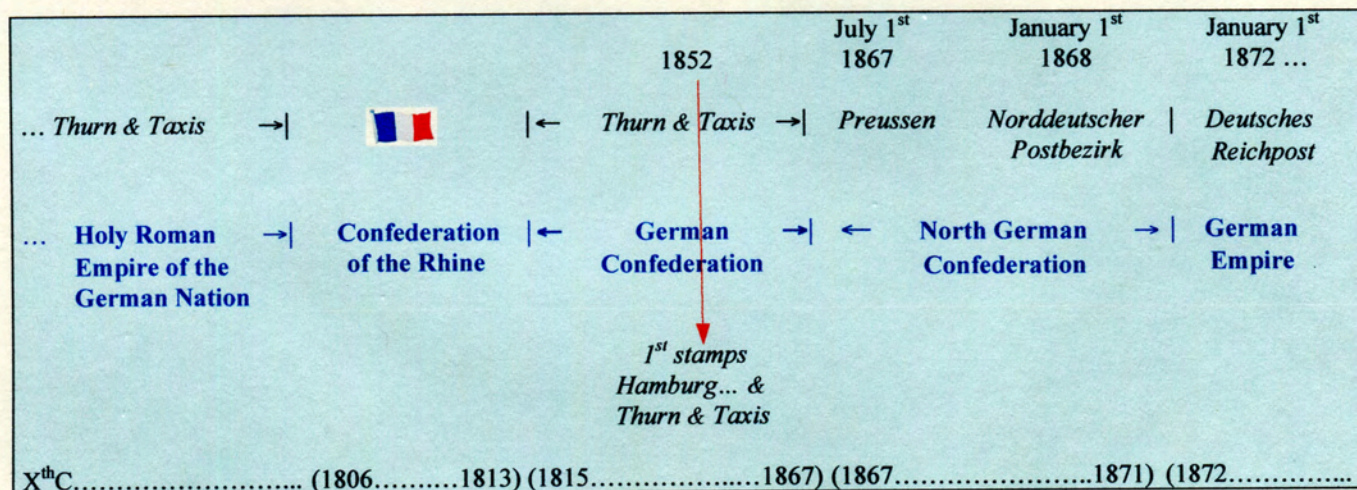
POSTMARKS OF HAMBURG (1673-1867)

PLAN

1. History of Germany : periods vs postal services (table)
2. The Imperial Post of *Thurn und Taxis*
 - 2.1. before 1751
 - 2.2. 1751 to 1806
3. The « Bureau Grand-Ducal »
 - 1806 to 1810
4. The annexation by France
 - 1810 to 1813
5. The *Thurn und Taxis* Postal Service
 - 1814 to 1867
6. The Hamburg City Post
7. The Postal Agencies of neighboring states
 - 7.1. Kingdom of Prussia
 - 7.2. Kingdom of Hanover
 - 7.3. Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg
8. The Royal Post Office of Denmark
9. The Royal Post Office of Norway and Sweden
10. Conclusion

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1. HISTORY OF GERMANY : periods vs postal services



2. THE IMPERIAL POST OF THURN UND TAXIS

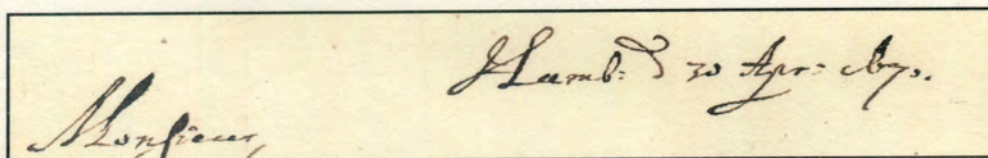
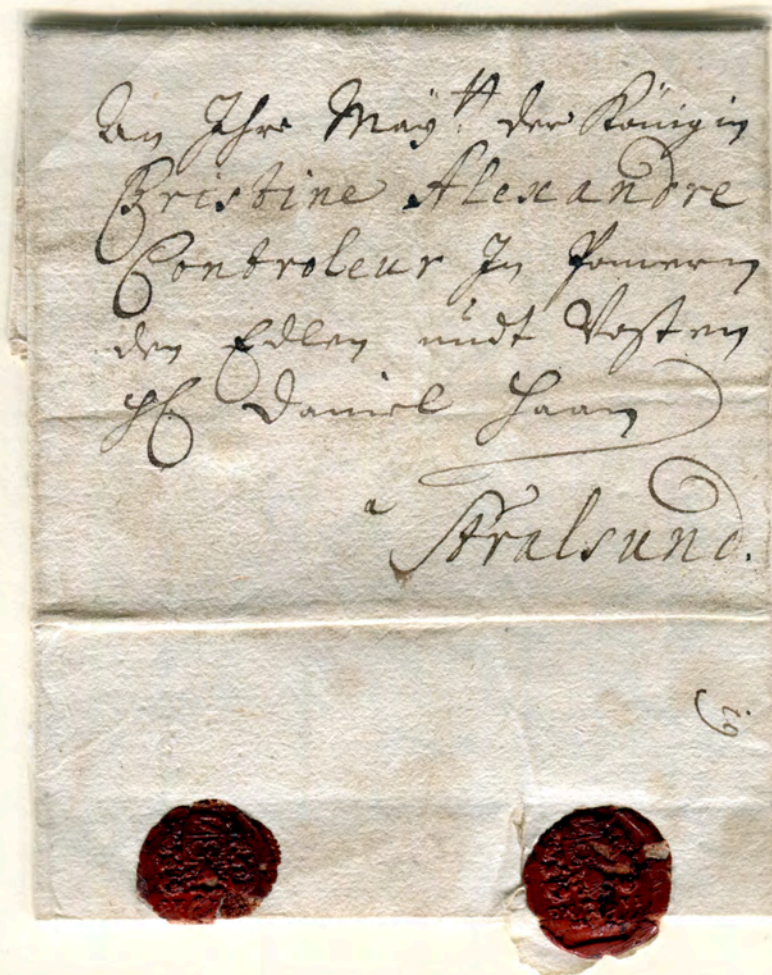
The House of Thurn und Taxis organized and directed from 1490 until 1867 most of the postal service in the *Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation*. Former courier on horseback in Italy in the 12th c., they were appointed Imperial Postmaster General in 1615. During the 17th c. the family rose from the status of baron, to count and imperial prince in 1695.

In 1628, the 12 largest cities of the Empire had a Thurn und Taxis at the head of the postal service.

2.1. BEFORE 1751

Courier inside the Empire

NO POSTMARK



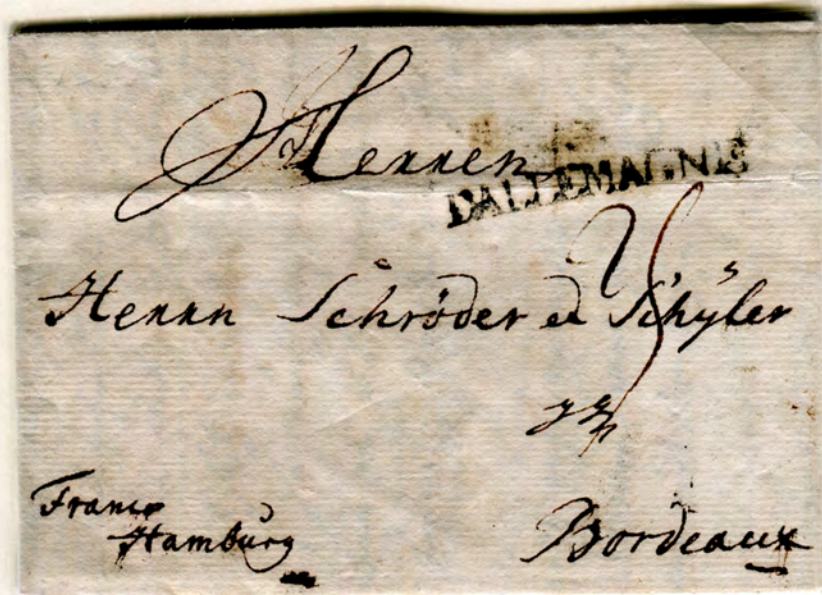
- Hamburg to Stralsund
(Pomerania)

- 30 April 1673

- prepaid letter

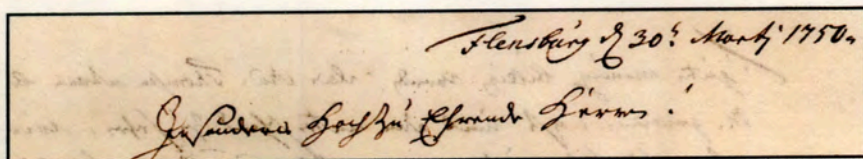
Letter from Hamburg sent outside of the Empire : straight line cancel D'ALLEMAGNE

- no German postmark
- **entry mark** in France applied at the exchange office or more probably at the *Bureau Central* in Paris
- straight line cancel **D'ALLEMAGNE** (with or without hyphen) - 5 types - **wooden hammer**
- from 1695 to approx. 1750



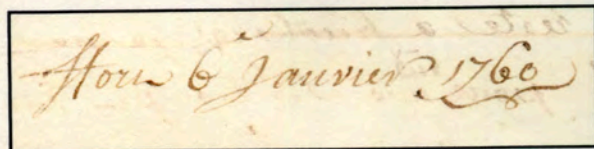
TYPE III : D'ALLEMAGNE

- cover from Flensburg
- (Schleswig, Denmark) to Bordeaux
- 1750
- *Franco Hamburg*
- postage paid from Flensburg to Hamburg
- postage due from Hamburg to Bordeaux : 25 *sols*
 - rate from Hamburg to Paris : 18 *sols*
 - rate from Paris to Bordeaux : 7 *sols*



Type V : D'ALLEMAGNE

- late use of entry mark in France
- from Horn to St-Diez en Lorraine
- 1760
- *fco 1/g* = franco
 - = postage paid 1 *gros*
 - = 17 *sols*



2.2. FROM 1751 TO 1806

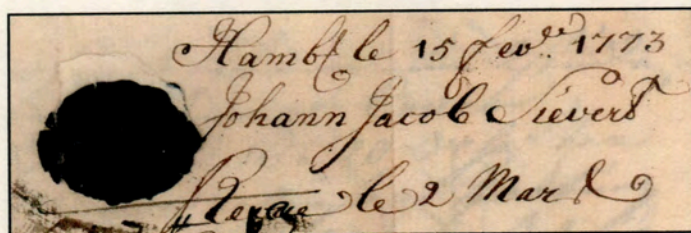
2.2.1. straight line **HAMBOURG**

- in use 1751 to 1784
- metal canceller
- *German postmark of origin or French transit mark ?*
- *Argument : only on letters transiting by Paris to Western / Southern France*

LETTERS FROM HAMBURG TO BORDEAUX TRANSITING BY PARIS : POSTMARK HAMBOURG



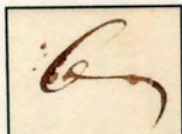
- letter from Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1773
- postage due - single rate : 34 *sols* (rate of 1759)
 - Hamburg to Paris : 24 *sols*
 - Paris to Bordeaux : 10 *sols*



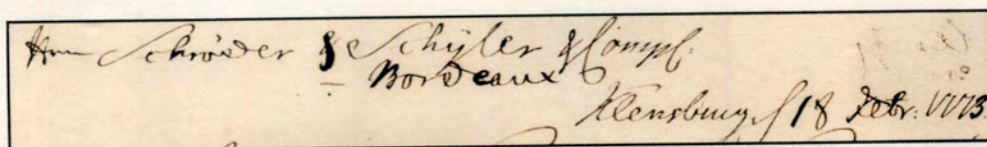
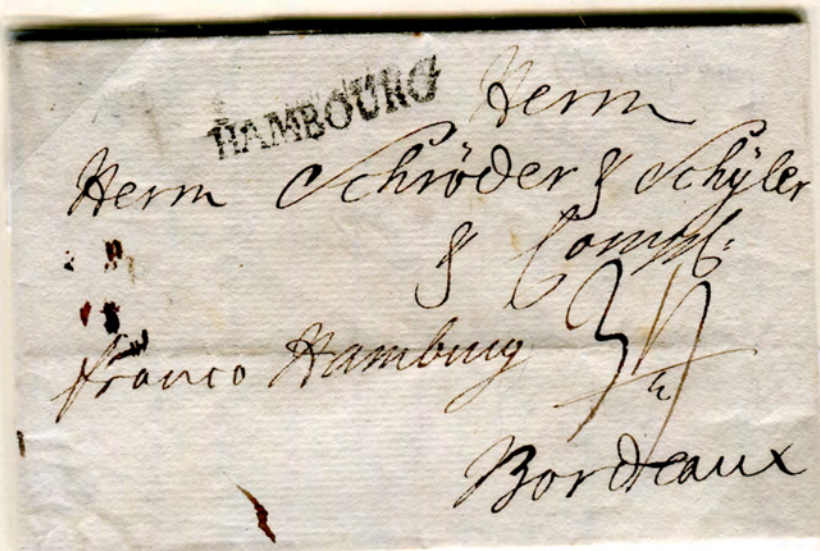
2.2.1. Straight line HAMBOURG

- cover from Flensburg, Denmark to Bordeaux
- 1773
- franco Hamburg : postage paid to Hamburg 6 Danish shillings

verso



- postage due from Hamburg to Bordeaux : 34 sols
 - Hamburg to Paris : 24 sols
 - Paris to Bordeaux : 10 sols
 - single rate letter

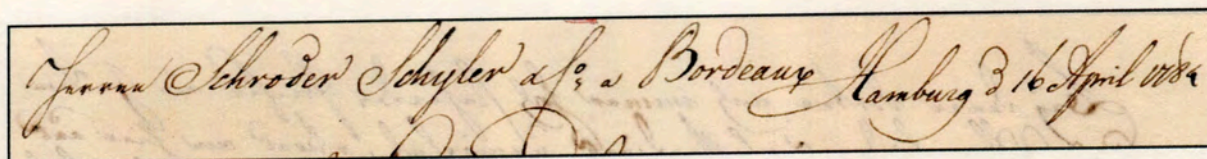


- from Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1784
- postage due : 3 livres 6 sols = 66 sols
- double rate letter

d =



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ livre} = 20 \text{ sols} \\ \times 3 = 60 \text{ sols} + 6 \\ = 66 \text{ sols} \end{array} \right\}$$



LETTER INSIDE THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

NO POSTMARK HAMBOURG

- Since there is no postmark on letters sent inside the Holy Roman Empire, we maintain that the postmark **Hambourg** is a French cachet applied on letters transiting by the *Bureau Central des Postes* in Paris.



- cover from Hamburg to Frankfurt-am-Main
- 1760
- postage due : 3 kreuzers in red crayon

Hambourg. le 20. fev. 1760.

During the French Revolution (1789-1815), postal relations with France were difficult. It seemed safer for some to pass mail through Holland. At the time, this country was politically the Batavian Republic, a French Client Republic.

- straight line cancel **D'HOLLANDE** is a French transit postmark from the *Bureau Central* in Paris. - types
- no postmark of origin from Hamburg



- **D'HOLLANDE** type I
- letter from Hamburg to Mugron, France
- Republican calendar :
21 messidor an 7 → July 9 1799
- *franco* Amsterdam
- postage due from Amsterdam to Mugron via Paris
- 30 sols

Hamburg 21. Messidor An 7.

- **D'HOLLANDE** type II
- letter from Hamburg to Lyon
- March 29 1799
- *franco* Amsterdam
- postage due from Amsterdam to Lyon via Paris
- 28 sols



Hamburg 29. Mars 1799.

2.2. FROM 1751 TO 1806

2.2.1. straight line **HAMBOURG**

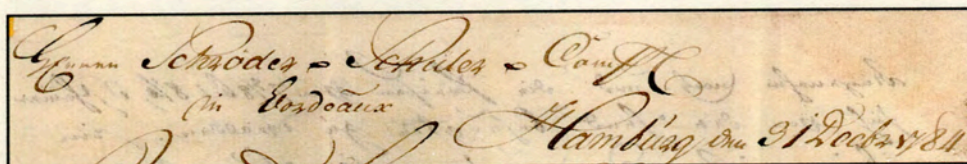
2.2.2. straight line **HAMBURG**

- from 1784 to 1806
- metal die handstamp device - 13 types
 - 13 types during 22 years but **3 types the first year**
- mark of origin from Hamburg for the Imperial Post of *Thurn und Taxis*

➤ This postmark **HAMBURG** is considered to be the **FIRST** postmark from Hamburg for the Imperial Post of *Thurn und Taxis*.



