

1850 First Issue of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia: A Study of Uses

FOCUS: Single stamp on-cover uses of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia first issue of 1850.

SCOPE: Domestic uses of each of the ten different denominations, showing payment of single rates based on distance, plus local use (within city district), printed circular rate, registry fee and fee for Acknowledgement of Receipt. Examples are shown of various postmark types, including Lombardy-Venetia distribution markings, railroad cancel, as well the use of Austrian kreuzer stamps in Lombardy-Venetia.

HISTORY: The first postage stamps of the Austrian Empire were issued on 1 June 1850 featuring the Habsburg coat-of-arms. They were typographed and issued in denominations of 1, 2, 3, 6 and 9 kreuzers, and were issued following the establishment of the German-Austrian Postal Union, which provided a uniform system of postal rates. At that time the Austrian Empire consisted of countries which are now Slovakia, Croatia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, parts of northern Italy, parts of Ukraine, parts of southern Poland, parts of Rumania, as well as Austria and Hungary. The first postage stamps were for use in the whole of the Empire, with the exception of the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia (Austrian Italy) which used a different currency. For Lombardy-Venetia stamps were issued in denominations of 5, 10, 15, 30 and 45 centesimi.

Postal Rates	Austria	Lombardy-Venetia
Printed circular, any distance, per loth	1 kr	5 c
Local (within city district) no weight limit	2 kr	10 c
Up to 10 meilen, per loth	3 kr	15 c
10-20 meilen, per loth	6 kr	30 c
Over 20 meilen, per loth	9 kr	45 c
	Registry Fee: 6 kr	30 c
10 meilen (Austrian post-mile) = 47 U.S. miles, Loth = 16 grams		
These rates and fees effective 1 June 1850 to 31 October 1858		



The Austrian Empire measured 1,100 miles east to west, and 900 miles north to south.

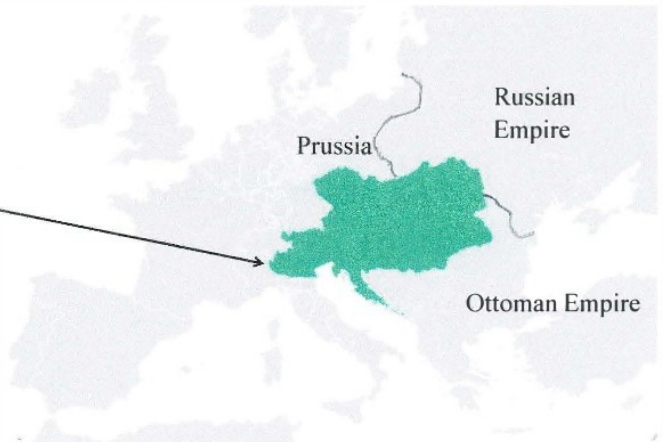
Note: Exceptional uses are outlined in red.
All backstamp images are shown at 75% actual size unless otherwise noted.



Scale: 1" = 100 miles

Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia
(Austrian Italy) 1815-1866

References: **Austria:** *The Postmarks of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Austrian Italy and the Levant 1850-1869* by Edwin Mueller, New York, 1961, English translation by Donald S. Patton. **Lombardy-Venetia:** *Annulamenti Del Lombardy-Venuto* by Raffaele Alianello, published by Sassone, Rome, 1972.



Austrian Empire in 1850 shown in green. Geographically, it was the third largest empire in Europe (239,977 square miles) after the Russian Empire and the First French Empire.

Austria 1 kreuzer yellow uses

The 1k stamp paid the domestic printed circular rate for any distance per loth (weight) The use of postage stamps was obligatory for domestic letters and printed matter starting 1 June 1850.



1k yellow Krens to Wien (Vienna) 11 Oct. 1853, printed circular use. Rare postmark rated 70 points by Mueller, 70x rarer than one rated 1.

