REPUBLIC OF VENICE

LA SERENISSIMA

MOST SERENE REPUBLIC



Michèle Cartier FRPSC

Académie québécoise d'études

philatéliques

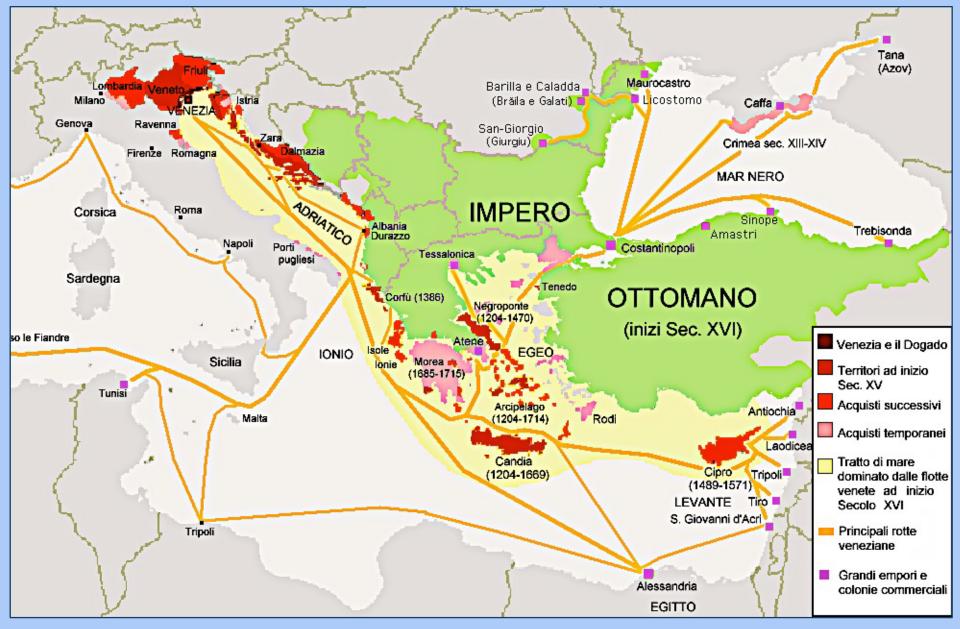
Venice: the winged lion of St Mark Vittore Carpaccio (1465 – 1526)



- 697-1797
- history of war and conquest
- Middle Ages:
 status as an
 economic and
 trading power
- XVIth c.: decline
- Venice in 1796:
 - Dogado
 - Domini di Terra Ferma
 - Stato da Màr

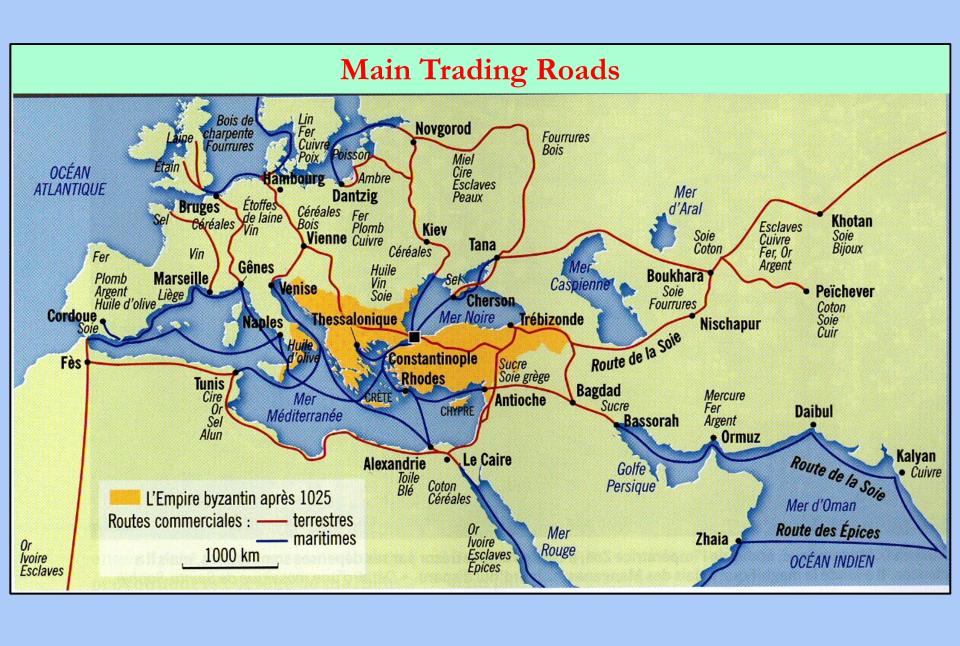






Main Venitian Trading Roads

15th-16th c.





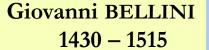
The Venetian fort of Palamidi in Nafplion, Greece, one of many forts that secured Venetian trade routes in the Eastern Mediterranean.



Nafplion Castle (Fort)

• XVIth c.: economic decline

→ BOUILLONNEMENT CULTUREL



4445

CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS







F.D.C.

Jacopo Robusti **TINTORETTO** 1518 - 1594



Albrecht DÜRER 1471 - 1528









Antonio Giovanni Canal - CANALETTO 1697 - 1768

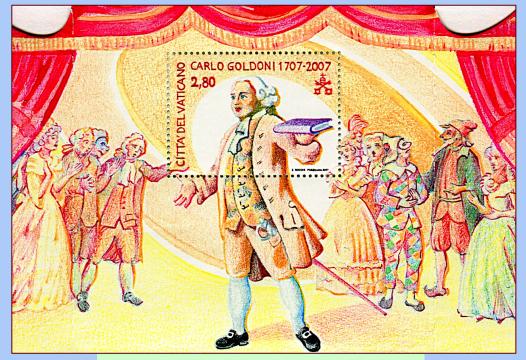




Antonio VIVALDI 1675 - 1741

Claudio MONTEVERDI 1567 - 1643

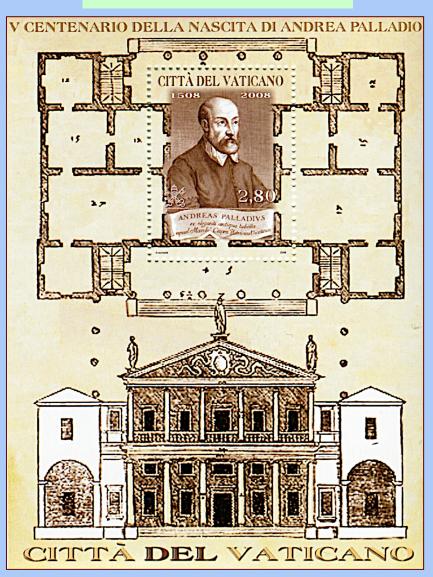




Carlo GOLDONI 1707 – 1793 playwright



Andrea di Pietro della Gondola - PALLADIO 1508 - 1580



Villa Rotonda Basilica San Giorgio Maggiore

Villa Valmarana



left: Villa Foscari - PALLADIO

right: painting of Jacopo Negretti - PALMA IL VECCIO (1480 – 1528)

