



The Letters addressed to the Papal States had to be prepaid to the Papal border 20 centesimi for each 10 grams of weight.



24 December 1863. Single rate letter from Ancona to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to the Papal border. No charges on delivery because the addressee, an ecclesiastical authority, enjoyed free postage.

Historical postal context

Only on 1 January 1863 uniform postal rates valid in the whole Kingdom of Italy, with the Italian law n. 604 of 5 May 1862, were introduced. On 1 December 1863 new postage stamps, called "De la Rue" because prepared by the famous London printer, were distributed in all the Italian post offices to replace the old issues prepared by Matraire.

Purpose

The aim of the exhibit is to illustrate the rates from the Italian Kingdom to the foreign countries, from the unification of the postal system in Italy in 1863 to 1879, when the Universal Postal Union (UPU) was established. In this period, up to 1875, rates and routings of Mail were established with direct Conventions agreed between Italy and the other States. When a direct Convention did not exist, Mail was exchanged with the mediation of other countries like France and United Kingdom (UK). From 1875 to 1879 Italy joined the General Postal Union (GPU) therefore rates and routing in this period were regulated by the GPU Convention. The exhibit is organized by country and within each country the different rates are presented chronologically.

At that time most mail was single rate letters; heavier letters, printed matters and registered letters were infrequent. The rarest documents are framed in red.

In the Papal States the letters were charged on delivery according to their origin for each 6 denari of weight.



23 June 1864. Single rate letter from Ferrara to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to the Papal border, charged 2 bajocchi on delivery as required for letters originating in former Papal territory. The letter was readdressed to Frascati prepaid the single domestic rate of 2 bajocchi.

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1st Chapter : Mail to the other Italian States



Papal States

Letters from ex Papal States provinces until 31 December 1863 were charged on delivery according to their origin and destination :
 6 bajocchi from Romagna to Rome and 7 bajocchi for destination other than Rome.
 5 bajocchi from Marche to Rome and 6 bajocchi for destination other than Rome.
 3 bajocchi from Umbria to Rome and 4 bajocchi for destination other than Rome.
 2 bajocchi from Sabina territories to Rome and 3 bajocchi for destination other than Rome.

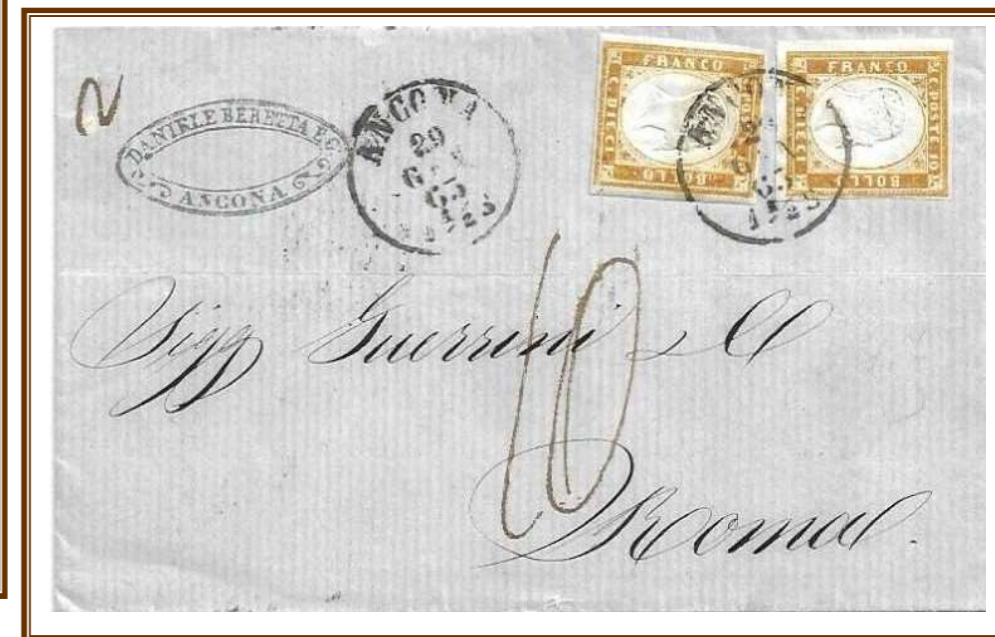
From 1 January 1864 to 17 June 1866 prepaid letters from ex Papal State provinces (Romagne, Marche, Umbria and Sabina territories) were charged 2 bajocchi on delivery, independently of their origin and their destination.
 On 18 June 1866 the Italian lira was introduced in the Papal States; the postage due of letters originating in Italy was unified at 20 centesimi corresponding to 4 soldi (4 bajocchi) for each 10 grams.



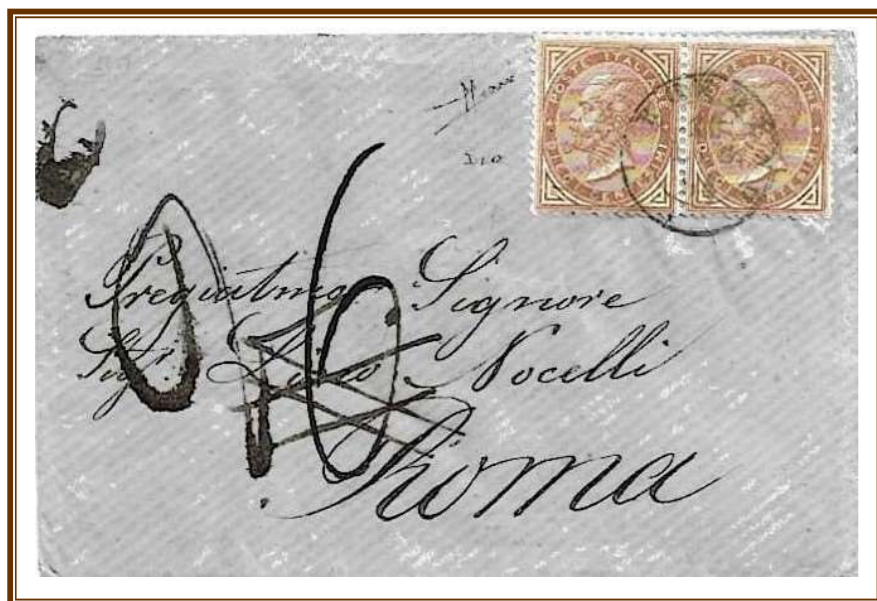
24 November 1863. Single rate letter from Bologna (Romagne) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 6 bajocchi on delivery.



16 July 1863. Single rate letter from Orvieto (Umbria) to Civitavecchia (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 4 bajocchi on delivery.



29 January 1863. Single rate letter from Ancona (Marche) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 10 bajocchi on delivery, double rate in the Papal States.



19 July 1864. Single rate letter from Bondeno (Romagne) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, initially charged 6 bajocchi on delivery and then corrected 2 bajocchi because ex Papal States provinces.



29 January 1865. Single rate letter from Terni (Umbria) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 2 bajocchi on delivery.



21 September 1866. Single rate letter from Arcevia (Marche) to Tivoli (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 20 centesimi on delivery.

1st Chapter : Mail to the other Italian States



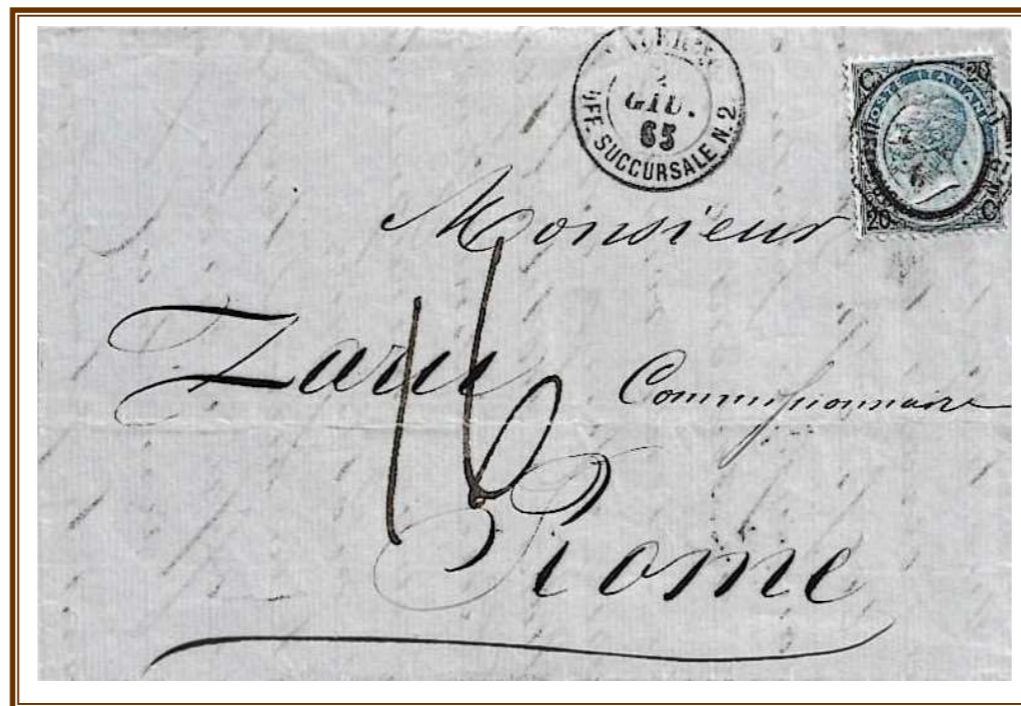
Papal States

Letters from the Kingdom of Italy addressed to the Papal States had to be prepaid to the Papal border 20 centesimi for each 10 grams of weight and charged on delivery according to their origin, 8 bajocchi from the southern provinces of the Kingdom, 16 bajocchi from Sicily and 6 bajocchi from the other provinces of the Kingdom of Italy. On 18 June 1866 the Italian lira was introduced in the Papal States; the postage due of letters originating in Italy was unified at 20 centesimi corresponding to 4 soldi (4 bajocchi) for each 10 grams.

Prepaid Printed matters from the Kingdom of Italy to Papal States was sent with the rate of 2 centesimi and charged 1 bajocco on delivery (½ bajocco from ex Papal State provinces), paid to destination from 1 October 1867. An agreement between the Italian and the Papal Administrations allowed for exchanging registered letters prepaid to the Italian-Papal border.



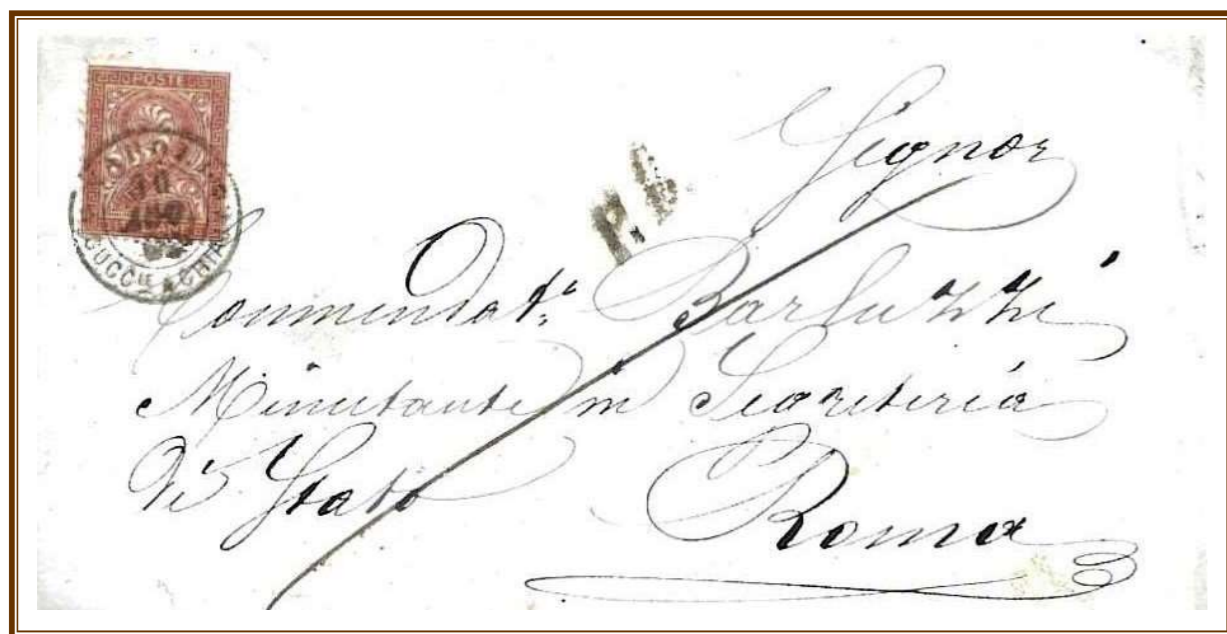
12 May 1865. Single rate letter from Milan to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 6 bajocchi on delivery.



4 June 1865. Single rate letter from Palermo to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 20 centesimi to Papal border, charged 16 bajocchi on delivery.



12 June 1867. Double rate letter from Florence to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 40 centesimi to Papal border, charged 40 centesimi on delivery.



30 August 1869. Single rate printed matter from Naples to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 2 centesimi to destination.



5 February 1866. Double rate registered letter from Gubbio to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 70 centesimi to the Papal border (40 centesimi double letter rate, 30 centesimi fixed registration fee), charged 8 bajocchi on delivery (2 bajocchi for each 10 grams for origin from the previous Papal provinces and 4 bajocchi fixed registration fee).

1st Chapter : Mail to the other Italian States



Papal States

The Postal Law of 1 January 1863 established, for the letters carried by non-contract ships, a rate of 25 centesimi for each port of 10 grams, that included 5 centesimi due to the captain for the sea carriage. When disembarked in the port of Civitavecchia the letters were charged on delivery, 12 bajocchi from Genoa, 7 bajocchi from Leghorn and 8 bajocchi from Naples, for each 6 denari of weight.

For the letters carried by the French packets the rate was 40 centesimi for each 10 grams of weight. On 1 October 1867 an agreement between the Italian and Papal Administrations allowed to exchange mail prepaid to destination. The Rate of letters prepaid to destination was established in 20 centesimi for each 10 grams.



9 October 1863. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Civitavecchia (Papal States), prepaid 25 centesimi, to the port of disembarkation, charged 7 bajocchi on delivery. The front bears the handstamp "CIVITAVECCHIA DALLA VIA DI MARE", struck in Civitavecchia.

Due to an erroneous interpretation of the new postal law in effect from 1 January 1863, some correspondence carried by non-contract ship were prepaid 30 centesimi, because the port of Civitavecchia was considered to belong to a foreign state (right, but contrary to the previous rate), with a captain fee of 10 centesimi.



24 August 1864. Double rate letter from Genoa to Civitavecchia (Papal States), prepaid 60 centesimi, to the port of disembarkation, charged 36 bajocchi on delivery (triple rate in Papal States). The front bears the handstamp "CIVITAVECCHIA DALLA VIA DI MARE", struck in Civitavecchia.



18 June 1863. Single rate letter from Genoa to Civitavecchia (Papal States), prepaid 40 centesimi to the port of disembarkation, 18 bajocchi was charged on delivery. The letter was embarked on 18 June on the French packet "MEDEAH" of the Fraissinet Company and it was disembarked in Civitavecchia on 20 June 1863.

22 October 1868. Double rate letter from Genoa, carried overland to Civitavecchia (Papal States), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination (20 centesimi for each 10 grams).



9 March 1869. Four times rate letter from Orvieto to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination.



1st Chapter : Mail to the other Italian States



San Marino Republic

Letters originating in Italy were handed in Rimini to a S. Marino appointee that took them to San Marino. The rates of letters from Italy to San Marino were the Italian internal rates: 15 centesimi for each 10 grams until 31 December 1864; 20 centesimi for each 10 grams from 1 January 1865; from 1 January 1874 the weight progression became 15 grams.

The Registration fee of letters addressed from Italy to San Marino was, from 1 January 1863 30 centesimi, as for the registered letters addressed within the Italian kingdom. The weight progression of letters from 1 January 1874 was 15 grams. Also printed matter addressed to San Marino were rated as the printed matter sent within the Italian kingdom: 2 centesimi for each 40 grams.



17 February 1864. Single rate letter from Florence to San Marino, prepaid 15 centesimi to destination (Italian domestic rate effective up to 31 December 1864).



6 August 1872. Single rate letter from Potenza Picena to San Marino, prepaid 20 centesimi to destination (Italian domestic rate effective from 1 January 1865).



9 April 1877. Single rate letter from Rimini to San Marino, prepaid 20 centesimi to destination.



30 July 1865. Single rate printed matters from Osimo to San Marino, prepaid 2 centesimi to destination (Italian domestic rate effective from 1 January 1863).



20 March 1879. Triple rate registered letter from Bologna to San Marino, prepaid 90 centesimi to destination (20 centesimi for each 15 grams and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee).

1st Chapter : Mail to the other Italian States



Until June 1866 it was possible to send prepaid letters from the Italian kingdom to the Austrian Venetia in accordance with the 1854 Austro-Sardinian Convention, restored on 15 May 1862.

From the 1st Italian distance :

- 25 centesimi to the 1st Austrian distance;
- 40 centesimi to the 2nd Austrian distance;
- 50 centesimi to the 3rd Austrian distance;

From the 2nd Italian distance :

- 40 centesimi to the 1st Austrian distance;
- 55 centesimi to the 2nd Austrian distance;
- 65 centesimi to the 3rd Austrian distance.

Austrian Venetia

A special rate of 10 centesimi was established for the letters originating in Italian locations less than 15 km distant from the Austrian Venetia locations of destination (border zone rate). Insufficiently prepaid letters were charged on delivery for the difference to the correct rate. From 1 October 1862, insufficiently prepaid letters no longer had to pay the entire fee on delivery for the mutual recognition of the value of the stamps affixed by the sender. The calculations were facilitated with the introduction of special DEBIT and CREDIT stamps to be affixed to the letters.



13 May 1863. Single rate letter from Desenzano to Venice (Austrian Venetia), where it arrived the following day, prepaid 25 centesimi from the 1st Italian distance to the 1st Austrian distance.



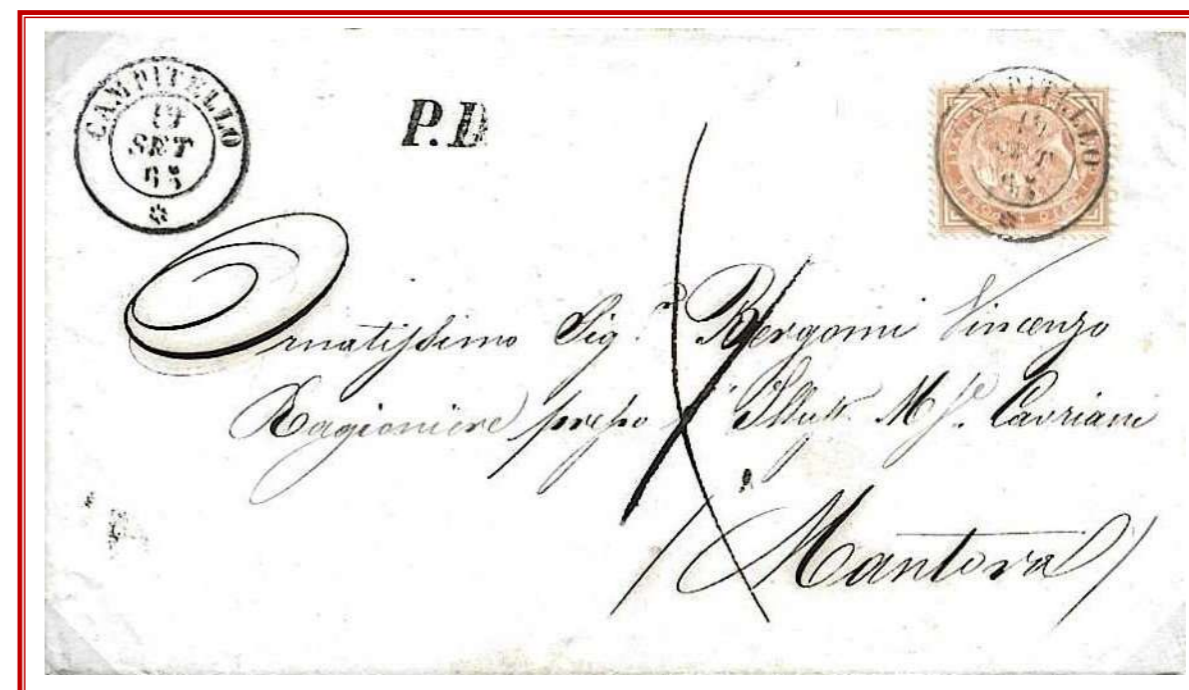
27 March 1863. Single rate letter from Milan to Mantua (Austrian Venetia), where it arrived the following day, prepaid 40 centesimi from the 2nd Italian distance to the 1st Austrian distance.



12 June 1863. Single rate letter from Naples to Padua (Austrian Venetia), insufficiently prepaid 15 centesimi. The letter bears the handstamp "CREDITO ITALIANO" of 13 centesimi (equal to 6 Kreuzer), because the Italian fee (from 2nd distance) were equal to 28 centesimi. The Austrian fee for the letters addressed in the 1st distance equal 5 kreuzer were added 6 kreuzer and to destination the letter was charged 11 kreuzer on delivery.



31 January 1863. Double rate letter from Milan to Udine (Austrian Venetia), prepaid 1,10 Lire to destination, from the 2nd Italian distance to the 2nd Austrian distance.



19 September 1865. Single rate letter from Campitello to Mantua (Austrian Venetia), prepaid 10 centesimi to destination, because the two locations were less than 15 km distant. **Only a few letters recorded sent to locations of the border zone.**

1st Chapter : Mail to the other Italian States



The Austro-Italian Convention restored on 15 May 1862, allowed for sending registered letters from Italy to Austria at the letter rate increased by the fixed registration fee of 40 centesimi. The printed matter rate from Italy to Austria was established in 5 centesimi for each 17.5 grams of weight. Unpaid printed matter was charged on delivery as the unpaid letters.

Austrian Venetia

Due to the war events of 1866, the direct postal communications between the Kingdom of Italy and the Austrian Empire were interrupted, but it was possible to send letters in the Austrian Empire and in the Austrian Venetia with the Swiss mediation. The Swiss mediation allowed to prepay letters to destination at a rate of 60 centesimi for each 10 grams : 20 centesimi to the Kingdom of Italy, 15 centesimi to the Switzerland and 25 centesimi to the Austrian Empire.



