

4. EPILOGUE – THE FALL OF THE REP. OF VENICE

4.1 - THE FALL OF THE REP. OF VENICE (1797)

4.1.1 - PRELUDE TO THE FALL OF THE REP. OF VENICE (End 1796-May 1797)

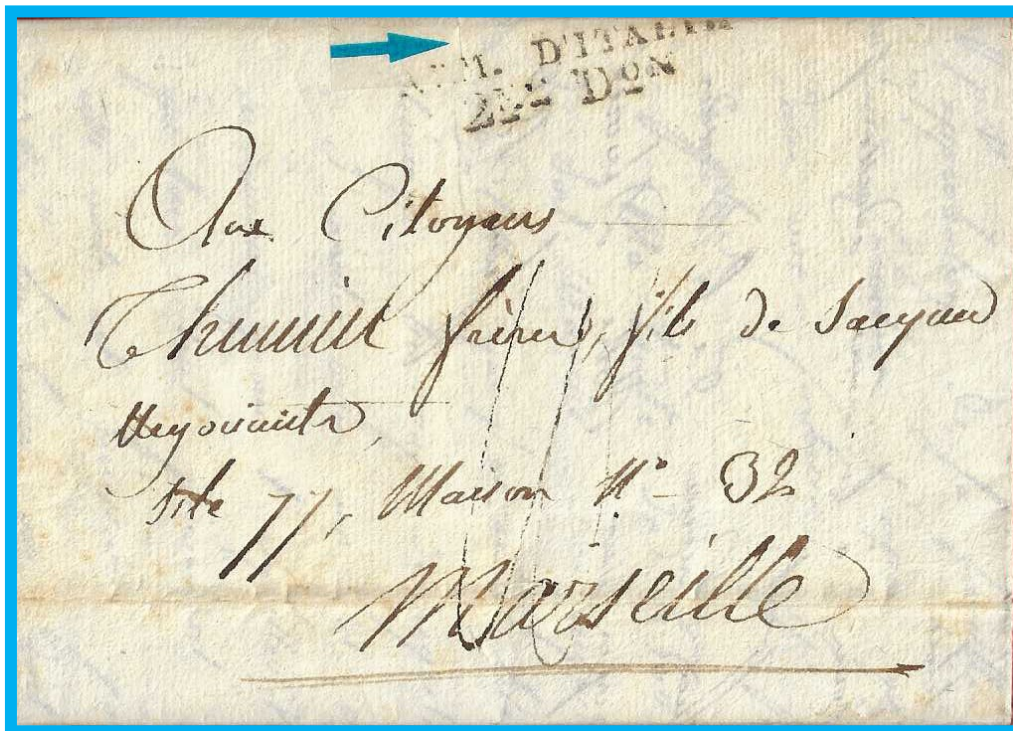
HISTORICAL CONTEXT – PRELUDE TO THE FALL OF VENICE

By 1796, Venice could no longer defend itself. *Napoleon's ARMÉE D'ITALIE* had crossed the frontiers of neutral Venice in pursuit of Austrians. By end of 1796, **French** were **occupying** Veneto Region **up to the Adige River**.



Map VERONA west of Red Line under French Occupation
(Below COPY start of Text: Origin 'quartier général de Verone')

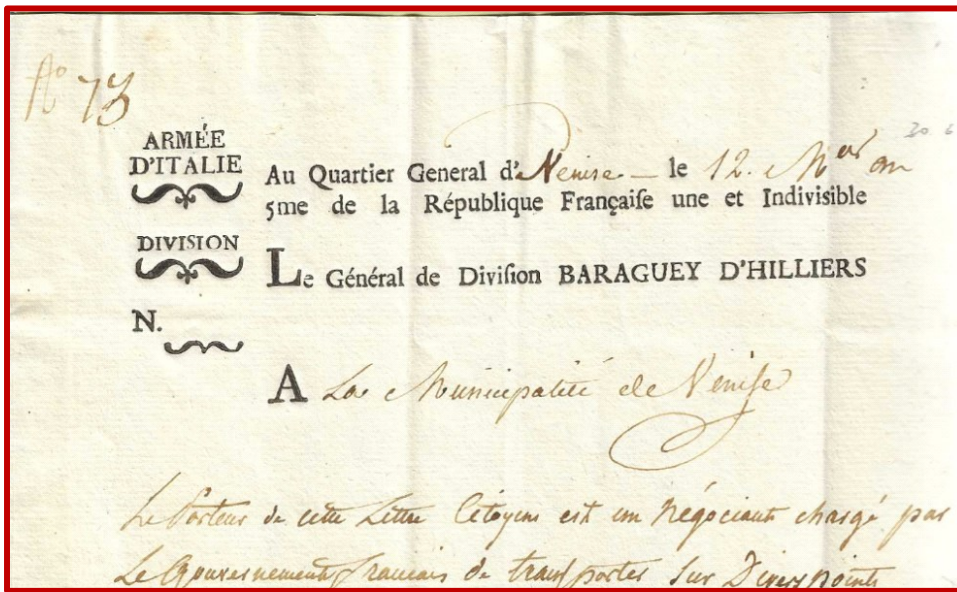
au quartier Général de Verone le 30
Stavione au S. 18 Feb 1797



