

France along with England and Russia intervened during the Greek war for Independence in favor of the Greeks  
Thus from the sea battle of Navarin in October, 1827 the French presence in Greece was continuous and prominent  
In 1828 France, organized the Moreas military expedition in order to supervise the withdrawal of the Ottomans  
French military expedition accompanied by an scientific expedition, lasted to 1835, where geological, fauna and flora data was recorded  
Another task was to rebuilt the infrastructure destroyed by the 10 years long war  
In the following years French naval units stationed in various Greek ports  
A major incident was the blockade of Piraeus port in 1854, to prevent the Greek intervention in the Crimean war in favor of Russia  
During this blockade French troops occupied Piraeus port from which a major cholera outbreak spread in Athens  
In the later years due to the use of envelopes the origin of the French military & naval mail is not traceable

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

### **The Moreas expedition**

The Navarin camp  
The Modon fort  
Nafplion the Greek capital  
Athens the new capital

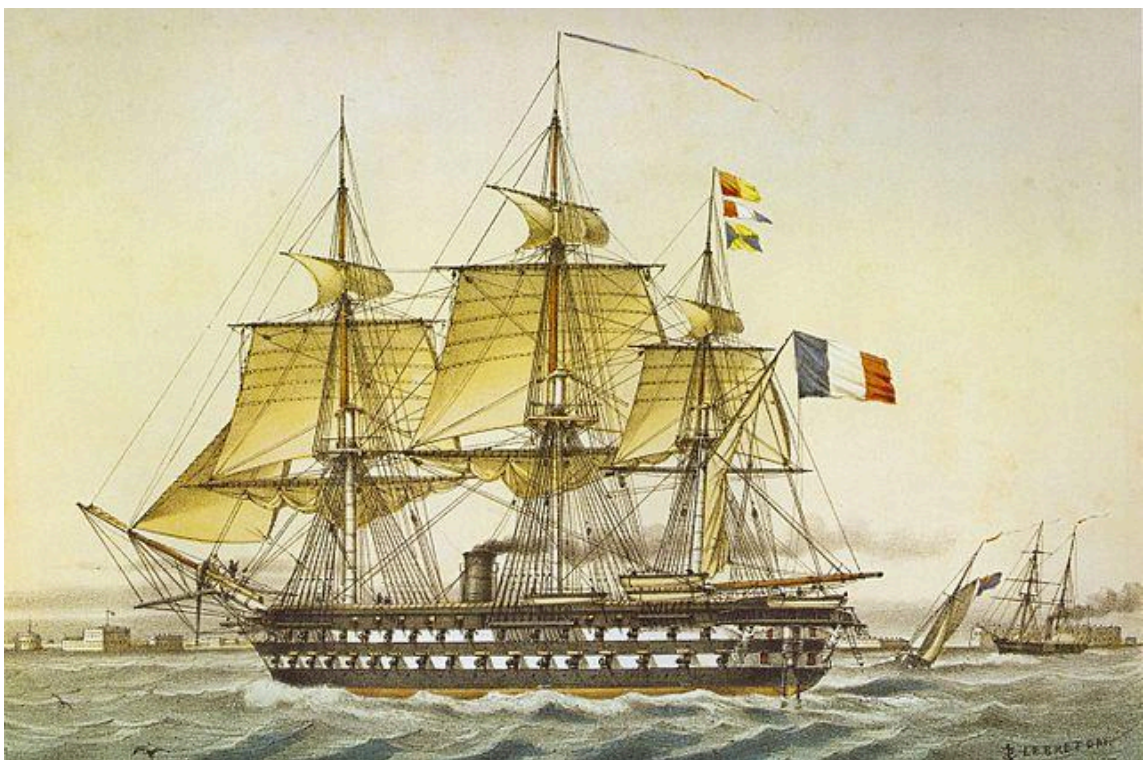
### **Naval units stationed**

Patras  
Piraeus  
Petalidi

### **French military postal rates**

### **The 1854 blockade & the occupation of Piraeus port**

### **The cholera outbreak**



**Moreas Expedition - Navarin camp**

On Aug.30,1828 French army embarked near Navarin & established a provisional camp  
Ottomans surrendered on Oct.6,1828. The French troops settled permanently in Navarino, rebuilding its  
fortifications and houses and setting up a hospital and various features of local administration



