

Chapter.4 1861 The Coat of Arms issue

When King Friedrich Wilhelm IV died in January 1861, new king, Wilhelm I did not want to have his portrait on stamps, and proposed to use the new design with his own handwriting of the coat of arms.

The first proofs were produced in summer 1861 in the colors of the later issued stamps, but they were not rouletted. It is believed that these proofs were later rouletted and sold as normal stamps after November of 1861 when five face values were issued.

Color proofs of 6 Sgr. were again produced in November and December of 1864 in several colors, which were made for another denomination of 3 Sgr. stamp issued on April 1st, 1865.

1861 Color Proofs



Orange imperf Summer 1861

(e)

1864 Rouletted Proofs



Darkgrey Nov. 1864



Lemon Dec. 1864

The Burger Essays

Before these color proofs, The Burger Essays, depicting a statue of eagle, were made and rejected in 1856.



(e)

1855 1 Sgr. black print on yellow paper

A block of four with 9--10 mm margin on the left

Numeral "1" printed on the margin

Possibly **the largest multiple with numeral** on the margin



(e)

Reprint 1880 3 Sgr. dark brown on white paper.

A vertical pair with numeral "3" on the left margin

All the stamps except 1865 3 Pf. were issued on Oct. 1st, 1861, however, no first day usages are known.

The Earliest Usage of 3 Sgr.



1861

1861 in the contents (80%)

3 Sgr *hellbraun* franked with a horizontal pair of 1 Sgr. of the third issue tied by double ring c.d.s.

MAGDEBURG BAHNH. to Tarnowitz, 27 12 (1861)

5 Sgr. correctly paid for a registered letter to the third zone, $5 = 3 + 2$

The earliest usage recorded for the 3 Sgr. stamp used to be Feb. 24th, 1862 and this letter updated it about three months.

Last Day Usage



(e)

Quadruple franked with double cuts of 2 Sgr. stamped envelopes, tied by double ring c.d.s.

FLATOW 31 12 67

Prussian stamps were taken over by NDP ones on the following day.

The use of mixed country adhesives with Hannover were only permitted from 1-31 October, 1866 when Prussia annexed a part of Hannover at the beginning of the Prussian-Austrian war.

The Prussia-Hannover Mixed-Franking Only One Recorded to a Foreign Destination



(e)

6 Pf. orange franked with a 1 Sgr. rosa and a 1864 Hannover 3 gr.
double ring c.d.s. in blue with a red P.D. and a blue framed "franco" beside
HANNOVER to Paris / France, 13 10 (1866)

As the addressee was moved, it was redirected to Breuil par St. Andre de L'Eure on the 14th.

The Prussia-Hannover Mixed-Franking, Internal Usage



(e)

A horizontal strip of 4 Pf. with a 1864 Hannover 1 gr. uprating 1 Sgr. stampe envelope tied by double ring c.d.s. in blue
HITZACKER to Berlin, 21 10 (1866)
3 Sgr. correctly paid for a letter to the third zone

The use of mixed country adhesives with Saxony were not permitted.
About 30 illegal combination letters are known.

The Prussia-Saxony Mixed-Franking



(e)

1 Sgr. mixed-franked with a 1863 Saxony 1 Ngr. tied by framed rectangle datestamp
BENSCHAUSEN to Naumburg, 16 4 (1863)

1 Sgr. + 1 Ngr. paid for second zone letter, however, as 1 Ngr. was paid by non-
Prussian stamp, 1 Ngr. was charged to the recipient

The Prussia-Saxony Mixed-Franking



(e)

1 Sgr. mixed-franked with a 1855 Saxony 2 Ngr. tied by double ring c.d.s.
HAMBURG to Breslau/Prussia, 14 7 (1863)

3 Sgr. correctly paid for the third zone letter, although 2 Sgr. was paid by Saxony stamps

The Saxony stamp should have not been cancelled by postmark, but crossed out with blue pen, with a penalty of 2 Sgr.

About thirty combination letters known, among which **only three combination letters with 1855 2 Ngr.** exist.

The use of mixed country adhesives with Thurn & Taxis were not permitted as stamps for such areas were issued on July 1st, 1867 which are shown at the 8th frames in this exhibit.

