

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani

Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani

Le prime macchine italiane per oblitterazione francobolli

The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Early Italian Machine Cancels

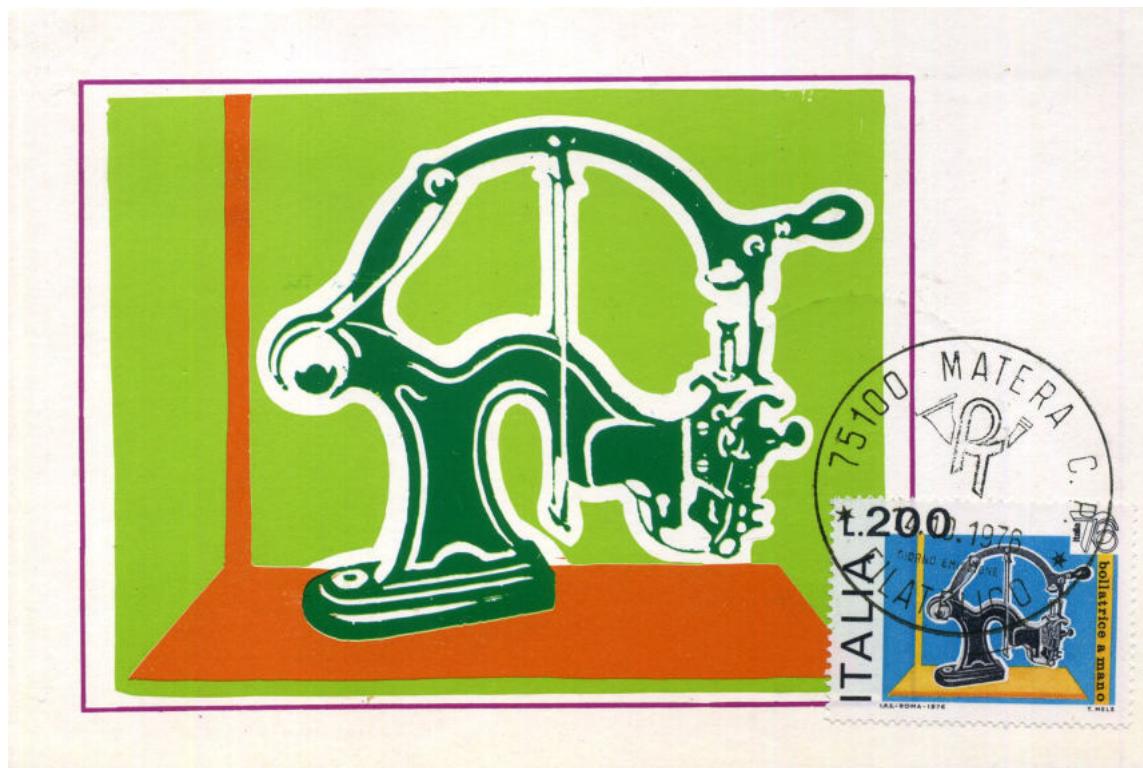


This cancelling machine shown here was used in Italy between 1867 and 1910 for the processing of mail. Few to nothing is known on the creator of this machine. An archival foto by the Museo della Comunicazione in Rome shows the inscription "OFFICINE ENRICO DANI FIRENCE" on the cast iron base of the machine. The copy of the machine shown in Camerata Cornello has the inscription "REGIE POSTE ITALIANE" at the same place.

From the technical side, the Dani Machine is very similar to nowadays "selfinking handstamps". The handle move the lever down. When the lever hits the cancel, the cancel goes down and hits hopefully the letter laying at the right place. When the lever goes down, the inked felt roll underneath the cancel is moved inside, it goes back in the shown position, when the lever was pushed up by the strong spring, which keeps the lever in position. It is reported, that the machine can be operated by hand (with the handle), by feet (most likely a pedal could be connected to the rods hanging down from the center of the lever). And as we learned from mom's sewing machine: a pedal can be replaced with an electric motor.

Outline

1. Prehistory
 - 1863-64 Trials with an English Machine in Florence and Turin
 - 1867 Introduction of the pointed numeral cancels
2. Trials in Florence (1876)
3. Introduction and Distribution
 - 1877 – Introduction of the Machine made by Enrico Dani and: Introduction of the barred numeral cancels
4. All Provinces
5. Design changes over the years
6. After the abandoning of the numeral cancels (1.1.1890)
 - Late usage (up to 1893)
 - „Squared circles“ (1892- 1906)
 - Reusage of the Numeral cancels (1896-1899)
7. Replacement by Bickerdike, Krag & Flyer
 - 1901 Bickerdike machines in Italy
 - 1906 EXPO in Milan
 - 1909 – Krag machine in Italy
 - 1910 – "Flyer" in Italy



Literature

- Floriano e Fiorenzo Ornaghi: Catalogo delle Obliterazioni meccaniche D'Italia e paesi italiani on targhetta per tipo 1901 – 1997; Milano (1997)
- Paolo Vaccari: Annullo Numerali Italiani 1866 – 1889, Catalogo con valutazioni with translation in English; 2006 Vignola
- Daniele Prudenzano: Il nuovo Gaggero. Catalogo dei bolli tondo-riquadri del Regno d'Italia, 2016 Vignola
- Stephan Jürgens - Francesco Dodi: La Bollatrice di Enrico Dani. in: Atti di Sesto Congresso Nazionale FilateliCa 2013 in Portonovo (Ancona)
- Stephan Jürgens: www.bollatrice.de

Eine Pearson Hill Maschine in Italien

Una bollatrice "tipi inglese" a Firenze e Torino - A Pearson Hill Machine in Italy

In 1863 Italies postal administration started to unify the postal procedures. Part of this were new tariffs, which make new stamps necessary. Due to various reasons the Italian postal administration contacted De La Rue in London, then one of the world marked leaders in Security Printing (and still in the market). The main result for Italy of the "De La Rue" deal was the so called "De La Rue" series, issued on December 1st, 1883, examples weill be shown later in this exhibit.

But the Italian delegation take also a small cancelling device home from De La Rue, which issued a small circular date stamp with a characteristic design: the Italian call it "tipo inglese" (English type). This English machine was used for very few days in Florence in October 1863, from March to May 1864 in Turin, and 1868/69 in Florence again. These three periods of the English machine are extremly different in character and rarity.



Letter from Florence, October 8th, (18)63 addressed for Teramo (next day arrival on reverse). Itshows a clear strike of the Pearson Hill machine - with a mirror print on the reverse. Mirror prints are very rare on hand cancels, but quite common for early machine cancels.

The 15 c "litografica" is tied by a mute (Tuscan) rhombe cancel.Fabio Sottoria wrote in his certificate for this letter, that only two letters with the combination of a mute rhombic killer and the "English date" are know. And he stated that this letter is the first date known, since the literature mentioned that the "tipo sperimentale" start at October 12th...

Eine Pearson Hill Maschine in Italien

Una bollatrice "tipo inglese" a Torino e Firenze - A Pearson Hill Machine in Italy



Two letters from May 1864. The combination of the Sarde mute killer - which is applied by hand - and the small circular date stamp - which is applied by the machine, is typical for the Turin experiment.

Since the machine only has one small circular stamp the experiment in Turin did not show success. There were no significant time savings compared to manual cancellation. The English postal administration used duplex cancels with the Pearson Hill machine and this bigger striking area allows the usage of the Pearson Hill machines for stamp cancellation. The single cancel configuration is used in England (and other countries of the commonwealth) for backstamping of incoming mail.

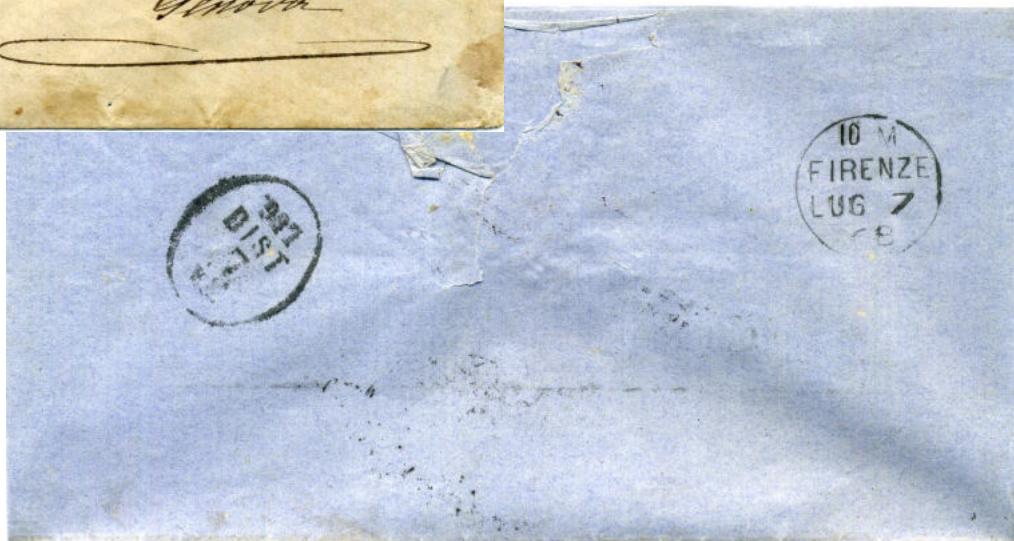


Eine Pearson Hill Maschine in Italien

Una bollatrice "tipo inglese" a Torino e Firenze - A Pearson Hill Machine in Italy

When the capital changed from Turin to Florence, the English canceling machine came again to Florence. And for this third using period, I'm not willing to speak of experiments. A few letters are known, where the machine was used for dispatch marking - all from early 1868. Possible "experiment" fits for them. But - as in the UK - Florence starts to use the machine for back stamping. It is harder to find a letter addressed to Florence from 1868/69 backstamped by the regular hand stamp, then by this "English" machine.

BTW: not only domestic mail got back stamped by the Pearson Hill machine. I show here an letter from the (reduced) Papal State. Observe the "PD" - a few month earlier this letter would be taxed on arrival, since Italy and the Papal State had no postal contracts during the first years of the united Italy.



Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Eine Pearson Hill Maschine in Italien

Una bollatrice "tipo inglese" a Torino e Firenze - A Pearson Hill Machine in Italy



Another pair of letters with the arrival mark by the English "Bollatrice". More interesting: other countries also used numerical cancels - here with a little bit French chic.

Eine Pearson Hill Maschine in Italien

Una bollatrice "tipo inglese" a Torino e Firenze - A Pearson Hill Machine in Italy



Letter from Alexandra (Egypt) addressed to Florence, posted 8 May 1869 at the Italian Post Office in Alexandra, franked with 40 c De La Rue (that is single weight rate (up to 15 gr), framed "PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALINANA" alongside (indication it is transported by an Italian ship. On reverse arrival mark applied by the Pearson Hill machine (May 12 1869, 9 p.m. - only 4 days :-), next day distribution mark - for sure first distribution, but not readable, m/s endorses "Via Brindisi" (from there with train most likely via Bologna).

Die Einführung der Nummernstempel

Introduzione di annulli numerali - Introducing of Number Cancels

The 1863/64 experiment with a canceling machine was not an isolated experiment. Especially in 1864 they experimented with different hand cancels and inks to prevent double use and other methods of postal fraud.

At April 1st 1866 the Italian Kingdom introduced a new kind of cancels: the dotted numerals, which should be used in addition to the date marks as a "killer" for the stamps.

Like in other countries with numerical cancels, every post office got its distinctive number, the complete list was published in the Bulletin of the Postal Administration in March 1866. In the same issue rules how to apply these new cancels were provided, including how to maintain them and where to purchase the ink. Drastical fines are mentioned if a postman did not follow this new rules.

The cancels were purchased centralised by the Postal Administration in Florence, the distribution to the post offices must be done very fast - a greater number of post offices started to use the numerals during the last ten days of March 1863.



Letter in June 1866 from Florence to Paris franked with four copies of the 10 centesimi De La Rue. The letter was fully paid to destination - see the black "P.D." - and shows a circular red French entry mark "ITALIE / LANSLEBOURG", indicating that this letter took the most common route over the "Col de Mont Cenis" between Turin and Lyon.

We will see the 174 on many letter in this exhibit - this number is assigned to "Firenze Ferrovia", the post office which is the most important office for the Dani machine.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel
L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Unterschiedliche Tagesstempel

Bolli diversi - Different date post marks



The introduction of the numerical cancel in April 1866 is part of the unification of the Italian postal procedures. Up to then, the post offices, and especially the directions in the former capitals of the old states acted often independently and individually. In 1866 only the numerical cancels were provided, the date stamps were only replaced where necessary.

