

ALTDEUTSCHLAND

ALBUM I

BADEN

BERGEDORF

BRAUNSCHWEIG

BREMEN

HAMBURG

HANNOVER

LÜBECK

MECKLENBURG

OLDENBURG

PREUBEN

SACHSEN

SCHLESWIG

THURN und TAXIS

NORDDEUTSCHER BUND

ALBUM II

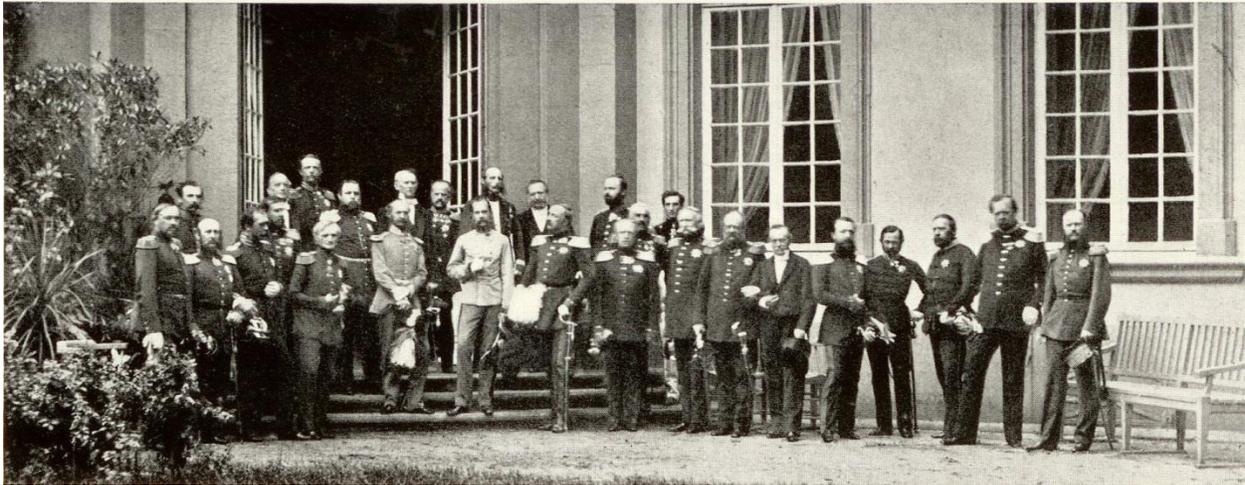
BAYERN

WÜRTTEMBERG

ALBUM III

HELGOLAND

German Confederation 1815-1866



The monarchs of the member states of the German Confederation meet at Frankfurt in 1863





BADEN



The Grand Duchy of Baden was a state within the German Confederation until 1866 and the German Empire until 1918. Baden merged with Württemberg in 1952 to form the modern state of Baden-Württemberg.

Under the rule of the Grand Duke Frederick I (ruled 1856-1907), Baden issued 28 stamps between 1851 and 1868.



- Folded commercial letter, dated 16 Aug. 1865, sent from Lahr to Möskirche, 125 kms to the east.
- 2-ring Lahr CDS dated 16.8 and with post office 79 (Lahr) cancel
- Transit backstamp xxBahnpost 17.8 and Möskirche arrival stamp 18 Aug.
- 3 kreuzer, perf. 10, stamp for inter Baden rate for letters under 1 loth/zoll (16gr)
- Issued 13.6.1862. Quantity: 26,496,000

BAVARIA



The Kingdom of Bavaria was created in 1806.

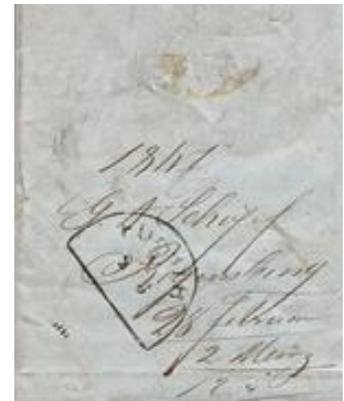
- Maximilian II (1848-1864)
- Ludwig II (1864-1886)
- Otto (1886-1913)
- regency of Luitpold (1886-1912)
- his son Ludwig (1912-1913) later
- king Ludwig III (1913-1918).

Under these kings, Bavaria produced a total of 195 stamps between 1848 and 1920 when it joined the Weimar republic.



