



## 1840 - Great Britain

Great Britain was the first country to adopt uniform postage rates prepaid by the sender. To accommodate this change, in May 1840, they introduced both a prepaid letter sheet designed by William Mulready and a gummed label that had to be cut from sheets by scissors. While the issuing authorities considered the curious labels a poor alternative to the prepaid letter sheets, the public did not. The Mulready design was so elaborate and misunderstood that it generated widespread ridicule and lampoon. In addition it was perceived by some as a monopolistic attempt to control the supply of stationery, and hence control the flow of information carried by the postal service. The elegantly engraved Penny Black label won the hearts of the public and began to be seen in the homes of millions on postal correspondence.

Success of this small label spurred other countries to design and issue adhesives for the prepayment of mail. Each countries' offering differed from the next by color, shape, size or design which fueled the imagination of the public. This fascination and easy access led to initial collecting of these miniature works of art as they spread across the globe.

The world's first postal adhesive for the prepayment of mail was introduced on May 6, 1840. Great Britain's leading security firm Perkins, Bacon & Petch produced the engraved labels that showed the profile of a young Queen Victoria. The adhesive was printed in black ink with the background containing finely engraved engine turnings. Maltese crosses decorated the upper corners. The stamp was appropriately named the "Penny Black".



August 19, 1840 London to Kentish Town

One penny adhesive used on a one penny Mulready lettersheet to pay the 1 ounce rate



The Stamp Bourse  
...trading curiosities

## Great Britain - continued



Provenance:  
Ing. Pietro Provera

August 3, 1840 Runcorn to Bakewell

One penny adhesive used to pay the domestic  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce rate for any distance

On May 8, 1840, two days after the Penny Black was issued, a two penny stamp in blue was issued and made available to the public for letters up to one ounce. As with its issued companion, the stamps did not show a country origin. Except for its denomination, the design was identical to the Penny Black and struck from the same die.

Provenance:  
Ing. Pietro Provera



November 10, 1840 Wellington-Somerset to Tiverton

Two penny adhesive used to pay the domestic  $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 ounce rate for any distance

## Great Britain - continued



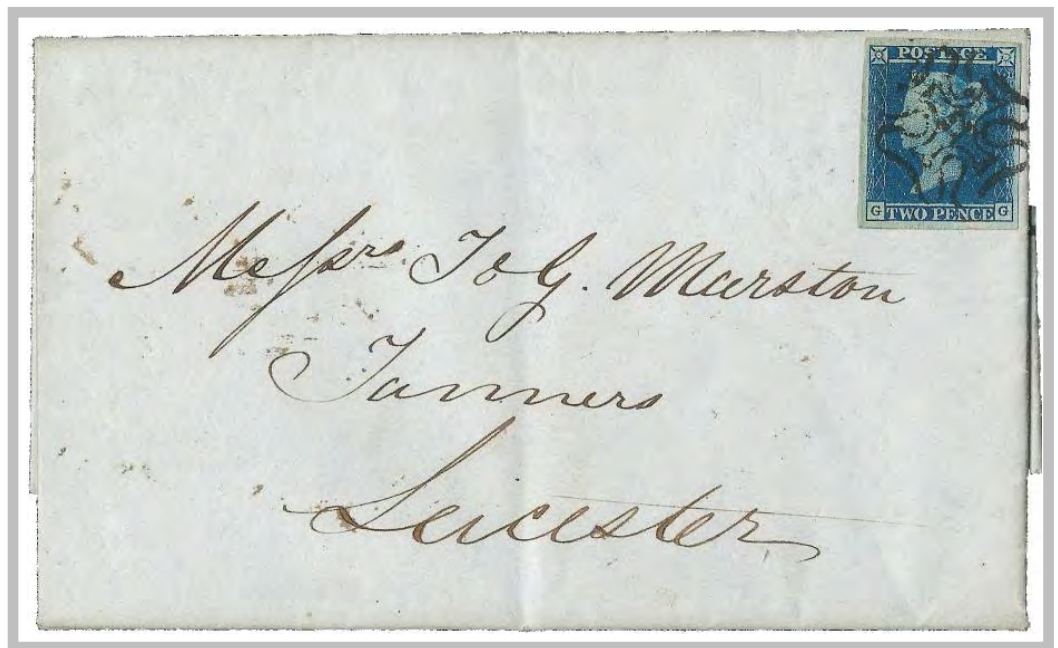
While the postage stamp was here to stay, black cancellations on the Penny Black proved difficult to see. As a result, the color of the one penny stamp was changed from black to red. The new label was dubbed the Penny Red and the design, with minor modifications, was used until 1879. Initially the same plates used to print the Penny Black were used to print the Penny Red.

July 3, 1851 Acklington to Newcastle Tyne

One penny adhesive used to pay the domestic ½ ounce rate for any distance

Provenance: David L. Jarrett

In 1841 when the ink was chosen for the new Penny red, a new blue ink was also chosen for the two penny adhesive. Since the new printed stamps looked the same as the original issue, it was decided to place a horizontal line at the top and bottom of the label so that the newer printings could be easily identified. As a result, by the end of 1841, the collectors of used postage stamps had four visually distinct varieties to assemble.



July 28, 1843 London to Leicester

Two penny adhesive used to pay the domestic ½-1 ounce rate for any distance

January 1842

**The World's First Published Account Regarding the New Mania of Collecting Old Stamps**

A satirical poem titled "A New Mania" composed by Col. Charles Sibthorp, caricatured at left, poked fun at early collectors and was published in *Punch*.

January 29, 1842 - *Punch, or the London Charivari*, Volume 2, No. 28 , page 76

"A New Mania...Has bitten the industriously-idle ladies of England. To enable a large wager to be gained, they have been indefatigable in their endeavours to collect old penny stamps..."

## 1842 - United States Private Mails

Prior to the advent of United States (U.S.) postal reform, independent local posts were established to provide pickup and delivery services to **intracity mail** patrons. During the same period, mail forwarding companies were also established to carry the mail on **intercity mail** routes. Some of these companies produced adhesive stamps for the prepayment of mail.



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(Greig's) City Dispatch Post in New York City was founded by Henry T. Windsor, a London merchant living in the U.S. who was inspired by the postal reforms of Great Britain. This intracity post made three daily mail deliveries for three cents per letter which could be pre-paid. The 3-cent stamp issued by Greig's City Dispatch Post in 1842 was **the first postal adhesive issued in the Western Hemisphere.**

Provenance: David L. Jarrett

May 20, (1842) folded letter to local New York City address (Greig's) City Dispatch Post (New York City), three cent adhesive pays the single rate within the service area. Marked "FREE" to indicate free to the recipient.

Hale & Company was founded in December 1843 and offered a variety of intercity mail-forwarding services. Hale & Co. issued adhesive stamps in an **octagonal format** with images of overlapping envelopes, some with pertinent information, such as the company's addresses in New York City and Boston. These adhesives were **the first stamps containing an 'advertising' motif.**



Provenance: John K. Boker, Jr.,  
Michael S. Gutman

(August 16, 1844) Boston, Massachusetts to New York City, NY  
Two Hale & Company 5c adhesives pay the double rate  
for route service from Boston to New York

## 1843 - Canton of Zürich

Prior to the adoption of a federal constitution, mail in Switzerland was administered by its cantons or city states. On May 1, 1843, the Canton of Zürich became the **second postal administration to issue adhesives**. The Zürich labels were lithographed with a monochrome image in 4 and 6 rappen denominations. They were the first postal adhesives to contain the name of the issuing entity.



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December 10, 1844 Zürich to Bauma  
6 rappen adhesive paying Cantonal Tax for letters to 1 loth (~ ½ ounce)  
within the canton

## 1843 - Brazil

Johann Jakob Sturz, Brazilian consul in various European capitals, saw firsthand the benefits of postal reform. He enthusiastically urged the adoption of reforms in Brazil. On August 1, 1843, Brazil became the **third country to issue adhesives**. They featured an elaborate black engraved background with large numerals reflecting postage rates in denominations of 30, 60 and 90 réis. Similar to the labels from Great Britain, they contained no issuing country identification and soon were dubbed **Olho-de-Boi or Bull's Eye**.



Provenance:  
Dr. Norman Hubbard,  
Erivan K. Haub

June 15, 1844 São João del Rei to Rio de Janeiro  
60 réis adhesive prepaying the 4/8 ounce inland rate

1843 - Canton of Geneva



Geneva became the **fourth nation-state in the world to issue postage stamps**, after Great Britain, Zurich and Brazil. The first adhesive issued was a 10 centime(c) stamp that could be separated and used as two 5c stamps. The stamp facilitated both the 5c rate for city letters and the 10c rate for cantonal mail between towns or cities. This unique adhesive design was quickly dubbed the **“Double Geneva”**.

August 28, 1844 Geneva to Vernier

10c “Double Geneva” paying the intercity Cantonal rate up to 1 ounce

In early 1845, the General Council reduced postal rates to 5 centimes(c) for a letter up to 1 ounce **for the entire canton**. A new adhesive was designed and issued of similar design to half of the “Double Geneva” but slightly larger and bearing the inscription “Port Cantonal”. As with the preceding issue, the lithographer, Charles Schmid, printed the stamps in black on green paper.



January 15, 1847 letter to local Geneva address

5c paying the Cantonal rate up to 1 ounce



October 28, 1850 letter to local Geneva address

5c paying the Cantonal rate up to 1 ounce

Prior to the issuance of Swiss federal postal adhesives, the Canton of Geneva issued its last stamps beginning in 1849. A 4c label, slightly oblong, with Swiss arms surrounded by a posthorn, was followed by a 5c stamp of similar design. These stamps were used during a transitional period when the Cantons were being united to form a single postal system but still reconciling different currency issues.

## 1845 - Canton of Basel

On July 1, 1845, the Canton of Basel issued its first postal adhesive designed by architect Melchior Berri. This 2 ½ rappen (rp) stamp featured a white dove embossed on a field of red carrying a letter in its beak on a background in black, crimson and blue. This postal label was **the world's first embossed stamp and the first to incorporate three different ink colors** in the design. It was soon nicknamed the "Dove of Basel" or "Basel Dove".



November 22, 1849 Basel to local address  
2 ½ rp adhesive paying the local rate within the city of Basel  
to 1 loth (~ ½ ounce)

## 1845 - United States Postmaster Provisionals

While the Congressional Act of March 3, 1845, standardized U.S. postal rates for the prepayment of mail, it did not authorize the Post Office Department to issue postal adhesives. As a result several local postmasters, including John Wilmer, the St. Louis Postmaster, issued their own postage stamps for the prepayment of mail. The basic design of the St. Louis stamps displayed the Great Seal of Missouri which depicts two bears holding the state coat of arms. These adhesives, soon dubbed the “**St. Louis Bears**” were one of the **world’s first stamps** to feature an animal as the predominant subject.



Provenance:  
Warren H. Colson  
Alfred F. Lichtenstein  
Louise Boyd Dale

December 23, 1845 St. Louis to Jefferson City, Missouri  
5c St. Louis Postmaster Provisional paying the under 300 mile rate

1847 - United States Government Issues

After allowing local postmasters and private mail carriers to produce postal labels for several years, the federal government issued its first adhesives on July 1, 1847. The 5 cent(c) stamp printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson of New York, NY was designed for prepayment of the letter rate for under 300 miles and featured an engraved image of Benjamin Franklin, the First Postmaster General of the U.S.



August 23, 1849 Huntsville to Montgomery, Alabama  
5 cents adhesive prepaying the under 300 mile rate

Provenance: A. K. McDaniel,  
Ernest R. Ackerman, Henry C. Gibson, Jr.,  
J. Waldo Sampson, Charles F. Meroni,  
Marc Haas, Dr. Leonard Kapiloff,  
John R. Boker, Jr., William H. Gross



July 17, 1847 New York to Belleville, Canada West  
10 cents adhesive prepaying the over 300 mile rate to the Canada border

The 10 cent(c) stamp, engraved with the image of George Washington, was issued for the prepayment of the letter rate over 300 miles. The first two federal postal stamps of the U.S. not only memorialized two of America's revered founding fathers, they were the **world's first adhesives to display the likenesses of individuals who were not current heads-of-state.**

Provenance: Jonathan W. Rose,  
Joseph Hackmey, William H. Gross

## 1847 - Mauritius

A remote island in the Indian Ocean, Mauritius was the **first British colony to produce and issue adhesive postage stamps**. In late 1847, one penny and two pence engraved adhesives of primitive design were released to the public. These two local labels mimicked those of Great Britain with the profile of Queen Victoria facing left. The original design read POST OFFICE at left but was replaced with POST PAID in 1848.



Provenance:  
Collection  
'Adamastor'

October 6, 1850 Port Louis local use  
One penny adhesive prepaying the local penny rate for ½ ounce

1849 - France

France issued its first series of postal adhesives beginning on January 1, 1849. The stamps were the **first to depict an allegorical figure**, Ceres, in the design. During an 18 month period, France introduced six adhesives of different colors in this design: a 20centime(c), 1franc (fr), 40c, 25c, 15c, and 10c. The 1fr stamp was originally issued in pale red (vermilion) but it was soon changed to a darker shade (carmine) because the tint was deemed too close to that of the 40c adhesive.

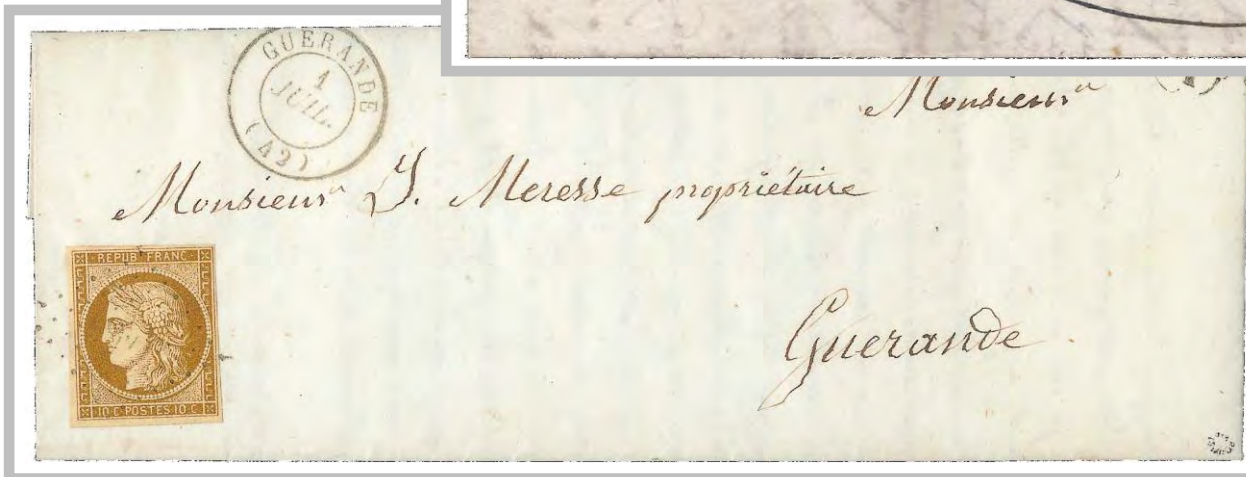
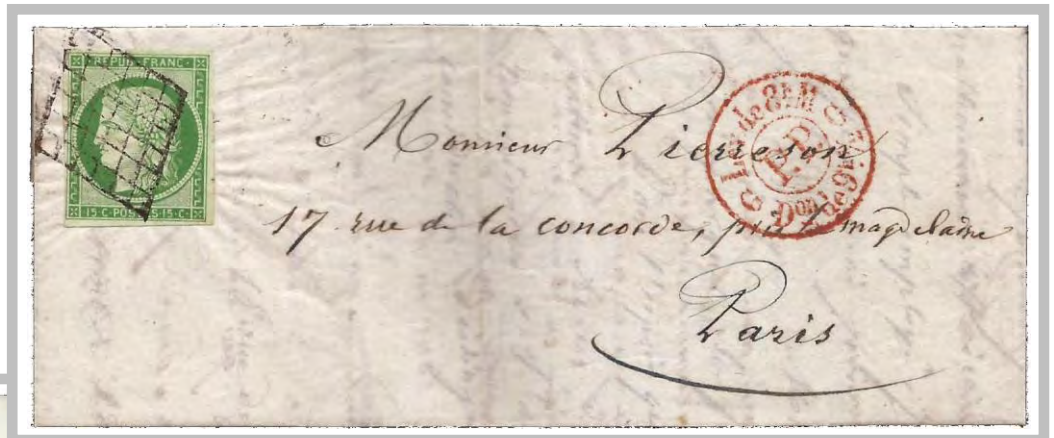


Provenance: Collection 'Mont-Blanc'

June 24, 1852 Pau, France to Rawalpindi, India  
1fr adhesive paying the domestic 15-100 gram letter rate to the port at Marseille for foreign destination

September 23, 1850  
Paris local use

15c adhesive paying the local letter rate within Paris only, to 7.5 grams



July 1, 1854  
Guerande local use

10c adhesive paying the local letter rate, other than Paris, to 7.5 grams

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## 1849 - Belgium



After several years of overly cautious deliberation, a royal decree announced the availability of Belgium adhesives on July 1, 1849. 10 centime(c) and 20c stamps were released on that date in brown and blue respectively. They featured the image of King Leopold I with a prominent epaulet displayed on his right shoulder. As a result these issues were dubbed **the "Epaulettes"**.

August 3, 1849 Berzele, rural box origin, to Steenhuysen  
10c centimes adhesive paying the domestic rate  
for distance to 30 km to 10 grams

Postal historians note that when these two stamps began to circulate in Europe, the design became regarded as the most attractive of any stamp issued. The image of the King is prominent and there are no additional elements of distraction. Belgium's first postal adhesives also followed the British tradition and did not have the name of the county displayed in the design.



