

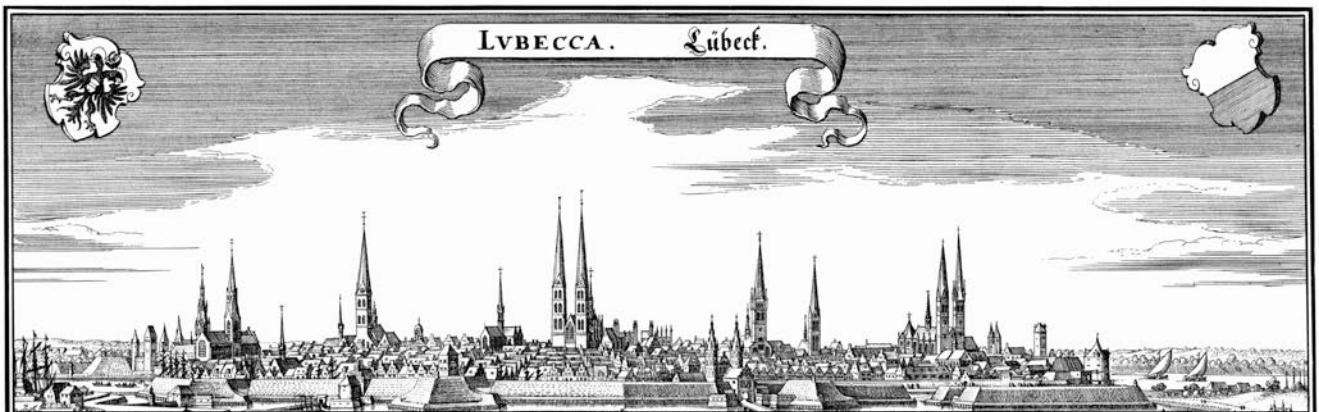
The Posts in the City of Lübeck before 1868



24th April 2015

Royal Philatelic Society London

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Acknowledgements and Sources

The London Philatelist 1899 ff

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Europäisches Hansemuseum Lübeck gemeinnützige GmbH

Museen für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte der Hansestadt Lübeck

Holger Carstensen of Denmark (20th October 1940 - 20th October 2009,) began this collection, and it was the last that he gave up before he died.

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Postmark References

The Arbeitsgemeinschaft lists 158 basic postmarks during the period from 1784 to 31st December 1867. To this should be added significant numbers of sub types. References in the display, e.g. (ArGe 110), are taken from this publication.

Lübeck at the Royal Philatelic Society London

The subject has been infrequently shown at the Society.

In the whole of *The London Philatelist* there are only 88 references:

Book Review	4	Meetings - Other Societies	6
Display	3	Meetings - RPSL	9
Editorial	5	Notices - General	4
Exhibition or Show	5	Paper	18
Library	2	The Market	32

Of these 65 were before the beginning of the Second World War.

There are references to five exhibitions: The Berlin Philatelic Exhibition in 1904, The Paris Philatelic Exhibition of 1900, The New York International Philatelic Exhibition of 1926, IPOSTA 1930, and the Berlin Philatelic Club 2013.

Three displays to the Society have featured mail to Lübeck, but only in a limited form. The only singular presentation on the subject was by M P Castle *'The Reprints of Lübeck'* on 3rd January 1899.

Lübeck was a Baltic crossroads with commercial ties across the north of Europe from east to west, and from the north of Scandinavia to the south of Europe. The City's variety of independent and interdependent, competing and complementary postal services has no parallel in Great Britain, and has more in common with those in the Levant and Treaty Ports during the 19th century.

This presentation includes the following postal and delivery services related to the city before the creation of the North German Confederation (Norddeutscher Postbezirk) on 1st January 1868 and after the introduction of postal handstamps in the city in 1784.

Frame 1 is an introduction showing maps (Holstein by Köhler & Weigel c. 1716-20, Germany by Robert Wilkinson 1809, and mail earlier than the introduction of postmarks.

Frame 1	1804 Lübeck Almanac: The incoming and outgoing post in Lübeck
Frame 1	Private Messenger
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Frame 7	The Hanoverian Post Office and The Swedish Postal Agency
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Background

Lübeck was a founder member of the Hanseatic League, a merchant trading association, and describes itself as a Hansa City even today, despite the formal end of the commercial relationship in the early 1860s. As 'Queen of the Baltic' she was at the centre of the Hanseatic League.



It was a constitutional republic and a free city under the direct control of the Holy Roman Emperor until 1806 during the French revolutionary wars, and was a founder member of the German Confederation in 1815, established by the Congress of Vienna.

In 1867 it covered an area of 270 square kilometres, including the old commercial city of Lübeck, its port Travemünde (the mouth of the river Trave), and 52 smaller villages and hamlets.

Lübeck's population for the whole territory, not just the historic city centre of the original defended island, was estimated in 1834 at 36,464; in 1864 at 50,399, and by 1871 at 52,158.



German rule of the North and Baltic Seas in the 14th and early 15th centuries at the height of Hanseatic League and Teutonic Order. Hanseatic Cities are underlined in red

Frame 1: 1804 Lübeck Almanac: The incoming and outgoing post in Lübeck

Von ankommenden und abgehenden Posten in Lübeck.

Die Kaiserliche Reichspost

geht ab Mittwochs und Sonnabends Nachmittags präcise um 3½ Uhr nach Lüneburg, Braunschweig, Leipzig, ganz Sachsen, Oestreich, Ungarn, Franken, Schwaben, Hessen, nach der Schweiz, Elsaß, Mähren, Steyermark, Bayern und ganz Italien. Kommt an Sonntags und Donnerstags Nachmittags.

Die französische Post

geht ab (im Kaiserl. Post: Hause) Sonntags, Dienstags und Donnerstags, Abends, im Sommer um 6½ Uhr, im Winter eben vor dem Thorschluß, mit Briefen nach Frankreich, Spanien und Portugal. Kommt an Dienstags, Donnerstags und Sonnabends Morgens um 8 Uhr.

Die Königl. Großbritannische und Churfürstl. Braunschweig-Lüneburgische Post.

geht ab Mittwochs und Sonnabends Mittags um 12 Uhr. Kommt an Montags und Freitags Nachmittags.

Die Königl. Dänischen Posten.

Die reitende nach ganz Holstein, Jütland, Föhnen, Seeland, geht ab Dienstags und Freitags Abends 7 Uhr, auch Dienstags nach Norwegen; kommt an dieselben Tage.

Die reitende nach Hamburg und Altona geht ab Montags und Donnerstags Abends 9 Uhr, kommt an Dienstags und Freitags Morgens.

Die fahrende Posten

gehen ab: zum erstenmal im Sommer vom 1 April bis den 31. August Mittwochs frühe um 5 Uhr, im Winter vom 1. Sept. bis den 31. März Dienstags Abends etwa 1 Stunde vor Thorschluß, nach Plön, Preetz, Kiel, Flensburg, bis Hadersleben, ganz Föhnen und Seeland, wie auch nach Neustadt, Oldenburg, Heiligenhafen, Lütjenburg und Jelmarn.

Zum zweitenmale, Freitags Nachmittags um 4 Uhr nach Oldesloe, Segeberg, Neumünster, Ikehoe, Glückstadt, Plön, Preetz, Kiel, Schleswig, Flensburg, Hadersleben, ganz Jütland.

Sonnabend Vormittags um 10 Uhr nach Neustadt, Oldenburg, Heiligenhafen, Lütjenburg, und Jelmarn.

Kommen an zum erstenmale in der Woche im Sommer Montags Abends 7 Uhr, im Winter Nachmittags 3 Uhr aus Plön, Preetz, Kiel, Eckernförde, Neustadt, Oldenburg, Heiligenhafen, Lütjenburg und Jelmarn.

Zum zweitenmale Freitags Vormittags aus eben genannten Orten, wie auch von Rendsburg, Schleswig, Flensburg, Hadersleben u. s. w. und ganz Dänemark.

Die fahrende Post nach Hamburg und Altona geht ab Dienstags und Freitags Nachmittags 4 Uhr. — Kommt an Mittwochs und Sonnabends Morgens.

Die Berliner reitende Post.

geht ab Mittwochs und Sonnabends Mittags um 11½ Uhr, nach Boizenburg, ganz Preussen, Curland, Liefland und Rußland. Kommt an Montags und Donnerstags Nachmittags.

Die Mecklenburger Schweriner Post.

geht ab Dienstags und Freitags Nachmittags um 4 Uhr. Kommt an dieselben Tage Morgens.

Die Bischöflich Eutiner Post.

geht ab Dienstags und Freitags Nachmittags um 4 Uhr. Kommt an dieselben Tage Morgens.

Die Pommersche reitende Post.

geht ab Mittwochs und Sonnabends Vormittags um 11½ Uhr nach Wiemar, Rostock, Stralsund, Demmin, Greifswald, Wolgast, Stettin. Kommt an Dienstags und Freitags Morgens.

Die Pommersche fahrende Post.

(bei Herrn Meeser in der Hürstraße)

geht ab Dienstags und Freitags Nachmittags um 4 Uhr. Kommt an dieselben Tage Morgens.

Die Hamburger reitende Post.

geht ab alle Abend im Sommer 7 Uhr, im Winter vor Thorschluß. — Kommt an alle Morgen.

Die Hamburger fahrende Stadt: Post.

geht ab im Sommer Montags, Mittwochs, Freitags und Sonnabends, Morgens um 6 Uhr, im Winter dieselben Tage Mittags um 12 Uhr. Kommt an im Sommer an denselben Tagen Abends, im Winter an den folgenden Tagen Mittags.

Die Briefpost nach Schweden und Finnland. geht ab Montags und Donnerstags Abends. — Kommt an Mittwochs und Sonnabends Morgens.

The City was host to four major postal services: The City Post, The Danish, originally hosted by the City Post, but later independent, The Thurn and Taxis Postal Service, and at this time, the French Post. Each served different parts of Europe. In addition there were more local services such as the Bishop of Eutin's Messenger Service, and various other essentially 'German' systems, to Hamburg, Berlin, Mecklenburg, Hanover (Brunswick and Lüneburg), and Pomerania.

Of the incoming and Outgoing post in Lübeck

Of the incoming and Outgoing post in Lübeck

The Imperial Post goeth on Wednesday and Saturday precisely at 3½ o'clock to Lüneburg, Brunswick, Leipzig, all Saxony, Austria, Hungary, Franconia, Swabia, Hesse, then Switzerland, Alsace, Moravia, Steyermark, Bavaria and Italy. Cometh on Sunday and Thursday in the afternoon.

The French post

goeth from (The Imperial Post house) Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, in the summer by 6½ o'clock, in winter just before the gate closing with letters to France, Spain and Portugal. Cometh on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning at 8 o'clock.

The Royal Post of Great Britain and the Post of the Elector of Brunswick-Lüneburg (Hanover) goeth on Wednesday and Saturday at midday 12 o'clock. Cometh on Monday and Friday afternoons.

The Royal Danish Post Office

The Riding Post: to the whole of Holstein, Jutland, Funen, Zealand, goeth from Tuesday and Friday evenings 7 o'clock, also Tuesday to Norway; cometh on the same days.

The Riding Post: to Hamburg and Altona goeth on Monday and Thursday evenings 9 o'clock, arriveth Tuesday and Friday mornings.

