

The Usage of Switzerland's Imperforate Sitting Helvetia Issue of 1854 - 1863

Introduction to Traditional Exhibit

Stamps became obligatory for prepayment of both domestic and international postage on October 11, 1854. Anticipating the need, the Swiss Post Office Department contracted for printing the imperforate *Sitting Helvetias* in March of 1852. The first stamps were printed in Bavaria on locally made paper. The first use of Swiss-made paper was in 1856. Slow production methods and constantly rising demand for stamps led to the many printings, stopgap use of earlier rejected printings on thin paper, and replacement of the hand press with a faster machine press. The Imperforate *Sitting Helvetias* are also known by the *Strubel* nickname, being named after a children's book character named *Strubel* (Struwel) Peter with wind-blown hair.

The first *Strubels* were available to the public on September 14, 1854, and lost their validity on July 31, 1863. During the *Strubel* era, the Postal Department issued dozens of versions of seven values denominated in rappen: 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 40, and 1 franc (equal to 100 rappen). They were printed closely spaced in sheets of 25, 50, or 100. Their most noteworthy feature is the single imbedded silk security thread that runs horizontally through each stamp. Switzerland's imperforate *Sitting Helvetias*, are probably the most intensely studied issue in the history of Swiss philately. The latest and biggest study, published in 2006, forced the annual Swiss catalogs to add revised listings for these stamps in their 2008 editions. The biggest change was *the addition of the 25D*.

During the *Strubel's* approximate 10-year life, **mixed frankings** were possible with preceding imperforate and succeeding perforated issues for a very short time. Additionally, for all this time, complex pre-Universal Postal Union rates prevailed for foreign-bound mail until much time after this issues validity expired on July 31, 1863. Because the exhibit is focused on usages and order of release, used stamps and use on cover is featured. The seven different issuing periods are divided into three sections shown below.

Organization and Presentation

Using the classification of *The Zumstein Spezialkatalog* of each issue, i. e., Aa, A, B, etc, the exhibit is divided into three parts:

- 1st Period 1854- 1855 **Munich Printing** (Aa, A, B.) *green threads*.
- 2nd Period 1855- 1857 **Bern Printing** C, D, E.) *different colored threads*.
- 3rd Period 1857 - 1863 **Bern Printing** (F, G) *green threads*

The number of pages devoted to each printing reflects the variations in the number of denominations, number of color varieties, and length of use. The items are shown by issue, by cover, and by other varieties on and off cover showing normal and unusual rates. These are varied to maximize the number of topical items shown.

Frames/Page	#of Pages	Catalog Identity	Paper	Printing
1/2 - 2/1	16	Aa (4)	Munich	Munich
2/2 - 3/5	21	A (4)	Munich	Munich
3/6 - 4/8	18	B (4)	Munich	Bern
4/9 - 6/3	27	C (4)	Munich/Zurich	Bern
6/4 - 7/6	19	D (4)	Munich/Zurich	Bern
7/7 - 7/11	5	E (2)	Munich	Bern
7/12- 8/12	17	F (4)	Munich	Bern
8/13- 10/16	36	G (6)	Zurich	Bern

Highlights are shown on red matting.

References

- Brach, Herbert, *The Imperforate Sitting Helvetia - Strubel*. 2000. Elizabeth K. Brach, San Antonio, 277 pages
- Hertsch, M., *Zumstein Spezialkatalog Schweiz 2000*. Bern. Pages 47 - 64.

Synopsis Of The Usage of Switzerland's Imperforate *Sitting Helvetia* Issue Of 1854 – 1863

By Steve P. Turchik

This traditional Postal exhibit is the **Number 1 World Class** Swiss Imperforate Sitting Helvetia exhibit, a 45-year effort. The issue is one of the Swiss Classics, celebrating its 150th birthday in 2004, commonly called *Strubels*. This exhibit is to show as many different facets of this popular Swiss collecting area as possible, and have the exhibit serve as a resource for current ongoing research dealing with areas of color, silk threads, and usage.

What is Shown

There are individual items, multiple items on and off cover, stamp combinations, world class destinations, lake ship mail, production, printing, and color varieties, bisected stamps on cover, a privately perforated stamp, cancellations, postal markings, mixed franking covers, and more.

This exhibit is important for the following reasons:

- The exhibit shows all **32 recognized items on cover**, and it is the **only *Strubel* exhibit with a single use cover of all values known on cover.**
- **It is the only 10-frame *Strubel* exhibit shown in the United States**, and it has more unique and unusual *Strubel* items than have been shown anywhere at one time.
- The present structure is built around many items from past multiple grand award winning exhibits, and contains destination covers not readily known or available at the time of those exhibits.
- The exhibit contains the finest copy of **the second rarest Swiss stamp**, and another one that is almost equal to it.

Using the *Zumstein* Specialized Catalog designations of each issue, i.e., Aa, A, B, C, etc. the seven different issues are divided into three parts: **For this issue only, because of the vast variety, experts recommend the use of the numbers, and they have been used in all *Strubel* past grand award winner's exhibits. These designations are used as headers for each of the 32 different stamps issued.**

- 1st Period 1854 – 1855 Munich Printing (Aa, A, B) green threads
- 2nd Period 1855 – 1857 Bern printing (C, D, E) different colored threads
- 3rd Period 1857 – 1863 Bern printing (F, G) green threads

Quality and Challenge Factor

Examples are of the highest quality available. In fact, it is the finest exhibit of this issue assembled to date containing both unrivaled rarity and quality. Many items are in quantities of 20 or less. Most thin paper items have certificates or are signed.

References

- Brach, Herbert, *The Imperforate Sitting Helvetia – Strubel 2000*. Elizabeth K. Brach, San Antonio, TX. 277 pages.
- Hermann, Urs. *Das Gross Strubel Handbuch*, Liestal, August 21, 2006. Two Volumes.
- Hertsch, M., *Zumstein Specialkatalog 2000*. Zumstein & Cie., Bern, pages 47-64.
- Katcher, H.L., *The Amateur Collector Catalog of Switzerland 2000*, London, Pages 9 – 11; 16 – 17.

Production Color Shades
Postal Directives On Cancellations

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU September 15, 1854

Orange-Brown Shades



Dull

Light

Dark

Unique Cover - Dark Orange-Brown



BASEL to LANGENTHAL, 15 MAR 55, ordinary mail, zone 3.
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1999)

October 22, 1850: Only black ink.

August 1, 1851: Only standard obliterating device in form of a grill, to be distributed by Postal Administration to all post offices (not depots).

December 7, 1854: Only grills. (There were a variety of styles and color cancels produced after this date).

May 23, 1857: End of grills, to be replaced immediately by circular date stamps with place names used with black ink.

Single & Multiple Use Items
 Domestic Postal Rates Based On Distance Zones

Single Use - Light Orange-Brown



ZURICH to RUSCHLIKON, 17 NOV 1854, Zone 1.
 (Attest: Hans Hunziker - 1975)

Multiple Use To Zone 3 - Orange-Brown



BASEL to KREUEZLINGEN, 7 APRIL 1855, ordinary mail.
 Less than 18 covers (+/-) said to exist of this multiple.
 (Attest: Andre Nussbaum - 1993)

Domestic Postal Rates Based On Distance Zones

<u>Distance</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Zone 1 - Up to 9.6km (6 miles)	5Rp. $\frac{1}{2}$ loth = $7\frac{1}{2}$ gr. = $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Zone 2 - 9.6 - 48km. (30 miles)	10Rp./ $7\frac{1}{2}$ gr. = $7\frac{1}{2}$ grams.
Zone 3 - More than 48kms.	15Rp./ $7\frac{1}{2}$ grs.

Rate effective January 1, 1852 - June 30, 1862

Multiple Usages
Cancellations & Shades

Dark Orange-Brown



Blue 15-Bar Cancel
Unique strip with blue cancel.
(Attest: Hans Hunziker - 1971)

The Small "zu spät" = "Too Late" - Bright Orange Brown



FRUENFELD to ARBON, 9 DEC 1854, ordinary mail, with bank logo.
The small "zu spät" was only used in the city of Gruenfeld.
About 40 pairs (+/-) said to exist on cover.
(Attest: Remy Berra-Gautschy - 1999)

Zone 3 Combination Frankings
Cancellations & Shades

The Dark Shades - Orange Brown (with 23Aa)



GRETCHEN to LANDERON, 26 AUG 1855, ordinary mail.
Few covers of this combination said to exist (20 +/-).
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1987)

Light Shade - Light Orange-Brown (with 23A)



ZURICH to BRUGG, 17 DEC 1855, ordinary mail.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1991)

23Aa

Production Varieties

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU December 14, 1854

Blue



Two Threads — 15-Bar Grill
(about 1 of 20) From sheet of 100

New Variety - Discovery Example - Dark Blue



OBERRIDEN to WOHLLEN, 23 DEC 1854, ordinary mail, zone 2.
Plate variety - "White line in 1 of 10 of Centesimi."
(Attest: H. P. Renggli - 1998)

Strong blue color results from fluid appearance of over-inked background
(one characteristic of 23Aa) caused by dampening of paper before printing.

Postally Used First Munich Printing Error
5Rp. Cliché In Place Of 10Rp.

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU March 15, 1856

Stamp color of first printing.
Paper thickness of first printing.
Said to be trial color printing.

Error



Blue
Blue Eidgen Grill

Normal



Blue
16-Bar Grill

Of the 5 known copies of this famous classic, this is said to be the best one off cover. Two others exist on what is known as the "Champion Cover," a very sought after imperforate Sitting Helvetia item.

Although not intended as such, these items found their way into the postal system. Along with it's famous nickname, other production varieties, combination frankings, bisects, markings, and destinations have enriched and added to the collecting joy of "Strubels."

This item is featured in Urs Hermann's 2006 book "Das Grosse Strubel-Handbuch" on page 153.

(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2007)

Cancellations & Shades
 "Nachnahme" = C. O. D. = Collection Letter

Blue Cancellations



Dull Blue
 Circled P.P.



Blue
 7-Bar Grill



Matte Blue
 14-Bar Grill

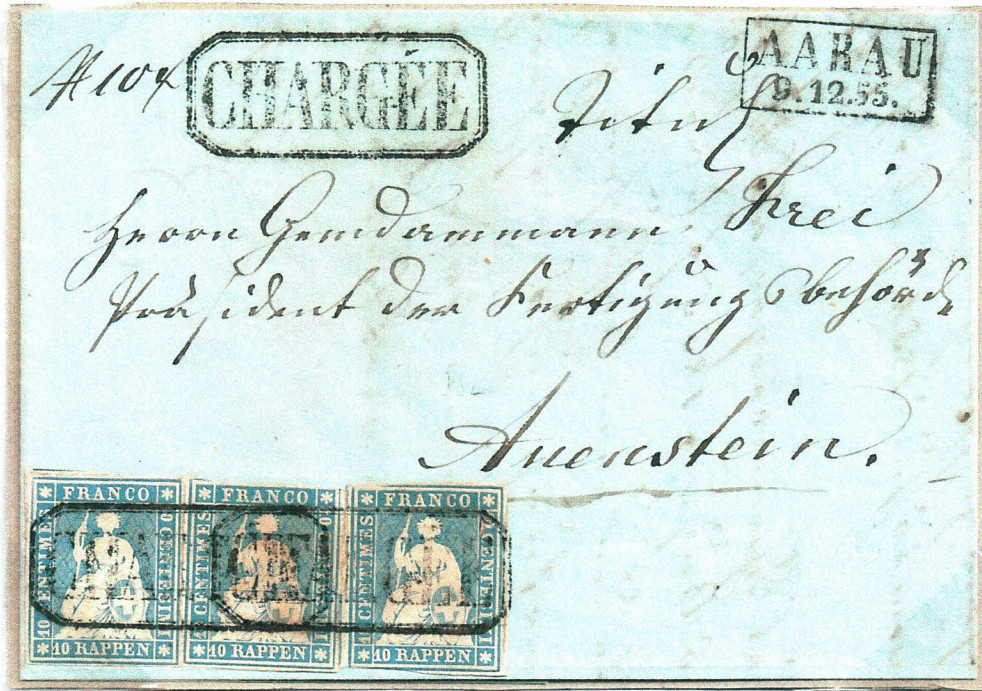
Blue Circled "P.P." = Postage Paid - Bright Blue



AARAU to BERGDIIETIKON, 10 NOV 1854, on "Nachnahme" letter;
 10c to collect 1fr. 43c + 10c franking.
 (Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1994)

Registered With Declared Value
Cancellations & Shades

Boxed CHARGÉE = Registered - Medium Blue



AARAU to AUENSTEIN, 9.12.55, declared value registered letter.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1994)

Blue Cancels - Dull Light Blue (with 22A)



ST. IMIER to GENEVA, 16 OCT 1854, ordinary mail, Zone 3.
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1992)

Authorized Bisect
1st Munich Printing

Half Used For Zone 1 Letter - Light Blue



ZURICH (Local Delivery), 29 OCTOBER 1855, ordinary mail.
About 10 (+/-) of this bisect said to exist.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2008)

Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU October 2, 1854

Rose

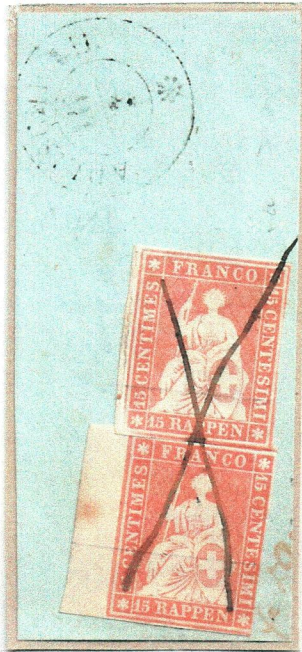
Blue Cancels



Luzern Grill



16-Bar Grill



Ink Cancel

Black Cancels



13-Bar Grill



17-Bar Grill
"A" Variety



s/1 MOGELSBURG - "Nachnahme" = Collection Letter - Dull Rose



MOGELSBURG to WATTWYL, 26 FEB 55, "Nachnahme" letter, zone 1.
10c to collect 80c + 5c franking.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1978)

Cash Collection Service
Cancellations & Shades

Matte Rose

Dull Rose

Rose



Blue Town

Red Grill

Blue Grill

"Nachnahme" - Cash Collection Letter - Rose (with 23A)



NEUCHÂTEL to GENEVA, 3 JAN 1854, with red and blue inscriptions.

15c/7½gr for franking over 48kms. (30+ miles).

10c fee to collect 4frs. 15c cash.

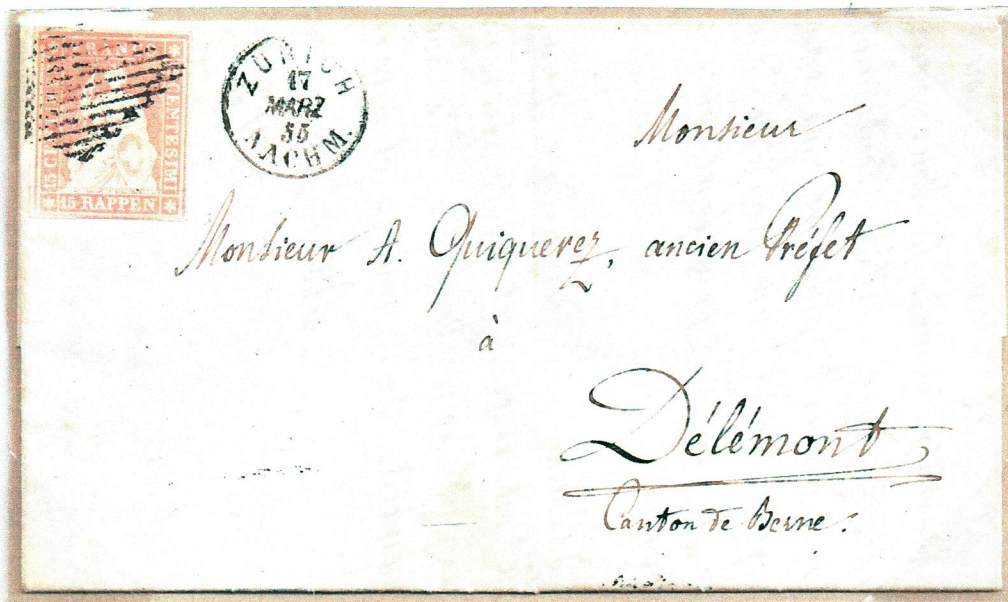
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1995)

Post Office Cash Collection Service

Limit for cash collection service by letter post increased to 30frs. on January 1, 1852. Collection fee was 1% of amount to be collected, rounded up to the next 10c. Recipient had to give letter carrier total of debt, fee and postage. Post Office remitted full amount sender (less postage and fees), similar to C.O.D.

Zone 3 Mail Usages

Single Use - Light Pale Rose



ZURICH to DELEMONT, 17 MAR 1855, ordinary mail.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1991)

"Nachnahme" - Blue Cancels - Dark Pale Rose (with 23Aa)



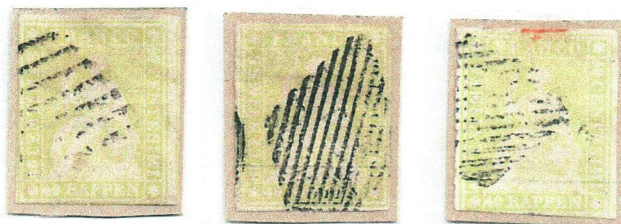
FRICK to HAGDEN, 27 SEPT 1855, "Nachnahme" = cash collection letter.
A difficult combination franking with blue s/l GIPF-OBERFRICK cancels.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1992)

Cancellation Ink Composition
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Threads: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU October 11, 1854

Pale Yellow-Green



7-Bar Grill 13-Bar Grill 14-Bar Grill

To France - Heavy Blurred Inking - Pale Yellow-Green



TAVANNE to PARIS, 2 JUN 1855, ordinary mail, PD.

