

# *Tuscany 1850-1863*

*Outgoing and Incoming Correspondence, Routes, Rates Charges in different  
Philatelic periods of Tuscany and Abroad.*



This collection present the letter mail **from and to the Tuscany**, in the middle of Italy, **during the Italian Risorgimento**. When on **April 1<sup>st</sup> 1851 the first postage stamps were issued, representing the Marzocco**, Tuscany was a Grand Duchy, with 1,750,000 inhabitants and **Florence** as a capital city. His monetary system was based on non-decimal currency that means the Tuscan lira was divided into 12 crazie or 20 soldi or 60 quattrini.

**On April 27<sup>th</sup> 1859**, before the outbreak of the Second Italian War of Independence, the **Grand Duke abandoned Florence** and a **Provisional Government** was established that brought along the dictatorship of Victor Emanuel II, King of Sardinia. **On January 1<sup>st</sup> 1860 the new postage stamps in Italian cents** were introduced whereas the Marzocco was replaced with the royal Savoy coat of arms. **From January 1<sup>st</sup> 1861 the distribution of the Sardinian postage stamps occurred and from January 1<sup>st</sup> 1863** the regulations of the Kingdom of Italy were introduced also in Tuscany.

I aim showing **the domestic Mail** of the Grand Duchy as well as **the Correspondence between the other Old Italian and the Foreign States**, including also the **Overseas States**.

This collection covers different historical and postal periods, the routes, the rates, the charges and it shows many annotations due to specific postal conventions which at that time ruled the relationships between the various postal administrations.

# Plan of exhibit

TITEL AND CONTENT

The collection is divided into the various parts according to the various ways of spedition, the outgoing and incoming letters, place of origin and different mail periods, giving the indication about the mediations and rates and charges.

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# Domestic Mail


From April 1<sup>st</sup> 1851 to June 30<sup>th</sup>1857

**Postal convention between Tuscany and Austria**

In late 1849, early 1850, as Vienna gradually recovered from the shocking developments in Italy, Austria launched an Austro-German Postal Union which included the whole Empire. By spring 1850 the southern counterpart the Austro-Italian Postal Union, was offered to the rather unenthusiastic Italian States. The Austro-Italian Postal Union finally took off in late 1850 with Tuscany affiliation. On April 1<sup>st</sup> 1851, when the first postage stamps were issued, the domestic tariffs used since July 1<sup>st</sup> 1835 continued to be valid and they remained so until 30 June 1857.



**April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851. From Florence to Lucca**, single-rate unpaid letter in the first day of introduction of the postage stamps in the Grand Duchy in Tuscany. **2 crazie** was **charged on delivery**.



**The Domestic Rates of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany**

The currency in circulation was the *Tuscan lira* (0,84 *Italian lira*) **divided into 12 crazie or 20 soldi**. **One soldo** was divided into **3 quattrini**.


**From April 1<sup>st</sup> 1851**, when the postage stamps were issued until June 30<sup>th</sup> 1857 the conditions were:

**2 crazie up to 6 “denari”** of weight (7,1 grams);  
**3 crazie** up to 12 “denari” (14,2 grams);  
**5 crazie** up to 18 “denari” (21,3 grams);  
**8 crazie** up to 24 “denari” (28,3 grams or 1 ounce).

**August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Lastra a Signa to Pisa**. Single-rate letter franked with **2 crazie** with three stamps of 1 *soldo* and one of 1 *quattrino*. **(e)**

**Double-rate**

Double-rate letter had a weight from 6 up to less than 12 “denari” and the **rate of 3 crazie**.



**February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Pisa to Massa Marittima**. **Double-rate** letter franked with **3 crazie** with **five postage stamps of 1 soldo** of the first issue ( 3 *crazie* correspond to 15 *quattrini* or 5 *soldi*). **(e)**









September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Castiglione della Pescaia to Florence. “PER CONSEGNA” registered single-rate letter, franked 10 *crazie* (2 *crazie* for the letter and 8 *crazie* for registration). (e)

Official correspondence

Registered Mail  
“Per Consegna”

with postal franchise  
and the money transfer,  
paid in cash.

Letters containing  
money

November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1852. From Arezzo to Reggello. Official correspondence “PER CONSEGNA” registered “con £. 3.7”. The letter for “*affari civili*” and “*ex officio*” was franked with 1 *crazia* for the special half rate. In this case the rate for registration was with postal franchise, while the rate of “with 3 Tuscan lire and 7 soldi” was paid in cash, without applying any postage stamps, but handwritten on the appropriate register. The “P.D.” handstamp and a St. Andrew’s cross to confirm that it was prepaid up to destination. One of two known letters with a “Per consegna” handstamp, franked with 1 *crazia*. (e)





January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Castiglione della Pescaja to Leghorn. “PER CONSEGNA” registered double-rate letter (11 *crazie*), extra franked up to destination with 12 *crazie* (3 *crazie* for the letter and 8 for the registration).  
The only one known letter with a “nine-circles cancellation” handstamp of Castiglione della Pescaja. (e)

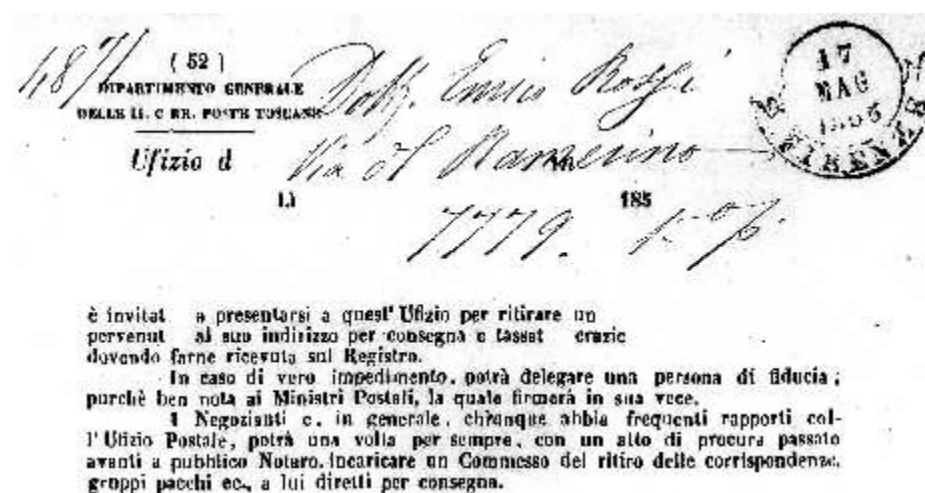


August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Modigliana to Florence. “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter of “1/2” ounce franked 13 *crazie* (5 *crazie* for the letter and 8 *crazie* for the registration). (e)





May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Foiano to Florence. “PER CONSEGNA” registered fourth-rate letter, (from 18 to less than 24 *denari*) franked 16 *crazie* (8 *crazie* for the letter and 8 *crazie* for the registration). (e)



May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1855. The post office of Florence message: to go and collect the registered mail n. 7779. showed above.



From July 1<sup>st</sup> 1857 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 1859

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1857 the weight of the single letter was elevated to 12 *denari* and to 1 ounce for printed matter and samples.

“Per Consegna” registered: 4 *crazie* fixed rate added to the rate of letter.



November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Bagni di S. Giuliano to Leghorn. Single-rate letter (of weight less than 12 *denari*) prepaid 2 *crazie* with seven postage stamps from 1 *quattrino* of the first issue and 1 *soldo* of the second issue. The only one known. (e)



September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858. From Scarperia to Siena. Single-rate letter franked 2 *crazie* with three postage stamps of 1 *soldo* and one stamp of 1 *quattrino* of the second issue. (e)  
One of the three known letters.



March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1858. From Siena to S. Quirico. Love letter (valentina), franked 2 *crazie*. (e)



March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859. From Dicomano to Capannone (Borgo a Buggiano). Tenth-rate letter, franked 20 *crazie*.  
The highest franking of the 2 *crazie* of the second issue. (e)



At the end of April 1859 the Grand Duchy changed into the **Provisional Government (April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859 / May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1859)** after that it become the **Government of Tuscany (May 11<sup>st</sup>, 1859 / March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1861)**. In this period **the postal stamps and rates of the past Grand Duchy remained in effect.**



**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn for the same city. Printed matter franked with a pair of “1 quattrino”. The last known date not charged of the Ducal postage stamps.** *One of the two known printed matter sent on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860.* (e)

**From January 1<sup>st</sup> 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862**

**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860** the Government of Tuscany assimilated the postal legislation of the Kingdom of Sardinia. **The weight was stated in grams and the currency in cents of *lira*.**

**New postage stamps were issued** and the Tuscan “Marzocco” was replaced with the Savoy coat of arms.

The ex-Grand Duchy of Tuscany benefitted a reduced inside **rate of 10 *Icent*** for each 10 grams.



**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1860. The day of plebiscite of annexation to the Kingdom of Sardinia. From Sorano to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked 10 *cents* with a block of ten “1 centesimo” postage stamps.** *The biggest known number on the letter.* (e)



**Registered mail  
(Per Consegna)**

**25 *Icent*** fixed rate  
added to the rate of  
the letter.



**January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Massa Marittima to Leghorn. “PER CONSEGNA” registered mail weighing up to 10 grams franked 35 *Icent*** (10 for the letter and 25 for the registration). (e)

**The Sardinian  
postage stamps  
in Tuscany**

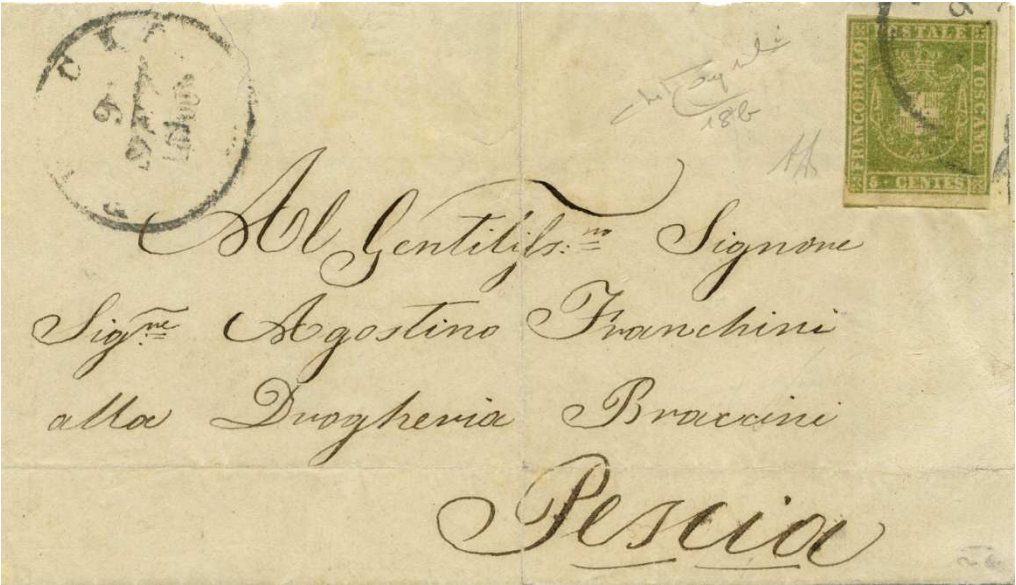
were introduced on  
**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861**  
and they were valid in  
the same way as the  
ones of the Tuscany  
Government.



**April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Poppi to Montepulciano. “PER CONSEGNA” registered mail weighing up to 30 grams franked with 55 *Icent*** (30 for the letter and 25 for the registration ).

**Local letters**

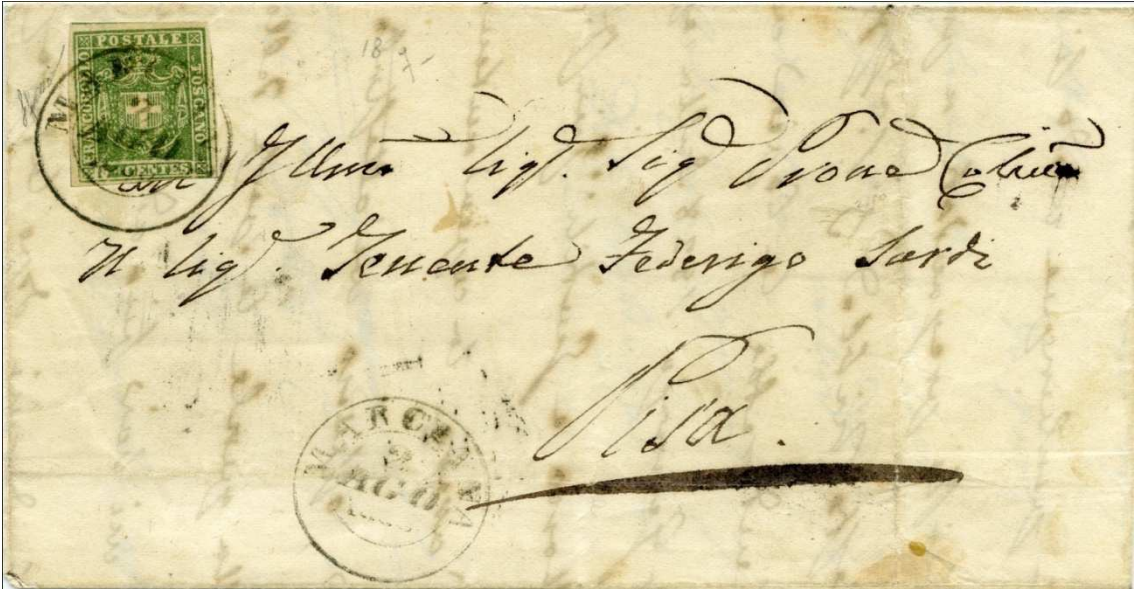
The local letters paid the **half rate of an ordinary letter**).



September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Pescia to the same city, with the reduced rate of **5 Icent** for the local letter. (e)

**Letters sent to soldiers**

and low officers were paid **half rate**, but just for a single-rate letter; if they were second or more rate they were paid the whole rate.



August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1860. From Marciana to Pisa. Single-rate letter, franked with **5 Icent**, despite it was direct to a “Tenente”. Only one known letter. (e)



Letter mail to and from **Old Italian States**

To the **Kingdom of Sardinia**

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852

**Overland mail with rate paid up to the Tuscan-Sardinian border**

Until July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852 the route of the letters sent overland to the Kingdom of Sardinia was the “**VIA DI SARZANA**”.

The letters could be paid up to the Tuscan-Sardinian border and then they were charged on destination in *decimi* of Italian *lira*.

**Rate:**  
single-rate letter with a weight less than a 6 *denari*: **3 *crazie***.



**October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Leghorn to Genoa.** Single-rate letter **Via di Sarzana** franked up to border with **3 *crazie*** and charged “**2**” *decimi* (20 *Icent*) in Sardinia. The “**P.D.**” handstamp applied by mistake was cancelled by the same “spider’s web” annulling handstamp.

From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

**Overland mail paid up to destination**

The new **Convention** between the Kingdom of Sardinia and the Grand Duchy of Tuscany **effective from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852**, allowed the exchange of mail up to destination between both states.

**Rates:**  
single-rate letter with a weight less than 6 *denari* (7,1 gr.): **6 *crazie*** with a progression of 6 *crazie* for each 6 *denari*.



**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1857. From Seravezza to Pesaj (High Savoy).** Single-rate letter sent “overland” franked with **6 *crazie***. There are “**P.D.**” and “**Via di Sarzana**” handstamps as well as a **diagonal line**.



Overseas mail  
paid up to destination

Rate:  
a single-rate letter sent  
overseas: 7 *crazie*.

The “*Da Livorno VIA  
DI MARE*” handstamp  
was applied in Genoa.



July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Bagno d’Acqui “Via di mare” to Genoa franked with 7 *crazie*. P.D. handstamp of Bagno d’Acqui and “*Da Livorno VIA DI MARE*” of Genoa. (e)



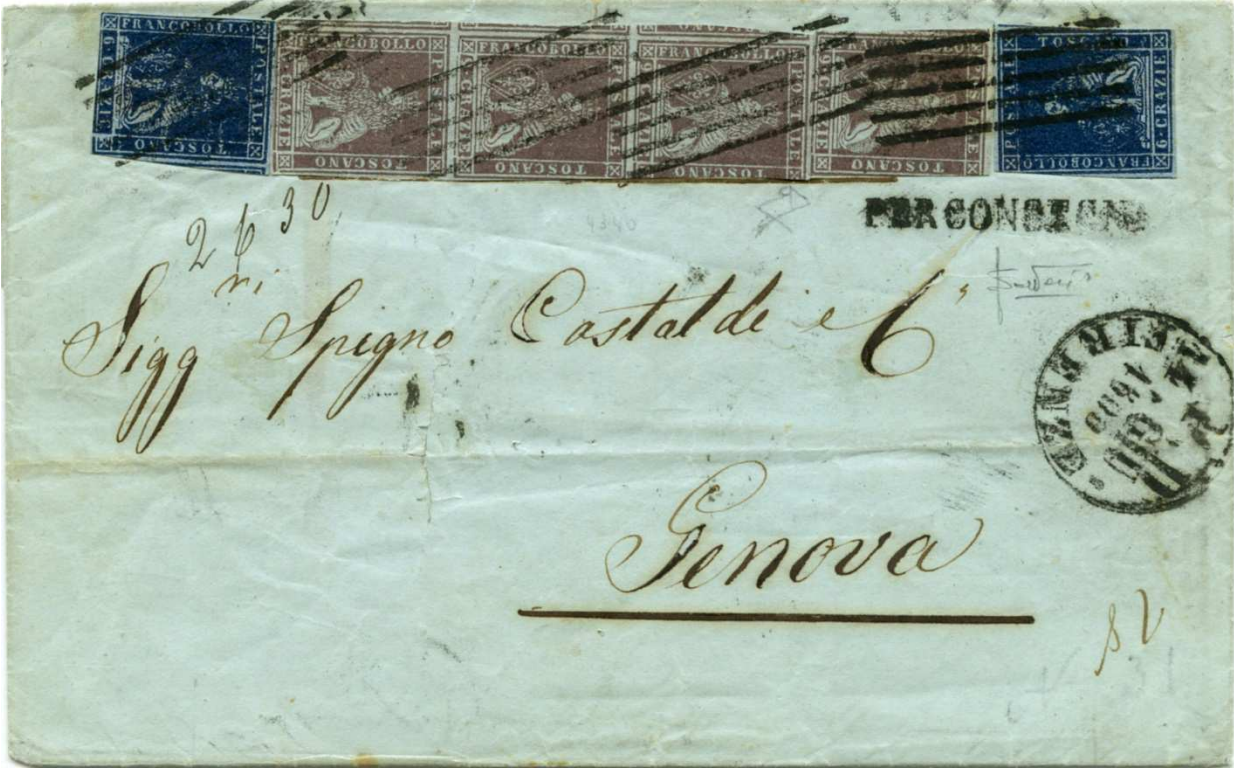
April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Leghorn “*Col Vapore Via di Genova che DA*” (“Dio assista”-“God’s help”) to Turin. Double-rate letter sent “overseas” franked with 14 *crazie*. “P.D.” of Livorno and “*Da Livorno VIA DI MARE*” handstamp of Genoa.



“Per consegna”  
(Registered mail)

Overland

From August 1<sup>st</sup>,  
1852 a registered  
mail to Sardinia  
paid twice of an  
ordinary letter.



June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Florence to Genoa. “PER CONSEGNA” registered fourth-rate letter franked up to destination with 48 crazie (24 for the letter and 24 for the registration). The “P.D.” is in Florence handstamp. (e)

“Per consegna”  
(Registered mail)

Overseas

The rate of overseas was 7 crazie,  
doubled for registration.



January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From La Rotta to Genoa. “PER CONSEGNA” Registered single-rate letter franked up to destination with 14 crazie (7 crazie doubled for registration). “P.D.” handstamp. (e)



“Per consegna”  
(Registered mail)

Overseas but  
prepaid  
only by overland



December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1855. From Leghorn. "Per Consegna Col Vapore Postale Francese Vaticano" to Genoa. “PER CONSEGNA” registered fourth-rate letter franked up to destination with 60 *crazie* (30 *crazie* doubled for the registration). Despite the indications, the letter paid the overland rate, it was carried overseas and it was not charged any more. (e)

Printed matter

to the Kingdom of  
Sardinia had to be paid  
up to destination in  
advance.

Rate:  
1 *crazia* for each 45  
grams of weight.



September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855. From Florence to Turin. Printed matter franked up to destination with one postage stamp of 1 *crazia*. The only one known.



June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

Last day of the Sardinian - Grand Duchy post convention of June 28<sup>th</sup> 1852.



June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn “*Col Vapore*” to Genoa, franked with 7 *crazie*. “P.D.” handstamp of Leghorn and “*Da Livorno VIA DI MARE*” of Genoa. (e)

From June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859 to October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

The rates of the new postal convention entered into force:

Overland, 3 *crazie*

Overseas 4 *crazie*

for each 6 *denari*.



October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn, “*col Vap. Post. Franc.*” to Genoa. Letter of weight “x 11” Sardinian rates (each 7,5 grams), or rather 12 Tuscan rates (each 7,1 grams) franked with 48 *crazie*. “P.D.” and “*Dopo la Partenza*” of Leghorn. “*Da Livorno VIA DI MARE*” of Genoa. (e)



From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail

Sardinian rates

Registered mail, according to the Sardinian rates, were paid a fixed right of 40 *Icent*, in addition to the ordinary letters rate.



February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Florence “*Per Consegna*” to Genoa, registered three-rate letter franked with 100 *Icent* (60 for the letter, 40 for the registration). The “PER CONSEGNA” handstamps to cancel the stamps. (e)

“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail

The Italian law of the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1862 established the introduction of a “ASSICURATA” postage stamp (Registered mail).

Letters “Per Consegna” in additional to ordinary rate paid 25 *Icent* for registration.



November 18<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Leghorn “*Per Consegna*” to Genoa, registered double-rate letter of “G 16”, franked with 65 cents (40 for the letter, 25 for the registration). The “ASSICURATA” is the new from Sardinia handstamp for registered letter used in Leghorn.



From the **Kingdom of Sardinia**

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852

Before the direct convention between the Kingdom of Sardinia and the Grand Duchy of Tuscany effective from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 it was possible to pay **up to Sardinian border with 20 Icent**.  
On the Sardinian-Tuscan border the inner Tuscany rate was **charged** with **6 crazie**.



November 9<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Torre Luserna to Florence. Single-rate letter, franked with 20 Icent up to Sardinian border. In Florence the addressee paid 6 crazie. (e)

From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

Thanks the Convention, effective from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852, letters could be sent “**prepaid up to destination**” paying one rate of **40 Icent** for each 7,5 grams of weight.



July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Genoa to “Florence – Toscane”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 40 Icent. “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line to confirm it. (e)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

ASSICURATO

From November 1<sup>st</sup> 1859, with the extension of Sardinian Rates to Tuscany, the **Registered mail** (ASSICURATO according to the old Sardinian terminology) in addition to the letter rate had to pay a **fixed right of 40 Icent**.