The Carriage Post: from: firstly in the summer from 1st April to August 31 on Wednesday early by 5 o'clock; in winter from 1 September to March 31 Tuesday evening about 1 hour before the gate closes via Plön, Preetz, Kiel, Flensburg to Haderslev, all of Funen and Zealand, as well to Neustadt, Oldenburg, Heligenhafen, Lütjenburg and Fehmarn.

Secondly, on Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock to Oldesloe, Segeberg, Neumünster, Itzehoe, Glückstadt, Plön, Preetz, Kiel, Schleswig, Flensburg, Haderslev, and the whole of Jutland.

Saturday morning at 10 o'clock to Neustadt, Oldenburg, Heligenhafen, Lütjenburg and Fehmarn.

Cometh for the first time in the week during the summer on Monday evening at 7 o'clock, in the winter at 3 o'clock in the afternoon from Plön, Preetz, Kiel, Eckernförde, Neustadt, Oldenburg, Heligenhafen, Lütjenburg and Fehmarn.

for the second time on Friday mornings from the aforementioned places, as well as from Rendsburg, Schleswig, Flensburg, Haderslev etc. and the whole of Denmark.

The Carriage Post to Hamburg and Altona goeth from Tuesday afternoon and Friday at 4 o'clock. Cometh on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

Die Berliner Riding Post

goeth on Wednesday and Saturday at 11½ o'clock, to Boizenburg, all Prussia, Courland, Lithuania and Russia. Cometh on Monday and Thursday afternoons.

The Meckleberg-Schwerin post

goeth on Tuesday and Friday in the afternoon at 4 o'clock. Cometh on the same day in the morning.

The Bishop of Eutin's post

goeth on Tuesday and Friday afternoons at 4 o'clock. Cometh on the same day in the morning.

The Pomeranian Riding Post

With Mr Neeser in the Huxstraße goeth on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at 11½ o'clock, to Wismar, Rostock, Stralsund, Demmin, Greifswald, Wolgast, Stettin. Cometh on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

The Hamburg Riding Post

goeth every night at 7 o'clock in the summer, in winter at the closing of the gate. Cometh every morning.

The Hamburg City Carriage Post

goeth in the summer on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings at 6 o'clock in the winter, and on the same days at 12 o'clock midday. In the summer it arriveth on the same days in the evening, and in winter on the next day at midday.

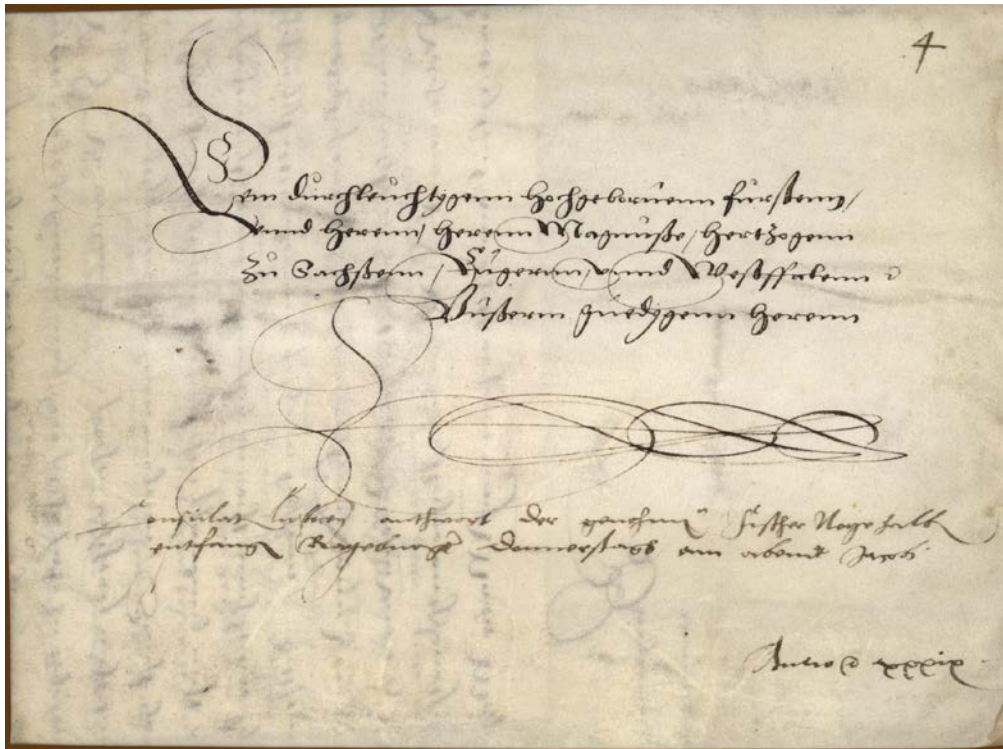
The Letter Post to Sweden and Finland

goeth on Monday and Thursday evenings. Cometh on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

Frame 1: Private Messenger

It is unclear when the Lübeck Schonenfahrer messenger service began, however, the Bürgermeister and Council of Lübeck sent a letter on 23rd July 1539 to Magnus I of Saxe-Lauenburg (1st January 1488 - 1st August 1543), to Ratzeburg concerning a dispute over fishing rights in the Ratzeburg lake.

It was less than 30 Km to Ratzeburg, and it seems likely that this was carried by private messenger.



Ratzeburg: Braun & Hogenberg, 1598. Drawn by Gerdt Hane 1588.
The City was built on two islands in the Ratzeburg Lake

Frame 1: The Schonenfahrer Guild: The Hanseatic Boten

The Lübeck messenger service belonged to the Schonenfahrer Guild, one of the oldest of the eight Lübeck merchant guilds. The earliest ordinance regulating their messenger service is from 1597, and deals with communication between the Hamburg, Lübeck, and Danzig Exchanges.

From 1620, the messengers went from the Guildhall of the Schonenfahrer, the 'Schütting'. 'Schütting' is an old word for 'meeting house' from the Norwegian Skotting, today Schøtstuene. Literally, the meeting house of the travellers (sailors or merchants) to Skåne in Sweden. This was the centre of the herring trade.



The Arms of the Schonenfahrer with the Lübeck eagle to the left and the three herrings to the right.

Addressed to **Dem Erbaren waissen/ S^r Abraham de Gortego/ Garcia En grooten vriend/ in / Antwerpen** the letter has no Thurn and Taxis markings, just the handwritten notation **Bats de bode**.

The receiver's marking is **M^r 6^{bris} (December) 1595** **ate francere / Hora 11^r** meaning the charge was paid, with the notice in the left lower corner **s^r p. P.**



This letter, dated 9th September 1595, is one of the earliest Hansa Messenger letters from the East to Flanders. It was sent by one of the 'Hansa' messengers and not by the Thurn and Taxis post.

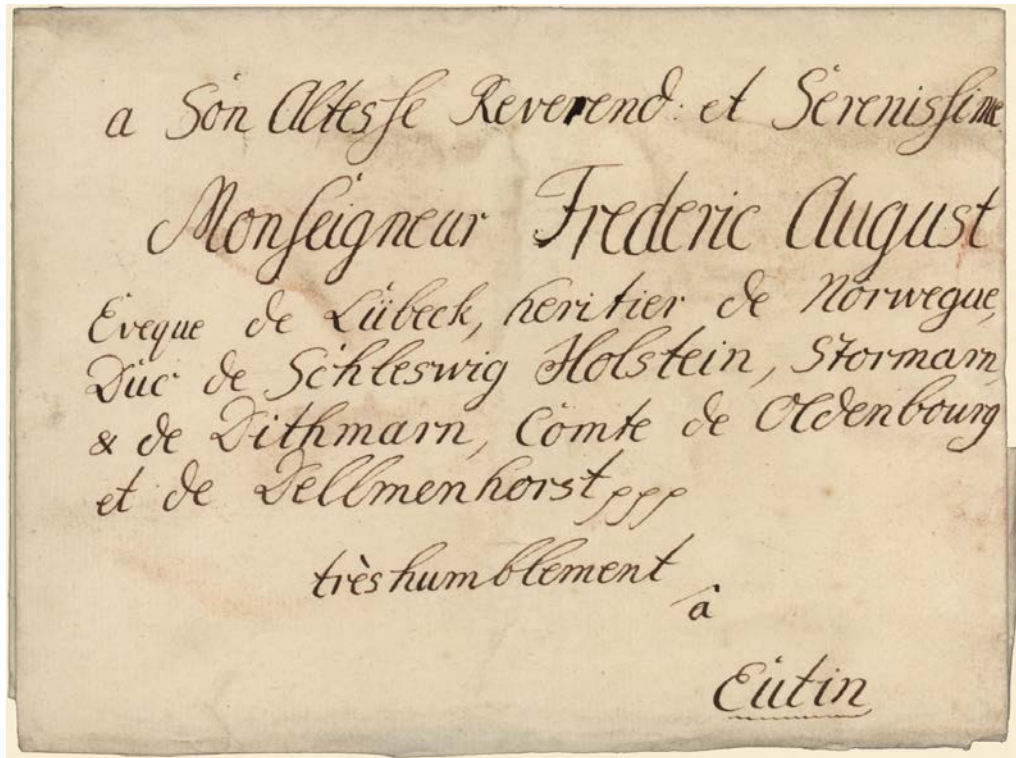
The oldest Taxis letters from the region are from Königsberg, Fredericia (Denmark), and Danzig, between 1658 and 1684, all sent prepaid to Hamburg, and rated with the Taxis rates in Schelling and Groten (Flemish currency). See *La Poste à Anvers des débuts jusqu'à 1793* (Pandora 1993, pp 104-106).

This is a commercial letter, in a mixture of old Flemish/German, concerning capital investments and bonds with different values for different individuals.

In the opinion of James van der Linden, the earliest known Hansa letter from the East to Flanders.

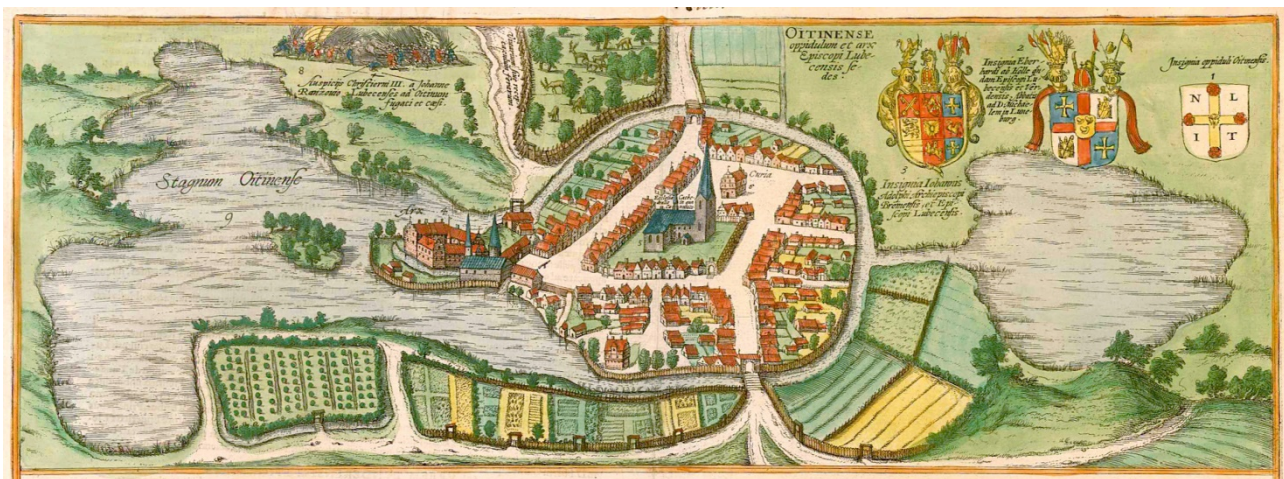
Frame 1: The Prince-Bishopric of Lübeck at Eutin

The Principality, abolished 1803, comprised 9½ square German miles with 22,000 inhabitants. Its capital was Eutin. It utilised a postal service from Lübeck supervised at times by the City postal service at 18 Mengstraße.



