

1819

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

C.F.2.R. - "Correspondance Francaise" - Rayon Mark
NIZZA MARITT.



MARSEILLE

C.F.2.R

NIZZA MARITT.

September 13, 1819. Letter headed at
Marseilles. This letter bears the "2nd
Rayon", or district, from France to Sar-
dinia, there being the marks CF1R to
CF5R. CF= Correspondance Francaise.

Entry mark at Nice showing
"Nice, by Sea". Rate for Rayon
2 was 1.2 Lire per 30 grams +
the Sardinian of .3 lire for a
total collect of 1.5 Lira.

17. 7BRE

September 17, 1819. Genoa
dated backstamp, receipt.

1822

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
Exchange via CHAMBERY - PONT BEAUVOISIN



February 26, 1822. Unpaid letter datelined at Paris. The small "P" in a triangle denotes origin at Paris.



CHAMBERY

C.F.4R

Sardinian mark of mail entering through Pont Beauvoisin with the large type CHAMBERY. Letter is noted with the distance district or "Rayon" to Genoa, "Correspondance Francaise - 4th Rayon."

A rate of .70 lira due. Credit at upper right to France of 15 decimes.

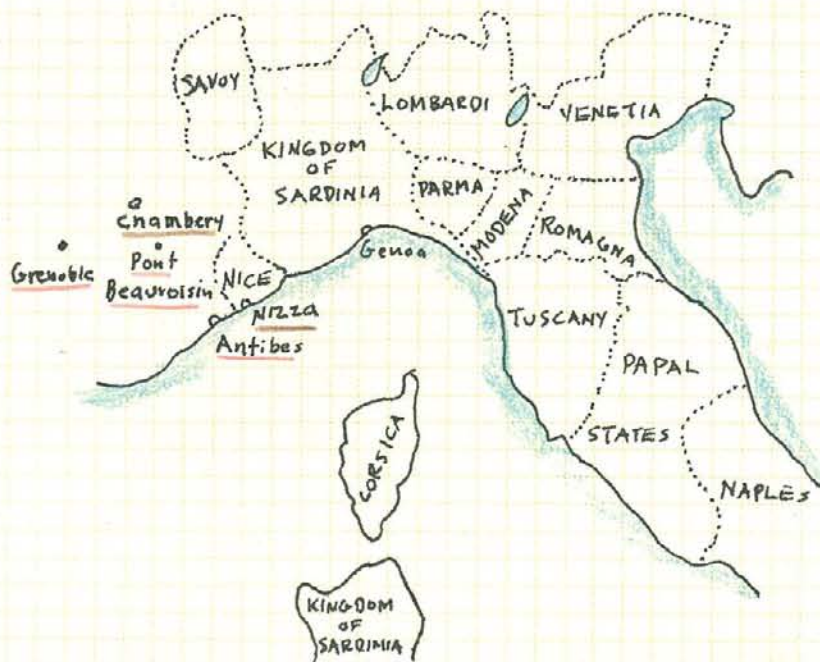
6. MARZO

March 6. Arrival backstamp at Genoa.

1822

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
C.F.2.R "Correspondance Francaise"- Rayon Mark
Exchange via CHAMBERY

The first scheme for the exchange of mail was carried out three times a week at the French offices of Pont Beauvoisin, Grenoble, Antibes and Sardinian offices maintained at Chambéry and Nice (Nizza).



68
LYON C.F.2.R

September 10, 1822. Letter put into mails at Lyon, which was in the 2nd Rayon (or district). "68" is the district number of Lyon.

CHAMBERY

Mail was marked incoming to Sardinia through CHAMBERY.

16.7BRE

Sept. 16, 1822. Arrival date backstamp at Genoa.

1822

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
Exchange via CHAMBERY - PONT BEAUVOISIN

Up to 1839 the Sardinian Post Office identified letters coming from France and entering at Pont Beauvoisin with the following marks:

- a) from 1818 with a small "CHAMBERY"
- b) from 1822 with a large "CHAMBERY"
- c) from 1830 with "PONT/BEAUVOISIN".



68
LYON C.F.2.R CHAMBERY

October 20, 1822. Letter posted at Lyon. "68" is the department number of Lyon. Marked with the "Rayon" or district number of France as "Correspondance Francaise - 2nd Rayon".

Sardinian mark of mail entering through Pont Beauvoisin. Type b) (above) or large CHAMBERY.

25. 8 BRE

October 25, 1822.
Arrival dated backstamp at Genoa.

1839

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
"VIA DI PT BEAUVOISIN" (Sardinian Mark)

After the postal convention between Sardinia and France of 27 August 1838, the Sardinian post office put into use four types of "VIA PT BEAUVOISIN" stamps in two lines to show that mail had entered Sardinia by way of that French town.



LF

VIA DI
PT BEAUVOISIN

January 30, 1839. Letter posted unpaid at Paris. It is addressed to Livourne (Leghorn) in Tuscany. Letter origin was noted in red: L F = Lettre Francaise. Upon entering Sardinia the letter received the Sardinian entry mark, Type 1: VIA DI/PT BEAUVOISIN.

N.B.: Vollmeier notes Type 1 used from 29 Dec. 1839 to 27 Mar. 1845. This example pushes the earliest date back to 30 Jan. 1839, nearly a full year earlier. A similar Type 4, used from 22 Jan. 1839, was used only on mail to Savoy.

6
FEBBRAIO
1839

February 6. Arrival date backstamp at Livorno. A rate of .20 lira was due.

1841

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
VIA DI/PT BEAUVOISIN

After the postal convention between Sardinia and France of 27 August 1838, the Sardinian Post Office put into use four types of "VIA DI/PT BEAUVOISIN" stamps in two lines. Types 1, 2 and 3 were used for French Mail or mail in transit from France to Sardinia or other Italian towns. Type 4 was used only on mail on its way to Savoy. All are in black.

This date also saw dropping of the "Rayon" marks, as the district system was abolished for unpaid mail at that time.



L.F

VIA DI
PT BEAUVOISIN

October 11, 1841. Paris receipt stamp. The "L.F" could not be found in the literature, presumably means "Lettre Francaise".

Type 1 of the Sardinian mark of entry (see above).

16. 8BRE

October 16, 1841. Receipt backstamp at Genoa. Lire .56 due. "10" credit to France (U.L.).

1830

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

C.F. 2 R "Correspondance Francaise" - Rayon Mark.



C.F. 2 R

April 21, 1830. Letter datelined and date stamped at Lyon, unpaid.

French Rayon mark used to indicate the mail to Sardinia from various districts within France, C.F.= Correspondance Francaise, 2nd Rayon. Rayon II bore a bulk charge to Sardinia of Lire 1.20 per 30 grams. The higher the Rayon number, the greater the charge. In use from 1 January 1818 to 27 Aug. 1838.

26 APRILE

April 26, 1830. Genoan receipt backstamp. Lire .18 due.

1832

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

C.F.2.R "Correspondance Francais" - Rayon Mark



NIZZA DI MARE

January 6, 1832. Unpaid letter at Marseille to Genoa under the French-Sardinian Postal Convention. Marseille cds with ornaments at sides.

Mail went by ship, Marseille to Nice, which was then part of Sardinia (NIZZA DI MARE = Nice by Sea).

C.F.2.R

9. GEN.¹⁰

Rayon mark, distance or zone marks related to postal rate. 2nd Rayon, small type, $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. letters.

January 9. Arrival backstamp at Genoa. Single letter rate Marseille to Genoa of .15 lire due.

1835

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

C.F.2.R "Correspondance Francais" - Rayon Mark

Disinfected Mail: SANITA DI VENTIMIGLIA



C.F.2.R

August 8, 1835.
Letter unpaid at
Marseille. "Rayon"
mark of Zone 2,
4½ mm. letters.

