

TUSCANY/ Letter mail to and from AFRICA

TUSCANY / to Morocco (Tangier)

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859

French packets carriage

Tangier (now in Morocco) was an autonomous territory submitted to Islamic laws. It didn't have an own postal organization. The letters to or from Tangier were transported by ships of different flags, or they arrived from Spain or from Gibraltar more rarely from Algeria for the coastal route on the Mediterranean. The letters were treated to the postal conditions of the Countries that crossed or of the ships on which they traveled, therefore mainly of Spain, France and United Kingdom.



February 7, 1854. From the "I. e R. Governo Civile di Livorno" to "Console d'Austria ... a Tangeri (Marrocco)". Entered France for Toscane – Antibes 11/2 and Marseille 12/2, where it was take on board and it arrived to Oran Algeria 20/2 and to Tangier. Free post in Tuscany, it was "2" double rate and charged "12" decimes.

One of the two letters sent from the Grand Duchy of Tuscany to Tangier.

TUSCANY / from Morocco (Tangier)

From Tangier

Letter in Arabic, written in Tangier, from there it was entrusted to a traveler going to Spain who sent it from San Roque to Leghorn, where there was a large colony of Moroccan scholars who were dedicated to the study of holy texts. The text is inscrutable and probably directed to the "initiated" people able to understand the true meaning of what is written there.



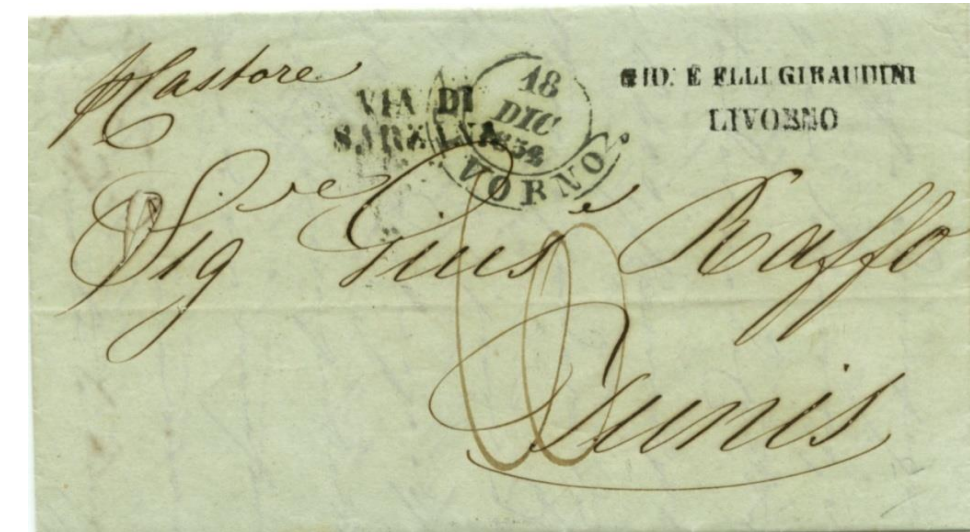
June 19, 1856. Letter in Arabic handwritten in Tangier and forwarded from San Roque – Cadiz (Spain) to Leghorn. Letter franked up to the French border with 4 *cuartos* Spanish postage stamp. At arrive to Tuscany, the "2" double rate letter (more as 6 *denari* – 7,1 grams of weight) was charged "28" *crazie*.

TUSCANY / to Tunisia (Ottoman Empire)

From August 1, 1852 to December 31, 1859

Sardinian-Tuscan Convention

The rate of the prepaid-letters for each 7,5 grams of weight from Tuscany to Tunis was 100 *Icent* (60 *Icent* maritime transit, 40 *Icent* Sardinian – Tuscan convention rate). The same rate was applied to unpaid letters received in Tunis from Tuscany.



December 18, 1852. From Leghorn "Col Castore" to Tunis. The single-rate unpaid letter was carried overland "Via di Sarzana" to Genoa, then by sea to Cagliari and to Tunis by a Sardinian packet. The Sardinian postal office of Tunis charged 10 *decimi* (100 *Icent*) to the addressee.

TUSCANY / from Tunisia

From August 1, 1852 to December 31, 1859

Sardinian Post Office in Tunis

According to the Sardinian-Tuscan convention effective from August 1, 1852, the rate of the letters for each 7,5 grams of weight from Tunis to Tuscany was 100 *Icent* (60 *Icent* transit, 40 *Icent* Sardinian – Tuscan convention rate).

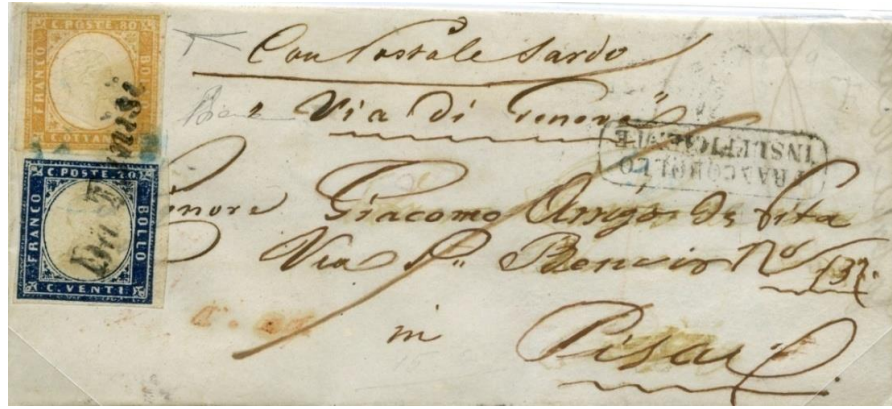


May 3, 1857. "Da Tunisi" "Vap^e Postale Sardo – Via di Genova" to Pisa. Single-rate letter franked with 100 *Icent* with Sardinian stamps (II Sardinian issue + IV Sardinian issue) prepaid 1 lira to destination. The "P.D." handstamp and the diagonal line confirm it. (e)

TUSCANY / from Tunisia (Ottoman Empire)

**From August 1, 1852
to December 31, 1859**

March 12, 1859. "Da Tunisi" "Con Postale Sardo – Via di Genova" to Pisa. Single-rate letter franked with 100 *Icent* with Sardinian stamps. At first a "Francobollo Insufficiente" handstamp was marked, after that it was crossed out by a diagonal line and two green "P.D." handstamps were impressed on the postage stamps. Also the red "P.D." handstamp of Cagliari confirmed it. (e)



TUSCANY / to Algeria (French province)

**From October 1, 1851
to December 31, 1859**

Algeria was considered a postal province of France therefore the French rates applied also to letters to or from Algeria. The same rates of France were applied: 9 *crazie* for letters of 6 *denari* (7,1 grams).



February 9, 1859. From Florence to Algiers. "Preme" and "Dopo la partenza" handstamp. Single-rate letter franked with 9 *crazie*. "P.D." handstamp. The letter transit through the "Toscane/Antibes" postal office and from Marseille and it arrived to Algiers on February 17th. (e)



**From January 1, 1860
to December 31, 1860**

The Grand Duchy - France Convention continued also in "Italian" Tuscany period. Meanwhile the currency was changed and from January 1, 1860 new Tuscan stamps in cents of Italian lira arrived.

November 13, 1860. From Lari, near Pisa, to Algier. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 60 *Icent* with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. "P.D." handstamp. Via Florence, Genoa and Marseille the letter arrived to Algiers on November 22.

TUSCANY / from Algeria



May 5, 1849. From Alger to Rome redirected to Florence. Sent by ship *Sphin* of the company *Charles & Auguste Bazin* from Alger to Marseille. Followed overland via Antibes to Sardinia as per VIA DI NIZZA to Genoa, then carried by commercial ship via Leghorn (CORRISP. EST.A DA GENOVA) to Civitavecchia and to destination. Redirected to Florence, where the marking "C.P." was applied (*Credito Pontificio*). According to the Tuscan-Papal Convention, Rome charged 35 bajocchi for a letter coming from France overland via Sardinia and Tuscany (1 ½ fogli: 23x1,5 = 34,5 – 35). Florence credited "Rimb.(orso) b(aj) 41" to Rome (= 38 *crazie*) + 3 *crazie* for Tuscan domestic, total of 41 *crazie* asked to the addressee.

From August 1, 1852 to December 31, 1859



Algeria was considered a postal province of France therefore the French rates applied also to letter to or from Algeria.

November 18, 1858. From Alger to Leghorn. Single-rate letter insufficiently franked with 20 *Fcent*. 60 *Fcentimes* was the rate for the letters sent to Toscana. The charge does not take into consideration the value of the stamps affixed and insufficiently prepaid letters were treated as fully unpaid letters. The addressee had to pay 9 *crazie* as for an unpaid letter from France.

TUSCANY / to Egypt (Ottoman Empire)

From October 1, 1851
to April 27, 1859

The mail from Tuscany to Egypt had the same rates established in the French- Tuscan Convention of October 1, 1851:
13 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* for prepaid letters carried to the destination by French steamships.

February 1, 1853. From Leghorn “*Con il Vapore dello Stato*” “*Franca*” to Alexandria. Single-rate letter franked with 13 *crazie*. There is also a “P.D.” handstamp as cancellation of the postage stamps.



The “Via di Mare” “Sea Mail” of Florence

Between 1843 and 1856 there were “VIA DI MARE” stamps in use in Florence, written in capital letters in two lines and struck in black or red ink, for use on the outgoing mail, in particular on the one bound to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and to oriental destinations carried by French mail steamers.

September 20, 1854. From Florence to “*Cairo – Egypt*”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 13 *crazie*. There are the “Via di Mare” and the “P.D.” handstamps of Florence. The letter arrived to Leghorn on September 21, and by the French packet “*Bosphore*” arrived to Malta on September 25. On the same day it was embarked on the French packet “*Telemaque*” of “*Ligne du Levant*” and arrived to Smyrne on September 30. On October 10, the letter was placed on board the French steamer “*Scamandre*” of “*Ligne de Syrie*” that arrived to Alexandria on October 21, and from there it was handed to Cairo.



September 20, 1854. From Florence to “*Cairo – Egypt*”. “2” double-rate letter franked up to destination with 26 *crazie*. There are the “Via di Mare” and the “P.D.” handstamps of Florence. The letter arrived to Leghorn on September 21, and by the French packet “*Bosphore*” arrived to Malta on September 25. On the same day it was embarked on the French packet “*Telemaque*” of “*Ligne du Levant*” and arrived to Smyrne on September 30. On October 10, the letter was placed on board the French steamer “*Scamandre*” of “*Ligne de Syrie*” that arrived to Alexandria on October 21, and from there it was handed to Cairo.



From April 28, 1859 to December 31, 1859

Government of Tuscany



September 17, 1859. From Leghorn “*Con Vapore Postale Francese*” to Alexandria. “4” quadruple-rate letter franked up the destination with 52 *crazie*. “P.D.” handstamp. (e)

From January 1, 1860 to December 31, 1860



Government of Tuscany

Until July 1860 the Tuscan rate of 13 *crazie* continued to be effective, changing from January 1, 1860 to 90 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams of weight, for letters from and to the French Post Office of Alexandria.

From January 1, 1860 the was also the new postage stamps in Italian cents.

