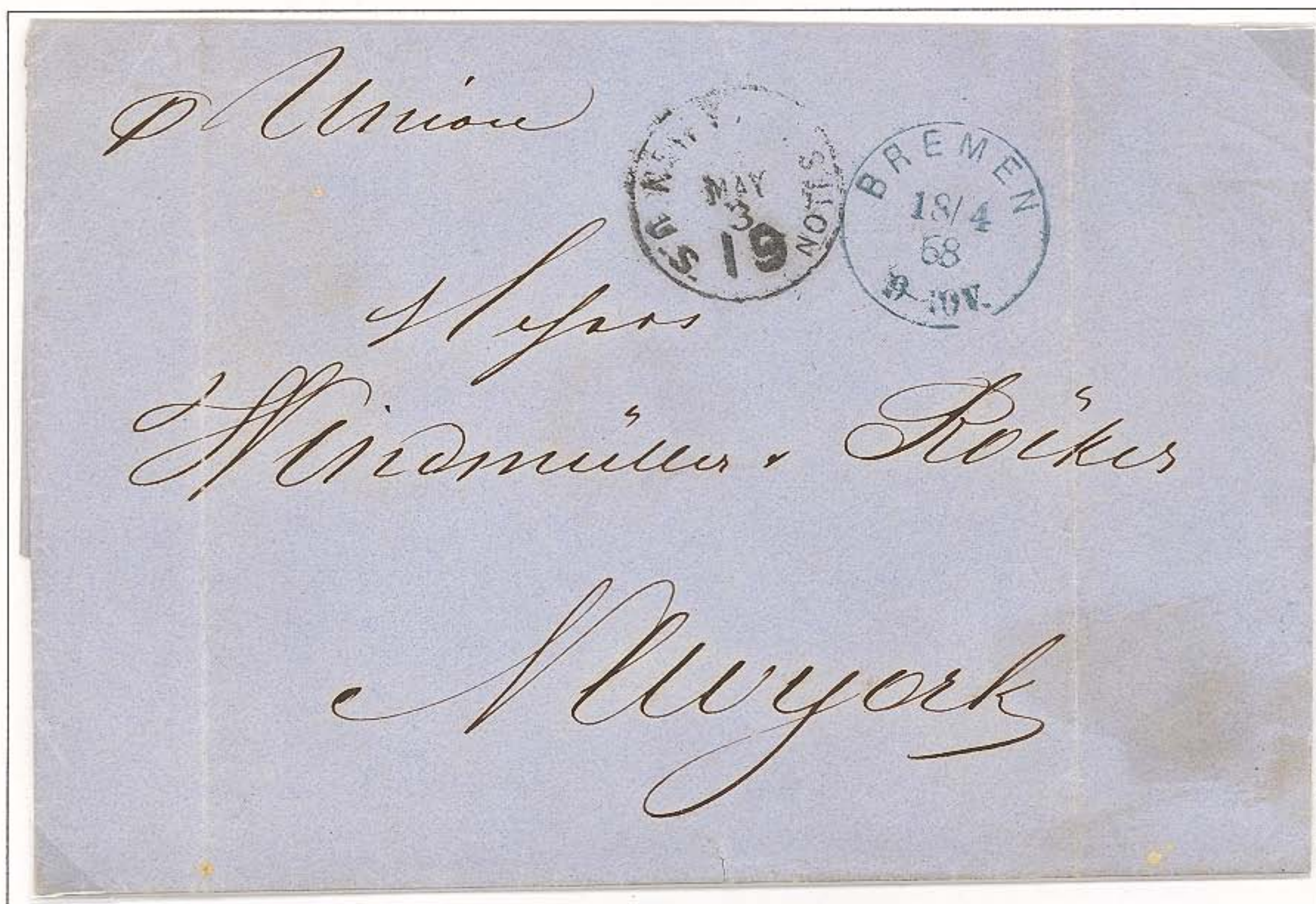


# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1867 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1868–1870  
1 January 1868–30 June 1870



**Folded Letter: Bremen to New York, 18 April 1868**

Ship: *Union*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd  
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Bremen, 18 April 1868  
Arrive: New York, 3 May 1868

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
15¢ postage due in coin in New York  
19¢ postage due in greenback notes in New York

Notes: Postage due included 5¢ unpaid letter fine. Although the premium on unpaid letters was to be calculated on a daily basis, upon arrival of the steamer, unpaid letters from Germany during the first NGU Treaty period (1868–1870) show either 19¢ (direct service) or 26¢ (closed mail via England) for the depreciated currency postage due.

# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1867 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1868–1870  
1 January 1868–30 June 1870



Folded Letter: Bremen to New York, 6 June 1868

Ship: *Union*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd  
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Bremerhaven, 6 June 1868  
Arrive: New York, 20 June 1868

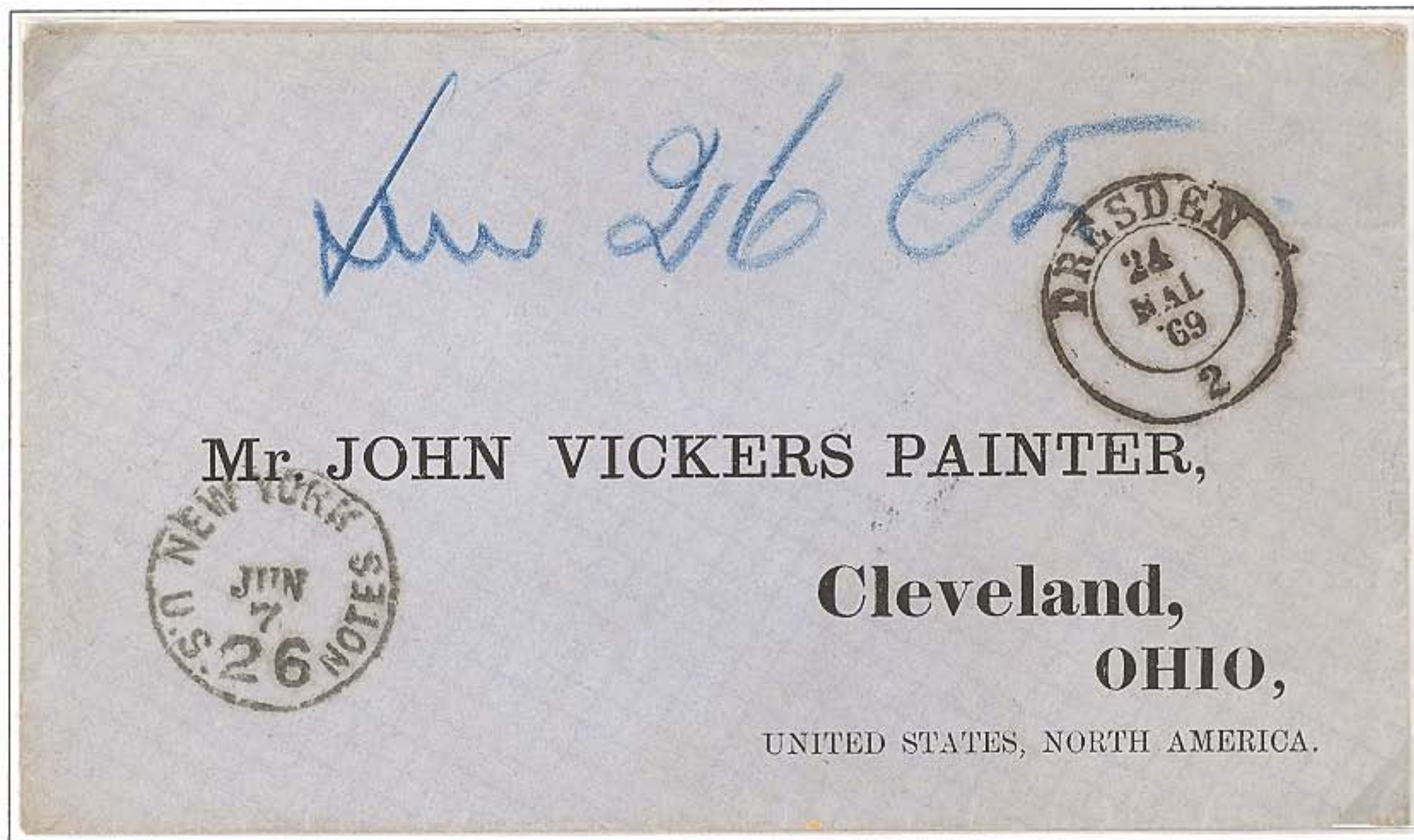
Rate: - - - letter sent unpaid  
15¢ postage due in coin in New York  
19¢ postage due in greenback notes in New York