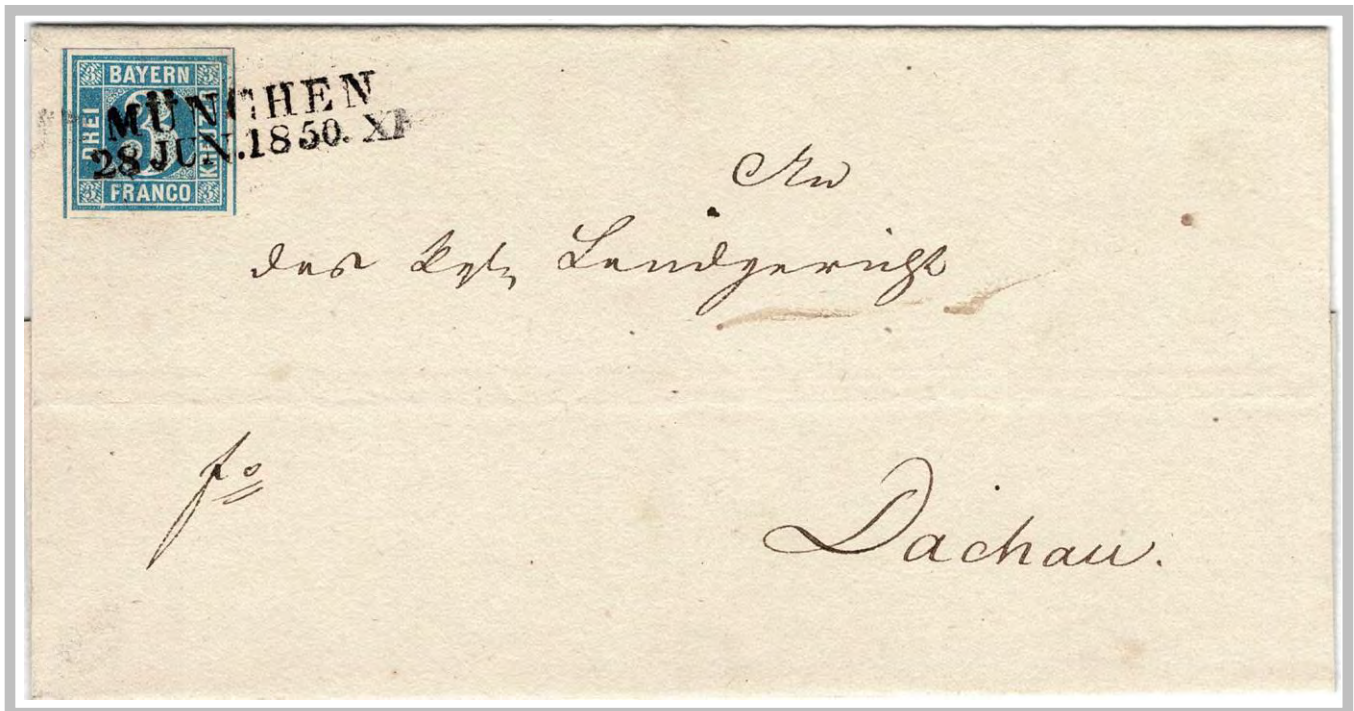
November 20, 1849 Gand to Iseghem  
20c centimes adhesive paying the domestic rate  
for distance over 30 km to 10 grams

1849 - Bavaria



The German States were a collection of independent kingdoms and duchies who administered their own mail prior to unification. On November 1, 1849, Bavaria became the **first old German State and eighth country to issue postal adhesives**. It was the third country to use a numeral design, preceded by Zürich and Brazil. The stamps were issued in denominations of 1kreutzer (kr), 3kr and 6kr in black, blue and brown respectively.

November 2, 1849 Bamberg to Regensburg  
6 kreutzer adhesive paying the domestic letter rate over 12 miles to 1 loth



June 28, 1850 Munich to Dachau  
3 kreutzer adhesive paying the domestic letter rate under 12 miles to 1 loth

Prior to the release of the New South Wales stamps and less than ten years after the introduction of the Penny Black, ten governmental entities had produced 40 different postal adhesives. The coming years would see a rapid increase in the production, use and proliferation of stamps worldwide, thus exposing additional millions to these curiosities.



### 1850 - New South Wales

New South Wales was the first area in **Australia** to be settled by Europeans, the first to operate a postal service and the **first to issue postal adhesives**. The postage stamps of the colony were issued on January 1, 1850. These labels depicted the Territorial Seal of New South Wales, a view of Sydney and its harbor. Denominations in one penny, two pence and three pence in red, blue and green respectively were issued.



Provenance: John R. Boker Jr.,  
Bernard D. Forster,  
Dale Forster, Richard C. Frajola

November 28, 1851 to local Sydney address

One penny adhesive pays the 'single' or town letter rate up to ½ ounce

## New South Wales - continued



April 26, 1850 Sydney to Wollongong  
Two pence adhesive paying the letter rate to ½ ounce



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April 27, 1853 Sydney to London, England  
Three pence adhesive paying the outbound ship letter rate to ½ ounce

## 1850 - Spain

In late 1849 Queen Isabella II decreed that the use of postal stamps would be effective January 1, 1850. Spain's first adhesives were issued on that date and featured a profile of the Queen. She was the third European monarch to be depicted on postal labels, following Victoria of Great Britain and Leopold of Belgium. Spanish stamps were the **first to feature the year of issue (1850) in its design** and like Great Britain, they did not identify their adhesives with a country name. Five stamps in denominations of 6 cuartos, 12 cuartos, 5 reales, 6 reales and 10 reales of different colors were issued in 1850.



February 19, 1850 Valencia to Orense  
6 cuartos adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to ¼ ounce



September 19, 1851 Cabeza del Buey to Mérida  
Seis (6) cuartos paying the domestic letter rate to ¼ ounce

Engraver Bartolome Tomas Coromina, the artist responsible for the 1850 Spanish issue, warned that forgeries to defraud the post office were likely. Ninety days after the introduction of postage stamps in Spain, envelopes were discovered at Alicante bearing forgeries of Spain's first adhesive. As a result, Spain redesigned their adhesives yearly through 1855. On January 1, 1851 a series of new six labels were issued with a new portrait of Queen Isabella facing right.

## Spain - continued

On January 1, 1852, a series of new adhesives were released for use with a new portrait of Queen Isabella facing left. Five stamps in denominations of 6 cuartos, 12 cuartos, 2 reales, 5 reales and 6 reales of different colors were issued **all inscribed "1852"**.

Provenance:  
Erivan K. Haub



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January 1, 1852 Valencia to Madrid  
6c adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce on the **First Day of Use**



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January 1, 1854 Seville to Mérida  
6c adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce on the **First Day of Use**

On January 1, 1854, a series of new stamps was released for use featuring the Spanish Coat of Arms. Seven adhesives of different colors were issued **all inscribed "1854"**. The denominations were: 2 cuartos, 4 cuartos, 6 cuartos, 1 reales, 2 reales, 5 reales and 6 reales .

Provenance:  
Erivan K. Haub

1850 - Victoria

The British Crown Colony of Victoria issued its first stamps in January 1850. They were designed, engraved and printed entirely within the colony. Each was engraved by Thomas Ham of Melbourne, and featured a half-length portrait of Queen Victoria seated, crowned and bejeweled, holding orb and scepter.



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Provenance:  
Charles Lathrop Pack,  
Collection "Besançon"

March 11, 1854 Melbourne to local address  
One penny adhesive paying the local letter rate within the city



April 18, 1850 Geelong to Melbourne  
Two pence adhesive paying the letter rate any distance per ½ ounce

Dubbed the “**Half Lengths**”, three values were produced: 1d in orange-vermilion, 2d in lilac, and 3d in blue. Visually, this design was unlike the typical profile used by British stamps of the time showing the monarch seated on her throne. The Half-Length design was used through 1855 with many different printings.

Provenance: Dr. R.N. Wawn,  
James R.W. Purves,  
Rodney Perry

## 1850 - Switzerland

With the reconstitution of Switzerland as a federal state in 1848, a centralized postal service was founded and the authority for the mail passed from the cantons to the Confederation. The first Swiss postal regulations divided the country into four *rayons* (radius). A special lower rate applied to letters mailed within a municipality.



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Provenance: Gavin Fryer

November 18, 1851 Lausanne to Moudon  
5 Rp adhesive paying the Rayon I distance letter rate to ½ loth



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April 10, 1853 Altorf to Luzern  
10 Rp adhesive paying the Rayon II distance letter rate to ½ loth

These adhesive issues known as the “**Rayons**” were produced in the following denominations: 2½ rappen (Rp) for local use, 5 Rp for Rayon I distance (9.6 km), 10 Rp for Rayon II distance (48 km) and 15 Rp for Rayon III distance (192km). The *rayons* were defined by the distance or road transport time (whichever was higher) between sender and recipient.

Switzerland - continued



Provenance:  
Silvain Wyler

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May 24, 1854 Keiserstuhl to Zuzach  
5 Rp adhesive paying the Rayon I distance letter rate to ½ loth



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September 24, 1852 Basel to Bern  
15 Rp adhesive paying the Rayon III distance letter rate to ½ loth

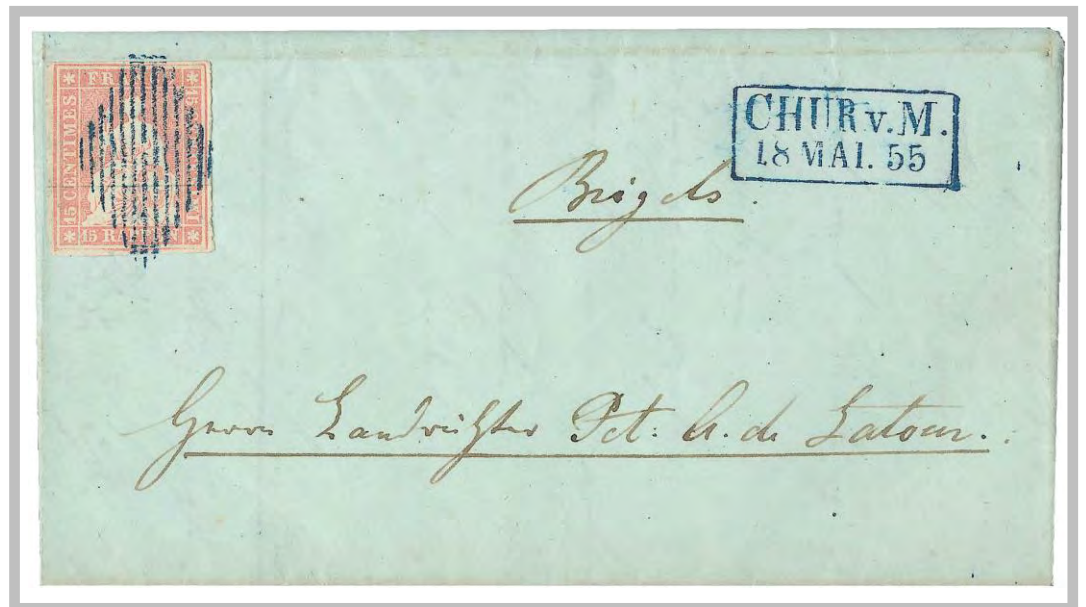
## Switzerland - continued



In 1852 the Swiss unified the country's currency replacing a multitude of former specie. With that move new postal labels were issued in October 1854, and all preceding stamps were declared invalid. The new design featured the allegorical figure "Helvetia".

December 2, 1855 Fribourg to Romont  
10 Rp adhesive paying the Rayon II distance letter rate to ½ loth

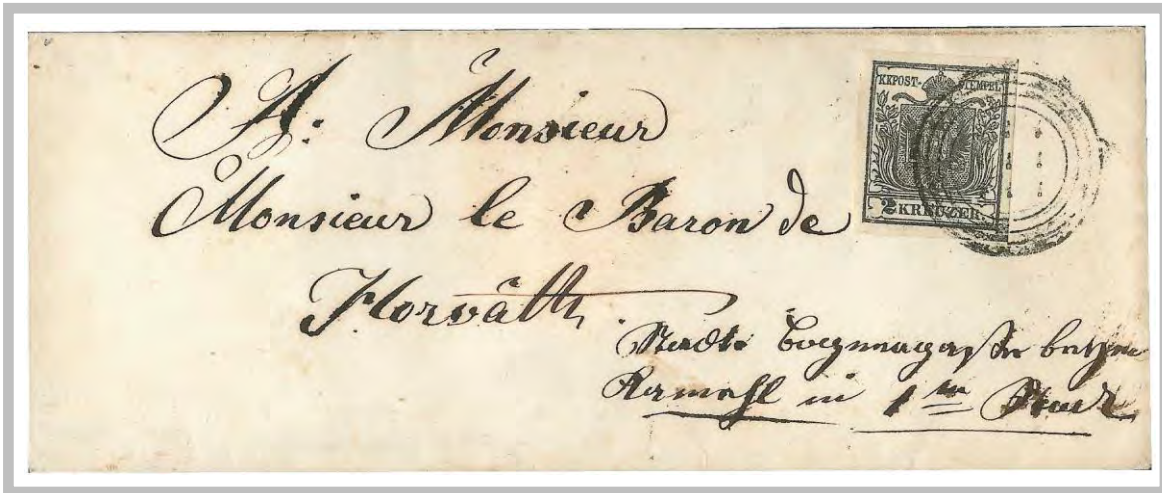
These issues known as "Seated Helvetias" were the first stamps to deal with the multiple languages of Switzerland; in addition to the word "FRANCO" at the top, the other three sides listed the denomination in rappen, centimes, and (Italian) centesimi. Denominations of 5 rappen (Rp), 10 rappen, 15 rappen, 20 rappen and 40 rappen were originally produced.



May 18, 1855 Chur to Brigels  
15 Rp adhesive paying the Rayon III distance letter rate to ½ loth

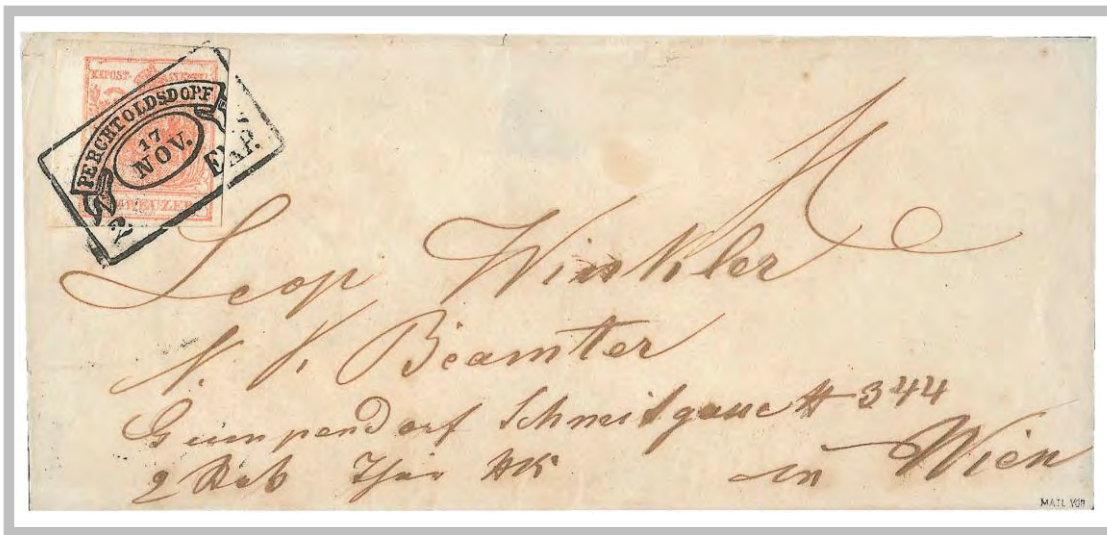
## 1850 - Austria

The Austrian Empire first issued adhesives on June 1, 1850, displaying a coat of arms under the text "KK Post-Stempel". On that date five stamps were introduced for the prepayment of mail in a variety of colors: 1 kreuzer(kr) (yellow), 2kr (black), 3kr (red), 6 kr (brown) and 9kr (blue). The word Austria does not appear on the stamps, as **the issue served the whole of central Europe**, what is now the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Ukraine, Romania, South Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, northern Italy, Austria and Hungary.



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December 14, 1850 Vienna to local address  
2 kreuzer adhesive paying the district letter rate for any weight



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November 17, 1854 Perchtoldsdorf to Vienna  
3 kreuzer adhesive paying the 10 meilen (74.2km) rate per loth



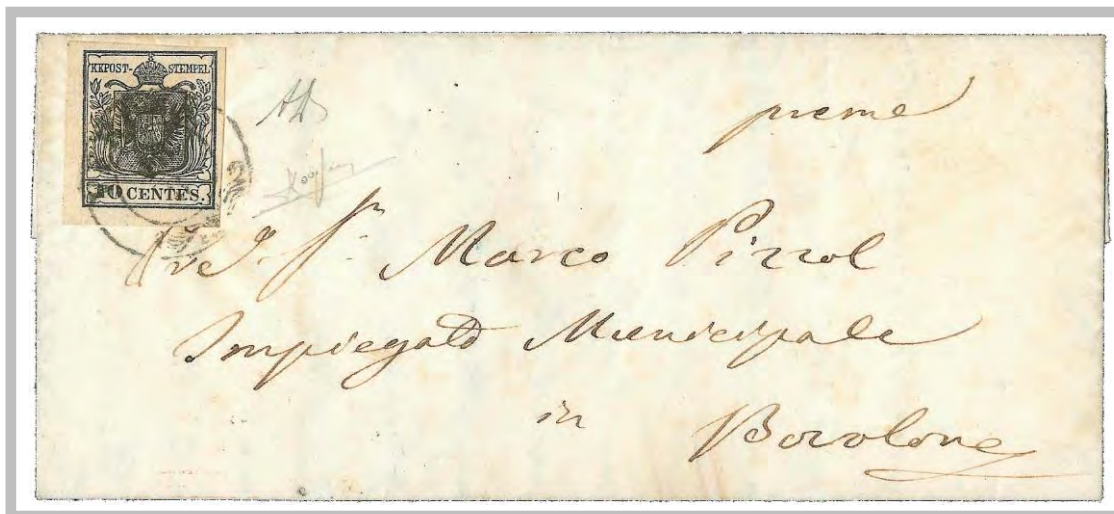
## 1850 - Lombardy - Venetia

On June 1, 1850 the Austrian Empire released a series of stamps specifically for use in the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia (L-V). These adhesives were of identical design as the Austrian counterparts featuring the Habsburg Coat of Arms; however, because Lombardy-Venetia used a different currency from the rest of the empire, the stamps were issued in denominations of 5, 10, 15, 30 and 45 centesimi.



