

4 Double Postcards

General Rules

Double postcards, including the response card, should be fully paid for by the sender.

The response part should be separated from the double postcard when it was returned. However, the practice to return both cards seems to have been widely accepted.

The sender of a double postcard was allowed to type or print his or her address on the response card. This was of course needed if the sender was unknown to the addressee.

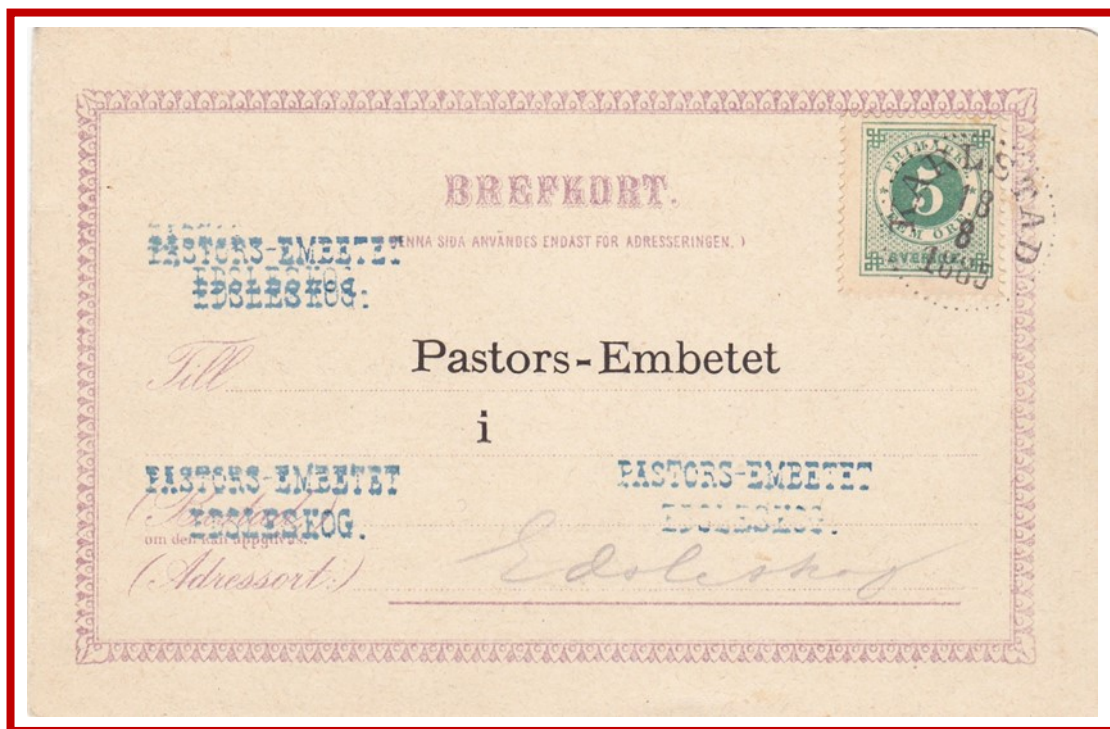
Privately Printed Double Postcards

Privately printed double postcards paid with stamps are extremely rare [Billgren & Andersson, p. 97]. The card below is one of the earliest known and it is depicted in Billgren & Andersson.

References

- ◇ Billgren, J. & Andersson, S., "Svensk posthistoria 1855-1925".
- ◇ Scherer, E., "Prepaid reply cards in international mail", FINLANDIA exhibition, Tampere 2017.

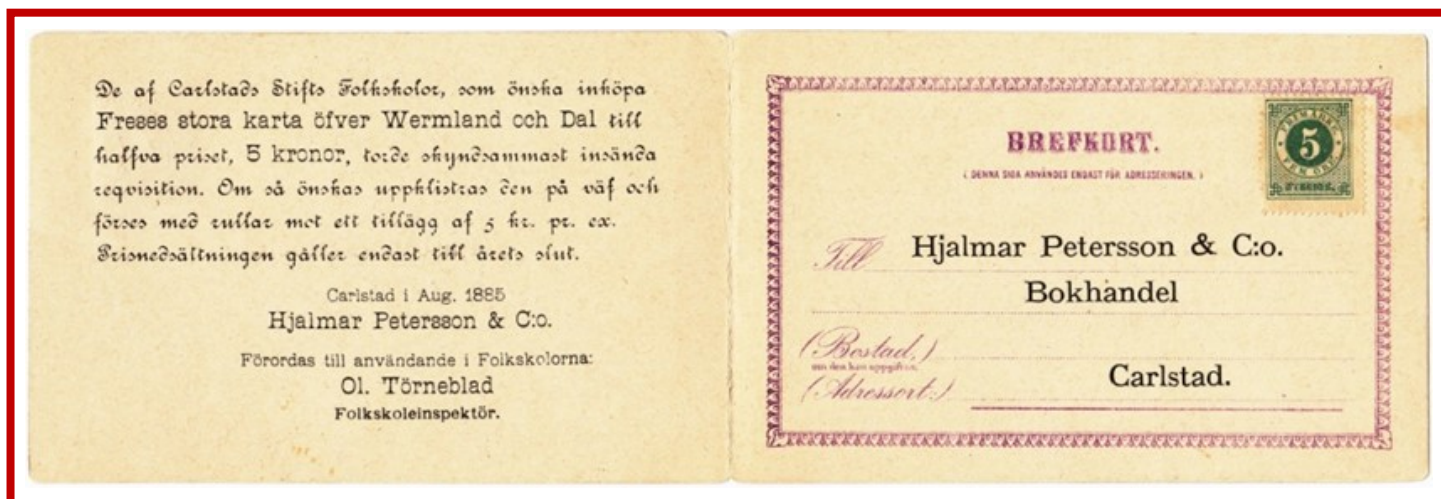
Scherer's exhibit (German version) is also available on <http://www.exponate-online.de>.