February 4, 1860. From Leghorn “*Con Vapore Postale Franc*” to Alexandria. “2” double – rate letter franked with 180 *Icent* with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. “P.D.” handstamp. By the French packet *Quirinal* arrived to Malta on February 8, and to Alexandria on February 12. (e)

TUSCANY / to Egypt

From May 1, 1861

English postal steamer

Using the British packet of the P&O Lines, the Italian and British Central Post Office activated, in May 1861, in closed envelope, mail exchange between the Italian Post Office (Leghorn) and the British Post Office in Alexandria.



May 1, 1861. First official day of Sardinian stamps in Tuscany. From Leghorn “Via Marsilia” to Alexandria. Single-rate letter prepaid 60 *Icent* with 40 of Tuscany Government and 20 of the Sardinia stamps. The letter bears, on the reverse, the transit datestamp of Genoa and the delivery datestamp of the British Post Office of Alexandria. Two different of Leghorn and Genua P.D. handstamps. (e)

TUSCANY / from Egypt

From October 1, 1851 to July 1860

Tuscan rates

From the French Post Office of Alexandria in Egypt

Egypt did not have its own foreign post office service; therefore its letters had to be handed to a European Post Office.

From the French post office of Alexandria of Egypt the rate of a prepaid letters sent to Tuscany was 90 *Fcent* for each 7,5 grams of weight.



December 13, 1859. From “Alexandrie – Egypte” to Leghorn. Tenth-rate letter franked up to destination with 900 *Fcent*. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter was handed to the French Post Office of Alexandria, and then carried by the French packet *Mersey* to Malta where, on December 18, it was placed on board the French packet *Pausilippe*. It arrived in Leghorn on December 22.

TUSCANY /from Egypt

From January 1, 1861 to February 28, 1863

Sardinian rates

From the French Post Office of Alexandria in Egypt

From July 1860 the Sardinian rates came in effect. From January 1, 1861 the rate amounted to 80 centesimi for each 7,5 grams of weight for prepaid letters, 1 lira for unpaid letters. The insufficiently prepaid amount was deducted from the unpaid-letter rate.



September 17, 1861. From Alexandria – Egypt to Leghorn. “6” sextuple-rate letter franked up to destination with 480 *Fcent*. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter was handed to the French Post Office of Alexandria, and then carried by the French packet *Euphrate* to Malta where, on September 21, it was placed on board the French packet *Vatican*. It arrived in Leghorn on September 25.

Carried by English Packets of Egypt Line

By the French mediation the letters to Tuscany could be sent by English Post Steamers of the Marseille-Alexandria line. From January 1, 1861, the rate of single letter was reduced to 80 *Fcent* only for letters paid in advance, applying the same rules and weights of the previous convention.



September 19, 1861. From Alexandria – Egypt “Via Marsiglia – Vapore Inglese” to Leghorn. “4” quadruple-rate letter franked up to destination with 320 *Fcent*. “P.D.” handstamp. By French mediation, the letter was handed to an English packet of Lines of Egypt. It arrived in Marseille on September 28, and then through Susa-Torino arrived to Leghorn on September 30.

TUSCANY / from Egypt

From the Austrian Post Office of Alexandria

The Austrian-Italian postal convention allowed to send prepaid letter from Tuscany to the Austrian post office of Alexandria at a rate of 12 crazie, corresponding to 18 krCM, for each 15 denari (17.6 grams) of weight : 6 crazie, corresponding to 9 krCM, Austro – Italian rate to Trieste, more than 150 km distant from any location of Tuscany, 6 crazie, corresponding to 9 krCM, to the Austrian Lloyd for the carriage from Trieste to the Austrian post office of Alexandria. The same rate was charged on delivery of letters originating in the Austrian post office of Alexandria and carried by the Austrian Lloyd to Trieste and from there to Tuscany overland.



January 9, 1854. From Alexandria to Leghorn. Single-rate letter prepaid 18 krCM to destination. The prepaid letter endorsed “via Trieste” was directly handed to a Lloyd packet that carried the letter to Trieste where the postage stamps were obliterated in transit. The prepaid 18 krCM can be analysed as follows: 9 krCM Lloyd carriage, 9 krCM Austro-Italian rate. On the reverse the delivery datestamp of Leghorn.

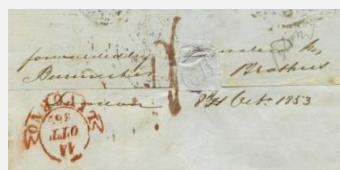
The only know

TUSCANY / from Madeira (Portugal)

Forwarded from UK

The Portuguese postal administration did not care to link Madeira to the Continent. A link was provided to the U.K., either by British packet or by non-contract ship.

Most ship to/from the Cape of Good Hope or to/from South America with origin or destination in the U.K. Called at Madeira; hence it was not difficult to hand letters to a non-contract ship to be disembarked in the U.K.



(handwritten notation on the reverse)



October 1, 1853. From Madeira to Leghorn. The letter was carried by a non contract ship to a London forwarder (Burnicches Brothers), as per handwritten notation on the reverse. The forwarded posted the unpaid letter addressed to Leghorn. As noted, the weight of the letter exceeded 7.5 grams (8 grams) then it was charged on delivery the double rate from UK via France of 34 crazie.

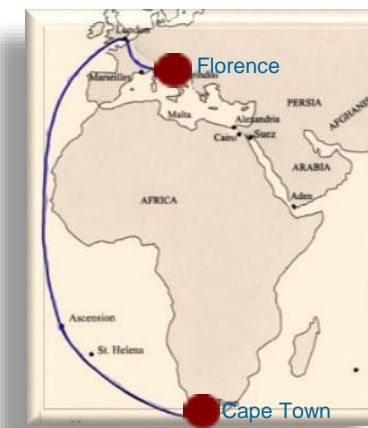
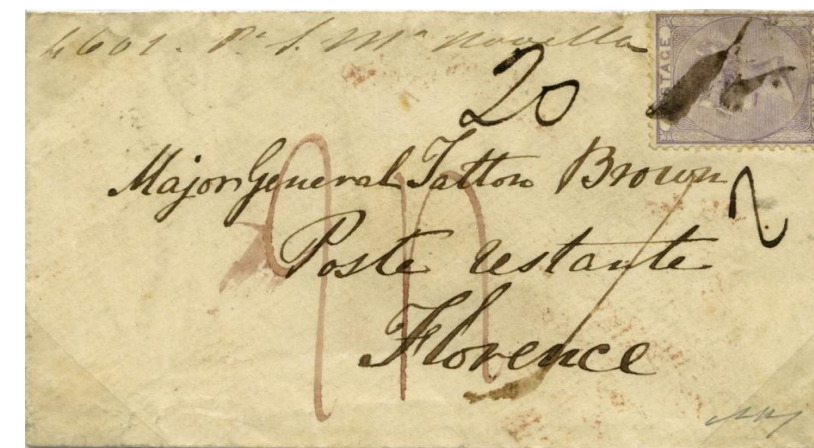
TUSCANY / to The Coast of Africa

Letter written in Florence on March 31, 1849 to: Mr. Theo M. Kelsall R.N. Theophilus Moultrie Kelsall, grandson of Royal Navy admirals, was at that time a young cadet embarked on H.M.S. Rattler. The letter was written by his father John Theo Kelsall, a sailor too. From February 1849 to April 1851 Rattler was sailing the Coast of Africa fighting against slave trade. On October 30, 1849 Rattler defeated the Brazilian Brigantine *Alepide* full of slaves sailing to American plantations



March 31, 1849. From Florence to Coast of Africa. The letter was probably put in the mailing system in Great Britain, we find 3 english datemarks: “FAREHAM AP 17”, “PAID 18 APR” and “SHIP LETTER LONDON AP 18” and we can presume that it was sent by a British steamer directed to South America. In the middle the manuscript 1s postage due marking applied in London for ship-letters. There is not any arrival datemark, so we can suppose that the letter had been left at S. Helena Island in the Atlantic Ocean, where Rattler had to go to store water and groceries.

TUSCANY / from Cape of Good Hope



December 2, 1858 From Cape Town (Cape Of Good Hope) to Florence. The letter entered the Postal Service on December 2, 1858 in Cape Town where the red datestamp “CAPETOWN CAPE OF GOOD HOPE/(DATE)” was struck. It was prepaid 6 pence, the rate for a letter up to ½ ounce to the United Kingdom with the Union Line Shipping Company, and at its arrival at Devonport on January 26, 1859, it received one of the four types of the Devonport Cape Packet marks. On January 27, 1859 the cover left London as an unpaid letter to Tuscany receiving a red datemark on the reverse. From February 1, 1858 the rate for unpaid letters in closed mail via France to Tuscany was 12 crazie each 7,5 grams. The cover was marked in black ink “20” to indicate that 20 centimes of franc were due to the United Kingdom and “2” for two rates. The letter was sent in closed mail via France to Genoa where it arrived on January 30, 1859 receiving the black circle “GENOVA / (date)”. At its arrival in Florence on February 1, 1859, a black double-circle “FIRENZE/(data)” was struck, and the total amount of 24 crazie for a double-rate letter was charged on delivery.

It's the only know letter from Cape of Good Hope to Tuscany.

TUSCANY/ Letter mail to and from ASIA

To Ottoman Empire - Turkey

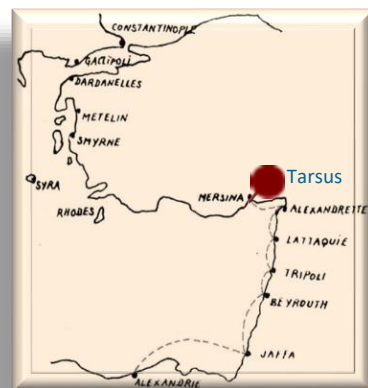
French packets carriage

From October 1, 1851 to December 31st, 1859

Up to 31 December 1859 the Franco – Tuscan Convention of 1851 established a prepaid rate of 13 crazie for each 6 denari of weight for letters originating in Tuscany paid to destination in the French post offices reached by the French packets, then also to the French Post Offices of the Asian Turkey. The same rates were charged on delivery in Tuscany of letters originating in the French Post Offices of the Asian Turkey.

The Ottoman Empire

In 1850-1870 period the Ottoman Empire was in decline and many of its provinces de facto were independent. The Ottoman post system was not adequately organized, and in the main cities European post offices were opened.



TUSCANY / to Turkey d'Europe (French Mediation)

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859



September 10, 1853. From Leghorn to Constantinople. Double rate letter franked up to destination with 26 crazie. A “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line to confirm it. The letter, from Florence with a “Via di Mare” handstamp, was embarked in Leghorn on board of the French Post Steamer “Bosphore”, arrived on September 15th to Malta where it was carried on board of “Mentor” steamer and disembarked in Constantinople on September 22.

September 1, 1853. From Leghorn to Tarsus. Single-rate letter franked with 13 crazie to the disembarkation in the French Post Office of Mersine, near Tarsus. The letter was carried by the French Post Steamer “Bosphore” to Alexandria, then through Beirut it arrived to Mersine on September 26. Two disinfection slits.

To the French Post Office in Mersine

Up to December 31, 1859 the Franco – Tuscan Convention of October 1, 1851 established a prepaid rate of 13 crazie for each 6 denari of weight for letters originating in Tuscany paid to destination in the French post offices reached by the French packets, so also to the French Post Offices of the Asian Turkey. The same rates were charged on delivery in Tuscany of letters originating in the French Post Offices of the Asian Turkey.



