

Kale" in October 1865 to Libourne/Gironde a place in France bearing on reverse pair 3 kop. + single 1 kop.russian stamps canceled by manuscript "498" the number of Redut-kale post office sent via Poti (12.Okt.1865)by ship to Constantinople french office (8 Nov.1865) then by ship to Marseille from there missent to Lyon-Prussia-Belgium route to Aachen (showing on reverse of the entire by blue postmark 17 Nov.) from there sent back to final destination on 19 Nov.(Libourne arrival postmark on reverse). extremely interesting and rare item from Georgian territory.

LUGDUNE 2011

GEORGIA -

RUSSISCHE-UND FRANZ. POST IN DER LEVANTE.

Ein Brief von REDUT-KALE in Kaukasus vom Oktober 1865 nach LIBOURNE/Gironde in Frankreich. Der Brief ist von REDUT-KALE nach dem Hafenpostamt in POTI (blauer Stempel:12.Okt. 1865) geliefert. Von hier ist er weiter per Schiff nach Konstantinopel spiediert, wo er dem franz.Postamt in Konstantinopel übergeben wurde (Stempel:Constantinople,Turquie.8.November 65. Von Konstantinopel ist er weiter mit franz.Schiff nach Marseille spiediert. In Marseille irrtümlicherweise wurde der Brief in eine falsche Richtung:Lyon - Preussen -Belgien abgeschickt. (Grenzpoststempel von Preussen in AACHEN in blau). Man hat hier den Fehler erkannt und endlich den Brief zurück nach LIBOURNE zugestellt:Ankunftstempel:19.November 1865. Der Brief wurde in Redut-Kale für die ganze Strecke mit russischen Marken zu 37 Kopeken frankiert. Diese Marken wurden handschriftlich mit Nr.498(Nummer des Postamtes in REDut-Kale) entwertet. Auf dem Weg ist eine Marke abgefallen und der Brief wurde mit Strafporto: 65 Cts belegt. Ein sehr interessanter Brief , weil normal die Korespondenz von Russland über Odessa , und weiter per Bahn über Osterreich und Preussen nach Frankreich geschickt wurde. DA aber der Absender auf dem Brief geschrieben habe: "Über Konstantinopel nach Frankreich " wurde dieser Weg gewählt.

St. 1000. -

Marana to Redut-Kale was changed over in 1858 to the left bank of the river Rion, on which was established a steamer service under obligation to the postal authority to carry mail free of charge from Ust-Tchenis-Tchalskaya to Poti. The truncated triangle cancellation "648" was allocated to this office on 5th November 1859 (an example is shown in the illustration on page 23) and thus it is more than likely that this office was established on the left bank of the Rion at the point where the river is joined by the Tchenis Chal, as the link with the steamer service. The large folding map helps to pinpoint the position.

UST-CHENIS-CHALSKAYA

(Post Station)

Ust-Chenis-Chalskaya was situated some 14 versts south of Samtredi, at the junction of the rivers Rion and the Chenis-Chal. As mentioned on page 27 (Part I) a steamer service was established on the Rion river in 1858 which was under obligation to the postal authority to carry mail from Ust-Chenis-Chalskaya to Poti. It is believed that the post station formed the link with the steamer service, and resulted in the issue of the truncated triangle dots cancellation "648" to Ust-Chenis-Chalskaya on 5 Nov. 1859.

The 1875 List of Post Stations gives Khevis-Tskhalskaya as a post station in a similar location, on the river bank, but on the road from Zugdidi to Ozurgeti. The steamer service was perhaps no longer an economic proposition once the Poti-Tiflis railway was opened at least over part of its eventual path. There is no record of a PO operating at any later date from Ust-Chenis-Chalskaya (or Khevis-Tskhalskaya). Only the single dots cancellation has been recorded, which is listed as Type 1.



"648" (Truncated Triangle of Dots)

TYPE 1

Dots type cancellation (truncated triangle of dots) bearing number "648". Allocated 5.11.1859. Impressed in black. Dates of use: 1859 - ? 1878

1858 Issue (p.12½): 20k. (£8.00)

1865 Issue: 20 k. (£5.00)

There is no record, so far, of an accompanying single circle datestamp).