Republic of Venice - The Postal System

text from the philatelic expert Paolo Vollmeier

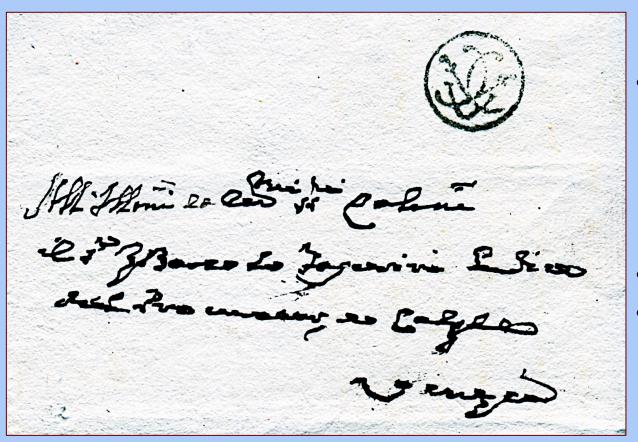
« The Republic of Venice is a most difficult territory for there are no firm rules and ordinances on which we can rely. I know no other state which issued so many proclamations and decrees.

Both the *Cavallerie* and the *Compagnia della Serenissima Signoria* interpreted the rules to suit their convenience. The state was powerless. »

« ...in the report of 1772 there was disorder, failure to follow regulations, changes of route... changes in tariff, chaos in the registers... corruption...etc...etc... »

ref. Republic of Venice. 1200-1797. Paolo Vollmeier. 2003

Republic of Venice The Postal System before the arrival of the French troups



- postmark of origin indicating that the taxes had been paid (8.1732 3.1757)
- Vincenza to Venice
- 1733

> phenomenal quantity of forgeries

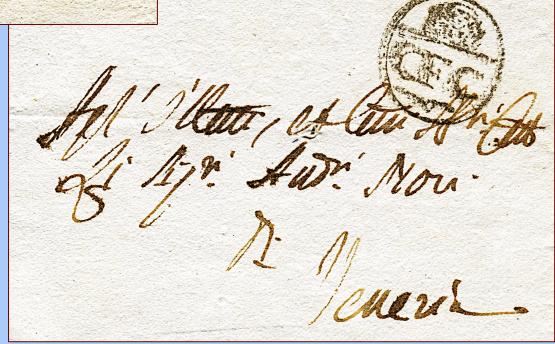
« The forgers have not only copied the marks; they have created new ones » P. Vollmeier



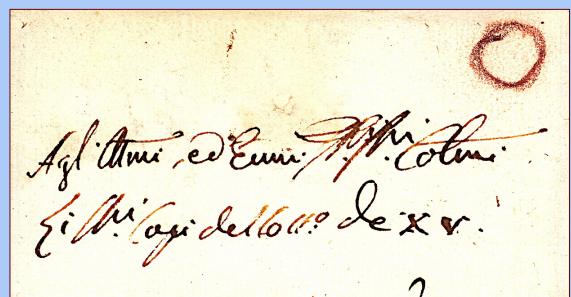
postmark of origin indicating that the taxes had been paid with the *lion of St. Mark*

- (
- Vicenza to Venice
- 1780

- Vicenza to Venice
- 1787
- CFC →Compagnia Fra Corrieri



red circle or red line indicating that the taxes had been paid; often with the manuscript *Franca*

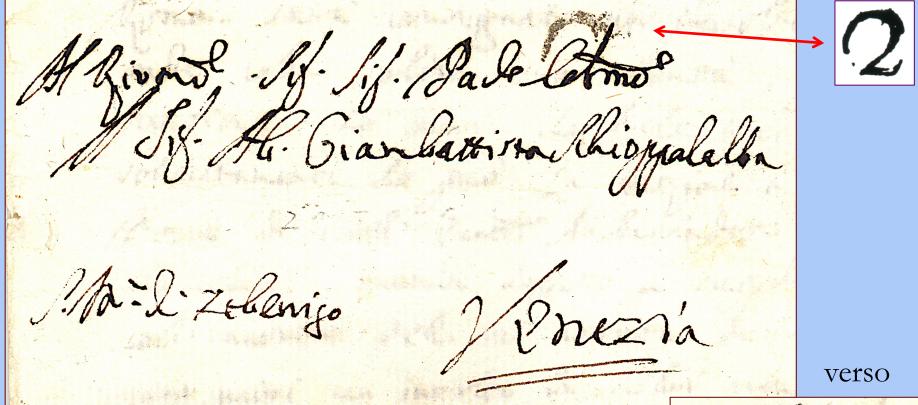




- Vincenza to Venice ↑
- 1781

 \leftarrow

- Treviso to Venice
- 1745



- Treviso to Venice
- postmark of origin TREVISO →
- 1785
- postage due 2 soldi

Trivigi ng Suf 1785



VENETIAN A-Q FOUR SOLDI LETTER SHEETS 1608 - 1797

From 1609 through 1797, the Republic of Venice required that all notaries and public agents sending letters to government agencies had to pay 4 soldi per letter.

The funds were turned over to the office of water commissioners to control tidal flooding. Accordingly, the sheets bore the letters AQ (*acque* or waters) along with the lion of St. Mark, the symbol of Venice.