December 11, 1858. From Leghorn to Tarsus. Single-rate letter franked with 13 crazie to the disembarkation in the French Post Office of Mersine, near Tarsus. The letter was carried by the French Post Steamer “Tamise” to Alexandria, then through Beirut it arrived to Mersine on December 29. Two disinfection slits.

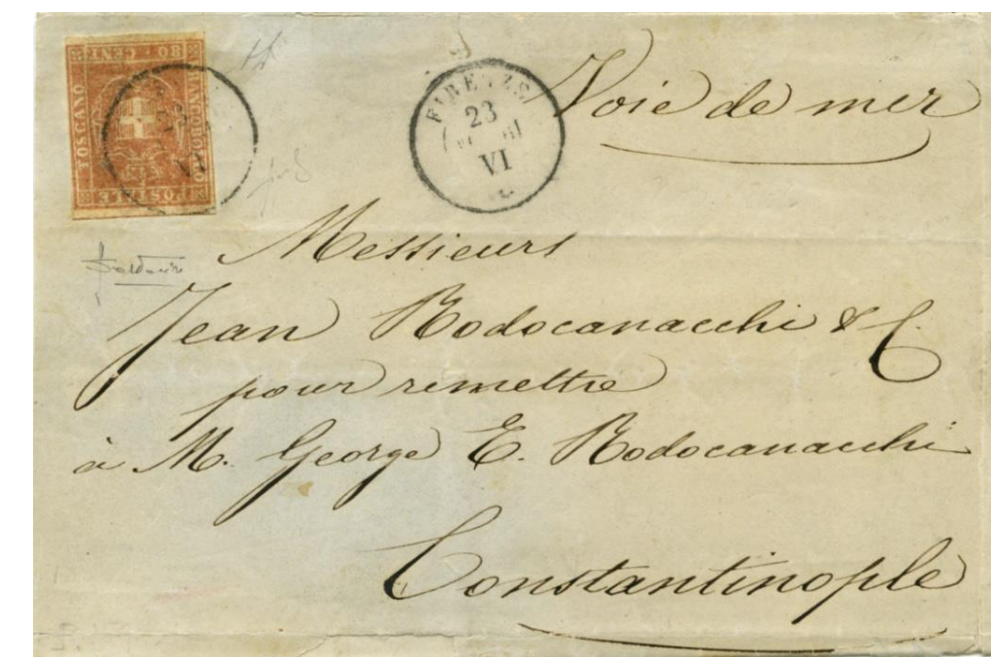
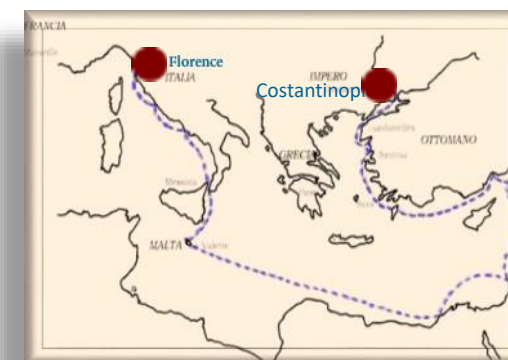
The only known cover from Tuscany to Turkey bearing this issue.

From January 1, 1861 to December 31, 1862

Tuscany Government

To the French Post Office of Constantinople

When Tuscany became “Italian” the Sardinian Rate of 80 Icent for a single letter weighing up to 7,5 grams were introduced. The letters were carried by French Post Steamships and delivered to the French Post Offices in Turkey.



November 23, 1861. From Florence “Voie de mer” to Constantinople. Single-rate letter franked to the disembarkation in French Post Office of Constantinople with one 80 Icent postage stamp of Tuscany Government.

TUSCANY / to Turkey (Austrian Mediation)

From January 1, 1860 to May 1862.

Austrian Mediation

To Trieste and then by Lloyd Post Steamships to the Austrian Post Office of Constantinople

It was always possible to send letters through Trieste by Austrian Lloyd. The letters had to be prepaid to the Austrian border and then charged to destination.



February 21, 1860. From Leghorn to Trieste “per Costantinopoli coi Vapori del Lloyd Austriaco”. Double inner rate letter franked to the border with a Tuscan postage stamp of 40 *Icent*. In Trieste an Austrian handstamp “15” *Nkr* of the single Austrian rate for the 3rd distance was applied. The letter was carried by Austrian Lloyd to Constantinople. The “2.10 / 3.-” handstamp means that the sender would pay 2 piastre and 10 para for the 15 *Nkr* and 3 piastre for the Lloyd carriage. (e)

TUSCANY / from Turkey (Austrian Mediation)

From October 1, 1851

From the Austrian Post Office of Constantinople

The Austro-Tuscan Convention effective from April 1, 1851 established a rate of 14 *crazie*, for each 15 denari (17,6 grams) of weight for unpaid letters carried via Trieste received in Tuscany from the Austrian Post Office of Constantinople.



November 14, 1853. From Constantinople to Leghorn “Via di Trieste col Lloyd”. Single-rate unpaid letter, it was carried by Austrian Lloyd to Trieste and from there to Leghorn. On delivery in Leghorn, on November 27, 14 *crazie* was charged.

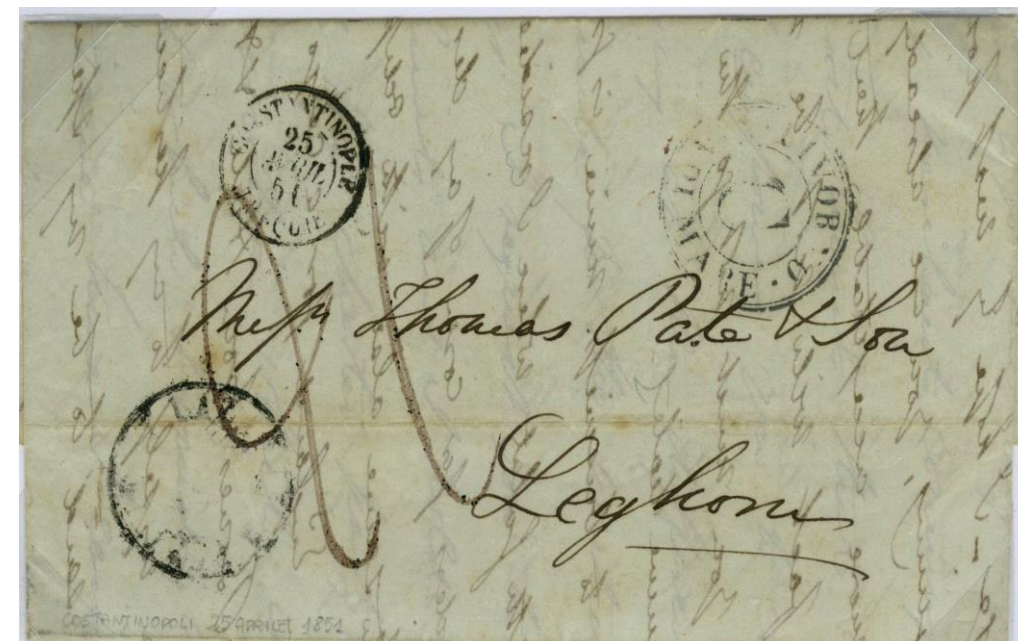
TUSCANY / from Turkey (French Mediation)

From 1836 to September 30, 1851

French packet carriage

On 1836 Tuscany and France entered an agreement that allowed the exchange of mail by the French packets with the French post office in the Levant. The rates depended on the post office.

April 25, 1851. Single rate unpaid letter (up to 6 denari = 7,1 grams), from Constantinople to Leghorn, charged 21 *crazie* on delivery as required by the 1836 agreement with France.



From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859

From the French Post Office of Constantinople

The Franco-Tuscan Convention effective from October 1, 1851 established a rate of 90 *Fcent* for each 7,5 grams of weight for letters carried by the French Packets from the French post offices in Turkey to Tuscany.

November 5, 1851. From Constantinople to Pisa. Single rate letter handed to the French Post Office of Constantinople where it was fully paid 90 *Fcent* with “9” (decimes) handwritten on the backside and it was sent with a French Packet to Malta, where it was disinfected as confirmed by the “PURIFIE’ AU LAZARET/MALTE” stamp. On November 13, 1851 it was placed on board the French Packet *Vaticane* and disembarked in Leghorn on November 15, where the “LIVORNO VIA DI MARE /C” arrival postmark was struck. The next day the letter arrived in Pisa as confirmed by the “PISA STRADA FERRATA/(date)” datestamp struck on the reverse.



From the French Post Office of Smyrna

The rate of the prepaid letters sent to Tuscany from the French Post Offices in Turkey was 90 *Fcent* for each 7,5 grams of weight.

September 28, 1858. From Smyrna to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 90 *Fcent*. “P.D.” handstamp.



TUSCANY / from Ottoman Empire-Turkey d'Europe (French Mediation)

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859

From the French Post Office of Salonika (Turkey d'Europe)

The rate of the prepaid letters sent to Tuscany from the French Post Offices in Turkey was 90 *Fcent* for each 7,5 grams of weight.



February 8, 1859. From "Salonique – Turq. d'Europe" to Pisa, then corrected as Leghorn. Double rate letter franked up to destination with 180 *Fcent*. A diagonal line confirms that the letter was prepaid.

TUSCANY / from Ottoman Empire – Walachia (Austrian Mediation)



December 9, 1852. Double weight letter, as noted, from Bucharest to Leghorn, prepaid 36 krCM to destination: 18 krCM double Austrian inland rate, 12 krCM double rate for carriage from Bucharest to Austria, 6 krCM registration fee. On the reverse the oval indication "S.V." indicating that the letter was carried to Leghorn by train.

TUSCANY / from Ottoman Empire–Moldavia (Austrian Mediation)

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859

Before the Crimean war, the principalities of Moldavia and Walachia were jointly controlled by Russia and by the Ottoman Empire. After the Crimean war and the Peace Treaty of Paris, the Russian influence ceased while the Ottoman control of the 2 regions was greatly reduced.

May 26, 1853. Single rate letter from the Austrian post office of Ibraila to Leghorn. The letter was prepaid in cash for the carriage by a steamer of the DDSG (Navigation Company of the Danube) to Vienna. On the reverse indication of the 9krCM prepaid for the Austro-Italian rate to Leghorn



TUSCANY / from Ottoman Empire – Dobruja (Austrian Mediation)



November 23, 1864. Unpaid letter from the Austrian post office of Sulina to Leghorn, the letter was charged 1.1 lire on delivery, as noted on the cover. The cover bears the Austrian debit to Italy of 45 Nkr (it should have been only 25 Nkr: 10 Nkr to Austria and 15 Nkr for Austrian inland).