KARLSTAD
18 August 1885

Scan of response
card below.

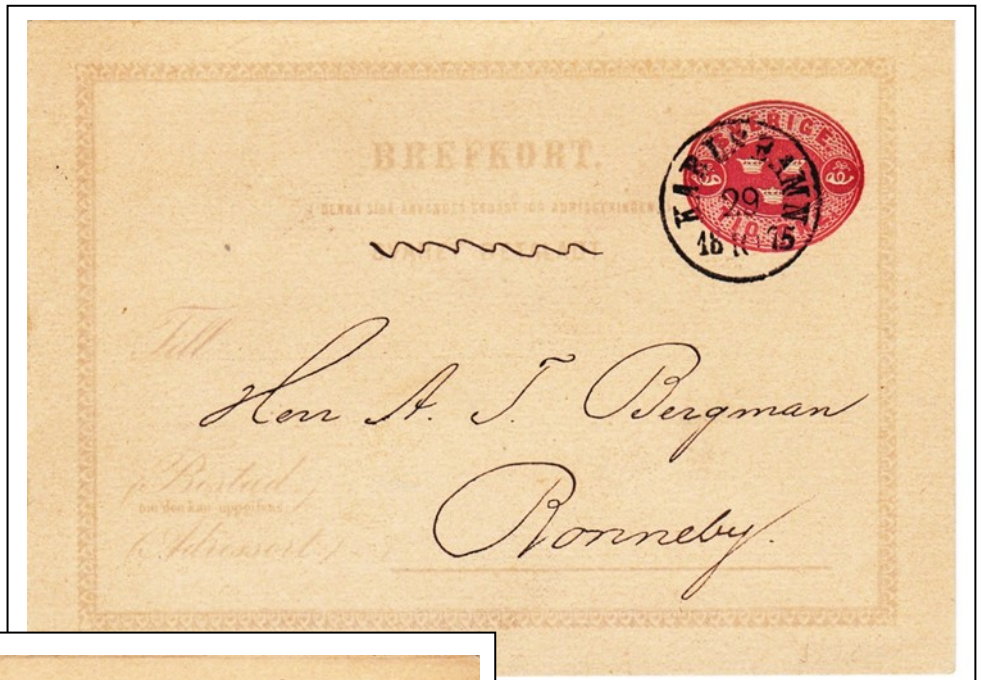
**Early privately
printed double
postcard.**



4.1 Inland

KARLSHAMN
29 October 1875

Response card
used as single
postcard.



KARLSTAD
9 November 1877

Request card where
the message tells the
addressee to respond
using the attached
response card.

NORBERG
28 May 1882

On delivery:

STOCKHOLM 1 TUR
29 May 1882

Response card with
pre-printed address.



4.2 Norway and Denmark

To Norway

PKXP No. 92 B
(Orsa-Gävle)
3 April 1894

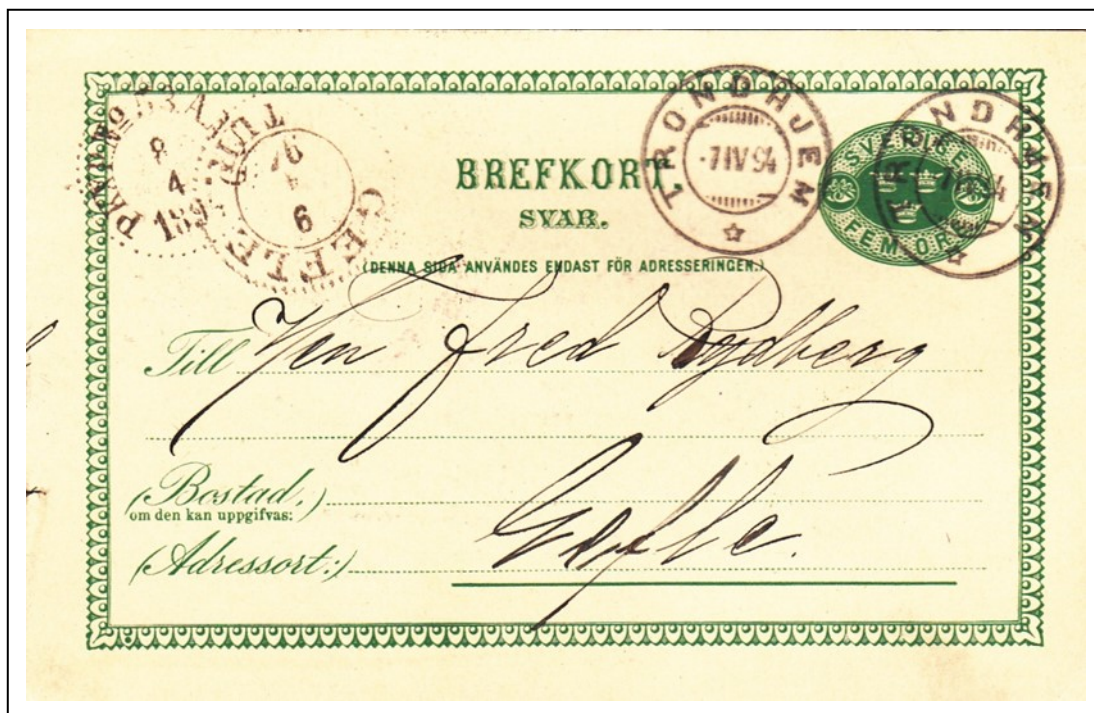
PKXP No. 53 B UPP
(Östersund-Storlien)
4 April 1894