28 September 1828

**Camp Navarin to Sable sur Sarthe**

*France par Toulon*

**QER GAL ARM. DE MOREE**

Free maritime transport by French warship

*Disinfected on arrival at Toulon - One horizontal slit*

**10 Decimes due**

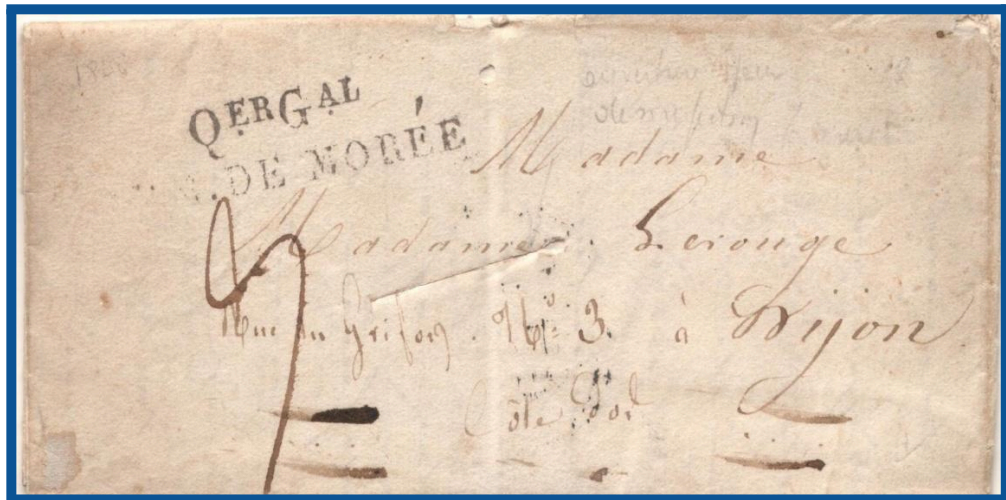
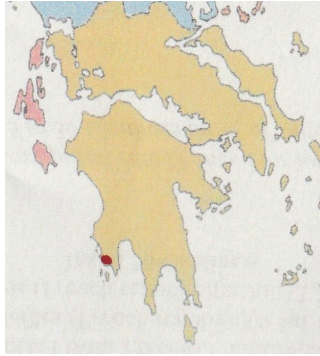
French inland single rate for distance of 600-750 Km



## Prestamp Greece - French Military mail

### Moreas Expedition - Modon Fort

Modon fort surrendered by the Ottomans on Oct. 7, 1828  
General Maison installed his apartments there as well as  
the Headquarters of the Morea Expedition



21 January 1829

Modon Fort to **Dijon**

Bilinear cachet **QERGAL ARM. DE MOREE**

Free maritime transport by French warship

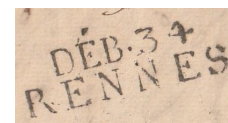
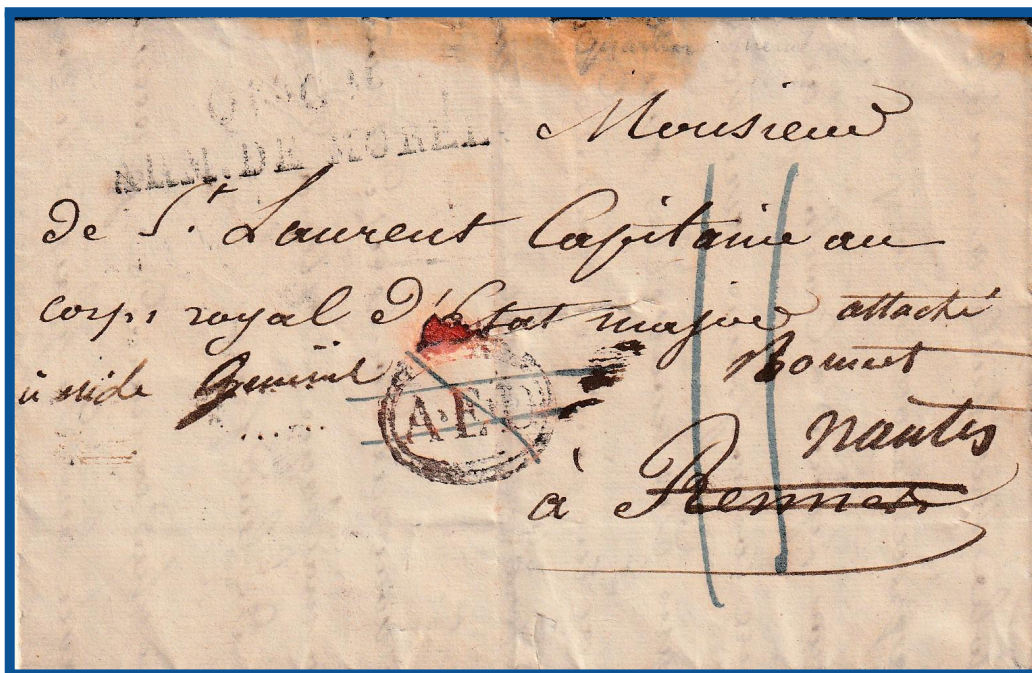
Disinfected on arrival at Toulon - One horizontal slit

