

## 1855/80- MEDITERRANEAN AND TRANSATLANTIC MAIL ROUTES

**INTRODUCTION.** On the 19th century with the arrival of the steam navigation that was able to ensure not only a safer but even a shorter and a more certain in length journey, the relations in the Mediterranean great maritime basin and among Europe and the American countries met an unprecedented intensity.

Regarding the Mediterranean Sea, decisive turning point was the choice of Suez, still before the channel opening, as the reference port for East Indies traffics as well as the raising of the colonial politics having in parallel, the strengthening of traffics with the declining Ottoman Empire to contrast the Russian penetration in the eastern Mediterranean Sea.

Referring, instead, to the Americas routes it has to be emphasized that the great excess of manpower resulting, above all, from the rising industrialization, led to North America million of foreigners coming, mainly, from the Northwest European countries, while French, Italian and Spanish people found their way to Latin America.

The most important *Mediterranean routes* working in 1855/80 had reference to the following countries:

**FRANCE:** Lines of ITALY, LEVANT, SYRIA and EGYPT besides some important inland lines as those to CORSICA and ALGERIE.

**AUSTRIA:** lines EASTERN-GREEK, SYRIA, TRIEST-SMYRNA, TRIEST-COSTANTINOPLE and TRIEST-ALEXANDRIA all powered by the Steam Navigation Society "Austrian Lloyd" being, together to other minor lines in Adriatic and Greece area, a busy network of mail services.

**ITALY:** lines GENOA-TUNIS, TUNIS-TRIPOLIS-MALTA, GENOA-ALEXANDRIA (Rubattino Co.), BRINDISI-CORFU' (Peirano Co.), PALERMO-MALTA, PALERMO-TUNIS (Florio Co.) ANCONA -afterwards BRINDISI-ALEXANDRIA (Adriatic- Oriental Co.), to which after 1870' the English Company "Peninsular and Oriental" succeeded, fundamental for the transit of the "Indies bag" coming from Suez and, finally, from 1873, the MESSINA-CONSTANTINOPLE and VENICE-CONSTANTINOPLE (Trinacria Co.).

**GREAT BRITAIN:** two lines to ALEXANDRIA going the first one to MARSEILLE, and the other to GIBRALTAR.

The most important *Transatlantic routes* working in 1855/80 had reference to the following countries:

**GREAT BRITAIN :** United States lines LIVERPOOL-BOSTON and LIVERPOOL-NEW YORK;

-West Indies line SOUTHAMPTON-COLON (Royal Mail Steam Packet Company) that allowed, after crossing the Panama isthmus, to take on board of Pacific Steam Navigation Co. steamers that called at the main ports of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile.

-South America line: SOUTHAMPTON-RIO DE JANEIRO-BUENOS AYRES

**FRANCE:** North America line LA HAVRE NEW YORK; West Indies lines SAINT NAZAIRE-VERACRUZ and SAINT NAZAIRE-COLON (Panama); South America line BORDEAUX- RIO DE JANEIRO-BUENOS AYRES.

**GERMANY:** United States line BREMEN to NEW-YORK or BALTIMORE and HAMBURG-NEW YORK

**ITALY:** GENOVA—BUENOS AYRES by "LAVARELLO Co".

**SCOPE.** The subject is always the object of very advanced and in-depth studies with important and splendid collections. This one, with its diversity of routes and destinations, including many different countries, has the aim to offer an adequate and comprehensive view to a collecting sector still so charming and keen.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** The books of R. Salles regarding the French Maritime Mail, the "Understanding Transatlantic Mail" by R. F. Winter, "The Transatlantic Mail" by F. Staff, "the "Early routings of the Royal mail Steam Packet Company 1842-1879" by Kenton & Parsons, the book "Letter mail from and to the Old Italian states" by M. Mentaschi & T. Mathà and various writing of Umberto del Bianco.



Route ALEXANDRIA-MARSEILLE-British and French packets -



Cover from Port Said –May 12 1870- to Marseille franked double rate with Egypt Pyramid 1 piastre red (2) tied Port Said to pay the inland rate to Alexandria where the French P.O added the double rate to Marseille by **British packet** with 1867 40 c. pair tied “5080”. Egyptian and French Alexandria c.s (May 14) . Red arrival mark “1-Marseille-1 Paq. Ang.”



Cover from ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) Jun 18 1865- to PARIS franked double rate with 1858 40 c. + 10 c. (2) tied by 5080 “gros chiffres” of French P.O. in Alexandria. The letter, carried to Marseille by the **French packet** “Nil”, was thence dispatched by railway to Paris (26/6)

## LINE of SYRIA-French Packets



Cover from BEYROUTH (Turkey) -JU 18 1872- to LYON (France) -Jul 5- franked to pay a double rate with Napoleon 1867 40 c. pair tied by "anchor" cancel and alongside octagonal "Beyrouth/Paq Fr X n. 2" -The letter was carried on return voyage by steamship "Scamandre" of Line "X" Marseille-Alexandria-Smyrne-Marseille that called at Beyrouth. On arrival in Marseille red boxed mark "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MEDITERRANEE"



Cover from MERSINA (Turkey) -Nov 25 1867- to SIRA (Greece) franked to pay a single rate with 1867 10 c. bistre pair + 40 c. cancelled by 5092 "gros chiffres" with alongside d.c. "perlè"- " Mersina/Turquie d'Asie/25 Nov 1867"-The cover, carried by the steamship "Volga" of the French line X-Sirie, was disembarked on Sira on the following Nov. 17 (Julian calendar corresponding to Nov. 29 )



LEVANT- MAIL ROUTES from ALEXANDRIA to GREAT BRITAIN  
via TRIEST and via BRINDISI



Cover from ALEXANDRIA -SEP 24 1870- to LIVERPOOL (G.B) franked -to pay a rate 23 soldi to the disembarkation port- with 1867 Franz Joseph 10 soldi (2) + 3 soldi tied by the s.c. "Alexandrien 24/9" of the Austrian Consular P.O. As per the endorsement "Austrian Steamer via Triest & Ostende " the letter was placed on board a steamer of the Austrian "Lloyd" line from Alexandria to Triest and thence dispatched by railway, via Ostende, to Liverpool (Oct 4 1870) where the domestic rate of 8 pence was charged on delivery.



Cover from SUEZ (Egypt) -Dec 1 73- to LONDON -Dec 8- franked to pay the rate of 8 pence with 1873 six pence pale gray + pair 1858 1 penny lake-red all tied by duplex "B02" of the British Consular P.O. in Suez. As per the endorsement "via Brindisi" the letter was embarked in Alexandria on a British packet of the "Peninsular & Oriental line" in closed mail bag and disembarked in Brindisi (no transit mark) to be dispatched to London by railway. On reverse red arrival mark in London (8/12) .



**From ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) to GREAT BRITAIN and vice versa**

**Via BRINDISI and OSTEND – Indian mail bag**



Cover from ALEXANDRIA-Mar 3 1873- to London franked to pay the rate at destination "via Brindisi" with 1864 4 d vermilion winged pair tied by duplex "B01" and alongside the circular date stamp of the British Consular P.O. in Alexandria. The letter was carried in closed bag (Indian mail bag) by the British packet of the "Peninsular&Oriental" line Alexandria-Brindisi and disembarked in Brindisi where was dispatched to London (red arrival mark Mr 10) by train via Ostend. Endorsed "Via Brindisi"



Cover from LONDON -Mar 6 1874- to ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) franked to pay the rate at destination "via Brindisi" with 4 d vermilion pair tied by London "NW 8" duplexes and alongside the London circular date. The letter was carried in closed bag (Indian mail bag) to Ostend and from there, by railway, to Brindisi where was placed on board a "Peninsular&Oriental" British packet and disembarked in Alexandria on the Mar 12<sup>th</sup>.



## BRITISH STEAM PACKETS – Mediterranean lines



Cover from GIBRALTAR –March 25-1873- to MALTA –March 29- franked with four pence vermeil cancelled “A26”- It was carried to Malta by a British-Packet of line Gibraltar-Alexandria that called at Malta.



Cover from ALEXANDRIA -British Post Office –Jan 13 1866- to MALTA (Jan 23) franked with 1847 2 pence bleu and 1865 3 pence rose tied by the “B01” mark of the British consular P.O.. It was carried by a British Packet of line Alexandria-Marseille or Alexandria-Gibraltar, both having a call at Malta



**NON CONTRACT SHIPS CARRIAGE  
PORT SAID-MALTA and GIBRALTAR-GENOVA**



Cover from CAIRO -Mar 18 1876- to MALTA -Mar 24- franked to pay a single rate 1,20 piastre to destination with 1872 1 piastre red + 20 parà gray cancelled by the circular mark "Cairo Poste Egiziane". The cover was carried to Porto Said (transit mark on reverse 20 Mars) where was placed on board of a non-contract ship and disembarked in Malta on the following Mar 24th.



Single rate letter from GIBRALTAR -NOV 9 1860- to GENOA-Nov 14- prepaid 2 d to the embarkation port of Gibraltar. The letter was carried -as indicated in the endorsement- by the non contract ship "Zuavo di Palestro"- to Genoa where the red "VIA DI MARE(E)" was impressed. The handstamp "15 cm" indicated the amount paid on delivery: 10 c. for sea carriage and 5 c. for Sardinian postage rate within Genoa. The steamer "Il Zuavo di Palestro" commissioned to a shipyard in Glasgow by the Italian Steam Company "Accossato & Peirano", was moving from there to Genoa with a call at Gibraltar.



# **ROUTES from and to CONSTANTINOPLE By BRITISH MAIL** **Constantinople-Malta and Liverpool-Constantinople**



Cover from CONSTANTINOPLE -British Post Office -Ju 17 1868- to MALTA -JU 23- franked to pay a simple rate five pence with 1857 one d. red and four pence vermilion tied by "C" mark with the consular Post Office c.s. on reverse. Given the lack, at that time, of a sea line from Constantinopoli managed by British packets, it can possible suppose that the letter has been carried by the French packet "Amerique" that leaved Costantinople on the same June 17 and disembarked in Messina where was placed on board a steamer of "Florio Co." that managed the Palermo-Malte line with a call at Messina. On left side endorsement "F".



Letter from LIVERPOOL -JU 18 1866- to CONSTANTINOPLE (Turkey) franked at 11 pence -for ¼ ounce weight step- with 1864 1 d. red, 1863 4 d. vermilion and 1865 6 d mauve tied by Liverpool 466 duplexes. The letter, originally endorsed "Via France-Marseille" then corrected " p.Triest", was carried by railway, via London (Ju 19) and Wien (Ju 21), to Triest then placed on board a Austrian Lloyd Packet and disembarked in Constantinople (JU27).



**NORTH AFRICA- From the Italian Post Offices of TRIPOLIS and GOLETTA**



Cover from TRIPOLIS (Dec 28 1877) to GENOVA (Jan 5 78) franked to pay a simple rate to Italy with "Esterio" 30 c. tied by mute dotted bleu mark and alongside P.D. and d.c. "Tripoli di Barberia-Poste Italiane". The letter, embarked to Malta on a steamship of the "Rubattino Co." line Tunis-Tripolis-Malta, was from there carried by a "Florio Co." packet to Siracusa (Jan 1) and thence -likely- dispatched to Genova by a packet of the "Rubattino Co" Alexandria-Genoa line that called at Siracusa or Messina.



Cover from La GOLETTA( Tunisie) -AP 28 1880- to DREBGAU (Brandenburg-Germany) -May 3- franked with Italian Victor Emmanuel "Esterio" issue 5+20 c. cancelled by the numeral "3336" and alongside c.s. "Goletta Ap. 28.1880 " Carried to Genova via Cagliari by a "Rubattinino Co" Packet was addressed to Drebkau via "Brennero". *Earliest usage known of Italian stamps in the GOLETTA Italian P.O.*



# **ROUTES from ALEXANDRIA of the ITALIAN MAIL** by British packets via Marseille and the Mont Cenis pass



The May/1861 Anglo/Italian Convention activated mail exchange between the British Consulate in Alexandria and the Italian P.O. of the Susa-Turin train. The mail was carried by British packets to Marseille and thence dispatched, via Mont Cenis pass, to Susa (Italy) where the closed mail bag was placed on the Susa/Turin train and worked by the travelling post office. The letters prepaid 60 c. with Sardinia 40+20 c. struck by the linear origin postmark "DA ALESSANDRIA D'EGITTO".

*No letters with Sardinian stamps are known with this postmark, but only two fragments and few loose stamps.*

by French packets via Messina (1863)



*the rate for carriage to Italy via Messina, by French packets, was at that time ,80 c.*

Fragment of cover with SARDINIA 40 c. x 2 tied by the boxed bleu mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI FRANCESI".

by Italian packets via BRINDISI and ANCONA

From March 6 1863 the Italian mail was carried by the Italian packets of the new line Alexandria-Ancona that operated further to the opening of the Italian consular Post Office in Alexandria.



*the rate for printed matter to Italy was, at that time, 10 centesimi*

Part of newspaper wrapper franked with SARDINIA 10 c. tied by the boxed forwarding mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI" and alongside "Alessandria d'Egitto -19 Ago 63".



*the rate for carriage to Italy, via Brindisi or Ancona, by Italian packets, was at that time 60c.*

Front of letter from ALEXANDRIA -Nov 6 1863- to GENOA franked with SARDINIA 40 c. + 10 c. pair tied by the boxed forwarding mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI" and alongside the Italian P.O. mark "Alessandria d'Egitto-Poste Italiane 6 Nov 63" It was carried to Ancona and then, by railway, to Genoa.



# LEVANT- MAIL ROUTES from ITALIAN P.O. in ALEXANDRIA



Cover from ALEXANDRIA-SEP 21 1867-to GENEVA (Switzerland) franked -to pay the rate for Italian P.O. abroad- with 1864 Victor Emmanel II° 60 c. lilac tied by bleu c.s. "ALESSANDRIA d'EGITTO POSTE ITALIANE 21 SET 67-12 M" and alongside boxed forwarding mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI"- The letter carried by Italian packets of "Adriatico-Orientale Co." was disembarked in Brindisi (but not transit mark on reverse as usual) and thence dispatched to Geneva -Sep 26 arrival mark- by railway.



Cover from ALEXANDRIA -FEB 17 1881- to Tangier (Morocco). The letter shipped by the Italian Consular Post Office was franked to pay the foreign rate 25 c. and dispatched by a British packet via Malta and Gibraltar. On reverse partial mark "Correos ..." most likely impressed by Spanish P.O. on arrival in Tangier.

**TUNIS – Italian Consular Post Office**  
**Routes Genoa-Tunis by “Rubattino Co.” and Trapani-Tunis by “Florio Co.”**



Letter from TUNIS- Feb 8 1868- to GENOVA – franked to pay a triple rate 1,20 liras with 1864 V. Emmanuel II° D.L.R. 10+30+40 c. pair tied by “235” dots and alongside cds “TUNISI/POSTE ITALIANE 19 Feb. 1868”. On reverse transit mark in Cagliari (20/2) and arrival in Genova (21/2). Carried by “Rubattino Co.” packets.



Cover from TRAPANI (Italy) –dated Aug 16 1871- to TUNIS -Aug 17- franked to pay the simple rate with 1867 V.Emmanuel 20 c. pair. The letter was posted on board an Italian packet of the “Florio” Trapani-Tunis line and disembarked in Tunis on the following 17<sup>th</sup> receiving the “235” numeral and the “Tunisi/Poste Italiane” cds marks.



from TUNIS – Italian Consular Post Office



Cover from TUNIS- Ja 28 1862- to TORINO- franked with "Sardinia" 20 c. pale bleu +40 c. red scarlet to pay a single rate to Italy. Alongside d.c. "Tunisi-Poste Italiane" and cursive line "Da Tunisi" impressed in transit in Cagliari. Carried by "Rubattino Co." packets.