*Included Palatinate
now in Rheinland-Pfalz*

Below is a folded commercial letter and invoice from an “iron, steel and brass” merchant in Regensburg to a customer in Fürth, some 120 kms to the north-west.



- 3 Kreuzer stamp with open millwheel cancel and 418 P.O. (Regensburg) number.
- First issued on 1 October 1862, a total of 57.1 million were produced.
- CDS cancel 1 March 1867 and Fürth arrival back stamp dated 2 March.

BERGEDORF



Since 1420, Bergedorf had belonged to the Hanseatic Cities of Hamburg and Lübeck and thus, was often referred to as the Hamburg-Lübeck Condominium.

Hamburg and Lübeck issued their first stamps in 1859, Bergedorf followed with 5 of its own stamps beginning in 1861 and ending in 1867 before being incorporated into the city state of Hamburg.



BRAUNSCHWEIG



Under the rule of William VIII (1830-1884), the Duchy of Brunswick issued 20 stamps from 1852 until it joined the North German Confederation in 1867 which became the German Empire in 1871.

A folded commercial letter from Weigel & Mißler in Braunschweig to the town of Peine some 25kms west.

- Braunschweig 2-ring CDS with Bahnpost cancel shown by * * and dated 21 Nov 1867
- Peine 2-ring back cancel dated 22.11 (no year)



- 1 groschen stamp issued 1 October 1865, quantity unknown
- Embossed, rouletted 16 and with no watermark.
- **Fco:** short for franco and showing that franking is required



BREMEN



Following Napoleon's retreat, Bremen became an independent republic in 1815 and a member state of the Hanseatic League.

Bremen issued 15 stamps from 1855 until 1867 when it joined the North German Confederation.





HAMBURG



The Vienna Congress of 1815 confirmed Hamburg's independence and it became one of 39 sovereign states of the German Confederation (1815–1866) as well as a member state of the Hanseatic League.

The city state of Hamburg issued 22 stamps between 1859 and 1866. It joined the North German Confederation in 1867 which became the German Empire in 1871.





HANOVER



The *Königreich Hannover* was established in October 1814 by the Congress of Vienna. Defeated in the Austro-Prussian war, Hanover and its postal administration were incorporated into Prussia on January 1, 1867.

Under the reign of George V, Hanover issued 29 different stamps from 1850 until 1865.