**9 Decimes due**

french inland single rate for distance of 500-600 Km



Moreas Expedition - Modon Fort



9 October 1831

**Modon** (Methoni) to **Nantes**  
**QERGA ARM. DE MOREE**

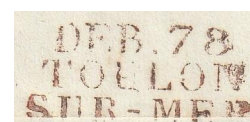
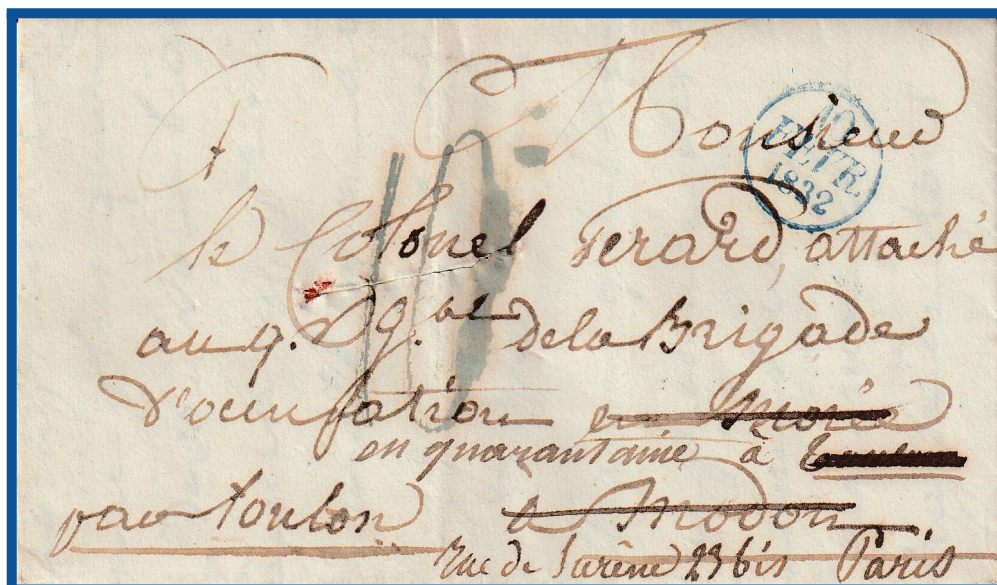
Free maritime transport by French warship

Transit **A.E.D.** (deleted)

