

# Rural post offices in Sicily (1865-1900)

In line with other European States, rural post offices were instituted in Italy in 1863 to give people a widespread postal service. This type of postal office was named "Collettoria" and in Sicily they began to be operative in 1865 (Altavilla and Ogliastro). The rural post offices, all located in very small countries, waiting for the postmarks—the cursive marks were the first type for the rural offices and were shaped by Lodovico Josz from Trieste—used the marks of the local government or the handwritten name of sending place. In Sicily four offices that never received the cursive postmarks used other marks of different shape.

In respect to legislative decree, the rural post-offices couldn't cancel the stamp, but had to put the cursive postmarks near the stamp. The postal office to which was aggregated the rural office had to cancel the stamp before mail the letter to final destination. This rule was often neglected and the cursive postmarks were used to cancel the stamp.

The postal reform of 1883 divided the rural offices in two classes: first class, with more services and use of an octagonal postmark, and second class that had to use a <u>square postmark</u>. Some offices continued, however, to use the cursive postmarks until 1892.

In 1890 was introduced in all the post offices in Italy, and also in the rural offices, a new <u>round mark squared</u> with circle sectors.



2.6.1865 - From Ogliastro to Palermo. First date of a rural postmark in Sicily

### Plan

The exhibit is the most wide existing lot of rural offices postmarks in Sicily. Some postmarks are the unique recorded up to day. There are 71 cursive postmarks - 4 of different shape and 3 handwritten marks of rural post offices for which are unknown the cursive postmarks - octagonal and squared marks that replaced that cursive or were made for new opened rural offices and also the new type of mark introduced from 1890.

The rural post offices are divided by the provincial areas, nine today, seven in the XIX century, in alphabetical order and for each one is shown in the small map of Sicily its location.

-	Province of AGRIGENTO (before Girgenti)	from page	2 to page 12
	Province of CALTANISSETTA	from page	13 to page 15
	Province of CATANIA	from page	16 to page 32
	Province of ENNA (before Castrogiovanni)	from page	33 to page 35
	Province of MESSINA	from page	36 to page 85
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	Province of TRAPANI	from page	121 to page 128

### Calamonaci

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Burgio

Inhabitants in 1861: 823 Opening: 1884, January 1 Cursive postmark: 1884

Octagonal postmark: between 1885 and 1889 Round mark squared with circle sector: from 1895

Turned into third class post office: 1902







From Calamonaci (1884 Seprember, 1 and 27) to Villafranca Sicula. Double and single rate between Mayors. On the first letter stamp is the numeral mark "544" of Burgio - like postal rules - while "Calamonaci" is on the front. On the second the stamp received only the rural mark "Calamonaci".

These are 2 of the 3 letters known (all belonging to this collection).

### Calamonaci

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Burgio Inhabitants in 1861: 823 Opening: 1884, January 1March 1

Cursive postmark: 1884

Octagonal postmark: between 1885 and 1889 Round mark squared with circle sector: from 1895

Turned into third class post office: 1902





From Calamonaci, octagonal postmark, (1886, October 9) to Villafranca Sicula, first rate between Majors



From Calamonaci, round mark squared with circle sectors, (1895, September 30) to Caltabellotta

### Caldare - Ferrovia

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Aragona

Opening: 1886, February 1
Cursive postmark: between 1887 and 1888
Turned into third class post office: 1903, May 1





First rate letter (10 cent.) with the mark of the rural office on the stamp. Backside are the marks of the railway office "AMB.MESSINA-PALERMO" (1888, February 9) and the arrival mark of Palermo.

Two letters known (the other is of 1887).

### Comitini

#### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Chiusa Sclafani

Inhabitants in 1861: 1645

Opening: postal office from 1862, downgraded to rural office from 1869, December

Cursive postmark: from 1872 until first days of 1873

Turned into second class post office: 1873, January 10 (numeral postmark "199")



"Da Comitini", handwritten on the stamp, first rate, for Palermo (mark on backside, 1871, April 4), waiting for the cursive postmark.

The only handwritten on the stamp known



"Da Comitini", waiting for the cursive postmark, correctly handwritten not on the stamp. Letter for Palermo, where was put the numeral "21" on the stamp and the arrival date on backside (1872, May 16).

### Comitini

#### Provincia di Agrigento

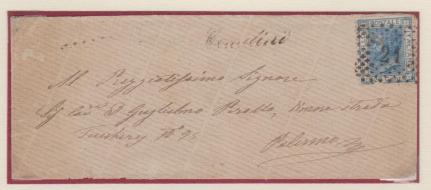
Postal aggregation office: Chiusa Sclafani

Inhabitants in 1861: 1645

Opening: postal office from 1862, downgraded to rural office from 1869, December 1

Cursive postmark: known until first days of 1873

Turned into second class post office: 1873, January 10 (numeral postmark "199")



Letter from Comitini, first rate, for Palermo where was put the numeral "21" on the stamp and the arrival date backside (1872, November 19).



Last date of the cursive "Comitini" on letter mailed "6/1 73" (1873, January 6), like handwritten near the mark. Also the stamp was marked in pen and so Palermo put only the arrival date backside (1873, January 7).

### Lucca Sicula

#### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Burgio Inhabitants in 1861: 1810 Opening: 1884, April 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1886

Turned into second class post office: 1886, October 1 (numeral postmark "4126")





From Lucca Sicula (1885, September 26) to Chiusa Sclafani, double rate (20 cent.) between Majors.



From Lucca Sicula (1886, February 13) to Girgenti (old name of Agrigento). First rate of Majors.

# Montallegro

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Cattolica Eraclea

Inhabitants in 1861: 1635 Opening: 1876, first quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1877 until March of 1881

Turned into second class post office: 1881, April 1 (numeral postmark "3397")





"Da Montallegro" handwritten, waiting for the cursive mark, on letter to Girgenti, where was put the arrival date mark also on the stamp (1877, February 3). First rate of the Majors.



"Montallegro" in green on first rate letter to Girgenti. On backside the arrival postmark (1877, July 7).

### Realmonte

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Porto Empedocle

Inhabitants in 1861: 1927 Opening: 1871, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 until 1884 Octagonal postmark: from 1885 until 1890

Turned into second class post office: 1901, January 1.





"Realmonte" in green colour (used from 1874 until 1876) correctly put on the letter to Girgenti. In Porto Empedocle were put the numeral "1800" on the stamp and the nominative mark of 1874, Seprember 3, on the front. First rate of the Majors (10 cent.).



"Realmonte" in black (used from 1877 until 1884) wrongly put on the stamp of the first rate letter to Girgenti. On backside was put the arrival mark with the date (1883, July 25).

### Realmonte

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Porto Empedocle

Inhabitants in 1861: 1927 Opening: 1871, October 1

Cursive postmark: from 1874 until 1884 Octagonal postmark: from 1885 until 1890

Turned into second class post office: 1901, January 1.





From Realmonte, octagonal postmark, (1885, June 6) to Girgenti. First rate of the Majors (10 cent.)



From Realmonte, octagonal postmark, (1889, February 9) to Girgenti. First rate (20 cent.)

# S, Angelo Muxaro

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Porto Empedocle

Inhabitants in 1861: 1006 Opening: 1889, February 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1892 until 1899 Turned into second class post office: 1900, May 1.





From S.Angelo Muxaro, octagonal postmark, (1898, November, 18) to Girgenti. Double rate (40 cent.)



Registered letter from S.Angelo Muxaro, octagonal postmark, (1899, September 24) to Girgenti. Letter franked at 65 cent. (40c. double rate and 25c. registration rate). Are not common registered letters from rural post office.

# S, Elisabetta (Aragona)

### Provincia di Agrigento

Postal aggregation office: Aragona

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1367 *Opening*: 1884, July, 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1887

Turned into second class post office: 1888, March 1 (numeral postmark "4322").





From S.Elisabetta (Aragona), mailed in 1887, December, 12 to Girgenti. First rate (20 cent.)

<u>Two letters known up to day</u>

# Acquariva Platani

Provincia di Caltanissetta

Postal aggregation office: Vallelunga

Inhabitants in 1861: 1591 Opening: 1874, January 1 Cursive postmark: not known

Turned into second class post office: 1878, March 1 (numeral postmark "3168").





