

# The Postal relationship between Tuscany and Papal States from 1 April 1851 to 30 June 1853

## Historical postal context

On 5 November 1850, an agreement was signed between Austria and the Grand Duchy of Tuscany effective from 1 April 1851 and determined the birth of the Austro-Italian Postal League, which introduced Austrian rates and progression for correspondence exchanged between the two states and provided that this agreement could also be extended to other Italian states with the premise that membership in the League was tied to the existence of postage stamps.

On 1 April 1851, the postal relations between Tuscany and the Papal States were governed by the Postal Convention signed in Rome by the two States on 12 June 1841, effective from 1 July, which had introduced some innovations in the postal relations between the two States, regulating the methods of exchanging correspondence and regularising transit fee, with the rates defined by the Notification of 31 December 1835.

On 2 November 1844, the Papal Treasurer, Cardinal Tosti, published a Notification regarding the new postal rates in force from 15 November for domestic and foreign countries.

The Papal States, despite having issued its first stamps on 1 January 1852, joined the Austro-Italian Postal League only on 1 October 1852, but, despite this, postal relations between the two States developed in a particular way because the Tuscan Postal Administration did not consider the agreements with the Papal State valid due to various pending issues regarding transit rights.

The Papal States, on the other hand, fully applied the provisions contained in the Postal Convention of the Austro-Italian League, while the Grand Duchy of Tuscany continued to treat letters as provided for in the Convention in force from 1 July 1841, until 30 June 1853, when from 1 July the new postal agreement signed on 21 June 1853 between Tuscany and the Papal States was applied, which fully incorporated the rates and rules of the "Fundamental" Convention of the Austro-Italian Postal League.

## Structure of the exhibit

	Presentation The sea route Leghorn-Civitavecchia	1
1 <sup>st</sup> Chapter :	From Tuscany to Papal States from 1 April 1851 to 30 September 1852	2 - 3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Chapter :	From Papal States to Tuscany from 1 Aprile 1851 to 30 September 1852	4
3 <sup>rd</sup> Chapter :	From Tuscany to Papal States from 1 October 1852 to 30 June 1853	5 - 6
4 <sup>th</sup> Chapter :	From Papal States to Tuscany from 1 October 1852 to 30 June 1853	7 - 8

## The sea route Leghorn-Civitavecchia

The ports of Livorno and Civitavecchia were the main route in the Tyrrhenian Sea for the exchange of correspondence between the Grand Duchy of Tuscany and the Papal States.

The correspondence was carried by non-contract ships and French packets with specific rate, very complex (based on weight) both for departure and arrival until 1 July 1853 when a new agreement was stipulated between Tuscany and the Papal States that overcame the old disagreements between the two States and which in fact, therefore, determined the beginning of the application of the Convention of the Austro-Italian Postal League, simplifying the rates of letters exchanged by sea between the two States.

## Purpose

The Austro-Italian Convention introduced the concepts already adopted by the Austro-German Postal League by standardizing rates, weights and methods of mail delivery, making the service faster and more efficient.

Before the Austro-Italian Postal League, the postal relations between Tuscany and the Papal States were regulated according to bilateral agreements with rates and methods of treatment extremely different between the various States and despite the fact that the advent of stamps had the intent of normalizing postal rates and relations, between Tuscany and the Papal States it occurred only after a few years and only sometime after the entry of the two States into the Austro-Italian Postal League.

This situation is addressed and developed in this exhibit divided into four chapters, according to the various periods, before the full application between the two States of the Postal Convention of the Austro-Italian League.

**The rarest documents are framed in red.**

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## The rates by sea route between Leghorn and Civitavecchia

Until 30 June 1853	Prepaid rate	Charged on delivery
Non-contract ship from Leghorn	4 crazie	7 bajocchi
Non-contract ship from Civitavecchia	5 bajocchi	4 crazie
French packet from Leghorn	10 crazie	7 bajocchi
French packet from Civitavecchia	13 bajocchi	6 crazie

11 January 1853. Letter weighing up to 5.9 denari sent by sea from Leghorn to Civitavecchia, prepaid 4 crazie to disembarkation and charged 7 bajocchi on delivery, simple rate letter.

1

25 November 1852. Letter weighing up to 5.9 denari sent by sea from Leghorn to Civitavecchia, prepaid 4 crazie to disembarkation and charged 11 bajocchi on delivery, letter weighing up to 6 denari.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter : from Tuscany to Papal States

On 1 April 1851, the first day of the Austro-Italian Postal League, the correspondence was sent from Tuscany to the Papal States according to the rates set by the Convention signed on 12 June 1841, effective from the following 1 July, which were different depending on whether they were paid up to the papal border or up to the destination.

## Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

from 1 April 1851 to 30 September 1852

The rates could be paid with stamps, issued on 1 April 1851, or in money at the time of shipment.  
Letters paid up to the border were charged on delivery based on their weight and destination, which in the Papal States was identified in three distances according to the rates set by the Tosti Notification, effective from 15 November 1844.

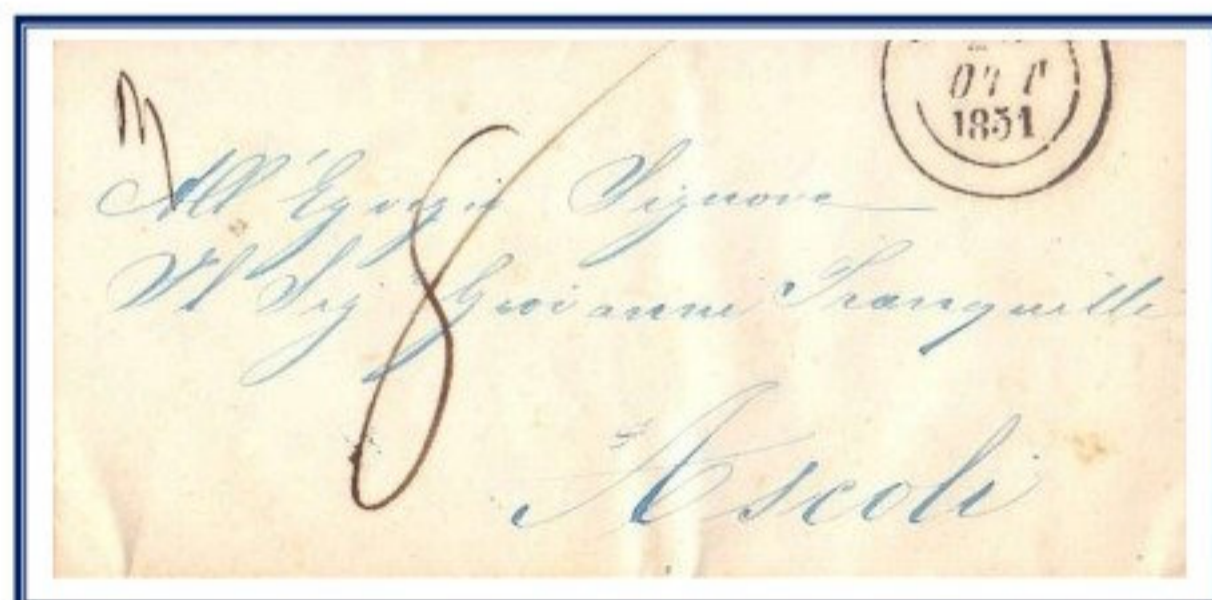


27 April 1851 Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Orte (Papal States) prepaid by the sender 3 crazie to the border (as indicated on the top left) and charged 7 bajocchi on delivery as required for letters sent to the 1<sup>st</sup> Papal States Distance.

