

**Journal of**  
**THE MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

# MaltaPost

## Christmas Offers



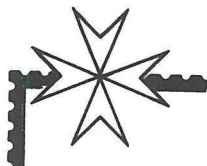
**FDC's 1995-2001**  
**€ 190**  
**Save € 100**

More offers available on [www.maltaphilately.com](http://www.maltaphilately.com)



**Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c.,**  
305, Qormi Road, Marsa MTP 1001, Malta

[www.maltaphilately.com](http://www.maltaphilately.com) | [info@maltaphilately.com](mailto:info@maltaphilately.com) | (+356) 2596 1740



# THE MPS JOURNAL

Silver STOCKHOLM 1986

Silver PORTLAND USA 2007

Silver CHICAGOPEX 2002, 2004, 2005, 2011

Silver NIPPON 2011 ~ Silver INDONESIA 2012

Silver AUSTRALIA 2013 ~ Silver THAILAND 2013

Silver SINGAPORE 2014 ~ Silver GREECE 2015

Silver USA. New York 2016 ~ Silver PHILATAIPEI 2016

Members of Federation Internationale de Philatelie



<http://www.sliemastampshop.com.mt/MaltaPhilatelicSociety>

Printed by Best Print Co. Ltd., Qrendi

---

**Vol. 46/3**

**December, 2017**

---

## 2017 Committee

**President &  
Journal Editor:**

Chev. Dr. A. Bonnici MD, MA(Melit) FRPSL, ASPS, KM, UOM  
(Tel: 2133 8437, 9949 5066), [abonnici@maltanet.net](mailto:abonnici@maltanet.net)  
34 "Casa Bonnici", Sir Augustus Bartolo Street, Ta' Xbiex,  
XBX 1093, Malta.

**Vice President**

Mr. John V. De Battista (Tel: 2141 1919)  
46, Triq Dun Gwann Pullicino, Mosta MST 2703  
[debfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:debfamily@hotmail.com)

**Secretary/ Treasurer**

Mr. John A. Cardona (Tel: 2189 2141, 9983 6966)  
56, Triq Santa Marija, Tarxien, TXN 1703, Malta.  
[johnacardona@gmail.com](mailto:johnacardona@gmail.com)

**Liaison with Malta  
Study Circle UK:**

Mr. H. Wood (Tel: 2133 0336) - [hwood@go.net.mt](mailto:hwood@go.net.mt)

**Members:**

Mr. C. Bonello (Tel: 2137 3362) - [carmbonnel@gmail.com](mailto:carmbonnel@gmail.com)  
Mr. A. Camilleri (Tel: 2138 0113) - [toncam@go.net.mt](mailto:toncam@go.net.mt)  
Mr. J. C. Camilleri (Tel: 2143 6090, 7931 7436) - [jccam0009@hotmail.com](mailto:jccam0009@hotmail.com)  
Mr. A. Caruana Ruggier (Tel: 2124 3518) - [alcarug@gmail.com](mailto:alcarug@gmail.com)  
Mr. C. Mejlaq (Tel: 2149 8069, 7973 4088) - [charlessmejlaq@gmail.com](mailto:charlessmejlaq@gmail.com)  
Mr. John Micallef (Tel: 2143 3545, 9943 2945) - [elcamino@onvol.net](mailto:elcamino@onvol.net)  
Mr. C. Navarro (Tel: 2168 2448, 7930 9698) - [carmel.navarro@um.edu.mt](mailto:carmel.navarro@um.edu.mt)

**Overseas Rep:**

Mr. Chris Howe, Sandringham Gardens, Fishtoft, Boston Lines PE21 9QA, UK  
[chrishowe@skanderbeg.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:chrishowe@skanderbeg.fsnet.co.uk)  
Mr. Wolfgang Juncker, 47 Lagerstrasse, Homburg Sarr D-66424, Germany  
Mr. D. Pardo, 8212, NE 163rd Place, Kenmore, WA 98028, USA  
Mr. Nick A. Cutajar, 6A Beck Street, Henley Beach, S.A. 5022 Australia (Southern Area)  
[ncutajar@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ncutajar@optusnet.com.au)  
Mr. Paul Bondin, 86 Ocean Street, Woollahra, NSW 2025, Australia (Sydney Area)  
[paulbondin@singermedical.com.au](mailto:paulbondin@singermedical.com.au)

---

## CONTENTS

Expulsion of the Jesuit Order from Malta 23 April 1768 .....	2
Letter of 25th April 1768 Grand Master Emmanuel Pinto to Marchese Tanucci Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs .....	10
Postal Diary 8th March 2017 – 19th April 2017 .....	46



# Expulsion of the Jesuit Order from Malta

## 23 April 1768

by

Dr Alfred Bonnici. MD., FRPSL., A.S.P.S.



*Grand Master Emanuel Pinto de Fonseca  
1741-1773, (Portuguese) - by Antoine Favary.  
St Johns Cathedral, Valletta. Malta.*

Pope Paul III (Farnese) had asked Ignatius Loyola probably born in 1491, in the Basque country - Spain, to found the Society of Jesus – the Jesuit Order which he did. He was a mystic, burning with the fire of divine love, a priestly apostle and a spiritual director. Pope Paul III formally approved the Society of Jesus on 27 September 1540. Ignatius was chosen as superior and led the Society between 1541 and his death in 1556.

Next to the Lutheran revolution, no single event traumatised the Catholic world as severe as the suppression of the Jesuits by Pope Clement XIV in 1773, who according to Giovanni Bonello reached that final decision, because of a scandal involving a Maltese family – ***the Pisani imbroglio*** <sup>1</sup>

This was the time when the Catholic Church was encountering the Lutheran – Calvin religious revolution, and the Jesuits became the commandoes of the Catholic Church.

The early Jesuits were involved mainly in aiding souls through spiritual ministries, like giving the *Exercises*, preaching the Word of God and celebrating the sacraments of the Eucharist and penance. Alongside this, however, they were also active in social ministries, like visiting and serving the sick in hospitals and working for the reconciliation of those estranged. In Rome in 1543, Ignatius himself helped set up the Santa Maria built for women who had abandoned life of prostitution.

A very significant development was the request from various quarters that the Jesuits should set up schools. The first school exclusively for lay students was opened,

---

<sup>1</sup> Giovanni Bonello. The Pisani imbroglio and the suppression of the Jesuits in 1773. The Sunday Times of Malta. 12 January. 1997. p33.



with ten very carefully chosen Jesuits by Ignatius himself, in Messina, Sicily, in 1548<sup>2</sup>. In the short space of fifteen years as superior general, Jesuit missionaries were in India, Japan, Brazil, Congo.

Ignatius had hoped to found a college even in Malta.

Bishop Dominic Cubelles of Malta, asked Ignatius to open a college, and promised funds for the school, but this did not materialize in Ignatius life time, becoming a reality in 1592, when Pope Clement XIV had asked Bishop Gargallo and Grand Master Jean l'Evesque de la Casserie to set up a college, and consequently the *Collegium Melitense* was accordingly founded in Valletta in 1592, which was the forerunner of the University of Malta.

Baroque architecture and art are closely associated with the society. The church of the *Gesu'* in central Rome erected for the Jesuits by Cardinal

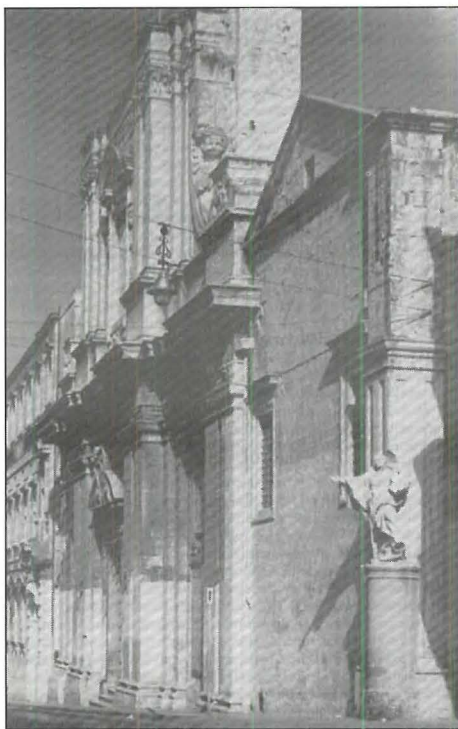
Alessandro Farnese 1568 onwards, is considered the prototype of baroque religious architecture. In 1658, the society commissioned Lorenzo Bernini to work on Sant Andrea al Quirinale, one of the most splendid baroque churches in Rome.<sup>3</sup>

From 1600 to 1750, Jesuits enjoyed great prestige in the Church, and in European Society and were very active and innovative in the foreign missions.

By the middle of the 18 century serious problems arose.

The process of the suppression of the Jesuits initially involved territorial expulsions.

It started in Portugal in 1759. The dominant figure there was Sebastian Jose de Carvalho, de Mello, Marques de Pombal. A staunch monarchist and former ambassador in London. The Jesuits with their vow of obedience to the Pope, defended the monarchical model but not regal absolutism. Pombal decided they had to be eliminated.



*Marques de Pombal*

<sup>2</sup> Fr Robert Soler. Ignatius of Loyola and the expansion of the Jesuit Order. Sunday Times of Malta April 20, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Fr R Soler , Ignatius of Loyola etc. op cit.p37

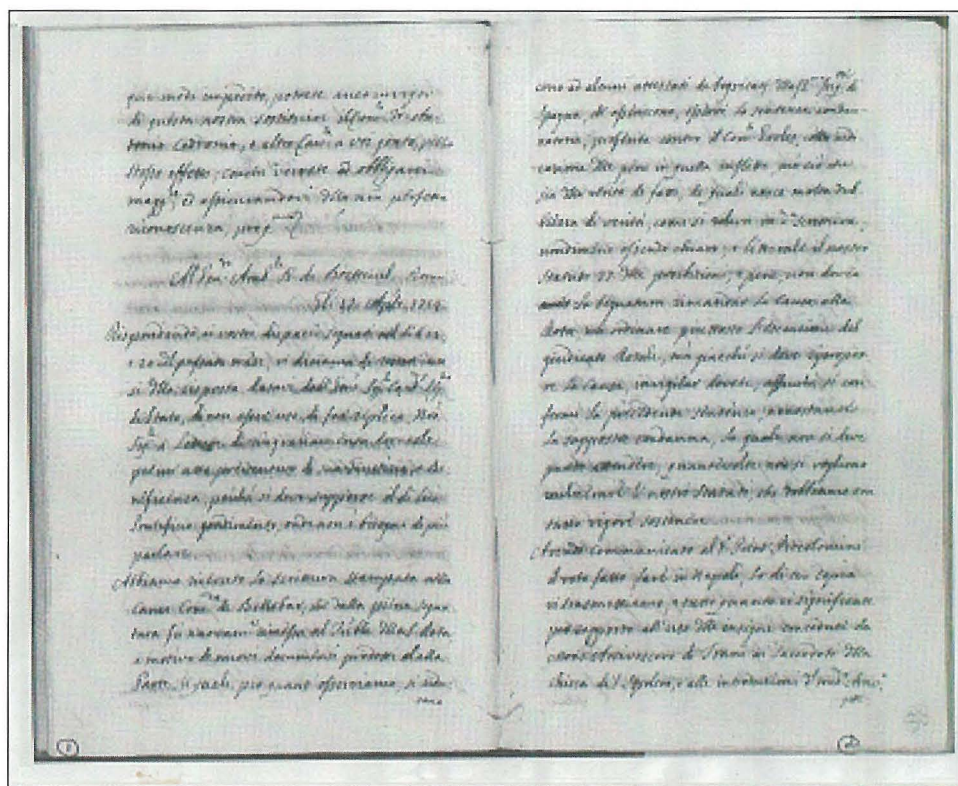




There was the problem of the *Indios*, and in 1755, an earthquake struck Lisbon, The Jesuit Gabriel Malagrida unwisely wrote that this was divine retribution for grievous public sins, and not due merely to natural causes which upset Pombal.