**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1860. From Turin to Florence. Registered** single-rate letter franked with **60 Icent** (20 for the letter and 40 for registration). “ASSICURATO” and also “Dopo la Partenza” handstamps. (e)



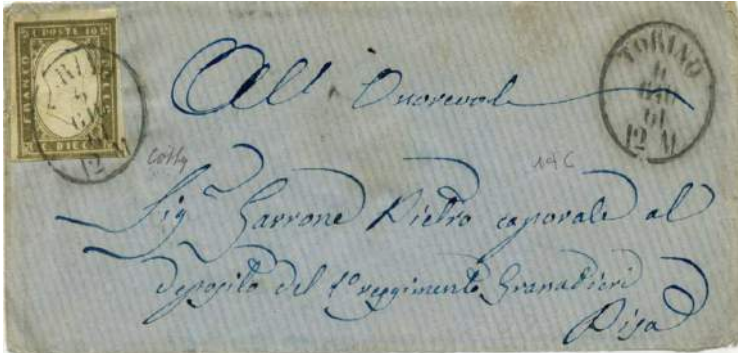
RACCOMANDATO

The handstamp “ASSICURATO” is replaced by the handstamp “RACCOMANDATO”.

**June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1863. From Monte S. Savino to Florence. Registered** single-rate letter franked with **60 Icent** (20 for the rate and 40 for registration). There is a registration number, and “RACCOMANDATO” handstamp. (e)

Letters to the soldiers

Enjoyed of the special reduced rate of **10 Icent** up to the weight of 7,5 grams.



**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Turin “al caporale al deposito del 1° reggimento Granatieri” to Pisa** franked with a **10 Icent** Sardinian postage stamp according to the **special rate for the soldiers**.



To the Kingdom of Lombardy–Venetia

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

On April 1<sup>st</sup> 1851 the post Convention between Austria and the Grand Duchy of Tuscany became effective, which introduced the rates and Austrian progression for the correspondence exchanged between the States of Austrian-Italian League.

**Rates for the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia**

A single-rate letter up to 17,5 grams.

Within the 1<sup>nd</sup> distance: **2 crazie**

Within the 2<sup>nd</sup> distance: **4 crazie**

Within the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance: **6 crazie**



April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Florence to Brescia. Franked with 6 crazie for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance with one postage stamp of 4 crazie and one of 2 crazie. The first date of employment of a 2 crazie stamp. (e)



January 10<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Pisa to Crema, “Lombardia”. Single-rate letter sent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance franked with 6 crazie. (e)



**“ Per Consegna”  
Registered mail**

A **registered mail**, according to the **League rates**, had to be prepaid with postage stamps and paid the **fixed rate** of **4 crazie** in Tuscany and 6 Akr (30 *Acents*) in Lombardy - Venetia.



October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1853. From Florence to Milan. “PER CONSEGNA”registered mail franked with 16 crazie, (12 crazie double-rate 3<sup>rd</sup> distance letter and 4 crazie for the registration). (e)

**The printed matter and newspapers rates**

Printed matter and each newspaper weighing 15 *denari* had to be prepaid in advance with 1 *soldo*.



September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Florence to Venice. Printed matter franked with 1 soldo. P.D. handstamp. The printed matter was charged 8, 3 / 11 kreuzer because it contained writings and so it was considered as a letter. (It should had been prepaid with 6 crazie, that means 9 kreuzers. From 9 kreuzer 1 soldo was deducted and the difference was indicated: 8 kreuzer and 3 extra kreuzer were added for a total of 11 kreuzer). (e)





June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1852. Wrapper from Florence to Udine, originally containing four newspapers, franked with 4 soldi. One of the two known. (e)

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

The printed matter and newspapers rates

Printed matter and each newspaper weighing 15 denari had to be prepaid in advance with 1 soldo.



October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857. From Florence to Rovigo. Newspaper franked with 1 soldo of the first issue. (e)





March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1858. Newspaper franked with 4 soldi of the second issue. In “LA LENTE” wrote Carlo Lorenzini, the author of *Pinocchio*.



**Government of Tuscany  
“Per Consegna”  
 (“Registered”)**

From June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859 the Sardinian rate of **3 crazie** for each 12 *denari* of weight (14,2 gr.) was introduced, for each letter sent to the Kingdom of Sardinia and to Lombardy.

The **registered mail** “Per Consegna” paid **double-rate** of ordinary letters. This rate was valid until October 31<sup>st</sup> 1859.



**October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1859. From Rocca San Casciano to Milan. “PER CONSEGNA” registered mail** franked with **6 crazie** (3 crazie for single-rate, doubled for the registration). The “P.D” handstamp as well as an annulling of the postage stamps. (e)

**From “Italian” Tuscany to Lombardy Venetia still Austrian via Switzerland**

**Government of Tuscany**

The correspondence of the “Italian parts” and Austrian ones was **interrupted** and so there was no other possibility than to send it **Via Switzerland**.

Also letters of already “Italian” Tuscany to Lombardy Venetia that remained Austrian had to be carried via Switzerland, that meant **travelling a longer way and paying expensive postal rates**.



**September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn to Venice, still Austrian.** Single-rate letter franked with **6 crazie**, according to the **3<sup>rd</sup> distance** of the Austrian-Italian League. The “P.D.” handstamp was **applied and then cancelled**. The letter “Via di Sarzana”, in the Kingdom of Sardinia, went to **Milan**, in “liberated” Lombardy and from there **via Switzerland** to Chur and Feldkirch and to Venice. The Grand Duchy postage stamps applied were considered valid for the route in Italy and the letter was **charged “10/15” kreuzer** (10 kreuzer for Switzerland and 15 kreuzer for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Austrian distance). (e)

**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862**



Government of Tuscany.  
To the “Italian” Lombardy  
“Per Consegna”  
registered mail  
Registered mail paid another  
fixed rate of 25 *Icent*.



January 21<sup>st</sup>, 1860. From Poppi to “Medole - Castigl. Stiv. -Lombardia”. “PER CONSEGNA” registered mail franked with postage stamps of the Tuscany Government with 55 *Icent* (10 extra). (The exact rate was 45 *Icent*: 20 for the single-rate, 25 for the registration).

Tuscany Government  
To still Austrian Venetia  
The direct letters to Austrian Venetia were prepaid just to the border; then they were charged for the Austrian route of 5, 10 or 15 *Nkr*, according to distance.



March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to Venice. Double-rate “Italian” letter franked up to the “Italian” border with 40 *Icent* with postage stamps of the Tuscany Government. It went to Milan and arrived to Venice on March 25<sup>th</sup>, where “10” *Nkr* of charge were applied (a single-rate Austrian letter for 2<sup>nd</sup> distance). (e)



From the Kingdom of Lombardy–Venetia

From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1850 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1858

In Lombardy Venetia the currency was the *Austrian lira* and the *Austrian cents (Acent)*. The *Austrian lira* was worth less than the *Italian lira*. (1 *Austrian lira* = 0,865 *Italian Lira*).

In Austrian Lombardy-Venetia the **rates** were regulated **according to the distance and to the weight of the Austrian/Italian League**.

1<sup>st</sup> distance, from to 10 leagues: 15 *Acent*;

2<sup>nd</sup> distance, from 10 to 20 leagues: 30 *Acent*;

3<sup>rd</sup> distance, more than 20 leagues: 45 *Acent*.

The **weight** of a single letter was 1 *Vienerlot* (17,5 grams), for 2 lots it was doubled, .....



December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Massa to Florence. Third-rate letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with 135 *Acent*. There is a diagonal line to confirm it was paid to destination.

Registered mail

A registered mail had to be prepaid in advance a **fixed right of 30 *Acent***.

For the right of registration had to be applied postage stamps on the back side of the letter.



May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1857. From Massa to Florence. Single-rate registered letter for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with 45 *Acent* for the letter and 30 *Acent* on the back side for the registration. Two “RACOM.” (registered) handstamps of Massa.

From November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1859

From November 1<sup>th</sup>, 1858 the New Austrian *kreuzers (Nkr)* in Austrian Empire (*Asoldi* in Lombardy Venetia) came into force.

The rates remained that of Austrian-Italian League, but because that the new currency was worth less, the rate were:

1<sup>st</sup> distance: 5 *Asoldi*;

2<sup>nd</sup> distance: 10 *Asoldi*;

3<sup>rd</sup> distance: 45 *Acent*.

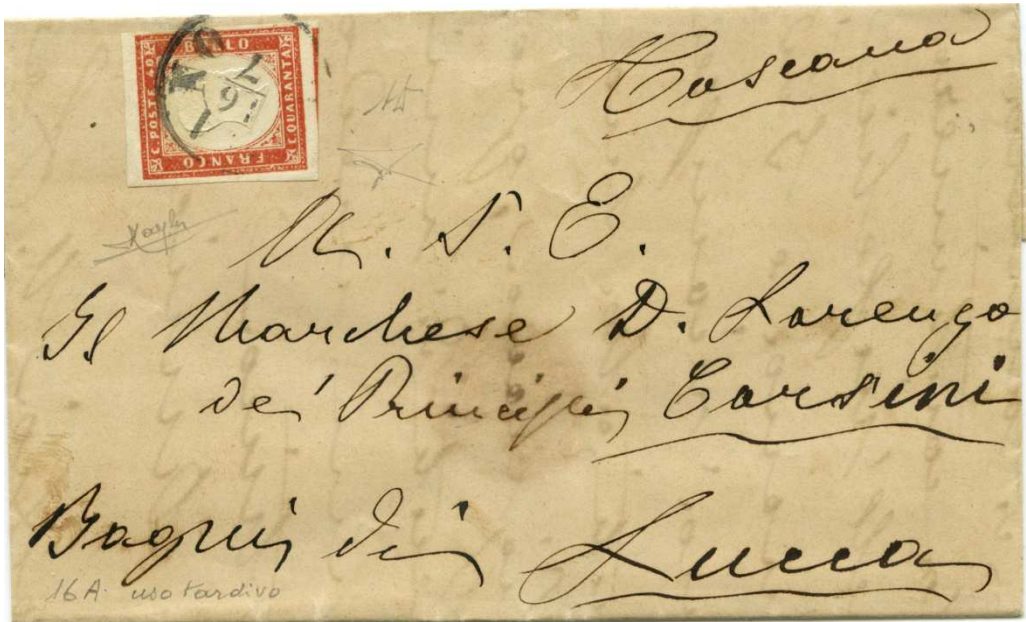


May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Milan to Leghorn. Single-rate letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with 15 *soldi* . There is a diagonal line to confirm it was paid.

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 to October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

Use of Sardinian postage stamps

From 1<sup>st</sup> July 1859 rates of the League was converted from *Asoldi* into *Icent* (15 *Asoldi* for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance were converted into 40 *Icent*).



July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From “Italian” Milan to Bagni di Lucca. Single-rate letter for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with a 40 *Icent* Sardinian postage stamp, still according to the convention of the Austrian-Italian League. (e)



to the **Duchy of Modena**

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1852

Before the Austrian-Italian Convention, letters sent to the Duchy of Modena were **prepaid just up to the Tuscan border** and then charged for the inner Modena transit.

A single-rate letter with weight less than 6 *denari*: **3 *crazie***.



**July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From the Baths in Montecatini to Modena.** Single-rate letter franked with **3 *crazie*** for the Tuscan route and **charged “20” Italian cents** in Modena. (e)

**From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859** (*Oltreappennino Modenese: the part of the Duchy of Modena posts on the slope of the Tyrrhenian sea*)

**From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859** (for the *Cisappennino Modenese*)

**Rates for the Duchy of Modena:**

A simple letter (17,5 grams):

within 1<sup>st</sup> distance: **2 *crazie***  
within 2<sup>nd</sup> distance: **4 *crazie***  
within 3<sup>rd</sup> distance: **6 *crazie***

1<sup>st</sup> distance: up to 75 km  
2<sup>nd</sup> distance: between 76 and 150 km  
3<sup>rd</sup> distance: farther than 150 km  
measured in a straight line.



**December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Seravezza to Carrara,** cities distant just 13,7 km. Single-rate letter of the **1<sup>st</sup> League distance** franked with **2 *crazie***. The dumb cancellation of Seravezza and a **diagonal line** confirm it. (e)



**“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail**

A registered mail had to be prepaid in advance a **fixed right of 30 Icent**.

For the right of registration had to be applied postage stamps on the back side of the letter.



May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855. From Florence to Modena. “PER CONSEGNA” registered double-rate letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with 12 *crazie* (8 *crazie* for the letter and 4 *crazie* on the back side for the registration). (e)



September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Florence to “Carpi di Modena“. Single-rate letter for the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with 4 *crazie*. “P.D.” handstamp of Florence. From Carpi it was then forwarded to “Padova – Regno Lombardo Veneto” and re-franked with 25 Icent postage stamp of Modena for the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance. (e)



**Rate for Printed matter and newspapers**

Printed matter had to be prepaid in advance with **1 soldo (3 quattrini)** for each newspaper of 15 *denari* of weight.



**November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857. From Leghorn to Modena. Printed Newsletter** franked with **1 soldo** with three 1 *quattrino* postage stamps of the second issue. “**P.D.**” handstamp of Leghorn. (e)

**From January 1<sup>st</sup> 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 1862**



**February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Florence to Fivizzano.** Single-rate letter prepaid **20 Icent** with two postage stamps of the **Tuscany Government**.

**The 20 “Matraire” Icent sent from Tuscany in March 1862.**

The 20 Matraire issue cents (Sardinia with perforation) appeared on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1862 and it was initially sold **only at the Post Office** of Turin, Milan, Genoa, Bologna and **Florence**. Only 1% of 20 *Icents* were used in March. Of these, only 3% was used in Tuscany.

**March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862. From Florence to Reggio di Modena.** “**PER CONSEGNA**” registered single-rate letter franked with **60 Icent** of Sardinia (20 *Icent* for the letter and 40 *Icent* for registration).



From the **Duchy of Modena**

From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1859

In the Duchy of Modena the **Austrian-Italian League** rates expressed in Italian cents were effective:

- 1<sup>st</sup> distance: **15 Icent**;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> distance: **25 Icent**;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> distance: **40 Icent**.

The weight of a simple letter (a single-rate letter) was 1 *Vienna lot* (17,5 g) and the classes were progressive.

The registered mail paid one **fixed right** of **25 Icent** plus the letter's rate.



May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Massa Carrara “*Per Consegna*” to Florence. Registered four-rate letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with 125 Icent. (25 Icent for each rate + 25 Icent for the registration). “RACCOM” and “P.D.”handstamps of Massa Carrara. (e)



From June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859 to October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

**Provisional Government  
beyond the *Appennino  
Modenese***

In the period of the Provisional Government the **postage stamps and the rates of the Kingdom of Sardinia** were used



July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Fivizzano to Florence. Single-rate letter franked according to the Sardinian rate with 20 *Icent*. The “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line confirm it. (e)

From October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859 to March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1860

**Provisional Government beyond  
the *Appennino Modenese***

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1859 the **postage stamps of the Provisional Government** were introduced.

The Sardinian rates continued to be effective.



January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Massa Carrara to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked with 20 *Icent* postage stamps of the Provisional Government. (e)



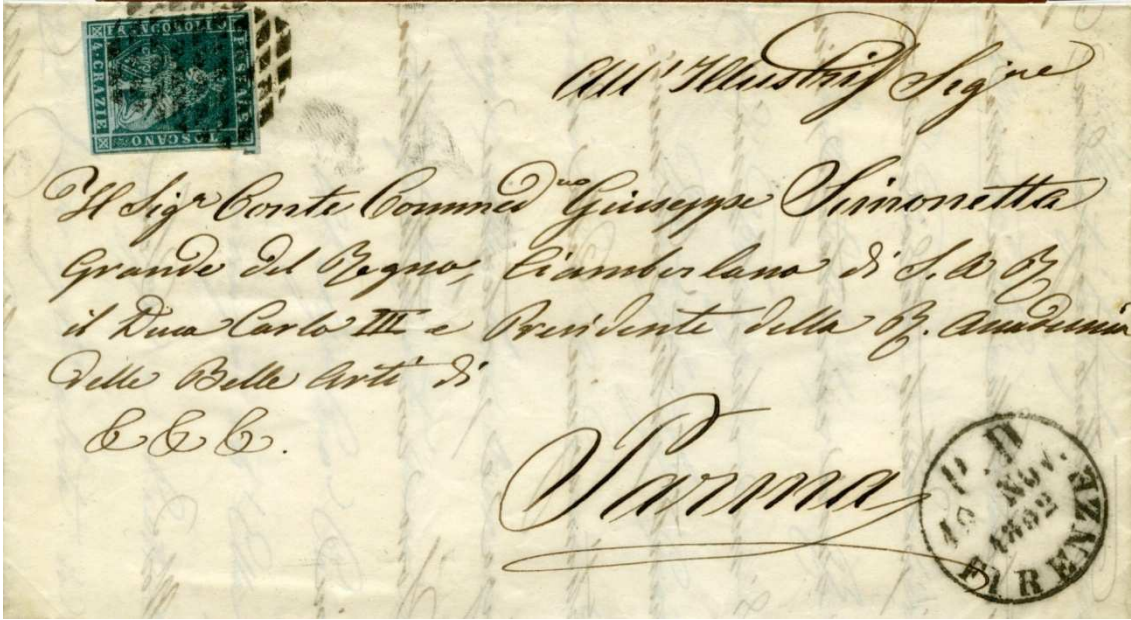
To the **Duchy of Parma**

From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1859

The Duchy of Parma  
joined the Austrian-Italian  
League from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852.  
**Rates for the  
Duchy of Parma:**

A simple letter (17,5 grams):  
within 1<sup>st</sup> distance: **2 crazie**  
within 2<sup>nd</sup> distance: **4 crazie**  
within 3<sup>rd</sup> distance: **6 crazie**

1<sup>st</sup> distance: up to 75 km  
2<sup>nd</sup> distance: between 76 and  
150km  
3<sup>rd</sup> distance: farther than 150  
km measured in a straight  
line.



November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Florence to Parma. Single-rate letter for the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with one postage stamp of 4 crazie.

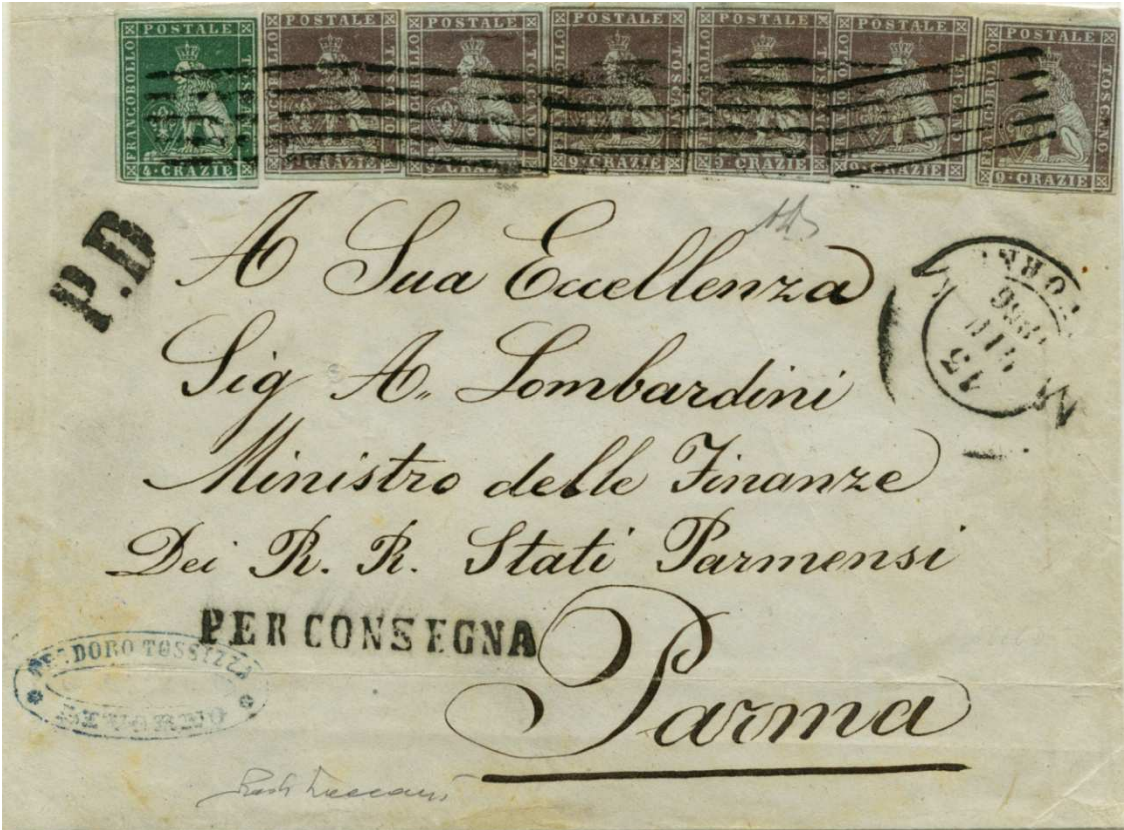


March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn to Pontremoli. Single-rate letter for the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with 2 crazie with ten postage stamps of 1 quattrino. The postage was “Insufficient” and “4” crazie (2 crazie for the missing rate and 2 crazie for the additional fee) were charged. At Pontremoli the 4 crazie were converted into “3” decimi and 30 Icent were paid. The highest known multiple of the 1 quattrino postage stamp on the letter from the first issue. (e)



“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail

Rate: 4 *crazie*, as usual, added to the letter’s rate.



June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Leghorn to Parma. “PER CONSEGNA” registered mail franked 58 *crazie* (54 *crazie* of 9 letter’s rates plus 4 *crazie* for the registration). “P.D.” handstamp.  
The only known registered mail sent from the Grand Duchy of Tuscany to the Duchy of Parma. (e)



February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Leghorn to Parma. Printed matter franked with 1 *soldo*. The P.D. handstamp as well as an annulling of the postage stamp.

**From the Duchy of Parma** From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to October 31<sup>st</sup> 1859

In the Duchy of Parma the **Austrian-Italian League** rates expressed in **Italian cents** were effective:

1<sup>st</sup> distance: **15 Icent;**

2<sup>nd</sup> distance: **25 Icent;**

3<sup>rd</sup> distance: **40 Icent.**

The weight of a single-rate letter was 1 *Vienna lot* (17,5 g).

**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1854. From Pontremoli to Pietrasanta** franked for the **2<sup>nd</sup> League** distance with a **25 *Icent*** of Parma postage stamp.



**From November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 to January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1860**



## Sardinian Rates Provisional Government

According to the post convention of 1<sup>st</sup> November 1859 between Tuscany, Sardinia, Modena, Parma and Romagne the rate for a single-rate letter (up to 10 grams) was **20 Icent**.

**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859. From Pontremoli to Florence.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **20 *Icent*** with a postage stamp of the **Provisional Government**. There is a **diagonal line** to confirm it.

