

III. The Haparanda post ("Den finnmarkske vinterpost")

By January 1st 1856, Alten and Hammerfest once again got an all year mail service via the northern branch mail route from Alten to Mauno, and to Haparanda. The route from Tromsø to Mauno continued as a mere winter mail route, i. e. from November to February, in the period when the coastal steamships to Northern Norway were out of operation



40 Sk rate franking (8 Skill Oscar x 5) on single-weight letter of November 30, 1858; from Tromsø to Bremen; tied with numeral cancellation "312" (Tromsø) and "TROMSØ" cds on cover, sent with the Haparanda post via the southwestern route from Tromsø, transit postmarked "HAPARANDA" on December 19, "KJØBENHAVN" on December 31, "HAMBURG" (type XIV butterfly handstamp) on January 1, 1859, and arrival postmarked "BREMEN" on January 2. Postage paid: 6 Sk to the Norwegian-Swedish border, 10 Sk Haparanda surcharge from the Norwegian border to Haparanda, 10 Sk Swedish transit porto from Haparanda to Helsingborg, 8 Sk Danish transit porto to Hamburg, entered as "4" in Lübske Skilling in brownish red crayon at the Swedish-Norwegian post office in Hamburg, and 6 Sk German overland porto to Bremen (2nd zone), entered as "2" in Silbergroschen in red crayon at the German post office in Hamburg, which makes a total of 40 Sk.

In 1858, the old postage rates of September 15th 1852 was still valid for letters sent to foreign destinations (exemption for letters to Sweden) via the Haparanda route

This is the only registered letter with Oscar skilling franking sent via the Haparanda route to a Central European destination