Probably 1773: Wrapper addressed to His Highness, the Reverend and Serene Monseigneur Frederick August, Bishop of Lübeck, Heir to Norway, Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, Stormarn and Dithmarsch, Count of Oldenburg and of Delmenhorst, etc. etc. in great humility, at Eutin. Presumed to be carried by messenger. (Paper watermarked C I HONIG PRO PATRIA.)

Frederick August I, 20th September 1711 - 6th July 1785; Bishop of Lübeck 1750-1785; Count of Oldenburg 1773; Duke of Oldenburg 1774-1785.



Eutin: Braun & Hogenberg, 1598

Frame 2-3: The Princely Thurn and Taxis Post (The Imperial Postal Service)

In 1579 the Princely Thurn and Taxis postal service in Lübeck was inaugurated by a decree of Emperor Rudolph II. It was initially managed by the City of Lübeck Botenmeister (Messenger Master) through the Guildhall known as the 'Schütting' at 18 Mengstraße.

From 1660 the Imperial Post was housed as follows:

From 28th August 1660 until mid-1750 at Königstraße 69

From mid-1750s to end of 1807 at Königstraße 39

From 1st February 1814 to 1816 at Königstraße 39

From 1816-1825 at Königstraße 17

From 1825 to 3rd November 1848 at Breitestraße 35

From 4th November 1848 to 30th June 1854 at Mengstraße 28

From 1st July 1854 to 30th June 1867 at Mengstraße 2

In 1807 Napoleon closed the postal service and took it under his own control.

After the withdrawal of the French (December 1813) the Thurn and Taxis postal service in Lübeck came back into action from 1st February 1814.

After the takeover of the Thurn and Taxis postal system by Prussia on 1st July 1867, the City Post Office managed matters on behalf of Prussia.

Postal administrators or postmasters of the Thurn and Taxis Lübeck Post Office were:

28 th August 1660 to 1680:	Postal administrator Lorentz Jahn
1680-1705:	Postmaster Konrad Julius Engelking
1705 to 1729:	The widow of Engelking
1729 to 1807:	Count Theobald von Kurtzrock
1814 to 30 th April 1847:	Baron Alexander von Kurtzrock
1 st May 1847 to 1863:	Baron J Maximilian von Bellersheim
1863 to 30 th June 1867:	Postmaster George Segeler

The first Thurn and Taxis postal markings appeared in Lübeck in 1784 following an order on 3rd April 1784 that the place of origin was required on letters.

L Ü B E C K R 4 L Ü B E K

These first postmarks were straight line handstamps, later with the Rayon number for Lübeck, which was in the fourth Thurn and Taxis Rayon. There were eight of these (ArGe 69-76). The Rayon marks followed a postal convention between Thurn and Taxis and France on 14th December 1801, in which the Thurn and Taxis Imperial postal territory was divided into four districts, and France into five districts. This resulted in simplified postal rates calculated according to distance and weight.

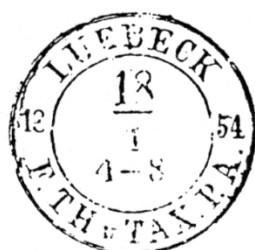
During the French occupation 1807-1814 the Thurn and Taxis post office ceased to function in Lübeck.

LUBECK
31 MAY 1814

Six more two lined marks followed with, and without, Rayon numbers from 1814 to 1818 (ArGe 77-82).



In 1818 the postmarks were redesigned and in various arced formats lasted until 1855 (ArGe 83-85).



ArGe 86
1853-1860



ArGe 87
1861-1865



ArGe 88
1866-1867



ArGe 89
1853-1867

Circular datestamps replaced the arced postmarks in 1853 together with a numeral canceller in the same format as all other Thurn and Taxis offices.



There were other postmarks associated with the Thurn and Taxis post office including those used at the main railway station, but these are not included in the display.

Stamps were issued on 1st January 1852, and the Silbergroschen values were used on mail outside the City to destinations served by the Thurn and Taxis postal services.

The Thurn and Taxis Post transferred its postal system contracts to the Prussian state for the sum of three million Thaler, after a contract was signed and ratified on 28th January 1867. The handover of control of the postal system took place on 1st July 1867, when the Thurn and Taxis post office closed, and the City Post Office managed matters on behalf of Prussia.

Frame 4-6: Lübeck City Post Office

The Lübeck City Post Office began at the Guild Hall of the Schonenfahrer, and their building at Mengstraße 18 displayed the sign of the three herrings, the Guild badge.

On 16th September 1660 a separate daily riding post was established between Hamburg and Lübeck. This date is considered the foundation of the City of Lübeck Post.

Mengstraße 18 (The Schütting) was used exclusively for postal purposes until 1853.

With a new building of the Post Office in the years 1882-1884, the 'Schütting' was put to other uses and then demolished in 1885.

The city mail at the Schütting at times supervised the Eutin or Holstein, the Danish, the Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and the Prussian posts.

During the French occupation of the city, the Post Office was temporarily closed from January 1811 to December 1813.

On 7th May 1814 the administration of the city post again became financially independent. The postal department was created, consisting of two senators and four members chosen from the Schonenfahrer Guild.

Postal history data:

1597: Messengers Decree concerning the Hamburg-Lübeck-Danzig route.

1st May 1625: Oldest extant messenger agreement between the Lübeck Schonenfahrer and the Hamburg stock exchange as a result of the jointly operated daily service.

1647: The Lübeck-Lüneburg riding post is first mentioned.

1655: Messenger post to Denmark is established, firstly via Rendsburg, and later via Kiel.

1656: Carriage and riding mail Lübeck-Wismar.

16th September 1660: The State of Lübeck inaugurated a daily mail service to Hamburg.

1692: A dispute between the Schonenfahrer Guild and the Princely Eutin or Holstein Riding Post ends the service to Eutin and Kiel.

8th April 1694: A Lübeck Riding Post to Boizenburg is mentioned. This connected with the Prussian Post to Berlin and on to Russia.

1709: Adoption of a new carriage order 'New revised order concerning the daily ordinary carriage and trailer between Lübeck and Hamburg'.

6th November 1806: Lübeck occupied by the French.

16th February 1806: Establishment of the 'Grossherzogliches-Bergisches Oberpostamtes'.

1st January 1811: French Head Post Office established in Lübeck.

5th December 1813: Final liberation of Lübeck from the French occupation.

7th May 1814: The administration of the city post is taken over by the city on its own account.

1822: Ship mail connection Lübeck-Ystad (Sweden).

1828: Ship mail connection Lübeck-Copenhagen.

23rd May 1829: State Treaty with Prussia concerning establishment of a Prussian Post Office in the City Post Office.

1831: Ship mail connection Lübeck-St. Petersburg.

12th November 1835: Postal Convention with Denmark concerning the transmission of the post through Holstein and Lauenburg.

30th September 1840: New Postal Convention with Denmark.

1st June 1841: A daily Carriage Post was established between Lübeck and Hamburg with offices at Pferdemarkt 6/8 in Lübeck. The route was closed again on 30th June 1865.

15th October 1851: The Lübeck-Büchen Railway opened.

1st January 1852: Lübeck joined the German-Austrian Postal Union founded 6th April 1850.

1st July 1852: Post Office Lübeck '2' was established at the Holstentorplatz railway station.

1st January 1859: The first Lübeck postage stamps were issued. These were valid until 31st December 1867.

15th January 1862: First Letter boxes in Lübeck were installed.

1st August 1865: Lübeck-Hamburg railway opened (Travelling Post Office).

1st January 1868: The 'City of Lübeck Post' became part of the North German Postal Union. The former City Post Office was converted into a Head Post Office with the status of Head Postal Directorate reporting to the General Post Office in Berlin.

Postmasters

1660	Hindrich Brüningk, Messenger Master
1680	Hinrich Bremer, Messenger Master
1697	Marten Bolth, Messenger Master
1700	Hieronimus (Dietrich) Kater, Messenger Master
1704	Johann Hinrich Vienhagen (Father), Messenger Master
1711	Johann Hinrich Vienhagen (Son), Messenger Master
1711-1719	Johann Nicolaus Albringk, Messenger Master
1719-1740	Johann Everding, Messenger Master
1741-1742	Hinrich Müller, Messenger Master
1743-1744	Hermann Siemers, City Postmaster
1745 - October 1763	Johann Sievers, City Postmaster
1764-1791	Gotthard Hinrich Zerran, City Postmaster
1791-1807	Georg Bernhard Horstmann, City Postmaster
1807-1813	von Lindemann, von Morambert and Lejeune, French Postal Administration
1814 - 23 rd April 1817	Georg Bernhard Horstmann, City Postmaster
5 th May 1817 - 31 st May 1819	Georg Blohm, City Postmaster
15 th June 1819 - 22 nd February 1841	Daniel von Bippen, City Postmaster
8 th March 1841 - 4 th March 1849	Heinrich Stephan Horning, City Postmaster
5 th March 1849-1850	Burmester and Krüger, Postal Secretary and Administration Manager
1850-19 th June 1851	Heinrich August Rindelaub, Administration Manager
20 th June 1851 - 31 st May 1884	Hermann Lingnau, Director of Posts, from 1 st May 1868 Head Postmaster



Postcard, 1895, showing the new main post office built 1882-1884

Postmarks

Postmarks were not introduced by the City Post Office until 1807, followed by a gap until 1813-14 when the original postmark was reintroduced, presumably because the French postal administration had its own systems, and it certainly had its own postmarks.

ST-P-LUB:

ArGe 1, 1807 and 1813-1814

LUBECK d. 3/10 1842

ArGe 9, One of fourteen two lined marks used between 1814 and 1844



1844-1852
Also in Red



1852-1856
4 Types



1859-1867
2 Types



1865-1867



1866-1867



1866-1870



From 1845



1866-1873

Circular and Horseshoe cancellers and datestamps 1844-1873

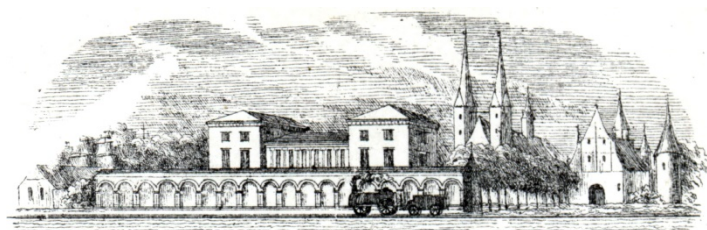


1864-1869

LÜBECK
BAHNHOF

1865-1867

Postmarks used at the Lübeck Railway Station by the City Post Office



Postage Stamps were first issued on 1st January 1859.