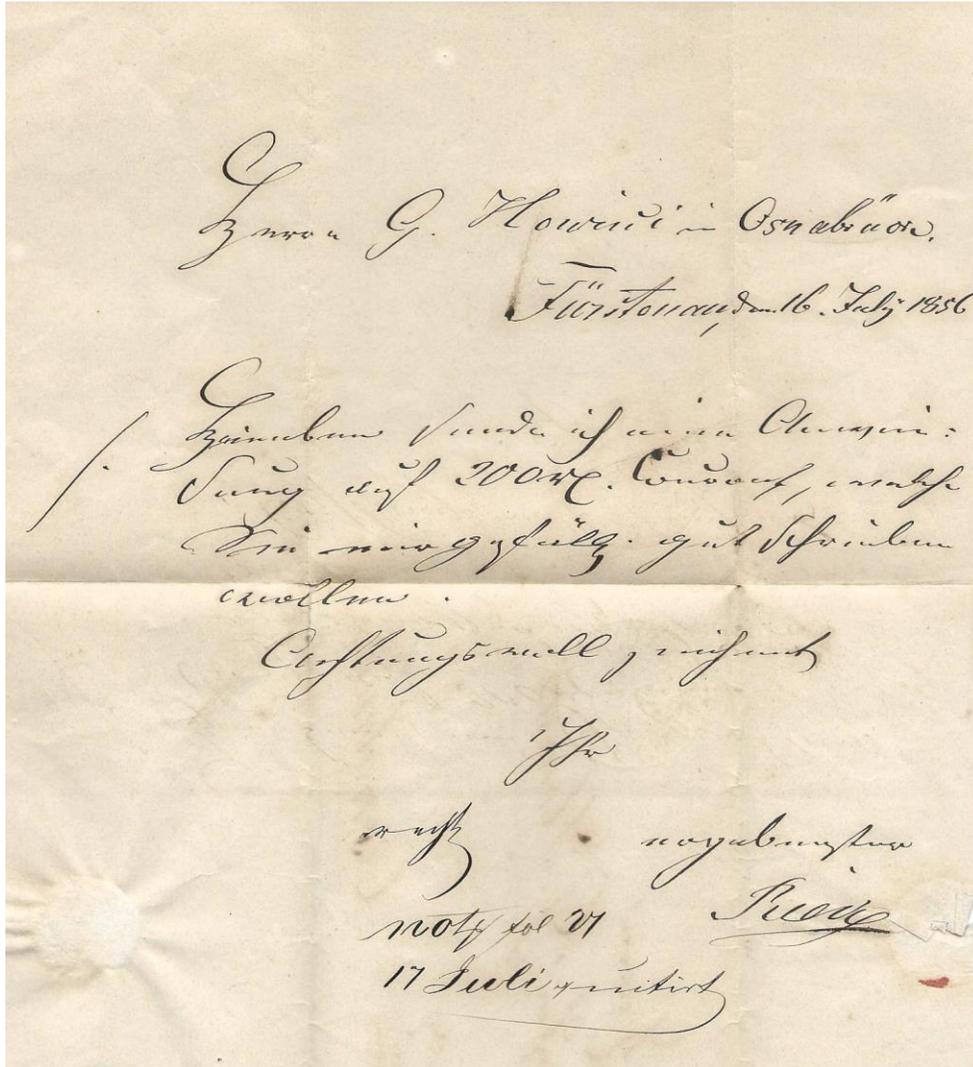


This folded letter was sent from Fuerstenau to Osnabrück, a distance of 45 kms, and cancelled with a CDS of the 15th July. The year was 1856 as indicated in the letter.
PS: The letter is dated 16 July or one day after the CDS cancellation.



The one Gutegroshen stamp was first issued on 30 November 1850 with a lined square watermark and reissued on 21 July 1851 with a wreath of oak leaves watermark. It was Hanover's first stamp and served the needs within the German-Austrian Postal Union. The quantity of both versions is unknown.

Written in the script known as "Kurrent"



To: Herrn G. Howini in Osnabrück.

Fürstenau, den 16. July 1856

Hinneben (?) sende ich Ihnen einen Scheck auf 200 **, welche Sie mir gefällig. gut schreiben wollen.

I'll send you a cheque of 200 Thaler ** which you can credit me with.

Achtungsvoll zeichnet Ihr recht ergebener
Ihr recht ergebener

You draw respectfully the very devoted

not(irrt) fol. 27

17 Juli quittiert

17 July quit (?)

** Thaler was the currency in use in Hanover until 1858



LÜBECK



The Free Hanseatic City of Lübeck issued 14 stamps between 1859 and 1865. In January of 1868, they were replaced by those of the North German Confederation.





MECKLENBURG



The Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Sterlitz existed separately in Germany until 1918.

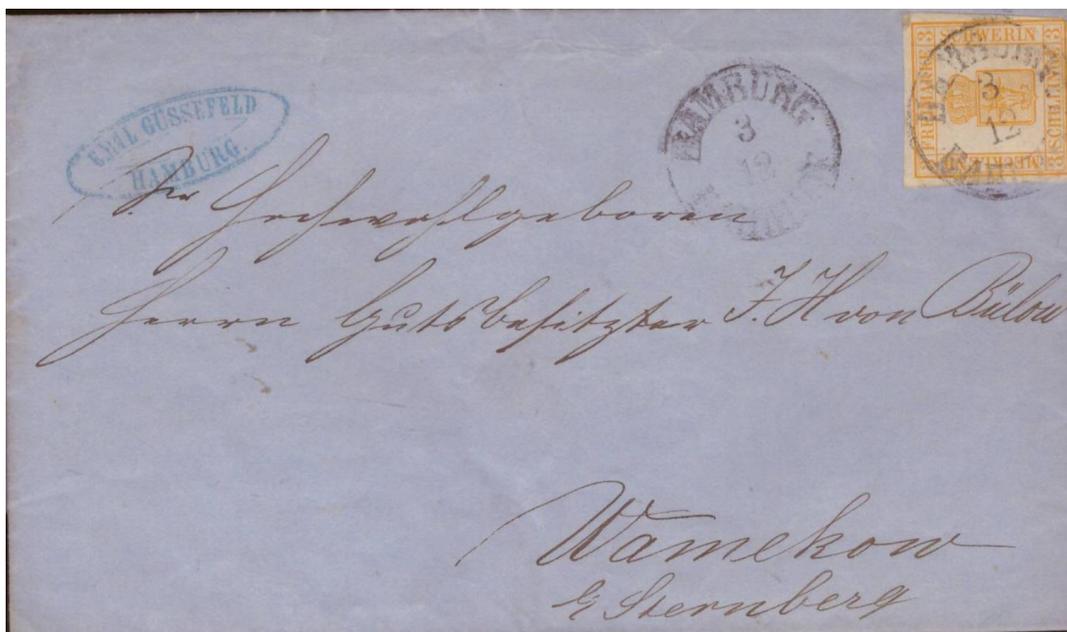
During the reign of the Grand-Duke Frederik Francis II of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 8 stamps were issued beginning in 1856.

