

Prestamp Greece - Disinfection of Mail

The disinfection of mail was an effort to control the dissemination of infectious diseases like plague, cholera and other pestilences and applied at the entry points of Greece in the 19th ce. till early 1900's

The Sanitary stations operated along the major passages on the land borders & at the seaports of the exchange p.o.'s

The procedure of disinfection varied from vinegar splash or bath to fumigation by sulfur fumes
The first official regulation was issued in 1845 for the disinfection of incoming mail from countries in epidemic status or suspected outbreaks

In cases of disease outbreak inside Greece, disinfection of domestic mail also applied (etc Poros isl. plague in 1837 & Piraeus seaport in 1854)

Letter fumigation ended in 1893 - although disinfection of mail bags continued

*Important note: At this period Greece was using the Julian calendar that is **12 days behind** Gregorian Dates in all descriptions are those of the postmarks*

Landborders

Calamas

Sira isl.

Piraeus

**Disinfection on board
the french paquebots**

Corfu isl.

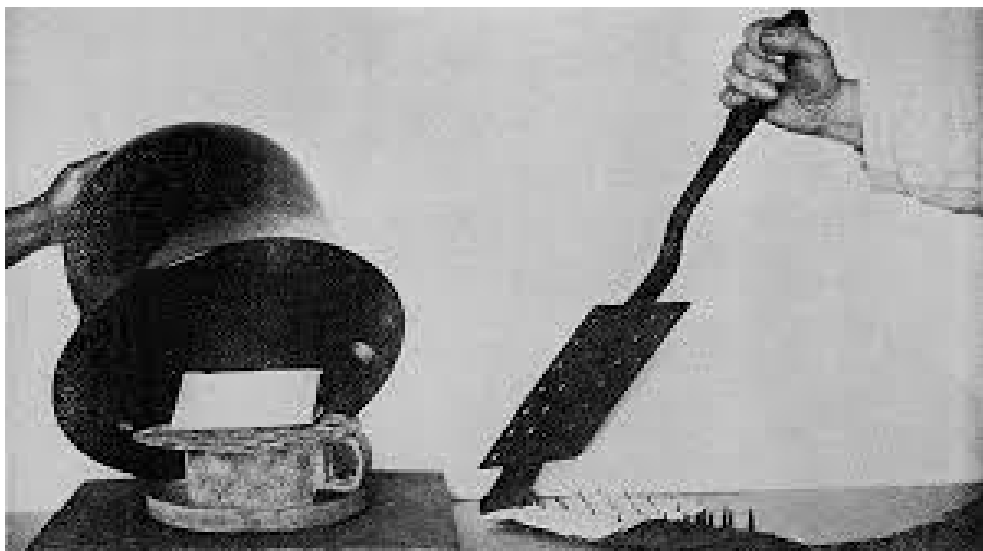
Transit mail

Domestic disinfections

Mail from the Lazarets

Lazarets official Cachets & Seals

*Enjoy an exhibition collection
based on Antonis Virvilis Large Gold & Grand Prix Exhibit:
The Role of Health stations & Lazarets in Greece*



SYNOPSIS

The Disinfection of Foreign mail entered Greece

1st Frame.

Foreign mail entered Greece via the **Land borders**. At that time, Greece bordered by land to the north only to the provinces of Epirus & Thessaly of the Ottoman Empire.

Mail disinfected through the border Sanitary Stations of **DERVEN FOURKA, TARATSA, VONITSA, AMALIAPOLIS & MAKRYNOROS**. All the cachets shown are extremely scarce to Unique.

Foreign mail arrived by the sea at Calamas (Peloponnese) and disinfected on site at **CALAMAS Sanitary Station** part I. Extremely scarce to Unique letters.

2nd Frame.

Foreign mail arrived by the sea at Calamas (Peloponnese) and disinfected on site at **CALAMAS Sanitary Station** part II. Featured the only known Calamas Sanitary Station seal.

Foreign mail entered Greece via the Sira island seaport. Sira island was located on the basic sea routes to the East (Smyrna, Constantinople) & to the South (Crete, Alexandria Egypt). Mail disinfected at **SIRA Sanitary Station** from 1836 to 1856 and during the 1865 Cholera outbreak. The Sira Sanitary Station cachet applied on the mail to 1851.

3rd Frame.

Foreign mail entered Greece through the Piraeus seaport. Piraeus port was the major port of mainland Greece. Mail disinfected at **PIRAEUS Sanitary Station** from 1838 to 1858 and also during the 1865 & the 1873 Cholera outbreaks. Extremely scarce disinfections of 1879 Ottoman & 1883 Egyptian mail. Last disinfected items recorded in 1892.

Foreign mail disinfected **aboard the French steamers** on the way to Piraeus port from 1843 to 1850. The French Paquebots de la Mediterranee disinfected the mail on board to save time.

4th Frame.

Foreign mail entered Greece via the Corfu island seaport. In 1864 Ionian islands were annexed to Greece. Mail disinfected at **CORFU Sanitary Station** during the 1865/1867 Cholera outbreak and in 1871. Scarce letters bearing Large Hermes heads. Last recorded disinfections occurred in 1884 on Italian mail.

Transit mail originated mainly from Ottoman ports and specially the Crete island was disinfected at SIRA Sanitary Station. Shown **Single disinfected** letters (only at Sira S/S) to Livorno, Trieste & Marseille.

Double disinfections of Transit mail at both Sira Sanitary Station and either Malta or Ancona lazarets.

Among those is a unique double disinfected Transatlantic letter.

*5th Frame.*Domestic Disinfections

The first major incident happened in 1837 at **Poros island** due to plague. Through the years we show a 1850 letter disinfected at Piraeus Sanitary station. The summer **1854 Piraeus cholera outbreak** brought by the French troops occupied Piraeus port. Numerous letters originated & disinfected on site from the Greek Lazarets. The 1892 Cholera outbreak at **St. George Lazaret**. Finally the infamous **Spinaloga island Lazaret** at Crete.

The seals of the Sanitation Stations used as:

Postmarks on General mail: Showing extremely rare: Sira, Marathonisi (Gythion) & Vostitsa (Egion)

On Postmasters mail: Showing unique: Sira, Makronissos isl. & Serifos isl.

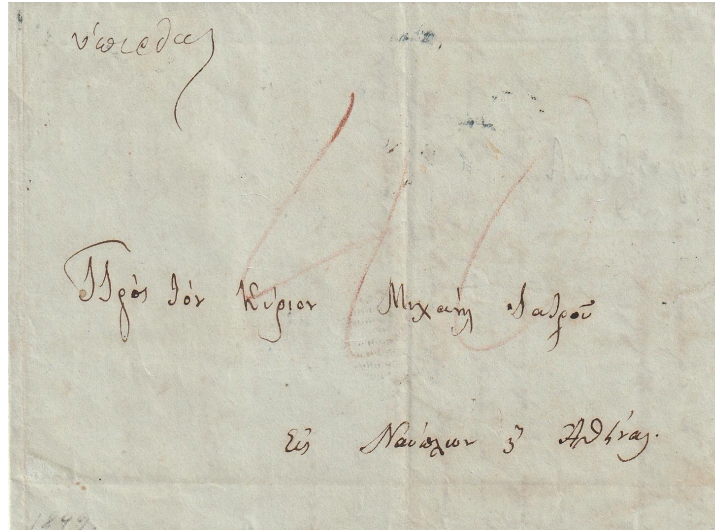
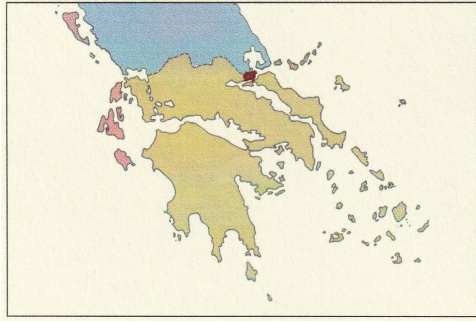
On Official documents: Showing extremely rare: Patras & Milos isl.

Enjoy an exhibition collection

based on Antonis Virvilis Large Gold & Grand Prix Exhibit:

The Role of Health stations & Lazarets in Greece

AMALIOPOLIS Sanitary Station



21 September 1849

Volo (Thessaly) to Nauplion via Lamia & Athens

Opened, disinfected & sealed AMALIOPOLIS Sanitary Station

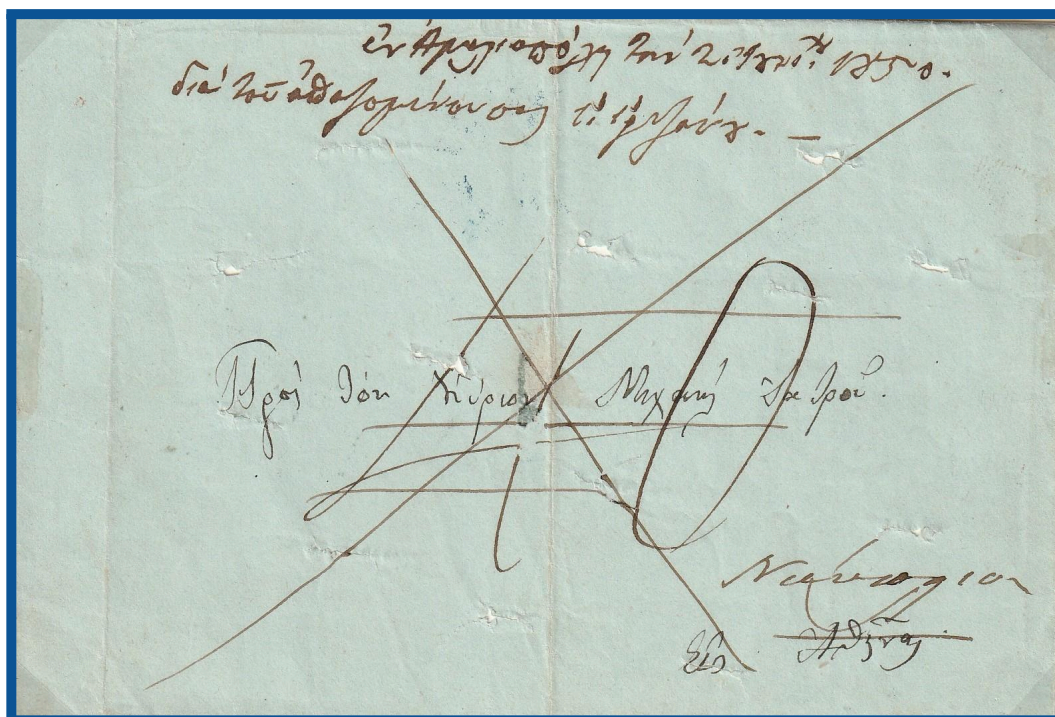
(verso) Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΑΜΑΛΙΑΠΟΛΕΩΣ**

Υπερθαλ (overseas)

40 Lepta due single rate

Two known letters exist with Amaliapolis Sanitary Station seal

AMALIOPOLIS Sanitary Station



30 April 1850

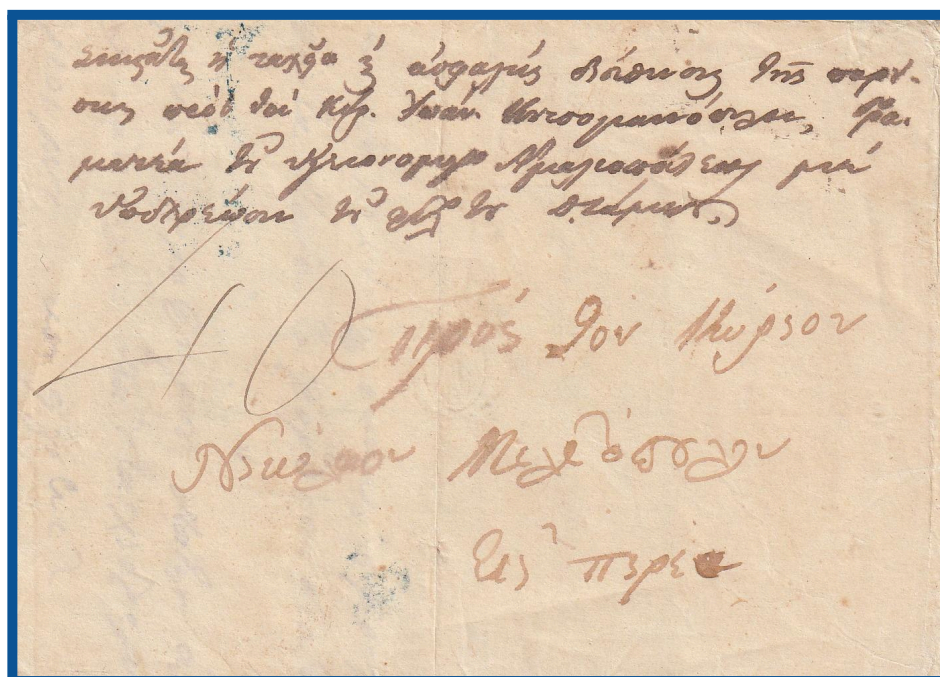
Volo (Thessaly) to Nauplion via Lamia & Athens

Disinfected at **AMALIOPOLIS** Sanitary Station

Rastel slits

40 Lepta due single rate

*Only two known letters exist disinfected with slits
at Amaliapolis Sanitary Station*



9 August 1850

Kastron Volo (Thessaly) to Piraeus via Lamia & Athens

Disinfected at **AMALIOPOLIS** Sanitary Station

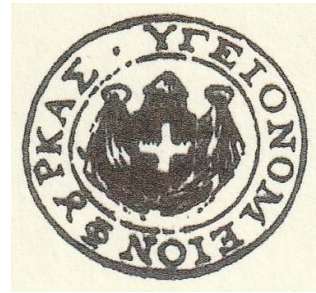
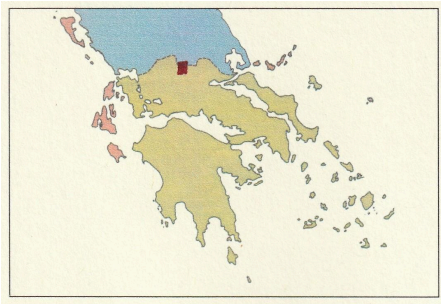
Rastel slits

40 Lepta due single rate

*Only two known letters exist disinfected with slits
at Amaliapolis Sanitary Station*

DERVEN FOURKA Sanitary Station

(1835 to 1839)



24 December 1836

Greek p.o. of **Salonique** (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.** via Athens

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **DERVEN FOURKA** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΦΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΦΟΥΡΚΑΣ**

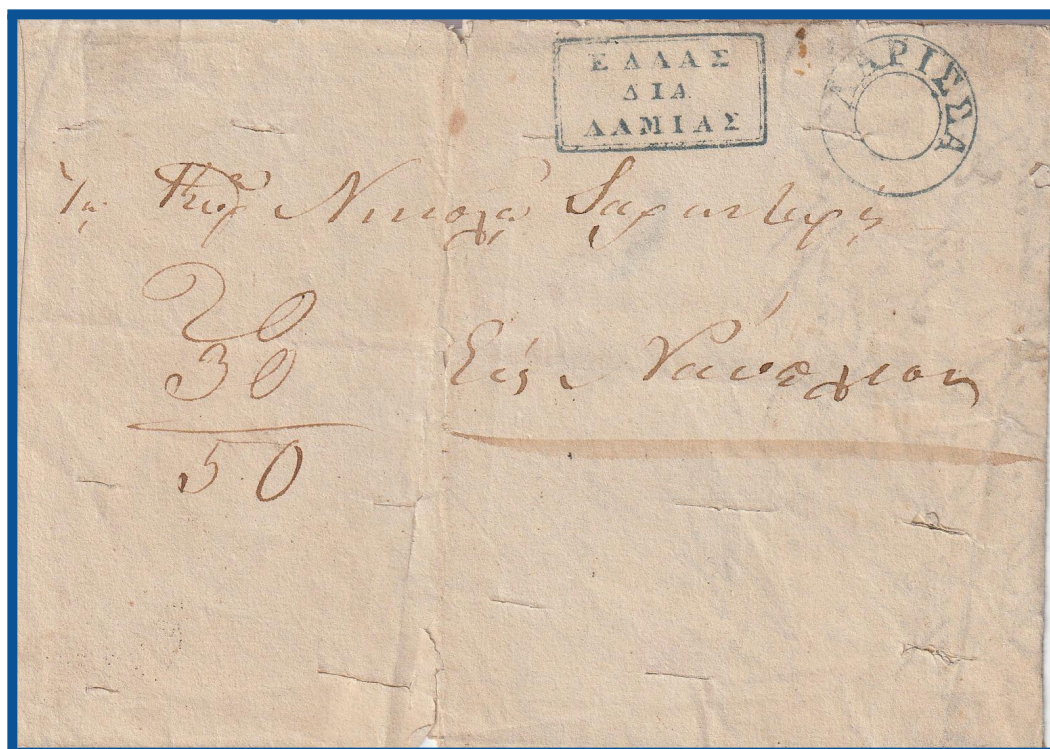
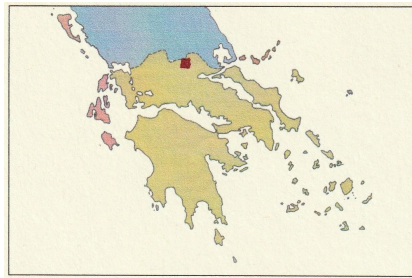
60+45+10= 115 Lepta due double rate

Transported (Piraeus-Sira) by the Greek steamer **ANATOLI**

The only known letter with Fourka Sanitary Station seal

TARATSA Sanitary Station

(1839 onwards)



24 November 1839

Greek p.o. of **Larissa** (Thessaly) to **Nauplion**
via **Lamia** & **Athens**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