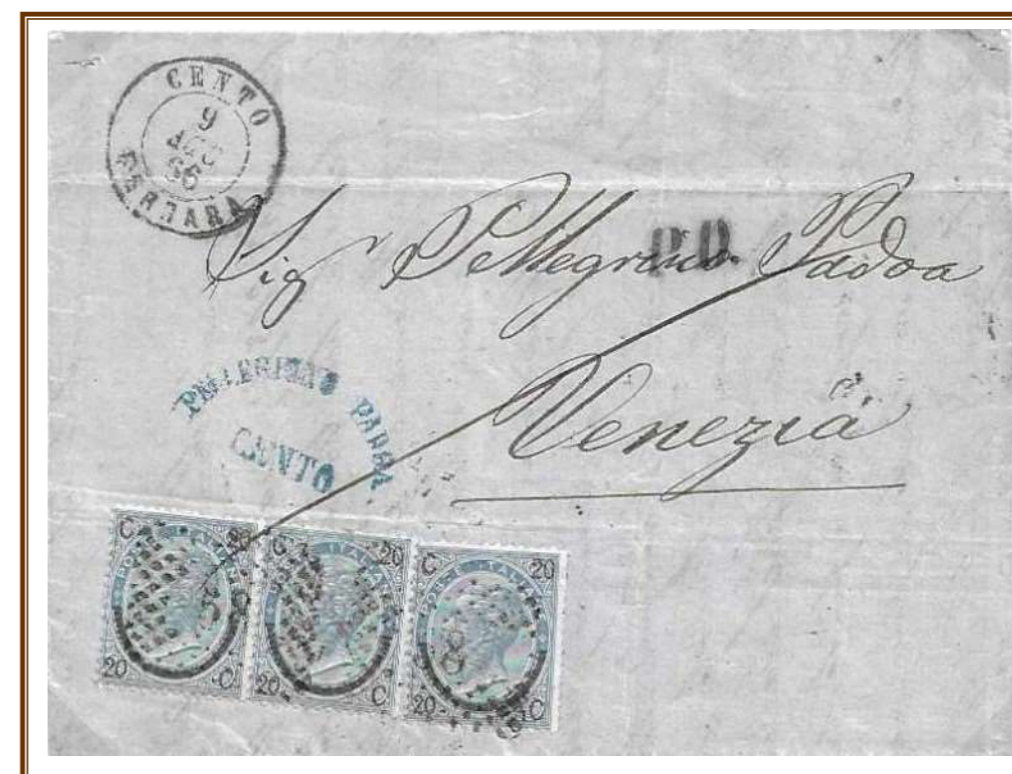
26 September 1863. Single rate printed matter from Genoa to Mantua (Austrian Venetia), prepaid 5 centesimi to destination.



5 July 1866. Single rate letter from Ferrara to Padua, prepaid 25 centesimi as required by the Convention with the Austrian Empire. The letter was routed via Switzerland as confirmed by the transit marking of Zurich. The letter was charged on delivery 25 kreuzer (10 kreuzer for Switzerland and 15 kreuzer for Austrian Empire). The indication "DEBITO ITALIANO CENT. 5" had no significance for letters transiting through Switzerland.



16 June 1865. Double rate registered letter from Turin to Verona (Austrian Venetia), prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination : 80 centesimi double rate letter from the 2nd Italian distance to the 1st Austrian distance, 40 centesimi fixed registration fee.



9 August 1866. Single rate letter from Cento (Ferrara) to Venice, prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried through Switzerland, as confirmed by the transit marking of Zurich.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Austrian Empire

The rates to the Austrian Empire up to 30 September 1867 were equal to the rates presented in the 1st chapter for Austrian Venetia.

From the 1st Italian distance :

- 25 centesimi to the 1st Austrian distance;
- 40 centesimi to the 2nd Austrian distance;
- 50 centesimi to the 3rd Austrian distance;

From the 2nd Italian distance :

- 40 centesimi to the 1st Austrian distance;
- 55 centesimi to the 2nd Austrian distance;
- 65 centesimi to the 3rd Austrian distance.

When the direct postal communication between Italy and Austria was interrupted due to the war, between June and October 1866, it was possible to exchange mail between Italy and Austria with the Swiss mediation. The Sardinian-Swiss Convention effective on 1 July 1862 allowed for sending prepaid printed matter to the GAPU then also to Austria, at a rate of 10 centesimi for each 40 grams. The fixed registration fee for letters sent from Italy was 40 centesimi.



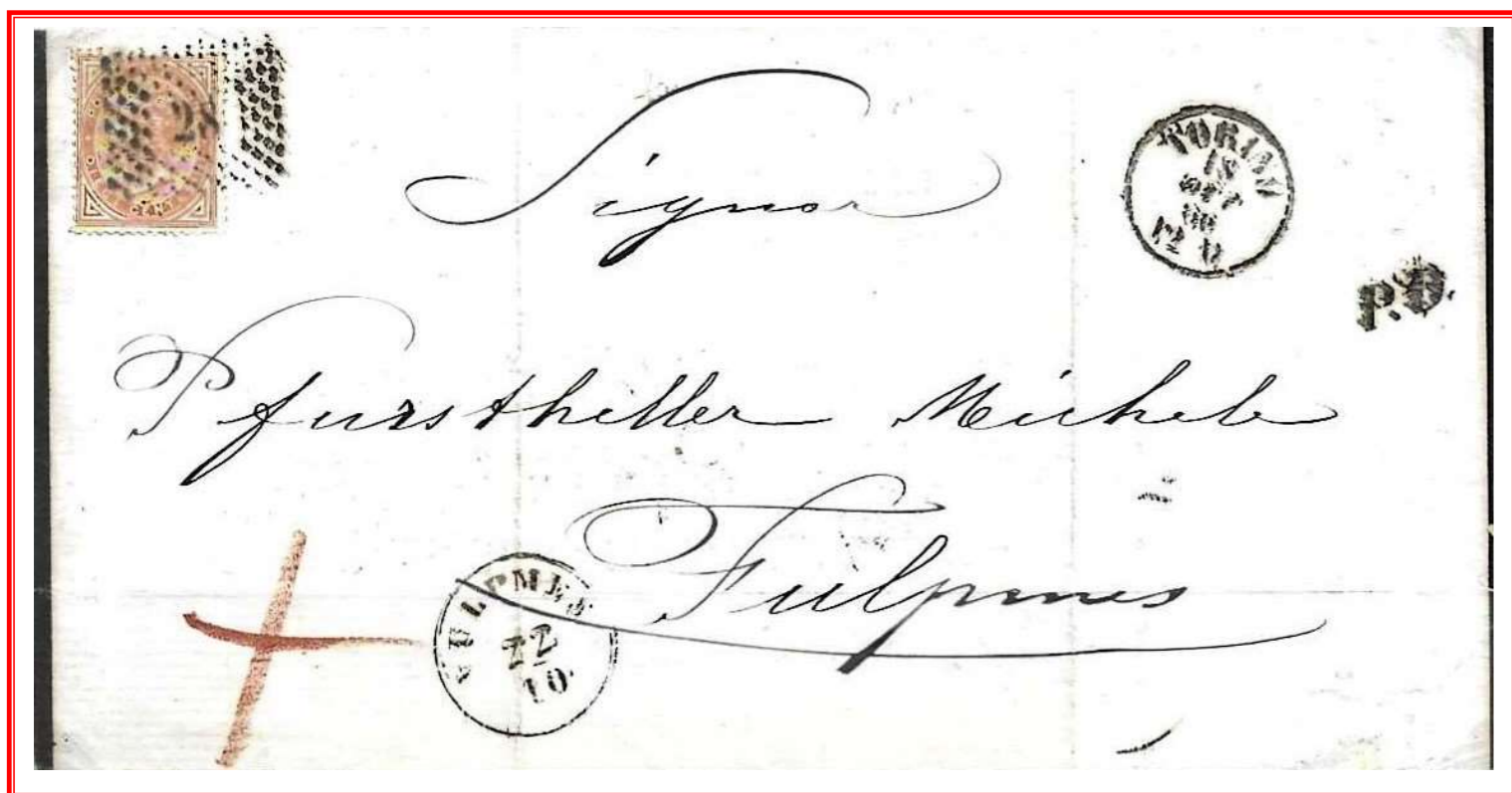
17 April 1867. Single rate letter from Verona to Ala (Austrian Empire), prepaid 25 centesimi to destination, from the 1st Italian distance to the 1st Austrian distance.



22 September 1867. Single rate letter from Verona to Vienna (Austrian Empire), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination, from the 1st Italian distance to the 3rd Austrian distance.



6 May 1863. Single rate letter from Milan to Vienna (Austrian Empire), where arrived on 9 May, prepaid 65 centesimi to destination, from the 2nd Italian distance to the 3rd Austrian distance.



18 October 1866. Printed matter from Turin to Fulpmes (Austrian Empire), prepaid 10 centesimi to destination, carried via Switzerland, after the Chiavenna transit on 19 October and Feldkirch transit on 20 October.



20 August 1867. Single rate registered letter from Venice to Eggenstein in Styria (Austrian Empire), prepaid 90 centesimi to destination : 50 centesimi from the 1st Italian distance to the 3rd Austrian distance and 40 centesimi fixed registration fee.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Austrian Empire

From 1 October 1867 a uniform rate, independent from distance, of 40 centesimi for each 15 grams, was introduced. A reduced rate of 15 centesimi, was introduced for location less than 30 km distant. These rates were in effect up to 30 June 1875 when the GPU rates were introduced.

The Austro - Italian Convention, effective from 1 October 1867 required that insufficiently prepaid letters be charged on delivery the unpaid letter rate (25 Nkr for each 15 grams for letter originating in Italy), decreased by the amount of the insufficient franking. The 1867 Austro -Italian Convention allowed for sending of registered letters. The fixed registration fee for letters sent from Italy was 30 centesimi.



16 September 1871. Single rate letter from Fonzaso near Belluno to Grigno (Austrian Empire), prepaid 15 centesimi to destination because origin and destination were less than 30 km distant.



5 October 1870. Single rate letter from Tolmezzo to Villach (Austrian Empire), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination, transit Pontebba, and Venzone on 6 October.



27 March 1868. Single rate registered letter from Parma to Trieste (Austrian Empire), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination : 40 centesimi single letter rate and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee.



13 July 1872. Double rate letter from Voghera to Bad Gastein (Austrian Empire), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter transited Milan on 14 July, Verona transit on 14 July then through the Brenner Pass reached Salzburg on 16 July and on the same day it was delivered in Bad Gastein.



15 December 1868. Single rate letter from Verona to Trento (Austrian Empire), where arrived the following day, insufficiently prepaid 20 centesimi (equal to 8 Kreuzer) and charged on delivery 17 Kreuzer, the difference to the unpaid letter rate of 25 Kreuzer.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



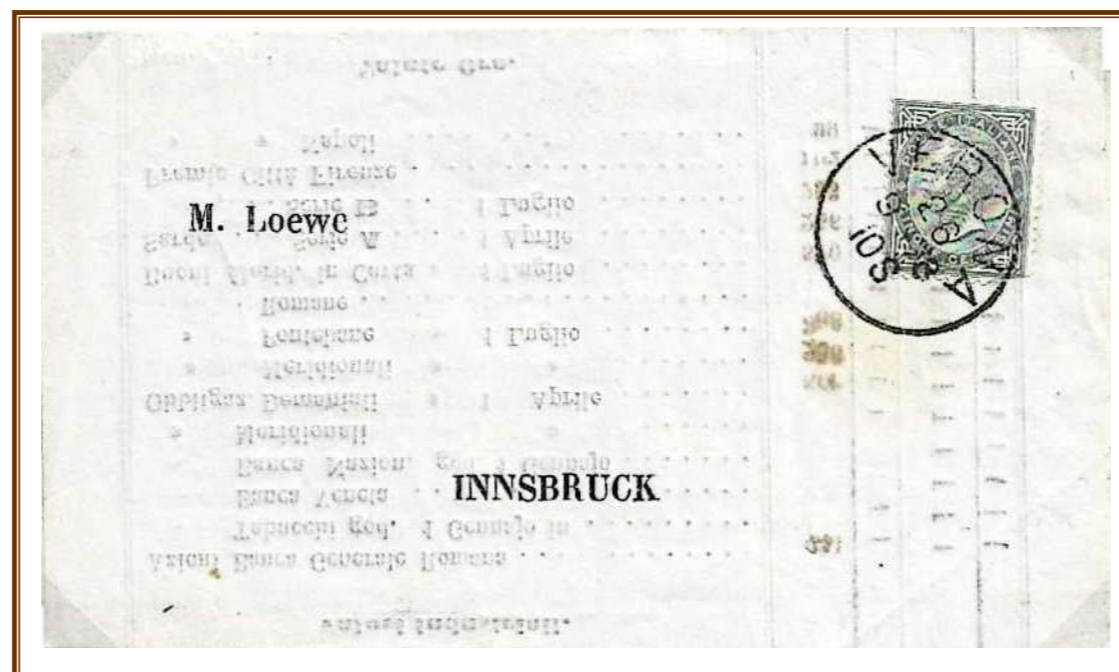
Austrian Empire

Italy and Austria both agreed the General Postal Union Convention (GPU), effective from 1 July 1875. The letter rate from Italy to the Countries members of the Convention, therefore also to Austria, was indicated in 30 centesimi for each 15 grams and the rate of 15 centesimi for post cards addressed from Italy to the Countries that signed the Convention. The fixed registration fee was established in 30 centesimi.

Italy established a rate of 7 centesimi for each 50 grams for printed matter sent the other members Countries of the GPU Convention, therefore also to Austria. From 1 January 1876 the rate was reduced to 5 centesimi for each 50 grams of weight. The insured letters were sent from Italy to Austria at the rate of 25 centesimi for every 100 lire of insurance in addition to the fixed registered fee.



17 August 1877. Italian postcard of 10 centesimi from Como to Wien (Austrian Empire), integrated with a 5 centesimi postage stamp to match the rate of 15 centesimi to destination.



26 September 1878. Printed matter from Verona to Innsbruck (Austrian Empire), where it arrived the following day, prepaid 5 centesimi to destination.



3 September 1878. Single rate registered letter from Modena to Transylvania (Austrian Empire), prepaid 60 centesimi : 30 centesimi single rate letter and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee.



10 January 1877. Triple rate registered letter from Verona to Sacco (Austrian Empire), at that time independent municipality and now incorporated in Rovereto, where it arrived on 11 January, prepaid 1,20 Lire : 90 centesimi triple rate letter (30 centesimi for each 15 grams) and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee.



11 January 1878. Insured triple rate letter from Venice to Meran (Austrian Empire), prepaid 4,20 Lire to destination : 90 centesimi triple GPU letter rate, 30 centesimi fixed registration fee and 3 Lire insured fee for declared value of 1.200 Lire.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland

The Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention, effective from 1 January 1861, indicated a prepaid letter rate of 40 centesimi for each 10 grams of weight; the rate was reduced to 20 centesimi for letters addressed to a destination less than 30 km distant.



France

The Franco-Italian Convention of 1869 confirmed the rates indicated by the Convention in effect from 1861.



31 October 1863. Single rate letter from Ventimiglia to Menton (France), prepaid 20 centesimi to destination, reduced rate for locations less than 30 km distant. Only two letters recorded franked with a 5 centesimi Sardinia and a 15 centesimi lithographic Kingdom of Italy, to compose the reduced rate to France.



27 June 1863. Six times rate letter from Ravenna to Paris (France), prepaid 2,40 Lire to destination. The letter, after the Turin transit on 28 June, was carried in a closed mail through the Mont Cenis and arrived in Paris on 30 June, where it received the handstamp "ITALIE/5 LANSLEBOURG 5".



23 May 1874. Single rate letter from Padua to Paris (France), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried through the Frejus tunnel via Modane, where it received the blue handstamp "5 ITALIE 5/MODANE".



29 May 1863. Double rate letter from Turin to Lyon (France), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried in a closed mail through the Mont Cenis and arrived in Lyon on 31 May, where received the handstamp "ITALIE/4 LANSLEBOURG 4".



5 October 1872. Four times rate letter from Rome to Paris (France), prepaid 160 centesimi to destination.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland

On 1 July 1875 France was not among the countries that signed the GPU Convention, therefore the rates of Mail addressed from Italy to France from 1 July until 31 December 1875 were indicated by the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention in effect from 1861.



France

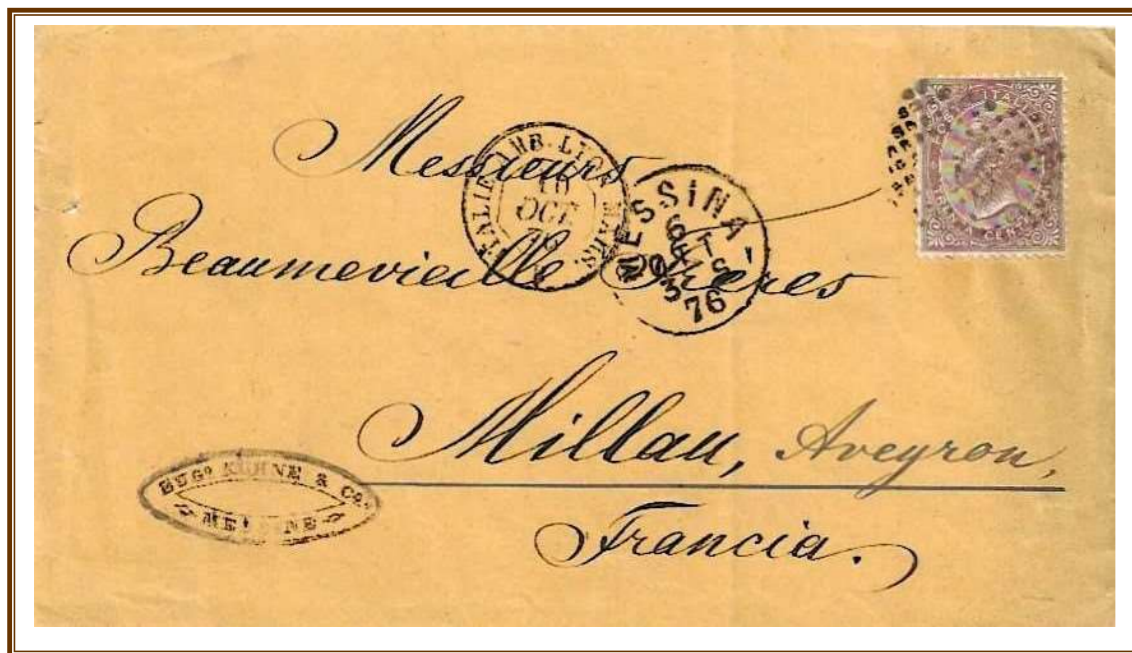
On 1 January 1876 also France agreed the GPU Convention, therefore from that date the letter rate from Italy to France was 30 centesimi for each 15 grams and a rate of 15 centesimi to destination for post cards addressed from Italy to the Countries that signed the Convention. The GPU Convention established a fixed registration fee for letters sent from Italy of 30 centesimi.



12 July 1875. Single rate letter from Messina to Marseille, prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. The letter was embarked on 12 July on the French packet "ERYMANTHE" of the Line of Syria, and it was disembarked in Marseille on 16 July.



26 November 1876. Single rate registered letter from Ivrea to Bordeaux (France), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination : 30 centesimi single rate letter and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee.



6 October 1876. Single rate letter from Messina to Millau (France), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 January 1876.



30 January 1878. Envelope for printed matter from Turin to Grenoble (France), prepaid 5 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 January 1876.



9 September 1877. Italian postcard of 10 centesimi from Milan to Marseille (France), integrated with a 5 centesimi postage stamp to match the rate of 15 centesimi to destination, introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 January 1876.



The Monaco Principality postal system was integrated with the French postal system.
Relation with the foreign countries was regulated by the French conventions.

Principality of Monaco



22 January 1865. Single rate letter from Messina to the Principality of Monaco, prepaid 40 centesimi to destination.
The French Exchange Office of Nice struck the red datestamp "ITALIE/2 MENTON 2".
On the reverse the delivery datestamp of Monaco dated 29 January.



29 January 1877. Single rate letter from Milan to the Principality of Monaco, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rates introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 January 1876.

Gibraltar

Up to 31 December 1870, letters could be prepaid to destination in Gibraltar with the British mediation, at the rate of 80 centesimi for each 7,5 grams.
Gibraltar joined the GPU Convention as a British Colony on 1 January 1876. The letter rate from Italy to Gibraltar was determined in 30 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight.



28 May 1867. Double rate letter from Genoa to Gibraltar, insufficiently prepaid 80 centesimi as a single rate letter, but the Italian Administration credited UK 1,20 Lire, as required for a double rate letter then the letter was considered fully paid by the British Administration, as confirmed by the datestamp struck in London, 1 penny was credited to Gibraltar as for the red notation on the cover.
After the London transit the letter was embarked in Southampton on 4 June on board of the British packet "PERA" of the P. & O. Lines, which arrived in Gibraltar on 9 June 1867.



31 May 1878. Single rate letter from Genoa to Gibraltar, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 July 1875.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



German States

Up to 1 April 1869, when the direct Convention with Prussia, Bavaria, Württemberg and Baden was signed, mail to the German States was delivered with the mediation of Switzerland, Austria or France. Up to 1867 letters were mainly sent with the Swiss mediation at a rate of 60 centesimi for each 10 grams of weight and a fixed registration fee of 60 centesimi. Mail from Sicily was mainly sent with the French mediation at a rate of 60 centesimi for each 7,5 grams.

After the activation of the railroad through the Brenner Pass, mail to the German States was sent mainly with the Austria mediation. Up to 30 September 1867 rates were determined by the Austro-Sardinian Convention restored on 1862 : 50 centesimi for each 15 grams, for letters originating in Italian locations less than 75 km distant from the Austrian border, 65 centesimi for all the other Italian locations.



3 December 1863. Single rate letter from Milan to Frankfurt am Main (German States), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter carried with the Swiss mediation, as confirmed by the Chur transit, arrived in Frankfurt am Main on 5 December.



22 August 1867. Single rate letter from Venice to Lindau (Bavaria), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination, because Venice was less than 75 km distant from the Austrian border.



8 December 1866. Double rate letter from Messina for Saxony, prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination. The letter was placed on board the French packet "ERIDAN" of the U Levant Line and it was disembarked on 13 December in Marseille, then through Switzerland the letter arrived at destination on 16 December.