During the reign of Grand-Duke Frederik William of Mecklenburg-Sterlitz, 6 stamps were issued in 1864.

Both were replaced by those of the North German Confederation in 1868.

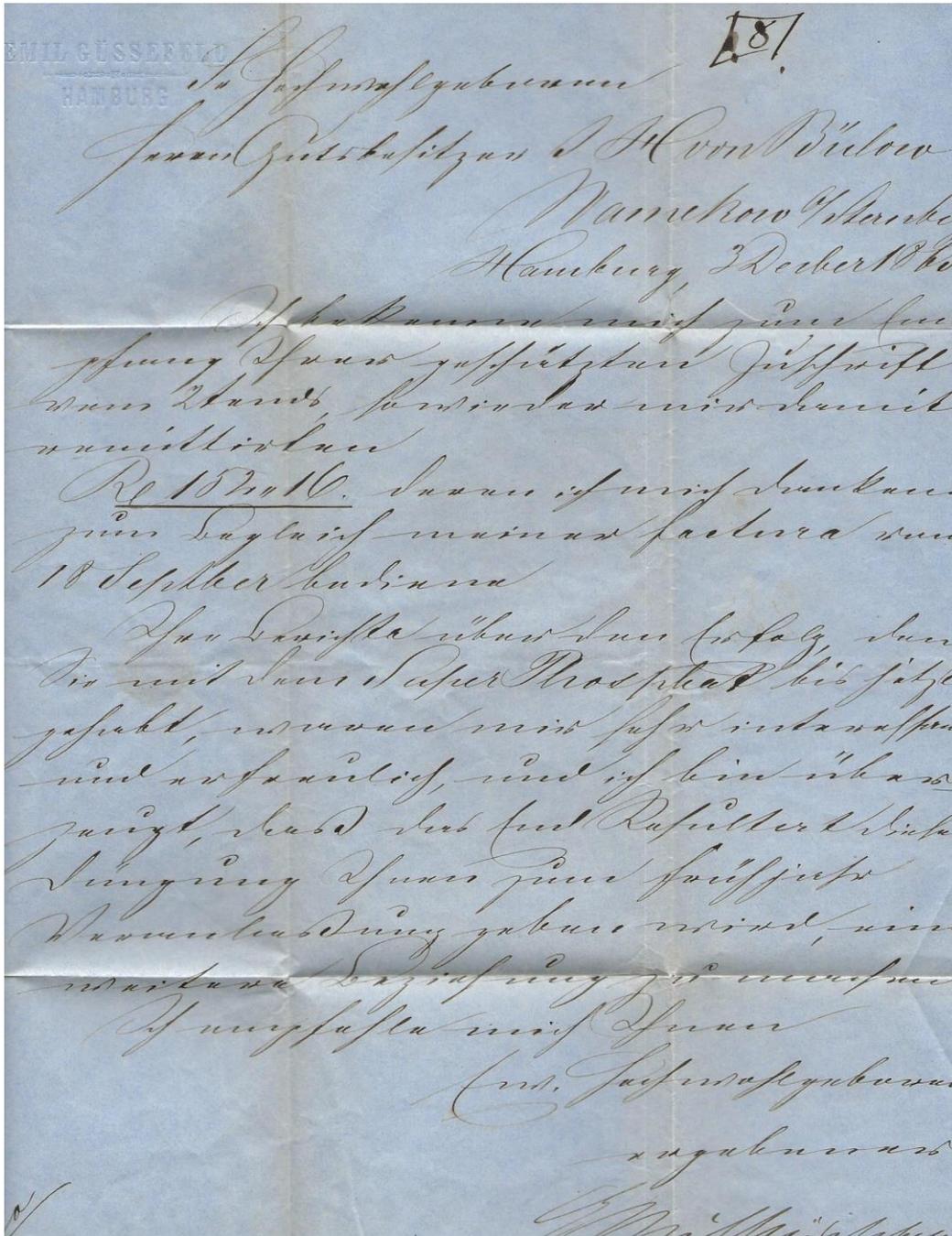


The 3 groschen imperforated Mecklenburg-Schwerin stamp was issued on 1 July 1856 in the quantity of 438,000 and valid until 31.12.1865.