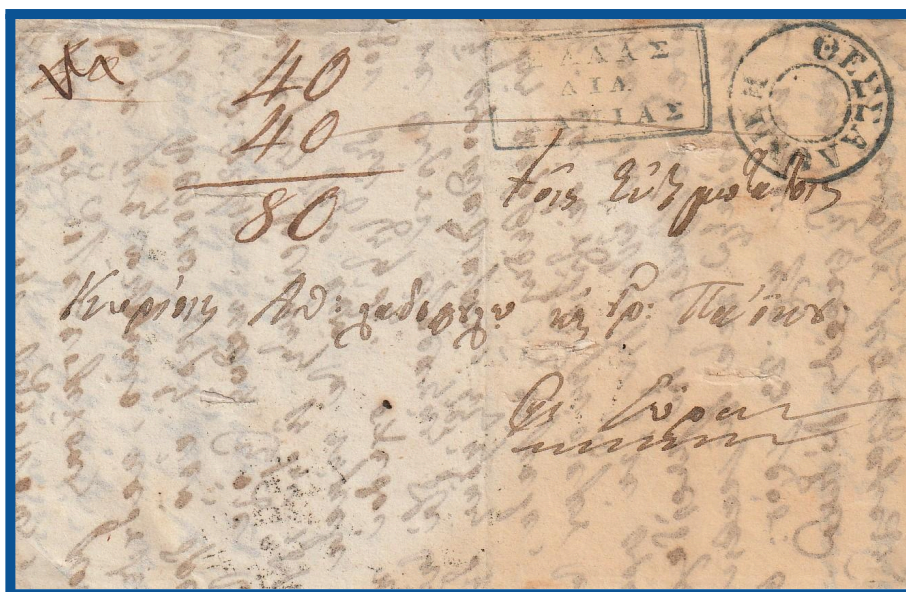
Rastel slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ**

(Greece via Lamia)

$20+30=$ **50 Lepta due** single rate

TARATSA Sanitary Station



9 December 1839

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Sira isl.**
via **Lamia, Piraeus & Athens**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

Four horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

40+40= **80 Lepta due** single rate



2 May 1840

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Sira isl.**
via **Lamia, Athens & Piraeus**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

40+40= **80 Lepta due** single rate

TARATSA Sanitary Station



31 August 1840

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Sira isl.**
via **Lamia, Piraeus & Athens**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΤΑΡΑΤΣΗΣ**

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

60+60= 120 Lepta due double rate



9 November 1840

Serres (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΤΑΡΑΤΣΗΣ**

TARATSA Sanitary Station

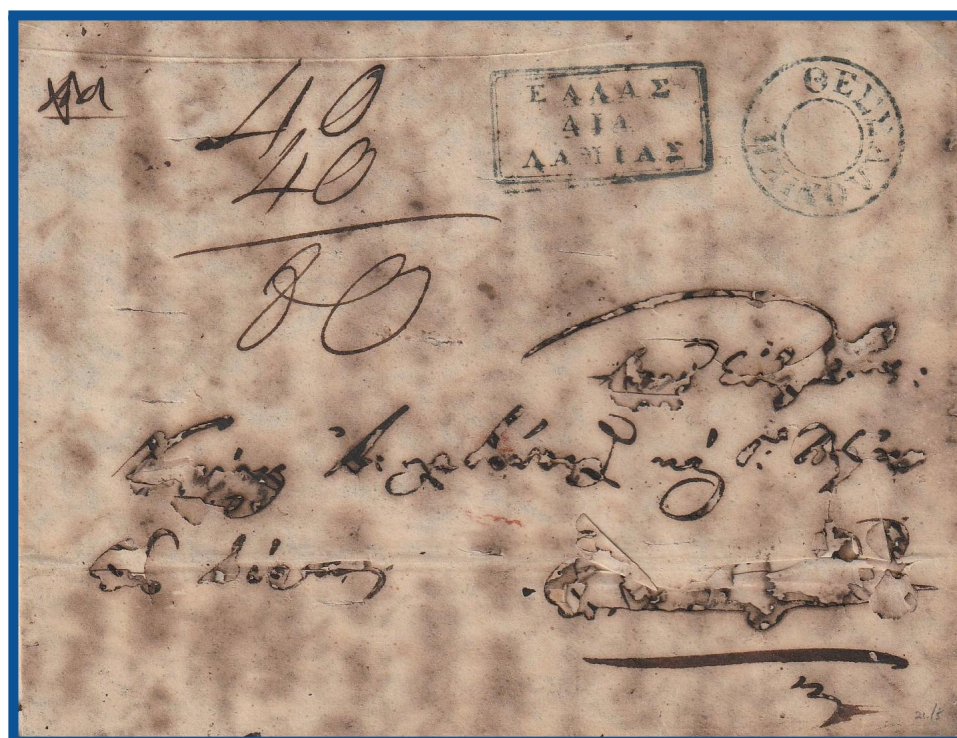


28 December 1840

Serres (Macedonia) to Sira isl.

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **TARATSA Sanitary Station**

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΤΑΡΑΤΣΗΣ**



30 July 1841

Serres (Macedonia) to Sira isl.

via the **Greek p.o. of Salonique (Macedonia), Lamia, Athens & Piraeus**

Disinfected at **TARATSA Sanitary Station**

Six horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

40+40= 80 Lepta due single rate

TARATSA Sanitary Station



30 August 1841

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Sira isl.**
via **Lamia, Athens & Piraeus**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station
Six horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)
60+60= 120 Lepta double rate

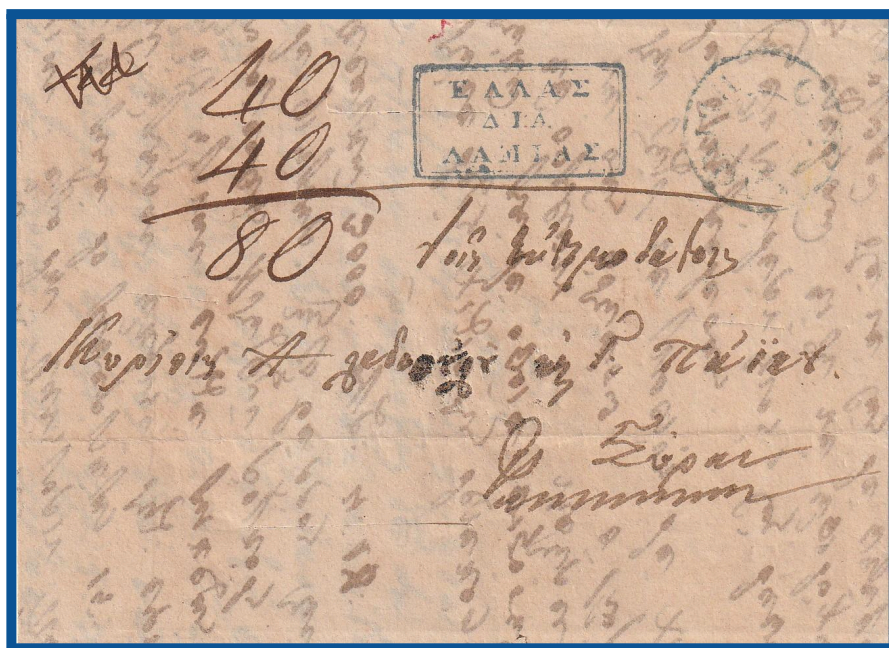


8 October 1841

Serres (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.** (Oct.20,1841)

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station
(verso) Cachet **ΥΦΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΤΑΡΑΤΣΗΣ**

TARATSA Sanitary Station



24 October 1842

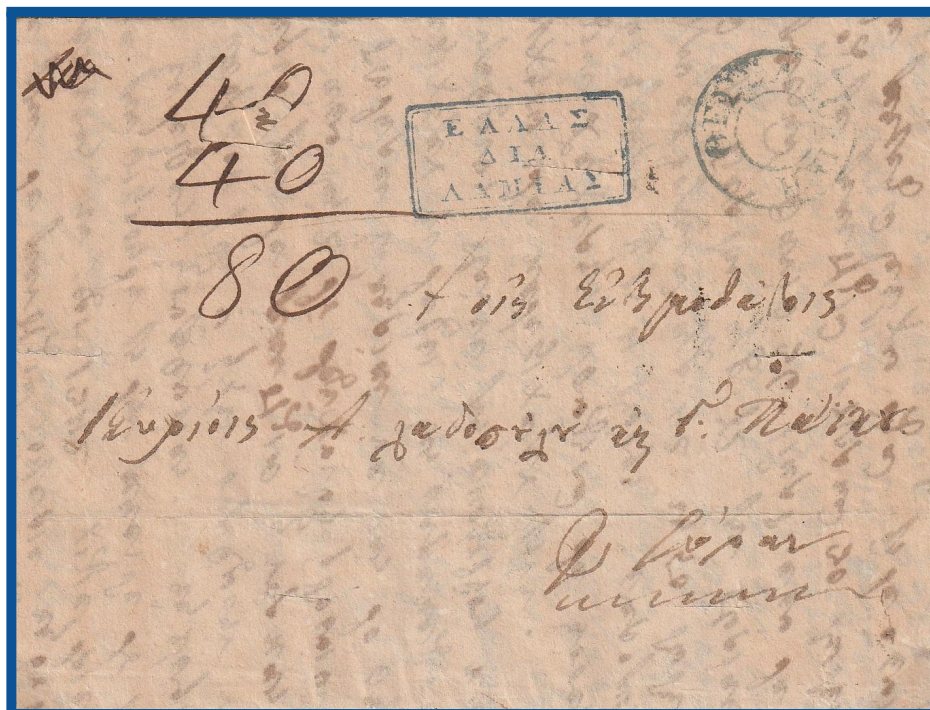
Greek p.o. of **Salonique** (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**
via **Lamia, Athens & Piraeus**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

Four horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

40+40= **80 Lepta due** single rate



7 November 1842

Greek p.o. of **Salonique** (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**
via **Lamia, Athens & Piraeus**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station

Five horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

40+40= **80 Lepta due** single rate

TARATSA Sanitary Station



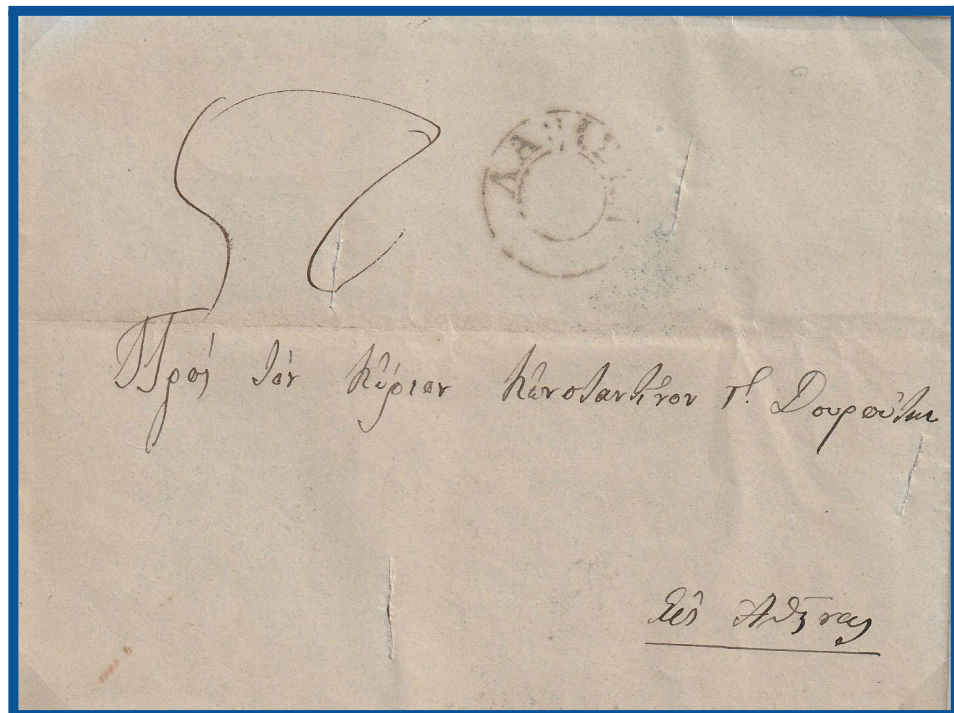
5 November 1849

Greek p.o. of **Salonique** (Macedonia) to **Nauplion**
via **Lamia & Athens**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station
Five horizontal slits

Boxed **ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΙΑ ΛΑΜΙΑΣ** (Greece via Lamia)

70 Lepta due single rate



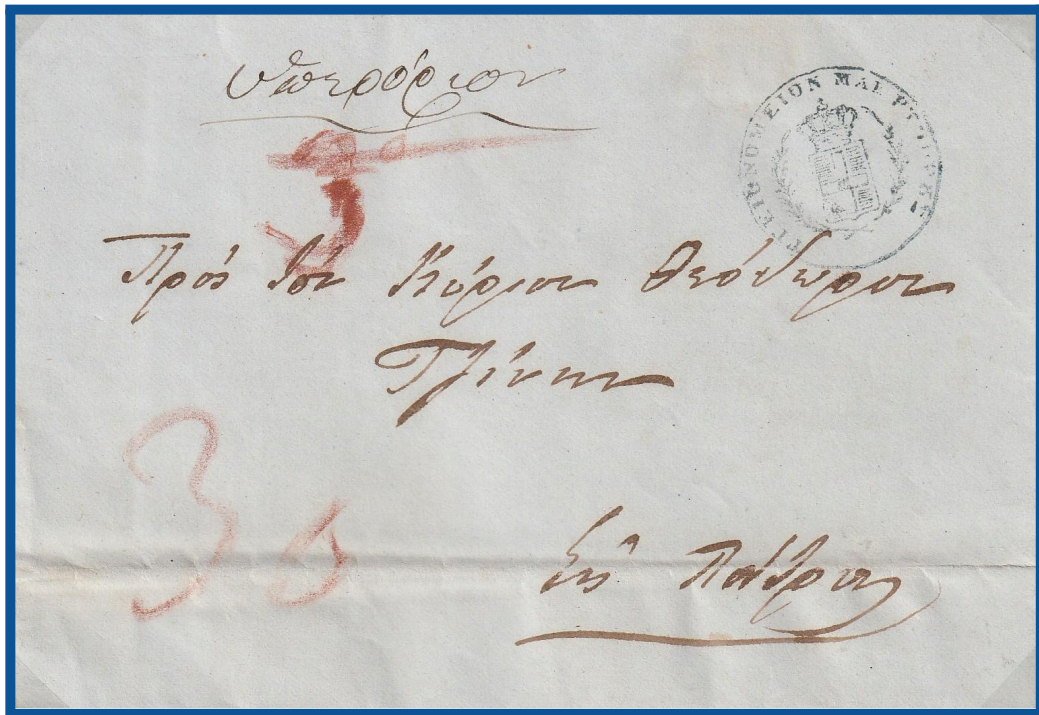
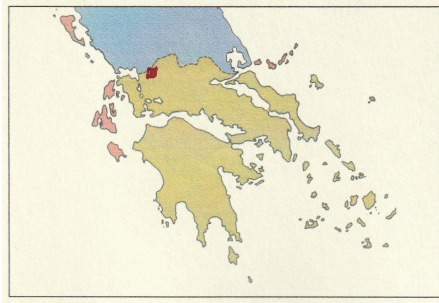
30 July 1850

Greek p.o. of **Larissa** (Thessaly) to **Athens** via **Lamia**

Disinfected at **TARATSA** Sanitary Station
Four vertical slits

50 Lepta due single rate

MAKRYNOROS Sanitary Station



30 September 1856

Arta (Epirus) to Patras via Amf. Argos

Disinfected at **MAKRYNOROS** Sanitary Station

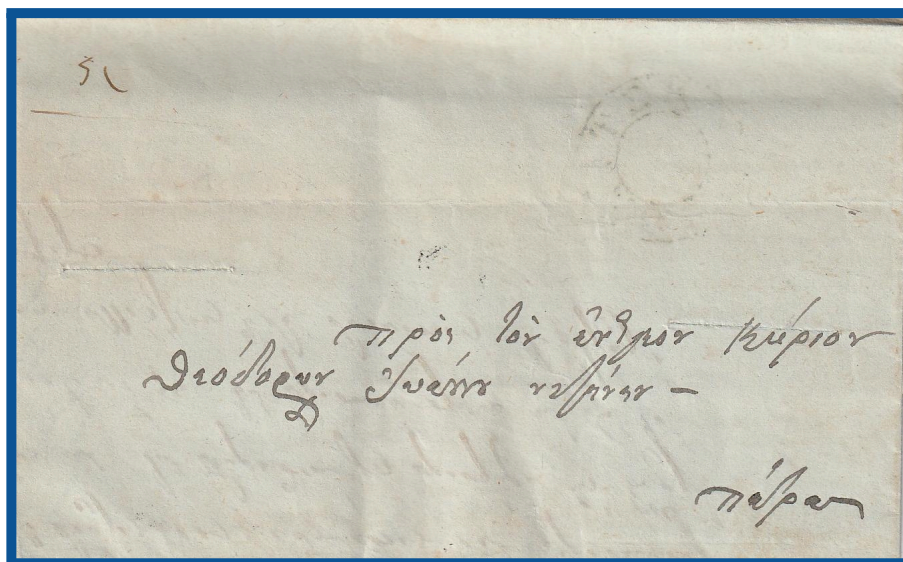
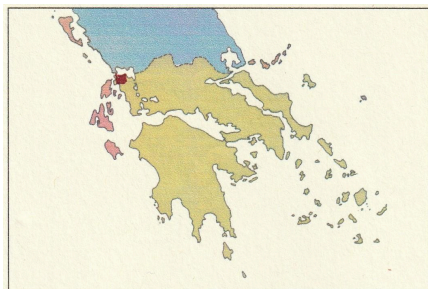
Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΜΑΚΡΥΝΟΡΟΥΣ**

