

Aalesund pre-adhesive letters 1848-1854.

The Govermental ship mail service: The Nordland line Hammerfest- Bergen, (1838-1865) The Hamburg line, (1853-1865)
The letter was conveyed by train from Hamburg to the Spanish border.

Colour: Blue.



This is one out of four registered pre-adhesive letters to Spain struck with the Aalesund date-stamp in blue colour.

Partial prepaid single-weight letter of May 8, 1854, from Aalesund to Bilbao in Spain; with pen manuscript endorsement 'Espania oy Biscaia' on front, with AALESUND date-stamp in blue. From Aalesund with the coastal steamship "*S/S Prinds Gustav*" in the Nordland line on the 4th southbound trip to Bergen; from Bergen with the Hamburg line ("*S/S Bergen*") to Hamburg; transit postmarked "K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG" (type VII) and "HAMBURG Th & T" on May 16 at the Danish and the Thurn & Taxis post offices in Hamburg, respectively, thence by Thurn & Taxis post to the French border, here supplied with French "TOUR-T. VALENCIENNES" entry stamp in blue on May 18; front of cover with inscription '32' in upper right corner and French 'P.D' (paid to destination) postmark in black ink, which confirms the letter has been prepaid with 32 Skilling to the Prussian-French border [according to the convention between Sweden/Norway and Prussia of July 1, 1852], cover marked '6 ½' (L. Sk.) in red crayon in lower left corner, which is the Prussian credit; on entry into Spain cover supplied with '9 R.' (Reales) postmark in red ink, confirming the French and Spanish postage due collectible from the addressee on delivery; reverse of cover with "BILBAO-BISCAIA" arrival handstamp on May 21.

Postage rates: 80 Sk comprised of 6 Sk Norwegian postage + 6 Sk sea-postage + 7 Sk (3 1/3 L. sk.) Danish postage + 13 Sk (6 ½ L. sk.) Prussian postage = **32 Sk** (prepayment); plus 9 Reales (weight class ½ (7.5 g)-1(15 g) lod) (1 Real = 5.30 Sk) (French share(27 Sk), and Spanish share(21 Sk) postage due) = **48 Sk**; in total **80 Sk** [according to Circular no. 19, 1853]