

XIII. The regional ship mail services

The Nordland line

S/S *Æger*

Bergen - Hammerfest 1851 - 1860
Trondheim - Hammerfest 1860 - 1865

Starting in a connecting service between Bergen and Trondheim, S/S *Æger* was put into regular service between Bergen and Hammerfest in 1855, sailing in a 3 week cycle with S/S Prinds Gustav and S/S Christiania. After 2 years leave, the ship was re-introduced in the Nordland line in 1858. S/S *Ægir* sailed in the Bergen-Hammerfest route until 1860, and thereafter in the Trondheim - Hammerfest route. In Nordland post district the sub-postmaster on "*Æger*", Mr. Hans Severin Øyen, used the date-stamp "NORDLAND" to cancel mail delivered on board. In the north (e. g. in Finmarken amt) and to the south of Nordland post district, the sub-postmaster used pen crosses or pen manuscript and ink to cancel mail handed in on the ship



"*Æger* 4 -7-56"
in pen manuscript
4 Sk Coat of Arms I 'e'



"*Æger*"
in pen manuscript
4 Sk Oscar



"*Ægir* 4-8-64"
in pen manuscript
4 Sk Coat of Arms II 'e'



Local letter of August 23, 1861 (inside), from Karlsø to Tromsø; cover manuscript marked "*Æger* 26/8" on reverse and postage stamp cancelled with pen strokes; delivered on board S/S *Æger* on the 26th southbound trip from Hammerfest.

The letter has not passed any superior post office and is therefore without additional postmarks

Only known "*Æger*" letter in the Nordland line with crossed pen strokes on postage stamp