υπεροριον (overland)

30 Lepta due single rate

The only known letter with Makrynoros Sanitary Station seal

VONITSA Sanitary Station

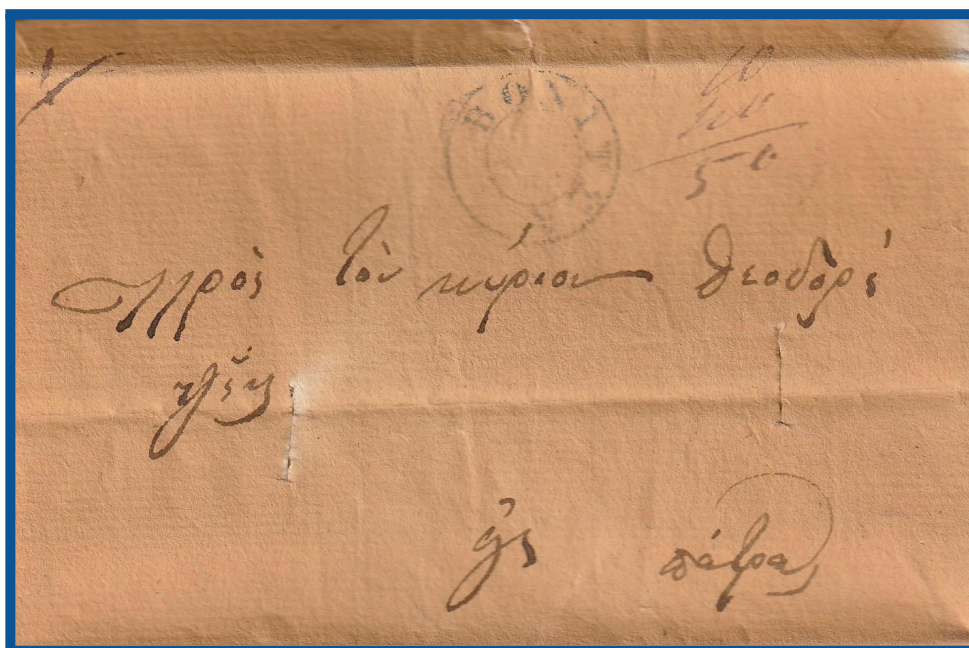


24 May 1844

Arta (Epirus) to **Patras** via **Vonitsa**
Disinfected at **VONITSA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits

(verso) **20 Lepta prepaid** single rate



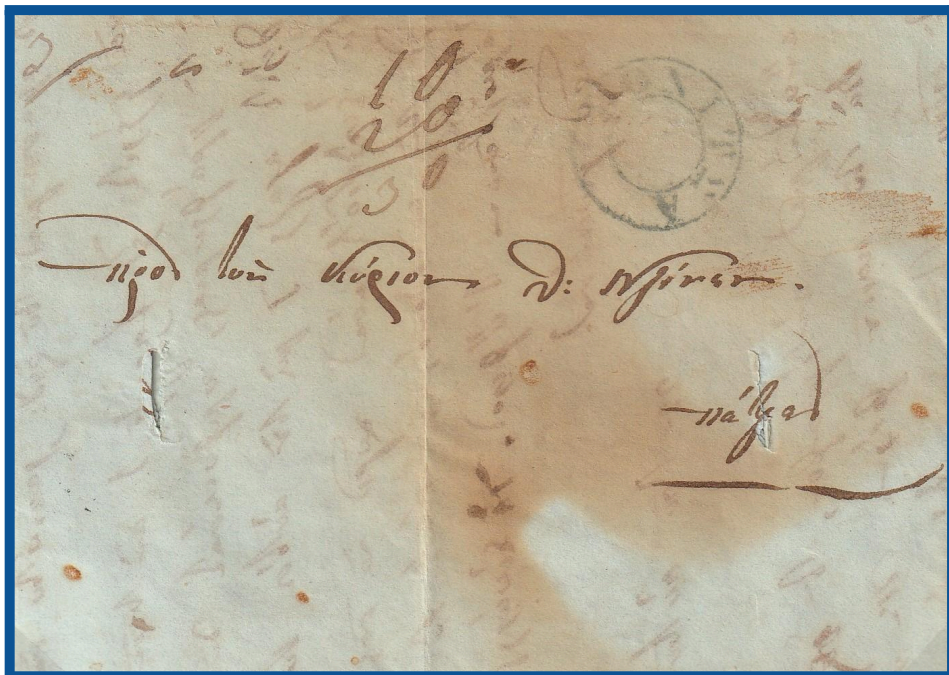
1 May 1846

Arta (Epirus) to **Patras** via **Vonitsa**
Disinfected at **VONITSA** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

10+40= 50 Lepta due triple rate

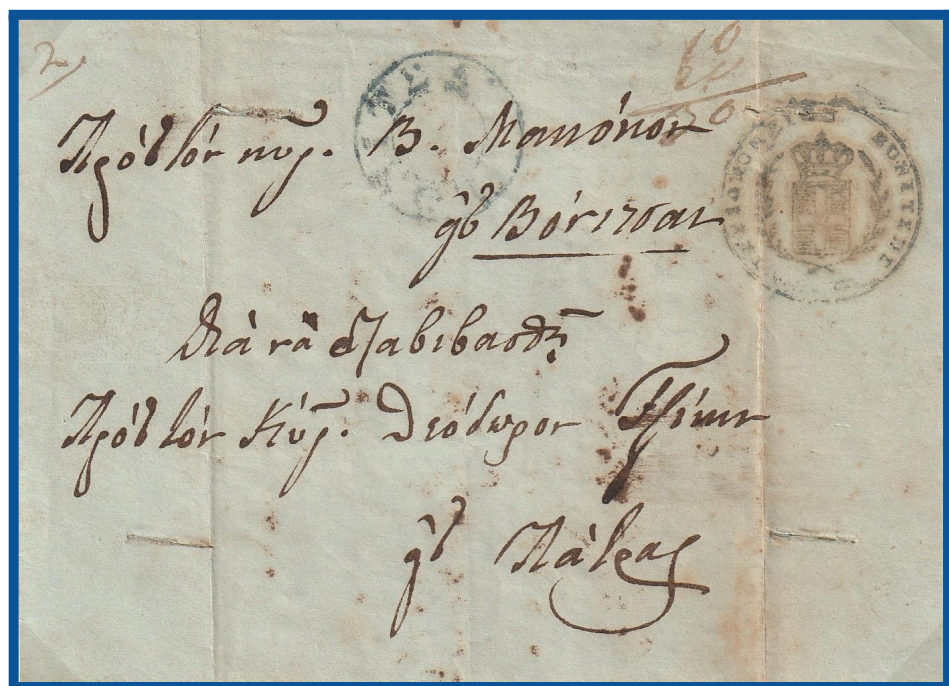
VONITSA Sanitary Station



19 October 1846
Preveza (Epirus) to **Patras**
 via **Vonitsa**
 Disinfected at
VONITSA Sanitary Station
 Two vertical slits
 10+20= **30 Lepta**
 single rate

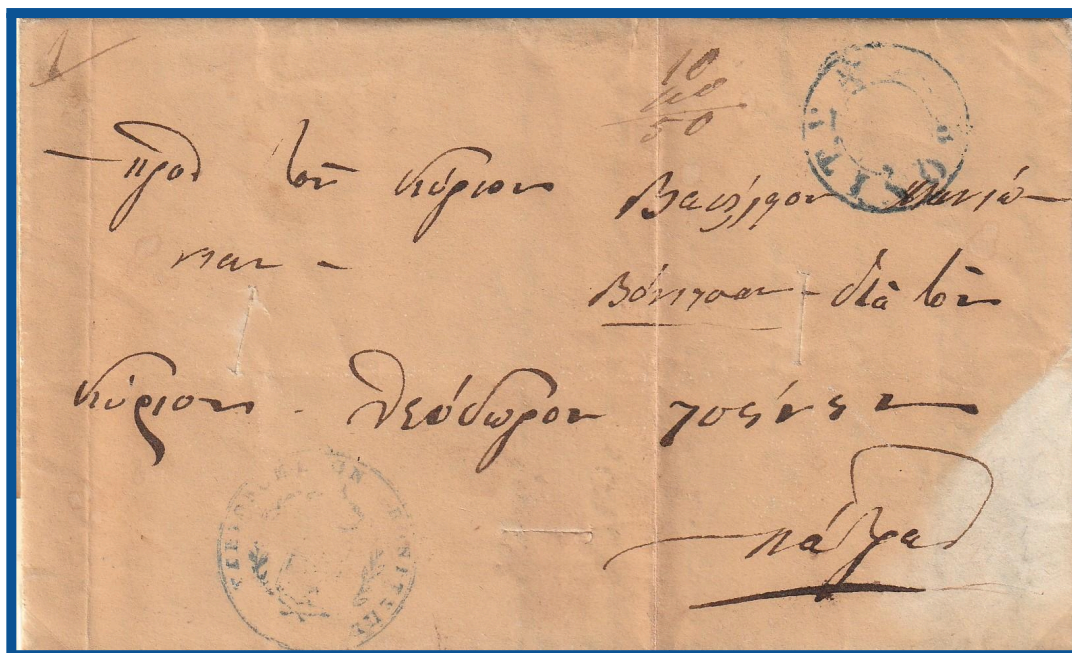


23 November 1846
Preveza (Epirus) to **Patras**
 via **Vonitsa**
 Disinfected at
VONITSA Sanitary Station
 Two vertical slits
 (verso) **20 Lepta prepaid**
 single rate



8 February 1847
Preveza (Epirus) to **Patras**
 via **Vonitsa**
 Disinfected at
VONITSA Sanitary Station
 Four vertical slits
 Cachet
ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ
ΒΟΝΙΤΣΗΣ
 10+20= **30 Lepta due**
 single rate
 Four known letters exist
 bearing **Vonitsa**
Sanitary Station seal

VONITSA Sanitary Station



18 December 1847

Prevesa (Epirus) to Patras via Vonitsa

Disinfected at **VONITSA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal & Two vertical slits

Cachet **ΥΓΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΒΟΝΙΤΣΗΣ**

10+40= 50 Lepta due triple rate

Four known letters exist bearing Vonitsa Sanitary Station seal



27 December 1856

Prevesa (Epirus) to Patras via Vonitsa

Disinfected at **VONITSA** Sanitary Station

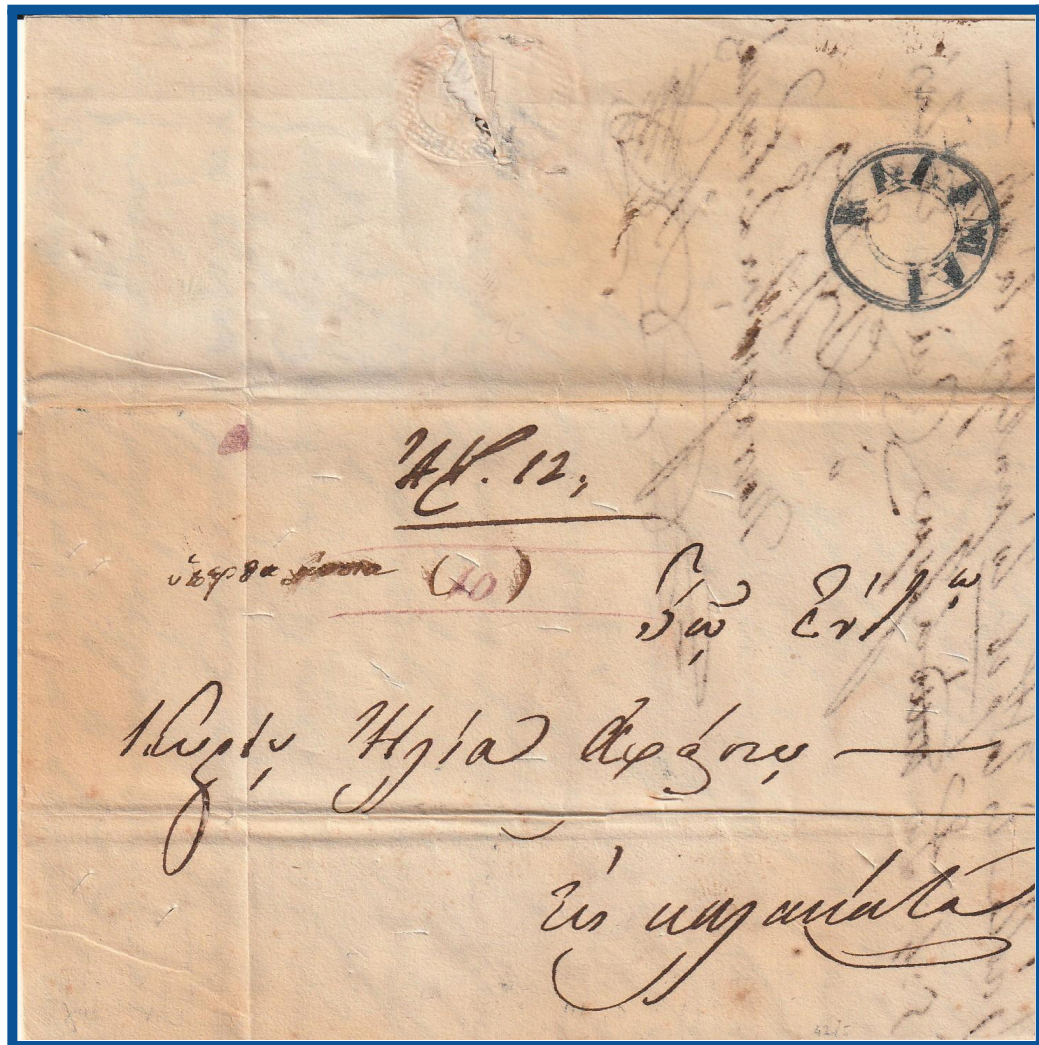
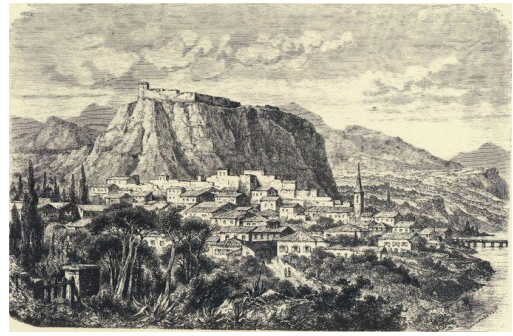
Two vertical slits

Cachet **ΥΓΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΒΟΝΙΤΣΗΣ**

30 Lepta due single rate

Four known letters exist bearing Vonitsa Sanitary Station seal

Kalamas Sanitary Station



15 August 1836

Tunis (Tunisia) to Kalamas

Disinfected at **CALAMAS** Sanitary Station

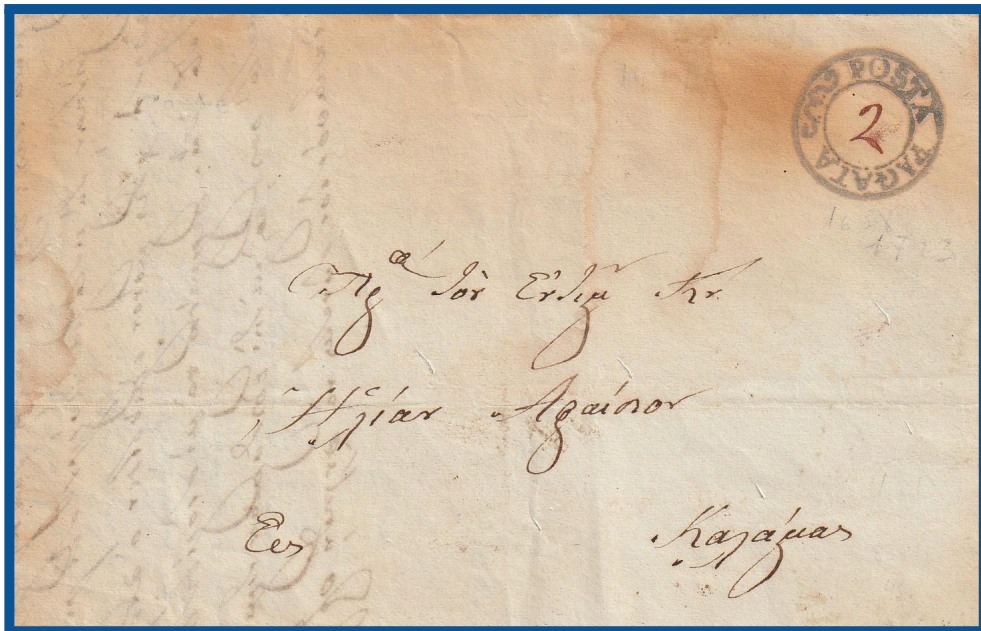
Rastel slits

Υπερθαλασσία (overseas)

10 Lepta due for distribution

Earliest known use of the mark Υπερθαλασσία

Kalamas Sanitary Station



1 June 1841

Zante (Ionian isl.) to Kalamas

Posta Pagata (Zante)

Disinfected at **CALAMAS** Sanitary Station

Fumigated



17 September 1848

Tunis (Tunisia) to Kalamas

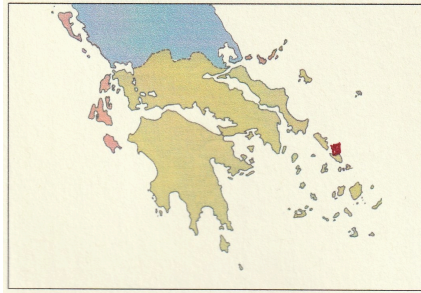
Disinfected at

CALAMAS Sanitary Station

Cachet **YFIONOMEION KALAMON**

This is the only known letter

SIRA Sanitary Station



30 December 1836 - **Volo (Thessaly)** to **Sira isl.**
Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA Sanitary Station**

