

The Government Post

Cover to Marseille via the French Post Office.



June 8, 1865: Cover from Cairo to Marseille
with 'Poste Vice-Reali Egiziane Cairo' datestamp of despatch in blue.
Whilst there are no manuscript charges on the letter pertaining to the Government Post
this cover would have been charged 1 piastre for the journey from Cairo
to the French Post Office in Alexandria arriving the following day.
From there it travelled via the French 'Paquebots de la Mediterranée'
service on the steamer 'Moeris' arriving Marseille June 16th 1865.

Charged with handstruck 10 decimes due handstamp on arrival.¹
It will be seen that all mail to overseas destinations had to be prepaid to Alexandria,
as there were, as yet, no reciprocal facilities for Postage Due mail.
This was to be rectified by the issue of Postage Due handstamps
along with the first adhesive stamps on January 1st 1866.

¹ Ex. Collection K. Wolfsbauer