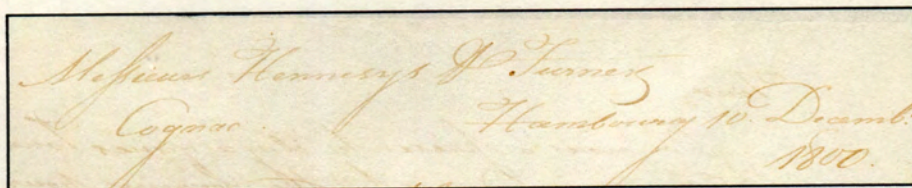
- straight line cancel **HAMBURG**
- **type I** L = 27 x 4 mm « **H** » H = 4,8 mm → **RARE**
- 25.04.1784 – 27.06.1784
- letter from Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1784
- postage due for a single rate letter : 34 sols

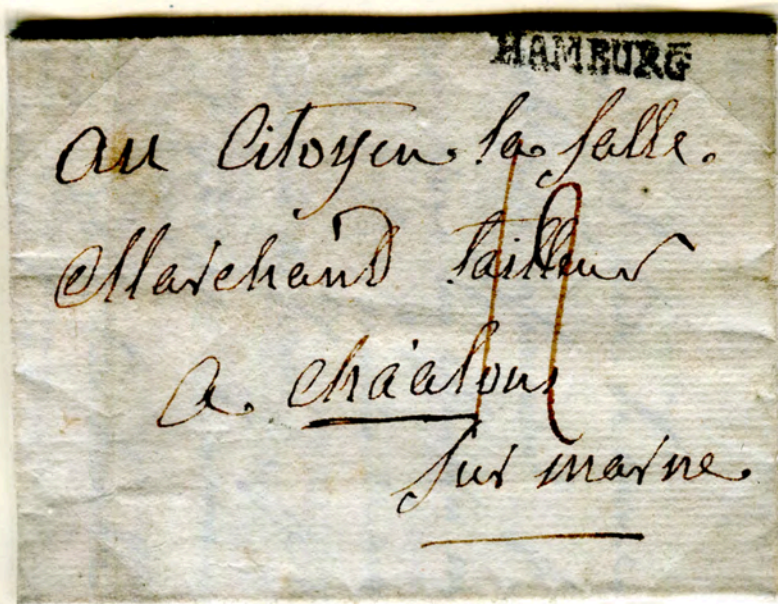


- In 1797-1802, Hamburg is invaded by the Danish troops allied of Napoléon Bonaparte.
- An **italic postmark HAMBURG** (black ink) will be in use from 01.04.1797 to 22.02.1802.
- This postmark is very hard to find.
- During this period the postmark HAMBURG types X, XI, XII and XIII can be found on covers.



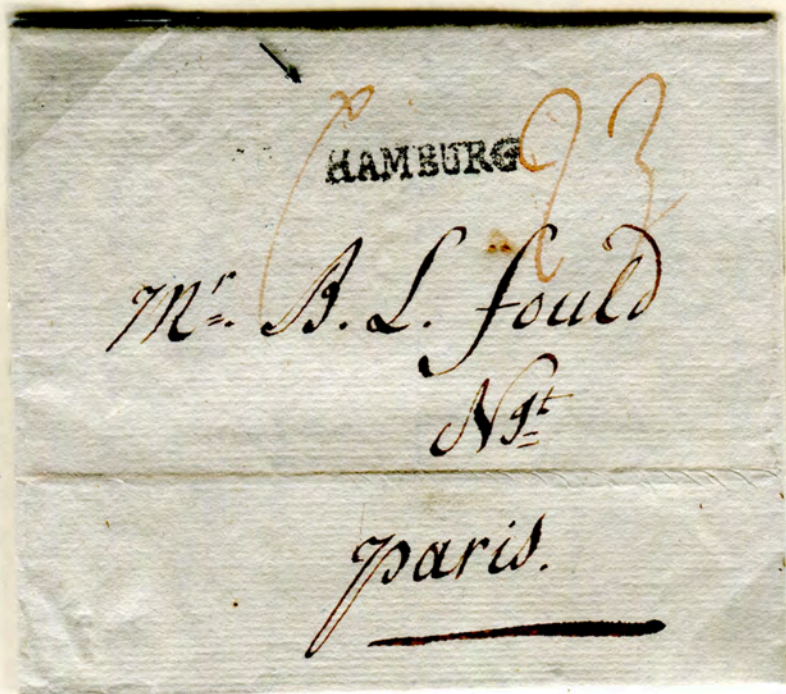
- letter from Hamburg to Cognac, France
- mark of origin **HAMBURG**
- 1800
- rated 17 décimes (new French currency of 1800)
- no transit or receiving postmark





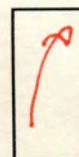
- straight line cancel HAMBURG type IX
- L=25,5 x 3,5 mm
- 16.11.1796 to xx
- from Hamburg to Chaalons-sur-Marne, France
- 1800
- single rate letter 12 *décimes*
 - new monetary system : law of December 8 1799
 - effective July 21 1800 (post)
 - letter sent during the French Revolution; the addressee : *Au Citoyen La Salle...*

a hambourg le 1^{er} 8bre 1800



verso
receiving
postmark
in Paris

- straight line cancel HAMBURG type XIII L= 24,5 x 4 mm
- 1.6.1798 to 2.7.1806
- letter from Hamburg to Paris • 1800
- double rate letter : 23 *décimes* - (new monetary system of 1800)



double rate
paraph

- In 1802, the Empire is divided in 4 *rayons* depending on the distance from the city post office to the French border.
Hamburg, being situated in the farthest rayon will issue this new postmark :

« R.4.HAMBURG »

- From 24.9.1802 to 3.9.1806 until the arrival of the French army in October 1806.



- letter from Hamburg to Turin, Italy
- 1804
- postpaid
 - *franco* manuscript
 - **P.P.** cachet from the Hamburg post office varies in sizes depending on the city
 - **10** Hamburgian schillings in red crayon has been paid by the sender
- **P.P.P.P.** is a French transit mark of 1788 from the *Grande Poste* in Paris
 - the P.P.P.P. signifies *Port-Payé-Passe-Paris*
- no receiving postmark

R.4.HAMBURG - 2 different types



- Hamburg to Château-Gonthier, France
- 1803
- postage due : 26 décimes
- **double rate letter** : 8 g
- exceeding 7,5 g



ce 14 ceptembre ce 1803

- Hamburg to Bordeaux, France
- 1806
- postage due : 19 décimes
- **single rate letter**



Gaede & Kipsch à Bordeaux *Lamburg le 4th August 1806.*

**POSTMARKS FROM THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION OF THURN und TAXIS
USED LATER BY THE FRENCH ADMINISTRATION**

BASSE – SAXE

- **transit mark** on letters going through Hamburg's post office will receive a **rare postmark** :
- seen in two different periods : 1802 and 15.03 to 16.10. 1806 → **8 months**
- the French administration will use this postmark again on 14.03.1814

- from Lübeck to Bordeaux via Hamburg
- 1806
- franco Lübeck to Hamburg
- taxes to be paid from Hamburg to Bordeaux :
- postage due 19 décimes
- single rate letter



DÄNNEMARK

- **transit mark** from Hamburg on letters from Danish territory
- in use from 1786 to 1806
- the French administration will use this postmark again on 12.06.1813 to 19.07.1813 → **1 month**



- from Flensburg (Schleswig : Danish) to Bordeaux
- 1788
- postpaid to Hamburg
- postage due from Hamburg to Bordeaux
- double rate letter : 34 décimes

Historical Facts : THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

« **Napoléon Bonaparte** (1769-1821) was a French political and military leader who rose to prominence during the latter stages of the French Revolution and its associated wars in Europe. He is widely regarded as one of the greatest commanders in history. »

War of the Third Coalition. As the Austrian army marched on Bavaria, Napoléon commanded his *Grande Armée* to encircle the Austrian forces about to attack France and severed their lines of communication. Six weeks later, Napoléon defeated Austria and Prussia at **Austerlitz**. Austria had to concede territory; the Peace of Pressburg led to :

- > the **dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire**
- > **creation of the Confederation of the Rhine with Napoléon named as its « Protector. »**

CONSEQUENCES ON THE POSTAL SYSTEM

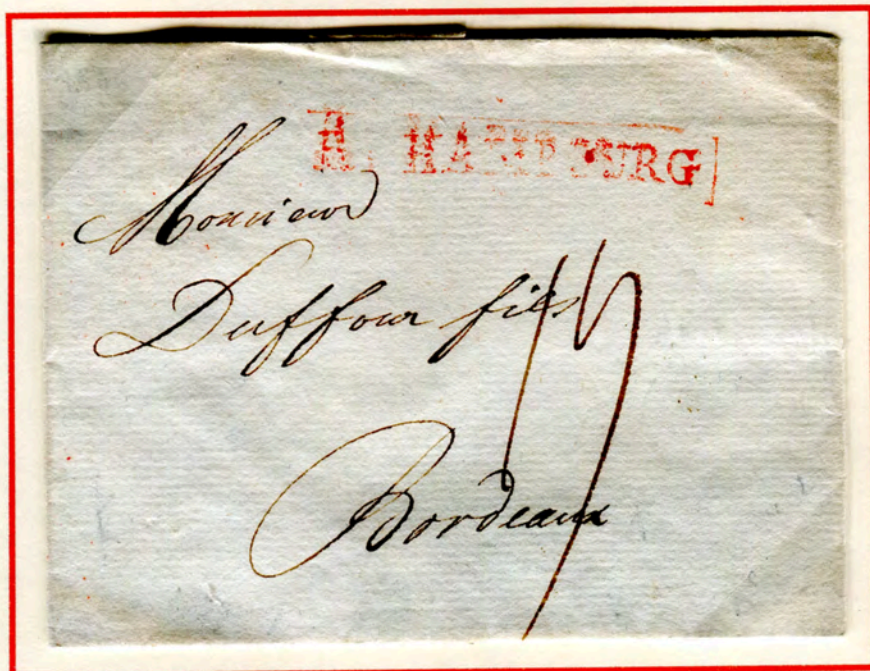
- > closing of the *Thurn und Taxis* post offices
- > French postal service under the responsibility of Joachim Murat appointed Grand-Duke of Berg and Cleves
- > French postmarks



* * * * *

3. THE « GRAND-DUCAL OFFICE OF BERG AND CLEVES »

- 1806 to 1810
 - > **TEMPORARY POSTMARK** → 15.9.1806 to 20.1.1807
 - > **RARE** → in use : 4 months
 - > **R.HAMBOURG**



- Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1806
- **single rate letter**
- taxed 19 décimes



- backstamped at the *Hôtel des Postes* in Paris
 - crowned double circle mark

➤ At the beginning of 1807, the first postmarks of the *Bureau Grand Ducal* are issued. There is then a French type postal organization.

➤ A boxed French postmark in red ink is now issued;
it may be used as a mark of origin or a transit mark.

➤ 3.1.1807 to 4.2.1807

➤ **VERY RARE**

Since the dater in the hammer is changed by hand every day, the employee made a mistake replacing the metal die indicating the year. THE NUMBERS OF THE YEAR ARE INVERTED.

➤ A VERY RARE SPECIMENONLY ONE KNOWN

B.G.D. HAMBOURG

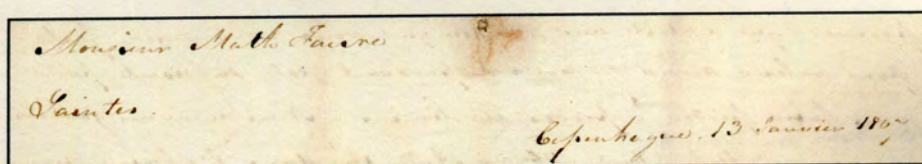
1807 Janv.21. R.4.

B.G.D. HAMBOURG

7081 Janv.21. R.4.



- French transit postmark of Hamburg
- letter from Copenhagen, Denmark to Saintes, France
- double rated letter : 27 décimes → 8g. > 7,5g



- As soon as the beginning of February, the *Bureau* changed the postmark for a **shorter version**.

↓
HAMBURG.4
B.G.D. 17 Mars. 1807.

- The Bureau soon realized that an **error had been made in the spelling** of the French name
HAMBOURG
- 01.1807 to 8.4.1807

➤ **A VERY RARE SPECIMEN**

letter « O » missing



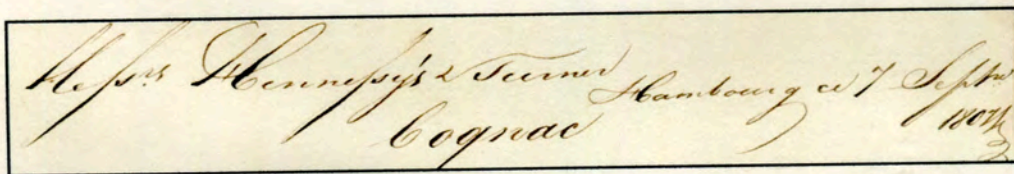
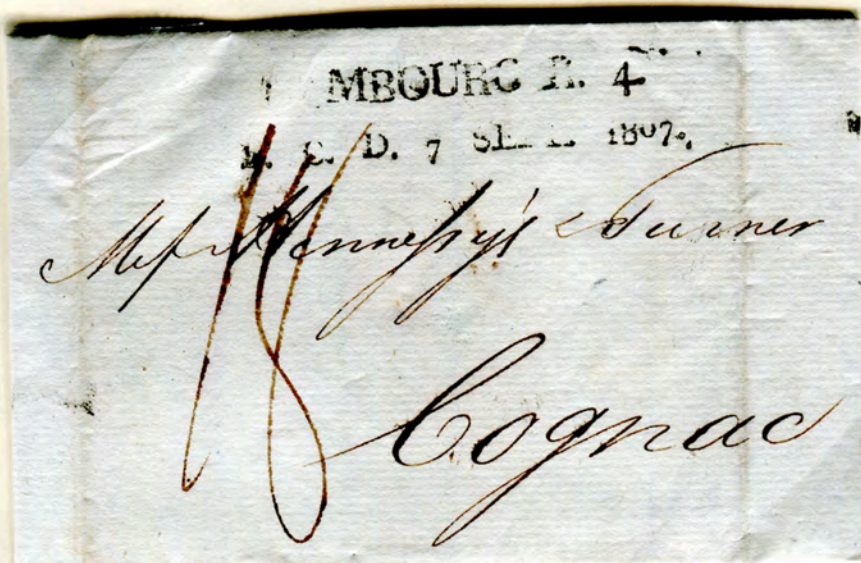
- **French postmark of origin** from Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1807
- single rate letter : 19 décimes

*J. Schröder & Co in Bordeaux
Hamburg le 27 Mars 1807*

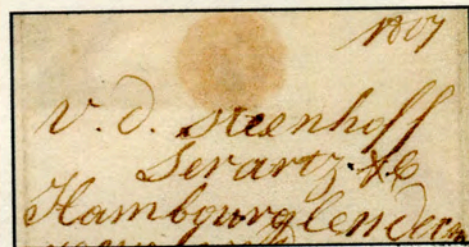
- In April 1807, the *Bureau* started using **black ink**.
- Different types for each of the 9 months that it was in use.
- 04.1807 to 12.1807

HAMBOURG R. 4.
B. G. D. 7 SEPT 1807

- Postmark of origin
- Hamburg to Cognac, France
- Sept. 1807
- Postage due
- Single rate letter : 18 décimes



- Postmark of origin
- Hamburg to Bordeaux, France
- Decem. 1807
- Postage due
- Single rate letter : 19 décimes



Historical Facts : On February 20 1808, Murat leaves the Grand-Duchy of Berg and Cleves. He becomes the Emperor's Lieutenant in Spain; on July 15 1808, he receives the title of King of Naples and Sicily.

