

1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE
"HAPAG"

S.S. Saxonia

2684 tons, 312' x 42' beam, clipper bow, 1 funnel, 3 masts, iron screw steamer. Launched Aug. 21, 1857, at Caird & Co., Greenock, Scotland. 1857 chartered as Indian Mutiny transport. April 1, 1858, first voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York. Oct. 5, 1873, last voyage Hamburg - N.Y., later Hamburg-West Indies. 1879 Nijni Novgorod (Russian Volunteer Fleet). 1895 scrapped.



Paid 6

10

Paid 6 10
1858

May 31, 1858. S.S. Saxonia left Hamburg June 1, Capt. Ehlers, and Southampton June 4. Letter was prepaid in Hamburg at the Hamburg Packet rate of 6 schillinge. One schillinge was equivalent to about 1.7¢, so at 6 sch. x 1.7¢/sch. = 10¢, the red "10" shows the amount paid as 10¢ U.S. This was divided: Hamburg Inland 1¢, 6¢ Hamburg Packet and 3¢ U.S. Domestic = 10¢. Debits and credits were not shown on mail originating at Hamburg until 1864.

June 17 (Thurs.). Steamship Saxonia arrived at N.Y. at 4 PM with merchandise and 437 passengers to Kunhardt & Co.



N.Y. Times, Friday, June 18: Has experienced westerly winds the entire passage; blowing at times very fresh. Sailed through a dense fog from Newfoundland Banks to Long Island, where she lay to for six hours in consequence of the fog. Took a pilot from the Station Boat between the Light Ship and Sandy Hook.

1860

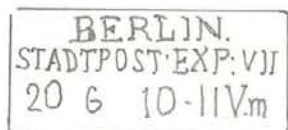
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

Hamburg to New York

S. S. Bavaria

The North German Lloyd Line (ngl or Bremen Packet) was having great difficulties in early 1860 because one of their two available steamers was out of service. The letter below was originally sent from Berlin to Bremen to meet the expected sailing of the NGL packet from that port. Unable to meet their schedule, NGL had to send prepared mails to Hamburg for the HAPAG steamer to carry to New York.



2

5/10



June 20, 1860. A letter posted at Berlin and prepaid 2 silbergroschen (5 Bremen grote) for internal German-Austrian Union postage.

June 21. Transit backstamp at the Stadt Post Amt (St. P.A. = State Post Office) at Bremen. This letter was rated under the revived convention of 1853, where the rate beyond Bremen city was 15¢. The 5/10 mark shows the GAU postage of 2 silbergroschen or 5 Bremen grote or 5¢, over the 4½ s.g. or 10 grote or 10¢ rate Bremen-U.S., total 15¢ U.S. As indicated above, NGL was unable to keep the schedule, so the letter was sent on to Hamburg for conveyance by the HAPAG line.

June 21. S.S. Bavaria of HAPAG departed from Hamburg, arrived N.Y. July 9.

July 10. Letter processed at New York, 15¢ due. N.Y. knew that a Bremen mail was landed along with the Hamburg mail and elected to keep the books straight by acknowledging that Bremen prepared the mails even though carried by the HAPAG Line, hence the BREM. PK. in the N.Y. cds.



1864

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Bavaria

Depreciated Currency

The U.S.-Hamburg Convention set rates, effective July 1857, at 10¢ per ½-oz to or from Hamburg, direct, made up:

Hamburg Inland postage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. for Unpaid letter.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Inland	3¢	
	<u>10¢.</u>	



February 20, 1864. An unpaid letter endorsed: pr. Bavaria. It bears a debit to the U.S. of 1¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢. Hamburg Packet marks showing debits or credits to the U.S. started in 1864, so this is very early usage. Later debit marks were usually in blue, here early in black.

February 21. S.S. Bavaria departed from Hamburg, touched at Southampton on the 24th.



March 9. Bavaria arrived at New York. The 10¢ rate, due in gold, was adjusted to its value in depreciated paper money by applying the day's ratio of 1.60 x 10¢ = 16¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE
(Hapag)

S.S. Saxonia

American Packet

French Rates of April 1, 1857

These rates were broken down:

U.S. Inland	3¢)	= 9¢ retained out of collection in U.S.
Sea	6¢)	
British Inland	2¢)	= 6¢ debit to U.S.
French Inland	4¢)	
	<u>15¢.</u>	



6

July 11, 1862. Unpaid at Vichy, France, this letter was directed "via Queenstown", port of call of the Cunard Liners. The sailings of the mail steamers after July 11 were the R.M.S. Australasian from Liverpool to New York on July 19 and Arabia on July 26 to Boston. The French office thus ignored these instructions and sent the letter to Southampton to meet the earlier sailing of the Hapag S.S. Saxonia, Capt. Ehlers, which left Hamburg July 13 and Southampton July 16. 6¢ debit to U.S.(see above). Noted handled per "American Service".



July 28. Arrival at New York, 15¢ due from recipient. Saxonia arrived off the Hook at 4 p.m. and off the Battery at 5:50 p.m.

1865

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Saxonia



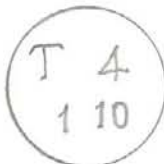
September 16, 1865. A letter posted at New York and paid at double the October 1859 rate to Darmstadt of 15¢ per ½-oz. by Bremen or Hamburg Packet. Payment is by the 30¢ Issue of 1861 cancelled by a geometric cork. The New York Exchange Office "PAID" handstamp shows it went by Hamburg Packet and credits Hamburg with 7¢ transatlantic + 5¢ Hamburg postage = 12¢ x 2 (double weight letter) = 24¢.

September 16. S.S. Saxonia of the Hamburg-American Line departed from New York for Hamburg. She touched at Southampton on Sept. 28.

September 29. Saxonia arrived at Hamburg, letter processed September 30.



October 1. Darmstadt arrival backstamp. The blue manuscript "1" represents a one kreutzer local fee imposed at Darmstadt.



1866 - 67

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Saxonia

Depreciated Currency

The U.S.-Hamburg Convention set a rate of 10¢ per ½-oz. for letters to or from Hamburg by the Hamburg Packets. Letters beyond Hamburg were subject to additional charges. The 10¢ rate was broken down:

Hamburg Inland postage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. on unpaid letter.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Inland	3¢	
	<u>10¢.</u>	



December 22, 1866. An unpaid letter posted at Hamburg and endorsed: p Saxonia. It is backstamped with the oval ST.P.A. (Stadt Post Amt = State Post Office). The U.S. was debited for 1¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢, shown in the HAMBURG PACKET Exchange Office mark.

December 22. S.S. Saxonia departed from Hamburg for New York via Southampton. She touched at the latter port on December 26.



January 12, 1867. Saxonia arrived at New York. The 10¢ Hamburg Packet rate, due in gold, was adjusted to the equivalent in depreciated paper currency by multiplying by the day's ratio of 1.30 x 10¢ = 13¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

1928

HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

Hapag

S.S. Albert Ballin, Eastbound

S.S. Leviathan, U. S. Line, Westbound

Recd Aug 21



Mrs. Corchie T. Gilman,
389 Washington St.,
Norwich Town,
Conn.,
U. S. A.



HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE



August 12, 1928. This letter was mailed aboard the S.S. Albert Ballin, which had sailed from New York on August 4 for Hamburg. The German 25 pf. Issue of 1926, paying the U.P.U. rate, was cancelled aboard the ship (Dreschel 80). The writer commented on the wonderful service aboard the ship, but no

interesting men, they are "a lot of dressed up Babbitts."

August 14. Albert Ballin arrived at Hamburg, bagged mail for the U.S. had been dropped off at Southampton. The S.S. Leviathan, U.S. Lines, sailed from Southampton August 14. She arrived at New York August 20.

August 21. Docket notes receipt of this letter at Norwich, Conn.