Cover from TUNISI- SEP 24 1879- to a little town of Messenia (GREECE) franked with "Estero" Victor Emmanuel II° 20+5 c. to pay the foreign rate 25 c. Alongside the cursive line "Coi Postali Italiani" to justify a reduced tariff. Cagliari transit (SEP 25) and from there by steamship to Naples, thence, by railway, to Brindisi (SEP 28) . Finally the letter was carried to Corfu'-Kerkira, by Peyrano Co. packet, and disembarked on following 17 SEP (according to the Julian calendar used at that time in Greece that was twelve days earlier respect the Gregorian calendar used in west Europe) to be addressed to Corinto by the Greek line of the Jonian Islands with arrival date SEP 9 (Oct. 2 according to the Gregorian calendar) -8 days

## ROUTES from GREAT BRITAIN to TUNIS

### Via Marseille by French packet



Letter from LONDON -Aug 22 1870- to TUNIS (Sep 22) franked -to pay the rate via France- with one shilling green tied London duplex cancel and alongside oval red PD to denote full postage paid to destination. The letter carried -as per endorsement - by train to Marseille -transit Aug 27- was placed on board a French packet to be disembarked in Philippeville (Algerie) and thence, by coastal service, to Tunisi; on arrival received the French consular postmark "Tunis 2 Sep 70"-

### Via Marseiile and Livorno by Italian packet



Cover from LONDON -May 9 1876- to TUNIS -May 15- franked to pay the rate at destination with 3 ½ d. The letter, as per endorsement "via France & Italy", was carried trough France to Leghorn (Italy) -May 12- where was placed on board an Italian packet and, via Cagliari -May 14-, disembarked in Tunis receiving the postmark "TUNISI POSTE ITALIANE May 15 1876"- On arrival charged 10 decimes to be paid by the addressee.



## BRITISH MAIL ROUTES in the MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Via Marseille to RHODES (Turkye) and via Triest to CATTARO ( Dalmatia)



Cover from BRISTOL (G.B.) Ap 23 1878- to RHODES (Turkye) franked to pay the simple rate at destination with 2 ½ pence. The letter, according to the endorsement, was carried to Marseille where was impressed the mark "Marseille Etranger-B.che de Rh.1E" used, normally by the Fraissinet steam ship Company. The transit mark in Smyrne (May 2) results, yet, inconsistent with the time schedule of that Company voyage, so it is logical to consider a steamer exchange over the route.



Letter from LONDON -Sep 11 1874- to CATTARO (Dalmatian Coast-Austria) - franked to pay a single rate with 1872 4d vermilion tied by London duplex. The letter carried by railway via Wien (13/9) arrived in Trieste (15/9) where was placed on board a steamship of "Lloyd Dalmatian line" and disembarked in Cattaro on SEP 18.

## LINE of SYRIA-French Packets



Cover from ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) –AP 27 1868- to BEYROUTH (Turkye) - franked to pay a single rate with Napoleon 1863 40 c. pair tied by “anchor” cancel and alongside octagonal “Alexandria/Paq Fr X N. 2”– The letter was carried on return voyage by steamship “Tanaïs” of Line “X” Marseille-Alexandria-Smyrne-Marseille that called at Beyrouth (arrival AP 30)

## SYRIA and GREEK ORIENTAL LINES – Austrian Lloyd Packets



Cover from BEYROUTH (Turkye) –AP 24 1871- to GENOVA (Italy) franked to pay a single rate 23 soldi with 1867 Austrian Levant 15+5+3 s. cancelled by circular “Berutti 24/4”. According to the endorsment “Col Vapore del Lloyd Austriaco” the letter was placed on board the Lloyd packet of line of Syria and disembarked in Smyrne (see on reverse mark Smirne Agenzia del Lloyd 28/4) to be reembarked on the Lloyd steamer of Greek Oriental line that called at Brindisi (May 6). From there the letter was carried by railway to Genova.



## AUSTRIAN LEVANT

From Constantinople and Smirne by Austrian "Lloyd" Packet



Cover from COSTANTINOPLE-Aug 30 1867- to LEGHORN -Sep 6- franked to pay the simple rate 28 soldi with 15+10+3 soldi 1864 issue stamps. The cover was carried by Lloyd Packet to Corfù (Greece) and thence to Brindisi (Italy) by "The Peyrano Danovaro&C" Italian line steamship. On arrival in Brindisi was impressed the boxed mark "Piroscafi Postali Italiani" and dispatched to Leghorn by railway



Cover from SMIRNE -Jun 6 1869- to GALLIPOLI (It) franked to pay the simple rate 28 soldi with mixed combination Levant issue 1864/67. The letter carried by the Austrian Lloyd Smirne-Trieste line was disembarked at call port of Brindisi and thence addressed to the near town Gallipoli.



## LLOYD'S ADRIATIC ROUTES : MOLFETTA-TRIENT-MOLFETTA



Cover from BARI -AP 30 1859- to TRIEST. As per the endorsement "*con Vapore via Molfetta*" prepaid 10 grana to the embarkation port of Molfetta. The cover was carried to Triest by a packet of the Austrian Lloyd and was charged, on arrival (June 6<sup>th</sup>), by 10 kr sea carriage. The length of the journey (34 days) is, clearly, too long; the normal trip time to Triest was usually 3 days so we can hypothesize the possibility of an engine damaged, a quarantine period or, above all, a naval block by the French/Sardinian fleet which at that time (April/July 1859) operated on the North Adriatic sea against the Austrian Empire.



Letter from TRIEST -Ja 19 1858- to BISCEGLIE (Naples Kingdom). As per endorsement "*Col Vapore della Grecia p. Molfetta*" the letter paid 6 kr. to the embarkation port of Triest to be carried by a packet of the Austrian Lloyd to Molfetta –red oval "Molfetta" on front-where was charged "9" grana for sea carriage, and dispatched to the near town of Bisceglie.



**AUSTRIAN LLOYD PACKETS –Coastal service in Dalmatia  
SEBENICO –TRIEST**



Entire letter from SEBENICO- SEP 26 1852- to TRIEST franked to pay the simple rate for inland distance more than 20 legues with 1850 "Coat of arms" 9 kr bleu tied by the mark "SEBENICO V.L.A." (Vapori Lloyd Austriaco) The letter was carried by a steamship of the Lloyd Dalmatian line to Triest (29/9) where was disembarked on the following Sep 9<sup>th</sup>.



Entire letter from SEBENICO-Feb 27 1857- to TRIEST franked to pay the simple rate for inland distance more than 20 legues with 1850 "Coat of arms" 9 Kr.. The letter was carried by a steamship of the Lloyd Dalmatian line to Triest (2/3) where the stamp was tied by the provenance mark "SEBENICO COL VAPORE"

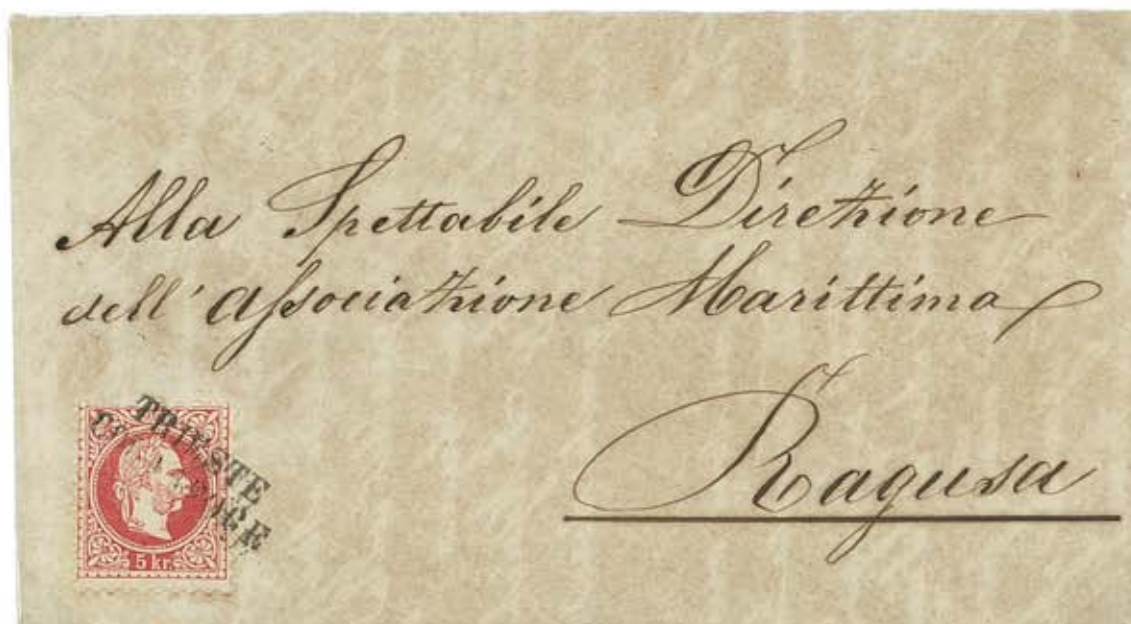
## AUSTRIAN LLOYD PACKETS – Adriatic coastal service

### LISSA-TRIENT



Cover from LISSA (Vis-Dalmatia Island) 29/4/1860(?) to TRIEST franked – to pay the internal rate for distance more than 20 miles- with 1858/59 Franz Joseph 2kr. I° type together to 3 kr. and 5 kr.(2) II° tipe tied by the double ring mark “Lissa 29/4”. The letter was carried by a steamship of the Lloyd line Triest-Duress (Albanie/Turkye) on its return voyage. On reverse transit in Spalato (May 2<sup>nd</sup>) and arrival in Trieste (May 3<sup>rd</sup>).

### TRIENT-RAGUSA (Dubrovnik)



Undated letter (1870 ?) from TRIEST to to RAGUSA (Dubrovnik - Dalmatia) franked to pay an internal simple rate with 1867 Franz Josef 5 kr. red . The letter was placed on board a steamship of Lloyd Dalmatian Line via Zara ( transit mark 16/4) to Ragusa (18/4) where the stamp was tied by the origin mark “ TRIESTE/COLVAPORE”.



## AUSTRIAN LLOYD PACKETS – Adriatic Coastal Services



Cover from RAGUSA (Dubrovnik -Dalmatia) -Ap 2 1880- to TRIEST franked to pay an internal rate with 1867 Franz Josef 5 kr. red. The letter was carried by a steamship of Lloyd Dalmatian direct Line. On arrival in Trieste (Ap 4) the stamp was tied by the cursive provenance mark "*Let.a arr.ta per mare*"



Entire letter from VALONA (Albanie-Ottoman Empire) Ju101875 -to TRIEST -Ju 17- franked to pay the 10 soldi rate to destination with 1867 Franz Joseph 5 soldi pair tied by s.c. "VALONA 10/6". As per endorsement "*per Corfù*" the letter was carried to Corfù by Austrian packet of line Triest/Preveza having calls at both Valona and Corfù and there placed on board a Lloyd Packet of Constantinople-Triest or Alexandrie/Triest lines.

## AUSTRIAN LEVANT ROUTES by Lloyd packets



Cover from LA CANEA ( Crete-Turkey) –NOV 11 1878- to Triest – franked with 1867 Franz Joseph 10 soldi tied by c.s “Canea 18/11 78”. The letter was carried by the fortnightly Lloyd packets service that called at Retimo, Canea, Candia and Sira crossing there, for the exchange to Triest, the packet of the “ Lloyd “Greek-Oriental” Smyrne-Triest line.



Cover from JERUSALEM (Turkye) -March 27-1879- to BOLOGNA (Italy) franked with 1867 Franz Joseph 10 soldi tied by c.s. “GERUSALEMME 27/3”. The letter was carried, via Jaffa, by the Lloyd packets of Syria line to Alexandria where, placed on board a “Lloyd” packet of Egypt line was carried, via Corfù, to Brindisi ( 4/4) to be dispatched by railway to Bologna ( 5/4)



**Covers from GREECE to VENICE by "Austrian LLOYD line" and to  
MARSEILLE by "LEVANT French line"**



Cover from TRIPOLIS (Greece) –Oct 8 1862- via Athen- Oct 13 (both dates of the Julian Calendar which at that period, in the Orthodox area, was 12 days earlier respect the Gregorian one) addressed to VENICE, then under Austrian dominion, on the following November 1st (Gregorian calendar date). The letter franked with stamps "large Hermes head" first Athen issue 10+20+80 lepta to pay the single rate 110 lepta (1,10 dracma) to Austria ( see red Greek red writing correspondig to P.D. mark) was carried from Pireus to Syras island and thence addressed to Trieste and Venice by steamship of the Lloyd line Smyrna-Triest or Costantinople-Triest.



Cover from ATHEN to MARSEILLE franked with 1862 Athen "large Hermes head" issues 2+10+40+80 lepta to pay the simple rate 132 lepta (1,32 dracma) to France. The stamps are cancelled by numeral "1" of Athen with alongside red cds January 15 1865 (Julian calendar) and red cds "Grece-Marseille February 1st" (Gregorian calendar) apposed on arrival. The difference at that time between the two calendars was twelve days, so we can adfirm that the cover, carried by the steamship "Phase" of the French Levant line Constantinople-Marseille, that called at Pireo on January 27, was disembarked in Marseille on the following February 1st. Greek red mark meaning P.D.



[illegible]

Sig.<sup>or</sup> Francesco Coxo  
Genova  
Lione

Cover from SYRA (Greece) -Dec 7 1866 Julian calendar-Dec 19 Gregorian- -to GENOVA per LOANO franked, to pay the rate 90 lepta to destination with 1862/7 Athen 80 +10 lepta tied by dotted"67". The letter was placed on board the French packet "Indus" (ligne X) on return voyage from Alexandria which called at Syra (Dec.19) and Messina (Dec. 22) where, at disembarkation, was apposed the boxed mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI FRANCESI" and dispatched by an Italian packet to Genova (Dec.25) and Loano.



**GREECE - Routes by Austrian packets in Aegean Sea from and to the Syros**  
*Until years 1860/70 Syros was the most important commercial harbour in Greece*



Cover from SYROS -Sep 18 1860- to PIRAEUS (18/9) prepaying the simple internal rate 20 lepta with 1865 "large Hermes head" 10 lepta red orange pair tied by "67" lozange and Syra cds alongside. Arrival mark on reverse (both dates of the Julian Calendar which was 12 days earlier respect the Gregorian). The letter was carried by the "Lloyd" biweekly Syra-Piraeus



Cover from SMYRNA -Sep 21 1870- to SYROS -Sep 22- franked with 40 lepta "large Hermes head" of the cleaned plate issue prepaying the single rate to Greece. The stamp is tied by numeral "96" lozange with alongside "Smyrne/Turquie" cds of the Greek Consular P.O. in Smyrna. Greek red mark P.E.L (paid to destination). The letter was carried by an Austrian packet of the "Greek Oriental" Lloyd line that called at Syra. On reverse arrival mark in Syra. Both dates are of Julian calendar which was 12 days earlier respect the Gregorian one.



**ROUTES from ITALY to GREECE**  
**Corfu (Kerkira)-Venice and Messina-Corfu**



Letter from CORFU (Oct 24 1867 -Julian calendar - Nov 5- Gregorian) to VENICE -Nov 7- franked to pay at destination the rate 65 lepta to Italy with 1862/67 Athen 5+20+40 lepta tied by dotted "106" and alongside c.d.s. Kerkira -Oct 24 67-. As per endorsement "Coll'Austriaco-(pagata)" the letter would be placed on board of the Austrian packet coming from Constantinople, which called at Corfu and Brindisi, but the boxed mark PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI apposed in Brindisi (7/11) it seems to indicate a carriage by an Italian packet (Peirano&Danovaro). From Brindisi the cover was sent to Venice (7/11) by train .



Cover from MESSINA JU 5 1868- to CORFU (Greece) franked- to pay the rate 60 c. to destination with 1867 20 c. strip x 3 tied by Messina dots "806". The letter -likely- was carried by the Italian packet of "Peirano&Danvaro" Napoli -Ancona line which called at Messina, Gallipoli (transit mark Ju 7) and Corfu (May 27-Julian calendar - June 8 Gregorian).



## ROUTES to ALEXANDRIA from BRINDISI and TRIEST



Cover from FRANKFURT -Ap 13 1869- to Alexandria franked to pay at destination a simple rate / see notatio "franco" with 1869 "North German Confederation" 3 kr. carmin + 7 kr. ultra tied by boxed cancel "FRANKFURT AM/POST EXPED n.1 -13/4/1869- As per the endorsement "via Triest" the letter was carried there (15/4) by railway and placed on board a packet of the Austrian "Lloyd" line to Alexandria.



Letter from LEGHORN -May 4 1872 -to CAIRO -May 9- franked - to prepay the rate to Alexandria with 1864 V.Emmanuel II° 40 c. tied "14". and alongside circular "Livorno 4 mag 72". The letter was also franked, on leaving Leghorn, with an Egyptian stamp one piastre to pay the local rate from Alexandria to Cairo cancelled on transit by c.s."VR Poste Egiziane Alessandria May 9 1872". The letter, carried by railway to Brindisi was dispatched to Alexandria by the "Peninsular&Oriental" British Packets.