On 3 September 1758 an attempt on the life of King Joseph I, Pombal without any proof blamed some Jesuits<sup>4</sup>, among which was Malagrida who was later brutally murdered.

In March 1758 the Order's ambassador in Rome sent Pinto a copy of a report<sup>5</sup>,



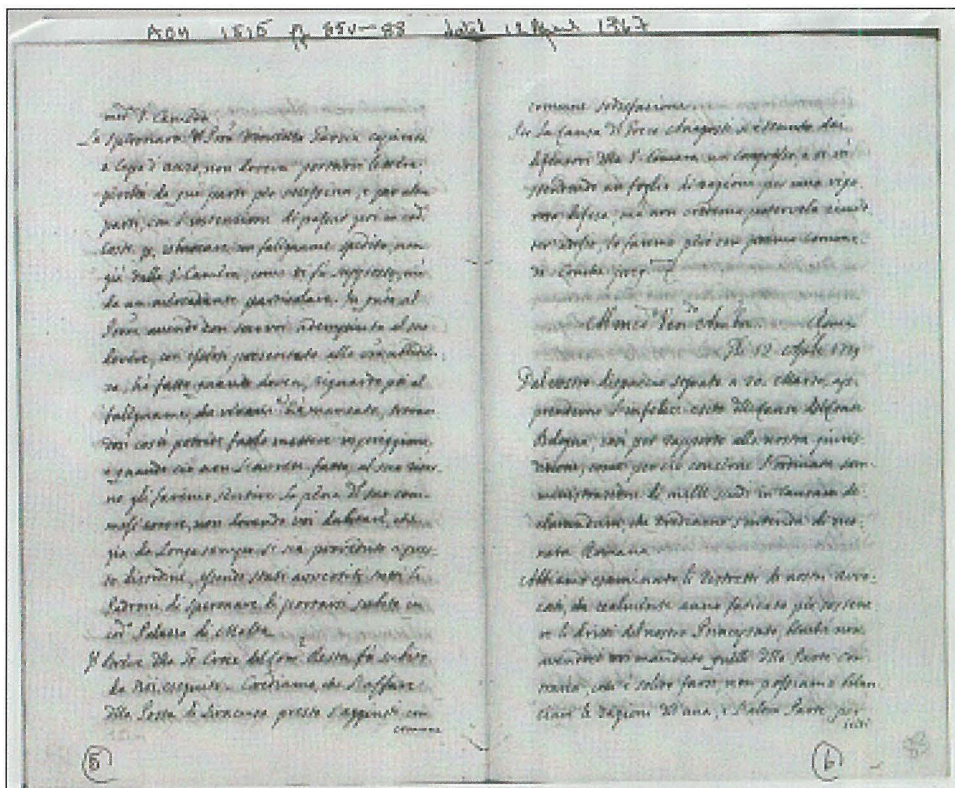
AOM 1515 ff 85v-88 dated 12 April 1767 P1& 2

<sup>4</sup> Lib. 1072; Misc.38, viii

<sup>5</sup> Lib.1146 (ii), f.9.







AOM 1515 ff 85v-88 dated 12 April 1797 P5&6

obviously prepared and issued by influential circles in the Portuguese government, accusing the Jesuits of founding republics of their own in Spanish and Portuguese colonies in the Americas, and a manifest on the duty of the king of Portugal to castigate the Jesuits.<sup>6</sup>

In Malta Pinto soon became aware of where the wind was blowing and made haste to prepare accordingly.

In his letter of 12 April 1797<sup>7</sup> he prepared Bali Breteuil, his ambassador at the Holy See, for the impending tussle for their properties.

9 October 1759 Breteuil sent the Grand Master un' altro volume contro il P Gesuiti<sup>8</sup> which had just been published. ( put in document AOM 1356 f 353)

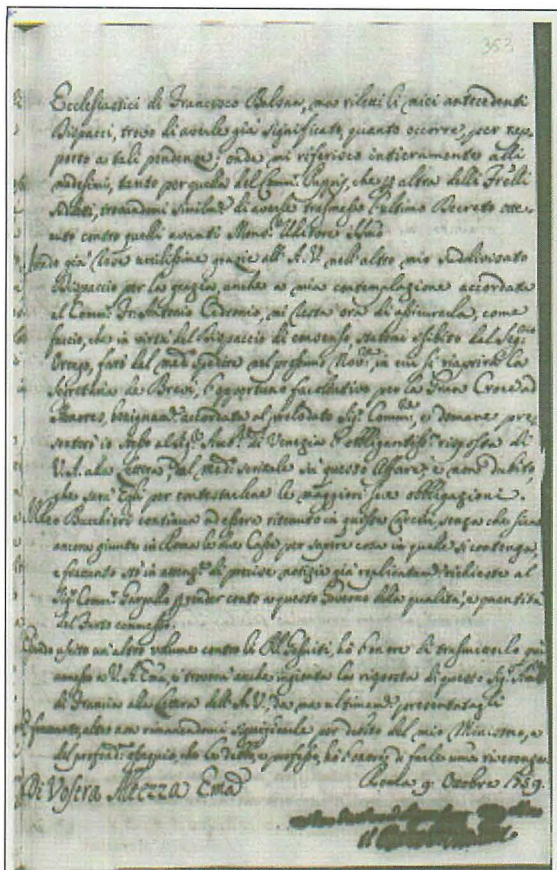
1 April 1759, Joseph I informed the Pope that he was expelling the Jesuits from Portugal, which he did.

<sup>6</sup> C Testa, The Life and time of Grand Master Pinto. P 279

<sup>7</sup> AOM 1515

<sup>8</sup> AOM 1356





AOM I 356 f.353 dated 9 Oct 1759

suppressed the Society throughout France, but nevertheless allowed former Jesuits to remain in the country.

The next country to expel the Jesuits was Spain.

Jesuit historian Ferrer Benimeli (2013) mentions the strong influence, if not power, the Jesuits had through their schools, their role as the King's confessors and advisers. The Jesuits were falsely accused by Crown Attorney Campomanes of plotting to overthrow the King because they affirmed the people's right against rising food prices. As the Jesuits opposed regal absolutism, Charles III believed the accusations, decreeing their expulsion from Spain on April 16, 1767,

Pinto was kept informed by Breteuil, his ambassador at the Holy See on these dramatic events. In his dispatch of 21 April 1767<sup>9</sup> wrote about "the resolution taken

The next country to expel the Jesuits was France;

The Jesuits had to struggle with the Encyclopaedists whose liberal philosophy eventually helped to level all social barriers and usher in the French Revolution

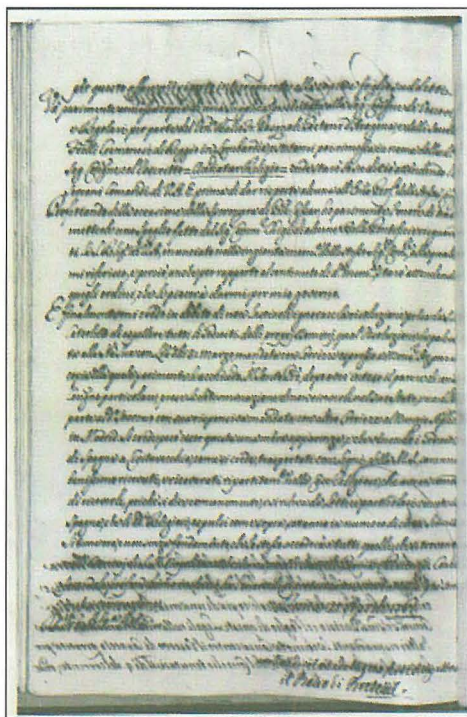
The Jesuits had to cope with the Jansenists and Madame de Pompadour the influential mistress of Louis XV.

Following an adverse decision in a commercial lawsuit against the French Branch of the Jesuits, the Court went a step further pronouncing the Order's constitution as incompatible with the laws of the land since it tended to drag away from the king his subjects, allegiance

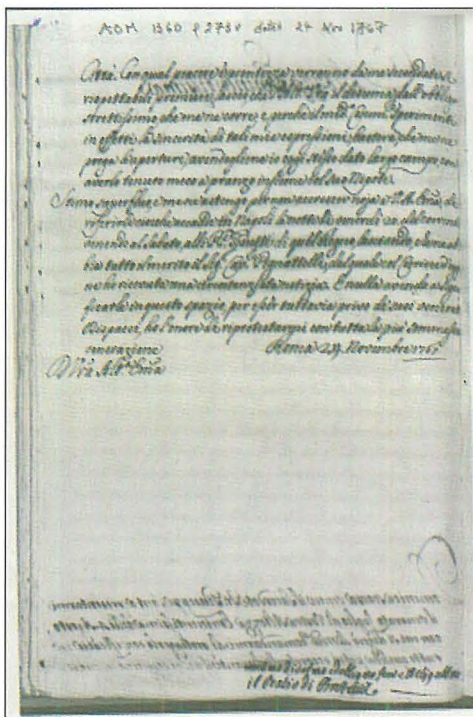
On August 6, 1762, The Paris Parliament barred the Society from France, disbanding its communities and confiscating its buildings, and in November 1764 King Louis XV reluctantly

<sup>9</sup> AOM 1360





AOM 1360 f 195v dated 21 April 1767



AOM 1360 f 273v dated 24 Nov 1767

by His Most Catholic Majesty of expelling all Jesuits from his domains, announced to His Holiness by an *express letter of the 31 March*. ..... It is now feared that the same fate would befall those who are found in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and in the States of Parma and Piacenza”

Pinto replied to Bretteuil that “We have been surprised by the news of the Jesuits” expulsion from the Spanish Kingdom. We have no doubt that this will be followed in the neighbouring States of Parma and Piacenza.<sup>10</sup>

On the trumped-up charges that the Jesuits were plotting against the State, Ferdinand IV of the Two Sicilies, the younger brother of the King of Spain, did the same, and immediately on the night of 20/21 November 1767 ordered their expulsion<sup>11</sup>

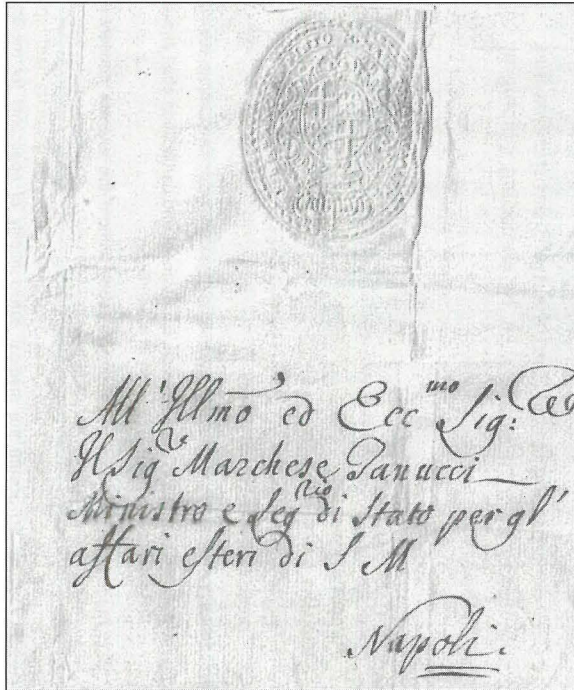
Malta’s Turn:

In 1530 when the Maltese Islands were donated by Charles V to the Order of St John in full sovereignty, one of the few conditions which were stipulated in the

<sup>10</sup> AOM 1523, f.79.