Letter rate up to the Tuscan-Papal States border	
until 6 denari	3 crazie
from 6 to 8 denari	4 crazie
from 8 to 12 denari	6 crazie
from 12 to 18 denari	8 crazie
from 18 to 24 denari	12 crazie
one ounce	16 crazie

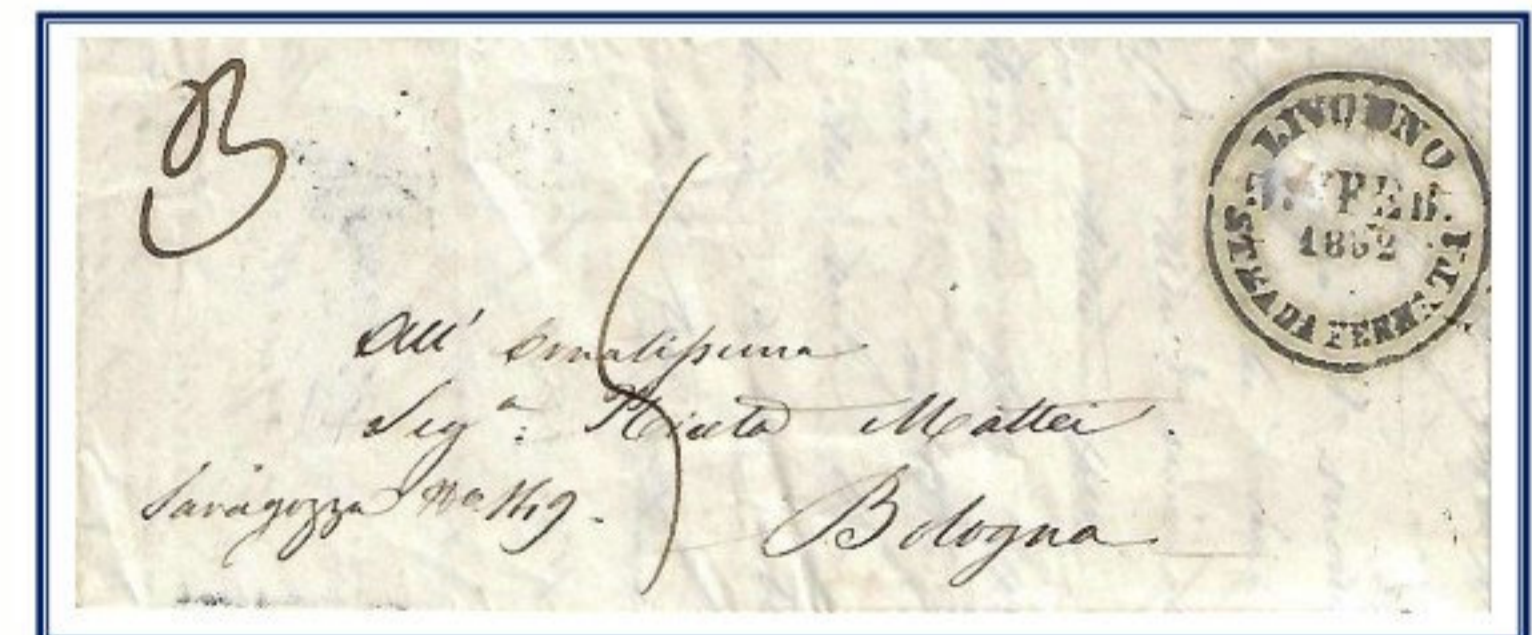


13 April 1852 Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Cesena (Papal States) prepaid by the sender 3 crazie to the border (as indicated on the top left) and charged 7 bajocchi on delivery as required for letters sent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Papal States Distance.



2x October 1851 Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Ascoli (Papal States) prepaid by the sender 3 crazie to the border (as indicated on the top left) and charged 8 bajocchi on delivery as required for letters sent to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Papal States Distance.

Simple letters from Tuscany to the Papal States charged on delivery	
for the 1 <sup>st</sup> Distance Lazio - Umbria - Sabina	7 bajocchi
for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Distance Marche	8 bajocchi
for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Distance Romagne	7 bajocchi



4 February 1852 Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Leghorn (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States) prepaid by the sender 3 crazie to the border (as indicated on the top left) and charged 5 bajocchi as required for simple letters directed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Papal States Distance, with the deduction of 2 bajocchi reserved for letters coming from the contact States, directed to the border Post Offices.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter : from Tuscany to Papal States

## Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

from 1 April 1851 to 30 September 1852

In Tuscany, the principle introduced in Article 11 of the Convention of the Austro-Italian Postal League was gradually adopted by the postal users, that is, the prepayment of the rate through the use of stamps.

The Tuscan-Papal States Convention of 1841 had defined the rates for letters paid up to destination, but these rates depended only on weight, contrary to what would later be introduced with the Austro-Italian League which also differentiated rates according to distance.



**6 August 1852.** Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Viareggio (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 7 bajocchi on delivery, as required for letters sent to the the 1<sup>st</sup> Papal States Distance.



**20 February 1852.** Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Pescia (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Città della Pieve (Perugia – Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 5 bajocchi on delivery, as required for letters sent to the 1<sup>st</sup> Papal States Distance, with the deduction of 2 bajocchi established for the border Directorates (Perugia, where it passed on 21 February).



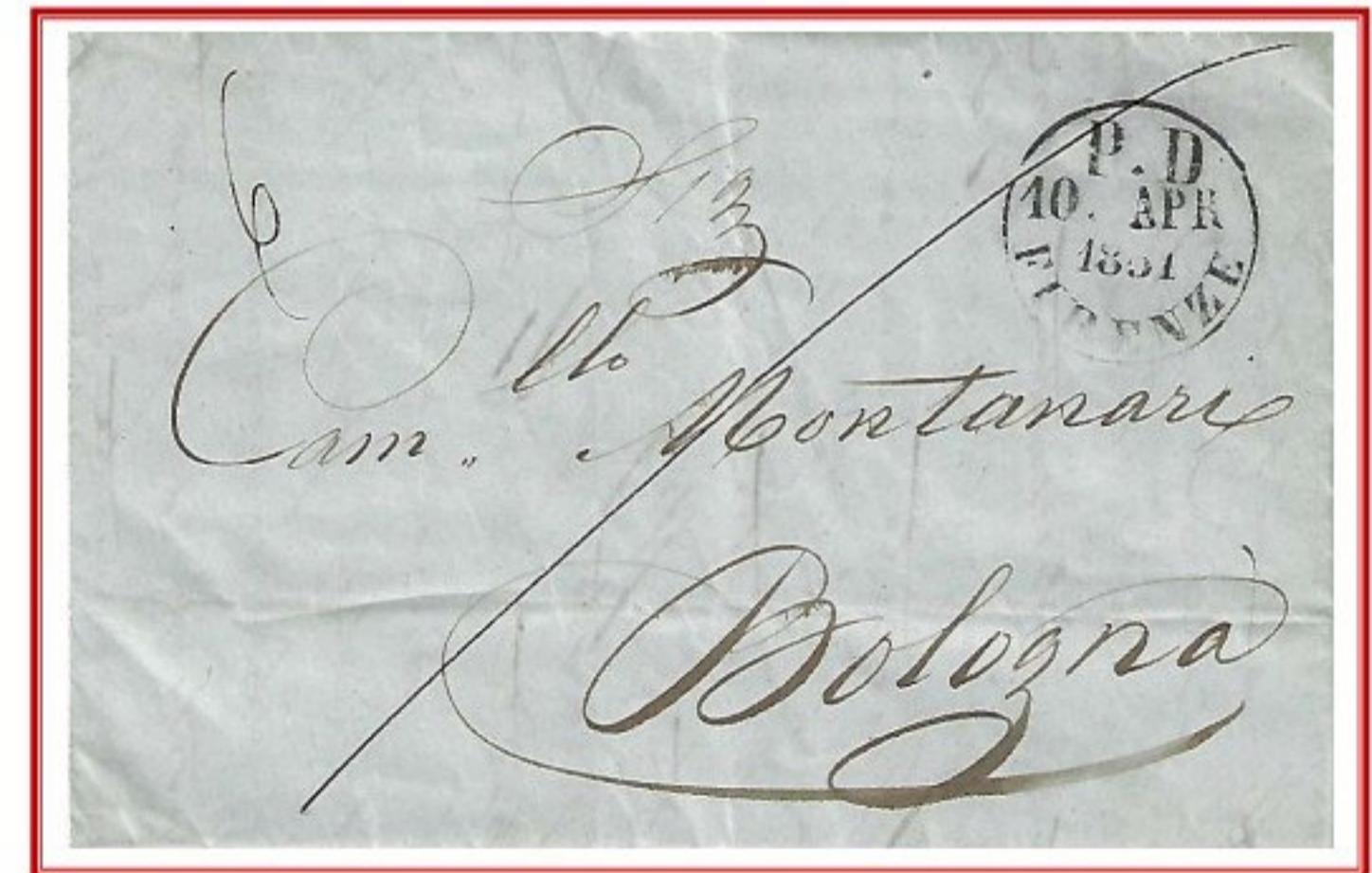
**3 September 1852.** Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Pesaro (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 8 bajocchi on delivery, as required for letters sent to the the 2<sup>nd</sup> Papal States Distance.



