

***'FROM HINRICHSEN TO MICHELIUS' ..***  
**THE WILHELMIAN-ERA EXPERIMENTAL**  
**& EARLY MACHINE POSTMARKS OF**  
**GERMANY ... 1866 – 1914**

by  
**JERRY H. MILLER**

# 'FROM HINRICHSSEN TO MICHELIUS' ... THE WILHELMIAN-ERA EXPERIMENTAL MACHINE POSTMARKS OF GERMANY 1866-1914

## EARLIEST GERMAN EXPERIMENTAL MACHINE POSTMARK



Front



Reverse



6 MAY 1866

Thurn & Taxis (T&T) Post Office at Hamburg-postmarked folded-letter sent to Stadthagen with Hamburg-City Post Office Hinrichsen-Machine **TRANSIT** Postmark.

**2 Silver Groschen:**

**Thurn & Taxis Post Office Single-Weight Letter 20-Mile Distance Rate (T&T Mail permitted to towns located in the States of Bremen & Oldenburg)**

**Earliest & Only Known 1866 Postmark Usage for this Postmark.**

## EXHIBIT

This postal history exhibit shows the evolution,  
through their experimental postmarks,  
of the fifteen postmarking machines tested or evaluated  
by the German Post Office between  
the years 1866-1914 of *Wilhelminian-era* Germany.

### CHAPTER OVERVIEW

FRAME NUMBER	MACHINE NAME	APPROXIMATE TRIAL PERIOD	COMMENTS
1-2	Hinrichsen	1866-1881	First German-built & tested postmarking machine
2-3	Haller	1881-1883	Applied only arrival or service postmarks to in-bound mail
3	Hoster	1885-1887	Applied only origin postmarks to out-going mail
4-6	Bickerdike	1898-1901	Only Canadian-built machine used in Germany
5	Beling & Lübke	1901-1902	First machine to have a revolving dater dial
7	Hugo Lau	1902	Rival trial machine to 'Bickerdike'
7	Mix & Genest	1901-1909	Applied only arrival postmarks to in-bound mail
7-8	Columbia	1901	First American-built machine used in Germany
8	International	1902	American-built machine tested only two weeks
8	Rüttger	1904	Short-lived German-built machine
8-9	Krag	1905-1906	First 'repeater' postmarking machine; Norwegian-built
9	Sylbe & Pondorf	1907-1908	First variable postmark, meter & slogan postmarking machine
9-10	Universal	1911	American-designed high-speed single-impression machine
10	DAPAG	1909 1912	First self-service machine for letter registration. Early coil-stamp affixing & postmarking machine
10	Michelius	1912-1921 1913-1914	Rival to 'DAPAG' Stamp Affixing Machine Rival trial machine to 'Universal'
10	Epilogue		

### TEXT COLOR CODING

**Black:** General information and descriptive data  
**Blue:** Particularly noteworthy information, rarity factors & chapter start-page.  
**Magenta:** Postage rate information

# HINRICHSEN

FIRST DEMONSTRATION TRIALS  
May 1866 – September 1867

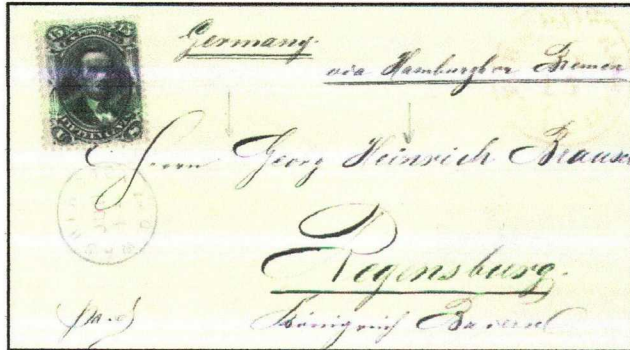
1867  
HAMBURG  
IN-BOUND AMERICA MAIL

IN 1865, MESSRS. FISCHER & MAAS OF GERMANY DEVELOPED A POSTMARKING MACHINE, MANUFACTURED BY ROBERT HINRICHSEN, SUBMITTED FOR TRIALS AT THE 'GENERAL POST OFFICE' OF THE CITY-STATE HAMBURG IN 1866 AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, ALSO TO THE PRUSSIAN MAIN POST OFFICE AT BERLIN, where the machines initially applied arrival/service postmarks to in-bound or transit mail and origin postmarks to out-bound mail.

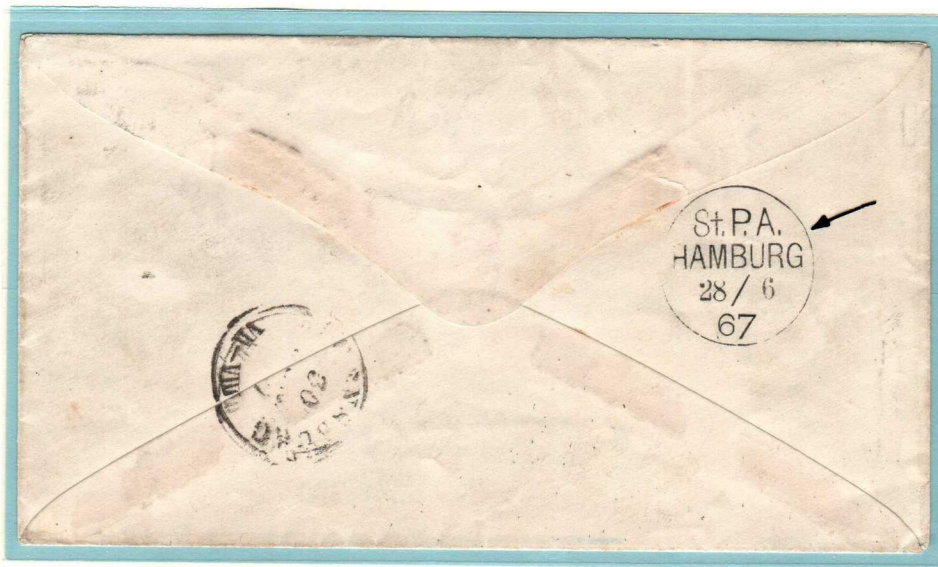
Postmark:  
22mm Single-Circle Dater Dial with  
Day, Month & Year Dates.



On Reverse



Front



Washington D.C. 14 JUNE (1867)

Cover, postmarked at Washington D.C., sent via New York to departing Vessel "Alemannia" (15 June), arriving & postmarked (reverse) on 28 JUNE 1867 at Hamburg, forwarded to Regensburg, State of Bavaria, arriving on 30 June.

15 Cents ...

Single-weight (half ounce) letter-rate to German States.

Earliest known date for this postmark applied to In-Bound America Mail.  
One of eight known America-origin-postmarked covers.

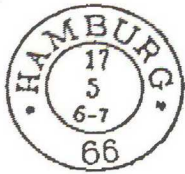
# HINRICHSEN

1866 - 1867

EARLY DEMONSTRATION TRIALS:  
May 1866 - February 1867

HAMBURG & PRUSSIA

A second postmark style was concurrently tried during the early period with trials at the 'General Post Office' in the City-State of Hamburg and the Prussian 'Main Post Office' at Berlin, where **THE MACHINE AT HAMBURG CONTINUED TO TEST-APPLIED TRANSIT POSTMARKS TO CONCESSION POST OFFICE OUT-BOUND & AMERICA IN-BOUND MAIL BUT NOW ALSO APPLIED ARRIVAL POSTMARKS TO IN-BOUND MAIL AT BERLIN.**



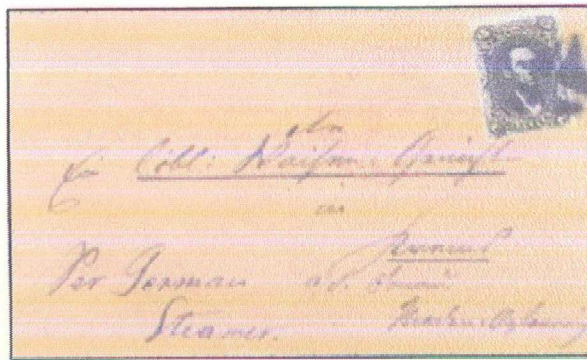
Postmark:

24mm Double-Circle Dater Dial with year-date at bottom.

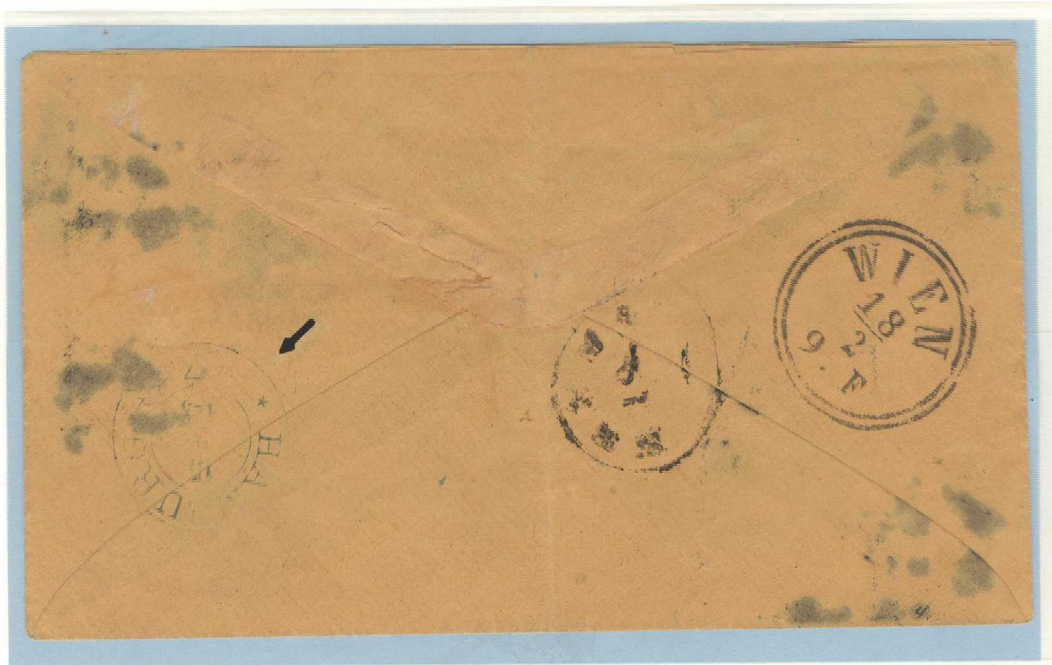
Trial Dates Of Surviving Examples:

HAMBURG: (3 Examples Known) 17-19 May 1866 & 15 February 1867

BERLIN: (2 Examples Known) 18-20 December 1866



Front



Reverse

15 FEBRUARY 1867

Hamburg 'Transit Marking' on New York origin cover sent to Austria on-board Ship: 'Germania'.. departure from New York on 2 February with 15 February arrival at Hamburg..

15 Cents: U.S. - North German Confederation Rate for Single-Weight (Half Ounce) Letter-Mail.

One of three postmark examples recorded for Hamburg; only known 'In-Bound America-Mail' usage in 1867.



# HINRICHSEN

1867

HAMBURG-CITY TRIAL OF A MACHINE INTENDED FOR BERLIN  
'PHASE ONE' (SERVICE MARKINGS)

HAMBURG CITY-STATE  
5-15 August

In May 1867, the Imperial Prussian Post Office at Berlin contracted Robert Hinrichsen of Hamburg to supply a postmarking machine able to postmark 400-500 units of inbound-mail/minute.

**PRIOR TO DELIVERY OF A HINRICHSEN-BUILT MACHINE FOR BERLIN,  
MACHINE TESTS WERE CONDUCTED AT THE HAMBURG CITY POST OFFICE  
BETWEEN 5-15 AUGUST 1867.**

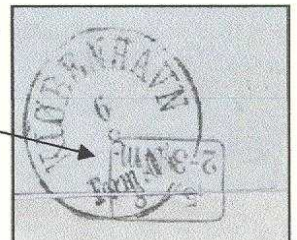
Postmark: Rectangular Dater Die 17x12 mm.



5 AUGUST 1867

Folded commercial letter, deposited at the Prussian Post Office in Hamburg, transferred to the Hamburg City Post Office, where a 'Hinrichsen' arrival mark was applied along with an origin-out-bound postmark, sent to Copenhagen, Denmark.

**2-1/2 Schilling ...**  
**Letter-rate (1 Loth in weight) for mail to Denmark**



Reverse

**Earliest known date of 'Berlin-Bound Machine' Trial at Hamburg**

# HINRICHSEN

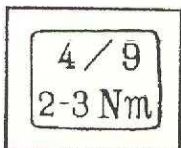
1867 - 1868

FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:  
PHASE ONE (SERVICE MARKINGS).. AUGUST 1867 – AUGUST 1868

PRUSSIA  
(Berlin)

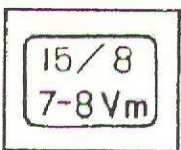
The heretofore so-called  
"BERLIN TRIAL MACHINE",  
pre-tested in Hamburg between 5-15 August,  
COMMENCED FIELD-OPERATION AT BERLIN ON 26 AUGUST 1867  
APPLYING 'ARRIVAL' & 'TRANSIT' SERVICE MARKINGS  
ON IN-BOUND OR LOCAL MAIL.

Postmark: Rectangular Die 17x12 mm.



"Nm" = 'Afternoon'

Usage:  
Upright or Inverted Positions  
26 August 1867 – 16 August 1868



"Vm" = 'Morning'

LOCAL / INNER-CITY MAIL



Reverse

Front

14 SEPTEMBER 1867

Folded-letter, postmarked at Berlin, sent locally,  
'Hinrichsen' arrival mark on reverse  
along with a partial offset on the front.

One Silver Groschen...  
Single-weight local city letter-rate

**HINRICHSEN**

1867 - 1868

FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:  
PHASE ONE (SERVICE MARKINGS).. AUGUST 1867 – AUGUST 1868

PRUSSIA  
(Berlin)

COMMERCIAL MAIL TO BERLIN THROUGH THE  
'PRUSSIAN RAILWAY POST OFFICE'  
LOCATED IN THE HAMBURG TRAIN STATION



Reverse

Front

3 OCTOBER 1867

Folded-letter, postmarked at the 'Hamburg Railway Station',  
sent to Berlin, receiving upon arrival a 'Hinrichsen'-applied  
arrival mark on reverse. Transit Time: 9 Hours.

Three Silver Groschen..  
Single-Weight Letter-Rate  
(1 Loth = 16-2/3 Grams)  
mail sent over twenty miles



HINRICHSEN

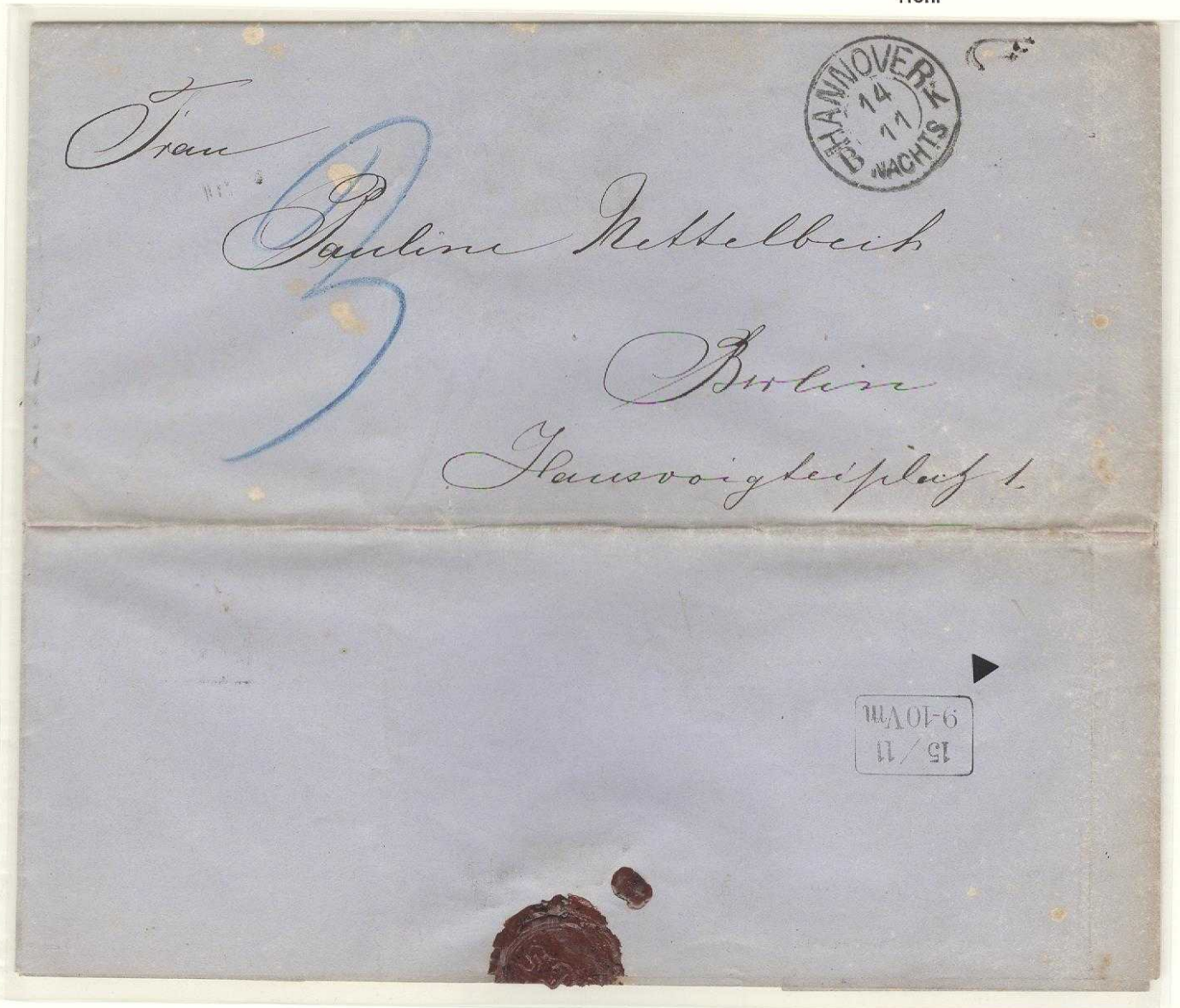
1867 - 1868

FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:  
PHASE ONE (SERVICE MARKINGS).. AUGUST 1867 - AUGUST 1868

PRUSSIA  
(Berlin)

CITY (STATE) OF HANOVER-ORIGIN FOLDED-LETTER  
SENT TO BERLIN WITH PRUSSIAN GROSCHEN POSTAGE-DUE

Front



Reverse

14 NOVEMBER 1867

Folded-letter, postmarked at 'Hannover',  
sent to Berlin, receiving a 'Hinrichsen' mark  
upon arrival on cover reverse.

Three Silver Groschen Postage Due...  
Single-Weight Letter-Rate  
(1 Loth = 16-2/3 Grams)  
mail sent over twenty miles

HINRICHSEN

2 November 1867

SECOND POST-OFFICE-TRIAL AT HAMBURG..  
'BERLIN' SERVICE-MARKING MACHINE

HAMBURG CITY-STATE

ARRIVAL & TRANSIT 'BERLIN' STYLE SERVICE MARKINGS

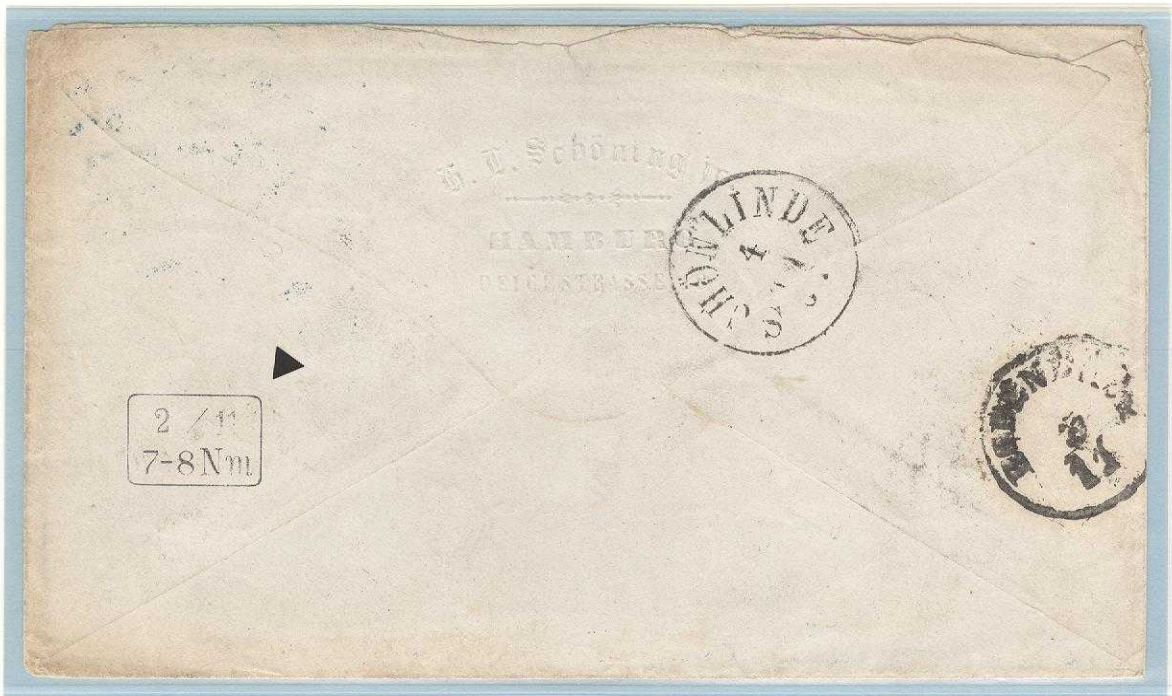
In September & October 1867, the 'Berlin Trial Machine' required maintenance & adjustment resulting in its return to Hinrichsen's factory at Hamburg.

ON 2 NOVEMBER 1867, A POST-OFFICE-TEST AT HAMBURG WAS SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED WITH THE MACHINE BEING RETURNED TO BERLIN FOR COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATION ON 4 NOVEMBER 1867.

Postmark: Rectangular Die 12x17 mm with date & time element



Front



Reverse

2 NOVEMBER 1867

Cover, commercial mail, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to Bohemia (Austria), receiving a 'Berlin' style transit marking on reverse. 2-Day Transit Time.

4 Schilling...  
Letter-Rate for mail sent over Twenty Miles.

One of four known examples from the '2 November' test;  
only known foreign destination cover with a 'transit' mark.

# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1869

FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:

PHASE TWO (SERVICE MARKINGS).. November 1868 – August 1869

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Berlin)

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS

Resulting from postal authority assertions that the trial machine was too weak in construction, damaged the mail or with 4-5% of mail not getting postmarked, **ROBERT HINRICHSEN UPGRADED & IMPROVED THE 'BERLIN' MACHINE IN OCTOBER 1868,** enabling stronger and clearer markings on mail albeit with offsets frequently on cover fronts.

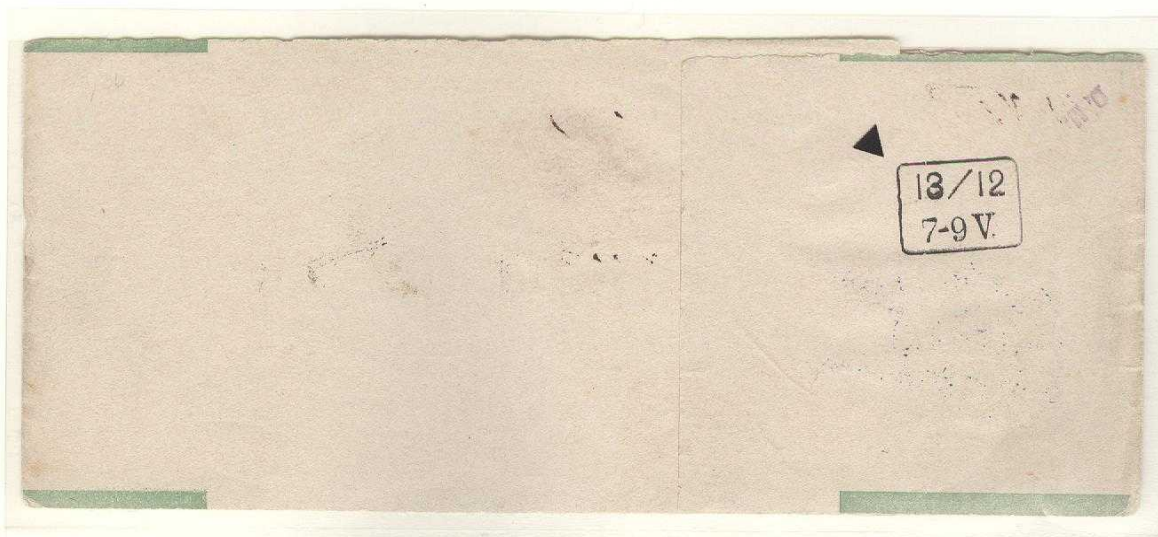
Postmark: Rectangular Die 17x12mm

Usage: 4 November 1868 – 30 August 1869

12 DECEMBER  
1868

Newspaper  
Wrapper,  
sent locally.

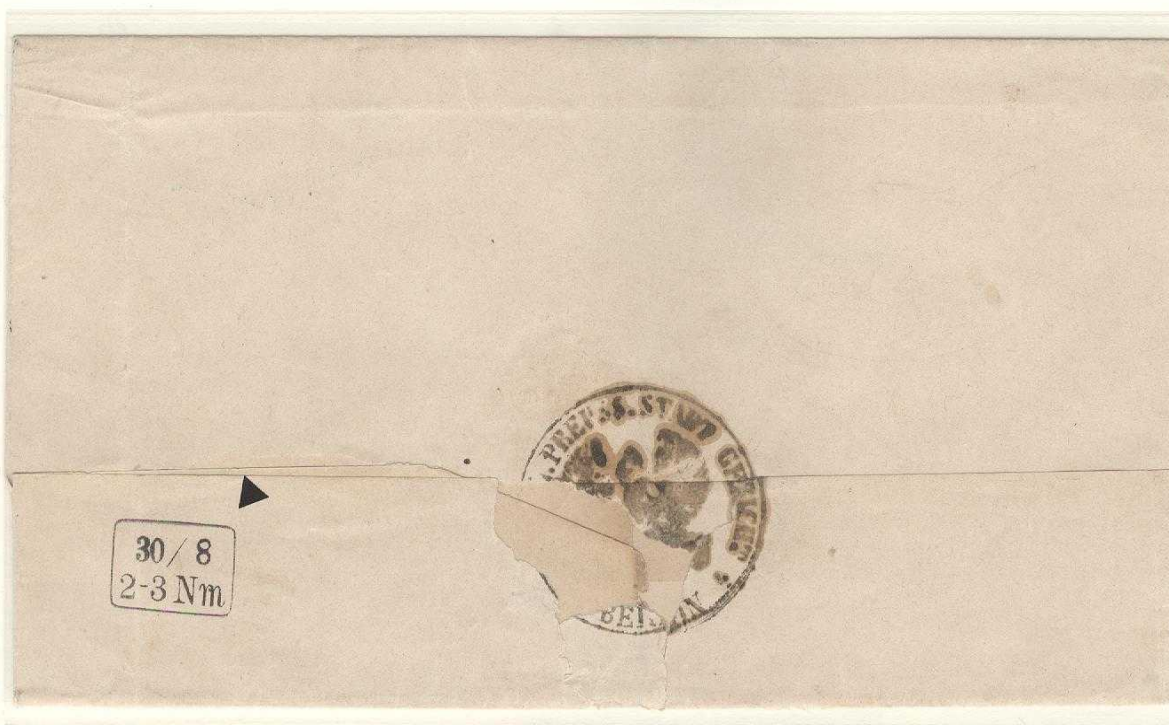
1/3 Groschen..  
Local  
printed-matter  
mail rate.



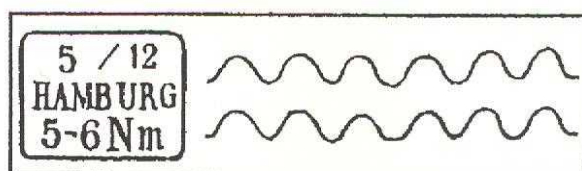
30 AUGUST  
(1869)

Free-frank,  
folded-  
letter,  
Official  
(**Franco  
Stadtbrief**)  
Berlin  
Court Mail.

Latest  
known  
date.



In December, 1867,  
the Hamburg City-State Post Office tested the  
Hinrichsen-Built Machine to apply origin-postmarks  
to outgoing mail  
**USING THE MACHINE WHICH HERETOFORE APPLIED 'ARRIVAL'  
OR 'TRANSIT' MARKINGS TO IN-BOUND MAIL.**



Postmark: Rectangular dater (19x14mm) with a  
dual wavy-line obliterator.

Usage: 22 July 1867 (Demo on Prototype Machine) &  
2 & 5 December 1867



Exp. Grobe

**5 DECEMBER 1867**

**2 Schilling...**  
**'Hamburg' City-State Single-Weight Rate**  
(1 Loth = 16-2/3 grams) for mail (letters) to  
**Helgoland, or (printed-matter) to USA,**  
**Malta, Gibraltar, East Asia & the West Indies.**

**Less than ten examples on cover,**  
**or a clip, or**  
**single stamps recorded.**

With the establishment of the North German Confederation of heretofore autonomous German states & cities, **A UNIFIED POSTAL ADMINISTRATION COMMENCED THREE NEW TRIALS** with the 'Hinrichsen-Built' Machine postmarking out-going mail.

**Postmark:**

Rectangular dater (19x14 mm) **without year date** with an obliterator having **five** widely-spaced diagonal lines in three horizontal rows.



Only recorded pair of 1/2 Groschen stamps postmarked during the first trial.

First Trial: 23-25 January 1868



24 JANUARY (1868)

Cert. Blecher

Commercial folded-letter postmarked at Hamburg, sent to (ship's) Captain "Hinrichsen", Sonderburg, Germany.

**1 Groschen...  
Single-weight  
(1 Loth or 15 grams)  
domestic letter-rate.**

One of fourteen covers recorded.

Whereas the first trial obliterator had five widely-spaced  
diagonal lines in three rows,  
**THE SECOND TRIAL OBLITERATOR HAD 7-8 LINES IN THREE ROWS.**

Postmark:  
Rectangular dater (19x14 mm) without year date having  
an obliterator with 7-8 widely-spaced diagonal lines  
in three horizontal rows.

Second Trial: 27-28 January 1868



Cert. Blecher

27 JANUARY (1868)

Commercial folded letter,  
postmarked at Hamburg,  
sent to Königsberg (East Prussia).

**2 Groschen...  
Double-Weight  
(2 Loth or 16+ grams)  
Domestic Letter-Rate.**

Only recorded 'Two Groschen' cover  
from the second trial.

One of nineteen covers recorded.

THIRD OPERATIONAL TRIAL  
POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION  
(Hamburg)  
January-February 1868

Whereas the postmark obliterator for the first and second trials had no year dates in the rectangular dater, **THE THIRD TRIAL HAD A YEAR INSERTED.**

Postmark: Rectangular dater (19x14 mm) with year date having an obliterator with 7-8 widely-spaced diagonal lines in three horizontal rows.

Third Trial: 29 January – 14 February & 1 April (demo strike) 1868

### 29 JANUARY 1868

Folded letter, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to the renowned banker 'Julius Bleichröder' at Berlin.

1 Groschen...  
Single-Weight  
(1 Loth or 15 grams)  
Domestic  
Letter-Rate.

First Day of Trial.



### 30 JANUARY 1868

Folded letter, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to Amsterdam, Netherlands.

3 Groschen...  
Single-Weight  
NGC-Netherlands  
Letter-Rate  
(1 January to  
30 September 1868)

One of two known  
two-color usages.

HINRICHSEN

1868

THIRD OPERATIONAL TRIAL  
POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION  
(Hamburg)  
January-February 1868

UN-FRANKED/POSTAGE-DUE MAIL TO FINLAND (RUSSIA)

Postmark: Rectangular dater (19x14 mm) with year date along with an obliterator having 7-8 widely-spaced diagonal lines in three horizontal rows.

Third Trial: 29 January – 14 February & 1 April (demo strike) 1868



Reverse

Front

1 FEBRUARY 1868

Unfranked postage-due (from recipient) folded letter,  
postmarked at Hamburg, sent to Jacobstad, Finland (Russia).  
10-Day Transit Time.

Un-franked Letter Postage:  
6 Groschen (= 20 Kopeks)  
Single Weight Letter-Rate to Russia.

Only known un-franked/postage-due  
foreign-bound 'Hinrichsen' postmarked mail example.



# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1869

FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:  
PHASE TWO (SERVICE MARKINGS).. November 1868 – August 1869

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Berlin)

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS

Berlin postal authority assertions the trial machine was too weak in construction, damaged the mail or that 4-5% of mail was not getting postmarked, **ROBERT HINRICHSEN UPGRADED & IMPROVED THE 'BERLIN' MACHINE IN OCTOBER 1868,** enabling stronger and clearer markings on mail albeit with offsets frequently on cover fronts.

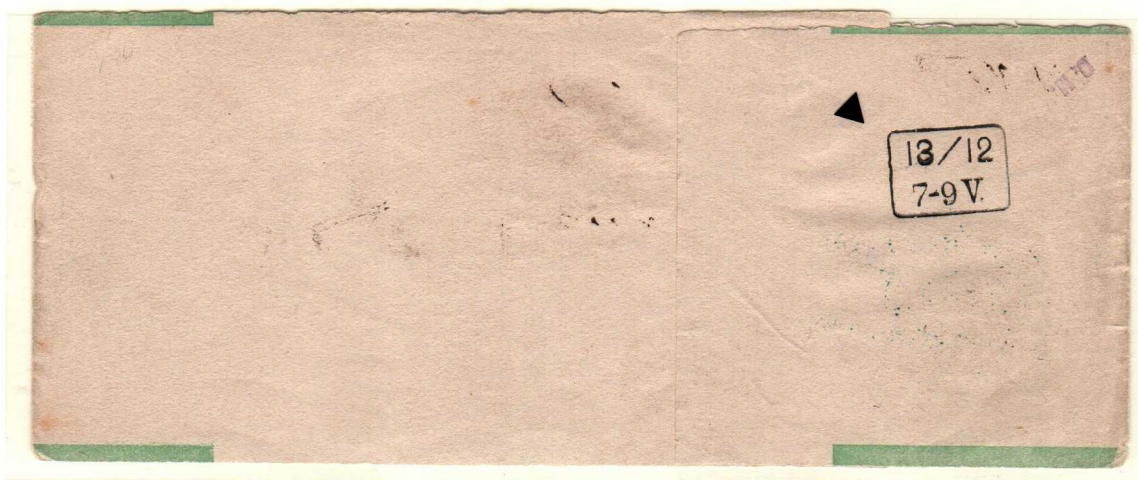
Postmark: Rectangular Die 17x12mm

Usage: 4 November 1868 – 30 August 1869

12 DECEMBER  
1868

Newspaper  
Wrapper,  
sent locally.

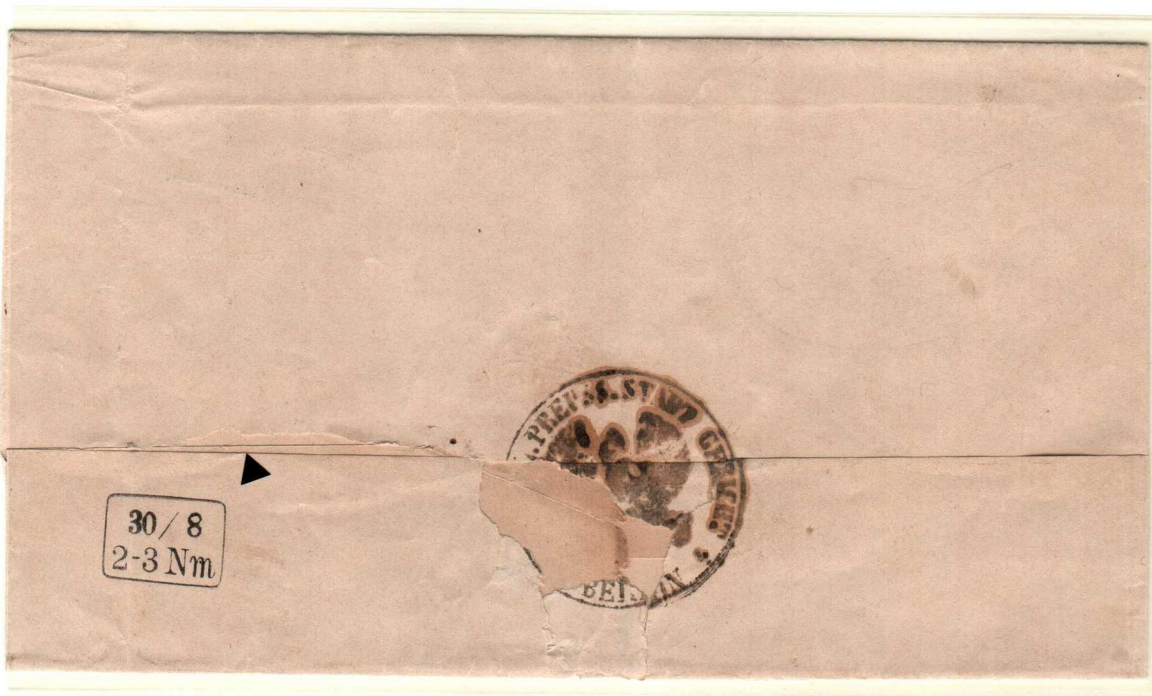
1/3 Groschen..  
Local  
printed-matter  
mail rate.



30 AUGUST  
(1869)

Free-frank,  
official  
folded-letter,  
hand-  
postmarked  
'Franco  
Stadtbrief'  
Berlin  
Court Mail.

Latest known  
date.



# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1869

FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:  
PHASE TWO (SERVICE MARKINGS).. November 1868 – August 1869

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Berlin)

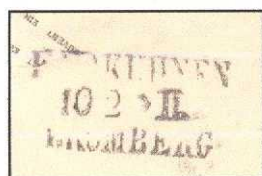
'HINRICHSEN' MARKINGS...

USE OF NEEDLES FOR CONVEYANCE OF MAIL THROUGH THE MACHINE

**NEEDLES (TWO OR THREE)**  
at intervals of 18mm, 38mm and/or 54mm  
**WERE USED FOR TRANSFER OF MAIL THROUGH THE MACHINE.**  
All 'Hinrichsen' postmarked covers have evidence of  
needle-puncture.

Postmark: Rectangular Die 17x12 mm.

Usage: 26 August 1867 – 30 August 1869



Railway  
Hand-Stamp  
Transit Mark  
on Reverse

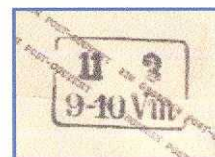
10 FEBRUARY (1869)

Cover, commercial mail, postmarked at the  
Königsberg (East Prussia) Railway Station Post Office,  
sent to Berlin.

Unique post mark for Königsberg Railway Post Office.

Two pin holes at 18mm distance as well as light  
offset of the Hinrichsen arrival mark on the  
reverse of cover.

1 Groschen...  
Single-weight  
(1 Loth or 15 grams)  
domestic letter-rate.



'Berlin'  
'Hinrichsen'  
Arrival Mark  
on Reverse

# HINRICHSSEN

1868 - 1869

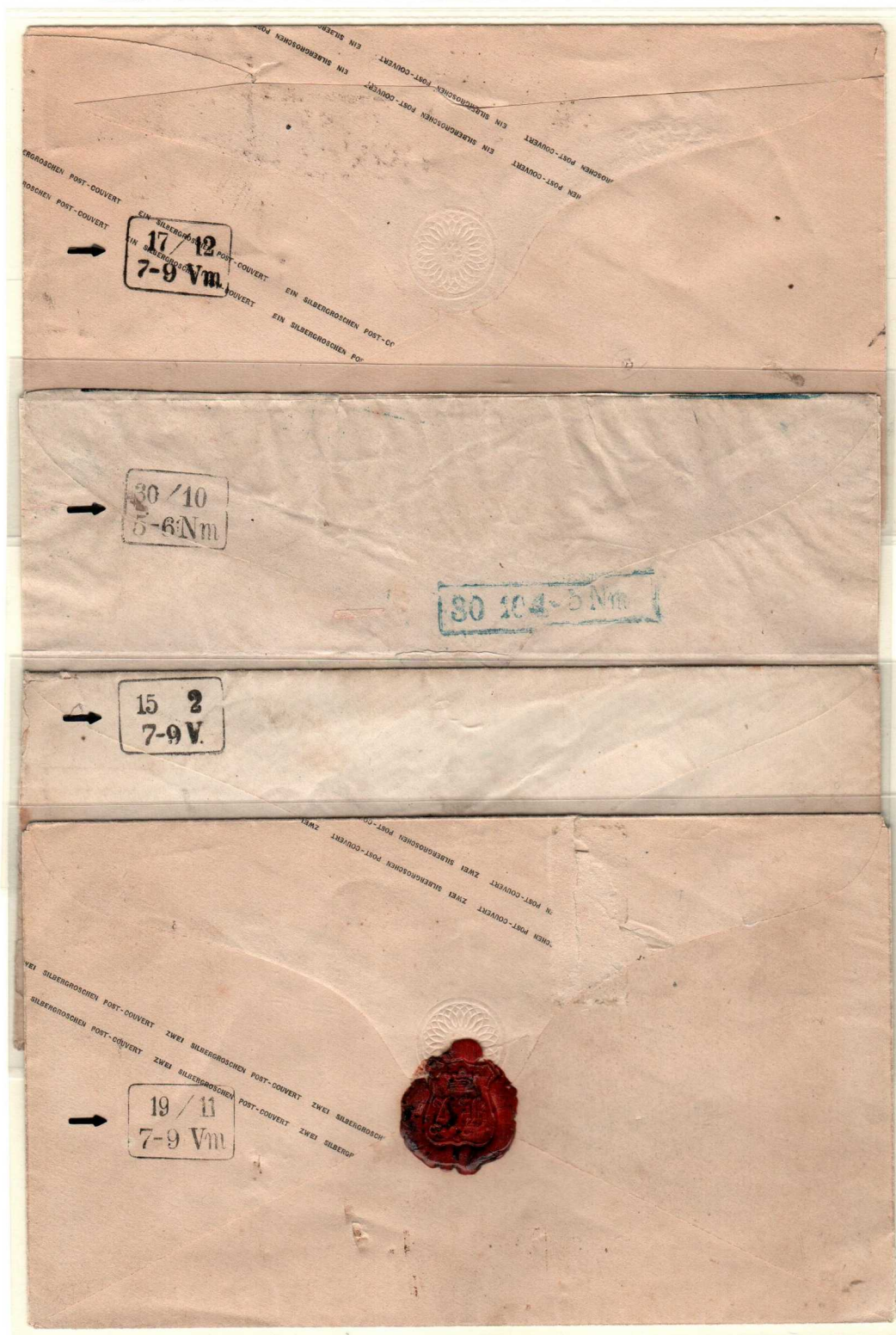
FIRST OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT BERLIN:  
PHASE TWO (SERVICE MARKINGS).. November 1868 – August 1869

**NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION**  
(Berlin)

ARRIVAL POSTMARKS...

## MOVABLE TYPE & VARIABLE TYPE STYLES

The three-postmarking-dies of the 'Hinrichsen Machine'  
HAD MOVABLE TYPE INDICATING DATE & TIME ...  
RESULTING IN DIFFERENT TYPE STYLES BEING USED.



# HINRICHSEN

1869

PREPAID-MAIL POSTMARK TRIAL AT BERLIN:

*'Franco Stadt-Brief'*

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Berlin)

CASH PAID .. LOCAL CITY MAIL

A 'BERLIN' HINRICHSEN MACHINE WAS INTENDED TO APPLY ARRIVAL POSTMARKS TO IN-BOUND MAIL, THE POSTAL AUTHORITIES ALSO TRIED TO HAVE IT APPLY A PREPAID-MAIL POSTMARK ("*Franco Stadt-Brief*") TO CASH-PAID CITY-BOUND BULK-MAIL SUBMITTED AT THE POST OFFICE.

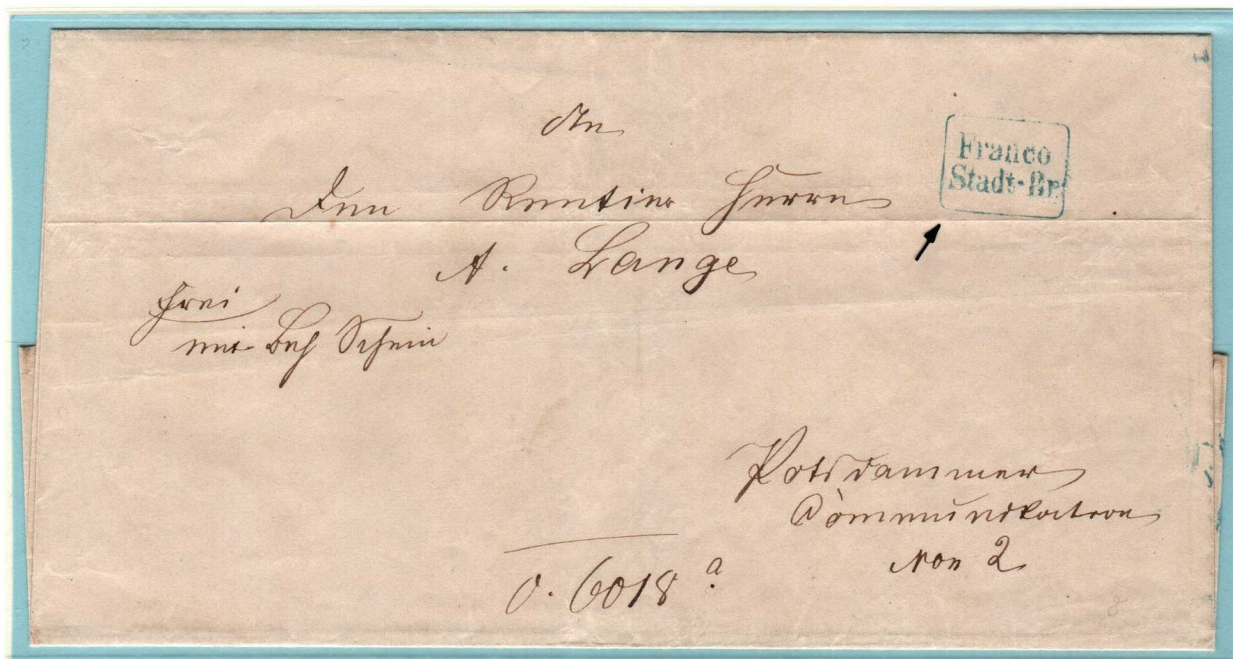
This 'Prepaid' Marking was the LAST POSTMARK TYPE applied by the Hinrichsen 'Berlin' Machine prior to that machine being transferred to Hamburg, where a renewed "prepaid postmark" trial using the same postmark took place briefly at Hamburg in 1871.

Both trials for applying a prepaid marking by machine to cash-paid mail proved Impractical resulting in a hand-applied postmark thereupon being applied to cash-paid-mail at Berlin.



Postmark: Rectangular Die 18 x14mm  
(Blue Ink)

Known Berlin Usage:  
17 April (1869)



FRIDAY, 17 APRIL (1869)

Cash-paid (at post office) folded-letter,  
Hinrichsen-Machine-postmarked  
*'Franco Stadt-Brief'*,  
sent to a local city resident.

Arrival postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"(Berlin) 17 April 4-5 PM"

Only known example postmarked at Berlin.

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS

By mid-February 1868, the Hamburg Postal Authority ceased testing of origin postmarks to out-going mail, modifying the heretofore last used die by removing the multi-line obliterator, **NOW USING THAT DIE TO APPLY ARRIVAL MARKS TO IN-BOUND HAMBURG MAIL.**



**Postmark:** Rectangular Die 19x14 mm with "Hamburg" in text.

**Usage:** 17 March 1868 – 24 October 1869



Reverse

Front

**16 MARCH (1868)**

**Cover, postmarked at "Freienwalde"**  
(note backward 'N' in postmark),  
**sent to Hamburg, with machine**  
**arrival mark applied on reverse & offset on front.**

**One Groschen ..**  
**Single-weight**  
(1 Loth or 15 grams)  
**domestic letter-rate.**

**Only known earliest reported usage.**

# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1869

FOURTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. March 1868 – October 1869

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION

'HAMBURG' ARRIVAL MARKINGS...TYPES 'a' & 'b'

**THE 'HINRICHSEN' HAD THREE POSTMARKING DIES**  
having slight variances in size or  
where die damage (Type 'c') had taken place.

Postmark: Rectangular Die with indication of "Hamburg" in text..

Type 'a': 19 x 14 mm

Type 'b': 20 x 14 mm

Type 'c': 20 x 14 mm (bottom line missing)

TYPE 'a': 19 x 14 mm

Usage: 17 March 1868 – 24 October 1869

IN-BOUND MAIL  
FROM ENGLAND

18 MAY 1868

Cover, commercial  
mail, postmarked at  
Manchester,  
England, sent to  
Hamburg



Reverse



TYPE 'b': 20 x 14 mm

Reverse

18 OCTOBER (1868)

Folded letter, postmarked at the Bremen Railway Station,  
sent by a French traveler in Hamburg.

1 Groschen..

Single-weight (1 Loth or 15 grams) domestic letter-rate.

# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1869

FOURTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. March 1868 – October 1869

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION

## 'HAMBURG' ARRIVAL MARKINGS...TYPES 'b' & 'c'

Postmark: Rectangular Die with indication of  
"Hamburg" in text..

Type 'a': 19 x 14 mm

Type 'b': 20 x 14 mm

Type 'c': 20 x 14 mm (bottom line missing)

Usage: 17 March 1868 – 24 October 1869

TYPE 'b': 20 x 14 mm

12 AUGUST (1869)

NORDERNEY  
ISLAND MAIL

Cover, postmarked  
with unique  
"Norderney" Cancel,  
sent to Hamburg.  
Type 'b' service mark  
applied upon arrival  
on 14 August (1869)

Front (Insert)



Reverse



TYPE 'c': 20 x 14 mm  
(bottom line missing)

23 JUNE (1869)

Folded letter, postmarked aboard train (Kiel to Altona),  
sent to Hamburg, with Type 'c' service mark  
applied upon arrival on 24 June (1869)

1 Groschen ..

Single-weight (1 Loth or 15 grams) domestic letter-rate.

FOURTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
'BERLIN' STYLE SERVICE MARKINGS..  
FEBRUARY – DECEMBER 1870

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Hamburg)

## TRANSFER OF 'BERLIN MACHINE' TO HAMBURG

Upon ending its trials by  
September 1869,  
**THE 'BERLIN HINRICHSSEN'**  
(heretofore applying service  
marks to in-coming mail)  
**WAS TRANSFERRED TO  
HAMBURG**  
in December 1869  
where it continued applying  
such markings there  
during 1870.

**Postmark:** Rectangular Die 17 x 12 mm  
with indication of only date &  
time of day as text.

**Usage:** 25 February –  
26 December 1870



24 February 1870

Folded letter, commercial  
mail, postmarked at  
Altenburg, sent to  
Hamburg, receiving an  
arrival mark on 25 February  
on the reverse.

**1 Groschen ..**  
**Single-weight**  
(1 Loth or 15 grams)  
**domestic letter-rate.**

**Earliest reported usage &  
only known example.**



HINRICHSEN

1870

FOURTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
'BERLIN' STYLE SERVICE MARKINGS..  
FEBRUARY - DECEMBER 1870

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Hamburg)

DOMESTIC MAIL FROM THE PROVINCE OF SCHWERIN

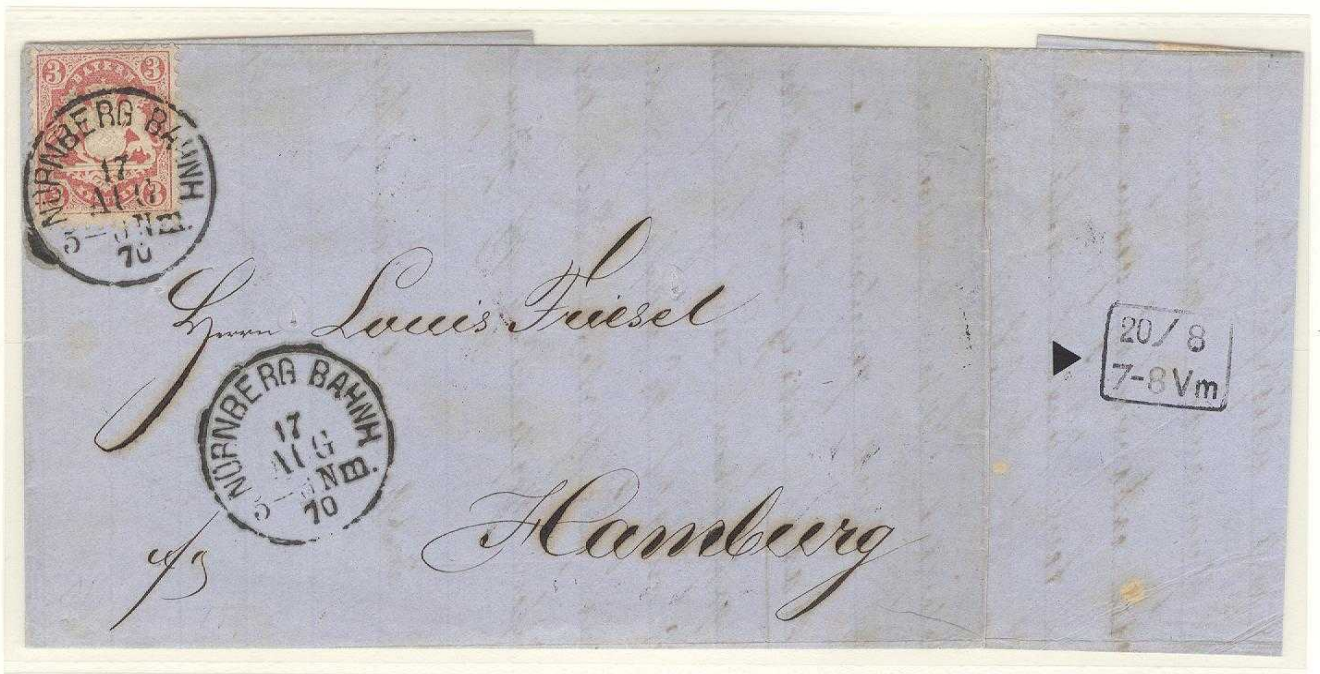
11 AUGUST (1870)

Folded letter,  
commercial mail,  
postmarked at  
Teterow  
(Province Schwerin),  
sent to Hamburg,  
receiving an arrival  
mark on 23 August.

1 Groschen..  
Single-weight  
(1 Loth or 15 grams)  
domestic letter-rate.



DOMESTIC MAIL FROM THE FREE-STATE OF BAVARIA



17 AUGUST 1870

Folded letter, postmarked at Nürnberg (Bavaria) Train Station Post Office,  
sent to Hamburg, arriving 20 August.

3 Kreuzer ..  
Single-weight (1 Loth = 16 2/3 grams)  
Domestic letter-rate

FRANCO-GERMAN WAR (1870-1871) 'FREE-FRANK' FIELDPOST MAIL



3 SEPTEMBER (1870)  
 "Imperial Prussian Fieldpost, 17<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division"  
 "1st Battalion, 90th Regiment, Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg"

N.G.C. Correspondence-Card, free-frank, from a sergeant traveling to the front (France), sent to Hamburg, arriving on 7 September (1870).



19 OCTOBER (1870)  
 "Imperial Prussian Fieldpost, 18 Infantry Division"

Cover, free-frank, sent to Hamburg-Barmbeck, with Hamburg Transit Mark dated 12 October (1870) & destination mark of 12 October (1870).

# HINRICHSEN

1870

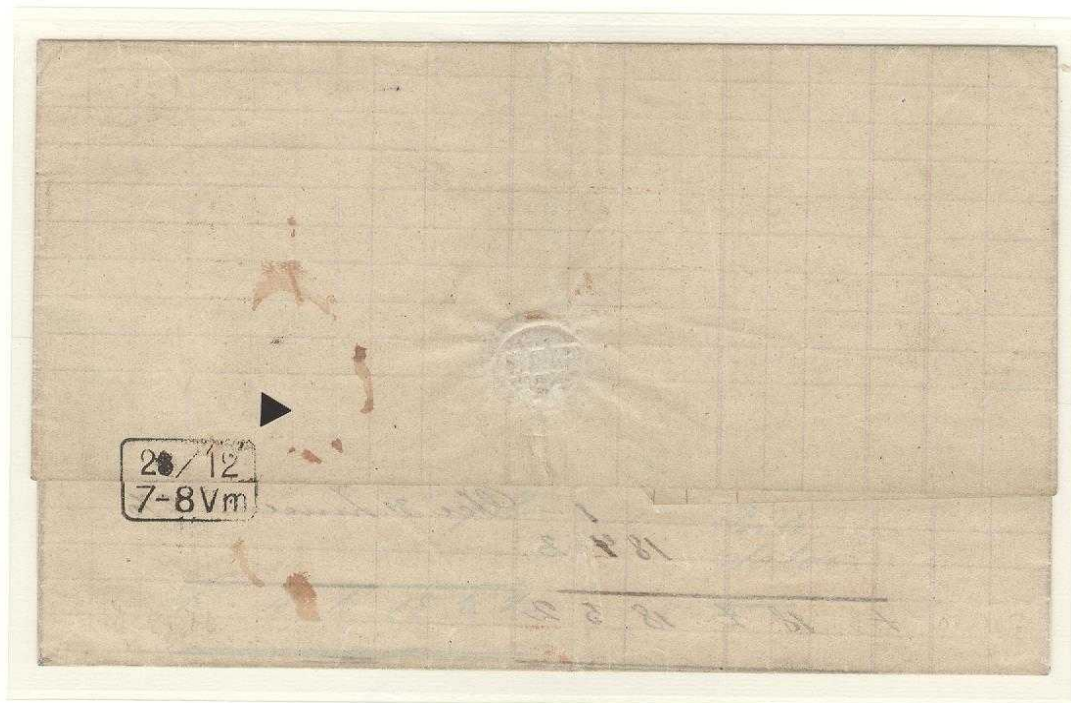
FOURTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
'BERLIN' STYLE SERVICE MARKINGS..  
FEBRUARY – DECEMBER 1870

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION  
(Hamburg)

Postmark: Rectangular Die 17 x 12 mm with indication  
of only date & time of day in text.

Usage: 25 February – 26 December 1870

IN-BOUND ENGLISH COMMERCIAL MAIL



20 DECEMBER 1870

In-bound folded commercial bank statement,  
from "C.J. Hambro & Son" London, prepaid postmarked at 'Lombard Street' Post Office,  
sent to Hamburg, receiving an arrival marking on 26 December (1870).

3 Pence (Manuscript)..  
Single-weight letter-rate to the  
North German Confederation

Latest recorded date for this mark's application at Hamburg.

# HINRICHSSEN

1868 - 1873

FIFTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. April 1868 – December 1873

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION

ARRIVAL & TRANSIT MARKINGS ON IN-BOUND AMERICAN MAIL..  
(1868)

EARLIEST KNOWN USAGE

Commencing in April 1868,  
the Hamburg Postal Authorities had their  
'HINRICHSSEN' APPLY SERVICE MARKINGS TO IN-BOUND  
MAIL FROM AMERICA.



Postmark: Rectangular Die 19x13 mm red-orange color  
indicating "Hamburg Franco".

Usage: 13 April 1868 – 5 December 1873

AMERICA TO SWITZERLAND  
(via New York)

31 MARCH 1868

Cover, postmarked  
'New York Paid All Direct',  
sent to Sulz (Argau),  
'Hamburg Franco' transit  
mark at Hamburg.

Hamburg-America Line  
'Allmannia' ..

13 March – 13 April.  
By train via Basel (Bale) 15  
April to Sulz 17 April.  
Transit Time: 18 Days.

10 + 5 Cents..  
U.S.-German States Rate  
(January 1868 – June 1870)  
Plus 5 Cents to Switzerland.  
Single-weight letter-rate.



AMERICA TO BAVARIA  
(via New York)

14 APRIL 1868

Folded-letter,  
commercial mail,  
postmarked 'New York Paid  
All Direct',  
sent to Mittenwald  
(Bavaria),  
'Hamburg Franco' transit  
mark at Hamburg.

Hamburg-America Line  
'Saxonia' ..

(14 April -27 April).  
By train to Mittenwald (30  
April.  
Transit Time: 16 Days.

10 Cents..  
U.S.-German States Rate  
(January 1868 – June 1870)  
Single-weight  
letter-rate.



FIFTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. April 1868 – December 1873

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION

ARRIVAL & TRANSIT MARKINGS ON IN-BOUND AMERICAN MAIL..  
1868 USAGE..  
TRANSCONTINENTAL USA TO GERMANY



## WEST COAST AMERICA TO PRUSSIA

**8 MAY (1868)**  
**(San Francisco)**

Cover, postmarked at San Francisco,  
routed to New York (18 day transit time),  
marked 'Paid All New York Direct' (May 26)  
sent to Gústrow

(Province Mecklenburg-Schwerin),

'Hamburg Franco' transit mark at Hamburg on 9 June 1868.

Hamburg-America Line 'Saxonia' .. 26 May  
(departure New York)  
to Hamburg (arrival 9 June 1868).  
By train to Gústrow, back-stamp: 10 June.  
Total transit Time: 33 Days.

**15 Cents..**  
**U.S.-German States**  
**Closed-Mail Rate via England**  
(January 1868 – June 1870).  
**Single-weight (1/2 ounce) letter-rate.**

# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1873

FIFTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. April 1868 - December 1873

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION &  
GERMAN EMPIRE

ARRIVAL & TRANSIT MARKINGS ON IN-BOUND AMERICAN MAIL..  
1869 USAGE

## AMERICA TO PRUSSIA

1 MARCH 1869  
(Baltimore)

Cover 'Paid All New York  
Direct', postmarked at  
Baltimore, sent to  
Schlüchtern (Hanau),  
'Hamburg Franco'  
transit mark at Hamburg  
on 15 March  
(upside-down machine infeed)

Hamburg-America Line  
Vessel 'Harmonia II ..  
2 March  
(departure New York)  
to Hamburg  
(arrival 15 March).  
By train to Schlüchtern.  
Arrival back-stamp:  
16 March.  
15-day transit time.

1

10 Cents..

U.S.-German States Rate  
(January 1868 - June 1870)  
Single-weight letter-rate.



## AMERICA TO ITALY

15 FEBRUARY 1869  
(Boston)

Cover, commercial  
mail, postmarked  
'Boston Paid All Direct'  
via New York &  
Hamburg to Rome, Italy,  
'Hamburg Franco'  
transit mark on 28  
February.

Hamburg-America Line  
Vessel 'Westphalia' ..  
16 February New York  
to Hamburg  
(arrival 28 February).  
By train to Rome with  
arrival back-stamp  
4 March 1869.  
18-day transit time.

15 Cents.. (E-Grill)

U.S.-Italy  
Convention Rate  
(April 1868 - February 1870)  
Single-weight letter-rate



# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1873

FIFTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. April 1868 - December 1873

NORTH GERMAN  
CONFEDERATION &  
GERMAN EMPIRE

ARRIVAL & TRANSIT MARKINGS ON IN-BOUND AMERICAN MAIL..  
1870-1871 USAGE

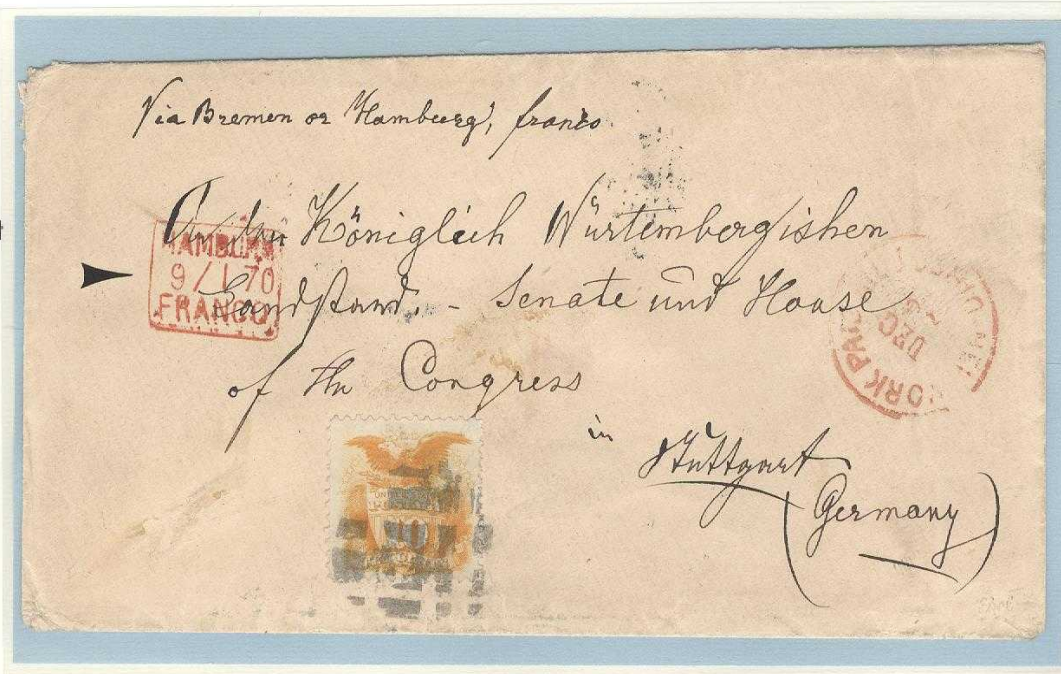
## AMERICA TO WÜRTTEMBERG

28 DECEMBER 1869  
(New York)

Cover, 'New York  
Paid-All Direct',  
sent to the  
'Imperial Government  
at Stuttgart,  
'Hamburg Franco'  
transit mark at  
Hamburg on  
9 January.

Hamburg-America  
Line 'Westphalia' ..  
28 December 1869  
(departure New York)  
to Hamburg  
(arrival 9 January 1870).  
By train to Stuttgart,  
back-stamp:  
10 January.  
13-day transit time.

10 Cents..  
U.S.-German  
States Rate  
(January 1868 - June 1870)  
Single-weight (1/2 oz)  
letter-rate.



## AMERICA TO PRUSSIA

23 OCTOBER 1871  
(Boston)

Cover, 'Boston Paid All Direct',  
sent to Berlin (Prussia),  
'Hamburg Franco'  
transit mark at Hamburg on  
8 November 1871.

Hamburg-America Line  
'Westphalia'.. 25 October  
(departure New York)  
to Plymouth, England, &  
(by British vessel)  
to Hamburg  
(arrival 8 November).  
By train to Berlin,  
back-stamp: 9 November.  
17-day transit time.

7 Cents..  
U.S.-North German Union  
Convention Rate  
for mail via  
England to Germany  
(Franco-German War Period..  
July 1870 - October 1871)  
Single-weight (1/2 oz)  
letter-rate



# HINRICHSEN

1868 - 1873

FIFTH OPERATIONAL TRIAL AT HAMBURG:  
SERVICE MARKINGS.. April 1868 - December 1873

GERMAN EMPIRE

ARRIVAL & TRANSIT MARKINGS ON IN-BOUND AMERICAN MAIL..  
1872-1873 USAGE

## AMERICA TO PRUSSIA

19 MARCH (1872)  
(Cincinnati)

Cover, 'New York Paid-  
All Direct', sent to  
Bad Kreuznach,  
'Hamburg Franco'  
transit mark at Hamburg  
on 5 April.

Hamburg-America Line  
'Holsatia'..  
21 March  
(departure New York) to  
Hamburg  
(arrival 5 April 1872).  
By train to Bad  
Kreuznach, back-stamp:  
6 April.  
18-day transit time.

7 Cents..  
U.S.-German Union Rate  
for 'Closed Mail' via  
England' Rate  
(October 1871 - July 1875).  
Single-weight (1/2 oz)  
letter-rate.



## AMERICA TO EAST PRUSSIA

22 MARCH (1873)  
(Chicago)

Cover, 'New York Paid All  
Direct', via Hamburg to  
Friedrichsroda  
(East Prussia),  
'Hamburg Franco' transit mark  
at Hamburg on 9 April 1873.

Hamburg-America Line  
'Thuringia'.. 27 March  
(departure New York)  
to Hamburg (arrival 9 April).  
By train to Friedrichsroda,  
back-stamp 10 April 1873.  
19-day transit time.

6 Cents..  
U.S.- North German Union  
Convention Direct Rate  
(October 1871 - July 1875).  
Single-weight (1/2 oz)  
letter-rate





FIRST OPERATIONAL 'REICHSPOST' TRIAL  
FOR POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL:  
September-December 1873

GERMAN EMPIRE  
(Hamburg)

With unification of Germany in 1871, a continued interest in postmarking automation remained, primarily because Postmaster-General Stephan continued in that capacity from his previous positions in the postal administrations of Prussia, the North German Confederation and now the German Empire's 'Reichspost'.

Despite Robert Hinrichsen's heretofore machine type having proved unsatisfactory for wide-spread use by the postal authorities, **IN LATE 1873 A MODIFIED 'HINRICHSEN' WAS SUBMITTED FOR TRIAL AT HAMBURG WITH THE NEW 'REICHSPOST'.**

**Postmark:** Rectangular dater (27 x 20 mm) with three lines of text..  
"Hamburg/Date/Year".

**Usage:** 27 September – 27 December 1873



20 DECEMBER 1873

Reichspost postal stationery card,  
postmarked at Hamburg, sent to Leipzig.

One of three recorded cover examples.  
Only recorded postal card.

½ Groschen ..  
Domestic post-card rate

HINRICHSEN

1874-1881

SECOND OPERATIONAL 'REICHSPOST' TRIAL  
FOR POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL..  
October 1874 – April 1881

GERMAN EMPIRE  
(Hamburg)

'VENLO TRAIN STATION'  
HAND-STAMP POSTMARK

On 1 October 1874,  
a post office station  
was opened at the  
'Venlo Train Station'  
HAVING THE PURPOSE OF  
PROCESSING THE VOLUMINOUS  
PRINTED-MATTER LOTTERY  
ADVERTISING MAIL.

Robert Hinrichsen submitted a  
modified & improved version of  
his heretofore postmarking  
machine for testing the  
postmarking of such mail.



'Venlo Train Station' later also known as the  
'Paris or Hanoverian Train Station'  
housing 'Railway Post Office No. 31'  
(Hamburg 10 = St. Pauli District).



THE MACHINE  
POSTMARK  
PREPARED & USED  
WAS RECTANGULAR  
PATTERNED AFTER  
THE HAND-STAMP  
USED  
at Hamburg's  
'Venlo Train Station'  
Post Office as used  
for postmarking  
letter & postcard  
mail.



SECOND OPERATIONAL 'REICHSPOST' TRIAL  
FOR POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL..  
October 1874 – April 1881

GERMAN EMPIRE  
(Hamburg)

In October 1874, the postal station at Hamburg's 'Venlo Train Station' commenced operation of an improved faster version of a 'Hinrichsen' dedicated  
**TO POSTMARK THE VOLUMINOUS PRINTED-MATTER & LOTTERY ADVERTISING MAIL.**

**Postmark:** Rectangular dater (42 x 15 mm) having two lines of text.. "Hamburg & Date", with three versions reflecting one of each of the three postmarking machine dies:

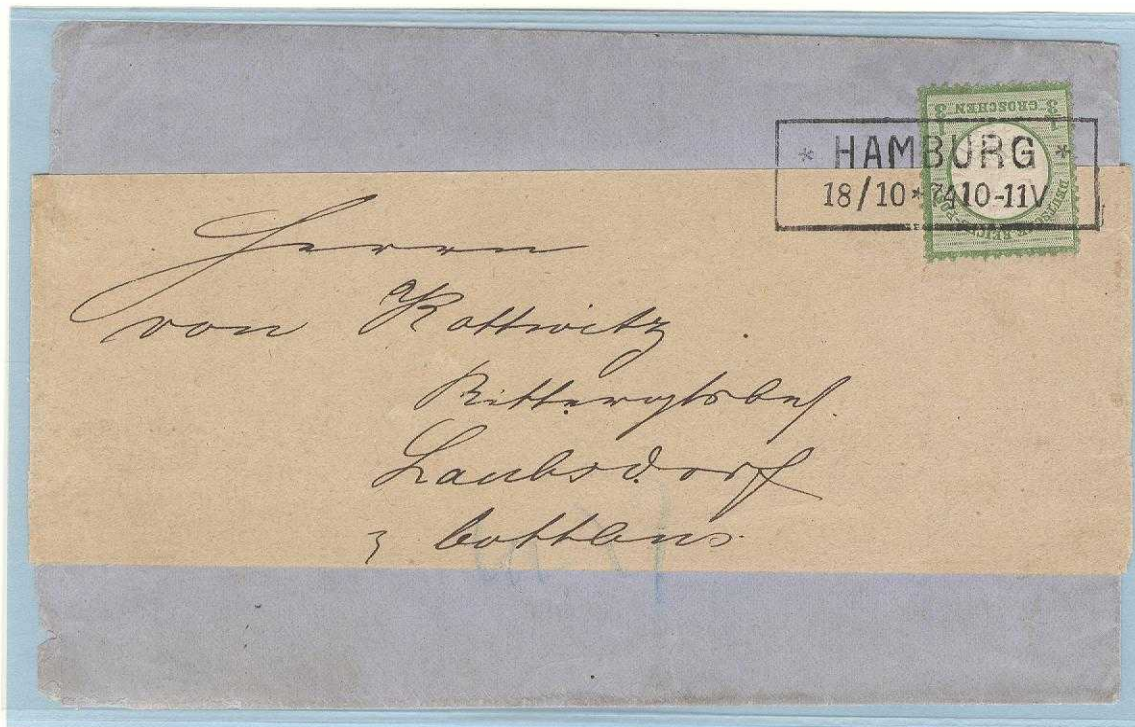
- 1) Without stars or crosses before/after 'Hamburg';
- 2) With crosses before/after 'Hamburg';
- 3) With stars before/after 'Hamburg'.

**Usage:** 3 October 1874 – 24 April 1881



3 OCTOBER 1874

Earliest known date



18 OCTOBER 1874

Cert. Brugger

Printed-matter wrapper with 'Lottery Mail' content, postmarked (Type '3'), at Hamburg, sent to Cottbus.

One of five known entire wrappers for the period. Unique complete wrapper with content having the 'large shield' issue of Germany

1/3 Groschen ..  
Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

# HINRICHSEN

1874-1881

SECOND OPERATIONAL 'REICHSPOST' TRIAL  
FOR POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL:  
October 1874 – April 1881

GERMAN EMPIRE  
(Hamburg)

*Postmark:* Rectangular dater (42 x 15mm) having two lines of text..  
"Hamburg & Date", with three versions reflecting one of  
each of the three postmarking machine dies:

- 1) Without stars or crosses before/after  
'Hamburg';
- 2) With crosses before/after 'Hamburg';
- 3) With stars before/after 'Hamburg'.

*Usage:* 3 October 1874 – 24 April 1881

"PFENNIG ISSUE" FRANKING..  
LOTTERY ADVERTISING MAIL



17 APRIL 1878

Printed-matter wrapper without contents,  
postmarked (Type '3'), at Hamburg,  
sent to  
Wiarden (Province Oldenburg).

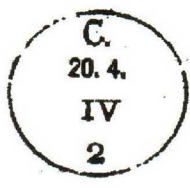
*One of five known entire wrappers for the period.  
Only known 1878 entire wrapper usage.*

**3 Pfennig ..**  
**Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.**

In 1880, Wilhelm Löffelhardt patented the second postmarking machine field-tested by the German Reichspost.

With George Haller, entrepreneur, Löffelhardt successfully completed the demonstration at the 'Berlin C2' Post Office in 1881 resulting in the Reichspost purchasing five machines.

**THE 'BERLIN C2' POST OFFICE 'HALLER MACHINE' APPLIED FOUR POSTMARK TYPES DURING ITS OPERATION BETWEEN 1881-1906.**



Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter.

Usage: 14 - 26 April 1881



20 APRIL 1881

In-bound postal stationery card,  
postmarked at Berlin-Spandau's 'Hamburg Train Station', sent locally.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard rate.

One of five examples known from the '1881' Trial.

# HALLER

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

BERLIN C2

USAGE BETWEEN 1881-1890



Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 23mm Diameter.

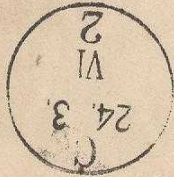
Usage: 9 August 1881 - 14 October 1890

23 March 1886

In-bound  
Bavarian Postal  
Stationery Card  
commercial mail,  
postmarked  
at Leutershausen  
(Bavaria)  
sent to Berlin.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"(Berlin) C 24.  
March, VI 2"

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard rate.

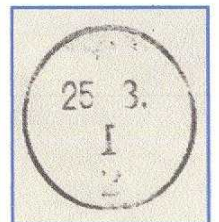


24 MARCH 1890

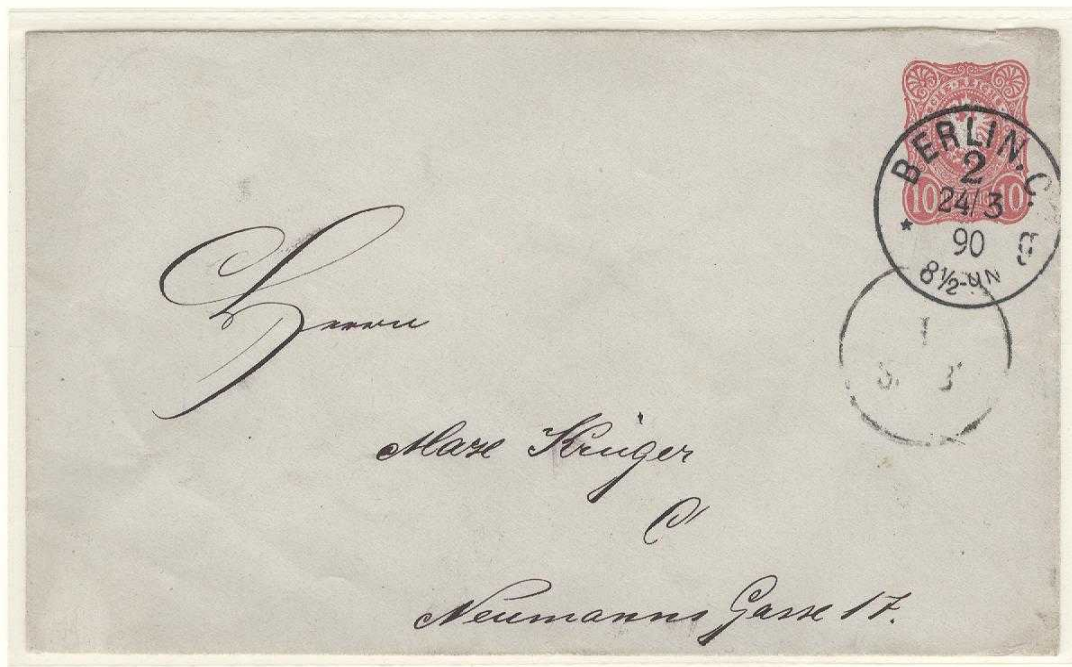
Postal stationery  
cover  
(with machine offset  
on front),  
inner-city Berlin mail.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"(Berlin) C. 2  
25 March, I"

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic cover rate.



Reverse



HALLER

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

BERLIN C2

USAGE IN 1890



Postmark: Type 'c' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter  
with text "Bestellt vom Stadt-Postamte"

Usage: 2 April - 8 October 1890



10 APRIL 1890

Postal stationery card, postmarked aboard the  
'Berlin-Dirschau' Line ('Train No. 6'),  
commercial mail,  
sent to a Berlin business.

'Haller'

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bestellt vom Stadt-Postamte  
10 April 1890, 7-8 PM"  
("Delivered from the  
Central City Post Office....")

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard rate.

HALLER

BERLIN

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

USAGE BETWEEN 1890-1906



Postmark: Type 'd' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter  
with text "Bestellt vom Brief-Postamte"

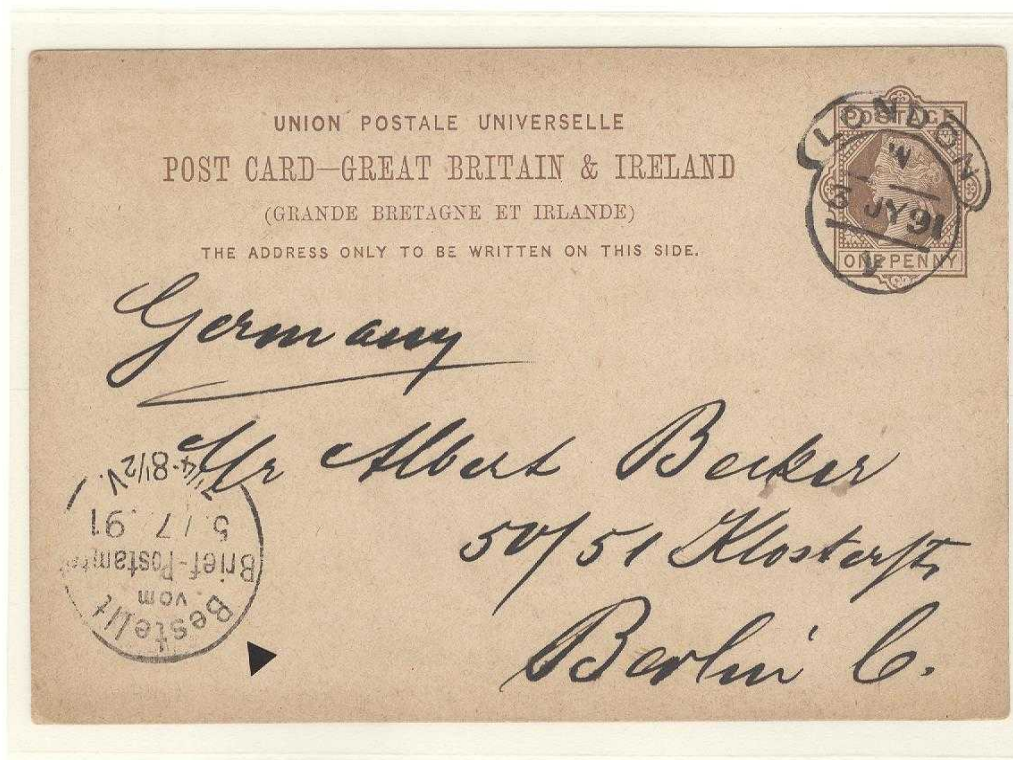
Usage: 26 October 1890 – 2 August 1906

3 JULY 1891

British UPU Postal Stationery  
Card, postmarked at  
London, England,  
sent to Berlin.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Bestellt vom  
Brief-Postamte  
5 July 1891 1890,  
7-1/4-8-1/2 AM"  
("Delivered from the  
Letter-Mail Post Office")

One Penny..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



30 MARCH 1905

Austrian Postal Stationery  
Card, postmarked at  
Vienna, Austria,  
sent to Berlin.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Bestellt vom  
Brief-Postamte  
31 March 1905,  
12-1-1/2 PM"  
("Delivered from the  
Letter-Mail Post Office")

5 Heller..  
Postcard-rate for mail  
within Austria or to  
Germany.





ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL



Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 23mm Diameter.

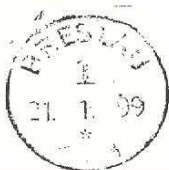
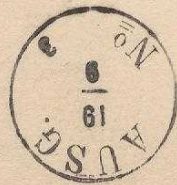
Usage: 19 September 1882 – 5 July 1883

19 SEPTEMBER 1882

Reichspost Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at Ziegenhaus, sent to Breslau.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Ausg. 19/9 No. 3"

Earliest known date.



Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter.

Usage: 18 June 1897 – 21 January 1899

21 JANUARY 1899

'Gruss Aus'  
view-card,  
postmarked  
at Neisse,  
sent to Breslau.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Breslau 1, 21.1.99,  
2-3 PM"

Double  
arrival marks =  
card processed  
twice through  
the machine.

Latest known usage.



5 Pfennig .. Domestic postcard-rate.

A year after delivering five machines to the *Reichpost*, Haller & Company sold their patents on 20 February 1883 to Albert Hoster of Hamburg, who subsequently established the "Postal Stamping & Patent Machinery Company Ltd." at London, England.

Hoster's company manufactured **TEN ADDITIONAL 'HALLER-DESIGN' MACHINES** delivering those to the *Reichspost* through 'Haller & Company' in Germany **FOR OPERATION IN TEN DIFFERENT CITIES.**

**THE 'BREMEN' MACHINE APPLIED THREE POSTMARK TYPES** during the machine's operation between 1884-1905.



Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 28mm Diameter.

Usage: 4 January 1884 – 4 October 1884



17 MARCH 1884

*Reichspost* postal stationery card,  
postmarked Oldenburg,  
sent to Bremen.

**5 Pfennig ..**  
**Domestic postcard-rate.**

# HALLER

BREMEN 1

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter.

Usage: 29 July 1897 – 8 September 1902

18 SEPTEMBER 1897

UPU Reichspost  
'Reply Postal Stationery  
Card, postmarked at  
Hoboken, New Jersey,  
U.S.A.,  
returned to Bremen.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Bremen 1, 27.9.97,  
3-4 PM"

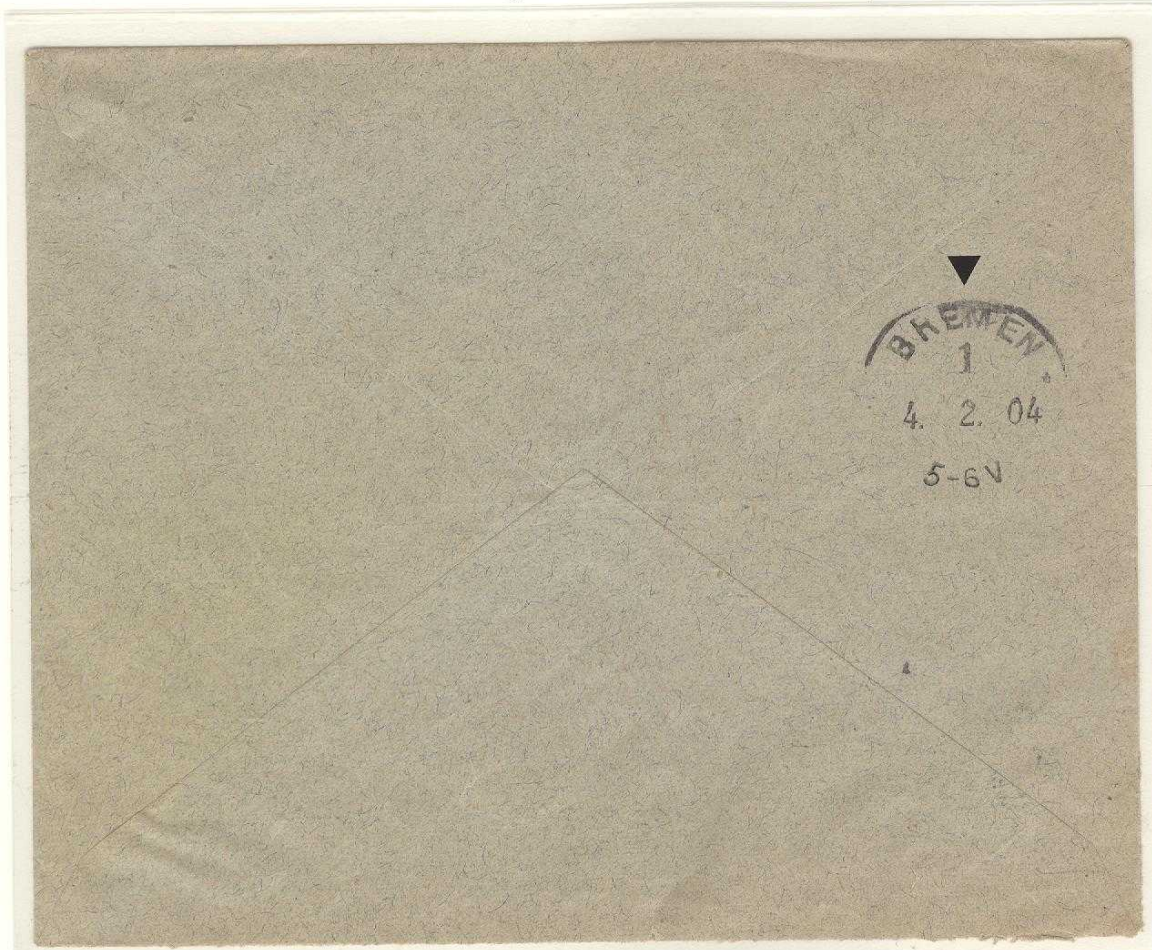
10 Pfennig..  
Foreign-bound  
postcard rate



Postmark: Type 'c' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter.

Usage: 17 December 1902 – 23 April 1905

Reverse  
Of Cover



3 February  
1904

Cover,  
Commercial  
mail,  
postmarked  
at Düsseldorf,  
sent to  
Bremen.