Disinfected on arrival at Toulon - One horizontal slit

**11 Decimes due**

french inland single rate distance of 750-900 Km



2 February 1832

**Paris** to **Modon**  
*par Toulon*

*on quarantaine a ...*

(verso) Transit **TOULON / SUR-MER**

**10 Decimes due**

french inland single rate for distance of 600-750 Km

Returned to sender in **Paris**

**Moreas Expedition - Nauplion**

Nauplion at that time was the capital of Greece

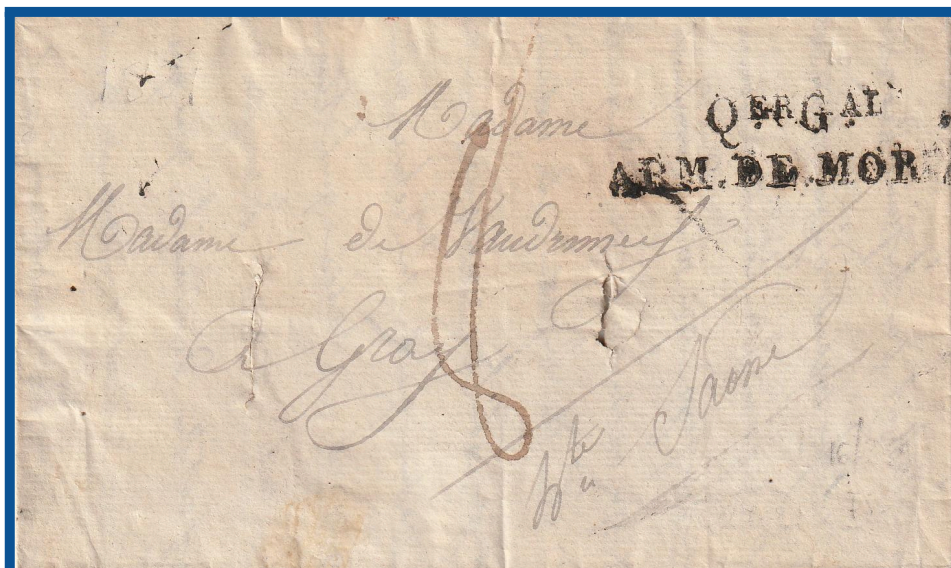


14 May 1830  
Paris to **Nauplion**  
*par Toulon*  
**10 Decimes due**  
french inland single rate to Toulon



8 December 1830  
(France) to **Nauplion**  
**P.PAYE PARIS** (Paid to Paris)  
*par Toulon*  
(verso) **10 Decimes prepaid** single rate to Toulon

Moreas Expedition - Nauplion



18 December 1830

**Napoli di Romania** (*Nafplion*) to **Gray**

**QERGAL ARM. DE MOREE**

Free maritime transport by French warship

Disinfected on arrival at Toulon

Two vertical slits

**8 Decimes due**

french inland single rate

for distance of 400-500 Km



11 January 1831

**Napoli di Romania** (*Nafplion*) to **Gray**

**QERGAL ARM. DE MOREE**

Free maritime transport by French warship

Disinfected on arrival at Toulon

One horizontal slit

**8 Decimes due**

french inland single rate

for distance of 400-500 Km

Moreas Expedition - Nauplion



23 February 1831

Nauplion to Paris

**QERGA ARM. DE MOREE**

Free maritime transport by French warship

Disinfected on arrival at Toulon

One horizontal slit

**20 Decimes due**

french inland triple rate for letter of 10 g.