## CRIMEA WAR –British Mail from and to Crimea

*The Crimean British Expedition mail came to the Consulate in Constantinople that, normally, despatched it by French Packets to Malta where was placed on board Peninsular&Oriental steamships and disembarked in Southampton. The mail coming from England, on the contrary, by agreement with the France, was normally carried by French packets via Marseille. For the French service 2d was added to the basic 1 d. Both the following letters were carried via Marseille.*



Cover from Crimea front -Jan 8 1855- (see docketing on left lower side) franked with one penny red and two pence bleu cancelled, on arrival in London, with the numeral mark "48". The letter has part of contents concluding with pessimistic considerations about the course of the Campaign: ".....I really begin to doubt that Sebastopoli can be taken with our means"



Cover from PLYMOUTH –SEP 10 1855- to a Surgeon of the British Army in Crimea franked with a strip of three of 1 penny red tied by Plymouth duplex 620 and semicircular datestamp. Alongside red circular crown SEP 11. The letter was carried via Marseille to the British Consulate in Constantinople and thence, via Varna (Bulgaria), to the front.



## FRENCH "Messageries Imperiales"- Egypt and Levant Lines



Cover from SALONIKA -Sep 16 1862- to CONSTANTINOPLE- SEP 18- franked to pay a double rate with Napoleon 1853 20 c. bleu strip x 5 tied "grosse chiffres" 5095 and alongside cachet "perlé" "Salonique-Turquie d'Europe" and boxed P.D. Carried by steamship of French "Thessaly line" was disembarked in Constantinople on the following Sep 18.



Cover from CONSTANTINOPLE -SEP 20 1869- to TRIEST (Austria) franked-to pay a double rate- by France 1863 20 c. and 40 c. pair tied "bleu anchor" with alongside octagonal "Constantinople P.Fr.U.Nr. 3". The letter -endorsed "Voie de France"- was placed on board paquebot "Amerique" on Sep 29, disembarked in Marseille on following Oct 6 and on the same day addressed to Triest (Oct 8) by inland route Via Montcenis pass. To remake the choice of the longer French carriage compared with a weekly Austrian Lloyd direct line to Triest.



# **FRENCH PACKETS -** **Routes to MARSEILLE from ALEP and CONSTANTINOPLE**



1863. Cover from ALEP (Syria-Turkie) to MARSEILLE franked to pay a double rate with 1853 Napoleon 80 + 20 c. tied by 5079 lozange of Alexandrette, c.s. alongside. The cover was placed on board steamship of the Frenche "Ligne d'Egippte" that called at Alexandrette on its round trip via Syria and Smyrne (May 21) to Marseille (May 28). Alongside blue mark "POSTE FRANCAISE d'ALEP" –



1858. Cover from CONSTANTINOPLE -Oct 20 1858- to MARSEILLE franked to pay a double rate with 1853 40 c. (2) + 20 c. "Anchor" tied. The letter was carried by the steamer "Meandre"- s.c. alongside and disembarked in Marseille on the following October 27<sup>th</sup> .



## FRENCH PACKETS

### Routes from SALONIKA to Constantinople and Genoa



1870..Cover from SALONIKA (Greece-Turkie) to CONSTANTINOPLE franked to pay a single rate with 1867 Napoleon 20 c. pair tied by "5080" lozange and alongside c.d. "Salonique -Turquie d'Europe 25 Juil 1870". The letter was placed on board the steamship "Afrique" of the "Fraissinet Co." line Marseille-Constantinople that called at Salonika on July 25<sup>th</sup> and disembarked in Constantinople on the following July 28<sup>th</sup>.—



1861. Cover from SALONIKA Feb 2 1861- to GENOVA franked to pay a single rate with 1853 Napoleon 10 c. strip x 5 + single together to 20 c. tied by petits chiffres "4012" and alongside c.d. "Salonique-Turquie d'Europe 26.2.61". The letter was carried by the French "Thessaly Line" to Dardanelles (Turkye) where , on the following day, was placed on board the steamship "Simois" of French "Levant Line" and disembarked in Marseille (4/3) to be dispatched to Genova (8/3). Taxed "10" by mistake cancelled by ink. On arrival in Genova was apposed the red mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI FRANCESI..



**Routes from OTTOMAN EMPIRE to EUROPE  
by French Packet line Egypt Alexandria- Smyrne -Marseille**



Cover from RHODES (Turquie) Jy 27 1864 -to MARSEILLE franked to pay the simple rate at destination port with 1862 Napoleon 40+10 tied by 5094 lozange and alongside the double circular mark "Rhodes 27 Julliet 1864". The letter was placed on board of the steamship "Godavery", calling at Rhodes on the return voyage from Alexandria, arriving in Marseille on the following Aug 4<sup>th</sup>.

**by French Packets Levant Li ne Costantinople-Messina-Genova**



Cover from CONSTANTINOPLE -Nov 5 1863- franked to prepay a single rate to MILAN with 1862 Napoleon 80 c. . The letter was placed on board the French packet "Indus" then disembarked in Messina to the French Packet "Quirinal" which arrived in Genova where was impressed the red mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI FRANCESI". The letter was carried by railway to Milan thence redirected to Lurago (Nov 13).



**Cover from FLORENCE to CONSTANTINOPLE  
by French Packets Leghorn-Messina- Constantinople**



Cover from FLORENCE -Ap 12 1866- to CONSTANTINOPLE franked with 1864 D.L.R. V. Emmanuel II° 60.c to pay the foreign mail rate. The letter was carried by train to Leghorn where was placed on board the French packet "Aunis", then transferred, via Naples (15/4) in Messina to the French packet "Menzaleh" which arrived in Constantinople on 25 April.

**by Italian and Greek packets via Brindisi and Corfù**



Cover from BOLOGNA -Ap 15 1873- to GITHEIO ( Laconie-Greece) -Ap 9 Julian calendar- Gregorian 21)) franked to pay a single rate at disembarkation port with 1864 60 c. tied Bologna "231" dots and alongside "Bologna-Ferrovia 15 Apr. 1873". The letter, endorsed "via Brindisi e Corfù", was transferred by train to Brindisi then, by "Peirano & Danovaro Co." packet to Corfù where was dispatched by Greek service to Githeio.

## TURKEY-"VAPORI AMMIRAGLIATO"-mail routes from the sea of Marmara

Between about 1840/62 there were Italian controlled shipping companies with headquartes in Constantinople that carried mail under contract with the Turkish Government. In 1857/62 some adhesives were used to frank letters carried by the mail boats; one of these was a stamp printed in a claret colour, showing a steamship in oval, set with a rectangular frame and inscribed "UFFICIO POSTALE VAPORI AMMIRAGLIATO". After the stamp has been attached to a letter, the amount of the postage rate to be paid was shown by inserting it, either in ink or pencil, after the P.P. (Porto Pagato) writing. Alongside the letter was also struck a framed "PP" and "anchor" mark. The Turkish "Admiralty" mail boats seem to have carried letters, *almost exclusively*, between Constantinople and Bursa.



Undated cover from Constantinople to Bursa (Asian Turkey) showing a rate 2 ½ piastres ©

Exceptionally and only for a short time this ship service worked in the Mediterranean sea reaching Alexandria.



Undated cover addressed to ALEXANDRIA showing a rate of 6 piastres -©



مواله  
 إلى قاهره يسلم ليد جناب جل الاكرم المكرم المرمم اليح فظلل الله زيد و غيره  
 در قاهره مطهر محفوظ مبارك جناب سلاسترات العظام خد ايتها انزل اماع حور منظره فضي راجها  
 قطره  
 قاهره  
 Caire  
 10 PARAS  
 10 PARAS  
 10 PARAS  
 10 PARAS  
 EMP. OTTOMAN  
 EMP. OTTOMAN  
 EMP. OTTOMAN  
 EMP. OTTOMAN






Messieurs D<sup>r</sup> Hatzis ses  
 Gènes

Cover from RODOSTO (Marmara sea-Turkye) -Sep 24 1877- to GENOVA -Oct 3 1877-  
franked with Dulhoz 10 parà tied by Rodosto bleu d.c. cancel with alongside d.c.  
"Costantinople SEP 26". The letter was carried by steamship of the Lloyd Trieste-  
Constantinople-Triest Line which called at Corfu (Greece) where the letter was disembarked  
and placed on board "Florio Co." steamship to be carried to Brindisi (Oct 2 ) and thence, by  
railway, to Genova.



**LEVANT ROUTES from RHODES and RETTIMO**  
**Carriage by Austrian Lloyd Packets**



Cover from RHODES (Turkey) Nov 27 1864-- to BEYROUTH, where was disembarked on the December 1st (see interior docketing) instead of 31 Dec. indicated by arrival mark. The letter, franked with 1864 5 s. x 2 to pay a simple rate, was cancelled "RHODUS" by the Lloyd Agency and carried to Beyrouth via Larnaca (Cyprus) by the Lloyd Packet of the Syria Line.



Cover from RETTIMO (Crete-Turkie) -Nov 11 1875- to ATHEN (Greece) franked to pay the rate at disembarkation port with 1867 5 soldi pair tied by the blue mark of the Austrian P.O. "Rettimo" 18/11. The letter carried to Syra and thence to Piraeus by Austrian Lloyd packets was disembarked on Nov. 9th (Julian calendar) and delivered on the same day to Athen. On arrival was charged 20 lepta by blue crayon for inland rate paid with postage stamps.



Covers from FLORENCE to RHODES by different routes



Cover from Florence-Ap 16 1873- to RHODES island (Turkey) franked with Victor Emmanuel II° 60.c to pay the foreign mail rate. Carried privately (uncancelled stamp) was posted on board of the French ligne "U" steamship (see endorsement "p. postal français") likely in Naples or Messina, and disembarked in Constantinople (arrival mark AP 29). From there by Ligne "Y" ( see "Y" endorsement on upper left corner) to Smirne (May 8) to be addressed to Rhodes.



Cover from FLORENCE (May 3 1873) to RHODES via Brindisi (May 8) and Alexandria (Italian and Austrian Consular Post Office marks May 15/16) and thence addressed by Lloyd steam packet of Syrie line to Rhodes (arrival straight line May 22 on reverse). Endorsed "via Brindisi" and "Paquebot Autrichenne"

# AUSTRIAN LLOYD PACKETS ROUTE TRIEST- CONSTANTINOPLE



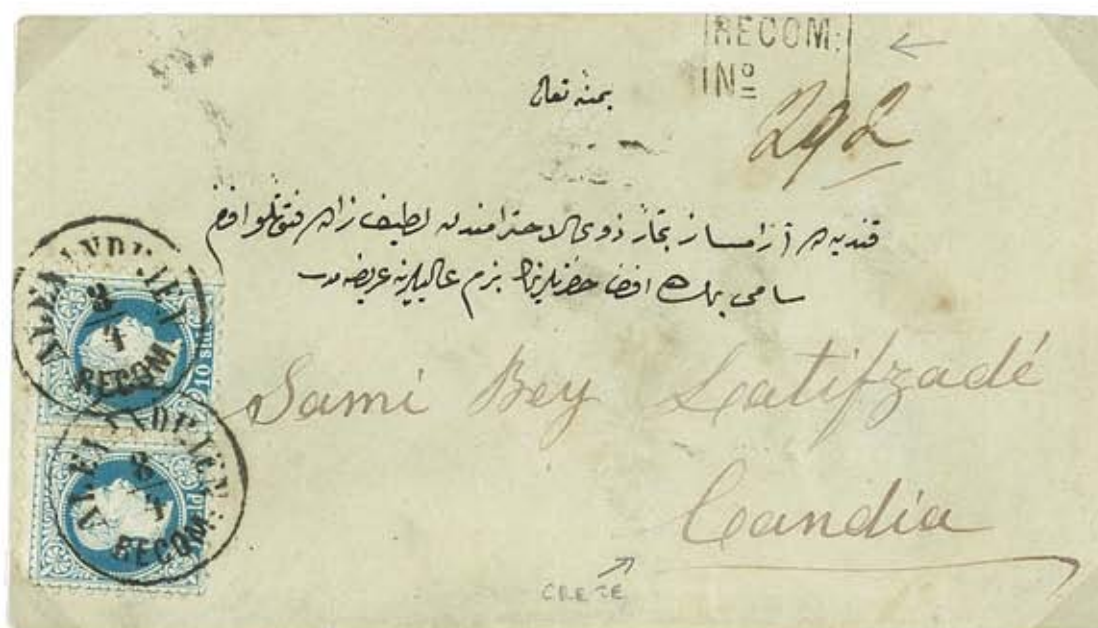
Entire letter from TRIEST -Mar 3 1856 -to CONSTANTINOPLE- franked to pay the 12 kr. CM simple rate to destination with 1850 "Coat of arms" 9+3 kreuzer. As per endorsement "Per Vapore" the letter was placed on board an Austrian Lloyd packet and disembarked in Costantinople on the following April 8<sup>th</sup>. See on reverse the Austrian consular P. O. mark .



Entire letter from TRIEST -Nov 8 1862- to CONSTANTINOPLE franked to pay the 20 Nkr rate to Turkye with 1860 Franz Joseph 10 Nkr pair tied by framed Triest datestamp.. The letter was carried by an Austrian Lloyd packet (Levant line) to Costantinople where it was disembarked on Nov 15th. Blue Austrian P.O. Costantinople arrival mark on reverse.



## AUSTRIAN LLOYD PACKETS – Levant Routes



Entire letter from ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) –AP 8 1875(?)– to CANDIA (Crete-Ottoman Empire) franked with Frank Joseph 10 soldi x 2 tied by circular "Alexandrien/RECOM 8/4" and alongside boxed "RECOM/N°."-The letter paid the 10 soldi rate for mail between the Austrian Post Office in Levant + 10 soldi for Registration fee. It was carried by Austrian Lloyds packets of Syrie line to Smyrne, then transferred to the packet of the Levant line Costantinople-Triest which called both Smyrne and Syra where it was disembarked and delivered to the Lloyd packet to Candia.



Entire letter from LARNAKA (Cyprus-Turkie)- JAN 6 1865 (?) - to CONSTANTINOPLE franked to pay the 10 soldi rate for mail between the Austrian Post Offices in Levant with 1865 L.V. 5 s. pair tied by the circular mark "LARNACCA di CIPRO". The letter was carried by an Austrian Lloyd packet (Syrie line) to Smyrna (Lloyd P.O. transit mark 11/1) and there embarked on the Lloyd packet coming from Alexandria to be disembarked in Constantinople on the following Jan 14<sup>th</sup>. "Lloyd Agenzie Constantinople" mark on reverse.



## LEVANT MAIL ROUTES from CYPRUS by "Lloyd" Packets



Entire letter dated JY 13 1871 from LARNAKA (Cyprus-Turkye) to RHODES (Turkye) bearing 1867 Franz Joseph 10 soldi – tied by c.s. “Larnaca di Cipro 13/7”- to pay the postage rate between the “Lloyd” Levant Post Offices. The letter was placed on board a packet of the Austrian “Lloyd Syria line” Constantinople-Alexandria that called at Larnaca and Rhodes. On reverse straight line apposed on arrival by the “Lloyd” Post Office “RHODUS Jy 16”.



Cover from LARNAKA (Cyprus-Turkey) -July 4th 18712 to TRIEST bearing 1867 Franz Joseph 15 soldi -tied by brown-bleu c.s. “Larnaca di Cipro 4/7” – to pay the simple rate to Triest. The letter was placed on board a steamship of the Lloyd Syria line and disembarked in Costantinople, then dispatched to Triest by the Lloyd packet of the Costantinople-Triest line. On reverse arrival mark in Triest 14/7.



## ROUTES from EGYPT to GENOVA and TRIEST



Cover from PORT SAID (Egypt) -Aug 20 1873 -to GENOVA- franked with 1872 20 parà + 2 piastres tied "Porto Said-Poste Egiziane 20 Ago 1874". The letter was dispatched via Alexandria to be disembarked in Genova (29/8) and – likely- referring to the length of the journey, carried by a packet of "Rubattino" line Alexandria-Genova that covered the distance in seven days and ten hours. For the same route, usually, was preferred the "Penisular & Oriental " that took three days and ten hours to Brindisi adding a day for the railway route.



Cover from CAIRO –May 6 1876- to TRIEST (May 12) via Alexandria franked to pay a simple rate with 1872 1 piastre + 20 parà tied by c.s. "Cairo-Poste Egiziane-8 mag 76". In spite of the existence of a direct line from Alexandria to Triest managed by the "Lloyd Company", in this case was preferred the British line - perhaps as it was leaving earlier – and so the letter was placed on board a packet of the "Peninsular & Oriental Co." and, once disembarked in Brindisi (transit mark May 10) was dispatched to Triest (12/5) by railway.