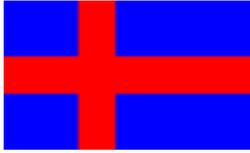


- A postal arrangement with Hamburg allowed Mecklenburg-Schwerin to operate a main post office *Oberpostamt* in Hamburg and to use its own stamps.
- Hamburg Bahnhof CDS 3.12 and faint arrival backstamp dated 4.12 Bahnhof Ra?

- Commercial folded letter sent by the chemist Emil Güssefeld in Hamburg, as can be seen by the embossed letter head and marking on the cover.
- It travelled some 150kms to the east to Wamekow (Wamckow) in the commune of Sternberg.
- The letter is dated 3 December 1863.
- Fco: franco marking at bottom left indication that franking is required.



- The letter is written on one half of a single 18" x 22 ¾" piece of paper.

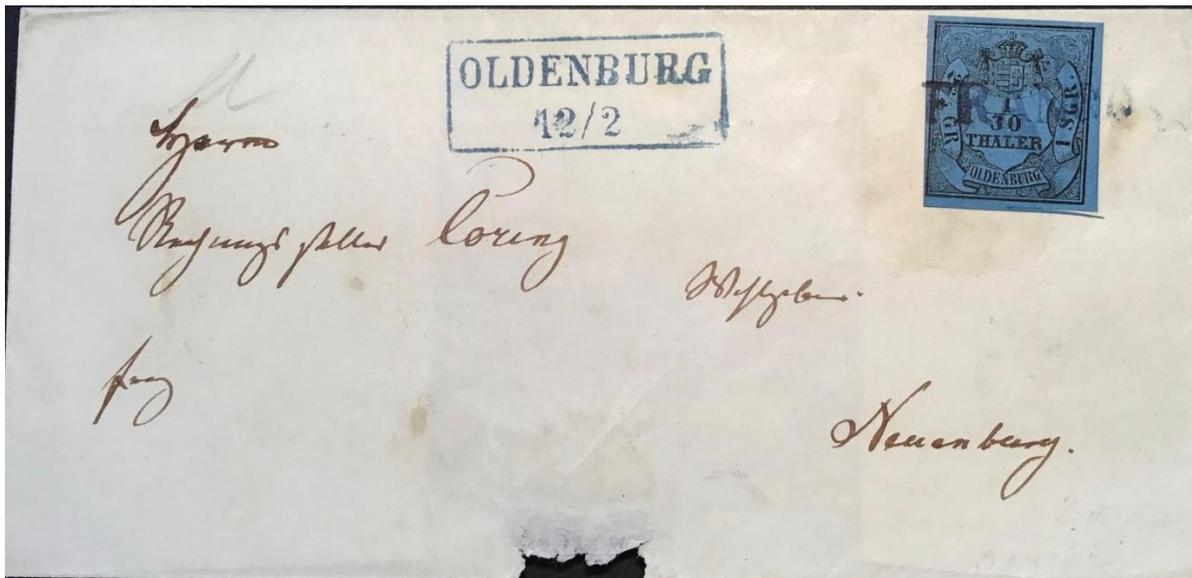


OLDENBURG



Under the rule of Peter II (1853-1900), the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg issued 19 stamps between 1852 and 1862. In 1868, the stamps of Oldenburg were replaced by those of the North German Confederation.

A folded envelop, dated 12/2 from Oldenburg to Neuenburg some 40 kms to the north. Arrival back stamp dated NEUENBURG 13.2 but with no indication of the year.



- Stamp first issued in 1852, total issued: 1,900,000
- this copy is type III and issued in 1854
- FRANCO cancel.
- 3 currencies listed: 1/30th of thaler, 1 silver groschen and 2 and 2/5th groschen.
- **Fco** (short for Franco), often written by a scribe, indicates that franking is needed.



