

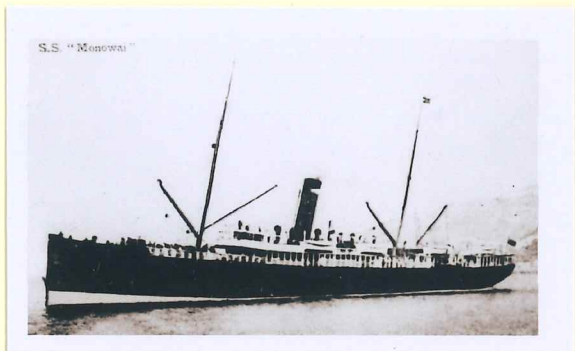
# 1896/8 IMPERIAL GERMAN POSTAL AGENCY

1896 cover to Leipzig franked 20pf

"per SS Monowai"

via San Francisco

L100<sup>3</sup>



**SS Monowai**

Built by Denny of Dumbarton in 1890  
for the Union Steamship Co of N. Z.



**1898**

Fragment from a sizeable parcel franked 16 Marks (8 x 2 mark) bearing an indistinct "KAISERL. DEUTSCHE POSTAGENTUR" canceller showing considerable wear. The cancel continued in use till mid 1900

L1200<sup>+</sup>

# 1887 IMPERIAL GERMAN POSTAL AGENCY

From the 1870s, the largest group of European settlers was the employees and managers of the Deutsche Handels und Plantagens Gesellschaft der SudSee-Inseln zu Hamburg. The DHPG company was mockingly referred to, by the English speakers, as "*the Long-Handled Company*". Mail was Haphazard and depended on visiting ships and traders. In 1885 a German -Australia shipping line operated a service for about 15 months, before an office was formally opened in the German Consulate as an Imperial postal agency in 1887 (**KAISERLICH DEUTSCHE POST AGENTUR**). German stamps were used following the establishment of the UPU, Samoa was not yet a member.

German collectors refer to these issues as "**Vorlaufer**" or Forerunners



L60



L60

300

## 1895

A provisional canceller used between the end of April to September 1895 after a fire damaged the German Consulate and Postal Agency. Postage stamps were saved but the date stamp device was lost in the evacuation of the building.



Scare

L60

# 1897 IMPERIAL GERMAN POSTAL AGENCY

German Consulate operated as an Imperial postal agency in 1887 (KAISERLICH DEUTSCHE POST AGENTUR), casually from 1885. German stamps were used for world wide mails following the establishment of the UPU, Samoa was not yet a member and the Samoan Post office had to add US stamps on mail across America which meant the German system was cheaper and more efficient for European mail

1897 Cover to Vienna. Heavy wax seals Triple Rate

*"p S.S. Mariposa  
via San Francisco"*



Mariposa at Tahiti 1906



£100

N.B  
RL Stevenson sailed  
to Sydney on the  
Mariposa 1893  
(Vailima letters Feb 1893)