24 Februar 1866. Single rate letter from Turin to Eichstadt (Bavaria), prepaid 65 centesimi to destination, because Turin was more than 75 km distant from the Austrian border.

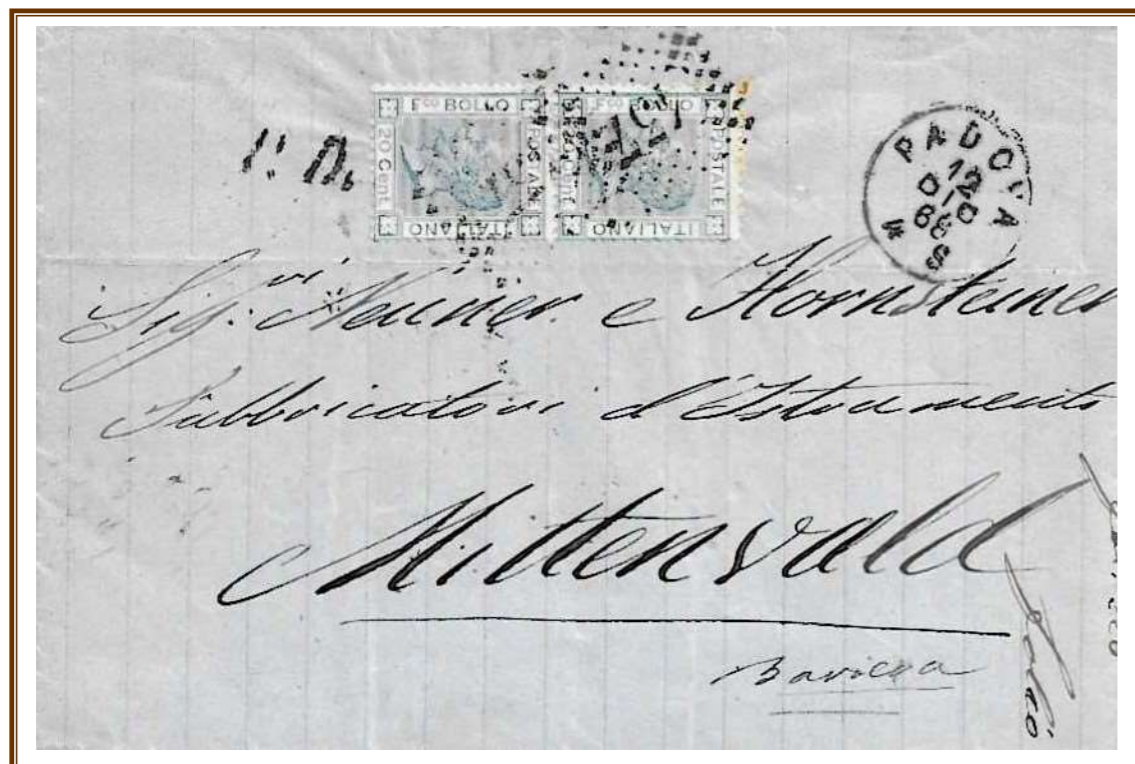
2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



German States

From 1 October 1867 the mail was carried to German States via Austrian Empire in accordance with the new Austro-Italian Convention that established a uniform rate of 40 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight and a prepaid rate of 5 centesimi for each 40 grams of printed matter addressed from Italy to Germany.

The Italian-NGPU postal Convention effective from 1 April 1869, that was agreed also by the Southern German States (Baden, Bavaria and Württemberg), indicated a letter rate from Italy to destination in Germany of 40 centesimi for each 15 grams for carriage in closed mail through Austria, France or Switzerland and indicated a fixed registration fee of 40 centesimi.



12 December 1868. Single rate letter from Padua to Mittenswald (German States), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried with the Austrian mediation, with transit Verona in the same day and it arrived on 14 December to destination.



12 July 1869. Double rate printed matters from Genoa to Leipzig (Saxony), prepaid 10 centesimi and carried in closed mail to destination, where it arrived on 14 July.



19 August 1870. Single rate letter from Castellammare to Tharandt (Saxony), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. After transit Verona on 20 August, the letter was carried in closed mail though Austria and it arrived on 23 August to destination.



17 April 1875. Postcard of 10 centesimi with an additional franking of 20 centesimi to meet the rate to destination in effect from 1 January 1874, carried in closed mail from Milan to Frankfurt am Main (German States).



11 May 1875. Single rate registered letter from Barga (Lucca) to Munich (German States), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination (40 centesimi single rate letter and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee).

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



German States

The Italian-German postal Convention, effective from 1 November 1873, established a prepaid rate to destination in Germany of 30 centesimi for each 15 grams with carriage of letters in the closed mail.

The GPU postal Convention, effective from 1 July 1875, agreed also by Germany, established a letter rate to destination from Italy to Germany of 30 centesimi for each 15 grams. The fixed registration fee was determined in 30 centesimi. Italy established a rate of 7 centesimi for each 50 grams for printed matter sent the other members Countries of the GPU Convention, therefore also to Germany. From 1 January 1876 the rate was reduced to 5 centesimi for each 50 grams of weight.



24 December 1873. Double rate letter carried in closed mail from Florence to Berlin (German States), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination.



24 November 1876. Single rate registered letter from Rome to Gnesen, in the province of Posen, at that time in Prussia, now in Poland, prepaid 60 centesimi (30 centesimi single rate letter and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee), in accordance with the rates introduced by the General Postal Union.



20 January 1874. Single rate registered letter from Bologna to Liechtenstein (Saxony - German States), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination (30 centesimi single rate letter and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee).



9 August 1877. Printed matters from Messina to Dresden (German States), prepaid 5 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Denmark

No direct Convention was in place between Italy and Denmark, therefore letters had to be carried with the mediation of a third country. Until 28 February 1864 it was possible to prepay letters to destination from Italy to Denmark, with the Swiss mediation at a rate of 1 lira for each 10 grams of weight. An addendum to the 1867 Austro-Italian Convention effective on 1 April 1868, established a rate of 50 centesimi for each 15 grams for letters prepaid to destination from Italy to Denmark.

Unpaid or insufficiently prepaid letters originating in Denmark, were charged on delivery 70 centesimi for each 15 grams with the deduction of the insufficiently prepaid amount. The Convention of Italy with the North German Postal Union (NGPU), effective from 1 April 1869, established a rate of 55 centesimi for each 15 grams for letters prepaid to destination in Denmark. Denmark was among the 22 Countries that undersigned the GPU Convention effective from 1 July 1875.



28 January 1864. Single rate letter from Turin to Copenhagen (Denmark), prepaid 1 Lira to destination, as required by the Convention between Italy and Switzerland, effective from 1 July 1862. The letter was carried via Lake Maggiore on the packet "VERBANO and through Switzerland and German States it arrived in Copenhagen on 1 February 1864. The cover bears indication of the 2 sgr, corresponding to 9 rigbankskilling, credited by Prussia to Denmark for the Danish inland.



23 February 1869. Single rate letter from Florence to Copenhagen (Denmark), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination, as required by the Convention between Italy and the Austrian Empire. The letter after the Verona transit was carried in closed mail via Brennero through Austria and it arrived in Copenhagen after the Hamburg transit. The cover bears indication of the 5 rigbankskilling credited by the North German Postal Union for the Danish inland.



27 August 1869. Single rate letter from Bologna to Copenhagen (Denmark), insufficiently prepaid 20 centesimi instead of 55 centesimi, as required by the Convention between Italy and the State Union of Northern Germany. The Italian handstamp "NA" (Non Addebitato) indicated that the Italian postal rights were satisfied. The NGPU struck the boxed handstamp confirming insufficient franking and charged to Denmark 4 1/2 groschen decreased to 2 1/2 groschen to account for the insufficient franking, that corresponded to 10 Danes rigbankskilling (rbsk), as required for insufficiently prepaid letters. Denmark added 9 rbsk for a destination more than 75 km distant from the NGPU border to determine the 19 rbsk charged on delivery.

It was not correct to use an Italian postage stamp in Denmark to compose the postage of a letter and in this case the behavior of the Danish postal administration is correct. The Danish postal worker was surprised by the presence of the Italian stamp and found it necessary to write a note indicating that the stamp was not admitted for postage. Surprising is the frame in red pencil that was not required by the postal regulations of the time. The Italian postal administration initially charged 70 centesimi on delivery, as required for a single letter rate from Denmark via Austria and subsequently reduced the tax to 50 centesimi by counting the 20 centesimi of the postage set up in Denmark in favor to destination. The validity of the postage is confirmed by the numeral handstamp of Verona. On the front there is also an indication of the 20 centesimi credited as a reduction of the tax charged on delivery.



30 January 1869. Single rate letter from Copenhagen (Denmark) to Suvereto (Leghorn), prepaid 20 centesimi with an Italian Postage stamp that was framed with red pencil because not suitable to be used in Denmark, as confirmed by the handwritten indication. The letter via Austria arrived in Verona on 3 February, where it was at first charged 70 centesimi, as required for unpaid letters, but subsequently the stamp of 20 centesimi was canceled with the numeral 197 of Verona and 20 centesimi was deducted to reduce the postage due to 50 centesimi. With Leghorn transit the letter arrived in Suvereto on 6 February.

30 December 1874. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Copenhagen (Denmark), where arrived on 3 January 1875, prepaid 45 centesimi to destination, with the indication of the 7 rigbankskilling (rbsk) credited by German States to Denmark for the Danish inland.



2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Up to 30 June 1875 when Luxembourg joined the GPU, letters could be prepaid to destination in Luxembourg with the French or the German mediation. The General Postal Union introduced a special rate for Postcard of 15 centesimi.

Luxembourg



26 March 1878. Italian postcard of 10 centesimi from Rome to Luxembourg, integrated with a 5 centesimi postage stamp to match the rate of 15 centesimi to destination, introduced by the General Postal Union. The postcard was delivered in Luxembourg on 29 March 1878.

Norway

Until 1905 the king of Sweden was also the king of Norway, therefore in the postal relations with the foreign Countries, Norway was represented by Sweden. Before the access to the GPU no convention between Italy and Sweden/Norway was agreed therefore mail had to be addressed from Italy to Norway with the mediation of other countries, mainly with the Austrian and the GAPU mediation, later with the German mediation.



30 July 1869. Single rate letter from Sorrento to Bergen (Norway), prepaid 65 centesimi to destination. The letter has been carried with the Austrian mediation in accordance with the rates in effect up to 30 June 1869, reduced to 60 centesimi from 1 July. The cover bears indication of the 13 rigbankskillings (rbsk) credited to Denmark by NGPU (North German Postal Union).



30 December 1874. Single rate letter from Rome to Christiania, today Oslo, prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried via Austria and Germany in closed mail in accordance with the 1873 German-Italian Convention that required a 50 centesimi franking. The cover bears indication of the 34 centesimi credited to Germany by the Italian Postal Administration and indication of 7 rbsk credited to Denmark by NGPU.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland

No direct Convention between Italy and Sweden was in place, letter had to be carried from Italy to Sweden with the mediation of a third country. The Swiss-Italian Convention of 1862 indicated a rate of 1 Lira for each 10 grams for letters prepaid to destination. The Convention between the Kingdom of Italy and the North German Postal Union effective from 1 April 1869 established a rate of 60 centesimi for each 15 grams for letters prepaid to destination, reduced to 50 centesimi from 1 November 1873.

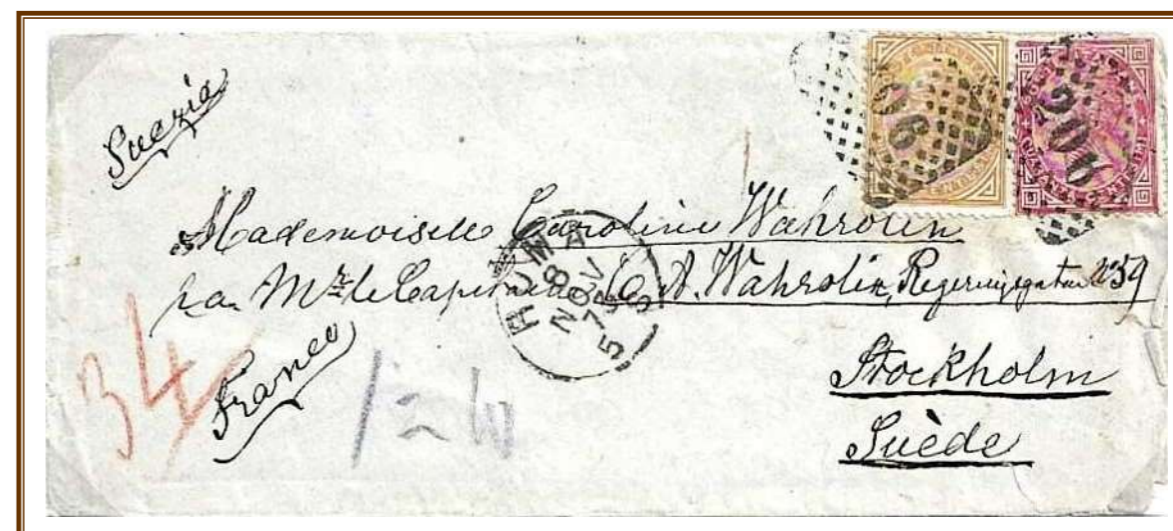


Sweden

Sweden Joined the GPU Convention from 1 July 1875. Prepaid letter rate from Italy to Sweden was 30 centesimi for each 15 grams. The fixed registration fee was 30 centesimi. The rate of prepaid post card from Italy to Sweden was 15 centesimi.



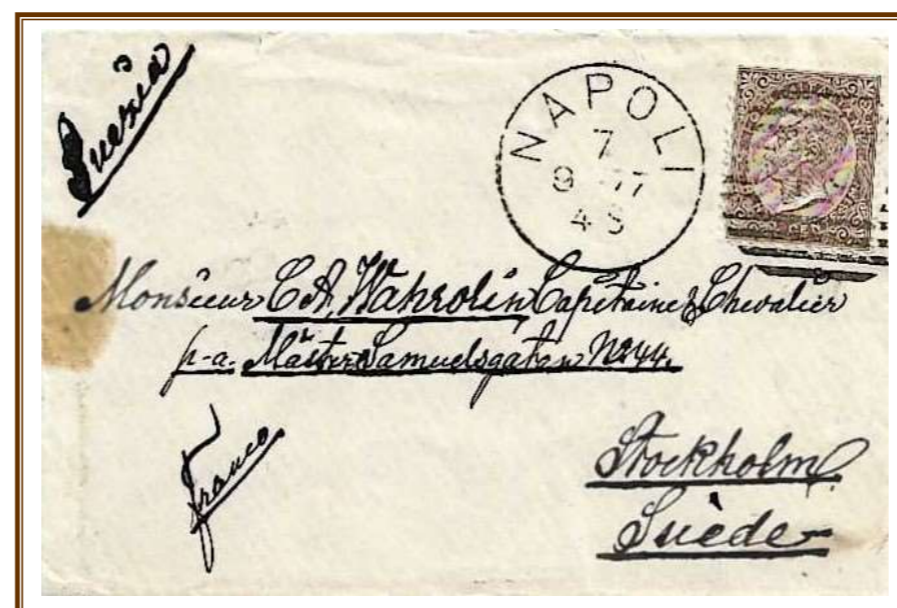
13 January 1864. Single rate letter from Genoa to Stockholm (Sweden), prepaid 1 Lira to destination, as required by the Italian-Swiss Convention effective from 1 July 1862. Crossed Switzerland the letter reached Hamburg where it was handed to Prussia that, due to the war with Denmark, sent the letter via Stralsund to Ystad. On the cover indication of the 5 sgr credited by Prussia to Sweden : 2,5 sgr for carriage from Starlund to Ystad, 2,5 sgr Sweden inland.



8 November 1873. Single rate letter from Rome to Stockholm (Sweden), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination, as required by the Italian-German Convention. Italy credited to Germany 34 centesimi, as noted in red, Germany credited to Sweden 1 ¼ groschen, corresponding to 12 øre.



2 March 1877. Italian postcard of 10 centesimi from Rome to Stockholm (Sweden), integrated with a 5 centesimi postage stamp to match the rate of 15 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



7 September 1877. Single rate letter from Naples to Stockholm (Sweden), where arrived on 18 September, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



22 Februar 1879. Double rate letter from Rome to Stockholm (Sweden), where it arrived on 2 March, prepaid 60 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union. Sweden joined the GPU on 1 July 1875.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Russian Empire

No direct Convention between Italy and Russia was in place, therefore letters addressed to Russian Empire were delivered mainly with the Swiss or the Austrian mediation. The Swiss-Italian Convention indicated a rate of 1 Lira for each 10 grams for letters delivered to any Russian location. The Austro-Italian Convention indicated a rate of 70 centesimi for each 15 grams for letters delivered to a location no more than 75 km from the Austrian border, the rate was 1 Lira for the other Russian locations. From 20 September 1866 the Austrian mediation indicated a rate of 70 centesimi for each 15 grams for letters addressed from Italy to any Russian location.

The rate of 70 centesimi for each 15 grams for prepaid letters sent from Italy to Russia was also indicated by the Italy-NGPU convention effective from 1 April 1869. From 20 September 1866 the fixed registration fee for registered letters addressed from Italy to Russia, with the Austrian mediation was set at 40 centesimi; the same amount was established by the Italian-NGPU Convention from 1 April 1869. The Italian-Russian Convention effective on 1 January 1874, set a rate of 50 centesimi for each 15 grams for prepaid letters from Italy to Russia. Letters were carried in closed mail from Italy to Russia.



22 June 1865. Single rate letter from Turin to Moscow (Russian Empire), prepaid 1 Lira to destination. The letter was carried with the Swiss mediation as confirmed by the transit datestamp of Bellinzona and Basilea and also by the handstamp "SCHWEIZ über BADEN".



15 June 1870. Single rate letter from Florence to Ploska (Ukraine), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination, as required by the French mediation. The letter weighing more than 7,5 grams was indicated as insufficiently prepaid. The letter was carried with Austrian mediation that required only 70 centesimi each 15 grams; 2 groschen was credited from Prussia to Russian Empire.



20 November 1871. Single rate letter from Florence to Ievve (Johvi - Estonia), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried with the Austrian mediation as confirmed by the transit datestamp of Vienna.



7 May 1874. Single rate letter from Messina to Taganrog (Russian Empire), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination, as required by the Italian-Russian Convention, effective from 1 January 1874. The letter was carried in closed mail to Taganrog, where arrived on 16 May (4 May of the Julian calendar).



13 June 1871. Double rate registered letter from Milan to Moscow (Russian Empire), prepaid 1,80 Lire to destination : 1,40 Lire double letter rate and 40 centesimi fixed registration fee.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Russian Empire and Finland (Russian Empire)

Russia was among the 22 countries that agreed the GPU convention effective on 1 July 1875, therefore the letter rate from Italy to Russia, hence also to Finland, was 30 centesimi for each 15 grams. The GPU Convention introduced a reduced rate of 15 centesimi for the prepaid post cards addressed from Italy to the countries that undersigned the Convention, hence including Russia. The article V of the rules of application of the GPU Convention indicated that insufficiently prepaid letters had to be marked with "T" and they should bear indication in French "centimes", of the amount of the insufficient franking. Letters were charged with the postage due on unpaid letters (double the prepaid rate, as indicated by the article 3 of the GPU Convention) decreased by the insufficiently prepaid amount. In Russia the prepaid letter rate was set at 8 kopeks for each 15 grams.

Finland was part of the Russian Empire, but it had an independent postal Administration that issued Finland's postage stamps. The Finland postal rates were equal to the Russian postal rates and from 1860 they were denominated in pennies (1 kopek = 4 pennies), but postage due indications were still noted in kopeks. The postal relations with the foreign countries were regulated by the postal Conventions stipulated by Russia. Until the effect on 1 January 1874, of a direct Italian-Russian Convention, mail had to be sent from Italy to Russia with the mediation of other countries. The Italian-Swiss Convention, effective from 1 July 1862, indicated a rate of 1 lira for each 10 grams for letters prepaid to destination in Russia, hence also to Finland, this rate was in effect until 31 August 1868.



15 November 1876. Single rate letter from Genoa to St. Petersburg (Russian Empire), insufficiently prepaid 25 instead of 30 centesimi required, hence the "T" marking and the indication of the 25 centimes of the insufficient franking. The GPU Convention required a postage due corresponding to the Russian unpaid letter rate of 16 kopeks, that decreased by the value of the franking of 6 kopeks (24 centesimi) determined the 10 kopeks charged on delivery.



26 November 1878. Single rate letter from Ancona to Tulza (Russian Empire), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



4 March 1867. Single rate letter from Messina to Abo (Finland), insufficiently prepaid 60 centesimi, instead of 1 Lira, as required by the Italo-Swiss Convention. The letter was carried with the Swiss mediation, as confirmed by the transit datestamp of St. Gallen. The Swiss administration noted the insufficient prepayment, deleted the "P.D." and charged 4 Reinisch kreuzer (rhkr) to Württemberg. In Prussia, where the letter has transited, the 4 rhkr were converted into 1 groschen that was charged to the Russian Empire. At destination, after the Russian transit, 13 kopecks were charged : 3 kopecks (corresponding to 1 groschen) to Prussia, and 10 kopecks Russian inland rate.



31 August 1878. Single rate letter from Messina to Borgå (Swedish language) in Finland (Finnish name Porvoo), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



16 April 1871. Single rate letter from Naples to Abo (Finland), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination, as required by the Italo-Swiss Convention. The letter was carried with the German Convention that required only 70 centesimi every 15 grams, as confirmed by the railway handstamp on the reverse. The letter after the St. Petersburg transit on 20 April, arrived in Finland on 23 April, with the indication pf 1 groschen credited to Germany.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland

Up to 30 June 1868 the stipulations of the Spanish-Sardinian Convention did not allow to prepay letters to destination. The Italian-Spanish Convention effective from 1 July 1868, allowed to prepay letters to destination at a rate of 50 centesimi for each 10 grams of weight. The 1868 Italian-Spanish Convention indicated a printed matter prepaid rate from Italy to Spain of 10 centesimi for each 40 grams; the carriage was in closed mail through France. When not prepaid to destination printed matter was charged on delivery as the letters.

