

THE MOST FAMOUS LETTER OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF MODENA ON SHOW IN MONTECITORIO

On the occasion of the exhibition focused on the Kingdom of Italy organized by Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi, which will be held in the Montecitorio Palace in Rome from 9 to 16 February 2006, Vaccari srl make some important items available to be displayed.

Among them, particularly interesting is a letter which belongs to the famous Vito Viti of Philadelphia correspondence.

It is the only letter known with the rare cent. 80 stamp in strip of three, already mentioned by Emilio Diena in "Corriere Filatelico" of 1931, in an article later published in full in "Vaccari Magazine" no.3 of 1990.



Provisional Government of Modena. 13 December 1859.

Letter from Carrara to Philadelphia (USA), franked for lire 2.40 (double postage rate of lire 1.20) with a strip of three of the famous cent. 80 stamp of the Provisional Government of Modena. This is the only letter known with a multiple of this stamp, and one of the greatest rarities of Italian classical philately.

(Vito Viti correspondence - ex collections Gilbert - Rothschild - Farini)



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It was acquired by Mr Paolo Vaccari on 21 November 1996 at the auction "Alphonse" Phillips in London, where it was on sale together with some other precious items of Modena and of Romagne Provisional Government. An article about that sale is published in "Vaccari Magazine" no. 17 of 1997.

After some time, it was part of the famous Farini collection, a really important accumulation of philatelic items of the Provisional Government of Modena (15 June 1859 - 18 March 1860); this collection has always obtained the large gold medal at all the world exhibitions where it was displayed.

Vaccari srl acquired the whole Farini collection in 2005 and now they exhibit some extremely important items.

The letter with the strip of three of the cent. 80 stamp will be displayed in December at Monacophil 2006 too, in Montecarlo, on the occasion of the exhibition of the 100 world rarities organized by the Club Elite de la Philatelie. The whole ex Farini collection will be on show in the exhibition organized by Unione Filatelica Lombarda in conjunction with Monacophil.

Other items among the most famous exhibited by Vaccari.



Duchy of Modena. 7 March 1858.

Letter from Modena to Paris, bearing a tricolour franking (three copies of cent. 25 + cent. 5 + lira 1) for a total amount of lire 1.80 (double postage rate up to destination of cent. 90).



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Modena Transappennine. 20 June 1859.

Letter from Fivizzano to Florence, franked with one cent. 20 of the Kingdom of Sardinia (that had occupied that territory). This is the first date of use known for Sardinian stamps in that territory; its use continued until 14 October 1859.
(ex Farini collection)



Kingdom of Italy. 26 September 1868.

Large package from Palermo to Fochabers (Scotland), franked for lire 10.80 (corresponding to 18 cent. 60 postage). Together with the values of cent. 40 and cent. 60, there are 32 copies of cent. 20 issued in 1867, on their own, pairs and strips (two copies of cent. 40 had detached, and were later stuck again). This is one of the highest franking of the Victor Emmanuel II Reign period and the letter with more copies of this cent. 20 stamp.



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The letters of the Provisional Government of Modena, of the Duchy of Modena and of Modena Transappennine here reproduced belonged to the group of more than 1000 items on display on the occasion of the exhibition "Modena 1852-2002 - 150° anniversario dei francobolli estensi" organized by Vaccari srl from 31 May to 10 June 2002 in the extraordinary San Carlo Church in Modena. The exhibition was particularly successful even thanks to the way in which the items were displayed: it was not the usual philatelic setting but a historical and innovative presentation, to tell a very important part of Italian history through postal history.

Information and some images of the exhibition
<http://www.vaccari.it/1852m2002/home.htm?SetLanguage=en>

The catalogue of the exhibition, which has received many gold medals at the most important national and international exhibitions, besides offering more than 1000 colour illustrations of the items displayed, presents interesting introductory essays; among them one about the finding of ancient Italian stamps belonging to Vito Viti correspondence.

The catalogue
http://www.vaccari.it/_2_editoria/miv/1523E.htm?SetLanguage=en