1797 (18 Feb.) - Entire Letter *ARM(ÉE) D'ITALIE 2ME D(IVISION) VERONA* to MARSEILLE

Entire letter sent on 18 Feb. 1797, from VERONA (west of the Adige river, under French occupation) by Jean-Baptiste Thumin from 'quartier général de Verone'. (The **sender is in charge of** over the army's fodder service). It is addressed to his cousins *Thumin frères*, merchants in MARSEILLE. The letter has an *ARM(ÉE) D'ITALIE 2ME DoN* postal marking and a closing red wax seal. Ex-collection P. Vollmeier.

4.1.2 - FALL OF THE REPUBLIC – 1st FRENCH RULE (May 1797 - End 1797)

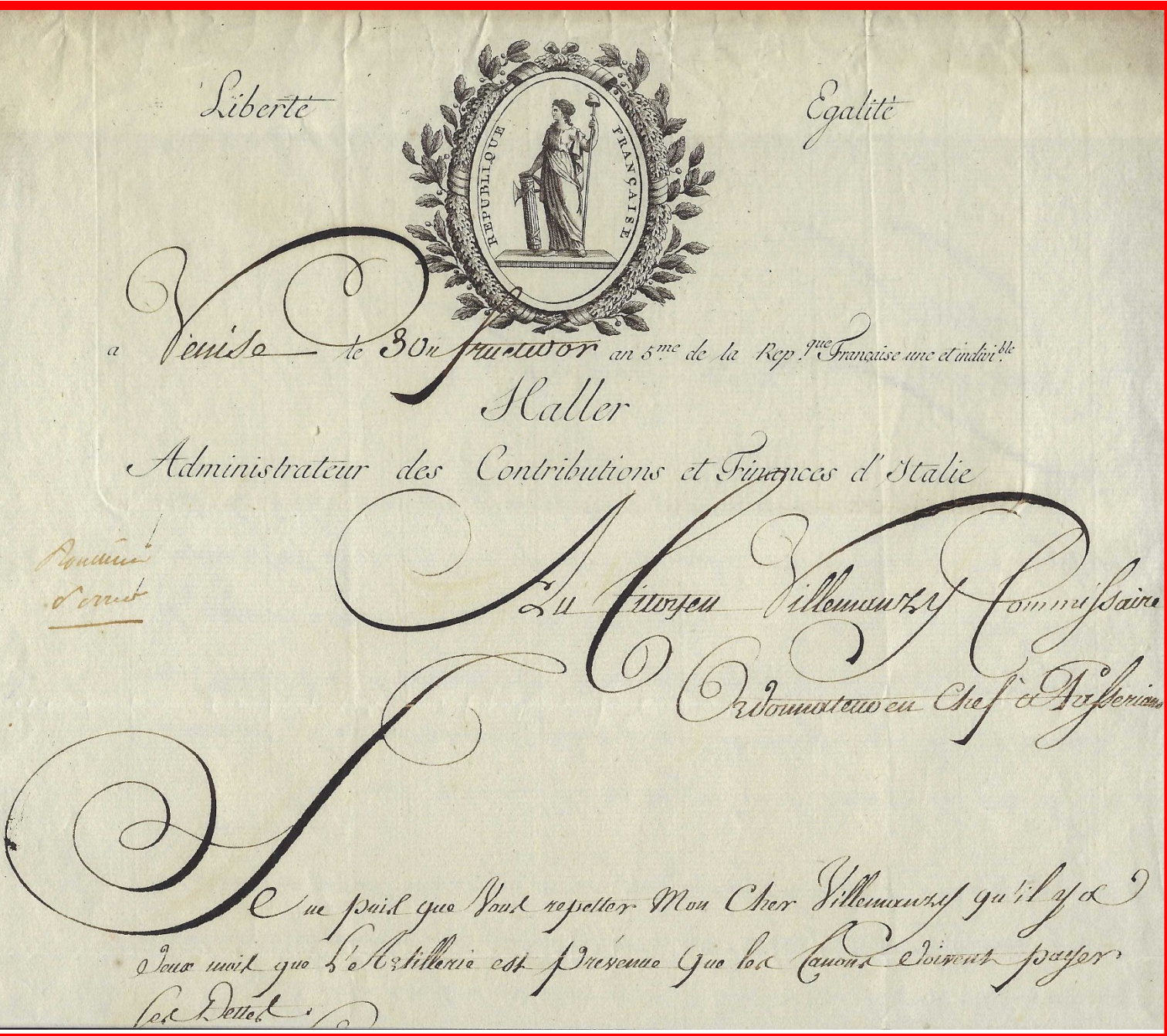


(Above reduced COPY of Text & Below COPY of Signature)

1797 (30 June) - Letter ARMÉE D' ITALIE from Général de Division BARAGUEY D'HILLIERS, Quartier Général de VENISE to 'La Municipalité de VENISE'.

Letter in French with printed letterhead 'ARMÉE D'ITALIE DIVISION – Le Général de Division BARAGUEY D'HILLIERS', sent 30 June 1797 by **Louis BARAGUEY D' HILLIERS** (1764-1813 **French Governor of Venice** to the Municipality of VENICE. The letter bearer was *C(itoyen)en Aubert* a merchant charged by the French to transport to Mediterranean ports goods belonging to him and sell them for the profit and on behalf of the public treasury. He requests *Citoyen Aubert* be given a certain number of ships and that their price is set moderately.