So we can observe different types of date stamps next to the numerical cancels. On this page we have three examples from the Veneto, which became part of Italy in 1866 - after the introduction of the numerical cancels.. We have two smaller circles where the date is reduced to day and month, and a double circle from the stations office in Venice. The first two date stamps are of (Lombardo-)Venetian resp Austrian origin, the third looks more like a Sardinian-Italian cancel (the Lombardo-Venetian double circles normally have decorative elements).

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annulli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Unterschiedliche Tagesstempel

Bolli diversi - Different date post marks



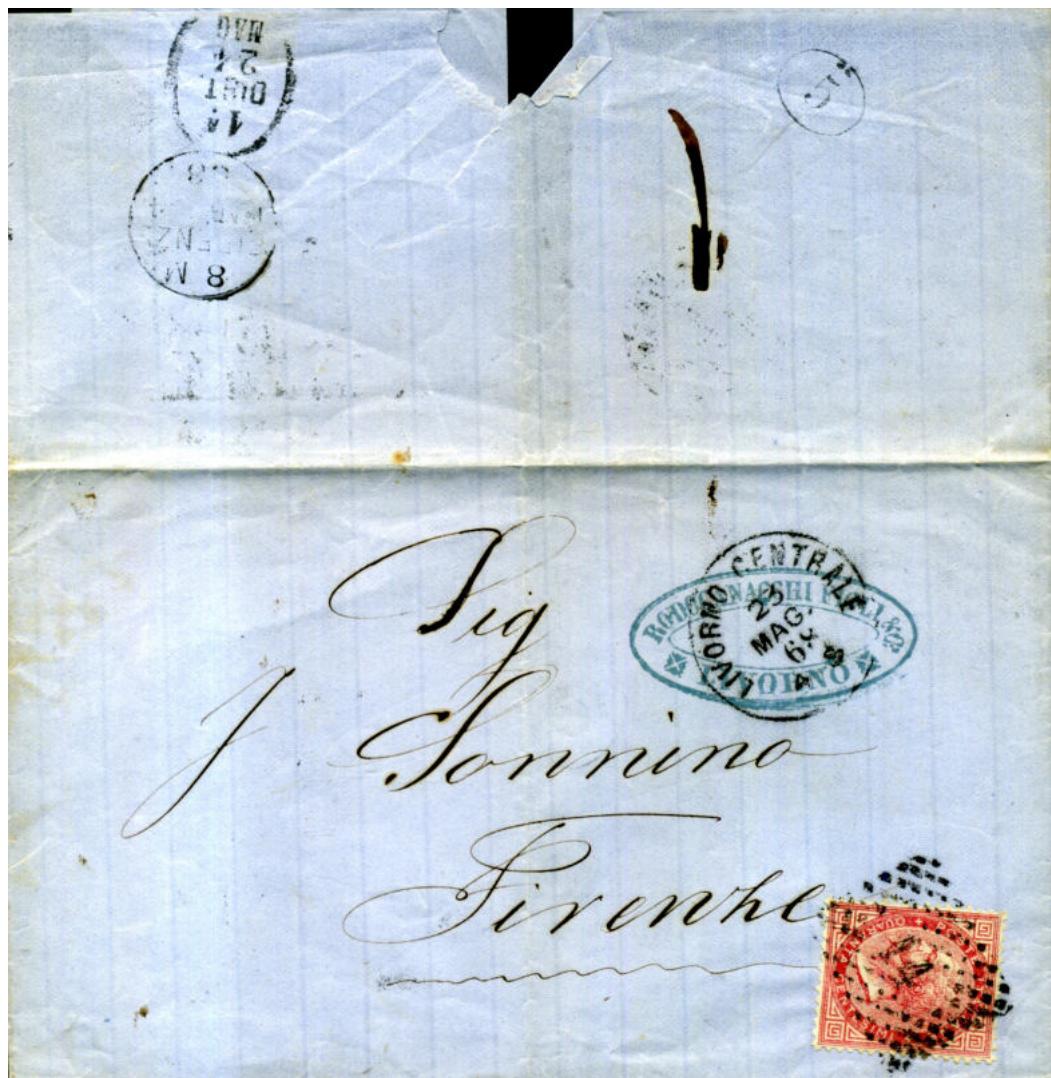
Three covers spanning the whole period of the pointed number cancels - and most of the Italian territory. These "Sardo-Italian" double circles were given to the post offices, who need new date marks.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Unterschiedliche Tagesstempel

Bolli diversi - Different date post marks



Two letters from the same post office: at the top the later "large circle", at the bottom the earlier "small circle".

Remark: the attribution as "earlier" and "alter" refers to the introduction of this kind of post marks at the post offices, not the date of posting the letter (here the order is reversed).

Die stummen "Nummernstempel" von Rom

Muto "annuli numerali" di Roma - The silent "number cancels" from Rome

During the usage period of the dotted numerals Italy sees two territorial additions. In 1866, during the Austro-Prussian war, Italy gained the Veneto from Austria. The integration of the postal service seems to be very smoothly.

The more important addition was the Rome and Latium, which was annexed on 20th September 1970 after France has withdrawn its troops due to the French-German war of 1870/71. More for propaganda effects than for postal necessity the post office in Rome from the first day of the Italian reign uses new killers for stamp obliteration as well as Italian stamps could be used from day one.



Fragment of a letter, dated 15th May 1871 addressed for Malta. The stamps are "killed" by mute SARDE rhombes, a cancel well known from the first Sardinian emission, but also from the Turin period of the Pearson Hill experiments. Most amazing is the Maltese arrival mark - which is of course applied by the Maltese Pearson Hill machine. I'm no expert on pre U.P.U. international postal rates, but I'm a little bit puzzled about the Maltese "12 1/2" mark, since the letter is declared "P.D" (paid to destination).

Florenz im 2. Halbjahr 1876

Secunda semestre di 1876 a Firenze - The second half of 1876 in Florence



One of the earliest letters known with the experimental design of the Dani machine. This letter, bearing the 30 c of the De La Rue series - most likely the Turin printing - is in tarif of the first weight for a letter to the UK. It is backstamped "WORTHING A OCT 18 76", so the 15th Oct 1876 from the machine is very reasonable. The letter is signed by Luigi Raybaudi and Paolo Vaccari.

During October 1876 the post office at Florence Station starts to use a new design both for the killer and for the date mark. The date mark is slightly larger than the previous and shows the word "FERROVIA" (train station) instead of the previous "succursale" (branch office).

During the following Month Firenze Ferrovia sees a lot of experimental designs most of them related to the introduction of the Dani machine.

Florenz im 2. Halbjahr 1876

Secunda semestre di 1876 a Firenze - The second half of 1876 in Florence

Having only one of these letters for examination, most machine cancel collectors will identify these cancel as "hand stamp" - not a machine. But when examining several letters the conclusion is different: they allways have the same distance between the two elements, and the "angel" between elements is also constant. So for sure it we have some kind of device which combine the two marks ... knowing that arround that time a machine for cancelling was tried out at that post office ... q.e.d.



Two letters from Florence addressed for Rome, the upper one, dated 21st November 1876, signed by Alberto Diena and Paolo Vaccari, the lower one, dated January 1st, 1877 is by Enzo Diena.

Florenz im 2. Halbjahr 1876 Januar 1877

Secunda semestre di 1876 a Firenze - The second half of 1876 in Florence

Most collectors call the six bar version of the Dani machine cancel "experimental". I'm willing to consider the first weeks of this usage as "experimental" - but after the presentation of this machine in Rome, Florence still used this design. So I like to call it "regular usage" of the machine with an provisorial design.



Upper Letter: single rate letter from Florence to Rimini dated January 6th, 1877.
Lower letter: single rate letter from Florence to Turin, dated January 12th, 1877.
Both letters tied by the "experimental" cancel from the Dani machine.

Florenz im 2. Halbjahr 1876

Secunda semestre di 1876 a Firenze - The second half of 1876 in Florence

The technical side of the machine seems not to be an issue, in December it was demonstrated in Rome to a delegation of the parliament. But the six bar design, the distance between the two marks and the obvious angel between the two cancel had two be eliminated.

There are at least two experimental cancel designs - applied manually instead by the machine - which are obviously related to the Dani machine:



For a few days in December 1876 this an experimental design was used at the post office at the station of Firenze. It shows six line of small rhombes with the 174 between them. This letter, dated 22nd December, is addressed for Bologna, is signed by Paolo Vaccari.



For a slightly longer period, this 8 bar design was used. It is reported to be also used in the Dani machine, but I have not seen any proof.

Here we have it on a "Anagrafe", the official notifications of one mayor to another of changing residents, dated on 26th march 1877. It is signed by Paolo Vaccari.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel
 L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Vor dem April 1877

Prima aprile 1877 - Before April 1977



Rome Ferrovia was one of the first post office to get the Dani Machine. Covers from January and February 1877 - a relevant time before the official announcement of these cancels and the machine in the postal Bulletin in April 1877 - are not rare.
 I've selected these covers for display, since the arrival (or transit) marks clearly confirm the dates.

Vor dem April 1877

Prima aprile 1877 - Before April 1977



Another post office, which got the machine very early is Milano Ferrovia, the office at the station in Milan. Here it puzzles me, that the "arrival" mark on the reverse indicate the same hour - unlike many other Italian cities, Milan (central) Station is not in walking distance to the main postal office. On the other hand: a paper manufacturer writing to a lawer - the odds for philatelic usage of this letter are very low.

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L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Florenz im März/April 1877

Firenze Marzo - Aprile 1877 - Florence during March/April 1877



And even Florence got the new definitive design before the official introduction. In March 1877 and early April, the distance between the two elements is the same as in the experimental cancels, but end of April the distance between the two cancels was shorter.

Erste Jahreshälfte 1877

Prima semestre 1877 - First half of 1977



The stations post offices at Turin and Bologna got machines latest end of march/beginning of April 1877.

So we got several post offices, using the machine and the bared numerical cancels before the official announcement in the bulletin. I think there could be no better proof, that the tests in Florence and Rome went very successfully - and it seems that the machine eases the work in the post offices.



And in addition a pair of covers from Genua: the upper one from May 9th, 1877 from the central post office (located at the port) and the second from June 30th, 1877 from the office at the station (a few hundred meters up the hill from the port). Both post office use this machines at least until 1890 - so Genua got two machines at a very early time, when many other directions had not received one machine.

Zweite Jahreshälfte 1877

Secunda semestre 1877 - Second half of 1977



Brescia, Napoli, Padova ... during the second half of 1877 additional offices start using the Dani machine ...

Eine Machine für jede Provinz

Tutti Provinci - All Italian Provinces

Epperò è fermo volere della Direzione generale che ai medesimi si ponga finalmente un termine ed a questo effetto dopo maturo esame dei mezzi atti allo scopo, ha stabilito: ...

3° di somministrare alle Direzioni e agli uffizi di stazione più importanti una macchina per la bollatura, la quale vantaggio della celerità accoppia quello d'imprimere sulle corrispondenze una impronta ben nitida del bollo e della stampiglia obliteratrice.

Bollettino Postale n.4 (aprile 1877)

But is is firm will of the General Post Office to bring those inconveniences to an end and in order to do so, after careful examination of the means suited to the aim, they have decided: ...

3° to provide the Directions and the most important offices at the stations with a cancelling machine, which, beyond of being very fast, has the advantage of impressing the postmark and the cancellation very neatly.

Postal Bulletin n.4 (April 1877)

(translation taken from Paolo Vaccari: Annnulli Numerali Italiani 1866-1899, Vignola, 2006)

I interpret this announcement that every Direction (that is the capital post office in each of the Italian Provinces) should have got an Dani machine. And in addition the post offices at the important stations.

This addition explains, why Genua got two machines in early 1877 (one for the central post office and one for "Ferrovia") whereas other directions had to wait until late 1878 to get thier machine. In the cite from the bulletin I had skiped the paragraphs 1 and 2. 1 announces the new "bared" design of the killers whereas 2 states: "*to proceed within the shortest time possible, according to the funds available, ... starting from the offices needing it most.*" These limited fonts explain why some post office had to use the dotted numerals in late 1877 and 1878.

On the following pages I go through all the provinces and show my results, both from research in the literature as well as from browsing through the postal history boxes from dozens of dealers. There are three major works relevant to the cancellations of the Dani machine. All three focus on other aspects of Italian markophilie. The Fratelli Ornaghi's main focus are the slogan cancels, but this is the only work which has done systematically research on the Dani machine. Most of the offices reported by Ornaghi having used a Dani machine can be shown in this collection. For many offices I can show covers exceeding the usage periods - and roughly thirty offices, which are not mentioned by Ornaghi.