**15 July 1852.** Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Leghorn (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 8 bajocchi on delivery, as of 1 ½ sheets and weighing up to ¼ ounce.

The taxation of 8 bajocchi charged on delivery is determined by the taxation of the incoming letter of 11 bajocchi (tax for simple letters of 7 bajocchi multiplied by 1.5 as of weight up to ¼ ounce, rounded to 11 bajocchi), but Bologna as the Border Directorate had the right to a reduction fee of 2 bajocchi for incoming simple letters, in this case multiplied by 1.5 finally determining a reduction of 3 bajocchi.

Letter rates to destination	
until 6 denari	6 crazie
from 6 to 8 denari	9 crazie
from 8 to 12 denari	12 crazie
from 12 to 18 denari	18 crazie
from 18 to 24 denari	27 crazie
one ounce	36 crazie



**10 April 1851.** Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States), prepaid 6 crazie by the sender (as indicated on the top left) to destination (P.D.) (in this case the distances did not contribute to determining the rate which depended only on the weight of the letter).

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter : from Papal States to Tuscany

On 1 April 1851, the sending of correspondence from the Papal States to Tuscany was governed by the Postal Convention of 1841, effective from 1 July, and by the Tosti Notification in force from 15 November 1844, which provided for the payment of a posting fee of 5 bajocchi for every 6 denari in weight, for any letter directed abroad, valid up to the Papal border.

### Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

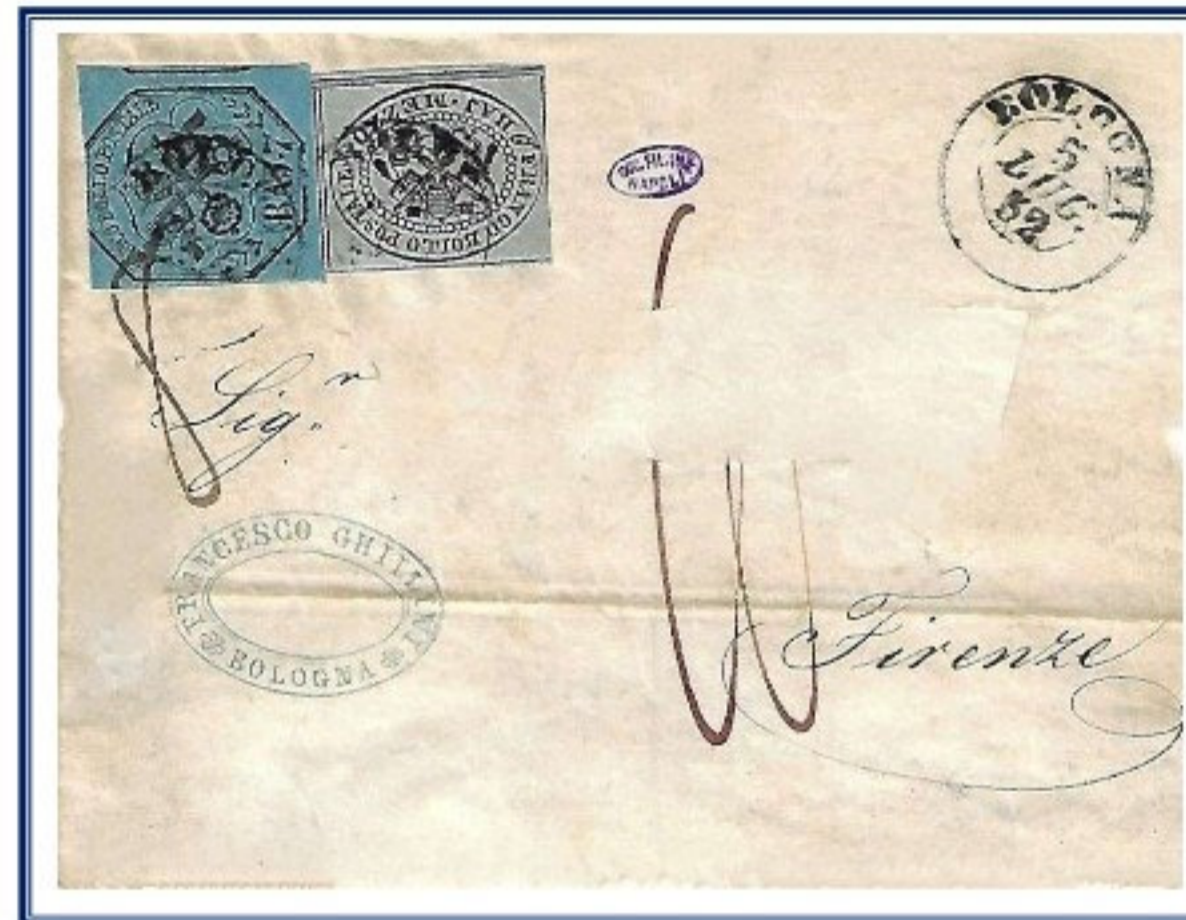
from 1 April 1851 to 30 September 1852

The letters were charged on delivery in Tuscany according to weight as defined by the Pistoja Notification of 31 December 1835, valid from 1 January 1836 and subsequent amendments defined by the Pistoja Notification of 17 March 1847, with definition of the rates in crazie.



26 March 1852. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Bologna (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 5 bajocchi to the border and charged 6 crazie on delivery.

5 July 1852. Letter weighing of 8 denari from Bologna (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 7½ bajocchi to the border by virtue of the reduction granted to the Border Directorates by the Tosti Notification of 1844 and charged 10 crazie on delivery as required for letters weighing between 8 and 12 denari.



6 March 1852. Letter weighing of 8 denari from Rome (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 10 bajocchi to the border and charged 10 crazie on delivery, as required for letters from 8 to 12 denari of weight.



22 June 1852. Simple letter from Rome (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 11½ bajocchi to destination.

The Tosti Notification effective from 15 November 1844 also provided for the optional payment of the fee up to the destination in Tuscany, set at 11½ bajocchi for a one-sheet letter, called a simple letter (5 bajocchi for the posting fee and 6½ for the ordinary courier).

Letters up to the weight of two quarters of an ounce, or 12 denarii (14.2 grams) paid the fee of two letters, those above two quarters of an ounce and up to three quarters paid the fee of three letters and so on in proportion, always considering the fee of four simple letters for each ounce.