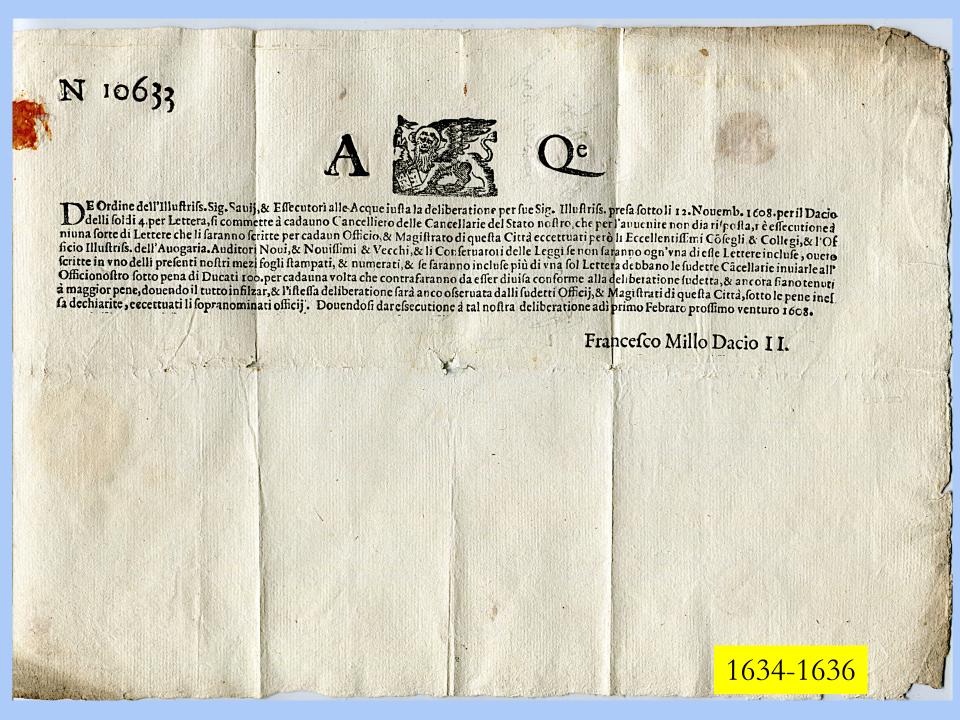
The AQ sheets could be used as a wrapper enclosing the letter, or the message could be written directly on the sheet. The AQ lettersheets are considered by many to be the world's first postal stationery.

- a type of revenue (fiscal) paper.
- semipostal in nature, due to the use of the revenue for flood relief.

Over the nearly 200 years that the AQ lettersheets were used, there were many variations

- names of the revenue officers
- imprints of the lion
- dates of validity etc...

In operation until the end of 1797, the year the Republic fell to Bonaparte's conquest

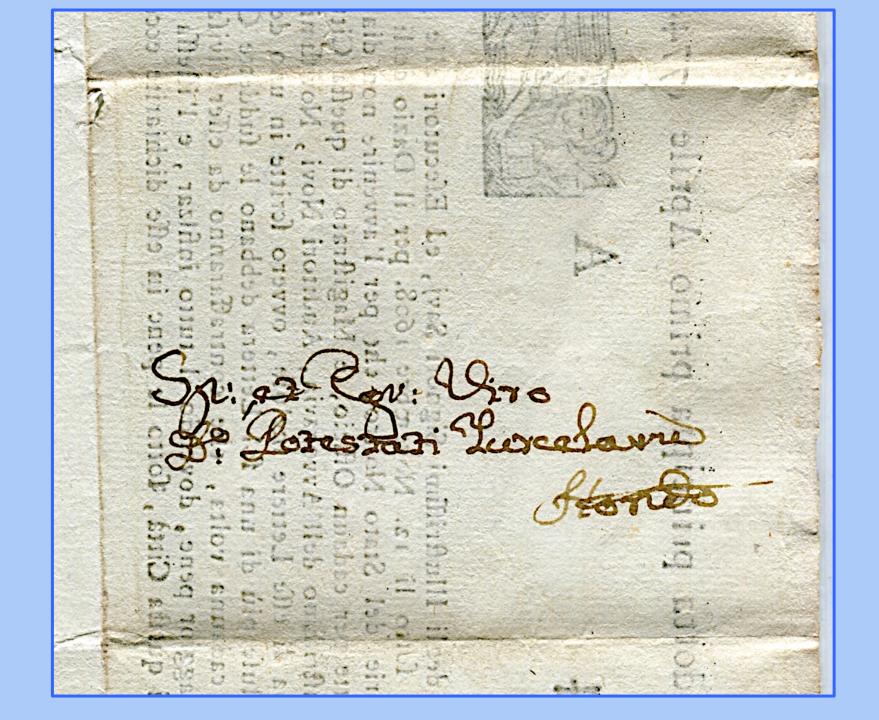




Motto of the Republic

PAX TIBI MARCE EVANGELISTA MEUS

PEACE TO YOU, MARK, MY EVANGELIST



N 1862





Qe

De ordine dell'Illustris. Sig. Sauij, & Essecutori alle Acque iusta la deliberatione per sue Sig Illustris. presa sotto si 12. Nonemb. 1608. per il Dacio delli soldi 4. per Lettera, 6 commette à cadauno Cancelliero delle Cancellarie del Stato nostro, che per l'auuenire non dia risposta, nè essecutione à niuna sorte di Lettere che li saranno scritte per cadaun Ossicio, & Magistrato di questa Città eccettuati però si Eccellentis. Consegli, e Collegi, & Possicio Illustris. dell'Auogaria, Auditori Noui, & Nouissimi, & Vecchi, & si Conservatori delle Leggi, se non saranno ogn'vna di esse Lettere incluse, ouero scrittein vno delli presenti nostri mezi sogli stampati, & numerati, & se saranno incluse più di vna sol Lettera debbano le sudette Cacellarie inuiarle all' Ossicio nostro sotto pena di Ducati 100. per cadauna volta che contrasaranno da esser divisa conforme alla deliberatione sudetta, & ancora siano tenuti à maggior pene, douendo il tutto insilzar, & l'istessa deliberatione sarà anco osservata dalli sudetti Ossicij, & Magistrati di questa Città, sotto le pene in essa dechiarite, eccettuati si sopranominati ossicij. Douendosi dar essecutione à tal nostra deliberatione adi primo Febraro prossimoventuro 1608.

Francesco Millo Dacio VI.



Condotta principia primo Aprile 1752, terminerà vltimo Marzo 1754.

Per la Serenissima Signoria.

N 82



Movembre 1608, per il Dacio delli Soldi 4, per Lettera, si commette à cadauno Cancelliero delle Cancellarie del Stato Nostro, che per l'avvenire non dia risposta, na estecutione à niunasorte di Le tere, che disaranno scritte per cadaun Officio, & Magistrato di questa Citta, ecetuati però li Eccellentis. Consegli, Colleggi, & l'Officio Illustris. dell' Avogaria, Auditori Novi, Novissimi, & Vecchi, & li Conservatori delle Leggi, se non saranno ogn'una di esse Lettere incluse, overo scritte in uno delli presenti Nostri mezi fogli stampati, & numerati, & se saranno incluse più d'una sol Lettera debbanno le sudette Cancellarie inuiarle all'Officio Nostro sotto pena di Ducati 100, per cadauna volta, che contrasaranno da esser divisa conforme alla Delberatione sudetta, & ancora siano tenuti a miggior pene, dovenso il tutto, infilzar, & l'issessa Delberatione sara anco offervata dalli sudetti Cici, & Magistrati di questa Città, sotto le pene in esse dichiarite eccetuata li sopra nominati Offici.

