

## French Military Forces in Rome, 1849 - 1870

Following the assassination of a Papal government minister on November 15, 1848, a general revolt broke out in Rome. Pope Pius IX left Rome in disguise to stay in Gaeta later that month. A Constitutional Assembly convened on February 8 and proclaimed the Roman Republic on February 9, 1849.

The first period of armed conflict began on April 25, 1849 when some 8,000 French troops under General Charles Oudinot landed at Civitavecchia on the coast near Rome. The French sent an officer to meet with Giuseppe Mazzini and demanded that the pope be restored to power. In response, the revolutionary Roman Assembly authorised Mazzini to resist the French by force of arms.

The French siege of Rome began on June 1, 1849 and despite the resistance of Garibaldi's Republican army the French prevailed. A truce was negotiated on July 1 and on July 2 Garibaldi, followed by some 4,000 troops, withdrew from Rome for refuge in the neutral republic of San Marino. The French Army entered Rome on July 3 and reestablished the Holy See's temporal power thereby ending the Roman Republic. The French army maintained their strong presence in support of the Papal States.

A second armed conflict occurred in October 1867 when Garibaldi made a second attempt to capture Rome, but the papal army, strengthened with a additional French auxiliary forces, defeated his badly armed volunteers at Mentana.

French soldiers propped up the Papal administration in Rome until August 1870 when they were withdrawn at the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War, leading to the subsequent capture of Rome and annexation by the Kingdom of Italy.

This exhibit shows mail to and from the French forces stationed at Rome and Civitavecchia during this turbulent period. The cover below is the earliest date reported of any of the special marking employed. Further, it is dated during the brief period of the Roman Republic.



22 June 1849 outside Rome (during Roman Republic period) to Beaune, France, 2 decimes due  
the earliest reported use of any of the French occupation postmarks  
letter mentions that "hostilities have commenced"

Brigade Francaise Italie

Republic Period

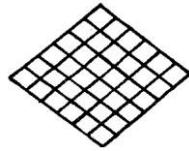
27 June 1849 Civitavecchia to Alais, France, 2 decimes due



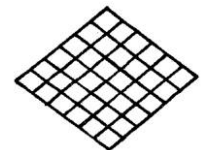
9 April 1850 Civitavecchia to Luneville, France, 2 decimes due

BRIGADE FRANCAISE ITALIE
Known uses date between 25 June 1849 and 11 December 1866
This marking was used on mail to and from the brigade stationed at Civitavecchia.

## Brigade Francaise Italie



1 January 1862 Civitavecchia unsealed cover to Cholet, France  
prepaid special carte-de-visite rate with 10c 1853 issue

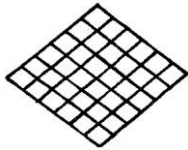


26 July 1863 Civitavecchia to Paris, France, prepaid with pair 20c 1862 issue

BRIGADE FRANCAISE ITALIE
Known uses date between 25 June 1849 and 11 December 1866
This marking was used on mail to and from the brigade stationed at Civitavecchia.



## Brigade Francaise Italie



13 November 1865 Civitavecchia to French soldier in Rome, Italy  
prepaid with 20c 1862 issue, "CORP EXP. D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp



7 February 1866 Civitavecchia to Paris, France, 30 centimes due  
cachet of Commandant 1<sup>ST</sup> Battalion, 29<sup>th</sup> Regiment on reverse

BRIGADE FRANCAISE ITALIE
Known uses date between 25 June 1849 and 11 December 1866
This marking was used on mail to and from the brigade stationed at Civitavecchia.

Corps Expeditre d'Italie Qer. General



29 August 1849 Rome to Milan, France, 2 decimes due



26 October 1849 Rome to Ganges, France, 4 decimes due

CORPS EXPEDIT <sup>RE</sup> D'ITALIE Q <sup>RE</sup> GENERAL
Known uses date between 23 June 1849 and 25 February 1853
This marking was used at the Quartermaster General's office in Rome.



## Corps Expeditre d'Italie Qer. General



15 January 1851 St. Jean de Losne, France to Rome, prepaid with 20c 1849 issue  
23 January 1851 "CORPS EXPEDIT<sup>RE</sup> D'ITALIE Q<sup>RE</sup> GENERAL" arrival backstamp



11 February 1852 St. Jean de Losne, France to Rome, prepaid with pair 10c 1849 issue  
17 February 1852 "CORPS EXPEDIT<sup>RE</sup> D'ITALIE Q<sup>RE</sup> GENERAL" arrival backstamp

CORPS EXPEDIT <sup>RE</sup> D'ITALIE Q <sup>RE</sup> GENERAL
Known uses date between 23 June 1849 and 25 February 1853
This marking was used at the Quartermaster General's office in Rome.

