



Small  
Shield

# Adler Mit Brustschild

## Eagle with Breast shield



Large  
Shield

the first issue is mit kleine brüstschild, a small breast shield  
this was replaced, at the request of the Kaiser, with a new design which included a larger shield  
existing stocks were used until depleted

the orientation of the wing feathers is the easiest way to distinguish between the two designs  
comb perforated, the height of the stamps varies due to drift of the perforator  
stamp height by number of perforations: 14, very small; 15, small; 16, normal; 16 with blind perf, somewhat larger  
the issues are in both groschen and kreuzer currency  
typography (image appears in relief on the plate) and embossed (design pressed into paper)  
unwatermarked

$\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Groschen valid until 31 December 1875  
all others valid until 31 December 1874

## Kleine Brustschild

1 January 1872

imperial eagle; Aachen crown with cross on left, no ribbons; small shield with Prussian eagle

### Groschen values



Scott 1; Michel 1



Scott 2; Michel 2  
K2a ERFURT



Scott 3; Michel 3  
red orange/medium  
brownish red  
K1g SOMMERFELD



Scott 3a; Michel 14  
Scott-orange yellow  
Michel-orange  
1 April 1872  
K2g \_\_OEPLIN



Scott 4; Michel 4  
K2a RIBNITZ



Scott 5; Michel 5



Scott 6; Michel 6  
R3 BERLIN

#### Conversion Of Stamp Values

$\frac{1}{3}$  Groschen = 1 Kreuzer  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  Groschen = 2 Kreuzer  
1 Groschen = 3 Kreuzer  
2 Groschen = 7 Kreuzer  
5 Groschen = 18 Kreuzer

Kreuzer Issues



Scott 7; Michel 7



Scott 8; Michel 15  
Scott & Michel-orange  
1 April 1872



Scott 8a; Michel 8  
Scott red orange  
Michel medium brownish  
red



Scott 9; Michel 9  
15 perf holes-small  
K1g FRANKFURT A.M.



Scott 10; Michel 10  
K1g WORMS



Scott 11; Michel 11

On 1 April 1872 the colors of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  Groschen and the 2 Kreuzer were changed because clerks, sorting by gas light, could confuse the colors with the 1 Groschen and 3 Kreuzer.

*Numeral Issue*

*Official Stamps*

1 January 1872

unwatermarked - typography - perf  $14\frac{1}{4}$ ;  $13\frac{1}{2}$   
misregistration of comb perforator affected width of stamps  
for internal post office use, not for sale to general public  
manuscript cancellation compulsory, use of postmark is accidental



Scott 12; Michel 12  
manuscript DARMSTADT 20/4



Scott 13; Michel 13

*Postal Stationary*  
cut squares  
small breast shield



Michel 2 GA  
from Umschlage (envelope)  
U1 II  
numeral of value is  
4 mm high  
note the words:  
"EIN GROSCHEN POSTCOUVERT"  
diagonally across stamp



Michel 4 GA  
from Streifbänder (wrappers)  
(for newspaper or magazine)  
S 1

*Numeral Issue*  
*Official Stamps*

1 January 1872

unwatermarked - typography - perf  $14\frac{1}{4}$ : $13\frac{1}{2}$   
misregistration of comb perforator affected width of stamps  
for internal post office use, not for sale to general public

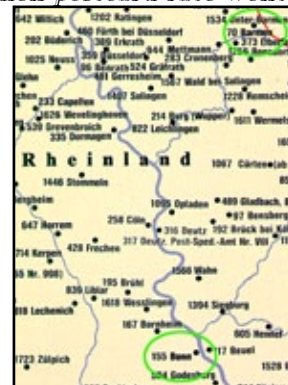
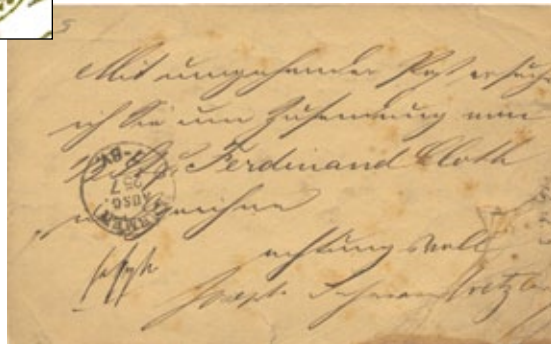


Scott 12; Michel 12  
better copy and with year in manuscript  
cancel although on other copy the city is  
decipherable

Kleine Brustschild Postcard



Franked with a 1/2 Groschen small shield stamp, this postcard was mailed on 24 July, 1872 at Bonn and received on 25 July. K2a Bonn postmark. K1a Barmen postmark. The 1/2 Groschen postcard rate went into effect 1 July 1872.