7 July 1852. Letter weighing up to ½ ounce from Rome (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 23 bajocchi to destination.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter : from Tuscany to Papal States

### Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

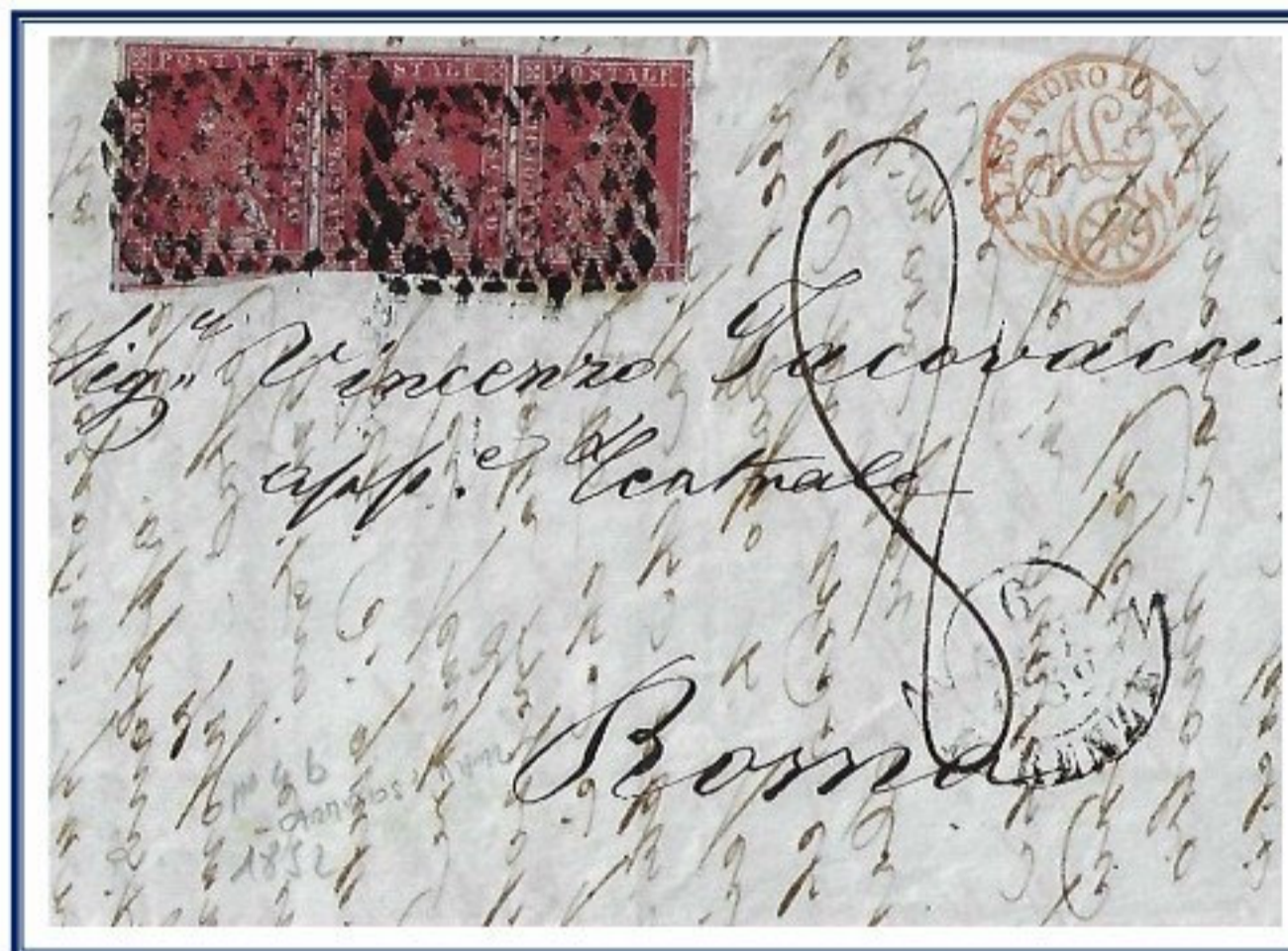
from 1 October 1852 to 30 June 1853

After the Papal States joined the Austro-Italian Postal League on 1 October 1852, postal relations with the Grand Duchy of Tuscany developed in a particular way. The Tuscan Postal Administration did not consider the agreements with the Papal States valid due to various pending issues regarding transit fee.

The Grand Duchy of Tuscany continued to correspond with the Papal States as required by the Convention of 12 June 1841, effective from 1 July 1841, which provided for the possibility of franking letters up to the border with a rate of 3 crazie for every 6 denari of weight.



22 November 1852. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Leghorn (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 1 bajocco on delivery. The 3 crazie paid by the sender corresponded to 3.9 bajocchi and the letter was taxed only for the difference of the missing amount compared to the League rate for the second distance of 5 bajocchi, without the application of the "zu taxe", with rounding down.



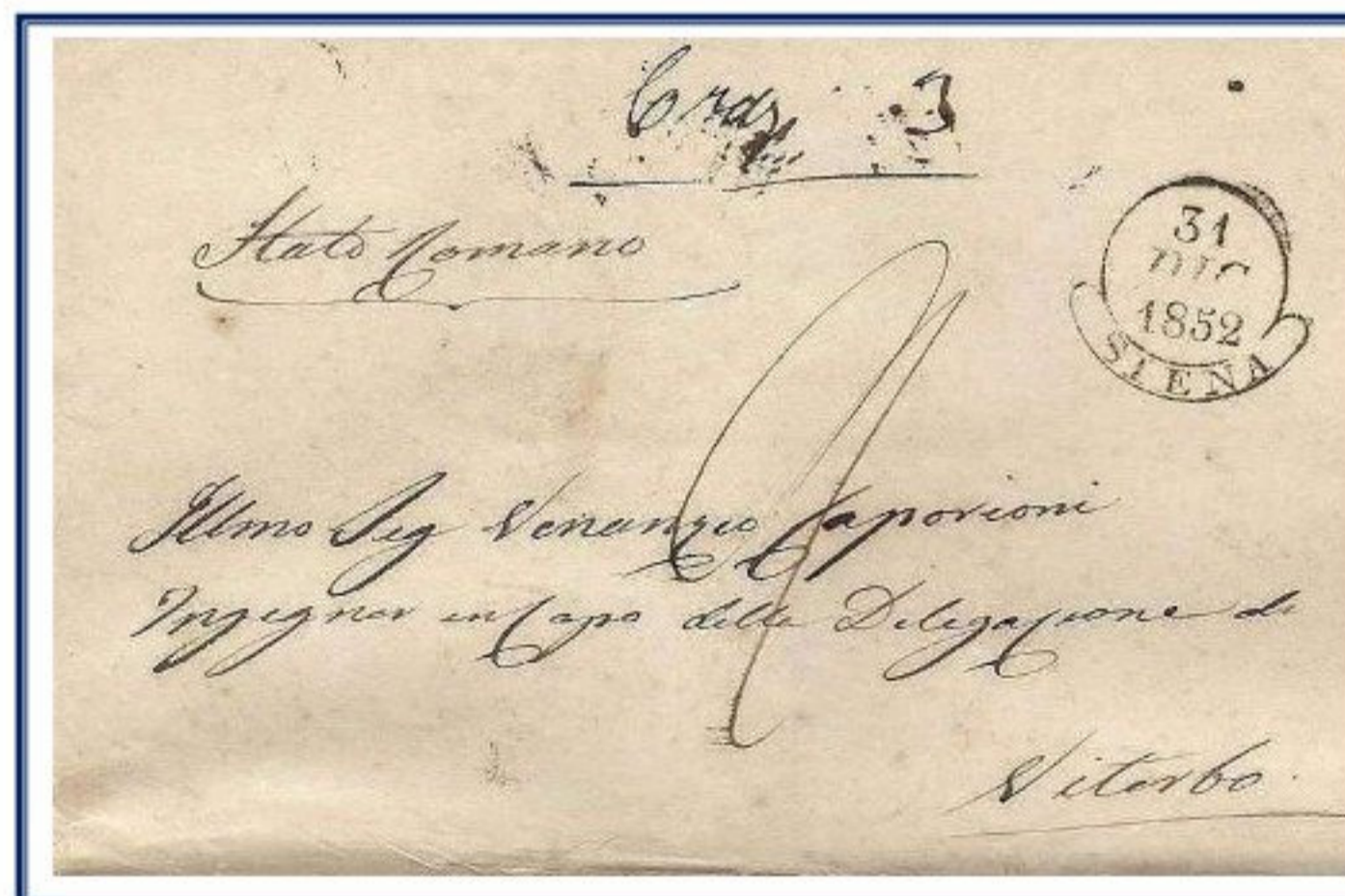
6 November 1852. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 8 bajocchi on delivery, as required for the letters to third League distance (locations more than 150 km distance), without the application of the "zu taxe".