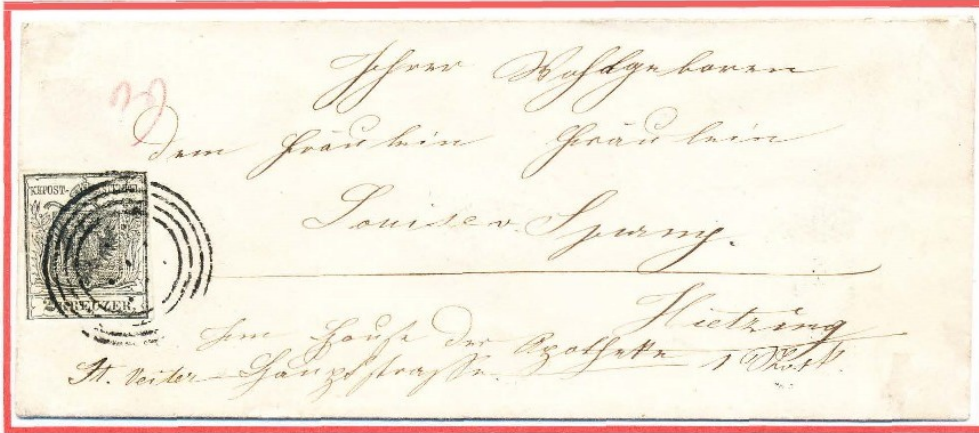
1 kr yellow Trieste local use 4 Sept. 1855, printed circular



1 kr. yellow Brunn to Gran, Hungary 25 Dec. 1857, printed circular

Austria 2 kreuzer black and 3 kreuzer red uses

The 2k black stamp paid the domestic letter rate within district (local) any weight.



Wien 20 Jun. (circa 1852)
arrival postmark on back.

2k black addressed to Heitzing, a district of Wien (Vienna). Mute stadpost (city post) cancel of Wien, scarce use with this cancel



The 3k red stamp paid the domestic letter rate for distance up to 10 meilen (Austrian post-mile) per loth (weight)

3kr red Fünfkirchen, Hungary 4 Sept. 1855, to Ecseny, Hungary. Directive "near Kaposvár".

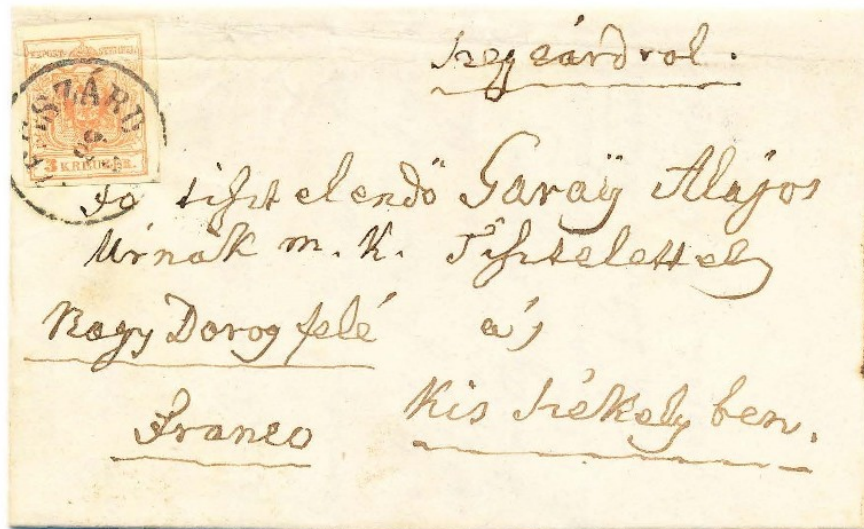


3kr red Klagenfurt 7 Mar 1855
"Recomandirt"
(Registered) to Wolfsberg



6kr brown stamp on back paying registry fee. Wolfsberg 8 Mar arrival straightline marking

Austria 3 kreuzer red uses



3kr red Szegszard (Hungary) 28 Sept. 1856 to Nagydorog, Hungary. Manuscript "Franco" (Paid)