On response:

TRONDHJEM
7 April 1894

PKXP No. 53 NED
(Storlien-Östersund)
8 April 1894

GEFLE
9 April 1894



Below:

Complete scan of both sides showing all cancellations.

Example of card folded on the short side.



4.2 Norway and Denmark

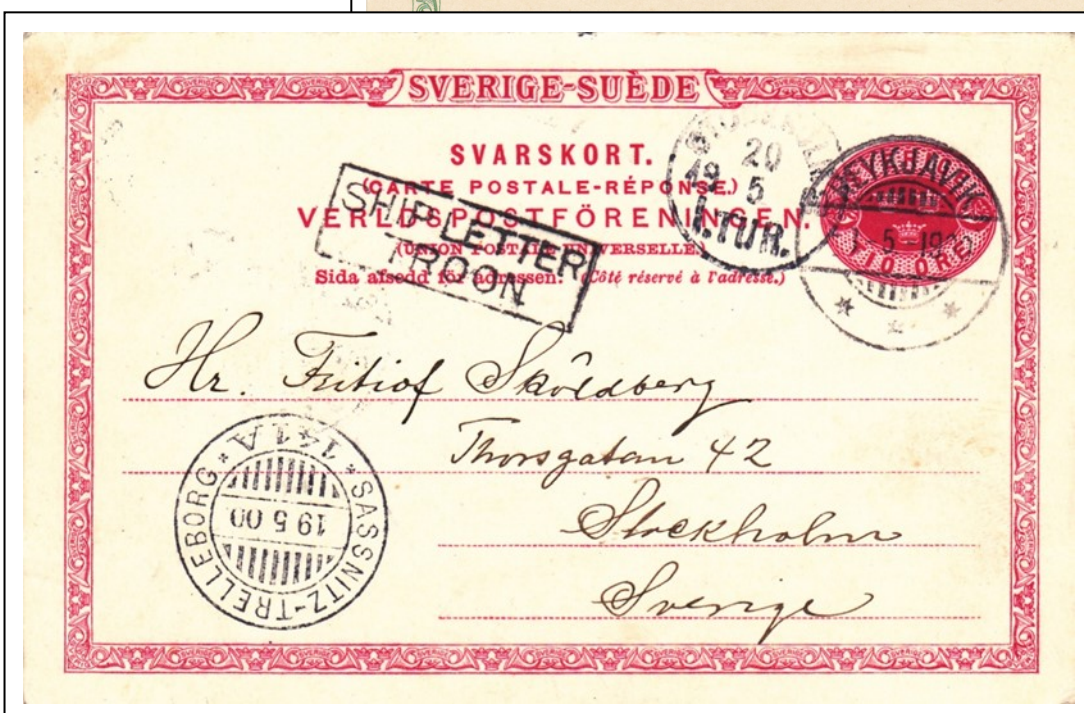


To Denmark

LUND
6 November 1889
K (Copenhagen)
6 November 1889

From Denmark

SKIVE
1 February 1908



From Iceland

REYKJAVIK
May 1900
SHIP LETTER TROON
SASSNITZ-TRELLEBORG
19 May 1900
STOCKHOLM
20 May 1900
Iceland was a part of Denmark, but the rate was 10 öre.

4.3 International

UPU Agreement in 1886

UPU allowed double postcards to be exchanged between its members from 1 April 1886.

Prior to UPU Agreement

Prior to the UPU agreement, the Post had bilateral agreements with enumerated countries, starting with Norway from 1 June 1880. More countries, including Germany, were added from 1 April 1883.

Uprated Cards

Double cards with insufficient postage, normally cards intended for inland usage, should be uprated with stamps from the originating country. The response card should also be uprated with stamps from the originating country.

Uprated response cards is one of few situation where correctly used stamps are cancelled by the postal service of another country.

