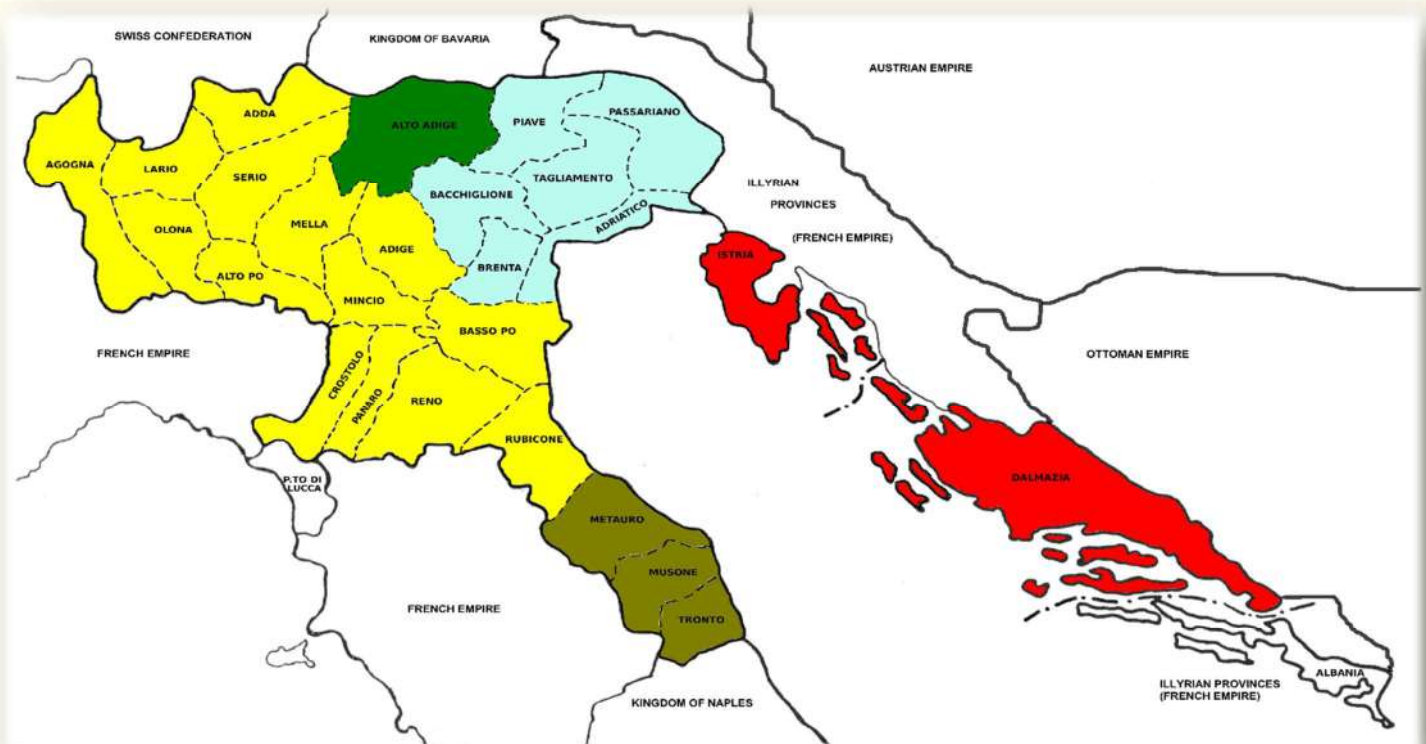


# The postal rates and the franking system in the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy 1805 - 1814

## The Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy in its territorial evolution



- Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy as it was at its inception in March 1805
- Departments created as a result of annexations of March 1806
- Departments created as a result of annexations of March 1806, annexed to the French Empire (Illyrian Provinces) on October 1809
- Departments created as a result of annexations of April 1808
- Department created after the Treaty of Schönbrunn of October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1809, lost in the autumn of 1813

### Historical outline

- ❖ On 18<sup>th</sup> March 1805 the Italian Republic was transformed the Kingdom of Italy with capital Milan and the throne was taken over by the Emperor of France, Napoleon I. The kingdom was smaller than Italian peninsula, since it did not comprehend Piedmont, Liguria, Tuscany, Umbria and Lazio (Conquered Departments ruled directly by Paris), Kingdom of Naples ruled by Joachim Murat, Sardinia ruled by Savoy and Sicily ruled by Bourbons.
- ❖ On 8<sup>th</sup> June 1805 the Kingdom was divided into departments, districts, cantons and municipalities. The departments were a total of fourteen: the departments of Adda and Adige were added to the twelve of the former Italian Republic.
- ❖ Following the Treaty of Pressburg on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1805, on March 1806 the territories of the former Venetia and Istria were divided into the following departments: Adriatico, Brenta, Bacchiglione, Tagliamento, Piave, Passariano, Istria and Dalmatia.
- ❖ On April 1808 the Marche were organized in the Metauro, the Musone and the Tronto departments.
- ❖ On 14<sup>th</sup> October 1809 by the Peace of Schönbrunn, Istria and Dalmatia were incorporated into the Illyrian Provinces, directly under the administration of the French Empire.
- ❖ On May 1810 Trentino and South Tyrol formed the department of Alto Adige, lost in the fall of 1813.
- ❖ The Kingdom of Italy ceased to exist in April 1814.

## Plan of the exhibit

The aim of this exhibit is to show the postal rates and the franking system during the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy, according to the postal laws in use, as the chart below shows.

Chapters	Main subject	Sheets
Historical outline, plan and key references and own researches		1- 2
1 <sup>st</sup> rate period from 19 <sup>th</sup> March 1805 to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 1805	the currency was the Soldo of Milan, the unit of weight was the ounce; the domestic letters were divided into those held within department and those to other departments.	3 - 11
2 <sup>nd</sup> rate period from 1 <sup>st</sup> August 1805 to 31 <sup>st</sup> January 1807	there was a considerable tightening of postal rates for the interior.	12 - 32
3 <sup>rd</sup> rate period from 1 <sup>st</sup> February 1807 to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 1809	the Italian Lira was adopted instead of Soldo of Milan; the new criterion of taxation based on the system weight/distance was adopted instead of the old one; a conventional distance between a department and the other was introduced.	33 - 57
4 <sup>th</sup> rate period from 1 <sup>st</sup> May 1809 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 1811	the division of the first group of letters weighting up to ¼ ounce and those with weight ¼ ounce was introduced and all the rates were increased.	58 - 98
5 <sup>th</sup> rate period from 1 <sup>st</sup> July 1811 to 26 <sup>th</sup> April 1814	the metric system was introduced in the weights, moving from ounces to grams; the weight ranges were reduced and a further fee increase was applied; the calculation of distances was made in kilometres, according to the shortest path really travelled, always divided into eight distance bands.	99 - 128
Total sheets		128

## Literature/own researches

### ❖ Archivio di Stato, Bergamo:

- *Raccolta Leggi 1805 – 1814*
- *Prefettura del Dipartimento del Serio, Serie Finanze, cartella 866, fascicolo 53*
- *Archivio CCIAA, Busta 518, classe 1, fascicolo 12*
- *Instruction Général sur le Service des Postes 1808*

### ❖ Biblioteca Nazionale Braidense, Milan:

- *Legge 4 Fiorile anno VI Repubblicano (23 Aprile 1798)*
- *Legge 6 Brumaio anno VII Repubblicano (27 Ottobre 1798)*
- *Legge 9 Nevoso anno IX Repubblicano (26 Dicembre 1800)*

### ❖ Marco Panza (own researches)

- *La franchigia postale nell'Italia Napoleonica, Cursori Anno IX - n. 19 - AISP Milan, May 2016*
- *Tariffe, franchigie, leggi e decreti postali nel Regno d'Italia Napoleonico 1805-1814*, book published by CFB Italy, September 2018

### ❖ Federico Borromeo, *I luoghi della posta, Quaderni di storia postale*, ISSP, Prato, 1998 and first updating 2018

### ❖ Michèle Chauvet, *Introduction à l'Histoire Postale des origines à 1849*, J.F. Brun 2016

### ❖ James Van der Linden, *Catalogue Marques de passages 1661 - 1875*, Soluphil, Paris - Luxembourg 1993

### ❖ O. Paolo Vollmeier:

- *I bolli di transito di Milano*, Tip. A. Ronda, Milano 1973

## Notes about the philatelic description and presentation

- ❖ In the following pages the transit stamps are illustrated only the first time they appear on the letters
- ❖ The most important letters are framed in red 

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 1805, when the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy was established, the new Government adopted the postal rates, payment rate by the addressee and prepaid rate "Port Payé - P.P., that were applied in Cisalpina Republic by the **Legge 5 Nevoso anno IX Repubblicano** (26<sup>th</sup> December 1800), regulated in the chapter named "**Poste delle Lettere e de' Corrieri**".

The postal rates were expressed in Soldi of Milan, and they were according to the weight of the letters. The domestic letters were divided into those held within department and those to others departments.

The stamp "**Déboursé**" was not in use in the Kingdom of Italy, but only in the French Empire and the rates paid by the addressee and the prepaid rates "Port Payé" were the same.

One Lira was subdivided into 20 Soldi and 1 Soldo was subdivided into 12 Denari.

Domestic			To and from Foreign Countries		
Weight in ounces (g.)	Within department	To others departments	Abroad	From abroad (1)	From abroad (2)
1/4 (7,50)	1,6	3,0	2,0	4,0	6,0
3/8 (11,25)	2,3	4,6	3,0	6,0	9,0
1/2 (15,00)	3,0	6,0	4,0	8,0	12,0
5/8 (18,75)	3,9	7,6	5,0	10,0	15,0
6/8 (22,50)	4,6	9,0	6,0	12,0	18,0
7/8 (26,25)	5,3	10,6	7,0	14,0	21,0
1 (30,00)	6,0	12,0	8,0	16,0	24,0
<b>Chargé Letters</b>		Surcharge of 10 Soldi			

The rates of the letters above the weight of 1 ounce were calculated with the same progression.

(1) From neighbouring States, within Italy or from Grigioni

(2) From foreign Countries of Italy and outside Italy



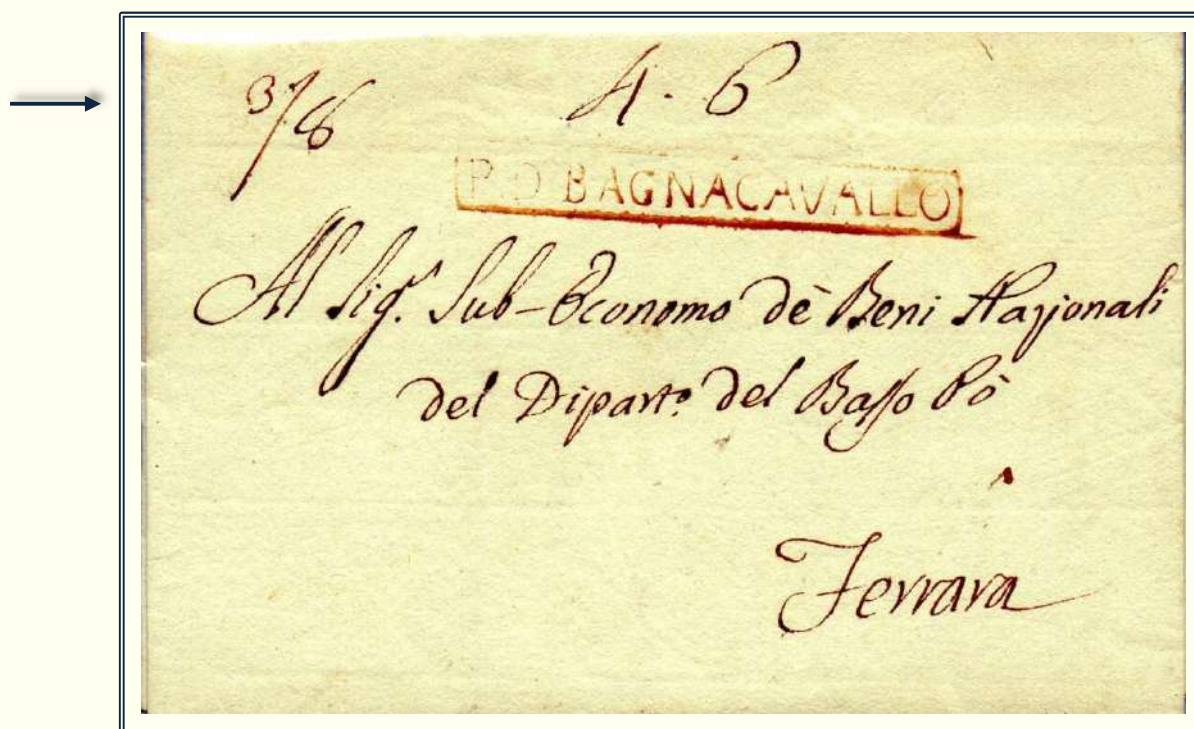
**29<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Bologna to Sant'Agata (Department of Reno). Tenth rate letter, weight 1½ ounce: 8 Soldi, rounded down to one Denaro.



Although eight years had already passed since the fall of the Serenissima Republic of Venice, the Napoleonic postal service still used the postmarks of the old Republic.



**17<sup>th</sup> June 1805.** From Bergamo (Department of Serio) to Milan (Department of Olona). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 3 Soldi.



**5<sup>th</sup> May 1805.** From Bagnacavallo, near Bologna (Department of Reno) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce, as indicated on the front of the letter: 4 Soldi and 6 Denari.





**28<sup>th</sup> March 1805.** From Reggio (Department of Crostolo) to Modena (Department of Panaro). Third rate letter, weight 1/2 an ounce: 6 Soldi.



**27<sup>th</sup> March 1805.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Santa Vittoria, near Reggio (Department of Crostolo). Twenty-first rate letter, weight 3 ounces: 33 Soldi.



**11<sup>th</sup> April 1805.** From Cremona (Department of Alto Po) to Naples. Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 2 Soldi. No indication of any Kingdom of Naples fee collected on arrival.

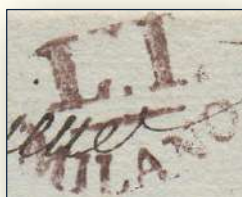


**13<sup>th</sup> April 1805.** From Brescia (Department of Mella) to Padua (at that time Austrian Empire). Double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 3 Soldi. **Franca per Venezia** (Free of charge to Venice).





**14<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Forlì to Fermo, near Ascoli (at that time Papal States). Initially the letter was sent to Fermo. Triple rate letter, 1/2 an ounce: 4 Soldi; then, it was redirected to Force and rated 5 Soldi, as if it were a letter weighting 5/8 of ounce.



Transit stamp **L.I./MILANO** (**Lettere Italiane**). This type was in use until May 1805 and it was struck on letters sent to France and to other countries under French domination. It was used in red and blue ink.



**26<sup>th</sup> April 1805.** From Brescia (Department of Mella) to Lyon (French Empire). Seventh rate letter, 1 ounce: 8 Soldi. 9 décimes was charged on delivery in Lyon, as required by French postal law dated May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1803.





**15<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Piacenza (Conquered Department part of French Empire) to Milan (Department of Olona). 4 Soldi were charged on delivery in Milan, as required for a single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce.



**13<sup>th</sup> April 1805.** From Genoa ((Conquered Department of Genova, part of French Empire) to Bologna (Department of Reno). 8 Soldi were charged on delivery in Bologna, as required for a triple rate letter, weight ½ ounce



**18<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Rome (at that time Papal State) to Reggio (Department of Crostolo). 6 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a single rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce.

**27<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Rome (at that time Papal State) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). 12 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a third rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce.



**12<sup>th</sup> June 1805.** From Vienna (Austrian Empire) to Lodi, near Milan (Department of Olona). Prepaid 16 Kreuzer up to the Austrian Empire border. 6 Soldi were charged on delivery in Lodi, as required for a double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce.



In the first period the Postal Law 9<sup>th</sup> Nevoso anno IX Repubblicano (26<sup>th</sup> December 1800) was in force. This is the third and final Postal Law of the Cisalpine Republic, which brought order and uniformity in the whole subject, treated previously by Law 4<sup>th</sup> Fiorile anno VI Repubblicano (23<sup>rd</sup> April 1798) and by the Law 6<sup>th</sup> Brumaio anno VII Repubblicano (27<sup>th</sup> October 1798).



**18<sup>th</sup> April 1805.** From Ostiglia, near Mantua to Mantua. Letter sent by the Magistrates Court of Ostiglia to Royal Commissioner of Mantua. The handwritten word D'uffo indicated the exemption of payment.



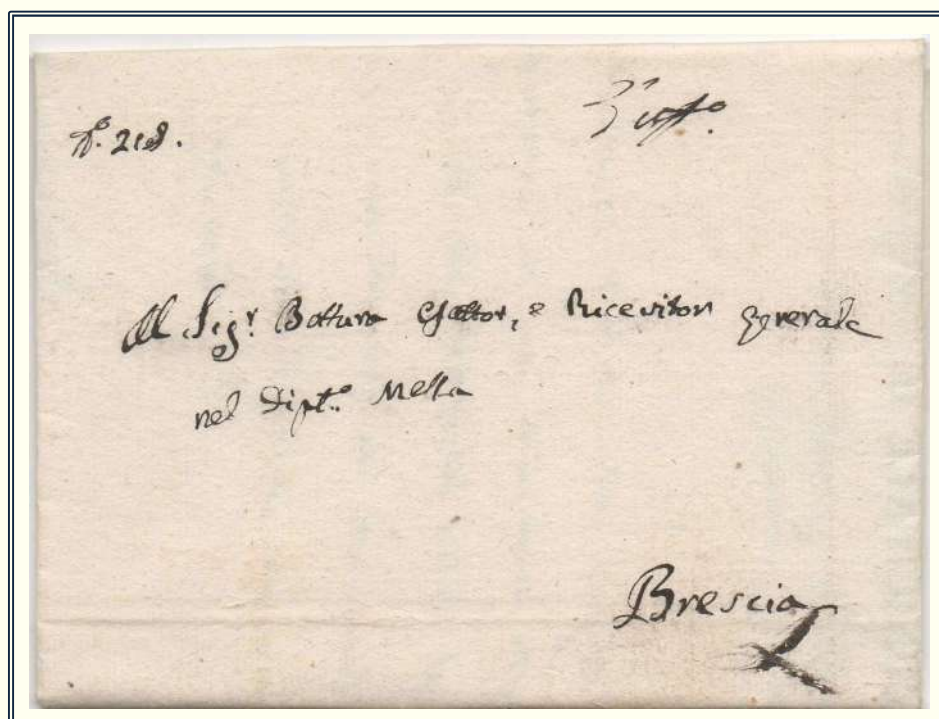
**22<sup>nd</sup> June 1805.** From Medicina, near Bologna, to Lugo, near Ravenna. Letter sent from the township of Medicina to the township of Lugo. The handwritten word D'uffo indicated the right of exemption. The boxed stamp **MUNICIPALITÀ/DI MEDICINA** was used by the sender to confirm its authority, although it was not required by postal rules.



It remained in force until the end of the first rate period of the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy (July 1805). Cornerstone of the Law was the granting of an exemption from the payment to the authorities who sent letters to other authorities. However, the letters sent to individuals who held these positions were subject to the payment: the exemption was granted to the position held and not to the person that covered it.



**7<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Bologna to Modena. Letter sent by the Prefect of Department of Reno to a private citizen of Modena. The handwritten word D'uffo indicated the right of exemption. However, the letter should have been rated because it was addressed to a private citizen. The law stated: "...ma paga quelle lettere che sono dirette a qualunque individuo, sebbene costituito in autorità" (the letter is rated if it's addressed to the private citizen, even if he's an authority).



**25<sup>th</sup> July 1805.** From Manerba (Garda Lake) to Brescia. Letter sent from the township of Manerba to the Municipal debt Collector in the Department of Mella. The handwritten word D'uffo indicated the right of exemption. The letter is addressed to Mr. Bottura, so named for an individual, but with the indication of the role. For this reason the post office accepted the free frank.

By the Law 17<sup>th</sup> July 1805 there is a considerable tightening of postal rates for the interior, as the diagram below shows.

The rates are always in Soldi of Milan and the “**n. 74 Decree regarding the postal service of Venetian Provinces annexed to the Kingdom**” dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 1806, established the extension of these rules to the former Venetian territories (the provinces of Vicenza, Rovigo, Treviso, Belluno, Venice, Padua and Friuli) and to the departments of Istria and Dalmatia.

**The rates of letters abroad and from abroad don't change, as well as those of the letters "Chargé".** Moreover the cachets with names indicating the department of origin or, in the absence of the cachet, handwritten addition are introduced.

Weight in Ounces (gr.)	Domestic		To and from Foreign Countries		
	Within department	To others departments	Abroad	From abroad (1)	From abroad (2)
1/4 (7,50)	4,0	5,0	2,0	4,0	6,0
3/8 (11,25)	6,0	7,6	3,0	6,0	9,0
1/2 (15,00)	8,0	10,0	4,0	8,0	12,0
5/8 (18,75)	10,0	12,6	5,0	10,0	15,0
6/8 (22,50)	12,0	15,0	6,0	12,0	18,0
7/8 (26,25)	14,0	17,6	7,0	14,0	21,0
1 (30,00)	16,0	20,0	8,0	16,0	24,0
<b>Chargé Letters</b>		Surcharge of 10 Soldi			

The rates of the letters above the weight of 1 ounce were calculated with the same progression.

- (1) From neighbouring States, within Italy or from Grigioni
- (2) From foreign Countries of Italy and outside Italy



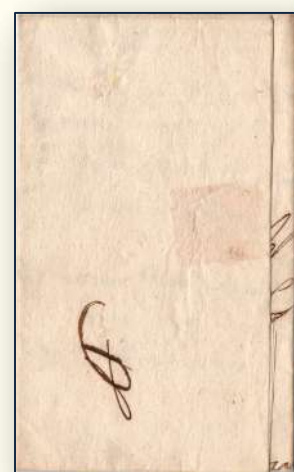
**3<sup>rd</sup> August 1805.** From Bologna to Medicina (Department of Reno). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 4 Soldi.





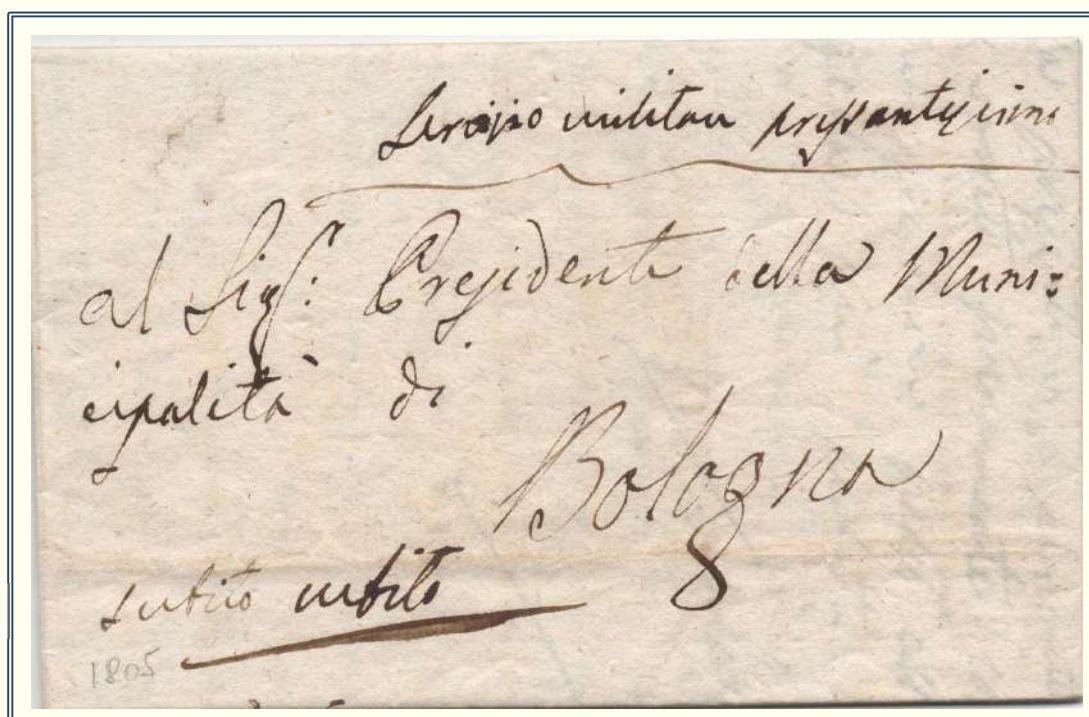
**21<sup>st</sup> October 1806.** From Reggio to Luzzara (Department of Crostolo). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 4 Soldi. written on the back. Transit stamp **GUASTALLA**.

The handwritten word "**D'Uff.**" indicated the alleged right to the free frank. However, neither the Conservatore del Registro in Reggio nor the Ufficiale del Registro in Forlì, were part of the authorities, listed in the decree n. 123 dated September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1805, that were entitled to the mark and the free frank. Consequently, the letter was taxed.



**9<sup>th</sup> November 1806.** From Medicina to Bologna (Department of Reno). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 6 Soldi.





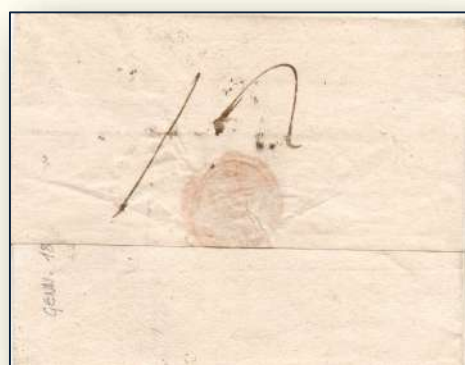
**19<sup>th</sup> December 1805.** From Bologna to the town. (Department of Reno). Triple rate letter, weight  $\frac{1}{2}$  an ounce: 8 Soldi.

The letter was probably urgent, because the sender wrote “subito, subito”, “immediately, immediately”.



**18<sup>th</sup> March 1806.** From Cento to Bologna (Department of Reno). Fourth rate letter, weight  $\frac{5}{8}$  of ounce: 10 Soldi.

The rates paid by the addressee and the prepaid rates "Port Payé" by the sender were the same.



**22<sup>nd</sup> January 1807.** From Bologna to Castel Guelfo (Department of Reno). Prepaid rate Port Payé P.P./BOLOGNA/D'ITALIA, fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: 12 Soldi, written on the back.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but **the Municipalities** had not rights, because they were not listed in the decree n. 123 dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805. For this reason the letter was taxed.



**17<sup>th</sup> October 1806.** From Crevalcore to Medicina (Department of Reno). Fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: 12 Soldi.

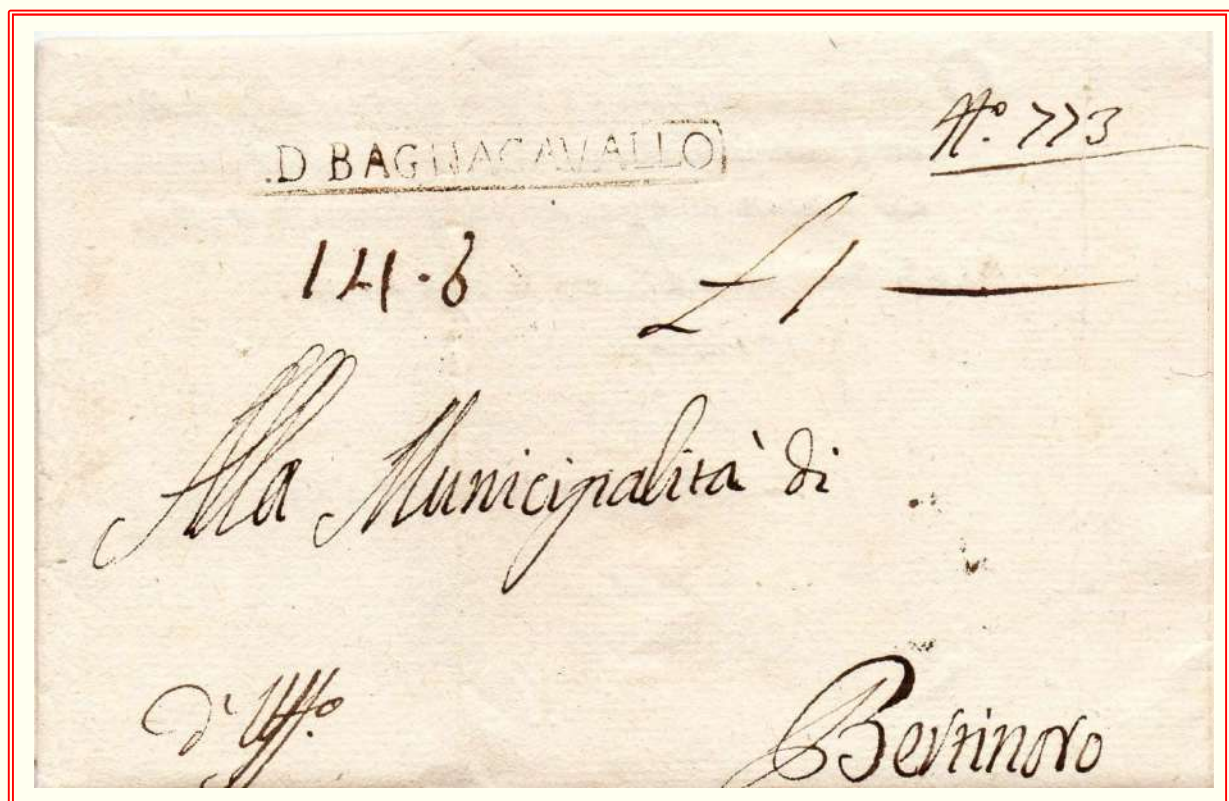


Throughout 1806, the new currency, the Soldo, and the old papal currency, the Bajocco, coexisted in some departments of Romagna. The example of the department of Rubicone, as shown by the two letters, is very significant, where in some municipalities the new currency was used, while in others the Bajocco still circulated.