- The Decree of July 15 1808 will acknowledge Jacques Claude Beugnot as the administrator of the Grand-Duchy of Berg and Cleves.
- All post offices of Hamburg are combined in only one bureau
- Postmark from 01.1808 to 18.09.1809

**HAMBOURG 4.
24 AUG. 1808.**

Hamburg 24 Aug. 1808



- postmark of origin
- Hamburg to Bordeaux
- postage due 27 décimes
- double rate letter : 8g exceeding 7.5g (single rate)

**HAMBOURG 4.
14. JAN. 1809.**

- postmark of origin
- Hamburg to Bordeaux
- postage due 27 décimes
- double rate letter



*M^{me} Gastand
Hamburg le 14 Janvier 1809
regu le 14 Janvier 1809*

➤ On September 1809, we have a much simpler postmark :

R. 4. HAMBOURG

09.1809 – 08.1811

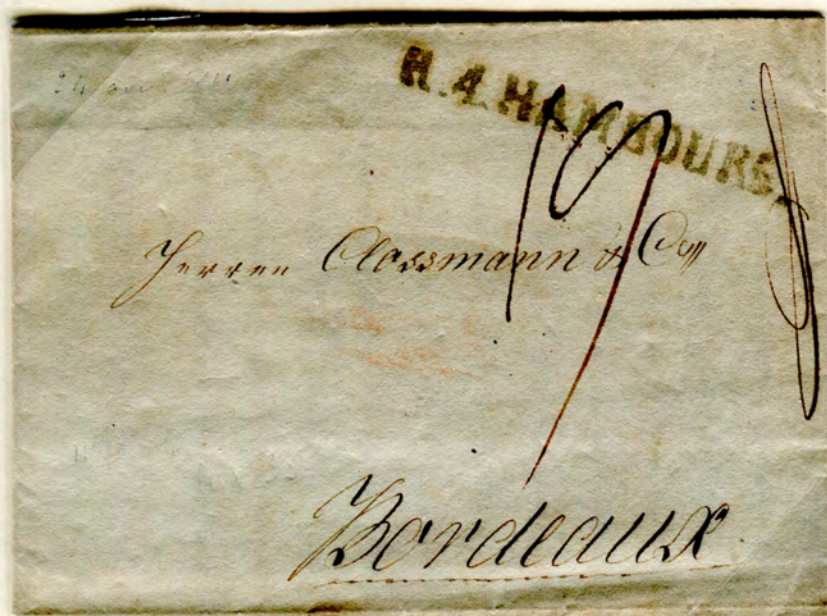
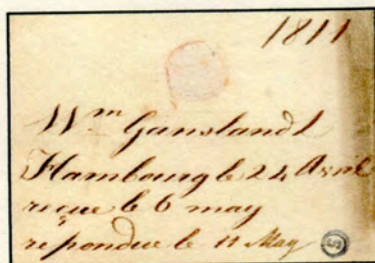
➤ 2 types



- type 1
- Altona (Danish) to Bremen
- carried by private transportation to Hamburg where it was mailed
- 1810
- postage due 7 grote in red crayon



- type 2
- Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1811
- postage due 19 décimes
- single rate letter
- * certified P.SEM



Certified Peter Sem



4. THE ANNEXATION BY FRANCE

1810 - 1813

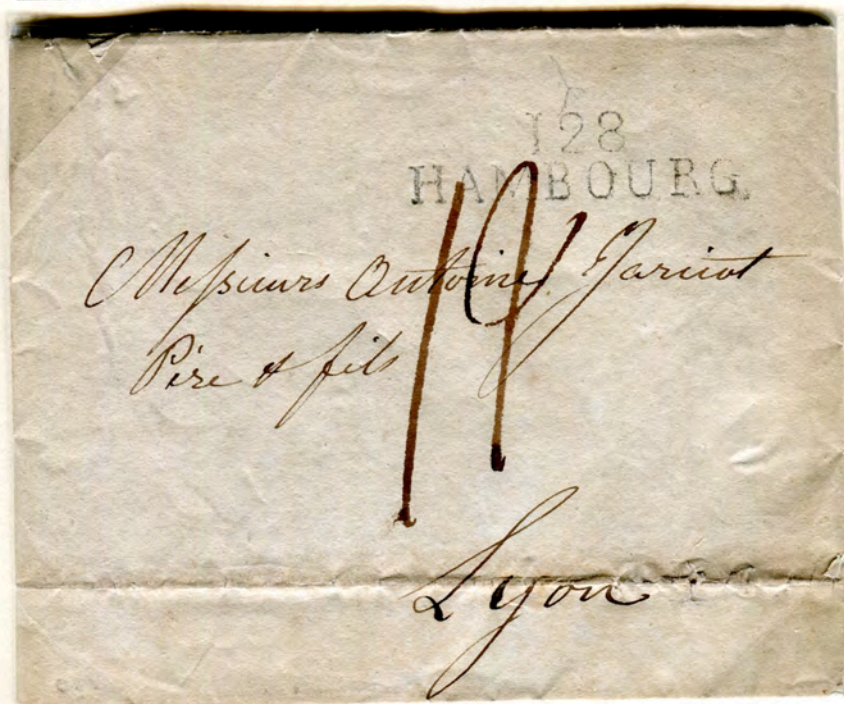
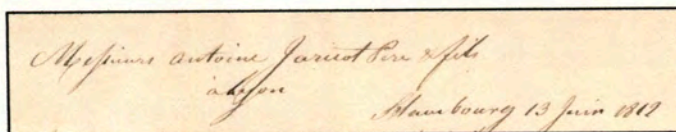
Historical Facts. The Continental Blockade.

In 1810, the northern states of the former Holy Roman Empire are annexed to the Kingdom of France with a French administration to better monitor the trade embargo against the Kingdom of England; it was called the Continental Blockade

This northern section was divided into 9 departments according to the new French regulations of 1790.



Hamburg was department # 128
Bouches-de-l'Elbe



➤ postmark of origin

128
HAMBOURG

➤ 26.08.1811 to 09.11.1813

- letter from Hamburg to Lyon, France
- 1812
- postage due 19 décimes

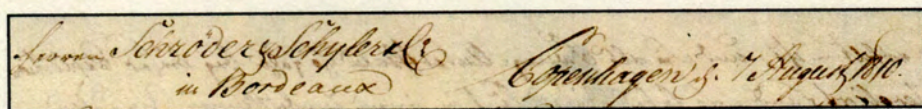
- In 1810, a French **transit postmark** is found on letters from Denmark to France going through Hamburg.

**DANNEMARC.
P..HAMBOURG..R.4.**

- 03.1810 to 07.1811



- Copenhagen, Denmark to Bordeaux, France
- August 07 1810
- **Transit mark** from Hamburg
- Postage due : 19 *décimes*
 - this amount is only for the transit from Hamburg to Bordeaux;
 - the sender paid the tax from Copenhagen to Hamburg :
manuscript *Fee Hamburg*
- upper right : file number 14



- In 1811, a new French **transit postmark** is found on letters from Denmark to France going through Hamburg.

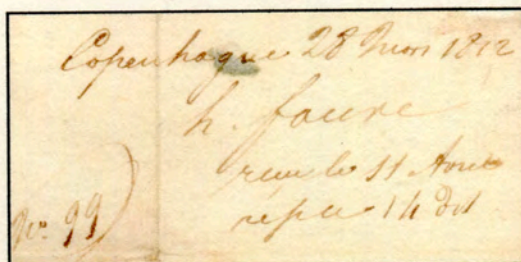
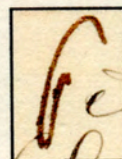
DANNEMARC
P.HAMBOURG

- This cover has a faulty postmark : the letter « R » is missing
- This error will be found on letters only during the month of June 1812 → VERY RARE

DANNEMARC
P.HAMBOUG

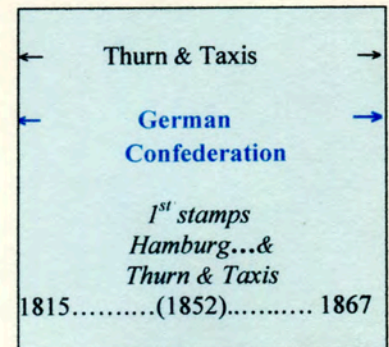


- from Copenhagen, Denmark to Lyon, France
- transit mark from Hamburg
- 28 June 1812
- postage due 19 décimes
- special mark → single rate letter →
- upper right corner : 53 → file number



Historical Facts : in 1813, Napoléon Bonaparte is defeated in the battle of Leipzig

- the Confederation of the Rhine collapses
- in 1814, the Treaty of Paris, declared the German States independent
- in 1815, the Congress of Vienna established the **German Confederation**; this union consisted of the states from the Confederation of the Rhine plus two main powers : Austria and Prussia.
- the postal service of the *House of Thurn und Taxis* comes back as a private company.

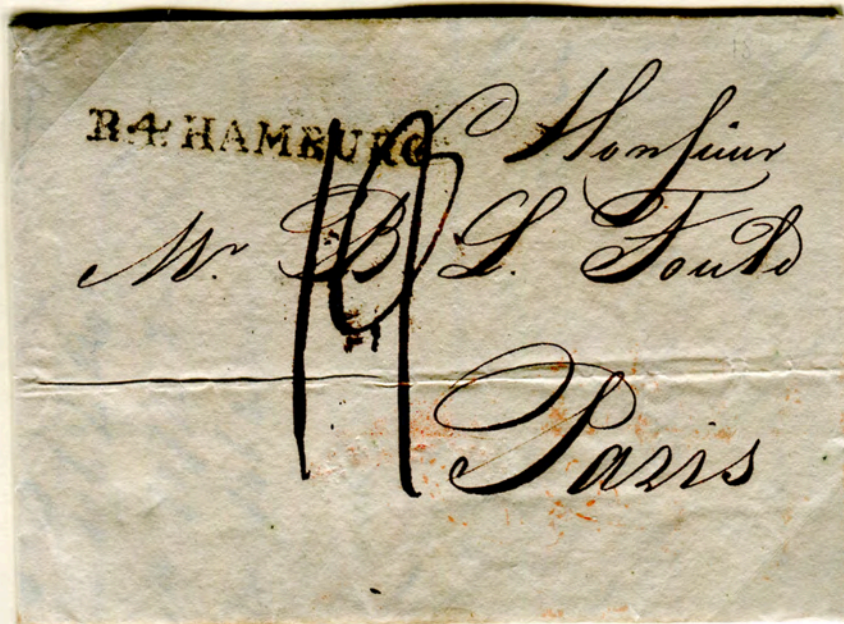


5. THE THURN UND TAXIS POSTAL SERVICE

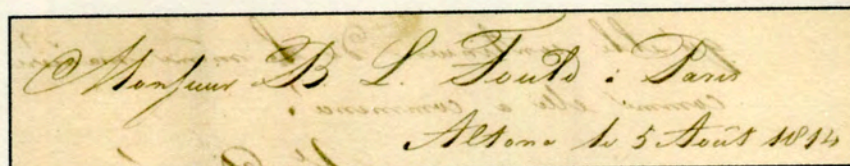
- on May 31st 1814, the last French regiment leaves Hamburg
- on June 1st 1814, the Thurn und Taxis company is at the head of the postal administration with the same postmark as before the *Rheinbund* :

R.4.HAMBURG

01.06.1814 – 12.1818



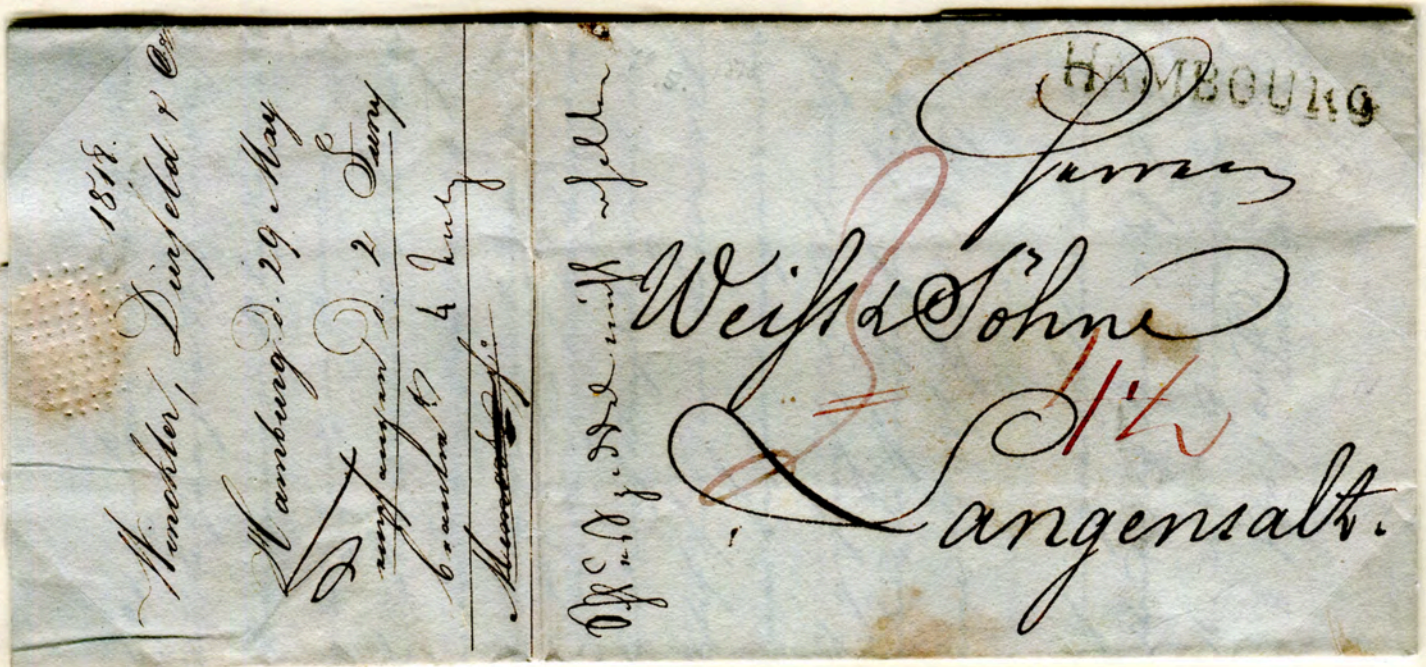
- Altona to Paris; carried by private transportation to Hamburg
- 1814
- postage due 19 décimes for a single rate letter
- on the back, a receiving postmark → triple circle dated 13 Août 1814 →



- During the **German Confederation** period many different types of postmark will be in use. Some simultaneously, as indicated.
- The letters **from Hamburg** to France will pass through a Franco-German exchange office such as : Givet (1814), Strasbourg (1808), Forbach (1820), Valenciennes (1832), Erquelines (1862).
 - At the beginning, they are frameless; after 1815, they are with frame.
 - The cachet may be applied at this bureau or at the *Bureau central* in Paris.
 - The color **red** indicates the morning courier, **blue** is for the evening mail.
- 15 states and free-cities will issue **stamps**; the House of Thurn und Taxis will also issue stamps.

HAMBOURG

21.06.1814 – 03.01.1840

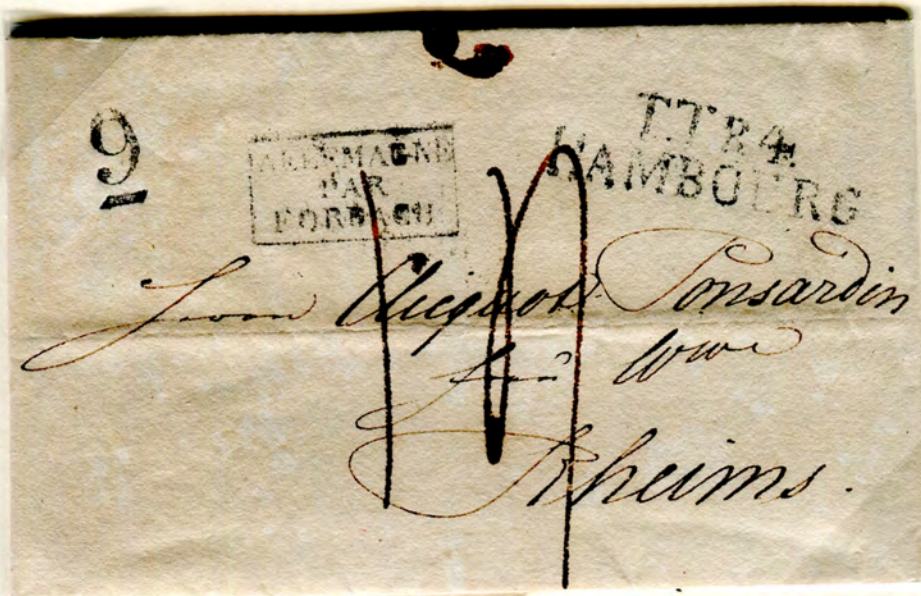


- Hamburg to Langensaltz(a), Thuringia
- 1818
- postage due
- single rate letter
- 3 silbergroschen cross out replaced by 4 1/2 sgr.