NIZZA DI MARE

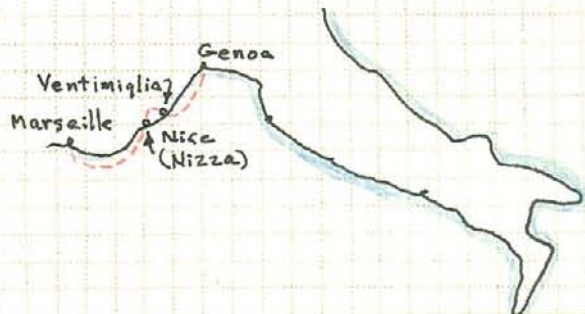
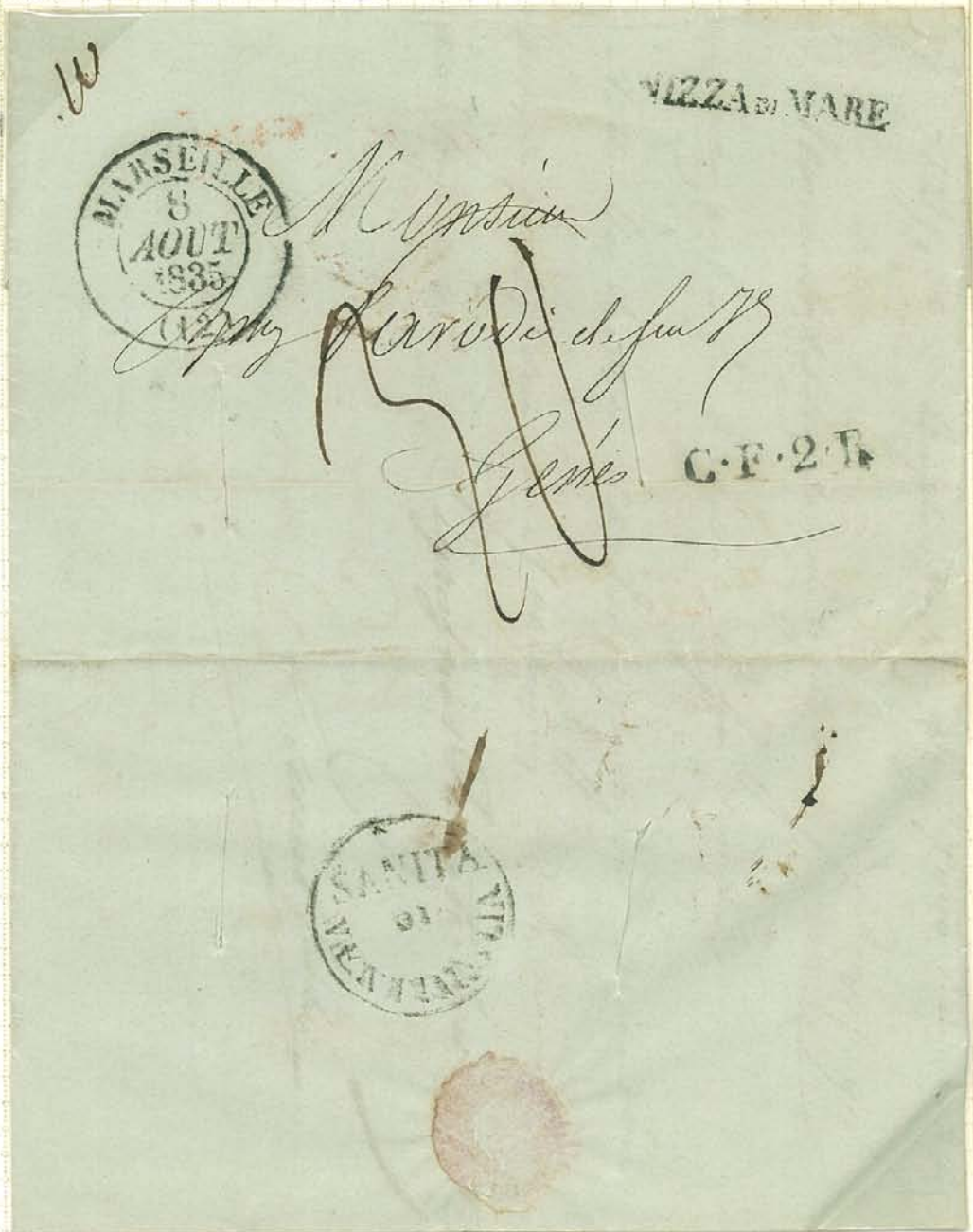
Mail went by
sea, Marseille to
Nice (Nizza), lat-
ter then Italian.



Letter was dis-
infected at the
lazaretto of Vent-
imiglia where
this "sanitation"
backstamp was str-
uck. Slits cut to
allow penetration
of fumigation vap-
ors.

12. AGOSTO

Aug. 12. Genoa arrival date
backstamp. Double letter rate
of .30 lire due.



1833

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
Exchange via CHAMBERY - PONT BEAUVOISIN

Up to 1839 the Sardinian Post Office identified letters coming from France and entering at Pont Beauvoisin with the following marks:

- a) from 1818 with a small "CHAMBERY"
- b) from 1822 with a large "CHAMBERY"
- c) from 1830 with "PONT/BEAUVOISIN"



April 23, 1833. Free frank letter posted at London, Charing Cross Station. Free frank carried letter to the French border.



London packet office backstamp. "31" is the sailing designation.

ANGLETERRE

French transit stamp indicating mail from England.



Transit mark at Genoa.

9 MAGGIO

May 9, 1833.
Dated receipt backstamp at Rome.



**PONT
BEAUVOISIN**

Sardinian mark at their post office maintained at Chambery showing French mail entering Sardinia by way of Pont de Beauvoisin.

1833

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

C.F.4.R - "Correspondance Francaise" - Rayon Mark.

On 1st January 1818, there came into force an understanding between France and Sardinia that made it possible to send mail between the states without pre-payment of postage.

The exchange of mail was carried out three times a week at the French offices of Pont Beauvoisin, Grenoble, Antibes, and Sardinian offices maintained at Chambery and Nice (Nizza).



C.F.4.R

November 29, 1833. Letter posted at Paris, unpaid. The French used the stamps CF1R to CF5R, so-called "rayon marks", to indicate "Correspondance Francaise" with the (above) "4th Rayon", showing distances from Sardinia. The higher the Rayon or District number the greater the French charge for transmitting the letter to the Sardinian border.

6. XBRE

December 6, 1833. Arrival dated backstamp at Genoa.

1833

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY

SPAIN TO SARDINIA

T.F. = Transit Francais



B
CATALVNA

ESPAGNE PAR
PERPIGNAN

March 15, 1833. Letter dated at Barcelona in the province of Cataluna.

French entry mark (Noel 103) showing mail from Spain entering France at Perpignan.

T.F

NIZZA di MARE

French mark showing "Transit Francais", justifying 8 decimes French credit, U.L.

Maritime mark showing letter transit at Nice (Nizza) by sea. Nizza was Italian at this period.

23. MARZO

March 23, 1833. Genoa receipt back date stamp. Lire .41 due.

1839

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY

SPAIN TO SARDINIA

Entry Mark: Espag/Perpignan



BARCELONA
CATALUNA

ESPAG
26
AOUT
99
PERPIGNAN

P.P.

August 26, 1839. Letter datelined at Barcelona. Noted "pr. vapor" or "by steamer", indicating sea routing.

August 26. French entry mark (Noel 739) showing mail entering France from Spain "ESPAG(NE)" at Perpignan. The "2's" indicate that this mark was struck at Marseilles. Letter then went by sea to Nice. French marked letter "P.P.", or Porte Payee (to French-Italian border). Mail now in one of the regular exchange routes, France to Sardinia.

VIA DI NIZZA

30. AGOSTO

Italian marking showing "via Nice" (then Italian).

August 30. Genoa receipt date backstamp. Lire .41 due.

1835

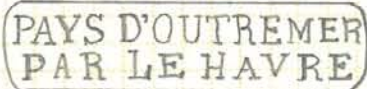
FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
SHIP LETTER

Philadelphia to Nice via
New York & Havre

T.F. = Transit Française



April 15, 1835. Letter posted at Philadelphia "PAID", i.e., paid to the port. Endorsed "Pr Ship Rhone/via New York & Havre". Evidentially the Rhone sailed out of Philadelphia, as this letter was rated at double letter rate of 6¢ x 2 = 12¢ prepaid (red mms. U.R.), Act of 1825 rates for letter going not over 30 miles.



T.F

17 MAG

French entry mark at Le Havre, a fine strike of the Type III (Salles) handstamp, showing mail from "Countries Overseas".