<sup>11</sup> AOM 1360, Despatch dated 24 November 1767

**Letter of 25th April 1768  
Grand Master Emmanuel Pinto  
to Marchese Tanucci Minister and Secretary  
of State for Foreign Affairs**



*Marchese Tanucci Minister and Secretary of  
State for Foreign Affairs*



M<sup>mo</sup> ed Ecc<sup>mo</sup> Sig<sup>no</sup>

Q

Spendosi compiaciuta V<sup>ra</sup> Ecc<sup>za</sup> rendere informata  
L<sup>la</sup> M<sup>te</sup> di quanto gli ha esposto il nob<sup>le</sup> Lignatelli intorno  
all'espulsione dei Gesuiti da quest'Isola, in seguito, per  
mezzo del gentiliss<sup>mo</sup> suo foglio dei 19 Marzo, mene ha fatte  
sù di ciò note le Reali intenzioni; ed io che le hò ricevute  
colla dovuta rassegnazione m'assicuro che rimangono  
già eseguite, come le verrà esposto dal nobile Ind<sup>o</sup>. In

questa circostanza spero potermi gloriare di aver data  
al L<sup>la</sup> M<sup>te</sup> una testimonianza della mia uniformità da suoi  
Reali Comandi, come procurerò di fare in qualunque altra  
che dipenderà dal mio arbitrio, per meritare sempre più  
il Reale gradimento della M<sup>te</sup>. Questa grazia non posso  
sperarla, se non verrà dal V<sup>ro</sup> Ecc<sup>za</sup> disposta, onde a tal  
fine le porgo le mie più vive preghiere, quali non  
diffido saranno da Lei accolte, giacchè in ogn' incontro  
V<sup>ra</sup> Ecc<sup>za</sup> mi ha compartiti li suoi favori con molta genero-  
sità e frattanto resto con baciare le mani  
Di V<sup>ra</sup> Ecc<sup>za</sup>

Malta 25 Aprile 1768

Q

V<sup>ro</sup> Gran Maestro

Linto.

Liq<sup>do</sup> M<sup>te</sup> Danucci



# Decree of 18th April 1769 on behalf of GM Emmanuel Pinto about the expalstion of the Jesuits as registered in chancellory.

Frater Emmanuel Pinto  
 DE Igratia, Sacrae Domus Hospitii S. Iosephs Hiero. et  
 Militaris Ord. S. Sepulchri Dominici Mag. humilis, pauper-  
 rumque Jesu Xpi Custos: Univeris, et singulis pntes nras hns  
 visuris, Lecturis, et audituris salm: Notum facimus, et in verbo-  
 veritatis attestamur, qualiter infrascripta Nota extracta fuit ex  
 Libro Conciliorum Status in Cancellaria nra conservato, et signan-  
 ter ex Margine nostri Magistralis Edicti editi pro expulsi-  
 onem Patrum Societatis Jesu nuncupatorum, Die 22 Aprilis pro-  
 xime praeteriti, Quam quidem in hanc publicam formam  
 extrahi, et redigi iussimus, ut ubique tam in Jno, quam  
 extra eadem plena, et indubitata fides adhibeatur, Cujus  
 tenor est, qui sequitur, Videlicet.

Die iv. M<sup>o</sup> Februarii 1768. ab Incar.<sup>ne</sup> S. Emo e Lmo Sig. Gn  
 Maestro ha ordinato a me Bal<sup>o</sup> Vicecancelliere di far la  
 infrascritta Nota Marginale ne' miei termini precisi e termini  
 richiesti da S. M<sup>te</sup> Re delle due Sicilie per mezzo del suo Mi-  
 nistro di Stato Sig. Marchese Tanucci, quali sono = Ha

riparato il Re le parole di Sovranita' e Concorso de' Principi,  
 e non avendo rilevato dal Diploma d'Infenzione questi  
 termini, non puo' concorrervi = Lucio Vicecanc. =

Et quia ita se habet veritas, Ideo in huius rei Testim<sup>m</sup> Bulla nra  
 Magistralis in cera nigra nitibus est impressa. Dat<sup>o</sup> Me-  
 litae in Conventu nro Die xviii. M<sup>o</sup> Aprilis 1769.

Registr<sup>o</sup> in Sanm<sup>o</sup>

David Aquilino Francisco

deed of cession was that *“The islands would never be used to help or shelter the enemies of the King of Sicily”*.

Once the Jesuits were declared enemies of that Kingdom, the Order was bound to expel them from Malta, as demanded by the letter of Marquis Tanucci, the Neapolitan Secretary of State.

Having weighed all the pros and cons in his mind Pinto acted secretly and quickly.

Just before the break of dawn of 23 April 1768 and without any warning whatsoever, the Jesuits were hastily awakened and put on board a chartered French ship which immediately left for Civitavecchia.

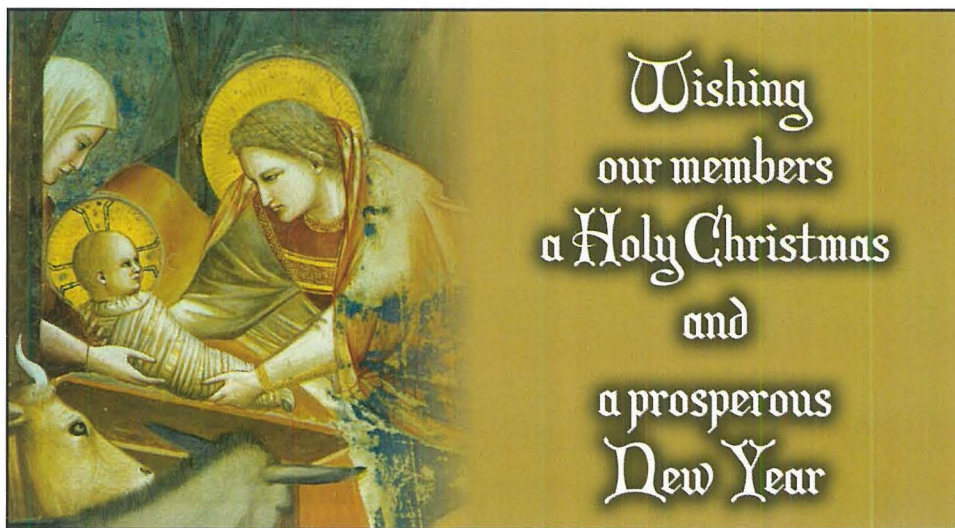
The Grand Master then hastened to inform Marquis Tanucci that he had expelled the Jesuits from Malta in compliance to his (Tanucci's) letter of 19 March <sup>12</sup>regarding his royal master's command to that effect.

On the following day Pinto summoned the Council and blatantly told the members that he had been forced to expel the Jesuits for weighty reasons which he had received from Naples only a short time before. Pinto reminded the Council that, “We and our Order have been invested with the sovereignty of these islands by the munificence of the King of Sicily, acting in conjunction with the Sovereigns of Europe” The King of Sicily had expelled the Jesuits in perpetuity from all his domains for grave crimes against the state and had also bade the Grand Master to do likewise. The Order, recognizing the feudal overlordship of that monarch over the Maltese Islands, was in duty bound to comply.<sup>13</sup>

---

<sup>12</sup> AOM 1524, f.95

<sup>13</sup> C. Testa. oc. p 284





# Mail by “*MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES*” to & via MALTA on its FIVE routes, from Marseille to Malta (1853-66)

by  
Dr A. Bonnici  
Part 1a, 1b and 1c

The exhibit is a study of **ROUTES** and **RATES** by date of Mail to or via Malta, and back, carried by “*MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES*” (*M.I.*), on its Five “*Lignes*”, bearing the **name** of its different ships, during the period (1853-66)

In 1853 Napoleon III converted his Presidency into a Monarchy, and as the “*Compagnie des Services Maritimes des Messageries Nationales*” had Royal patronage, he changed its name by “*Decree*” on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 1853 to “*Messageries Impariales*”, which continued to expand its fleet, and routes which were named, having the same conditions of its predecessor, amongst which, an “*Agent des Postes*” was nominated by the Minister for Finance and paid by the State, to be on board with special privileges, responsible to “*recevoir, conserver et transmettre le depeches*”. Moreover he was handed a hand stamp “with the name of the ship and date to endorse the entires”.

As the number of Postal Agency was not enough, they were not on every trip so this special endorsement with the name of the ship was not used when the Postal Agent was not on board. In 1857 another hand stamp was also used called the “*anchor in a lozenge of dots*”



The exhibit is divided in the following **FIVE** sections: (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

## Section 1

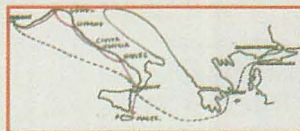
“**LIGNE DU LEVANT**”: From **MARSEILLE** to **CONSTANTINOPLE** and **Back** via **MESSINA**, so **TRANSFER** of letters between ships addressed to **MALTA** was done at **MESSINA**, on to ships of the,

“**LIGNE INDIRECTE D’ITALIE**” from **MARSEILLE** to **MALTA** (along the Italian coast) (map1)  
This section (1), includes (1A, 1B, 1C – pages 2 to 50)

1A. “**LES OBLITERATIONS DOUBLES**” Double Ship Transfer (Page 2-8). These exhibits are not recorded by Salles.

1B. Sometimes although there was a **Double Ship Transfer** only one ship hand stamp was applied. (Page 9-25)

1C. and when there was **No Postal Agent**, no ship hand stamp was applied, even when there was a **Triple Ship Transfer** (P26-50)



2. “**LIGNE DU LEVANT**”, Marseille direct to Malta, ship hand stamp to **CONSTANTINOPLE** (Page 51-96). Also operating in parallel on



3. “**LIGNE INDIRECTE D’ITALIE – MARSEILLE to MALTA** and back, along the Italian coast (Page 113-128)



4. “**LIGNE D’EGYPT**” **ALEXANDRIE – MALTA – MARSEILLE** and **back** (Page 93-94)

5. “**LIGNE D’ SYRIE**” **ALEXANDRIE – SYRIAN coast – MALTA MARSEILLE** and back (Page No 95-96)



Reference; (1) Admiralty Mediterranean Steam Packets by Colin Tabernat  
Routes - Raymond Salles “la Poste Maritime Française” - Tome II

Malta Customs Ship Arrival Registers in the Malta National Archives (MCAR- MNA)  
Duncan Haws (D.H) “Merchant Fleets” – *Ships and their details, are shown only once*

Rates. UK Malta Study Circle – Mario Mentaschi / Thomas Matha, Paolo Vollmeire, M Chauvet / J. F. Brun “ Introduction A L’Histoire Postale (2007)”; Malta Philatelic Journal Vol 32/1: Vol 36/2 & 3 by Dr A Bonnici (A,B)  
*Maps are shown at the top of each section, only once to illustrate each “Ligne” (Route- 1; 2; 3; 4; 5)*



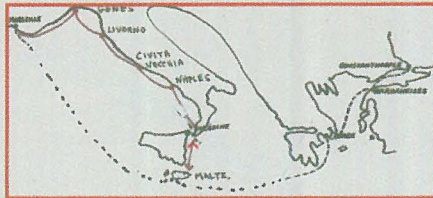
1A

*Les Obliterations Doubles*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE**

**M.I. SIMOIS: 13 Sept 1855 / M.I. ORONTE: 22 Sept 1855**

*Transfer at Malta*



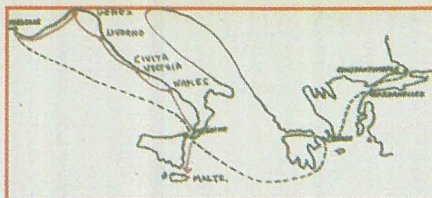
Not recorded by Salles. Only double ship transfer recorded at Malta

Rate: 2/1 (Two schilling and sixpence)