3kr red Hall in Tyrol 10 Sept. 1855 to Innsbruck

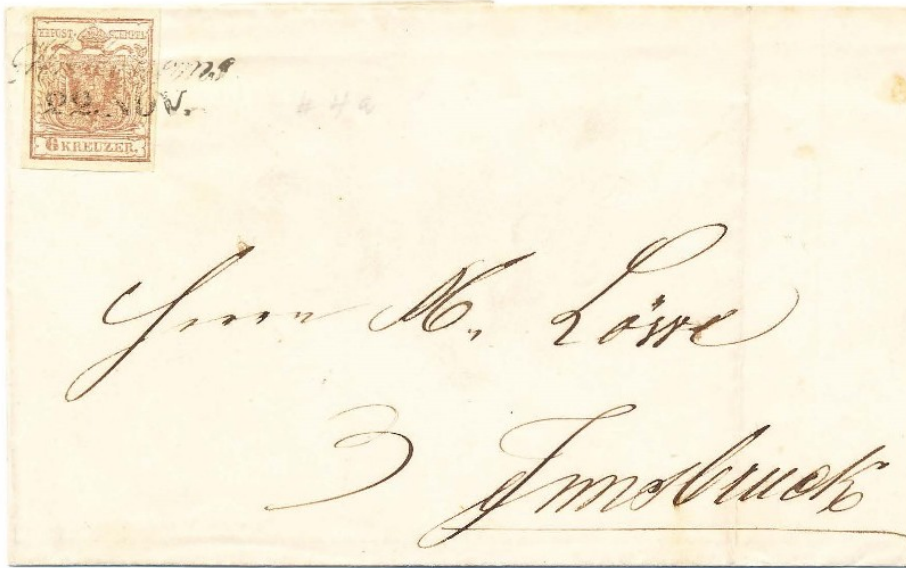


Arad 14/6 backstamp. "6 K" manuscript marking indicating payment of registry fee in cash

3kr red Gyula (Hungary) 11 June circa 1851 to Arad, in present day Romania, then in the Military District of Grosswardein of the Kingdom of Hungary. Manuscript "Recomandirt" (Registered); fee paid in cash

Austria 6 kreuzer brown uses

The 6k brown stamp paid the domestic letter rate for distance 10 to 20 meilen (Austrian post-mile) per loth (weight), also paid the Registry fee (see pages 3 and 9) and Acknowledgement of Receipt fee (see next page)



6kr brown Hohenms
22 Nov. circa 1850 to
Innsbruck



6kr brown Milano 26 Mar. 1851 to Verona. Austrian kreuzer stamps were allowed to be used in Lombardy-Venetia until May 7 1851. They cost 15% less than stamps denominated in centesimi. "Distribuzione 3" (Distribution 3) marking indicated 3rd delivery of the day.

Austria 6 kreuzer brown use

The 6kr brown stamp paid the fee for an Acknowledgement of Receipt form for a Domestic Registered Letter

No. *135* Briefpost.

Retour-Receipte.

Das ich das, bei dem k. k. Postamte zu **RÖMERSTADT** am *27*ten *februar* 1852 rekommandirt an Schreiben unter Adresse:
J. W. Mafflybomms Gumm Fabrik & Schreib- u. Druck- u. Lith. Anstalt in Pommern.


am untergesetzten Tage richtig erhalten habe, bezeuge ich mit meiner eigenhändigen Unterschrift.
Pommern den *27*ten *februar* 1852

Unterschrift:
J. W. Mafflybomms

Zur Nachricht.

1) Die Receiptegebühr ist vom Aufgeber entrichtet worden.
2) Der Empfänger ist gehalten, das Datum einzusehen, und die Namensfertigung beizufügen.

Dieses Receipte wolle mit erstem Posttage an das obengenannte Postamt der Aufgabe zurückgesendet werden.