The Prussia-Thurn & Taxis Mixed-Franking



(e)

A 1 Sgr. mixed-franked with a 1866 Thurn&Taxis 1 Sgr. rouletted in color tied by single ring c.d.s.
CASSEL to Meschede, 10 7 (1867)
2 Sgr. correctly paid for a letter to the second zone

Reuse of The Folded Letter from Thurn & Taxis



(e)

A 1865 Thurn&Taxis 3 Sgr. tied by four ring obliteration "29"
HANAÜ to Düsseldorf, 27 10 (1865)

The recipient used the same folded letter to mail to the other place franking a 1 Sgr. tied by horseshoe-shaped datestamp
DÜSSELDORF to Elberfeld, 28 OCTBR (18)65

The printing plate was consisted of 15 rows of 10 stamps.

- *Gelblichgrün* Shade -

Famous Plate Flaws



(e)

Lebhaftsmaragdgrün, pos.5/8

PF : apostrophe after the upper-right "4" (pos.8)



pos.8
(200%)



Lebhaftsmaragdgrün

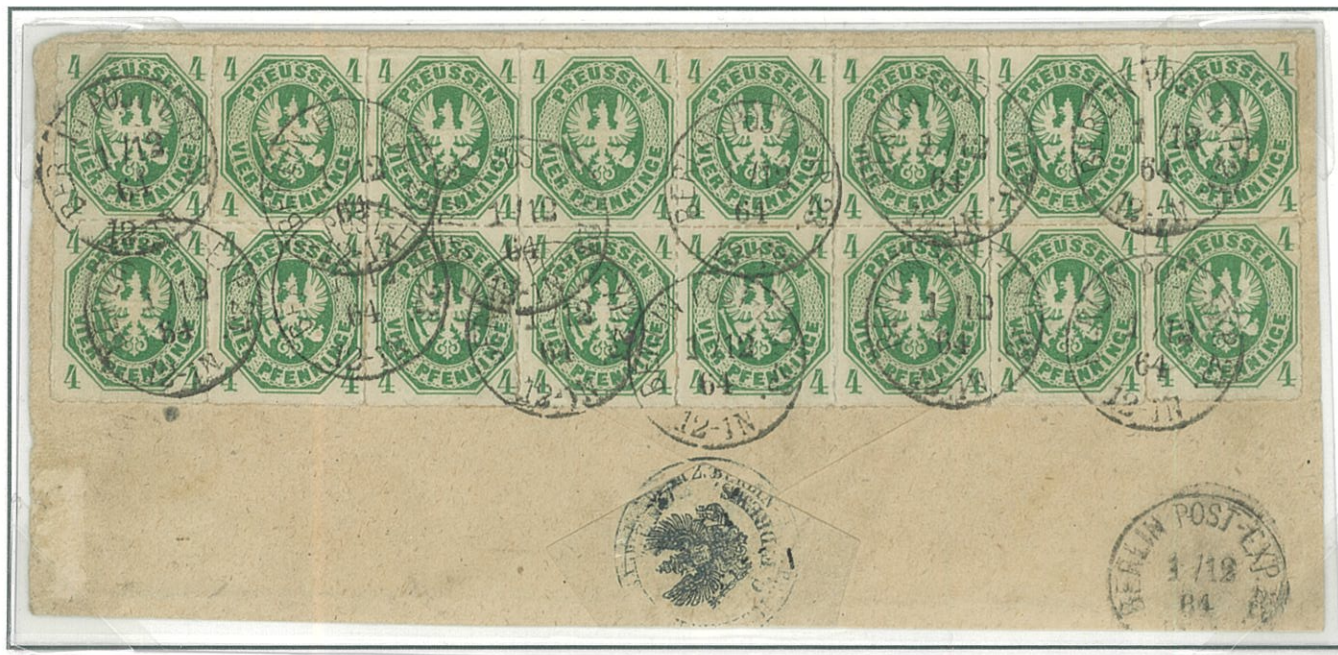
A block of nine, pos.128/150

PF : no lower frame line (pos.149)



pos.149
(250%)

The Largest Used Multiple



A block of sixteen on a back of the letter piece tied by single ring cds with a black handstamp beside
BERLIN POST-EXP. 23, 1 12 64

The largest block recorded

ex- John Boker

Two shades are recorded as subnumbers, *gelblichgrün* and *dunkelgrün*. The latter shade was only printed in 1864.

