

**STUDY VI. THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF EGYPT.
PROGRESS REPORT. JUNE 1953.**

By R. Seymour Blomfield,

Illustrations of the postal markings through 1880 have been completed. Data sheets covering the circular dated markings have also been prepared. As it will be impossible to include illustrations of all the types in the proposed handbook, prints of the illustrations and data sheets have been made and offered to members of the Circle at nominal cost. A number of members in England, the U.S.A. and Canada have availed themselves of this offer.

The issue of the above sheets has elicited considerable new data (notably from Prof. P.A.S. Smith, member 74, and A.S. Mackenzie-Low, keeper of the record). Among this were two new types, herewith illustrated

Type; I-3-1 is similar to I-3 but "Vice-Reali" has been removed. The late date of use implies that the removal was made to make the wording conform to the then current typos inscribed "Poste Egiziane". Type Sta-3-5 appears to be the earliest circular dated station marking. Prof. Smith also has two examples of "St. Bulkeley".



Sta - 3.5



I-3.1

The other new data extends the dates of use and the lists of Post Offices using the various types. It is not considered advisable to give this additional data at this time as it seems likely that much more data may be sent in to me when other members have had time to compare their material with the data sheets. As soon as it appears that most of the new data is in, a tabulation of it will be made so that members may add it to their data sheets.

Work has begun on the preparation of the illustrations, in final form, of the markings after 1880 to date. So far, the markings of Type VIII have been completed (18 illustrations), and some of Type IX. It is proposed to make a few illustrations of each type so that a selection of representative examples will be ready in time for inclusion in the proposed handbook. After this is done, the illustrations of the other sub-types will be added to complete the study.

POSTAL MARKINGS OF KILOMETRE - 83.

by A. S. Mackenzie-Low.

The Egyptian Government took over the postal service of the Suez Canal zone from the Suez Canal Company on 16th August 1868, and acquired the date stamps of the various offices of the Company. They were brought into use for cancelling the Egyptian stamps which franked the letters at that period.

An interesting history of the date stamps and their use is written by Jean Boulad and published in L.O.P. of January 1933.



II-4

I give an illustration of the date stamp used at Kilometre -83. The earliest date I have recorded of this is 20-DEC-68 which I have on a 1 P.T. of 1867. Two other copies with this date are recorded. The latest known date is ?-AOUT-69, also on a 1 P.T. of 1867.

The first Egyptian Government inscribed date stamp was brought into use about this date - It is worded in Italian and is similar to DARDANELLI, Type II-4. The word REGIE is removed, there being no trace of it left. The lower portion is inscribed KILOMETER-83. The illustration is from a composite drawing from a clearly dated specimen in my collection, and a photograph of part of the postmark from Jean Boulad.

The date on my copy is 31 AUG 69. Those are the only copies known.

Joan Boulad has informed me that this office was closed on 15 November 1869.

Will any member having copies of this rare postmark kindly submit to me for recording, and also to check up for any forgeries that may exist.