40c/7½gr. from 2nd Swiss zone (30+ miles) to beyond adjoining dept. in France.

Rate of September 14, 1854 - August 14, 1859.

(Attest: A von der Weid - 1989)

Typical smeary cancellation with greasy appearance, caused when Post Office ignored federally recommended recipe for ink and used printers black with pork fat instead of linseed oil to keep the ink fluid.

Obligatory prepayment of international letters began on October 1, 1854, same day as domestic letters.

Cancellations & Shades
Unusual International Usage
One of a Kind Items

Very Pale Yellow-Green



Blue 15-Bar Grill
- Pictured in Hans Hunziker's "Strubel" book. -
(Attest: Hans Hunziker - 1971)

To U.S.A. - Postage Due 20¢ - Dark Yellow-Green (with 25B & 22G)



ZURICH to NEW ORLEANS, 18 NOV 1855, ordinary mail, PP, 2nd rate period.
65c/7 $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. by British Packet from Le Harve, France, via New York.
20¢ penalty assessed to letter sent on American Packet.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - December 31, 1856.
(Attest: Emil Reilstab - 1995)

Unusual International Usages
 Special Rate Frankings
 Cancellations & Shades

To Ireland - Unique Mourning Letter - Pale Yellow-Green (with 24A)



UNTERSEEN to CELTRIDGE, 4 JULY 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
 Fewer than half dozen letters said sent to Ireland.
 (Attest: Remy Berra-Gautschy - 1999)

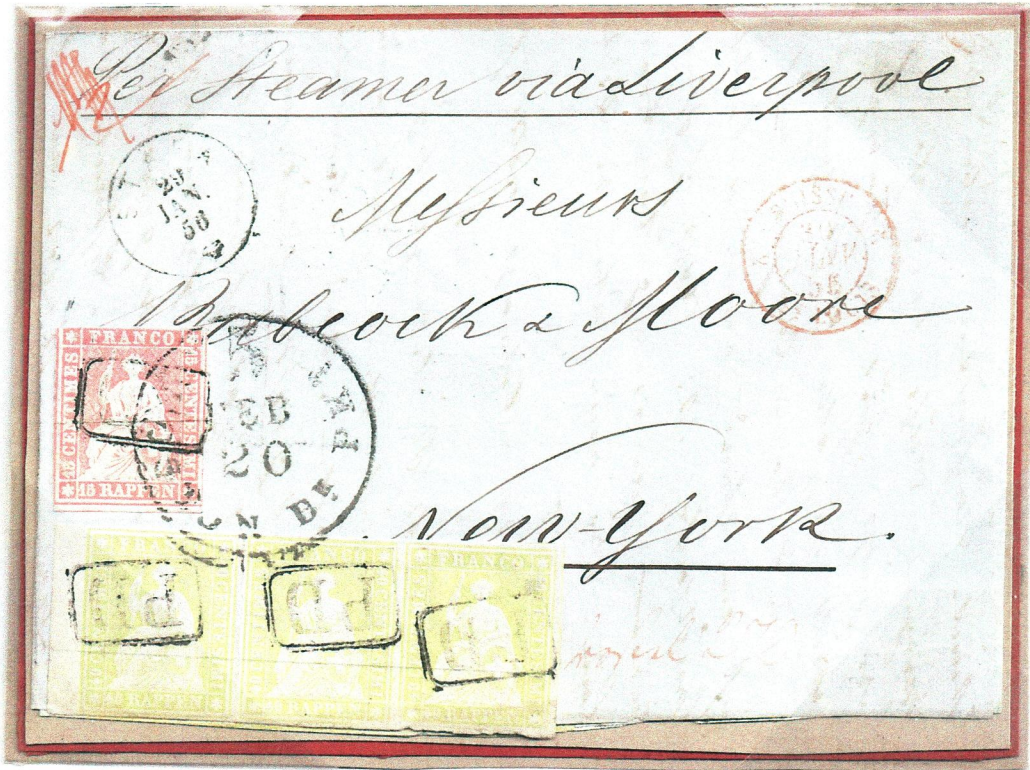
To England - Special Rate - Light Yellow-Green (with 24Ad)



THURNEN to LIVERPOOL, 10 MAY 1855, pre-stamped letter, ordinary mail, PD.
 55c/7½gr. for pre-stamped letters - special rate - 65c at post office.
 Rate of December 15, 1854 - August 18, 1859.
 (Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1999)

Unusual International Usage
Unique Margin Copy Multiple

To United States - Pale Yellow-Green (with 24B)



STAGA to NEW YORK, 20 JAN 1856, ordinary mail. PD = Paid to Destination.
135c/7½gr. via Liverpool on British Packet. 5¢ assessed for inland postage.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - December 31, 1856.
(Attest: J. P. Bach; M. Eichele; E. Rellstab, AIEP - 2000)

New Color Brown
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU September 21, 1854



Blue P.P.
Gray Brown



13-Bar Grill
Deep Reddish Brown



Brown Crayon
Doe Brown



16-Bar Grill
Matte Brown



Blue Grill
Doe Brown



9-Bar Grill
Red Brown



Blue CDS
Reddish Brown



14-Bar Grill
Gray Brown



Green Grill
Matte Brown



15-Bar Grill
Gray **Brown**

Swiss postal authorities ordered color changed from orange-brown to brown to distinguish 5c more easily from 15c rose in artificial post office light.

Different Zone 1 Letters
 Bottom Stamp Without Thread Variety
 Cancellations & Shades

Missing Thread & Circle Date Stamp - Doe Brown



USTER to VOLKENSTEIL, 18 NOV 1854 (inside), on nachnahme letter.
 5c added for optional return receipt making 60c total to collect.
 To August 1, 1860 receipt was obligatory on collections of 6frs. or more.
 A difficult one of a kind without thread item. Ex Harlan Stone.
 (Attest: Fritz Moser - 1976)

Local Area Letter - Reddish-Brown



Letter delivered within GENEVA locale, 14 JANUARY 1855, ordinary mail.

Ddifferent Zone Letters
Cancellations & Shades

Blue-Green Cancels - Light Blue (with 23A)



SCHWANDEN to STANZ, 3 MARCH 1855, ordinary mail, circle date cancel.

s/1 Schachen + 8-Bar Cancels - Light Blue (with 23A)



SCHACHEN to RAMOOS, 16 MARCH 1855, Nachnahme to collect 3frs. 95c.
Marked 4.15 in error, as 3fr. 95c + 10.c fee = 405c.

Zone 2 Letters
Cancellations & Shades

Thimble Cancel With "Vorm" - Reddish-Brown



WINTERTHUR to ZURICH, 12 MAY 1855, ordinary mail, on "front."
The "Vorm (ittag)" shows the letter cancelled in morning.

Blue Cancels with "Nachm" - Sharp Deep Brown



LUZERN to WILLISAU, 23 OCT 1854, ordinary mail.
The "Nachm (ittag)" shows the letter cancelled in the evening.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1999)

Zone 3 Letter Usages
Cancellations & Shades

No Grill Cancel - Bright Reddish Brown



GIORNICO to LUGANO, 2 JAN 1855, ordinary mail on cover front.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1972)

Blue Cancels - Light Matte Brown



MORAT to SOMISWALD, 3 OCT 1854, ordinary mail.
Very early usage - 12 days after issue day.

Production Varieties
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU September 14, 1854

Bright Blue



Misplaced Thread

Blue



Double Thread - Olive-Yellow Thread "Star" Plate
Not submerged in blue vat
to make emerald color.

Two-Thread Variety Cover - Light Blue



RUSSWIL to BURON, 22 MAR 1856, ordinary mail, zone 2.

Authorized Bisect
Cancellations & Shades

Blue Cancellations



LUZERN



Boxed PD



13-Bar Grill

Half Used For Zone 1 Letter - Blue



KUSSNACHT to LUZERN, 26 MAY 1855, ordinary mail.
About 18 (+/-) of this bisect said to exist.
(Attest: Briefmarkprufestelle Basel - 2000)

Black Grill Cancellations



11-Bar Grill



7-Bar Grill



15-Bar Grill

Authorized Bisect Variety

Zone 3 Letter Usage - Light Blue



WEINFELDEN to SEEWIS, 1 JAN 1855, ordinary mail.
About 15 (+/-) of this combination said to exist.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1991; Emil Rellstab - 1991)

Zone 2 Letters
Cancellations & Shades

Circle Date Cancel - Blue



BERN to WORB, 22 NOVEMBER 1854, ordinary mail, blue grill cancel.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1976)

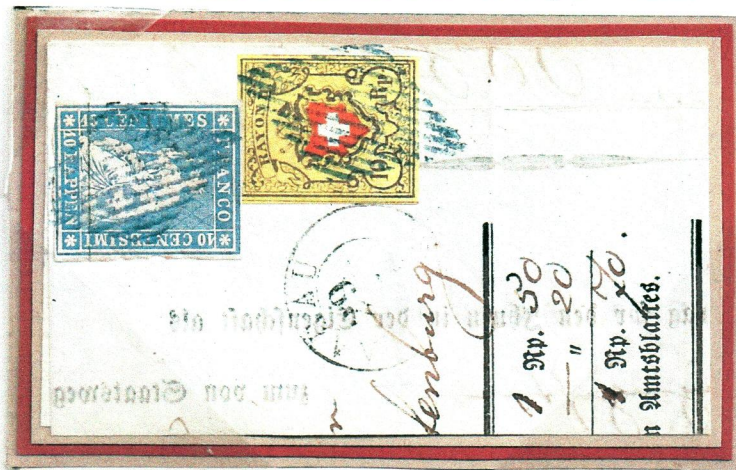
Blue Cancels - Bright Blue - Munich Plate II



DAGMERSELLEN to REIDEN, 31 OCTOBER 1855, Nachnahme to collect 1fr. 55c.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

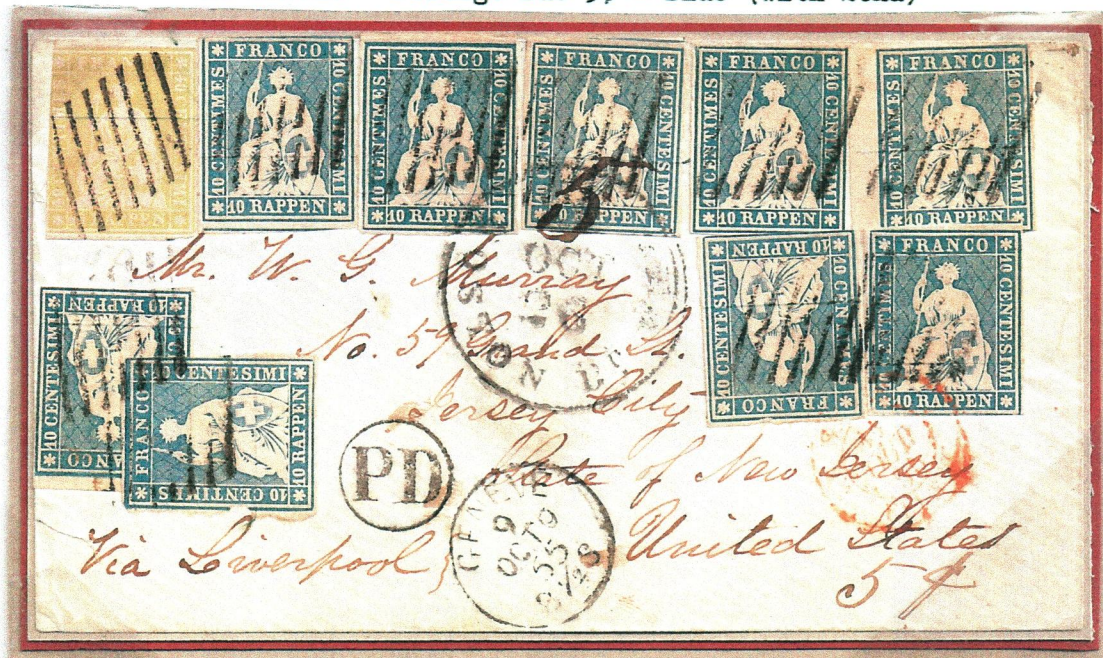
Mixed Franking Usage
International Multi-Stamp Combination Usage

Combination Possible For 15 Days - Blue



AARAU, 29 SEPT 1854, on folded collection letter.
Combination authorized from September 15 - 30, 1854
About a dozen covers (+/-) of this combination said to exist.
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1996)

To U.S.A. - Postage Due 5¢ - Blue (with 26Aa)



GENEVA to JERSEY CITY, 9 OCT 1855, ordinary mail, 2nd Rate Period.
130c/15gr. from Zone 2 - 5¢ assessed at Boston.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - December 31, 1856.
(Attest: Henry C. Gibson - Signed)

Domestic Cash Collection Letters
Combination Frankings

Zone 1 Letter - Blue (with 22A)



ZOFINGEN to UERKHEIM, 20 DEC 1854.
Assessed 10c fee to collect 65c.

An Oversize Zone 1 Letter - Light Blue (with 24Aa)



KULM to TRIENGEN, 20 DEC 1854.
A difficult franking combination on an interesting usage.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1973)

Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Paper: Munich

EKU September 14, 1854

P.P. = Postage Paid - Light Rose



Black Grill
Rose



Blue Grill
Rose

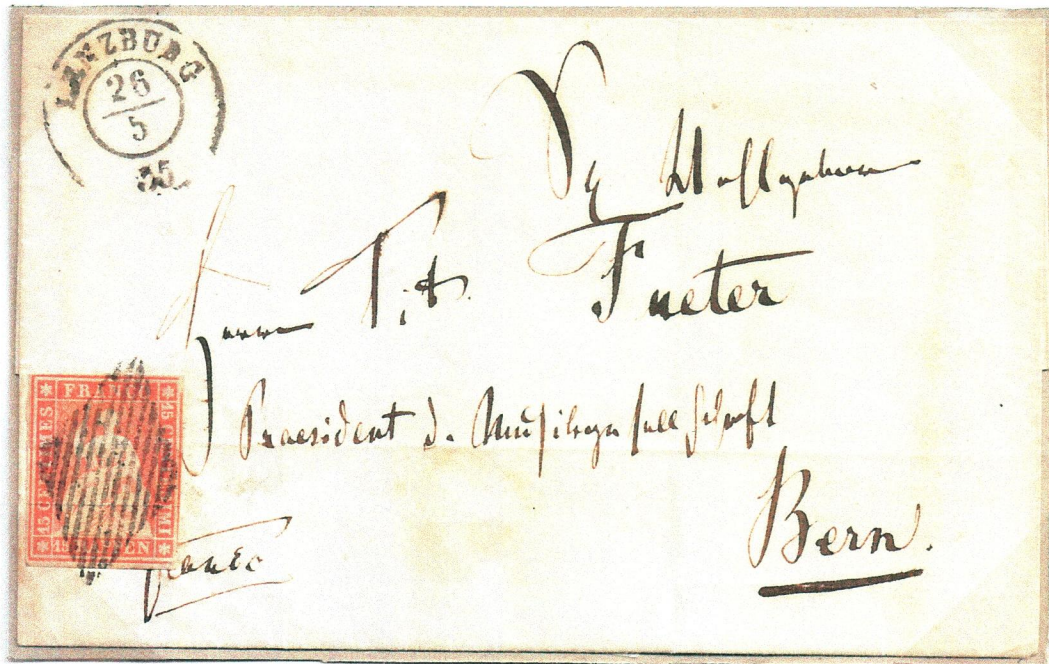


WIMMIS
Vivid Rose



UHWEIFEN to MEILEN, 28 NOV 1857.

Large Double-Circle Cancel - Vivid Rose



LENSBURG to BERN, 26 MAY 1855, ordinary mail.

Cancellation & Shade Varieties



Boxed PD
Pale Rose



Red Pen Cancel
Rose



Blue Grill
Rose



13-Bar Grill
Vivid Rose



9-Bar Grill
Pale Rose



7-Bar Grill
Rose



16-Bar Grill
Deep Rose



Not Listed Grill
Rose

12-Bar Grill - Rose



BASEL to MESSEN, 18 MARCH 1855, ordinary mail.

International Usages
 "Poste Restante"

To France - "Paid In France" - Rose



BASEL to BARR, 10 OCT 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
 35c/7½gr. for more than 30 miles from the border.
 "7/A-E-D" = "Hunique/Affranchie a l'Etranger jusqu'a Destination."
 (Attest: A. von der weid - Signed)

To Grand Duché De Baden - "Poste Restante" - Rose



FRIBOURG to SCHLIENGEN, 14 MARS 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
 30c/7½gr. from Swiss Zone 2 to German Zone 1, "To be delivered at P.O."
 Rate of October 1, 1852 throughout entire "Strubel" period.

Cancellations
Improper Usages

With Grill Cancels - Vivid Rose (with 22A)



ST. GALLEN to RAVENSBURG, 7 NOV 1854, ordinary mail.
Postal Directive September 1, 1854: Circular date stamps and straight-line
hand-stamps permitted again in cancellers from October 1, 1854.
(an improper usage)

Thimble Cancels Only - Pale Rose (with 22A)



FOUNTAINES to LENSBOURG, 16 DEC 1854, ordinary mail.
Postal Directive, December 7, 1854: Only grills.
(another improper usage)

New Green Color
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Munich

EKU September 14, 1854

Light Yellow-Green

Yellow-Green



To England (Special Rate) - Light Yellow-Green (with 24Aa)



ZURICH to LONDON, 14 JAN 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
55c/7½gr. in stamps already affixed to letter - or - 65c cash at mailing time.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - August 14, 1859.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1989)

Swiss postal authorities ordered less palid yellow green color for more clarity of design.