1865

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES
HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

HAPAG (Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft)

S.S. Allemania

Maiden Voyage

2695 tons, 315 x 41 ft. Screw, iron steamer. Built by C.A. Day & Co., Southampton, launched May 11, 1865. Maiden voyage Sept. 17, 1865 Hamburg-Southampton-New York. Various routes until sold British 1880, renamed Oxenholme. June 6, 1894, wrecked near Santa Catharina, Brazil.



Sept. 18, 1865. Unpaid letter at Berlin. Although directed "Via Queenstown", the mail from Aachen would be bulked as closed mail through England by the most expeditious routing.

Sept. 19. Transit at Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) at the Prussian Closed Mail rate of 30¢. Handstamp shows debit to U.S. for Prussian Inland (5¢). S.S. Allemania, Capt, Trautman, departed Hamburg Sept. 17 and Southampton Sept. 20. This letter was picked up at Southampton on the Maiden Voyage of the Allemania.



Oct. 1. Allemania arrived at New York. She was so new the N.Y. Times reported the arrival of the "S.S. Albemannie", this misspelling no doubt arising from a phonetic report.

Letter subject to a collect of 30¢ in hard money or 42¢ in depreciated paper currency (U.S. Notes).

1867

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES
THE HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

HAMBURG-AMERIKANISCHE PACKENFAHRT AKTIEN GESELLSCHAFT

"HAPAG"

S.S. Cimbria

The Hamburg American Line was founded May 27, 1847 by a group of prominent Hamburg shipowners and merchants. First ship, the Deutschland, was wooden, sail, and made her maiden voyage from Hamburg on Oct. 15, 1848. It wasn't until June 1, 1856 when the SS Borussia left Hamburg for New York that HAPAG used steam on the transatlantic run.

The SS Cimbria, 3037 tons, 340 ft. x 40 ft. beam, straight stem, iron screw steamer. Launched Jan. 21, 1867, at Caird & Co., Greenock. Maiden voyage April 13, 1867, Hamburg-Southampton-New York. Sunk Jan. 19, 1883 in collision with SS Sultan (British) near Borkum Island, Germany. 389 lives lost.

LONDON
DE 10
67

Dec. 10, 1867.
Letter posted
unpaid at Lon-
don and endors-
ed "pr Cimbria"
to pick up the
Hamburg American
Line steamer at
Southampton.

S. Cimbria

Wm. Graves Esq

*Newburyport
Mass*

24 AM. P.M.
DEC 24
U.S. 32 NOTES

3
CENTS

LONDON
DE 10
67

3
CENTS

24 AM. P.M.
DEC 24
U.S. 32 NOTES

Mark struck aboard ship
to give 3¢ debit to U.S.
for British Inland postage.

Dec. 24. Arrival mark at New
York. "American Packet" gave U.S.
16¢ sea + 5¢ U.S. Inland. Total of
24¢ was due in coin or 32¢ in depr-
eciated U.S. paper notes.

1872

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Cimbria

10¢ Rate to Switzerland, Closed Mail via England



May 20, 1872. Letter to Switzerland at the 10¢ per ½-oz. rate effective May 1870 to July 1, 1875, Closed Mail via England. Rate paid by the National Bank Note Co. Issue of 1870 (no grill). Stamp is cancelled by the fancy "leaf" of Greenville, Ill.



May 23. New York PAID ALL transit mark. S.S. Cimbria of the Hapag Line departed from New York this date.



June 2. Cimbria arrived at Plymouth. Mail to Switzerland went in closed bags across Europe.

June 4-5. Swiss transit and arrival backstamps.

1872

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Cimbria

The direct Steamship Letter rate was reduced from 60 centimes to 50 centimes by French law effective July 1, 1871 to promote Ligne H usage. Hapag service was resumed on July 22, 1871. These rates only paid the letter to the port of entry at New York, 10¢ U.S. Steamship postage was due in the U.S.



September 28, 1872. A letter paid at the 50 centimes rate to the U.S. port of entry only by a pair of the 25 centimes Issue of 1871. The letter bears the blue dated company backstamp of Chardey & Cie. Cancellation of the stamps is by the gros chiffres "1769" of Le Havre. Posting was at the portside post office at Havre.

September 25. S.S. Cimbria of the Hapag Line departed from Hamburg and touched at Havre September 28 where this letter went aboard. Cover is suitably endorsed: Cimbria.



October 10. Cimbria arrived at New York. The 10¢ Steamship Letter rate was due from the recipient as shown in the New York Exchange Office handstamp.

1900

HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

S. S. Deutschland

September 25, 1900. List of Cabin Passengers of the Deutschland
for Hamburg via Plymouth and Cherbourg.



TWIN-SCREW EXPRESS S. S. DEUTSCHLAND,
16,000 TONS, 35,000 HORSE POWER, 23 KNOTS PER HOUR, 686 1-2 FEET LONG, 87 1-2 FEET WIDE.

*Hamburg-American
Line!*

*37 Broadway, New York.
159 Randolph St., Chicago.*

715 164.055

1906

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

Hapag

S.S. Deutschland



April 27, 1906. A letter posted at New York to Germany, paid at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate by the 2¢ stamped envelope, re-cut die, Issue of 1904, the 1¢ Franklin Issue of 1903, and the 2¢ Washington carmine Issue of 1903, die I. 3 P.M. machine cancel at New York City.

N.Y. Times. OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS. Sail Saturday, April 28. Deutschland, for Hamburg. Mails close 3 P.M.. Ship sails 7 A.M.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE: SS Deutschland arrived at Hamburg May 6.



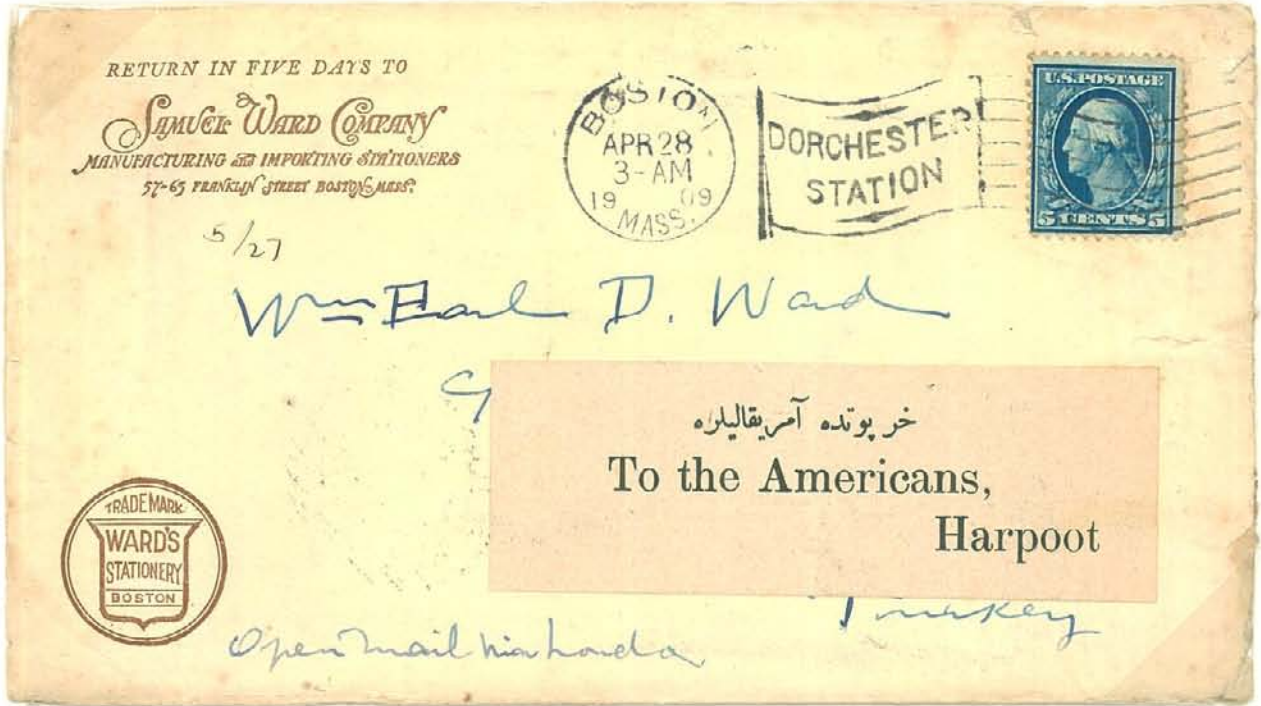
May 6. Hamburg arrival
backstamp.