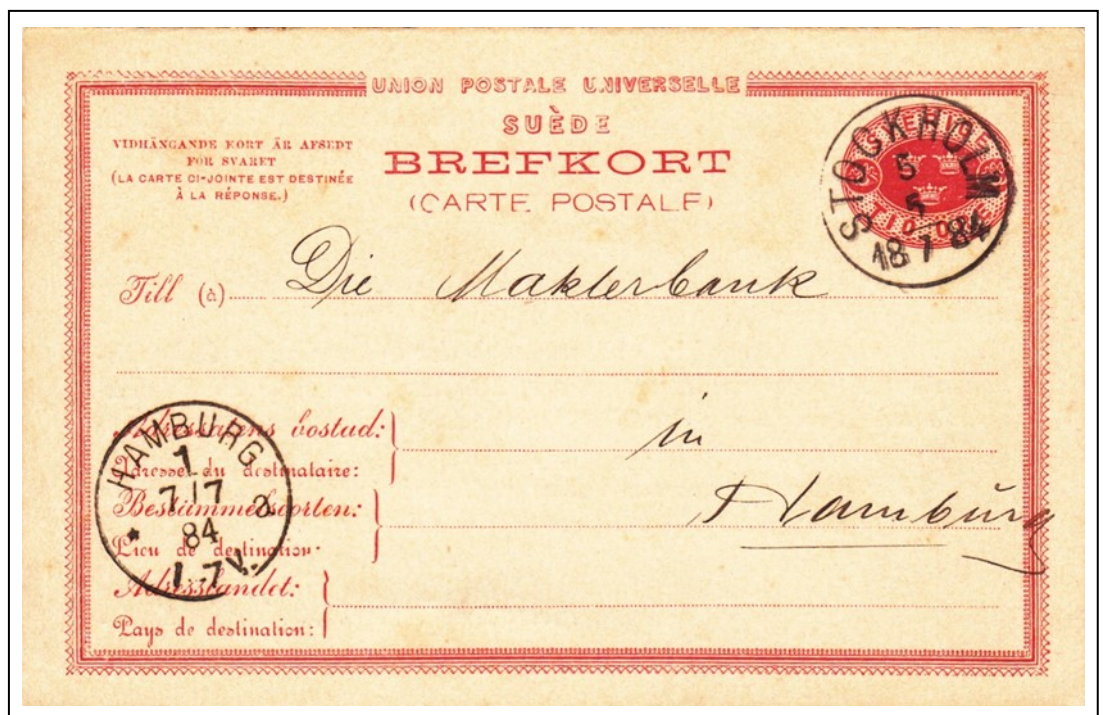
To Germany

STOCKHOLM

4 July 1884

HAMBURG

7 July 1884



To Germany

UPSALA

21 July 1884

PKXP No. 2

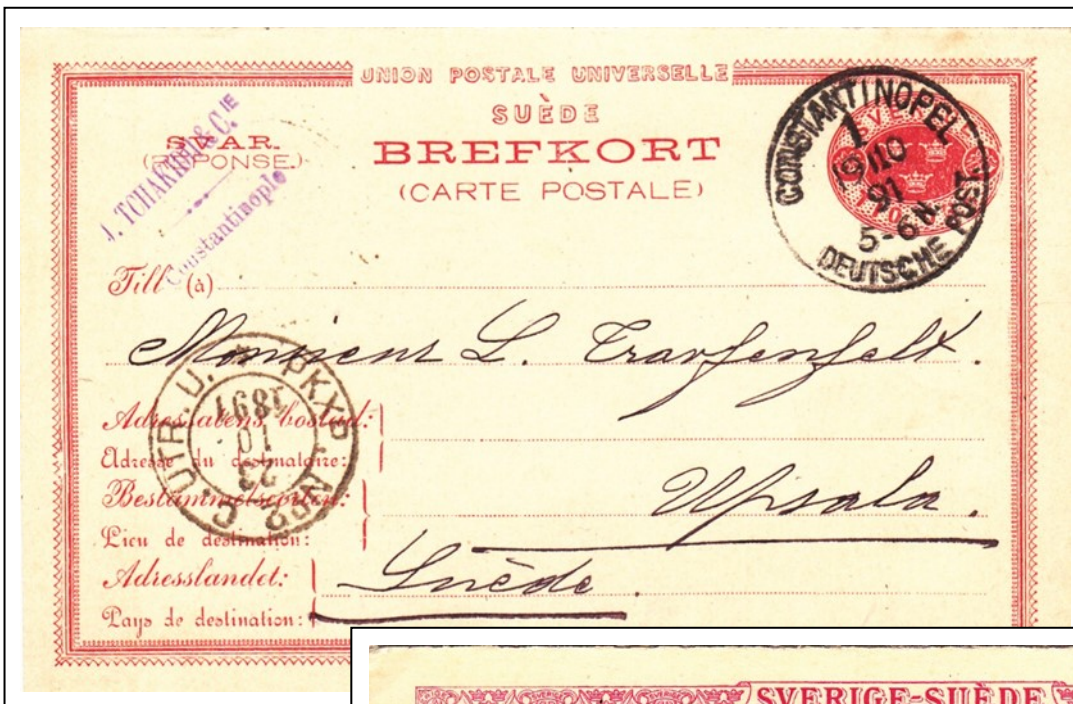
(Nässjö-Malmö)

23 July 1884

AUSG.