Paolo Vaccari valuates every post office which have used a Dani machine. But only in a very few cases he mentioned Duplex cancels or the Dani machine. He gives points for the "regular" hand stamp and says in the introduction: add one point for a duplex cancel. As a result Vaccari can not be seen as a source to answer the question "at which offices do I find duplex cancels". The previous works on Italian numerical cancels, Carozzi and Rici, have the same flaw. Prudenzano mentions to types of duplex cancels: pairs of squared circles and combinations of squared circles with either circular date stamps or with bared numericals. A Prudenzano listing of a duplex cancel is a strong indicator of a Dani machine used after the abolition of the numerical cancels. Some offices are mentioned in local studies to have a numerical duplex. Some of these are not listed by Ornaghi. At the moment of preparing this exhibit, there is only one post office mentioned in the literatur I can not show: *Potenza*. Assuming the really every province got a machine, I also look for literature reference or covers from *Belluno, Benevento, Grosseto, Massa Carrara, Porto Maurizio and Sondrio*.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Rome

Latium / Central Italy

Literature	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Roma	Dec 1876 2500 punti		
	Roma Ferrovia	Jan. 1877 - 1889 50 punti	2 punti	
	Roma Ferrovia (Roma instead of 207)		Oct. 1888 10.000 punti	
	Roma (Josz)			2 punti



A mystery from Rome: three letters by the same sender, all three are domestic letters - one to Lucca (Tuscany), franked with 20 c, to my knowledge the rate for a single weight letter. The other two addressed for Palermo (to the same bank as the sender in Rome). 30 c. is the foreign rate, there is no domestic rate of 30 centesimi in 1878.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Milano

Lombardy / North Italy

Literature	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
MILANO	15.1.1877-1890	2 punti		
FERROVIA	50 punti			
MILANO	21.8.-23.10.1906		4	
ESPOSIZIONE (1)	500 punti			
MILANO	21.8.-23.10.1906			4
ESPOSIZIONE (2)	500 punti			



Milano (Mailand/Milan) for sure is one of the cities, with the best researched postal history. So I'm not surprised. that I'm not able to show a cover extending the using period given by the Fratelli Ornaghi. But instead I'm able to show a little gem: a prefranked advertising letter. The perforation "C18" in the stamp gives the clue: these letters were sold prefranked at a reduced price of 18 cents, preserving the postage value of 20 cents. The difference was paid by the advertising. These letters were not popular - making them quite rare nowadays. I'm quite certain that this item is genuine - I know the cancel and have dozens of lowprice items in my collection for comparisson. So when buying this, I could ignore the expertise of Gino Biondi.

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Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Perugia

Umbria / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Perugia		3 punti	



Despite the Fratelli Ornaghi did not mention the Deni Machine for the Chocolate City Perugia I found examples for the period of 1883 - 1890 - and I think further search will bring examples from 1878/79 as well.

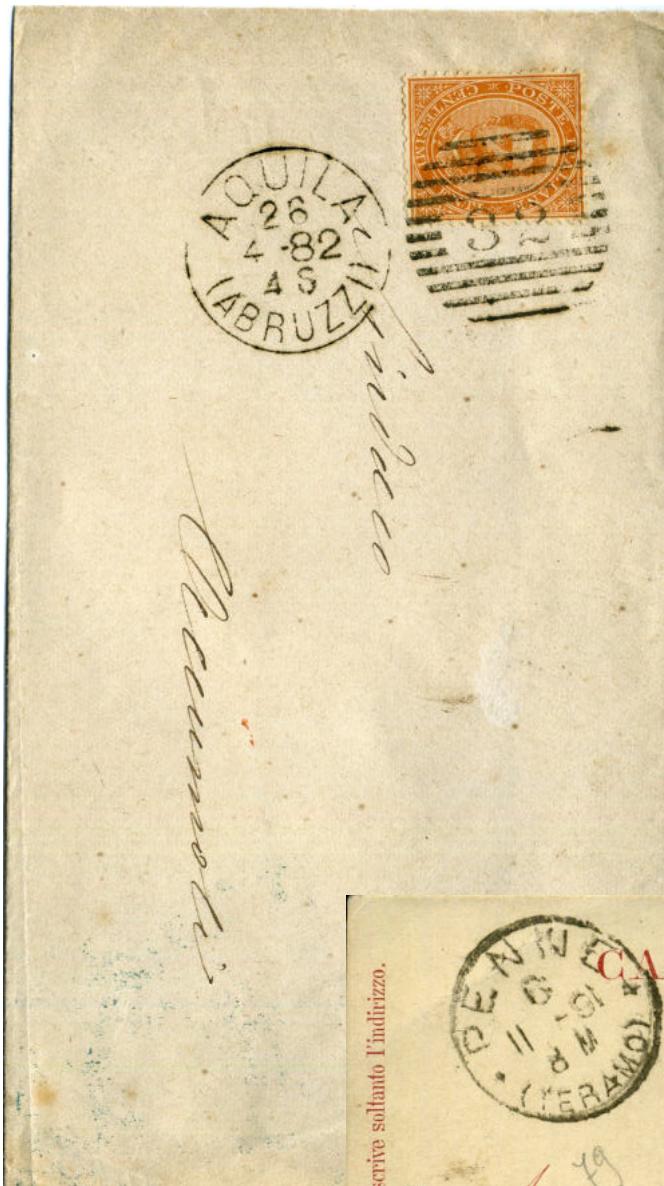
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Aquila

Abruzzo / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	AQUILA (ABRUZZI)		6 punti	



I can show examples for L'aquila covering nearly the complete period of the usage of the barred numerical cancels. Finding no record of this cancel in the catalogue of the Fratelli Ornaghi as well as the 6 points Paolo Vaccari assigns to Aquila make me strongly believe, that there was no cancell collector located in Aquila when this books were compiled. Compared to other offices 2 or possible 3 points are justified - but 6 points is to much.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Biella

Piedmont / North West Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Biella		4 punti	



Biella, one of the old Sardinian province capitals, is situated roughly 70 km northeast of Turin. 4 points by Vaccari signal, that mail from Biella is not really rare, but a lot less common than many small villages. So I'm not surprised, that the Fratelli Ornaghi have no evidence of this cancel. The example in my collection shows, that Biella got the machine like any other of the provincial capitals.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Campobasso

Molise / South Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Campobasso		3 punti	



A printed matter rate, addressed for a mayor, with a faint green senders mark of the Municipio di Campobasso ... not a uncommon thing. But the only proof I have found, that the Dani machien found it's way into Campobasso, situated in the Appenin roughly 780 m above the sea.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

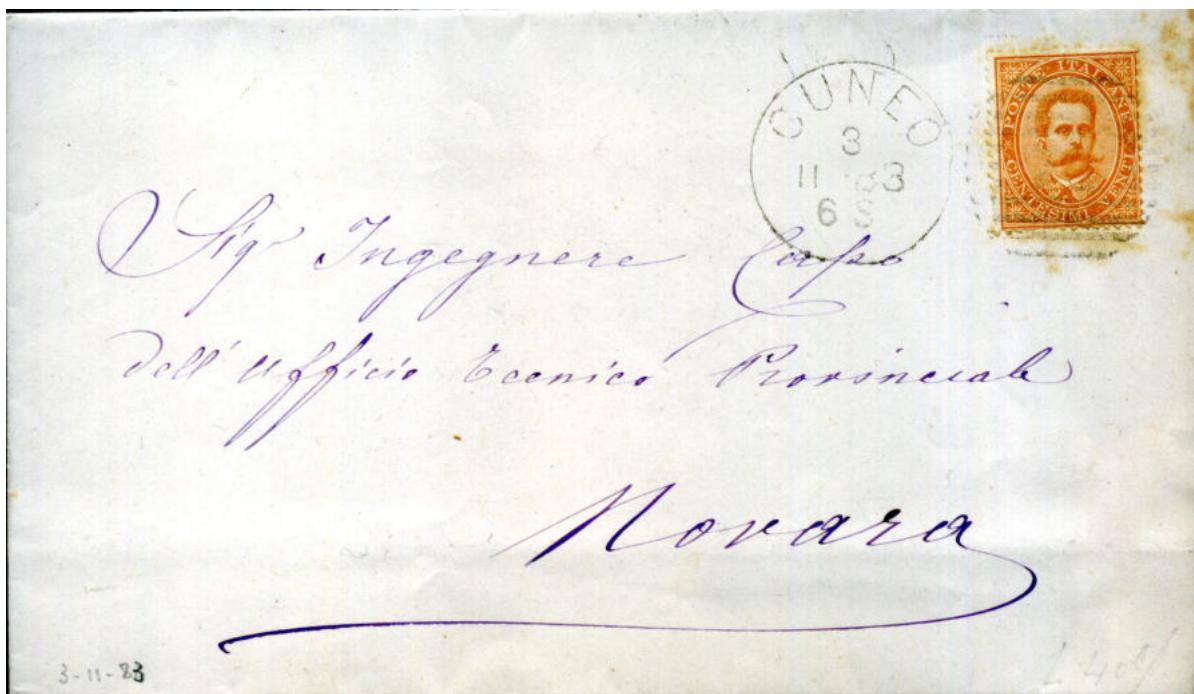
Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Cuneo

Piemont / North West Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Cuneo		3 punti	

Pictured in: Dott. Prof. Angelo Carozzi: Die Nummernstempel des Italienischen Königreiches, Fritz Billig; Wien, 1930



Finally. After twelve years hunting I found this cancel. Carozzi was the first book I got on the numerical cancels, and it pictures Cuneo as the example of the duplex version which were used in "alcune importanti città" (some important cities). Only Carozzi (or possible the publisher Fritz Billig) know, why Cuneo was chosen to depict these "important cities". Nevertheless - I found a copy and can fill one of the gaps, which was left open by the fratelli Ornaghi.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

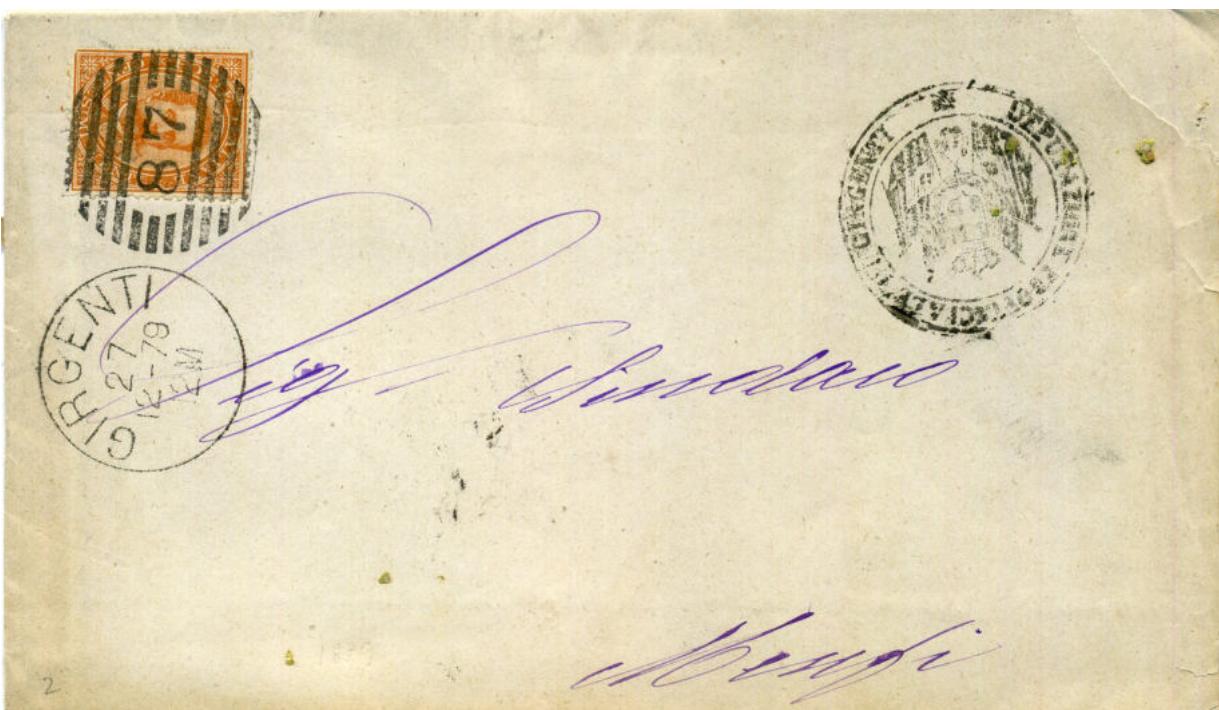
Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Girgenti / Agrigento

South Sicily

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Girgenti		3 punti	

Girgenti was renamed to Agrigento in 1927.



The fratelli Ornaggi did not report this cancel - but as these two letters from 1879 and 1885 indicate, that the machine was used there for a longer period.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Reggio Calabria

Calabria / The "Tip Toe" of Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Reggio Calabro		7 punti	



The usage in Reggio is not reported by the Fratelli Ornaghi but here are shown examples from 1878 and 1890.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Sassari

North Sardinia

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Sassari		3 punti	



One of the mysteries of Italian philately. The existence of this cancel (for 1878) is published by two different regional studies which were published roughly at the time the Fratelli Ornaghi researched and published their work.