1909

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Deutschland (III)



April 28, 1909. An interesting cover posted to Wm. Earl D. Ward, c/o American Bible House, Constantinople. It is paid at the U.P.U. rate by 5¢, Issue of 1908, and endorsed: Open Mail via London.

N.Y. Times, OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS SAIL THURS. April 29: Deutschland, Hamburg, mails close 9:30 A.M., sails 1 P.M.

May 5. Arrived at Plymouth, England. Deutschland, en route to Hamburg.



May 10. Letter arrived at Constantinople where the American Bible House forwarded it "To the Americans" at Harpoot by applying an address sticker. This refers to the American Protestant Mission at Harpoot. Letter was put back into the mails at the British Post Office Constantinople, backstamp.

N.B.: Karpoot or Kharput, called also Harpoot and Karputh, a town of Turkish Armenia, 60 miles W.N.W. of Diarbekir, on an eminence in a fertile plain. It had a Catholic Armenian bishop and an American Protestant mission.

1876

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Frisia

A change in French rates to the U.S. occurred on January 1, 1876. Prior to that date, the Reciprocal Period, rates were 50 centimes per 10 grams prepaid in France with letters subject to a 10¢ per ½-oz. "Steamship Letter" charge on arrival in the U.S. On January 1, 1876, the Berne Postal Congress rates became effective. These were 40 centimes per 15 grams (½-oz.) all inclusive and by any route. These rates were effective until May 30, 1876, when France entered the G.P.U. The corresponding Berne rate in the U.S. was 8¢ per ½-oz.



January 16, 1876. A double weight letter under the Berne Congress rates paid at Havre, Le Port at 40 centimes x 2 = 80 cent., made up of two copies of the 25 cent. Issue of 1871 and 2 copies of the 15 cent. Issue of 1873. Cancellation of the stamps is by the large numerals "6311" of Le Havre, Le Port.

S.S. Frisia of Hapag touched at Havre this date for mails and passengers.

N.Y. Times. Arrived Jan. 28: Steam-ship Frisia, (Ger.,) Meyer, Hamburg Jan. 12, via Havre 16th with mdse. and passengers to Kunhardt & Co. is anchored off Sandy Hook on account of thick fog.

January 29. New York PAID ALL receiving mark. Processing was not until Jan. 29 due to fog delay.



1893

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

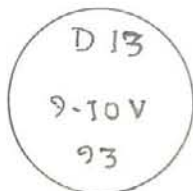
S.S. Fürst Bismarck



May 30, 1893. A registered U.P.U. letter to Germany paid by a pair of the 1¢ and single copies of the 3¢ and 8¢ Columbian Exposition Issue of 1893. This comprised the 5¢ U.P.U. rate and the 8¢ registered letter rate of Jan. 1, 1893, no indemnity. N.B.: Although

the U.P.U. allowed a 10¢ registry fee, it also stated that no fee could exceed the fee that applied to domestic mail, in this case 8¢.

N.Y. Times. OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS. June 1, Fürst Bismarck to Southampton. Mails close 4 A.M., vessel sails 7 A.M.



N.Y. TIMES: BY CABLE, SOUTHAMPTON, June 8. Hamburg-American Line SS Fürst Bismarck, Capt. Albera, from New York arrived here at 12:15 P.M. to-day.

HAMBURG, June 9. Hamburg-American Line Fürst Bismarck arrived here to-day.



June 9. Distribution backstamp at Hamburg (9-10 A.M.) and arrival backstamp at Leipzig (10-11 A.M.)

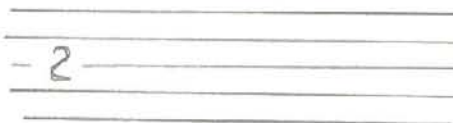
1900

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Fuerst Bismark

8430 tons, 502'-6" x 57'-6", steel screw steamer. Built by A.G. Vulcan, Stettin. Laid down as Venetia, launched May 8, 1891. Maiden voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York Mar. 27, 1894. First voyage Genoa-Naples-New York Jan. 26, 1902. Last voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York Nov. 5, 1902. 1904 became Don, Russian auxiliary cruiser.



Sept. 19, 1900. Letter posted at Detroit, paid at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate and endorsed: Per Steamer Fuerst Bismark sailing Thursday Sept. 20th.

Sept. 20. N.Y. Times: OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS, Thurs. Sept. 20.

	Mails Close	Sails
Fuerst Bismark, Hamburg	6:30 A.M.	10:00 A.M.

October 1. Arrival backstamp at Lausanne, Switzerland.



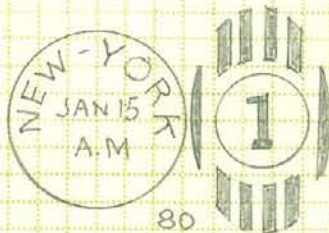
1880

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Gellert

3,533 tons, 375' x 40' beam, iron screw steamer. Launched November 25, 1874 for Adler Line by A. Stephen & Sons, Glasgow. Did not run for Adler, but purchased 1875 by Hapag. May 26, 1875, maiden voyage Hamburg-Havre-New York. 1881 rebuilt, two funnels. At this time Hapag steamers called at Havre westbound and Plymouth and Cherbourg eastbound. The Southampton call had been abandoned in 1869.



January 15, 1880. Letter paid at the U.P.U. rate of 5¢ by a copy of the Issue of 1879. It was directed to go pr. "Gellert", which sailed the same day from New York for Hamburg via Cherbourg, France. This routing gave fastest delivery to Bordeaux.



January 27. Gellert arrived at Cherbourg and letter forwarded on to Paris where this blue transit mark was struck. Same day arrival backstamp struck at Bordeaux.

1882

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

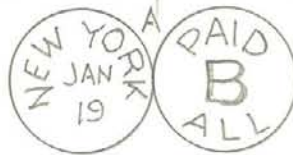
S.S. Gellert



ESSEN F.
 *REG. BEZ. DÜSSELDORF. C.
 21 82 *7-8N.

January 2, 1882. A letter paid at Essen at the 20 pfennig U.P.U. by the German Issue of 1880.

January 4. S.S. Gellert of Hapag departed from Hamburg.



N.Y. Times. January 19, 1882. Arrived Steam-ship Gellert (Ger.,) Kuhlewein, Hamburg Jan. 4 and Havre 8th to Kunhardt & Co.



Jan. 19. New York transit backstamp.

Jan. 20. Arrival backstamp at New Bedford.

1889

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Gellert



June 17, 1889. A registered letter paid at Chicago with the 5¢ indigo, Issue of 1888 paying the U.P.U. rate plus 10¢ re-engraved, Issue of 1882 paying the registration fee.



June 19. New York transit backstamps at the Registry Division where the registration sticker was applied.

June 20. S. S. Gellert of the Hapag Line sailed from New York.



N.Y. Times. BY CABLE. London, June 30. The Hamburg-American Line steamship Gellert, Capt. Kaempff, from N.Y. June 20 for Hamburg arr. at Plymouth at 7:40 A.M. to-day.

July 1. London arrival registry marks, Western District Office on reverse.

1864

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

HAPAG

S.S. Germania

Depreciated Currency



3 CENTS

March 8, 1864. Letter posted unpaid at London, backstamp. U.S. was debited for 3¢ British Inland out of the 24¢ per ½-oz. U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate. Letter is endorsed: "Germania" from Southampton.