'Haller'  
Arrival  
Postmark:  
"Bremen 1,  
4.2.04, 5-6 AM"  
(On Reverse)

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 27mm Diameter with 'm' in Dater  
Horizontal Time Indication.

Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter with 'n' in Dater  
Angular Time Indication.

Type 'c' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter with 'b' in Dater  
Straight Date Line Indication in Dater Center



TYPE 'a'

Usage:  
13 March 1884 -  
6 June 1885 &  
16 May -  
5 October 1886

TYPE 'b'  
Usage:  
14 June 1885 -  
9 October 1886



TYPE 'c'

Usage:  
15 July 1897 -  
18 June 1902

# HALLER

DRESDEN 1

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

**Postmark:** Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter, Small 'T'.  
"1" Positioned Directly Below "E" of "Dresden"

**Usage:** 11 November 1883 – 12 February 1886

10 NOVEMBER 1886

Swiss UPU  
Postal Stationery Card,  
postmarked at Bern,  
Switzerland,  
sent to Dresden.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Dresden Altst.,  
12 February (18)86"  
(Incorrect Date)

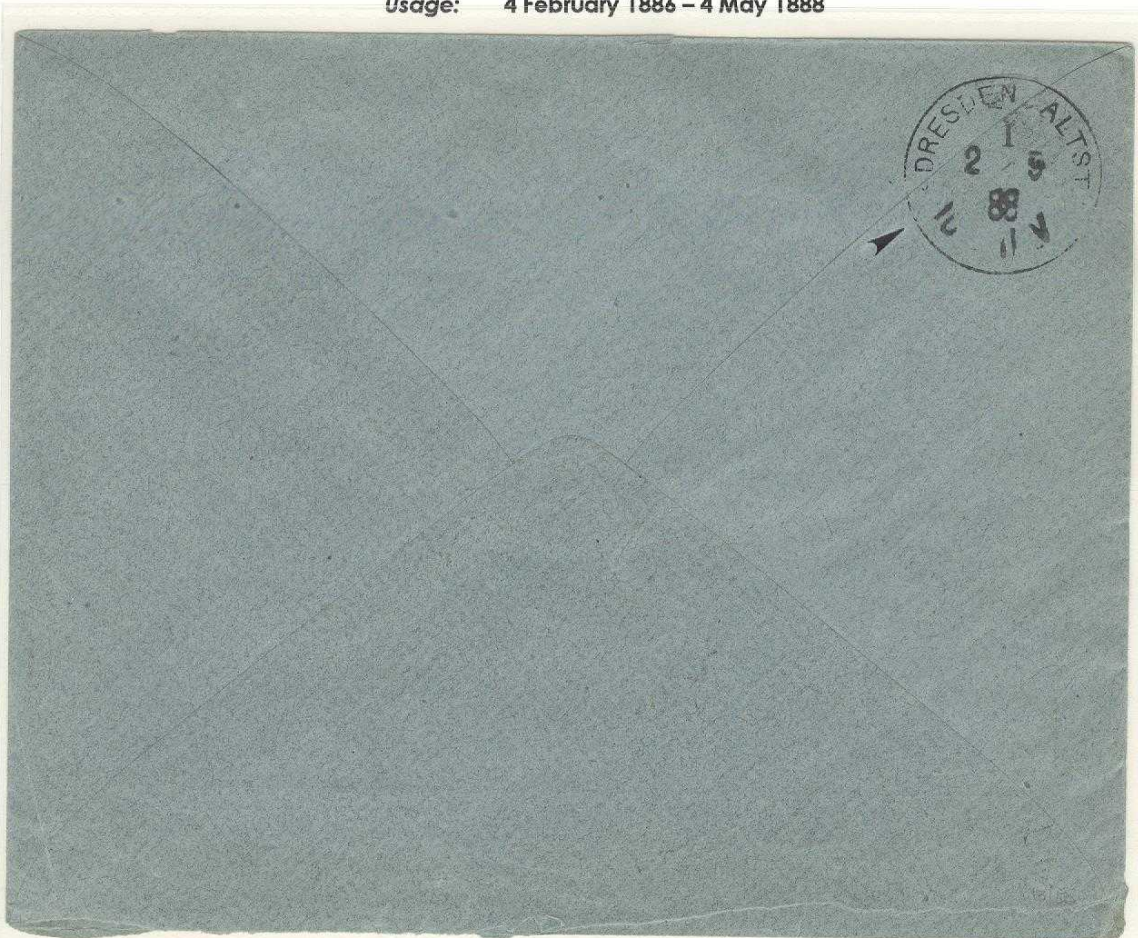
10 Rappen..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.



**Postmark:** Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter, Large 'T'.  
"1" Positioned Directly Below "N" of "Dresden"

**Usage:** 4 February 1886 – 4 May 1888

Reverse  
Of Cover



1 SEPTEMBER  
1888

Commercial  
cover,  
postmarked  
at Ansbach  
(Bavaria)  
sent to  
Dresden.

'Haller'  
Arrival  
Postmark:  
(On Reverse)  
"Dresden Altst.,  
2 September  
(18)88"

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate

# HALLER

DRESDEN 1

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

**Postmark:** Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter, Small 'T'.  
"1" Positioned Directly Below "E" of "Dresden"

**Usage:** 11 November 1883 – 12 February 1886

**10 NOVEMBER 1886**

Swiss UPU  
Postal Stationery Card,  
postmarked at Bern,  
Switzerland,  
sent to Dresden.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Dresden Altst.,  
12 February (18)86"  
(Incorrect Date)

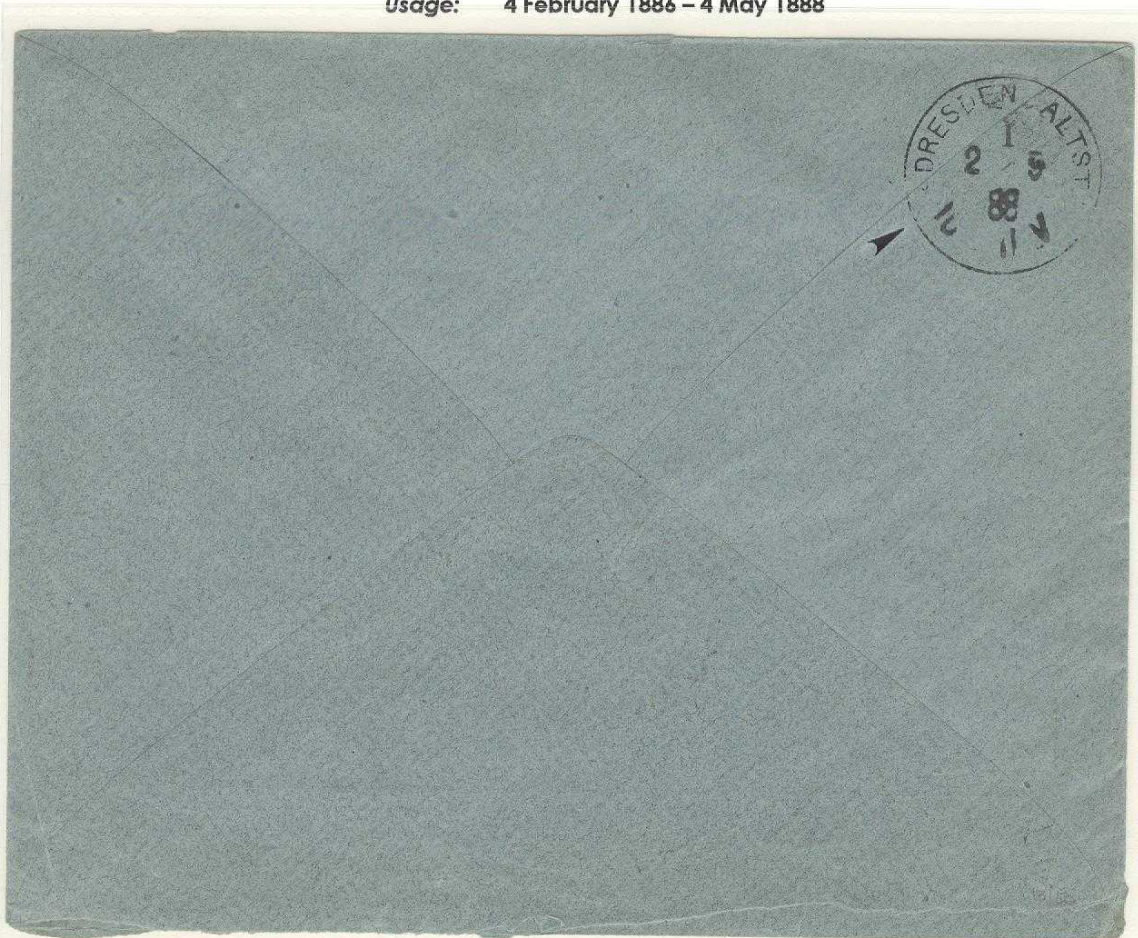
**10 Rappen..**  
**UPU International**  
**Postcard-Rate.**



**Postmark:** Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter, Large 'T'.  
"1" Positioned Directly Below "N" of "Dresden"

**Usage:** 4 February 1886 – 4 May 1888

Reverse  
Of Cover



**1 SEPTEMBER  
1888**

Commercial  
cover,  
postmarked at Ansbach  
(Bavaria)  
sent to  
Dresden.

'Haller'  
Arrival  
Postmark:  
(On Reverse)  
"Dresden Altst.,  
2 September  
(18)88"

**10 Pfennig..**  
**Domestic**  
**single-weight**  
(20 grams)  
**letter-rate**

HALLER

DÜSSELDORF 1

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Single-Circle Dater Dial 28mm Diameter, with 'Star' in Dial

Usage: 19 March 1884 – 15 April 1887

13 MAY 1884

Commercial Postcard, postmarked at Magdeburg, sent to Düsseldorf.

'Haller' Arrival Postmark: "Düsseldorf 1,, 14 May (18)84"



4 JUNE 1885

Reichspost Postal-Stationery Card,, postmarked at Naumburg, sent to Düsseldorf.

'Haller' Arrival Postmark: "Düsseldorf, 5 June (18)85"

5 Pfennig .. Domestic Postcard-Rate.

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'a' ...

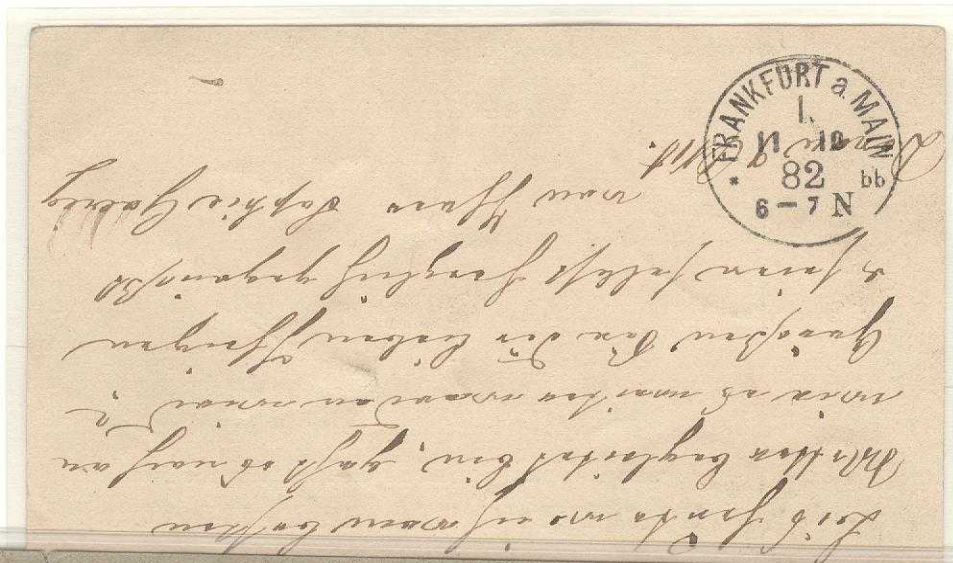
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter with 'bb' in Dater  
Horizontal Time Indication.

Type 'b' ...

Single-Circle Dater Dial 25mm Diameter with 'bb' in Dater  
Angular Time Indication.

Type 'c' ...

Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter with 'bb' in Dater  
"Main" now in Brackets.



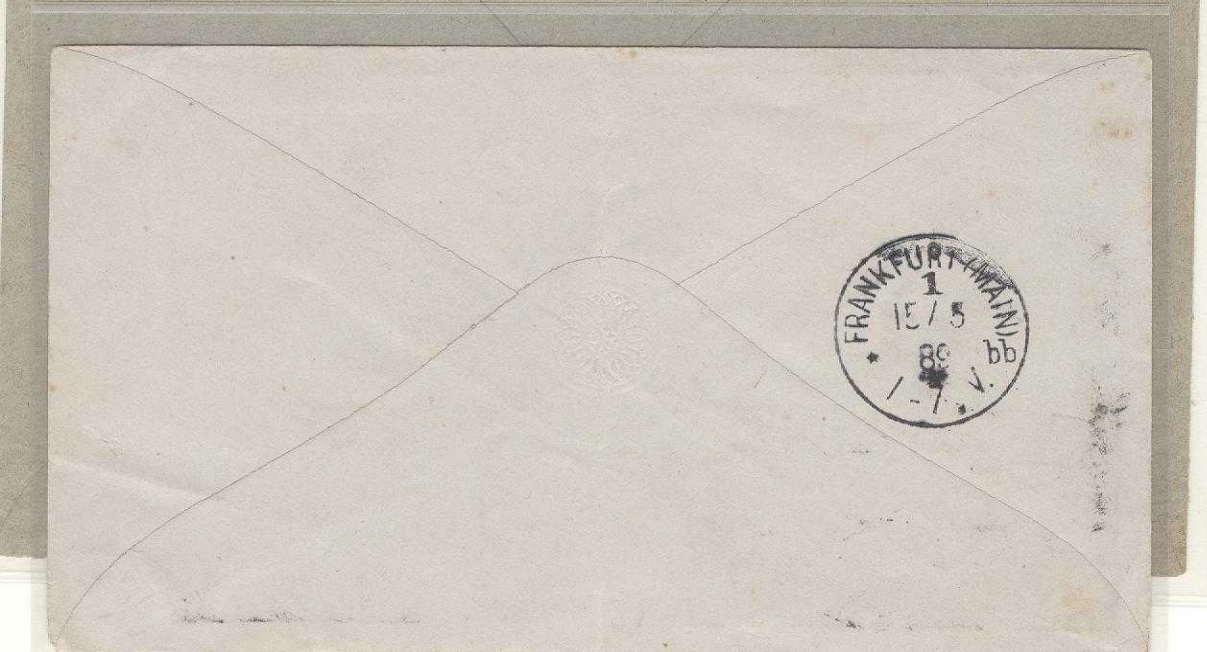
TYPE 'a'

Usage:  
13 August 1882 –  
6 December  
1883



TYPE 'b'

Usage:  
10 January  
1884 –  
26 December  
1888



TYPE 'c'

Usage:  
20 April 1889 –  
26 November  
1893



# HALLER

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

HALLE a.S PA No. 2

ANKUNFT

Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter.

Usage: 30 October 1883 – 7 May 1864

29 OCTOBER 1883

Reichspost  
Postal Stationery Reply  
Card, commercial use,  
postmarked at  
Magdeburg,  
sent to Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Halle a.S. PA No. 2.,  
Ankunft,  
30 October (18)83."

Earliest known usage.



Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter.

Usage: 17 July 1884 – 7 July 1893



18 MAY 1886

Reichspost Postal  
Stationery Card,  
postmarked  
at Zechin  
sent to Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Halle a.S. PA No. 2  
Ankunft  
19 May (18)86"

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic Postcard Rate

# HALLER

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'c' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter.

Usage: 2 March 1897 - 8 May 1905

9 MARCH 1900

German Post Office in  
Turkey Postal  
Stationery Card,  
postmarked at Jaffa  
(Palestine)  
sent to Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Halle (Saale)  
Ankunft,  
22 March 1900"

20 Para...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



1 FEBRUARY 1901

Reichspost UPU Postal  
Card, free-frank for  
military occupation  
service member in  
China (Chefoo/No.4)  
sent to  
Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Halle (Saale),  
Ankunft,  
30 March 1901"

13 JANUARY 1901

Japan UPU Postal  
Stationery Card,  
postmarked at  
Tokyo, Japan,  
sent to  
Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Halle (Saale)  
Ankunft,  
10 February 1901"

4 Sen...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



# HALLER

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

HALLE (SAALE) 2

ANKUNFT

Postmark: Type 'd' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 30mm Diameter.

Usage: 30 November 1905 – 22 March 1909

10 APRIL 1906

(Julian Calendar)

23 APRIL 1906

(Gregorian Calendar)

Russian UPU  
Postal Stationery Card,  
commercial use,  
postmarked at  
Moscow, Russia,  
sent to Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Halle (Saale)  
Ankunft,  
25 April (19)06"

4 Kopecks...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate

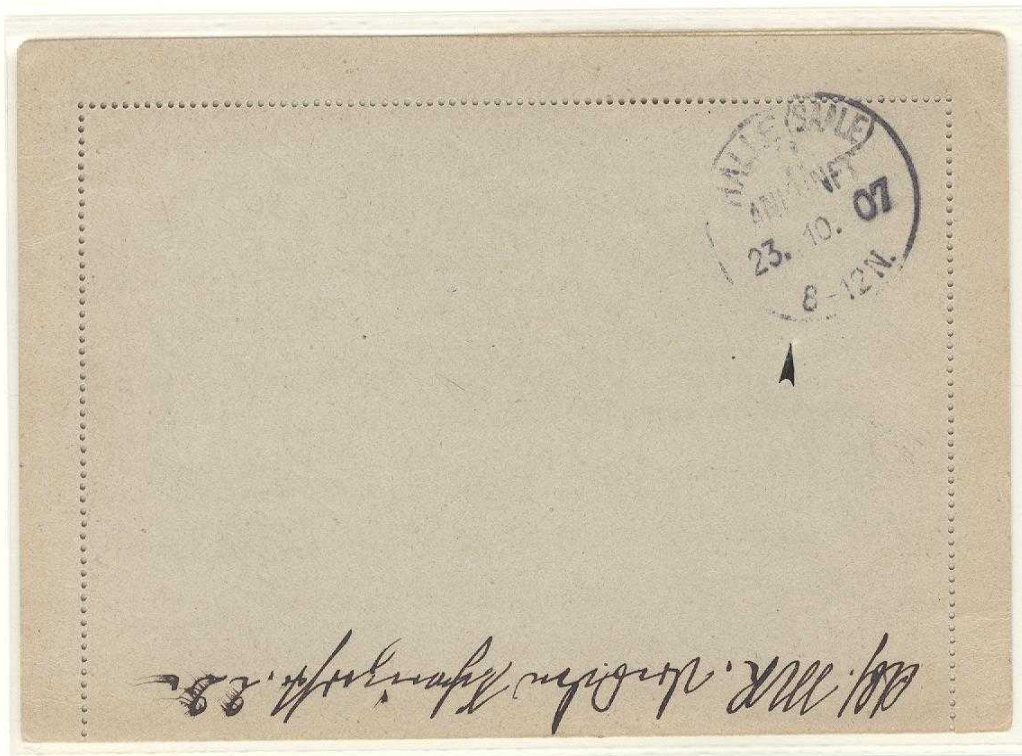


25 OCTOBER 1907

Reichspost Postal  
Stationery Letter Card,  
postmarked  
at Dresden  
sent to  
Halle (Saale).

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Halle (Saale),  
Ankunft,  
23 October (19)07"

10 Pfennig...  
Domestic Postal  
Stationery Letter-Card  
Flat Rate.



# HALLER

HAMBURG 1

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'a' ...

Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter & 'Hamburg' Between Two Stars

Usage: 5 April 1882 - 22 December 1882

14 APRIL 1882

Bavarian Postal Stationery Card, commercial mail, postmarked at Munich sent to Hamburg.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg 1,  
15 April 1882"

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic Postcard Rate



12 DECEMBER 1882

Italian UPU Postal Stationery Card, commercial mail, sent to Hamburg.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg 1,  
14 December 1882"

10 Centesmi..  
UPU International Postcard Rate

29 APRIL 1882

Reichspost Postal Stationery Card, commercial mail, postmarked (Klaucke Cancel) at Mühlhausen (Alsace) sent to Hamburg.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg 1,  
30 April 1882"

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic Postcard Rate



HALLER

HAMBURG 1

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL



Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter,  
'Hamburg' Between Two Small Cogwheels.

Usage: 23 - 30 December 1882



27 DECEMBER 1882

Italian UPU  
Postal Stationery Card,  
civilian mail,  
mailed at Florence, Italy,  
sent to Hamburg.

Arrival & Forwarding Postmarks:  
'Haller'

"Hamburg 1, 30 December (18)82, 8-9 AM"

'Handstamp'

"Hamburg-Pöseldorf, 30 December (18)82, 9-10 AM"

10 Centesimi ..  
UPU International Postcard-Rate

Latest Known Usage.  
One of Two Examples Known.

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'c' ...  
 Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter,  
 Large '83' Year Date

Usage: 1 January – 31 July 1883



9 MARCH 1893

Reichspost  
 Postal Stationery Card,  
 postmarked at Berlin W41,  
 sent to Hamburg.

'Haller'  
 Arrival Postmark:  
 "Hamburg 1,  
 10 March (18)83"

5 Pfennig ..  
 Domestic Postcard-Rate

# HALLER

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

HAMBURG 1

Postmark: Type 'd' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 27mm Diameter.  
Small '83' Year Date

Usage: 22 September 1883 – 16 July 1886

25 SEPTEMBER 1883

Danish UPU  
Postal Stationery Card,  
commercial mail,  
postmarked at  
Fyen, Denmark,  
sent to Hamburg.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg 1,  
25 September (18)93"

10 Ore...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



13 OCTOBER 1883

French Postal  
Stationery Postal Card,  
commercial mail  
postmarked  
at Marseille, France,  
sent to  
Hamburg.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg 1,  
15 October (18)93"

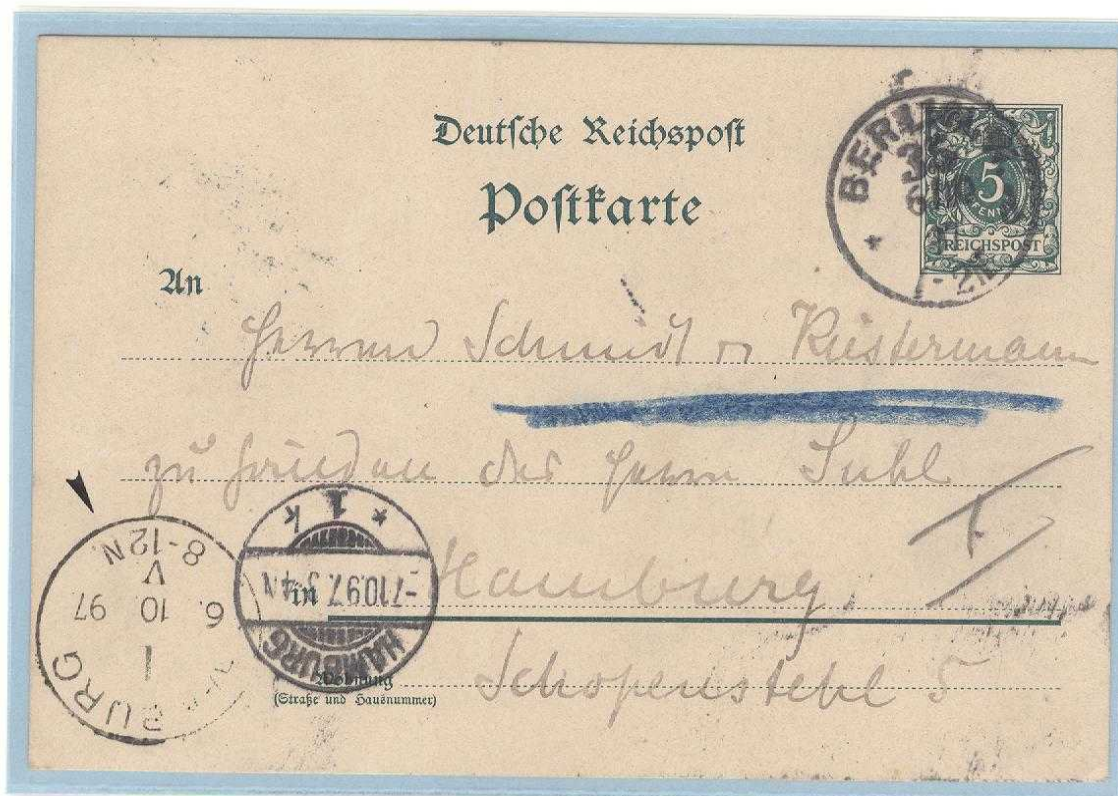
10 Centimes...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

**Postmark:** Type 'e' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter,  
Day/Month/Year Dates in Straight Line Format.

**Usage:** 6 October – 29 November 1897



**9 MARCH 1893**

**Reichspost**  
Postal Stationery Card,  
commercial mail  
postmarked at Berlin W35,  
sent to Hamburg.

**'Haller'**  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg 1,  
6 October (18)97"

**5 Pfennig ..**  
**Domestic Postcard-Rate**

**Earliest Known Usage**



# HALLER

HANNOVER 1

## ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 27mm Diameter.

Usage: 2 November 1883 – 23 October 1884

21 FEBRUARY 1884

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Elberfeld, sent to Hanover.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
“(Hanover) Ausg.  
21 February, N2, 4”



Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 28mm Diameter.

Usage: 29 October 1884 – 2 March 18906



27 AUGUST 1896

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Elze (Hannover), sent locally.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
“Hannover 1, 27  
August (18)86”

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic postcard rate

HALLER

LEIPZIG

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'a' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 22mm Diameter, Small Type

Usage: 23 July 1882 - 15 September 1883

1 APRIL 1883

Bavarian-Post Postal  
Stationery Card,  
postmarked at Munich,  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"2 April (1883)"



28 JULY 1883

Reichspost Postal  
stationery card,  
postmarked  
at Nordhausen,  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"28 July (1883)"

HALLER

LEIPZIG

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'b' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 22mm Diameter, Large Type

Usage: 23 September 1883 – 8 December 1884

17 JANUARY 1884

Bavarian-Post  
Postal Stationery  
Card,  
postmarked at  
Jetzendorf,  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"19 January (1884)"

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
Postcard-Rate



21 OCTOBER 1884

Great Britain & Ireland  
Postal Stationery Card,  
postmarked  
at Edinburgh (Scotland),  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"23 October (1884)"

One Penny..  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



HALLER

LEIPZIG

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'c' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 23mm Diameter, Large Type

Usage: 5 January 1885 – 1 January 1894

18 APRIL 1889

Reichspost  
Postal Stationery  
Card,  
postmarked at Wesel,  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"19 April (1889)"



18 AUGUST 1889

Württemberg-Post  
Postal Stationery Card,  
postmarked at  
Stuttgart,  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"18 August (1889)"

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic Postcard-Rate

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Type 'd' ...  
Single-Circle Dater Dial 29mm Diameter, with 'Star' in Dial

Usage: 15 August 1897 – 1 January 1899

23 SEPTEMBER 1897

Switzerland-Post  
Postal Card,  
postmarked at  
Lausanne,  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Leipzig 13,  
26 September  
(18)97"

5 Rappen...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



31 DECEMBER 1898

'New Year's  
Greetings Card',  
postmarked at  
Halle (Saale),  
sent to Leipzig.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Leipzig 13,  
1 January 1899"

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
Postcard-Rate.

Latest Known Usage  
Example

HALLER

MAGDEBURG 1

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter

Usage: 22 October 1883 - 17 May 1888

9 DECEMBER 1883

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Eszek Hungary, sent to Magdeburg.

'Haller' Arrival Postmark: "Magdeburg 1, Arrival, 11 December (18)83"

2 Kreuzer.. Domestic postcard rate valid for mail to Germany



7 MAY 1884

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Elbeuf, France, sent to Magdeburg.

'Haller' Arrival Postmark: "Magdeburg 1, Arrival, 15 May (18)84"

10 Centimes.. UPU International Postcard Rate.

HALLER

MANNHEIM 1

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter

Usage: 19 March 1884 – 6 May 1885

30 MARCH 1884

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Worms, sent to Mannheim.

'Haller' Arrival Postmark: "Mannheim 1, 30 March (18)84"

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard rate.



17 APRIL (1884)

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Mühlbach, Austria, sent to Mannheim.

'Haller' Arrival Postmark: "Mannheim 1, 18 April (18)84"

2 Kreuzer.. Domestic Austrian Postcard Rate valid for mail to Germany.

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter

Usage: 21 January 1884 – 28 October 1887



21 & 30 OCTOBER 1885

Reichspost  
Postal Stationery Cards,  
commercial use,  
postmarked at Casekow,  
sent to the same recipient at Stettin.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Stettin 1,  
21 / 30 October (18)85"

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic Postcard Rate.



HALLER

STRASSBURG i. ELS.

ARRIVAL MARKINGS APPLIED ON IN-BOUND MAIL

Postmark: Single-Circle Dater Dial 26mm Diameter

Usage: 23 May 1884 – 16 April 1885



26 NOVEMBER 1884

Commercial postcard,  
postmarked  
at Strassburg (Alsace),  
sent locally.

'Haller'  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Strassburg i. Elsass,  
26 November (18)84"

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic Postcard Rate.

Based on its success with the Reichspost and its machine  
 to apply arrival marks to in-bound mail,  
**IN 1882 'HALLER & COMPANY' DEMONSTRATED**  
 (on previously used postal cards)  
**ITS RAPID HAND-OPERATED POSTMARKING MACHINE ABLE TO APPLY**  
**ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL ...**  
**'FORERUNNER' TO THE 'HOSTER' POSTMARKING MACHINE.**

**Postmark:** 42mm diameter double-circle  
 indicating "Kaiserlich Deutsche Reichspost"  
 along with an inner 25mm diameter  
 single dater dial.

**Usage:** (Berlin C2) 5 January & 1 February 1882



5 JANUARY 1882

'Dummy'/used (1881) French Postal Stationery Card,  
 on which the Haller Origin Postmark within a Reichspost Double-Dial  
 was applied in the upper-right corners of each card side,

One of three known examples from the  
 1882 demonstration trial.



Reverse

In 1883, Albert Hoster of Hamburg, Germany, acquired the assets of 'Haller & Company' and subsequently established 'The Postal Stamping & Patent Machinery Company Limited' at London, England, with both companies manufacturing & selling their patented 'HOSTER POSTMARKING MACHINES' to the German Reichspost and the London General Post Office.

Whereas 'Haller Machines' applied arrival postmarks to in-bound mail, 'Hoster Machines' applied postmarks to out-going mail with trials & field-operation at Berlin, Hamburg & London.



Postmark: 'Berlin C.'

26mm Dater Dial

Usage: 10 - 13 April 1883



13 APRIL 1883

Forerunner Haller/Hoster trial postmark on a cover clip, postmarked at 'Berlin C', from mail sent abroad.

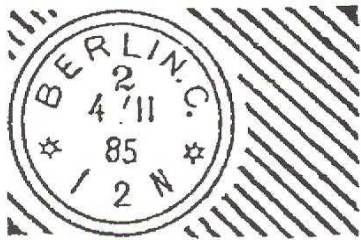
20 Pfennig ..  
 UPU International Letter-Rate  
 for mail up to 15 grams.

One of two examples known  
 with this example being the only one having  
 postage stamps clipped from a cover.

HOSTER

BERLIN C.

1885



Postmark: 'Berlin' Die Type I..

No corner machine serial number; '2' to the LEFT of 'L' in "BERLIN".

Usage: 15 July - 6 November 1885

15 JULY 1885

Reichspost postal stationery reply-card commercial mail, sent locally.

Earliest Reported Operation Date & One of Two Known Examples.

5 Pfennig .. Domestic Postcard Rate



31 AUGUST 1885

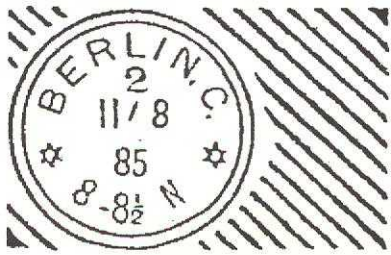
Printed-matter commercial postcard mail, sent locally.

3 Pfennig .. Printed-Matter up to 50 grams.

HOSTER

BERLIN C.

1885



L  
2

Postmark: 'Berlin' Die Type II..

No corner machine  
serial number;  
'2' DIRECTLY UNDER 'L'  
in "BERLIN".

Usage: 15 July - 6 November 1885

20 AUGUST 1885

Cover, sent to  
a church vicar at  
Guben, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Guben 1,  
21 May 1885, 1-7 AM"



ad Reg. N<sup>o</sup> 3/15  
N<sup>o</sup> 1.

Herrn

Seiner Königl. Anst. Gerichte

fr.

Pleschen  
Kgl. Posen

4 NOVEMBER 1885

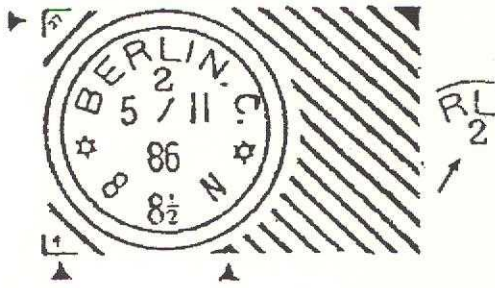
Official mail cover,  
sent to the 'Imperial Court at Pleschen' (Posen).

10 Pfennig ..  
Domestic Single-Weight (15 grams) Letter-Rate

HOSTER

BERLIN C.

1885 - 1887



Postmark: 'Berlin' Die Type III..

Machine serial number '27' in upper-left die corner; die number '1' in lower-left corner; '2' to the LEFT of 'L' in "BERLIN".

Usage: 7 November 1885 - 3 April 1887

19 MARCH 1886

Cover,  
local-city delivery.

10 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(15 grams)  
letter-rate.



WELTPOSTVEREIN. (UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.)  
POSTKARTE AUS DEUTSCHLAND  
(ALLEMAGNE.)

An  
Messrs. Charles Tomerville & Co.

Liverpool

8 SEPTEMBER 1886

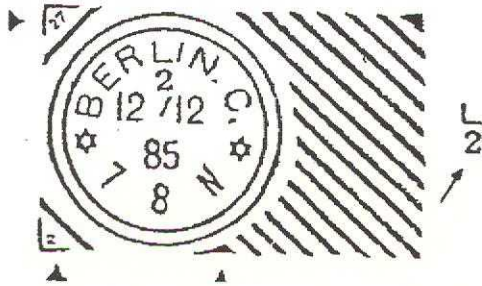
Reichspost postal  
stationery card,  
commercial mail,  
sent to a business  
in Liverpool,  
England.

10 Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

# HOSTER

BERLIN C.

1885 - 1887



Postmark: 'Berlin' Die Type IV..

Machine serial number '27' in upper-left corner; die number '2' in lower-left corner; '2' DIRECTLY UNDER 'L' in "BERLIN".

Usage: 7 November 1885 – 3 April 1887

**OFFICIAL MAIL**

22 APRIL 1886

Folded-letter, sent from the 'Imperial Courts' at Berlin to a local resident.

10 Pfennig .. Postage-due covering domestic single-weight letter-rate.



Börsen-Buchdruckerei von Denter & Nicolas, Berlin C., Neue Friedrichstr. 30.



**COMMERCIAL MAIL**

27 NOVEMBER 1886

Cover, local-city business mail.

5 Pfennig .. Local-city single-weight letter-rate

Herrn Königl. Hof-Baumeister G. Hauer

Eigenhändig.

S.W. Wilhelmstr. 18.

# HOSTER

POSTMARK TYPES III & IV USAGE

BERLIN C.

1885 - 1887

- Machine serial number '27' in upper-left die corner;
- '1' or '2' die-numbers in lower-left corner;
  - Type III: '2' in date dial to the **LEFT** of 'L' of 'Berlin';
  - Type IV: '2' in date dial **DIRECTLY UNDER** 'L' of 'Berlin'.

## DOUBLE POSTMARKING

21 MARCH 1886

As a result of incorrect in-feed into the machine, this postal card was first postmarked with 'Die IV' (lower-left corner) resulting in non-canceling of the franking.

Upon realizing the mistake, the postal clerk re-fed the card into the machine resulting in postmarking with 'Die III'.

Only known example of this variety.



## 1887 USAGE EXAMPLE

1 FEBRUARY 1887

By 1887, the 'Berlin' Hoster Machine required ever increasing Maintenance resulting in much less post office machine use.

Very few '1897' Examples are recorded.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic Postal Card Rate



# HOSTER

HAMBURG P.A. 1

EARLIEST & LATEST RECORDED USAGES

1885 - 1887

Machine serial number '26' in upper-left die corner;  
Type I: '1' die number in lower-left corner  
Type II: '2' die number in lower left corner.

Usage: 17 September 1885 – 8 June 1887

## EARLIEST KNOWN USE

MAIL TO SWEDEN

17 SEPTEMBER 1885  
(Hamburg Type II')

Commercial cover,  
sent to  
Sundvall, Sweden.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"18 September  
1885"

20 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate

Only Known Cover  
Example



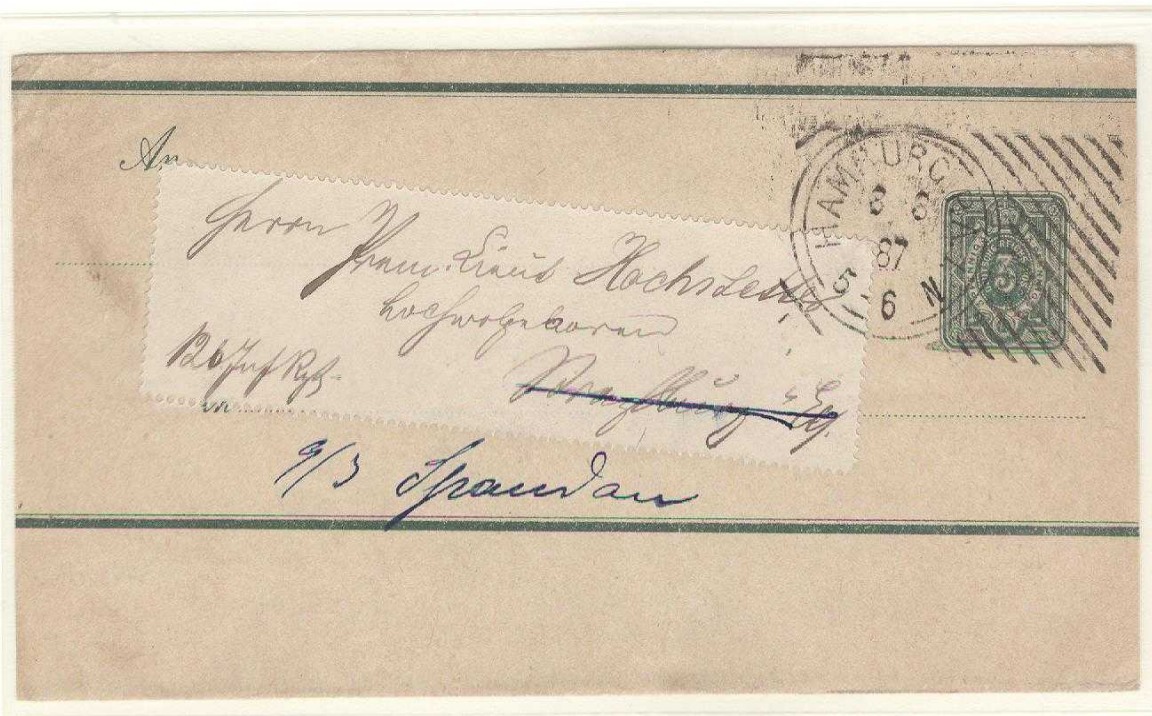
## LATEST KNOWN USE

8 JUNE 1887  
(Hamburg Type I')

Newspaper  
wrapper,  
re-directed to  
Spandau.

3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail to  
50 grams.

Only known  
example.



# HOSTER

FOREIGN-DESTINATION COMMERCIAL COVERS

HAMBURG P.A. 1

1885 - 1887

Machine serial number '26' in upper-left die corner;  
Type I: '1' die number in lower-left corner;  
Type II: '2' die number in lower left corner.

Usage: 17 September 1885 – 8 June 1887

## MAIL TO DENMARK

18 SEPTEMBER 1885

('Hamburg Type I')

Postcard,  
advertising mail,  
sent to  
Copenhagen,  
Denmark.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Copenhagen,  
Railway Station,  
19 September 1885"

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.

Second Day of  
Postmark Use.



## MAIL TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

28 SEPTEMBER 1885

('Hamburg Type II')

Mourning cover,  
sent to  
New York City,  
New York.  
12-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"10 October 1885"

40 Pfennig..  
Double-weight  
(15-20 Grams)  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate

Only Known Hoster  
Machine Postmark  
Cover sent to U.S.A.



# HOSTER

FOREIGN-DESTINATION COMMERCIAL COVERS

HAMBURG P.A. 1

1885 - 1887

Machine serial number '26' in upper-left die corner;  
Type I: '1' die number in lower-left corner;  
Type II: '2' die number in lower left corner.

Usage: 17 September 1885 – 8 June 1887

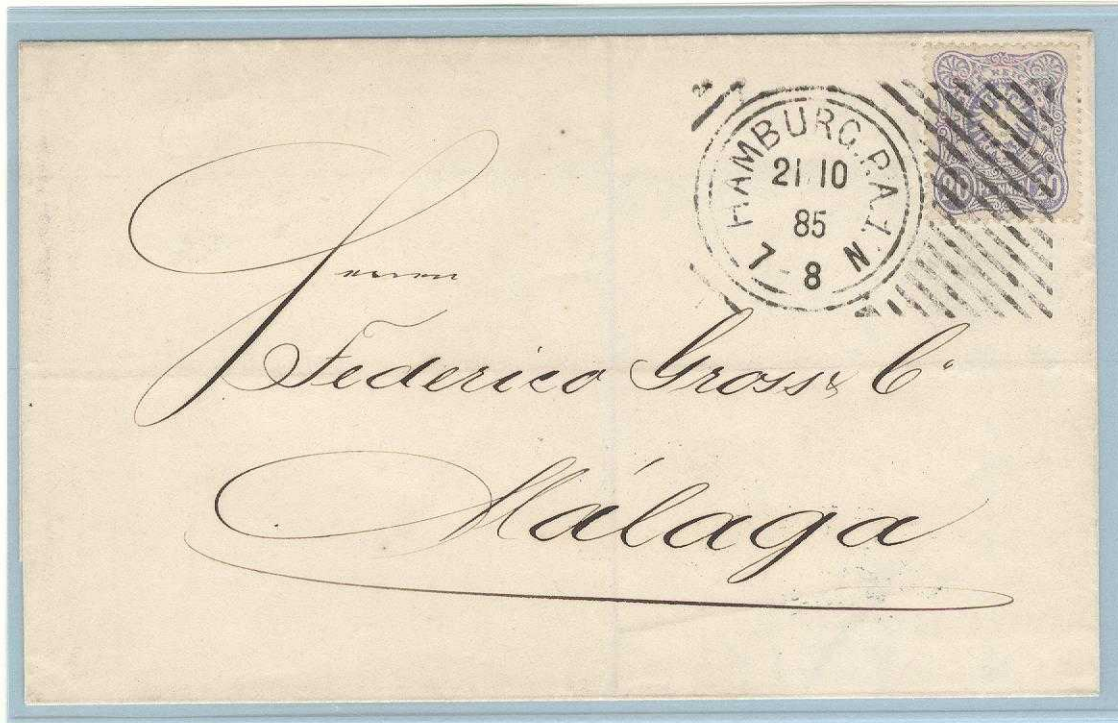
## MAIL TO SPAIN

21 OCTOBER 1885

('Hamburg Type I')

Folded-letter,  
sent to a  
business in  
Malaga, Spain.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Malaga,  
25 October 1885"

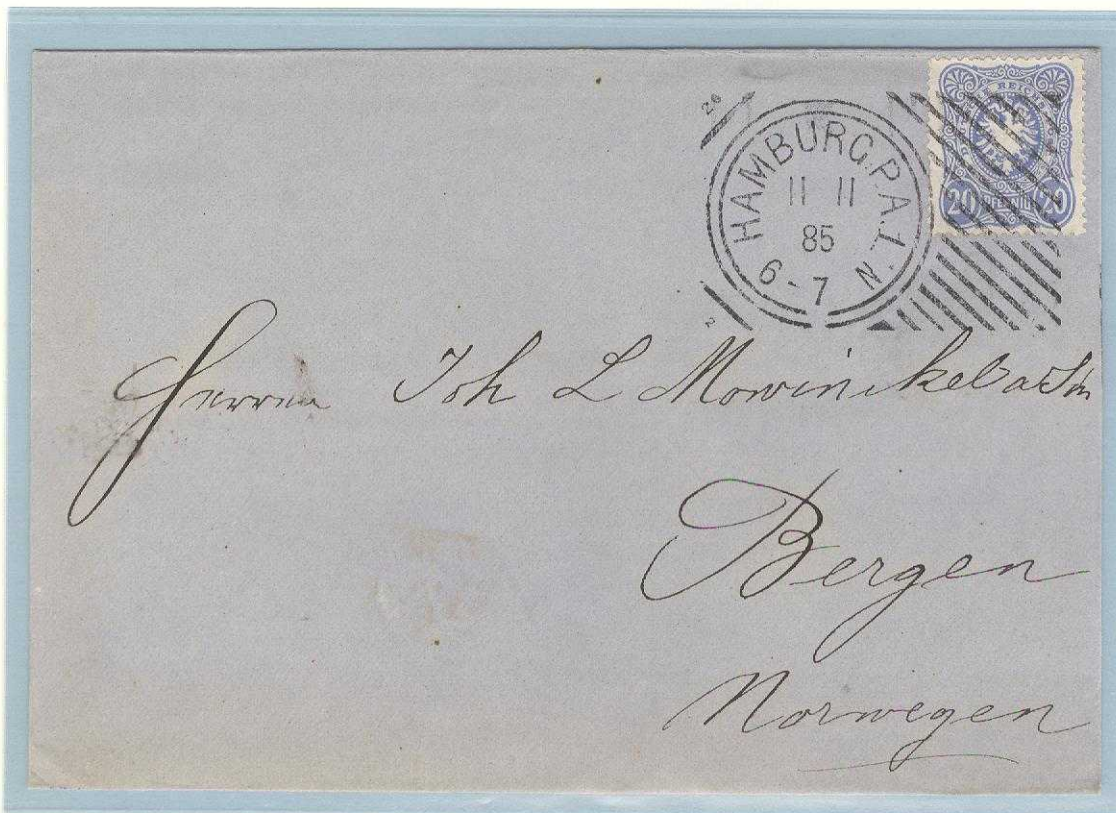


## MAIL TO NORWAY

11 NOVEMBER  
1885

('Hamburg Type II')

Folded-letter sent  
to a business at  
Bergen, Norway.



20 Pfennig ..

UPU International Single-Weight (15 grams) Letter-Rate

# HOSTER

HAMBURG P.A. 1

FOREIGN-DESTINATION POSTCARD MAIL

1885 - 1887

Machine serial number '26' in upper-left die corner;  
Type I: '1' die number in lower-left corner;  
Type II: '2' die number in lower left corner.

Usage: 17 September 1885 – 8 June 1887

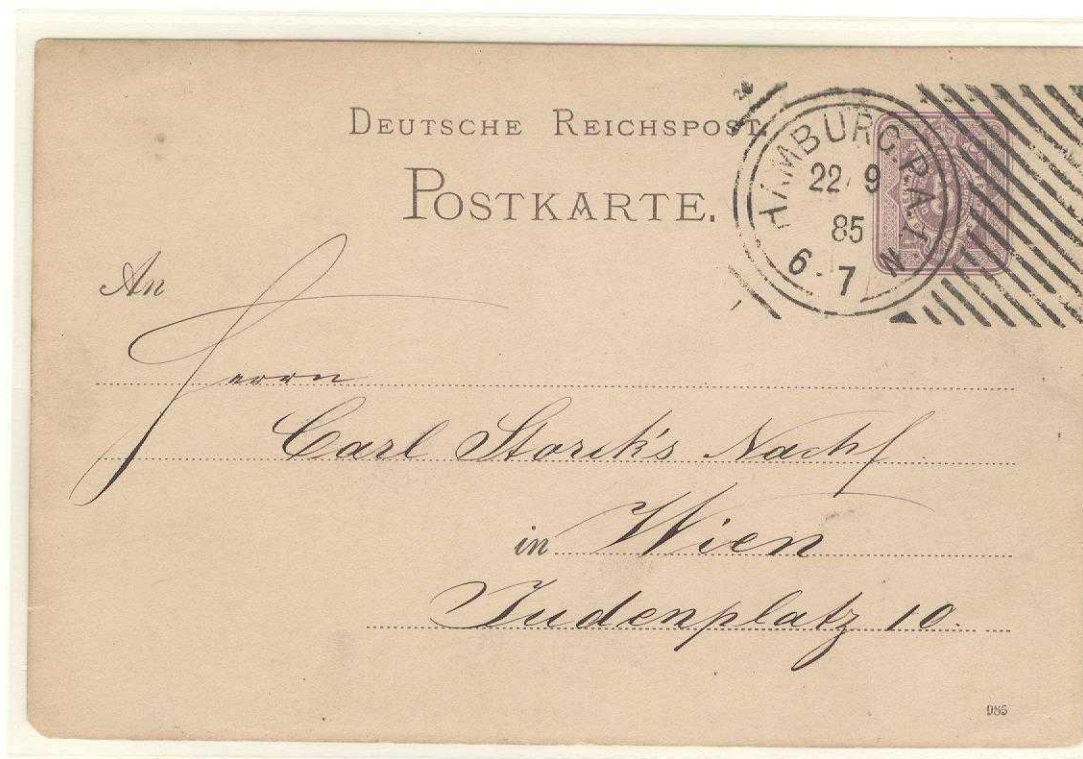
## MAIL TO AUSTRIA

22 OCTOBER 1885  
(‘Hamburg Type I’)

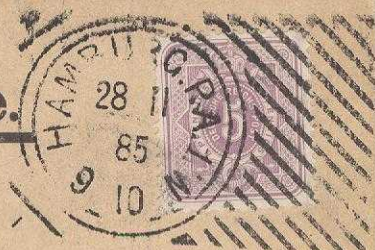
Reichspost Postal Card,  
sent to a business in  
Vienna, Austria.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
“Vienna,  
24 September 1885”

5 Pfennig ..  
German domestic  
postcard-rate valid for  
mail to Austria.



## Drucksache.



Herrn

Apotheker

G. A. Wändahl  
Fränsta  
Schweden

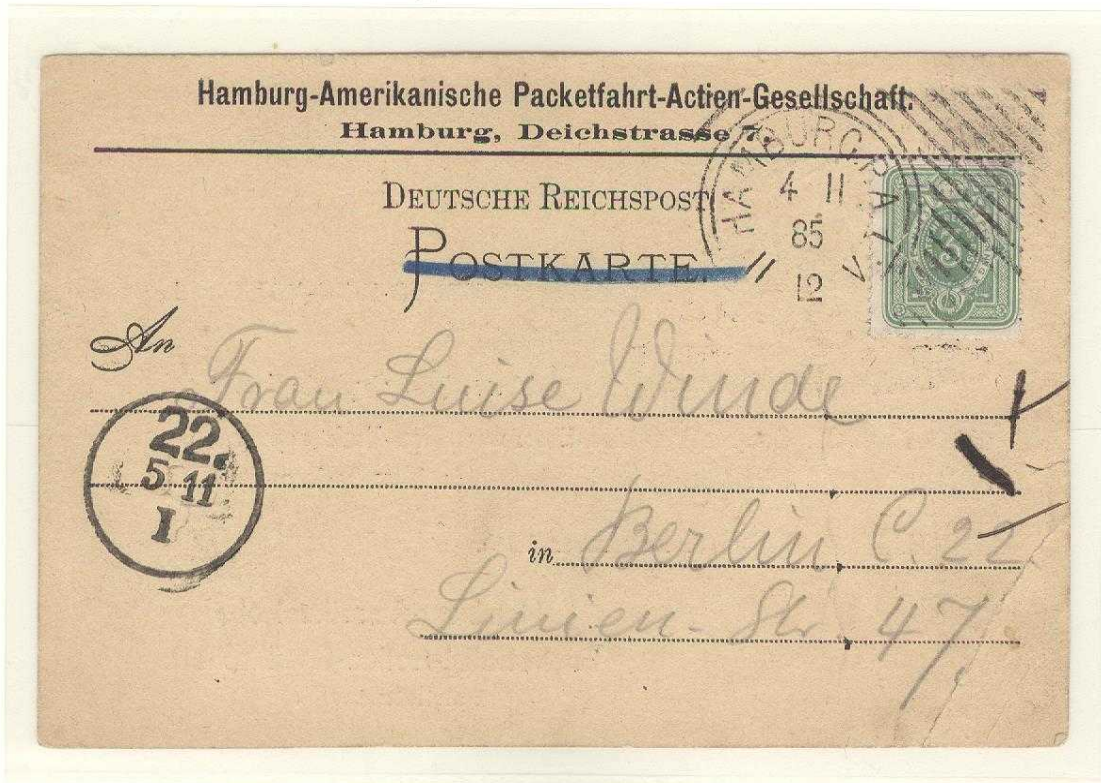
## MAIL TO SWEDEN

28 NOVEMBER 1885  
(‘Hamburg Type I’)

Postcard,  
printed-matter/  
advertising to a  
pharmacy  
(offering  
Ether, Cocaine, Chinin),  
sent to Fränsta,  
Sweden

5 Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate

COMMERCIAL PRINTED MATTER .. SHIP ARRIVAL NOTIFICATION



Reverse

4 NOVEMBER 1885  
(Hamburg Type I')

Commercial printed-matter ship arrival advice-  
notification sent to a recipient in Berlin.

3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail to 50 grams.

# HOSTER

MISALIGNMENT OF POSTMARK WITH FRANKING

HAMBURG P.A. 1

1885 - 1887

Machine serial number '26' in upper-left die corner;  
Type II: '2' die number in lower left corner.

The 'Hoster' Machine was relatively inflexible and ineffective in that **MAIL HAD TO BE PRE-SORTED BY SIZE AND TYPE** for postmarks to be properly positioned to obliterate or 'kill' the postage franking, requiring the machine's in-feed assembly to be adjusted according to mail size and type.

If not done, mail had to be re-fed through the machine or hand-cancelled.



19 OCTOBER 1885  
(Hamburg Type II')

Newspaper wrapper, sent to  
Glückstadt, Province Holstein.

Since the machine in-feed was not properly adjusted for the mail type, this mail's postage was not cancelled, requiring the postal clerk to double-handle the mail and hand cancel.

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail to 50 grams.

# HOSTER

HAMBURG P.A. 10

TRIAL AT HAMBURG-RAILWAY POST OFFICE #31

1885

Machine serial number '24' in upper-left die corner;  
Type I: '1' die number in lower-left corner;  
Type II: '2' die number in lower left corner.

Usage: 15 – 20 October 1885

In 1885, the *Reichspost* requested that a 'Hoster' Machine be tested at the Hamburg Railway Post Office #31 (under the supervision of 'Hamburg Post Office 10'), where bulk lottery & other advertising mail was regularly postmarked.

A short trial showed that the **MACHINE DID NOT EFFECTIVELY HANDLE LOTTERY ADVERTISING OR OTHER BULK MAIL,** resulting in removal of the machine and return to the manufacturer.



**20 OCTOBER 1885**  
(Hamburg P.A. 10 Type I')

**Latest Recorded Usage Date &  
One of Two Known Examples of this Postmark.**

# BICKERDIKE

1898

**BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'**  
**Postmark Type I**

**In 1898 THE REICHSPOST PURCHASED TWO BICKERDIKE POSTMARKING MACHINES from the Canadian Postal Supply Company at Montreal, Canada, FOR TESTING AT BERLIN & HAMBURG.**

**'Machine 1' was located at the Berlin 'C2' Post Office and applied origin postmarks to out-going mail.**



**Postmark:** 23mm dater dial **WITHOUT STARS** and having a 56mm long 7-Line/'DR' obliterator.

**Usage:** 14 May - 5 July 1898

**25 MAY 1898**  
**Commercial advertising postcard, sent to Cologne.**  
**3 Pfennig .. Domestic Printed-Matter Rate up to 50 grams**



**24 JUNE 1898**  
**Commercial postcard, sent to Büdingen.**  
**5 Pfennig... Domestic Postcard Rate**

Less than ten examples recorded



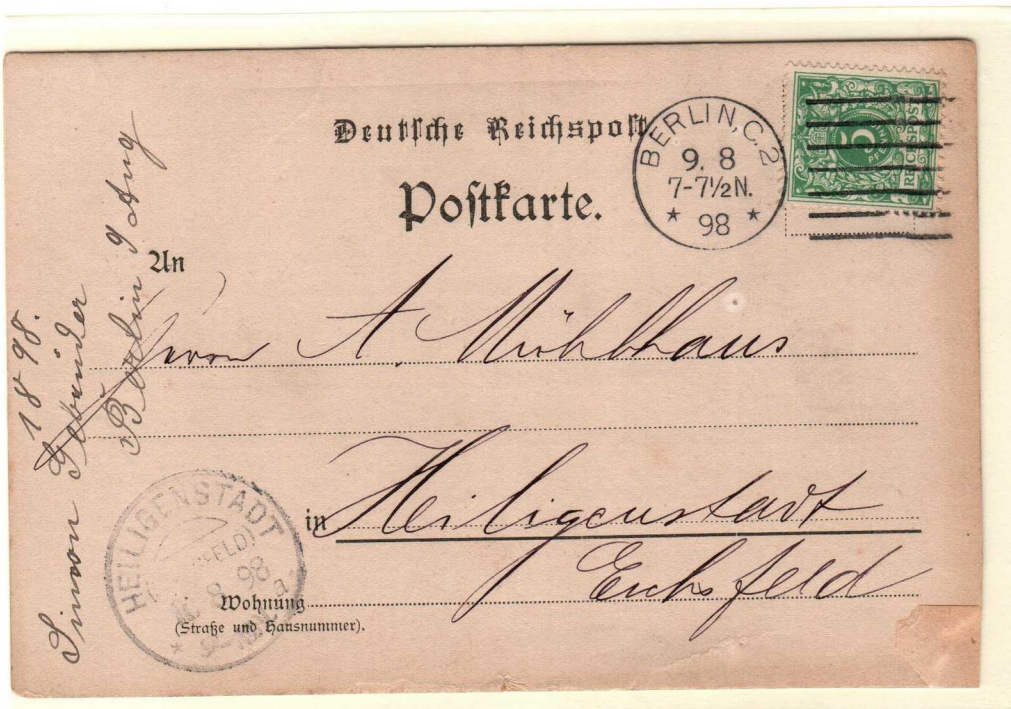
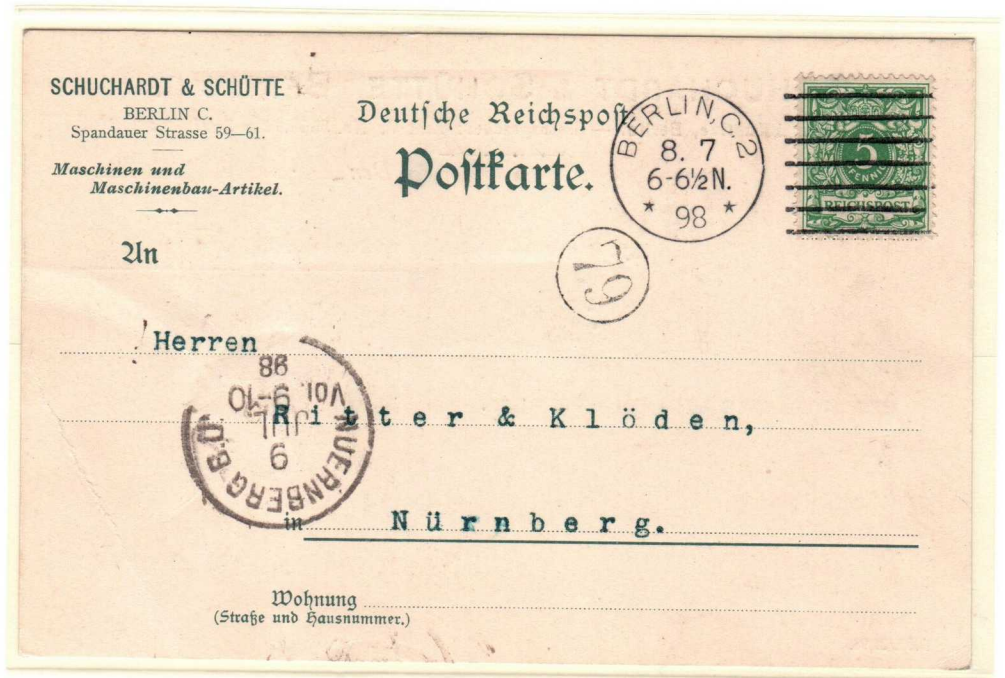
BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 2

In July, 1898, the postmark dater dial was altered  
from 23mm to 22mm in diameter  
with stars added.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial **WITH STARS** and having  
a 22mm 7-Line obliterator.

Usage: 8 July - 31 August 1898

**8 JULY 1898**  
Commercial postcard,  
sent to  
Nürnberg, Bavaria.  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Nürnberg, ...  
9 July 1898, 9-10 AM"  
**5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
Postcard Rate**  
**Earliest recorded date.**



**9 AUGUST 1898**  
Commercial  
(acknowledgement)  
postcard, sent to  
Heiligenstadt.  
Arrival Postmark:  
"Heiligenstadt  
(Eichsfeld)  
10 August 1898"  
**5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
Postcard Rate**

# BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

In September, 1898, the heretofore postmark (Machine 1/Type 2) having a short seven-line obliterator was discontinued and **REPLACED WITH** one similar to the early 'Type 1' having **'DR' IN THE OBLITERATOR**.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial **WITH STARS** and having a 56mm long 7-line/'DR' obliterator.

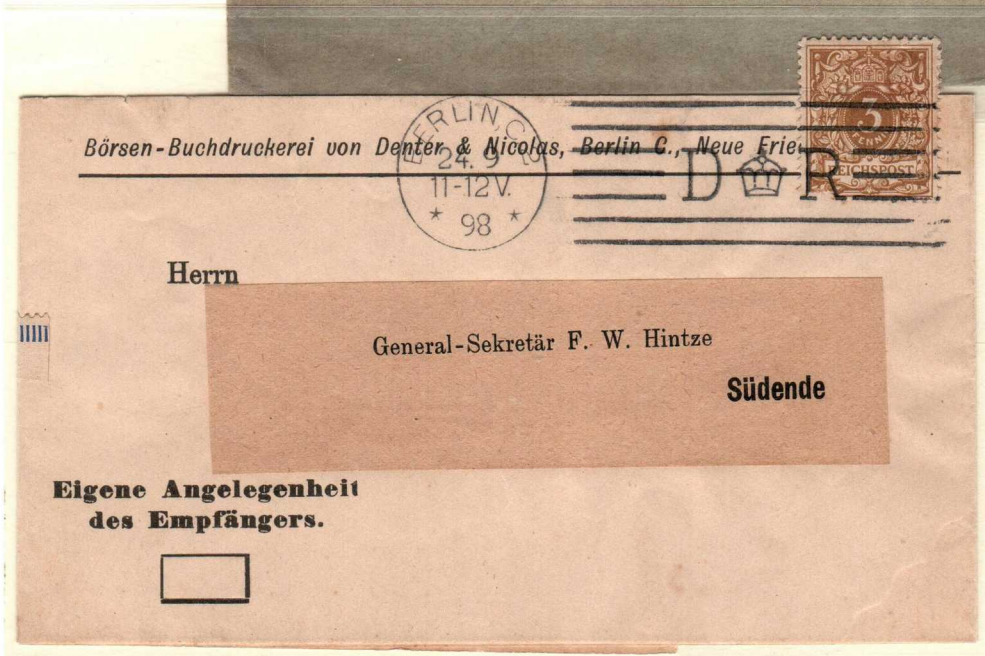
Usage: 19 September 1898 - 29 July 1901

19 SEPTEMBER 1898

Inner-City Berlin commercial cover.

5 Pfennig..  
Inner-City  
(closed envelope)  
Letter-Rate

Earliest recorded date.



24 SEPTEMBER 1898

Inner-City Berlin, commercial wrapper printed-matter mail.

3 Pfennig..  
Printed-Matter Rate for mail up to 50 grams.

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL REICHSPOST  
INSTRUCTIONAL MAIL TO THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & BUSINESS COMMUNITY

In 1901, because of its intention to use 'Bickerdike' Machines for the postmarking of mail, THE REICHSPOST REQUESTED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO OBSERVE UNIFORMITY IN THE PLACEMENT OF POSTAGE, LOCATIONS OF SENDER ADDRESSES & ADDRESSING OF MAIL versus placement of machine postmarks by the post office.



Der Staatssekretär  
des Reichs-Postamts.

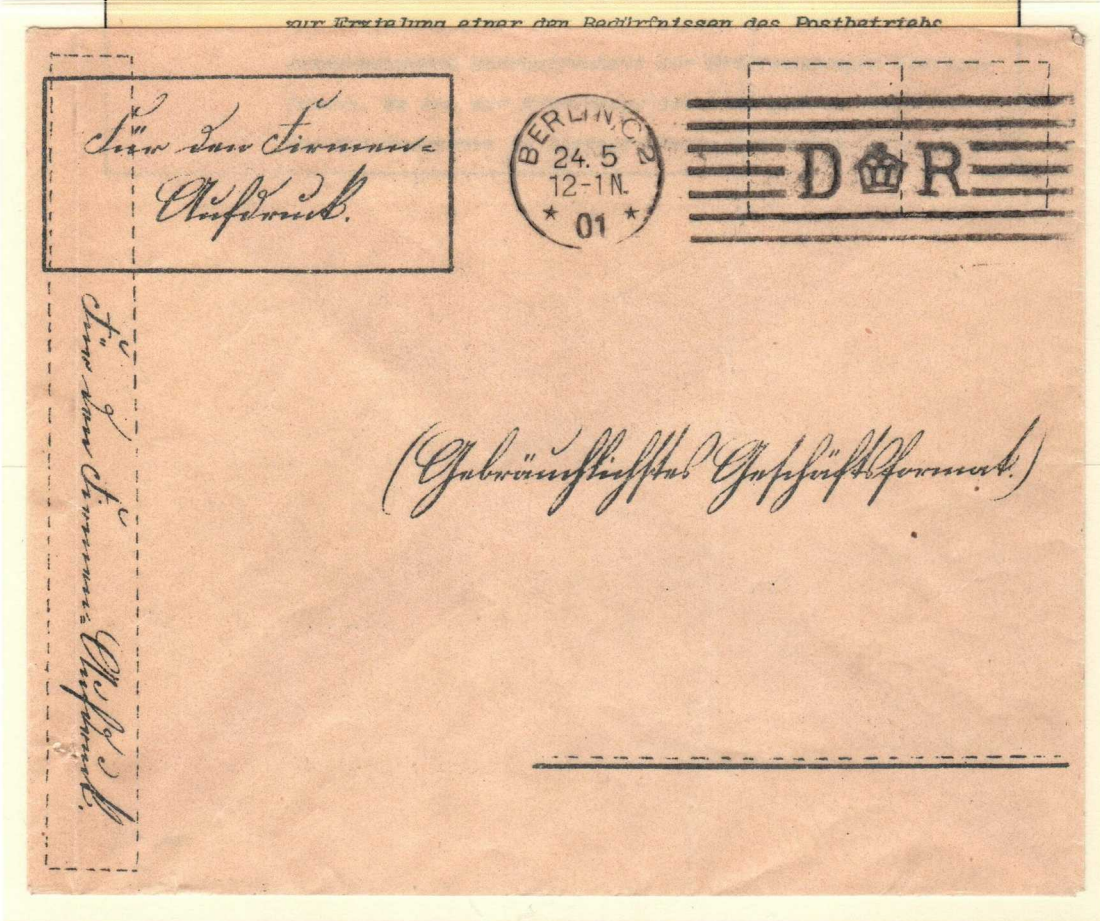
*Hoffmann 1*

Berlin W.66, den 21. Mai 1901.

I. 18298.

Eingegangen den 25. V. 01.  
Journal. No. 124/01.  
1 Okt.

Auf der im Februar d.J. im Reichs-Postamt mit Vertretern der Handels- und Industriekreise abgehaltenen Konferenz haben bekanntlich auch Besprechungen über Massnahmen zur Erhaltung einer dem Bedürfnissen des Postbetriebs



Reichspost Cover Example  
How Mail is to be Prepared for Mailing & Postmarking

BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a



RE-DIRECTED OFFICIAL GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE,  
COLONIAL DEPARTMENT, FREE-FRANK MAIL



*Dem Zollamt. Offizianten I. Klasse  
Herrn Franz Müller*

**Reichsdienstsache**

*~~33 Kiel~~*

*30 nach Hamburg Emsbüttel  
Stroopromy 36*

2 MAY 1901

Official German Foreign Office (Berlin), Colonial Department Cover,  
sent to a customs official at Kiel,  
re-directed, upon arrival, to Hamburg.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Hamburg Emsbüttel,  
3 May 1901, 5-6 PM"

Free-Frank Mail cachet-endorsed as 'Reichsdienstsache'  
(lower left corner)

**BICKERDIKE**

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

OFFICIAL IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT  
EMPEROR'S OFFICE  
FREE-FRANK MAIL



*Handwritten signature*

BERLIN  
26.9.00  
12-1N.  
\* 00 \*

DR

*Der Vorsitzenden der Verwaltungskommission für den Reichskreis Gauenberg*

*Hof. Angeh.*

*Schöneberg Berlin*

26 SEPTEMBER 1900

Official cover sent from the  
'Imperial Office of the Kaiser & King of the German Empire'  
at Berlin to a local government office  
at Berlin-Schöneberg.

Arrival Postmark:

(Reverse)

"Delivered from the Schöneberg Post Office,  
26 September 1901, 3- 3-1/2 PM"

Free-Frank Mail endorsed as 'Imperial Mail Matter'  
(lower left corner)

# BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a



Reverse

OFFICIAL IMPERIAL EMPRESS'S  
FREE-FRANK PNEUMATIC MAIL



3 FEBRUARY 1900  
(11-12 AM)

Official cover sent by the  
'Empress of the German Empire'  
to a Berlin magazine.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Berlin S.W. P61 (R31)  
3 February 1900, 11:30 AM"

**Free-Frank Mail endorsed as 'Imperial Mail'**  
(lower left corner)

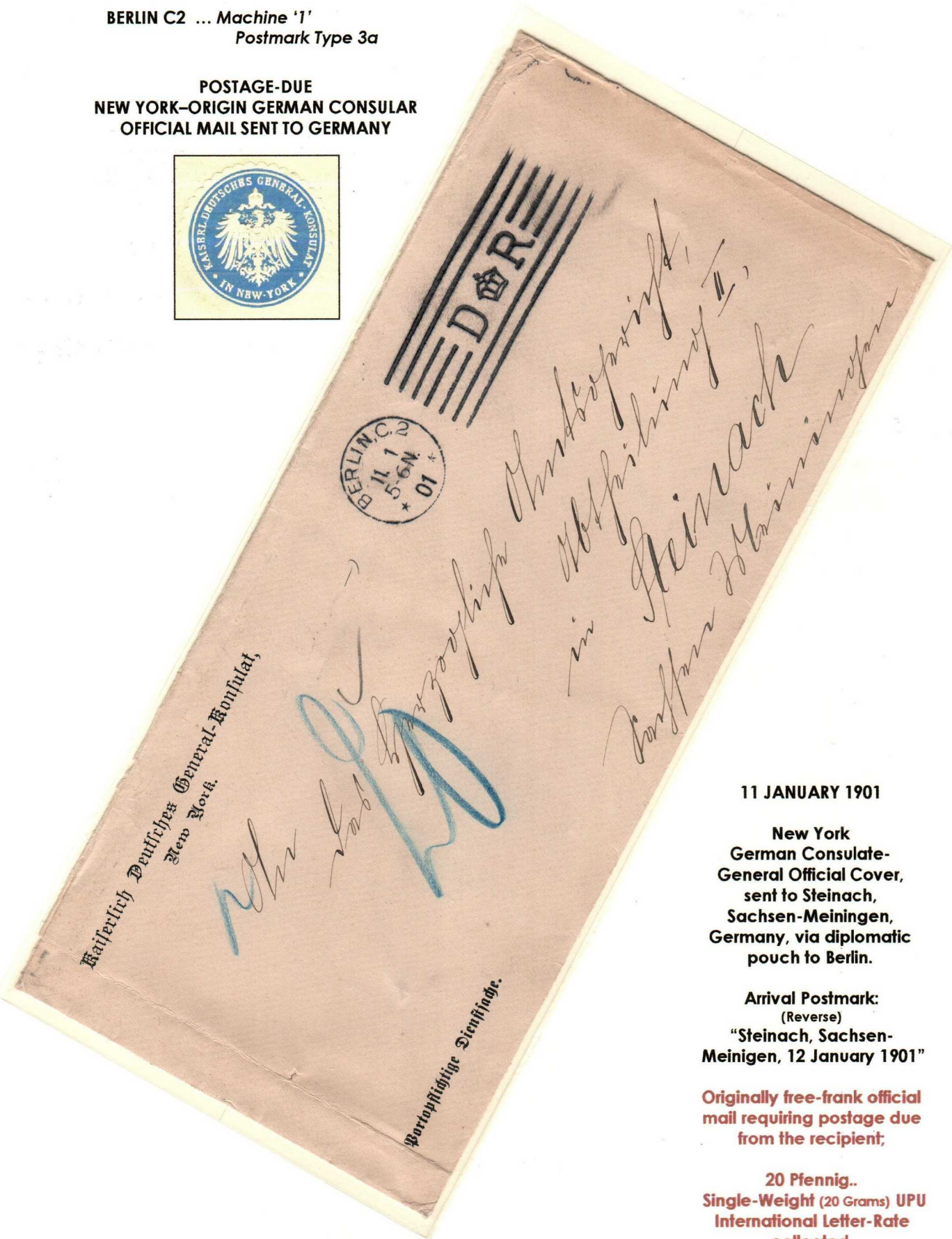
**Only known Empress Mail sent  
via the Pneumatic Mail System.**

# BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

POSTAGE-DUE  
NEW YORK-ORIGIN GERMAN CONSULAR  
OFFICIAL MAIL SENT TO GERMANY



11 JANUARY 1901

New York  
German Consulate-  
General Official Cover,  
sent to Steinach,  
Sachsen-Meiningen,  
Germany, via diplomatic  
pouch to Berlin.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Steinach, Sachsen-  
Meiningen, 12 January 1901"

Originally free-frank official  
mail requiring postage due  
from the recipient;

20 Pfennig..  
Single-Weight (20 Grams) UPU  
International Letter-Rate  
collected.

**BICKERDIKE**

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'

DOMESTIC LONG-DISTANCE MAIL

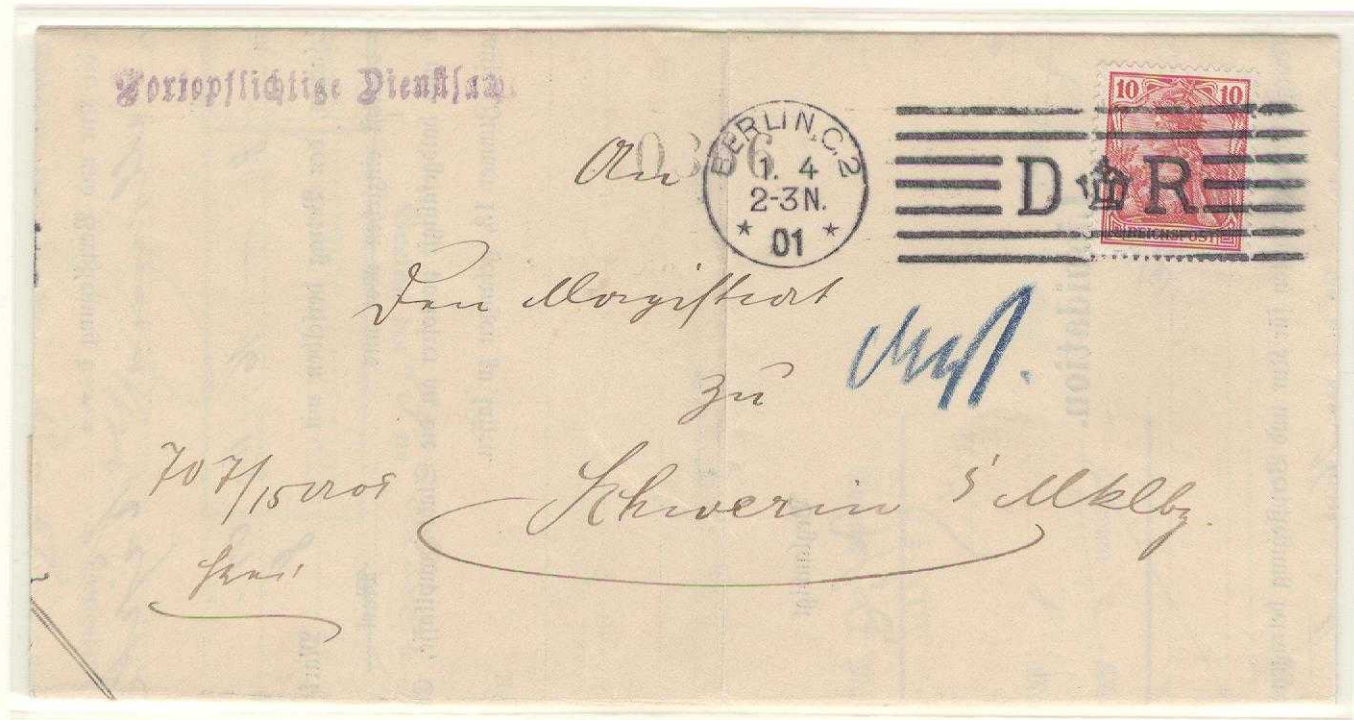
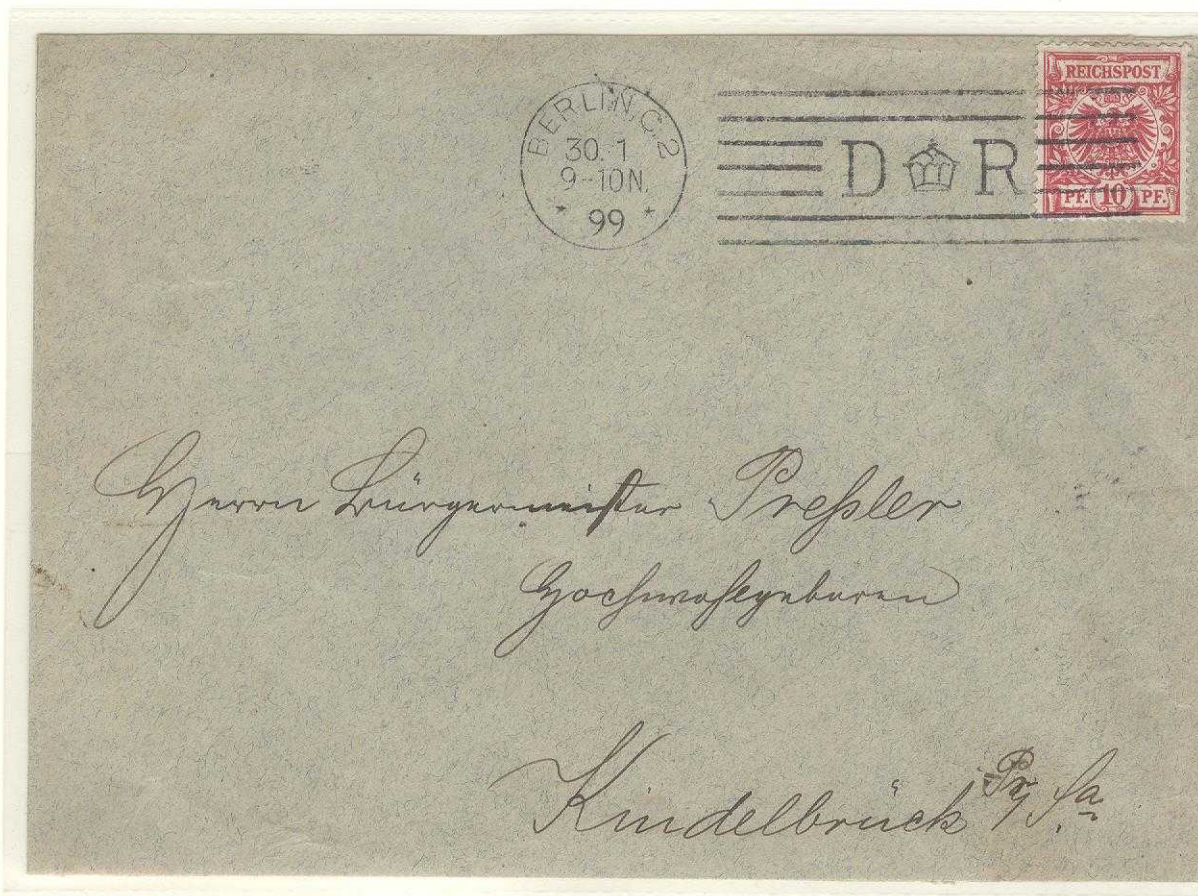
Postmark Type 3a

30 JANUARY  
1899

Commercial  
cover, sent to  
'Mayor Pressler'  
at Kindelbrück,  
Saxony  
Province.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Kindelbrück,  
31 January  
1899"

10 Pfennig...  
Domestic Letter-  
Rate for mail up  
to 20 grams.



1 APRIL 1901

Official Mail 'subject to franking', sent from the Berlin Office for Social Welfare  
to the Magistrate of the City of Schwerin ...  
(requesting payment covering expenses incurred for the care given to one of their inhabitants).



# BICKERDIKE

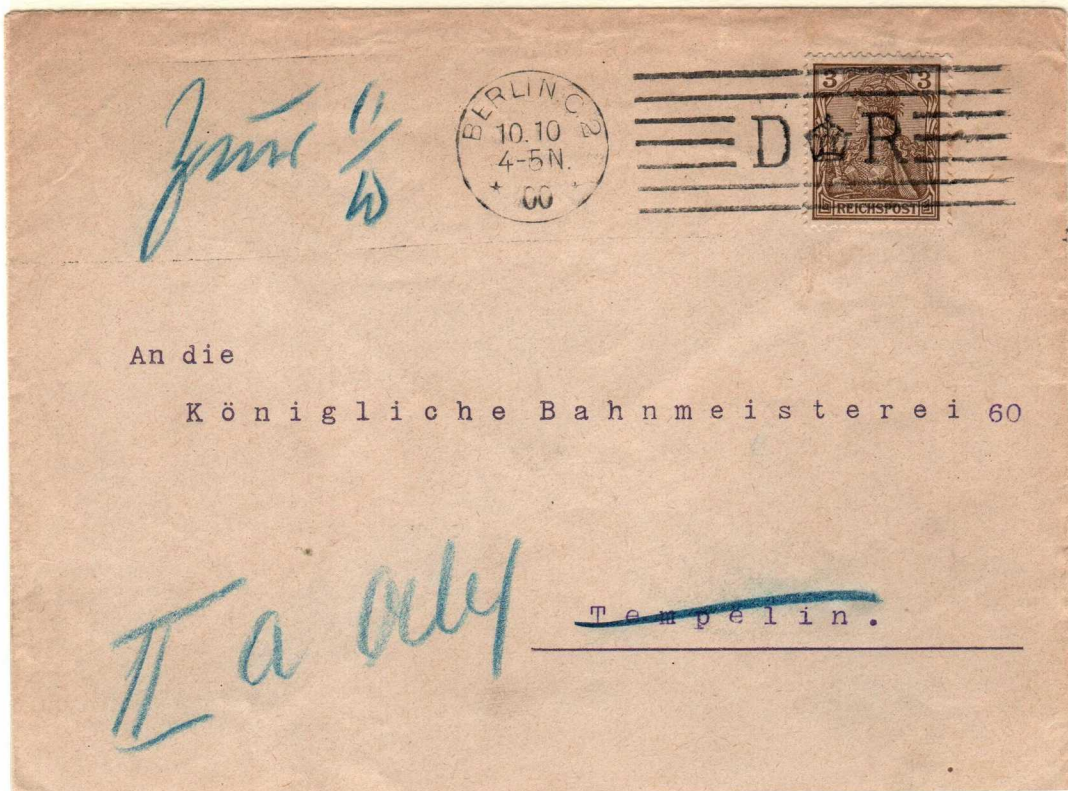
BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

1898 - 1901

PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

10 OCTOBER 1900

Re-directed cover  
(open-envelope),  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to a  
imperial railway  
repair facility  
at Tempelin.



13 APRIL 1901

Advertising  
postcard,  
mailed by  
renowned  
philatelic-dealer  
'*Philipp Kosack*'  
at Berlin,  
to Hoyerswerda.

3 Pfennig ..  
Printed-Matter Rate for Mail up to 50 grams

# BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

FOREIGN-BOUND  
POSTAL STATIONERY  
LETTER-CARDS

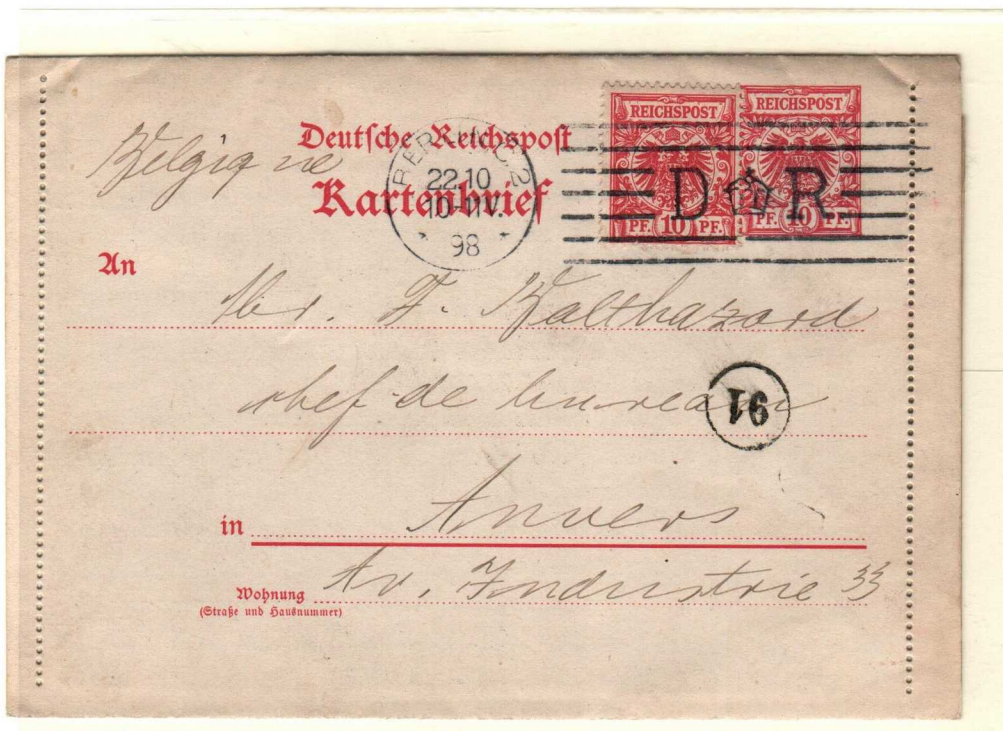
MAIL TO SWITZERLAND

21 OCTOBER 1898

Between '7-1/2-8' PM on  
21 October,  
the 'Bickerdike'  
Machine's postmark  
die-guide became misaligned,  
resulting in only the dater  
dial being applied as the  
postmark.

As a result, the postal  
clerk had to hand-cancel ...  
"Nachträglich entwertet"  
(canceled later)  
the un-postmarked stamp.

One hour later (9-10 PM),  
the machine was again  
postmarking properly as  
illustrated by the adjacent  
example.



MAIL TO BELGIUM

22 OCTOBER 1898

Lottery advertising  
Postal stationery  
letter-card,  
sent to Anvers,  
Belgium.