Double rate letter between Mayors (20 cent) from Acquaviva Platani to Cammarata, 1877, July19. In the absence of cursive postmark - not known up to date - was handwritten "Collettoria di Acquaviva" on the first stamp and "Acquaviva" on the second. In transit in Palermo was added the numeral mark "21" only on one of the two stamps. On backside were put the marks of Palermo and Cammarata (1877, July 20).

It's the only letter known mailed from the rural post office up to day



#### Provincia di Caltanissetta

Postal aggregation office: Sutera Inhabitants in 1861: 1344

*Opening*: 1899, June 1

Atypical double circle postmark: 1899

Round mark squared with circle sector: from 1900 to 1903

Turned into second class post office: 1903





From Milocca, double circle, (1899, June 7) to Sutera. First rate within the district (5 cent.).

The only known up to day. The mark was changed after few months



From Milocca (1900, January 31) with the second post mark, to Sutera. First rate within the district (5 cent.).

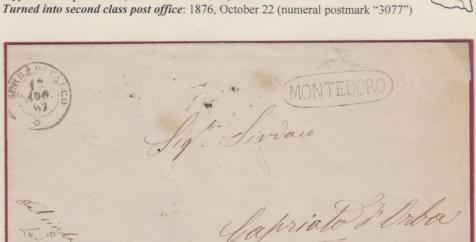
### Montedoro

#### Provincia di Caltanissetta

Postal aggregation office: Serradifalco

Inhabitants in 1861: 2151 Opening: 1866, first quarter

Atypical oval postmark (like Bourbon marks): known from 1867 until 1876





Circular letters about fight against cholera (cuts disinfection), from Montedoro Mayor addressed 1867, August 12, to two different Italian regions. On the front is the mark of Serradifalco (aggregation post office). The mark is known only on post-free letters.

### Aci Catena

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Acireale

Inhabitants in 1861: 4597 Opening: 1875, first quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1878

Turned into second class post office: 1879, July 1 (numeral postmark "3279")





Letter from Aci Catena Municipality (1876, May 5) to Palermo. Against the rules the mark was put on the stamp, and so Acireale put his mark on backside. First rate (20 cent.)



Private first rate letter from Aci Catena (1877, April, 4) to Palermo.

### Barriera del Bosco

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Giardini

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 268 *Opening*: 1888, april 1

Squared postmark: from 1888

Turned into third class post office: 1902





Postcard from Barriera del Bosco (1905, September 1905) to Catania. Also if turned into third class office, Barriera del Bosco used the squared postmark almost until 1905.

The mark is known on three documents

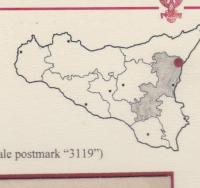
### Calatabiano

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Giardini Inhabitants in 1861: 1774 Opening: 1869, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1870 to 1877

Turned into second class post office: 1877, June 1 (numerale postmark "3119")





Post-free letter from Calatabiano to the Archbishop of Messina (1870, May, 7)



Double rate letter of the Calatabiano Mayor (1876, November 17) to Acireale. On backside are the marks of Giarre (November 18) and Acireale (1876, November 19)

### Fiume Freddo

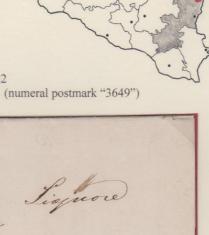
### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Giarre Inhabitants in 1861: 1426
Opening: 1866, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1870 to 1882

Atypic round mark with inscriptions in negative: 1882

Turned into second class post office: 1883, October 1 (numeral postmark "3649")



Letter of the Fiumefreddo Mayor mailed 1880, July 14 to Linguaglossa. On backside are the marks of Piedimonte Etneo and Linguaglossa (1880, July 15).



Letter mailed 1882, April 18 with the round postmark "FIUMEFREDDO COLLETT. POSTALE". This type was used only in 1882, probably for the cursive postmark breaking or for its loss.

### Gravina

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Mascalucia

Inhabitants in 1861: 1373 Opening: 1874, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1879 to 1892 Turned into third class post office: 1902





Double rate of the Mayors (20 cent.) on letter from Gravina (1889, March 16) to Mascalucia. On backside is the arrival mark of Mascalucia of the same day.



Prints first rate of 1892, August 20. The cursive was put on the front - as postal regulation - and the stamp had the mark of Mascalucia (put also on backside). Last date known.

### Maletto

### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Bronte Inhabitants in 1861: 2597 Opening: 1875, third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1888

Turned into second class post office: 1899





1877, August 1, first rate between Mayors, on letter to Capizzi. On backside the transit marks of Catania and Nicosia (1877, August 2).



From the Maletto Mayor (1880, July 22). On backside are the transit mark of Catania and the arrival mark of Paternò (1880, July 24).

### Maletto

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Bronte Inhabitants in 1861: 2597 Opening: 1875, third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883
Octagonal postmark: from 1888 to 1906
Turned into second class post office: 1899





The Maletto octagonal mark on three rate letter of the Mayor (1888, October 26) to Catania.



First rate letter to Catania (1891, October 12).

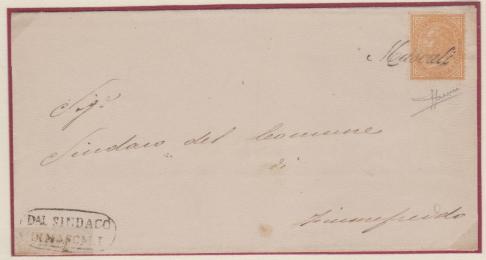


### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Giarre Inhabitants in 1861: 3618
Opening: 1874, second quarter
Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1877

Turned into second class post office: 1877, November 1 (numeral postmark "686")





First rate between Mayors (10 cent.). On the stamp (letter, mailed 1876, June 14) was put the cursive postmark, and Giarre was put in transit on backside.

Only two letters known up to day.

In the thirties of the last Century the cursive postmark was used again on the labels of registered letters.

### S. Giovanni Galermo

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Mascalucia Inhabitants in 1861: unknown Opening: 1874, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: unknown Square postmark: 1889 Round mark: from 1893

Turned into second class post office: 1900, May 1





Letter of 1889, November 8 from S.Giovanni Galermo to Camporotondo. First rate between Mayors (10 cent). On backside is the postmark of Mascalucia, in transit.

Only two letters up to day



Letter of 1893, August 11 to Mascalucia. First rate within the district (5 cent). On this round mark the name of the rural office is *S. Giovanni* "di" *Galermo*.

# Sant'Agata li Battiati

### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Catania

Inhabitants in 1861: 519 Opening: 1886, February 1 Cursive postmark: 1886 Square postmark: 1890

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 18930

Turned into third class post office: 1901





Letter mailed 1886, August 27 to Mascalucia (first rate between Mayors, 10 cent.). The cursive postmark was put on the stamps. Catania, in transit, put its mark (1886, August 28) on backside.

The only recorded letter with the cursive postmark

# Sant'Agata li Battiati

### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Catania

Inhabitants in 1861: 519 Opening: 1886, February 1 Cursive postmark: 1886 Square postmark: 1890

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1893

Turned into third class post office: 1901





First rate letter (20 cent) to Palermo, 1890, May 10. On backside the marks of Catania and Palermo.

Only two letters recorded with the square postmark

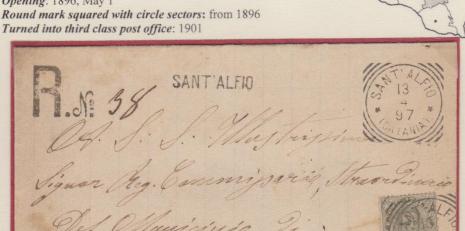


From "S." AGATA LI BATTIATI", round mark squared with circle sectors, to S.Giovanni La Punta (1896, Septemper 9), first rate between Mayors (10 cent).

# Sant Alfio

Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Giarre Inhabitants in 1861: 1671 Opening: 1896, May 1



First rate registered letter (20 + 25 cent.), mailed to Giarre, 1897, April 13.



The day after, was correctly applied the first rate for registered letters within the district (5+10 cent).