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Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Siracusa

Syracuse / East Sicily

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Siracusa		1 punti	

Girgenti was renamed to Agrigento in 1927.



The fratelli Ornaghi did not report this cancel - but as these two letters from 1880 and 1889 indicate, that the machine was used there for a longer period.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Trapani

West Sicily

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Trapani		3 punti	



1881 - 1896: a very interesting triple of covers/cards spanning almost the complete using period of the Dani cancelling machine in Italy. And it seems that Trapani used in 1896 still the same equipment which was delivered in 1877/78. Trapani still is a very small town - which explains that the Fratelli Ornaghi had no mention of this cancel.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Mantova / Mantua

Lombardy / North Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Mantova		2 punti	



The fratelli Ornaghi reports the usage of the Dani machine - for 1911 with two circular date stamps. These two covers fill one gap in that catalogue.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Padova

Veneto / North Italy

Literature	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	PADOVA	1877 - 1891 50 punti	3 punti	
	PADOVA FERROVIA		9 punti	
	PADOVA (JOSC)			0



It is easy to show examples for Padova. I have examples spanning the whole period given by Ornaghi, even can expand it into 1892. But here I show two examples from 1890: At the bottom a letter from the central post office with the number 427. The rarity on this page is the other item: Padova Ferrovia. The post office there was opened on 11. Novembre 1889, six weeks before the abolition of the numerical cancels - explains why manual applied cancel of this post office are rare. As shown above Padova Ferrovia had used the machine at least in Januar 1890. Possible they had borrowed the machine from the central post office, 900 m down the street, possible they had thiere own machine - newertheless: Ferrovia is very scarce, whereas Padova (Centro) is quite common even in 1891 and 1892.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Ancona

Marche / East Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Ancona	1878 - 1885 50 punti	2 punti	
	Ancona Ferrovia		6 punti	



The post office at Ancona station was opened on August 1st, 1886. It obviously used the Dani machine as this stationery shows. Since there is no evidence that Ancona Centro used the machine after 1886 it might be possible that the Dani machine was transferred to the stations office.

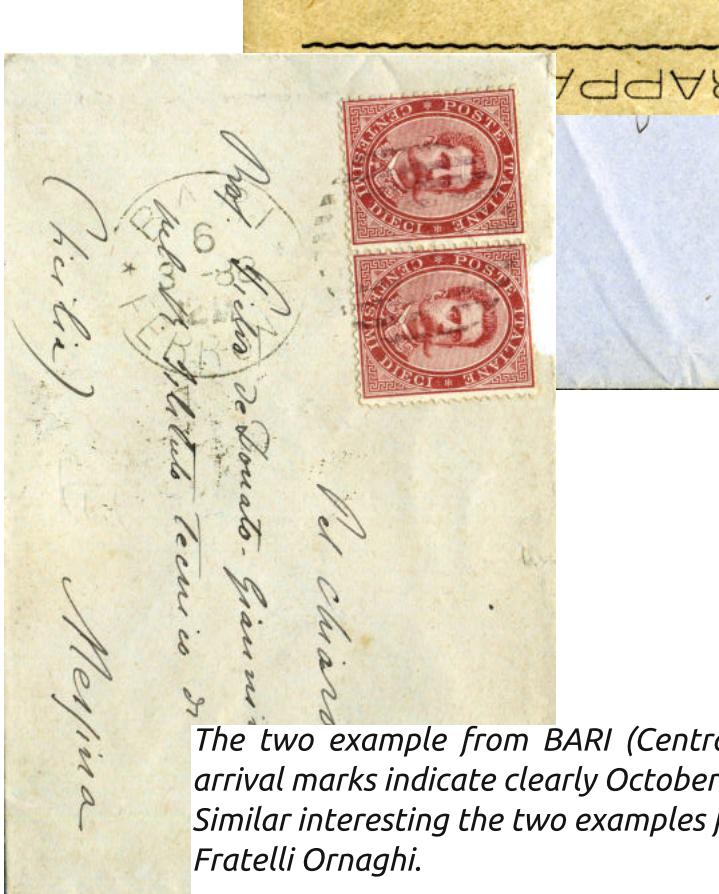
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Bari

Apulia / South Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	BARI	1877 - 1879 50 punti	1 punti	
	BARI FERROVIA		4 punti	



The two examples from BARI (Centrale) both show inverted digits in the cancels: the arrival marks indicate clearly October 78 and September 79.
 Similar interesting the two examples from BARI FERROVIA, an cancel not recorded by the Fratelli Ornaghi.

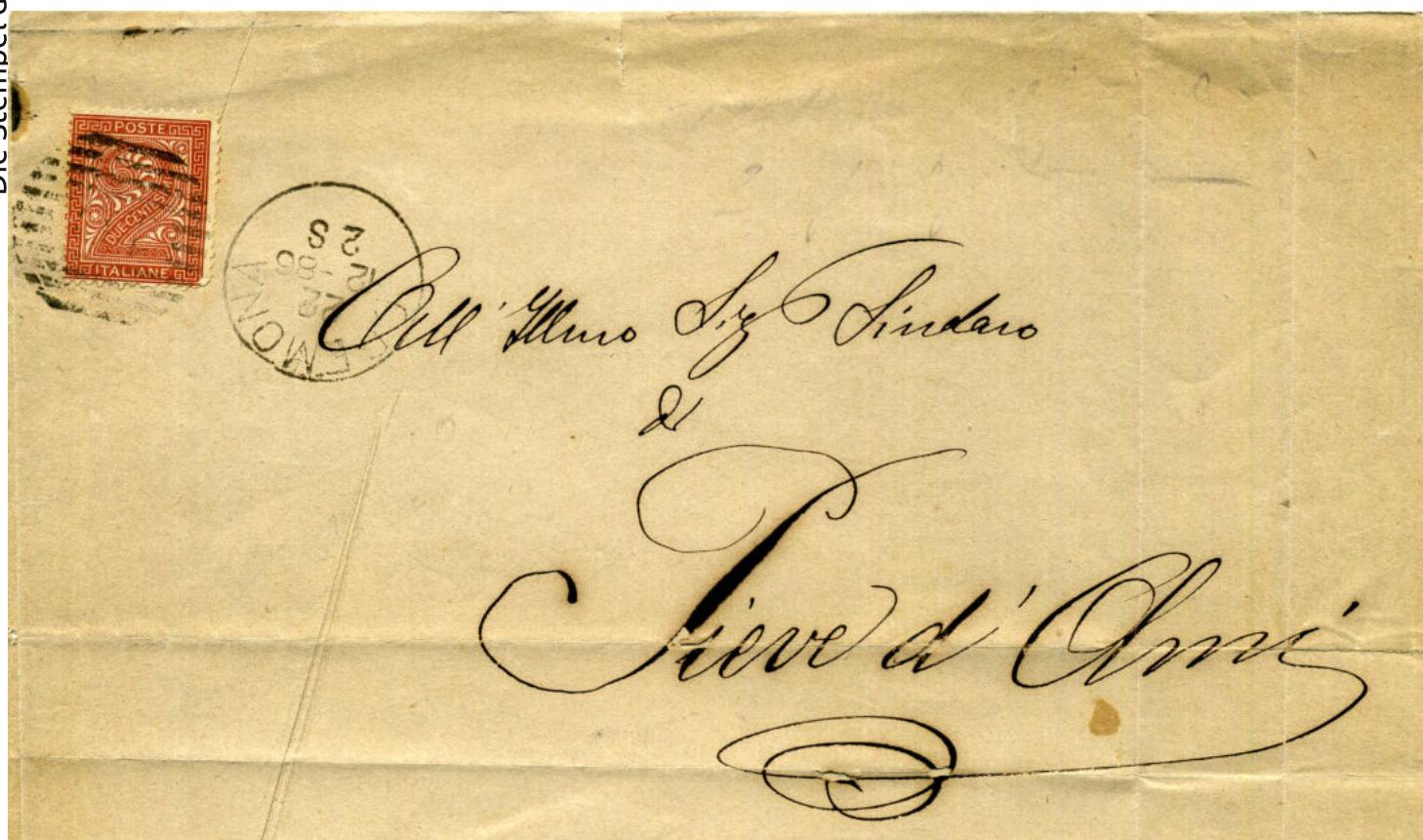
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Cremona

Lombardei

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Cremona	1885 50 punti	3 punti	



A common situation: The fratelli Ornighi report this cancel for 1885, here two covers extending that usage period to 1878 - 1886.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Livorno

(Leghorn) Toscana / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Livorno	1878 - 1890 50 punti	2 punti	
	Livorno (Josz)	1891 - 1900 50 punti		2 punti



Livorno uses the Dani machine during the whole period of the numerical cancels. Lack of maintenance may be the reason that in 1890ff we observe two different "types" of half moons in the date mark.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Novara

Piedmont / Northwest Italy

Literature	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Novara	1879 50 punti	2 punti	
	Novara Ferrovia	1890 50 punti		
	Novara Ferrovia (squared circle combined w. barred numeral)		14.4.1896 R	14.4.1896 R



Letter within Novara, dated Dec 11th, 1878, in tariff with a 5 c De La Rue (most likely Turin printing, but I have not bothered to verify). Ornaghi only listed this cancel for 1879.

Both items on this page extend the dates given in the literature!



1889: Domestic letter addressed for Romagnano Sesia (Novara province). A machine is now located at the stations post office. Vaccari did not list this combination - he only list the 4255 with "FERROVIA (RACCOM)" and for 1896 combined with a squared circle. Ornaghi listed this cancel for 1890.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Siena

Tuscany / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Siena	1881 - 1888 50 punti	1 punto	
	Siena (Josz+Num.)		R	R



Three examples from Siena covering the main period of the bared numerical cancels.

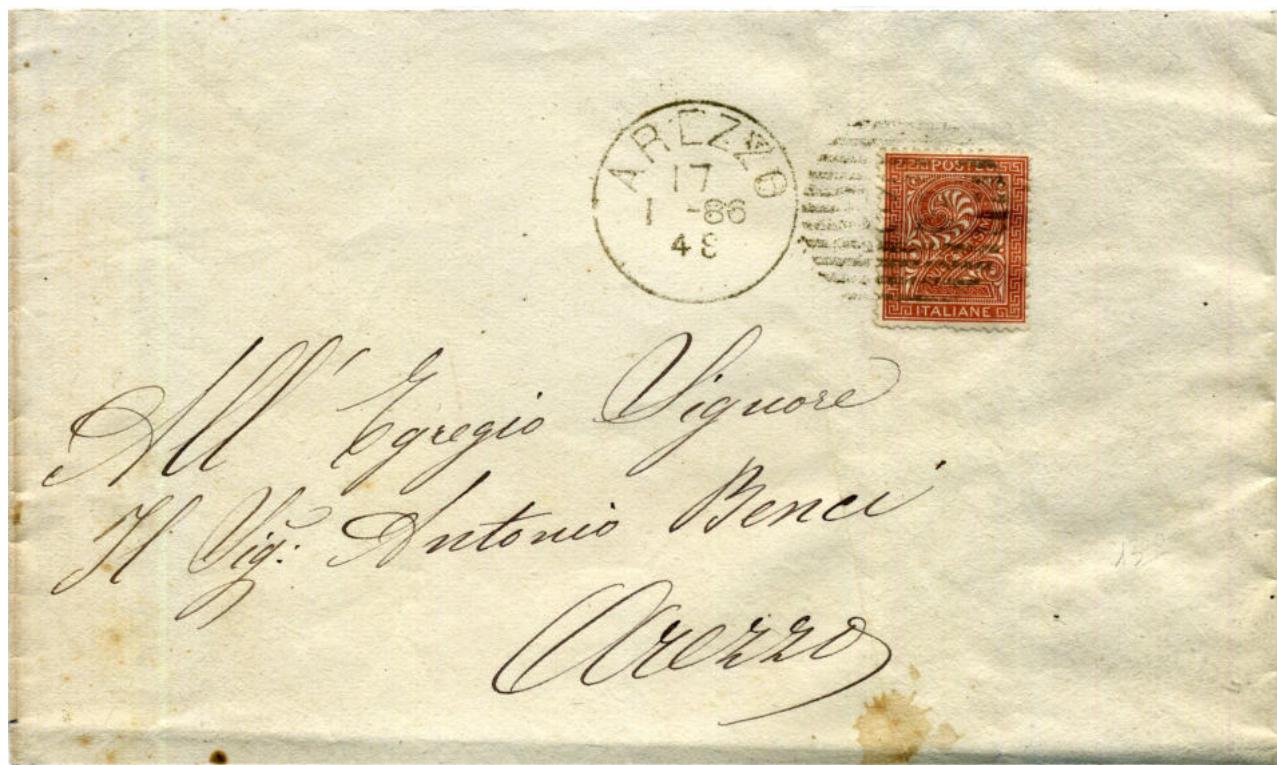
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Arezzo