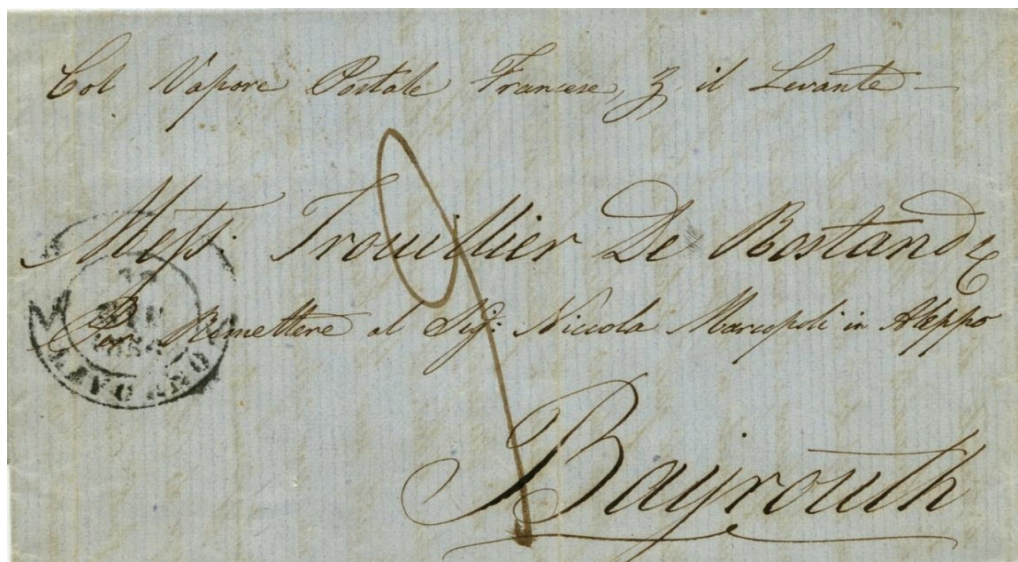
TUSCANY / to Ottoman Empire - Syria

From April 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859

Up to December 31, 1859 the Franco – Tuscan Convention of 1853 established a prepaid rate of 13 crazie for each 6 denari of weight for letters originating in Tuscany paid to destination in the French post offices reached by the French packets, then also to the French Post Offices of Syria. The same rates were charged on delivery in Tuscany of letters originating in the French Post Offices of Syria.

To the French Post Office of Beirut (nowadays Lebanon)

From July 1860 the rates of the French-Sardinian Convention were extended to the Tuscan provinces. From January 1, 1861 the rate amounted to 80 centimes., for each 7,5 grams of weight, for prepaid letters.



June 12, 1856, single rate, as noted, unpaid letter from Leghorn to the French post office of Beirut, charge 9 decimes on delivery. The letter was Carried from Leghorn to Beirut by the French packets.

From January 1, 1861 to December 31, 1862

To the French Post Office of Aleppo

The Tuscany mail with Aleppo, inland of Syria, that was a part of Ottoman Empire, was disembarked at the French Post Office of Alexandrette, and then carried overland by the ottoman post. It had the same rates provided by the French-Sardinian post convention. From July 1860 the rates of the Franco-Sardinian Convention were extended to the Tuscan provinces. From January 1, 1861 the rate was 100 Icent or 100 Fcent .

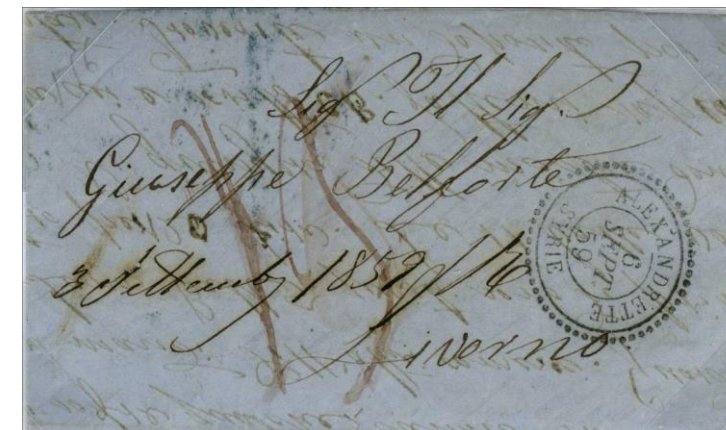


November 8, 1862. From Leghorn to Aleppo, in Syria. Single-rate letter carried by the French Post Steamers to Constantinople, then overseas to Smyrna and to the French Post Office of Alexandrette. From there it was carried overland to Aleppo, where the “Poste Francais d’ Alep” and “TAXE” handstamps were applied and charged 10 decimes to destination.

TUSCANY/ from Ottoman Empire - Syria

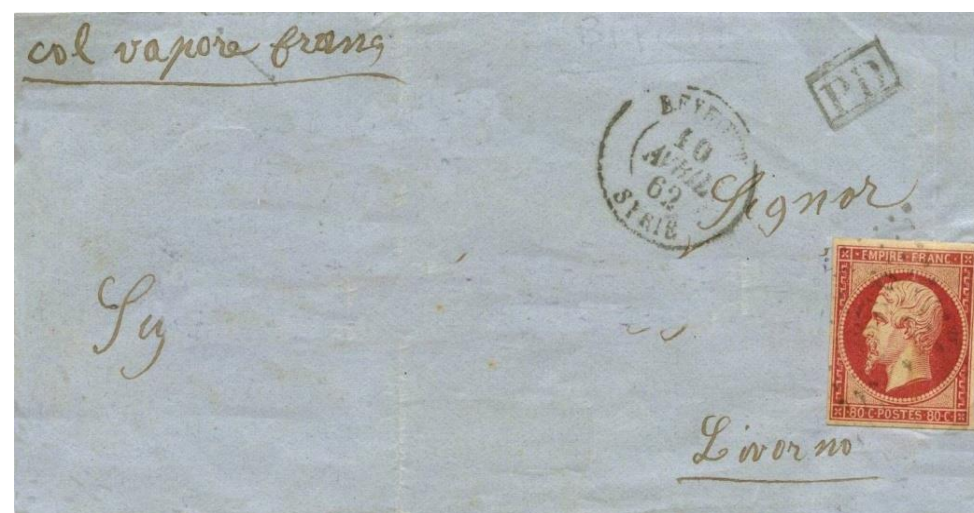
From October 1st, 1851 to December 31st, 1859

Up to 31 December 1859 the Franco – Tuscan Convention of 1853 established a prepaid rate of 13 crazie for each 6 denari of weight for letters originating in Tuscany paid to destination in the French post offices reached by the French packets, then also to the French Post Offices of Syria. The same rates were charged on delivery in Tuscany of letters originating in the French Post Offices of Syria.



September 6, 1859. From Alexandrette to Leghorn. The letter was handed to the French Post Office of Alexandrette and placed on board of a French Packet, and disembarked in Leghorn on September 22. The rate of 13 crazie was charged on delivery.

From January 1, 1861



From the French Post Office of Beirut (nowadays Lebanon) French packets carriage

From January 1, 1861 the Franco – Sardinian convention established a rate of 80 centesimi or centimes for each 7.5 grams for prepaid letters from / to Tuscany carried by the French packets from / to the French post offices and also to the French post offices in Syria. Unpaid letters were charged on delivery 1 Italian lira or 1 French franc for each 7.5 grams.

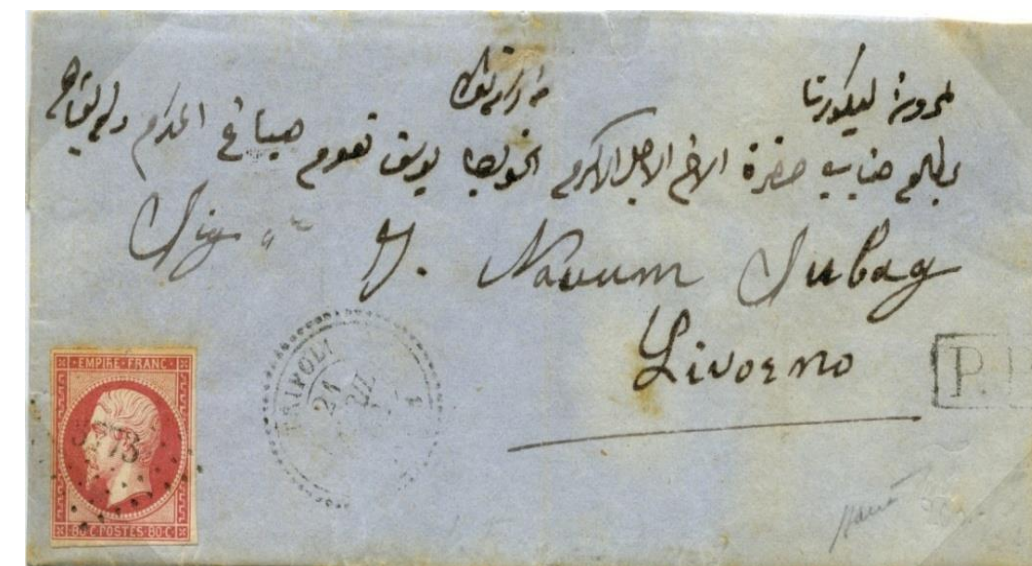
April 10, 1862. Single rate letter from the French post office of Beirut to Leghorn, prepaid 80 centimes to destination. The letter was carried by the French packets from the French post office of Beirut to Leghorn by the French packets. The cover bears the lozenge of points postmark 3706 (petits chiffres), number that identified the office of Beirut.

From the French Post Office of Tripoli di Siria

The Messageries franked the letters with French postage stamps, cancelling them since 1852 to 1862 with the lozenge of points postmark 3773 (petits chiffres), number that identified the office of Tripoli.

From July 1860 the rates of the French-Sardinian Convention were extended to the Tuscan provinces.

From January 1, 1861 the rate amounted to 80 centimes., for each 7,5 grams of weight, for prepaid letters.



April 21, 1862., single rate letter from the French post office of Tripoli of Syria to Leghorn, prepaid 80 centimes to destination. Carriage by the French packets from Tripoli of Syria to Leghorn.

TUSCANY / to Ottoman Empire - Palestina

From January 1, 1861 to December 1862

To the French Post Office of Jaffa

The mail between Tuscany and Jaffa, that was by then a part of Ottoman Empire, had the same rates provided in the French-Sardinian post Convention. From January 1, 1861 the rate of prepaid letters up to destination was 80 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams.



March 28, 1862. From Leghorn by “*Vapore Postale Francese*” to Jaffa, in Palestine. Single-rate letter franked with 80 *Icent* with one Sardinian postage stamp. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter passed through the French Post Office of Beyruth and from there it was carried to Jaffa. (e)

TUSCANY / to Ottoman Empire - Cyprus

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1859

Letters addressed to Cyprus were embarked in Leghorn on the French packet and, up to December 31, 1859, they were prepaid 13 crazie for each 6 denari (7.1 grams) the rate indicated by the Franco-Tuscan Convention for letters prepaid to the French Post Offices within the Ottoman Empire. France had no any Office in Cyprus, letters were disembarked in the French Post Office of Beirut. Postage was paid to the disembarkation port of Beirut from there to Larnaca carriage was paid by the addressee.



July 9, 1859 double rate letter from Leghorn to Larnaca, prepaid 26 crazie to the port of disembarkation of Beirut. The letter was disembarked by the French packets in the French post office of Beirut. From Beirut the letter was taken by a non contract ship to Piraeus, as for datestamp on the reverse and then to Larnaca. No indication of the amount charged on delivery for the carriage from Beirut to Larnaca.