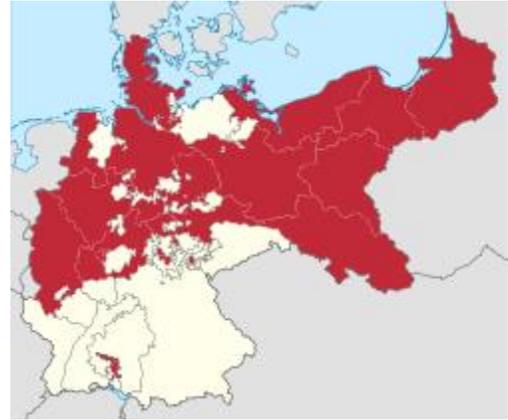


PRUSSIA



The **Kingdom of Prussia** (*Königreich Preußen*) was a German kingdom that constituted the state of Prussia between 1701 and 1918. It was the driving force behind the unification of Germany in 1871 and was the leading state of the German Empire until its dissolution in 1918.

Under the rule of Friedrich Wilhelm IV 1840-1861 and Wilhelm I 1861-1888, Prussia issued 29 stamps from 1850 to 1867.



The Kingdom of Prussia within the German Empire between 1871 and 1918



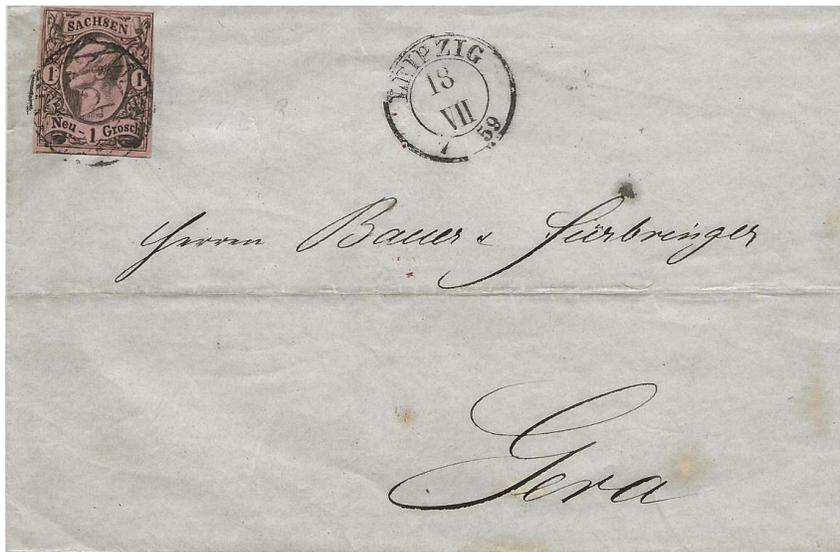
Commercial cover sent from Coeln (Köln) on 26 June 1857 to a pastor in Aachen. Four-ring circular cancel 258. Faint arrival stamp of 27 June. Image of King Friederich-Wilhelm IV on 1 Silbergrosche (=12 pfennigs) value. Laurel wreath watermark. First issued on the 15th of November 1850, total printing reached 26 million. **Fco**: short for franco and showing that franking is required

SAXONY



The Kingdom of Saxony lasted from 1808 to 1918. It was a member of the German Confederation (1815-1866) and of the North German Confederation (1867-1871)

Under the reigns of Frederik Augustus II and Johann I, Saxony issued 19 stamps from 1850 to 1863. In 1868, the stamps of Saxony were replaced by those of the North German Confederation.



- Folded letter with both Leipzig 2 ring CDS dated 18.VII and with Post Office 2 (Leipzig main post office) cancel.
- Sent to Gera 100 kms to the south. Gera arrival back stamp dated 19.7.1859
- 1 Neu Groschen, Johann I, type I, issued 1 June 1855. Quantity: 17,370,000

THURN und TAXIS



The **Princely House of Thurn and Taxis** is a family of German nobility. The family seat was established in Regensburg, Germany, and has remained at St. Emmeram Castle since 1748. The family operated the Thurn-und-Taxis Post, between 1806 and 1867 when their postal service was purchased by Prussia for 3 million thaler.

One difficulty they faced with their postage stamp issues was that the Northern Germanic states (Silbergroschen) and the Southern Germanic states (Kreuzer) had different currencies. A total of 57 stamps were issued between 1852 and 1866 and were superseded by those of Prussia beginning 1.7.1867.