French marked mail Transit Française showing movement through France.

May 17. Arrival date backstamp at Nice (Nizza), which was then Italian.

Rhone departed N.Y. April 16, 1835. Letter rated 12(4)¢ single 80 to 150 miles, Philadelphia to N.Y (90 mi.).

1835

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

TS (Transit Sarde) Marks

French Entry Mark:
ITALIE/ PAR ANTIBES

The stamp "T S" (Transit Sarde) can be found from 1818 onward on letters in transit through Sardinia destined for France. After 7 August 1838, these stamps were expanded to include numbers "T.S.1", etc. to account for varying charges then applying depending upon from which Italian State or Swiss Canton the letter had originated.



BOLOGNA

TS 8

ITALIE
PAR
ANTIBES

August 26, 1835. Letter datelined at Bologna in Romagna.

Sardinian transit mark (see explanation above). "8" represents charge to France for Sardinian transit.

French entry mark (Noel 144) at the coastal town of Antibes.



September 3, 1835. Receipt backstamp at La Verpilliere, France.

1835

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

Entry Point of Austrian Mail - Milano



V. TRIEST.

October 4, 1835. Letter headed at Triest and noted on face in manuscript "p. Milano" indicating it was to go via the postal exchange town of Milan. High weight letter rated Lire .72, which was crossed out at point of entry.

9. 8BRE

October 9, 1835. Entry mark backstamp at Genoa. Entry office had noted (mms. U.L.) lire .55 due from recipient.

1826

SARDINIAN POSTAL MARKINGS

ENTRY MARK: VOGHERA

From 1819 to 1839, mail entering Sardinia at Voghera was identified by a simple stamp VOGHERA, known in red or green as well as black.



MILANO

December 16, 1826. Letter datelined at Milan.

VOGHERA

Sardinian mark showing mail entering at Voghera. This mark sometimes seen with a date underneath (which see).

18.XBRE

December 18, 1841. Receipt date backstamp at Genoa. Lire .14 due.

1837

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY
BAVARIA TO GENOA



AUGSBURG
1 DEC 1837.

LT

December 1, 1837. A letter posted at Augsburg (Augusta), a city of Bavaria, capital of the Province of Swabia and Neuburg, 35 miles N.W. of Munich. Rate to the border of Sardinia of 6 kreutzer is shown by a manuscript "6" on the reverse of the letter.

Stamp applied LT = Lettera di Transisto for mail passing through Parma.

7.XBRE

December 7, 1837. Arrival date backstamp at Genoa. .11 lira due from the recipient.

1839

SARDINIAN POSTAL MARKINGS

ENTRY MARK: VOGHERA

From 1819 to 1839 mail entering Sardinia at Voghera was identified by a simple stámp, and is known in red and green as well as black.

August 21/2, 1839, letter headed at Odessa, Russia. First date (Aug. 21) is the old (Julian) calendar, latter date the "new" or Gregorian calendar. Eastern countries at this period still used the Julian calendar datings.

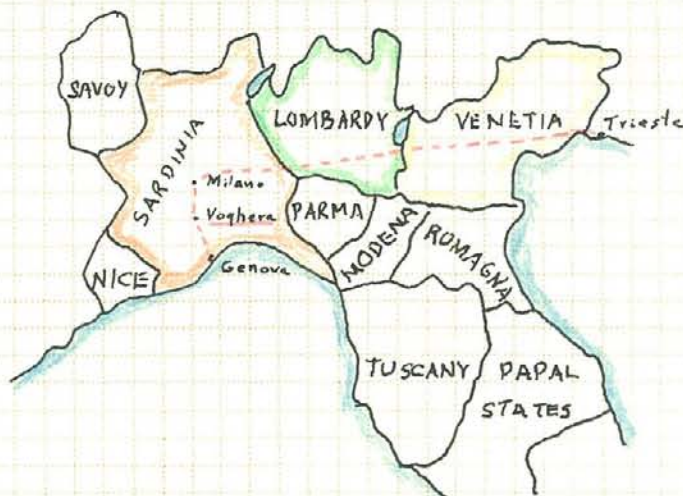
VOGHERA
19. AGOS.

August 19, 1839.
Sardinian entry
mark at Voghera
(see above).



20 AGOSTO

August 20, 1839.
Receipt date back-
stamp at Genoa.
Lire .21 due.



1839

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY
LONDON TO GENOA VIA FRANCE
VIA DI P.T. BEAUVOISIN (Sardinian Mark)



November 6, 1839. Letter paid to the Sardinian border at London, backstamp. Rate (1 Vic. c, 34), effective August 1, 1837, was 1sh.7d. single via France (rate via Germany was 1/8d.) Here a treble letter at 1/7d. x 3 = 4sh.9d., shown in red manuscript. Letter is endorsed: Via Francia.

November 8. Entry mark at Calais, France, the continental terminus of the Dover-Calais Ferry. The 2's show that this mark was actually struck at Paris.

VIA DI
P.T. BEAUVOISIN

Sardinian entry mark showing mail entering Sardinia by way of the French town of Pont Beauvoisin.

13 9BRE

November 13. Genoa arrival backstamp. Sardinian postage of .55 lira due.

1840

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI VOGHERA



18 MODENA
MARZO

LT

December 31, 1839. A printed form announcing the change in ownership of a firm, Dienna Sanguinetti e Comp. It is signed by the principals, but was not mailed until March 18, 1840 at Modena. Modena is a fortified

city, capital of the Duchy of Modena, a state of Italy, bounded E. by the Pontifical States, south by the grand-duchy of Tuscany and Lucca, S.W. by the Gulf of Genoa, W. by Parma, and N. by the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom. All of these before the consolidation of Italy in 1865.

Letter was marked in red LT = Lettera di Transito on passing through the State of Parma.

VIA DI
VOGHERA

21. MARZO

Mail officially entered Sardinia at Voghera, where the VIA DI/VOGHERA mark was struck.

March 21. Arrival backstamp at Genoa. .10 lira was due for Sardinian postage. .10 lira (manuscript at upper left) had been paid at Modena to get the letter to the Sardinian border.

1840

SARDINIAN POSTAL MARKINGS

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI/VOGHERA

Prior to 1844 mail incoming had to be paid to the Sardinian border, then rated by distance to the delivery point in Sardinia. In 1839 a new stamp VIA DI/VOGHERA was issued for use on incoming and outgoing mail to or through Lombardo-Veneto.



VIA DI
VOGHERA

14. XBRE

FRANCO

December 10, 1840.
Letter posted at Triest
and marked FRANCO =
Paid, i.e. to the Sard-
inian border. Lire .33
prepaid, then X'd out at
the border.

Sardinian entry
mark (see above)
Collect lire .20
(upper left) due.

December 14, 1840.
Genoan dated receipt
backstamp.

1839

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI/VOGHERA



MILANO
OTTOBRE 26

FRANCO

October 26, 1839. Letter posted paid (FRANCO) at Milan for Genoa.

VIA DI
VOGHERA

Sardinian entry mark, here used in the year of its introduction, 1839, for use on incoming or outgoing mail to or through Lombardo-Veneto.

1842

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI VOGHERA

AFFR^{TA} FRONTIERA =
Paid to the Frontier



G. ACELSMA Q^{RE} DOM.
MILANO

MILANO
23 APR.

AFFR^{TA} FRONTIERA

April 23, 1842. Company backstamp
and Milan dated receipt mark.

Letter marked "Paid to the
Frontier", i.e. to the Sard-
inian border by P.O. at Milan.
After 1839, mail could either
be sent unpaid all the way, or
paid just to the border of
Lombardo-Veneto.

VIA DI
VOGHERA

Sardinian entry mark, this mark
introduced in 1839 for use on in-
coming and outgoing mail to or
through Lombardo-Veneto.

25. APRILE

April 25. Receipt
backstamp at Genoa.

1841

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI BRONI

From 1839 onwards a new type of stamp is found - the "VIA DI..." (by way of) which indicated the place of entry into the country and the way in which the mail was forwarded.



VIA DI BRONI

May 1, 1841. A letter posted unpaid at Piacenza. This is a fortified city of Northern Italy, capital of the province of Piacenza, 36 miles W.N.W. of Parma, near the right bank of the Po.