Are not common registered letters mailed from rural post offices.

In both letters was also put another mark "SANT'ALFIO", that many post offices received to be used only on registered letters.

### S- Anastasia

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Catania Inhabitants in 1861: 3224 Opening: 1874, fourth quarter Cursive postmark: 1875

Turned into second class post office: 1875, November 1 (numeral postmark "3005"),

with the name "Motta S. Anastasia".



Double rate between Mayors. Correctly, the cursive mark wasn't put on the stamp. In transit, Catania put its numeral mark "8" on the stamp and also the date mark (1875, May 21). The letter arrived the same day in Mascalucia, like the mark on backside.

The only recorded cursive mark

### S. Maria di Licodia

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Biancavilla

Inhabitants in 1861: 2786 Opening: 1869, second quarter Cursive postmark: from 1870 to 1875

Turned into second class post office: 1875, December 1 (numeral postmark "3030")





First rate letter of 1871, January 24 to Catania (on backside 1871, January 25).

Only two letter recorded with the cursive mark on the stamp



Post-free letter (between Mayors) of 1874, March 25. On the front is also the aggregation office mark "BIANCAVILLA". On backside is the transit mark of Palermo (1874, March 27).

The post-free mail between Mayors was abolished after few months (1875, January 1).

### Santa Venerina

#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Acireale

Inhabitants in 1861: 5560 Opening: 1879, probably Cursive postmark: 1881

Turned into second class post office: 1882, Sptember 1 (numeral postmark "3523")







First rate letter "ferma in posta" (1881, October 28) with the postmark on the stamp. On arrival Acireale put its mark on backside.

#### The only recorded letter.

The cursive mark, for many years was known only on the superior stamp.

### Tremestieri Etneo

### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: S.Giovanni la Punta Inhabitants in 1861: 1139

Opening: 1888, april 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1888

Turned into second class post office: 1902

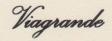




1892, September 23. First rate letter of the Mayor to Mascalucia.



1896, November 20. Registered postal stationery to Palermo. In transit the circle mark of the aggregation office, S. Giovanni La Punta.



#### Provincia di Catania

Postal aggregation office: Acireale

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 2894 *Opening*: 1875, first quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1880

Turned into second class post office: 1881, July 1 (numeral postmark "3421")





First rate letter (1880, September 24) from Viagrande to Naples, where arrived after two days (September 26).



Double rate between Mayors. On backside are the marks of Acircale and Catania (1880, December 8), Nicosia (December 9) and the arrival mark of Troina (1880, December 10).

### Catenanuova

#### Provincia di Enna

Postal aggregation office: Centuripe

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1679 *Opening*: 1873, third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1881

Turned into second class post office: 1881, November 1 (numeral mark "3542")





First rate of the Mayor (1875, August 7). Returned to sender with the handwritten "Al Mittente" and "non ha corso perchè insufficiente francata" for insufficient rate, was added another stamp with another postmark in green. On backside are the marks of Leonforte (August 10) and Palermo (1875, August 12).



First rate letter with the mark in black. On backside the arrival mark of Nicosia (1876, December 27)

The only one recorded letter with the cursive mark in black.

### Nissoria

#### Provincia di Enna

Postal aggregation office: Leonforte

Inhabitants in 1861: 2555 Opening: 1874, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1876

Turned into second class post office: 1876, August 1 (numerale postmark "3069")





First rate between Mayors (1876, May 31), with the green cursive mark also on the front (unusual).

Only two letters recorded



Little part of letter with the mark in black

The only mark recorded in black

# Sperlinga

#### Provincia di Enna

Postal aggregation office: Nicosia Inhabitants in 1861: 1426 Opening: 1874, fourth quarter Cursive postmark: unknown Octagonal mark: from 1897 to 1901 Turned into third class post office: 1902





First rate registered letter (20 cent. first rate and 25 cent. for the registration) from Sperlinga to Petralia Soprana (1897, September 21).



Postal stationery from Sperlinga (1901, October 6) to Palermo.



#### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Falcone Inhabitants in 1861: 1666

Opening: 1875, first quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883, probably Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1912
Turned into second class post office: 1902





Octagonal mark on double rate letter of the Mayor (1885, April 27). On backside are the marks of Falcone (same day) and Palermo (1885, April 28) on arrival.



Double rate registered letter from the Basicò Mayor (1895, July 7) to Messina (20 cent. double rate and 25 cent. for the registration).



Postal aggregation office: Spadafora

Inhabitants in 1861: 891 Opening: 1873, second quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1873 to 1884 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1887

Turned into third class post office: 1887, September 1 (numeral mark "4268")





First rate letter of the Mayor to Palermo. On front is only the cursive postmark. On backside are the marks of Messina and, on arrival, Palermo (1875, September 1).



Octagonal mark on fist rate letter mailed 1886, October 29 to Torino

# Capo d'Orlando

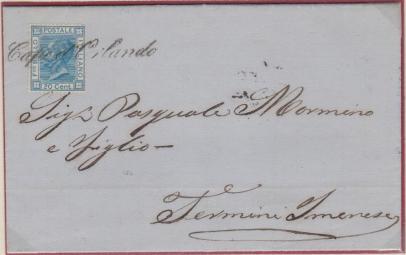
Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Naso Inhabitants in 1861: 2011 Opening: 1873, third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1890

Turned into second class post office: 1894, August 1





First rate letter to Termini Imerese (1874, December 22) On backside are the marks of Brolo (December 23) and Palermo (1874, December 26).



Usually Capo d'Orlando put the cursive postmark on the stamp, like the first rate letter of 1888, arrived to Patti 1888, February 1 (on backside).

### Castel di Tusa

#### Provincia di Messina

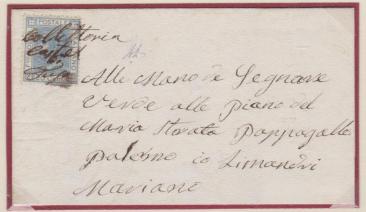
Postal aggregation office: Tusa Inhabitants in 1861: about 900 Opening: 1868, fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1870 to 1892

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1893

Turned into third class post office: 1902





First rate letter to Palermo (1869, January 8). Waiting for the cursive postmark, it was hand written "Collettoria Castel Tusa" on the stamp.

The only recorded



1876, March 4, letter to S.Stefano di Camastra (where arrived the same day). On the front it's only the cursive postmark, put on the stamp. On backside the arrival mark. First rate of the Mayors.

### Castelluccio

#### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Mistretta

Inhabitants in 1861: 2001 Opening: 1869, first quarter

Atypical rectangular postmark: from 1870 to 1871

Turned into second class post office: 1878, June 1, with numeral mark "3195". changing the name

in "Castel di Lucio" (like today) for a wrong Italianization.



First rate letter to Patti (1870, October 16) with the rural mark correctly on the front. In transit Mistretta put its numeral mark "1407" on the stamp and the nominative on the front.

The only recorded letter with stamp



Post free letter (1871, September 8) between Mayors to Mistretta, thet puts its mark on the front.

# Castroreale - Bagni

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Castroreale Inhabitants in 1861: unknown

**Opening**: 1892, May 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1893 Turned into second class post office: 1901, June 1





Postal stationery (1897, June 15) to Palermo. This mark was used until 1920.

Only two recorded in the period of the rural office



Postal aggregation office: S. Pier Niceto

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1125 *Opening*: 1893, April 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1893

Turned into second class post office: 1902



Part of letter from Condrò (1896 January 8) to Catania



First rate letter (1896, November 21) to Palermo.

Two of three recorded in the period of the rural office

### Divieto

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: about 200 Opening: 1866, first quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1868 to 1889 Turned into third class post office: 1902

In the postmark it's written by mistake "Devieto" instead of "Divieto".





First rate letter to Montedoro. On the front is only the cursive postmark. On backside are the marks of Caltanissetta (1883, September 20) and Montedoro (1883, September 21).



Postal stationery from Fiumedinisi (1900, December 6) to Raccuia. This mark was used until 1918.