Lübeck first issue 1859, Michel numbers 1-5B, the latter unissued. Watermark flowers



Forgeries exist of the above stamps. For example the Spiro Brothers of Hamburg were making copies of these stamps as early as 1871, as did Fournier later in his 1914 pricelist. There are others, which together contribute to the deep mistrust, in which the issues of the German States are regarded in the United Kingdom. Earée's listing of Lübeck alone runs to 16 pages in the 1906 edition of *Album Weeds*.

Official reprints were made in 1872: A soldier, Paul Kirchner, who was wounded in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, was invalided to the hospital in Lübeck and was given permission to reprint Michel numbers 3-12 and 14 from the original plates. 250 sets were produced in sheetlets of 25 by H G Rahtgens. Kirchner had to pay 30 Marks Courant for this privilege. These reprints are much rarer than the original mint stamps remaindered in 1869.



Forgeries made by Engelhardt Fohl who was in Gera, Germany, from 1894 until 1898

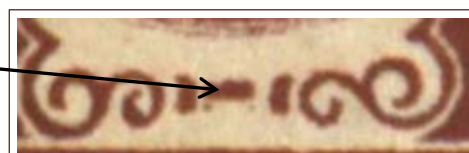
When the printing firm, Lentsch, which he had employed went bankrupt, a large quantity of his forgeries, which were there at the time, were seized by the public prosecutor, thus bringing his activities to light. The forgeries were bought by the *Deutsches Philatelisten Verbandes*, overprinted *Falsch!*, and widely circulated. These shown above were gummed into the *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*, 3rd December 1898, for circulation throughout Scandinavia.

Modern reprints were published in 1978 by Gehringer in Kaiserslautern in miniature sheets of four stamps. The whole sheet has a wavy like watermark pattern. The inscription at the bottom of the sheet reads: 'Neudruck 1978' and 'Gehringer'.

The original stamps had 'secret marks' which are found on none of the forgeries:



- | | |
|-------------|---|
| ½ Schilling | One dot over the hyphen |
| 1 | One dot under the hyphen |
| 2 | Two dots under the hyphen |
| 2½ | One dot over, two dots under the hyphen |
| 4 | Four dots under the hyphen |



Five values, as above, were issued on 1st January 1859 watermarked 'flowers'. The ½ and 1 Schilling were reprinted on unwatermarked paper and issued on 5th April 1862.

Between 1863 and 1865 the same values were issued in new designs, and a new 1¼ Schilling value on 1st April 1865 with a 1½ Schilling value following on 1st December 1865.

Postal stationery envelopes were issued in the same five values on the originally issued stamps, in two sizes, and with the value indicator to the left and to the right on all small format envelopes.

A 1½ Schilling envelope was issued on 1st December 1865.

18th September 1863 or later:

One Schilling, value indication to the left, postal stationery envelope type Mi. U2B, sent from **TRAVEMÜNDE** to Lübeck (ArGe 35).



25th March 1864 or later:

4 Schilling postal stationery envelope Mi. U5 sent from Travemünde to Göttingen, a distance of over 20 Miles in the German-Austrian Postal Union. Datestamped **TRAVEMÜNDE** (ArGe 35), and cancelled with three ring **T** for Travemünde (ArGe 31).

4th January 1864 onwards:

2½ Schilling envelope Mi. U4 sent from Lübeck to Gnoien in Mecklenburg,

correctly paying the rate for a distance of over 6 Miles.

Cancelled with three ringed **L** and datestamped **LÜBECK** (ArGe 17).



Cancellations

Place name cancellers were used from 1st January to 3rd March 1859 according to the regulations. Ink cancellations were used from March 3rd 1859 to January 26th 1861, and the barred cancels used from late January 1861 to mid-1864.

Ink Cancellation

Ink cancellation is widely and unreasonably misunderstood. However, the official rules have to be accepted as correct. The regulation of 3rd March 1859 is the official statement on the use and treatment of the stamps:

'Since it has been shown that the cancellation of postage stamps with a date stamp is not sufficient to obliterate them, the cancelling of postage stamps must be done in such a way that they are strongly crossed out with blue ink.'

Barred Cancellers

The ink cancellation was replaced by the barred cancellers in 1861. The relevant instruction published on 26th January 1861 states:

'The cancellation of postage stamps should henceforth be done with specially made cancellers in black.'

These were the date stamps:

Letter acceptance Office (City Post Office) LUEBECK with dates (five types during the stamp period)
The railway station office LUEBECK BAHNHOF with dates (I - IV ZUG)
The Post Office in Travemünde TRAVEMÜNDE.

The period of usage of the barred cancellers is not yet clear. They disappear by the middle of 1864 to be replaced by the place name cancellers.

In the third issue (Michel numbers 8-12), 1st July 1863, the barred cancellers are quite rare, and they have not been seen on the 1864/65 issues of the 1¼ and 1½ Schilling stamps.

In 1864 the City Post Office franked 28,404 letters while 228,488 unfranked letters were handed in for delivery. In addition there were 8,424 stampless registered letters, 1,014 letters with samples, 60,203 newspaper wrappers, and 5,530 items of free mail.

That is 303,659 items of mail without stamps, and less than 10% with stamps.

Postage Rates

These were published on 1st January 1859 by the City Post Office in a 16 page tariff.

Lübeck, Hamburg, and Mecklenburg used the same currency systems: 1 Reichsthaler = 3 Lübeck Mark = 48 Lübeck Schillinge. The weight steps were based on the Lübeck Loth, i.e. 15.2 Grammes.

Local letters or newspaper wrappers were ½ Schilling and domestic letters 1 Schilling, including Travemünde. The one Schilling single rate applied to certain towns in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the German State Russe, and to Schlutup in Prussia.

For all other places the rate table should be consulted, although the fundamental system was based on weight and distance, and on the Treaty of 1st January 1852 with the German-Austrian Postal Union, which Thurn and Taxis had also joined on 1st May 1851. Rates increased or changed later.

1. Europe

1. Germany

Postal Union Area

Anhalt-Bernburg
Anhalt-Dessau und Köthen
Bergedorf (Geesthacht)
Braunschweig
Bremen
Bremerhaven
Hamburg
Cuxhaven und Ritzebüttel
Hannover
1. nach Artlenburg, Bleckede, Dalenburg, Harburg, Lüneburg, Neuhaus a. d. L., Winsen a. d. L.
2. nach Achim, Ahlden, Altenbruch, Basbek, Bederkesa, Berge b. Celle, Bergen a. d. Dumme, Bevensen, Beverstedt, Bienenbüttel, Bodenteich, Bremervörde, Brome, Buxtehude, Celle, Clenze, Dannenberg, Dorfhagen, Dorum, Ebstorf, Eschede, Essei, Fallingbostal, Gartow, Geestendorf, Göhrde, Groß-Oesingen, Harsfeld, Heber, Hechthausen, Hemelingen, Himmelpforten, Hitzacker, Horneburg, Kuhstedt, Lehe, Lilienthal, Lüchow, Neuhaus a. d. Oste, Osterholz, Otterndorf, Ottersberg, Rethem, Rothenburg, Scharmbeck, Schnackenburg, Schneverdingen, Selfingen, Soltau, Stade, Stofel, Tostedt, Uelzen, Verden, Visselhövede, Walsrode, Welle, Wittingen, Wustrow, York, Zeven.
3. To all other places
Mecklenburg-Schwerin ...

I. Europa.		Porto für frankirte einfache	
		Briefe.	Kreuzbandsendungen.
I. Deutschland. (Postvereins-Gebiet.)		ß	ß
Anhalt-Bernburg	4	1	2
Anhalt-Dessau und Cöthen	4	1	2
Bergedorf (Geesthacht)	2	1	2
Braunschweig	4	1	2
Bremen	4	1	2
Bremerhaven	3	1	2
Hamburg	2	1	2
Cuxhaven und Ritzebüttel	3	1	2
Hannover			
1) nach Artlenburg, Bleckede, Dalenburg, Harburg, Lüneburg, Neuhaus a. d. L., Winsen a. d. L.	1 1/2	1	2
2) nach Achim, Ahlden, Altenbruch, Basbek, Bederkesa, Bergen b. Celle, Bergen a. d. Dumme, Bevensen, Beverstedt, Bienenbüttel, Bodenteich, Bremervörde, Brome, Buxtehude, Celle, Clenze, Dannenberg, Dorfhagen, Dorum, Ebstorf, Eschede, Essei, Fallingbostal, Gartow, Geestendorf, Göhrde, Groß-Oesingen, Harsfeld, Heber, Hechthausen, Hemelingen, Himmelpforten, Hitzacker, Horneburg, Kuhstedt, Lehe, Lilienthal, Lüchow, Neuhaus a. d. Oste, Osterholz, Otterndorf, Ottersberg, Rethem, Rothenburg, Scharmbeck, Schnackenburg, Schneverdingen, Selfingen, Soltau, Stade, Stofel, Tostedt, Uelzen, Verden, Visselhövede, Walsrode, Welle, Wittingen, Wustrow, York, Zeven	3	1	2
3) nach den übrigen Stationen	4	1	2
Mecklenburg-Schwerin			
1) nach Daffow, Rehna, Schönberg	1	1	2
2) nach Boltenhagen, Gadebusch, Grevesmühlen, Klütz, Mühleneizen, Wittenburg, Jarrentin	1 1/2	1	2
3) nach den übrigen Stationen	2 1/2	1	2
Mecklenburg-Strelitz	4	1	2
Russe	1	1	2
Oesterreich (mit Ausnahme der Lombardei, Venedig, Tyrol, Vorarlberg und Oesterreich ob der Enns, wohin das kaiserlich thurn und taxische Post-Amt die Beförderung hat)	4	1	2

It was usual to collect mail from the post office. In certain cases receiving administrations charged additional fees for delivery.

The City Post Office served no destinations in France, Spain, and Portugal, since these were by treaty the prerogative of the Thurn and Taxis, and the French systems.

Stamps on cover

1st January 1859: City arms of Lübeck: Printed in sheets of 100 by H G Rahtgens, watermark flowers:
Michel numbers 1-3.



6th June 1860/1: 2½ Schilling
with **Mi. 1** and 3 on envelope
sent from Lübeck to Rostock
in Mecklenburg, correctly paying
the rate for a distance of over 6 Miles.
Datestamped LÜBECK (ArGe 17),
and cancelled with ink.

8th April 1861: One Schilling letter
with **Mi. 2**, first issue with flowers
watermark, paying the domestic inland
rate, sent from Lübeck to Dassow,
with bar canceller and datestamped
LUEBECK (ArGe 17).
Marked ¼ (Schilling) for delivery fee.



6th August 1859: 8 Schilling letter with
strip of four **Mi. 3** 'strongly crossed out
with blue ink', sent from Lübeck to Reval,
then in Russia, now Tallin, Estonia.
Datestamped LUEBECK (ArGe 17).

1st January 1859: City arms of Lübeck: Printed in sheets of 100 by H G Rahtgens, watermark flowers:
Michel numbers 3-5.



23rd January 1861: 2 Schilling letter with **Mi. 3F**, error in words ZWEI UND HALB, sent from Lübeck to Hamburg, cancelled with bars and datestamped LÜBECK (ArGe 17) Unfortunately, a fabrication with a genuine remaindered stamp.