**Registered mail “Per Consegna” with Sardinian rates**

**The Registered mail, according to the Sardinian rates,** paid a fixed right of **40 Icent**, in addition to the ordinary letters rate.

**January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Pontremoli to Florence. Registered double-rate letter of “*G<sup>mi</sup> 11,5*” franked with 80 *Icent* (40 for double rate letter and 40 for the registration) with postage stamps of Sardinia. “ASSICURATO” (Registered) handstamp also annulling.**





To the Papal States

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1853

Despite the Papal States joined the Austrian-Italian League on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1852, **until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1853 the rates of the pre-philatelic period remained in use:**

**Letters prepaid up to destination.**

Rates: single-rate letter weight less than 6 *denari*: **6 crazie**;  
letter with weight from 6 and less than 8 *denari*: **9 crazie**;  
letter with weight from 8 and less than 12 *denari* : **12 crazie**.



**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852. From Leghorn to Bologna. Third-rate letter** franked with **12 crazie**. There is a “P.D.” handstamp and an annulling one as well as a **diagonal line** to confirm it. The “**AFFRANCATA**”handstamp was applied in Bologna.

**Prepaid letters up to the Tuscan border**

**Rates:** a single-rate letter with weight less than 6 *denari*: **3 crazie**;  
double-rate letter with weight from 6 to less than 8 *denari*: **4 crazie**;  
third-rate letter with weight from 8 to less than 12 *denari*: **6 crazie**.

**“Via di Lucca”**

The League rules were new, so in same rare cases letters from Florence were sent “**via di Lucca**”. In this case letters could be **prepaid up to the Tuscan border** and later they were **charged 8 baj**, as we can suppose from the notification of Tosti on the letters from Lucca.



**October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Florence “Via di Lucca” to Rome.** Single-rate letter franked up to Tuscan border with **3 crazie** (with **5 soldi** postage stamps) and later in Rome **charged 8 baj**. (e)

Overseas letter carried by  
French mail steamships prepaid  
up to the disembarkation  
and charged to destination

Rates:

single-rate letter with weight less than 6 *denari* :  
**10 *crazie***;  
letters with weight less than 1 ounce:  
+ **2 *crazie*** for each *denaro*;  
letters with weight of 1 ounce: **48 *crazie***.



**September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Leghorn “Par l’Oronte” to Civitavecchia.** Letter weight between 8 and 12 *denari* forwarded by French mail steamships franked up to the disembarkation with **16 *crazie***. There is a “CIVITAVECCHIA DALLA VIA DI MARE” handstamp and it was **charged 14 *baj* (double-rate)** according to the Tosti rate dated 1844. (e)

Overseas letter carried by  
commercial ships prepaid  
up to the disembarkation  
and charged to destination

Rates:

single-rate letter with weight less than 6 *denari*:  
**4 *crazie***;  
letter with weight from 6 up to 8 *denari*:  
**5 *crazie***;  
letter with weight from 8 up to 12 *denari*:  
**7 *crazie***.



**March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Leghorn “Col Vapore” to Civitavecchia.** Single-rate letter forwarded by a commercial ship franked up to disembarkation with a postage stamp of **4 *crazie***. There is a “CIVITAVECCHIA DALLA VIA DI MARE” handstamp and it was **charged 7 *baj*** according to the Tosti rate of 1844. (e)



From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1853 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**Austrian-Italian League**

The **Papal State** joined officially the Austrian-Italian League from the October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 but effective just from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1853.

**Rates:**

Single-rate letter (17,5 g):

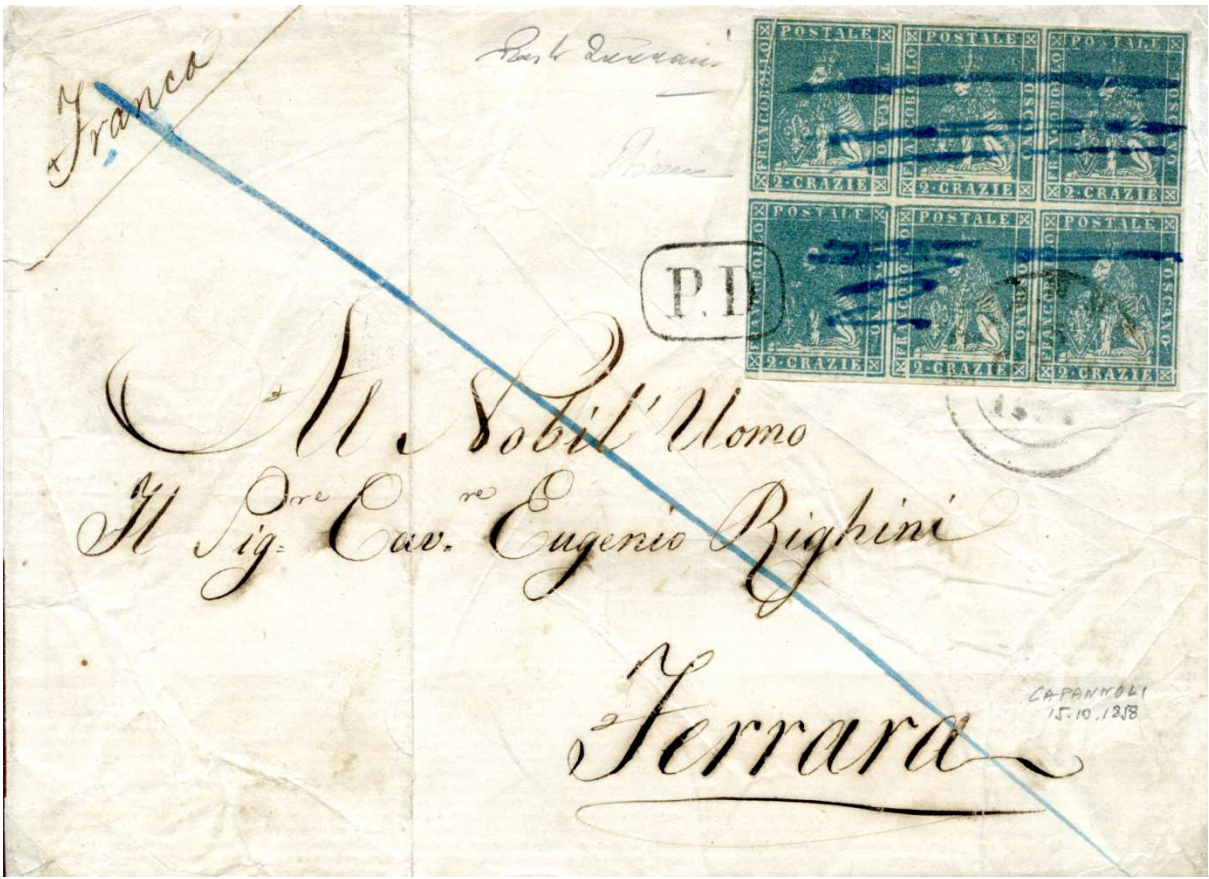
to the 1 <sup>st</sup> distance:	2 <i>crazie</i> ;
to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> distance:	4 <i>crazie</i> ;
to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> distance:	6 <i>crazie</i> .

1<sup>st</sup> distance: up to 75 km  
2<sup>nd</sup> distance: between 76 and 150 km  
3<sup>rd</sup> distance: farther than 150 km

measured in a straight line.



July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Leghorn to Bologna. Single-rate letter to the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with 4 *crazie*. There is a “P.D.” and an annulling handstamp. In Bologna a “AFFRANCATA” handstamp was applied as well.



October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Capannoli to Ferrara, “*Franca*”(Prepaid). Double-rate letter to the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with 12 *crazie*. There is a “P.D.” and annulling handstamp as well as a diagonal line to confirm it. (e)

**A Mail Fraud with postage stamps of three different currencies**

The letter franked with 4 *crazie* (the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance) should have been prepaid with 6 *crazie* (the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance) because the distance between Florence and Camerino, in *Marche* region, was more than 150 km.

Probably the fact that postage stamps were in three different currencies (*crazie, soldi, quattrini*) helped to the letter to be carried prepaid up to destination (difficulties of the total amount calculation) without being charged.



**April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Florence to Camerino.** Single-rate letter franked with 4 *crazie* with postage stamps in three different currencies (2 postage stamps of 1 *crazia*, 3 postage stamps of 1 *soldo*, 1 postage stamp of 1 *quattrino*). “P.D.” handstamp. The only one known combination. (e)



**Love letter “Valentina”**

**March 12<sup>nd</sup>, 1857. From Lucca to Forlì.** Single-rate letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with 4 *crazie*. Small cover with dry decorations, generally called “Valentina”.

**Printed matter**

The rate of Printed matter and newspapers up to the weight of 15 *denari* was 1 *soldo*.

**November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Pistoia to Perugia.** The wrapping of two newspapers prepaid with a vertical pair of 1 *soldo* of the first issue annulled in ink. There is a “P.D.” handstamp confirming it was paid up to destination. (e)





**“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail**

The fixed right of 4 *crazie* had to be added to the rate.

The postage for the right of registration, according to the Austrian custom, was compulsory in postage stamps and was applied on the back side of the letter.

December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Florence “Assicurata per consegna ed affrancata” to “Macerata per Sanginesio”. “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter to the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance, franked on the front with 6 *crazie* and with 4 *crazie* on the reverse (as usual for the Austrian custom) for the fixed rate of the registration. There are three seals as established. It transit through Bologna where the Papal “RACCOMANDATA” handstamp was applied. (e)



**Last day of validity of Grand Duchy  
postage stamps**

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859, the last day of validity of Grand Duchy postage stamps. From Florence to Pesaro, in still Pontifical Marche. Single-rate letter franked with 4 *crazie* (of different colours) to the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance. The “P.D.” handstamp applied in Florence was cancelled and the note “Insufficiente” was applied and so the letter was extra charged with 4 *baj*. (e)





From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1861

**Tuscany Government**  
**(Per Consegna) Registered mail**

**Letter's rates:**  
for each 17,5 grams to the 1<sup>st</sup> distance: **15 Icent**;  
to the 2<sup>nd</sup> distance: **30 Icent**;  
to the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance: **40 Icent**.

**+ 25 Icent**, as usual, added to the letter rate for the registration

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Lastra a Signa “Assicurata” (Sardinian custom) “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter to Macerata to the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance franked with 65 Icent with postage stamps of the Tuscany Government (40 for the letter and 25 for the registration). Three different colours of postage stamps on the first days of their use. (e)



**Tuscany Government**

**Letters sent to the provinces of Umbria and Marche from September to November 1860**

In September 1860 Marche and Umbria (both papal) became “Italian”, occupied by the Sardinian army going down to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies to meet Garibaldi.

November 28<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Rosignano to Pergola, in the already “Italian” Marche. “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter franked with 45 Icent (20 for the letter and 25 for the registration). It was carried “via del Furlo”: transited through Forli on November 30<sup>th</sup>. It is the only one known letter “Per Consegna” sent to Marche in the period September/November 1860. (e)

**Use of subdivided postage stamps of the Tuscany Government in Umbria**

The Italian Post Offices in Umbria from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 depended from Florence. From that moment the postage stamps of the Tuscany Government were in use and in some rare cases the stamps was subdivided as it was custom in the Papal State.

October, 26<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From “Orvieto – Umbria” to Rome. Single-rate letter franked, up to the Papal border, with 20 Icent with one diagonal half of a 40 Icent postage stamp of the Tuscany Government. The letter arrived in Rome on 28<sup>th</sup> October and was charged 3 baj. (e)





From the Papal States

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1852

**Letter prepaid  
up to the Tuscan-Papal border**

According to the Tuscan - Papal Convention of 1841, the letters could be sent prepaid up to the Tuscan - Papal border according to the following postal **rates**:

up to 7,5 grams:	<b>5 baj</b>
7,5-15 grams:	<b>10 baj</b>
15-22,5 grams:	<b>15 baj</b>
22,5-30 grams:	<b>20 baj</b>

For the **double-rate letter** (up to 15 grams) sent in **direction of Bologna and Ferrara** a reduced rate of **7,5 baj** was established.



July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1852. From Ferrara to Florence. Double-rate letter franked up to Tuscan-Papal border with 7,5 baj in the particular rate established for the double letters sent from Bologna to Ferrara. In Tuscany the weight of “6” denari was indicated and it was charged “8”crazie.

**Prepaid letters sent up to destination in Tuscany by the Tuscan couriers**

The rate established for a single letter was:

**5 baj** for postage and **6½ baj** for the Tuscan couriers.



August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Bologna to Florence, the letter arrived on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 11 ½ baj (5 baj for postage and 6½ baj for the Tuscan couriers). “AFFRANCATA”(prepaid) handstamp applied in Bologna and a diagonal line to confirm it.

**“ASSICURATA”**  
**registered (in Papal States)**

**prepaid to destination in Tuscany**  
**by the Tuscan couriers.**

**In case of registered letter the rate**  
**was doubled.**



**January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Bologna to Florence by the Tuscan couriers arrived on January 26<sup>th</sup>. “ASSICURATA” registered (in Papal States) letter from 32 up to 37,5 grams franked up to destination with 108 baj . The correct rate was 115 baj (57.5 baj doubled for the registration): on 7 baj postage stamp probably was not applied.**

**From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1853 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1861**

**“Overseas”**  
**correspondence**  
**between**  
**Civitavecchia and**  
**Leghorn**

**In addition to the**  
**rates established by**  
**the League, a**  
**payment of 2 baj for**  
**ship fee was required.**



**November 7<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Civitavecchia to Leghorn sent overseas by a commercial ship. Single-rate letter franked with 10 baj (8 baj for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance and 2 baj for ship fee). There is a “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line to confirm it. .... One of two known letters. (e)**



to *Romagne*

After June 12<sup>th</sup> and up to October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

Romagne territory

After the defeat of Magenta, the Austrian army retreated from *Romagne*.  
On June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1859 in Bologna a Provisional committee and on 21<sup>th</sup> the Provisional Government of *Romagne* were established.

The rates of the Austrian-Italian League remained effective until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859.  
Rates of a simple letter up to 17,5 grams:  
up to 1<sup>st</sup> distance: 2 *crazie*  
up to 2<sup>nd</sup> distance: 4 *crazie*  
up to 3<sup>rd</sup> distance: 6 *crazie*

July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Pistoia to Bologna. Single-rate letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> League distance franked with 2 *crazie*. “DOPO LA PARTENZA” and “P.D.” handstamps and a diagonal line to confirm it.  
*The only known letter up to the 1<sup>st</sup> distance. (c)*



From November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

From November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859, with the post convention between Sardinia, Tuscany, Modena, Parma and *Romagne* the rates of Sardinian Convention became effective: 3 *crazie* for a simple letter.

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859, the last day of validity of the Grand Duchy postage stamps. From Florence to Ferrara, the letter arrived on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860. Single-rate letter franked with 3 *crazie* according to the Sardinian rate. (c)



From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1861

Proclamation of the Kingdom of Italy

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Florence to Fusignano, single-rate letter franked 20 *Icent* with a postage stamps of the Tuscany Government, on the proclamation day. Even though it was a day of celebration, and Sunday, the postal service worked all over the territory of the new Kingdom.



From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1861

From Tuscany to the Royal Provinces of Emilia

Post rate in cents of *Italian lira*.

Up to 10 grams: **20 *Icent*** (ex 3 *crazie*)

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Florence to Bologna.

Single-rate letter franked **20 *Icent*** with two 5 cents postage stamps of the Tuscany Government and two 5 cents postage stamps of Sardinian issue. The rate of “3 *crazie*” was applied, later it changed into 20 cents. (e)



Government of Tuscany

Printed matters

The “Sardinian” **rate** for Printed matters was, up to the weight of 40 grams, **2 *Icent*** for any distance.

June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to Bologna. Circular Printed matter franked with **2 *Icent***. The “P.D.” handstamp as well as an annulling one. (e)

Love letter “Valentina”

October 1 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1860. From Siena to Bologna. Single-rate letter for the 1<sup>st</sup> League distance franked with **20 cent.** with postage stamps of the Tuscany Government.





From *Romagne*

From June 12<sup>nd</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

Use of the postage stamps of the Papal States and rate of the Austrian-Italian League:	
for the 1 <sup>st</sup> distance:	2 baj
for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> distance:	5 baj
for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> distance:	8 baj

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Faenza to Florence. Single-rate letter sent to the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with 5 baj. The diagonal line to confirm it.



From September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 to October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1859

The new Romagne postage stamps with the League rates.
On September 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1859 new postage stamps for Romagne were issued. The Rates of Austrian-Italian League remained effective until 9 <sup>th</sup> October 1859.

September 11<sup>st</sup>, 1859. From Faenza to Florence. Single-rate letter sent to the 2<sup>nd</sup> League distance franked with a 5 baj Romagne postage stamp. The diagonal line to confirm it.



From October 10<sup>th</sup>, 1859 to January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1860

Sardinian Rates
From 10 <sup>th</sup> October 1859 the Sardinian rates in baj: 20 Icent (equal to 4 baj) for each 7,5 grams of weight were effective in Romagne for all letters sent to the Kingdom of Sardinia, to Tuscany and to the Modena and Parma provinces.
From 1 <sup>st</sup> November the rate of simple letter increased from 7,5 to 10 grams.

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Bologna to Signa. Double-rate letter sent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance, franked with 8 baj with Romagne postage stamp. The only one known "three colours" postage sent to Tuscany. (c)

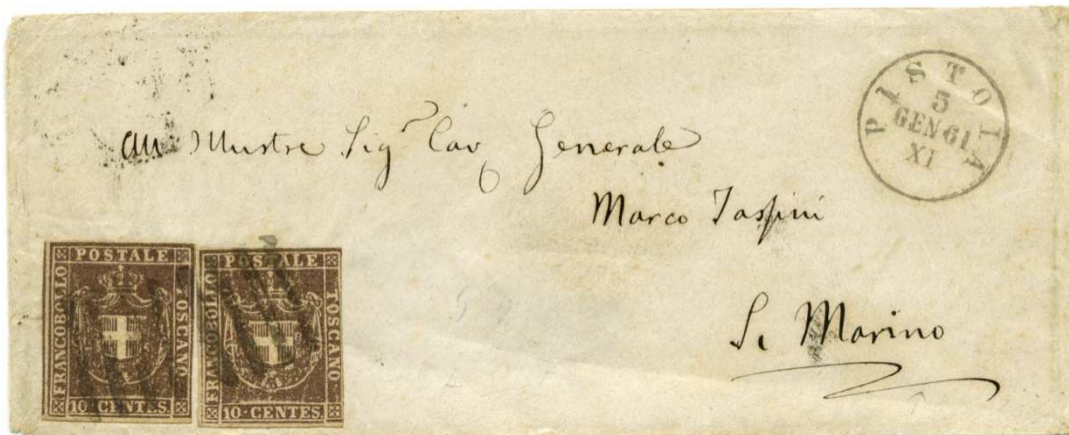


To the Republic of San Marino

For San Marino Republic the Papal post Rates were effective.	
First	3 crazie
Then	20 Icent



December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1859,. From Florence to “*Rimini per S. Marino*”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination according to the **Sardinian rate** with 3 *crazie*. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter transited through Forlì on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. (e)



January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Pistoia to San Marino. Single-rate letter franked with 20 *Icent* according to the **Sardinian rate** with two postage stamps of Tuscany Government. Through Florence and Forlì it arrived to Rimini on January 8<sup>th</sup>.



To the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857

The correspondence from Tuscany to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies could be carried **overland or overseas**.

**Overland**

It was carried  
“**Transit through the Papal States**”  
(*Transito per lo Stato Pontificio*)

The single-rate letters (weight up to 6 *denari*) was **3 crazie** up to Tuscan border.

On arrival the letters was charged in **grana** second the number of the sheets.



November 13<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Marciana Marina to “Napoli per Marigliano”. Single-rate letter franked up to Tuscan border with 3 crazie. “*Transito per lo Stato Pontificio*” handstamp on the back side. In Naples it was charged 10 grana because it consisted in two sheets. The only known letter with the “six circles” cancellation of Marciana Marina. (e)



October 28<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Florence to Naples “(ferma in posta)”. Single-rate letter carried overland franked up to the Tuscan border with 3 crazie (a pair of 2 soldi plus one 1 soldo). There is a diagonal line and a “AGDP” handstamp of the Naples post management. (e)

Overseas by “commercial ship”	
The rates of prepaid letters sent up to disembarkation in the Two Sicilies ports were:	
letter up to 6 denari:	4 crazie
from 6 up to 8 denari:	5 crazie
from 8 up to 12 denari:	7 crazie
from 12 up to 18 denari:	10 crazie
from 18 up to 24 denari:	15 crazie



September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1853. “*Lett d’Avis Par la Ville de Marseille*” (commercial ship). From Leghorn to Naples letter from 18 up to 24 denari franked with 15 crazie.

Usually the letters on arrival to Two Sicilies were charged, but for particular cases the postal duty were cancelled.

Letter to “*Sa Majeste Ferdinand Deux. Roi des Deux-Sicules, et de Jerusalem*”.



December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Lucca to Gaeta “*Royaume de Naples*”. Letter from 12 up to 18 denari “*affranchie jusqu’ à la Frontière Napolitaine*” with 10 crazie. There is a diagonal line to confirm it. In Naples the *Amministrazione Generale* post handstamp was cancelled and the letter was not charged because it was sent to King of Two Sicilies.



Overseas  
by French Packets Ship

The rates of prepaid letters sent up to disembarkation in the Two Sicilies ports were:

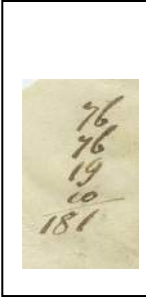
letter up to 6 denari:	3 crazie
from 6 up to 8 denari:	4 crazie
from 8 up to 12 denari:	6 crazie
from 12 up to 18 denari:	8 crazie
from 18 up to 24 denari:	12 crazie
of 1 ounce:	16 crazie



April 21<sup>st</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn “Col Postale” to “Catania / Sicilia”. Letter from 18 up to 24 denari carried by French Mail Steamers, franked with 12 crazie. It was in transit through Messina on 21<sup>th</sup> April and was charged 11 grana to the addressee. (e)

“VIA DI MARE” “OVERSEAS”  
from Florence

Between 1843 and 1856 the “VIA DI MARE” handstamp was applied of black or red colour on the mail departing from Florence, in the particular cases that the mail was sent by means of French Mail Steamer.



On the back side of the letter there is a charge calculation of 181 grana paid by the sender, that corresponds to nine and a half sheets (76 grana = 1 ounce = 4 sheets; + 76 grana = 1 ounce = 4 sheets; + 19 grana = 1 sheet; + 10 grana = ½ sheet).



March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From Florence “Col postale Francese” to Messina. Letter of weight of 62,5 grams franked with 35 crazie up to the disembarkation port of Messina. In Florence a “VIA DI MARE” handstamp was applied. The letter on board of “Capitole” ship to Leghorn on March 7<sup>th</sup> arrived to Messina on March 10<sup>th</sup>. On arrival the letter was charged 181 grana applying the same rate as for letters by French packets.