Tuscany / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Arezzo	1879 - 1885 50 punti	2 punti	



Two printed matters posted in Arezzo.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

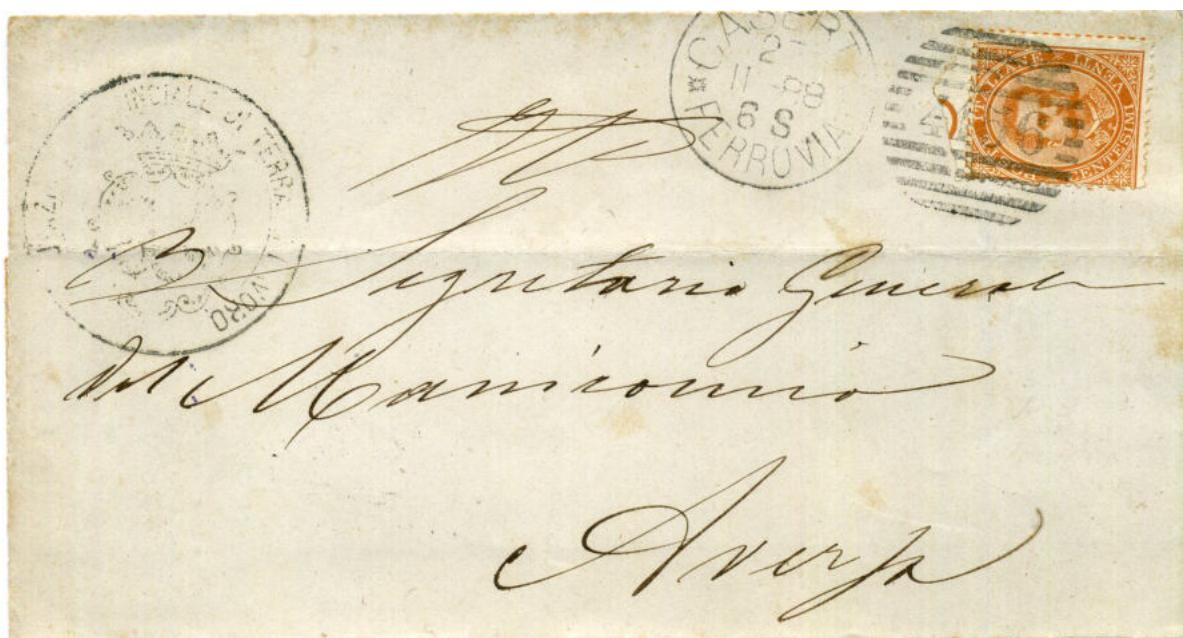
Caserta

Campania / South Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Caserta	1881 - 1883 50 punti	3 punti	
	Caserta Ferrovia		6 punti	



My first letter from Caserta is from 1880, this ist my last for Caserta "Centro" dated September 1886, extending the using periode given in the Ornaghi catalogue.



The post office at Caserta station was open on December 1st, 1886. It obviously used the Dani machine as this cover from 1888 shows. Has this post office got its own machine or was the machine transferred from Caserta Centro? I don't know.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Macerata

Marche / East Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Macerata	1879 - 1887 50 punti	3 punti	
	Macerata (Josz)	1891 - 1900 50 punti	6 punti	4 punti



The upper cover is in the usage period reported by Ornaghi,
 the lower extends the usage period by two years.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Alessandria

Piemont / Northwest Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Alessandria Ferrovia	1881 - 1891 50 punti	3 punti	



Alessandria is situated equidistant to Milan, Turin and Genoa and therefore one of the more relevant railway stations in northwest Italy. So I'm not surprised that the machine in Alessandria was used at the station's post office and not at the cities central post office - so there is no "No 1" cancel from the Dani machine - only the 171 from Alessandria's station office.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Bologna

Emilia / Heart of Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Bologna	1878-1892	3 punti	
	Ferrovia	50 punti		
	Bologna	1891-1900		0 punti
	Ferrovia (Josz)	50 punti		



Letter within Bologna, dated Dec 30th, 1884, in tariff with three copies of the 1 c De La Rue and one 2 c on 2 Lire. Non of the stamps is rare, but it is an unusual combination.



Cover dated May 3rd 1897 addressed for Montegalda, Vicenza Province. Also a unusual, possible a little bit more common, franking.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel
 L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

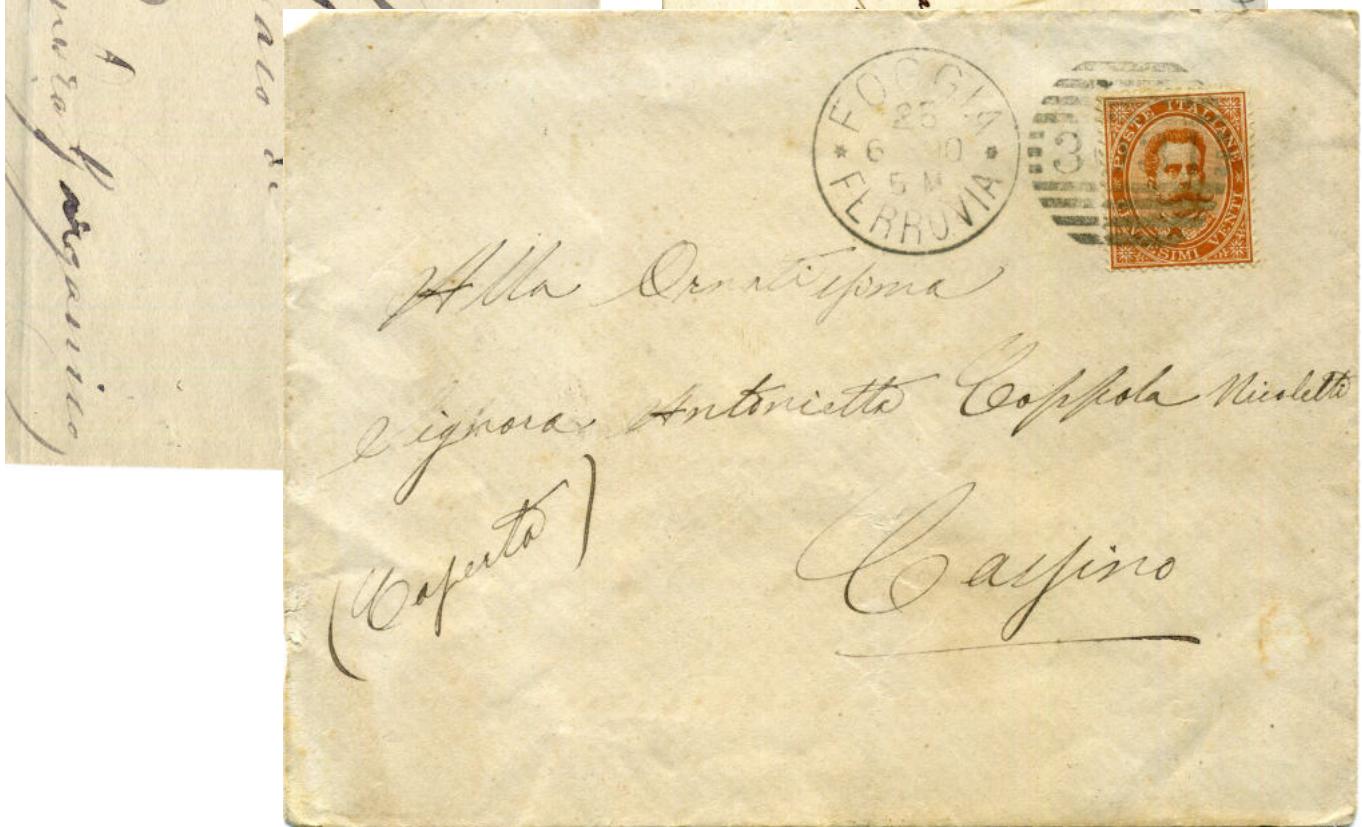
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Foggia

Apulia / South Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Foggia Ferrovia	1883 50 punti	4 punti	



The Fratelli Ornaghi report this cancel only for 1883 - here are shown three covers spanning the years 1877 to 1890. q.e.d.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Catania

East Sicily

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Catania	1889 50 punti	2 punto	
	Catania (Josz)			2 punti



The Fratelli Ornaghi only recoded the usage of the Dani Machine in Catania for 1889. Above example spreading the whole usage period of numerical cancels.

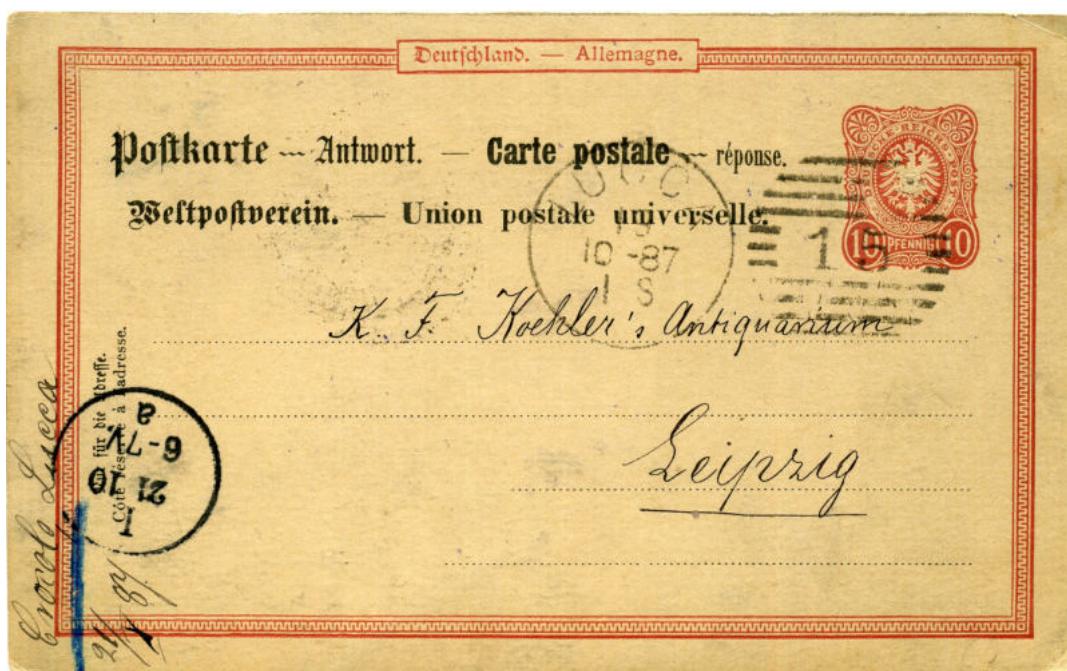
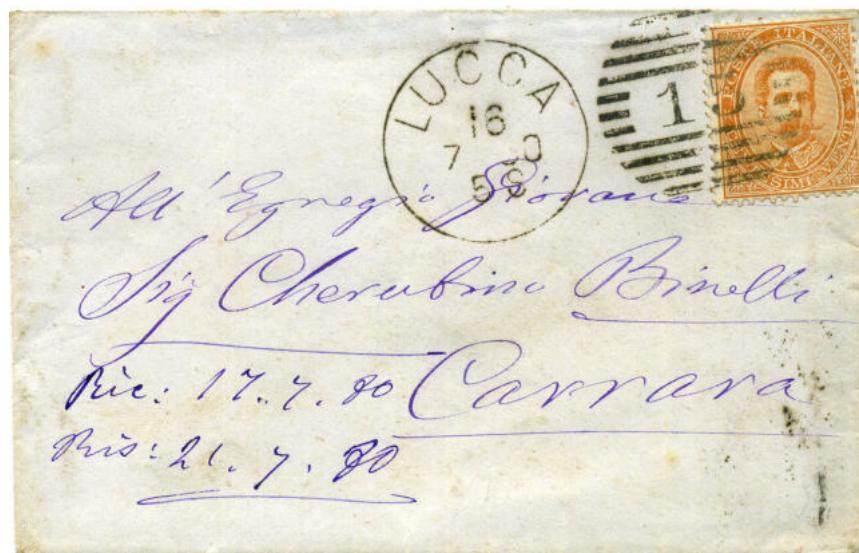
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Lucca

Toscana / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Lucca	1879 50 punti	2 punti	



The Fratelli Ornaghi online give 1879 for the Dani Machine, but can present examples up to 1891. For reasons of variety instead of showing the last example from my collection I chose to show the reply part of a German double postal stationery, which was used according to the rules of U.P.U. without any additional franking on its way (back) to Germany.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Messina

East Sicily

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Messina	1884 50 punti	2 punti	



The fratelli Ornaghi report this cancel only for 1884 - here examples from 1880 and 1886.