18 April 1853. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Leghorn (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Rome (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 4 bajocchi on delivery. The 3 crazie paid by the sender corresponded to 3.9 bajocchi and the letter was taxed only for the difference of the missing amount compared to the League rate for the third distance of 8 bajocchi, without the application of the "zu taxe", with rounding down.



29 October 1852. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 5 bajocchi on delivery, as required for the letters to second League distance (locations between 75 and 150 km distance), without the application of the "zu taxe".



31 December 1852 Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Siena (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Viterbo (Papal States), prepaid by the sender 3 crazie to the border and charged 2 bajocchi on delivery. The 3 crazie paid by the sender corresponded to 3.9 bajocchi and the letter was taxed only for the difference of the missing amount compared to the League rate for the second distance of 5 bajocchi, without the application of the "zu taxe", with rounding up.



3 May 1853. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Siena (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Terni (Papal States), prepaid 3 crazie to the border and charged 5 bajocchi on delivery, as required for the letters to second League distance (locations between 75 and 150 km distance), without the application of the "zu taxe".

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter : from Tuscany to Papal States

The Convention of 12 June 1841 provided the Grand Duchy of Tuscany with the possibility of prepaid letters to their destination at the rates set by the Convention of 1841.

### Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

from 1 October 1852 to 30 June 1853

On letters stamped to their destination, the P.D. handstamp was applied at the start to indicate payment of the rate to their destination.



23 June 1853. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Pisa (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Pesaro (Papal States) via Bologna, prepaid 6 crazie to destination.

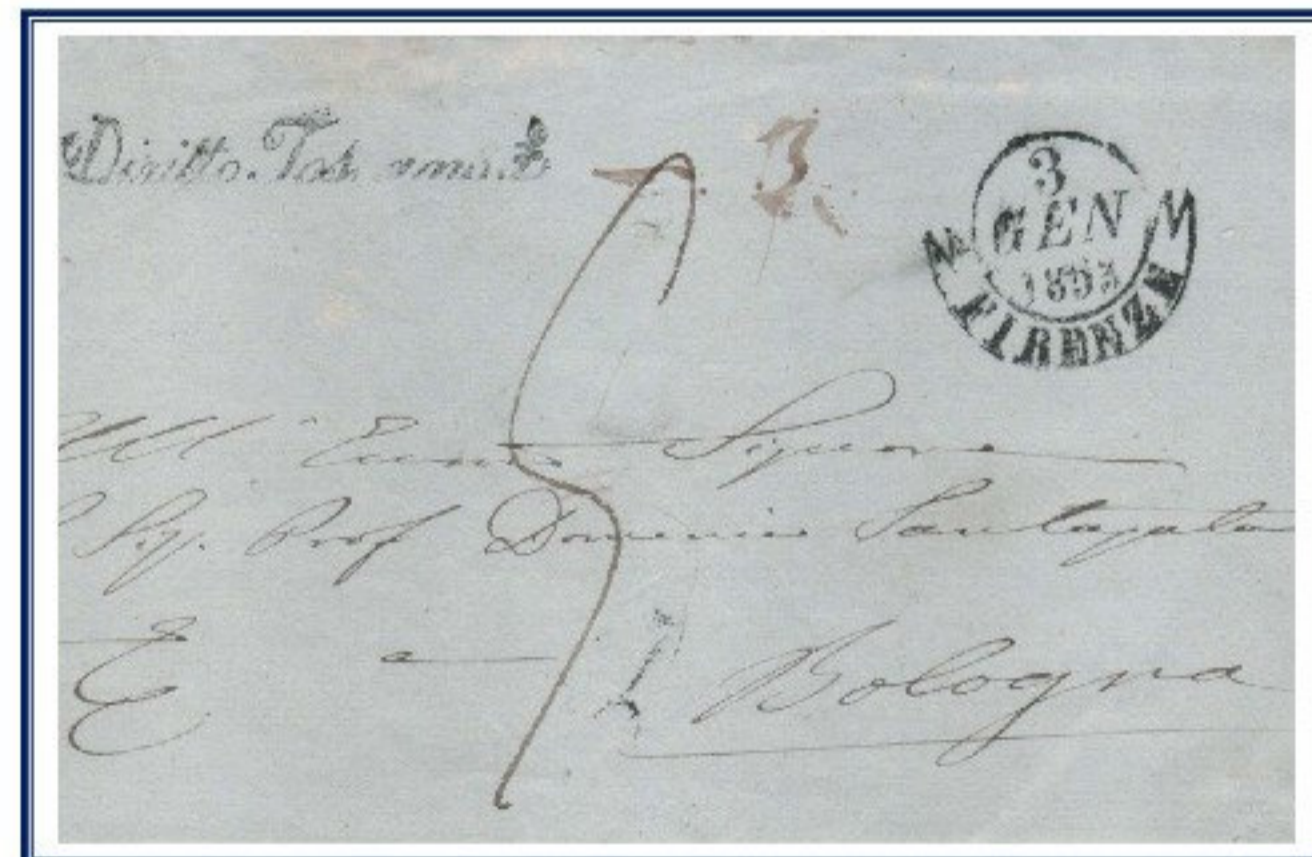


12 February 1853. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Pisa (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States), prepaid 6 crazie to destination. Until 30 June 1853, distances did not contribute to determining the rate which depended only on the weight of the letter.

