

is so universally used on horse
trappings on the Continent: I however
have never heard the reason.

The initials on the flaps & on other
parts are those of the maker

Alessandro Pisa of Naples.

the beak faces to the front
on the back are engraved

S^t. Gennaro, Patron saint of Naples.
The Virgin Mary & Child Jesus.

on the left of the saddle

S^t. Lucy & Louis

S^t. Lucy (with her eyes on a dish)

S^t. Vincent.

on the right of the saddle

S^t. Lucy

"The Virgin (Mary) of Grace"

S^t. Peter

on the strap supports

S^t. Vincent.

I got no explanation of the barrel shaped ornament
nor of the scroll over it.

Hotel de la Ville

Naples.

Feb. 13. 95.

(L1176)
Ann^d.
Mar 18/95

Dear General Pitt Rivers

I have purchased
& today despatched by
sea to you at Lisbury
Station one of the curious
metal erections that are
used here on the backs
of dray horses to bear
the back strap of the

heavy two wheel carts.

The cart is always tipped up so that the shafts are high above the horses' back, & the weight of the load rests on the belly-band & not on the back strap.

This latter requires stiff support, which is furnished by this heavy metal saddle.

The price is a long one, but it is not beyond what is usually paid. I could have got cheaper, smaller & less highly finished saddles at £4 £5 or £6: this cost £7:4s.

If you have already one at Farnham, I am sorry to trouble you & can only request that it be forwarded on to me at my home

Chideock Vicarage

Bridport

When I shall be happy to pay all charges. But if you have not already got one, I think you will not be displeas'd at my buying it for the Museum.

As a piece of metal work it is good, & its engravings are interesting.

You probably can give a reason why badgers' hair or skin

In the box I have also
placed a common pottery
lamp arranged for burning
oil with two wicks - which I
got here (for less than three pence!)
and beg you to accept for
the Museum.

I am informed that the
owners or carters are rather proud
of their metal saddles & rub
them up when they send their animals
to be blessed on St. Anthony's day.
The saddles pass as heirlooms in
the family.

I hope to be at home at Chidrock

in the course of a week or
so. You will hardly get
the box under a month
I suppose.

(L1176)

Yrs faithfully
Cecil V. Goddard.

P.S. I desired to communicate
with you concerning the purchase
of the saddle, but was unable
to do so, owing to our short
stay in Naples. C.V.G.