Notes: Postage due included 5¢ unpaid letter fine. Although the premium on unpaid letters was to be calculated on a daily basis, upon arrival of the steamer, unpaid letters from Germany during the first NGU Treaty period (1868–1870) show either 19¢ (direct service) or 26¢ (closed mail via England) for the depreciated currency postage due.

# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1867 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1868–1870  
1 January 1868–30 June 1870



Envelope: Dresden, Saxony to Cleveland, Ohio, 24 May 1869

Ship: *City of Baltimore*

Company: Liverpool, New York & Philadelphia Steam Ship Company  
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 28 May 1869

Arrive: New York, 7 June 1869

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
20¢ postage due in coin in Cleveland  
26¢ postage due in greenback notes in Cleveland

Notes: Postage due included 5¢ unpaid letter fine. Although the premium on unpaid letters was to be calculated on a daily based, upon arrival of the steamer, unpaid letters from Germany during the first NGU Treaty period (1868–1870) show either 19¢ (direct service) or 26¢ (closed mail via England) for the depreciated currency postage due.

U.S. - North German Union Postal Treaties

1867 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1868-1870  
1 January 1868-30 June 1870

3



Folded Letter: St. Petersburg, Russia to New York, 14/26 October 1869

Ship: *Nemesis*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company  
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 31 October 1869  
Arrive: New York, 12 November 1869

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid.  
3 sgr. Prussian debit to U.S.  
23¢ postage due in coin in New York (not shown)  
35¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Letter actually posted on 26 October (Gregorian calendar). Boxed marking in Russian Cyrillic used to show letter unpaid. Under NGU convention the U.S. owed Prussia 3 silbergroschen for transit fees on unpaid letters from Russia.

# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1867 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1868–1870  
1 January 1868–30 June 1870



Envelope: Rothenfelde, Hannover to New York, 3 June 1870

Ship: *Rhein*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd  
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Bremerhaven, 4 June 1870  
Arrive: New York, 17 June 1870

Rate: 4 silbergroschen      prepaid for single rate  
16¢                              postage due in coin in New York  
18¢                              postage due in greenback notes in New York

Notes: Under regulations of the U.S.-NGU Convention of 1867, the despatching exchange office was required to indicate the deficient postage in the currency of the receiving office. This letter weighed more than 15 grams and required two rates. Bremen marked the black handstamp "UNGENÜGEND/FRANKIRT" to show the letter was insufficiently prepaid and the blue "2." Bremen also marked in pencil the deficiency of 11¢ (in error as the deficiency was only 10¢). New York added the 5¢ insufficiently paid letter fine to arrive at a postage due of 16¢ in coin or 18¢ in depreciated greenback currency.