March 6. S.S. Germania of the Hamburg-American Line sailed from Hamburg; she touched at Southampton March 10 where this letter went aboard.



March 23. Germania arrived at New York, letter processed March 24. Of the 24¢ Treaty rate, U.S. retained 16¢ Sea (American Packet) + 5¢ U.S. Inland = 21¢. The 24¢ was due in hard currency or 39¢ in depreciated paper money (U.S. NOTES). The conversion was at the day's ratio of notes to hard currency at $1.625 \times 24¢ = 39¢$.

W. 384

1865

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Germania

Depreciated Currency

Rates by the United States-Hamburg Convention, effective July 1856, were 10¢ per ½-oz. to or from Hamburg by Hamburg Packet, made up as follows:

Hamburg Inland P ^O stage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. if unpaid.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Domestic Postage	3¢	
	10¢	



April 4, 1865. An unpaid letter originating at Hamburg to New York and endorsed: pr. Germania. U.S. was debited for 1¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢. Since 1864 Hamburg Packet marks showed debits or credits to the U.S. Exchange Office.

April 4. S.S. Germania of the Hamburg-American Line departed from Hamburg, touched at Southampton the 5th.



April 16. Germania arrived at New York. The 10¢ Hamburg Packet rate, due in gold, was also shown in depreciated paper currency by applying the day's gold/paper ratio of 1.5 x 10¢ = 15¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

1866

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Germania

Depreciated Currency



3 CENTS

March 6, 1866. An unpaid letter headed at London: p. "Gernamia". It is from David Taylor & Sons and concerns shipments of citric acid via Liverpool. Other drugs and chemicals being ordered or shipped are musk, sweet oil almonds, opium, cream of tartar and co. eras (ferrous sulfate).

March 4. S.S. Germania of the Hamburg-American Line departed from Hamburg, she touched at Southampton March 7, where this letter went aboard. U.S. was debited for 3¢ British Inland out of the 24¢ per ½-oz. U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate.



March 18. Germania arrived at New York. The U.S. added 16¢ Sea (American Packet) + 5¢ U.S. Inland to the British 3¢ debit to total the 24¢ rate due in gold. This was converted to the optional payment in depreciated U.S. paper money at the day's gold/paper ratio of 1.25 x 24¢ = 30¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

1867

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Germania (I)

Germania, 2123 tons, 298.6' x 39.4' beam, iron screw steamer, 1 funnel, 3 masts. Built by Caird & Co., Greenock, launched April 6, 1863. Maiden voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York August 22, 1863. July 14, 1869, last voyage ditto, wrecked near Cape Race August 7, 1869.



May 31, 1867. A letter to London posted at Stamford, Conn. and paid at the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate of 24¢ per ½-oz. Payment is by the 24¢ grayish lilac Issue of 1863 (Sc. 78a).

June 1. Transit at N.Y. where the Exchange Office credited Britain with 3¢ British Inland. U.S. retained 16¢ Sea (American Packet) + 5¢ U.S. Inland = 21¢.

June 1. S.S. Germania of the Hamburg Line departed this date from New York. Under contract, the Hamburg Line delivering mail to England were considered "American" Packets.

June 12. Germania arrived at Southampton, London PAID mark on face and London Western Office backstamp, all of even date. The Germania went on to arrive at Hamburg on June 13.



w. 39



1867

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Germania

Depreciated Currency

Rates by the United States-Hamburg Convention were 10¢ per ½-oz. to or from Hamburg by Hamburg Packet, made up as follows:

Hamburg Inland postage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. if unpaid.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Domestic postage	3¢	
	<u>10¢</u>	



June 29, 1867. An unpaid letter originating at Hamburg to Wells Fargo & Co., New York. It is endorsed: p Germania. U.S. was debited for 1¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢. Since 1864 Hamburg Packet marks showed debits or credits to the U.S. Exchange Office.

June 30. S.S. Germania of the Hamburg-American Line departed from Hamburg, touched at Southampton July 3.

July 14. Germania of the Hamburg-American Line arrived at New York. The 10¢ Hamburg Packet rate, due in gold, was converted to the day's equivalent in depreciated paper money by applying the day's ratio of 1.40 x 10¢ = 14¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

July 15. Wells, Fargo & Co. receiving mark at New York, struck at the letter head.



1867

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Hammonia (II)

Depreciated Currency

Rates by the U.S.-Hamburg Convention were 10¢ per ½-oz. to or from Hamburg direct by Hamburg Packet, made up:

Hamburg Inland postage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. if letter unpaid.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Inland	3¢	



October 26, 1867. An unpaid letter posted at Hamburg. U.S. was debited 1¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢, shown in the Hamburg Packet Letter office handstamp.

October 27. S. S. Hammonia (II) of the Hamburg-American Line departed from Hamburg for New York direct. She did not call at Southampton on this crossing.

November 9. Hammonia arrived at New York. As the 10¢ Convention rate was due in gold, the New York Exchange Office showed the optional payment in depreciated paper currency by applying the day's ratio of gold/paper at 1.4 x 10¢ = 14¢ due in U.S. NOTES.



1879

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE
"Hapag"

S. S. Herder

3494 tons, 375' x 40', iron screw steamship, straight stem, 2-cylinder compound engine, 13 knots. Built A. Stephen & Sons, Glasgow, launched October 22, 1873, for Adler Line. Purchased by Hapag, June 9, 1875, first voyage Hamburg-Havre-New York. April 1880 rebuilt. October 10, 1882, wrecked near Cape Race, no lives lost.



March 12, 1879. A letter to Switzerland paid at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate by a pair of the 1¢ and a single 3¢, all Issue of 1873.

N.Y. Times. Thursday March 13. Herder (Ger.,) Brandt. Hamburg, Plymouth & Cherbourg, Kunhardt & Co. Cleared to-day.



N.Y. Times. BY CABLE: PLYMOUTH. March 25. The Hamburg-American Line steam-ship Herder, Capt. Brandt from New York March 13, arr. here to-day and sailed for Hamburg.

March 27. Swiss Ambulant (R.R. T.P.O.) back-stamp and same day arrival at Lausanne.

1874

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Holsatia



July 8, 1874. A letter posted paid at Philadelphia at the 6¢ rate (equivalent to 3d. sterling) to England, effective January 1, 1870 to July 1, 1875, payment by the National Bank Note Co. Issue of 1870. The stamp is cancelled by the spectacular 6 pointed "star" of Philadelphia (or is it an amoeba?)

July 9. S. S. Holsatia of the Hapag Line departed from New York for Hamburg via Plymouth, England.

July 19. Holsatia arrived at Plymouth. Letter went by rail to London where it was struck by the PAID mark at London on July 20.



This letter was processed by the London forwarding agents Brown Shipley & Co. who forwarded it under separate cover to Hotel d'Athenee, Paris per the manuscript notation.

1874

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Holsatia

The direct rate, France to U.S., effective July 22, 1871 to July 31, 1874, became 50 centimes per 10 grams, prepaid in France. HAPAG service was resumed on July 22, 1871. Letters so carried were subject to a collect charge in the U.S. of 10¢ per ½-oz.



March 27, 1874. A letter paid in France at the double rate, 10-20 grams, endorsed: Pr. St. Holsatia. Franking is at Le Havre by a pair of the 30 centimes, Issue of 1872, and 40 centimes Issue of 1870, total

100 centimes. Stamps are cancelled by the number 1769 (large) of Havre. Letter is marked P.P. = Port Payee or paid to the port at New York.

March 25. S.S. Holsatia of the Hamburg-American Line departed from Hamburg and touched at Havre March 28, where this letter went aboard.