The rate exchange was approximately: 1 Bajocco – 1,14 Soldi



**25<sup>th</sup> April 1806.** From Ravenna to Forlìmpopoli (Department of Rubicone). Ninth rate letter, weight 1 3/8 ounce: Lit. 1,00, equal 20 Soldi.



**14<sup>th</sup> September 1806.** From Bagnacavallo to Bertinoro (Department of Rubicone). Ninth rate letter, weight 1 3/8 ounce: Lit. 1,00, equal 20 Soldi, switched on delivery on 14 Bajocchi and 6 Denari.



**Second period**

**1<sup>st</sup> August 1805 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 1807**

**2.1 - Letters within Department**

**2.2 - Letters between Department**



**20<sup>th</sup> August 1805.** From Lugo to Bologna (Department of Reno). Tenth rate letter, weight 1 ½ ounce: 22 Soldi.



**7<sup>th</sup> February 1806.** From Reggio (Department of Crostolo) to Milan (Department of Olona). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 5 Soldi.

## Second period

1<sup>st</sup> August 1805 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 1807

## 2.2 - Letters between Department

Until October 1806, during the first months after the annexation of Venetian provinces, sometimes the old venetian stamps of taxation were used.

In this case the rate was prepaid because the addressee was the Postmaster of Venice, a diagonal line was drawn, indicating that the rate has been prepaid and the cachet of rate struck on the front.



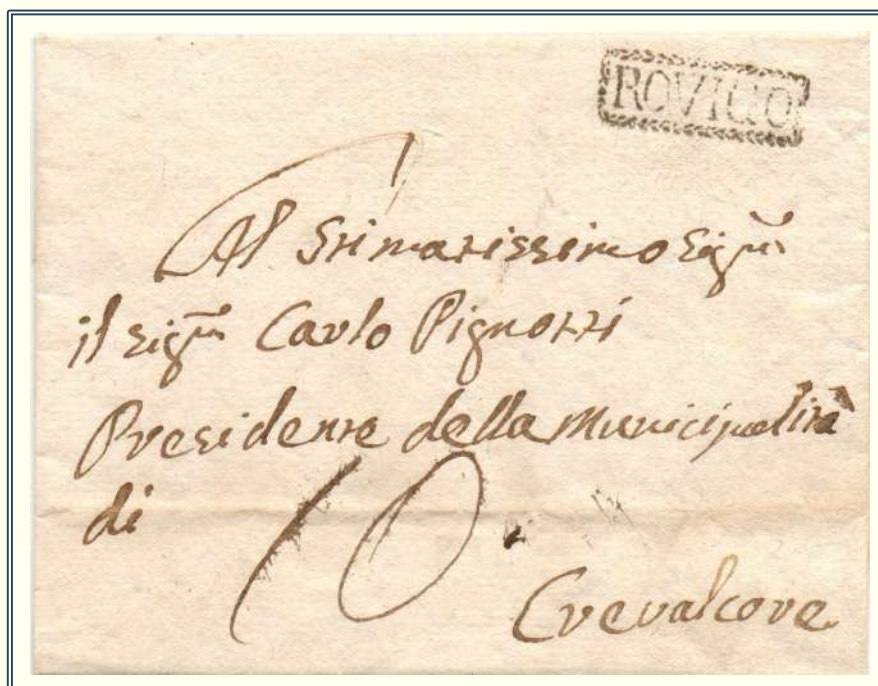
**30<sup>th</sup> August 1806.** From Caldier, near Verona (Department of Adige) to Venice (Department of Adriatico).  
Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 5 Soldi.

*Caldier li 30. Agosto 1806*

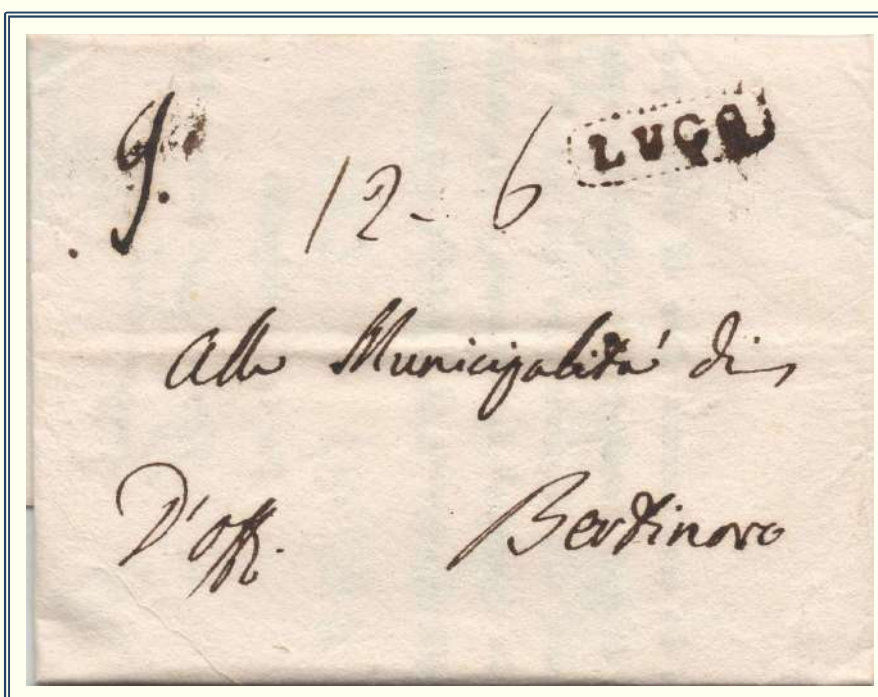


**1<sup>st</sup> July 1806.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Modena (Department of Panaro). Double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 7 Soldi and 6 Denari.

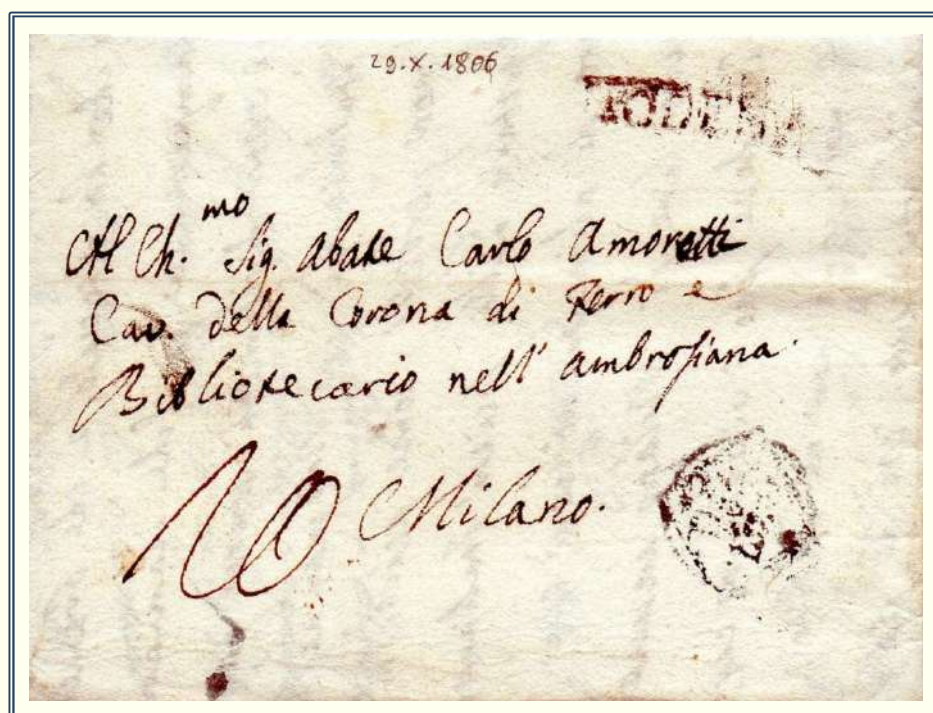




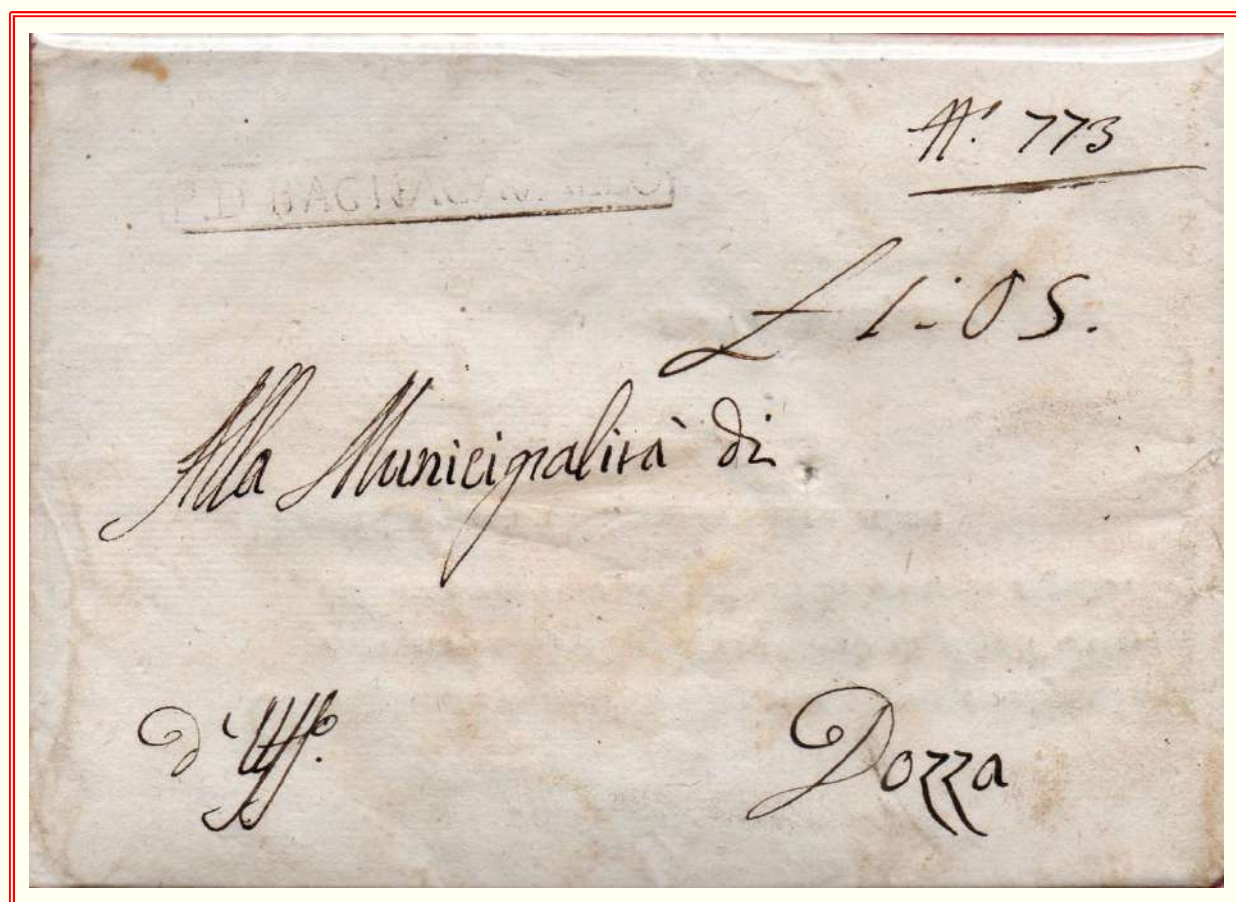
**29<sup>th</sup> October 1806.** From Rovigo (Department of Basso Po) to Crevalcore, near Bologna (Department of Reno). Triple rate letter, weight  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce: 10 Soldi.



**22<sup>nd</sup> July 1806.** From Lugo, near Bologna (Department of Reno) to Bertinoro, near Forlì (Department of Rubicone). Fourth rate letter, weight  $\frac{5}{8}$  of ounce: 12 Soldi and 6 Denari.

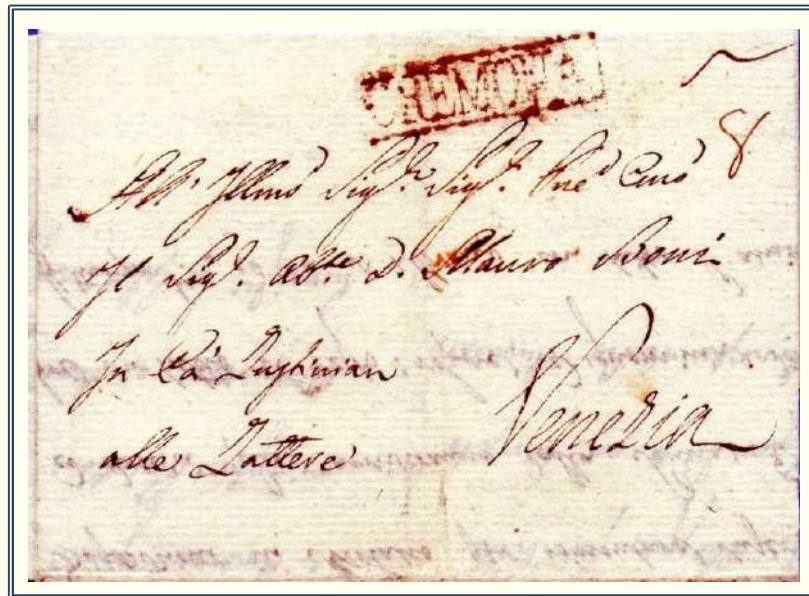


**29<sup>th</sup> October 1806.** From Modena (Department of Panaro) to Milan (Department of Olona). Seventh rate letter, weight 1 ounce: 20 Soldi.



**12<sup>th</sup> September 1806.** From Bagnacavallo, near Ravenna (Department of Rubicone) to Dozza, near Bologna (Department of Reno). Eight rate letter, weight 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce: Lire 1,05: 20 Soldi for seventh rate letter, 1 ounce; 1 Soldi for  $\frac{1}{4}$  an ounce more, 20 soldi + 1 Soldi = 21 Soldi, equal to Lire 1,05 (1 Soldo = 5 cent.).





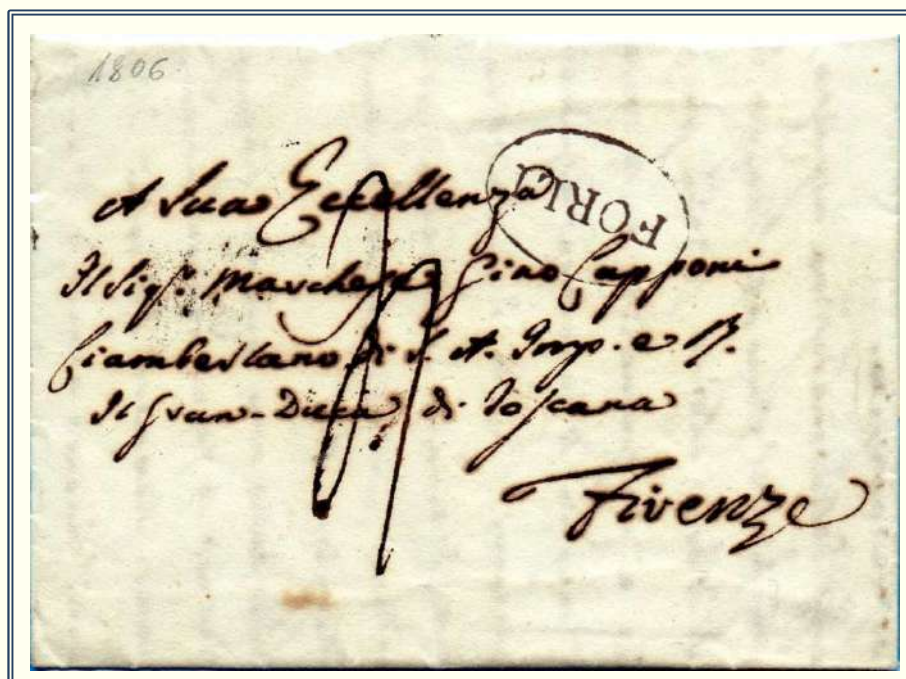
**8<sup>th</sup> December 1805.** From Cremona (Department of Alto Po) to Venice (at that time Austrian Empire). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 2 Soldi. **8 Kreuzer** were charged on delivery for the Austrian Empire dues.



**10<sup>th</sup> August 1805.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Naples (Kingdom of Naples). Double rate letter, 3/8 of ounce: 3 Soldi. 40 Grana were charged on delivery, as required for a rate of a letter weighting 1 ounce, for the Kingdom of Naples dues. Surely the letter was the first of a bunch of letters, sent to the same addresser, weighting in total 1 ounce.



**15<sup>th</sup> September 1805.** From Sondrio (Department of Adda) to Bolzano (Austrian Empire). Double rate letter, 3/8 of ounce: 3 Soldi. **16 Kreuzer** were charged on delivery for the Austrian Empire dues.



**19<sup>th</sup> October 1806.** From Forlì (Department of Rubicone) to Florence (Conquered Department of Arno, part of French Empire). Third rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 4 Soldi.





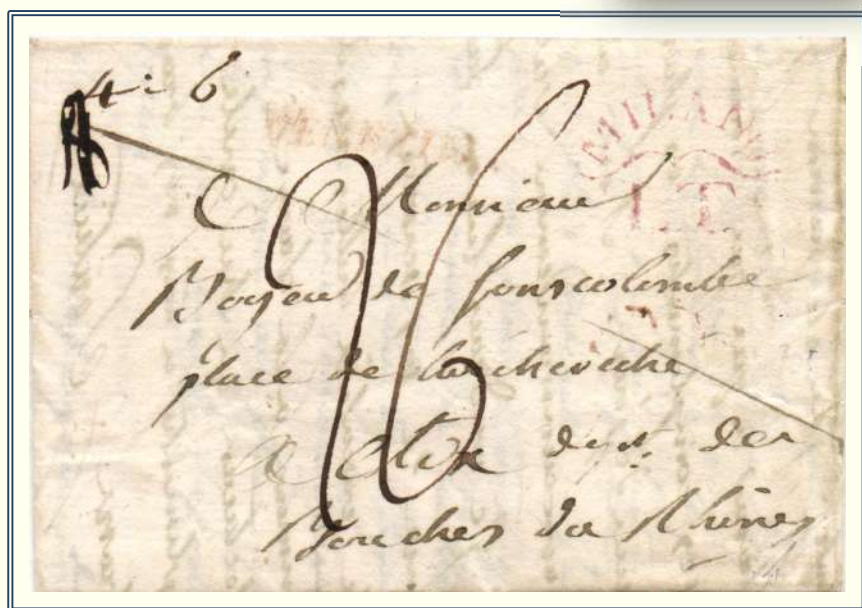
**23<sup>rd</sup> November 1806.** From Modena (Department of Panaro) to Genoa (Conquered Department of Genova, part of French Empire). Fourth rate letter, 5/8 of ounce: 5 Soldi. 8 Décimes were charged on delivery, as required for a letter weighting 12 g. and a distance between 200 – 300 km. 1 Décime = 2 Soldi. Transit stamp **L.I./MILANO**.



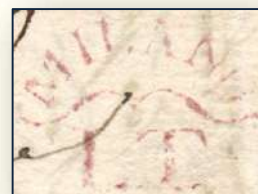
**20<sup>th</sup> May 1806.** From Cesena (Department of Rubicone) to Chambéry (French Empire). Fifth rate letter, 6/8 of ounce: 6 Soldi. 8 Décimes were charged on delivery for the French Empire dues. Transit stamp **L.I./MILANO**.



**18<sup>th</sup> June 1806.** From Gallivola Lomellina, near Pavia (Department of Agogna) to Racconigi, near Torino (Conquered Department of Po, part of French Empire). Sixth rate letter, 7/8 of ounce: 7 Soldi. Transit stamps **NOVARA** and **L.I./MILANO**. Interesting indication, by the sender, of the route of the letter by way of Cazale Monferrato, Torino.



**19<sup>th</sup> October 1806.** From Venice (Department of Adriatico) to dep. Bouches du Rhone (French Empire). Seventh rate letter, 1 ounce: 8 Soldi. 26 Décimes were charged on delivery for the French Empire dues.



Transit stamp **MILANO/L.T.** **Lettere Transito** was in use until June 1813. Initially it was struck only on letters going abroad from abroad thru Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy. Aftermath, it was put on all letters sent abroad.





**26<sup>th</sup> December 1806.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Annonay, near Lyon (French Empire). 11<sup>th</sup> rate letter, 1 5/8 ounce: 12 Soldi. Transit stamp **L.I./MILANO**.



Transit stamp **L.I./MILANO** (Lettere Italiane). This type was in use from September 1805 until July 1811 and it was struck on letters sent to France and to other countries under French domination. It was used in red and violet ink.



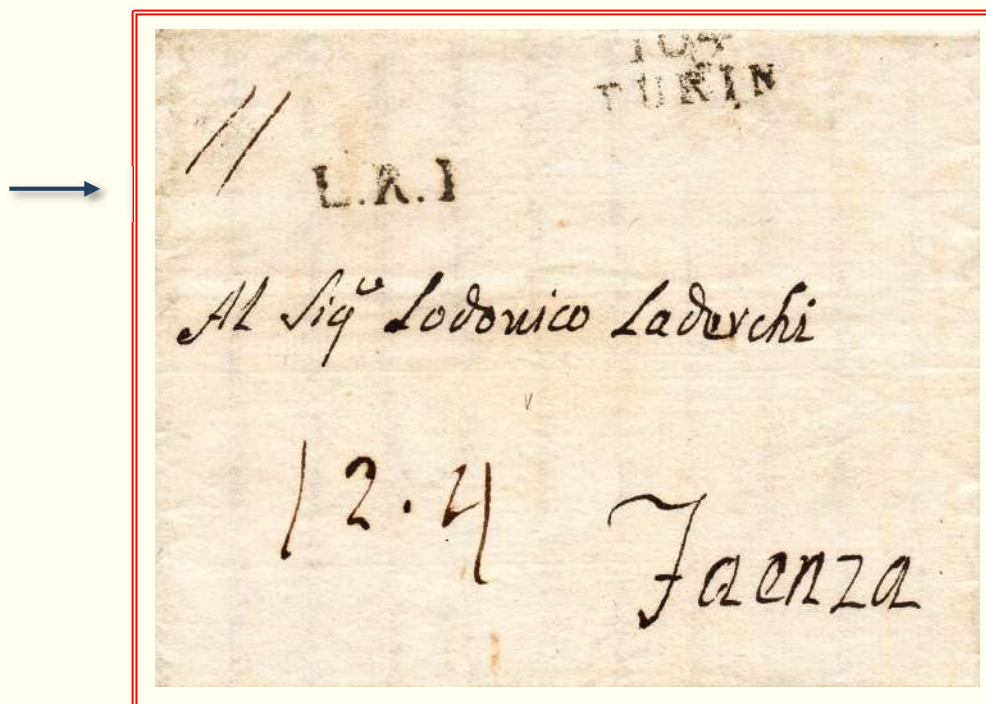
**25<sup>th</sup> September 1805.** From Bologna (Department of Reno) to Paris (French Empire). 12<sup>th</sup> rate letter, 1 6/8 ounce: 13 Soldi. Transit stamp **L.I./MILANO**.

## Second period

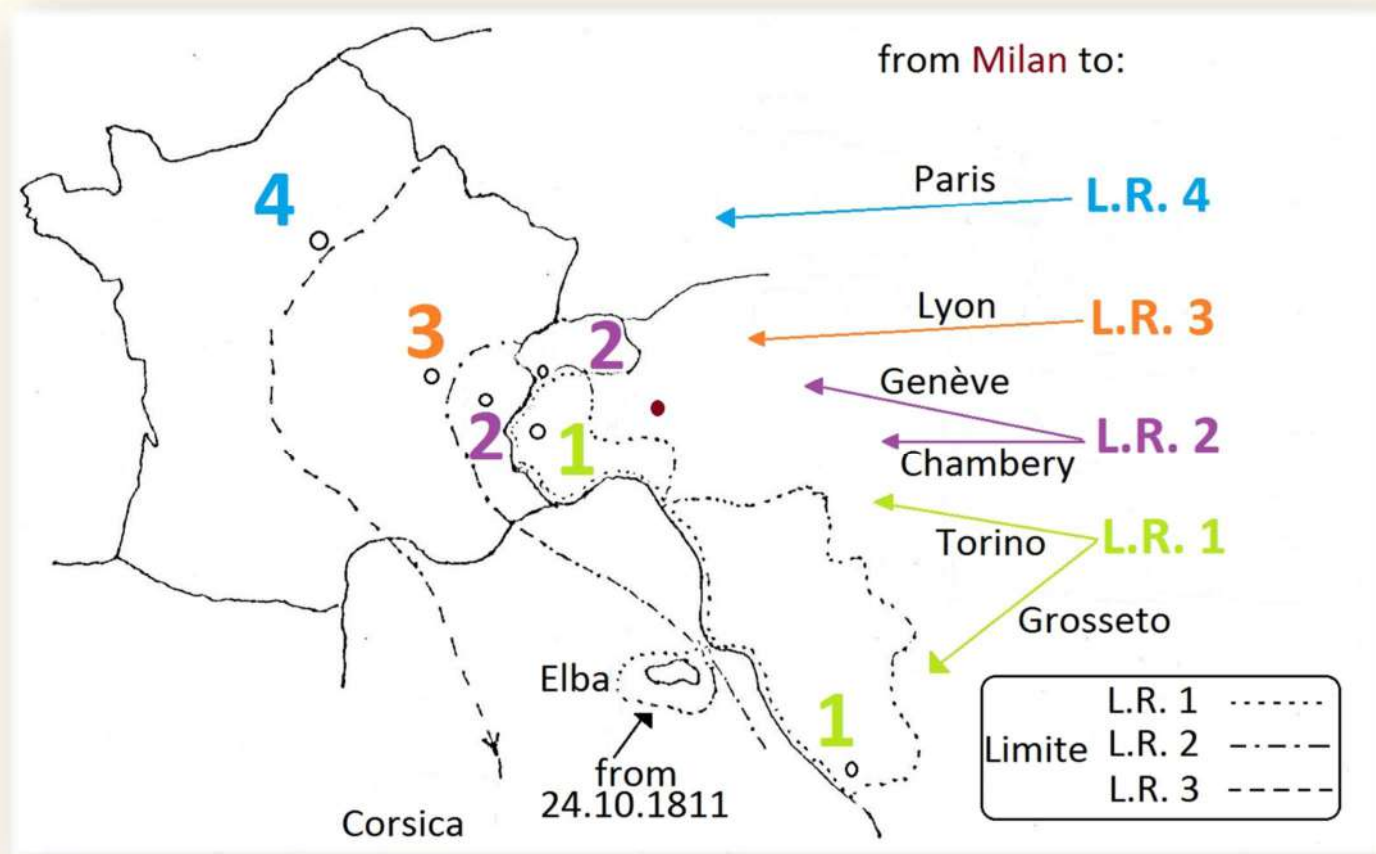
1<sup>st</sup> August 1805 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 1807

## 2.4 - Letters from neighbouring State of Italy

The postal convention between the French Empire and the Kingdom of Italy provided a classification of correspondences, sent with the payment by the addressee, in 4 beams of rates; putting the below stamp allowed the regulation of accounts between the two states that exchanged the correspondence.



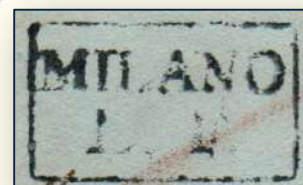
**30<sup>th</sup> December 1805.** From Turin (Conquered Department of Po, part of French Empire) to Faenza, near Forlì (Department of Rubicone). 12 Bajocchi and 4 Denari were charged on delivery, currency still in use at that time in Romagna, instead of 8 Soldi, as required for a double rate letter, weighting  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce. The stamp of accounting **L.R. 1, Lettre Rayon 1**, was struck on departure.







**2<sup>nd</sup> March 1806.** From Venice (at that time Austrian Empire) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). 6 Soldi were charged on delivery in Ferrara, as required for a double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce. No indication of any Austrian Empire fee collected on departure.



