1866-The First Issue.

The Government Post.

*After the transfer of ownership, the Posta Europea service was replaced
by the Government Post and the genesis of the first adhesive stamp issue was born.*

*From April 15th 1865 the old Posta Europea cancellations gave way to those that would be used
alongside or cancelling the first issue adhesives: 'Poste Vice-Rea li Egiziane'
(Egyptian Vice-Royal Post)-Giacomo Muzzi, being of Italian extraction,
ensured that Italian became the Official Postal language of Egypt for the duration of the first issue.
The cancellations were in Italian, the sheet inscriptions were in Italian,
Registration Receipt forms (as we shall later see Exhibited here) were in Italian and indeed,
so was the 1867 Postal Notice for the introduction of the second adhesive issue.*

*April 26th 1865. Cover from Benha to Alexandria
cancelled by 'Poste Vice-Reali Egiziane-Benha' datestamp in black,
rated 1 piastre to pay in blue manuscript crayon.*

*Reverse with 'Poste Vice-Reali Egiziane-Alessandria'datestamp (April 27th)
struck in black.*

*The supply of the new 'Poste Vice-Reali Egiziane' datestamps was made available
to at least thirteen Post Offices from April 15th 1865, this being the number
so far recorded using this datestamp in the year 1865.
Offices using this type of cancellation, including minor sub-types,
on the 1866 first issue increased to a recorded total of 24.*

*Mailed just eleven days after issue,
this is the earliest Government Post cover from Benha.*

1.'Egyptian Postal Markings 1865-1879' P.Feltus and ESC 1983.
Ex collection R.Bertram