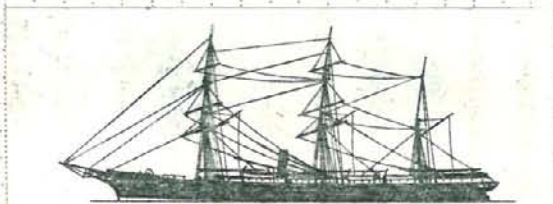


April 10. Holsatia arrived at New York. Letter subject to the 10¢ Steamship letter rate, due in U.S. CURRENCY as shown by the New York Exchange Office handstamp.

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

S.S. Hammonia



1856 HAMMONIA (I) 2,026 tons
Sister ship: BORUSSIA. First Hapag steamers.

2,026 tons, 280' x 38.5'. Clipper bow, iron screw steamer, 10 knots. Launched May 5, 1855 at Caird & Co., Greenock, chartered to French Government as a Crimean War transport. July 1, 1856, first voyage Hamburg-N.Y. Feb. 6, 1864, last voyage Hamburg-Southampton-N.Y. 1864 became the Belgian of the Allan Line.



February 26, 1862. Unpaid letter posted at London East Central post office and endorsed: "Hammonia" @ Southampton. S.S. Hammonia of the Hamburg-American Line had departed from Hamburg February 23 and touched at Southampton the 26th for the U.S. Mails.

March 10. Hammonia arrived at New York. Letter rated 24¢ due, the U.S.-British Treaty rate of 1848. U.S. retained 16¢ Sea (American Packet) + 5¢ U.S. Inland = 21¢. U.S. was debited for 3¢ British Inland.

24

3
CENTS

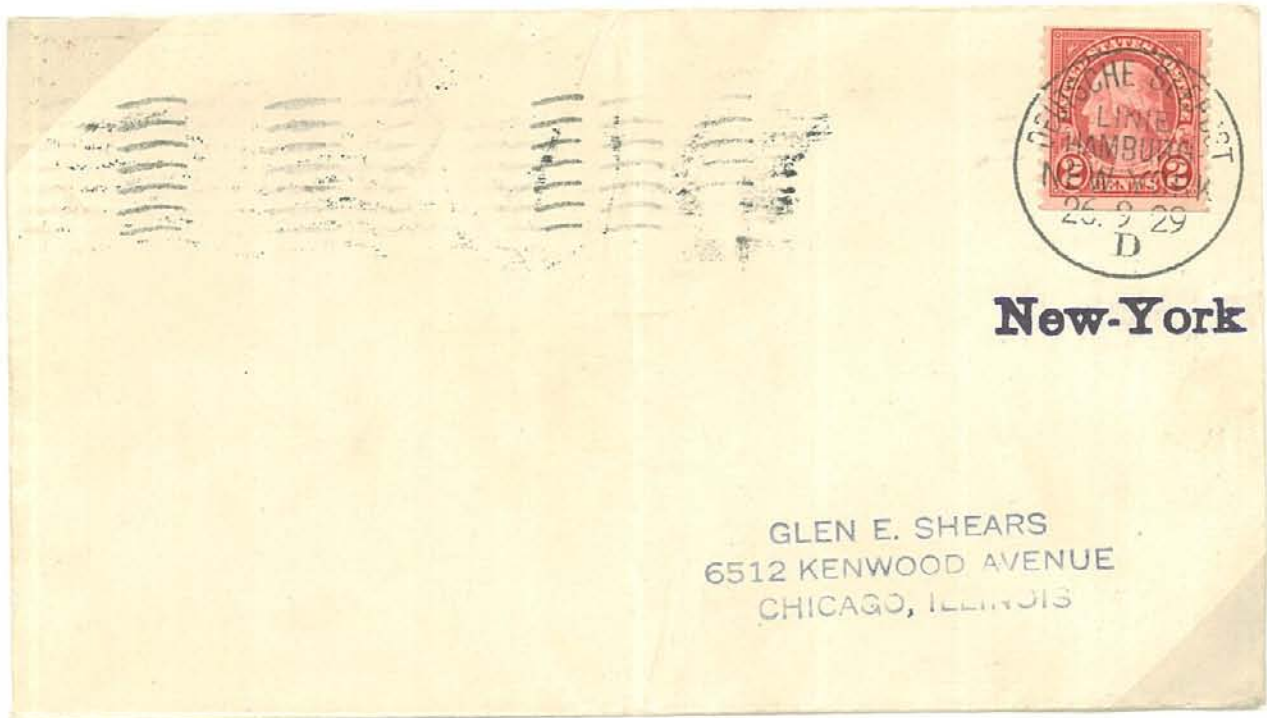
1929

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. New-York

Built 1927 by Blohm & Voss, Hamburg. 21,455 tons, 602' x 72', twin screw, 16 knots, steam turbines. Two masts and two funnels. Maiden Voyage Hamburg-Southampton-Cherbourg-New York, May 13, 1927. Bombed and sunk by air attack at Kiel, April 3, 1945.



September 26, 1929. A cover processed by a ship cancellation collector. The S.S. New-York sailed from Hamburg for N.Y. Sept. 27.

N.Y. Times: Incoming Passenger and Mail Steamships: New York, Hamburg, Hamburg-American Line, Hamburg September 27, Due at New York Monday October 7.

N.B.: This cover has a New York machine cancellation backstamp of October 3, 1929, indicating that it was posted anticipating the arrival of S.S. New-York, and that the adhesive stamp was actually cancelled on October 7, but with a DEUTSCHE SEEPOST handstamp dated Sept. 26 as a courtesy.

1937

HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

S. S. New York

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE
 An Bord SS. New York
July 2. 1937

Dear Boys & Girls:
 The New York is a very nice boat; only it takes 2 days too long. We had a Boock-beer - evening last night and we had much fun. Our customers are all satisfied. Best regards to you all,
 Emma Helmer

POSTKARTE

Senack Travel Bureau
 144 East 86th Street
 New York City.

350 U.S.A.

DEUTSCH-AMERIKANISCHE SEPOST
 HAMBURG-NEW YORK
 -4 4 37
 HAMBURG & AMERIKA LINE
 D. NEW YORK

Lug.-Nr. 485, geg. 30 and
 PETERMANN



July 2, 1937. A card posted aboard the S.S. New York of the Hamburg-American Line by a travel agent en route to Europe with a tour group. He paid the post card rate of 15 pf. by Germany Issue of 1934, which was cancelled by the HAPAG circular date stamp. D. NEW YORK = Dampfschiff New York. The New York had departed from New York June 26, touched at Cherbourg and Southampton July 4 and arrived at Hamburg July 5. This card was cancelled on July 4.

The U.S. mails were kept aboard and returned with the New York.
 N.Y. Times: Due at N.Y. Friday, July 16, NEW-YORK, Hamburg-American, Hamburg July 8.