Condotta principia primo Aprile 1774. terminerà ultimo Marzo 1780.

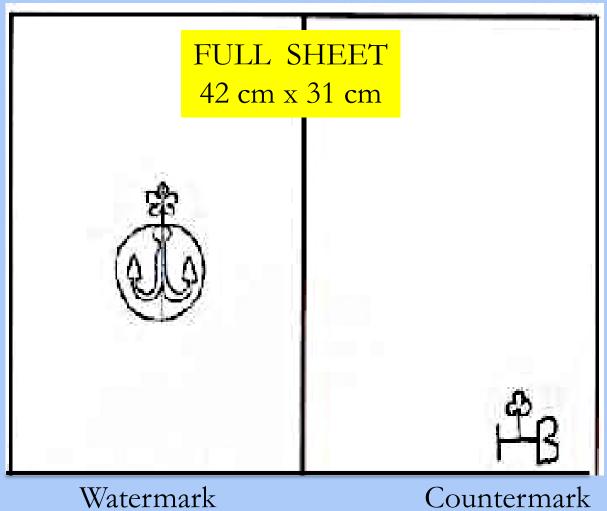
N 3854

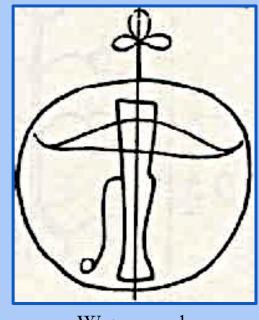
A

DE Ordine degli Illustrissimi Signori Savi, ed Esecutori alle Acque justa la Deliberazione per Sue Signorie Illustrissime presa sotto li 12. Novembre 1608, per il Dazio delli Soldi 4, per Lettera, si commette a cadaun Cancellier delle Cancellarie del Stato Nostro, che per l'avvenire non dia risposta, nè esecuzione a niuna sorte di Lettere, che li saranno scritte per cadaun Ossico, e Magistrato di questa Città, eccettuati però li Eccellentissimi Consigli, Collegi, e l'Ossico Illustrissimo dell'Avvogavia, Auditori Novi, Novissimi, e Vecchi, e li Conservatori delle Leggi, se non saranno ogni una di esse Lettere incluse, ovvero scritte in uno delli presenti Nostri mezzi sogli stampati, e numerati, e se saranno incluse più di una sci Lettera debbano le suddette Cancellarie inviarle all'Ossico Nostro sotto pena di Ducati 100, per cadauna volta, che contrastaranno da esser divisa conforme alla Deliberazione suddetta, ed ancora siano tenuri a maggior pene, dovendo il tutto infilzar, e l'istessa Deliberazione sarà anco osservata dalli suddetti Ossizi, e Magistrati di questa Città, sotto le pene in esse dichiarite eccettuata li sopra nominati Ossizi.



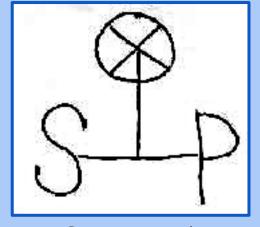
1774-1780



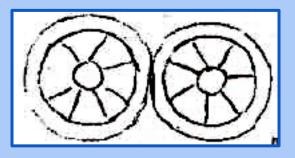


Watermark

Countermark



Countermark



Watermark





1634-1636



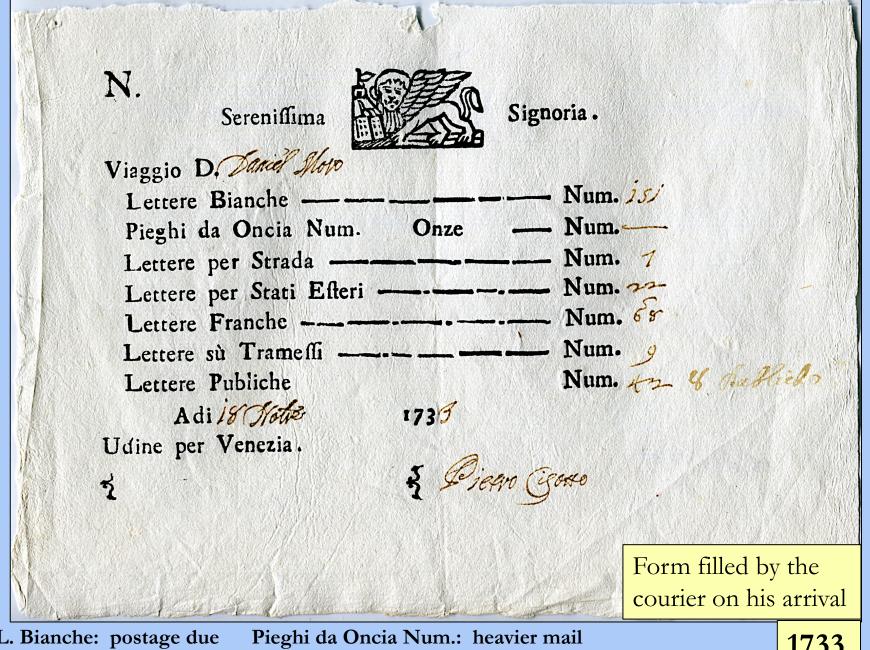
1711-1713



1641



1721-1723



L. Bianche: postage due

L. per Strada: way mail

L. Franche: franco

L. per Stati Esteri: external mail

L. sù Tramessi: with money, wares

1733

L. Publiche: official /A-Q letters

➤ 12 May 1797, the French army reaches the Republic

> end of the Republic of Venice



postage due 4 soldi





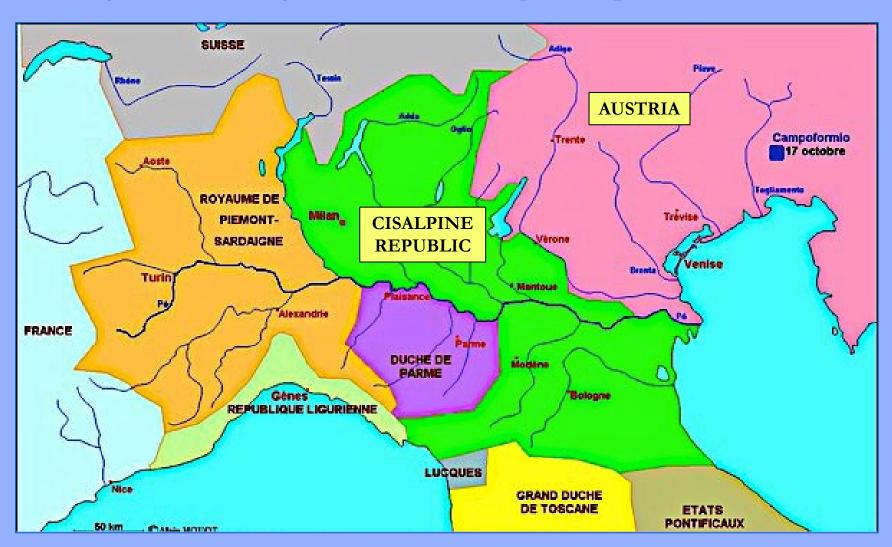
verso

postmark of origin from the *Corticelli Organization* without the « lion of St. Mark » **T F** - **Terra Ferma**