Postal aggregation office: Barcellona

Inhabitants in 1861: 1005 Opening: 1868, third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1868 to 1869

Turned into third class post office: 1869, August 1 (numeral mark "2374")





First rate letter from Falcone to Palermo. Waiting for the cursive postmark it was handwritten "Da Falcone". On arrival were put the numeral mark "21" on the stamps and the date mark (1868, July 7) on backside.



First rate letter (1868, July 23) with the cursive mark on the front. The aggregation office Barcellona as regulations put its mark, numeral "393" on the stamp and date mark on the front.

Only two letters recorded with the cursive postmark

## Fiumedinisi

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Nizza di Sicilia Inhabitants in 1861: 3123

Opening: 1899, February 1
Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1899
Turned into third class post office: 1903





Postal stationey from Fiumedinisi (1900, December 6) to Palermo. This mark was used until 1918.

Only three recorded in the period of the rural office



Postal aggregation office: Sinagra

Inhabitants in 1861: 1377

Opening: 1888. Than closed and reopened in 1900

Atypical oval mark: 1888

Turned into second class post office: 1903





First rate letter between Mayors (1888, August 28) to Milazzo with the rural mark correctly on the front. In transit Sinagra put its numeral mark "3075" on the stamp and the nominative on the front.

The only recorded letter



Postal aggregation office: Barcellona

Inhabitants in 1861: 2030 Opening: 1873, First quarter Cursive postmark: 1873

Turned into second class post office: 1874, July 1 (numeral mark "2891")





Post free letter (1873, September 7) to Termini Imerese. The aggregation post office Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto put its mark on the front (1873, September 10). On backside are the marks of Palermo and Termini Imerese (1873, September 12).

The only recorded letter with the cursive mark

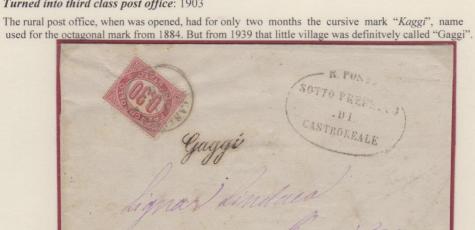


Postal aggregation office: Giardini

Inhabitants in 1861: 545 Opening: 1875, second quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1884 Octagonal postmark "Kaggi": from 1884 to 1902

Turned into third class post office: 1903



Not common use of a cursive mark on arrival. The three rates letter (30 cent.) was mailed from Castroreale in 1875, August 11 to "Kaggi"



One of the two letters (first rate both) recorded with the cursive mark on the stamp



Postal aggregation office: Giardini

Inhabitants in 1861: 545
Opening: 1875, second quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1884 Octagonal postmark "Kaggi": from 1884 to 1902

Turned into third class post office: 1903

The rural post office, when was opened, had for only two months the cursive mark "Kaggi", name used for the octagonal mark from 1884. But from 1939 that little village was definitively called "Gaggi".





First rate of the Mayor (10 cent.) from Gaggi to Taormina (1878, April 22). The cursive postmark was correctly put on the front. The aggregation office Giardini put only its numeral mark "1115" on the stamps, while on backside is the arrival mark of Taormina.



The octagonal mark "KAGGI"on first rate letter of the Mayor to Francavilla (1887, December 2)

## Galati Mamertino

### Provincia di Messina

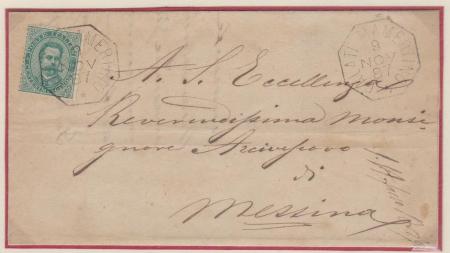
Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: 2249 Opening: 1883, November 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1890
Turned into second class post office: 1891, April 1





First rate letter (20 cent.) from Galati Mamertino (1885, December 30) to Naples.



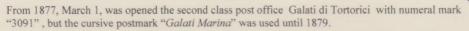
First rate letter within the district (5 cent.) from Galati Mamertino to Messina (1887, November 9).

### Galati Marina

#### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Tortorici Inhabitants in 1861: about 1200 Opening: 1875, first quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1879





First rate letter within the district (5 cent.) from Galati Marina to Messina (1875, October 28).

The cursive postmark was used in black colour only in 1875.



First rate letter within the district, franked 6 cent. instead of 5 with 2 stamps 2/0,20 cent. and 1 of 2/2,00 lire.

The cursive postmark was used in green colour from 1876 to 1879.



Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: about 2300 Opening: 1866, first quarter

Cursive postmark: "Giampiglieri" from 1875 to 1878

"Giampelieri" from 1879 to 1883

Octagonal mark: "Giampilieri" from 1884 to 1888 (correct form)

Turned into second class post office: 1888, October 1 (numeral mark "4373")





First rate letter within the district (1875, November 9) with "Giampiglieri" on the 5 cent. stamp.

The only two recorded cursive marks "Giampiglieri"

# Giampilieri

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: about 2300 Opening: 1866, first quarter

Cursive postmark: "Giampiglieri" from 1875 to 1878

"Giampelieri" from 1879 to 1883

Octagonal mark: "Giampilieri" from 1884 to 1888 (correct form)

Turned into second class post office: 1888, October 1 (numeral mark "4373")





First rate letters within the district (1879, June 8 and 1883, September 22) with the second cursive mark "Giampelieri" on the 5 cent. stamps, in green on the first and in black on the second letter.

# Giampilieri

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: about 2300

Opening: 1866, first quarter

Cursive postmark: "Giampiglieri" from 1875 to 1878

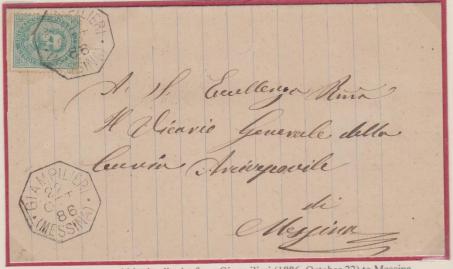
"Giampelieri" from 1879 to 1883

Octagonal mark: "Giampilieri" from 1884 to 1888 (correct form)

Turned into second class post office: 1888, October 1 (numeral mark "4373")



From Giampilieri (1885, October 13) to Patti. The octagonal mark on first rate letter (20 cent.).



First rate letter within the district from Giampilieri (1886, October 22) to Messina.

## Gualtieri Sicaminò

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: S. Pier Niceto

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1841 *Opening*: 1895, April 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1895 to 1902

Turned into third class post office: 1902





First rate letter between Mayors (10 cent.) per San Filippo del Mela (1897, June 4).

The only recorded in the rural office period up to day

### Librixxi

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Patti Inhabitants in 1861: 1905 Opening: 1873, third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1883

Turned into second class post office: 1883, September 1 (numeral mark "3631")





First rate letter of the Mayor (1875, January 15) to Messina. On backside are the marks of the same day of Patti (aggregation post office) and Messina.



From Librizzi to Raccuja. First rate letter within the district of 1880, June 20.

Two of the three letters with the cursive mark recorded

# Marina di Caronia

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Tusa Inhabitants in 1861: about 600

Opening: 1894, March 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1894 to 1898 Turned into second class post office: 1898, November1





From Marina di Caronia 1898, August 26, to Termini Imerese
One of the two items recorded

## Marina di Patti

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Patti Inhabitants in 1861: about 1700 Opening: 1868, Fourth quarter Cursive postmark: from 1869 to 1880



Front of first rate letter from Marina di Patti to Messina, with the cursive mark on the stamps, recorded only in other two letters between 1871 and 1875.



First rate letter to Messina, 1871, September 24.

# Mazzarrà Sant'Andrea

#### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Castroreale, from 1874 Furnari

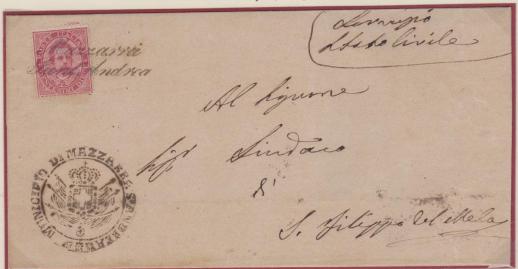
Inhabitants in 1861: 1220 Opening: 1873, Fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883 Octagonal mark: from 1884 to 1922 Turned into third class post office: 1902





Double rate letter between Mayors, 1879, October 8 to Corleone.