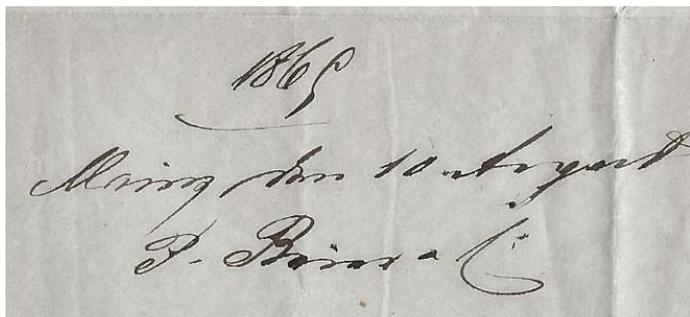
A commercial folded letter sent from Mainz to Kirchheimbolander, some 45 kms south.



- 4-ring 134 (Mainz) cancel along with Mainz CDS 11.8 but no year.
- 3 Kreuzer (southern district) imperforate stamp first issued in January 1862.
- Quantity issued 5,830,500
- Back transit CDS Bahnpost Mainz 11.8 and arrival stamp Kirchheimbolander 11.8



Content of letter states 1869





WÜRTTEMBERG



The Kingdom of Württemberg was a German state that existed between 1805 and 1918.

Under the reigns of: William I, Charles I and William II. Württemberg issued 281 stamps between 1851 and 1920 when it became part of the Weimar Republic.



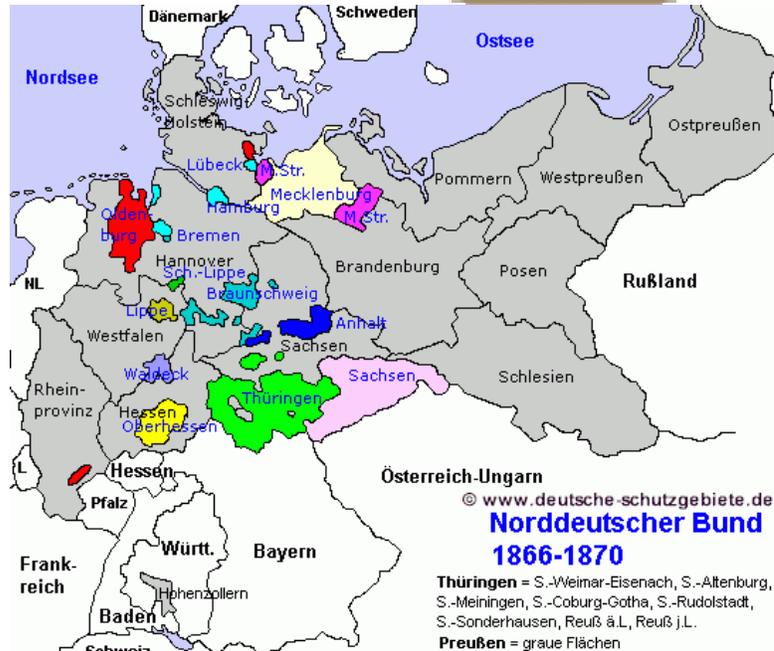
- Folded commercial letter sent from Ludwigsburg to Straßburg, some 160 kms to the west, with an 18 kreuzer invoice dated 9 December 1872.
- Ludwigsburg CDS dated 10.12 and Straßburg i.Elsass arrival backstamp.
- 3 kreuzer stamp (rouletted 10) issued in January 1869. Quantity: unknown.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION



The North German Confederation was made up of 22 states and consisted of some 30 million inhabitants 80% of whom lived in Prussia. During the Franco-Prussian war, it united with the southern German states of Baden, Bavaria and Württemberg to form the Deutsches Reich.

A total of 30 stamps were issued in 1868 and 1869



Commercial folded letter sent by Jonas Ochse from Coeln (Köln) to Troyes 17.6.70
 Coel 2-ring CDS cancel, blue Prusse Erquettines (?) transit stamp
 Back stamps: Paris à Bâle (transit) train and Troyes arrival 19 Juin 70
 Red **P.D.** “paid to delivery” marking.
 2x1 Groschen and ½ Groschen Norddeutscher Postbezirk. One missing stamp.