Multiples
Cancellations & Shades

Yellow-Green



BRUGG 16-Bar Grill 14-Bar Grill
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1994)

Pale Yellow Green

Green



Eidgen Grill

15-Bar Grill

Typical paper breakd in 5-piece multiple on left margin, between pair, and bottom left single.

International Usages
Cancellations & Shades

To Prussia - Circled P. P. - Green (with 24Ab)



CHAUX DE FONDS to TRUENBRIETZEN, 25 SEPT 1855, ordinary mail, P. P.
50c/15.6grs. for 2 Swiss and 3 German postal rate zones.
Rate of October 1, 1852 for entire "Strubel" issuing period.

To France - Right Margin Copy - Yellow-Green



STAFSA to LYON, 13 APRIL 1855, ordinary mail, P. D.
40c/7½grs/ from Swiss postal zone 2.
Rate of September 15, 1854 - August 1, 1859.

International Usages
Special Rate Combination Frankings

To Great Britain - Yellow-Green (with 23A & 24A)



ROMONT to CHATHAM, 25 DEC 1854, ordinary mail, PD (blue).
55c/7½gr. in stamps already affixed to cover, or 65c cash time of mailing.

To Great Britain - Green (with 22A & 24A)



LAUSANNE to DERBYSHIRE, 18 DEC 1854, ordinary mail, PD.
60c/7½gr. via France from Swiss Zone 1.
Rate of 50c in stamps already affixed or 60c cash at time of mailing.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - August 14, 1859.

International Usages
Colored Cancellations & Shades

To European Turkey - Green-Blue Cancels - Green (with 24A)



GENEVA to CONSTANTINOPLE, 18 NOV 1854, ordinary mail, circled PD.
Rare destination. Brach lists 6 items during "Strubel" period.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 2003)

To France - Red Cancels - Yellow-Green



ZURICH to LYON, 8 DEC 1854, ordinary mail, oval PD.
Red "7/A.E.D." = "Huningue/Postage fully paid" in France.
(Attest: H. P. Renggli - 1999)

Unusual International Usage
Disinfected Letter

To Duche de Modena - Showing Disinfected Marks - Yellow-Green



GENEVA to REGGIO, 17 OCT 1854, double rate letter, ordinary mail, circled PD.
Part of Austrian-Italian Postal Union at this time.
Fewer than 10 letters reported to Modena destination.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 2003)

Four Plate Layouts

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II

EKU November 6, 1854

Plate I
Wide Gutters
(.7.1mm)
Frames Complete

Plate II
Medium Gutters
(.3.7mm)
Frames Incomplete



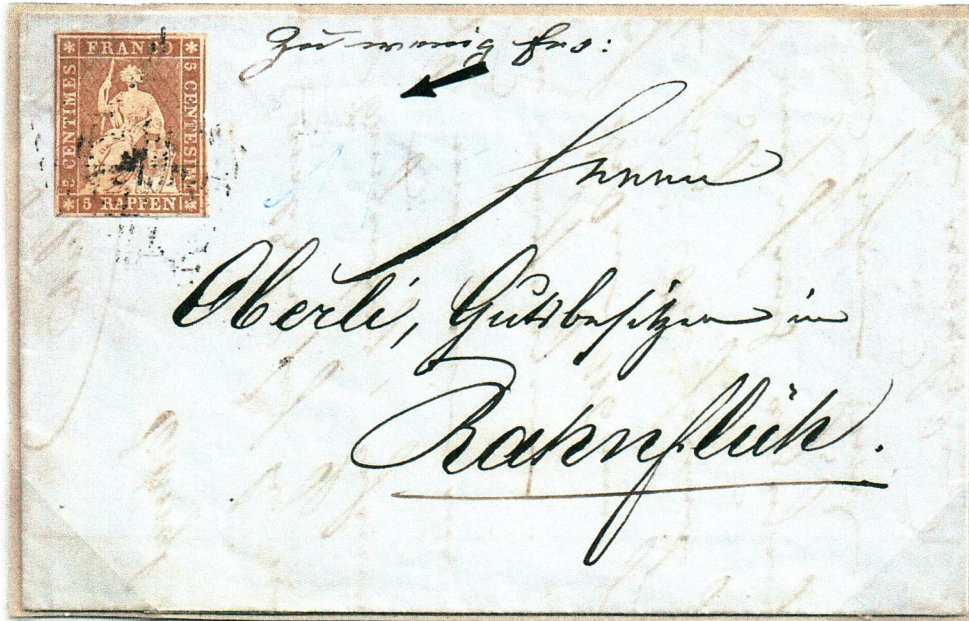
Following breakdown of presses at University of Munich printery in November 1852 and lengthy repairs, Swiss Postal Department canceled it's contract for stamps, entrusting printing to Federal Mint in Bern in March, 1854, and ordered Munich to turn overall printed and unprinted paper.

Printing for the 1st Bern period (No's B & F, all with green silk threads), 2nd Bern period (Nos. C, D, & E, with different colored threads) and 3rd Bern period (No. G, with green threads) are divided according to Plates I and II for 25-stamp sheets and Plates III and IV for 50-stamp sheets.

The difference among stamps from the four plates are the amount of space between cliches, regularity of cliche allignment, completeness of printed frame lines, and source of paper. Not all stamps were printed from all four plates. Shown above are examples of Plates I & II.

Albino (no ink) Strike
Cancellations & Shades

No Circle Date Cancel - Light Brown



ERISWYL to RAHNFLICK, 26 SEPT 1854 (inside), ordinary mail, zone 1.
Even without ink, the cancellation is readable.

The Scarcest Shades - Brown (with 23Ad)



BASEL to LUZERN, 22 DEC 55, ordinary mail, Zone 3.

Zone 2 Letters
Cancellations & Shades

Pair Showing Plate II - Pale Gray-Brown



THUN to BERN, 4 SEPT 1856, ordinary mail.
Note medium spacing between stamps from sheets of 25.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

Double Rate Letter - Very Pale Matte-Brown (with 24B)



BERGDORF to GENEVA, 30 AUG 1856, ordinary mail.
Double circle cancels with cross.
(Attest: F. Moser - Signed)

5Rp. Milky-Blue "Error of Color"

Paper: Munich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern

EKU June 26, 1856

Color similiar to 23CA
Paper almost as thin as that of E & F
(with characteristically misplaced threads)

Error



Milky-Blue
15-Bar Eidgen Grill

Normal



Brown
15-Bar Eidgen Grill

Only 5 copies of this error said to exist: 2 unused, 2 used, and 1 on cover dated June 26, 1856 from Basel Court of Law to the District Court of Law in Gelterkinder, but as far as been reported none has been since the end of the nineteenth century. After the 5c Rayed Star Postage Due stamp, this is the 2nd rarest Swiss Stamp.

According to "Zumstein." the stamp is not represented in the Swiss Postal Museum nor is there any record of its existance in the Postal Museum's archives.

This stamp is featured in Urs Hermann's 2006 book "Das Grosse Strubel-Handbuch" on page 152.

(Attest: Zumstein - 1995)

Domestic Letters
Cancellations & Shades

Zone 3 Letter - Light Matte Brown (with 23A)



FRIBOURG to COURTELARY, 27 NOV 1855, ordinary mail.
Double circle type cancel.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1985)

Zone 2 "Nachnahme" - Pale Matte Brown



LAUFENBERG to BRUGG, 4 JULY 1856, "Nachnahme" = C.O.D.
Different double circle cancel.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1977)

Different Trimmed Margins
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II

EKU March 17, 1855



Corner Copy Corner Copy Top Margin - Plate I

Left Margin Copy - Pale Light Blue

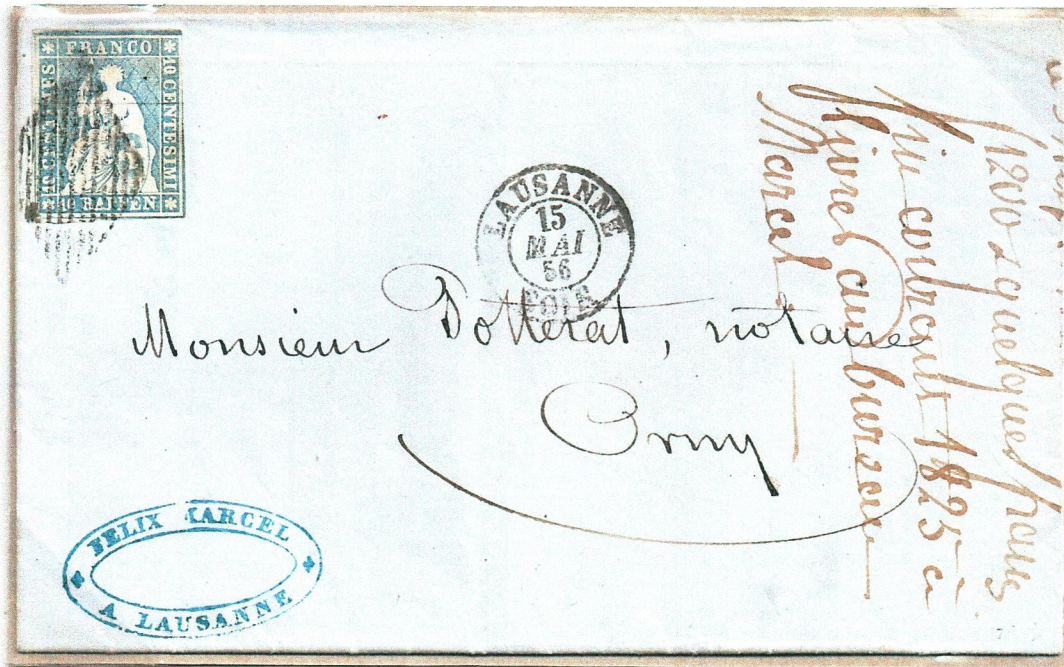


BUCHS to RHEINECK (Rheinegg), 23 MARCH 1856, ordinary mail.

The above stamps with trimmed margins. It has been said Postal Officials sometimes trimmed panes of 25 stamps so they would fit into special envelopes for distribution to post offices.

2nd & 3rd Zone Letters

Thread Shows on Printed Side - Light Blue



LAUSANNE to PRUY, 15 MAY 1856, to Zone 2, ordinary mail.

Margin Copy - Dull Light Blue (with 22A)



BASEL to LAUSANNE, 13 MARCH 1856, Zone 3, ordinary mail.

Registered Letters

Registered Letter to Zone 2 - Blue Circle Cancel - Dark Blue



Blue DAGMERSELLEN to MUNSTER, 2 APRIL 1856, double franking for registration.

s/1 "CHARGE" = Registered Letter - Government Seal - Pale Light Blue



LAUSANNE to CHATEAU D 'OEX, 18 APRIL 1856, registered letter to Zone 3.
15c/7'gr/ for 30+ miles - plus equal amount for registration

Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II

EKU January 29, 1855

Rose & Matte Lilac Rose



16-Bar Grill



13-Bar Grill



15-Bar Grill



7-Bar Grill

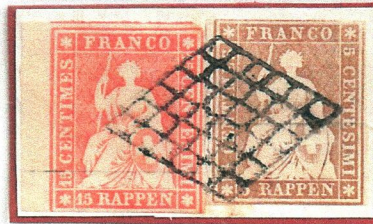


STEIN CDS

Three Different Shades



Dual Cancellations



Wimmis Grill
(Attest: E. Rellstab)



Boxed CHIASSO

13-Bar Grill - Matte Lilac Rose - Plate I



LAUSANNE to GSTEIG, 8 MAY 1856, ordinary mail, Zone 3.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1974)

Medium Spacing Of Cliches
Cancellations & Shades

Dark Dull Rose



Blue 15-Bar Grill
Plate II

Dull Rose

Rose

Rose



Blue PD & Grill
Plate II

Black Pen 8-Bar Grill

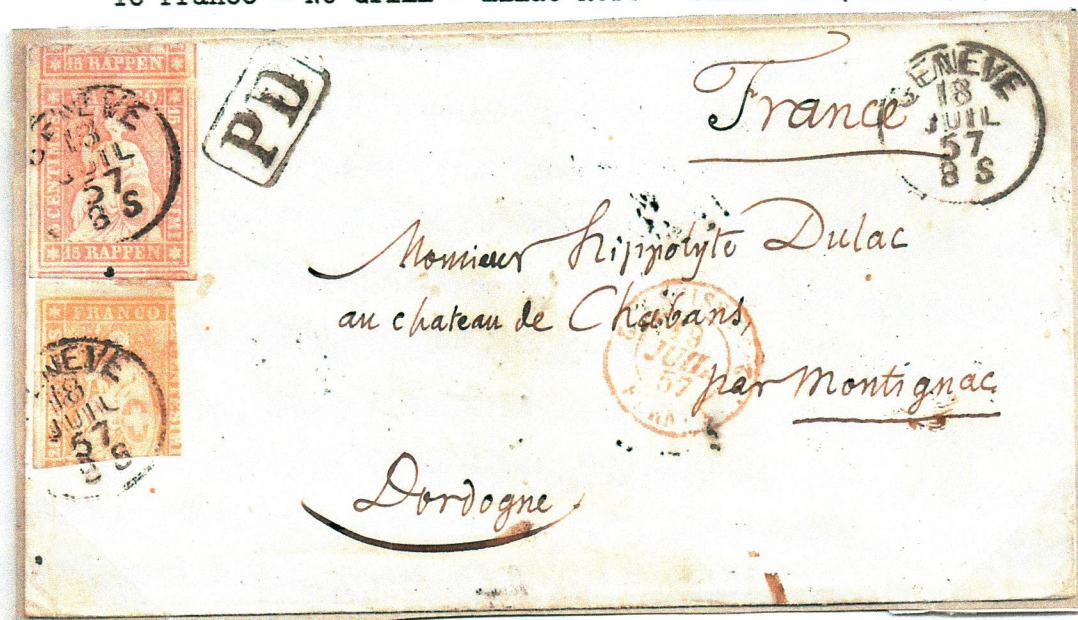
Large Red St. Gallen Cancel - Strong Rose



ST. GALLEN to RAPPERSWIL, 2 AUGUST 1855, ordinary mail.

Typical Cases Of Scissor Use
Cancellations & Shades

To France - No Grill - Lilac Rose - Plate II (with 25B)



GENEVA to CHATEAU near Montignac, 17 JULY 1857, ordinary mail, PD.
35c/7½gr. from Swiss border zone (0 - 30 miles) to beyond French Dept.
Rate of September 4, 1854 - August 14, 1859.

Nachnahme With Return Receipt - Dull Rose (with 25B)



SONVILLIER to LE NOIRMONT, 13 JULY 1856, cash collection letter.
Obligatory return receipt for collection of at least 6fr. with cash payment.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1974)

International Usages
Cancellations & Shades

To United States - 5¢ Postage Due - Dark Rose (with 27C)



GENEVA to NEW YORK, 7 MAY 1856, ordinary mail, P. D.
130c/7½grs. on British Packet to destination. 5¢ assessed at New York.
Rate of December 31, 1854 - December 31, 1856.
(Attest: Briefmarkprufstelle Basel - 1998)

To England - Special Rate - Dark Dull Rose (with 26Ca)



ZURICH to LONDON, 6 FEB 1856, ordinary mail, P.D.
55c/7½grs. from Swiss Zone 2 already stamped - or 65c at time of mailing.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - August 1, 1859.

First Bern Printing
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Emerald
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II

EKU October 14, 1854



7-Bar Grill
Yellow-Orange



15-Bar Grill
Pale Yellow-Orange



7-Bar Grill
Yellow-Orange



13-Bar Grill



WIMMIS Grill



Blue LUZERN



11-Bar Grill

Blue "Embassy" & "Nachnahme" Cancels Pale Yellow-Orange



LUZERN to TRIENGEN, 25 DEC 1854, collection letter.
Boxed "Staatskanzlei Luzern" = Federal Chancellery (Embassy).

First stamp printed in Bern: carefully printed with sharp definition, good color dispersion, and deep embossing.

Unusual International Usage
Unique Double Thread Variety Error*

To U. S. A. - Double Rate Letter - Dark Orange (with 26A & 27Cb)



LAUSANNE to PHILADELPHIA, 11 JUNE 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
130c/15gr. x 2 from Swiss Zone 1 by British packet from British port.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - December 31, 1856.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2002)

*Normal double thread varieties run horizontally in the stamp. With this stamp one runs horizontally while the other runs diagonally from the right corner (both are visible on face of the stamp).

Border Zone Letters
Cancellations & Shades

To Sardinia - "Verbano" = Lake Ship Mail - Pale Yellow-Orange



LOCARNO to PALLANZA, 19 APRIL 1855, via Lake Maggiore Steamer
20c/7½gr. (instead of 40c) between P.O.'s within 30km of the border.
Rate of April 1, 1851 - October 31, 1859.

To France - Double Rate Border Letter - Orange-Yellow (with 23C)



BASEL to MULHOUSE, 15 APRIL 1857, ordinary border mail.
15c/7½gr. x 2 for 8gr. letter.
(going between border zones no more than 30kms apart)
Rate of September 14, 1854 - August 14, 1859.