& for distance of 600-750 Km



11 March 1831

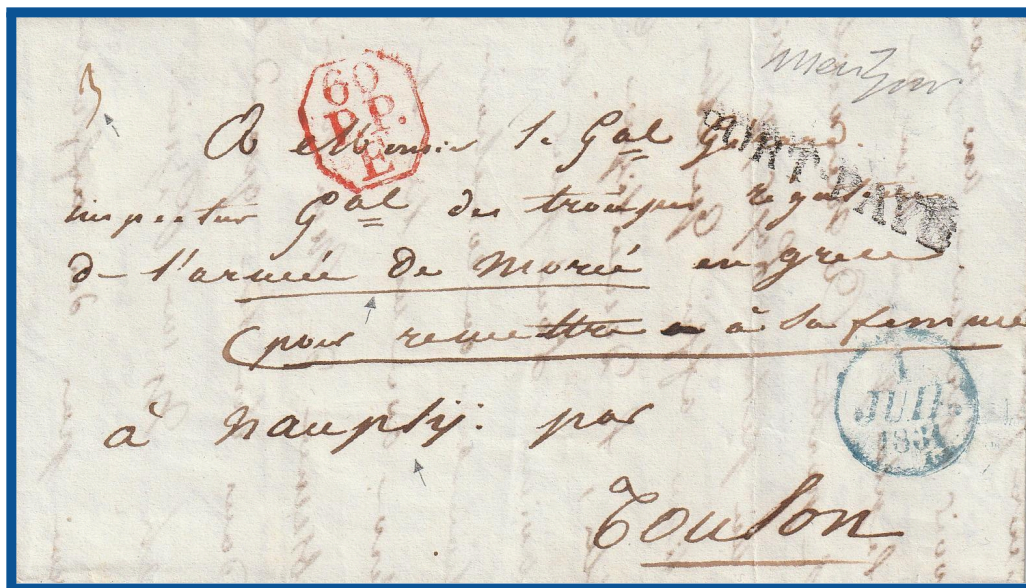
Paris to Nauplion

*par Toulon*

**10 Decimes due**

french inland single rate to Toulon

Moreas Expedition - Nauplion



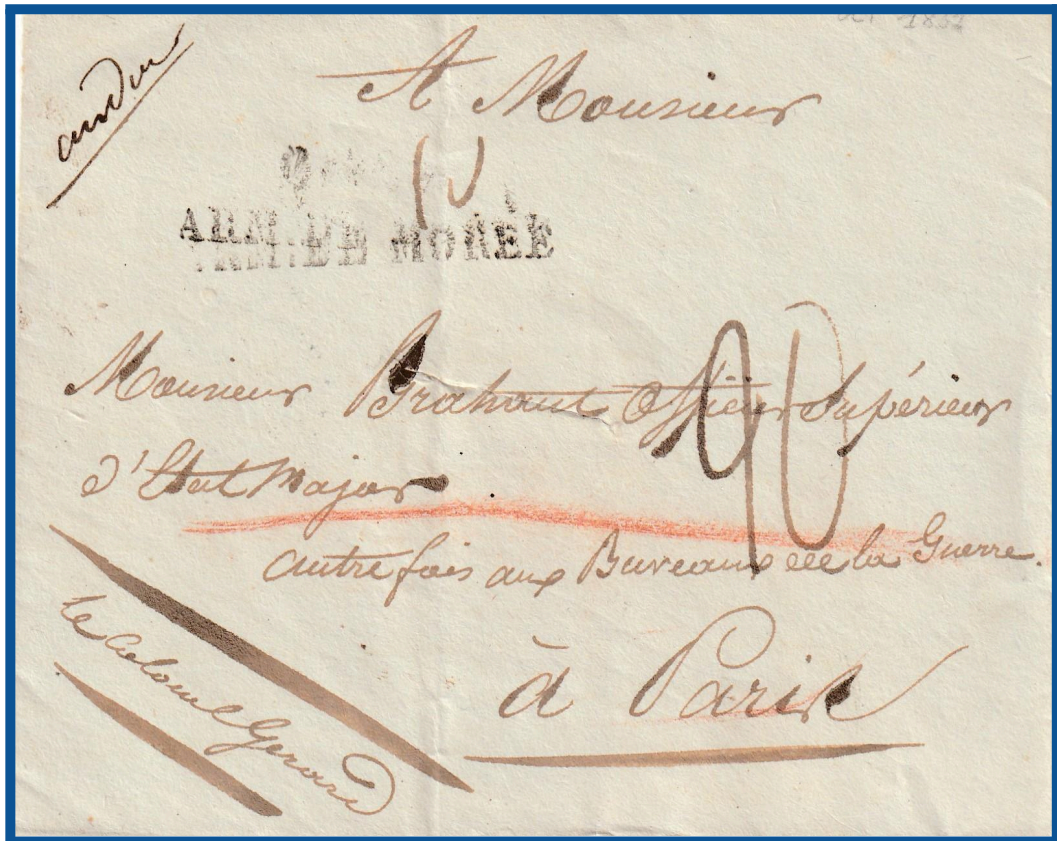
1 June 1831  
 (France) to **Gal du troopes** at **Naflion**  
**PORT PAYE** (Paid)  
 Boxed **60/P.P./E**  
*par Toulon*  
 (verso) **11 Decimes** prepaid  
 french inland rate to Toulon



(1831)  
 (France) to **Nauplion**  
**P.PAYE PARIS** (Paid to Paris)  
*par Toulon*  
 (verso) **20 Decimes** prepaid  
 french inland triple rate for letter of **10g.**  
 & for distance of 600-750 Km



Moreas Expedition - Nauplion



1 September 1831

**Nafplion** to **Paris** (France)

**QERGAL ARM. DE MOREE**

Free maritime transport by French warship

Disinfected on arrival at Toulon - One horizontal slit

**20 Decimes due**

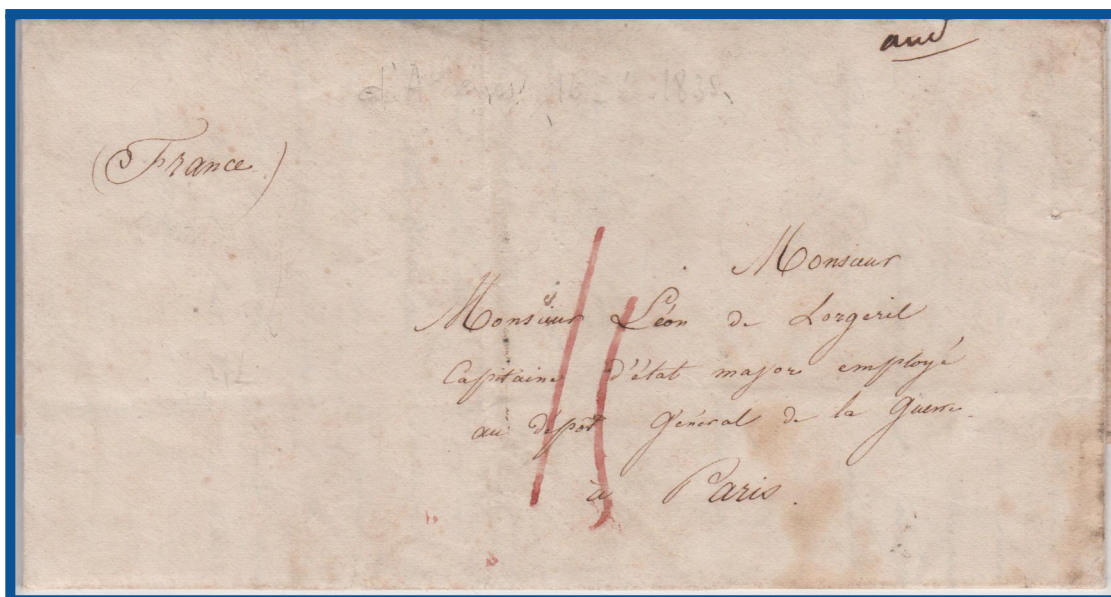
french inland triple rate for letter of 10g.