“Per Consegna” Registered mail  
overseas by French Mail Steamers

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Florence to “Messina per Palermo “. “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter franked with 16 *crazie* (8 *crazie* for the weight and 8 *crazie* for the registration). The “P.D.” handstamp confirm it. It was carried from Leghorn by French Mail Steamer “Philippe-Auguste” and in Naples 30 *grana* was charged. It arrived to Messina and to Palermo on March 29<sup>th</sup> where a “MSAG” (*Marchese San Giacinto Amministratore Generale*) handstamp was applied. The 30 *grana* was cancelled and other 10 *grana* for Naples – Palermo transit were added. A total of 40 *grana* were charged too to the addressee. (e)



Newspapers

Until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857 the rate for newspaper of 1 *quattrino* for each sheet covered the route up to the Tuscan border. On destination the same charge was applied to the addressee as it should be charged for the reverse transit.



June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Florence to Messina. A copy of the literary-artistic-theatrical newspaper, “L’ARTE” franked up to the Tuscan border with one postage stamp of 1 *quattrino*. It was carried through Naples on November 20<sup>th</sup> (“AGDP” handstamp) and arrived to Messina on November 30<sup>th</sup>, where “-2 ” *grana* were charged. (e)



From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

Letter carried Overland

During this period it was possible to forward letters both overland and overseas at the same rate of 6 *crazie* (single-rate letter of weight up to 7,5 grams).  
  
On destination the same charge was applied to the addressee as it should be charged for the reverse transit.

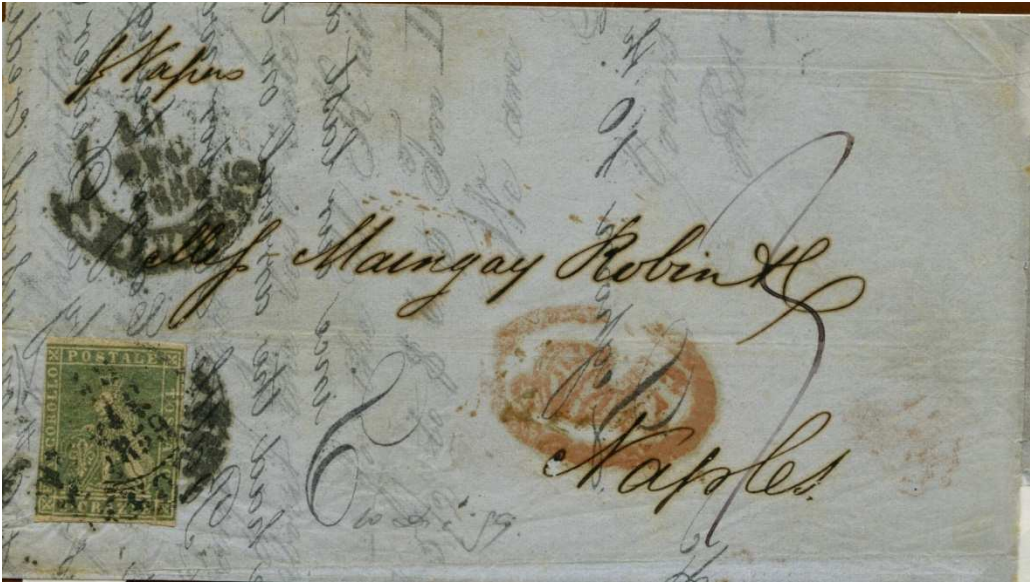


April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Florence to Naples, the letter arrived on 30<sup>th</sup> April. Single-rate letter franked up to destination of the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance with a 6.crazie postage stamp . “*Transito per lo Stato Pontificio*” handstamp on the back side. In Naples it was charged 5 grana because it consisted in one sheet.  
*One of few known letters sent on the first day of Post Offices activity after the Provisional Government of Tuscany was established. (e)*

Period of Tuscany Government

The rate for Printed matters and Newspapers

was 2 *crazie* for each ounce or fraction.



December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1859, in the period of Tuscany Government. From Leghorn “*Per Vapore*” to Naples. Printed matter franked with 2 *crazie*. In Naples the “AGDP” handstamp was applied and it was charged “3” grana for the internal rate. (e)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

Overseas by  
French Mail Steamer

From July 1<sup>st</sup> 1861 the General Post Management in Turin established the new rates of **60 Icent** (no charge on arrival) for the French Mail Steamers from Leghorn to Messina (became Italian) and vice versa.



September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn to Messina. “Lettera d’avviso col Postale” French franked with **60 Icent**: 40 Icent postage stamp of the Tuscany Government and 20 Icent of Sardinia. (e)  
In the period from May to September 1861 there are only two known letters carried between Leghorn and Messina by French Mail Steamers.

“Per consegna” (Registered letter) to Overseas  
From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 the post convention between Turin administration and Palermo and Naples ones became effective. It allowed sending single letters overseas, prepaid to destination, with the rate of **20 Icent**.  
The concentration of the correspondence carried to the southern provinces was established in the Office of Genoa.  
For the **Registered mail** there was a fixed increase of **25 Icent**.



November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Florence “Via di mare” to “Genoa per Palermo- Sicilia”. “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter sent by the Postal Steamers serving the Sardinian States franked with **45 Icent** (20 for the letter and 25 for the registration) with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. It was in transit through Genoa on November 17<sup>th</sup> and arrived to Palermo on November 20<sup>th</sup>. (e)



**From the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.** From “*Al di qua del Faro*” (of Messina) territories.

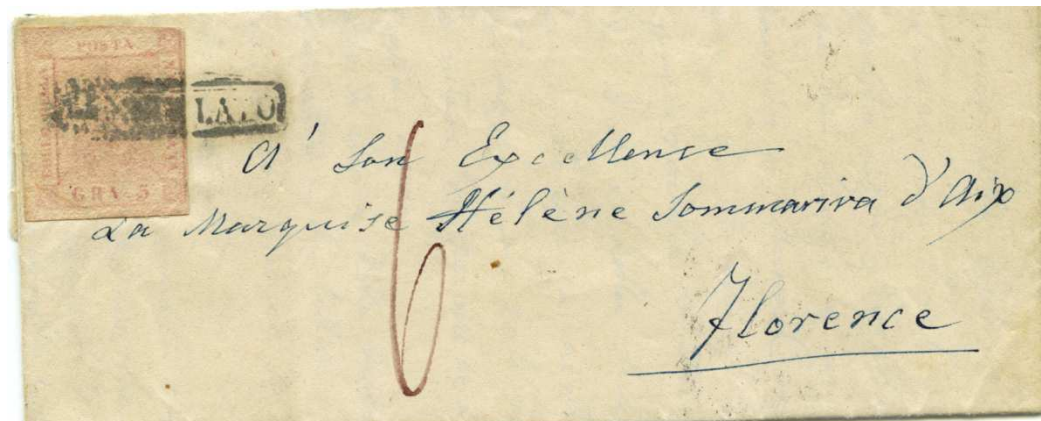
**From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1861**  
(the same rate remained in force also when Tuscany and Naples became “Italian”).

**Overland**

The correspondence could be sent overland via the **Papal States**.

The rate for the **letter of 1 sheet** (including also the papal transit) was **5 grana**.

On arrival in Tuscany the letter was **charged 6 crazie**.



**August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1859. From Naples to Florence.** Letter of **one sheet** franked up to the Papal States border with a **5 grana** postage stamps of Naples. In Florence it was **charged 6 crazie**.

**From March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 (Naples is already Italian )**

During this period **the postage stamps of Naples** remained in force and it fixed the postal exchange

**1 grana = 4 Icent.**

**From March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861** came into force the Sardinian-Italian rates:

letter up to 10 grams:  
**5 grana**  
“assicurata” (**Registered letter**) **plus 10 grana** for the registration



**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Rossano to Florence.** “**ASSICURATA**” **registered letter** franked with **10 grana** postage stamps of Naples. “**P.D.**” handstamp. In Rossano, ignoring the new Sardinian rates (5+10 *grana*), **it applied the old rates and it doubled the rate of the letter** (it cost less!).

From the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. From “Al di là del Faro” (of Messina) territories.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 to July 1860

**Overseas by Mail Steamer ( contract ships carriage “Florio”)**  
because there was not any post convention between the two States, the letters sent from Palermo or Messina to the disembarkation port in Leghorn were not prepaid to destination and it were charged on arrival

Rates:

1 sheet:

10 grana

1 sheet and ½ :

14 grana

2 sheets:

20 grana


1 ounce:

40 grana

On arrival in Tuscany the letter were charged.



**January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Messina to Florence**. Letter of **1 sheet** franked with **10 grana** with **a postage stamps of Sicily**. It arrived on January 9<sup>th</sup> to Leghorn and from there to Florence. **Tuscany charge the letter of “30”centesimi.** (e)



**Overseas by French Mail Steamer**  
because there was not any post convention between the two States, the letters sent from Messina to the disembarkation port in Leghorn were not prepaid to destination and it were charged on arrival

Rates:

1 sheet:

19 grana

1 sheet and ½ :

28 grana

2 sheets:

38 grana

1 ounce:

76 grana

On arrival in Tuscany the letter were charged.

**August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1859. With the “Postale francese” to “Messina per Florence”**. Letter of **1 sheet** franked with **19 grana** with **four postage stamps of Sicily**. It was carried by steamer “Hellespont” and arrived on August 25<sup>th</sup> to Leghorn and from there to Florence. **Tuscany charge the letter of “6”crazie.** (e)

**“Siege of Messina” letter**

Garibaldi, disembarking in Marsala on 11<sup>th</sup> May, soon took control of all Sicily. Just Messina resisted and that is why postage stamps of Ferdinand II of the Two Sicilies continued to be used just here and only until July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The few known such letters are called “Siege of Messina letters”.

**June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Messina with “Vapore Postale” to Florence**, where it arrived on June 28<sup>th</sup> passing through Leghorn. Letter of **two sheets** franked with **38 grana** with **five different postage stamps of Sicily**. **In Tuscany it was charged “6” decimi** (60 Icent), the “new Italian charge” for double-rate letters. (e)



Correspondence to and from **EUROPE**

To **Switzerland**

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1852

**Sardinian Mediation**

Before Austrian - Swiss Convention and the Sardinian - Tuscan one, letters could be sent to Switzerland prepaid up to destination **Via di Sarzana**. The rate of single rate letters up to 6 *denari* was **11 crazie**. The letters coming from Switzerland were charged in Tuscany with the same rate.



**August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851. From San Casciano to Capolago – Svizzera.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **11 crazie**. The letter was transit through Sardinia as it was confirmed by the “Via di Sarzana” handstamp. (e)  
*The only known.*

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

**Austrian Mediation**  
**Letters prepaid just up to the border**

Before the Austrian - Swiss Convention letters could be sent to Switzerland also **via Milan**. The rate of single rate letters up to 6 *denari* up to the Austrian – Swiss border was **6 crazie**.



**September 14<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Florence to “Milan per Mendrisio – Svizzera”.** Single-rate letter franked only up to Lombardy-Swiss border with **6 crazie**. There are the round handstamp of Florence with **PD** and a red “**FRANCO FRONTIERA**” handstamp of Milan. The indication “**0/3**” means: **0 Austrian kreuzer** for the rights of Austrian-Italian League and **3 Akr** for the Swiss rights, and highlighted in “**10**” *rappen* (Swiss cents) charged to addressee.

Letters prepaid up to destination

Via Milan

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 the letters “via Milan” carried to Swiss towns not farther than 75 km. from the border could be prepaid up to destination with the rate of 8 *crazie* for each 17½ grams.  
To/from a Swiss location over 75 km from the Austrian border: 10 *crazie*.



December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Leghorn to “Chur – Svizzera”, in the Canton of Grisons. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 8 *crazie*. “FRANCA” and “P.D.” handstamps and the information “6/2” (6 *crazie* for the Austrian-Italian League and 2 *crazie* for the Swiss Administration).

Letters prepaid up to destination

Via Piedmont

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 the letters “via Piedmont” carried to Swiss towns not farther than 75 km. from the border could be prepaid up to destination with the rate of 9 *crazie* for each 7½ grams.



March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1856. From Leghorn “via di piemonte” to Magadino. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with one postage stamp of 9 *crazie*. There is a “P.D.” is also annulling handstamp as well.



### Overseas

Consequently to the stipulation of the Austrian-Sardinian Convention (from *Monitore Toscano* of Florence, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1854) the letters from or to Austrian and German States and vice versa could be carried **overseas from Leghorn to Genoa.**



**October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1857. From Leghorn “Col Vapore per Genova - franca ” to Vallendas “Canton Graubunden – Svizzera”.** Single-rate letter franked with **10 crazie**. The letter “**VIA DI MARE (E)**” of Genoa through Alessandria and Arona arrived to Chur on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The “**P.D.**” handstamps that indicated that it was prepaid up to destination were cancelled: it was charged 10 crazie of overland carriage. In Genoa a “**Diritto –Sardo \_20 /Esterio\_10**” handstamp was applied to indicate 20 *Icent* for the Sardinian Post and 10 *Icent* for the Swiss Post. In Switzerland it was considered as unpaid and it was charged **50 Rappen**.. The only one franked letter to Switzerland carried Overseas.

### Printed matters

With a “NOTICE” of Tuscan Post Offices of April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1853 new rates for printed matters carried to Switzerland were established.

**The rate** up to 15 denari of weight was **2 soldi**.

The Postage was compulsory otherwise the rate had to be the same as for letters.



**August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn to Zurich. “Stampa” Printed matter** franked with **2 soldi**. There are “**FRANCA**”and “**P.D.**” handstamps and a St. Andrew’s cross to confirm it. A note “**1/1**” *Akr* indicates the rights for Austrian-Italian League and for Switzerland. (e)

From December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

Italian Period

Sardinian-Swiss Convention

From 1<sup>st</sup> December 1859 the rates of Sardinian-Swiss Convention were extended to Tuscany.  
Rate: for each 10 grams of weight 40 Icent.

June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn to “Locarno – Svizzera”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 40 Icent with a postage stamp of Tuscany Government. The “P.D.” handstamp confirm it.



From Switzerland

From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859



Sardinian Mediation

Letters could be sent prepaid up to destination from Switzerland to Tuscany via Sardinia and the rate was:  
50 rappen for each 10 grams for letters from Swiss towns that were situated not farther than 75 km. from the border;  
60 rappen for each 10 grams for letters from Swiss towns that were situated farther than 75 km. from the border.

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Yverdon to “Pise – Toscane – Italie”. “2” Double rate letter franked with 120 rappen. “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line confirm it. (e)

CHARGE'

Registered mail

The postage of the registered letters was compulsory and required the double rate established for letters.

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Wohlen to “Florence”. “CHARGE” registered single-rate letter franked with 80 rappen. The “P.D.” handstamp confirm it. The note “0 / 1” to show the different administrations rights. (e)





To France

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852

**Prepaid letters**

Before the direct convention between Tuscany and France letters could be sent prepaid to France by the Sardinian mediation. The rate was 15 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight (7,1 grams). Then in France the letters were charged in *decimes* of French Frank.



August 17<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Pietrasanta to Paris. The single-rate letter franked up to destination with 15 *crazie* was carried “Via di Sarzana“. In Genoa a “T.S-3” handstamp was applied to indicate the Sardinian transfer of the 3<sup>rd</sup> destination. Then in Paris it was charged “9” *decimes*. (e)

From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**The French-Tuscan postal convention of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851.**

The convention established the rate of 9 *crazie* (60 *cent*) for letters exchanged with France. A partial postages letter was not allowed and letters with insufficient postage were treated as unpaid. **The rate of 9 crazie was effective from 1<sup>st</sup> August 1852** because that the Sardinian mediation became effective just from that date.



April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1853. From Cascina to Paris, where it arrived passing through the French Trade Post Office of Pont de Beauvoisin. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 9 *crazie* with postage stamps of three different currencies, *crazie*, *soldi* and *quattrini*. “P.D.” handstamp. (e)

**The Tuscany Provisional Government.** The letter was written on the **first postal day of the Tuscany Provisional Government**. The day before (27<sup>th</sup> April) in the afternoon the Grand Duke escaped and late in the evening (at 7.30 p.m.), with the already closed post offices, a Provisional Government was established. **On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859 it is also the first day of the Provisional Government as regards postal matters.**



**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Pisa to Paris.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination through the French Post Office of Pont de Beauvoisin with a postage stamp of **9 crazie**. “P.D.” handstamp . It is one of five known letters dated **on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859, first day of activity of Post Offices** after the constitution of **Tuscany Provisional Government**. (e)



**Government of Tuscany**

Also after the proclamation of the Provisional Government of Tuscany, till July 1860, the rates of French-Tuscan Convention of 1851 continued to be applied, as confirmed by notice “TOSC” printed by the French Post Offices.

**December 23<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Florence to Paris, “2” (double) rate-letter** franked with **18 crazie** up to destination with two exemplars of 9 crazie of second emission. “P.D.” and “Dopo la partenza” handstamps of Florence and the handstamp of the French Post Office of Pont de Beauvoisin that indicate also “TOSC.”. (e)

**“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail**

**On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 a new postal convention** between France and the Kingdom of Sardinia reduced the rate of the letters **to 40 Icent** for each 10 grams of weight. The fixed right of **registration** was established as **50 Icent**. The handstamps of the French Post Offices now showed the information “**Italie**”.



**January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Leghorn to Mont de Marsan (Landes) (France).** “PER CONSEGNA”registered letter franked with **90 Icent** (40 for the letter and 50 for the registration) **with a Sardinian and a Government of Tuscany postage stamps**. “P.D.” and French “CHARGE” handstamps. The handstamp of the French Post Office show “**Italie/(date)/3. Mt. Cenis 3**”. (e)



From **France**

From **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1860**

The French-Tuscan Convention became effective on **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851** and it established that letters between France and Tuscany could be sent:

**overland**, in a closed mail through the Sardinian territory;

**overseas**, by ships of companies of the state or commercial ships.

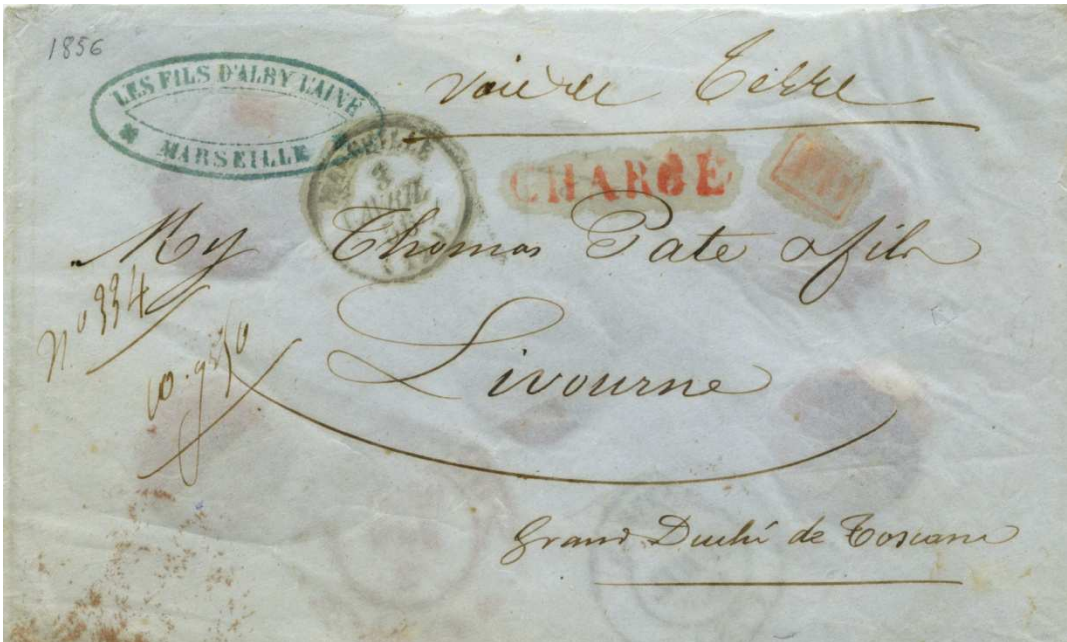

The rate was **60 Fcent** for 7,5 grams.



**November 26<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Paris to Florence. Third rate letter** franked up to destination with **180 Fcent** with a 1 *franc* postage stamp. A “**P.D**” handstamp and a **diagonal** line to confirm it. (e)

**CHARGE’**  
**Registered letter**

For the registered letter the payment of the postage was compulsory and **the rate** was **the doubling** of the letter.



**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1856. From Marseille to “Livourne - Grand Duché de Toscane” “Voie de Terre”,** where it arrived on April 8<sup>th</sup> passing through Antibes. **Double-rate registered letter (10 gr.)** prepaid **240 Fcent** (120 doubled for the registration). There are “**CHARGE**” and “**P.D.**” handstamp to confirm that the letter was paid up to destination.



**Government of  
Tuscany**

Also after the Tuscany Provisional Government proclamation the rates of the French-Tuscan Post Convention of 1851 remained in to force.



September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Marseille to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 60 *Fcent*. A “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line to confirm it.

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860

**Extension of the Sardinian  
rates to Tuscany**

**Printed matter**

From July 1860 the Sardinian rates were extended up to all Tuscany. From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 a new convention between France and The Kingdom of Sardinia was signed which reduced also the rate of printed matters up to 6 *Fcent* for each 40 grams of weight.



March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Lyon to Florence “Toscane – Etats Sardes”. Printed matter franked with 6 *Fcent*. There is a “P.D.” handstamp to confirm it.



To Spain

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1855

**French Mediation**

The French-Tuscan Postal Convention, effective from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851, stated the rate of **14 crazie** for each 7,1 grams of weight. That rate had to be compulsorily paid for the French-Spanish border. Until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1855, letters that arrived to Spain, were **charged 9 Reales** for the first 4 *adarmes* (7,2 grams) and 2 *Reales* for each further 2 *adarmes*. The charge for the letters sent to Cádiz, Andalusia and the Balearic Islands was **10 Reales** for the first 4 *adarmes*.



August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn to Madrid. Letter of “2” rates franked up to French-Spanish border with 28 *crazie*. There is a “Toscane/Antibes” French handstamp and the Spanish double charge of 18 *Reales*. (e)

From May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

From May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855 the Spanish charge of the foreign letters was reduced to **4 Reales** for each ¼ ounce (4 *adarmes*).



August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Bagni di San Giuliano to Madrid. Single-rate letter franked up to the Spanish border with 14 *crazie*. There is a “Toscane/Antibes” French handstamp and the Spanish charge of 4 *Reales*. (e)



## From Spain

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1855

### To Tuscany

Letters sent from Spain to the foreign states that did not have any postal convention with Spain had to be prepaid with the full Spanish rate up to the French border and were charged in Tuscany with **14 *crazie*** for each 6 *denari* of weight (7,1 grams).