## Routes from MALTA by Italian "Florio Co." Packets



Cover from MALTA -Ja 11 1864- to TUNIS (Ja 23) franked with G.B. 4 pence carmine tied duplex A25 with alongside the oval red mark PD and the black one "A Malta Ja 11 64". The letter was placed on board an Italian packet of "Florio Co." and carried to Palermo where was embarked on other steamship of the same Company to be dispatched to Tunis.



Cover from MALTA -June 3 1873- to LEGHORN franked with 4 pence carmine tied by A25 duplex mark and alongside circular "A Malta Ju 3 73". The letter was carried by an Italian packet of The "Florio Co." to Palermo where was disembarked and placed on board an other steamship of the same Company to be dispatched to Leghorn (arrival 7 June)



## ROUTES between ITALY and MALTA



Entire letter from **LEGHORN** (Italy) -Nov 21 1863 to **MALTA** – Nov 30—franked to pay a single rate with 1862 Sardinia 40 c. carmine tied by Leghorn cds with two line **DOPO LA PARTENZA** late marking and manuscript rate  $12 \frac{1}{2}$  for Malta inland rate. According to the endorsement “P. Postale Francese” the letter was carried by the steam ship “Quirinal” of the French “Ligne d’Italie” Marseille –Malta that called at Leighorn.



Cover from **MALTA**-May 29 1865- to **GENOVA** franked with G.B. 2 d bleu pair to prepay a single rate to Italy showing alongside red oval **PD** and manuscript  $2 \frac{1}{2}$  red crayon, credit to Italy. Posted on board “Florio Company” “Tigre” steamship according to the endorsement, the letter was carried to Genova (June 3) via Messina (May 30)

**COVERS from ITALY to MALTA**  
by FLORIO Compagnia di Navigazione- packets



Cover from SIRACUSA -MAR 7 1870- to MALTA (MAR 8) franked to pay a single rate with 20 c. pale bleu pair tied by 113 numeral cancel with Siracusa cds alongside. On front black PD handstamp and red "12 ½" centesimi credit to Malta for inland rate. The letter was placed on board the steamship of "Florio Co." line Palermo-Malta that called at Siracusa and disembarked in Malta on following March 8.



Cover from NAPOLI -24 OCT 24 1866- to MALTA (Oct 30) franked with 20 c. on 15 bleu x 2 underpaying the double weight letter rate. Front shows FRANCOBOLLO/INSUFFICIENTE hand stamp with manuscript "2" rate and "3 ¾" pence credit to Malta. Posted on board steam ship of "Florio Co." Napoli-Malta line was disembarked in Malta the following Oct 30.



**ROUTES from ITALY to MALTA**  
by "FLORIO Compagnia di Navigazione" packets



Double rate letter from ROME (Papal States) SEP 14 1865-to VALLETTA (Malta-SEP 21-prepaid 10 Bajocchi to the Italian border. The letter was carried by train to Naples (transit Oct. 15) then to Messina and Syracuse to be embarked on an Italian packet (Florio Co.) to Malta. The letter was charged 4 d. on delivery.

*In May 1865 the French packet service to Malta ended.*



Cover from GENOVA-July 14 1868-to Malta franked with 1864 V.Emmanuel 40 c. carmin pair paying a double rate to Malta. The letter was carried by train to Naples (19/7) then to Messina (Jy 22/23) and Syracuse from where it was carried by an Italian packet (Florio Co) to Malta (Jy 28). The cover bears the notation 2/25 (12 ½ cent. x 2 rate) credited to British administration in case of sea carriage by an Italian packet of the Florio line.



## ROUTES to and from NAPLES by French packets



Cover from CIVITAVECCHIA (Papal States) -Sep16 1863- to NAPLES (Sep 17) franked with 1852 5 baj rose tied by "Papal grid" to pay the internal rate. The letter was placed on board the French packet "Quirinal" and disembarked, on the following 17<sup>th</sup>, in Naples where was charged "2" (grana) as an Italian simple weight step. "Bourbon" red oval mark "Piroscafi/Postali Francesi" on arrival.



Cover from NAPLES- Ap 27 1863- to PYRAEUS (Greece) franked with Sardinia 5 c. (4) + 40 c.(2) to pay the 1 Lira rate to the disembarkation port in Greece . The letter was placed on board the French packet "Aunis" and disembarked in Messina on the following 28<sup>th</sup>, then, the same day, it was embarked on the French packet "Phase" to be carried to Pyraeus ( May 1<sup>st</sup> )



# **French and Bourbon PACKETS- Mail Routes Leghorn-Naples and Messina-Naples**



Complete cover from LEGHORN- Nov 5 1856- to NAPLES- bearing 1852 1 + 2 crazie- to pay the one weight step rate for mail carried by French packets to the Kingdom of two Sicilies- On arrival (Nov 7) the letter was charged 13 grana due for inland rate. Alongside endorsed "via di mare" and, apposed on arrival, the oval mark " Amm.ne Gen.le delle Poste" with three Bourbon lilies.



Cover- endorsed "Per Vapore" from MESSINA -May 31 1859- to NAPLES - June 1st franked with Ferdinand II° 2 grana bleu (2) tied by the "horseshoe" shaped marking to prepay the maritime carriage rate by Bourbon packets conventioned with the "Florio" Company. On reverse arrival mark in Naples June 1st.

## ITALIAN ROUTE - COASTAL SHIPPING LINE

MESSINA/ANCONA and vice versa from April 1862  
NAPLES/ANCONA and viceversa from December 1862

by Italian Packets "ACCOSSATO & PEIRANO" Company



Piece of letter bearing Sardinia/Italy mixed franking, to pay the internal ship rate 15 cent. tied by the scarce double ring mark "NAPOLI-ANCONA PIRO-POST. 11 Feb 63".  
The letter was likely posted directly on board a steamship of the "Accossato & Peirano" Napoli-Ancona line.

## GALLIPOLI-MESSINA



Entire letter from GALLIPOLI -May 6 1862- to MESSINA-The letter franked with a Neapolitan Provinces Napoletane 5 grana -equivalent to 20 centesimi- to pay at that time the inland ship rate, was carried by a steamship of the Ancona/Messina line calling at both ports of Gallipoli and Messina.



**LETTERS POSTED on BOARD  
on Genova-Nice and Cagliari-Genova routes**



Cover from CAGLIARI (Sardinia-Italy) July 21 1863- to GENOVA –July 23- franked with 1863 litho stamp 15 c. to pay the simple inland rate to Genova. The letter was posted on board and carried to Genova by a steamship of the “Rubattino Co.” Tunis-Genova line that called at Cagliari. On arrival the stamp was cancelled by the origin red mark “ VIA DI MARE” ,



Cover from GENOVA -Aug 19 1865- to NICE franked by 1864 D.L.R 40 c. .The letter was -likely- posted directly on board a steamship of “Fraissinet Co.”or “Peyran&Donavaro” which at that time worked that coastal service. On arrival in Nice (Aout 20) the stamp was tied by the “petits chiffres 2656” Nice mark and alongside was apposed the origin red d.c. “GENES BAT.A VAPEUR-20 Aout 1865.”

## ROUTE NAPLES-MARSEILLE et vice versa

by Italian Packet VESUVIO "Compagnia delle Due Sicilie"



Letter from NAPLES -Feb 15 1862- to LYON franked -to pay the sea rate to Marseille with Neapolitan Provinces 10 grana- equivalent to 40 C.- tied by s.c. "Napoli al Porto Feb 15 1862". The letter -as per endorsement- was placed on board the "Two Siciles Company" steamship "Vesuvio" and disembarked on Marseille on the following 18<sup>th</sup>- origin blue mark "Italic-Marseille" then dispatched by train to Lyon .

by French Packet "General ABBATUCCI" of Valery Frères & Fils" Company



Entire letter from MARSEILLE-AP 29 1866- to NAPLES -May 3- franked to pay the normal rate with 1862 Napoleon 40 c. tied by "2240" lozange and besides d.r. "Marseille 22 Avril 66" As per the endorsement the letter was embarked on the "Valery Frères & Fils" steamship "General Abbattu" and disembarked on Naples on May 3th (see arrival mark on reverse)



# **ROUTES from SARDINIA** **Portotorres-Marseille and Portotorres-Genova**



Letter from SASSARI (Sardinia) -Aug 26 1861- to NICE franked to pay a simple rate with 1861 Sardinia 20 c. pair tied by c.s. "26 Ago 61" and endorsed "Via d'Ajaccio"- the letter was haned to Portotorres where was placed on board a French packet of line to Marseille via Ajaccio (Corse) and disembarked in Marseille (28/8) to be dispatched to Nice (30/8). Alongside French/Italian red exchange mark "Ajaccio/Sardegna 27 Aout".



Entire from Portotorres (Sardinia) -March 1st 1876- to Genova-March 3rd- franked to pay a single rate with 1867 20 c. light bleu. The letter was posted in Portotorres on board a Italian packet of "Rubattino Co." line Portotorres/Genova via Leghorn where, on transit, the stamp was tied by dotted numeral 14 and by the origin cursive mark "Da Portotorres".

## COVERS to GENOVA from BARCELONA and MARSEILLE



Cover from BARCELONA -May 18 1875- to GENOVA franked with 1874 50 c. yellow. The cover was handed on board and, on transit in Marseille, the stamp was tied by "gros chiffres" 2240 and alongside was apposed the origin red mark "Espagne-Marseille 21 mai 1875". On arrival (May 22) the letter was charged 6 (decimes) paid with Italian tax due stamp 60 c. .



Cover from MARSEILLE -Aug 17 1863- to GENOVA -Aug 20- franked with 1863 Napoleon 20 c. bleu (4) to pay a double rate to Italy- The date does not clash with march schedule of the "Messageries Imperiales" packets, so we have to refer to the several maritime companies calling at Genova in that period (Fraissinet, Valery. Bazin, Rostand&C...). On arrival in Genova the stamps were cancelled with the origin mark "FRANCIA VIA DI MARE"



# French PACKETS

## Routes from Marseille to Italy- Civitavecchia and Messina



Double-rate letter from MARSEILLE-Feb 1st 1866- to CIVITA-VECCHIA (Papal states) prepaid 2 Francs to destination with 1863 Napoleon 80 c. x 2 + 40 c. tied by the mark "gros chiffres" 2240 of Marseille. The letter was carried by the steamship "Pausilippe" of the "Ligne d'Italie" according to the endorsement "p.Messageries Impériales". On reverse arrival d.c. mark "Civitavecchia Via di Mare -3 Febbraio"



Cover from MARSEILLE -Dec 12 1863- to MESSINA (Sicily-Italy) Dec 15-franked with 1863 Napoleon 40 c. The Letter was placed on board the steamship "Godewery" of French "Levant" Marseille-Constantinople line that called at Messina on the following Dec. 15. On arrival was apposed the origin boxed mark "PIROSCAFI POSTALI FRANCESI".



## ROUTES from GENOVA to PAPAL STATES



Cover from Genova (Kingdom of Sardinia) -Aug 21 1857- to ROME (Papal States) Aug 24 franked to pay at destination the rate of 60 c. (20 c. inland rate + 40 c. sea carriage) with Sardinia 20+40 c.. The letter as per endorsement "per postale" was carried by a conventioned packet and disembarked in Civitavecchia. In this case the closed mail bag was carried to Rome where was opened and the letter received the red origin mark "Via DI MARE" on front and the red double ring "Roma 24 Ago 57" on reverse.



Cover from GENOVA- dated Aug 22--to CIVITAVECCHIA (Papal state) to pay the rate at destination with 1863 DLR V. Emmanuel 40 c. .The letter posted on board of a merchant ship was disembarked in Civitavecchia (Aug 23) where the stamp was cancelled by the origin mark "CIVITAVECCHIA DALLA VIA DI MARE". On delivery was charged 18 bajocchi. for one sheet and half rate.



## French Packet to Corsica



Cover with full contents from ROME to BASTIA (Corsica) franked with Napoleon 1853 20 c. cancelled with Papal postage grid ed alongside d.c. mark "Corps d'Expedition d'Italie-2ème Division-3 Fevr. 1859" The cover carried to Marseille with French Steamer "Quirinal" in return trip from Malta having a call at Civitavecchia, was disembarked in Marseille (Feb 5), thence placed on board steamship Valery Co. to Bastia (Feb. 6). The cover is written by a prelate who concludes: "this letter, franked, I'll try to post at Military French (Post)" taking so advantage of the reduced tariff provided for the French troops stationed in Rome".



Cover from MARSEILLE-FEB 27-1863- to AJACCIO (Corsica) franked with 1863 Napoleon 20 c. bleu -The letter was handed on board -alongside "Marseille 2/ Bat a Vapeur/2 27 Fevr 1863" and on arrival the stamp was cancelled with the numeral "45" of Ajaccio.

# ALGERIE-ITALY by French Packet Routes from Alger to Genova and Leghorn



Letter from ALGER -DEC 8 1858-to LEGHORN (Tuscany) bearing Italy 1853 Napoleon 40+20 c. to pay a simple rate to Tuscany. The letter was posted on board a French packet to Marseille where was disembarked and the franking (only the 40 c.) tied by "1896" petit chiffres and alongside c.d.s origin mark "Algerie BB Marseille 12 Dec.58". From there the letter was embarked on one of the several packets leaving to Leghorn (Fraissinet, Valery, Rostand&C. ....) and delivered on the following 15th (arrival mark on reverse)



-Entire from ALGER AP 17 1871 to GENOVA- franked with 1870 "Bordeaux issue" 20 c. (2) to pay the simple rate to Italy. The letter posted on board a French packet was disembarked in Marseille where the stamp was tied by the "gros chiffres" 2240 of Marseille and apposed alongside the origin mark "Alger BAT a VAP- 17 Avril 71". From there the letter, carried by train via Menton (18/4), arrived in Genova on the following April 19 th.73".



## LINE of ALGERIE-French Packets



1859- Cover from BONA (Algerie) to ROUEN (France) franked with Napoleon 1853 20 c. cancelled by numeral 3784 "petit chiffres" of Bona. The letter was carried to Philippeville by coastal service –see cancel alongside "Bone/Philippeville Bat. A Vap. 29 Aut 1859"" where, on the following Aug 30, was embarked on steamship to Marseille and thence carried to Rouen by railway.



1871. Cover from TUNIS –May 28 1871- to MARSEILLE franked with 40 c. orange Bordeaux issue cancelled by bleu 5017 "gros chiffres" with alongside bleu d.c. "perlè"-28 Mai 1871- of the French Post Office in Tunis -.The cover was carried to Bona by costal service -see alongside red d.c. transit cancel "TUNIS par BONE/ALGERIE -29 Mai 1871" and from BONA addressed to Marseille, (arrival June 2), via Philippeville.

## FRENCH PACKETS ROUTES to SPAIN



Cover from MARSEILLE –dated AP 19 1862- to BARCELONA (AP 21)- franked to pay a simple rate with 1853 Napoleon 40 c. orange..The letter placed on board steamship "Tharsis" - according to the endorsement- was disembarked in Barcellona (Ap 21) where the stamp was tied by the straight line "ESTRANGERO/BARCELONA" and charged "3" (cuartos).



Cover from MARSEILLE -OCT 18 1860- to VALENCIA (Oct. 25) franked with 1853 Napoleon 20 c. strip x 4 having alongside the marks d.c. "Marseille 19 oct 60/Bateau a Vap." and the red boxed one "AFFRANCHISSEMENT/INSUFFISANT". The letter placed on board steamship "OASIS" of Marseille–Oran Ligne was disembarked on the following Oct 20 in Oran (Algerie) where the stamps were tied by "petits chiffres" 3732, thence despatched to Valencia (arrival Oct 25) where was charged "39" (cuartos).



## FRENCH PACKETS

Routes from from LEVANT to SPAIN- Scarce destination



Letter from ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) Dec 27 1868- to BARCELONA (Spain) franked to pay the 1 Franc rate to destination with 1863 Napoleon 20+80 c. tied by 5080 "gros chiffres" of French Consular P.O. in Alexandria. The letter was placed on board the French Packet "Nil" and disembarked in Marseille on Jan 2nd 1869, to be dispatched, by train, via Cette and La Junquera, to Barcelona where on arrival- on the Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> 1869- was charged 4 reales.