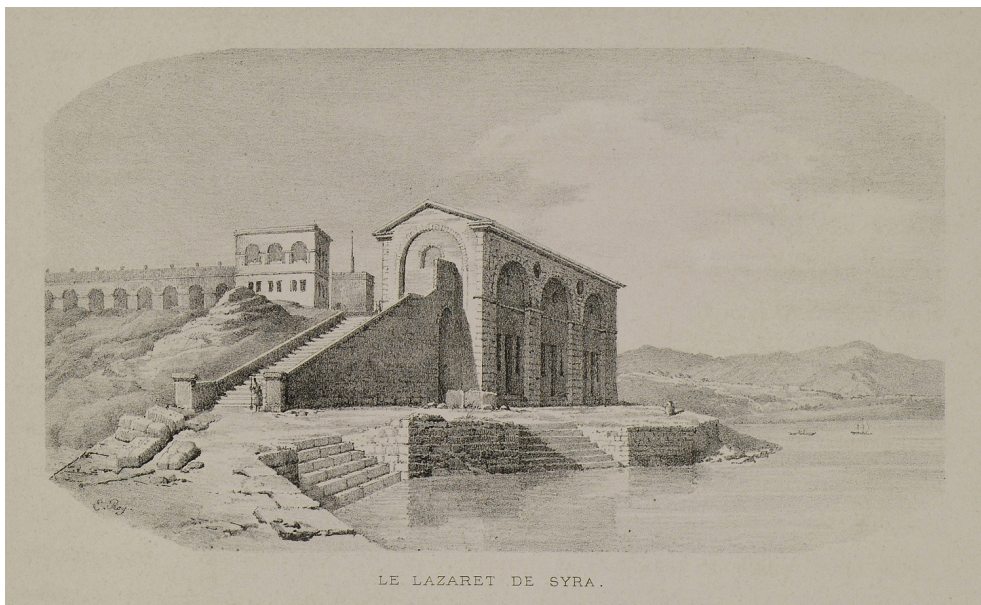
Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**

Oval **ΥΠΕΡΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑ** (overseas)

Taxed 20 Lepta triple rate
for envelope up to 10 drams

6 recorded letters

Sira Sanitary cachet used as postal from Jan, 1835 to Dec, 1836



SIRA Sanitary Station



6 December 1837

Alexandria (Egypt) to Nauplion

Opened, disinfected & sealed at

SIRA Sanitary Station

Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**



18 April 1838

French p.o. of Constantinople to Sira isl.

Boxed **P.P.** (Port Payee)

Disinfected & sealed at **SIRA Sanitary Station**

(verso) cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟ ΣΥΡΟΥ**

15 Lepta due double rate distribution fee

Transported by paquebot **EUROTAS** (voyage ?)

SIRA Sanitary Station



7 January 1839 - French p.o. of **Constantinople** to **Sira isl.**
Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station
(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**
250 Lepta due sixfold rate for **25 g.**
*Transported by paquebot **LYCOURGUE***



17 January 1839 - French p.o. of **Constantinople** to **Sira isl.**
Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station
(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**
140 Lepta due triple rate for **10 g.**
*Transported by paquebot **MENTOR***

SIRA Sanitary Station



17 April 1839

French p.o. of Alexandria to **Sira isl.**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits

90 Lepta due single rate

Transported by paquebot **LYCURGUE**



9 May 1839

Volo (Thessaly) to **Sira isl.**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **YTEIONOMEION SYPOY**

SIRA Sanitary Station

7 March 1840

Salonique
(Macedonia)
to Sira isl.

Opened, disinfected
& sealed at SIRA

Sanitary Station

One disinfection slit

(verso) Cachet

ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ

ΣΥΡΟΥ

A rare case where Sira

S.S. seal plus

disinfection slit

combined



10 March 1840

Thessaloniki
(Macedonia)
to Sira isl.

Disinfected at
SIRA

Sanitary Station

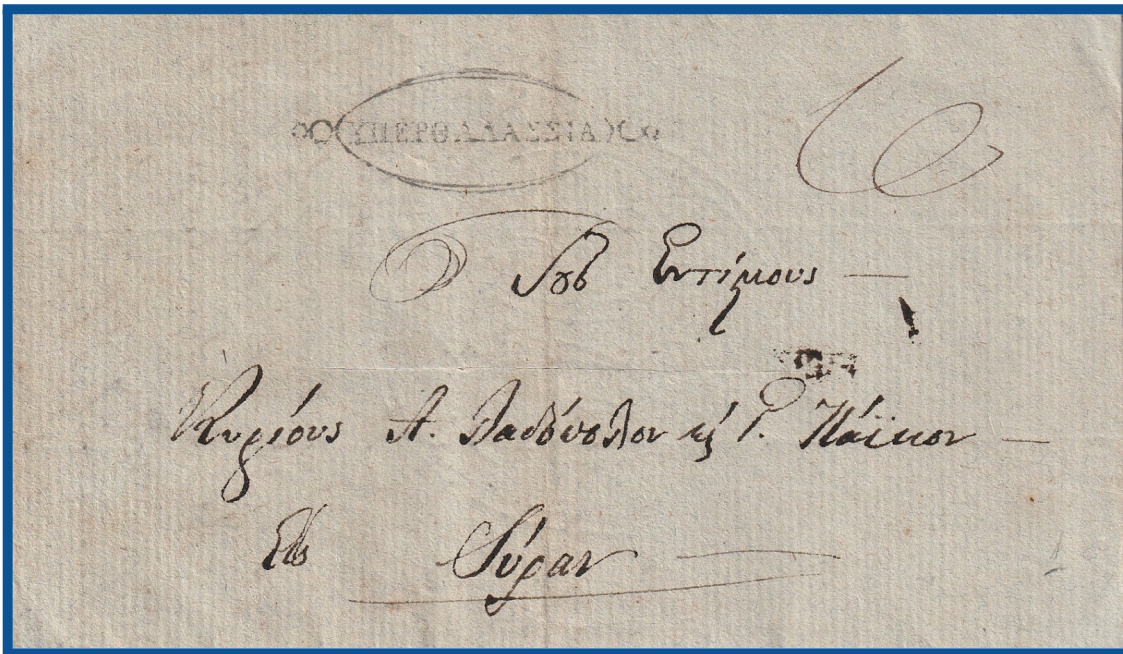
One horizontal slit

Oval

ΥΠΕΡΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑ

(overseas)

10 Lepta due
for distribution



22 April 1840

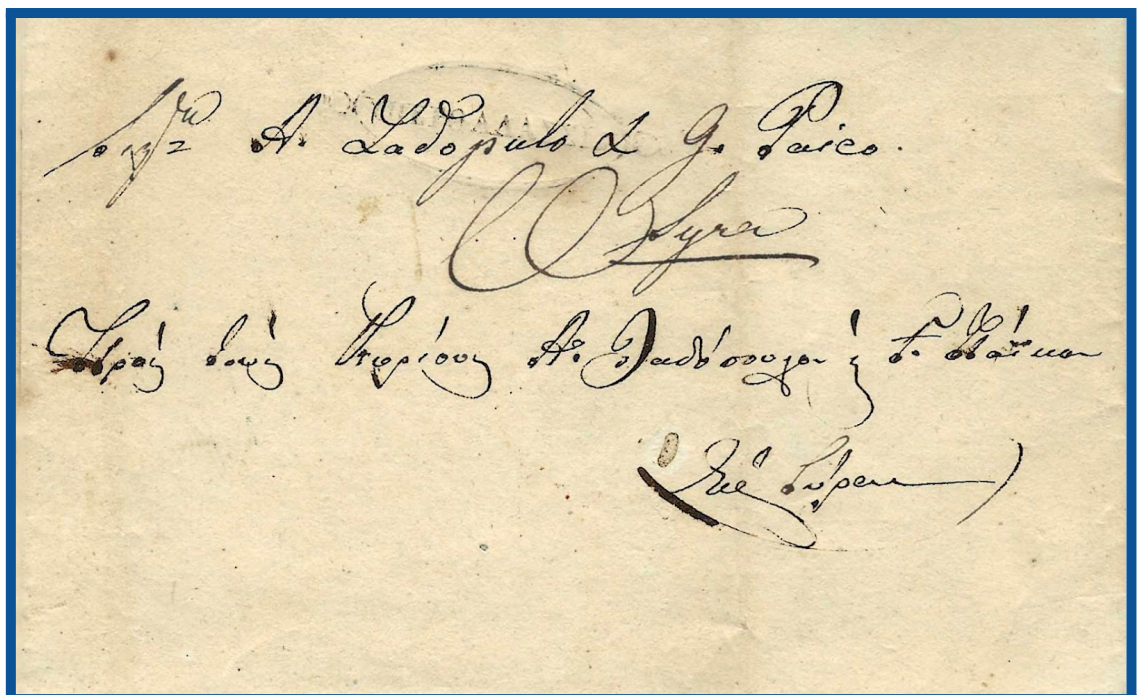
Thessaloniki
(Macedonia)
to Sira isl.

Oval

ΥΠΕΡΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑ

(overseas)

10 Lepta due
for distribution



SIRA Sanitary Station



17 May 1841

Thessaloniki (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station
(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**



7 September 1841

French p.o. of Constantinople to **Sira isl.**

Disinfected & sealed **SIRA** Sanitary Station

140 Lepta due triple rate for **10 g.**

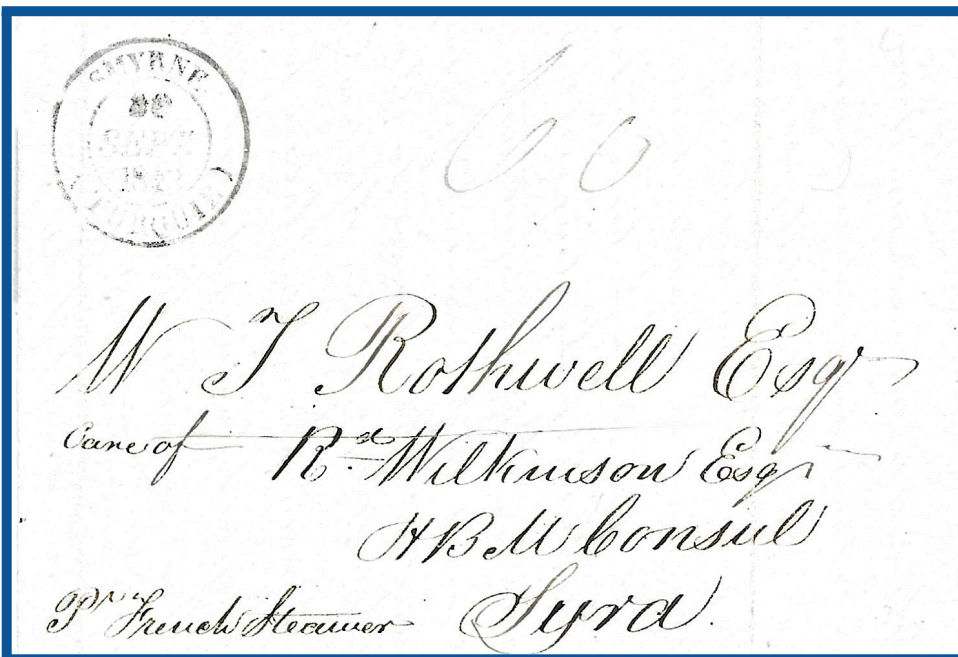
Transported by paquebot **LEONIDAS**

SIRA Sanitary Station



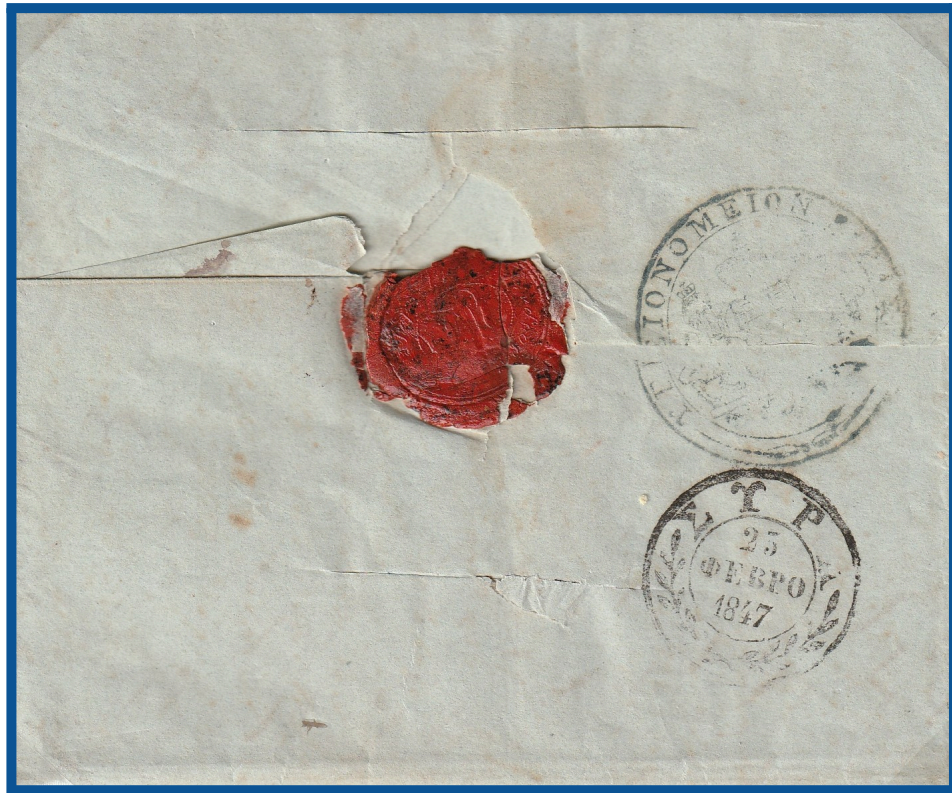
12 January 1842
Salonique (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**
 via the **French p.o. of Constantinople**
 Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station
 Two horizontal slits
70 Lepta due single rate
 Transported by
 paquebot **EUROTAS**

23 February 1842
French p.o. of Constantinople
 to **Sira isl.**
par vapore Francaise
 Opened, disinfected &
 sealed at **SIRA**
 Sanitary Station
 (verso) Cachet
ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ
ΣΥΡΟΥ
175 Lepta due
 quadruple rate
 Transported by
 paquebot **MINOS**



27 September 1842
French p.o. of Smyrna
 to **Sira isl.**
Par French Steamer
 Disinfected at **SIRA**
 Sanitary Station
 One horizontal slit
60 Lepta due single rate
 Transported by
 paquebot **MINOS**

SIRA Sanitary Station



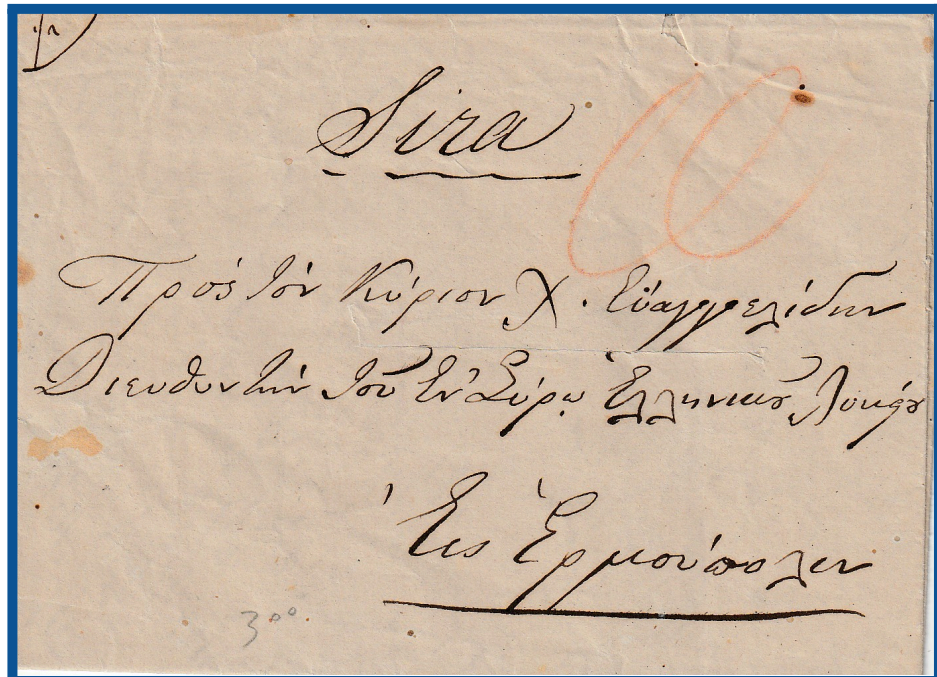
5 February 1847

Austrian Lloyd agency in **Salonico** (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**
Oval **AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO - SALONICCO**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΤΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**

30 Lepta due fivefold rate for 24 g.



3 May 1847

Smyrna (Asia Minor) to **Sira isl.**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One Horizontal slit

10 Lepta due for distribution

SIRA Sanitary Station



18 August 1848

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Sira isl.**

(verso) **70 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Boxed **ΠΕΔ** (paid)

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits



13 October 1848

Salonique (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**

SIRA Sanitary Station



15 December 1850
Serres (Macedonia) to **Sira isl.**
via the **Greek p.o. of Salonique** (Macedonia)
(verso) **70 Lepta prepaid** single rate
Boxed **ΠΕΔ** (paid)
Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station
One horizontal slit