1876

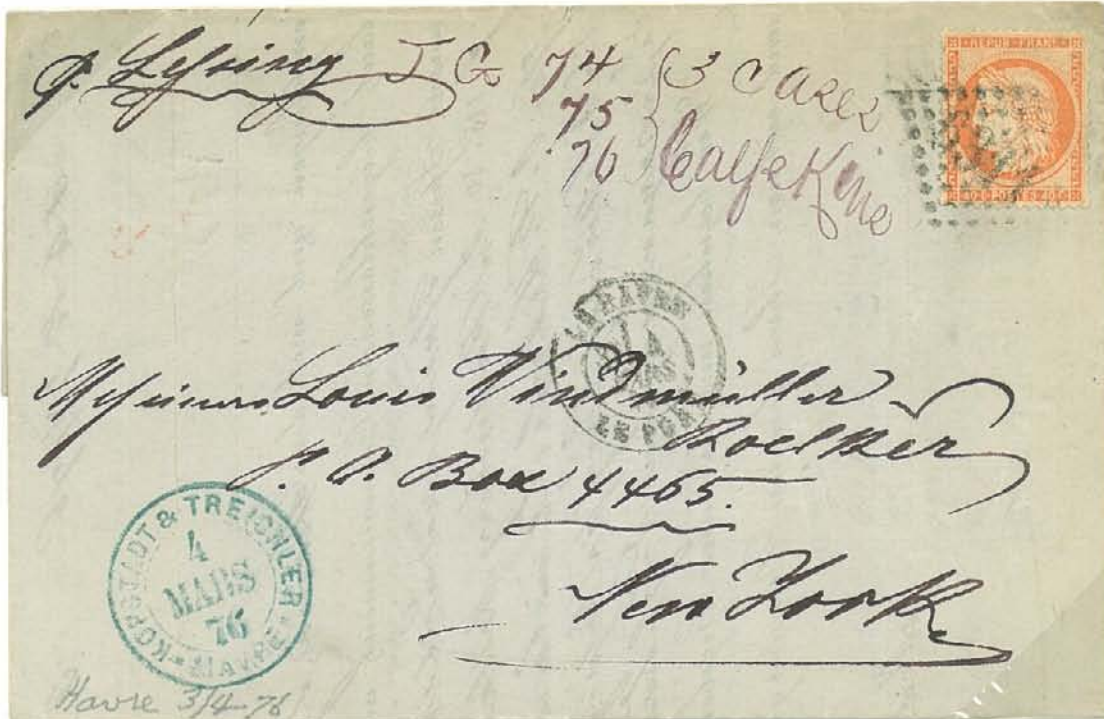
HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Lessing

First Voyage for Hapag

3496 tons, 375' x 40', single screw iron steamer, 13 knots. Built by A. Stephen & Sons, Glasgow for the Eagle (Adler) Line, launched February 20, 1874. She was purchased in 1875 by Hapag, making her first voyage for that line, Hamburg-Havre-New York on March 1, 1876, on which this letter was carried.



This letter was rated under the Berne Postal Congress (rates per 1874 Postal Congress) effective from France to the U.S. at 40 centimes per 15 grams from Jan. 1, 1876 to May 1, 1878. Rate to other G.P.U. countries was 30 cent. On May 1, 1878, these rates became 25 cent. to the G.P.U. countries, 30 centimes to the U.S.

March 4, 1876. A letter endorsed to "p. Lessing" paid at the 40 centimes Issue of 1870. Stamp is cancelled by the "6311" lozenge of the port post office (HAVRE-LE PORT).

March 1. S.S. Lessing departed from Hamburg, picked up mail at Havre March 4. N.Y. Times, arrived N.Y. March 19. Steam-ship Lessing (Ger.,) Meyer, Hamburg March 1 and Havre 4th with mdse. and 26 cabin and 168 steerage passengers to Kunhardt & Co.



1893

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

HAPAG

S.S. Normannia

8242 tons, 500' x 57'-6" beam, built at Fairfield Co., Glasgow. Launched Feb. 9, 1890, Maiden Voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York May 22, 1890. November 6, 1897, last voyage ditto. Winter voyages Genoa-Naples-N.Y. during 1895-96.



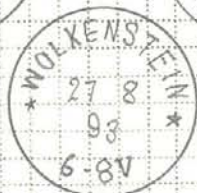
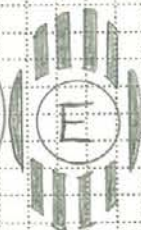
August 16, 1893. U.P.U. rate of 5¢ per 1/2-oz. to member countries paid by 1¢ Columbian envelope with added 4¢ Columbian Issue adhesive.

N.Y. Times: Outgoing Steamships, August 17, 1893. Normannia, Hamburg. Mails close 7 A.M.; sails 10 A.M.

Southampton, Aug. 24, Hamburg-American Line Normannia, Capt. Hebich, from New-York for Hamburg arr. here at 10:25 A.M. to-day.

August 26. Arrival backstamp at Dresden, forenoon. Letter forwarded to Manöver. Dresden afternoon backstamp received letter back into the mail.

August 27. Arrival backstamp at Wolkenstein in Saxony.



1896

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE
"Hapag"

S.S. Normannia



July 8, 1897. A Columbian Exposition Issue of 1893 stamped envelope pays the U.P.U. rate per ½-oz. to member countries. It was posted at New York and endorsed: p. Normannia. The reverse is an Italian travel agent's printed list of services.

N.Y. Times. Outgoing Steamships: Normannia, July 9 for Hamburg.

N.Y. Times. BY CABLE. London, July 16.
SS Normannia, (Ger.,) Capt. Barends, from New-York, for Cherbourg and Hamburg, arr. at Plymouth to-day.

July 17. SS Normannia arr. at Hamburg to-day.

July 18. Berlin arrival backstamp. Translated:
"Delivered from Post Office 46, 7:15 - 8:15 A.M."



1898

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Palatia

7326 tons, 460' x 52', straight stem, steel twin-screw, 14 knots. Launched by A.G. Vulcan, Stettin Aug. 25, 1894. Maiden voyage Nov. 28, 1894, Hamburg-Havre-New York. Last voyage Hamburg-Boulogne-New York Oct. 16, 1899. Nov. 15, 1899, caught fire in English Channel during homeward voyage, passengers taken off by Athesia (Hapag); taken in tow Nov. 17, foundered.



March 19, 1898. Letter posted at Hamburg, paid at the 20 pfennig U.P.U. rate by Issue of 1889. S.S. Palatia of the Hamburg-American Line departed from Hamburg for New York this date.



N.Y. Times. March 30. Arrived PALATIA (Ger.,) Karlowa, Hamburg Mar. 19 to the Hamburg-American Line. Reported south of Fire Island at 10:57 P.M.

March 31. Arrival backstamp New Haven.

1907

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

Steam Cruising Yacht Prinzessin Victoria Luise

4,409 tons, 407' x 47', clipper bow, 2 masts, 2 funnels. This vessel was built at Blohm & Voss at Hamburg, launched June 29, 1900 as the Hapag cruising yacht. Maiden voyage Jan. 5, 1901, Hamburg-Boulogne-Plymouth-New York. She made seven voyages Hamburg-New York. On December 16, 1906 she became stranded on Plum Point, Jamaica. January 14, 1907 became a total loss following a seaquake.



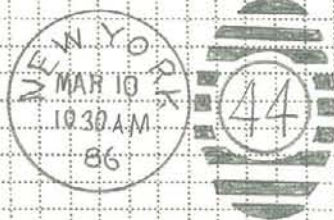
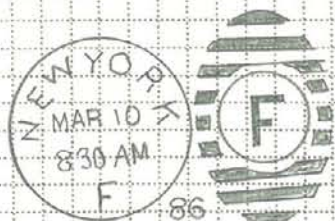
A post card picture of the Prinzessin Victoria Luise sent from Boston to Ossipee, N.H., 9 months after the ship was lost. A typical lithograph of the era prepared for many vessels.

1886

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

S. S. Rugia

3467 tons, 352' x 43', straight stem, steel, single screw, two cylinder compound engine, 12 knots. Launched at A.G. Vulcan, Stettin, July 29, 1882. Maiden voyage Nov. 22, 1882, Hamburg-Havre-New York. July 29, 1894, last voyage ditto.



March 10, 1886. Single (1/2-oz.) U.P.U. rate paid by 5c Issue of 1882. Transit backstamp at the New York Foreign Department March 10, 10:30 A.M. S.S. Rugia of the Hamburg-American Line departed March 11.

BY CABLE: Plymouth, March 22. The Hamburg-American Line Steamship Rugua, Capt. Albers, from New-York March 11 for Hamburg has arrived here.

March 23. Reutlingen arrival backstamp.



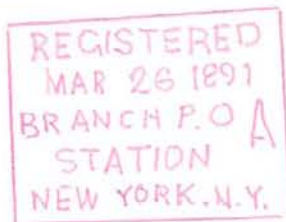
1891

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Russia

Built 1889 by Laird & Co., Birkenhead. 4017 tons, 374' x 44', single screw, 13 knots, triple expansion engines. She was chartered to Transatlantica Espanola in 1895 and renamed Santa Barbera, returned at Hamburg-American Line in 1896, resumed her former name. Sold to Russian Government in January 1899, renamed Odessa.