Transit boxed stamp  
**MILANO L.F. (Lettres  
Foraines)** in use until  
February 1806 and it was  
struck on letters from  
abroad. It was used in black,  
blue and brown ink.

**14<sup>th</sup> September 1805.** From Vienna (Austrian Empire) to Lodi, near Milan (Department of Olona). Prepaid **16 Kreuzer** up to the Austrian Empire border. Transit stamp **MILANO L.F..** 8 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a triple rate letter, weight 1/2 an ounce. Stamp on arrival **LODI.SETE./26.**



**5<sup>th</sup> March 1806.** From Trieste (Austrian Empire) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Prepaid **6 Kreuzer** up to the Austrian Empire border. 12 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce.

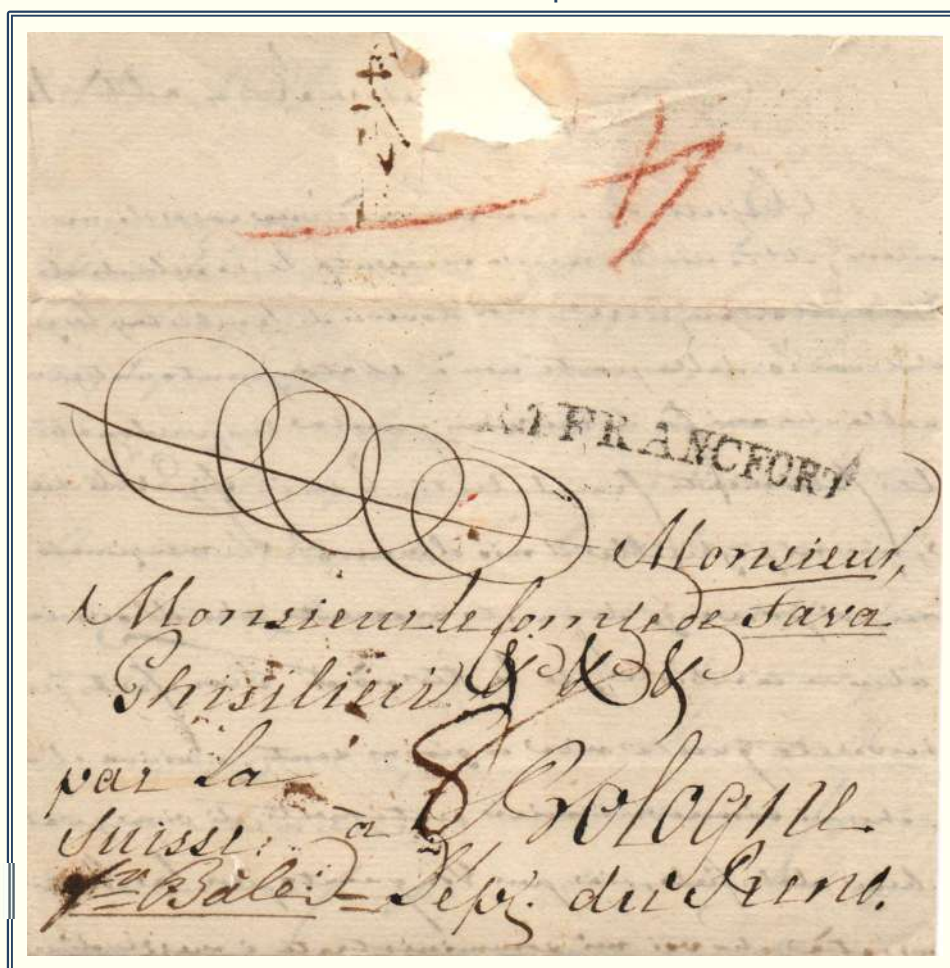


**19<sup>th</sup> March 1806.** From Trieste (Austrian Empire) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Prepaid **12 Kreuzer** up to the Austrian Empire border. 16 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a seventh rate letter, weight 1 ounce.





**23<sup>rd</sup> October 1805** – From Sinigaglia (at that time Papal States) to Bologna (Department of Reno). 6 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a first rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce. No indication of any papal fee collected on departure. The rare stamp **SINIGAGLIA** was struck on departure. No indication of any Papal States fee collected on departure.



**10<sup>th</sup> October 1805.** From Frankfurt (Rhine Confederation) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Prepaid **4 Rh. Kr.** up to Basel (Switzerland). 8 Soldi were charged on delivery, as required for a third rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce. The correct rate would be 9 Soldi, but the post office considered the letter as coming from Switzerland, he wrote **f.co Bâle** and applied the rate for letters from neighbouring States of Italy.

## Second period

1<sup>st</sup> August 1805 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 1807

## 2.6. - Letters in free franks

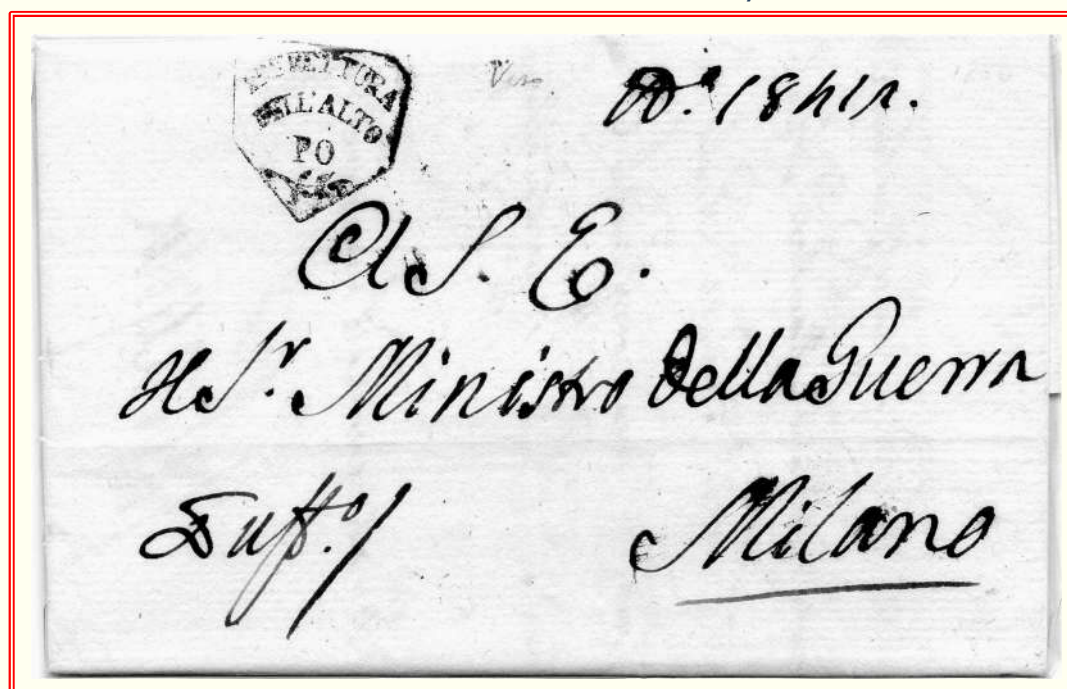
The Law 26<sup>th</sup> December 1800 has been in force up to 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805, when were introduced a new Decree.



**22<sup>nd</sup> August 1805.** From S. Giovanni to Nonantola, near Bologna. Letter sent from the township of S. Giovanni to the township of Nonantola. The handwritten word ex Uff. indicated the right of exemption.

### Decree nr. 123 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805

Two new words are introduced by the Decree nr. 123 dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805: “**franchigia**” and “**contrassegno**”. The **Franchigia (free frank)** is the exemption from payment of fee on **letters that are received** from the exempted person and it can be unlimited or limited. **Unlimited free frank**: it operated for all letters received, even those from abroad, and it was reserved only to Ministers and to Secretary of State.



**12<sup>th</sup> November 1806.** From Cremona to Milan. Letter sent from Prefecture of Cremona to Minister for War. The prefect enjoyed the mark when he wrote to the other authorities. The Minister for War enjoyed unlimited franchise. On the front, stamp of mark “**Prefettura/Dell’Alto/Po**” and the handwritten word “**D’Uff.**” indicating the right of exemption.



**Limited free frank:** it operated only for the letters from within the Kingdom and it was reserved to the General Managers of the various branches of the public administration (Public Instruction, Waters – Bridges and Roads, Police, Customs, State Property, Post, Census, Mint, Prefects and Vice Prefects and a few others).



**24<sup>th</sup> December 1806.** From Milan to Venice. Letter sent by Étienne Pierre, earl Mejean, Secretary of His Imperial Highness Prince of France Eugene Napoleon, Vice – King of Italy, to Mr. Dupont, Central Director of Post in Venice who, for his appointment, was entitled to limited exemption.



**3<sup>rd</sup> September 1806.** From Milan to Novara. Letter sent by Prefect of Police of Department of Olona to the Prefect of Department of Agogna. Both authorities enjoyed limited free frank. On the front, stamp of mark **Prefettura di Polizia Dipart./d'Olona** indicating the right of exemption.

The **Contrassegno (Mark)** is the exemption from payment of fee for **letters that are sent**, and it is communicated to the addressee by placing a special mark. All the authorities mentioned above also enjoyed the Mark when they wrote to other authorities or public officials and to the offices and the managements which depended on them.



**28<sup>th</sup> January 1806.** From Lodi, near Milan, to Casalpuusterlengo, near Cremona. Letter sent by Vice Prefecture of Lodi to the Municipality of Casalpuusterlengo. On the front the stamp of mark *Vice/Prefettura/di/Lodi* and the handwritten word *D'Uff.* indicating the right of exemption.



**27<sup>th</sup> December 1806.** From Padua, to Forlì. Letter sent by Prefecture of Padua to the Prefect of Department of Rubicone. On the front the handwritten word *D'Uff.* indicating the right of exemption.



The reform of 1807 marks the complete revolution of the postal system and rates.

On 12<sup>th</sup> January 1807 a new law is enacted "**nº. 46 Decree on Finance for 1807**", that changes the former cisalpino criterion of taxation based on the system weight/origin, transforming it into one based on weight/distance, as the table below shows. The distance was not calculated on the route between the post office of departure and that of arrival, but it was based on the number of departments the letter passed through, including the departure and arrival departments. So, the letters sent within department were in first distance, those sent to neighbouring departments were in second distance, and so on.

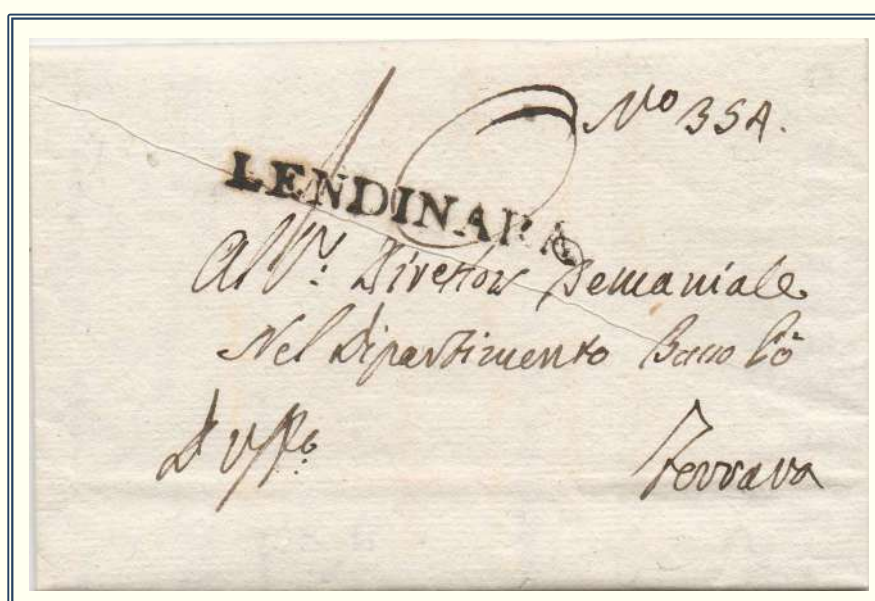
**This law also introduced the currency reform: the Italian Lira was adopted instead of Soldo of Milan and it was divided into 100 cents. The exchange rate was 1 Soldo equal to 5 cents and then 20 Soldi were equal to 1 Italian Lira.**

These rates were applied also to the departments of Metauro, Musone and Tronto, which coincide with the Marches, starting from 12<sup>th</sup> August 1808 by the "**nº. 254 Decree which applies the postal system of the kingdom to the three new departments**". The rates of letters to foreign countries increased, as well as those from abroad, while the surcharge of the letters "Chargé" decreased from 10 Soldi (50 cents) to 38 cents.

Domestic								To and from Foreign Countries			
Weight in ounces (gr.)									Abroad	From abroad (1)	From abroad (2)
1/4 (7,50)	10	14	18	22	26	30	34	38	16	28	40
3/8 (11,25)	14	18	22	26	30	34	38	42	20	32	44
1/2 (15,00)	15	21	27	33	39	45	51	57	24	42	66
5/8 (18,75)	20	28	36	44	52	60	68	76	32	56	80
6/8 (22,50)	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95	40	70	100
7/8 (26,25)	30	42	54	66	78	90	102	114	48	84	120
1 (30,00)	35	49	63	77	91	105	119	133	56	98	140
distances	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>			
Below the rate that should be paid for every 1/8 of ounce more											
	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	8	14	20
Chargé Letters	Surcharge 38/100										

(1) From abroad neighbouring provinces

(2) From abroad non-neighbouring provinces and foreign states



**11<sup>th</sup> July 1807.** From Lendinara to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 10 Cents.



**11<sup>th</sup> September 1808.** From Macerata to San Severino (Department of Musone). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 14 Cents, written on the back.

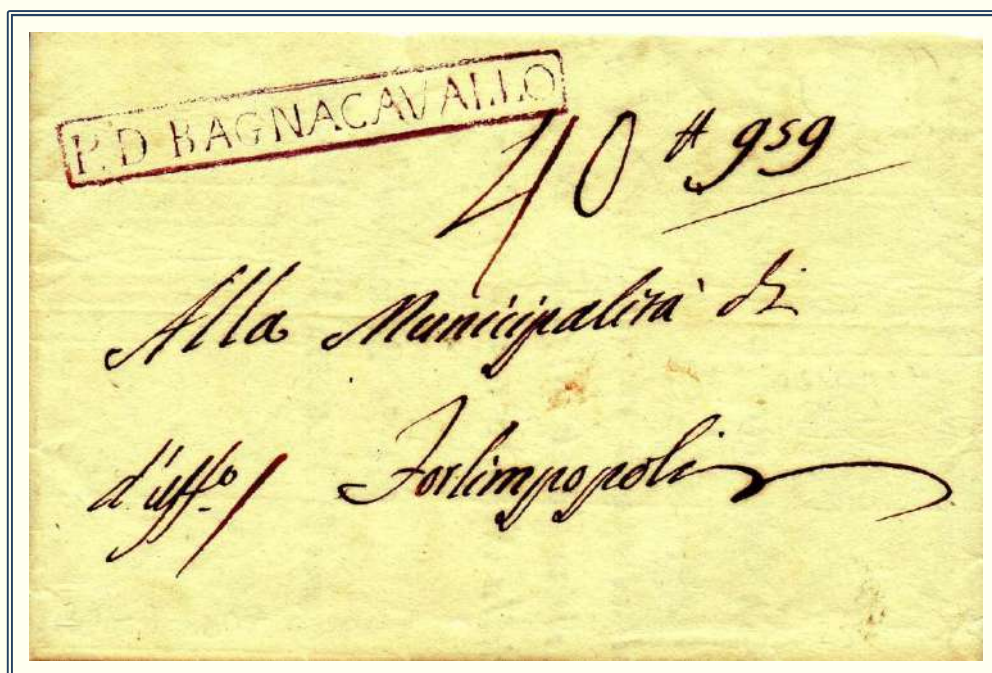


**11<sup>th</sup> March 1807.** From Bologna to Cento (Department of Reno). Fourth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 20 Cents.





**7<sup>th</sup> May 1808.** From Bagnacavallo to Faenza (Department of Rubicone). Fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: 25 Cents.



**13<sup>th</sup> September 1807.** From Bagnacavallo to Forlimpopoli (Department of Rubicone). Eighth rate letter, weight 1 1/8 ounce: 40 Cents. 35 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 5 Cents the 1/8 of ounce more.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.º** is on both letters and indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but neither the Major, nor the Municipality had rights, because they were not listed in the decree n. 123 dated September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1805. For this reason the letters were taxed.



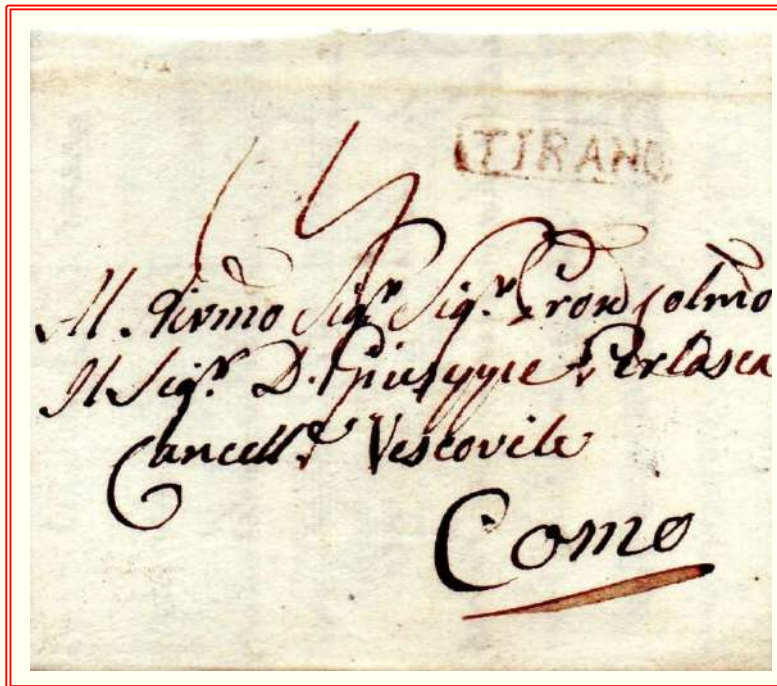
**3<sup>rd</sup> March 1809.** From Budrio to Bologna (Department of Reno). 11<sup>th</sup> rate letter, weight 1 3/8 ounce: 5 Décimes (50 Cents). 35 Cents for the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 15 Cents (3 x 5 Cents) the 3/8 of ounce more.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.<sup>o</sup>** is on the letter and indicated the alleged right to the franchise, but neither the General Attorney, nor the Judge of Peace had rights, because they were not listed in the decree n. 123 dated September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1805. For this reason the letter was taxed.

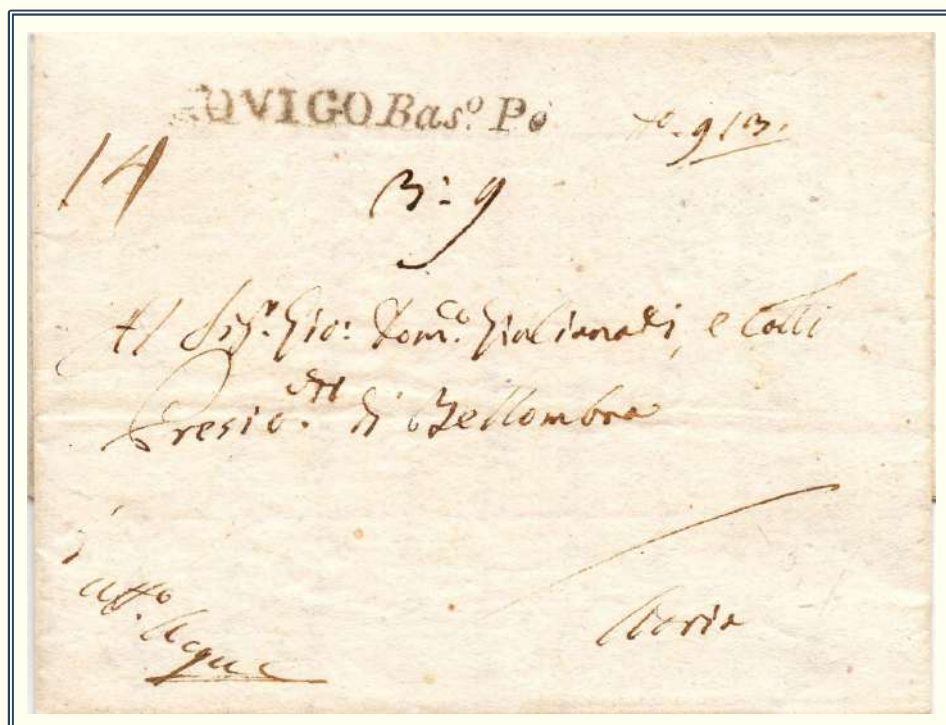


**... August 1807.** From Bologna to Nonantola (Department of Reno). 12<sup>th</sup> rate letter, weight 1 5/8 ounce: 60 Cents. 35 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 25 Cents (5 x 5 Cents) the 5/8 of ounce more.





**24<sup>th</sup> May 1808.** From Tirano, near Sondrio (Department of Adda) to Como (Department of Lario). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 14 Cents. The rare boxed stamp **TIRANO** was struck on departure (ex coll. Provera).



**1<sup>st</sup> October 1807.** From Rovigo (Department of Basso Po) to Adria (Department of Adriatico). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 14 Cents, switched on delivery on 3 Bajocchi and 9 Denari, currency still in use at that time in Romagna, after thirty-first months.



**12<sup>th</sup> March 1808.** From Verona (Department of Adige) to Allone, near Brescia (Department of Mella). Double rate letter, weight  $\frac{3}{8}$  of ounce: 18 Cents.



**20<sup>th</sup> December 1807.** From Ficarolo, near Ferrara, (Department of Basso Po) to Verona (Department of Adige). Fourth rate letter, weight  $\frac{5}{8}$  of ounce: 28 Cents. Transit boxed stamp *FERRARA/28 DEC.*





**22<sup>nd</sup> April 1809.** From Casola Valsenio, near Bologna (Department of Reno) to Cesena (Department of Rubicone). Fifth rate letter, weight 3/4 of ounce: 35 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Municipality had no rights, because it was not listed in the decree n. 123 dated September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1805. For this reason the letter was taxed.



**2<sup>nd</sup> June 1808.** From Ponzano, near Treviso (Department of Tagliamento) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Ninth rate letter, weight 1 2/8 ounce: 63 Cents. 49 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 14 Cents (2 x 7 Cents) the 2/8 of ounce more. Transit stamp **TREVISIO**.



8<sup>th</sup> January 1808. From Venice (Department of Adriatico) to Agordo, near Belluno (Department of Piave).  
Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 18 Cents.



8<sup>th</sup> May 1808. From Vicenza (Department of Bacchiglione) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Triple rate letter, weight 1/2 ounce: 27 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Ufficio** indicates the alleged right to the free frank, but the Tax Officer enjoyed the **limited franchise**, only if he received letters from authorities **within his department**, as established by the decree n. 123, dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805. For this reason the letter was taxed.





**16<sup>th</sup> May 1807.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Brescia (Department of Mella). Fourth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 36 Cents.



**10<sup>th</sup> July 1808.** From Modena (Department of Panaro) to Forlì (Department of Rubicone). Fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: 45 Cents.



**20<sup>th</sup> September 1807.** From Venice (Department of Adriatico) to Alone, near Brescia (Department of Mella).  
Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 22 Cents.



**30<sup>th</sup> July 1808.** From Ferrara (Department of Basso Po) to Milan (Department of Olona). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 26 Cents, written on the back.



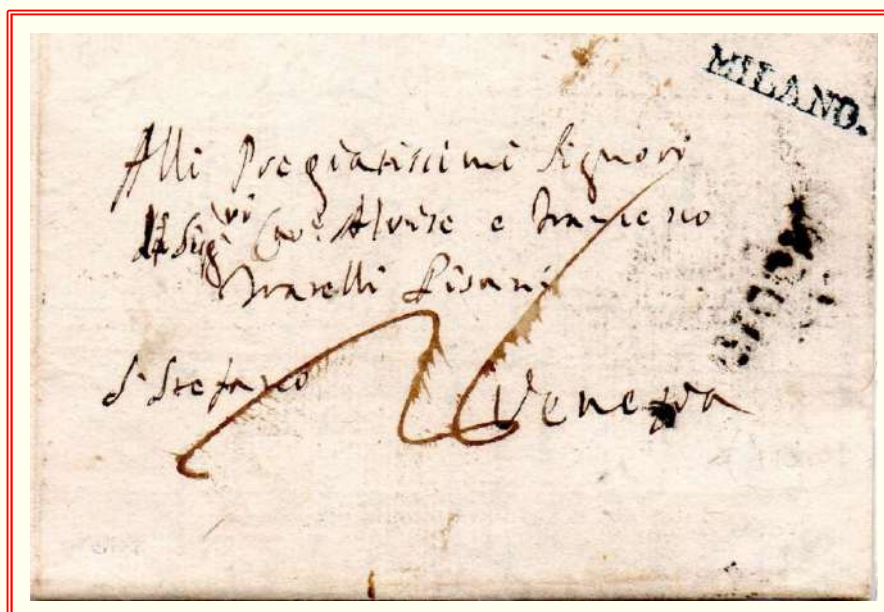


**22<sup>nd</sup> October 1808.** From Brescia (Department of Mella) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, triple rate letter, weight  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce: 33 Cents, written on the back.

A diagonal line and the handwritten word **Franca** indicated that the rate has been prepaid.



**... April 1807.** From Brescia (Department of Mella) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Fourth rate letter, weight  $\frac{5}{8}$  of ounce: 55 Cents.



**3<sup>rd</sup> June 1807.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 26 Cents. The rare stamp **MILANO**, in use only on June 1807, applied on departure.

**First date known.**



**22<sup>nd</sup> June 1807.** From Cesena (Department of Rubicone) to Milan (Department of Olona). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 30 Cents, written on the back.



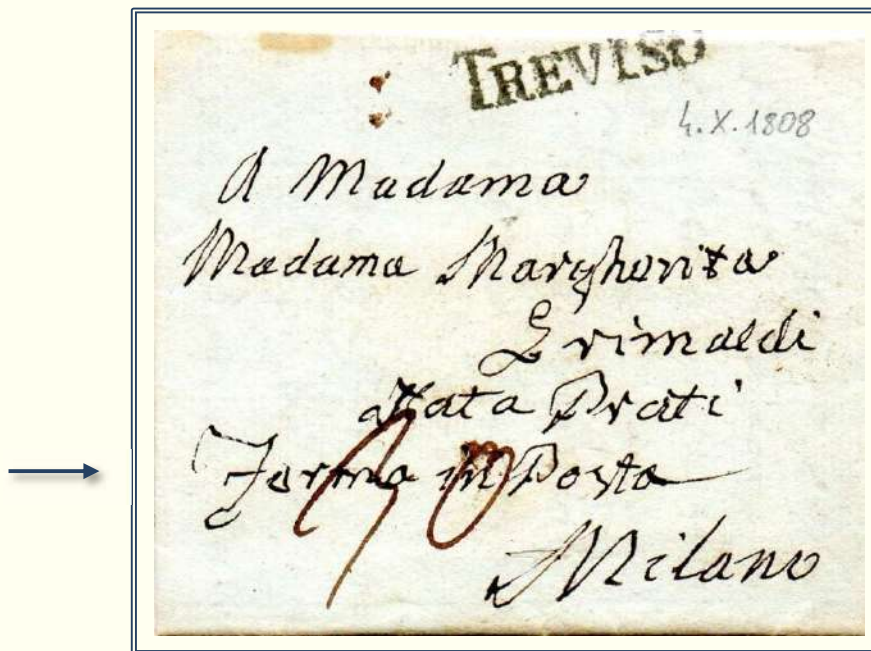
### Third period

1<sup>st</sup> February 1807 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 1809

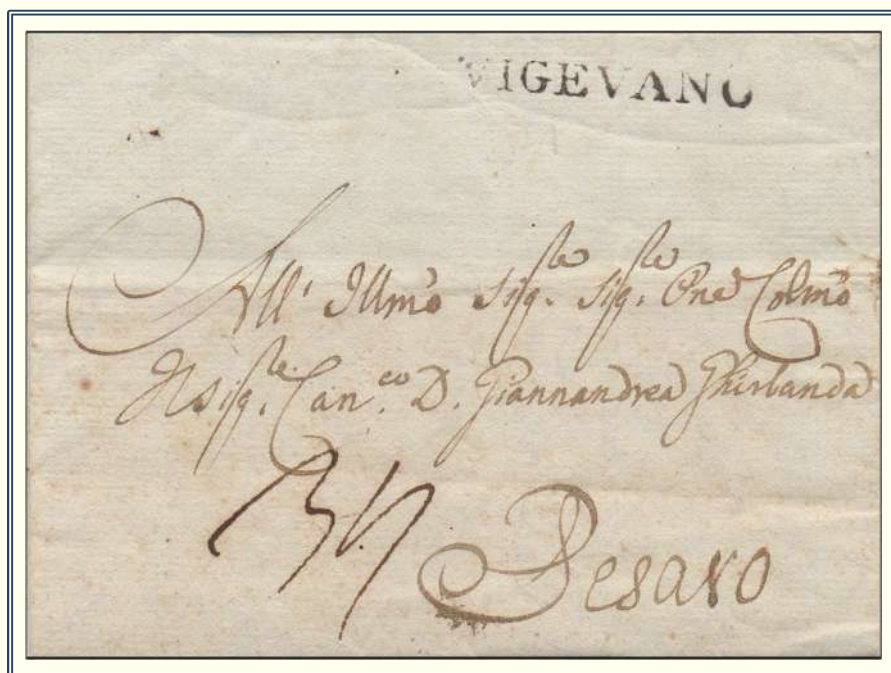
3.6 – Sixth distance letters

3.7 – Seventh distance letters

When a letter **Ferma in posta** (Poste restante) arrived at the post office, the postmaster had to mark the date of arrival on the back and hand it over to the claimant, checking that it was the addressee. For this service there was not an additional fee.