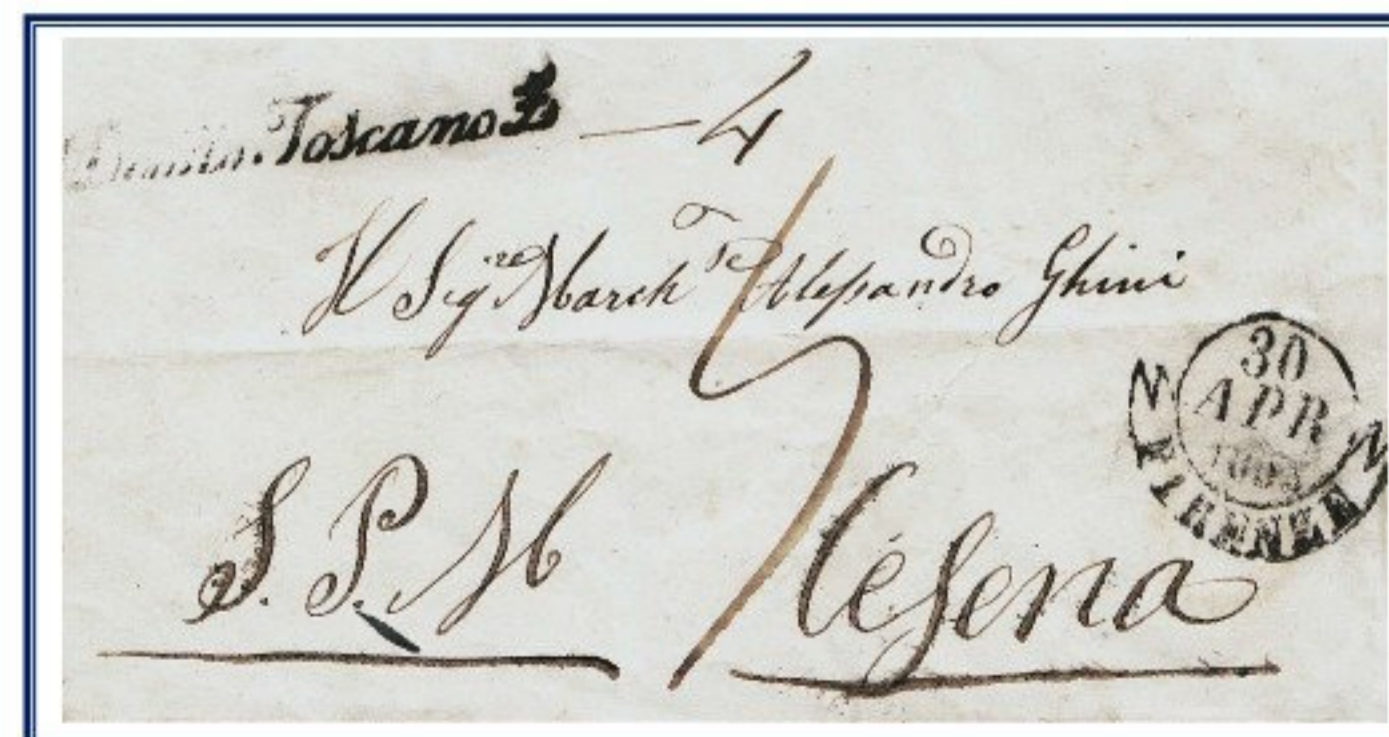


27 October 1852. Letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Rome and Subiaco (Papal States), prepaid 6 crazie to destination.

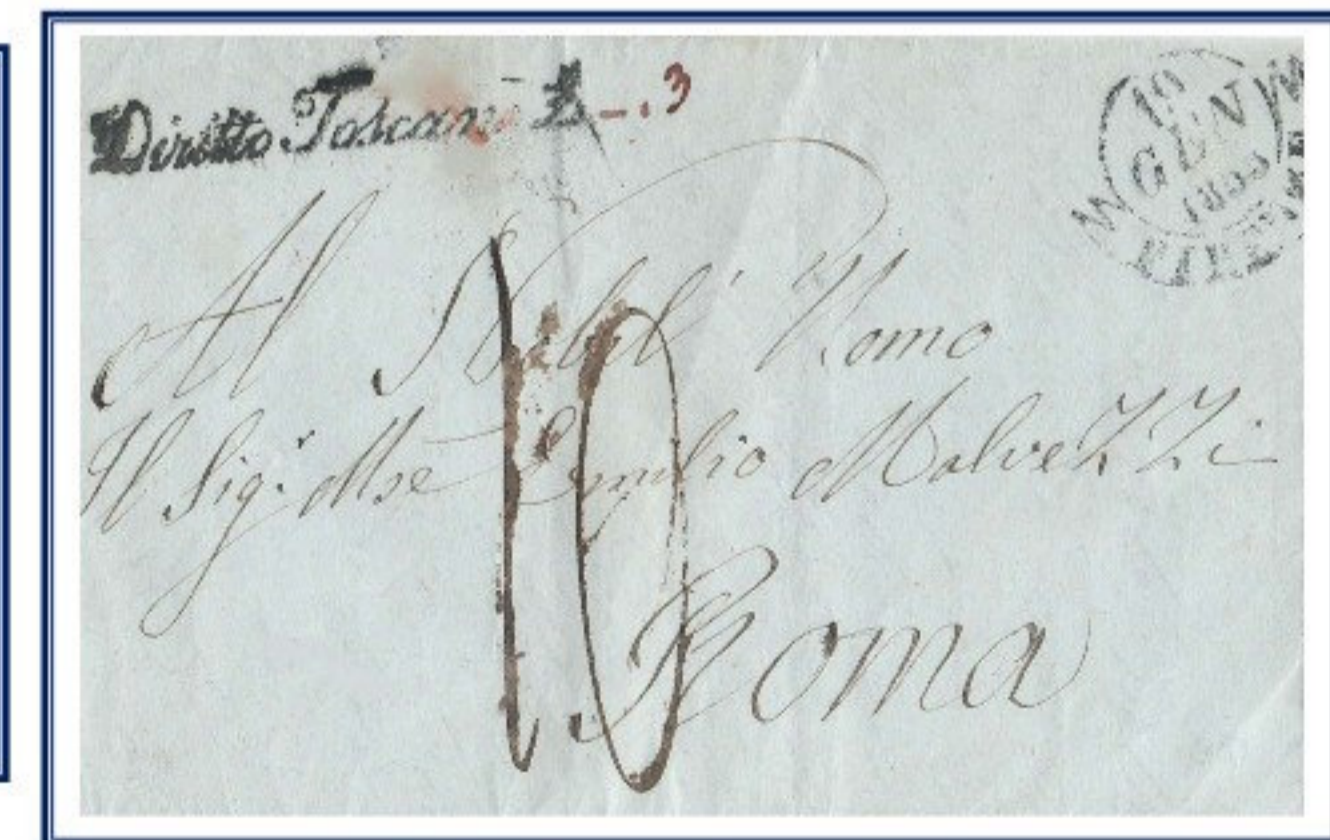
The Austro-Italian League allowed letters to be sent carriage forward and the League Convention had established that the amount collected by the delivery State was to be paid in full to the sending State. Letters were subject to a surcharge (called "zu taxe") of 2 bajocchi (for the Papal States) or 2 crazie (for Tuscany). Tuscany, however, in this period, only requested the amount of the rate from the Papal States up to the border, but letters, upon arrival in the Papal States, were taxed by applying the League rate without "zu taxe" or by applying the League rate including the "zu taxe".



3 January 1853. Unpaid letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Bologna (Papal States). The Papal State imposed a tax of 5 bajocchi, corresponding to the rate for the 2<sup>nd</sup> League Distance (Florence and Bologna are 80 km distant), charged on delivery, without applying the "zu taxe" and with the payment of 3 crazie to Tuscany, as indicated (Diritto Toscano 3 crazie), corresponding to 3.9 bajocchi which determined the net proceeds of about 1 bajocco for the Papal State.



30 April 1853 Unpaid letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Cesena (Papal States). The Papal State imposed a tax of 5 bajocchi, corresponding to the rate for the 2<sup>nd</sup> League Distance (Florence and Cesena are 90 km distant), charged on delivery, without applying the "zu taxe" and with the payment of 4 crazie to Tuscany, as indicated (Diritto Toscano 4 crazie), corresponding about 5 bajocchi without any net proceeds for the Papal States.



19 January 1853. Unpaid letter weighing up to 6 denari from Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany) to Rome (Papal States). The Papal State imposed a tax of 10 bajocchi, corresponding to the rate for the 3<sup>rd</sup> League Distance (Florence and Rome are 150 km distant), charged on delivery, with application of the "zu taxe" of 2 bajocchi with the payment of 3 crazie to Tuscany, as indicated (Diritto Toscano 3 crazie), corresponding about 4 bajocchi which determined the net proceeds of about 6 bajocchi for the Papal States.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter : from Papal States to Tuscany

On 30 March 1852, the Convention was signed between Austria and the Papal States which determined the Papal State's adhesion to the Austro-Italian Postal League which defined the new rates for papal correspondence sent within the League for each Viennese lot (17.5 grams) corresponding to 15 denari in the Papal States.



