

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE.

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THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR.

Vol. IV. No. 5. ( Whole Series No. <sup>41</sup>~~38~~.) December, 1953.

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T H E   Q U A R T E R L Y   C I R C U L A R .

Published by The Egypt Study Circle.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

3. Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E. Cedar Hill, Mount Durand, Guernsey, C.I.  
15. R. Seymour Blomfield, Cayuga Street, Chilhowee Hills, Knoxville, Tenn. U.S.A.  
26. J. R. Raeburn, Trewern House, Dowlais, Glamorgan.  
32. Lt.-Colonel J. R. Danson, M.C.; T.D., Dry Close, Grasmere, Westmoreland.  
65. Martin A. C. Smith, 20 Barkely Road, Barnes, London. S.W. 13.

RESIGNATION.

8. D. B. Armstrong, White Gates, The Riviera, Sandgate, Kent.

NEW MEMBERS.

84. Albert L. Cicurel, 124 Boul<sup>d</sup> Maurice Barrès, Neuilly S/Seine, France.  
85. E. J. A. Knight, 187 Upper Woodcote Road, Mapledurnham, Reading, Berks.

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NEW STUDY.

- XXIV. The Consular and Diplomatic Franks used in Egypt.

Study entrusted to

F. S. Sillitoe, M.B.E., 31 Priory Road, Kew, Surrey.

Will members kindly send any information they possess to him ?

THE POSTS OF GREAT BRITAIN IN EGYPT.

by Brig. C. D. Rawson, C.B.E.; D.S.O.

( continued from page 56.)

Earliest and Latest Dates of Postal Markings. Amendments.

"Q.C."

References. Alexandria & Suex Crown Circle Frank Stamps.

Vol. III. No. 1.

pp. 4/5

As the former has not yet been seen in black, nor the latter in red, it is proposed to cancel these entries.

Vol. III. No. 11.

p. 146.

Type III-2. Period of use should be 1870/71.

p. 147.

Type II-1.

Earliest date.

Latest date.

In black.

24-12-40.

13-3-53. (Gilbert)

In red.

21-1-40. (J. Boulad)

19-7-49. (Sillitoe)

In blue.

21-10-51. (Mackenzie-Low),

9-4-56.

p. 148.

Type II-2.

In black. "A"

12-11-59. (J. Boulad).

17-3-78. (Danson)

In red.

12-1-61.

19-4-61. (Miss Boyd-Carpenter)

p. 149.

Type IV-2. Remarks. 3rd line. For 1871 read 1867.

Vol. III. No. 12.

p. 158.

10<sup>d</sup> red brown. Place X in column IV-4.

p. 160.

Type IV-1.

15-2-66 (Rawson)

30-3-78. (Rawson)

p. 161.

Type II-1.

21-7-56. (Danson)

19-1-58. (King)

Type II-2. In black. 1-7-58. (King)

27-10-64.

p. 162.

1<sup>d</sup> rose red. Insert the following plate numbers :-  
119, 142, 153, 168, 185. and place an "O"  
against each one under column Oblit. Type IV-1.

p. 163.

1/- green "K" variety. Place "X" in column Oblit. Type IV-1.

Vol. IV.

p. 2.

Postal Telegrams.

Line 4. Insert in space - 1872. and add after this sub-para.

28-11-62. (Rawson) 5-11-64. (Gilbert)  
From Jubal Island. 27-11-68. (Byam)

Vol. IV. No. 1.  
p.2.

I. Cairo. Crowned Circle Frank Stamp.

Type I-1. 25-4-60 (Hinde) 9-4-61. (reported by Mr. Cicurel).

p.3. Type I-1. Latest date 9-4-61. (reported by Mr. Cicurel).

Type II-1.

Letter A. In black, Earliest date, 26-4-66 (Danson)

Letter A. In blue, Latest date, 14-4-73.

Vol. IV. No. 2.  
p.18.

Add at end under Cairo.