May 9, 1857 Legnago to Longarone

5 centes adhesive paying the printed circular rate any distance per loth



August 18, 1854 Verona to Borolone

10 centes adhesive paying the district letter rate for any weight

## Lombardy - Venetia - continued



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June 27, 1850 Rovigo to Dolo  
15 centes adhesive paying the letter rate to 10 meilen per loth

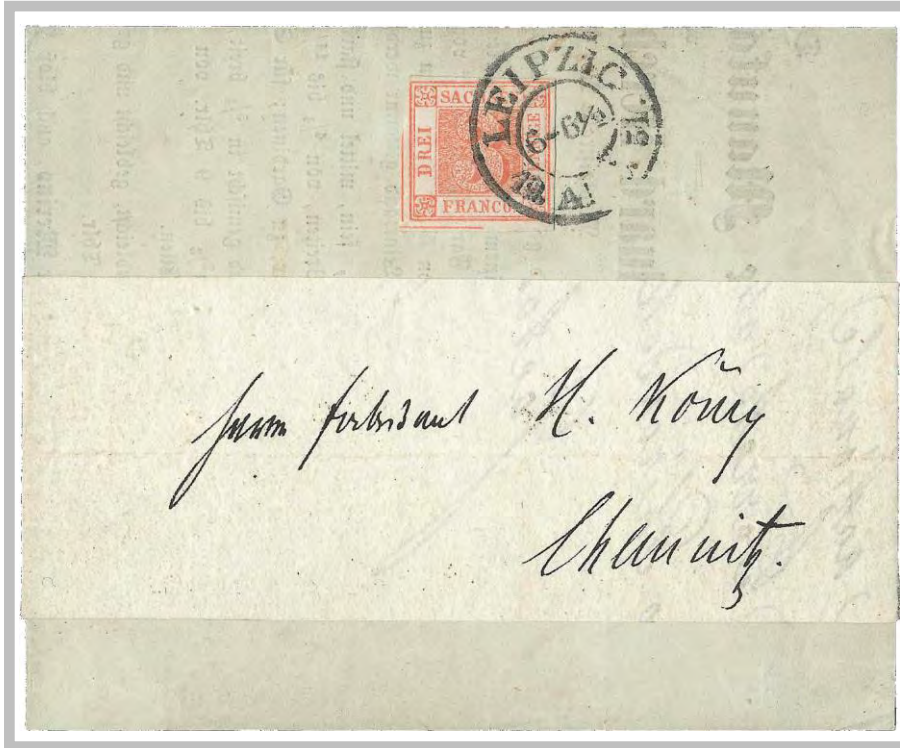


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January 2, 1851 Venice to Klagenfurt, Austria  
45 centes adhesive paying the letter rate over 20 meilen per loth

Provenance:  
Dr. Anton Jerger

## 1850 - Saxony



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April 12, 1851 Leipzig to Chemnitz  
3 pfennig adhesive paying the district printed matter rate to 1 loth

The Kingdom of Saxony was **the second among the German States, after Bavaria, to issue an adhesive for the prepayment of mail.** On July 1, 1850 a 3 pfennig stamp, square in shape displaying a large numeral "3" at center, became valid. Its denomination coincided with that of the banded printed matter rate and while multiples could be used to pay the three district letter rates, most were used on banded correspondence.

Provenance:  
"Tomasini Collection"

On July 29, 1851, the previous issue was replaced by an adhesive of similar value but with a new motif, the Saxon Coat of Arms in green print on white paper. This new stamp, also prepaying the rate for printed matter, was used until it was replaced with a new design in 1864.



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October 18, 1852 Sebnitz to Pegau  
3 pfennig adhesive paying the district printed matter rate to 1 loth

1850 - British Guiana

British Guiana released two different adhesive designs between 1850 and 1852. On July 1, 1850, four labels of crude local design resembling a circular postmark with different denominations printed in the center were issued. After postal rates were simplified in 1852, the colony released a second design in denominations of 1 cent and 4 cents. The local lithograph adhesive was the **first government issued stamp to feature a sailing ship** in its design.



Provenance:  
Robert V.B. Emmons

April 2, 1853 Berbice to Demerara  
4 cents adhesive pays the domestic letter rate

## 1850 - Prussia



The Kingdom of Prussia issued its first postal adhesives on November 15, 1850. This release coincided with it joining the Austro-German Postal Union (GAPU) which simplified postal rates between the Austrian Empire and the German states. Four stamps were issued on that date: 6 pfenning ( $\frac{1}{2}$  silbergroschen) red-orange, 12 pfenning (1 sg) black on rose, 24 pfenning (2 sg) black on blue, 36 pfenning (3 sg) black on yellow.

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September 19, 1859 Coelin to local address  
6 pfenning ( $\frac{1}{2}$ sg) adhesive paying the local letter rate to 1 loth



September 26, 1851 Prussian P.O. in Bremen to Steinschönau, Böhmen  
3 silbergroschen adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate over 20 meilen per loth

1850 - Hanover



The Kingdom of Hanover issued its first postal adhesives on December 1, 1850. The 1 gutegroshen stamp featured the Hanoverian Coat of Arms, with the denomination in the center. This postal label was only valid for letters mailed within the Kingdom which included Hanover post offices abroad

June 14, 1852 Herzlacke to Meppen  
1 gutegroshen adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to 1 loth

Several months later on July 21, 1851, the Kingdom of Hanover issued stamps for foreign mail service. These adhesives satisfied three letter rates per loth: 1/30 thaler up to 10 miles printed on pink paper, 1/15 thaler up to 20 miles printed on bluish paper and 1/10 thaler over 20 miles printed on yellow paper.



September 1, 1852 Glandorf to Münster, Prussia  
1/30 thaler adhesive paying the foreign letter rate to 10 meilen to 1 loth

Prior to release of Sardinia's postal adhesives, the total stamp producing countries had increased to 21 with a total of approximately 92 collectible adhesives available to the public.



1851 - Sardinia



The Italian States were a collection of independent kingdoms and duchies who generally administered their own mail prior to unification in 1861. Sardinia became the **first of these kingdoms to issue postal adhesives**. The profile of King Victor Emmanuel II is depicted on these stamps in denominations of 5 centesimi (c), 20c and 40c. The Italian States of Modena, Parma, Romagna, Naples, Sicily, Tuscany and the Papal States all issued adhesive stamps prior to 1861.

May 17, 1853 Canobbio to Intra

20 centesimi adhesive pays the domestic letter rate within the kingdom to 7.5 grams

## Sardinia - continued

On October 1, 1853, the original three denominations of adhesives were reissued. The stamp design was entirely embossed in albino on colored paper. These issues were the **world's first solely embossed stamp** without the use of printing. However, these monochrome stamps made the King's image hard to see and they were not well received.



June 10, 1854 Torino to Chiusa de Cuneo  
20c adhesive paying the domestic letter rate per 7.5 grams

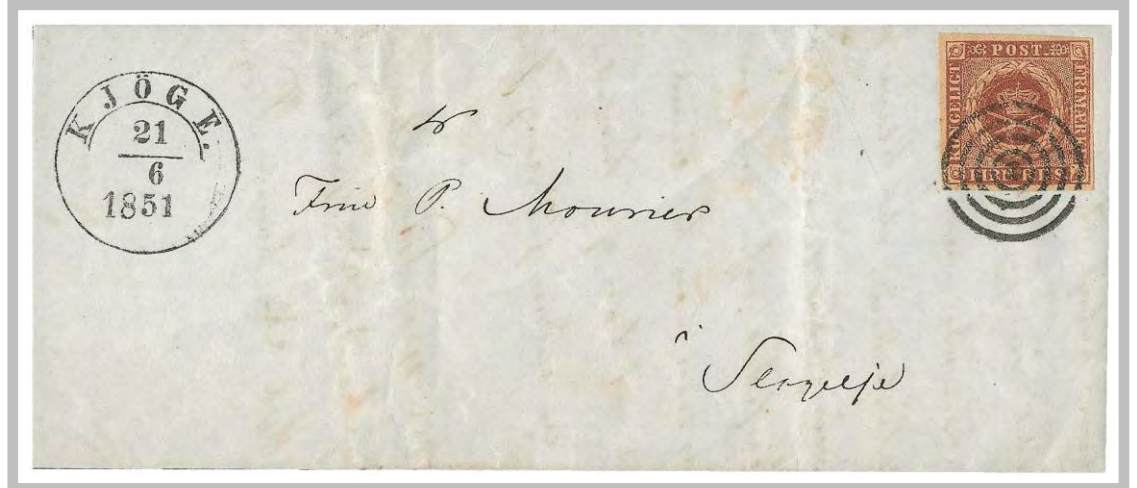


December 23, 1855 Pontestura to Vercelli  
20c adhesive paying the domestic letter rate per 7.5 grams

In an effort to correct the unsatisfactory appearance of the 1853 adhesives, stamps were reprinted in April 1854 by a very complicated process. The frame was lithographed in color on white paper and the king's profile was embossed as before in such a way that it showed up on the white oval.

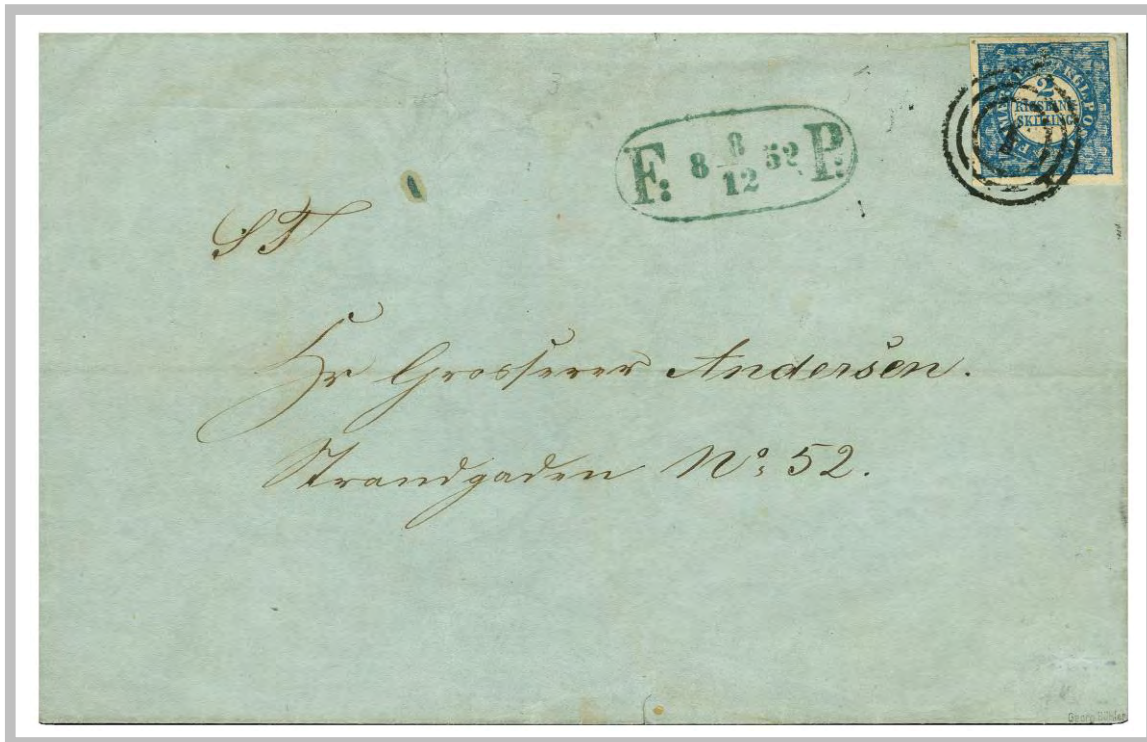
1851 - Denmark

On April 1, 1851, Denmark issued its first postal adhesive. This 4 rigsbankskilling (rs) stamp featured the royal insignia of a crown, scepter and sword. It was designed to pay the letter rate per loth, and was restricted to use in Denmark proper at that time.



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June 21, 1851 Kjøge to Slagelse  
4rs adhesive paying the letter rate per loth within the kingdom



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December 8, 1852 Copenhagen to local address  
2rs adhesive paying the local letter rate for any weight

A month later on May 1, 1851, the kingdom issued a 2rs adhesive for use on local mail. The stamp was printed in blue and showed the value indication in the center, with the crown above and posthorn below. The use of postal labels was still voluntary at the time and the local fee of 2rs was valid whether stamps were used or the fee paid in cash.

Provenance:  
Erivan K. Haub

## 1851 - Tuscany

The Grand Duchy of Tuscany issued its first postal stamps on April 1, 1851, **the second of the Italian States** to do so. The Tuscany Postal Administration had studied the Austria experience and collaborated with them regarding production details. The design of the adhesives featured the "Etruria Lion with Crown" or "**Marzocco**". The crowned lion is shown sitting on a small pedestal resting a paw on a shield with the fleur-de-lis. Sharing a common design and differing only in color, the stamps were first issued in denominations of 1 and 2 soldi(s), and 2, 4, and 6 crazie(cr). Several months later on July 1, 1851, 1 and 9 crazie adhesives were also released with the same design..



June 13, 1854 Firenze to San Giovanni  
1cr adhesive paying the printed circular rate

Tuscany - continued

July 2, 1852  
Livorno to Massa Carrara

2cr adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to 40 miglia to 12 denari weight



E



March 14, 1853  
Pomerance to Pontremoli

4cr adhesive paying the domestic letter rate of 40 to 80 miglia to 12 denari weight



E

September 15, 1855 Livorno to Genova, Sardinia "VIA DI/SARZANA"  
6cr adhesive paying the foreign letter rate over 150km per 17.6 denari weight

1851 - Canada

In 1851 the British Crown transferred postal authority to the Province of Canada who issued a three pence stamp on April 23, 1851, for domestic mail. It was the **first postage stamp that prominently featured an animal** in its natural setting, the industrious Canadian beaver that was evocative of the colony's beginnings. Additional denominations of six pence and twelve pence, with images of the British monarchs, were issued in following months.



October 15, 1854 posted as a loose letter on steamboat route to Kingston  
Three pence adhesive paying the domestic letter rate per ½ ounce

*Provenance: Vincent G. Greene,  
Daniel Cantor, Richard C. Frajola*

On May 12, 1851, Canada issued a six pence adhesive for prepayment of mail to the United States. The U.S.-Canada postal treaty of April 1851 provided for prepayment of full postage from the country of origin to the destination, eliminating the need for "paid to the lines" part prepayment and collection. The stamp printed by the New York firm of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, featured the image of H.R.H. Prince Albert. This was the **world's first postal adhesive to feature the image of a royal consort**.



June 9, 1851 Cornwall to Portland, Maine, U.S.  
Six pence adhesive paying the foreign treaty letter rate  
to the United States per ½ ounce

E

March 1851

The World's First Published Solicitation to Collectors of Used Postage Stamps

Published in the classified ad section of London's penny weekly, the Family Herald, Mr. T.H. Smith makes an appeal "To Collectors of the Used Postage Stamps" to exchange used postal stamps for the purpose of decorating his library on Golden Square. This brief solicitation provides evidence that the collecting mania was alive and well.

FAMILY HERALD

A Domestic Magazine of

Useful Information and Amusement.



IT IS HAPPY FOR A PERSON TO LEAVE THE WORLD POSSESSED OF EVERY ONE'S LOVE.

HAPPINESS AND RICHES ARE TWO THINGS, AND VERY SELDOM MEET TOGETHER.

No. 411.—VOL. VIII.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 22, 1851.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

The gaudy tulip's colours rare In majesty may bloom; The blushing rose may scent the air, At eve, with her perfume; The Lily's chalice, pure as snow Is fair to see, but yet Give me, of all the flowers that bloom, The little Violet.

THE OLD

A snug bachelor's domicile was the neat two-story dwelling, where lived Jonathan Everleigh, Esq., a hale, hearty bachelor, on the shady side of forty. With him lived his nephew, Walter Lincoln, and a faithful old African, rejoicing in the name of Tunis, as black and shining as Day and Martin's best, and who, in his own individual capacity, constituted the factotum of the establishment—namely, cook, scullion, chamber-maid, and waiter—for Mr.

POSTAGE STAMPS.—To Collectors of the Used Postage Stamps.—The Advertiser will give (in exchange) four of the Penny Red Stamps for one Oval off the Stamped Envelopes. Any Person that would collect a few would be kindly thanked by T. H. S., Smith's Library, 20, Brewer Street, Golden Square. N.B.—The Ceiling of the Library is decorated with 80,000 Postage Stamps, in various Devices, and admitted to be the most novel Ceiling in England. MR. HAYES, the Old Established Surgeon-Dentist and Copper, late of May's Buildings and Bedford Square, respectfully informs his Patients and

ough he greatly relished the ring him after dinner, when, own and slippers, he yielded game at all-fours, with his

mis usually stood by upon with much apparent interest, 'advantage. Sometimes he take care—young Massa he not get off dis time—hi—

a surprise, that one so fond d have omitted that choicest d to draw down, not only a Mr. Everleigh into such an to withdraw from the scene. supplied with the new pub- lished a little into politics, sake of the argument. friends lived very cosy and happy times could not last. the name of woman-kind, elor like Mr. Everleigh has

and, after allowing himself to be unmercifully beaten by his uncle at his favourite games, would plead some trifling errand or engagement to absent himself, leaving his respected relative to while away the hours alone. These absences grew more and more frequent; still Mr. Everleigh contented himself with remarking—"You were out late last night, Walter?" or, "I waited until ten for you, boy!" to which Walter would answer hurriedly, and in much confusion, that he was very sorry, but he had a particular engagement, or was un-

POSTAGE STAMPS.—To Collectors of the Used Postage Stamps.—The Advertiser will give (in exchange) four of the Penny Red Stamps for one Oval off the Stamped Envelopes. Any Person that would collect a few would be kindly thanked by T. H. S., Smith's Library, 20, Brewer Street, Golden Square. N.B.—The Ceiling of the Library is decorated with 80,000 Postage Stamps, in various Devices, and admitted to be the most novel Ceiling in England.

original advertisement enlarged at 175%

## 1851 - Baden

The treaty establishing the German-Austria Postal Union (GAPU) required each member to introduce adhesives for the prepayment of mail as soon as possible. On May 1, 1851, Baden became a member of the GAPU and issued stamps that day which were **patterned after the numeral designs of Bavaria**. Denominations of 1 kreuzer(kr), 3kr, 6kr and 9kr were printed in black on buff, yellow-orange, blue and rose paper respectively.