22 November 1852. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Bologna (Papal States) to Pontedera (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 5 bajocchi, in accordance with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination, as confirmed by the handstamp P.D..

17 April 1853. Printed matter weighing up to 15 denari from Bologna (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 1 bajocco in accordance with the rate of the League to destination, as confirmed by the handstamp P.D..



## Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

from 1 October 1852 to 30 June 1853

The correspondence sent from the Papal States to the Grand Duchy of Tuscany was handled in full accordance with the provisions contained in the Convention of the League, franking the letters with 2, 5 or 8 bajocchi depending on the distance, but with the addition of the handstamp "P.D." to confirm the validity of the rate to destination and which, for this reason, ended its use on 30 June 1853.

22 February 1853. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Bologna (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 5 bajocchi, in accordance with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination, as confirmed by the handstamp P.D..



7 June 1853. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Pesaro (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 5 bajocchi, in accordance with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination, as confirmed by the handstamp P.D..

15 February 1853. Double rate letter (weighing between 15 and 30 denari) from Rome (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), prepaid 16 bajocchi, in accordance with the rate of the 3<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination, as confirmed by the handstamp P.D..



5 February 1853. Double rate letter (weighing between 15 and 30 denari) from Fermo to Florence, prepaid incorrectly 10 bajocchi with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination, as confirmed by the handstamp P.D., instead of 16 bajocchi as 3<sup>a</sup> distance.



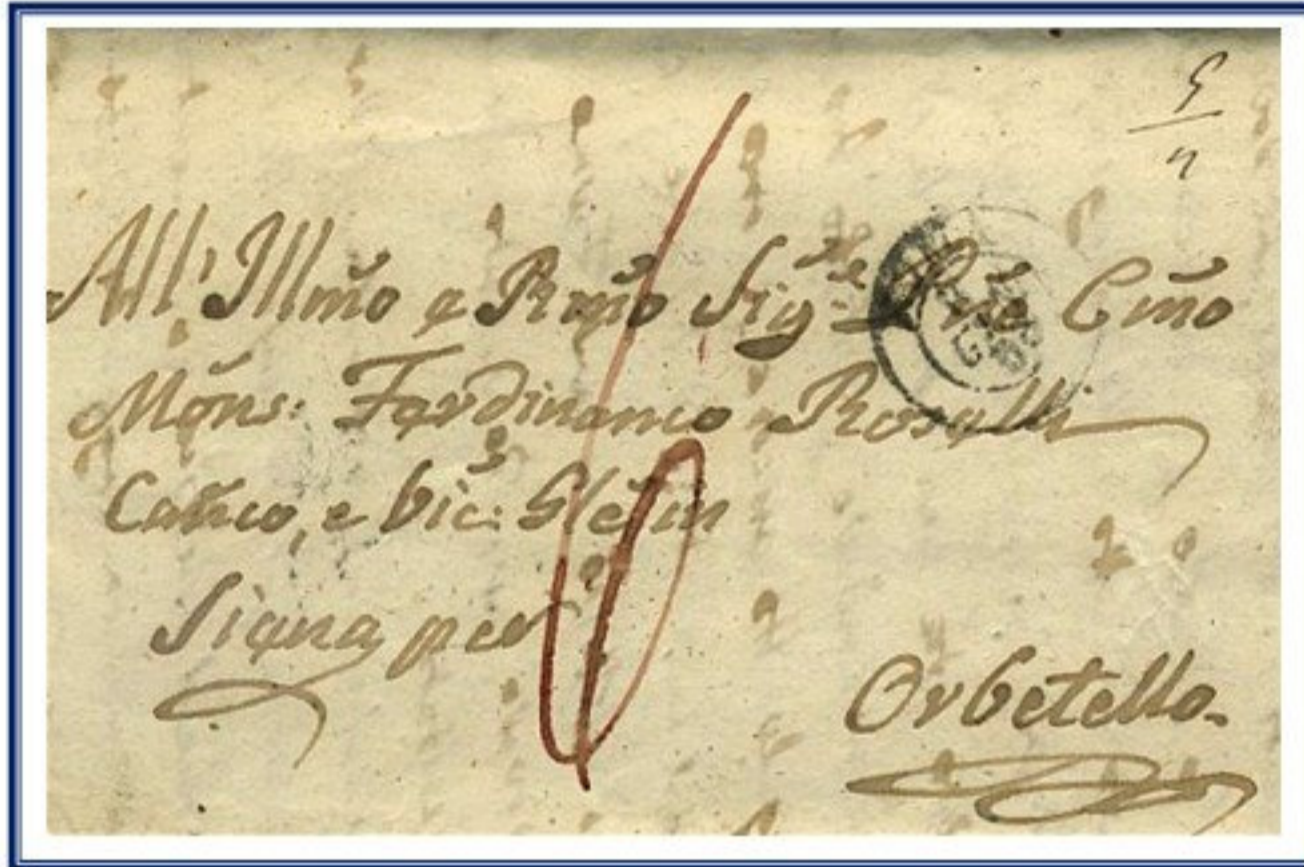
## 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter : from Papal States to Tuscany

When the letters were sent underpaid from the Papal States to Tuscany they were not treated as defined in article 7 of the 1851 League Convention which stated: "the postage of letters will be collected by each Administration for all letters sent from its own post offices, prepaid or not".

