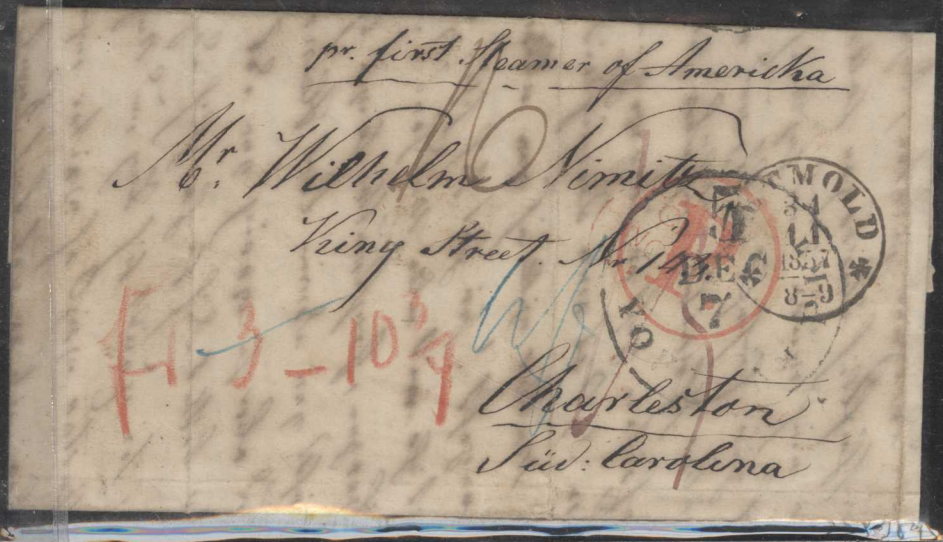


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## Charleston, South Carolina

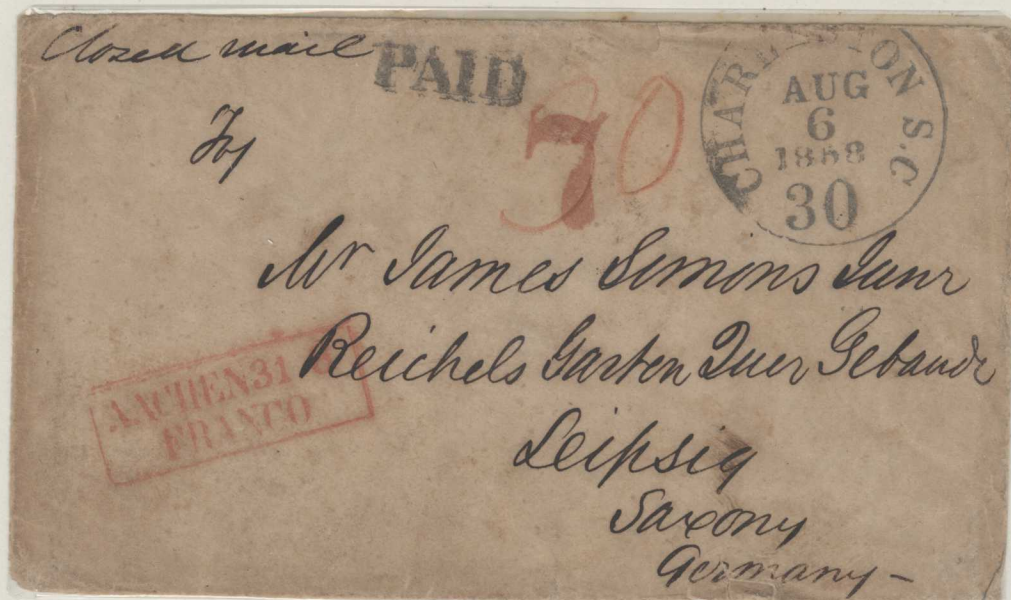


April 9, 1853; Prepaid in cash. Letter originated in Homberg, Germany (served at the time by the Thurn & Taxis postal system's southern district) and was supposed to be sent via Aachen on the Prussian Closed Mail. However, backstamps show it actually went via Frankfurt on April 9 and then entered the British Closed Mails at the Coeln - Verriers RPO Exchange Office on the 11th. Probably travelled to US on Havre Line steamer Humboldt which called at Southampton on April 13 and arrived in New York the 26th. The 5¢ due was because it had gone via English Closed Mail which prepaid only to the US frontier. If it had gone as wanted by sender it would have been paid to Charleston. The complex obverse markings are broken down thusly:

- |                       |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Black Homberg VD/H    | : | Town mark at origin on April 9                  |
| 9. 38 in red ink      | : | 47 Kreuzer local currency paid in advance       |
| 10 3/4 in red ink     | : | 38 Kreuzer (10 3/4 Groschen) credit to England  |
| 21mm red P. in circle | : | RPO marking only used on mail routed to England |

# Charleston, South Carolina

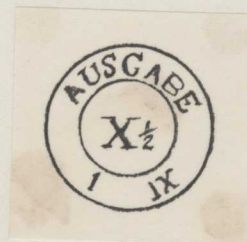
D12183



August 6, 1858; The Charleston "30" indicates postage paid on single weight letter into Prussia and states of the German-Austrian Postal Union (Saxony was a member), per the 1852 Prussian Closed Mail Arrangement, which provided for service into the city of Aachen and beyond. The 30¢ was broken down as follows: 5¢ US internal; 18¢ sea postage and transit through England to Ostend, Belgium; 2¢ from Ostend to Aachen (paid by Prussia); and 5¢ for German local delivery. The red "7" is a New York Exchange Office marking indicating a US credit to Prussia, and the red crayon "30" is a restatement of the prepaid 30¢. Actual receipt of the letter was considerably delayed because the Cunarder Europa, which departed Boston on the 11th, suffered a collision at sea with her sister ship the Arabia on the 14th. Europa returned to Halifax, Nova Scotia for repairs and the mails she carried were picked up a few days later by the Persia out of New York. It finally reached Aachen on the 31st and at its destination on September 1st.



From Boston via British Packet



Arrival Mark