October 13, 1851 Waldshut to Heitersheim  
1kr adhesive paying the domestic printed matter rate per loth any distance



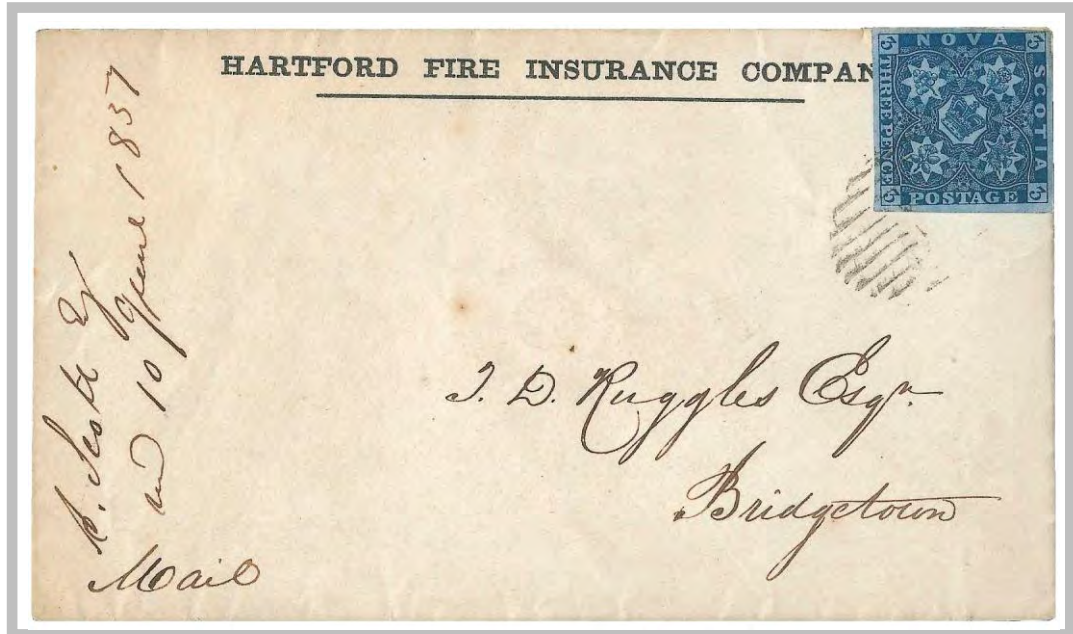
August 3, 1851 Mannheim to Zweibrücken, Bavaria  
6kr adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate 10 to 20 meilen per loth

1851 - Nova Scotia

Prior to 1851, Nova Scotia's mail was controlled by London's general post office. However, a few years prior to that date several laws were passed in both England and Nova Scotia that gave the colony control of its postal service. As a stamp-issuing entity, Nova Scotia released three adhesives on September 1, 1851, in denominations of 3 pence(p), 6p and 1 shilling. The **world's first diamond shaped stamps** were printed by Perkins, Bacon & Petch in London and featured crown and heraldic emblems.

June 6, 1857  
Halifax to  
Bridgetown

Three pence adhesive  
paying the domestic  
letter rate per ½ ounce



Provenance:  
Frederick R. Mayer

E



October 25, 1851  
Halifax to  
New York, N.Y., U.S.

Six pence adhesive  
paying the foreign  
treaty letter rate  
to the United States  
per ½ ounce

Provenance:  
Alfred H. Caspary,  
Frederick R. Mayer,  
Bernard D. Forster

E

1851 - New Brunswick

Similar to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick gained postal autonomy in 1851. On September 6, 1851, three adhesives were released of similar design to the contemporary set issued by Nova Scotia, varying only in the provincial name and color. Also printed by Perkins, Bacon & Petch in London, denominations of 3 pence(p), 6p and 1 shilling were issued and continued in use until 1860.

August 6, 1856  
St. John  
to Moncton

Three pence  
adhesive paying  
the domestic  
letter rate  
per ½ ounce



October 25, 1851  
Halifax to  
Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania, U.S.

Six pence adhesive  
paying the foreign  
treaty letter rate  
to the United States  
per ½ ounce



Provenance:  
Alfred F. Lichtenstien  
Louise Dale Boyd  
Warren Wilkinson

## 1851 - Hawaii - The Missionaries

The Kingdom of Hawaii issued three adhesives on October 1, 1851. The stamps from this exotic and remote Pacific Island were printed by letterpress and found on early Christian missionary mail. They were of numeral design framed inside a printer's ornament with their denomination spelled out at the bottom. Two cents, five cents and 13 cents stamps were printed in blue for use on letters mailed to the U.S.



Provenance:  
William H. Crocker,  
Adm. Frederic R. Harris,  
Maurice Burrus,  
Thurston Twigg-Smith,  
William H. Gross

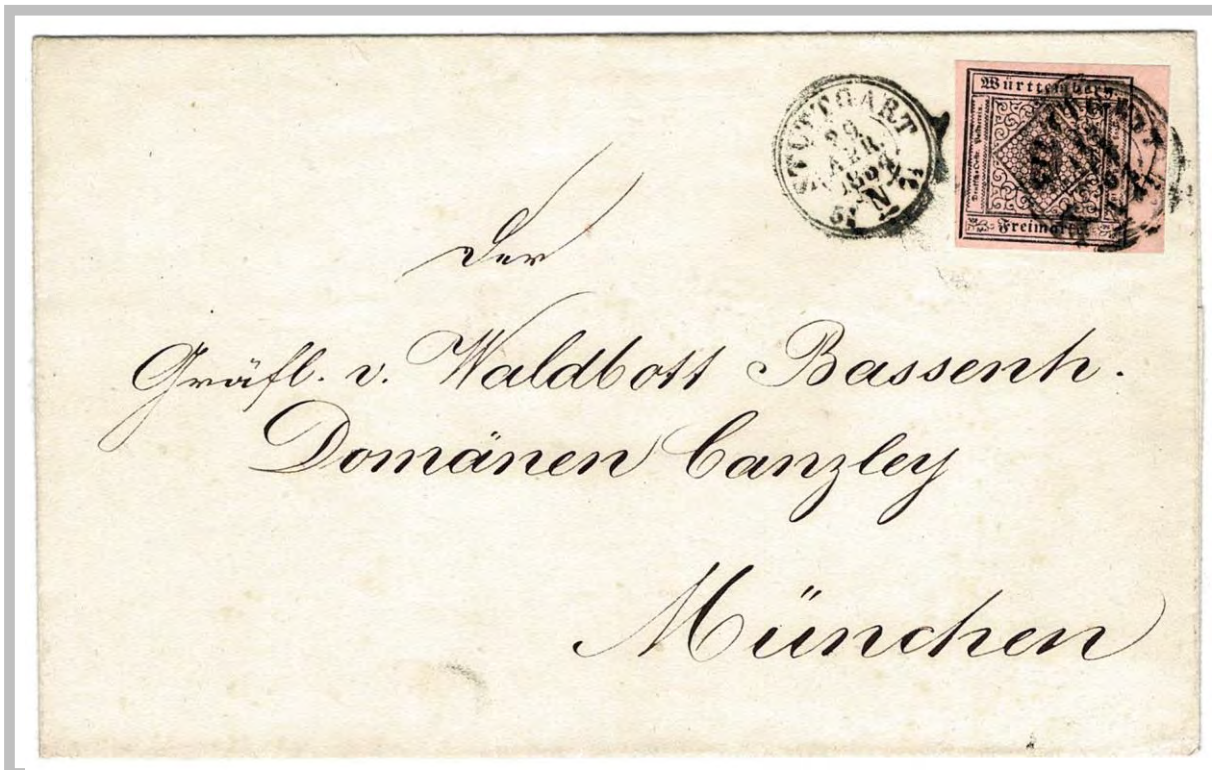
November 20, 1852 Honolulu to Boston, Massachusetts  
13 cents adhesive pays the combined United States (US) and Hawaiian rate  
for a single letter bound to the Eastern US

1851 - Württemberg

Württemberg issued its first postal adhesives on October 15, 1851, in denominations of 1 kreuzer(kr), 3 kreuzer, 6 kreuzer and 9 kreuzer. They were patterned after the first stamp issues of Baden and had adopted the same color scheme. This led, as claimed in postal documents, to cases where Württemberg stamps were mistaken for Baden stamps and vice-versa which prompted the Baden Postal Administration to change the color of their adhesives.

August 8, 1856  
Tübingen  
to local address

1kr adhesive  
paying the  
domestic letter  
rate within the  
local district  
per loth



April 29, 1854  
Stuttgart  
Munich, Bavaria

9kr adhesive paying  
the GAPU rate over  
20 meilen per loth

## 1852 - Brunswick



E

November 6, 1854 Braunschweig to Bramsche, Saxony  
3sgr adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate over 20 meilen per loth

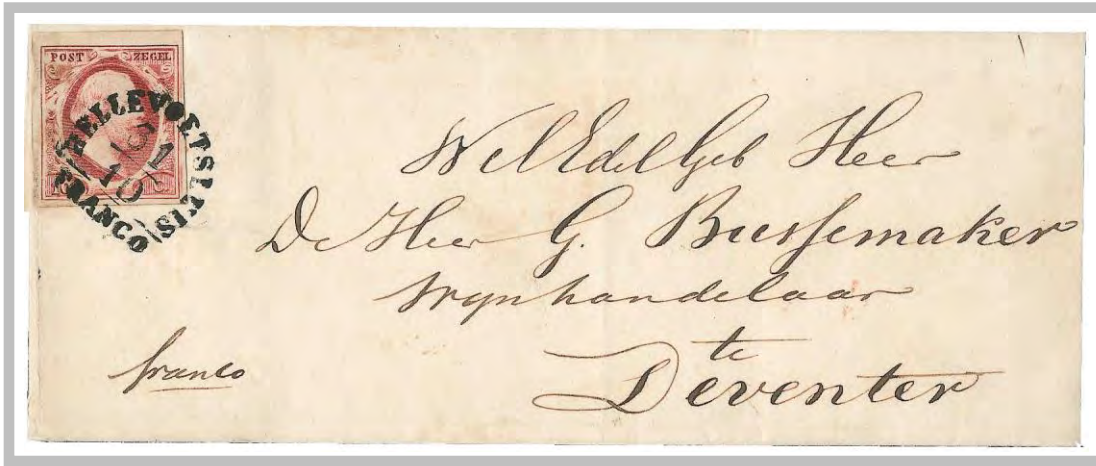
Brunswick's first postage stamps were issued on January 1, 1852; the day treaty provisions of the German-Austrian Postal Union became effective in that duchy. These first adhesives were issued in denominations of 1 silbergroschen(sgr), 2sgr and 3sgr which conformed to the three principal letter rates of under 10 meilen (74.2km), 10-20 meilen (74.2-148.4km) and over 20 meilen (148.4km) respectively.

In March 1852, after the initial release of stamps, reports surfaced that postal forgeries were being manufactured to defraud the post office. Induced by these reports, in March 1853, Brunswick changed from printing color on white paper to black print on colored paper, a combination that was favored by all of its neighbors. The new 1sgr stamp was printed on orange paper, the 2sgr on blue paper and the 3sgr on rose paper.



February 18, 1855 Gandersheim to Wernigerode, Saxony  
1sgr adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate to 10 meilen per loth

1852 - Netherlands

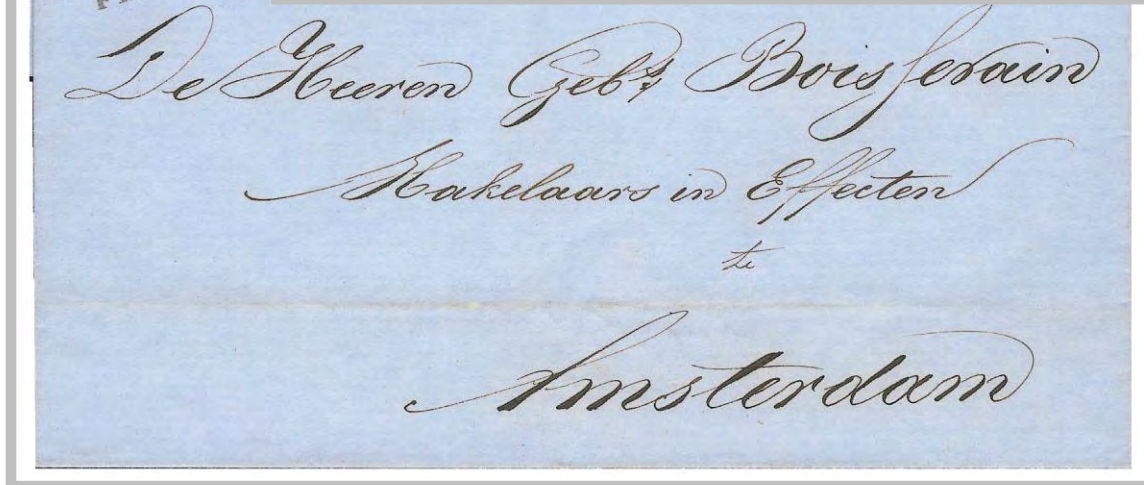


On January 1, 1852, the Netherlands issued its first postal adhesives in denominations of 5 cents(c), 10c, and 15c which matched the prevailing domestic letter rates which had been established in 1850. They featured a portrait of King William III facing right.

October 31, 1858 Hellevoetsluis to Deventer  
10c adhesive paying the 30-100km rate to 15 grams

October 9, 1858  
Haarlem  
to Wormerveer

5c adhesive  
paying the 30km  
rate to 15 grams



July 3, 1854  
Goor to  
Amsterdam

15c adhesive  
paying the over  
100km rate to  
15 grams

## 1852 - Papal States

On November 21, 1851, Cardinal Secretary of State Giacomo Antonelli announced the introduction of *bolli franchi* (postage stamps) in the Papal States. On January 1, 1852, eight adhesives, ½ bajocchi(baj), 1baj, 2baj, 3baj, 4baj, 5baj, 6baj, and 7baj, were issued depicting the crossed keys of St. Peter at center surmounted on the *triregno* (triple tiara). Three higher denomination stamps, 8baj, 50baj and 1 scudo (100baj to the scudo), were issued later the same year.



E

May 22, 1855 Fano to Spoleto (Marche region to Umbria region)  
4baj adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to adjoining region second postal district



November 12, 1852 Foligno to Spoleto (Marche region to Umbria region)  
6baj adhesive paying the insured domestic letter rate to adjoining region second postal district

1852 - Oldenburg

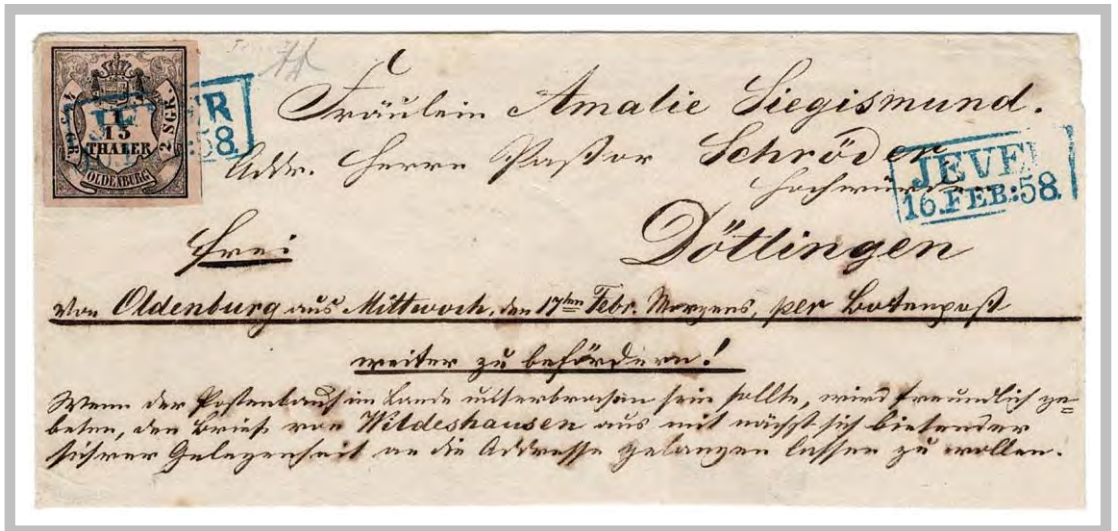


On January 5, 1852, the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg issued its first postal adhesives which were printed in black on colored paper. The stamps featured the coat of arms of Oldenburg above a shield with the value of the stamp in fractions of a thaler. The values issued were 1/30 thaler(th), 1/15 thaler and 1/10 thaler.

E

June 28, 1854 Seefeld to Obenstrohe  
1/30 thaler (1sgr) adhesive pays the GAPU rate to 10 meilen per loth

An interesting feature of the Oldenburg stamps was the use of three currencies in the design. The equivalent values shown on the adhesives were: fractions of a thaler which was the Oldenburg standard, groses and silbergroschen which were used by neighboring countries.



E

February 16, 1858 Jever to Dötlingen  
1/15 thaler (2sgr) adhesive pays the GAPU rate for 10-20 meilen per loth

Provenance:  
Collection "Tomasini"  
Erivan K. Haub

Prior to the release of the Thurn & Taxis postal adhesives, the total stamp producing countries had increased to 36 with a total of approximately 170 collectible adhesives available to the public.



**1852 - Thurn & Taxis**



The Thurn & Taxis postal system was a private postal system whose roots extended to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and the Holy Roman Empire. In 1806, Thurn & Taxis postal claims were recognized by the Congress of Vienna and it continued operations in areas of the German Confederation. As a member of the G.A.P.U., it first issued postal adhesives on January 29, 1852, denominated in silbergroschen (sgr) for use in northern districts and denominated in kreuzer for use in southern districts.

*Provenance: John R. Boker Jr.,  
Erivan K. Haub*

**E**

October 20, 1853 Schwalenberg to Bielefeld  
1 sgr adhesive paying the letter rate to 10 meilen per loth

Thurn & Taxis - continued



November 11, 1852 Weimar to Stotternheim via Vieselbach  
1/2 sgr adhesive paying the GAPU printed matter rate any distance



November 13, 1852 Cassel to Frankfurt  
2 sgr adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate from 10 to 20 meilen per loth

Thurn & Taxis - continued



E

December 5, 1857 Gera to Cologne, Prussia  
3 sgr adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate over 20 meilen per loth



E

November 16, 1857 Biedenkopf to Wimpfen  
9 kreuzer adhesive paying the GAPU letter rate over 20 meilen per loth

## 1852 - Barbados

The Barbados Legislature was handed control of the island's postal operations in 1851. To save costs, the stamp order for Barbados was combined with that of Mauritius and Trinidad. Each colony used the 'Britannia' design with different country designations. The design was based on a watercolor by Henry Corbould who had provided the sketch from which the Penny Black was engraved. Non-denominated adhesives in green (½penny), blue (1penny) and gray (2penny) were released on April 15, 1852.