Special Rates
Cancellations & Shades

To Scotland - Pale Yellow-Orange (with 26A & 22B)



ZURICH to LOGAN, 25 DEC 1854, with "N:Abg" = too late for mail coach.
55c/7½gr. to Great Britain via France from 2nd Swiss zone (30+ miles).
(55c in stamps already affixed or 65c cash at mailing time)
Rate of December 15, 1854 - August 14, 1859.

To France - Double Rate - Yellow-Orange (with 26A & 23B)



BASEL to BESANCON, 13 SEPT 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
35c/7½gr. x 2 from Swiss border zone (0 - 30 miles).
(to beyond border department in France)
Rate of September 14, 1854 - August 1, 1859.
(Attest: Kurt Kimmel - 1974)

Extraordinary Charge Letter
Combination Frankings

To Kingdom of Sardinia - Dark Yellow-Orange (with 26Aa & 27C)



GENEVA to EVIAN, 11 MARCH 1856, ordinary mail, PD.
20c/7½gr. x 3 reduced rate - instead of 40c x 13 for this letter.
(Sent between post offices no more than 30km. from the border.)
Extraordinary charge of 260c for 90 - 97½grs.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1978)

More Than 30 Miles Of Border - Yellow-Orange (with 24A)



GENEVA to LYON, 5 MAY 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
Sent inland to beyond border dept. of France.

Remote Asian Destination
Unique Overfranked Letter

To Calcutta (Eastern India) - Orange (with 26A)



LAUSANNE to CALCUTTA, 2 DEC 1854, ordinary mail, PD.
110c/7½gr. from Swiss Zone 2 via Marseille, France and Suez, Egypt.
Rate valid from January 1, 1854 - December 14, 1854.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1996; Urs Hermann - 2005)

The excess franking (30R) can be explained that the sender wanted the letter to reach without cost to addressee, explaining the "PD" designation.

Thread Color Change
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Yellow
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II

EKU May 30, 1855

Light Brown



14-Bar Grill ZURICH 15-Bar Grill 7-Bar Grill
Plate I

"Plate Fault" = Cleft In Upper Right Corner - Brown



BATTERKINDEN to FRUENBRUNNEN, 10 DEC 1855, ordinary mail.

Director of Bern Mint decided in October, 1854 to employ different color thread in paper for each denomination as a further security measure, retaining emerald for the 20c stamp.

Cancellations & Shades

Light Matte Brown



7-Bar Grill



9-Bar Grill

Light Yellow-Brown

Matte Gray-Brown



URNÄSH
Plate II



12-Bar Grill
Plate II

Yellow-Brown

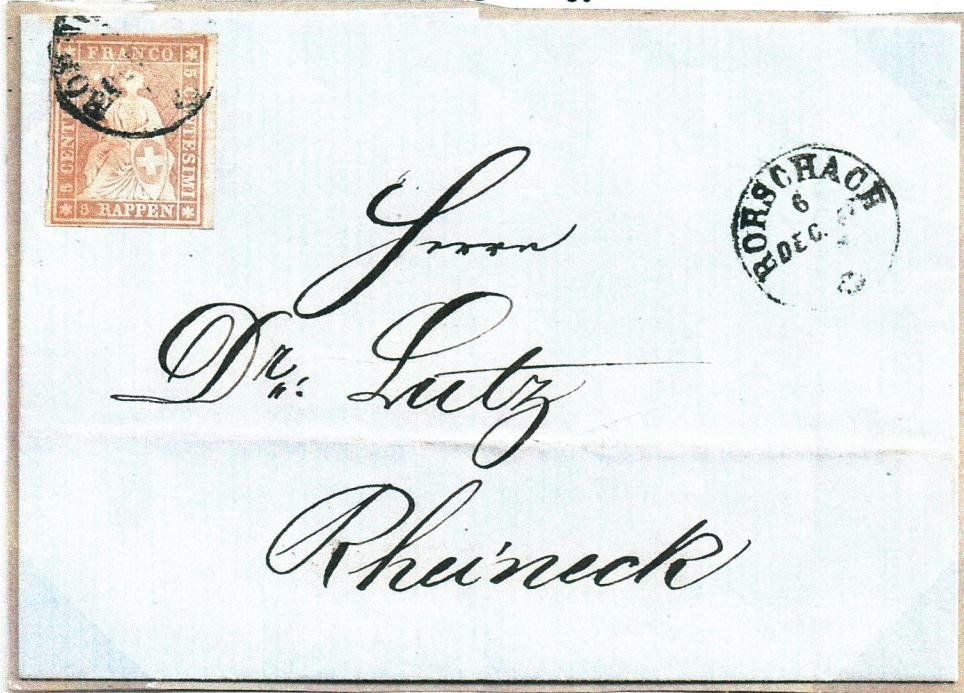


Pre-Printing
Paper Fold



"R" Plate
Variety

Zone 1 Letter - Margin Copy - Yellow-Brown



RORSCHACH to RHEINECK, 6 December 1857, ordinary mail.

Cancellations & Shades

No Year Shown in Cancel - Dark Bright Brown



BREMgarten to MURI, 12 SEPT (1856), ordinary mail.
Single circle with cross cancel.

Zone 3 Letter - Dull Yellow-Brown (with 23A)



COLOMBIER to GENEVA, 6 FEBRUARY 1856, ordinary mail.
Thimble cancel showing year and cross.

Lake Ship Mail
Thread & Color Varieties

Paper: Munich
Thread: Red
Printing: Bern
Plate: III

EKU January 6, 1858

Dark Red Thread



Dark Blue



Green Blue



Gray-Blue

To Kingdom Of Sardinia - Lake Ship Mail - Light Blue



WEESEN to MASSERNO, 2 DEC 1858, ordinary mail, PD.
40c.7½gr. via Lake Maggiore Steamer ("Verbano" cancel), direct exchange.
Rate of April 1, 1861 - June 30, 1862.

Light Red Thread



Dark Blue



Intense Blue



Dull Blue



Light Blue

Authorized Bisect
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Light Red
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II, III

EKU (?), 1856

Milky Blue



BIENNE



BREMgarten



Blue Grill

Half Used For Zone 1 Franking - Light Blue



CHIASO to COLDRERIO, 3 "GEN" 1856, ordinary mail.
One of 5 (+/-) existing examples said to exist of this bisect.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1982)

Bern replacement of handpress for 25-stamp sheets with mechanical press for 50-stamp sheets, increased the supply of stamps, for the space between cliches, 0.1.05 to plate III & .0.3.05 on plate IV. In addition, plate III held irregularly aligned cliches and printed very incomplete stamp frame lines.

Cancellations & Shades
Production Varieties

Dull Blue



Cleft in Frame Double Print Split Frames



Double Print Variety + Albino Frame Line - Gray Blue



WOLLERAU to GRIEFENSEE, 9 NOV 1857, ordinary mail, zone 2.
The double print is most obvious in "FRANCO" at top of stamp.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1997)

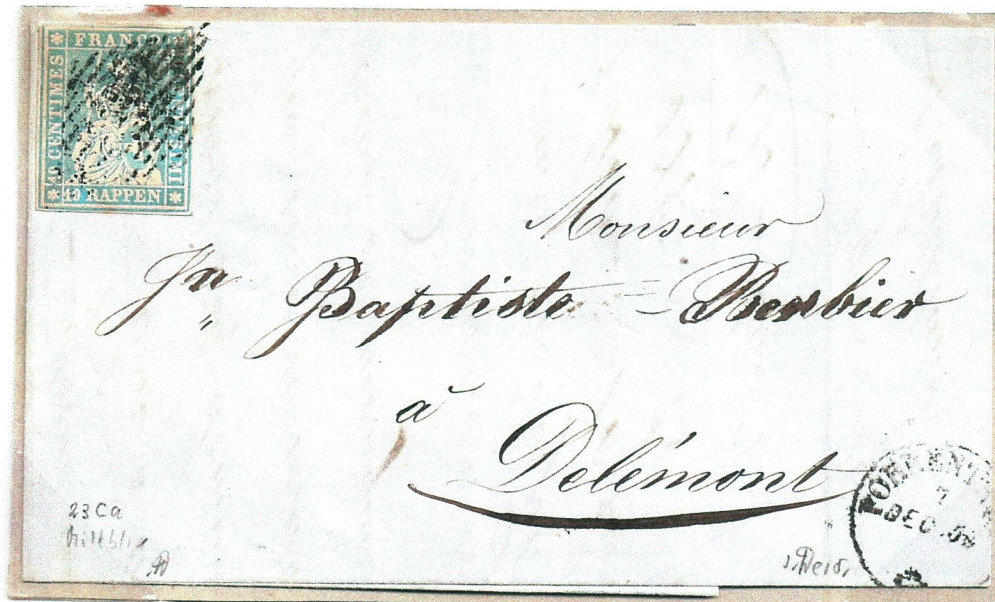
Cancellations & Shades
Domestic Usages

s/1 WYLEN Cancel - Bright Milky-Blue



WYLEN (Wilten) to SCHAFFHAUSEN, 28 DEC 1856, ordinary mail.

Circle Date Cancel - Matte Milky-Blue



PORRENTROY to DELEMONT, 7 DECEMBER 1856, ordinary mail.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

Cancellations & Shades
International Usage

Margin Copy - Blue



SCHAFFHAUSEN to OBERSTAMMHEIM, 9 JULY 1857, ordinary mail.

To France - "Haut Rhin" - Blue (with 24B)



BASEL to HAUT RHIN (old name for Alsace), 18 FEB 1857, ordinary mail.

Cancellations & Shades

No Grill - Bottom Margin Copy - Dull Blue



BERLINGEN to PFFINGAN, 2 SEPT 1858, ordinary mail.

Dark Blue Cancels - Gray-Blue



KALTBRUNNEN to RAPPERSWIL, 3 SEPT 1856, ordinary mail to zone 2.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

Different Markings
Cancellations & Shades

Boxed "RECOMMANDIRT" = Registered Letter - Dull Blue - Plate III



ZURICH to OBERWYL, 19 AUGUST 1858, to Zone 2.

"Recommandirt" = Registered letter with no stated value.

- Note the vary narrow spacing between stamps in Plate III -

s/l "TROP TARD" = Too Late (for mail coach) - Greenish Blue



LAUSANNE to AIGLE, 24 JULY 1856, ordinary mail.

Marking seldom used and difficult to find.

Refused Collection Letter
International Usage

Returned To Sender - Blue - Plate II



SCHLIERBACH to LUZERN (via Buren), 22 APRIL 1859, Nachnahme.
Sender obligated to pay 20c postage & fee + additional 10c return postage.

To Wurttemberg - Blue - Plate III



HAUSEN to CONSTANZ, 6 AUGUST 1857, ordinary mail.
10c/15gr. x 2 zones (1 Swiss, 1 German-Austrian).
Rate of October 15, 1862 - August 31, 1868.

Registered Letters

"Charge" = Registered Letter - Greenish-Blue



BELP to WATTENWYL, 14 AUGUST, registered letter to zone 2.

Official Registered Letter - Dull Blue - Plate III



LAUSANNE to CHATEAU D'OER, 22 SET 1857. with official government seal.
15c/7½gr. for 30+ miles (doubled for registration).

Paper: Munich
Thread: Red Brown
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II, III

EKU February 17, 1855

Cancellations & Shades

First Printing 1855 - 1858
Good Embossing

Green



9-Bar Grill 8-Bar Grill 13-Bar Grill 15-Bar Grill

Yellow-Green



FRIBOURG

BASEL
Plate II

GENEVA

2nd Printing 1858 - 1860
Poor Embossing

Yellow-Green

Green



2 Threads
21mm apart
(usually 25)

WATTWYL

BERN

LOCLE
Plate III

Cancellations & Shades
International Usage

Green

Dull Blue-Green

Light Yellow-Green



Black Grill



BERN



Grill & Boxed PD

To Austro-Hungarian Empire - Double Rate letter - Yellow-Green - Plate I



BASEL to Vienna, 20 MAY 57, to German-Austrian Postal Union, ordinary mail.
Note the wide uniform spacing of Bern Plate I of 25-stamp sheets.
Of 15 Vienna listings in Brach's "Strubel" book, 2 others are double rate.

International Usages
Cancellations & Shades

To Kingdom of Sardinia - Lake Ship Mail - Light Green



LUGANO to NOVANA, 20 MARCH 1857, "Verbano" = via Lake Maggiore Steamer.
Not eligible for 20c reduced rate - destination 30+ km beyond border zone.
Rate of September 15, 1854 - October 1, 1859.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

To Savoy - Postage Due - Yellow-Green



GENEVA to CHAMBERY, 8 SEPT 1857, "Affranchissement Insuffisant" = Postage Due.
40c/15.6gr. up to 75km. of border = (1 Swiss zone + 3 Austrian zones = 50c).
Rate of April 26, 1852 for entire "Strubel" period.

Note: Savoy was not part of French Postal System until July 1, 1860.

Combination Destination Frankings

To Wurtemberg - Green (with 22C)



BERN to HEIDELBERG, 29 SEPT 1858, ordinary mail.
50c/7½gr. for 5 postal zones (2 Swiss, 3 German Postal Union).
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1978)

To England - Special Rate - Yellow-Green (with 24D)



ZURICH to LONDON, 25 DEC 1857, from Swiss Zone 2, ordinary mail, PD.
55c/7½gr. in stamps already affixed to cover, or 65c cash at mailing time.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1995)

Remote International Usage
One Of Two Known Covers

To Extreme Southern Brazil - Dark Green (with 24D)



WINTERTHUR to RIO GRANDE DO SOL, 7 MARCH 1860, ordinary mail, P.P.
95c/7½gr. on Southampton Steamer "Dag Courant."
Rate of December 1, 1857 - September 30, 1960.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2001)

Unusual Remote International Usage
Unique Franking

To Western United States - Yellow-Green (with 24B)



LAGNAU to SAN FRANCISCO (via Panama), 15 JAN 1860, ordinary mail.

French Treaty Mail = Any vessel of any flag from any port.

115c/7½gr. to destination (PD), 15¢ cr. for inland postage, 4th Rate period.

Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.

Thusly, the rate to San Francisco would be 115c not 135c, although it is stated letters were still allowed to be sent with old rate of 95c.

In the listed poll of covers to United States in Herbert Brach's year 2000 "Strubel" book, there are six listings to San Francisco (3 from this same party for all rate periods), with none matching this letter.

International Usages
Combination Frankings

To United States - P.P. - Light Green (with 22B & 25B)



ZURICH to NEW YORK, 30 MAY 1856, ordinary mail, P.P.
65c/7½gr. on French merchant ship via France & England.
5¢ assessed at Boston to be paid by New York receiptant.

To England - Special Rate - Pale Green (with 23B & 25B)



BIENNE to HUDERSFIELD, 4 JULY 1856, ordinary mail, PD.
55c/7½gr. prestamped letter x 2, 2nd rate period.
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1994)

Unusual International Usage
Combination Franking

To European Turkey - Double Rate Letter - Yellow-Green (with 24B)



LA CHAUX DE FONDS to CONSTANTINOPLE, 16 MAY 1856, ordinary mail, PD.
95c/7½gr. x 2 via Marseille.
Of the 6 covers listed in H. Brach's book, one was double rate.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - June 30, 1862.

Unique International Usage
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Black
Printing: Bern
Plate: II

EKU May 2, 1855

Bluish-Gray

Violet-Gray



BERN



8-Bar Grill

To India - Unique Single-Frinking Item - Dark Bluish-Gray



BASEL to BOMBAY, 6 DEC 1856, ordinary mail, PP.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2005)

New 1 Fr. value, needed for international postage and trans-Atlantic mail, delivered to Swiss Postal Department on February 14, 1855. Mauvein, first synthetic dye used in Swiss stamp production proved sensitive to light and water, and violet-gray color turned to bluish-gray.

- Featured in Richard Schäfer's 1995 book "Swiss Letter Mail to Foreign Countries" on page 272. -

Cancellations & Shades
International Registered Letter

Gray-Lilac

Gray

Blue-Gray



BASEL



UNTERSEEN



15-Bar Grill



Grill



BERN

To Austro-Hungarian Empire - Registered Letter - Dark Gray (with 25G)



ZURICH to VENICE, 18 DEC 1858, registered letter.
"Recommandirt," red script, "Charge," = Registration

International Usages
Combination Frankings

To U.S.A. - Due 5¢ - Violet-Gray (with 24B)



GENEVA to JERSEY CITY, 21 DEC 1856, ordinary mail, PD.
130c/7½gr. via British Packet from England & France. 5¢ assessed at New York.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - December 31, 1856.