- Venice to Vicenza
- 22 June 1797

October 18 1797, Treaty of Campo-Formio between France and Austria

the Republic of Venice becomes a <u>Venitian Province of Austria</u> in exchange of the recognition of the Cisalpine Republic by Austria.



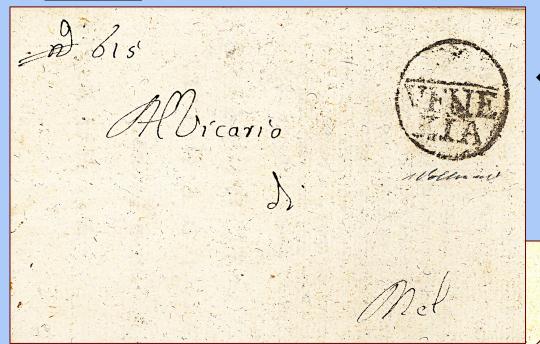
III. 6. THE TREATY OF CAMPO-FORMIO

- ➤ 18 October 1797
- the Republic of Venice becomes a <u>Venitian Province of Austria</u> in exchange of the recognition of the Cisalpine Republic by Austria.
- ➤ end of the War of the First Coalition although GB and France remained at war
- Napoléon: Campaign of Egypt 1798 Oct. 1799

 * The expedition had the intention of barring Great Britain's route to its colonies in India

➤ 18 October 1797 → The Republic of Venice → <u>Venitian Province of</u>

<u>Austria</u>



- <u>recto</u> postmark of origin
 - lion of St. Mark scratched
 - Venice to Mel
 - 1803 postage paid

- Venice to Lendinara
- 1800
- postage due 4½ soldi
- <u>verso</u> postmark of origin with *lion of St. Mark*







Eguaglianza

Il giorno 12 Frimaire Anno VI della Repubblica Francese, e Il della Libertà Italiana, il di 120 gove 1797. V.S.



- headletter celebrating the ...

 Libertà Italiana
- Austria had taken
 possession of the territory a
 month earlyer!
- Castel Baldo to Padova
- 22 November 1797
- private courier

WAR OF THE SECOND COALITION 1798 - 1802

- Napoléon: Campaign of Egypt (1798 1799)
- War led by Britain, Austria and Russia, and including the Ottoman Empire, Portugal and Naples
- ➤ the Field Marshal Alexander Suvorov was given command of the Austro-Russian army and sent to drive Napoleon's forces out of Italy.
- > the French armies were defeated

IV.1. AUSTRIAN PERIOD (29 April 1799 – 14 June 1800)

- conquest of Piedmont-Sardinia by Austro-Russian troups
- conquest of the Cisalpine Republic



Austrian Proclamation

Abrogation of the postal standards of the government of Cisalpine and return to going rate in May 1796.

PROCLAMA

n conseguenza delle dichiarazioni Sovrane pubblicate dal Commissario Imperiale in data del 6. del corrente portanti l'abrogazione di tutte le Leggi state pubblicate in tempo del passato intruso Governo, non può più sussistere nemmeno la mal intesa, e sproporzionata tariffa stata messa in corso durante il medesimo, riguardo ai diritti postali su le lettere, pacchetti, gruppi ec., nè il concomitante regolamento di posta; ma devono sottentrarvi la ragionata, e proporzionale tariffa stata pubblicata nel 1790., con i regolamenti, che vigevano al Maggio del 1796.

PROCLAMATION

➤ Back to the rate before 1796

Milano li 24. Luglio 1799.

COCASTELLI COMMISSARIO IMPERIALE

Bonelli Segretario.

Count Luigi Cocastelli (1745-1824)

Imperial Commissionner in the Duchy of Milan

- Governor of the Austro-Russian restauration

Milan July 24 1799

AUSTRIAN PERIOD 1799-1800 provisional government

> seal of the Austrian Empire

coat of arms of the Austrian lands, featuring the double-headed Imperial Eagle, Imperial Crown and Imperial Regalia





- Bologna to Medicina (Cisalpine Republic)
- 1799
- franchise official document
 Ex- Offo

> AUSTRIAN PERIOD



- Padova to Venice
- 1799
- postage <u>paid</u>3 soldi

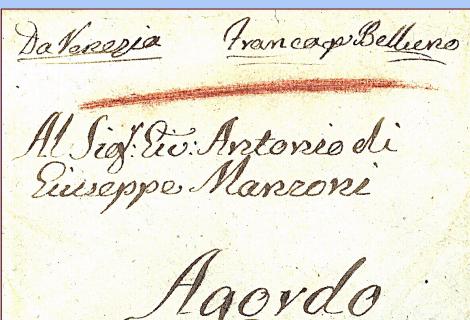


X St. Andrew's cross + • dot

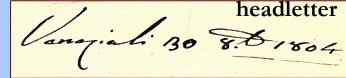
= postage paid

Padova (Venitia) to Este (Venitia)
24 May 1799
postage due 4 soldi





- Venice to Vicenza manuscript Da Venezía
- 30 October 1804
- dated reception mark in Vicenza
- postage due 4 soldi

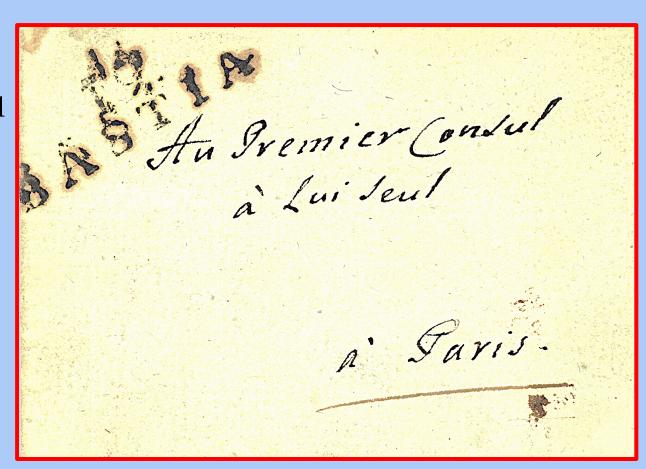


- ___.
- Venice to Agordo manuscript Da Venezía
- 30 January 1805 Franco to Belluno
- red line = postage paid in full by the addressee



IV. 2. THE RETURN OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE THE RECONQUEST

- ➤ 16 October 1799: in Paris
- Coup of 18 Brumaire Year VIII (9 November 1799)
 - end of the Directory
 - French Consulate (10 November 1799 18 May 1804)
 - « Constitution of the Year VIII »
- Napoléon -1st Consul
 - Bastia (Corsica) to Paris
 - 1799
 - addressee Napoléon
 Premier Consul



➤ 26 December 1805: following the victory of the battle of Austerlitz, the

Treaty of Pressburg gives Venetia to France along with Dalmatia and Istria.