Hamburg 29 May 1818

T.T.R 4
HAMBOURG

08.04.1820 – 21.04.1841



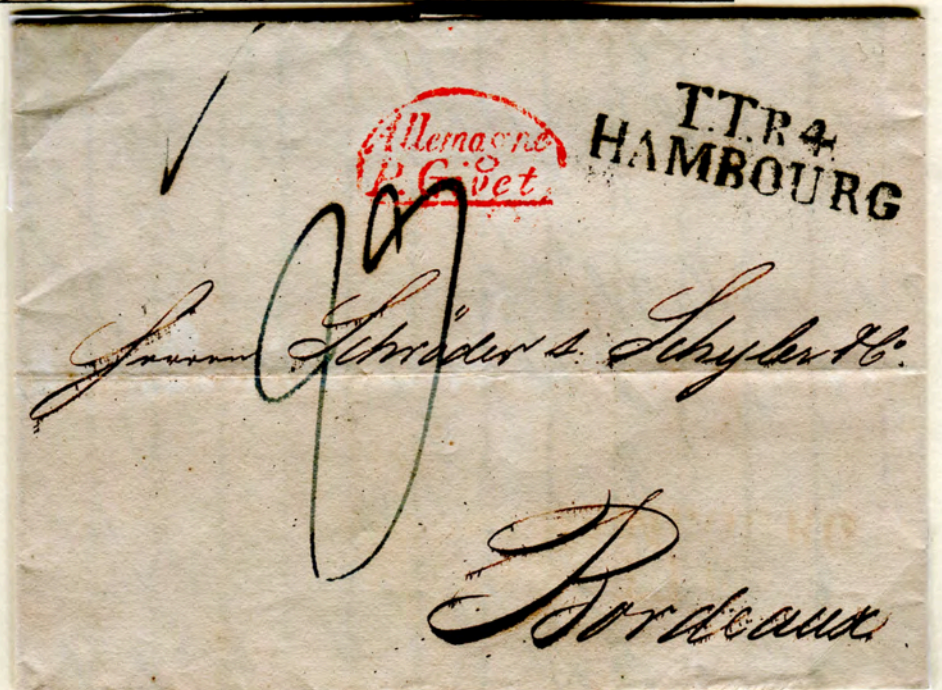
- Hamburg to Rheims
- 1829
- **Forbach** boxed cachet of entry in France in blue ink : evening courier
- postage due 14 décimes
- single rate letter
- + 9 décimes = *chiffre-taxe* on front of letter for extra distance in French territory
- → 9 on front of letter: postage due

*Monsieur Niquet Ponsardin
Hambourg. 13. May 1829*

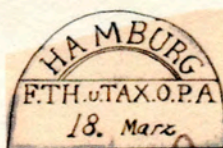
- Hamburg to Bordeaux
- 1834
- **Givet** cachet from the exchange office in red ink: morning courier
- postage due : 27 décimes
- double rate letter → ✓



- receiving mark in Bordeaux
verso



*Monsieur Schröder & Schyler & Co.
Hambourg 1^{re} Dec 1834*



F.T.H.u.TAX.O.P.A.
1818 – 1830

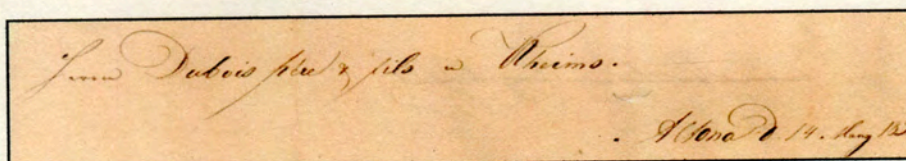
➤ frequently associated with the cachet from the postal service :

T.T.R.4.
{ *Thurn und Taxis Rayon 4* }
27.01.1819 – 1845



- Altona to Rheims, France
 - * Altona was under the administration of the Danish monarchy from 1640 to 1864
- Letter carried by private transport from Altona to Hamburg (no cachet or postmark)
- 1820
- entry in France by the exchange office in **Forbach**; boxed 3 lines cachet :

ALLEMAGNE
PAR
FORBACH
- double rate letter of 8,9g
- cross out 21 décimes; postage due 22 décimes



- there is no Royal Post Office of Denmark in Hamburg at the time - it will open in 1837
- the letters from Denmark will be transported by the *Thurn und Taxis* postal service using their transit postmark and cachet

DANEMARCK
PAR HAMBOURG
17.06.1814 – 10.10.1854

+ T.T.R.4.
27.01.1819 – 1845



- Copenhagen to Cette, France
- 1821
- entry in France by *Strasbourg* – boxed cachet in black ink
ALLEMAGNE
PAR
STRASBOURG
- postage paid from Copenhagen to Hamburg : *fH*
- postage due 20 décimes
- 36 = file number

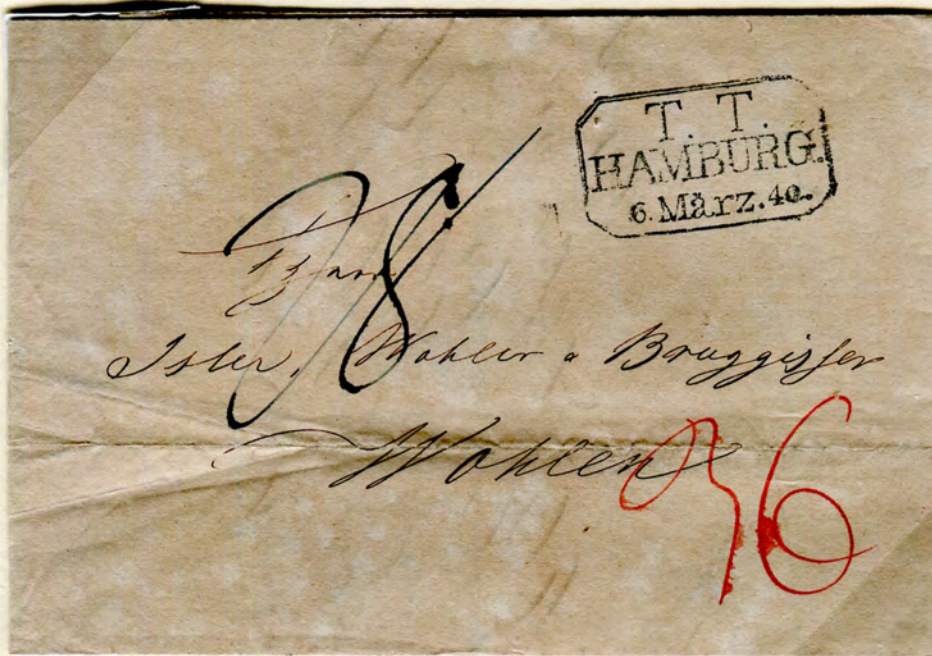
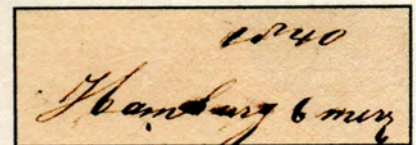


- Copenhagen to Nantes, France
- 1837
- entry in France by the exchange office in *Givet* in red ink
- postage paid from Copenhagen to Hamburg : *fH*
- postage due 27 décimes
- double rate letter = ✓
- 45 = file number

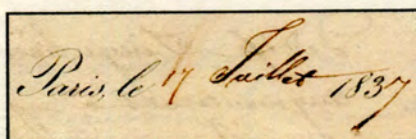
- in 1830, a new cancelling device arrives in Hamburg; it is a boxed **double** lined datestamp with three lines with day, month and year.
- replacing the previous one.
- from 05.01.30 to 11.01.1845



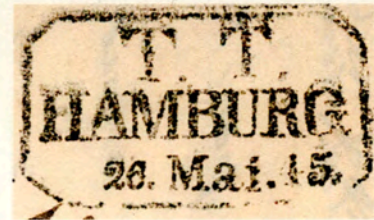
- Hamburg to Wohlen, Switzerland
- this cancel used as a **postmark of origin**
- 1840
- postage due
 - blue ink: **28** shillings Hamburg
 - red ink : **36** rappen



- Paris, France to Hamburg
- this cancel used as a **receiving postmark**
- **CF3R**
Correspondance française de 3è rayon - inscription from the franco-german office
- 1837
- postage due 12 Hamburgian shillings



- five years later, a second canceller is in use; it is a boxed 3 lines postmark but the perimeter is a single line.
- used as a **postmark of origin** and a **receiving mark**
- simultaneously with the previous one
- from 03.1835 to 06.1845



- **postmark of origin**
- Hamburg to Strasbourg, France
- 1845
- postage due 7 décimes
- backstamp at Strasbourg
 - double circle cancel with the French department 67 :
Bas-Rhin



Monsieur G. F. Herrenschmidt : Strasbourg,
 le 26 Mai 1845

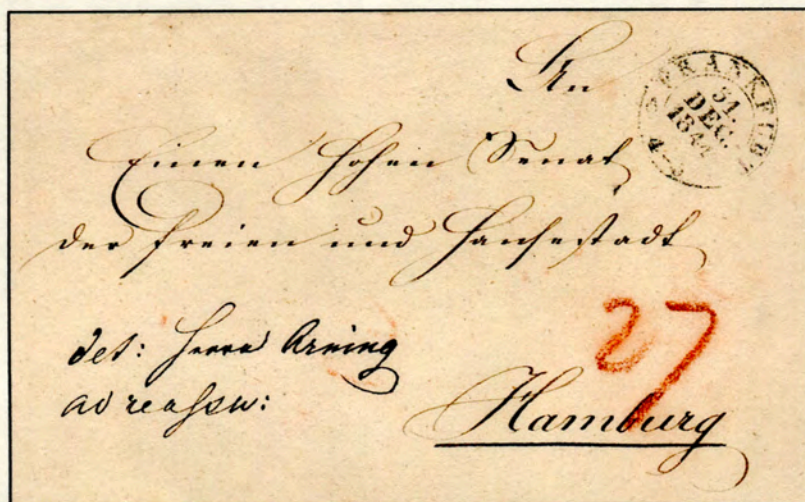


- **receiving postmark**
- Frankfurt a/M to Hamburg
- 1844
- postage due **27** Hamburgian shillings
in red crayon
- double rate letter (envelop)

verso

backstamp with seal of the city

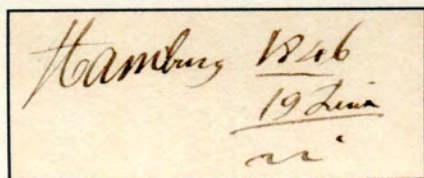
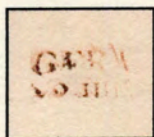
$\frac{2}{27} \rightarrow 2 = \text{double rate} / 27 \text{ postage due}$



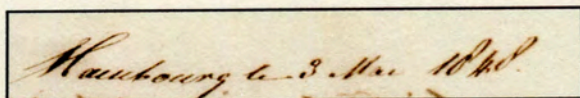
recto

- in 1845, a new postmark will replace the boxed-type : a triple circle mark with *gothic* inscriptions
- from 04.07.1845 to 05.01.1863

- Hamburg to Gera (Reuß)
- 1846
- postage due 5 silbergroschen
- verso : receiving postmark Gera



- Hamburg to Rheims
- 1848
- entry in France : **Valenciennes** cachet in red → morning courier
- very faint mark : **NACH ABGANG DER POST** 'after departure' → will cost an extra 4 décimes
- postage due 8 (+4) décimes
- verso – very faint receiving postmark



➤ after the first stamp was issued in Great Britain in 1840, 15 German States and Free-Cities of which Hamburg, issued stamps.

➤ The *House of Thurn und Taxis*, even if not a state, issued stamps in 1852.

➤ 2 sets of stamps :

- Northern District will use the *silbergroschen*
- Southern District will use the *kreuzer* currency

1 Thaler = 30 silbergroschen

1 Gulden = 60 kreuzer

➤ **2 different handstamps :**

- one to cancel the stamp : the 'numeral and ring cancel' type
 - 4 concentric rings with a number in the center corresponding to the town post office
- one to show the office of origin with day and month timemark : the dater



- Hamburg to Cassel, Hessen-Cassel
- 1853
- 2 postmarks :
 - 'numeral and ring cancel' with 300 = Hamburg post office
 - the gothic-type postmark
- single rate letter : 3 *silbergroschen*
- stamp Mi # 6b

TRIPLE CIRCLE POSTMARK



- Hamburg to Madrid, Spain via France
- 1851
- postmark of origin from the postal service of *T & T*
- entry in France by the exchange office in **Valenciennes**
- black cachet **PD** postage paid to destination in Hamburg – equivalent of **9 reales**
- receiving postmark verso



- Hamburg to Strasbourg, France
- 1851
- entry in France by the exchange office in **Strasbourg**
- official letter → postage paid in Hamburg **6** shillings (4 crossed out)
 - manuscript *frei*
 - black cachet **PD** from the Hamburgian post office
 - black boxed cachet from the French exchange office **P.D.** = *Payé jusqu'à Destination*
 - oval red cachet " " " "
- **11** = city of Strasbourg **A.E.D.** = *Affranchi à l'Étranger jusqu'à Destination*
- very faint receiving postmark Strasbourg

- in 1855, a new cancelling device arrives in Hamburg from the main office in Frankfurt: a single circle dater used simultaneously with the 'numeral and ring cancel'
- 01.1855 to 1866



• Hamburg to Frankfurt a/M

• 1858



- Hamburg to Frankfurt a/M
- 1858
- **CHARGE** = red grid **##** = registered letter
- upper left corner : 706 = registration number
- stamp rate for a single letter : 3 silbergroschen Mi # 6a
- postmarks of origin : dater + 'numeral and ring cancel' with #300 in the center

- not all people would use the stamps; some still prefer to send their letter stampless
- the reasons are numerous ...
 - laziness; they feel that it is too much trouble going to the post office to buy stamps
 - some prefer that the addressee pay the tax
 - others simply prefer the old way of doing thing
- like this letter sent to a wine merchant in Champagne, France



- Hamburg to Mareuil-sur-Ay, France
- postmark of origin HAMBURG. TH & T.
- entry in France at the exchange office in Valenciennes;
red cachet → morning courier
- 06.10.1860
- on the back, we can follow the route taken by this letter
 - * all in one day !
 - 08.10.1860 → Paris P.O.
 - 08.10.1860 → T.P.O. Paris - Sedan
octogon = daytime train
E = team E
 - off the train at Reims station
 - 08.10.1860 → Ay-en-Champagne P.O.
 - 08.10.1860 → to the hamlet of Mareuil



- near the end of the German Confederation, the *Thurn und Taxis* postal service will have this **last postmark** until the Prussian took over the postal service on 1 July 1867.
- a **single circle** dater
- resembles the previous postmark of 1855 with much smaller letters
- from 07.1864 to 30.06.1867

- Hamburg to Bordeaux
- entry in France at the exchange office in **Forbach** on 11.08.1865
red cachet → morning courier
- postage due 6 décimes
- postmark of origin - 09.08.1865



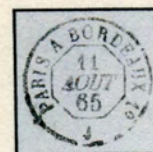
- backstamps :

- 11.08.1865 → Paris

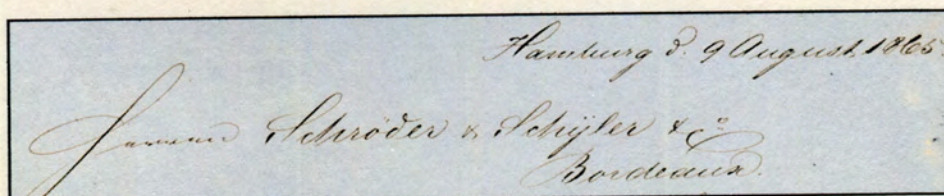


- 11.08.1865 → T.P.O.

- . Paris - Bordeaux
- . octagon = daytime train
- . J = team J



- 12.08.1865 → Bordeaux P.O.



- last postmark from *Thurn und Taxis* : **receiving postmark** on this letter from France



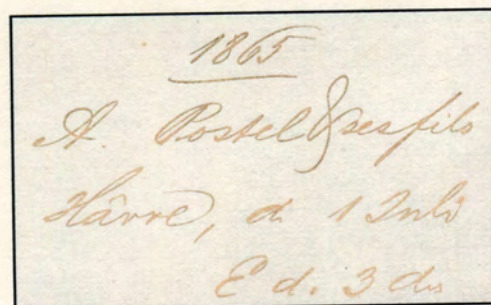
verso

- **HAMBURG. TH. & T.**
HAMBURG THURN UND TAXIS
- single circle
- $\frac{3}{7}$ July 3
- **9V 10V** → between 9 and 10 V (*ormittag*)
i.e. 'in the forenoon'



recto

- Le Havre, France to Hamburg
- July 1 1865
- 3 stamps *Napoléon III* (Sc.25-26)
- first French stamps *dentelés* (August 13 1862)
- **postmark of origin** → *losange à gros chiffres*
- 1769 → number = Le Havre's post office
- **PD** → French cachet : **P**aid to **D**estination



SPECIAL CASE : LETTER MAILED AT THE WRONG POST OFFICE

- **City of Hamburg's stamp and postmark wrongly used**
- correctly recuperated by the *Thurn und Taxis* postal service with the **right postmark of origin : single circle HAMBURG TT. & T.**
- **outer city destination : Eschwege, Hesse-Cassel**
- 23 January 1867
- post paid - manuscript *foo* – paid by sender 3 shillings in Hamburg
- backstamps : transit and receiving postmarks

City of Hamburg Post Office



Stadt Postamt
City Post Office

Cassel P.O.



Eschwege P.O.



- The rivalry between Austria and Prussia and their inability to compromise resulted, in 1866, in the Austro-Prussian War. The **German Confederation** collapsed with the Prussian victory; the **North German Confederation** was then created.
- The *Thurn und Taxis* postal service transferred its postal contracts to Prussia for 3 million *Thalers* on 28 January 1867. The handover took place on 1 July 1867.
- Almost 600 years of postal service from the **Princely House of Thurn und Taxis** in Europe came to an end.

* * * * *

6. THE HAMBURG CITY POST

Historical Facts : Hamburg dates from the year 830. The city participated in the creation of the Teutonic Hanseatic League with Lübeck in 1241. Hamburg became an "Imperial Free City" in 1189.

These Free and Hanseatic Cities were merchant towns that dominated trade along the coast of Northern Europe. The League stretched from the Baltic to the North Sea and inland during the 13th to 17th centuries. Trade also extended to the Scandinavian countries and Great Britain.

Because of this, the communication between the Hanseatic cities became important. The postal system had to be developed quickly and postal treaties were signed between the countries concerned.

In the 19th c., the post to **England and overseas was delivered by the City Post.**

The postage stamps of the Hamburg City Post were issued on January 1st 1859.

➤ The **first postmark** is a two-lines cancel

HAMBURG.