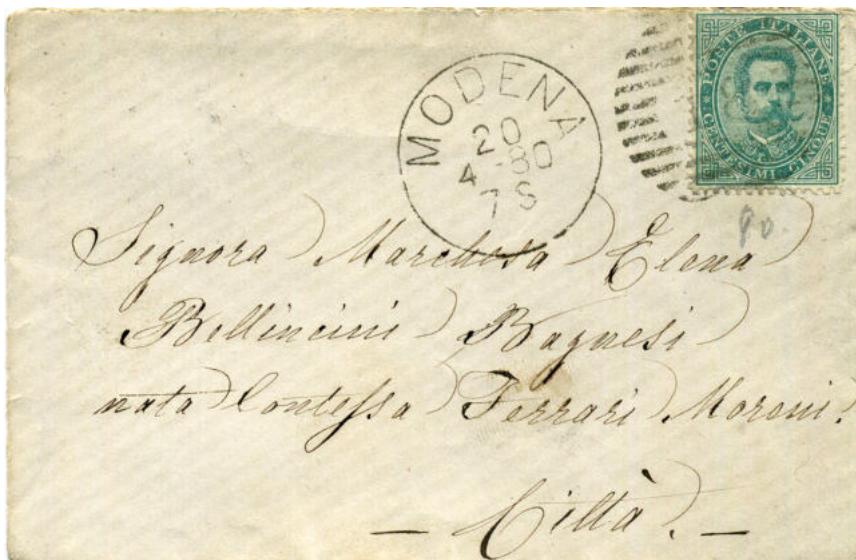
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Modena

Emilia Romagna / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Modena	1889 - 1895 50 punti	2 punti	



Again a post office, which maintained the machine well - the first type still used in 1895, years after the abandoning of the numerical cancels.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Parma

Emilia / Heart of Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Parma	1879 - 1882 50 punti	2 punti	
	Parma (TR+S)		11 punti	



The Ornaghi Brothers list Parma from 1879 to 1882 - examples from my collection span nearly the complete usage period of barred number cancels.

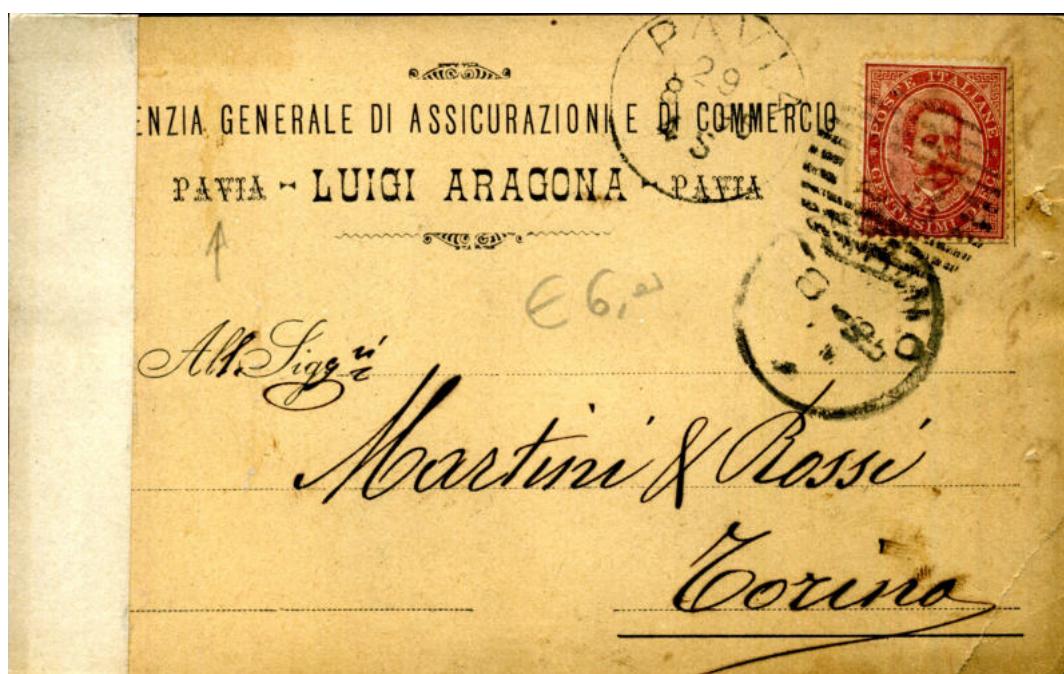
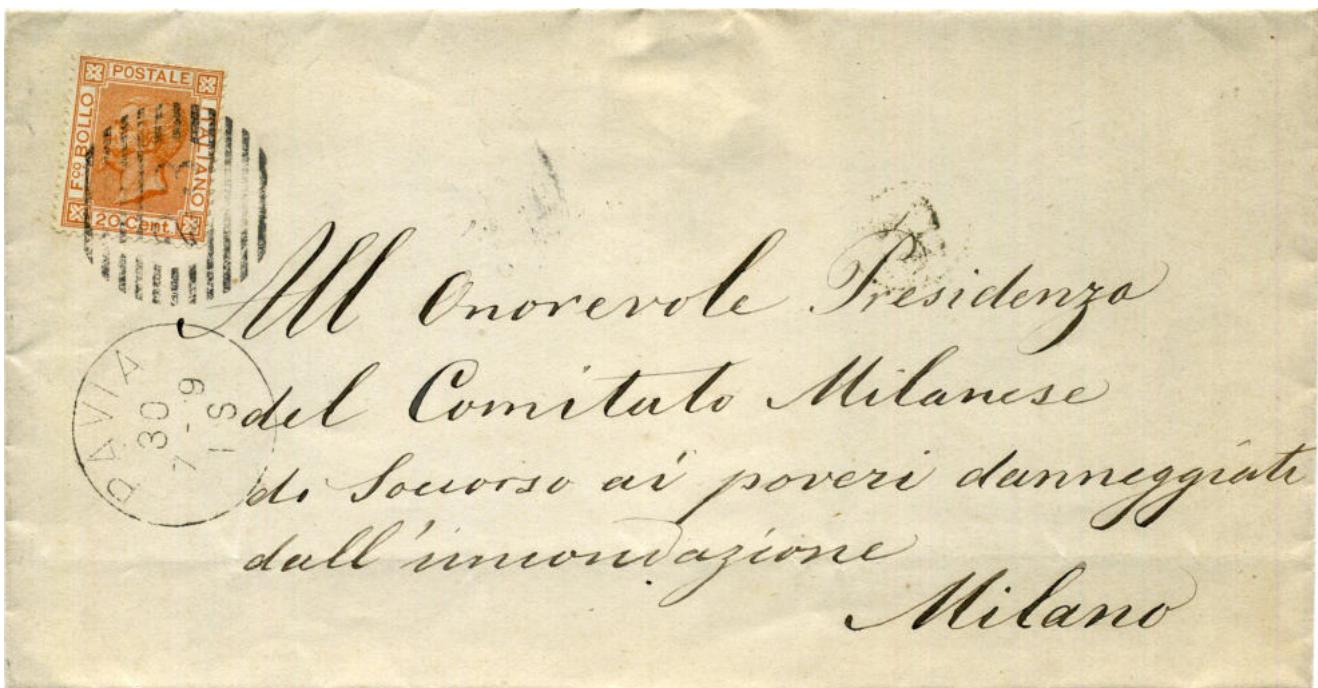
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Pavia

Lombardy / North Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Pavia	1878 - 1895 50 punti	3 punti	
	Pavia (Josz)			4 punti



The Ornaghi Brothers list Pavia from 1878 to 1895 - which I can confirm with examples.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel
 L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

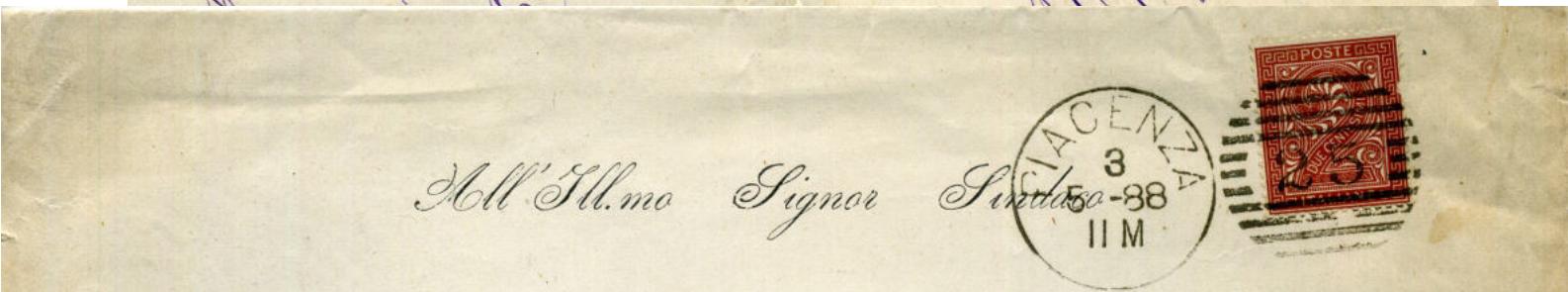
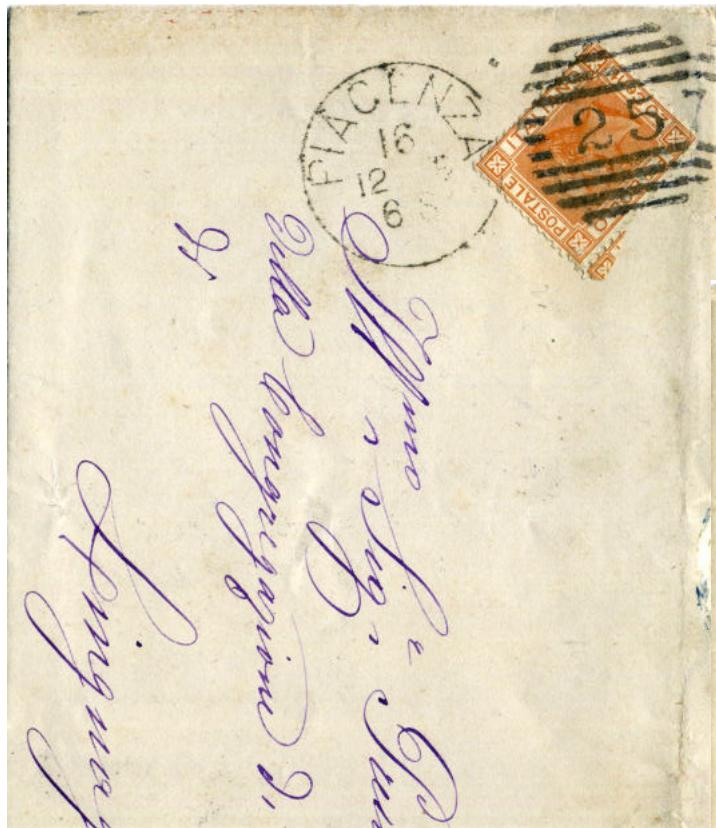
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Piacenza

Emilia / Heart of Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	PIACENZA	1878 - 1890 50 punti	3 punti	
	PIACENZA (Josz)			4 punti



Sigonzone

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Ascoli Piceno

Marche / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Ascoli Piceno	1879 50 punti	3 punti	



Three printed matter items.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Caltanissetta

Central Sicily

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Caltanissetta	1883 - 1887 50 punti	2 punti	



For the central Sicilian Caltanissetta this cover extends the usage period given by thy fratelli Ornaghi by one year.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Catanzaro

Calabria / South Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Catanzaro	1881 50 punti	3 punti	



The Fratelli Ornaghi only recoded the usage of the Dani Machine in Catania for 1881. Above examples spreading the whole usage period of numerical cancels.