24 July 1884

4.3 International



**From The
Ottoman Empire**

CONSTANTINOPEL
DEUTSCHE POST
19 October 1891

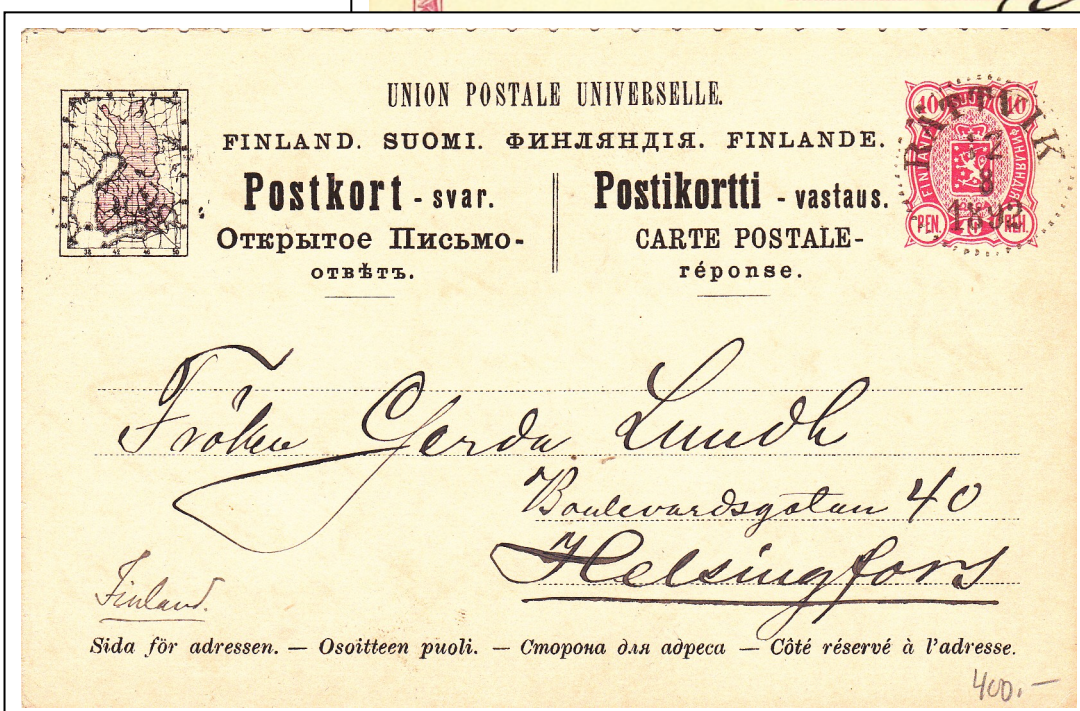
PKXP No. 2
(Nässjö-Malmö)
23 October 1891

UPSALA 3 TUR
24 October 1891

To Japan

STOCKHOLM
9 February 1906

YOKOHAMA
25 March 1906



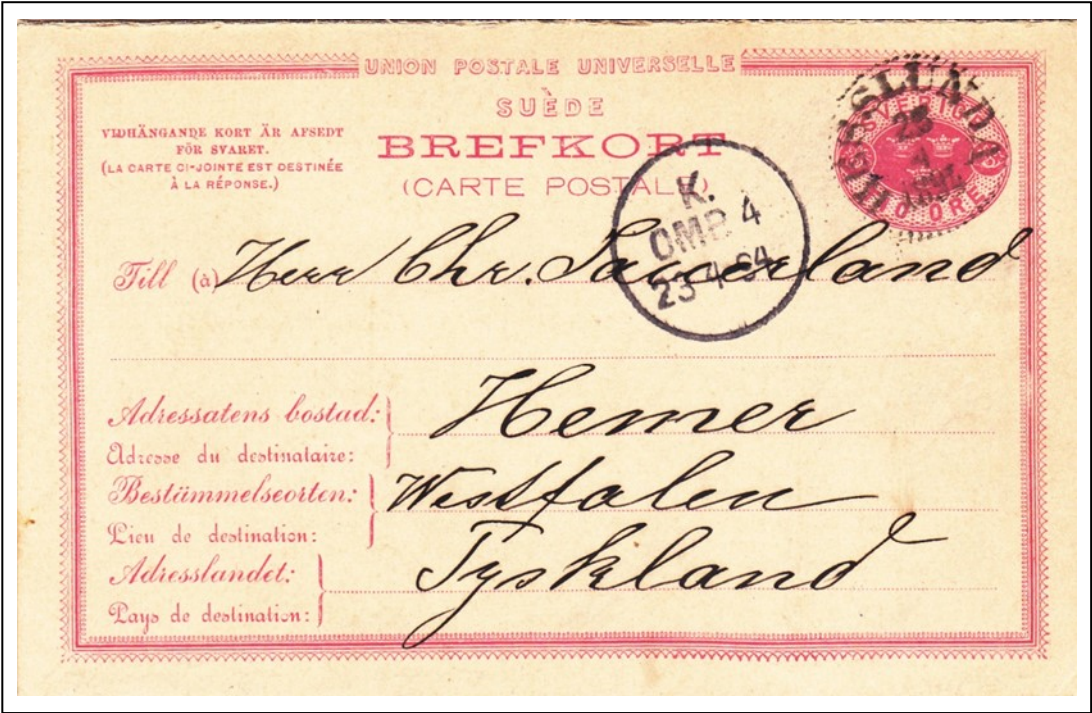
To Finland

RÄTTVIK
12 August 1892
STOCKHOLM
13 August 1892

Finnish response
card returned to
Finland.