13 DEC 1822.

02.1822 to 09.1832

➤ It was used as a portmark of origin, a receiving or a transit postmark



- letter from Hamburg to London
- **postmark of origin Hamburg**
- postage due 3 shillings 4 pences for a double-rate letter
(2 in red crayon)
- FPO receiving postmark in England

Hamburg 13 Dec: 1822

- Oval postmark with *Stadt Post Amt.* → St.P.A.
- used as a portmark of origin, a receiving or a transit postmark
- 09.1822 to 07.1860



- Lübeck to Hamburg • 1856
- post paid 2 Hamburgian shillings in red crayon
- 719 = file number added by the addressee
- receiving postmark : oval St.P.A.

Lübeck 24 June 1856

- > « butterfly » postmark
- > postmark of origin / transit mark on foreign mail

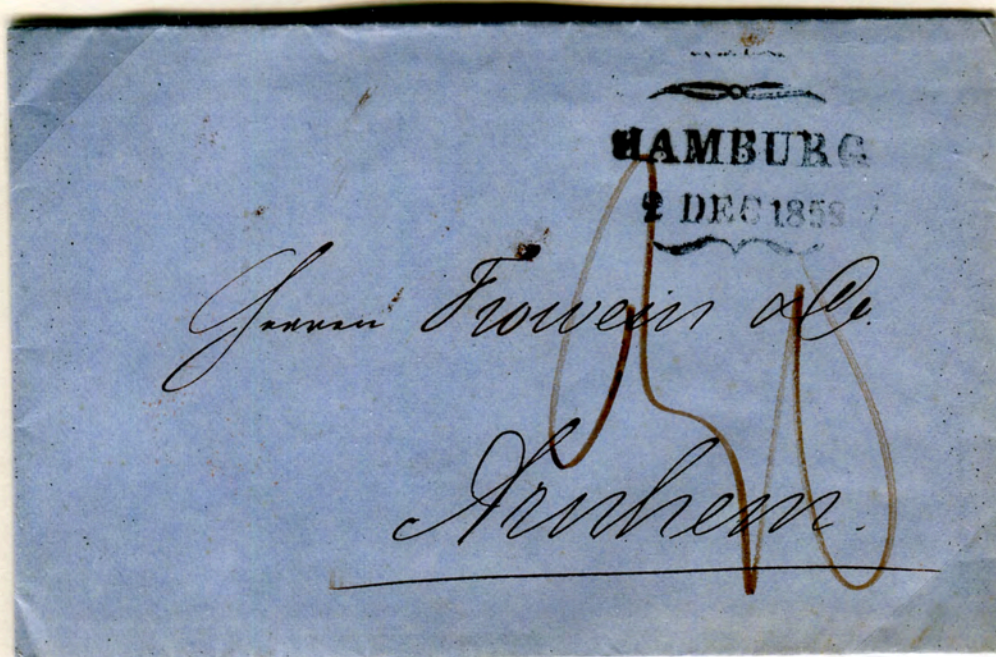
- > 1823 to 1862
- > multiple types



- Altona to Hamburg by private courier
- Hamburg to Arnhem, Netherlands
- postmark of origin – type 1
- 1856
- free franked
- verso : ↓ receiving mark



Altona, 27 Juni 1856.



- Altona to Hamburg by private courier
- Hamburg to Arnhem, Netherlands
- postmark of origin – type 2
- 1859
- postage due 30 cents
- verso : →



Altona, den 2 December 1859.

« butterfly » postmark

- receiving postmark in London
double split circle
↓



- Hamburg to London
- 1838
- postmark of origin – type 1
towards a foreign country
- postage due 5 shillings

Hamburg, Dec 11 Decemb 1838

« butterfly » postmark

- Berlin to London via Hamburg
- 1838
- recto : postmark of origin : single circle Berlin (Prussia)
- verso : receiving postmark from the Prussian Agency in HAMBURG →
« kidney-shaped » postmark
- letter transferred from the Prussian Agency in Hamburg to the Hamburg City Post Office
- recto : « butterfly » transit postmark for a letter travelling to Great Britain



An agreement signed in 1814 between Great Britain and the city of Hamburg stated that all the letters coming from Prussia and the Scandinavian countries to GB, should transit through the City of Hamburg Post.

- postage due : 3 sh 4p
9 silbergroschen in red crayon
for Berlin-Hamburg transit
- verso : receiving postmark in London →
double split circle

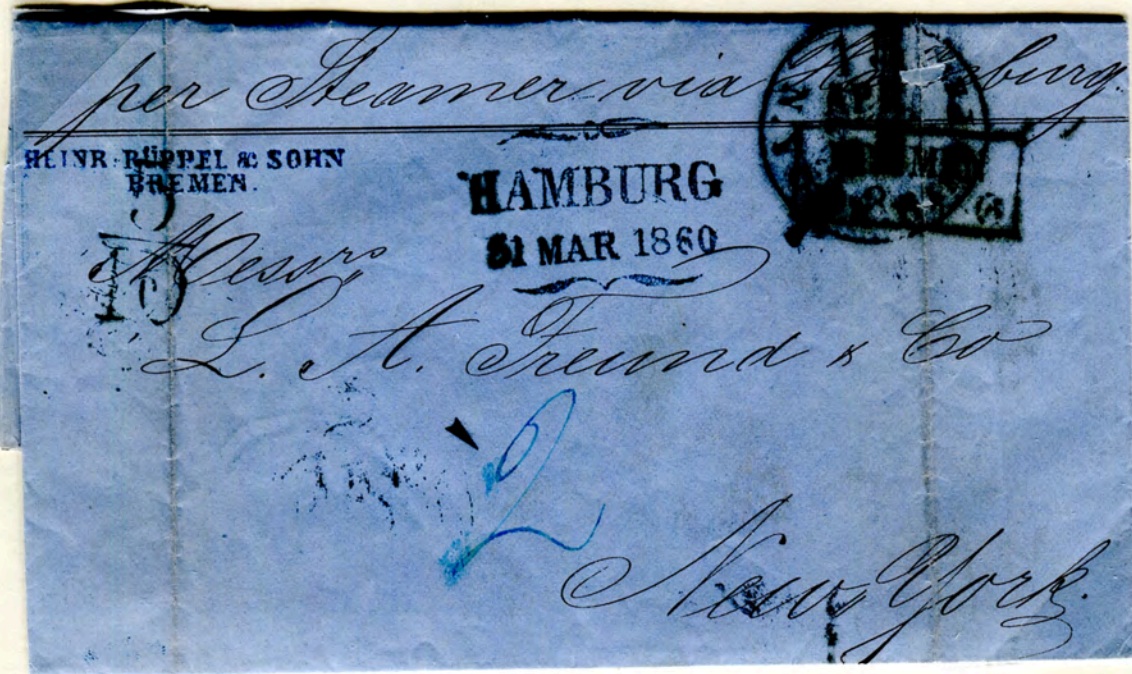


Johann Fr. Huth & Co. in London.
Berlin, 22. July 1838.

« butterfly » postmark

as a transit postmark for a letter oversea

Bremen – Hamburg – New-York



- Bremen postmark of origin
- 1860
- verso : receiving postmark from the City of Hamburg Post Office
09.1822 to 07.1960 in blue ink – oval St.P.A – Stadt Post Amt
- recto : transit postmark : 'butterfly' ➤ [02.1832 to 12.1860]
- ship : packet boat *Bavaria* : company *Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft*
Capt. P.Hensen (HAPAG) (Hamburg American Line)
- postage due in New-York : 15¢
- black handstamp 5 was Hamburg indication that the transit tax of 5¢ for
10 Hamburg plus the international rate of
10¢ were unpaid
- blue ink manuscript '2' was a German debit to Hamburg of 2 *silbergroschen*
(5¢), the internal German postage

BREMEN
30 3 * 3 - 6



Postal Convention between the United States and Hamburg. June 12 and 30 1857.

Article 1. *The post-office of New-York shall be the United States office of exchange, and Hamburg the office of exchange of that Republic, for all mails transmitted under this arrangement.*

Article 2 . (...) *postage charge : half an ounce in weight, ...10 cents*

« butterfly » postmark

as a transit postmark for a letter from Denmark



- recto : letter from Copenhagen with the *kompas* cancel as a postmark of origin
- verso : receiving postmark from the
Royal Danish Post Office in Hamburg : **K.D.O.P.A.** →
- recto : transit postmark from the City of Hamburg P.O. : « butterfly » mark
- verso : receiving postmark in **London** in red ink →
- recto : manuscript *via Ostende*



This letter took the Hamburg – Ostende – Dover – London mail packets route after an Agreement established by the *Post Office of the Free Hanseatic Republic of Hamburg* and the *General Post Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland* signed at London on the 16th day of July 1856.

Copenhagen the 1st Decr 1858
John Richards Esq
Secretary to
the Fire Office
London
13 Dec

« butterfly » postmark

transit postmark for a letter oversea

Prussian route

Hamburg - Aachen - New-York



- postmark of origin: 'butterfly' ➤ [02.1832 to 12.1860]
- 1860
- transit postmark double circle in Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) with transit tax Hamburg-Aachen of 5¢
= 2 silbergroschen in blue ink
- steamship: packet boat *Hammonia* : company *Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft* (HAPAG) (Hamburg American Line)
- Capt. H.F. Schwensen
- postage due in New-York : 30¢

5¢ United States postage not exceeding half an ounce
20¢ expenses of transmission in closed mails between the 2
countries by sea
5¢ Prussian postage (equiv. 5 ¢)

Postal Convention between the United States and Prussia. July 17 and August 26, 1852.

Article 1. *The post-offices of New-York and Boston shall be the United States offices of Exchange, and Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) shall be the Prussian office of Exchange of all closed mails between the two countries ...*

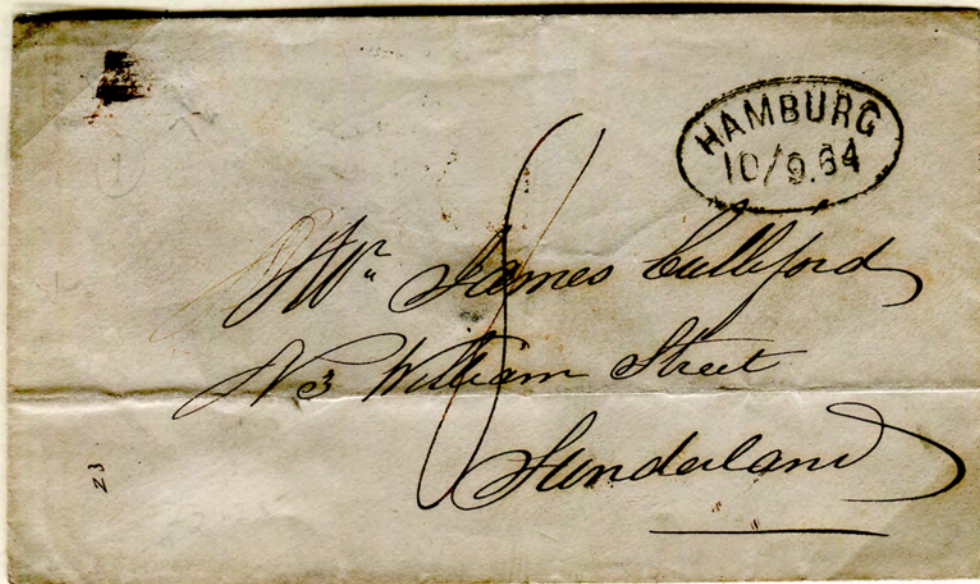
Article 2. (...) *If the letter is of the weight of half an ounce or under, the combined rate will be 30 cents.*

- OVAL postmark HAMBURG with date, month and year
- portmark of origin
- 01.1861 to 04.1866



- Hamburg to London via Ostend - Belgian route
- 1863
- recto : receiving postmark : London
- postage due 8 p.

This letter took the Hamburg – Ostende – Dover – London mail packets route after an Agreement established by the Post Office of the Free Hanseatic Republic of Hamburg and the General Post Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland signed at London on the 16th day of July 1856.



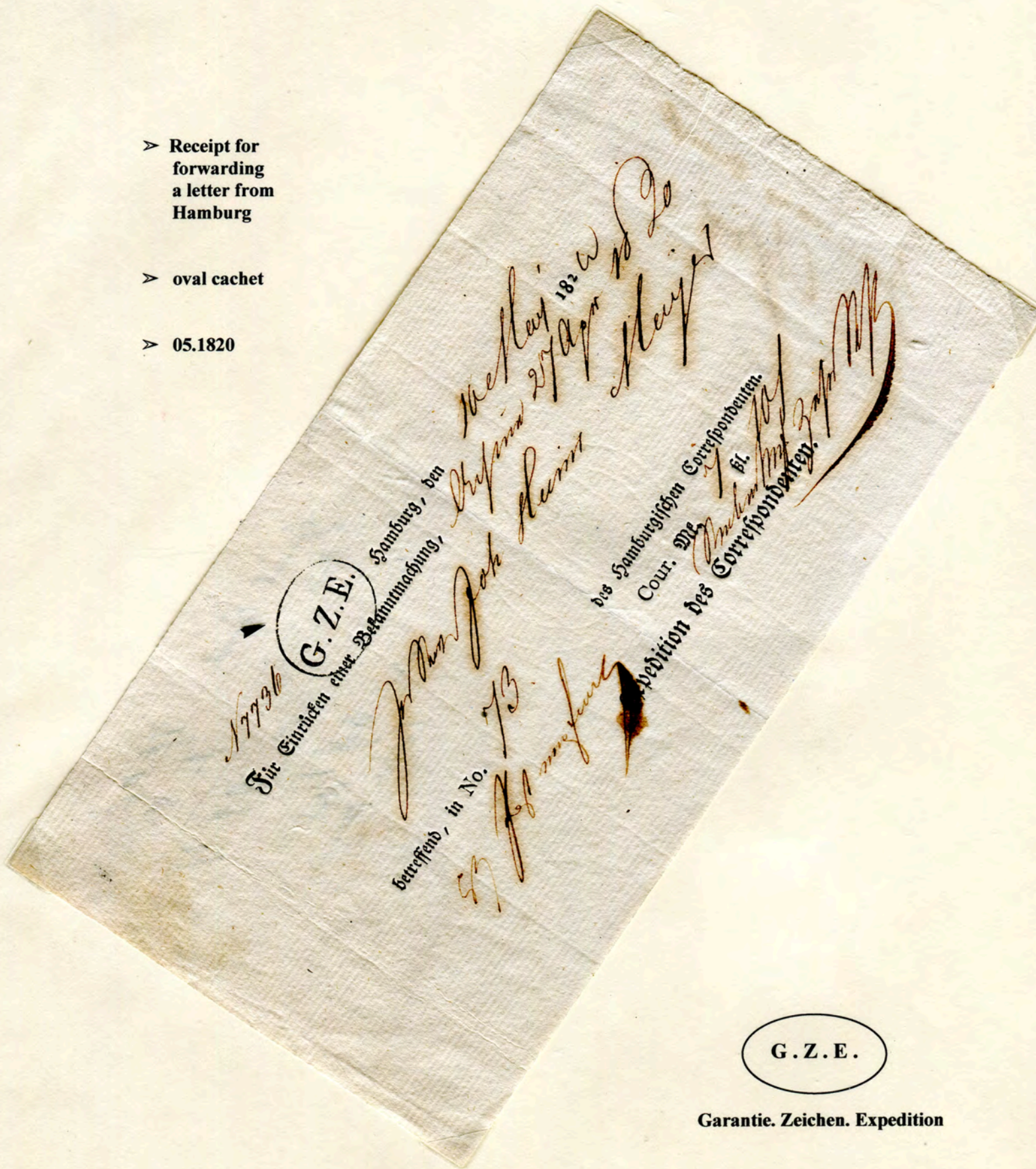
- Hamburg to Sunderland, G-B
- 1864
- postage due 8 p.
- verso : transit postmark : London
- receiving postmark : Sunderland



➤ Receipt for forwarding a letter from Hamburg

➤ oval cachet

➤ 05.1820



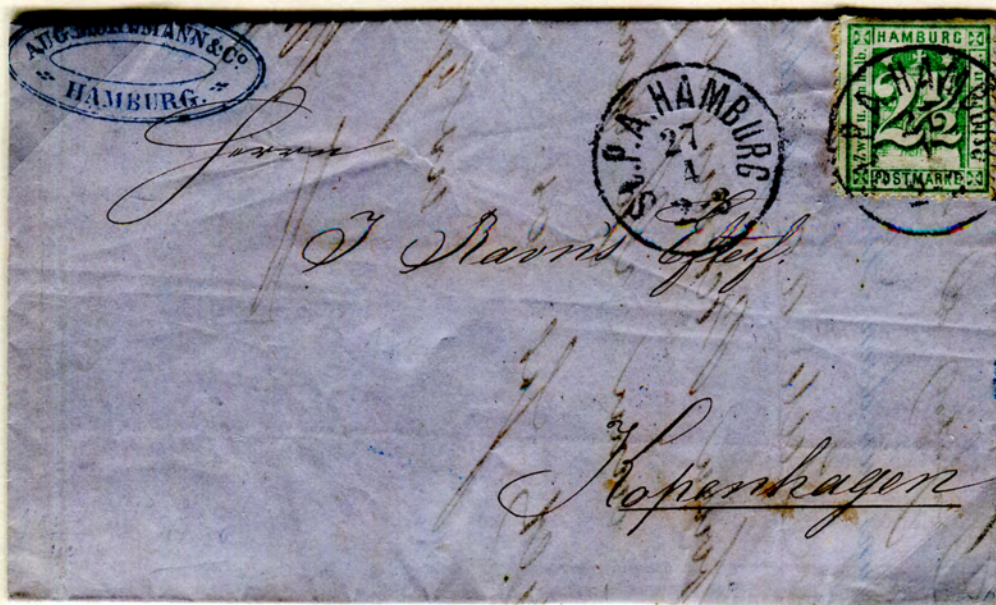
Garantie. Zeichen. Expedition

- **OVAL** postmark St.P.A. with date and month
- 02.1866 to 06.1867 in **blue ink**
- **postmark of origin**
- **bar cancel** on stamp **HAMBURG** – black ink
- 09.1859 to 12.1867
- **stamp** 1859 to 1867



- Hamburg to Weißerhorn, Bavaria
- oval postmark of origin
- bar cancel on 1/2 Hamburgian schilling stamp
- no receiving postmark

- single circle postmark **St.P.A.HAMBURG - Stadt Post Amt**
- date, month and time
- 08.1864 to 07.1866



- Hamburg to Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1866
- **postmark of origin** used as a dater
- **also** used as a canceller on **Hamburg's stamp**
- **stamp** 2½ Hamburgian shillings
- verso : **receiving postmark** →
single circle **KOBENHAVN**



Hamburg 26th April 1866

Heren J. Havns Eftf. Copenhagen Dk.