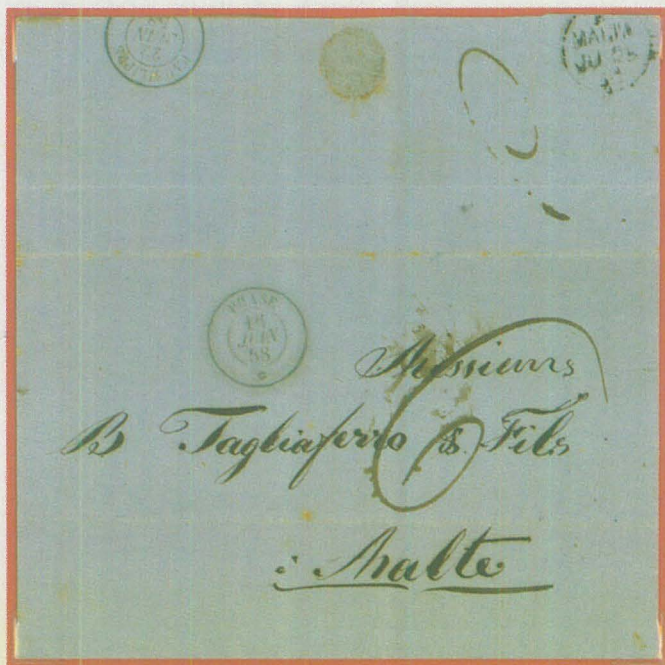


This letter came from Constantinople on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 1855, on Messageries Imperiales SIMOIS, via Malta, continuing to Marseille, so this entire waited in Malta for 8 days for M.LORONTE, embarking on the 21<sup>st</sup> September, to take it to Messina, arriving on 22 September and on to Catania its final destination

*Les Obliterations Doubles*  
**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE**  
**M.I. PHASE: 16 June 1858 / M.I. PAUSILLIPE: 22 June 1858**  
*Transfer at MESSINA*



Rate: "6", 6d (six pence) per ¼ oz (F5d + M1d) paid at Malta by addressee on delivery



NOT RECORDED BY SALLES

**M.I. PHASE**  
*(h/s, r)*  
**16 June 1858**  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
 to  
**MESSINA**  
 on to  
**M.I. PAUSILLIPE**  
**22 June 1858**  
*(h/s, v)*  
 to  
**MALTA**  
**23 June 1858**  
*(c.d.s, r)*

**1. M.I. PHASE** : (1st Postal voyage – 29 May 59, to Constantinople)  
*Sixieme variante (1857-60) 1st return trip in 58 (h/s, r), (626 tx) sister of Danube*  
 Built at La Ciotat, and launched on 04 Dec 1857. Broken up Aug 1879 at La Ciotat

**2. M.I. PAUSILLIPE** : (h/s, v), (1st Postal voyage – 17 Dec 1857 to Italy)  
*(379 tx) Capt Chausse, sister of Quirina, built at La Ciotat, paddle steamer, Launched*  
 7 June 1857. Used in Italian campaign in 1859





## *Les Obliterations Doubles*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. CYDNUS: 19 May 1859 / M.I. VATICAN: 7 June 1859**  
*Transfer at MESSINA*



**BERDIANSKA**  
**(BLACK SEA)**  
**19 May 1859**  
 to  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
 on to  
**M.I. CYDNUS**  
**1 June 1859**  
*(h/s, r)*  
 to  
**MESSINA**  
 on to  
**M.I. VATICAN**  
**6 June 1859**  
*(h/s, v)*  
 to **MALTA**  
**7 June 1859**

NOT RECORDED BY SALLES

### **(1) M.I. CYDNUS**

**(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage - 11 Dec 1856, to Constantinople)**

Sixième variante (1857-1860), 3rd return Postal voyage in 1859 (*Salles. p174*).  
 (627 tx), sister of Danube, built at La Ciotat, and launched 13 August 1856.

Broken up at La Ciotat in 1875



### **(2) M.I. VATICAN**

**(1st Postal voyage - 26 Feb 1855, to Italy)**

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE.**

Troisième variante (1857-1864), 5th trip to MALTA (*S.p207*)

(280 tx), Capt Emilio Pelissot (F) Sister to Capitole. - built as a Paddle steamer,  
 at L' Arman Bordeaux, for service to Italy

In 1859 carried troops to Italy during the campaign against Austria.



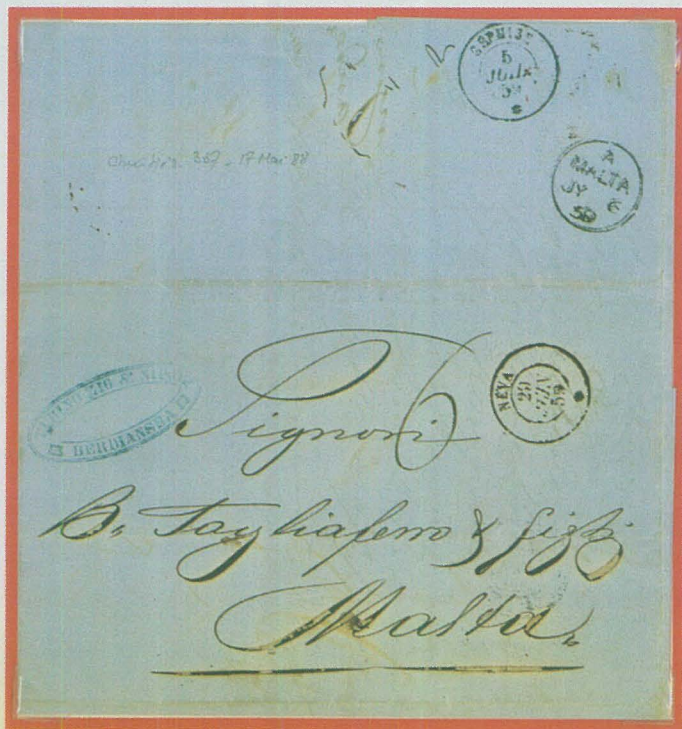
**LIGNE DU LEVANT / LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**DOUBLE SHIP HAND STAMP**

**M.I. NEVA - MESSINA (5 July 1859) - CEPHISE**

*(Unrecorded by Salles)*

E.L. - (8)/20 June 1859 – Berdianska- by hand to CONSTANTINOPLE, (29/6), to  
 Tagliaferro in MALTA / 6 July 59, c.d.s. (v)

Rate “-/6d”

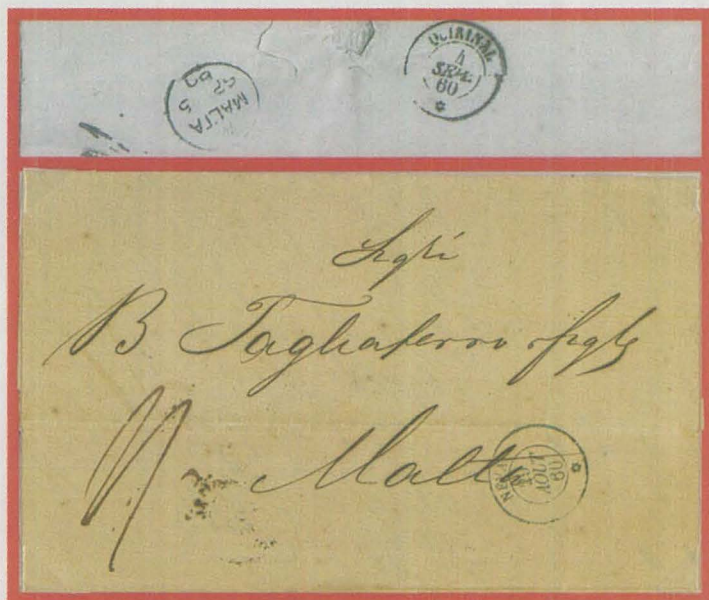




## *Les Obliterations Doubles*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. NEVA: 25 AUGUST 1860 / M.I. QUIRINAL: 4 September 1860**  
*Transfer at MESSINA*

**Rate:** Double rate "1/-" (one schilling) to be paid by addressee - (6d per ¼ oz)



**ODESSA**  
*(Black Sea)*  
**14 August 1860**  
 to  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
 on to

**M.I. NEVA**  
**29 August 1860**  
*(h/s, r)*  
 to  
**MESSINA**  
 on to  
**M.I. QUIRINAL**  
**4 September 1860**  
*(h/s, v)*  
 to  
**MALTA**  
**5 September 1860**  
*(c.d.s, v)*

NOT RECORDED BY SALLES

### **1. M.I. NEVA**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 5 March 1859, to Constantinople  
 Sixième Variante (1857-1860), 7th return Postal voyage in 1860, (S. p 175)  
 (617 tx), built at La Ciotat in 1858, and launched 20 Oct 1858.  
 It inaugurated the Marseille-Alexandria-Suez-Hong Kong service in Oct 1862.  
 Lost in the Rikou Strait near Batavia, Dutch East Indies in 1875



### **2. M.I. QUIRINAL**

(1st Postal voyage – 26 August 1858, to Italy)  
 LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, (1857-1864) 8th postal  
 voyage in 1860  
 (365 tx), Capt Carbaufigue (F). Sister of Pausilippe built by Chantiers at La Seyen.  
 launched on 26 Apr 1857, for the Mediterranean passenger services to Italy

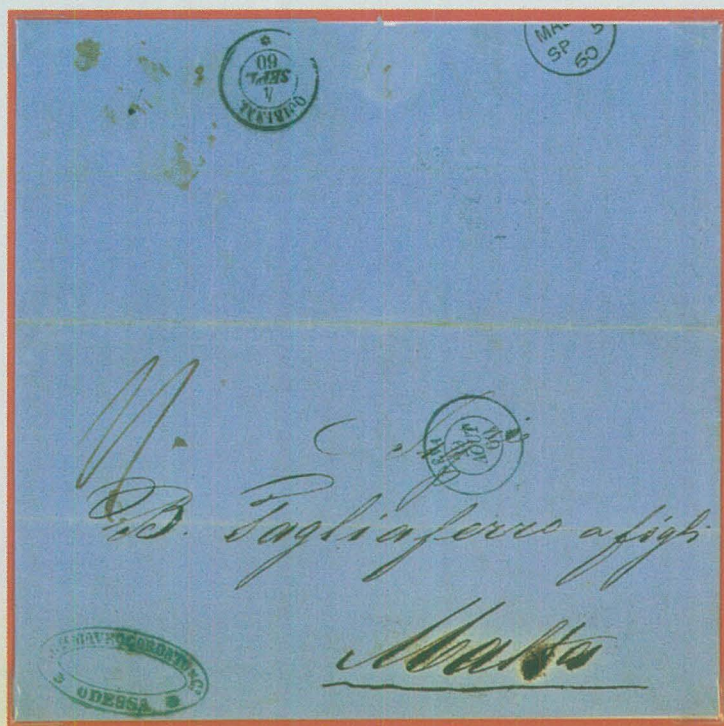


LIGNE DU LEVANT / LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE  
DOUBLE SHIP HAND STAMP

M.I. NEVA - MESSINA (5 SEPT 1860) - QUIRINAL

(Unrecorded by Salles)

E.L. - (12)/25 August 1860 by Mr C Ephrussi ODESSA (Black sea), by hand to CONSTANTINOPLE, (29/8), to Tagliaferro in MALTA / 5 Sept 60, c.d.s. (v)  
Rate "1/-"





## *Les Obliterations Doubles*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. SIMOIS: 14 May 1861 / M.I. VATICAN: 21 May 1861**  
*Transfer at MESSINA*



NOT RECORDED BY SALLES

**ODESSA (Black sea)**  
**11 May 1861**  
*to Forwarding Agent*  
**"V. DE. CANDIA" in**  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
*(h/s, r)*  
*on to*

**M.I. SIMOIS**  
**14 May 1861**  
*(h/s, r)*  
*to MESSINA*  
*on to*

**M.I. VATICAN**  
**21 May 1861**  
*(h/s, v)*  
*to*  
**MALTA**  
**22 May 1861**  
*(c.d.s), (v)*

**(1) M.I. SIMOIS**  
 (1st Postal voyage - 12 March 1855 to Constantinople)  
 Septième variante, (1860-1866), 3<sup>rd</sup> return Postal trip in 1861, coming  
 from SYRIE to MARSEILLE via MESSINA



**(2) M.I. VATICAN**  
 (1st Postal voyage - 26 February 1855, to Italy)  
 LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante (1857-1864), 3<sup>rd</sup> Postal voyage in 1861

# 1. B

## Double Ship Transfer but *SINGLE* ship hand stamp LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE M.I. HERMUS: 15 July 1857