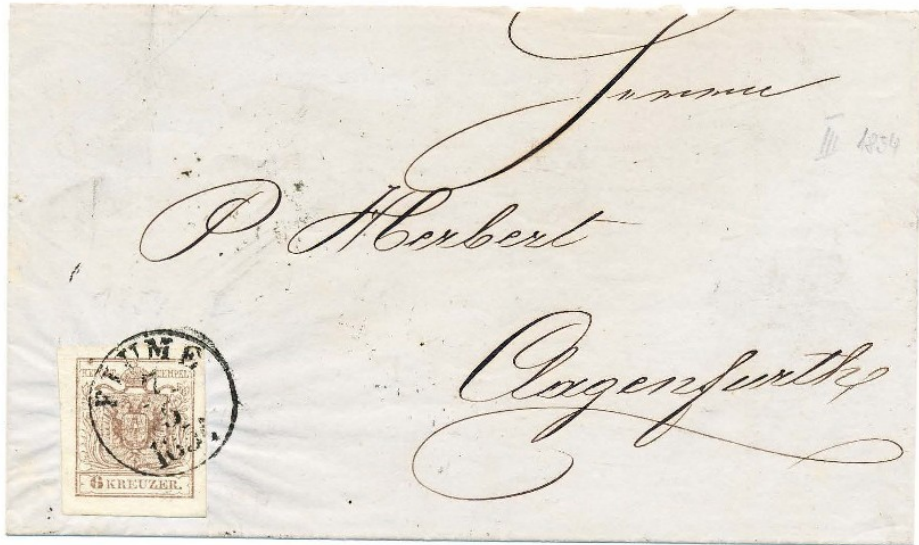


6kr brown on a 27 Feb. 1852 Return Receipt form that accompanied a registered letter from Römerstadt to Sternberg. Römerstadt cds on stamp, plus straightline marking to its left. Sternberg 28 Feb. straightline arrival marking also applied on stamp



Back of form shows Sternberg 28 Feb. straightline arrival marking and printed Habsburg coat-of-arms

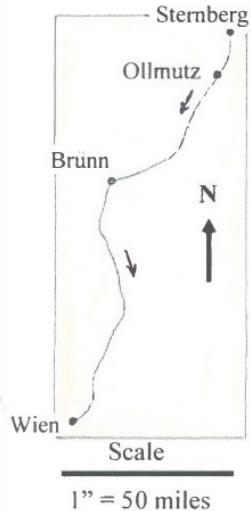
Austria 6 kreuzer brown and 9 kreuzer blue uses



Klagenfurth 10
May backstamp

6kr brown Fiume 7 May 1854 to Klagenfurth

The 9k blue stamp paid the domestic letter rate for distances
over 20 meilen (Austrian post-mile) per loth (weight)



Eisenb: Ollmutz
11 Aug. railroad
station transit
cds on back



Wien station 1E
12 Aug. arrival
backstamp

The railroad from Sternberg
in Moravia to Wien was
completed by 1849, hence
only one day transit for this
cover

9kr blue Sternberg 11 Aug. circa 1850 to Wien (Vienna)

Austria 9 kreuzer blue uses

K.K. FAHRENDES
POSTAMT No. 3



9kr blue Politz 22 Mar. 1856 to
Pesth (Hungary) "K.K.
FAHRENDES/ POSTAMT No. 3"
scarce traveling post office
(railroad) cancel



9kr blue from Banjaluka (Turkish Bosnia) to Trieste, privately carried to the Austrian border town of Kostainiza (Croatia) 17 Nov. 1851 where it entered the mails. Scarce use signed by Ferchenbauer.

Austria 9 kreuzer blue uses



Kremsmünster 27 Sep 1857 "RECOM." (Registered) marking on both sides, to Prague



6kr brown stamp on back paying registry fee, with Kremsmünster 27 Sep cds. Prague 30 Sep boxed arrival marking