TUSCANY / to Ottoman Empire - Cyprus

From January 1, 1860 to December 31, 1860

On January 1, 1860 the Italian lira was introduced in Tuscany and the rate of 13 crazie was converted to 90 centesimi.



March 10, 1860. Single rate letter from Leghorn to Cyprus, prepaid 90 centesimi to the port of disembarkation of Beirut. The letter was disembarked by the French packets in the French office of Beirut; there the letter was transferred on board of a non contract ship and it was disembarked in Larnaca. No indication of the amount charged on delivery for the carriage from Beirut to Larnaca.

From January 1, 1861 to December 1862

From January 1, 1861 the Sardinian rates were effective in “Italian” Tuscany.

The rates for prepaid letters, carried to the French Post Offices in Ottoman Empire by the French packets was 100 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams of weight. In Tuscany also new postage stamps arrived in that time.



October 26, 1861. From Leghorn, at this time Kingdom of Italy, to “*Larnacca di Cipro - Col postale*”. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 100 *Icent* with a 80 *Icent* of Tuscany Government and a 20 *Icent* of Sardinia postage stamps. “P.D.” handstamp. By French packet it arrived to Beyrout on March 27th and from there in Cyprus. (e)

TUSCANY / to India

French-Tuscan Convention

From 1845 the ships P&O began a monthly service that connected Suez, Point de Galle, Madras and Calcutta. Actually to 1855 the connection with Bombay was effected by the postal ones of the "East India Company." From January 1855 the P&O began a fortnightly connection with Bombay. To the disembarkation port in India the letters coming from the foreign countries were taxed for the Indian inland rate. On January 1st 1860 the Tuscany Postal Administration introduced a rate of 100 *Icent* for each 7½ grams of weight for letters prepaid from Tuscany to disembarkation port in India

Via Southampton

French mediation



April 9, 1860. From Florence to Calcutta, single-rate letter prepaid to the disembark port of Bombay for a total amount of 100 *Icent*. On front side a red "P.D." and the red transit French postmark of Pont de Beauvoisin, applied in Paris, were struck. The letter was carried in closed mail through France and, in Southampton, placed on board a P&O packet bound for Alexandria. After travelling the overland route to Suez, the letter was placed on board another P&O packet and disembarked in Bombay where the black postmark "BOMBAY/(date)/(rate)" was struck, indicating the date of disembarkation (60 May 12) and that on delivery the Indian inland rate of 1 anna was charged.

The only know letter to this rare destination

TUSCANY / from India

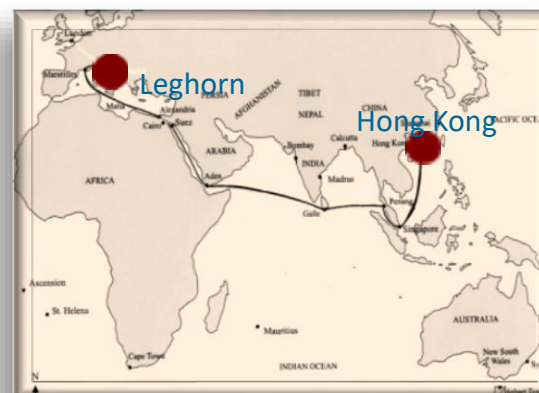
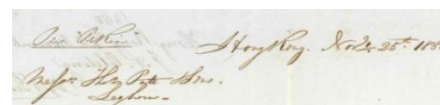
Via Marseille

Letters from India were prepaid 8 annas for each ½ ounce for the carriage by a P&O packet, and were charged 18 crazie, for each 7,5 grams of weight, on delivery. Letters could be disembarked either in Marseille or in Southampton.



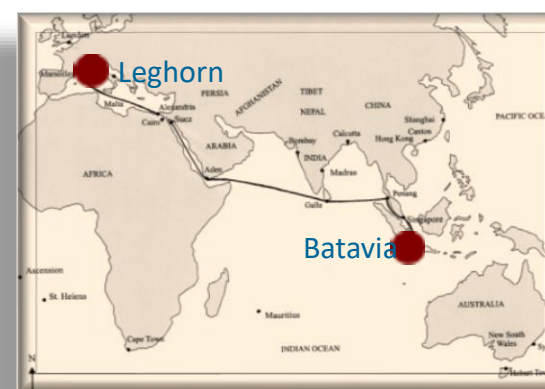
August 10, 1853. From Bangalore to Lucca, re-addressed to Leghorn. Single-rate letter, it was prepaid 11 annas: 3 annas internal Indian rate from Bangalore to Madras, and 8 annas sea carriage from Madras. The letter was carried by the P&O packet *Precursor* to Suez. After travelling the overland route to Alexandria, it was placed on board the P&O packet *Euxine* to Malta, and then transferred to the P&O packet *Vectis* bound for Marseille. Finally, it was carried by the French packet *Telemaque* to Leghorn. 18 crazie were charged on delivery, as required for a single-rate letter carried by the British packets from the East Indies and China. No extra postage was charged for readdressed mail. **The only know.**

TUSCANY / from Hong Kong



November 25, 1850. From Hong Kong to Leghorn. The letter was placed on board the P&O packet *Pekin* on November 29, and transferred at Point de Galle to the P&O packet *Oriental* bound for Suez on December 16. After travelling the overland route to Alexandria the letter was placed on board the P&O packet *Ripon* and disembarked in Malta on January 9. The letter was placed on board the French packet *Lousquor* on January 12, arriving in Marseille on January 16. It was then carried overland to Sardinia through Pont de Beauvoisin, from Genoa the letter was carried by sea to Leghorn as confirmed by the black circular marking and by the delivery date stamp struck on January 21, 1851. In Leghorn 12 crazie were charged on delivery.

TUSCANY / from Indonesia



May 14, 1862. From Batavia (nowadays Jakarta) to Leghorn. This letter was franked up to embarkation in Singapore, how it is handwritten on the back. On May 17, at Singapore, the letter was placed on board of the English Post Steamer "Benares" of "P&O". It was disembarked at Galle (Ceylon – nowadays Sri Lanka), where it was embarked on June 1, on board of the packet "Nemesis" of "P&O" that disembarked it at Suez on June 18, 1862. Overland the letter was carried to Alexandria where it was embarked on June 20, on board of Steamer "Vectis" of "P&O" and was disembarked at Marseille on June 26, where the handstamp "Pais Etr. V. Suez /28 Juin 62/Marseille" confirm the transport via Suez and not via Cape of Good Hope. The letter of the weight of 7,5 grams, in Leghorn was charged 20 *decimi* to the addressee according to the French-Sardinian Convention of 1860, valid from January 1, 1861 and extended to all Tuscan provinces.

The only know.

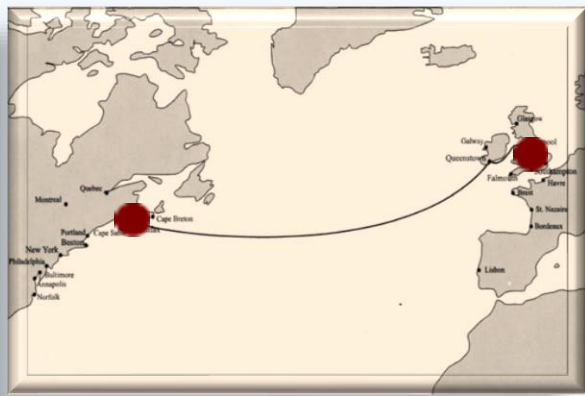
TUSCANY/ Letter mail to and from NORTH AMERICA

To Nova Scotia (British Colonies)

The most part of Tuscan mail to and from the North America was carried according to the post convention with France. Until March 31, 1857 France sent its mails to the USA in according to the Anglo-French convention. From April 1, 1857 according to the French-American convention just a small part of Tuscan correspondence was carried according to Austrian-Tuscan convention and later according to the one between Prussia and the USA.

French Mediation

The “Notification” published in Florence on April 22, 1859 established the rate of 18 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight (7,5 grams) for prepaid letters for all the British Colonies and for the Overseas countries, for which the British Mediation was valid. This condition was in effect also when the Government of Tuscany came to power.



April 28, 1859. From Siena to Halifax (Nova Scotia). Single-rate letter, sent on the first postal day of the Provisional Government of Tuscany, franked up to destination with 18 *crazie*. The letter was sent “by land”, as confirmed from the “Tosc/date/3 Pt de Beauvoisin 3” of Paris datestamp and from there, in a closed mail, it was sent to England where “London /May 3/ Paid” and a Liverpool “L/May 4/A” handstamps were applied. On May 5, 1859 the letter departed from Liverpool on the board of the Allan Line steamship “North American” and arrived at Quebec on May 17, 1859. After that the letter was sent to Halifax and arrived to destination on May 19, 1859 as confirmed by the oval postmark on reverse.

The only know letter with this rate to this rare destination.

TUSCANY / from Nova Scotia

British mediation

The Sardinian – British Convention of 1858, indicated a rate of 8d for each ¼ ounce (7.2 grams) for prepaid letters originating in the British colonies of North America. Letters were carried in closed mail through France.



March 4, 1864 H.M.S. Ship Bay, Halifax, N.S. to Florence, Italy, single rate letter from Halifax to Florence prepaid 6 d to UK. The letter originated in the H.M.S. ship bay of Halifax and was posted on the mail box of the Cunarder “Africa” as confirmed by the “A 39” cancellation struck on board. The letter transited London on March 13, where the payment to destination was confirmed. The 20 centesimi indicated by the Convention for letters prepaid to UK was not charged in London then the letter that crossed France in closed mail was delivered without charges in Florence on March 18, 1864.

TUSCANY / to the United States of America

French Mediation - British packets carriage

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1856

French-Tuscan Convention

From October 1, 1851 the rate was 28 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* (7,1 grams) of weight for prepaid letters to the disembarkation port in the USA. Letters were carried by British packets from Liverpool to Boston or to New York. At disembarkation in the USA letters were charged 5 *UScent* up to ½ ounce (14,2 gr.), 10 *UScent* until 1 ounce and 10 *UScent* for each additional ounce of weight .



November 11, 1851. From Prato “Via d’Inghilterra” to New York. Three-rate letter franked with 84 *crazie* with 21 postage stamps of 4 *crazie*. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter “via Sardinia” entered France at Pt de Beauvoisin on November 17. The letter arrived in England and after that was carried from Liverpool to New York by English steamships. The letter up to 1 ounce of weight was charged 10 *UScent* at disembarkation.

The only known letter with such large number of 4 crazie stamps. (e)

TUSCANY / to the United States of America

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1856

Letters had to be carried in closed mail through England to the port of disembarkation in an American port.



August 10, 1853. From Leghorn “Col Vap: Progresso franc. Via Marsilia” and “Via Liverpool” to Philadelphia “United States of America” and “to be sent from Liverpool Steamer”. Four-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation in Boston with 112 crazie, also with a 60 crazie postage stamp. Two “P.D.” handstamps. The letter was embarked on board of the packet *Europa* of Cunard Lines that sailed from Liverpool on August 20, and arrived to Boston on August 31, 1853. The closed bag was opened in Boston where the 10 cents for a letter weighing up to one ounce (14.1 – 28.3 grams) was indicated. On delivery in Philadelphia 10 cents was charged on delivery.

