

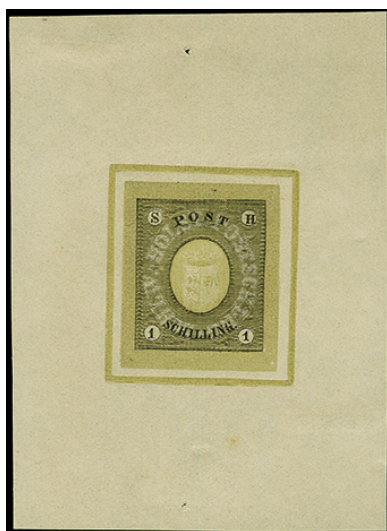
Fabulous Firsts:

Schleswig-Holstein (Nov. 15, 1850)

by H. M. Hansen (From Mekeel's Weekly, June 25, 1910)



Schleswig-Holstein 1850 issue essays, both produced by engraver Claudius at Kobner and Lemkuhl. Above, without denomination, approximately same size as issued (magnified here), black on white paper without gum; right, essay with denomination 1 schilling, Scott 1 essay, larger than issued stamp, black on white without gum, negative inscription, yellowish green background burelage, colored oval coat of arms center.



The stamps of these two provinces have, like so many other issues of postage stamps, quite an historic interest, apart from their philatelic value. They show us clearly schilling Prussian blue & 2s rose & pink, Sc. 2. the much-debated greenish blue, Sc. 1a.



ed history of the two Dukedoms from 1850 up to 1866, and although there are no stamps of very great rarity, nor any great number of varieties, yet they do undoubtedly possess considerable philatelic interest, not least because they possess the virtue of finality, in common with many of the other stamps of German States, for no fresh issues of stamps are likely to take place for these provinces, unless under circumstances which would necessitate a re-arrangement of the map of Europe.

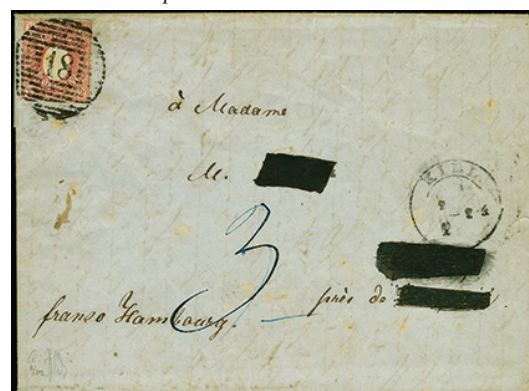


Schleswig-Holstein 1850 unissued 3s.

Although the Revolutionary Government was established as early as 24th March, 1848, no issue of stamps was made until November 15th, 1850. An order was issued by the Provisionary Government dated Kiel, 2nd April, 1850, authorizing the issue of stamps for the province of Schleswig-Holstein. The officials had already on the 26th March, 1850, applied to an engraver by the name of Wiener, in Brussels, and an essay was sent by Mr. Wiener to the Schleswig-Hol-



Schleswig-Holstein 1s pair on large folded letter tied by numeral "36" in circular grid cancels, also with Uetersen Feb. 3 1851 circular date stamp.



Schleswig-Holstein 1850 2s tied by numeral 18 in grid on folded letter via Hamburg to Kiel, Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

stein authorities, but this essay is unfortunately quite unknown. It did not prove acceptable to the officials. A further essay was made in May, 1850, by a printer's apprentice at Kiel, but proved likewise unsuitable.

Negotiations were then entered into with the firm of H. W. Kobner and Lehmkuhl in Altona. Various essays were produced by Messrs. H. W. Kobner and Lehmkuhl—of which I possess an almost complete set—finally resulting in the acceptance of the design, for which contract was entered into for the production of 2,000,000 stamps, and these were delivered as follows:

10th Nov. 1850	80,000	1 schilling blue
10th Nov. 1850	40,000	2 schilling red
25th Nov. 1850	20,000	1 schilling blue
25th Nov. 1850	20,000	2 schilling red
24th Dec. 1850	100,000	1 schilling blue
24th Dec. 1850	100,000	2 schilling red
14th Feb. 1851	1,100,000	1 schilling blue
14th Feb. 1851	540,000	2 schilling red
In all 1,300,000 1 schilling blue, and 700,000 2 schilling red.		