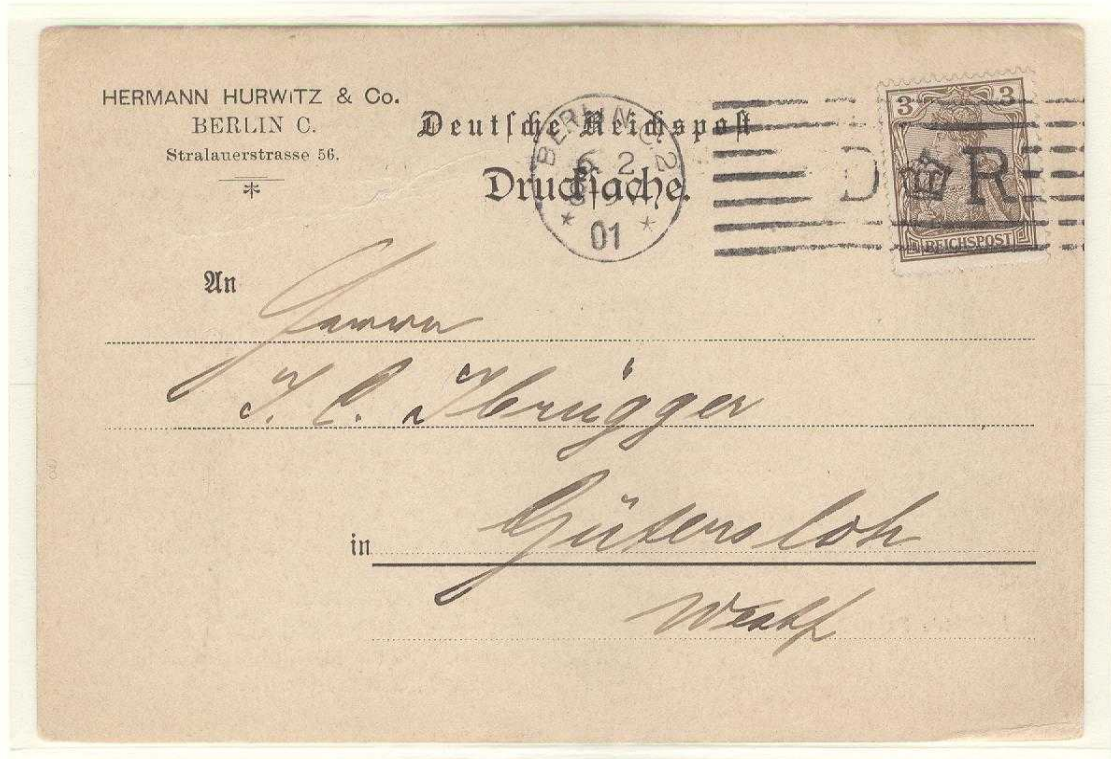
20 Pfennig:  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate

BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1901

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3a

ILLUSTRATED ADVERTISING PRINTED MATTER  
POSTCARD MAIL



6 FEBRUARY 1901

Illustrated Advertising Postcard  
(for a new type of petroleum lamp)  
sent to  
Gütersloh  
(Province Westphalia).

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail up to 50 grams

Neu! Petroleum-Glühlicht? --



wirklich brauchbar, dem Gasglühlicht-ödlig gleich, auf jede Lampe ohne Weiteres anwendbar. Das ist unsere neueste Erfindung, von deren Tragfähigkeit wir so vollkommen über sind, daß wir uns hiermit erlauben, zum Ausprobieren auf Ihrer eigenen Petroleum-Lampe, Ihnen einen kompletten Glühlicht-Brenner auf unsere Gefahr und Kosten, ohne jeden Kantzwang zu überlassen.

Wir heben besonders hervor, daß der Glühlichter **hoffest** transportfähig ist und daß der Apparat, ohne zu rufen oder zu blasen **geruchlos** brennt, ferner daß noch einer **Leuchtkraft von ca. 600 Kerzen** der Petroleumverbrauch ein so außerordentlich **geringer** (die Stunde ca. 1 Pfennig) ist, daß der Apparat sich schon nach kurzer Zeit voll bezahlt macht.

Wir bemerken ausdrücklich, daß wir **jede** unserer vorstehenden Behauptungen **vertreten** und können Sie deren Richtigkeit selber prüfen, indem Sie uns die postfreie Uebersendung eines Apparates zum **probeweisen Gebrauch** für 5 Tage (ohne Zahlung) erlauben.

Ein kompletter Brenner mit Döchl, Glühkörper und Zylinder kostet Mk. 8, --. Ersatz-Glühkörper 75 Pf.

*Hochachtungsvoll*  
**Hermann Hurwitz & Co.**  
Alleinige Concessionäre für das In- und Ausland.  
Berlin C., Stralauerstr. 56.

J. Spielf's Patent.

(Reverse)

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1904

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3b

EARLY IN 1901,  
THE HERETOFORE 56mm OBLITERATOR WAS REPLACED  
WITH ONE HAVING 50mm IN LENGTH.

Postmark: 23mm dater dial WITH STARS and having  
a circa 50mm long heavy 7-LINE/'DR'  
& SLIGHTLY NARROWED CROWN obliterator

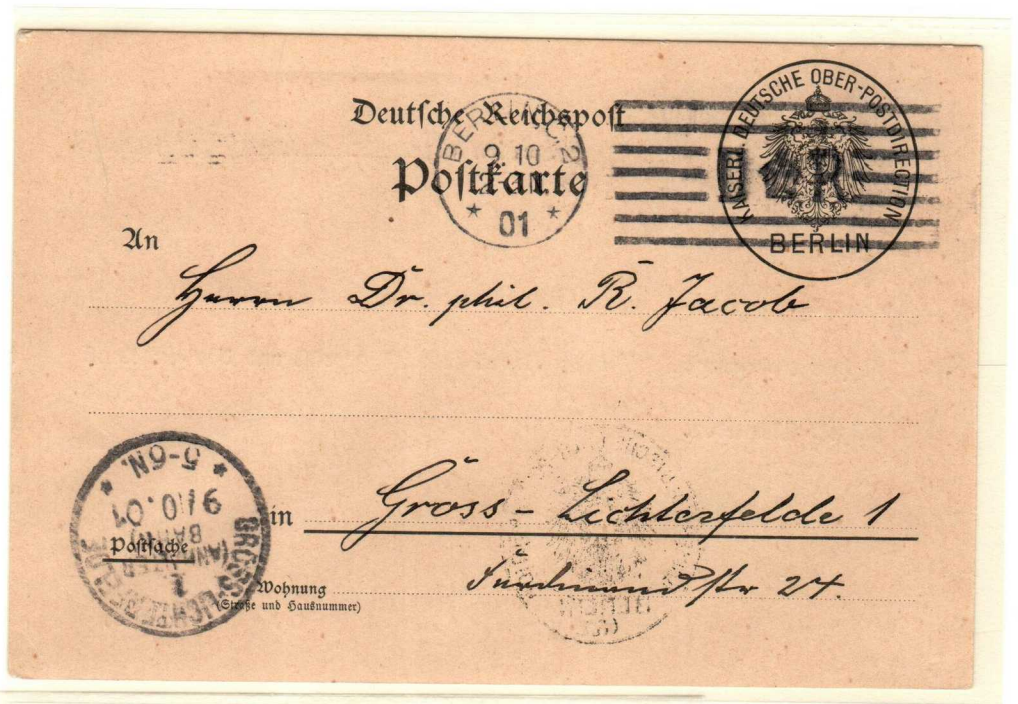
Usage: 21 January 1901 - 22 November 1904

POST OFFICE  
OFFICIAL MAIL

9 OCTOBER 1901

Official free-frank  
post office postcard,  
sent locally

Arrival Postmark:  
"Gross Lichterfelde  
(Anhalter Bahnhof),  
9 October 1901"



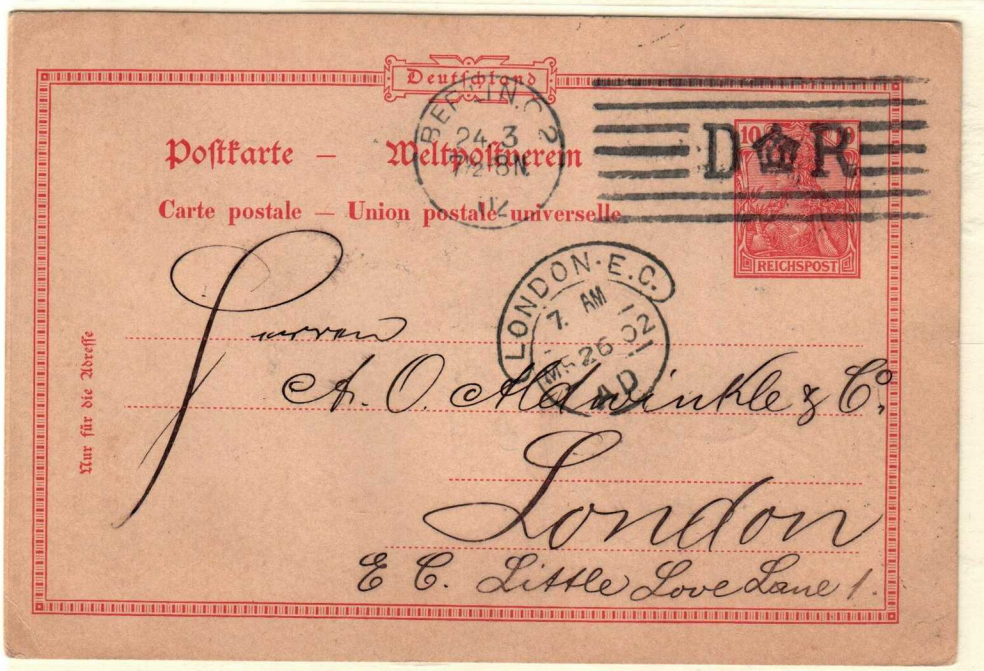
COMMERCIAL  
MAIL  
TO ENGLAND

24 MARCH 1902

UPU International  
Postal Stationery  
Card, commercial  
mail, sent to  
London.

Arrival Postmark:  
"London E.C.,  
March 26, 1902"

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate

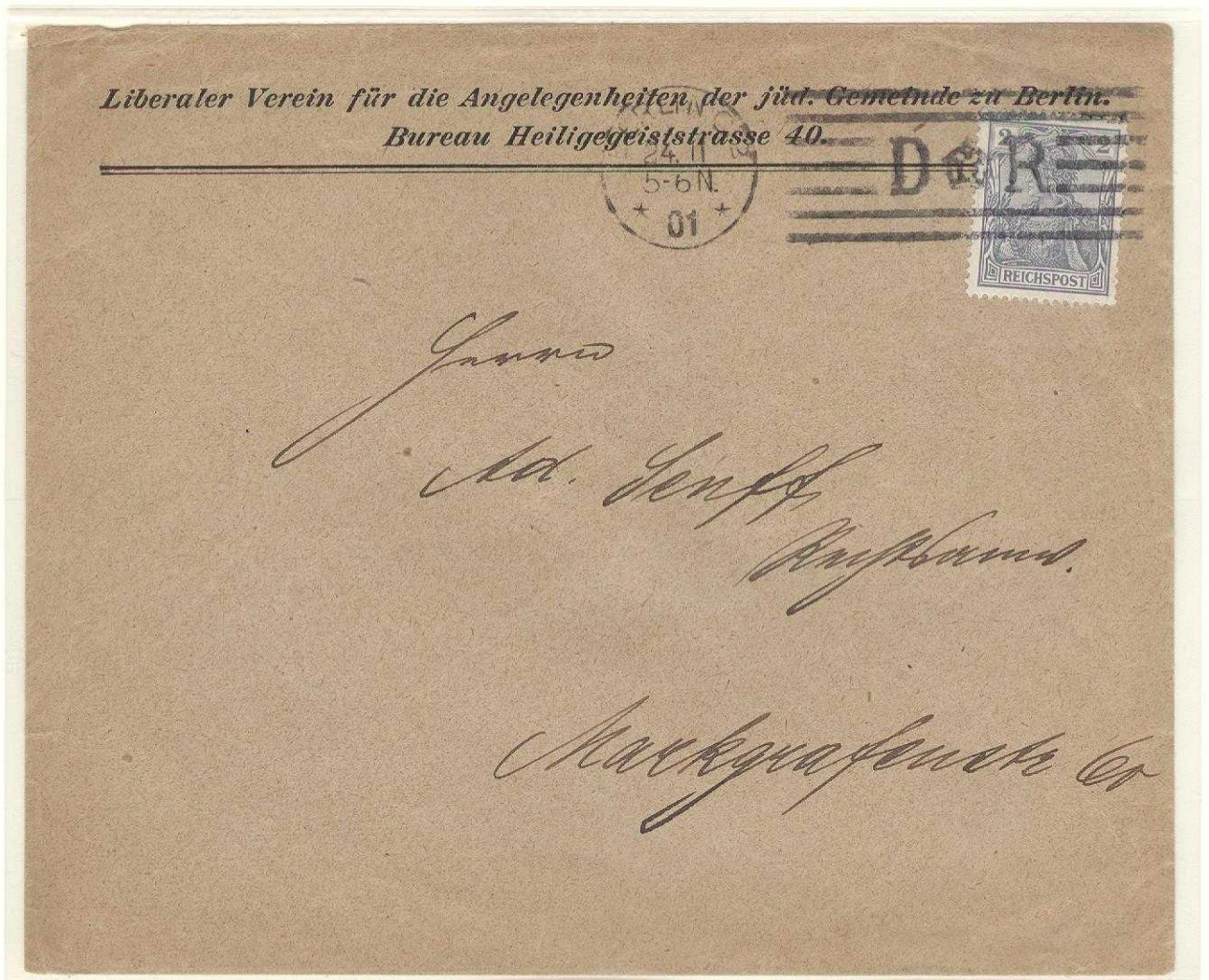


**BICKERDIKE**

1901 - 1904

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3b

LOCAL-CITY 'JUDAICA' PRINTED-MATTER



24 NOVEMBER 1901

Cover, printed-matter enclosed, sent from the  
"Liberal Society for the Affairs of the Jewish Community in Berlin"  
to a local address.

2 Pfennig ..  
Local-City  
'Printed-Matter Rate'  
up to 50 grams in weight.

**BICKERDIKE**

1901 - 1904

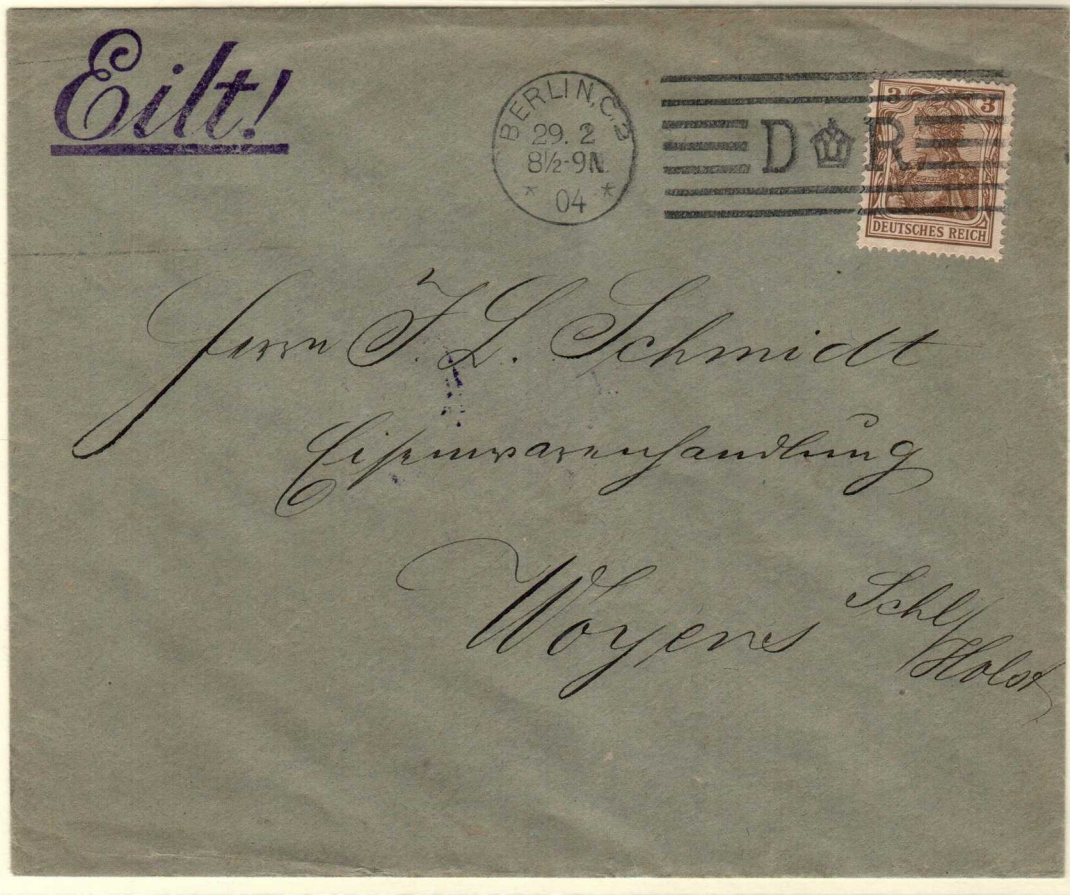
BERLIN C2 ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 3b

PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

17 JULY 1902

View-Card,  
sent to Hamburg.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg,  
18 July 1902,  
5-6 AM"



29 FEBRUARY  
1904

Commercial  
cover  
(unsealed),  
sent to  
Woyens.

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic 'Printed-Matter Rate' for mail up to 50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

1898 - 1899

BERLIN C2 ... Machine '2'

Postmark Type 1 .. Service/Arrival Postmarks

An acquired  
**SECOND 'BICKERDIKE' POSTMARKING MACHINE,**  
installed in 1898 at the 'Berlin C2' Post Office  
(also known as the 'Briefpostamt'),  
**APPLIED "SERVICE OR RECEIVAL" POSTMARKS TO INCOMING MAIL.**

Postmark: 22mm dater dial indicating "Bestellt vom  
Brief P.A." along with date and time

Usage: 9 August 1898 - 28 April 1899

8 AUGUST 1898

Commercial mail,  
postmarked at Erfurt,  
sent to Berlin.

Arrival Postmark:  
"... 9 August 1898..."

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
Postcard Rate

Earliest recorded  
usage date.



3 MARCH 1899

'Gruss aus Genoa  
(Italy)' Viewcard,  
sent to Berlin.

Arrival Postmark:  
"...5 March 1898..."

10 Italian Cents ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.

# BICKERDIKE

1899 - 1904

HAMBURG (Post Office 1) ... Machine '2'

TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY POSTAL CARDS

By mid-1899,  
**THE SECOND TRIAL 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINE**  
from the 'Berlin C2' Post Office  
**WAS TRANSFERRED TO HAMBURG**  
for applying origin-postmarks to outgoing mail.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a 7-Line/  
'Hmb' obliterator

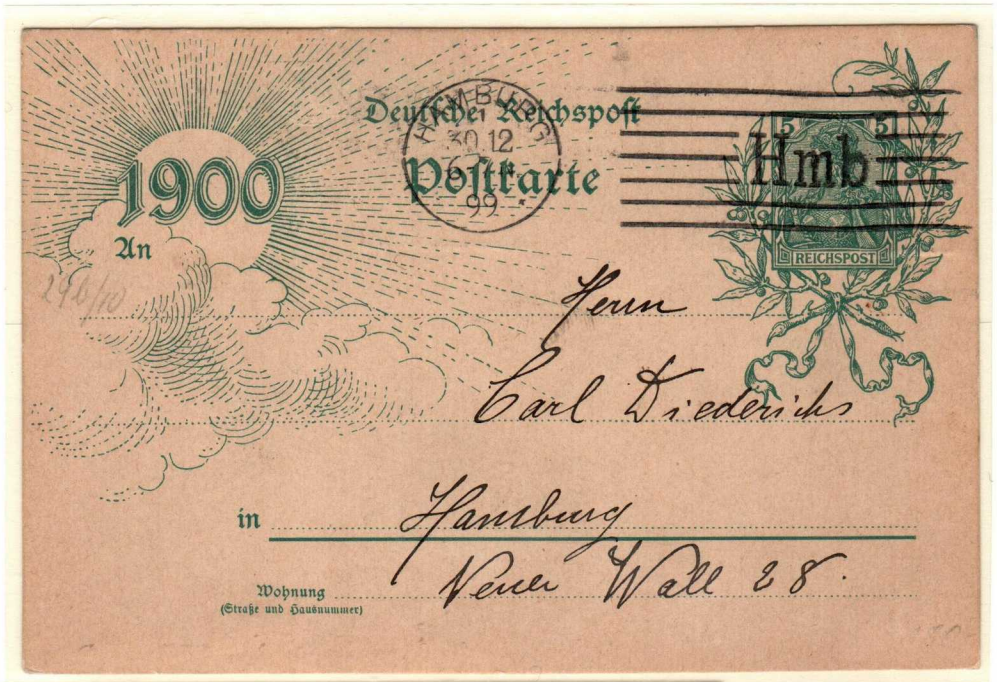
Usage: 30 December 1899 – 13 June 1904

30 DECEMBER 1899

Local city greeting  
card use.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

Earliest Known  
Usage.



1 JANUARY 1900

Up-rated card,  
sent to the  
"Pyramids" .. Cairo,  
Egypt.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Alexandria-Cairo,  
7 January 1900"

"Pyramide,  
7 January 1900"

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate





20 SEPTEMBER  
1901

Postage  
required  
official  
folded-letter,  
sent  
from the  
Hamburg  
Police to the  
Rothenburg-  
City Police  
Administration  
(advising them  
that one of their  
residents  
had been fined  
for 'begging').

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
long-distance  
letter-rate.



22 FEBRUARY  
1904

Local city cover  
sent to  
the Hamburg  
police court.

5 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
(closed envelope)  
letter-rate for  
mail up to  
20 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

HAMBURG (Post Office 1) ... Machine '2'

1899 - 1904

2 PFENNIG USAGE

Postmark: 22mm dater dial with a 7-Line/  
'Hmb' obliterator

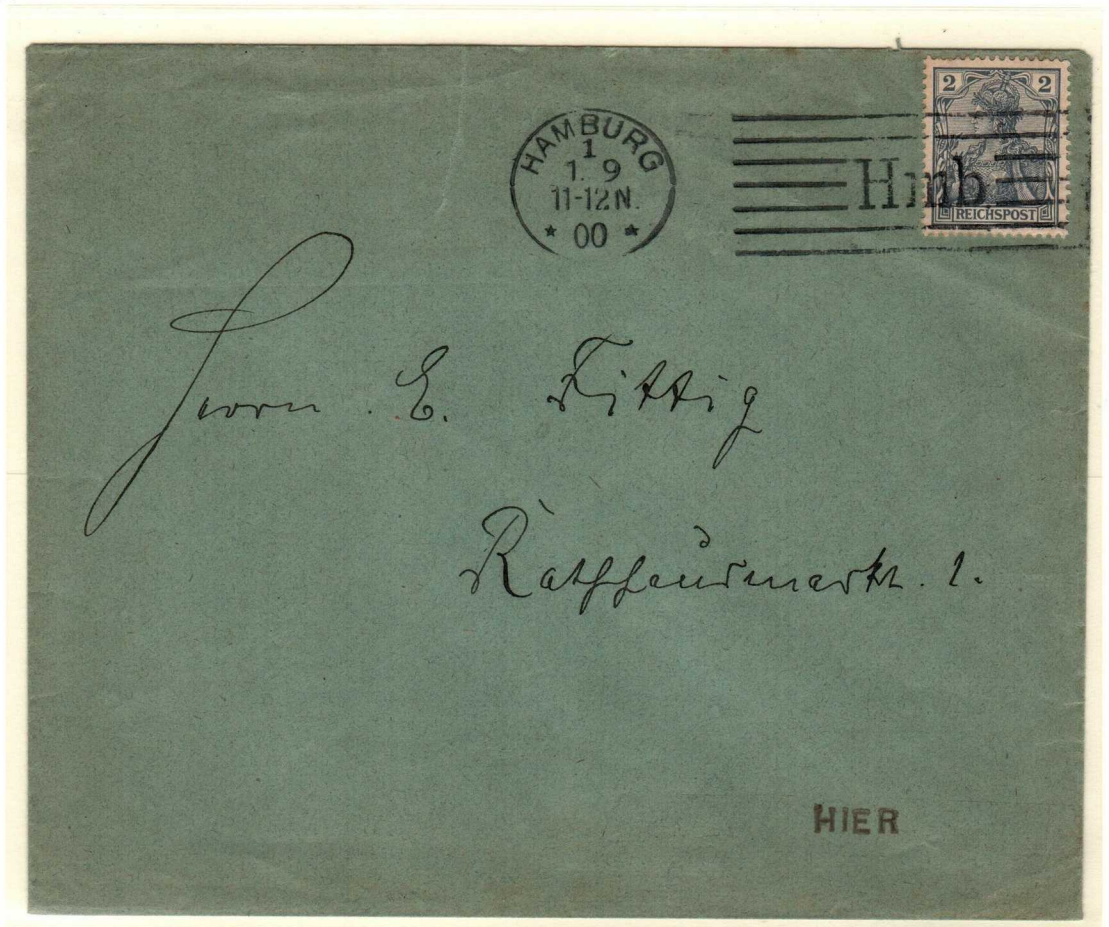
Usage: 30 December 1899 - 13 June 1904

INNER-CITY  
PRINTED-  
MATTER  
MAIL

1 SEPTEMBER  
1900

Unsealed  
cover ..  
printed-  
matter  
enclosure.

2 Pfennig ..  
Inner-city  
rate for  
printed-  
matter mail  
up to 50  
grams.



INNER-CITY  
POSTCARD MAIL

29 JANUARY 1902

Viewcard,  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
postcard rate

# BICKERDIKE

1899 - 1904

HAMBURG (Post Office 1) ... Machine '2'

Although generally effective and efficient,  
 THE 'BICKERDIKE' DID EXPERIENCE MECHANICAL PROBLEMS  
 REQUIRING MAINTENANCE.

**MISSING YEAR  
 DATE '1902'**

Either the postal clerk forgot to insert the year type '02' into the dater dial, or the type fell out, resulting in the missing year date (19)'02' in the dater dial.

**30 APRIL (1902)**  
 Local city view-card mail.

**2 Pfennig...**  
 Inner-city postcard-rate.

**24 JANUARY (1902)**  
 Reichspost postal stationery letter-card, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to Berlin.

**10 Pfennig...**  
 Domestic letter-rate.



**DISPLACED POSTMARK  
 REQUIRING  
 HAND-CANCELLING OF  
 POSTAGE**

Postmark misaligned or improperly positioned because of incorrect in-feed to machine, or malfunction of machine, requiring the postal clerk to hand-cancel the postage.

**22 APRIL 1901**  
 Reichspost postal Stationery-card sent inner-city.

**2 Pfennig ..**  
 Local-city postcard rate

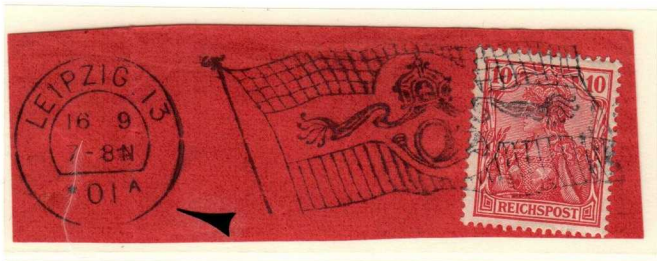
**EXPANDED TRIAL PHASE USAGE .. 1901-1902**

After three years of experimental trials with two Bickerdike Machines, i.e. one each operating at the 'Berlin C2' and 'Hamburg 1' Post Offices, the Reichspost concluded that the machines were satisfactorily effective and efficient.

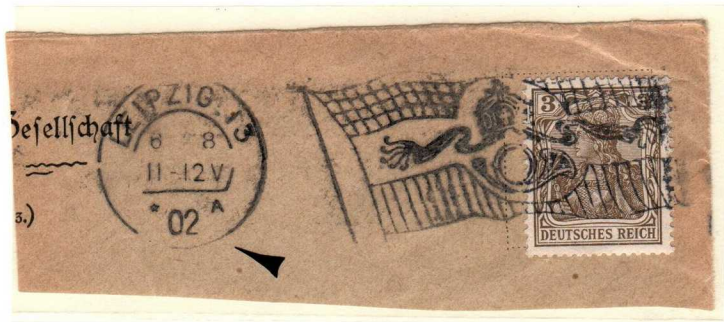
In 1901, the Reichspost purchased an additional six machines from the Canadian Postal Supply Company of Montreal, Canada, for allocation to the following post offices:

Berlin:	Post Office 'W 8'
Berlin:	Post Office 'SW 12'
Berlin:	Post Office 'SW 19'
Berlin:	Reichspost Museum
Leipzig:	Post Office '13'
	(Two Machines)

With the introduction of those machines, the attractive 'REICHSPOST POSTAL FLAG' WAS NOW PART OF THE POSTMARK, CONSISTING OF 'DATER DIAL' WITH 'FLAG WITH BANNER, TASSELS, CROWN & POSTAL HORN' OBLITERATOR IN USE BETWEEN 1901-1902.



1901-Style Dater Dial



1902-Style Dater Dial

# BICKERDIKE

1901

BERLIN W8 ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type Ia

COMMERCIAL MAIL

A third 'Bickerdike' was acquired  
in 1901 for testing at the 'Berlin W8' Post Office and applied  
**A NEW DESIGNED 'IMPERIAL POSTAL FLAG' POSTMARK  
OBLITERATOR.**

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with  
'horseshoe arch' having the year-date  
at the dial-bottom between  
**TWO STARS AT MID-POINT** becoming  
Type Ia .. with 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 12 October 1901 - ca. 13. December 1901

12 OCTOBER 1901

Commercial postal  
card, sent to  
Magdeburg.

5 Pfennig ..  
Postal stationery-  
card at the  
long-distance  
postcard-rate.

Earliest recorded  
usage date



C. Ash & Sons, Berlin W., Jägerstrasse 68.



12 NOVEMBER  
1901

Commercial  
advertising folde-  
card, sent to  
Halle,  
Saxony Province

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic printed  
matter rate for  
mail  
up to 50 grams

# BICKERDIKE

1901

BERLIN W8 ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type Ia

COMMERCIAL MAIL

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with  
'horseshoe arch' within dial having  
year-date at the bottom of dial  
between **TWO STARS AT MID-POINT...**  
Type Ia... with 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 12 October 1901 - ca. 13 December 1901

14 NOVEMBER 1901

Commercial cover,  
sender ...  
Berlin 'Zeitungsamt' =  
Newspaper  
Subscription  
Office (Stamp with 'ZA'  
Perfin), sent to Hanau,  
Germany

**3 Pfennig ..**  
**Domestic printed-**  
**matter rate**  
(unsealed cover)  
**weighing up to 50**  
**grams.**



Auskunftei W. Schimmelpfeng  
Berlin W. 8.



An die Firma

Hermann Rauber

Brugg  
(Schweiz)

2 NOVEMBER 1901

Commercial  
cover, sender ...  
renowned Credit  
Information &  
Collection Agency  
"Schimmelpfeng",  
sent to Brugg,  
Switzerland.

**20 Pfennig..**  
**UPU International**  
**Single Weight**  
**Letter-Rate**  
(15 grams)

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

BERLIN W8 ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type Ib

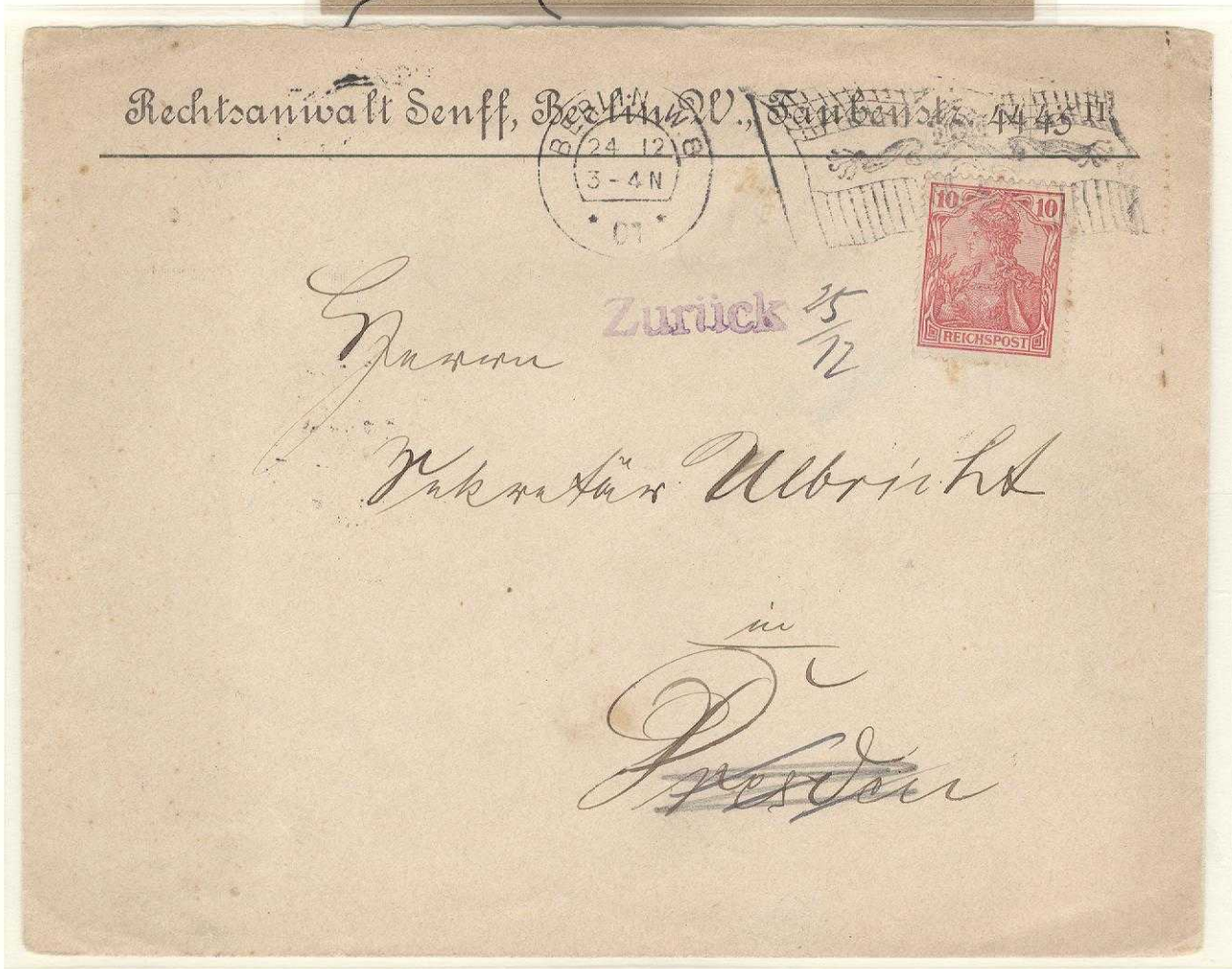
Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within dial having year-date at the bottom of dial between **TWO STARS AT HIGH-POINT...** Type Ib... with 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 14 December 1901 - 1 March 1902



Earliest Recorded Date

RETURNED MAIL



24 DECEMBER 1901

Commercial attorney's-cover, sent to & returned (because of lack of street-address) from Dresden (hand-stamp) "Zurück" on front and notification/explanation label on reverse.

Return Postmark:  
(reverse)

"Berlin...26 December 1901"

10 Pfennig...Domestic single-weight letter-rate

Ohne Wohnungs-Angabe oder nähere Bezeichnung des Empfängers unbestellbar, weil mehrere gleichnamige Personen hier wohnhaft sind.  
Kaiserl. Postamt 1 in Dresden (Marienstr.).

BERLIN W8 ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type II

PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

After only nine months, use of the 'flag obliterator' at the 'Berlin W8' Post Office ceased.  
**A NEW OBLITERATOR HAVING 'DR & CROWN' BETWEEN SEVEN HORIZONTAL LINES**  
was now inserted in 'Machine 3'.

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within dial having the year-date at the bottom along with a 63mm-long obliterator 'DR & Crown' between seven horizontal lines = Type II.

Usage: 19 March - 27 December 1902

1 APRIL 1902

Book order form card (Bücherzettel), sent to the police administration at 'Krällwitz' with re-direction to Halle.



16 MAY 1902

Advertising postcard, sent to the chamber of commerce at Giessen.

Latest Recorded Date



# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

BERLIN W8 ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type 1b

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within dial having year-date at the bottom of dial between **TWO STARS AT HIGH-POINT...**  
Type 1b... with 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 14 December - 1 March 1902

INTERNATIONAL UPU-  
ENDORSED CARD  
USED DOMESTICALLY

26 FEBRUARY 1902

UPU Photo-Card  
sent as printed-matter  
(ten words or less writing)  
sent to  
Rostock, Germany.

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
postcard-rate



POSTAL STATIONERY  
REPLY-CARD

21 FEBRUARY 1902

Reply-card  
commercial mail,  
sent to Kontanz,  
Province Baden,  
Germany.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
long-distance-mail  
postcard-rate.



Wohnung  
(Straße und Hausnummer)

# BICKERDIKE

1901

BERLIN SW 12 ... Machine '4'  
Postmark Type Ia

The 'FOURTH' BICKERDIKE MACHINE,  
acquired in 1901,  
WAS OPERATION-TESTED AT THE  
'BERLIN SW 12' POST OFFICE.

**Postmark:** 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe  
'arch' within dial having the year-date at the  
bottom between **TWO STARS AT MID-POINT...**  
Type Ia... with 'flag' obliterator.

**Usage:** 14 September 1901 – Approx. 13. December 1901

## COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER MAIL



4 DECEMBER 1901

Commercial cover, enclosed printed-matter,  
sent to Marwitz, Province Brandenburg.

**3 Pfennig ..**  
**Domestic Printed-matter rate**  
(unsealed cover)  
for mail weighing up to 50 grams

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

BERLIN SW 12 ... Machine '4'  
Postmark Type 1b

**Postmark:** 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe' arch' within dial having year-date at the bottom between **TWO STARS AT HIGH-POINT...** Type 1b... and 'flag' obliterator.

**Usage:** 16 September 1901 – 18 July 1902

## COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER MAIL TO BAVARIA



21 JUNE 1902

Cover, printed-matter, sent to Munich, Bavaria,  
a German province with an independent  
postal domain at the time.

Arrival Postmark:

(reverse)

"München, 22 June 1901.."

3 Pfennig...

Domestic printed-matter rate  
for mail weighing up to  
50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

BERLIN SW 12 ... Machine '4'  
Postmark Type 1b

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with  
'horseshoe arch' within dial having  
year-date at the bottom between  
**TWO STARS AT HIGH-POINT...**  
Type 1b... and 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 16 September 1901 - 18 July 1902

## COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

### DOMESTIC MAIL

16 DECEMBER 1901

Printed-matter  
advertising card,  
sent to Dresden.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed-matter rate  
for mail weighing up  
to 50 grams.

First Day of Usage.



### MAIL TO THE U.S.A.

4 APRIL 1902

U.S.A.-bound  
printed-matter mail  
(cover), sent to  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

5-Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter  
(unsealed cover)  
weighing up to  
50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

1901

BERLIN SW 19 ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type Ia

The 'FIFTH' BICKERDIKE MACHINE,  
acquired in 1901,  
WAS OPERATION-TESTED AT THE  
'BERLIN SW 19' POST OFFICE.

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch  
within dial having the year-date at the  
bottom between TWO STARTS AT MID-POINT...  
Type Ia... and 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 28 September 1901 - ca. 14 December 1901

5 OCTOBER 1901

Cover,  
commercial  
printed-matter  
advertising  
("United Typewriter  
Supplies Company"),  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city rate  
for printed-matter  
weighing up to  
50 grams.



7 OCTOBER 1901

Reichspost postal  
stationery card, sent  
to "Department  
Store Louvre" at  
Paris, France.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Paris,  
8 October 1901"

10 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

# BICKERDIKE

1901-1902

Commercial Printed-Matter

BERLIN SW 19 ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type Ib

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within dial having year-date at the bottom between **TWO STARS AT HIGH-POINT...** Type Ib... with 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 17 December 1901 – 14 July 1902

17 DECEMBER  
1901

Commercial  
printed-matter  
(cover) sent to  
Gross.

Ammensleben,  
Province Saxony.

Earliest Reported  
Date



Herrn Gebr. Holbein



*Jonsdorf La*

*Jonsdorf La*



POSTAGE AFFIXED  
BY COIL-STAMP-  
APPLICATOR  
(Note: Top &  
Bottom of  
Postage Stamp)

4 APRIL 1902

Commercial  
cover, sent to  
Jonsdorf,  
Province Saxony.

Company Arrival  
Mark:  
"5 April 1902"

3 Pfennig .. Domestic printed-matter rate for up to 50 grams.

The 'SIXTH' BICKERDIKE MACHINE, acquired in 1901,  
WAS DESTINED FOR THE POSTAL MUSEUM AT BERLIN.

Despite not intended for field-operation,  
postal authorities authorized a 'Postmuseum'  
dater dial with Imperial Postal Flag Obliterator

Ten proof examples of the postmark are recorded:  
(2) on blank 'entires'

(one cover and one 2-Pfennig postal stationery card)

& (8) on piece-clips

(five with the 1900 'Reichspost' Germania-series stamps  
& three without).



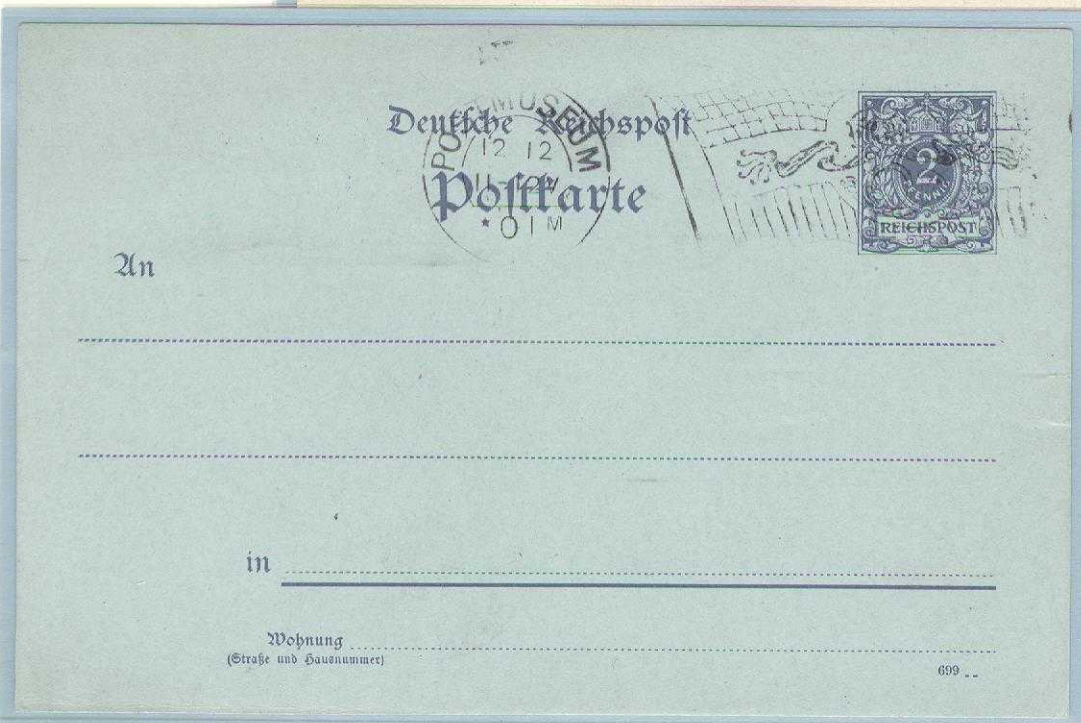
Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within dial  
having the year-date at the bottom between a 'star' & 'M'.

Dates Recorded: (9) Examples = 7 December 1901  
(1) Example = 12 December 1901

7 DECEMBER 1901

Only recorded  
cover  
with  
'Postmuseum'  
proof postmark.

Exp. Kruschel



12 DECEMBER 1901

Only recorded  
'Postmuseum'  
postmark  
on a Reichspost  
2 Pfg-Postal  
Stationery Card &  
only  
'12 December 1901'  
dated example.

Cert. Jaeschke-Lantelme

LEIPZIG



The seventh and eighth 'Bickerdikes' were acquired in 1901 and tested at the 'Leipzig C13' Post Office located at Dittich Ring 20 in Central Leipzig.

'BICKERDIKE 7' APPLIED THE NEW-DESIGN 'IMPERIAL POSTAL FLAG' POSTMARK TO OUT-GOING MAIL WHILE 'BICKERDIKE 8' APPLIED 'ARRIVAL' OR 'SERVICE' POSTMARKS (dater dial only) TO IN-COMING MAIL.

Both 'Bickerdikes' remained operational until late 1908.



Illustration of the 'Augustus Platz' in Central Leipzig .. location of the main Leipzig Post Office.



# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'



The 'SEVENTH' BICKERDIKE MACHINE, acquired in 1901, WAS OPERATION TESTED AT THE CENTRAL-CITY 'LEIPZIG C13' POST OFFICE, applying postmarks to out-going mail.

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within dial having the year-date at the bottom of dial between a 'star' & an 'A' with a 'flag' obliterator.

Usage: 29 August 1901 – 8 September 1902

## 1901 USAGES

### ELECTION & POLLING PLACE NOTIFICATION

21 SEPTEMBER 1901

'City of Leipzig'  
Postcard Notification  
for election date & polling  
center location.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Front)  
Bickerdike Machine '8'  
applied postmark...  
"Leipzig 13 b,  
21 September 1901"

2 Pfennig ...  
Local city  
postcard rate



LOCAL CITY  
PRINTED-MATTER  
LETTER-RATE

31 DECEMBER  
1901

Cover, local city  
delivery.

2 Pfennig..  
Local city  
printed-matter  
letter-rate for  
mail up to 50  
grams.

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I.. '13 A'

RAILWAY FREIGHT  
ARRIVAL NOTIFICATION

Königlich Preussische Staats-Eisenbahn-Verwaltung.

LEIPZIG 13  
9 11  
12-11  
\*01A

Annahmebeleg für

Güter *1 leeres Fass*  
Frachtgut  
nach *Cochern*  
durch *Thüringer* Bahnhof  
*Leipzig*, den *9*ten *Nov* 189*1*

Name **G** *Walther Müller*  
LEIPZIG  
Wohnung *KÖNIGSTRASSE 2*

Stempelung auf der Vorderseite

Annahmebeleg für Leipzig.

9 NOVEMBER 1901

Free-frank freight arrival notification form, validated by the postmark, sent by the 'Imperial Prussian State Railway Authority' confirming arrival of "one empty barrel" shipped from the town of Cochem (Province of Thuringia) and its availability for pick-up.

Only known usage example.

Das Formular zu Annahmebeleg wird von den Güter-Abfertigungsstellen und dem Bestätiger unentgeltlich verabfolgt und ist in beiden Theilen (Stamm und Abchnitt) vom Versender auszufüllen. Werden auf einem Formular mehrere Sendungen angemeldet, so ist die Anzahl derselben beim der hieron berührten Frachtbriefe auf der Vorderseite anzugeben. Ausnahmsweise kann auch der Versandbahnhof vorgeschrieben werden, sofern der Absender aus besonderen Gründen das Gut auf einem anderen als den für dasselbe tarifmäßig in Betracht kommenden Bahnhöfen aufzugeben wünscht. Zur Aufnahme des Zettels dient jeder Postbriefkasten. Der Einwurf in letzteren ist offen (ohne Briefumschlag) und unentgeltlich zu bewirken und entfallen aus der Beförderung durch die Post dem Auftraggeber keinerlei Kosten. Die Abgabe kann jedoch auch an die Güter-Abfertigungsstellen sowie den Bestätiger beim dessen Leute unmittelbar erfolgen. Die Abholung des Guts aus der Behausung des Befähigten geschieht gegen Abgabe des größeren Zettels (Stammes). Als Kollgeld erhält der Bestätiger für je angefangene 50 kg des im Frachtbriefe angegebenen Gewichtes innerhalb der ersten Gebührenzone (Stadtbezirk) der Güter 15 Pf., mindestens 20 Pf. für die Frachtbriefsendung, "Stückgut" 15 " innerhalb der zweiten Gebührenzone (Vorort) " der Güter 25 Pf., mindestens 50 Pf. für die Frachtbriefsendung, "Stückgut" 20 " 40 " Für andere Güterarten, wie Möbel u., kommen höhere Gebühren in Ansehung. Die Beförderung von Gütern aus höheren Stockwerken, Kellern u. und in dergl. Räume wird gegen Erhebung besonderer Gebühren — Einfuhrgebühren — bewirkt. Die Fahrwerksbegleiter haben den Gebührentarif stets bei sich zu führen und auf Verlangen vorzuzeigen. Die Abfuhrfrist beträgt innerhalb der ersten Gebührenzone höchstens für Güter 6, für Stückgut 12 Stunden, innerhalb der zweiten Gebührenzone höchstens für Güter 12, für Stückgut 24 Stunden.

(Reverse)

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

GOVERNMENT RELATED OFFICIAL MAIL

MILITARY TRAINING  
NOTIFICATION

15 MAY 1902

Postcard,  
sent by the  
'Imperial  
Military Command  
Office' at Leipzig,  
advising  
a local resident  
of the time &  
location where he is  
to appear for a 15-day  
Military training course.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Bickerdike Machine '8'  
applied arrival  
Postmark) ..  
"Leipzig 13 b,  
15 May 1902"

2 Pfennig ...  
Local city  
postcard rate



OFFICIAL  
GOVERNMENT  
FREE-FRANK  
MAIL

3 MARCH 1902

Cover,  
sent locally.

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

## 1902 COVER USAGES

**FOUR-COLOR  
FRANKING**

**12 MARCH 1902**

**Cover,  
sent to Trebsen.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(reverse)  
"Trebsen (Mulde)  
13 March 1902"**

**20 Pfennig =  
(2+3+5+10 Pfg 'Crown  
& Eagle' Series values)**

**...  
Double-weight  
domestic  
letter-rate  
for mail up to  
250 grams.**



*Jannu*

*Johannes Wiede*

*Trebsen, Mulde*



**firma**

*Mey & Edlich  
Druckerei Abteilung*

*Leipzig-Plagwitz*

**COMMERCIAL  
INNER-CITY  
MAIL**

**3 MARCH 1902**

**Cover,  
advertising  
enclosure,  
sent locally to  
renowned  
vendor  
"Mey & Edlich".**

**Arrival Postmark  
(Reverse)  
"Leipzig-  
Plagwitz,  
5 March 1902"**

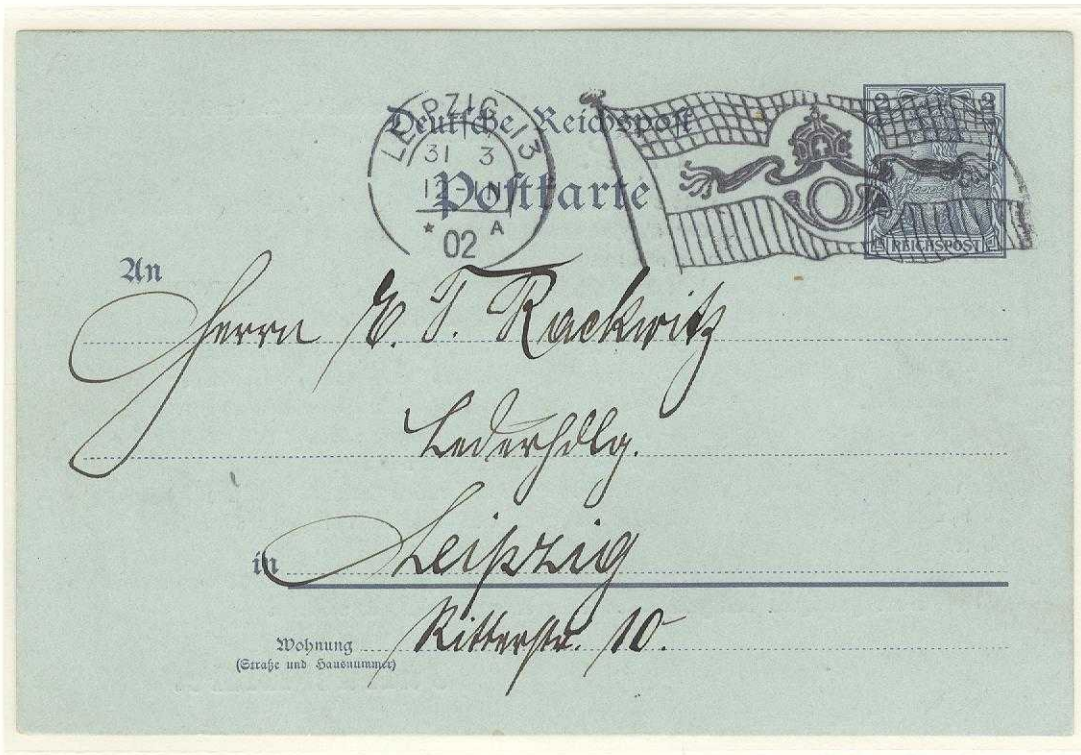
**5 Pfennig..  
Local-city  
printed-matter  
rate.**

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

LOCAL-CITY ADVERTISING MAIL ..  
2-PFENNIG RATE POSTAL STATIONERY CARDS

25 OCTOBER 1901

Postal stationery card,  
dealer  
Correspondence,  
sent locally.



31 MARCH 1902

Postal stationery  
card,  
book dealer's  
advertising,  
sent locally.

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I.. '13 A'

COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER  
RATED MAIL

BOOK ORDER FORM  
(Bücher-Zettel)

12 NOVEMBER 1901

Postcard as book order  
form, sent to a book  
dealer at Munich.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Muenchen 2, B.P.B.,  
13 November 1901.."



Aug. Toerpe  
Leipzig  
Brüderstrasse 22.



PUBLISHER'S  
ADVERTISING MAIL

15 FEBRUARY 1902

Postcard,  
sent to  
Tunaberg  
(Province Saxony).

Wohnung  
Strasse und Hausnummer.

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

FIVE PFENNIG RATED MAIL

GOVERNMENT HEALTH &  
WELFARE INSURANCE  
OFFICE NOTIFICATION

19 APRIL 1902

Postcard, sent by the  
'Leipzig  
Government Health  
Insurance Office'  
to Halle.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Haller Machine  
applied arrival  
Postmark)...

"Halle/Saale '2' Arrival,  
19 April 1902.."

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
postcard rate.



LOCAL-CITY  
CONCESSION  
LETTER-RATE

3 MARCH 1902

Cover,  
sent locally.

5 Pfennig ..  
Inner-city  
concession  
letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

1901 - 1902

FOREIGN-BOUND  
POSTCARD MAIL

UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA

1 JULY 1902

View-card,  
sent to St. Louis,  
Missouri



Charles W. Ohm

3816 Flad ave

St. Louis Mo  
U.S.A



Rudolf Kosciak

Bukarest, Rum.

Strada Bernei 72.

Die abgebogene Karte ist für die Antwort bestimmt.

Wohnung (Straße und Hausnummer)

RUMANIA

21 FEBRUARY 1902

Up-rated domestic 2-Pfg postal stationery reply card set, sent to Bucharest, Rumania.

SOUTH AFRICA

14 OCTOBER 1901

UPU Postcard,  
sent to Orange River Colony, South Africa, censored upon arrival.

10 Pfennig ...  
UPU International Postcard-Rate



Herrn Rob. Schulz

Orange-R-Col.  
Südafrika

Winburg

Ador Reinhold

NPR



LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

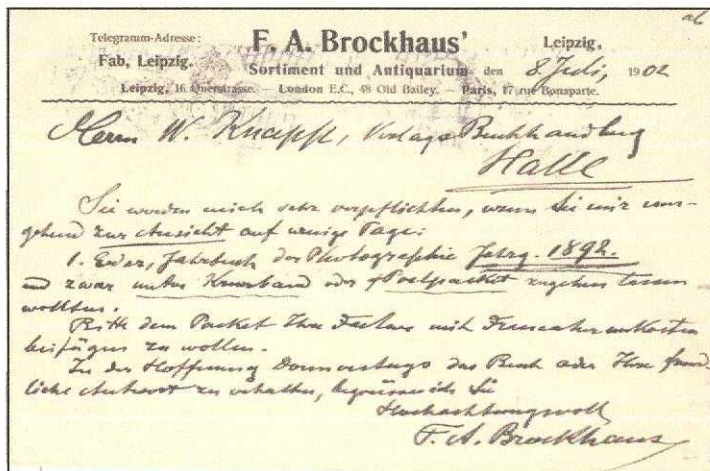
COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE ..  
FROM RENOWNED PUBLISHER 'F.A. BROCKHAUS'



8 JULY 1902

Commercial postcard,  
written & signed  
by renowned German publisher,  
'F.A. Brockhaus', Leipzig,  
sent to a book dealer at Halle.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



(Reverse)

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

ILLUSTRATED ADVERTISING  
PRINTED-MATTER



18 NOVEMBER 1901

Attractive illustrated  
printed-matter postcard,  
advertising the  
'American Laundry & Ironing Shops'  
having six LEIPZIG locations,  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig ..  
Local-City postcard &  
printed-matter rates.



(Reverse)

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

OUT-BOUND MAIL ..  
FOREIGN REPLY POSTAL CARDS

MAIL TO FRANCE

12 OCTOBER 1901

Prepaid French Postal  
Stationery Reply Card,  
postmarked at Leipzig  
with return to  
Paris, France.



MAIL TO FINLAND  
(Russia)

23 NOVEMBER 1901

Prepaid Russian/Finland  
Postal Stationery Reply  
Card, postmarked at  
Leipzig with return to  
Fredrikshamn,  
Finland.

Arrival Postmark..  
"...Fredrikshamn,  
26 November 1901..."



LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I .. '13 A'

RE-DIRECTED  
FOREIGN-ORIGIN LOCAL MAIL



13 AUGUST 1902

'Gruss aus Cortina d'Ampessa' (Austria)  
Postcard,  
sent to Leipzig, upon arrival  
found that the original local  
address was invalid, card re-routed  
& postmarked  
with a Bickerdike  
'flag dater-dial & flag obliterator'.

Arrival Postmarks:

Original: "L.13, 15 August, 6-7 AM..."

Re-directed: "L.13, 15 August, 9-10 AM..."

10 Heller (Austria)..  
Concession postcard rate between  
Austria & Germany.

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '8'

Postmark Type I ..Service/Arrival Postmark.. '13 B'

The 'EIGHTH' BICKERDIKE,  
acquired in 1901,  
WAS OPERATION-TESTED AT THE 'LEIPZIG 13'  
POST OFFICE AND DEDICATED TO APPLY 'ARRIVAL'  
POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL ONLY.

Postmark: 24mm single-circle dial with 'horseshoe arch' within and having the year-date at the bottom between a 'STAR' & 'B' with NO OBLITERATOR combined.

Usage: 6 September 1901 - 12 September 1902

30 NOVEMBER 1901



4 MARCH 1902

Local city usage with origin postmarks applied by 'Bickerdike Machine 7', with same day post office processing, 'Bickerdike Machine 8' applied a service marking.

# BICKERDIKE

1901 - 1902

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '8'

Postmark Type I ..Service/Arrival Postmark.. '13 B'

## RE-DIRECTED INNER-CITY MAIL

3 OCTOBER 1901

Re-directed city mail  
resulting from an  
incorrect original  
address whereupon this  
mail received a service  
postmark upon being  
re-processed.

Service Postmark:  
"Leipzig 13 B,  
3 October 1901 .."

2 Pfennig..  
Local city  
postcard-rate



## IN-BOUND MAIL

18 FEBRUARY 1902

View-card,  
postmarked at  
Würzburg,  
Bavaria, sent to  
Leipzig.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Leipzig 13 B,  
18 February  
1902,  
8-9 AM"

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.



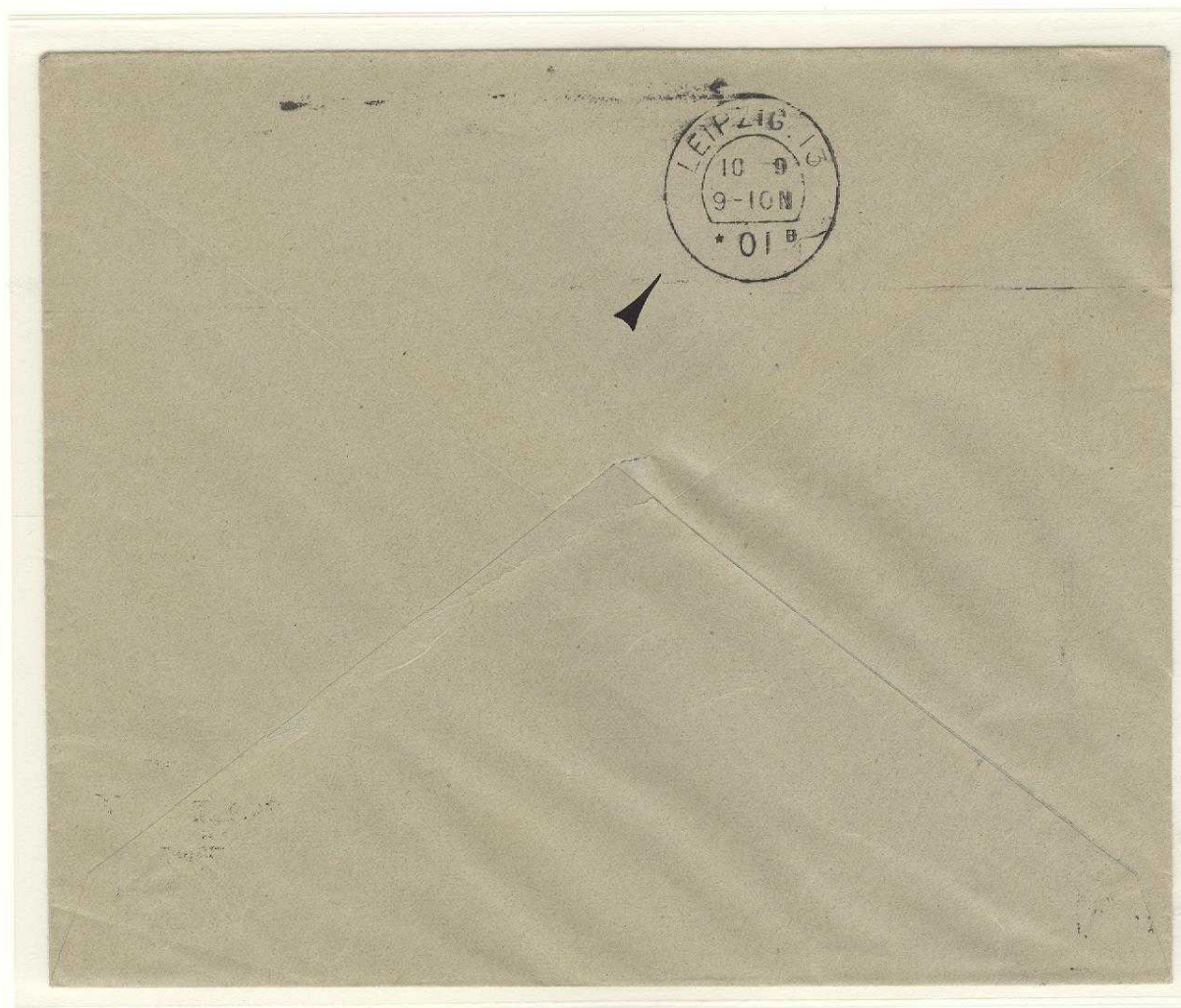
**BICKERDIKE**

1901 - 1902

LEIPZIG 13 ... Machine '8'

Postmark Type I ..Service/Arrival Postmark.. '13 B'

**LEIPZIG INNER-CITY ..  
COMMERCIAL MAIL**



**10 SEPTEMBER 1901**

**Inner-city commercial cover  
(origin ..'Postal Station '5'),  
sent locally with the  
'arrival' postmark applied on the reverse of cover.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Leipzig 13 B, 10 September 1901, 9-10 PM"**

**5 Pfennig..  
Inner-city letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams.**

**Fourth day of postmark usage.**

BERLIN C \*2E

In 1901-02, the Reichspost evaluated a domestically-built postmarking machine submitted by the Beling & Lübke Company, having an innovative postmark-die incorporating a revolving date/time wheel enabling quick alteration of date & time.

**ALTHOUGH THE REICHSPOST REJECTED THE 'BELING & LÜBKE' POSTMARKING MACHINE ITSELF, IT REQUIRED ALL NEW 'BICKERDIKE' POSTMARKING MACHINES TO BE OUTFITTED WITH THE INNOVATIVE DATER-DIAL, AS MANUFACTURED BY THE GLEICHMANN COMPANY OF BERLIN.**

**Postmark:** 24mm dater dial with 'bridge', indicating date, time & 'Berlin.C \*2E' along with a new-design 'flag' obliterater having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 12 December 1901 - 11 June 1902



16 DECEMBER 1901

Commercial advertising 'lottery advertising mail' cover,  
sent to Erfurt, Germany.

3 Pfennig ..

Domestic printed-matter mail  
not exceeding 50 grams in weight.



# BELING & LÜBKE

1901 - 1902

BERLIN C \*2E

GOVERNMENT NON-FREE-FRANK MAIL

Despite free-franking privilege for government business mail within Imperial Germany,  
**FRANKING ON FOREIGN-BOUND OR POSTALLY INDEPENDENT GERMAN POSTAL PROVINCES WAS REQUIRED.**

**BERLIN CITY  
 GOVERNMENT  
 MAIL TO POSTALLY-  
 INDEPENDENT  
 PROVINCE OF  
 BAVARIA**

10 JANUARY 1902

Folded-letter, sent  
 to a factory in  
 Munich, Bavaria.

10 Pfennig ..  
 Domestic single-  
 weight  
 letter-rate



**OFFICIAL  
 MAGISTRATE-  
 OF-BERLIN MAIL TO  
 THE  
 UNITED STATES OF  
 AMERICA**

8 MARCH 1902

Folded letter, sent to  
 the Boston City  
 Government.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Boston, Mass.,  
 March 19, 1902.."  
 (Hey & Dolphin Machine  
 applied service mark)

20 Pfennig ..  
 Single-weight UPU  
 International  
 Letter-Rate

# BELING & LÜBKE

BERLIN C \*2E

1901 - 1902

DOMESTIC POSTCARD RATES

INNER-CITY MAIL

31 DECEMBER 1901

Embossed  
'New Year's  
Greetings' Card,  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig ..  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate.



UP-RATED  
LONG-DISTANCE  
REPLY CARD  
WITH  
DOUBLE POSTMARK  
STRIKES

9 JANUARY 1902

Up-rated 2 Pfennig  
postal stationery  
reply-card, sent to  
Zernin  
(Province Mecklenburg).

Arrival Postmark:  
"Warnow (Mecklb.)  
9 January 1901"

5 Pfennig ..  
(2 + 3 Pfg.)  
Domestic  
long-distance  
postcard-rate.

**LOCAL  
INNER-CITY  
LETTER MAIL**

**16 MARCH  
1902**

**Cover,  
endorsed  
"Eilig!" (Rush),  
sent locally.**

**5 Pfennig ..  
Inner-city  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate**



**DOMESTIC  
LONG-DISTANCE  
LETTER-MAIL**

**10 JANUARY 1901**

**Cover, sent to the  
"Imperial Civil Court"  
at Leipzig.**

**10 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate.**



# MIX & GENEST

1900 - 1904

'BELGIAN' MANUFACTURED MECHANICAL TRIAL MACHINE (BERLIN)

In December 1899, the Berlin authorities removed an outdated Belgian-manufactured mechanical postmarking device from their postal museum for testing suitability for applying origin-postmarks to out-going mail at the 'Berlin 19' Post Office.

A SUCCESSFUL TRIAL RESULTED IN THE 'MIX & GENEST COMPANY' RECEIVING CONTRACTS TO MANUFACTURE SIMILAR UP-DATED MECHANICAL POSTMARKING DEVICES FOR THREE BERLIN POST OFFICES (1901) AND TWENTY-EIGHT FOR OTHER POST OFFICES IN GERMANY (1905).



Postmark: 24mm single dater-dial, two **SMALL STARS**, and text "Bestell vom Postamte 19" with date & time.

Usage: 21 January 1900 - 8 September 1904

## IN-BOUND COMMERCIAL MAIL FROM SCOTLAND

25 DECEMBER 1901

Up-rated postal stationery card, commercial mail, sent from Glasgow to Berlin.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bestell vom Postamte 19,  
27 December 1901.."

One Penny..  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



## Postkarte



in

Wohnung  
(Straße und Hausnummer)

## INNER-CITY COMMERCIAL MAIL

2 SEPTEMBER 1904

Postal stationery card, sent through Post Office 'Berlin 18' to recipient in District 'Post Office 19'.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bestell vom Postamte 19,  
3 September 1904.."

2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city postal card rate.

Latest known date.

# MIX & GENEST

FIELD OPERATION: BERLIN 24, CASSEL 1, DANZIG 1

1901 - 1909

Postmark: 27mm single dater-dial, two **LARGE STARS**,  
post office & number along with date & time.

Usage: November 1901 - April 1909

**BERLIN**  
"Bestellt vom Postamte 24"

2 JUNE 1906

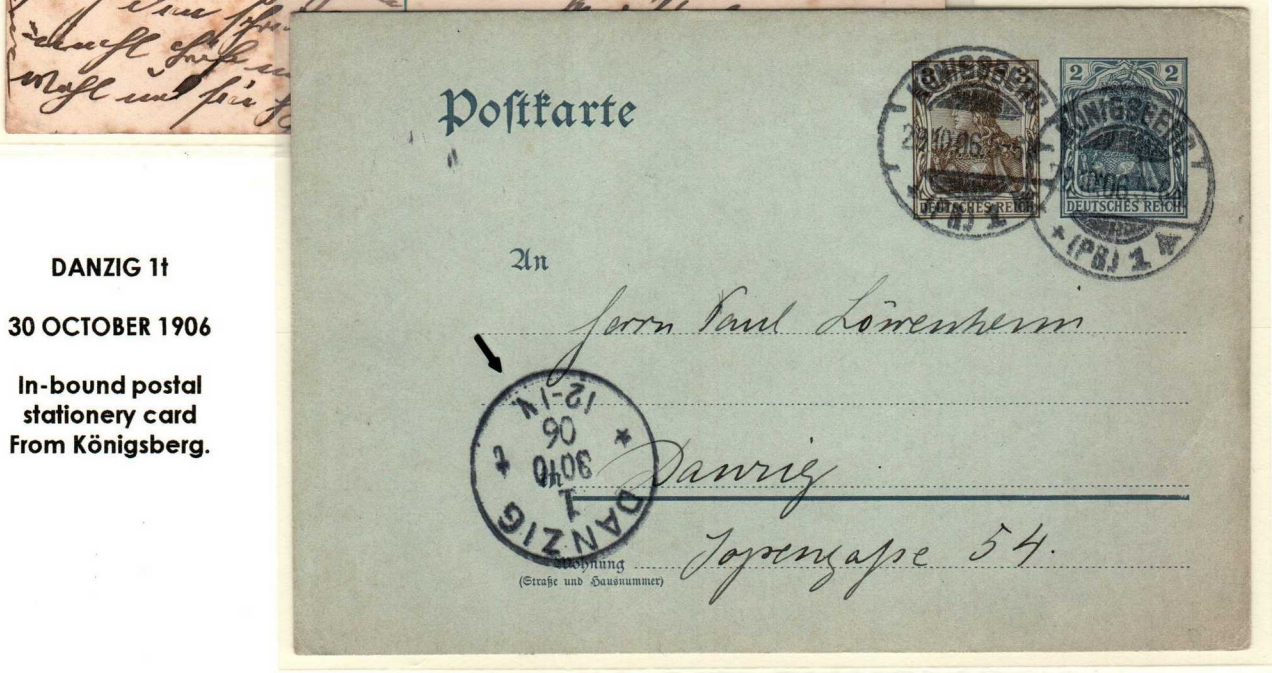
In-bound viewcard  
from Hamburg



**CASSEL 1**  
**ANKUNFT**

28 MARCH 1906

In-bound viewcard  
from Wernigerode.



**DANZIG 11**

30 OCTOBER 1906

In-bound postal  
stationery card  
From Königsberg.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate

SPORADICALLY BETWEEN  
 JANUARY-MAY 1902 AT DRESDEN  
 & 31 JULY-12 SEPTEMBER 1902  
 AT BERLIN,  
 THE REICHSPOST EVALUATED THE  
 'HUGO LAU'  
 POSTMARKING MACHINE



Postmark: 28mm dater dial with vertical grill lines  
 along with nine staggered  
 horizontal obliterator lines.

Known

Usage: 8 April – 9 May 1902 (Dresden)



8 APRIL 1902

**Württemberg-State Prepaid Postal Card**

(valid for use in the Reichspost area),

**postmarked at Dresden**

(Province Saxony),

**sent to Friedrichshafen**

(Province Württemberg).

Arrival Postmark:

“Friedrichshafen,

9 April 1902..”

5 Pfennig ..

Domestic postcard-rate

Earliest known example of two known.

**'BELING & LÜBKE' INFLUENCE**

In May, 1902, the 'Canadian Postal Supply Company' of Montreal, Canada, patent holder for the 'Bickerdike' Postmarking Machine transferred their patent & European sales rights to the German *Deutsche Waffen-und Munitionsfabriken of Karlsruhe.*

In addition to warranty responsibility for the existing Canadian-built machines, the new company proceeded to up-date postmark dies with **NEW 'REVOLVING DATER-DIALS'**, as used in the 'Beling & Lübke' Machines being tested at the 'Berlin C2' during 1901-1902 along with new-design flag obliterators for most locations.

All new purchase orders for 'Bickerdike' Machines were henceforth built and supplied by the *Deutsche Waffen-und Munitionsfabriken of Karlsruhe.*



'Leipzig 13a' Post Office 'Bickerdike' Postmark with the new 'Revolving Dater Dial'  
(24mm with full middle-bridge)

**WITH FORMER 'IMPERIAL POSTAL FLAG' OBLITERATOR**



'Berlin SW19' Post Office 'Bickerdike' Postmark with the new 'Revolving Dater-Dial'  
(26mm with full middle-bridge)

**WITH NEW-DESIGN 'IMPERIAL POSTAL FLAG' OBLITERATOR**

# BICKERDIKE

1902 - 1904

BERLIN W \*8\* ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type III

EARLY & LATE USE DATES

In 1902,  
 THE REICHSPOST HAD IN THEIR HERETOFORE ROUND  
 'HORSESHOE ARCH' TYPE DATER DIALS  
 REPLACED WITH THE INNOVATIVE ROTARY DATE-TYPES  
 IN FIELD-OPERATING  
 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINES BECOMING STANDARD  
 ON EXISTING & FUTURE ACQUIRED UNITS.

The first machines to be refitted with the new  
 dater-dials was the machine operating at the  
 'Berlin W8' Post Office.

**Postmark:** 26mm single-circle dial with 'bridge' with vertical grill along with a 63mm-long obliterator 'DR & Crown' between seven horizontal lines...Type III.

**Usage:** 17 September 1902 – 18 February 1904

27 SEPTEMBER 1902

Postal stationery card,  
sent to Crimmitschau.

Early usage date.

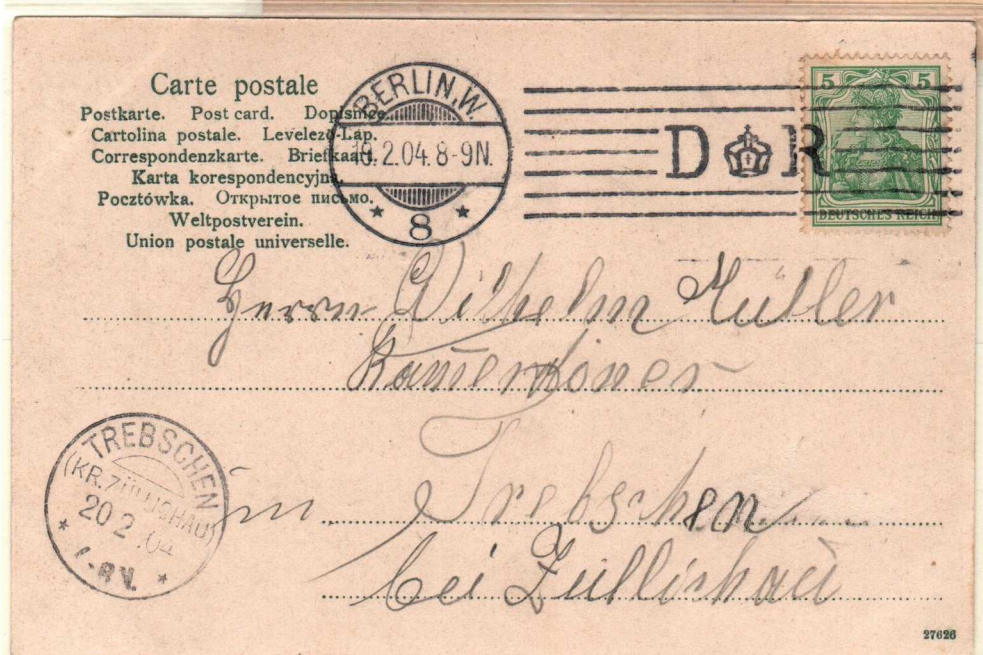


18 FEBRUARY 1904

View-card, sent to  
Trebschen.

Latest Recorded  
Date.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic long-  
distance  
postcard-rate



27020



# BICKERDIKE

1902 - 1904

BERLIN W \*8\* ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type III

ADVERTISING  
MAIL

15 APRIL 1903

Cover, with  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to  
Hirschberg  
(Province Silesia).

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail  
up to 50 grams



J. G. F. Neumann & Sohn  
Hoflieferanten Sr. Majestät des Kaisers u. Königs  
BERLIN W. 8.,  
Taubenstr. 51/52, Ecke Kanonierstr.



*Herrn Dr. Krause*

*Columbia Warmfamily.*

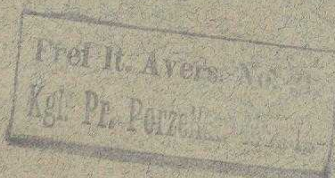
*Hirschberg/Silesien.*

*Am Van Leiniken 7.*

Königliche Porzellan-Manufaktur, Berlin W. 66.



*Herrn  
Julius Pirtsch  
7 8128 Fürstenwalde  
Spree*



OFFICIAL MAIL

24 October  
1903

Official cover,  
sent from the  
'Imperial  
Porcelain  
Manufacturing  
Company'  
to  
Fürstenwalde.

10 Pfennig..  
(Official Service  
Franking)  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

1902 - 1904

BERLIN W \*8\* ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type III

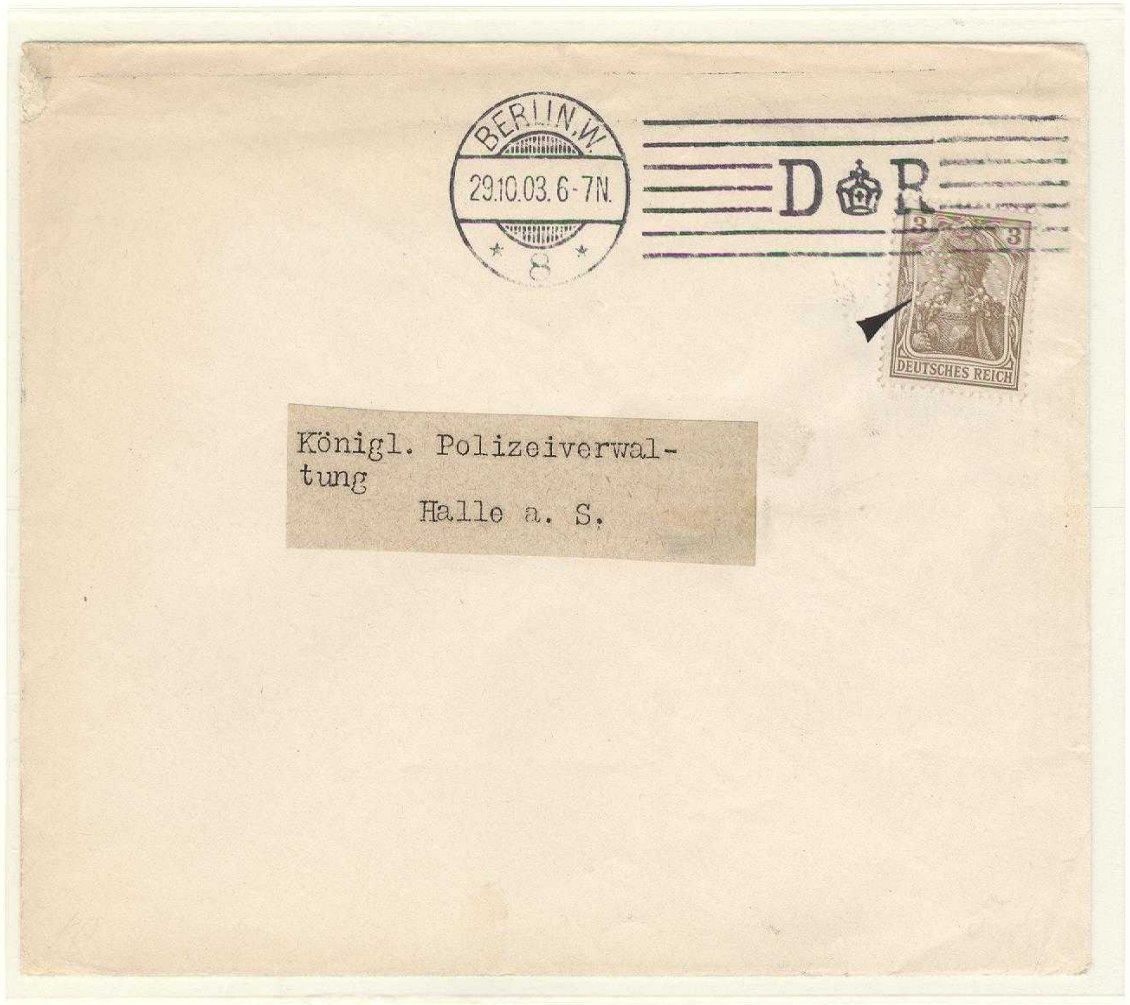
PERFIN-POSTAGE FRANKED MAIL

POST OFFICE  
NEWSPAPER-  
OFFICE MAIL

29 OCTOBER  
1903

Cover,  
printed-matter  
with  
Postage Perfin  
'Z.A.'  
'Zeitungsamt'  
(Post Office  
Newspaper  
Agency)  
Berlin,  
sent to the  
'Imperial Police  
Administration'  
at Halle.

3 Pfennig ..  
(Perfin 'Z.A.')  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail  
up to 50 grams



ADVERTISING MAIL

22 OCTOBER 1903

Advertising  
postcard with  
Postage Perfin  
"AZ" =  
"August Zeiss  
Company",  
sent to Rinteln.

3 Pfennig..  
(Perfin: "AZ")  
Domestic  
long-distance  
printed matter  
up to 50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

1906 - 1907

BERLIN W \*35\* ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type IV

In 1906, the **BICKERDIKE MACHINE**, which was operating at the 'Berlin W8' Post Office, was **TRANSFERRED TO THE 'BERLIN W35' POST OFFICE**, where it applied origin postmarks to out-going mail.

Postmark: 26mm single-circle dial with 'bridge' with vertical grill along with a 63mm-long obliterator 'DR & Crown' between seven horizontal lines...Type IV.

Usage: 21 August 1906 - 25 May 1907

21 AUGUST 1906

View-card,  
sent to  
Ohlendorf,  
Harz Mountains.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate

Earliest Date Usage.



25 MAY 1907

Cover,  
enclosed  
printed-matter,  
sent to  
"1st Lieutenant  
Koch"  
stationed at  
Cüstrin.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail  
weighing up to  
50 grams.

Latest Date  
Usage.

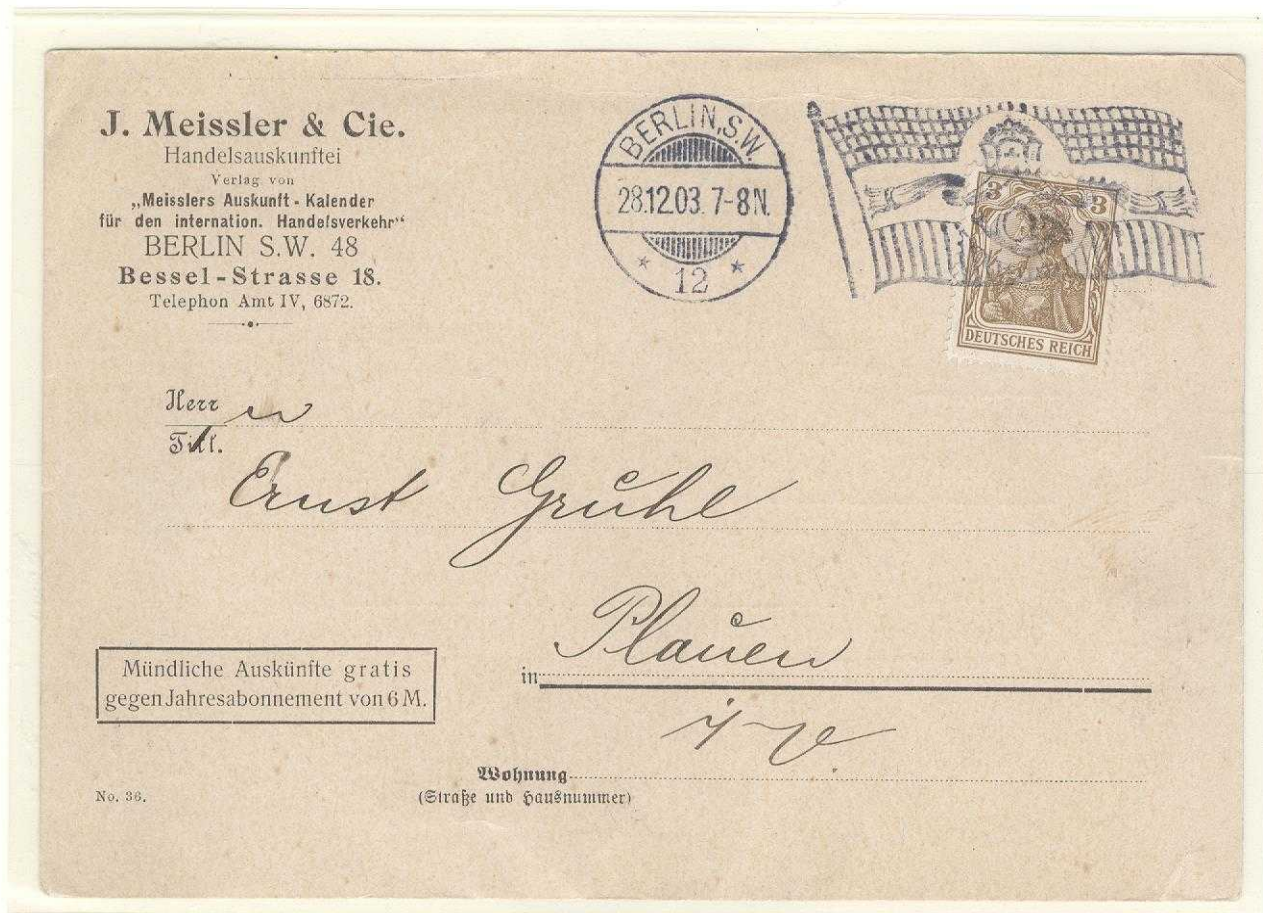
**BERLIN SW 12 ... Machine '4'**  
**Postmark Type II**

**BY LATE 1902, NEW REVOLVING  
DATER-DIALS REPLACING THE HERETOFORE DIES WERE BEING  
INSERTED INTO EXISTING REICHSPOST 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINES  
ALONG WITH AN UP-DATED 'FLAG' OBLITERATOR,  
becoming standard for all subsequent 'Bickerdike'  
Machines purchased by the Reichspost.**

One of the first post offices to receive the new dies, was  
'Berlin SW 12' (Goethestrasse), a postal station but also the  
location of the philatelic sales office.

**Postmark:** 26mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge'  
and vertical grill along with 'flag' obliterator  
having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 18 September 1902 - 11 December 1905



**Oversized advertising card, sent by  
Business Information Company "Meissner & Cie"  
to Plauen, Province Saxony.**

**3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic printed-matter  
postcard rate**

**BICKERDIKE**

BERLIN SW 12 ... Machine '4'  
Postmark Type II

1902 - 1905

PRINTED-MATTER TO  
GERMANY & AUSTRIA



GERMANY  
31 OCTOBER  
1902

Cover,  
Printed-  
matter  
enclosure  
Perfin..  
"M&S" =  
"Mittler &  
Sohn"

AUSTRIA  
27 SEPTEMBER  
1904

Advertising  
Postcard.

3 Pfennig ..  
Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams  
for mail in Germany or to Austria.

# BICKERDIKE

1906 - 1907

BERLIN SW \*68\* ... Machine '4'  
Postmark Type III

In 1906, the 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINE, heretofore operating at the 'Berlin W12' Post Office, WAS TRANFERRED TO THE 'BERLIN SW68' POST OFFICE, where it applied postmarks to out-going mail.

Postmark: 27mm double-circle dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 7 March 1906 - 13 April 1907

31 DECEMBER 1906

'New Year's'  
Greetings postcard  
sent to  
(Berlin)  
Friedenau.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
Postcard rate.