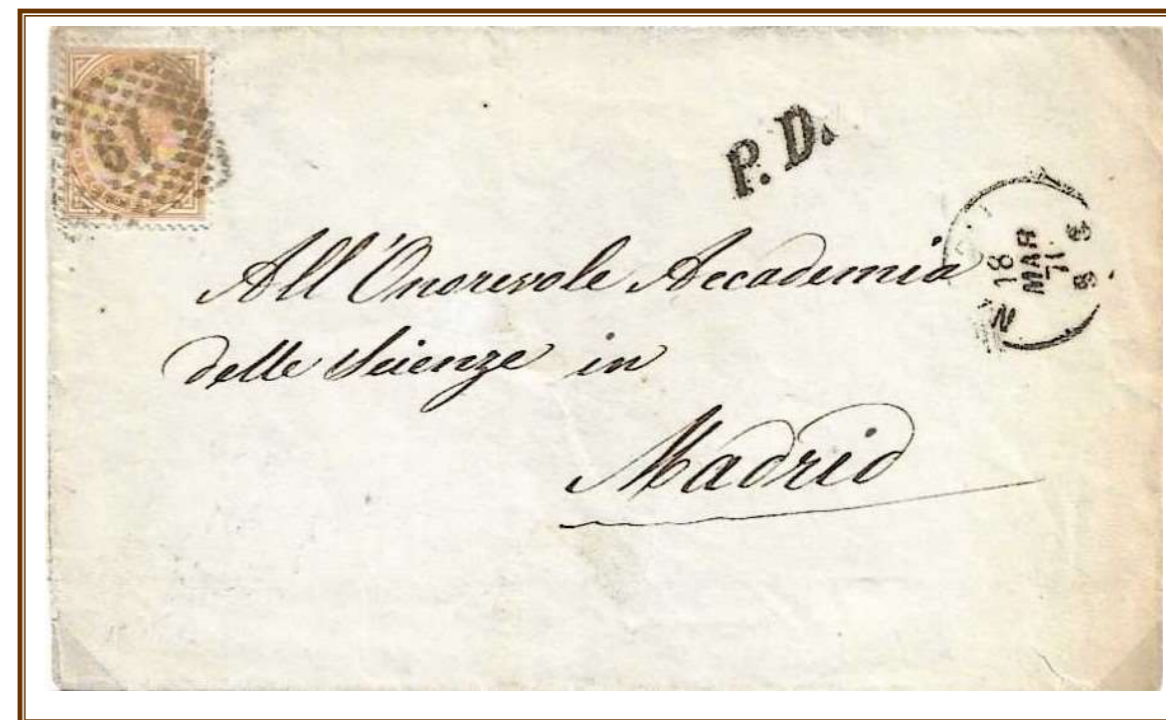


Spain

Spain joined the GPU on 1 July 1875, but due to the transit fee to be paid to France, only from 1 January 1876, when France joined the GPU Convention, the letter rate from Italy was set at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams; printed matter rate at 5 centesimi for each 40 grams and the postcards rate 15 centesimi.



4 April 1873. Double rate letter from Turin to Madrid (Spain), prepaid 1 Lira to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail through France, as confirmed by the absence of French marking.



18 March 1871. Single rate printed matter from Milan to Madrid (Spain), prepaid 10 centesimi to destination. The printed matter was carried in closed mail from Turin (transit datestamp on reverse on 20 March) through France to Madrid.

27 July 1872. Single rate letter from Rome to Madrid (Spain), prepaid 60 centesimi, as required by the French mediation. The letter was instead carried in closed mail through France, therefore 50 centesimi would have sufficient for payment to destination.



11 March 1876. Single rate letter from Genoa to La Escala (Spain), prepaid 30 centesimi, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 January 1876.



10 December 1878. Postcard of 10 centesimi from Venice to Barcelona (Spain), with additional franking of 5 centesimi to destination, to meet the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 January 1876.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Portugal

The direct Italian-Portuguese Convention, effective from 1 September 1863, established a rate of 80 centesimi for each 10 grams for letters prepaid to destination. Letters were carried in closed mail through France and Spain. A new Convention, effective from 1 October 1871, reduced the prepaid rate to destination of letters from Italy to Portugal to 60 centesimi for each 10 grams. The fixed registration fee was determined in 50 centesimi.

Portugal joined the GPU on 1 July 1875, but due to the transit fee to be paid to France, only from 1 January 1876, when France signed the GPU Convention, the letter rate from Italy was set at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams. From 1 January 1876 the printed matter rate was reduced to 5 centesimi for each 50 grams of weight. Printed matter had to be prepaid, unpaid printed matter was charged on delivery as letter.



26 September 1867. Single rate letter from Genoa to Lisbon (Portugal), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail through France and Spain.



19 March 1865. Double rate letter from Genoa to Lisbon (Portugal), prepaid 160 centesimi to destination. The letter after Turin transit on 20 March, arrived in Lisbon on 27 March.



16 January 1875. Double rate registered letter from Udine to Faro in the Algarve (Portugal), prepaid 1,70 Lire to destination : 1,20 Lire double letter rate (60c. x 2) and 50 centesimi fixed registration fee. The letter was carried in closed mail through France and Spain.



11 November 1876. Single rate letter from Bologna to Lisbon (Portugal), prepaid 30 centesimi in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 January 1876.



5 December 1877. Single rate printed matters from Leghorn to Lisbon (Portugal), prepaid 5 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 January 1876.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Switzerland

The Italian-Swiss Convention, effective from 1 July 1862, indicated a prepaid letter rate from Italy to Switzerland of 30 centesimi for each 10 grams.

The prepaid rate to destination was reduced to 10 centesimi for letters originating in an Italian location and addressed to a Swiss destination when both were within 45 km from 8 locations indicated by the article 12 of the Convention. The fixed registration fee was established in 30 centesimi.



28 June 1864. Single rate letter from Palermo to a not readable Swiss location, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination. The letter was reposted in Gex (France), prepaid 40 centimes to destination in Naples.



4 November 1866. Single rate letter from Chiavenna to Chur (Switzerland), prepaid 10 centesimi to destination (reduced letter rate for locations less than 45 km distant from the Exchange Office).



15 March 1863. Double rate letter from Signa to Boniswil (Switzerland), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter with transit Turin on 16 March, arrived at destination on 19 March.



26 September 1866. Double rate registered letter from Milan to Lugano (Switzerland), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination : 20 centesimi double reduced letter rate (locations less than 45 km distant from the Exchange Office) and 30 centesimi fixed registration fee.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Switzerland

Insufficiently prepaid letter from Italy to Switzerland were charged on delivery 40 centesimi for each 10 grams as the unpaid letters decreased by the value of the postage stamps applied. These differences had to be counted for and were indicated by a manual annotation or a handstamp.

The 1862 Italian-Swiss Convention indicated a printed matter rate from Italy to Switzerland of 3 centesimi for each 40 grams.

Italy established a rate of 7 centesimi for each 50 grams for printed matter sent the other members Countries of the GPU Convention, therefore also to Switzerland. From 1 January 1876 the rate was reduced to 5 centesimi for each 50 grams of weight.



15 April 1865. Single rate letter from Genoa to Schönenwerd (Switzerland), insufficiently prepaid 10 centesimi and charged 30 centesimi on delivery : 40 centesimi for the unpaid letter rate decreased by the value of the franking. On the cover the indication of the Italian debit of 10 centesimi to complete the postage, share due to Italy.



19 August 1875, single rate printed matter from Milan to Faido (Tessin, Switzerland), prepaid 7 centimes to destination.



31 March 1879. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Wohlen (Switzerland), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination carried the last day of the GPU Convention.



4 April 1876. Triple rate letter from Milan to Mendrisio (Switzerland), prepaid 90 centesimi to destination (30 centesimi for each 15 grams).



No direct convention between Italy and Romania was in place; from 1 April 1869 it was possible to address letters to Romania with the Austrian mediation at a rate of 50 centesimi for each 15 grams. Insufficiently prepaid letters were charged on delivery as required by the Austro - Rumanian Convention. The GPU rate of 30 centesimi for each 15 grams, for letters addressed from Italy to countries that agreed the GPU Convention, applied to letters addressed to Romania from 1 July 1875.

Romania



28 June 1875. Single rate letter from San Remo (Imperia) to Romania, insufficiently prepaid 40 centesimi, as noted on the cover. The Italian Administration struck "N.A." to indicate that the Italian postal rights were paid. Austria debited Romania 9 Nkr, corresponding to 22,5 Romanian bani, 45 bani was charged on delivery.



13 January 1878. Single rate letter from Florence to Bukarest (Romania) prepaid 30 centesimi, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union.

Serbia

Serbia became independent from the Ottoman Empire in 1867. No direct convention between the Kingdom of Italy and Serbia was in effect, therefore the letters had to be delivered with the Austrian mediation. The letter rate was set at 45 centesimi (85 para) for each 15 grams, while the printed matters rate was established in 7 centesimi (15 para) for each 40 grams.



16 April 1870. Double rate letter from Verona to Mitrovitz (Serbia), insufficiently prepaid 40 centesimi. The letter, carried via Austria, resulted to be a double rate letter to Serbia then the Italian debit to Serbia was reduced to 4 centesimi (instead 27 centesimi) : 40 centesimi less 18 centesimi Italian and Serbian postage rights, that doubled to account for the double rate makes 36 centesimi. Postage due was 30 kreuzer that decreased by 2 kreuzer, corresponding to 4 centesimi, determined the 28 kreuzer charged on delivery.



30 September 1870. Single rate printed matter from Verona to Orsova (Serbia), prepaid 7 centesimi to destination. Even though belonging to the Serbian Banat, in 1870 Orsova was part of the Austrian Empire, therefore the printed matters could have been prepaid only 5 centesimi.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



Until 30 September 1868 no direct Italian-Dutch Convention was in place; mail had to be exchanged with the mediation of a third country.
The Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention, effective from 1 January 1861, indicated a prepaid letter rate to destination from Italy to The Netherlands of 70 centesimi for each 7,5 grams of weight.

The Netherlands

The direct Dutch-Italian Convention, effective from 1 October 1868, established a prepaid letter rate of 50 centesimi for each 10 grams for letters addressed from Italy to The Netherlands; letters were carried to The Netherlands in closed mail through France and Belgium.



23 September 1864. Single rate letter from Ancona to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried through France in the open mail and received in the Exchange Office in Paris the handstamp **"ITALIE/ 5 LANSLEBOURG 5"**. On the reverse the delivery datestamp of Amsterdam dated 26 September.



6 October 1864. Double rate letter from Palermo to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 1,40 Lire to destination. The letter was carried through France in the open mail and received in the Exchange Office in Paris the handstamp **"ITALIE/ 5 LANSLEBOURG 5"** and it arrived in Amsterdam on 12 October.



5 February 1869. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 50 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail through France and Belgium.



30 November 1869. Double rate letter from Genoa to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 1 Lira to destination. The letter arrived in Amsterdam on 3 December and the following day was re-directed to Cardiff (Wales - United Kingdom) where arrived on 6 December and where 6 pence were charged on delivery, to absolve the rate from Amsterdam.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



The Netherlands

From 16 July 1870, the opening of the Brenner railway allowed for the reduction of the rate of prepaid letters to The Netherlands to 40 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight. Letters were carried in closed mail through Austria and Germany.

From 1 July 1875 The Netherlands joined the GPU Convention, therefore from that date the prepaid rate of letters from Italy to The Netherlands was set at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams, the rate of printed matter to 5 centesimi for each 40 grams and the rate of postcards at 15 centesimi to destination.



3 July 1871. Single rate letter from Naples to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. The letter was sent to Verona where on 5 July was prepared the closed mail to The Netherlands, that, through the Brenner Pass, arrived in Amsterdam on 7 July.



23 August 1871. Double rate letter from Naples to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter transited Verona where the closed mail to be carried through the Brenner Pass was prepared.



12 October 1877. Single rate letter from Palermo to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



28 April 1877. Postcard of 10 centesimi from Rome to Amsterdam (The Netherlands), with additional franking of 5 centesimi to destination, to meet the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.

2nd Chapter : Mail to the European Countries mainly reached overland



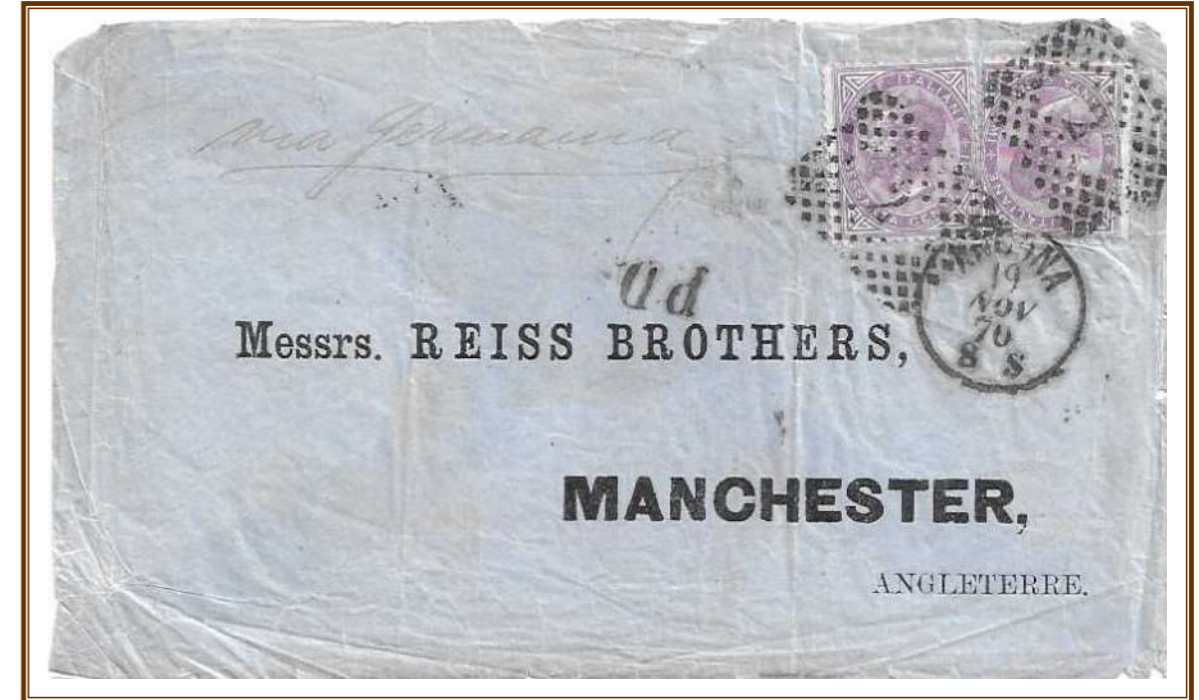
United Kingdom

Even though it is not indicated on the letters, because they were carried to UK in closed mail, from September 1870 letters to UK, due to the Franco-Prussian war were routed via Germany.

The UK joined the GPU Convention from 1 July 1875, but France joined the Convention only from 1 January 1876, until that date the prepaid letter rate from Italy to the UK was 40 centesimi for each 15 grams, due to the transit fees for the carriage in closed mail through France. From 1 January 1876 the rate of letters addressed from Italy to UK was established at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams and 5 centesimi for each 50 grams was introduced for printed matter addressed from Italy to the UK.



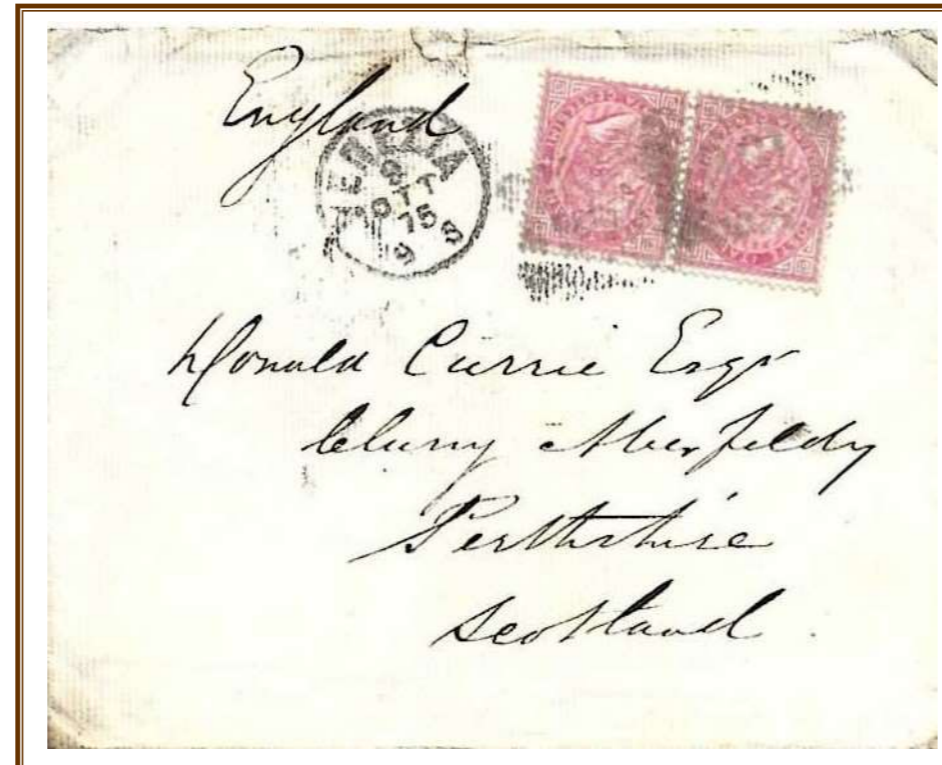
12 October 1870. Single rate letter from Florence to Liverpool (United Kingdom), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail through Germany.



19 November 1870. Double rate letter from Ancona to Manchester (United Kingdom), prepaid 1,20 Lire (60c. x 2) to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail through Germany.



16 December 1875. Single rate letter from Genoa to London (United Kingdom), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875, without the French transit.



9 May 1878. Single rate letter from Como to London (United Kingdom), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the GPU.

9 October 1875. Double rate letter from Venice to Aberfeldy (United Kingdom), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination, as required for letters carried via France up to 31 December 1875.

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea



Albania remained under Ottoman control up to 1912. The Austrian-Italian Convention, effective from 1 October 1867, established a prepaid rate from Italy to the Austrian Post Office within the Ottoman Empire, then also to Antivari in Albania, of 60 centesimi for each 15 grams.

Albania (Ottoman Empire)



5 August 1870. Single rate letter from Venice to Shkoder of Albania (Turkey) prepaid 60 centesimi to the disembarkation port of Antivari and charged 2 piasters on delivery in Scutari. The letter was on 6 August embarked in Trieste on an Austrian Lloyd packet and it was disembarked in Antivari.



19 December 1871. Double rate letter from Venice to Shkoder of Albania (Turkey) prepaid 1,20 Lire to the disembarkation port of Antivari and charged 4 piasters on delivery in Scutari. The letter was on 20 December embarked in Trieste on an Austrian Lloyd packet and it was disembarked in Antivari.

Cyprus (Ottoman Empire)

From 1 January 1867 the letter rate for Cyprus carried by the Austrian packet was 60 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight. From 1 January 1870 an Italian service from Brindisi to Alexandria of Egypt was established, from Alexandria letters could be carried to Larnaca in Cyprus by the Austrian Lloyd packets at a rate of 80 centesimi for each 15 grams.



28 June 1872. Single rate letter from Genoa to Larnaca (Cyprus, Ottoman Empire), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was in Brindisi placed on board of Austrian Lloyd packet of the Greek-Eastern Line to Smyrna and then to Cyprus by an Austrian Lloyd packet of the Syria Line.



20 November 1870. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Larnaca (Cyprus, Ottoman Empire), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was in Brindisi on 22 November placed on board of Italian packet of the Egypt Line to Alexandria and then it was embarked on an Austrian Lloyd packet of the Syria Line to destination.



Up to April 1863, the Italian packet of the Ancona-Alexandria of Egypt Line carried letters paid to the port of disembarkation of Corfu at a rate of 40 centesimi for each port of 7,5 grams.

Ionian Islands (British Colony)

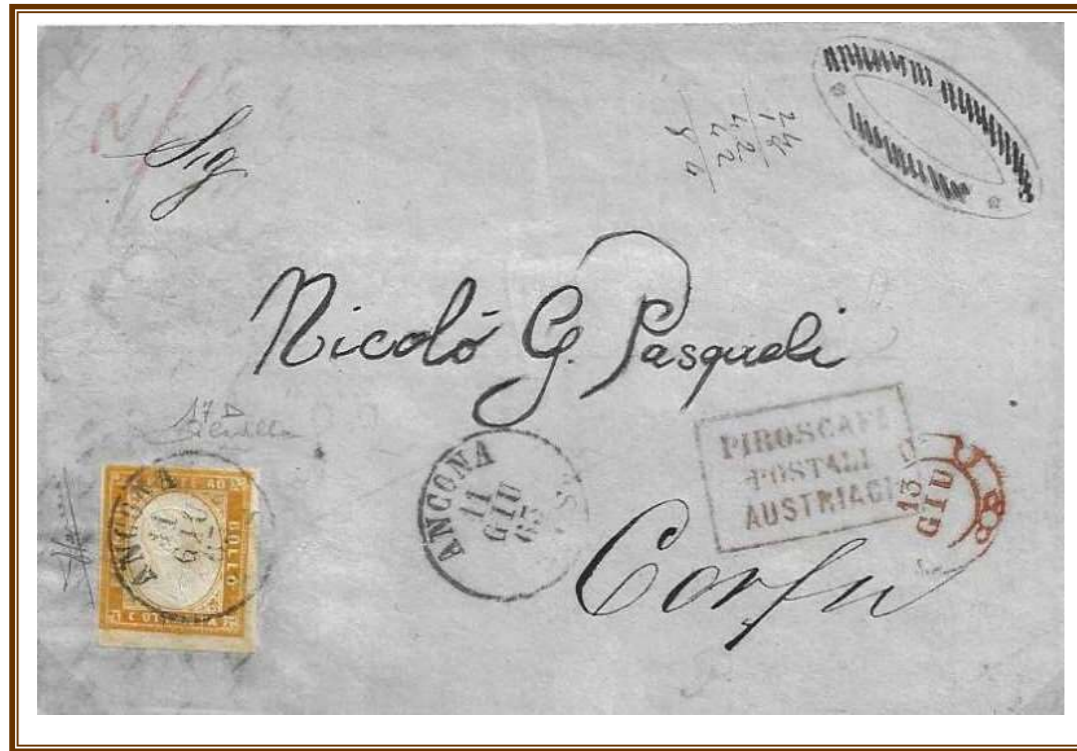
From 1 May 1863 the Italian-Ionian Islands Convention indicated a rate of 40 centesimi for each port of 7,5 grams. With the annexation of the Ionian Islands to Greece, from 3 January 1865, Italian-Greek Convention was extended to the Ionian Island.