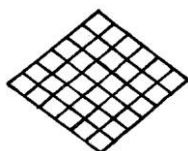
Corps Expeditre d'Italie Qer. General



16 February 1850 Rome to Paris, France, 2 decimes due

CORPS EXPEDIT <sup>RE</sup> D'ITALIE Q <sup>RE</sup> GENERAL
Known uses date between 23 June 1849 and 25 February 1853
This marking was used at the Quartermaster General's office in Rome.

## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 1<sup>e</sup> Division

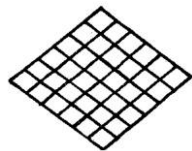


31 October 1853 Rome to Vigy, France, prepaid with 25c 1852 issue

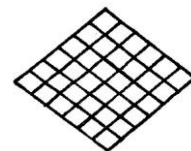
CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 1 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 22 June 1849 and 26 May 1863
This marking was used on mail to and from the first division stationed at Rome.



## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 1e Division



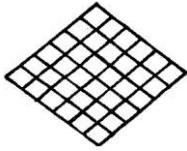
31 December 1855 Rome to Givors, France, prepaid with 20c 1853 issue



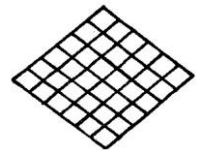
29 September 1857 Rome to Avignon, France, prepaid with 20c 1853 issue

CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 1 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 22 June 1849 and 26 May 1863
This marking was used on mail to and from the first division stationed at Rome.

## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 1e Division



19 June 1858 Rome to London, England, prepaid with pair 20c 1853 issue



9 November 1858 Rome to Paris, France, insufficiently prepaid with three copies 20c 1853 issue

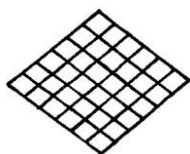
CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 1<sup>E</sup> DIVISION

Known uses date between 22 June 1849 and 26 May 1863

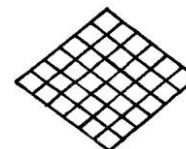
This marking was used on mail to and from the first division stationed at Rome.



## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 1e Division



18 February 1862 Rome to Strasbourg, France, prepaid with 20c 1853 issue



12 July 1862 Rome to Donzère, France, prepaid with 20c 1853 issue

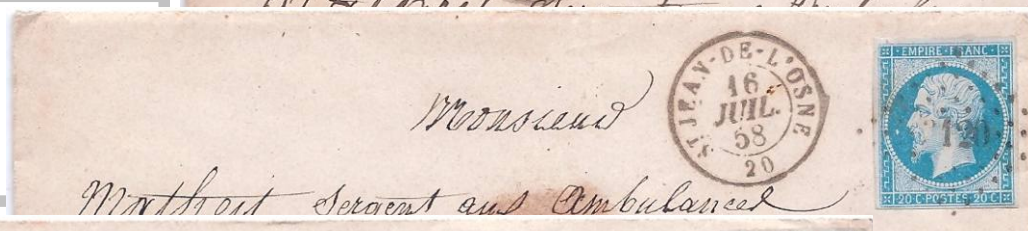
CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 1 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 22 June 1849 and 26 May 1863
This marking was used on mail to and from the first division stationed at Rome.



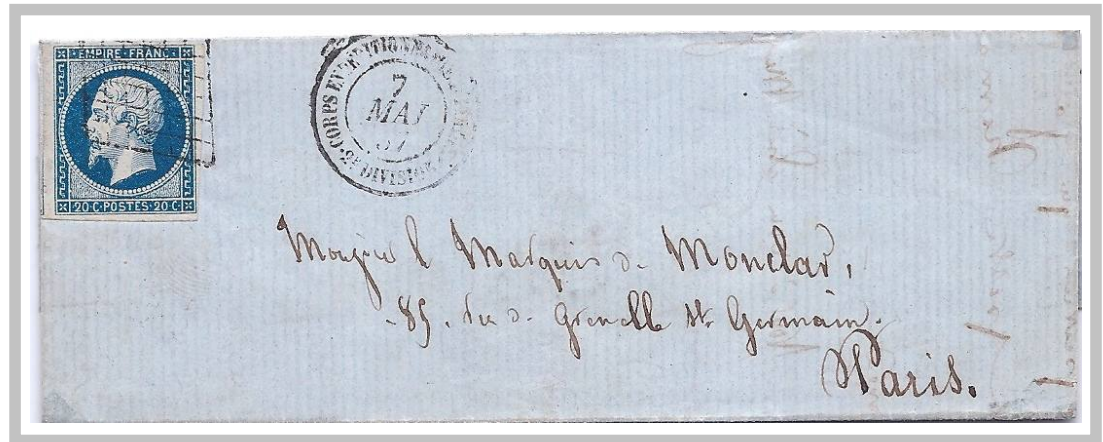
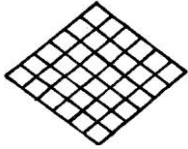
## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 1e Division