27 January 1851 - **Canea** (Crete) to **Sira isl.**
Opened, disinfected & sealed at **SIRA** Sanitary Station
Two front horizontal & One recto slit
(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ**
Oval **ΥΠΕΡΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑ** (overseas)
20 Lepta due triple rate for distribution
Combination of seal cachet & disinfection slits

This is the last year of use for the SIRA Sanitary Station seal

SIRA Sanitary Station



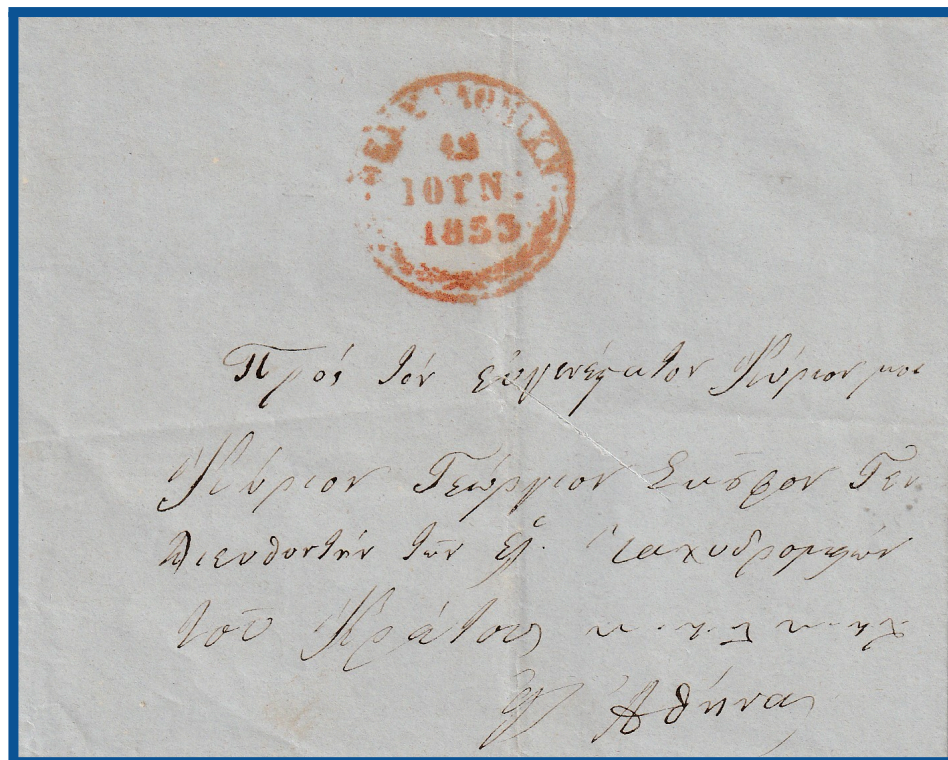
20 July 1853

Greek p.o. of **Constantinople** to **Athen** via **Piraeus**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

80 Lepta due triple rate



13 December 1853

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Sira isl.**

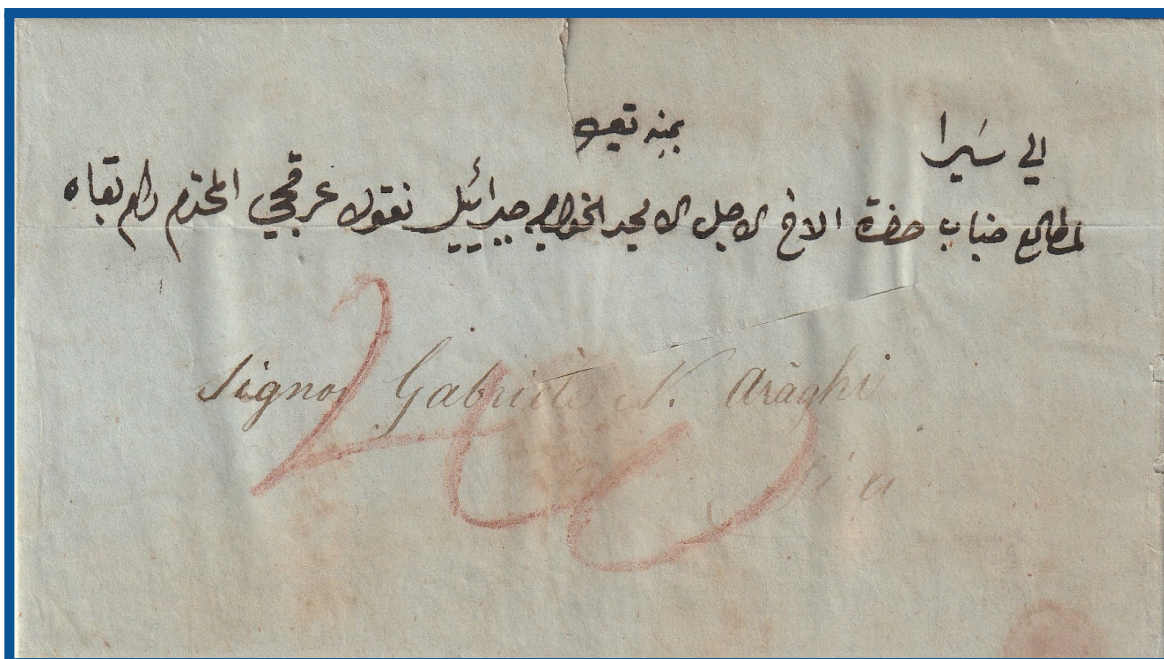
Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

Official free mail

to the General Director of the Hellenic Postal Service

SIRA Sanitary Station



6 February 1854

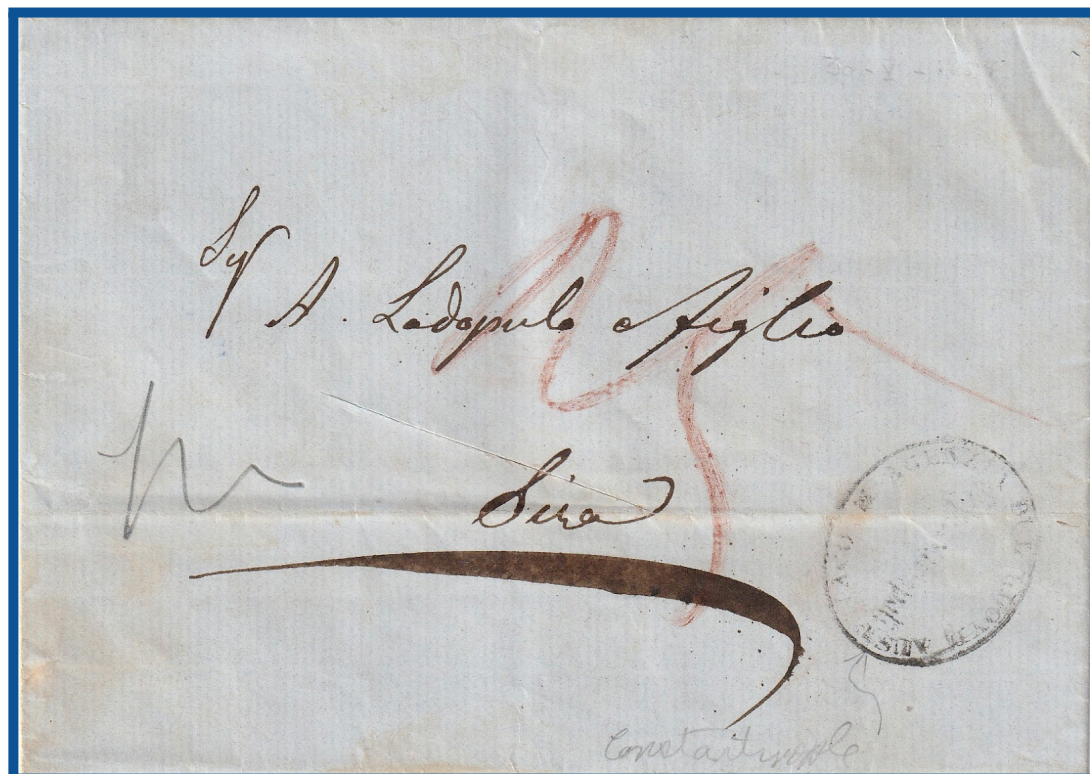
Beirut (Syria) to Sira isl.

(verso) **24 Kreuzer** prepaid rate

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

40 Lepta due sevenfold rate



17 May 1854

Austrian Lloyd agency in Constantinople to Sira isl.

Oval **AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO - CONSTANTINOPOLI**

Disinfected on arrival at **Sira** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

25 Lepta due quadruple rate distribution fee

SIRA Sanitary Station



19 July 1865

EL from **Ayvalik** (Asia Minor) to **Sira isl.**
via the **Austrian p.o. of Smyrna**

Franked **10 Soldi**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

20 Lepta due single inland rate



20 July 1865

Kydonies (Asia Minor) to **Sira isl.**
via the **Austrian p.o. of Metelin** (Aegean isl.)
& the **Austrian p.o. of Smyrna**

Franked **10 Soldi**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

20 Lepta due single inland rate

SIRA Sanitary Station



24 July 1865

Austrian p.o. of **Scio** (Aegean Isl.) to **Sira** isl.

Franked 10 Soldi

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

20 Lepta due single inland rate



22 October 1865

Austrian p.o. of **Canea** (Crete) to **Sira** isl.

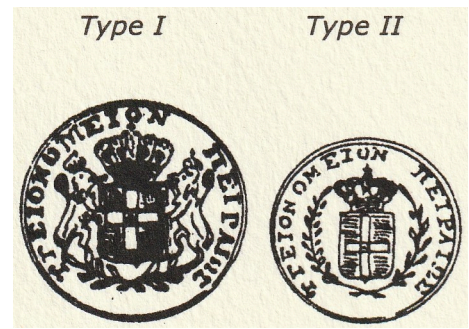
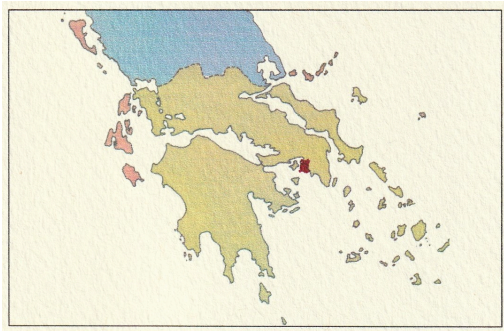
Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

20 Lepta due single inland rate

Last recorded year of disinfection of mail at Sira Sanitary Station

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



21 April 1838

French p.o. of **Smyrne (Asia Minor)** (Apr.21,1838) to **Athens**

Boxed **P.P.** (paid)

(verso) **25 Decimes prepaid** quadruple rate for **15 g.**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ**

*Transported by paquebot **LYCURGUE***



PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



27 January 1840

French p.o. of Constantinople to Corfu isl.
via Piraeus, Athens & Patras

Boxed ΕΛΛΑΣ / ΔΙΑ / ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ

Linear Π.Ε.Α. (Paid)

Disinfected at PIRAEUS Sanitary Station
Five horizontal slits

Credit 100 Lepta for Greek postal service

10 + 6 + 6 = 1 Shil. & 10 Pennies due

Transported by English warship



10 September 1840

Livorno (Tuscany) to Nauplion via Athens

Disinfected at PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

Six horizontal slits

(verso) 20 Lepta prepaid single inland rate

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



12 October 1840

Odessa (Russia) to Athens via Constantinople & Piraeus

Cachet **AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO - CONSTANTINOPOLI**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ**

Oval **ΥΠΕΡΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑ**

35 Lepta due sixfold rate



28 October 1840

French p.o. of Constantinople to Nauplion via Piraeus & Athens

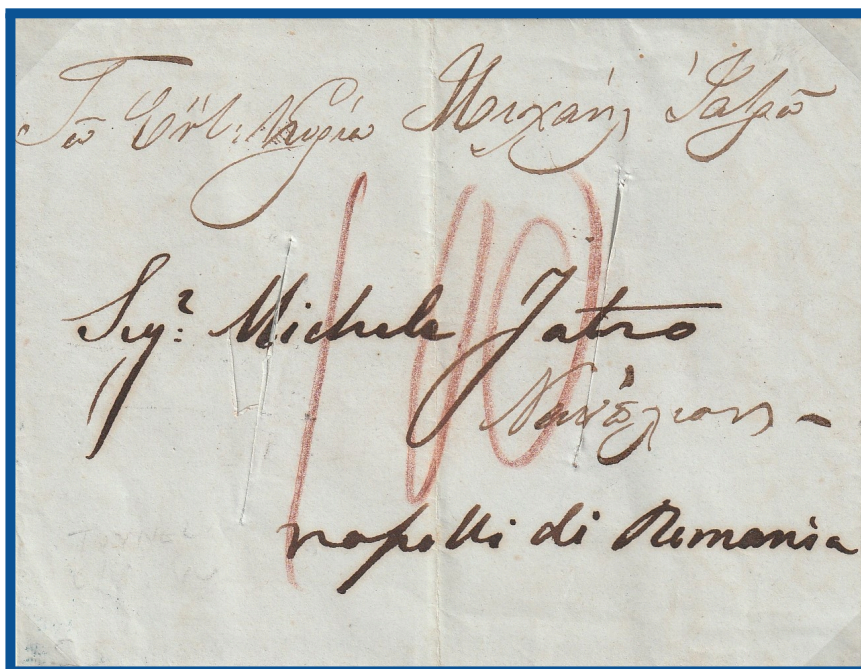
Opened, disinfected & sealed at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ**

240 Lepta due fivefold rate

Transported by paquebot **TANCRETE**

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



18 May 1844

Tunis (Tunisia) to Nauplion
via **Malta, Piraeus & Athens**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station
(Two horizontal slits)

100 Lepta due single rat

Transported by paquebot **EUROTAS**



28 December 1844

French p.o. of Constantinople to **Athens** via **Piraeus**
Opened, disinfected & sealed at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station
(verso) Cachet **ΥΠΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ**

70 Lepta due single rate

Transported by paquebot **MENTOR**

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



22 August 1846

Austrian Lloyd agency in **Smyrna** (Asia Minor)
to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ**

20 Lepta due triple rate



27 January **1851**

French p.o. of **Smyrna** (Asia Minor) to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Opened, disinfected & sealed at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

(verso) Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ**

100 Lepta due quadruple rate

Transported by paquebot **EGYPTUS**

Last recorded year (1851) of use for the Piraeus Sanitation Station seal

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



3 August 1858

French p.o. of **Smyrna** (Asia Minor) to **Syra isl.** (ar.Aug.14,1858)

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Three vertical slits

40 Lepta due single rate



PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

The 1865 Cholera outbreak - Middle East, Russian Empire, Europe & Africa



2 November 1865

Galatz (Dunabian Principality) to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Franked **50 Centimes** Napoleon canc. dotted **Anchor**

cds **CYDNUS**

Boxed **PD** (paid)

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits



8 November 1865

Manchester (England) to **Patras**

via **London**, **Calais**, **Piraeus** & **Athens**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

170 Lepta due single rate

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

The 1865 Cholera outbreak - Middle East, Russian Empire, Europe & Africa



28 September 1866

Lyon (France) to **Athens** via **Marseilles** (ar.Sep.23,1866)

Franked **100 Centimes**

Boxed **PD** (paid to destination)

Boxed three line **APRES LE DEPART**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits



8 November 1866

Genova (Italy) to **Athens** via **Brindisi**

Boxed three line cachet **PIROSCAFO POSTALI ITALIANI**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

130 Lepta due

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

The 1865 Cholera outbreak - Middle East, Russian Empire, Europe & Africa



24 August 1867

Trieste (Austrian Emp.) to Andravida
via **Piraeus, Athens & Pyrgos**

Credit **3/10** New Kreuzer

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

60 Lepta due



21 October 1867

Messina (Italy) to Athens

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

90 Lepta due

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

The 1865 Cholera outbreak - Middle East, Russian Empire, Europe & Africa



30 September 1871

Trieste (Austrian Emp.) to Athens

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

70 Lepta due



20 October 1871

Greek p.o. of **Constantinople** to Athens via **Piraeus**

Franked **45 Lepta** LHH

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

The 1873 Cholera outbreak - Northern Italy, Venice & Triest



23 August 1873 - **Trieste (Austrian Emp.)** to **Athens**
Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station - Two vertical slits
70 Lepta due

“... we have had cases of Cholera since last month but due to God's grace this terrible disease could not stabilize as our Municipality has taken all the precautionary measures...”