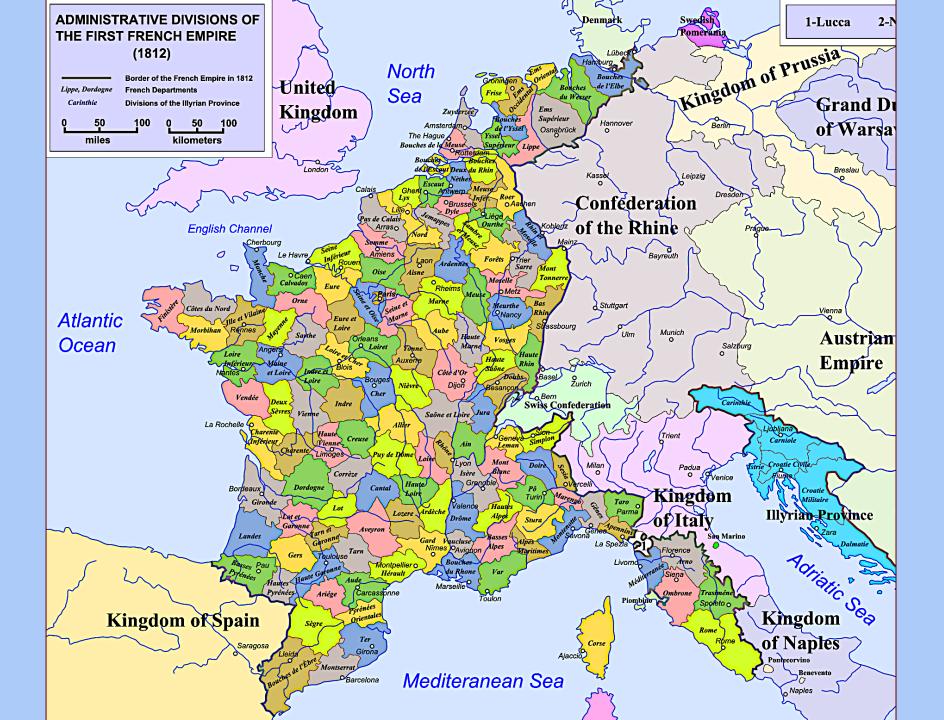
➤ Venetia incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy





The 23 departments

- 1 Département de l'Adda
- 2 Département de l'Adige
- Département de l'Adriatico
- Département de l'Agogna
- Département de l'Alto Pô-
- 6 Département du Bacchiglione
- 7 Département du Basso Pô
- 8 Département de la Brenta
- 9 Département du Crostolo
- 10 Département du Lario
- 11 Département de la Mella
- 12 Département du Mincio
- 13 Département de l'Olona
- 14 Département du Panaro
- 15 Département du Passariano
- 16 Département de la Pieve
- 17 Département du Reno
- 18 Departement du Rubicone
- 19 Département du Serio
- 20 Département du Tagliamento
- 21 Département du Metauro
- 22 Département du Musone
- 23 Département du Tronto
- . CHEF LIEU DES DEPARTEMENTS





« The taxes for letters will adjusted in be Kingdom according to the rules and prices charged in the Empire»

NAPOLEONE,

Per la grazia di Dio e per le Costituzioni, Imperatore de Francesi, Re d'Italia, Protettore della Confederazione del Reno e Mediatore della Confederazione Svizzera:

EUGENIO NAPOLEONE di Francia, Vicerè d'Italia, Principe di Venezia, Arcicancelliere di Stato dell' Impero Francese, a tutti quelli che vedranno le presenti, salute:

Visto l'art. 16 della Legge di Finanza del 19 maggio 1811, concepito come segue: » La tassa delle lettere sarà regolata nel Regno secondo le norme ed i prezzi praticati nell' Impero.» Viste le Leggi di Francia del 27 frimale anno VIII, 14 fiorile anno X, 24 aprile 1806 ed il Decreto Imperiale del 15 marzo 1810; Sopra rapporto del Ministro delle Finanze,

NOI, in virtù dell'Autorità che Ci è stata delegata dall'Altissimo ed Augustissimo Imperatore e Re NAPO-LEONE I, Nostro onoratissimo Padre e grazioso Sovrano, abbiamo decretato ed ordinato quanto segue: Art. 1. La lettera semplice o sia al di sotto del peso di sei denari del nuovo peso del Regno, corrispondente a sei grammi di Francia, pagherà in ragione delle distanze come segue:

Sino a 50 chilometri di Francia o sia 50 miglia della nuova misura del Regno lir. — 2. decimi di lira o sia 20 centesimi.

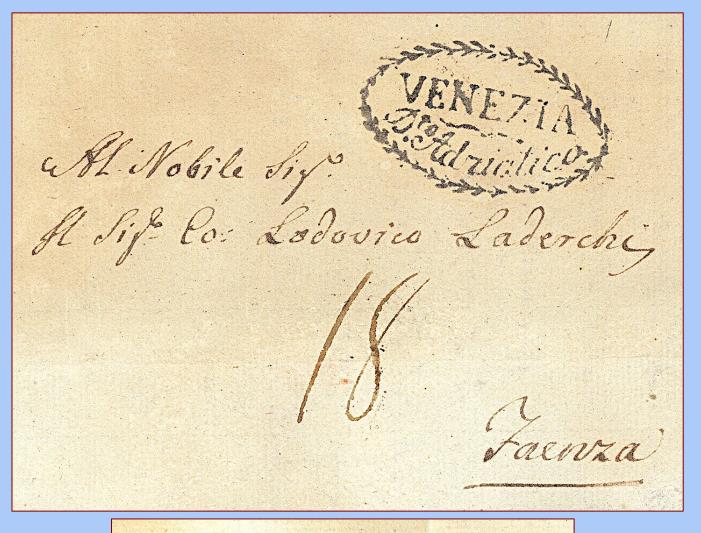
Da 200 a 300 Dato a Rambouillet il 21 maggio 1811,

Da 300 a 400 Da 400 a 500 Da 500 a 600 Da 600 a 800

EUGENIO NAPOLEONE.