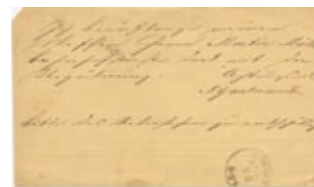




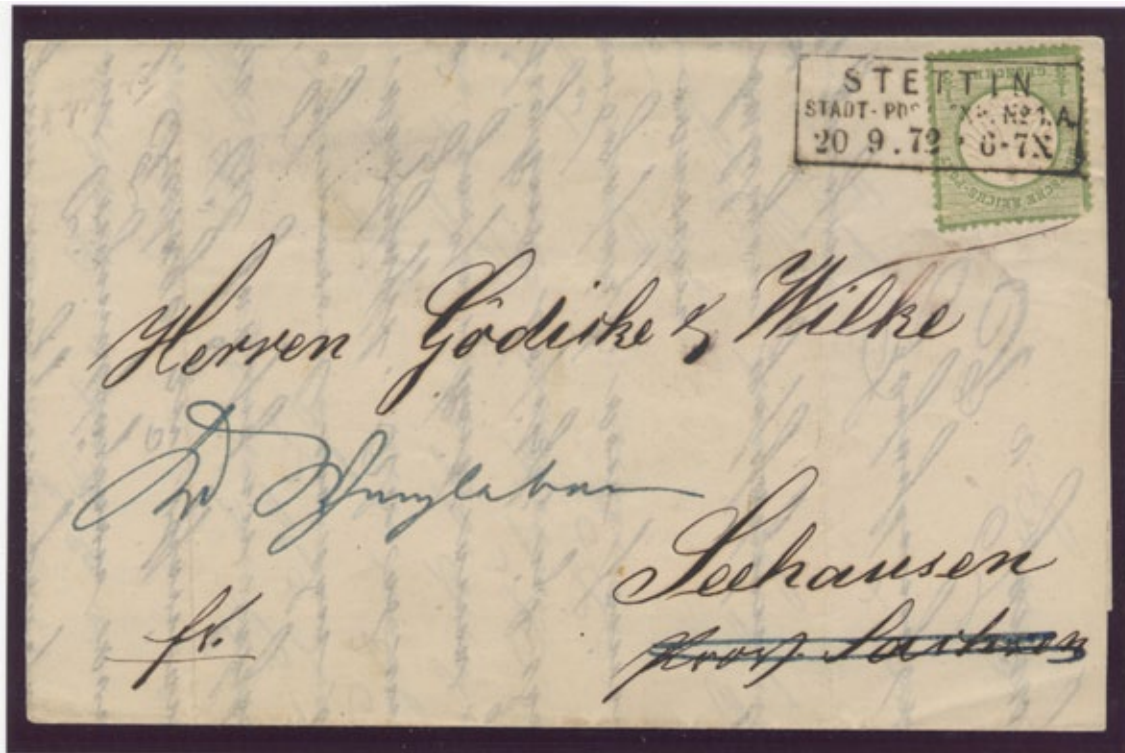
Usage of kleine Brustschild  
4 August 1872



Someone was using up their supply of North German Confederation post cards. The interest here is in the old format as well as the use of a small breastshield. The card has a receiving stamp for Barmen on the reverse.



