



*The next one of their ships to leave Suez that I know of was the Hugh Lindsay: she left Suez on 4 January 1836, arriving Bombay after an incredibly slow journey on 10 February. This would seem to fit quite well with your Madras date of 17 February”.*

The remaining postage, to be paid by the addressee, appears on the back of the letter: A[nnas] 4 Ship Postage [+] 13 A[nnas] Inland; via Bombay One rupee & four Annas with Ship Postage.

The letter shows some discoloration and signs of scorching: in 1835 cholera had reached Italy, but not Malta. Two are the possible places where the letter was submitted to disinfection by exposure to heat: Alexandria or, more probably, the locality of arrival in India. I am inclined to believe that the sanitary treatment was privately performed by the addressee.