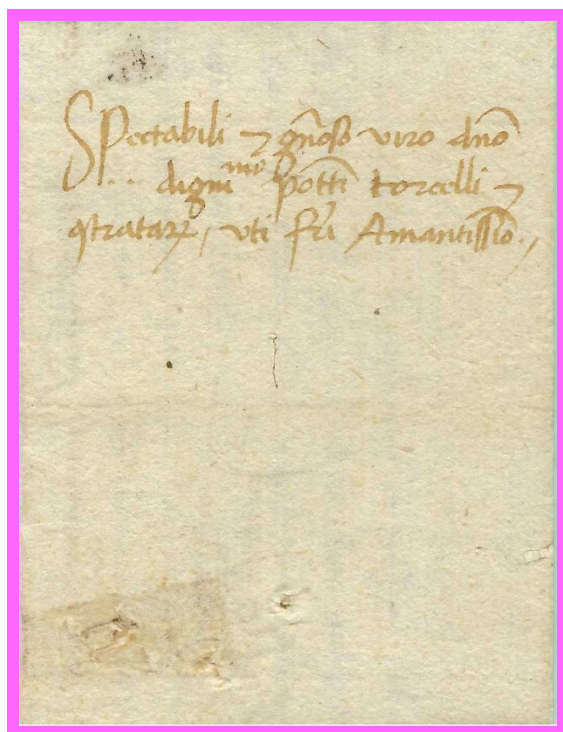


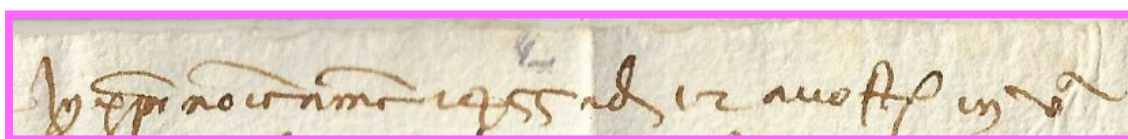
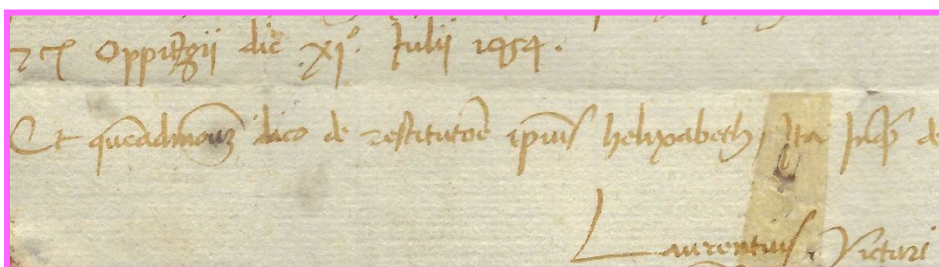
3.1.1 ANTIQUE Letters to/from VENICE and TERRAFIRMA (Italy) & EUROPE



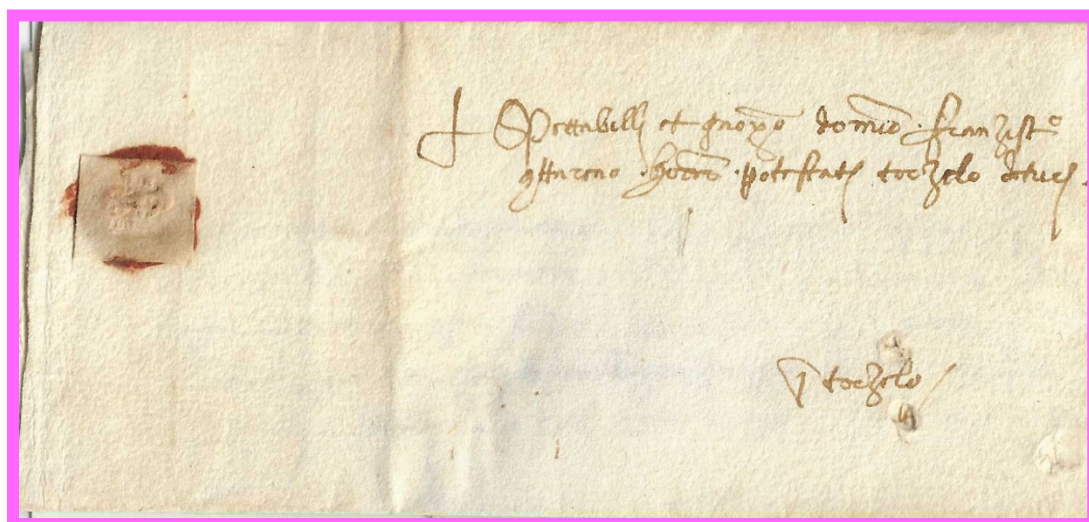
1454 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from VENICE to TORCELLO

Antique Entire Letter sent on 11 July 1454 by *Laurentius Vituri* from VENICE addressed to (*Spectabilj et g(ene)roso d(omi)no*) *Girotti* in TORCELLO. On the back is a small rhomboid closing paper host, with an Embossed Seal.

(Reduced COPY end of Text: **Date**, Sender's Name)



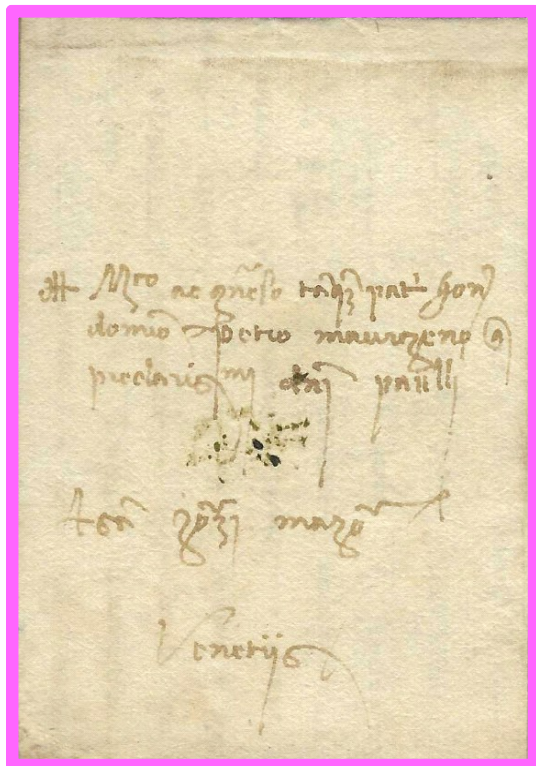
(COPY end of Text: **Date**)



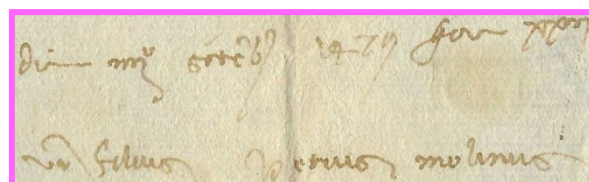
1455 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from VENICE to TORCELLO

Antique Entire Letter sent 15 Nov. 1455 by *Jacobo Barbaro & Alessandro Salutti* from VENICE to (*Spectabilj et g(ene)roso d(omi)no*) *Francesco ...* in TORCELLO. The sender *Barbaro* comes from an illustrious family of ancient Roman consuls. Family has 3 branches: *San Vidal* of humanists *Marc' Antonio* & *Daniele*, patrons of *Palladio* and *Veronese*; *San Giorgio* of a line from Malta, and *San Gregorio* of the sole existing Venetian line. Letter has holes that held closing cord & a small Embossed Seal.

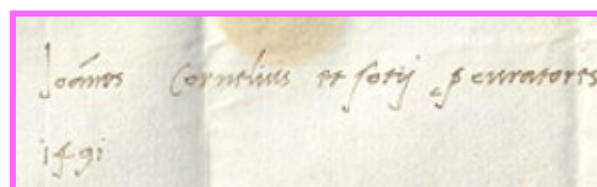
3.1.1 ANTIQUE Letters to/from VENICE and TERRAFIRMA (Italy) & EUROPE



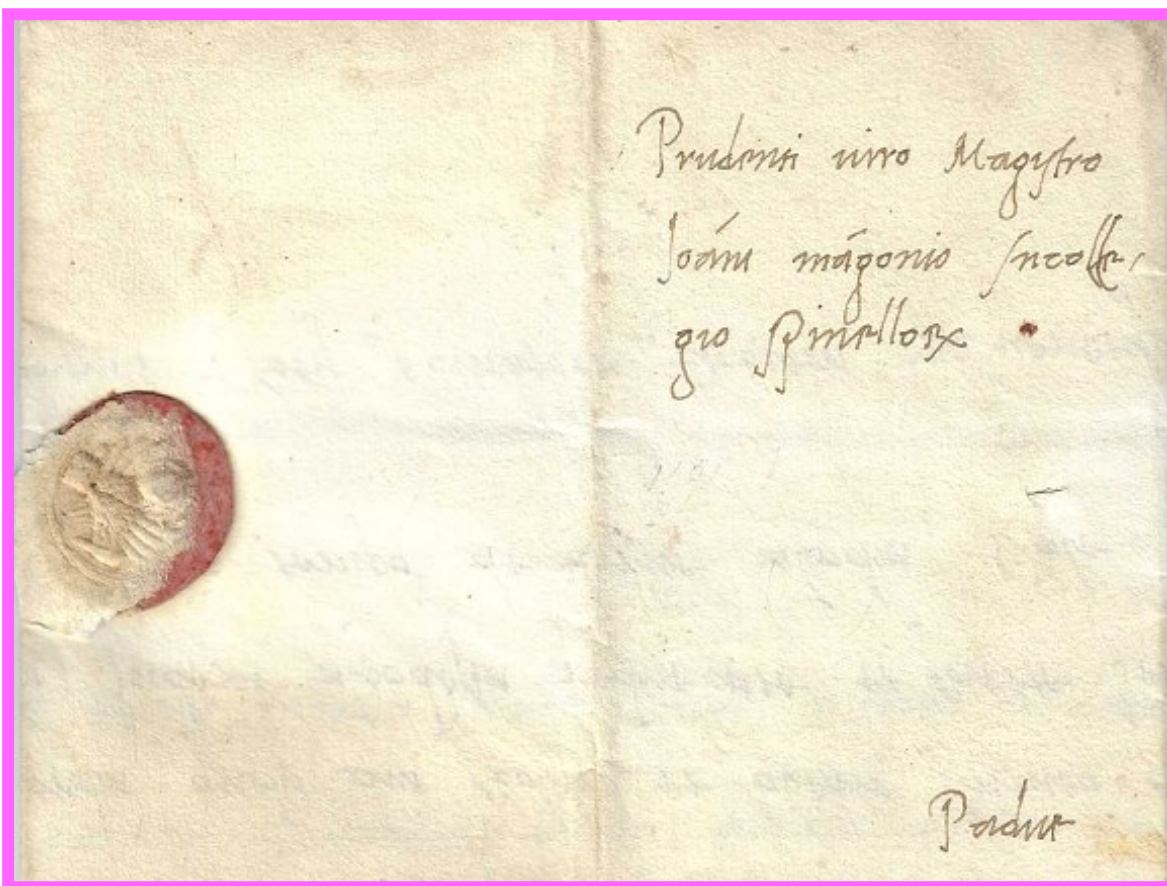
1479 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from **PADOVA** to **VENICE**
 Antique Entire Letter from PADOUA to VENICE sent 31 Mar. 1479
 (see arrow) by Joannis Molinus in PADOVA to Pietro Mauroseno in
 VENICE.



(COPY end of Text: **Date 1479**)



(COPY end of Text: **Date 1491**)

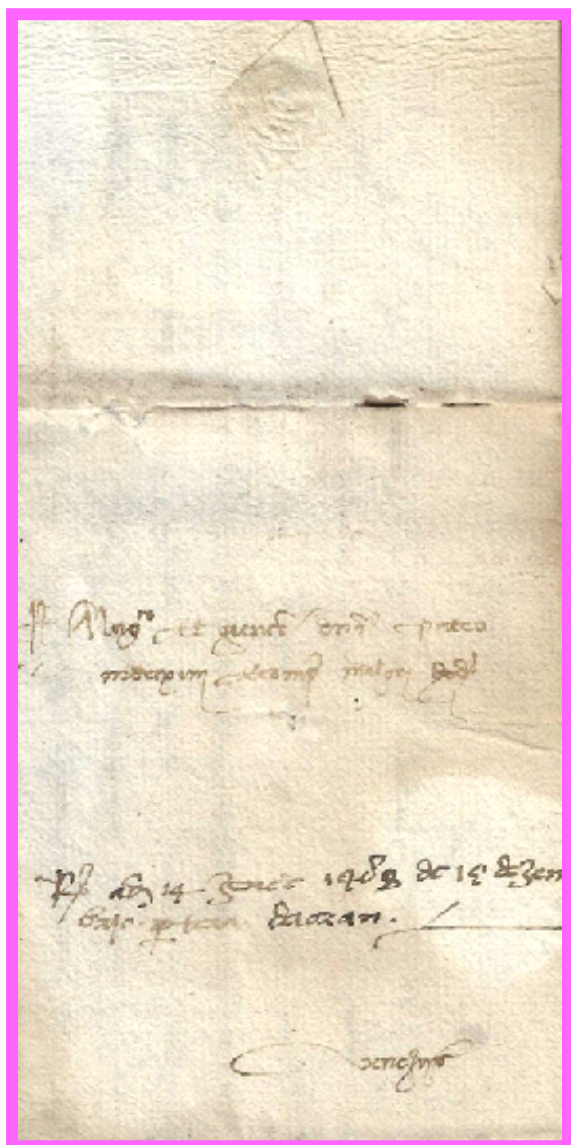


1491 - ANTICA LETTERA
 Entire Letter from **VENICE**
 to **PADOVA**

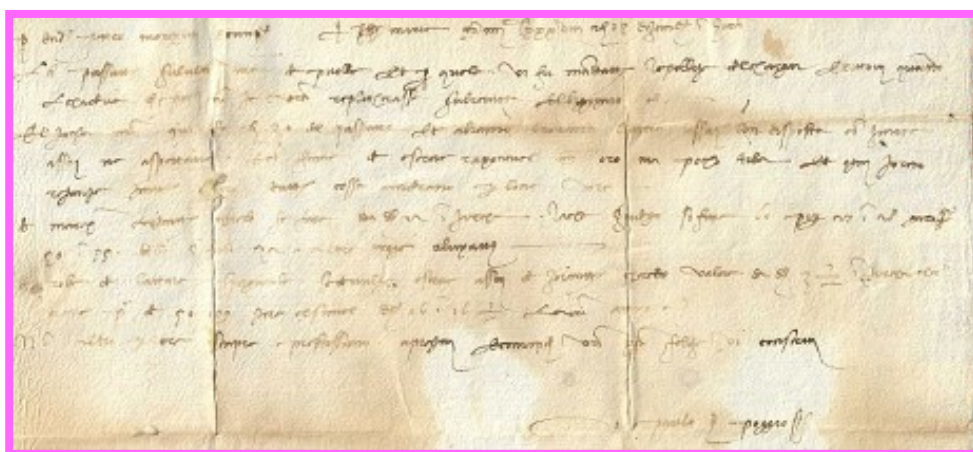
Antique legal Letter VENICE
 to PADOUA sent 20 Oct
 1491 (see arrow), from noble
 Joanni Cornelli, prosecuting
 attorney and member of the
 Council. of Ten; to Joanni
 Magnoni, teacher at Spinelli
 College in Padua. It informs
 him that “the legal office has
 not responded to his inquiries
 regarding the case of his two
 students, advising him to
 await their next meeting”.
 On Left it has an embossed
 Seal of the Winged Lion.
 (ex. Paolo Vollmeier).

ROUTE AUER- ORA (S.Tyrol, Austria) TO VENICE - HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This letter followed the Route: from **Auer** (*Ora* in Italian) south the Adige valley to Trento and then east to Venice. **Auer** is a commune in South Tyrol, 15 km south of Bolzano (Bozen). Since 1369, Tyrol was ruled by the House of Habsburgs for five and a half centuries. Only in 1919, the southern Tyrol was ceded to Italy.



(Route AUER (ORA) to VENICE)



(reduced COPY of TEXT, Sender's signature)

1488 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from AUER (ORA South Tyrol, Austria) to VENICE

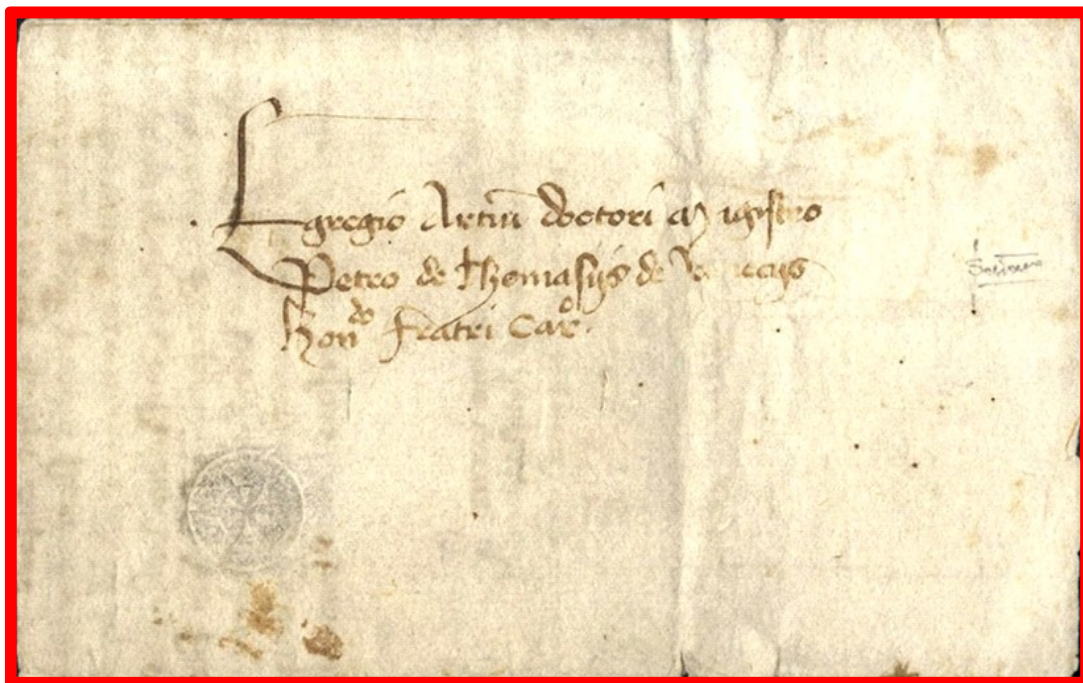
Antique Entire Letter sent on 13 Jan. 1488 by Paolo del Poggio from AUER (Ora) to VENICE to nobleman Pietro Morosini. There is an arrival note: 'received 14 Jan. 1488' (see arrow). Paolo del Poggio in the service of the Venetian nobleman Pietro Morosini, informs him that the documents, requested on 30 Dec. are sent and would like a reply of receipt. Letter closes with indications of quantity of spices requested from Venice. On the front, end of 2nd line, there is a postal note *deditur* (see arrow) meaning the letter must be hand-delivered to the addressee. On Top, there is a small rhomboid paper host, with an Embossed Seal.

3.1 - ANTIQUE LETTERS from/to EUROPE (XV CENTURY)

3.1.1 ANTIQUE Letters to/from VENICE and TERRAFIRMA (Italy) & EUROPE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

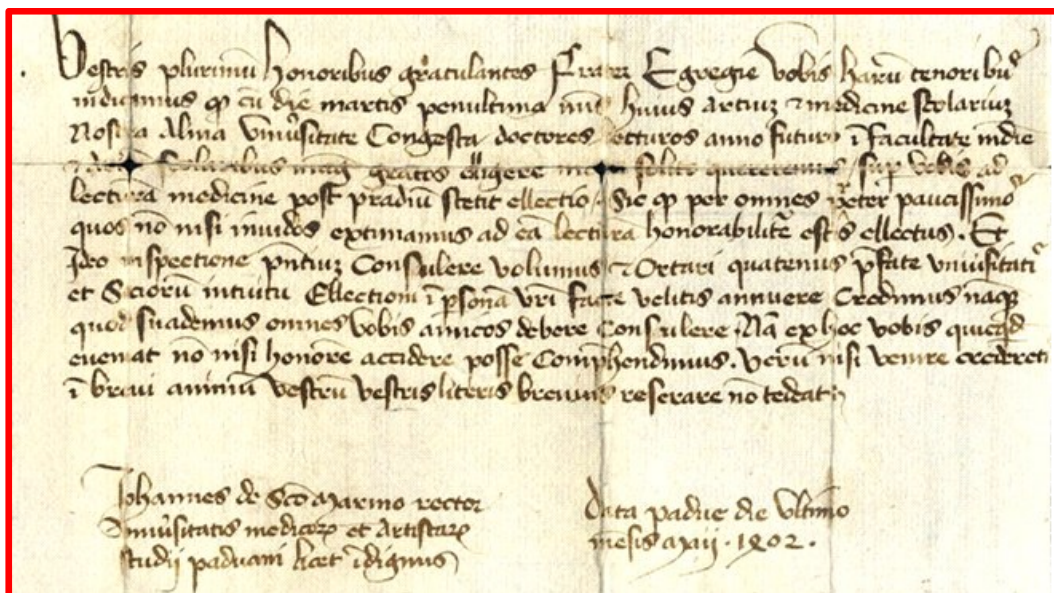
This 1402 letter originates from the Republic of Padua, governed by the *Carraresi* Family from 1318 to 1405. In 1404 the Rep. of Venice started its expansion into the 'Terrafirma'. By Nov. 1405, Padua and its domains fell and were incorporated into the Venetian state and remained until the fall of the Rep. of Venice in 1797.



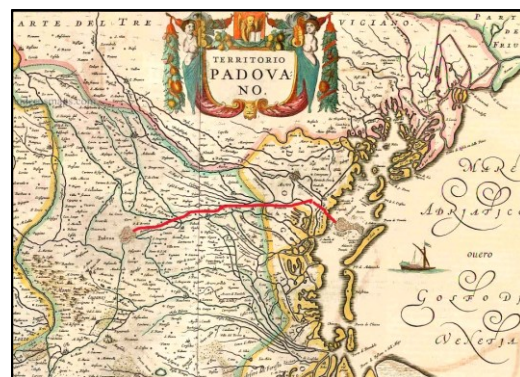
(Embossed Seal)

1402 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from PAVOVA (TERRAFIRMA) to VENICE

Antique Entire Letter dated 31 May 1402 (see arrow Bottom) from PADOVA (Terrafirma) by Giovanni di San Marino Rector of the Paduan University, addressed to Pietro de Tommasi the 'Artium Doctor maestro' in VENICE. On the address side is a small Seal (see arrow) of Francesco Novello da Carrara (last Carraresi ruler of Padova). On back a paper host with an Embossed Seal (see Copy Below Right).



(reduced COPY of Text))

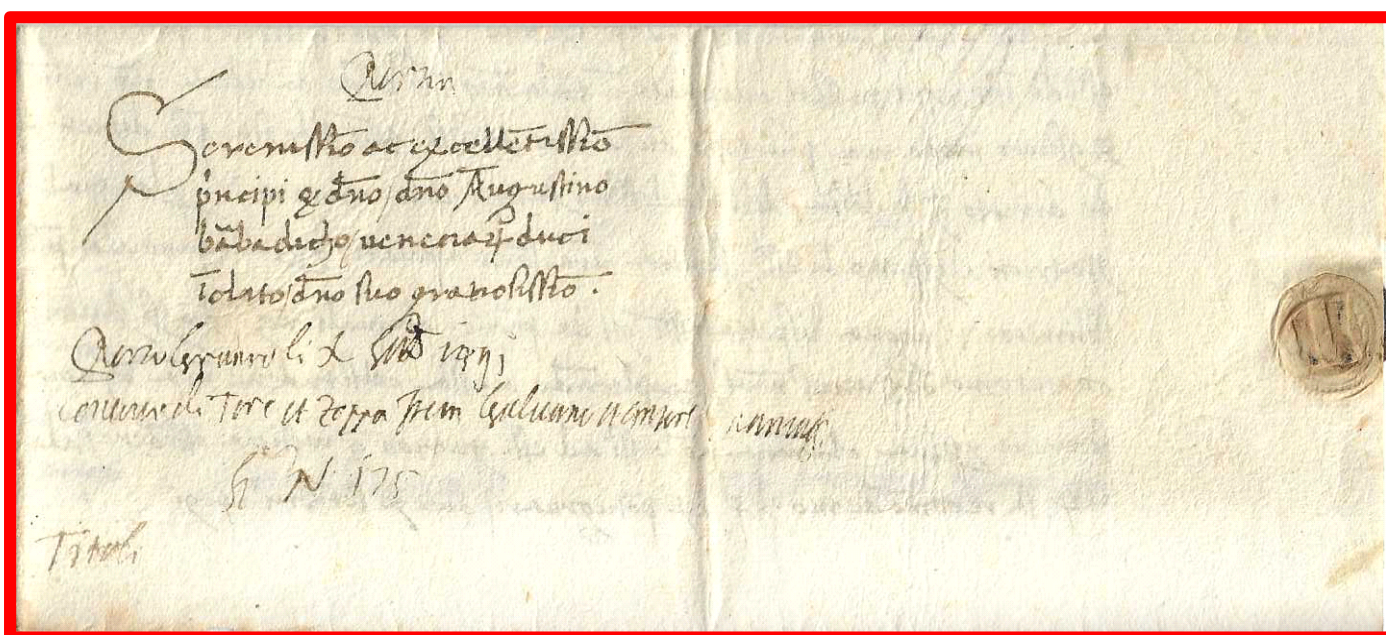


(Route PADOVA-VENICE)

3.1.1 ANTIQUE Letters to/from VENICE and TERRAFIRMA (Italy) & EUROPE

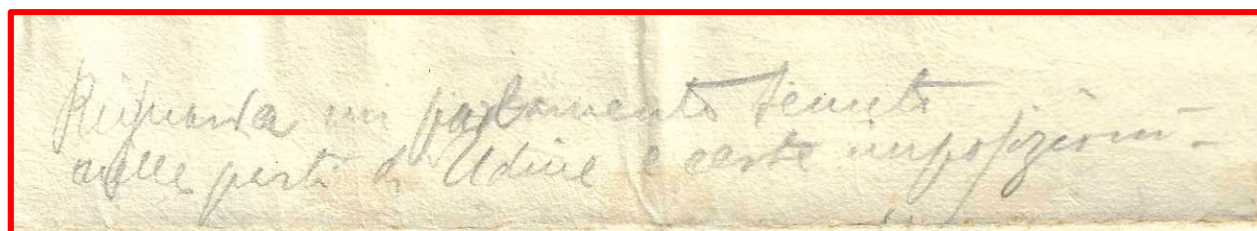


(Doge A. BARBARIGO)



1491 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from UDINE (Friuli region) to VENICE

Antique Letter sent 10 Sept. 1491 (see arrow) by the noble *Guilelmo Manini* from UDINE and addressed to Doge *AGOSTINO BARBARIGO* (74th Doge r.1486-1501). In 1420, the Friuli region came under the Rep. of Venice. Then from 1472 to 1499, it faced constant Turkish raids, threatening its stability. Letter deals with State Matters and has an arrival notation “di Udine e certe informazioni”. On Left it has a marking *Titoli* to be given only to the entitled persons (see arrow). On Right it has an embossed Seal, (ex. *Gerald E. Wellburn* collection).