Usage of kleine brutschield  
1872

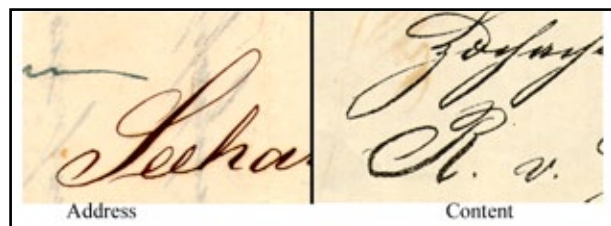


The first issue of the Reich, issued 1 January 1872, was replaced with an issue with a different central design, a larger breast shield on the eagle among other differences, in June of that year at the request of the Kaiser. Existing stocks of the small breast shield issues were used up. This is quite a late usage, September, for the first issue.  
Scott 2; Michel 2



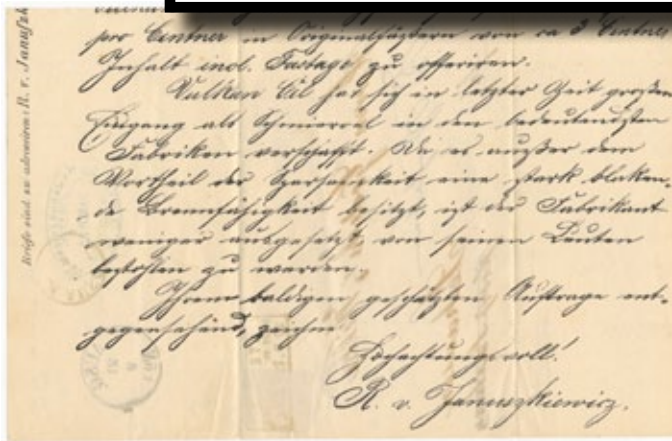
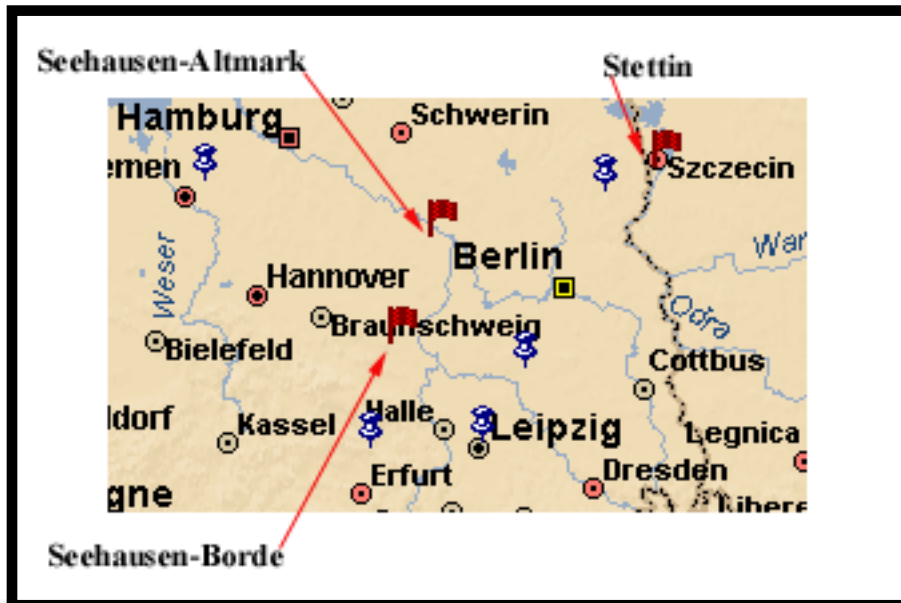
A folded letter, only the portion bearing address and postal indicia was retained (half). The letter originated in Stettin, Prussia (present day Polish Szczecin) being posted at Stadt Post Exp(edition) No. 1. A., on September 20, 1872 between 6 and 7 in the evening. The return address on the back, dated, identifies the sender as one R v. Januszkiewicz. The lower portion identifies him, partially, as a "General-Agent des ???" of Stettin.

The  $\frac{1}{5}$  groschen rate is for printed matter only. While the body of the letter appears in script it is probably printed. Comparison of letters from the contents with those from the address show a roughness in the outline of the letters not present in those of the address which are undoubtedly formed by pen.