- double circle **HAMBURG ST.P.** – *Stadt Post*
- date, month, year and time
- 02.66 to 12.1867 - **blue ink**



- Hamburg to Wolverhampton, G.-B.
- 1867
- red oval **P.D.** - paid to destination
- red transit mark in London's post office **PAID**
- verso : receiving postmark :
Wolverhampton →



Hamburg 28th March 1867

Messrs William Bailey & Son, Wolverhampton

- **SHIP MARK** from the « *Brief-Post-Comptoir Hamburg* »
- circular inscription : **SCHIFFS BRIEF – POST. HAMBURG**
- with day, month and year
- 09.1825 to 07.1865



- Hamburg to London by *steamboat*
- « **wrapper** »
- 1832
- **postmark of origin** : SCHIFFS BRIEF- POST. HAMBURG
- postage due : 44 pence
- **transit maritime postmark in London (harbour): circular inscription** :
SHIP LETTER LONDON with crown, day, month and year.
- Single circle **receiving postmark** in London P.O. 'E' in red ink

An Agreement was signed between the City of Hamburg Post and England to carry the mail regularly between the two countries. It started on August 03 1825.

The « *Englische Schiffspost* » was the name given in Hamburg to this transportation.

1832
Dr. H. Rosenjanz
Hamburg 31 August

- **cancellation in the form of a red oval containing the letter « T » and a date below.**
- on letters which were transferred from Prussia to the City postal service for further transmission to England.
- no detail about this mark but the most likely interpretation is *that it indicated that Hamburg had not yet received its share of the postage fee* therefore a **tax had to be paid**. Hence, the letter « T ».
- 1823 to ≈ 1850

- Danzig (Gdańsk), Prussia to London
- 1845
- at the time, Danzig was part of the Kingdom of Prussia
Prussian postmark of origin
- verso : **Hamburg's Prussian Agency transit postmark**
(20 mm) type →
(01.1839 to 06.1850)



- verso : **receiving postmark**
from London post office
- postage due : 1 sh 8 p
- including 13 *silbergroschen* **transit tax** Danzig-Hamburg
explained by the **red oval « T » cachet** from Hamburg City post office



- letter from Königsberg, East Prussia, to London
- 1844
- **postmark of origin** : single circle KÖNIGSBERG PR(ussia)
- **verso** : **receiving postmark** from the **Prussian Postal Agency**

in Hamburg

- double circle with HAMBURG
- 09.1840 to 10.1845



- recto : **red oval « T » cachet** from Hamburg City post office
- **transit tax** Königsberg-Hamburg
supposedly unpaid explained by the red oval with « T »
- **postage due** in London: 1 sh 8 p
- **BUT** the sender inscribed *frei* and **15 1/2 silbergroschen** was added beside it
- the transit tax seemed to have been paid at Königsberg post office

Probably, the sender did pay the transit tax but the **red oval cachet with « T »** indicated that Hamburg had not yet received its share of the postage fee therefore a tax had to be paid. Hence, the red cachet « T ».

- **receiving postmark** in London **Z** post office

7. THE POSTAL AGENCIES OF NEIGHBOURING STATES

7.1. Prussia

7.2. Hanover

7.3. Mecklenburg

Historical Facts : Neighbouring States opened their own post offices in the city of Hamburg for letters coming to and from their own kingdom. Bearing the name of the city, postmarks however exhibited their own specificities.

- > Prussia opened its agency in 1817
- > Hanover in 1814
- > Mecklenburg in 1825



Germany 1815

7.1. The Postal Agency of Prussia

Historical Facts : Prussia was a kingdom since 1701 with its own postal administration. Following Napoléon's defeat, Prussia and Austria joined the **German Confederation** established by the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

Prussia exercised most influence in the 18th and 19th centuries.

- > by agreement, Prussia delivered the post to Russia and Poland, as well as to Turkey via Austria.
- > Prussia issued stamps from 1850 to 1866
- > the Prussian Postal Agency in Hamburg opened as early as June 1817.

HAMBURG 24. AUG.

- > first Prussian postmark from Hamburg Postal Agency
- > 06.1817 to 07.1848



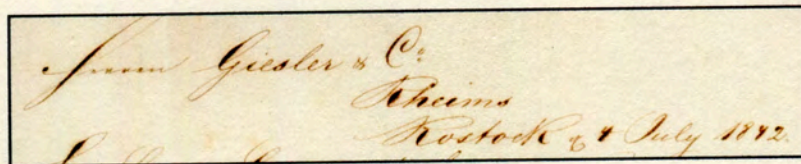
- Hamburg to Hirschberg, Silesia (Prussian Province)
- postmark of origin
**HAMBURG
24. AUG.**
- 1827
- postage due 8²/₄
silbergroschen

Hamburg J. 24. Aug 1827

- letter from Rostock, Mecklenburg-Schwerin to Avize, France
- carried privately and mailed in Hamburg Prussian Postal Agency
- **Prussian postmark of origin** : two-line cancel **HAMBURG** with date
- entry in France by the **Franco-Prussian** exchange in **Givet** where it received the black cachet **CPR3** → « **Correspondance prussienne de Rayon 3** » *
- postage due 13 *décimes* for a double rate letter of 9 g. (single rate max. 7.5 g)



- verso : **transit mark ST QUENTIN** – double circle
- **transit mark : REIMS** - double circle
- **receiving postmark** in Avize



*Agreement signed in Paris, July 16 1817, between France and Prussia for the transportation of letters.
Article 2. Concerning exchange offices for the two countries; Givet in this case.

Post: Einlieferungschein.

Der Auspruch: Entschädigung an die Postverwaltung erlischt nach sechs Monaten, vom Tage der Einlieferung der Sendung an.

Formular für recommandirte Briefe und für Beträge unter und bis fünf hundert Thlr. einschl.

Die Scheine für Beträge über 500 bis 1000 Thlr. einschl. werden auf gelbem, die Scheine für Beträge über 1000 Thlr. auf grünem Papier ausgefertigt.

Das am heutigen Tage

Gegenstand

Declariert

Werth

Zeichen und Gewicht

Adressat

Bestimmungs-Ort und baar bezahltes Franco

zur Beförderung mit der Post richtig eingeliefert worden, wird hierdurch von Amt wegen bescheinigt.

HAMBURG den 7. Juli 1866

Königliche Post-Annahme-Expedition.



- receipt for a registered letter
- Prussian Postal Agency in Hamburg
- from Hamburg to Berlin
- 1867
- bottom left : seal : Prussian eagle

- registered letter
- postmark of origin : double circle (train station - BAHNHOF)
- 03.1846 to 00.1866
- Hamburg to Brünn (Brno), Duchy of Moravia (Aust. Emp.)
- manuscript : *Recommandirt*
- red boxed cachet 03.1849 to 12.1867
- **Recommandirt.** 22 = registration number

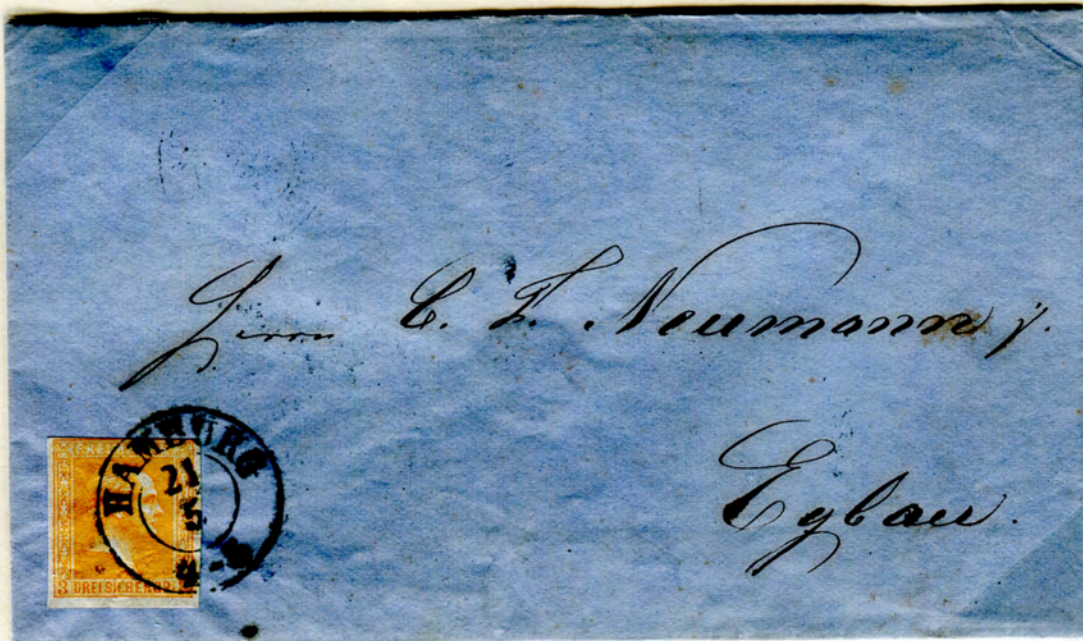
- post paid *fc*
- paid by sender 7 Hamb. shillings
- cross out in blue crayon



- the Kingdom of Prussia issued stamps from 1850 to 1867.
- at the beginning until 1859, there will be two postmarks of origin:
 - the canceller : type : 'numeral and ring cancel'
 - 4 rings with number **578** in the center
 - number 578 corresponding to the Prussian post office in Hamburg
 - the dater : different types - double circle with HAMBURG, date and month

- Hamburg to Meerana, Prussian Saxony
- 1857
- stamp : 3 silbergroschen
- **postmark of origin**
 - dater : double circle
 - 04.1841 to 00.1867
 - canceller : 578
 - 'numeral and ring cancel'
 - 00.1850 to 03.1859
- **receiving postmark**

verso



- Hamburg to Eybau (Eibau), Prussian Saxony via Ebersbach
- 1861
- **postmark of origin : only one → the dater**
- double circle → cancels the stamp : 3 silbergroschen
- 01.1855 to 00.1866

- verso : ↑
- **transit mark** : Ebersbach
- **receiving postmark** : Eybau
'AUSGABE'

➤ at the railway station, there was also a Prussian *Spedition Bureau* identified as No.3

➤ 05.1857 to 08.1865

HAMBURG.
SPED :BUR :N^o3

➤ 2 types

16 12 * 10 - 11 Type 1

- Hamburg to Pesth (Pest), Kingdom of Hungary - Austrian Empire
- **postmark of origin** cancels the 3 *silbergroschen* *Preussen* stamp
- 1864 receiving postmark in PESTH • →



- **last postmark used by the Prussian Postal Agency in Hamburg**
- Hamburg to Berlin
- **postmark of origin** : double circle with day, month, year and time
- 04.1864 to 12.1867
- post paid 6 *silbergroschen* (2 x 3 *sbgr*) : 1 stamp + 1 postal stationary

PRUSSIAN TRAVELLING POST OFFICE

POST-SPED.-BUR.
HAMBURG – LÜBECK
17.1 ZUG N^o I

- transit postmark (T.P.O.)
- 27.02.1865 – 06-11-1867
- cancels on letters from Hamburg's Prussian railway station to Lübeck via T.P.O.
→ land post (coach) → Northern Countries or States : Schleswig-Holstein, Denmark, Norway
- 4 trains daily → ZUG N^o I, II, III, IV



7.2. The Postal Agency of Hanover

- Hanover was a Kingdom member of the German Confederation
- became a Province of Prussia after 1866
- this state issued stamps from 1850 to 1867
- Hanover opened its postal agency in Hamburg on 18.06.1814
- on 15.04.1818, a boxed postmark with day, month and year was in use
- a characteristic of this mark : the lines are made of little pearls

HAMBURG
13 März 32

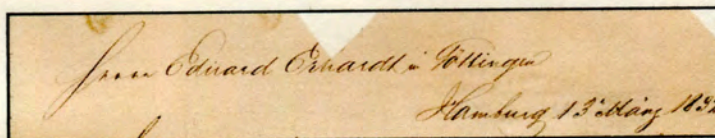
- Hamburg to Göttingen,
Kingdom of Hanover
- 1832
- postage due 3 sbgr



- receiving postmark



HAMBURG
20 Aug 50



- Hamburg to Hameln in Hanover
- 1830
- postage due 3 silbergroschen



- receiving postmark

- full circle postmark; Hamburg with very fine lines
- from 00.1833 to 14.10. 1845



- Hamburg to Hannover
- 1845
- official free frank

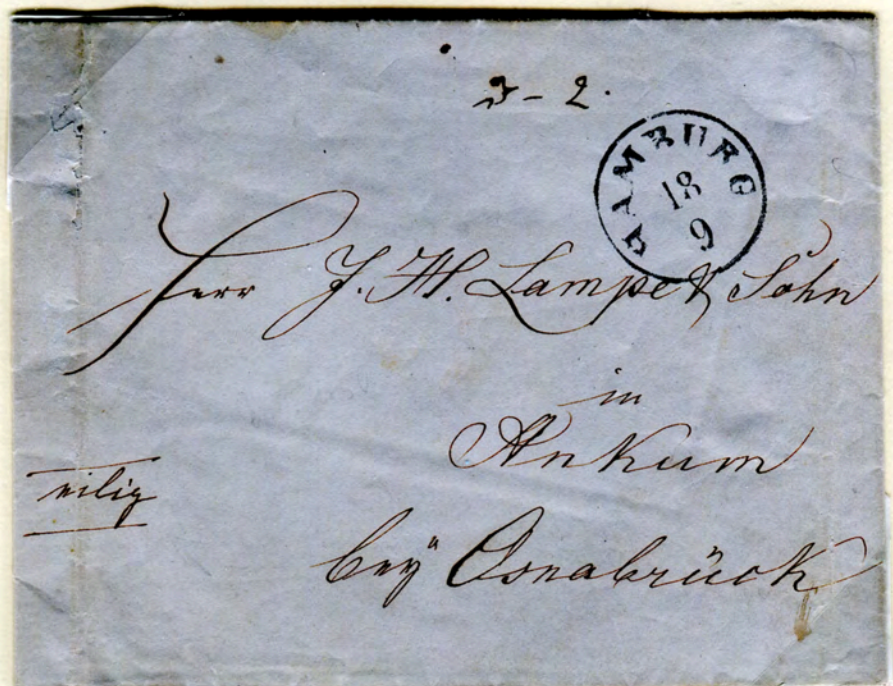


- receiving mark



- full circle postmark; Hamburg with very thick lines
- from 01.1840 to 17.11.1851

- Altona – privately carried to Hamburg's post office
- to Ankum by Osnabrück
- 1850
- postage paid
- *eilig* → urgent

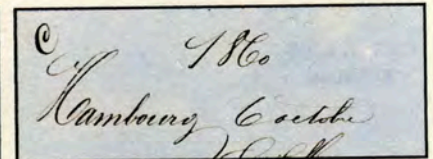


Altona d: 17. Sept. 1850.

- letter from Hamburg to Liège, Belgium, mailed at the Postal Agency of Hanover; the postmark is unquestionably a Hanoverian mark
- **this letter should have been posted at the post office of Thurn und Taxis.**
- the treaty of 1814 stipulated that the *House of Thurn und Taxis* was responsible for delivering letters to Belgium



- postal agency of Hanover in Hamburg to Liège, Belgium
- 1860
- letter accompanying a parcel # 1. of 1 pound 6 g (Zollverein weight)
- registration number **872**
- postage due 7 centimes
- verso : manuscript : paid 15 centimes
- **transit** postmark from the Aachen station



head letter



- **receipt for a registered letter**
- from Hamburg to Hildesheim, Hanover
- 1854

- the Kingdom of Hanover issued stamps from 1850 to 1866; it stopped when Prussia won the Austro-Prussian war and took over the postal system on all its new territory.
- **3 different types** of postmarks – double circle with day and month
- these postmarks will be later used by the Prussian Postal Service (as of 1866)
- used indifferently as a **postmark of origin** or a **receiving postmark** at the Hanover Postal Agency in Hamburg.