Adriatico Dept.

chef-lieu Venice



- Venice to Faenza
- December 121807
- postage due18 décimes

Jen 8 12 Dec 8 1807.

Adige Dept.

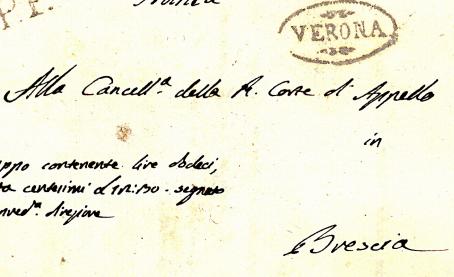
chef-lieu Verona

Brenta Dept.

chef-lieu Padova

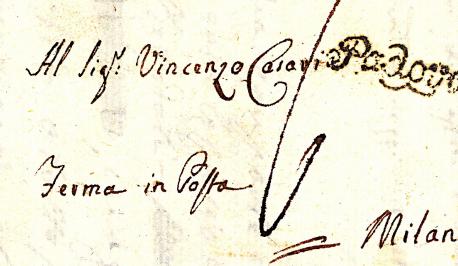


- 20 October 1809
- postage due 6 décimes



con sirippo contenente lire dodeci, e wento centenimi d'in:100 segnes della pred" lingiare

- Verona to Brescia
- 30 August 1808
- postage paid P.P.
- Franca manuscript
- con gruppo with a package containing money - 12 lires and 30 centimes



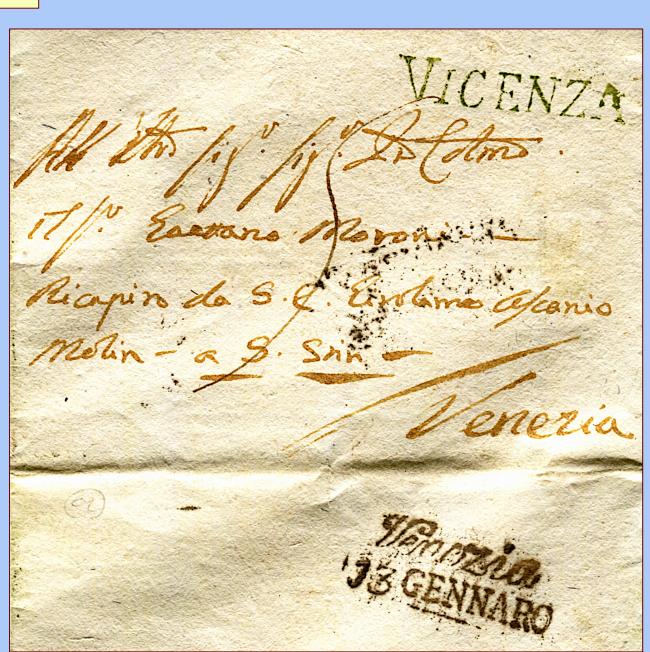
Bacchiglione Dept.

chef-lieu Vicenza

- Vicenza to Venice
- 11 January 1807

verso

- reception mark in Venice:
 - 13 January
- postage due 5 décimes



Serio Dept.

chef-lieu Bergamo

Mella Dept.

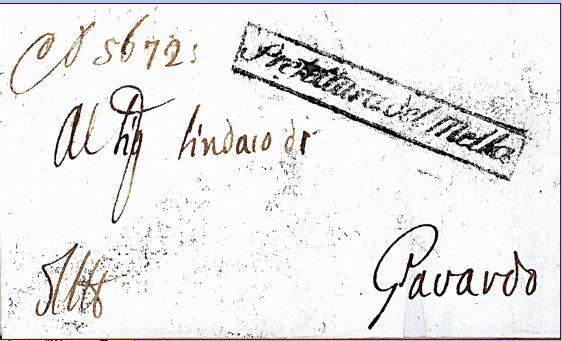
chef-lieu Brescia

Bergamo to Venice

• 15 September 1810

- prefecture's cachet
- dated week 52
- red rectangle from Bergamo's Post





- Brescia to Gavordo 🛧
- March 1st 1810
- prefecture's cachet
- manuscript d'Ufficio
- with document number

Tagliamento Dept.

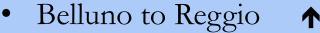
chef-lieu Treviso

- Treviso to Venice
- 29 October 1811
- prefecture's cachet with the inscription week 50
- d'Ufficio manuscript-franchise



chef-lieu Belluno





- 21 March 1808
- prefecture's cachet
- d'Ufficio manuscript-franchise
- oval reception mark in Reggio



Passariano Dept.

chef-lieu Udine



- Udine to Palma
- 19 November1807
- *prefecture*'s cachet
- franchise





Nienzito alla Gugnega, Li

- Chioggia to Venice
- 10 April 1813
- postage paid + condannata

CONDANNATA – a gratuity is given to the messenger for prompt delivery

→ venticinque centesimi /25 centimes



- Cervignano to Palma
- 30 March 1811
- commune's cachet
- franchise
- d'Uffio



➤ 1809: maritime possessions (*Stato da Màr*) become *Provinces* illyriennes → **Illyrie** - incorporated to the French Empire





- Trieste to Florence
- 10 August 1812

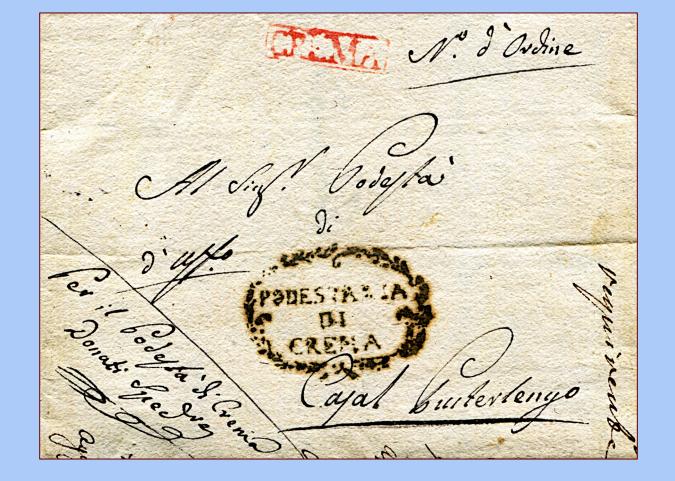
V. FALL OF NAPOLÉON BONAPARTE VI. CONGRESS OF VIENNA - RESTAURATION

- ➤ 22 June 1812 14 December 1812: disastrous campaign of Russia
- ➤ January 1814: coalition invades France
- ➤ 6 April 1814: abdication of Napoléon in Fontainebleau
- ➤ 30 mai 1814: Treaty of Paris
- ➤ 18 September 1814 9 June 1815: Congress of Vienna
 → restoration of borders
- ➤ Provisional Goverments were set up to manage the political transition
- ➤ Lombardy and Venetia combined into a single kingdom → Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia
 - → ruled in personal union by the Habsburg Emperor of Austria Francis I