4.1.2 - FALL OF THE REPUBLIC – 1st FRENCH RULE (May 1797 - End 1797)



1797 (16 Sept.) - Entire Letter from VENICE by HALLER Administr. contributions et finances d'Italie to MILAN
 Entire Letter dated (30 fructidor V) 16 September 1797 from VENICE by Emmanuel de HALLER (1745-1820) the Administrator of Contributions and Finances of Italy. The text is in French and has a printed letterhead médaillon plus "**Haller Administrateur des Contributions et Finances d'Italie**". It was addressed to comte de Villemantzy (Jacques-Pierre ORILLARD) the Chief Financial Officer of the Armée d'Italie in MILAN. Text deals with financial matters of the French Army in general and the artillery in particular. Signed 'Salut et Fraternité'

4.1.2 - FALL OF THE REPUBLIC – 1st FRENCH RULE (May 1797 - End 1797)

FALL OF THE REP. OF VENICE - PROVISIONAL MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

On April 25, 1797, Napoleon threatened war on Venice unless it democratised. On **May 12**, the *Maggior Consiglio* sat for the last time. After a short debate voted to dissolve itself and hand power to a "Provisional Municipal Government". Following the vote, **Doge Manin abdicated** (as his authority derived from the Great Council) and the Republic of Venice was no more