First rate letter between Mayors, 1883, June 22. On backside are the marks "FURNARI" (aggregation post office) and "S. FILIPPO DEL MELA", ex rural offices turned into post offices in 1874 and 1875.

## Mazzarra Sant'Andrea

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Castroreale, from 1874 Furnari

Inhabitants in 1861: 1220
Opening: 1873, Fourth quarter
Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883
Octagonal mark: from 1884 to 1921
Turned into third class post office: 1903





First rate letter within the district from Mazzarrà Sant'Andrea (1902, May 19) to Furnari.



Postal stationery mailed 1992, January 22 to Acireale. Late use of the octagonal mark, twenty years after the change from a rural office in third class post office.



Postal aggregation office: Barcellona

Inhabitants in 1861: 1251 Opening: 1873, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1883 Octagonal mark: from 1884 to 1922 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Double rate of the Mayors, 1879, May 18, addressed to Messina and then to Francavilla and then to Malvagna, where arrived 1879, May 20. A characteristic of the rural office Meri was to put twice the mark on the stamp and also on the front.



First rate between Mayors from Merì (1882, February 28) to Milazzo.



Postal aggregation office: Barcellona

Inhabitants in 1861: 1251 Opening: 1873, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1883 Octagonal mark: from 1884 to 1922 Turned into third class post office: 1903





First rate of the Meri's Mayor letter to Messina, 1897, December 4, with the octagonal mark. On backside are the marks of Barcellona (aggregation post office) and Messina



Double rate of the Mayor, 1900, August 18 to Messina.

### Militello di Rosmarino

Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: S. Agata di Militello

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1680 *Opening*: 1874, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883 Octagonal mark: from 1884 to 1899

Turned into second class post office: 1900, January 1





First rate letter (20 cent.) to Patti, mailed 1883, May 7 to Messina. On backside are the marks of S.Agata di Militello (1883, May 13) and Patti (1883, May14).

The only recorded letter with the cursive mark on the stamp. It's known only on the front of another letter of 1883.

## Militello di Rosmarino

Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: S. Agata di Militello

Inhabitants in 1861: 1680 Opening: 1874, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1883 Octagonal mark: from 1884 to 1899

Turned into second class post office: 1900, January 1





The octagonal mark on first rate letter of the Mayor (10 cent.) to Tusa, 1886, April 26.



Double rate letter of the Mayor (20 cent) to Palermo, 1889, October 26.

# Monforte S. Giorgio

Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora San Martino

Inhabitants in 1861: 3001 Opening: 1874, Fourth quarter Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1887 Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1899

Turned into second class post office: 1902, October 1





First rate of the Mayor (10 cent.) to Palermo (1875, August 10). The cursive postmark was put on the stamp. On backside are the marks of Spadafora S.Martino (aggregation post office) and Palermo.

The only recorded letter with the cursive mark on the stamp, until the use of the octagonal mark.



1883, January 5, first rate letter between Mayors to S. Pier Niceto. Correctly, the cursive mark was put on the front. The aggregation office (Spadafora) put its numeral mark "2229" on the stamp. On arrival the mark of S.Pier Niceto was put on backside.

# Monforte S. Giorgio

Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora San Martino

Inhabitants in 1861: 3001 Opening: 1874, Fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1887 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1899

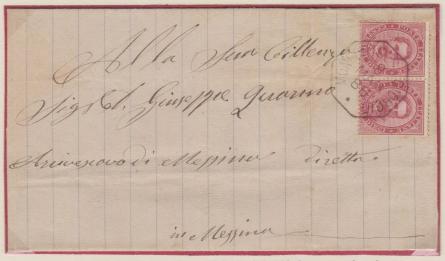
Turned into second class post office: 1902, October 1





Double rate letter of the Mayor (20 cent.) to Milazzo (1885, November 22). Monforte S.Giorgio was the only rural office that continued to use the cursive mark, about for one year, together with the octagonal mark, arrived in 1884.

Only two letter recorded with both the two marks.



First rate letter to Messina, 1886, March 8, with the octagonal mark.

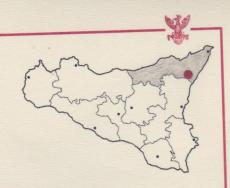
## Motta Camastra

Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Francavilla di Sicilia

Inhabitants in 1861: 1611 Opening: 1873, Third quarter

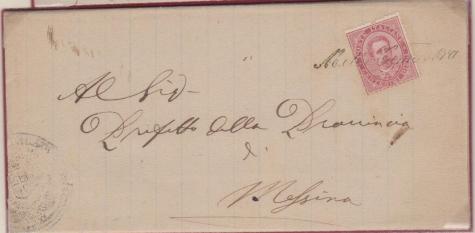
Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1885 Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1900 Turned into third class post office: 1900





Part of letter with five rates stamps (Lire 1





First rate of the Mayors (10 cent.). Letters mailed 1875, May 9 and 1885, February 23 from Motta Camastra to Messina. The rural office always put its cursive mark on the stamps.

## Motta Camastra

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Francavilla di Sicilia

Inhabitants in 1861: 1611 Opening: 1873, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1885 Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1900 Turned into third class post office: 1900





First rate within the district (5 cent.) mailed 1893, April 12 to Francavilla Sicilia, with the octagonal mark.



First rate (20 cent.) from Motta Camastra, 1895, June 20 to Messina.



Postal aggregation office: Falcone

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 571 *Opening*: 1874, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1905 Turned into third class post office: 1903





First rate letter to Patti, 1875, January 30, with "Oliver?" in green on the stamp and on the front. In transit the aggregation post office Falcone (before rural office) put its mark (1875, February 1).

Only two letters with green colour recorded.



First rate letter between Mayors to Barcellona, with "Oliveri" in black colour. On backside are the marks of Falcone (1882, March 6) and Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto (1882, March 7).

### Oliveri

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Falcone Inhabitants in 1861: 571

Opening: 1874, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1905 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Octagonal mark "OLIVERI" on first rate letter to Messina 1895, May 2.



Double rate letter between Mayors from Oliveri to Termini Imerese 1904, January 21. After the raising to post office, Oliveri continued to use the octagonal, waiting for the new mark.



Postal aggregation office: Ganzirri Inhabitants in 1861: 1246 Opening: 1866, First quarter

Cursive postmark: known after 1880 until 1883

Turned into third class post office: 1901 changing the name in "PACE DEL MELA"



First rate letter within the district from Pace to Messina 1882, January 29.

The only recorded letter with "Pace" on the stamp.



Postal stationery from Pace to Palermo, 1883, June 26.

The cursive mark "Pace" is recorded only by another free post letter of December 1882

### Panaria

#### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Lipari Inhabitants in 1879: 700 Opening: 1878, Second quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1878 to 1882

Turned into third class post office: 1886, August 1 (numeral mark "4090")







First rate letters within the district from Panaria (today Panarea) to Lipari, 1880, May 7 and 1882, April 22. The rural office correctly put the mark on the front. Lipari office on the first put its mark on backside and not on the stamps. On the second letter put the numeral "1265" on the stamp and "LIPARI 30 APR 82" on the front.



### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Brolo Inhabitants in 1861: 3314 Opening: 1873, Third quarter Cursive postmark: from 1876 to 1877

Turned into second class post office: 1880, March 1 (numeral mark "3326")







First rate letter to Palermo. The aggregation office Brolo put its mark on the front (1876, June 12)

The only recorded letter, with the exception of another post-free letter of 1877.



### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: S.Stefano di Camastra

Inhabitants in 1861: 1159 Opening: 1867, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1868 to 1882

Turned into second class post office: 1883, June 1 (numeral mark "3589")





First rate letter to Patti, 1867, December 29. The cursive mark was put on the two stamps. On backside are the marks of S.Stefano di Camastra (1867, December 31) and Patti (1868, January 2).



Double rate letter (40 cent.) from Reitano to Patti, with the cursive mark on the stamp and on the front. On backside is the mark of S. Stefano di Camastra, 1879, December 6.