The Sardinian entry mark "VIA DI BRONI" shown entry by way of that town, a village of Piedmont, government of Alessandria, 15 miles E.N.E. of Voghera, near the Po River.

3. MAGGIO

May 3. Arrival backstamp at Genoa. A rate of .10 lira was due.

1841

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY
ENTRY MARK: VIA DI/S. JULIEN



February 4, 1841. Typical "textbook" strike, receiving mark at Geneva, Switzerland where letter was put into the mail unpaid for Genoa, Sardinia.

VIA DI
S. JULIEN

7. FEB. 30

Sardinian mark showing entry by way of St. Julien.

February 7, 1841. Receipt datestamp at Genoa, Sardinia. Lire .17 due. Backstamp.

Note: During the years 1815 and 1816, the normal departure stamp used at Carouge was used to identify mail entering Savoy from Geneva.

CAROUGE

Again during the years 1831-38, the normal departure stamp at St. Julien was used For the same purpose: S^t JULIEN.

Then in 1839 a new stamp, VIA DI/S. JULIEN (above) was issued. Known used from 29.9.1839 to 8.11.1850 in black.

1841

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY
ENTRY MARK: VIA DI/S. JULIEN



May 28. Receiving mark at Geneva, Switzerland. Postage paid at "10", carrying the letter only to the entry point in Sardinia.

VIA DI
S. JULIEN

31. MAGGIO

Sardinian mark showing
entry by way of St. Julien.

May 31. Genoa receiving
backstamp.

Letter subject to .34 lira due. Rated as a quadruple letter.

1842

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI/S. JULIEN



December 28, 1842. Receiving mark at Geneva, Switzerland where the letter was put into the mail unpaid for Genoa, Sardinia.

VIA DI
S. JULIEN

31. XBRE

Sardinian mark showing entry by way of St. Julien.

December 31. Dated receiving backstamp at Genoa.

Letter subject to .26 lira due. Credit to Switzerland at upper left of 7 decimes.

1852

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARK: VIA DI/SARZANA

The use of entry marks "Via Sarzana" falls into two periods:

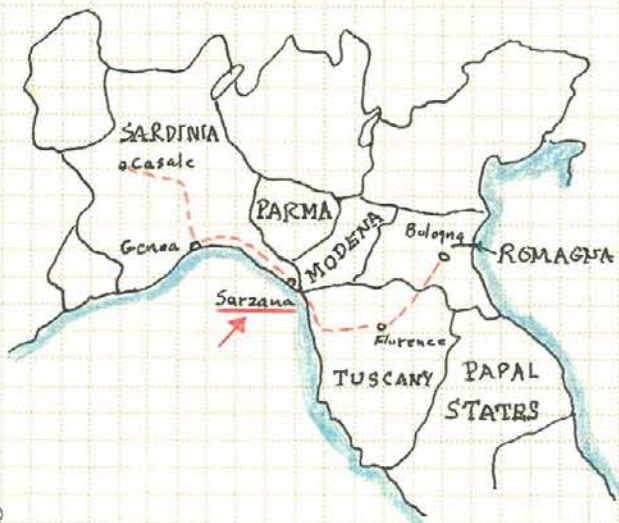
1. From 1820 to 1850, the Sardinian post office marked mail entering Sardinian territory usual departure stamp, serif, SARZANA, or serif sloping letters SARZANA with the second line showing the date.
2. From 1851 a new stamp VIA DI / SARZANA appeared, known in black from 13 March 1851 to 1860.



Dec. 19, 1852. Letter posted at Italian city of Bologna in Romagna.

VIA DI SARZANA

Entry mark showing mail entering Sardinia at Sarzana (see above and also map).



Dec. 23, 1852. Arrival backstamp at Casale.

1836

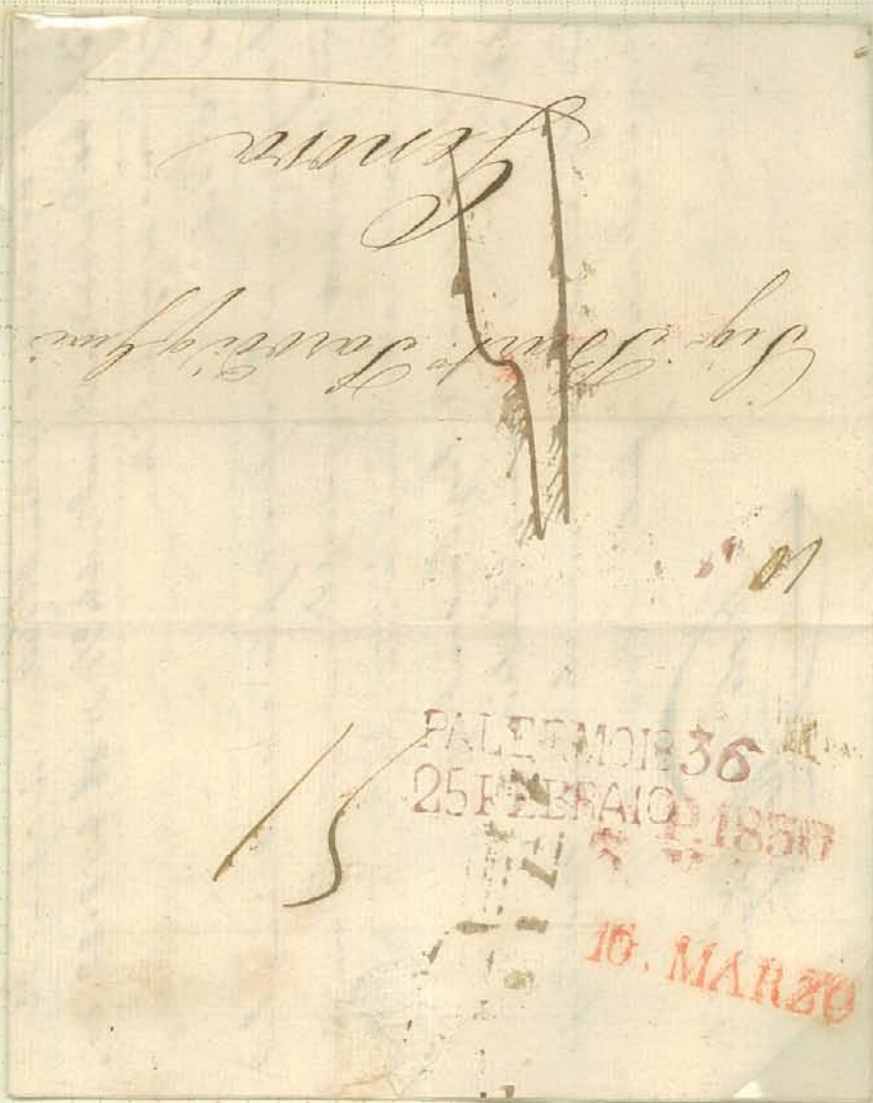
SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY
SICILY TO GENOA VIA NAPLES

PALERMO 1836
25 FEBBRAIO

February 25, 1836.
Letter (datelined Feb.
22) put into mails at
Palermo, Sicily. Local
handling overland to
Messina.

NAP. 1836
3 MAR

March 3, 1836.
Transit at Naples,
8 days later (1836
was a leap year).