Cover from SALONIKA (European Turkey) Sep 15 1868- to CADIZ (Spain) Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – franked to pay the 1 franc rate to destination, with 1863 40 + 10 c. (6) tied by "gros chiffres" 5080 and alongside the cachet "perlè" of the French P.O. in Salonika. The letter was carried by a French Packet of Thessaly line to Dardanelles where it was transferred to the Levant line steamship "Peluse" arriving in Marseille on the following 22th. Then it was carried by train, via Cette, to Bordeaux where –likely- was placed on board a merchant ship to be disembarked in Cadiz. On arrival was charged 4 reales.



**Coastal Service in Spain- Route MARSEILLE-CADIZ**  
by Spanish packets of the "NAVEGACION e INDUSTRIA" Co. - Barcelona



Cover from BARCELONA -NOV 30 1852- to ALMEIRA- Dec. 6- franked to pay a single internal rate with 1852 Isabel 4 cuartos tied by the "parrilla" mark and alongside the double ring "Barcelona 30 Nov.1852". On reverse arrival mark "Almeira Dec 6" The letter -as per endorsement- was carried by the Spanish packet "El Cid" which at that time operated the route Marseille-Cadiz calling, among others, at the ports of Barcelona and Almeira.



Cover from BARCELONA -May 29 1856- to ALMEIRA -Ju 4 franked to pay a single internal rate with 1855 Isabel 4 cuartos tied by the "parrilla" mark and alongside the double ring "Barcelona 29 Mayo 1856". On reverse arrival mark "Almeira Ju 4". The letter -as per endorsement- was carried by the Spanish packet "Balear" which at that time operated the route Marseille-Cadiz calling, among others, at the ports of Barcelona and Almeira.



## MEDITERRANEAN and TRANSATLANTIC ROUTES to North America



Cover from ORAN (Algerie) -AP 30 1869- to AURORA-INDIANA (Usa) via New York franked to pay a single rate 80 cms. with a strip x 4 1867 Napoleon 20 c. bleu tied by 5051 "losanges grosses chiffres". The cover was carried by sea to Marseille, then to Paris (bleu c.s. Paris Etranger) and Le Havre where was placed on board the French packet to be disembarked in New York. Red mark "NY/Paid All".

Uncommon provenance.



Cover from CAIRO (Egypt) -Mar 10 1871- to New York (USA) franked with GB 4d intense dark orange + 6d dark violet cancelled by B01 of British P.O. in Cairo. In Alexandria it was placed on board a "Peninsular and Oriental" Company steamer to be disembarked in Brindisi and thence to England via Calais to be embarked in Liverpool to United States. On arrival red mark "NY Paid All"



**MEDITERRANEAN and TRANSATLANTIC ROUTES  
to North America  
from MALTA by French and British Packet**



Cover from MALTA JY 4 1873-- to NEW YORK (U.S.A.) franked to prepay the 10/ rate at disembarkation port with G.B. 1872 4 pence (carriage to France) + 6 pence (transatlantic carriage via London). Tied by "A25" Duplex The letter was carried by French packet over Marseille and London -red "2"d. accountancy mark- to be dispatched by a Cunard packet via Liverpool arriving in New York on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**from TUSCANY by French and British Packet**



Cover from LEGHORN (Tuscany) -Ap 27 1858- to PHILADELPHIA (U.S.A.) franked to pay the rate 20 crazie at disembarkation port (convention 1<sup>st</sup> May 1857) with 1853/57 9 cr. pair + 2 cr. tied by "P.D." cancel . The letter, as per endorsement- was carried via France - red exchange mark "Tuscany/Marseille" and on reverse "Paris-Calais"- to Liverpool where was placed on board a Cunard steamship and disembarked in New York -red circular " New York May 13 -15" and then addressed to Philadelphia. Notation "9" credit for sea carriage.



## ROUTES TO and FROM NORTH AMERICA

### British Packet LIVERPOOL-NEW YORK ( Cunard Line )



Cover from CLEVELAND (USA) –red cancel SEP 28 1858- generically addressed to ENGLAND, franked with an horizontal pair of 12 c. black plate 1° (Sc. 36) . On arrival in London (Oct 13), via Liverpool, the cover was returned back and readdressed to New-York.

*A transatlantic.....round trip mail.*



Cover from LIVERPOOL –SEP 9 1868- to NEW YORK franked to pay the rate 1/6d with one shilling green 1865 plate 4 together with 1861 2 d. bleu and 1864 4 d. vermilion all tied Liverpool 466 duplex. The cover, according to the endorsement “per City of Boston” and “Via Queenstown” was carried by British steamer to New York. On arrival red “NEW YORK PAID Sep 20 “ red cds mark.



## ROUTES TO and FROM UNITED STATES AMERICA



Cover from UPPER MILL (Manchester G.B.) -Aug 15 1855- to NEW YORK franked with 1847/54 one shilling(2) cut-to-shape tied by Manchester duplex. It was carried to Liverpool (Au 18) to be placed on board the Cunard's steamship "Canada" and disembarked in Boston (Au 30) to be dispatched to New York. The letter, over ½ ounce prepaid 2/ so was marked PAID on arrival in New York. In Liverpool was impressed the 10 cents marking (5 x 2 rate) showing the amount due to USA for inland postage.



Cover from NEW ORLEANS -June 4 1859- to OBERNDORF on NECKAR -Württemberg - Germany- franked with a vertical strip of three 1859 Washington perforated 10 c. type V to pay the 30 c. rate for Prussian closed mail: Boston red "JUN 15 PAID" with 7 c. credited to PRUSSIA. On front boxed transit cancel "AACHEN 28 FRANCO" showing the date and that the letter was fully paid and, on backside, transit mark on Stuttgart Jun 29 and arrival in Oberndorf on following 30<sup>th</sup>.



## ROUTES TO and FROM CANADA

British Packet-NEW YORK-HALIFAX-LIVERPOOL (Cunard Line)



Mourning cover from London -Ja 22 1866-- to NIAGARA (Canada) -Feb 12- franked with 1865 three pence pair tied by London duplex, prepaid the rate 6 pence for mail to Canada carried by Cunard Line via Halifax. On reverse Niagara arrival mark.



Prepaid cover from MONTREAL (Canada) -AU 16 1867- to LONDON, franked with 1859 Queen Victoria 12 ½ cents (Scott 18) tied by grid cancel. The letter carried by British packet arrived in London on following August 27- red arrival mark "LONDON C AU 27 67 PAID".

# **ROUTES TO and FROM NORTH AMERICA** **British Packet LIVERPOOL-HALIFAX-BOSTON (Cunard Line)**



Cover from NEWCASTLE on TYNE- JAN 24 1860- to BOSTON franked with one shilling green to pay the rate to United States (24 c.). The cover was carried, via Liverpool (Jan 25), by Cunard Line steamship "North Briton" (see endorsement) to Boston -red mark on arrival "Boston AM PKT Paid"- On delivery paid 21 c. due.



Cover from NEW-YORK (USA) MAY 13 1862 to AMSTERDAM (Netherland) franked with 5 cents brown (Scott 75) red grid cancel - for half ounce letter rate via British mail- with a matching "NEW YORK Br. Pkt MAY 13" CDS adjacent. The letter was carried by the Cunard Line Steamer "America" from Boston on May 14 arriving Queenstown May 25 1862. London transit May 25 and Amsterdam arrival May 28 on reverse. Endorsed "Pr Str America-per open mail via Ostend" paid 1 shilling debit to Netherlands (8 pence transatlantic due, plus 4 pence British share under convention) and 80 cents due on arrival in Netherland .



## ROUTES TO and FROM NORTH AMERICA

### German Packet NEW YORK-BREMEN



Cover from WASHINGTON –Nov 6 1868(?) – to VIENNA (Austria) franked with 15 c. black (Scott n. 77). Red exchange mark "New York Brem. Nov 7 Paid 12 " and, apposed in Bremen, "AMERICA/UBER/BREMEN/FRANCO" three line handstamp. Arrival in Vienna Nov 25.

### German Packet HAMBURG-NEW YORK



Cover undated from COPENHAGEN -SEP 29 1870(?) - to MILLERTON (California-USA) franked with 2 skilling bleu together with 3 sk. red violet and 16 sk. olive green (Scott 11, 12 and 16), all 3/ring "1" cancelled, to pay the rate of 21 skilling equal to 13 cents ( 3 for inland rate and 10 for rate to USA via Bremen or Hamburg). Endorsed "pr Hamburg or Bremen steamer", straight line "Franco" and red cds "NEW YORK/PAID ALL OCT 16" apposed on arrival. On the backside KEIL/HAMBURG transit mark SEP 30.-

## ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA

from FRANCE by British Packet



Cover from PARIS (France) –SEP 24 1856- to NEW YORK (USA) via Boston franked to pay the double rate 2,60 fr. with Napoleon 1853 80 c. carmin x 3 + 20 c. bleu cancelled by “pointillé fin” mark. Transit mark Paris-Calais Oct. 24. Endorsed “Voie d’Ang.re p.Steamer”. It was carried by the direct line Liverpool-Boston with arrival on Oct. 10 in Boston where was charged 5 cts tax due to pay by the recipient in New York.



Cover from CANNES (France) –MAR 9 1865—to NEW ORLEANS (Louisiana-U.S.A.) franked to pay the double rate 1,60 Francs by British packet to United States with pair Napoleon 1862 80 c. rose cancelled “gros chiffres 726”. The letter, carried by a British packet was disembarked on Mars 24 -red circular mark “New York Br. Pkt –PAID”, then dispatched to New Orleans ( Ap. 18) where on delivery was charged “6” cents.



## ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA

### From FRANCE Via Le Havre by American Steamer



Cover from PARIS (AP 28 1855) to NEW YORK franked with a single and a pair 1853 20 c. bleu tied "gros points carrés" lozenge to pay the 60 c. tariff for mail carried by American ship via Le Havre (see red mark "Bureau Maritime/Le Havre April 29 55" on reverse) and arrival in New York with mark -AM/PKT/27 May "20" paid-.

### Via Liverpool by English line



Cover from MARSEILLE – OCT 22 56- to BOSTON franked to pay the rate 1,30 Fr. with Napoleon 1853 10 c. bistre + 40 c. orange +80 c. carmin. Endorsed "English Steamer via Liverpool" and "Por Liverpool Angleterre". Transit marks Lyon-Paris Oct 22 and Paris – Calais Oct 23. Carried by the direct line Liverpool-Boston with arrival mark in Boston on Nov.7 with tax 5 ct. due to pay by the recipient.



**Routes from FRANCE to NORTH AMERICA via Liverpool and Havre  
Via Liverpool by English line**



Cover from MARSEILLE – Feb 28 62- to NEW YORK franked to pay a single rate -1856 Anglo/French convention- with 1853 20 c. x 4 cancelled lozange. As per endorsement “Par steamer CHINA Via Liverpool Angleterre” the letter was carried by Cunard line showing on arrival (Mar 14) 5 c. due in exchange office datestamp plus “3” c. to be paid on delivery.

**Via Le Havre by Hamburg American line-HAPAG**



Double rate letter from Le Havre -May 29 1869- to NEW YORK franked with 1867 Napoleon 80 c. pair. The letter was placed on board –as per endorsement- the packet “Germania” of the Hamburg –New York line that called at Havre and disembarked on June 9<sup>th</sup> receiving the red mark “New York ALL PAID” and the due “6” cents France credit to U.S.A.



**ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA**  
from SWEDEN by GERMAN PACKET via HAMBURG



Cover from UGGELBO (Sweden)-May 29 1872 to ALTONA (Illinois-USA) franked to pay the 42 ore rate to Usa via Hamburg with 1858 12+30 ore tied by Uggelbo and Gefle marks and alongside the straight line FRANCO and the boxed "1 2/3 W.F." (Weiter Franco) showing the credit to Germany. On reverse transit mark "Kiel 2/6 Hamburg". Letter carried by a German packet to New York, then addressed to Altona. Charged on arrival "3 2/12".

from HANOVER by BRITISH PACKET (Cunard line) - Prussian closed Mail



1858-Front of cover from EMDEN (Germany) to BALTIMORE (USA) Via New York franked with Hanover 1/15 thaler black/bleu (Mi. n.12) Emden bleu cancelled. The letter was sent to the Aachen exchange office and processed on March 8 with a credit to the USA of 25 cts. The Postal clerk also wrote "11" in red to show that the foreign postal rate of 11 sgr. was paid. Carried via Liverpool by Cunard line steamship was cancelled on arrival "NEW YORK MAR 30 - "30 paid" in red to acknowledge that 30 c. had been prepaid.



**ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA**  
by GERMAN packet via HAMBURG - simple rate 4 groschen



Cover -dated Ap 20 1868- from JENA (Germany) to NEW YORK (USA) franked with North German Confederation 2 groschen gray x 2 to pay the rate by German packet to New York. Straight line blue mark "FRANCO" showing the letter fully paid and red "NEW YORK DIRECT - PAID ALL" packetboat receiver on arrival. Endorsed "Via Hamburg".

by GERMAN packet-simple rate 4 groschen + Recommendation fee 2 groschen



1868- Cover from BREMEN -SEP 19 1868 -to NEW YORK franked with North German Confederation 2 groschen gray strip x 3 for half ounce registered letter rate departing from Bremen on Sep 19<sup>th</sup> and Southampton on 22<sup>th</sup> by German Packet to New York. Straight line red FRANCO showing the letter fully paid and red "NEW YORK DIRECT-PAID ALL" Packebot receiver on arrival. Endorsed "P. North German Lloyd St. via Southampton".



**ROUTES from GERMANY to NORTH AMERICA**  
by German packet via Hamburg



Cover from SCHWERSENZ (Prussia) –Sep 15 1867- to SAN FRANCISCO (California – USA) franked, to pay the rate 6 ½ silb. (see red notation) to the with 1861/64 3 sgr. x 2 + 6 pf. for 15 c. equivalent fee to USA by Hamburg convention. The letter was carried to New York where was impressed the exchange mark used for mail carried by the Hamburg packet with “3” debited to Usa. Then was dispatched to San Francisco and on delivery charged 8 cents.

by British packet (Cunard line) via Queenstown



1865- Cover from LEIPZIG (Saxony) –Ap 4 1865- –to NEW YORK franked to pay the rate 12 Neugroschen with Saxony 5 ng pair + 2 ng tied by octagonal boxed “Leipzig D.Resp.Banhof”. The letter was sent to the Aachen exchange office and, processed on Apr. 29, showed the 23 c. credit to the United States for a fully paid by Prussian closed mail. As per endorsement the letter was carried to New York via Queenstown by Cunard line steamship.



## ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA

from RUSSIA to UNITED STATES via Hamburg by German packet



Letter from YEVPATORIA (Crimea-Russia) -Nov 9 1874- to PHILADELPHIA (USA) -Dec. 25 1874- franked -to pay the 65 kopecs rate plus the registration fee at destination- with 1866 5 k. and two 30 k. stamps tied by the c.d. postmark "YEVPATORIA-9 Nov.1874". The letter was sent first to Odessa (transit mark Nov 14) to be embarked to the United States, but the local Post Office sent back it to Yevpatoria with the adnotation that the letter must be routed via Volochisk to Germany. The letter returned on 21 November in Yevpatoria where was sealed by five wax imprints and dispatched via Volochisk (transit Nov. 26) and Prussia (enter mark "Recommandiert") to the port of Hamburg to be embarked on a German packet (HAPAG) to New York . On arrival was impressed the mark "New York- Paid all Dec. 25" and the registration number 26964, thence to Philadelphia. In transit in Germany it was noted by crayon bleu 6 ½ (?) gr. debited to North German Union.

*The Julian Calendar adopted in Orthodox area was at that time 12 days earliest respect the Gregorian one; so this letter, according to the Gregorian Calendar, leaved Yevpatoria (the second time) on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> via Volochisk on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> and was disembarked in New York on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>.*





# **ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA** **from SARDINIA and ITALY by British Packet**



Cover from GENOVA (Sardinia) -Mar 23 1859- to BOSTON (U.S.A.) - APR 18- franked to pay a single rate 1,20 lire to United States with Sardinia 1855 40 c. red scarlet +80 c. ochre. The letter entered France at Culoz (see exchange red mark) and then was transferred to Liverpool where it was carried by English packet to Boston, arrival 18 April. Alongside the octagonal "Br. Service" indicating the carriage by a British Packet. On front notation "3" French credit exchange to USA.



Cover from PALERMO (Italy) -MARCH 23 1868- to PHILADELPHIA (United States) franked with a strip of four De La Rue 60 c. clear lilac to pay the double rate 2,40 liras to U.S.A. for weight gr.15 ½ (see notation upper left corner). The letter was carried from Palermo to Marseille by French Packet – Circular Line of Syrie - Ligne X (see endorsement "M.M.II"- Messageries Impériales) and then via Calais to London – transit red mark march 29- to be embarked in Southampton to New York. On arrival charged credit to USA 6 ½ cents.