E

Provenance: Dr. Andrew Cheung

January 3, 1857 St. Lucy to St. Michael  
One penny adhesive paying the colonial letter rate



The British continued to operate a Packet Agency responsible for overseas mail until 1858 when it was merged with the Barbados Post Office. Six pence (red) and one shilling (brown) adhesives were issued to facilitate the overseas rates and unlike their predecessors, did show the value in the design of the stamps.

Provenance: H. Frank Deakin

May 26, 1859 St. Michael to London, England  
Six pence adhesive paying the British packet rate to ½ ounce

1852 - Modena

The Duchy of Modena issued its first postal adhesives on June 1, 1852. The stamps featured the coat of arms of the House of Este, an eagle with the crown above, framed by a laurel wreath. They were printed in black on colored paper, with denominations that coincided with the postal rates which became effective with the introduction of the stamps. A 5 centesimi (c) adhesive on green, a 10c on rose, a 15c on yellow, a 25c on buff and a 40c blue were initially issued.



March 16, 1857  
Reggio to Modena

5c adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to 10 leghe (48.2km) per 8.75 grams

E

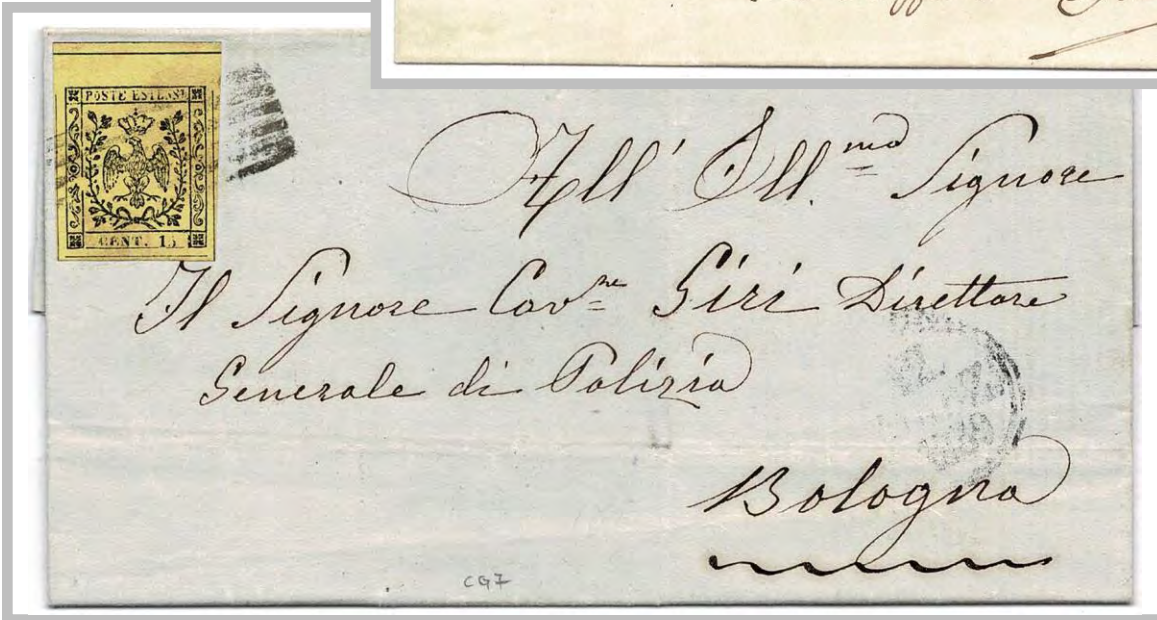
October 5, 1853  
Reggio to Modena

10c adhesive paying the domestic letter rate 10 to 20 leghe per 8.75 grams

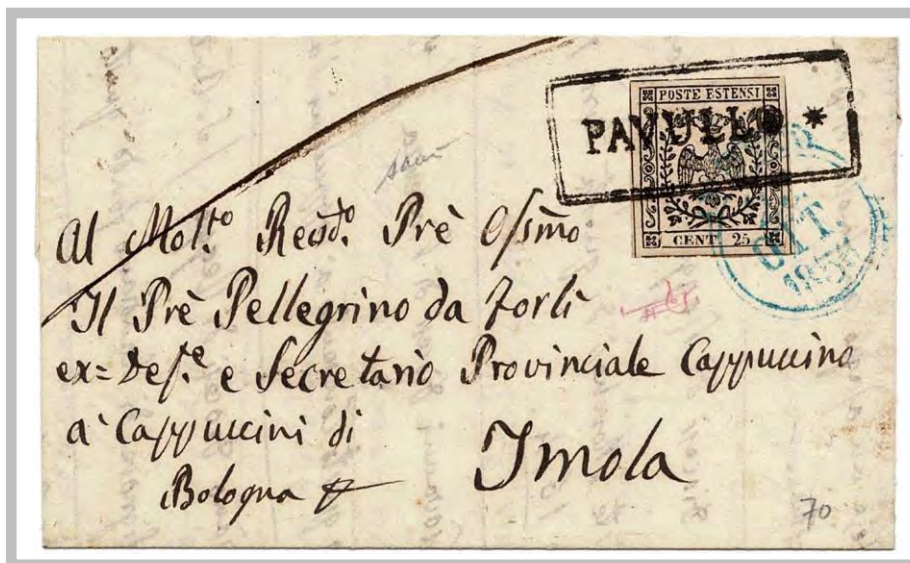


March 12, 1859  
Modena to Bologna,  
Roman States

15c adhesive paying the foreign letter rate to 10 leghe per 17.5 grams



## Modena - continued



October 26, 1856 Pavullo to Imola, Romagna  
25c adhesive paying the foreign letter rate 10 to 20 leghe per 17.5 grams



April 12, 1855 Modena to Villaco (Villach), Austria  
40c adhesive paying the foreign letter rate to the Austrian Empire  
over 20 leghe per 17.5 grams

## 1852 - Parma

The Duchy of Parma issued its first postal adhesives on June 1, 1852. The common design of the stamps featured the Crown of Parma, over a circle containing the Fleur-de-Lis. Similar to the stamps of Modena which were issued on the same day, they were printed in black on colored paper. The issued denominations were a 5 centesimi(c) adhesive on yellow, a 10c on white, a 15c on pink, a 25c on violet and a 40c blue which satisfied existing postal rates.



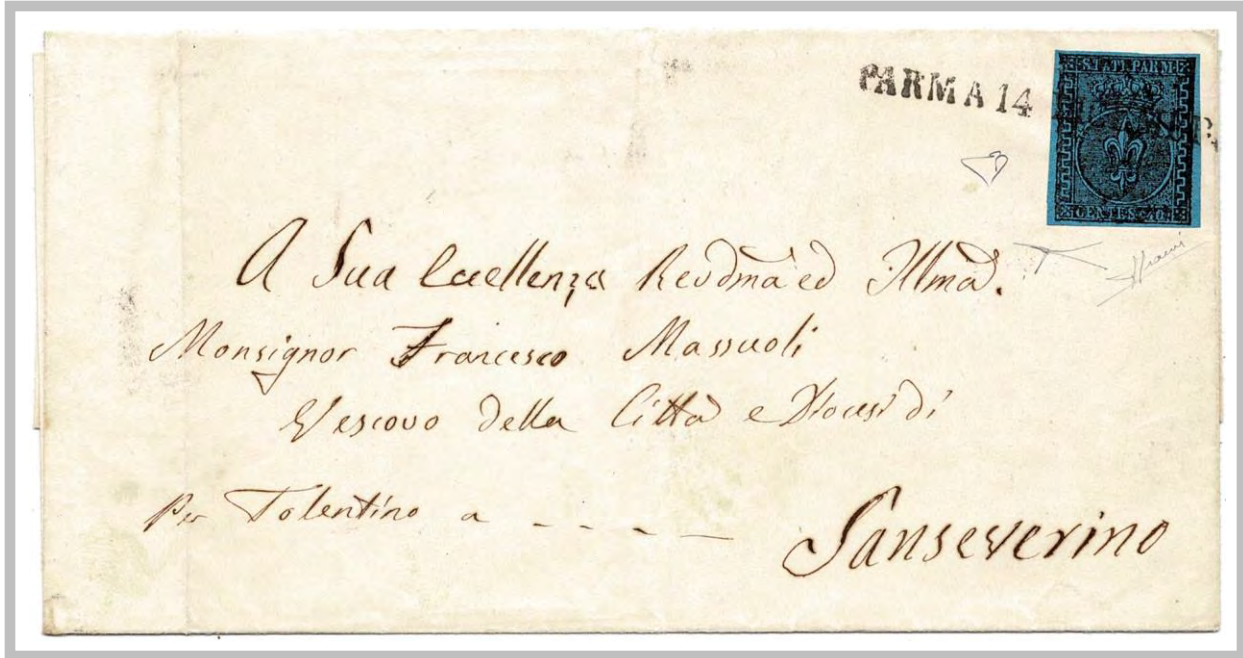
August 8, 1852 Parma to Milano, Lombardy-Venezia  
15c adhesive paying the Austro-Italian foreign letter rate to 10 leghe per 17½ grams



E

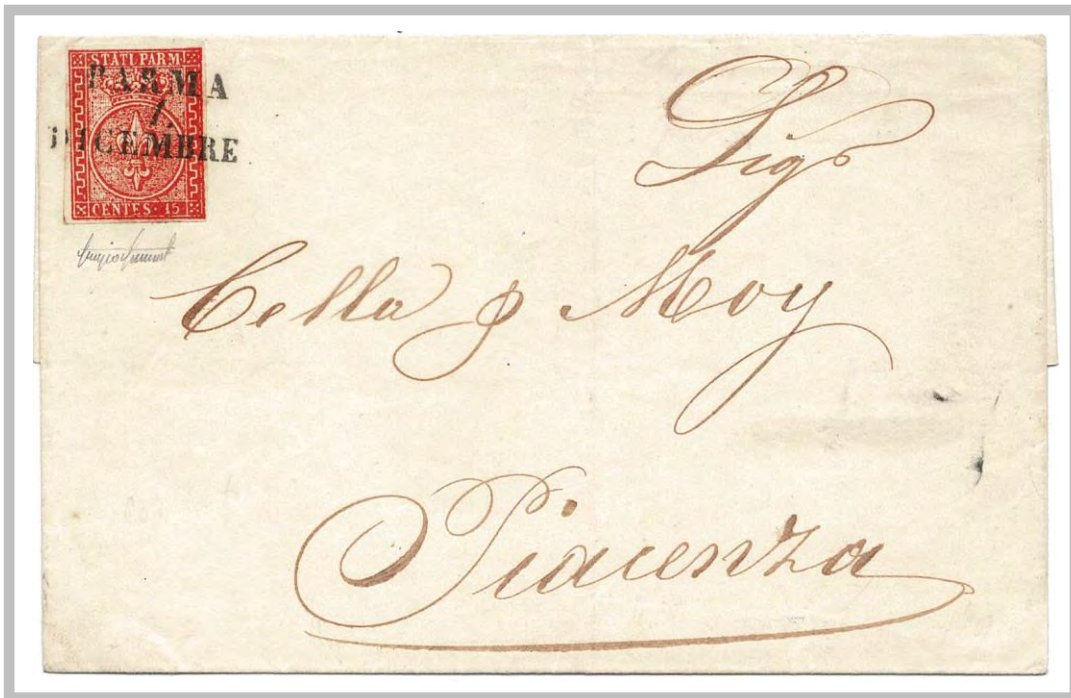
August 18, 1853 Parma to Livorno, Tuscany  
25c adhesive paying the Austro-Italian foreign letter rate to 20 leghe per 17½ grams

Parma - continued



E

December 14, 1853 Parma to Sanseverino, Papal States  
40c adhesive paying the Austro-Italian foreign letter rate over 20 leghe per 17½ grams



E

December 1, 1854 Parma to Piacenza  
15c adhesive paying the internal letter rate, triple weight, to 10 leghe per 8¼ grams

### 1852 - Scinde District India

The Dawk, or Dak was an existing postal system of mail runners in the Indus Valley that was replaced by the British East India Company after their conquest of the Sindh(e) province in 1843.

Sir Bartle Frere of the East India Company became the Chief Commissioner of Sindh in 1850 and introduced a cheap and uniform rate for postage, independent of distance travelled. In 1851 the runners were replaced with a system using horses and camels, following routes through the Scinde province, generally along the valley of the Indus River.

On July 1, 1852, a ½ anna stamp was introduced which bore the Merchants' Mark of the British East India Company embossed on wafers of red sealing wax impressed on paper. It was the **first stamp issued in all of Asia** for the prepayment of postage. Because the wafers easily cracked and disintegrated, they were soon replaced with white and blue stamps embossed on paper.



Provenance:  
Sir Charles Stewart-Wilson

Affixed to its native paper the ½ anna stamp prepaid the letter rate to post offices within Scinde District to any distance.



Image of ½ anna  
wax seal shown at 200%

1852 - Luxembourg

On September 15, 1852, Luxembourg issued two postal adhesives to prepay postage for domestic and foreign mail. The stamps featured the likeness of Grand Duke William III facing left, in an ornamental frame.

The first of these was a 10 centimes(c) stamp in black, conforming to Luxembourg's currency of 100 centimes per Belgium franc, which was issued to prepay all of the domestic rates.



E

June 14, 1853 Remich to Luxembourg (City)  
10 centimes adhesive paying the domestic letter rate to 10 grams



E

August 31, 1860 Luxembourg (City) to Trier, Germany  
1sgr adhesive paying the foreign letter rate to GAPU countries to 10 meilen per loth

The second adhesive, a 1 silbergroschen(sgr) stamp in rose red, equivalent to 12½c, was issued for foreign mail service within the GAPU. The value of this stamp satisfied the currency standards of the GAPU and made Luxembourg one of the few countries to produce **contemporary adhesives in differing currencies.**

## 1853 - Chile

Chile was the **second South American republic to issue stamps**. The design featured an image of the discoverer of the Americas, Christopher Columbus (Spanish: Cristobal Colon). It was **the first adhesive to display the likeness of a non-political individual**. The adhesives were released to the public on July 1, 1853, in denominations of 5 centavos in red and 10 centavos in blue.



Provenance:  
Alfred H. Caspary,  
Dr. Norman Hubbard

September 14, 1854 Santiago to Valparaiso  
5 centavos adhesive paying the domestic letter rate for interior mail by land



Provenance:  
Alfred H. Caspary,  
John H. Hall

December 22, 1855 Concepcion to Valparaiso  
10 centavos adhesive paying the domestic letter rate for interior mail by water

## 1853 - Portugal

During July 1853, Portugal issued its first postal adhesives featuring a colorless embossed image of Queen Dona Maria II facing left. These stamps were inspired by the embossed stamps of Great Britain which were issued in 1847-1848. Stamps were printed in denominations of 5, 25, 50 and 100 réis(r) in brown, blue, green and lilac respectively.



January 10, 1855 Lisbon to Genoa, Sardinia  
 25r adhesive paying the domestic letter rate (to the border) to 3/8 ounce  
 rated 14c due in Sardinia

## 1853 - Cape of Good Hope

The **world's first triangular stamp** would have certainly piqued public interest when this British Crown Colony released its first adhesives on September 1, 1853. The idea of the abnormal shape was an attempt to help native Cape Colony postal clerks more easily sort local mail from that which came from abroad. The design bears the allegorical figure of a seated Hispania and was released in one penny and four pence denominations of red and blue respectively. Six pence (lilac) and 1 shilling (green) stamps of similar design were issued in 1858.



February 5, 1856  
Port Elizabeth to  
Middleburg

Four pence  
adhesive pays the  
domestic letter  
rate per ½ ounce  
to any distance

January 21, 1859,  
Capetown to  
Bristol, England

Six pence adhesive  
pays the letter  
rate to England  
per ½ ounce



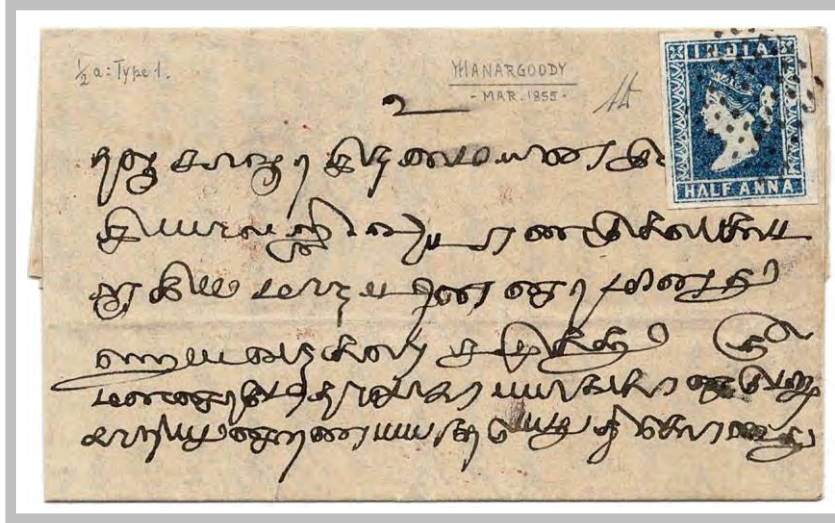
**1853 - Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania)**

The pre-payment of mail by adhesive became compulsory on November 1, 1853, in Tasmania. Due to primitive engraving methods available in the Colony, it was intended for the production of the first issue of stamps to come from England. However as the postal legislation progressed through the Legislative Council, it became apparent that the deadline of November 1853 could not be met. As a result, the Best brothers, who owned the *Hobart Town Courier* newspaper, were called upon to produce two adhesives: a one penny in blue intended for use on town letters and a four pence in orange for use on inland and overseas mail. Both featured a primitive image of Queen Victoria.



October 1, 1855 Launceston to Invermay  
One penny adhesive paying the town letter rate to ½ ounce

1854 - India (East India Company)



While provincial postal networks had existed in India for a time, the Imperial Post Office Act XVII of 1854 marked the establishment of the Indian Post Office. The new system was adopted by the East India Company's Court of Directors. It introduced "low and uniform" rates for sending mail efficiently throughout the country within the jurisdiction of the East India Company.