Only these two letters recorded with "Reitano" on the stamps.



Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: unknown Opening: 1894, November 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1895 Turned into second class post office: 1897, February 1





Postal stationery from Ringo (1895, June 6) to Oxford (1895, June 10 on backside), first rate for England.

The only recorded mark in the short period of the rural office.

## Roccavaldina

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora S.Martino

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1648 *Opening*: 1886, June 1

Octagonal mark: from 1886 to 1899 Turned into second class post office: 1901





Postal stationery from Roccavaldina, 1889, August 11 to Messina.



Four rates letter between Mayors (40 cent.) from Roccavaldina to San Filippo del Mela, 1892, July 14.

# S. Filippo del Mela

#### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: S. Lucia

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 2825 *Opening*: 1873, Fourth quarter

Cursive mark: unknown in the rural office period

Turned into third class post office: 1877, June 1 (numeral mark "3116")



"San Filippo" handwritten on the stamp of first rate letter to Comitini,1875, November 19. On the front is the mark of Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto and backside Messina, Girgenti and Comitini (875, November 22). The letter was returned to sender handwriting "al mittente per infrazione alla legge 14 giugno 1874". According to that law of 1874, they were be used specific government stamps. So the letter in its return trip had on backside the marks of Palermo, Agira, Messina and Barcellona.

S.Filippo del Mela received the cursive mark 1877, March 31, two months before the change in postal office. The cursive mark is known only on registered letter labels between 1976 and 1978!

It's the only recorded letter in the period of the rural office.



### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: S. Agata di Militello

Inhabitants in 1861: 1246 Opening: probably 1869

Atypycal oval mark (like Bourbon marks): from 1869

Turned into second class post office: 1884, August 1 (numeral mark "3757")

changing the name in "S.Marco d'Alunzio"





Post-free letter from S.Marco, 1869, July 9 to Patti. The aggregation post office S. Agata put the mark on the front (1869, July 13).

The first of the two letters recorded, both post-free.

# S. Stefano Inferiore

Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Messina Inhabitants in 1861: unknown Opening: probably 1867 Abolished: probably before 1870





Unknown rural office until the discovery of this letter. Insufficiently franked (4 instead of 5 cent.), the letter was written 1867, September 18. On backside is the mark of Messina, 1867, September 20.

The only recorded rural post mark.

## Savoca

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Santa Teresa di Riva

Inhabitants in 1861: 2025 Opening: 1886, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1886 to 1889 Squared postmark: from 1890 to 1900 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Handwritten letter, mailed like printed form (2 cent.), but untaxed, from Savoca,1886, June 20, to S. Teresa di Riva, where arrived the same day.

The only recorded letter (the cursive mark is known also on a postal stationery).



First rate letter between Mayors, from Savoca (squared post mark) to Forza d'Agrò, 1890, February 11.

### Torrenova

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: San Marco d'Alunzio

Inhabitants in 1861: 638 Opening: 1884, November 1 Cursive postmark: from 1886

Turned into third class post office: 1903







First rate letter from Torrenova to Messina. The develop has on backside the mark of Messina, but it's illegible.

The cursive mark is recorded only on these two pieces

## Valdina

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora San Martino

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 640 *Opening*: 1886, July 1

Cursive postmark: from 1887 to 1893

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1894 to 1901

Turned into third class post office: 1901, October 1





First rate letter of the Mayors. On backside are four marks: Spadafora San Martino (1887, July 3), Barcellona (July 4), S.Filippo del Mela and S.Lucia del Mela (1887, July 5).



Double rate of the Mayor letter with the cursive mark on the stamp and on the front (1893, March 30). On backside is the arrival mark of Messina (March 31).

The cursive mark is recorded only on these two letters



### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora San Martino

Inhabitants in 1861: 640 Opening: 1886, July 1

Cursive postmark: from 1887 to 1893

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1894 to 1901

Turned into third class post office: 1901, October 1





First rate letter of the Mayor (10 cent.). From Valdina 1897, November 5 to Messina.



### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora San Martino Inhabitants in 1861: 1052

Opening: 1873, Third quarter Cursive postmark: 1875 Octagonal postmark: from 1892 to 1903 Turned into third class post office: 1903





The cursive mark in green



First rate letter between Mayors. From Venetico with the cursive mark in black. On backside is the mark of Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto, 1875, October 23.

The cursive mark is recorded only on these two pieces

## Venetico

### Provincia di Messina

Postal aggregation office: Spadafora San Martino

Inhabitants in 1861: 1052 Opening: 1873, Third quarter Cursive postmark: 1875

Octagonal postmark: from 1892 to 1903 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Double rate of the Mayor (20 cent.). From Venetico, 1892 November 23, to Messina.



Postal stationery from Venetico 1903, August 11, to Palermo

## Aliminusa

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Montemaggiore Belsito

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1186 *Opening*: 1875, Fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1880 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1907 Turned into third class post office: 1903







First and third rate letters of the Mayor (10 and 30 cent.) from Aliminusa to Palermo, the first 1880, August 25 and the second 1881, May 22. On backside is the mark of the aggregation post office.



Postal aggregation office: Montemaggiore Belsito

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 1186 *Opening*: 1875, Fourth quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1880 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1907 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Third rate letter of the Mayor with the octagonal mark, from Aliminusa to Palermo, 1884, Maj 24.



Third rate print form of the Mayor (3 cent.) from Aliminusa to Montemaggiore, 1891, Maj 28. Despite having been completed by hand it was not taxed.

## Altavilla Milicia

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Termini Imerese

Inhabitants in 1861: 2601 Opening: 1865, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1865 to 1876

Turned into third class post office: 1876, May 1 (numeral mark "3052")

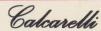




Front of first rate letter from Altavilla to Ventimiglia (this stamp was in use between 1865 and 1867). Altavilla and Ogliastro were the first rural offices to use the cursive marks in Sicily.



Four rates form (as noted on the margin) franked only for one rate of the Mayor (2 cent.). It was taxed "12", equivalent to twice the missing rate. The stamp was not marked.



Postal aggregation office: Petralia Sottana

*Inhabitants in 1861*: unknown *Opening*: 1874, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1892

Abolished: 1892, October 31, for the opening of the near Castellana Sicula post office.





First rate letter from Calcarelli, 1875, September 15 to Palermo with the cursive mark on the stamp. On arrival Palermo put also the numeral mark "21" on the stamp and the date mark on backside.



Post free letter from Calcarelli to Palermo, 1877, September 26

### Calcarelli

#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Petralia Sottana

*Inhabitants in 1861*: unknown *Opening*: 1874, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1884 to 1892

Abolished: 1892, October 31, for the opening of the near Castellana Sicula post office.







#### AVVERTENZE

Per le domande di associazioni ed altro, dirigersi alla *Tipografia Piazza*.

Per inserzioni a convenirsi. I manoscritti non si restituiscono.



### RATIVO LETTERARIO

no una volta alla settimana

r lo tuo mè, penso e discerno.

-DANTE INFERNO C. I.

oni diortì un
mo, cofestarlo
, se le
ano lo
siasmo,
stessa
il suo
nto, con
le cose
o della
potente

d i fra-

hhietto

mente, e l'appresa cognizione, senza in lui rimanere indefinita astrattezza, o vaga ed infeconda idea, fu tosto praticata nel suo latifondo, o nel suo armento, e la perfezione e l'abbondanza dei prodotti denotavano che la intelligenza feconda ed istruita ne dirigeva i colturali lavori.

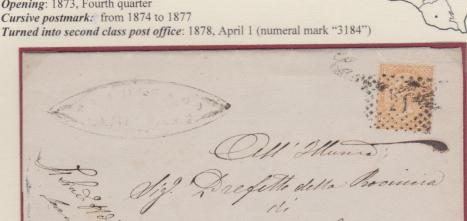
Presentati i suoi prodotti nei Concorsi Agrarii dell' Isola e fuori, ne riportarono ovunque le medaglie di premio, e per lui la larga

Newspaper rate (2 cent.) from Calcarelli, 1884, January 21 to Palermo with the octagonal mark.