**4<sup>th</sup> October 1808.** From Treviso (Department of Tagliamento) to Milan (Department of Olona). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 30 Cents.

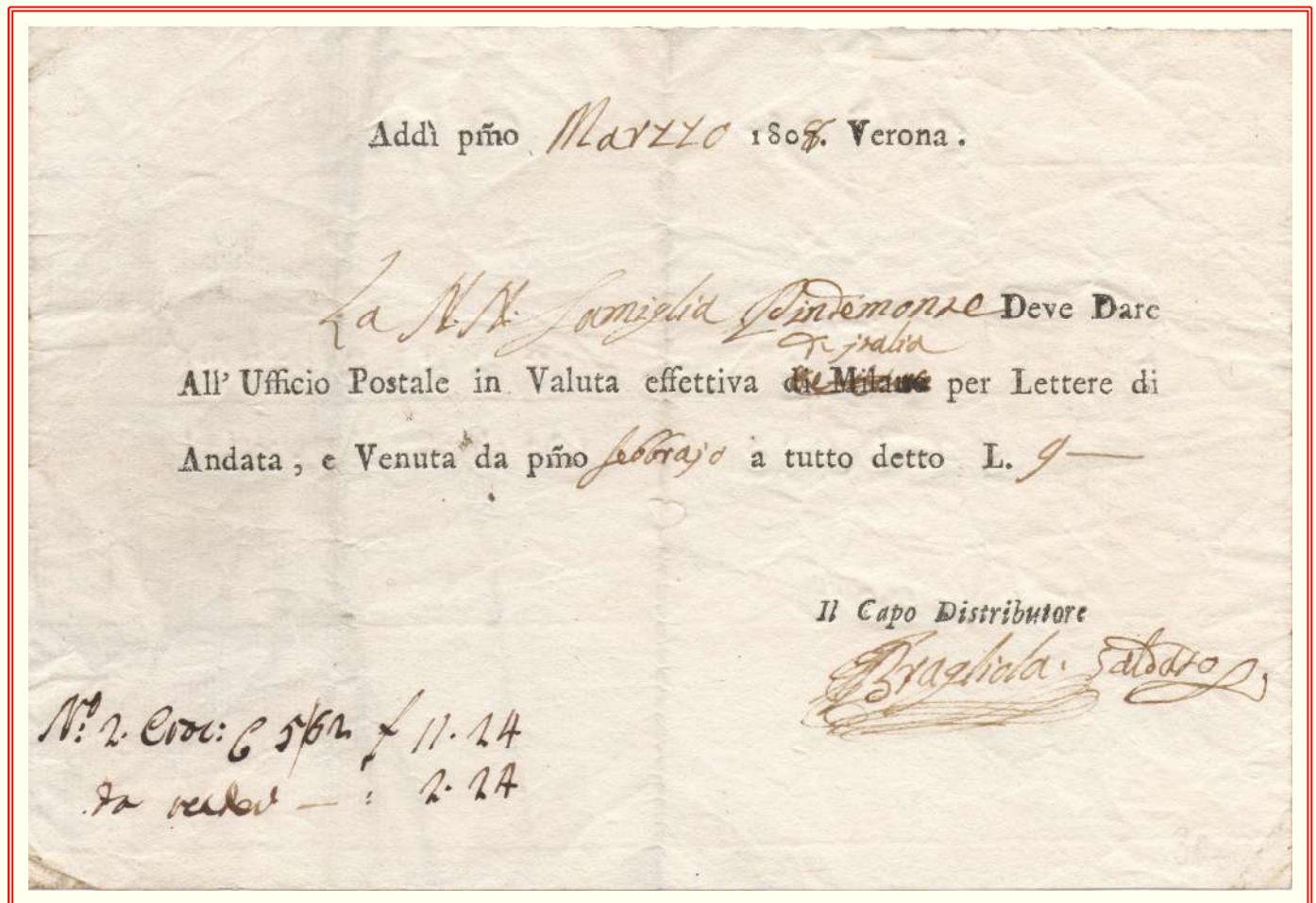


**17<sup>th</sup> October 1808.** From Vigevano, near Novara (Department of Agogna) to Pesaro (Department of Metauro). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 34 Cents.

As required by postal rules, those who had a significant exchange of correspondence, such as merchants, shopkeepers, lawyers, entrepreneurs and nobles, were able to pay their monthly debt on the first day of the following month.



Pindemonte was an important noble family in Verona since 1325. The most famous exponents were the poets and men of letters Ippolito and Giovanni. Pindemonte Palace in Verona.



1<sup>st</sup> March 1808. Verona.

The noble Pindemonte family must give Lire 9— to the post office in currency of Italy for letters mailed and received from first February up today

The Postmaster

Bragliola Paid

Nr. 2 Corr (Correspondences): C 5/62 L. 11.24

To be cred (credited) L. 2.24



### Third period

1<sup>st</sup> February 1807 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 1809

### 3.9 - Registered letter “Chargé”

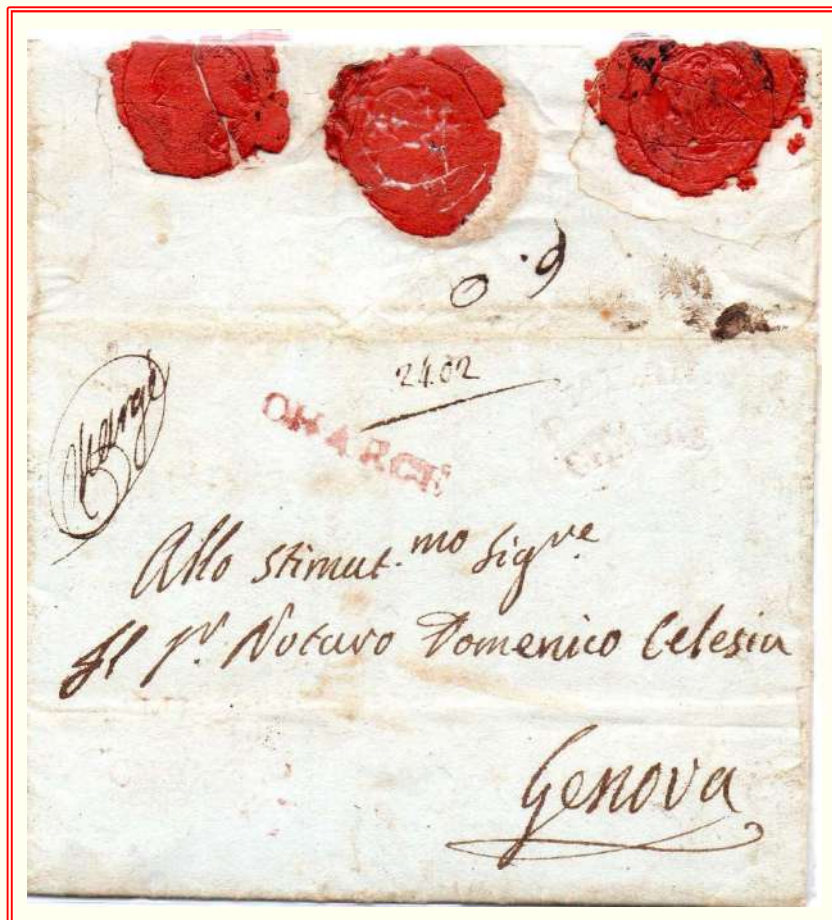
These letters were called Chargé (i.e. loaded) because the registration of a letter needed the procedure of **chargement** (i.e. loading) on the register of the post office.

The postmaster received personally the letter to be registered and, after it has been entered in the register, put the duty stamp **CHARGÉ** and wrote the number of registration on the front of the letter.

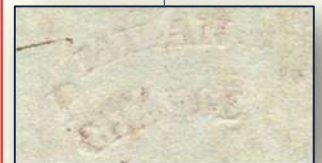
When the letter arrived at the destination post office, the manager registered it on a book called “Chargement Recette» (Loading incoming).

After registration, the postmaster had to send a notice to the addressee to collect the letter. It could only be delivered to the addressee or to a person with a special power of attorney drawn up before a notary or a public official.

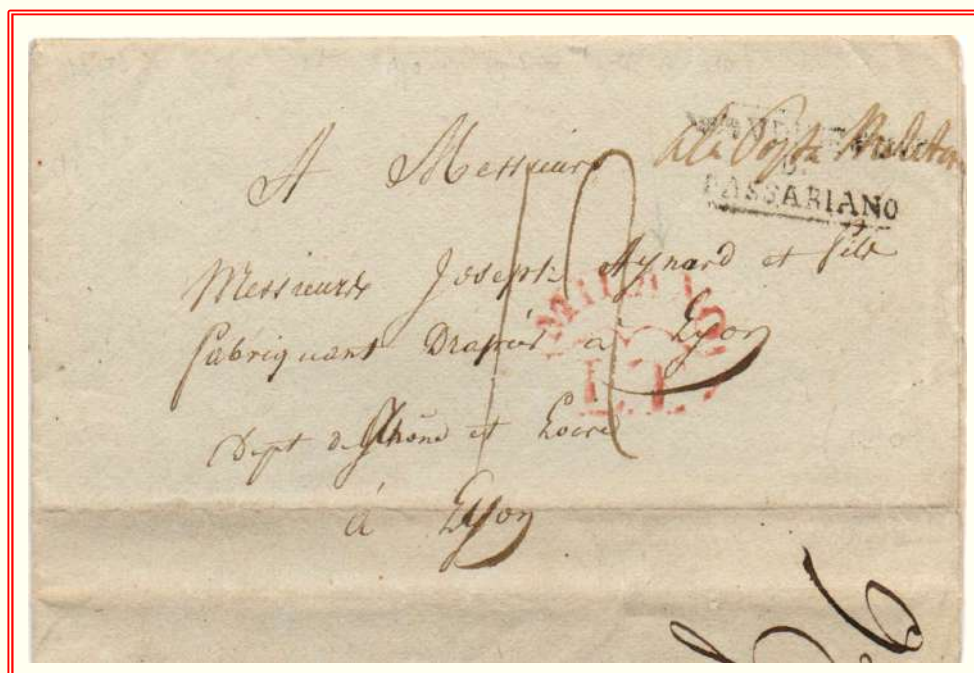
On the left/centre side of the letter, the rare stamp **CHARGE'** and the equally rare handwritten word “Chargé”.



On the right side of the letter, the rare stamp **MILAN /P.P. /CHARGE'** in albino (embossing)



**15<sup>th</sup> September 1808.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Genoa (Conquered Department of Genova, part of French Empire). Prepaid rate Port Payé **MILAN /P.P. /CHARGE'**, registered double rate letter, **CHARGÉ** abroad, 3/8 of ounce: 6.0 Décimes written on the back. 20 Cents the double rate letter sent abroad + 38 Cents the registration fee, equal to 58 cents, 6.0 Décimes rounded up, as it was not so uncommon.



**7<sup>th</sup> September 1808.** From Gemona, near Udine (Department of Passariano) to Lyon (French Empire). Single rate letter sent to France, 1/4 of ounce: 12 Cents.

Probably the letter was delivered to the civil post, where the stamp **Udine di Passariano** was put on the letter, with the handwritten words "Ala Posta Militare" (to Military Post). After that, the letter was sent, by military post, to the civil Post Office in Milan (on the front the transit stamp **MILANO L.T.**), to be sent to Lyon.



**22<sup>nd</sup> January 1809.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Svitto (Canton of Schwytz). Single rate letter sent to Switzerland, weight 1/4 of ounce: 16 Cents. **4 Soldi** were charged on delivery for Swiss dues.





**5<sup>th</sup> September 1808.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Hodimont, now borough of Verviers (Conquered Department of Southern Netherland, part of French Empire). Double rate letter sent to Belgium, weight 3/8 of ounce: 20 Cents. On the front the transit stamp **L.I./MILANO**.

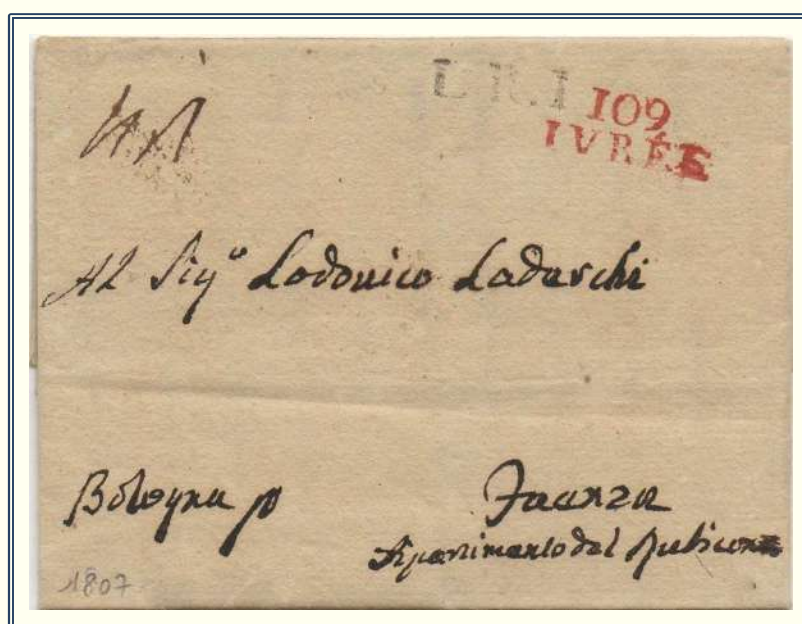


**28<sup>th</sup> February 1807.** From Legnago, near Verona (Department of Adige) to Montpellier (French Empire). Triple rate letter sent to France, weight ½ ounce: 24 Cents. On the front the transit stamp **L.I. /MILANO**.

On both letters the stamp of accounting **L.R. 1, Lettre Rayon 1**, was struck on departure.

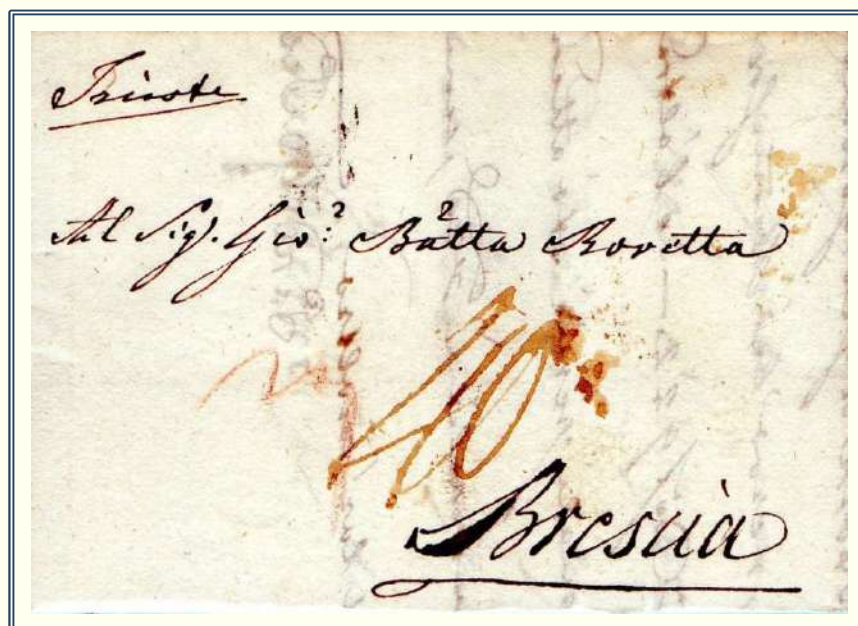


**2<sup>nd</sup> December 1808.** From Florence (Conquered Department of Arno, part of French Empire) to Reggio di Modena (Department of Crostolo). 28 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce. Transit stamp **113/LIVOURNE**.



**16<sup>th</sup> July 1807.** From Ivree, near Turin (Conquered Department of Dora, part of French Empire) to Faenza (Department of Rubicone). 42 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a triple rate letter, weight ½ ounce.





**25<sup>th</sup> September 1808.** From Trieste (Austrian Empire) to Brescia (Department of Mella). Prepaid **23 Kreuzer** up to Austrian Empire border; **40 Cents** were charged on delivery, as required for a single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce.



**20<sup>th</sup> November 1807.** From Frankfurt (Rhine Confederation) to Verona (Department of Adige). 44 Cents. were charged on delivery, as required for a second rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce.



**22<sup>nd</sup> May 1807.** From Lyon (French Empire) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P68P/LYON**, double rate letter, weight between 6 and < 8 gr. and distance between 300 and 400 kms. up to French Empire border: 7 Décimes, written on the back, in accordance with the tariffs established by the Law 24<sup>th</sup> April 1806. **32 Cents** were charged on delivery, as required for a double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce.

The letter was considered coming from neighbouring province instead of coming from a non-neighbouring province, as it should have been, and 44 Cents should have been charged on delivery.

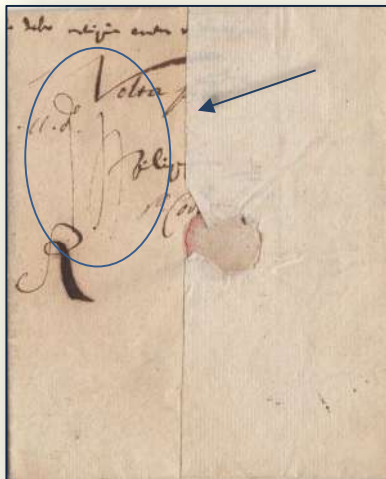


**14<sup>th</sup> May 1808.** From Amiens (French Empire) to Brescia (Department of Mella). Ninth rate letter, weight 1 3/8 ounce, 1 Italian Lira and 80 Cents. 140 Cents. the first ounce + 40 Cents. (2 x 20 Cents.) for the 2/8 of ounce more.





**30<sup>th</sup> October 1807.** From Sedan (French Empire) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Ninth rate letter, weight 1 3/8 ounce: 1 Italian Lira and 80 Cents. 140 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 40 cents. (2 x 20 Cents) the 2/8 of ounce more. On departure cachet of accounting **L.R. 4, Lettre Rayon 4.**



**25<sup>th</sup> March 1807.** From Anvers (Department of Deux-Néthes, French Empire) to Mantua (Department of Mincio). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P93P/ANVERS**, double rate letter, weight between 11 and <15 gr. and distance > 1200 kms. up to French Empire border: 24 Décimes, written on the back, in accordance with the tariffs established by the Law 24<sup>th</sup> April 1806. On arrival the letter was considered in free frank.



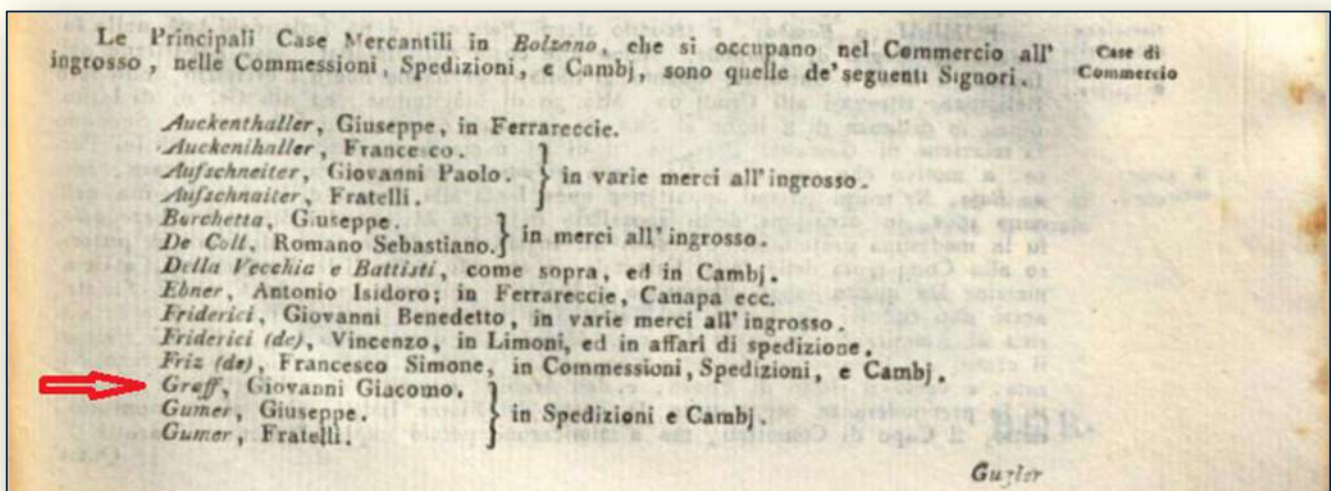
The transit stamp **P.P.P. (Port Payé Passe Paris)** was struck in Paris on in transit and prepaid letters.

The Forwarder or Forwarding Agent arose to ensure faster communication between traders than the postal service did. This allowed for a quicker deal closing.



**23<sup>rd</sup> August 1808.** From Nuremberg (Kingdom of Bavaria, part of Rhine Confederation) to Verona (Department of Adige). The letter was carried up to Bolzano by the forwarder as indicated on the back *p<sup>mez/o</sup>* **Gio. Giacomo Graff/di Bolzano** (by Gio. Giacomo Graff/from Bolzano). 40 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce, for letter from foreign State.

Giovanni Giacomo Graff was a forwarder from Bolzano, as the reproduced document below shows, and where he worked from 1775 to 1820.



"The main merchant houses in Bolzano that deal in wholesale trade, commission, shipping and exchange are those of the following gentlemen.

.....

Graff, Giovanni Giacomo in shipping and exchange"

From the book "Il mentore perfetto de' negozianti (The perfect shopkeeper's mentor)" p. 341 – Trieste 1793



According to the article XII **Law 5 Nevoso anno IX Repubblicano** (26<sup>th</sup> December 1800), the postal rates applied to the samples were:

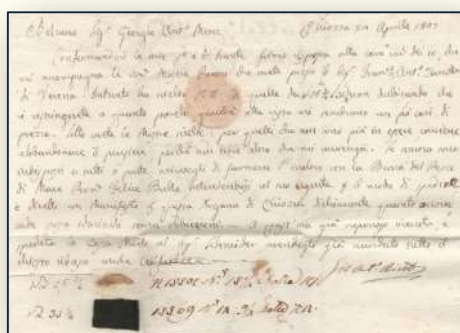
- the same rate of letters if the weight was less than ½ an ounce;
- the half rate of letters if the weight was between ½ an ounce and 2 ounces;
- the rate of parcels if the weight was more than 2 ounces.

The sample had to be presented to the postmaster for taxation; those found in the post box were taxed like a normal letters according to their weight and the postmaster wrote on the letter "not presented for franking".

Subsequent postal laws make no reference to sample: the regulations of the Law of 26<sup>th</sup> December 1800 therefore were apply.



**13<sup>th</sup> May 1807.** From Bologna (Department of Reno) to Alone, near Brescia (Department of Mella): sample sent in fourth distance. Fourth rate sample, weight 5/8 of ounce: 22 Cents. The rate of letters weighting 5/8 of ounce was 44 cents. The postmaster wrote on the front of letter *mostra di niun valore* (sample without value) and taxed it for half rate of letter.



One of two original cloth sample

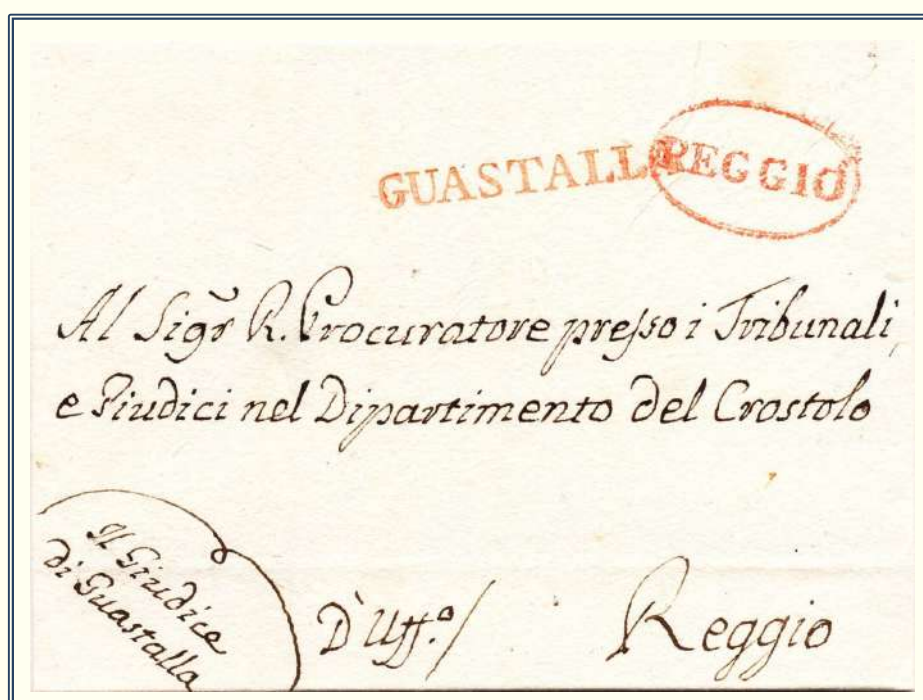


**24<sup>th</sup> April 1807.** From Chiozza, now Chioggia, near Venetia (Department of Adriatico) to Bolzano (at that time Austrian Empire). 12 Cents were charged on departure, as required for a triple rate sample, weight ½ an ounce. The rate of letters weighting ½ ounce was 24 cents. **14 Kreuzer** were charged on delivery.

In this period the Decree nr. 123 dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805 was still in force.



**3<sup>rd</sup> October 1807.** From Correggio, near Reggio Emilia, to Reggio. Letter sent by the Police of Correggio to the Prefect of Reggio. In this cases, when a public office wrote to the authority on which it depended, the postal law provided that the mark of the sender should be put on, with the handwritten word **D'Uff.<sup>o</sup>** to indicate the right of exemption. Then, this letter should have been taxed.



**15<sup>th</sup> September 1807.** Letter sent by the Judge of Guastalla near Reggio Emilia, to General Attorney at the Court of Justice of Department of Crostolo in Reggio Emilia. The Judge depends on an authority that enjoyed exemption (Tribunal); he did not prepay the letter because he put on the handwritten word **D'Uff.<sup>o</sup>** and his title **Il Giudice di Guastalla.**





**10<sup>th</sup> April 1809.** From Milan to Novara. Letter sent by Prefecture of Police Department of Olona to Prefect of Department of Agogna. Both authorities enjoyed the limited free frank. On the front, the stamp of mark **Prefettura di Polizia Dipartim.º D'Olona** indicating the right of exemption.



**January 31<sup>st</sup> 1809.** From Montecchio to Barco, both villages near Reggio Emilia. Letter sent by the Registrar of Census in Montecchio to Major of Barco. The Registrar of Census and the Majors were not entitled to the franchise, which they enjoyed by the previous postal law. The letter should have been taxed.

The "n. 46 Decree general finance for 1809" on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1809 maintains the existing fee structure, introducing a bracket of weight, with the division of the first group of letters weighting up to ¼ ounce and those with weight ¼ ounce, as per table.

They were applied from 1<sup>st</sup> May as the Kingdom was going through a serious crisis, also because of the offensive of the Austrian army, who advised her not to exacerbate the public opinion with new duties.

Since 1<sup>st</sup> October 1810 are apply to the department of Alto Adige, in the execution of the "**Decree 172 which extend to the department of Alto Adige laws and decrees on the postal service**" on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1810 and of the "**Decree 228 with which extends to the department of Alto Adige price table of the rate of letters annexed to the decree of 27<sup>th</sup> March 1809**".

The distances to Alto Adige were regulated on those applying to the department of Adige and this one was in second distance from the department of Alto Adige.

The rates abroad and from abroad and the letters "Chargé" remained unchanged.