Return trip from Constantinople Postal Agent did not have a HERMUS hand stamp, but was given one of the VILLE DE BORDEAUX instead. (Salles. p 89)

Rate: x "2" = "1/-" not "6" pence, charged "6d deficient + 6d tax = "1/-"



TAGANROG  
(Black Sea)  
30 June 1857  
to  
Forwarding Agent  
Fratelli Albani  
(h/s, r) in  
CONSTANTINOPOLE  
on to  
M.I. HERMUS  
15 July 1857  
but  
M.I. VILLE DE  
BORDEAUX  
(h/s, r)  
was used  
to  
MESSINA  
on to  
M.I. VATICAN  
21 July 1857  
No hand stamp  
to  
MALTA  
22 July 1857  
(25mm, c.d.s, v)

### (1) M.I. VILLE DE BORDEAUX

(h/s, r) but ship was actually M.I. HERMUS

LIGNE DU LEVANT: Sixième variante (1857-61). 1st return trip from Constantinople on  
15 July 1857

### (2) M.I. VATICAN

(1st Postal voyage - 26 Feb 1855, to Italy)

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, 8th trip down Italy (21 July 1857)



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. TAMISE: 28 August 1857 / M.I. CAPITOL: 2 September 1857**

Obliteration exceptionnelle de 1857

*Retour de Constantinople: 26 aout 57; c.a.d a la date du 28 aout 57 (esc. a Smyrne)*

Rate: "6", six pence



ODESSA  
(Black Sea)  
22 August 1857  
to  
Forwarding Agent  
**PEDEMONTE & DODERA**  
"who I fondly salute" (r)  
in  
SMYRNE  
on to  
**M.I. TAMISE**  
28 August 1857  
(h/s, r)  
coming from  
CONSTANTINOPLE  
to  
MESSINA  
on to **M.I. CAPITOL**  
1 September 1857  
no ship hand stamp  
to  
MALTA  
2 September 1857  
(30mm, c.d.s, v)

**(1) M.I. TAMISE:**

1st Postal voyage – 22 January 1855, to Constantinople

LIGNE DU LEVANT; Sixième variante, 3rd return Postal voyage esc. a SMYRNE 23/8/57

*M.I. TAMISE: (476 tx), Lieut Blot (F), Sister of Simois, Clyde, Mersey*

*Built by G Thomson of Glasgow and launched in 1854. 13 Dec 1863.*

*112 Turkish deck passengers boarded at Trabazon. A typhus epidemic broke out aboard and eight crew plus many Turks died during quarantine at Sinope.*



**(2) M.I. CAPITOLE:**

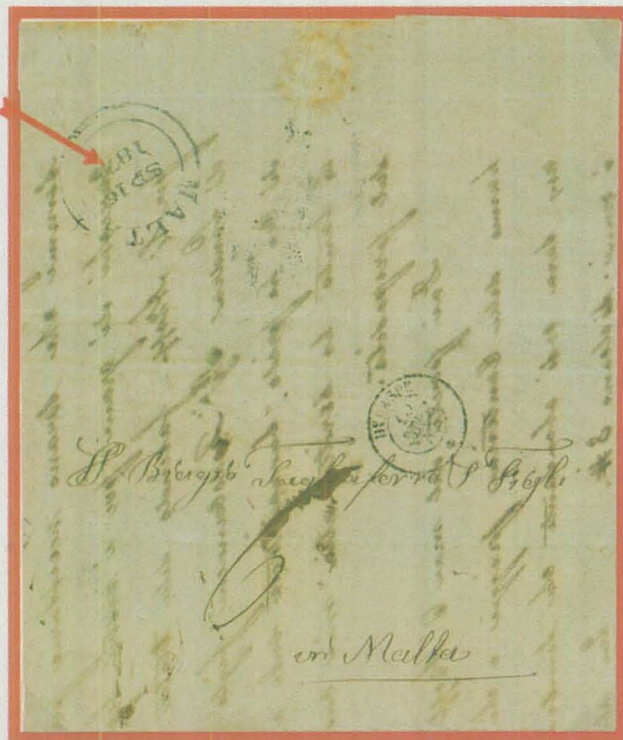
1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 18 Dec 1854 to Italy

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, 2<sup>nd</sup> Postal voyage in 1857

*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**HYDASPE: 10 September 1857 / M.I. AVENTIN: 15 September 1857**

Rate: "6" pence in manuscript



ODESSA  
(Black Sea)  
3 August 1857  
to  
CONSTANTINOPLE  
on to  
M.I. HYDASPE  
10 September 1857  
(h/s, r)  
to  
MESSINA  
on to  
M.I. AVENTIN  
15 September 1857  
no ship hand stamp  
(Salles p 206)  
to  
**MALTA**  
*Wrong date slug*  
16 September 1875  
1857  
(30 mm, c.d.s, v)

**(1) M.I. HYDASPE**

(1st Postal voyage - 21 December 1854, to Constantinople)

**LIGNE DU LEVANT, Sixième variante (1857-61), 5<sup>th</sup> return trip in 1857 from Constantinople**

(580 tx), Lieut Pascalis (F). Sister of Borysihene, & Meandre

Built by Laird of Birkenhead, launched 9 Aug 1853, and used for Crimean war service

**(2) M.I. AVENTINE**

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE : Troisième variante (1857-1864), 4<sup>th</sup> trip in 1857**

(250 tx) Capt A Blot (F). Built at La Ciotat and launched 31 Aug 1856 for Italian route. Shipwrecked near Civita Vecchia 29/30 August 1856





*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECT D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. GANGE 8 October 1857 / M.I. HELLESPONT 20 October 1857**

Rate: 6d x 2 = 1/- (one schilling), double



*Obliteration exceptionnelles GANGE 8 October 1857 (Salles p 85)*

ODESSA  
 (Black Sea)  
 2 October 1857  
 to  
 forwarding Agent  
**PEDEMONTE & DODERA**  
 "who I strongly salute"  
 in manuscript (v)  
 in  
 DARDANELLS  
 on to  
**M.I. GANGE**  
 8 October 1857  
 (h/s, r)  
 to  
 MESSINA  
 on to  
**M.I. HELLESPONT**  
 20 October 1857  
 (Salles p 206)  
 no ship hand stamp  
 to  
 MALTA  
 21 October 1857  
 (30mm, c.d.s, r)

**(1) M.I. GANGE**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 16 May 1854, to Constantinople)

**LIGNE LEVANT Sixième variante; - 4<sup>th</sup> return trip in 1857**

*M.I. GANGE. (1117tx) Lieut Enout. Built by J Reid Glasgow 1854, sister of Indus & Euphrate, used for Crimean war*



**(2) M.I. HELLESPONT**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage - 20 August 1852, to Italy)

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE, Troisième variant, 1st trip (20.X.57)**

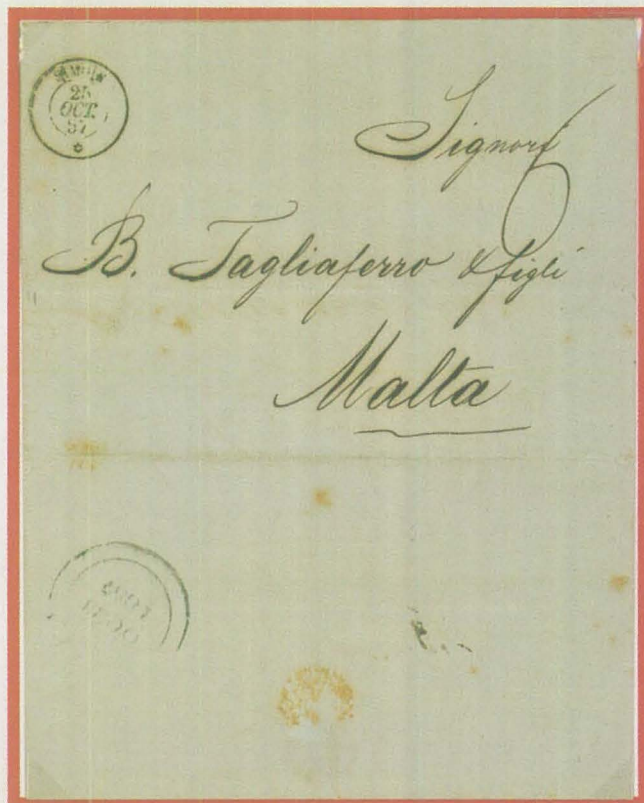
*M. I. HELLESPONT. (234tx) Built by Atelier Benet at La Ciotat and launched on 9 Dec 1846. Carried troops to Genoa 1859*



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECT D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. SIMOIS: 25 October 1857 / M.I. AVENTINE: 27 October 1857**

Rate "6", six pence



ODESSA  
(Black Sea)  
12 October 1857  
to  
SMYRNE  
on to  
M.I. SIMOIS  
25 October 1857  
(h/s), (r)  
It should have been 23  
(Salles p 127)  
to  
MESSINA  
on to  
M.I. AVENTINE  
27 October 1857  
(Salles p 206)  
to  
MALTA  
28 October 1857  
(30mm,c.d.s, v)  
MCAR Ms 128. V.13

*The date slug 25 is wrong. It had left Constantinople on the 21 OCT 57, (Salles p 173), so it arrived in Smyrne on the 23 (Salles p 127) not 25*

**(1) M.I. SIMOIS**

(1st Postal voyage - 12 March 1855, to Constantinople)

LIGNE DU LEVANT: Sixième variante. 5<sup>th</sup> return trip from Constantinople in 1857

**(2) M.I. AVENTINE:**

LIGNE INIRECTE D'ITALIE. Troisième variant. 5th trip in 1857



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. PHASE: 15 June 1859 / M.I. QUIRINAL 21 June 1859**

Transfer at Messina

Rate: "6", (six pence), normal rate, in manuscript



**CONSTANTINOPLE**

**M.I. PHASE**

**15 June 1859**

*(h/s, r)*

to

**MESSINA**

on to

**M.I. QUIRINAL**

**21 June 1859**

*no ship had stamp*

*(Salles p 207)*

to

**MALTA**

**22 June 1859**

*(19mm, c.d.s, v)*

**(1) M.I. PHASE**

*(1st Postal voyage - 29 May 1858, to Constantinople)*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT: Sixième variante. 1<sup>st</sup> return Postal trip, 15 June 1859**

**(2) M.I. QUIRINAL**

*(1st Postal voyage - 26 August 1858, to Italy)*

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE. Troisième variante, 6th Postal trip in 1859**

*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. DANUBE: 11 April 1860 / M.I. QUIRINAL: 17 April 1860**

Rate: "6" pence



CONSTANTINOPLE  
on to  
**M.I. DANUBE**  
11 April 1860  
(h/s, r)  
to  
**MESSINA**  
on to  
**M.I. QUIRINAL**  
17 April 1860  
no ship hand stamp  
(Salles p 207)  
to  
**MALTA**  
18 April 1860  
(19mm, c.d.s, v)

**(1) M.I. DANUBE**

(1st Postal voyage - 3 December 1855, to Constantinople)  
**LIGNE DU LEVANT, Sixième variante, 1<sup>st</sup> return trip in 1860**  
(687 ts), Lieut A Courtes (F). Sister of Cydnus, & Phase Built at La Ciotat,  
and launched on 13 Aug 1855.