# Campo Felice

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Cefalù Inhabitants in 1861: 1164 Opening: 1873, Fourth quarter



First rate letter of the Mayor, 1876, March 6. On arrival Palermo put also the mark "21" on the stamp.



First rate letter within the district, 1877, December 4. On backside are the marks of the aggregation post office Cefalù and Lascari. Unusal the rural office mark put on arrival.

# Campofiorito

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Corleone Inhabitants in 1861: 1522 Opening: 1875, Second quarter



First rate letter, 1876, December 17. The cursive mark was put on the stamp and twice on the front. On transit Palermo put the date mark (backside) and the mark "21" on the stamp.



First rate print letter, 1878, June 23. On the front is only the cursive mark of Campofiorito put on the stamp.

# Capaci

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Carini Inhabitants in 1861: 2498 Opening: 1875, Second quarter Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1883 to 1886

Turned into second class post office: 1886, October 1 (numeral mark "4120")







1876, first rate of the Mayor letters. The first (January 28), according to the rules, had the cursive mark on the front, while the stamp on arrival had the numeral mark "21" of Palermo. The second (August 24) incorrectly had the cursive mark on the stamp, while Palermo put its mark on backside.



Postal aggregation office: Carini Inhabitants in 1861: 2498 Opening: 1875, Second quarter Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1883 Octagonal postmark: from 1883 to 1886

Turned into second class post office: 1886, October 1 (numeral mark "4120")





1883, December 10. First rate of the Mayor from Capaci (octagonal mark) to Palermo.



Double rate between Mayors from Capaci 1885, February 8 to Alia.

### Castel d'accia

#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Palermo Inhabitants in 1861: 2506 Opening: 1868, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1870 to 1881

Turned into second class post office: 1881, April 1 (numeral mark "3402")





Free post letter from Casteldaccia 1868, May 1 to Palermo. Waiting for the cursive mark, was handwritten "Da Casteldaccia". On backside is the mark of Palermo (1868, May 2).

### The only recorded



First rate of the Mayor letter 1876, August 4 with the cursive mark on the stamp and the arrival date mark on backside. Palermo forgot to put also its numeral mark on the stamp, like the rule.

# Cefalà Diana

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Villafrati

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 787 *Opening:* 1898, April 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1898 to 1901

Turned into third class post office: 1903





First rate letter between Mayors (10 cent.), from Cefalà Diana 1899, December 23 to Corleone.



1900, January 6. Double rate letter from the Cefalà Diana Mayor to Palermo.

## Cerda - Staxione

Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Cerda Opening: 1871, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1877 to 1883

Abolished: 1887, October 31





First rate letter from Cerda-Stazione, 1879, March 30 to Palermo. Correctly the cursive mark was put on the front and the aggregation post office put its numeral mark "2700" on the stamp and the date mark.



The rural office Cerda-Stazione put the cursive mark on the first rate letter 1883, February 5. On backside is the arrival mark of Palermo.



Postal aggregation office: Corleone Inhabitants in 1861: about 200 Opening: 1883, Second quarter Cursive postmark: from 1889 to 1891

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1897 to 1902

Turned into third class post office: 1903



First date of the cursive mark, 1889, June 8 on postal stationery to Castelbuono. It was unknown until a few years ago and recently has been found on three postal stationery of the same archive.



First rate letter from Ficuzza 1900, August 23, with the round-squared mark.

Only two recorded.



Postal aggregation office: Cefalù Inhabitants in 1861: about 500

Opening: 1883, then abolished in 1887 and re-opened 1888, December 1

Cursive postmark: from 1884 to 1887

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1893

Turned into third class post office: 1903



First date of the cursive mark, 1884, October 30 on postal stationery to Palermo.

Only two recorded (from the same archive, both of this collection).



1893, July 6, first rate letter within the district (5 cent.). from Finale to Cefalù, with the round-squared mark.

The only recorded.

## Giardinello

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Montelepre

Inhabitants in 1861: 461 Opening: 1873, Second quarter Cursive postmark: from 1880 to 1891

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1894

Turned into third class post office: 1903





First rate of the Mayor from Giardinello 1880, August 16 to Palermo. The cursive mark was correctly put on the front. Palermo put the numeral "21" on the stamp and the date mark on backside.



1883, May 5. Giardinello put its cursive mark on the stamp and on the front of the first rate letter. On backside is the date mark of Palermo of the same day.

## Isola delle Femmine

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Palermo Inhabitants in 1861: 1352 Opening: 1873, Second quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1876

Turned into second class post office: 1876, May 1 (numeral mark "3054")







First rate of the Mayor letters (10 cent.) from Isola delle Femmine (1875, March 21 and September 11) to Palermo. The cursive mark was put on the stamp, but Palermo on the first put also the numeral mark "21", while in the second only the date mark on backside.

## Lascari

### Provincia di Palermo

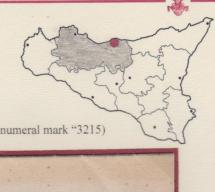
Postal aggregation office: Cefalù

Inhabitants in 1861: 957

Opening: 1875, Fourth quarter 77, 1873

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1878

Turned into second class post office: 1878, September 1 (numeral mark "3215)





Double rate between Mayors, from Lascari, 1876, April 3 to Polizzi Generosa. The cursive mark was put on the stamp. The aggregation post office Cefalù put its date mark on the front.



1878, July 8, first rate of the Mayor, from Lascari (cursive mark on the stamp) to Palermo. On backside are the marks of Cefalù (July 9) and Palermo (1878, July 10).



Postal aggregation office: Misilmeri Inhabitants in 1861: 1943

Opening: 1865, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1865 to 1877

Turned into second class post office: 1877, September 1 with the new name "S.Maria di Ogliastro"

(numeral mark "3136") and from 1901 "Bolognetta"



Free post letter from Ogliastro, 1865, May 22. It was handwritten "Da Ogliastro", waiting for the cursive mark, used 10 days after, 1865, June 2, first date of a cursive mark in Sicily (the letter is in the first page).

The only recorded.



1866, January 10, first rate from Ogliastro to Palermo. Only two letters recorded with the cursive on the stamp.



Postal aggregation office: Cefalù Inhabitants in 1861: 1434 Opening: 1873, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1874 to 1879

Turned into second class post office: 1879, December 1 (numeral mark "3303")

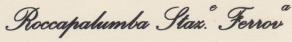




First rate of the Mayor 1875, September 8, from Pollina to Palermo. The cursive mark is correctly on the front. Palermo put the numeral mark "21" on the stamp and the date mark on backside.



Printed form (first rate, 2 cent.) from Pollina to Cefalù (1877, January 26). On the stamp is the cursive mark of the rural office.



Postal aggregation office: Roccapalumba

Opening: 1887, First quarter Cursive postmark: 1890
Abolished: after 1930





First rate to Palermo, 1890, January 15. On the stamp is the cursive mark. In Palermo was put (on the front and on backside) the date mark "PALERMO SUCC." N°3 (FERROVIA) 18.1.90".

The only recorded

# S. Carlo (Chiusa Sclafani)

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Chiusa Sclafani

Inhabitants in 1861: about 160 Opening: 1888, Third quarter Cursive postmark: 1888

Squared postmark: from 1889 to 1903 Turned into third class post office: 1903







First rate letters to Sciacca (1888, August 17) and Caltabellotta (1888, August 18) with the cursive mark on the stamp. On backside are-the mark of the aggregation office Chiusa Sclafani and the arrival marks.

Two of the three letters recorded, all of 1888.

## S. Carlo (Palermo)

Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Chiusa Sclafani

Inhabitants in 1861: about 160 Opening: 1888, Third quarter Cursive postmark: 1888

Squared postmark: from 1889 to 1903 with "Palermo" in brackets Turned into third class post office: 1903



First date of the squared mark on first rate letter (20 cent.) to Villafranca, 1889, May 26.



First rate letter within the district (5 cent.) to Chiusa Sclafani, 1895, March 14.

## S. Lorenzo

#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Resuttana Inhabitants in 1861: about 2700 Opening: 1866, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1879 to 1885 Octagonal postmark: from 1886 to 1896

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1897

Turned into third class post office: 1903





First date of the cursive mark on postal stationery to Torino, 1879, November 3.