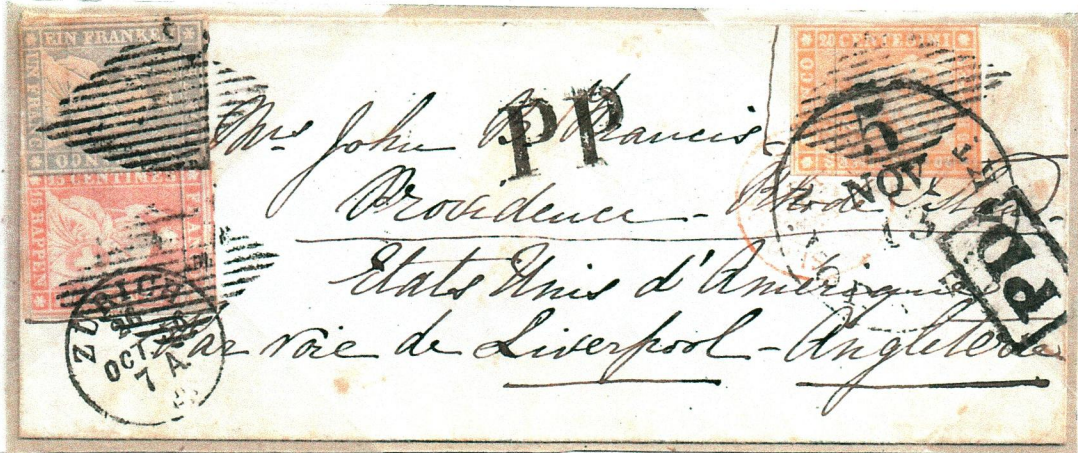
To U.S.A. - New Rate - Violet-Gray (with 23B & 26C)



GENEVA to JERSEY CITY, 17 FEB 1857, ordinary mail, PD.
95c/7½gr. by British Packet - paid to arrival port. 5¢ assessed at New York.
Rate of January 1, 1857 - April 30, 1857.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1991)

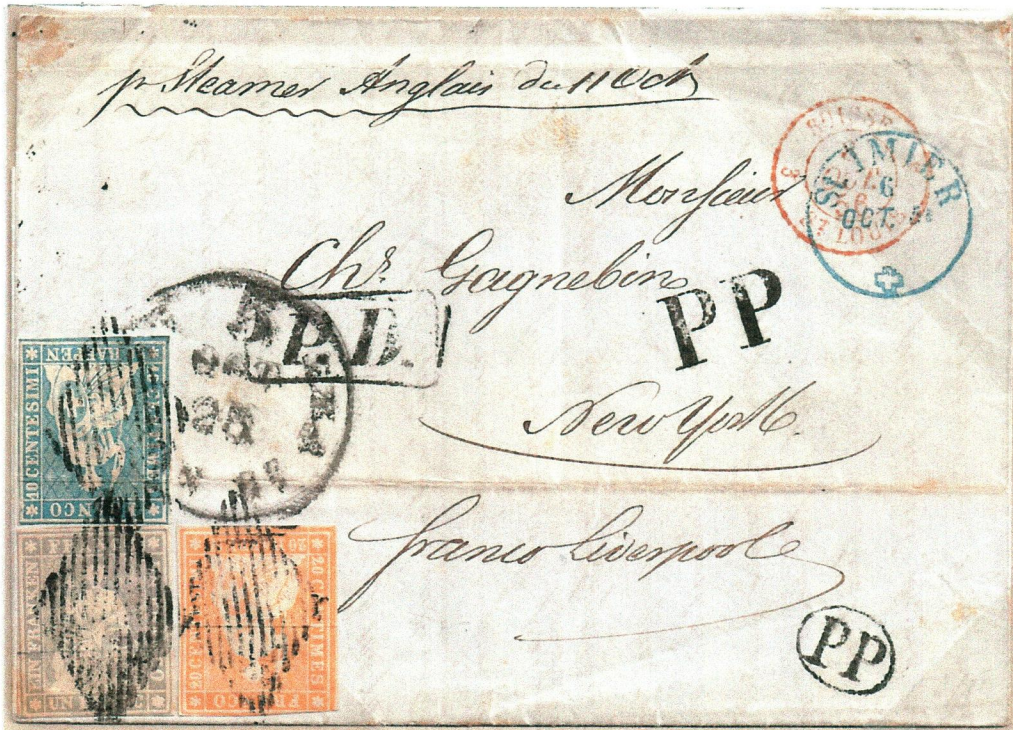
International Usages
Dual Use of "PP" & "P.D."

To United States - Gray-Lilac (with 24B & 25B)



ZURICH to PROVIDENCE, 26 OCT 56, with PP & PD (both used during 1856).
135c/7½gr. by British Packet from Liverpool to Boston. 5¢ assessed at Boston.

To United States - Dark Gray (with 25B & 23C)



Blue ST. IMIER to NEW YORK, 6 OCT 1856, ordinary mail.
130c/7½gr. by British Packet to arrival port. 5¢ assessed at Boston.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - December 31, 1856.

International Usage
Cancellations & Shades

Unique Block



Bluish-Gray (deep shade)
(Attest: H. Hunziker - 1966)

To Two Sicilies - Double Rate Letter - Gray (with 23C & 26C)



BERN to Naples, 21 AUGUST 1858, ordinary mail, PD.
75c/7½gr. x 2 via Marseille.
Rate of January 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1997)

Remote International Usage
Double Rate Letter

To South-Eastern Australia - Pale Gray (with 26A & 25B)



LAUSANNE to MELBOURNE, 26 FEB 1855, ordinary mail, PD.
130c/7½gr. x 2 via London by British Packet via Suez.
Rate of December 15, 1854 - June 27, 1857.
One of 5 (+/-) letters sent to this infrequent destination.
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1998)

Featured in Richard Schäfer's 1994 book on "Swiss Letter Mail to Foreign Countries," "Der Briefpostverkehr Schweiz-Ausland, 1459 - 1907" on page 294.

Red back cancel shown below.



Shows arrival date of May 14, 1855.

Unusual International Mixed Franking Usage
Unique Double Embossing Combination Letter

To United States - Light Gray (with #31.2)



AARAU to NEW YORK, 11 DEC 1862, ordinary mail, PD.
Few copies said to exist of this important double embossing error variety.
- Pictured and written up in 1924 "Zumstein Handbook" on page 98. -
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 2006)

Double Embossing, One Inverted



Issued October 1, 1862

Thread Color Change
Plates, Cancellations, Shades

Paper: Munich and Zurich
Thread: Black
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II, III, IV

EKU January, 1856

Plate I
Two-Side Calendered Paper (Munich)
Matte Gray-Brown



GENEVA PD

AESCH

Plate II
One-Side Calendered Paper (Zurich)
Gray-Brown

Printed
on
smooth
side



SCHAFFHAUSEN
(Very Thin Paper)



FRUENFELD



Boxed PD

Printed
on
rough
side
(spotty)

Plate III
Poor Printing
On Zurich Paper
Gray-Brown

Badly
aligned
cliches



ST. IMIER

Plate IV
Deep Color
On Zurich Paper
Deep Brown

Well-
aligned
cliches



SCHMERIKON

Colored thread changed from yellow to black because former was too faint in artificial post office light.

The Mendrisio Box Cancel
Cancellations & Shades

3-Sided Box Cancel - Pale Matte Brown



MENDRISIO to CASRINA, 31 AUGUST 1857, ordinary mail.
Unique cancel used solely by City of Mendrisio.

A Different Shade of Brown - Dark Dull Matte Brown



GENEVA to MENDRISIO, 7 JULY 1857, ordinary mail, Zone 3.
Backstamped same cancel as above. Known used with 6 different colors.

Difficult Franking Combination
Cancellations & Shades

8-Bar Geneva Cancel - Matte Brown (with 23F)



GENEVA to BASEL, 13 MAY 1857, ordinary mail, Zone 3.
(Can't be many of this combination around.)
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1999)

s/1 OESCHGEN - Dark Gray Brown - Plate III



FRICK to AARAU, 11 JANUARY 1859, ordinary mail, Zone 2.
Plate III sheets of 50 show very narrow spacing of 0.1 - 0.7mm.

Letters To Zone 3
Cancellations & Shades

No Grill Cancels - Light Gray-Brown - Plate II



BASEL to ST. GALLEN, 16 MAY 1858, ordinary mail.
Seems like an early start, as no grills to be used after May 25, 1858.

Unique City Cancels - Light Brown - Plate II



BIENNE to ORBE, 22 MARCH 1857, ordinary mail.
A few similar cancels exist, but none match exactly those shown used here.
Notice wide spacing with stamps from 25-stamp sheets.

Interesting International Usage
Combination Franking

To Papal States - Gray Brown (with 23C & 26C)



LAUSANNE to BOLOGNE, 30 NOVEMBER 1859, ordinary mail.
55c/10gr. via land (Sardinia), PD = Paid to destination.
Rate of November 1, 1859 - February 9, 1860.

Note mistaken use of "R. L." - "P. F." - "Insuffisant," as shown below:

- "R. L." = Rayon Limitrophe (within the limits of the frontier).
- "P. F." = Paye jusqu' a la frontiere (paid up to the frontier).
- "Insuffisant" = Insuffisient postage (postage due).

Cancellations, Shades, Production Varieties



"5 CE" Variety
Yellow-Brown



"MI" Variety
Matte Gray-Brown



Wort on "A" of Rappen
Brown



Cash Collection Letter - Light Matte Brown - Plate III



ESCHLIKON to GANTERSCHWYL, 30 JULY 1856, with blue town cancel.
5c/7½gr. x 2 for up to 6 miles - 10c to collect 60c.

Printing Plate Variety
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Blue
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II, III

EKU July 3, 1857
(see Below)

Rose



GSTAAD BERGDORF ST. IMIER



Light Matte Rose



SCHLANS, Plate II

Earliest Recorded
Postmark
(Attest: Kimmel)

Printing Plate Fault - Strong Rose - Plate III



ST. GALLEN to LAUSANNE, 26 OCT 1858, ordinary mail.

Plate Printing Variety
Cancellations & Shades

Rose

Dark Rose



SCHWARZENBURG



Dark Rose



GRABS



Blue Grill



AIROLA



WEGGIS

Zone 2 Collection Letter - Dark Rose (with 22D)



RUSWIL to EBIKON, 18 SEPT 1858, "Nachnahme" letter.
10c to collect 3frs. + 10c franking.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1974)

Obligatory Return Receipt
French Limit Zone 1

Cash Collection Letter - Strong Rose - Plate IV (with 22G)



NIDAU to KOPPIGEN, 11 MARCH 1860, Zone 2 "Nachnahme."
10c/7½gr. postage - 20c collection fee - 5c fee for return receipt.
Obligatory for collections of 6frs. or more.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1994)

French Limit Zone 1 - Pale Rose (with 23Cb)



BASEL to ST. MARIE, 22 OCT 1856, ordinary mail, PD.
25c/7½gr. up to 48km. of border to Swiss Zone 1.

International Usages
Cancellations & Shades

To France - Border Rate - Pale Rose (with 25B)



COPPET to PARIS, 23 SEPT 1856, ordinary mail, P.D.
35c/7½gr. from Swiss zone 1 (up to 48km. of the border), period 1.

To U.S.A. - 3¢ Credit - Rose (with 26Ca & 26Cb)



RENAN to NEW YORK, 18 APRIL 1857, ordinary mail, PD, 4th rate period.
95c/7½gr. on French Treaty vessel - m/s "3" credit for internal postage.
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1993)

International Usages
Cancellations & Shades

To United States - Unusual Cover - Dark Rose (with 27C)



CHATEAU D'OEUX to NEW YORK, 27 JULY 1858, ordinary mail, PD.
115c/7½grs. on French Treaty Ship - All vessels from any flag from any port.
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862

To United States - 15¢ Credit - Bright Rose (with 26C)



CORCELLES to NEW YORK, 20 DEC 1858, ordinary mail, P.P.
95c/7½grs. to arrival port by British Cunard African Line Packet.
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.
(Attest: J. P. Bach; M. Eichele; E. Rellstab, AIPE - 2000)

International Usages
Unusual Cancellations

To U. S. A. - "NEW YORK SHIP 5 cts" - Dull Rose (with 27C)



ZURICH to NEW YORK, 20 JUNE 1856, ordinary mail, P. P., Period 2.
130c/7½grs. reg. rate, but sent on American Sailing Packet from Le Harve, Fr.
One of about 3 known covers with "NEW YORK SHIP 5 cts." postage due marking.

To U. S. A. - Double Rate Letter - 30¢ Credit - Pale Rose (with 27C)



VEVEY to BOSTON, 2 JULY 1857, ordinary mail, P.D., Period 4.
115c/7½grs. x 2 for French Treaty Mail vessel from Swiss Postal Zone 2.
Shows red "BOSTON PAID" with 30¢ inland credit, carried on American vessel.
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.

25D

New Classification

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: II

Use Time: 1858 - 1859

Printing finer than 25F - like 25B

Paper thicker than 25F - like 25G



ROLLE
Orange

"frei" = Postage Paid - Orange



BUREN (via an der Aare) to THUN, 5 JUNE 1858, ordinary mail.
20c/7½gr. - 20grs. for over 48km. (30+ miles).
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1999)

Refused Collection Letter
Newly Discovered Unlisted Boxed "Refuse" Mark

Discovery Example - Pale Yellow-Orange (with 24D)



GENEVA to BEX, 19 December 1858, to zone 3.
Featured in "Postgeschichte, Postal History," 2004 issue on page 79.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 2003)

Unique 1Fr. Single-Use International Usage
Thread Color Change

Paper: Munich
Thread: Yellow
Printing: Bern
Plates: I, II, III

EKU July (?), 1856

Violet-Gray

Bluish-Gray



VEVEY ST. GALLEN ST. GALLEN RICHTENSCHWEIL

To Sweden (1 of 3 Known) Pale Bluish-Gray



ST, GALLEN to GOTHENBERG, 27 JUNE 1861, ordinary mail, PD.
Unique 1Fr. single-franked letter to unusual destination.
(Not a listed destination in H. Brach's "Strubel" book).
(Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 1999)

Hard to discern yellow thread transferred from 5c value to this 1 fr.,
the latest value used.

Synthetic "mauvein" dye (see 27C) changed from violet-gray to bluish-
gray when exposed to light and water.

Cancellations & Shades
International Usage

Gray-Lilac Light Gray-Lilac Light Blue-Gray



SCHWANDEN
(thin paper)

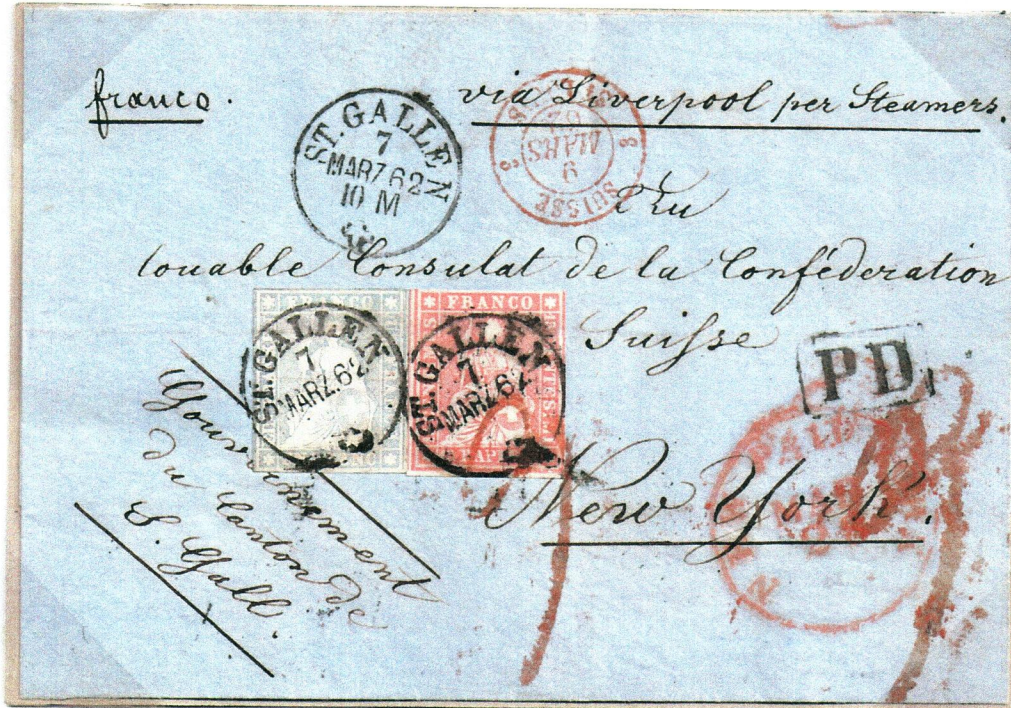


Boxed Red PD



LOCLE

To United States - Gray-Lilac (with 24G)



ST. GALLEN to NEW YORK, 7 MAR 1862, ordinary mail, PD.

115c/7½gr. via France on any ship (British Packet).

3¢ credit for U.S. inland postage under U.S.-French convention April 1, 1857.

Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.

International Usages
Different Rate Periods

To United States - 5th Rate Period - Gray (with 23G)



LAUSANNE to NEW YORK, 1 SEPT 1862, ordinary mail, PD.
110c/7½gr. French Treaty Mail vessel.
Rate of July 1, 1862 - July 31, 1863.

To United States - Double Rate Letter - Light Gray-Lilac (with 24D)



NEUCHATEL to NEW YORK, 31 JULY 1859, ordinary mail, P.D., Period 4.
115c/7½gr. x 2 on French Treaty Mail vessel from Swiss Zone 2.
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.

Very Remote International Destination
Use of Both PP & PD

To North China - Dark Violet-Gray (with 23G & 26G)



GENEVA to CHEFOO, 24 MARCH 1862, ordinary mail, PP & PD.
95c/7½gr. x 2, via Marseille - Suez - Hong Kong, to unusual destination.
A unique usage in every way for this issue.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2004)

International Usages
Registered Letter And Mixed Franking Letter

To Austria-Hungarian Empire - Registered - Gray (with 25G)



ZURICH to VENICE, 20 DEC 1860, "Recommandirt" = Registered Letter.
100c/15gr. x 5 zones (2 Swiss, 3 German-Austrian) + 20c for registration.
Rate of November 1, 1852 - August 31, 1868.
(Attest: Kurt Trussel - 1988)

To U. S. A. - Unique To Arrival Port - Gray-Lilac (with #31)



NEUCHATEL to PRINCETON, 6 JAN 1863, ordinary mail, P D, 5th rate period.
110c/7½gr. via France on British Packet with red 6¢ inland postage credit.
About 20 of this combination exist (+/-)

Sixth Issue

23E

The Very Thin Paper Issues

Paper: Munich
Thread: Light Red
Printing: Bern
Plate: II

EKU August 20, 1856

Similar to 23C



EINSIEDELN Black Grill
Greenish-Blue Milky-Blue

Margin Copy - Very Light Blue



ST. GALLEN to SCHOCHERSWEIL, 20 APRIL 1857, ordinary mail.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

July, 1856 - August 1857 was a difficult transition period marked by: Slowness of new paper supplier in Zurich making deliveries; Use of earlier rejected Bern-printed stamps on thin (.06 - .07mm) Munich paper as stop-gap measure (Nos. E & F).