# U.S. - North German Union Postal Treaties

1871 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1871-1875  
1 October 1871-1 July 1875

**2½ ausl. P.** (Reverse)



Envelope: Kristianstad, Sweden to Caribou, Maine, 11 May 1872

Ship: *Abyssinia*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company  
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 15 May 1872  
Arrive: New York, 24 May 1872

Rate: - - - letter sent unpaid  
22¢ postage due in notes at Caribou

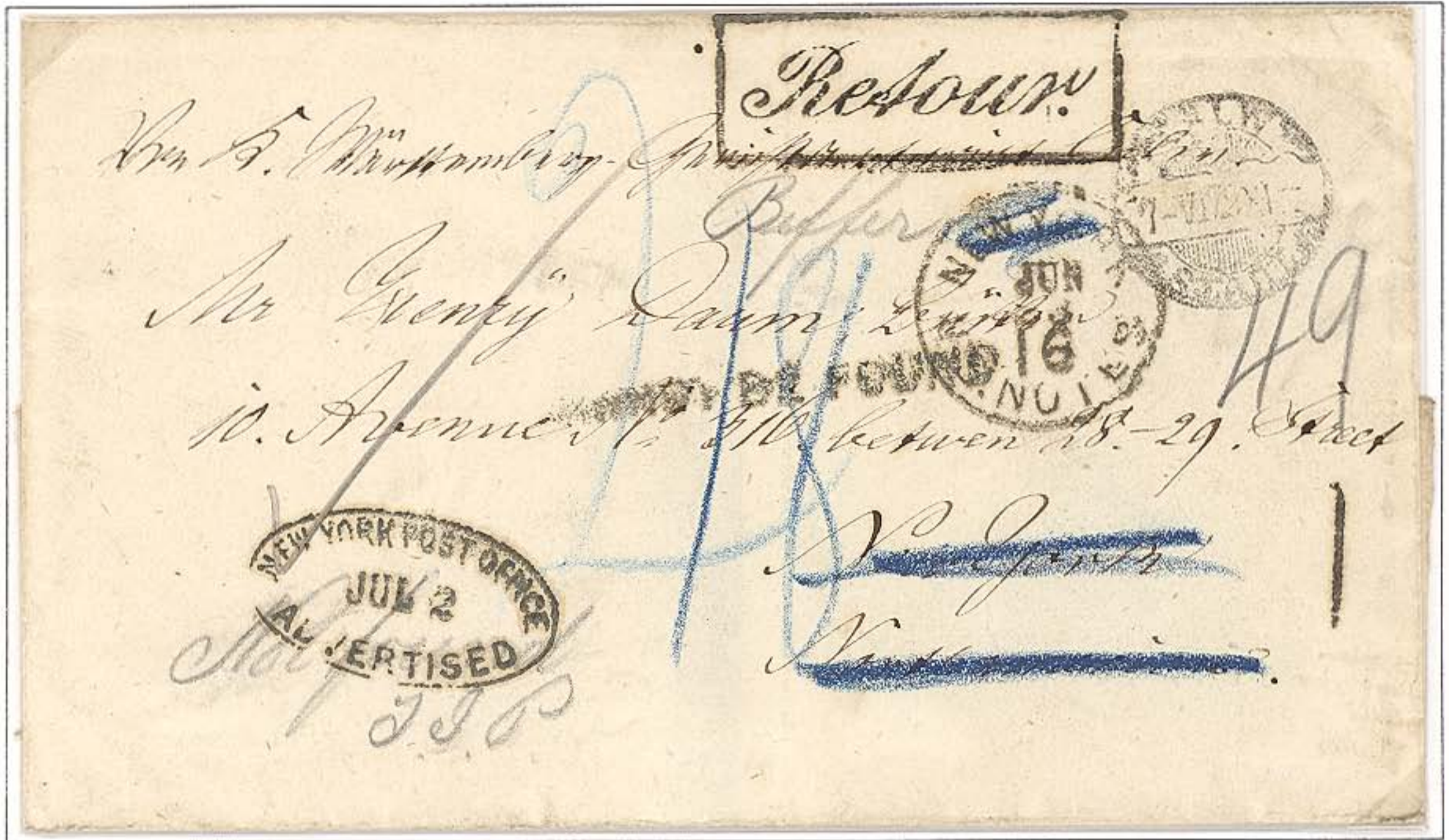
Notes: Letter marked on reverse by postal clerk on Prussian railroad from Lübeck to Laurenburg for 2½ sgr. debit to Prussia for transit fee from Sweden. Aachen restated this debit to the U.S. with large 2½ handstamp on the letter front. Postage due consisted of 2½ sgr. plus 2x3 sgr. (unpaid letter from North German Union) = 6½ sgr. or 20¢ if paid in coin. Postage due was 22¢ in depreciated greenback currency.