& for distance of 600-750 Km



**Moreas Scientific Expedition - Athens**

Athens became capital of Greece in 1834

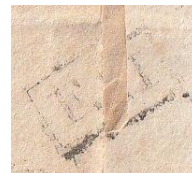
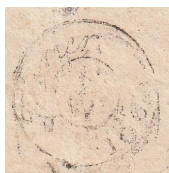


16 December 1835

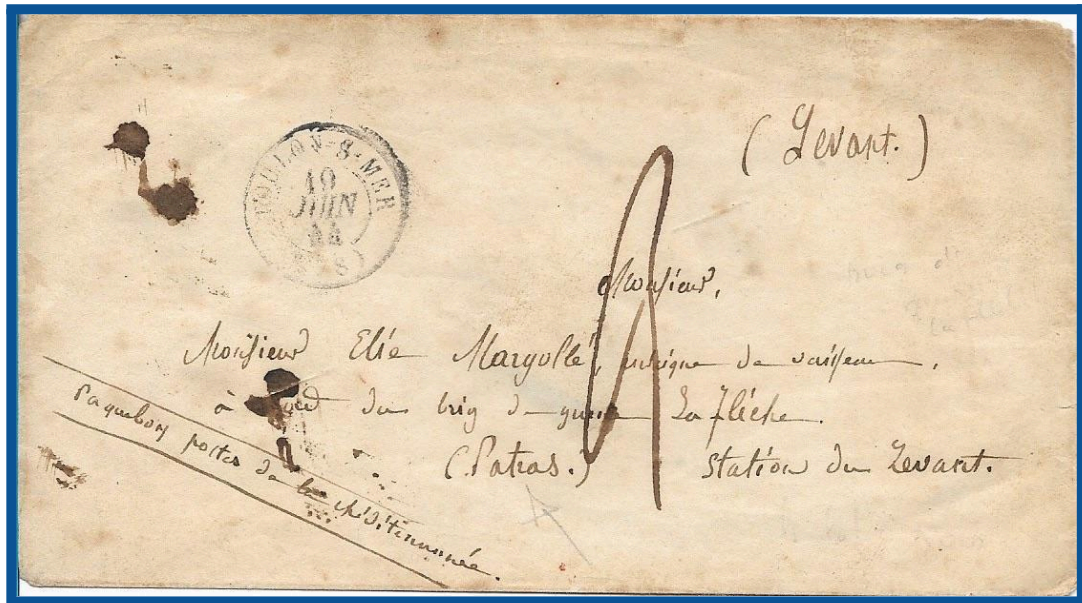
**Athens** to **Paris**

**11 Decimes due**

french inland single rate  
for distance of 750-900 Km



Naval units stationed in Greek ports



10 June 1844

**Toulon to Patras (Station du Levant)**

via **Marseille & Smyrna**

**(Levant)**

*Paquebot postes de la Méditerranée*

**3 Decimes due**

french inland single rate  
for distance of 40-80 Km



*Patras was the major Greek port in the westside of Greece*

Naval units stationed in Greek ports

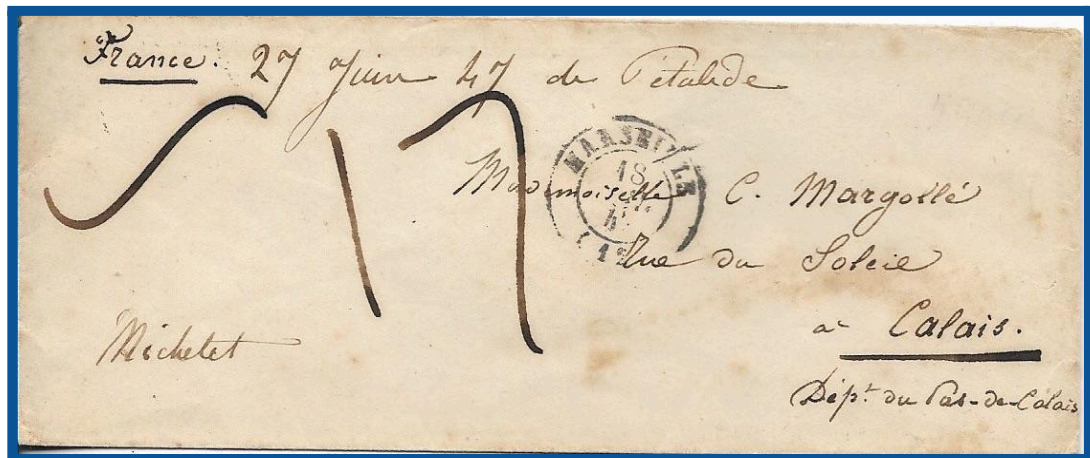


7 April 1847

**Piraeus** to **Calais** via **Marseille**  
*du Pyree*

**11 Decimes due**

french inland single rate  