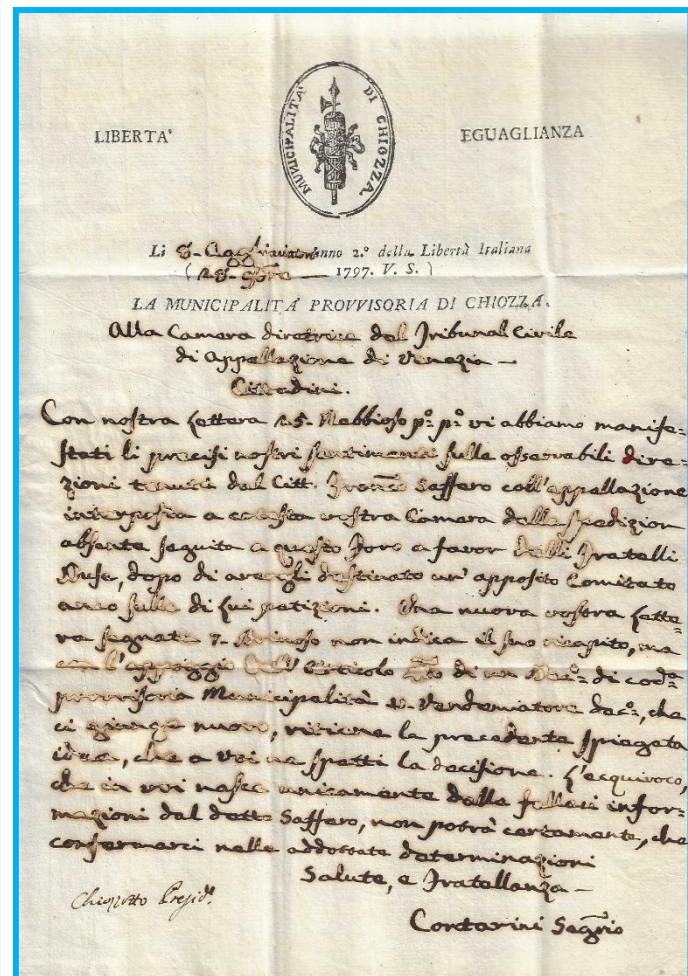
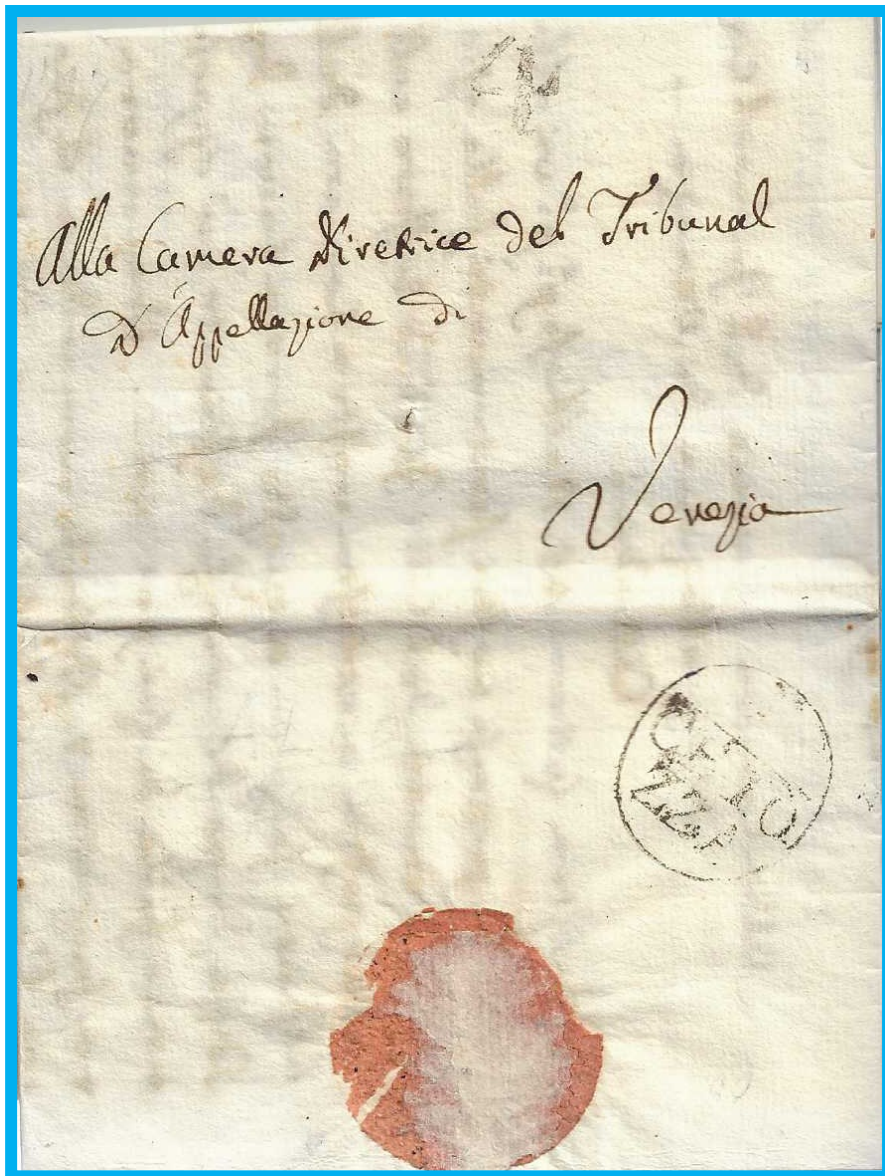