- **postmark of origin** : Hamburg to Celle (Lower-Saxony), Kingdom of Hanover
- on postal stationery of **one silbergroschen**
- -- type 1 : 10.1852 to 06.1866



- **receiving postmarks**
Hanover Postal Agency
in Hamburg

- letters from the Kingdom of Hanover :
 - -- type 2 : from Hanover (city)
05.1864 to 04.1866
 - -- type 3 : from Hoya
...1864 to ...1866

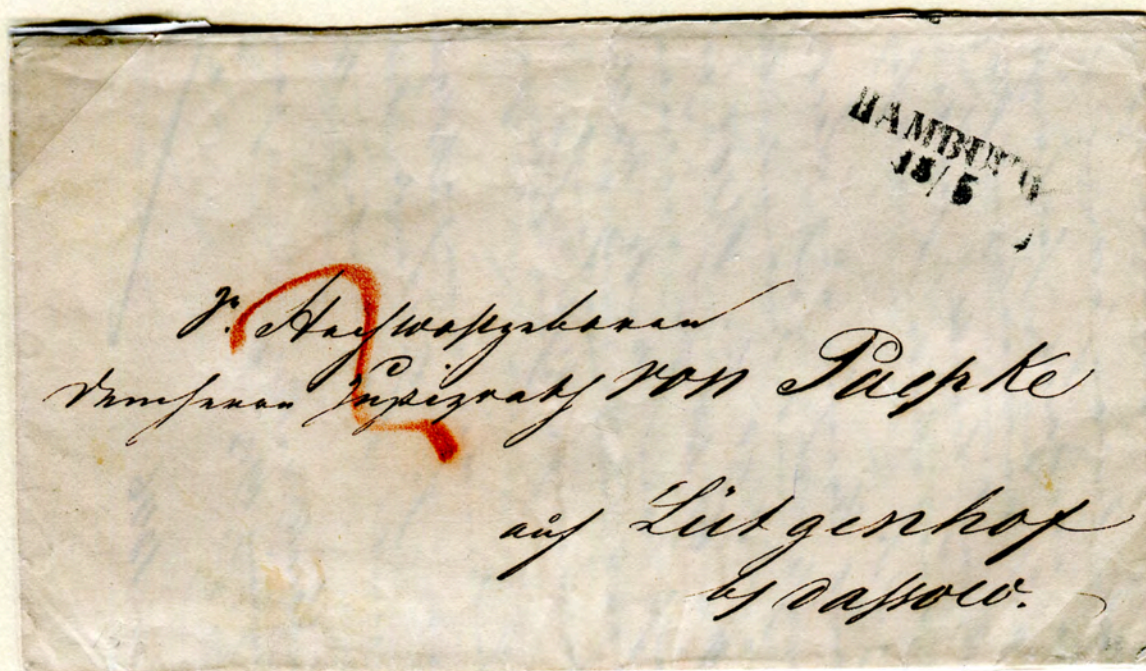
7.3. The Postal Agency of Mecklenburg

- by the Hamburg Agreement, on March 8 1701, Mecklenburg was separated into two duchies : Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz.
- Mecklenburg-Schwerin issued its first stamps in 1855 and M.-Strelitz in 1864
- the Mecklenburg's Hamburg Postal Agency opened on July 2 1825
- first, it was a 2-lined cancel; later a double circle.

HAMBURG

15 / 5

01.1835 – 03.1849

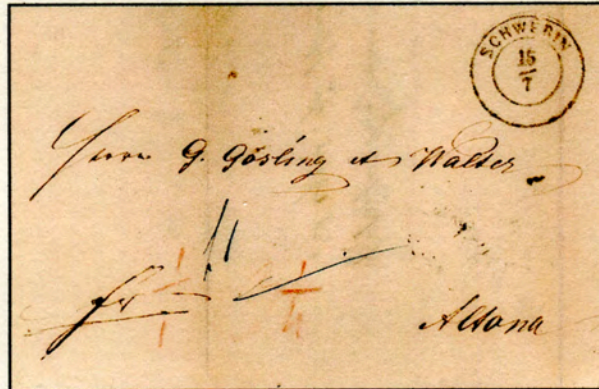


- Hamburg to Lütgenhof Castle near Dassow
- sent to *Edler von Paepcke* the owner
- 1846
- postage due 2 *silbergroschen*

Hamburg 15 Mai 1846

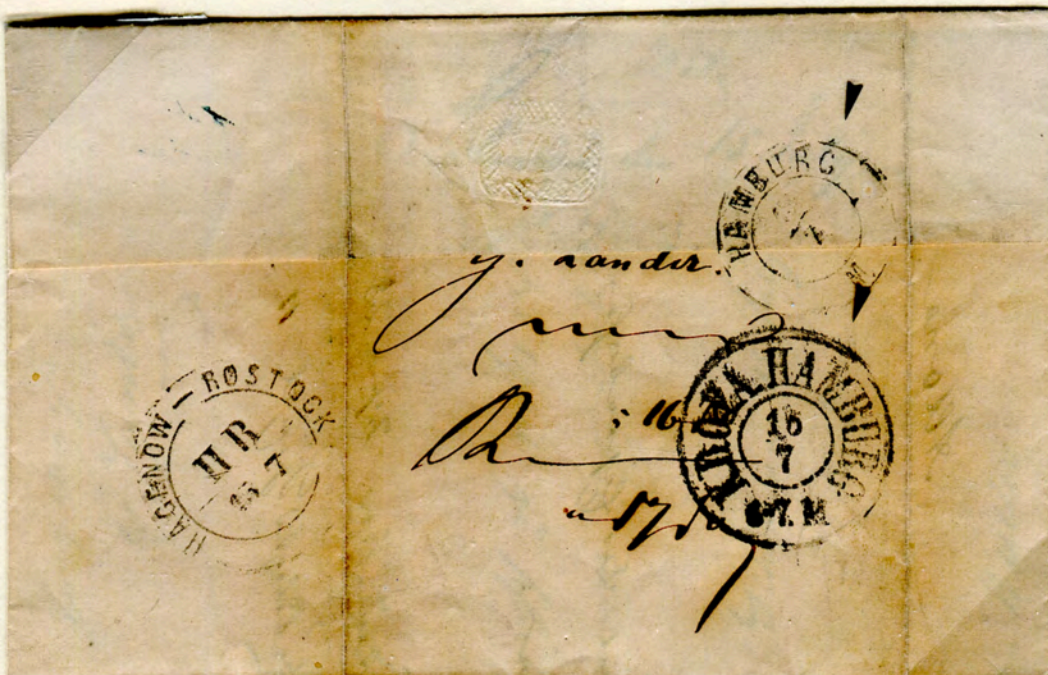
➤ letter from Schwerin (Mecklenburg-Schwerin) to Altona (Denmark) via Hamburg (backstamp)

- postmark of origin : double circle
- 1858
- **fr** franco – paid 4 *schillings* by sender in Schwerin (blue ink)



- **backstamps**

- **travelling post office** : double circle : HAGENOW – ROSTOCK railway
II → 2nd train
15 7 → 15 July
- receiving postmark from the **Mecklenburg post office Agency in Hamburg** :
double circle : HAMBURG + M (Mecklenburg)
- **transit postmark from the Danish postal Agency in Hamburg** :
double circle : K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG
- no receiving postmark from Altona's post office (Danish until 1864)



8. THE ROYAL POST OFFICE OF DENMARK

Historical Facts : On 24 September 1711, the postal service of Denmark became property of the State. The uniforms were those of the House of Oldenburg i.e. red and yellow which have been the colours of the Post Office ever since.

- before 1837, the mail from Denmark travelling through Hamburg to different countries of Europe was carried by the *House of Thurn und Taxis*.
- **Denmark opened its Postal Agency in Hamburg in 1837.** The Danish courier from Hamburg or travelling through Hamburg had to go through this postal service.
- the different postmarks were written in German for the 'Royal Post Office of Denmark'

Königlich Dänisches Ober Post Amt

KON.DAN.O.P.A. • HAMBURG •

01.1852 to 02.1864



- invoice accompanying a parcel. #815 • weight : **12** ~~6~~ods in red crayon
- 1863
- Hamburg to Lunden, Schleswig-Holstein – Danish state (1284 to 1864)
- postmark of origin double circle characterized by very large letters
- postage due **15** skillings in red crayon
- very light receiving postmark in Lunden →

St. 509. Hamburg, den 3 Juli 1863.
Herr D. Pedersen in Lunden Dtl.



Königlich Dänisches Ober Post Amt

K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG

11.1854 - 01.1862

- letter from Copenhagen, Denmark to Renfrew, Scotland
- 1857
- many postmarks :
 - * recto- postmark of origin « *kompas* »
→ a dater used rarely in Copenhagen (Kjobenhavn) from 1851 to 1859
 - * verso- receiving mark from the Danish Agency
K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG
 - * recto- transit mark 'butterfly'
from Hamburg City post office
 - * verso - transit mark in red ink :
single circle : **London**
 - * verso - receiving mark in blue ink
double split circle : **Paisley**,
Renfrew's main post office



recto ↑

verso ↓



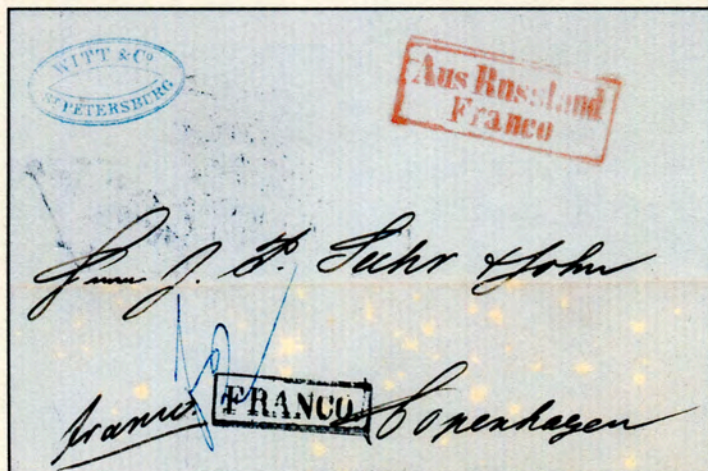
- rated **4** skillings in red crayon in Denmark
- 2 sh 2 p cross out in Scotland
- 3 sh 6 p to be paid by addressee

An old agreement between Denmark and England, which dates from 1836, revised in 1846, stated that mail from Denmark must go through Hamburg.

Königlich Dänisches Ober Post Amt

K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG

11.1854 - 01.1862



front

- free franked letter from St.Petersburg to Copenhagen

Aus Russland
Franco

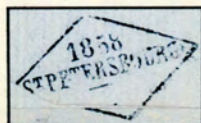
- * entry mark in Prussia from Russia probably Tilsit

FRANCO

- * boxed FRANCO → Prussian mark

- manuscript franco
- f2 → sender paid 2 kopecks

• BACKSTAMPS



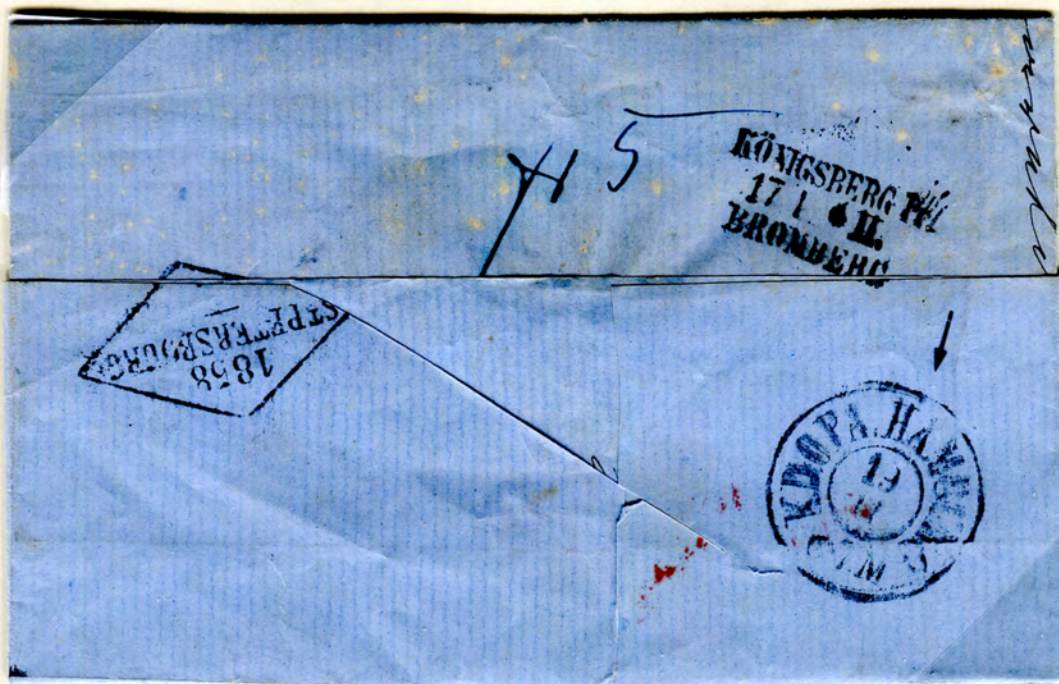
- * postmark of origin
- * 1858



- * Prussian railway 'northern route' Königsberg to Bromberg II → train #2



- * Danish Agency transit postmark in Hamburg
- * no receiving postmark from Copenhagen post office



SHIP LETTER : letter carried on **privately owned ship** from *Newcastle upon Tyne* to Hamburg
 ∴ **no postmark of origin** in England

- destination : Copenhagen • 1858
- **postmark of origin** **Hamburg** : letter mailed at the Royal Danish Postal Agency in Hamburg

Newcastle upon Tyne, 4th August 1858

K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG
 11.1854 - 01.1862

- postpaid : manuscript 6 shillings in black ink (verso)



- **Mourning Cover** from Helsingor, Denmark
- destination : Hamburg
- dater : 4 1860 • 4s stamp
- 8
- 'ring and numeral cancel' 12 = Helsingor
- **receiving postmark** in Hamburg

K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG
 11.1854 - 01.1862



Historical Facts : Schleswig and Holstein have at different times belonged in part or completely to either Denmark, Germany or Austria.

- 1806, Schleswig-Holstein was attached to Denmark.
- 1864, broke the Second Schleswig War; at the end of this conflict, Denmark will cede Schleswig to Prussia and Holstein to Austria.
- 1866, with the Austro-Prussian War, the **German Confederation** collapsed with the Prussian victory; the **North German Confederation** was then created. Schleswig and Holstein will now be part of this Confederation.

➡ These facts explain the different postmarks on letters from Hamburg to either Schleswig and Holstein.

- Hamburg to Heide, Holstein
 - in 1861, Schleswig-Holstein belonged to Denmark
 - it explains the Danish postmark and the railway transit mark
- 1861
- postmark of origin **K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG**
11.1854 - 01.1862
- Danish stamp : 4 skillings
 - 3-ring cancellation 'numeral and ring cancel' type
 - number 2 corresponds to the Danish Agency P.O. in Hamburg



← verso : transit postmark : **BAHNPOST (Holstein) (Danish)**
ELMSH (ORN) – ITZEH(OE)



TWO LETTERS, SAME DESTINATION - DIFFERENT STAMPS

- DIFFERENT POSTMARKS

Letter 1 : 1857 → Flensburg, Schleswig belongs to Denmark

Letter 2 : 1866 → Flensburg, Schleswig is a Prussian possession

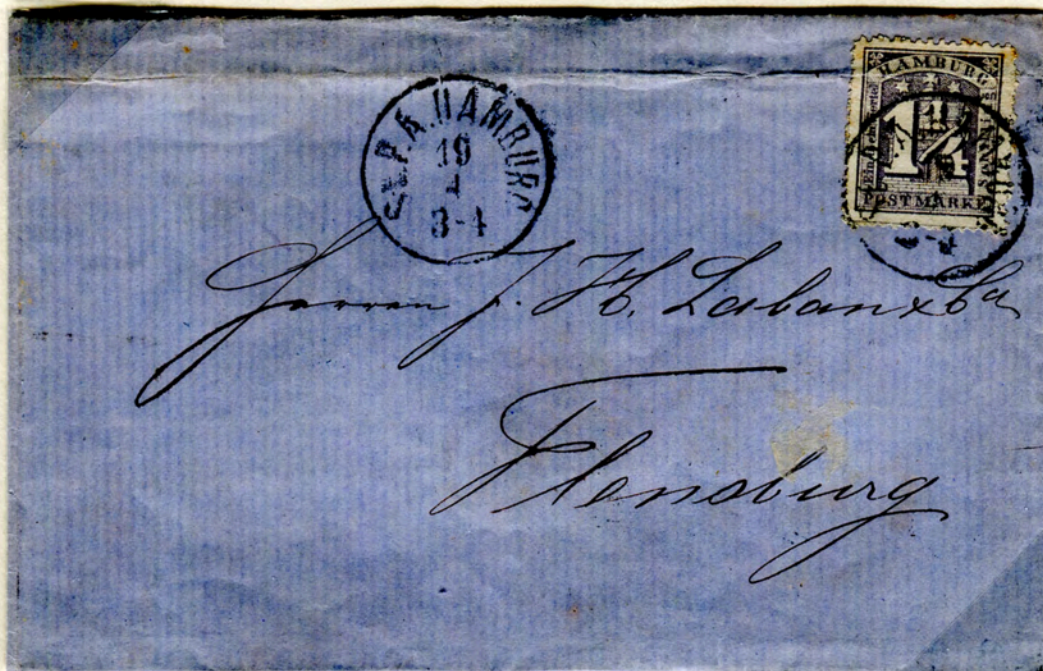
Letter 1: 1857



- Hamburg to Flensburg, Schleswig
- 4 skillings Danish stamp
- postmarks :
 - 3-ring cancellation 'numeral and ring cancel' type
 - number 2 corresponds to the Danish Agency P.O. in Hamburg
- **K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG** → Danish Postal Agency in Hamburg
 - **K**öniglich **D**änisches **O**ber **P**ost **A**mt
 - 11.1854 - 01.1862

Wille Rømer
Hamburg 20 Mai
1857.