6 September 1873 - **Trieste (Austrian Emp.)** to **Athens** (ar.Oct.29,1873)
Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station - Two vertical slits
70 Lepta due

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

Ottoman Post



26 February 1879

Ottoman p.o. of **Constantinople** to **Patras**
via the Greek p.o. of **Constantinople, Piraeus & Athens**

Franked **50 Paras**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits



14 March 1879

Ottoman p.o. of **Constantinople** to **Corfu**
via the Greek p.o. of **Constantinople**

Franked **50 Paras**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

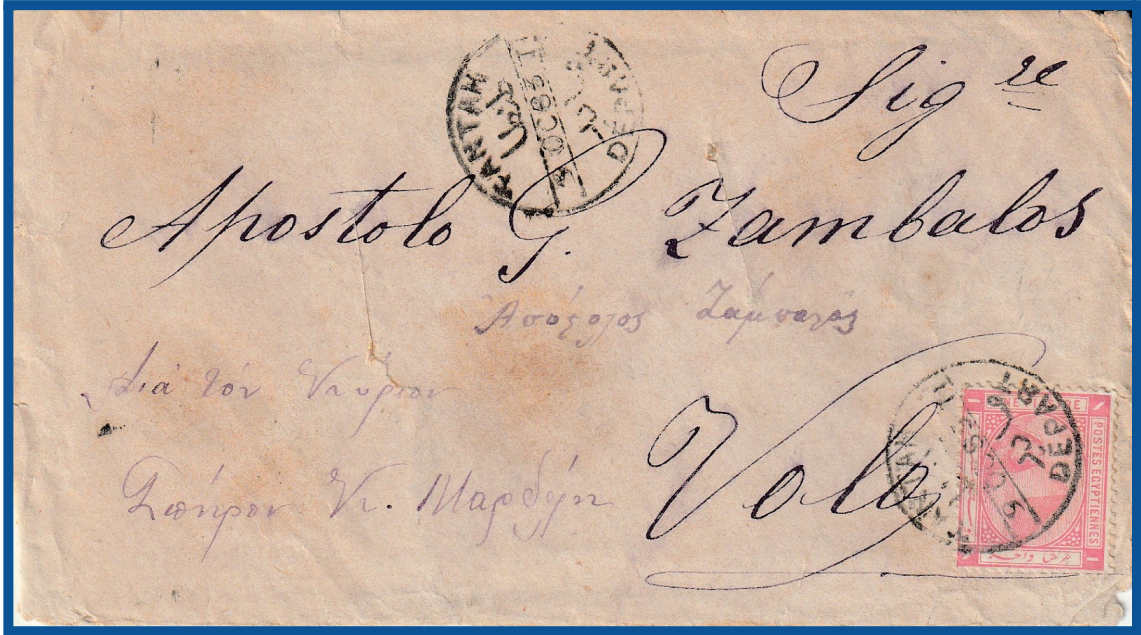
Two vertical slits

These are the only two known franked letter with Ottoman stamps entrusted to the Greek p.o. of Constantinople

Mail from Turkey to Greece was mostly entrusted either to Greek, French or Austrian post offices or even to ships calling at Greek ports

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station

The 1883 Alexandria (Egypt) cholera outbreak



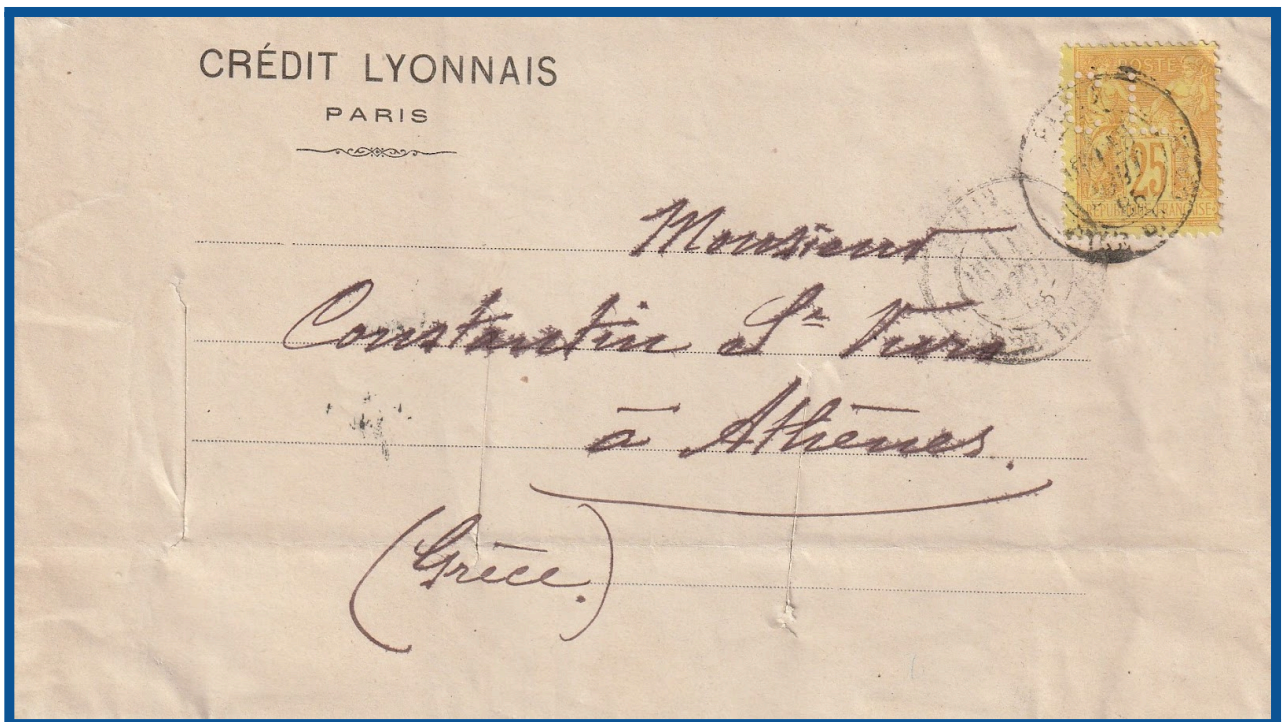
27 September 1879

Tanta (Egypt) to **Volos** via **Alexandria**

Franked **1 Piastre**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits



13 August 1885

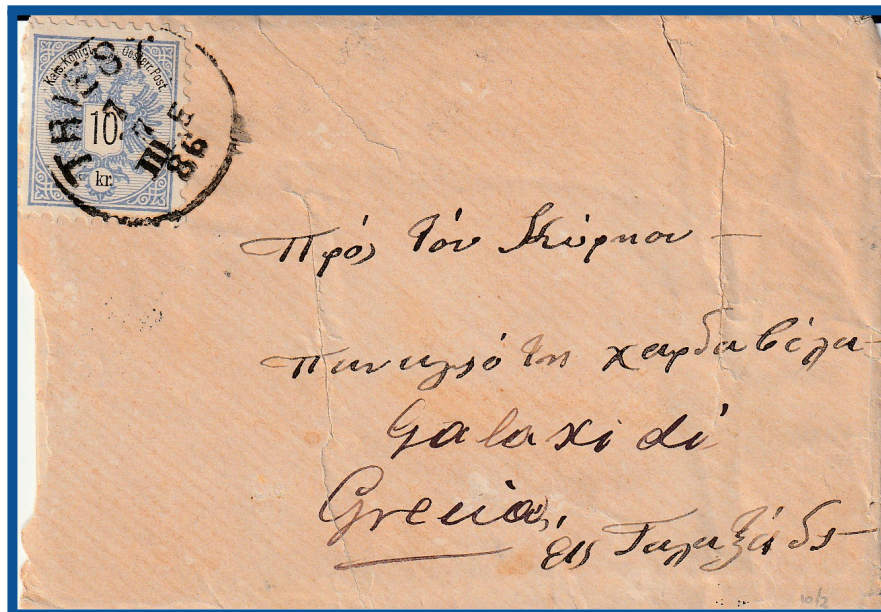
Paris (France) to **Athens**

Franked **25 Centimes**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Three vertical slits

PIRAEUS Sanitary Station



7 July 1886

Trieste (Austrian Emp.) to Athens

Franked **10 Kreuzer**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits



9 October 1892

Catania (Italy)

to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Franked **5 Cents**

Disinfected at **PIRAEUS** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

Disinfected onboard the French paquebots on the way to Piraeus port



7 May 1843

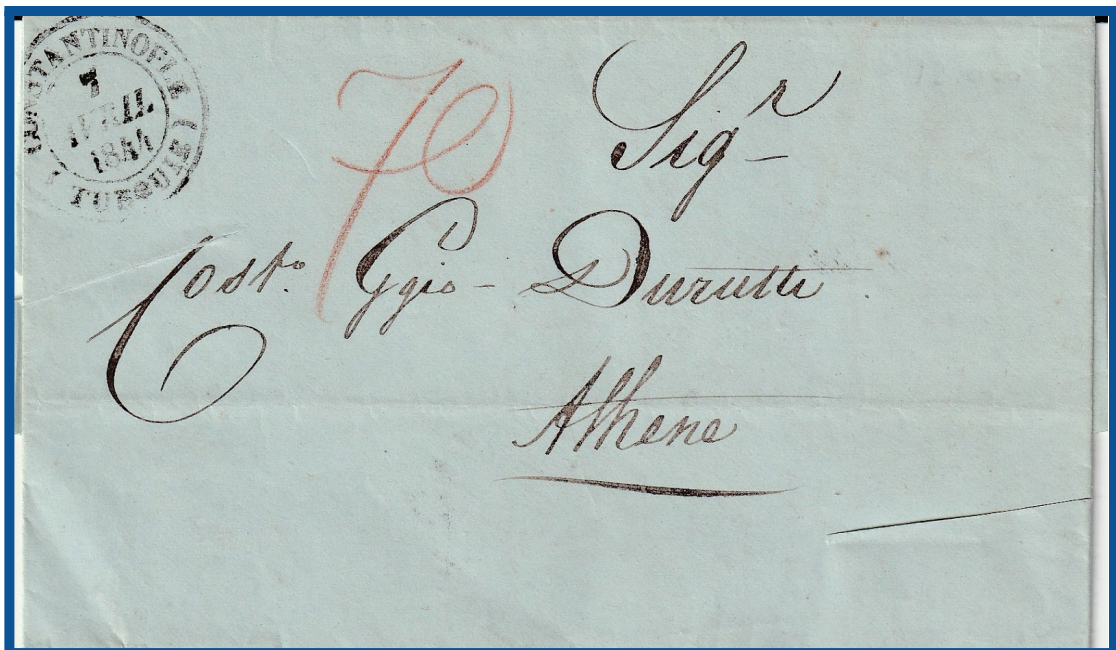
French p.o. of **Constantinople** to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Boxed **PD** (Paid)

(verso) **1+5= 6** Decimes prepaid rate

Disinfected onboard paquebot **DANTE**

Two external cuts



7 April 1844

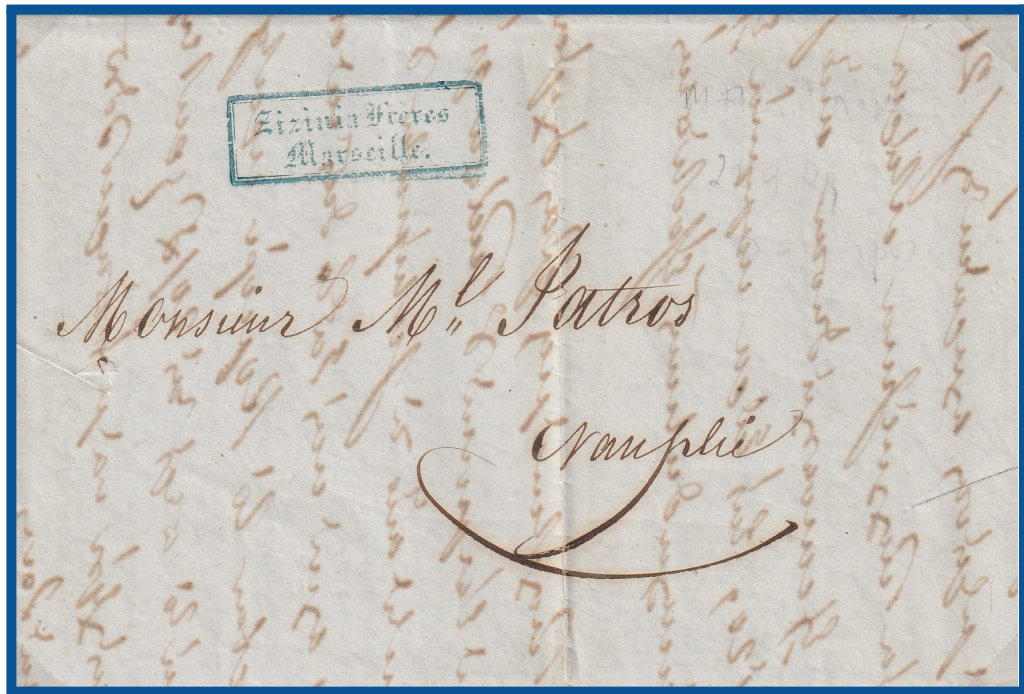
French p.o. **Constantinople** to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Disinfected onboard paquebot **SCAMANDRE**

Two external cuts

70 Lepta due single rate

Disinfected onboard the French paquebots on the way to Piraeus port



21 September 1849

Marseille (France) to Nauplion

Disinfecte onboard paquebot **EUROTAS**

Two external cut

The only known cover traveled eastwards



27 March 1850

French p.o. Smyrne (Asia Minor) to Athens via Piraeus

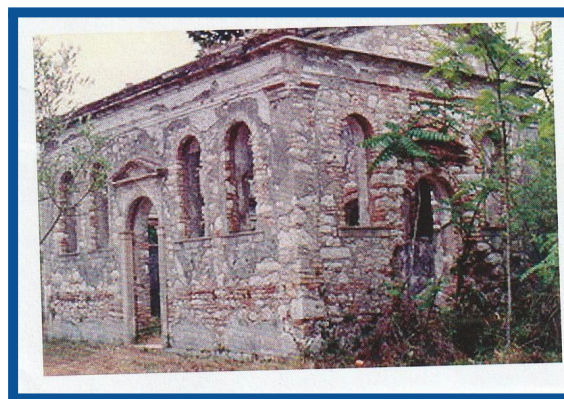
Con Vapre Francese del Mediterraneo C.D.C

Disinfecte onboard paquebot **CAIRE**

Two external cuts

40 Lepta due single rate

CORFU Sanitary Station



8 August 1865

Napoli (Italy) to **Patras** via **Messina, Gallipoli, & Corfu**
Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station - Two vertical slits
65 Lepta due



The islet of St. George, Gouvies, Corfu where lazaret located

CORFU Sanitary Station



13 August 1865

Trieste (Austrian Emp.) to **Patras**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

80 Lepta due



© 6 September 1865

Wien (Austrian Emp.) to **Patras**

via **Trieste & Corfu**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

110 Lepta due

CORFU Sanitary Station



3 September 1865 - **Livorno (Italy)** to **Corfu** via **Brindisi**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

130 Lepta due

Transported by

ADRIATICO ORIENTALE

"...the delay is not because of me but due to transportation authorities, as Ancona port refused to accept cargo due to cholera and the mail ships refused to accept parcels..."



9 September 1865 - **Trieste (Austrian Emp.)** to **Patras**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

75 Lepta due

CORFU Sanitary Station



22 September 1865

Venezia (Italy) to Patras (ar.Sep.15,1865)

Colla Ferrata - Trieste (By train to Trieste)

Disinfected at **CORFU Sanitary Station**

Two vertical slits

95 Lepta due



5 October 1865

Alexandria (Egypt) to Athens via Corfu

δια Κερκυρας (via Corfu)

Disinfected at **CORFU Sanitary Station**

Two vertical slits

80 Lepta due

Transported by

ADRIATICO ORIENTALE

CORFU Sanitary Station



18 October 1865

Arta (Epirus) to Corfu via Preveza

Disinfected at CORFU Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

20 Lepta due single inland rate



17 December 1865

Austrian p.o. of Prevesa (Epirus) to Corfu

Franked 3x 3s. (9 Soldi)

Disinfected at CORFU Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

20 Lepta due single inland rate

CORFU Sanitary Station



12 December 1865

Vercelli (Italy) to **Corfu** via **Brindisi**
Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

Boxed three line

PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI

65 Lepta due



9 January 1866

Livorno (Italy) to **Corfu isl.** via **Brindisi**
Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

Boxed three line

PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI

65 Lepta due

CORFU Sanitary Station



12 October 1866 - **Trieste (Austrian Emp.)** to **Corfu**
Disinfected at **CORFU Sanitary Station** - Two vertical slits
65 Lepta due



13 November 1866 - **Napoli (Italy)** to **Corfu** via **Brindisi**
Disinfected at **CORFU Sanitary Station** - Two vertical slits
Franked 20 Cent
Boxed bilinear **FRANCOBOLLI INSUFFICIENTE**
Boxed three line **PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI**
40 Lepta due

“...I received your letters last September, 26. We are always in the situation that the steamers do not load goods (merchandise). It is said that the epidemic ended from October, 22, but at this point they do not release clean navigation passports. Goods and men from Napoli are always in quarantine and steamers do not want merchandise....”