## TRANSATLANTIC ROUTES to North America

from SPAIN to UNITED STATES and vice versa



Lettersheet from CADIZ -JY 1 1865- to PHILADELPHIA franked to pay the single rate 4 reales by British mediation with 1865 2 reales gris (2) tied by "R.C.2" mark and alongside "Cadiz Jy 1". The letter -endorsed "via Inghiltera" was routed via Madrid and London (Jy 5) to Liverpool where was embarked on a American line steamer and disembarked in Boston to be dispatched to Philadelphia where was impressed the black circular exchange mark "Philadelphia Jul 17 AM.PKT." showing letter carried by American packet service.



Cover from NEW ORLEANS - OCT 19 1859- to BARCELONA franked to pay the double open mail rate by British packet with 1859 5.c brown pair tied by circular datestamp of New Orleans and red "New York" exchange cancel. In New York it was placed on board a British "Cunard" packet and disembarked in Liverpool to be dispatched via London and France to Barcelona where, on arrival (Nov 20), was charged for a double rate of 8 reales.



## ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA from PAPAL STATES by British Packet



Single rate letter from ROME –AP 5 1862- to NEW MILFORD (Connecticut – USA) franked to prepay the rate 32 bajocchi with two pairs 8 baj. tied by Papal grid. The letter was carried by a French packet to Marseille (Et. Pont. Ap 9) and thence to Liverpool where was placed on board the Canadian Allan line steamship “SS Bohemian” and disembarked in Portland (Maine) to be addressed to New Milford. Exchange mark “PORTLAND ME PAID 15 AP 23.” Boxed “Br. Service” and charged credit “3” by red crayon. Endorsed “prepaid” PP mark.



Cover from ROME (Papal States)-Dec. 20 1869- to NEW YORK franked –to pay the rate 115 centesimos- with 40 c. lemon yellow x 3 tied by the Papal grid, having so an overfranking of 5 cts. Black PD alongside. The cover was carried via France- St Michel 23 Dec. exchange mark- to Liverpool, where was embarked on Cunard Packets (SS Nestorian) and disembarked in New York – New York PAID ALL- red mark on the following Jan 4 1870.

On arrival charged “3 cents” French credit exchange to USA.



# ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA by British Packet via Liverpool

from PORTUGAL



Letter from LISBON –Mar 8 1871 –to PHILADELPHIA (USA) franked to pay the rate at destination -with 80 reis orange pair. The letter carried –likely- to Southampton by the British packet of the line from South America that called at Lisbon, was placed on board in Liverpool on a British packet -see circular mark “PAID-LIVERPOOL BR PACKET 18 MR” and disembarked in New York to be dispatched to Philadelphia. On arrival charged “5” and “2”

from SWITZERLAND



Cover from BASEL (Switzerland) AP 2 1860 to the Mission of FEMME OSAGE –St Charles County -Missouri –U.S.A. franked with two 40 rappen + 15 rappen Berna Issue red-brown thread .The cover was carried by a British steamer via Liverpool to New York where was noted the rate 21 cents, then via Philadelphia (red octagonal cancel AP 21 1860) to destination where paid further 3 cents (see “3” handwritten).



## ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA

### From NETHERLANDS by British Packet



Cover from AMSTERDAM (Netherlands) –June 23 1865- to NEW YORK –Jul 6- franked to pay the normal rate to United States with 1863 10 c. red together with a pair and a single of 15c. The cover, addressed over London (Ju 24) to Queenstown (see endorsment) to be embarked on a Cunard packet, arrived in New York on the following Jy 6<sup>th</sup> “New York Jul 6 Br. Pkt” and charged 5 cents U.S.A credit to G.B.. Handwritten “10”to pay by the addressee.



Cover from AMSTERDAM-Mar 28 1872-to AIKEN –South Carolina (USA) franked by 1867-71 5 cts bleu x 3 + 10 cts carmin tied by numeral cancel to pay the simple rate 25 cts. Red New York transit c.d.s.

## ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA

### From Austria by British packets via Prussia



Cover from INNSBRUCK (Austria) Nov 11 -1866- to BOSTON -Nov 27- franked with 1863/64 15 nkr x 4 tied by Innsbruck c.s. The letter prepaid 60 nkr: 10 nkr. for GAPU (German Austrian Postal Union ) transit to German departure port + 50 nkr debited to Prussia -see handwritten W.F. (Weiter Franco) 50-. The letter was carried to the exchange Office of Aachen that credited 23 c. to the United States for Prussian closed mail, then dispatched to Liverpool to be embarked on a Cunard steamship to Boston where was disembarked on Nov 27<sup>th</sup> and impressed the red arrival mark "BOSTON BR.PKT- PAID."

### from Austria by German packets



Cover from WIEN (AUSTRIA) -SEP 14 1874-- to MARRISTON (New Jersey-U.S.A.) franked with 1867 Franz Joseph 5 kr. pair together with 3 kr. green to pay the rate 13 kreuzer for mail carried via Hamburg or Bremen by an "Hamburg American Line" Packet. The letter was disembarked on Sep 29 -red circular mark "New York PAID ALL - SEP 29". On delivery the cover was charged "8".



# **ROUTES TO NORTH AMERICA** **From BELGIUM and ITALY by British Packet**



Cover from ANTWERP -Aug 22 1872- to NEW YORK- franked to pay a simple rate to destination with 1869 Leopold 30 + 10 c. tied by "12" losange and alongside c.d. "Anvers 22 Aout 72". The letter does not bear any endorsement, pen notation or transit mark, but referring to others letters of this period, it is possible to hypothesize that it was carried in closed bag, via Ostende and Liverpool, by a Cunard line steamship and disembarked, on the following Sep 4<sup>th</sup>, in New York where was impressed the red mark "New York Sep 4-PAID ALL"



Cover from MILANO (ITALY) -Feb 3 1871- to BALTIMORE franked to pay the single rate 55 cts with Victor Emmanuel 40+10+5 cts dots 17 cancelled. "Ventimiglia Ambul.te" (border with France) mark on reverse and red "New-York Feb 21 PAID ALL" on disembarking.



## ROUTES TO NORTH and CENTRAL AMERICA by British Packet via Liverpool and Southampton



Front of package from BORDEAUX (France) JUNE 13 1868 to HABANA (Cuba) franked with a strip x 6 of 1867 Napoleon 80 c. for a sixfold rate of 4,80 c.. The letter posted to the train Bordeaux-Paris (Cancel BP 1) was addressed to CUBA by a packet of the British line Liverpool - New York (transit mark) and thence to Habana Via Nassau. On arrival paid "6" for internal rate and was impressed the boxed mark of origin NE (Norte Europa).



Cover from PARIS-Aug 16 1866-to GUATEMALA franked, to pay the rate 1,40 Fr. with 1863 Napoleon 20 c.+ 40 c. (3). The letter, with London transit mark Aug 17, was carried by the British RMSP packet "Seine" from Southampton to St. Thomas (Danish West Indies) -Jy 31- and thence addressed to Guatemala via Kingston (Jamaica) and Belize (British Honduras). It was charged the simple rate of 2 reales (no more than 7,2 grams) on delivery.



## ROUTES from FRANCE to MEXICO



Letter with full contents from BAYONNE (Fr.) -Oct 12 1864- to GUADALAJARA (Mexico) franked 1,60 Fr. to pay a double rate with 1862 Napoleon pair 80 c. carmine. The letter - endorsed "par St. Nazaire"- was placed on board "French line B" packet "Louisiane" (Oct 16), and, disembarked in Vera-Cruz (17/11), addressed by inland mail to Guadalajara which, at that time, was occupied by French troops envoyed from Napoleon III<sup>o</sup> in support of the new Emperor Maximilian I<sup>o</sup> Habsburg. On arrival was charged with the tax due 2 (reales).



1872. Cover from SANTANDER (SPAIN) -see on reverse the sender's cachet- to VERACRUZ (MEXICO) franked, to pay a double rate, with 1867 80 c. (2) and Cerès 1870 20 c. (2) tied by "ancree" cancel. The letter was posted and franked on board -on May 20 1872- in Santander call of the "Ligne B" steamship "Nouveau Monde" and disembarked on the following June 15. Endorsed "Por vapor correo Frances "Nouveau Monde"



**Routes to MEXICO**  
from GREAT BRITAIN by French Packet Saint Nazaire-Vera Cruz



Cover from LONDON -FEB 18 1873- to VERACRUZ (Mexico) franked to pay the 2/ rate under one ounce with 1867 1 shilling pair tied by London duplex; alongside Paris transit and "3" reales charged on arrival. It, according to the endorsement, was carried via Paris to Saint Nazaire where was embarked on the French line B steamer "Martinique" to Veracruz (22/3)

from France by British Packet Southampton-St. Thomas-Vera Cruz



Lettersheet from LE HAVRE-May 31 1855- to VERACRUZ- Ju 24- franked for 3 Fr. with 1853 Napoleon 80 c. strip x 3 + 40 c. overpaying the single rate 2,80 Fr. to Mexico. It - as per the endorsement-, was carried, via Paris and London (transit red mark Ju 2), to Southampton and placed on board the RMSP "Tay" packet to St. Thomas (Danish west Indies) where on June 17<sup>th</sup> was delivered to the RMSP "Wey" to Vera Cruz (arrival June 24<sup>th</sup>).



# ROUTE TO MEXICO by French Packet via Saint Nazaire



Cover from GENOVA-MAR 16 1874- to VERA CRUZ (Mexico) franked with 40+60 c. to pay a partial rate (P.P.) to Mexico. The cover was carried via Moncenisio -French mark "Italie Amb. M. Cenis 17 Mars"-, Lyon and Paris to Saint Nazaire and there embarked on French Packet "Panama"- "Ligne B-Mars 20 74-Paq.Fr. N° 2" and disembarked in Vera Cruz on the following April 17<sup>th</sup>. On arrival had to pay 2 reales due but not any notation on cover front.



Cover from HAMBURG (Germany Empire) -Nov 17 1877- to VERACRUZ (Mexico) - franked -prepaying the 1,60 marks for double rate- with 1875 10 pf, 20 pf, 25 pf (2) and 50 pf.(2) tied by the Hamburg datestamp. The letter -as per endorsement- carried by train, "Alemagne/Erq.Paris" bleu French entry mark, to Saint Nazaire and placed on board the packet "Ville de Paris" (Nov 21) was disembarked in Vera Cruz on the following Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. On front red manuscript "160" c. credit to France and "25" c. Mexican due charged on arrival.



## MEXICO TO FRANCE BY DIFFERENT ROUTES

### by British Packet



Cover from TAMPICO (Mexico) -AP 27 1873 - to BORDEAUX franked with Mexico 12 c. bleu with date and Tampico district overprint tied by oval FRANCO TAMPICO. Anglo/French accountancy mark 1F 60c and tax due 12 (decimes) to be paid on arrival. It was carried by the RMSP British steamship "Corsica" from TAMPICO to St. THOMAS (monthly frequency) and there was delivered to the packet "Moselle" of the line Colon -Southampton. Transit London May 28 and arrival in Bordeaux on following 29<sup>th</sup>.

### by French Packet



Cover from PAPANTLA (Mexico) -MAR 9 1879- to BORDEAUX franked with Mexico 25 c. bleu tied "Franqueado/Papantla" and alongside French octagonal mark VERACRUZ/PAQ. FR. B N° 4. Carried by the French Packet "Ville de Brest" Line B Vera Cruz -St. Nazaire (26 days). Tax 12 decimes on arrival (AP 17).



## ROUTES TO CENTRAL AMERICA by British Packet via Southampton



Cover from DUNDEE (G.B.) -Feb 1 1876- to SANTA ANA (Salvador) franked one rate with one sh. deep green and six pence gray (S.G. 148, 147). The cover carried from Southampton by R.M.S.P.Co. (Steamer Para) was disembarked in Colon and thence, after crossing over the Isthmus, in Panama where was placed on board a Pacific Mail Steamship Co. packet to be carried to San Salvador and addressed to Santa Ana. Charged 2 (reales) on delivery.



Cover from GLASGOW -FEB 15 1866- to BELIZE (Honduras) -Ap 12- franked to pay the April 1<sup>st</sup> 1865 rate with one sh. green tied Glasgow duplex. Red mark 1 d indicating the late fee for post to be paid. The letter, endorsed "Via Southampton", was carried by the British Packet "Tasmanian" to St.Thomas (Danish West Indies) -Mar 2-then delivered to the SS "Eider" for Kingston -Jamaica Mar 7- to be dispatched to Belize (Ap 12). In 1862 the settlement of Belize was declared British Colony and called British Honduras.

## ROUTES from CENTRAL AMERICA

### CUBA- SPANISH DOMINION



Line B Vera Cruz-Saint Nazaire. Cover from SANTIAGO DE CUBA (CUBA) JA 18 1872 to BORDEAUX (FEB 12 1872), carried at double rate with 1867 80 c.rose pair + 1870 40 c. orange tied "ancres" and alongside "Cuba" octagonal French Consular P.O. datestamp. Embarked on "Nouveau Monde" steam ship showing on reverse Ligne B ( Jan 25 1872) and Bordeaux cds's. arrival.

### PUERTO-RICO -SPANISH DOMINION



Cover from SAN JUAN (Puerto Rico) – OCT 11 1870—to CADIZ franked with 1870 "Espana" 20 cts red pair cancelled by "parrilla colonial" mark. Franco (all paid) alongside. Posted at British P.O. in Puerto Rico was carried -according to the endorsement- Via London (transit mark OCT 31) with arrival on following November 5 (docketed inside)



## BRITISH ROUTES to CENTRAL AMERICA



Cover from GLASGOW -De 6 1870- to KINGSTON (JAMAICA) -JA 5 1871- franked to pay a single rate with 1867 1/ green tied by the Glasgow "159" duplex and alongside the s.c. "Glasgow De 6 70". The letter, carried by a British packet of the Southampton-Colon line, was disembarked in St.Thomas and then dispatched to Jamaica. On reverse arrival mark "Kingston-Jamaica Ja 5 1871".



Cover from LONDON -JY 5 1875- to GUATEMALA franked -to pay a single rate at disembarkation port - with one shilling stamp tied by London "95" duplex. It -as per endorsement "By French Packet"- was carried to Saint Nazaire (France) where, on July 7<sup>th</sup> was placed on board the "Lafayette" French steampacket and disembarked on the following August 1<sup>st</sup> in Colon (Panama), thence, likely, was carried via Kingston and Belize, to Guatemala. On arrival was charged "2" reales to pay the inland rate.

# **ROUTES to DUTCH WEST INDIES by British packet**



Cover from MANCHESTER -SEP 1 1870- to CURACAO -Netherlands Antillen -SEP 26- franked to pay the single rate to disembarkation port (see "paid" endorsed) with one shilling tied by duplex "498"-Manchester 1 SP 70- The letter, carried to Southampton, was placed on board the R.M. British Packet "Seine" and disembarked in St. Thomas (Danish west Indies) on the following 20<sup>th</sup> to be dispatched to Curacao where on arrival was impressed the Dutch circular mark "Curacao 25/9 1870". On delivery was charged 12 ½ cents (Dutch Guilder).



Cover from PARIS -Aout 14 1871 -to CURACAO -Netherlands Antilles -Sep 4 1871- franked to pay the double rate 2,40 Fr. to destination with 1867 80c. pair + single. Tied by "etoile" and alongside d.c. "Paris d'Enghien Aug 14 1871". As per endorsement "via Southampton" the letter was carried via Calais to Southampton where was placed on board the R.M. British packet "Tagus" and disembarked in St. Thomas (Danish west Indien) and thence to Curacao (Dutch circular date stamp 4/9 on the front.)



## ROUTES from FRENCH WEST INDIES by French Packets



Cover from St. PIERRE (Martinique) –Dec 24 1867- to MARSEILLE underpaid with 1859/65 Eagle 10+40 tied by the dotted MQE lozange, “Martinique/St Pierre” despatch c.d.s. and framed red “AFFRANCHISSEMENT INSUFFISANT”. The letter, as per endorsement “Voie de St Nazaire”, was placed on board the “Ligne B” steamship “France”(cholera epidemic in St. Thomas, so port of call transferred to Fort de France –MQE- and disembarked in St Nazaire on the following Ja 14<sup>th</sup> . On arrival “Ligne B Paquebot “ cds and Paris transit to Marseille (Ja 15). Charged “7” decimes for double rate “-see “2” on the upper left corner.