March 1855 native cover to Mannargoody  
Half anna adhesive paying the domestic letter rate  
to ¼ tola weight (1 tola = 2/5 ounce)

Provenance:  
Ing. Pietro Provera

With the new postal act, the use of stamps was made compulsory. Four different adhesives were produced in Calcutta featuring a youthful profile of Queen Victoria. The adhesives were placed on sale during the month of October 1854 in denominations of ½ anna (blue), 1 anna (red), 2 annas (green) and a **bi-colored 4 annas in red and blue**.



September 2, 1857 Bombay to Ahmednuggar  
Two annas adhesive paying the domestic letter rate for 1 – 1½ tola weight

### India (East India Company) - continued



October 29, 1856 Madras to Edinburgh, Scotland  
Four annas adhesive paying the foreign letter rate to Great Britain to ½ ounce

### India's 1854 Stamps Fuel *Timbromanie*

The four (4) annas cover above is a specific example of how *timbromanie* was fueled. In particular, it was the 2 and 4 anna issues of 1854 that fascinated and initiated the 1859 collecting journey of Walter Scott as a 7 year old schoolboy. His father, British civil engineer Phillip Benjamin Scott, while on assignment in India, sent letters home franked with these very curiosities which laid the foundation for young Walter's interest in collecting which he recounted several decades later.

*... I cannot claim the term "excellent" for my own collection, but, such as it is, I have held it and continued it uninterruptedly since I first commenced making it in 1859. I well remember the circumstance which first called my attention to stamps. My father had gone to India, and my interest was aroused by seeing the curious stamps (the first 2 and 4 annas) that came home on his letters. The second type of these values was in issue at this time, and I can only account for my father using the first types by assuming that in the Western provinces, where he was stationed, the old stock had not been used up. ...*

Walter Scott  
52, Richmond Road, Cardiff [Wales]  
November 15<sup>th</sup> 1897

Walter Scott to the Editor of the *London Philatelist*  
*The London Philatelist: The Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London*  
Volume VI, November 1897, Number 71, page 336

Prior to the release of Norway's stamps, the total stamp producing entities had increased to 50 with a total of approximately 300 collectible adhesives available to the public.



1855 - Norway

Fifteen (15) years after Great Britain introduced the Penny Black, Norway issued its first adhesive on January 1, 1855. It was originally suggested that the stamp bear the image of King Oscar. However, that idea was discarded in favor of the Norwegian lion holding St. Olaf's axe on a shield adorned with a crown. A 4 skilling blue stamp was produced with design to prepay the domestic letter rate. No adhesives were designed for foreign mail.



March 5, 1855 Bergen to Thronhjem (Trondhiem)

4 skilling adhesive paying the domestic letter rate any distance

Provenance:  
Erivan K. Haub

## 1855 - South Australia

On January 1, 1855, South Australia became the fifth Australian State to issue postal adhesives. On that date a 2 pence stamp in carmine was issued to satisfy the inland letter rate. Perkins Bacon had been commissioned to produce the stamps and **incorporated elements of the first stamps of Chile** along with a **left facing profile of Queen Victoria used in the New South Wales adhesives**. Later in the year, one penny (green) and six pence (blue) stamps were also released in the same design.



December 4, 1858  
Adelaide to local address

Two pence adhesive  
paying the inland letter  
rate to ½ ounce

Provenance:  
Collection "Besançon"

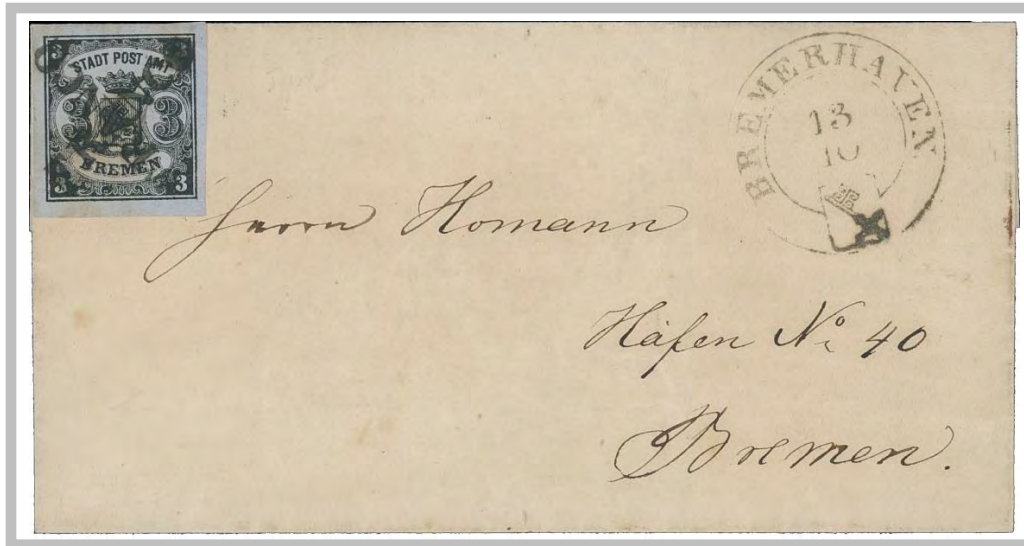


November 20, 1856  
Penola to  
Melbourne, Victoria

Six pence adhesive  
paying the letter rate  
to other Australian  
colonies to 1 ounce

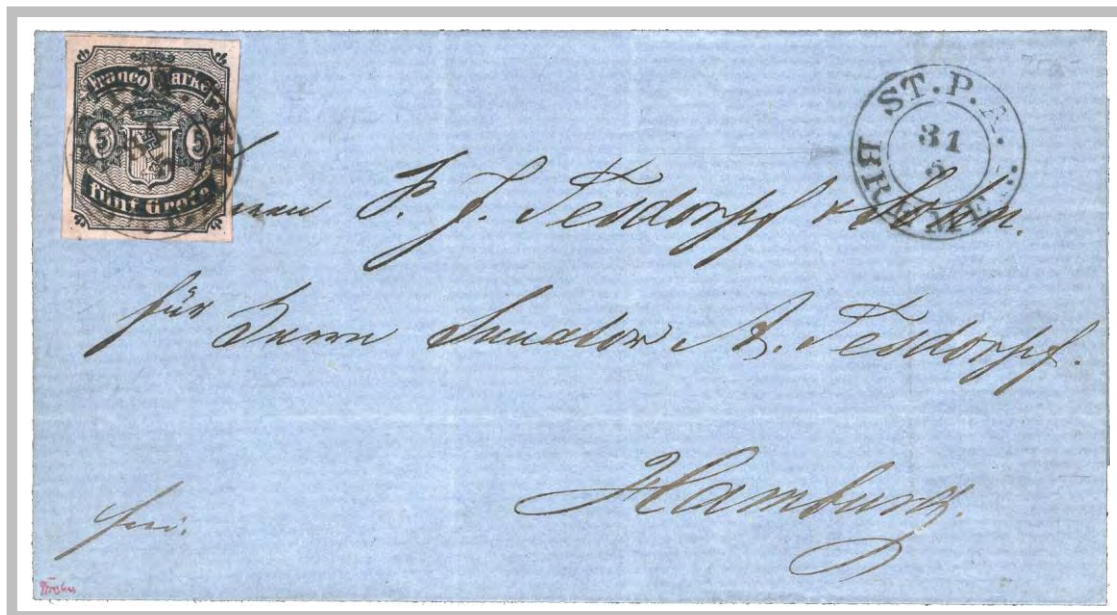
## 1855 - Bremen

The Free City of Bremen issued its first postal adhesive on April 10, 1855. The design of the stamp displays the coat of arms of the Free City, a key placed diagonally on a shield, with the citizen crown resting above. The first value, a 3 grote adhesive printed in black on blue paper, satisfied the domestic letter rate. Approximately one year later, on April 4, 1856, a 5 grote adhesive printed in black on rose paper was issued to prepay the rate for mail to Hamburg.



Provenance:  
Arthur Salm

October 13 (circa 1856) Bremen to local address  
3 grote adhesive paying the city letter rate per loth



Provenance:  
Erivan K. Haub

May 31, 1856 Bremen to Hamburg  
5 grote adhesive paying the single letter rate to Hamburg,  
**the earliest recorded use of this adhesive**

1855 - Spanish Antilles

Postal adhesives for use in the Spanish Antilles were released on April 24, 1855. The stamps were printed in Madrid and mimicked the design elements of the 1855 Spain stamp issues, differing only in color and currency denomination. These three postal labels were valid for use in principally Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and the Philippine Islands and were denominated ½ reales plata(rp), 1rp and 2rp in blue green, grey green and carmine respectively.

Used in Cuba



November 4, 1859 Santiago de Cuba via Havana to New York, New York, US  
 ½ real plata adhesive paying the letter rate for outbound ship mail at port

Used in  
 Puerto Rico



E

May 29, 1858 San Juan Puerto Rico to Madrid, Spain  
 ½ real plata adhesive paying the letter rate for outbound ship mail at port

## 1855 - Sweden

With the introduction of Sweden's first postal adhesives on July 1, 1855, they became **the first country whose initial issue was perforated** for the ease of separation. Prior to 1854, all stamps were issued imperforate and had to be cut from the sheet with scissors or a knife. To eliminate this time-consuming effort, inventors and governments had experimented with methods to perforate stamp sheets for a number of years. In January 1854 Great Britain, who had been producing adhesives since 1840, released their first perforated stamp. Sweden's perforated adhesives were released denominated in 3, 4, 6, 8 and 24 skilling banco, each depicted the Swedish coat of arms in colors of green, blue, gray, orange and red respectively.



October 16, 1856 Stockholm to Arboga  
4 skilling banco adhesive paying the domestic letter rate

## 1855 - New Zealand

New Zealand introduced its first postal adhesives on July 18, 1855, in denominations of one penny (red), two pence (blue) and one shilling (green). The design was inspired by the 'coronation' painting of Queen Victoria by Alfred Edward Chalon, drawn for her first public appearance as Queen. Soon dubbed the "**Chalon Heads**", the stamps show a full face portrait of the Queen in a circle of a large diameter so that the upper part of her State Robes are visible. The first stamps were printed in London, England and shipped along with the plates, such that production could be continued in New Zealand.



April 26, 1859 New Plymouth to Auckland  
Two pence adhesive paying the inland letter rate to ½ ounce

1856 - America's Oldest Surviving Collection of Stamps

**The stamp collection of David Teford Latimer (1842-1861)  
How a School Boy Housed His Treasures**

In 1856, David T. Latimer was a teenage student at Nazareth Hall boarding school in Nazareth, Pennsylvania. During that year, young David pasted 35 postally used imperforate 3c George Washington stamps of the United States 1851 issue into the inside front cover of his German grammar textbook, *Ollendorf's New Method of Learning to Read, Write, and Speak the German Language: to which is addenda Systematic Outline of German Grammar* by G. L. Adler, published 1854 by D. Appleton & Company of New York. Nazareth Hall records show that the textbook was purchased while David studied there.

At the time, there were no published stamp albums for collectors to house, organize or display their treasures. Those methods of organization were yet to be developed and left to the imagination of the individual collector. It can be documented that some collectors even "papered" their entire ceiling with postally used adhesives.

In general, during the *timbromanie* era, there was very little consideration given to stamp preservation. In most cases, stamps were cut or torn from folded letters or envelopes then trimmed prior to affixing. No standardized methods to attach stamps, such as hinges, or other mounting products were available. As a result, collectors established their own methods, which in many cases were gluing the stamp, using mucilage, to a backing.

David T. Latimer was not unusual in his collection housing techniques. What is unusual is that this collection has survived intact!



Keep Clean  
David T. Latimer  
D. Latimer's Books  
L. T. Latimer  
Do not handle this book  
for ~~he~~ who steals it,  
will be punished  
according to law which  
is, that he will be  
hung up on the ~~gate~~  
mast of a ship & be  
exposed naked for 6  
Days

158

1855

David T. Latimer

	Dr	Cr
Oct. 1. Bal of acct 69 from page 50	\$ 49 57	
By Cash 1 July 1850. all 21		107 -
By 1/2 Ticket for Aug 7 to date	12 -	
By B acct 50	50 -	
By Cash 7 days 375 by 40 29 25	6 -	
By Cash 10 days 100 by 50 21 21	2 71	
By Cash 15 days 150 by 100 60	4 15	
By Cash 12 days 120 by 120 12 35		
By Cash 10 days 100 by 100 10 19		
By Cash 75 Cash 1.25 by Bell 45	2 45	
By Balance		27 16

Page 158 of the Nazareth Hall ledger book shows David's Oct. 1, 1855, account. The seventh line of the entry reads: Stat[ionery] \$1.65, **Germ[an] Gram[mar Book] \$1**, Geometry 90, Atlas 60, — [\$] 4 15

## 1856 - Finland

Finland was an autonomous Grand Duchy of Russia when postal adhesives were issued by Imperial Edict in March 1856. The design featured the coat of arms of Finland inside an oval border and contained inscriptions **using both Roman and Cyrillic letters**. Finland's currency was the Russian ruble (=100 kopecks) and the labels were printed in denominations of 5 kopeck, for domestic letters traveling to 125 verst (~83 miles) and 10 kopeck for letters traveling over 125 verst.



October 31, 1859  
Helsingfors  
(Helsinki)  
to Tavastehus

10 kopeck adhesive  
pays the domestic  
letter rate to 125  
verst distance to 1.5  
loth weight



July 23, 1856  
Helsingfors (Helsinki)  
to Nykarleby

10 kopeck adhesive  
pays the domestic  
letter rate over 125  
verst distance to 1.5  
loth weight

## 1856 - Mecklenburg-Schwerin

On July 1, 1856, the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin issued three postal adhesives. First, a charming diminutive ¼ schilling stamp in red that depicted a crowned head of a bull. This adhesive could be subdivided to accommodate several postal rates and was, at the time and for many years, **the world's smallest first issue**. On the same date, two more conventional stamps, a 3 schilling(s) in yellow and a 5s in blue were also released. These adhesives were larger than the diminutive bull's head label and featured the Mecklenburg-Schwerin Coat of Arms.



May 10 (cira1858) Rostock to Doberan  
¼ schilling adhesive (x4) paying the 1 shilling domestic letter rate to 3 miles (22½ km) per loth

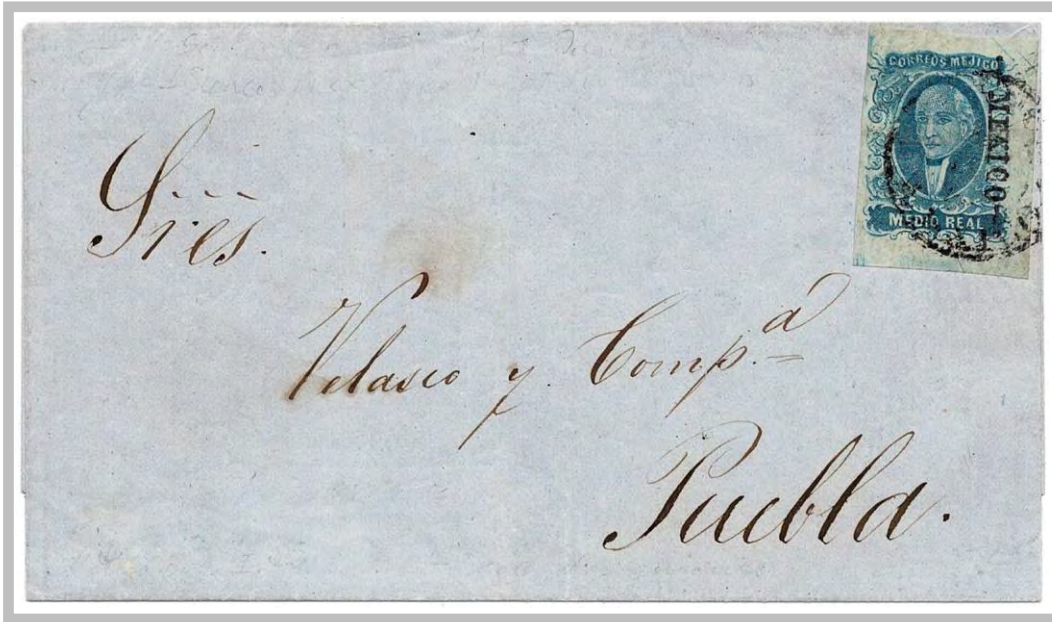


April 24, 1857 Rostock to Berlin, Prussia  
5 schilling adhesive paying the GAFU foreign letter rate over 20 miles (150km) per loth

Provenance:  
Baron Carl von Scharfenberg

1856 - Mexico

Mexico released its first postal adhesive on August 1, 1856. This group of five stamps was denominated ½ real(r), 1r, 2r, 4r and 8r and all bore the image of Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, **the recognized Father of the Nation**. To prevent stolen stamps from being used, the stamps were distributed to the postal districts without overprints. Upon arrival, but before being distributed to the sub-offices or sold to the public, they were hand stamped with the district name.