CORFU Sanitary Station



1 July 1867

Napoli (Italy) to Corfu
via Brindisi

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

65 Lepta due



13 July 1867

Livorno (Italy) to Corfu via Pistoia
via Brindisi

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

65 Lepta due

CORFU Sanitary Station



16 July 1867

Manchester (England) to **Patras**
via **London, Calais, Brindisi & Corfu**
via **Brindisi**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station - Two vertical slits

180 Lepta due



13 September 1867

Venezia (Italy) to **Patras** via **Brindisi & Corfu**
Coll Vapore

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station - Two vertical slits

Boxed three line

PIROSCAFI / POSTALI / ITALIANI

65 Lepta due

CORFU Sanitary Station



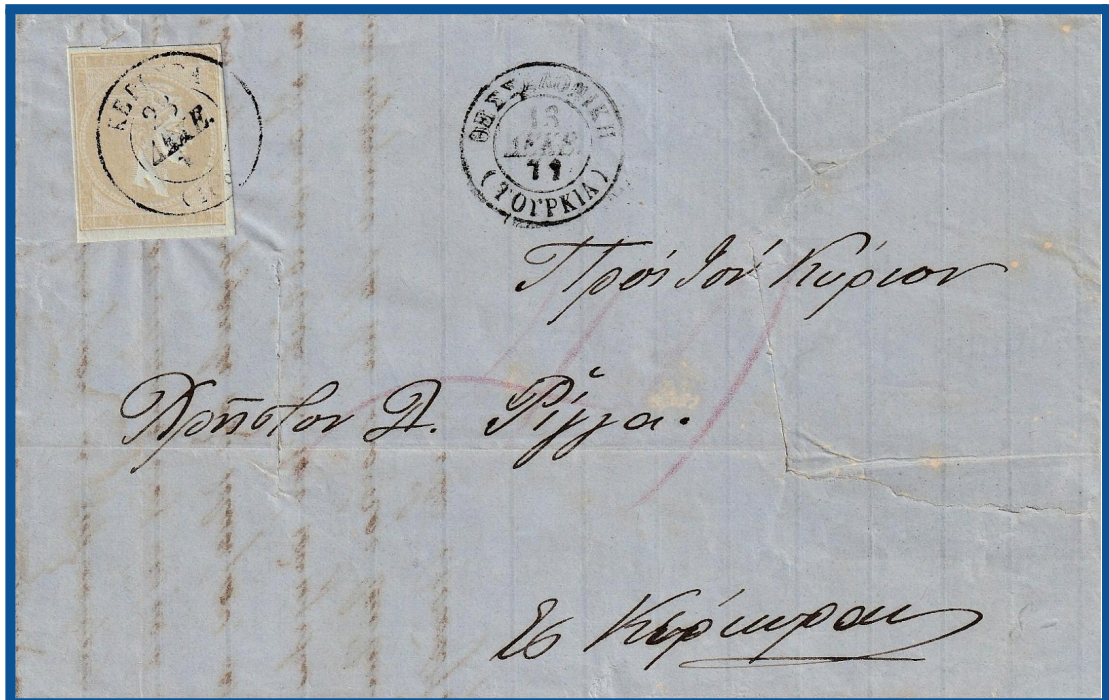
14 November 1867

Livorno (Italy) to **Corfu** via **Brindisi**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

65 Lepta due



13 December 1871

Greek p.o. of **Salonique (Macedonia)** to **Corfu**

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two vertical slits

40 Lepta due

CORFU Sanitary Station



22 August 1884

Venezia (Italy) to **Athens** via **Brindisi**
Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station
Two vertical slits



30 November 1884

Catania (Italy) to **Patras** via **Napoli & Brindisi**
Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station
Two vertical slits

Single Disinfection



5 March 1840

Canea (Crete) to **Livorno** via **Sira isl.**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits

*per mezzo Petrocochino Cavalli e Co,
che alli vi salutano distintamente*

Syra 9/11 Marzo 1840

(verso) **165 Lepta prepaid** double rate for 8 g.

Boxed **ΔII** (paid)



9 June 1843

Canea (Crete) to **Trieste** via **Sira isl.**

con vapore austriaco

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits

(verso) **130 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Boxed **ΔII** (paid)

Single Disinfection



12 May 1847

Austrian p.o. of **Canea (Crete)** to **Trieste**

(verso) **36 Kreuzer prepaid** single rate

Crossing diagonal lines & linear **FRANCA** (paid)

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits



19 September 1849

Canea (Crete) to **Marseilles** via **Sira isl.**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

(verso) **122 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Linear **Π.Ε.Δ.** (paid)

Single Disinfection



6 February 1850

Canea (Crete) to **Marseilles** via **Sira isl.**

Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits

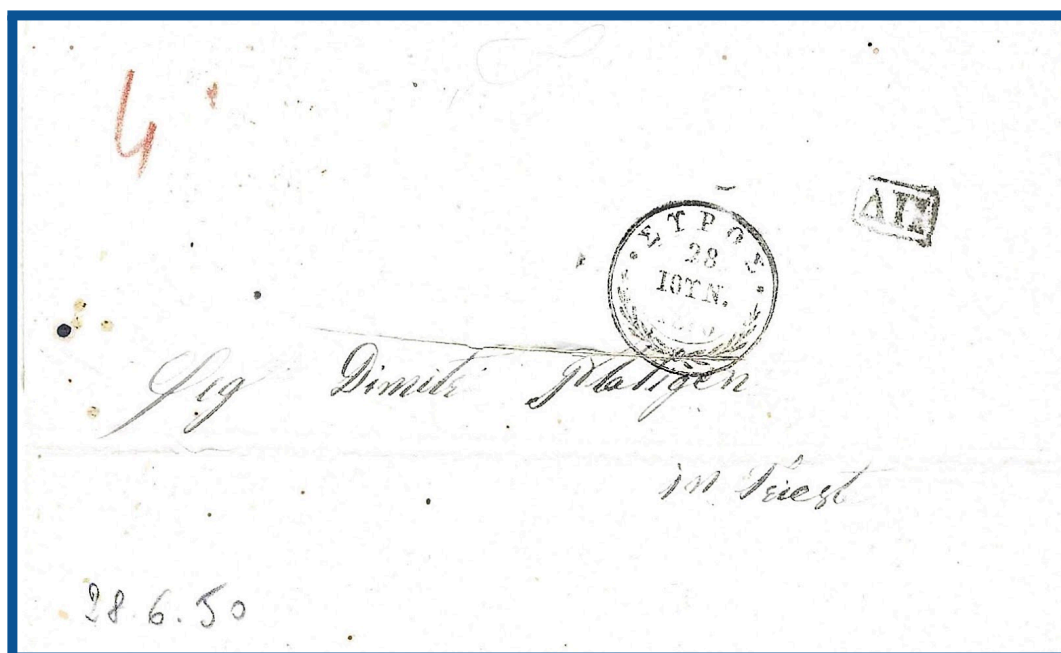
(verso) **90 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Boxed **AII** (paid)

Transit cds **OUTREMER MARSEILLE**

3 Decimes due French inland rate

Transported by *Rostand et Cie Paquebots*



2 July 1850

Canea (Crete) to **Trieste** via **Sira isl.**

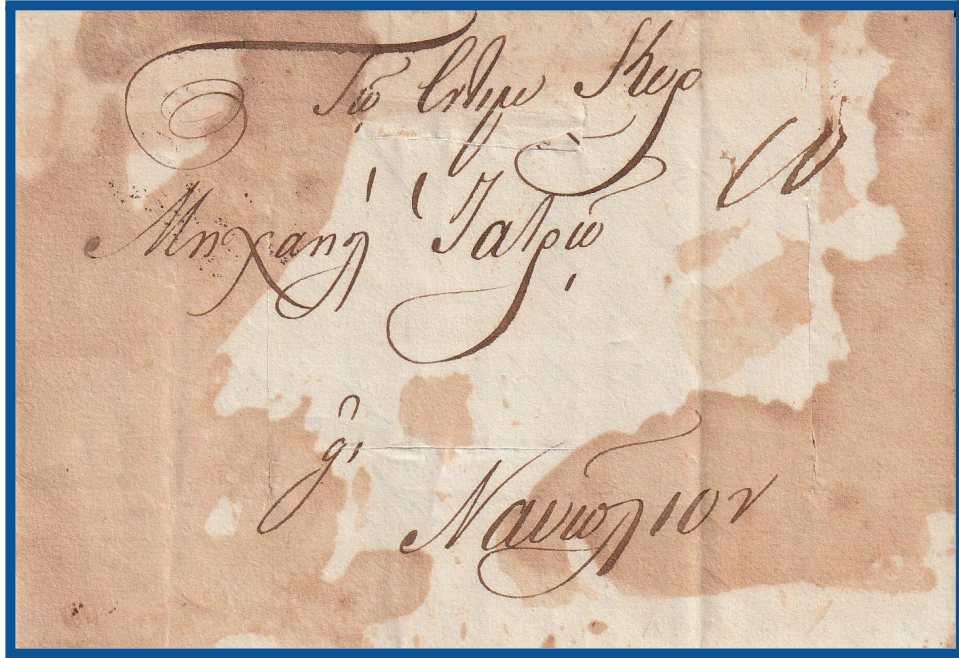
Disinfected at **SIRA** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

(verso) **70 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Boxed **AII** (paid)

Double Disinfections



5 December 1837

Livorno (Tuscany) to Nafplion

Disinfected at **CORFU** Sanitary Station

Two horizontal slits - Vinegar splash

10 Lepta due for distribution



20 July 1838

Alexandria (Egypt) to Livorno (Tuscany)

Opened, disinfected & sealed at both

Sira Sanitary Station

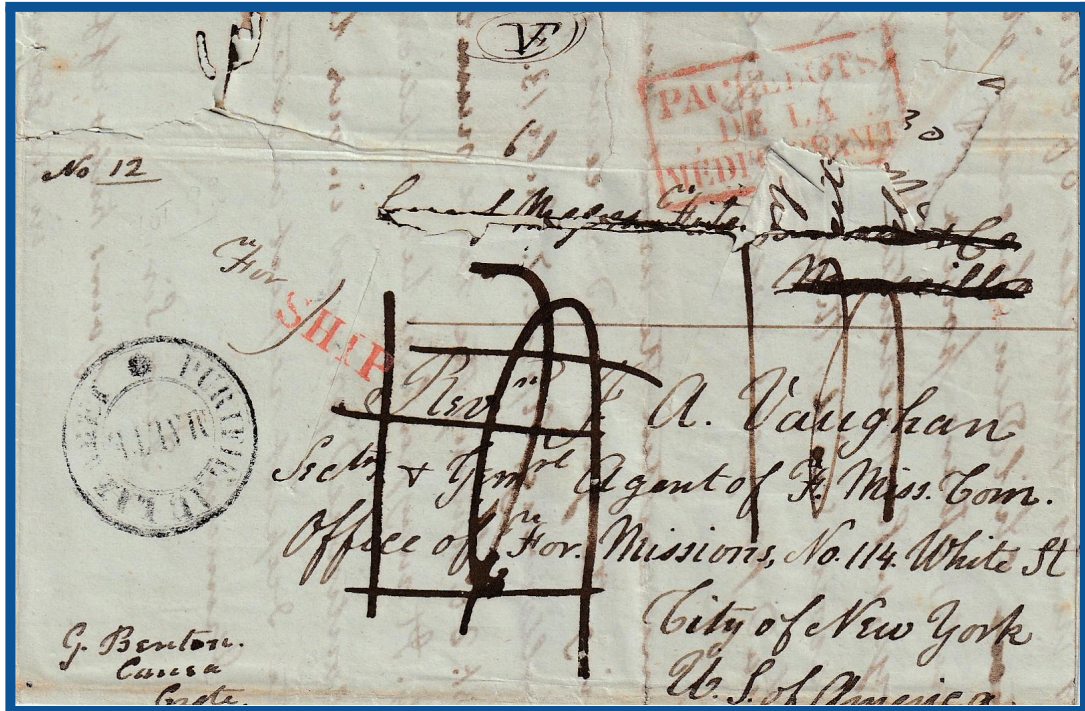
& **Ancona** Sanitary Station

Boxed bilinear

SANITA IN ANCONA

NETTA FUORI E DENTRO

Double Disinfections



June 1839 - **Canea (Crete)** to New York (USA)
via **Sira isl., Malta, Marseilles & Falmouth** (England)

Opened, disinfected & sealed at

Sira Sanitary Station

Two vertical & One horizontal slit

& **Malta Sanitary Station**

cachet **PURIFIE AU LAZARET MALTE**

Boxed three lines

PAQUEBOTS DE LA MEDITERRANEE

Linear **SHIP**



7 November 1843 - **Canea (Crete)** to **Marseilles** via **Sira isl.**

Disinfected at **SIRA Sanitary Station**

Two horizontal slits

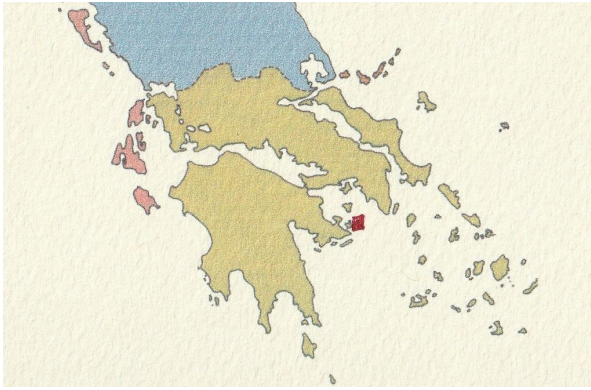
& **Malta Sanitary Station**

Two vertical slits

Cachet **PURIFIE AU LAZARET MALTE**

10 Decimes due single french maritime rate

Poros isl. plague of 1837



21 July 1837

Poros isl. to Piraeus

Opened, disinfected & sealed
at **Piraeus** Sanitary Station

Official postage free mail

The only known letter from Poros isl. plague

“No.238

21 June 1837

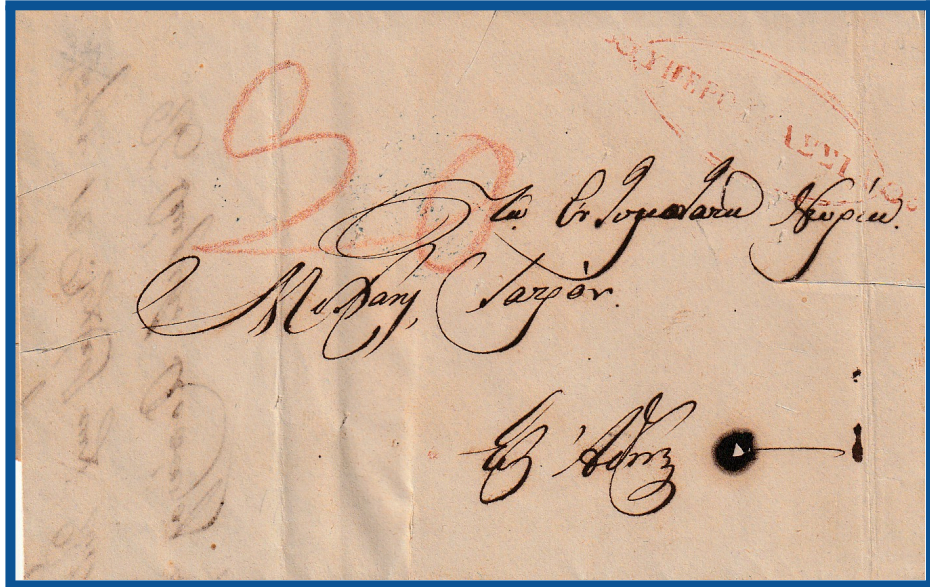
By the captain Manolis Karataki we received 630 oka of bread as you advised us with your letter No. 7

The special representative

J. Tambakakis”

*In April-June 1837, the plague was transferred to Poros isl. from Constantinople
Due to the strict sanitary blockade of the island there was a great wheat shortage
so bread provided by Piraeus municipality every two days*

1838 - 1853



12 July 1848

Aegina isl. to **Athens** via **Piraeus**

Transported "out of contract"

Disinfected on board paquebot **LYCURGUE**

Four external cuts

Oval **ΥΠΕΡΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑ** (overseas)

20 Lepta due single inland rate



2 August 1850

Koroni to **Sira isl.** via **Athens & Piraeus**

Opened, disinfected & sealed

at **Piraeus** Sanitary Station

Piraeus cholera of 1854



4 May 1854

Thebes to **Sira isl.** via **Athens**

(verso) **20 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Disinfected at **Sira** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

Letter forwarded from another port to Sira isl.



8 August 1854

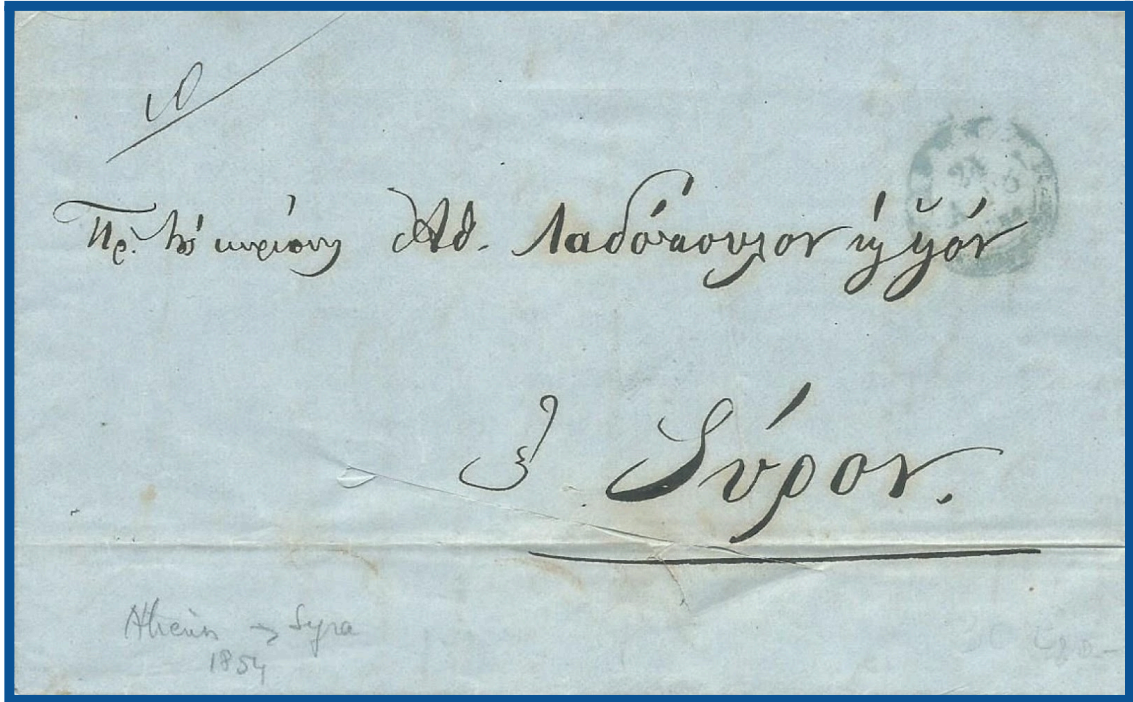
Kalamas to **Sira isl.** via **Athens**

(verso) **100 Lepta prepaid** triple rate for **12 g.** letter

Disinfected at **Sira** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit

Piraeus cholera of 1854



24 August 1854

Athens to **Sira isl.**

(verso) **30 Lepta prepaid** single rate

Disinfected at **Sira** Sanitary Station

One horizontal slit



24 December 1854 - **Piraeus** to **Zante**

(verso) **40 Lepta prepaid** single rate -Boxed **ΔΠ** (paid)