First rate within the district from S.Lorenzo, 1883, December 17 to Palermo.

## S. Lorenzo

#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Resuttana Inhabitants in 1861: about 2700 Opening: 1866, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1879 to 1885 Octagonal postmark: from 1886 to 1896

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1897

Turned into third class post office: 1903





The octagonal mark of S.Lorenzo on postal stationery to Pettineo, 1888, May 24.



Postal stationery with the round squared mark of S.Lorenzo, 1897, October 18 to Palermo.

## S.ta Flavia

#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Bagheria

Inhabitants in 1861: 3145 Opening: 1873, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1873 to 1875

Turned into third class post office: 1875, July 1 (numeral mark "2998")



Double rate letter to Palermo, 1873, October 28. Waiting for the cursive mark, on the stamps was handwritten "Santa Flavia". On arrival Palermo put also the numeral mark "21" on the stamps and the date mark on backside.



Free post letter to Palermo, 1873, October 31. Waiting for the cursive mark on the front was handwritten "S. Flavia". On backside the arrival mark of Palermo.

Only these two handwritten letter recorded

## S.ta Flavia

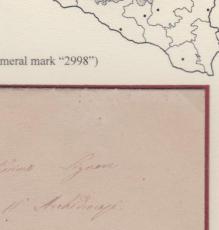
#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Bagheria

*Inhabitants in 1861*: 3145 *Opening*: 1873, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1873 to 1875

Turned into third class post office: 1875, July 1 (numeral mark "2998")



First rate letter to Palermo, 1874, January 2, with the cursive mark on the stamp.



First rate of the Mayor of Solanto, near Santa Flavia, 1875, April 19 to Palermo. On the stamp is the cursive mark, but also the numeral mark "21" of Palermo, that on backside put the date mark 1875, April 22.

# Sclafani

### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Caltavuturo

Inhabitants in 1861: 650 Opening: 1892, January 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1892 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Double rate of the Mayor from Sclafani, 1894, November 23, to Sciara.



First rate within the district from Sclafani, 1895, April 6 to Caltavuturo.

## Villabate

#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Palermo Inhabitants in 1861: 2438

Opening: 1867, Third quarter Cursive postmark: from 1871 to 1876

Turned into third class post office: 1876, April 1 (numeral mark "3050")





Free post letter, 1872, January 13 with the cursive mark of Villabate in black.

The only recorded in black colour



First rate of the Mayor from Villabate, 1875, January 13, to Palermo. The cursive mark, in green, was correctly put on the front. Palermo put the numeral mark "21" on the stamp.



#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Terrasini Inhabitants in 1861: about 1200

**Opening**: 1881, June 1

Cursive postmark: 1883. A second cursive mark "Lo Zucco"

was used from 1888, December until 1891

Turned into third class post office: 1905, October 1





First rate letter from Zucco to Monreale with the cursive mark on the stamp and on the front. On backside are the marks of Palermo in transit and of Monreale, 1883, April 8.

The only recorded



#### Provincia di Palermo

Postal aggregation office: Terrasini
Inhabitants in 1861: about 1200
Opening: 1881, June 1
Cursive postmark: 1883. A second cursive mark "Lo Zucco"
was used from 1888, December until 1891
Turned into third class post office: 1905, October 1



Free post letter between the Mayors of Cinisi and Montelepre mailed from the rural office, 1889, January 5.



From "PALERMO SUCC. N.3 FERROVIA" to "Lozucco", 1890, May 16. Insufficiently franked, the letter was taxed at 40 cent. - twice the missing rate - and the cursive mark was put on the tax stamps.

Only these two and another letter of this collection are recorded.

## Buscemi

#### Provincia di Siracusa

Postal aggregation office: Palazzolo Acreide

Inhabitants in 1861: 2354 Opening: 1867, First quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1867 to 1881, two types of different size

Turned into second class post office: 1881, March 1 (numeral mark "3391")



First type of the cursive mark, bigger, used until 1872, on first rate letter to Noto, 1868, April 27. The aggregation post office Palazzolo Acreide put its mark on the front.



Second type of cursive mark used in Buscemi on first rate letter of the Mayor to Siracusa, 1879, June 9. The rural office mark was put on the front. Siracusa, on arrival, put its date mark (1879, June 10) on the stamp.



Postal aggregation office: Pachino Inhabitants in 1861: unknown Opening: 1892, April 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1892 to 1903

Turned into third class post office: 1903





First rate letter from Marzamemi, 1893, October 1 to Spaccaforno (today Ispica).



Postal stationery from Marzamemi, 1894, September 25, to Spaccaforno.



Postal aggregation office: Ragusa Inhabitants: unknown Opening: 1899, October 1

Round mark squared with circle sectors: from 1899 to 1903

Turned into third class post office: 1903





Postal stationery from Mazzarelli to Termni Imerese, 1900, January 24.



Mazzarelli on arrival, on postcard from Ragusa, 1902, December 30

Only three items recorded in the rural office period



Postal aggregation office: Siracusa Inhabitants in 1861: 2516 Opening: 1872, Third quarter

Cursive postmark: from 1879 to 1882
Turned into second class post office: 1903





First rate within the district on part of letter from Priolo to Cefalù with the cursive mark on the stamp.

The cursive mark put on the stamp is recorded also on one letter and on the stamp below.





Postal aggregation office: Floridia

Inhabitants in 1861: 2354

Opening: post office from 1865, downgraded to rural office 1868, December 1

Cursive postmark: from 1875 to 1885

Turned into second class post office: 1892, June 1



Double rate of the Mayor. Letter from Solarino, 1875, May 16 with the cursive mark on the stamp. On arrival, Siracusa put the date mark (1875, May 17) on backside.

Only three letter recorded (another of 1875 and one of 1885).

## Ballata

#### Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Monte San Giuliano (today Erice)

Inhabitants in 1861: about 1200

**Opening**: 1885, June 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1900 Turned into third class post office: 1901

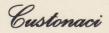




First rate within the district (5 cent.) from Ballata to Monte S.Giuliano, 1998, May16



Postal stationery from Ballata, 1999 July 10, to Palermo



Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Monte San Giuliano (today Erice)

Inhabitants in 1861: 1176

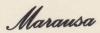
Opening: 1885, April 1
Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1901
Turned into third class post office: 1901





Postal stationery from Custonaci, 1989, June 13 to Palermo

Only two recorded in the rural office period



Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Rilievo Inhabitants in 1861: about 400 Opening: 1885, April 1 Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1901 Turned into third class post office: 1901





Postal stationery from Marausa, 1989, October 3 to Palermo

Three recorded in the rural office period



Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Favignana (Isola)

Inhabitants in 1861: about 400

**Opening**: 1887, May 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1887 to 1903 Turned into third class post office: 1903





Postal stationery from Marettimo, 1900 July 13, to Palermo

The only recorded

# Palazzolo (Monte San Giuliano)

Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Monte San Giuliano

Inhabitants in 1861: unknown

Opening: 1885, June 1
Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1901

Abolished: 1902





First rate within the district. Letters from Palazzolo to Monte San Giuliano, 1897, December 11 and 1901, February 9. The arrival mark is on backside on the first and on front in the second.

The only recorded

## Petrosino

Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Marsala Inhabitants in 1861: 2558

Opening: 1885, August 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1900 Turned into second class post office: 1901





Postal stationery from Petrosino, 1892, November 13 to Palermo.



First rate letter within the district from Petrosino, 1898, November 16 to Marsala.

# S. Marco (Monte S. Giuliano)

#### Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Monte San Giuliano (today Erice)

Inhabitants in 1861: Unknown

Opening: 1885, April 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1899

Turned into second class post office: 1900, January 1





Postal stationery from S.Marco, 1887, October 6 to Livorno.



Postal stationery from S.Marco, 1896, November 26 to Palermo

## S. Vito (Monte S. Giuliano)

### Provincia di Trapani

Postal aggregation office: Monte San Giuliano (today Erice)

Inhabitants in 1861: 2304 Opening: 1885, April 1

Octagonal postmark: from 1885 to 1895

Turned into second class post office: 1896, April 1





First rate letter from S.Vito 1889, January 20 to Firenze.

Only two recorded