# Mario Mentaschi <br> LIRE, SOLDI, CRAZIE, GRANA AND BAJOCCHI <br> Italian Postal Rates from the Italian States to the Taking of Rome 1850-1870 



## NEW - English translation

Translation into English of the descriptive text originally only in Italian. The general introduction and the presentation of each part are already in English in the volume.

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All the domestic postal rates of the Italian States before the unification are presented in this elegant and important volume. The summary tables accompany the short text dealing with all the rates for letters, printed matter, samples, also referred to weights and postage other than the first.

The work illustrates, for every State, all the rates from the introduction of postage stamps to the transition to the Kingdom of Italy: during that complex period, between 1859 and 1861, the introduction of Sardinian rates was gradual and distinct in the different regions. The volume continues up to 1866 for Venetia and up to 1870 for the Papal State.
Domestic rates and those abroad with the French mediation have not been included. Some short and unknown rate periods enable us to identify important rarities.
However, the present work is really valuable in that it is richly illustrated, with hundreds of high quality colour photographs of the postal documents belonging to the author's collection; they represent the most important rates described. Letters of Lombardy-Venetia, Sardinia, Parma, Modena, Romagne, Tuscany, Papal State, Naples and Sicily lead the readers through an evocative journey in the world of mail during that wonderful period, from 1850 to 1870 , two centuries ago.
To complete the volume, some notes, graphically presented to be immediately recognizable, on the rarity of some franking, of which the author has recorded, after accurate research, the number of known exemplars.


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