The destination of this circular is intriguing. There are two transit marks on the back from distribution centers. They show the letter in transit on September 21 and 22. However, neither shows a town. The address is to "Prov. Sachsen" but that has been crossed out. The ink is the same as that forming a word on the face of the cover which I have been unable to decipher. The town is "Seehausen." A map show seven Seehausens in modern Germany. There are one each in Thuringia and the Kingdom of Saxony (Sachsen). There is one near Bremen and two in Brandenburg. The old Prussian province of

Saxony has two Seehausens (originally having numerals 1385 and 1384 for identification), Seehausen/Altmark and Seehausen/Borde. Absent further information it appears to have gone to one of the last two.





## Großem Brustschild

1 June 1872

2½ Groschen & 9 Kreuzer 1 November 1872

Four hooped crown with orb and cross in the middle, and two ribbons.

Different Imperial eagle, Prussian eagle in large shield with arms of Hohenzollern.

Shield surrounded by chains. Medal below in center.

### Groschen Values



Scott 14; Michel 16



Scott 15; Michel 17a  
yellow green/pale green  
to green



Scott 15a; Michel 17b  
blue green/dark green



Scott 16; Michel 18



Scott 17; Michel 19



Scott 18; Michel 20



Scott 18; Michel 20



Scott 19; Michel 21a  
orange brown/red brown  
R3a cancel



Scott 19a; Michel 21b  
ilac brown  
K2a EBERFELD



Scott 20; Michel 22



Kreuzer Values



Scott 21; Michel 23a  
yellow green/pale green  
to green  
15 perf holes-small  
K1g FRANKFURT A.M.



Scott 21a; Michel 23b  
blue green/dark green



Scott 22; Michel 24



Scott 23; Michel 25



Scott 24; Michel 26



Scott 25; Michel 27a  
red brown  
R3g ODERNHEIM



Scott 25a; Michel 27b  
lilac brown



Scott 26; Michel 28

Postal Stationary  
cut squares  
large breast shield



Michel 17 GA  
Streifbander  
wrapper for newspapers or  
magazines  
S 3

Michel 23 GA  
Streifbander  
wrapper for newspapers or  
magazines  
S 4

Michael 25 GA  
Umschlage  
envelope  
U 6

Grossem Brustschild usage  
15 March 1873



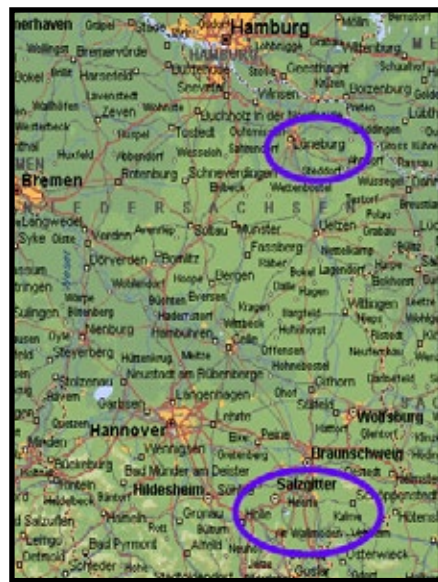
This letter from Lingen to the U.S.A. has a date of posting in Lingen of 15 March 1873. On the reverse (see right) is a railroad (Bahnhof) cancel for Leer on the same day. Lingen and Leer are on the Westphalen railway (Eisenbahn). The letter would have traveled north from Lingen to Leer (see left). From there, the directions on the letter specify that it go by either Bremen or Hamburg (possibly to take advantage of a particular rate or service). At Leer it would have transferred to the Oldenburg Eisenbahn to Bremen. If it were to depart from Hamburg rather than Bremen it would travel from Bremen east on the Coln-Mindener Eisenbahn. That proper postage has been paid is shown by the red "Franco" stamps as well as by the red New York "Paid All" stamp. The letter arrived in New York on April 9. No indication of date of delivery in "Cincinnati."



Grossem Brustschild Letter



Posted at Lüneburg on 11 November 1874, it was addressed to Alt-Walmoden via Salzgitter. The receiving stamp for Salzgitter is on the reverse with the name of the town just discernible. Also on the reverse is a stamp containing the address of the sender. The two half Groschen stamps make up the letter rate.