The rate until August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1854 was: **6 *cuartos*** for each ½ ounce



**September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Barcelona to Leghorn.** Single-rate letter franked up to the French border with **6 *cuartos*** with Spanish postage stamp dated 1853. There are handstamps of origin “*España*” La Junquera and of entrance to Sardinia “*Via di Nizza*”. In Tuscany the letter was charged **14 *crazie***.



**March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Barcelona to Leghorn.** Double rate letter franked up to the French border with **12 *cuartos*** with two Spanish postage stamps dated 1854. There are handstamps of origin “*España*” La Junquera and of entrance to Sardinia “*Via di Nizza*”. In Tuscany the letter was charged **14 *crazie***, instead of 28 or more probably 42.



to Belgium

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**French Mediation**

The French - Tuscan Convention effective from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 established **the rate of 95 Fcent** for each 7,5 grams of weight for prepaid letters sent from Tuscany to Belgium.



September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Leghorn to *Tournai – Belgique*. Double rate unpaid letter charged 19 *decimes* on delivery. There is a red French handstamp that indicates the transit through Pont de Beauvoisin.

From Belgium

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1863

**Government of Tuscany**

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 the **Sardinian - Belgian Postal Convention** was **extended to Tuscany**. The Convention fixed for the letters prepaid up to destination the rate of **60 Bcent** for each 7,5 grams of weight.



March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1861. From Anversa “*Voie de France*”to Leghorn by the Travelling Post Office “**Belg. Amb.Calais**”. Single-rate letter franked with 60 *Bcent*. The “**P.D.**” handstamp confirm that the letter was prepaid up to destination.

To **Holland** From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

**AustrianMediation**

The Austrian - Tuscan Convention, effective from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 allowed trade the mail with the Netherlands by GAPU Mediation.

**The rate** of the prepaid letters sent from Tuscan for each 17,6 gr. of weight was: **10 crazie** up to Dutch destination situated not further then 30 km. from GAPU. border;

**12 crazie** up to Dutch destination situated farther then 30 km. from GAPU border.

**June 23<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn to Amsterdam.** Single-rate letter franked with **10 crazie**, according to the **Austrian- Tuscan Convention**. There is the notice “**Via France**”, the letter was carried through Sardinia and passed through French Post Office “**Toscane Pt De Beauvoisin**”. Despite the established rate via France was 14 crazie, the letter was not charged and the “**P.D.**” handstamp was applied.



**From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to October 31<sup>th</sup>, 1859**

**French Mediation**

The French - Tuscan Convention established the rate of **14 crazie** for each 6 denari (7,1 grams) for prepaid letters up to destination.

**October 29<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn to Amsterdam.** Single-rate letter franked with **14 crazie** according to the **French - Tuscan Convention**. There is a “**P.D.**” handstamp and canceller to confirm it. Despite the indication “*par la France*” was cancelled, the letter was carried through Sardinia and France through the French Post Office “**Toscane Pt De Beauvoisin**” .

From **Holland**

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**French Mediation**

The French - Tuscan Convention of 1851 had a table of letters in transit from France to or from other countries and depending on this **13 crazie** were established for the letter to Tuscany.

**August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1857. From Amsterdam to Leghorn**, where the letter arrived via France (“**2 Pays-Bas/(date)/ 2 Val<sup>nes</sup>**” handstamp impressed in Paris), then Lyon and Marseille. The charge “**6**” decimes of French rights corresponding to 9 crazie to which Tuscany added 4 crazie, total **13 crazie charged** to the addressee. (e)






To Denmark

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1862

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 the Sardinian - Swiss Convention was extended to all Tuscany.





November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn “Via Hamburg” to “Helsingor – Denmark”. The letter was send via Switzerland and Thurn & Taxis Post Service. There are the transit handstamps of Genoa, Arona, Bellinzona, Basel, Frankfurt am Main, of the Danish Office in Hamburg, Hamburg T&T and of arrival to Helsingor on December 4<sup>th</sup> , 1861. The Swiss post noted its rights of **12 Rheinisch Kreuzers** (6 for them and 6 *RhKr* for Italy – about 20 *Icent*). 12 *RhKr* means about 3 1/2 *Silbergroschen*, to which rights of charges of **5 Sgr** **totaly** were added. 5 *Sgr* were 7 *Hamburg skilling* corresponding in turns to 22 *skilling* of Danish bank (*Rrbsk*) to which **4 Rbsk** were added for Danish inner transit, totally for **26 Rbsk** paid on arrival. (e)

From Denmark

The rate of prepaid letters sent from Denmark to the Tuscan provinces via Switzerland was established as **38 Rbsk** for each *lood* (15,6 grams) of weight.



July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Copenhagen to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **38 Rbsk** that corresponded to 8 3/4 *Sgr*: **2 Sgr** for Danish rights, **6 3/4 Sgr** other rights as handwritten (3 *Sgr* GAPU transit, 1 3/4 *Sgr* Swiss transit and 2 *Sgr* Italian rights). The “P.D.” handstamp confirmed it. (e)

To Austrian Empire

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

“Per Consegna”  
Registered mail

Registered mail had to be prepaid in advance and paid a **fixed right of 4 crazie** (6 *Akr* in Austria Empire) to added to letter rate. The right of registration had to be compulsory paid with postage stamos.

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Florence to Trieste. “*Per Consegna*” registered letter franked with 10 *crazie* (6 *crazie* for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Austrian-Italian League distance and 4 *crazie* for the registration). A “P.D.” handstamp is included in the annulling handstamp of Florence.



The military Austrian post in Tuscany

After the repression of 1848-49 Austria left its troops in Tuscany. Also **Military Post Offices** and postage stamps were in Tuscany, as well the “*Feldspost N°2*” handstamp.



November 24<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Florence to “*Leobersdorf – Laibach – Empire d’Autriche*”, then resent to Vienna, franked for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance with one postage stamp of 6 *crazie* cancelled by a “*Feld Post N°2*” handstamp of the **Austrian Military Post Office**.

Government of Tuscany  
To Austria Via Switzerland

From the November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 was regulated the use of “*Via Switzerland*” by an agreement between the Sardinian and Swiss Post Offices as well as between Swiss and Austrian Post Offices. The “*Italian*” rate of a single-rate letter was fixed as 60 *Icent* (9 *crazie* in Tuscany).

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Florence to “*Hutteldorf pres Vienne – Austria*”, where the letter arrived on December 15<sup>th</sup> through Milan and the Switzerland. Single-rate letter franked with 9 *crazie*. There is also a “P.D.” handstamp. On the front of the letter it is written “4” that indicates 4 *decimi* of Italian lira (15 *Icent* for the Swiss and 25 *Icent* for the Austrian rights). Despite this **the letter was charged “10” Akr** for the Swiss and “**15” Akr** for the Austrian rights, total “**25” Akr** to the addressee (**Austria did not recognise the Grand Duchy postage stamp**). (e)





From November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

From Tuscany to the Austrian Empire via Switzerland and German States Confederation

The “Italian” rate was the same of those “Via Switzerland”:

single-rate letter: 60 Icent.



September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to “Krainburg per Strasissa” (now in Slovenia). The letter transit via Milan, Chur and St. Gallen (Switzerland), Grein (Bavaria), Linz and Vienna (Austria) and it arrived to Krainburg on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Single-rate letter franked for the rate “via Switzerland” with 60 Icent with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. There is a “P.D.” of Leghorn and two “P.D.” handstamps of Milan. The note “4” highlight the 4 decimi of Italian lira (15 Icent for the Swiss and 25 Icent for the Austrian rights). At the back “9” Rhkr corresponding to 40 Icent or 15 Nkr.

From May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1862

The reactivation of the Austrian-Sardinian Postal Convention of 1853

From Mai 15<sup>th</sup>, 1862 the Austrian-Sardinian Postal Convention of 1853 was reactivated. The Tuscan Offices, all situated farther than 75 km in a straight line from the Austrian border, were included in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian section. Vienna was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Austrian section.

The rate from 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Austrian section was of 65 Icent for each weight of 15 grams.



July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Florence to Vienna. Single-rate letter from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian section to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Austrian section franked up to destination with 65 Icent with postage stamps of Sardinia There is a “P.D.” handstamp to confirm it. (e)

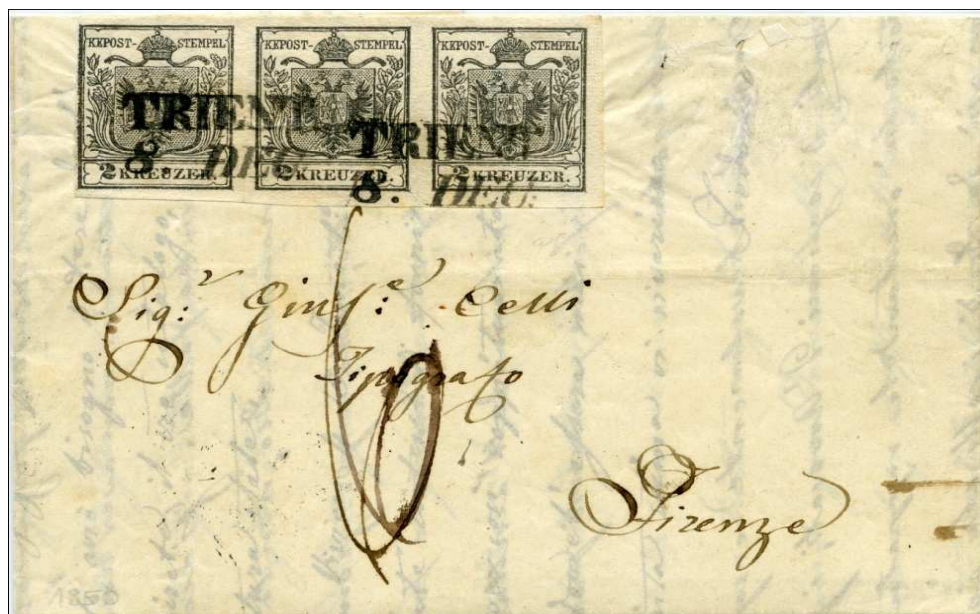


## From Austrian Empire

From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1850 to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851

Before the Austrian – Italian League the letters from Austria to Tuscany could be **prepaid just to the Austrian border and charged then in Tuscany**. The inner Austrian rate of the single rate letters was of **6 *Akr*** for the 2<sup>nd</sup> distance between 75 and 150 km and **12 *Akr*** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance farther than 150 km.

The **Tuscany charge** was of **6 *crazie***.



**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1850. From Trento to Florence.** Single-rate letter **franked up to Austrian border with 6 *Akr*** in pre-League rate. At Florence it was **charged “6” *crazie***. (e)

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

From **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851** the Austrian – Italian League became effective and it was possible to exchange correspondence between both states, prepaid up to destination. The rate of single rate letters (*Viener lot*, 17,5 gr.) was **6 *Akr*** for the 2<sup>nd</sup> distance between 75 and 150 km and **9 *Akr*** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance farther than 150 km.

**From November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858** the Austrian florin was divided into 100 kreuzers. The new kreuzer was less than the *Akr* and the rates became **10 or 15 *Nkr***.



**November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Trieste to Leghorn.** Simple rate letter (up to 17,5 gr.) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance franked with **15 *Nkr***. On November 13<sup>th</sup> the letter was sent “*Coi Vapori Postali Francesi*” to “*Messina per Catania*” and re-franked for “**2” Tuscan double rate** with **12 *crazie***. Arrived in Sicily on November 16<sup>th</sup> it was **charged “44” *grana***. (e)



To Old German States

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

To Rhineland Westphalia

GAPU Mediation

The Convention of Austrian – Italian League effective from the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 established that the letters sent to Old German States that had participated in the Austrian- German League, should have the rate of **10 crazie** for each 15 *denari* of weight (17,5 gr.): 6 *crazie* for GAPU Mediation and 4 *crazie* for Tuscan rights.



June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Pisa to “Acquisgrana - Aix la Chapelle (Allemagne) franco” and “Franca” up to destination franked with 10 crazie. A “P.D.” handstamp and the St. Andrew’s cross to confirm it.

To Baden Wurttemberg

French Mediation

The 1851 Franco-Tuscan Convention established the **rate of 77 Fcent** for letters sent unpaid from Tuscany to Wurttemberg via Sardinia and France (35 *Fcent* to Tuscany and 42 *Fcent* to France).



September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Florence to “Stuttgard –Wurttemberg” . The letter “Via di Sarzana”and “T.S.3.” through Sardinia and the French Post Office of **Pont de Beauvoisin** arrived to Stuttgard on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The note “22/3”kreuzer shows 22 *Akr* corresponding at 77 *Fcent* , the rate for letters sent unpaid from Tuscany to Wurttemberg that were for the France, and 3 *Akr* to Wurttemberg for the internal distance of less than 75 kilometers. The total amount of “25” *Akr* was **charged** on delivery.

**To Rhineland Westphalia**

**Swiss Mediation**

When letters were carried **via Switzerland**, the Swiss transit of 3 or 4 *Rhkr*, or of 1 *Sgr* (**2 crazie**) for carriage **in closed mail**, or of 6-7 *Rhkr* or of 2 *Sgr* (**4 crazie**) for carriage **in open mail**, had to be added.



**February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Florence to “Colonia – Prussia Renana”.** The letter was sent **fully paid via Switzerland** as confirmed by the “**FRANCA**” and “**VIA DI SVIZZERA**” handstamps. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **12 crazie**: 6 crazie GAPU transit, 4 crazie to Tuscany, 2 crazie to Switzerland.

**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860**

**To Southern Saxony**

**Government of Tuscany**

**Swiss Mediation**

After 1859, when Tuscany became “Italian”, letters could not be carried via Austria and they were sent **via Switzerland** paying the rate of **9 crazie** until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859 and of **60 Icent** from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860.



**June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn to “Osnabrück- Romigraif Hannover- Germania”.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **60 Icent** with postage stamps of the Tuscany Government. “**P.D.**” handstamp. It was sent overseas to Genoa, through Lake Maggiore on board of steamship “Verbano” to Bellinzona, to Baden, to Frankfurt am Main and it arrived to Osnabrück on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1860.



From Old German States

From Prussia

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

The Convention of Austrian – Italian League effective from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 made possible to exchange correspondence between member States of **GAPU** at the **rate** of **5 silbergroschen (Sgr)** for *Viener lot* of 17,5 grams.

**June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1858.** From **Coeln** (Rhineland Westphalia) to “**Livorno en Toscana**”. Single-rate letter franked with a **3 Sgr** envelope and two **1 Sgr** Prussian postage stamps, total **5 Sgr**. The “**P.D.**” handstamp and the diagonal line confirm that the letter was paid up to destination. The note “**Wf 2**” (Weiter franco 2) highlight the 2 *Sgr* of Prussian rights.



Via Switzerland

**March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1859.** From **Coblenz** (Rhineland Palatinate) to **Leghorn “Toscana”**. Single-rate unpaid letter traveled in closed mail through Switzerland. In transit Milan the cover shows the “**VIA DI SVIZZERA**” handstamp and the note of the **20 soldi** (15 credited to GAPU - correspondents to 3 *Sgr* or 6 *crazie* - and 5 credited to Switzerland - correspondents to 1 *Sgr* or 2 *crazie*). In Tuscany 8 *crazie* were charged for a single-rate letter within the Austrian-German League territory and other 4 *crazie* for Tuscany, total **12 crazie charged** to addressee.

From April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859

Via Switzerland

In Tuscany the **Provisional Government** was proclaimed on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859 and the direct post relationships with Austria were interrupted. It was not possible any more to exchange correspondence with the Old German States by Austrian Mediation. **After liberation of Lombardy** it was possible to transit **Via Switzerland** through the Chur and Splügen route.

**July 23<sup>th</sup>, 1859.** From **Berlin** (Prussia) to “**Pise – Italie – Toscane**”. The “**2**” **double-rate letter** paid at departure **12 Sgr** (corresponding to **40 Rhkr**). The Prussian handstamp “**FRANCO**” was applied. This payment was valid for the Austrian-Italian League and for transit in closed mail via Switzerland. Lombardy was no more Austrian and the letters could not be carried according to the League. The letter **transit via Basel** on July 25<sup>th</sup> and arrived to Pisa on August 4<sup>th</sup>. In “Italian” Tuscany the payment was not considered and **20 crazie were charged** for a double-rate letter within the Austrian-German League territory and **other 4 crazie** for not prepaid letter, total **24 crazie**. (e)



From Prussia

When **Tuscany** became a part of **Italy**, a new **Convention between Prussia and Sardinia** was applied. It established the **rate of 6 ¾ Silbergroschen** for prepaid letters up to destination, for each Zoll lot equivalent to 16,7 grams. The 6 ¾ *Sgr* were divided into:  
3 *Sgr* up to Swiss border;  
3 ¾ *Sgr* foreign duties (2 *Sgr* for Switzerland, for each Zoll lot),  
1 ¾ *Sgr* for Sardinia, for each 10 grams.



**May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Stettin (now in Poland) to Leghorn, via Switzerland.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **7 *Sgr*** (¼ *Sgr* extra). “**P.D.**” handstamp . The letter arrived toSwitzerland via Baden and **3¾ *Sgr*** relative to the foreign rights were converted into **12 *Rhkr*** and they were credited to Switzerland (6 *Rhkr* for Swiss transit, 6 *Rhkr* for Tuscan rights). (e)

From Bavaria

The <b>GAPU</b> set the following <b>rates to Tuscany</b> , for each Zoll lot:			
GAPU transit	9 <i>rhkr</i>	3 <i>sgr</i>	
Tuscan inland rate	7 or 8 <i>rhkr</i>	2 <i>sgr</i>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>16 or 17 <i>rhkr</i></b>	<b>5<i>sgr</i></b>	



**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Augsburg to Leghorn.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **17 *Rhkr***. The letter crossed Via Austria (Innsbruck on February 16<sup>th</sup>) and arrived to Leghorn on February 20<sup>th</sup>. (e)



From Baden

From April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859

When **Tuscany** was already a part of **Italy**, the new **Convention** between **Baden** and **Switzerland** was applied on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859. It established that **the inner rate of Baden** for prepaid letters up to destination in **Sardinia** was **3, 6 or 9 Akr** for each *Viener lot* (17,5 gr.). The inner rate depended on the distance from the Swiss border (up to 10, between 10 and 20, more than 20 miles). There was also **6 Akr of Swiss transit duty** for each lot of weight (17,6 gr.) and **6 Akr of Sardinian duty** for each 10 grams.



**April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Mannheim to Leghorn.** The indication “*Via France*” was cancelled and the letter was sent in closed mail **via Switzerland** and it passed through Chur and Milan. Single-rate letter franked with **21 Akr** ( 9 Akr as Mannheim was more than 20 miles far from border, and at the beginning it was considered as a Sardinian double-rate letter and indicated “**Wf 18**” but after it was cancelled and corrected in “**12**” (weiter franco). The “**P.D.**” handstamp confirm that the letter was paid up to destination. (e)

From  
Rhineland Palatinate  
  
with  
  
Thurn & Taxis  
postage stamps



**August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Bad Ems to “Florence – Italie – p Turin”.** According to the Convention with the Kingdom of Italy the letter was franked with **21 Rhkr** with **Thurn & Taxis** postage stamps (**9 Rhkr** in red for inner rates up to Swiss border and **12 Rhkr** in blue for foreign rights - 6 for Switzerland and 6 for Italy -). “**P.D.**” handstamp.

To the United Kingdom

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1851

Sardinian Mediation

The French - Sardinian Convention effective from **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851** established the free postage of correspondence up to destination of the prepaid letters sent from Tuscany to the UK.  
**The rate** of the prepaid letters up to destination was **20 crazie**, for each 6 *denari* of weight.



**July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Lucca to “Putney Hill – London -Inghilterra”.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **20 crazie**. There is the “P.D.” and the “T.S.3” transit handstamp of the French Post Office “Sard. Pt De Beauvoisin” that confirm the crossing through France in open mail and that the letter was sent according to the French-Sardinian Convention. (e)

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1856

French Mediation

The French - Tuscany Convention effective from the **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851** permitted the transit of correspondence in closed mail through the Kingdom of Sardinia territory and the free postage of correspondence up to destination: letters could be prepaid up to destination in the United Kingdom with **the rate of 17 crazie** for each 6 *denari* (7,1 grams).



**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Pisa to “Hull – Angleterre – Via France - Affranchie”.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **17 crazie**. There are Tuscan and English “P.D.” handstamps. (e)





July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Leghorn to Liverpool. “2” Double - rate letter franked with 34 crazie with five postage stamps, all cancelled by a “P.D.” handstamp. The letter was carried in open mail through France with “Tosc. 3 Pt. de Beauvoisin 3” handstamp and in England the English “P.D.” handstamp was applied. (e)

#### “PER CONSEGNA”

Registered letter

French Mediation

“From the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1856 .....prepaid letters from Tuscany to England will be charged 15 crazie for each simple rate ..... In case of registered mail the rate will be doubled”

From the *Monitore Toscano*



April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Florence to London. Front of “PER CONSEGNA” registered letter franked up to destination with 30 crazie (15 crazie rate doubled for the registration). There is the “Tosc./3 Pt. de Beauvoisin” handstamp of the French Post Office, as well as the French “CHARGE” and the British “REGISTERED” handstamps and the indication of 6 d of rights credited from France to the United Kingdom. The letter was then resent near to London and franked with 1 p postage stamp.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860

**Government of Tuscany**  
**English-Sardinian Convention**

From November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859 the effects of the **English - Sardinian Convention** were extended to all Tuscany and from **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 the rates** were defined in Italian liras: **60 *Icent*** for each 7,5 grams for prepaid letters up to destination to UK. Letters were sent in closed mail through France and the French transit handstamps were not applied.



**September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to London.** Single-rate letter franked with **60 *Icent*** with two postage stamps of Tuscany Government. However it resulted to be a **double-rate letter**, so the “**P.D.**” handstamp was cancelled and the “**Francobollo/Insufficiente**” handstamp was applied and it was marked the indication “**1,20**” (120 *Icent* - 120 for a double-rate, 60 for excess postage, total 180, from which were deducted 60 of postage stamps applied -). On arrival the English administration applied the “**MORE TO PAY**” handstamp and charged to addressee with “**1**” *shilling* (= 120 *Icent*). There is also the note “**4**” showing the countable credit of **4 *decimi* of *Lira*** of the Tuscan administration to Sardinia. (e)



**The indicate “4” sign**

Between January and November 1860 almost all prepaid letters up to destination having the rate of 60 cents had the “**4**” sign or its multiple. This countable sign indicated the credit of the Tuscan administration to the Sardinian one of **4 *decimi* of *lira* for each 7,5 grams of weight** (Tuscany kept 20 *Icent* for itself). The amount of credit was used to pay back the United Kingdom for its rights of transit in a closed mail through France.

**February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Florence to London “Via France”.** A **single-rate letter** franked up to destination with **60 *Icent*** with a stripe of three of 20 *Icent* stamps of Tuscany Government. There is an indication of “**4**” of credit to the Sardinian administration for a single-rate letter.