- Dunkelgrün Shade -

The Largest Unused Multiple of This Shade



Left marginal block of twenty, and also the second largest unused multiple of the stamp

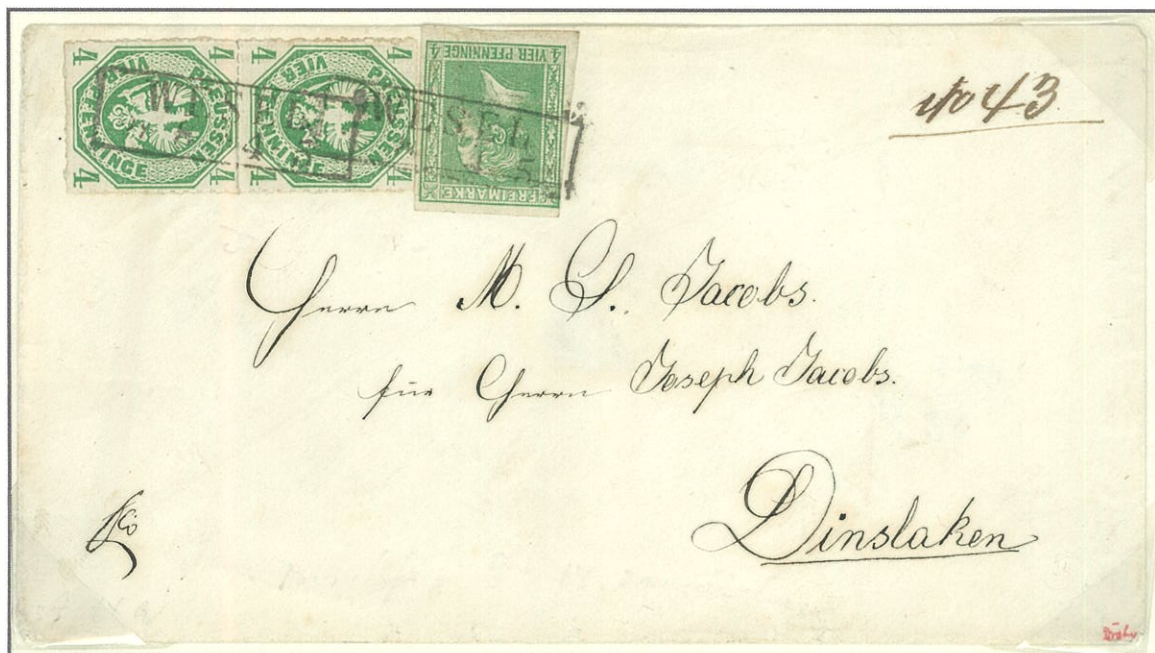


(e)

A strip of five and four single *lebhaftsmaragdgrün*, tied by framed rectangle datestamp in blue BERLIN POST-EXP. 3 to Lissa, Posen (nowadays in Poland), 1 11 66, 36 Pfg. = 3 Sgr. The third zone letter

4 Pfg. denomination stamp was issued for printed matter rate, however was often used as a strip of three to prepay 1 Sgr.

Mixed-Franking with the Same Denomination Stamp of the 1858-1859 issue



(e)

A vertical pair franked with a 1858-1859 4 Pfg. tied by rectangle datestamp
WESEL to Dinslaken,
12 Pfg. = 1 Sgr. The first zone letter

ex- Erivan Haub

4 ½ Sgr. Rate, Mourning Border Letter to France



(e)

A horizontal strip of three franked with a 3 Sgr. and a 6 Pfg.
tied by double ring c.d.s.and framed "P.D." in red beside
ERFURT to Paris / France, 2 12 65

4 ½ Sgr. correctly paid for surface letter to France, 2 for internal second zone and 2½ for French share.