Letter 2 : 1866 → Flensburg, Schleswig is a Prussian possession



- Hamburg to Flensburg, Schleswig
- 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ shilling stamp from the Hamburg City Post
- postmark of origin : Hamburg City post office : **St. P. A. HAMBURG**
Stadt Post Amt Hamburg
08.1864 – 07.1866
- backstamp : oval Hamburg City post office → transit to the Prussian P.O.

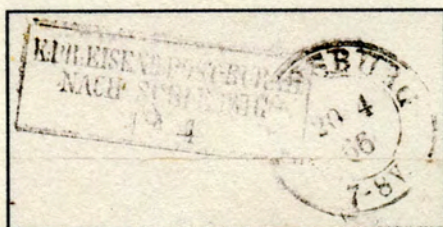
St. P. A. → *Stadt Post Amt*
02.66 to 06.67



- Prussian backstamps :

– bahnpost :

**KÖNIGLICH PREUSS. EISENBAHN POST-BUREAU
NACIP SCHLESWIG**



- receiving postmark Flensburg
double circle with day, month, year

9. THE ROYAL POST OFFICE OF NORWAY AND SWEDEN

Historical Facts : After the *Battle of Copenhagen*, the *Treaty of Kiel* (January 14 1814) yielded Norway to the King of Sweden. Norway took this opportunity to declare independence on February 15 1814. This caused the *Norwegian-Swedish War* to break out.

The *Convention of Moss*, on August 14 1814, established the *Union between Sweden and Norway*. Under this convention, Norway kept its liberal constitution **except for the foreign service**.
This last exception will affect the postal service outside of Norway – it will be a joint office until 1858

THE ROYAL POST OFFICE OF NORWAY AND SWEDEN IN HAMBURG

« *Königlich Swedisches & Norwegisches Post Compt* »

K.S.&N.P.C.

1814 – 1858



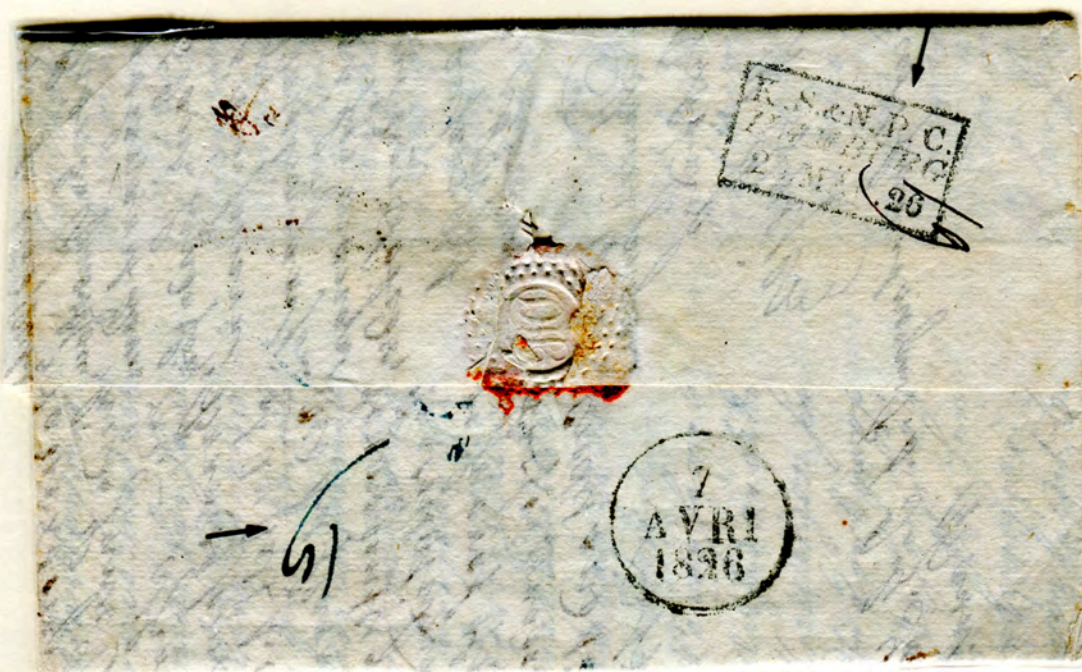
- Trondhjem (Trondhein), Norway to Bordeaux
- 1826
- carried from Hamburg's Swedish/Norwegian Post Office **SUÈDE** (T & T postmark) to the French Postal Bureau in Givet by the *Thurn und Taxis* Postal Service **T.T.R.4**

ALLEMAGNE
PAR
GIVET

- 31 = file number
- postage due 29 décimes for a double rate letter of 8 grams

• backstamps :

- ↓ - **K.S.&N.P.C.** : used here as a **receiving postmark** in Hamburg's Swedish/Norwegian P.O.
- full circle **receiving postmark** in Bordeaux
- manuscript special mark in blue ink indicating a double rate letter

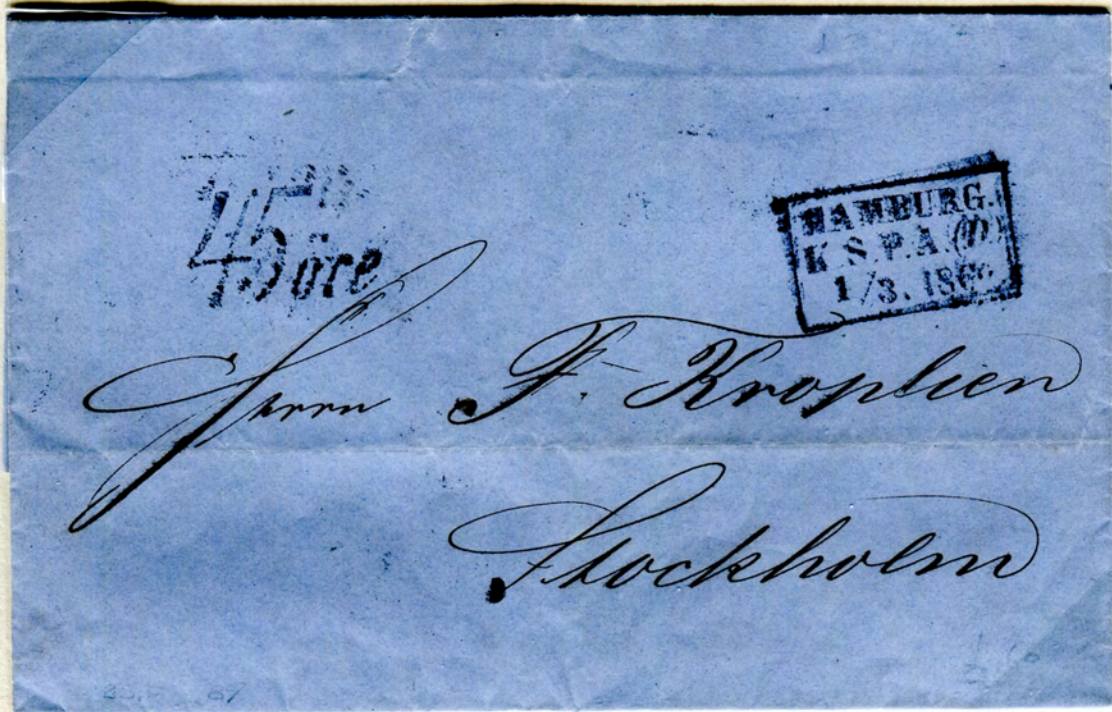


« Königlich Swedisches Post Amt (Dänemark) »

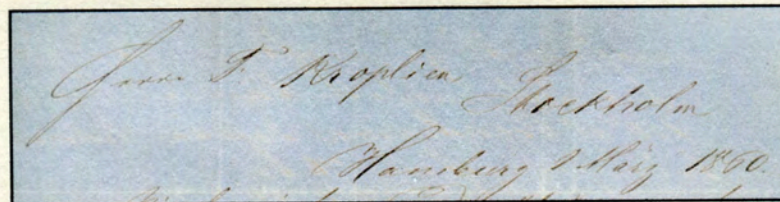
K.S.P.A.(D.)

(D) = travelling through Denmark

1860 to 1867



- Hamburg to Stockholm, Sweden
- postmark of origin
K.S.P.A.(D.)
- 1860
- postage due : 45 öre

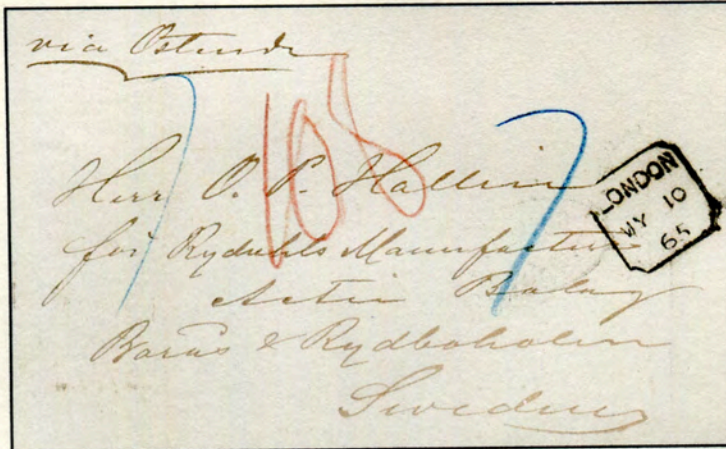


« Königlich Swedisches Post Amt (Dänemark) »

K.S.P.A.(D.)

(D) = travelling through Denmark

1865 - 1866 (as a transit postmark) **RARE**

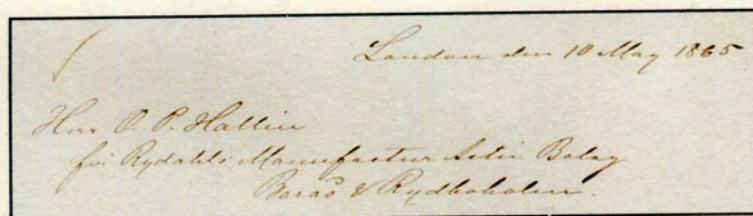


- letter from London to Borås Rydboholm, Sweden
- 1865
- boxed **postmark of origin** London
- postage due 108 öre / 7 shillings
- **backstamps** :
 - oval **receiving postmark** from Hamburg City post office 'Hamburg Stadt Post'

An old agreement between Sweden and England, which dates from 1836, revised in 1846, stated that mail from Sweden must go through Hamburg.



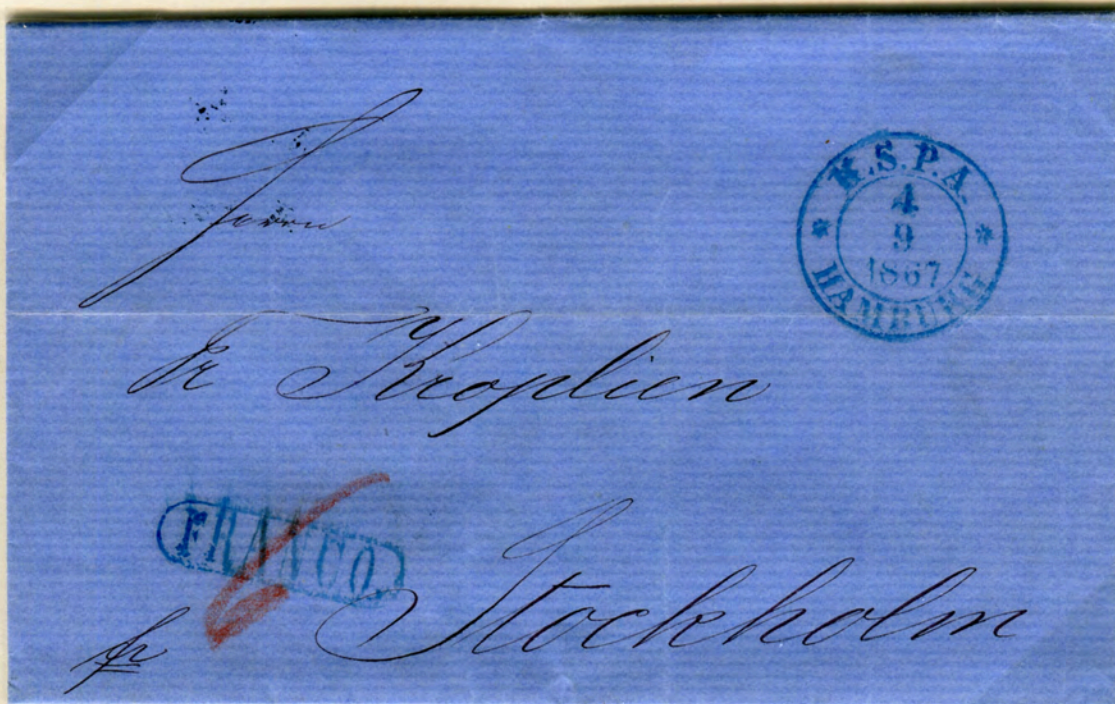
- **transit postmark** from the Swedish Postal Agency in Hamburg
- K.S.P.A. (D)**
- * very rarely used as a backstamp**
- **railway postmark** : southern line
Södra – St.Banan
- no receiving postmark



K.S.P.A. * HAMBURG *

09.1867 – 09.1868

LAST POSTMARK FROM THE SWEDISH POSTAL AGENCY IN HAMBURG
THE POSTAL SERVICE OFFICIALLY CLOSED ON 31 MARCH 1869



- Hamburg to Stockholm, Sweden
- 1867
- **postmark of origin** : double circle in blue ink

K.S.P.A. * HAMBURG *

- **FRANCO** 07 1867 to 10.1867
- postage paid by sender **6** Hamburgian schillings
- verso **receiving postmark** Stockholm →



1867
Gebrüder Scheller & Co
Hamburg 4 Sept.

10. CONCLUSION

Historical Facts : The rivalry between Austria and Prussia resulted, in 1866, in the Austro-Prussian War. The **German Confederation** collapsed with the Prussian victory; the **North German Confederation (NDP)** was then created.

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg joined the Confederation.

IT IS CONSIDERED AS THE FIRST STEP TO THE UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

The handover took place on 1 July 1867.

- The North German Confederation took over the postal system and issued postage stamps.
- At the beginning, the NDP stamps were not ready. The stamps inscribed « **PREUSSEN** » were in use as of July 1st 1867 until the end of the year.
- On January 1st 1868, the stamps were inscribed « **NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK** ».
- Hamburg's postmarks will show the same types used at the Prussian Agency in Hamburg with few different characteristics.
- Federation stamps and postmarks were superseded on January 1st 1872 by the first issues of the **German Empire.**

July 1 st 1867	January 1 st 1868	January 1 st 1872 ...
<i>Preussen</i>	<i>Norddeutscher Postbezirk</i>	<i>Deutsches Reichpost</i>
←	North German Confederation	→ German Empire
(1867 1871) (1872 1874)		



North German Confederation



- Hamburg to La Rochelle
- August 28 1867 – after
Prussia took over the postal
system
- **Prussian postmark of origin**
- reused from 01.68 to 05.1874
- red cachet **Tour-T.** from the
Franco-German entry office
in **Erquelines ***
- postage due 6 décimes →
tax handstamp (T.& T.)
reused until 12.1873

*** Without any new bilateral agreements, the old cachets between Prussia, Thurn und Taxis and France will stay the same until 1872.**

- Hamburg to Meyenburg, territory of Prignitz (near Berlin)
- **postmark of origin** : HAMBURG BAHNHOF- railway station in Hamburg
- November 16 1867 - Prussian postal stationary of 2 *silbergroschen*
- North German Confederation



- Hamburg to Berlin
- 1868
- stamp 1 *silbergroschen* from the **NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK**
- **postmark of origin** : railway postmark in use in 1852 ! (11.1852 to 12.1852)

HAMBURG

10 8 II ← zug : train #2

BERLIN