### Postal relationship Tuscany – Papal States

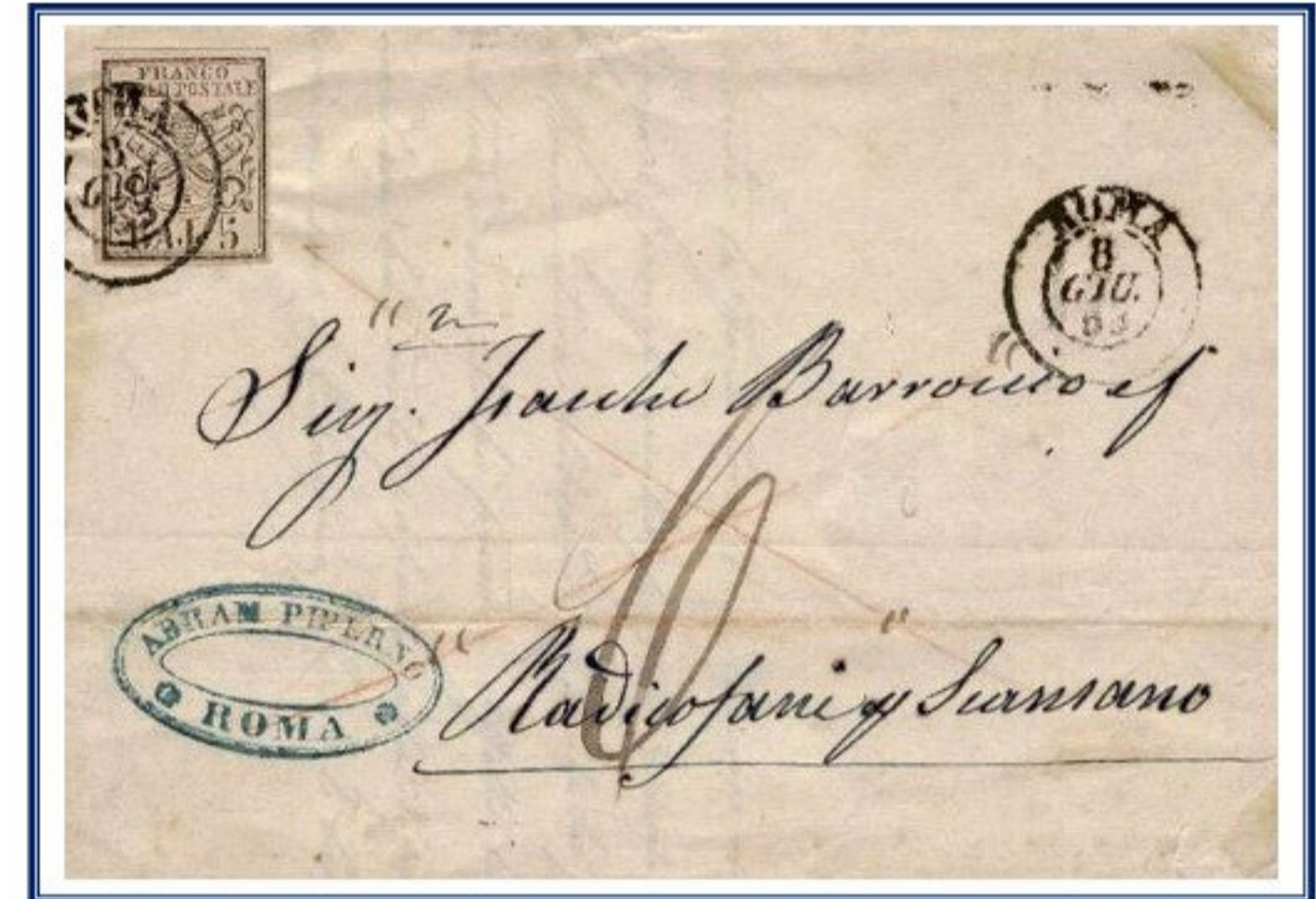
from 1 October 1852 to 30 June 1853

Tuscany's failure to recognize the Papal State's membership in the Austro-Italian Postal League meant that underpaid letters sent from the Papal States to Tuscany were taxed upon arrival according to the 1841 Convention (6 crazie up to 6 denari, 8 crazie from 6 to 8 denari and so on).



8 January 1853. Single rate unpaid letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Rome (Papal States) to Orbetello (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), 120 km distant, charged 6 crazie on delivery. At the top right, the rate indication 5/2 was placed at the start to indicate the lack of 5 bajocchi of the rate and 2 bajocchi of the "zu tax" requested by the Papal States and coincidentally corresponding to the 6 crazie charged on delivery.

Unpaid letters sent by the Papal States to Tuscany were charged on delivery in accordance with the provisions of the 1841 Convention. The amount collected by Tuscany of 6 crazie, corresponding to 7 bajocchi (5 bajocchi + 2 bajocchi "zu tax"), was recognized by the Papal States, as indicated by the Convention of the League. Only from 1 July 1853 did a new agreement between the two administrations come into force that resolved the various issues between the two states, applying on both sides what was defined by the Convention of the Austro-Italian Postal League.



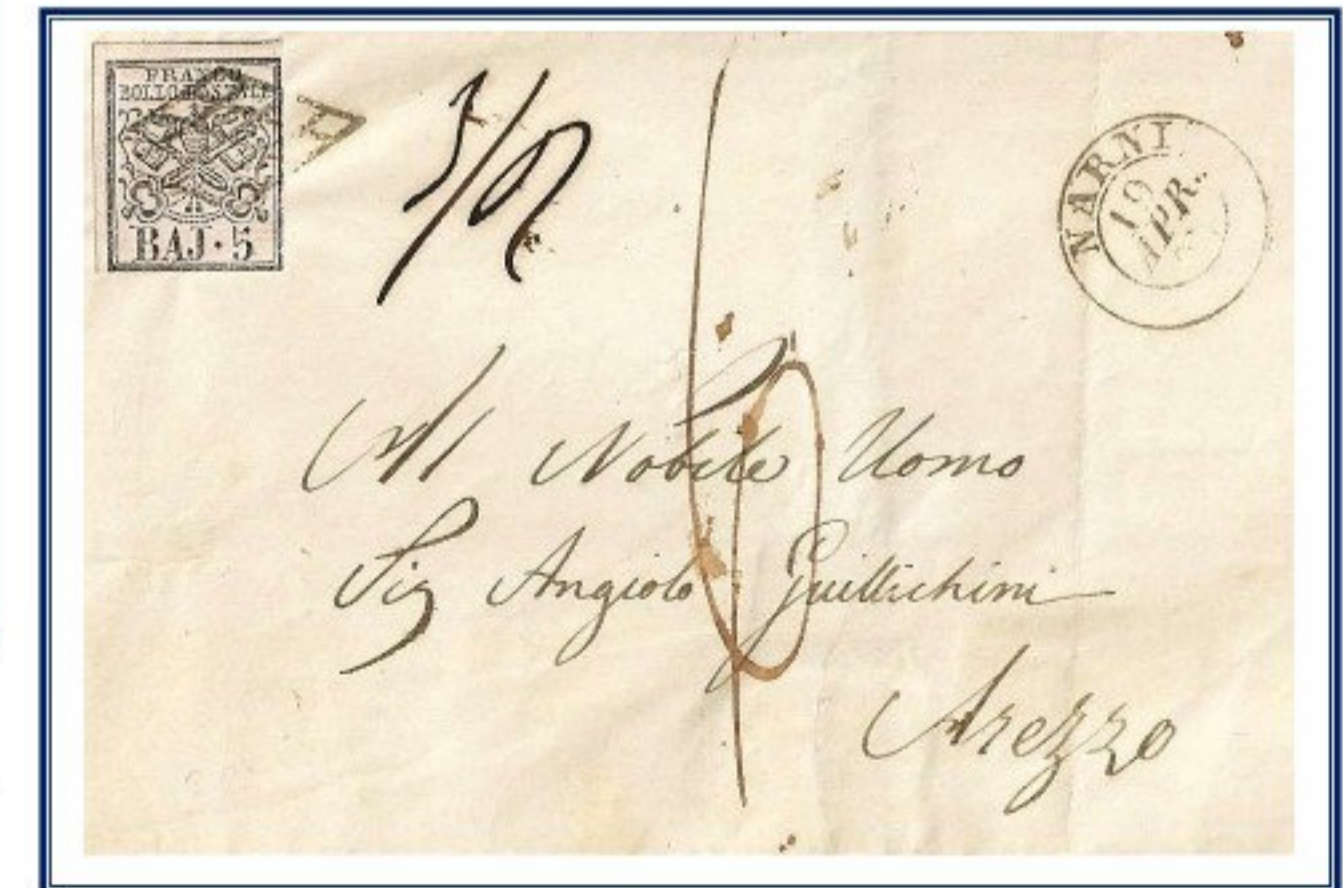
8 June 1853. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Rome (Papal States) to Scansano (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), 167 km distant, underpaid 5 bajocchi in accordance with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination and charged 6 crazie on delivery, as requested by the Convention of 1841 for letters from the Papal States, weighing up to 6 denari.



6 January 1853. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Tolentino (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), 175 km distant, underpaid 5 bajocchi in accordance with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination and charged 6 crazie on delivery, as requested for letters from the Papal States weighing up to 6 denari with indication 3/2 to indicate the lack of 3 bajocchi and the "zu tax" of 2 bajocchi requested by the Papal States.



23 October 1852. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Viterbo (Papal States) to Florence (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), 167 km distant, underpaid 5 bajocchi in accordance with the rate of the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League to destination and charged 6 crazie on delivery, as requested for letters from the Papal States weighing up to 6 denari with indication 3/2 to indicate the lack of 3 bajocchi and the "zu tax" of 2 bajocchi requested by the Papal States.



19 April 1853. Single rate letter (weighing up to 15 denari) from Narni (Papal States) to Arezzo (Grand Duchy of Tuscany), 119 km distant, correctly paid 5 bajocchi according to the rate for the 2<sup>a</sup> Distance of the League but inexplicably indicating the lack of 3 bajocchi and 2 bajocchi for the "zu tax" requested by the Papal States. The letter was charged 6 crazie on delivery for letters from the Papal States weighing up to 6 denari.