## **Disinfected Mail in Malta**

by Keith Byfield

I have a pre-adhesive cover from Smyrna to Marseilles via Malta where it was disinfected (Fig.1) The only handstamp that is readable is the one for Purife a Lazaretto. Therefore it has no readable date.



What is most interesting is the slit marks appear to have been applied by burning. In the top left hand corner there is a IV roman numeral mark which is underlined and looks as if it has been applied by a thin hot iron.



I have not seen this before and Hadrian Wood tells me that he has but it was along time ago and he has no firm memory of it.







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