**From the month of December 1860 the “4”** (credit to the Sardinian administration for a single-rate letter) **is not more present.**

**Genuary 9<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Florence to London.** **Single-rate letter** franked up to destination with **60 *Icents*** with a stripe of three of 20 *Icents* stamp of Tuscany Government.







February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to Sheffield. Four-rate letter franked up to destination with 240 *Icent* with three postage stamps of 80 *Icent* of the Tuscany Government. There are the Tuscan “P.D.” and the British PAID handstamps. (e)

**to Ireland** (at that moment in United Kingdom)



January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Pisa “Via London” to Dublin, in Ireland. “2”double rate letter franked with 120 *Icent* with a pair of 40 *Icent* of Tuscany Government and one 40 *Icent* of Sardinia postage stamps. “P.D.” handstamp. (e)

From the United Kingdom

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1854

French and Sardinian  
Mediation

In the absence of a direct convention between Tuscany and the United Kingdom the mail was exchanged thanks to Sardinian and French Mediation. The rates in the United Kingdom were established according to the English-French Convention of 1843. The activation of the French-Sardinian Convention from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 allowed to send prepaid mail to destination with a **single rate** (up to ¼ of ounce) of **1s 4d**.



August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From London to “*Pise – Toscane*”. Letter of weight between 1/4 and 1/2 ounce (**double- rate for French rights, single-rate for English rights**) franked up to destination with **2s 3d** English postage stamps. The “**P.D.**” handstamp and the **diagonal line** confirm it. (e)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1856

French and Sardinian  
Mediation

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855 the rate for prepaid letters sent from the United Kingdom to Tuscany became **1s 1d** for each ½ ounce.



April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1855. From the United Kingdom “(*Via France*) to *Florence (Tuscany) (Toscane) (Italie) Italy paid*”. Double-rate letter (1/4 - 1/2 ounce) franked up to destination with **2s 2d**. “**P.D.**” handstamp. (e)



**Mail Fraud**

with the postage stamp of one shilling made by three pieces of different postage stamps.



September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Cosport “Via France to Sienna Sienna Toscane Tuscany Paid”. Single-rate letter franked with 1s 1d with the postage stamp of one shilling made by three pieces of different postage stamps. The fraud was not found and the “P.D.” handstamp and the diagonal line confirm the payment up to destination.

**Introduction of the Sardinian rates**

From April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1860 the prepaid letter rate from UK was 6 d for each ¼ ounce.

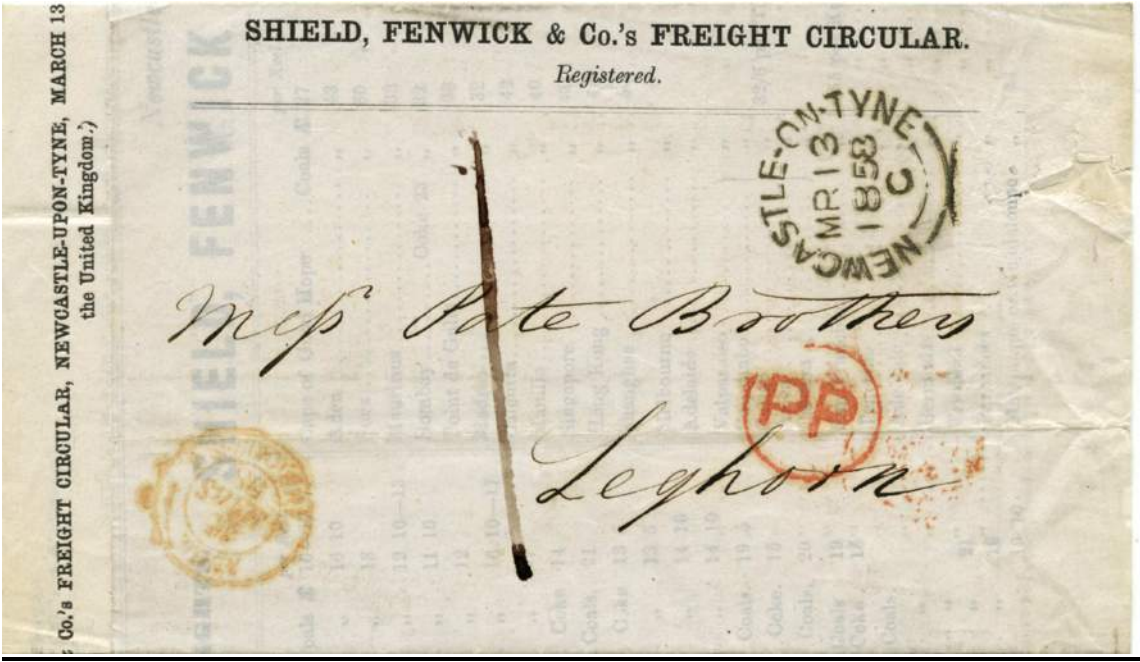


April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From London to “Firenze Italia”. Double-rate letter franked up to destination with 1s. The British “P.D.” handstamp and the diagonal line confirming the payment.

From February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858 to April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1860

Printed matter

In UK printed matter to be sent abroad had to pay English rights of **1d** for each ounce and were **prepaid up to the Tuscan border**. In order to have the **reduced rate of 1d** they had to be listed in a specific register and be sent in such a way to allow checking of registration by the “Circulation Department”.



March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Newcastle on Tyne to Leghorn. “**FREIGHT CIRCULAR – Registered**” to obtain the reduced rate for printed matter which paid **1d** up to the Tuscan border, as it is confirmed by “**PP**” (Partial Payment) handstamp, **charged 1 crazia** in Tuscany. There is an “Angl./date/Amb Calais B” handstamp of the French Postal Office that confirms the French Mediation in open mail.

From January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1860 to December , 31<sup>st</sup> 1862

When Tuscany became “Italian”  
it was possible to send letters

Via Ostend

A supplemental document to the English-Prussian Convention of 1846, effective from January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1860 established **the rate of 1s 2d** for 1/2 ounce to Italy **via Belgium** with the British conditions. The rate was detailed as following: 3½ *d* to the United Kingdom, 3½ *d* to Prussia, 1*d* to Belgium for the transit in closed mail, 3*d* to Switzerland for the transit in open mail, 3*d* to Italy.



September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Liverpool “**Via Ostende**” to Leghorn. **Double-rate letter** (1/2- 1 ounce) franked up to destination with **2s 4d**. Two different English “**P.D.**” handstamp. Disembarked in Ostend the letter was carried in close mail **through Belgium to Prussia**. There was a credit of **1s 8d** to Prussia (1*s* 7/10 = 1*s* 8*d*) and noted the Prussian credit of **9 ¼ Sgr** corresponding to 12*d* (6*d* to Italy and 6*d* to Switzerland). There are handstamps of the Swiss and Italian postal offices on the steamer “Verbano” passing the Lake Maggiore on 14<sup>th</sup> and of arrival to Leghorn on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 1862. (e)



to Russian Empire

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

Austrian Mediation

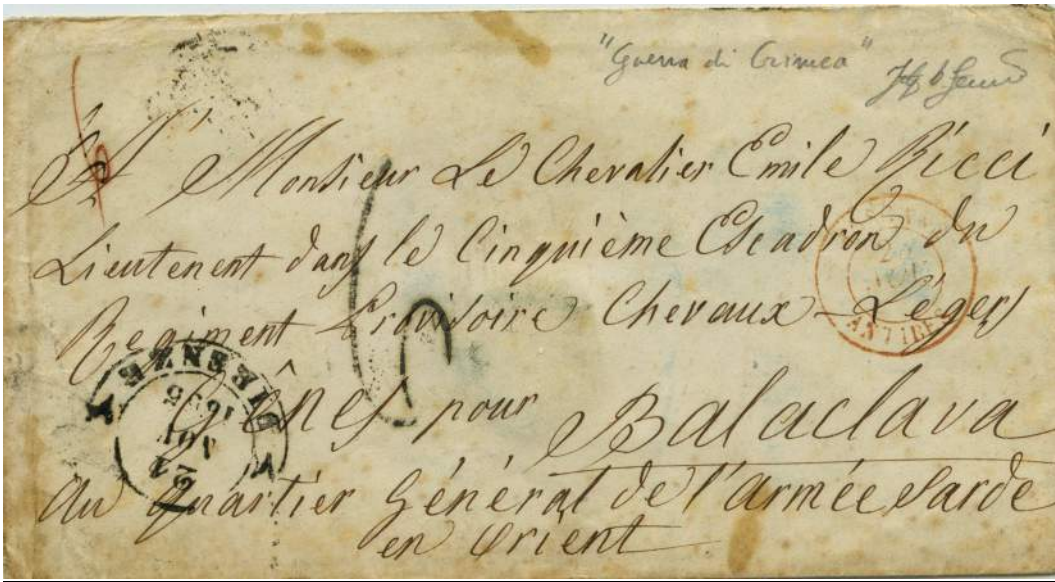
When Tuscany became a part of Austrian-Italian League, the letters sent from the Grand Duchy to the Russian Empire often were in transit through Austria. The rate for a single-rate letter of 15 denari was 12 crazie.



March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1857. From Leghorn to Odessa. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 12 crazie. P.D. handstamp. The indication “6/6” highlights the *kreuzers* of the Russian and Austrian-Italian League rights. The only one known franked letter sent by Austrian Mediation. (e)

The Crimean War

Even soldiers from Tuscany was present to the expedition to Crimea. The Tuscany mail were carried by the Sardinian Military Post Office that worked from May1855 to April 1856. The Sardinian Office in Balaklava was provided with double-circle handstamps with the notice: “R. POSTA MIL.<sub>E</sub> SARDA\*”.



November 21<sup>st</sup>, 1855. From Florence to an officer of the Sardinian army in Balaklava “Au Quartier Général de l’Armée Sarde en Orient” in Crimea. The letter was sent through the French Postal Offices of Antibes and Marseille on November 26<sup>th</sup> and arrived to Balaklava on December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup> to the Sardinian Military Post Office. There were “6” crazie paid on departure and “6” decimes of French rights paid later in 60 Icent. (e)

One of the two letters sent from the Grand Duchy of Tuscany to an officer of the Sardinian army in the East.

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**French Mediation**

With the 1859 Second Italian War of Independence the mail from Tuscany to Russia could not be carried any more through Austria. It could be carried by French steamships from Leghorn to Odessa.

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 the rate for a letter of 6 *denari* was of 13 *crazie* and the prepayment was “partially compulsory” up to the disembarkation port.



August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn to Berdyansk (Ukraine). Single-rate letter franked with 13 *crazie*. There is the transit handstamp of Constantinople on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and the handstamp of Russian Postal Office. There is also the indication of 20 *copechi* paid by addressee for the inner Russian transit. The only one known franked letter sent by French Mediation. (e)

From Russian Empire From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859



**Austrian Mediation**

From the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 the Austrian-Tuscany Convention established that letters sent from Russia with postage payable on delivery would be charged 15 *crazie* in Tuscany.

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852. From Odessa to Leghorn. Single-rate letter sent with postage payable on delivery. There are the “T.A./Russia merid<sup>e</sup>” of Vienna and “Austria/\*/N°3” of Florence handstamps as requested by the Austrian-Tuscan Convention for letters coming from Russia. .... 15 *crazie* of charge: 6 *crazie* (9 *Akr*) for Austrian-Italian rights, 6 *crazie* (10 *copechi*) for Russian rights and 3 *crazie* for excess postage for letters sent with postage payable on delivery.

**Austrian Mediation**

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1858. From Odessa to Leghorn. The letter not travelled by “Vapore Postale”, but overland via Austria as confirmed by the black “Porto” Russian and by the “WIEN/date” transit datestamps. The letter shows tke 18 *Akr* debited by Austria: 9 to Russia and 9 Austro-Italian transit. 12 *crazie* (corresponding to 18 *Akr*) was charged on delivery.





to **Finland** (at that moment Russian Empire)

Finland was a part of the Russian Empire, but it had an independent postal administration, with the same rates as Russia.



September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1857. From Leghorn to Oulu “*Russisch Finland - “Voie St. Peterbourg”*”. The letter passed through Austria and Prussia (“Odelgerg, 23-9, Breslau” handstamp). Indication **15 Akr** rights (9 *Akr* up to Austrian border and 6 *Akr* for GAPU transit) then cancelled and converted in **5 Sgr** (indicated **2/3**), that corresponding to 15 *copechi* and added 12 for inner Russian rights, made a total of **27 copechi of final charge.** (e)

to **Norway**

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857



May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Leghorn to Oslo (**Christiania**). The letter was carried through Austria and Prussia and via Hamburg and Denmark. It was paid **4 crazie** (corresponding to 6 *Akr* or 2 *Sgr*). Austria charged on Prussia **15 Akr** (6 up to Austrian border and 9 for GAPU transit), then cancelled and converted in **5 Sgr**, after that reconverted in **7 Hamburg skilling**. To that 1 *Hsk* was added for amount of right (1 *Sgr*) of Danish overseas transit. It was carried from Hamburg to Kiel and then to Helsingør and to Oslo in Norway (3 *Sgr*). **The addressee paid 14 Norwegian skilling-species (Nsk)** for the 7 *Hsk* for Hamburg and other rights about 15/16 *Nsk*, for a **total of 30 Nsk**. On the recto “**5**” indicates the Prussian debt and “**5 ¼**” the credit of Prussia for Hamburg. (e)

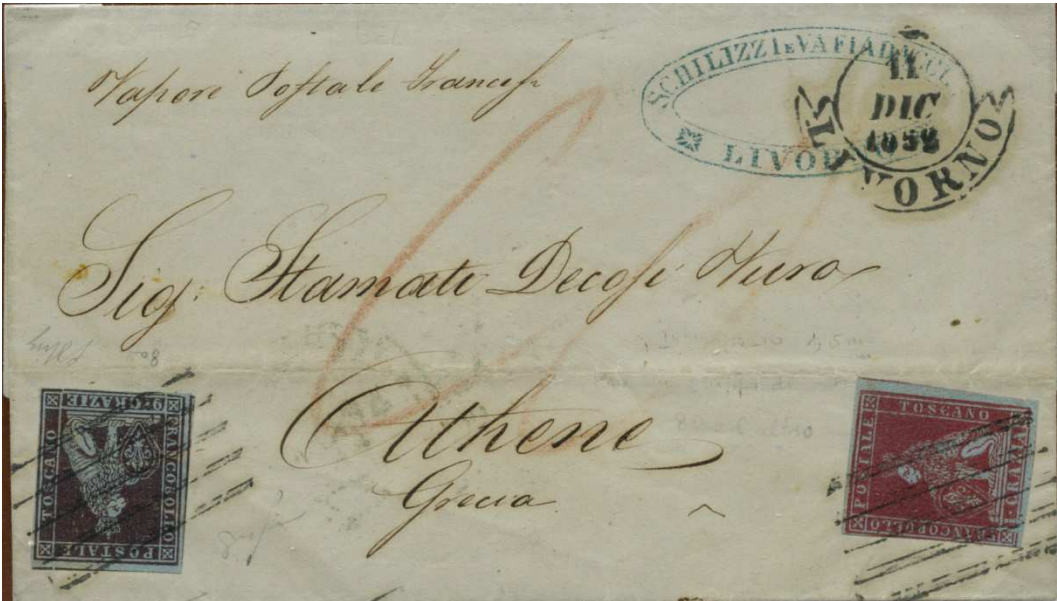
to Greece

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857

The mail to Greece could be sent from Tuscany prepaid up to the Greek border. The Greek post then charged for inner rate the addressee.

**The overseas rate to Greece by French Postal Steamships was:**

up to 6 denari	10 crazie
from 6 to 8 denari	13 crazie
from 8 to 12 denari	17 crazie
from 12 to 18 denari	25 crazie



December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Leghorn by “Vapori Postali Francesi” to ”Athene – Greece”. Single-rate letter, carried by Steamer “Oronte”, franked with 10 crazie up to Greek disembarkation port, charged for the inner Greek rate 10 leptas. (e)

The different dates, observed on the Greek handstamps because that in Greece the Julian calendar (12 days behind the Gregorian calendar) was in use.



February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Leghorn “Col Vap. Post. Francese” to Syros. Double-rate letter, carried by the steamer “Oronte”, franked with 13 crazie up to the Greek disembarkation port, charged for the inner Greek rate of 15 leptas.



From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 the rate up to the Greek disembarkation port was up to 6 denari 13 crazie

“The rate for letters .... was doubled, tripled or quadrupled according to their weight to go beyond the limit of a single or double or triple port ...”



July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Leghorn “col *Postale*”, in this case the French steamer “Aventin”, to Athens. “3” rate letter franked with 39 crazie up to the Greek disembarkation port, charged for the inner Greek rate 25 leptas. (e)

Period rate table: From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860

Government of  
Tuscany

The “Notification of November 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859” established the rates in Italian currency.

Letters: 80 *Icent* (12 crazie) for each 10 grams up to the disembarkation port. The Greek journey was paid by the addressee.



March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn “Col *Vapore postale francese*” “raccomandata al...Pireo” to the Greek island Hydra. “2” doubled rate letter franked up to disembarkation port with 160 *Icent* with two postage stamps of Tuscan Government. The letter was charged up to destination 20 leptas, the inner Greek rate. (e)

**Sardinian postage stamps**

**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861** Sardinian postage stamps were introduced also in Tuscany.



**January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn by “Vapore postale” to the Greek island Syros.** Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with **80 Icent**. It is the first day of a new postage stamp of Sardinia 80 Icent in Tuscany. The letter was carried firstly by the steamer “Capitole” of “Linea d’Italia” up to Messina and from there by French steamer of the line to Constantinople. The letter was **charged 10 lepta** up to destination, the inner Greek rate. (e)

**Introduction of the Italian rates**

Until February 16<sup>th</sup> 1862, when the Italian-Greek Convention established the **rate of 100 Icent** for letters franked up to destination in Greece, also the letters from Tuscany could be paid up to the disembarkation port in Greece at a rate of **100 Icent** for each 10 grams of weight.



**September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Leghorn to Athens “Col Vapore Postale Francese”,** franked with **100 Icent** up to the disembarkation port. It was carried by the French packed *Aunis* from Leghorn to Malta and from Malta by a packed of the *Levante* lines.



From Greece

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851

Government of Tuscany

To Ancona by steamer of Austrian Lloyd, then to Tuscany using papal postage stamps.

In Ancona the agent of Austrian Lloyd received the letters and prepaid them, or applied papal stamps when, on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852, the new papal postage stamps were issued.

The papal rate was 5 baj for each 7,5 grams of weight.

Then in Tuscany the letter was charged 6 crazie



December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Patras to Leghorn. The letter was prepaid 100 leptas in cash. The cover shows the Greek "ΔΠ" (P.D.) handstamp. It arrived to Ancona "Via di mare" on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1852. In Ancona the Lloyd agent noted "10" and franked with 10 baj with the newly issued papal postage stamps. Then from Florence by the "Central Tuscan Railway" and by the "Leopold Railway" (handstamp S.V. = Vapor Service) it arrived to Leghorn on January 7<sup>th</sup>, where it was charged 6 crazies for Tuscan rights.

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852



December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1852 (December 16<sup>th</sup> Julian calendar). From Patras "via Ancona" to Leghorn. Single-rate letter prepaid up the destination 100 leptas (inclusive Greek inland rate and the Austrian rights: 9 Akr for the sea-carriage by the Austrian Lloyd to Ancona and 9 Akr for the Austro-Italian League transit). The cover shows the Greek diagonal line and the "ΔΠ" handstamp, as well as the "Via di Mare" and the "P.D." handstamps impressed at Ancona.

to **Malta**

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

The French-Tuscan Convention of 1851 allowed the carriage of letters from Leghorn to Malta in closed mail by French steamships packets.

**The rate** of prepaid letters to the disembarkation port of Malta was **10 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight.

**In Malta** the letters were charged **1 penny** for each ¼ ounce for inner rate for each ¼ ounce.



March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1857. From Leghorn “Col Postale” to Malta. Single-rate letter franked 10 *crazie* up to the disembarkation port in Malta. In Malta it was charged “1” *penny*.



January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn to Malta. “8” eighth-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port in Malta with 80 *crazie*, with also a 60 *crazie* postage stamp. In Malta the addressee had to pay “8” *pence* on delivery for the inner rate. (e)



**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860. Government of Tuscany**

The **Sardinian - British** Convention established from **February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858** for each 7,5 gr. up to the disembarkation in Malta **the rate of 40 *Icent***. (12,5 *Icent* for Sardinia, 12,5 *Icent* for Malta and 15 *Icent* for the overseas transport). If the transport took place by Sardinian packet it was paid to Sardinia, if the packet was French it was paid to Malta. So if the packet was Sardinian Malta received 12,5 *Icent*, if the packet was French 27,5 *Icent*. From **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860** the convention was extended to Tuscany.



**May 12<sup>th</sup> 1860. From Trieste to Leghorn to be send to Malta.** Interrupted the postal communications between Austria and the Kingdom of Sardinia, a heavy letter between 17.6 and 20 grams and therefore of the **double Austrian rate** was franked with **30 *Nkr*** up to the Venetian border. Then in Leghorn was **charged “4” decimi (40 *Icent*) double rate** for the inland carriage through Italy. From Leghorn the address was changed and it was forwarded to “*Alle gentili cure del Sigr. Angiolo Abela*” and on 19<sup>th</sup> May it was sent to Malta franked with **120 *Icents* (third rate)** with Government of Tuscany stamps. Malta, realizing the **transport by the French Packet**, is credited itself with **82,5 *Icents*** corresponding to 3 times the amount of 27,5 *Icent*.



**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Leghorn to Malta.** “5” five-rate letter franked up to destination with **200 *Icent*** with postage stamps of Tuscany Government and of the Kingdom of Sardinia. The **P.D.** handstamp confirms it. Maltese authorities for the carriage by a French packet, credited themselves with **137,5 *Icent*** corresponding to **5** times the amount of 27,5 *Icent*. (e)



from **Malta**

**Government of Tuscany**

It was not direct convention Malta – Tuscany.

**The rate** of the letters departing from Malta was **3 pence** for each ¼ of once.

In Tuscany the letters was charged **10 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight.



**November 26<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Malta to Leghorn. Single- rate letter** franked with 3d. The cover shows the handstamp “P” struck in Malta, indicating the **partial payment**. At arrival it was charged **10 crazie** although on November 1<sup>st</sup> the new rate of 9 crazie was introduced.

**From February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858**

The Convention between the Kingdom of Sardinia and the United Kingdom, effective from **February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858** established for prepaid letters sent from Malta to Tuscany, the rate of **4 pence** for each 7,5 grams: 1¼ *penny* to Sardinia, 1¼ *penny* to Malta and 1½ *penny* of overseas transport that were due to Sardinia, if the transport was made by Sardinian packets or to Malta if the packets were French. In the first case (Sardinian packets) Sardinia was credited with 2¾ *pence*, in the second case (French packets) with 1¼ *penny*.