Since the printing plate and counter plate for embossing were adjusted for thicker paper, stamps printed on thin paper show flat embossing and less ink transfer, resulting in dull (matte) colors.

Cancellations & Shades
 Refused Cash Collection Letter



CAPPEL
 Pale Blue



YVERDON
 Light Blue



15-Bar Grill
 Light Blue



WEINFELDEN
 Greenish-Blue



MEERENSCHWAND
 Greenish-Blue

s/l "Retour" = Refused - Greenish-Blue - Plate III



EGG to SCHAFFHAUSEN, 26 DEC 1857, "Nachnahme," Zone 2.
 10c/7½gr. for 9.6 - 48km. (6 - 30 miles).
 30c fee to collect 22frs. (rounded up to 25c).
 (Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1998)

International Usage
Cancellations & Shades

Red "Via di Chiasso" - Light Blue (with 26C)



GENEVA to UDINE (Fridul), 3 DEC 1857, ordinary mail, PD.

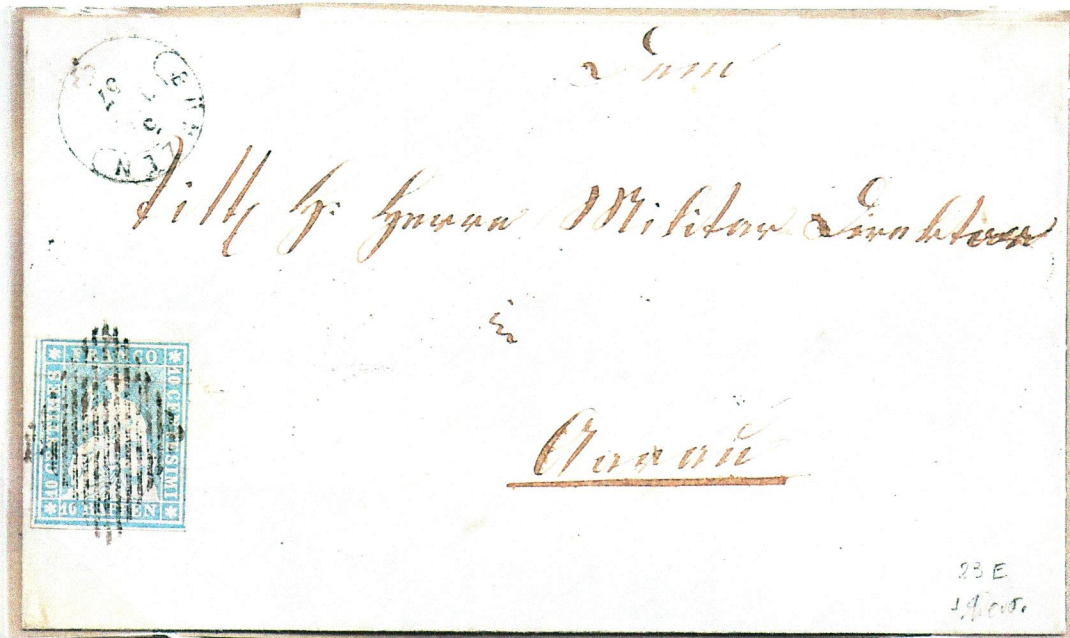
50c/7½gr. for 4 distance zones (1 Swiss, 3 Austrian).

Rate of Swiss-Austrian Treaty of 1852.

Note: Venetia was under Austrian rule all through the Strubel period.

(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2001)

16-Bar Grill Cancel - Greenish-Blue



BUNSON to AARAU, 5 JAN 1857, ordinary mail, Zone 2.

(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2002)

The Very Thin Paper Variety
Few Examples Are Known

Paper: Munich
Thread: Yellow
Printing: Bern
Plates: II, III, IV

EKU August 5, 1857

Similar to 27D



VEVEY
Gray-Lilac
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2000)

To Chile - Gray-Lilac (with 25B & 24D)



ST. GALLEN to VALPARAISO, 28 FEB 1861, ordinary mail, P.P., on piece.
Only recorded item here, unique in every way.
(Attest: Zumstein & Zie - 1988)

Only about 20 unused and used examples are recorded. Examples are rare because the initially rejected values printed on this paper included few 1Fr. (exact quantity not known). The 1Fr. were used to supplement supply of 27D occasionally.

International Usage
One Of A Kind Item

Top Margin Copy - Light Lilac-Gray (with 24G)



GENEVA to NEW YORK, 23 SEPT 1861, ordinary mail, PD.
115c/7½gr. on French Treaty Mail vessel from Swiss zone 1.
(Only cover entire of this stamp we have seen in 40 years of searching.)
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.
(Attest: Alain von der Weid - 2004)

Cancellations, Shades, Varieties

Paper: Munich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: II

EKU May 7, 1856

Similar to 22B (Thinner Paper)

Light Matte Brown

Typical
paper
break
between
clitchés



Left
sheet
margin

Pen Cancel 12-Bar Grill Plate II

Pale Matte-Brown

Two Threads
21mm apart
(normally 25)



Grill Cancel Blue VATTIS

Underpaid Letter = Postage Due - Matte Gray-Brown



ZURICH to HORGAN, 6 JAN 1858, ordinary mail, Zone 2.
5c to be collected (faded red m/s "5").
(Attest: Freidl Expert Committee - 1978)

Largest Known Multiple
Cancellations and Shades

Bern Plate Printing - 50-Stamp Sheets

Light Grayish-Brown



15-Bar Eidgen Grill
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1991)

Pale Matte-Brown



VICOSPRANO

The Blue Neiderglatt - Matte-Brown - Plate III



NEIDERGLATT to REIDT, 27 JUNE 1856, ordinary mail.
Difficult stamp and quality combination.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1982)

Cancellations & Shades

Blue s/l WALLBACH Cancel - Pale Matte Brown - Plate IV



STEIN to AARAU, 24 DEC 1856, ordinary mail.
Barely a couple dozen pairs on cover said to exist.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1989)

Scarcer Dark Shade - Matte Gray-Brown - Plate III



WYL to ST. GALLEN, 14 NOV 1856, ordinary mail, Zone 3.
Misplaced thread on top of right stamp.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1988)

Combination Usages

With Grill Cancels - Matte Brown - Plate IV (with 23C)



FRUENFELD to GENEVA, 23 FEB 1857, ordinary mail, Zone 3.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2002)

No Grill Cancels - Pale Matte Brown - Plate III (with 23E)



ORON to VEVEY, 29 JUNE 1857, ordinary mail, Zone 3.

Cash Collection Letter

Blue Grills - s/1 "Schangnau" - Matte Brown (with 23Cb)



SCHANGNAU (double) to THUN, 14 NOV 1857, on collection letter.
A difficult and unique combination cover.
(Attest: Kurt Trussel - 2000)

23F

Cancellations & 2-Thread Variety

Paper: Munich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: II

EKU July 4, 1856

Thin Paper
Similar to 23B

Only Blue



14-Bar Grill



Plate II



Geneva PD
2 Threads
21mm apart
(usually 25)

Left Margin Copy - Blue - Plate II



ALTSTADTEN to RHEINEK, 13 DEC 1856, Zone 2, ordinary mail.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1987)

Cancellations & Shades
Plate Fault Variety On Cover



Dark Blue
(Attest: Marchand - 1998)

Rosette Plate Variety - Blue (with 22C)



ZOFINGEN to BASEL, 22 AUG 1856, ordinary mail.
Unique usage for this stamp on cover.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1998)

Plate fault: Colorless "frame" around upper right rosette's right petel.
Same fault on 23B, indicating 23F was printed on same plate.

Multiples Showing Spacing of Bern Plate III
Cover Showing Spacing of Bern Plate II



Pale Blue
Eidgen 13-Bar Grill
Very narrow spacing (0.1-0.7mm.)
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1987)

Blue
Zaziwil 12-Bar Grill
Very narrow spacing (0.1-0.7mm.)
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2000)

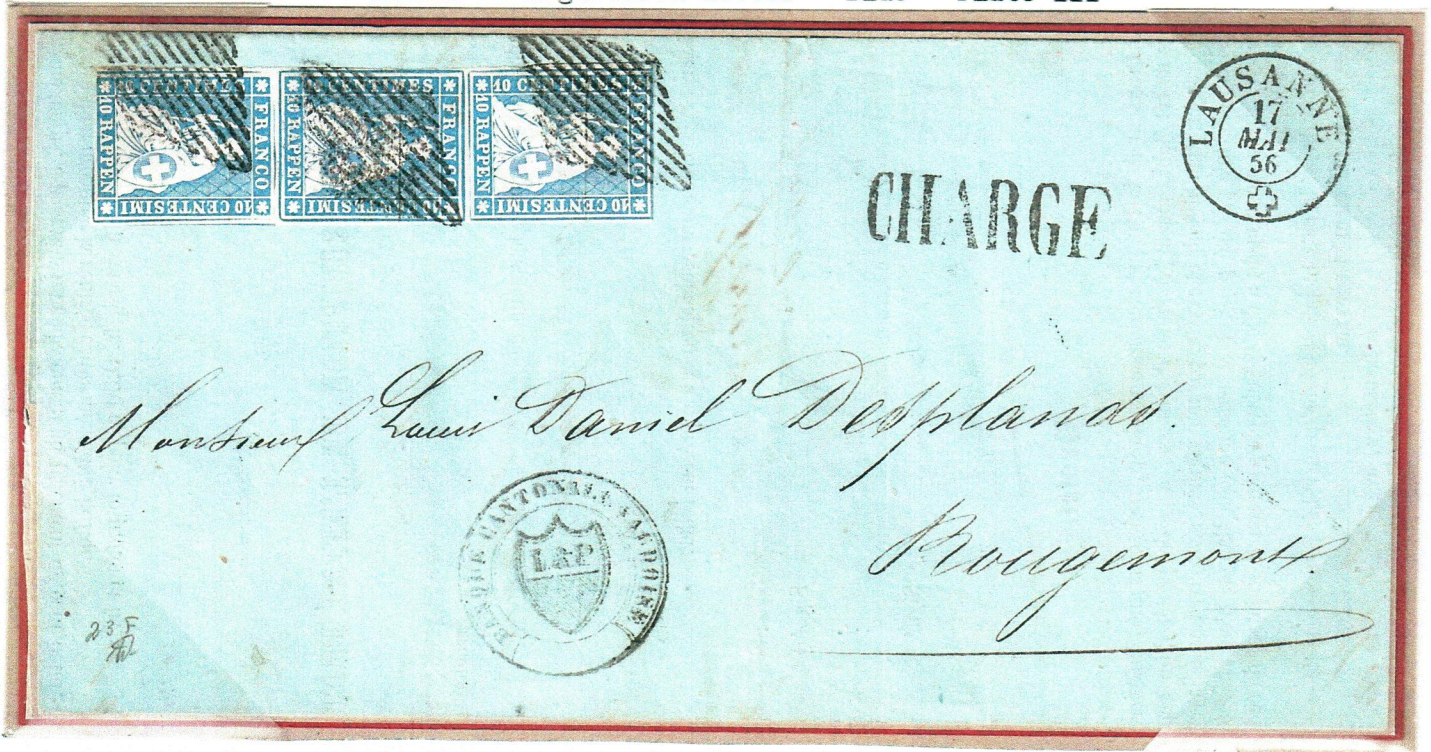
"Nachnahme" Letter - Blue - Plate II (with 24B)



BERN to OBERWYL, 12 JUNE 1856, "Nachnahme" letter = C.O.D., to zone 3.
10c to collect 75c plus 15c franking.
Notice the spacing is a little wider on the Bern Plate II sheets of 25.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1991)

Registered Letter

"CHARGE" = Registered Letter - Blue - Plate III



LAUSANNE to ROUGHMONT, 17 MAY 1856, registered letter with "declared value."
One of less than 5 with strip of 3 on cover.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1999)

24F

Unique Privately Perforated Stamp
Cancellations And Varieties

Paper: Munich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: II

EKU March 7, 1856

Thin Paper (Similiar to 24B)
Only Light Matte-Rose

Privately Perforated*



Ex Reuterskiöld,
Bally, & Stone

Two-Thread Variety



Blue Grill

Cancellations



8-Bar Grill



LUZERN



Boxed P.P.

*Featured in the Urs Hermann 2006 book "Das Grosse Strubel-Handbuch"
on page 623.

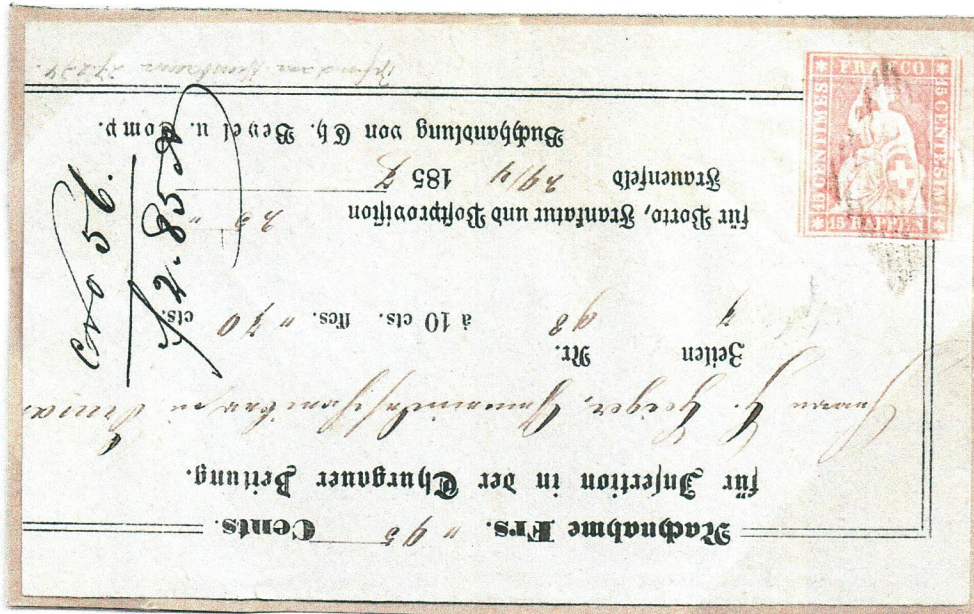
International Usage
 Nachnahme = Collection Letter

To France - Combination Franking - Pale Rose (with 25F)



GENEVA to LYON, 8 DEC 1856, ordinary mail, PD (circled).
 (Attest: R. Berra-Gautschy - 2000)

Local Cash Collection Letter - Pale Light Rose



FRUENFELD (local), 29 APR 1857, on collection post card.
 10c fee to collect 70c plus 5c franking.
 (Attest: Friedl Expert Committee - 1977)

Zone 3 Letters
With Grill Cancel & Without

With 15-Bar Grill - Pale Rose



BASEL to CHAUX DE FONDS, 6 MAR 1857, ordinary mail.
May 23, 1857 is the date of no more grill cancels.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

Hotel Logo Stamp - No Grill - Pale Deep Rose



ST. GALLEN to WEESEN, 7 SEPT 1857, ordinary mail.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)

Unusual International Usage
 Mailed During Discrepancy Rate Period
 Highest Recorded Franking Use of This 15Rp. Stamp

Markings Include Red "21" - Both "PP" & "P.D." - Pale Rose



FRICK to PHILADELPHIA, 20 April 1857, ordinary mail, PP & P.D.
 115c/7½gr. for French Treaty mail on American Vessel (boxed AM Service).
 135c/7½gr. charged as U.S./French Postal Treaty effective April 1, 1857.
 Swiss Postal Admin. changed rates May 1, 1857 (creating discrepancy period).
 The red "21" was credit for 16¢ Sea Freight and 5¢ Inland Fee.
 Ex Maurice Burris item.
 (Attest: A. von der Weid - 1985)

Two-Thread Varieties
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Munich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plates: II, III

EKU June 27, 1856

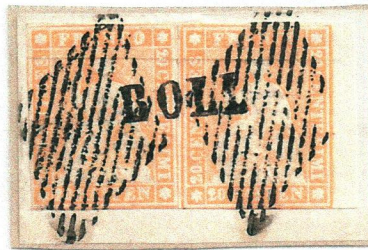
Thin Paper - Similar to 25B
Printed in 1854 - 1855
With distinct embossing

Yellow-Orange



Double Thread 13-Bar Grill 14-Bar Grill LAUSANNE

Pale Yellow-Orange



"BOLL" & Grill

Printed in 1857 - With flat embossing
Yellow-Orange

EKU (?) 1857

Pale Yellow-Orange



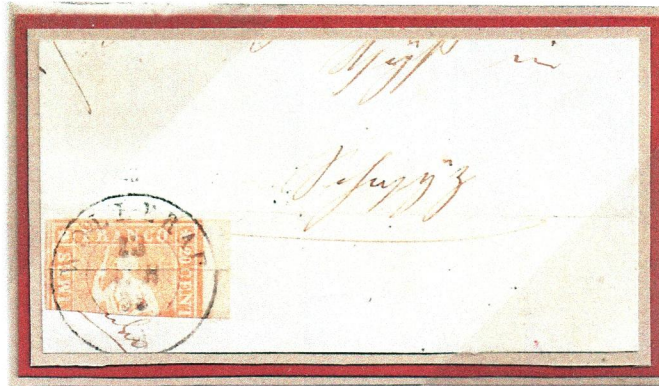
7-Bar Grill ST. GALLEN

ZURICH

THUN
2 Threads
(21mm apart
vs. 25mm)

Authorized (Thin Paper) Bisect

Half Used As 10Rp. - Yellow-Orange



WILLERAU, 13 APRIL 1858, on piece.
Only three or four examples of this bisect said to exist.
(Attest: F. Moser-Raz - 1964; R. Berra-Gautschy - 1994)

International Usage
Domestic Registered Letter

To U.S.A. - 5¢ Postage Due - Orange (with 24B & 27C)



WATTWYL to NEW YORK, 10 AUG 1856, ordinary mail, PP.
135c/7½gr. by British Packet - A unique combination usage.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2004)

City Cancel - Dark Reddish Orange - Plate II



WALDENSWIL to HIRSLANDEN, 21 JULY 1857, "Chargee."
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2000)

International Usages
Combination Frankings

To France - Bisect 40c Franking - Pale Orange (with 24F)



GENEVA to ANNONAY, 25 MAY 1857, ordinary mail, PD, from Zone 2.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 1997)

To France - "ZU SPAT" - Orange (with 22F)



LIESTAL to ENSISHEIM, 8 AUG 1856, ordinary mail, PD.
25c/7½gr. from Basel District to Department of Haut Rhin.
Rate of September 15, 1854 - August 1, 1859.