March 20, 1891. Letter posted at Branch P.O. A, New York, N.Y. It was paid by a strip of three of the 5¢ Issue of 1890. This made up the 5¢ U.P.U. rate plus the 10¢ registry fee of April 1, 1879, for indemnity of up to 50 francs (\$9.65).

N.Y. Times: OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS: Thursday, March 26, RUSSIA, Hamburg. ..6 A.M.

BY CABLE: London, April 8. HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE. SS Russia, Capt. Schmidt, from New York March 26, arr. at Hamburg to-day.

April 9. Arrival backstamp at Frankfurt-am-Oder.



1862

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

Hapag

S. S. Saxonia



QUEENSTOWN
SHIP LETTER



March 9, 1862. A letter incoming at Queenstown, Ireland from a private ship. As such, it was marked as a QUEENSTOWN/SHIP LETTER with 6d. due. By treasury warrant of January 1, 1858, ship letters from anywhere in the world (except Belgium and France) were rated at 6d. per ½-oz. As this letter was addressed to the U.S. it was passed on to Southampton as an unpaid transatlantic letter under the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate of 24¢ per ½-oz. As there was no way to collect the 6d., this charge was ignored.

3
CENTS

March 12. S.S. Saxonia of the Hamburg-American Line had departed from Hamburg March 8 and touched at Southampton on March 12 where this letter went aboard. The U.S. was debited for 3¢ British Inland.



March 27. Saxonia arrived at New York. She had been delayed westbound by ice. The N.Y. Exchange Office charge mark shows 24¢ due. The U.S. retained 16¢ Sea (American Packet) + 5¢ U.S. Inland = 21¢.

1866

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Saxonia

Depreciated Currency

2684 tons, 311.7' x 42.6', clipper bow, iron screw steamer. Built by Caird & Co., Greenock. Launched August 21, 1857. 1857 chartered as an Indian Mutiny transport. April 1, 1858, first voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York. 1871 compound engines by Reichersteig, Hamburg. October 5, 1873 last voyage Hamburg-N.Y.; ran subsequently Hamburg-West Indies. 1895 scrapped.



October 27, 1866. An unpaid letter posted at Hamburg and endorsed: pr. Saxonia. The July 1857 direct rate to the U.S. by Hamburg Packet was 10¢ per ½-oz. The U.S. was debited 2¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢, shown at the bottom of the Hamburg Packet Letter Office handstamp.

October 28. S.S. Saxonia sailed from Hamburg for New York via Southampton. She touched at the latter port on October 31.



November 12. Saxonia arrived at New York. As the 10¢ Hamburg Convention rate was due in hard currency, the N.Y. Exchange Office showed the optional payment in depreciated paper currency by applying the day's gold/paper ratio of 1.4 x 10¢ = 14¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

1867

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Saxonia

Depreciated Currency

The U.S.-Hamburg Convention set rates, effective July 1857, at 10¢ per ½-oz., to or from Hamburg, direct by Hamburg Packet, made up:

Hamburg Inland postage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. for unpaid letter.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Inland	3¢	



May 4, 1867. Letter posted unpaid at Hamburg at the 10¢ rate. U.S. was debited for 1¢ Hamburg Inland + 6¢ Hamburg Packet = 7¢, shown in the Hamburg Packet Letter office handstamp.

May 5. S.S. Saxonia, the Hamburg Packet, sailed from Hamburg this date for New York direct, she did not stop at Southampton on this crossing.

May 16. Saxonia arrived at New York, letter processed on May 17.

As the Convention rate was due in gold, the New York Exchange Office showed the optional amount due in depreciated paper currency by applying the day's ratio of gold/paper of 1.3 x 10¢ = 13¢ due in U.S. NOTES.



1873

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Silesia

3142 tons, 340' x 40', straight stem, iron, screw, 12 knots. Built by Caird & Co., Greenock, launched April 14, 1869. Maiden voyage Hamburg-Southampton-N.Y. June 23, 1869. Last voyage Hamburg-Southampton-N.Y. February 24, 1875. Ran subsequent Hamburg-West Indies. As Montevideo was wrecked December 2, 1898 near island of Lebos, River Plate.



February 15, 1873. A letter paid at the 50 centimes rate to the U.S. port of entry only by a pair of the 25 centimes Issue of 1871. The letter bears the blue back-stamp of Chardey & Cie. Cancellation is by the gros chiffres "6311" of Le Havre - Le Port, also the designation on the Le Havre date stamp.

February 12. S.S. Silesia of the Hapag Line departed from Hamburg and touched at Havre February 15 where this letter went aboard. The cover is suitably endorsed: Steamer Silesia.



February 27. Silesia arrived at New York. The 10¢ Steamship Letter rate was due from the recipient as shown in the New York Exchange Office handstamp.

1873

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Silesia



May 9, 1873. A letter paid at the 50 centimes rate to the U.S. port of entry only by two copies of the 25 cent. Issue of 1871. The letter bears the dated stamp of Kopstadt & Co., Havre. Cancellation is by the gros chiffres "6311" of Le Havre - Le Port, also the designation on the Le Havre date stamp. P.P. = Port Payee, or paid to the port.

May 7. S.S. Silesia of the Hapag Line departed from Hamburg and touched at Havre May 10, where this letter went aboard. Cover is suitably endorsed: p. Silesia.



May 20. Silesia arrived at New York. The 10¢ Steamship Letter rate was due from the recipient as shown in the New York Exchange Office handstamp.

1874

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Silesia



July 13, 1874. A letter posted paid at Philadelphia at the 6¢ rate (equivalent to 3d. sterling) to England, effective January 1, 1870 to July 1, 1875. Payment by the National Bank Note Co. Issue of 1870. The stamp is cancelled by the spectacular 6 pointed "star" of Philadelphia (or is it an amoeba?)

July 16. S.S. Silesia of the Hapag Line departed from New York for Hamburg via Plymouth, England.

July 27. Silesia arrived at Plymouth. Letter went by rail to London where it was struck on the same day by the PAID transit mark.



Letter was processed by the London forwarding agent Brown Shipley & Co. who forwarded it to the Hotel d'Angleterre under private cover.

1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

HAMBURG PACKET

"Hapag"

Hamburg - Southampton - New York

S.S. Teutonia

Rates by the United States-Hamburg Convention were 10¢ per ½-oz. to or from Hamburg, made up as follows:

Hamburg Inland Postage	1¢
Hamburg Packet	6¢
U.S. Domestic Postage	3¢
	<u>10¢.</u>



HAMBURG
21 APR 1860
10

April 21, 1860. Unpaid letter posted at Hamburg and endorsed: pr Teutonia. This Hamburg Packet departed April 22 from Hamburg for New York via Southampton. Letter struck with a "10" (¢) charge mark per the U.S.-Hamburg Convention.

May 8, Arrival of the Hapag Teutonia at N.Y. via Southampton April 25, 10¢ rate due.



Teutonia, 282' x 39', clipper bow, iron screw steamer. Launched by Caird & Co., Greenock Aug. 4, 1856 for Hamburg-Brazilianische. October 21, 1858, purchased by Hapag. July 15, 1859, first voyage Hamburg-Southampton-New York.

1867

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Teutonia

Depreciated Currency

The U.S.-Hamburg Convention rates, effective July 1857, were set at 10¢ per ½-oz. to or from Hamburg, direct by Hamburg Packet, made up:

Hamburg Inland postage	1¢)	= 7¢ debit to U.S. for unpaid letter.
Hamburg Packet	6¢)	
U.S. Inland	3¢	



February 16, 1867. Letter datelined and posted unpaid at Hamburg, endorsed: p. Steamer Teutonia. Letter concerns shipment of 4 cases of paper by that vessel.

