

21 kopeks was the proper postage for a registered letter weighing between 1 and 2 luotis sent domestically, or within the Russian Empire.



2 and 7 kopek ring stamps added to meet the registered double weight letter rate to the Russian Empire.

Åbo, 9.II.95, to Poccia, Russia, backstamped 1-24-1895 (Julian calendar)

30 kopeks was the proper postage for a double weight (16 to 30 grams) registered letter abroad.



1, 2, 3, 4 and 10 kopek ring stamps added to meet the foreign registered double weight letter rate.

Helsinki, 20. VI. 93. to United States, with 10 VI 93 (Julian Calendar) St. Petersburg and July 4, 1893 New York transit markings. .

This is an example of the scarce Helsinki 1888 "Finland" cancellation on a June, 1893 entire. Both the boxed **R** registration stamp and the "Finland" cancelling device were removed from service during the next five to six months.



Jyväskylä to Vienna, 1896.

Five 2 kopek Russian stamps (Issue of 1889) added to 20 kopek large entire to meet the required rate for a double weight registered letter to a foreign destination.

This multi franked cover is the result of a particular situation in the exchange rate. Five 2 kopek ring stamps could be purchased for 25 penni, while a 10 kopek ring stamp cost 27 penni.

Finnish Russian Design Issue of 1901-1909 and  
Russian Issue of 1889-1906 added as additional postage

21 kopeks or 60 penni was the proper postage for a registered inland letter weighing 16-30 grams.



MIXED FRANKING - 10 and 20 penni Russian design, Finnish valued issues plus a 1 kopek Russian stamp added to meet the required rate for a double weight registered inland letter. Dual ring and Finnish issues allowed on inland mail to May 14, 1911.

This double weight registered letter required 60 penni or 21 kopeks postage. 11 kopeks = 30 penni, plus 10 and 20 penni 1901-03 first letterpress Finnish issues = accurate 60 penni franking. **A very unusual combination.**

Muonio, I. XII. 05. to Åbo (Turku), backstamped 7. XII. 05.

By order of postal Circular VII of July 4, 1900, The Finnish Coat-of-Arms stamps and stationery were to be withdrawn and were to lose validity for mail to foreign destinations effective August 15, 1900, and within Finland, beginning January 14, 1901.

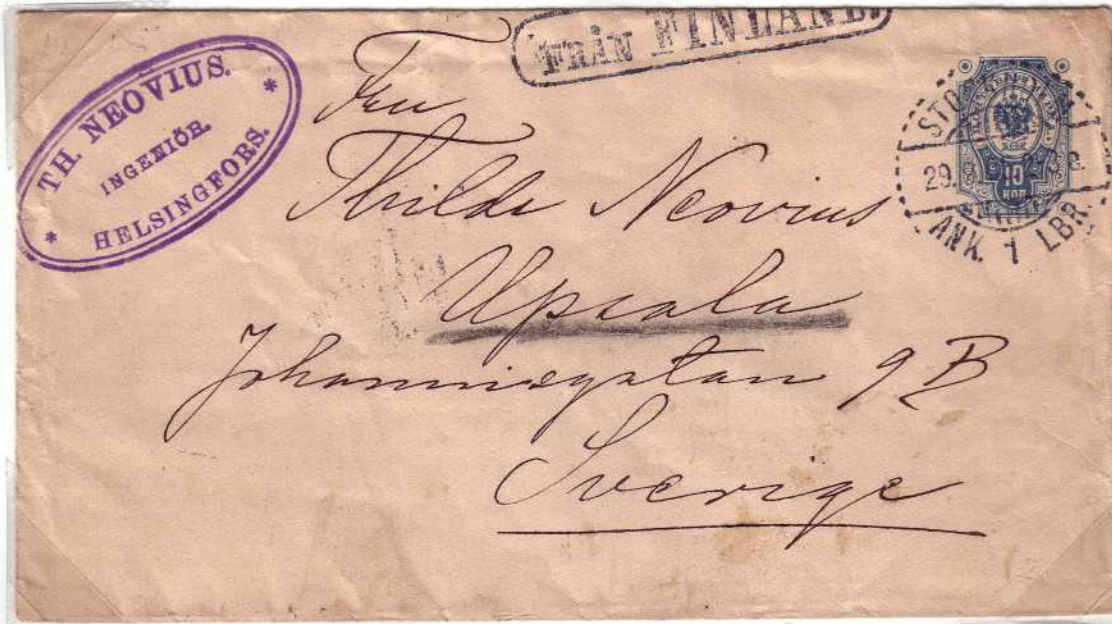
Consequently, Russian stamps, with or without rings, which had been required for all Finnish mail to Russia since January 1, 1892, were now required for all mail to foreign destinations, and would soon be required for domestic use.