3rd July 1863: 2½ Schilling envelope with **Mi. 4** sent from Lübeck to Sülz near Rostock in Mecklenburg, correctly paying the rate for a distance of over 6 Miles. Datestamped LÜBECK (ArGe 17).



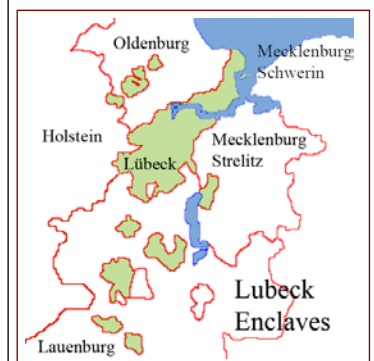
23rd April 1861-63: 4 Schilling letter with **Mi. 5A**, sent from Lübeck paying the correct rate to Hamm in the German-Austrian Postal Union, with barred canceller and datestamped LÜBECK (ArGe 17).

5th April 1862: Printed in sheets of 100 by H G Rahtgens, no watermark:
Michel numbers 6-7. The Landpost 1860-1865



31st January 1863: ½ Schilling local letter with **Mi. 6**, design as first issue but with no watermark, cancelled with LUEBECK (ArGe 17).

28th July 1862: One Schilling letter with **Mi. 7** design as first issue but with no watermark, paying the domestic inland rate, sent from Lübeck to Travemünde, with bar canceller and datestamped with LUEBECK (ArGe 17).



21st November 1860-1865: Wrapper, paid 1 Schilling sent to Lübeck handstamped PER LANDPOST (ArGe 32). Lübeck was not a contiguous territory and there were enclaves of land controlled by the city but surrounded by the Duchy of Lauenburg, Oldenburg or Mecklenburg-Strelitz. This mark was used for mail from the enclaves between 1860 and 1865.

1863-1867: Printed in sheets of 100 by the Prussian State Printing House, Berlin, no watermark:
Michel numbers 8-10.

After 31st March 1865: 2 Schilling
letter with **Mi. 8** and 14, sent
from Lübeck to Schwerin,
cancelled LÜBECK (ArGe 17).



31st July 1867: One Schilling
letter with **Mi. 9B** rouletted 10
(issued in the early part of 1867)
sent from Lübeck to
Travemünde, cancelled with
LUEBECK (ArGe 17).

10th June 1864 or later: 2 Schilling
postal stationery envelope Mi. U8,
up-rated with 2 Schilling **Mi. 10** sent
from Lübeck to Magdeburg,
a distance of over 20 Miles in the
German-Austrian Postal Union.
Cancelled LÜBECK BAHNHOF
(ArGe 36).



1863-1867: Printed in sheets of 100 by the Prussian State Printing House, Berlin, no watermark:
Michel numbers 12-14.



31st July 1867: 5½ Schilling letter with **Mi. 12** and 14 sent from Lübeck via St Petersburg to Kexholm, then in Finland, now Priozersk in Russia, cancelled with LÜBECK (ArGe 17).

27th January 1866: 1¼ Schilling letter with **Mi. 13**, sent from Travemünde paying the correct rate to Reinfeld in Holstein, cancelled with three ring L for LÜBECK and datestamped TRAVEMÜNDE (ArGe 35).



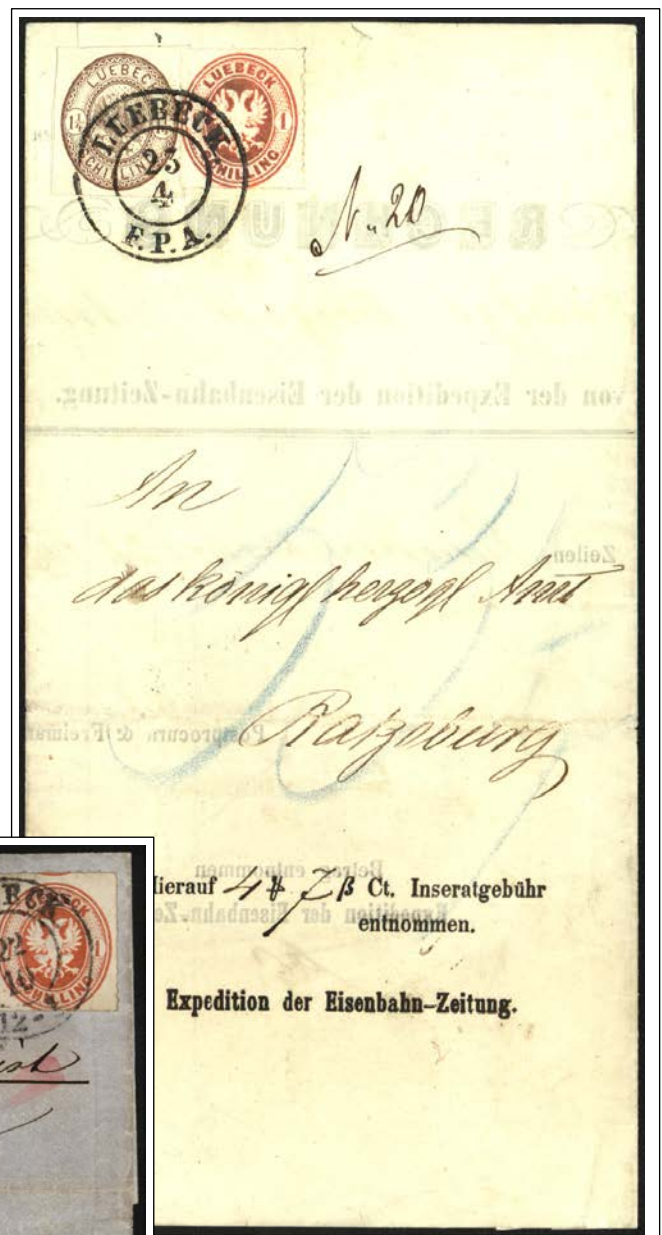
21st September 1867:
1½ Schilling letter with **Mi. 14**, sent from Lübeck to Hammer near Mölln in Holstein cancelled with LÜBECK (ArGe 17).

Other usages



6th December 1867: Twelve Schilling double weight letter with Mi. U13A postal stationery envelope uprated with Mi. 8, 10, and 12, sent from Lübeck to Cette, cancelled with LUEBECK (ArGe 17).

23rd April 1866: 2½ Schilling newspaper advertising bill with Mi. 9A and 12 sent from Lübeck to Ratzeburg, cancelled LÜBECK F.P.A. (ArGe 26A).

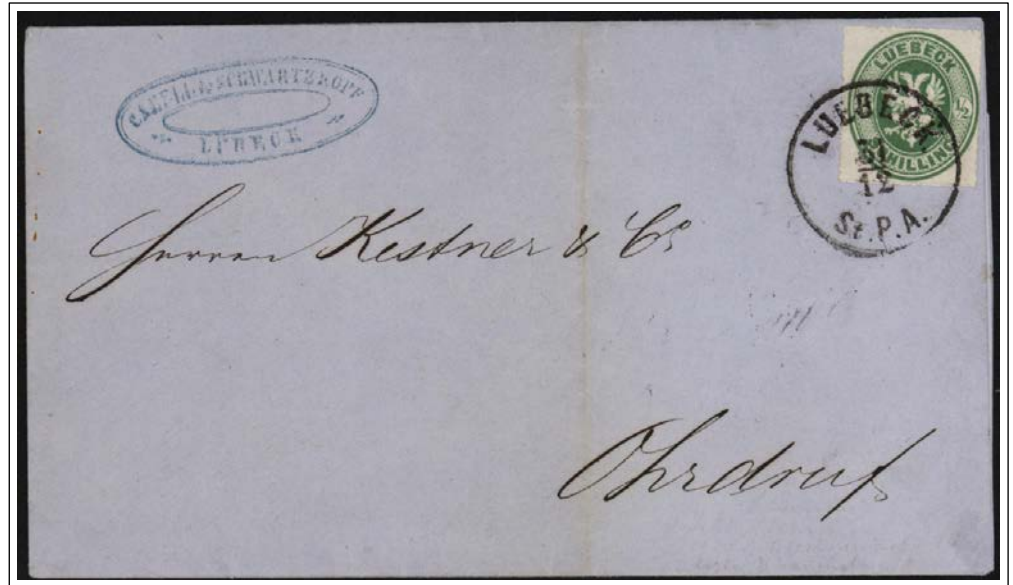


1863: Seven Schilling registered letter with Mi. 9A rouletted 12, 10 and 12 sent from Lübeck to Amsterdam, cancelled with LUEBECK (ArGe 18).
Unique in this form.



Last day of the Lübeck City Post Office

31st December 1867:
½ Schilling, Mi. 8, last day
of use, cancelled unusually
with LUEBECK St.P.A.
(ArGe 25), on a printed
matter envelope sent from
Lübeck to Ordruff,
arriving on the first day of
the North German
Confederation postal
service.



31st December 1867:
5½ Schilling, Mi. 3 x 9B
(Largest recorded
multiple) 8 and **Mi. 11**,
last day of use, cancelled
with LUEBECK
(ArGe 17), on an envelope
sent from Lübeck to Cette
in France.



Postcard, 1901, showing the traditional buildings fronting the River Trave.

Lübeck Remainders

On 31st December 1867 the Lübeck stamps and stationery were discontinued, and the postal service was taken over by the North German Confederation.

M P Castle, writing in *The London Philatelist* of February 1899, and quoting from the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* of 18th October 1898, says 'I am indebted for much of the information in these notes ... stating that this remainder was sold on January 11th 1869, to M. Charles Pelletrave, of Paris, for 600 thalers (about £90)'.

W A S Westoby wrote in a letter to *The London Philatelist* in March 1899, 'You have not in your remarks on the Lübeck stamps got the name right. It was M. Pelletreau who bought the stationery business of M. Nicolas and the stamp business of Madame Nicolas, when they retired. I did not frequent the shop much after he bought it, for he began to mix his stamps, and on my expostulating with him, he said he got more profit out of the imitations! I saw the Lübeck purchase, but only bought one sheet, a 2 sch. showing the errors. They were not gummed, as the Post Office gummed them as they were wanted; a good thing in such a damp place as Lübeck.'

Finally, in July 1903, in an article entitled 'Philatelic Notes', it is recorded that M. Louis 'Hanciau (who for so many years practically carried on the entire business) reported in the last issue of the (Stanley Gibbons) Monthly Journal', that these stamps were acquired by Moens.

Stamps of 1859 and 1862

Estimated for sale at 60 Thalers.

		Remainders	1859	1862	Sold
½ Sch.	+ 1862	72,500	40,000	110,000	77,500
1 Sch.	+ 1862	29,500	20,000	50,000	40,500
2 Sch.		77,910	138,600		60,690
	Error	1,590	2,772		1,182
2½ Sch.		26,500	50,000		23,500
4 Sch.		107,500	150,000		42,500
Total		315,500			

Stamps of 1863-1865

1¼ Sch. estimated at 10 Thalers.

All others estimated at 54.15 Thalers.