**April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Malta to Leghorn. Triple-port letter** (weight between 15 and 22,5 grams) franked with **12 pence**. The “P.D.” handstamp confirm it. The carriage was by a French packet: “3¾” *pence* were credited to Sardinia/Italy corresponding to three times of the amount of 1¼ *penny*. (e)



to Ionian Islands

From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859

**During the Grand Duchy period  
by Austrian Mediation**

Letters could be carried to the Ionian Island  
by the **Austrian Lloyd via Trieste**.  
Letters had to be prepaid up to the Austro-  
Tuscan border.

**Rate:**  
12 *crazie* up to the disembarkation port  
and the inner rate of 3 *pence* for each 1/2  
ounce were charged on delivery.



**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Pisa “Via Trieste” to “Cefalonia Isole Joniche”.** Single-rate letter franked with 12 *crazie* with postage stamps firstly cancelled by “PD” handstamps, and then erased because the letter was not prepaid up to destination but just **up to the disembarkation port**. “6” *crazie* for the overseas carriage were cancelled and substituted (on the back) by the corresponding 9 *Akr*. It passed through Trieste on November 18<sup>th</sup> and by the Austrian Lloyd it arrived to Corfù on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and from there to Cephalonia, where “3” *pence* were charged for the inland rate of the Ionian Islands.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1861

**Government of Tuscany**

In this period the letters from  
Tuscany to Corfù were sent **via  
Genoa and Marseille** and from  
there to **Malta** by English or  
French packets in closed mail.

The last part of the route **from  
Malta to Corfù** was made by  
Admiralty packets or by private  
companies, as for example  
*Peninsular and Oriental*, *Austrian  
Lloyd* or other steamships.



**October 20<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to Corfù, on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Single-rate letter franked with 60 *Icent*. The letter was carried by a French postal steamers to Malta, where 27 ½ *Icent* (12½ for Malta + 15 for French carriage) were noted. From Malta to Corfù by Austrian Lloyd and 1/5 *Nkr* were charged. At destination the letter was charged 4 *pence* to the addressee.

from **Ionian Islands**

By Austrian Lloyd Steamer

December 30<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Cephalonia to Leghorn. Single-rate letter arrived on January 4<sup>th</sup> 1852 to Ancona (Via di Mare handstamp). In Ancona the Lloyd agent noted on the back “5” and franked with 5 baj with the newly issued papal postage stamps. At Leghorn it was charged “6” *crazie* for the Tuscan inland rate.



Swiss Mediation



August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Cephalonia to Florence “ferma in posta”. The sender paid 1 p for the Jonic rate, 15 Akr for the Austrian Lloyd and 15 Akr for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League distance. The Franca hamdstamp confirm that is was paid up to destination. Due to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian Independence War, the postal communication were interrupted and the letter was sent via Swiss Route. From Trieste through Vienna and Feldkirch 16/8 and Chur 16/8, in Switzerland, to Milan. Switzerland debited Sardinia 10 Akr, equivalent 25 Icent, and added 20 Icent for local rate was noted “Carico Sardo 45 cent.” In Florence 21/8, 45 Icent = 7 crazie and added 2 crazie for internal rate the addressee was charged 9 crazie.

With Jonian postage stamp

December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Lefkos, Jonian Islands, “Via Trieste” to Florence. Single-rate letter franked for the internal rate with 1 penny Jonian postage stamp and prepaid 15/15 Nkr (15 for the Lloyd sea carriage and 15 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Austrian distance). It arrived to Florence on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1861 and 2 decimi (20 Icent) was charged.





Letter mail to and from **AFRICA**

To **Egypt** (Ottoman Empire)

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

The mail from Tuscany to Egypt had **the same rates** established in the **French-Tuscan Convention of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851**:

**13 *crazie*** for each 6 *denari* for prepaid letters carried to the destination by French steamships.



**February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855. From Leghorn “Con il Vapore dello Stato” “Franca” to Alexandria.** Single-rate letter franked with 13 *crazie*. There is also a “P.D.” handstamp as cancellation of the postage stamps.

**The “Via di Mare”  
“OVERSEAS”  
of Florence**

Between 1843 and 1856 there were “VIA DI MARE” stamps in use, written in capital letters in two lines in black and red colours, on the outgoing correspondence from Florence, in particular on the post bound to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and to other oriental destinations carried by French mail steamers.



**September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From Florence to “Cairo – Egypt”.** “2” double-rate letter franked up to destination with 26 *crazie*. There are the “Via di Mare” and the “P.D.” handstamps of Florence. The letter arrived to Leghorn on September 21<sup>st</sup> and by the French packet “Bosphore” arrived to Malta on September 25<sup>th</sup>. On the same day it was embarked on the French packet “Telemaque” of “Ligne du Levant” and arrived to Smyrne on September 30<sup>th</sup>. On October 10<sup>th</sup> the letter was placed on board the French steamer “Scamandre” of “Ligne de Syrie” that arrived to Alexandria on October 21<sup>st</sup> and from there it was handed to Cairo. (e)



Government of  
Tuscany



September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn “*Con Vapore Postale Francese*” to Alexandria. “4” quadruple-rate letter franked up the destination with 52 *crazie*. “P.D.” handstamp. (e)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to July 1860

Government of Tuscany

Until July 1860 the Tuscan rate of 13 *crazie* continued to be effective, changing from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to 90 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams of weight, for letters from and to the French Post Office of Alexandria.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 the was also the new postage stamps in Italian cents.



February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn “*Con Vapore Postale Franc*” to Alexandria. “2” double - rate letter franked with 180 *Icent* with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. “P.D.” handstamp. By the French packet *Quirinal* arrived to Malta on 8<sup>th</sup> and to Alexandria on February 12<sup>th</sup>. (e)



From July, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

Sardinian Rates

From July 1860 the Sardinian rates were extended to Tuscany and from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 the rate of the prepaid letter was 80 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams of weight.



July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn to “Alessandria”d’Egitto”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 80 *Icent*. “P.D.” handstamp. (e)

Via Marseille to Egypt

If the letters had to be carried via Genoa and Marseille, they had to be prepaid

40 *Icent* for Leghorn-Marseille distance and 80 *Icent* for Marseille-Alexandria distance.



June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn “Via di Marsilia” to Alexandria”. Single-rate letter franked with 120 *Icent*. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter “via Genoa” arrived to Marseille on June 30<sup>th</sup> and from there it was carried by the French packet “Borysthene”of “Ligne d’Egypte/Sirie” and arrived to Alexandria on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1861. (e)

## From Egypt

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to the middle of June 1860

### From the French Post Office of Alexandria in Egypt

Egypt did not have its own foreign post office service; therefore its letters had to be handed to a European Post Office.

From the French post office of Alexandria of Egypt the rate of a prepaid letters sent to Tuscany was **90 Fcent** for each 7,5 grams of weight.



December 13<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From “Alexandrie – Egypte” to Leghorn. Tenth-rate letter franked up to destination with 900 Fcent. “P.D.” handstamp.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1863

### Carried by English Packets of Egypt Line

By the French mediation the letters to Tuscany could be sent by English Post Steamers of the Marseille-Alexandria line. From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861, the rate of single letter was reduced to **80 Fcent** only for letters paid in advance, applying the same rules and weights of the previous convention.



September 19<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Alexandria – Egypt “Via Marsiglia – Vapore Inglese” to Leghorn. “4”quadruple-rate letter franked up to destination with 320 Fcent. “P.D.” handstamp. By French mediation, the letter was handed to an English packet of Lines of Egypt. It arrived in Marseille on September 28<sup>th</sup>, and then through Susa-Torino arrived to Leghorn on September 30<sup>th</sup>.



To **Algeria** (French province)      From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

The same rates of France were applied:  
9 *crazie* for letters of 6 *denari* (7,1 grams).



February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Florence to Algiers. “*Preme*” and “*Dopo la partenza*” handstamp. Single-rate letter franked with 9 *crazie*. “*P.D.*” handstamp. The letter transit through the “*Toscane/Antibes*”postal office and from Marseille and it arrived to Algiers on February 17<sup>th</sup>. (e)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1860



The Grand Duchy - France Convention continued also in “*Italian*” Tuscany period.  
Meanwhile the currency was changed and from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 new **Tuscan stamps** in cents of Italian lira arrived.

November 13<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Lari, near Pisa, to Algiers. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 60 *Icent* with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. “*P.D.*” handstamp. Via Florence, Genoa and Marseille the letter arrived to Algiers on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

From **Algeria**

Algeria was considered a postal province of France therefore the French rates applied also to letter to or from Algeria.

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Alger to Leghorn. Single-rate letter insufficiently franked with 20 *Fcent*.  
60 *Fcentimes* was the rate for the letters sent to Toscana. The charge does not take into consideration the value of the stamps affixed and insufficiently prepaid letters were treated as fully unpaid letters.  
The addressee had to pay 9 *crazie* as for an unpaid letter from France.



To **Tunisia** (Ottoman Empire)

From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

The Sardinian Administration organized a naval postal service from Cagliari to Tunis by steamships of Rubattino Company. The rate was 60 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams, both for prepaid letters and carriage forward charged on delivery.

The **rate of the letters** for each 7,5 grams of weight **from Tuscany to Tunis** was **100 *Icent*** (60 *Icent* overseas transit, 40 *Icent* Sardinian – Tuscan convention rate).



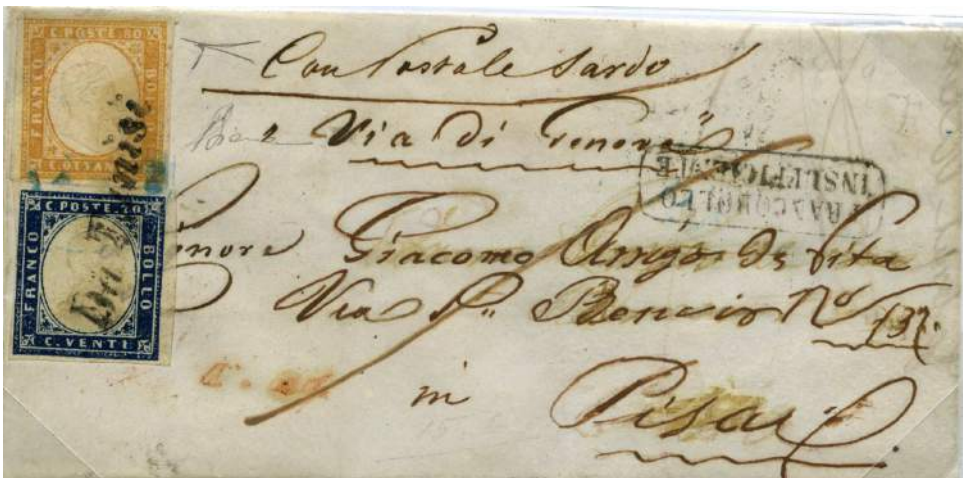
**December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1852. From Leghorn “Col Castore” to Tunis.** The single-rate unpaid letter was carried overland “Via di Sarzana” to Genoa, then overseas to Cagliari and to Tunis. The Sardinian postal office of Tunis **charged 10 *decimi*** (100 *Icent*) to the addressee..

From **Tunisia**

From August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862

**Sardinian Post Office in Tunis**

According to the Sardinian-Tuscan convention effective from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852, the **rate of the letters** for each 7,5 grams of weight **from Tunis to Tuscany** was **100 *Icent*** (60 *Icent* overseas transit, 40 *Icent* Sardinian – Tuscan convention rate).



**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1859. “Da Tunisi” “Con Postale Sardo – Via di Genova” to Pisa.** Single-rate letter franked with **100 *Icent*** with Sardinian stamps. At first a “**Francobollo Insufficiente**” handstamp was marked, after that it was **crossed out by a diagonal line** and two green “**P.D.**” handstamps were **impressed** on the postage stamps. Also the red “**P.D.**” handstamp of Cagliari confirmed it. (e)



To Morocco (Tangier)

Tangier (now in Morocco) was an autonomous territory submitted to Islamic laws. It didn't have an own postal organization. The letters to or from Tangeri were transported by ships of different flags, or they arrived from Spain or from Gibraltar more rarely from Algeria for the coastal route on the Mediterranean. The letters were treated to the postal conditions of the Countries that crossed or of the ships on which they traveled, therefore mainly of Spain, France and United Kingdom.



February 7<sup>th</sup>, 1854. From the "I. e R. Governo Civile di Livorno" to "Console d'Austria ... a Tangeri (Marrocco)". Entered France for Toscane – Antibes 11/2 and Marseille 12/2, where it was take on board and it arrived to Oran Algerie 20/2 and to Tangier. Free post in Tuscany, it was "2" double rate and charged "12" decimes.

From Morocco

Letter in Arabic, written in Tangier, from there it was entrusted to a traveler going to Spain who sent it from San Roque to Leghorn, where there was a large colony of Moroccan scholars who were dedicated to the study of holy texts. The text is inscrutable and probably directed to the "initiated" people able to understand the true meaning of what is written there.



June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1856. Letter in Arabic handwritten in Tangier and forwarded from San Roque – Cadiz (Spain) to Leghorn. Letter franked up to the French border with 4 cuartos Spanish postage stamp. At arrive to Tuscany, the "2" double rate letter (more as 6 denari – 7,1 grams of weight) was charged "28" crazie.

Letter mail to and from **Asia**

**To Turkey (Ottoman Empire) From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859)**

**The Ottoman Empire**

In 1850-1870 period the Ottoman Empire was in decline and many of its provinces de facto were independent. The Ottoman post system was not adequately organized, and in the main cities the European post offices were open.

**French Mediation by French Steamships**

The **French-Tuscan** post Convention of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851, established the rate of **13 crazie** for each 7,5 grams for prepaid letters sent to the French post offices in Turkey carried by French post steamships.



**September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Leghorn to Constantinople. Double rate letter** franked up to destination with **26 crazie**. A “P.D.” handstamp and a **diagonal line** to confirm it. The letter, from Florence with a “**Via di Mare**” handstamp, was embarked in Leghorn on board of the French Post Steamer “Bosphore”, arrived on September 15<sup>th</sup> to Malta where it was carried on board of “Mentor” steamer and disembarked in Constantinople on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. (e)



**To the French Post Office in Mersine**

**December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Leghorn to Tarsus”. Single-rate letter** franked with **13 crazie** to the disembarkation in the French Post Office of **Mersine**, near Tarsus. The letter was carried by the French Post Steamer “Tamise” to **Alexandria**, then through **Beirut** it arrived to Mersine on December 29<sup>th</sup>. Two **disinfection slits**. (e)

**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862**

**Tuscany Government**

**To the French Post Office of Constantinople**

When **Tuscany** became “**Italian**” the **Sardinian Rate** of **80 Icent** for a single letter weighing up to 7,5 grams were introduced. The letters were carried by **French Post Steamships** and delivered to the French Post Offices in Turkey.



**November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1861. From Florence “Voie de mer” to Constantinople.** Single-rate letter franked to the disembarkation in French Post Office of Constantinople with one **80 Icent** postage stamp of Tuscany Government.



From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to May 1862.

**Austrian Mediation**  
**To Trieste and then by Lloyd**  
**Post Steamships to the**  
**Austrian Post Office of**  
**Constantinople**

It was always possible to send letters through Trieste by Austrian Lloyd.  
The letters had to be prepaid to the Austrian border and then charged to destination.



February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1860. From Leghorn to Trieste “*per Costantinopoli coi Vapori del Lloyd Austriaco*”. Double inner rate letter franked to the border with a Tuscan postage stamp of 40 *Icent*. In Trieste an Austrian handstamp “15” *Nkr* of the single Austrian rate for the 3<sup>rd</sup> distance was applied. The letter was carried by Austrian Lloyd to Constantinople. The “2.10 / 3.-” handstamp means that the sender would pay 2 *piastre* and 10 *para* for the 15 *Nkr* and 3 *piastre* for the Lloyd carriage. (e)

From **Turkey** (*French Mediation*)

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**From the French Post**  
**Office**  
**of Smyrna**

The rate of the prepaid letters sent to Tuscany from the French Post Offices in Turkey was 90 *Fcent* for each 7,5 grams of weight.



September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Smyrna to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 90 *Fcent*. “P.D.” handstamp.

From the French Post Office of Salonika

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From “*Salonique – Turq. d’Europe*” to Pisa, then corrected as Leghorn. Double rate letter franked up to destination with 180 *Fcent*. A diagonal line confirms that the letter was prepaid.



To Syria (Ottoman Empire)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 to December 1862



French Post Office of Aleppo

The Tuscany mail with Aleppo, inland of Syria, that was a part of Ottoman Empire, was disembarked at the French Post Office of Alexandrette, and then carried overland by the ottoman post. It had the same rates provided by the French-Sardinian post convention. From July 1860 the rates of the Franco-Sardinian Convention were extended to the Tuscan provinces. From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 the rate was 100 *lcent* or 100 *Fcent*.

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Leghorn to Aleppo, in Syria. Single-rate letter carried by the French Post Steamers to Constantinople, then overseas to Smyrna and to the French Post Office of Alexandrette. From there it was carried overland to Aleppo, where the “*Poste Francais d’ Alep*” and “*TAXE*” handstamps were applied and charged 10 *decimes* to destination.

From Syria

The Franco-Tuscan Convention effective from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 established a rate of 13 *crazie* for each 7,5 grams of weight, for letters carried by the French packets to the French offices in the Ottoman Empire. The same rate was applied to unpaid letters received from the French post offices in Syria and it continued also in Tuscany Government period.

September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Alexandrette to Leghorn. The letter was handed to the French Post Office of Alexandrette and placed on board of a French Packet, and disembarked in Leghorn on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The rate of 13 *crazie* was charged on delivery.





To **Cyprus** (Ottoman Empire)

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

**French Mediation**

The mail with Cyprus, that was a part of the Ottoman Empire, had the same rates provided in the French-Tuscan post Convention:  
**13 crazie** for each 7,5 grams.

This same condition was applied also when the **Government of Tuscany** came to power.



August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Leghorn, in period of Tuscany Government, to “Larnaca di Cyprus Col Postale”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination by French packed with 13 crazie. Two disinfection slits.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 to December 1862

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 the Sardinian rates were effective in “Italian” Tuscany.

The rates for prepaid letters, carried to the French Post Offices in Ottoman Empire by the French packets was **100 Icent** for each 7,5 grams of weight.

In Tuscany also new postage stamps arrived in that time.



October 26<sup>th</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn, at this time Kingdom of Italy, to “Larnaca di Cipro - Col postale”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 100 Icent with a 80 Icent of Tuscany Government and a 20 Icent of Sardinia postage stamps. “P.D.” handstamp. By French packet it arrived to Beyrout on March 27<sup>th</sup> and from there in Cyprus. (e)

To **Palestina** (Ottoman Empire)

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 to December 1862

To the French Post Office  
of Beyruth

The mail between Tuscany and **Jaffa**, that was by then a part of **Ottoman Empire**, had the same rates provided in the **French-Sardinian post Convention**.

From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 the rate of prepaid letters up to destination was **80 Icent** for each 7,5 grams.



March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From Leghorn by “*Vapore Postale Francese*” to Jaffa, in Palestine. Single-rate letter franked with **80 Icent** with one Sardinian postage stamp. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter passed through the French Post Office of **Beyruth** and from there it was carried to Jaffa. (e)

From **Indonesia**



May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1862. From **Batavia (nowadays Jakarta)** to Leghorn. This letter was franked up to embarkation in Singapore, how it is handwritten on the back. On May 17<sup>th</sup> at **Singapore**, the letter was placed on board of the English Post Steamer “Benares” of “P&O”. It was disembarked at Galle (Ceylon – nowadays Sri Lanka), where it was embarked on June 1<sup>st</sup> on board of the packet “Nemesis” of “P&O” that disembarked it at **Suez** on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1862. Overland the letter was carried to **Alexandria** where it was again embarked on June 20<sup>th</sup> on board of Steamer “Vectis” of “P&O” and was disembarked at Marseille on June 26<sup>th</sup> where the handstamp “**Pais Etr. V. Suez /28 Juin 62/Marseille**” confirm the transport via Suez and not via Cape of Good Hope. The letter of the weight of 7,5 grams, at Leghorn was charged **20 decimi** to the addressee according to the French-Sardinian Convention of 1860, valid from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861 and extended to all Tuscan provinces.



# Letter mail to and from **NORTH AMERICA**

## **To Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland**

### **British Mediation**

The “**Notification**” published in Florence on **April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1859** established the **rate** of **18 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight (7,5 grams) for prepaid letters for **all the British Colonies** and for the Overseas countries, for which the British Mediation was valid. This condition was in effect also when the **Government of Tuscany** came to power.



**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From Siena to Halifax (Nova Scotia).** Single-rate letter, sent on the **first postal day of the Provisional Government of Tuscany**, franked up to destination with **18 crazie**. The letter was sent “by land”, as confirmed from the “**Tosc/date/3 Pt de Beauvoisin 3**” of **Paris** datestamp and from there, in a closed mail, it was sent to England where “**London /May 3/ Paid**” and a **Liverpool “L/May 4/A”** handstamps were applied. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1859 the letter departed from Liverpool on the board of the Allan Line steamship “North American” and arrived at **Quebec** on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1859. After that the letter was sent to **Halifax** and arrived to destination on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1859 as confirmed by the oval postmark on reverse.

*The only know letter with this rate to this rare destination.*

To the **United States of America**

The most part of Tuscan mail to and from the USA was carried according to the post convention with France. **Until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1857** France sent its mails to the USA in according to the **Anglo-French convention**. **From April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857** according to the **French-American convention** just a small part of Tuscan correspondence was carried according to **Austrian-Tuscan convention** and later according to the one between **Prussia and the USA**.

**French Mediation - British packets carriage**

**From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1856**

**French-Tuscan Convention**

**From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851** the rate was **28 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight for prepaid letters to the disembarkation port in the USA.

Letters were carried by **British packets** from **Liverpool to Boston or to New York**.

At disembarkation in the **USA** letters were charged **5 UScent** until ½ ounce (14,2 gr.), **10 UScent** until 1 ounce and **10 UScent** for each more ounce of weight .



**November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1851. From Prato “Via d’Inghilterra” to New York. Three-rate letter** franked with **84 crazie** with 21 postage stamps of 4 *crazie*. “**P.D.**” handstamp. The letter “via Sardinia” entered France via “**Tosc/Pt de Beauvoisin**” on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The letter arrived in England and after that was carried from Liverpool to New York by English steamships. The letter up to 1 ounce of weight was charged **10 UScent** at disembarkation. *The only known letter with so many 4 crazie postages. (e)*





August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1853. From Leghorn “Col Vap: Progresso franc. Via Marsilia” and “Via Liverpool” to Philadelphia “United States of America” and “to be sent from Liverpool Steamer”. Four-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation in Boston with 112 *crazie*, also with a 60 *crazie* postage stamp. Two “P.D.” handstamps. The letter was embarked on board of the packet “Europa” of Cunard Lines that sailed from Liverpool on August 20<sup>th</sup> and arrived to Boston on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1853. At the disembarkation the letter from 1 ounce to 2 ounces of weight (28,4-56,8 gr) was charged 20 *UScent*. (e)



**American Packets and non contract ships carriage**

The **French-Tuscan Convention** also made it possible to send letters prepaid to the disembarkation port in the USA **from the French ports** of Havre or Bordeaux, and carriage **by a non contract ship** at a rate of **15 crazie** for each 7.5 grams of weight. On delivery letters were charged **5 UScent** for a weight up to ½ ounce; heavier letter were charged with the progression of the British scale.