29 January 1863. Single rate letter from Messina to Corfu (Ionian Island), prepaid 40 centesimi to the port of disembarkation, charged 1 penny on delivery for the domestic rate.



2 April 1863. Single rate letter from Messina to Corfu (Ionian Islands), prepaid 40 centesimi to the port of disembarkation, charged 1 penny on delivery for the domestic rate.



11 June 1863. Double rate letter from Ancona to Corfu (Ionian Islands), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was embarked on an Austrian Lloyd packet of the Trieste-Constantinople Line that disembarked it in the port of Corfu on 13 June 1863.



23 December 1863. Single rate letter from Naples to Corfu (Ionian Island), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried via Messina (transit datestamp on 30 December) with an Italian packet of the Accossato e Peirano Company, that disembarked it in Corfu on 1 January 1864.

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea

The Italian - Greece postal Convention, effective on 2 March 1862 (18 February Julian calendar), established a rate of 1 lira for each 10 grams for prepaid letters to destination addressed from Italy to Greece. The rate to destination did not depend on the type of sea carriage.



Greece

The Italian - Greek Convention, effective from 1 February 1865, reduced the prepaid rate from Italy to Greece to 60 centesimi for each 10 grams, for carriage by the Italian or by the Austrian Lloyd packets, to 80 centesimi for each 10 grams, for carriage by the French packets.



25 July 1863. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Athens (Greece), prepaid 1 Lira to destination. The letter was embarked in the same day on the French packet "AUNIS" of the Italian Line that disembarked it in Messina on 28 July and then the letter was embarked on the French packet "EUPHRATE" of the Levante Line that disembarked it in Pireo on 30 July (18 July of the Julian calendar).



27 December 1864. Triple rate letter from Leghorn to Patras (Greece), prepaid 3 Lire to destination. The letter was embarked in Ancona on an Austrian Lloyd packet of the Greek-Oriental Line coming from Trieste that arrived in Patras on 3 January 1865 (22 December 1864 of the Julian calendar).



18 February 1869. Triple rate letter from Messina to Corfu (Greece), prepaid 1,80 Lire to destination. The letter was placed on board the Austrian Lloyd packet of the Greek-Oriental Line in Brindisi on 21 February. The letter was disembarked in Corfu on 22 February 1869 (10 February of the Julian calendar).



13 March 1866. Five times rate letter from Messina to the island of Syra (Greece), prepaid 4 Lire to destination. The letter was embarked on 20 March in Messina on the French packet "GODAVERY" of the Syria Line that disembarked the letter in Syra on 23 March (11 March of the Julian calendar).

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea

The 1865 Italian-Greek Convention allowed for the integration of the insufficiently prepaid postage of letters addressed from Italy to Greece.



Greece

The integration, expressed in lepta, was noted by a red or by a blue pencil and it was confirmed by Greek postage stamps, used as postage due stamps, which were added to confirm the due amount charged on delivery.



18 March 1867. Single rate letter from Milan to Corfu (Greece), insufficiently prepaid 55 centesimi. The missing amount of 5 centesimi was indicated then the letter was charged 5 lepta on delivery, as noted in red and confirmed by the 5 lepta used as a postage due stamp. The letter was carried to Corfu from Brindisi by an Austrian Lloyd packet of the Greek-Oriental line that arrived in Corfu on 23 March 1867 (11 March 1867 of the Julian calendar).

5 December 1869. Single rate letter from Catania to Piraeus (Greece), insufficiently prepaid 60 centesimi. The missing amount of 20 centesimi as indicated, then 20 lepta was charged on delivery, as noted in bleu and confirmed by the 20 lepta used as a postage due stamp. The letter was carried to Messina and on 7 December it was embarked on the French packet "VOLGA" of the Ligne "U" of the Mediterranean Sea, that disembarked the letter in Piraeus on 10 December.



28 March 1873. Single rate unpaid letter from Genoa to Syra (Greece), charged 65 lepta on delivery, as noted in bleu and confirmed by the 65 lepta (corresponding to 60 centesimi) used as a postage due stamp. The letter was carried to Syra from Brindisin by an Austrian Lloyd packet of the Greek-Oriental line that arrived in Syra on 2 April 1873 (21 March of the Julian calendar).



21 August 1876. Single rate letter from Casale to Corfu (Greece), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



1 August 1870. Single rate unpaid letter from Messina to Patras (Greece), charged 90 lepta on delivery, as noted in red and confirmed by the 90 lepta (corresponding to 80 centesimi) used as a postage due stamp. The letter on 2 August was embarked on the French packet "SAID" of the Ligne "U" of the Mediterranean Sea, that disembarked the letter in Piraeus on 4 August, that was then carried to Patras where it arrived on 6 August 1870 (25 July 1870 of the Julian calendar).

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea



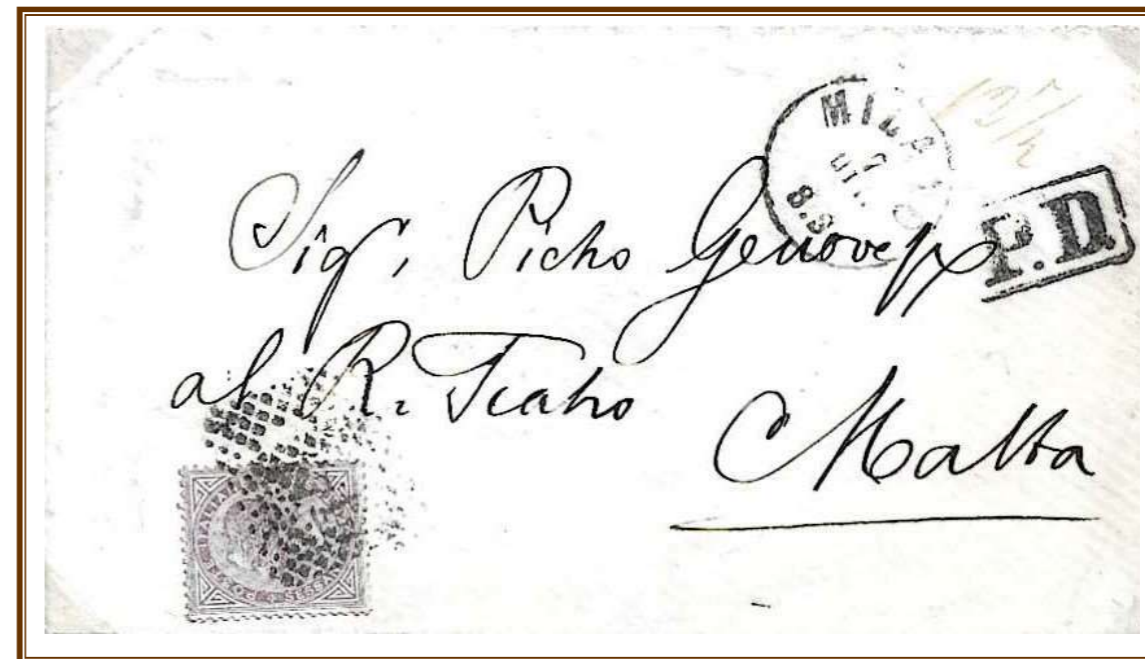
Malta

Rates of letters addressed to Malta were indicated in the Sardinian-British Convention of 1858 : 40 centesimi for each 7,5 grams of weight : 12,5 centesimi to Italy, 12,5 centesimi to Malta and 15 centesimi for the sea carriage. The sea carriage was credited to Malta when it was made by the French packets, was credited to Italy when made by the Italian packets of the Florio Lines.

The prepaid rate of printed matter sent from Italy to Malta was 10 centesimi for each 30 grams. Insufficiently prepaid letters from Italy to Malta, as indicated by the Sardinian-British Convention effective from 1858, were charged on delivery as the unpaid letters: 22.5 c. (2.25d) to Italy, 22.5 c. (2.25d) to UK, 15 c. (1.5d) for the carriage by sea.

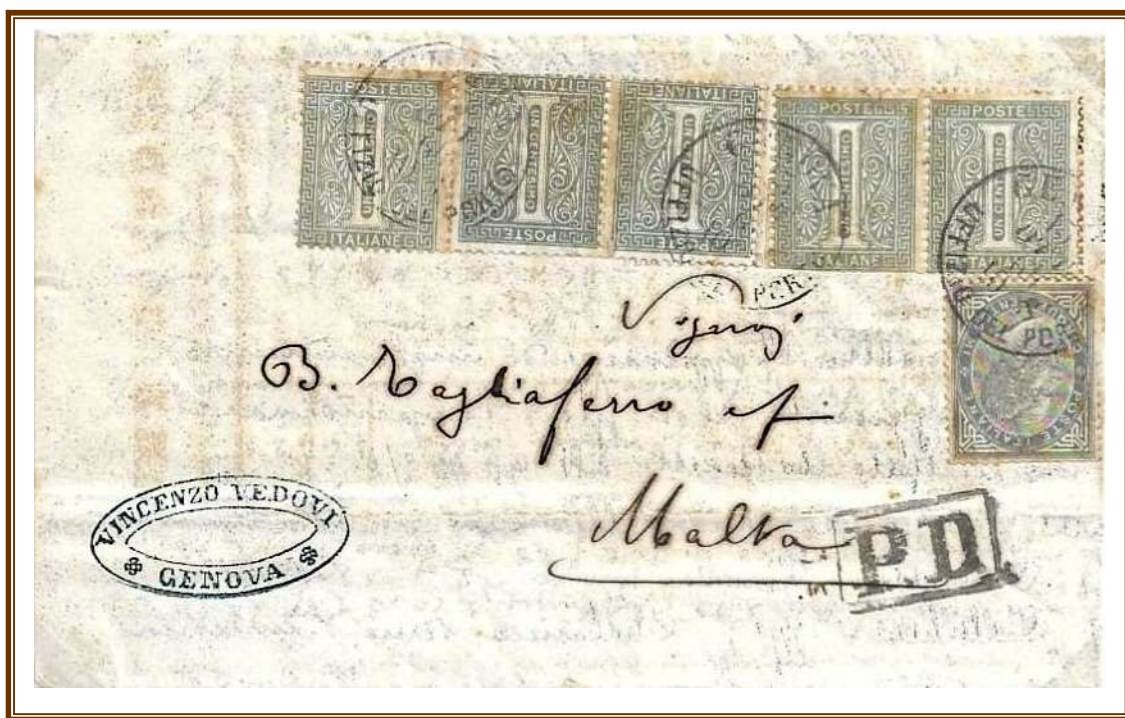


17 June 1864. Double rate letter from Naples to Malta, prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried to Malta by an Italian packet of the Florio Lines.



7 October 1866. Single rate letter from Milan to Malta, prepaid 60 centesimi to destination, as required for carriage by the French packet via Marseille. The letter was carried to Leghorn where on 8 October it was embarked in closed mail on the French packet "QUIRINAL" bound for Marseille where it arrived on 12 October. The letter in Marseille on 13 October was embarked on the French packet "GODAVERY" of the Line of Levant and it was disembarked in Malta on 16 October 1866.

Malta entered the GPU Convention on 1 July 1875. The prepaid letter rate from Italy to Malta was established at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams.



15 October 1864. Single rate printed matters from Genoa to Malta, prepaid 10 centesimi to destination. The printed matters were carried to Malta by an Italian packet of the Florio Lines.



11 January 1877. Single rate letter from Rome to Malta, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



24 October 1866. Double rate letter from Naples to Malta, underpaid 40 centesimi and charged on delivery 1 shilling (pen notation).

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea



Rhodes

The letters sent to Rhodes in the Ottoman Empire could be carried by the Austrian packets via Brindisi and Alexandria of Egypt on the basis of the Austro-Italian Convention effective on 1 October 1867 that indicated a prepaid rate of 60 centesimi for each 15 grams, or with the French packets from Marseille and transit through Naples, Palermo and Messina, at a rate of 60 centesimi for each 10 grams.

The Franco-Italian Convention in effect from 1869 required that letters directly posted to the steamers without handstamp of origin, with postage stamps not obliterated were considered unpaid and were charged on delivery as the unpaid letters.

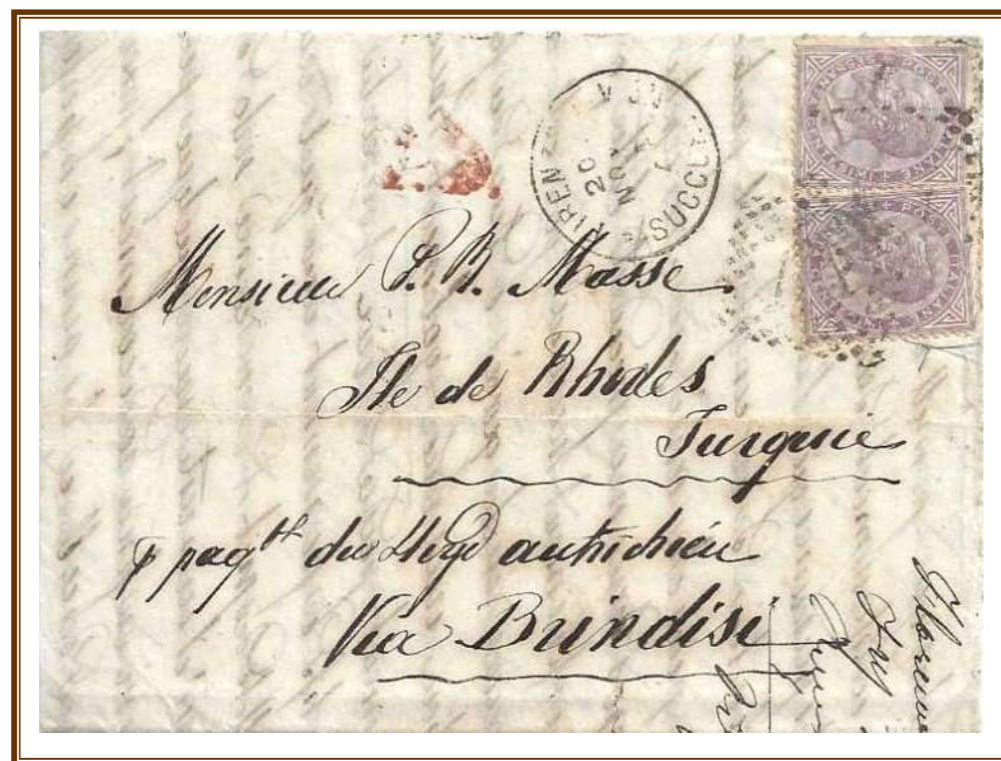


7 May 1873. Single rate letter from Florence to Rhodes (Ottoman Empire), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination.

The letter was in Brindisi placed on board of Austrian Lloyd packet of the Egypt Line to Alexandria and then it was transferred to a packet of the Syria Line that reached Rhodes.



16 April 1873. The letter, written on 16 April in Florence, was prepaid 60 centesimi as required for carriage via Palermo, as endorsed. The letter was, in Messina, directly handed, on 23 April, to the French packet "TANAIS" of the "U" Line of the Levant, therefore the postage stamp was not obliterated. On 29 April the letter was disembarked in Constantinople and received the handstamp "MER.MEDIT. CONSTANTINOPLE". In Constantinople the letter was transferred to the French packet "SCAMANDRE" of the Levant Line to Smyrne, where arrived on 9 May it was transferred on the French packet "EBRE" of the Syria Line that disembarked the letter on 11 May to Rhodes, 25 days after departure from Florence. On delivery, the letter was charged 9 décimes as required for unpaid letters from the Kingdom of Italy to Rhodes with the French packets, because the Italian stamp, not properly obliterated, was not considered valid.



20 November 1872. Double rate letter from Florence to Rhodes (Ottoman Empire), prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination. The letter was in Brindisi placed on board of Austrian Lloyd packet of the Egypt Line to Alexandria where it was transferred to a packet of the Syria Line that reached Rhodes.

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea



Turkey (Ottoman Empire)

Mail to the Ottoman Empire was exchanged with the French or the Austrian mediation. Up to 31 March 1866 the letter rate of 80 centesimi for each 7,5 grams of weight, indicated by the 1861 Franco-Sardinian Convention, was in effect. From 1 April 1866 the rate was decreased to 60 centesimi for each 7,5 grams. The French packet carried mail to destination in the French Postal Offices of the Ottoman Empire from Marseille, via Naples or Messina.

The Ottoman Empire joined the GPU Convention from 1 July 1875; therefore, the prepaid letter rate from Italy to a destination in the Ottoman Empire was established at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams. Italy established a rate of 7 centesimi for each 50 grams for printed matter sent the other members Countries of the GPU Convention, therefore also to European Turkey. From 1 January 1876 the rate was reduced to 5 centesimi for each 50 grams of weight.



12 September 1864. Single rate letter from Naples to Smyrna (Turkey), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was placed on board the French packet "VATICAN" in Messina on 13 September, then it was transferred on board the French packet "PHASE" of the Levante Line that arrived in Smyrna on 18 September.



14 November 1868. Single rate letter from Palermo to Constantinople (Turkey), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was taken to Messina, where on 15 November was placed on board the French packet "NIEMEN" of the Levante Line. The letter was disembarked in Constantinople on 21 November.



5 July 1865. Double rate letter from Florence to Constantinople (Turkey) underpaid 80 centesimi and charged 12 dècimes on delivery (equivalent to 7 piastre and 20 para, handwritten on the verso) : 2 Francs the unpaid double rate letter rate, decreased by the 80 centimes of the value of the franking. The letter was taken to Leghorn and on 7 July it was embarked on the French packet "PAUSILLIPE" that disembarked on 10 July in Messina. The following day the letter was embarked on the French packet "CYDNUS" of the Levant Line that disembarked the letter on 15 July in Constantinople.



13 July 1877. Single rate letter from Ferrara to Smyrna (Turkey), prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 July 1875.



14 January 1876. Single rate printed matter from Turin to Salonica (Turkey), prepaid 5 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union on 1 January 1876.



Kustendje with Dobruja belonged to the Ottoman Empire up to 1878 when it became part of Romania. Letters up to 30 September 1867 could be addressed from Italy to the Austrian Post Office of Kustendje with the Austrian mediation in accordance with the Sardinian-Austrian Convention restored on 15 May 1862.

**Dobruja
(Ottoman Empire)**



20 April 1867. Single rate letter from Vicenza to Kustendje (Dobruja), insufficiently prepaid 60 centesimi instead of 85 centesimi required, corresponding to 34 Nkr. Italy, as noted, credited Austria 40 centesimi, corresponding to 16 Nkr, 10 Nkr was charged on delivery in the Austrian Post Office of Kustendje to total the 34 Nkr of the required postage :
8 Nkr Italian share, 26 Nkr due to Austria.
The letter transited Verona (21 April) and then Pest (Austrian Empire) to reach the Danube route from Vienna and through a mixed route rail/navigation it arrived in the Austrian post office of Kustendje on the Black Sea.

**Syria
(Ottoman Empire)**

Letters originating in Italy addressed to Syria, were carried via Brindisi to Alexandria of Egypt by the Italian packets. From Alexandria to Alexandretta by the French packet of the Syria Line at a rate of 80 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight.



8 July 1871. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Alexandretta (Syria), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was placed on board on an Italian packet in Brindisi on 10 July and disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 14 July. The letter then was transferred to the French packet "AMERIQUE" of the Syrian Line in Alexandria on 17 July and (after transiting Beirut on 20 July) disembarked in Alexandretta on 22 July.



23 September 1871. Double rate letter from Leghorn to Alexandretta (Syria), prepaid 1,60 Lire to destination. The letter was placed on board on an Italian packet in Brindisi on 25 September and disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 29 September. The letter then was transferred to the French packet "ILLISSUS" of the Syrian Line on 9 October and (after transiting Beirut on 12 October) disembarked in Alexandretta on 14 October.

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea



Egypt

From 1 March 1863, opening of the Italian post office of Alexandria, until 31 December 1868 letters carried from Italy to Egypt by the Italian packets, prepaid to destination in the Italian post office of Alexandria of Egypt, required a franking of 60 centesimi for each 10 grams. From 1 January 1869 letters from Italy could be prepaid to destination in the Italian post office of Alessandria of Egypt, 40 centesimi for each 10 grams, for each 15 grams from 15 July 1870, when carried by an Italian packet. Letters addressed beyond Alexandria had to pay the inland Egyptian rate.

The Italian-Egyptian Convention, effective on 1 January 1873, set a prepaid rate of 60 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight for letters addressed to any Egyptian location beyond the Italian post office of Alexandria of Egypt. Letters carried to the Italian post office of Alexandria by an Italian packet were handed to the Egyptian postal administration and 20 centesimi were credited to Egypt. Egypt joined the GPU postal Convention from 1 July 1875 as a member state; the letter rate from Italy to Egypt was established at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams.



12 December 1866. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Alexandria (Egypt), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was placed on board on a packet of the Adriatic-Oriental Italian Company in Brindisi on 16 December and it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 26 December.



2 March 1872. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Cairo (Egypt), prepaid 40 centesimi to the disembarkation port of Alexandria of Egypt. The letter was placed on board on an Italian packet of the "Rubattino" Company to Alexandria of Egypt and then carried by the Egyptian Post to Cairo, where the letter was charged 1 piaster on delivery for the domestic fee from Alexandria to Cairo.



5 June 1871. Double rate letter from Genoa to Alexandria (Egypt), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter was placed on board on an Italian packet in Brindisi on 7 June and it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 16 June.



11 January 1873. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Cairo (Egypt), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter after the Brindisi transit on 12 January, was embarked on the Italian packet to Alexandria of Egypt, where it arrived on 16 January. The letter was then delivered to Cairo, by the Vice-Royal Egyptian Postal Service.

22 February 1876. Single rate letter from Venice to Alexandria of Egypt, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1st January 1876. The letter on 3 March was readdressed to Cairo, prepaid 1 Egyptian piaster to destination.



3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea



Tunisia

Tunisia, with the French protection, was independent within the Ottoman Empire even though the nomination of the Bey of Tunis had to be approved by Constantinople. Since 1 March 1863 letters could be carried by an Italian packet prepaid 40 centesimi to destination in the Italian post office of Tunis for each 10 grams, from 15 July 1870 for each 15 grams.

Insufficiently prepaid letters were charged on delivery the unpaid rate of 60 centesimi for each 10 grams until 15 July 1870, for each 15 grams from 16 July 1870. Insufficiently prepaid letters were charged on delivery the unpaid letter rate, decreased by the value of the insufficient franking.