Cover.	Single circle	Red	Mrs Geo W. Dennison	-	Nil	1/8	?	MSS.	Single circle	?
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C Cairo Ap 9 61	via London circular red to "Boston By PKT" circular.	1 May 61	Reported by Mr. Cicurel.
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Note. Where dates are not qualified by the name of owner, the late Mr. Bertram McGowan should be taken as "Late owner".

THE POSTS OF GREAT BRITAIN IN EGYPT.

Registered Post. By Brigadier C.D. Rawson.

Although the French and Italian Post offices in Egypt marked letters containing registered mail respectively "RECOMMANDES" and "RACCOMANDATE" or "RACCOMANDATO"; the British Post office did not, according to the knowledge of members of the Egypt Study Circle, use any handstruck cachet for this purpose.

A cover, however, has now been seen, from the collection of Dr. Gordon Ward, which shows that a cachet did exist for registered mail letters. This consisted of a circular date stamp inscribed REGISTERED ALEXANDRIA, and the date in two lines in the centre ( vide illustration ).

The specimen is struck in red ink and is in the top right hand corner of the cover. Other details are :-

1. In MSS. via Marseille, and RECAMANDIRT (sic).
2. It is addressed to Herren N. M. Van Rothschild & Sons, London.
3. Oval Registered London arrival stamp dated 29 AU 70 in red.
4. It appears that a stamp has unfortunately been removed from the bottom left-hand corner. A fragment of a Type I obliterator only remains. It is suggested that the stamp may have been a 1/- green or a 2/- blue obliterated BOI.





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.

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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 KILOMETRO-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. These are the only copies known.

Jean 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.

---

THE 73rd. MEETING OF THE CIRCLE. Saturday, October 24th, 1953.

The 73rd meeting of the Circle was held at the house of the Royal Philatelic Society, London on Saturday October 24th 1953 when there was an attendance of eleven; Dr. Byam being in the chair.

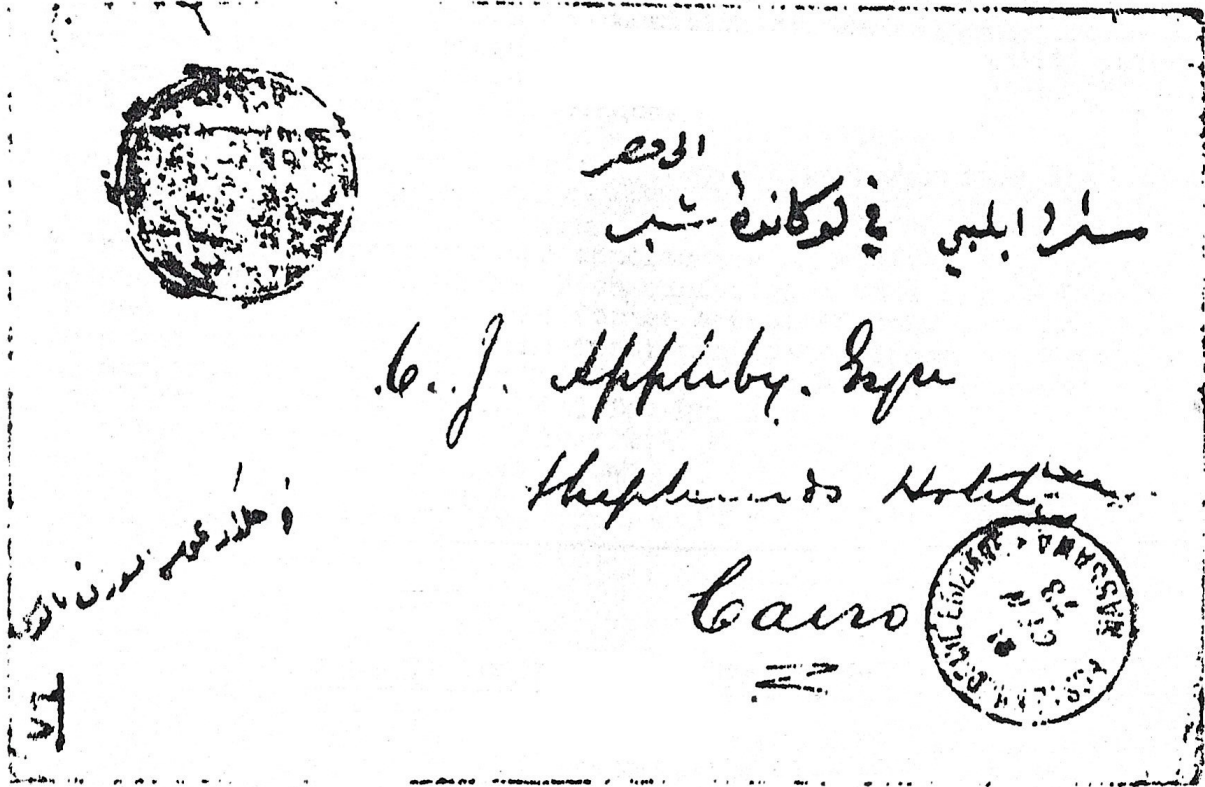
The period before tea was given up to a discussion on recent acquisitions by members of the Circle during which the following imperforate plate proof sheets on gummed watermarked paper without marginal inscriptions of the 1923-24 issue of Egypt were shown by Lt.-Colonel J. R. Danson. It was thought that these are nearly certainly the final proof sheets in the accepted colours submitted to Harrison by Encludé.