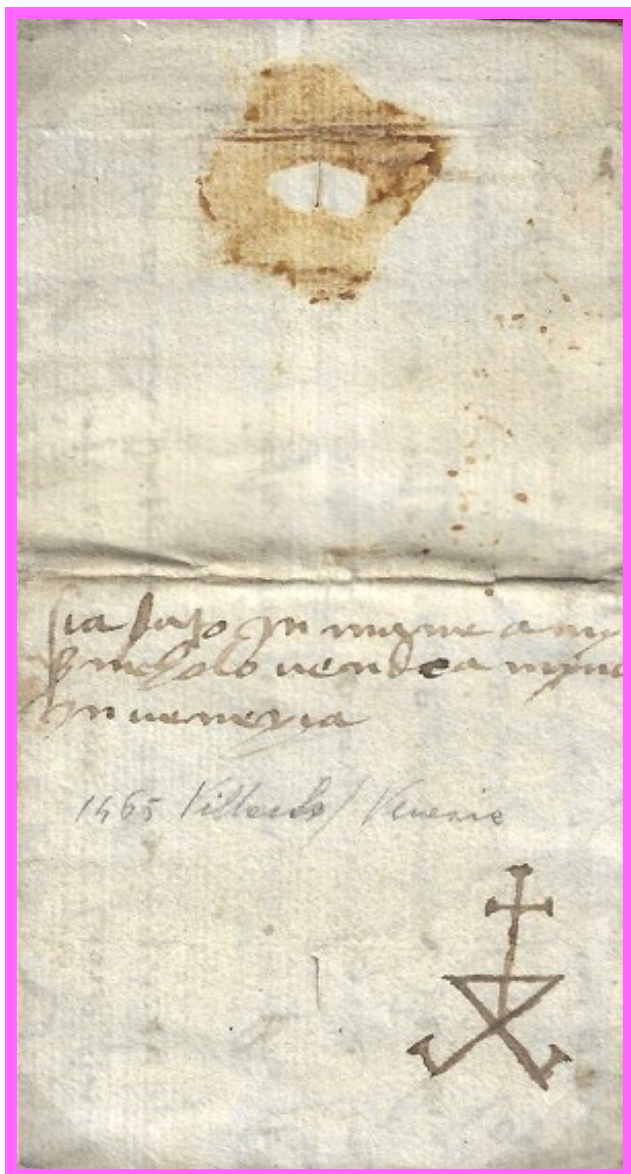


(COPY of Arrival Notation, inside fold)

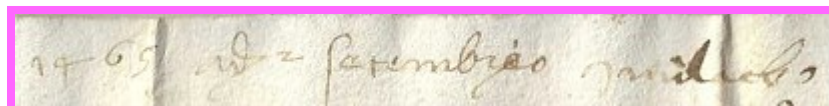
3.1.1 ANTIQUE Letters to/from VENICE and TERRAFIRMA (Italy) & EUROPE

ROUTE VILLACO (VILLACH) TO VENICE (or via di Alpe-Adria)

This appears to be a religious correspondence. This letter followed the Route: from **Villaco** (*Villach*) through the *Alpe-Adria* route to **Tarvisio**, then to **Gemona**, and **Udine** from there to **Venice**. Only once a week, there were letters dispatched from *Villach* and *Gemona* to *Udine* and vice versa.



(Alpe-Adria Route VILLACH to VENICE)



(COPY start of TEXT Depart. Date, Origin)

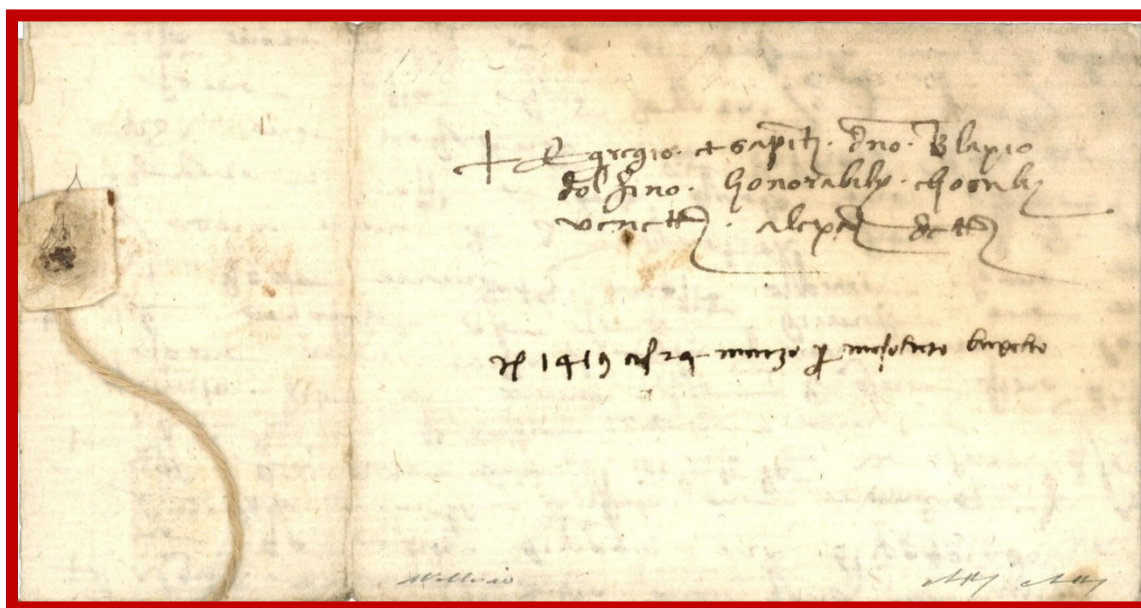
1465 - ANTICA LETTERA Entire Letter from **VILLACHO** (VILLACH, Austria) to **VENICE**

Antique Entire Letter sent 2 Sept. 1465 (see arrow) by *Lonardo Hueber* from **VILLACH** (Austria) addressed to **Vendramino** (see arrow) in **VENICE**. The letter is adorned with the sender's trademark of an elaborate design, with a bold Cross on top. Text refers to the sender's difficulty in settling his account. The *Vendramins* were a rich merchant family, among the '*case nuove*' who joined the patrician class in the '*Libro d' Oro*'. *Malipiero* mentions the *Vendramins* in various fields of business. *Andrea Vendramin* became Doge from 1476–78.

3.1.2 ANTIQUE Letters CONVOY of FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century (*Muda delle Fiandre*)

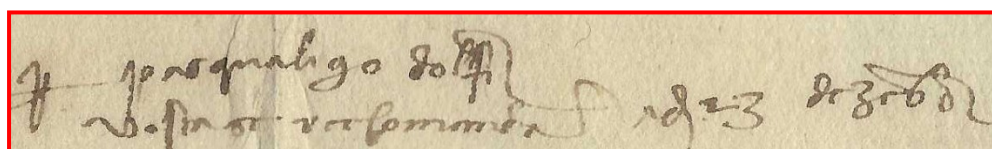
TRADE ON SEA ROUTE to FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century (*Muda delle Fiandre*)

Public convoys of Venice for the Sea Route to Flanders & England were established in 1315 (see **Map Page 86**). Venice competed with Florence & Genoa, then by 1420-30s it dominated this trade, exporting spices and importing English raw wool & cloth and Flemish fabrics. In the 1520s, Venice was forced to suspend these convoys to England & Flanders due to the rise of its commercial rivals Portugal. & Spain.



1419 – Antique Entire Letter from VENICE to ALEXANDRIA (Egypt)

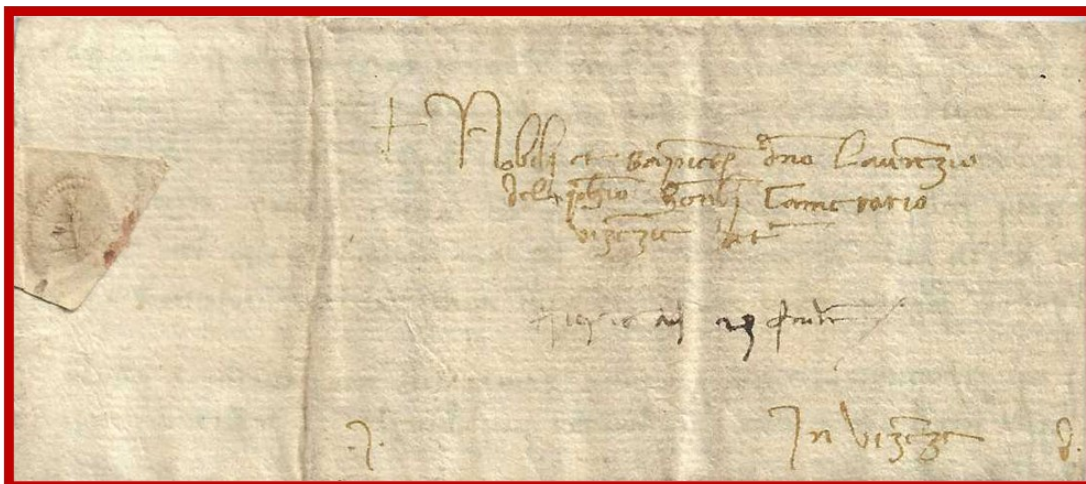
Entire Letter sent from VENICE 23 Dec. 1418 by **Pasqualigo Dolfino** to her husband **Biagio Dolphino** Venetian Consul in ALEXANDRIA. There is a receipt notation of 24 Mar. 1419 (see arrow). **Biagio Dolfino** dealt in **precious stones**. His **London** agents were **Nicolò da Molin** (1413-14) and from 1418 his brother-in-law **Paolo Pasqualigo**. Researcher **Pedani** in '**Balas Rubies for the King of England (1413-15)**' states: "I discovered the two commercial letters, of Biagio Dolfino... twice Venetian consul in Alexandria". (source: *Archivio di Stato di Venezia, Procuratori di San Marco, Misti, b. 181, fasc. XV, lettere, a) 31 Jan. 1414; b) 2 Apr. 1413*). Letters reveal that 2 balases sent to London by **Biagio Dolfino** must have been exceptional. The first was sold by **Nicolò da Molin** for 1200 ducats, as per his letter 2 April 1413 fr London to **Paolo Pasqualigo** in Venice. 2nd letter Jan. 1414 fr London by **Nicolò da Molin** to **Biagio Dolfino** refers to another balas King **Henry V** had seen it twice. We have no evidence that he bought it, but on **Henry's** crown is one such large red **balas**.



(COPY end of Text Sender's name **Pasqualigo Dolfino**, Depart. Date)

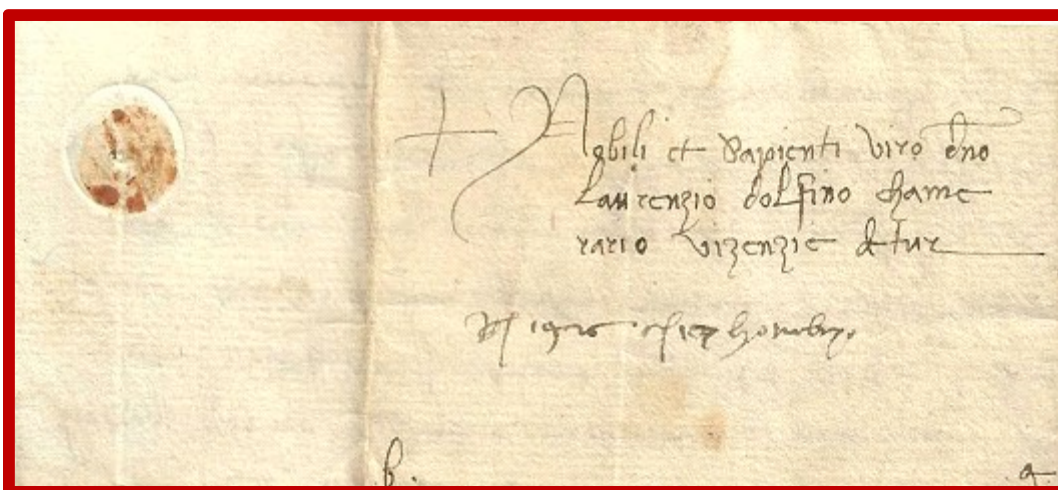
3.1.2 ANTIQUE Letters CONVOY of FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century (*Muda delle Fiandre*)

SEA ROUTE TRADE to FLANDERS & ENGLAND in XV Century – LORENZO DOLFIN (1390-1475)
Lorenzo Dolfìn (1390-1475) played a central role in his uncle's *Biagio Dolfìn*'s business, who made him his heir. From 1418-20, *Lorenzo* was involved in his uncle's **gemstone** deals in Venice. He became familiar with the **London** market, he was in close contact with *Biagio*'s London agent *Polo Pasqualigo*. In 1420, *Biagio* died and his archive of 80 letters received in Alexandria was brought to the state archives in Venice. Most letters are from nephew *Lorenzo*. (see: *Trading Conflicts: Venetian Merchants ...Late Medieval Alexandria* Georg Christ).



1426 – Antique Entire Letter from VENICE to VICENZA

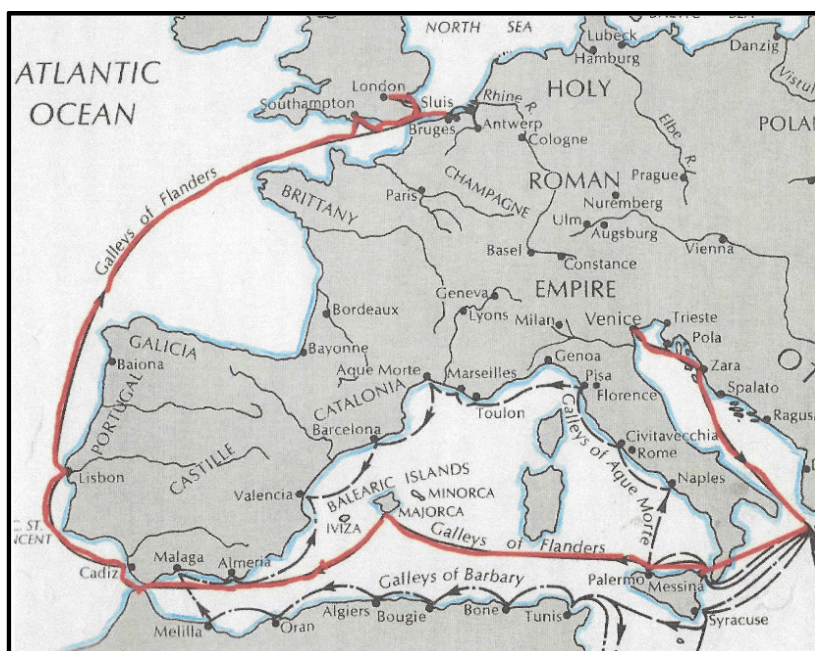
Entire Letter sent on 27 Feb 1426 by *Jovano Dolfìn* from VENICE. Addressed to **Laurenzo Dolfino**, *Camerario* in VICENZA. The office of *Camerario* played an important role in ensuring the Doge's decisions were in the best interest of the state and its merchants. There is a receipt notation of 29 Feb. 1426 (see arrow). On Left, there is a small rhomboid paper host, with an Embossed Seal.



1426 – Antique Entire Letter from VENICE to VICENZA

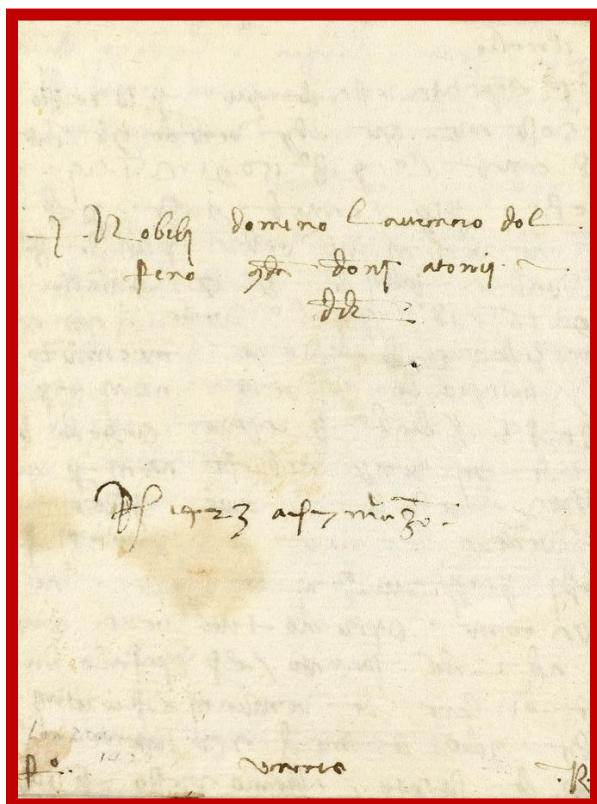
Entire Letter sent on 15 Nov 1426 by *Benedeto Gabriel* from VENICE to **Laurenzo Dolfino** in VICENZA. On 3rd line, there is a postal note **deditur** (see arrow) meaning the letter must be handed only to the addressee; plus a receipt note of 17 Nov 1426 (see arrow). On Left, there are traces of a Seal that held the closing paper host.

3.1.2 ANTIQUE Letters CONVOY of FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century (*Muda delle Fiandre*)



BRUGES (Flanders)

SEA ROUTE to FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century (*Muda delle Fiandre*). Established 1315. Route was Venice through the Adriatic, west by Sicily to Spain stopping in Cadiz, Lisbon; then England with stops to Southampton, London & **Bruges** (Flanders)

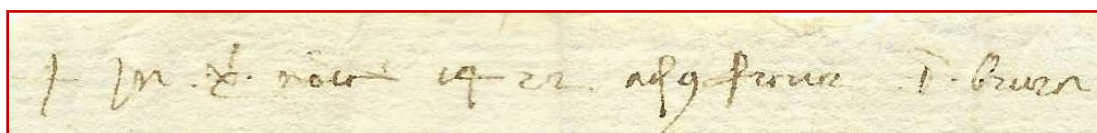


SEA ROUTE TRADE to FLANDERS & ENGLAND in XV Century – LORENZO DOLFIN (1390-1475)

From 1422 *Lorenzo Dolfin* began operating alone. He sold spices mainly pepper. He acquired raw wools and processed cloth. His Bruges agent 1423-26 was Francesco Renier; and his London agent was Girolamo Bragadin 1429-30.

1422 – Antique Entire Letter from **BRUGES** to **VENICE**

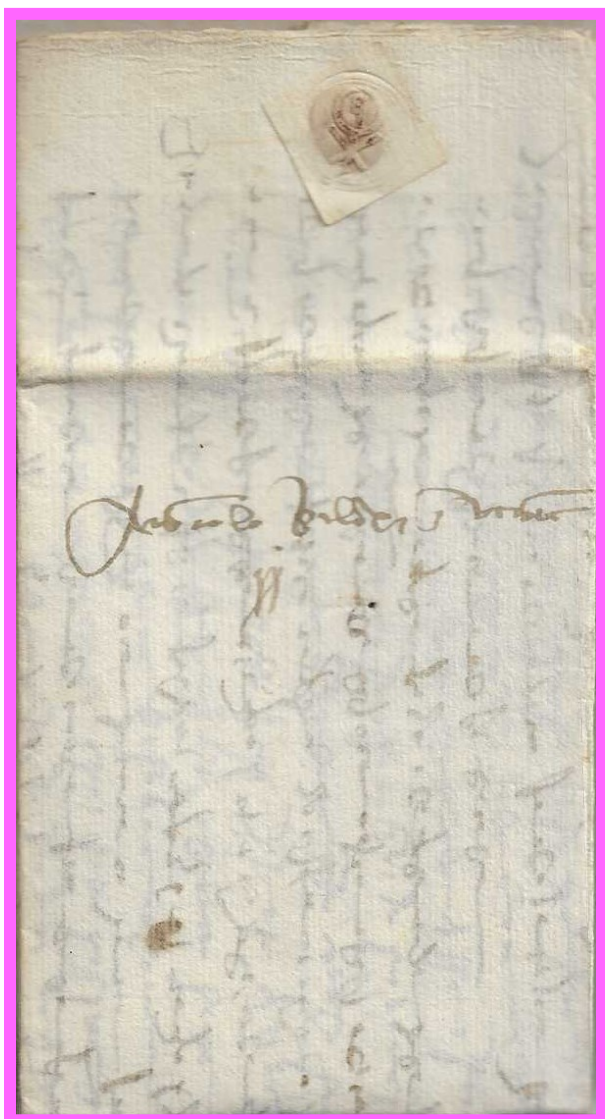
Entire Letter dated 9 Feb. 1422 from **BRUGES**, Flanders (earliest known from North Europe) by *Francesco Renier* to *Laurenzo Dolfin* in **VENICE**. Text informs him of the sale of his of spices (cinnamon & cloves). Letter has a receiving date of 7 March 1423 and a note 'dd' (dato i dedit) to be delivered into the hands of the addressee. In front, at bottom ends are the sender's initials "f. - R." for *Francesco Renier* who is *Laurenzo's* agent in Bruges 1422-26 (source: Profit and Commitment - *Lorenzo Dolfin* and Commercial Family in Venetian Long-Distance Trade, c.1399-1475 by Franz-Julius Morche, 2019).



(COPY start of TEXT Depart. Date, Place Origin BRUGES (Bruza))

3.1.2 ANTIQUE Letters CONVOY of FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century (*Muda delle Fiandre*)

SEA ROUTE TRADE to FLANDERS & ENGLAND XV Century– BALDESI ANGELO & GIOV. 1450s
In early 15th century, the **Baldesi** firm among the early Florentine Banks moved to flourishing Venice, though its roots in Florence allowed it access to Medici bank & clients there. They traded in many countries, silk from Iran to the end of known world in the West – ENGLAND. (see: Docs researched by *A. Saponi & Y. Renouard* of Florentine heraldic & genealogical sources in State Archives). Among their extensive correspondence, there are 5 recorded letters from LONDON addressed to Giovanni & Angelo Baldesi in VENICE dated 15 April, 6 Sept. 17 Oct. 18 Nov. 1458 & 1459 (see: Spink Auctions Dec. 2025).

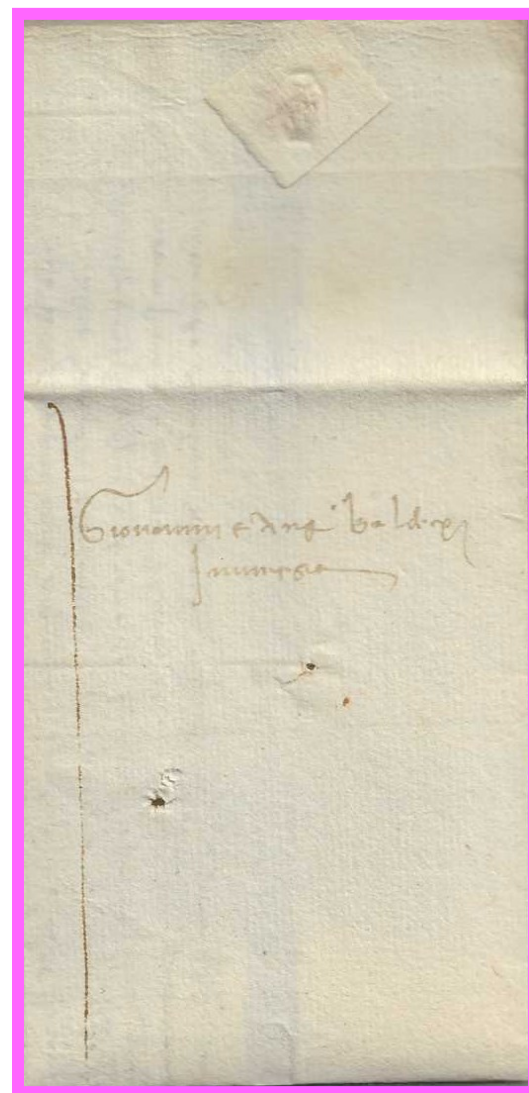


1459
Baldesi
to 13 Nov 1459 28 Oct 1459
to 1459

(Left COPY Back: Origin, Date)

1459
Baldesi
to 19 Dec 1459 17 Oct 1459
to 1459

(Right COPY Back: Origin, Date)



1459 – Antique Entire Letter FLORENCE to VENICE

Left - Entire Letter sent on 28 Oct. 1459 by *Giovanni Baldesi* from FLORENCE addressed to his brother *Angelo Baldesi* in VENICE. On Top, there is a small rhomboid paper host, with an Embossed **B** Seal.

1459 – Antique Entire Letter FLORENCE to VENICE

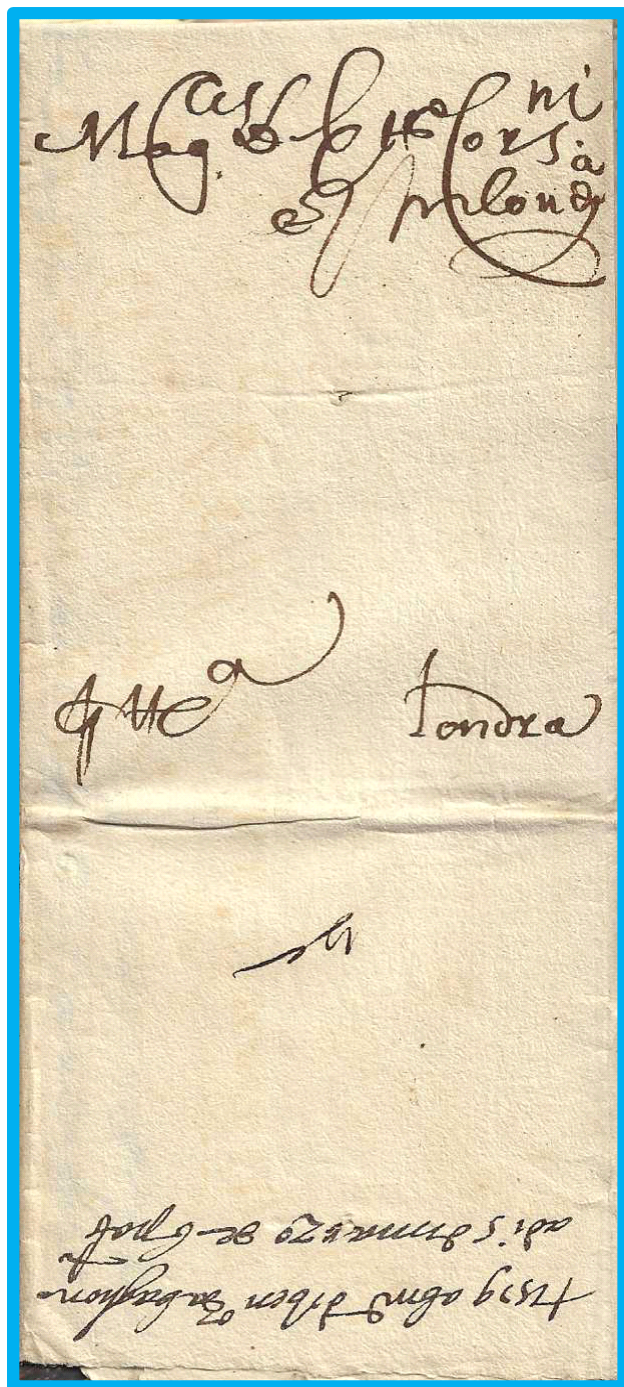
Right - Entire Letter sent 19, Dec. 1459 by *Tommaso Spinelli*? From FLORENCE addressed to brothers *Giovanni and Angelo Baldesi* in VENICE. On Top, is a small rhomboid paper host with an Embossed Seal.