		Remainders	Printed		Sold
1¼ Sch.	1865	30,652	104,200		73,548
½ Sch.	1863	23,968	144,000		120,032
1 Sch.	Perf 10	7,228	80,000		92,772
	Perf 12		20,000		
1½ Sch.		97,071	Not Known		Not Known
2 Sch.		50,828	120,000		69,172
2½ Sch.		28,951	50,000		21,049
4 Sch.		17,851	80,000		62,149
Total		256,549			

In February 1894 *The London Philatelist* reviewed Lindenberg's handbook *The Envelopes of the German States. No. 3, Lübeck*, which the reviewer said 'is divided into four divisions, i.e. (1) 1863, with stamp to left in large and small size; (2) 1865, with stamp to left, small size in five values; (3) 1865, the ½ sch., as last; and (4) 1866-7, the 2 and 4 similar, but having a final 'E' to the word 'schilling' in the inscription. The Lübeck Post Office was closed on the 31st December, 1867, and the 49,712 remaining copies of the envelopes and 578,000 of the adhesives were sold to a Paris dealer for about £90. (A very good sale too - for the dealer in question!).'

The table below reflects this.

Envelopes

Estimated for sale at 142 Thalers.

	Remainders	Printed	Printed	Printed	Printed	Printed
		July 1863		April 1864	December 1865	May 1867
		Value on left		Value on right		
		Small Format	Large Format	Small Format		
½ Sch.	6,176	7,200	3,000	15,600		
1 Sch.	6,332	7,000	3,000	15,500		
1½ Sch.	14,118				61,200	
2 Sch.	8,313	14,200	6,000	10,100		5,100
2½ Sch.	9,350	7,000	3,000	10,400		
4 Sch.	5,423	7,000	3,000	11,000		20,900
Total	49,712					

Castle also reported that 'The Department had not taken the trouble to destroy the envelopes of the first and second issues. According to M. Pelletreau there were, of the first issue:-

Large size: 150 sets of 1, 2, 2½ Schilling

*Small: 700 copies of 1 Schilling
900 copies of 2 Schilling
650 copies of 2½ Schilling'*

Presumably there were no remainders of the ½ Schilling or the 4 Schilling of the first issue, in either format.



City Arms (Freie und Hansestadt Lübeck) late 19th Century

The Grand Duchy of Berg and the Imperial French Post

6th November 1806: Lübeck was occupied by the French.

16th February 1807: the Grand Duchy of Berg Post Office was established at Königstraße 549. The Director of the Post Office was Franz-Xaver Lindemann.

27th April 1807: the Hanoverian Post Office was taken over by the Grand Duchy of Berg Post Office. The Thurn and Taxis, the City Post Office, the Royal Danish, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the Princely Eutin, and the Pomeranian posts continue to exist for the time being.

End of 1807: The Thurn and Taxis Post Office closed.

31st July 1808: Napoleon took over the Grand Duchy of Berg Post Office. It was renamed the Imperial French Head Post Office.

18th December 1810: Lübeck was incorporated into France under the name of Department 128, the Elbe estuary, Département des Bouches-de-l'Elbe.

December 1810: The Post Office was renamed the Imperial and Royal French Head Post Office of Lübeck.

30th January 1811: All Post Offices in Lübeck were closed. Postal services were now exclusively provided by the Imperial and Royal French Head Post Office of Lübeck.

March 1811: De Morambert was postmaster instead of Lindemann.

October 1811: Lejeune took the place of De Morambert.

24th May 1812: The Office was transferred to Schütting at Mengstraße 18.

5th December 1813: The French abandoned the Hanseatic City, and its Post Office was closed.



The Market Square during the Battle of Lübeck 6th - 7th November 1806

Frame 7: Military Post during the French Occupation of Lübeck

During the Napoleonic period Lübeck was occupied, having been first conquered on 7th November 1806. Items in the display are from the period between the battles of Jena and Auerstadt, both fought on 14th October, 1806, and the French campaigns in present day Poland during 1807-1808.

**N^o 23.
GRANDE-ARMÉE**

(ArGe 129A)

September 1806

8th - 18th November 1806

Grande Armée 23 was a handstamp used by the First Corps, 1st Division Dupont (Pierre Dupont de l'Etang). Listed by De Frank as not yet seen (1948) and by Reinhardt only in 1807 (1986).

Eye witness account of the battle of Lübeck - Murat, Bernadotte, and Soult in battle against Blücher.

'My dear Father, The campaign against the Prussians has ended very happily, and all the Prussian forces have been destroyed. The battalion of Marshal Blücher, which we have beaten at Gabel and at Lübeck, has surrendered completely; it was the only battalion, which still had not yet capitulated. Lübeck township was entered yesterday in strength by the army commanded by Marshal Bernadotte. The 20,000 Prussians, who had defended it, have been hunted and have suffered a crushing defeat. We took 5000 prisoners and captured 25 canons. Prince Murat pursued the enemy with his cavalry, and has forced them to surrender today.'

**N^o 24.
GRANDE-ARMÉE**

(ArGe 129B)

September 1806

8th - 18th November 1806

**N^o 24.
GRANDE-ARMÉE**

(ArGe 129C)

January 1808

Grande Armée 24 (ArGe 129B) was a handstamp used by the Division Dupas of the Corps d'Observation des Cotes de la Baltique, of which Marshall Bernadotte, Prince of Ponte-Corvo, was Commander-in-Chief. Shown in the display dated 15th January 1808, the only example recorded from Lübeck. ArGe 129C is recorded in Lübeck on 23rd January. Note different positioning of numeral 4 above R in ARMÉE.

**N^o 49.
GRANDE-ARMÉE**

(ArGe 129)

Recorded March 1807-November 1808

Grande Armée 49 was the handstamp used by the Division Dupas of the Corps de Troupes du Gouvernement des Villes Hanséatiques.

'Finally, my dear father, I've left, but today only, this bed where pain, with its arm of iron, has kept me for nearly four weeks. It almost became my tomb, but thank God, all fear must cease, all my pain seems to have finished. I no longer suffer. It was only Heaven that gave me the necessary strength to put up with so much suffering. Without its help, I would no longer exist. The canon shot I received on the 6th December (?) near Lübeck, without doubt, did me less damage than the treacherous hand that hit me the second time. ... the wretched surgeon, who ripped the fourteenth splinter of bone from me, did so without method and with violence.'

**N^o 47.
GRANDE-ARMÉE**

Not used in Lübeck but recorded in Ratzeburg by troops involved in the Lübeck engagement.

**No 8
ARM D-ALLEMAGNE**

(ArGe 131)

August-October 1810 in Red
1811 and 1812 in Black

**No 19
ARM D-ALLEMAGNE**

(ArGe 132)

9th April 1810
8th - 18th November 1806

On 12th October 1808 following the dissolution of the Grande Armée, the Grande Armée 49 has the latest usage on 24th November 1808.

Frame 7: The Hanoverian Post Office

The Royal Mail of Great Britain and the Elector of Brunswick-Lüneburg's Post.

In the 17th century the post was dispatched to Lüneburg through the Schonenfahrer Guild from their Guildhall known as the 'Schütting' at Mengstraße 18.

In 1737 Hanover introduced a new post from Lüneburg to Lübeck and back. For this, a separate agent was used in Lübeck.

On 23rd January 1740 Lübeck conceded that the Hanoverians could set up their own Post Office in the Convention of Klein Grönau.

This Postal Convention expressly declared that after the death of the postmaster, the service should be at the Schütting and dispatched by the city postmaster. At the death of Postmaster Bölte in 1772 Hanover opposed the treaty provisions and appointed its own Postmaster. Lübeck protested, but had to succumb to the more influential Hanover.

On 27th April 1807 the Hanoverian Post Office was taken over by the newly established, 16th February 1807, Grossherzogliche Bergischen Oberpostamt Lübeck in Königstraße .

After the French occupation on 10th December 1813, Hanover set up its Post Office in Lübeck at Mengstraße 30.

After the ceding of the Duchy of Lauenburg to Denmark in 1816, the Hanoverian Post Office in Lübeck needed more and more subsidy. There was no interest in the long run for Hanover. In 1841 Hanover reappointed Johann Friedrich Tidow as Head Postmaster in Lübeck, at his 50 years of service anniversary, but on 30th September 1845 the Hanoverian Post Office in Lübeck closed.

The Post Office was:

1740 to 1783 at St. Annenstraße 12/14

1783 to 1807 at St. Annenstraße 13

From 10th December 1813 to 5th May 1814 at Mengstraße 30

From 6th May 1814 to 1825 at Königstraße 103 (then No. 18)

From 1825 to 30th September 1845 at Pferdemarkt 2.

The postmasters were:

1740-1772:

Postmaster Bölte (father)

1772-1782:

Postmaster Bölte (son)

1782 - 14th December 1790:

Postmaster Gerhard William Tidow (father)

15th December 1790 - 30th September 1845:

Postmaster Johann Friedrich Tidow (son).



17th May 1814: Entire triple weight letter from Newcastle to Copenhagen, marked **7/6** (10d postage from Newcastle plus 1/8d for the packet rate to Germany) = 2/6 x 3).

Marked **37** (Lübeck Schillings) for postage to Lübeck.

Lübeck to Copenhagen is 11 LSk; treble letter = 33 LSk silver. Postage due in Copenhagen in total is 37 + 33 = 70 LSk = 224 Rigs Bank Skilling in silver, multiplied by the inflation factor of 2½ gives **560** RBS in banknotes.

The route travelled is difficult to determine. It was not via France, but may have been via Holland (service reopened 19th April) or via Heligoland and Hanover (service opened 25th April), which accords with the Hanoverian *Lübeck* mark.

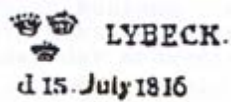
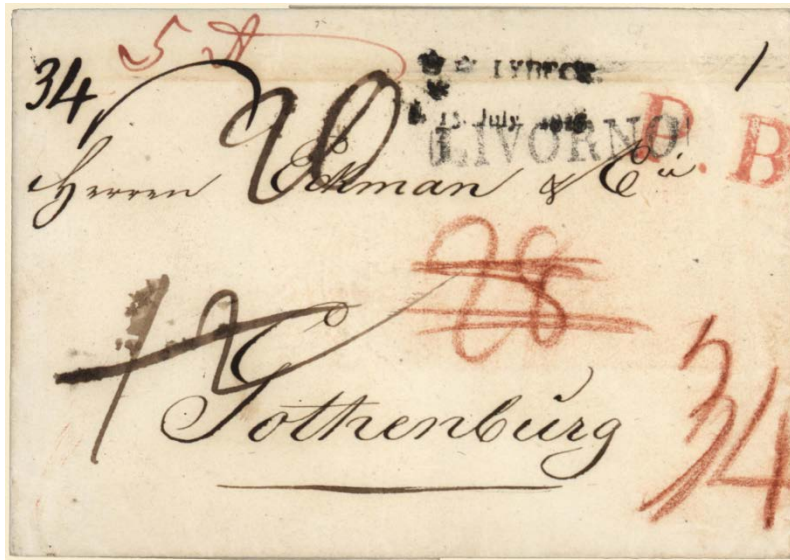
Sent via Stockelsdorf as the Danish Post Office did not reopen in Lübeck until 1st July 1814.

Inflation from 1810 escalated as a result of the war, and as a result of Denmark's printing of banknotes to pay for it. The Danish state had declared bankruptcy on 5th January 1813. The value of the banknotes in relation to silver reached its lowest point, at 9%, in September 1813, and postal calculations until around 1818 have to account for these disparities.



Postmarks of the Hanoverian Post Office in Lübeck.