Weight in ounces (g.)	Domestic								To and from Foreign Countries		
									Abroad	From abroad (1)	From abroad (2)
Up to ¼	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50			
1/4 (7,50)	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	60	16	28	40
3/8 (11,25)	25	30	35	40	45	50	60	70	20	32	44
1/2 (15,00)	30	35	40	50	60	70	80	90	24	42	66
5/8 (18,75)	35	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	32	56	80
6/8 (22,50)	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	40	70	100
7/8 (26,25)	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	48	84	120
1 (30,00)	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	56	98	140
Distances	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>			
Below the rate that should be paid for every 1/8 of ounce more											
	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	8	14	20
Chargé Letters						Surcharge 38/100					

(1) From abroad neighbouring provinces

(2) From abroad non neighbouring provinces and foreign states



**12<sup>th</sup> October 1809.** From Verona to Brenzone (Department of Adige). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, single rate letter, weight up to 1/4 of ounce: 15 Cents, written on the back.



The handwritten word **D'Uff.º** is on both letters and indicates the alleged right to the free frank, but the Judge of Peace and the Mayor had no rights, because they were not listed in the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letters were taxed.



**11<sup>th</sup> April 1811.** From Bergamo to Piazza San Martino, now Piazza Brembana (Department of Serio). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, 1/4 of ounce: 20 Cents, written on the back. On the front double the diagonal lines indicated that the letter was free of charge for the addressee.



**17<sup>th</sup> April 1811.** From Ancona to Pergola (Department of Metauro). Triple rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 25 Cents.



**7<sup>th</sup> July 1810.** From Carpineti to Reggio (Department of Crostolo). Fourth rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 30 cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.°** indicates the alleged right to the free frank, but the Judge of Peace enjoyed the exemption only for the letters received by the authorities who enjoyed the mark (Decree nr. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810). For this reason the letter was taxed.



**22<sup>nd</sup> December 1810.** From Padua to Cittadella (Department of Brenta). Prepaid rate Port Payé **PP**, fifth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 35 Cents, written on the back.





**29<sup>th</sup> September 1810.** From Mantua to San Martino dell'Argine (Department of Mincio). Sixth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: 40 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.º** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the correspondence between mayors enjoined this right if travelling “under wrapper”, that is grouped together with others letters and not individually, as it probably happened in this case (Decree nr. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810). For this reason the letter was taxed.



**16<sup>th</sup> March 1810.** From Forlì to S. Arcangelo (Department of Rubicone). Seventh rate letter, weight 7/8 of ounce: 5 Décimes (50 Cents).



**24<sup>th</sup> September 1809.** From Bagnacavallo to Cervia (Department of Reno). Eighth rate letter, weight 1 ounce: 60 Cents.



**7<sup>th</sup> September 1810.** From Bologna to Imola (Department of Reno). Ninth rate letter, weight 1 1/8 ounce: 67 Cents. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 7 Cents the 1/8 of ounce more.





**22<sup>nd</sup> May 1811.** From Mercato Saraceno to Forlì (Department of Rubicone). Tenth rate letter, weight 1 2/8 ounce: 74 Cents. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 14 Cents (2 x 7 Cents) the 2/8 of ounce more.

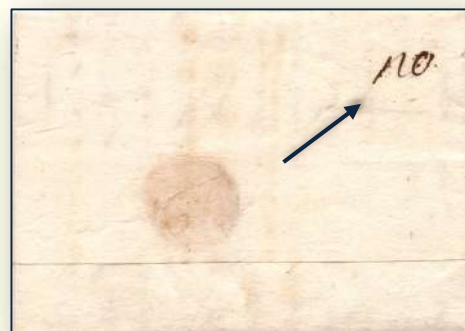


**16<sup>th</sup> November 1809.** From Bologna to Sacerno (Department of Reno). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P./BOLOGNA/D'ITALIA**, 12<sup>th</sup> rate letter: 1 ounce and 1/2: 88 Cents. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 28 Cents (4 x 7 Cents.) the 1/2 of ounce more, written on the back.





**22<sup>nd</sup> August 1810.** From Bologna to Medicina (Department of Reno). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P./BOLOGNA/D'ITALIA**, 13<sup>th</sup> rate letter: 1 5/8 ounce: 95 Cents. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 35 Cents (5 x 7 Cents.) the 5/8 of ounce more, written on the back.



**15<sup>th</sup> June 1810.** From Macerata to Tolentino (Department of Musone). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, 16<sup>th</sup> rate letter, 2 ounces: 120 Cents, written on the back. The correct rate would be 116 Cents: 60 Cents the first ounce + 56 Cents (8 x 7 Cents) for one ounce more, but the postmaster simply doubled the rate established for a letter weighting one ounce.





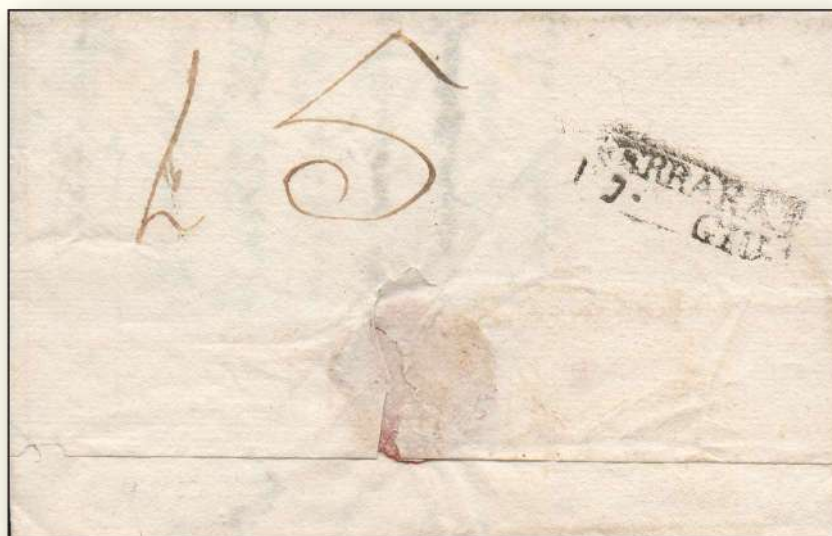
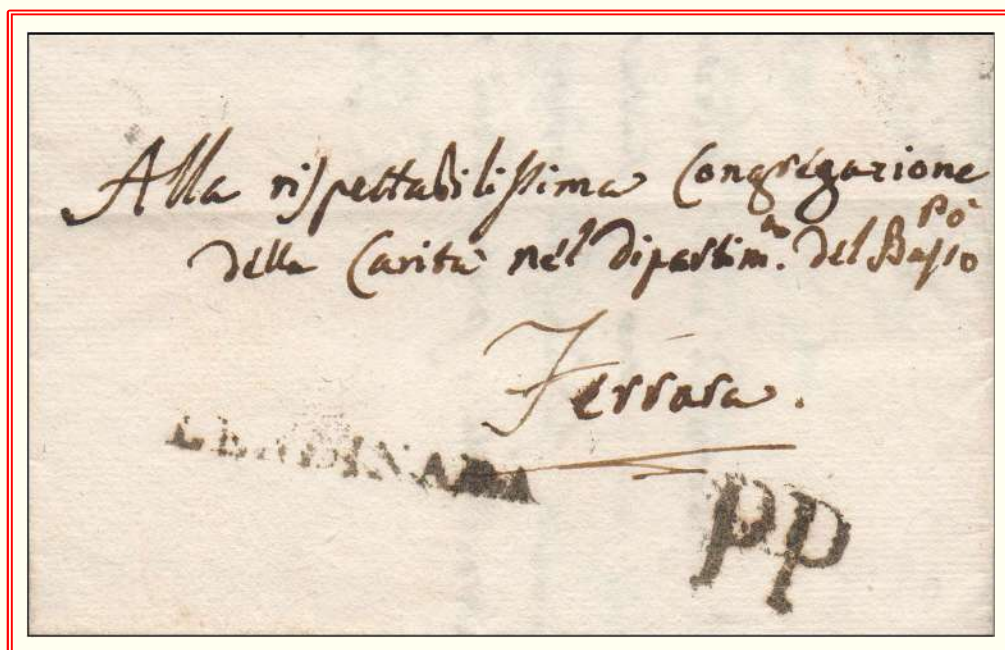
**13<sup>th</sup> October 1810.** From Salò to Gargnano (Department of Mella). 21<sup>st</sup> rate letter, weight 2 5/8 ounces: 1 Italian Lira and 50 Cents. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 90 Cents (13 x 7 Cents) the 13/8 of ounce more. In fact, the correct rate would be 1 Italian Lira and 51 cents, rounded down to one cent, with the dual display of taxation, in figures and in words.

The words **Per Espresso** indicated that the delivery of the letter was done by the person expressly appointed. For this service there was not an additional fee.



**24<sup>th</sup> August 1809.** From Brescia to Chiari (Department of Mella). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, 22<sup>nd</sup> rate letter, 2 6/8 ounces, as indicated on the back: 1 Italian Lira and 56 Cents. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 96 Cents (14 x 7 Cents) the 14/8 of ounce more, written on the back.

The only letter to me known with this high rate in this period.



**31<sup>st</sup> May 1809.** From Lendinara to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Prepaid rate Port Payé **PP**, 71<sup>st</sup> rate letter, weight 8 7/8 ounces: 5 Italian Lire. 60 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 441 Cents (63 x 7 Cents) the 63/8 of ounce more, written on the back. In fact, the correct rate would be 5 Italian Lire and 1 Cent, rounded down to a cent.

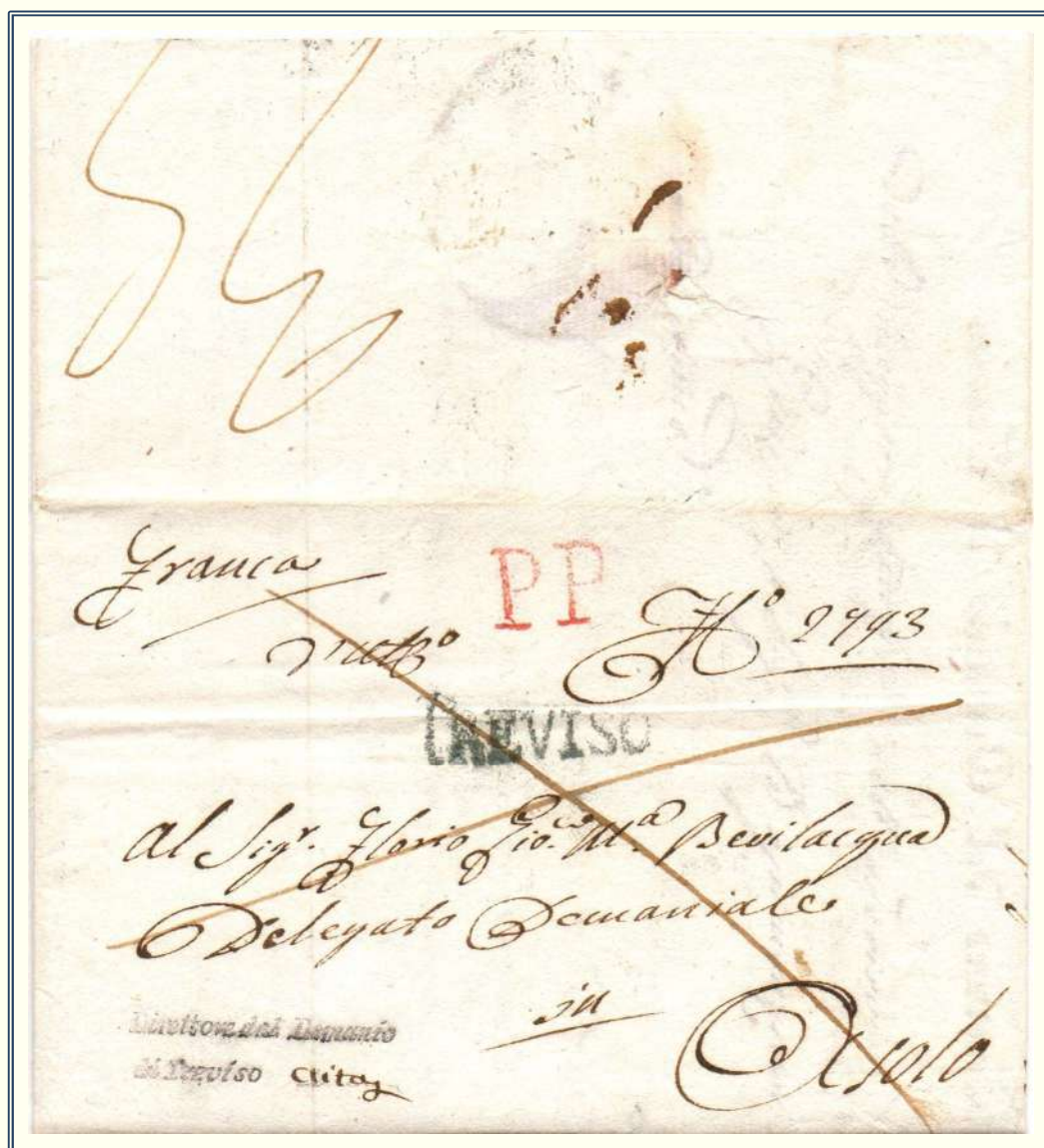




**12<sup>th</sup> June 1810.** From Polesella, near Rovigo (Department of Basso Po) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Double rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 25 Cents. On the front the rare stamp **POLESELLA B. - PO** with the handwritten integration **B. - PO**.



**24<sup>th</sup> September 1810.** From Bergamo (Department of Serio) to Milan (Department of Olona). Triple rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 30 Cents.



**2<sup>nd</sup> July 1810.** From Treviso (Department of Tagliamento) to Asolo, near Vicenza (Department of Bacchiglione).

Prepaid rate Port Payé **PP**, fourth rate letter, 1/2 an ounce: 35 Cents, written on the back.

Saint Andrew Cross and the handwritten word **Franca** indicated that the rate has been prepaid.

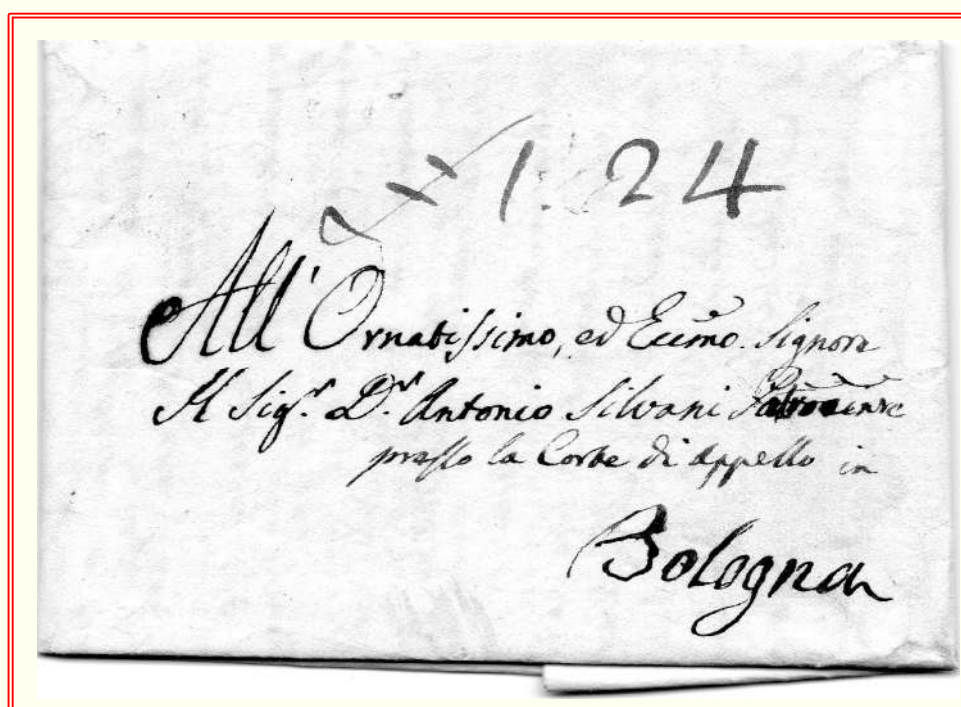


**20<sup>th</sup> June 1810.** From Lodi, near Milan (Department of Alto Po) to Reggio (Department of Crostolo). Fifth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 40 Cents.





**6<sup>th</sup> July 1809.** From Ferrara (Department of Basso Po) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, seventh rate letter, 7/8 of ounce: 60 Cents, written on the back. The handwritten word **Franca** indicated that the rate has been prepaid.



**3<sup>rd</sup> January 1811.** From Forlì (Department of Rubicone) to Bologna (Department of Reno). 14<sup>th</sup> rate letter, weight 1 ounce and 7/8: 1 Italian Lire and 24 Cents. 70 Cents the first ounce + 54 Cents (6 x 9 Cents) for 6/8 of ounce more.



**25<sup>th</sup> June 1809.** From Rovigo (Department of Basso Po) to Venice (Department of Adriatico). Prepaid rate Port Payé **PP**, 21<sup>st</sup> rate letter, weight 2 5/8 ounces: 1 Italian Lire and 87 Cents. 70 Cents the 1<sup>st</sup> ounce + 117 Cents (13 x 9 Cents) the 13/8 of ounce more, written on the back.



**31<sup>st</sup> January 1810.** From Verona (Department of Adige) to Mantua (Department of Mincio). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P./VERONA**, 37<sup>th</sup> rate letter, 4 ounces and 5/8: 3 Italian Lire and 30 Cents. 70 Cents for the first ounce + 261 Cents (29 x 9 Cents) for 29/8 of ounce more, written on the back. In fact, rounded down to a cent.





**13<sup>th</sup> August 1810.** From Ferrara (Department of Basso Po) to Brescia (Department of Mella). Double rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 30 Cents.



**11<sup>th</sup> May 1810.** From Ferrara (Department of Basso Po) to Reggio (Department of Crostolo). Triple rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 35 Cents.



**26<sup>th</sup> May 1810.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Reggio (Department of Crostolo). Fourth rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 40 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.**° indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Tax Office was entitled to the **limited free frank** to those letters received from officials, but **within its own department**, as prescribed by the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letter was taxed.



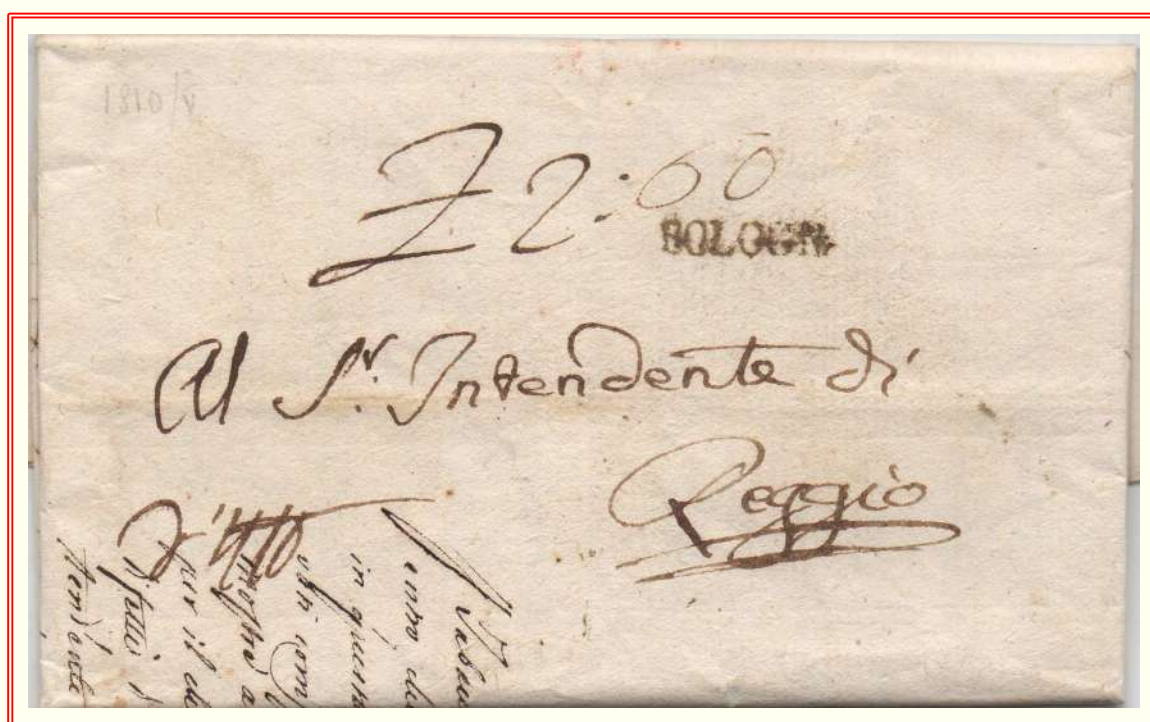
**13<sup>th</sup> December 1809.** From Ancona (Department of Metauro) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Fifth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 50 Cents.





**25<sup>th</sup> May 1811.** From Venice (Department of Adriatico) to Faenza (Department of Rubicone). Eighth rate letter, weight 1 ounce: 80 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.<sup>o</sup>** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the mayor and the General Receiver of Department enjoyed this right if the letter travels “under wrapper”, that is grouped together with others letters and not individually, as it probably happened in this case (Decree nr. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810). For this reason the letter was taxed.



**27<sup>th</sup> May 1810.** From Bologna (Department of Reno) to Reggio (Department of Crostolo). 26<sup>th</sup> rate letter, weight 3 2/8 ounce: 2:60 Italian Lire. 80 Cents the first ounce + 180 Cents (18 x 10 Cents) for 18/8 of ounce more.



**10<sup>th</sup> June 1809.** From Bologna (Department of Reno) to Alone, near Brescia (Department of Mella). Single rate letter, weight up to 1/4 of ounce: 30 Cents.

Interesting indication, by the sender, of the route of the letter by way of **Mantova to Salò**.



**7<sup>th</sup> April 1809.** From Fano, near Ancona (Department of Metauro) to Modena (Department of Crostolo). Double rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 35 Cents.





**19<sup>th</sup> June 1811.** From Lodi, near Milan (Department of Olona) to Trento (Department of Alto Adige). Triple rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 40 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Tax Officer was entitled to the **limited free frank** to those letters received from officials, but **within its own department**, as prescribed by the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letter was taxed.



**6<sup>th</sup> October 1809.** From Fermo (Department of Trento) to Ferrara (Department of Basso Po). Fourth rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 50 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the State Property Management had no rights, because he was not listed in the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letters was taxed.



**11<sup>th</sup> October 1809.** From Cesena (Department of Rubicone) to Milan (Department of Olona). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, weight  $\frac{1}{4}$  of ounce: 40 Cents, written on the back.



**4<sup>th</sup> December 1810.** From Milan (Department of Olona) a Ravenna (Department of Rubicone). Triple rate letter, weight  $\frac{3}{8}$  of ounce: 45 Cents.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.°** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Congregation of Charity did not have rights, because not listed in the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letter was taxed.





**27<sup>th</sup> May 1809.** From Venice (Department of Adriatico) to Milan (Department of Olona). Fourth rate letter, weight  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce: 60 Cents.



**4<sup>th</sup> April 1811.** From Cesena (Department of Rubicone) to Milan (Department of Olona). Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, fifth rate letter, weight  $\frac{5}{8}$  of ounce: 70 Cents, written on the back. The letter was sent prepaid rate because the addressee was the Minister for Worship.

#### Fourth period

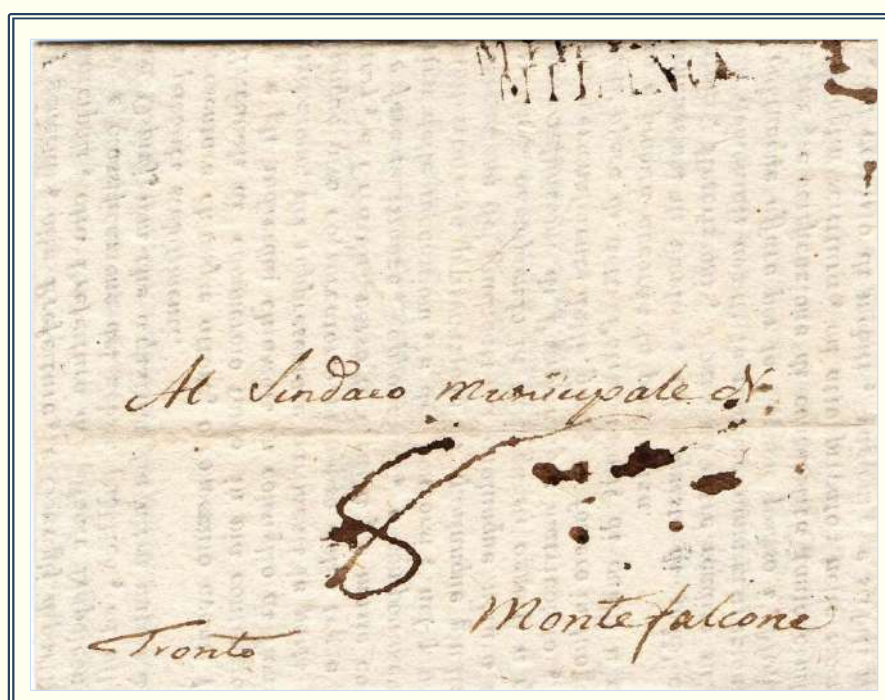
1<sup>st</sup> May 1809 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1811

4.6 – Sixth distance letters

4.7 – Seventh distance letters



**27<sup>th</sup> May 1809.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Pesaro (Department of Musone). First rate letter, weight up to 1/4 of ounce: 40 Cents.



**20<sup>th</sup> March 1810.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Montefalcone (Department of Tronto). Fourth rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 8 Décimes (80 Cents).



On the top, the rare boxed stamp **RACCOMAND** and the equally rare handwritten word **Chargé**.

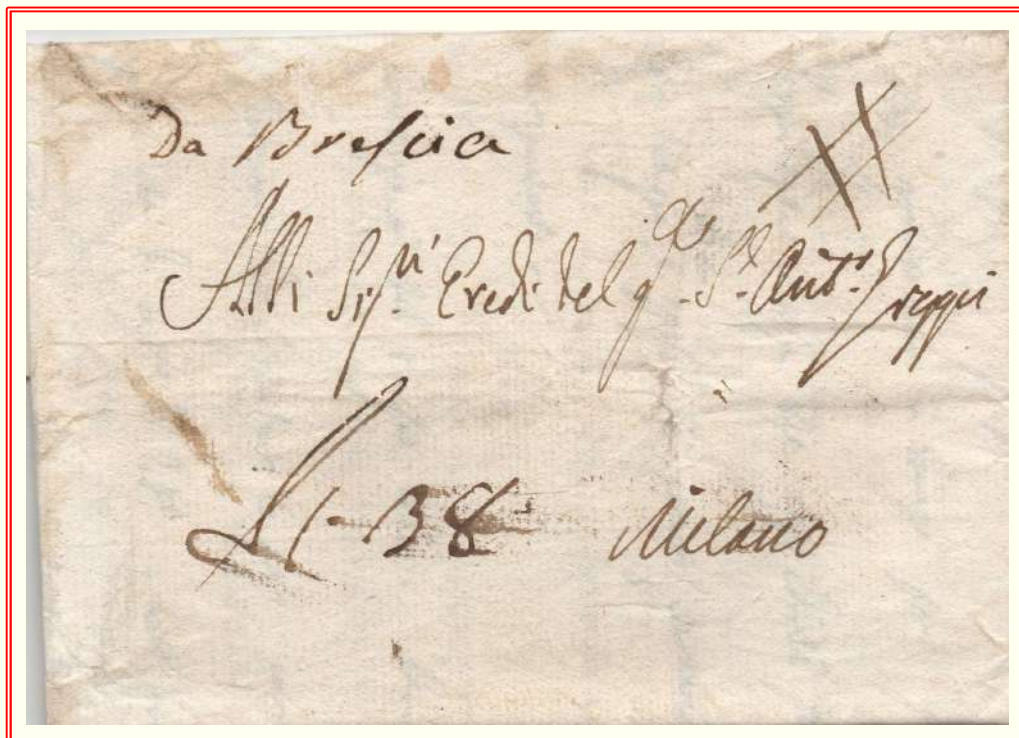


**27<sup>th</sup> February 1811.** From Milan (Department of Olona) to Pesaro (Department of Metauro). Registered letter chargé fourth rate letter, weight  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce: 1 Italian Lira and 8 Cents. 70 Cents for letter sent to the Department in fifth distance + 38 Cents for registration fee.

When the post offices were not equipped with Chargé or Raccomandata (Registered letter) cachets, as in the case of Department of Serio (Bergamo) and that of Mella (Brescia), the postmaster wrote on the letter the sentence **Per consegna** (To delivery) or the graphic sign # to indicate that it was a registered letter. Sometimes he indicated both, as in the case of the following letter.



**6<sup>th</sup> October 1810.** From Bergamo (Department of Serio) to Brescia (Department of Mella) Registered letter chargé second rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 63 Cents. 25 Cents for letter sent to the Department in second distance + 38 Cents for registration fee.