4.3 International

To Germany
HESSLUNDA
23 April 1894
K (Copenhagen)
23 April 1894
On response:
HEMER
25 April 1894

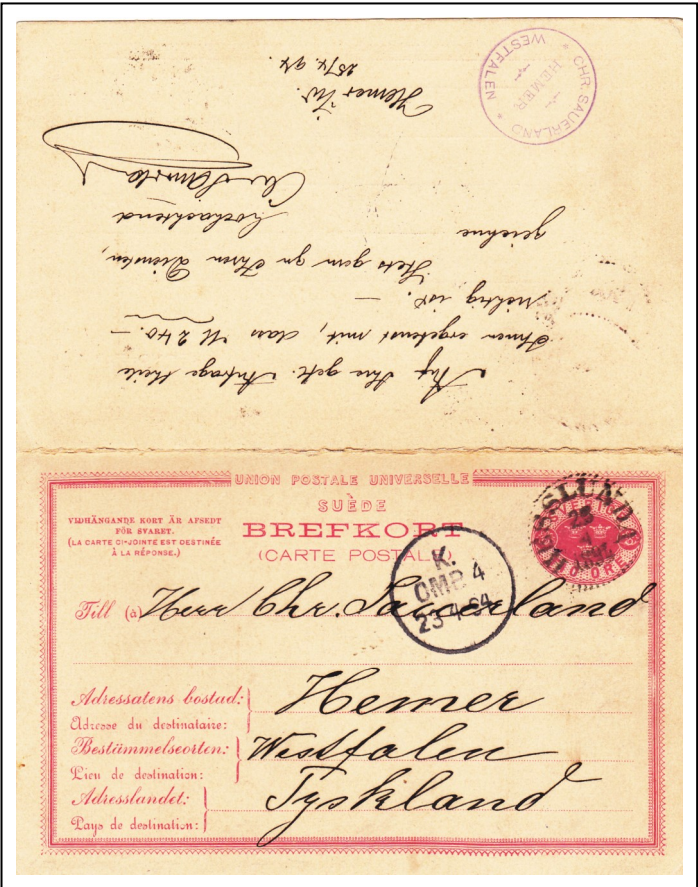


Below:

Complete scan of both sides showing all cancellations.

Example of card folded on the long side.

The glued paper on the back of the response card is against regulations, but was not observed. Maybe because that side was hidden when the card was folded.



4.3 International

Double postcard sent from Sweden to Germany, returned to Sweden and then forwarded twice; the first time within Sweden and then back to Germany. There are two interesting details:

- ◊ When forwarded the second time, an address label was used. The label is significantly larger than the regulated maximum size of 2x5 cm
- ◊ When forwarded, the card has been closed with sealing-wax. This was against regulations but passed without postage due



To Germany

FRA SVERIGE M.
(Danish cancellation
for post from Malmö)

KJØBENHAVN
25 January 1897

L. (Leipzig)
26 January 1897

On response:

LEIPZIG
26 January 1897

STOCKHOLM
29 January 1897

When forwarded:

GÖTEBORG
20 January 1897

When forwarded
second time:

DRESDEN
1 February 1897



4.3 International

To Germany

GÖTEBORG

10 June 1907

Response card intended for inland usage correctly uprated with Swedish stamps.