correspondence from St. Jean de Losne, France to Rome  
dated between 12 March 1853 and 22 December 1858  
each with "CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 1<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp



## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 2e Division



7 May 1857 Rome to Paris, France, prepaid with 20c 1853 issue



15 January 1859 Rome to Riez, France, 30 centimes due, forwarded  
19 January forwarded again from Aix-en-Provence to Carpentras prepaid with 20c 1853 issue

CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 2 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 4 September 1850 and 10 January 1863
This marking was used on mail to and from the second division stationed at Rome.



## Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 2e Division



correspondence from St. Jean de Losne, France to Rome  
dated between 17 May 1856 and 11 August 1860  
each with "CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp





# Corps Expeditionnaire d'Italie 2e Division



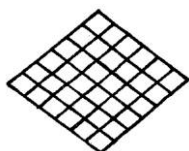
POIDS		CACHETS		
GR	C	NOM	COUL	EMPR



18 July 1861 St. Jean de Losne, France registered to Rome  
 prepaid with strip of four 80c and two singles 40c 1853 issue  
 24 July 1861 "CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp

CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 2 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 4 September 1850 and 10 January 1863
This marking was used on mail to and from the second division stationed at Rome.

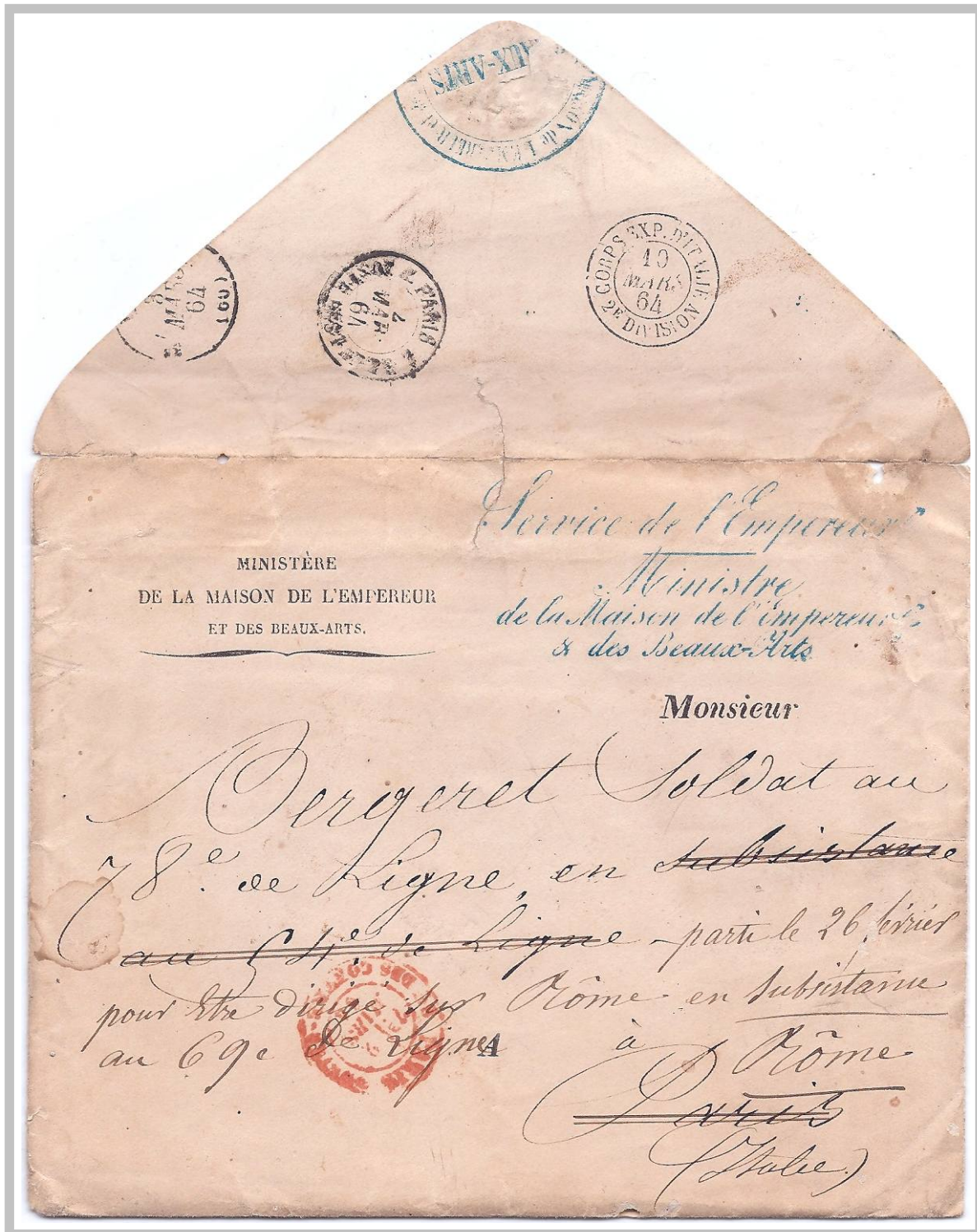
Corps Exp. d'Italie 2e Division



2 January 1864 Rome to Phalsbourg, France, prepaid with 20c 1862 issue

CORPS EXP. D'ITALIE 2 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 12 August 1863 and 20 March 1867
This marking was used on mail to and from the second division stationed at Rome.





MINISTÈRE  
DE LA MAISON DE L'EMPEREUR  
ET DES BEAUX-ARTS.

*Service de l'Empereur*  
*Ministre*  
*de la Maison de l'Empereur*  
*& des Beaux-Arts*

Monsieur

*Bergeret Soldat au*  
*78<sup>e</sup> de ligne, en ~~substitution~~*  