**12<sup>th</sup> February 1810.** From Brescia (Department of Mella) to Milan (Department of Olona). Registered letter chargé tenth rate letter, weight 1 2/8 ounce: 1 Italian Lira and 38 Cents. 80 Cents the first ounce + 20 Cents (2 x 10 Cents) for 2/8 of ounce more for letter sent to the Department in third distance + 38 Cents for registration fee.



**Fourth period****1<sup>st</sup> May 1809 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1811****4.9 – Registered letters  
“Chargé” from foreign States**

Italian fee +

Registration fee =

Total due on arrival



Austrian fee +

Registration fee =

Total due on departure

**15<sup>th</sup> June 1810.** From Prague (Austrian Empire) to Verona (Department of Adige). Prepaid **30 Kreuzer** up to the Austrian Empire border: 24 Kreuzer + 6 Kr. registration fee. 1 Italian Lira and 18 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for registered letter chargè: 80 Cents for letter weighting 5/8 of ounce and incoming from foreign state + 38 Cents registration fee. The uncommon stamp **ILLYRIE** struck on transit.

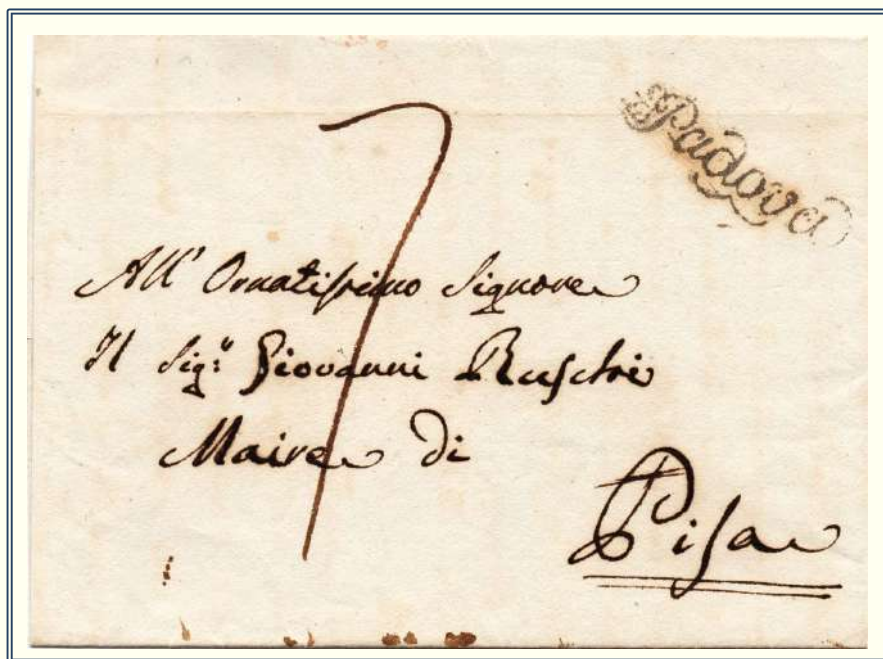
The only registered letter recorded  
from **RAGUSA D.<sup>to</sup> D'ALBANIA**.



**21<sup>st</sup> March 1810.** From Ragusa (Department of Albania – Illyrian Provinces - French Empire) to Ancona (Department of Metauro). On departure prepaid rate **P.P.** registered letter **CARICATO** and # 77 Décimes: 60 Décimes letter sent a distance between 1.200/1.400 kms., weight between 40-45 gr. and 17 décimes the registration fee, written on the back. 1 Italian Lira and 58 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for registered letter chargè: 120 Cents for letter weighting 7/8 of ounce and incoming from foreign state + 38 Cents registration fee.



**14<sup>th</sup> May 1810.** From Venice (Department of Adriatico) to Corfù (Ionian Island – French Empire). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 16 Cents.



**7<sup>th</sup> November 1810.** From Padua (Department of Brenta) to Pisa (Conquered Department of Mediterraneo, part of French Empire). Single rate letter sent to Tuscany, weight 1/4 of ounce: 16 Cents, **unusually written on the back**. 7 Décimes were charged on delivery for Tuscany dues (letter coming from distance between 400-500 kms).





... **August 1810.** From Bologna (Department of Reno) to Livorno (Conquered Department of Mediterraneo, part of French Empire). Double rate letter sent to Tuscany, weight 3/8 of ounce: 20 Cents.  
5 Décimes were charged on delivery for Tuscany dues (letter coming from distance between 200-300 kms).



... **1810.** From Lodi, near Milan (Department of Olona) to Eperies en Hongrie, now Prešov Republic of Slovakia. Triple rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 24 Cents. **14 Kreuzer** were charged on delivery.  
Interesting indication, by the sender, of the route of the letter by way of Wien, Presbourg, Leutschau.

The stamp "**R.<sup>AUME</sup> D'ITALIE PAR TURIN**" struck on both letters, shown the post office of exchange of these letters.



**8<sup>th</sup> June 1810.** From Novara (Department of Agogna) to Turin (Conquered Department of Po, part of French Empire). Fourth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 32 Cents. On the front, the stamp **L.T./MILANO** showing the route of the letter by way of Milan, and that **R.<sup>aume</sup> D'ITALIE/PAR/TURIN**.

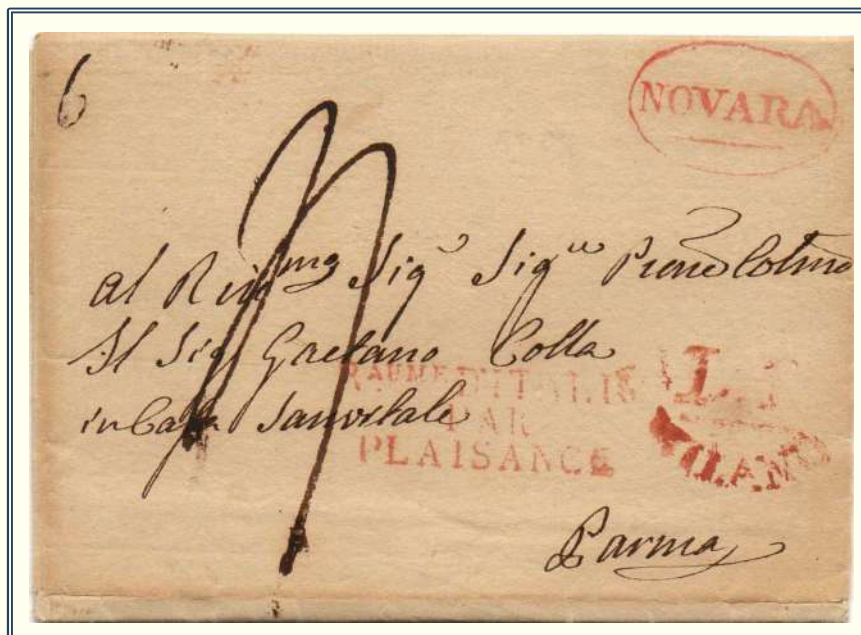


**19<sup>th</sup> August 1809.** From Mantua (Department of Mincio) to Turin (Conquered Department of Po, part of French Empire). **Poste restante – pressée**. Fifth rate letter, weight 7/8 of ounce: 5 Décimes (50 Cents) In fact, the correct rate would be 48 Cents, rounded up to a 50 Cents.

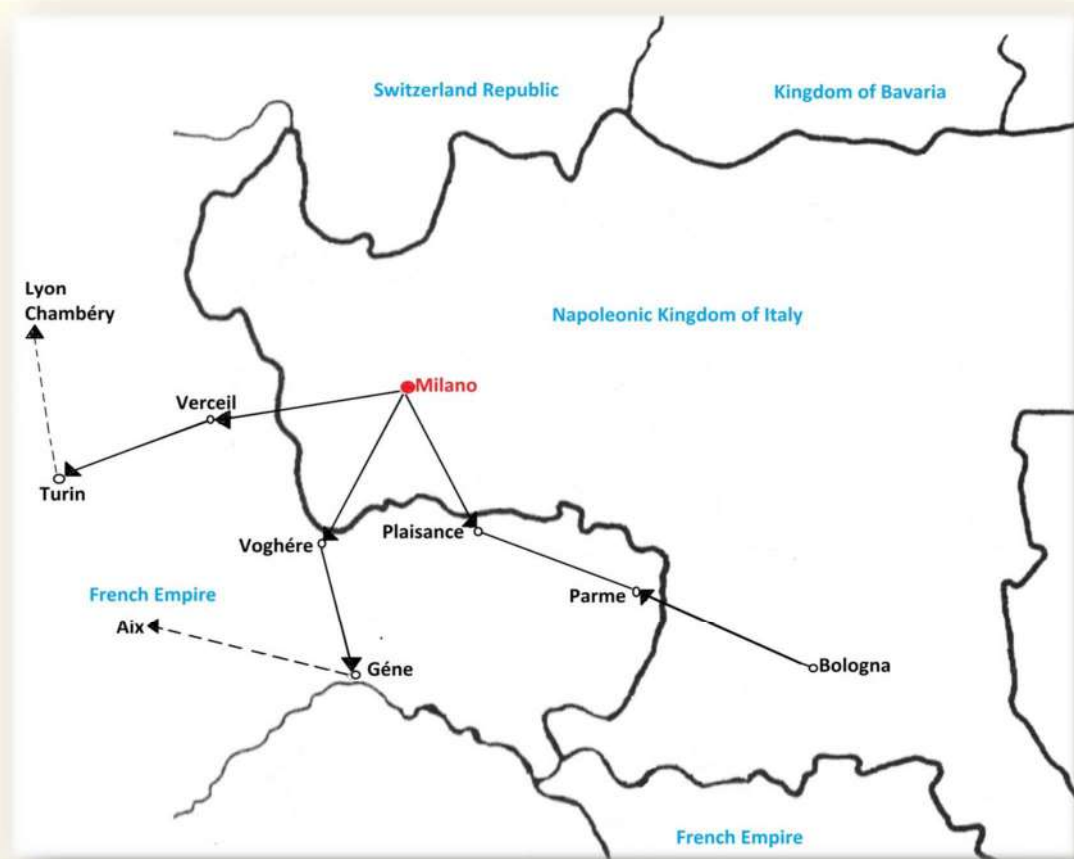
On the front, the stamp **L.T./MILANO** showing the route of the letter by way of Milan.



On the front, the stamp **L.T.MILANO** showing the route of the letter by way of Milan and the stamp **R.<sup>AUME</sup> D'ITALIE PAR PLAISANCE** showing the post office of exchange of the letters.



**6<sup>th</sup> March 1811.** From Novara (Department of Agogna) to Parma (Conquered Department of Taro, part of French Empire). Fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: Italian Lira 4 Décimes (40 Cents). 6 Décimes were charged on delivery for Parma dues (letter coming from distance between 100-200 kms).



The map shows the post offices where the exchange of letters coming from the Kingdom of Italy took place. All post offices indicated on the map were in charge of exchange of letters from Milan, with the exception of Parma, that was exchange post office for those coming from Bologna.



**4<sup>th</sup> November 1809.** From Vigevano, near Novara (Department of Agogna) to Ivrea (Conquered Department of Sesia, part of French Empire). Sixth rate letter, weight 7/8 of ounce: 5 Décimes (50 Cents). The exact rate would be 48 cents, but has been rounded up, as often happened.

On the front, the stamp **L.T. MILANO** shows the route of the letter by way of Milan, while the stamp **R.<sup>AUME</sup> D'ITALIE PAR VERCEIL** shows the post office of exchange of the letter.



**22<sup>nd</sup> February 1810.** From Roveredo, now Rovereto, near Trento (Department of Adige) to Augusta (Augsburg). Tenth rate letter sent to Confederation of Rhine, weight 1 3/8 ounce: 8 Décimes (80 Cents). **8 Rh.Kr.** were charged on delivery for the Austro-German due. On the front the stamp **vRoveredo** used only five months in the Napoleonic period.

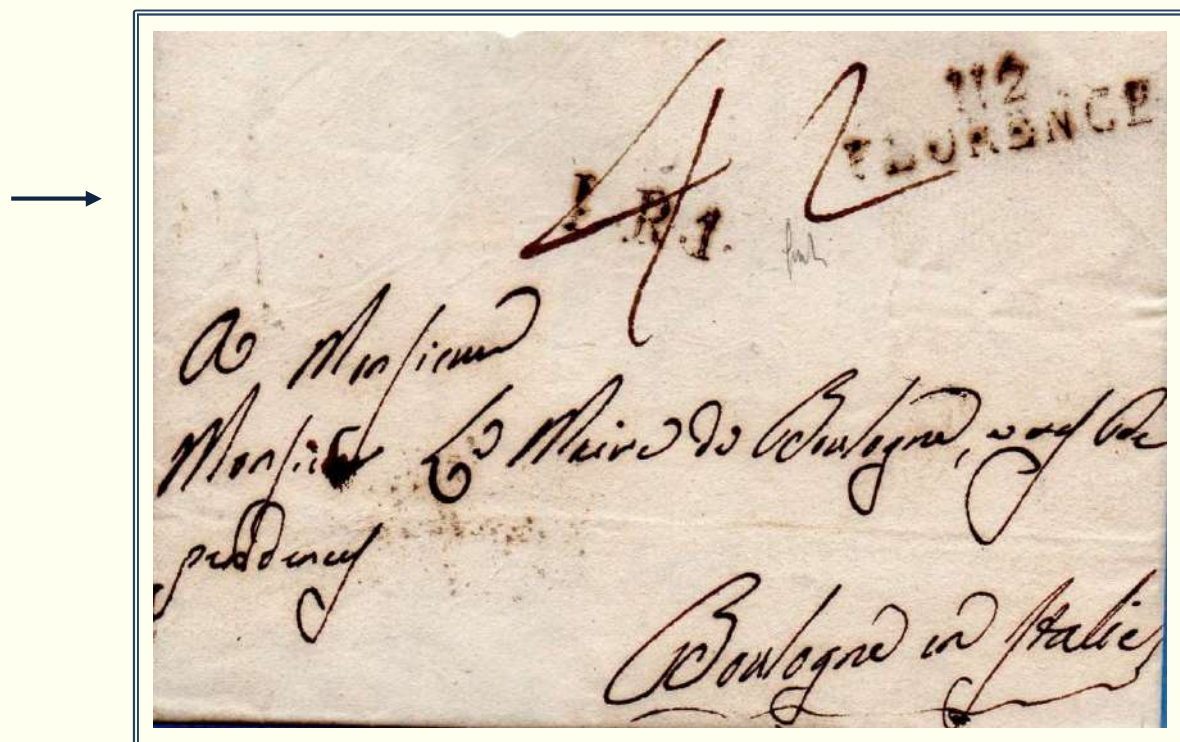


The stamp of accounting **L.R. 1 - Lettre Rayon 1** was struck on departure on both letters.



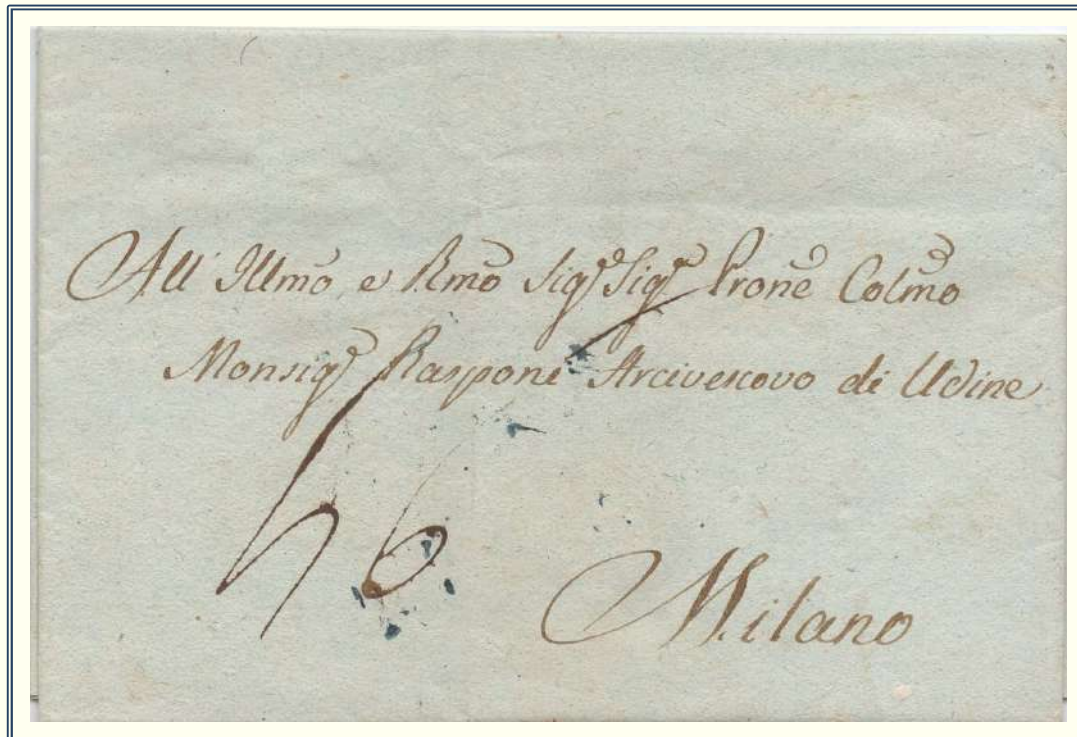
**21<sup>st</sup> December 1809.** From Florence (Conquered Department of Arno, part of French Empire) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 28 Cents.

The rare stamp of control **B**, in use up to 1810, was struck on arrival.



**3<sup>rd</sup> May 1809.** From Florence (Conquered Department of Arno, part of French Empire) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Triple rate letter, weight ½ ounce: 42 Cents. The letter was sent from Florence on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1809 (fourth period) but arrived in Bologna on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1809 (fifth period). On the front the stamp of accounting **L.R. 1, Lettre Rayon 1.**

The letters coming from Rome had to be considered as from non neighbouring provinces because the Department of Tevere was not next to the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy. However many letters were taxed like coming from neighbouring provinces, as the two letters below.

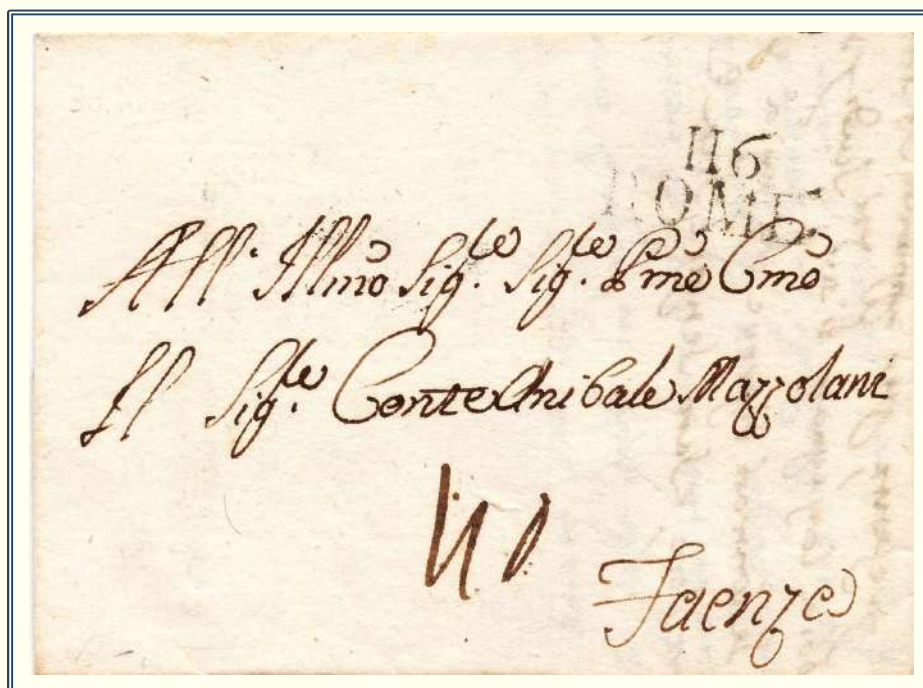


**24<sup>th</sup> October 1809.** From Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire) to Milan (Department of Olona). Fourth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 56 Cents.



**7<sup>th</sup> March 1810.** From Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire) to Recanati, near Macerata (Department of Musone). Fifth rate letter, weight 6/8 of ounce: 70 Cents.





**30<sup>th</sup> July 1810.** From Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire) to Faenza, near Bologna (Department of Reno). Single rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce: 40 Cents.



**30<sup>th</sup> July 1810.** From Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire) to Macerata (Department of Musone). Double rate letter, weight 3/8 of ounce: 44 Cents.

#### Fourth period

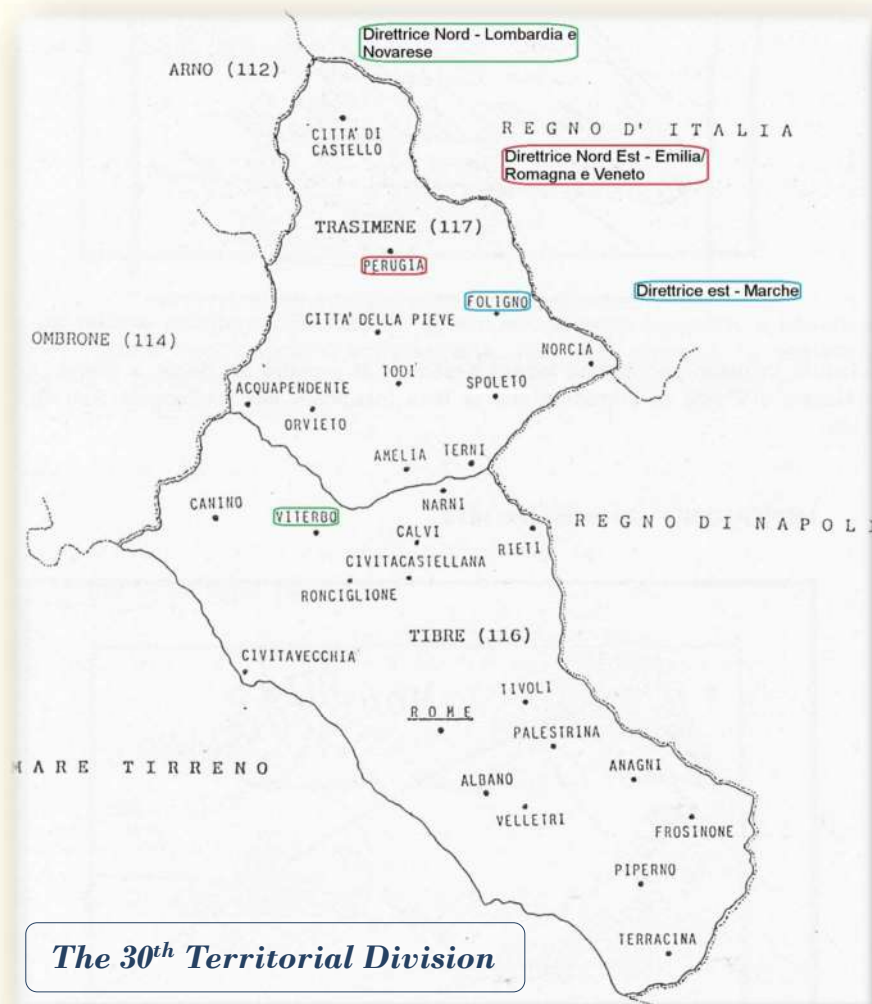
1<sup>st</sup> May 1809 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1811

#### 4.12 - Letters from non neighbouring provinces and foreign States

The stamp **30<sup>ME</sup>/DIVISION** did not have a military meaning, but it certified a civil relationship between the territories of 30<sup>th</sup> Division and those of the Kingdom of Italy. It was placed in the stations of exchange, in this case in Foligno, deputy for East direction (Marche).



**8<sup>th</sup> October 1810.** From Amelia (Conquered Department of Trasimeno, part of French Empire) to Macerata (Department of Musone). Fourth rate letter, weight 5/8 of ounce: 80 Cents. On the front another sign of fee, L. 3,20, probably the total amount to be collected for all the letters that are part of the same envelope.



*The 30<sup>th</sup> Territorial Division*

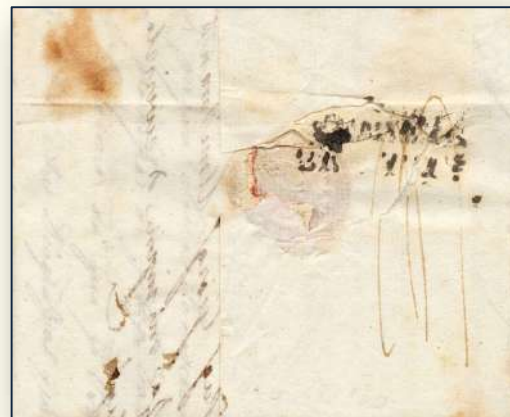


#### Fourth period

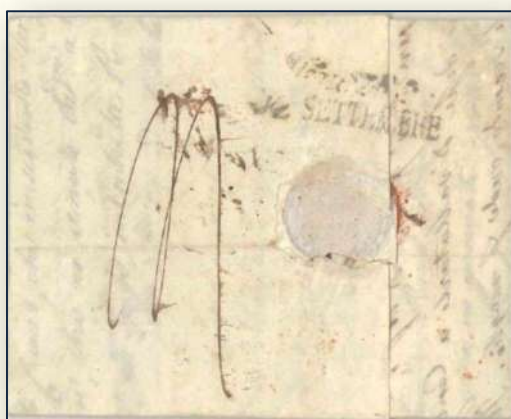
1<sup>st</sup> May 1809 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1811

#### 4.12 - Letters from non neighbouring provinces and foreign States

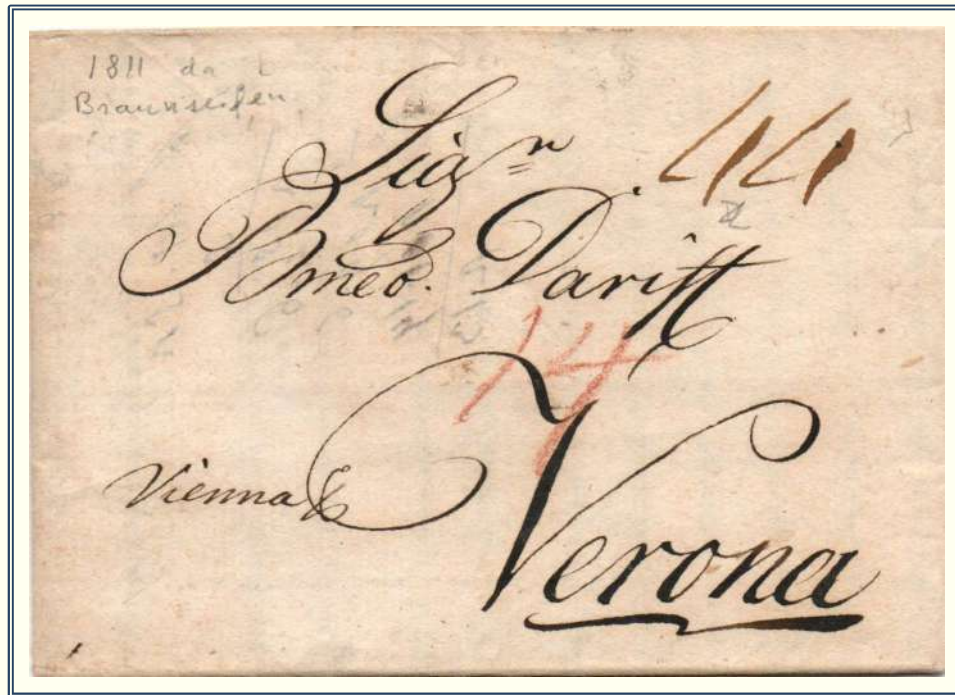
On the front of both letters the uncommon stamp **P.P./TRIESTE/ILLYRIE**, struck on departure.



**18<sup>th</sup> October 1810.** From Trieste (Illyrian Provinces – French Empire) to Venezia (Department of Adriatico). On departure prepaid rate **P.P./TRIESTE/ILLYRIE** letter sent a distance between 100/200 kms., weight between 6-8 gr.: 4 Décimes, written on the back. 40 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a first rate letter, weight 1/4 of ounce.



**10<sup>th</sup> September 1810.** From Trieste (Illyrian Provinces – French Empire) to Venezia (Department of Adriatico). On departure prepaid rate **P.P./TRIESTE/ILLYRIE** letter sent a distance between 100/200 kms., weight between 6-8 gr.: 4 Décimes, written on the back. 44 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a double rate letter, weighting 3/8 of ounce.



**22<sup>nd</sup> March 1811.** From Braunseiffen (Moravia – Austrian Empire) to Verona (Department of Adige). Prepaid **14 Kreuzer** to the Austrian Empire border via Vienna. 44 cents were charged on delivery, as required for a double rate letter, weighting 3/8 of ounce.