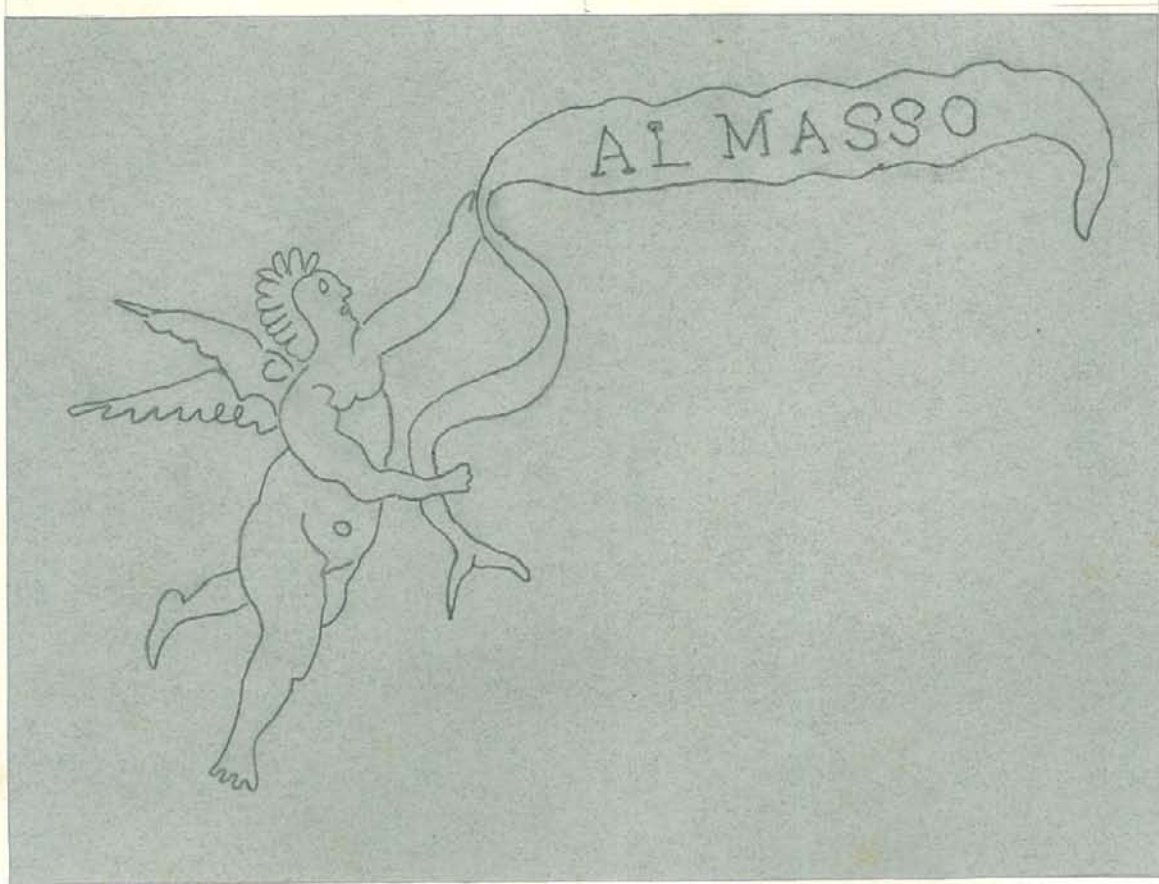


10. MARZO

March 10, 1836. Genoa dated backstamp,
15 days after posting. Lire .15 due.

Based on other covers in this collect-
ion, 2 weeks was about right for the Pal-
ermo to Genoa trip.

N.B. See overleaf for
interesting watermark
of this letter's paper.



1836

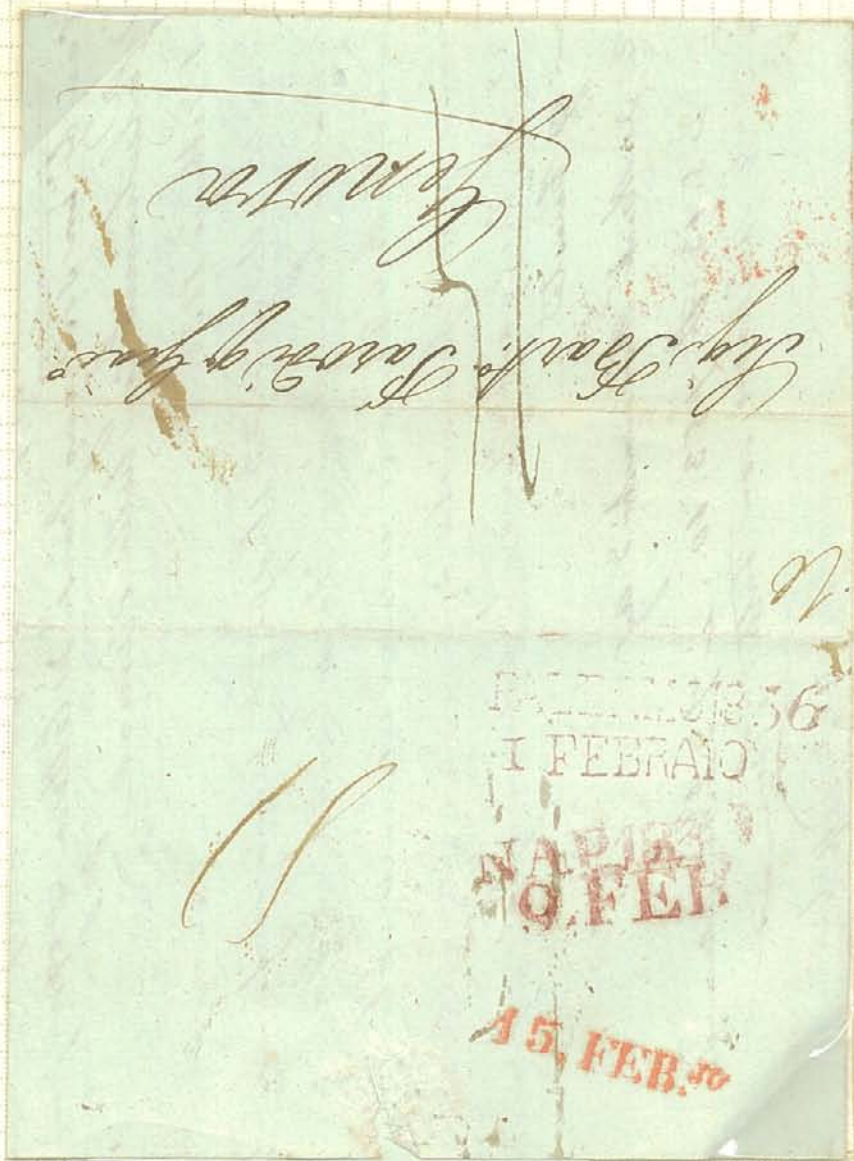
SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY
SICILY TO GENOA VIA NAPLES

PALERMO 1836
1 FEBBRAIO

Feb. 1, 1836. Letter
(datelined Jan. 28) put
into mail at Palermo,
Sicily. Local handling
to Messina.

NAP. 1836
9. FEB

Feb. 9, 1836.
Transit at Naples,
8 days after posting.



15. FEB. 36

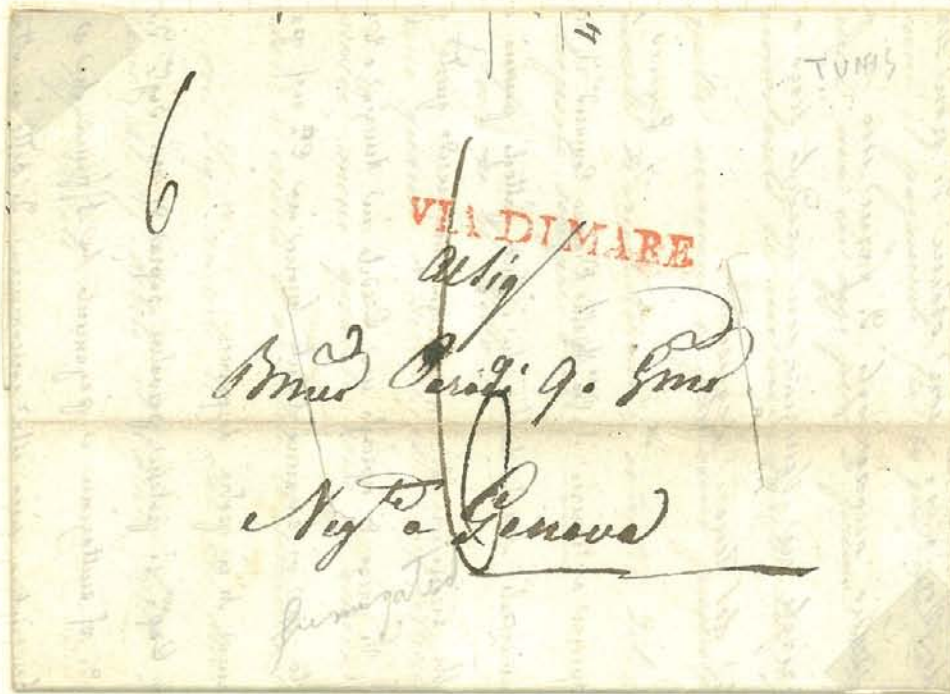
Feb. 15, 1836. Receipt backstamp at
Genoa, 2 weeks after posting at Palermo.
Lire .15 due.