344 II

BERLIN  
T.P.A.  
916  
73  
4-5N

Herrn Reichsminister  
Herrn Reichsminister

Sie

F. v. S.

16

## Postal Stationary

### Postal Card

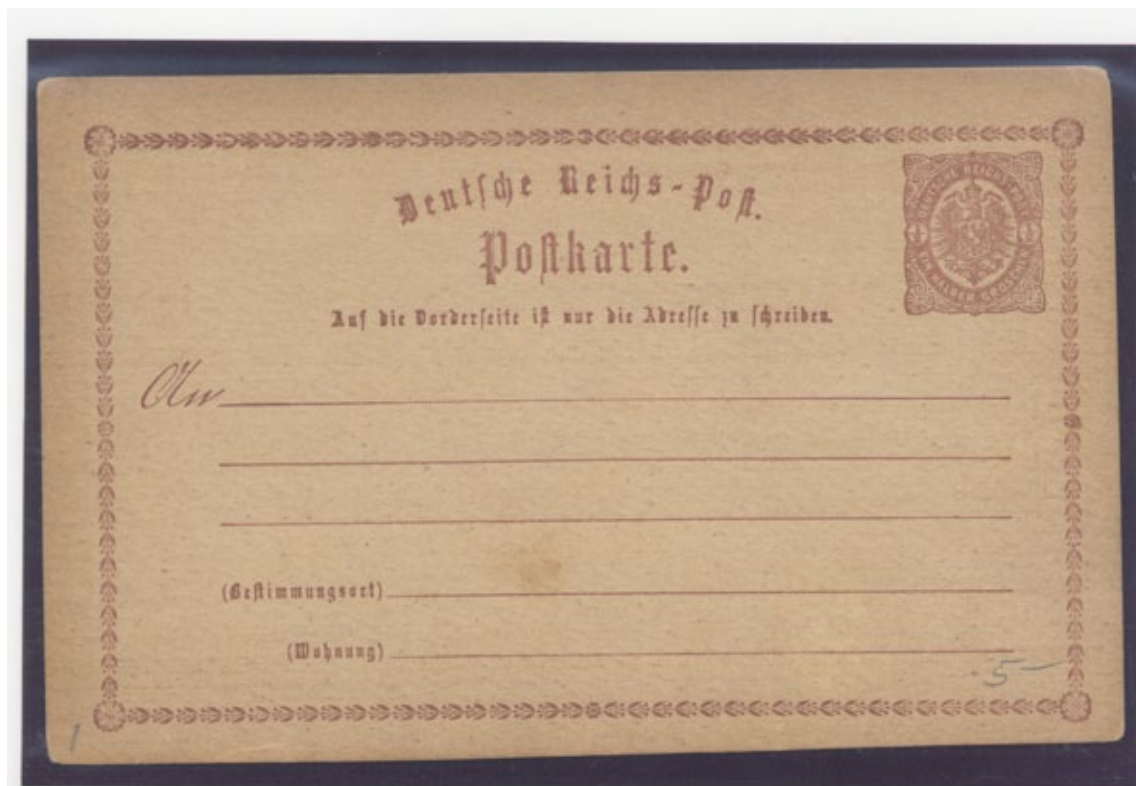
1/2 half Groschen Postal Card

Michel P1

Eagle in large oval with border

typography 40x90 mm

the first postal card issued by the German Reich



*“Auf die Vorderseite ist nur Adresse zu schreiben”*  
("This side is for address only" - or, literally, on the front write only the address)

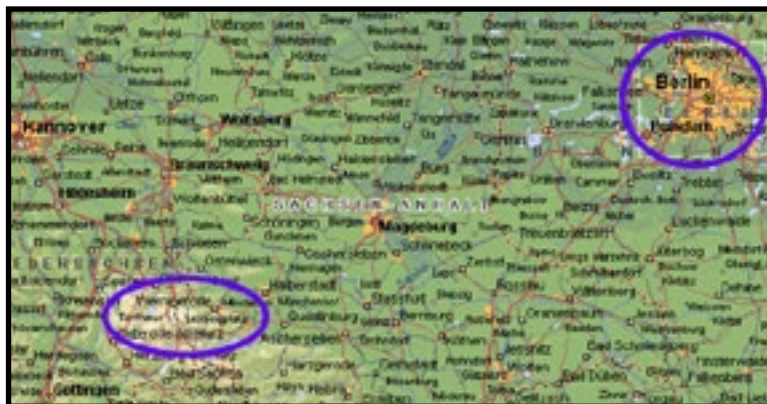
*“An” “(Bestimmungsort)” “(Wohnung)”*  
"To" "Destination" "Residence"