This move raised a storm of protest and led to issuance of a label (as well as a postal card) which contained the Finnish Coat-of-Arms on a black background. This label immediately acquired the identification of the "Mourning Stamp", and was issued to be used effective August 14, 1900, "in the spirit of Finnish patriotism". They were immediately banned from use by the Russian postal authorities, through the issuance of an August 15 circular.

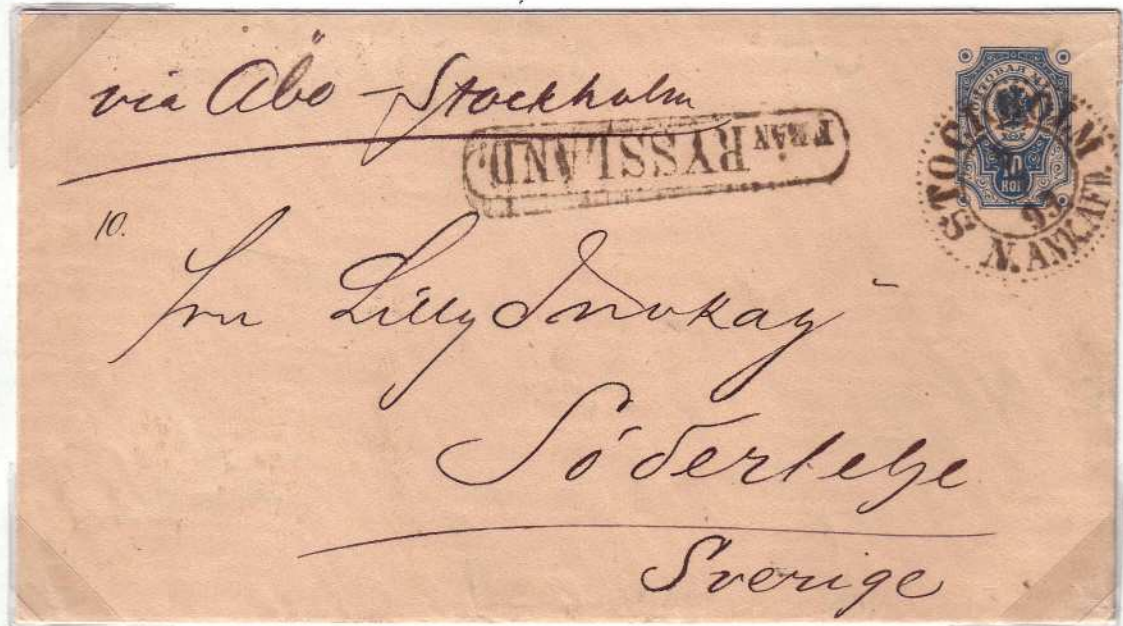
While postal authorities were instructed not to deliver letters franked with the label, some of them were used on outgoing mail deposited at various harbors, where Finnish postal clerks would not have the opportunity to confiscate them.



To Ronsdorf, Sweden, cancelled in Stockholm harbor, 16.8.00, with the Stockholm arrival cd and the **FRÅN FINLAND** handstamp. Backstamped Ronsddorf, 18.8.00.



To Upsala, Sweden, cancelled on board the ship 29.9.05 with the Stockholm ship canceller, and the **FRAN FINLAND** handstamp. Stockholm transit cancels on reverse side.



To Soderleje, Sweden, cancelled on board the ship 5.7.95 with the Stockholm ship canceller, and mistakenly hit with the **FRAN RYSSLAND** handstamp. Stockholm transit cancels on reverse.

In the beginning, postal clerk ship personnel sometimes confused the ring kopek frankings as originating in Russian, rather than Finland. The **FRAN** cancellations are only found on ship mail which had not been cancelled at the departure point, and the misstamped ones are very scarce.

10 Kopek Entire

Uncommon Destination

South America  
Chile

10 kopeks was the proper postage for a letter weighing 15 grams or less sent abroad



1898 Pori to Valparaiso, Chile, 1896. with railroad cancellation.  
Receiving backstamp - Valparaiso, 15.IV.98

Luxemburg



Åbo, 1 IV 10, to Diekirch, Luxemburg, backstamped Diekirch, 4.4.10

Italy



Fagervik, 3. IX. 08, to Rome, Italy, Capo Postale (Main Post Office), backstamped 9-09-09.



20 kopeks was the proper postage for a registered letter abroad, weighing 15 grams or less.



Small entire registered at Helsinki, 1. X. 94 France. BS - St. Petersburg transit marking, 20. IX. (Julian calendar) and with Cognac receiving mark. 20,200 of both sizes were printed.