1835

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
TUNIS TO GENOA (Sardinia) VIA DI MARE

Under the Sardinia-France Postal Convention of 1st January 1818, it became possible to send mail from France and French North Africa to Sardinia without pre-paying the postage.

Mail arriving by sea was treated as a "ship letter" at a rate of Lire .60 per 30 grams.



July 4, 1835. Letter headed at Tunis, French North Africa. This letter has been fumigated against transmittal of the plague. Note the chisel cuts to allow the fumigating vapors to penetrate.

VIA DI MARE 2. AGOSTO

August 2, 1835. Letter marked as "by Sea" incoming at Genoa and date backstamped.

1838

MEDITERRANEAN MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
CONSTANTINOPLE TO GENOA SHIP LETTER

October 8, 1838. Letter headed at Constantinople and posted unpaid to Genoa in Sardinia. Note that the sender added a talismanic inscription at the bottom of the letter face, the name of the ship and "Q.D.C." = Quam Deus Conservet (Which God Preserve), a small prayer that the ship shall have a safe voyage.



VIA
DI MARE
(E)

12. 9BRE

Handstamp at Genoa denoting ship letter "VIA DI MARE" = "By way of the Sea".

November 12, 1838. Receipt dated backstamp at Genoa.

E = Etranger or letter of foreign origin.

1838

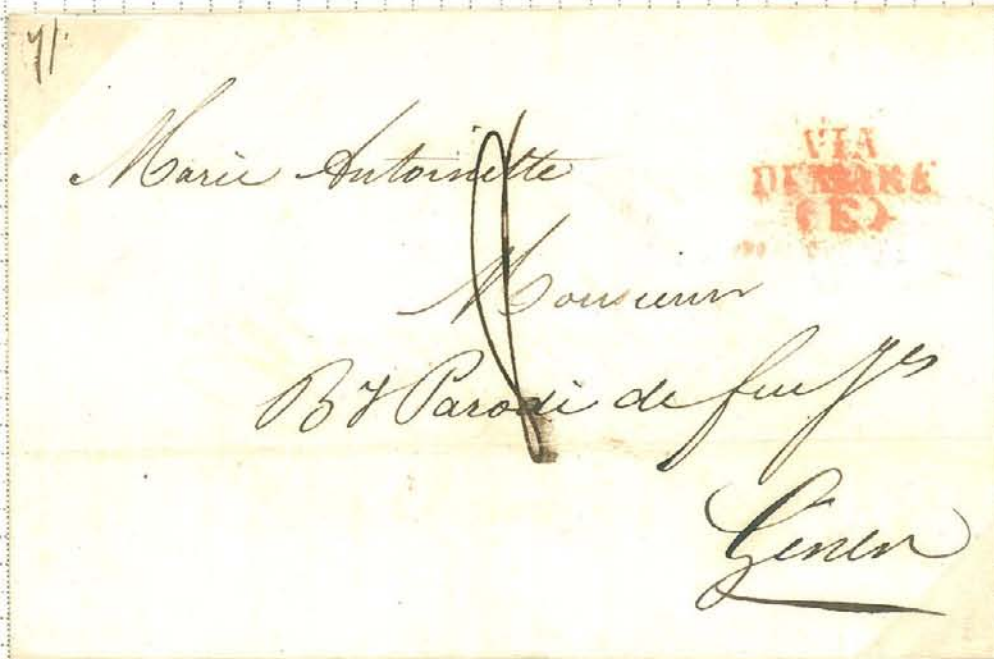
FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY

LES SERVICES AVEC LES COTES D'ITALIE

Compagnie des "Paquebots à Vapeur Toscans"

Paquebot Marie Antoinette

The steamship service between Marseilles and the Italian States was assured by a number of French companies as well as those of Sardinia, Tuscany and Neopolitan and Italian vessels.



July 17, 1838. Letter datelined at Marseilles and directionally endorsed: Marie Antoinette. This referred to one of the Tuscan steamers that ran from Marseilles to the Italian coast.

19 LUGLIO

VIA
DI MARE
(E)

July 19. Arrival of the paquebot Marie Antoinette at Genoa, date received backstamp. Stamped VIA/DI MARE/ (E) for Via the Sea, Estero (external or foreign steamer). Letter was subject to an 8 decimes rate.

1839

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
LES SERVICES AVEC LES COTES D'ITALIE

La Compagnie Bazin

Paquebot Pharamond

Several French steamship companies ran paquebot services along the coast from Marseilles to various Italian ports. Bazin used the steamers Sully, Pharamond and Charlemagne between 1836 and 1854.



August 26, 1839. Letter datelined at Civita Vecchia and endorsed: Per Vapora Pharamond. This letter went aboard her on her return voyage to Marseilles.

27 AGOSTO

VIA
DIMARE
(E)

August 27. Arrival date backstamp at Genoa. This large maritime city was only two ports from Civita Vecchia, the intermediate stop being at Livorno (Leghorn).

6 decimes due. Letter was stamped: Via the Sea (E), for Estero (external or foreign steamer.)

1843

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
LES SERVICES AVEC LES COTES D'ITALIE

La Compagnie Bazin

Paquebot Sully

Between 1836 and 1854, the French steamship company of Bazin ran between Marseilles and the west coast of Italy. They employed the steamers Sully, Pharamond and Charlemagne.



June 27, 1843. Letter datelined at Marseilles and put into the post there "Porte Payee", or paid to the port at Marseilles. Letter transit at the Marseilles post office June 28 as shown by the red receiving handstamp. Endorsed: Sully. This paquebot sailed from Marseilles for the Italian coast.

29 GIUGNO

VIA
DI MARE
(E)

June 29. Arrival dated backstamp at Genoa. Letter subject to a six decimes rate. It was also marked "Via the Sea" and E for Estero, i.e. "external" or other than Italian steamship.

1845

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
LES SERVICES AVEC LES COTES D'ITALIE
La Compagnie des "Paquebots à Vapeur Sardes"
Paquebot Virgile

The Sardinian paquebot company also ran steamers from Marseilles to the Italian west coast. They had many steamships such as Virgile, Lombardo, Pollux, etc.



January 3, 1845. This letter, datelined at Marseilles, was handed directly into the letter bag of the Sardinian steanship Virgile, as endorsed: par le Virgile.

6. GEN. 10

VIA
DI MARE
(E)

January 6. Receiving dated backstamp at Genoa. Letter was also marked on the face "Via the Sea" and (E) for "Esterio" or external steamship, i.e., other than Italian.

Letter was subject to a double rate of 6 decimes x 2 = 12 dec., shown in manuscript.

1846

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
LES SERVICES AVEC LES COTES D'ITALIE

La Compagnie Fraissinet
Paquebot Océan

La Compagnie Fraissinet was one of several French companies providing regular service to the Italian coast from Marseilles. Beginning in 1836, they had a considerable fleet, including the steamers Herault, Rhone, Océan, Durance, Medeah, Blidah, etc.



April 14, 1846. Letter datelined and posted at Marseilles and directionally endorsed: par l'Océan. P.P. = Port Payée or paid to the port at Marseilles in cash.

16. APRILE

April 16. Paquebot Ocean arrived at Genoa. Dated arrival backstamp at Genoa where letter was subject to 6 decimes charge.

VIA
DIMARE
(E)

Marked Via the Sea (E) = Estero for "external" or foreign paquebot handling.

1839

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
"VIA DI Pt BEAUVOISIN" (Sardinian Mark)

After the postal convention between Sardinia and France of 27th August 1838, the Sardinian Post Office put into use four types of "VIA DI/Pt BEAUVOISIN" stamps in two lines to show that the mail had entered Sardinia by way of that French town.

GLASGOW
PAID +
16 FE
1839

Feb. 16, 1839. Paid mark at Glasgow, Scotland. 2 shillings, 6½ pence, prepaid:
Glasgow-London, 405 miles..... 1/2d.
To Italy via France..... 1/4d.
Scotch mail coach charge..... ½d.
2/6½d.