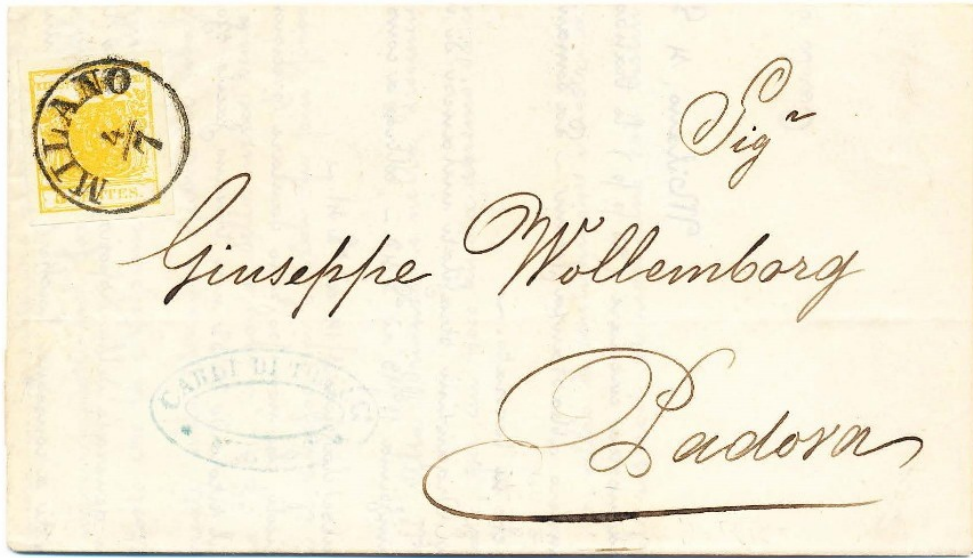
Linz 28 Sep oval transit marking



9kr blue Wien 21 Oct. circa 1855 to Unter Kubin, Hungary

Lombardy-Venetia 5 centesimi buff and 10 centesimi black uses

The 5c buff stamp paid the domestic printed circular rate to any distance per loth (weight)



5c orange Milano 4 Jul. 1857 printed circular to Padova. The orange shade is much scarcer than the usual buff color, shown on bottom cover.



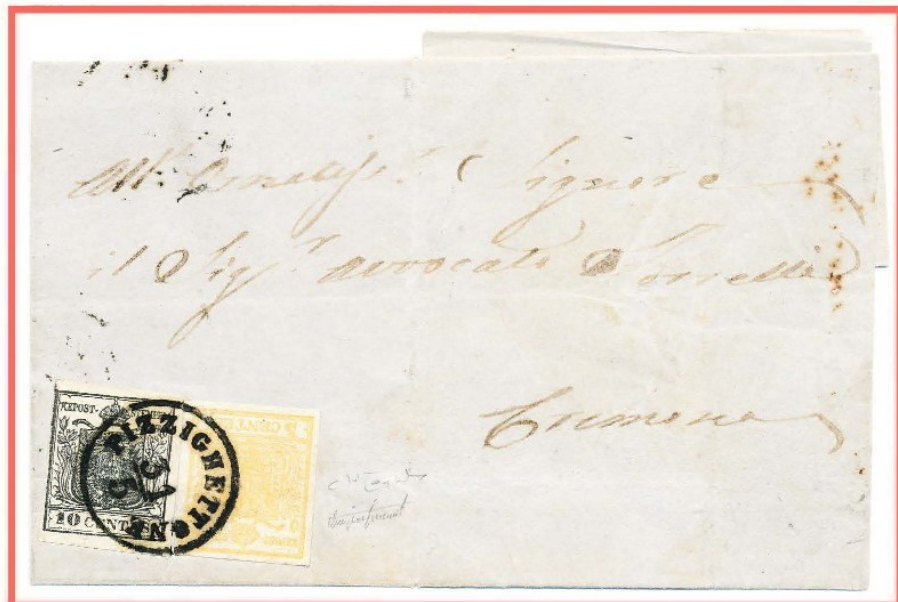
The 10c black stamp paid the domestic letter rate within district (local) any weight.

10c black Padova 16 Sep. 1853 use to the tiny hamlet of Mandriola, 4 miles south of Padova, within Padova's postal district. Manuscript "Ferma in posta" (Stop in the mail) A very rare use signed by Ferchenbauer.

5c buff and 10c black Pizzighettone 31 May 1856 to Cremona. 15c letter rate for distance up to 10 meilen. Signed by Raybaudi and Sismondo. Scarce use; the Pizzighettone postmark has a rarity factor of 6 in the Sassone catalogue. Cremona 1/6 backstamp



30c green and black fiscal stamp affixed inside. Shown 125% of full size

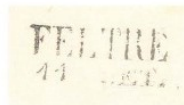


Lombardy-Venetia 15 red centesimi uses



The 10c red stamp paid the domestic letter rate for distance up to 10 meilen (Austrian post-mile) per loth (weight)

15c red Venezia 10
Sept. 1855 to Feltre



Feltre 11 Sep. arrival
straightline backstamp



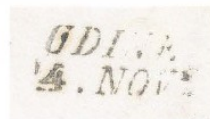
15c red Tradate 4 Mar
1858 to Cislago. Rare
postmark with a Sassone
rating of 6.