3.2 - LETTERS from/to EUROPE (XVI- XVIII CENTURY)

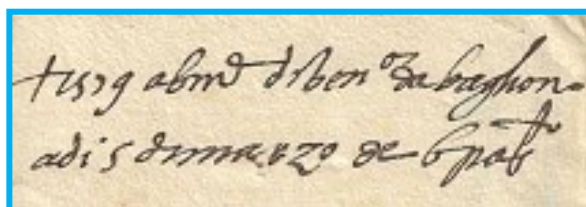
3.2.1 Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (*Thurn & Taxis Post*)

ROUTE OF THE FLEMISH POST (*via di Fiandra or Thurn & Taxis Post*) -

Since 1504, the Flemish Post by *Thurn & Taxis* operated in Italy, Germany and the Low Countries. The Route was from Venice by the *Venetian Couriers* to Trento, linked with *Thurn & Taxis Post*, through Brenner Pass to Innsbruck, Augusta, Cologne & Antwerp (see map). There it linked with *Merchant Strangers' Post* to London.



Route VENICE to ANTWERP by Flemish Post



(COPY Back: Sender, Arr. Date)

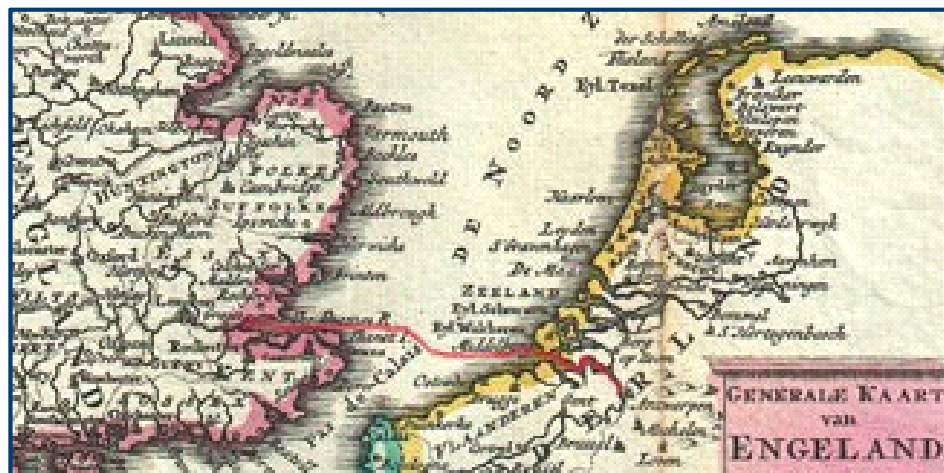
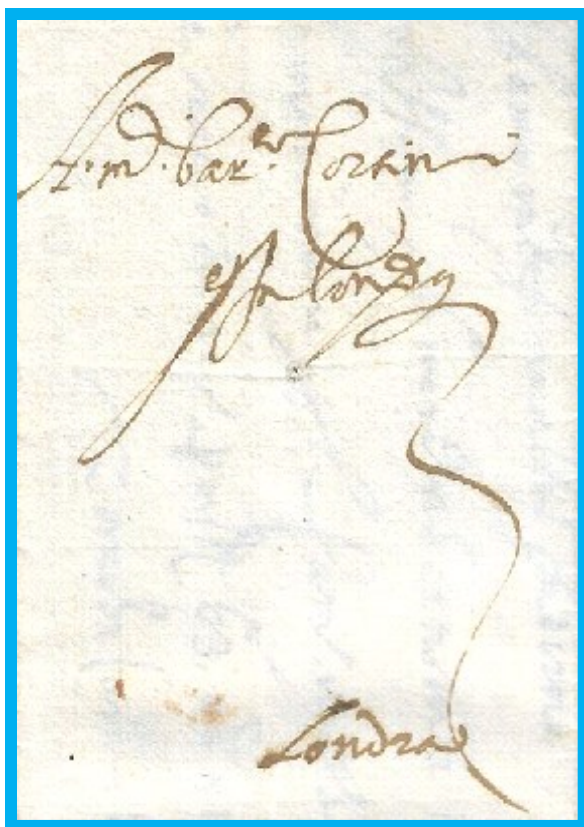
1579 - Entire letter from VENICE via di Fiandra (Flanders route) to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter dated 6 Feb 1579 from *Donato Camillo Baglione* in VENICE to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON. Received 5 March 1579 (see arrow). Letter has an endorsement "*Per Questa a Londra*" (see arrow) meaning unpaid. The Corsini Archive had 17 letters from *Donato Camillo Baglione* from 1581-97. His correspondence reveals that he was involved in trade of cloth, copper, lead, tin sugar & cloves. (Christie's 1986 catalog, p. 120)

3.2.1 Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (*Thurn & Taxis Post*)

HISTORICAL CONTEXT – THE CORSINI CORRESPONDENCE

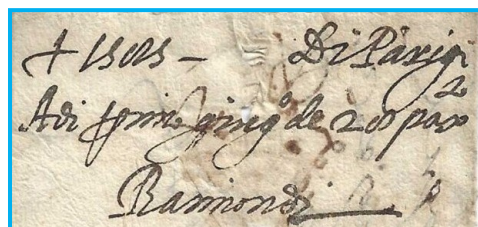
Filippo and Bartholomeo Corsini were Florentine merchants based in London, late 1500's to early 1600's. The Corsini Correspondence consisted of letters addressed to them 1567 to 1637, from Italy, Germany, Lowlands & France. In 1980's, the Corsini Archive was sold by *Christie's Robson Lowe Auctions*. As a result, 3500 original letters addressed to the Corsinis and of importance to Postal History collectors were dispersed worldwide.



Route ANTWERP to LONDON by Merchant Strangers

1586 - Entire letter from VENICE via *di Fiandra* to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

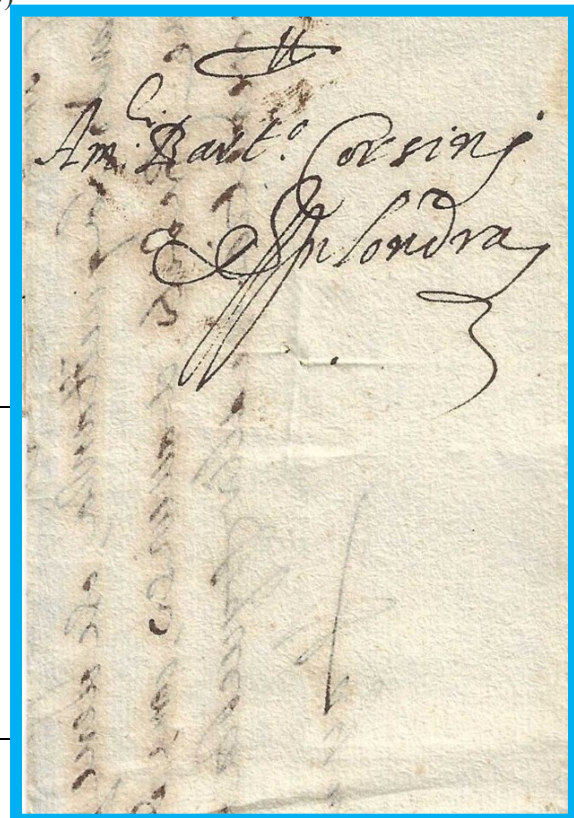
Entire letter dated 9 March 1586 from merchants *Zanobi Carne & Alessandro Strozzi* in VENICE to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON received on 2 April 1586. It confirmed a payment to *Lorenzo Corsini* in Florence and provided exchange rates. The Corsini Archive had 11 letters from *Zanobi Carne & Alessandro Strozzi* 1585-96. (Christie's 1986 catalog p. 123)



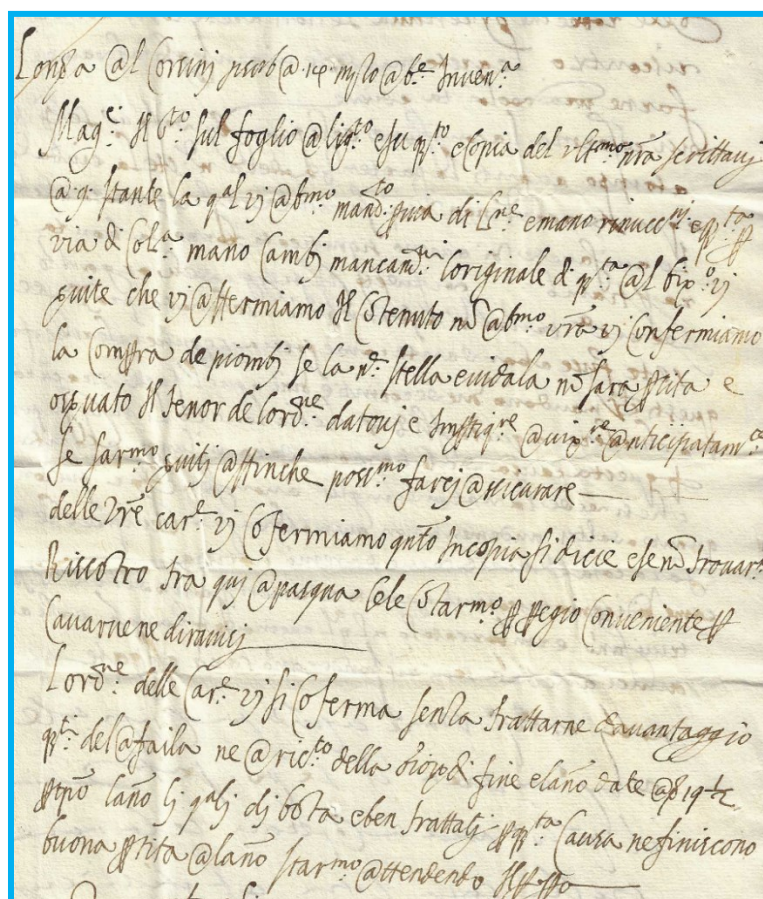
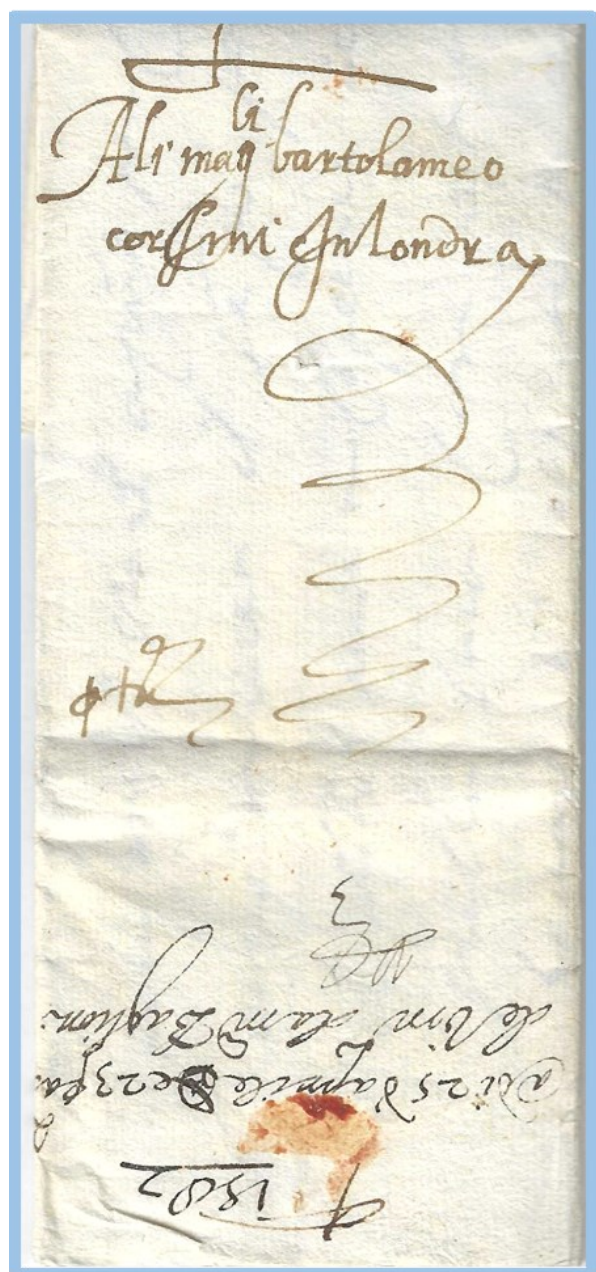
(reduced COPY Back: Date, Origin **Parigi**)

1585 - Entire letter from PARIS (*Merchant Strangers* via DIEPPE) to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

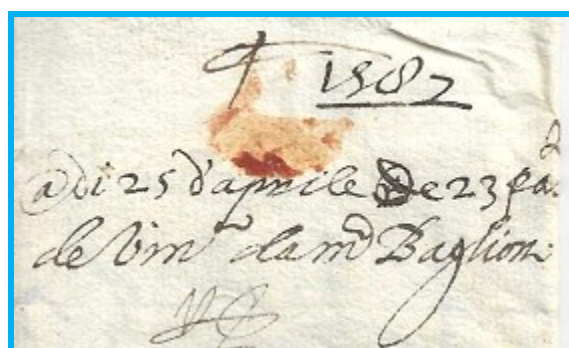
Entire letter dated 28 May 1585 from *Raymondo de Raimondi* Venetian merchant in PARIS to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON. He informs the recipient that he had paid *Henri Smitte* a credit for 140 scudi, and that he is sending Corsini a receipt. *Raimondi* was dealing mainly with fabrics. The route followed was by *Merchant Strangers* from PARIS to CALAIS, then to LONDON. The Corsini Archive had 10 letters from *Raymondi* 1582 to 1587 (Christie's 1986 catalog p. 44)



3.2.1_ Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (Thurn & Taxis Post)



(reduced COPY Text: Destination, Recipient, Depart. Date)

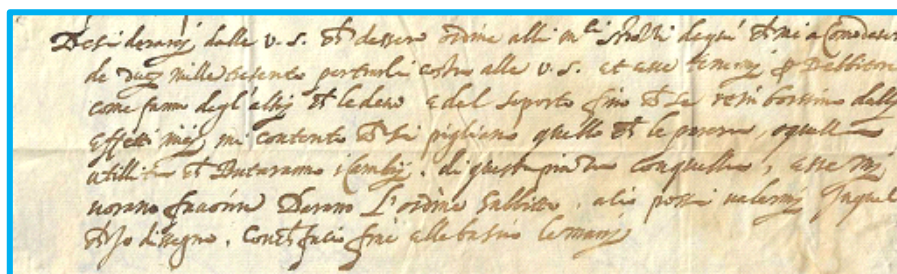
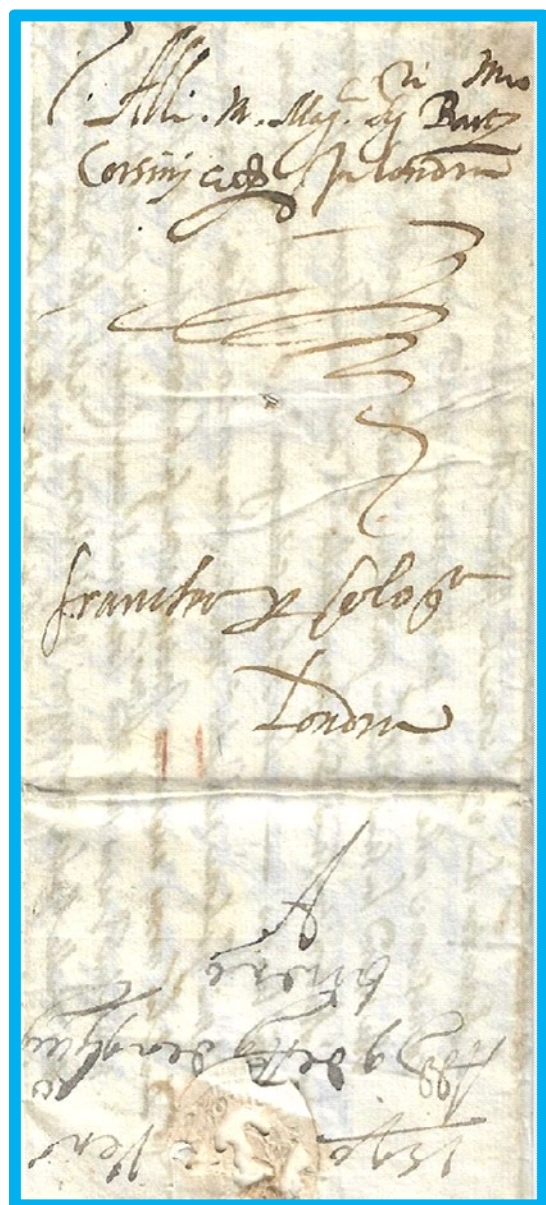


(COPY Back: Arrival Date, Origin, Sender)

1587 - Entire letter from VENICE via di Fiandra to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

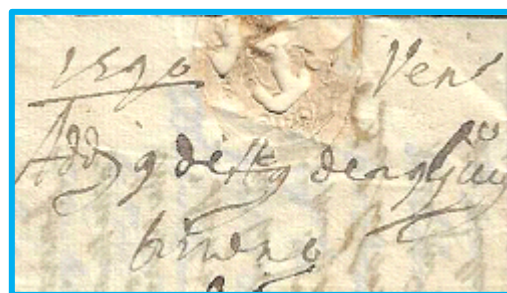
2nd letter from Donato Camilo Baglione in VENICE dated 14 March 1587 (1st letter Feb. 1579 see Page 88) to Bartolomeo Corsini in LONDON. It arrived on 25 April 1587 (arrow Bottom Right). Baglione advises that Cotton and Silk cloth are ready for dispatch. Letter has endorsement 'pta' (see arrow) e.g. 'per questa (lettera)', meaning it was unpaid. Baglione informs the Armada had blocked their Sea Route, preventing them from sending the Tin & Lead. (This is Spanish Armada's planning period prior to the failed invasion of England in 1588). Corsini Archive had 17 letters from Donato Camillo Baglione 1581-97. (Christie's 1986 catalog p. 120).

3.2.1_ Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (Thurn & Taxis Post)



(reduced COPY end of Text: Sender's Name)

(ACTUAL Closing Seal)

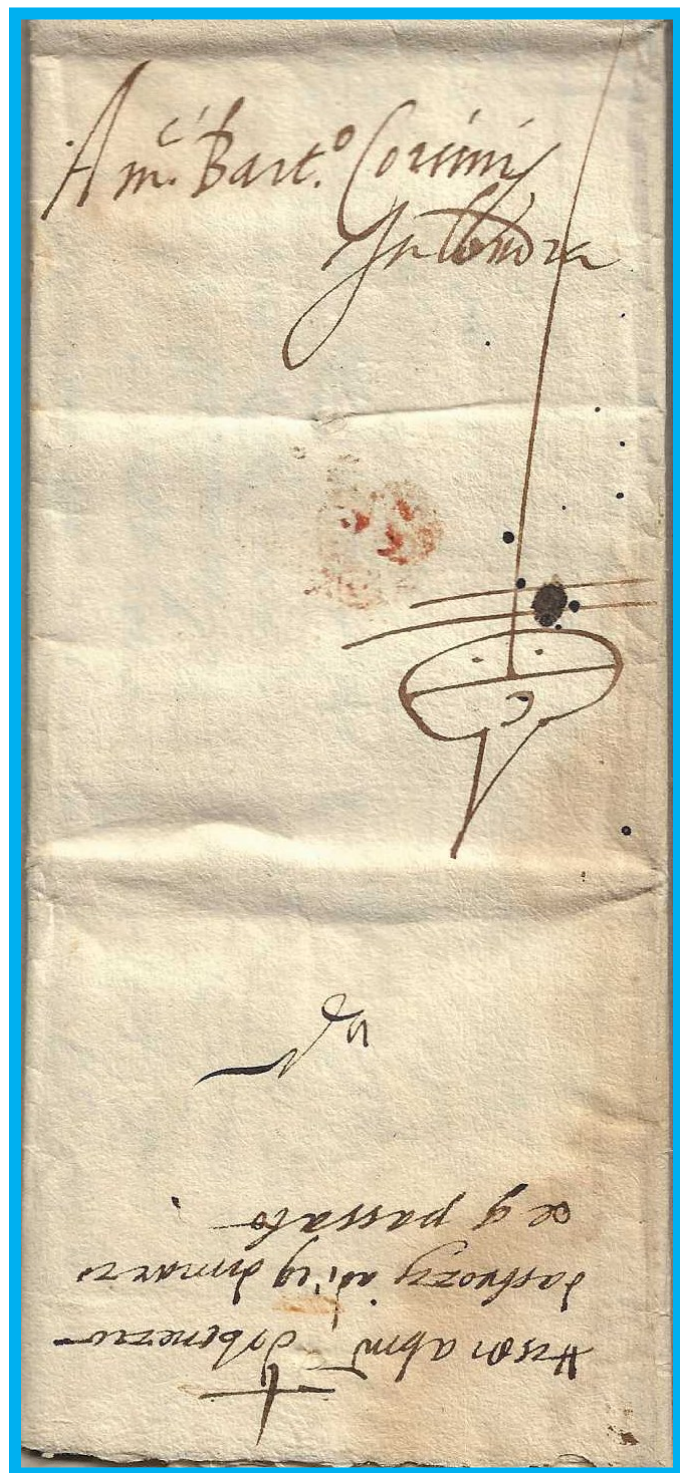


(COPY Back Origin, Arrival Date, Sender)

1590 - Entire letter from VENICE transit COLOGNE to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter dated 9 July 1590 from VENICE by merchant Gio Grimani (see Below Right Copy end of Text with his Name), addressed to Bartolomeo Corsini in LONDON. There is a London Arrival Date of 9 Aug. 1590 (see Copy of Back Bottom Right). Letter bears the endorsement **Franco p. Colog** (see arrow) meaning Paid as far as Cologne. This is a commercial letter Grimani states “your letter brought me no cheer. The insurers must be dealt with, the sailors not freed. The Red Lion sank in the same place”. The letter has a Closing Embossed Seal and part of the original string (see Middle Right).

3.2.1_ Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (*Thurn & Taxis Post*)



299
Londra Corsini & all'omo di filo 1501 proven
Nag. apia senza nostra caraga apia di dua altre nre eon questa
in denaro che siamo stati altimpò eare passato inco li
1000% da noi mco in q. n. d. di cui se fara pmissione
esta come ci ordinasti an faremo altimpò di che altro ci
baverete aim. che di pnte per detta picola partita n'ie hanno
amodita di farnene ualere 2000 d'ann, per noi ne saza tiato
la prima ordinazione si licapitola d' d'arne annuo, Suoi

(reduced COPY Text: Recipient,Date, Origin)

sara on sem ugnu uo' uolen uen pocr ualafini nel
modo a dite p'prie potra trouar piu ragioneuoli uenando
la qualita della m' d' uoria, alerim: L' ¹ ~~ma~~ ² ~~ma~~ alla p'aglia come
a que' ¹ ~~che~~ ² ~~che~~ ³ ~~che~~ ⁴ ~~che~~ ⁵ ~~che~~ ⁶ ~~che~~ ⁷ ~~che~~ ⁸ ~~che~~ ⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁰ ~~che~~ ¹¹ ~~che~~ ¹² ~~che~~ ¹³ ~~che~~ ¹⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁹ ~~che~~ ²⁰ ~~che~~ ²¹ ~~che~~ ²² ~~che~~ ²³ ~~che~~ ²⁴ ~~che~~ ²⁵ ~~che~~ ²⁶ ~~che~~ ²⁷ ~~che~~ ²⁸ ~~che~~ ²⁹ ~~che~~ ³⁰ ~~che~~ ³¹ ~~che~~ ³² ~~che~~ ³³ ~~che~~ ³⁴ ~~che~~ ³⁵ ~~che~~ ³⁶ ~~che~~ ³⁷ ~~che~~ ³⁸ ~~che~~ ³⁹ ~~che~~ ⁴⁰ ~~che~~ ⁴¹ ~~che~~ ⁴² ~~che~~ ⁴³ ~~che~~ ⁴⁴ ~~che~~ ⁴⁵ ~~che~~ ⁴⁶ ~~che~~ ⁴⁷ ~~che~~ ⁴⁸ ~~che~~ ⁴⁹ ~~che~~ ⁵⁰ ~~che~~ ⁵¹ ~~che~~ ⁵² ~~che~~ ⁵³ ~~che~~ ⁵⁴ ~~che~~ ⁵⁵ ~~che~~ ⁵⁶ ~~che~~ ⁵⁷ ~~che~~ ⁵⁸ ~~che~~ ⁵⁹ ~~che~~ ⁶⁰ ~~che~~ ⁶¹ ~~che~~ ⁶² ~~che~~ ⁶³ ~~che~~ ⁶⁴ ~~che~~ ⁶⁵ ~~che~~ ⁶⁶ ~~che~~ ⁶⁷ ~~che~~ ⁶⁸ ~~che~~ ⁶⁹ ~~che~~ ⁷⁰ ~~che~~ ⁷¹ ~~che~~ ⁷² ~~che~~ ⁷³ ~~che~~ ⁷⁴ ~~che~~ ⁷⁵ ~~che~~ ⁷⁶ ~~che~~ ⁷⁷ ~~che~~ ⁷⁸ ~~che~~ ⁷⁹ ~~che~~ ⁸⁰ ~~che~~ ⁸¹ ~~che~~ ⁸² ~~che~~ ⁸³ ~~che~~ ⁸⁴ ~~che~~ ⁸⁵ ~~che~~ ⁸⁶ ~~che~~ ⁸⁷ ~~che~~ ⁸⁸ ~~che~~ ⁸⁹ ~~che~~ ⁹⁰ ~~che~~ ⁹¹ ~~che~~ ⁹² ~~che~~ ⁹³ ~~che~~ ⁹⁴ ~~che~~ ⁹⁵ ~~che~~ ⁹⁶ ~~che~~ ⁹⁷ ~~che~~ ⁹⁸ ~~che~~ ⁹⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁰¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁰² ~~che~~ ¹⁰³ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁰⁹ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁰ ~~che~~ ¹¹¹ ~~che~~ ¹¹² ~~che~~ ¹¹³ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁴ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁵ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁶ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁷ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁸ ~~che~~ ¹¹⁹ ~~che~~ ¹²⁰ ~~che~~ ¹²¹ ~~che~~ ¹²² ~~che~~ ¹²³ ~~che~~ ¹²⁴ ~~che~~ ¹²⁵ ~~che~~ ¹²⁶ ~~che~~ ¹²⁷ ~~che~~ ¹²⁸ ~~che~~ ¹²⁹ ~~che~~ ¹³⁰ ~~che~~ ¹³¹ ~~che~~ ¹³² ~~che~~ ¹³³ ~~che~~ ¹³⁴ ~~che~~ ¹³⁵ ~~che~~ ¹³⁶ ~~che~~ ¹³⁷ ~~che~~ ¹³⁸ ~~che~~ ¹³⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁴¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁴² ~~che~~ ¹⁴³ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁴⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁵¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁵² ~~che~~ ¹⁵³ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁵⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁶¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁶² ~~che~~ ¹⁶³ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁶⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁷¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁷² ~~che~~ ¹⁷³ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁷⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁸¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁸² ~~che~~ ¹⁸³ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁸⁹ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁰ ~~che~~ ¹⁹¹ ~~che~~ ¹⁹² ~~che~~ ¹⁹³ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁴ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁵ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁶ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁷ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁸ ~~che~~ ¹⁹⁹ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁰ ~~che~~ ²⁰¹ ~~che~~ ²⁰² ~~che~~ ²⁰³ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁴ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁵ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁶ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁷ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁸ ~~che~~ ²⁰⁹ ~~che~~ ²¹⁰ ~~che~~ ²¹¹ ~~che~~ ²¹² ~~che~~ ²¹³ ~~che~~ ²¹⁴ ~~che~~ ²¹⁵ ~~che~~ ²¹⁶ ~~che~~ ²¹⁷ ~~che~~ ²¹⁸ ~~che~~ ²¹⁹ ~~che~~ ²²⁰ ~~che~~ ²²¹ ~~che~~ ²²² ~~che~~ ²²³ ~~che~~ ²²⁴ ~~che~~ ²²⁵ ~~che~~ ²²⁶ ~~che~~ ²²⁷ ~~che~~ ²²⁸ ~~che~~ ²²⁹ ~~che~~ ²³⁰ ~~che~~ ²³¹ ~~che~~ ²³² ~~che~~ ²³³ ~~che~~ ²³⁴ ~~che~~ ²³⁵ ~~che~~ ²³⁶ ~~che~~ ²³⁷ ~~che~~ ²³⁸ ~~che~~ ²³⁹ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁰ ~~che~~ ²⁴¹ ~~che~~ ²⁴² ~~che~~ ²⁴³ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁴ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁵ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁶ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁷ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁸ ~~che~~ ²⁴⁹ ~~che~~ ²⁵⁰ ~~che~~ ²⁵¹ ~~che~~ ²⁵² ~~che~~ ²⁵³ ~~che~~ ²⁵⁴ ~~che~~ ²⁵⁵ ~~che~~ ²⁵⁶ ~~che~~ ²⁵⁷

(reduced COPY end of Text: Sender's Signature)

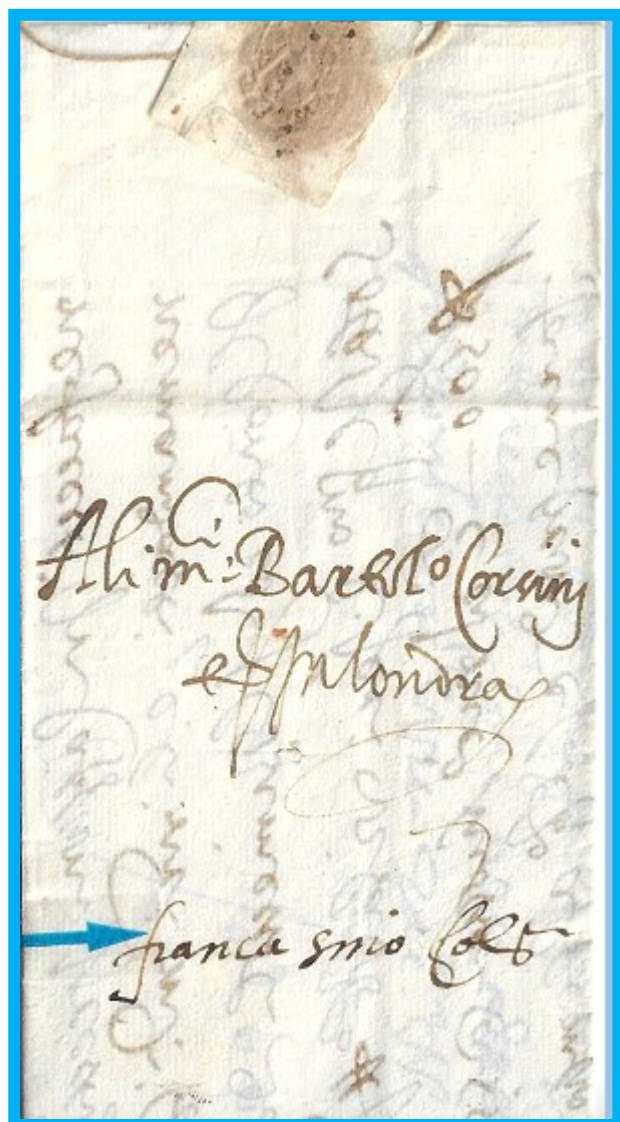
Heron abm + Dobenezio
lastrozgi adieg dumarzo
e g passato .