Use of the rare 60 crazie postage stamp.

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1856

American Packets and non contract ships carriage

The French-Tuscan Convention also made possible to send letters prepaid to the disembarkation port in the USA from the French ports of Havre or Bordeaux, and carriage by a non contract ship at a rate of 15 crazie for each 7.5 grams of weight. On delivery letters were charged 5 UScent for a weight up to ½ ounce; heavier letters were charged at the progression of the British scale.



February 15, 1853. From Leghorn to “Frederick City - State of Maryland - United States of America”. Single-rate letter franked with 15 crazie. There are the handstamps of the French Post Office “Pont de Beauvoisin” and “Bureau Maritime Le Havre” on February 21, on the reverse. It arrived in New York on April 12, where a “7 UScent” handstamp was applied: 2 UScent overseas rights and 5 UScent for domestic rights. In New York the black handstamp confirmed carriage by a non contract ship.

Only few letters carried by non contract ships are known.

From January 1, 1857 to April 30, 1857



April 26, 1857. From Florence “via Liverpool” to “New York U.S. of America”. Single-rate letter franked with 19 crazie. “P.D.” handstamp. The letter was carried to Paris and to le Havre and then to Liverpool where it was embarked on board of the packet *Asia* of Cunard Lines to New York where the handstamp “New York - May 15 – Paid 15” was impressed. The letter was considered as fully prepaid to its destination, maybe because it was sent from the United Kingdom after May 1, and so according to the new French-American convention that by then was effective 9 UScent were charged to France as the letter was transported by an American packet despite the handstamp. “Br. Service” specifying that it was carried by a British packet.

“Three months period”

From January 1, to April 30, 1857 the rate of prepaid letters carried from France “via England” to the disembarkation port in the USA, was 19 crazie for each 6 denari of weight (7,1 gr.).

TUSCANY / to the United States of America

From May 1, 1857 to December 31, 1859

From May 1, 1857 thanks to the Convention between France and the United States it was possible to send letters from Tuscany to the USA prepaid to destination at the rate of 20 *crazie*.

The post office of Philadelphia usually was marking the letters arriving from Old Italian States with the handstamp "21" (the rate in *UScent* for a simple letter from the USA to Sardinia).



May 29, 1858. From Leghorn to "Philadelphia Penn. U.S. America". Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 20 *crazie*. P.D. handstamp and a diagonal line to confirm it. It was carried via Paris and to England where it was placed on board the packet "Europa" of Cunard Lines that sailed on June 4, from Liverpool and arrived on June 15, to Boston and on June 17, to Philadelphia (handstamp PAID). There is the handstamp "21" *UScent* and "3" *UScent* recognized from France to USA for letter carried by British packets. (e)

From January 1, 1860 to July 14, 1860

Tuscany Government

Introduction of Sardinian Rates Decree Provisional Government of Tuscany from January 1 1860

On January 1, 1860 the Italian lira was introduced in Tuscany and up to July 1860 the Tuscan rate of 20 *crazie* was converted into 1.40 Italian lire.



January 12, 1860. From Florence to Springfield (Illinois). Double rate letter, prepaid 2.80 lire to destination. The letter transited Paris, as confirmed by the datestamp struck by the exchange office. In Paris was prepared the closed bag that in Liverpool was placed aboard the British packet *America* of the Cunard lines that disembarked the letter in Boston on February 4, 1860, as indicated by the red datestamp impressed by the American exchange office. The letter bears indication of the 6 cents credited by France to USA in case of carriage by a British packet.

From July 15, 1860 to December 31, 1861

Tuscany Government

Introduction of Sardinian Rates

From July 15, 1860 the rate of the French-Sardinian Convention for letters carried post free to the USA of 120 *Icent* for each 7,5 grams of weight was introduced. In the meantime the Tuscan Provisional and the Sardinian postage stamps were introduced.



May 1, 1861. From Leghorn "Via Liverpool" to S. Francisco "California", franked up to destination with 120 *Icent* with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. The "P.D." handstamp was cancelled and "P.P." handstamped. The letter entered France where 3 *UScent* credit to USA was noted and then it was sent in closed mail to UK where it was put on board the Allan Line steamship *Canadian II*, departing Liverpool on May 9, 1861 and arriving at Queenstown on May 20. The mail bag was sent to Boston where it was opened on May 22, and "Am Service" handstamped. The letter was then sent to Aspinwall (nowadays Colón) by a U.S. Mail Steamship Company steamer, it was conveyed across the Isthmus of Panama and, with a Pacific Mail Steamship Company steamer, was sent to San Francisco.

Partial payment was not accepted, and insufficiently prepaid letters could not be sent.



August 1, 1861. From Leghorn "Via France, & New York" to "S. Francisco - California". Only with 20 *Icent* postage stamp of Sardinia, the letter could not be sent. The sender was called by notice no. 69 and on August 22, and he had to completely re-franked with 120 *Icent* of Tuscany Government. The letter was carried via Marseille, Paris and Calais and departed from Southampton on August 28, on board American packet "Hammonia" and arrived to New York on September 10. 9 *UScent* show the American charges. The number "1187" is related to the post office box of addressee "Leone Cipriani".

TUSCANY / from the United States of America

From October 16, 1852 to 1863

GAPU Mediation

Prussia-USA Convention American Packet

The USA - Prussia Convention established from October 1852 the rate of 30 *UScent* (equivalent to 24 *crazie*) for each ½ ounce of weight (14,2 grams), for letters sent prepaid up to destination; letters were charged on delivery in Tuscany.

The Trade Post Offices were for Prussia in Aachen and for the USA in Boston and in New York.



November 11, 1858. From New Orleans (Louisiana) to “Florence - Italy” carried in the Prussian Closed Mail, franked with 30 *UScent*. P.D. handstamp. In New York the “7/N.York Am Pkt PAID” handstamp was impressed to show that the letter was paid and the credit of 2 *UScent* for the Belgian transit and 5 *UScent* for the Prussian one. The letter on board of the packet *Fulton* of Havre Lines left from New York on November 13, and arrived to Southampton on November 27. Then via London and Ostend it arrived to Aachen on November 30. The “Aachen /franco” and “Franco Pruss:/resp: Vereinsl: Ausg: Gr.” handstamps were impressed to confirm that the letter was prepaid up to the GAPU boarder. The Florence delivery datestamp dated December 5, 1858, is on the reverse. (e)

Forwarded from the

German States

Letters from USA could be also addressed to Germany who a forwarder send them to destination in Tuscany.



September 21, 1863. from York (Pennsylvania) to Munich (Bayern) then forwarded unpaid to Florence. The letter franked with 15 *UScent* postage stamps was sent to New York where it received the “N.YORK 12 BREM.PK.//PAID” datestamp that confirm that the letter was dispatched from New York on September 26, and that Bremen was credited with 12 *UScent*. By the North German Lloyd steamship *Hansa* the letter arrived to Bremerhaven on October 10, and the “AMERICA/UBER BREMEN/FRANCO” handstamp shows that the letter was fully paid. The letter arrived at Munchen on October 13, and the same day it was sent via Switzerland to Florence where it arrived on October 17, 1863. 6 *decimes* (60 *Icent*) was charged on delivery, the rate for an unpaid letter from German States.

Prussian Mail

Prepaid letters from USA to Tuscany

The rate of the Prussia - USA Convention of 1852 of 30 *UScent* established:

5 *UScent* to the USA,

5 *UScent* to Prussia,

2 *UScent* to Belgium and

18 *UScent* for the transatlantic and British journey.



April 30, 1859. From New York to Leghorn. Single-rate letter franked up to destination with 30 *UScent* with ten 3 *UScent* postage stamps cancelled with a pen. A “P.D.” handstamp and a diagonal line confirm that the letter was prepaid. It was carried by ship “City of Manchester” to Queenstown in Ireland on May 13, and to Liverpool on 15. Then via London and Ostend it arrived in Prussia to Aachen on May 16, where the “Franco Pruss:/resp: Vereinsl:Ausg: Gr.” and “Aachen Franco” handstamps was impressed. (e)

French Mediation

As a result of the Franco – British postal convention from January 1, 1857 letters originating on the USA, prepaid 5 cents for each ½ ounce (14.2 grams) to the port of embarkation and carriage by the British packets, were charged on delivery 19 *crazie* for each 6 denari of weight (7.1 grams).

From May 1, started the effects of the direct Franco – American convention allowing the prepayment of letters to destination in Tuscany at a rate of 27 cents for ¼ ounce of weight.



October 31, 1860, single rate letter from New York to Florence, prepaid 27 cents to destination. The letter was on October 31, placed aboard the British packet “Arabia” of the Cunard lines to be disembarked in Liverpool. The French Travelling Exchange office Calais – Paris confirmed the British carriage, 24 cents were credited to France, as required in case of carriage by a British packet.

TUSCANY / from the United States of America

TUSCANY / to Mexico

From October 16, 1852 to 1863

French Mediation

As a consequence of the Franco-American Convention from May 1, 1857 letters from the United States could be prepaid to destination at a rate of 27 cents. for ¼ ounce of weight.



April 20, 1859. From Philadelphia to Leghorn, "Per steamer Vanderbilt". The letter was posted the next day April 21, and received in the upper right corner a 32 mm red orange circular datestamp of the Philadelphia exchange office "PHILADLPHIA PA/(date)/PAID. In addition to this marking, which indicated that the letter was paid, a red orange circle "PAID" was struck in the upper left corner. Prepayment of the rate of 27 cents was written in magenta ink alongside the circular paid marking. The letter was placed in a closed mail bag for France and sent to New York, where it was put on board the *Vanderbilt*, departing New York on April 23, and arriving off Cowes, Isle of Wight, on May 4, 1859. The closed mail bag for France was opened May 6, 1859, on the train between Calais and Paris. A black circular French entry marking was struck showing that the letter was from United States, was carried by American service to the United Kingdom, entered France on the ambulant or railroad car from Calais. The French clerk also marked the letter with a boxed orange "PD". The letter arrived at Paris on May 1, 1859 and at Leghorn on May 1, 1859. The letter traveled in a closed mail bag from Paris to Leghorn.



Letter originating in Tuscany, prepaid 18 crazie and carried through France to UK where it was embarked on a ship that disembarked the letter in Vera Cruz., the letter was charged on delivery in Mexico city 4 reales.



The reverse



July 5, 1859. Double rate unpaid letter from Philadelphia to Florence, charged 40crazie on delivery. The letter was carried in closed mail by the British packet *Persia* of the Cunard line to Liverpool and then to French Travelling post office Calais –Paris that opened the closed bag and confirmed the British carriage. The origin datestamp of Philadelphia bears indication of the 6 cents (2 x 3 cents) debited to France in case of carriage by a British packet.

TUSCANY / from Mexico



French mediation

The 1856 Franco-British Convention, effective from January 1, 1857, established the rate of 19 crazie for the letters paid to the disembarkation ports of the Atlantic coast of America. The same rate was charged on delivery of letters from American countries of the Atlantic coast that were prepaid only to the port of embarkation.



March 22, 1859. From Guanajuato (Mexico) to Florence. Single-rate unpaid letter directly handed to the British Consular Office. The letter was put aboard a British packet of the RMSP lines and it was disembarked in Southampton. In London transit it received the accountancy marking "GB 1F 60C" debiting France 1.60 *French francs* for each 30 grams of letters carried to France by the British packet from a port of the Atlantic ocean coast. Carried in open mail through France, when the letter arrived in Florence on May 7, 1859, 19 *crazie* was charged on delivery.