31 DECEMBER 1906

Cover, printed-matter  
enclosure, sent to  
(Berlin) Schöneberg

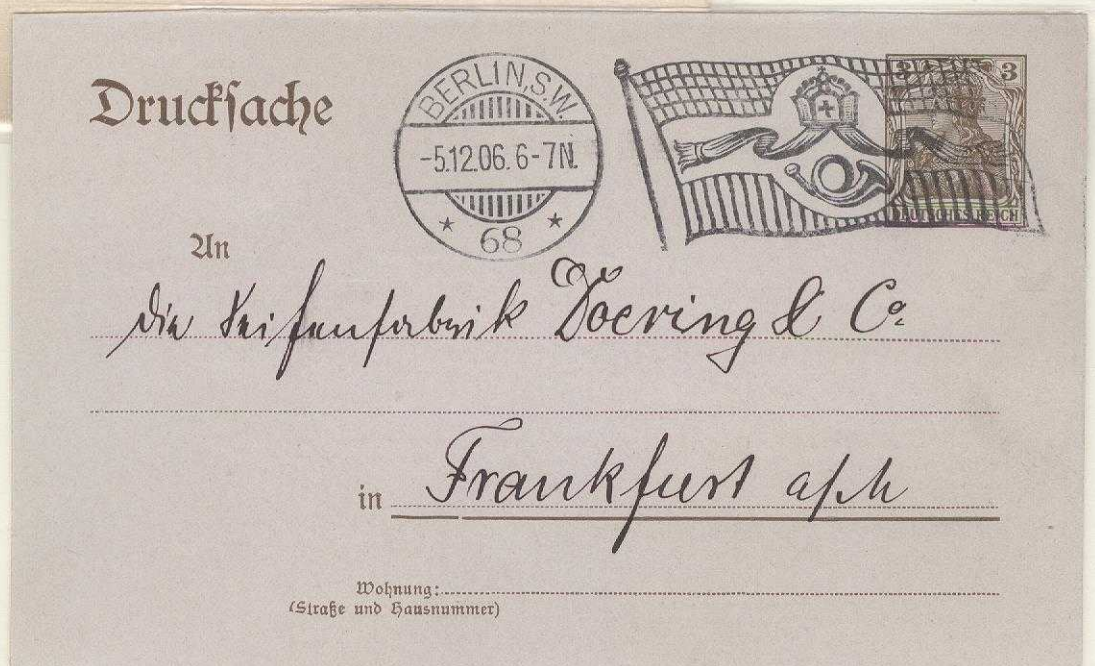


PRIVATE-PRINTED  
POSTAL CARD

5 DECEMBER 1906

Advertising card,  
sent to  
Frankfurt/Main.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
Printed-matter



# BICKERDIKE

1902 - 1908

BERLIN SW \*19\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type II

ALONG WITH THE USE OF REVOLVING  
DATER-DIALS TO EXISTING & SUBSEQUENTLY ACQUIRED  
'BICKERDIKE' MACHINES, THE NEW DESIGN  
'FLAG' OBLITERATOR ALSO BECAME STANDARD.

Postmark: 27mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge'  
and vertical grill along with a 'flag'  
obliterator having a crown, banner with  
tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 21 October 1902 - 17 February 1908



16 FEBRUARY  
1903

Cover,  
printed-matter  
advertising,  
sent to  
Hainichen  
(Leipzig).

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail up  
to 50 grams



28 DECEMBER  
1903

'C.O.D.  
Collection  
Postcard' sent to  
a business in  
Küps, Bavaria.

15 Pfennig...  
5 Pfg. Postcard-  
rate +  
10 Pfg. COD Fee

On of two known  
C.O. D. usages  
having a 'flag'  
postmark.

*Griff umgelegt 29/12/03,  
Hainichen Leipzig*

BERLIN SW \*19\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type II

31 DECEMBER 1904

'New Year's'  
Greeting Card,  
sent locally.



23 DECEMBER 1905

'New Year's'  
Greeting's Card,  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig..  
Local-city postcard-rate



# BICKERDIKE

1902 -1908

LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

In addition to insertion of the new dater-dial & new design flag obliterator to the Leipzig 'Bickerdike' Machine applying postmarks to out-going mail, the 'LEIPZIG 13' DATER-DIAL NOW INDICATED A SMALL 'a' INSTEAD OF A LARGE 'A' as had been in the early 1901-02 dater-dial.

**Postmark:** 24mm double-circle dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 25 September 1902 - 22 December 1908

## EARLIEST KNOWN USE

25 SEPTEMBER 1902

View-card,  
sent to  
Würzburg, Bavaria.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



Paul Finke, Command. Ges., Leipzig, Czermakgärten 5.



OFFICIAL  
POLICE MAIL

30 SEPTEMBER 1902

Official reply from  
the Leipzig Police  
Department,  
sent to the City  
Government of  
Paunsdorf (Leipzig).

Cachet Handstamp:  
"Portopflichtige  
Dienstsache"  
(Official mail requiring  
postage)

2 Pfennig...  
Inner-city  
postcard rate.

# BICKERDIKE

1902 -1908

LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

## POSTAGE DUE MAIL

22 NOVEMBER 1902

View-card, postage not affixed, resulting in postage due & penalty charge upon arrival at Wittenberg (Halle).

**Postage Due:**  
10 Pfennig ..  
5 Pfg. Domestic postcard-rate +  
5 Pfg. Penalty

Only known domestic postage due use having a 'Bickerdike' Flag Postmark.



## 'RECEIPT-NOTICE POSTAL FORM' FOR A POSTAL MONEY TRANSFER

29 SEPTEMBER 1902

Postal form sent by the 'Leipziger Credit Bank' notifying the recipient of receipt of his postal money transfer.

**2 Pfennig...**  
Inner-city postcard rate.

One of two known 'Receipt-Notice Postal Forms' having a 'Bickerdike' Flag Postmark.

BICKERDIKE

1902 -1908

LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

INNER-CITY PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

Stadtverordneten-Wahl

1902



Vereinigtes Bürger-Wahl-Comité



Herrn *Alfred Heise*

*Wendemannstr.*

Leipzig

6



*From Herrn von ... Gilgenberg*

*son*

*Gartenstr. 56*

LOCAL  
COMMERCIAL  
ADVERTISING  
MAIL

27 JULY 1905

Cover, with  
printed-matter  
enclosure, sent  
locally.

2 Pfennig..

Inner-city printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

LOCAL  
ELECTION-  
RELATED  
PRINTED-  
MATTER

13 NOVEMBER  
1902

Cover,  
election  
related mail  
enclosure,  
sent locally

**BICKERDIKE**

1902 -1908

LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

DOMESTIC POSTCARD-RATE ..  
USAGES 1902, 1903, 1904

POSTAL  
STATIONERY  
COMMERCIAL  
MAIL

13 NOVEMBER 1902

POSTKARTE.  
WELTPOSTVEREIN.  
CARTE-POSTALE.  
UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.



Verlag v. G. Friedrich, Leipzig 4  
*Abt. P. Postkarte  
27  
Leipzig*

*J. Mann*

*Arthur Schrekke  
(Clavierist.)*

*Düsseldorfstraße 14 IV*

*30<sup>ca</sup>*

*in U. 15-*

Sächsische Pflanzfabrik  
Georg Lange & O. Kneiss

Postkarte



*An  
Hr. Wylke. Frau J. Wylke/Kath*

UPDATED  
'INNER-CITY'  
POSTAL  
STATIONERY

2 APRIL 1903



Postkarte



An *J. Mann*

*Schnabel & P. Goldt  
Frauen*

in

*in Vgte*

Wohnung  
(Straße und Hausnummer)

FRANKED  
CORRESPONDENCE  
MAIL

7 OCTOBER 1904

5 Pfennig..

Domestic postcard-rate valid for Germany or Austro-Hungary.

**BICKERDIKE**

1902 -1908

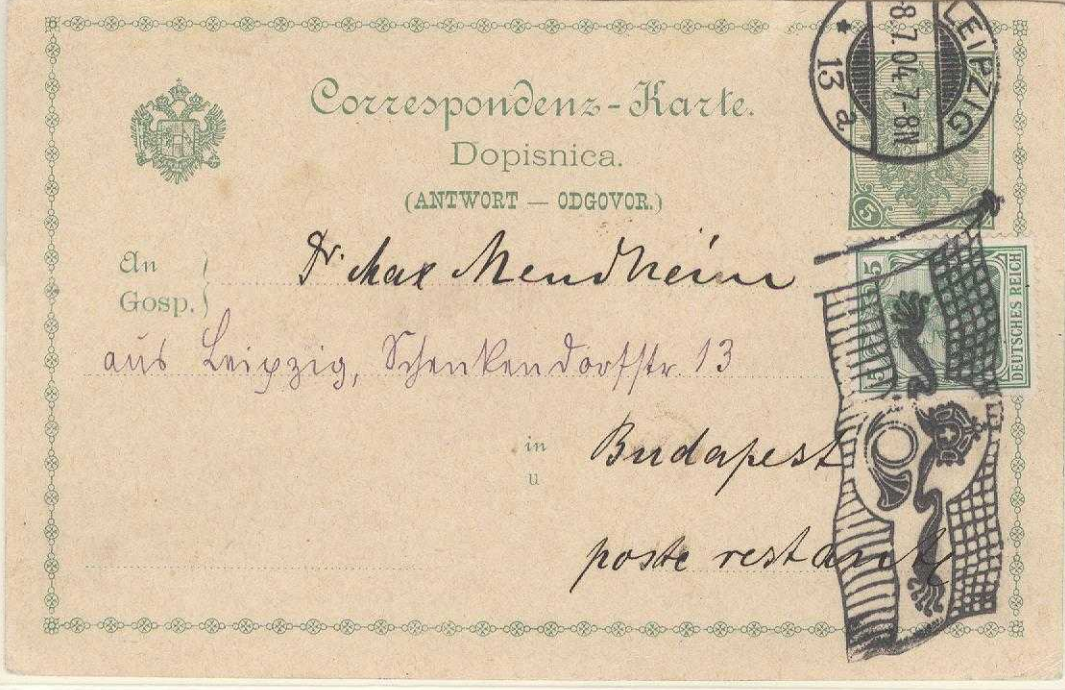
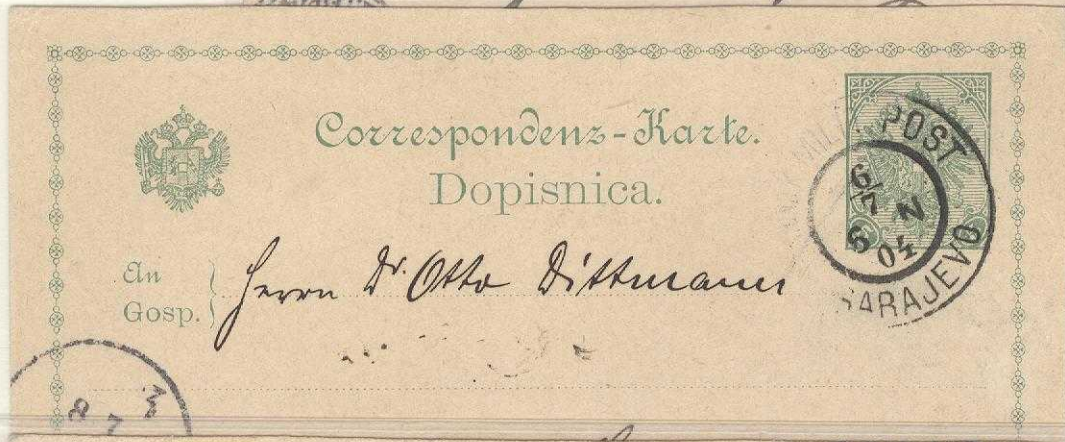
LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

**'VERTICAL' POSTMARK APPLICATION TO  
OUT-GOING DOMESTIC & FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL**

**OUT-GOING  
DOMESTIC  
COMMERCIAL  
MAIL**

**11 MAY 1905**

**Postcard,  
business  
correspondence,  
mail sent to the  
Town of Taucha.**



**INBOUND  
FOREIGN MAIL  
WITH REPLY  
CARD RESPONSE**

**8 JULY 1904**

**Austrian  
Stationery  
Reply Card Set..**

**In-Bound:  
Postmarked  
"Military Post  
Office Sarajevo,  
Bosnia-  
Herzegovina,  
Austria,  
6 July 1904"  
sent to Leipzig.**

**Out-Bound:  
"Leipzig,  
8 July 1904"  
reply to  
Budapest,  
Hungary.**

**5 Pfennig..**

**Domestic postcard-rate valid for German or Austro-Hungarian Mail.**

# BICKERDIKE

LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

1902 -1908

FOREIGN-BOUND  
UPU POSTCARD-RATED MAIL

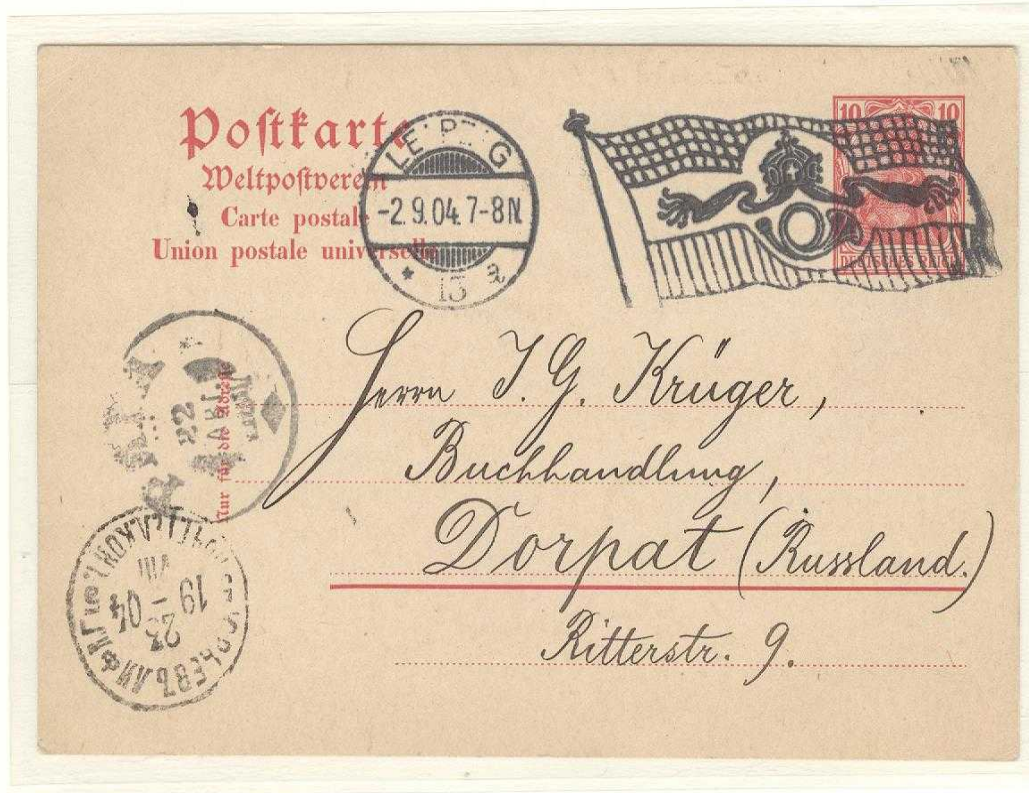
PRINTED-MATTER  
TO ITALY

16 OCTOBER 1902

Viewcard,  
endorsed  
"Drucksache"  
sent to  
Palermo (Sicily),  
Italy.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Palermo,  
20 October 1902.."

5 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail up to  
50 grams, or  
postcards with less  
than 10 words of text.



COMMERCIAL MAIL  
TO RUSSIA

2 SEPTEMBER 1904

UPU Postal  
Stationery Card,  
business  
communication  
mail, sent to a book  
dealer in the City of  
Dorpat, Russia.

Arrival Postmark:  
"23 September  
1904.."

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.

**BICKERDIKE**

LEIPZIG \*13a ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

1902 - 1908

FOREIGN-BOUND  
POSTAL STATIONERY USAGES..  
1902, 1904, 1905

MAIL TO BELGIUM

14 NOVEMBER  
1902



UP-RATED  
DOMESTIC POSTAL  
STATIONERY  
TO BRAZIL

24 SEPTEMBER 1904

MAIL TO FINLAND  
(RUSSIA)

27 JULY 1905



10 Pfennig..  
UPU international Postcard-Rate.

# BICKERDIKE

1902 -1908

LEIPZIG \*13b ... Machine '8'

Postmark Type II ..Service or Arrival Postmark.. '13b

**The DESIGN CHANGE IN DATER-DAIL**

'Bickerdike' Machine No. 1 (applying postmarks to out-going mail), also took place with Machine No. 2 (applying postmarks to in-bound arriving mail) at Leipzig, albeit the dater-dial with latter **NOW INDICATED "13 b"** versus "13 B" during the period 1901-1902.

Postmark: 24mm double-circle dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill with **NO OBLITERATOR** attached.

Usage: 24 October 1902 - 29 October 1908

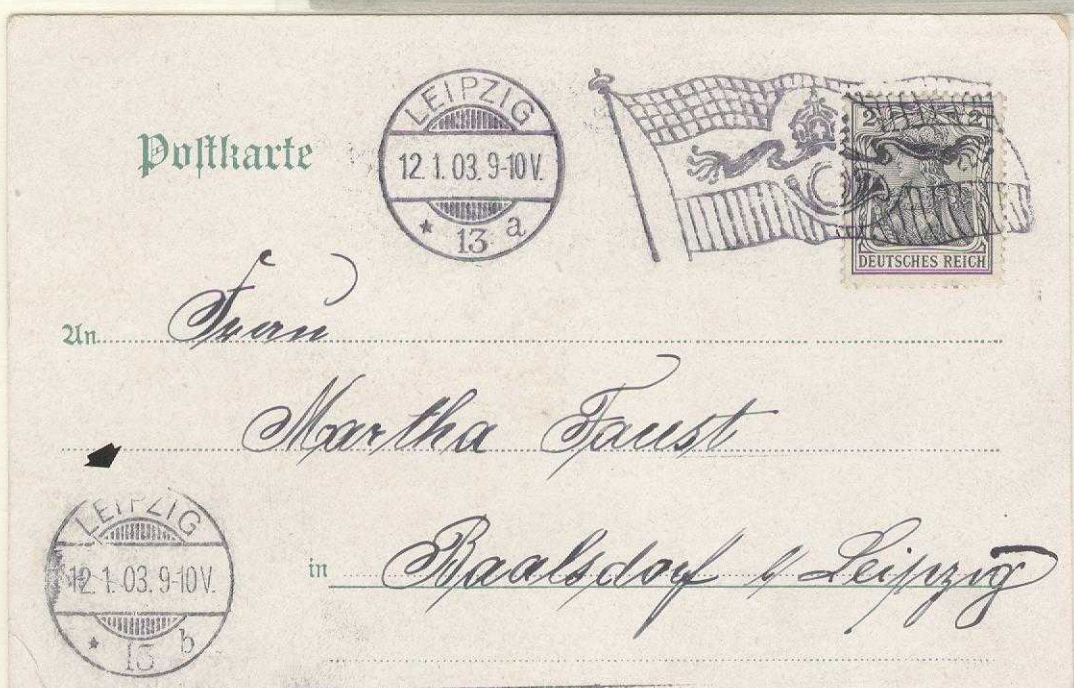
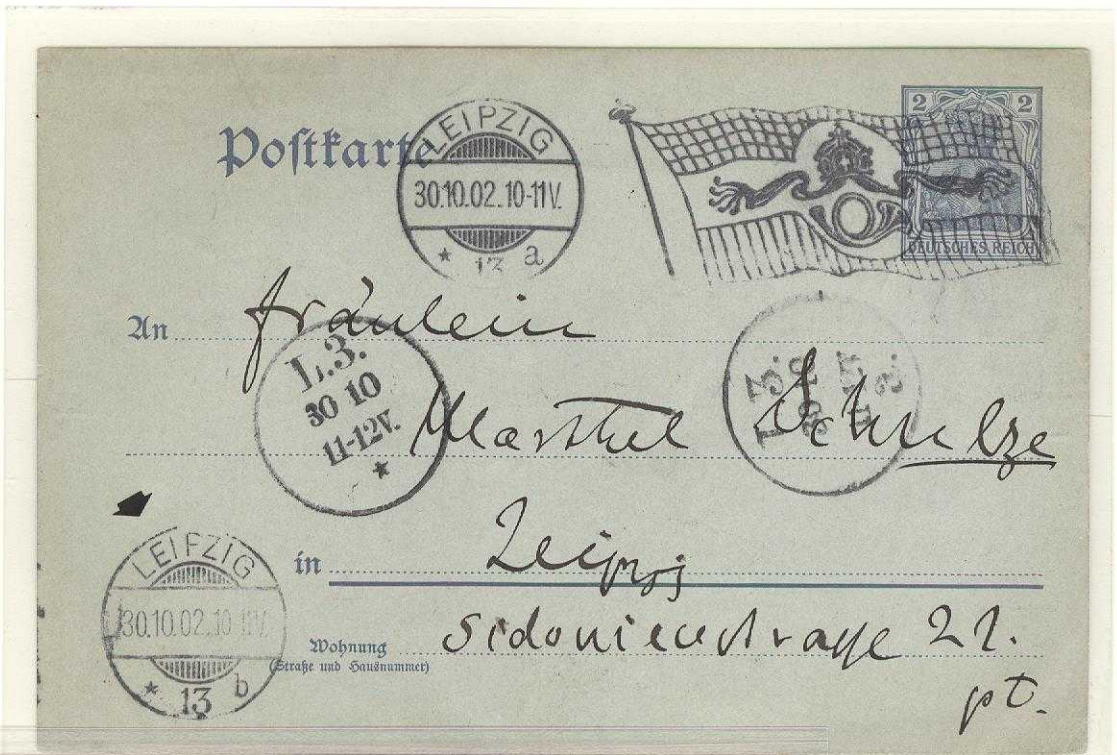
## INNER-CITY POSTCARD MAIL ILLUSTRATING 'BICKERDIKE' ORIGIN & ARRIVAL POSTMARKS

'FLAG' ORIGIN POSTMARK (Machine '1')  
ARRIVAL POSTMARK (Machine '2')

30 OCTOBER 1902

Postal Stationery  
Card

Early Usage Date.



12 JANUARY 1903

View-Card

2 Pfennig...  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate.



# BICKERDIKE

1903, 1904, 1910

LEIPZIG \*13C ... Machine '8'  
Postmark Type III

Three-Day Known Usage

For anticipated  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE MAIL VOLUME,**  
**'BICKERDIKE' MACHINE No. 2 WAS CONVERTED**  
by the Leipzig main post office  
from applying arrival postmarks to in-coming mail  
**TO APPLYING ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL,**  
utilizing a reserve dater-dial and flag obliterater.

Postmark: 26mm double-circle dial (LEIPZIG \*13C)  
with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with  
a 'flag' obliterater having a crown,  
banner with tassels and postal horn.

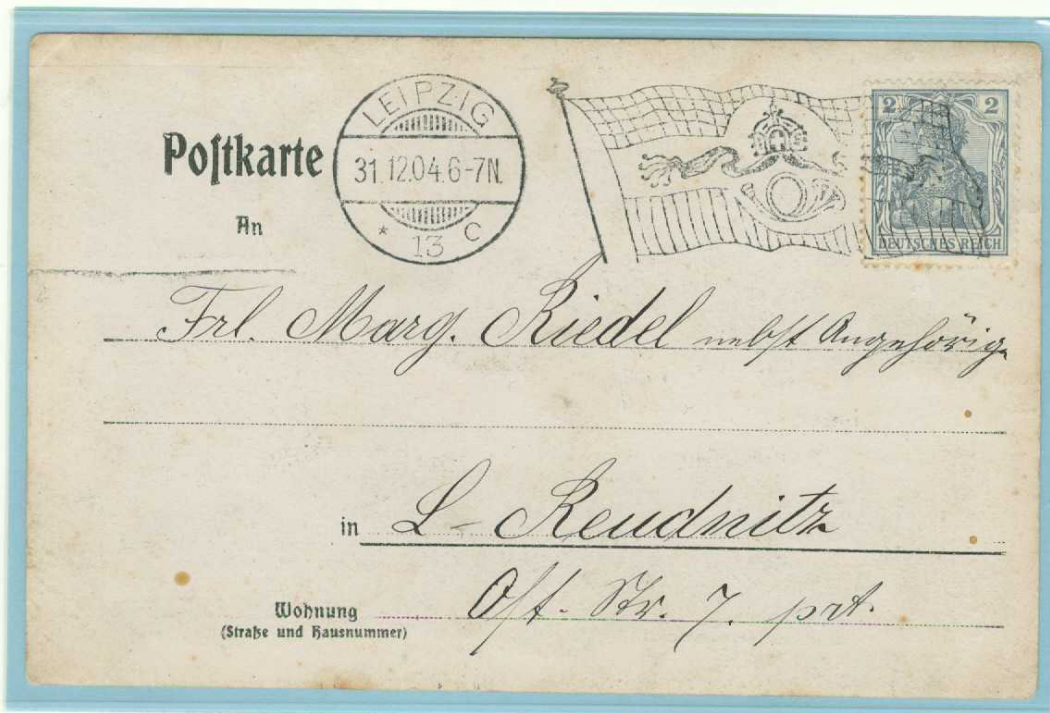
Usage: 31 December 1903 & 31 December 1904,  
27 February 1910

31 DECEMBER 1904

Cover,  
enclosing a  
printed  
'New Year's  
Greeting'.

2 Pfennig ..  
Inner-city  
printed-matter for  
mail up to  
50 grams.

One of three  
recorded covers



31 DECEMBER 1904  
'New Year's Greeting'  
Card.

2 Pfennig...  
Inner-city  
postcard rate.

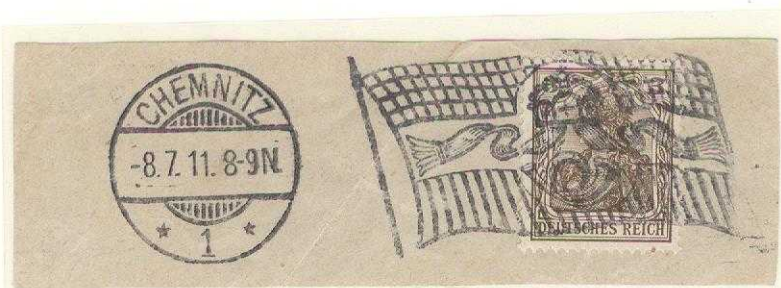
One of ten  
recorded  
postcard examples.

**FIELD TRIALS & USAGE**

The first two 'Bickerdike' Postmarking Machines obtained in 1898 and the subsequent six obtained in 1901 were imported from the Canadian Postal Supply Company of Montreal, Canada. In 1902, the 'Deutsche Waffen- und Munitionsfabriken' of Berlin & Karlsruhe obtained a license from the former to manufacture the machines in Germany for sales on the European Continent.

In August, 1902, the Reichspost placed a purchase order with the **GERMAN MANUFACTURING LICENSEE FOR SIXTEEN MACHINES, ALL OF WHICH APPLIED 'FLAG' POSTMARKS**, were allocated by the Reichspost to the following post offices commencing in September, 1902:

POST OFFICE LOCATION	APPROXIMATE START-UP DATE
1. Braunschweig *1o	March 1903
2. Bremen *1*	February 1903
....Bremerhaven *g*	
3. Breslau *1*	May 1903
....Waldenburg *(Schlesien)*	
4. Chemnitz *1*	July 1903
5. Cöln *(Rhein)1*	February 1903
....Cöln *1a	(Out-Going Mail)
6. Cöln *(Rhein)1*	June 1903
	(In-Coming Mail)
7. Düsseldorf *6u	February 1903
....Düsseldorf *1u	
....Düsseldorf *1t	(In-Coming Mail)
8. Erfurt *1s	July 1903
9. Frankfurt *(Main)1a	March 1903
....Frankfurt (Main) 3s	February 1912
	(Out-Going Mail)
10. Frankfurt *(Main)1b	August 1903
	(In-Coming Mail)
11. Halle *(Saale)2h	June 1903
12. Hamburg *1x	November 1903
....Altona (Elbe) 1h	
13. Karlsruhe *(Baden)1*	September 1902
14. Lübeck *1g	July 1903
15. Mannheim *1*	July 1903
16. Strassburg *(Els)1s	August 1903



Example:  
Field-Trial Postmark Dater Dial & 'Flag' Obliterator

**BICKERDIKE**  
BRAUNSCHWEIG \*1o

1903 - 1905

**GOVERNMENT-RELATED MAIL**

Satisfied with the test results of the initial (eight) 'Bickerdikes', IN 1902-1903, THE REICHSPOST PURCHASED ADDITIONAL MACHINES, which now would be manufactured under license in Germany by the 'Deutsche Waffen- und Munitionsfabriken' FOR OPERATION AT FOURTEEN DIFFERENT GERMAN POST OFFICES.



Postmark: 27mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 1 March 1903 - 10 February 1905

**CIVILIAN MAIL**

18 SEPTEMBER 1903

Cover, sent to the 'Magistrate of the City of Königsutter'.

20 Pfennig (4x 5 Pfg)... Double-weight domestic letter-rate (20-250 grams)



Postkarte



An

Die Krankenkasse der Arbeiter  
Postamt Zentralfabrik  
Vorwohle



Frei lt. Avers. No. 26.  
Herzogl. Krankenhaus.  
Wohnung  
(Straße und Hausnummer)



Nr. 9810 A

**FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL DUCAL HOSPITAL MAIL**

14 OCTOBER 1903

Official notification from the 'Braunschweig Ducal Hospital' sent to a factory hospitalization payment office at Vorwohle.

**BICKERDIKE**  
BRAUNSCHWEIG \*10

1903 - 1905  
COMMERCIAL MAIL



3 NOVEMBER 1903

Cover,  
sent to a  
'consumer  
association'  
at  
Ersdorf.

10 Pfennig...  
(perfin)  
Single-weight  
(20 grams)  
domestic  
letter-rate

frei!



Postkarte  
BRAUNSCHWEIG  
22.9.03.6-7N  
\* 1 \*



firma

*G. Schnabel & Co*

in

*Plauen*

22 SEPTEMBER  
1903

Business postcard,  
sent to Plauen,  
(Province Saxony).

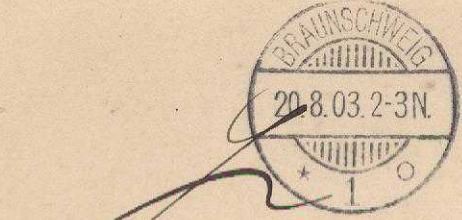
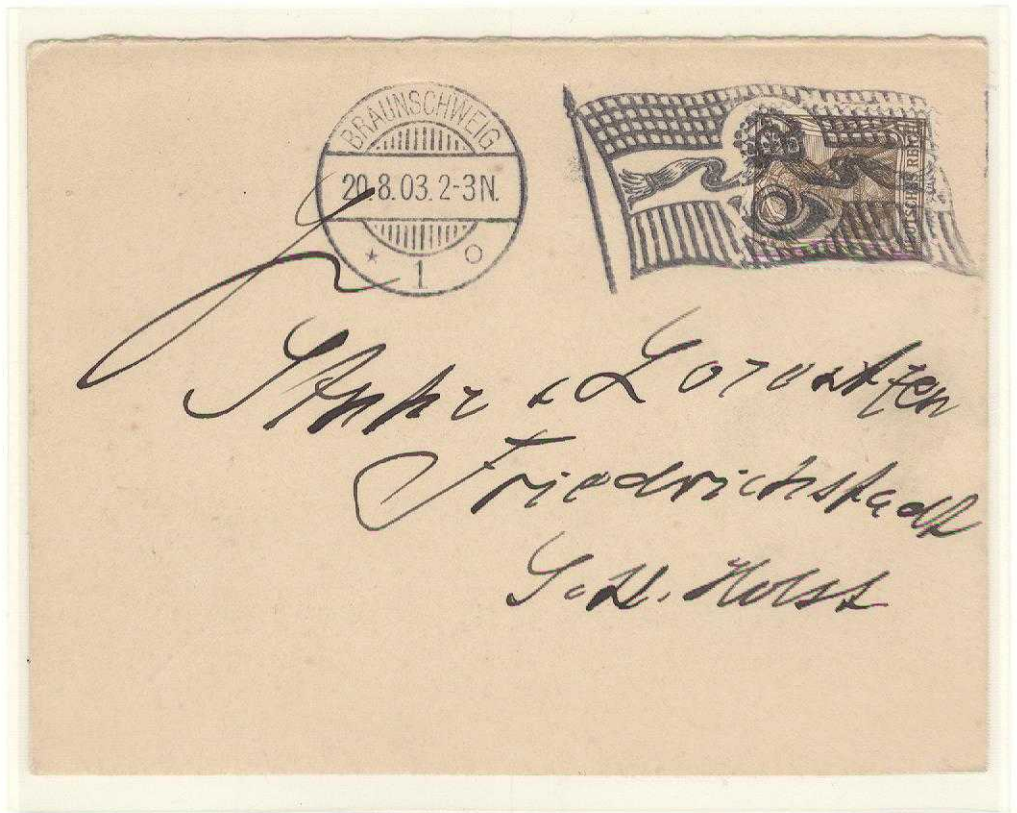
5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate

Pfeiffer & Schmidt, Braunschweig.



20 AUGUST 1903

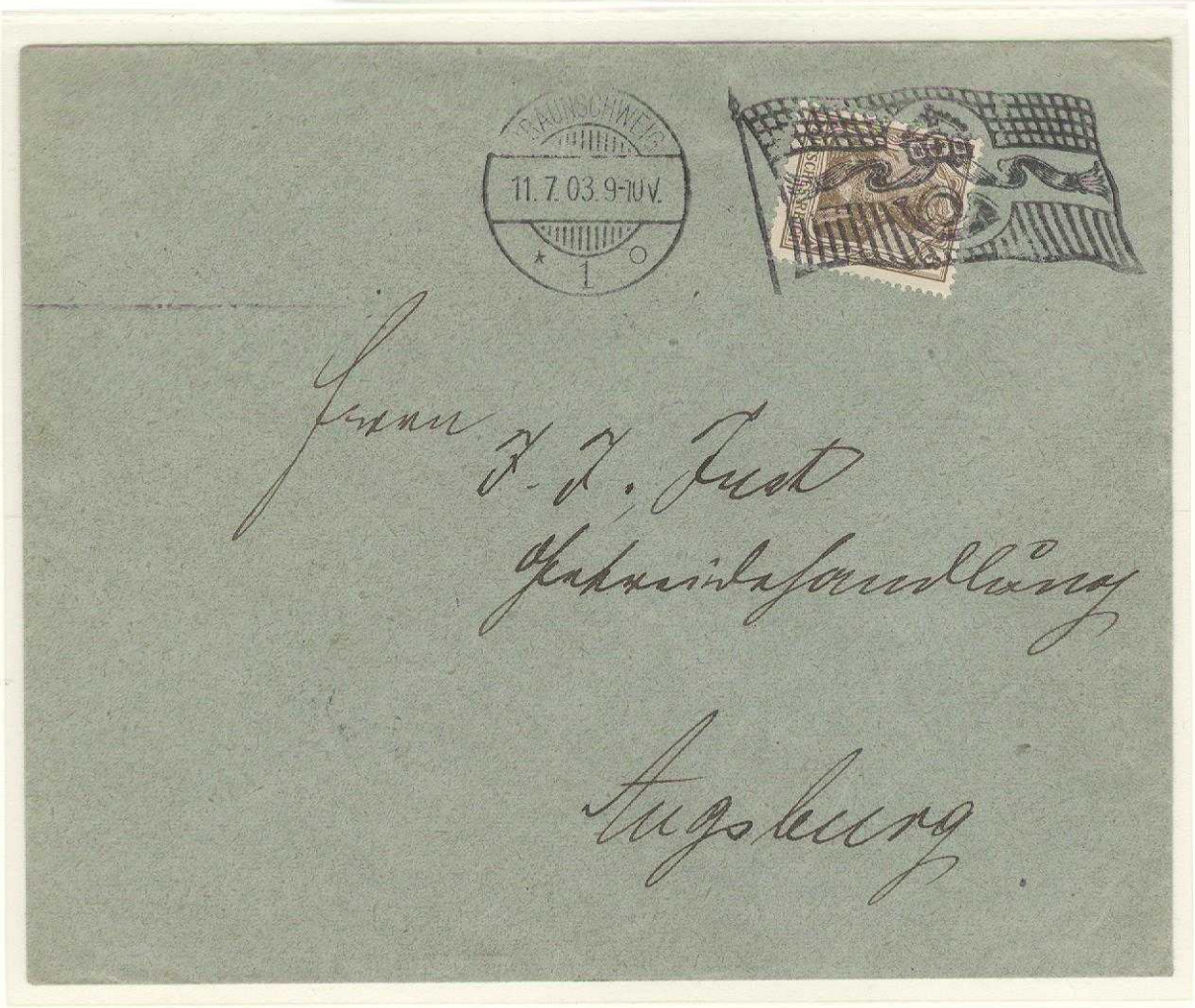
Postcard ..  
commercial  
advertising on  
reverse



Herrn u. Lotanten  
Friedrichsplatz  
G. H. H. H. H.

11 JULY 1903

Cover ..  
with printed  
advertising  
enclosure.



Herrn F. F. Just  
Gahrindesstraße

Augsburg

# BICKERDIKE

BRAUNSCHWEIG \*1o ...

1903 - 1905

FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

## LETTER-MAIL TO ENGLAND

2 JULY 1903

Cover,  
sent to London,  
England.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"London N.W. 16,  
July 4, 1903"

20 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate.



## POSTCARD-MAIL TO GERMAN SOUTHWEST AFRICA

17 JANUARY 1905

View-card, sent to a lieutenant serving with the German military in German Southwest Africa engaged in fighting the revolt of the Herero Tribe between 20 January 1904 - 31 December 1907.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Ludertizbucht,  
16 February 1906"

10 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.



3-Pfennig value with plate error "Dfutsches Reich"



Exp Jaeschke BPP

**BREMEN**



**1903: The Cotton Exchange Building**



**1903: Bridge Across the Weser River**

# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1906

BREMEN \*1\*

Postmark Type I

Over the period 1903-09,  
TWO POSTMARK DIES WERE USED.

'TYPE I' HAS THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

- \* 24mm Dater Dial,
- \* Broad wide crown,
- \* 'Dots' in fassel band,
- \* Center ribbon in postal horn.



Postmark: 24mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a flag obliterator with crown, banner & postal horn.

Usage: 26 February 1903 - 11 May 1906

31 DECEMBER 1903

Viewcard,  
sent to  
Königs-  
Wusterhausen  
(Berlin).

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



Post-Karte

Levelező-Lap — Dopisnica

Carte postale — Cartolina postale

Brefkort — Weltpostverein — Breffkort

Union postale universelle — Unione postale universale

ВСЕМИРНЫЙ ПОЧТОВЫЙ СОЮЗЪ. РОССІЯ.

ОТКРЫТОЕ ПИСЬМО.



Herrn  
Herrmann Pestrup  
Norderney  
Herrn Friedrich Stift

MAIL TO  
NORDERNEY ISLAND

3 APRIL 1904

Embossed Easter  
Greetings Card, sent to  
a recipient at a  
convalescent home.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Norderney,  
3 April 1904"

6 Pfennig..  
(2x 3 Pfg.)  
Domestic  
postcard-rate  
plus One Pfg  
convenience franking.



**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

*Postmark Type I*

1903 - 1906

**DOMESTIC & FOREIGN-BOUND  
LETTER-MAIL**

**MAIL TO THE  
UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA**

**20 JANUARY  
1905**

**Commercial  
bank cover,  
sent to  
New York City.  
12-day  
transit time.**

**Arrival  
Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"New York,  
February 1,  
1905 .."  
(International  
Machine  
Postmark)**

**20 Pfennig..  
UPU  
International  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate**



**DOMESTIC  
GERMANY MAIL**

**26 OCTOBER 1903**

**Cover, sent to the  
Town of Moorsee/  
Abbehausen  
(Oldenburg).**

**Arrival  
Postmark:  
"Abbehausen,  
27 October 1903"**

**10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate**

**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1906

OFFICIAL FREE-FRANK MAIL



dem Magistrat der Stadt



dem Finanzverwalter



der Kommission für die Verwaltung  
der Fonds und milden, Stiftungen

zu

Oldenburg.

Frei K. Avers. № 24.  
Stadtbrem. Armenpflege.

**FREE-FRANK FOLDED-LETTERS SENT FROM  
THE BREMEN SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE**

**12 NOVEMBER 1903**

**1 AUGUST 1904**

**30 JANUARY 1904**

Sent to various  
northern Germany city government offices.

# BICKERDIKE

BREMEN \*1\*

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1906

DOMESTIC & FOREIGN DESTINATION  
POSTAGE DUE MAIL

## DOMESTIC MAIL

30 JUNE 1903

Reply to an advertisement, held two weeks, subsequently returned to sender with cachet handstamp (in red) "Porto" with postage due .. 5 Pfg. postage + 5 Pfg. penalty.

### Arrival Postmark

(Original Destination):

"Lüneburg,  
1 July 1903,  
12-1 PM"

### Arrival Postmark

(Returned Mail):

"Bremen \*1\*,  
18 July 1903,  
11-12 PM"



## MAIL TO FRANCE

23 DECEMBER 1903

View-card, sent to the Town of Challans, printed-matter (less than ten words of text = 5 Pfg. postage).

Upon arrival NOT accepted by the French Post Office as such, but, rather, as a correspondence postcard (10 Pfennig postage) requiring 10 Centimes postage due from the recipient for the shortfall.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Challans (Vendee),  
25 December 1903,  
5 AM"



**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

*Postmark Type I*

1903 - 1906

**FOREIGN-BOUND POSTCARD MAIL**

**MAIL TO SPAIN**

**29 JUNE 1903**

**UPU-endorsed  
view-card,  
sent to City of Madrid,  
Spain.**

**10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate**



**MAIL TO  
AUSTRO-HUNGARY**

**25 MARCH 1906**

**UPU-endorsed  
Viewcard, sent to  
the City of Prag,  
part of  
Austro-Hungary.**

**5 Pfennig...  
Domestic German  
postcard-rate was  
valid for mail to  
Austro-Hungary.**



Photographie und Verlag L. Placidus, Bremen, No. 50.

**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1906

**INTERNATIONAL UPU POSTAL CARD  
COMMERCIAL MAIL**

**MAIL TO COLUMBIA  
via  
NEW YORK &  
BARRANQUILA**

**16 NOVEMBER 1903**

**Business  
correspondence,  
sent to Cartagena,  
Columbia.  
23-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"...Cartagena, 9  
December 1903.."**



**MAIL TO BRAZIL  
Via  
LISBON,  
PORTUGAL**

**24 DECEMBER 1903**

**Correspondence,  
sent to Rio de  
Janeiro, Brazil.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Rio de Janeiro,  
17 January 1904"**

**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

Postmark Type I

1903 – 1906

DEFECTIVE POSTMARK DIE



**MISSING DATE-DIAL IN POSTMARK DIE**

**"26 MAY 1904"**

**Commercial correspondence card,  
sent to a business in the  
Town of Heiligenfelde.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Heiligenfelde,  
27 May 1904.."**

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate**

**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

*Postmark Type II*

1907 - 1909

**ADVERTISING PRINTED-MATTER POSTCARD**

**'Bremen Postmark Obliterator Type I' required to be replaced after three+ years of continuous usage, being replaced by**

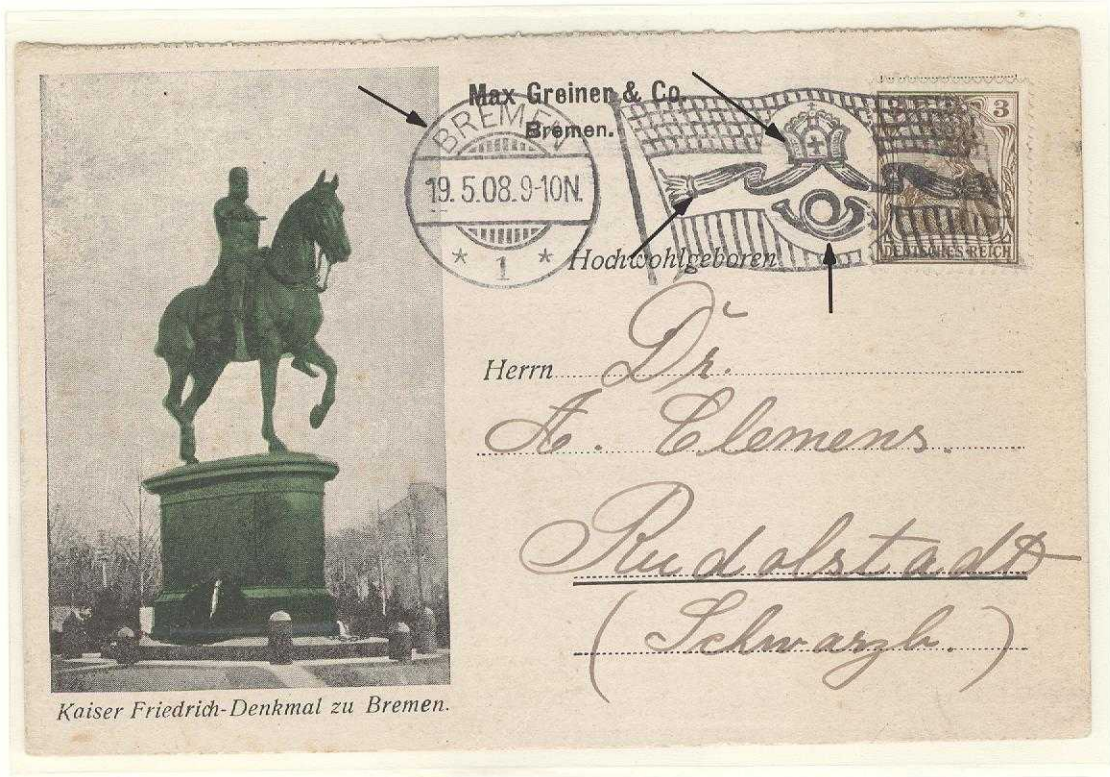
**'TYPE II' DIE**

**HAVING THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:**

- \* 25mm Dater Dial,
- \* Contoured narrow crown design,
- \* 'Dots' now missing in tassel banner,
- \* Postal horn now has no center ribbon.

**Postmark:** 25 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 9 April 1907 – 3 August 1909



**19 MAY 1908**

**Advertising printed-matter for 'cigars', sent from "Max Greiner & Co.", Bremen, to a recipient at Rudolfstadt.**

**3 Pfennig... Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.**

**Von bestechendem Wohlgeschmack** ist unsere neuangeführte Spezialmarke

**Greiners Corona** 

welche aus ganz feiner St. Feix-Brasil-Einlage und hervorragenden Samatra-Decker gearbeitet ist, ein feines, mildes Aroma besitzt und durch todloses Brand sich auszeichnet. Eine Seltenheit kann man sagen, ist es, dass bei diesen vielen anerkannten Vortzügen Greiners Corona nur Mk. 6.60 für eine Kiste zu 100 Stück kostet, ein Postpaket von 500 Stück aber nur Mk. 32.50 franko.

Jedem, selbst dem verwöhnten Raucher, muss diese Cigarre gefallen, und wir bitten unsere verehrten Herren Abnehmer und deren Freunde, uns einen Probanfang zu erteilen; wir sind überzeugt, dass wir erstere noch mehr an uns fesseln, letztere aber zu dauernder Kundenschaft gewinnen werden.

**Einer sage es dem andern: Raucht Greiners Corona!**

Hochachtungsvoll  
 BREMEN, Deutsches Postamt.  
 Max Greiner & Co., Cigarrenfabrik  
 Bremer Filiale der Deutschen Bank.

Vertrags-Lieferanten des Deutschen Reiches in es Berlin, andere Vertriebswegen und vieler Kaiser-Kolonien.

**BEZUGS-BEHÖRDEN:** Für 3 Monate oder 1%, Strafe bei Verzögerung; an verbrauchte 82-ster, des... 4 Stück aus jeder Gewähr hier, nur gegen Vorzahlung Reich's 17 oder von 20.- Mark parafol. - Nicht-licenzierte Cigarren verboten.

Reverse

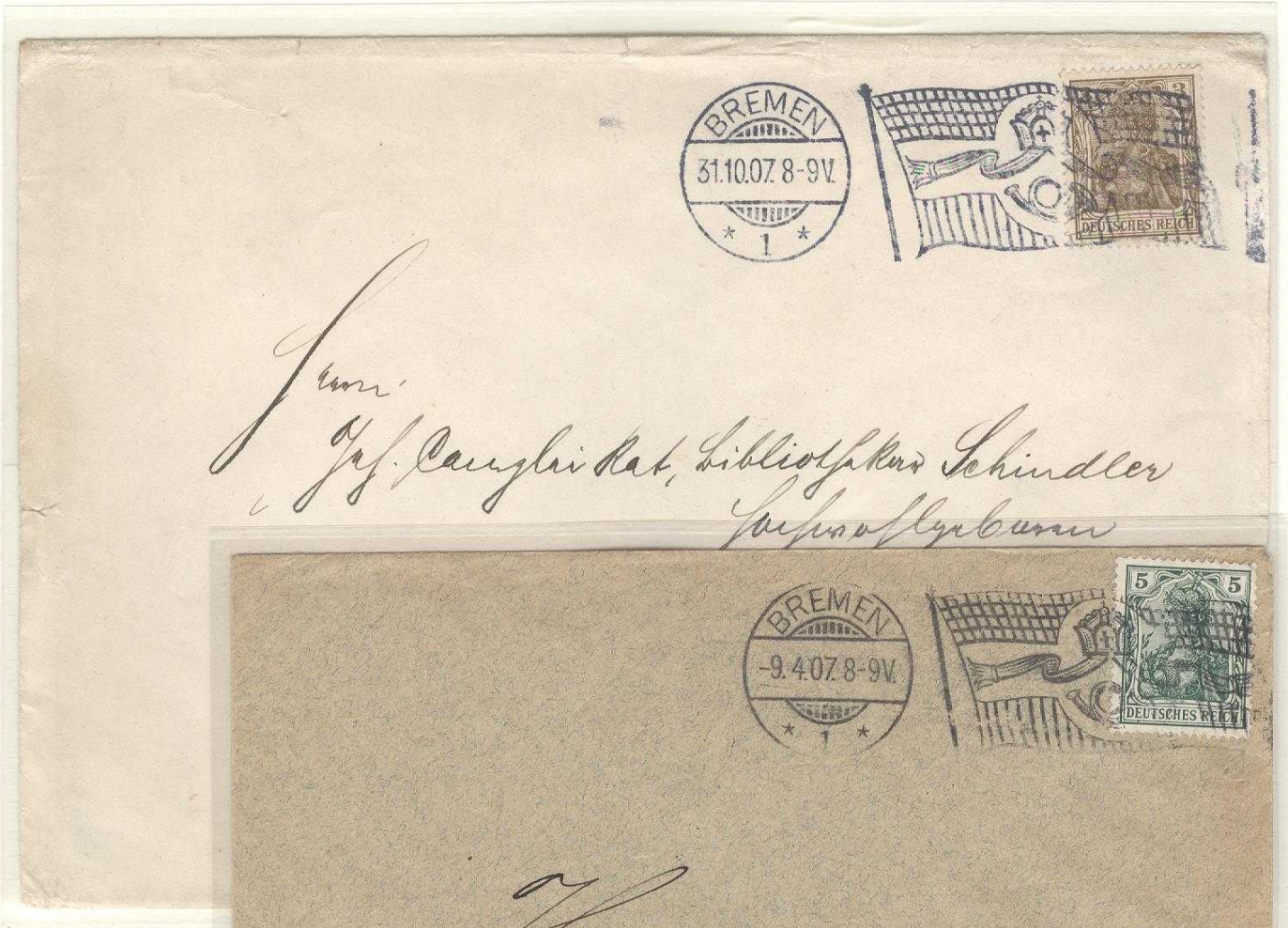
**BICKERDIKE**

**BREMEN \*1\***

*Postmark Type II*

**1907 - 1909**

**PRINTED MATTER MAIL**



**DOMESTIC MAIL**

**31 OCTOBER 1907**

**Cover, printed-matter enclosure**

**3 Pfennig... Domestic printed-matter rate up to 50 grams.**

**INTERNATIONAL MAIL**

**9 APRIL 1907**

**Cover, printed-matter enclosure sent to Sweden.**

**5 Pfennig... UPU International printed-matter up to 50 grams.**

**Earliest known postmark usage.**



**BICKERDIKE**  
BREMERHAVEN \*g\*

1910 - 1913

In early 1910, the  
**'BICKERDIKE' MACHINE HERETOFORE  
OPERATIONAL AT BREMEN WAS  
TRANSFERRED TO THE BREMERHAVEN POST OFFICE**  
for continued service.



**Postmark:** 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a contoured crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 13 June 1910 - 29 August 1913

**DESTINATION.. EGYPT**

**13 JUNE 1910**

Cover, sent to a naval officer on-board German Cargo Vessel "Kleist", via shipping-broker agent, at Suez, Egypt.

**Transit & Arrival Postmarks:**

(Reverse)  
"Alexandria,  
19 June 1910"  
"Suez,  
26 June 1910"

**20 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Single-Weight Letter-Rate**

**Earliest Known Use**

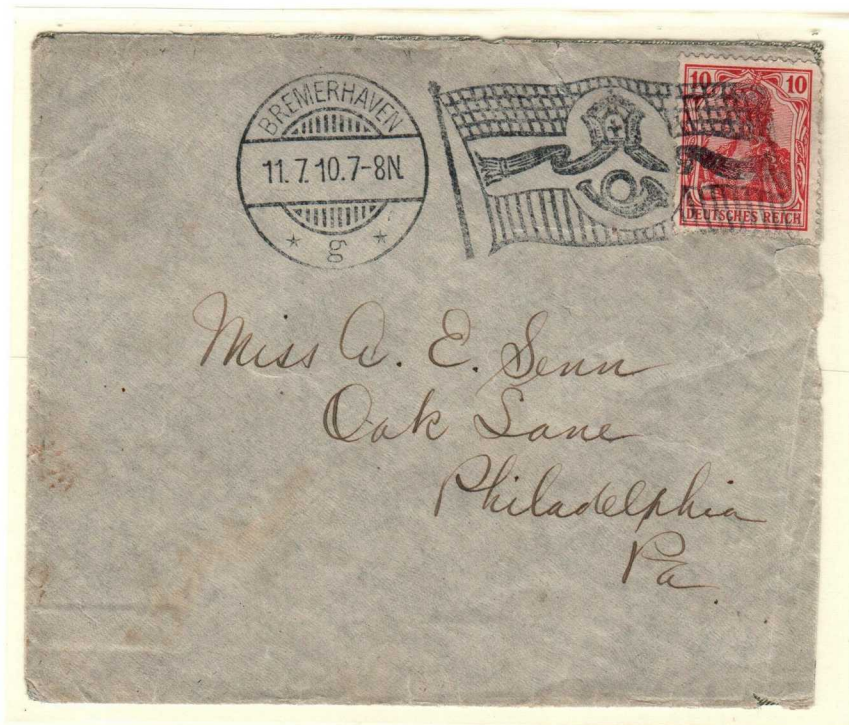


**DESTINATION..  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**11 JULY 1910**

Cover, sent to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,

**10 Pfennig ...  
Concession  
"Direct Rate" ..  
valid between 1909-1914  
(50% of UPU Rate)  
for single-weight  
letter-mail  
between  
Germany-U.S.A.**



**BICKERDIKE**  
BREMERHAVEN \*g\*

1910 - 1913

Postmark: 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill with a 'flag' obliterator having a contoured crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 13 June 1910 - 29 August 1913

**ADVERTISING MAIL**

**Fischversandgeschäft „Westfalia“ C. m. b. H.**

**Fischkonservenfabrik, Marinieranstalt und Braterei.**

Hochseefischerei u. Seefisch-Grosshandlung

**Bremerhaven.**

— Telegramm-Adresse: Westfalia. —

Fernsprecher: Amt I, Nr. 89.

Import.                      Export.

— Postfach 74. —



**Drucksache.**

Herrn

*P. Harms*

*Salzhausen*  
*4 H*

4 MARCH 1911

Commercial fold-out advertising card,  
(fish wholesaler)  
sent to Salzhausen.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed matter rate  
for mail  
up to 50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

BRESLAU \*1\*

1903 - 1906

Breslau's Bickerdike Machine functioned satisfactorily in its early operation, **WITH APPARENT LOCAL MAINTENANCE LACKING OVER TIME**

as evidenced by blurred postmarks, under-inking, etc.



Postmark: 25 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 5 May 1903 - 15 July 1906

29 JUNE 1903

"Gruss-aus viewcard (Breslau Zoo) sent to Jena.

5 Pfennig... Domestic postcard-rate



15 JULY 1906

Cover clip, printed-matter rate, (illustrating a very worn postmark die & machine maintenance deficiency).

Latest Known Usage.

# BICKERDIKE

1909 - 1911

WALDENBURG \*(Schlesien)\*

In early 1909, 'BRESLAU'S' 'BICKERDIKE' WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE 'WALDENBURG' POST OFFICE for continued service. OF FIVE KNOWN POSTMARKS, ALL HAVE INCOMPLETE OBLITERATOR STRIKES .. illustrating defective machine operation & maintenance



Postmark: 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

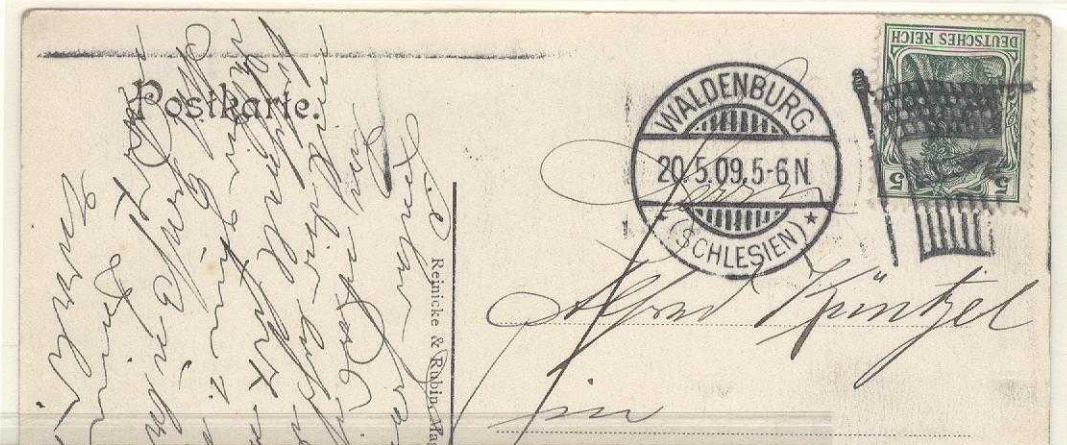
Usage: 15 May 1909 - 9 May 1911

## POSTCARD MAIL

20 MAY 1909

Viewcard, sent to Reichenbach, (Province Silesia).

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate.



PRINTED MATTER TO SWITZERLAND WITH RETURN TO SENDER

9 NOVEMBER 1911

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, short-franked, sent to Switzerland, refused upon arrival, returned to sender with Swiss postage due invalidated.

3 Pfennig... UPU International Printed-Matter Rate = 5 Pfennig... Postage Due = 5 Centimes = 2 Pfg + 2 Pfg. penalty

Latest Known Usage Date. Cert. Jäschke-Lantelme

Two of Five Known Examples of This Postmark

# BICKERDIKE

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

1903 - 1906

Postmark Type I

Two postmark dies were utilized at 'Chemnitz' with  
**'TYPE I' DIE,**  
supplied initially with the machine,  
**HAVING THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:**

- \* Dater Dial Diameter 26mm;
- \* Wide crown design;
- \* Small and narrow tassels.



**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with  
'bridge' & vertical grill along with a  
'flag' obliterator having a crown,  
banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 4 July 1903 - 27 March 1906

## EARLY USE

6 JULY 1903

Cover, sent to the Baltic  
Coast Town of Zinnowitz.

Postage improperly  
placed at left cover side  
with  
hand-canceling.

Arrival Postmark:  
(reverse)  
"Zinnowitz,  
7 July 1903.."



OFFICIAL  
MAIL  
REQUIRING  
POSTAGE

10  
FEBRUARY  
1904

Folded  
letter  
& turn  
cover  
sent to the  
'Imperial  
Court'  
at Oschatz,  
(Saxony).

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic single-weight letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1906

DOMESTIC  
POSTAL STATIONERY  
LETTER-CARD

7 SEPTEMBER 1905

Postal stationery  
letter-card,  
sent to  
Charlottenburg  
(Berlin).

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic letter-rate  
(flat-rate for postal  
stationery letter-cards).



POSTAL  
NOTIFICATION  
CARD/RECEIPT  
FOR A POSTAL  
MONEY  
TRANSFER

13 NOVEMBER  
1905

'Prepaid'  
(Bavarian)  
form-card  
returned to  
sender at  
Ellingen, Bavaria,  
acknowledging  
receipt of a  
money transfer  
received by a  
bank in Chemnitz.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

One of Two  
Known  
Notification Cards  
with Flag  
Postmarks.



Königreich Bayern

Postkarte



(Empfangsbefätigung über eine Postanweisung)

An die Sparkassendirektion  
des kgl. Kassenamts

Ellingen  
in Ellingen  
Wohnung  
(Straße u. Hausnummer)  
Mfr.



1906



1905



1904



**BICKERDIKE**

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1906

**WRAPPER WITH ENCLOSED  
PRINTED-MATTER  
SENT TO  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mr. Thos. R. Johnston



Indiana Co.

Saltsburg, Pa.

U. S. A.



25 NOVEMBER 1903

Printed-matter enclosed  
wrapper sent to Saltsburg,  
Pennsylvania.

5 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail  
up to 50 grams



'Chemnitz' Obliterator 'Type I' was replaced after three years of continuous use with a new ..  
 'TYPE II' DIE  
 HAVING THE FOLLOWING PRIMARY CHARACTERISTICS:  
 \* Dater dial diameter remained 26mm  
 \* Obliterator with narrow crown with a thin cross & Tassel banner with large tassels.

Postmark: 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 14 January 1907 - 31 December 1912

EARLIEST KNOWN USAGE

14 JANUARY 1907

Decorative advertising postcard (children's newspaper), sent to a pupil in Chemnitz.

3 Pfennig... Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.



LATEST KNOWN USAGE

31 DECEMBER 1912

Embossed 'New Year's Greetings' Card'.

5 Pfennig... Domestic postcard rate.



**BICKERDIKE**

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

Postmark Type II

1907 - 1912

COMMERCIAL MAIL

POSTMARK  
DOUBLE-STRIKE

18 MAY 1907

Cover,  
sent to  
Copenhagen,  
Denmark,  
with double  
postmarking.

20 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
(20 grams)  
Letter-Rate.



PRINTED MATTER  
& COLLECTION  
MAIL

29 APRIL 1911

Money  
Collection Card,  
sent to Dresden  
(Saxony),  
for collection of  
RM 10.20.

13 Pfennig..  
3 Pfg. Printed-  
Matter Rate +  
10 Pfg.  
Collection Fee

One of two  
known collection  
card usages  
having a 'Flag'  
postmark &  
only one known  
at printed-matter  
mail rate.

S. Osswald

Chemnitz

== Holzmarkt 9. ==

Postvermerk

Frist verlangt

Verweigert



**BICKERDIKE**

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

Postmark Type II

1907 - 1912

DOMESTIC PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

Schubert & Salzer Maschinenfabrik  
Aktiengesellschaft  
Chemnitz.



*From L. Schmidt  
Hilffundlung*

*Woyens Coll  
Holf*

COMMERCIAL  
ADVERTISING MAIL

17 SEPTEMBER 1908

Commercial cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to Woyens,  
(Schleswig-Holstein).



*Seidenlöcher & Co  
Hilffundlung  
Hies  
Phantroph. 82.*

INNER-CITY MAIL

31 DECEMBER 1911

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
inner-city mail.

3 Pfennig...

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

BICKERDIKE

1907 - 1912

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

Postmark Type II

LARGEST KNOWN DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL MAIL ON COVER



Prämiert Leipzig 1905 u. 1907

# Pelzwaren-Katalog

überreicht von

## FRANZ RUTTLOFF



Prämiert Leipzig 1905 u. 1907

Langestrasse 47-51

• CHEMNITZ •

Langestrasse 47-51



8 OCTOBER  
1907

Flag  
postmark  
on largest  
known  
commercial  
cover ...  
170 x 250  
mm.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-  
matter rate  
for mail 50-  
100 grams.

Wohlgeboren

*Frau Friedrich Ludwig*

*Frankeberg 9/2*



# BICKERDIKE

CHEMNITZ \*1\*

Postmark Types I & II

1903 - 1912

FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

MAIL TO NORWAY

21 MAY 1904

View-card, sent to Bergen, Norway. 5-day transit-time.

Arrival Postmark: "Bergen \*1\*, 25 May 1904"

10 Pfennig... UPU International Postcard-Rate



MAIL TO DENMARK

14 MARCH 1907

Commercial cover, sent to Copenhagen, Denmark.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Kopenhagen \*K\*, 15 March 1907" (Krag Machine Postmark)

20 Pfennig... UPU International Single-Weight Letter-Rate

# BICKERDIKE

1903

CÖLN \*(Rhein)1\*

Machine '1'  
Postmark Type '1'



Two 'Bickerdike' Machines were operational at the Cologne (Cöln) Post Office.  
**MACHINE '1' APPLIED A 'FLAG' POSTMARK TO OUT-GOING MAIL FOR FOUR MONTHS,**  
thereafter applying arrival or service postmarks to in-coming mail.

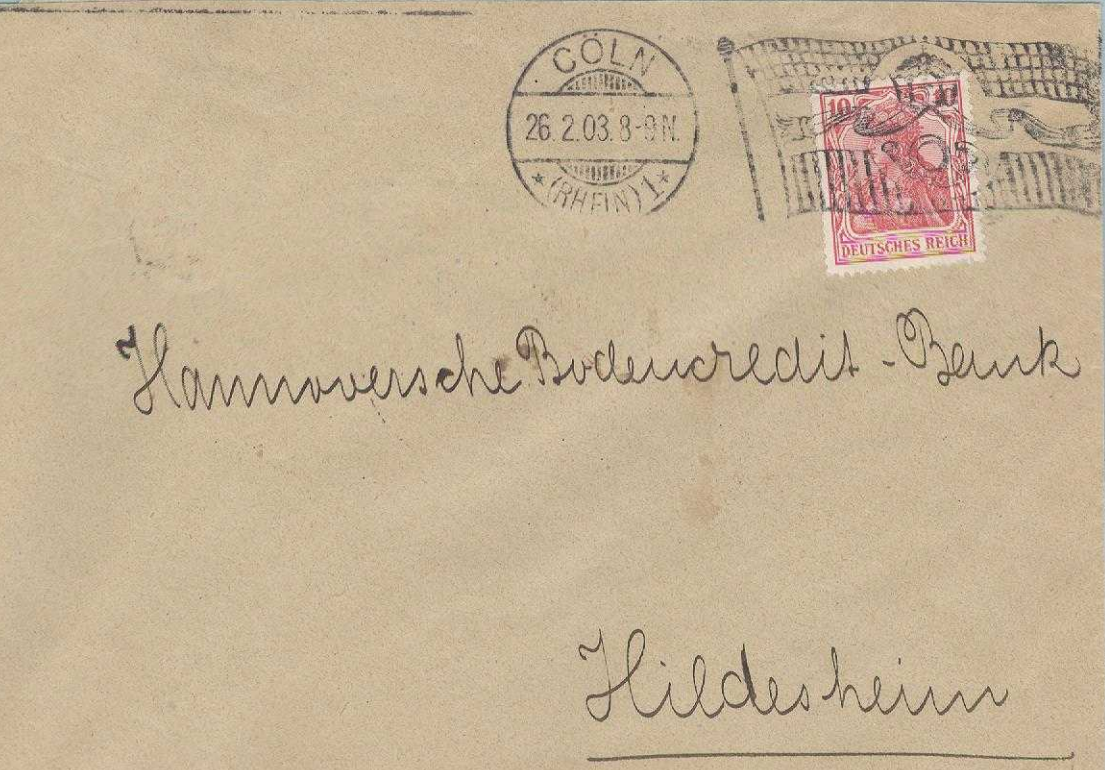
**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial (indicating "Cöln \*(Rhein)1\*") with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 12 February – 5 June 1903

15 FEBRUARY 1903

Viewcard, sent to Recklinghausen, (Westphalia).

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate



26 FEBRUARY 1903

Commercial cover, sent from "Auskunftei W. Schimmelpfennig" (renowned commercial information company 'Schimmelpfennig') to a bank in Hildesheim.

10 Pfennig... Domestic single-weight letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

CÖLN \*(RHEIN) 1\*

1903 - 1906

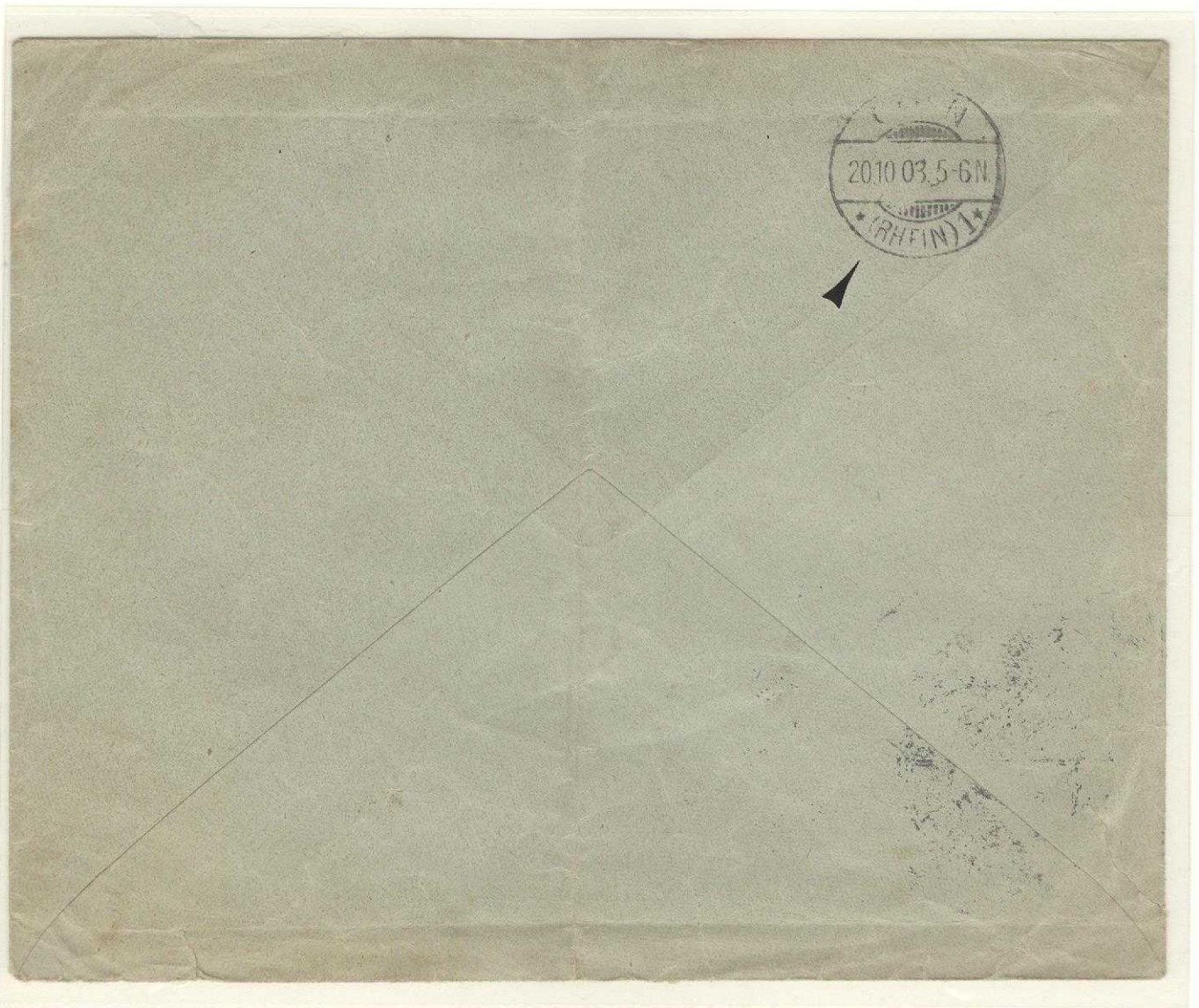
Machine '1'

Postmark Type '2'

After applying a 'flag' postmark to out-going mail  
for only four months,  
**COLOGNE MACHINE '1' CONTINUED TO FUNCTION FOR FOUR  
ADDITIONAL YEARS APPLYING 'ARRIVAL' OR SERVICE  
POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL.**

*Postmark:* 26 mm double-circle dater-dial, indicating  
"Cöln \*(Rhein)1\*", with 'bridge' & vertical grill.

*Usage:* 25 August 1903 – 10 July 1906



20 OCTOBER 1903

In-bound commercial cover from Vienna, Austria, to Cologne.  
Upon arrival, an 'arrival' or service  
postmark was applied on the cover reverse.

# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1906

CÖLN \*1a

Machine '2'

Postmark Type Ia

**Machine '2' became operational at Cologne (Cöln) Post Office in 1903 applying 'flag' postmarks only to out-going mail.**

**Two postmark obliterator dies were applicable ..**

**'TYPE I' DIE HAS THE FOLLOWING PRIMARY CHARACTERISTICS:**

- \* Dater Dial 24mm;
- \* Wide crown with a thick cross;
- \* Narrow mouthpiece on postal horn.

**Postmark:** 24 mm double-circle dater-dial (indicating "Cöln \*1a") with 'bridge' & vertical grill with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

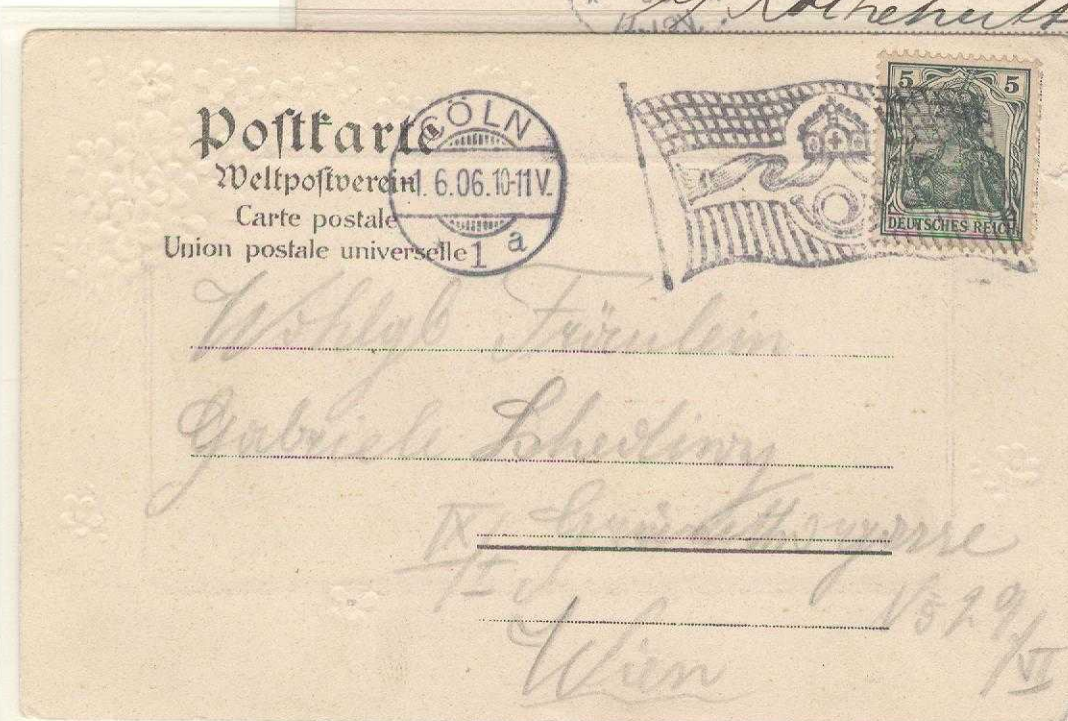
**Usage:** 17 July 1903 - 1 June 1906

## DOMESTIC MAIL

3 AUGUST 1903

Viewcard,  
sent to  
Königshof  
(Harz Mountains).

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



## MAIL TO AUSTRIA

1 JUNE 1906

"Gruss Aus" Card,  
sent to Vienna,  
Austria

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate valid  
for mail to Austria.

Latest known  
usage date.



# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1906

CÖLN \*1a

Machine '2'

Postmark Type Ia

Postmark: 24 mm double-circle dater-dial (indicating "Cöln \*1a") with 'bridge' & vertical grill with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 17 July 1903 - 1 June 1906

FOREIGN BOUND  
MAIL

15 AUGUST 1903

Viewcard,  
sent to  
Edinburgh, Scotland.

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



COMMERCIAL  
DOMESTIC  
PRINTED-MATTER

20 AUGUST 1903

Commercial  
business  
solicitation,  
sent to Hanover.

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail  
to 50 grams.

CÖLN \*1a

Machine '2'

Postmark Type 1b

The 'Cologne Obliterator Type '1a' was replaced after three years' continuous use with TYPE '1b' DIE HAVING THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

- \* Dater Dial 24mm;
- \* Narrow crown with a thin cross;
- \* Wide mouthpiece on postal horn.

Postmark: 24 mm double-circle dater-dial (indicating "Cöln \*1a") with 'bridge' & vertical grill with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 8 August 1909 - 23 March 1915

ELECTION/POLLING STATION NOTIFICATION CARD



28 OCTOBER 1913

Election/Polling Station Notification Card, sent from the mayor's office to a local resident.

3 Pfennig..

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail to 50 grams.

**BICKERDIKE**

**CÖLN \*1a**

*Machine '2'*

*Postmark Type 1b*

1908 - 1915

COMMERCIAL MAIL

**Engelbert Clever Nachf.**

**Jagdausrüstung**

**Cöln**

Andreaskloster 31 ☞ Fernsprecher 146.



12 AUGUST 1910

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure  
(for hunting  
outfitting),  
sent to  
Mönchen-  
Gladbach,  
(Rhineland  
Province).

*Jaun*

*v. Berswordt-Wallrabe*

*M. Gladbach*

Professor

**Marcell Salzer**

gibt am

Donnerstag, den 23. Oktober 1913,  
abends präzise 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Uhr

im

Gr. Saal der Lese-Gesellschaft Köln

einen

**Lustigen Abend**

Neues Programm!

KARTEN à 3.30, 1.65, 1.10 Mark einschl.  
städt. Billesteuer in J. Fr. Weber's Hof-  
musikalienhdlg. G.m.b.H., In der Höhle 4,  
Fernspr. A. 504, sowie an der Abendkasse.

Das „Lustige Salzer-Buch“, Band I und II, ebenda  
: und in jeder Buchhandlung :

*Eilige Drucksache*



17 OCTOBER 1913

**“Eilige  
Drucksache”  
(‘Urgent Printed-Matter’)  
advertising-  
double-card  
promoting  
“Professor  
Marcell Salzer’s”  
presentation in  
Cologne  
on  
23 October 1913.**

*Jaun*

*Klaus Niedemann*

*Köln*

*Jabelbergstr. 13*

3 Pfennig..

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

CÖLN \*1a

Machine '2'  
Postmark Type 1b

1914 - 1915

FREE-FRANK FIELDPOST MAIL ..  
WORLD WAR I

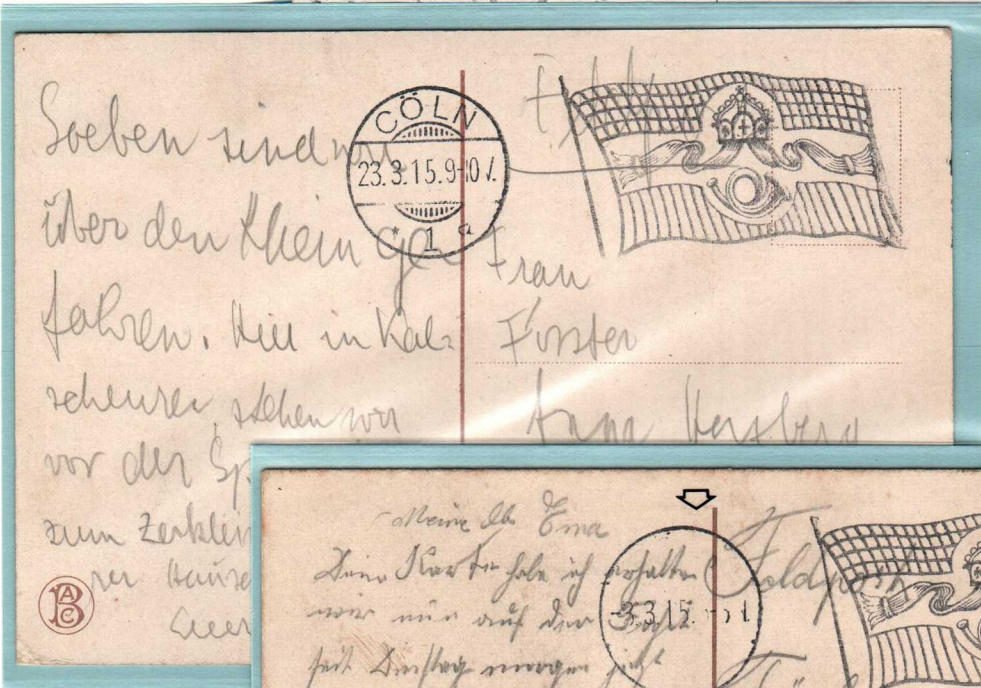
With the outbreak of World War I on 1 August, 1914, troop trains soon thereafter departed Germany for the Western Front crossing the Rhine River at Cologne.

Prior to departing Germany, soldiers often sent view-cards home, as if they were on vacation!

**SUCH MAIL WAS 'FREE FRANK' AS LONG AS CARDS WERE ENDORSED "FELDPOST".**

8 AUGUST 1914

Earliest Known Usage.

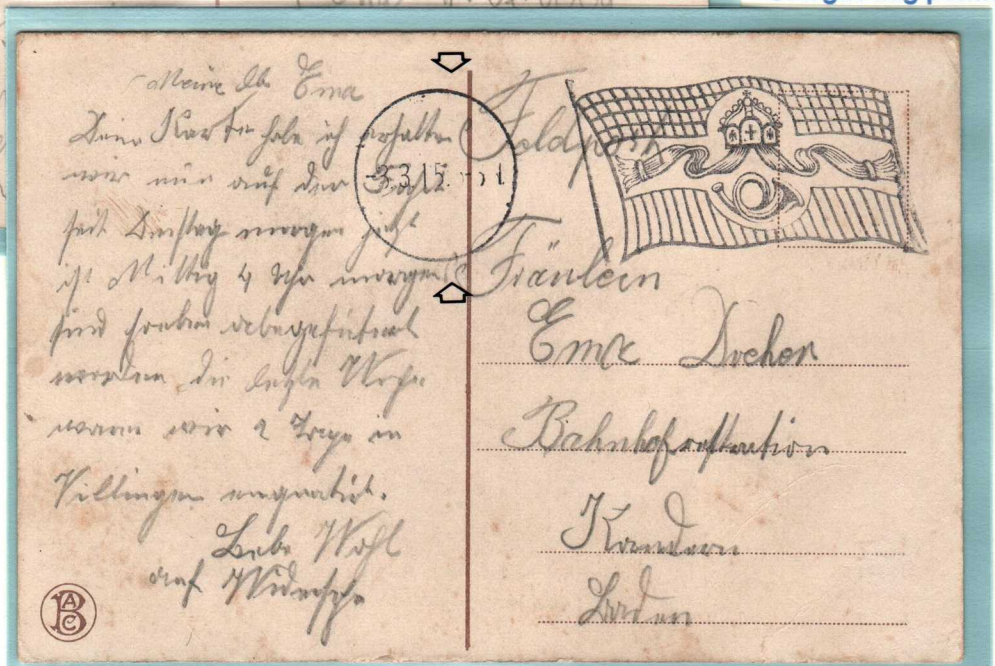


23 MARCH 1915

Latest known 'Fieldpost' usage & latest known Cologne flag postmark.

3 MARCH 1915

One of four known 'Mute' Dater-Dial 'Fieldpost' usage.



# BICKERDIKE DÜSSELDORF \*1u

1903, 1907 - 1910

A 'Bickerdike' delivered in February 1903 to Düsseldorf was intended for use at Post Office '6' ('old town' post office) with postmark evidence showing brief operation at Post Office '1' (postal station adjacent to the main train station).

## 'BICKERDIKE' USE BETWEEN TWO DÜSSELDORF POSTAL STATIONS.

**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle date-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 29 February 1903 ... & 31 December 1906 - 1 January 1910



### DOMESTIC MAIL

1 JANUARY 1909

New Year's Greeting Card, sent to Siegen.

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate



### MAIL TO FRANCE

30 DECEMBER 1908

New Year's Greeting Card, sent to Paris, France.

5 Pfennig... UPU International for printed-matter or postcards with less than ten words of text.



The 'Bickerdike' at Düsseldorf was **TRANSFERRED** one or more times **BETWEEN THE MAIN POST OFFICE ("\*1u")**, adjacent the railway station, **AND THE 'OLD-TOWN' POST OFFICE ("\*6u")**, near city hall and other government buildings.

**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial indicating "Düsseldorf \*6u" with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 10 June 1903 - 30 December 1906

**DOMESTIC  
POSTCARD MAIL**

**10 JUNE 1903**

"Gruss Aus"  
Greeting Card,  
sent to  
Wiedenbrück  
(Westphalia).

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate**

**Earliest Known Use.**



**COMMERCIAL MAIL  
TO THE NETHERLANDS**

**2 MARCH 1904**

Postcard advertising  
printed-matter,  
sent to the  
Netherlands.

**5 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail to 50 grams.**

**SOCIAL-CLUB  
NOTIFICATION CARD**

29 JUNE 1903

Postcard,  
sent to  
Braunschweig  
(Brunswick).



**DECORATIVE  
FINE-ARTS SOCIETY  
COVER**

30 NOVEMBER 1903

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to a member  
of the  
"Fine Arts Society  
at Hanover".

# BICKERDIKE

ERFURT \*1s

1903 - 1908

A single 'Bickerdike' was operational at Erfurt  
**USED ALTERNATELY TO APPLY ORIGIN  
 POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL  
 AS WELL AS 'ARRIVAL' SERVICE  
 POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL**  
 using the full dater-dial & flag obliterator postmark.



**Postmark:** 25 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 21 July 1903 - 18 April 1908

**OUT-BOUND/IN-BOUND SAME DAY MACHINE SERVICE**

## OUT-GOING MAIL

26 JULY 1903

View-card,  
sent to  
Stuttgart,

(Province Württemberg).

Note postmark  
time:  
"26 JULY"



## IN-COMING MAIL

25 JULY 1903

"Gruss aus Liegnitz"  
Card,  
sent to Erfurt.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Erfurt \*1s,  
26 July 1903,  
9-10 AM"

Note postmark  
arrival time:  
"26 JULY"  
compared to  
above example.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate



**BICKERDIKE**

ERFURT \*1s

1903 - 1908

COMMERCIAL MAIL



**BUSINESS MAIL**

**25 SEPTEMBER 1903**

Cover, sent to a wood products company at Oberlohmühle, (Province Saxony).

Arrival Postmark (On reverse) "Deutsch Catharinenberg, 26 September, 1903.."

10 Pfennig.. Single-weight (20 grams) domestic letter-rate



**ADVERTISING POSTCARD**

**23 SEPTEMBER 1903**

Plant nursery advertising mail, sent to a farmer at Wieckhorst, Schneverdingen (Hanover).

Arrival Postmark: "Schneverdingen, 24 September 1903"

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate.

**BICKERDIKE**  
ERFURT \*1s

1903 - 1908

INNER-CITY MAIL USAGE

POSTAL STATIONERY  
CARD USAGE AT  
REDUCED RATE

1 JANUARY 1906

Inner-city usage at  
reduced rate.

2 Pfennig..  
Postal stationery  
card for inner-city  
mail use.



INNER-CITY  
POSTCARD AT  
DOMESTIC RATE

18 APRIL 1908

'Easter Greetings  
Card',  
sent within the  
city.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

Latest known  
usage date.