(COPY of Back Fold)

1591 -Entire letter from VENICE via *di Fiandra* to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

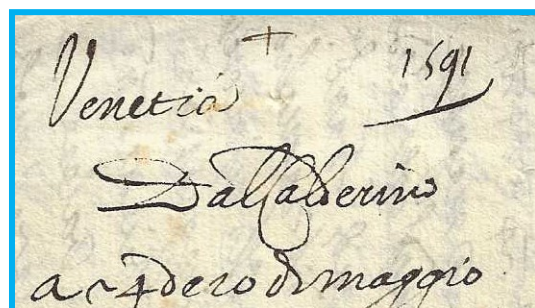
Entire letter sent 18 Feb.1591 from *Alfonco Ruberto STROZZI* in VENICE addressed to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON, received on 19 March 1591. There are no charge instructions (Pqa =per questa) on nearly all *Strozzi* letters from Venice pre-1600 (see: *The Corsini Letters* by *Beale*, p. 141). Letter has a decorative merchant's mark of *STROZZI* Firm. *Strozzi* archive has 40 letters (19 Sept.1588 to 20 Oct.1600), all endorsed with the *Strozzi* guild sign (Christie's 1986 catalog p. 120 &124).

3.2.1_ Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (*Thurn & Taxis Post*)

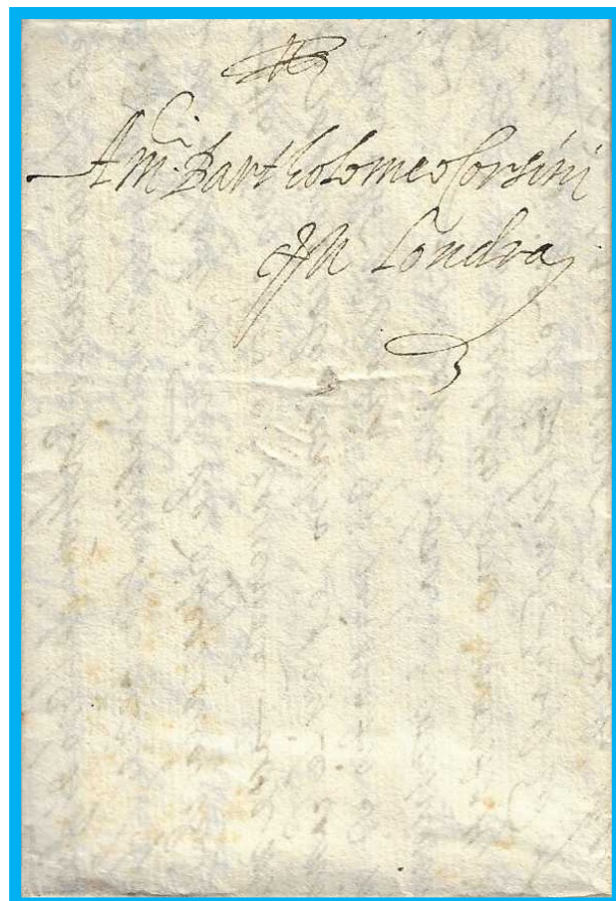


1591 - Entire letter **from** VENICE transit COLOGNE to **LONDON** (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter dated 17 May 1591 by *Jacomo & Palcido Ragazzoni* in Venice to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in London, marked '*franca Sino Colg*' (Paid as far as Cologne). Sender is concerned with recovering goods from ship '*Salvagna*' captured by the English & wrecked off England, Oct. 1590. On board had hundred thousand ducats worth of cargo. Queen Elizabeth interceded to ensure that no loss is suffered by the neutral Venetian merchants. (Corsini Archive had 27 letters fr *J. & P. Ragazzoni* from 1585-96, Christie 1986).



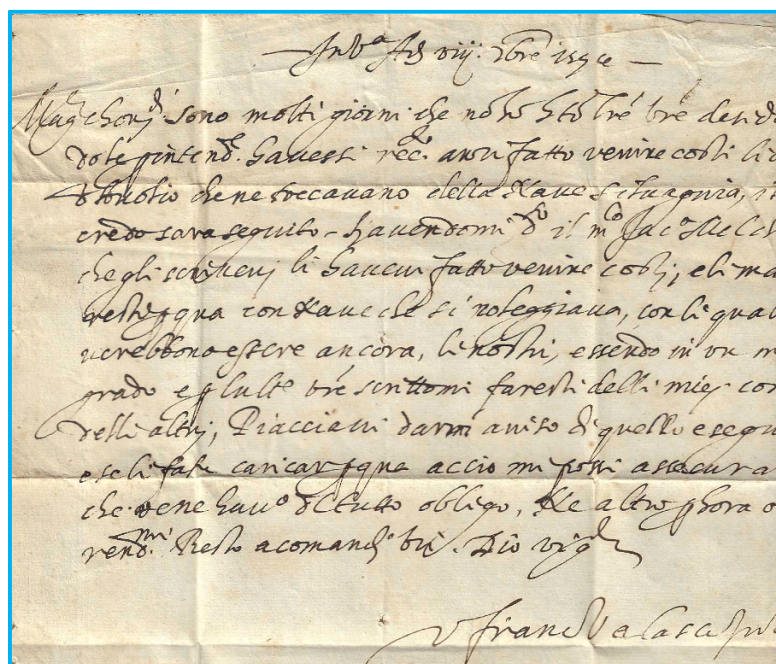
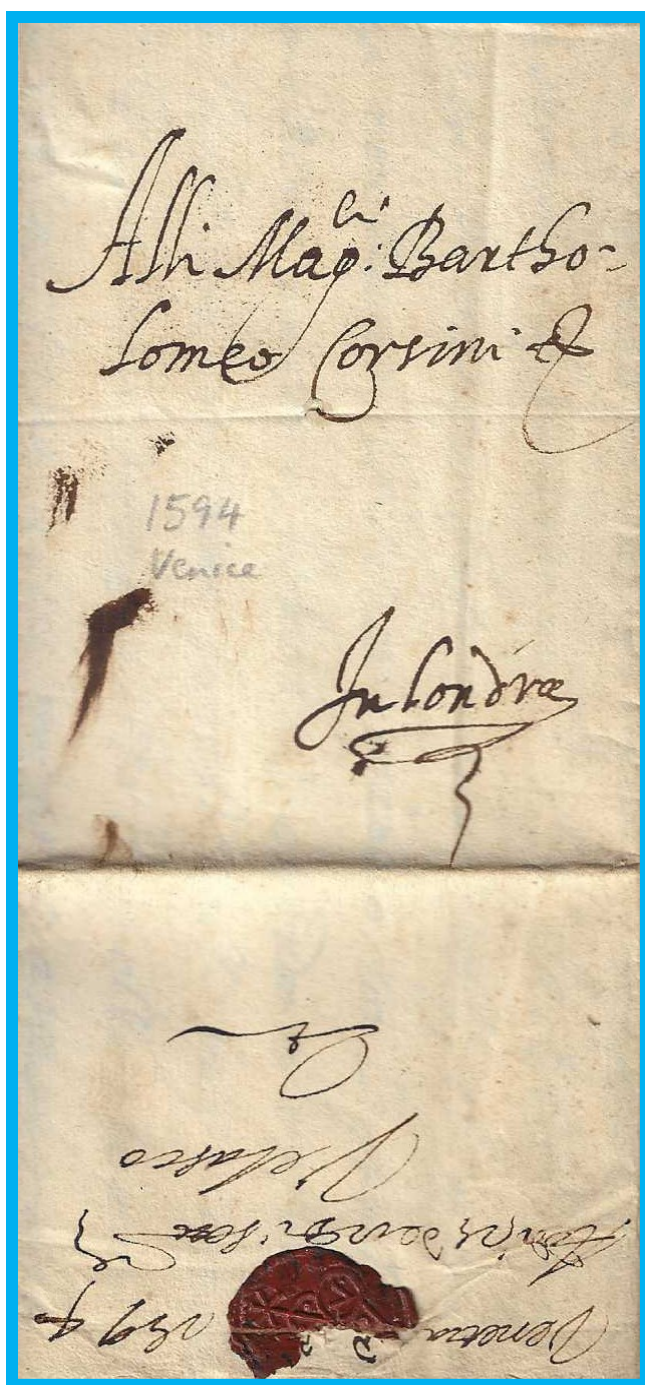
(COPY Back: Origin, Sender, Arr. Date)



1591 - Entire letter **from** VENICE via *di Fiandra* to **LONDON** (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter sent on 26 April 1591 by *Gio Francisco Calderino*, merchant in VENICE to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON and received on 20 May 1591. It refers to transactions of supplying *organzine* & *ardassine* Silk & Gold thread. He too is interested with recovering goods from the *Salvagna*. Letter has a closing red wax seal. (Corsini Archive had 6 letters of *G.F. Calderino* 8.2.1590 to 10.5.1591. Christie's 1986 catalog p. 123)

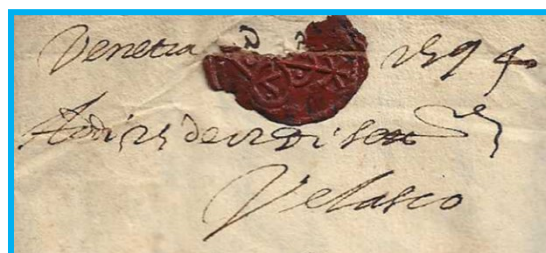
3.2.1_ Letters VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI correspondence) (*Thurn & Taxis Post*)



(reduced COPY of Text: Depart. Date, Sender)



(enlarged COPY Wax Seal V)

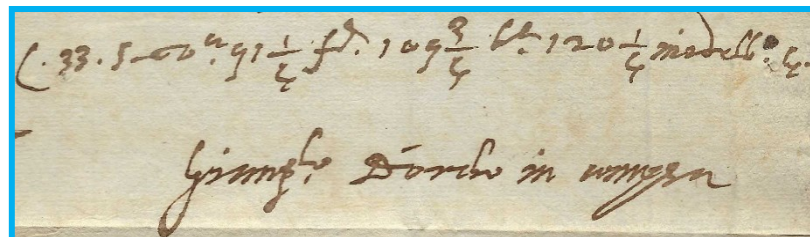
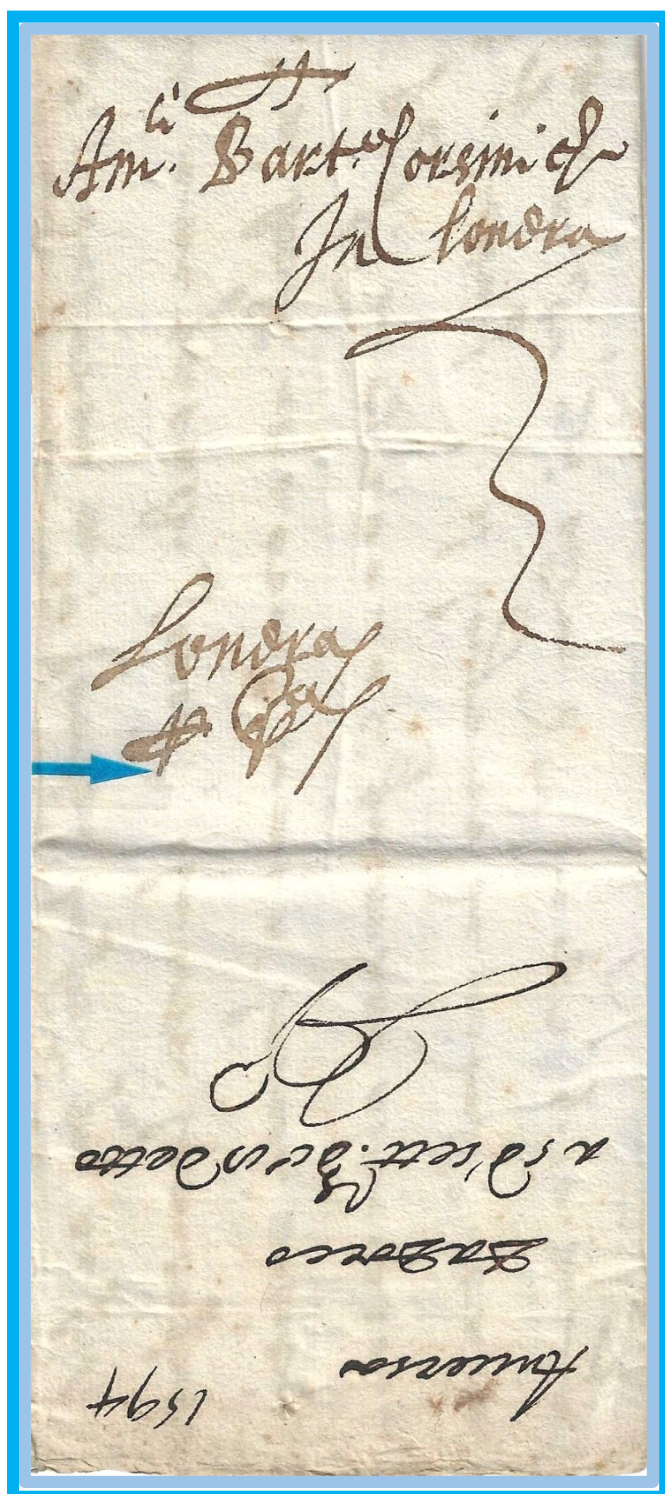


(reduced COPY Back: Origin, Arr.Date, Sender)

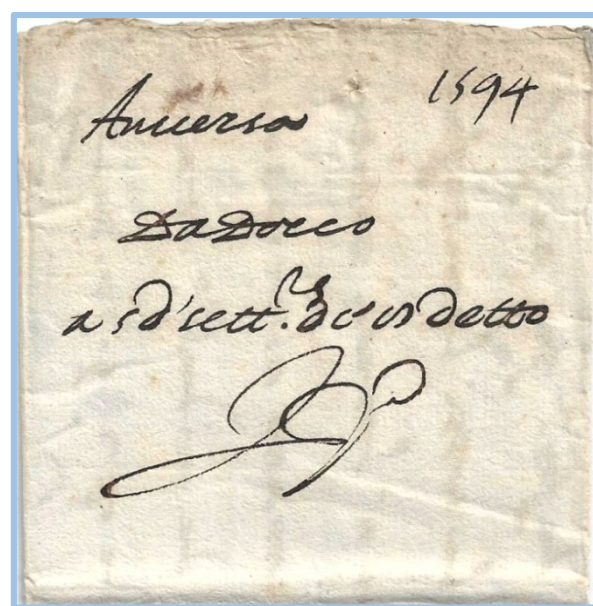
1594 - Entire letter from VENICE via *di Fiandto* to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter sent on 24 Sept. 1594 by *Francesco Velasco*, merchant in VENICE to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON and received on 22 Oct. 1594. *Velasco* (plus 4 other Venetian merchants) had written to Corsini to intervene at the Prize Court in London to have the ship *Salvagna* and its goods of ivory teeth released. Corsini was successful in getting back the ship and its cargo (see: Christie's 1986 catalog, page 124). The letter has a decorative red wax seal of the *Velasco Firm* (see V letter).

3.2.2 Letters from/to LONDON and the CONTINENT (*The Merchants Strangers Post*)



(COPY end of Text: Sender's Name, Origin)



(COPY Back: Origin, Arr.Date, Sender)

1594 - Entire letter from ANTWERP via MIDDELBURG (*Merchant Strangers*) to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter dated 10 Sept. 1594 from merchant *Giovanpaulo Dorcho* in ANTWERP to *Bartolomeo Corsini* in LONDON. *Dorcho*'s correspondence deals mainly with financial business, payments and receipts with rates of exchange. This letter has a postal charge 'p qta 7' = Per Questa 7 (see arrow). The route followed was from ANTWERP to MIDDELBURG (*Merchant Strangers*) and then to LONDON. (The Corsini Archive had 18 letters from *DORCHO* in Antwerp from 1585-1600. See Christie's 1986 catalog p. 99).

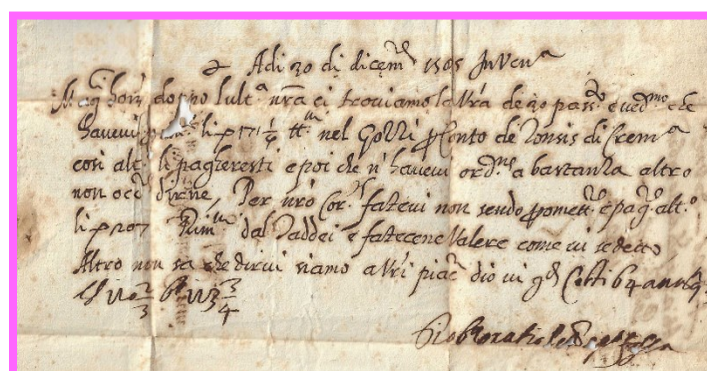
3.2.2 Letters from/to LONDON and the CONTINENT (*The Merchants Strangers Post*)

THE MERCHANT STRANGERS POST – LONDON to CHANNEL PORTS

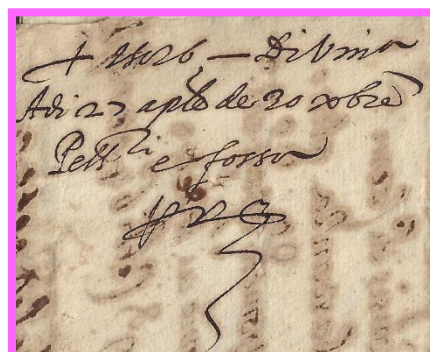
The Merchant Strangers' Post, between London and the Continent, with couriers to *Middelburg, Antwerp, Amsterdam, Calais, Paris*. About 80 per cent of Corsini letters from Europe were delivered by the *Merchant Strangers*, in bundles of 10 letters with the top letter bearing a charge for the whole bundle. Only about 3 per cent of all 3230 letters in their archive bear a rate unique to that letter. With a **G** symbol followed by a rate usually at $\frac{1}{2}$ (half a groat) equal to 2d, which was the standard charge per letter from the Channel ports. (see: *Corsini Letters* by Beale, London 2011, p. 125)



Route ANTWERP to LONDON by Merchant Strangers'



(reduced COPY of Text: Deprt. Date, Sender)

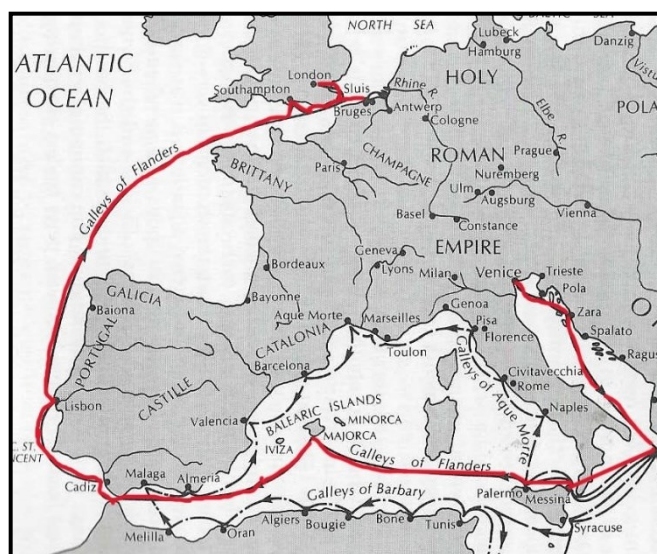
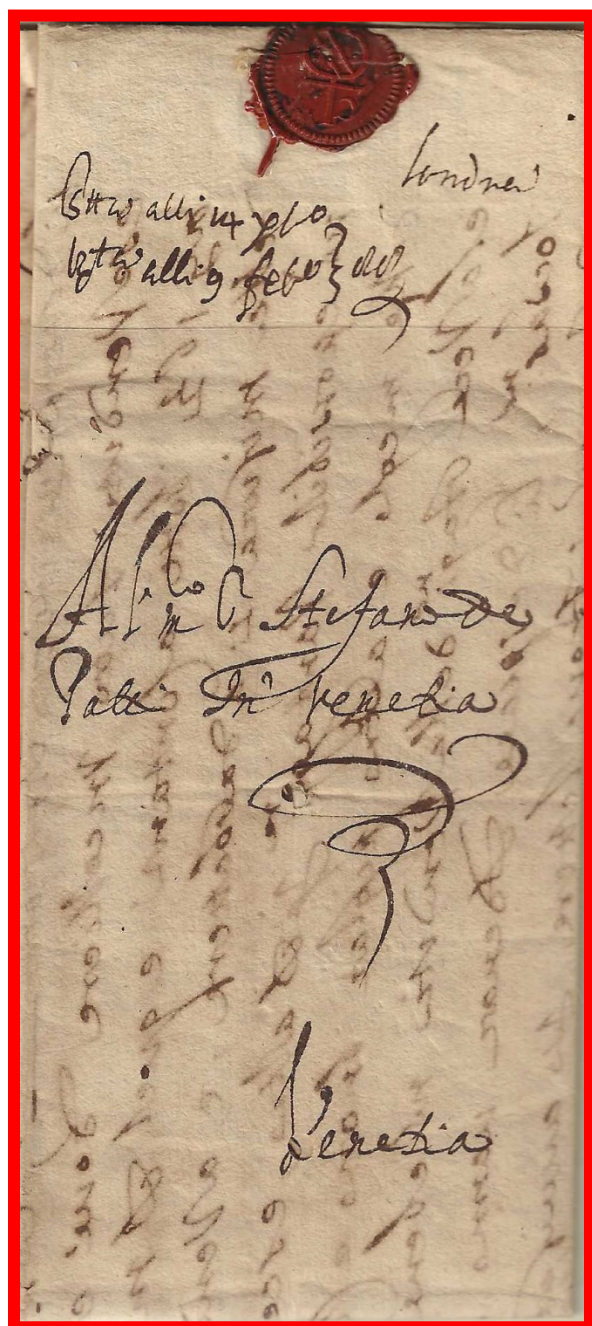


(COPY Back: Origin, Arr.Date, Sender)

1585 - Entire letter from VENICE to LONDON (CORSINI Correspondence)

Entire letter dated 30 Dec.1585 from merchants *Gianbagratio Pettezzari & (Giovanni) Fossa* in VENICE addressed to 'A M(agnifico Bartolomeo Corsini in Londra' (To the Magnificent Bartolomeo Corsini in LONDON.) Text refers to merchant *Taddei* and various accounts. Letter has a **G** $\frac{1}{2}$ charge (see arrow); that is half a groat) the standard charge per letter from Channel ports to London. (A groat refers to an English silver coin of 4 pence, thus 2d charge). Route was from Venice to Trento, linked with *Thurn & Taxis Post*, through Brenner Pass to Innsbruck, Cologne & Antwerp. There it linked with *Merchant Strangers' Post* to London

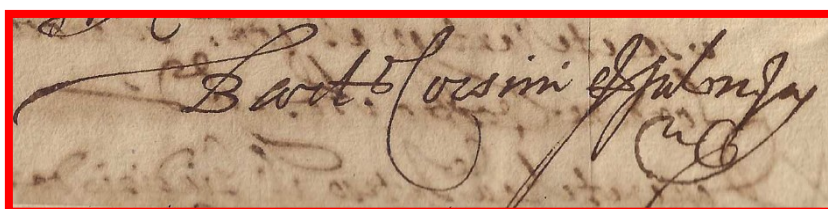
3.2.2 Letters from/to LONDON and the CONTINENT (*The Merchants Strangers Post*)



SEA ROUTE LONDON to VENICE



(COPY Wax Seal C letter)



(COPY: Signature of Bart. Corsini in London)

1588 - Entire letter from LONDON to VENICE (CORSINI Correspondence)

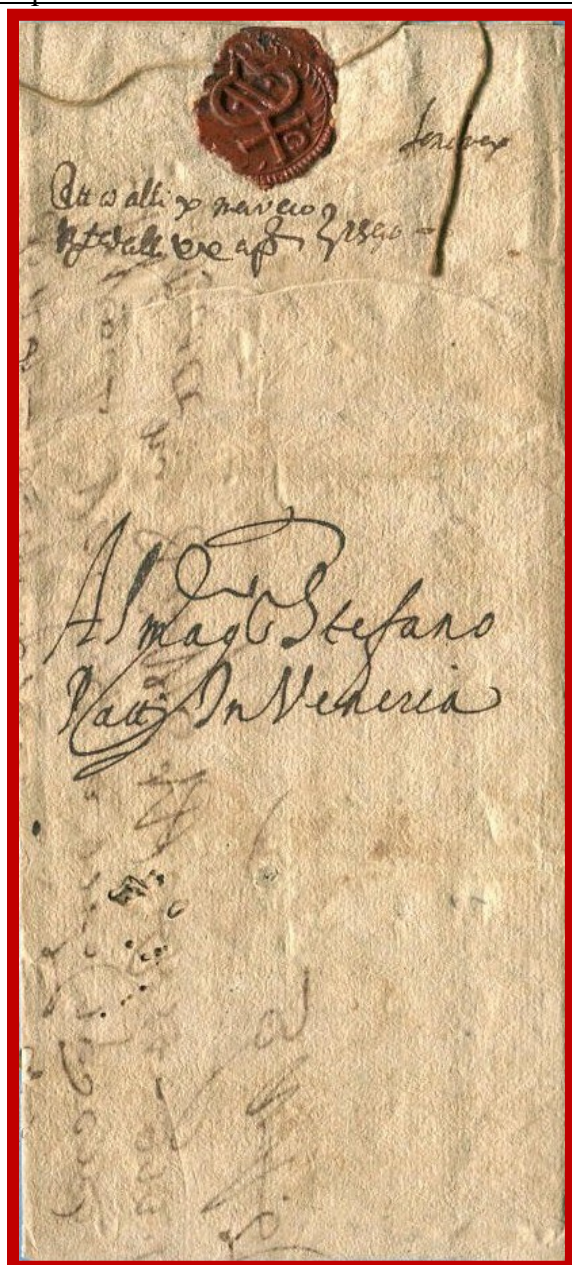
Entire letter written on 7 & 14 Dec. 1588 only a couple of months after the remnants of the Spanish Armada had returned to Spain. It is a lengthy letter written by **Bartolomeo Corsini** himself in LONDON sent to his cousin **Stefano Patti** in VENICE. Text refers to various disputes about trade in commodities. most likely the result of the chaos at sea caused during the summer months of 1588 by the Spanish Armada. Letter was received in

Venice 9 Feb. 1589 (see arrow) a journey of 57 days consistent with the longer Sea Route. This is the earliest recorded letter to Venice signed by Corsini. It has a red Wax Seal with the distinctive C/+: Corsini Guild Mark.