**(2) M.I. QUIRINAL**

(1st Postal voyage - 26 August 1858, to Italy)  
**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE. Troisième variante, 4th trip in 1860**



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. LA CLYDE: 2 October 1861 / M.I. PAUSILIPPE: 9 October 1861**

*PARTICULARITES – 2, Pour mémoire, c'est surtout à deux voyages de retour de la station que l'on voit des lettres affranchies;*

*Au retour de Constantinople 28 sept — (=61)*

*et ..... 2 oct 61 (Salles p 74)*

Rate: "6" pence



*La CLYDE (ex station), (2 October 1861)*

**TAGANROG**  
*(Black Sea)*  
to  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
on to  
**M.I. La CLYDE**  
**2 October 1861**  
*(h/s, r)*  
to  
**MESSINA**  
on to  
**M.I. PAUSILIPPE**  
**9 October 1861**  
*(Salles p 208)*  
to  
**MALTA**  
**10 October 1861**  
*(19mm, c.d.s, v)*

**(1) M.I. LA CLYDE**

*(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855 to Constantinople)  
(482tx). Capt De Pizare, sister of Tamise, Built by Thomson of Glasgo.  
Launched in 1854. Named CLYDE in 1855. Scrapped at Savona in 1880*

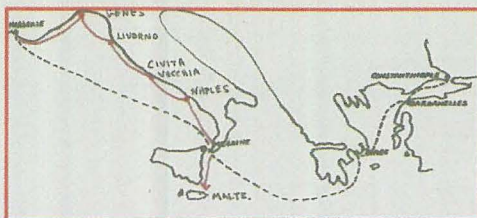


**(2) M.I. PAUSILIPPE**

*(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage - 17 Dec 1857, to Italy)  
LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE, Troisième variante, 9th trip in 1861  
(379tx). Capt Chausse, sister of Quirinal  
Built at La Ciotat and launched 7 June 1857 and broken up there in 1872  
Used for the Italian campaign.*

*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. AMERIQUE (17 September 1863) / M.I. VATICAN (22 September 1863)**  
**Transfer at MESSINA**



Rate: "6" pence to be paid by addressee; P.D in black crossed out



**BERDIEMSK**  
*(Black Sea)*  
 to  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
 on to  
**M.I. AMERICA**  
**17 September 1863**  
*(h/s, r)*  
 to  
**MESSINA**  
 on to  
**M.I. VATICAN**  
**22 September 1863**  
*no ship hand stamp*  
*(Salles p 209)*  
 to  
**MALTA**  
**24 September 1863**  
*(19mm, c.d.s, v)*

**1. M.I. AMERIQUE:**

**(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage 24 Nov 1860, to Constantinople)**

*(1088 tx). Launched on 17 Jan 1857, built by Forges et Chantiers at La Seyne.*

*In 1859 was converted into a horse carrier for the Italian campaign.*

*In July 1860 carried troops to Syria, and on the 24 Nov 1860 was placed on the Levant mail service, broken up in 1875 at La Ciotat.*



**2. M.I.VATICAN:**

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, 4th trip in 1863**



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. CARMEL (2 January 1864) / M.I. HERMUS (7 January 1864)**  
***"par voie de Messine"***

Rate: small box black PD

Perforated 40c orange Louis Napoleon cancelled by "anchor in lozenge of dots"



**MARSEILLE**  
**M. I. CARMEL**  
**2 January 1864**  
*(h/s, r)*

to  
**LEVANT**  
via  
**MESSINA**  
on to  
**M. I. HERMUS**  
**7 January 1864**  
*no ship hand stamp*  
*(Salles p 209)*  
to  
**MALTA**  
**8 January 1864**  
*(19mm, c.d.s, v)*

**1. M.I. CARMEL:**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 18 Jan 1855, to Constantinople)  
**LIGNE DU LEVANT : Septième variante. 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 1864**  
*(559tx). Lieut L Giost (F). Sister of Thabor, Sinai, Liban*  
*Built at La Ciotat, and launched 8 Oct 185, for Italian route, Levant, and Rio.*



**2. M.I. HERMUS:**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 4 July 1857, to Constantinople)  
**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE, Troisième variante. 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 1864**

*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. PELUSE (23 January 1864) / M.I. CAPITOLE (26 January 1864)**  
***"par voie de Messine"***

Rate: Small black box PD.

Perforated 40c Louis Napoleon, cancelled by "anchor in lozenge of dots"



**MARSEILLE**  
**M.I. PELUSE**  
23 January 1864

(h/s, r)

to

**LEVANT**

via

**MESSINA**

on to

**M.I. CAPITOLE**

26 January 1864

no ship hand stamp

(Salles p 209)

to

**MALTA**

27 January 1864

(19mm, c.d.s, v)

**1. M.I. PELUSE:**

(1st Postal voyage – 19 May 1863, to Alexandria)

**LIGNE DU LEVANT. Septième variante; 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 1864,**

(Only two Postal voyages in 1864 to Levant. None in 1863, 65, 66 Salles p 117)



**2. M.I. CAPITOLE:**

(1st Postal voyage – 18 December 1854, to Italy)

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE, (Troisième variante). 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 1864**

(299ix) sister to Vatican, paddle steamers, built in 1854 by L. Arman

In 1859 carried troops to Italy during the campaign against Austria, broken up 1873





*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*  
**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. CARMEL (30 January 1864) / M.I. THABOR (10 February 1864)**  
*"par voie de Messine"*

Rate: Perforated "40c" Louis Napoleon cancelled by "anchor in lozenge of dots"  
 "INSUFFICIENT POSTAGE" weight + 10gr, "Additionally taxed"  
 def 10d + tax 6d = "1/4" one schilling and four pence, in manuscript



**MARSEILLE**  
**M.I. CARMEL**  
**30 January 1864**  
*(h/s, v)*  
 to  
 LEVANT  
 via  
**MESSINA**  
 on to  
**M.I. THABOR**  
**10 February 1864**  
*no ship hand stamp*  
*(Salles p 209)*  
 to  
 MALTA  
**11 February 1864**  
*(19mm, c.d.s, v)*

**1. M.I. CARMEL:**

(1st Postal voyage – 18 January 1855, to Constantinople)  
 LIGNE DU LEVANT: Septième variante. 2<sup>nd</sup> trip in 1864, to LEVANT

**2. M.I. THABOR:**

(1st Postal voyage – 14 October 1853, to Constantinople)  
 LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE. Troisième variante. 1st Trip in 1864  
 (489x). Lieut A Ferris (F). Sister of Sinai, Carmel, Liban  
 Built at La Ciotat launched 10 July 1853. 1869 took part in the opening of the Suez Canal



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. MEINAM (9 April 1864) / M.I. MEANDRE (13 April 1864)**  
*"pr voie de Messine"*

Rate: Small PD

Perforated Louis Napoleon, 40c, cancelled by "anchor in lozenge of dots"

*"par voie de Messine"*



*"par bateau des Messageries Impériales".*

**1. M.I. MEINAM:**

(1st Postal voyage – 14 March 1863, to Constantinople)

**LIGNE DU LEVANT. Septième variante. 2<sup>nd</sup> trip in 1864**

(939tx). Built at La Seyne and launched 20 Nov 1862, used for Ligne D'Italie

In 1865 switched to the Suez – Mauritius route. Sold at Saigon in 1893. Trace lost.



**2. M.I. MEANDRE:**

(1st Postal voyage – 17 March 1856, to Const)

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE. Troisième variante. 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 1864**

(679tx) Sister of Hydaspe, & Borysthene. Built by J Laird of Birkenhead, Sept 1855, for Crimean war



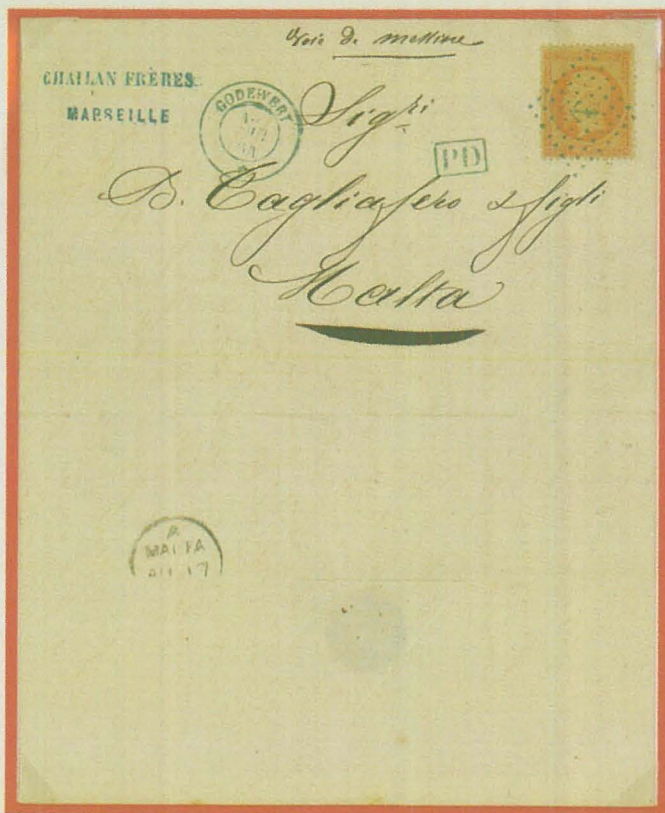


*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. GODEWERY (12 August 1864) / M.I. CAPITOL (16 August 1864)**  
*"voie de Messine"*

**Rate: Blue PD**

Perforated 40c Louis Napoleon cancelled by *"anchor in lozenge of dots"*



**MARSEILLES**  
**M.I. GODEWERY**  
12 August 1864  
(errone Salles p 85)  
to  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
via  
**MESSINA**  
on to  
**M.I. CAPITOL**  
16 August 1864  
(Salles p 209)  
to  
**MALTA**  
17 August 1864  
(19mm, c.d.s, v)

**1. M.I. GODEWERY: (errone Salles p 85)**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage 12 Dec 1863 to Constantinople)

**LIGNE DU LEVANT: reprise de la Sixième variante. 5<sup>th</sup> trip in 1864**

(907x) Sister of Ermine, & Mozambique (1) Built by L Arman at Bordeaux and launched in 1863. Was present for the opening of the Suez Canal.

**2. M.I. CAPITOL:**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage 18 Dec 1854 to Italy)



*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. INDUS (20 August 1864) / M.I. VATICAN (23 August 1864)**  
*"Voie de Messine"*

**Rate: Small box PD**

**Perforated 40c Louis Napoleon, cancelled by "anchor in lozenge of dots"**



**MARSEILLE**  
**M.I. INDUS**  
20 August 1864  
(h/s, r)  
to  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
via  
**MESSINA**  
on to  
**M.I. VATICAN**  
*no ship hand stamp*  
23 August 1864  
(Salles p 209)  
to  
**MALTA**  
24 August 1864  
(19mm, c.d.s, v)

**1. M.I. INDUS:**

(1st Postal voyage - 6 June 1854, to Constantinople)

**LIGNES DU LEVANT: Reprise de la Sixième variante. 2<sup>nd</sup> trip in 1864**  
(1005tx). Lieut Trollier (F). Sister of Gange & Euphrate

Built by J Reid & Co of Glasgow, acquired by M.I. in 1854 for Med and Black Sea

**2. M.I. VATICAN:**

(1st Postal voyage - 26 February 1855, to Italy)

**LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE : Troisième variante. 3<sup>rd</sup> trip in 1864**





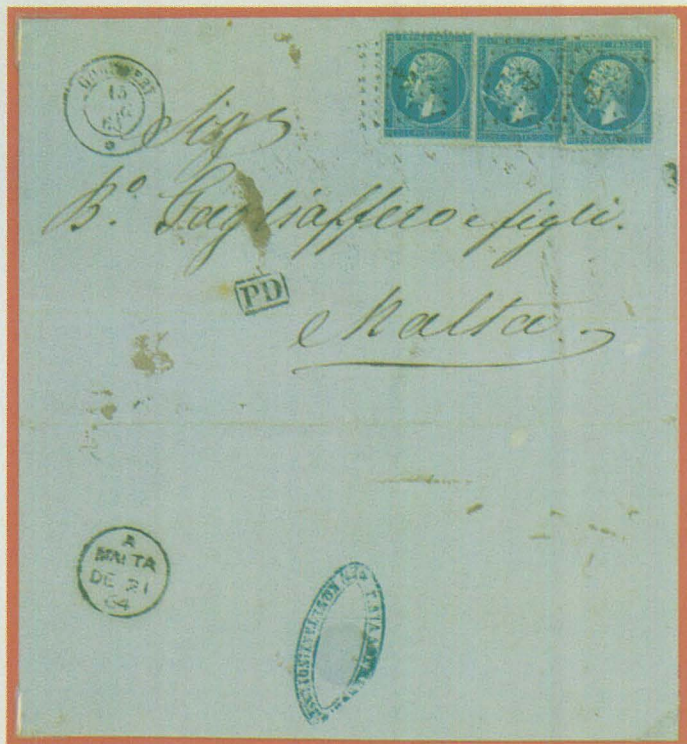
*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. GODEWERY (15 December 1864) / M.I. PAUSILIPPE (20 Dec 1864)**