The handstamped registration marking was apparently used for a very brief period.



20 kopek large entire, Nikolaistad, 31. VII. 05., to Kopenhagen, 3-8.05, via Hango, 1. VIII.

20 kopeks was also the proper postage for a double weight (16 to 30 grams) letter abroad.



Small entire posted at Helsinki, 29. XII. 00 to Magdeburg, Germany.



Double weight large entire from Helsinki via ship to Upsala, Sweden. Cancelled 26 9 08 by the harbor master at Stockholm, who also applied the **Fran FINLAND** marking. BS - 26 9 08 at Upsala.

**Finnish 1889 Coat of Arms Issue Added as Additional Postage**

30 kopeks or 75 penni was the proper postage for a triple-weight letter (weighing 31 to 45 grams) sent abroad.



Helsinki, 17. II. 98, to Oporto, Portugal. BS - Oporto, 22-2-98.

25 penni = 10 kopeks + 20 kopeks = 30 kopeks proper franking for a triple weight letter sent abroad.

The 1889 Finnish coat-of-arms issues remained valid on mail to abroad until August 14, 1900 and on inland mail until January 14, 1901. Penni and kopek issues could be combined to meet the rates for the intended class of service. However, such usages are scarce, probably due to the effort involved in the computation.

21 kopeks was the proper postage for a registered letter weighing 1-2 luotia within the Russian Empire.



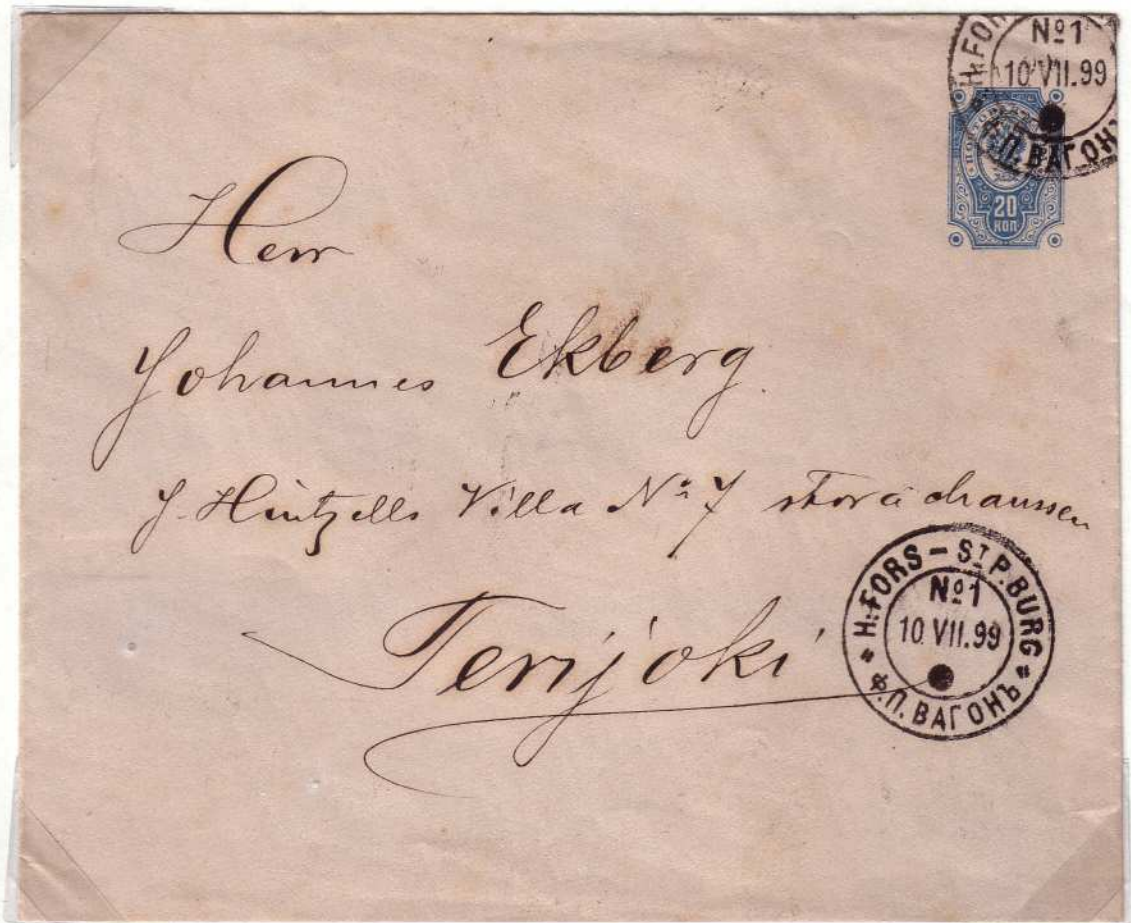
1 kopek Russian issue of 1899-1906 added to reverse side to meet the double weight registered letter rate within the Russian Empire.