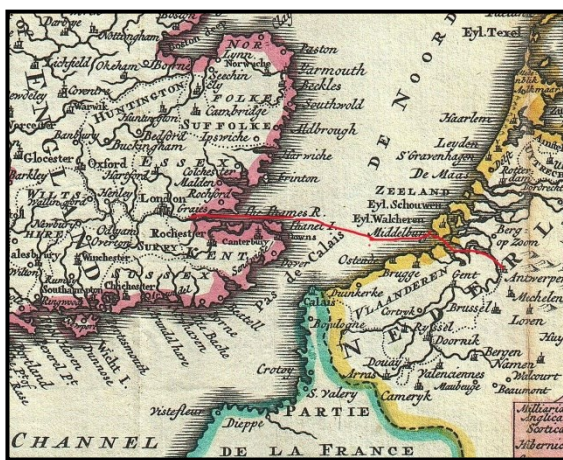
3.2.2 Letters from/to LONDON and the CONTINENT (*The Merchants Strangers Post*)

ROUTE LONDON TO CONTINENT - MERCHANT STRANGERS POST 1514-1609

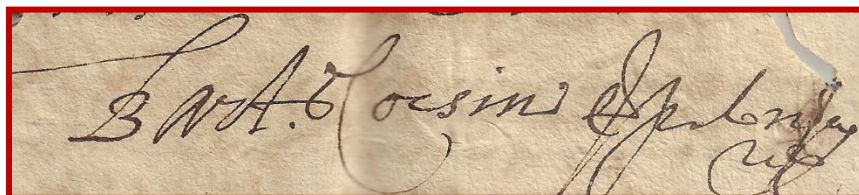
In the 16th cent. trade was buoyant between England and the Continent, thus London merchants established their own messenger service (1514 to 1609) called '*The Merchant Strangers' Post*, with couriers between London and the Continent, serving *Middelburg, Antwerp, Amsterdam, Calais, Paris etc.* They applied a charge of 2d per letter between London and the Continent ports. (*Corsini Letters by Beale*, London 2011, p. 125)



(COPY Wax Seal C letter)



LONDON to MIDDELBURG, ANTWERP Route



(COPY: Signature of Bart. Corsini in London)

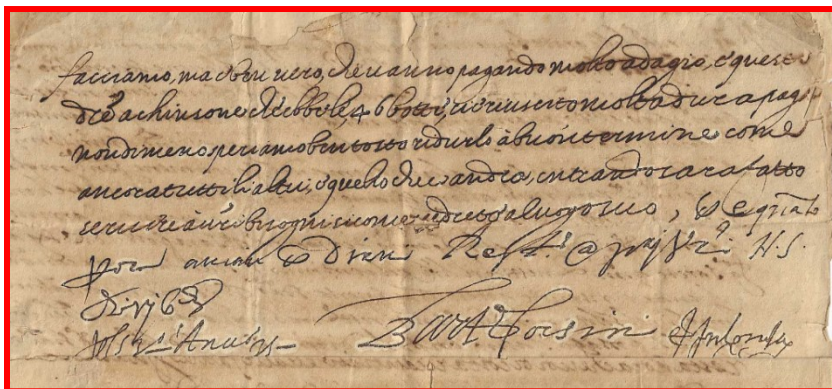
1590 - Entire letter from LONDON by Merchant Strangers to MIDDELBURG-ANTWERP then to VENICE

Entire letter sent by **Bartolomeo Corsini** from LONDON to his cousin *Stefano Patti* in VENICE, received 30 March 1590 (see arrow). Route was by *Merchant Strangers* to Middelburg, Antwerp; then by *Thurn & Taxis Post* through Cologne to Trento, then by *Venetian Couriers* to Venice. Letter has a closing Red Wax Seal and a tying String. From 3600 letters addressed to *Corsinis*, **only 11 letters exist** written 1589-93 by **Bartholomeo Corsini** himself in London to his cousin *Stefano Patti* in Venice. (see: *The Corsini Letters by Philip Beale* p 186)

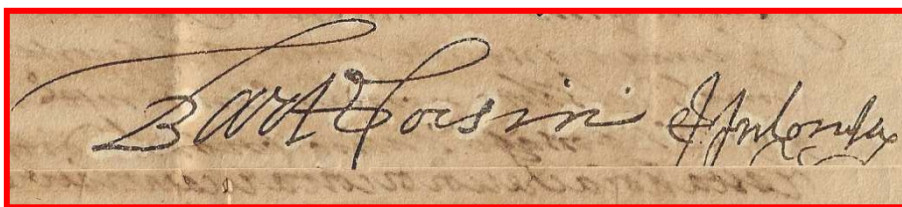
3.2.2 Letters from/to LONDON and the CONTINENT (*The Merchants Strangers Post*)



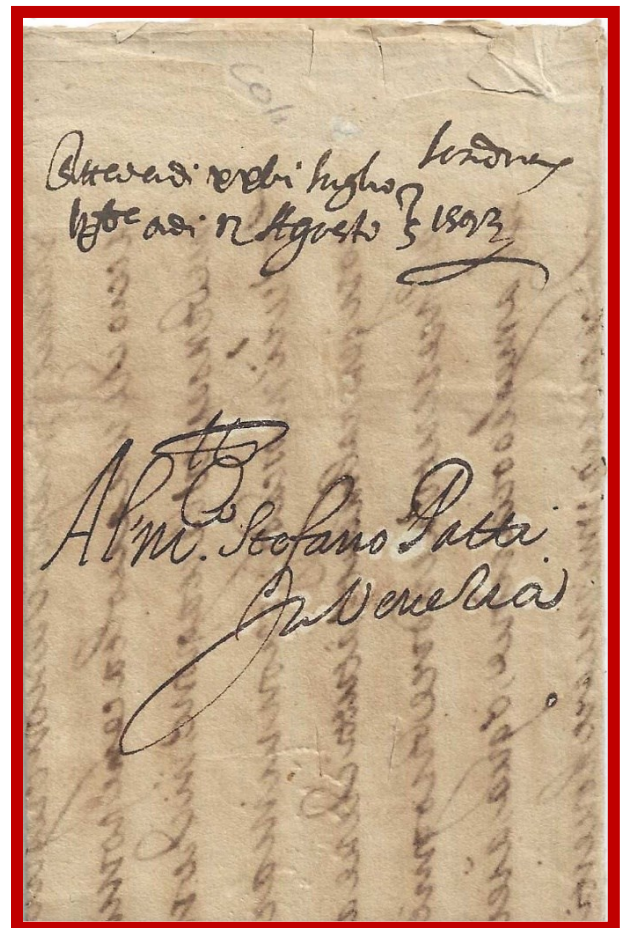
(COPY Wax Seal C letter)



(reduced COPY: End of Text: Signature of Bart. Corsini)



(COPY: Signature of Bart. Corsini in London)



1593 - Entire letter from LONDON by Merchant Strangers to MIDDELBURG-ANTWERP then to VENICE

Entire letter sent 11 July, 1593 by **Bartolomeo Corsini** from LONDON to his cousin *Stefano Patti* in VENICE, received 12 Aug, 1593. Route was by *Merchant Strangers* to Middelburg, Antwerp; then by *Thurn & Taxis Post* through Cologne to Trento, then by *Venetian Couriers* to Venice. The *Thurn & Taxis* charged 6 schelling. The letter refers to poor sales of *Patti's Muscat wine* and *Corsini's* efforts to collect *Patti's* debts. It has a closing Red Wax Seal. (see Below). From 3600 letters addressed to *Corsini*, **only 11 letters exist** written 1589-93 by **Bartholomew Corsini** himself (see **his signature** Bottom Right). (see: *The Corsini Letters* by Beale, p. 186).

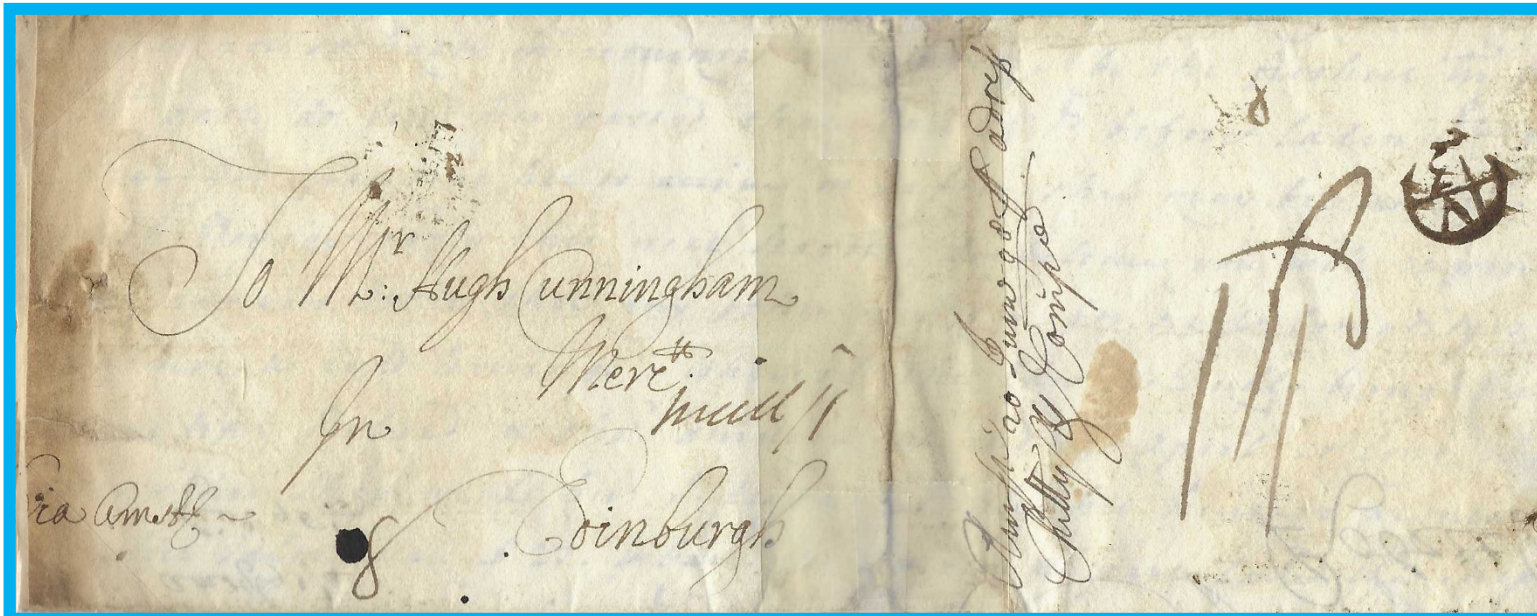
3.2.3 Letters from VENICE to SCOTLAND (*Thurn & Taxis Post - King's Post, Great Britain*)

ROUTE VENICE TO EDINBURGH – THURN & TAXIS POST and KING'S POST

Since 1504, the *Thurn & Taxis Post* operated from Italy, through Germany to the Low Countries the Route taken was from **Venice** by *Venetian Couriers* to **Trento**, then by *Thurn & Taxis Post* to **Cologne** and then **Amsterdam**. There they linked with the *King's Post* (operating since 1683) for the sea route to **London**. The *King's Post* continued along the North Road (operating since 1635) to **Edinburgh** Scotland. (see: *Scottish Postal History 1591-1711*, by A. Malcolm Fenning, RPS London 2015 and *CROSS-CHANNEL-MAIL, 1583-1815*, by Leon H.J. Janssen, RPS London 1999).

1698- Entire Letter from VENICE via AMSTERDAM - LONDON to EDINBURGH (Scotland)

Entire letter sent 6 June 1698 by *Robert Davis* in VENICE to *Hugh Cunningham* (1642-1710) *Scottish merchant* in EDINBURGH. It bears a (London) Bishop's Mark June 13 (IV/13) and was received 20 June 1698. There is a handwritten endorsement *Fr(an)ca Amsterd(am)* (see arrow) i.e. Paid as far Amsterdam. There a charge of **8d** (see arrow), 3d for Amsterdam-London Route and 5d for London-Edinburgh. On reverse is a closing Wax Seal.

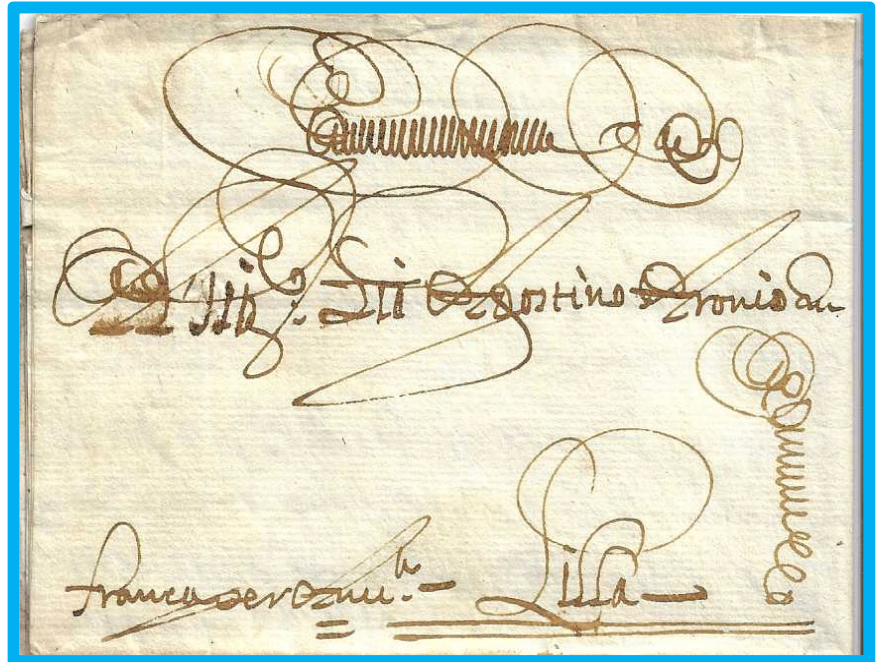


(enlarged COPY of Seal)

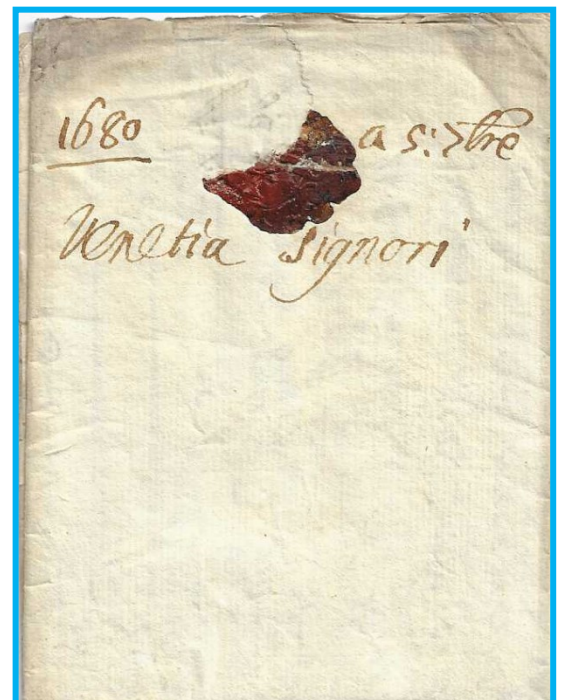
3.2.4 Letters from/to VENICE and NW EUROPE (*Thurn & Taxis Post or Flemish Post*)

1680 - Entire Letter from VENICE via ANTWERP to LILLE (France)

Entire Letter sent on 16 Aug. 1680 by *Gio Signori* from VENICE to *Gio Agostino Aronio* in LILLE. received on 7 Sept. 1680 (see Below Right). The Route was by the *Venetian Couriers* to Trento, linked with the *Thurn & Taxis*, then to Augusta, Cologne and Antwerp, from there to LILLE. The letter has an endorsement "*Franco per anversa*" (see arrow) i.e. Paid up to Antwerp, plus a closing partial Red Wax Seal. The *Aronios* were merchants & shipowners from Genoa known from the early 1500's. In 1636, *Gio Agostino Aronio* settled in Lille. His business flourished and quickly became prominent. Besides being merchants, they were also speculators. As lenders, they took risks and were able to survive the wars with little damage thanks to their trade diversification.



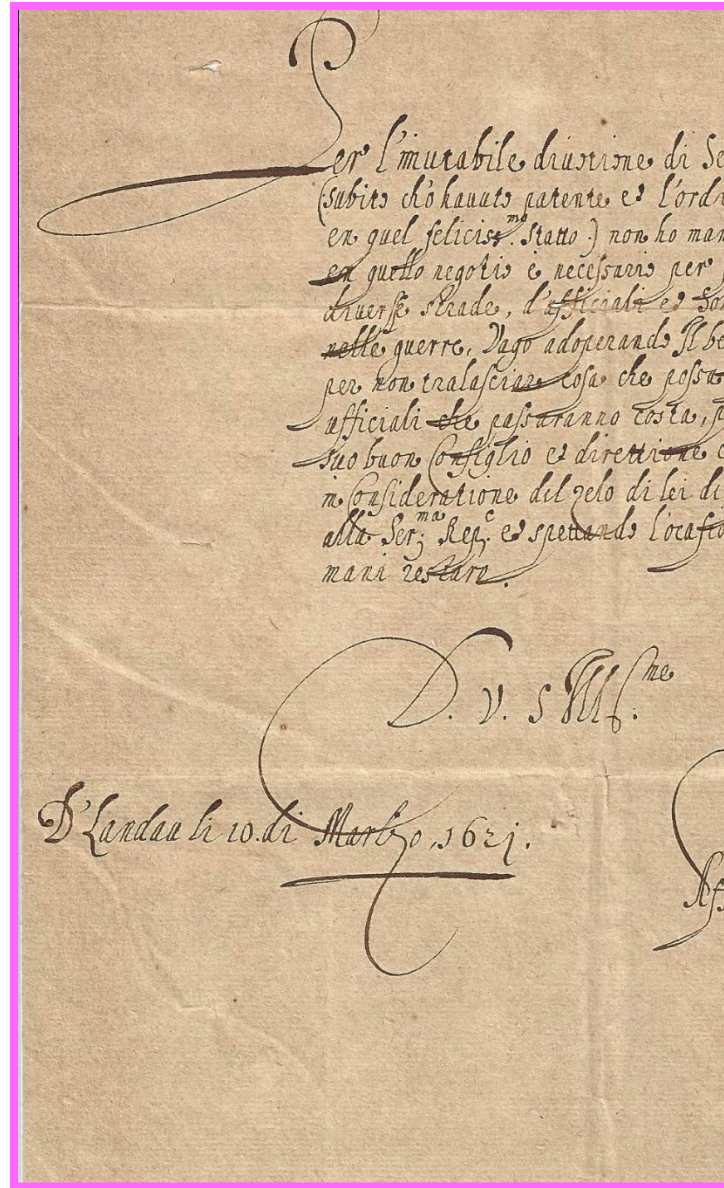
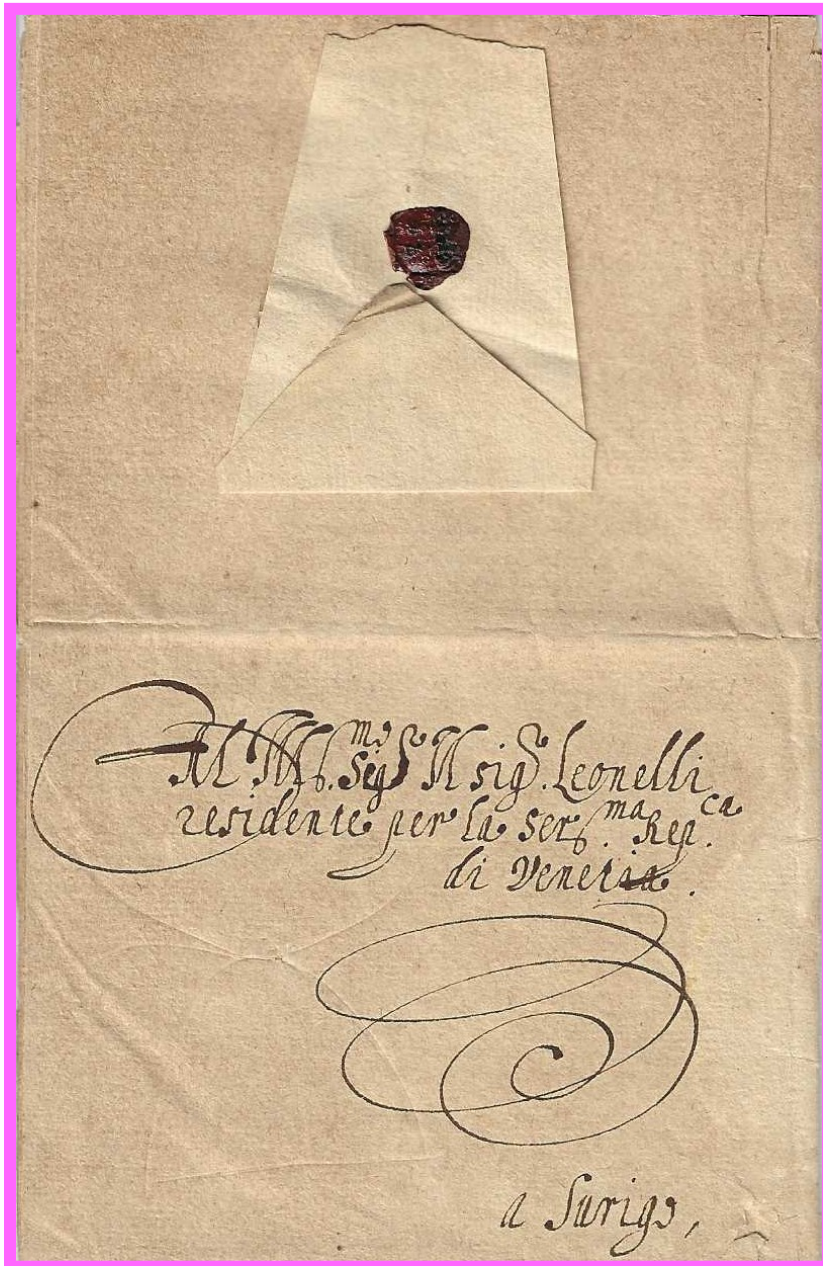
ANTWERP to LILLE Route



(COPY of Back arrival Date)

3.2.4_ Letters from VENICE and NW EUROPE (*Thurn & Taxis Post or Flemish Post*)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND - The Thirty Years' War (1618-48) was a devastating European conflict over religious divisions, plus a contest for European dominance between the Habsburgs (Austria/Spain) and the French. In 1615, Venice declared war on Austria over their support to Uskok pirates on Venetian ships. Count Georg Ludwig von Löwenstein of Landau was a protestant Colonel who took part in the Battle of Fleurus 1622.