Saronno 5 Mar.
transit backstamp



15c red Tolmezzo 3 Nov.
1855 4-ring cds to Udine



Udine 4 Nov. arrival
backstamp

Lombardy-Venetia 15 red centesimi uses



15c red Castiglione Delle Stiviere 11 Aug. 1852 to Roveredo. Scarce postmark—rarity factor of 6 in Sassone catalogue.

ROVEREDO
13. AUG.

Roveredo 13 Aug. arrival backstamp



Pair 15c red Verona 27 Nov, 1857 to Venezia.

The distance between the two towns is about 75 miles, which is under 20 meilen (Austrian post-miles) equal to 94 miles, hence the 30c rate.



15c red Padova 1 Dec. circa 1850 to Verona. "Distribuzione 2" (*Distribution 2*) marking indicated 2nd delivery of the day. Signed by Silvio Sorani

Lombardy-Venetia 15 red centesimi uses



15c red Vicenza 8 May 1852 to Cittadella. Letter originated in Milano, privately carried to Vicenza for posting in order to save 2/3rds of the cost of postage; otherwise would have cost 45c based on distance.



Cittadella 8 May arrival backstamp



on back →

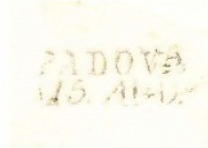


15c red Bergamo 27 Oct. 1850 to Milano

Red "Porta Lettere/I Distribuzione" boxed marking on back—mail distribution marking applied at Milano, indicating first mail delivery of the day. Milano 28 Oct. arrival cds. Scale: 125% of full size



15c red Montagnana 14 Aug. circa 1851, Raccomandata (Registered) to Israelite community in Padova. 30c brown on back paying registry fee, Padova 15 Aug. arrival backstamp. Signed by Silvano Sorani.



Padova 15 Aug. arrival backstamp

BOLLETTA D'INTROITO

Feltre li 29 luglio 1856

Ha pagato in contanti  la Ditta *Breda Pontafè*

nella Cassa d'Amministrazione intercalare della Meusa di *Feltre*
in causa ed *agosto* *1857, 1856, e 1855*
scadente col *11 luglio*

Si dicono L. *15*

L'AMMINISTRATORE INTERCALARE

San A.

Reg. in Quaderno a C. *211*

Lombardy-Venetia 15c red and 30c brown uses

15c red illegal use as a revenue stamp on complete folded document Bolletta D'Introito (Revenue Bill) from Feltre July 29, 1856 to Fonzaso. Such fiscal uses are rarely seen and only occurred when revenue stamps were temporarily unavailable. Signed by Ferchenbauer.

The 30c brown stamp paid the domestic letter rate for distance 10 to 20 meilen (Austrian post-mile) per loth (weight)

*tribunale dopo la
giudizialmente
non si dubita
dalle P.lla si*


MILANO: 20-12:52
30 CENTES.

Al S^{ro} Gio Battista Rizzi


*CDIVE
14 FEB
30 CENTES*
Fig. Eduardo Löffler
Klagenfurt

Chiavenna

15c brown Milano 20 Dec. 1852 boxed marking with year date to Chiavenna

*CHIAVENNA
21 DIC.*

Chiavenna 21 Dec. arrival backstamp

30c brown Udine 14 Feb. 1855 to Klagenfurt

Lombardy-Venetia 30 brown centesimi uses

The 30c brown stamp paid the fee for an Acknowledgement of Receipt form for a Domestic Registered Letter

N.° *37*
IV

RICEVUTA DI RITORNO

Per una lettera raccomandata impostata presso l'Ufficio postale in *Cologna*
 il giorno *Primo Settembre* 1853 all'indirizzo: *all'Off. di Cologna*
vazione di Legnago




che mi fu quest'oggi regolarmente consegnata da quest'Ufficio postale. *di Legnago*
Legnago il *Settembre* 1853

Sottoscrizione

AVVERTENZE.