From October 1, 1851 to December 31, 1856

Printed matter

The printed matters could be sent to Europe prepaying the rate of 4 *UScent*, including 2 *UScent* credit to the United Kingdom.



December 8, 1851. "Printed report" from New Orleans (Louisiana) "Per Steamer" to Leghorn. Printed matter prepaid with 4 *UScent* ("PAID/4" handstamp). When it arrived to New York a big handstamp "2" was applied to highlight the English credit. The printed matter from New York on December 17, on board of steamer "Africa" of Cunard Lines arrived to Liverpool on December 29, 1851, then via Calais it entered France and it arrived in Leghorn on January 5, 1852, where it was charged 4 *crazie*.

TUSCANY/ Letter mail to and from CARIBBEAN

TUSCANY / to Puerto Rico

The French - Tuscan Convention of October 1, 1851, established the rate of 15 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight for prepaid letters carried to the disembarkation port in the West Indies either by French packets or by commercial Steamers that sailed from a French port.



May 10, 1854. From Florence "Par Bordeaux" to "Puerto Rico (Humacao) America". Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with 15 *crazie*. The black "P.D" of Florence and the English red "P.D" handstamps were impressed on it. The letter was carried in a closed mail via Sardinia, and then entered France at Pont de Beauvoisin and to Bourdeaux. It was transferred on board of a French commercial steamer and disembarked at St. Thomas, where "SANTOMAS" and "FRANCE" handstamps were marked and 3^{1/2} *reales* were charged. Then it was transferred to Naguabo, the nearest post office to Humacao.



TUSCANY / from Puerto Rico

British Mediation

The Anglo-Sardinian Convention established for letters from Puerto Rico the rate of 1 *Real* for each ¼ onza of weight to the embarkation port, and charged 1 *lira* on delivery in Sardinia. The letters were carried in closed mail through France.



July 10, 1861. From Puerto Rico to Pietrasanta (Tuscany), "Via S^t Thomas y Ingulterra". Letter franked for the inland rate with 1 *Real* with a pair of ½ *Real Plata* of Spanish West Indies postage stamps. It was carried to St.Thomas by a non contract ship as confirmed by the Danish circular datestamp of July 13, struck on reverse. In St.Thomas the letter entered the British postal system and, carried to Southampton a RSMP packet, the letter transited London on July 29. The cover bears the notation of the 60 *Icents* debited to Kingdom of Italy by the U.K. Carried in closed mail through France, the letter arrived in Pietrasanta on August 3, 1861 and 10 *decimi* (100 *Icent*) was charged on delivery.

TUSCANY/ from Jamaica

Postal Convention between Great Britain and France

The Postal Convention between Great Britain and France established a rate of 5 *pence* every ½ ounce (14,1 grams) due to the Great Britain and 5 *pence* every ¼ ounce (7,05 grams) due to the France for the letters to the Italian States paid to the French border.

August 3, 1849. From St. Anns (Jamaica) to Pisa and from here resent to Leghorn. The letter entered the Postal Service on September 10, 1849 from the Fencharch Street Post Office in London. It was prepaid to the Franco-Sardinian border, as confirmed by "PAID/data" and "P F" handstamps. This letter weighted about 13 grams so 5 *pence* was due to the Great Britain and 10 *pence* to the France for a total amount of 1 *shilling* and 3 *pence* handwritten. The letter was sent to France "Angl. Boulogne S.Mer" and to Sardinia "Via di P^t Beauvoisin". In Pisa "Corrisp.^{za} Estera da Genova" and the weight of 11 *denari* was indicated and in accordance with the Tuscany Notification of January 1, 1836 it was charged before 39, then corrected in 33 *crazie* (3 *crazie* for each *denaro*).

January 19, 1850. From St. James (Jamaica) to Pisa. The letter entered the Postal Service on May 4, 1850 in London. It was prepaid to the Franco-Sardinian border, as confirmed by "PAID/data" and "P F" handstamps. This letter weighted about 44,84 grams so 20 *pence* was due to the Great Britain and 35 *pence* to the France for a total amount of 55 *pence* corresponding to 4 *shilling* and 7 *pence* handwritten in purple ink. The letter was sent to France and to Sardinia "Via di P^t Beauvoisin". In Pisa "Corrisp.^{za} Estera da Genova" and the weight of 38 *denari* was indicated and in accordance with the Tuscany Notification of January 1, 1836 it was charged before 84, then corrected in 114 *crazie* (3 *crazie* for each *denaro*).



TUSCANY / from Trinidad

French - Tuscan Convention of October 1, 1851

From 1851 the French-Tuscan Convention made it possible to send letters fully prepaid to destination from Trinidad to Tuscany. The rate for letters originating in Trinidad was set at 1s 4d: 1d inland rate (for each ½ ounce), 5d sea carriage (for each ½ ounce), 10d foreign transit (for each ¼ ounce)



January 9, 1856. Letter weighting between ¾ and 1 ounce fully prepaid from Trinidad to Livorno. The cover bears in red ink the notation of the prepaid 3s 6d: 2d paid the double domestic rate, 10d paid the double-rate sea-carriage to the UK, 30d paid the triple-rate foreign transit (weight between ¾ and 1 ounce). The 1 penny stamp of Trinidad paid the carriage to St.Thomas. The letter was carried to St.Thomas and placed on board of a British RMS Packet arriving at Southampton on January 29. It then continued to London where on January 30 a very faint "Crowned Circle" hand-stamp "PAID AT TRINIDAD" in red was struck. The letter was sent to France, and arrived on February 5, 1856 to Livorno receiving the arrival datestamp on backside. *The only know.*



TUSCANY/ Letter mail to and from SOUTH AMERICA to Venezuela

French Mediation

From October 1, 1851 the rate of prepaid letters to the disembarkation port in Venezuela was 28 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight. The letters were delivered by the British packets of RMSP lines to St. Thomas, and then were carried by trade ships to Porto Cabello or to La Guaira. On disembarkation, letters were charged of the Venezuela inland rates of 2 *reales* for ¼ ounce (7,2 grams) of weight.



July 11, 1856. From Montecatini “Via Angletterre to La Guayra (Venezuela). Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with 28 *crazie* . “P.D.” handstamp. The letter was carried in open mail via France and UK and arrived to London on July 16. Then it was placed on board of the packet “Solent” of Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (RMSP) in Southampton and arrived to St. Thomas on August 2. The letter was then carried by a non-contract ship to La Guaira where 2 *reales* were charged. (e)

French Mediation

As a consequence of the reduced British transit fee, from January 1, 1857 the prepaid-letter rate to the disembarkation port in venezuela was reduced to 19 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* (7.1 grams) of weight.



February 12, 1857. From Leghorn “Via d’Inghilterra to Maracaibo. Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with 19 *crazie* . “P.P.” handstamp. The letter was placed on board of a RMSP packet in Southampton and arrived to St. Thomas on March 28. From there it was probably carried b a non-contract ship to Maracaibo.



TUSCANY / from Venezuela

Letters originating in Venezuela, prepaid to the embarkation on the British packets were charged on delivery in Tuscany 19 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight (7.1 grams).



Letter written in Merida on December 20, 1858, posted in La Guayra (date illegible) sent to Marina di Marciana, prepaid to the embarkation port. The letter was taken by a non contract ship to St. Thomas where it was on 18 February placed aboard the British packet “Atrato” of the RMSP Co and it was disembarked in Southampton on 3 March. With transit London on 4 March the letter transited Paris on 5 March. The letter arrived in Leghorn on 12 March and in Marciana Marina on 15 March 1859 where 19 grana was charged on delivery as noted on the cover. The cover bears the accountancy marking struck in London debiting France 1.60 French francs for each 30 grams of letters carried by the British Packets.



February 18, 1863. From Porto Cabello “Per Via de Inghilterra – Italia Tuscany isola de Elba- Porto feriaio per la marina de marciana”. The letter was carried to Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles and then to St. Thomas where it was placed on board of the packet RMSP that arrived to Southampton on March 13. Then “Angl. Amb. Calais” of March 18, handstamp and via Leghorn and Portoferrario (on the back side) it arrived to Marciana Marina. The boxed handstamp of London “GB / 1 F 60 c” shows that it was charged to France for each 30 grams of mail and on delivery it was charged 10 *decimi* (100 *Icent*).

TUSCANY / to The Granadine Confederation (Colombia)

Via England

From 1 February, 1858 the letters to the Granadine Confederation could be carried via England. The rate was 19 *crazie* for each 6 *denari* of weight.

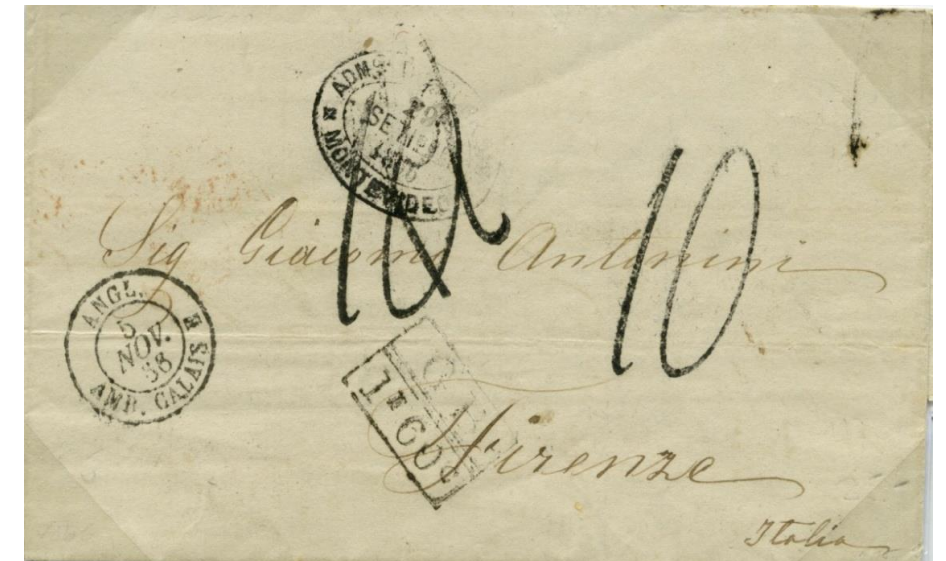


December 15, 1858. From Marciana Marina “Via d’Inghilterra” to “San José de Cucuta– Cartagena S.A. – America” in the Granadine Confederation. The letter was carried in open mail through France and UK. The letter shows the Exchange Office of Paris datestamp indicating the routing via Pont de Beauvoisin and the London transit marking dated December 22. It was embarked in Southampton on board of a RMSP packet and disembarked in St. Thomas. Single-rate letter franked with 19 *crazie* up to the disembarkation port in Santa Marta. It was charged 1 ½ (15 *centavos*) on delivery

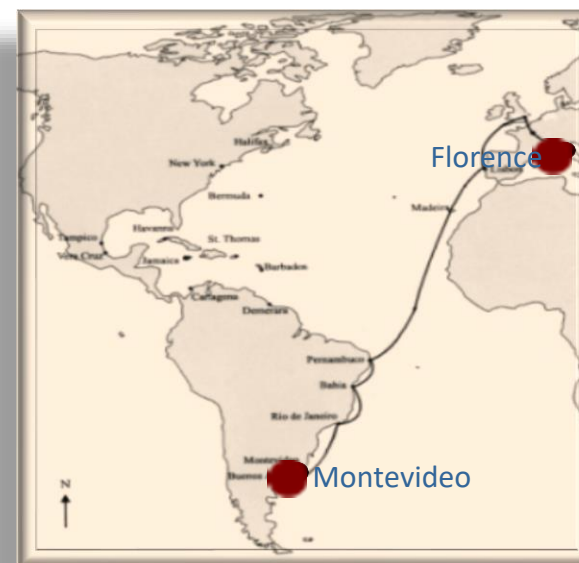
TUSCANY / from Uruguay

French Mediation

From January 1, 1860 the Italian lira was introduced in Tuscany, from July 1860 the Franco – Sardinian Convention was extended to Tuscany. The British – Uruguayan convention of 1853 indicated that no inland rate had to be charged on letters originating in Uruguay and carried by the British packets. From January 1, 1857 unpaid letters originating in Uruguay carried with the French mediation were charged on delivery 1 Italian lira for each 7.5 grams, all other conditions remaining unchanged.