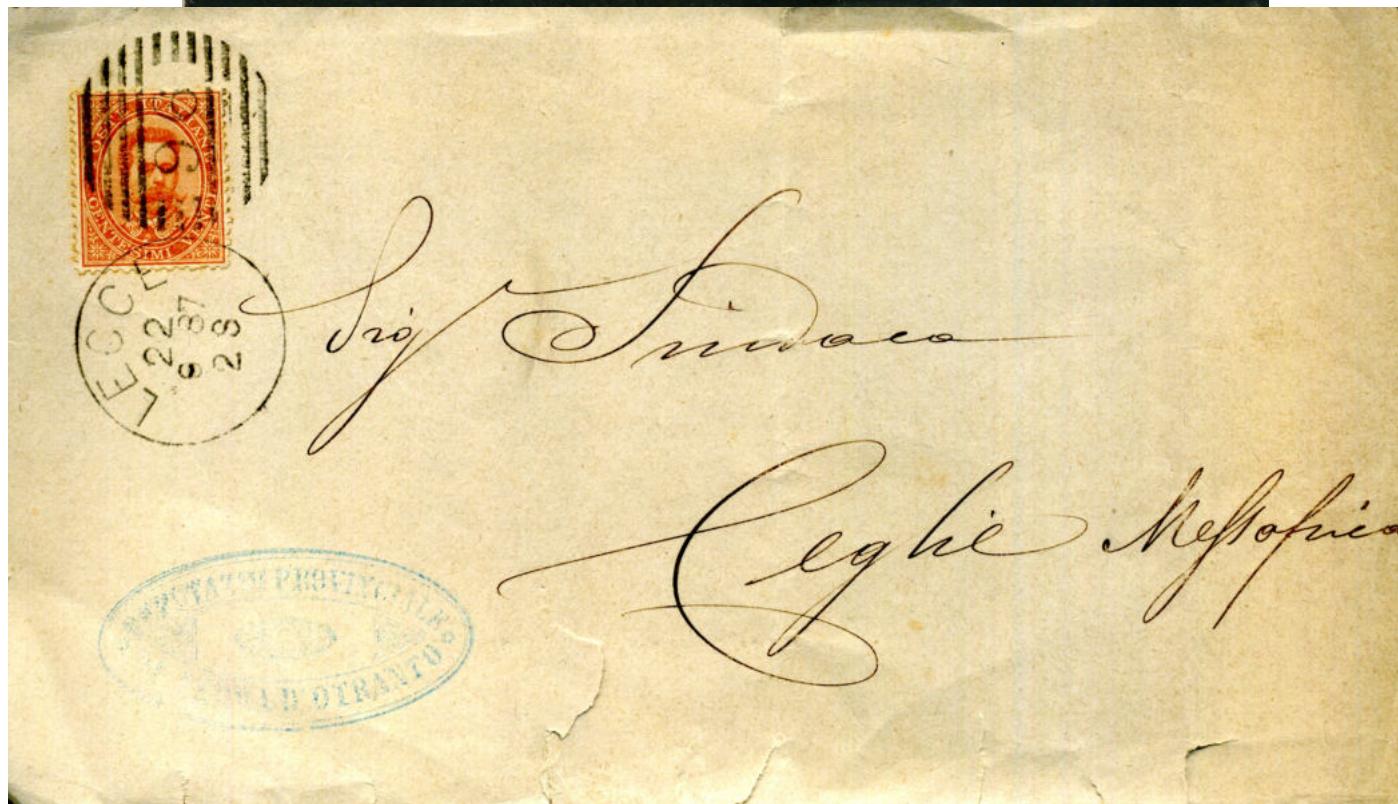
Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Lecce

Apulia / South Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Lecce	1879 - 1880 50 punti	1 punti	



The Ornaghi Brothers list Pavia from 1878 to 1880 - here to two examples expanding the period to the late 1880ties.

Eine Maschine für jede Provinz

Una macchina per tutte le province - Machines for all provinces

Ravenna

Emilia Romagna / Central Italy

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
	Ravenna	1888 - 1890 50 punti	2 punti	



Again a post office, which maintained the machine well - the first type still used in June 1892, two and a half years after the abandoning of the numerical cancels and also after the usage period reported in the Ornaghi catalogue.

Fehler und Abweichungen

Errori e variazioni - Errors and deviations



In Rome somehow the 9 for September got lost and replaced by a little bit larger one ...

At bottom: two "Inverted Jennys" - at the left the numerical cancel is inverted (an error I only recorded once) at the left the month/year line is inverted - this not so obvious error is rare, but not unique.



Die verschiedenen Typen der Nummernzeit

Tipi diversi d' era numerali - Different types during the era of the numerals



During the period of the numerical cancels there are two main types, a earlier, smaller one (26 mm diameter, the letters are 3,5-4 mm high) and a later, larger one (27 mm diameter, 4,5 mm letter high).

The earlier, smaller type was part of the basic equipment delivered with the machine. Some offices - most likely the ones with less mail - used this type until the end. For other offices we observe different texts (with and without stars, brackets) for both main types. For Rome e.g. we have at least 3 variants of the small and 3 variants of the large type.



Top: ROMA FERROVIA (without any other text elements) used in Rome from December 1876 until approx 1878. Left: ROMA * FERROVIA * used since 1879 and right: ROMA (FERROVIA) used since 1880.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Die verschiedenen Typen der Nummernzeit

Tipi diversi d' era numerali - Different types during the era of the numerals



Here three different examples for the larger type: ROMA (FERROVIA) used from 1883 (top), ROMA # FERROVIA # used from 1887 (bottom) and ROMA (FERROVIA) used until January 1890.



Experimentelles Design

Design Sperimentale - Experimental design

Lit.	Office	Ornaghi	Vaccari	Prudenzano
Roma Ferrovia	28.9.-31.10.1888 10000 punti			



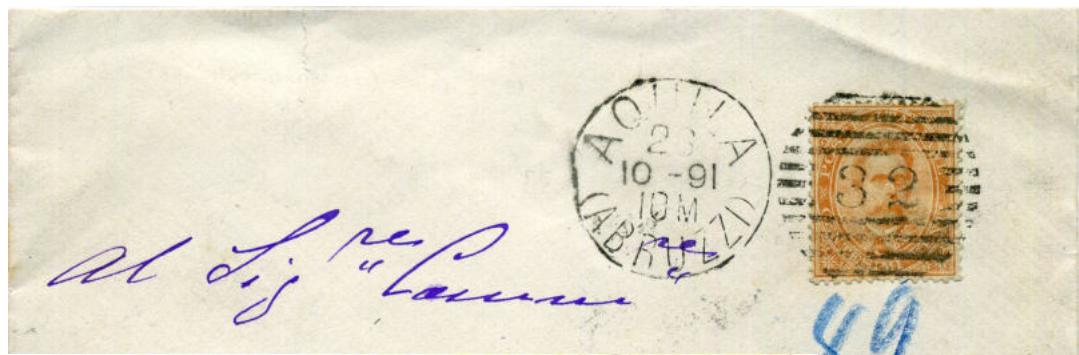
Durin October 1888 at Rome a new design was tested: the number was replaced with the word ROMA. I think it is secure to say, that this replacement has no effect on the amount of mail, which could be cancelled during a given time. I have found no information on the purpose of this experiment - but besides of the Italian Post Office in Montevideo (Uruguay) there is no other post office (in Italy) which has used this design.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Nach der Abschaffung der Nummernstempel

Dopo scadenza di numerali - After the abolition of the number cancels



A selection of different numerical cancels from 1891/1892. Some of these cancels are very worn.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Nach der Abschaffung der Nummernstempel

Dopo scadenza di numerali - After the abolition of the number cancels



And even in 1895, nearly six years after the abolition of the numerical cancels, we still find offices using the classic configuration of the Dani machine. Can there be better proofs that at least some offices saw the machine as a valuable equipment?

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Nach der Abschaffung der Nummernstempel

Dopo scadenza di numerali - After the abolition of the number cancels



In Florence the proceedings after the abolition of the numerical cancels started similar to Genua: usage of the "old" numerical cancel combinations, until they are very worn - and then replace them with new pairs of squared circles.

The usage of different types of date marks during this period indicates as well, as the fact, that the earliest known date of the squared circle pairs is before the last known date of the "classical configuration" that Florence Ferrovia has more than one Dani machine in usage.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annulli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

1996 ff - Ein Sonderweg in Florenz

Eccezione fiorentina - Exceptions at Florence



In 1893/94 we only see pairs of squared circles in Florence. In late 1895 we see again the "classic configuration". In the begining we find it on the commemorative postal stationery for the 25 years of the take over of Rome, whereas commercial covers from that time still show the squared circle pairs. But in 1897/99 we mostly see the classical configuration - with more and more worn post marks, finding the replaced again by pairs of squared circles around the end of the century. In 1900 (and later) we did not find any numerical cancels.

1996 ff - Ein Sonderweg in Florenz

Eccezione fiorentina - Exceptions at Florence



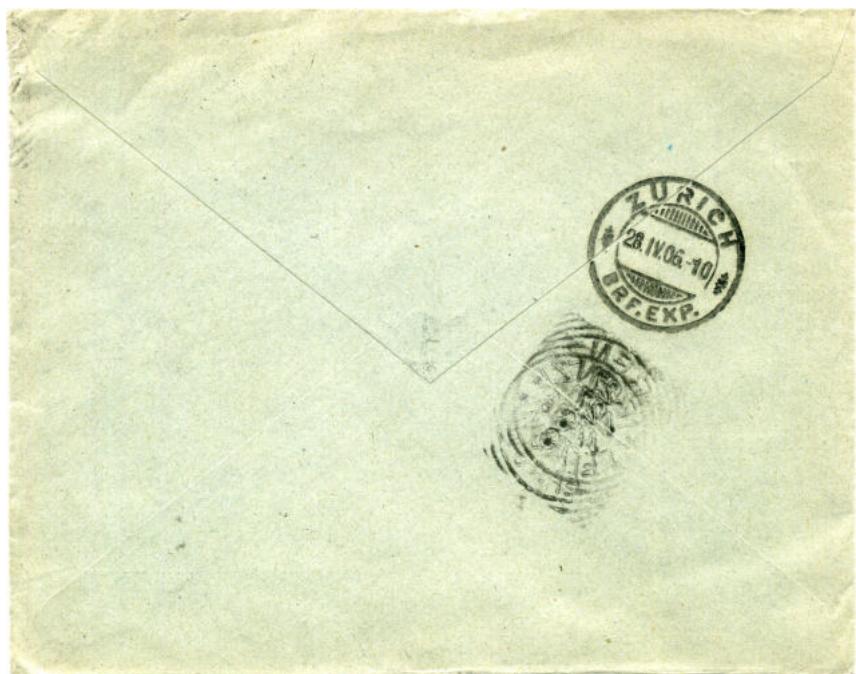
In the early years of the new century we find in Florence a combination of cancels, which are not seen anywhere else: the combination of a Squared Circle with a large circle date stamp. Doubtlessly these are a Duplex cancels - and since the Dani machine is a Duplex device available at that post office, the attribution of these cancels to the Dani machine is logical, nevertheless not done by any of the literature I refer to. These cancels are not mentioned there. According to my observations, these combinations have been used between December 1899 and early 1904 - in three quarters of the cases the Squared Circle is on the right side. The vast majority of Duplex cancels from Florence in this period are simple pairs of Squared Circles, so it can be assumed, that these cancel have been seen by contemporary post men as emergency measure.

1996 ff - Ein Sonderweg in Florenz

Eccezione fiorentina - Exceptions at Florence



One of the last Florence letters I clearly identify as a Dani machine cancels. Here the "stutter" of the cancel let's assume me, that in this period the machine in Florence has an (electric) motor. We knew, that the machine can be either operated manual or by pedal - freeing both hands to the operator. And as we knew from sewing machines - a pedal can be replaced by a electric motor ...



1893 ff - Squared Circles

Tondi Riquadrati - Squared Circles



Some of the machine operators were very skilled in placing the cancel on the stamps - so some mass frankings lead to spectacular cancellations.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

Nach der Abschaffung der Nummernstempel

Dopo scadenza di numerali - After the abolition of the number cancels



Pavia used the smaller type of the date mark as delivered in 1877/78 still in 1895 ...



... whereas other post office - like Siena as shown here - used the newer squared circle together with the old numerical cancel, creating a rare, distinctive and very decorative combination.

1901 - Bickermaschinen für Italien

Macchina Bickerdike a Italia - Bickerdike arrives in Italy



On 29th October 1901 Roma Ferrovia - the post office at the staiton in Rome started to use a Bickerdike machine. The Bickerdike machine was invented and first build in Canada, a little bit after Italy purchased five machines, the patents for Europe were sold to a German company DWMF, which did not maintain the few machines in Europe, which were not purchased by DWMF. This might explain, why Bickerdike cancels are only found for a few years for Italy, whereas in other European countries Bickerdike machines have been used much longer.

Bickerdike machine cancels have a very distinct design which is very similar over all countries, which makes them recognizable even to not cancel collectors.

The first card above is from the second day of the use of Bickerdike machines in Italy, the second two days later. The letter at the bottom shows the first little varieties possible on Bickerdike cancels: the month/year line is palced inverted, so it reads "10 11" instead of "11 01". Arrival mark and content clearly identify the date as "8th November 1901".

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

1901 - Bickermaschinen für Italien

Macchina Bickerdike a Italia - Bickerdike arrives in Italy



N.B. Sull'alto anteriore della presente si scrive soltanto l'indirizzo.