# BICKERDIKE

ERFURT \*1s

1903 - 1904

FULL ORIGIN OUT-GOING MAIL POSTMARK  
APPLIED ON INCOMING MAIL

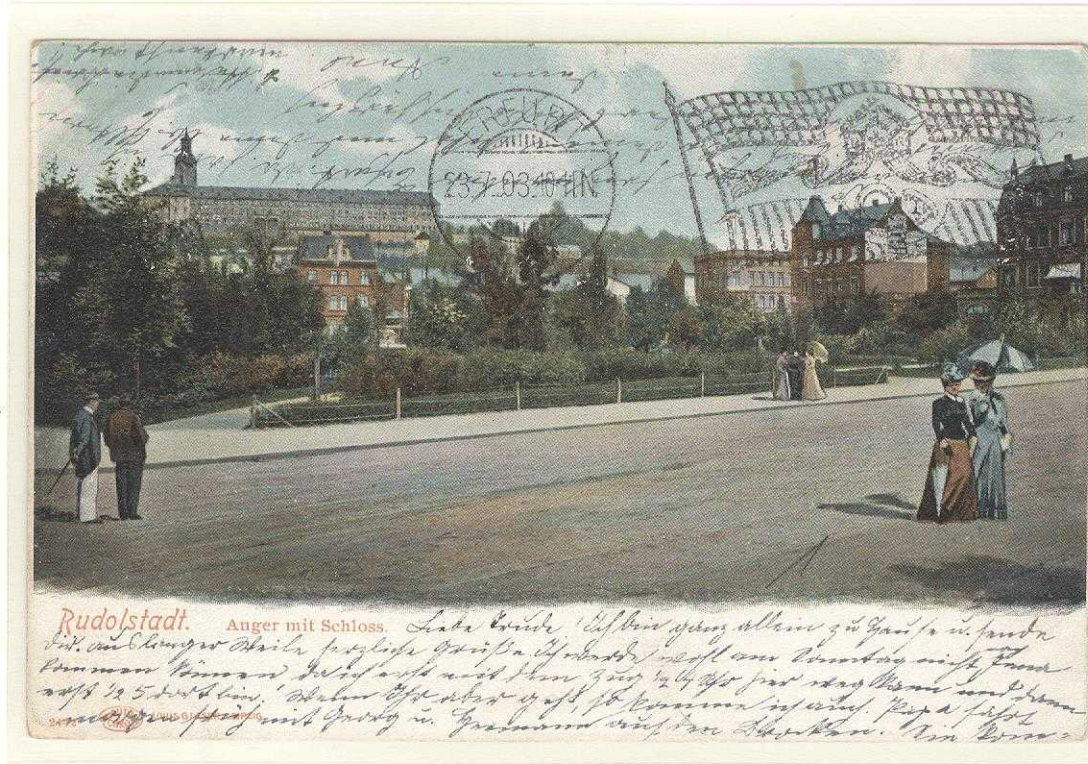
(ARRIVAL SERVICE POSTMARK)

## IN-COMING POSTCARD MAIL

23 JULY 1903

View-card,  
sent from  
Rudolstadt to Erfurt  
receiving upon arrival  
a service postmark  
on the reverse side of card.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



## INNER-CITY LETTER MAIL

27 MARCH 1904

Inner-city mail cover,  
sent to a physician,  
receiving upon arrival a  
service postmark on the  
reverse of cover.

6 Pfennig..  
(3x 2 Pf.)

5 Pfg.. Inner-city  
letter-mail rate  
1 Pfg.. Convenience  
over-franking

# BICKERDIKE

FRANKFURT \*(MAIN) 1a

Machine '1'

1903 - 1909  
INNER-CITY MAIL

Two 'Bickerdikes' became operational in 1903 at the City of Frankfurt (Main).  
**MACHINE '1'** ('a' = dater dial)  
**APPLIED ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL**  
 whereas Machine '2' ('b' = dater dial)  
 applied 'arrival' or service  
 postmarks to in-coming mail.



**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 24 March 1903 - 28 December 1909

## COMMERCIAL MAIL

30 MARCH 1903

Business postal  
stationery card mail,  
sent to a local shoe  
manufacturer.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Frankfurt (M)  
\*Bornheim a,  
31 March 1903.."

2 Pfennig ...  
Inner-city  
postcard rate.



RESIDENT  
CORRESPONDENCE

31 MARCH 1903

UPU Correspondence  
Card, sent locally.

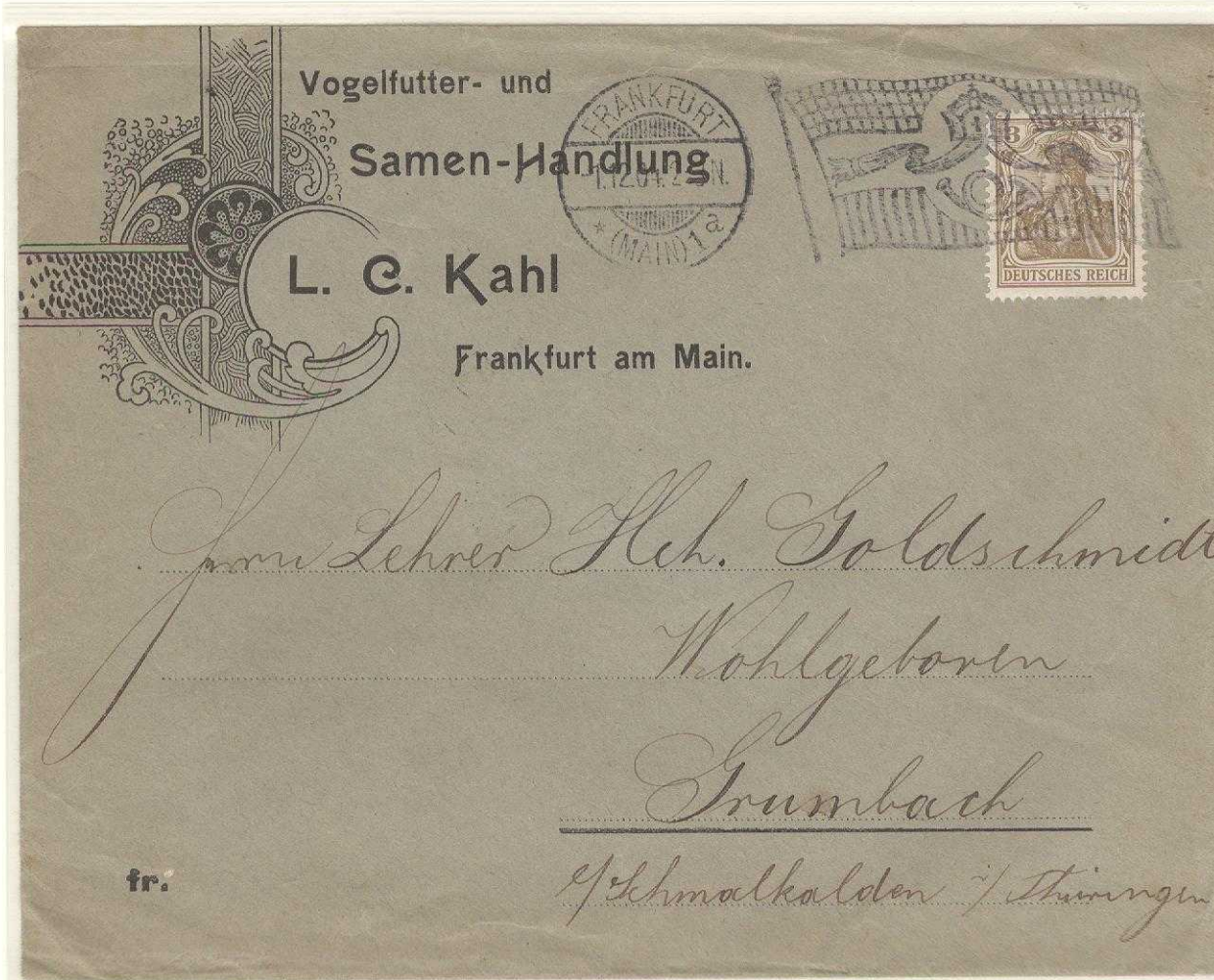
2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate

**BICKERDIKE**

FRANKFURT \*(MAIN) 1a

Machine '1'

1903 - 1909  
COMMERCIAL MAIL



**BUSINESS  
PRINTED-  
MATTER MAIL**

**1 DECEMBER  
1904**

**Cover,  
printed-  
matter  
enclosure,  
sent to  
Grumbach.**

**3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
printed-  
matter  
mail to  
50 grams.**



**BUSINESS  
POSTCARD MAIL**

**28 SEPTEMBER 1907**

**Postcard,  
sent to Rodheim.**

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.**

**BICKERDIKE**

FRANKFURT \*(MAIN) 1a

Machine '1'

1903 - 1909  
INNER-CITY MAIL

LETTER MAIL

28 AUGUST  
1903

Cover,  
sent to  
locally.

5 Pfennig ...  
Inner-city  
letter-mail  
rate



PRINTED  
MATTER MAIL

2 DECEMBER  
1905

Cover,  
printed-  
matter  
enclosure,  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
(open cover)  
printed-  
matter rate to  
50 grams.

**BICKERDIKE**

**FRANKFURT \*(MAIN) 1a**

*Machine '1'*

**1903 - 1909  
POSTCARD MAIL**

**MAIL TO ITALY**

**19 JUNE 1903**

**View-card,  
sent to  
a priest in  
Ferrara, Italy.**

**5 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate for  
mail with less than  
ten written text words.**



**DOMESTIC MAIL**

**2 JULY 1905**

**Frankfurt Zoo "Gruss  
aus" Card, sent to  
Baden-Baden.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Baden-Baden \*1g,  
2 July 1905.."**

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate**

# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1907

FRANKFURT \*(MAIN) 1b

Machine '2'

Two 'Bickerdikes' became operational at Frankfurt (Main) in 1903. Machine '1' applied postmarks to out-going mail, while MACHINE '2' ('b' = in dater dial) APPLIED 'ARRIVAL' OR SERVICE POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL

Postmark: 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill.

Usage: 2 August 1903 - 12 January 1905  
 (Complete 'bridge' in dater dial)  
 4 May 1905 - 3 April 1907  
 (Broken 'bridge' in dater dial)

## MAIL FROM ITALY

4 MAY 1905

In-coming view-card, sent from Rome, Italy, to Frankfurt/Main.

'Bickerdike'

Arrival Postmark: "Frankfurt \*(Main)1b, 4 May 1905, 6-7 AM"

10 Centesimi..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

Earliest known date for 'broken bridge' use.



## DOMESTIC IN-BOUND MAIL

5 JULY 1905

Postal stationery card, sent from Biedenkopf to Frankfurt (Main).

'Bickerdike' Arrival Postmark: "Frankfurt \*(Main)1b, 6 July 1905, 10-11AM"

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.



# BICKERDIKE

HALLE (Saale) 2h

1903 - 1905

Postmark Type I

At 'Halle', two 'flag' obliterator dies were used.  
**Early use 'TYPE I'**  
**HAS THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS**  
 \* Dater Dial 26mm;  
 \* **Flag obliterator length 48mm at top**  
 \* **Small thick cross in crown.**



**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 14 June 1903 – 22 April 1905

14 JUNE 1903

View-card,  
sent to  
Eggersdorf  
(Province Saxony).

First-Day of Use.



Gutschow & Barnieske  
Halle a. S.

Postkarte.

211

Herrn

*Emil Harjess,*

in *Quedlinburg 94.*



15 JUNE 1903

Commercial  
postcard,  
sent to  
Quedlinburg.

Second Day of  
Use.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate

**SINGLE-WEIGHT LETTER-RATE**

8 JULY 1903

Cover,  
sent to Adlershof  
near Berlin.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Adlershof,  
8 July 1903.."

10 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate  
(20 grams).



**DOUBLE-WEIGHT LETTER-RATE**

22 AUGUST 1903

Business reply  
cover  
(coal mining  
company),  
sent to Ramsdorf  
(Province Saxony-  
Anhalt).

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Lucka  
(Sachs. Alt),  
22 August  
1903.."

20 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
double-weight  
letter-rate  
(20-250 grams).

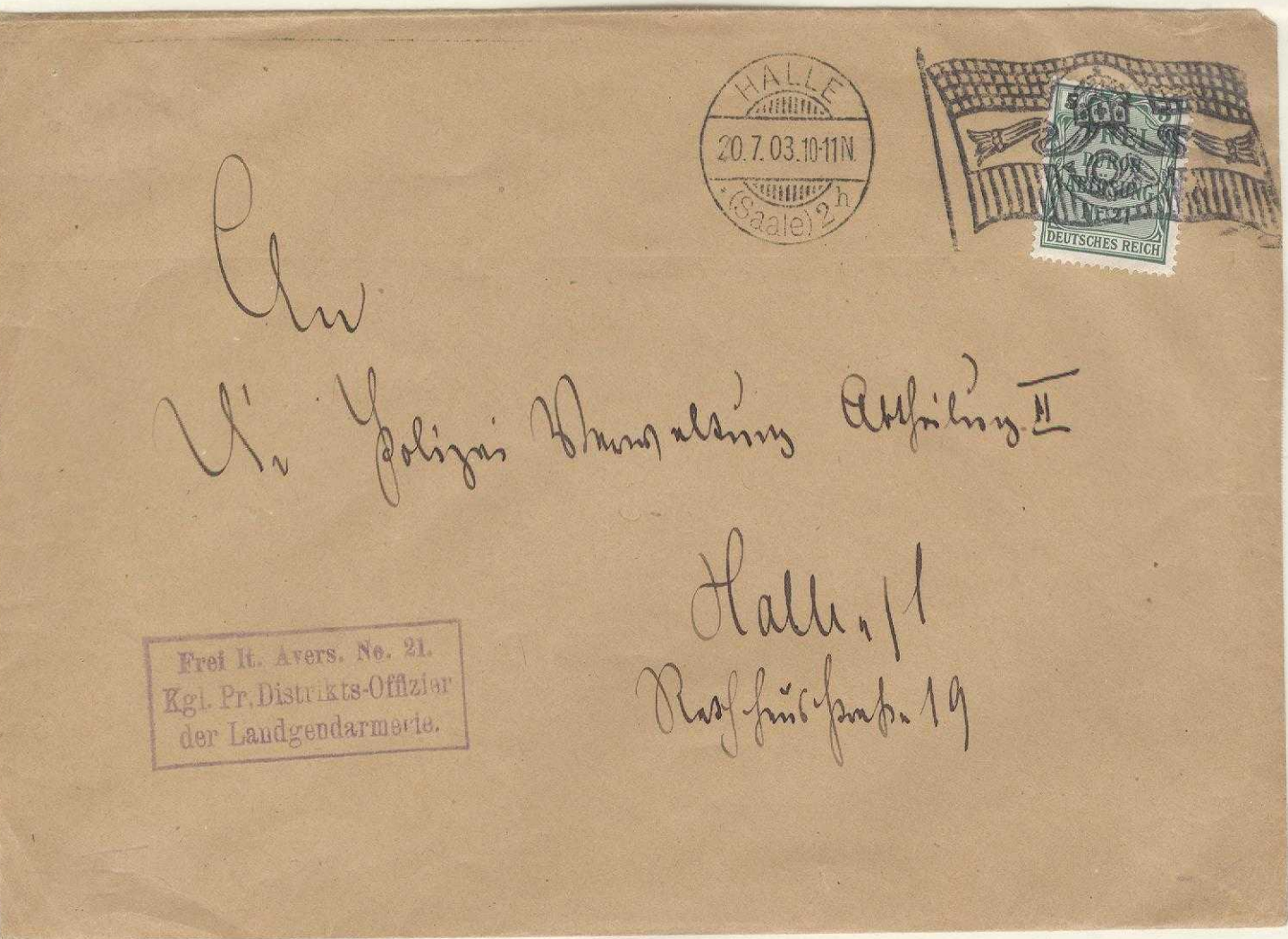
**BICKERDIKE**

**HALLE (Saale) 2h**

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1905

**OFFICIAL PRUSSIAN  
GOVERNMENT MAIL**



**20 JULY 1903**

**Cover, inner-city mail sent from the  
'Imperial Prussian Provincial Police District Office'  
to the police administrative office  
at Halle.**

**5 Pfennig...**  
(government service postage)  
**inner-city letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams.**

**BICKERDIKE**

HALLE (Saale) 2h

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1905

**OFFICIAL PRUSSIAN  
GOVERNMENT MAIL**



*Herrn Hauptmann*

Frei lt. Avers. No. 21.  
Kgl. Pr. Eisenbahndirektion

*Gins*

**RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION MAIL**

**9 DECEMBER 1903**

Folded-letter, sent to the Halle City Magistrate's Office.

Postkarte



An

*Frau Direktor Roediger*

*Friedrichsallee*

*Halle a/S.*

*Torstraße 60.*

Frei lt. Avers. No. 21.  
Kgl. Pr. Reichspostamt  
Abteilung  
(Stempel mit Saalnummer)

**OFFICE OF  
FORESTRY  
MAIL**

**11  
DECEMBER  
1903**

Postcard,  
sent locally.

C. 154.

**5 Pfennig...**

(government service postage)

**inner-city letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams &  
Domestic postcard-rate.**

**BICKERDIKE**

HALLE (Saale) 2h

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1905

SOLDIER'S MAIL

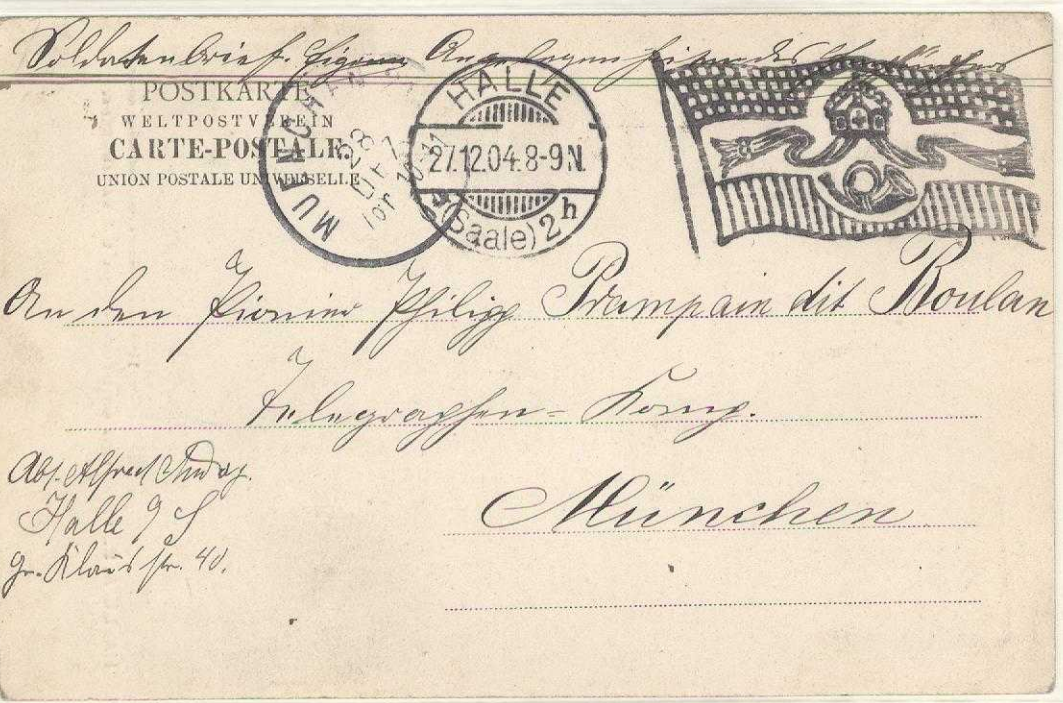
**'Soldiers' Mail' (to or from a soldier) was  
 FREE-FRANK AS LONG AS ENDORSED  
 "Soldatenbrief/Postkarte" or  
 "Soldatenbrief eigene Angelegenheit des Empfängers"  
 ("Soldier's Mail. Personal Matters Concerning the Recipient")**

**"SOLDATENPOSTKARTE"**

**15 NOVEMBER 1904**

**Viewcard,  
sent to a soldier  
stationed at  
Stuttgart  
(Württemberg).**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Stuttgart PA I,  
16 November (19) 04.."**



**"SOLDATENBRIEF.."**

**27 DECEMBER 1904**

**Viewcard,  
sent to a soldier  
stationed at  
Munich  
(Bavaria).**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Muenchen  
28 December  
(1904).."**

# BICKERDIKE

HALLE (Saale) 2h

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1905

FORWARDED FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

## GERMANY to FRANCE

10 NOVEMBER 1903

View-card,  
sent to Geneva,  
Switzerland, forwarded  
upon arrival  
to Montpellier, France.

Forwarding & Arrival  
Postmarks:

- "Geneva,  
11 November 1903"
- "Geneva,  
16 November 1903"
- "Montpellier,  
17 November 1903"

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.



## GERMANY-AUSTRIA to SWITZERLAND WITH ADDED-FRANKING

20 JULY 1904

View-card, sent to  
Vienna, Austria,  
postage added,  
forwarded upon  
arrival to  
St. Moritz, Switzerland.

Arrival Postmark:  
"St. Moritz (Bad),  
23 August 1904.."

5 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter (less  
than 10 words of text).

# BICKERDIKE

HALLE (Saale) 2h

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1905

FOREIGN-BOUND POSTAGE-DUE MAIL

GERMANY-SWITZERLAND

27 JUNE 1903

Under-franked cover, sent to Tarasp Kurhaus, Switzerland, resulting in 25 Centimes for missing postage + penalty.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Tarasp Kurhaus, 29 June 1903"

Required Postage: 20 Pfennig... UPU Single-Weight International Letter-Rate



GERMANY-ITALY-GERMANY

4 NOVEMBER 1903

View-card, sent to Milan, Italy, refused upon arrival, returned to Halle with Italian postage due added.

Arrival Postmarks: "Milan, 16 November 1903."

"Halle (Saale), 10 December 1903"

5 Pfennig... UPU International Printed-Matter (less than 10 words of text).



# BICKERDIKE

HALLE (Saale) 2h

Postmark Type I

1903 - 1905

IMPROPER MACHINE OPERATION

**DOUBLE IN-FEED  
OF MAIL INTO THE  
MACHINE**

**16 JULY 1903**

'Double obliterator  
impression' ...  
possibly a result of a  
machine jam  
requiring mail to be  
re-fed into the  
machine.



**IMPROPER  
POSTMARK  
ALIGNMENT**

**9 NOVEMBER 1903**

Possibly machine  
mail in-feed tray  
misaligned  
resulting in  
postmark not  
entirely obliterating  
the postage,  
requiring the postal  
clerk to hand-  
cancel postage.

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate.**



# BICKERDIKE

HALLE (Saale) 2h

1903 - 1905

POSTMARK DATER-DIAL DAMAGE

Postmark Type I

Commencing in late 1903 through 1905,  
THE 'POSTMARK DATER-DIAL' PROGRESSIVELY LOST PARTS  
OF ITS 'BRIDGE' OVER TIME.

COMPLETE POSTMARK  
DATER-DIAL 'BRIDGE'  
EARLY-MID 1903

16 JULY 1903

Viewcard,  
sent to Semlow.



PARTIAL LOSS OF  
'BRIDGE'  
MID-1904

11 JULY 1904

Viewcard,  
sent to Dresden.



PROGRESSIVE LOSS  
OF POSTMARK 'BRIDGE'  
LATE-1904

23 DECEMBER 1904

Viewcard, sent to  
Frankfurt/Main.

Postmark Type II

By July, 1905, the heretofore 'Type I' flag dater-dial continued in use but the obliterator was replaced.. resulting in a ..

'TYPE II' POSTMARK HAVING THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

- \* Dater Dial 26mm having a large portion of the top bridge bar missing;
- \* Flag obliterator length 50mm at top;
- \* Large thin cross in crown;
- \* Sharper image & clarity than 'Type I'.

Postmark: 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with broken top bridge bar & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 14 July 1905 - 31 December 1907

14 JULY 1903

Cover,  
sent to Berlin.

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic single-weight  
letter-rate for mail up to  
20 grams

Earliest Known Usage.



20 SEPTEMBER  
1905

Cover,  
unsealed,  
printed-matter  
enclosure, sent  
to a clergyman  
at Buttstädt.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.



**BICKERDIKE**

**HALLE (Saale) 2h**

*Postmark Type II*

1905 - 1906

**POSTCARD USAGE**

**COMMERCIAL  
MAIL**

**4 AUGUST 1905**

Domestic  
commercial  
postcard, sent to  
the Town of Roda,  
(Province Saxony-  
Anhalt).



**NEW YEAR'S  
GREETING CARD**

**31 DECEMBER 1905**

New Year's  
Greeting Card,  
sent to a family at  
Magdeburg-  
Burkau.

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate.**

# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1906

HAMBURG \*1x

Postmark Type I  
Machine '1'

In addition to a Canadian-built trial machine use at Hamburg from 1899 to 1904, a German-built 'Bickerdike' for field-use became operational in November 1903 = 'Hamburg Machine 1'.

**MACHINE '1' WAS DEDICATED TO APPLY ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL.**



**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator (staff with round ball head) having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 10 November 1903 - 1 January 1906

## EXHIBITION MAIL

19 NOVEMBER 1903

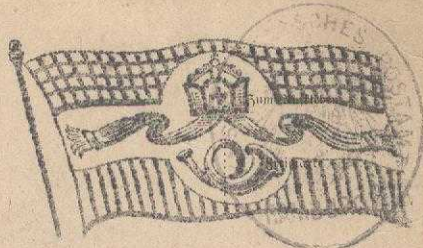
Commemorative view-Card, sent from the 'Tenth International Exhibition for Photographic Art' to Charlottenburg (Berlin).

Arrival Postmark: "Charlottenburg 4, 20 November 1903.."

5 Pfennig ... Domestic postcard-rate



Postkarte



An

Lorenz F. W. W. W. W.



Hamburg

Rundplatz 15.

Wohnung (Straße und Hausnummer)

FREE-FRANK  
OFFICIAL POST OFFICE  
MAIL

29 DECEMBER 1904

Appointment confirmation notification sent to a Hamburg resident.

**BICKERDIKE**

1903 - 1906

HAMBURG \*1x

OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT MAIL

Postmark 1  
Machine '1'

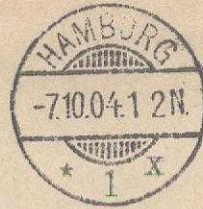
'IMPERIAL PRUSSIAN  
LEGATION' MAIL

7 OCTOBER 1904

Cover,  
sent to a business  
in Hamburg

Arrival Postmark:  
(reverse)  
"Hamburg \*1w,  
7 October.."

Free-frank  
official mail.



*Zimmern Messelhoeft & Ahlers*

*Hamburg*

Frei lt. Ueberf. No. 21  
Kgl. Pr. Gesellschaft

*Zimmernm. 14.*

Kasse des Land- und des Amtsgerichts Hamburg.



*Herrn August Scharnberg,*

ortspflichtige Dienstsache.

**Hamburg.** *30*

*Kasse des Land- und des Amtsgerichts Hamburg*

HAMBURG CITY  
CIVIL COURTS &  
TAX OFFICE MAIL

20 MAY 1905

Official  
correspondence  
cover, postage  
collect, to a  
resident of  
Hamburg.

Unfranked  
official mail  
requiring  
postage  
collection from  
recipient....

5 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
single-weight  
letter-rate for  
mail up to  
20 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

HAMBURG \*1x

Postmark I  
Machine '1'

1903 - 1906

INNER-CITY MAIL

POSTCARD/POSTAL CARD  
CITY RATE

25 NOVEMBER 1904

Postal stationery card,  
business communication  
sent to  
renowned philatelic  
dealer  
"Wilhelm Sellschopp"  
prior to his move to  
San Francisco.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg \*1ae,  
25 November (19)04.."

2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate



LETTER-MAIL  
CITY-RATE

24 DECEMBER 1904

Cover,  
sent locally.

5 Pfennig..  
Inner-city single-weight  
letter-rate for mail  
up to 20 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1906

HAMBURG \*1x

COMMERCIAL LETTER MAIL

Postmark I  
Machine '1'

PRINTED MATTER  
MAIL

5 DECEMBER 1903

Cover,  
advertising  
enclosure, sent to  
Mühlhausen,  
(Province Thuringia).

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate  
for mail up  
to 50 grams



Carl Rothgangel  
Hamburg 13  
Grindelallee 5\*



Herrn  
H. Franz Rothgangel  
Lehrer  
Königsberg  
i. Preussen

*4/4*  
*Fritzlar*  
*hinter*  
*Oppen*

LETTER-RATE MAIL  
REDIRECTED

22 APRIL 1905

Cover sent to a  
court judge at  
"Königsberg"  
redirected to  
"Fritzlar"  
(Province Franconia).

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic single-  
weight letter-rate  
for mail up to 20  
grams.

**BICKERDIKE**

HAMBURG \*1x

Postmark I  
Machine '1'

1903 - 1906

COMMERCIAL POSTCARD MAIL

MAIL TO SWEDEN

15 MARCH 1905

Commercial mail,  
sent to a business  
in Sweden.

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



DOMESTIC  
BANK MAIL  
WITH  
PERFIN POSTAGE

15 APRIL 1905

Bank business  
mail, sent to a  
bank in Tonder  
(Province Schleswig).

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

Perfin  
"V.i.H." =  
"Vereinsbank  
in  
Hamburg"



HAMBURG \*1x

Postmark I Variety  
Machine '1'

About May-June 1905, the obliterator die started to show wear .. manifesting itself in the 'BALL SPHERE' AT TOP OF STAFF NOW 'FLATTENED' INSTEAD OF HERETOFORE 'ROUND'

FLAG OBLITERATOR WEAR DAMAGE ...  
FLATTENED 'BALL SPHERE' AT TOP OF FLAG STAFF



5 JUNE 1905

View-card,  
sent to Heilbronn.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Heilbronn Neckar,  
6 June 1905.."

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

1905 - 1906

HAMBURG \*1x

INNER-CITY MAIL

Postmark Type II  
Machine '2'

The first trial Bickerdike Machine had been tested at Hamburg applying a seven-line 'Hmb' Postmark to out-going mail between 1899-1904, subsequently overhauled, given a new postmarking die and again placed into service at Hamburg in January 1905.. referenced here as 'HAMBURG BICKERDIKE MACHINE '2'.

**MACHINE '2' APPLIED ONLY ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL**

Postmark: 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator (staff with 'spear' head) having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

Usage: 16 January 1905 - 27 April 1906

POSTAL STATIONERY  
CARD ..  
INNER-CITY MAIL

28 JANUARY 1905

"Ladies Evening"  
announcement sent to  
members of the  
Hamburg Philatelic  
Society of 1885

2 Pfennig ...  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate



INNER-CITY LETTER

18 AUGUST 1905

Commercial cover,  
sent locally.

5 Pfennig...  
Single-weight inner-city  
letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

HAMBURG \*1x

Postmark Type II  
Machine '2'

1905 - 1906

DATER DIAL DAMAGE

Commencing approximately May 1905, the  
**DATER-DIAL 'BRIDGE' PROGRESSIVELY LOST PARTS LEAVING OPEN SPACES**  
neither being replaced nor repaired by the Reichspost.

Damaged Dater Dial (approx.): 19 May 1905 - 14 April 1906

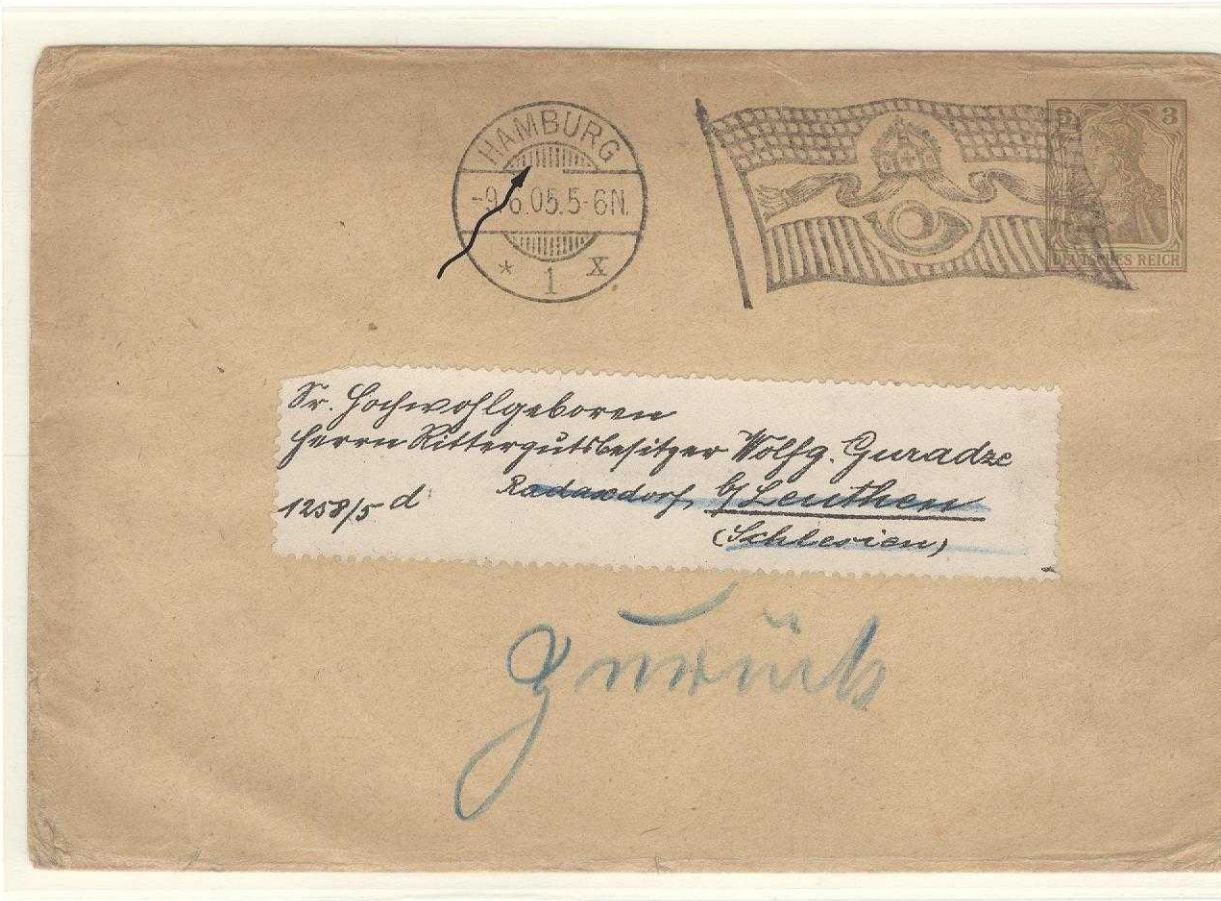
PRIVATE-ISSUED  
POSTAL  
STATIONERY  
COVER

9 SEPTEMBER  
1905

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure, sent  
to a large farm  
owner at  
Radau Dorf  
(Province Silesia),  
marked  
'Return'  
(to sender).

Postmark dater  
dial with ONE  
break in upper  
bridge bar.

3 Pfennig ...  
Printed-matter  
rate for mail up  
to 50 grams.



H. PROPFE & Co.  
HAMBURG I,  
Alsterdamm No. 4/5.



An die Firma

Herrn Tage Stromwall  
Caffe - stasse 10 <sup>II r.</sup>  
bei Rumpff.  
Hies  
Boyzfeldae



INNER-CITY  
COMMERCIAL MAIL

13 OCTOBER 1905

Business postcard,  
sent locally.

Postmark dater dial now  
having TWO breaks in the  
upper bridge bar.

2 Pfennig...  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate

HAMBURG \*1x

Postmark Type I & II  
Machines '1' & '2'

EXAMPLES OF SAME DATE & TIME OPERATION OF MACHINES '1' & '2'...  
POSTMARK TYPES '1' & 'II' .... 6 SEPTEMBER 1905

'1'



'2'

PRIVATE-ISSUED POSTAL STATIONERY FOR PRINTED-MATTER

9 SEPTEMBER 1905

Covers, printed-matter enclosures, sent from the  
Hamburg Company 'Schülke & Mayr'  
to large-farm managers with both 'returned to sender'.

3 Pfennig ...  
Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams

# BICKERDIKE

ALTONA \*(Elbe) 1b

1908 - 1909

## 'HAMBURG MACHINE 2'

ceased operation at in 1906 remaining dormant  
for two years prior to  
**TRANSFER TO THE CITY OF ALTONA**  
WHERE IT APPLIED

**POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL USING A NEW  
DATER-DIAL BUT WORN 'HAMBURG' FLAG OBLITERATOR**



**Postmark:** 26 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator (staff with 'spear' head) having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 23 May 1908 - 2 January 1909



6 JUNE 1908

'Pentecost Greetings Card',  
sent to Hamburg.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard-rate

# BICKERDIKE

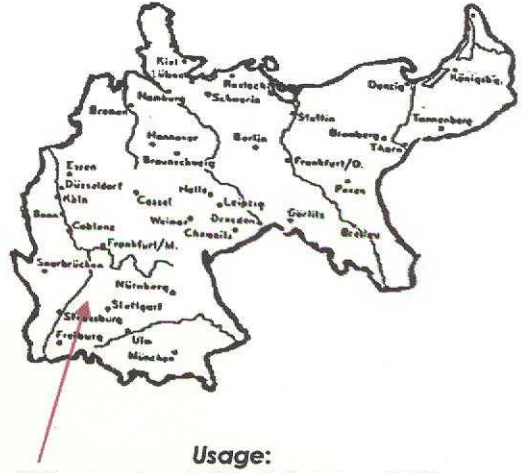
1902 - 1911

KARLSRUHE \*(BADEN) 1\*

Postmark Type I

As a purchase condition for 'Bickerdikes' now manufactured under license in Germany by the *Deutsche Waffen und Munitionsfabriken*, the Reichspost required a test/training machine be supplied in 1902.

INITIALLY AS A 'TRAINING MACHINE' AND LATER AS 'FIELD-OPERATIONAL', THE 'KARLSRUHE BICKERDIKE' HAD VARIED USE FROM APPLYING A 'FLAG POSTMARK' TO OUT-GOING MAIL TO APPLYING ARRIVAL OR SERVICE POSTMARKS TO INCOMING MAIL.



Postmark: 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge', with "Karlsruhe (Baden)"...the latter WIDELY SPACED, vertical grill along with 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels approx. 1mm FROM HALYARD) and postal horn.

Usage: 19 September 1902 - 2 October 1911

31 DECEMBER 1909

Postal stationery correspondence card sent to Munich.

5 Pfennig ... Domestic postcard-rate



Postkarte KARLSRUHE 31.12.09.4-5V. (BADEN) I  
J. Lafarwulgeborn  
by von Oberleutnant a. D. Karl Marcks  
München  
Rudersstraße 9



Serius  
Herrn Fred. Kristen  
Herrn  
Berdestraße 26

31 DECEMBER 1909

Cover sent to Hamburg.

10 Pfennig.. Domestic single-weight letter-rate (20 grams).

Exp. Oechsner BPP

# BICKERDIKE

1902 - 1906

KARLSRUHE \*(BADEN) 1\*

IN-BOUND PROVINCIAL MAIL

Arrival Postmark

INITIALLY AS A 'TRAINING MACHINE' AND LATER 'FIELD-OPERATIONAL', THE 'KARLSRUHE BICKERDIKE' HAD VARIED USE FROM APPLYING A 'FLAG POSTMARK' TO OUT-GOING MAIL TO APPLYING ARRIVAL OR SERVICE POSTMARKS TO INCOMING MAIL.

Postmark: 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge', with "Karlsruhe (Baden)"...the latter WIDELY SPACED, and vertical grill without obliterator.

Usage: 25 December 1902 - 30 October 1906

IN-BOUND MAIL FROM  
BAVARIA

4 JULY 1904

View-card,  
postmarked at  
Nuremberg,  
sent to Karlsruhe.



Königreich Bayern

Postkarte



In

Herrn Carl Piche

Ulm Handlung

in

Karlsruhe 4/B

Wohnung  
(Straße und Hausnummer)

Karlsruhe

IN-BOUND MAIL FROM  
PROVINCE BADEN

27 OCTOBER 1906

Bavarian Post Office  
postal stationery card,  
postmarked at NeuUlm,  
sent to Karlsruhe.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

1903 - 1904

KARLSRUHE \*(BADEN) 1\*

Postmark Type II

The 'KARLSRUHE BICKERDIKE' WAS MODIFIED in October, 1903, WITH AN AUTOMATIC IN-FEED and a test was conducted for several months, whereby the machine received A NEW DATER DIAL & OBLITERATOR = 'KARLSRUHE POSTMARK TYPE II'

**Postmark:** 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge', with "Karlsruhe (Baden)"...the latter **NARROWLY SPACED**, and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels (approx. 0.5mm FROM HALYARD) and postal horn.

**Usage:** 5 October 1903 – 31 December 1904

CIVILIAN LETTER MAIL

7 OCTOBER 1903

Cover sent to Freiburg.

10 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
single-weight letter-rate  
(20 grams).



Verlag von Hebel's Rheinland, Hausfreund  
und Bad. Landeskalendar in Karlsruhe.

Drucksache



Herr  
Löbl.

Joseph Segen

Buchhandlung — Papierhandlung — Buchbinderei

in

Engen

COMMERCIAL  
PRINTED-MATTER  
ADVERTISING MAIL

6 NOVEMBER 1903

Cover, printed-  
matter, sent to  
Engen.

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
mail rate  
for mail up  
to 50 grams.



**BICKERDIKE**

1903 - 1904

KARLSRUHE \*(BADEN) 1\*

COMMERCIAL MAIL

Postmark Type II

10 OCTOBER 1903

Postal stationery card  
(business  
correspondence),  
sent to Esslingen,  
(Province  
Württemberg).

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.



27 FEBRUARY 1904

Cover, printed-matter enclosure ('Baden State Insurance Office'), sent to Hagen.  
Inserted through machine three times until postmarking success.

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic printed-matter mail rate for mail up to 50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

LÜBECK \*1q

1903 - 1906

One 'Bickerdike' was operational  
at the City of Lübeck  
**FOR APPLYING  
ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL.**



**Postmark:** 25 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 10 July 1903 - 17 June 1906

## FREE-FRANK SOLDIER'S MAIL

12 JULY 1903

View-card, from a soldier  
visiting the City of Lübeck,  
sent to  
a comrade stationed at  
the Town of Ratzeburg.

**Arrival Postmark:**  
"Ratzeburg (Lauenburg)  
12 July 1903 .."

Free-Frank as long as the  
soldier endorsed mail ..  
**"Soldatenbrief. Eigene  
Angelegenheit des  
Empfängers"**  
("Soldier's Mail.  
Personal Matters  
Concerning the Recipient")



**COMMERCIAL  
MAIL WITH PERFIN  
POSTAGE**

5 OCTOBER 1904

Commercial  
postcard sent to a  
business at  
Friedrichstadt

**5 Pfennig.,  
Domestic  
postcard-rate**

**Perfin:  
"A.B.S. =  
"A. Behn & Sohn"**

**BICKERDIKE**  
LÜBECK \*1q

1903 - 1906

COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

Lüders & Stange

Lübeck.



Drucksache.



Herrn *Max Kaehler & Martins*

*Berlin W*

*Wilhelmstr. 30*

6 MAY 1904

Cover, printed-matter enclosure,  
sent from Lübeck to a business in Berlin

3 Pfennig..

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams

# BICKERDIKE MANNHEIM \*1\*

1903 - 1907

One 'Bickerdike' was operational  
at the City of Mannheim  
**FOR APPLYING  
ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL.**

**Postmark:** 25 mm double-circle dater-dial with  
'bridge' and vertical grill along with a  
'flag' obliterator having a crown,  
banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 29 July 1903 – 29 October 1907



## DOMESTIC POSTCARD

29 JULY 1903

View-card,  
sent to Wiesbaden.

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.**

Earliest known usage.



## Deutsche Friedensgesellschaft Ortsgruppe Mannheim.

*Herrn  
Louis Fischer,  
Hier  
Pfalz*



**LOCAL CITY  
PRINTED MATTER  
RATE**

**10 AUGUST 1903**

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosed,  
.. "Deutsche  
Friedens-  
gesellschaft"  
("German Peace  
Association ..  
Mannheim  
Branch"),  
sent locally.

**2 Pfennig..  
Local city  
printed matter  
rate for mail to  
50 grams.**

**MAIL TO  
LUXEMBOURG**

**28 NOVEMBER 1903**

**View-card, sent to  
Luxembourg City.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Luxembourg City,  
29 November 1903"**

**5 Pfennig..  
Concession  
postcard-rate  
to Luxembourg.**

Carte postale — Postkarte  
Cartolina postale — Dopisnica  
Открытое Письмо — Post-card  
Levelező-Lap — Briefkaart



*Madame J. Heichen  
Covetier & la Cour  
Rue Joseph St.  
Luxembourg.  
J. Duché*



**MAIL TO SWITZERLAND**

**31 OCTOBER 1903**

**So-called "Lady's Cover",  
sent to Geneva, Switzerland.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(on reverse)  
"Geneva, 1 October 1903..."**

**20 Pfennig (2x 10 Pfg)..  
UPU Single-Weight Letter-Rate**

**Smallest known cover having a  
flag postmark.. 68 x 103mm (2.67" x 4.05").**

**MAIL TO THE  
UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA**

**13 JUNE 1905**

**View-card, sent to  
Tampa, Florida.  
9-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(on reverse)  
"Tampa,  
June 22, 1905"**

**10 Pfennig  
(2x 5 Pfg)..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate**



*Mr  
H. Maas  
Tampa  
U. S. A. Fla*



**NOTIFICATION OF RESIDENCY**  
**11 FEBRUARY 1905**

**Mannheim City Notification Folded-Letter of a new inhabitant's registration,  
sent to the Police Registry Office at Sennfeld.**

**10 Pfennig..**

**Single-weight (20 grams) letter-rate official postage franking.**



**REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF RESIDENCY**  
**25 APRIL 1904**

**Free-frank folded-letter request sent from the Mannheim City Police  
to the Aalen Town Registry Office  
(Province Württemberg).**

# BICKERDIKE

Mannheim \*1\*

1903 - 1907

COMMERCIAL MAIL

1 September 1903  
Business postcard  
communication sent  
from a Mannheim  
cigar manufacturer  
to a client in Leipzig.

Franking:  
5 Pfennig.. 2+3 Pfg..  
Domestic postcard-  
rate.



## Albert Michel & Co.

Telefon 212. Mannheim. Telefon 212.



14 December 1903  
Business letter sent  
from Mannheim to  
a cognac  
manufacturer  
located in  
Dromersheim,  
Province  
Rhein Hessen.

Receival Postmark:  
(on reverse)  
"Dromersheim, 15  
December 1903,  
1-2 PM"

Franking:  
10 Pfennig..  
Domestic letter-rate  
for mail weighing  
up to 20 grams.

Herr  
Firma

*an Karl Mayer,*

*Brautweinbrennerei*

*Dromersheim.*

*Rhein Hessen*

**BICKERDIKE**  
MANNHEIM \*1\*

1903 - 1907  
COMMERCIAL POSTCARD MAIL

PRINTED MATTER

20 OCTOBER 1903

Commercial  
advertising, sent to  
Segeten, Baden.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Herscheid,  
21 October 1903"

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic printed-  
matter for mail up to  
50 grams.



Süddeutsche Bank  
Mannheim.

Telegr. - Adr.: „Süddeutsche“



C. 154.

**BANK  
CORNER-CARD MAIL**

5 JANUARY 1905

Correspondence  
sent to Schwäbisch Hall.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Schwäbisch Hall,  
6 January 1904..."

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic Postcard-Rate

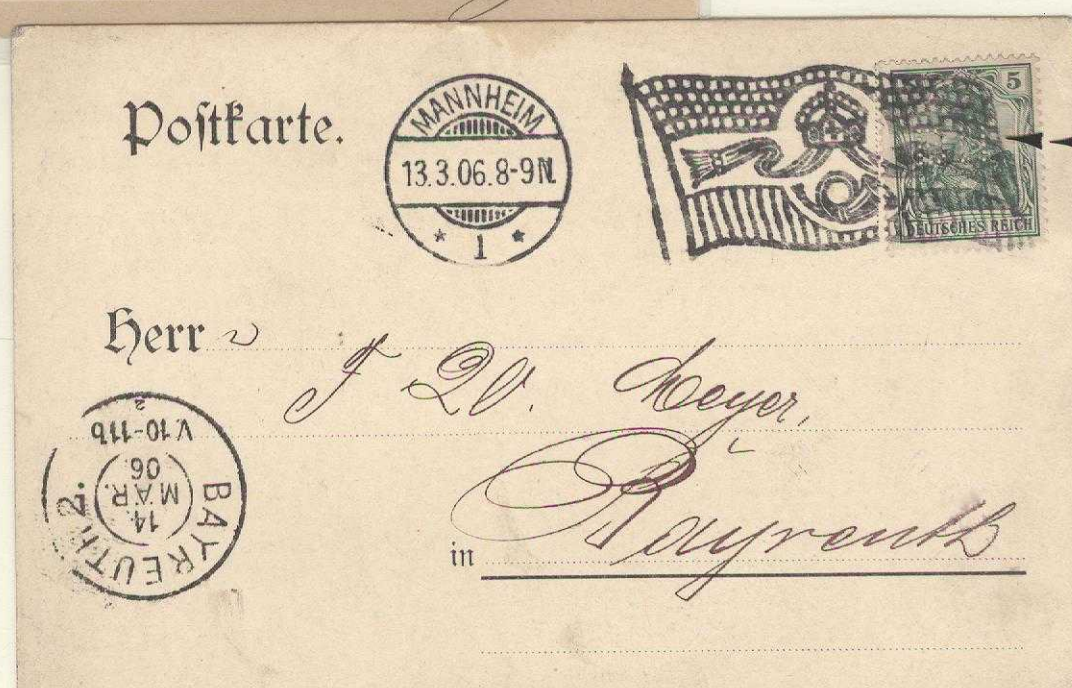
PERFIN FRANKED CARD

13 MARCH 1906

"BM" =  
'Bassermann Company'  
perfin- franked  
correspondence card,  
sent to Bayreuth.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bayreuth,  
14 March 1906"

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.





**DOUBLE POSTMARK IMPRESSION  
RESULTING FROM INCORRECT INFEEED or  
MISSING INFEEED GUIDE**

Postcard possibly incorrectly fed into the  
'Bickerdike' ... narrow-side leading, or  
machine malfunction with card  
shifting incorrectly to the left  
because of missing in-feed guide.



**7 OCTOBER 1903**

**Viewcard,  
sent to Pforzheim**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Pforzheim,  
7 October 1903 .."**

**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate.**

**BICKERDIKE**  
STRASSBURG \*(ELS) 1s

1903 - 1912

One 'Bickerdike' was operational at the City of Strassburg, Alsace Province, now part of France, and **APPLIED PRIMARILY ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL.**



**Postmark:** 28 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with a 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels and postal horn.

**Usage:** 11 August 1903 - 12 December 1912

**FLAT-RATE  
POSTAGE  
MAIL TO AUSTRIA**

**13 AUGUST 1903**

Postal stationery  
letter-card, sent to  
Prein/Payerbach,  
Austria.

**Arrival Postmark:**  
"Prein,  
15 August 1903"

**10 Pfennig..  
Concession  
letter-rate  
for mail  
to Austria.**



Postkarte



An

*Mademoiselle Elise Magnard  
Institutive*

in

*Strassburg  
Finkwiler*

Wohnung .....  
(Straße und Hausnummer)

**INNER-CITY  
REDUCED-RATE  
POSTAL-CARD  
MAIL**

**30 DECEMBER  
1904**

Postal stationery  
card, sent locally.

**2 Pfennig..  
Flat-rate postal  
stationery &  
postcard-rate for  
inner-city mail.**



**SMALLEST KNOWN COVER HAVING A FLAG POSTMARK**  
(68 x 103mm = 2.67" x 4.05")

**29 DECEMBER 1903**

**So-called "Lady's Cover", sent to Nancy, France.**



**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS CARD**

**11 DECEMBER 1903**

**Litho-embossed Christmas Card, sent to Paris, France.**

**5 Pfennig..**  
**UPU International Printed-Matter Rate for mail up to 50 grams.**

**BICKERDIKE**  
STRASSBURG \*(ELS) 1s

1903 - 1912  
**FOREIGN-BOUND  
COMMERCIAL MAIL**

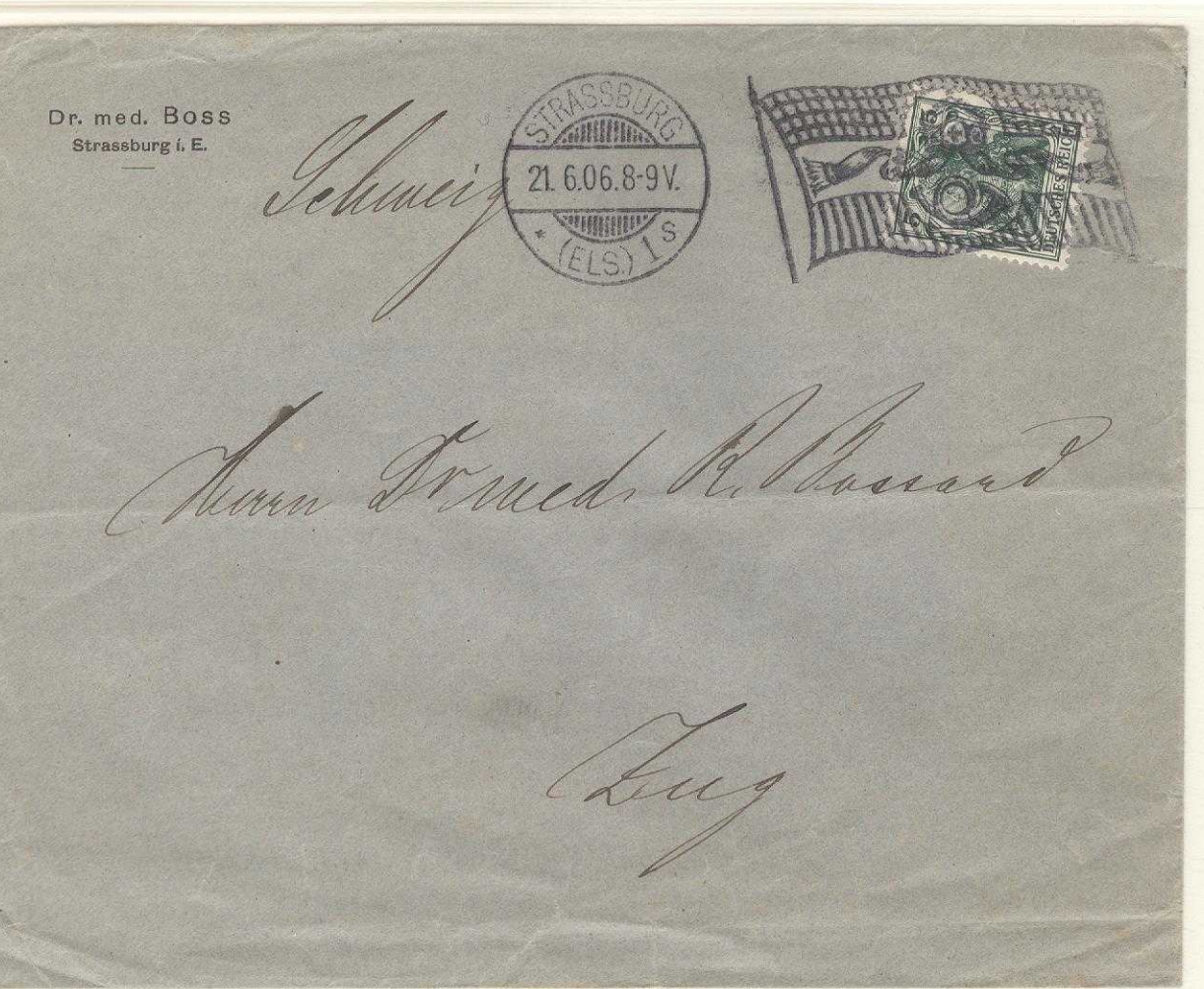
**MAIL TO PORTUGAL**

**1 JANUARY 1905**

Postcard Business  
correspondence,  
sent from the  
"Strassburg Theater &  
Concert Bureau"  
to Porto, Portugal.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Porto Central,  
-- January 1905.."

**10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.**



**MAIL TO  
SWITZERLAND**

**21 JUNE 1906  
(8-9 PM)**

Cover,  
advertising  
enclosure,  
sent to  
Zug,  
Switzerland

Arrival  
Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Zug, 21 June  
1906 (12 PM)"

**5 Pfennig..  
UPU  
International  
Printed-Matter  
Rate for mail  
up to 50 grams**

## EXPANDED FIELD USAGE

On 28 November 1903, the *Reichspost* instructed the German machine licensee that all henceforth-supplied 'Bickerdikes' should no longer be fitted with the heretofore 'Postal Flag' Obliterator, but with a **NEW OBLITERATOR HAVING 'SIX WAVY LINES IN THREE GROUPS SEPARATED BY TWO PAIR OF VERTICAL BARS'**.



Between 1904-1905, **SEVENTEEN** additional 'Bickerdikes' were delivered to the *Reichspost* at the following post offices with subsequent machine transfers indicated:

1. Aachen \*1p
2. Berlin C \*2B  
... Berlin W \*9\* ... Berlin SW \*48\*
3. Cassel \*1x
4. Darmstadt \*1\*
5. Dresden-Altsf \*1\*
6. Düsseldorf-Ausstellung  
... Düsseldorf \*6t ... Düsseldorf \*1u ...Düsseldorf \*1t
7. Elberfeld \*1s  
... Elberfeld \*2s
8. Essen (Ruhr) \*1b
9. Hannover \*1ff  
... Hameln \*1e
10. Kiel d1d
11. Königsberg b(Pr)1b  
... Bromberg \*1p
12. Magdeburg \*1o  
... Dessau \*1\*
13. Mainz \*3\*
14. Stettin \*1k

**ONE** machine was also delivered to the independent Postal Administration of Württemberg and **TWO** machines to that of Bavaria.

# BICKERDIKE

AACHEN \*1p

1905 - 1911

Between 1904-1905, fourteen additional 'Bickerdikes' were delivered to various Reichpost Post Offices with each having a **NEW POSTMARK DESIGN** replacing the heretofore flag obliterator.



**Postmark:** 25mm dater-dial with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 13 May 1905 - 31 August 1911

25 MAY 1905

Viewcard,  
sent to Cottbus.

Arrival  
Postmark:  
"Cottbus,  
26 May 1905.."

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.



HERRN

Herrn Leher, Lufbinstr.

No. 53 7/416 434

Für den Briefträger

Falls Adressat verzogen  
zurückzusenden  
unter Angabe des neuen  
Aufenthaltsortes.

Engen / Lufbinstr.

31 AUGUST 1911

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to Engen.

3 Pfennig ...  
(Perfin)  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate  
for mail up to  
50 grams.

Latest known  
usage.

# BICKERDIKE

1904

BERLIN. C. \* 2 B

THE 'BERLIN BICKERDIKE', delivered in early 1904, WAS FURNISHED WITH AN AUTOMATIC IN-FEED FOR TESTING AT THE BERLIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE.

Postmark: 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 14 March 1904 – 16 June 1904



## FOREIGN-BOUND PRINTED-MATTER POSTCARD MAIL



16 JUNE 1904

Viewcard of (Berlin) 'Babelsberg Castle'  
sent to  
Cape Town, South Africa.

5 Pfennig ...  
UPU International Printed-Matter Postcard Rate  
for mail with less than ten words of text.

Latest known date.

**BICKERDIKE**  
BERLIN. W \* 9 \*

1904 - 1909

AFter COMPLETION OF THE TRIAL & TESTING OF THE  
AUTOMATIC IN-FEED OF THE 'BICKERDIKE' AT THE  
'BERLIN CENTRAL' POST OFFICE BETWEEN  
MARCH-JUNE, 1904, THE MACHINE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE  
'BERLIN W9' POST OFFICE FOR FIELD USE.

*Postmark:* 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical  
grill along with six wavy-lines in three  
groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

*Usage:* 20 October 1904 – 10 September 1909

FREE-FRANK POST OFFICE  
NEWSPAPER-BRANCH MAIL



16 APRIL 1908

Free-frank postcard,  
post office newspaper-branch 'Zeitungüberweisung'  
(newspaper subscription related) mail  
sent to the City of Herborn Post Office.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Herborn (Wiesbaden),  
17 April 1908 .."

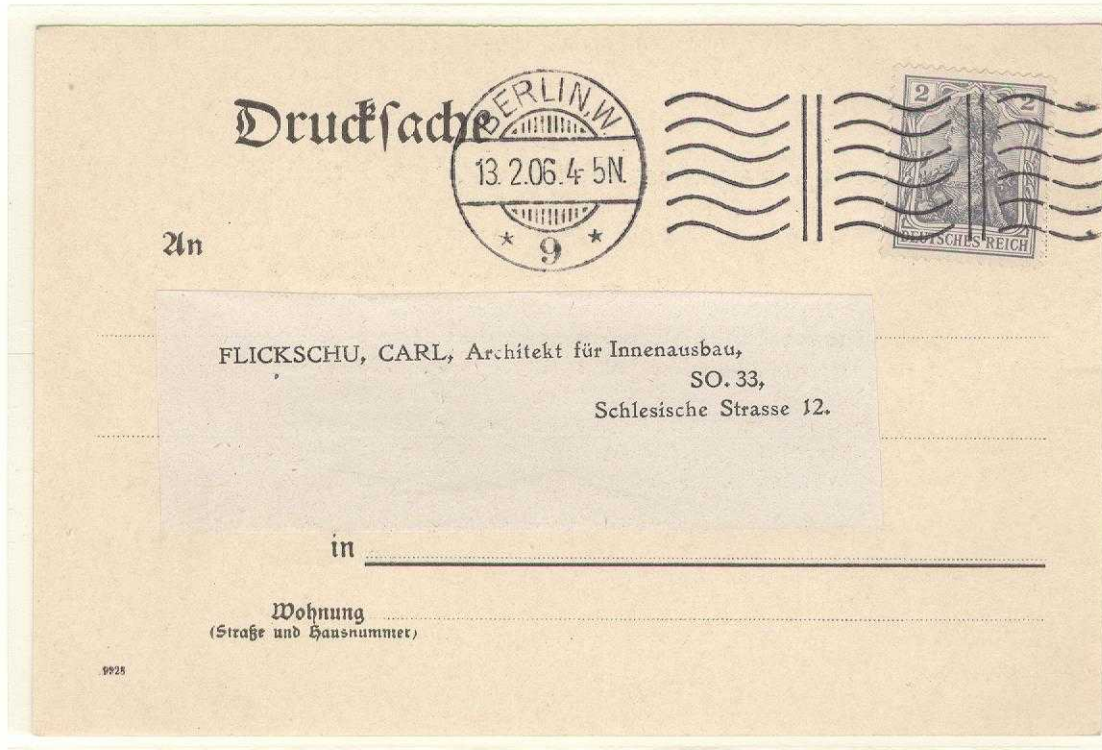


**INNER-CITY  
COMMERCIAL  
ADVERTISING MAIL**

13 FEBRUARY 1906

Local postcard,  
printed-matter, sent  
from a professional  
association to a local  
architect.

2 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate  
or printed-matter mail  
up to 50 grams.



**MAIL TO FINLAND  
(RUSSIA)**

3 NOVEMBER 1907

View-card  
(‘Berlin Wannsee’)  
sent to  
Helsingfors, Finland  
(Russia).

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

**BICKERDIKE**  
BERLIN. SW \*48\*

1910 - 1911

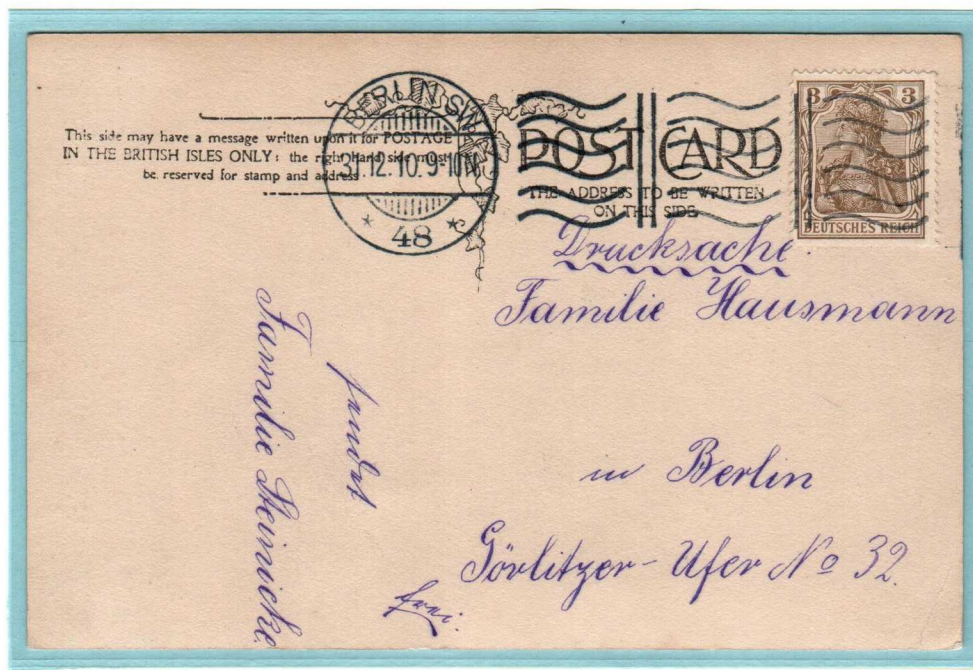
FIVE 'BICKERDIKE MACHINES WERE REPLACED AT SEVERAL BERLIN POST OFFICES IN 1910 WITH FASTER-OPERATING 'Krag' POSTMARKING MACHINES RESULTING IN TRANSFER OF TWO OF THOSE MACHINES TO LOCAL LESS-MAIL-VOLUME POST OFFICES.

THE HERETOFORE 'BICKERDIKE' OPERATING AT THE 'BERLIN W9' POST OFFICE WAS TRANSFERRED TO 'BERLIN SW 48', WHILE ANOTHER FROM 'BERLIN 2' WENT TO 'BERLIN W 35'.

**Postmark:** 25mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 31 December 1910 – 13 November 1911

**EARLIEST REPORTED DATE**



**31 DECEMBER 1910**

Printed-matter-rate viewcard,  
postmarked at Berlin Post Office '48', sent locally.

**3 Pfennig..**  
Domestic printed-matter rate

One of two examples known.

# BICKERDIKE

CASSEL \* 1 x

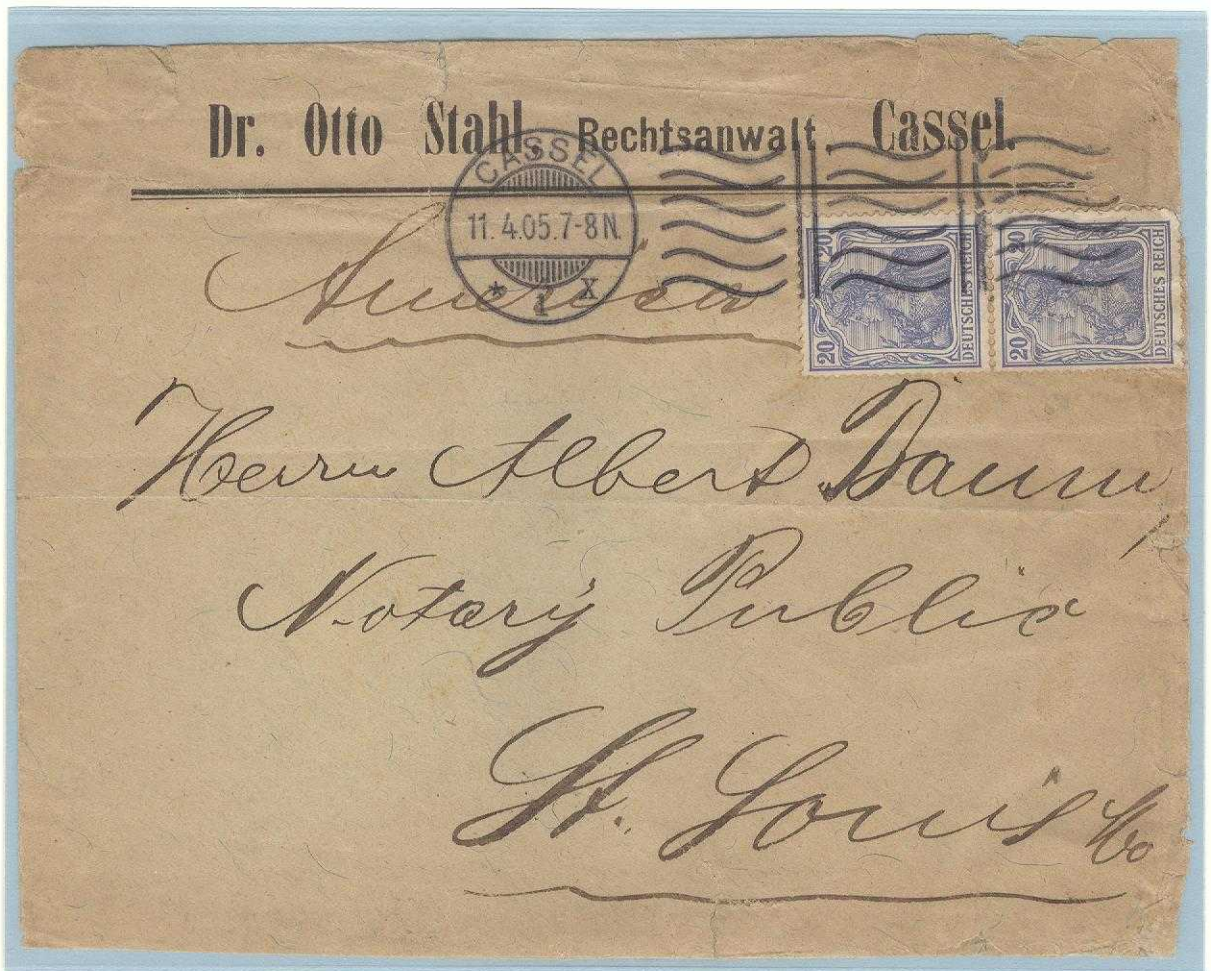
1905 - 1909

Postmark: 25mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 11 April 1905 - 17 May 1909



## COMMERCIAL MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



11 APRIL 1905

Cover, attorney's correspondence, sent from to a notary public in St. Louis, Missouri.

Arrival Postmark:  
(on reverse)

"St. Louis, Mo, April 22 .."  
(International Machine Mark)

40 Pfennig ...

UPU Double-Weight International Letter-Rate.

Earliest known usage date.

**BICKERDIKE**

CASSEL \* 1 x

1905 - 1909

DOMESTIC POSTCARD USAGE

Commencing in July 1907,  
the dater dial began showing  
wear & damage at the dial-bottom.

**INNER-CITY POSTCARD**

**8 MAY 1905**

Decorative  
greeting's card,  
sent locally.

Postmark dater dial  
without damage.

**2 Pfennig..**  
**Inner-city**  
**postcard rate.**



**DOMESTIC POSTCARD**

**15 AUGUST 1907**  
Viewcard, sent to  
**Herrenhut**  
(Province Saxony).

Dater-dial showing  
damage (gap) at  
dial-bottom.

**5 Pfennig ...**  
**Domestic**  
**postcard-rate.**

**BICKERDIKE**  
**DARMSTADT \*1\***

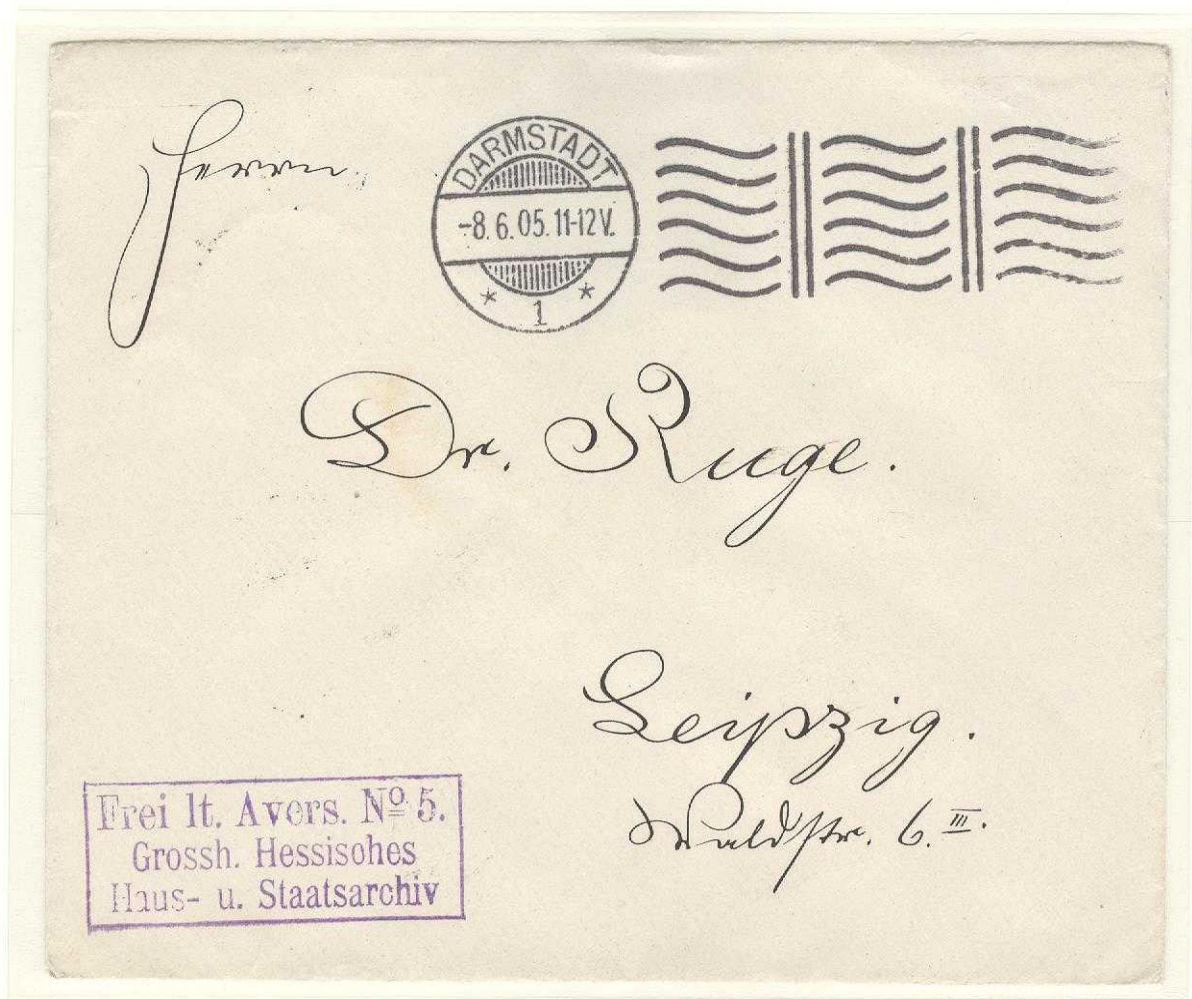
1905 - 1913

Postmark: 27mm dater-dial with 'bridge'  
& vertical grill along with six wavy-  
lines in three groups separated by  
two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 18 May 1905 - 20 May 1913



**FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL MAIL**



8 JUNE 1905

(Free-frank) Official Mail sent from the  
'Office of the Hessian Grand Duchy State Archives'  
(purple validation cachet mark)  
to 'Dr. Ruge' at Leipzig  
(Province Saxony).

# BICKERDIKE

DESSAU \* 1 \*

1909 - 1912

THE 'BICKERDIKE' HERETOFORE IN USE AT THE CITY OF  
MAGDEBURG, WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE  
CITY OF DESSAU MAIN POST OFFICE  
SOMETIME BETWEEN 1908-1909,  
where it continued operation applying origin  
postmarks to out-going mail.



Postmark: 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical  
grill along with six wavy-lines in three  
groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 9 December 1909 - 30 November 1912

## COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER MAIL



15 MARCH 1911

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent to Berlin.

3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

-----

# BICKERDIKE

DÜSSELDORF AUSSTELLUNG (Düsseldorf Exhibition)

1904  
INTERNATIONAL MAIL

A 'BICKERDIKE' WAS DELIVERED TO THE MAIN POST OFFICE AT DÜSSELDORF IN 1904, (located across from the main railway station) INITIALLY POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL FROM THE 'INTERNATIONAL ART & GARDEN EXHIBITION' subsequently placed in reserve for use at peak mail times, e.g. New Year's and Easter Mail.



Postmark: 27mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 1 May - 23 October 1904

## MAIL TO FRANCE

6 JUNE 1904

Viewcard (with exhibition promotion label /in red color = foreign-bound mail/ of the art exhibition fairgrounds), sent to Paris, France.



## MAIL TO SWEDEN

18 JULY 1904

Viewcard (with show-seal & with the fair garden grounds), sent to Morshyttan, Sweden.

10 Pfennig..

UPU International Postcard-Rate



**EXHIBITION  
COMMEMORATIVE VIEWCARDS**

**2 MAY 1904**

**Viewcard  
(‘Old Düsseldorf’),  
sent to  
Frankfurt/Main.**



**21 OCTOBER 1904**

**Viewcard  
(exhibition building of the  
'Association of Concrete  
Manufacturers'),  
sent to  
Mühlheim/Ruhr.**



**BICKERDIKE**  
DÜSSELDORF \* 6 t

1904 - 1905

After postmarking out-going mail from the 'International Art & Garden Exhibition' in 1904, THE 'DÜSSELDORF BICKERDIKE' WAS TRANSFERED TO "OLD TOWN" POST OFFICE '6' TO POSTMARK NEW YEAR'S MAIL.



Postmark: 27mm dater-dial (indicating "Düsseldorf 6t") with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

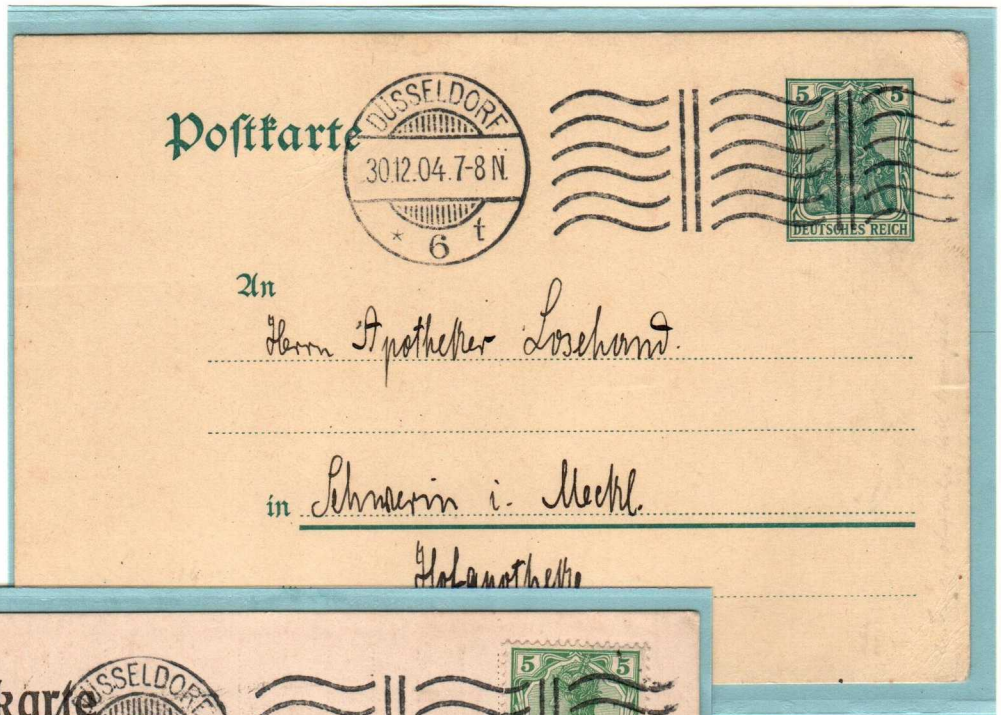
Usage: 30 December 1904 – 1 January 1905

**NEW YEAR'S MAIL**

**30 DECEMBER 1904**

Postal stationery card with 'New Year's Greetings', sent to Schwerin (Province Mecklenburg).

Earliest known usage.



An  
Herrn Apotheker Losemann

in Schwerin i. Meckl.  
Hofapothek

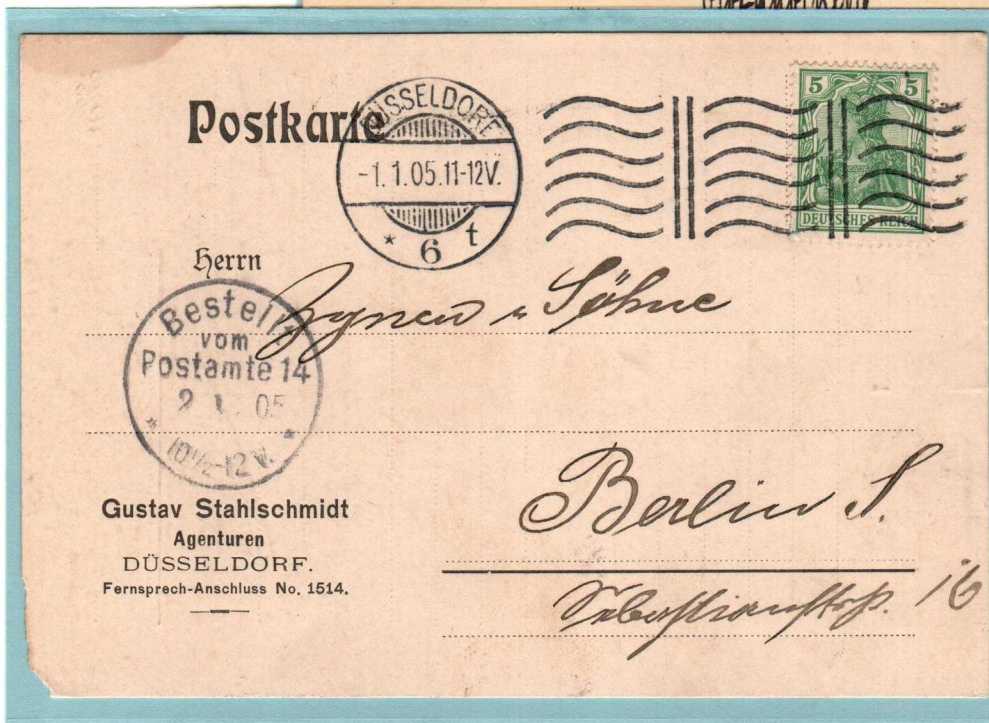
**COMMERCIAL MAIL**

**1 JANUARY 1905**

Postcard, sent to a business in Berlin.

Latest known usage.

Six postmark examples known.



Herrn  
Bestel  
vom  
Postamt 14  
21.05  
10/12V

Gustav Stahlschmidt  
Agenturen  
DÜSSELDORF.  
Fernsprech-Anschluss No. 1514.

Berlin S.  
Telegraphenb. 16

5 Pfennig.  
Domestic postcard-rate.

**AFTER POSTMARKING OUT-GOING 'NEW YEAR'S' MAIL  
AT THE DÜSSELDORF "OLD TOWN" POST OFFICE '6',  
THE 'BICKERDIKE' WAS TRANSFERRED BACK TO  
MAIN POST OFFICE '1'**

(located across from the main railway station)

**FOR POSTMARKING THE 'EASTER MAIL' OF 1905.**

**Postmark:** 27mm dater-dial (indicating "Düsseldorf \*1u")  
with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six  
wavy-lines in three groups separated by two  
pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 15 – 23 April 1905  
(Nine Day Usage)



22 APRIL 1905

**Embossed 'Easter Greetings' Card,  
sent to Bonn.**

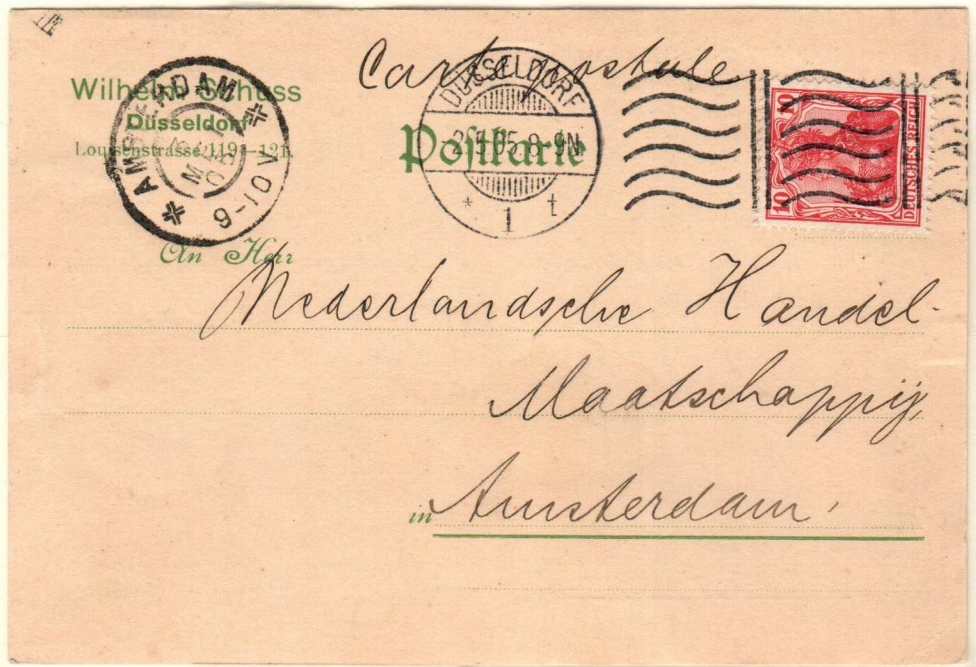
**5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-rate.**

**One of five postmark examples known.**

**THE 'BICKERDIKE' AT THE MAIN POST OFFICE**  
(across from the main railway station)  
**CONTINUED OPERATION**  
after the 'Easter' Mail Period,  
**WITH THE POSTMARK DATER-DIAL NOW INDICATING**  
"**\* 1 †**" instead of "**\* 1 u**".

**Postmark:** 27mm dater-dial (indicating "Düsseldorf \* 1 †")  
with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six  
wavy-lines in three groups separated by two  
pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 2 May 1905 - 1 January 1907



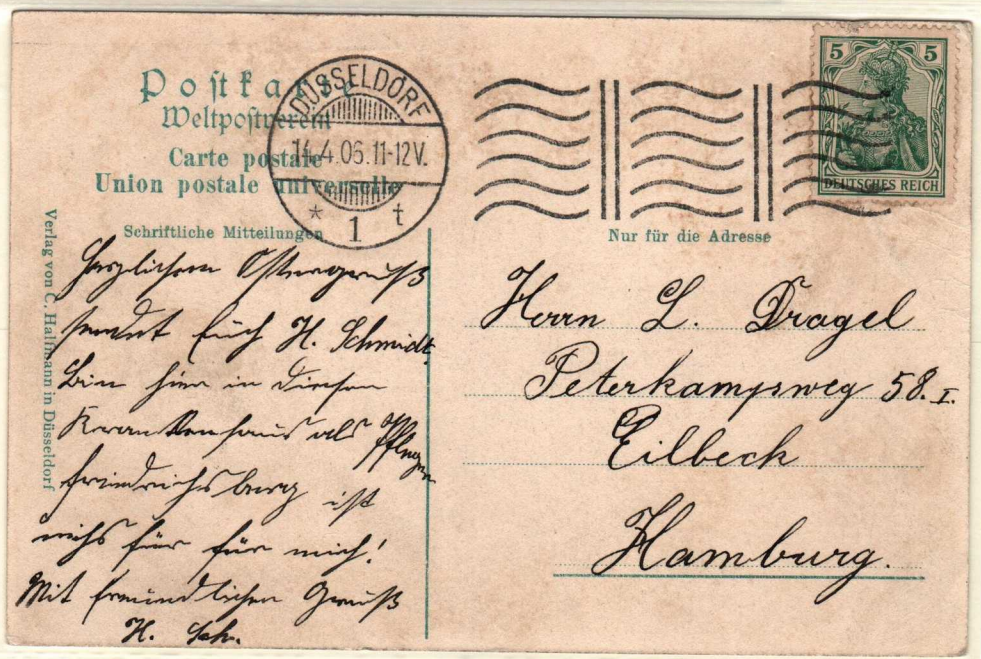
**EARLIEST KNOWN USE**

**2 MAY 1905**

Commercial postcard, postmarked at Düsseldorf, sent to Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Arrival Postmark: "Amsterdam, 3 May 1905"

**10 Pfennig.. UPU International Postcard-Rate**



**14 APRIL 1906**

Viewcard, Postmarked at Düsseldorf, sent to Hamburg.