The printing plate was consisted of 15 rows of 10 stamps. Two shades are recorded as subnumbers, *orange* and *mittelbraünlichrot*.

- Shade Varieties -



Mittelbläunlichrot

Orange, pos. 1/12
Upper-left corner block
inscribed '1', '2', '1' & '2'

The Largest Multiple



Orange
pos.5/30

Block of 15 used to be the largest multiple according to *HANDBUCH der preußischen Freimarken*



Orange
pos.131/145

(e)

The largest used multiple recorded is block of twelve or strip of six.

**Block of Four
Train Post Cancellation**



Orange

Feb. 6th, 1867

Berlin Post-Exp. 9 Potsdam Bahnhof,



(e)

Mittelbräunlichrot

TARNOWITZ 24 12

Late printing appeared in 1865.

**Octuple Franking with Plate Flaw
White Dot on the first "E" of "PFENNIGE"**



(e)

Orange

Eckenhagen, Mar. 18th.

Block of six and two single

**Enlarge View of the Left Stamps of the
Second Line from the Top**



(300%)

**Septuple Franking
Containing The Second Largest Strip**

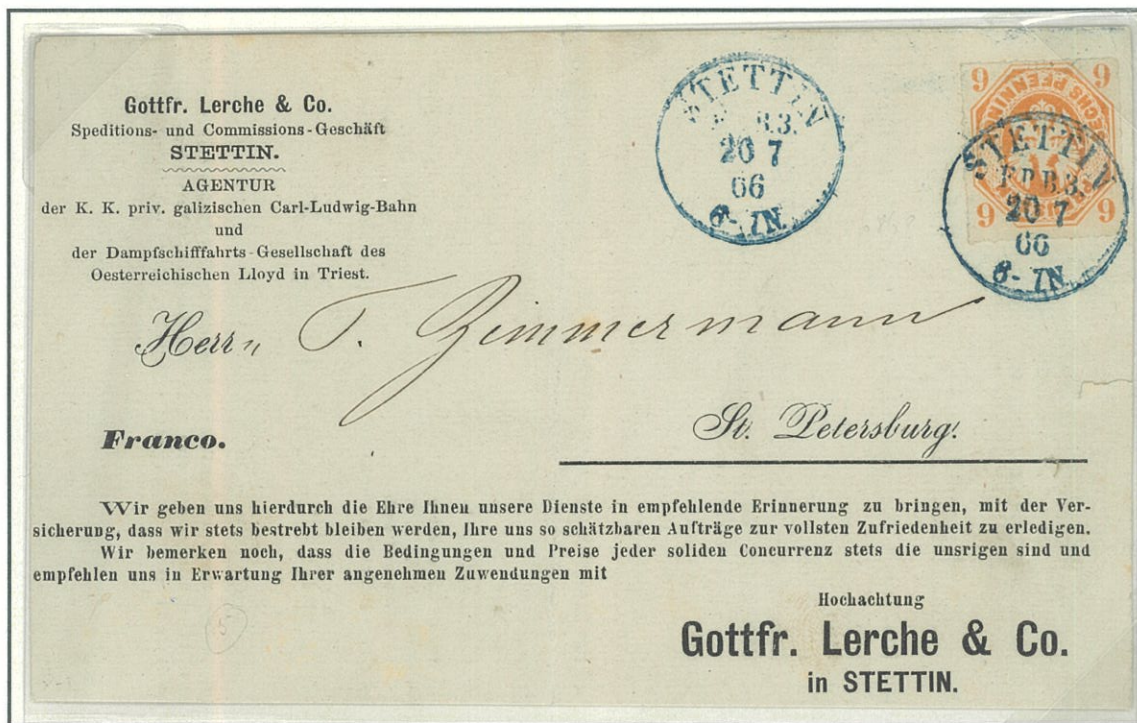


Mittelbräunlichrot

A horizontal strip of five and a horizontal pair, LYCK 24 7 67 double ring c.d.s.