N
PAID
18 FE 18
1839

L O N D O N
18
FEB
1839

February 18, 1839. Transit circular backstamp at London and "PAID" red tombstone mark at London. British charges paid letter only to the French border.

VIA DI
Pt BEAUVOISIN

Type 4 handstamp, Italian (Sardinian) entry mark. See above.



Sardinian Postal mark at Genoa (faint on face.)

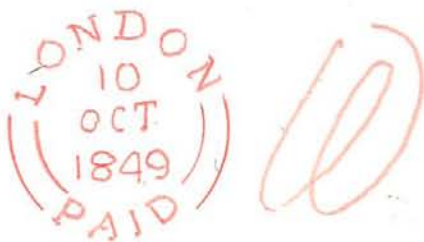


March 6, 1839. Rome receipt backstamp.

1849

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
BRITAIN TO SARDINIA VIA FRANCE

October 10, 1849. A letter paid at London by Heath & Co., oval backstamp. It was paid at the Directory of 1845 rate to Sardinia at 10d. per ¼-oz., which carried the letter through France.



October 11. Letter in transit via the Dover to Calais ferry, noted by the French entry mark and the red P.F. = Paye Frontiere, or paid to the frontier at Sardinia.

VIA DI
P. BEAUVOISIN

GENOVA
16. OTT
1849

Letter marked by the Sardinian entry mark: VIA DI/Pt BEAUVOISIN, mail entering Sardinia at Pont Beauvoisin, Type 2, used from 20 March 1845 to 12 September 1852.

October 16. Arrival backstamp at Genoa. Originally rated .2 lira, this was changed to .1 lira collect, Sardinian postage.

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
VIA DI NIZZA

From 1839 onwards a new type of stamp is found, the "VIA DI....." (by way of) which indicated the place of entry into Sardinia and the way in which the mail was forwarded.

In addition, on 27th August 1838, a new agreement was made between the two countries which brought the following changes:

- a) a daily exchange of correspondence
- b) an increase in the number of post offices:-
For France - Paris, Antibes, Lyon, Pont Beauvoisin
For Sardinia - Turin, Chambery and Nizza (Nice)
- c) the use of the district system was abolished for unpaid mail, so that no more CSR and CFR stamps are to be found after that date.



VIA DI NIZZA 23. 7BRE

Sept. 20, 1842.
Letter posted un-
paid at Marseilles.

Sept. 21,
1842. Transit
backstamp at
Antibes, France,
location of the
French-Sardinian
Exchange Office.

Sardinian entry
mark showing letter
"by way of Nice".

Sept. 23, 1842.
Genoa receipt
backstamp.

1846

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY
POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE
VIA DI NIZZA

A new agreement between Sardinia and France increased the number of post offices used for the exchange of mail (now done on a daily basis), as follows:

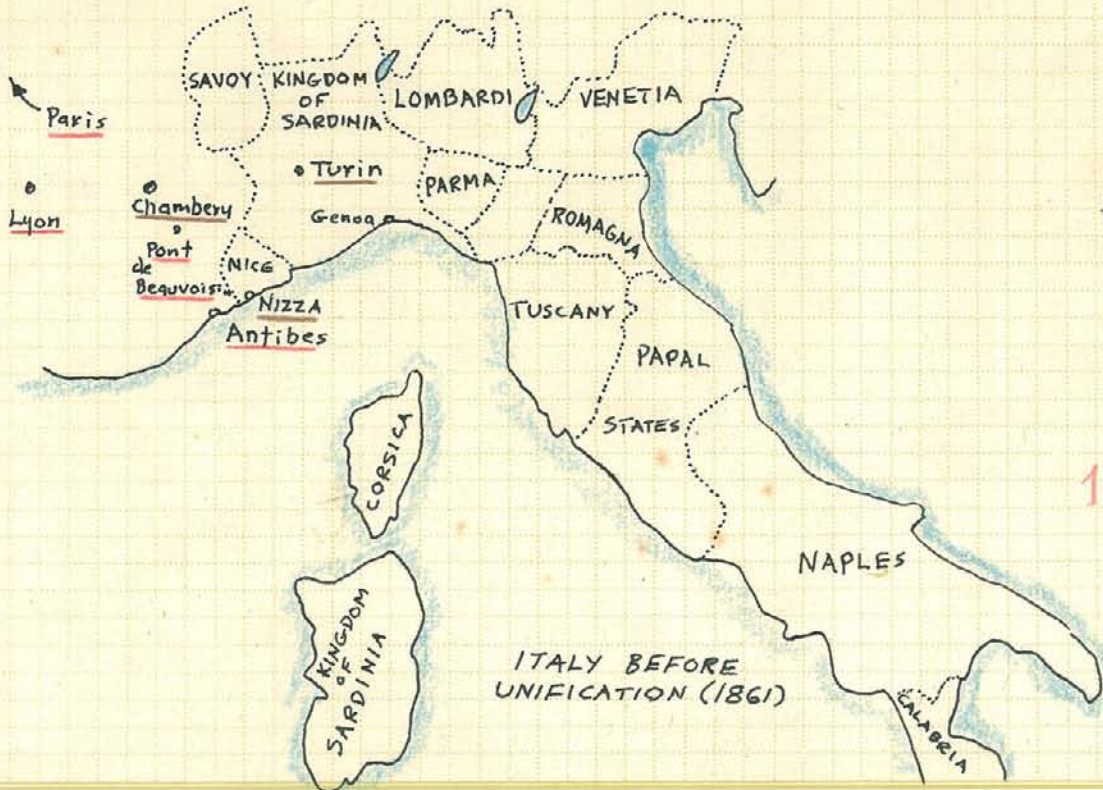
For France - Paris, Antibes, Lyon, Pont Beauvoisin
For Sardinia - Turin, Chambery and Nizza (Nice).



June 14, 1846.
Letter posted unpaid at Mars-eilles.



June 15, 1846.
Transit back-stamp at Antibes, French exchange office.



VIA DI NIZZA

Sardinian transit entry mark = "By way of Nice".

17 GIUGNO

June 17, 1846.
Receipt back-stamp at Genoa.

1845

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND FRANCE

TS (Transit Sarde) Marks

French Entry Mark:

SARD./2 PONT-DE-B 2

The handstamp TS (Transit Sardinia) is noted used since 1818 on letters in transit through Sardinia destined for France. After 1839 generally found "TS.1", etc. to show rayon distances. Here, in 1845, is found a simple "TS" in red, no rayon mark.



TS



Jan. 14, 1845.
Letter posted at
Milan, then in the
Kingdom of Lom-
bardy-Venetia.
Addressed to the
French city of Lyon.

Transit
mark through
Sardinia (see
above).

Jan. 20. French
entry mark (Noel
1084) struck at
Lyon, "2". PONT-
DE-B indicates
entry at the French
Exchange Office at
Pont de Beauvoisin.

Jan. 20.
Receipt back-
stamp. 13
decimes (mms.)
due.

1845

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN LOMBARDO-VENETO & FRANCE
VIA DI UNINGA (Milan)

With the Austro-France Postal Convention which came into effect on 1st April 1844, it was decided that France would send mail coming from north of France, England and Belgium, by way of Uninga to Milan, which was destined for the Pontifical States, the Two Sicilies, Modena and Parma. At Milan the mail was stamped in red, "VIA DI UNINGA" (for Huningue, near Basle), known used from 17 Aug. 1844 to 12 Feb. 1854.



March 18, 1845.
Postage of 1 shilling
3d. prepaid in cash
at Glasgow of 5d. +
10d. = 15d. or 1/3,
mms. in red.

March 17, 1845. Transit
paid "tombstone" at London
and "PD" of London foreign
department.

March 18.
French entry
mark at Calais.

VIA DI
UNINGA

Entry mark at Milan
(see above).

March 28, 1845. Rome
receipt backstamp.

1856

FRENCH POSTAL HISTORY

HANDSTAMPS USED AT MILAN

VIA DI CHIASSO

From January 1850, Milan used a new stamp to identify mail entering at Chiasso destined for France or in transit across France. Known used from 15 January 1850 to 6 February 1857. Always in red, except for June 1856, when it appeared in a black-brown ink.