& for distance of 750-900 Km



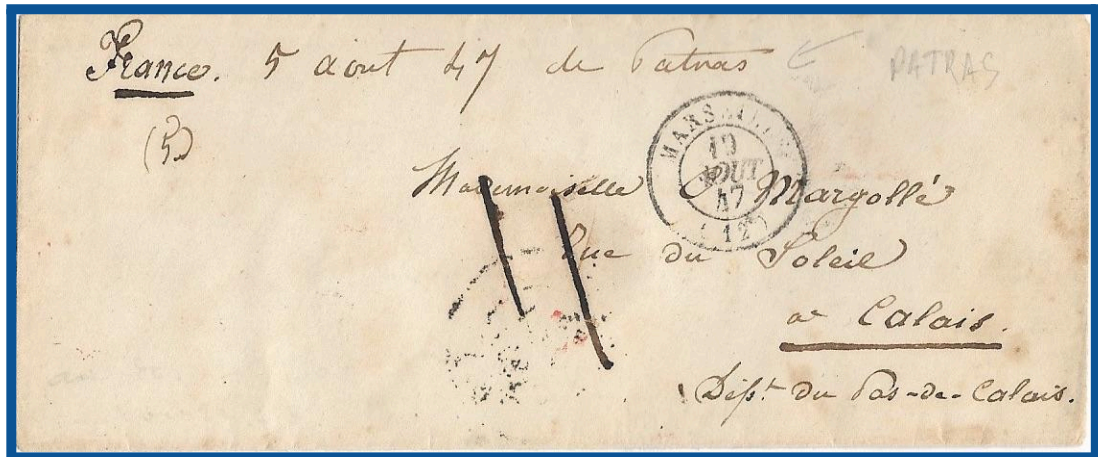
27 June 1847

**Petalidi** to **Calais** via **Marseille**  
*du Petalide*

**17 Decimes due**

french inland double rate  
& for distance of 750-900 Km

Naval units stationed in Greek ports

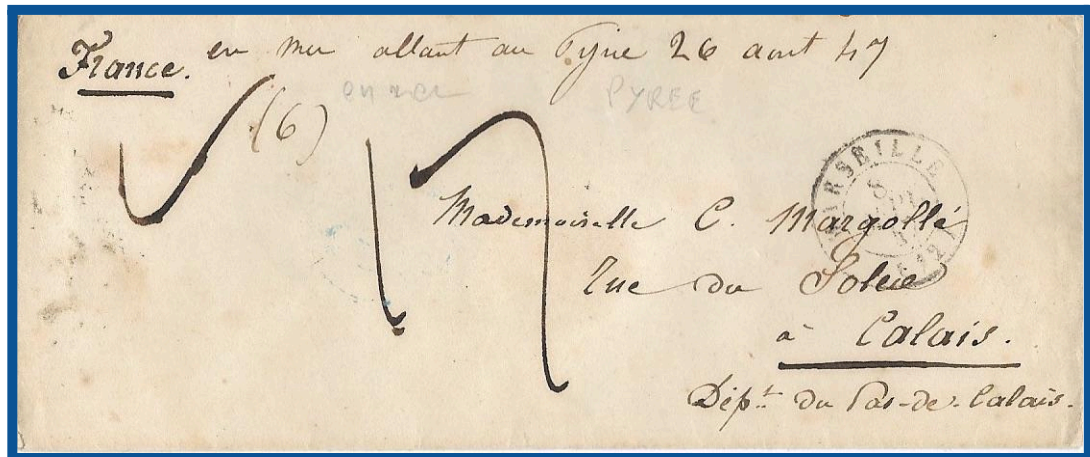


5 August 1847

**Patras** to Calais via **Marseille**  
*du Patras*

**11 Decimes due**

french inland single rate  
& for distance of 750-900 Km



26 August 1847

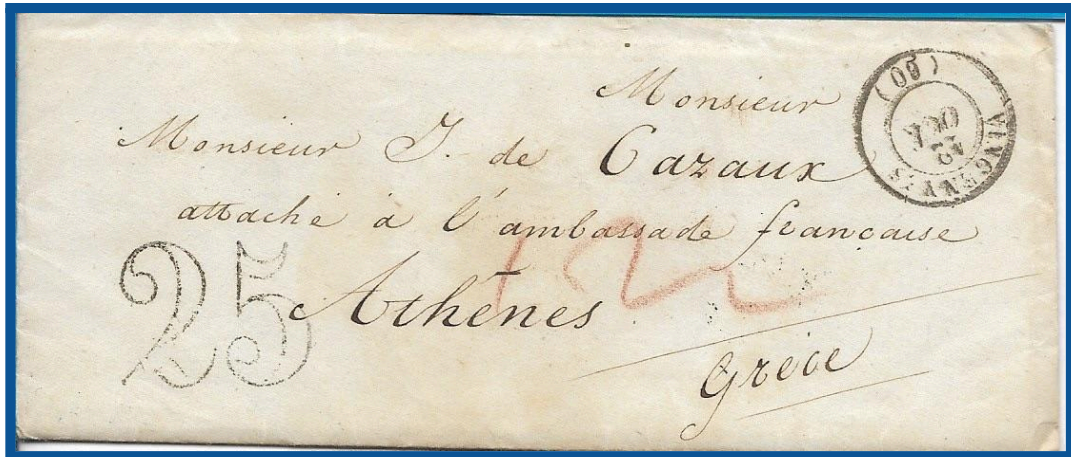
**Piraeus** to Calais via **Marseilles**  
*au mer allant du Pyree*

**17 Decimes due**

french inland double rate  
& for distance of 750-900 Km

The naval postal rates

25



12 October 1851

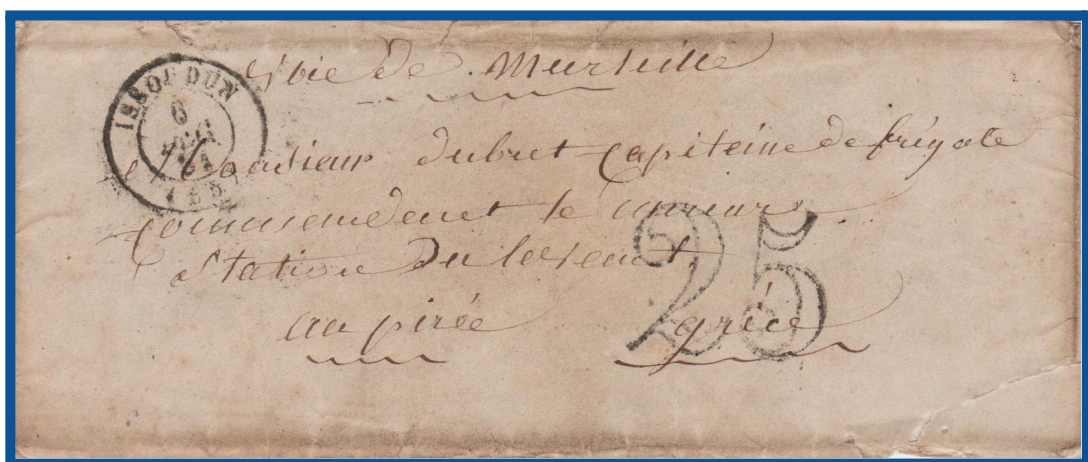
Vincennes to **Athens** via Paris

**25 Centimes due**

French naval maritime rate

Letter handed over to the Greek postal service  
for final delivery

**122 Lepta due** single rate from France



6 December 1851

Dun to **Piraeus** via Paris & Marseilles

**25 Centimes due**

french naval maritime rate

The Naval Blockade of Greek ports



25



2 June 1854

(Greece) to **France**

**ESCADRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE**

25 Centimes due

french naval maritime rate

(verso) nine different arrival pmks

dated from June 17<sup>th</sup> to June 21<sup>st</sup>

in search for the addressee

*This is the Oldest known date of use of French military postal service  
from Greece during the naval blockade of 1854/57*

The new naval postal rates

30



30 June 1859

**Piraeus** to **Paris** via **Marseilles**

**30 Centimes due**

french naval maritime rate

*French military postal rate changed for unpaid letters  
from 25 to 30 Centimes on 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 1854*