To Chile

STOCKHOLM

16 July 1893

NEW YORK

26 July 1893

VALPARAISO

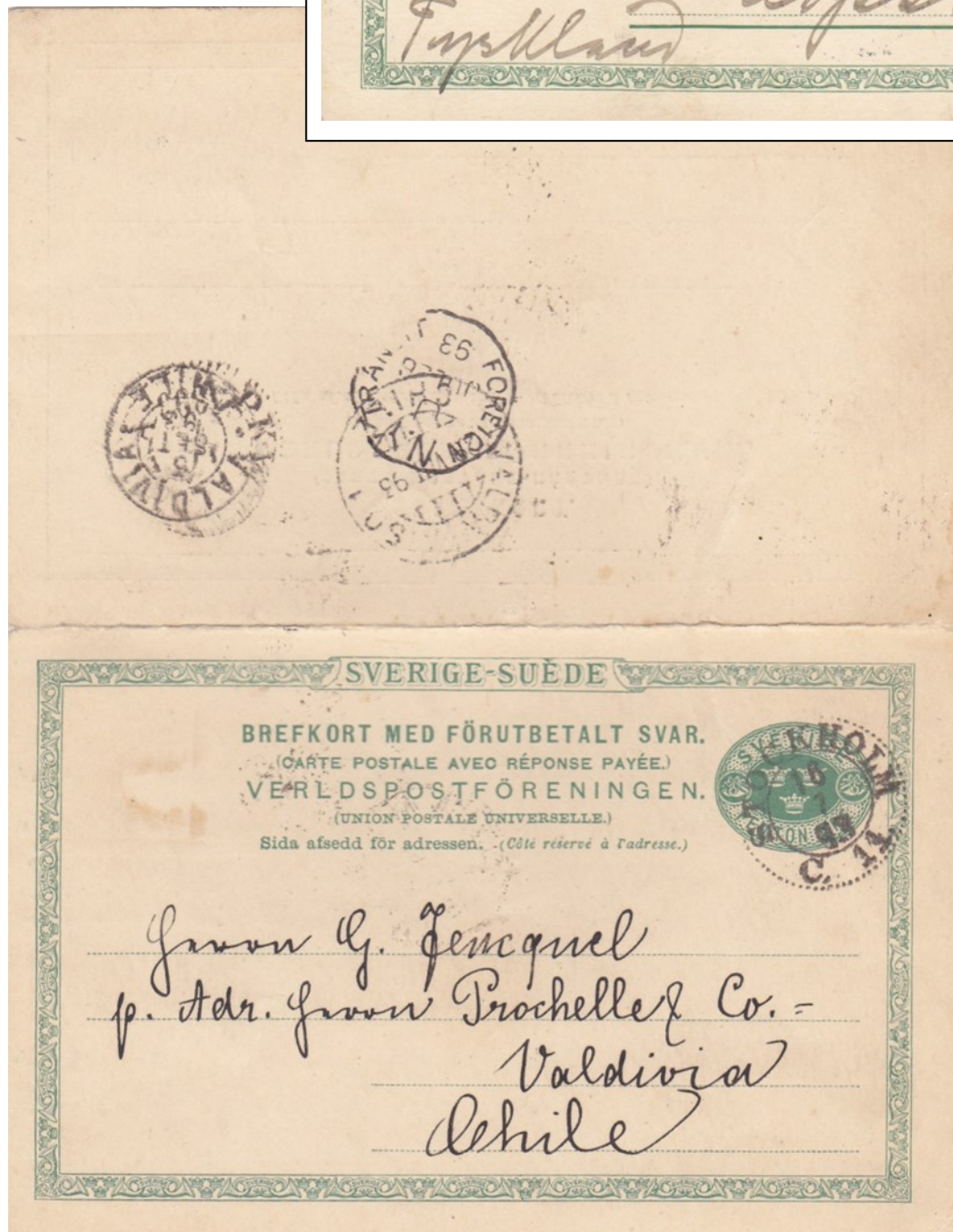
29 August 1893

VALDIVIA

5 September 1893

**Correctly used
15 öre double
postcard.**

**One of three
recorded postcards
with 15 öre rate
to Chile.**



4.3 International



PATAHOLM
10 March 1902

TRELLEBORG-
SASSNITZ
11 March 1902

JELISAVETGRAD
2 March 1902
(Julian calendar)

Russian response
card intended for
inland usage cor-
rectly uprated with
Russian stamps.

LAAGE
9 August 1909

Swedish response
card intended for in-
land usage correctly
uprated with Swedish
stamp and cancelled
in Germany.



STOCKHOLM
17 September 1891

MUENCHEN
20 September 1891

**Bavarian response
card intended for
inland usage
incorrectly uprated
with Swedish stamp.**

4.3 International

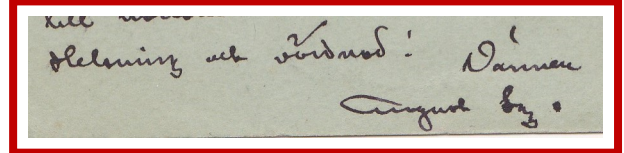
Response to Originating Country

After a decision at the UPU congress in Vienna 1891, it was only permitted to return response cards to their originating country.

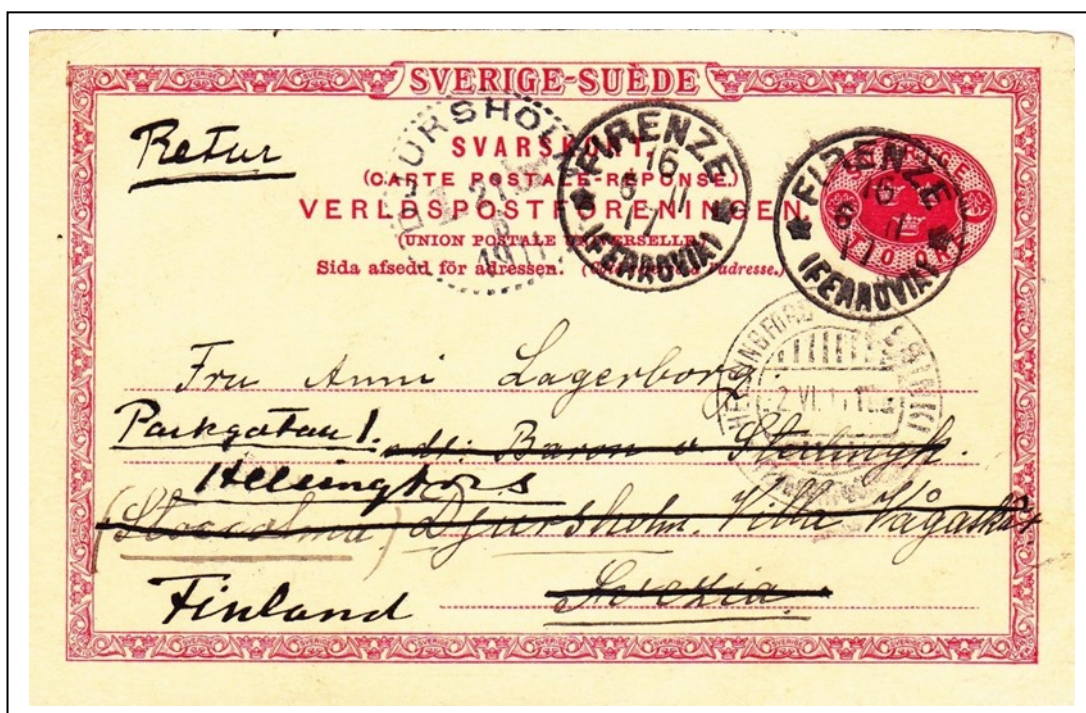
It was not explicitly mentioned in the regulations if it was possible to forward response cards to a third country or not, but it should be permitted under general rules for forwarded mail.