December 17, 1856  
Mexico City to Puebla

½ real adhesive  
paying the domestic  
letter rate for interior  
mail before  
December 20, 1856



July 29, 1859  
Soyaniquilpan to  
Mexico City

1 real adhesive paying  
the domestic letter rate  
for interior mail after  
December 20, 1856

Mexico - continued



(1857) Xiquilpan to Mexico City  
2 reales adhesive paying the domestic letter rate for interior mail,  
double weight, after December 20, 1856

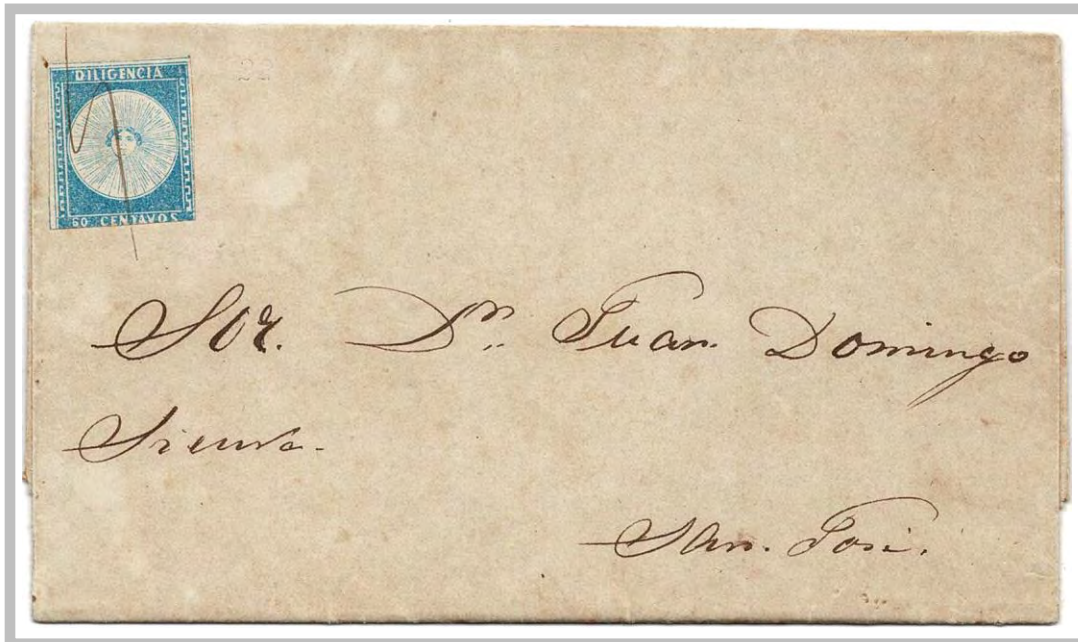


E

November 12, 1859 Puebla to Vera Cruz  
4 reales adhesive paying the domestic letter rate for interior mail,  
quadruple weight, after December 20, 1856

### 1856 - Uruguay Private Issues The Diligencia

In October of 1856, the first postal adhesives used in Uruguay were released by stagecoach companies who had organized a postal system. These companies led by Atanasio Lapido, as the Administrator of General Posts, privately delivered mail within the country. The adhesive centrally depicted the sun of Montevideo with the inscription "**Diligencia**" (stagecoach) above, which indicated the means of transporting of the mail. The stamps, which were denominated 60 centavos (blue), 80 centavos (green) and 1 real (red), were unrecognized by other postal unions and were only valid for mail within Uruguay.

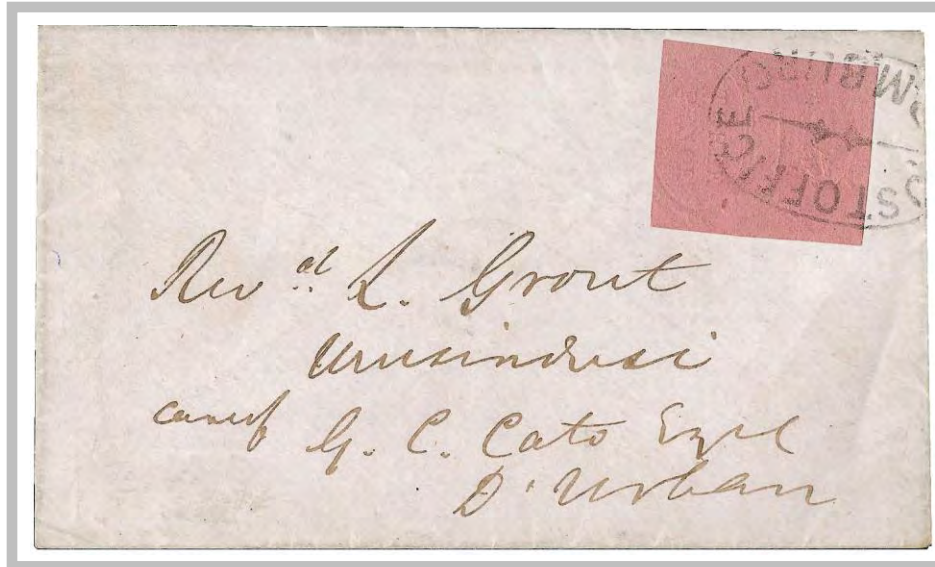


E

November 2, 1856 Union to San José  
via Santa Lucia stagecoach relay station  
60 centavos adhesive paying the domestic single page letter rate

## 1857 - Natal

Natal, a British Crown Colony on the eastern coast of Africa, issued stamps on May 26, 1857. As a result of complaints by the public, these makeshift labels were produced at the Natal Treasury using existing document embossing dies. They were of uncolored design embossed in plain relief on colored paper. The stamps were issued in denominations of three pence, six pence, nine pence and one shilling. While differing slightly, each design contained the word NATAL at top and a crown between the letters V.R. (Victoria Regina).



E

circa 1857 Pietermaritzburg to Durban  
Three pence adhesive paying the domestic letter rate per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce



E

August 1858 Pietermaritzburg to Cape Town, Cape Colony  
Six pence adhesive paying the foreign letter rate  
to other British colonies per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce

## 1858 - Russia

In November 1857 Russia's Tsar Alexander II approved the design of the country's first stamps which were permitted for use on January 1, 1858. The first adhesive released was a 10 kopeck denomination in brown and blue. Originally destined for perforation, thousands were distributed imperforate before perforating machines were functional. This adhesive holds the distinction of being the **first postage stamp ever illustrated in a general interest article**. It appeared in the popular French publication, *Le Magasin Pittoresque* in June 1862.

## Imperforate issue

May 21, 1858  
Zhitomir to Warsaw

10 kopeck adhesive  
paying the domestic  
letter rate to 1.5  
loth weight for any  
distance



Provenance:  
Agathon Fabergé

E

## Perforated Issue

February 25, 1858  
St. Petersburg to  
Saratov

10 kopeck adhesive  
paying the domestic  
letter rate to 1.5 loth  
weight for any distance



E



Prior to the release of Peru's postal adhesives, the total stamp producing countries had increased to 67 with a total of approximately 460 collectible adhesives available to the public.



1858 - Peru

The government of Peru issued its first postal adhesives on March 1, 1858. Postmaster General, M.A. Davila, had proposed the use of adhesive stamps in March 1851; however, final authority was not granted until October 1857. The first governmental labels were square in shape, displayed the country's coat of arms and issued in denominations of 1 dinero (blue), 1 peseta (red) and ½ peso (buff).



1859 (Feb-Mar) Lima to Genova, Sardinia  
via London, Calais & Paris

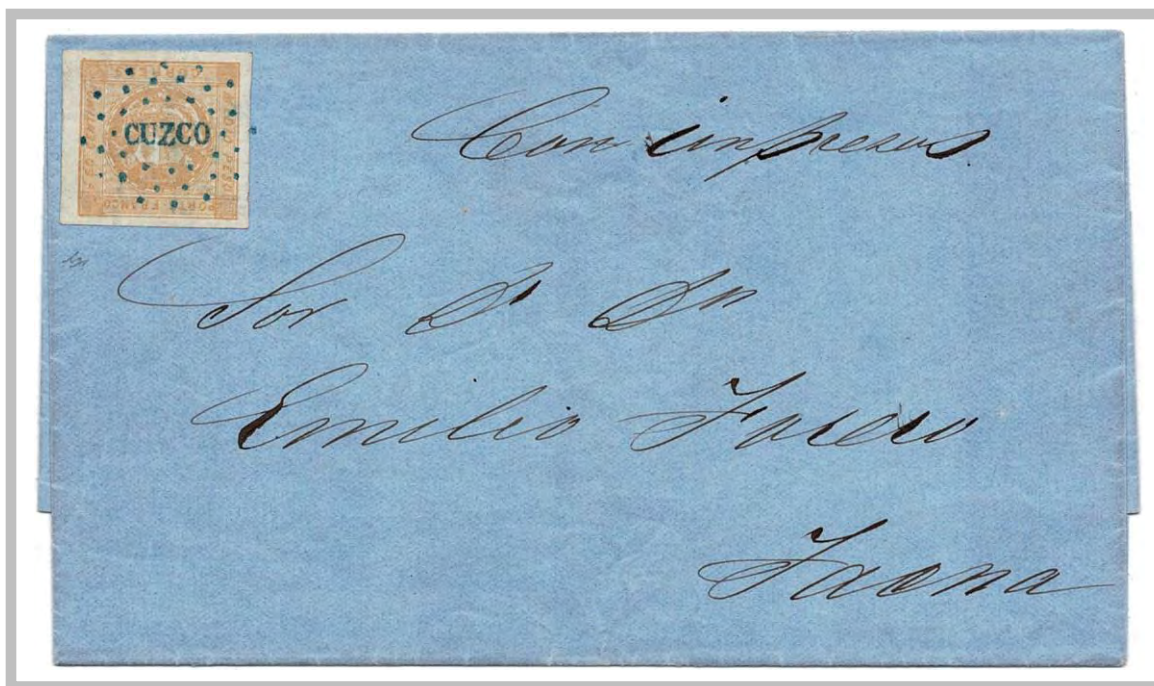
1 dinero adhesive paying the domestic letter rate under 25 leguas (167km) per ½ ounce (to port), rated due in Sardinia

Peru - continued



E

May 10, 1858 Huancayo to Lima  
 1 peseta adhesive paying the domestic letter rate over 25 leguas per ½ ounce



E

circa 1858 Cuzco to Tacna  
 ½ peso adhesive paying a combination letter and printed matter rate on folded letter  
 with accompanying printed matter "con impresos" notation

## 1858 - Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires, long the chief port and commercial center of Argentina, became a secessionist republic in 1852. The State of Buenos Aires was never recognized by the Argentine Confederation or by foreign nations; it remained, however, nominally independent under its own government and constitution. On April 29, 1858, the Buenos Aires government issued four adhesives for the prepayment of postage, which featured a primitive engraving of a steamship (*barquitos* or "little ship"), denominated 2 peso(p) in blue, 3p in green, 4p in vermilion and 5p in orange. A 1 peso adhesive was produced later in that year.

November 1859  
Buenos Aires to  
Goya, Argentina

Un (1) peso  
adhesive paying the  
simple letter rate  
to 1 ounce after  
October 26, 1858



Provenance:  
Dr. Joseph Schatzkés,  
Dr. Norman Hubbard



August 3, 1858  
Buenos Aires to  
Tucumán,  
Argentina

Tres (3) peso  
adhesive paying  
the simple letter  
rate 4 adarmes to  
8 adarmes (¼ - ½  
ounce) before  
October 26, 1858

Provenance:  
Alfred H. Caspary,  
Erivan K. Haub

## 1858 - Confederation of Argentina

The first stamps of the Argentine Confederation displayed a rather crude seal symbolic of the Confederation Provinces and were issued on May 1, 1858. At the time, Argentina was organized as a confederation without a head of state and an infant postal service that struggled due to large distances and sparse population. The three primitive labels produced were denominated 5 centavos(c) in red, 10c in green and 15c in blue.



E

Provenance:  
Brian Moorhouse

September 15, 1858 Corrientes to Buenos Aires  
5 centavos adhesive paying the letter rate to 4 adarmes (¼ ounce) any distance

## 1858 - Moldova

Following the 1856 Treaty of Paris, the Danubian Principality of Moldova enacted a number of modernizing measures, including postal reform. The 'Bull's Heads' stamps of Moldova were issued on July 14, 1858, and sold from July to October 1858. They were the **first postal adhesives released in southeastern Europe** and featured Moldova's ancient coat of arms with the head of **an aurochs, an extinct wild subspecies of cattle native to the area**. The similar designs also included a five-pointed star above the aurochs' head which rests on a post horn and were denominated 27 para(pa) printed in black on blue paper, 54pa blue on green, 81pa blue on blue and 106pa blue on rose.



Provenance:  
René Berlingen

September 9, 1858 Galatz (Galați) to Jassy (Iași)  
54 para adhesive paying the domestic letter rate traveling up to eight postal relay stops

## 1859 - Hamburg

On January 1, 1859, the Free City of Hamburg issued its first postal adhesives for the prepayment of mail. While the use of stamps was not compulsory, the design of stamps all contained the Hamburg Coat of Arms as a central motif, on which the figure of the adhesives value was superimposed. The denominations of the stamps issued were fitting of the postal rates, namely ½ schilling(s), 1s, 2s, 3s, 4s, 7s and 9s in black, brown, red, blue, green, orange and yellow respectively.



October 6, 1859 Hamburg to Leeds, England  
 7 schilling adhesive paying the new foreign letter rate to England effective July 1, 1859,  
 accountancy marking applied in destination country

## 1859 - Lübeck

The Free City of Lübeck issued its first postal adhesives on January 1, 1859. The designs of the stamps all featured the arms of the free city, a double-headed eagle as their central motif with only the frames differing. The adhesive were denominated ½ schilling(s) in gray, 1s in orange, 2s in brown, 2½s in rose and 5s in green. These adhesives principally satisfied the existing postal rates of the day. It has been claimed that this issue was replaced in 1863 as a result of forgeries being reported in London newspapers.

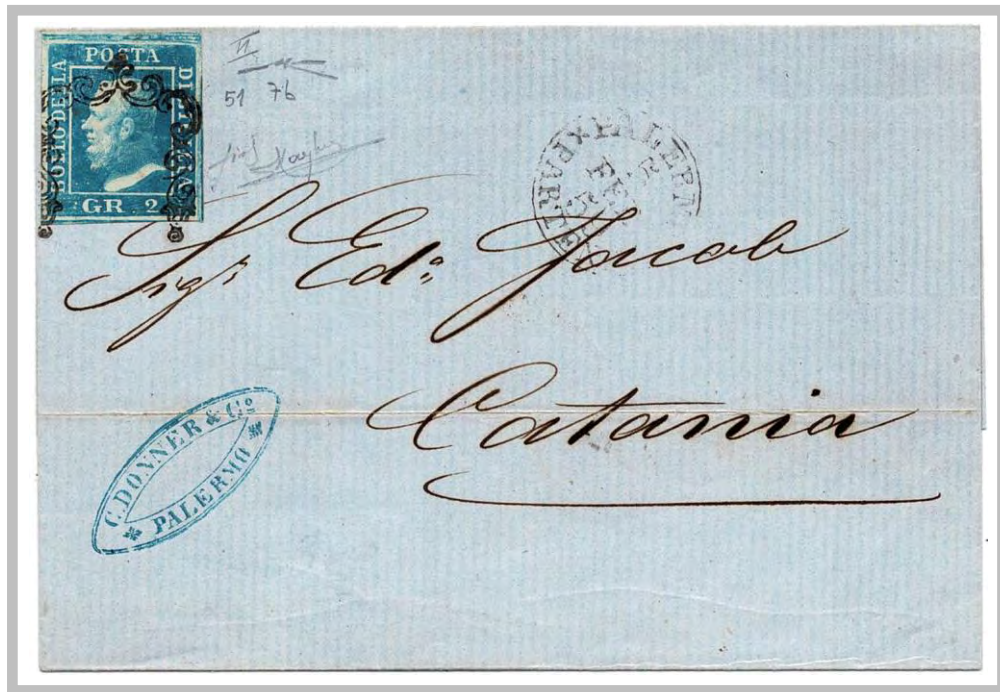


Provenance:  
John R. Boker Jr.,  
Erivan K. Haub

February 28, 1859 Lübeck to Crivitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin  
½ schilling adhesive paying the uniform printed matter rate per loth

## 1859 - Sicily

The first postal adhesive issues of Sicily came about only after **much governmental consternation**. While the process to issue postal stamps was principally the same for all countries, **King Ferdinand II was very indifferent** regarding the public convenience offered by stamps. Additionally, royal advisors were concerned with offending the Bourbon ruler during the color selection process (Italian national colors of red and green could not be used) and worried about the stamp cancellation process or disfiguring the portrait of the King. Through compromise seven adhesives were issued on January 1, 1859, denominated: ½ grano(g) in orange, 1g in brown, 2g in blue, 5g in vermillion, 10g in dark blue, 20g in violet and 50g in brown-red. The official handwringing did leave collectors with an extraordinarily beautiful and distinctive postal cancel, **the three-sided ornamental picture frame or “horseshoe” obliterator designed specifically so it would not disfigure His Majesty’s countenance**.

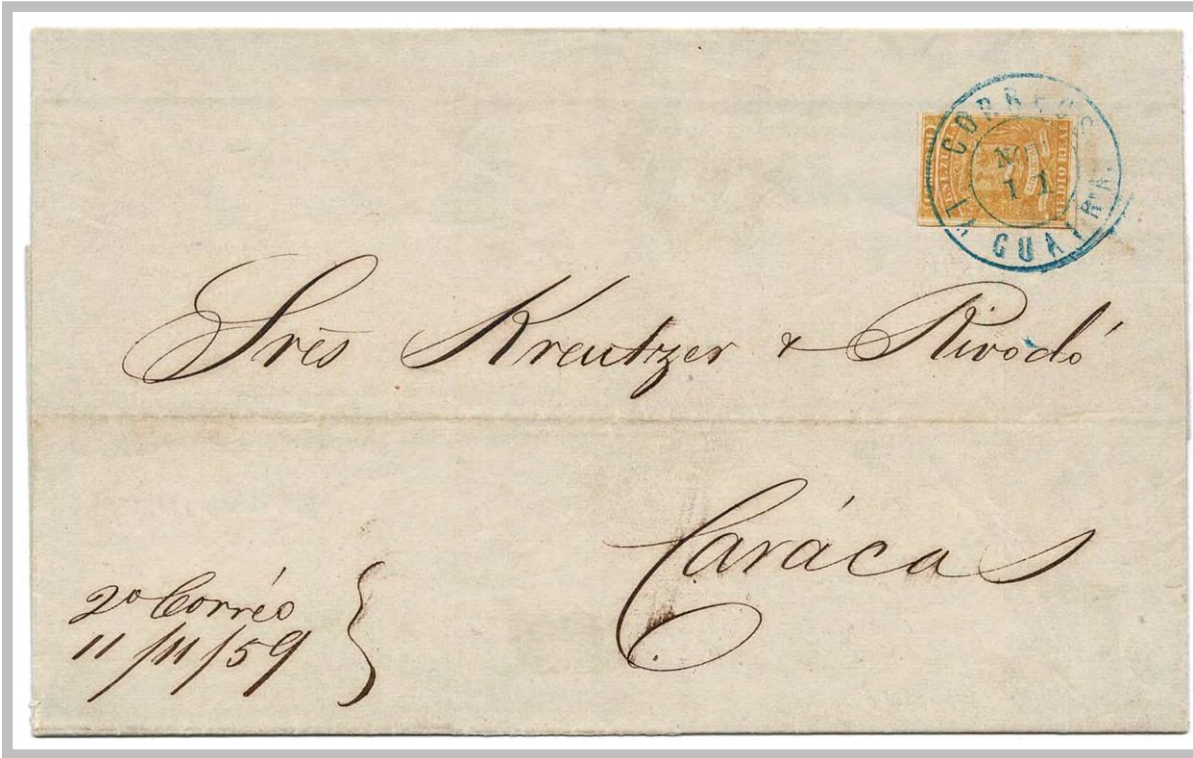


E

February 5, 1859 Palermo to Catania  
 2 grana adhesive paying the domestic letter rate for one sheet  
 cancelled with the distinctive ornamental “horseshoe” obliterator

1859 - Venezuela

On January 1, 1859, Venezuela issued its first postal adhesives which depicted the arms of the country between branches on a background of vertical lines. These three small-sized stamps were diminutive compared to most, and denominated ½ real (yellow), 1 real (blue) and 2 reales (red). Their values were show in white letters in a tablet at bottom.



