

**1866-The First Issue.**

**Negroni Essays.**

*Muzzi ordered Essays to be prepared in 1865, contracting overseas to printers with Essays recorded from Negroni and Prevost, both of Paris; and the eventual successful printer of the issue, the Pellas Brothers of Genoa.*

*The Essays were prepared against a design sketched by the Egyptian Government and hence the similarity in the prepared Essays as shown on the following pages.*



*1 piastre red overprint (bir ghroush)  
on 10 para yellow, imperforate  
on thin white glazed paper.*



*1 piastre yellow overprint  
on 10 para lilac, imperforate  
on thin white glazed paper.*

*Smith<sup>1</sup> records just three Negroni Essays,  
these two being additional to that total.*

*It is interesting to note that the background recorded colours  
of the Negroni Essays: blue, lilac, yellow and pink  
were all eventually utilised: for the 20 para, 1 piastre, 2 piastre and 10 piastre values.*

*Ex collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.*

*1. Peter A S Smith 'Egypt-Stamps & Postal History'.*