On the 15th November 1850, these stamps were issued to the public, but only for use in the Dukedom of Holstein, as the Danes had already by that time reoccupied the whole of Schleswig. From the books and accounts still in possession of the postal authorities at Kiel, it appears that in all 8,000 stamps at 1 schilling and 4,000 at 2 schilling were issued. These 12,000 stamps were used to pay the postage on 8,701 letters, which will fully explain the rarity of used specimens of these stamps. The small quantity used of these stamps is further accounted for by the short time they were in actual circulation, as well as by the circumstance that the use of stamps at

that period was quite strange to the ordinary public. This is clearly shown by the fact that whereas from the 1st of January until the end of August, 1851, 1,158,092 letters went through the post, only 6,589 were actually posted using the new stamps, the remainder not using stamps being either paid for across the counter or by the recipients.

The balance of these stamps were transferred to Copenhagen after the Danish reoccupation of the two Dukedoms in 1852. Some of these found their way into the hands of Copenhagen stamp dealers, but a large quantity went back to Kiel in 1864, and were sold there at face value, but not for postal use. This ends the first period of stamp issue of these provinces.



Denmark 1854 4 krona on cover from Aabenraa, Schleswig to Meckleberg-Schwerin Aug. 16, 1856 during period of Danish stamps use.

The next we hear about postage stamps in connection with Schleswig-Holstein was an essay printed in Copenhagen in 1860. The first printing consisted of 700 stamps on rather thick paper, and in 1862 a further 1,200 were printed. In the last printing the blue network is more noticeable and the brown color is much clearer than in the previous printing. I have marked these essay printings 2 and 3, as it is stated that this essay was already in existence in 1850, and that three stamps were then printed of each design on thin paper. I have never seen copies of this first printing. There is nothing very remarkable about these essays. The first one has the head of King Frederick VII, and the second the head of Mercury. It is said that the features of Mercury were made to resemble the Countess Danner, the morganatic wife of King Frederick VII.



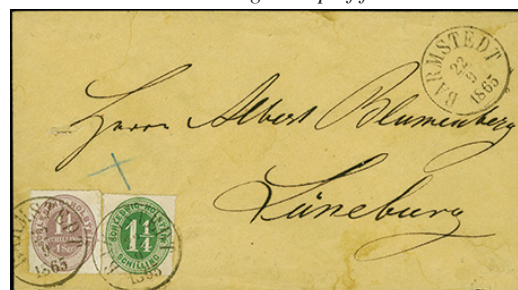
1865 Schleswig-Holstein 1/2s rose, rouletted, Sc. 3, in a block of four



1865 Schleswig-Holstein 1-1/4s roulette, Sc. 4, used, 1-1/3s, Sc. 5, 4s, Sc. 7



Schleswig-Holstein 1865 2s ultramarine, Sc. 6, bottom margin strip of four



1865 Schleswig-Holstein 1-1/4s and 1/3s, Sc. 4 & 5 tied by Barnstedt Sept. 22, 1865 date stamps, with another in upper right, on cover to Luneburg

After the reoccupation of Schleswig-Holstein by the joint armies of Prussia and Austria in 1864, the first issue of stamps was made by the German Federal Government on March 1st, 1864, printed by H. W. Kobner and Lehmkuhl, Altona.

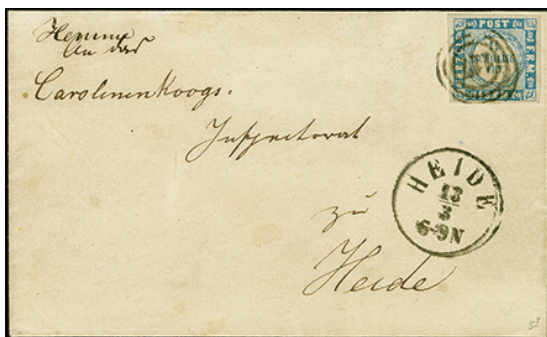


Holstein 1-1/4s essay, Sc. 15E, with killer lines to avoid postal use.

Of this issue three printings or types exist. These stamps were produced in sheets of 100 each, and as soon as the printing of each issue was completed the stones were destroyed, thus necessitating a re-engraving when further orders arrived. Hence the distinct variety of the three printings. These stamps were used for the Province of Holstein only. All three printings were used imperforated, but a rouletted variety exists of the first issue. When used it always bears the postmark "127" inside three circles, which indicates the town of Oldenburg in Holstein. This rouletted variety correctly postmarked is somewhat rare. There are numerous forgeries of this stamp unused and used, with other postmarks. Of the three types, type 2 is distinctly the rarest. Type 3 is quite common.



Holstein 1864 1-1/4s: left, Type I, Sc. 15; right, Type III, no periods between letters on sides and bottom of frame, Sc. 17.