August Strindberg

August Strindberg is the most prominent author in Swedish literature history. In the text on the card below, Strindberg makes a comment on a bust with his portrait: "I would like to look like that."



LUND
4 November 1898
DINANT
6 November 1898
When forwarded:
DINANT
6 November 1898
BRUXELLES
7 November 1898
**Response card sent
to third country.**
**Written by
August Strindberg.**



FIRENZE
16 June 1911
When forwarded:
DJURSHOLM
21 June 1911
HELSINKI
22 June 1911

Response card
forwarded to
third country.

4.3 International

Response Card Mistaken for Single Postcard

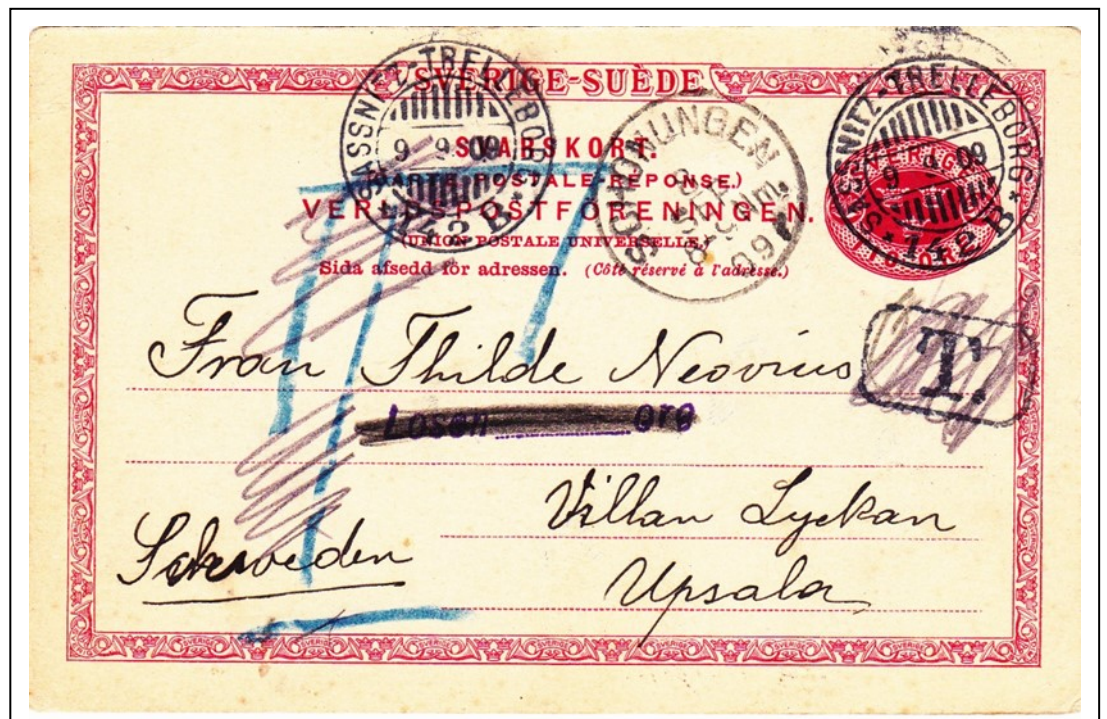
A common mistake by postal clerks was to incorrectly treat a correctly used response card for a single postcard from a foreign country.

Such mistakes are sometimes corrected by the post in the destination country and sometimes by the addressee who refused to pay postage due.

SCHONUNGEN
8 September 1909

SASSNITZ-
TRELLEBORG
9 September 1909

Response card mistaken
for single postcard in
Germany. Postage due
was cancelled, most
likely on the boat from
Sassnitz to Trelleborg.



Response Card Used as Single Postcard

A common usage of double postcards was to tear them apart and use both cards as single postcards.

For international mail, one can distinguish a response card used as single postcard from a correctly used response card because the value stamp is cancelled in Sweden.

STOCKHOLM
2 November 1894

LONDON
5 November 1894

AKASSA
17 November 1894

Response card used as
single postcard.