26 December 1863. Triple rate letter (23 grams) from Cagliari to the Italian Post Office of Tunis, prepaid only 80 centesimi as a double rate and charged 6 décimes on delivery, the single rate for unpaid letters to Tunis.



22 November 1867. Double rate letter from Leghorn to the Italian Post Office of Tunis, prepaid only 40 centesimi as a single rate and charged 8 décimes on delivery.



24 May 1872. Single rate letter from Leghorn to the Italian Post Office of Tunis, prepaid 40 centesimi to destination.

Tunisia entered the GPU Convention with France on 1 January 1876. The prepaid letter rate from Italy to Tunisia was established at 30 centesimi for each 15 grams.



21 June 1876. Single rate letter from Genoa to Tunis, prepaid 30 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 January 1876.

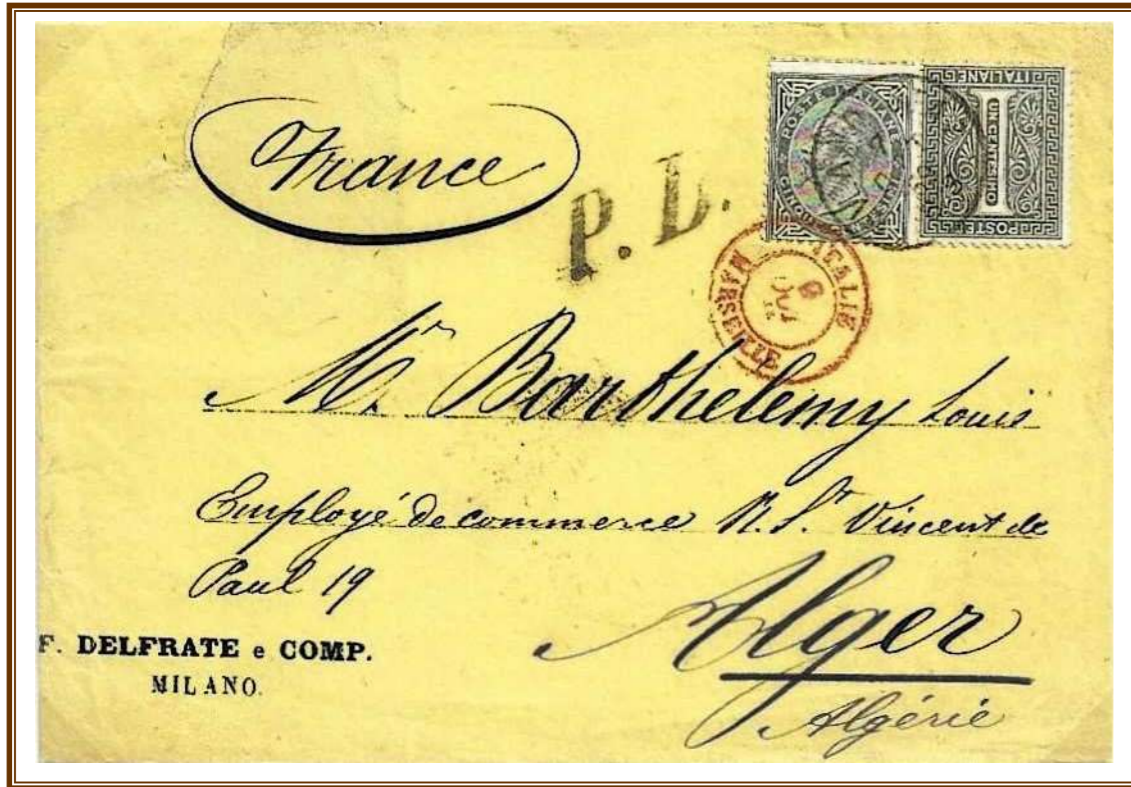


25 September 1864. Double rate letter from Cagliari to the Italian Post Office of Tunis, prepaid 80 centesimi to destination.

3rd Chapter : Mail to the Countries facing the Mediterranean Sea

Algeria was considered a province of France and the postal rates from Italy to Algeria were the rates indicated for the mail addressed to France. Rates of letters addressed to Algeria, before French joined on 1 January 1876 to the GPU convention, was 40 centesimi for each 10 grams, the printed matter rate was 6 centesimi for each 40 grams.

Algeria (France)



7 October 1869. Single rate printed matter from Milan to Algiers (Algeria), prepaid 6 centesimi to destination. The printed matter was placed on board in Genoa on a French noncontract ship to Marseille and then embarked on a French packet to Algiers.



3 March 1871. Single rate letter from Messina to Philippeville (Algeria), prepaid 40 centesimi to destination. The letter was placed on board on the French packet "MOERIS" of the "V" Line of Egypt that arrived in Marseilles on 6 March and then it was embarked on a Messagerie Maritimes packet of Marseilles-Philippeville Line and disembarked on 12 March 1871.



4th Chapter : Mail to the African Countries of the Atlantic Coast

Cape of Good Hope (British Colony)

Letters to the British colony of the Cape of Good Hope were carried either with the direct Anglo-Italian Convention or with the French mediation. Letters were carried by the British packet, in some period letters could be carried only by the non-contract ships. The Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention effective from 1861, indicated a rate of 1 lira for each 7.5 grams for letters prepaid to the port of disembarkation of an oversea country for carriage by the British packet.

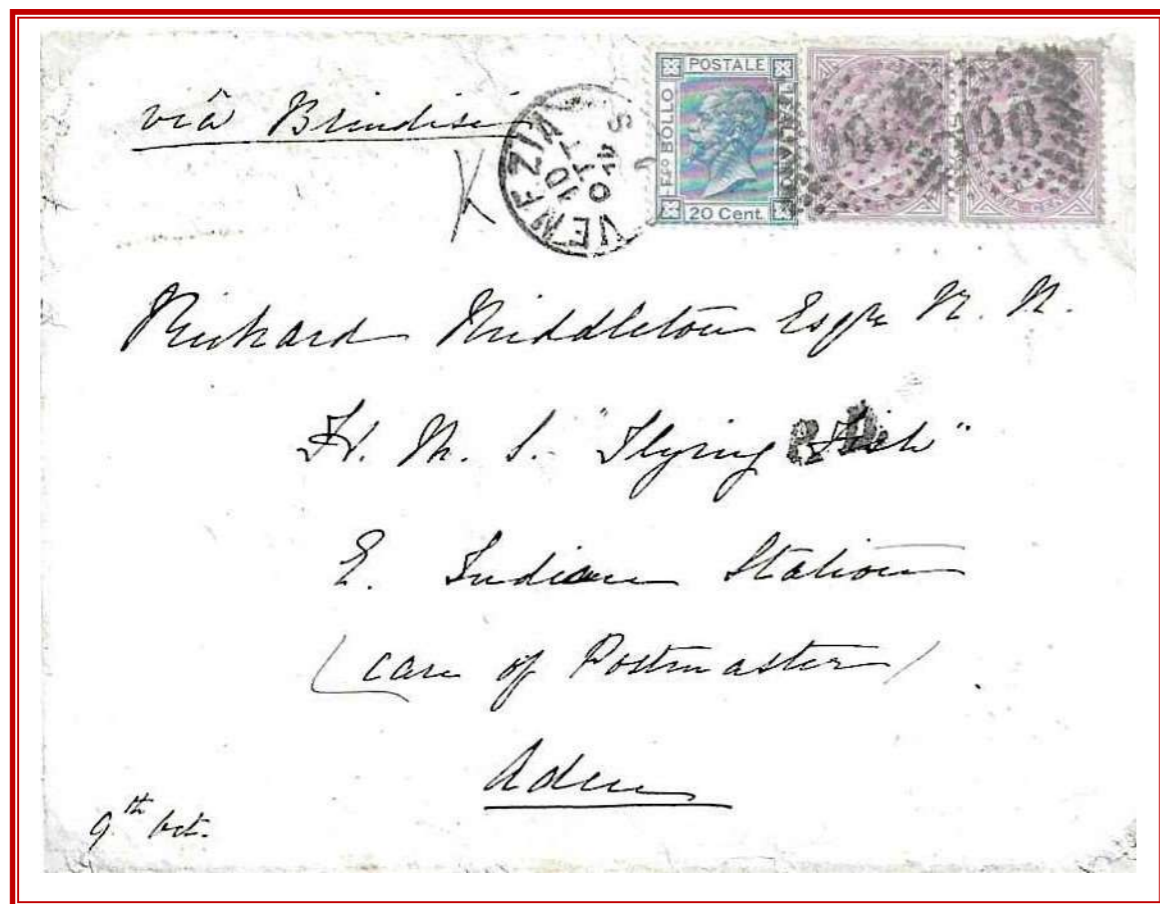


13 July 1873. Single rate letter from Rome to Cape Town (Cape of Good Hope), prepaid 1 Lira to destination as required by the French mediation. The letter was carried in the open mail trough France as confirmed by the Paris transit datestamp and it was in Plymouth placed on board of a British packet of the Union Steam Ship Company, that disembarked the letter in Cape Town.



Up to 1867, when the Suez Canal was opened, letters were carried across the Sinai Peninsula overland from Alexandria to Suez to be placed on board of the British packets of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company (P&O) that carried Mail to Aden and then India, China, Japan and Australia.
 Even though the Suez Canal opened in 1867, up to 1874, Mail was carried through the overland route from Alexandria to Suez, because of disagreement between the P&O Company and the British Government in relation to the subsidy to be granted to the P&O.
 From 1869 the "India Mail" was mainly carried to Brindisi by train and then placed on board the British packets of the P&O that from 1872 were also under contract with the Italian Administration to carry Mail from Brindisi to Alexandria of Egypt.
 From 1 January 1871 the rate of letters to Aden was established in 70 centesimi for each 15 grams.

Aden (British Colony)



10 October 1874. Double rate letter from Venice to Aden, prepaid 1,40 Lire to destination.
 The letter carried to Brindisi by train, was embarked on a P&O packet and it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was embarked on the P.&O packet "HINDOSTAN" and disembarked in Aden on 21 October 1874, as confirmed by the handstamp "ADEN STEAMER POINT" struck on the reverse in the port of Aden.
Only 3 letters recorded to Aden before 1879.

Ceylan (British Colony)

Mail to Ceylan was mainly carried with the English mediation with the Peninsular & Oriental Lines packet from Brindisi to Alexandria of Egypt and from Suez to Galle.
 From 1 July 1871 the rate was established at 70 centesimi for each 15 grams of weight. Ceylan was accepted in GPU on 1 April 1877 as a British Colony, the letter rate was set at 60 centesimi for each 15 grams.



14 October 1873. Single rate letter from Bassano to Colombo (Ceylan), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination.
 The letter, carried to Brindisi, was placed on board on 20 October on a P&O packet "MALTA" that it was disembarked on 23 October in Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was embarked in Suez on 25 October on the P&O packet "PEKIN" to Galle that it was disembarked on 8 November and then carried to Colombo.



28 January 1878. Single rate letter from Rome to Anaradhapura (Ceylan), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination.
 The letter was in Brindisi placed on board on a P&O packet "CEYLON" that disembarked on 7 Februar in Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was embarked in Suez on 8 Februar on the P&O packet "POONAH" to Galle that disembarked on 22 Februar and then carried to Anaradhapura.

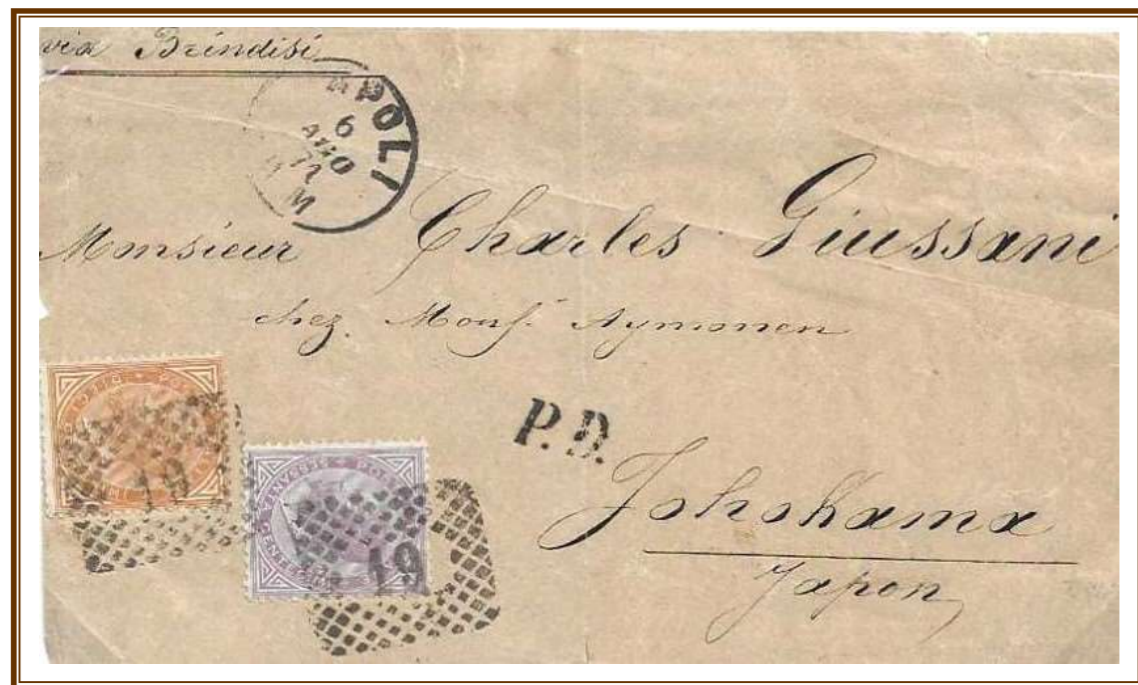


Initially the rate of prepaid letters sent from Italy to Japan with British mediation was 80 centesimi every 7.5 grams to the disembarkation and was decreased to 70 centesimi for each 15 grams to destination from 15 July 1871.

Japan



30 July 1870. Single rate letter from Recoaro to Yokohama, prepaid 80 centesimi to the port of disembarkation. The letter was embarked in Brindisi on 2 August on the British P&O packet that disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 5 August. Crossed the isthmus the letter was put on board the British P&O packet "CANDIA" that disembarked in Galle (Ceylon) on 21 August. In Galle the letter was embarked on the British P&O packet "ANCORE" that disembarked in Hong Kong on 5 September and then transferred to the P&O packet "BOMBAY" that disembarked in Yokohama on 14 September.



6 August 1871. Front of single rate letter from Naples to Yokohama, prepaid 70 centesimi to destination. The letter was embarked in Brindisi and disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt. After the crossing of the isthmus the letter was carried from Suez by the British P&O packets, with transit from Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai to Yokohama, where it was delivered on 15 October.

China

The rate from Italy to the port of disembarkation in China was set by the Anglo-Sardinian Convention effective from 1858 in 80 centesimi for each 7.5 grams, for each 15 grams from 1 January 1871, as required by the additional articles to the Convention.



26 Februar 1865. Single rate letter from Milan to Shanghai (China), prepaid 80 centesimi to the port of disembarkation. The letter, carried to Ancona, was placed on board of an Italian packet of the "Adriatic-Oriental" Company and on 2 March it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was in Suez put on board of the British P.&O packet "BENGAL" that disembarked in Galle (Ceylon) where the letter was transferred to the P.&O. packet "EMEU" that disembarked in Hong-Kong on 10 April. The following day the letter was carried by the P. & O. packet "GANGES" to Shanghai, where arrived on 15 April.

Japan joined the GPU Convention on 1 June 1877; the prepaid letter rate to destination from Italy to Japan was set at 60 centesimi for each 15 grams.

23 July 1878. Single rate letter from Turin to Yokohama (Japan), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination. The letter was in Naples placed on board on 30 July on the French packet "SINDH" that disembarked the letter in Hong Kong, where it was transferred to the French packet "VOLGA" that disembarked the letter in Yokohama.



5th Chapter : Mail to the Asian and Australian Countries beyond Suez

In the nineteenth century most of India was under the direct control of England as a colony of the British Empire. Letters from the Kingdom of Italy were carried to India with the French mediation at the rate of 1 Lira for each 7,5 grams.

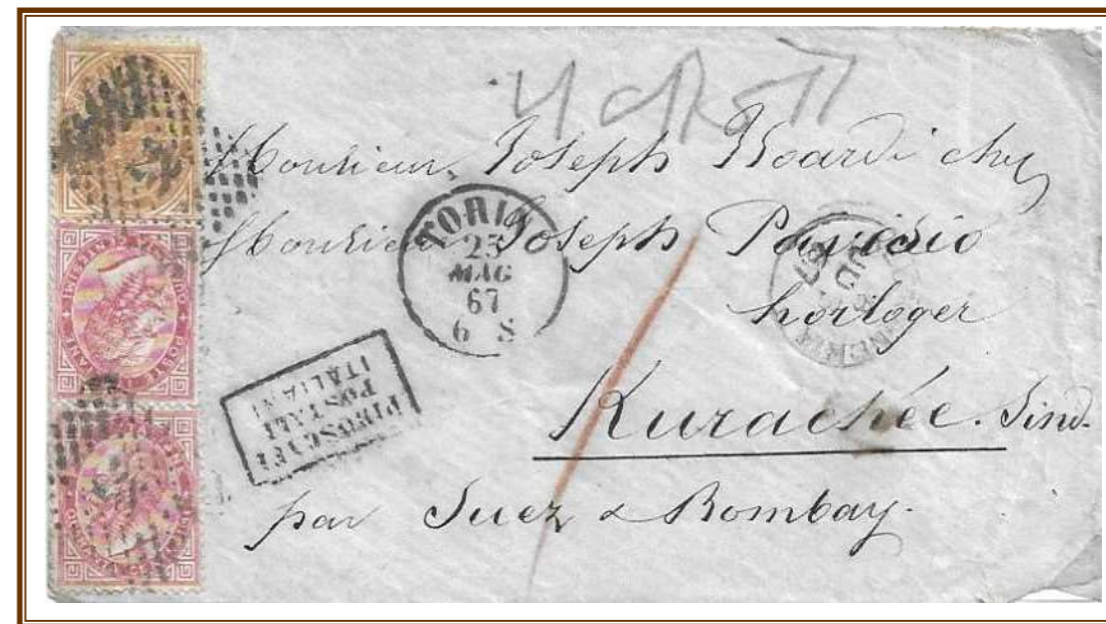


India

The English mediation indicated a rate of 90 centesimi for each 7,5 grams, decreased from 1 January 1870 to 70 centesimi for each 15 grams. The British colonies (and then also India) joined in the GPU from 1 July 1876.

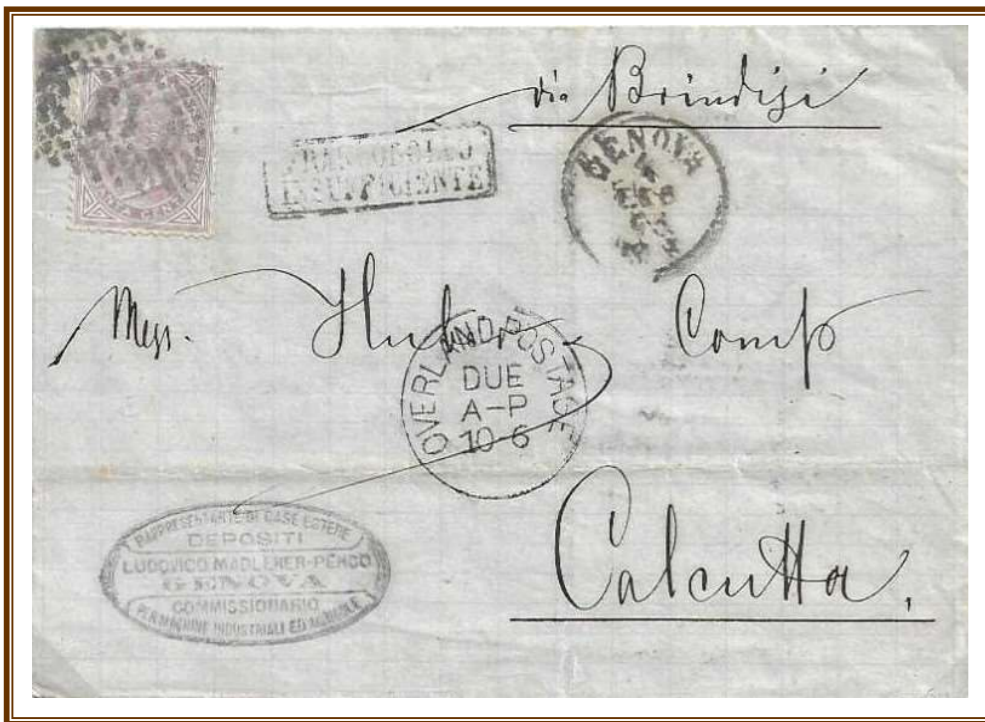


1 July 1865. Double rate letter from Torre Pellice to Bombay (India), prepaid 2 Lire to the port of disembarkation, as noted in red 2 pence was credited to the Indian Postal Administration. The letter was in Ancona on 1 July placed on board of an Italian packet to Alexandria of Egypt. Carried overland through the isthmus the letter was in Suez embarked on the British P&O packet "MALTA" and it was disembarked in Bombay on 24 July.



25 May 1867. Single rate letter from Turin to Kurachee, ancient name of Karachi (at that time in India, now in Pakistan), prepaid 90 centesimi to destination, as required by the Sardinian-British Convention of 1858, with the indication of 1 penny credited to Indian Postal Administration. The letter was carried via Brindisi, where on 27 May was embarked on a "Adriatic-Oriental" Italian Company packet to Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter on 5 June was embarked in Suez on the P. & O. packet "BARODA" and disembarked in Bombay on 15 June, then carried to Kurachee, where arrived on 21 June.

The Anglo-Sardinian Convention effective from 1858 and the additional articles effective from 1 January 1871 did not indicate a special treatment for insufficiently prepaid letter carried with the British mediation to the foreign countries, probably they were charged the unpaid letter rate.



4 February 1875. Single rate letter from Genoa to Calcutta (India), underpaid 60 centesimi and charged 10 annas and 6 pies on delivery. The letter was in Brindisi, on 8 February placed on board the P&O packet "NIZAM", that disembarked in Alexandria on 11 February. Carried overland through the isthmus the letter was in Suez embarked on the British P&O packet "HINDOSTAN" and it was disembarked in Bombay on 25 February. The letter was then carried by train to Calcutta, where it arrived on 1 March 1875.