While there is no printed registration label, this letter was intended to be registered, as indicated by the Cyrillic, "Zakaznoe", providing proper notice to the Russian postal clerks of this class of mail.

Incorrect Frankings



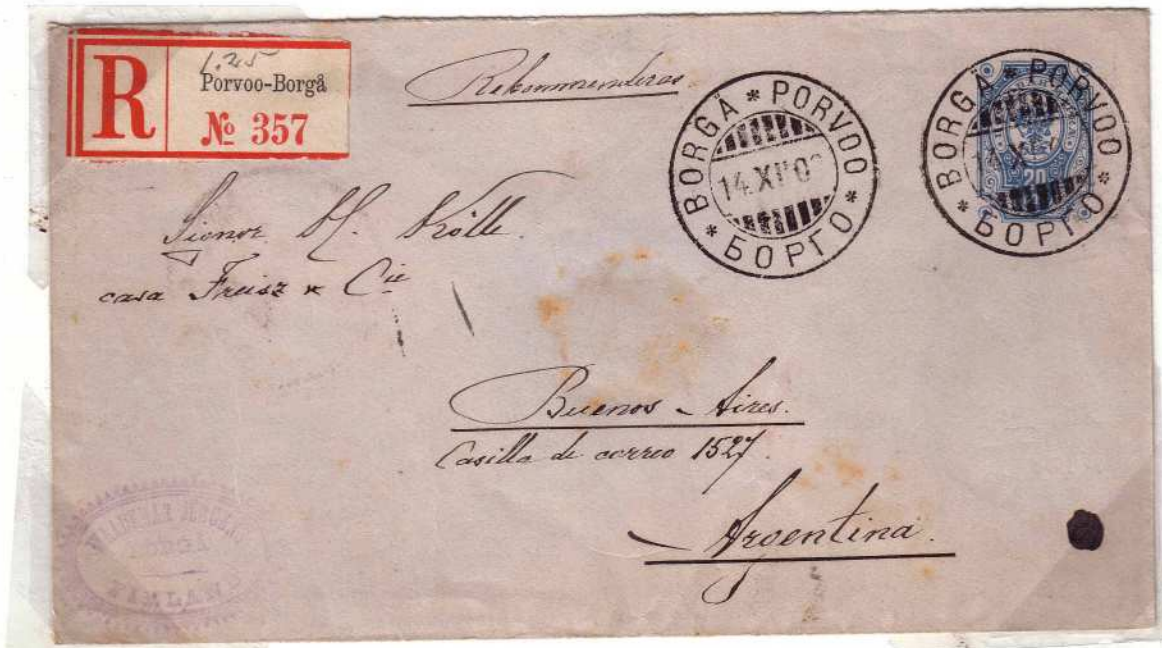
"Postiljons Kupe", Postilji.k. J-H, 3-IV-03 to Stockholm. The J-H line ran from Jyväskylä to Haapamäki.



Helsingfors – St. Petersburg, No. 1, 10.VII,99. The No. 1 indicates origination in St. Petersburg and the solid dot at the bottom indicates that this was the night train.

Very few kopek franked items have been reported to South America.

Argentina



Porvoo (Borgå), 14 XII 08 to Buenos Aires, receiving backstamp – 9 ENE 1909



Brazil

20 kopek large entire Nikolaistad, 12.IX.95, via Rio de Janeiro, to Sao Paulo, 5 OUT, 95.

Australia

Double ring Nystad cds.,  
11.9.93 to Hochkirch, via:

- St. P'Burg SE 18\*
- Bologna SE 16
- Napoli, SE 18
- Melbourne OC 19
- Hamilton OC 20
- Hochkirch. OC 20

\* There is no explanation  
for the three week period  
that it took this item to  
reach St. Petersburg.

Netherlands Indies



Helsinki, 10. V. 08., to Sumatra. Arrival - Veltevpeden, 6-6-1909.

The Russian Empire, Sweden, Denmark and Germany are common European destinations, but covers to smaller countries and countries on the fringe of the continent are scarce.

Netherlands



Double weight entire from Helsinki, 31 III.94, via St. Petersburg to Amsterdam, 3 APR 94.

Portugal



Nystad, 13.XI.95, to Lisbon, arrival postmark, LISBOA CENTRAL, 21-11.95, on back. This entire was readdressed before it was posted. It is the earliest reported usage to Portugal