November 11, 1859  
La Guaira to Caracas

½ real adhesive  
paying the domestic  
letter rate under  
25 leguas (135km)  
to ½ ounce

February 15, 1859  
Valencia to Caracas

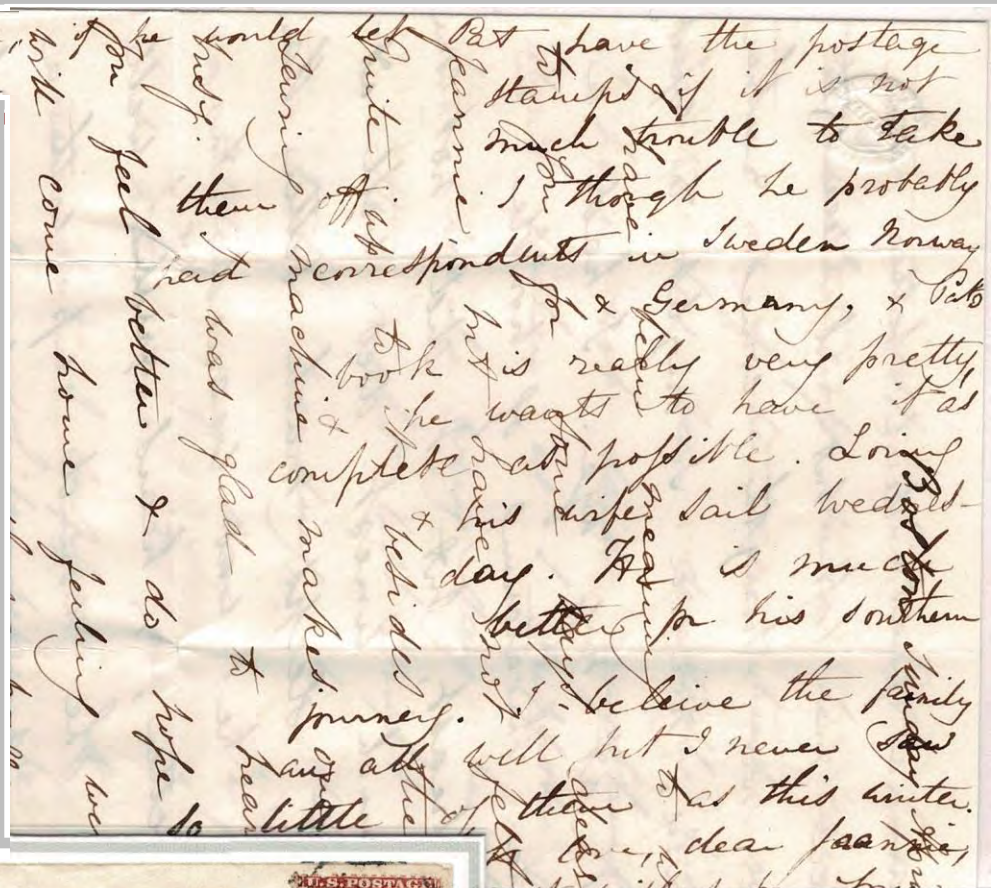
1 real adhesive  
paying the  
domestic letter  
rate 25-100 leguas  
to ½ ounce



Provenance:  
Dr. Norman Hubbard

1859 - America's Earliest Letter Discussing Collecting Stamps

As *timbromanie* flourished, it began to captivate the imagination of the influential and educated. This 1859 letter demonstrates that young Pat Jackson's collecting interests captivated the imagination of his parents. They in turn specifically engaged social and professional contacts to assist in their son's collecting effort. It was obviously deemed a worthwhile pursuit and this short request for help is confirmation that the stamp collecting mania was gaining intellectual respectability and acceptance.



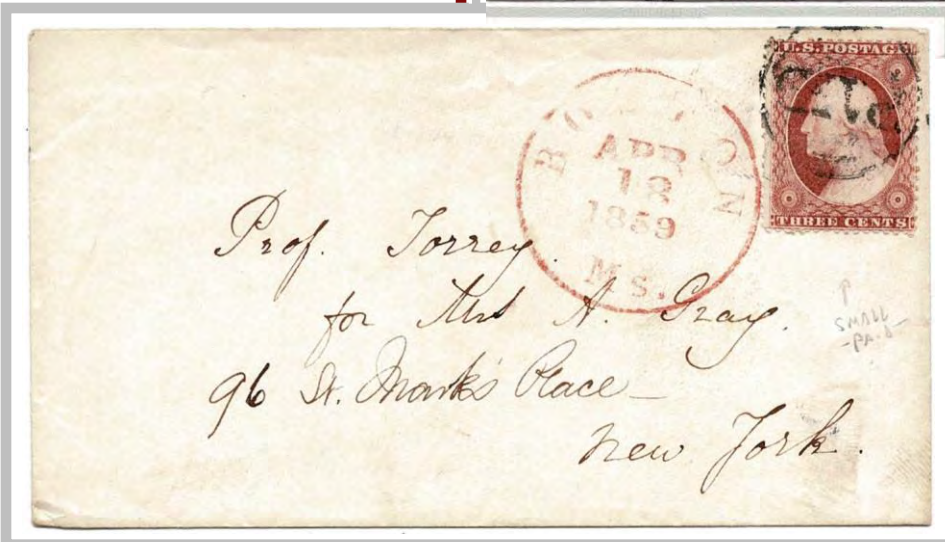
Boston Tuesday April 17th

...[ If you think of it when you see Charles Brace, **will you ask him** if he has any foreign letters from] any place but England, & **if he would let Pat have the postage stamps** if it is not too much trouble to take them off. I thought he probably has correspondents in Sweden, Norway and Germany, & **Pat's book is really very pretty, & he wants to have it complete as possible.** ...

[text on reverse page of letter]

April 18, 1859  
 Boston, Mass. to New York City  
 (Susan Loring Jackson) to  
 Mrs. A(sa) Gray c/o Prof(essor) Torrey

Letter sent by Sue (Susan Loring Jackson) to her sister Jeannie, the wife of Asa Gray, noted American botanist. Charles Brace was a Minister with an international following.



1859 - Uruguay Government Issues

Private stamp issues had been utilized in Uruguay for over two (2) years. With their success, Director of the Post Prudencio Echevarriarza continued postal reforms and presented a proposal to the government for the application of postal stamps for correspondence between every point in the country. This proposal was approved and on July 1, 1859, **the government of Uruguay issued its first postal adhesives** featuring the 'Sol de Montevideo' design that had appeared in an earlier private issue.

October 11, 1859  
Salto to Montevideo

60 centesimos  
adhesive paying the  
domestic letter rate  
to ¼ ounce, any  
distance



November 11, 1859  
Paysandú to  
Montevideo

60 centesimos  
adhesive paying the  
domestic letter rate  
to ¼ ounce, any  
distance



Uruguay Government Issues - continued



Provenance:  
Dr. Norman Hubbard

E

December 21, 1859 Salto to Montevideo

80 centesimos adhesive paying the domestic letter rate over ¼ to ½ ounce, any distance



E

circa 1859 Mercedes to Montevideo

100 centesimos adhesive paying the domestic letter rate over ½ to ¾ ounce, any distance

## 1859 - First Published Account of the Design of a Stamp

As public awareness of *timbromanie* increased, it fueled stamp articles in popular magazines and publications. This four page 1859 *Leisure Hour* article, *Something About Postage Stamps*. (at right, lower second column) was the **world's first comprehensive published account** of the postage stamp, from its value to the consumer, its detailed design features and production methods, its journey into the hands of the recipient to **its final useful destiny as a lasting treasure for a collector**.

## Value of the stamp:

... A single one of them guarantees you the dispatch of a missive for a distance of five hundred miles, if you wish ...

## Design of the stamp:

...The Queen's head, delicately engraved, is relieved by a dark background formed of finest lines... In the two upper corners are a couple of square studs, with the word "Postage" between them; ...

## Production of the stamp:

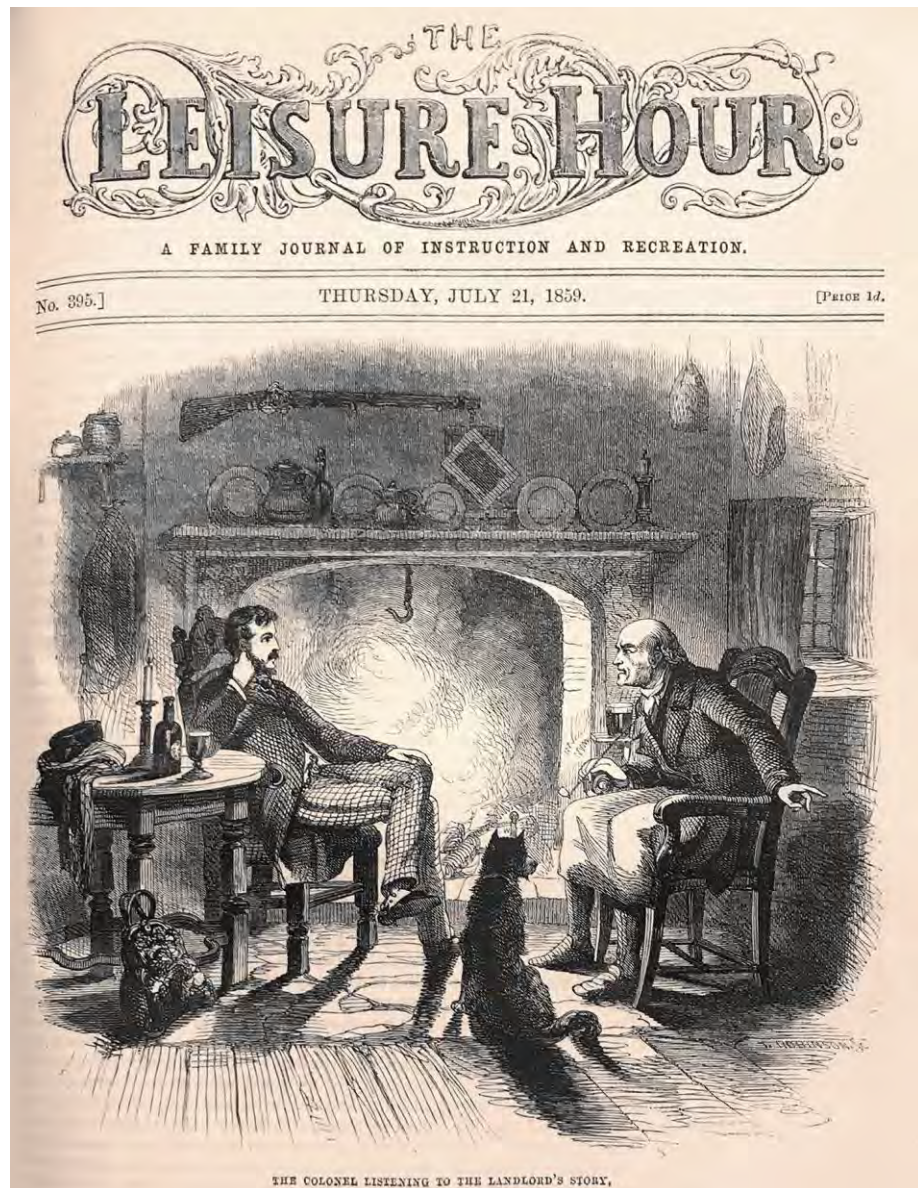
...After the printing comes the process of gelatinizing the unprinted side of the sheet...

## Journey of the stamp:

...it reaches its destination and falls into the owner's hand at last...an end to the career of the little Queen's head...but perhaps there is not...

## There are now collectors:

... As there are collectors of almost everything old under the sun...so also are there collectors of old postage stamps. This odd sort of antiquaries beg old stamps wherever they go, and amass them by hundreds of thousands, for some cherished purpose of their own, on the accomplishment of which they have set their hearts. ...



THE COLONEL LISTENING TO THE LANDLORD'S STORY.

What a place this Melbourne is for meeting old friends! Within the last two hours I have been hailed by men from London, Mauritius, South Africa, Adelaide, and elsewhere. How hearty is the shake of the hand! How absolutely English you feel! Melbourne is a great loadstone. It attracts people from every part of the globe. "Come along, old fellow," says an old friend; "I have not seen you for years; let us have some tiffin at the Criterion." We get to this hotel at half-past one, p.m. The dining-room is very large; a fountain is playing in its centre, three hundred people are feeding, the fare is varied and excellent, the wines A 1, and the attendance unexceptionable. I am delighted with it. What a decent lot of fellows they seem! How well they dress, how fast they talk, how fresh and healthy they look! What a contrast to the men one meets in Adelaide! There was one thing that tickled my fancy not a little. It was the manner in which each man squared his account. I have always been accustomed on these occasions to say, "Waiter, what is to pay?" But at the Criterion such a question could only be asked by a very, very "new chum." The old hands know what they have had, and see by the programme what the figure is. You will notice them take out half-a-crown or five shillings, as the case may be, place it on the counter, and walk out without saying a word. The conductor of the establishment says that it answers people's purpose to be honest when they are properly dealt with, and instead of sustaining a loss by the system, he has been a great gainer, because the time saved is equal to the wages of a dozen waiters. Under such circumstances, the man must indeed be a rogue who would take any undue advantage of the confidence reposed in him.

Amongst the various public buildings I visited during my brief stay in Melbourne, none pleased me better than the Public Library. This is worthy of the capital of Victoria. It stands at the top of Swanston-street, on the left-hand side, and when the *façade* is finished, will have a most imposing appearance. You enter a large hall, supported by Corinthian columns and paved with tessellated marble. You ascend a fine broad staircase, and are in the library, a really splendid apartment, diffused with that soft and studious light which ground glass so beautifully affords. The arrangement of the books, 8000 in number, is excellent. You can get at what you want in a minute. The books are all bound in calf and gold, and are of the best and latest editions. The accommodation is very superior; in fact, a nobleman's library would not furnish you with better. I was quite enchanted with the place. I visited it several times, and on no occasion saw less than fifty or sixty persons present. To the honour of the Legislature, be it said, they voted £5000 for books last year, and another £5000 for the same purpose this year, besides which the munificent sum of £20,000 has been granted for adding another wing to the structure. This is legislating in a national spirit, and will well repay the large outlay which has been made. The average attendance at the library, which is open free of charge to the public from ten o'clock

in the morning till nine o'clock in the evening, is two hundred daily. The selection of books, which is admirable, is intrusted to Mr. Bernard, the colonial agent in England. They are supplied by Mr. J. J. Guillaume, of Chester-square, and delivered free in Melbourne at London prices.

I paid a visit to both houses of Parliament, the exterior of which was not completed. The decorations of the interior are very gorgeous, but too theatrical to please me. This remark applies especially to the Legislative Council, which bears a greater resemblance to a temple of arts than to a deliberative assembly. Even in golden Victoria I was quite unprepared for such a display of costly splendour. When all is finished, the outlay will not fall very far short of a million sterling.

The suburbs of Melbourne, such as Collingwood, Richmond, and St. Kilda, have more than kept pace with the progress of the city. Some of the villas, and many of the terraces that stud these favourite places of resort, would not discredit any of the suburbs of London. The railways are in full play to various parts of the country; and the punctuality with which the trains start from the stations is not surpassed in any part of the world. This adds greatly to the convenience of the dwellers out of town. In a few years the "iron horse" may be expected to be seen travelling over every part of this plucky and go-ahead colony. Some people shrug their shoulders and think the place is much too fast, and prophesy all sorts of misfortunes as the penalty of colonial extravagance. But I share in none of these doleful predictions. I have faith in the development of the resources of the country, and in the indomitable energy and perseverance of the people. The constant infusion of new and first-rate blood is doing great things for Victoria.

## SOMETHING ABOUT POSTAGE STAMPS.

We confess to harbouring something like a tender affection for those little parallelogrammic portraits of Her Majesty in red, which, costing us only a penny each, yet frank our letters to any part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. A packet of them in the corner of one's porte-monnaie, even though that handy receptacle should contain little else, always has a welcome look, not so much for the trifling pecuniary value they represent, as from the really marvellous power they consign to their possessor. A single one of them guarantees you the despatch of a missive for a distance of five hundred miles, if you like, with the speed of the carrier pigeon and the punctuality of clockwork; and will thus perform for its owner a feat which would cost him twenty pounds or so to execute in person, and which, had he existed a century ago, he could not have accomplished with a mine of wealth.

Personally, our regard for the penny postage stamp owes something to certain memories of the times when no such things were to be had—when a letter from home cost tenpence on delivery by the postman—and correspondence, which is the dearest solace of absence and separation, had to be

**1859 - Colombia, the Granadine Confederation**

The Granadine Confederation, a short-lived federal republic established in 1858, comprised the present day nations of Colombia and Panama and parts of northwestern Brazil. The central government was responsible for inter-state postal services and all mail to and from other countries. For these purposes national postage stamps were issued on August 31, 1859. The design bore the republic's coat of arms, the inscription Confed. Granadina Correos Nacionales and was denominated 2½ centavos(c) in green, 5c in violet, 10c in red-brown, 20c in blue and 1 peso in carmine.



October 14, 1859 Honda to Barranquilla  
20 centavos adhesive paying the letter rate over 450 kilometers

## 1859 - Romagna

Romagna was one of the Papal States until June 12, 1859. With the unification of Italy being imminent, a provisional government was established in 1859, and nine postage stamps were issued on September 1, 1859. It was the **last of the Italian States to issue postal adhesives which were only in use for about five months**, before Romagna was annexed by the Kingdom of Sardinia. The stamps were of similar rudimentary design, printed in black on colored paper, with their value prominently displayed at center. They were denominated ½ bajocchi(b), 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 8b and 20b.



E

October 15, 1859 (Copparo) to Ferrara

1 bai adhesive paying the domestic letter within the same district rate per sheet



E

October 11, 1859 Faenza to Brescia, Lombardy

8 bai adhesive paying letter rate to Lombardy per sheet

Provenance:  
Erivan K. Haub