1797 (25 May) - Général de Brigade J.A. CHAMBARLHAC *Quartier Général de Padoue* to *La Municipalité de PADOUE*. Letter written in French with **printed letterhead** 'LIBERTÉ- ÉGALITÉ-RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE - ARMÉE D'ITALIE' – **J.J. CHAMBARLHAC GENERAL DE BRIGADE**'. Chambarlhac as brigadier general of Paduan Brigade addresses the Padua Municipality Members and requests that they assemble and swear oath of fidelity to the laws of the French Republic. He also orders that they replace certain municipal officers with new ones indicated by him. This is an important historical document for the city of Padua.

4.1.2 - FALL OF THE REPUBLIC – 1st FRENCH RULE (May 1797 - End 1797)

HISTORICAL CONTEXT - INTERIM PERIOD DIRECT FRENCH RULE TO AUSTRIAN RULE

Interim period after signing of the Campo-Formio Treaty (17 Oct. 1797) and prior to Austrian troops entering Venice (18 Jan. 1798). On Nov. 21, the Representatives of the Municipality were forced to abandon power. Then French occupiers gave themselves over to unconstrained plunder. The state mint and Saint Mark's treasury were confiscated. Churches & Palazzi were emptied of valuables, of the Arsenal's 184 ships most were sent to Toulon



(reduced COPY of Text:
LIBERTA Oval Motto EGUAGLIANZA)

1797(28 Nov.) - Entire Letter from CHIOZZA to VENICE sent in the Interim Period of direct French rule.

Entire Letter from CHIOZZA sent on 28 Nov. 1797 (during the French plunder) by Contarini Sergio to the "Camera Diretrice del Tribunal Civila di Appellazione di Venezia" Chamber of The Civil Court of Appeal of Venice. The letter has the new seal of the Municipality of Chiozza with the Coat of Arms of the First French Republic a Lictor's Fasces (a bundle of birch rods containing a sacrificial axe) and the motto LIBERTA, EGUAGLIANZA. Sender Contarini Sergio signs his letter with 'Salute e Fratallanza' (Greetings and Fraternity).

4.1.3 - FALL OF THE REPUBLIC – TREATY OF CAMPOFORMIO (Oct.17, 1797)

HISTORICAL CONTEXT - TREATY OF CAMPO-FORMIO

On 17 Oct. 1797, the *Treaty of Campo Formio* was signed at Villa Manin **PASSARIANO** near CAMPOFORMIO, Friuli region by *Napoleon* for France and Count *Philip von Cobenzl* for Austria. The Treaty marked the dissolution of the **Rep. of Venice**. Venice, Veneto region East of Adige River, plus Istria & Dalmatia, **passed to Austria** (see map Below). In exchange Austrian possessions in Low Countries (now Belgium) passed to France.



au quartier général
de Passariano, le 15 vendémiaire an 6.
6 86 1797

(COPY start of Text: Origin **Passariano**,)