*au 4<sup>e</sup> de ligne parti le 26 février*  
*pour être dirigé sur Rome en substitution*  
*au 69<sup>e</sup> de ligne à Rome*  
*(Italie)*

2 March 1864 Paris Son des Contre-Seings to Rome

cursive "Service de l'Empereur - Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur & des Beaux Arts" franchise cachet

10 March 1864 "CORPS EXP. D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp



## Corps Exp. d'Italie 2e Division



correspondence from France to a soldier in Rome  
dated between 5 September 1863 and 9 January 1866  
each with "CORPS EXP D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp





## Corps Exp. d'Italie 2e Division



8 May 1866 Bordeaux, France to Rome, short paid with 10c 1862 issue  
"CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp



24 March 1866 Nancy, France to Rome, short paid with 20c 1862 issue  
"CORPS EXPEDITIONNAIRE D'ITALIE 2<sup>E</sup> DIVISION" arrival backstamp

CORPS EXP. D'ITALIE 2 <sup>E</sup> DIVISION
Known uses date between 12 August 1863 and 20 March 1867
This marking was used on mail to and from the second division stationed at Rome.

## Corps Expedre 2 Rome 2



10 September 1868 Rome to Paris, France, due 30 centimes



24 April 1869 Rome to Besanson, France, prepaid with 20c 1863 issue

CORPS EXPED<sup>RE</sup> 2 ROME 2

Known uses in black date between 8 December 1867 and 22 June 1870

This marking was used on mail to and from the second division stationed at Rome.



Corps Expedre 2 Rome 2



17 June 1869 Rome to La Tolfa, Roman States, official franchise mail



7 October 1869 Rome to Civitavecchia, official franchise mail

CORPS EXPED<sup>RE</sup> 2 ROME 2

Known uses in red date between 8 June 1868 and 18 August 1870

This marking was used on mail to and from the second division stationed at Rome.

## Corps Expedre 2 Rome 2



20 February 1868  
Nancy to Civitavecchia  
30 centimes due  
black arrival "2 Rome 2"

30

8 May 1868  
Nancy to Civitavecchia  
red 30 centimes due  
no arrival



31 October 1868  
Nancy to Civitavecchia  
prepaid 20c 1863 issue  
red arrival "2 Rome 2"