**5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate.**

Verlag von C. Halbesamm in Düsseldorf

# BICKERDIKE

ELBERFELD \* 1 s

1905-1906

A 'Bickerdike' was delivered to the main Elberfeld Post Office ('1') in early 1905 where it was alternately operational in **POSTMARKING OUT-GOING & IN-COMING MAIL.**



**Postmark:** 27mm dater-dial (indicating "Elberfeld \* 1 s") with 'bridge' and vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** Origin-Postmark:  
26 April 1905 – 5 May 1906

Arrival Postmark (Dater Dial Alone):  
23 April 1905 – 3 February 1906

## ORIGIN POSTMARK

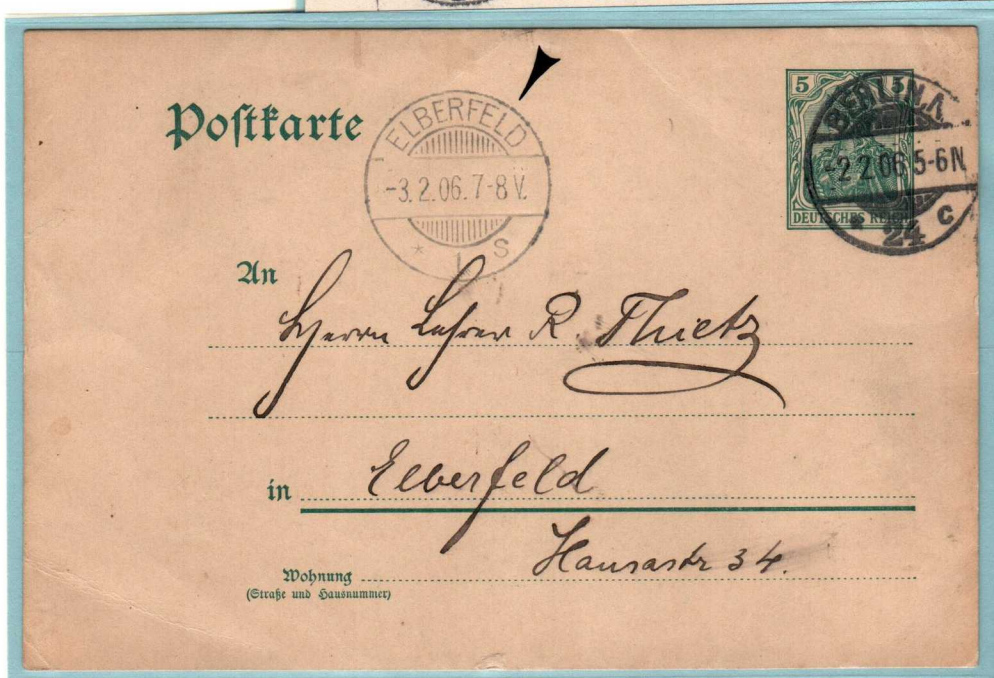
26 APRIL 1905

Viewcard,  
sent to Coblenz.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Coblenz,  
27 April 1905.."

Earliest known usage.

One of five  
examples known.



## ARRIVAL POSTMARK

3 FEBRUARY 1906

Postal stationery  
card, postmarked  
at Berlin,  
sent to Elberfeld.

Latest known usage.

One of two  
examples known.

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic postcard-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

ELBERFELD \* 2 s

1908 - 1910

After two years of non-use, the 'ELBERFELD 1 BICKERDIKE' WAS TRANSFERRED TO 'ELBERFELD POST OFFICE 2' WHERE IT POSTMARKED OUT-GOING MAIL for more than a year before being retired.



Postmark: 27mm dater-dial (indicating "Elberfeld \* 2 s") with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 4 December 1908 - 2 March 1910

MAIL TO SWITZERLAND

14 MAY 1909

Commercial postcard, printed-matter, sent to Basel, Switzerland.

5 Pfennig..  
 UPU International  
 Printed-Matter Rate  
 for mail up  
 to 50 grams.



DOMESTIC CORRESPONDENCE VIEWCARD

9 MARCH 1909

Viewcard, sent to Wiesbaden.

5 Pfennig ... Domestic postcard-rate.

**BICKERDIKE**  
ESSEN (RUHR) \*1b

1904 - 1916  
COMMERCIAL MAIL

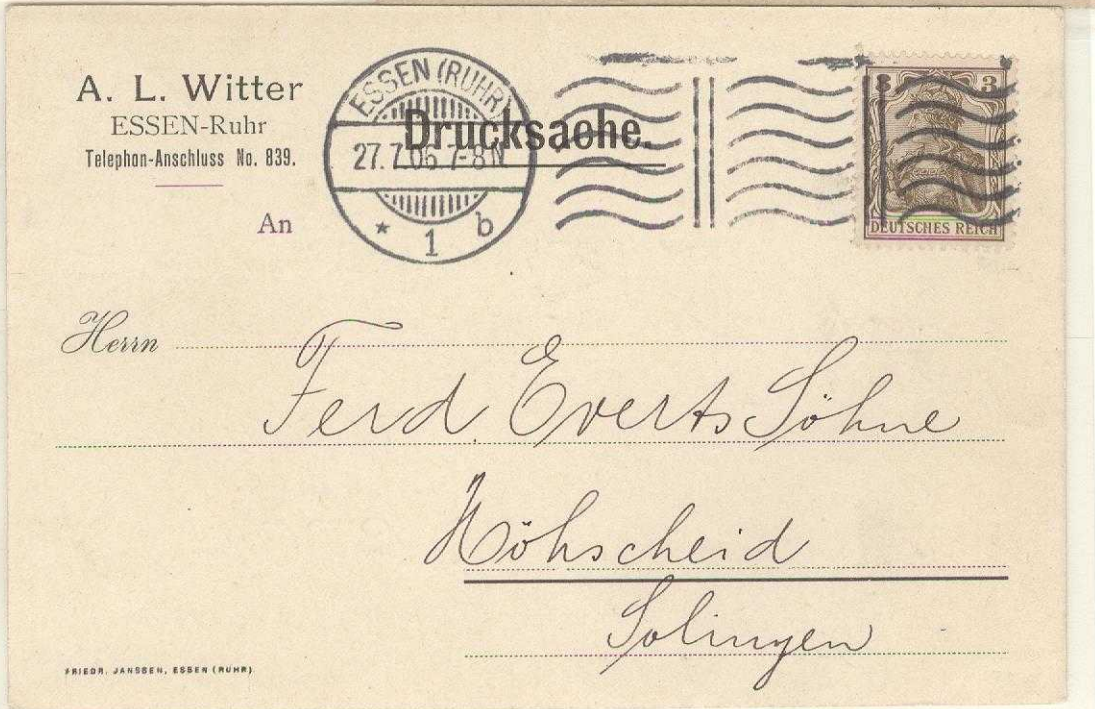
A single 'Bickerdike' was operational at the City of Essen, located in the industrial Ruhr area, postmarking out-going mail.

**Postmark:** 28mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 14 April 1904 - 17 February 1916



19 DECEMBER 1904  
Postal stationery card,  
sent to Leutkirch.  
  
5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



27 JULY 1906  
Printed-matter  
postcard,  
sent to  
Höhscheid/Solingen.  
  
3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-  
matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.

**FREE FRANK**  
**PEACETIME & FIELDPOST 'WORLD WAR I'**  
**SOLDIER'S MAIL**

**PEACETIME MAIL**

**13 JULY 1904**

**Correspondence postcard, sent to a comrade stationed in Berlin.**



**RE-DIRECTED**  
**'WORLD WAR I'**  
**FIELDPOST**

**31 AUGUST 1915**  
**'Fieldpost'**  
**correspondence**  
**reply-card set,**  
**sent to**  
**"Captain Sommerfeld"**  
**at Oberhofen**  
**(Province Alsace),**  
**re-directed upon**  
**arrival to**  
**"Russian-Poland",**  
**since the officer had**  
**been transferred**  
**to the**  
**Eastern Front.**



# BICKERDIKE

HANNOVER \*1 ff

1904 - 1906

One 'Bickerdike' was operational at the City of Hanover with later transfer of the machine to another German city.

**Postmark:** 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 18 April 1904 - 31 December 1906

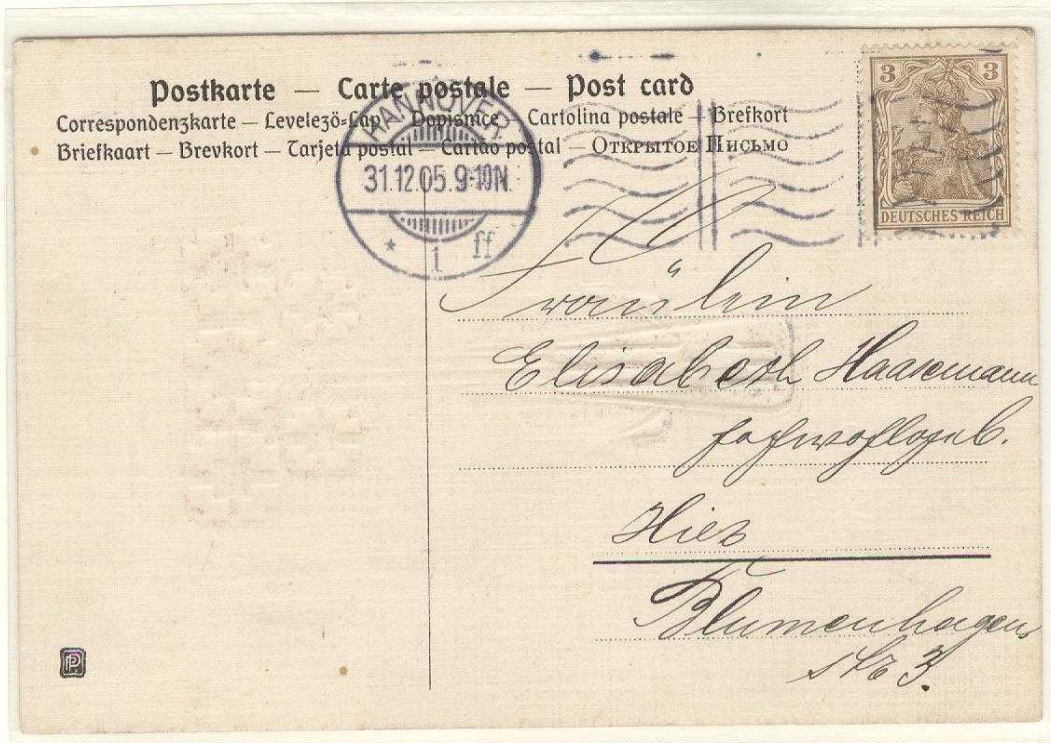


## DOMESTIC POSTCARD

25 APRIL 1904

Correspondence postal stationery card, sent to Cologne.

5 Pfennig... Domestic Postcard-Rate



## DOMESTIC PRINTED-MATTER

31 DECEMBER 1905

Decorative embossed 'Jugendstil' New Year's Greetings Card, sent locally.

3 Pfennig... Domestic printed-rate for postcards with less than ten words of text.

# BICKERDIKE

HAMELN \*1 e

1910 - 1912

DOMESTIC POSTCARD

After 2-1/2 years' operation,  
**THE 'HANOVER BICKERDIKE'**  
 remained unused until 1910, when it  
**WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY OF HAMELN,**  
 where it again applied postmarks  
 to out-going mail.



**Postmark:** 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

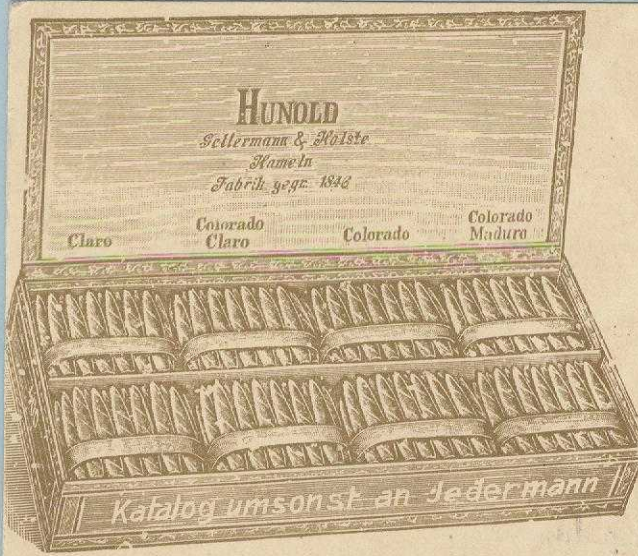
**Usage:** 27 September 1910 – 31 December 1912



31 DECEMBER 1910

Embossed 'Zepplin' illustrated  
 New Year's Greetings Card,  
 sent to the Town of Krückeberg.

5 Pfennig...  
 Domestic postcard rate.



**Hunold, M. 5.50** in Kisten von 100 St., während wir die ganze Original-Kiste laut Abbildung **400 Stück Hunold für M. 21.—**

Porto und Verpackung frei abgeben. Diese Zigarre ist hocharomatisch und mild, so daß sie viele Freunde besitzt. Garantiert nur aus edlem überseeischem Tabak hergestellt. Die große Zahl. von lobenden Anerkennungen über diese beliebte Marke ist der beste Beweis ihrer Güte.

Wir gewähren Ihnen auf Wunsch 3 Monate Zahlungszeit, sonst wird unter Nachn. abzüglich 2% Skonto versandt. 2 Proz. Skonto können von dem Auftraggeber auch bei Zahlung innerhalb 30 Tagen abgezogen werden. Nachnahmespesen zu unser. Lasten bei Aufträgen von über M.3.-. Von M.15.- portofrei. Ausführl. Preis.zu Diensten.

Für alle unsere Fabrikate leisten wir volle Bürgschaft und nehmen daher alles Gesandte anstandslos auf unsere Kosten zurück, falls es den Empfänger nicht völlig zufriedenstellt.

**Gellermann & Holste, G. m. b. H.**  
**Hamel, Weser.**

Fabrik  
gegründet  
1846.

Märrliche Größe.



Versand nur eigener Fabrikate  
direkt an Private.

**Pfeifentabak mit der Brücke  
im 10 Pfund-Postbeutel**



Hervorragende  
Mischungen

- Varinas-Kanaster Nr.1  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.22.-
- Holländisch Kanaster  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.17.-
- Portorico Nr. I  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.16.-
- Pädagogen-Tabak  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.13.-
- Pastoren-Tabak  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.12.-
- Jäger-Tabak  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.11.-
- Fein. leicht. Tabak Nr.1  
10Pf.-Postbeut. M.11.-

Porto und Spesen tragen wir bei Post-  
beuteln in jeder Preislage.

In 1/1, 1/2 u. 1/4 Pfd.-Paketen: v. M.15.- portofrei.



*Löbau*  
*Oberlehrer Gottf. Schmidt*  
*Löbau i. Sa.*

23 NOVEMBER 1911

Privately printed-to-order postal stationery card reply-card set  
(Tobacco & cigar advertising & order form),  
sent to  
**Löbau**  
(Province Saxony).

**5 + 5 Pfennig...**  
**Domestic postcard rate.**

Only known advertising mail privately printed postal stationery reply card set  
having a 'Bickerdike' Machine Postmark.

# BICKERDIKE

KIEL d1d

1905 - 1916

One 'Bickerdike' was delivered to the Kiel Post Office in April 1905.

Postmark: 25mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 10 April 1905 - 5 August 1916



## PEACETIME DOMESTIC POSTCARD RATE

24 DECEMBER 1910

'Christmas Greetings' view-card, sent to Auerstedt (Province Thuringia).

5 Pfennig... Domestic postcard-rate



## WARTIME DOMESTIC POSTCARD WAR RATE

3 AUGUST 1916

Correspondence postal stationery card, sent to Essen.

7-1/2 Pfennig... Domestic postcard-rate 5 Pfg + war tax surcharge of 2-1/2 Pfg. (effective 1 August 1916).

# BICKERDIKE

KIEL d1d

1905 - 1916

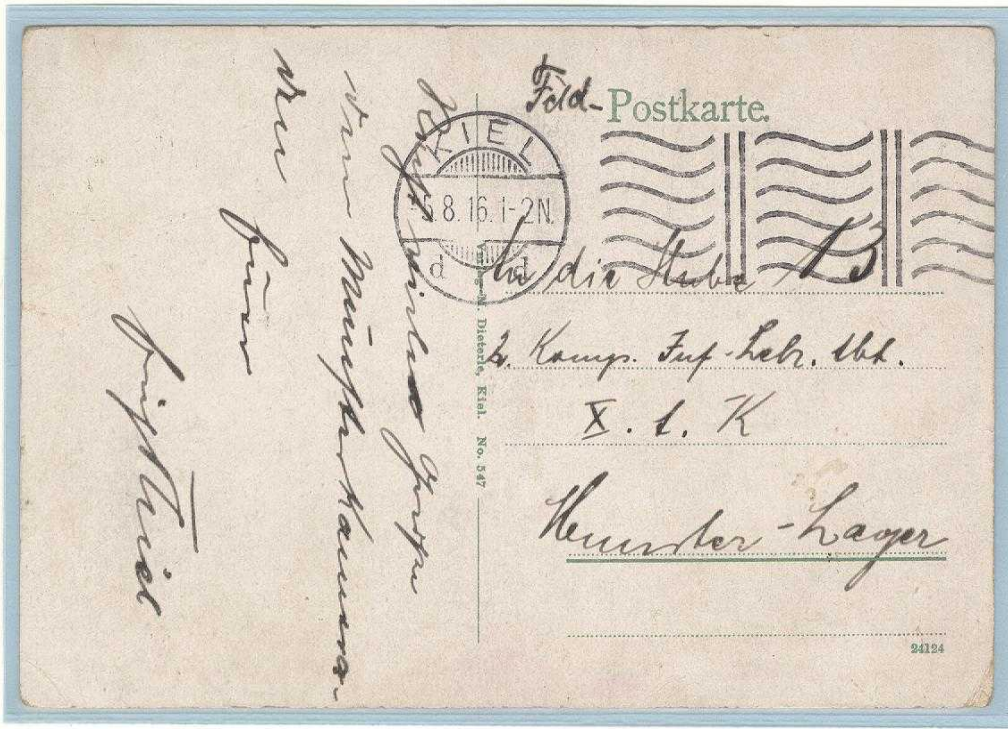
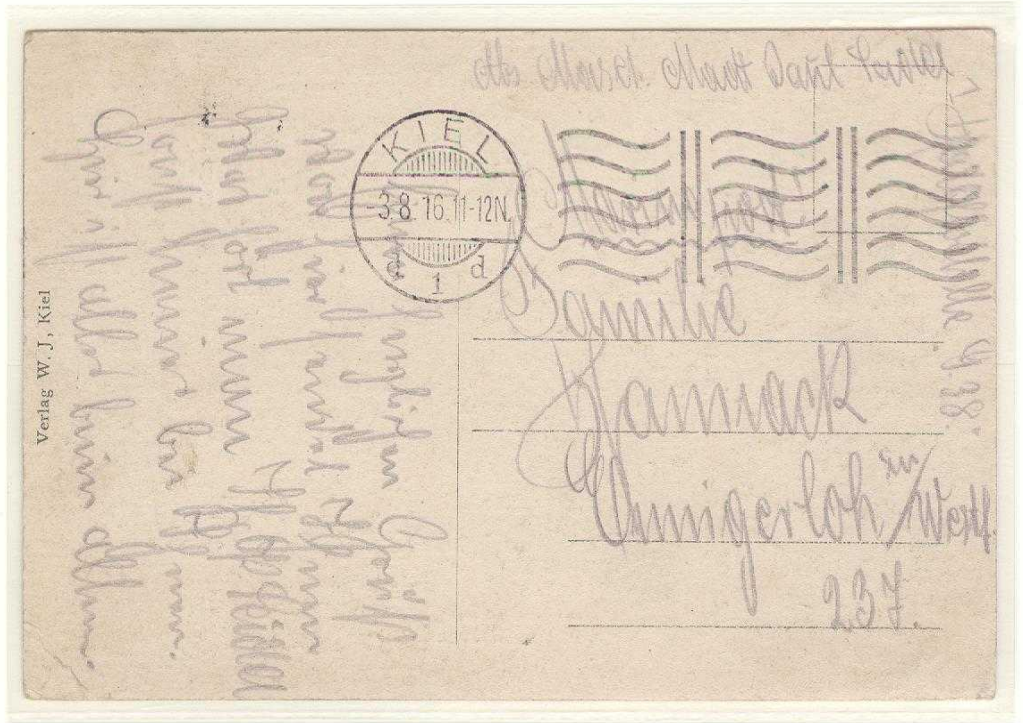
## WORLD WAR I FREE-FRANK FIELDPOST MAIL

### SAILOR'S MAIL

3 AUGUST 1916

View-card, sent to  
Ennigerloh  
(Province Westphalia).

Naval fieldpost mail  
was free-frank,  
if endorsed  
"Marinepost"  
(Naval Mail).



### FIELDPOST MAIL ... KIEL NAVAL BASE TO ARMY TRAINING FACILITY AT MUNSTER-LAGER

5 AUGUST 1916

View-card  
(German U-Boat Fleet  
at Kiel),  
sent to the army  
base at Munster-  
Lager.

Fieldpost mail  
was free-frank,  
if endorsed  
"Feldpost".

Latest known  
application of a  
'Bickerdike'  
Machine Postmark  
in Germany.

**BICKERDIKE**  
KÖNIGSBERG b (PR)1b

1904 - 1908

One 'Bickerdike' was supplied to the main post office at Königsberg in East Prussia in April 1904.

Postmark: 27mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 23 April 1904 - 6 June 1908



17 MAY 1904

Cover,  
sent locally.

10 Pfennig..  
Single-weight  
(20 grams)  
domestic letter-rate.



Postkarte.  
Levelező-Lap.- Post card.- Briefkaart.  
Carte postale.  
Cartolina postale.- Dopisno.  
Weltpostverein.  
Union postale universelle.- Unione postale universale.  
ОТКРЫТОЕ ПИСЬМО.  
Tarjeta Postal. - Cartão postal.  
Brefkort. - Brevkort.



31 DECEMBER 1905

'New Year's'  
Greetings Card,  
sent to Danzig.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate

pendan wir die liebe  
Gruß, wie Ihnen recht  
ist. In der Hoffnung,  
dass Sie bald wieder  
zu uns kommen werden.  
Für Ihre freundliche  
Brevkarte. Freundliche  
Grüße von der ganzen  
Familie  
Kossobutzki.

Hans  
Steinwender.  
Köpenicker Str. 38  
Danzig 38  
Jan.

# BICKERDIKE

BROMBERG \*1p

1911

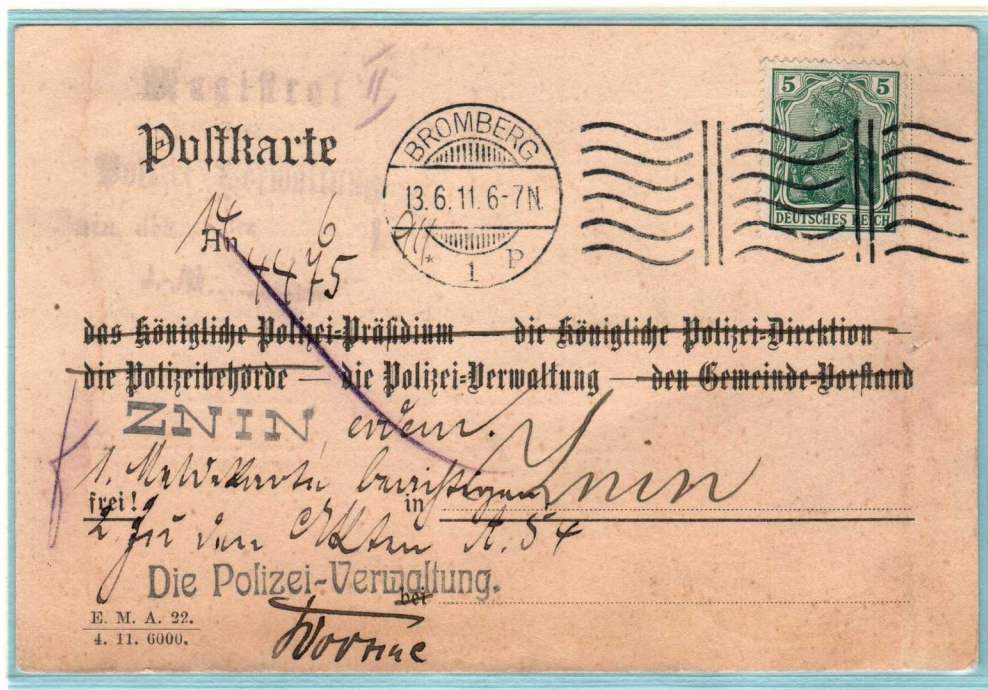
As a result of the effective performance the Königsberg Post Office had with a new 'Sylbe' Machine, their operational 'BICKERDIKE' WAS CONSIDERED REDUNDANT AND TRANSFERRED TO THE 'BROMBERG POST OFFICE'.



Postmark: 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 13 June 1911 (Only Known Use Date)

## POLICE COMMUNICATIONS MAIL



13 JUNE 1911

Mail sent from the Bromberg Police Administrative Office to a similar office in the City of Znin ... advising of the domicile registration at Bromberg of one of its (former) residents.

5 Pfennig ... Domestic Postcard-Rate

Only Known Example.

**BICKERDIKE**  
MAGDEBURG \* 1 o

1905 - 1908

**ONE 'MAGDEBURG BICKERDIKE',  
delivered early 1905,  
ALTERNATELY APPLIED ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO  
OUT-GOING & ARRIVAL POSTMARKS  
TO IN-COMING MAIL.**



**Postmark:** 27mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 20 June 1905 - 11 June 1908

**ORIGIN POSTMARKS ON OUT-GOING MAIL**

**INNER-CITY MAIL**

20 APRIL 1906

Mourning cover,  
sent locally.

2 Pfennig...  
Local city  
printed-matter  
up to 50 grams.



**Postkarte. — Carte Postale**

Dopisnice. — Union postale universelle.  
Cartolina Postale. — Post Card. — Briefkarte.  
Correspondenz-Karte. — Briefkaart.  
Levelező-Lap. — Tarjeta Postal.  
ОТКРЫТОЕ ПИСЬМО.



Correspondance

Adresse

*Mein lieber Herr Ludwig...*  
Auf wieder in der...  
Lieber Herr Ludwig...  
...  
Wien - Prinsengasse 15

**DOMESTIC  
POSTCARD MAIL**

18 MARCH 1907

'Easter Greetings'  
Card,  
sent to a  
Magdeburg suburb.

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

K. V. I. B. 12.

Serie 805.



One 'Bickerdike' was operational at Magdeburg **ALSO APPLYING ARRIVAL POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL.**

Postmark: 27 mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill without obliterator.

Usage: 19 April 1905 - 7 AUGUST 1906

**ARRIVAL POSTMARKS APPLIED TO IN-COMING MAIL**

**7 MAY 1905**  
Viewcard, postmarked at Hanover, sent to Magdeburg.



**5 JULY 1906**  
Viewcard (Porta Westfalica), postmarked at Wittekindenberg (Porta), sent to Magdeburg.

# BICKERDIKE

DESSAU \* 1 \*

1909 - 1912

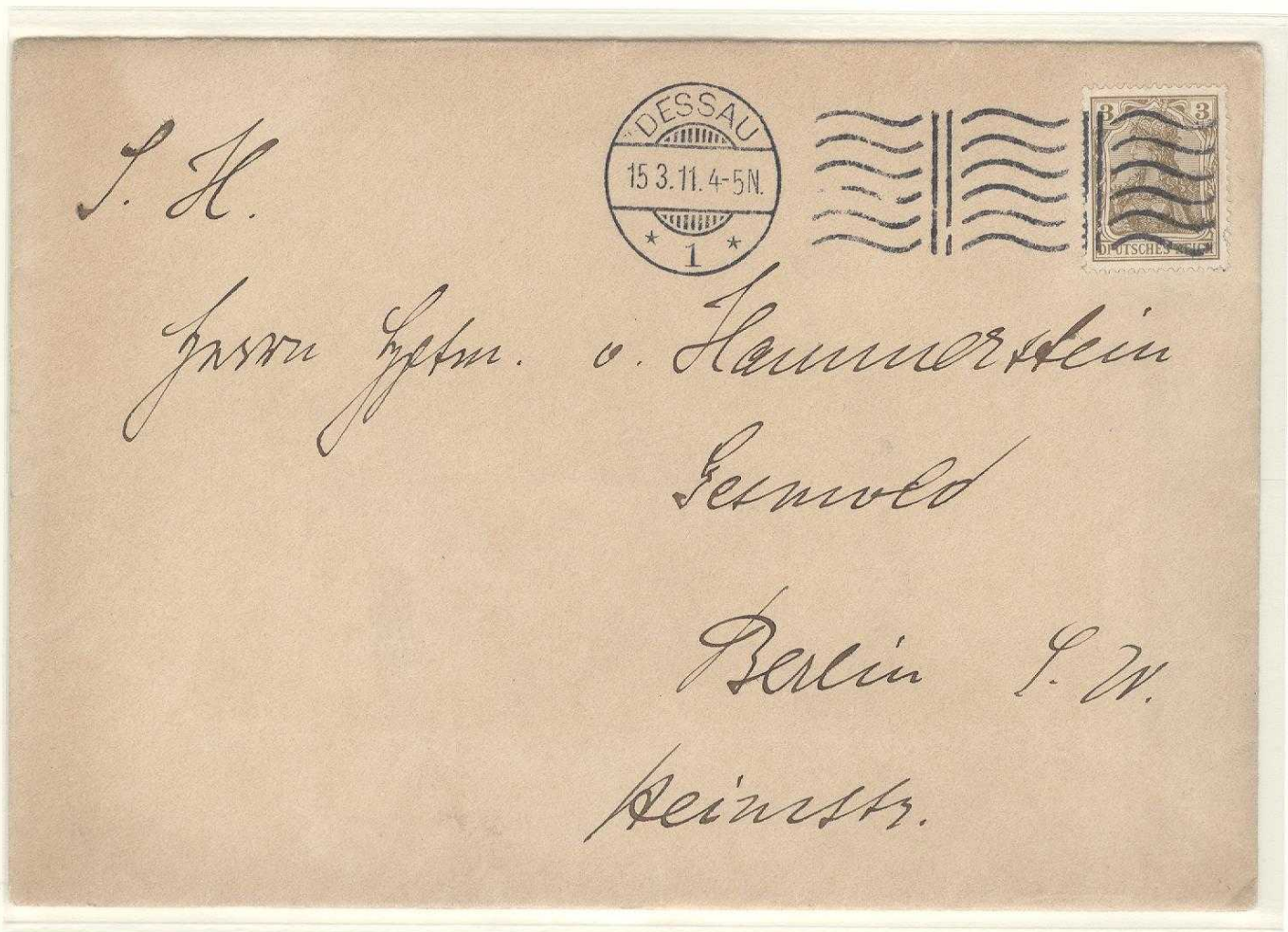
THE 'BICKERDIKE' HERETOFORE IN USE AT THE CITY OF  
MAGDEBURG, WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE  
CITY OF DESSAU MAIN POST OFFICE  
SOMETIME BETWEEN 1908-1909,  
where it continued operation applying origin  
postmarks to out-going mail.

Postmark: 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical  
grill along with six wavy-lines in three  
groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 9 December 1909 - 30 November 1912



## COMMERCIAL PRINTED-MATTER MAIL



15 MARCH 1911

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent to Berlin.

3 Pfennig ...

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

# BICKERDIKE

DESSAU \* 1 \*

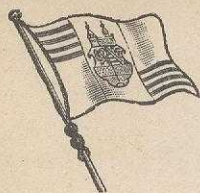
1909 - 1912

DOMESTIC COVER RATES

23 JANUARY 1910

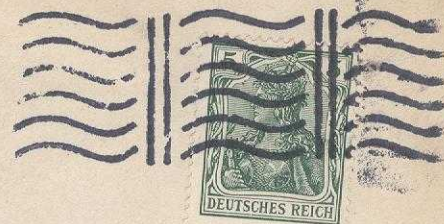
So-called  
"Lady's Cover",  
sent to  
Charlottenburg (Berlin).

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate.



*Gymnasium*

*Gustav Nebel*



DESSAU.

*Georg Meißner*

23 FEBRUARY 1910

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent locally.

5 Pfennig ...  
Local inner-city single-weight (20 grams) letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

MAINZ \* 3 \*

1905 - 1915

One 'Bickerdike' was delivered to the Mainz Post Office in early 1905 for the purpose of postmarking out-going mail.

**Postmark:** 25mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 30 April 1904 - 10 November 1915



**FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL**

9 OCTOBER 1905

Viewcard, sent to Villedfranche-sur-Sarone, France.

10 Pfennig... UPU International Postcard-Rate.



**DOMESTIC MAIL**

14 APRIL 1906

Embossed 'Easter Greetings' Card, sent to Eisenberg, (Province Saxony).

5 Pfennig .. Domestic postcard-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

STETTIN \*1k

1904 - 1909

DOMESTIC MAIL USAGE

One 'Bickerdike' became operational At the Stettin Main Post Office in April 1904 for postmarking out-going mail.

Postmark: 26mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill along with six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 25 April 1904 - 1 July 1909



Drucksache!

+++++



Herrn Vizewachtmeister O. Gieseke  
Kom. zum Militärbauamt

Drucksache



An das

Chemische Laboratorium Lauser



frei

Regensburg.

## PRINTED-MATTER MAIL

23 JULY 1908

Cover, advertising enclosure, sent to the military construction office located in the City of Hanover.

3 Pfennig..

Printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

## BUSINESS PURCHASE ORDER REPLY FORM

10 AUGUST 1904

Franked, business return postcard, sent to a chemical laboratory in Regensburg.

5 Pfennig..

Domestic postcard-rate

**BICKERDIKE**

STETTIN \*1k

1904 - 1909

FOREIGN-BOUND  
POSTCARD-RATE USAGE

MAIL TO THE  
UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA..  
RETURNED TO SENDER

16 JUNE 1904

View-card, sent to East  
Orange, New Jersey.

Found not deliverable  
with cachet handstamp  
"Not in City Directory",  
directed to  
'Dead Letter Office'  
(until 10 August 1904),  
subsequently returned  
to Stettin.

9-day original transit time.

Original Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"New York, N.Y.,  
June 25, 1904, Paid All"

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



MAIL TO TRIEST  
AUSTRIA

17 JULY 1904

View-card,  
sent to Trieste.  
2-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Trieste 1,  
19 July 1904.."

5 Pfennig..  
German domestic  
postcard-rate valid  
for mail to Austria.

**WÜRTTEMBERG POSTAL ADMINISTRATION**



Upon unification of Germany in 1872 and establishment of the 'Reichspost', the 'State of Württemberg' remained autonomous along with its postal administration, albeit having a similar rate structure to that of the Reichspost.

The 'Württemberg Postal Administration' acquired one Bickerdike Postmarking Machine in 1903 commencing operation at the main Stuttgart Post Office.

In 1909, the machine was transferred to Wangen im Allgäu where it applied postmarks to out-going mail between 30-31 December 1909. After dormancy for four years, the machine was transferred to Baden-Baden in 1913 where it remained in operation until July 1914.



'Baden-Baden' Flag Postmark Use 1912-1913  
Viewcard to Nancy, France

# BICKERDIKE

WÜRTTEMBERG POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
STUTTGART POSTAMT Nr. 1

1903 - 1906

The 'Postal Administration of Württemberg' acquired one 'Bickerdike' Machine with service at the cities of Stuttgart, Baden-Baden and Wangen.



FIRST MACHINE OPERATION WAS AT STUTTGART IN 1903.

Postmark: 27mm diameter dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill lines along with an eight horizontal-line 60mm obliterator.

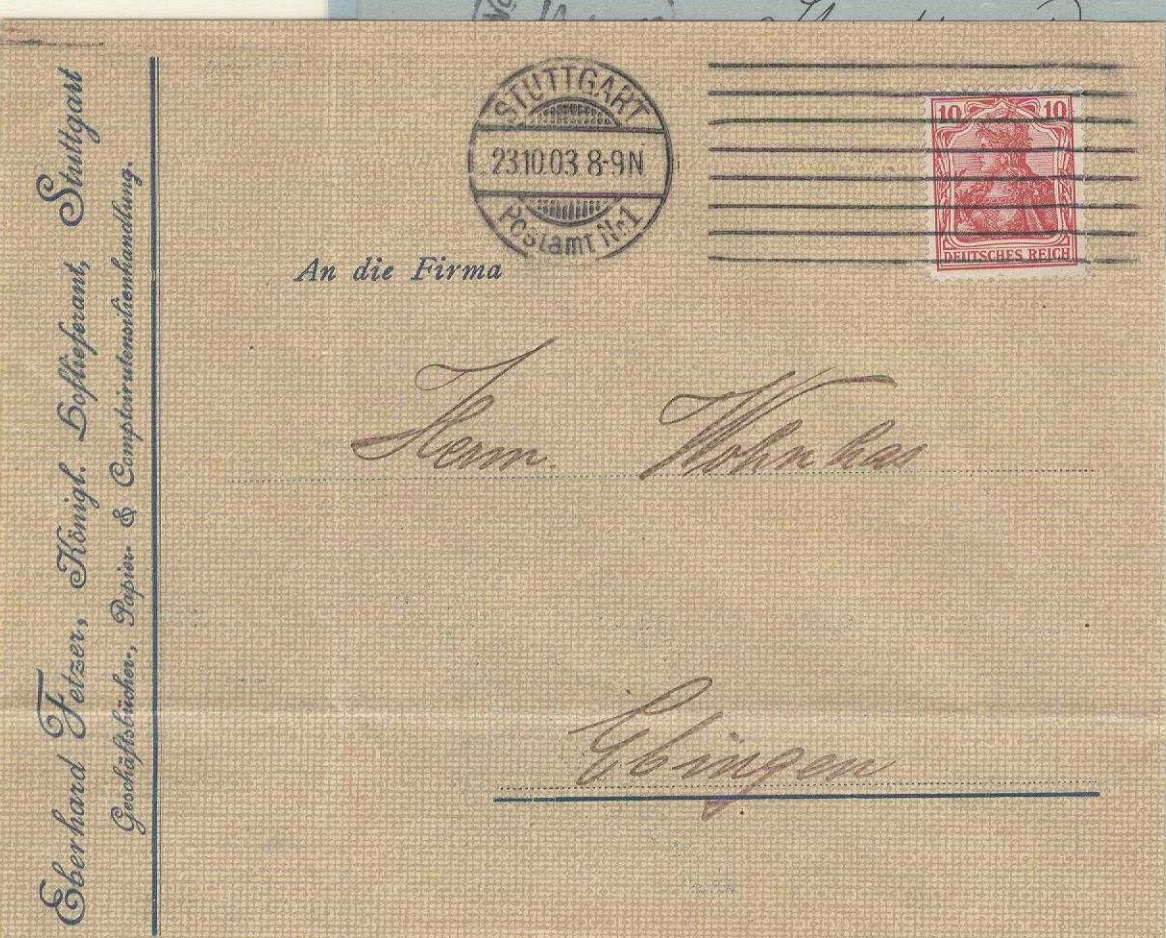
Usage: 8 June 1903 - 31 December 1907

8 JUNE 1903

Local city postal stationery card.

2 Pfennig..  
Local-city postcard-rate

First Day of Usage & Only Known Example.



23 OCTOBER 1903

Commercial advertising (on reverse) cover, sent to Ebingen.

10 Pfennig.. Domestic single-weight letter-rate



# BICKERDIKE

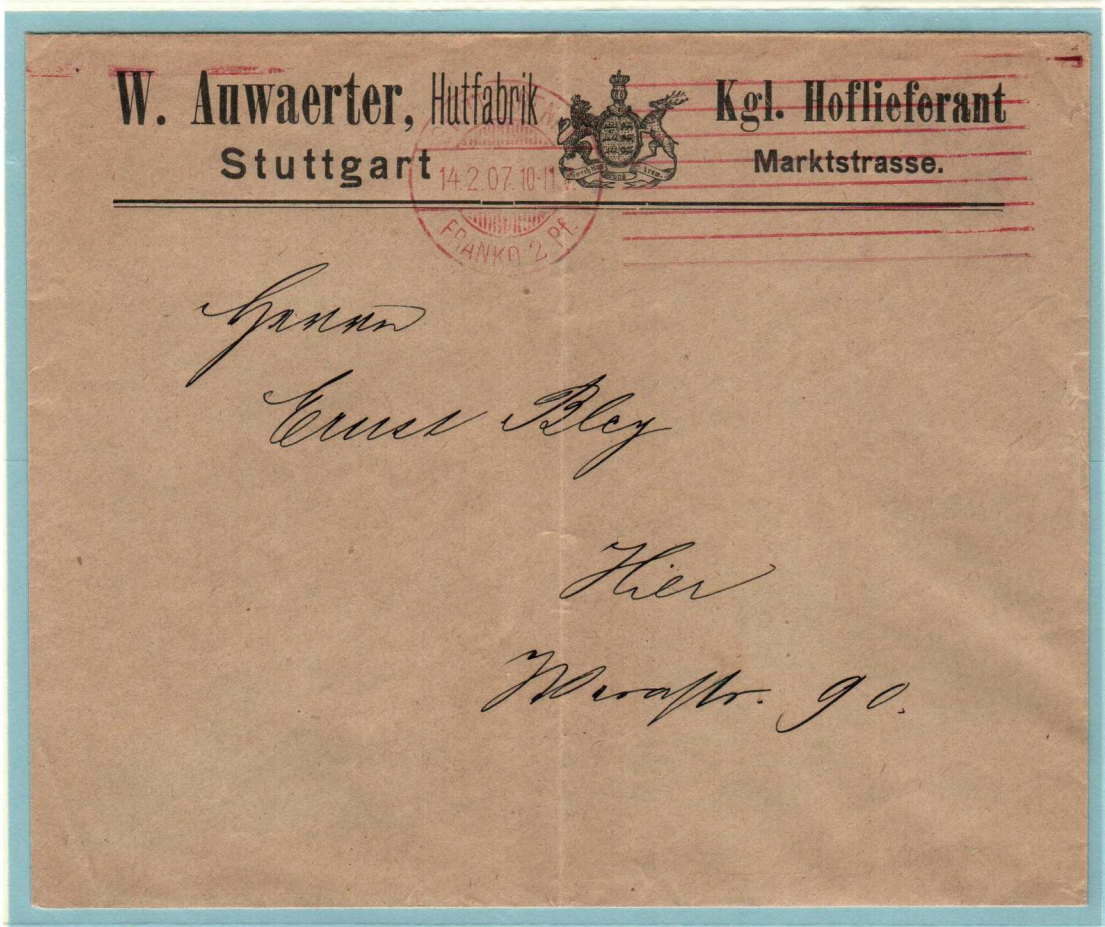
1903 - 1908

WÜRTEMBERG POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
STUTTGART POSTAMT Nr. 1

Along with postmarking outgoing-mail at Stuttgart,  
prepaid '**FRANCO**' Postmarks  
were also applied to bulk advertising mail.

Postmark: 28mm diameter dater-dial with 'bridge' along  
with an eight horizontal-line 60mm obliterator.

Usage: 19 September 1903 - 20 March 1908



PREPAID '**FRANCO 2 Pf**'

14 FEBRUARY 1907

Advertising cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent locally.

Delivery/Carrier Postmark:  
(Reverse)

"Stuttgart No. 1, 14 November B3 (6)"

2 Pfennig..

Bulk local-city printed-matter rate for mail weighing up to 50 grams.

One of Six Examples Known.

# BICKERDIKE

WÜRTTEMBERG POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

BADEN BADEN \*1\* ...

Postmark Type I

1912 - 1913

**IN 1912, THE BICKERDIKE MACHINE,**  
 used only briefly at the post office at Wangen,  
**WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE 'BADEN-BADEN' POST OFFICE**  
 where it applied a 'flag' postmark to out-going mail .. similar  
 postmarks as those applied at post offices of the 'Reichspost'.

**Postmark:** 28mm diameter dater-dial with 'bridge' along with 'flag' obliterator having a crown, banner with tassels & postal horn.

**Usage:** 23 December 1912 – 24 March 1913

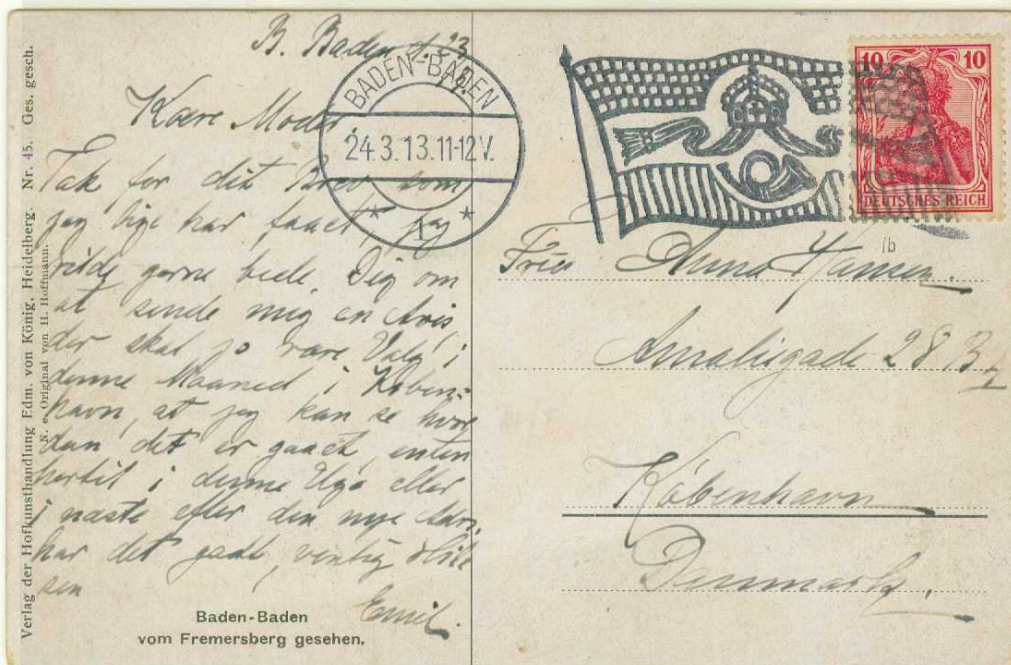
## LOCAL USAGE

**31 DECEMBER  
1912**

'New Year's'  
Greeting Card  
sent as printed-  
matter locally.

**3 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail up to  
50 grams.**

**Short 8-day  
1912 usage.**



## FOREIGN DESTINATION MAIL

**24 MARCH 1913**

Viewcard, sent to  
Copenhagen,  
Denmark.

**10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate**

**Latest Known  
Usage.**

Verlag der Hofkunsthdlgung Edm. von König, Heidelberg. Nr. 45. Ges. gesch. S. 8. Original von H. Hofmann.

Baden-Baden  
vom Fremersberg gesehen.

# BICKERDIKE

1909-1913

WÜRTTEMBERG POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
K. POSTAMT WANGEN IM ALGÄU

In 1909, the heretofore 'BICKERDIKE' Machine operational at Stuttgart  
**WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE TOWN OF WANGEN**  
for apparent occasional operation until 1913

Postmark: 28mm diameter dater-dial with 'bridge' along with  
an eight horizontal-line 60mm obliterator.

Usage: 30 & 31 December 1909, 10 October 1910, 7 February 1913

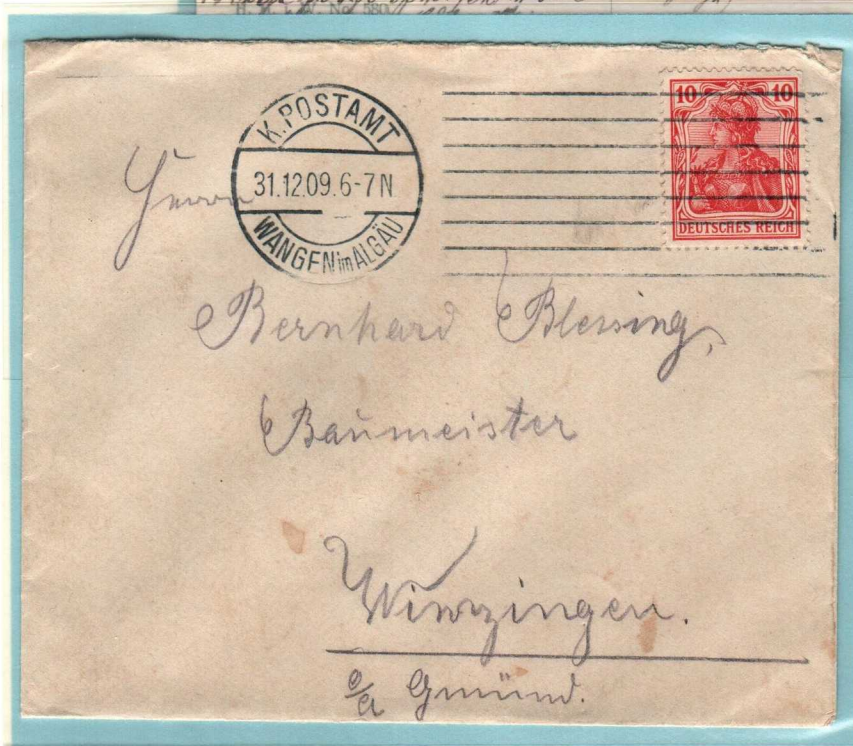
## POSTCARD USE

30 DECEMBER  
1909

'New Year's'  
Greeting Card  
sent to  
Münsingen.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate

Earliest Known  
Usage.



## COVER USE

31 DECEMBER 1909

Letter mail, sent to  
Winzingen.

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate.

# BICKERDIKE

WÜRTTEMBERG POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

BADEN-BADEN \*1\* ...

Postmark Type II

1913 - 1914

**IN 1913, THE 'BADEN-BADEN 'BICKERDIKE' MACHINE'  
HAD ITS POSTMARK OBLITERATOR ALTERED  
TO AN 8-LINE TYPE HERETOFORE USED AT STUTTART  
until the end of 1906.**

**Postmark:** 28mm diameter dater-dial with 'bridge' along with an eight horizontal-line 50mm obliterator.

**Usage:** 8 May 1913 - 18 July 1914

## POSTCARD USAGE

19 AUGUST 1913

Viewcard,  
sent to Berlin.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



## COVER USAGE

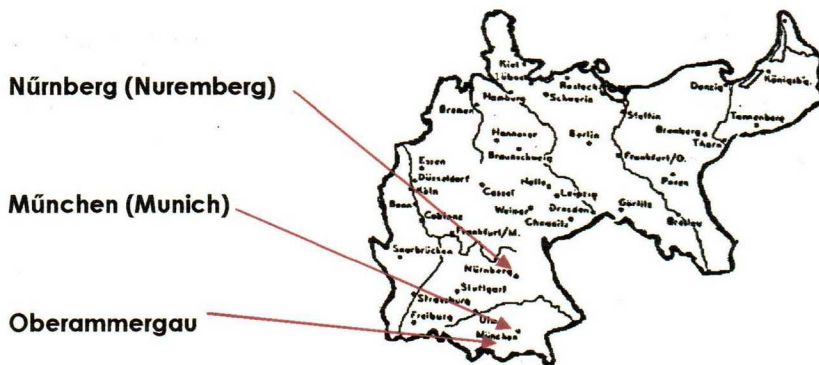
22 JUNE 1913

Cover, sent to  
Charlottenburg  
(Berlin).

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate.



BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION



Upon unification of Germany in 1872 and subsequent establishment of the 'Reichspost'. The 'State of Bavaria' remained autonomous along with its postal administration, albeit having a similar rate structure to that of the Reichspost.

The Bavarian Postal Administration acquired two *Bickerdike* Postmarking Machines ... one in 1905 and a second in 1906.

The first of the two 'Bickerdikers' was placed in operation at the Munich Post Office to apply origin postmarks to out-going mail with later servicing such mail in 1908, 1910 & 1912 at special Bavarian-sponsored exhibitions.

A second 'Bickerdike' was placed in operation at Bavaria's second largest city, Nürnberg, initially postmarking out-going mail at the '1906 Bavarian State Exhibition' with transfer to the Town of Oberammergau in 1910 for postmarking out-going mail sent during the 1910 'Passion Play' Event.

Munich  
Post Office  
'Bickerdike'  
Postmark  
1905-1907



# BICKERDIKE

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
MÜNCHEN 2 B.P. (Munich)

Machine '1' ...  
Postmark Type 1

1905 - 1907

**THE BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION ACQUIRED TWO BICKERDIKE  
POSTMARKING MACHINES ...  
one in 1905 and a second in 1906.**

**The first machine was in service at  
'Munich Post Office 2'  
while the second was for service at Nuremberg.  
Both applied postmarks to out-going mail.**

**Postmark:** 27mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical  
grill and obliterator having six wavy-lines in three groups  
separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 18 February 1905 - 2 September 1907

**25 MARCH 1905**

Photo-card,  
sent to a passenger  
aboard a vessel  
expected to dock at  
Port Said, Egypt.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Port Said,  
2 April 1905"

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate



**4 APRIL 1905**

Mourning cover,  
sent to a Catholic  
Priest in Rome, Italy.

Arrival Postmark:  
(reverse)  
"Rome, 5 April 1905"

20 Pfennig...  
(2x 10 Pfennig)  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
Letter-Rate



# BICKERDIKE

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
MÜNCHEN 2 B.P. (Munich)

Machine '1' ...  
Postmark Type 1

1905 - 1907

POSTCARD RATES

UPU  
INTERNATIONAL  
POSTCARD-RATE

10 Pfennig



DOMESTIC  
POSTCARD-RATE

5 Pfennig



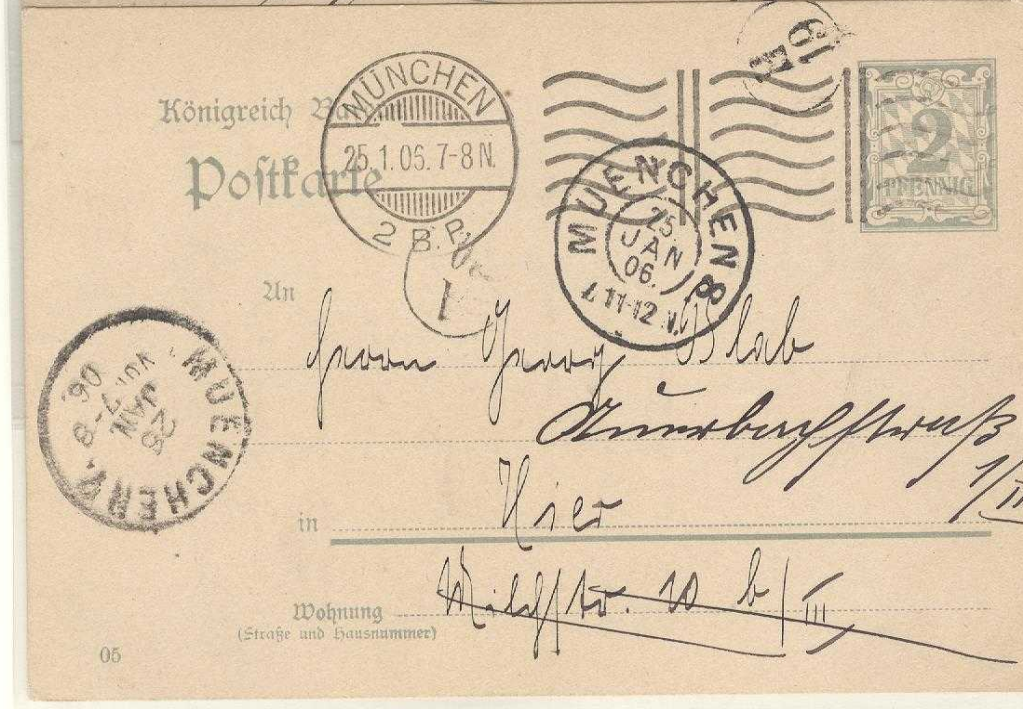
DOMESTIC  
PRINTED-MATTER  
RATE

3 Pfennig



LOCAL-CITY  
POSTCARD-RATE

2 Pfennig



# BICKERDIKE

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

MÜNCHEN 1 B.P. (Munich)

Machine '1' ...

Postmark Type II

1905 - 1907

IN 1907, BICKERDIKE MACHINE '1',  
HERETOFORE OPERATIONAL AT 'MUNICH POST OFFICE '2',  
WAS TRANSFERRED TO  
'MUNICH POST OFFICE '1'  
WHERE IT CONTINUED TO APPLY POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING MAIL

**Postmark:** 27mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge'  
& vertical grill and obliterator having six  
wavy-lines in three groups separated by two  
pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 30 December 1907 - 1 December 1908



13 NOVEMBER 1908

Cover,  
commercial printed-matter enclosure,  
sent to Engen.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for  
mail up to 50 grams.

One of less than five examples known.



# Ausstellung München 1908

(Munich Exhibition of 1908)

In an effort to finance the 'Munich Exposition of 1908', the State of Bavaria authorized a Lottery in 1907 with the main prize at RM 50,000.00.

The exposition took place between May-October with the lottery drawing on 30-31 October 1908.

**HAPTGEWINN**  
**50,000**  
**Mk**  
**bar**

21 07

**AUSSTELLUNG MÜNCHEN 1908**  
Unter dem Protektorat Sr. Kgl. H. des Prinzregenten Luitpold v. Bayern.  
**LOS** № 316891 **PREIS 1 M** inklusive Stempel. □  
Genehmigt durch höchste Ministerial-Entschl. Nr. 19610 v. 5. Septbr. 1907.  
**ZIEHUNG am 30. u. 31. OKTBR. 1908**  
Das Direktorium der Ausstellung München 1908.  
I. Vorsitzender: *Dr. v. Loosjke* I. Schriftführer: *Maximilian Mayer* Schatzmeister: *Paul Böhler*  
I. rechtsk. Bürgermeister. K. Kommerzienrat. Rentier.

DR. WILD'SCHE BUCHDRUCKEREI (GEBR. PARCUS) MÜNCHEN.

Dieser Abschnitt darf weder verletzt noch abgetrennt werden.

# AUSSTELLUNG MÜNCHEN 1908

# BICKERDIKE

1908

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

"AUSSTELLUNG MÜNCHEN 1908" (Munich Exhibition of 1908)

Machine '1' ...

Postmark Type III

IN 1908, 'MUNICH POST OFFICE '1' BICKERDIKE' WAS TEMPORARILY PLACED AT THE 'MUNICH EXHIBITION OF 1908' FOR APPLYING SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS TO OUT-GOING FAIR MAIL.

The 'Munich Exhibition of 1908' displayed exhibits involving applied arts, handicrafts, industry, trade, public institutions & sports.

**Postmark:** Three-line Dater along with a unique design logo as obliterator.

**Usage:** 16 May – 19 October 1908

FOREIGN-  
BOUND MAIL  
POSTCARD-  
RATE

10 Pfennig

DOMESTIC  
POSTCARD-  
RATE

5 Pfennig



# BICKERDIKE

1910

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

"AUSSTELLUNG MÜNCHEN 1910" (Munich Exhibition of 1910)

Machine '1' ...

Postmark Type IV

**THE BICKERDIKE MACHINE,**  
heretofore in service at 'Munich Post Office '1' and  
temporarily operational at the 'Munich Exhibition of 1908',  
**WAS IDLED IN 1909 BUT AGAIN ACTIVATED IN 1910 FOR**  
**POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL AT THE**  
**'ISLAMIC EXHIBITION'.**

**Postmark:** Three-line Dater along with a unique design fair  
logo as an obliterator.

**Usage:** 14 May - 19 October 1910



7 SEPTEMBER 1910

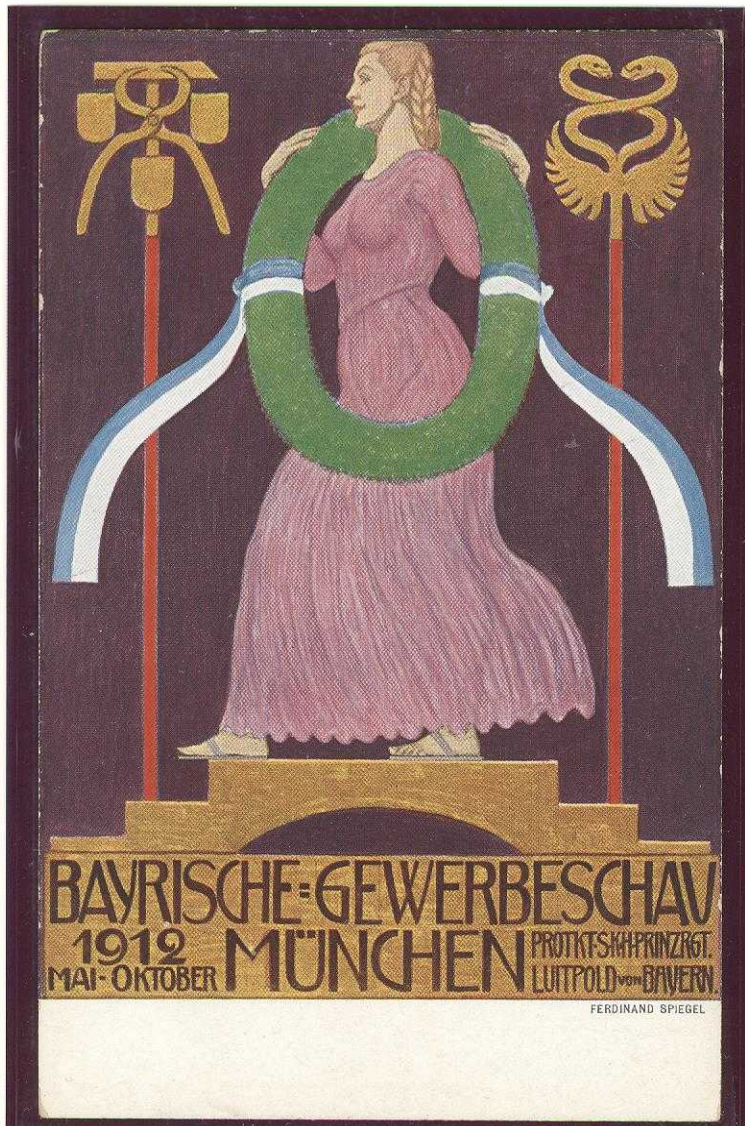
Decorative exhibition postcard,  
sent from the  
exhibition administrative office  
to Flensburg.

5 Pfennig  
Domestic postcard-rate

# Gewerbeschau München 1912

(Munich Trade Show of 1912)

The 'Bickerdike' Postmarking Machine, which had been servicing mail at 'Munich Post Office '1' and at the 'Munich Exhibitions of 1908 & 1910', idled in 1911, again serviced mail in 1912 at the 'Munich Trade Show of 1912'. (18 May – 10 October 1912).



OFFICIAL POSTCARD & ADVERTISING LABEL  
FOR THE 'MUNICH TRADE SHOW OF 1912'

# BICKERDIKE

1912

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
"GEWERBESCHAU MÜNCHEN 1912"

(Munich Trade Show of 1912)

Machine '1' ...

Postmark Type V

**THE BICKERDIKE MACHINE,**  
 Heretofore in service at 'Munich Post Office '1' as well as  
 'Munich Exhibitions of 1908 & 1910',  
**WAS IDLED IN 1911 BUT AGAIN ACTIVATED IN 1912 FOR**  
**POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL AT THE**  
**'MUNICH TRADE SHOW'.**

After usage at the latter show,  
 the 'Bickerdike' was deactivated.

**Postmark:** Three-line Dater along with a unique design fair logo as obliterator.

**Usage:** 18 May - 10 October 1912

28 JULY 1912

Privately-printed  
Decorative  
commemorative  
exhibition postcard,  
sent to a town  
in the Oberlausitz  
District.



23 AUGUST 1912

Munich  
Viewcard,  
sent to a  
medical clinic  
at  
Berlin-  
Reinickendorf.

Aquarell-Serie München, No. 22.

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic postcard-rate

# BICKERDIKE

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

"NÜRNBERG AUSSTELLUNG" (Nuremberg Exhibition of 1906)

Machine '2' ...

Postmark Type I

1906

**A SECOND 'BICKERDIKE',  
acquired by the Bavarian Postal Administration, was  
sent to the 'Nuremberg Post Office'  
FOR SERVICING OUT-GOING MAIL AT THE  
'NUREMBERG EXHIBITION OF 1906'.**

**Postmark:** 28mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical (9-line) grill  
along with a horizontal seven-line 38mm obliterator.

**Usage:** 1 May - 30 October 1906

## BAVARIAN CENTURY-COMMEMORATION EXHIBITION POSTCARDS



6 & 20 AUGUST 1906

Official exhibition commemorative postcards,  
sent to addressees  
at Frankfurt (Main) & Augsburg.

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic postcard-rate

# BICKERDIKE

1906

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

"NÜRNBERG AUSSTELLUNG" (Nuremberg Exhibition of 1906)

Machine '2' ...

Postmark Type I

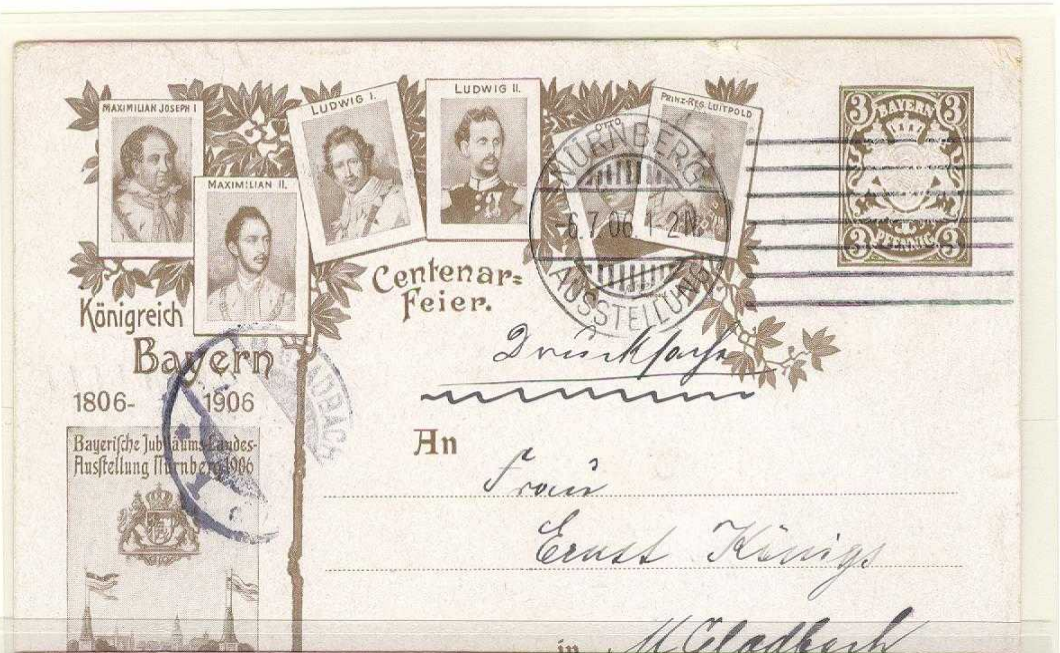
Postmark: 28mm dater-dial with 'bridge' & vertical (9-line) grill along with a horizontal seven-line 38mm obliterator.

Usage: 1 May - 30 October 1906

## PRIVATELY-PRINTED BAVARIA-CENTURY-COMMEMORATION EXHIBITION POSTAL STATIONERY CARDS

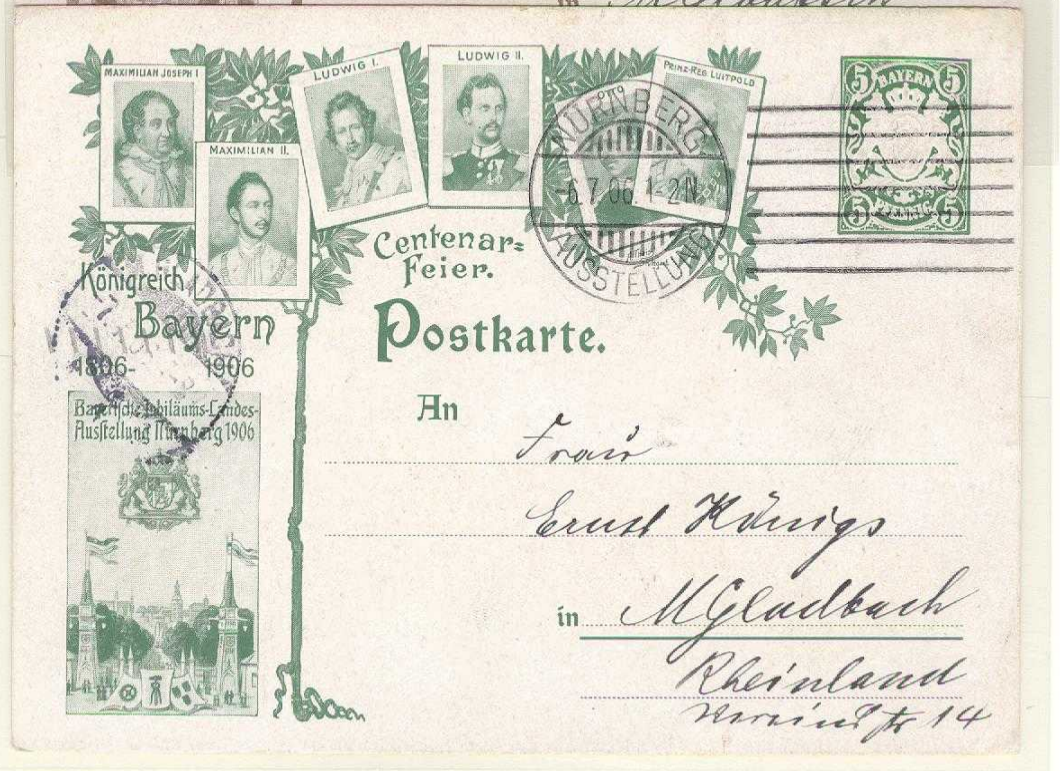
DOMESTIC  
PRINTED-MATTER  
RATE

3 Pfennig



DOMESTIC  
POSTCARD-RATE

5 Pfennig



Machine '2' ...  
 Postmark Type II

**ALTHOUGH THE SECOND BAVARIAN 'BICKERDIKE' COMMENCED  
 SERVICING OUT-GOING MAIL AT THE  
 'NUREMBERG EXHIBITION OF 1906',  
 BETWEEN JUNE AND AUGUST IT ALSO POSTMARKED  
 NON-EXHIBITION MAIL.**

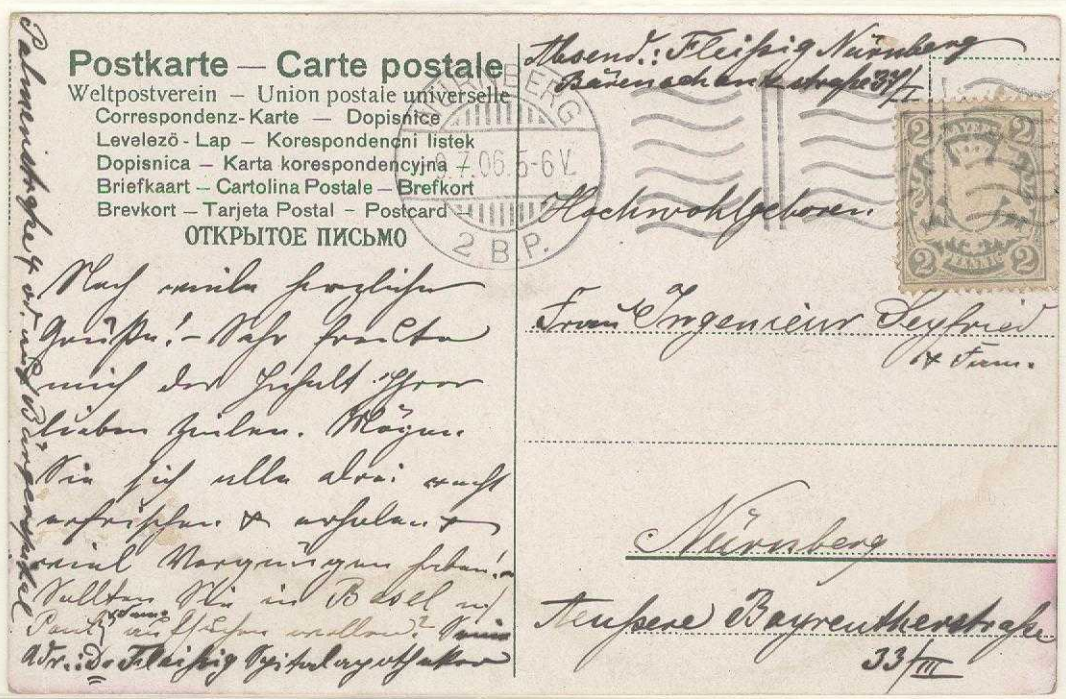
**Postmark:** 28mm double-circle date-dial with 'bridge' & vertical grill and obliterator having six wavy-lines in three groups separated by two pair of vertical bars.

**Usage:** 6 June – 22 August 1906

9 JULY 1906

UPU-Design  
 Greeting's Card,  
 sent locally.

2 Pfennig...  
 Local city  
 postcard-rate.



11 JUNE 1906

View-card,  
 sent to Munich.

Arrival Postmark  
 "München 10,  
 11 June (1906)"

5 Pfennig...  
 Domestic  
 postcard-rate





**BICKERDIKE**  
**BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION**  
**NÜRNBERG 2 B.P.**

Machine '2' ...  
 Postmark Type III

1907-1908

After servicing mail at the 'Nuremberg Exhibition of 1906' and a brief interim-period at the '2 B.P.' Post Office, the second Bavarian 'Bickerdike' again serviced mail at the 'Nürnberg 2 B.P.' Post Office  
**NOW WITH A NEW POSTMARK OBLITERATOR.**

**Postmark:** 28mm double-circle dater-dial with 'bridge' & (9-line) vertical grill along with a seven horizontal-line 38mm obliterator.

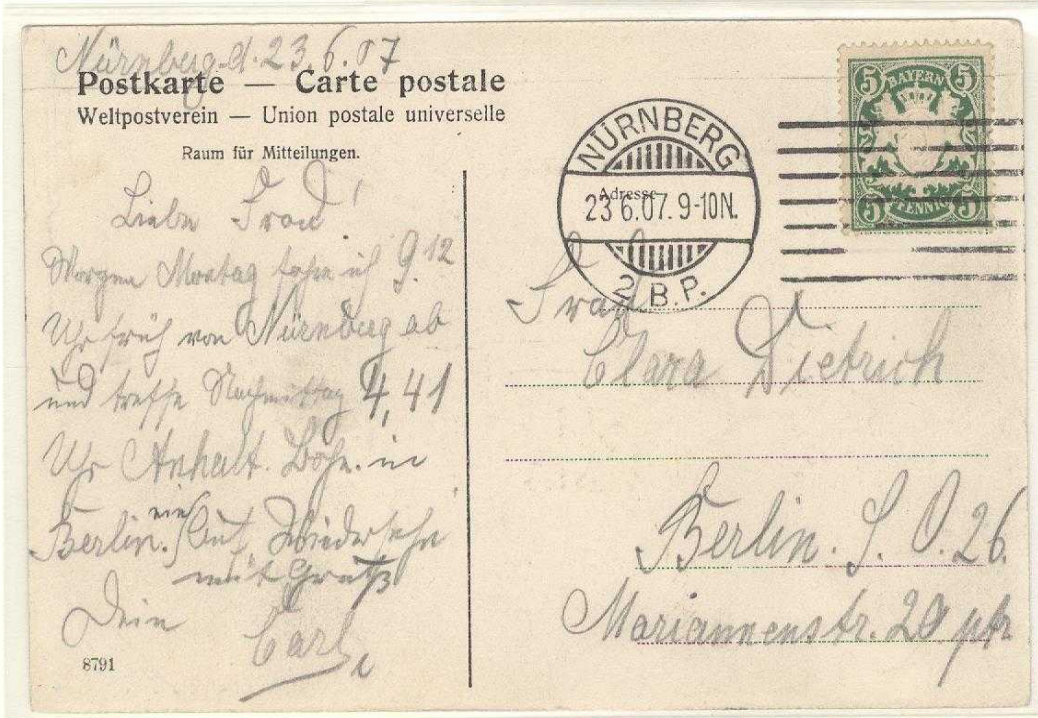
**Usage:** 4 December 1906 – 27 December 1908

**FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL**

**26 JANUARY 1907**

Cover,  
 sent to New York ..  
 with franking in  
 opposite corners  
 resulting in the cover  
 being passed twice  
 through the  
 postmarking machine.

**20 Pfennig...**  
**UPU International**  
**Single-Weight**  
**Letter-Rate**



**DOMESTIC MAIL**

**23 JUNE 1907**

**View-card,**  
**sent to Berlin.**

**5 Pfennig...**  
**Domestic**  
**postcard-rate.**

# Oberammergau Passionsspiele 1910

(Oberammergau Passion Play of 1910)

A 'Bickerdike' Postmarking Machine which had been servicing mail at the 'Nürnberg Post Office '2' (1906-08) and at the 'Nuremberg Exhibition of 1906', idled in 1909, again serviced mail in 1910 for the 'Oberammergau Passion Play of 1910' (5 June - 26 September 1910).

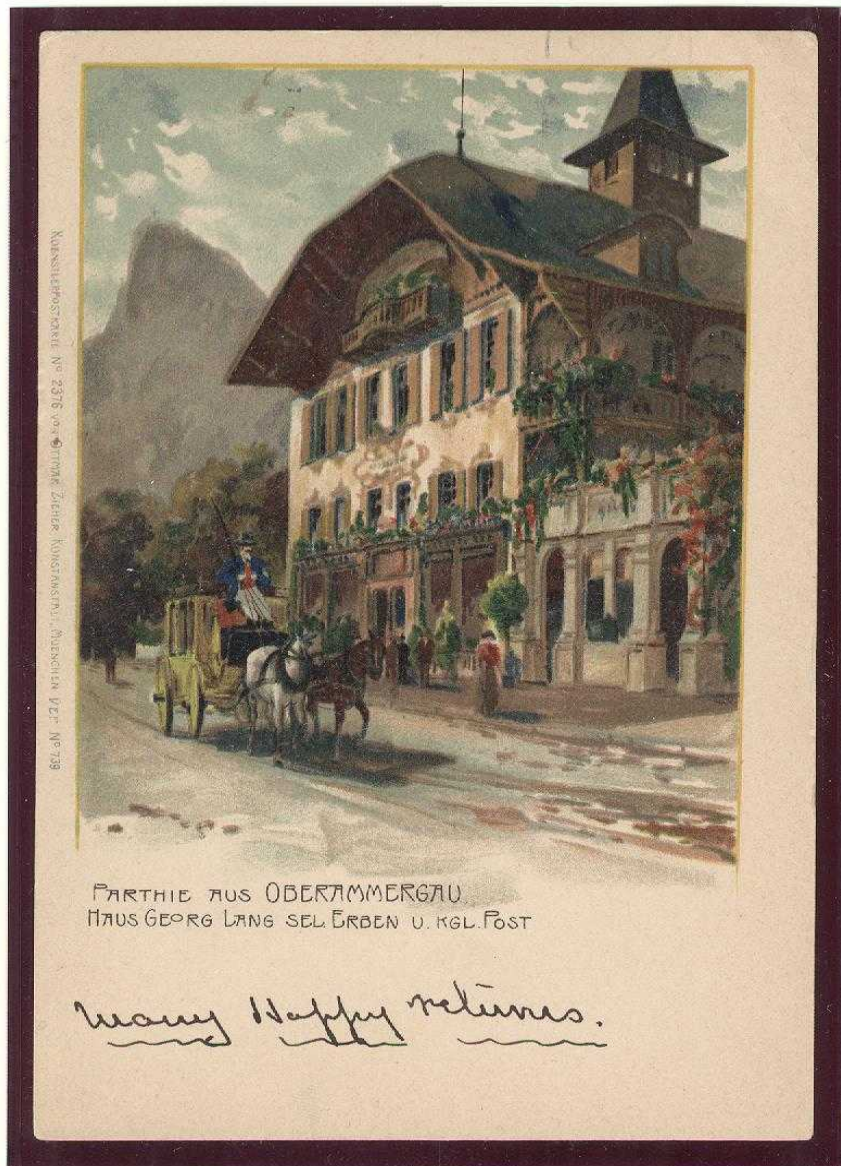


ILLUSTRATION OF THE IMPERIAL POST OFFICE  
AT OBERAMMERGAU, BAVARIA.

# BICKERDIKE

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION

"OBERAMMERGAU PASSIONSSPIELE 1910" (Oberammergau Passion Play of 1910)

Machine '2' ...

Postmark Type IV

1910

After its service at Nuremberg,  
THE SECOND BAVARIAN 'BICKERDIKE'  
was idled in 1909 and  
TRANSFERRED TO 'OBERAMMERGAU' FOR SERVICING MAIL  
DURING THE 'PASSION PLAY' EVENT IN 1910.

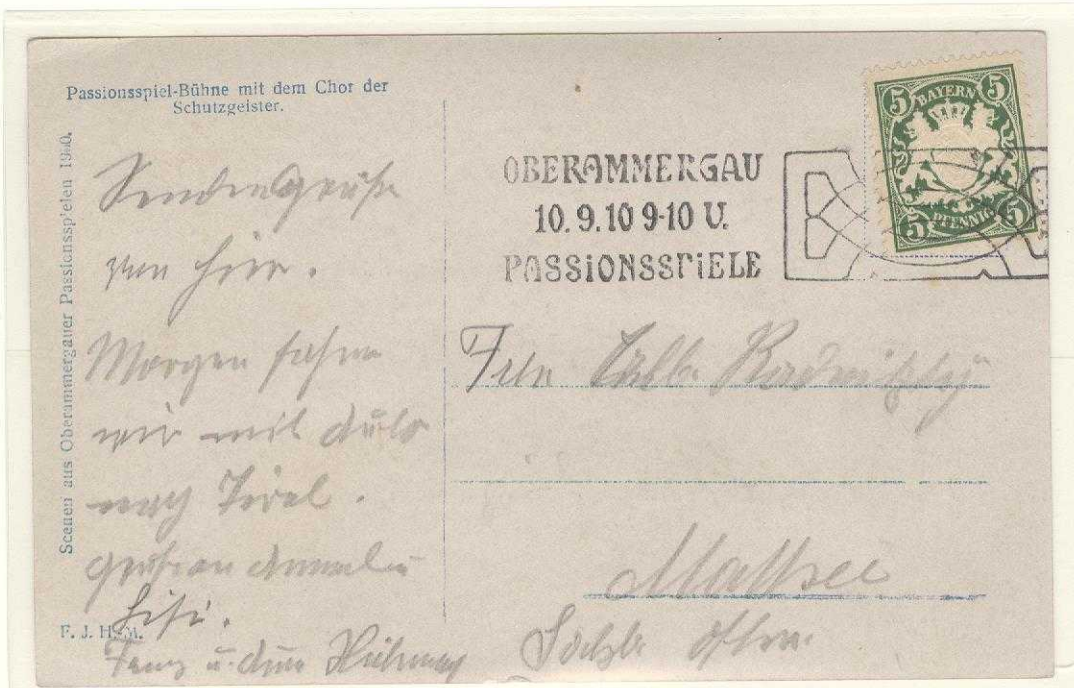
Postmark: Three-line dater along with a unique design obliterator.

Usage: 5 May - 26 September 1910

4 AUGUST 1910

View-card,  
sent to  
Salem,  
New York,  
USA.

10 Pfennig...  
UPU  
International  
Postcard-Rate.



HAMBURG '11' ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type I a

Soon after the introduction of the 'Bickerdike' into the postal system in 1901, the 'COLUMBIA POSTAL SUPPLY COMPANY' OF SILVER CREEK, NEW YORK, SUBMITTED A MACHINE IN COMPETITION, which, over the next few years, became one of seven machine versions tested by the Reichspost.

'Machine 1' was located at the Hamburg '11' (Schaarsteinweg 10) Post Office and applied origin postmarks mainly to bulk out-going lottery-advertising mail.



Postmark: 22mm dater dial WITH '11' at the bottom along with a 62mm 7-line obliterator.

Usage: 23 May 1901 - 8 December 1903



3 JUNE 1901

Cover, printed-matter lottery-advertising enclosure, postmarked at Hamburg, sent to 'Elfen' with re-direction to Merseburg..

3 Pfg...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

HAMBURG '1' ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type 1b

Although 'Columbia Machine 1' was initially located at the  
Hamburg '11' Post Office,  
**IT WAS TRANSFERRED BETWEEN THE LATTER AND  
HAMBURG '1' POST OFFICE**  
(Main Train Station/Münzstrasse 1)  
**SEVERAL TIMES BETWEEN 1901-1905**  
with the '1' in the dial placed on right or left side.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial WITH '1' at the bottom  
(left, right or center) along with a 62mm  
7-line obliterator.

Usage: 8 October 1901 – 24 November 1905



26 NOVEMBER 1901

Cover, printed-matter lottery-advertising enclosure,  
postmarked at Hamburg, sent to Reichenbach, Province Saxony.  
Position of the '1' in dial is on the left-side.

3 Pfg...

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

# COLUMBIA

1901 - 1903

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type Ia

A SECOND 'COLUMBIA' WAS TESTED BY THE  
REICHSPOST AT THE CENTRAL BERLIN  
POST OFFICE.

For that machine a narrow version of the  
heretofore 'Bickerdike-style' postal flag  
postmark obliterator was utilized



Postmark: 22mm dater dial WITH '2' at the bottom, an 'A' ADJACENT TO THE DIAL RIM with a narrow flag (having crown, banner HAVING WIDE TASSELS and post horn) obliterator.

Usage: 14 October 1901 – 7 August 1903



26 OCTOBER 1901

Cover, printed-matter lottery-advertising enclosure,  
postmarked at Berlin, sent to Magdeburg.

3 Pfg...

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type Ia

2 PFENNIG WITH PERFIN..  
INNER-CITY COMMERCIAL  
PRINTED-MATTER RATE



6 NOVEMBER 1901

Unsealed cover, inner-city advertising mail with enclosure,  
with franking having  
Perfin 'BLA' = "Berliner Lotterie Ausgabe"  
(= Lottery Sales Office in Berlin).

2 Pfg...  
Inner-city printed-matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.

COLUMBIA

1901 - 1903

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type Ia

3 PFENNIG..  
LONG-DISTANCE DOMESTIC  
ADVERTISING-COVER.. PRINTED-MATTER RATE



17 APRIL 1902

Advertising cover, inner-city advertising cover  
("Nernst-Lampe" = Nernst Lightbulbs),  
postmarked at Berlin, sent to Bayreuth.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Bayreuth,  
18 April (1902)"

3 Pfg...  
Domestic long-distance printed-matter rate  
for mail up to 50 grams.



Reverse



COLUMBIA

1901 - 1903

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type Ia

LOTTERY-ADVERTISING MAIL  
1902 & 1903

23 DECEMBER  
1902

Lottery mail  
cover,  
sent to  
Woyens  
(Province Silesia).



22 APRIL 1903

Lottery mail  
cover,  
sent  
to Dresden  
(Province Saxony).

3 Pfg...

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

COLUMBIA

1901 - 1903

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type Ia

INCOME-TAX-OFFICE  
OFFICIAL MAIL

Ein kommensteuer-Der anlagungs kommission in Berlin C. 2, *An der Spandauerbrücke No. 14*  
**Nicht nach außerhalb nachsenden**

An  
Herrn  
Bauingenieur  
Merkens

~~Jan 27. 1902  
Zimmerman 68~~

Steuer-Nr. 25436 U.S. 3

13 FEBRUARY 1902

Berlin  
Income-Tax-Office  
official  
free-frank cover,  
sent to a local  
tax auditor

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type 1b

Since the heretofore postmark-die was worn,  
A NEW, SLIGHTLY MODIFIED, DIE REPLACED THE FORMER IN SEPTEMBER 1903.

Although similar in design as the former die, several changes are found in  
the dater dial along with narrower tassels in the flag obliterator.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial with '2' at the bottom, an 'A' SEPERATED  
FROM THE DIAL RIM, 'L..I' OF BERLIN WITH A SPACE IN-BETWEEN,  
and with a narrow flag (having crown, banner with  
NARROW END TASSELS and post horn) obliterator.

Usage: 10 September 1903 - 4 March 1905



30 OCTOBER 1903

Inner-city printed-matter lottery-advertising mail.

2 Pfg...  
inner-city printed-matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.

BERLIN C. '2A' ... Machine '2'  
Postmark Type 1b

1904 & 1905 PRINTED-MATTER  
USAGE



*From H. Warncke*



*From  
Wwe. A. Schulze*

*Cottbus*

*Berlin N. 64.*

# COLUMBIA

1903 - 1904

BERLIN C. \*2\* ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type I

Concurrent with testing of Columbia Machines '1' (Hamburg 1) & '2' (Berlin C2), **A NEWER VERSION OF A COLUMBIA** was submitted to the postal authorities for testing initially at Berlin's main post office.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial **WITH '2'** near the bottom along with an obliterator of **THREE GROUPS OF SIX WAVY LINES SEPARATED BY TWO PAIR OF VERTICAL BARS.**

Usage: 18 September 1903 – 3 April 1904



30 SEPTEMBER 1903

Inverted lottery-mail advertising cover,  
sent to Frankfurt/Main.

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.