September 29, 1866. From Montevideo to Florence. Single-rate unpaid letter. The letter was placed aboard a British RMSP packet. It was disembarked in Southampton on November 3, and transited via London on November 4. There the accountancy marking “GB / 1F 60c” was applied, debiting France 1.60 francs each 30 grams of letters carried to Calais. The following day the letter was marked by the French Travelling Post Office Calais-Paris. On November 7, it arrived in Florence where 1 lira was charged on delivery.



March 15, 1866. From Montevideo to Florence. Double-rate unpaid letter. The letter was placed aboard a British RMSP packet. It was disembarked in Southampton, and transited via London. On April, it arrived in Florence where 2 lire was charged on delivery.

TUSCANY / to Argentina

Since Tuscany became Italian the Italian postal rates came into force. The French-Sardinian Convention from 1857 reduced the rate of a letter to 100 *Icent* for each 7,5grams of weight. The province of Buenos Aires in 1859 adhered to the Federation of Argentina. Argentina has never contracted any post treat neither with the UK, nor with France, but let that the agents of these nations pass the correspondence in arrival from Europe or receive it to send to Europe. The letters delivered directly to the French or British agents or to the British or French Post Offices did not to pay any charge to Argentina.



November 5, 1863. From Leghorn to "Bonos aires" "America del Sud". Single-rate letter franked up to the disembarkation port with 100 *Icent*. The "P.P." (Partial Port) handstamp was applied. The letter was carried via Paris and London on November 9, where it received the datestamp PAID. Then it was embarked in Southampton on the board of the RMSP packet and disembarked in Buenos Aires. The letter, handed by the British agent was not charged on delivery.

TUSCANY / to Brazil

French Mediation

The Franco-Tuscan Convention, of September 20th 1851, effective from **October 1st, 1851**, established a rate of **28 crazie**, for each 6 denari of weight, for unpaid letters received from Brazil.



May 25, 1860, double rate letter (7.5 -15 grams) from Leghorn to Rio de Janeiro, prepaid 2 lire to the port of disembarkation. Even though not indicated the letter was prepaid in accordance to the Franco-Sardinian convention, as confirmed by the "PAID" indication on the London transit datestamp. The Anglo-Brazilian convention indicated a taxation on delivery of 240 reis for each 1/2 ounce (14.2 grams): 200 reis to UK and 40 reis Brazilian inland, this amount has been not noted



TUSCANY / from Brazil



July 12, 1852. From Rio de Janeiro to Leghorn. The letter, as confirmed by the British handstamp on the reverse, was directly handed to the British Consular Office of Rio de Janeiro (the Brazilian postage due was not charged if letters were distributed by the British Consular Office of Rio de Janeiro), where it was placed on board of an RMSP packet, it leaving on July 14, and arriving in Southampton on August 11. Then London on August 12, Calais on August 13, and Leghorn on August 18. The "COLONIES/&c ART.13." handstamp shows the Anglo-French Convention article that charged 40d to France for each 30 grams of weight, for letters carried from America by British packets to U.K. and then transferred to France. The letter of "2" double rate was charged 56 *crazie* on delivery.

TUSCANY / to Chile (Pacific Coast)

French mediation By British packets via Panama

From 1846 the correspondence to the States of the South America Pacific Coast was carried on board of the British Packets via Panama. In 1855, the railway through the isthmus was completed; the correspondence was no more disembarked in Chagres but in Aspinwall (later called Colòn). Crossing the isthmus by railway the letters were placed in Panama on board the packet ships of PSN lines to be carried to different destinations.



October 4, 1860. From Florence, no more Grand Duchy, “Via de Panama” to Valparaiso. Single-rate letter franked with 185 *Icent* to destination with postage stamps of Tuscany Government. There are the date stamps of transit impressed in Paris on 8, and in London on October 9th. Even though from July 1860 the Sardinian rates were extended to Tuscany this letter was prepaid 10 centesimi in excess of the rate indicated by the Franco – Tuscan convention in 25 crazie, converted in 1.75 lire, for each 7.5 grams of weight (paid an extra 10 cents, maybe, to pay the Leghorn – Genoa sea travel charge). Carried overland through France, the letter was in Southampton placed on board of a British packet of the RMSP company that disembarked the letter in Colon. Taken through the isthmus to Panama, the letter was carried by a British packet of the PSN company to Valparaiso where 15 centavos was charged in delivery.

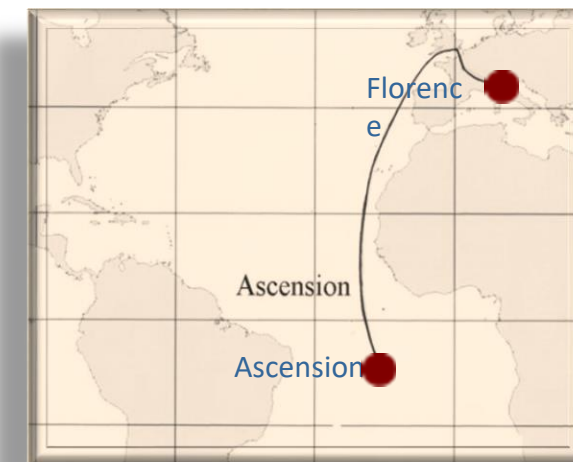
The only recorded letter to Chile prepaid with the issue of the Provisional Government of Tuscany.

TUSCANY/ Letter mail to and from British Overseas territories

TUSCANY / from Ascension

Ascension Island is located in the centre of the Atlantic Ocean, just south from the Equator, around 1,600 kilometres (1,000 mi) from the coast of Africa and 2,250 kilometres (1,400 mi) from the coast of South America. Its population was about 168 people. It was a part of the British Overseas territories.

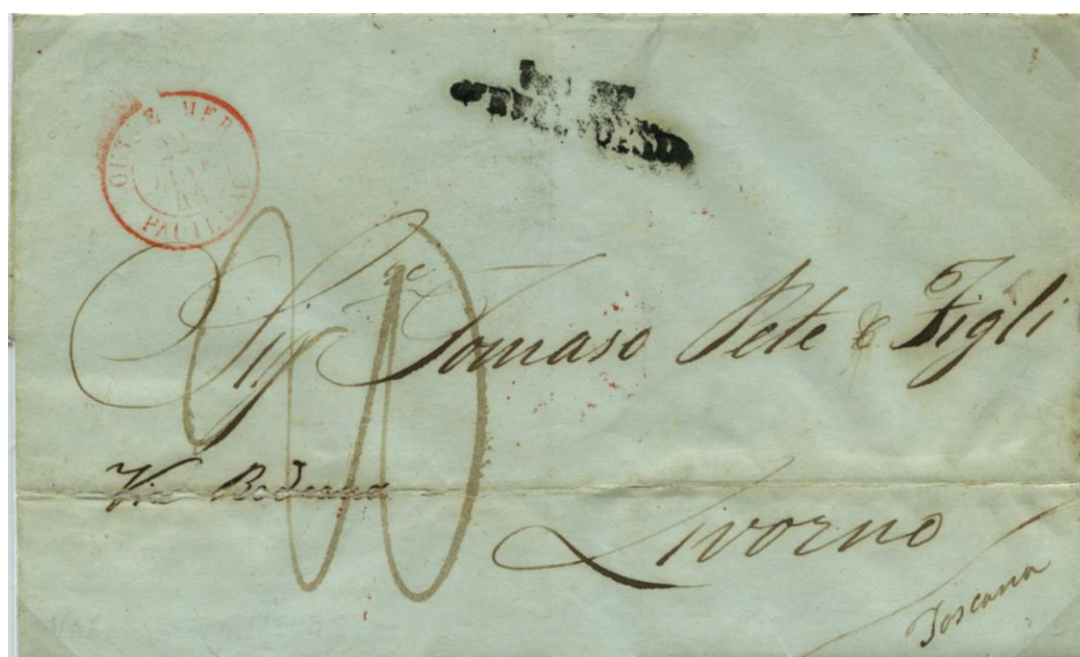
Ascension was the base of the West African squadron of the Royal Navy and, as such, held a strategic importance. The island was occupied by the British in October 1815 and remained under naval administration until 1922 when it became a dependency of St. Helena.



May 4, 1850. From “Ascension - H.M.S. (Her Majesty Ship) *Forgali Centaur*”, the naval station of Her English Majesty, addressed to Florence and redirected to Nice. The letter placed aboard of ship of the Royal Navy, after two months of voyage, was disembarked on July 6, on the UK port of Fareham where the Royal Navy was based. Then it was carried to London (PAID handstamp on July 8, and “P F” prepaid up to the Franco-Sardinian border) and to France as confirmed by the red datestamp impressed by the French Exchange Office (Angl. 2 – Calais 2) on July 9th. Then it entered in the Kingdom of Sardinia, in Turin the handstamp “VIA DI/ BEAUVOISIN” was struck and the letter was carried from Genoa to Leghorn as confirmed by the black “CORRISP EST DA GENOVA / * / (fleur de lis)” impressed in Leghorn on letter arriving from Genoa by sea. 12 crazie was charged on delivery as required for a letter weighing up to 6 denari (7.1 grams). In Florence the letter was redirected to “Nice” in the Kingdom of Sardinia and the 12 *crazie* corresponding 1 Tuscan lira (84 Italian centesimi) were cancelled and “Dritto Toscano £ 1 - -” was indicated, after that “27” *soldi*, equivalent to 135 *Icent*, were charged on delivery. in Nice: 17 *soldi* to Tuscany and 10 *soldi* Sardinian inland rate.

The only recorded letter from Ascension island to the Old Italian States.

TUSCANY / from Chile



The letter written in Chile was carried by a non contract ship to Paillac where the letter entered the French postal system. The 1839 Franco-Sardinian Convention indicated for carriage through Pont de Beauvoisin 70 centimes due to France and 60 decimes due to Sardaigne for carriage to Tuscany corresponding to 18 crazie that increased by the domestic rate of 2 crazie makes the 20 crazie charged on delivery.