New Denomination
Last Bern Printing
Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: IV

EKU July 1, 1862



Pale Gray



Gray

Printed Matter Cover - Pale Gray



ZURICH to ALT ST. JOHAN, 10 AUG 1862, ordinary mail, new 2c rate.

Reduction of domestic printed matter rate to 2c/15gr. from 5c/60gr. created need for new denomination.

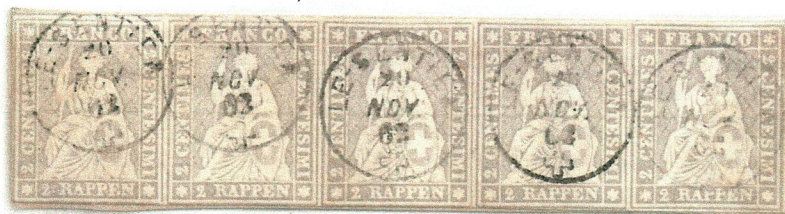
Clichés set close together for printing of 50-stamp sheets in new press.

Overriding need for speedy printing to meet stamp needs resulted in careless ink application and lack of embossed relief.

Green threads readopted for all new stamps to avoid production and inventory complications from different colors for different denominations.

Large Multiple Usage
Cancellations & Shades

Light Gray



LE SENTIER, 20 NOV 62. About 40 (+/-) exist of this multiple.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1994)


Zone 2 Letter - Dark Brown-Gray



ANDERMATT to BELLINZONA, 26 JAN 1863, ordinary mail.
Unique dark brown-gray shade 5-strip on cover.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1996)

Printed Matter Franking From Any Point In Switzerland Or Italy

6
20 Ottobre 1862



P.D. ANNO LXII.

TICINESE

...ledi, Venerdì e Sabato sera
ricorra festa.

Le associazioni si ricevono in Lugano presso la Tipografia e Libreria Francesco Veiadini e C., dagli Uffici postali della Svizzera, Italia ed Austria. — Per le inserzioni dirigersi in Lugano all'Ufficio della Gazzetta, ed in Torino all'Ufficio Generale d'Annunzi, via dell'Ospitale, N. 5. — Lettere, gruppi e vaglia postali indirizzarsi franco alla Direzione della Gazzetta in Lugano.

pe marocchino Mul-
a Granata per com-
M.

ANIA.

e. — La Dieta fede-
ottato le proposizioni
roduzione di una leg-
ca sulle ristampe. La
ella sua protesta.

pacci di Berlino an-
festazioni favorevoli
ti sono già incomin-
capitale, ove gli elet-
tanza ai loro rappre-
temere che l'agita-
e un'importanza che
e la tranquillità.

RIA.

iro dell'ex-regina di
delle Orsoline vicino
ta Officiale di Vienna

a Regina Maria di Na-
to l'occasione a diversi
usa che la regina ha si-
esentata, di accompa-
nienti le prime notizie

stabilito. Questo consiglio fu convocato per il 23 del corrente sull'istanza di lord Palmerston, e la circostanza suindicata induce ad attribuirvi un'importanza straordinaria. Da quanto è traspirato de' segreti ministeriali, che in Inghilterra soglionsi serbare accuratamente, pare che il discorso del sig. Gladstone, cancelliere dello scacchiere, a favore del riconoscimento degli Stati del Sud d'America condur debba ad uno di questi due risultati: o la rottura del ministero, o l'adottamento delle viste del sig. Gladstone nella quistione dell' indipendenza del Sud. Sembra pure che in questo consiglio sarà discussa anche la quistione italiana, ed il pubblico aspetta con ansia di conoscerne le deliberazioni.

Lord Lyons, inviato straordinario e ministro plenipotenziario della Gran Bretagna a Washington, che qui era in congedo, è partito il 15 per ritornare in America. Si assicura che il nobile lord, senza aver incarico di fare al presidente Lincoln delle proposizioni, abbia quello di fargli conoscere l'opinione del gabinetto britannico sul carattere che da qualche tempo ha preso la guerra americana, e sulle conseguenze gravi che possono avere le ultime

Used between July 1, 1862 - October 1, 1862.
About a dozen of these bisects on papers still exist.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1987)

Note: Herbert Brach notes October 14, 1862 as last known date of use.
This item is dated October 21, 1862 - a week later.

Mixed Frankings
Domestic Addresses

Returned Collection Letter - Light Gray (with #31c)



RIESBACH to LAUSANNE, 3 JAN 1863, on "Nachnahme" letter.
New 2c/15gr. Zone 1 rate = 10c fee to collect 5fr. 12c.
Rate of July 1, 1862 - July 31, 1863.

Zone 1 Letter - Gray (with #29)



FLUENLEN to ALTDORF, 23 JUNE 1863, ordinary mail.
(Attest: Bbriefmarkenprufstelle Basel - 2000)

As the final issue of "Strubels" were valid for postage until August 30, 1863, mixed frankings between perf. & imperf. Sittings Helvetias (Z #'s 21 - 23G; 25 - 26G) occasionally occurred. These are scarce depending on combinations & destinations (10 to 50 of each (+/-)), and are sought after as a specialty in itself.

Cancellations, Shades, & Spacing

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: IV

EKU April 7, 1858

Brown



SCHENBACH



3.mm. Vertical Gutters

Yellow Brown



.4mm. Gutter



LAUSANNE

Gray Brown



MADULEIN

Dark Brown



EGLISAU



STEIN

Black Brown



OLMCO

International Printed Matter
Special Rate To Sardinia & Italy

An



Domenica, 15

IL CREDENTE

GIORNALE F

Ubi Petrus, ibi Ecclesia. S. AMBROGIO.

Le associazioni si ricevono: in Lugano presso la Tipografia Traversa e Degiorgi; nel resto della Svizzera presso gli Uffici postali.

Per Milano ed il resto di Lombardia presso la Tip. Boniardi-Pogliani, Cont. S. Gio. in Conca, N.º 4140.

Per gli altri Stati si ricevono *direttamente* con lettera alla Direzione.

Per le inserzioni si pagano centesimi 8 per linea.

Esce il Giovedì e

Un Numero separat

IL SIGNOR CONSIGLIERE

AVVOCATO MASSIMILIANO MAGATTI,

in una riunione di cittadini del 40.º circondario elettorale federale, tenutasi oggi (14) in Lugano, è stato scelto a candidato dell'Opposizione ticinese per i comizi convocati il giorno 29 giugno ad eleggere un deputato al Consiglio nazionale in sostituzione del defunto Luvini.

Il solo nome del sig. Magatti vale meglio d'ogni elogio, e noi lo raccomandiamo caldamente e senza riserve agli elettori, nella certezza che non esiteranno un istante a votare pel candidato liberale-conservatore.

Ogni cittadino si rechi a scrupolo d'intervenire alle assemblee del 29, ricordando che si deve render conto alla coscienza e a Dio non soltanto dei voti cattivi, ma anche

LUGANO to CREMA (Sardinia), 14 JUNE 1862.

5c per sheet - special rate to Sardinia & Italy.

Rate of March 10, 1862 - June 30, 1862.

(Only about 100 (+/-) are said to still be around.)

Locally Authorized Bisect
Special Mailing Rate

On Post Card - Dark Brown



Delivered within the city of Geneva, 21 March 1862.

On Folded Envelope - Gray Brown



Delivered within the city of Geneva, 12 MAY 1862.

In Geneva the district postal administration authorized bisected 5 rappen stamps instead of cash to pay 2½Rp. for printed matter pieces in excess of 20 items going within the canton. This bisect was lasted from July 1, 1861 until the printed matter rate became 2Rp. on July 1, 1862.

Reduced Bulk Mailing Rate
Stamped In French & German

"Aff(ranchisement)t Modere" - Brown



LAUSANNE to GENEVA, 28 FEB 1861, special mailing.

"Moderierte Frankatur" - Dark Brown

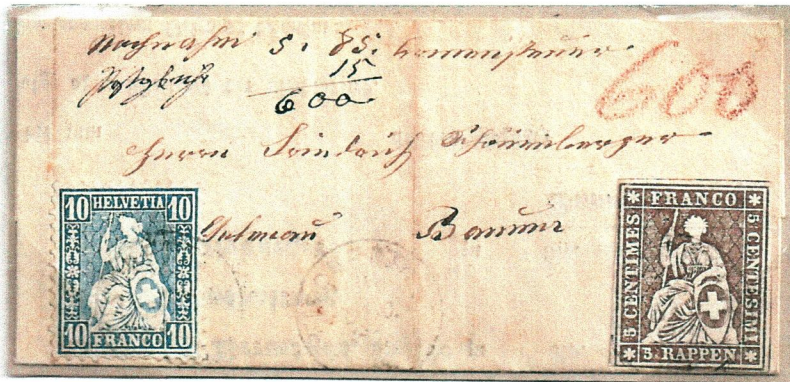


BERN to AARWANGEN, 28 MARCH 1860. marken in German.

Printed matter postage rate simplified January 1, 1852 to 5c/60gr. for 0 - 30 miles and 10c/60gr. for 30+ miles. For those pieces in excess of 20 in bulk mailings, rate was 2½c. Only towns of Basel, Lausanne, St. Gallen, and Bern are known to have special "moderated postage" for bulk mailings. Examples are scarce and hard to find.

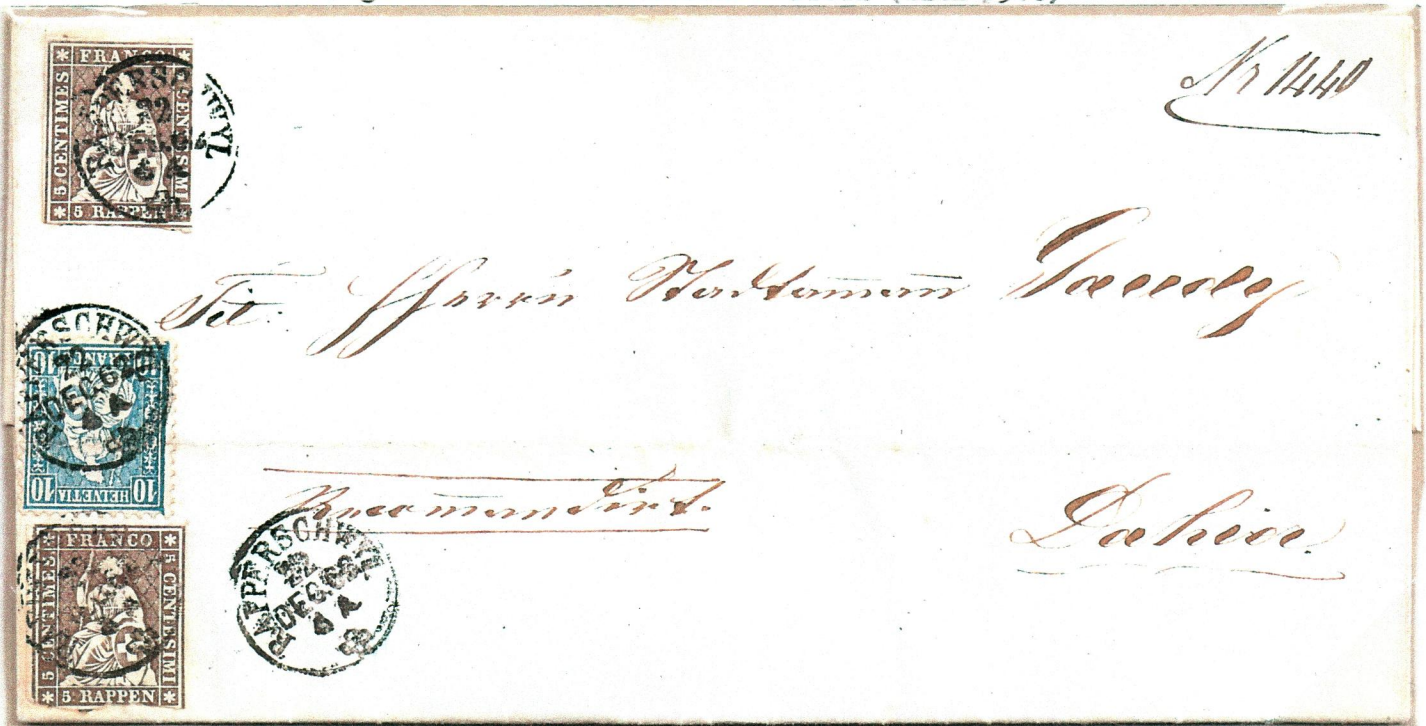
Mixed Franking Usages
With New Perfected Sitting Helvetia

Collection Letter - Brown (with #31d)



FISCHENTHAL to BAUMA, 3 DEC 1862, to Zone 1.
Only a couple hundred covers of this combination exist.
(Attest: Jean-Claude Marchand - 2000)

Registered Domestic Letter - Brown (with #31c)



RAPPERSCHWYL to DALIN, 22 DEC 1862, to Zone 2.
A guess is that there are about 50 left of this combination.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1995)

Same Value Mixed Franking
Cancellations & Shades

Difficult Combination - Light Brown (with #30)



CHEXBRES to YVERDON, 17 MAY 1863, ordinary mail.
Few covers of this usage said to exist (20 +/-).
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2003)

Town Cancellations



LUZERN
Brown

(A: Kimmel - 1999)

NEUENKIRCH
Gray-Brown

(A. von der Weid - 1991)

Multiple Usage
Cancellations & Shades

s/l GISLIKON (Gisikon) - Dark Brown - Plate IV



LUZERN to PFAFFNAU, 10 MAY 1860, ordinary mail, to Zone 2.
One of many different fonts and styles of town names used in Strubel period.

s/l MALTERS - Registered "Nachnahme" - Brown - Plate II



LUZERN to WILLISAU, 6 SEPT 62, registered nachnahme, to Zone 1.
10c/15grs. for 0 - 6 miles franking; 10c registration fee; 10c to collect 30c.
Plate II shows medium spacing of clichés (0.3 - 0.7mm) from sheets of 25.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1999)

Cancellations, Shades, & Plates

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plates: III, IV

EKU June 16, 1859

Dark Blue Light Blue Greenish Blue



BERGDORF
Plate III



Red P.P.
(Ex H. Stone)



UNTERSEEN
Plate IV

Blue



LAUSANNE
Plate IV



AFFOLTERN
Plate IV



LITTAU
(Att: Kimmel)



SCHAFFHAUSEN
Plate IV

Bright Blue



BERGDORF
Plate IV



WALLISELLEN
Plate IV



OETWEIL
Plate IV

Production Printing Varieties
Cancellations & Shades

Blue Bright Blue Dark Blue



"Line in Spear" BULLE "Line in Spear"
"T" Variety

Dark Blue Greenish-Blue



"2-Threads" RHEINFELDEN
.7mm apart "Comet"
(usually 25)

The "Comet" Variety On Cover - Darker Blue



SCHAFFHAUSEN to ZURICH, 15 JAN 1862, ordinary mail, zone 2.
Probably less than 25 exist of this variety on cover.