6 Pfg. is equal to ½ Pfg. and it was also used to prepay 1 Sgr. by double franking.

6 Pfg. Rate, Printed Matter Rate Applied Post Card to Russia



Single franking franked on a post card tied by single ring cds in blue

STETTIN to St. Petersburg / Russia, 20 7 66

6 Pfg. correctly paid for printed matter to Russia after the 1866 Prussia-Russian postal convention

Possibly The Largest Multiple Franking of This Stamp



A pair with eight singles tied by double ring cds with an arrival cds in red beside

STETTIN to Hull / GB via London, 8 9 (18)67

60 Pfg. = 5 Sgr. correctly paid for letter to GB

The printing plate was consisted of 15 rows of 10 stamps. Two shades are recorded as subnumbers, *rosa* and *rosakarmin*.

- Shade Varieties -



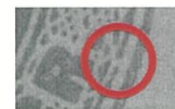
Rosa
pos.121/131
Early printing
inscriptions '13' & '14'



Rosa
Early printing

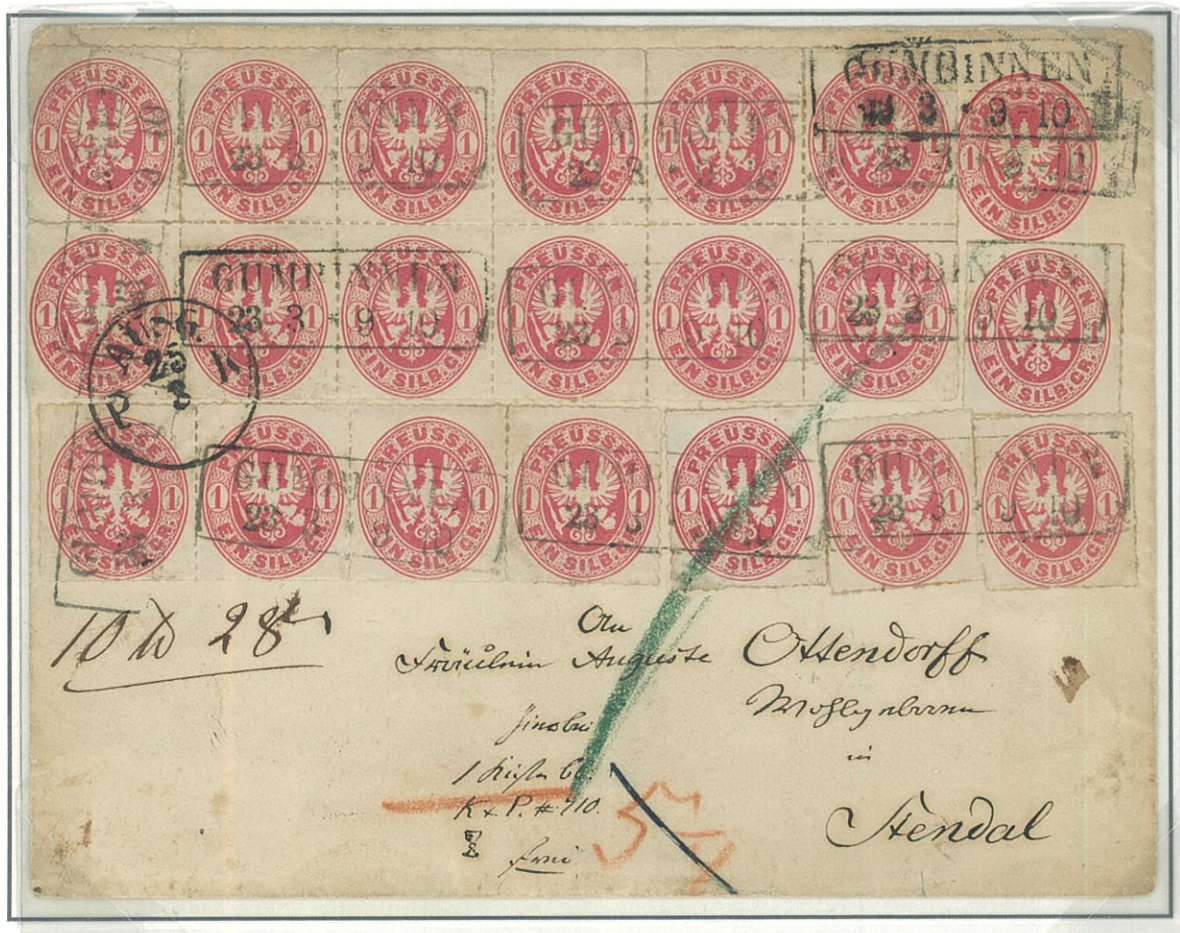


Rosakarmin
pos.7/9 with a plate flaw
Late printing appeared in 1866
with inscriptions '7', '8' & '9'