20 August 1867. Double rate letter from Turin to Kurachee, ancient name of Karachi (at that time in India, now in Pakistan), prepaid 1,10 Lire instead of 1,80 Lire then marked "FRANCOBOLLO INSUFFICIENTE". The letter was charged on delivery 1s 8d as a fully unpaid letter. The close bag prepared in Turin was embarked in Marseille on the British on the P. & O. packet "TAN JORE" and disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 3 September. After the crossing of the isthmus, the letter was embarked in Suez on the P. & O. packet "SALSETTE" and it was disembarked in Bombay on 24 September, then carried to Kurachee.



16 December 1872. Single rate letter from Florence to Calcutta (India), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination. The letter was in Brindisi placed aboard the P&O packet "POONAH", under contract, it was disembarked in Alexandria. Carried overland through the isthmus the letter was in Suez embarked on the British P&O packet "AUSTRALIA" to be disembarked in Bombay. As confirmed by the handstamp "SEA POST OFFICE", struck by the travelling Post Office of the packet "AUSTRALIA" that put the letter in the closed bag to be carried to Calcutta by train, the letter was delivered on 5 January 1873.



Mail to New Zealand was carried with English mediation in accordance with the Anglo-Sardinian Convention at the rate of 80 centesimi for each 7.5 grams.

Mail to Singapore was mainly carried with the English mediation with the Peninsular & Oriental Lines packet from Brindisi to Alexandria of Egypt and from Suez to Galle and Singapore.

New Zealand

Singapore

(British Colonies)

Victoria

New Wales of South

Additional articles to the Anglo-Sardinian Convention effective from 1858, established at 80 centesimi for each 15 grams since 1 January 1871, the prepaid rate to the port of disembarkation in the British colonies of Australia. The prepaid rate to destination was set at 70 centesimi for each 15 grams from 1 August 1871.



17 June 1869. Single rate letter from Florence to Napier (New Zealand), prepaid 80 centesimi to the port of disembarkation. The letter, carried to Brindisi, not to Marseille as endorsed, was placed aboard of an Italian packet of the "Adriatic-Oriental" Company and it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was in Suez put on board of the British P.&O packet "CHINA" that disembarked in Galle (Ceylon) where the letter was transferred to the P.&O. packet "AVOCA" that disembarked in Sidney on 8 August. In Sidney the letter was carried by a packet of the "Intercolonial" Lines to Auckland. From Auckland the letter was delivered in Napier as confirmed by the datestamp struck in Napier on 14 August. Only 2 letters recorded to New Zealand before 1879.



21 April 1871. Single rate letter from Florence to Melbourne (Victoria), prepaid 80 centesimi to the port of disembarkation. The letter, taken to Brindisi by train, was on 25 April placed aboard the P&O packet "MASSILIA" and it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt on 28 April. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was embarked on the P&O packet "HINDOSTAN" and then the letter was transferred to the P&O packet "RANGOON" in Galle (Ceylon) that on 6 June disembarked the letter in Melbourne, as confirmed by the datestamp struck on the reverse.



18 November 1874. Single rate letter from Camogli to Singapore, prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination with the rate indicated for letters carried by the Italian packets from Brindisi to Alexandria and by the French packets from Alexandria to Singapore, this rate exceeded by 20 centesimi the rate required for carriage from Naples. The letter was in Naples placed aboard the French packet "Provence" which, with transit through the Suez Canal, disembarked the letter in Singapore on 22 December 1874. Only 2 letters recorded to Singapore before 1879.



1 September 1873. Single rate letter from Rome to Sydney (New Wales of South), prepaid 70 centesimi to destination. The letter carried via Brindisi, was on 8 September put on board on the P&O packet "MALTA" and it was disembarked in Alexandria of Egypt. Crossed the isthmus, the letter was carried by the P&O packet "HINDOSTAN" to Galle (Ceylon) where it was transferred to the P&O packet "BARODA" that disembarked the letter in Sidney on 23 October, as confirmed by the delivery datestamp struck on the reverse.

6th Chapter : Mail to the North American Countries

Up to 1 April 1868, when the direct Italian - American Convention became effective, rates of letters prepaid to destination in the U.S.A. were determined by the French mediation in 1,20 Lire for each 7,5 grams. Letters were disembarked in the U.S.A. ports (New York, Boston, or Portland) from the British packets of the Cunard Line sailing from Liverpool or by the American packets sailing from Liverpool or Southampton (indirect service). Letters could be also carried by the American packets from the French port of Le Havre (direct service).



United States of America

The direct Italian - American Convention, effective from 1 April 1868, established a letter rate of 80 centesimi for each 7,5 grams. Letters were carried in closed mail directly to the port of embarkation in UK on an American or on a British packet to be disembarked in an American port.



3 October 1863. Single rate letter from Turin to U.S.A., prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination. The letter was carried to Paris through the Mont Cenis and arrived in Paris on 5 October and received the handstamp "ITALIE/5 LANSLEBOURG 5". The letter continued in closed mail to Liverpool and on 7 October was placed on board the Steamer "CITY OF NEW YORK" of the Inman Line under American contract, that disembarked in New York on 19 October. The letter bears the notation of the 9 cents credited by France to the U.S.A., 3 cents USA inland, 6 cents for carriage by an American packet from a British port.



28 June 1866. Double rate letter from Palermo to New York (U.S.A), prepaid 2,40 Lire to destination. The letter was carried in the open mail to Paris where it was put in the closed bag that in Liverpool was embarked on the American packet "EDINBURGH" of the Inman Lines. Disembarked in New York on 19 July, as confirmed the hardly readable red datestamp that confirmed the carriage by an American packet. On the cover the red indication of 18 cents credited by France in case of carriage by an American packet from a British port : 6 cents (2x3 cents) American inland rate, 12 cents (2x6 cents) for transatlantic carriage (indirect service).



1 June 1868. Single rate letter from Florence to New York (U.S.A.), prepaid 80 centesimi to destination. The letter transited Turin, where was prepared the closed mail bag, that, after crossing France, was embarked in Liverpool on the British packet of the Cunard Line "AUSTRALIAN". The letter was disembarked in New York on 17 June.



2 March 1869. Double rate letter from Florence to New York (U.S.A.), prepaid 1,60 Lire to destination. The letter transited Milan, where was prepared the closed mail bag, that after crossing France, was embarked in Queenstown on the British packet of the Cunard Line "HECLA" that disembarked in Boston on 24 March and then carried to New York where on 25 March, the circular stamp "NEW YORK BR: TRANSIT - PAID ALL - MAR 25" was struck.

6th Chapter : Mail to the North American Countries



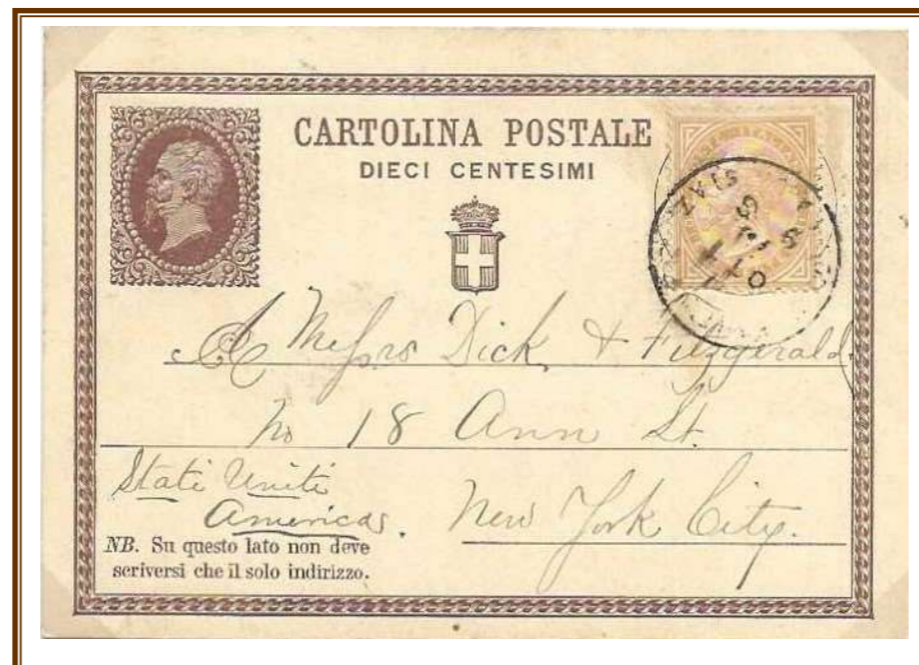
United States of America

An additional act to the Convention, effective from 15 February 1870, decreased the rate to 55 centesimi for each port of 15 grams. Letters were carried in closed mail through France, the closed mail bag was directly placed, in a British port, on board of the British or the American packets that disembarked the closed mail bag in an American port.

The United States of America joined the General Postal Union since 1 July 1875, when the rate of the letters was reduced to 40 centesimi for each 15 grams, 10 centesimi to pay the transatlantic carriage and the new rate of the postcards of 20 centesimi was introduced. The rules of application of the GPU Convention indicated that in case of insufficient franking, the country of origin should impress the "T" handstamp and should indicate in French centimes the amount of the insufficient franking. The country of destination had to charge on delivery his rate of the unpaid letters (double the prepaid letter rate, as indicated by the article 3 of the GPU Convention) decreased by the value of the insufficient franking.



27 February 1875. Single rate letter from Rome to New York (U.S.A.), prepaid 55 centesimi to destination. The letter, crossed France in a closed mail, was put on board in Liverpool on the British packet of the Cunard Line "ABYSSINIA" that disembarked the letter in New York on 20 March where the circular stamp of the American Exchange Office of New York was struck.



10 October 1875. Italian postcard of 10 centesimi from Florence to New York (U.S.A.), integrated with a 10 centesimi postage stamp to match the rate of 20 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 July 1875. The postcard carried in a closed mail through France to Liverpool was embarked on the British packet "ALGERIA" of the CUNARD LINE on 16 October and it was disembarked in New York on 29 October 1875.



30 November 1878. Single rate letter from Rome to Washington (U.S.A.), insufficiently prepaid 30 centesimi instead of the 40 centesimi required by the GPU Italian rate for letters addressed to USA. Italy impressed the "T" required by the GPU and indicated the 30 centimes of the insufficient franking, corresponding to 6 cents; the USA indicated a postage due of 4 cents (20 centesimi): 10 cents USA rates for unpaid letters corresponding to the double of the GPU rate for prepaid letters, less 6 cents corresponding to the 30 centimes indicated by Italy.



15 May 1874. Double rate letter from Piano di Sorrento to New York (U.S.A.), prepaid 1,10 Lire to destination. The letter transited Verona where the closed mail bag carried through France, was prepared. It was put on board of the British packet "ALGERIA" of the Cunard Line that disembarked the letter in New York on 7 June.



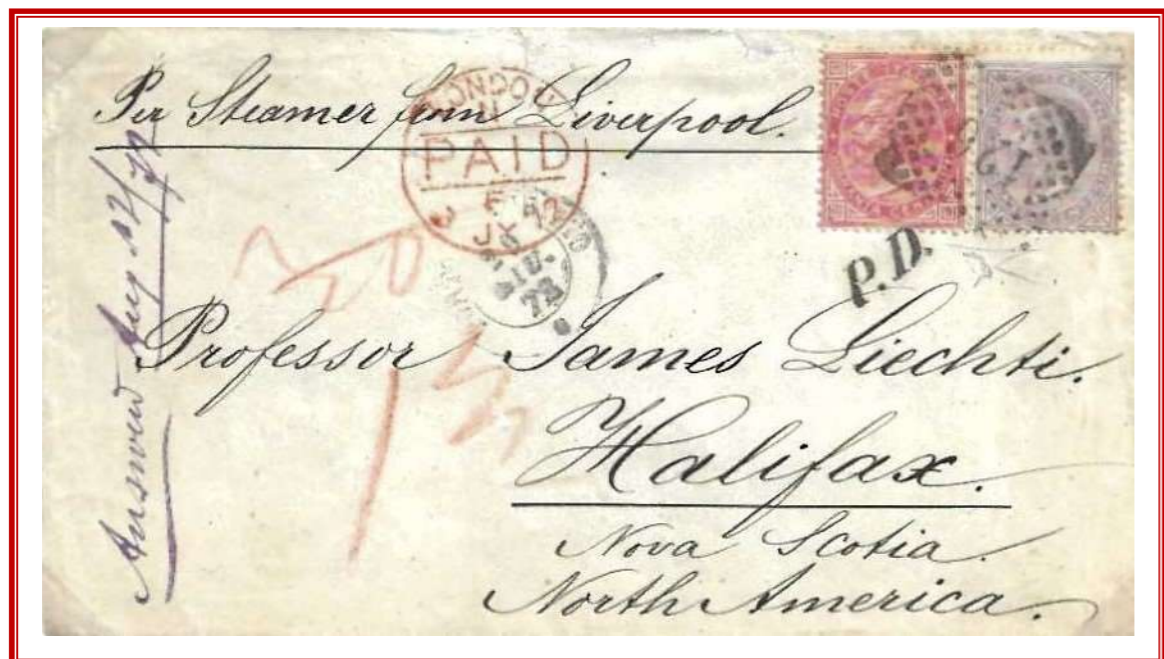
12 March 1877. Triple rate letter from Perugia to Rhode Island (U.S.A.), prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union, effective from 1 July 1875. The letter was carried in a closed mail to New York where arrived on 28 March and then forwarded to Rhode Island.

From 1 April 1872 until 30 June 1875, the rate to destination of letters sent from Italy to the British colonies of North America, hence also to Nova Scotia, with the British mediation was set at 70 centesimi for each 15 grams.

Canada joined the GPU as a member on 1 July 1878. From 1 July 1875 the letter rate to destination from Italy to Canada with the British mediation was set at 45 centesimi for each 15 grams.

**Nova Scotia
(British Colony)**

**Canada
(British Colony)**



29 June 1872. Single rate letter from Porto Maurizio to Halifax (Nova Scotia), prepaid 1 Lira to destination (over franked 30 centesimi, because the rate was changed on 1 April 1872). The letter was carried in the closed mail to London and then carried to Queenstown where was embarked on a Canadian packet of the Allan Lines to Halifax.



24 June 1877. Single rate letter from Rome to Rimouski (Quebec, Canada), and then readdressed to St. Epiphane, prepaid 45 centesimi to destination. The letter was carried in the closed mail to London and then carried to Liverpool and embarked on a Canadian packet of the Allan Lines that disembarked the letter in Quebec.

Dominican Republic was independent from Spain since 1844 and it did not join the GPU Convention. Until 31 December 1870, letters could be prepaid to destination from Italy to the British post office of St. Domingo with 1.50 lire for each 15 grams.

Dominican Republic



28 October 1864. Single rate letter from Zoagli (Genoa) to St. Domingo, prepaid 1,50 Lire to destination, as required by the British mediation. The letter, carried in closed mail through France, was embarked on 2 November on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "SEINE" in Southampton and it was disembarked in St. Thomas, on 16 November. In the same day the letter was embarked on the RMSP Company packet "CONWAY" and it was disembarked in St. Domingo on 19 November. The cover bears indication of 1,20 Lire credited to UK by the Italian Postal Administration, no indication of the amount charged on delivery on the cover.



25 March 1865. Single rate letter from Zoagli (Genoa) to St. Domingo, prepaid 1,50 Lire to destination, as required by the British mediation. The letter, carried in closed mail through France, was embarked on 3 April on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "TASMANIAN" in Southampton and it was disembarked in St. Thomas, on 16 April. In the following day the letter was embarked on the RMSP Company packet "TRENT" and it was disembarked in St. Domingo on 19 April. The cover bears indication of 1,20 Lire credited to UK by the Italian Postal Administration, no indication of the amount charged on delivery on the cover.

7th Chapter : Mail to the Central American Countries



Mexico

The rate of letters sent with the British mediation from Italy, prepaid to the port of disembarkation in Mexico, was 1.60 Lire for each 15 grams, as established by the additional articles of 1871 to the Anglo-Sardinian Convention effective from 1858, reduced to 1,40 Lire from 1 July 1875. Registered letters to Mexico could be sent with the English mediation from 1 March 1871, the fixed registration fee was established in 1 Lira. Transit in closed mail through France.

The Franco-Italian Convention indicated in 1 Lira for each 7,5 grams, the letter rate prepaid to the port of disembarkation in Mexico, increased from 1 January 1876 to the rate of 1,10 Lire for each 15 grams of weight. Mexico did not join in the General Postal Union, but only the Universal Postal Union on 1 April 1879, up to that date the Franco-Italian Convention indicated a rate of 1,10 Lire, that included a "prix de livraison" (80 centesimi) to be credited to France for the cost of the transatlantic carriage.



31 May 1875. Single rate registered letter from Rome to Mexico City (Mexico), prepaid 2,60 Lire to the port of disembarkation in Mexico and charged 25 centavos on delivery (domestic Mexican's rate). The letter carried in closed mail through France, transited from London and then was embarked in Southampton on 2 June on the RMSP Company packet "NILE" and it was disembarked in St. Thomas on 16 June. On 18 June the letter was placed on board on the RMSP "EBRO" and it was disembarked in Vera Cruz on 28 June.



5 December 1878. Single rate letter from Genoa to Vera Cruz (Mexico), prepaid 1,40 Lire to the port of disembarkation in Vera Cruz. The letter carried in closed mail through France, with transit London, was embarked in Southampton on 17 December, on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "MEDWAY" that on 2 January 1879 disembarked the letter in St. Thomas. On 18 January the letter was placed on board on the RMSP Company packet "SOLENT" and it was disembarked in Vera Cruz on 28 January 1879.



9 June 1875. Single rate letter from Florence to Mexico City, re-addressed to Oaxaca (Mexico), prepaid 1,60 Lire to the port of disembarkation in Mexico and charged 25 centavos on delivery (domestic Mexican's rate). The letter carried in closed mail through France, with transit London, was embarked in Southampton on 17 June, on the RMSP Company packet "TASMANIAN" that disembarked the letter in St. Thomas. On 16 July the letter was placed on board on the RMSP "CORSICA" and it was disembarked in Vera Cruz on 28 July.



17 June 1875. Single rate letter from Genoa to Vera Cruz (Mexico), prepaid 1 Lira to the port of disembarkation. The letter was, on 20 June in Saint Nazaire, embarked on the French packet "VILLE DE BREST" of the "B" Line and it was disembarked in Vera Cruz on 20 July.

17 March 1879. Single rate letter from Voltri (Genoa) to Vera Cruz (Mexico), prepaid 1,10 Lire to the port of disembarkation. The letter was embarked in Saint Nazaire on 21 March on the French packet "VILLE DE ST. NAZAIRE" of the "B" Line and it was disembarked in Vera Cruz on 18 April. The covers bears indication of the 80 centesimi of the "prix de livraison" credited to France.



7th Chapter : Mail to the Central American Countries



Mail to Trinidad, British colony until 1962, was mainly exchanged with the British mediation at the rate of 1,50 Lire for each port of 7,5 grams, and with the French mediation at the rate of 1 Lira for each port of 7,5 grams.

The Mail with Guatemala were exchanged with the English and French mediation. When France joined the GPU on 1 January 1876, the rate from Italy with the French mediation to the port of disembarkation in Guatemala, was determined in 1.10 lire for each 15 grams.

Trinidad (British Colony)

Guatemala



12 February 1869. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Trinidad, prepaid 1,50 Lire to destination. The letter, after crossing France in closed mail, on 17 February was embarked on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "ATRATO" in Southampton, that disembarked the letter in Trinidad on 8 March. The cover bears indication of the 1,20 Lire credited to UK by the Italian Postal Administration and the UK credit of 1 penny to Trinidad. Only 3 letters recorded to Trinidad before 1879.



27 May 1876. Front of single rate letter (up to 15 gr.) from Rome for the Guatemala, prepaid 1,10 Lire to the port of disembarkation and charged 4 reales on delivery as required for the letter of the weight between 4 and 8 adarmes (from 7.2 to 14.4 grams). The letter was carried via France to London. The letter was embarked on 2 June on the British packet "NILE" of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in Southampton that disembarked the letter in Kingston (Jamaica) on June 16 June. The letter then was embarked, on 25 June, on the British packet "BELIZE" of the RMS Company that disembarked the letter in Belize (British Honduras) on 30 June. The letter was then carried overland to Guatemala. The only recorded letter to Guatemala before 1879.

Jamaica (British Colony)

St. Thomas (Danish Colony)

Mail to Jamaica, British colony until 1962, were mainly exchanged with the French mediation and the British mediation at the rate of 1,60 Lire for each 15 grams of weight, effective from 1 January 1871.

The Mail to St. Thomas were mainly carried with the English or the French mediation at a letter rate of 1 Lira for each 7,5 grams of weight.



18 January 1872. Single rate letter from San Remo to St. Thomas (Jamaica), prepaid 70 centesimi. The letter was considered fully paid to destination by the British Postal Administration that in London struck the handstamp "LONDON / PAID /", as required by the old rate in effect up to 31 December 1870. The letter, after crossing France in closed mail, on 2 February was embarked on the British packet "ELBE" of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in Southampton, that disembarked the letter in Kingston on 20 February. The letter was then carried to St. Thomas. The cover bears indication of 1 penny, credited by UK to the Jamaica Postal Administration. Only 3 letters recorded to Jamaica before 1879.



2 December 1866. Single rate letter from Varignano, near La Spezia to St. Thomas (Danish West Indies), prepaid 1 Lira to the port of disembarkation. The letter, after the La Spezia and Genova transit, was carried to France through the Mont Cenis and it arrived in Paris on 5 December, where the datestamp "ITALIE / 5 LANSLEBOURG 5" was struck. The letter was carried to St. Nazaire where it was embarked on 16 December, on the French packet "IMP.EUGENIE" of the "B" Line to Vera Cruz, that disembarked the letter in St. Thomas on 1 January 1867.

7th Chapter : Mail to the Central American Countries



Letters to Cuba were rated with French mediation at the rate of 1 Lira for each part of 7,5 grams or with English mediation at the rate of 1,60 Lire for each part of 15 grams.
Cuba joined the General Postal Union from 1 May 1877.

Cuba (Spanish Colony)



25 January 1865. Single rate letter from Savona to Trinidad de Cuba, prepaid 1 Lira to the port of disembarkation, charged 2 reales on delivery as indicated of the handstamp "NE2" (Northern Europe 2 reales).
The letter after the Paris and London transit, was embarked on 2 February on the British packet "TASMANIAN" of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in Southampton and it was disembarked in St. Thomas on 17 February, in the same day it was embarked on the RMSP Company packet "EIDER" that disembarked the letter in Havana on 24 February. On the reverse the transit handstamp of Havana and the delivery datestamp of Trinidad de Cuba struck on 25 February.