Letter marked in blue for a debit to the U.S. of 6¢ Hamburg Packet + 1¢ Hamburg Inland = 7¢.

February 16. S.S. Teutonia, the Hamburg Packet, sailed from Hamburg to New York via Southampton. She touched at the latter port on February 21.



March 8. Teutonia arrived at New York. The 10¢ Convention rate was due in gold, so the New York Exchange Office showed the optional payment in depreciated currency at the day's gold/paper ratio of 1.3 x 10¢ = 13¢ due in U.S. NOTES.

1872

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

S. S. Thuringia

3,133 tons, 350' x 40 ft. beam, 12 knots, launched May 18, 1870 at Caird & Co., Greenock. Maiden Voyage Oct. 27, 1870, Hamburg - New York. Last voyage May 12, 1875 Hamburg-Havre-N.Y.; laid up, thence to Russia. 1939 still in service. Probably lost during World War II.

Except for the Franco-Prussian War years, the Hamburg American Line from Jan. 4, 1870 to Dec. 23, 1875 went eastbound New York-Plymouth-Cherbourg-Hamburg. On the return westbound voyage they went Hamburg-Havre-New York.



P.P.



Sept. 13, 1872. Letter prepaid 50 centimes in French stamps which covered sea voyage only as U.S. and France had no postal treaty from Jan. 1, 1870 until July 31, 1874. The red P.P. = Port Payee or paid to the Port of N.Y. The Thuringia left Hamburg Sept. 11, called at Havre Sept. 14, and arrived N.Y. Sept. 24 (Cf: Chronicle 106, Pg. 134).



Sept. 24. Arrival at New York, the letter was subject to the 10¢ steamship letter charge due from the recipient.

1874

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Pommerania



November 6, 1874. A letter dated at LeHavre and endorsed Par str. Pommerania. Letter paid at the 50 centimes rate effective August 1, 1874, by any route. This all inclusive rate was effective until January 1, 1876, when France became a G.P.U. member. Payment by two copies of the 25 centimes Issue of 1871.

November 4. S.S. Pommerania departed from Hamburg. She touched on the 7th where this letter went on board.



November 17. Pommerania arrived at New York, backstamp. Letter was passed as PAID ALL under the August 1 rates.

1875

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S. S. Pommerania

3382 tons, 360'-4" x 40'-0" beam. Straight stem, iron screw steamer, 13 knots. Built by Caird & Co., Greenock, launched July 26, 1873, maiden voyage Hamburg-Southampton-N.Y. Dec. 3, 1873. Last voyage Hamburg-Havre-N.Y. Oct. 23, 1878. Nov. 26, 1878 sunk in collision with sailing ship Moel Eilian near Folkstone, 50 lives lost.



1769



PD

February 19-20, 1875. Paid letter posted at Le Havre, France, endorsed: pr Str. "Pommerania". The Pommerania departed Hamburg Feb. 17 and Havre the 20th, thence to New York.

Letter paid at the 50 centimes rate effective August 1, 1874, by any route. These rates included charges at each end. Effective until January 1, 1876, when France became a G.P.U. member.



N.Y. Times: Arrived Wed. March 3, 1875, steam-ship Pommerania (Ger.), Schwensen, Hamburg Feb. 17 and Havre 20th with mdse. and passengers to Kunhardt & Co.

1877

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Pommerania

Return to P. E. BRULATOUR,
P. O. Drawer 361, NEW ORLEANS, La.,
If not delivered within 10 days.



Mr. Mr. Bouvet & Co.

Bordeaux.

France.

November 24, 1877. Letter posted to France at the 5¢ General Postal Union rate, paid by the 3¢ stamped envelope issue of 1875, Die 2 and 2¢ vermilion, Issue of 1875, perf. 12.

Cancellation by the bold negative "X" duplex of New Orleans.

November 29. Letter in transit at New York. The S.S. Pommerania of the Hamburg-American Line departed from New York for Hamburg via Plymouth, England and Cherbourg this date. She arrived at Plymouth December 9.



2,1802

London Times. CHERBOURG, Dec. 10. The Hamburg-American mail steamer Pommeranian, Captain Schmersen, arrived here today from New York en route for Hamburg.

Cherbourg arrival mark showing mail direct from United States.



December 11. Bordeaux arrival back-stamp.

1873

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES
— ¼ —
THE HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

Hamburg to New York via Southampton

Between Jan. 1, 1870 and July 31, 1874, the U.S. and France had no postal treaty. Letters incoming to the U.S. from France were thus subject to the unpaid Steamship Letter rate of 10¢ due from the recipient.

This letter was prepaid the French rate of 50 centimes per 15 grams, which took it only as far as N. York City. It was directed to Southampton, England where it was picked up by the steamer Westphalia of the Hamburg American Line. The Westphalia was of 3150 tons, in service from 1868-87, at which time she was sold to British registry.



May 23, 1873. Letter posted at Havre, France. "1769" is numbered obliterator assigned to Le Havre.

French "Porte Payee" indicating letter paid only to port.

June 4, 1873. Letter stamped incoming at New York with 10¢ due from recipient.

1880

HAMBURG - AMERICAN LINE

"Hapag"

S.S. Wieland

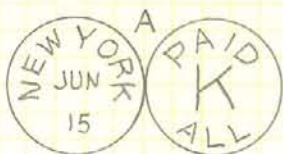
3507 tons, 375' x 40'. Steel screw steamer, 13 knots. Launched June 16, 1874 by A. Stephen & Sons, Glasgow for Adler, but did not run for them. 1875 purchased by Hapag. July 7, 1875 maiden voyage Hamburg-Havre- New York. Aug. 29, 1894, last voyage Hamburg-New York. 1895 damaged by fire at Shanghai. 1896 scrapped.

Hapag routings in 1880 were Westbound:Hamburg-Havre-New York. Eastbound: New York-Plymouth-Cherbourg-Hamburg.



June 4, 1880. Letter posted at Le Havre and directionally endorsed: by st. Wieland/via New York. It was paid at the 25 centimes U.P.U. rate by a single copy of the Issue of 1879, yellow on straw Sage Type (Peace and Commerce).

June. 5. S.S. Wieland touched at Havre where the French mails went aboard.



June 15. Arrived N.Y. steam-ship Wieland (Ger.), Hebich, Hamburg June 2 via Havre 5th to Kunhardt & Co. Backstamp.



June 15. 8 P.M. Receiving backstamp at Philadelphia.

1892

HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE

Hapag

S. S. Dania

4,076 tons, 371' x 44', straight stem, steel, screw steamer, 14 knots. Built by A.G. Vulcan, Stettin, launched Oct. 12, 1889, maiden voyage Dec. 16, 1889, Hamburg-Havre-New York. Oct. 20, 1895, last voyage Hamburg-N.Y. Various owners and routes until scrapped 1927 at Genoa.



November 7, 1892.
Letter put into the mails unpaid at Leipzig, thus was subject to an unpaid letter fine.

By cable from London Nov. 9: Hamburg-American Line S.S. Dania,

Capt. Kuhlwein, from Cuxhaven for New York, passed the Scilly Islands at 11:30 AM yesterday (Nov. 8).

N.B.: Cuxhaven is a cape at the mouth of the Elbe River, up which Hamburg is located. Isles of Scilly are located off the tip end of England at Land's End.



Nov. 17. N.Y. Times notes: Arrived N.Y. Thurs. Nov. 17, SS Dania (Ger.), Kuhlwein, Hamburg 10 days to R.J. Cortis. Arrived off the Bar 5 53 PM.



As letter was unpaid it was subject to a double fine or 5¢ U.P.U. rate x 2 = 10¢ due.

Nov. 17 (18). Arrival backstamp at Waterbury. Date in error, should be the 18th as Dania arrived N.Y. 5:53 PM on the 17th.