Passariano
A La Citoyenne
Rulhière à Paris
(près Paris)
Dép. de la Seine

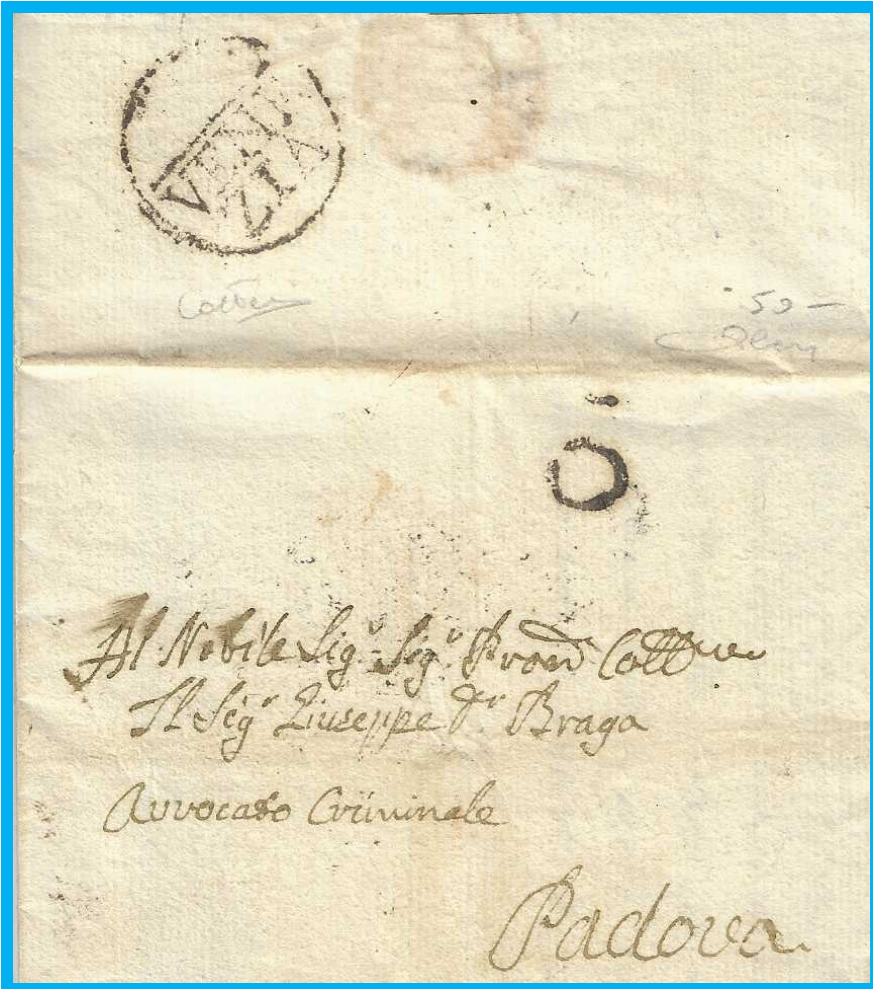
1797(6 Oct.) - Entire Letter from Quartier Général de PASSARIANO local near CAMPOFORMIO

Personal letter by *Chriseuil RULHIÈRE* (1764-1802) a French official, to his mother in SAINT-DENIS near Paris. The letter originates from the Headquarters of the Napoleonic Army at Villa Manin in **PASSARIANO** a local near CAMPOFORMIO Friuli, NE Italy. It was sent from the 'quartier général de **Passariano**'. on 6 Oct. 1797, that is only 11 days prior to the 17 Oct. 1797 signing of *Treaty of Campo-Formio at Villa Manin, in **Passariano*** between the French and Austrian armies, thus ending the war. This letter originates from the exact location of signing this Treaty. The letter has a linear marking **ARM(ÉE) D'ITALIE**.

4.1.4 - FALL OF THE REPUBLIC – 1st AUSTRIAN RULE (Jan.1798 – Dec.26, 1805)

HISTORICAL CONTEXT – AUSTRIAN OCCUPATION (Jan.18, 1798 to Dec.26,1805)

On 21 Nov.1797, the Municipality Representatives abandoned power. resulting in unrestrained plunder of Venice by the occupying French. On 28 Dec.1797, the French military and police established control of Venice. Then on 18 Jan. 1798, the Austrian troops entered Venice. This was the start of the 1st Austrian Rule, lasting only 8 years until 26 Dec. 1805.



1798 (13 April) Entire Letter from **VENICE** to **PADOVA**_(beginning of 1st Austrian Rule)

Letter from **VENICE** to *Giuseppe Briga* (*Avvocato Criminale*) in **PADOVA**. It was sent 3 months after the entry of Austrian troops in Venice (Jan.18, 1798). Important to note that the Circular cancel **VENEZIA** appears without the St. Marc's Lion symbol on top (see arrow). During the Austrian Rule it was chiseled out, known as **scalpellato**



1803 (16 Sept) Letter from **BRODIJ** via **VIENNA** **VENICE** to **VERONA** (end 1st Austrian Rule)

Letter sent 16 Sept. 1803 from **BRODIJ** (near Lviv) via **VIENNA** transit **VENICE** to *Anselmo Pallazzoli* in **VERONA**. It has handwritten mark 'P Vienna', plus a Tax charge of **12** changed to **17** soldi. On reverse is Oval Red Cancel of Imperial Austrian Post Office in Venice (IMP./REG. VFF./DI POSTA / IN VENEZ/P.TRANSITO)..