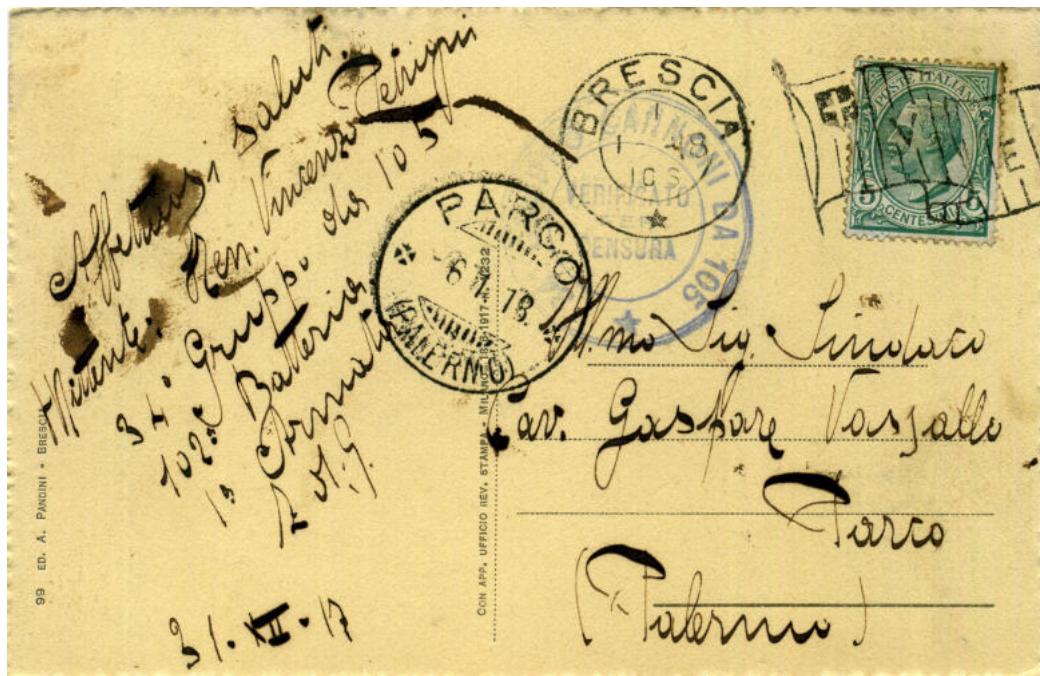
The second Bickerdike machine in Italy began operating in Naples in the last decade of December 1901. The card at the top brings new year wishes from Napoli to Colmar (then German, now French). The clearly readable arrival mark leaves no doubts.

The other three examples show Bickerdike cancels from Genoa, Milan and Turin, all three from the February resp. 1st of March 1902. I have no indication in which order these three machines starts operation - the dates must be in a very narrow period.

1918 - Bickermaschinen in Italien

Macchina Bickerdike a Italia - Bickerdike in Italy

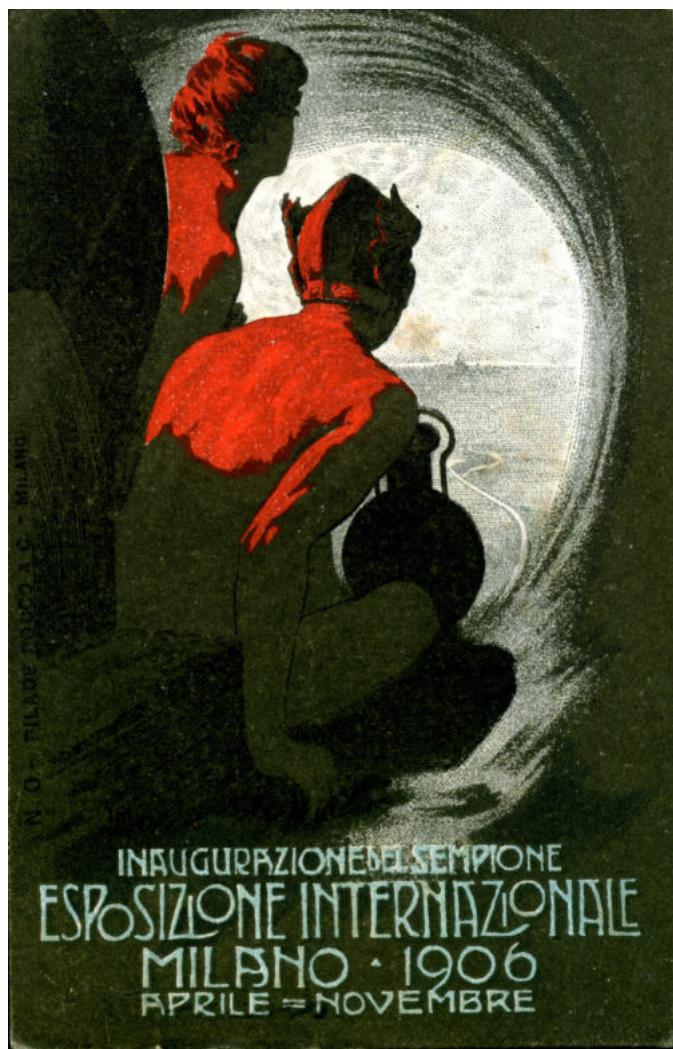
The records of the Reichspost in Berlin and the Bickerdike Papers are clear that Italy got FIVE Bickerdike machine for ROME, Naples, Genua, Milan and Turin. In 1912 a six city got a Bickerdike machine: Brescia. Bickerdike cancels from Brescia are only known in 1912 and 1918 and are very rare.



New Year greetings from an officer send from Brescia (next to Lake Garda) for Parco in the Province of Palermo (Sicily).

EXPO 1906 - Erster Maschinenwerbestempel in Italien

EXPO 1906 - Prima targhetta pubblicità - EXPO 1906 - First Italian Slogan Cancel



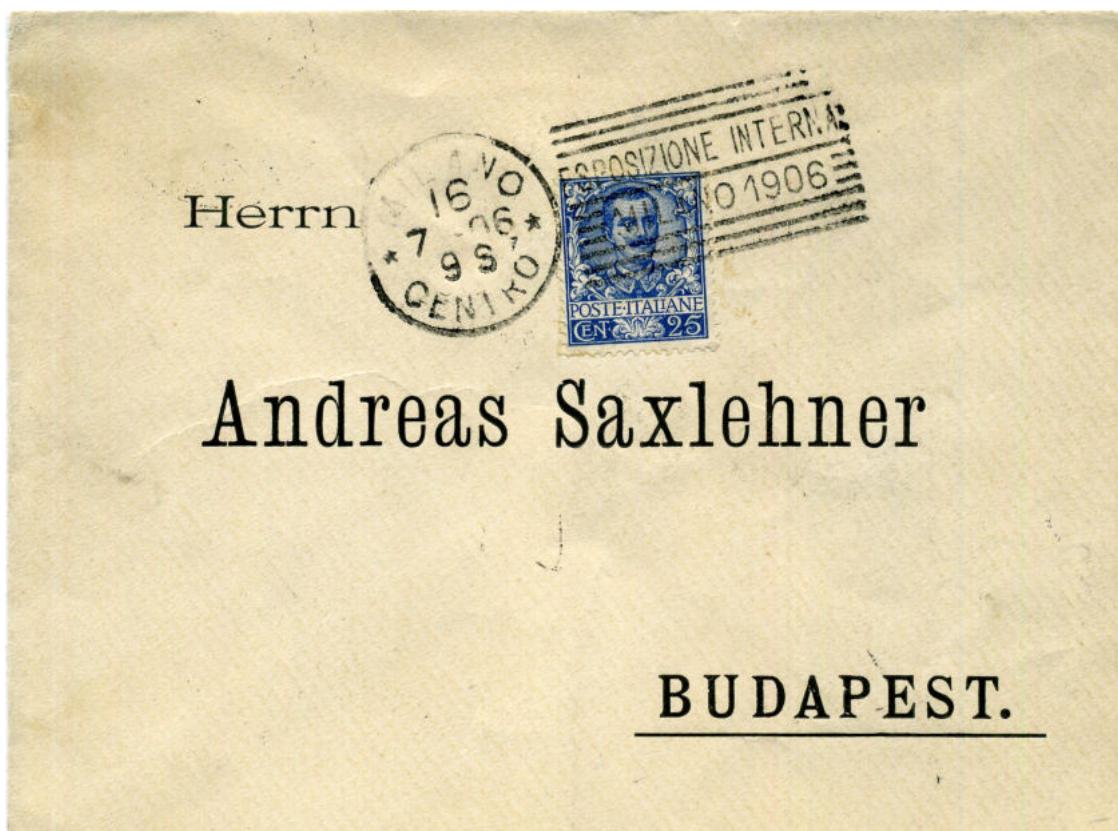
The main theme of International Exhibition 1906 was "Transportation and Trafic", with the inauguration of the Sempione tunnel between Brigg in Switzerland and Domodossola (just a few kilometer North of Milan) in April.

The Italian post has two offices on the Exhibition park. For the Milan Bickerdike a new "flag" was created, the FIRST advertisal slogan cancel used in Italy (and one of the first advertisal machine cancels in the world).



EXPO 1906 - Erster Werbestempel in Italien

EXPO 1906 - Prima targhetta pubblicità - EXPO 1906 - First Italian Slogan Cancel



A abbreviated version of this advertisal cancel was used in a duplex hand "hammer" cancelling device. These were used both at the central post office and at the post office at the station.

These cancels are quite common but could only be confused with the Bickerdike version by an total ignorant.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel
L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

EXPO 1906 - Die Stempel der Ausstellungspostämter

EXPO 1906 - uffici esposizione - EXPO 1906 - Offices at the Exposition



From all we can see nowadays, the International Exposition 1906 must have been a "Mega Event" with tourist from all over the world. Here two post cards posted at the first of the two post offices on the exposition area.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinensstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

EXPO 1906 - Die Stempel der Ausstellungspostämter

EXPO 1906 - uffici esposizione - EXPO 1906 - Offices at the Exposition



... and here two post card with cancels from the second post office on the exhibition area.

1908 - Eine Krag Maschine in Rom

Una machina Krag a Roma - A Krag machine in Rome



November 11th, 1908 is the first day of a Norwegian Krag continuous canceling machine in Italy. The machine head of a continuous canceling machine always circulates in the same direction, which make these machines faster and less complex then regular canceling machines. Since these cancels use large parts of the letters they were quite unpopular with the post users and the stamp collectors.



Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel

L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

1909 - Eine Krag Maschine in Rom

Una machina Krag a Roma - A Krag machine in Rome



Roma Ferrovia - the post office at the station Rome Termini - uses the Krag machine in 1909 on a regular base - or at least more often to speak of experiments.

Very likely the same machine as in November 1908 in Roma Centro - the central post office. Even if it took a few years (and additional experiments) to convince the Italian postal administration to buy additional Krag machines, it looks like, that the operators in Rome were as easily convinced to use this machine, as elsewhere in the world.

Die Stempel der Bollatrice des Enrico Dani – Frühe Italienische Maschinenstempel
L'annuli della bollatrice di Enrico Dani - The cancels of the Bollatrice of Enrico Dani

1911 - Mehrere Krag Maschinen in Rom

Alcune macchine Krag a Roma - Several Krag machines in Rome



In 1911 Roma Ferrovia got a second Krag Machine - this time with typewheels for the date (see top item). But the older type set machine is still in use (middle item). And at the bottom item the date crowns are placed inverted into the machine.

I've chosen these examples to show the first advertising used in an Italian Krag machine. At the same time Roma Ferrovia also used wavy lines in the Krag Machines (it seems, that one day the typewheel got the advertising and the next day the wavy lines.)

Krag Machines were used in all major cities - but mostly for arrival markings.

1910 - Eine IPSC Maschine ("Flyer") in Mailand

Una Flyer a Milano - A International Postal Supply Company machine in Milan



In 1910 Milan got an International Postal Supply Company mail cancelling machine. "Flyer" (sometimes written "Flier") is the famous brand of IPSC. The inventors behind IPSC are Hey and Dolphin. The different machines created by Hey/Dolphin can not be distinguished by the cancels.

Italy obtained a licence to produce Flyer machines - so the Flyer is the most common machine used in Italy in the 1930ties/1970ties.



1976 - Italia 76 - Philatelistische Weltausstellung

esposizione mondiale di filatelia - Philatelic World Exhibition

italia 76

esposizione mondiale di filatelia



serie celebrativa - stampa monocroma eseguita presso
l'Istituto poligrafico dello stato - officina carte valori - roma

n. 01.217



In October 1976 Milan host the Italia 76, the first FIP recognized World Stamp Exhibition in Italy. The 200 Lire value of the 5 values series issued at October 14th, 1976 by the Italian post for this event shows the "bollatrice a mano" made in the Officine Enrico Dani in Firenze. So there was at least a small celebration of the 100th anniversary of the FIRST mail canceling machine constructed in Italy.

This monochromatic print was part of the catalogue of the show. Its printed on thicker paper, and the stamps are unguammed. It is not clear if they were valid as postage, but used copies - especially on registered letters with first day cancelations from the exhibition - exists.