U.S. - North German Union Postal Treaties

1871 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1871-1875  
1 October 1871-1 July 1875

*Retour*



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Calw, Württemberg to New York, 7 June 1872

Ship: *Deutschland*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd  
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 11 June 1872  
Arrive: New York, 22 June 1872

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
14¢ postage due in coin in New York (not shown)  
16¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: New York letter carrier marked "Not found" and initialed in lower left. Letter advertised and marked for 18¢ due, which included 2¢ advertising fee. Since letter not picked up, it was returned to Germany. Boxed "Retour" believed to have been marked by Coeln-Verviers No. 10 exchange office when letter returned. 49 kreuzer may have been collected from originator.

# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1871 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1871–1875  
1 October 1871–1 July 1875



Envelope: Kempen, Prussia to New York, 28 July 1872

Ship: *Cimbria*

Company: Hamburg–Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft (HAPAG)  
(Hamburg American Line)

Depart: Hamburg, 31 July 1872  
Arrive: New York, 13 August 1872

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
12¢ postage due in coin in New York  
14¢ postage due in greenback notes in New York

Notes: Postage due was 2x6¢=12¢ for an unpaid letter by the direct steamer route if paid in coin or 14¢ if paid in depreciated greenback currency.



# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1871 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1871–1875  
1 October 1871–1 Jul 1875

**Unfrankirt**



Envelope: Wulfrath, Prussia to New York, 22 March 1875

Ship: *City of New York II*

Company: Liverpool, New York & Philadelphia Steam Ship Company  
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 26 March 1875

Arrive: New York, 6 April 1875

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
14¢ postage due in coin in New York  
16¢ postage due in greenback notes in New York

Notes: Boxed "Unfrankirt" struck at Aachen (Travelling Post Office No. 10 on the Cologne–Verviers railway) to show letter wholly unpaid. From January 1868, New York no longer used dual rate circular datestamps to show postage due in coin and in depreciated greenback currency. By January 1875, the circular datestamp specified "CURRENCY" only.

# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1871 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1871–1875  
1 October 1871–1 July 1875



Folded Letter: Moscow, Russia to New York, 28 March 1875

Ship: *Cuba*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company  
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 18 April 1875  
Arrive: New York, 30 April 1875

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
22¢ postage due in greenback currency in New York

Notes: Letter written on 28 March 1875 (Julian calendar still in use in Russia, which was 9 April 1875 by the Gregorian or new style calendar). Prussia marked 25 pfennige due for foreign postage beyond NGU border. Aachen office marked boxed "Unfrankirt" (unlisted style in Van der Linden). New York marked letter for 22¢ postage due in greenback currency, apparently not applying the premium for depreciation. NGU rate to Russia via England was 11¢ paid and 22¢ unpaid.

# U.S. – North German Union Postal Treaties

1871 Treaty  
Contract Steamship

1871–1875  
1 October 1871–1 Jul 1875



Envelope: Velbert, Prussia to New York, 6 June 1875

Ship: *City of Richmond*

Company: Liverpool, New York & Philadelphia Steam Ship Company  
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 11 June 1875  
Arrive: New York, 20 June 1875

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
14¢ postage due in coin in New York  
16¢ postage due in greenback notes in New York

Notes: Boxed "Unfrankirt" struck at Aachen (Travelling Post Office No. 10 on the Cologne–Verviers railway) to show letter wholly unpaid. This is a second type of "Unfrankirt" marking used by this office (unlisted in Van der Linden). Very late use of treaty rate, replaced on 1 July 1875 by GPU rates.