**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1853.** From Leghorn to “*Frederick City - State of Maryland -United States of America*”. Single-rate letter franked with **15 crazie**. There is the handstamp of the French Post Office “*Pont de Beauvoisin*” and “*Bureau Maritime Le Havre*” on February 21<sup>st</sup> on the back side. It arrived to New York on April 12<sup>th</sup>, where a “**7 UScent**” *handstamp* was applied: 2 *UScent* overseas rights and 5 *UScent* for domestic rights. In New York the black handstamp confirmed carriage by a non contract ship.  
*Only two letters carried by non contract ships are known.*

**From January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857**

**“Three months period”**

**From January 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1857** the rate of prepaid letters carried from France “via England” to the disembarkation port in the USA, was **19 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight (7,1 gr.).



**April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1857.** From Florence “*via Liverpool*” to “*New York U.S. of America*”. Single-rate letter franked with **19 crazie**. “**P.D.**” handstamp. The letter was carried to Paris and to le Havre and then to Liverpool where it was embarked on board of the packet “Asia” of Cunard Lines to New York where the handstamp “New York - May 15 – Paid 15” was impressed. The letter was considered as fully prepaid to its destination, maybe because it was sent from the United Kingdom after May 1<sup>st</sup> and so according to the new French-American convention that by then was effective **9 UScent** were charged to France as the letter was transported by an American packet despite the handstamp “**Br. Service**” specifying that it was carried by a British packet.



From May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859

From May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 thanks to the Convention between France and the United States it was possible to carry letters from Tuscany to the USA carriage prepaid to destination paying **20 crazie**.  
The post office of Philadelphia usually was marking the letters arriving from Old Italian States with the handstamp “**21**” (the rate in *UScent* for a simple letter from the USA to Sardinia).

**May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Leghorn to “Philadelphia Penn. U.S. America”.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **20 crazie**. **P.D.** handstamp and a **diagonal line** to confirm it. It was carried via Paris and to England where it was placed on board the packet “Europa” of Cunard Lines that sailed on June 4<sup>th</sup> from Liverpool and arrived on June 15<sup>th</sup> to Boston and on June 17<sup>th</sup> to Philadelphia (handstamp PAID). There is the handstamp “**21**” *UScent* and “**3**” *UScent* recognized from France to USA for letter carried by British packets. (e)



From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862



**Tuscany Government** **Introduction of Sardinian Rates**  
From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860 the rate of the French-Sardinian Convention for letters carried post free to the USA of **120 Icent** for each 7,5 grams of weight was introduced. In the meantime the Tuscan Provisional and the Sardinian postage stamps were introduced.

**May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn “Via Liverpool” to S. Francisco “California”,** fully prepaid 1,20 *Italian lire* to destination. The letter entered France at Culoz, and then it was transferred to Liverpool where it was carried in closed mail, on board of an American Packet which arrived in Boston on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Partial payment was not accepted, and insufficiently prepaid letters could not be sent.

**August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861. From Leghorn “Via France, & New York” to “S. Francisco – California”.** Only with **20 Icent** postage stamp of Sardinia, the letter could not be sent. The sender was called by notice no. 69 and on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and he had to completely re-franked with **120 Icent of Tuscany Government**. The letter was carried via Marseille, Paris and Calais and departed from Southampton on August 28<sup>th</sup> on board American packet “Hammonia” and arrived to New York on September 10<sup>th</sup>. **9 UScent** show the **American charges**. The number “**1187**” is related to the post office box of addressee “Leone Cipriani”. (e)



from the **United States of America**

From October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1852 to 1863

**Austrian Mediation**

**Prussia-USA Convention**  
**American Packet**

The **USA - Prussia Convention** established from **October 1852** the rate of **30 UScent** (equivalent to 24 *crazie*) for each ½ ounce of weight (14,2 grams), for letters sent prepaid up to destination.

The **Trade Post Offices** were for Prussia in **Aachen** and for the USA in **Boston** and in **New York**.



**November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From New Orleans (Louisiana) to “Florence - Italy”** carried in the Prussian Closed Mail, franked with **30 UScent**. **P.D.** handstamp. In New York the “**7/N.York Am Pkt PAID**” handstamp was impressed to show that the letter was paid and the credit of 2 *UScent* for the Belgian transit and 5 *UScent* for the Prussian one. The letter on board of the packet “Fulton” of Havre Lines left from New York on November 13<sup>th</sup> and arrived to Southampton on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Then via London and Ostend it arrived to Aachen on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The “**Aachen /franco**” and “**Franco Preuss:/resp: Vereinsl: Ausg: Gr.**” handstamps were impressed to confirm that the letter was prepaid up to the GAPU boarder. The Florence delivery datestamp dated December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1858, is on the reverse. (e)

**Prussian Mail**  
**Prepaid letters from USA to Tuscany**

The rate of the **Prussia - USA Convention of 1852** of **30 UScent** established:

**5 UScent** to the USA,

**5 UScent** to Prussia,

**2 UScent** to Belgium and

**18 UScent** for the transatlantic and British journey.



**April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1859. From New York to Leghorn.** Single-rate letter franked up to destination with **30 UScent** with ten 3 *UScent* postage stamps cancelled with a pen. A “**P.D.**” handstamp and a **diagonal** line confirm that the letter was prepaid. It was carried by ship “City of Manchester” to Queenstown in Ireland on May 13<sup>th</sup> and to Liverpool on 15<sup>th</sup>. Then via London and Ostend it arrived in Prussia to Aachen on May 16<sup>th</sup>, where the “**Franco Preuss: /resp: Vereinsl: Ausg: Gr.**” and “**Aachen Franco**” handstamps was impressed. (e)



**Prussian Mail**  
**Prepaid letters from USA to Tuscany**

A **Postal Convention** between USA and Prussia was signed at Washington, D.C., on July 17<sup>th</sup> and at Berlin on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1852.

The **single-letter rate** was **35** per ½ ounce of 14,2 grams (5 for USA, 5 for Prussia, 20 for all transit fees between the two countries, and 5 for Tuscany). The Exchange offices were established at New York, Boston, and Aix la Chapelle, Prussia (Aachen).



**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1857. From Baltimore (Mariland) to Florence, “per British Steamer Africa via New York”.** The letter was **fully prepaid 35 UScent** (inclusive 5 UScent additional fee to Tuscany) and it received the **PAID** and the **P.D.** handstamps and a **diagonal line**. The letter shows the “**New York/Dec 9/B<sup>r</sup>PK**”, the **12 UScent** handstamp for the USA debit to Prussia, the “**Aachen Franco**” handstamp and the “**fr 2**” (2 Sgr =5 UScent) credited to Tuscany. The letter arrived at Florence on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1857.

**Forwarded from the German States**

Letters from USA could be also addressed to Germany who a forwarder send them to destination in Tuscany.



**September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1863. from York (Pennsylvania) to Munich (Bayern) then forwarded unpaid to Florence.** The letter franked with **15 UScent** postage stamps was sent to New York where it received the “**N.YORK 12 BREM.PK.//PAID**” datestamp that confirm that the letter was dispatched from New York on September 26<sup>th</sup> and that **Bremen was credited with 12 UScent**. By the North German Lloyd steamship *Hansa* the letter arrived to Bremerhaven on October 10<sup>th</sup> and the “**AMERICA/UBER BREMEN/FRANCO**” handstamp shows that the letter was fully paid. The letter arrived at Munchen on October 13<sup>th</sup> and the same day it was sent via Switzerland to Florence where it arrived on October 17<sup>th</sup> 1863. **6 decimes** (60 Icent) was **charged** on delivery, the rate for an unpaid letter from German States.



From May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1861

**By the Convention France - USA**

With the **Convention between France and USA** effective from May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857, it was possible to send prepaid letters from USA to Tuscany with the rate of **27 UScent** for ¼ ounce of weight.

The convention remained also in force when Tuscany became "Italian".

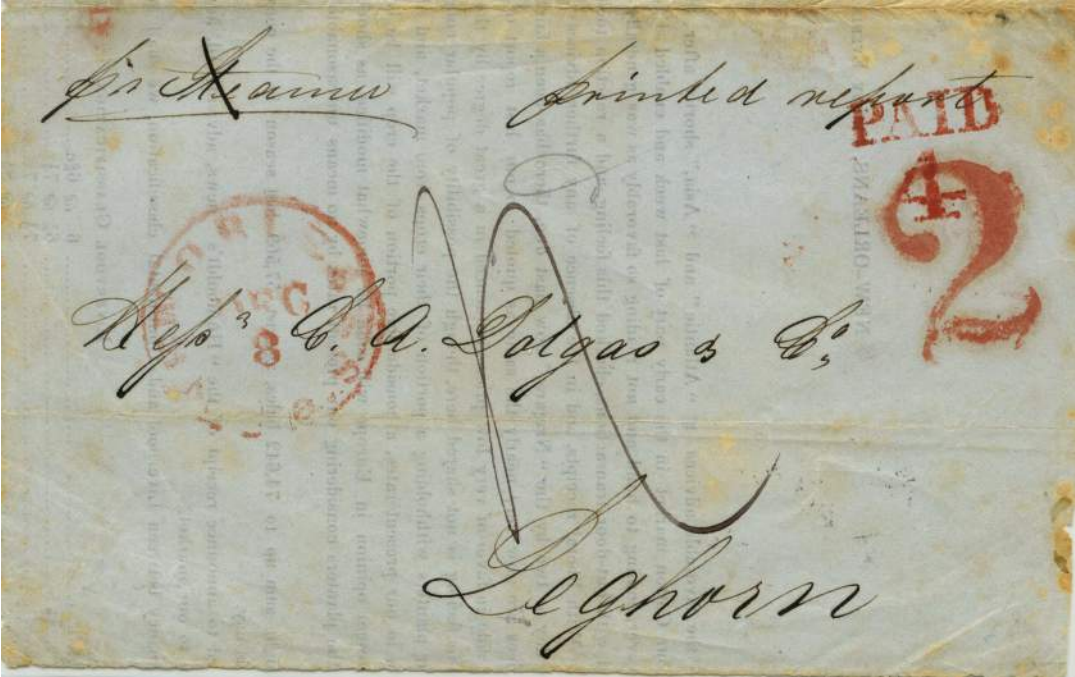


**October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Boston to Florence** franked up to destination with **27 UScent**. The “**Boston/Oct31/Paid 24**” handstamp shows the **24 UScent** credit to France for a carriage by a British Packet. “**P.D.**” handstamp. On board of the packet “**Arabia**” of Cunard Lines, it left USA on August 31<sup>st</sup> and arrived to Liverpool on November 11<sup>th</sup>, then in France via Calais the “**Et.Unis Serv.Br.A.C./date/C**” handstamp was applied to confirm a transatlantic carriage by British Packet. The letter arrived to Florence on October 19<sup>th</sup>. (e)

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1856

**Printed matter and Newsletters**

The **printed matters** could be sent to Europe prepaying the rate of **4 UScent**, including **2 UScent** credit to the **United Kingdom**.



**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1851. “Printed report” from New Orleans (Louisiana) “Per Steamer” to Leghorn.** Printed matter prepaid with **4 UScent** (“**PAID/4**” handstamp). When it arrived to New York a big handstamp “**2**” was applied to highlight the English credit. The printed matter from New York on December 17<sup>th</sup> on board of steamer “**Africa**” of Cunard Lines arrived to Liverpool on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1851, then via Calais it entered France and it arrived in Leghorn on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1852, where it was **charged 4 crazie**.



Letter mail to and from **CENTRAL AMERICA**  
to **Puerto Rico**

The **French - Tuscan Convention of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851**, established the rate of **15 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight for prepaid letters carried to the disembarkation port in the West Indies **either by French packets or by commercial Steamers** that sailed from a French port.

**May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1854.** From Florence “*Par Bordeaux*” to “*Puerto Rico (Humacao) America*”. Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with **15 crazie**. The black “**P.D**” of Florence and the English red “**P.D**” handstamps were impressed on it. The letter was carried in a closed mail via Sardinia, and then entered France at Pont de Beauvoisin and to Bourdeaux. It was transferred on board of a French commercial steamer and disembarked at St. Thomas, where “**SANTOMAS**” and “**FRANCE**” handstamps were marked and **3<sup>1/2 reales</sup> were charged**. Then it was transferred to Naguabo, the nearest post office to Humacao.



From **Puerto Rico**



**British.Mediation**  
The Anglo-Sardinian Convention established for letters **from Puerto Rico the rate of 1 Real** for each ¼ onza of weight to the embarkation port, and **charged 1 lira** on delivery in Sardinia. The letters were carried in closed mail through France.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1861.** From Puerto Rico to Pietrasanta (Tuscany), “*Via S<sup>t</sup> Thomas y Inguilterra*”. Letter franked for the inland rate with **1 Real** with a pair of ½ *Real Plata* of **Spanish West Indies postage stamps**. It was carried to St.Thomas by a non contract ship as confirmed by the Danish circular datestamp of July 13<sup>th</sup>, struck on reverse. In St.Thomas the letter entered the British postal system and, carried to Southampton a RSMP packet, the letter transited London on July 29<sup>th</sup>. The cover bears the notation of the **60 Icents** debited to Kingdom of Italy by the U.K. Carried in closed mail through France, the letter arrived in Pietrasanta on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1861 and **10 decimi** (100 *Icent*) was charged on delivery.

From **Mexico**

**French mediation**  
The 1856 Franco-British Convention, effective from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1857, established the rate of **19 crazie** for the letters paid to the disembarkation ports of the Atlantic coast of America. The same rate was charged on delivery of letters from American countries of the Atlantic coast that were prepaid only to the port of embarkation.

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1859.** From Guanajuato (Mexico) to Florence. Single-rate unpaid letter directly handed to the British Consular Office. The letter was put aboard a British packet of the RMSP lines and it was disembarked in Southampton. In London transit it received the accountancy marking “**GB 1F 60C**” debiting France 1.60 *French francs* for each 30 grams of letters carried to France by the British packet from a port of the Atlantic ocean coast. Carried in open mail through France, when the letter arrived in Florence on May 7<sup>th</sup> 1859, **19 crazie was charged** on delivery.



Letter mail to and from **SOUTH AMERICA**  
to **Venezuela**

**French Mediation**

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851 the rate of prepaid letters to the disembarkation port in Venezuela was **28 crazie** for each 6 *denari* of weight.

The letters were delivered by the British packets of RMSP lines to St. Thomas, and then were carried by trade ships to Porto Cabello or to La Guaira.

On disembarkation, letters were charged of the **Venezuela inland rates of 2 reales** for ¼ ounce (7,2 grams) of weight.



**July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1856. From Montecatini “Via Angleterre to La Guayra (Venezuela).** Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with **28 crazie** . “P.D.” handstamp. The letter was carried in open mail via France and UK and arrived to London on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Then it was placed on board of the packet “Solent” of Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (RMSP) in Southampton and arrived to St. Thomas on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The letter was then carried by a non-contract ship to La Guaira where **2 reales** were **charged**. (e)

**From Venezuela**

Since Tuscany and Elba Island became Italian, the French-Sardinian Convention of 1851 reduced in 1857 the rate to 100 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams of weight.



**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1863. From Porto Cabello “Per Via de Inghilterra – Italia Tuscany isola de Elba- Porto feriaio per la marina de marciana”.** The letter was carried to Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles and then to St. Thomas where it was placed on board of the packet RMSP that arrived to Southampton on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Then “**Angl. Amb. Calais**” of March 18<sup>th</sup> handstamp and via Leghorn and Portoferrario (on the back side) it arrived to Marciana Marina. The boxed handstamp of London “**GB / 1 F 60**” shows that it was charged to France for each 30 grams of mail and on delivery it was charged **10 decimi** (100 *Icent*).



to **The Granadine Confederation (Colombia)**

Via England

From February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858 the letters to the Granadine Confederation could be carried via England. The rate was 19 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight.

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1858. From Marciana Marina “*Via d’Inghilterra*” to “*San Josè de Cucuta– Cartagena S.A. – America*” in the Granadine Confederation. The letter was carried in open mail through France and UK. The letter schows the Exchange Office of Paris datestamp indicating the routing via Pont de Beauvoisin and the London transit marking dated December 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was embarked in Southampton on board of a RMSP packet and disembarked in St.Thomas. Single-rate letter franked with 19 *crazie* up to the disembarkation port in Santa Marta. It was **charged 1 ½** (15 *centavos*) on delivery.



to **Chile Pacific Coast**



By British packets via Panama

From 1846 the correspondence to the States of the South America Pacific Coast was carried on board of the **British Packets via Panama**. In 1855, the railway through the isthmus was completed; the correspondence was no more **disembarked** in Chagres but in Aspinwall (later called **Colòn**). Crossing the isthmus by railway the letters were **placed in Panama on board the packet ships of PSN** lines to be carried to different destinations.

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1860. From Florence, no more Grand Duchy, “*Via de Panama*” to **Valparaiso**. Single-rate letter franked with 185 *Icent* with postage stamps of Tuscany Government (paid an extra 10 cents, maybe, to pay the Leghorn – Genoa sea travel charge). There are the date stamps of transit impressed in Paris on 8<sup>th</sup> and in London on October 9<sup>th</sup>. (e)

To **Argentina**

Since Tuscany became Italian the Italian postal rates came into force. The French-Sardinian Convention from 1857 reduced the rate of a letter to 100 *Icent* for each 7,5grams of weight. The province of Buenos Aires in 1859 adhered to the Federation of Argentina. Argentina has never contracted any post treat neither with the UK, nor with France, but let that the agents of these nations pass the correspondence in arrival from Europe or receive it to send to Europe. The letters delivered directly to the French or British agents or to the British or French Post Offices did not to pay any charge to Argentina.

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1863. From Leghorn to “*Bonos aires “America del Sud”*”. Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with 100 *Icent*. The “**P.P.**” (Partial Port) handstamp was applied. The letter was carried via Paris and London on November 9<sup>th</sup> where it received the datestamp **PAID**. Then it was embarked in Southampton on the board of the RMSP packet and disembarked in Buenos Aires. The letter, handed by the British agent was **not charged on delivery**.



From **Brazil**

**French Mediation**

The Franco-Tuscan Convention, of September 20<sup>th</sup> 1851, effective from **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851**, established a rate of **28 crazie**, for each 6 denari of weight, for unpaid letters received from Brazil.

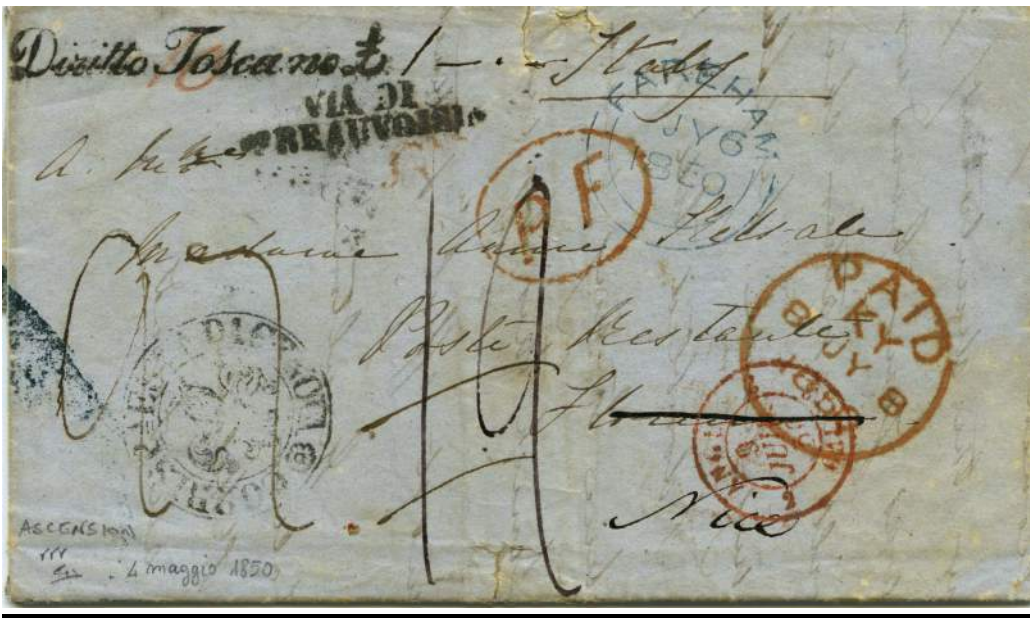


**July 12<sup>nd</sup>, 1852. From Rio de Janeiro to Leghorn.** The letter, as confirmed by the British handstamp on the reverse, was directly handed to the British Consular Office of Rio de Janeiro (the Brazilian postage due was not charged if letters were distributed by the British Consular Office of Rio de Janeiro), where it was placed on board of an RMSP packet, it leaving on July 14<sup>th</sup> and arriving in Southampton on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Then London on August 12<sup>th</sup>, Calais on August 13<sup>th</sup> and Leghorn on August 18<sup>th</sup>. The “COLONIES/&c ART.13.” handstamp shows the Anglo-French Convention article that charged 40d to France for each 30 grams of weight, for letters carried from America by British packets to U.K. and then transferred to France. The letter of “2” double rate was charged **56 crazie** on delivery.

Letter mail to and from **British Overseas territories**

From **Ascension**

Ascension Island is located in the centre of the Atlantic Ocean, just south from the Equator, around 1,600 kilometres (1,000 mi) from the coast of Africa and 2,250 kilometres (1,400 mi) from the coast of South America. Its population was about 168 people. It was a part of the British Overseas Territory.



**May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1850.** From “*Ascension - H.M.S. Forgali Centaur*”, the naval station of His English Majesty, bound to “...*Poste Restante – Florence - Italy*”. Embarked on an English ship, arrived to **Fareham** in Great Britain on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1850 after two months of voyage. Then it was carried to **London** (**PAID** handstamp on July 8<sup>th</sup> and “**P F**” prepaid up to the English border) and to France (**Angl. 2 – Calais 2** on July 9<sup>th</sup>). Then “**via Pont de Beauvoisin**” it entered the Kingdom of Sardinia and arrived to Florence on July 15<sup>th</sup> (“**Corrisp. Est. Da Genova**” = “Foreign correspondence from Genoa”) and were **charged 12 crazie**. Then it was carried to “**Nice**” in the Kingdom of Sardinia and the 12 crazie were cancelled and “**Diritto Toscano £ 1 - .** –“was indicated, after that “**27**” soldi, equivalent to 135 *Icent*, were charged in Nice. This is the only know letter from Ascension to Italy.