Break of the inner
oval frame under 'R'
of 'SLB GR' (400%)

The Largest Used Block Only One Recorded



A block of twelve, a horizontal strip of four and 4 singles franked on a 1 Sgr. stamped envelope,
tied by rectangle datestamp, GUMBINNEN to Stendal, 25 3

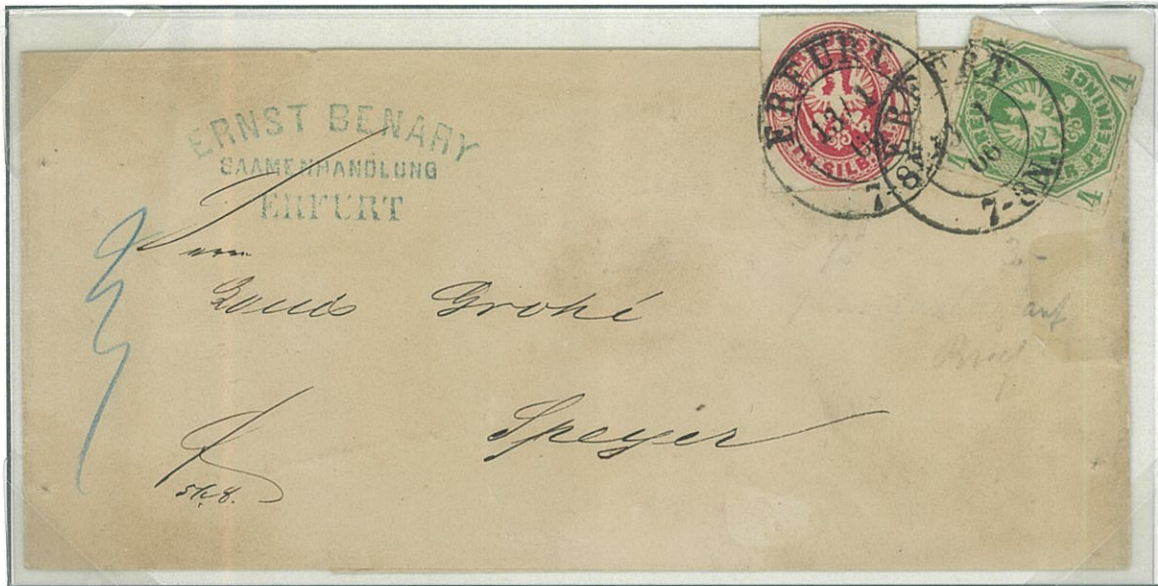
21 Sgr. correctly paid for parcel accompanied letter

Block of 12 is the largest used block

(e)

It was issued for letter rate of the distance under 10 miles, and was also applied for several rates by multiple frankings and so on.