Cancellations & Shades

"Franco" = Postage Paid - Dark Blue



EGG to TAGSCHWEIL, 30 MARCH 1860, ordinary mail, Zone 2.
(Attest: Kurt Trüssel - Signed)

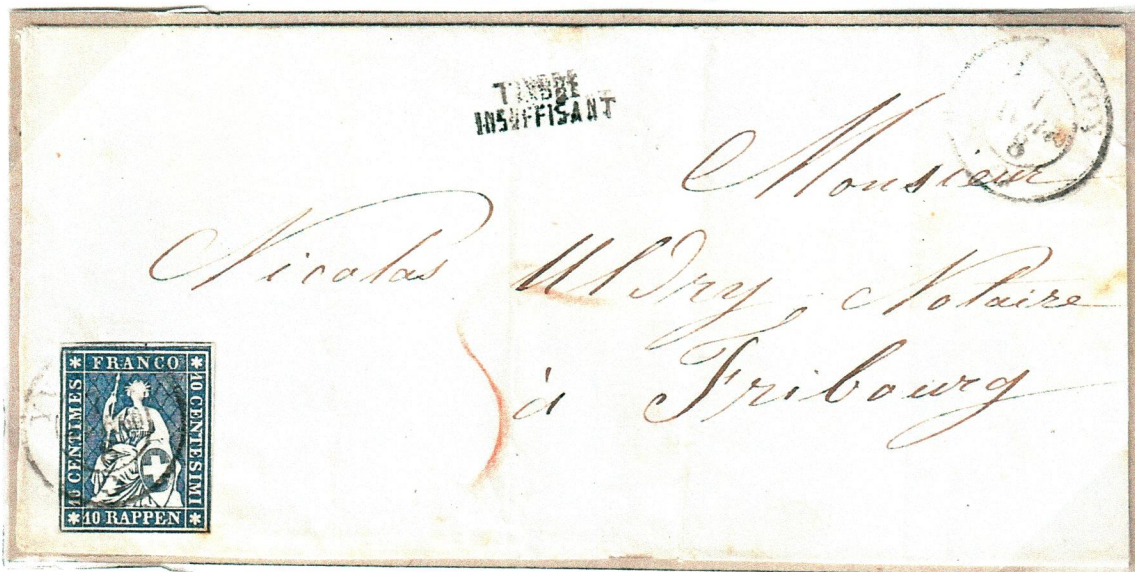
"Charge" = Registration - Blue - Plate IV



ST. GALLEN to REIDEN, 21 JUNE 1861, zone 2 registered letter.
Brown-Red scribble also indicates registration.

Different Postage Due Markings
Stamped In French & German

"Timibre Insuffisant" = Postage Due - Blue



YVERDON to FRIBOURG, 7 APRIL 1860, ordinary mail, zone 3.

"Zu Wenig Frankirt" = Postage Due - Dark Blue



LUZERN to DAGMERSELLEN, 10 MARCH 1860, with red marking for postage due.

Although prepayment was obligatory for October 1, 1854, it was not enforced through postage due penalties until July 1, 1862.

Unusual Straight-Line Cancellations

"Mourning" Letter - Bright Blue



TOFFEN to GROSS-HOCKSTETTEN, 20 AUG 1861, Zone 2.

"Twice Cancelled" - Blue (with 22G)



ALPNACHT to STAFA, 19 JUNE 1862, ordinary mail, zone 3.
Alpnacht postmark too faint on stamps, so cancelled again by Luzern.
(Attest: Fritz Moser - 1970)

Authorized Bisect

Zone 1 Letter - Light Blue



VILLANEUVE to MONTREUX, 8 MAY 1861, ordinary mail.
Fewer than 20 (+/-) of this bisect said to exist.
(Attest: Hans P. Renggli - 1991)

Cancellations & Shades

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: IV

EKU July 26, 1857

Rose



GENEVA



Red Ink Cancel



COUVET



BASEL



FLUERIER



BERN



PORRENTUUY



LACHIN



SEDRUN



NIDAU



MALVAGLIA

No Mixed Frankings With Issue Possible
Cancellations & Shades

Rose



NEUCHÂTEL

Burgundy

Pale Rose

Rose



ST, GALLEN

MOTIERS

BERN

Overpaid Franking - Strong Rose - Plate II



BASEL to PORRENTUUY, 15 AUG 1860, ordinary mail, Zone 2.
10c/7½gr. for 6 - 30 miles = 5c overpaid.

Since the 15c value was valid for use only until August 31, 1862, one month before the introduction of the perforated Sitting Helvetia issue, no mixed frankings were possible.

International Usage
Newspaper Cash Collection Wrap

To France - Orange Transit Marks - Deep Rose (with 23G)



BASEL to BORDEAUX, 30 APRIL 1858, ordinary mail, P. D.
35c/7½grs. from Swiss postal zone 1.
Rate of September 15, 1854 - August 1, 1859.

"Nachnahme" Newspaper Wrap - Pale Dull Rose



FAHRWANGEN to DIETWIL, 16 SEPT 1861, zone 1.
5c franking fee + 10c to collect 2Fr. 50ct.
(Seldom seen item)

Combination Usages

"Nachnahme" = Collection Letter - Rose (with 23G)



AARWANGEN to UTZENDDORF, 8 MARCH 1862.

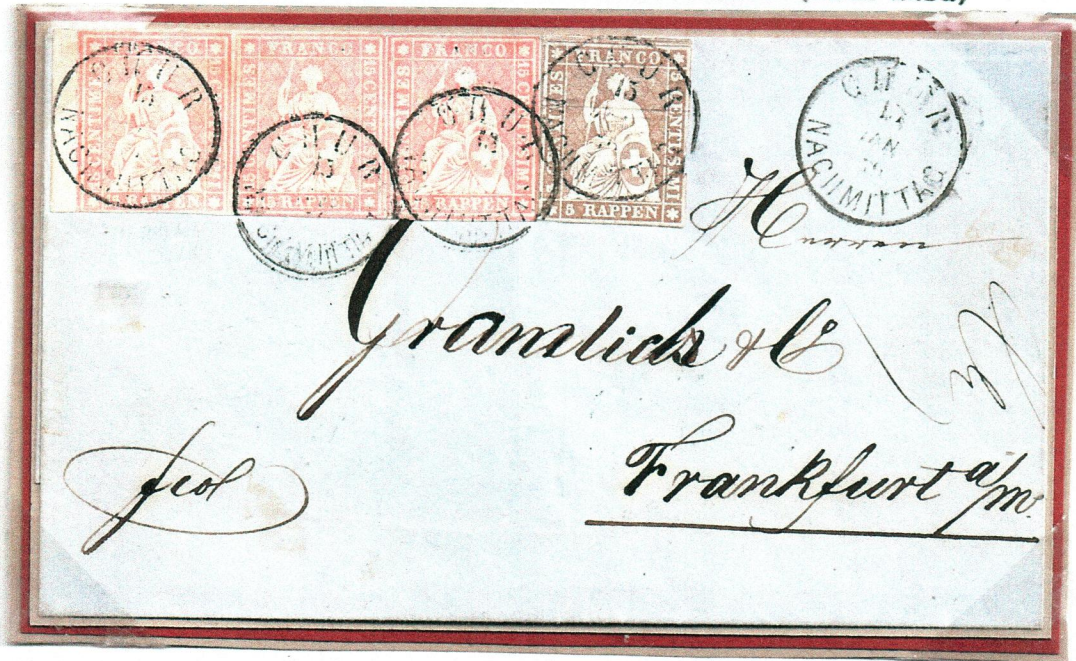
To France - Rose (with 23G)



ZURICH to SOULTZ (Haut Rhin = Alsace), 8 SEPT 1860.

International Usages
Combination Frankings

To German Postal Union - Pale Matte Rose (with 22Da)



CHUR to FRANKFURT, 21 JAN 1861, ordinary mail, unusual combination.
Few 3-strip of this stamp on cover said to exist (10 +/-).
(Attest: Fritz Moser-Raz - 1967)

To France - Darker Shade Rose (with 25G)



BASEL to EPINAL, 2 APRIL 1858, ordinary mail, PD.
35c/7½gr. to anywhere in France or Algeria from Zone 1.
Rate of September 15, 1854 - August 1, 1859.

25G

Authorized Bisect
Cancellations

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plate: IV

EKU August 25, 1857

Yellow-Orange



Circled P.P. CHAUX DE FONDS OBERWYL LANDERON

Zone 2 Letter - Yellow-Orange

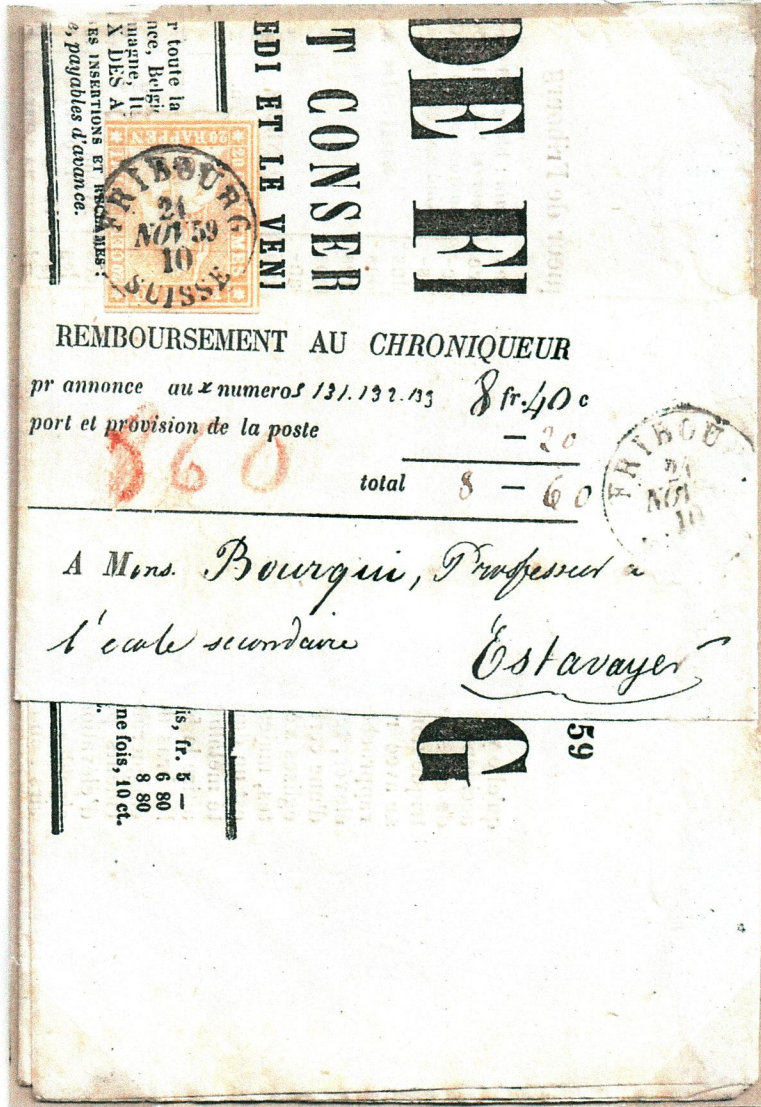


SCHWYZ to LUZERN, 31 MARCH 1858, ordinary mail.
About 5 of this bisect said to exist.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1999)

Postal clerk crossed out postage paid "franco,"
and wrote "10" for postage due,
then accepted bisected stamp and crossed out "10."

Printed Matter With C.O.D.

"Nachnahme" Paper Band - Pale Yellow-Orange



FRIBOURG to ESTAVAYER, 24 NOV 1859.
10c/0 - 120gr. printed matter going 6 - 130 miles.
10c fee to collect 8frs. 40c.

Notation on back of band: "Bill paid by town on behalf of school for newspaper advertisements. Newspaper with cash collection bill subsequently filed in the school's records."

Seldom Seen Usages

"Recommandee" = Registered Letter - Yellow-Orange



LUZERN to BALLWYL, 12 DEC 1861, on cover front.
Registered letter with no declared value is marked "Recommandee."

Double Refused "Nachnahme" Letter - Pale Yellow-Orange



ZURICH to SCHOFFLISHDORF, 10 JUNE 1861, "C.O.D." letter.
Refused & returned (Zurich June 11, backstamp).
Zurich to Regenberg with "2nd 10c charge" added to collection total.
Returned uncollected (Zurich 13th, backstamp).

International Usages
Cancellations & Shades

To Hannover - Overfrank Variety - Pale Yellow-Orange (with 24G)



BASEL to HANNOVER (North German State), 11 SEPT 1861, ordinary mail.
10c/15.6grs. x 4 zones (1 Swiss, 3 German-Austrian Postal Union), 15c overage.
- Interesting usage, as few letters said sent to Hannover, possibly unique. -
Rate of October 15, 1852 - August 31, 1868.

To France - Inland Mail - Yellow-Orange (with 24D)



GENEVA to PARIS, 2 NOV 1858. ordinary mail, PD.
35c/7½grs. from Swiss border zone (30 mi.) to beyond adjoining French Dept.
Rate of September 14, 1854 - August 14, 1859.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 2000)

International Usage
Unusual Combination Franking

To Papal States - Yellow-Green (with 23C, 26C, & 22D)



GENEVA to ROME, 13 SEPT 1859, ordinary mail, PD.
75c/7½gr. via Marseille, France - Swiss Zones eliminated.
Rate of January 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.
(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1999)

Mixed Frankings

To Sardinia - Pale Orange (with #31)



30c/7½gr. = Rate of July 1, 1862 - July 31, 1863.
There exists less than 100 covers of this usage.

Oversize Cash Collection Letter - Pale Orange (with 37a)



There exists fewer than 12 covers of this usage.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1991; Jean-Claude Marchand - 1993)

Cancellations & Shades

EKU February 22, 1860

Paper: Zurich
Thread: Green
Printing: Bern
Plates: III, IV

Yellowish Green



ST. MARGRETHEN SCHAFFHAUSEN
Plate III Plate III

Green



YVERDON SISSACH Circeled PD GENEVA BASEL



FLEURIER CHAUX-DE-FONDS

Yellow Thread Variety



No Blue Added
To Make Green

International Usages
Postage Due & Forfeited Postage

To German States - Voided "PD" - Deep Green



BERN to MAINZ (Mayance), 13 JUNE 1861, "Affranchissement Insuffisant."
50c/15.6gr. for 5 zones (2 Swiss, 3 German) each over 75km.
Swiss-German Postal Union Treaty, October 1, 1852, for total Strubel period.

Postage "Forfeited" = Total Now Due - Green (with 23G)



GENEVA to NAPLES (Two Sicilies), 1 MARCH 1860, via Sardinia registered letter.
50c/7½gr. x 2, PD through Austria.
"PD" crossed out & "P.F." = To frontier marked = Postage Due.
Rate of September 15, 1854 - June 30, 1862.

Unusual International Usages
Unusual Markings

To Remote U.S.A. Port - Credit 15¢ (with 24G & 25G)



FAIDO to NEW ORLEANS, 23 MARCH 1861, ordinary mail, PD.
115c/7½gr. French Treaty Mail "Am Service" (American vessel), inland credit.
Unique item to seldom seen destination.
Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862

To Kingdom Of Two Sicilies - Circled "Franco" - Green (with 24G & 25G)



BERN to NAPLES, 7 MARCH 1859, ordinary mail, PD.
75c/7½gr. via France from Marseille. Swiss postal zones eliminated.
Rate of January 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.

Very Remote International Usages
Unusual Franking

To Gwalior (Central India) - Yellow-Green (with 22G & 23G)



LAUSANNE to GWALIOR (via Bombay), 26 JUNE 1862, ordinary mail, PD.
Unique item. Delivered about 650 miles inland. Has hotel stamp.
(Attest: Briefmarkprufstelle Basel - 1998)

To South-East Australia - Green (with 23G)



POSCHIAVO to BALLARAT, 13 OCT 1862, ordinary mail, "P.P. & PD."
90c/7½gr. normal rate for British Open Mails on British Packet to arrival port.
Letter sent 100 miles inland to gold mining town destination. One of 3 (+/-).
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2004)

International Usages

To U.S.A. - "Credit 3¢" - Light Yellow-Green (with 24G & 25G)



GENEVA to GREAT BARRINGTON, 13 JULY 1861, ordinary mail, PD.
 114c/7½gr. via France & any ship to destination - 3¢ cr. for internal postage.
 Rate of May 1, 1857 - June 30, 1862.

To U.S.A. - Postage Due 3¢ - Yellow-Green (with 24G)



GENEVA to NASHVILLE, 25 SEPT 1860, ordinary mail, PP = Postage Paid.
 95c/7½gr. via France & American Packet. Shows 15¢ cr. for internal postage.
 (Attest: Freidl Committee - 1980)

Unusual International Usage
Unique Franking

To Malaya - Green (with 27D & 23G)



ST. GALLEN to SINGAPORE, 7 MARCH 1860, ordinary mail, P.P.

95c/7'gr. x 2 from Marseille, France.

One of two covers reported, both sent from St. Gallen.

(Attest: Emil Rellstab - 1997)

Unusual International Usages
Combination Frankings

To Brazil - Deep Green Shade - Plate IV (with 23G & 24G)



COUVET to RIO DI JANIERO, 1 OCT 1861, ordinary mail, PD.
115c/7½gr. French Treaty Mail rate - carried by British Packet Ship.
1 of 2 covers to Rio Di Janiero of less than 10 to Brazil cities.

To U.S.A. - New Rate Schedule - Green - Plate III (with 23G & 25G)



CONCISE to NEW YORK, 9 DEC 1862, ordinary mail, P.D., 5th Rate Period.
110c/7½gr. on French Treaty Mail Ship - from Liverpool, 5th Rate Period.
Rate of July 1, 1862 - July 31, 1863.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - 1994)

Unusual Mixed Franking International Usages

To Kingdom of Italy - Difficult Combination - Yellow-Green (with #32)



BASEL to MILAN, 29 IV 1863, ordinary mail, PD.
60c/7½gr. new rate between Kingdom of Italy and Switzerland.
About 15 of this combination said to exist.
Rate of July 7, 1862 - June 30, 1875.
(Attest: Urs Hermann - 2007)

To Russian Poland - Green (with 31d)



CHAUX DE FONDS to BRESLAU, 30 JAN 1863, ordinary mail, PD.
50c/7½gr. x 5 postal zones (2 Swiss, 3 German).
Believed unique, as fewer than 5 letters reported of Poland.
(Attest: A. von der Weid - Signed)