**11<sup>th</sup> June 1811.** From Trieste (Illyrian Provinces – French Empire) to Forlì (Department of Rubicone). No amount paid on departure because the sender enjoyed the free frank, as the oval mark with eagle shows. 80 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a fifth rate letter, weighting 5/8 of ounce. The letter was taxed on delivery because the Prefect of Department not enjoyed the free franks for letters from abroad. On the front of letters the uncommon stamp **TRIESTE/ILLYRIE**, struck on departure.



#### Fourth period

1<sup>st</sup> May 1809 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1811

#### 4.12 - Letters from non neighbouring provinces and foreign States

The Neapolitan stamp **AGDP** means **Amministrazione Generale delle Poste** (General Post Office Administration) and it was struck on front of the letters when they had to be charged.

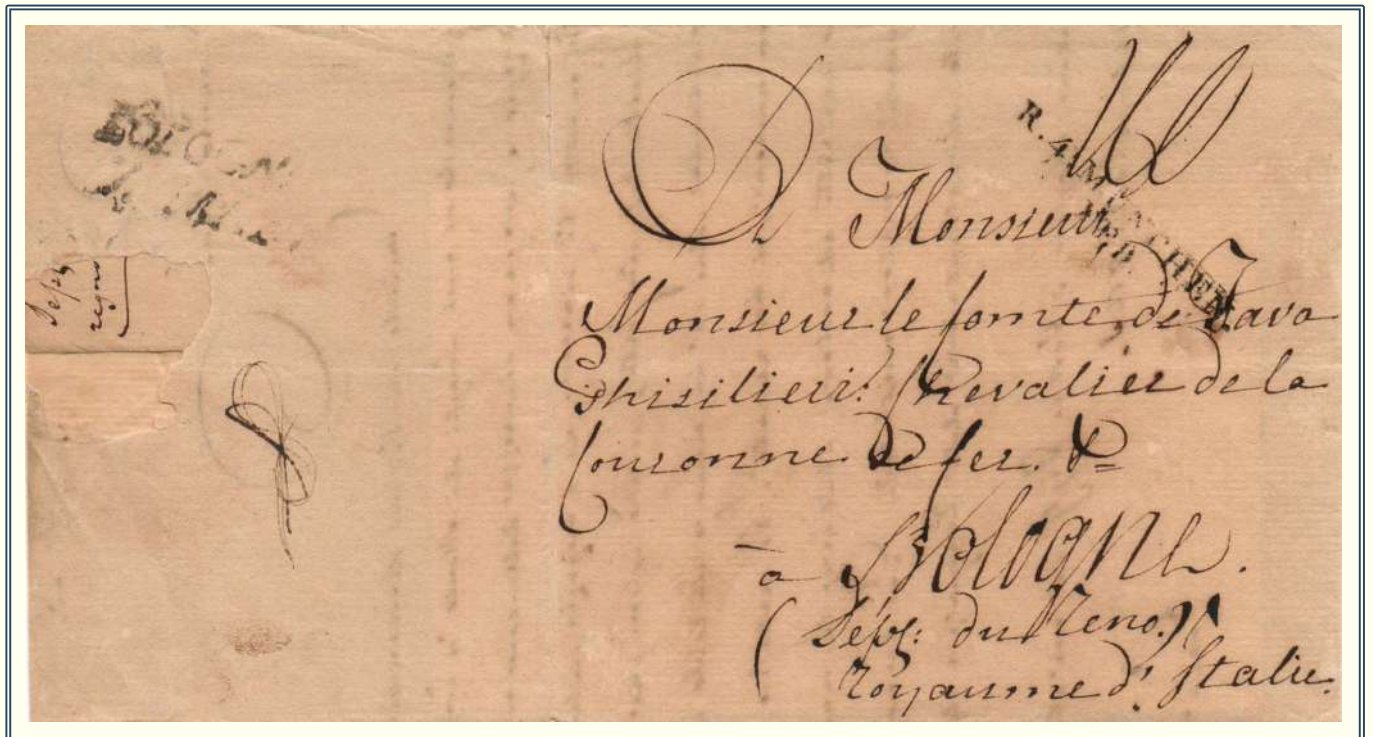


**12<sup>th</sup> September 1809.** From Barletta, near Bari (Kingdom of Naples) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Prepaid **10 Grana** (written on the back) up to the Kingdom of Naples border via Naples, as confirmed by the Neapolitan stamp **AGDP**. 80 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a fourth rate letter, weighting  $\frac{5}{8}$  of ounce.



**22<sup>nd</sup> August 1809.** From Barletta, near Bari (Kingdom of Naples) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Prepaid **6 grana** (written on the back) up to the Kingdom of Naples border via Naples, as confirmed by the Neapolitan stamp **AGDP**. 120 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a sixth rate letter, weighting  $\frac{7}{8}$  of ounce.





**28<sup>th</sup> January 1810.** From Fulda (Grand Duchy of Frankfurt) to Bologna (Department of Reno). Prepaid 8 Rh. Kr. written on the back. 160 Cents were charged on delivery, as required for a eighth rate letter, weight 1 1/8 ounce. On the front transit stamp **R. 4 MÜNCHEN** (Rayon 4 München).



**28<sup>th</sup> March 1810.** From Altona, near Hamburg (Conquered Department part of French Empire) to Verona (Department of Adige). Prepaid **17 Shilling** written on the back. 1,8 Lira was charged on delivery, as required for an eighth rate letter, weight 1 3/8 ounce. On the front transit stamp **R. 4 HAMBURG** (Rayon 4 Hamburg).



In this period the Decree nr. 123 dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 1805 has been in force up to March 1810. It established exactly which authorities had right to the exemption and the Mayors had not right to exemption. However it's no so uncommon to find letters with no taxation, as the following example shows.



**23<sup>th</sup> September 1809.** From Osimo to Castelfidardo, both villages near Ancona. Letter sent by the Mayor of Osimo to Mayor of Castelfidardo. The handwritten word **D'Uff.** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Mayors had no rights, because it was not listed in the decree. So the letter should have been taxed.



**10<sup>th</sup> January 1810.** From Macerata to Loreto, near Ancona. Letter sent by Prefect of Department of Musone to Mayor of Loreto. On the front the stamp of mark **PREFETTURA DEL MUSONE** and the handwritten word **D'Uff** indicating the right of exemption.

On 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810 the Decree nr. 65 was issued. This law is the only provision of the Napoleonic period enacted to regulate only the **franchise** and the **mark**. The legislation is very long (40 articles) and it is very complex, with a series really complicated to understand and then to be applied, moreover it increases the number of authorities enjoying franchise and mark.



... **August 1810**. From Milan to Reggio. Letter sent by the Minister for the Treasury to Director of Finance in Reggio. **Pressantissima** (Very urgent). The Minister enjoyed the unlimited mark, while the Director of Finance enjoyed the franchise for letters sent by the Ministers. On the front, the oval mark **Ministro/del/Tesoro**, with the handwritten word **D'Uff<sup>o</sup>**.



**11<sup>th</sup> September 1810**. From Reggio to Bibbiano, near Reggio. Letter sent by the Prefect of Department of Crostolo to Mayor of Bibbiano. The Prefect enjoyed the limited mark, while the Mayor enjoyed the franchise for letters sent by the Prefects. On the front, the oval mark **Prefetto/DEL CROSTOLO/34**.



The concepts of **limited franchise and mark, franchise "under wrapper"** were introduced, under which the franchise and the mark were extended to a number of individuals and publications that were excluded in the previous decree. The wrapper means the grouping, with two crossed strips of paper, fastened by wax, with in which the letters were enclosed.



**14<sup>th</sup> June 1811.** From Recanati to the town, near Macerata. Letter sent by the Mayor of Recanati to the Cantonal military conscription Commission in Recanati. Both enjoyed the limited free frank to the correspondence between them. On the front, the handwritten word **D'Uff.** indicating the right of exemption.

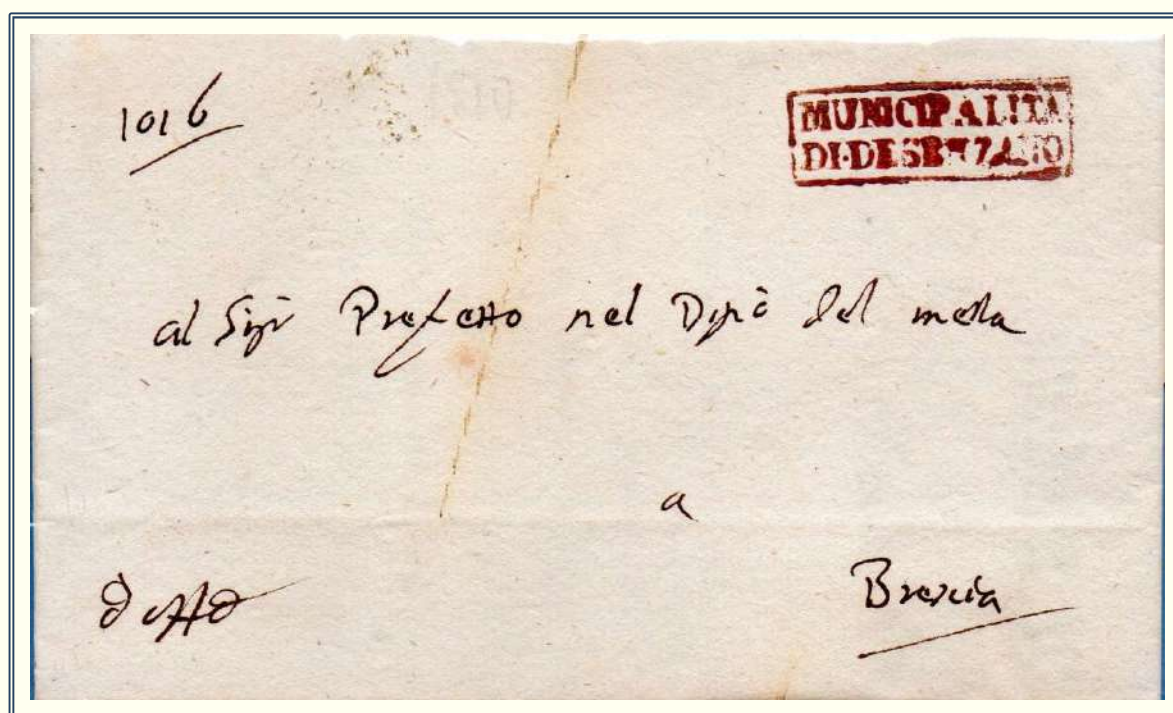


**29<sup>th</sup> January 1811.** From San Ginesio to Camporotondo, both villages near Macerata. Letter sent by the Mayor of San Ginesio to the Mayor of Camporotondo. Both enjoyed the limited free frank "under wrapper" to the correspondence between them. On the front, the handwritten word **D'Uff.** indicating the right of exemption.

The letters were delivered to the director of the post office who verified every right to the franchise; he put on the cachet of the post office and then closed again the letters under wrapper, writing in the middle of the band the common destination. In order to provide to the distribution, the wrappers were almost all torn, thrown, and consequently lost.



**5<sup>th</sup> February 1811.** From Modena to Fanano, near Modena. Letter sent by the Prefect of Department of Panaro to Mayor of Fanano. The Prefect enjoyed the limited mark, while the Mayor enjoyed the franchise for letters sent by the Prefects. On the front, the oval mark **Prefetto/DEL PANARO/35**.



**26<sup>th</sup> October 1810.** From Desenzano, Garda Lake, to Brescia. Letter sent by the township of Desenzano to the Prefect of Department of Mella. The township enjoyed the limited mark for letters sent to the Prefects. while the Prefect enjoyed the franchise. On the front, the handwritten word **D'Uff.º** indicating the right of exemption.



By the "n. 119 Decree on the fee of the letters" on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1811 all tariff setting was again restored and well conformed to that applied throughout the French Empire. In fact, the art. 16 of the Finance Act on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1811, mentioned in the decree, stated: "**The tax of the letters will be settled in the kingdom according to the rules and prices in the empire**".

Under the new legislation, the calculation of distances, first based on conventional distances between a department and the other, was made in kilometres, according to the shortest path really travelled by couriers and pedestrians, always divided into eight distance bands (Art. 1 of the Decree).

**The metric system was introduced in the weights, moving from ounces to grams**, with the grouping of the weight ranges (reduced from eight to five), the reduction of the intervals of weight, and a further fee increase that greatly penalized the longer distances, compared to the previous pricing. In addition, the rates were rounded up to the higher decimal, according to art. 3 (for example: the double rate letter sent in first distance: 22 cents the rate provided for in the table, 30 cents the fee charged) and written in Décimes. For registered letters the cost was twice the rate of ordinary letters (Article 7 of the Decree). The Act was implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1811.

Weight in g.		Rates in cents of Italian Lira						
0 - 6	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
6 – 8	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99
8 – 11	30	45	60	75	90	105	120	135
11 – 15	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180
15 – 20	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	235
Distances in km.	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth
	Up to 50	50–100	100–200	200-300	300-400	400-500	500-600	600-800
Below the rates to be paid every 5 grams over the 20 grams								
Chargé letters	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45
	Twice the rate of ordinary letters							

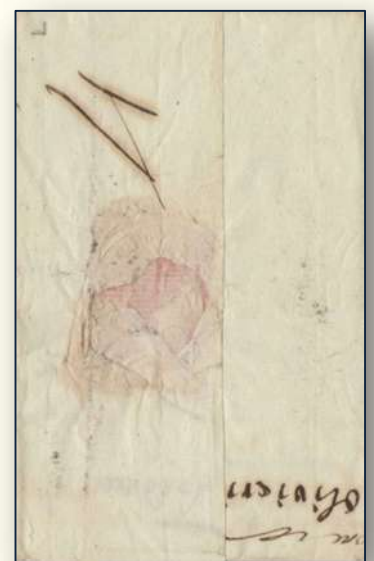
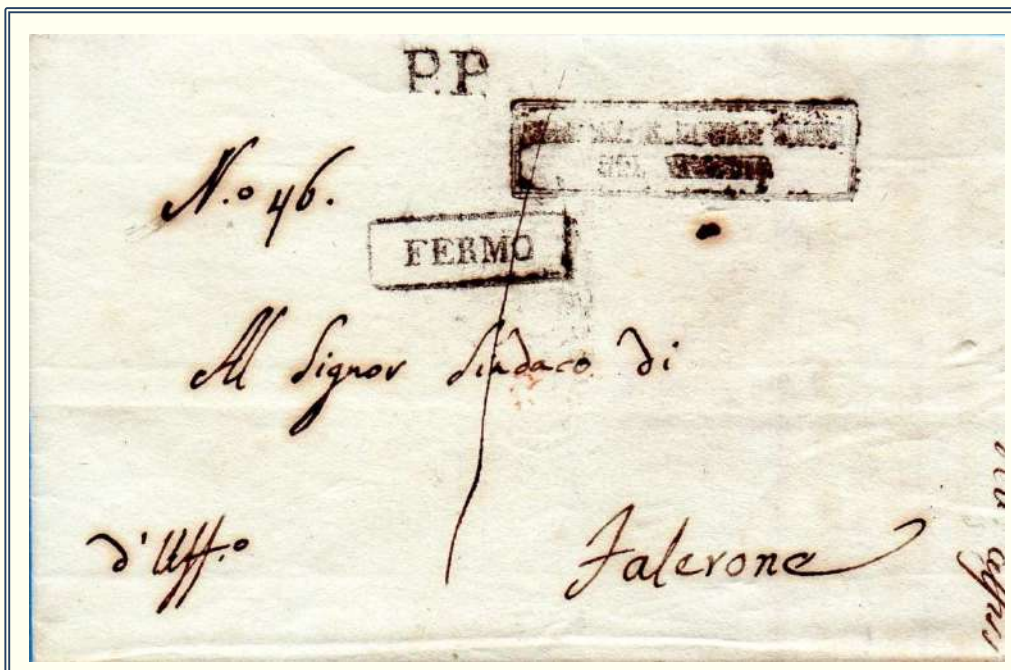
The rates which were applied to letters to and from abroad, were identical to those established for the interior, because the rates were uniform throughout the Empire (Article 4 of the Decree). A directive on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1811, signed by the General Manager of Post, Minonzi, established which were the post offices near the borders up to which the tax should be applied for the letters sent to Countries not part of the French Empire.



**9<sup>th</sup> October 1811.** From Toscolano, near Brescia, to Brescia. Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 2 Décimes. On departure the boxed stamp **Posta Gargnano**.



**4<sup>th</sup> December 1812.** From Trento, to Bolzano. Triple rate letter, weight between 8 and 11 grams: 3 Décimes.



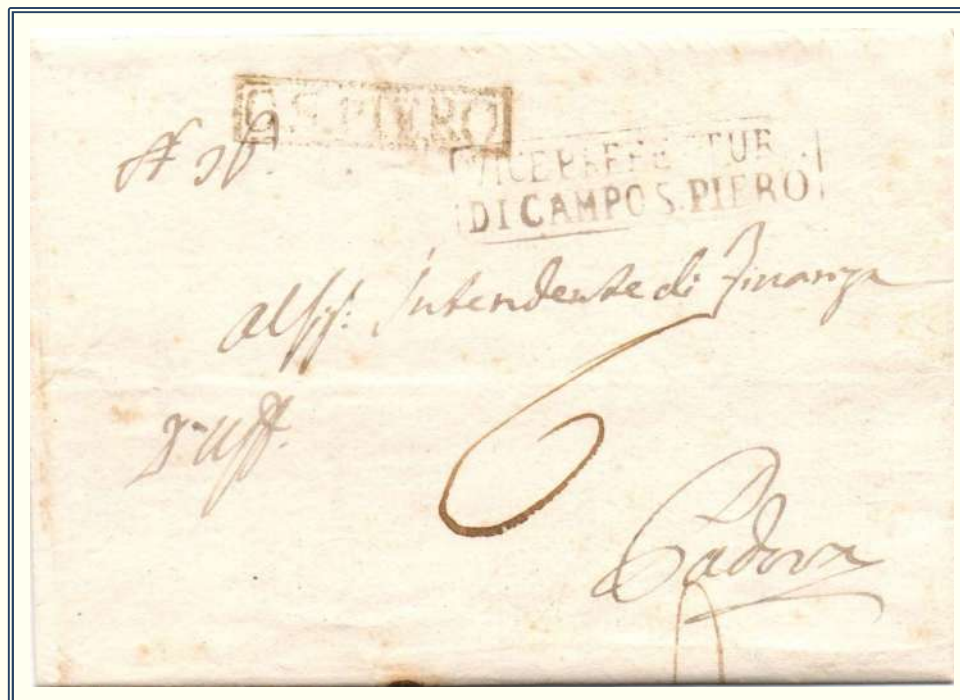
**18<sup>th</sup> July 1812.** From Fermo, near Ancona to Falerone. Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, fourth rate letter, weight between 11 and 15 grams: 4 Décimes, written on the back.





**17<sup>th</sup> February 1813.** From Chiozza, near Venice, to Loreo, near Rovigo. **Riservata e pressante** (Confidential and urgent). Fifth rate letter, weight between 15 and 20 grams: 5 Décimes.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.º** indicated the alleged right to the free frank. But the Judge of Peace enjoyed the exemption only for the letters received by the authorities who enjoyed the mark (Decree nr. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810). For this reason, the letter was taxed.



**7<sup>th</sup> January 1814.** From Camposampiero to Padua. Sixth rate letter, weight between 20 and 25 grams: 6 Décimes. 5 Décimes for first 20 grams + 1 Décimes for first 5 grams over 20 grams.

The handwritten word **D'Uff.º** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Tax Officer was entitled to the **limited free frank** to those letters received from officials, but **within its own department**, as prescribed by the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letter was taxed.



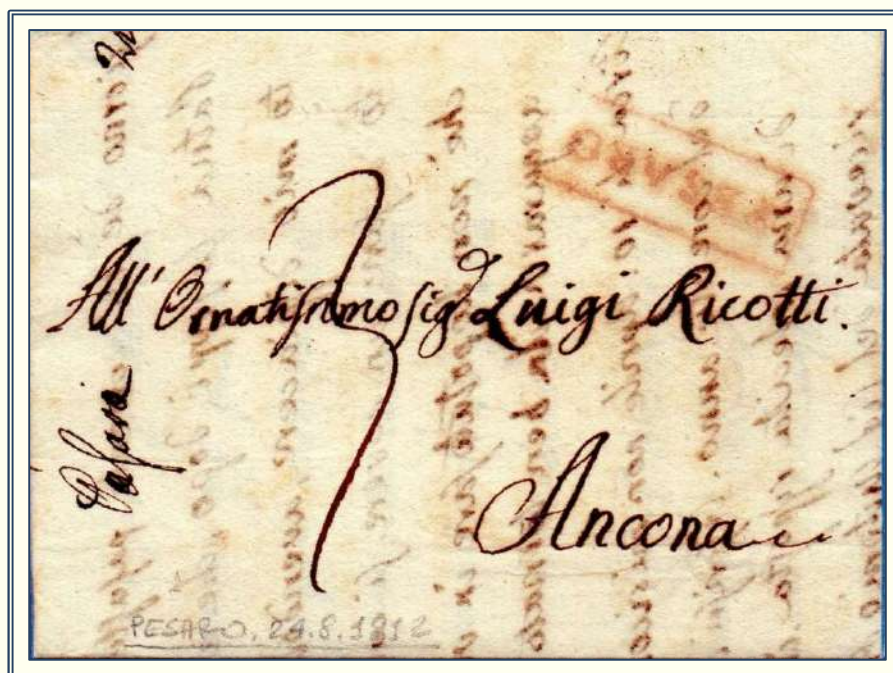
**22<sup>nd</sup> June 1813.** From Bologna to Lugo, near Ravenna. Prepaid rate Port Payé *P.P./BOLOGNA/D'ITALIA*, eighth rate letter, weight between 30 and 35 grams: 8 Décimes. 5 Décimes for first 20 grams + 3 Décimes (3 x 1 Décime) each 5 grams over 20 grams, written on the back.



**7<sup>th</sup> October 1812.** From Ariano to Ferrara. Ninth rate letter, weight between 35 and 40 grams: 9 Décimes. 5 Décimes for first 20 grams + 4 Décimes (4 x 1 Décime) each 5 grams over 20 grams. Initially the letter was rated 80 Cents, immediately canceled by some diagonal strokes of pen.

The letter was rated, despite the indication of the sender at the top of the letter and the word *D'Uff.*, because the sender did not enjoy the mark and the addressee did not enjoy the free frank.





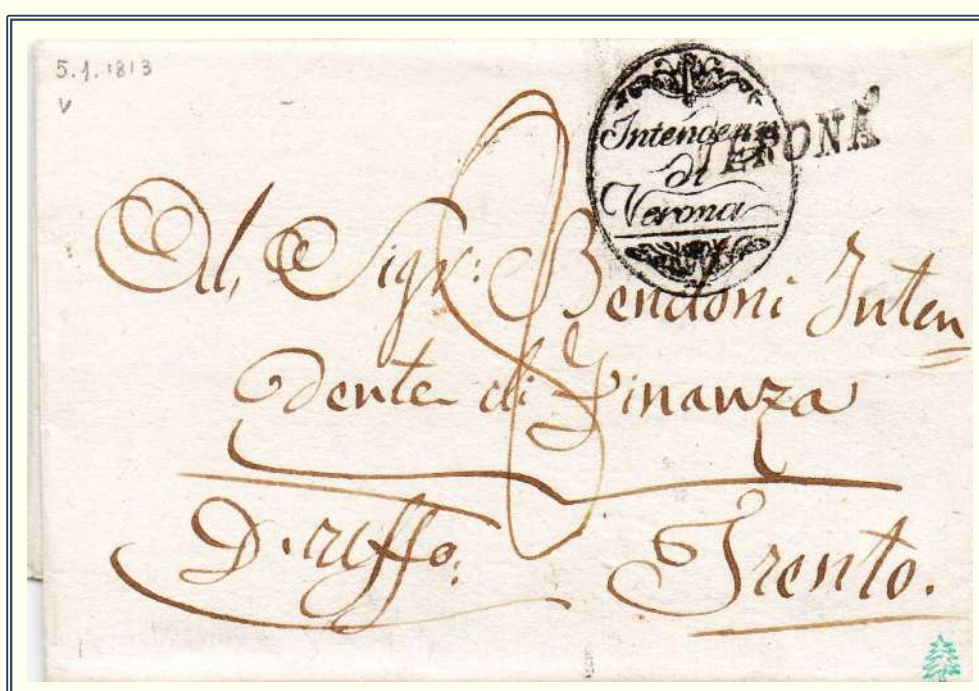
**24<sup>th</sup> August 1812.** From Pesaro to Ancona. Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 3 Décimes.



**27<sup>th</sup> February 1813.** From Monte Scudolo, near Republic of Saint Marino, to Forlì. Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 4 Décimes. On the front the rare stamp **MONTE SCUDOLO** in the first month of use.



**5<sup>th</sup> April 1813.** From Maniago, near Udine, to Treviso. Fourth rate letter, weight between 11 and 15 grams: 6 Décimes.



**5<sup>th</sup> January 1813.** From Verona to Trento. Fifth rate letter, weight between 15 and 20 grams: 8 Décimes (ex coll. Provera).

The handwritten word **D'Uffo** indicated the alleged right to the free frank, but the Tax Office was entitled to the **limited free frank** to those letters received from officials, but **within its own department**, as prescribed by the decree n. 65 dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1810. For this reason the letter was taxed.

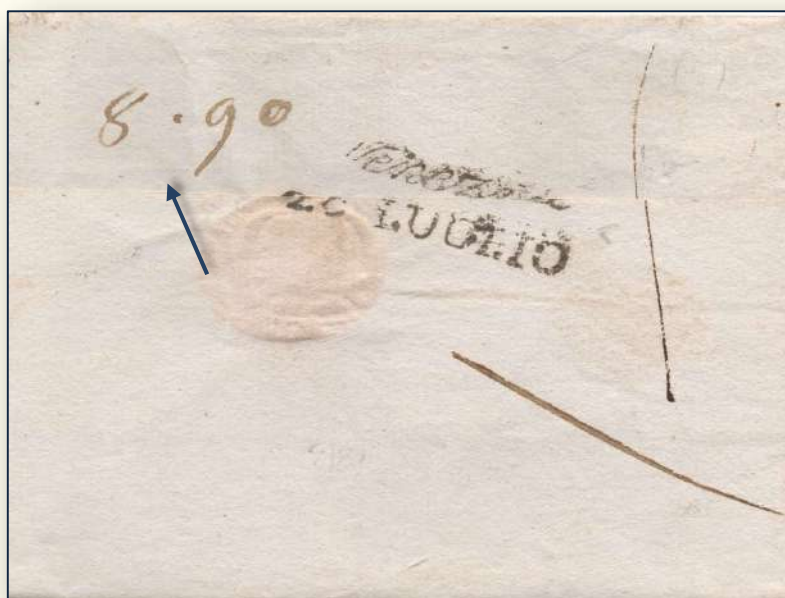
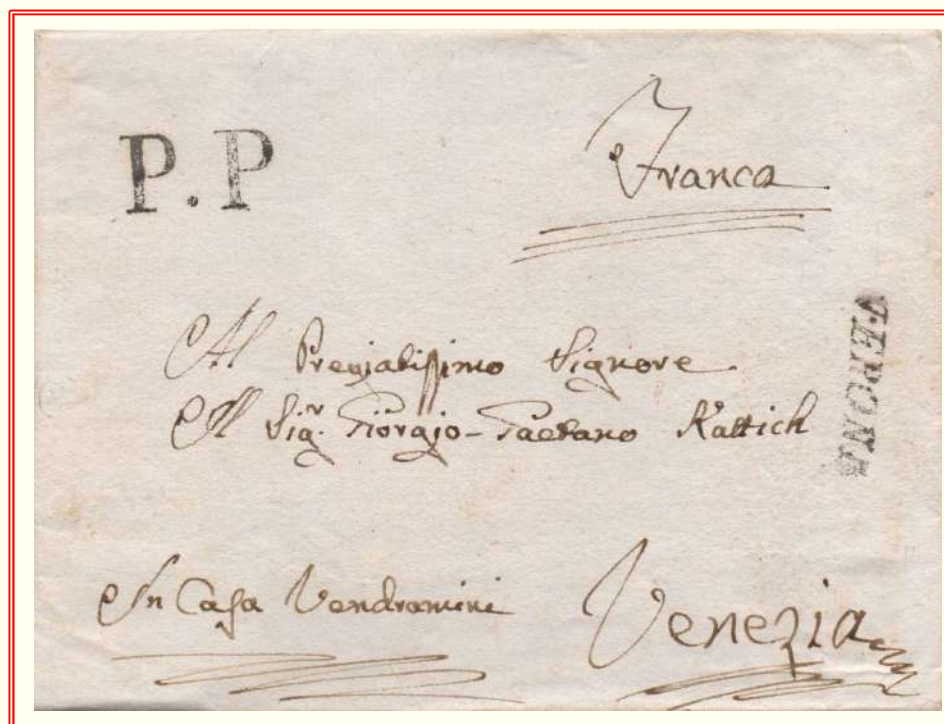




**14<sup>th</sup> August 1811.** From Cagli, near Urbino, to Ancona. Sixth rate letter, weight 25 grams: 9 Décimes. 75 Cents first 20 grams + 15 Cents the first 5 grams over 20 grams. On the front the transit boxed stamp **FANO**.