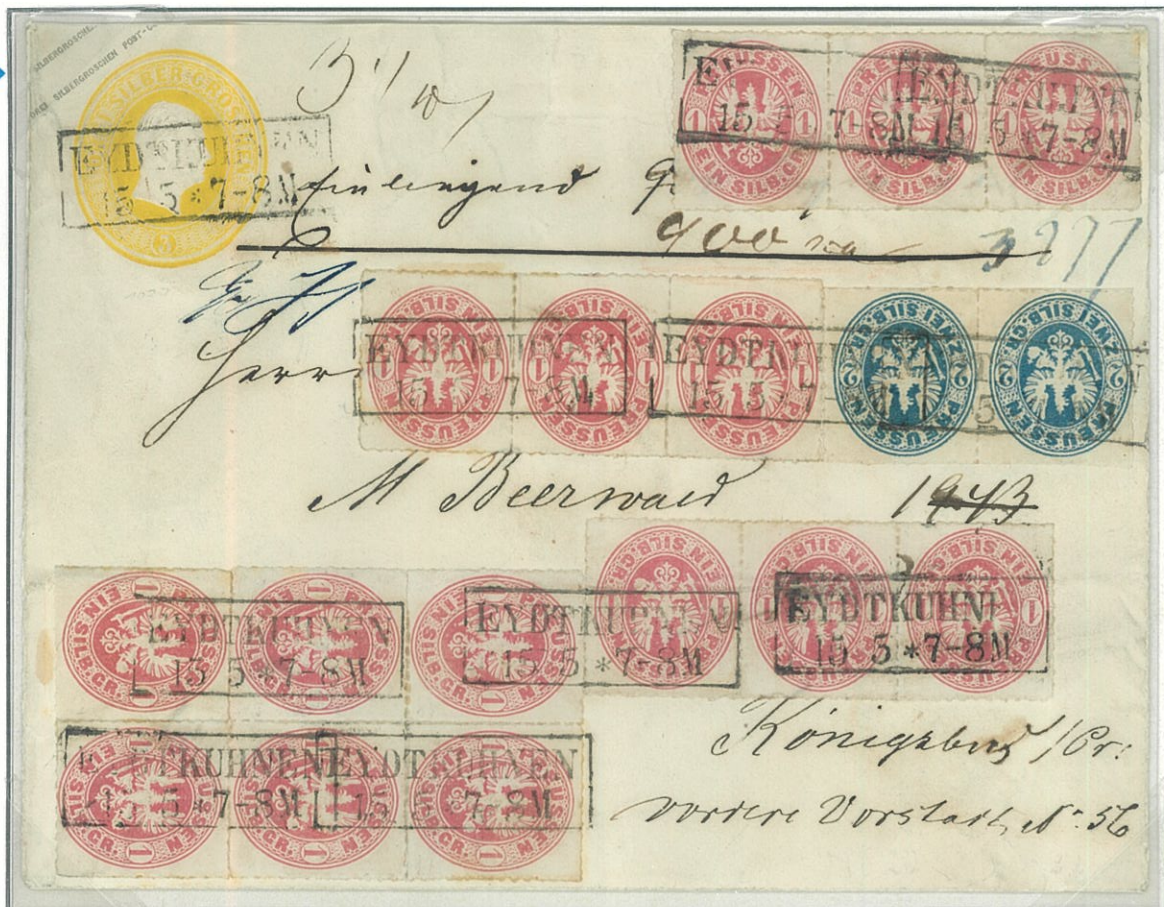
16 Pfg. Rate, Quadruple Weight Printed Wrapper to Bavaria



Franked with 4 Pfg. and tied by double ring c.d.s. ERFURT to Speyer / Bavaria, 13 1 66
 1 ¼ Sgr. = 16 Pfg. correctly paid for printed matter of the fourth weight step
 4 Pfg. for printed matter per each Loth. between 1856.5.1 and 1866.12.31

22 Sgr. Rate, Value Declared Letter

3 ½ (loth) →



15 times franking with a pair of 2 Sgr. uprating 3 Sgr. stamped envelope tied by rectangle datestamp
 EYDTKUHNEN / Hamburg, 15 5 to Königsberg

The printing plate was consisted of 15 rows of 10 stamps. Two shades are recorded as subnumbers, *ultramarinblau* and *preußischblau*.