# COLUMBIA

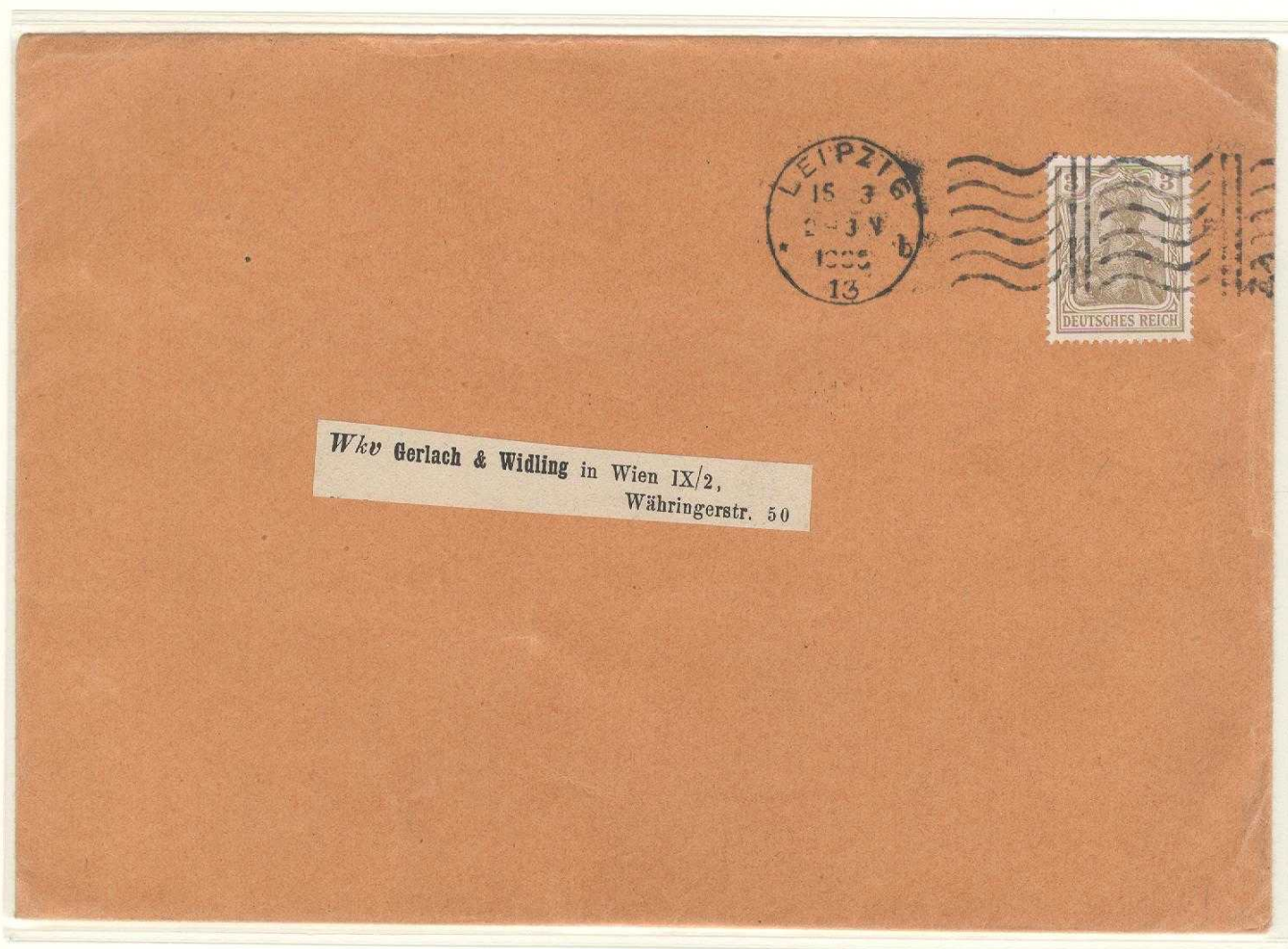
1905 - 1908

LEIPZIG \*13b ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type II

After less than one year trial operation at Berlin,  
**COLUMBIA MACHINE '3' WAS TRANSFERRED  
TO THE CITY OF LEIPZIG**  
for additional testing maintaining  
a postmark similar to that used at Berlin.

Postmark: 22mm dater dial indicating LEIPZIG \*13b along  
with an obliterator consisting of  
**THREE GROUPS OF SIX WAVY LINES SEPARATED  
BY TWO PAIR OF VERTICAL BARS.**

Usage: 13 March 1905 – 31 December 1908



15 MARCH 1905

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent to Vienna, Austria

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic printed-matter rate valid for  
Austrian-bound mail up to 50 grams.

Earliest recorded date.

LEIPZIG \*13b ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type II

1906 & 1907 USAGE

3 JULY 1906

Inner-city  
letter-cover  
mail.

5 Pfennig..  
Inner-city  
letter-rate  
for mail up to  
20 grams



1 FEBRUARY  
1907

Cover, printed  
matter mail  
enclosure,  
sent to  
Friedrichroda,  
(Province  
Thuringia).

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
printed-  
matter  
rate for mail  
up to 50  
grams.

2/3h

# COLUMBIA

1906 - 1907

HAMBURG \*\*\* ...

Machine '4'

## A NEW VERSION 'COLUMBIA' POSTMARKING MACHINE (4th)

was tested by the Reichspost at the main Hamburg city post office commencing 23 April 1906.

A patriotic 'flag' postmark was engraved.. possibly in the United States of America.



Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial with a flag-design obliterator (ca. 60mm length) having a 'DR' in the center.

Usage: 23 April 1906 - 9 January 1907

23 APRIL 1906

Viewcard, sent to Lübeck.

Arrival Postmark: "Lübeck, 24 April 1906"

Earliest Reported Usage Date.

Exp. Oechsner



9 JANUARY 1907

Postal stationery card, sent to Marne.

Arrival Postmark: "Marne, 9 January 1907"

Latest Reported Usage Date.

5 Pfennig ... Domestic postcard-rate



# COLUMBIA

1906 - 1907

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '4'

**MOST MAIL HANDLED BY THIS COLUMBIA VERSION INVOLVED THE POSTMARKING OF POSTCARDS AND NOT COVERS.**

**It is known that both small and large-size covers could be processed by Columbia '4' Machine.**

10 MAY 1906

Cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to Elberfeld,

Smallest cover  
size  
(118 x 59mm)  
known.



Herrn

Rudolf Hilgenberg



12 MAY 1906

Cover, printed-matter  
enclosure, sent  
to Leipzig

Largest cover  
size  
(155 x 124mm)  
known.

Leipzig

Blücherstr 33.

HL

3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter for mail up to 50 grams.

**'Soldiers Mail' was free for postcards & letters  
up to 60 grams as long as mail  
was endorsed...**

**"Soldatenbrief. Eigene Angelegenheit des Empfängers"**  
(Soldier's Mail. Personal Matters for the Recipient)

5 MAY 1906

UPU  
Viewcard,  
sent to Stolp  
(Province  
Pommerania).

Arrival  
Postmark:  
"Stolp,  
6 May, 1906"



29 MAY 1906

UPU  
Viewcard,  
sent to  
Grossenhain  
(Province  
Saxony).

Arrival  
Postmark:  
"Grossenhain,  
30 May 1906"



HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '4'

FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL  
TO THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT

MAIL TO MEXICO

13 MAY 1906

Viewcard, sent  
'via New York' to  
Mexico City.  
16 Day Transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
"..Mexico City,  
29 May 1906.."

10 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Postcard Rate



MAIL TO USA

2 JULY 1906

Cover, sent to  
Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin.  
9 Day Transit  
Time.

Arrival  
Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin,  
11 July 1906.."

20 Pfennig ..  
UPU Single-  
Weight  
(20 grams)  
International  
Letter-Rate.



OTHER FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

MAIL TO SWITZERLAND

25 APRIL 1906

Viewcard, sent to Kilchberg (Zürich), Switzerland, on third-day of operation of the Columbia Machine at Hamburg.

Arrival Postmark: "Kilchberg, 26 May 1906.." (One Day Transit time.)



MAIL TO RUSSIA

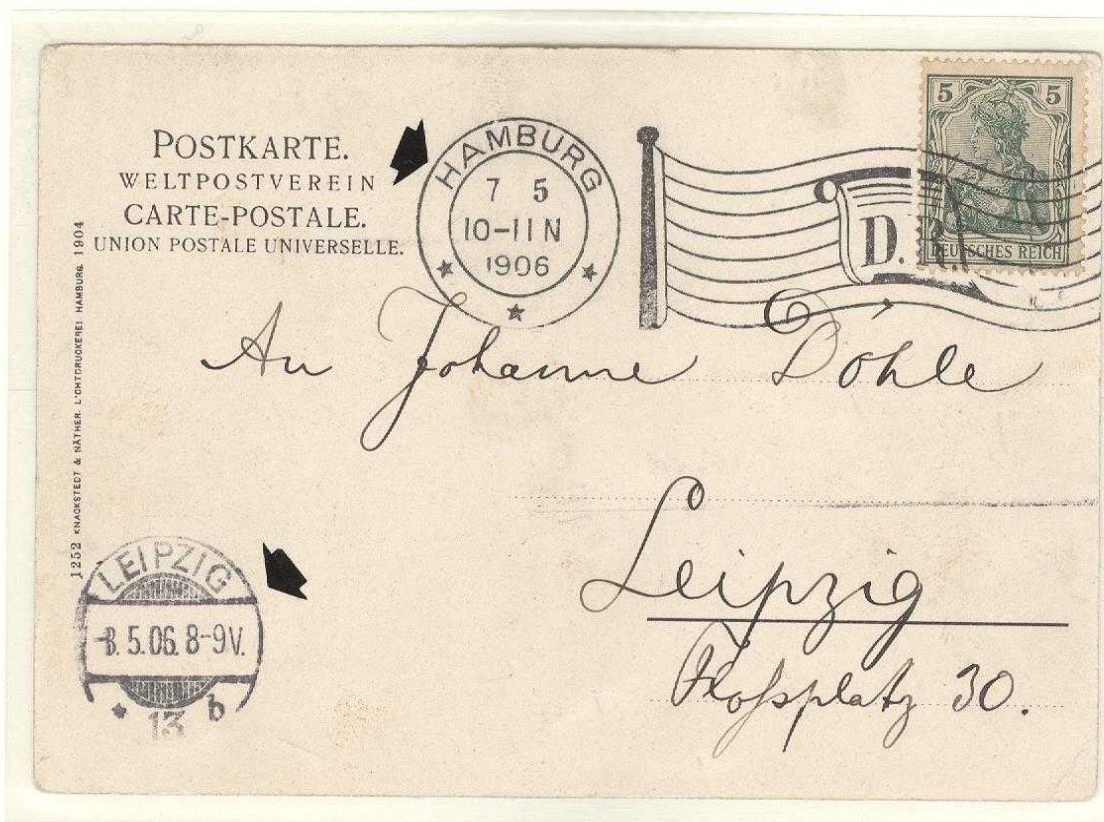
12 DECEMBER 1906

Viewcard, sent to Nishni-Novgorod, Russia.

Arrival Postmark, "19 December 1906"

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '4'

'COLUMBIA' ORIGIN & 'BICKERDIKE' ARRIVAL  
POSTMARKS



7 MAY 1906

Viewcard, origin-postmarked at Hamburg with a '*Columbia Machine*',  
sent to Leipzig having a '*Bickerdike Machine*' Arrival Postmark applied.

Arrival Postmark:

(Usage: 24 October 1902 - 29 October 1908)

"Leipzig \*13b,  
8 May 1906, 8-9 AM"

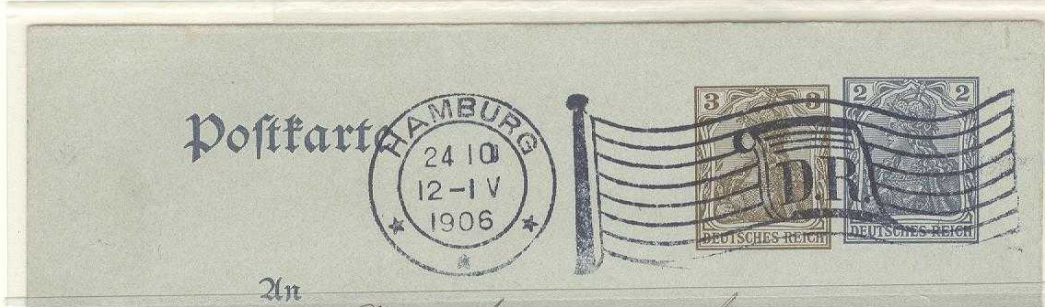
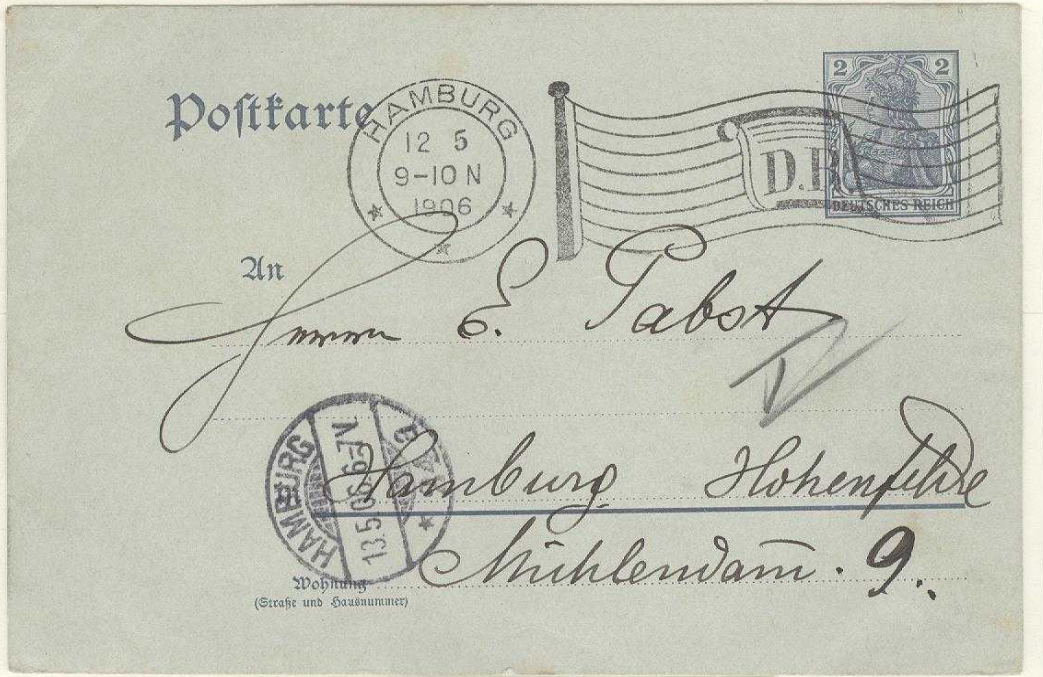
5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic Postcard Rate

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '4'

Some time during the second half of 1906,  
THE POSTMARKING INK COLOR ALTERED FROM  
DEEP BLACK TO BLUE-BLACK.

12 MAY 1906

Inner-city  
postal  
stationery  
usage having  
BLACK INK  
POSTMARK.



24 OCTOBER 1906

&

5 JANUARY 1907

Domestic-usage  
postal stationery  
cards with  
BLUE-BLACK INK  
POSTMARKS.

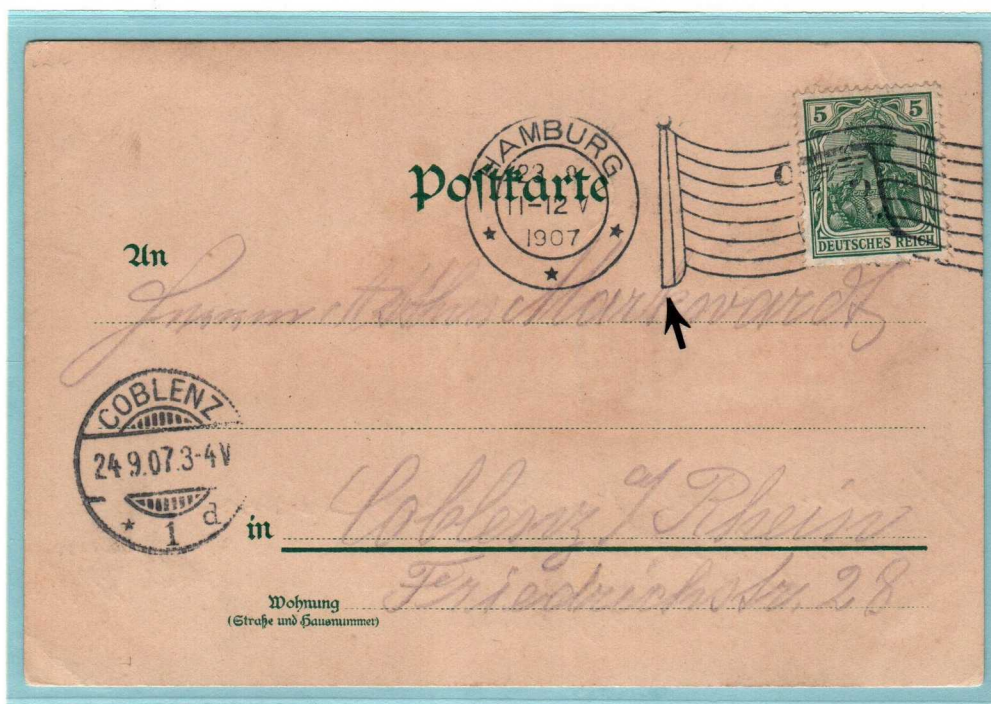


HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '4'

After 8-1/2 months of machine inactivity,  
**A TWO-DAY TRIAL WAS CONDUCTED AT HAMBURG BETWEEN  
 21-23 SEPTEMBER 1907 (22 September was a Sunday)**  
 with 'Machine 4' having an altered postmark obliterator.  
 The significance of this late trial with 'Machine 4' is not known.

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial having 'DR' centered  
 in a 50mm flag-design obliterator (earlier .. 61mm)  
 and a tapered not-ink-filled staff (earlier .. ink-filled).

Usage: 21 - 23 September 1907



23 SEPTEMBER 1907

'Gross Aus' Card, sent to Coblenz/Rhein.

Arrival  
 Postmark:  
 "Coblenz \*1d,  
 24 September 1907.."

5 Pfennig ..  
 Domestic  
 Postcard rate

One of Three Known.  
 This Example Latest Date.

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type I

A new version 'Columbia' Machine (5<sup>th</sup>) .. purchased 1905/installed  
December 1907 .., tested by the Reichspost at Hamburg, was  
**DESIGN-SIMILAR TO AMERICAN FIELD-USE MACHINES**  
having a similar postmark obliterator design

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial indicating  
'Hamburg No. 1' along with an obliterator  
having three groups of six wavy-lines  
separated by two pair of vertical bars.

Usage: 14 December 1907 – 4 July 1908

FOREIGN-BOUND  
MAIL

14 DECEMBER 1907

Viewcard, sent to  
Seine, France.

10 Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

Earliest Reported  
Usage Date.



Verlag Gebr. Israel, Hamburg 702



FREE-FRANK  
SOLDIER'S MAIL

24 DECEMBER 1907

'Christmas' Greeting  
Card, sent by a  
soldier to a non-  
commissioned officer  
& his wife at a base at  
Altona (Hamburg).

TRADE MARK  
GER

783

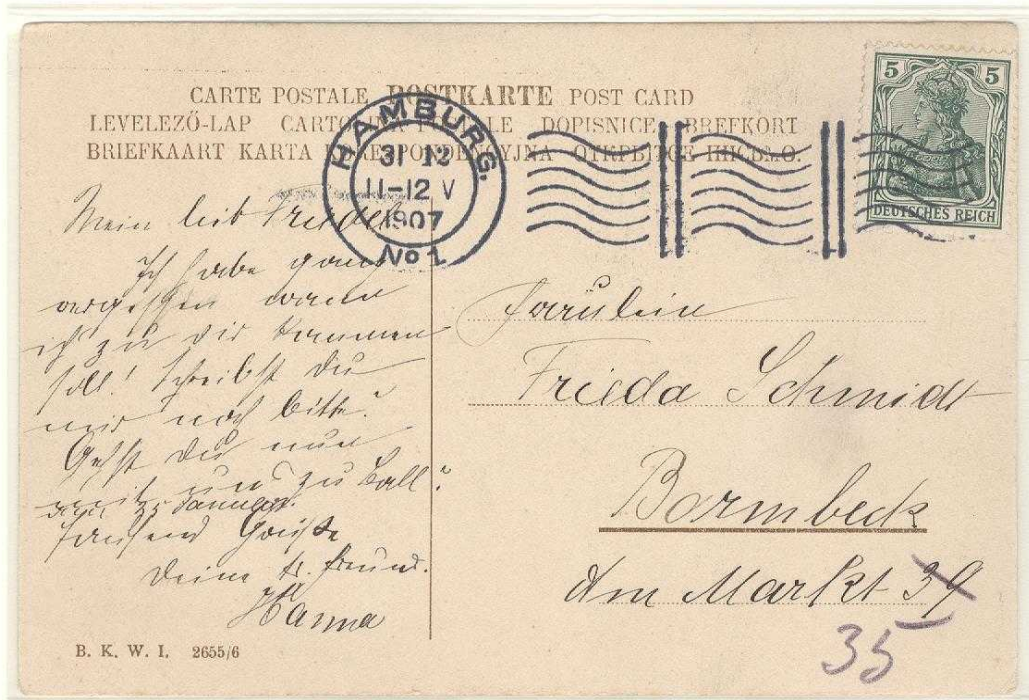


HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type I

1907 & 1908 USAGE:  
DOMESTIC POSTCARD-RATED MAIL

31 DECEMBER 1907

'New Year's'  
Greeting Card,  
sent to  
Barmbeck.



11 APRIL 1908

View-card,  
sent to Erfurt.

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type II

Less than five months after the cessation of use of the 'wavy-line  
postmark, A NEW POSTMARK OBLITERATOR  
was installed on Machine '5' operational at Hamburg ..  
CONSISTING OF THREE PAIR OF HORIZONTAL BARS.

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial indicating  
'Hamburg No. 1' along with an obliterator  
having three pair of 60mm in length horizontal bars.

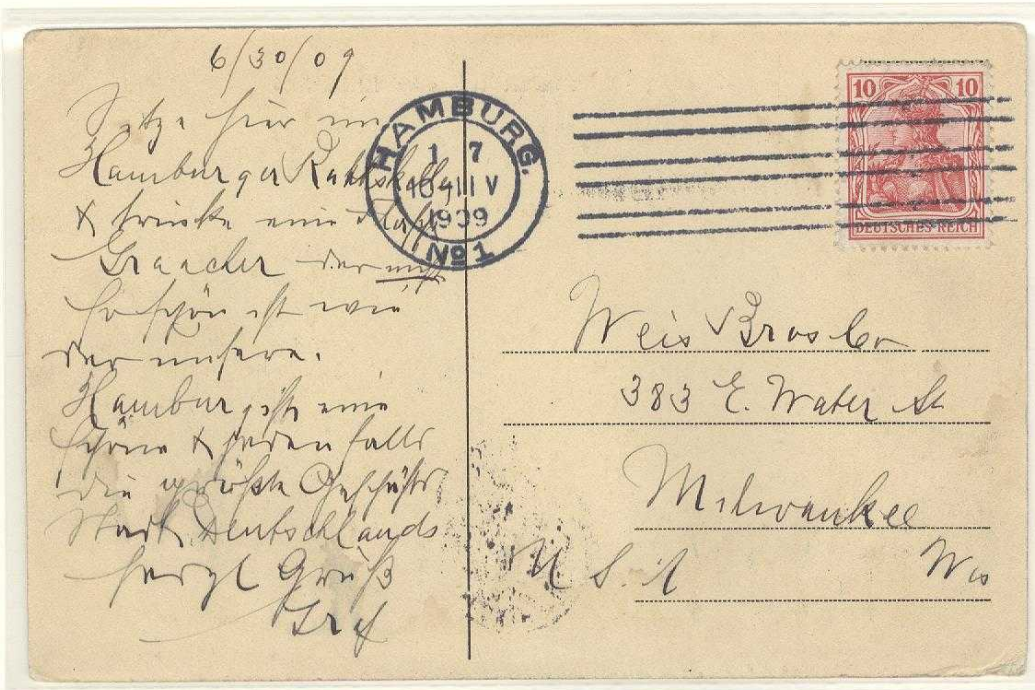
Usage: 27 November 1908 - 28 May 1910

PRINTED-MATTER  
"TELEGRAM" MAIL

11 FEBRUARY 1909

Printed-matter  
postcard, sent to  
Berlin,  
used as a "Telegram"  
advice that a  
'Hamburg-Amerika  
Line' steamer  
had arrived at Villa  
Franca (Nice),  
France.

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
postcard-rate.



FOREIGN-BOUND  
MAIL

1 JULY 1909

View-card, sent to  
Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin, U.S.A.

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type III

In Summer 1910, Machine '5' at Hamburg  
had its dater-dial slightly modified removing heretofore "No. 1"  
**REPLACED WITH \*1\***,  
with the obliterator remaining as previously.

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial indicating  
'Hamburg \*1\*' along with an obliterator  
having three pair of 60mm in length horizontal bars.

Usage: 31 August 1910 - 28 November 1911

FOREIGN-BOUND  
COMMERCIAL  
MAIL

17 NOVEMBER  
1911

Commercial  
cover,  
sent to  
Stockholm,  
Sweden.

20 Pfennig ..  
UPU

Single-Weight  
(20 grams)

International  
Letter-Rate.



DOMESTIC  
POSTCARD

20 NOVEMBER 1911

View-card,  
sent to Berlin.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '5'  
Postmark Type IIIA

Between 14 March 1912 – 1 January 1913, the postmark obliterator consisted of six horizontal lines equally spaced 30% less in length than the heretofore obliterator. The dater dial dates remained loose type, ALBEIT ON 31 DECEMBER 1913 A TRIAL WITH A ROTATING DATER DIAL WAS TRIED

Postmark: 25mm double-ring ROTATING DATER DIAL indicating 'Hamburg \*1\*' along with an obliterator having six horizontal bars 40mm in length.

Usage: 31 December 1913



DOMESTIC POSTCARD

31 DECEMBER 1913

Greetings card,  
postmarked at 'Hamburg 1' Central Post Office,  
sent locally to an addressee in the 'Hamburg 21' Zone.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic Postcard-Rate

ONE OF TWO KNOWN EXAMPLES

HAMBURG \*\*\* ... Machine '6'  
Repeater-Impression Postmarking Machine

In an effort to compete with the 'Krag' & 'Sylbe' Machines, a 'Columbia' REPEATER-IMPRESSION POSTMARKING MACHINE was submitted to the Reichspost for evaluation and testing, taking place at Hamburg.

The machine coincidentally serviced mail from the '16<sup>th</sup> Deutsches Bundesschiessen' (10th German Shooting Competition) at Hamburg in July 1909.



Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial having a 'bridge', with dial indication 'Hamburg \*1\*', and having an obliterator consisting of six-horizontal-lines between repeating dials at 92mm intervals.

Usage: 12 - 24 July 1909

15 JULY 1909  
Commemorative  
'Bundesschiessen'  
Postcard,  
sent to Lehe.



17 JULY 1909  
Commemorative  
'Bundesschiessen'  
Postcard,  
sent to Rinteln.

Two of Eight  
Known.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic postcard-rate

BERLIN C D2H ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type I

In December 1911, the Columbia Postal Supply Company's Berlin representative, Gottschalck & Company, submitted **A NEW SINGLE-IMPRESSION HIGH-SPEED POSTMARKING MACHINE MODEL** to the Reichspost, subsequently purchasing it in February 1912, for installation at the main 'Berlin C' Post Office late that year.

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial with 'bridge' with text indication "BERLIN C D2H" ('C' WITH SERIF) and obliterator consisting of three pairs of 45mm horizontal lines.

Usage: 21 December 1912 - 1 January 1914

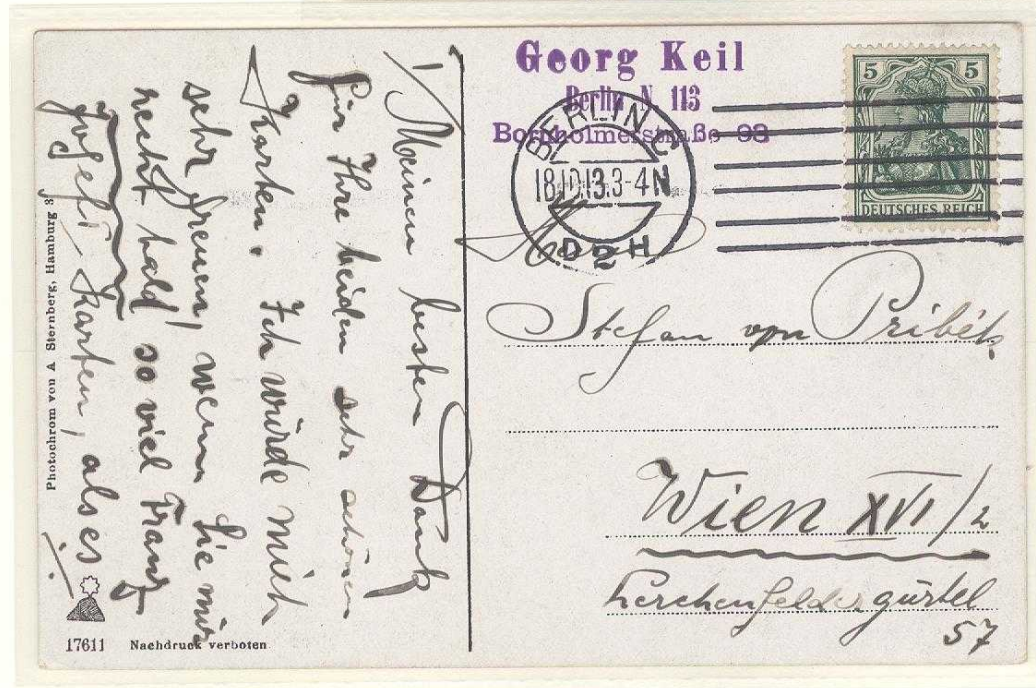
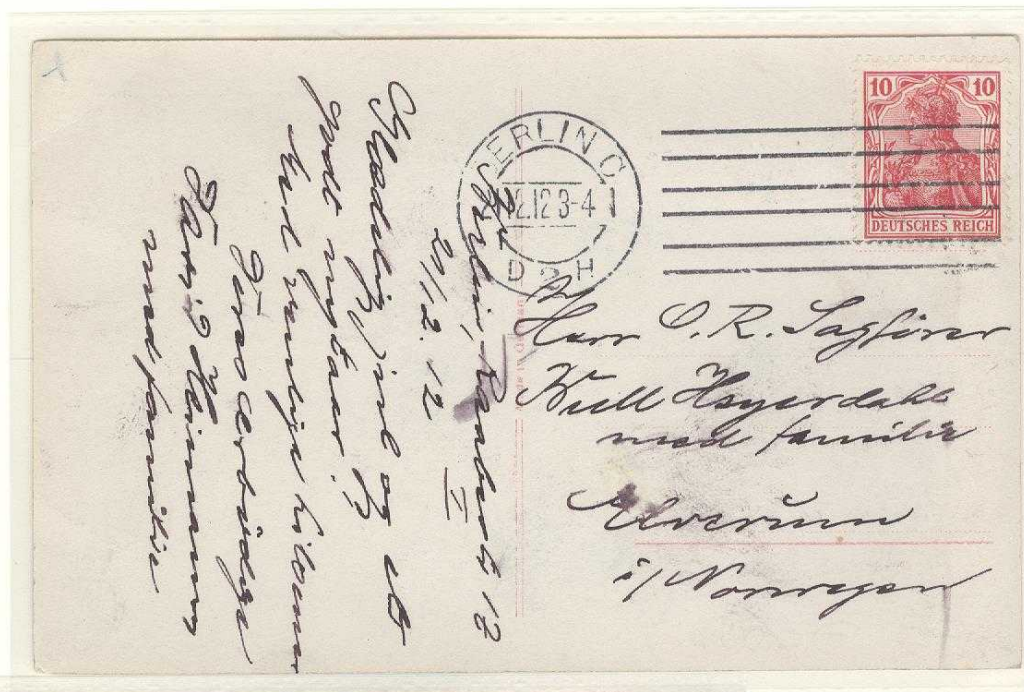
MAIL TO NORWAY

21 DECEMBER 1912

'Christmas' Greeting Card, sent to Elverum, Norway.

10 Pfennig .. UPU International Postcard Rate.

Earliest Reported Usage Date.



MAIL TO AUSTRIA

18 OCTOBER 1913

View-card, sent to Vienna, Austria.

5 Pfennig... Domestic postcard-rate valid for mail to Austria.

Photogramm von A. Sternberg, Hamburg 8

BERLIN C D2H ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

Late December 1914, the heretofore postmark received a **NEW DATER DIAL** where the 'bridge' was eliminated and the 'C' of 'Berlin C' no longer had a serif.

Postmark: 25mm double-ring dater dial **WITHOUT** 'bridge', text indication "BERLIN C D2H" .. 'C' WITHOUT SERIF, with the heretofore obliterator of three pair of 45mm horizontal lines.

Usage: 31 December 1914 – 8 September 1924

INNER-CITY MAIL  
31 DECEMBER 1914  
'New Year's' Greeting Card, sent inner-city.

3 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate.

Earliest Reported  
Usage Date.



FREE-FRANK  
FIELD-POST MAIL  
31 DECEMBER 1914  
War-time 'New Year's' Greeting Card, sent to Schönmoor, near Delmenhorst.  
Earliest Reported Usage Date.

BERLIN C D2H ... Machine '7'  
Postmark Type II

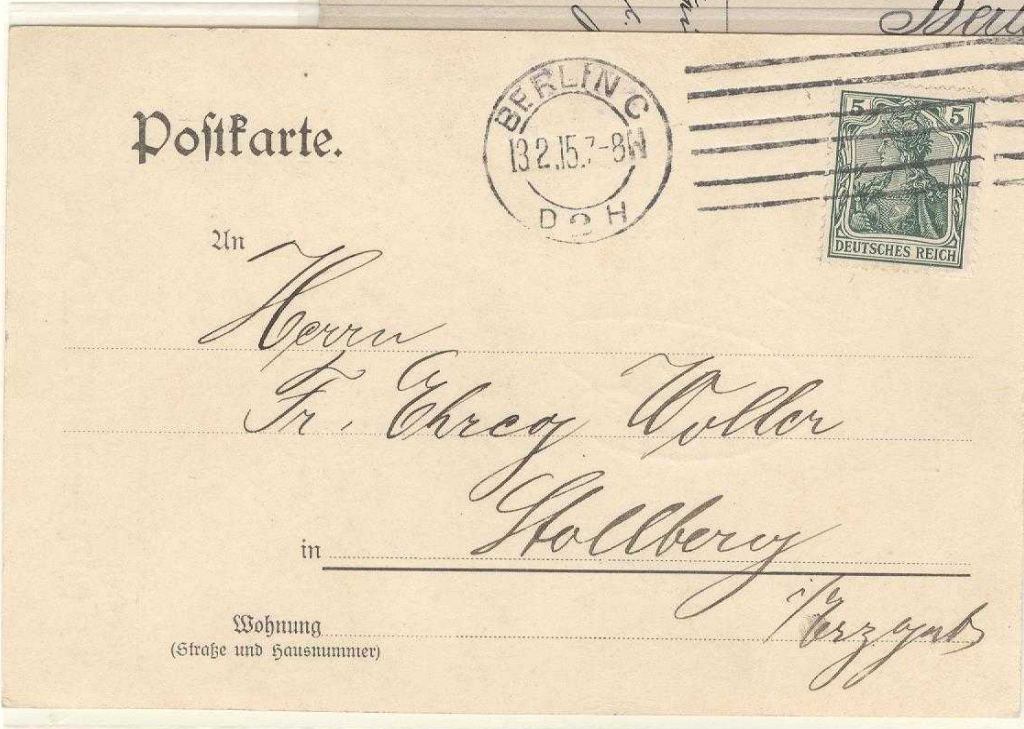


Patriotic (1916) War-Time  
New Year's Greeting Card

1 JANUARY 1916

War-time 'New Year's'  
Greeting Card,  
sent locally.

(Reverse illustrated above)



COMMERCIAL MAIL

13 FEBRUARY 1915

Business mail  
postcard,  
sent to Stollberg.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic postcard-rate



The 'International Postal Supply Company' of New York submitted a single-impression high-speed 'International Machine' to the Reichspost in October 1902 with trial testing of less than three weeks resulting in non-acceptance most probably because the manufacturer was intent on leasing or renting their machines.

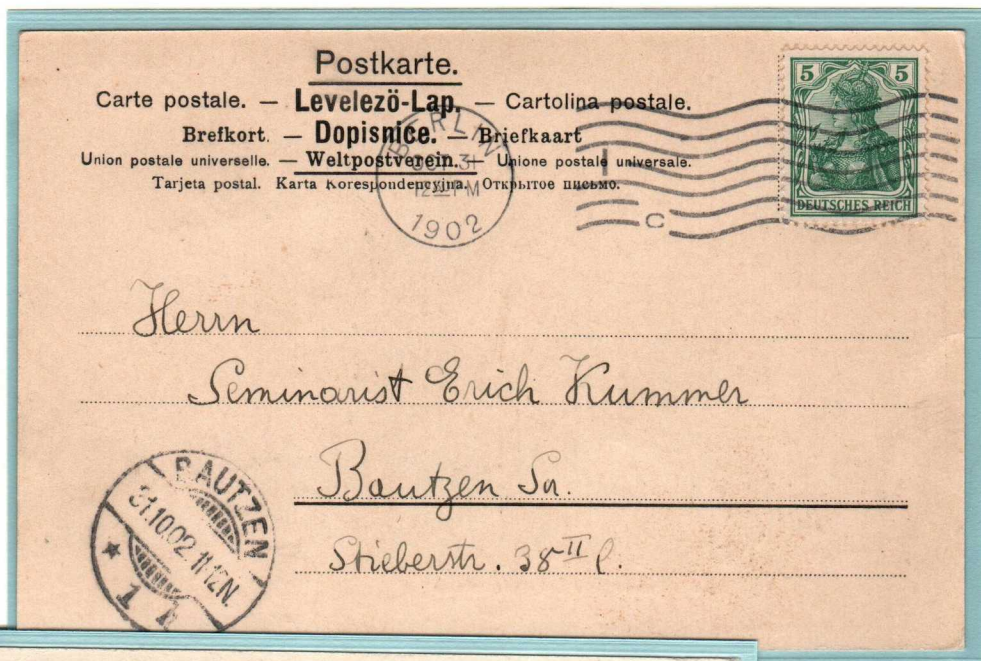
Postmark: 20mm diameter dater dial with American-style time indication 'A.M.' or 'P.M.' with a 56mm long wavy-line obliterator in which an 'l' and 'c' are found integrated on the left-side.

Usage: 24 October -15 November 1902

31 OCTOBER 1902

'Gruss-Aus' Card  
(Berlin),  
sent to Bautzen.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



11 NOVEMBER  
1902

View-card  
(Berlin), sent to  
Örebro, Sweden.

10 Pfennig ...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

# HUGO LAU

1902

DRESDEN

In early 1902, 'Hugo Lau' submitted a prototype postmarking machine to the Reichspost for evaluation, claiming its superiority versus the 'Bickerdike' Machine being evaluated by them at the time.

SPORADICALLY BETWEEN JANUARY-MAY 1902 AT DRESDEN & 31 JULY-12 SEPTEMBER 1902 AT BERLIN, LAU'S MACHINE WAS EVALUATED AND FOUND NOT ACCEPTABLE VERSUS THE 'BICKERDIKE'.



Postmark: 28mm dater dial with vertical grill lines along with nine staggered horizontal obliterator lines.

Known

Usage: 8 April - 9 May 1902 (Dresden)



8 APRIL 1902

Württemberg-State Prepaid Postal Card,  
(valid for use in the Reichspost area),  
postmarked at Dresden (Province Saxony),  
sent to Friedrichshafen  
(Province Württemberg).

Arrival Postmark:  
"Friedrichshafen, 9 April 1902.."

5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard-rate

Earliest known example of two known.

The 'Carl Rüttger Company' submitted their postmarking machine to the Reichspost in 1904, resulting in two series of tests conducted between February and October with no acceptable conclusion for the Reichspost.

Postmark: 20mm single-circle dater dial with an obliterator having an integrated 'R' in a series of diagonal lines...(early trial) lines descended to the right, (later trial) lines ascended to the right.

Usage: Early Trial.. 28 January - 9 March 1904 (obliterator lines descending)
Later Trial.. 11 March - 21 October 1904 (obliterator lines ascending)

EARLY 1904 TRAIL

8 FEBRUARY 1904

Business postcard from the 'Imperial National Gallery' to Danzig.

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate



LATE 1904 TRIAL

21 OCTOBER 1904

Inner-city commercial mail postcard

2 Pfennig.. Inner-city postcard-rate

Latest known usage.

LATE 1904 TRIAL

OFFICIAL MAIL



21 JULY 1904

Official folded-letter, postage affixed,  
sent from the 'Imperial Ministry of Education' at Berlin  
to the City Government at Stettin.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Stettin \*1e,  
21 July 1904.."

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic single-weight  
(20 Grams)  
letter-rate.

Only known  
official mail usage.

BERLIN C D2B ... Machine '1' (electrically-operated)  
Postmark Type I

Between 1905-06 Nils Krag, a Norwegian, delivered four of his innovative postmarking machines to the Reichspost for evaluation and testing. Three machines would be tested in Berlin and one machine in Hamburg.

The 'Krag' Machine was  
**THE FIRST CONTINUOUS-IMPRESSION POSTMARKING MACHINE,**  
available in electric, hand or treadle-operated versions.

The first German-trial machine, located at the main Berlin Post Office, was an electrically-operated version and applied origin-postmarks to out-going mail.

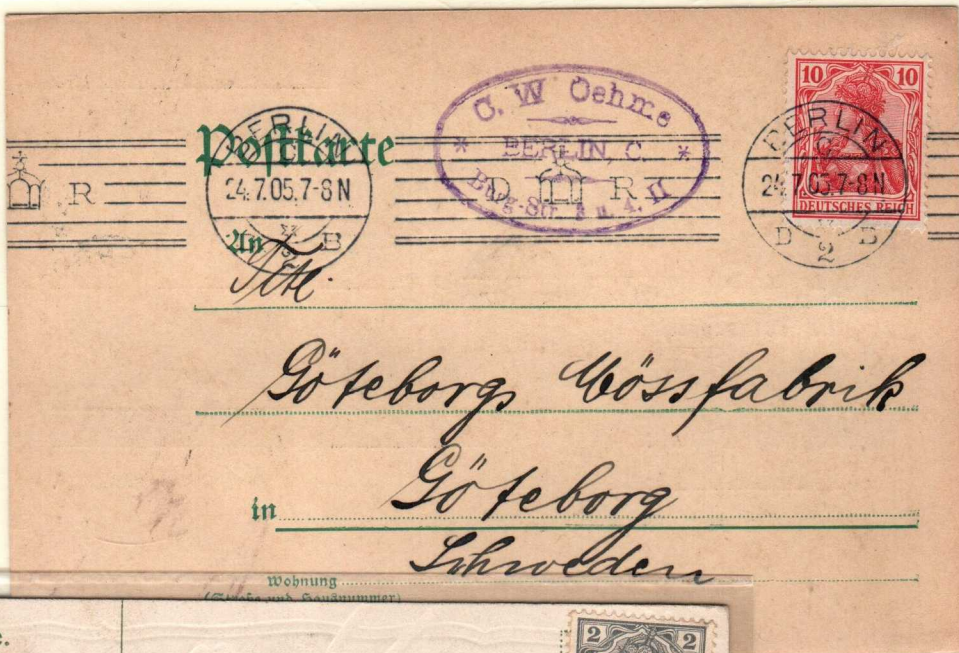
Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial with 'bridge' repeating at 78mm intervals between a series of eight horizontal 48mm long lines with integrated crown between the letters 'DR'.

Usage: 14 July 1905 - 20 February 1906

24 JULY 1905

Commercial business card mail, sent to Gothenburg, Sweden.

10 Pfennig ... UPU International Postcard-Rate.



11 SEPTEMBER 1905

Embossed birthday greetings card sent locally.

2 Pfennig.. Inner-city postcard-rate

**KRAG**

BERLIN C D2B ... Machine '1' (electrically-operated)  
Postmark Types II

1906 - 1908

FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL MAIL

By March 1906, the Reichspost  
**REPLACED THE 'IMPERIAL' STYLE OBLITERATOR**  
with one having a series of  
**TEN HORIZONTAL LINES**  
between modified dater dial types.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial having a complete bridge  
(Type 'A') or a missing 'bridge' (Type 'B') and repeating  
at 78mm intervals between a series of ten horizontal  
50mm long lines.

Usage: Type 'A': 7 October 1908 - 30 December 1908

Type 'B': 31 May 1907 - 8 August 1908

DIAL TYPE 'A'

30 DECEMBER 1908

Free-frank official  
postcard notification  
from the 'Berlin  
Imperial  
Court' sent locally.

Last Day of Known Use.



DIAL TYPE 'B'

3 MARCH  
1908

Free-frank  
folded-letter  
official mail  
from the  
Berlin  
Income-Tax  
Office, sent  
locally.

# KRAG

1905 - 1906

BERLIN C "Bestellt vom Postamt 2"  
... Machine '2' (hand-operated)  
'Arrival or Service' Postmark

A second Krag Machine was tested at Berlin  
**DEDICATED TO APPLYING  
ARRIVAL OR SERVICE POSTMARKS TO IN-COMING MAIL.**  
After 1906, the machine lay dormant until 1911,  
re-commissioned and sent for duty at 'Berlin Rixdorf'.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating "Bestellt vom Postamt 2" (delivered from Post Office 2), having a 'bridge' and repeating at 78mm intervals.

Field Use: 16 July 1905 – 16 July 1906

16 JULY 1905

'Gruss aus'  
Commemorative  
Celebration  
Card,  
Postmarked at  
Erfurt,  
sent to Berlin.

First Day of  
Field Use.



16 JULY 1906

'Gruss aus'  
Postcard.  
postmarked at  
Goslar,  
sent to Berlin.

Last Day of  
Known Use.



23 NOVEMBER  
1905

In-bound postal  
stationery card.  
postmarked at  
Cairo,  
Egypt, sent to  
Berlin.

BERLIN C \*2b ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type I

**AN IMPROVED AND FASTER-OPERATING KRAG  
MACHINE TYPE (Machine '4')** was submitted early 1906 to the  
Reichspost for testing.

This Norwegian-built machine version was  
accepted by the Reichspost with subsequent units  
manufactured in Germany by the 'Schuchardt & Schütte'  
Company of Berlin in electric, hand  
and treadle-operated versions.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating "BERLIN \*2b", with  
'bridge' and repeating at 78mm intervals  
between which a series of eight horizontal 50mm long  
lines with integrated crown between the letters 'DR'.

Usage: 9 April - 3 October 1906



9 APRIL 1906

Cover, with printed-matter enclosure, sent locally.

2 Pfennig.  
Inner-city printed-matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.

Earliest Known Date.



KRAG

1906

BERLIN C \*2b ... Machine '3'  
Postmark Type I

ADVERTISING  
POSTCARD  
USED PRIVATELY

7 JULY 1906

Commercial  
advertising postcard  
(Ackermann's  
Knitting Yarn'),  
with personal  
message,  
sent to a Klein  
Schönbeck.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL MAIL

7 JUNE 1906

Official 'Imperial Tax Office' folded letter, sent locally.

**KRAG**

1905 - 1906

HAMBURG \*8h ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type I

**THE FIRST 'KRAG' MACHINE DELIVERED &  
TESTED AT HAMBURG WAS AT 'POST OFFICE 8'  
for applying origin postmarks to out-going mail.**

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating "HAMBURG \*8h"  
with a 'bridge' and repeating at 78mm intervals  
between which a series of eight horizontal 48mm long  
lines with integrated crown between the letters 'DR'.

Usage: 19 July 1905 - 13 March 1906

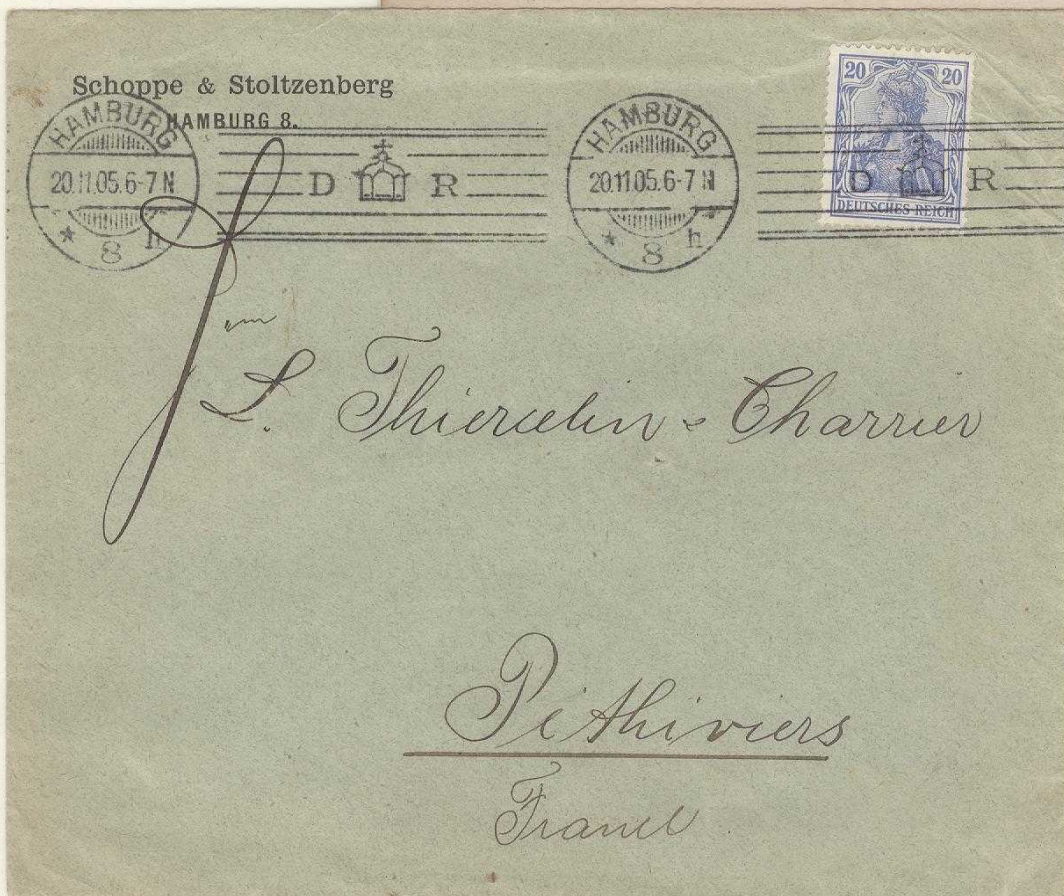
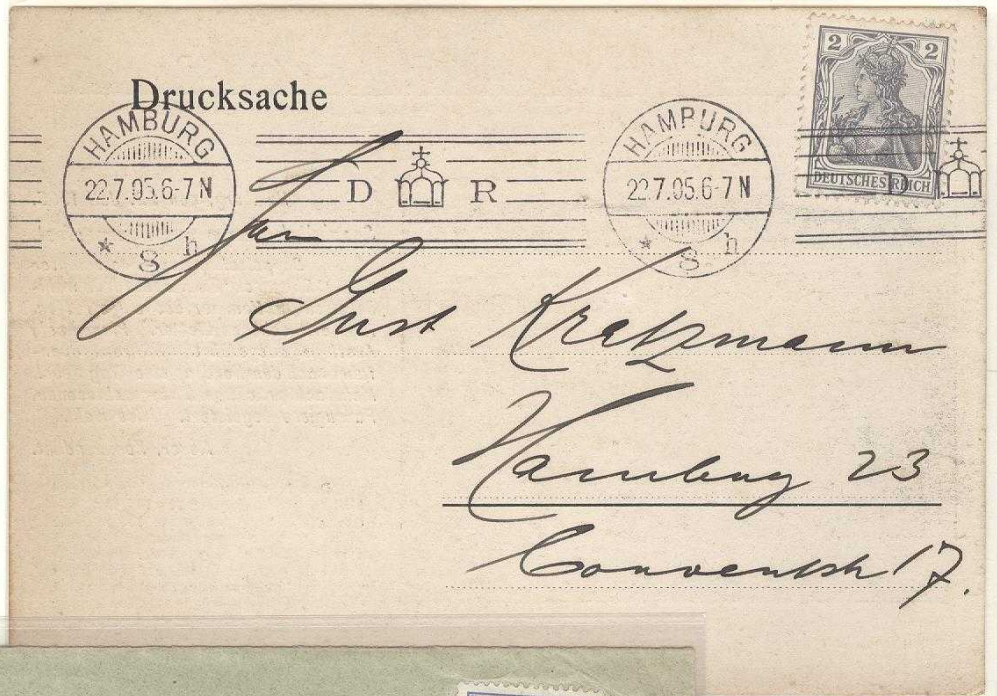
PRINTED-MATTER AS AN  
ADVERTISING "TELEGRAM"

22 JULY 1905

Postcard,  
"advertising telegram"  
sent by the 'Hamburg-  
America Line' notifying  
local recipient of arrival of  
their vessel  
'Prince Bismarck'  
at Hammerfest, Norway.

2 Pfennig ...  
Inner-city  
postcard-rate

Fourth Day of  
Machine Operation.



**MAIL TO FRANCE**

20 NOVEMBER  
1905

Commercial  
cover,  
sent to  
Pithiviers, France.

20 Pfennig..  
UPU Single-  
Weight  
(20 grams)  
Letter-Rate.

KRAG

1905 - 1906

HAMBURG \*8h ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type I

COMMERCIAL  
PRINTED-MATTER

26 JANUARY  
1906

Commercial  
cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to  
Oldenburg.

3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
up to 50 grams.



NEW YEAR'S  
GREETING'S CARD

31 DECEMBER  
1905

UPU-version 'New  
Year's Greetings'  
Card, sent to  
Goslar, Harz  
Mountain Area.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

HAMBURG \*8h ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type II

Similar to the situation in Berlin, by mid-1906, the initial 'imperial' style postmark **OBLITERATOR WAS REPLACED WITH ONE HAVING TEN HORIZONTAL LINES** between the dater dials.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating "HAMBURG \*8h" with a 'bridge' and repeating at 78mm intervals between which are a series of ten horizontal 48mm long lines.

Usage: 6 April - 23 July 1906

FREE-FRANK MILITARY MAIL  
sent to HALLE

4 JULY 1906



MAIL TO USA  
15 JULY 1906  
10 Pfennig...  
UPU  
International  
Postcard-Rate.

Heim. Gothmann, Hbg. 58.  
Dr. Franken Co., Leipzig

# KRAG

1906-1907

HAMBURG \*1\* ... Machine '1'  
Postmark Type III

In mid-1906,  
**THE KRAG MACHINE AT 'HAMBURG POST OFFICE 8' WAS TRANSFERRED  
TO 'HAMBURG POST OFFICE 1'**

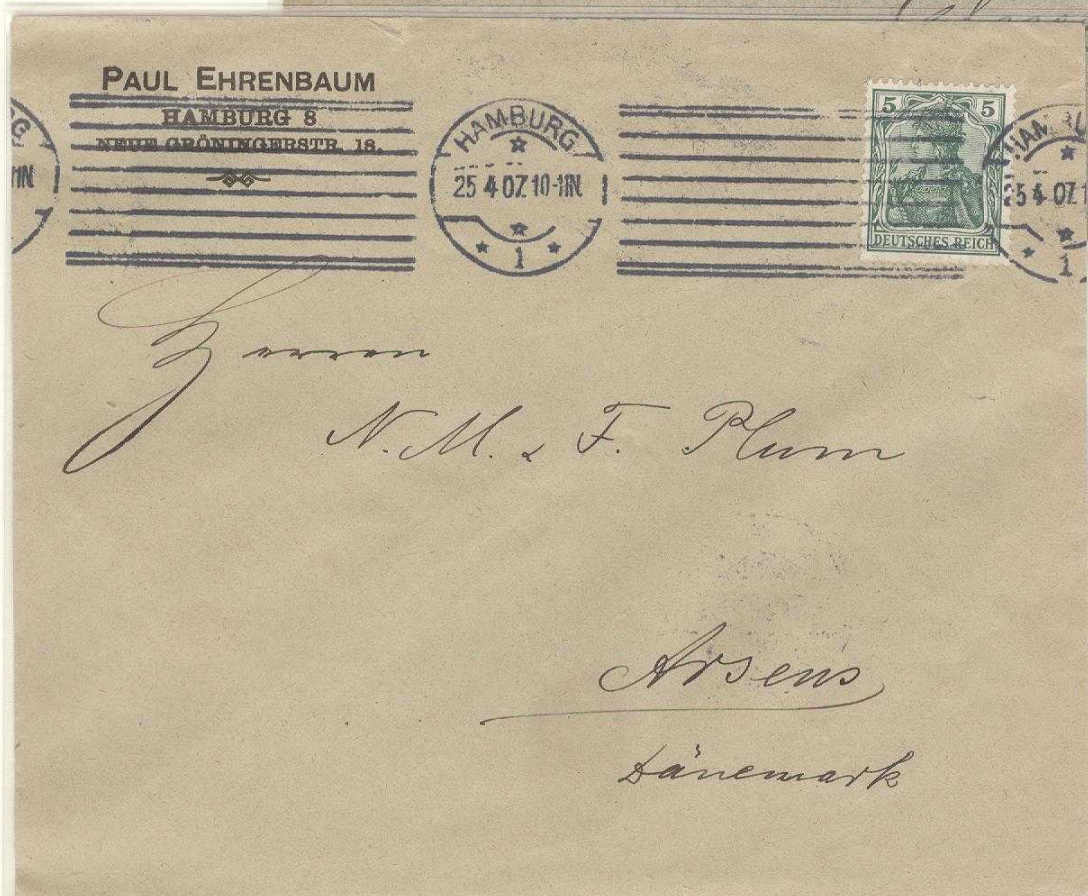
Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating "HAMBURG \*1\*" without a 'bridge' and repeating at 78mm intervals between which are a series of ten horizontal 48mm long lines.

Usage: 31 October 1906 - 25 May 1907

DOMESTIC  
PRINTED-MATTER  
22 FEBRUARY 1907

Commercial  
cover,  
printed-matter  
enclosure,  
sent to  
Elmshorn.

3 Pfennig..  
Domestic printed-  
matter rate for  
mail up to  
50 grams.



BUSINESS MAIL  
TO DENMARK

25 APRIL 1907

Commercial  
cover, printed-  
matter  
enclosure,  
sent to Arsens,  
Denmark.

5 Pfennig...  
UPU  
International  
Printed-Matter  
Rate for mail up  
to 50 grams.

**KRAG**

1911-1912

PRIVATE MAIL SERVICE  
BERLIN... 'BERLINER PAKETFAHRT GESELLSCHAFT'

THE ONLY PRIVATE MAIL SERVICE HAVING A KRAG POSTMARKING  
MACHINE WAS THE 'BERLINER PAKETFAHRT GESELLSCHAFT' IN BERLIN  
WHICH POSTMARKED ITS LOCAL-CITY MAIL HAVING  
A COMPANY LABEL AS FRANKING.

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial (with 'bridge') indicating "BERLIN  
PAKETFAHRT" and repeating at 78mm intervals between  
which a series of eight horizontal lines in four groups as  
obliterators.

Usage: 1911-1912



ADVERTISING  
'DROP MAIL'

NOVEMBER 1911

'Drop mail' distributed to all households  
surrounding the 'Alexander Platz' in Berlin  
with endorsement  
"Durch Eilboten"  
(By Express).

'Berlin Paketfahrt'  
Private label =  
pseudo-franking.

One of two covers known.

Soon after acceptance and *Reichspost* field-use of the Krag Postmarking Machine, Paul Sylbe of the 'Sylbe & Pondorf Company', Schmölln, Germany, introduced their newly developed rapid postmarking machine, in many respects similar to the Krag Machine, yet with advantages.

Although the 'Sylbe' Machine was initially a dual die-head continuous-impresion machine, similar to the 'Krag', its design enabled it to postmark 30-40% more mail....

Continuous-Impresion: ca. 550-600/minute  
 Half-Impresion on Postcards; ca. 1500-1800/minute

**A MAJOR ADVANTAGE WAS ITS ABILITY TO APPLY CONTINUOUS-IMPRESION (REPEATER) OR SINGLE-IMPRESION POSTMARKS,** avoiding postcard-messages from being partially obliterated.

That flexibility also enabled it to accept slogans in place of the heretofore line obliterator, resulting in the **FIRST USE OF SLOGAN POSTMARKS IN GERMANY.**

Those features eventually enabled 'Sylbe' Machines to become a mainstay with the *Reichspost* resulting in replacement of Krag Machines over time.

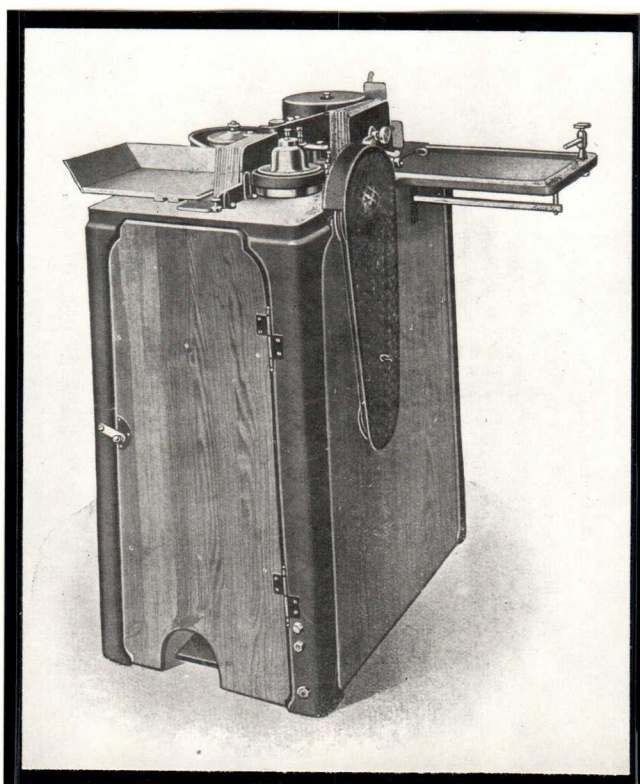


Illustration of an electrically-operated 'Sylbe' Postmarking Machine

# SYLBE & PONDORF

1907 - 1930s

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
MÜNCHEN 2 B.P.

Sylbe & Pondorf, Schmölln, Germany, sold one of their first 'Sylbe' Machines to the Bavarian Postal Administration for use at the Munich train station post office.  
**THE MACHINE HAD A DIE-HEAD 156mm IN SIZE RESULTING IN CONTINUING-IMPRESSION POSTMARKS EVERY 78mm.**

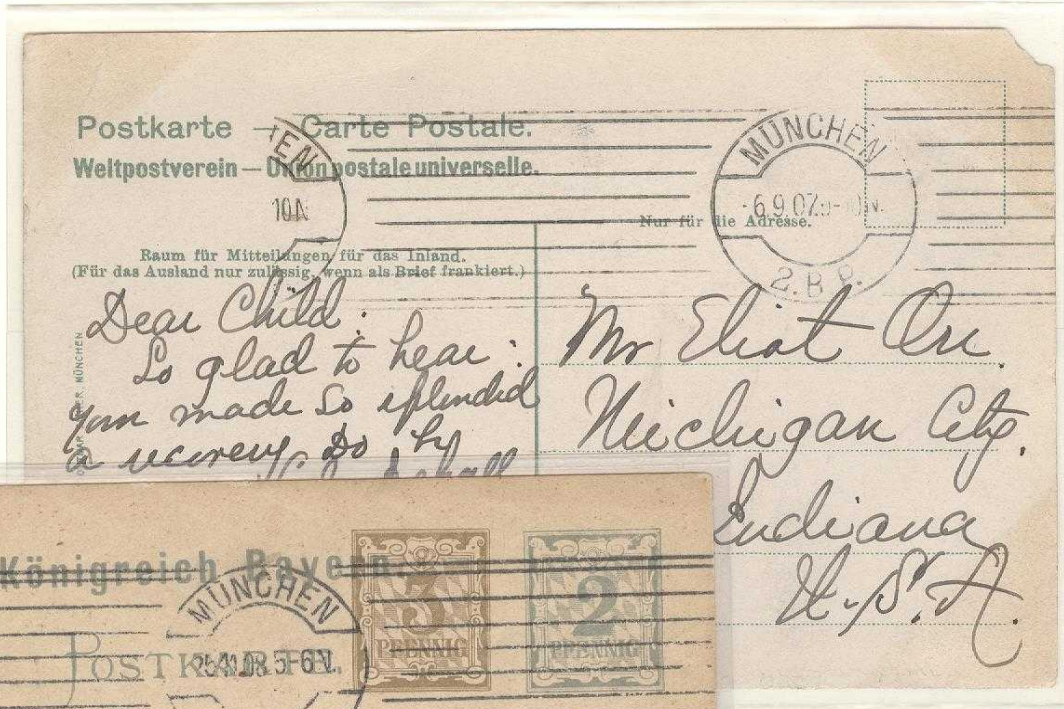
Postmark: 27mm diameter dater dial and repeating at 78mm intervals between a series of ten staggered horizontal obliterator lines.

U.S.A. - BOUND MAIL

6 SEPTEMBER 1907

View-card,  
postage lost,  
sent to  
Michigan City,  
Indiana.

Earliest Known Usage.



INFANTRY OFFICER'S  
MAIL

25 NOVEMBER 1908



FREE-FRANK  
OFFICIAL MAIL

15 DECEMBER 1908

'Imperial Bavarian  
Railway' Postcard, sent  
to "Countess Bentner"  
at Ludwigshafen.

Portpflichtige  
Dienstag  
N.  
619. 2. 08.

in Ludwigshafen i. W. in  
Wohnung: Wilhelmstr. 44  
(Straße und Hausnummer)



# SYLBE & PONDORF

1910-1920s

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATON  
MÜNCHEN \*2\*

On 1 February 1910, the Bavarian Postal Administration introduced a postal prepayment service for mailings of large mailers where **THE 'SYLBE' MACHINE APPLIED THE PREPAYMENT POSTMARK, a forerunner of meter marks, in red, green or black colors.**

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial, repeating at 78mm intervals, between a four staggered horizontal line obliterator with integrated value indication .. " - Franco Bezahl".  
(Paid to destination)

FIRST DAY OF USE

1 FEBRUARY 1910

Reply-card postal stationery with reply card intact, postmarked at Munich, for local delivery and reply-postmarked on 7 February 1910.

Five Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



98

Bücherzettel.



BOOK ADVERTISING  
& ORDER FORM

2 MAY 1910

Printed-matter book order advertising, postmarked at Munich, sent to Görlitz

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed-matter rate  
up to 50 grams

# SYLBE & PONDORF

1910 - 1920s

IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
LUDWIGSHAFEN (RHEIN) 1

PREPAID (METER FORERUNNER) POSTMARKS

The earliest Reichspost-applied prepayment postmarks ("Franko Bezahlt") were red or green ink with black ink being used later exclusively.

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial repeating at 78mm intervals between which a series of four staggered horizontal line obliterations with single-circle dial indicating postage value.

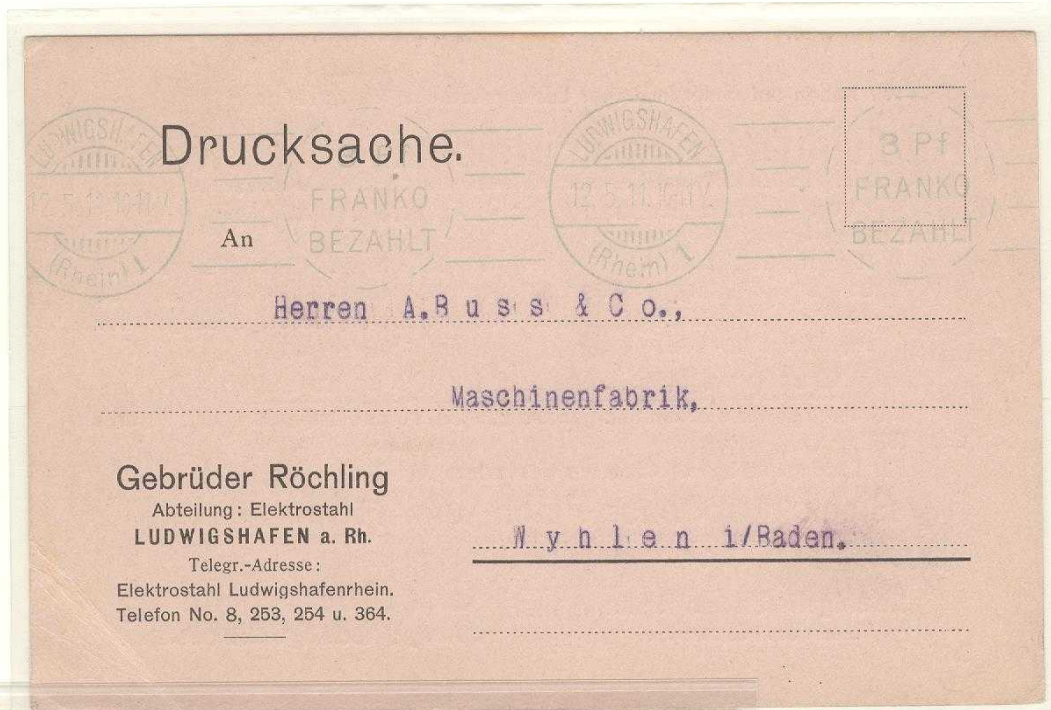
POSTCARD  
PRINTED-MATTER

12 MAY 1911

Prepaid postmark  
(green ink) applied on  
an  
advertising postcard,  
sent to Wyhlen.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic printed-  
matter rate for mail  
up to  
50 grams.

(1 April 1900 - 31 July 1916)



GIMBEL & NEUMOND  
G.m.b.H.  
EISENGROSSHANDLUNG  
LUDWIGSHAFEN a. Rh.

FRANKO  
BEZAHLT



50 PF  
FRANKO  
BEZAHLT



Worms a/Rh.  
Eisenwaren Haus-Küchenge-  
räte  
2/64

COVER WITH  
PRINTED-MATTER

18 AUGUST 1922

Prepaid postmark  
(black ink) on a  
cover, printed-  
matter enclosure,  
sent to Worms.

50 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail up to  
20 grams.

(1 July 1922 -  
1 October 1922)

# SYLBE & PONDORF

1910 - 1920s

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
MÜNCHEN \*2\* & REGENSBURG \*1\*

PREPAID (METER FORERUNNER) POSTMARKS

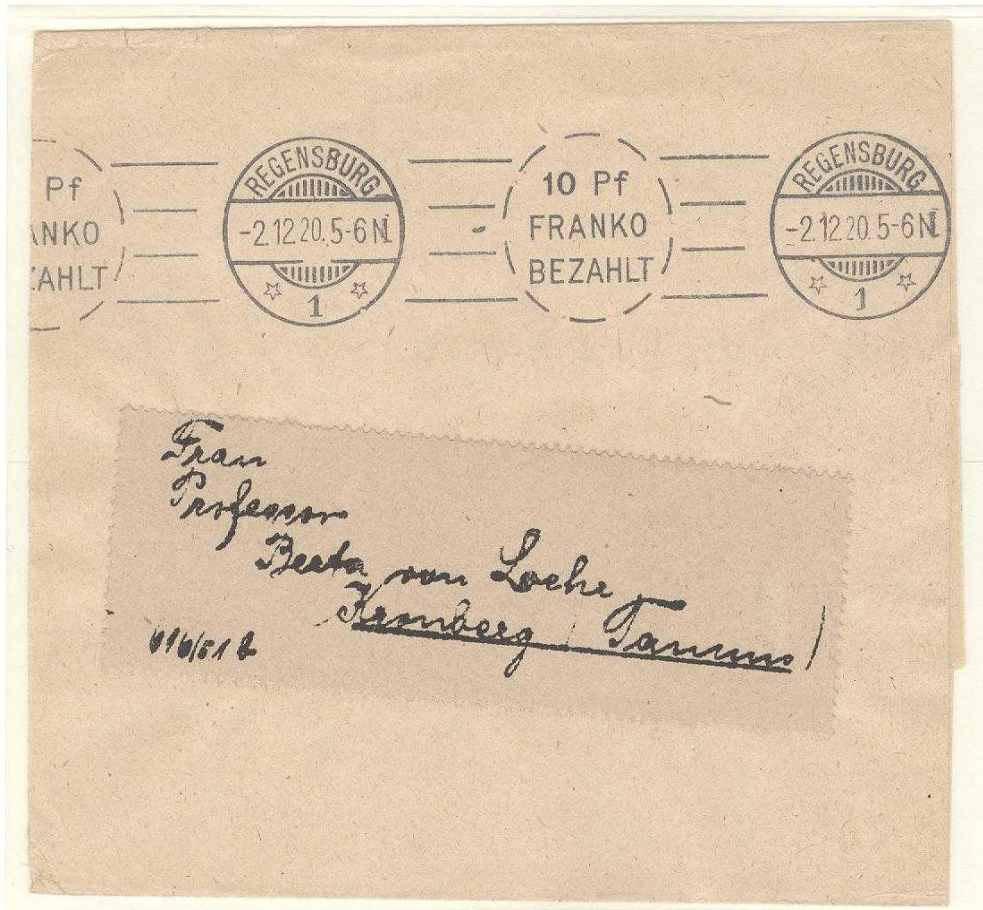
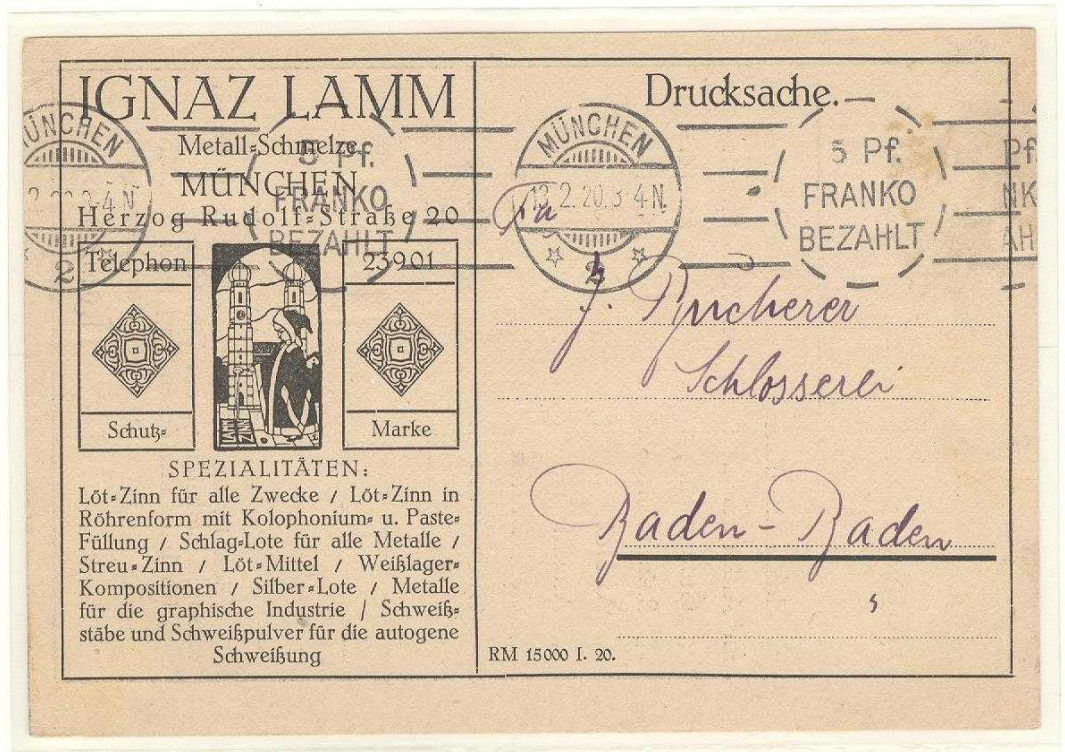
## ADVERTISING POSTCARD PRINTED-MATTER

13 FEBRUARY 1920

Prepaid postmark  
(black ink) applied  
on an  
advertising postcard,  
sent Baden-Baden.

**5 Pfennig...**  
**Domestic**  
**printed-matter**  
**rate for mail up**  
**to 50 grams.**

(1 October 1920 -  
5 May 1920)



## NEWSPAPER WRAPPER

2 DECEMBER 1920

Newspaper wrapper  
with a precanceled  
postpaid postmark,  
sent to Kronberg.

**10 Pfennig...**  
**Domestic printed-**  
**matter rate for mail**  
**up to 50 grams.**

6 May 1920 -  
31 March 1921

One of the objections from business and the general public concerning 'continuous postmarking impressions' was that their length often covered the text message on postcards.

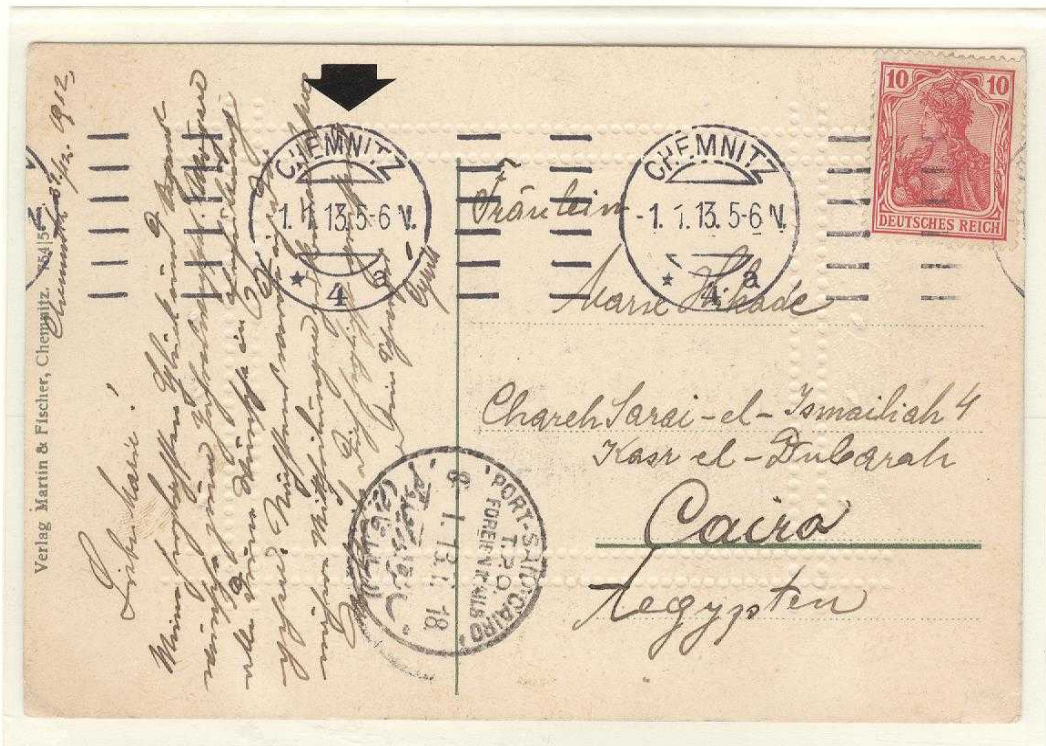
**A 1911 'SYLBE' MACHINE VERSION WAS FLEXIBLE AND ABLE TO APPLY EITHER SINGLE OR CONTINUOUS-IMPRESSION POSTMARKS.**

**SINGLE  
(or 'Half')  
IMPRESSION  
POSTMARK**

**23 DECEMBER 1912**

Postal stationery card, postmarked at Chemnitz, sent to Dresden

**5 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate**



**CONTINUOUS  
(or 'Full')  
IMPRESSION  
POSTMARK**

**1 JANUARY 1913**

'New Year's Greeting' Card, postmarked at Chemnitz, sent to Cairo, Egypt

**10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate**

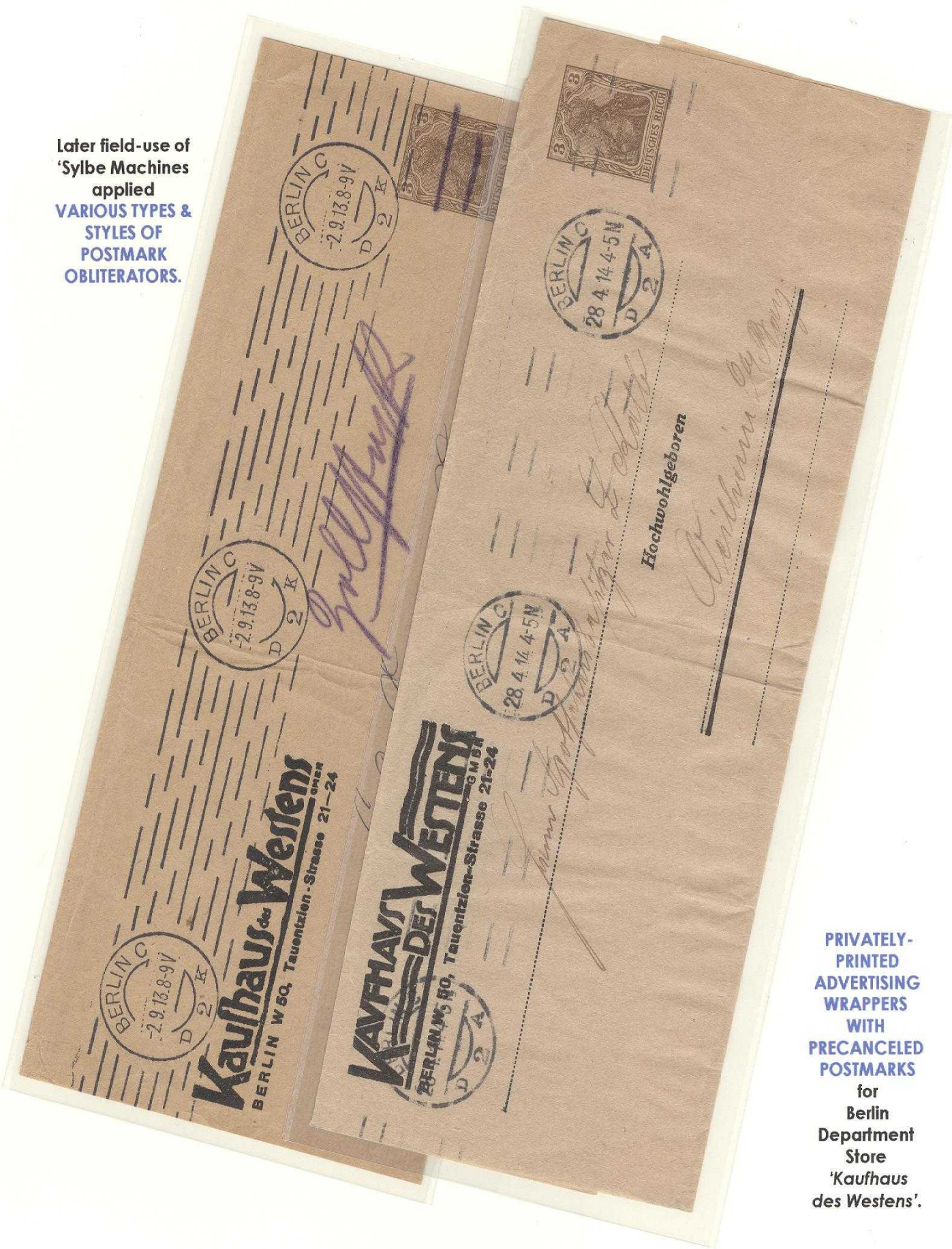
# SYLBE & PONDORF

IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
BERLIN C 2

1913 - 1914

PRECANCELED POSTMARKS  
ON ADVERTISING MAIL

Later field-use of  
'Sylbe Machines  
applied  
VARIOUS TYPES &  
STYLES OF  
POSTMARK  
OBLITERATORS.



**Kaufhaus des Westens**  
BERLIN W 50, Tauentzien-Strasse 21-24

**Kaufhaus des Westens**  
BERLIN W 50, Tauentzien-Strasse 21-24

PRIVATELY-  
PRINTED  
ADVERTISING  
WRAPPERS  
WITH  
PRECANCELED  
POSTMARKS  
for  
Berlin  
Department  
Store  
'Kaufhaus  
des Westens'.

# SYLBE & PONDORF

1911 - 1920s

IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
Charlottenburg 2s

TRIPLE DATER-DIAL POSTMARK

IN 1911, THE 'SYLBE & PONDORF COMPANY' INTRODUCED A THREE-HEADED DATER-DIAL DIE-HEAD POSTMARKING MACHINE, with the dater-dials at 52mm intervals.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial repeating at 52mm intervals between a series of horizontal line obliteratedors.

FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL MAIL



7 FEBRUARY 1913

Official free-frank mail from the 'Imperial Customs Office', sent to local court.

# SYLBE & PONDORF

1913-1914

IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
Leipzig y2y

SINGLE IMPRESSION TRIAL MACHINE

**IN 1913, 'SYLBE & PONDORF' SUBMITTED A DEDICATED RAPID-SPEED SINGLE-IMPRESSION MACHINE TO THE REICHSPOST FOR TRIAL**  
 in an effort to compete with the 'Universal Machine' which had been widely accepted and in field operation throughout Germany.

**After a nine month trial, the machine was rejected.**

Postmark: 28mm diameter dater dial with a series of six staggered horizontal lines as the obliterator to the right of the dater dial.

Usage: 18 September 1913 – 15 June 1914

9 MAY 1914

Official Commemorative  
 Postal Stationery Card  
 with slogan:  
 '1914 Red Cross  
 Collection'  
 "Bereit Sein ist Alles"  
 ('Being Prepared ist Paramount'),  
 sent to Hamburg.



22 MAY 1914

Commercial postcard sent by the "Purchasing Cooperative of the Backers of Leipzig", sent locally.

5 Pfennig...  
 Domestic postcard-rate

*"Leipzig ... International Baufach Ausstellung"  
(Leipzig... International Building Trades Exhibition)*

**THE 'SYLBE' MACHINE AT LEIPZIG WAS THE FIRST TO APPLY  
'SPECIAL EVENT PROMOTION' POSTMARKS, WHICH WERE  
FORERUNNERS TO MACHINE SLOGAN POSTMARKS**

**Postmark:** 27mm diameter dater dial at 52mm intervals indicating  
*"International Baufach Ausstellung Leipzig"* with a series of  
eight horizontal obliterator lines between dials.

**Applied by a 'Sylbe' triple die-head machine**

**Usage:** 11 April – 30 October 1913



**16 SEPTEMBER 1913**

**Official Commemorative Postcard**  
*"International Baufachausstellung mit Sonderausstellung Leipzig 1913"*  
(International Building Trades Exhibition With Special Exhibition Leipzig 1913)  
sent Lüneburg.

**5 Pfennig...  
Domestic postcard-rate**



IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
LEIPZIG

OFFICIAL COMMEMORATIVE POSTCARDS

"Leipzig ... XII Deutsches Turnfest"  
('Leipzig... XII German Gymnastics Festival')  
Festival Dates: 12 -16 July 1913

Postmark Usage: 10 - 18 July 1913



IMPERIAL REICHSPPOST USAGE  
LEIPZIG

SPECIAL EVENT POSTMARK  
'GYMNASTIC FESTIVAL'

"Leipzig ... XII Deutsches Turnfest"  
(Leipzig... XII German Gymnastics Festival)  
Festival Dates: 12 -16 July 1913

Postmark Usage: 10 - 18 July 1913

Postmark: 27mm diameter dater dial at 52mm intervals indicating  
"Leipzig XII Deutsches Turnfest" with logo as an obliterator  
between dials.

14 JULY 1913

Cover,  
affixed with  
commemorative  
festival promotion  
label & postage.

5 Pfennig...  
Local city  
letter-rate  
for mail up  
to 20 grams



Drucksache.

An

Herrn Rudolf Linnemann,  
Friedrichsplatz

in Leipzig-Gohlis,  
Springerstrasse 2.

13 JULY 1913

Postcard,  
commercial  
printed-matter  
sent locally.

3 Pfennig...  
Printed-matter  
rate  
for mail up to  
50 grams.



"Leipzig ... Weihe des Völkerschlacht Denkmals"  
(Leipzig... Dedication of the 'Battle of the Nations' Memorial)

Postmark Usage: 18 October 1913

Postmark: 27mm diameter dater dial at 52mm intervals indicating  
"Leipzig Weihe des Völkerschlacht Denkmals"  
with memorial-logo as an obliterator between dials.

18 OCTOBER 1913

Official  
commemorative  
Postcard, with  
'half-impression'  
postmark,  
sent locally.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate



18 OCTOBER 1913

Memorial-  
Viewcard with  
'full-impression'  
postmark, sent to  
Keetmanshoop,  
German  
Southwest Africa!

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate

# MEMORIAL DEDICATION AT LEIPZIG 'BATTLE OF NATIONS'

*("Leipzig ... Weihe des Völkerschlacht Denkmals")*

On 18 October 1913,  
the city of Leipzig celebrated the  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 'Battle of the Nations'  
where Napoleon Bonaparte and his armies were defeated.

A 91-meter high monument/memorial was dedicated.