Frame 7: The Swedish Postal Agency



21st June 1816: Wrapper from LIVORNO over the Passe Bavière (P.B) to Gothenburg in Sweden via the Swedish Consul Grimm in Lübeck. The *Three Crowns* mark was used in Lübeck between 1814 and 1817. Approximately ten examples are known, with very few of these in private hands.

Letter of up to 1 Loth charged ~~20~~ Kreutzer to the Bavarian border (the ~~12~~ appears to be in the same hand and is crossed out, perhaps as a clerical error), carried by Thurn and Taxis to Lübeck and charged 34 Lübeck Schilling, and sent via Denmark to Helsingborg in Sweden.

Bertil and Kersti Larsson note that, *'From the earliest days, all letters were individually listed on a letter bill which accompanied each bundle of letters to its destination. On this bill was also noted if the letter was subject to charges on delivery. Sometimes, but not as a general rule, the postage due was also written on the letter but from around 1810, it became common practice to mark in manuscript also on the letters the postage that had to be paid by the addressee.'*

Like this letter, their *Three Crowns* letter has no postage due in Sweden marked, and it is surmised that the eventual postage due might be calculated as $2 \times 34 = 68$ Skilling plus 48 Skilling for the 'via Denmark' transport. Thus all in all $68 + 48 = 116$ Skilling = 2 Riksdaler and 20 Skilling.

Jean Baptiste Bernadotte became the Swedish Crown Prince Karl Johan in 1810. On 27th January 1812 French troops marched into Swedish Pomerania, and from March 1812 Swedish troops were sent to Stralsund. On 14th May Karl Johan arrived and remained in German and Danish territory until mid-1814.

According to a letter dated 2nd May 1814 from the Post Master General, on 12th February the Crown Prince ordered that mail to the troops had to be sent from Ystad to Travemünde and onwards to Lübeck, where the Swedish commercial agent, Mr Grimm, had to forward it to the Swedish troops.

On 12th May 1815, Mr Grimm had been instructed to mark on each incoming letter how much he had paid in postage due when he received it. He then had to forward the letters in closed mail packets to Helsingborg via the Danish Postal system. According to a letter dated 1st May 1819 Mr Grimm had continuously, and as late as 1817, received letters from mainland Europe, which he had forwarded to addressees in Sweden.

Frame 8: Grand Duchy of Berg Head Post Office

This new Grand Duchy was made from the older Duchy of Berg, which Napoleon captured from Bavaria and Clèves. He was interested in establishing a Continental Blockade of Great Britain and thus wished to control all the ports and communications to the Continental mainland. He desired to combine the old Hanseatic cities of Bremen, Lübeck, and Hamburg into the new Grand Duchy and therefore control the flow of British communication, information, and markets.

In early May the first of the so-called 'compositors' datestamps appeared:- these were composed of individual letters and handset daily, often creating errors in composition such as 'B.D.G' instead of 'B.G.D.' giving rise to many varieties in type size, which usually have little effect on scarcity or value.

R 4 = Rayon name, B.G.D. = Bureau Grand Ducal = Grand Ducal Bureau

LUBEC R. 4
B.D.G. 7 May 1807.

Letters reversed, ArGe 104

LUBEC R. 4
B.G.D. 30 SEP 1808.

Numerals partly inverted

LUBEC R. 4
B.D.G. 4 AUG 1807.

ArGe 103

LUBEC. B. G. D.
DE MESSA. 16 OCT 1807

DE MESSA, ArGe 117

LUBEC. B. G. D.
DR MESSA. 27 NOV 1807

DR MESSA

LUBEC R. 4
G.D.B 14 JUIN 1808.

G.D.B not B.D.G.

LUBEC B. G. D.
B.G.D. 31 MAR 1808.

B.D.G. / B.D.G., ArGe 107

LUBEC R. 4
B.G.D. 8 JUIL 1808.

ArGe 108

Joachim Murat, Duke of Berg and Clèves from 15th March 1806, was appointed King of the Two Sicilies with effect from 1st August 1808, and ceded Berg and Clèves to Napoleon in a letter of 18th July 1808.



Murat



Bernadotte



Blücher



Soult

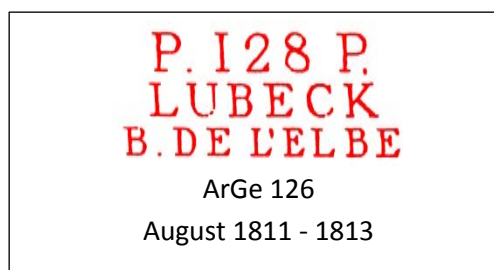
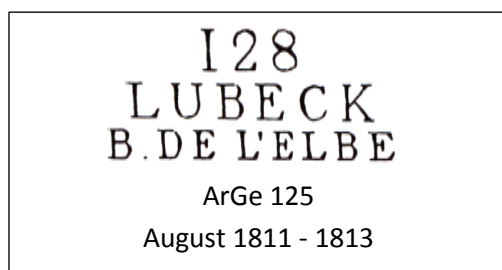
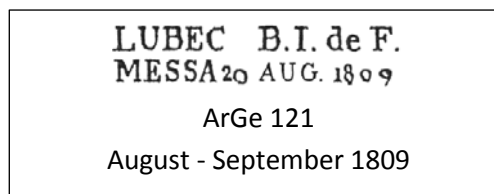
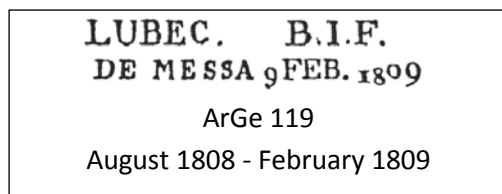
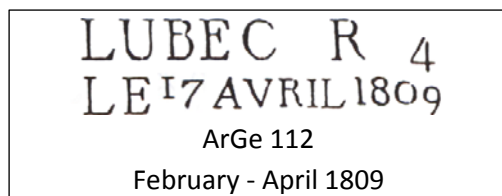
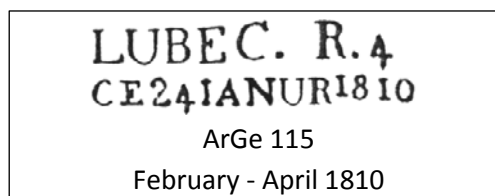
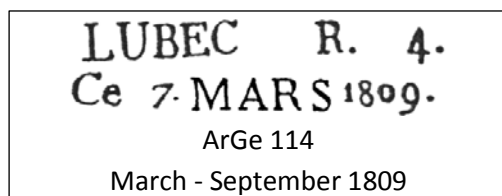
Frame 9: Imperial French Head Post Office

On 1st July 1808 Murat was appointed King of Naples.

On 31st July 1808 Napoleon took over the Grand Duchy of Berg Post Office. It was renamed the Imperial French Head Post Office. The date stamps were changed in August 1808.

B.I.De F. Bureau Imperial de France

B.I.F. Bureau Imperial France

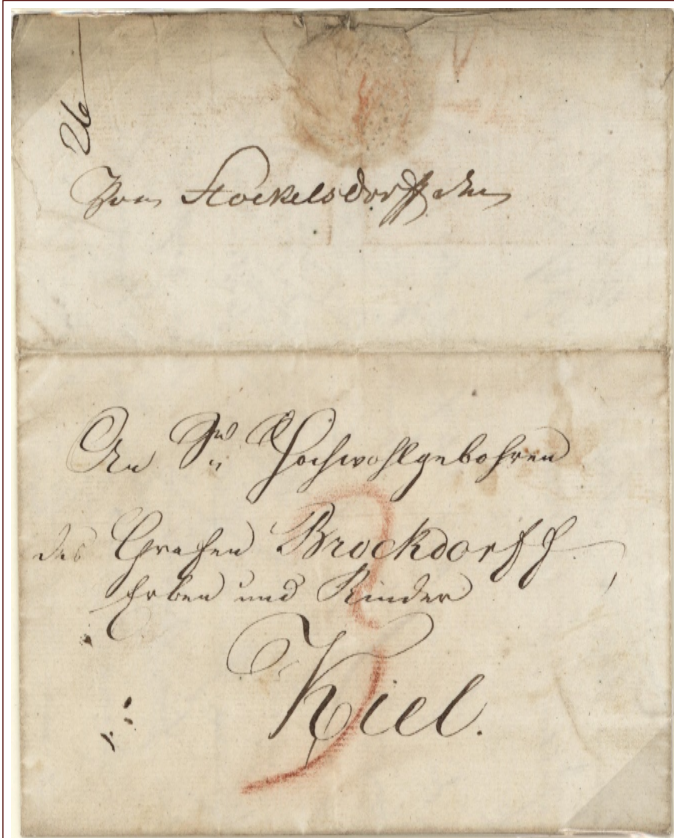


On 5th December 1813, defeated by the allied forces, the French abandoned the Hanseatic City, and their Post Office was closed.

Frame 10: The Danish Section of the City Post Office: 1694-1852

In earlier times, from 1655, a courier route had been established between Lübeck and Denmark.

According to the Postal Treaty of 17th May 1697 between Lübeck and Denmark, the Danish postal administration was permitted to handle its post in Lübeck. This was carried out by the Lübeck Post at the 'Schütting' at Mengstraße 18.

1813 Marked *von Stockelsdorf*

The Lübeck Boten Master also functioned as the Danish Boten Master. This dual position often led to difficulties and to further Treaties of 2nd September 1817 and 12th November 1835.

For part of the French occupation of the city the Danish post was expelled and moved to the border town of Stockelsdorf (1811-1814).

The Lübeck Stadtpost acted as part of the Danish postal service, using special handstamps for mail from the Danish section. The first, in 1839, was a two-line handstamp with LUEBECK/day and month. The second had K D P A LUBECK/day, month, and year. Similar marks followed in the early 1840s. These rare postmarks usually appear on letters sent to the Duchies (Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg).

The Danish Post delivered a 1½ ring handstamp to the Lübeck Stadtpost Office in 1845 when it issued this type to offices throughout the Kingdom and Duchies.

Lübeck remained a transit point during the 1848-51 Schleswig-Holstein rebellion, when mail routes through the Duchies were closed. Scandinavian letters from Lübeck bear names of ships intended to transport them and a Lübeck Stadtpost datestamp.



ArGe 146

The Schleswig-Holstein revolutionary post office issued two stamps in November 1850. These two were issued to 36 post offices in Holstein and to the offices in the Hanseatic Cities of Lübeck and Hamburg.

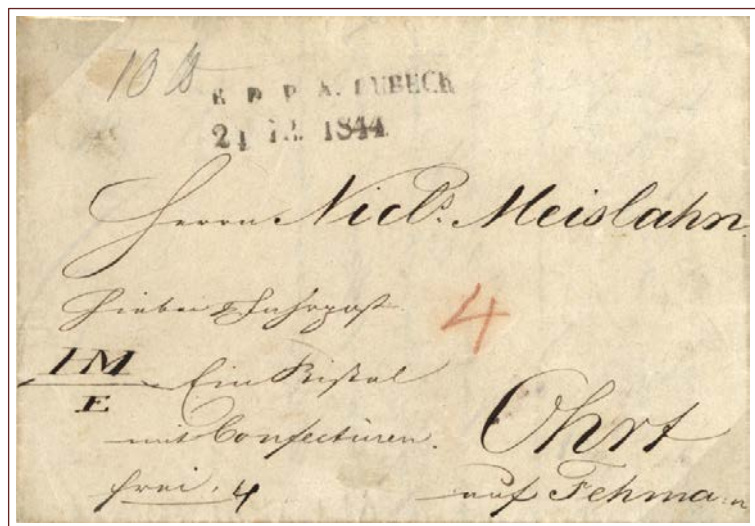
There were only 8,701 letters in the whole area franked with stamps during the period 15th November 1850 to August 1851 when their use ceased.