Postcards were the brainchild of Dr. Emmanuel Herrmann of Vienna and adopted by the Austro-Hungarian postal administration in 1869 and by other countries a year later. Picture postcards developed in Europe in the 1880's. They were not permitted in Britain until 1894.

#### Postal Card versus Postcard

At least in the United States, the term "Postal Card" refers to a card with the imprint of a stamp, paying postage, upon it. Postcard refers to a similar communication but with no imprint. On a postcard an adhesive stamp must be affixed to pay postage.

1873 Postal Card usage - 1874

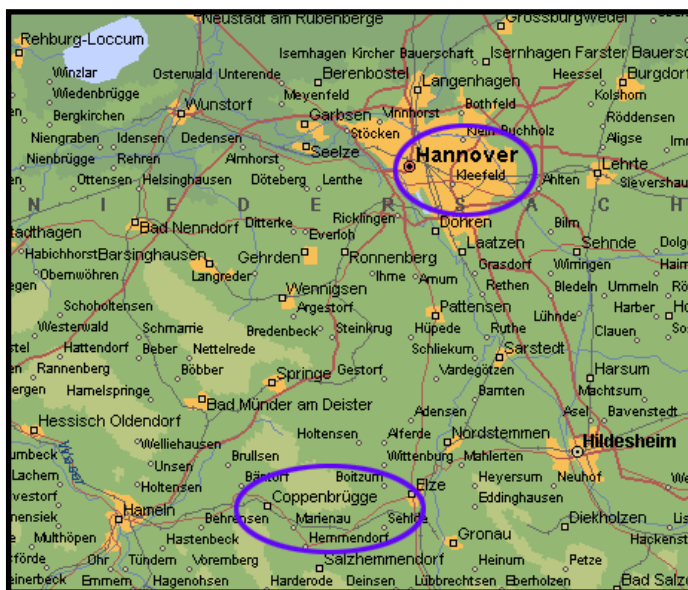


A two lined framed cancel (R2a) with antique type from Wernigerode. Another Wernigerode, in Thuringia, is just south of this one and to the east of Gottingen. The other is small enough not to be shown on the map at this size, and there was a Wernigerode in Prussia with a numeral cancel. My understanding is that this town would have been the one in Prussia. If there was a second postoffice of the same name in 1874 the postmark would probably have differentiated.

1873 Postal Card usage - 1875



1875 usage, Copenbrügge to Hannover. Klg cancel for Copenbrügge. Klg receiving cancel at Hannover.





Empire  
1873

# Württemberg

postal stationary

## Post-Karte

right angle stamp of value - to distinguish from eight sided forms which preceded  
lettering and frame in color of stamp  
framed

four varieties depending upon size of "Königlich" and line after "in"  
two type depending upon the "A" in "An"



Michel P 12 II /01

P12: color, has border, two lines of notes under Post-Karte  
II: large "A"

01: "königlich" 25.5 mm, line after "in" 49 mm

### Grossem Brustschild Oberprint

as with the small shields, colors caused difficulties in sorting under gas light  
this time, instead of changing colors, the two stamps were overprinted with their value  
in the color of the stamp

Typography and embossing

unwatermarked - comb perforated perforated  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{4}$



Scott 27; Michel 29



Scott 28; Michel 30

# Bavaria

## Coat of Arms

Bavaria retained its postal independence under the Empire  
mark issue

embossed - imperforate - watermark 92 (Scott), 1 b (Michel) - typography  
watermark of wide pattern of crossed wavy lines  
issued 1 July 1875 - valid to 30 June 1912



Scott 31; Michel 30a  
violet



Scott 31; Michel 30 b  
dark violet

Empire  
1874

*Bavaria*  
postkarte



Michel: Bavaria P 4 II