Transfer at MESSINA

Rate: "60c", Small box PD in black

20c x 3, perforated Louis Napoleon, cancelled by "anchor in lozenge of dots"



**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
**M.I. GODEWERY**

15 December 1864

(h/s, r)

to

**MARSEILLE**

via

**MESSINA**

on to

**M.I. PAUSILIPPE**

20 December 1864

no ship hand stamp

(Salles p 209)

to

**MALTA**

21 December 1864

(19mm, c.d.s, v)

**1. M.I. GODEWERY:**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 12 December 1863, to Constantinople)

LIGNES DU LEVANT: Septième variante, 9<sup>th</sup> return trip from the Levant via Messina

**2. M.I. PAUSILIPPE:**

(1<sup>st</sup> Postal voyage – 17 Dec 1857, to Italy)

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante. 7<sup>th</sup> trip in 1864

*Double Ship Transfer but SINGLE ship hand stamp*

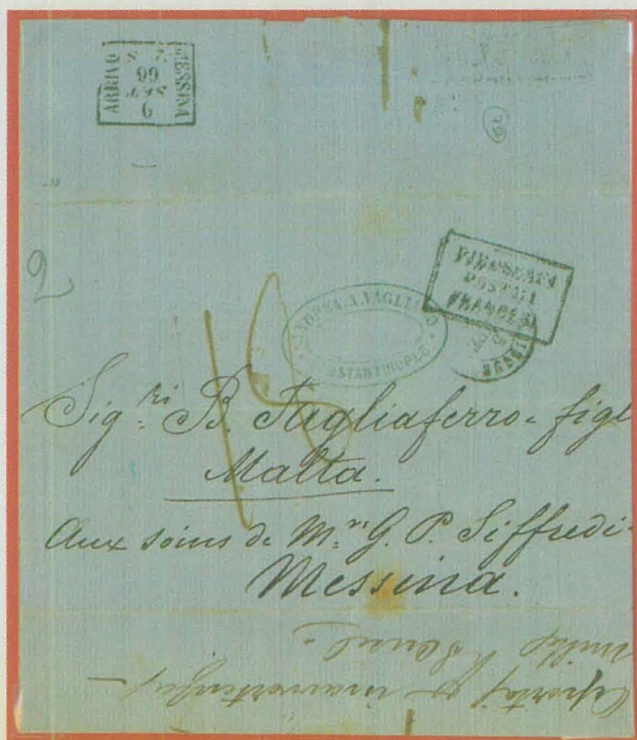
**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. ILLISSUS (5 Sept 1866) / (SPERANZA (11 September 1866)**

**Transfer at MESSINA**

*Messageries Imperiales had suspended the Italian Line service on the 4 May 1865*

**Rate: Double rate "18" decimes**

*Obliteration Classique Lettre sans timbre avec taxe de port-du (Salles. p 92)*



**CONSTANTINOPLE**

**M.I. ILLISSUS**

**5 September 1866**

*(h.s, r)*

to

**MARSEILLE**

via

**MESSINA**

**9 September 1866**

*(h.s, v)*

*forwarding agent*

**SIFFREDI**

on to

**Italian Line**

**SPERANZA**

to

**MALTA**

**10 September 1866**

**PIROSCAFI**

**POSTALI**

**FRANCESI**

**M.I. ILLISSUS:**

**(1<sup>st</sup> Postal Voyage -18 Aug 1865, to Syria)**

**LIGNES DU LEVANT: Septième variante, 2<sup>nd</sup> return trip from the Levant via Messina. Only 3 trips made in 1866.**

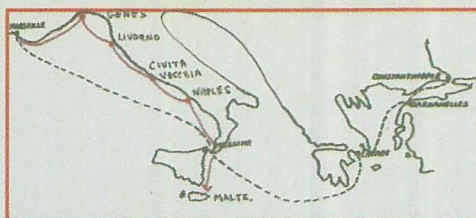




1/C

*No Postal Agents - No Ship Hand Stamps*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**  
**M.I. CYDNUS (8 July 1855) & M.I. AVENTIN (14 July 1855)**  
**Transfer at MESSINA**



Rate: "2/6". Two schilling and six pence (Five times normal rate) *in manuscript*



**CONSTANTINOPLE**

8 July 1855

(h/s,r)

**M.I. CYDNUS**

(Salles p 172 & 180)

to

**MARSEILLE**

via

**SMYRNE &**

**MESSINA**

on to

**M.I. AVENTIN**

14 July 1855

(Salles p 206)

to

**MALTA**

15 July 1855

(30mm, c.d.s, v)

**1. M.I. CYDNUS:**

(1st Postal voyage - 11 December 1856, to Constantinople)

LIGNE DU LEVANT: Cinquième variante (1856-1857), 4th retour par Smyrne

**2. M.I. AVENTIN: (1st Postal voyage - 22 December 1856, to Italy)**

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, (nouvel horaire June 1857), 1st trip

*No Postal Agents – No Ship Hand Stamps*  
DOUBLE SHIP TRANSFER, at MESSINA (28 July 1857)  
LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE

M.I. CARMEL (22 July 1857) & M.I. ORONTE (28 July 1857)

Rate: **Red PD**

Imperforate Louis Napoleon, 40 c orange, cancelled by Petits Chiffres "3707"



CONSTANTINOPLE

22 July 1857

(h.s, r)

M.I. CARMEL

(Salles p 212)

to

MARSEILLE

via

MESSINA

on to

M.I. ORONTE

(Salles p 206)

28 July 1857

to

MALTA

29 July 1857

(c.d.s, v) &

M.C.A.R

Sec K, Ms 127, Vol 131, F 297

**1. M.I. CARMEL:**

(1st Postal voyage – 8 Jan 1855, to Constantinople)

LIGNE DU LEVANT : Sixième variante (1857 – 1860). 5<sup>th</sup> return trip in 1857

**2. M.I. ORONTE:**

(1st Postal voyage – 29 Sept 1851, to Italy)

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante. 1st trip in 1857

(276tx) Lieut F. Pellissol. Sister of Bosphore, Hellespont, P Auguste.

Built by A. Bent and launched on 4 Jan 1846.





*No Postal Agents - No Ship Hand Stamps*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**

**M.I. DANUBE: (18 November 1857) / M.I. VATICAN: (24 November 1857)**

**Transfer at Messina**

**Rate: "6" pence in manuscript**

**(5 pence sea carriage to Malta, & 1 p Malta inland rate)**



**ODESSA (1 November 1857) to**

**CONSTANTINOPLE, (18 November 1857) on to**

**M. I. DANUBE to MARSEILLE via MESSINA (24 November 1857), on to**

**M.I. VATICAN to MALTA (25 November 1857) (h.s, v)**

*No Postal Agents - No Ship Hand Stamps*

**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**

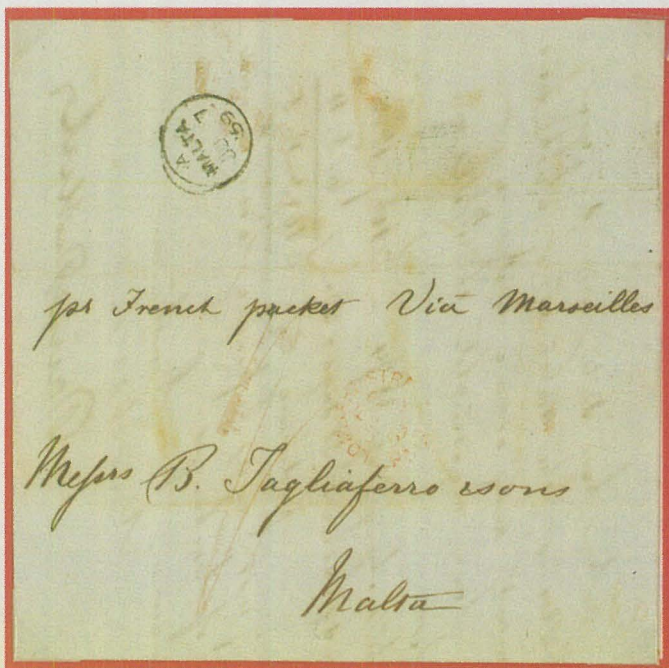
London (3/6/59) – Marseille – M.I. PHASE (4 June 1859) /

M.I. VATICAN (7 June 1869) to Malta (8 June 1859)

Transfer at MESSINA

Rate; "1/-" *in manuscript*

To be collected in Malta



**E.L 3 June 1858 Baring Brothers (London)**

**LOMBARD STREET (c.d.s, r)**



*No Postal Agents – No Ship Hand Stamps*  
**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**

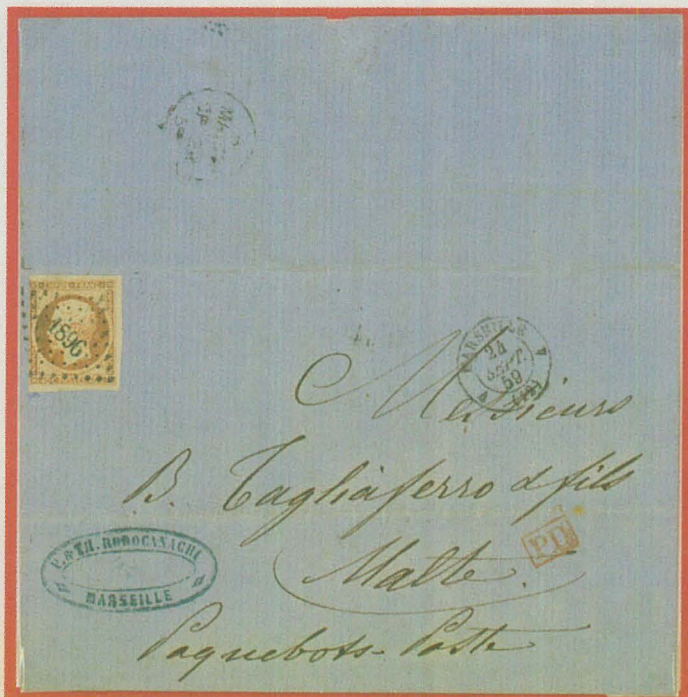
Transfer at Messina

1. M.I. NEVA: (24 September 1859)
2. M.I. VATICAN: (27 September 1859)

Rate: **PD** in red.

40c Napoleon, cancelled by Petits Chiffres "1896"(Sardinian) in a lozenge of dots

Not recorded by SALLES



1. M.I. NEVA: LIGNE DU LEVANT via MESSINA 27 September 1859

2. M.I. VATICAN: LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE to MESSINA (27Sept59)  
arriving MALTA (28 September 1859), (c.d.s, 20 mm, v).

*No Postal Agents -No Ship Hand Stamps*  
**LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE**

**M.I. CARMEL (17 December 1859) & M.I.BOSPHORE (20 Dec 59)**  
 Transfer at MESSINA

**Rate: Red small box PD**

Imperforate 40c Louis Napoleon cancelled by numeral "1896" *Petitis Chiffres* (Sardinian), in lozenge of dots – Endorsed "*Paquebot Poste*"



Marseille  
 17 December 1859  
 (h.s, r)  
**M.I. CARMEL**  
 to  
 CONSTANTINOPLE  
 via  
**MESSINA**  
 (Salles p 174)  
 on to  
**M.I. BOSPHORE**  
 20 December 1859  
 (Salles p 207)  
 to  
**MALTA**  
 21 December 1859  
 (19mm, c.d.s, v)

**1. M.I. CARMEL:**

(1st Postal voyage - 18 Jan 1855, to Constantinople)

LIGNE DU LEVANT: Sixième Variante, via MESSINE. (Salles p 174)

**2. M.I. BOSPHORE:**

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE. Troisième variante

**Only trip in 1859 to MALTA**

(234cx) Lieut J Amande. Sister of Oronte, Hellespont, P Auguste

Built by Ateller Benet at La Clotat and launched 4 Jan 1846.