CONGRESS OF VIENNA 18 September 1814 – 9 June 1815

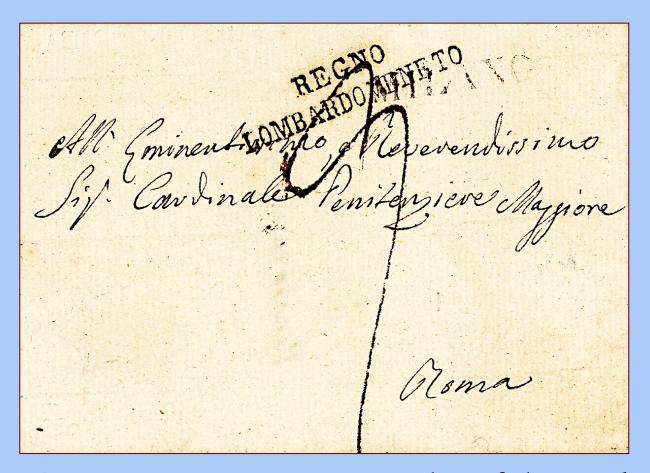




- Crema to Casal Pusterlengo
- 6 April 1814 \rightarrow day of the abdication Napoléon Bonaparte
- franchise cachet from the *podestat* of Crema

* the **podestat** is the chief magistrate of the city

➤ Lombardy and Venetia combined into a single kingdom → Kingdom of Lombardo-Venetia



- Milan to Rome
- 1819
- postmark of origin MILANO

- cachet of the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom
- postage due 9 baiocchi





verso cachet

- Senigallia to Matelica
- 26 November 1814
- franchise cachet from the *podestat* of Senigallia



TRIEST 23 FREHUAR 1918

- Venice to Trieste
- 1818

• Venice to Alone

• 1817

VENTEZIA 1817

VI. CONCLUSION

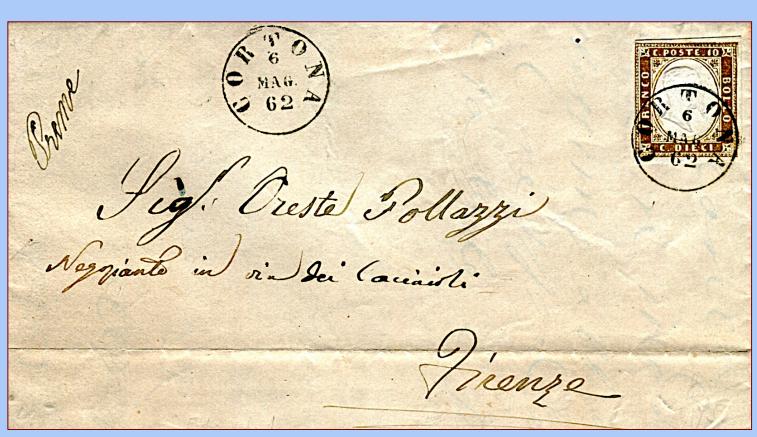
- Following the Congress of Vienna (1814-1815) with the restoration of ancient rulers, the revolutionary efforts will multiply in the various Italian states.
- After many insurrections throughout Italy, the **King of Sardinia**, Charles Albert, decided this was the moment to unify Italy and declared war on Austria.
- This period of political and social movement that consolidated different states into the Kingdom of Italy in the 19th century is called *Risorgimento* (rebirth, *renaissance* → [1852 stamps of the Italian States]).
- A series of plebiscites in the occupied lands resulted in the proclamation of Victor Emmanuel II as the 1st King of Italy of the unified Italy on March 17 1861.
- ➤ Victor Emmanuel II was the son of Charles Albert and former King of Sardinia

The Postal System of the newly unified Italy will issue stamps with the embossed head of King Victor Emmanuel II same as the <u>one in use in the Kingdom of Sardinia at the time</u>.

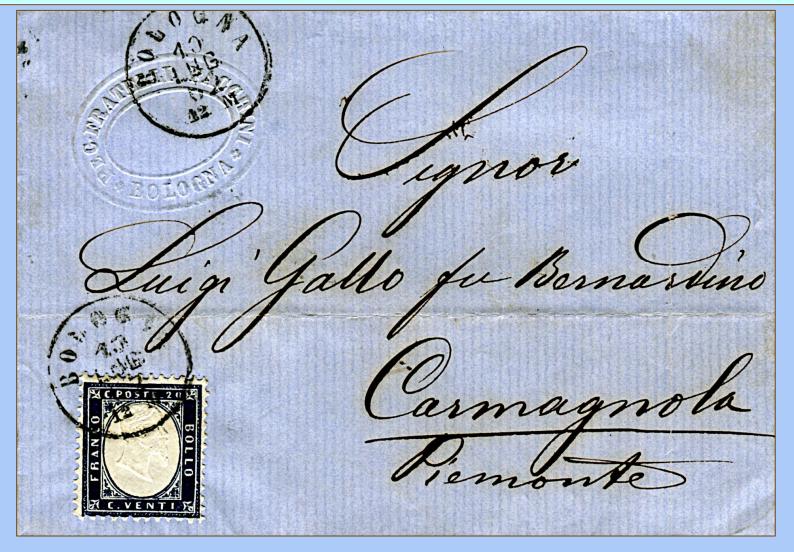
Sardinia : series issued 1855-63 - unwatermarked - imperforated ltaly : first series 1862 - unwatermarked - perforated $11^{1}/_{2}$ x 12

Kingdom of Sardinia

- Cortona to Florence
- single circle dater
- May 6 1862
- 10 centesimi
- manuscriptPresse



Italy: first series 1862 - unwatermarked - perforated $11^{1}/_{2}$ x 12



Kingdom of Italy

- single circle dater
- 20 centesimi

- Bologna to Carmagnola
- July 10 1862



THE END

Rome. Monument to Victor-Emmanuel II 1st King of Italy