(reduced COPY Text)

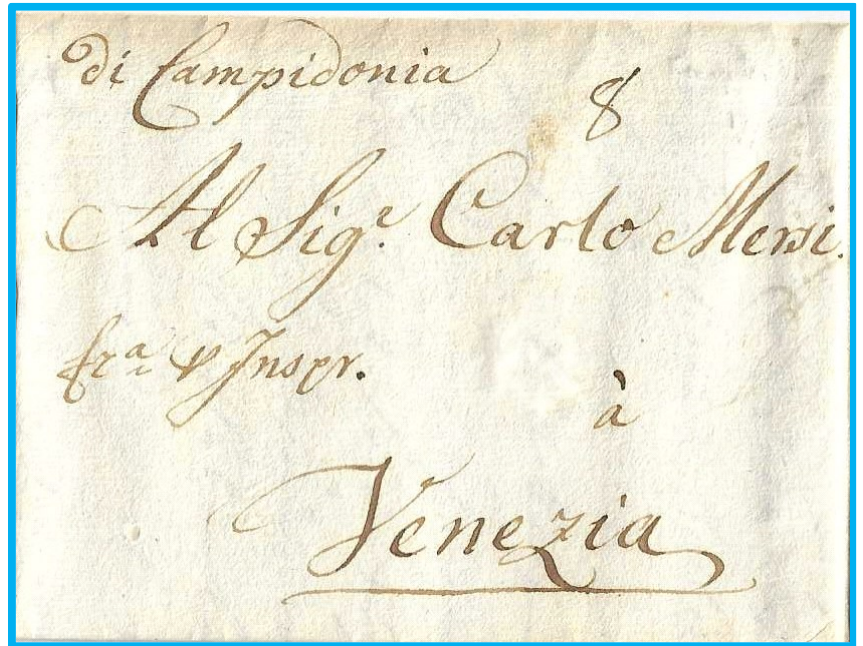
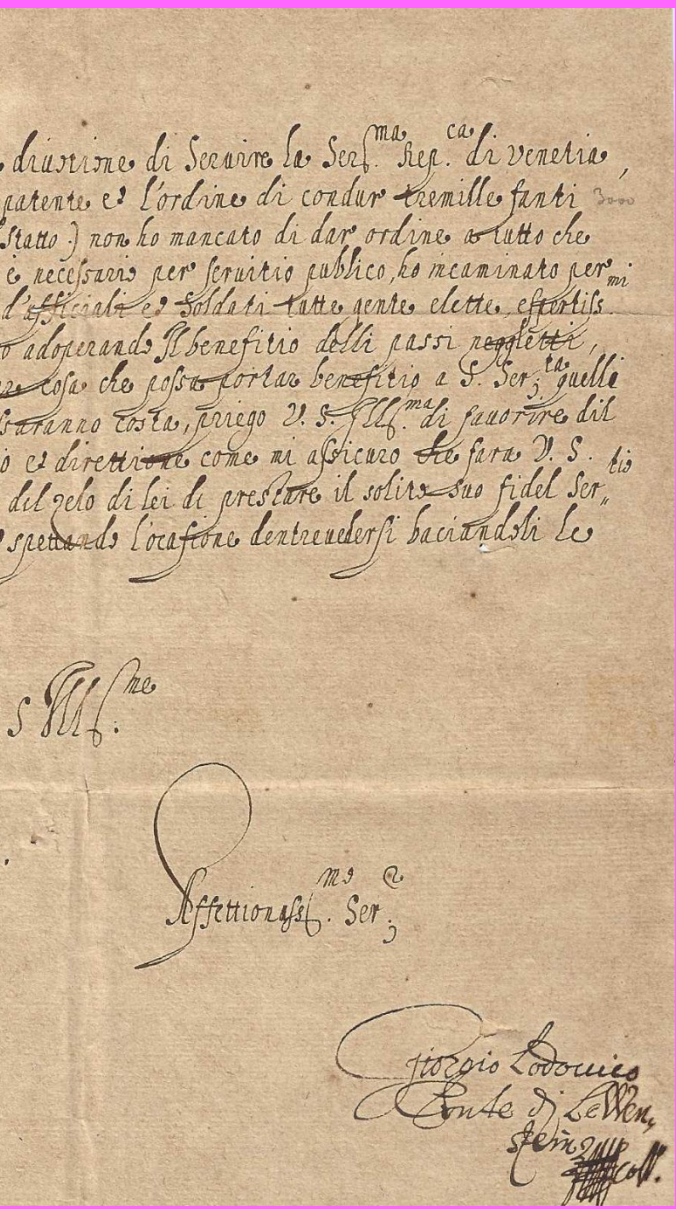
1621 - Entire Letter from LANDAU (Germany) to Venetian Ambassador in ZURICH

Entire letter dated 10 March 1621 sent by Count Georg Ludwig von Löwenstein from LANDAU to Sig. Leonelli the **Venetian** Ambassador in ZURICH (*residente per la Ser-ma Rep. di Venezia a Surigo*). He is requesting 3000 Venetian infantry soldiers. (Venice was anti Austrian). A year later in Aug. 1622, the protestant Count as Colonel took part in *Battle of Fleurus* in the Spanish Netherlands, where the Protestant infantry was crushed.

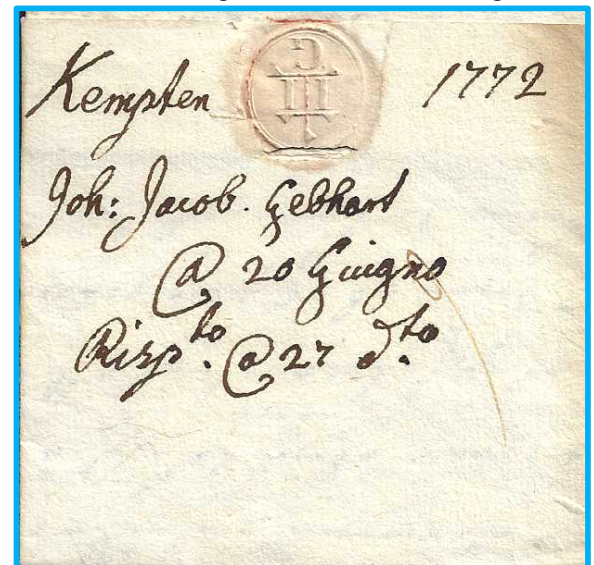
3.2.4_ Letters from VENICE and NW EUROPE (*Thurn & Taxis Post or Flemish Post*)

1772 – Entire Letter from **CAMPIDONIA** (Kempten, Bavaria) to **VENICE**

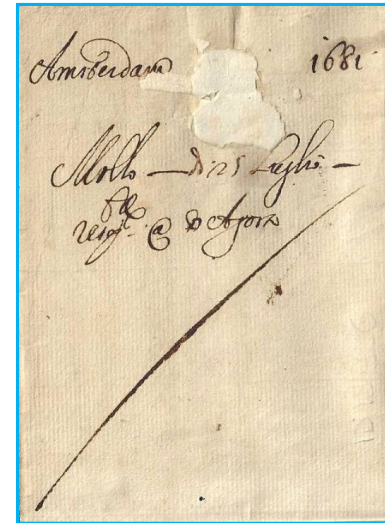
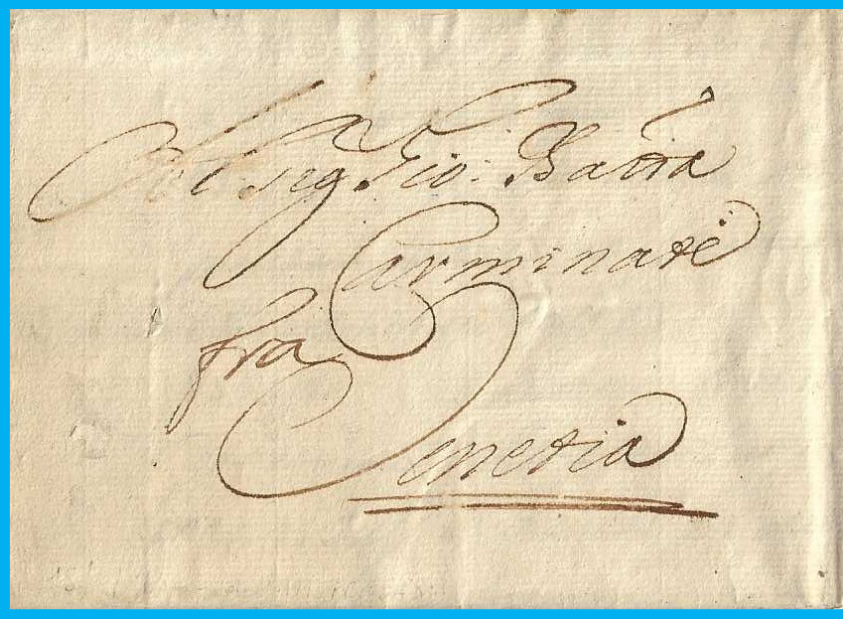
Entire letter sent on 20 June 1772 by is *Jacob Gebhart* from **CAMPIDONIA** (Kempten), addressed to *Carlo Mersi* in Venice, received on 27 June 1772. This is a commercial letter written in German referring Tobacco trade. The letter travelled from **Kempten** north-east to Augsburg from there by the *Thurn and Taxis* couriers south the *via di Fiandra* through Innsbruck (see notation *fra v. Inspr*) then to Trento. From there by Venetian Couriers to Venice. It was taxed **8 Soldi**. On reverse is a closing fold with an Embossed Seal with the Initial **G**



(COPIES Above enlarged Seal; Below back Origin, Dates)



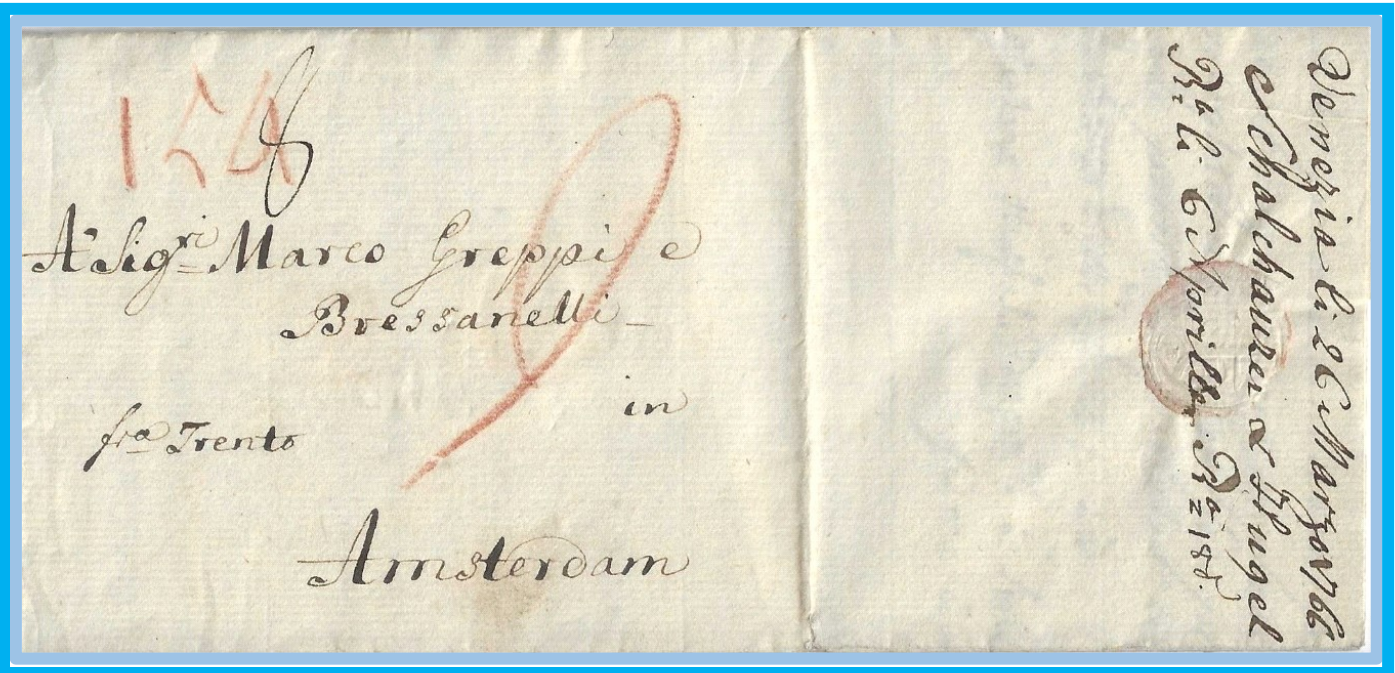
3.2.4_ Letters from VENICE and NW EUROPE (*Thurn & Taxis Post or Flemish Post*)



(reduced COPY Back Origin, Sender, Date)

1681 - Entire Letter from **AMSTERDAM** via *di Fiandra* to **VENICE**

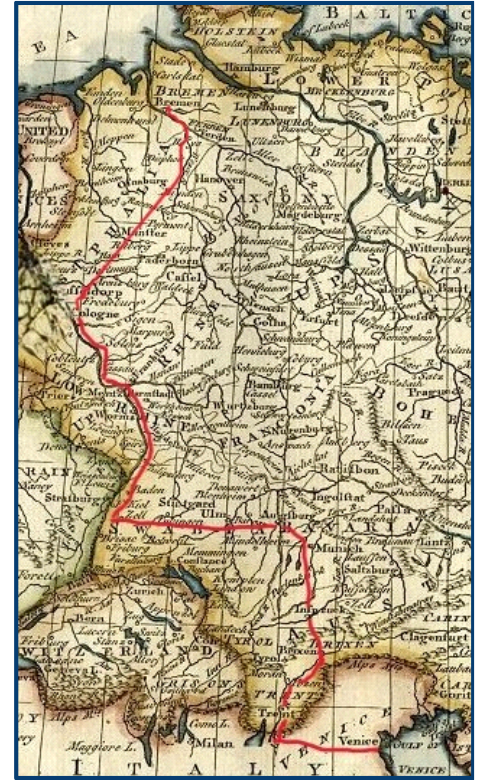
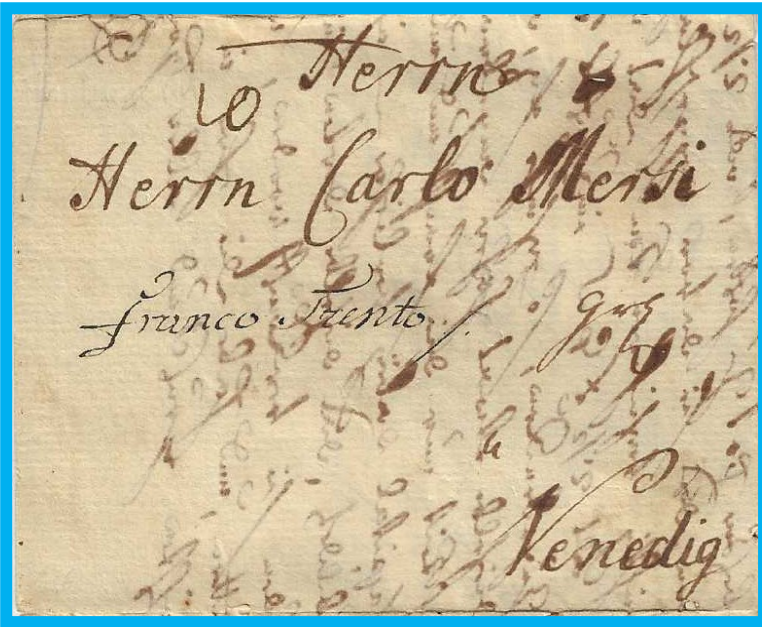
Entire letter sent 18 July 1681 by *Francesco Mollo* from **AMSTERDAM** to **Gio Batta Carminati** in **VENICE**, received on 25 July 1681. Letter deals with payments and settling of accounts. In 1660s *Gio Batta Carminati* was based in Madrid. In 1681 *Gio Batta* is back in Venice. Between 1681-87 we record two letters addressed to *Gio Batta* there from Amsterdam. The Route was from Amsterdam with the *Thurn & Taxis* to Cologne, Augusta, Trento; from there linked with the *Venetian Couriers* to Venice.



1766 - Entire Letter from **VENICE** to **AMSTERDAM**

Entire Letter dated 26 March 1766 sent by the merchants *Schalchauer & Hugel* from **VENICE** to *Marco Greppi & Bressanelli* in **AMSTERDAM**, where it was received on 6 April 1766. This is a Commercial Letter referring among others to the rice market difficulties. The letter has a notation '**fra Trento**' meaning paid up to Trento. From Trento the *Thurn and Taxis* couriers took it through *Augusta, Cologne, Antwerp* to **AMSTERDAM**. The letter has some red markings and is taxed with 8 soldi. The letter has the sender's closing Embossed Seal.

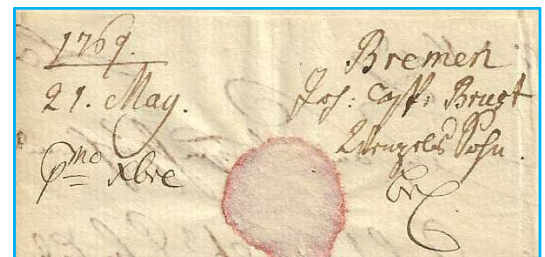
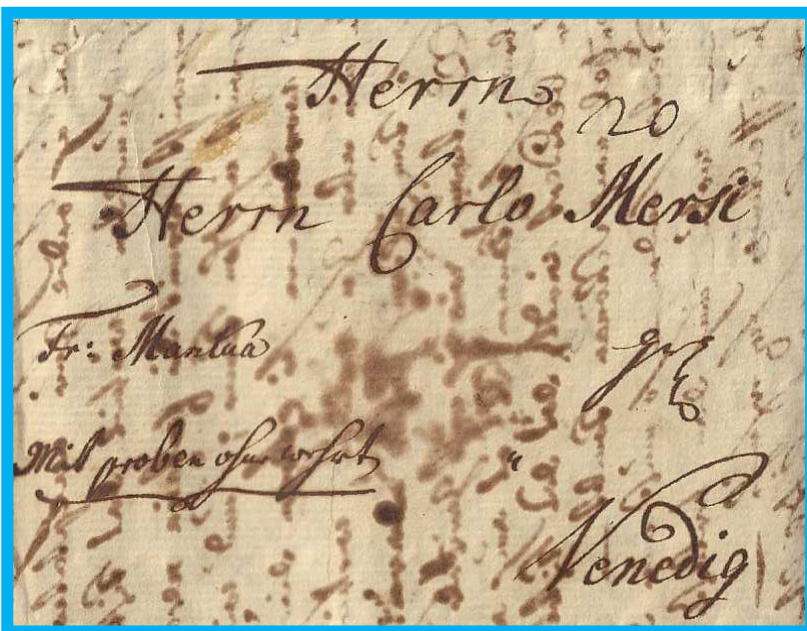
VENICE and NW EUROPE (*Thurn & Taxis Post or Flemish Post*)



BREMEN to VENICE Route

1769 - Entire Letter from BREMEN (North Germany) via *di Fiandra* to VENICE

Two Entire letters sent by *Jos. Caspar Brust* from BREMEN to *Carlo Mersi* in VENICE. These are commercial letters dealing with payments and settling of accounts. The Route taken was Bremen with the *Thurn and Taxis* to Cologne, Augusta, Trento and from there it linked with the *Venetian Couriers* to Venice. The 1st letter dated 21 May 1769 (Top Left) has an annotation '*Franco Trento*' (see arrow) Paid as far as Trento, plus a 10 soldi charge for the Route Trento to Venice. The 2nd letter dated 21 7bre 1769 (Bottom Left) has an annotation '*Fr. Mantua*' (see arrow) Paid as far as Mantua, plus a 20 soldi charge for the Route Mantua to Venice

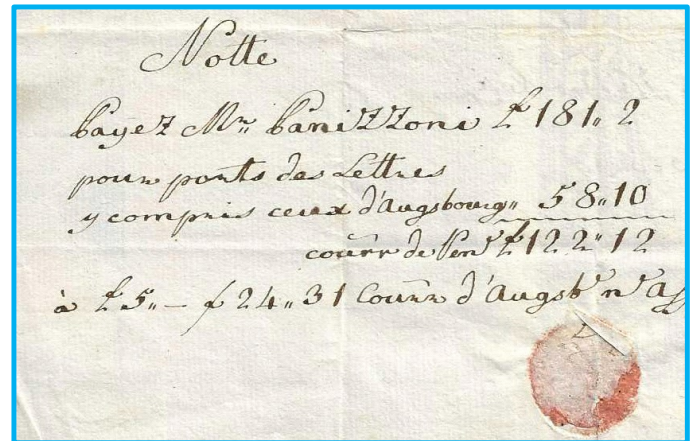
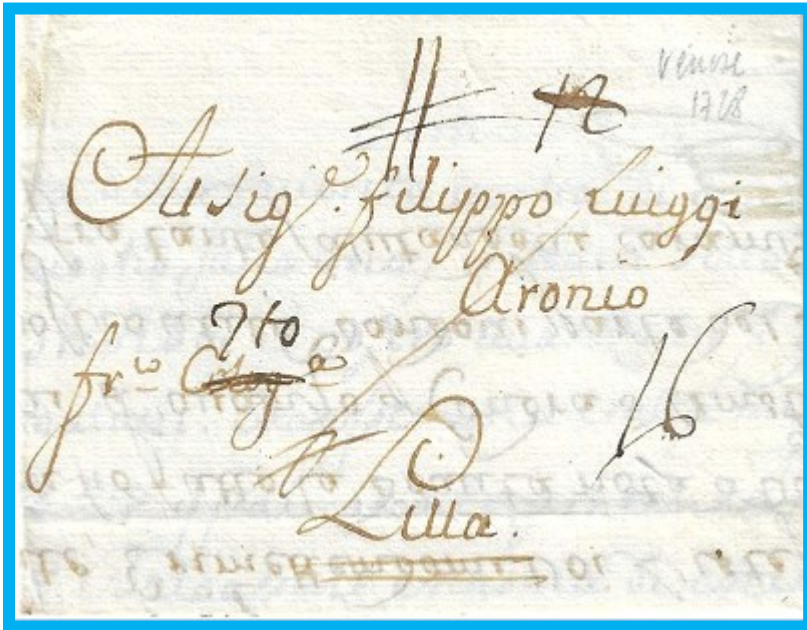


(reduced COPY Back 1st Letter: Date, Origin, Sender)



(reduced COPY Back 2nd Letter: Date, Origin, Sender)

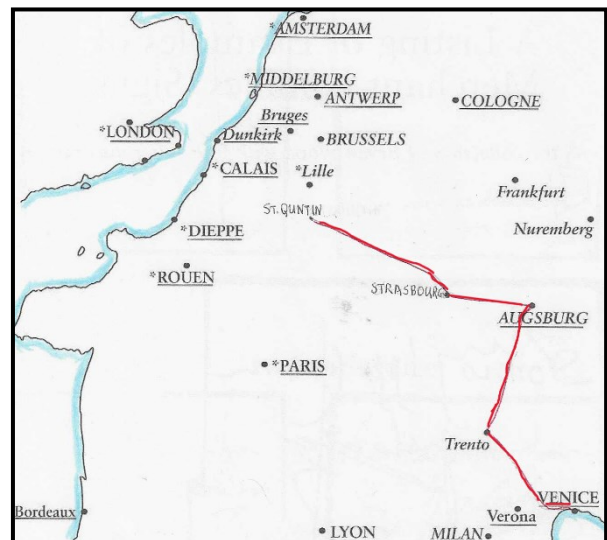
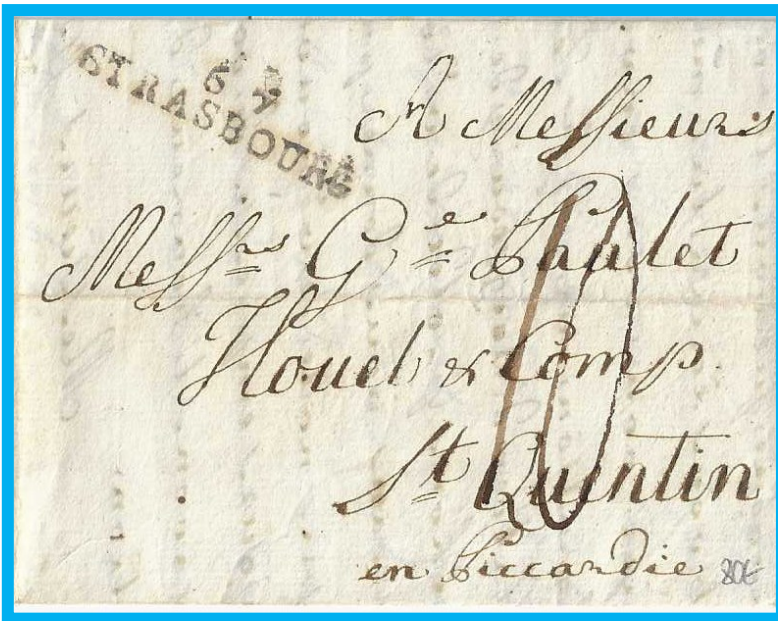
3.2.4_ Letters from/to VENICE and NW EUROPE (*Thurn & Taxis Post or Flemish Post*)



(reduced COPY Back: Deprt.Arr.Dates,Sender)

1728 - Entire Letter from **VENICE** to **LILLE** (France)

Entire Letter sent 25 Sept. 1728 by *Giacomo Benspergh* of **VENICE** to *Filippo Luigi Aronio* in **LILLE** (Lille), received on 8 Oct. 1728. Commercial Letter referring to his settling of a 243 Soldi payment. The Route was first *Venetian Couriers* to Trento, then by the *Thurn & Taxis*, to Augusta, Cologne, ANTWERP, from there to LILLE. Letter has an endorsement "*fr-co Tto - Franco per Trento Paid up to Trento* (crossed out marking *fr-co Colog-a* (see arrow), The letter has a 12 tax mark, which was crossed out and corrected to a final 16 soldi tax.



Route **VENICE** to **ST. QUINTIN**

1793 - Entire Letter from **VENICE** via **AUGUSTA** transit **STRASBOURG** to **ST. QUINTIN** (France)

Entire Letter sent 8 Feb. 1793, by *Firnkrantz & Mayer* from **VENICE** to *G. Caudet, Hoeub & Comp.* in **ST. QUINTIN**. Letter followed the *Flemish Post* Route from Trento to Augsburg, then taken by Couriers *Halder & Comp.* through **STRASBOURG**, where a '**STRASBOURG**' linear handstamp was applied and then to **ST. QUINTIN** in Picardie. There is a handwritten 10 tax charge. Text has a Note stating the recipient owes total £ 181.2 for Postage £ 58. 10 from Augsburg to Strasbourg and £ 122.12 for the trip to St. Quentin)

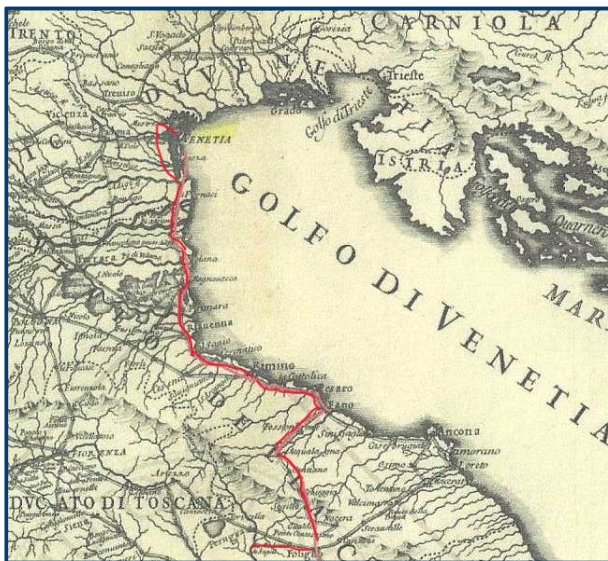
3.2.5 Letters from VIENNA to VENICE (*The Vienna Post or via di Vienna*)

ROUTE OF THE VIENNA POST (or *via di Vienna*)

The Route was from Vienna, to Graz, Laybach, Gorizia, to Venice. In 1579, the Austrian Post opened an office in Venice, to facilitate the dispatch of mail. In 1624, the *Paar* family was granted postal rights in the Austrian Empire. In 1722, the Austrian Posts became a state monopoly; bringing Mail fr NE Europe & Constantinople.