1 Oct 1851 transferred to Messageries Nationales, and on 28 Feb 1853 to Messageries Impariales.

In 1859 did 12 voyages repatriating troops Genoa - Marseilles





*No Postal Agents - No Ship Hand Stamps*

## LIGNE DU LEVANT & LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE

**M.I. CEPHISE** (24 Dec 1859) & **M.I. VATICAN** (27 Dec 1859)

Transfer at MESSINA

Rate: **Small red box PD**

Imperforate pair 40c Louis Napoleon cancelled by "1896" *Petitis Chiffres*,  
in lozenge of dots (Sardinian)



MARSEILLE  
24 December 1859  
(h.s, r)

**M.I. CEPHISE**  
to  
CONSTANTINOPLE  
via

MESSINA  
(Salles p 174)  
on to

**M.I. VATICAN**  
27 December 1859  
(Salles p 207)

to  
MALTA  
28 December 1859  
(19mm, c.d.s, v)

### 1. **M.I. CEPHISE:**

1st Postal voyage 3 August 1857 to Syria  
460 tx, built by Chantiers Med. Llaunched 30 Mar 57 wrecked Planier  
reef Feb 1863.

### 2. **M.I. VATICAN:**

LIGNE INDIRECTE D'ITALIE: Troisième variante (1857 - 1864)



*Part 2, 3, 4 and 5 to be reproduced later*

# Postal Diary

## 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Compiled by  
John V. De Battista

### 8<sup>th</sup> March

In a media communication released today, MaltaPost announced the reprinting of a €0.37 stamp from the “Occasions” stamp set originally issued on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2012. The stamp features the belfry of St. John’s Co-Cathedral.

This reprint consists of 10,000 stamps, in sheets of 5 stamps each with a se-tenant stamp-size blank label. The stamp measures 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and has been printed by the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses. This se-tenant stamp version will be available for sale as from today Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March.



### 11<sup>th</sup> March

For the occasion of the 25th anniversary from the establishment of the present Msida Feast Decoration Group, MaltaPost issued a commemorative hand stamp which was used at the Pieta Post Office. The single severed-ring handstamp is inscribed “TIFKIRA TAL-25 SENA TAL-GRUPP PREŻENTI TAL-ARMAR TAL-FESTA” along the outside bordering the ring, and “\* MALTAPOST - PIETA - MALTA \*” bordering the ring on the lower inner side. At the centre of the handstamp is an outline drawing of the Society’s logo, beneath which is the date “11-03-17”. The use of this handstamp was not pre announced.



### 14<sup>th</sup> March

MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Office at “Tunny Net Souvenir Shop”, located in Triq il-Marfa, Mellieħa MLH 9063 will no longer operate as a Sub Post Office. Mellieħa residents were advised that if they so wish they may make use of postal services provided at the following alternative outlets:

Post Office - 100, Triq il-Mithna il-Ġdida, Mellieħa MLH 1107;



Sub Post Office - 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLH 1024

In another media communication, it also announced that it has introduced a new Sub Post Office in Qawra. Through this Sub Post Office, clients can avail themselves of numerous postal services such as local and international ordinary and registered mail, sale of postage stamps, as well as bill payments and money orders. The new Sub Post Office will be situated in “Fast Forward Stationery”, Triq il-Wileġ, Qawra SPB 1922. The Sub Post Office’s opening hours are as follows: Monday to Friday from 8:15am to 1:30pm and 3:00pm to 7:00pm. On Saturday opening time is from 8:15am to 4:00pm.

## 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Malta MaltaPost informed that the letterbox situated in Triq il-Kuluvert , corner with Triq il- Venewwa Fgura was permanently moved to Triq Il-Kuluvert, corner with Triq San Xmun.

## 27<sup>th</sup> March

On 30<sup>th</sup> March, MaltaPost will issue a set of three stamps depicting “Saljaturi”, or Balcony Corbels. This set is the second in the series depicting such architectural features following the one issued in 2016.

Balconies have had a very important role in defining the character of the Maltese urban landscape, especially through their profusion of colours and decoration. They vary in size and style with the oldest balconies being open and made of stone. The most popular balcony is the wooden one, which is usually closed and includes glass panes.

The stamps bear face values of €0.51, €1.32 and €1.55. They were produced by Printex Ltd by the offset process and the issue consists of 130,000 of the €0.51 stamp, 60,000 of the €1.32, and 40,000 of the €1.55 denomination. The issue will be in sheets of 10 stamps and each stamp measures 31mm by 34mm with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 (comb) bearing the Maltese Crosses watermark. Each sheet measures 185mm by 118mm. Cedric Galea Pirotta designed the set.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.3/2017). The single severed-ring handstamp is inscribed “BALCONY CORBELS” bordering on the outside of the ring, and “\* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA \*” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words “JUM IL-HRUĠ/30-03-17” in straight lines are to be found below outline image depicting the corbel shown on the €0.26 value positioned at the top centre of the handstamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin No. 358.



## 28<sup>th</sup> March

MaltaPost has introduced a new Sub Post Office in Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq. At this Sub Post Office clients can avail themselves of various postal services such as local and international ordinary and registered mail, sale of postage stamps, as well as bill payments and money orders.

The new Sub Post Office will be situated in “Allstat Stationery”, Triq il-Lampara, Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq NXR 5134. The Sub Post Office’s opening hours are as follows: Monday to Friday from 7:00am to 12:00pm and 4:00pm to 7:00pm. On Saturday opening time is from 7:00am to 12:00pm.

## 17<sup>th</sup> April

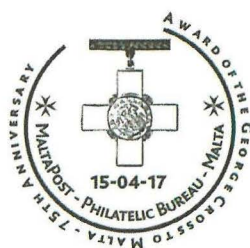
MaltaPost’s informed the public that its SendOn and Easipik solution ([www.maltapost.com/easipik](http://www.maltapost.com/easipik)) were presented with the MCA Best eCommerce Site (B2C) award in a ceremony organised by the Malta Communication Authority on 11<sup>th</sup> April at the Malta Mediterranean Conference centre.during the 6th edition of the MCA eBusiness Awards.

Commenting on the award, MaltaPost Chief Commercial Officer Mark Vella said “This award is fruit of company-wide team work and dedication, as well as collaboration with partners who have supported us in realising the needs in the local market and providing solutions to accommodate them. We would like to thank all our customers for showing trust in our product and commit ourselves to continuously realising their ever changing needs”.

## 19<sup>th</sup> April

Today MaltaPost belatedly notified that a commemorative hand postmark and personalised cover were issued on Saturday 15 April, in commemoration of 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from the award of the George Cross to Malta by King George.

The single severed-ring handstamp is inscribed “AWARD OF THE GEORGE CROSS TO MALTA – 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY” bordering on the outside of the ring, and “\* MALTAPOST – PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA \*” on the lower inner side of the ring. The date “15-04-17” in straight lines is to be found below outline image depicting the George Cross positioned at the top centre of the handstamp. This handstamp was not in use as an operational marking but is purely a “commercial” product in nature.

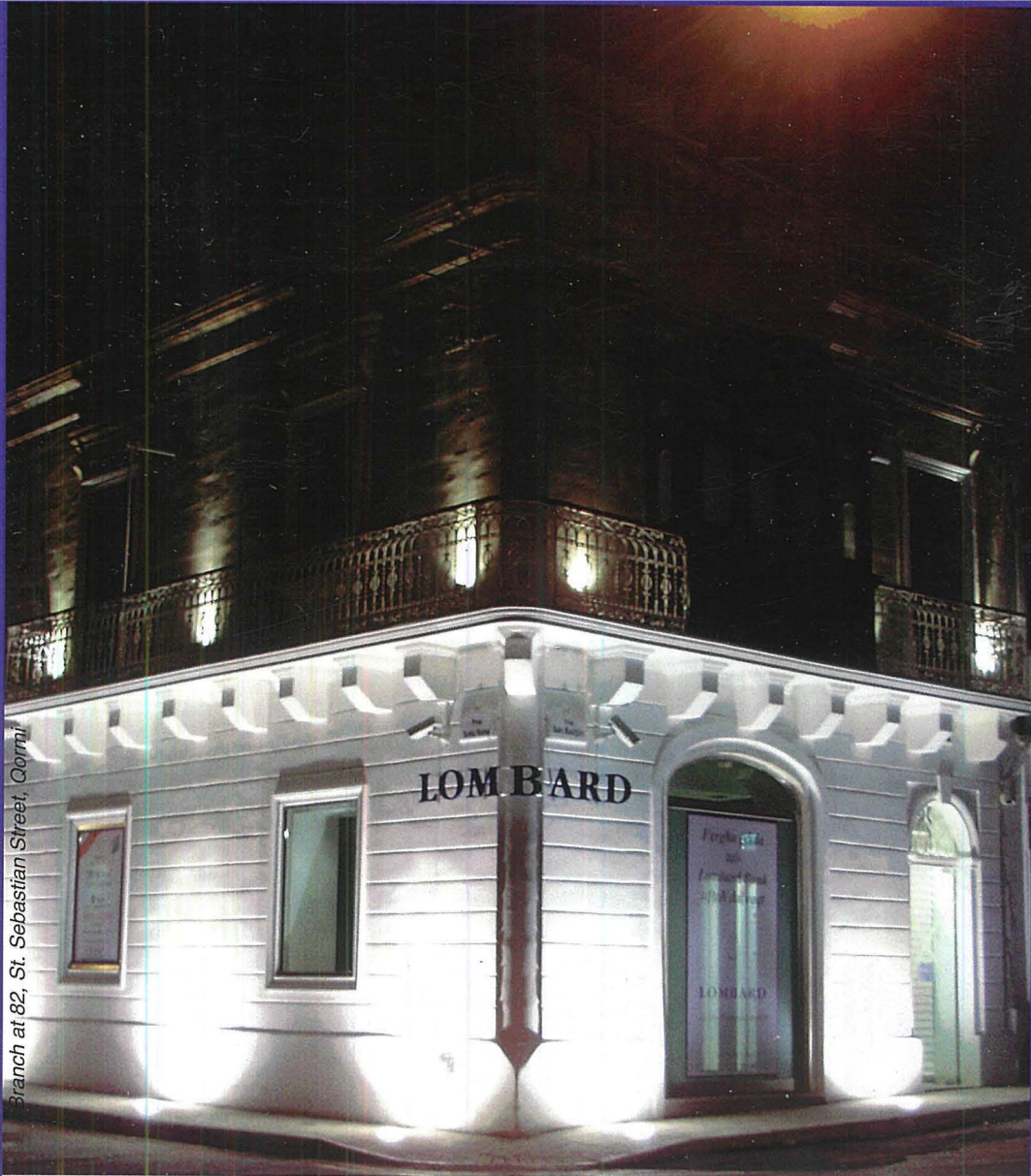




**Printex**



**Security printers since 1971,**  
 producing stamps for Maltapost and the  
 Vatican Philatelic Bureau, amongst others.



Branch at 82, St. Sebastian Street, Qormi



# LOMBARD

Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c.

Head Office: 67 Republic Street Valletta Malta • PO Box 584 Valletta VLT 1000 Malta  
 Tel: +356 25581117 • Fax: +356 25581151 • e-mail: [mail@lombardmalta.com](mailto:mail@lombardmalta.com) • [www.lombardmalta.com](http://www.lombardmalta.com) • SWIFT Code: LBMAMTMT  
 Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c. is listed on the Malta Stock Exchange and is licensed and regulated  
 by the Malta Financial Services Authority as a credit institution and as an investment service provider.