11 September 1867. Double rate letter from Genoa to Havana (Cuba), prepaid 2 Lire to the port of disembarkation in Havana, charged 2 reales on delivery (handstamp "NE2" Northern Europe 2 reales).
The letter was carried via Mont Cenis to Paris and then carried to Saint Nazaire where on 16 September it was embarked on the French packet "LOUISIANE" (handstamp LIGNE B*/PAQ FR *N°3) struck by the agent aboard the packet.

Puerto Rico (Spanish Colony)

Mail to Puerto Rico, Spanish colony, were mainly exchanged with the French mediation at the rate of 1 Lira for each 7,5 grams of weight and only later with the British and Spanish mediation.



1 November 1868. Single rate letter from Rivello (Potenza) to Mayaguez (Puerto Rico), prepaid 1 Lira to the port of disembarkation. The 60 centesimi postage stamp was removed, but later it was replaced in the original position. The letter was carried via Mont Cenis and Paris to London.
The letter was embarked on 17 November on the British packet "DOURO" of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company that disembarked the letter in St. Thomas on 1 December.
The letter, carried to San Juan, was charged 10 centavos on delivery.



26 February 1865. Front of double rate letter from Savona to Trinidad de Cuba, prepaid 2 Lire to the port of disembarkation, charged 4 reales on delivery for double rate letter.
The letter after the Paris and London transit, was embarked on 28 February on the British packet "LA PLATA" of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in Southampton and it was disembarked in St. Thomas on 17 March and the same day it was embarked on the RMSP Company packet "SOLENT" that disembarked in Havana on 23 March.

7th Chapter : Mail to the Central American Countries



Venezuela

Letters originating in Italy could be prepaid to the port of disembarkation in Venezuela at a rate of 1 lira for each 7.5 grams, in accordance with the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention effective from 1861.

After the entrance of France in the GPU Convention on 1 January 1876, the rate of letters originating in Italy addressed to the Countries outside GPU via France, then also to Venezuela, was set at 1.10 lire for each 15 grams: 30 centesimi for to Italy and 80 centesimi the cost of the transatlantic carriage due to France (prix de livraison).



2 February 1871. Single rate letter from Genoa to La Guayra (Venezuela), prepaid 1 Lira to the port of disembarkation. The letter was carried through the Mont Cenis to Paris, as confirmed by the handstamp "ITALIE/AMB.M.-CENIS A" where it arrived on 5 February. The letter was carried to St. Nazaire and on 16 February it was embarked on the French packet "VILLE DE ST. NAZAIRE" of "B" Line, that disembarked the letter in Forte de France on 2 March. Subsequently embarked on the French packet "CACIQUE" the letter arrived in La Guayra on 6 March 1871.



30 July 1876. Single rate letter from Como to La Guayra (Venezuela), prepaid 1,10 Lire to the port of disembarkation. The letter was carried through the Mont Cenis to Paris, as confirmed by the handstamp "ITALIE/AMB.M.-CENIS A". The letter was carried to St. Nazaire and on 7 August it was embarked on the French packet "VILLE DE PARIS" of "A" Line, that disembarked the letter in La Guayra on 20 August 1876.

Until 30 December 1870 the rate from Italy to the port of disembarkation of Venezuela with the British mediation and carriage in closed mail through France, was 1.50 lire for each 7.5 grams; from 1 January 1871 the rate was increased to 1.60 lire for each 15 grams.

5 January 1871. Single rate letter from Como to La Guayra (Venezuela), prepaid 1,50 Lire to the port of disembarkation, 1,20 Lire was credited to the English postal administration.

From 1 January 1871, the rate was increased to 1,60 Lire, but the underpayment was not acknowledged by the Italian postal administration. The letter, transited in closed mail through France and was considered prepaid to destination by the English Postal Administration that in London, on 9 June, struck the handstamp "LONDON/PAID".

The letter was embarked on 17 January on the RMSP Company packet "NEVA" and it was disembarked in St. Thomas on 1 February. The letter was then carried to La Guayra with a non-contract ship.



8th Chapter : Mail to the South American Countries



Argentina

Letters originating in Italy could be prepaid to the port of disembarkation in Argentina at a rate of 1 lira for each 7.5 grams, in accordance to the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention effective from 1861. In Buenos Ayres letters were charged 1 paper peso worth 5 centavos of "peso fuerte" (25 centesimi) for each ¼ onza (7.1 grams); letters weighing up to ¼ onza did not carry indication of the 1 paper peso charged on delivery.

After the entrance of France in the GPU Convention on 1 January 1876, the rate of letters originating in Italy addressed to the American countries of the Atlantic coast outside GPU via France, then also to Argentina, was set at 1.10 lire for each 15 grams: 30 centesimi as required by the article 11 of GPU Convention for letters addressed to non-members countries, 80 centesimi the cost of the transatlantic carriage (prix de livraison) due to France.



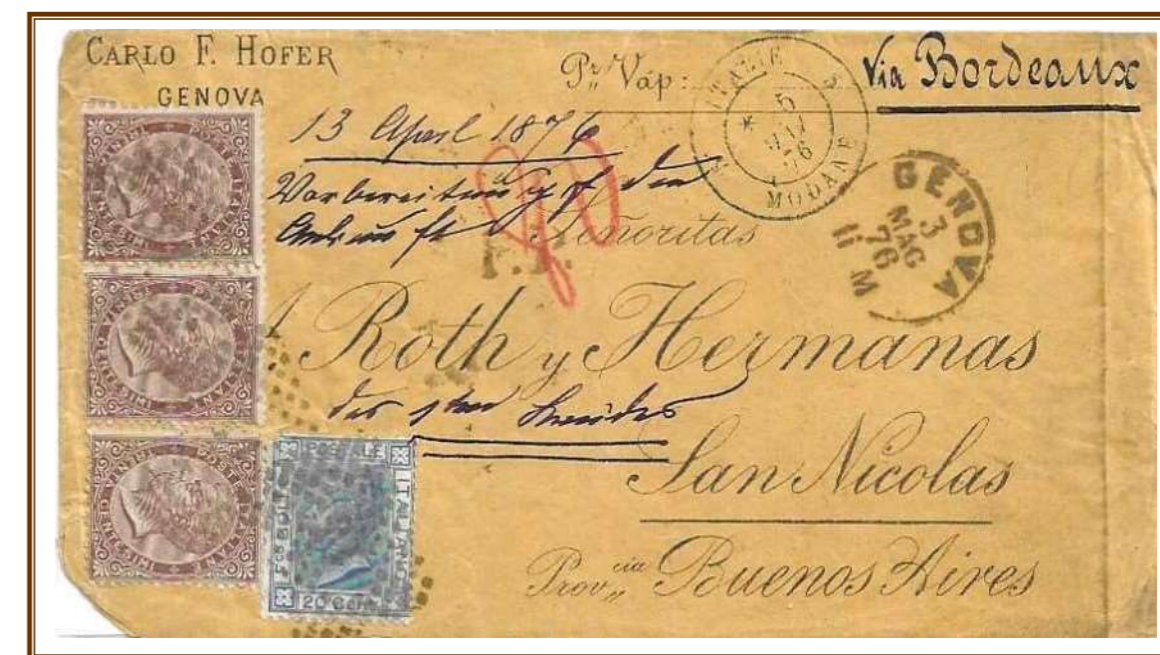
5 August 1863. Double rate letter from Genoa to Buenos Aires (Argentina), prepaid 2 Lire to the port of disembarkation. The letter, carried via Mont Cenis, with transit London and Paris, was on 10 August, placed on board in Southampton on the RMSP Company packet "PARANA" that disembarked in Buenos Aires on 12 September.



6 February 1868. Triple rate letter from Genoa to Buenos Aires (Argentina), prepaid 3 Lire to the port of disembarkation of Buenos Aires. The letter was carried via Mont Cenis to Southampton and then on 10 February placed on board on the British RMSP packet "ONEIDA" that disembarked in Buenos Aires on 16 March, charged 5 centavos on delivery.



22 June 1864. Four times letter from Genoa to Buenos Aires (Argentina), prepaid 4 Lire to the port of disembarkation of Buenos Aires, charged 40 centavos on delivery. The letter was carried via Mont Cenis to Bordeaux and then placed on board on the French packet "NAVARE" that disembarked the letter in Rio de Janeiro on 24 July. The letter then was embarked on the packet "SAINTONGE" that disembarked it in Buenos Aires on 15 August.



3 May 1876. Single rate letter from Genoa to San Nicolas (Argentina), prepaid 1,10 Lire to the port of disembarkation of Buenos Aires. On the cover indication of the 80 centesimi of the "prix de livraison" due to France. The letter was carried via France as confirmed to the handstamp "5 ITALIE 5/MODANE" struck in Modane on 5 May. The letter was, in Bordeaux, placed on board of the French packet "NIGER" and it was disembarked in Buenos Aires on 30 May.

8th Chapter : Mail to the South American Countries

Until 30 December 1870 the rate from Italy to the port of disembarkation of Argentina, with the British mediation and carriage in closed mail through France, was 1.50 lire for each 7.5 grams; from 1 January 1871 the rate was increased to 1.60 lire for each 15 grams. The British-Sardinian (Italian) convention allowed the prepayment to the port of disembarkation of printed matter at a rate of 15 centesimi for each ounce.



Argentina

From 1874 also the Italian packets of Lavarello Company activated a regular periodic service between Italy and the Plata countries. From 1875 a new rate of 70 centesimi for letters sent by Lavarello was established, the rate was reduced from 12 April 1876 to 50 centesimi, it was effective up to 15 March 1878 for each port of 15 grams.



5 June 1875. Single rate letter from Rome to Buenos Aires (Argentina), prepaid 1,60 Lire to the port of disembarkation of Buenos Aires, 1,20 centesimi was credited to UK, 10 centavos charged on delivery. The letter, carried in closed mail to London, was placed on board to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "BOYNE" in Southampton that disembarked the letter in Buenos Aires on 9 July.

This was the last trip of the "BOYNE". Departed for the return from Buenos Aires on 15 July, during the trip, on 13 August, was wrecked on a reef near the French island of Quessant due to the dense fog.



10 February 1875. Single rate letter from Genoa to Rosario di Santa Fè (Argentina), prepaid 70 centesimi to the port of disembarkation of Buenos Aires. The letter was embarked in Genoa on the packet "EUROPA" of the Lavarello Company, that disembarked the letter in Buenos Aires on 12 March and then delivery in Rosario de Santa Fè on 15 March.

Only 2 letters recorded carried to Argentina by the "Lavarello" Company at the 70 centesimi rate.

2 October 1865. Single rate printed matter from S. Margherita Ligure to Buenos Aires (Argentina), prepaid 15 centesimi to the port of disembarkation. The printed matter, with transit Genoa, was carried to London where it arrived on 5 October. In Southampton, on 9 October, the letter was placed on board on the English packet "RHONE" and it was disembarked in Buenos Aires on 13 November.



30 September 1876. Single rate letter from Genoa to Buenos Aires (Argentina), prepaid 50 centesimi to the port of disembarkation of Buenos Aires. The letter was embarked in Genoa on the packet "NORD AMERICA" of the Lavarello Company, that disembarked the letter in Buenos Aires on 28 October 1876. Only 3 letters recorded carried to Argentina by the "Lavarello" Company at the 50 centesimi rate.

8th Chapter : Mail to the South American Countries



From 1 May 1865 was in effect the first Italo-Brazilian Convention and the single rate rate was established in 1,20 Lire for each 7,5 grams of weight. Mail to Brazil were mainly carried with the British packet. Brazil joined the General Postal Union from 1 July 1877.

Brazil



5 July 1873. Single rate letter from La Spezia to Pelotas (Brazil), prepaid 1,20 Lire to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail to Brazil through England and on 9 July in Southampton was placed on board on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "DOURO" that disembarked the letter in Rio de Janeiro on 31 July. The letter then was carried to Pelotas, in the region of Rio Grande do Sul.

Equator

The letters to Equator were mainly carried with the English mediation by the British packets of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company at the rate of 2,20 Lire for each 15 grams of weight (2,10 Lire from 1st July 1875 and 2 Lire from the 1st of January, when the France joined in the GPU), and with the French mediation at the rate of 1,40 Lire for each 7,5 grams of weight. After the rail transit Colon-Panama the mail to the South American Pacific coast was mainly carried by the British packet of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company.

2 October 1875. Single rate letter from Rome to Quito (Equator), prepaid 2,10 Lire to the port of disembarkation with the indication of the 1,80 Lire due to UK for the transatlantic carriage. The letter was sent in closed mail to London where on 18 October in Southampton it was placed on board of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "NILE" and disembarked in Colon on 10 November. After the railway transit of Panama, the letter was embarked on a "Pacific Steam Navigation Company" packet to Guayaquil and then it was carried to Quito. Only 3 letters recorded to Equator before 1879.



4 July 1876. Single rate letter from Milan to Cuyabá (Brazil), prepaid 1,10 Lire to destination. The letter was carried in closed mail to Brazil through England and on 10 July it was placed on board in Southampton on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "DOURO" that disembarked the letter in Rio de Janeiro on 1 August and then it reached Cuyabá.



30 December 1877. Single rate letter from Camajore (Lucca) to Bage (Brazil), prepaid 60 centesimi to destination, in accordance with the rate introduced by the General Postal Union from 1 July 1877. The letter, after the transit of Genoa on 31 December, was carried in a closed mail through England to Southampton, where on 9 January was embarked on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "NEVA" that disembarked it in Rio de Janeiro on 30 January 1878 and then carried to Bage.

8th Chapter : Mail to the South American Countries



Chile

Letters from Italy could be prepaid to the port of disembarkation of Valparaiso in accordance with the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention effective from 1861, which indicated a rate of 1.40 Lire for each 7.5 grams. Letters could be carried to Colon either by the British or by the French packets; crossed the isthmus letters were carried from Panama by the British packets of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (PSN) to the port of disembarkation of Valparaiso.

Chile did not join the GPU Convention therefore it was treated as the countries outside GPU. Until 30 June 1875 letters from Italy, carried with the British mediation in closed mail through France, required a prepaid rate to the port of disembarkation of Valparaiso of 2.20 Lire for each 15 grams, and bore on the cover indication of the 1.80 Lire due to UK for each 15 grams. From 1 January 1876 the rate was reduced to 2 Lire: 30 centesimi to Italy, 1.70 Lire to the UK.



11 February 1864. Single rate letter from Savona to Santiago de Chile, prepaid 1,40 Lire to the port of disembarkation, as indicated by the Franco-Sardinian Convention in effect since 1 January 1861, and charged 15 centavos on delivery, as indicated by a red handstamp, struck in the port of disembarkation. The letter was carried via Mont Cenis and on 17 February in Southampton was placed on board of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "ATRATO" that disembarked it in St. Thomas. The letter then was embarked on 3 March on the English packet "TAMAR" and it was disembarked in Colon on 8 March. After the railway transit to Panama, on 9 March, the letter was embarked on a "Pacific Steam Navigation Company" packet, and it was disembarked in Valparaiso. From Valparaiso the letter was carried to Santiago de Chile.



26 March 1867. Single rate letter from Genoa to Valparaiso (Chile), prepaid 1,40 Lire to the port of disembarkation, as indicated by the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention in effect from 1 January 1861. The letter, carried in the open mail through France, transited London on 29 March and it was embarked in Southampton on 2 April on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company packet "TASMANIAN" that disembarked the letter in St. Thomas on 15 April, where on 17 April it was embarked on the British packet "TAMAR" that disembarked the letter in Colon on 21 April. After the railway transit to Panama on 22 April, the letter was embarked on a "Pacific Steam Navigation Company" packet that disembarked the letter in Valparaiso.



12 April 1875. Single rate letter from Rome to Santiago de Chile, prepaid 2,20 Lire to the port of disembarkation in Valparaiso, charged 10 centavos on delivery in Santiago de Chile, 1,80 Lire credited to UK. The letter was carried in closed mail to London and on 17 April it was placed on board of the RMSP Company "ELBE" that disembarked the letter in Colon on 9 May. After the railway transit to Panama, the letter was embarked on a Pacific Steam Navigation Company packet and it was disembarked in Valparaiso on 29 May and then carried to Santiago de Chile.

8th Chapter : Mail to the South American Countries

Letters from Italy could be prepaid to the port of disembarkation of Callao in accordance to the Franco - Sardinian (Italian) convention effective from 1861 that indicated a rate of 1.40 lire for each 7.5 grams. Letters could be carried to Colon either by the British or by the French packets; crossed the isthmus they were carried from Panama by the British packets of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (PSN) to the port of disembarkation of Callao.



Peru



12 June 1863. Single rate letter from Genoa to Callao de Lima (Peru), prepaid 1,40 Lire to the port of disembarkation. The letter was carried to Paris where on 15 June the handstamp "ITALIE/5 LANSLEBOURG 5" was struck. Carried to Southampton on 17 June, it was placed on board on the RMSP Company packet "TASMANIAN" that disembarked the letter in St. Thomas on 1 July where it was embarked on the English packet "CLYDE" that disembarked in Colon on 8 July. After the railway transit to Panama the letter was embarked on a "PSN Company" packet that disembarked in Callao on 17 July.

The French packets of the Line F of the "Compagnie Général Transatlantique" that connected Panama to Valparaiso (Chile) operated from January 1872 to February 1874. Before and after that date the mail was carried to the ports of the Pacific coast of South America by the British packet of the "Pacific Steam Navigation Company".



28 May 1872. Single rate letter from S. Pier d'Arena (Genoa) to Lima (Peru), prepaid 1,40 Lire to the port of disembarkation, as required by the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention effective from 1 January 1861 and extended to the Kingdom of Italy. The letter, carried in the open mail, reached Paris (travelling railway datestamp Lyon-Paris on the reverse) where the closed bag embarked on 7 June in St. Nazaire on the French packet "Guadalupe" was prepared. The letter disembarked on 1 July in Colon, crossed the isthmus and in Panama it was embarked on the French packet "VILLE DE BREST" that disembarked the letter in Callao (Peru) to be delivered in Lima, the indication of the 1 dinero charged on delivery is missing.

From 1 January 1871 until 30 June 1875, letters from Italy to Peru, carried with the British mediation in closed mail through France, required a prepaid rate to the port of disembarkation of Callao of 2.20 lire for each 15 grams and bore on the cover indication of the 1.80 lire for each 15 grams credited by Italy to the UK. On 1 July 1875 the rate of letters carried with the British mediation from Italy, in closed mail through France, was set at 2,10 lire for each 15 grams; and 2 Lire from the 1st of January, when the France joined in the GPU and the amount to be credited by Italy to the UK was set at 1.70 Lire.



12 August 1873. Single rate letter from Genoa to Callao (Peru), prepaid 2,20 Lire to the port of disembarkation, 1,80 Lire was credited to UK. The letter was carried in closed mail to London where it arrived on 15 August and subsequently in Southampton, on 18 August, the letter was embarked on the RMSP Company packet "ELBE" and it was disembarked in Colon on 9 September. After the railway transit Colon-Panama the letter was embarked on a "Pacific Steam Navigation Company" packet that disembarked in Callao on 17 September.



27 February 1876. Single rate letter from Genoa to Callao (Peru), prepaid 2 Lire to the port of disembarkation, 1,70 Lire was credited to UK. The letter was carried in closed mail to London where the mail bag was opened on 29 February. The letter in Southampton on 2 March was placed on board the RMSP Company packet "TASMANIAN" that disembarked in Colon on 24 March. After the railway transit Colon-Panama the letter was placed on board a "Pacific Steam Navigation Company" packet that disembarked the letter in Callao on 31 March.

8th Chapter : Mail to the South American Countries

Letters originating in Italy could be prepaid to the port of disembarkation in Uruguay at a rate of 1 lira for each 7.5 grams, in accordance with the Franco-Sardinian (Italian) Convention effective from 1861.



Uruguay

Until 30 December 1870 the prepaid rate from Italy to the port of disembarkation in Uruguay, with the British mediation and carriage in closed mail Through France, was 1,50 Lire for each 7.5 grams; from 1 January 1871 the rate was increased to 1,60 Lire for each 15 grams. From 1 July 1875 was reduced to 1,50 Lire and from 1 January to 1,40 Lire for each 15 grams: 30 centesimi to Italy and 1,10 lire to the UK for the transatlantic carriage.



21 August 1869. Double rate letter from Genoa to Montevideo (Uruguay), prepaid 2 Lire to the port of disembarkation. With transit Paris, the letter was in Bordeaux, on 25 August was placed on board of the French packet "ESTRAMADURE" of the Ligne "J" that disembarked the letter on 20 September in Rio de Janeiro where the letter was embarked on the French packet "AUNIS" bound for Montevideo.



16 July 1873. Single rate letter from Genoa to Montevideo (Uruguay), prepaid 1,60 Lire to the port of disembarkation and charged 10 centèsimos on delivery for the Uruguayan domestic rate. The letter, carried in closed mail through France, with transit London, was embarked in Southampton on 9 August on the RMSP Company packet "NEVA" that disembarked the letter in Montevideo on 5 September.

On 15 March 1873, a Convention was stipulated between the Italian Postal Administration and the Company Lavarello of Genoa for a monthly service between Genoa and the ports of South America. The Convention established the single letter rate at 30 centesimi for letters prepaid to the port of disembarkation. From 1875 a new rate of 70 centesimi for letters sent by Lavarello was established, the rate was reduced from 12 April 1876 to 50 centesimi, it was effective up to 15 March 1878. Uruguay did not join in the General Postal Union but joined the UPU from 1 July 1880.



31 May 1876. Single rate letter from Chiavari to Paysandù (Uruguay), prepaid 50 centesimi to the port of disembarkation and charged 10 centèsimos on delivery for the Uruguayan domestic rate.

The letter was carried to Genoa, and it was embarked on the packet "NORD AMERICA" of the Lavarello Company, that disembarked the letter in Montevideo on 26 June for delivery in Paysandu.

Only 3 letters recorded carried to Uruguay by the "Lavarello" Company at the 50 centesimi rate.



6 July 1877. Single rate letter from Bogliasco to Montevideo (Uruguay), prepaid 1,40 Lire to the port of disembarkation and charged 10 centèsimos on delivery for the Uruguayan domestic rate. The letter, carried in closed mail through France, with transit London, was embarked in Southampton on 9 July on the RMSP Company packet "NEVA" that disembarked the letter in Montevideo on 20 August.