Route VIENNA to VENICE



Route VENICE to TODI

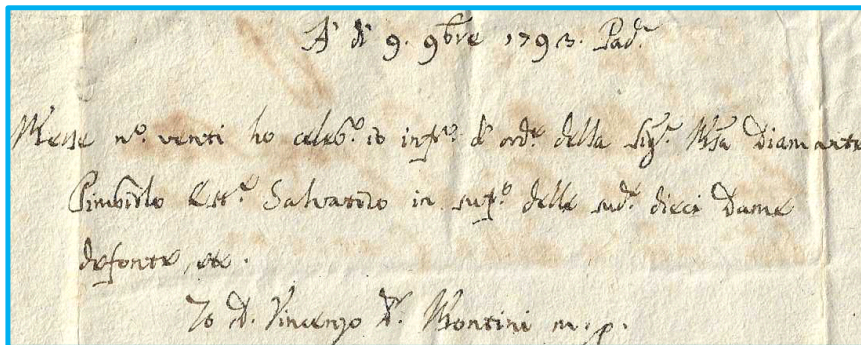


1692 - Entire letter from **VIENNA** (*Vienna Post*) transit **VENICE** to **TODI** (Umbria)

Entire letter sent on 30 March 1692 by *Ald. Waldestein* in *VIENNA* to *Giuseppe Giselli* in *TODI* (Umbria). Route was from Vienna to *VENICE* by the *Vienna Post*, then by *Venetian Courriers* to *NARNI* and *TODI*. It is marked with a thick Red Line meaning that neither dazio (tax) nor postage was paid, plus it has a 2 soldi Fee (see arrow). On Back is a Red Wax Seal

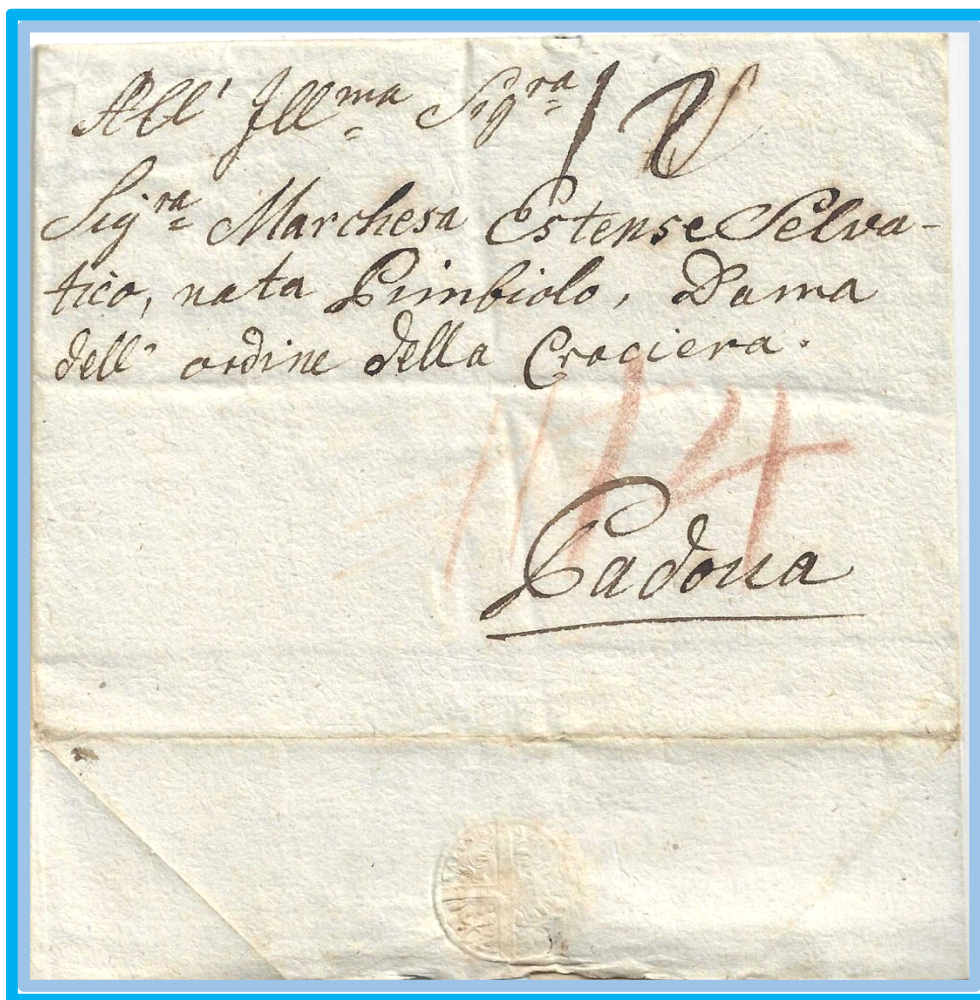


3.2.5 Letters from VIENNA to VENICE (*The Vienna Post or via di Vienna*)



A 9. 9bre 1793. Pad.
 Mess. n. ventì ho calab. io imp. d. ord. della Sig. M^a Diamante
 Pinbiolo C^a Savarino in sup. della m^a D^a Dama
 Defontes, etc.
 To D. Vincenzo V. Montini m.p.

(reduced COPY part of Text: Date, Destination, Sender)



All' Ill^{ma} Sig^{ra} / V
 Sig^{ra} Marchesa Estense Selva-
 tico, nata Pinbiolo, Dama
 dell' ordine della Crociera.
 Padova

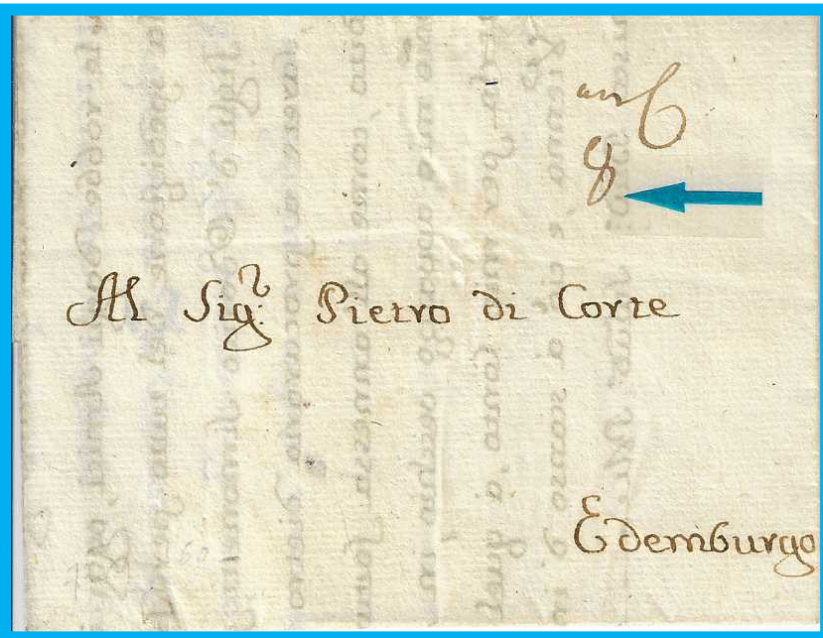


(enlarged COPY Seal)

1793 – Entire Letter from VIENNA transit VENICE to PADOVA

Entire letter sent 9 Sept. 1793 by *Vincenzo Montini* from VIENNA to PADOVA, to *Marchesa Estense Selvatico*, 'Dama dell' Ordine della Crociera' (Lady of the Cross Order). The Route was by the *Vienna Post*, transit to VENICE, then by the *Venetian Courriers* to PADOVA. The Vienna postage charge of 8 soldi was changed to 12 soldi in Venice, on account of weight, plus 2 more soldi for the journey to Padova. The letter was marked in red 14 soldi. On back is an Embossed Seal 'Cross over an Eagle' (see Copy).

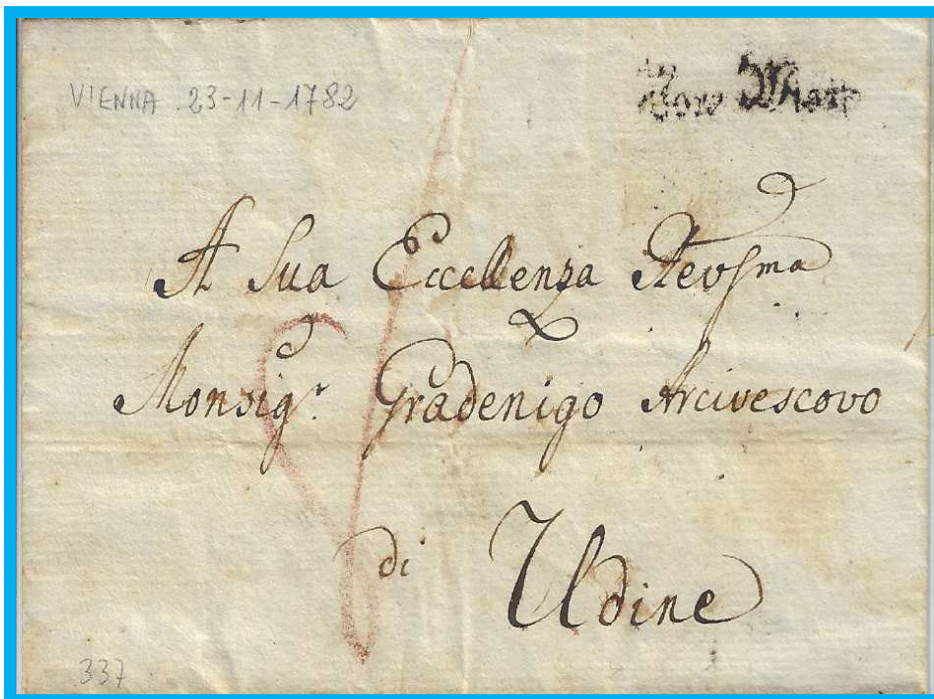
3.2.5 Letters from VIENNA to VENICE (*The Vienna Post or via di Vienna*)



VENICE via VIENNA to EDEMBURGO Route

1770 – Entire Letter from VENICE to EDEMBURGO (Sopron, Hungary)

Entire letter sent on 1st Sept. 1770 from VENICE by *Giacomo Menegatti* and addressed to *Pietro di Corte* in EDEMBURGO (Sopron, Hungary). It was carried by the Austrian post following the “*via di Vienna*” Route from VENICE to Gorizia (Friuli), Laybach, Graz, Vienna to EDEMBURGO (*Sopron* in Hungarian) presently in Hungary near the Austrian border, only 60 miles south of Vienna. The letter was taxed 8 Kreutzer postage.



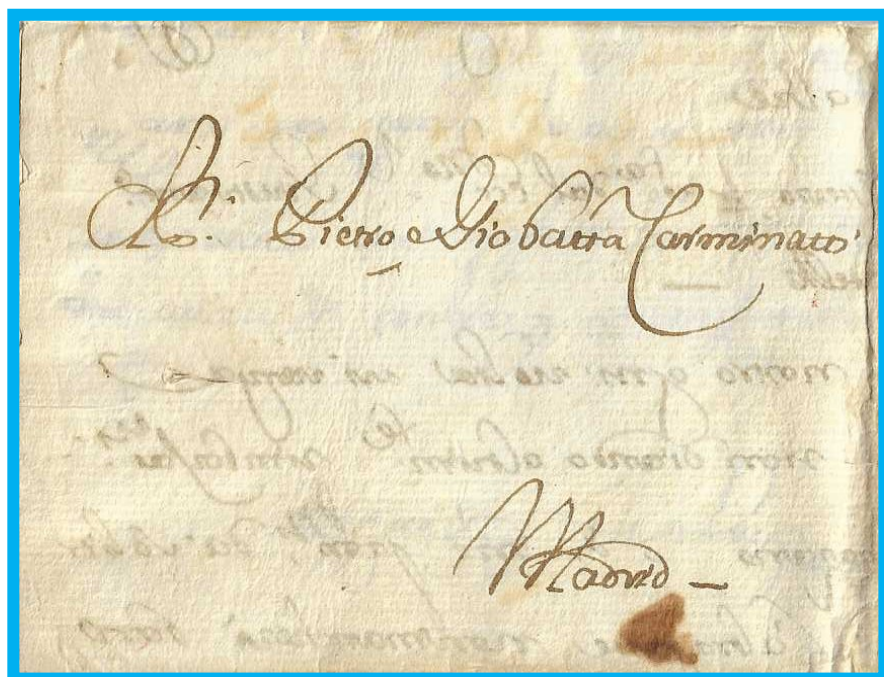
(reduced COPY Back:Wax Seal, Arr.Date)

1782 – Entire Letter from WIEN (VIENNA) to UDINE (Friuli -Venezia Giulia region)

Entire letter VIENNA to UDINE (Friuli) sent on 23 Nov. 1782 to *Monsig. Gradenigo Arcivescovo di Udine* the archbishop of Udine (1766-86) from a noble family. Letter is signed by *Gravarzi?* and deals with ecclesiastical matters. There is a mention about ‘*nuovi libri*’ new books. Letter bears print handstamps ‘*von Wien*’ and Arrival Date ‘*28 Nov*’. It followed the *via di Vienna* Route *VIENNA* to *Graz, Laybach, Gorizia, and UDINE*.

3.3.1 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and MADRID, N.AFRICA, LISBON via GENOVA

THE CARMINATI ARCHIVE:(1649-74) - The *Carminati Archive* contains more than 1000 letters addressed to Carminati Brothers Venetian merchants in Madrid in the mid 1600's addressed to *Marco* 1649-55, *Pietro* 1649-69, *Antonio* 1670's and *Gio Batta Carminati* 1668-69. Their origins are diverse, besides Spain, there were letters from Portugal, Italy, France & Low Countries. From 1681 *Gio Batta Carminati* is located back in Venice.



(COPY Embossed Seal)

1669 – Two Entire Letters from VENICE via GENOVA transit BARCELONA to MADRID

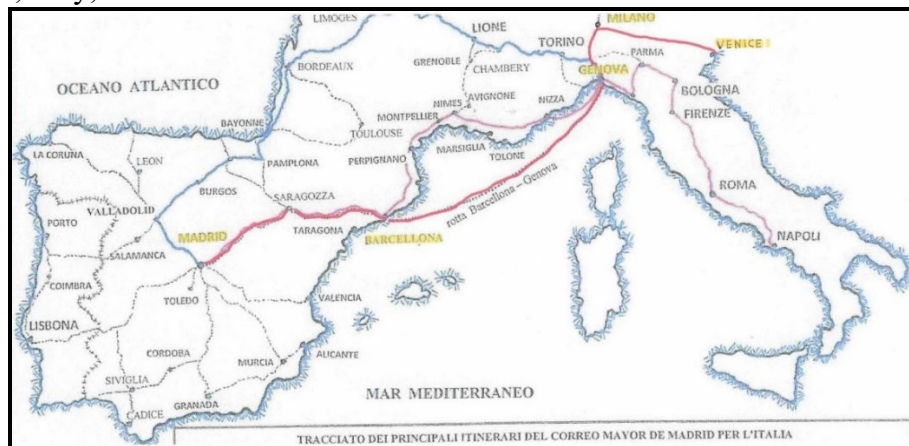
(Above) 1st Entire Letter sent 1 June 1650 and (Below) 2nd Entire Letter sent 23 Nov. 1669. Both Letters are from Venice by *Simone Giogalli* to *Pietro & Gio Batta Carminati* Venetian merchants based in Madrid. These Commercial Letters referring to Wool trade. Each letter has an embossed seal with the sender's initials **G & S**.



(COPY Embossed Seal)

3.3.1 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and MADRID, N.AFRICA, LISBON via GENOVA

THE CARMINATI ARCHIVE:(1649-74) - The *Carminati Archive* contains more than 1000 letters addressed to Carminati Brothers Venetian merchants in Madrid in the mid 1600's addressed to *Marco* 1649-55, *Pietro* 1649-69, *Antonio* 1670's and *Gio Batta Carminati* 1668-69. Their origins are diverse, besides Spain, there were letters from Portugal, Italy, France & Low Countries. From 1681 *Gio Batta Carminati* is located back in Venice.



Route MADRID , BARCELONA via GENOVA to VENICE - 2nd Letter

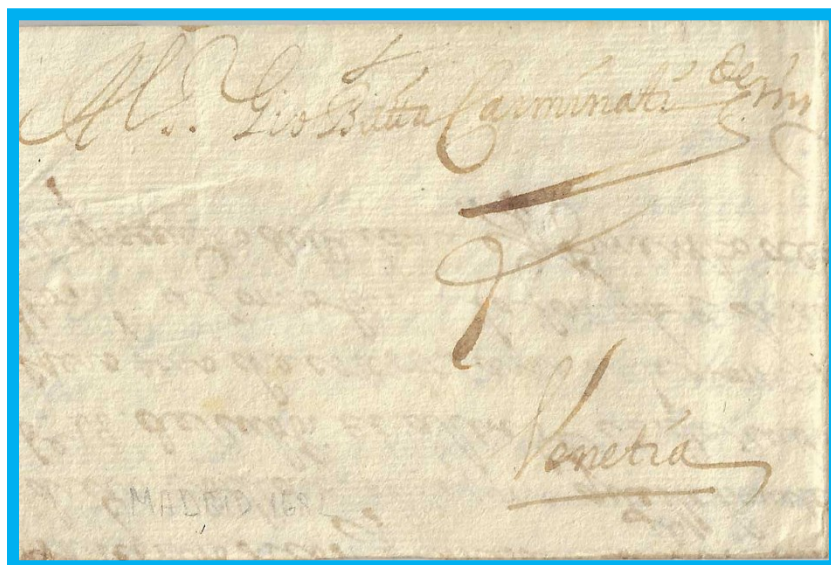


1673 Entire Letter from VENICE via GENOVA transit BARCELONA to MADRID

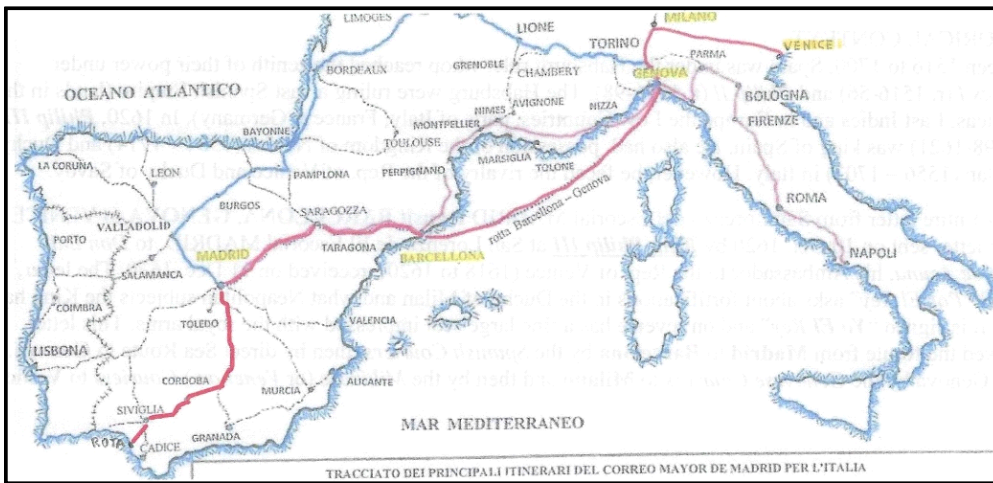
Entire Letter sent 10 Feb. 1673 from VENICE by *Gio Foresti* to *Antonio Carminati* Venetian merchant based in MADRID, received 4 April 1673. Route was from Venice to Milan by *Venetian Couriers* then by *Genovese Couriers* to Genoa, then by *Spanish Couriers* by Sea to Barcelona, Madrid. Letter has a closing Wax Seal

1681 – Entire Letter from MADRID transit BARCELONA, GENOVA to VENICE

Entire Letter sent 15 Jan. 1681 by *Gio Buerosis* from MADRID to VENICE and received 14 Feb 1681. Letter was addressed to *Gio Batta Carminati* presently based back in his native Venice. The Route was from Madrid by *Spanish Couriers* to Barcelona and by Sea to Genoa. There it was taken by *Genovese Couriers* to Milan from there by *Venetian Couriers* to Venice.



3.3.1 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and MADRID, N.AFRICA, LISBON via GENOVA



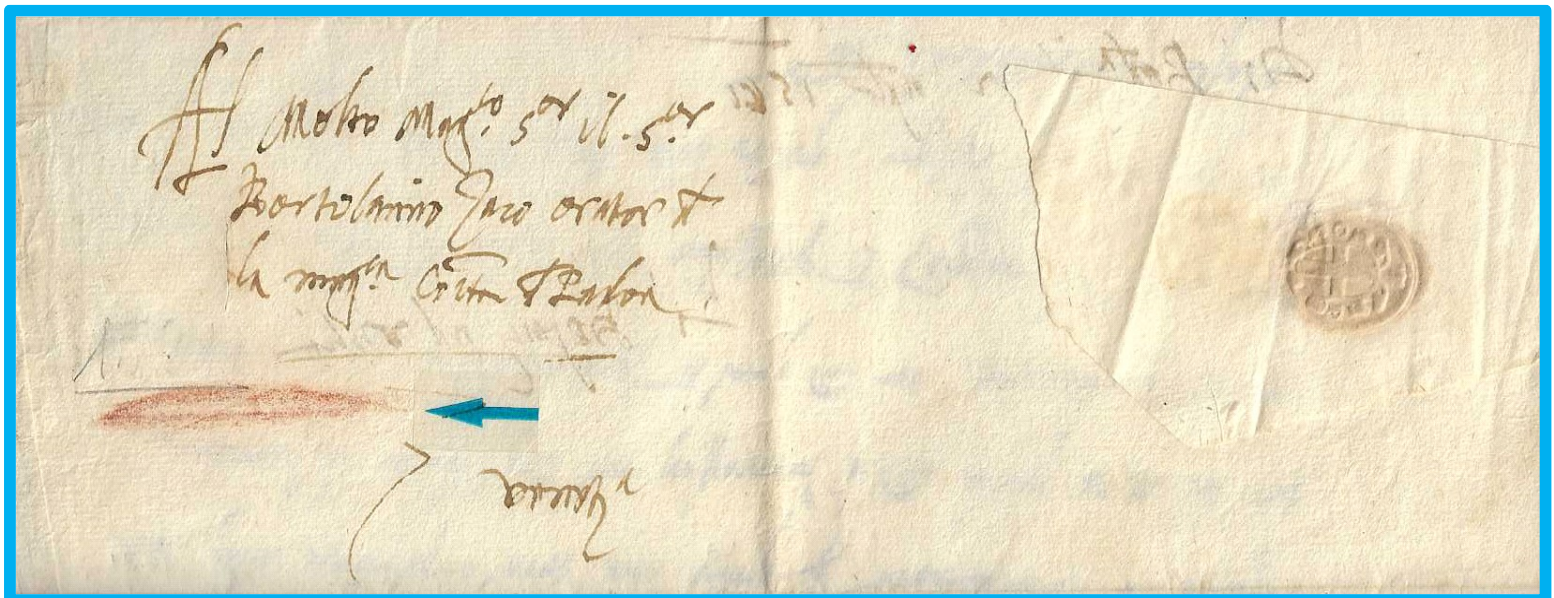
Route ROTA, MADRID , BARCELONA via GENOVA to VENICE

Di Rota il 22 agosto 1561

(COPY end of Text: Origin, Departure Date)



(COPY Embossed Seal)



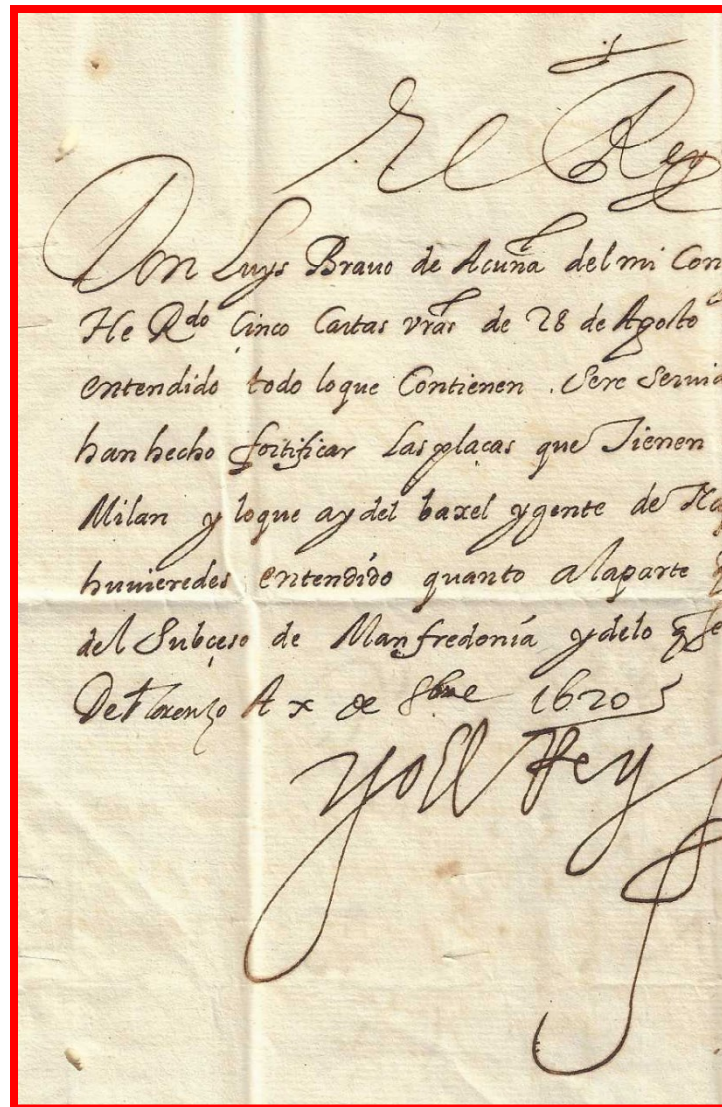
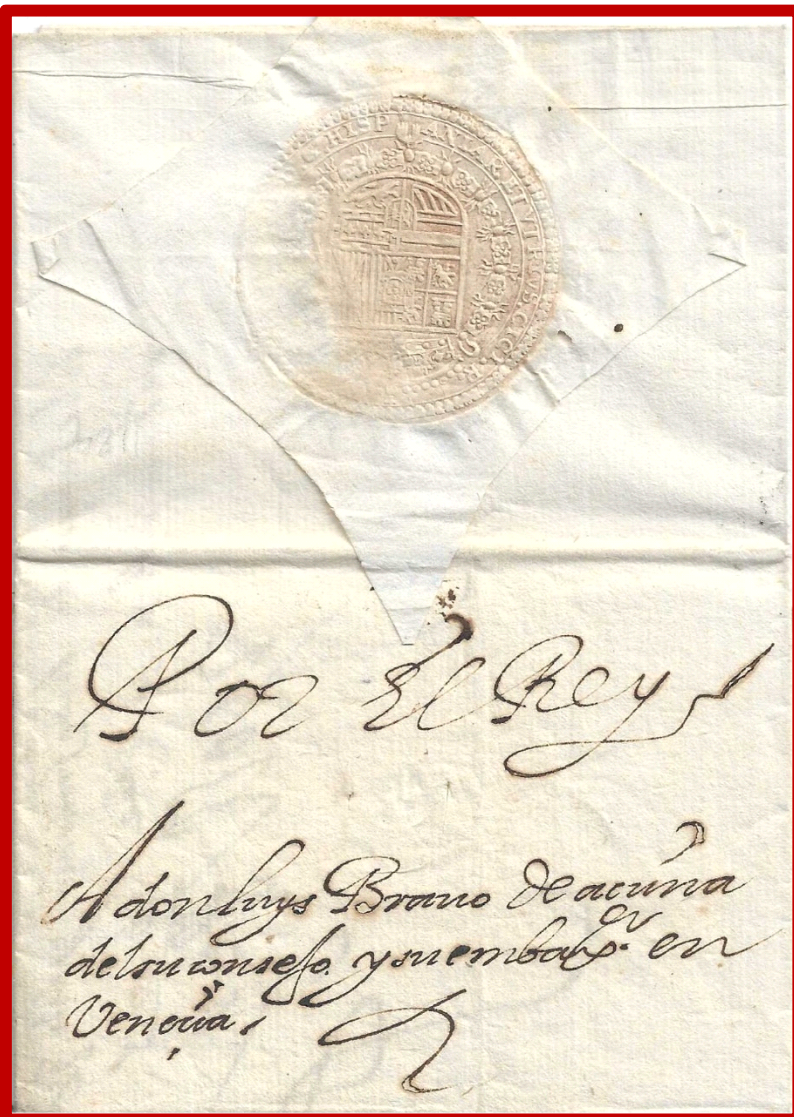
1561 - Entire letter from ROTA (Spain) transit MADRID, BARCELONA, GENOVA to VENICE

Entire Letter sent 22 Aug. 1561 from ROTA (in bay of Cadiz on the Atlantic). Letter is addressed to *Bartolomeo Zaco Orator* (Notary) in VENICE. Route was from ROTA by *Spanish Couriers* to Madrid, Barcelona and by Sea to GENOVA. There by *Genovese Couriers* to Milan and *Venetian Couriers* to VENICE. Letter is marked with a **thick Red marking** (see arrow) meaning it was unpaid. (A sender who had paid *Dazio* and Postage would write “*Franco*”). On back fold is the sender’s closing Embossed Seal with a Cross and the initials C and P.