1. Presente ricevuta è stato pagato dal mittente.
2. Il destinatario è tenuto ad apporvi la data e la propria firma.

Questa ricevuta vorrà essere ritornata col primo corso di posta al suindicato Ufficio d'impostazione.

30c brown type 3 Sept. 1853 Return Receipt form that accompanied a registered letter from Cologna to Legnago.

Cologna 4 Sep.
backstamp on
form



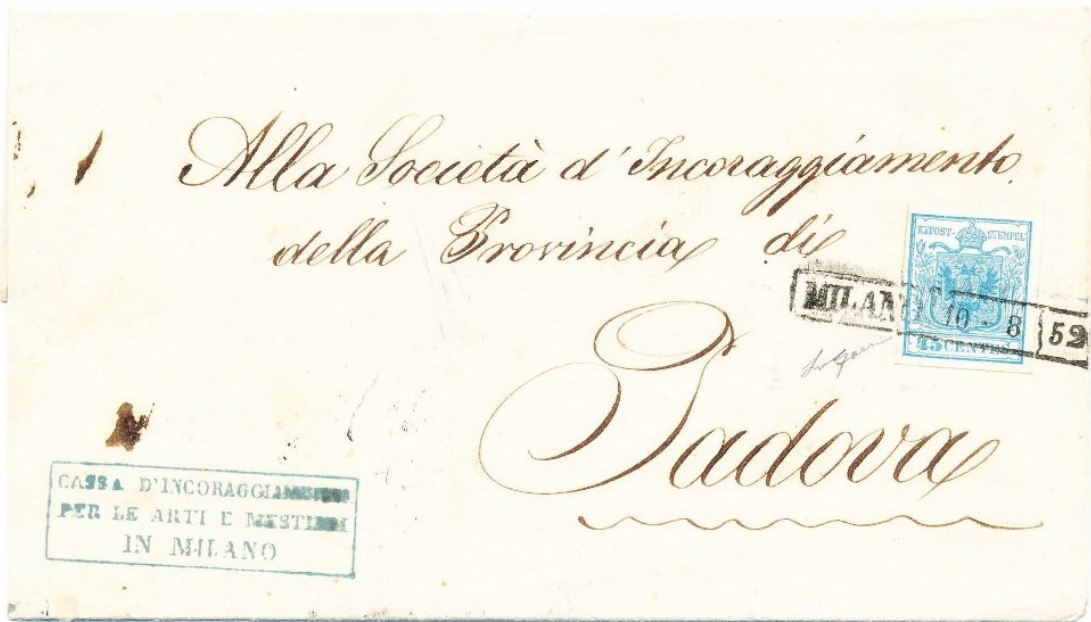
30c brown
Verona 28
Sep. 1851 to
Venezia



30c brown Treviso 8
Jul. 1853 to Trieste

Lombardy-Venetia 45 blue centesimi use

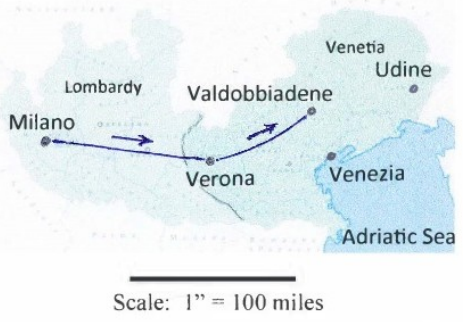
The 45c blue stamp paid the domestic letter rate for distances of over 20 meilen per loth (weight)



Padova 11 Aug. backstamp

45c blue Milano 10 Aug. 1852 to Padova. "Distribuzione 2" (Distribution) marking on reverse, which indicated that it was the 2nd delivery of the day. Signed by Luigi Gazzi.

Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia (Austrian Italy) 1815-1866



Route this cover took by railroad from Milan, the capital of Lombardy, to Valdobbiadene in Venetia



45c blue Milano 10 Jul. 1856 to Valdobbiadene

Epilogue

The 1850 First Issue of both Austria and Lombardy-Venetia were declared invalid for use effective 31 December 1858 due to a currency change, and were replaced by a new issue denominated in the new currency.