Holstein 1864 1-1/4s, Sc. 15, tied by circular cancel, used locally to Carolinenkoogs Inspektorat, with Heide March 13 circular date stamp.



Holstein 1864 1-1/2s, rouletted, Sc. 18. Single above clearly shows rose burelage; block at right clearly shows rouletting.



Cover with strip of three and pair of 1864 1-1/2s, Sc. 18, tied by "Holst. Eb.P.Sp.B 18.3" circular date stamps, from to Schloss Primkenau via Berlin.

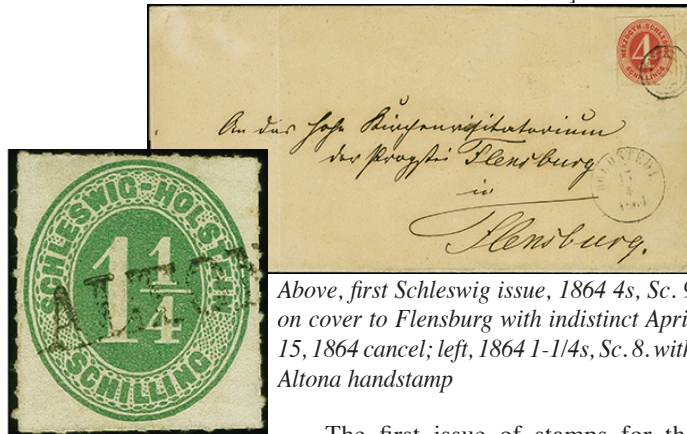


Left to right: Holstein 1-1/4s, 1865 Sc. 20; center, 1866, Sc. 23, right, 1866 4s, Sc. 25



Holstein 1865-66 1-1/3s, Sc. 23, two strips of three, tied by "Altona 29.6.66" date stamps on cover to Luzern, Switzerland.

[Scott places the Schleswig issues ahead of the Holstein issues, thus the difference in the sequence of catalogue numbers in this article in which the author discussed Holstein's issues first.]



Above, first Schleswig issue, 1864 4s, Sc. 9 on cover to Flensburg with indistinct April 15, 1864 cancel; left, 1864 1-1/4s, Sc. 8 with Altona handstamp

The first issue of stamps for the Dukedom of Schleswig was made on March 10th, 1864. The first value printed was the 4 schilling, carmine, issued jointly by Austria and Prussia, and printed at the Prussian State Printing Office in Berlin. Of these the following quantities were printed:

7th March 1864	10,000
14th March 1864	100,000
21st August 1865	100,000
In all	210,000

In spite of these considerable issues this stamp is not at all common in used condition. This is accounted for by the fact that the last 100,000 printed on the 21st August were never issued to the public, but passed mostly into the hands of dealers, as did also the remainder of the previous printings to the number of 99,994, thus leaving only about 10,000 stamps actually sold over the postal counter.

The next value, the 1-1/4 schilling green, was printed in April 1864. Of this value no less than 2,000,000 were issued. After the 30th December 1864, these stamps became also available in Holstein. This issue is known to have been used bisected in Holstein, but was never available in that condition in Schleswig.



Schleswig 1865 1-1/3s, Sc. 12



Holstein 1-1/4s, used as 1/2s, Sc. 18a, from Altona to Hamburg

A further issue for Holstein was made in May 1864. Also of 1-1/4 schilling, but of different design, roulette 8. This stamp was used provisionally, bisected, from June 1864 until April 1865. I show a copy of this on original letter, and two copies of the complete stamp with the Bergedorf postmark which is rather difficult to obtain.

In 1865, after the occupation of both Dukedoms by the armies of Austria and Prussia, a further joint issue was made by the occupying powers and printed in the State Printing Office Berlin. The first value was printed in February, namely the 1/2 schilling rose. Of this issue there were delivered in all 3,990,000 between the 15th February and 13th December 1865, but no more than almost 585,000 of these stamps were issued to the public up to the 31st October 1865 when they were withdrawn from use, but from November 1866 they were again made available in Schleswig and in Holstein....

...Further values were added until July, 1866. The issue of stamps for these Dukedoms finally ceased after the termination of the war between Austria and Prussia, when the Dukedoms were taken possession of by the latter Power, and the stamps of Prussia and the North German Federation took the place of the former separate issues.



A fabulous cover, from Schleswig to Australia, with Prussia 1866 10sg after Prussia took over Schleswig and Holstein, cover with multiple transit markings and Melbourne, November 14, 1867 receiver on back.



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