**3<sup>rd</sup> April 1812.** From Comacchio, near Ravenna, to Ferrara. Eighth rate letter, weight 35 grams: Italian Lire 1,20. 75 Cents first 20 grams + 45 Cents (3 x 15 Cents) each 5 grams over 20 grams.



**24<sup>th</sup> July 1813.** From Verona to Venezia. Prepaid rate Port Payé **P . P**, 59<sup>th</sup> rate letter, weight 290 grams: 75 Cents first 20 grams + 810 Cents (54 x 15 Cents) each 5 grams over 20 grams = Italian Lire 8,85 Cents, rounded up to the higher decimal as required by postal rules, Italian Lire 8,90, written on the back.

The letter was so heavy because into it there was another letter, as it's described in the text:

*"Eccole adunque copia legale della predetta lettera, che io ho creduto bene, ....., di produrla in atti notarili,...."*

*"Here copy of the letter above mentioned, and I thought that would be good, ....., to send you in the form of a notarial deed ....."*



**9<sup>th</sup> September 1813.** From Verona to Venice. Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 4 Décimes.



**26<sup>th</sup> April 1814 - the last day of Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy.**

From Verona to Milan. Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 45 Cents. By the postal law, the rate should be rounded up to the higher decimal. This peculiarity is to be attributed to the political situation of the moment: Napoleon the first resigned on April 11<sup>th</sup>, and Eugène de Beauharnais abdicated on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**21<sup>st</sup> August 1811.** From Padua to Brescia. Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 5 Décimes.





**26<sup>th</sup> June 1812.** From Venice to Udine **Per Espresso**. Triple rate letter at first sent to place in third distance (Udine), weight between 8 and 11 grams: 6 Décimes. Then the letter was redirected via Sacile to Bibone, place in second distance from Udine. 4 Décimes for this second sending. The fee was 33 Cents, but it has been rounded up to the higher decimal, as required by postal rules.



**2<sup>nd</sup> January 1812.** From Bologna to Milan. Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P./BOLOGNA/D'ITALIA**, fourth rate letter, weight between 11 and 15 grams: 8 Décimes, written on the back. On the front double diagonal lines indicated that the letter was free of charge for the addressee.





**19<sup>th</sup> February 1810.** From Fano, near Pesaro, to Modena. Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 50 Cents, written on the back. On arrival boxed stamp **22/MODENA FEBBRAIO**.



**19<sup>th</sup> October 1812.** From Milan to Roveredo, near Trento. Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 6 Décimes.



... **November 1811**. From Venice to Milan. Prepaid rate Port Payé **PP**, triple rate letter, weight between 8 and 11 grams: 8 Décimes, written on the back. On the front double diagonal lines indicated that the letter was free of charge for the addressee.

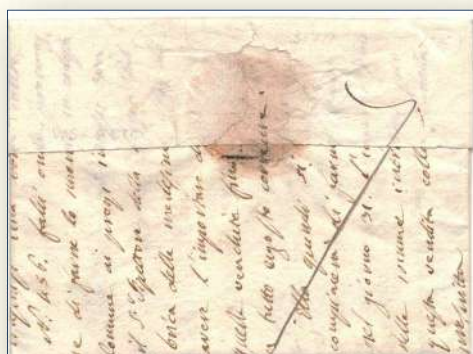


**7<sup>th</sup> July 1813**. From Mantua to Venice. Fourth rate letter, weight between 11 and 15 grams: 10 Décimes (1 Italian Lira).

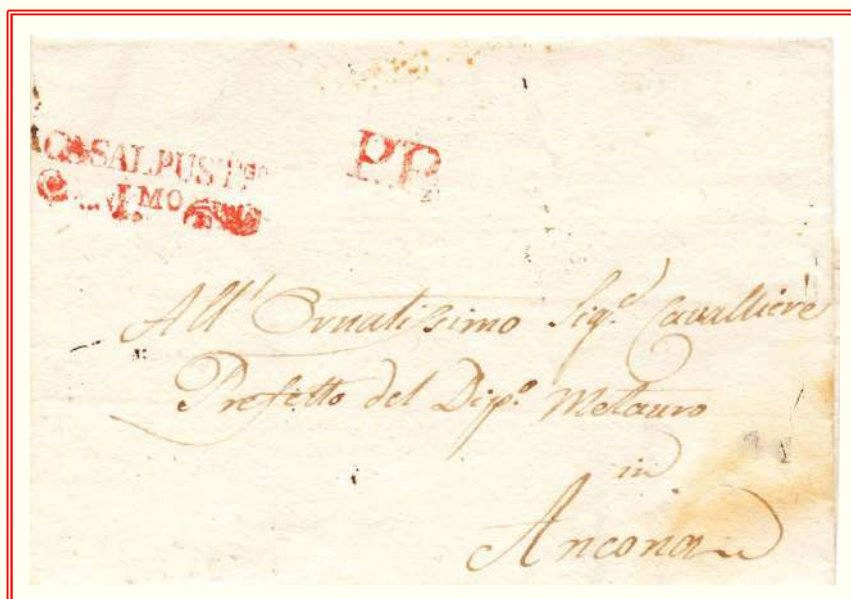




**7<sup>th</sup> July 1813.** From Milan to Ferrara. Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 6 Décimes. Initially rated for 5 Décimes, as a letter to be sent to a place in fourth distance, then the rate was immediately delated, and it was rated for 6 Décimes.



**31<sup>st</sup> July 1811.** From Bergamo to Chioggia, near Venezia. Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.**, double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 7 Décimes, written on the back. On the front double diagonal lines and the handwritten word **Franca** indicated that the letter was free of charge for the addressee.

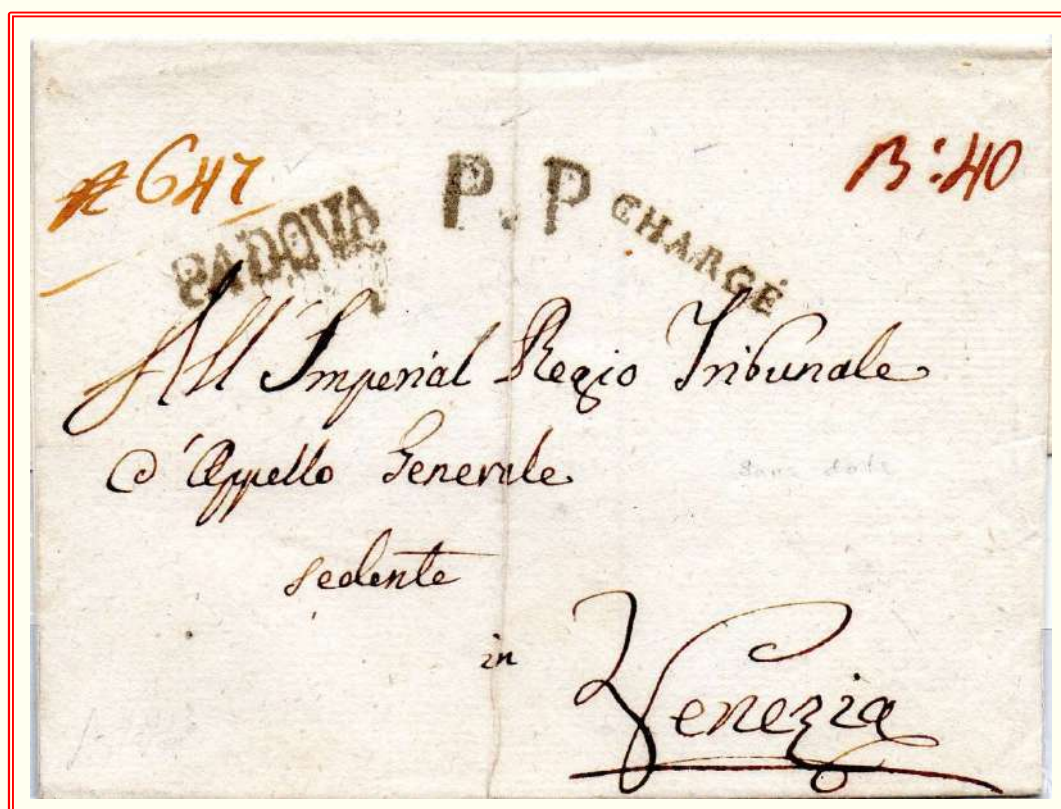
**Fifth period****1<sup>st</sup> July 1811 – 26<sup>th</sup> April 1814****5.6 – Sixth distance letters****5.7 – Seventh distance letters**

**17<sup>th</sup> March 1813.** From Casalpusterlengo, near Milan, to Ancona. Prepaid rate Port Payé **P.P.** (the rare stamp in the first months of use), single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 7 Décimes, written on the back.



**22<sup>nd</sup> May 1813.** From Milan to Camerino, near Macerata. Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 8 Décimes. Transit stamp **MACERATA 26 MAG.º**.





..... **1813.** From Padua to Venice. Prepaid rate Port Payé *P.P.*, seventeenth rate registered letter *CHARGÉ*, weight 80 grams: 3 Italian Lire and 40 Cents.

- 50 Cents first 20 grams;

- 1,20 Italian Lira (12 x 10 Cents) each 5 grams over 20 grams;

Total ordinary rate: 1 Italian Lira and 70 Cents.

The registered rate was the twice of the ordinary rate: 3 Italian Lire and 40 Cents, as indicated on the front of the letter.

For letters **sent to Switzerland** the rate was calculated from place of departure up to Como.



**17<sup>th</sup> May 1812.** From Milan to Bellinzona (Canton of Ticino). Triple rate letter sent to Switzerland, weight between 8 and 11 grams: 3 Décimes up to Como. **4 Soldi** were charged on delivery for Swiss dues.



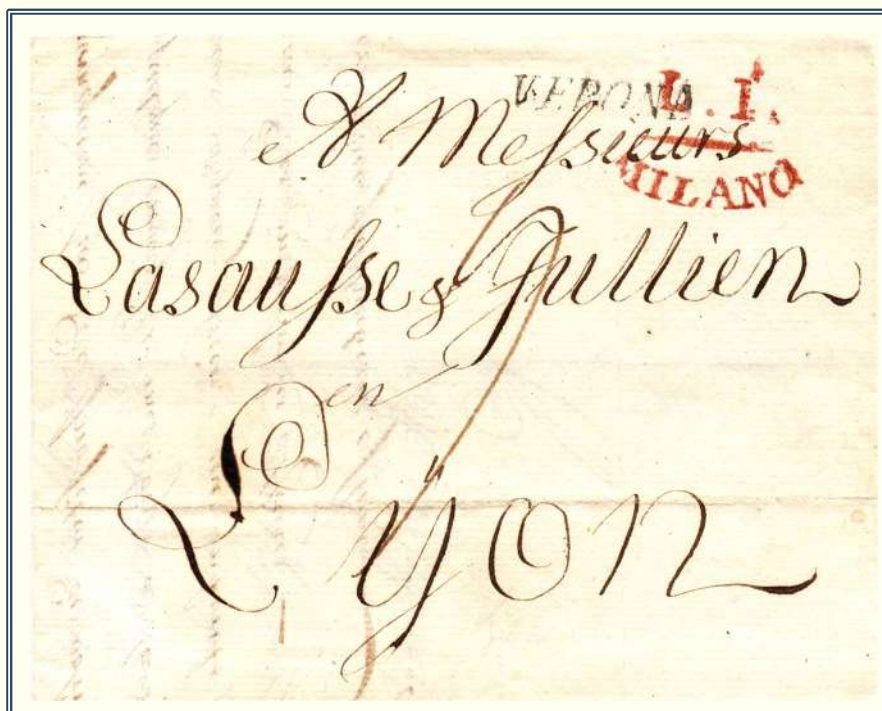
**8<sup>th</sup> July 1812.** From Milan to Svitto (Canton of Schwytz). Fourth rate letter sent to Switzerland, weight between 11 and 15 grams: 4 Décimes up to Como. **10 Soldi** were charged on delivery for Swiss dues.



For letters **sent to French Empire** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to destination.  
The stamp **L.I./MILANO** was struck on both letters in Milan.



**6<sup>th</sup> January 1812.** From Legnago, near Verona, to Saint Germier (French Empire). Single rate letter sent to a distance between 500 and 600 km., weight between 0 and 6 grams: 8 Décimes. On the front, the stamp **R.<sup>AUME</sup> D'ITALIE PAR CHAMBERY** showing the post office where the letter was exchange.

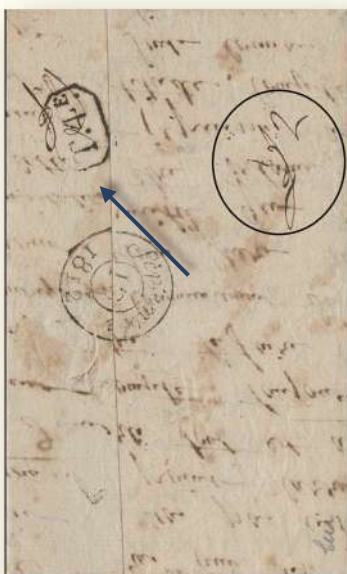


**5<sup>th</sup> May 1812.** From Verona, to Lyon (French Empire). Single rate letter sent to a distance between 600 and 800 km., weight between 0 and 6 grams: 9 Décimes.



**1<sup>st</sup> October 1813.** From Udine to Saint Martin, near Montpellier (French Empire). Triple rate letter sent to a distance between 1.000 and 1.200 km., weight between 8 and 11 grams: 17 Décimes.

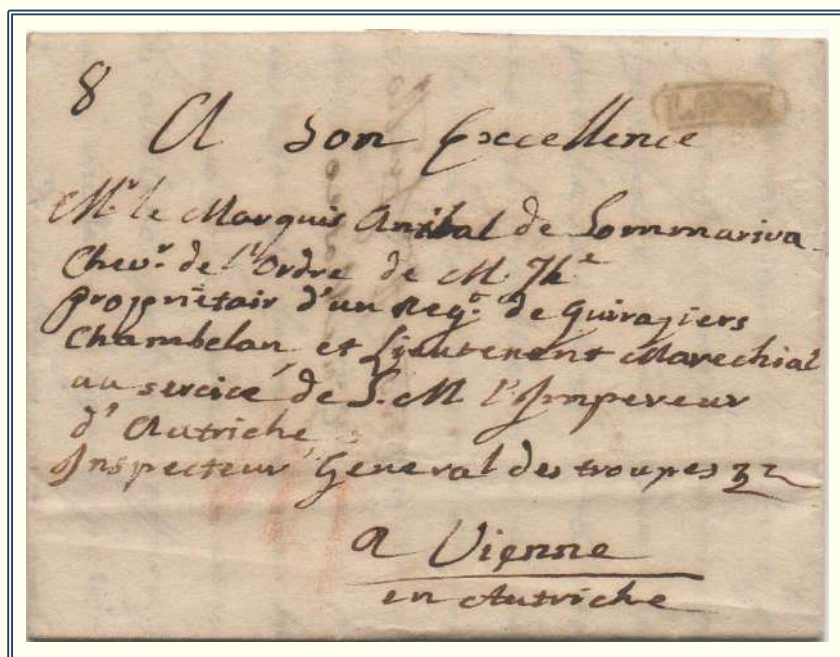
The exact fee would have been 165 cents, rounded up to 17 décimes Italian Lire, according to postal rules.



**9<sup>th</sup> September 1812.** From Milan to Paris (French Empire). Prepaid rate Port Payé **MILANO/P.P.**, triple rate letter, weight between 8 and 11 grams: 2 Italian Lire, written on the back. The exact fee would have been 195 Cents, rounded up to 2 Italian Lire, according to postal rules. On the back, put on arrival, the boxed stamp **T.4<sup>E</sup>**, indicating the town distribution post office.



For letters **sent to Austrian Empire** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to Udine.



**12<sup>th</sup> January 1812.** From Lodi (near Milan) to Vienna (Austrian Empire). Double rate letter sent to Austrian Empire, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 8 Décimes. The exact fee would have been 77 cents, rounded up to 8 décimes Italian Lire, according to postal rules. **14 Kreuzer** was charged on delivery.

For letters **sent to Duchy of Lucca and Leghorn** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to Bologna

In 1806 the former Duchy of Massa - Carrara and Garfagnana, already included in the Kingdom of Italy, were ceded to the Principality of Lucca and Piombino. Although the Duchy was governed by Elisa Bonaparte Baciocchi, Napoleon's sister, it never became a department of the Empire, but retained its autonomy.



**22<sup>nd</sup> July 1811.** From Padua to Massa di Carrara (Duchy of Lucca and Leghorn, not French Empire as indicated on the letter). Single rate letter sent to a distance between 400 and 500 km., Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 7 Décimes.

For letters **sent to Kingdom of Naples** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to Bologna.



**8<sup>th</sup> May 1812.** From Reggio to Naples. Fourth rate letter sent to Kingdom of Naples, weight between 11 and 15 grams: 40 Cents up to Bologna. On arrival two stamps were put on: **AGDP, Amministrazione Generale delle Poste** and boxed cachet of control **L**.

For letters **sent to Ligurian Departments** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to destination.



**9<sup>th</sup> October 1811.** From Milan to Genoa (Conquered Department of Genova, part of French Empire). Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 40 Cents. 14 Décimes were charged on delivery in Genoa. On the front, the stamp **R.<sup>AUME</sup> D'ITALIE/PAR/GENES** indicating the station of exchange of letter and the stamp **L.I./MILANO**.



**Fifth period****1<sup>st</sup> July 1811 – 26<sup>th</sup> April 1814****5.9 - Letters sent abroad**

For letters **sent to Piedmont Departments** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to destination. On the front of both letters, the stamp **R.<sup>AUME</sup> D'ITALIE PAR VERCEIL** indicating the post office where the letter was exchange and the stamp **L.T./MILANO**, showing the route of the letter by way of Milan.



**13<sup>th</sup> May 1813.** From Milan to Vercelli (Conquered Department of Sesia, part of French Empire). Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 3 Décimes.



**17<sup>th</sup> August 1811.** From Pontevico, near Brescia, to Casale, near Vercelli (Conquered Department of Marengo, part of French Empire). Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 5 Décimes.

For letters **sent to Tuscany and Rome** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to Bologna.

**13<sup>th</sup> December 1813.** From Milan to Florence (Conquered Department of Arno, part of French Empire). Single rate letter, weight between 0 to 6 grams: 5 Décimes up to Bologna. 5 Décimes were charged on delivery in Florence.



**4<sup>th</sup> March 1813.** From Loreto, near Ancona, to Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire). Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 6 Décimes of Italian Lira up to Bologna. 2 Décimes were charged on delivery in Rome.

For letters **sent to Department of Taro** the fee was calculated from place of departure up to destination.

**6<sup>th</sup> January 1812.** From Ancona, to Parme (Conquered Department of Taro, part of French Empire). Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 5 Décimes. 8 Décimes were charged on delivery in Parme. On the front, the stamp **R. AUME D'ITALIE PAR PLAISANCE** showing the post office where the letter was exchange and the stamp **L.T./MILANO**, indicating the route of the letter by way of Milan.







**5<sup>th</sup> October 1811.** From Salzburg (Kingdom of Bavaria, part of Rhenish Confederation) to Verona. Single rate letter sent from Austrian Empire, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 4 Décimes charged on delivery in Verona. 12 Kreuzer was charged on departure up to Kingdom of Italy border, written on the back.



**28<sup>th</sup> July 1811.** From Augsburg (Kingdom of Bavaria, part of Rhenish Confederation) to Roveredo, now Rovereto, near Trento. Single rate letter sent from Confederation of Rhine, weight between 0 and 6 grams: 4 Décimes charged on delivery in Roveredo. 8 Rn. Kr. was charged on departure for the Austro-German due, written on the back.



**30<sup>th</sup> January 1813.** From Aquila (Kingdom of Naples) to Mantua. Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams: 8 Décimes charged on delivery in Mantua. No indication of any Naples fee collected on departure.



**10<sup>th</sup> July 1811.** From Fleurier (Canton of Neuchâtel) to Verona.

6 Décimes were charged on delivery, as required for a triple rate letter sent from Switzerland, weight between 8 and 11 grams. On the back prepaid rate **9 Soldi** up to Kingdom of Italy border: **Franco Milan**. The rate **18 Soldi**, written on the back, probably indicates a total rate of a group of letters.



For letters **sent from the Conquered Departments** the fee was calculated from place of departure to destination.



**22<sup>nd</sup> February 1813.** From Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire) to Ancona.  
Single rate letter, weight between 0 and 6 grams, fourth distance: 5 Décimes.

The stamp **30<sup>ME</sup>/DIVISION** was placed in the stations of exchange, in this case in **Foligno, deputy for East direction (Marche)**.



**25<sup>th</sup> March 1812.** From Genève (Conquered Department of Lemano, part of French Empire) to Milan.  
Double rate letter, weight between 6 and 8 grams, fifth distance.; 7 Décimes charged on delivery. On the front,  
the stamp of accounting **L.R.2**, struck on departure.



**4<sup>th</sup> December 1812.** From Rome (Conquered Department of Tevere, part of French Empire) to Verona.  
Double rate letter, weight between 8 and 11 grams, sixth distance: 8 Décimes.

On the front, the stamp “**30<sup>ME</sup>/DIVISION**” was placed in the stations of exchange, in this case in **Perugia**, deputy for Nord-East direction (Emilia-Romagna and Veneto).



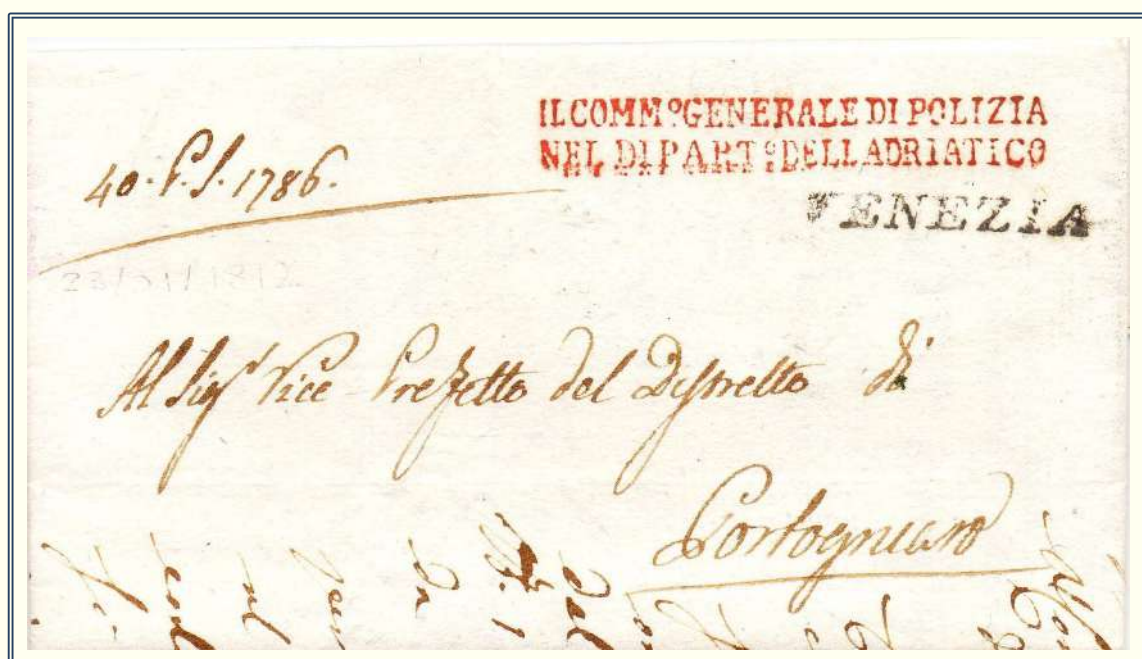
**28<sup>th</sup> February 1812.** From Voghera (Conquered Department of Marengo, part of French Empire), to Milano.  
Fifth rate letter, weight between 15 and 20 grams, first distance: 8 Décimes charged on delivery.  
On the front, the stamp of accounting **L.R. 1**, struck on departure.



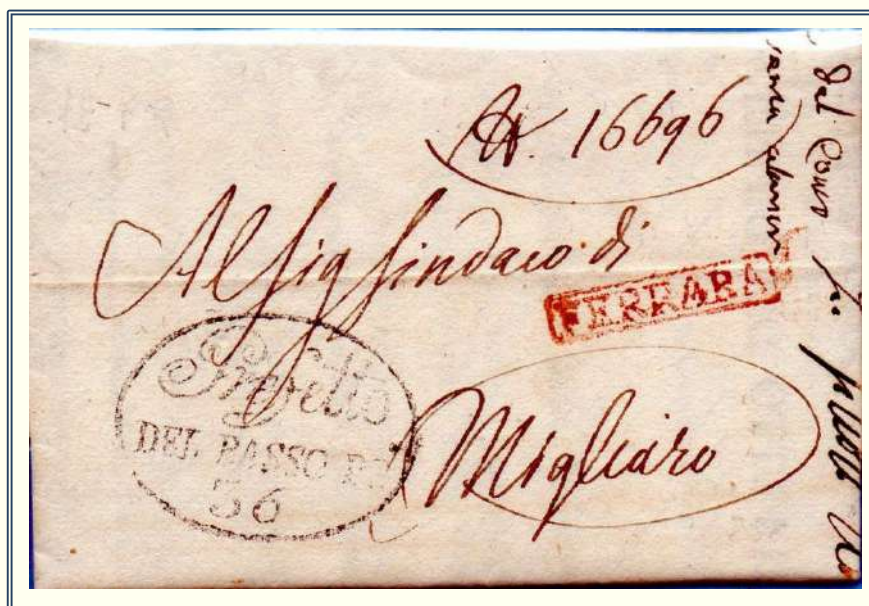
In this period the Decree nr. 65 4<sup>th</sup> dated April 1810 was still in force.



**12<sup>th</sup> May 1812.** From Milan to Venice. Letter sent by the Minister for the Treasury to Prefect of Department of Adriatico. The Minister enjoyed the unlimited mark, while the Prefects enjoyed the limited franchise. On the front, the oval mark **MINISTRO/DEL/TESORO**, with the handwritten word **D'Uffo**.



**22<sup>nd</sup> January 1812.** From Venice to Portogruaro, near Venice. Letter sent by the General Commissioner of Police to Vice Prefect of Department of Adriatico. The General Commissioner enjoyed the limited mark, while the Vice Prefect enjoyed the limited franchise. On the front, the mark **IL COMM.<sup>o</sup> GENERALE DI POLIZIA/NEL DIPART.<sup>o</sup> DELL'ADRIATICO**.



**11<sup>th</sup> July 1811.** From Ferrara to Migliaro, near Ferrara. Letter sent by the Prefect of Department of Basso Po to the Mayor of Migliaro. The Prefect enjoyed the limited mark, while the Mayor enjoyed the free frank for letters sent by the Prefects. On the front, the oval mark **PREFETTO/DEL BASSO PO/36**.



**13<sup>th</sup> October 1813.** From Ancona to Belvedere, near Ancona. Letter sent by the Prefect of Department of Metauro to the Mayor of Belvedere. The Prefect enjoyed the limited mark, while the Mayor enjoyed the free frank for letters sent by the Prefects. On the front, the oval mark **PREFETTO/DEL METAURO/39**.





**24<sup>th</sup> November 1811.** From Sarnano, near Macerata to Montefortino, near Ascoli. Letter sent by the Mayor of Sarnano to the Mayor of Montefortino. The Both authorities enjoyed the limited mark for the correspondence between them “under wrapper”. On the front, the handwritten word **D’Uff.<sup>o</sup>** indicating the right of exemption.



**15<sup>th</sup> August 1813.** From Toano, near Reggio, to Reggio. Letter sent by the Mayor of Toano to the Tax Officer of Reggio. The Mayor enjoyed the limited mark (**Sindaco di Toano** i.e. Mayor of Toano) for letters sent to the Tax Officer. On the front, the handwritten word **D’Uff.<sup>o</sup>** indicating the right of exemption and the boxed stamp **CASTELN.<sup>o</sup> NE’MONTI**, collection center of correspondence of various villages, including precisely Toano.



**13<sup>th</sup> April 1812.** From Senigallia, near Ancona, to S. Lorenzo in Campo, near Pesaro. Letter sent by the Mayor of Senigallia to the Mayor of S. Lorenzo in Campo. Both enjoyed the limited franchise for the correspondence between them “under wrapper”.



**5<sup>th</sup> October 1813.** From Senigallia to Monteboddo, both villages near Ancona. Letter sent by the Royal Compensation Fund to the Mayor of Monteboddo. The Royal Compensation Fund enjoyed the limited mark for letters sent to the Mayor. On the front, the handwritten word **D'Uff.º** and the round mark **DELEGAZIONE PER RICEVITORIA/REGIA CASSA/D'AMMORTIZZ./A-C**, indicating the right of exemption.