

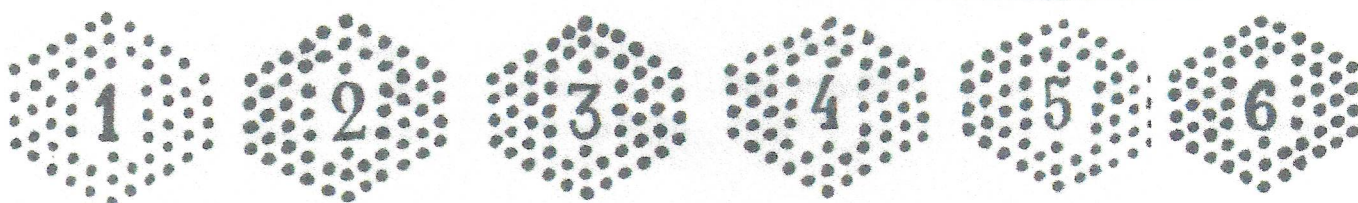
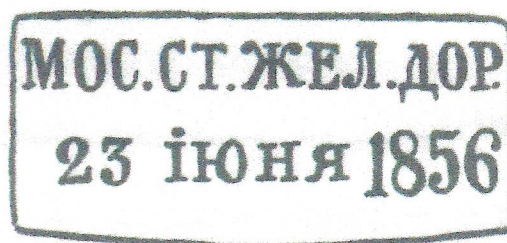
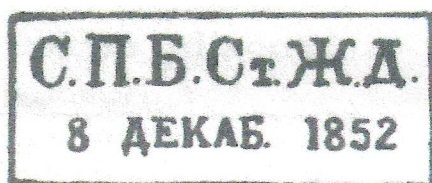
St Petersburg – Moscow Railway

[Nikolaevskaya Railway]

This postal marking study explores the first Russian TPO operating between St Petersburg and Moscow and the associated Nikolaev Railway Station Post Offices, from the pre-adhesive period through to the first datestamps incorporating the TPO Route 1-2.¹

The Exhibit is presented in Sections:

- Early markings of the Nikolaev Railway Post Offices at St Petersburg and Moscow including Hexagonal Dotted Numeral Cancels [1-2].
- Hexagonal Dotted Numeral Cancellations [3,4,5 & 6] used on the TPO.
- Circular datestamps with the Serial number [1-4] indicating the Post Wagon number
- TPO Route 1-2 bi-directional datestamps – Serial numbers 1-8



The Nikolaevskaya Railway between St Petersburg and Moscow was opened in 1851. From the beginning there was an agreement with the Postal department to carry mail between the two cities. The first mail St Petersburg to Moscow was November 16, 1851 and Moscow to St Petersburg November 17, 1851. The TPO can be considered as operating from April 16, 1852 when the special Post Wagons were introduced.

¹ Illustrations from Russian Railway Postmarks by A.V. Kiryushkin & P.E. Robinson with permission of authors.