Disinfected at **Zante** Sanitary station

Three vertical slits

3 Pence due International Ionian rate

*The earliest known date so far for Piraeus p.o.
reoperation after the sanitary blockade*

Sira isl. Lazaret



30 July 1840

Sira isl. Lazaret to the French p.o. of **Alexandria** (Egypt)

16 Decimes due for 10 g.

Transported by French paquebot



30 September 1840

Sira isl. Lazaret to the French p.o. of **Alexandria** (Egypt)

13 Decimes due

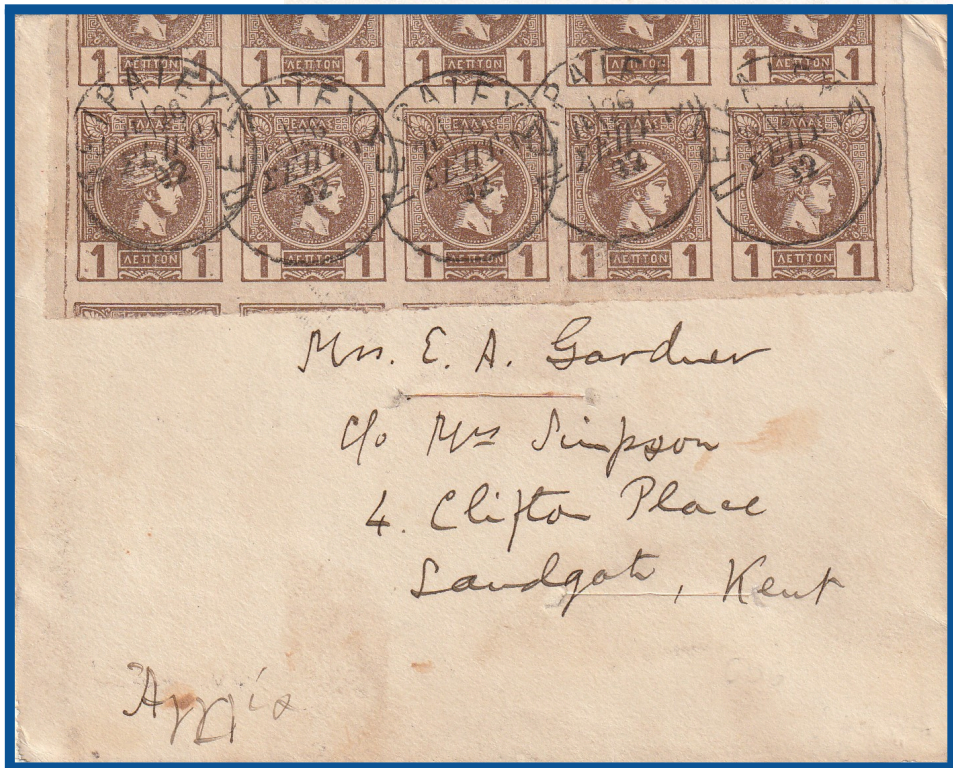
Transported by French paquebot

St. George isl. Lazaret

1892 Cholera outbreak - Central Russia, Budapest, Hamburg, Paris, Marseilles etc

Letter written by E. Gardner,
Director of the British
Archeological School of Athens,
arriving from
Marseilles on October 5th, 1892
and confined on board the ship
at Salamis Bay,
next to St. George isl. Lazaret,
for 5 days quarantine

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL SCHOOL,
ATHENS.
Bay of Salamis
7. Oct. 1892.
Dearest May,
We have now got through two days of our
quarantine, and so far it is certainly in
no way to be dreaded. Everybody seems
determined to make the best of it. As
soon as we arrived, the captain, who is
a very good fellow, had the upper
deck made into a pavilion with flags



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got up
We have
who really
good music
t off in
o we like
within certan

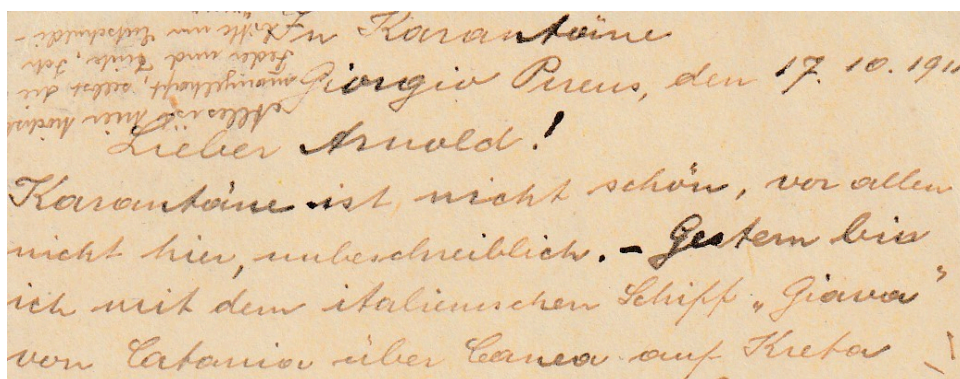
7 October 1892

St. George Lazaret to Folkestone (England) via Piraeus

Franked 25x 1 Lepta

The only recorded letter sent from St. George Lazaret

St. George isl. Lazaret



In Quarantine Ag.Giorgio, Piraeus on 17.10.1911

Dear Arnold Quarantine is not good, particularly here; unbearable. I arrived here yesterday by the Italian vessel “Giava” from Catania via Canea Crete, Naples, Palermo, Messian, Taormina; the one more beautiful from the other, with splendid marine views. Tomorrow i leave for Athens and later via Volos and Thessaloniki to Turkey



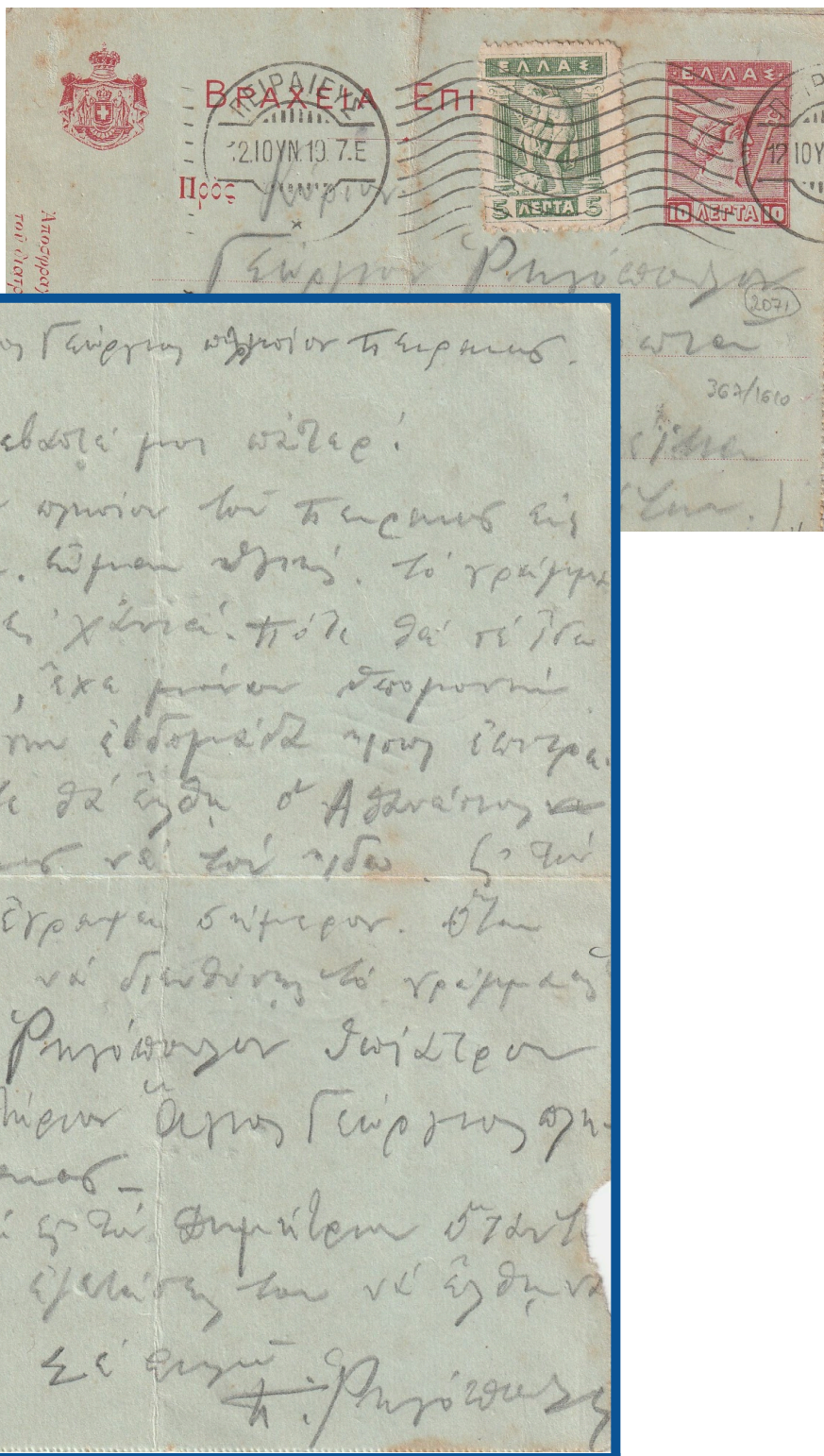
5 September 1911

St.George Lazaret to Oppeln (Germany) via Piraeus

PC written by a traveler on 17/4-10-1911, arrived from Canea (Crete) onboard the Italian ship “Giava” which was detained under quarantine at St. George Lazaret Stamps canceled by the Lazaret’s p.o.

The only recorded item sent from St.George Lazaret p.o.

St. George isl. Lazaret



9 June 1919

St. George Lazaret to **Mazeika** via **Piraeus & Kalavryta**

...St. George island off Piraeus 9.6.1919

Respected father we were transferred to an islet off Piraeus. I am healthy...

when you shall write me, address your letters as follows:

P.Rigopoulos Medical Lieutenant St. George Lazaret off Piraeus...

The 4th Greek Army stationed in Kavalla,

surrendered to Germans as pro Royals in September 1916

and transferred as POW to Goerlitz, Germany till 1919

Upon their return they were primarily detained in St. George lazaret

and then dispersed to other units

Spinalonga isl. Lazaret

(1903 to 1958)

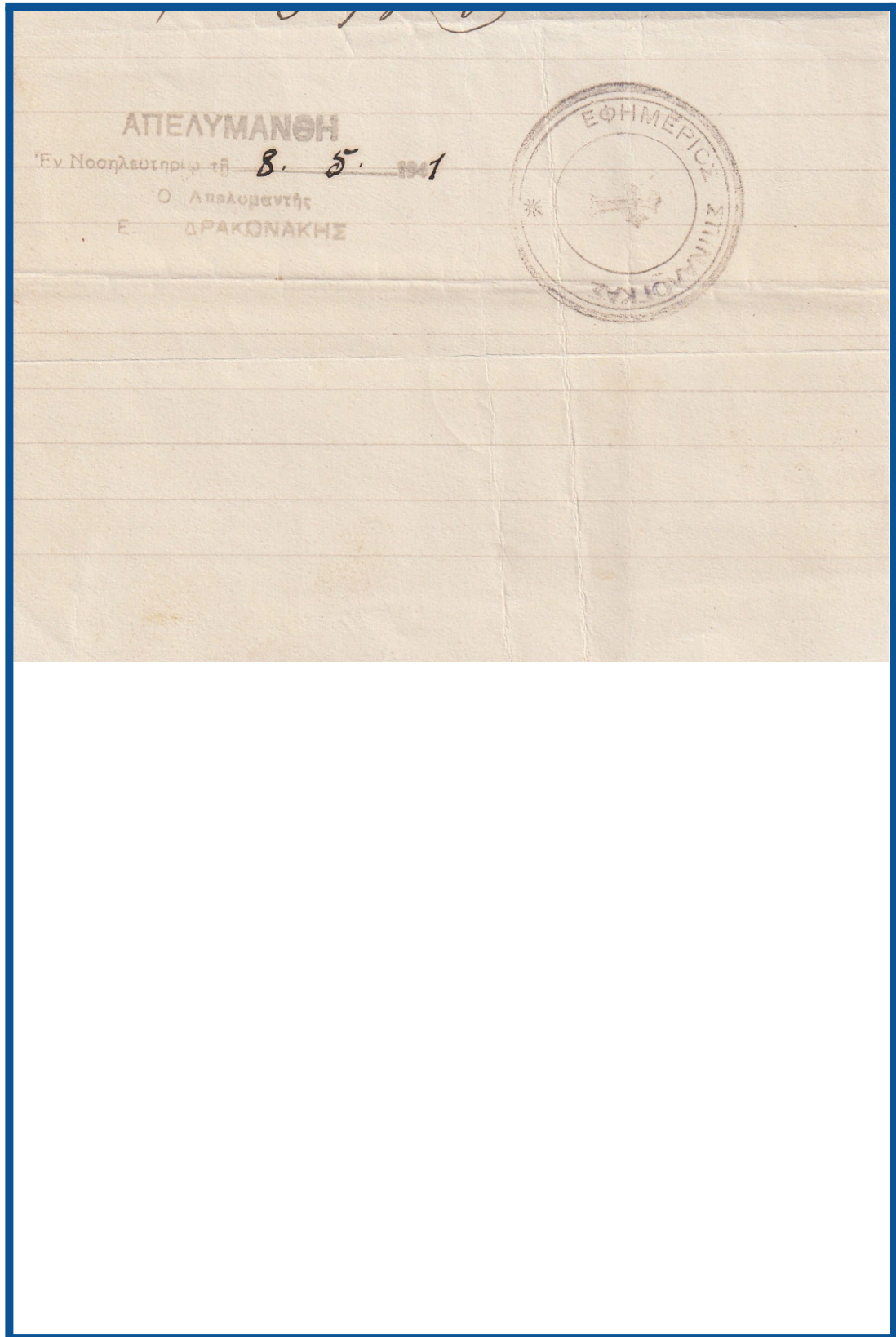


Spinalonga isl. Lazaret to Neapolis
via Ag. Nikolaos

One of the two covers recorded so far



Spinalonga isl. Lazaret



7 May 1941

Spinalonga Lazaret Hospital

Four lines

ΑΠΕΛΥΜΑΝΘΗ (Disinfected)

Εν Νοσηλευτηρίω τη 8 - 5 - 1941

Ο Απολυμαντής

Ε. ΔΡΑΚΩΝΑΚΗΣ

Cachet

ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΟΣ ΣΠΙΝΑΛΟΓΚΑΣ

On general mail



Sira isl. to Nafplion

Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΕΙΟ ΣΥΡΑΣ**

(Sira Sanitation Station)

(verso) **26 Lepta prepaid**

fivefold rate for **25 g.**

Oval **ΠΑΗΡΩΜΕΝΟΝ** (paid)

Transported by Feralids sail ship

2 known letters transported by Feraldi's sail ships on Sira isl. - Nafplion route

9 recorded letters with Sira Sanitary Station cachet

On general mail



7 November 1833

Marathonisi (Gythion) to Nafplion

Cachet **ΥΓΕΙΟΑΣ(Τ)ΥΝΟΜΑΙΜ(ΕΝΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ) ΜΑΡΑΘΩΝΗΣΙΟΥ**

(Marathonisi Sanitation Station)

& *πόλις Γυθείου* (City of Gythion)

s/n 6 & 5 Lepta prepaid single rate for one page letter

2 recorded letters



Vostitsa (Egion) to Nafplion

Cachet

ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΑΙΜΕΝΑΡΧΥΟΝ ΒΟΣΤΙΤΣΗΣ 1833

(Vostitsa Seaport Health Station)

s/n 1 & 10 Lepta prepaid double rate for two page letter

3 recorded letters



8 August 1832

Sira isl. Sanitary Station

Circular no. 98

addressed to:

Consuls & Vice-Consuls
to intown

"...as of today, free pratique is granted to the vessels arriving from the various Aegean islands which till today were subject to quarantine ..."



Four known letters with this seal

On Postmaster's mail



2 April 1856

Serifos isl. to Athens via Sira isl.

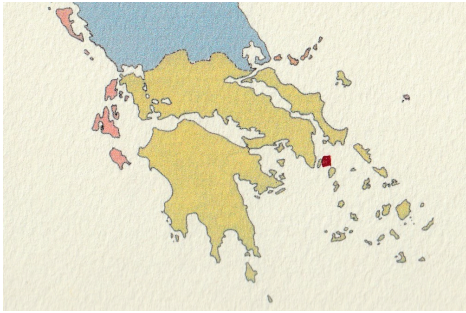
Seal

SERIFOS SANITARY STATION

Official government's **postage free mail**

The only known cover with this seal

On Postmaster's mail



8 September 1912

Makronissos isl. Lazaret to Kymi via Piraeus

Cachet:

ΛΟΙΜΟΚΑΘΑΡΤΗΡΙΟΝ ΜΑΚΡΟΝΗΣΟΥ

(Makronissos Lazaret)

The only known cover from Makronissos isl. Lazaret with this seal

On Official documents



22 January 1852

Sanitary certificate and receipt of quarantine dues
for three days of an Ottoman fishing boat carrying a corpse
Countersigned & stamped by Port Authority
and Vice Consul of Spain on Milos isl.
cachet

Milos Sanitary Station

Two known documents with this seal