SYLBE & PONDORF

1914

IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
LEIPZIG

INTERNATIONAL BOOK TRADE &  
GRAPHIC ARTS EXHIBITION  
TYPE I.. POSTMARK

*"Leipzig ... Welt-Ausstellung für Buchgewerbe und Graphik"*  
(Leipzig... World Exhibition for the Book Trade & Graphic Art)

Postmark Type I: 27mm diameter dater dial at 52mm intervals indicating  
*"Leipzig Welt-Ausstellung für Buchgewerbe und Graphik"*  
with exhibition logo obliterator between dials.

Usage: 1 April – 18 October 1914



15 MAY 1914

Commemorative cover with 'full-impresion' postmark,  
sent from the exhibition administration office  
to a paper manufacturer in Mügeln (near Dresden).

10 Pfennig...  
Domestic letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams.

SYLBE & PONDORF

IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
LEIPZIG

1914

INTERNATIONAL BOOK TRADE &  
GRAPHIC ARTS EXHIBITION  
TYPE I.. POSTMARKS

'HALF' & 'FULL' IMPRESSION EXAMPLES



'HALF' IMPRESSION POSTMARK



'FULL' IMPRESSION POSTMARK

**"Leipzig ... Welt-Ausstellung für Buchgewerbe und Graphik"**  
(Leipzig... World Exhibition for the Book Trade & Graphic Art")

**Postmark Type II: 29mm diameter dater dial indicating  
"Leipzig Welt-Ausstellung für Buchgewerbe und Graphik"  
with exhibition logo obliterator between dials.**

**Usage: 1 April – 18 October 1914**



**20 JULY 1914**

**Official commemorative postcard with 'half-impression'**

**Postmark Type II**

(dater-dial 29mm in diameter)

**mailed at the exhibition to Gotha.**

**5 Pfennig...**

**Domestic postcard-rate.**

# SYLBE & PONDORF

1918

BAVARIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
MÜNCHEN \*2\*

## FIRST SLOGAN POSTMARK IN GERMANY

THE 'SYLBE' MACHINE APPLIED THE FIRST SLOGAN POSTMARK,  
introduced in late 1918, promoting the sale of war bonds.

"... *Hilf Siegen – Zeichne Kriegsanleihe!*"  
("... *Help Become Victorious .. Subscribe to Buy War Bonds!*")  
used in seven Bavarian cities.

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dials at 78mm intervals  
indicating city and slogan "*Hilf Siegen –  
Zeichne Kriegsanleihe!*" as an obliterator  
between dater dials.

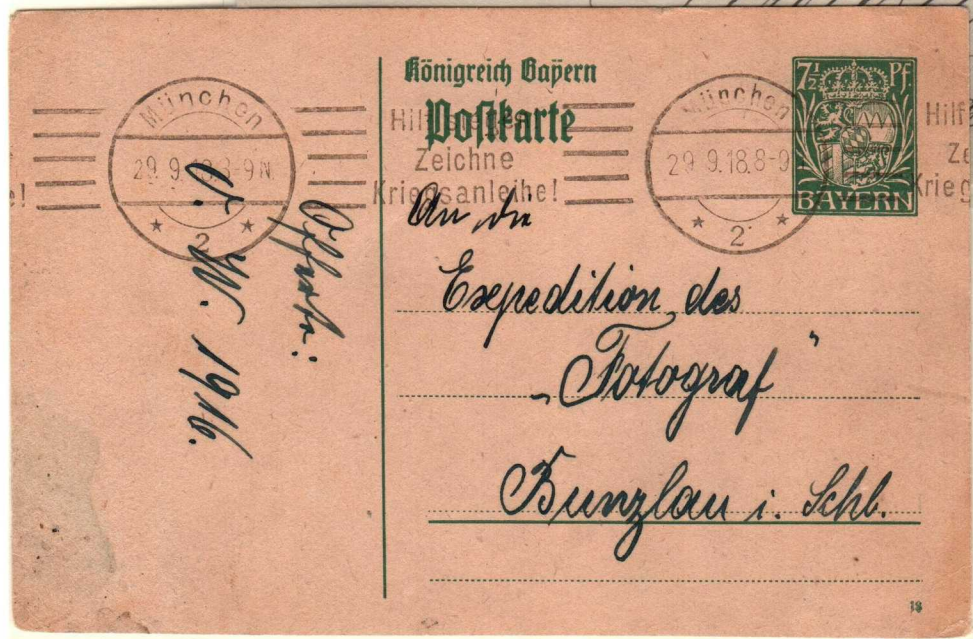
Usage: 23 September – 1 November 1918

26/28 SEPTEMBER 1918

Commercial cover,  
postmarked at  
Augsburg,  
sent to Freiburg.

15 Pfennig ..  
Domestic  
single-weight  
(20 grams)  
letter-rate,  
including  
5 Pfennig  
'War Tax'.

(1 August 1916 –  
1 October 1918)



29 SEPTEMBER 1918

Bavarian postal  
stationery card,  
postmarked at  
Munich,  
sent to Bunzlau  
(Province Silesia).

7-1/2 Pfennig...  
Domestic postcard-  
rate including 2-1/2  
Pfennig 'War Tax'.



# SYLBE & PONDORF

IMPERIAL REICHSPPOST USAGE  
"LEIPZIG a2a" & "LEIPZIG \*13a"

1920

LEIPZIG TRADE FAIR  
PROMOTION POSTMARKS  
TYPE I .. POSTMARK

"Leipziger Mustermesse"  
(\*Leipzig Trade Fair)

Postmark: 27mm dater dial with 'Mercury Head'  
adjacent to slogan text as obliterator.

Usage: 28 February – 15 March 1920

LEIPZIG a2a  
29 FEBRUARY  
1920



LEIPZIG \*13a

28 FEBRUARY  
1920

First Day of  
Use.

15 Pfennig ..

Inner-city letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams.

**SYLBE & PONDORF**  
IMPERIAL REICHSPOST USAGE  
"LEIPZIG \*13a"

1920  
LEIPZIG TRADE FAIR  
PROMOTIONAL POSTMARK  
TYPE II .. POSTMARK

*"Leipziger Mustermesse"*  
(Leipzig Trade Fair)

Postmark: 27mm dater dial with 'Mercury Head'  
above the slogan text as obliterator.

Usage: 28 February – 15 March 1920



13 MARCH 1920

Up-rated postal stationery reply card,  
business correspondence,  
postmarked at Leipzig,  
sent to  
Münster (Westphalia).

15 Pfennig ..  
Domestic postcard-rate.

SYLBE & PONDORF

REICHSPOST  
BERLIN & FRANKFURT

1920

'FRANKFURT'  
INTERNATIONAL FAIR'  
PROMOTIONAL SLOGAN POSTMARK

"DRITTE FRANKFURTER INTERNATIONALE MESSE"  
(Third Frankfurt International Fair)  
3-9 October 1920

SYLBE MACHINES AT FOUR 'BERLIN & ONE 'FRANKFURT' POST OFFICES APPLIED THE PROMOTIONAL POSTMARKS FOR THE FAIR AT FRANKFURT DURING 1920

Postmark: 27mm dater dial with fair text integrated within a ten staggered-horizontal-line obliterator.

Verband deutscher Post- und Telegraphenbeamten

DRITTE  
FRANKFURTER  
INTERNATIONALE  
MESSE  
3-9. OKTOBER 1920



Berlin SW 48, Wilhelmstraße 42 a

FRANKFURTER  
INTERNATIONALE  
MESSE  
3-9. OKTOBER 1920



Herrn

*K. Müller*

Ober-Post-Telegraphen-  
Telegraphen



DRITTE  
FRANKFURTER  
INTERNATIONALE  
MESSE  
3-9. OKTOBER 1920



frei

An den Magistrat der Stadt Charlottenburg,  
Abt. für Krankenversicherung  
III L. V.

Charlottenburg

William Bowes of the 'Universal Stamping Machine Company' of New York City traveled to Europe in 1911 in an effort to sell their 'Universal' Postmarking Machine to various postal administrations.

In Germany, five machines were intended to be purchased with only four delivered for subsequent trial evaluations at five Reichspost Post Offices:

Berlin C D2E  
Berlin W35f  
Charlottenburg \*2n  
Geestemünde \*h  
Hamburg \*1\*

Twelve subsequent machines were purchased by the Reichspost in 1912 with an additional 300 units between 1914-1921..

all manufactured under license by the 'Deutsche Post- und Eisenbahn-Verkehrswesen Aktiengesellschaft (DAPAG)'

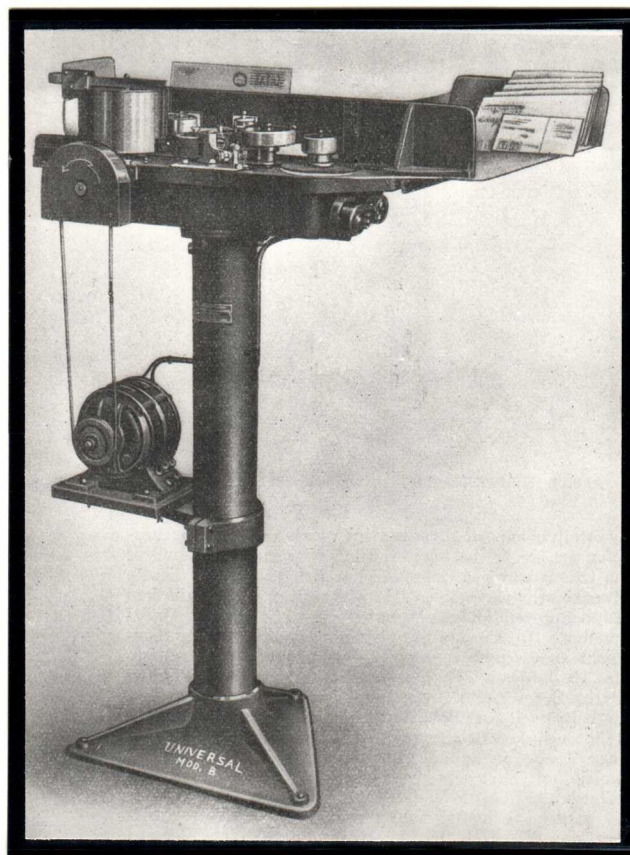


Illustration of an electrically-operated  
**'UNIVERSAL'** Postmarking Machine  
able to postmark ca. 600 units of mail/minute

# UNIVERSAL

CHARLOTTENBURG \*2n

Postmark Type I

1911-1912

In 1911, the 'Universal Stamping Machine Company' of New York City supplied the Reichspost five 'UNIVERSAL' ELECTRICALLY-OPERATED SINGLE-IMPRESSION HIGH-SPEED POSTMARKING MACHINE for INITIAL TESTING at Berlin, Charlottenburg, Geestemünde, and Hamburg.

Postmark: 22mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Charlottenburg \*2n' along with a seven-wavy-line obliterator.

Usage: 3 June 1911 - 27 January 1912

OFFICIAL  
FREE-FRANK  
POST OFFICE TEST  
MAIL

8 JUNE 1911

Official trial mail  
postmarked sent to  
the Post Office  
Administration at  
'Berlin C2'.

Only Known Proof  
Usage.



C 154



FIELD TESTING  
28 OCTOBER 1911

Viewcard,  
sent to Dresden.

5 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
postcard-rate.

UNIVERSAL

GEESTEMÜNDE \*h

Postmark Type I

1911-1912

Because the seven-wavy-line **OBLITERATOR** often covered part of the written text on postcards, it was **SHORTENED FROM 50mm TO 45mm** in length.

Postmark: 22mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Geestemünde \*h' along with a seven-wavy-line obliterator.

Usage: 19 September 1911 – 2 February 1912



30 SEPTEMBER 1911

Advertising cover,  
printed-matter enclosure,  
sent to  
Heiligenfelde.

3 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams

UNIVERSAL

1911-1914

BERLIN W \*35

Postmark Type I

One of the four early trial machines was sent to the 'Berlin W 35' Post Office for field testing.

Postmark: 22mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Berlin W \*350 or 1' along with a seven-wavy-line obliterator in two different forms.

Usage: 8 June 1911 - 21 June 1914

PRINTED-MATTER TO THE U.S.A. 2 JANUARY 1913 Viewcard, postmarked at 'Berlin W35', sent to Rockford, Illinois. 5 Pfennig... UPU International Printed-Matter Rate (postcards with less than ten words of text).



MAIL TO AUSTRIA 20 MARCH 1912 Decorative art card sent by the 'Imperial Museum at Berlin' to Vienna, Austria.

5 Pfennig... Domestic postcard-rate applicable for mail to Austria.

**THE 'HAMBURG' UNIVERSAL MACHINE remained at Hamburg less than four months (rejected by the local post office authority) and WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO BERLIN where it became operational as "Berlin C D2E".**

Postmark: 22mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Hamburg \*1\*' ('Berlin C D2E') along with a seven-wavy-line obliterator.

Usage at Hamburg I: 21 September 1911 – 1 January 1912

Usage at Berlin C: 20 March 1912 – 12 February 1914

"HAMBURG \*1\*  
11.11.11"

11 NOVEMBER 1911

Viewcard,  
sent to St.  
Georg(en).



"BERLIN C D2E"  
12.12.12"

12 DECEMBER 1912

Postal stationery  
card, sent locally.



# UNIVERSAL

1913 - 1920

'BERLIN' GENERAL USAGE

Postmark Type II

In 1912, the 'Universal Machine Company' licensed the 'Deutsche Post- und Eisenbahn-Verkehrswesen Aktiengesellschaft (DAPAG)' of Staaken (Berlin) to manufacture its 'Universal' Postmarking Machine.

ALONG WITH LICENSED MANUFACTURE IN GERMANY, THE 'UNIVERSAL' MACHINE NOW RECEIVED A NEW 'SEVEN-STRAIGHT-LINE' OBLITERATOR WHICH HENCEFORTH BECAME STANDARD.

Postmark: 22mm diameter dater dial indicating the applicable town/city origin along with a seven 35mm in length horizontal line obliterator.

Usage: 1913 - 1920

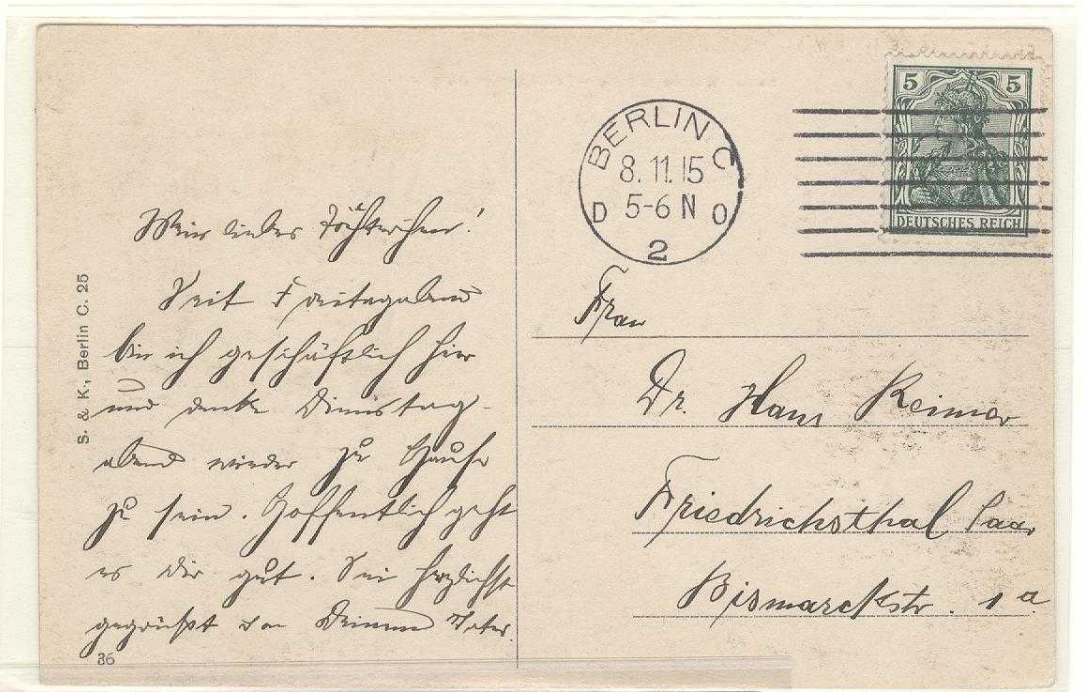
'BERLIN C D20'

8 NOVEMBER 1915

Viewcard, sent to Friedrichsthal, (Province Saxony).

5 Pfennig... Domestic postcard-rate

(1 Jan. 1875 - 31 July 1916)



'BERLIN NW \*21k'

14 JUNE 1917

Viewcard, sent locally.

10 Pfennig.. 5 Pfg. Domestic Postcard-Rate + 2-1/2 Pfg. War Tax + 2-1/2 Pfg.. Convenience Over-franking

(1 August 1916 - 1 October 1919)

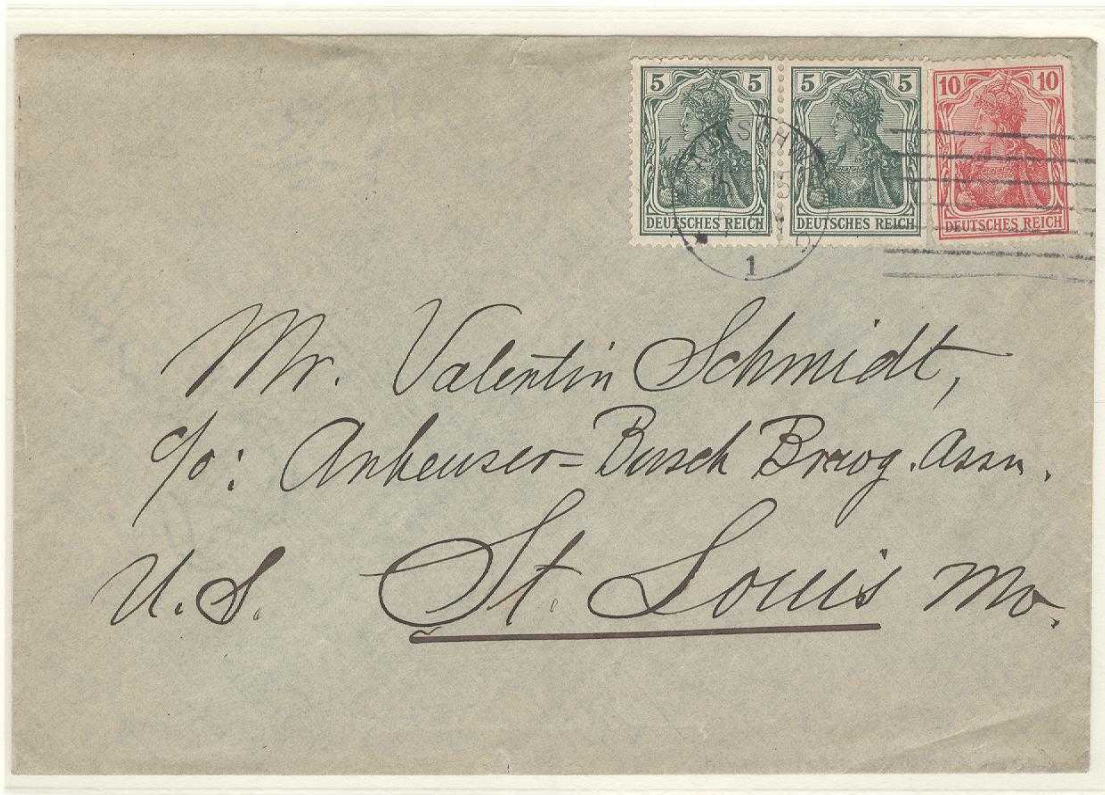
MAIL TO THE U.S.A.

'BRAUNSCHWEIG  
\*10'

15 MAY 1915

Cover, sent to  
"Anheuser-Busch  
Brewing  
Association" at St.  
Louis, Missouri.

20 Pfennig ..  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
(20 grams)  
Letter-Rate.



CENSORED  
OVERSEAS REPLY  
POSTAL CARD  
TO BRAZIL

'LEIPZIG \*13d'

1 APRIL 1916

Commercial  
prepaid reply-card  
mail (set) sent to  
Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Censor Cachet  
Handstamp:  
"Released ...  
Foreign Mail Office  
Cologne-Deutz"

10 Pfennig...  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.

'BONN \*1y'

VIEWCARD

13 MARCH 1918



'MÜNSTER (LAGER) \*\*b'

COVER

22 APRIL 1918

'POSEN W \*3\*'

DEDICATED FIELD-POST STATIONERY

19 SEPTEMBER 1915

Cachet handstamp: "Soldatenheim..." (Soldiers recuperation facility)

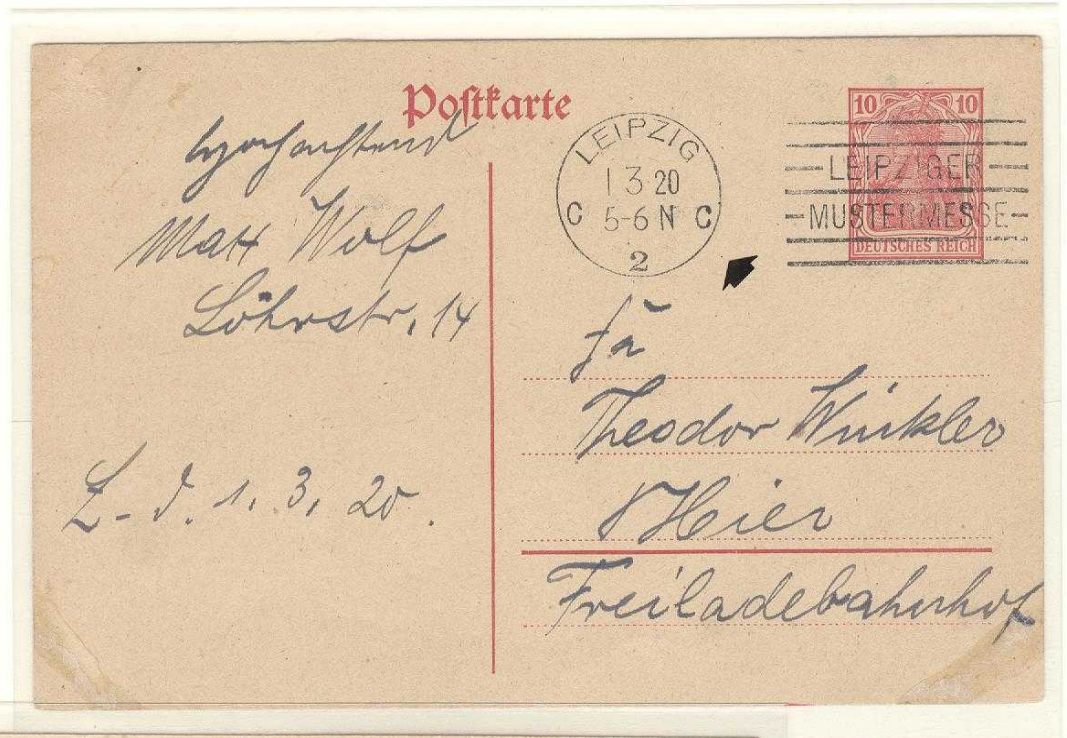


In addition to the line-obliterator postmarks, THE 'UNIVERSAL' MACHINE ALSO APPLIED SLOGAN POSTMARKS to promote the 'Leipzig Fair of 1920' with machines located at two different Leipzig Post Offices.

Postmark: 22mm diameter dater dial indicating either "Leipzig C2C" or "Leipzig \*13e" along with a slogan obliterator "Leipziger Mustermesse".

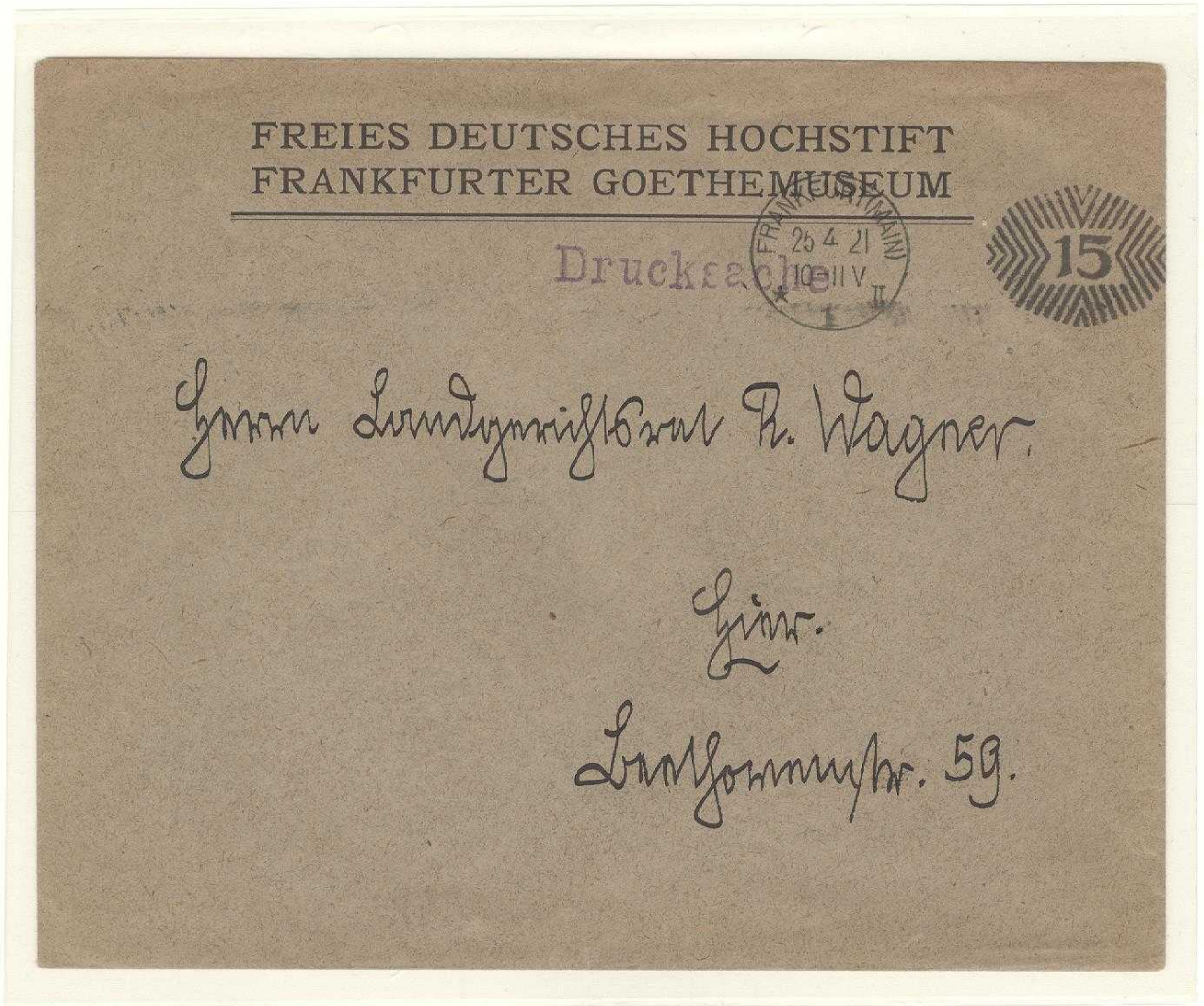
Usage: 28 February - 15 March 1920

'LEIPZIG c2c'  
1 MARCH 1920  
Postal stationery card, sent locally.  
10 Pfennig ..  
Postcard-rate for local city mail



'LEIPZIG \*13e'  
1 MARCH 1920  
Commercial postcard mail, sent to Greifswald.  
15 Pfennig...  
Domestic postcard-rate

With the final purchase order for 'Universal' Machines placed in 1919, a large number of those allocated for 150 post offices, first installed in February 1921, were **FITTED WITH METER POSTMARKS FOR HANDLING PRIMARILY BULK MAIL.**



**'FRANKFURT (MAIN) \*1 II'**

25 APRIL 1921

Commercial cover, printed-matter enclosure,  
sent locally.

15 Pfennig...  
Domestic

Printed-matter rate for mail up to 20 grams.

(1 April 1921 - 31 December 1921)

'KÖLN \*1 II'  
(Cologne)

6 DECEMBER 1922

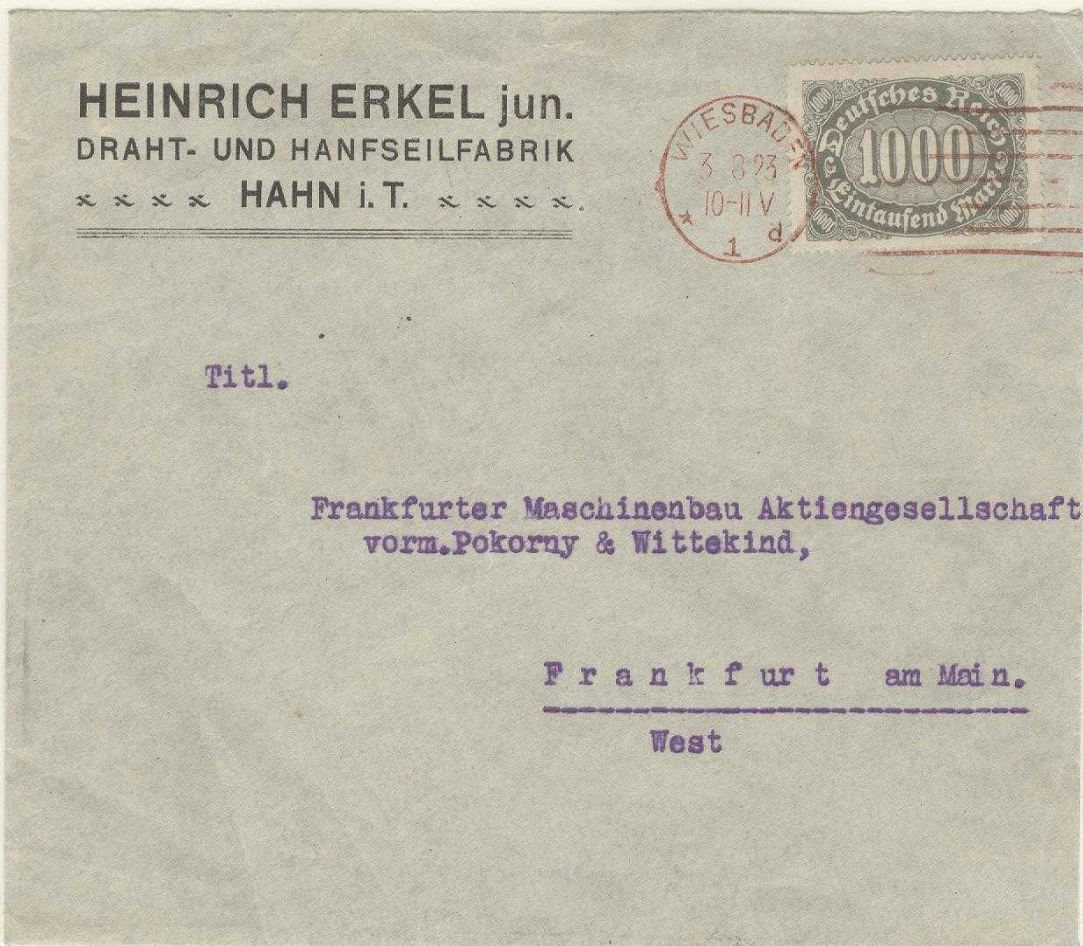
Meter mark used to  
postmark postage.

Only known usage  
of Cologne:  
4 - 7 December  
1922.

One of less than ten  
examples known.

6 Mark ..  
Domestic  
postcard-rate

(15 November -  
15 December 1922)



'WIESBADEN \*1d'  
(Postmark in Red ink)

3 AUGUST 1923

Commercial  
cover, sent to  
Frankfurt/Main.

Postmarks in red  
were used with  
meters not usual  
for postmarking  
mail.

Only known  
example.

1000 Mark...  
Domestic  
single-weight  
letter-rate

(1 - 23 August 1923)

The 'MICHELIUS GmbH' of Frankfurt/Main is known for development and introduction of two innovative postmarking machines:

#### POSTMARKING MACHINE

In 1913, the company introduced a single-impresion postmarking machine attempting to compete with the recently introduced 'Universal' Machine from the United States.

Similar to the 'Universal' as a rapid single-impresion machine, the 'Michelius' could postmark 600 mail units/minute.

Although successful in initial trials with the *Reichspost*, the latter eventually opted for the 'Universal' Machine as more effective resulting in wide-spread use in Germany.

#### FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE

In 1912, the company introduced the first self-contained franking & postmarking machine.

Between 1912-1922, the *Reichspost* acquired six machines for operation at four different locations: Berlin, Frankfurt/Main, Leipzig & Mannheim. Although post office operated, these machines were forerunners for non-post office operated meter machines.

*The 'Michelius Franking & Postmarking Machine' removed a stamp from a stamp coil, affixed it upright on the cover, albeit sometimes inverted, and postmarked the franking in one operation.*

*Characteristic of this machine is the fact that the stamp affixed frequently had a 'grill of dots' indented on the stamp from pressure by the machine's transport mechanism.*

FRANKFURT a(MAIN) 1s

Postmark Type I

The MICHELIUS COMPANY' of Frankfurt/Main  
 ATTEMPTED TO COMPETE WITH THE 'UNIVERSAL' POSTMARKING MACHINE'S  
 SUCCESS WITH THE REICHSPOST  
 with one of their newly developed rapid single-impession  
 postmarking machines with a demonstration/brief evaluation  
 trial at Frankfurt/Main in May 1913.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Frankfurt a(Main) 1s'"  
 having a six-straight-line obliterator right of the dater  
 dial.

Usage: 9 - 27 May 1913



27 MAY 1913

Viewcard,  
 postmarked at Frankfurt/Main,  
 sent to Düsseldorf.

5 Pfennig ..  
 Domestic Postcard Rate

Less Than Five Examples Known.  
 Latest Date Known.



# MICHELIUS POSTMARKING MACHINE

1913-1914

BERLIN C D2L

Postmark Type II

Subsequent to the Frankfurt/Main demonstration/trial in May 1913,  
**THE REICHSPOST REQUIRED A LONGER FIELD TRIAL**  
TAKING PLACE IN BERLIN BETWEEN 1913-1914.

Postmark: 24mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Berlin C D2L' now having a six-staggered-line obliterator right of the dater dial.

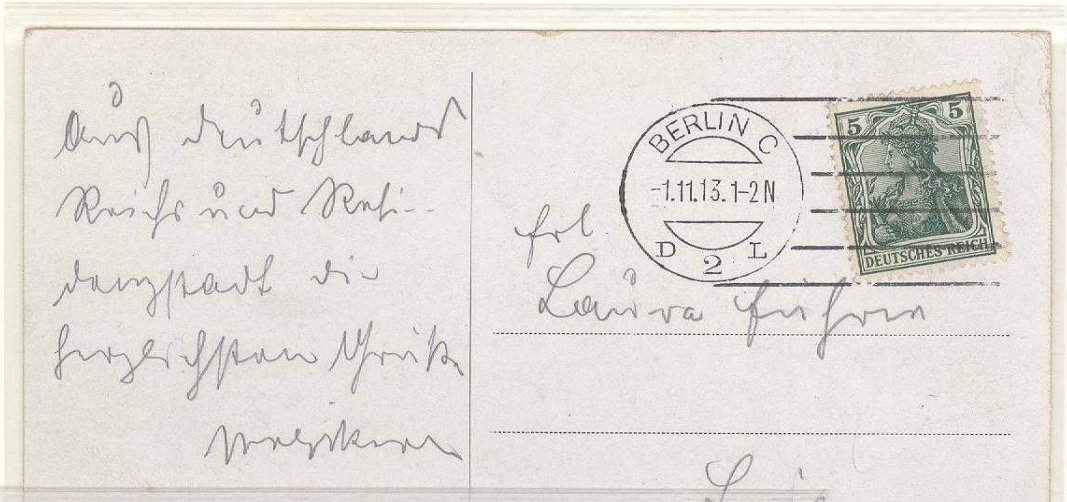
Usage: 30 October 1913 - 10 July 1914

MAIL TO AUSTRIA  
1 NOVEMBER 1913

Viewcard,  
sent to  
Linz, Austria.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic postcard-  
rate valid for mail to  
Austria.

Early Usage Date.



21 Juin  
1914

Deutschland. — Allemagne.  
Bayern. — Bavière.

Postkarte. — Carte postale.

Weltpostverein. — Union postale universelle.

Ma chère bébé  
c'est la ville  
d'Allemagne la  
plus amusante  
tout y est de couleur  
locale,  
souvenir

Madame  
Bernard  
54 Rue des Abbes



No. 566 - P. C. Gieseler's Kunstverlag, G. Koch

MAIL TO FRANCE  
22 JUNE 1914

Viewcard, sent to  
Paris, France.

10 Pfennig ..  
UPU Postcard-Rate

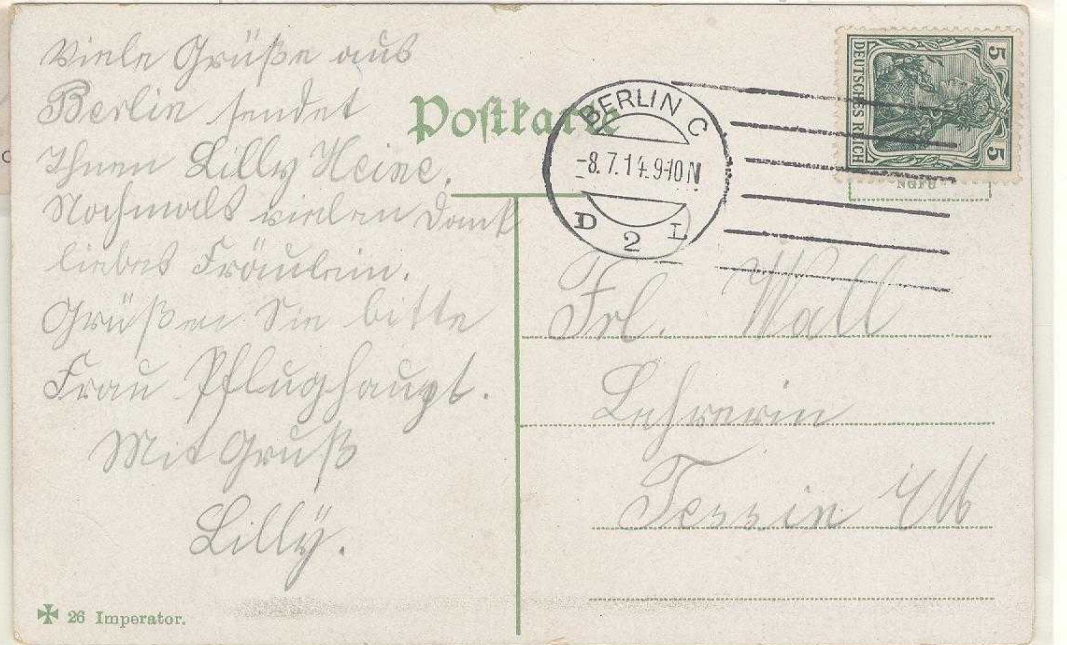
ROTHENBURG C

DOMESTIC MAIL  
8 JULY 1914

Viewcard, sent to  
Schwerin.

5 Pfennig..  
Domestic Postcard-  
rate

Late Usage Date.



BERLIN C D2L

Postmark Type II

FREE-FRANK OFFICIAL MAIL



Herrn

A m t s r i c h t e r   D a h m a n n

E x i n

Frei d. A. 21.  
Kgl.Pr.Minist.d.geistl.  
u. Unterr.-Ang.

16 JUNE 1914

Cover, official free-frank mail,  
postmarked at Berlin,  
sent by the 'Imperial Ministry of Religion & Education',  
to a judge at Exin.

**MICHELIUS** FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE

1912 - 1921

BERLIN SW a68p

**Postmark:** 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Berlin SW a68p".

**Usage:** 21 June 1912 - 26 April 1921

**ADVERTISING NEWSPAPER WRAPPER**

Gegr. 1815

**Kaufhaus N. JSRAEL, Berlin C**  
gegenüber dem Rathause

**Spandauger Str. / Königstr. / Poststr. / Propststr.**

Post-Adresse:  
Königstraße 11

Telegramm-Adr.:  
Reclität Berlita

N.

apf

CP

CHARACTERISTIC OF THE  
'MICHELIUS FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE'  
IS THAT THE POSTMARK IS OFTEN 'SQUEEZED'

or not distinct at the top or bottom.

Postage stamps affixed by the machine could be  
right-side up or even upside-down.

**ISRAEL**  
BERLIN C.



*Herrn Dr. C. Krüger*

Hochwohlgeboren

*Duderstadt (Hammerstr.)*

*Weseler Str. 1*

23 OCTOBER 1920

Advertising newspaper wrapper (305 x 111mm)  
sent by the famous  
'N. Israel Department Store' in Berlin  
to Duderstadt, near Hanover.

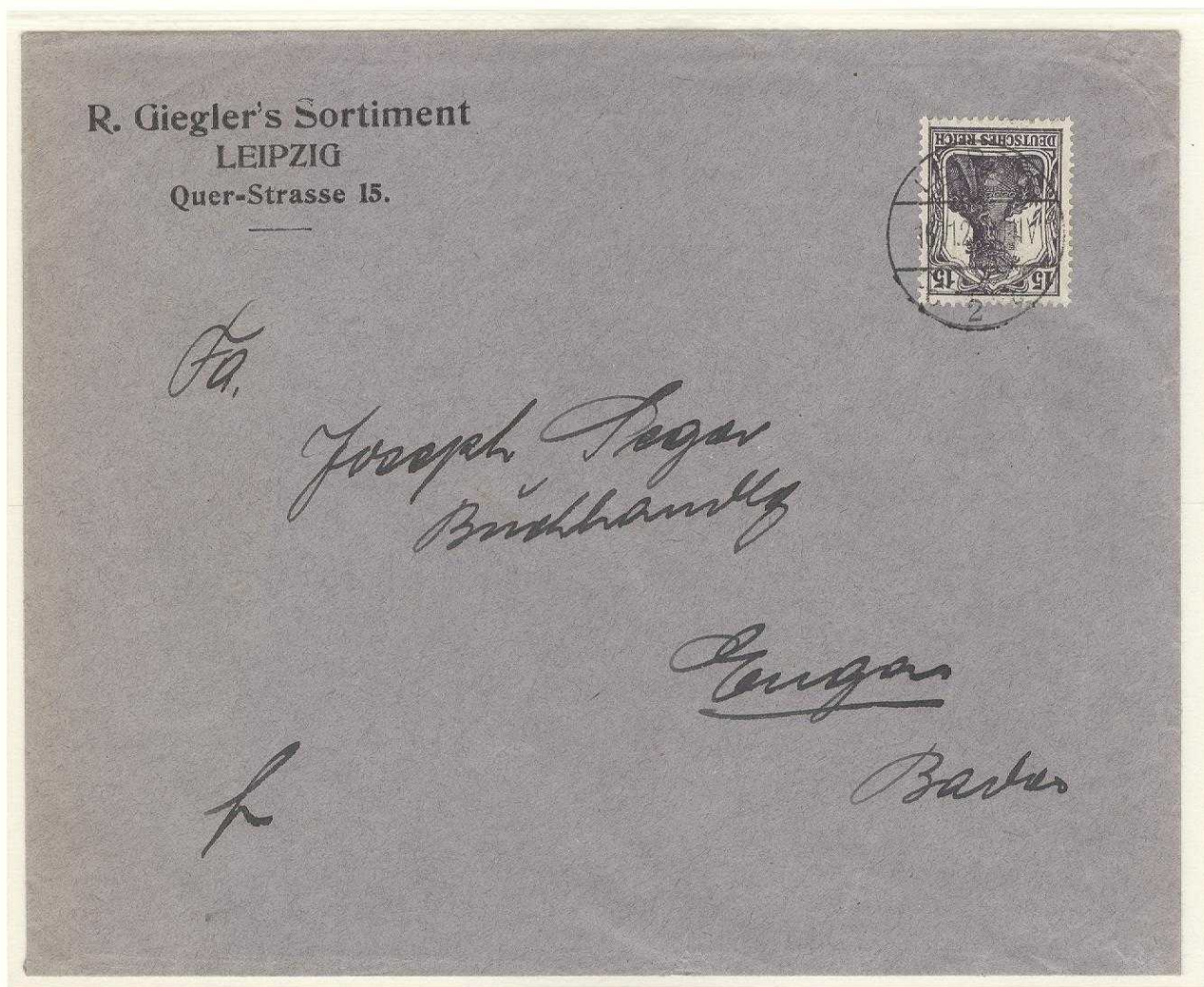
10 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail  
up to 50 grams.

(6 May 1920 - 1 April 1921)

LEIPZIG C2C

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Leipzig C2C".

Usage: 3 September 1920 - 3 June 1922



16 NOVEMBER 1921

Cover, printed-matter enclosure,  
sent to Engen.

15 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate  
for mail up to 20 grams.

(1 April 1921 - 31 December 1921)

BERLIN SW a68p

Postmark:

25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Berlin SW a68p".

Usage:

21 June 1912 - 26 April 1921

**Berliner Briefmarken=Leitung**  
 Verlag von Philipp Kosack & Co., BERLIN C., Burgstr. 13, gegenüber dem Königst. Schloß



Herrn

*Herrn Beyer*

*Bergabern*  
*Bayern*  
*1919*

**privatim**

R. 74. 50/000. 5. 17.  
 R. 74. 100/000. 6. 17.

29 SEPTEMBER 1919

Newspaper wrapper, sent  
 by the famous philatelist  
 'Philipp Kosack' to  
 Bergabern  
 (Bavarian-Palatinate).

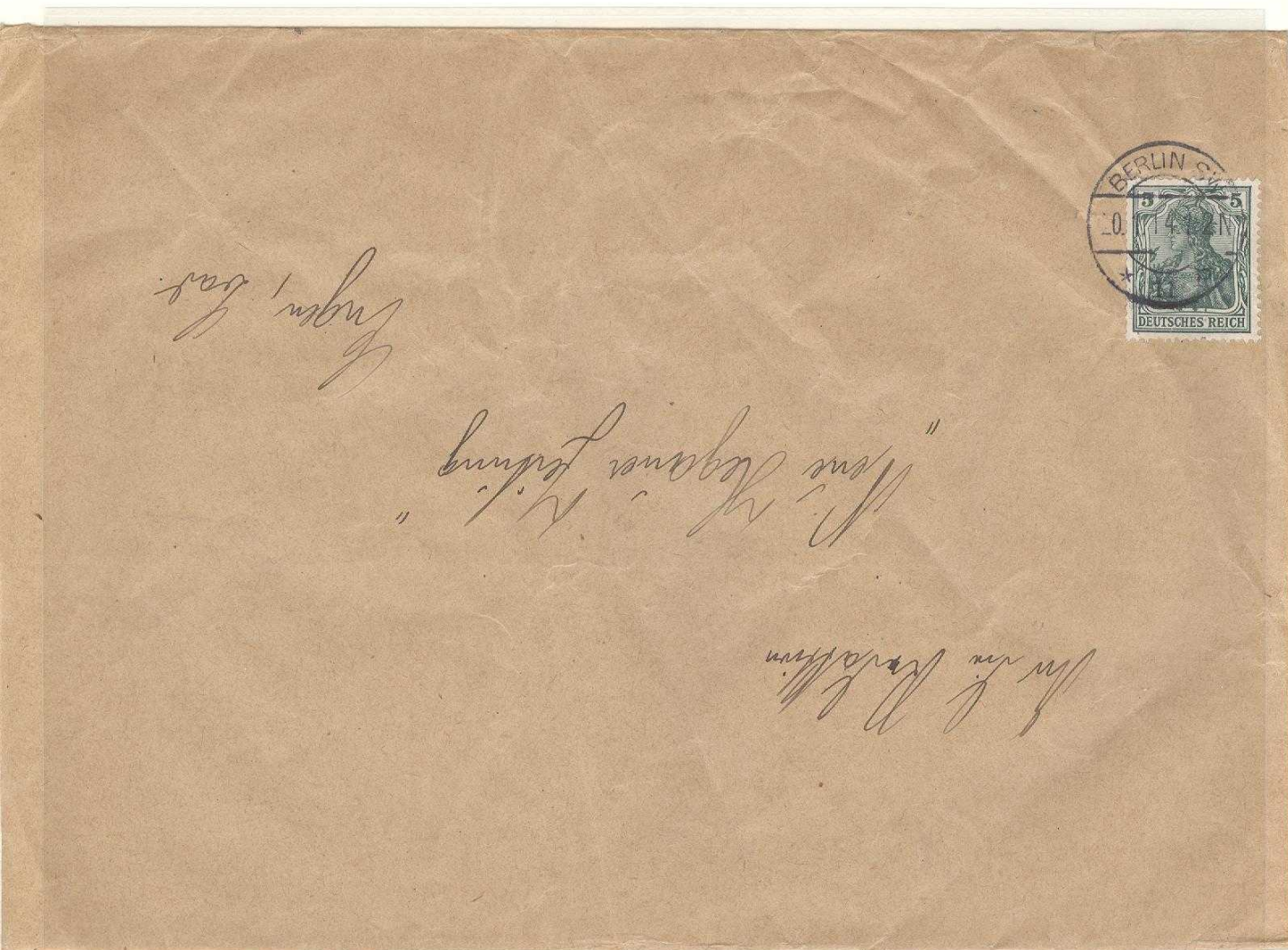
5 Pfennig ...  
 Domestic printed-matter  
 rate for mail up to 20 grams.

**MICHELIUS** FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE  
BERLIN SW \*11p

1912 - 1914

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Berlin SW \*11p".

Usage: 31 July 1912 - 5 March 1914



20 JANUARY 1914

Newspaper wrapper,  
sent to 'Neue Hegauer Zeitung' ('New Hegauer Newspaper')  
at Engen.

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail  
between 50-100 grams.

**MICHELIUS** FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE  
BERLIN C D2F

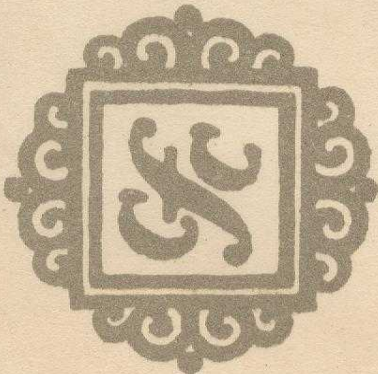
1912 - 1914  
OVERSIZED COVER  
PRINTED-MATTER ENCLOSURE

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Berlin C D2F".

Usage: 30 August 1912 - ... July 1914

2 APRIL 1914

Oversized cover (237 x 132mm) sent locally.



*Garnnd*  
*Augustas C. Ischnacher*  
*Professorsstrasse*

*Charlottenburg*  
*Zyklusstr. 12/13.*

*114*



The 'DAPAG' Company of Staaken (Berlin) is known for development and introduction of self-registry machines (1909), a postmarking machine (1911) and a franking & postmarking machine (1913).

#### **POSTMARKING MACHINE**

Prior to its licensed manufacturing of the 'Universal' Postmarking Machine, the DAPAG Company developed a flexible postmarking machine similar to that of Sylbe & Pondorf with introduction of such in 1911 with the Reichspost obtaining a single machine for trial and field operation.

Because of a lack of archival records, not much is known of the machine, except its operation was at the 'Berlin W8' Post Office with postmarking capability of 550-600 mail units/minute similar to the Sylbe & Pondorf continuous postmarking machine.

#### **FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE**

In 1913, DAPAG introduced its own self-contained franking & postmarking machine in competition with that of the Michelius Company of Frankfurt/Main.

Between 1913-1922, the Reichspost acquired a number of machines for operation at eight different locations: Berlin, Breslau, Cologne, Hamburg, Hanover, Leipzig, Magdeburg & Stuttgart. Although post office operated, these machines were forerunners for non-post office operated meter machines.

*The 'DAPAG Franking & Postmarking Machine' cut a stamp from a stamp coil, affixed it horizontally on the cover, and postmarked the franking in one operation.*

*Characteristic of this machine is the fact that the stamp affixed might have dull perforations a result of the machine 'cutting' the stamp from the coil.*

BERLIN W 18f

The **DAPAG COMPANY** of Staaken (Berlin)  
**ATTEMPTED TO COMPETE WITH THE 'SYLBE & PONDORF' POSTMARKING  
MACHINE'S SUCCESS WITH THE REICHSPOST**  
by delivering a trial machine for operation at the 'Berlin W8' Post Office.

*Postmark:* 25mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Berlin W 18f'  
having a six-staggered-line obliterator continuous  
at 80mm intervals.

*Usage:* 23 May 1911 - 19 March 1914



19 MARCH 1914

Bank mail cover,  
postmarked at 'Berlin W8',  
sent to Christiania (Oslo), Norway.

Arrival postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Kristiania, 21 March 1914"  
(Krag Machine Postmark)

20 Pfennig ..  
UPU International Single-Weight (20 grams) Letter-Rate

Latest Known Date.

The 'DAPAG' FRANKING & POSTMARKING MACHINE  
'CUT' A STAMP FROM A COIL AFFIXED IT HORIZONTALLY  
on a cover or wrapper  
WITH SUBSEQUENT POSTMARKING  
it in one operation.

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Berlin a68q".

Usage: 21 February 1913 - 6 May 1914  
.... June 1919 - .... April 1921

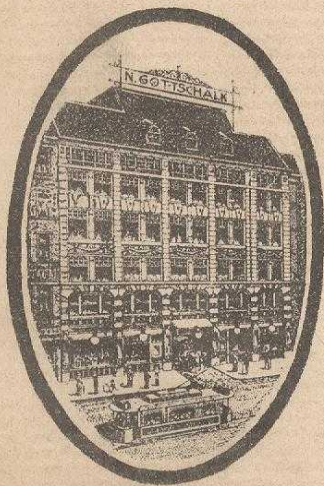


**N. GOTTSCHALK**

Hoflieferant

**BERLIN SW 68**

Lindenstraße 106



*Herrn Herrn Uebeling*

*Barmen  
Spinnbuckel 57.*

4 MARCH 1913

Illustrated cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent to Barmen.

3 Pfennig ...

Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.

(1 April 1900 - 31 July 1916)

STUTTGART \*1\*

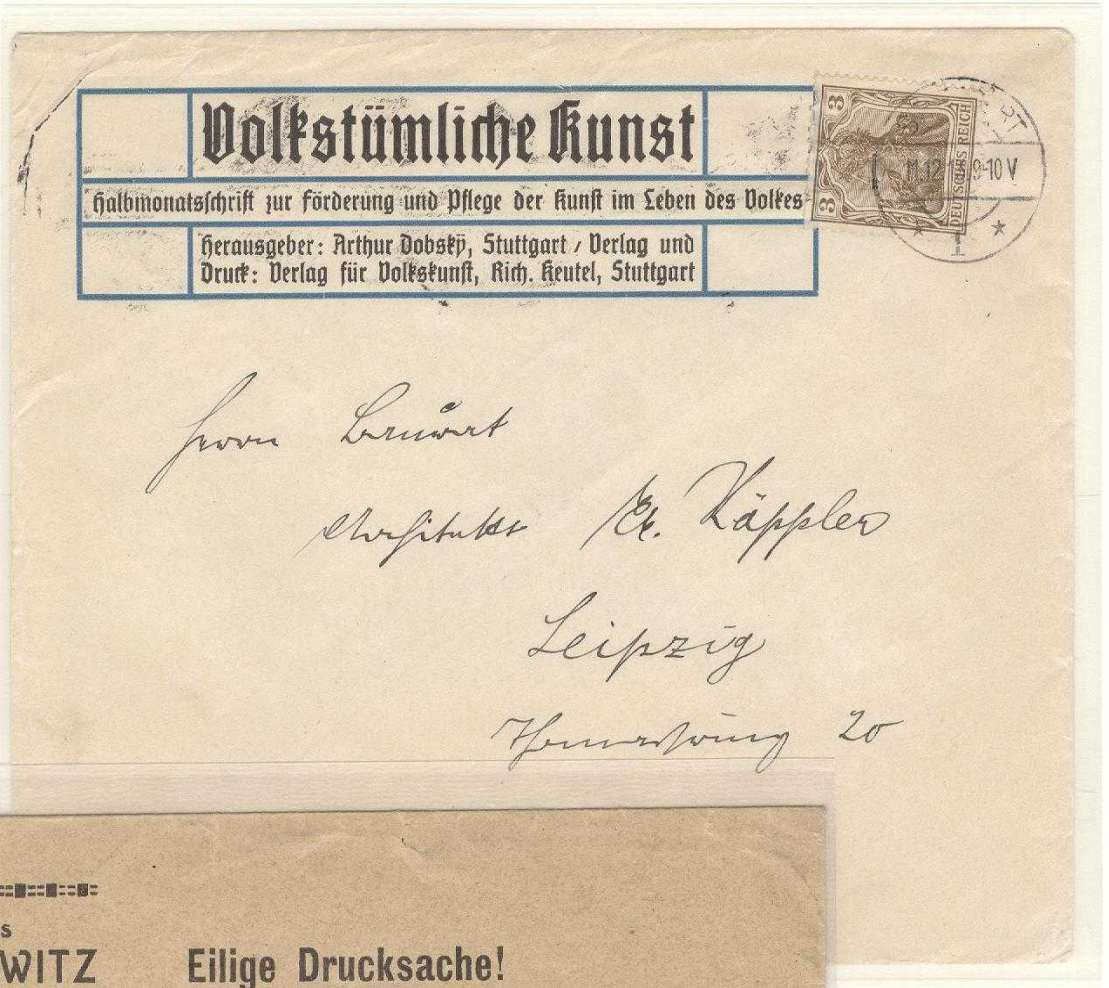
Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Stuttgart \*1\*".

Usage: 15 October 1913 - 7 January 1914

DECEMBER 11  
1913

Decorative  
advertising  
cover sent to  
Leipzig.

3 Pfennig...  
Domestic  
printed-  
matter rate  
for mail  
up to 50 grams.



=====  
 Markenhaut  
**FERD. REDWITZ**  
 Stuttgart/Württemberg  
 Telefon 3698  
 =====

**Eilige Drucksache!**

(Ins Ausland nicht nachsenden!)

Herrn

Jos. Lindemann  
 Zollaberkontrollant  
 Augsburg  
 Ablage k. Hauptrollant



29 NOVEMBER  
1913

Cover, printed-  
matter  
enclosure, sent  
to Augsburg,  
(Bavaria).

5 Pfennig ...  
Domestic  
printed-matter  
rate for mail  
50-100 grams.

(1 April 1900 -  
31 July 1916)

LEIPZIG a2a

WHERE THE POST OFFICE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT COILED SINGLE VALUES TO PROPERLY FRANK THE MAIL, IT COULD USE OTHER AVAILABLE VALUES TO MATCH THE RATE WITH OR WITHOUT OVER-FRANKING.

Such meant that the unit of mail would have to be processed twice by the post office and, when over-franking occurred, the post office would have to internally adjust internally the difference between the amount paid by the postal patron and the amount used to frank the mail.

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Leipzig a2a".

Usage: 24 July 1913 – 28 July 1914  
27 September 1919 – 8 July 1922

## DOUBLE-VALUE COIL STAMP FRANKING ON FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL



10 MARCH 1920

Double-value coil-stamp franked newspaper wrapper,  
mail sent Djursholm, Sweden.

6 Pfennig ...  
5 Pfg ... UPU International Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail up to 50 grams  
1 Pfg... Post office convenience over-franking

(1 August 1916 – 5 May 1920)

Less than ten known double-value franked examples.

LEIPZIG a2b

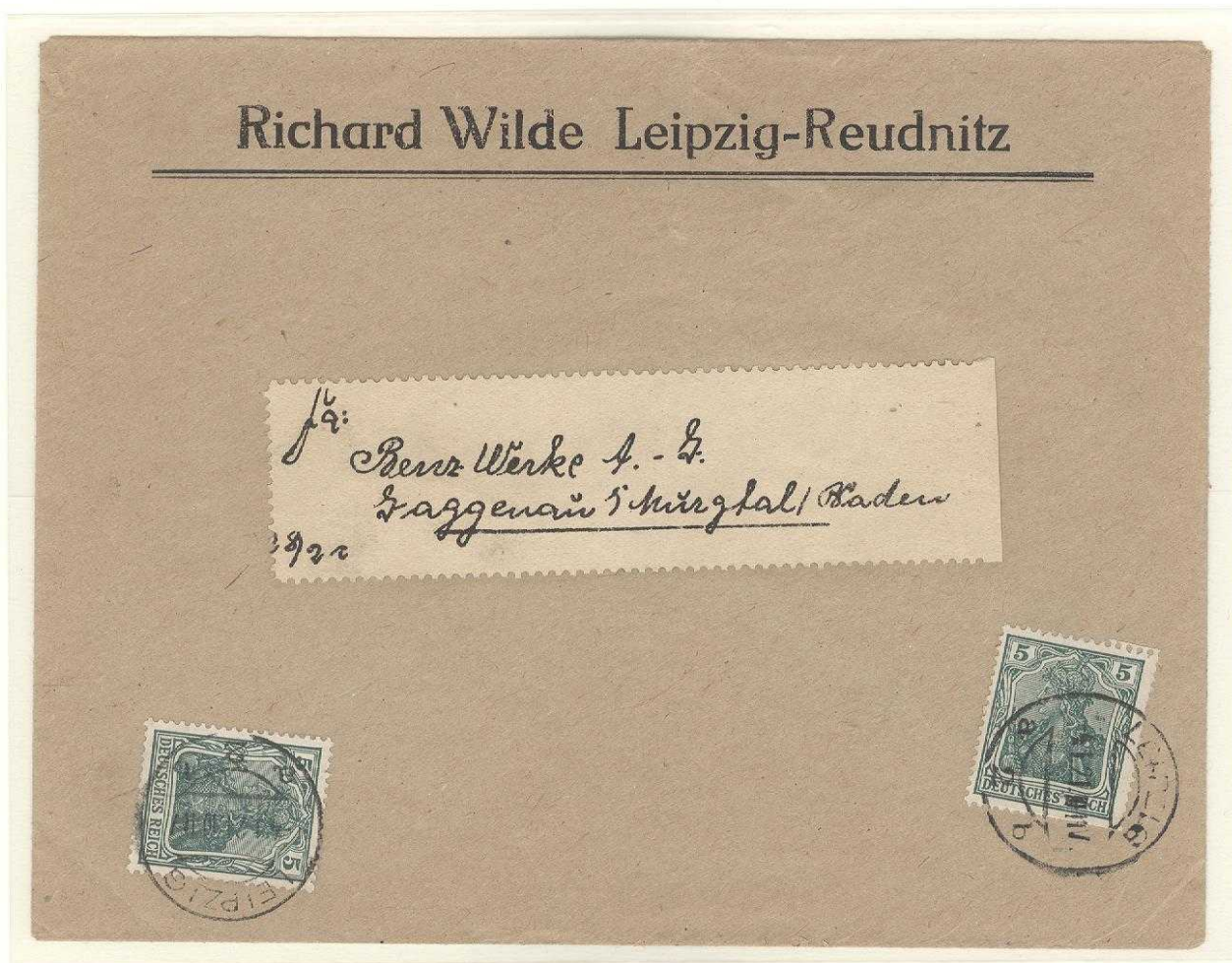
WHERE THE POST OFFICE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT COILED SINGLE VALUES TO PROPERLY FRANK THE MAIL, IT COULD USE OTHER AVAILABLE VALUES TO MATCH THE RATE.

The mail had then to be handled twice by the post office sometimes resulting, depending upon how the postal clerk inserted the mail unit into the machine, with one value in horizontal position (typical for the DAPAG Machine) and one in vertical position (not typical).

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Leipzig a2b".

Usage: 27 September 1919 – 30 April 1921

DOUBLE-VALUE COIL-STAMP PROPERLY FRANKED & POSTMARKED MAIL



4 JANUARY 1921

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent to Gaggenau (Province Baden).

10 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up to 50 grams.  
(6 May 1920 – 1 April 1921)

Less than ten known double-value franking examples.

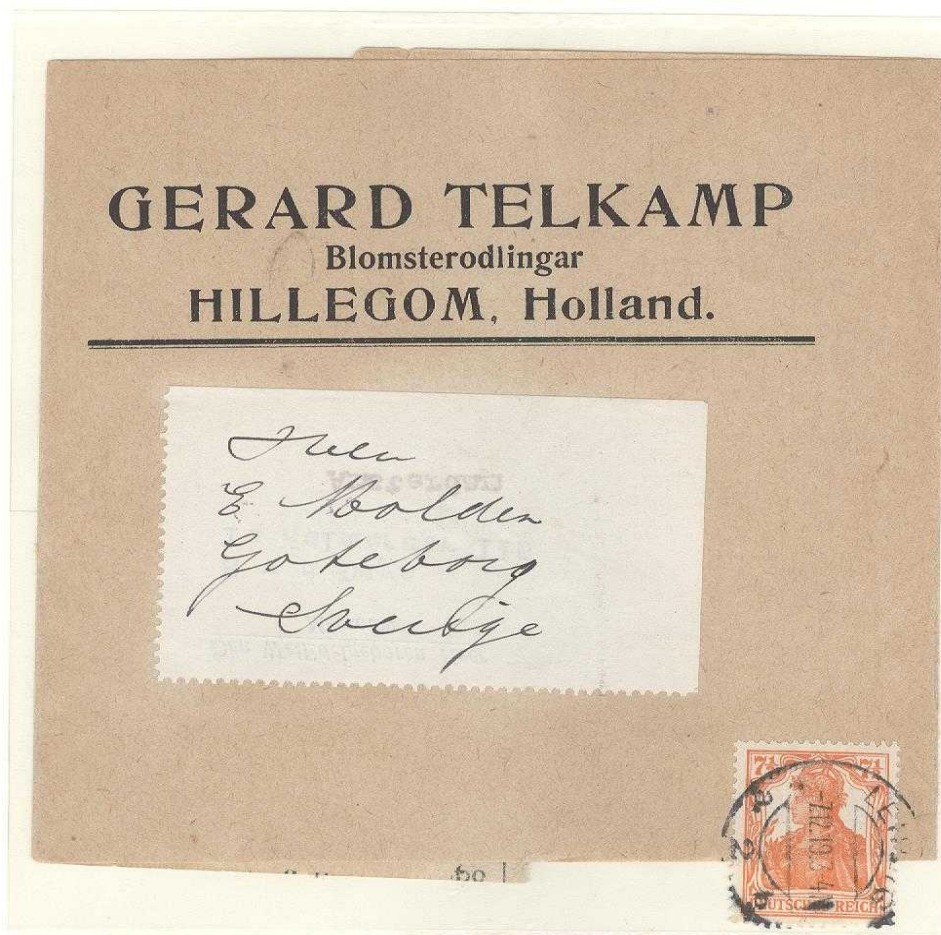
**WHERE THE POST OFFICE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT COILED VALUES TO PROPERLY FRANK THE MAIL, IT COULD USE OTHER AVAILABLE VALUES.**

The difference between the amount paid by the postal patron and the amount used to frank the mail was internally adjusted by the post office.

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Leipzig a2b".

Usage: 27 September 1919 – 30 April 1921

**INTENTIONAL OVER-FRANKING ON FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL**



**7 DECEMBER 1919**

Foreign-bound printed-matter wrapper,  
sent by a Dutch flower nursery via Leipzig to Goteborg, Sweden.

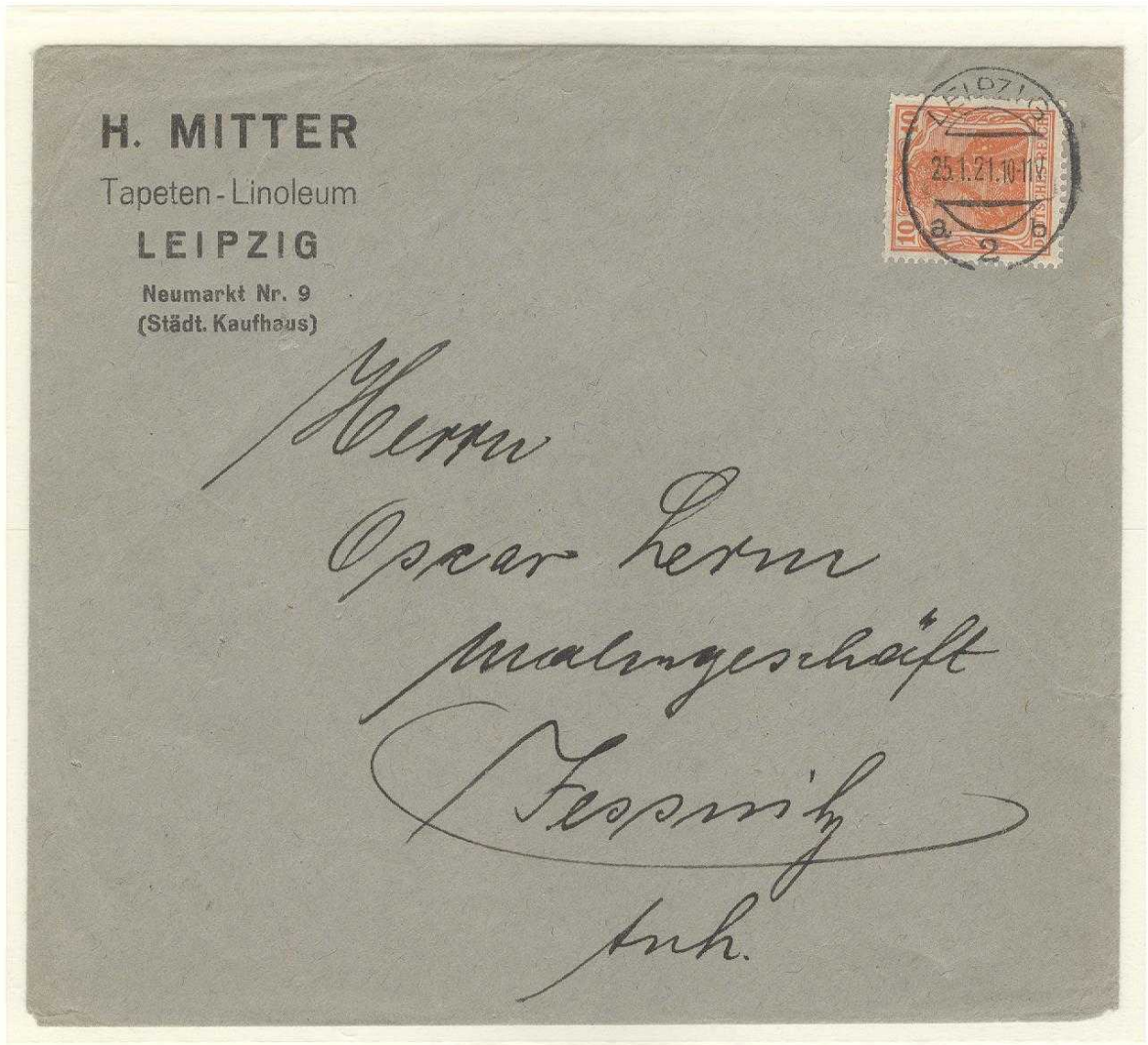
**7-1/2 Pfennig ...  
5 Pfg.. UPU International Printed-Matter Rate  
for mail up to 50 grams  
2-1/2 Pfg.. Post office convenience  
over-franking**

(1 August 1916 – 5 May 1920)

**Only known example franked with the  
World War I-introduced 7-1/2 Pfennig stamp.**

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Leipzig a2b".

Usage: 27 September 1919 - 30 April 1921



25 JANUARY 1921

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, sent to Jessnitz.

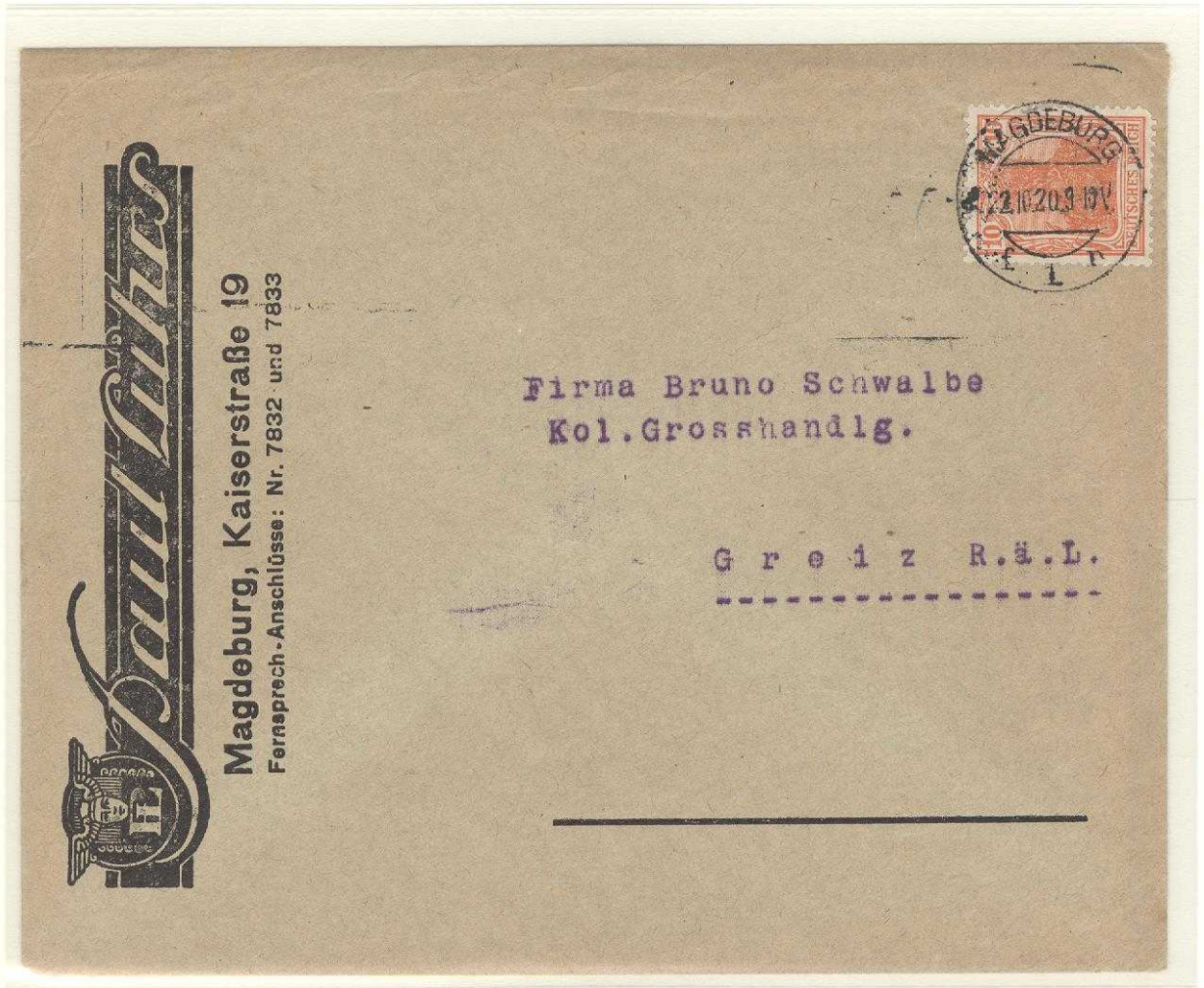
10 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for mail up  
to 20 grams.

(6 May 1920 - 31 March 1921)



Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating "Magdeburg f1r".

Usage: 21 January 1916  
22 October 1920 - 25 January 1921



22 OCTOBER 1920

Cover, printed-matter enclosure, mail sent Greiz,  
(Province Saxony)

10 Pfennig ...  
Domestic printed-matter rate for  
mail up to 20 grams.

(6 May 1920 - 1 April 1921)

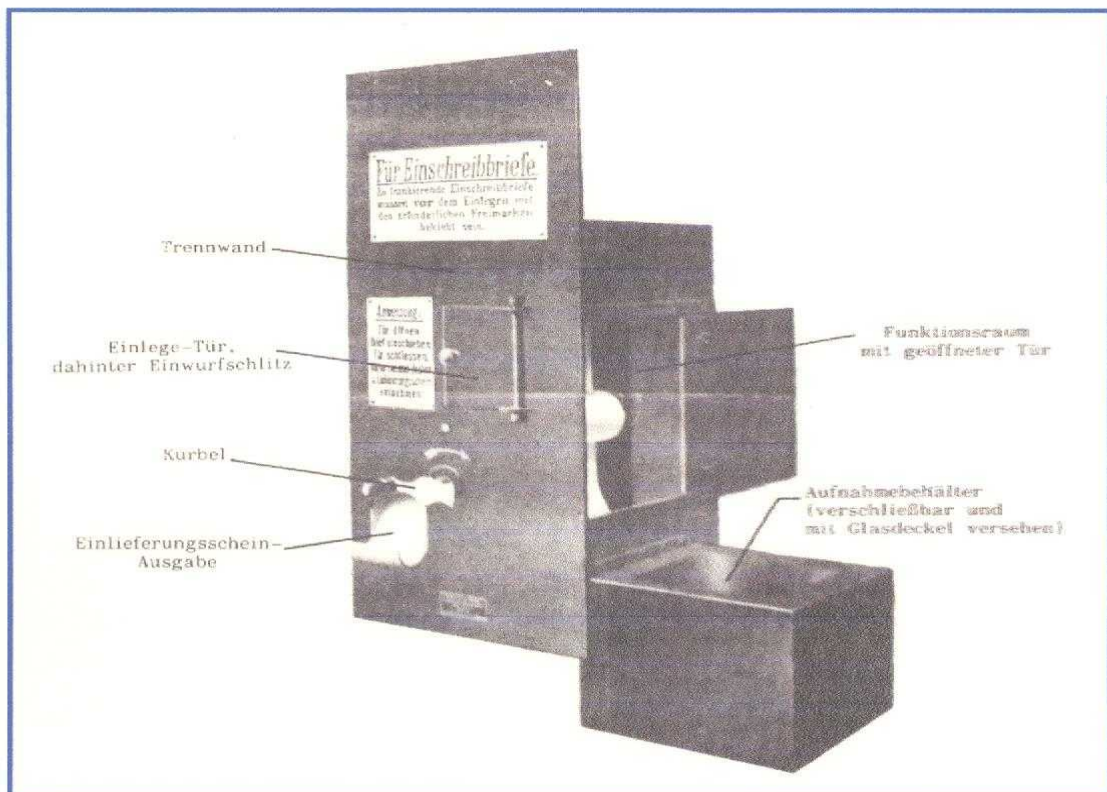
One of Three Known Examples.  
This Example Earliest Recorded Post-World War I Usage Date

**In 1909, the 'DAPAG' Company  
(*'Deutsche Post- und Eisenbahn-Verkehrswesen Aktiengesellschaft'*)  
introduced their  
**SELF-SERVICE MAIL REGISTRATION MACHINE.****

**Between 1909 and late 1920s, twenty-four such machines were operating at twenty-four 'Reichspost' post office lobbies throughout Germany to expedite the processing of domestic registered mail during standard or late post office hours.**

**OPERATION OF THE MACHINE:**

- 1. Mail to be registered, with proper postage affixed, is placed into the opening of the machine.**
- 2. The sender rotates the hand crank, and...**
  - a. The unit of mail is marked with a red-ink registration mark with date and number.**
  - b. The mail unit is captured within the machine with a registration receipt emitted from the machine for the sender.**
- 3. The retained mail is later collected by post office staff subsequently postmarking the postage by hand.**



In November 1909, the Reichspost  
commenced testing a  
**'DAPAG'**  
**SELF-SERVICE MACHINE**  
**FOR REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC MAIL**  
at the main Berlin post office.

Located in the post office lobby, the machine  
was self-service in that  
the sender had to affix proper postage on the  
mail, subsequently inserting it into the machine  
which concurrently applied a dated numbered  
registration mark (red in color), while  
retaining the mail and dispensing a receipt to the  
postal patron, in one operation.

Known trial examples..  
9 & 22 November & 10 December 1909



Original Registration Receipt  
'10 December 1909' Mail



22 NOVEMBER 1909

Cover, processed through the experimental 'DAPAG' Self-Service Registry Machine,  
located in the lobby of the main 'Berlin C2' Post Office,  
sent to Nürnberg (Bavaria).

30 Pfennig...  
10 Pfg. Domestic letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams  
+20 Pfg. Registration fee

One of Four Examples known to-date from the first field Trial (1909).

The 'DAPAG' Self-Service Registration Machine was purchased by the Reichspost with units eventually operating in twenty-four post offices nationwide between 1909 and late 1920s.

Soon after completion of the trials,  
THE STYLE & SIZE OF THE APPLIED  
REGISTRATION MARK WAS ALTERED TO 30 x 30mm.



Registration Mark Illustration



30 SEPTEMBER 1912

Commercial cover, processed through the experimental 'DAPAG' Machine located in the lobby of the 'Hamburg 18' Post Office, sent to the Stade City Post Office.

30 Pfennig...  
10 Pfg. Domestic letter-rate for mail up to 20 grams.  
+ 20 Pfg. Registration fee

LEIPZIG 13

GERMAN INFLATION PERIOD USAGE



Receipt Front Illustration



Original Reverse



25 MARCH 1922

Cover, processed through the experimental 'DAPAG' Machine located in the lobby of the 'Leipzig 13' Post Office, sent to Eisenberg (Rhineland Province).

500 Pfennig...  
 300 Pfg. Domestic second-weight letter-rate  
 (20-100 grams)  
 + 200 Pfg. Registration fee

# DAPAG SELF-SERVICE REGISTRATION MACHINE

1912-1917  
USE IN RUSSIA

Several 'DAPAG' Self-Service Registration Machine were purchased by the Russian Post Office operational at six different cities between 1912-1917.

THE SIZE OF THE MARK WAS 30 x 34mm  
SIMILAR IN STYLE AS THOSE APPLIED IN GERMANY.

## ST. PETERSBURG

1 SEPTEMBER 1912

Since mail was foreign-bound, "R" in circle cachet mark applied, sent to a soldier at Grafenwöhr Military Training Base in Bavaria.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks  
(Reverse)

"Bayreuth,

16 September 1912"

"Weiden,

16 September 1912"

"Lager Grafenwöhr,  
17 September 1912"

20 Kopecks...

10 Kpk Letter + 10 Kpk  
Registration fee

Earliest known usage of  
DAPAG in Russia



ТИПО-ЛИТОГРАФИЯ и ПИСЧЕБУМАЖНЫЙ МАГАЗИНЪ

# И. Д. УРУСОВА

МОСКВА, Мясницкая улица, домъ № 1 Духовн. Консист. ТЕЛЕФОНЪ № 2-32-51.



## MOSCOW

27 SEPTEMBER 1913

Commercial cover,  
postmarked at Moscow  
with revised style of  
DAPAG Mark  
(Russian &  
French text),  
sent to Stockholm,  
Sweden.

Cachet Stamp:

ПРИНТО-АВТОМАТЪ

= "processed Through  
Automat (Machine)"

Arrival Postmark

(Reverse)

"Stockholm,

13 October 1913"

20 Kopecks...

10 Kpk. Letter +  
10 Kpk. Registration Fee

# EPILOGUE .. PSEUDO MACHINE POSTMARKS

1901 - 1912

PATRIOTIC POST-OFFICE-FLAG POSTMARK  
COTTBUS \*(BAZAR)\* (Charity)

BETWEEN 1901-1912, A NUMBER OF POSTMARKS APPLIED IN GERMANY & AUSTRIA APPEARED AS MACHINE-APPLIED BUT REALLY WERE HAND-APPLIED-CANCELS, KNOWN TODAY AS 'PSEUDO MACHINE POSTMARKS'.  
MANY OF THOSE DIES WERE MANUFACTURED BY THE GLEICHMANN COMPANY OF BERLIN.

In November 1901 and in May 1912,  
SPECIAL FUND-RAISING 'BAZAARS' WERE HELD AT THE CITY OF COTTBUS  
to raise funds for Imperial memorials (1901)  
and a rehabilitation clinic (1912).

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Cottbus \*(Bazar)\*'  
including a postal flag with crown, banner with tassels &  
postal horn as obliterator to right of the dater dial. Hand cancelled.

Usage: 6, 7, 8, 13 & 26 November 1901 & 8, 9, 10 May 1912

6 NOVEMBER 1901

Commemorative  
view-card sent  
from the 'Bazaar'  
to  
Dessau,

First Day Usage.



7 NOVEMBER 1901

Commemorative  
view-card sent from  
the 'Bazaar' to  
Baalsdorf.

Second Day Usage.

5 Pfennig.. Domestic postcard-rate.

# EPILOGUE PSEUDO MACHINE POSTMARKS

1901 & 1912

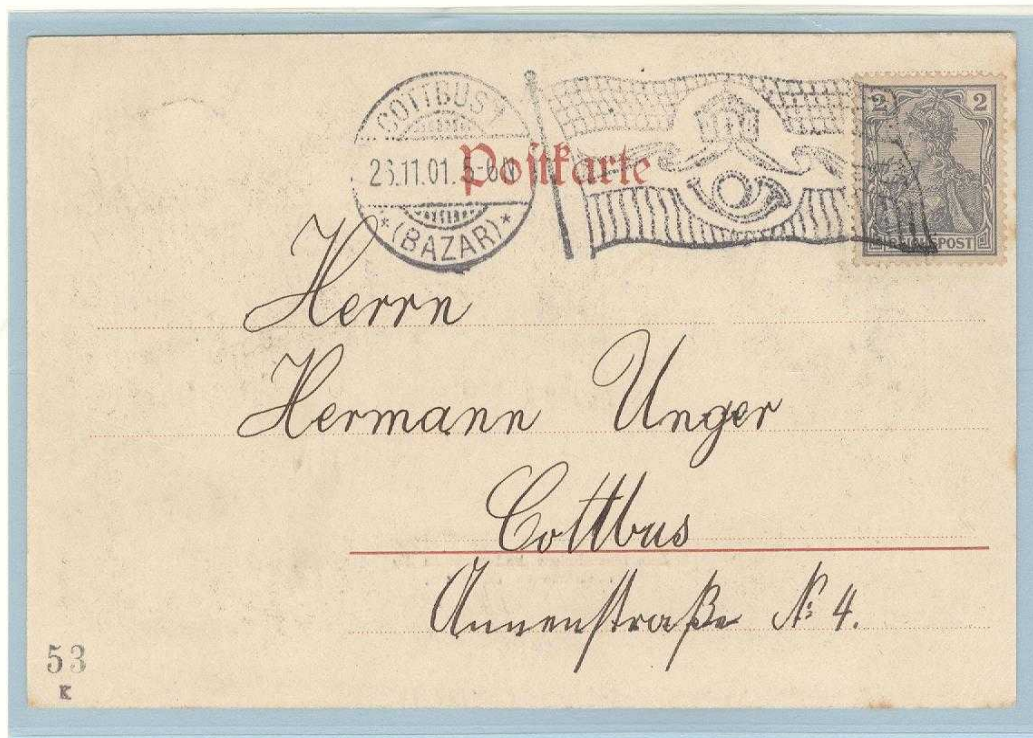
PATRIOTIC POST OFFICE FLAG POSTMARK  
COTTBUS \*(BAZAR)\*

13 NOVEMBER  
1901

Commemorative  
view-card,  
sent locally.

Only known  
example  
dated

13 November &  
only known with a  
double strike.



26 NOVEMBER 1901

Commemorative  
view-card,  
sent locally

Only known  
example dated  
26 November.

2 Pfennig..  
Local-city postcard-rate.



# EPILOGUE PSEUDO MACHINE POSTMARKS

1901 - 1903

HORIZONTAL BAR OBLITERATOR POSTMARKS  
BERLIN

Postmark: 25mm diameter dater dial indicating 'Berlin C\*2B' or 'Berlin O\*17B', or 'Berlin C\*25B' or 'Berlin O\*27B' with a seven horizontal bar (36mm in length) obliterator right of the dater dial.

Usage: 22 July 1901 – 3 January 1903

**BERLIN C \*2B**

**18 SEPTEMBER 1901**

'Gruss aus' Wittstock  
view-card,  
postmarked in  
Berlin, sent to  
Wuhlgarten.



**BERLIN O \*27B**

**14 MAY 1902**

'Gruss aus' Berlin  
view-card, sent to  
Altona (Elbe).

Early date use of the  
'new' Germania  
(unwatermarked)  
Deutsches Reich  
Series.

6 Pfennig (3x 2 Pfennig multi-franking)...  
5 Pfennig .. Domestic postcard-rate  
1 Pfennig .. Convenience over-franking

# EPILOGUE PSEUDO MACHINE POSTMARKS

1906 - 1910

'PHILATELIST DAY' COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS

A HAND-STAMP WAS USED FOR COMMEMORATING 'PHILATELIST DAYS' BETWEEN 1906-1910 AT THE CITIES OF GÖSSNITZ, HAMBURG, KARLSBAD (AUSTRIA), KIEL & NÜRNBERG.

Postmark: Various diameter dater dials indicating the city and 'event number' for the 'Philatelist Day' along with logo between six wavy-lines as an obliterator.

NÜRNBERG..  
XVIII  
DEUTSCH  
PHILATELISTEN-  
TAG  
  
2 SEPTEMBER  
1906



GÖSSNITZ..  
XX  
DEUTSCH  
PHILATELISTENTAG  
  
2 AUGUST 1908



KARLSBAD  
XXI  
PHILATELISTENTAG  
  
21 AUGUST 1909