Cover from St. PIERRE (Martinique)- JY 9 1877- to MARSEILLE- franked, to pay a single rate, with French General Colonies 40 c. tied MQE in lozange. The letter was placed on board the “Washington” line A steamer and disembarked in Saint Nazaire- bleu date stamp “COL. Fr. PAQ Fr. Saint Nazaire 24 Juil 1877“- and then dispatched by train to Marseille ( 25/9).



## ROUTES from FRENCH WEST INDIES



by British Packet

Letter from BASSE TERRE (Guadeloupe) Nov 13 1874- to LE HAVRE franked to pay a simple rate to destination with 1871 French Colonies General Issue 30+40 c. tied by dotted lozange with adjacent "PAQ-Ang. BASSE TERRE GUAD." double ring. As per endorsement "voie anglaise" the letter was routed via England and disembarked in Le Havre where was impressed the origin cachet "COL. FRA. V. ANG. -LE HAVRE /15 Dec 1874



by French Packet

Cover from POINT A PITRE (Guadeloupe) -July 27 1876- to MARSEILLE franked to pay the simple rate to destination with 1871 French Colonies General Issue 40 c (2) tied by large lozange and "Paq.Fr./Pointe a Pitre/Guad /29/7/76 " date stamp alongside. The letter, as per endorsement, was placed on board the steamship "Ville sain Nazaire" of the Vera Cruz -St Nazaire/Line B, that called at Guadeloupe, and disembarked on St Nazaire (bleu entry marking 14 aout.) to be dispatched to Marseille (Sep 2<sup>nd</sup>) by train



**ROUTES to and from DANISH WEST INDIES**  
by British packet via Southampton



Cover from SJAELL (Denmark) – Sep 28 1880- to St. CRUZ (Danish West Indies) franked to pay the 40 ore carriage by British packet rate with 1875 25 + 5 o. tied by “TPO railway PB-181” duplex. As per endorsement the letter was carried to Southampton where was placed on board a RMSP packet and disembarked in St. Martha to be addressed to St. Cruz. On reverse transit mark Korsor (28/9) and, on arrival, St. Thomas (15/10) and Christiansted (16/10).



Cover from St. THOMAS (Danish West Indies) -Ju 14 1875- to LONDON franked to pay the single rate at destination with one shilling tied by the British P.O. mark “St. Thomas-C 51” duplex. The letter, as per endorsement, was placed on board the RMSP “Tagus” steamship and disembarked in Southampton to be addressed to London (red arrival mark Ju 28).



## ROUTES from FRANCE to SOUTH AMERICA by British Packet via Southampton



Front of letter from PARIS -March 21 1853 – to SANTA MARTA (New Granada-Colombia) franked -to pay a double rate at destination port –with 1849 Ceres 1 Franc strip x 3 tied by dot roller hand cancel and besides double ring “Paris 21 March 1853”. Endorsed “Par la Paquet”, the letter was carried to Southampton where was placed on board a RMSP packet to be disembarked, via St. Thomas (Danish West Indies), in Santa Marta. On arrival was charged for the internal rate 1 real.



Letter from BORDEAUX –Aug 13 1867- to GUAYAQUIL (Equador) franked with 1862 80 c. rose x 3 to pay the single rate 2,40 to Ecuador. The letter, via Paris and London (transit red mark London J PAID 16 Aug 67), was carried, from Southampton by the RMSP “Douro” to St Thomas where was delivered to the “Tyne” packet to be carried to Colon (SEP 21), thence, crossed the Panama Isthmus, dispatched to Guayaquil by a PSNC packet.



**ROUTES to and from VENEZUELA**  
by French Packet-line A-Colon-St Nazaire



Letter from PARIS -Sep 7 1869 – to CARACAS (Venezuela) franked to pay the single rate at destination port with 1867 Napoleon 80 c. tied by star “8” cancel-The letter was carried by train to Saint Nazaire where –as for the mark on reverse “Ligne A Paq.Fr.N.3 -8 Sep 1869” was placed on board the paquebot “France” arriving in Fort the France (Guadalupe) on 23th to be transferred to a packet of the French Line L to La Guayra and then to Caracas. On delivery was charged 1 ½ real



Cover from LA GUAYRA (Venezuela) –AP 7 1876 to SANTANDER (Spain) franked to pay the simple rate with Ceres 1871 25 c. strip x 4 tied by “ancre” lozange and alongside by the French Consular datestamp “La Guayra Avr. 6” The Letter was placed on board the line A steamship “Colombia” and carried to France via Saint Nazaire (Avr. 27) then to Bordeaux (Avr. 28) where was addressed to Santander .



**ROUTES from SOUTH AMERICA to FRANCE**  
**from Colombia by British Packet via Southampton**



Front of letter from BOGOTA' -SEP 1864- to PARIS -Jy 29- franked to pay the internal rate with 1864 10 ctv. tied by oval "Bogota". It was carried to the British P.O. of Cartagena where on OCT 1<sup>th</sup> was embarked on the RMSP steamship "Tyne" and carried -via Colon- to St. Thomas where, on OCT 14, was delivered to the "Shannon" RMSP packet and disembarked in Southampton (Oct 28) to be dispatched -via London - to Paris (entry mark 30 Oct). Anglo/French accountancy mark "1F 60c." and tax due "8" decimes charged on delivery.

**from Venezuela by French Packet via Saint Nazaire**



Front of letter from LA GUAYRA -Dec 6 1875- to NANTES franked to pay the internal rate with 1870 1 real red tied by cds "La Guayra - Correo" and alongside the "0" cancel. The letter -as per endorsement "via Saint Nazaire"- was placed in la Guayra -French Consular P.O. octagonal mark Dec 6- on board the steamship "Lafayette" and disembarked in France on the following 24<sup>th</sup> - red cds "COL.FR.PAQ.-2 St. NAZAIRE-2"- Charged "12" on delivery.



**MAIL ROUTES from GREAT BRITAIN to SOUTH AMERICA  
to COLOMBIA by French Packet**



Cover from MANCHESTER -FEB 6 1868- to BOGOTA' franked - to pay a quadruple rate-with 1867 2/ pair tied Manchester "498" with alongside the red d.r. "Manchester Paid 6 FE 68". The cover, as per the endorsement, was addressed to France to be embarked on the French Packet "Nouveau-Monde" of Saint Nazaire-Colon line "A" that called at St Martha (Colombia). On transit (Feb 27) oval SANTAMARTA/DEBE and tax marking 50 (cents).

to VENEZUELA by British Packet



Double rate letter from MANCHESTER -Oct 31 1874- to CARACAS (Venezuela) franked with 2/ tied by "498"duplex and red "Manchester paid" alongside. It was carried, according to the endorsement, by the R.M. Steam Packet "Moselle" from Southampton to St.Thomas and thence, likely by a non-contract ship, to La Guayra to be dispatched to Caracas.



## BRAZIL - ROUTES to FRANCE by French and British packets



Cover from RIO DE JANEIRO (BRAZIL) -JAN 4 1876- to NANTES (France) franked with Dom Pedro 80 +10 (2) reis to pay the internal rate 100 reis. The letter carried by the French packet "Mendoza"-alongside cancel "Rio de Janeiro-Paq.Fr. J n. 3 -4 Janv. 1876"- arrived in Bordeaux on following 27 and in Nantes on 28. The prepaid franking was insufficient (the rate, according to the postal convention March 30 1874 was 400 reis instead of 100 reis for weight 10 gr.) but no tax due has been noted in the letter on arrival.



Cover from RIO DE JANEIRO -AUG 8 1880- to LE HAVRE franked -to pay the 1879 U.P.U rate to France -with 1877 Dom Pedro 200 reis. The letter was placed on board the British packet "Guadiana", disembarked in Southampton and thence in Calais where received the origin mark "Bresil/Amb. Calais 14 Sep" to be dispatched to le Havre (15/9) by railway.



## ROUTES from and to BRAZIL



Cover from RIO DE JANEIRO -AP 23 1869- to CASALETTO SPARTANO (Italy) franked with 430 reis yellow tied by black cork cancel and alongside s.c. "RIO DE JANEIRO 23 AB 1869" The cover, on Ap. 24, was placed on board the French packet "Navarre" (Ligne J) and disembarked in Bordeaux on the following 20 May; then was dispatched via the usual route to Naples (May 23) and Casalbuono (May 24) to be delivered to Casaletto Spartano.

The "Coloridos" stamps, 280 and 430 reis, were issued according to the Brazilian/French postal Convention July 7 1860 and paid the single rate post 7,5 gr. to France and to Austria, Germany, Belgium, Nederland, Switzerland, Sardinian States, respectively.



Cover from GENOVA -SEP 4 1859- to BAHIA (Brazil) franked to pay a simple rate 1 Lira with Sardinia Victor Emmanuel II° 20 c. bleu + 80 c. yellow-ochre. The letter was routed via France -French/Sardinian red exchange mark "CULOZ SEP 6"- to London -SEP 7 transit mark- to be shipped via Southampton by British packets. Mark PP (Porto Parziale) and endorsed "Via di Londra".

## BRITISH ROUTES to SOUTH AMERICA



Cover from AYLSHAM (G.B.) – Feb 16 1879- to PERNAMBUCO (Brazil) -Mar 12- franked to pay a simple rate with 1873 1/ together to 1 d. pair tied by “39” duplex. The letter was embarked in Southampton on a RMSP packet of the Southampton-Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Ayres line that called at Pernambuco (arrival mark on reverse).



Cover from LIVERPOOL -May 1<sup>st</sup> 1869- to DEMERARA (British Guyana) franked - to pay the simple rate with 1867 1/ tied “466” duplex and alongside s.c. “Liverpool 1 May 69”. The letter -as per endorsement- was carried by a RMSP British packet of the Southampton-Colon line and disembarked (May 15) at the call of St. Thomas, then, by RMSP packet “Corsica” to Demerara. On reverse disembarkation d.r mark “Georgetown B. Guyana May 24”



# BRITISH MAIL ROUTES to SOUTH AMERICA to PERU and BOLIVIA by British Packets



Cover from LONDON-SEP 2 1865- to AREQUIPA (Peru) franked to pay the simple rate to the disembarkation port with 1864 1/ pair tied by London "W13" duplex .The letter was placed in Southampton on board the RMSP packet "Atrato" and in St. Thomas delivered to the "Tyne" steamship and disembarked in Colon. After crossing the Isthmus, it was placed, in Panama (transit SEP 24) on a PSNC steamship and disembarked in Yslay (mark on reverse), then taken to Arequipa.



Letter from London Ja 16 1861 to COBIJA (Bolivia) franked to pay a single rate at disembarkation port with 1857 one shilling pair tied by London "11" numeral obliterations. The letter was carried to Southampton where was placed on board the RMSP steamship "Seine" and delivered, in St. Thomas (Feb 2), to the steamship "Tamar" for Colon. It crossed the Isthmus (Panama transit Feb 11) and was embarked on a PSNC steamship to be disembarked in Cobija, at that time port of Bolivia.



## ATLANTIC and PACIFIC ROUTES to PERU



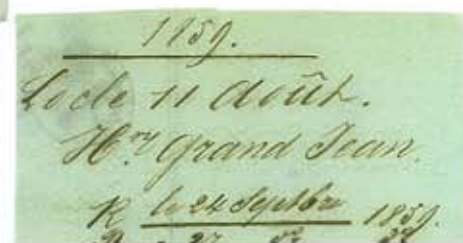
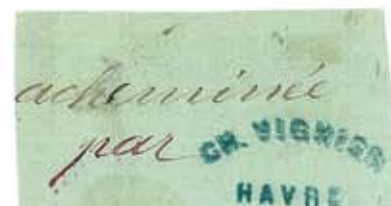
Cover from PARIS -MAR 31 1856- to AREQUIPA (Peru) franked 2,10 Fr. (see 2,10 handwritten) for a single rate with Napoleon 10 c. bistre together to 40 c. orange and 80 c.(2) carmine cancelled "pointillé fin". The letter -red transit mark AP 1- was carried by English line via Southampton to Panama and thence to Arequipa by Pacific Steam Navigation Co. Endorsed "Voie de Panama"



Cover from PARIS -SP 30- 1864- to LIMA franked with for a triple rate 3,60 Fr. with Napoleon 80 c. carmine strip x 4 + 40 c. orange "etoile" cancelled. Carried via Southampton to Panama and thence to Peru by Pacific Steam Navigation Co. steamship. On arrival, paid tax due 2 dineros (see "2" bleu handwritten) for internal rate. Lima (Nov 4) arrival on reverse.



## Routes FRANCE to PERU via Panama and Magellan strait



Cover from LOCLE (Switzerland) –Aug 11 1859- to LIMA. The letter, handcarried from Locle to Le Havre to be taken into the care of the forwarder CH. VIGNIER, was franked for the 3,60 Fr. double rate with 1853 80 x 4 + 40 c. tied “1495” petit chiffres and directed –via Paris and London (Aug 15)- to Southampton (Aug 16) where was placed on board the RMSP “Shannon”. The letter disembarked in Colon, after crossing the Isthmus, was dispatched by the PSNC to Callao to be addressed to Lima where paid the double internal rate “2” dineros.



Cover from LE HAVRE (France) –AUG 17 1873- to AREQUIPA (Peru) franked with 1858 40 c. to pay the reduced tariff for mail carried by merchant ship. The letter – as per endorsement- was carried, via *Magellan strait*, by the merchant ship “Nankin” sailing to Peru to load, likely, saltpetre in the port of Arica, where the cover was disembarked (Dec. 14 on reverse) and addressed, via Islay, to Arequipa (docketed Ja 27 1868). **162 days.**



## ROUTES from PERU to KINGDOM of SARDINIA and vice versa



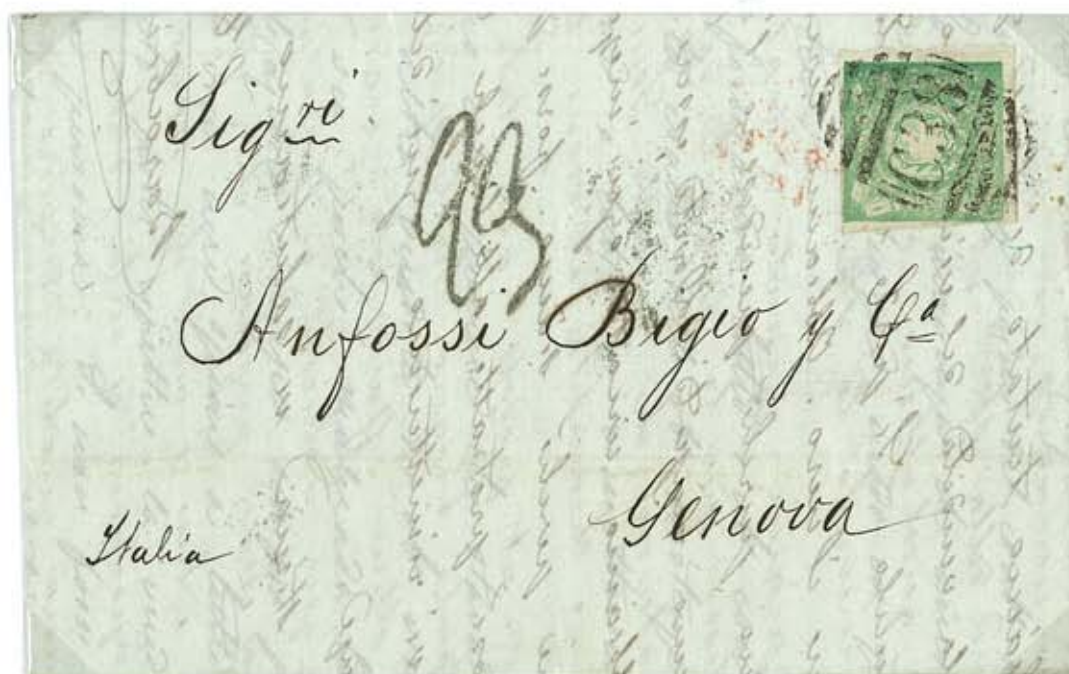
Cover -undated- from LIMA to BOGLIASCO (Kingdom Sardinia) -June 3 1858- franked with one dinero for the inland rate. It, endorsed "Via Inghilterra", was carried by closed mail bag, as usual from British P.O. to Italian States (absence of any British or French mark) and must have left Callao on April 27<sup>th</sup> which is the date that the PSNC steamer departed to Panama, compatible with the arrival date. On arrival charged 15 decimes tax due.