This Schleswig-Holstein postal service was managed by the city postmaster at Mengstraße 18. No stamps are believed to have been sold at the Stadtpost in Lübeck because of its extensive trade ties with Denmark. However, the post office was issued with stamps and a canceller with numeral 20, and a few stamped

letters posted in the city must therefore have been cancelled according to the regulations with the equipment provided.

It is presumed that this stamp was brought into the city and used for postage, and cancelled at the Stadtpost at Mengstraße 18. It is believed to be the only example still existing. A damaged cover was reported in 1897 by Krötzsch as well as two used stamps.



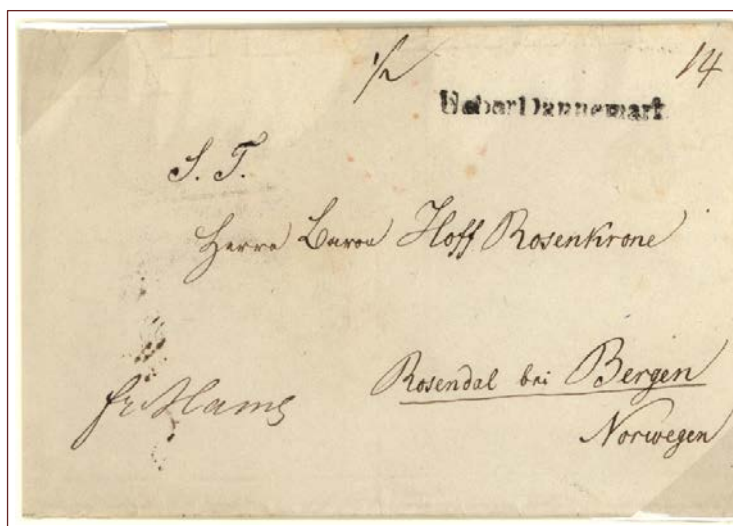
24th December 1844: Entire letter accompanying a parcel from Lübeck to Ohrt on the island of Fehmarn.

Marked **10** pounds at the top left with **4** Schilling postage paid by the recipient.

Handstamped K.D.P.A. LUBECK / 24 12 1844, ArGe 144 used for parcels.



21st February 1845: Parcel letter from Lübeck to Helsingør. Marked **101** pounds at top centre. Posted unpaid and marked **1240** Skilling, paid by the recipient plus delivery fee 'Bærepenge' **44** RBS, **1284** RBS in total. Handstamped K.D.P.A. LUBECK / 21. 2. 1845 (ArGe 145).



1845 Handstamp **Ueber Dannemark** for mail via Lübeck transiting Denmark in many variations from 1819 onwards.

Frame 11: The Insurrection of 1848-1851

The insurrection is known also as the First Schleswig War and was the first war of German unification. This war was a complex process beginning in March 1848 with a revolution in Kiel and with the fighting finally ending in October 1850. A protocol was signed in August 1850 in London, and the final conclusion was a further Protocol, also signed in London, on 8th May 1852. During this period the Danish Peninsula of Jutland was invaded by members of the German Bund, by revolutionaries from Schleswig and Holstein, and battles were fought in both Jutland and the Duchy of Schleswig.

The Danish section of the Lübeck City Post Office handled the Danish post from March to 24th April 1848, during which time it was taken by steamships from Travemünde to Copenhagen. The declaration of war by the German Bund on 12th April made this too dangerous to continue, and thereafter the Danish mail was carried by Swedish and Norwegian ships, the *Nordstjernan* and *Christiania* from 12th April until 18th September 1848.

In order not to provoke the German Bund the Lübeck postmaster was no longer recognised as a Danish official. This arrangement continued until the Treaty of Malmö, with the Danish ships resuming service on 18th September 1848.

During 1849-1851 mail was carried through Lübeck in closed bags and received no markings in transit to Hamburg. Such mail usually has only a manuscript ship name to show its desired route. Ships included the *Ophelia*, *Waldemar*, *Nordsternan*, *Gauthiod*, *Malmö*, and *Lübeck*.

The Danish ship *Lübeck* carried mail twice weekly to Copenhagen from 24th March 1849.

From 22nd December 1849 until March 1850 the routes were closed because of sea ice.



Per *Gauthiod*, *Lübeck*,
Nordstjernan, *Ophelia* and
Waldemar carried during the
insurrection of 1848-1851.

Frame 11-12: The Royal Danish Head Post Office in Lübeck

The Royal Danish Head Post Office (Det Kongelige Danske Over Post Amt - K.D.O.P.A.) was at Königstraße 35 and was in operation from 1st July 1852 until 30th April 1868, when it was taken over by the postal service of the North German Confederation (Norddeutscher Postbezirk).

Background

In 1843 the Lübeck City Council decided that it would lead a project to build a railway to Hamburg and took the matter up with the Danish government, since the Holstein area between Hamburg and Lübeck was under the rule of the Danish king, as Duke of Holstein. The Danish court refused to allow the building of a direct connection between the two cities.

Following pressure from the other states of the German Confederation, as well as Russia and France, the Danish government committed itself on 23rd June 1847 to the construction of a railway from Lübeck to Büchen in the Duchy of Lauenburg to connect with the Berlin-Hamburg Railway.



The Treaty concerned allowed the building of the railway at the price of establishing a long desired Danish Post Office in Lübeck. Due to the German-Danish War (1848-1850), railway construction was delayed and thus the opening of the first Danish Post Office.

On 1st January 1852 Lübeck joined the German-Austrian Postal Union, and finally on 1st July 1852 the Danish Head Post Office opened. Danish stamps were used in Lübeck from 1st August 1855.

On 1st March 1853 a second Danish Post Office was opened in the old railway station building on Holstentorplatz.

Following the Second Schleswig War of 1864 and the establishment of the North German Confederation on 1st January 1868, and according to a Treaty dated 7th - 9th April 1868 between the North German Postal Union and Denmark, the two Danish Post Offices were closed at midnight on 30th April 1868.



1852-1863, ArGe 147



1854-1863, ArGe 150



1863-1868, ArGe 149

Railway Mail - not shown in the display,

15th October 1851: Opening of the route using cancellers of the Royal Danish Head Post Office

8th October 1865: Establishment of a Royal Prussian Railway Post Bureau Lauenburg in Lübeck, subordinate to the Railway Post Office No. 3 in Berlin

8th January 1868: Administration of postal service on the Lübeck-Lauenburg railway line transferred to the Head Post Office in Lübeck.

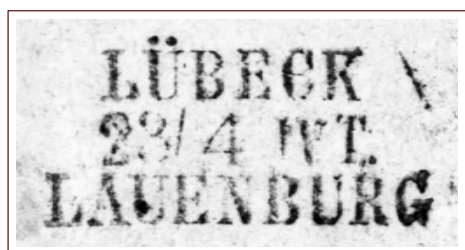
Travelling Post Office Cancellers Lübeck-Büchen-Lauenburg



Danish Postmarks

Recorded 18th September 1863 - 3rd November 1863

Delivered from Copenhagen 4th July 1863



Lübeck-Lauenburg (or vice versa)

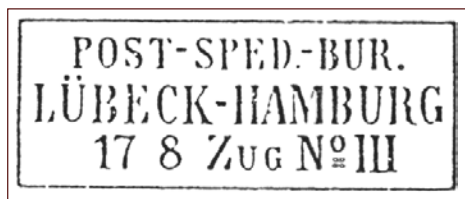
ArGe 39, Recorded 9th October 1865 to 1873

Known also in blue

1st August 1865: Opening of the route with Travelling Post Office

1st March 1867: Railway Post Office No. 17 in Altona became responsible for the service.

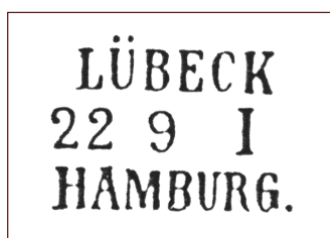
Travelling Post Office Cancellers Lübeck-Büchen-Lauenburg



Lübeck-Hamburg (or vice versa)

ArGe 40, Recorded 16th September 1865 - 2nd August 1867

Known also in blue



Lübeck-Hamburg (or vice versa)

ArGe 41, Recorded 23rd April 1867 - 8th December 1875

Known also in blue

Not shown in the display, but referred to in the 1804 Almanac

The Prussian Postal Agency

On 23rd May 1829 the Prussian General Post Office in Lübeck established a postal agency to handle mail sent by steam ships from the port of Lübeck to and from Russia.

This worked in a similar way to the Prussian agency in Ystad (Sweden) or the Swedish Agency in Stralsund.

The head of the Lübeck City Post Office acted as a Prussian mail agent. He had to receive the mail from St. Petersburg and other Russian ports, and to arrange forwarding through Lübeck.

The handling of arriving or forwarded mail from this shipping route was exclusively a matter for the City Post Office.

Special departure or transit marks are not known.

The Wismar or Pomeranian Post

The Riding and Carriage postal service to what was then Swedish Wismar is old and dates back to the 17th Century.

Because there was at times also a connection from Wismar to Western Pomerania, this mail service was often referred to as the Pomeranian Post.

In 1740 Franz Gottfried Gaebel was employed in Lübeck to manage this service. After his death, Johann Hinrich Neeser received the concession on 19th December 1789. The departure of the mail carriage was from his home at Huxstraße 21.

In 1803, Wismar was pledged by Sweden to Mecklenburg-Schwerin for 100 years. Mecklenburg considered the Neeser concession a breach of its postal rights, but allowed him, nevertheless, to continue the postal service for the duration of his life.

In 1810 during the French occupation the Postal Operations was taken from Neeser and at the same time handed over to French administration.

From August 1811 Neeser served only Mecklenburg through an exchange Post Office at Dassow.

After the French occupation Neeser became the Wismar post manager again on 30th September 1814, but on 1st April 1817 his concession was cancelled, and from then on mail was handled by the City Post Office on behalf of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

Special departure or transit marks are not known.

The Wants List

LUBEC. B. G. D.
DE HANOV L 17. JUL 1807

ArGe 105: The Grand Duchy of Berg 1807-1808

B.EAU G.AL
ARM D'HANOVRE

ArGe 128: Napoleonic Military Mail 1806

DÉB.128
LUBECK
B. DE L'ELBE

ArGe 127: The Imperial French Post Office 1808-1813

P.P. No 8
ARM D'ALLEMAGNE

ArGe 133: Napoleonic Military Mail 1810-1811

LÜBECK
12. JUL.

ArGe 137: Hanoverian Post Office 1821-1845



ArGe 152: The Royal Danish Post Office in Lübeck 1863



The Holstentor, the last of the Lübeck City gates on the 50 Deutschmark note of 1962



ArGe 153, in blue (1853 onwards), or in black (1864 onwards).
Invariably on the back of incoming or transiting mail.