3.3.1 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and MADRID, N. AFRICA, LISBON via GENOVA

HISTORICAL CONTEXT - From 1516 to 1700 Spain was under Habsburg rule, which reached its zenith under *Charles I* (1516-56) & *Philip II* (1556-98). The Habsburgs were ruling a vast Spanish Empire (Low Countries, Italy, France & Germany). In 1620, **Philip III**, (r.1598-1621) had 2 possessions in Italy the Kingdom of Naples (1504-1714) & Duchy of Milan (1556 -1707); but he faced the rivalry of the Rep. of Venice & Duchy of Savoy.

1620 - Entire letter from San Lorenzo del Escorial MADRID transit BARCELONA, GENOVA to VENICE
Entire letter sent on 10 Oct. 1620 by **King PHILIP III** from San Lorenzo de El Escorial MADRID, to *Don Luis Bravo de Acuna*, his Ambassador to the Rep. of Venice (1618 - 20), received on 11 Dec. 1620. The Route was from Madrid by *Spanish Couriers* to Barcelona and by Sea to Genoa. There it was taken by *Genovese Couriers* to Milan from there by *Venetian Couriers* to Venice. The Letter (see Below Left). headed "**Por El Rey**" (By the King) asks about fortifications in the Duchy of Milan and about his Neapolitan subjects. On reverse a large closing Embossed Seal of the Royal Coats of Arms (Below Left). The Text (see reduced Copy Below Middle) commences with "*El Rey*" and ends with his signature "*Yo El Rey*" (I the King).

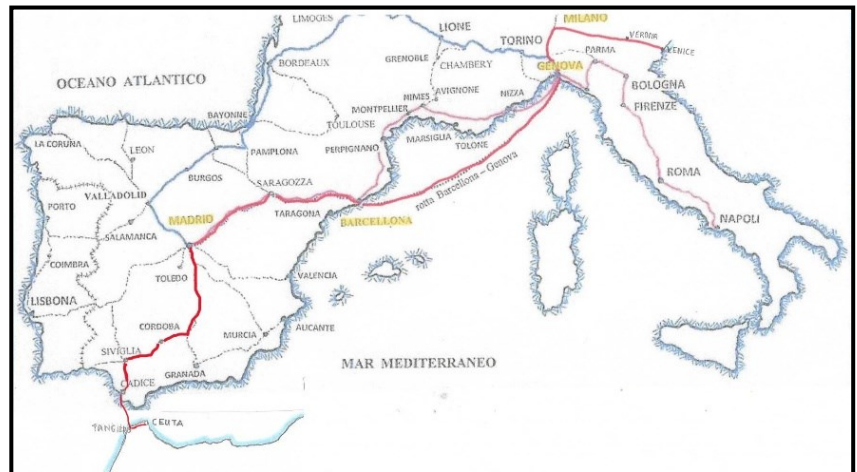


(reduced COPY of Text)

3.3.1 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and MADRID, N. AFRICA, LISBON via GENOVA

1785 - Entire letter from CEUTA (Spanish AFRICA) via GENOVA to VERONA (Veneto region)

Letter with separate text sent by *Felipe Huarte* from CEUTA (Spanish N. Africa - Straits of Gibraltar) on 9 Feb. 1785 (see COPY Origin & Date) to *Juan Bosch y Galceron* in VERONA. Route followed from CEUTA to Tangiers, by boat to Cadiz, overland by *Spanish Couriers* to Madrid, then Barcelona and by Sea to Genova. There by *Genovese Couriers* to Milan and *Venetian Couriers* to VERONA. There is a clear strike of a Ceuta framed **AFRICA** handstamp. Unique handstamp recorded in *Vollmeier's "Repubblica di Venezia Catalogo Documentato 2003"*, vol. I, p. 68, vol. II, p. 804. Letter has a "12" real tax applied in Genova by *Spanish Post*.



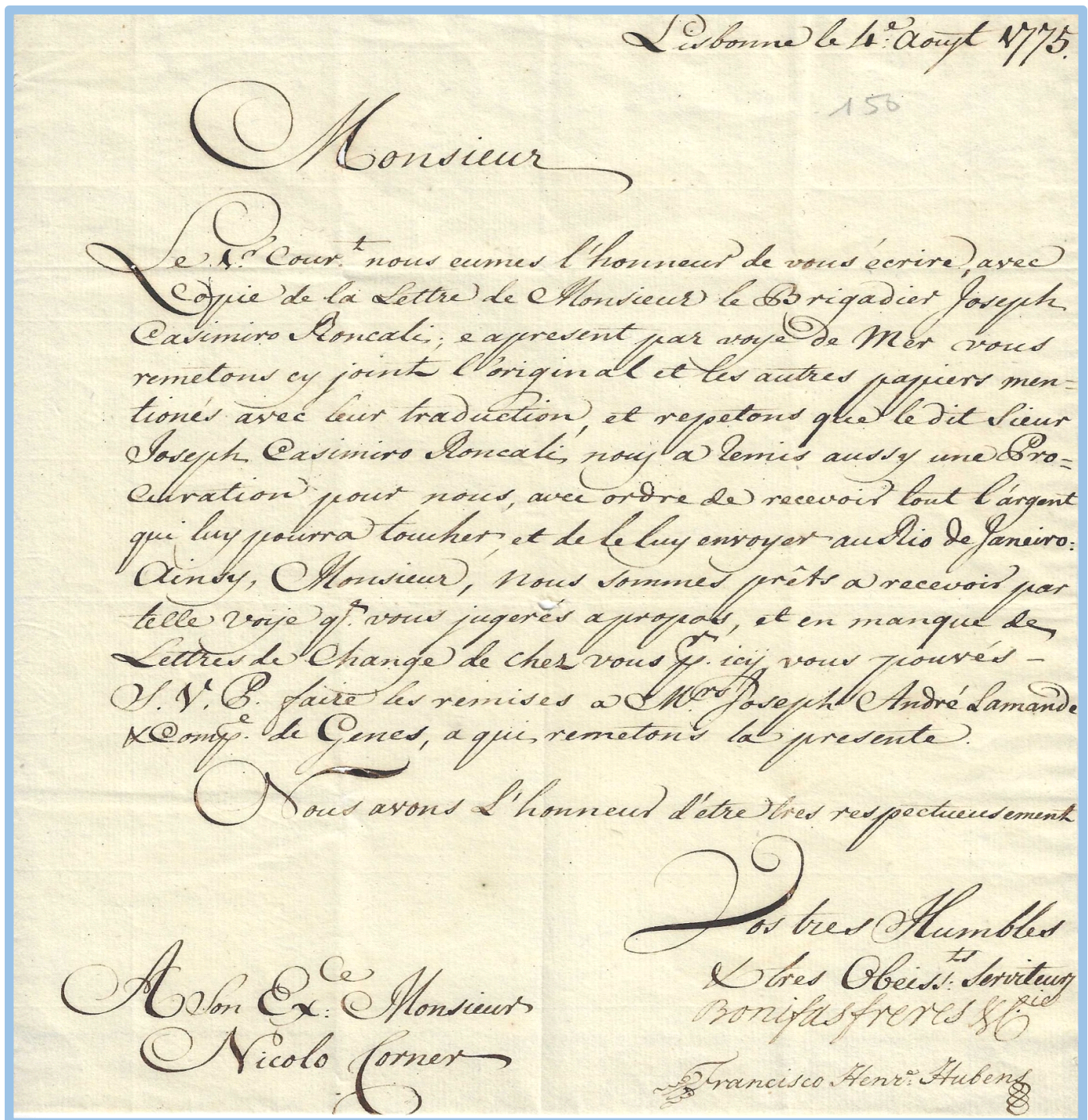
...mi Embax^r en Venecia
 2.3 y 5. de Sept^r y queda
 de que me avisar^{on} si venecianos
 nel Confín del estado de
 los que ahí esta Conto que
 sumieron Venecianos en la
 ofreciere de otras cosas

A D. Juan Bosch
 y Galceran. Procura^r en la
 Ciudad de
AFRICA
 Verona

Ceuta 9 de febrero de 1785
 Or
 C. Nuy S. mio: Precavi su carta de env^o.

(COPY start of Text Origin & Date)

3.3.1 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and MADRID, N. AFRICA, LISBON via GENOVA



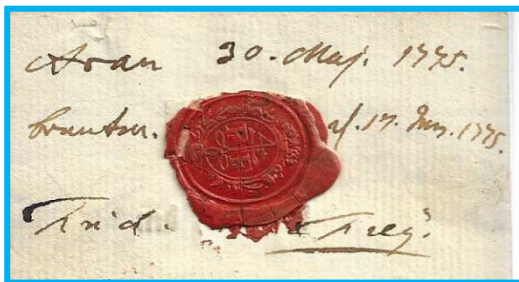
1775 - Entire letter from LISBON transit MADRID, BARCELONA, GENOVA to VENICE

Letter sent 4 Aug. 1775, by Bonifas Frères & Francisco Hubens from LISBON to Nicolò Corner in VENICE. Text informs Monsieur le Brigadier Casimiro Roncalli of Rio de Janeiro, gave them the power of attorney, to collect the money owed him. He suggests money owed can be given to their associate Joseph Anrde Lamande of Genoa. Watermarked paper D & C Blauw. Route followed from Lisbon by Portuguese Couriers to Madrid, then by Spanish Couriers to Barcelona and by Sea to Genoa. There by Genovese Couriers to Milan from there by Venetian Couriers to Venice. (see European Postal Networks by Schobesberger).

3.3.2 - Transit Letters from/to VENICE and AARAU, VILLEFRANCHE via MILAN



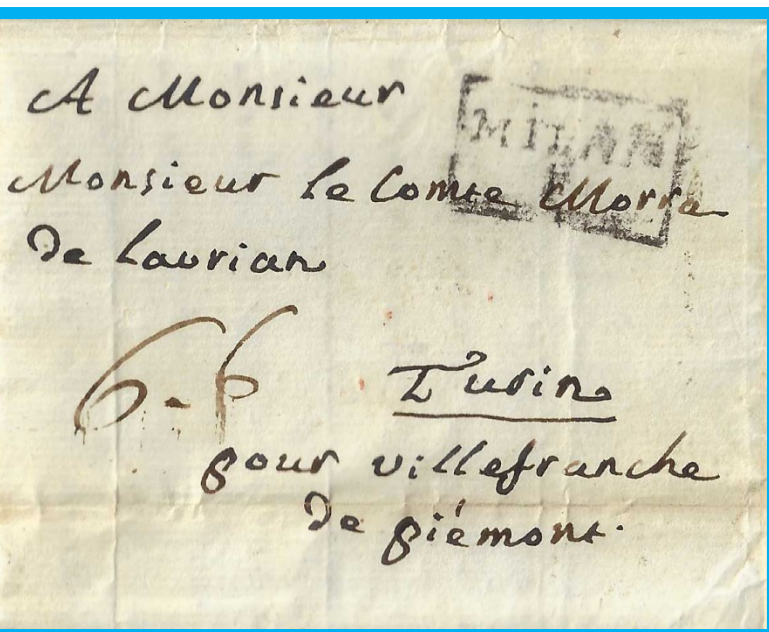
1775 - Entire Letter AARAU MILAN to VENICE
Entire Letter sent 30 May 1775 by *Joh Jacob Deppler* from AARAU to *Carlo Merri* in VENICE, received 17 June. Route was from AARAU by *Thurn & Taxis* to ZURICH, via *St. Gotthard Pass* to MILAN (see map) by *Venetian Couriers* to VENICE. In Milan received a **MILAN – F** red cancel in a rectangle frame. There is a **16-sold** tax charge. On reverse: Origin, Dept. Arr. Dates & a Wax Seal.



(reduced COPY Origin, Dept. Arr. Dates)



VENICE via MILAN, TURIN to VILLEFRANCHE



1784 – Entire Letter from VENICE via MILAN transit TURIN to VILLEFRANCHE

Entire Letter sent 21 Feb. 1784 by the noble *Malingri di Bagnolo* from Venice to his friend ‘*Monsieur comte Morra de Laurian*’ in Turin for VILLEFRANCHE (near NICE, then in Piemonte). Route was from VENICE by *Venetian Couriers* to MILAN, then by *Milanese Couriers* to TURIN with the mention ‘*pour Villefranche de Piemont*’. In Milan it received a **MILAN – F** black cancel in a rectangle frame. There is a **6.6 soldi** tax charge (see arrow). On reverse: Origin, Arr. Date, plus a Red Wax Seal with a crown.

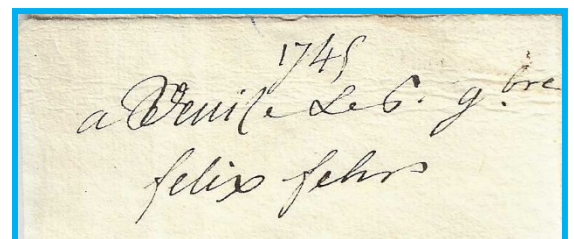
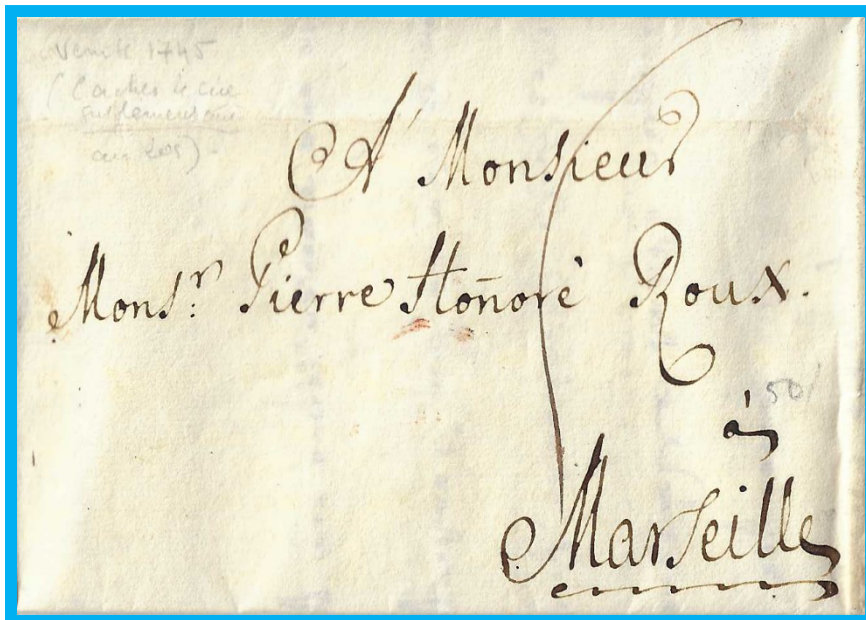
3.3.3 - Transit Letters **VENICE** to **MARSEILLE** via **GENOVA-GENEVE-GENOVA-STRASBOURG**

FIRM '*ROUX FRÈRES*' MARSEILLE (1728 - 1843):

The '*Roux Frères*' of Marseille was a major trading house in the 1700s. They were wholesalers, shipowners, insurers and bankers. Their activities centered around the Mediterranean ports, plus western Europe and French West Indies. Their correspondence shows close links with the major European markets of *London, Amsterdam, Paris, Saint-Malo, Lyon* but above all *Cadiz*, which had a monopoly on Spain's relations with the Americas. Their principal merchandise was the Languedoc textiles destined for the Levantine market. These were of high quality, based on the manufacturing know-how and the raw materials used (e.g. fine wool & colouring solids).



Route **VENICE** via **GENOVA** to **MARSEILLE**



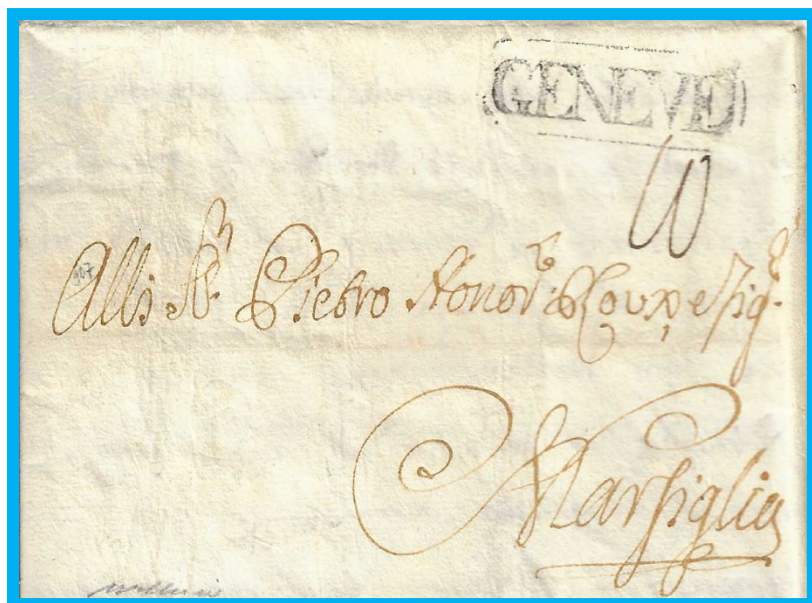
(reduced COPY Date, Origin, Sender)

1745 - Entire letter from **VENEZIA** transit **GENOVA** (Italy) to **MARSEILLE**

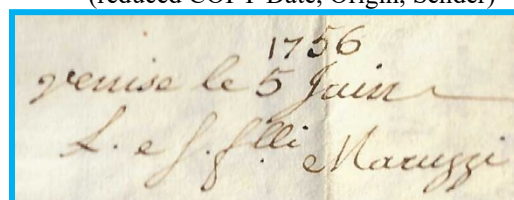
Entire Letter sent 6 July? 1745 by *Felix Fehr* from **VENICE** addressed to *Pierre-Honoré Roux* in **MARSEILLE**. Letter predates the *Seven Years' War* (1756-63) and followed the regular Route from **VENICE** by the *Venetian Couriers* to *Milan*, then by *Milanese Couriers* to *Genova* and from there by Sea to *Marseille*. On the reverse has an Arrival date of 5 June 1756, plus the Origin and Sender's name, plus a closing red Wax Seal.

3.3.3 - Transit Letters **VENICE** to **MARSEILLE** via **GENOVA-GENEVE-GENOVA-STRASBOURG**

RE-ROUTING VENICE TO MARSEILLE VIA GENEVE(Suisse) - '*ROUX FRERES*' Marseille (1728 - 1843)
During the *Seven Years' War* (1756-63) letters had to Marseille had to follow a long Re-Routing from VENICE via Milan then through the Simplon Pass to GENEVE (Suisse), by the '*Couriers Français*' to MARSEILLE where it received a '**GENEVE**' cancellation and carried by the '*Couriers Français*' to MARSEILLE In the

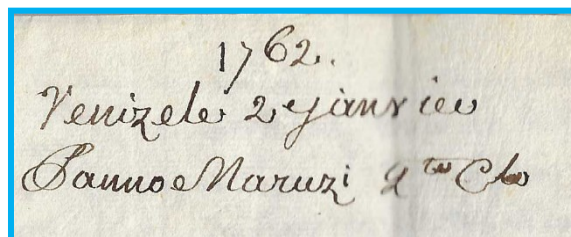


VENICE via **GENEVE** to MARSEILLE
(reduced COPY Date, Origin, Sender)



1756 - Entire letter from VENEZIA transit GENEVE (Suisse) to **MARSEILLE (MARSIGLIA)**

Entire Letter sent 29 May 1756 by *Fratti Maruzzi* from Venice, addressed to *Pierre-Honoré Roux* in Marseille. The Route was from VENICE by *Venetian Couriers* to Milan, then by *Thurn & Taxi Post* through *Simplon Pass* to GENEVE (Suisse), where it received a **10-sol** charge and '**GENEVE**' handstamp, then by '*Couriers Français*' to MARSEILLE. On the reverse has an Arrival date of 5 June 1756, plus the Origin and Sender's name.



(reduced COPY Date, Origin, Sender)

1761 - Entire letter from VENEZIA transit GENEVE (Suisse) to **MARSEILLE (MARSIGLIA)**

Entire Letter sent 26 Dec. 1771 by *Fratti Maruzzi* from Venice, addressed to *Pierre-Honoré Roux* in Marseille. The Route followed from VENICE by *Venetian Couriers* to Milan, then by *Thurn & Taxis Post* to GENEVA where it received a **20 sol** (see arrow) and '**GENEVE**' handstamp then by '*Couriers Français*' who carried it to *Roux Frères* in MARSEILLE. On the reverse has arrival date of 2 Jan. 1762, plus the origin and sender's name.

3.3.3 - Transit Letters VENICE to MARSEILLE via GENOVA-GENEVE-GENOVA-STRASBOURG

HISTORICAL CONTEXT – DIFF. ROUTES VENICE TO MARSEILLE:

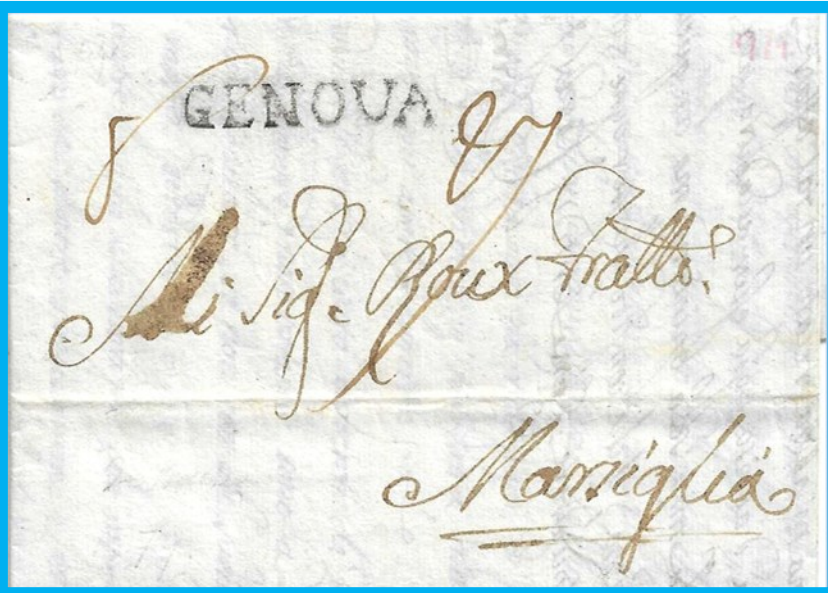
In 1764, the *Seven Years' War* (1756-63) in Europe had just ended. However, communications were still difficult. This letter had to follow a long Re-Routing from Milan through Simplon Pass to GENEVE (Suisse). By 1778 the letter communications follow the regular route **Venice** to Milan, then transit **Genova** where a '**GENOUA**' handstamp was applied and then by direct Sea Route to **Marseille**.



VENICE via **GENEVE** (Suisse) to MARSEILLE

1764 - Entire letter from VENEZIA transit GENEVE (Suisse) to MARSEILLE (MARSIGLIA)

Entire Letter sent on 23 June 1764 by *Dano Maruzio* from Venice to Marseille, addressed to *Roux Fratti*. This commercial letter was carried to Milan (see large “m” marking) then through the Simplon Pass to Geneva where it received a '**GENEVE**' handstamp by the '*Couriers Français*' who carried it to '*Roux Frères*' in Marseille.



VENICE via **GENOVA** (Italy) to MARSEILLE

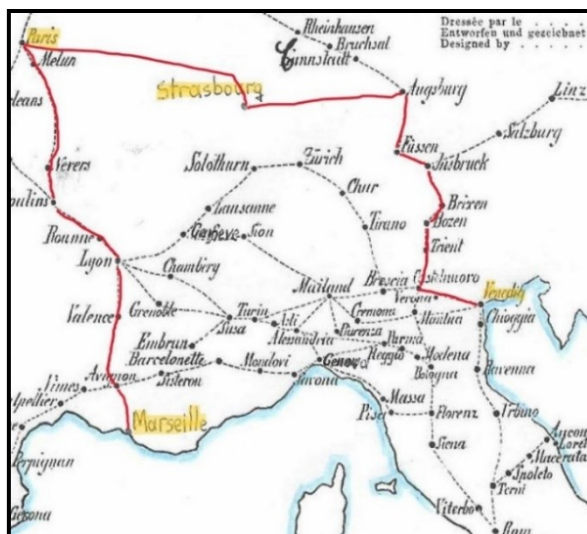
1778 - Entire letter from VENEZIA transit GENOVA (Italy) to MARSEILLE (MARSIGLIA)

Entire Letter by *Spiridion Taraculi* of VENICE to *Roux Fratti* in MARSEILLE. This commercial letter was sent on 27 March 1778 from Venice transit GENOVA (Italy) to Marseille and received on 10 April 1778. It has a postal fee of 8s to Genova where a '**GENOUA**' handstamp was applied, plus further taxation of 27soldi (see arrows). The **GENOUA** handstamp was used from 1756 according to *James van der Linden*, a Postal Historian.

3.3.3 - Transit Letters VENICE to MARSEILLE via GENOVA-GENEVE-GENOVA-STRASBOURG

ROUTE VENICE TO MARSEILLE VIA STRASBOURG (France)

Route followed was from Triest by *Austrian Post* to **Venice**, then by *Venetian Couriers* to Trento, where it linked with *Thurn & Taxis Post*, followed 'via di Fiandra' Route to Innsbruck, Augsburg, **Strasbourg**, where a 'D' AUSTRICHE' handstamp was applied by the 'Couriers Français', then carried via Paris to **Marseille**.



VENICE via STRASBOURG to MARSEILLE Route



1786 – Entire Letter from TRIEST via VENICE transit STRASBOURG to MARSEILLE

Entire letter from TRIEST sent 24 May 1786 by *Moise Dario Luzzatti* via VENICE to MARSEILLE to *Roux Frères*. Latter has a 'Von Triest' handstamp as it was carried by the *Austrian Post* to Venice. The sender's note 'Genes pr.' (via Genova, Italy) was not followed. Instead, it went through the Flemish Post to STRASBOURG, where a handstamp **D' AUSTRICHE** (see arrows) was applied, from there via PARIS to MARSEILLE. There is a receiver postage charge of 34 Sols (24 Sols foreign letter to Paris, 10 Sols to Marseille).