Letter from GENOA -Feb 10 1858- to LIMA franked -to pay a 3 Lire double rate - with 1858 Sardinia 20+40+80 c. (pair + single) The letter- endorsed "via d'Inghilterra e Panamá"- was dispatched via France (exchange mark "Sardaigne 3 - Culoz 13/2/1858") to Southampton to be placed on board the RMSP SS "Atrato" and disembarked in St. Thomas on 3 March; the same day it was embarked on the SS "Thames" arriving in Colon on 10 March. After crossing the Isthmus, in Panama the letter was delivered to a PSNC packet to Callao and taken to Lima. On arrival (March 25) was impressed on reverse the origin bleu mark "E" (Etranjero).



## ROUTES from ITALY to PERU and vice versa



Entire letter from CALLAO – Ju 26 1872- to GENOVA -Aug 1<sup>st</sup>- franked to pay the Peruvian internal rate with 1 dinero green tied by the British Consular P.O. mark “C38”. The letter was carried by a PSNC steamship to Panama and then embarked in Colon on the RMSP “Moselle” steamship to be disembarked in Plymouth then, via London (JY 28) and France, it was dispatched to Genova (Aug 1<sup>st</sup>). On arrival the addressee paid the tax due of 23 decimes.



Cover from GENOVA –Nov 12 1864- to LIMA- franked for the simple rate 1,40 lire to the disembarkation port of Callao with 1863 DLR 40 x 2 + 60 c. tied by c.s. “Genova Uffizio del Porto”. The letter was carried via France -exchange red mark “Italie/Lanslebourg 13 Nov” and Calais transit- to Southampton where was placed on board the RSMP “Shannon” packet to be disembarked via St. Thomas in Colon. After crossing the Isthmus it was shipped by a PSNC packet to Callao and then taken to Lima (Dec. 19).



## ROUTES from and to SOUTH AMERICA



Cover from CALLAO to GENOVA franked with one dinero green for inland rate tied by British P.O. circular mark –Nov 14 1869—. Transit marks London (Dec. 13), Anglo/French accountancy mark "GB 1F 90c." and French/Italian Nov. 1869 convention mark F58 (Salles 3223). On arrival in Genova ( Dec. 16) paid 14 decimes. 32 days.



Cover from VILLERS-S-MER (France) -AUG 22 1874- to LIMA (Oct 10) franked with Ceres 80 c. pair + 40 c.. Carried via Southampton by Royal Mail Packet to Colon, crossed the Panama isthmus and, by PSNC line, addressed to Callao for LIMA. The cover, franked 2 F. instead of 2,60, was taxed 10 centavos (see "10" bleu pencil annotation) on arrival, paid with the tax due 10 c. Peruvian stamp "Deficit de Franqueo". The addressee of this letter was the great Italian theatre actress Adelaide Ristori, at that time on tour in South America



# ROUTES from SPAIN to SOUTH AMERICA to ARGENTINA



Front cover (Valentine) from BARCELONA –FEB 20 1865- to BUENOS AYRES franked with pairs of 1865 Isabel II° 2 reales salmon. The cover was carried Via London (Feb 24) and Southampton, by a British steamship, though endorsed “Ultramar Via di Lisboa”

## to PERU



Cover from BARCELONA -Aug 26 1864- to AREQUIPA (Peru) franked with vertical pair of 1864 Isabel II° 2 reales bleu. The cover, endorsed “Via Inglaterra”, was carried via London (red transit mark), Southampton and St. Thomas to Colon by the RMSP “Seine” and “Tyne” steamships, then to Panama (SEP 23) where it was placed on board a PSNC packet and disembarked in Islay (dots transit mark) to be addressed to Arequipa.



## ROUTES from CHILE to ITALY and vice versa



1856. Letter sheet from SANTIAGO to VOGHERA (Kingdom of Sardinia) franked for internal rate with "Second London print" 5 centavos brown tied by 6/bar target. The letter was placed on board a PSNC packet and disembarked in Panama - red and black PANAMA transit marks July 24 1856- and after crossing the Isthmus, in Colon was embarked on the RMSP packet "Dee" to St. Thomas where it was transferred to the RMSP SS "Paraná" and disembarked in Southampton on 18 August (London transit Aug 18); then, over France, to Voghera (AUG 22) where on arrival the recipient paid tax due 29 decimes (2,90 lire).



Cover from TORINO -June 18 1863- to SANTIAGO franked with mixed franking Sardinia/Italy prepaying the rate of 1,40 Lire to Chile. The letter -as per endorsement "Via d'Inghilterra"-was routed over France to London (red transit mark June 20) and in Southampton -on 20 July- was placed on board the RMSP packet "Seine" to be disembarked, via St. Thomas, to Colon. After crossing the Isthmus, in Panama (transit mark JY 22) was embarked on a PSNC steamship to be carried to Valparaiso. On arrival paid tax due 15 (10 c. for internal rate and 5 for maritime mail).



## ROUTES to and from CHILE



Cover from BORDEAUX -APR 28 1860- to VALPARAISO (CHILE) franked 1,20 Fr. to pay a single rate to the disembarkation port with 1862 Napoleon 20 c. bleu single x 6 . The letter - red transit mark London AP 30 - was carried by the British packets "Tasmanian" and "Tamar", via Southampton and St. Thomas respectively, to Colon and then, crossed the Isthmus, (Panama transit mark May 22) it was shipped to Valparaiso by a PSNC packet.



Cover from SANTIAGO (Chile) -Ja 16 1865- to PARIS "Via de Panama" franked with 1856/62 Colon "Estancos" 5 cvs to pay the inland rate, having alongside the d.r. cancel "Santiago Chile 14 Ene 1865". As per endorsement the letter was carried to Panama by a P.S.N.C. steamship and then, crossed the Isthmus, placed on board RMSP SS "Tyne" to St. Thomas where was placed on board the RMSP SS "Shannon" to Southampton to be dispatched, via London and Calais, to Paris. On front Anglo/French accountancy mark "G.B.2F 87 5/10" and 12 "decimes" tax due to be paid by the addressee.



## SOUTH AMERICA-MONTEVIDEO

The TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY of Kingdom of Sardinia

This line operated only 11 round trips in the period 1856/57. The route, from Genova, called at the ports of Marseille, Malaga, Cadice, Lisbona, Tenerife, Madera, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro. Thence the passengers and the mail were carried to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres by an other vessel of the same Company.



Cover from MONTEVIDEO -green oval mark FEB 21 1857- carried with the steamship "Italia" to RIO DE JANEIRO and from there, on the following Feb 28 to GENOVA by steamship "Genova". On arrival was charged for a single rate 11/10 ( 1,10 lire) and apposed the origin boxed mark "VAP.TRANSATLANTICI". Red arrival mark of Genova Aprile 17. 48 days (10 days later the expected)



## SOUTH AMERICA-MONTEVIDEO

### MAIL ROUTES from and to SPAIN



Mourning cover from MONTEVIDEO (Uruguay) –Nov 21 1875– to BARCELONA (Spain)- Dec 28 –franked with 1866 10 c. green tied by “bars numeral 1” to pay the inland rate. The letter was carried by a merchant ship and disembarked to Barcellona on the following Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>. On arrival was charged 75 (centesimos).



Letter from BILBAO (SPAIN) May 3 1859 to MONTEVIDEO franked to pay a single rate at destination with 1859 2 reales pair tied by the Bilbao “rueda de carreta 20” The letter as per endorsement “America-Per la via de Angleterra” was carried to Liverpool where was placed on board a British packet to Montevideo-Red circular London mark (May 7) on transit.



## ROUTES TO ARGENTINA by British and Belgian Packets



North German Confederation. Cover from HAMBURG Sep 21 1871 to BUENOS AYRES prepaid 11 ¼ gr. rate with ¼+ ½+1+5(2) grs. "London Paid Sep 23" transit and British due "11"(pence). It was carried via Southampton by a RMSPC steamship and arrived on Nov. 2th



Cover from Le HAVRE (France) –Mai 31 1876 - to BUENOS AYRES franked to pay 1 Fr. rate with 1871 Ceres 25 c. (4). According to the endorsement "Par premier Steamer", lacking any further notation or mark, is fully logical to assume that the letter was addressed, via Paris – bleu mark Paris Etranger 1 Juin 1876-, to Antwerp to be embarked on a Belgian packet leaving Antwerp to Buenos Ayres on the same June 1<sup>st</sup>. On arrival "Buenos Aires Jun 29".



# MAIL ROUTES TO SOUTH AMERICA

## to and from URUGUAY by French Packet



Cover from LE HAVRE-Mar 23 1865- to MONTEVIDEO (Uruguay) franked to pay a double rate 160 cms with 1863 Napoleon 80 c. x 2 cancelled "losanges gros chiffres" 1765. The cover carried to Bordeaux was placed on board "Estremadura" steam ship (ligne du Brésil) on Mar 25. On following April 24 the cover was disembarked in Rio De Janeiro where, the same day, was embarked on the French packet "Saintonge" arriving in Montevideo on Ap 29.



Cover from MONTEVIDEO -dated July 27 1876- to NANTES (France) franked to pay the internal rate with 1866 10 cms green. Alongside the packet mark "Montevideo Paq.Fr. J.N.5" applied aboard the ship "Gironde". On arrival in Bordeaux (Aug 24), according to the "T" in triangle mark, was charged 12 decimes and sent to Nantes (arrival Ap.25)-



## MAIL ROUTES FROM SOUTH AMERICA

From ARGENTINA by French Packet –Messageries Maritimes S/S “Gironde”



Cover from BUENOS AYRES –Oct 26 1875- to CETTE (France) franked 1867 Rivadavia 5 c. cancelled OM (Oficina Maritima) to pay the internal rate. Alongside octagonal packet mark applied aboard the steamer “Gironde” The cover, disembarked in Bordeaux on Nov. 25 arriving in Certe on following 26, was charged 24 decimes due to be paid by the recipient.

From ARGENTINA by British Packet-Pacific Steam Navigation S/S “Cordillera”



Cover from BUENOS AYRES –Dec 26 1870- to BORDEAUX franked with 1867 Rivadavia 5 c. pair to pay the rate to Montevideo where the P.S.N.C. steamer docked when en route from Valparaiso, via Straits of Magellan, to Liverpool. On arrival bleu mark “Bordeaux Outremer Jan 31” and 20 decimes due charged to be paid by the recipient.



## MAIL ROUTES FROM and TO ARGENTINA by French Packet



Cover from BUENOS AYRES (12/7/62)- to BORDEAUX (16/8) franked to pay a single rate with 1862 80 c. tied by "anchor" lozenge and strike of French Consular P.O. The letter was carried by French packet "Saintonge" to Rio De Janeiro where, on July 25, it was embarked on the French packet "Navarre" to Bordeaux. On arrival was impressed the origin mark "Bresil/Bordeaux 16 Avril" (error for Aout). On reverse Bordeaux mark correctly dated 16/8



Cover from BAYONNE —JA 19 1864- to BUENOS AYRES franked to pay a double rate with 1862 80c. pair tied by "gros chiffres". On the same day, as per endorsement, it was carried to Bordeaux and – likely- (lack of any usual French packet mark), placed on board the "steam ship "Bearn" leaving Bordeaux on Ja 25 and disembarked in Rio De Janeiro (Feb 24), then to Buenos Ayres (Mars 1) by the Packet "Saintonge"—Ligne annexe de la Plata. Tax 3 on arrival.



## SOUTH AMERICA-MONTEVIDEO

### MAIL FROM KINGDOM OF SARDINIA



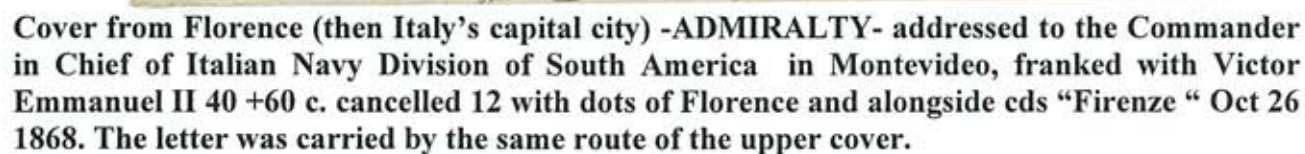
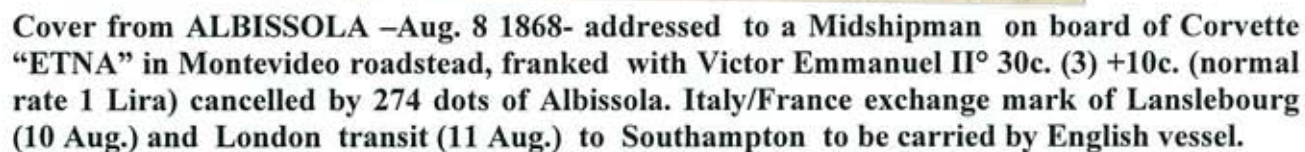
Cover from GENOVA –Aug. 3 1858- to MONTEVIDEO franked 1 Lira for overseas rate mail with Sardinia Victor Emmanuel II 80 c. bistre orange + 20 c. deep indigo. Red French/Italian exchange mark “Sardaigne-Culoz Aout 6” and LONDON (Aug 8) transit to Southampton to be carried to Uruguay by a British RMSPC steamship.



Cover from SANTA MARGHERITA (Rapallo-Italy) –JAN 12 1861- to MONTEVIDEO franked 1 Lira for overseas rate mail with Victor Emmanuel II 80 c. clear orange yellow + 20 c. slate bleu. Anglo/French exchange mark “Sardaigne Culoz Jan 21”. Most likely it was carried to Uruguay via Southampton by a British packet.



**Letters addressed to the "ITALIAN NAVY DIVISION" of SOUTH AMERICA  
stationed in MONTEVIDEO (Uruguay)**





## ITALY routes from and to ARGENTINA



Cover from BUENOS AYRES –May 30 1870- to GENOVA - June 29- via BORDEAUX franked with France Napoleon laureated 1863 40 c. strip x 3 tied by “lozenge ancre” of the Consular office. Alongside strike octagonal “Buenos Ayres / Paq.Fr. J N. 2”. The letter carried (closed bag) by the French Packet Line “J”, steamship “Sindh”, arrived in Bordeaux on followig June 26 and thence to GENOVA, arrival 29 on reverse.



Cover from GENOVA -FEB 5 1867- to BUENOS AIRES franked with Victor Emmanuel II° 40 c. carmin + 60 mauve. Transit LONDON FEB 6 and arrival in Buenos Ayres on March 2 (docketed inside) via Southampton by English steamship.



## ROUTES from ARGENTINA

by Italian Packet of "Lavarello" Co



1876 -Fragment of letter from BUENOS AYRES to GENOVA franked with 1867 Rivadavia 5 centavos -to pay the Argentinean inland rate- tied by "Buenos Ayres Sep 11 1876" and for the next rate up to destination with Italy one pair 10 c.+30 c "Estero" cancelled on landing in Genova with the linear origin postmark "Da Buenos Aires coi postali Italiani". Franking of the Consular Italian Agency in Buenos Ayres carried by the Italian packet of the Lavarello Company.



Cover from BUENOS AYRES -Oct 8 1876- to GENOVA franked with 1867 Rivadavia 5 centavos to pay the Argentinean inland rate. On landing in Genova (Nov. 10) the letter was charged "10" decimes paid with the 1 Lira postage due stamp and was impressed the linear origin postmark "Da Buenos Ayres Coi Postali Italiani"

# MAIL ROUTES TO SOUTH AMERICA

## to ARGENTINA by French Packet



Cover from STALYBRIDGE (G.B.) -SEP 23 1867- to BUENOS AYRES franked to pay the rate 1/6 d. with one shilling green and 1865 4 d. vermilion tied by Stalybridge "502" duplexes with a "deficit" of two pence. London and France transit marks. Endorsed "Per French packet" it was carried to Bordeaux where on Sep 25 was placed on board the French steamship "Navarre" and disembarked in Rio de Janeiro on the following Oct 24 in order to be dispatched to Buenos Ayres (arrival 1<sup>st</sup> November) by a French Packet "Ligne K- Annexe de la Plata". Charged on delivery 1/6 pence with blue crayon.

## to URUGUAY by British Packet



Cover from DUNDEE (G.B.) -Aug 3 1877- to MONTEVIDEO franked to pay the rate for ½ ounce with 1875 one shilling green tied by Dundee "114" duplexes. The cover was placed on board a steamship of the R.M.S.P. Southampton-Buenos Ayres, which called at Montevideo, and charged on arrival (Sep 4) by 20 c. due.