*Ultramarinblau*

Pos. 91/102

"10" and "11" on the left margin

*Ultramarinblau* Pos. 137/150

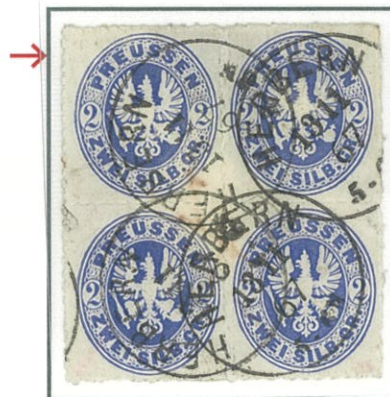
Parts of "7" and "10" on the LR margin

The Largest Used Block

*Ultramarinblau*

BERLIN POST-EXP.3. 16 2 (18)64

Plate Flaw



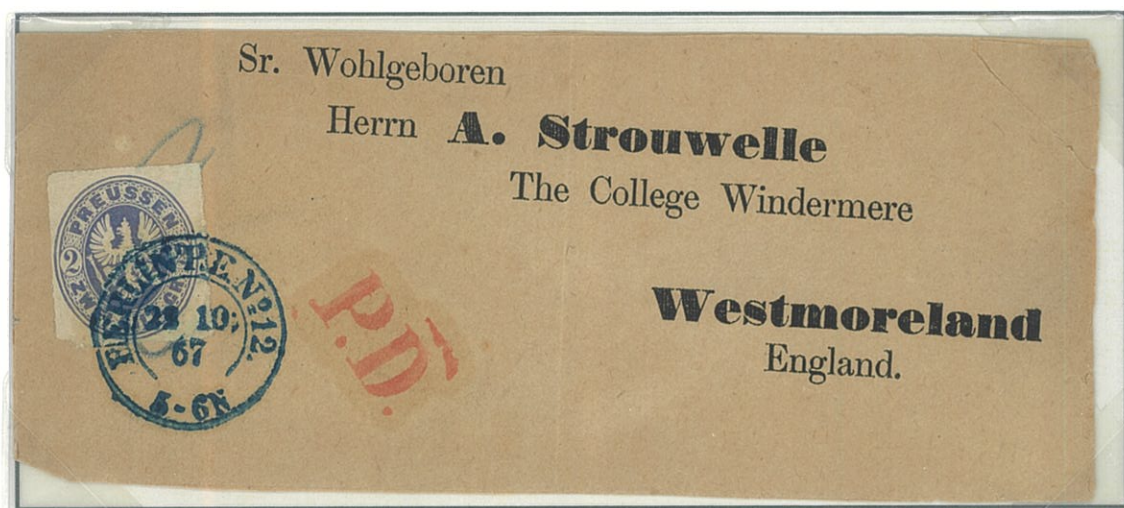
Broken oval line
around the right '2'
at the upper-left stamp

(e)

Ultramarinblau

HERBERN 18 11 (18)67

2 Sgr. Rate, Newspaper Wrapper to England



(e)

Tied by blue double ring c.d.s. with a rectangle framed P.D. handstamp in red beside
BERLIN PENo.12. to Westmoreland / England, 22.10.67

Only Two Recorded Halle Postal Forgery on Cover



Halle Post forgery tied by double ring c.d.s.

COLN BAHNHOF to Traben, 17 3 (1866)

Halle is a Prussian city near the border with Saxony. Whole the story is unclear, but it is said the file sealed officially containing 17 post used pieces and 2 or 3 letters were found there at the postwar period. It seems this postal forgery was a line drawn from the transport part of issue.

The Largest Multiple Franking, Weight Registered Letter to England



A strip of six ultramarinblau tied by framed datestamp

KOENIGSBERG BAHNHOF to London, 24 2 (1864)

12 Sgr. correctly paid for registered letter to England of the second weight step, $12 = 5 \cdot 2 + 2$

This is the largest multiple recorded and only one known.

ex- Erivan Haub

This shade was only appeared in a short period in 1862.

- *Preußischblau* Shade -



(e)

A horizontal pair of unused *Preußischblau*
expertized by Michael Jächke-Lantelme, BPP, 2023
Only a few unused pair known for this shade

**The Largest Used Multiple of *preußischblau*
Only One Recorded with Plate Flaw**



(e)

A horizontal strip of three *preußischblau*, pos.8-10, tied by framed rectangle datestamp
Parcel accompanied letter from ALLENSTEIN (nowadayd Olsztyn in Poland) to Berlin (80 miles), 27 8 62
expertized by Wolfgang Flemming, BPP, 2008

The rate was 1½ Pfg. per each pund and evey 5 miles.
Rate explanation : 1½ Pfg. x 3 x 16 = 72 Pfg. = 6 Sgr. correctly paid

Broken oval line under "P" of
"PREUSSEN" at the right end stamp
(400%)



Normal one
(400%)