January 31, 1856. Letter below datelined at Milan, addressed to Chann in France.



VIA DI CHIASSO

DOPO LA PARTENZA

February 1, 1856. Letter datestamped at Milan, and noted to be routed "VIA DI CHIASSO" on the Italian-Austrian border. Too late for transmittal that day, it was marked in red DOPO LA/PARTENZA = After the Departure (of that day's mail to France).



Feb. 4. French entry mark (Noel 437) showing mail entering from Austria through the French Bureau at Bale, Switzerland. "1" indicates mark struck at St. Louis.

Feb. 4. Mulhouse, large rail center in France, transit backstamp.

Feb. 4. Chann, France, receipt backstamp.

1847, 1849

MEDITERRANEAN MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
SARDINIAN SHIP LETTER MARKS

VIA/DI MARE/ (E)
VIA/DI MARE/ (I)



March 20, 1847.
Letter posted un-
paid at Marseilles
to Genoa.

Sender noted it
to go by the ship
"Marie Christine".

VIA
DI MARE
(E)

22. MARZO

March 22, receipt
date backstamp, Genoa.
Marked VIA THE SEA
and E = Etranger, or
foreign origin.

March 22, 1849.
Unpaid letter posted
at Nice (Nizza).

DA NIZZA

Italian marking
= "From Nice".



VIA
DI MARE
(I)

23. MARZO

March 23, 1849.
Dated receipt back-
stamp at Genoa, and
ship letter mark VIA
THE SEA. and I =
Italie, i.e. origin
at an Italian port.

1863

SARDINIAN POSTAL HISTORY

VIA/DI MARE/(I)

April 22, 1863. Letter datelined at Livorno (Leghorn).
15 centesimi rate paid by stamp of Italy, Issue of 1863
(Type I).



VIA
DI MARE
(I)

Stamp cancelled by the "Via the Sea" handstamp with the "I" = "Interno" upon arrival at Genoa, indicating handling by an Italian steamer. Use of this device to cancel a stamp is quite rare. It also appears again on the face and also as a backstamp !!



April 26, 1863. Genoan
arrival backstamp.

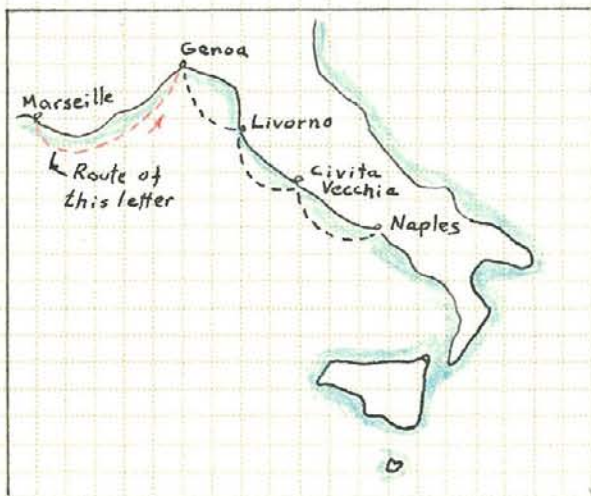
1859

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY

ENTRY MARKS INTO GENOA

Da Marsiglia/VIA DI MARE

After 1853 mail on the Marseilles-Genoa-Livorno-Civita Vecchia-Naples route was stamped at Genoa "Da Marsiglia" or "Da Livorno" to indicate whether it originated "From Marseilles" or "From Livorno" to aid raters. The single rate Marseille-Genoa was 7 decimes (or the Italian equivalent 7 centesimi), on the French line and 5 decimes Livorno-Genoa on the French or Italian steamers, the latter only going on the shorter route.



Da Marsiglia VIA DI MARE

Letter originated in Marseilles (Marsiglia) per Steamer Margarita (manuscript). (See above).



January 23, 1859.
Receipt c.d.s. at
Genoa, and charge
mark of 7 decimes
due.

1855 - 1859

FRENCH MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY
ENTRY MARKS INTO ITALIAN PORTS
Da Marsiglia/VIA DI MARE



Da Marsiglia
VIA DI MARE

June 2, 1855.
Letter unpaid at
Marseilles. This
mark struck at
Genoa in red is
seen from 1855-56,
"From Marseilles
by sea".



June 3. Genoa
receipt backstamp.



Unpaid charge
mark showing 7
decimes due.

Da Marsiglia
VIA DI MARE

Arrival mark at
Genoa in black
used 1857 - 60.

Dec. 6, 1859.
Arrival backstamp
at Genoa in red
as per above.

1854

PACKET SERVICE TO THE ITALIAN COAST
ENTRY MARKS INTO GENOA
Da Livorno/VIA DI MARE

After 1853 mail coming from Livorono (Leghorn) on the Mar-
seilles-Genoa-Livorno-Civita Vecchia-Naples run of the French
or Italian packets was stamped incoming at Genoa: Da Livorno/
VIA DI MARE (From Livorno, by way of the sea). While the French
packets made the entire run, the Italians only went Naples to
Genoa.



September 20,
1854. Letter
posted unpaid at
Livorno (Leghorn)
to Genoa. Noted
"Col. Vapore Col-
ombo" or Colonial
Steamer Colombo,
an Italian steam-
er.



Da Livorno
VIA DI MARE

Marked incoming in red at
Genoa as "From Livorno via
the sea" to aid postal raters.



September 21, 1854. Arrival
backstamp at Genoa. 5 decimes
due for rate Livorno - Genoa shown
by large black handstamp.



1854, 1857

PACKET SERVICE TO THE ITALIAN COAST

ENTRY MARKS INTO GENOA

Da Livorno/VIA DI MARE

Da Livorno
VIA DI MARE

Nov. 6, 1854.

Letter unpaid at Livorno (Leghorn). This mark struck at Genoa in red. Either French or Italian packet mail incoming was struck with this mark in either color.



November 7, 1854. Black charge mark, 5 decimes due. Dated backstamp at Genoa.



Da Livorno
VIA DI MARE



June 22, 1857. Letter originated at Messina June 17, carried outside the mail to ship office at Leghorn.

June 23. Dated Genoa backstamp as above, and 5 decimes due.

1849

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA & AUSTRIA
MAIL FROM AUSTRIA "A" Marks

The postal convention of March 14, 1844, effective June 1, between Sardinia and Austria made pre-payment of mail optional, nor was it any longer necessary to pre-pay postage to the frontier. To stabilize the tariff, the two territories were divided into three areas, each being identified by its own stamp.

Austria (Lombardo-Veneto)

- Frontier District - Stamp 'A.R.F.' up to 5 Austrian miles from the border (Austria - Rayon di Frontiera).
- District I - Stamp 'A.1' - between 5 and 20 miles.
- District II - Stamp 'A.2' - rest of the country.

The Sardinian postal administration paid Austria as follows:

- Frontier District - .40 lire for every 30 grams
- District I - 1.00 " " " " "
- District II - 2.00 " " " " "



July 24, 1849.
Receipt stamp at
Triest

A.2.

District 2 Austrian
mileage stamp (see above).
Lire .32 due.

28. LUGLIO

July 28, 1849.
Receipt date stamp
at Genoa. Backstamp.

1850

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN SARDINIA AND AUSTRIA

MAIL FROM RUSSIA

"T.A." Marks.

In keeping with the Postal Agreement between Austria and Sardinia of March 14, 1844, the two administrations established tariffs for the carriage of mail through Austria on its way through and beyond Sardinia.

The Austrian Post Office identified their mail with a "T.A." stamp and received an exchange tariff from the Sardinian Post Office for this service.



ODESSA
5. MAIA 1850

T.A.3.

May 5, 1850. Letter posted at Odessa, Russia. May 5 is the date in the "old" or Julian calendar, which was equivalent to May 17 on the "new" or Gregorian calendar.

Austrian marking indicating "Transit - Austria". There were marks from T.A. 1 to T.A. 5. T.A. 3 charged Lire 1.00 for 30 grams on letters from Continental states other than from Switzerland or Italian states.

30 MAG

May 30, 1850. Receipt dated backstamp at Genoa.