- 3 Mills. Sheet of 100. Margins, narrow on left, wide on right. ?Guide line in in upper and lower margins above and below column 5.
- 5 Mills. Sheet of 100 with wide margins all round.
- 10 Mills. Sheet of 100 having the first stamp missing. Many flaws and dots of colour marked in black and red ink. Narrow margin on left. Colour dot above and below column 5 in upper and lower margins. Endorsed in red ink, top right margin - "Maximum pressure. Rubber and Felt".
- 15 Mills. Sheet of 100 of the un-issued type with large Arabic numerals. Coloured dot above and below column 6 in upper and lower margins.
- 50 Mills. Sheet of 100. 5 stamps against the right margin damaged. Narrow margin on right.
- 100 Mills. Sheet of 100 with two stamps, Nos. 9 & 10, missing. 32 in black ink above stamp No. 1.

200 Mills. Sheet of 100. Top and right margins narrow. Coloured \* in lower margin under right of column 5.

2E1. Sheet of 25 with very wide margins. 36 in black ink above stamp No.1. Stamp No. 14 damaged on face.

Colonel Danson also showed :-



صدرت من  
 ابو ظهیر و سنا - زخات  
 كلفه و راقم مودت  
 الاصابه قمره عنكم  
 اعطوه لال الحوارني  
 و حقه و بوليد  
 ر سنا - قمره و لظوم

علاوة على ذلك  
 اخذت من  
 راقم مودت  
 و حقه و بوليد  
 ر سنا - قمره و لظوم



1. A cover from Massawa, 21 January 1878 addressed in General Gordon's handwriting to C. J. Appleby, Esq. Shepherds Hotel, Cairo. Endorsed in Arabic at S.W. corner " MIN HOKOMDAR OMOUM AL SOUDAN .... " = From the Hokomdar General of the Sudan. the final Arabic word is illegible. On the front is an example - poorly struck - of the official seal frank of Massawa dated 1878.
2. A minature letter in Arabic from Khartoum addressed to the Mudir of Dongola and signed by General Gordon.  
Translation - Mudir of Dongola. Khartoum and Sennar in perfect security and Mohamed Ahmed carries this to give you news and on his reaching you give him all the news as to the direction and position of the relieving force and their number and as for Khartoum there are 8000 men and the Nile is rapidly rising. On arrival of the bearer give him 100 Mejideah from the State.  
28 Shawal 1301. ( signed ) C. G. Gordon.

Note. Ibrahim Chaftar has approved the translation and writes that 28 Shawal 1301 is 18 August 1884.

After tea, members were given the opportunity of viewing a large number of extremely interesting sheets which had been exhibited at the Lisbon Exhibition by the Chairman and J. H. E. Gilbert. The former contained many gems including Essays, Proofs and issued stamps of the first and second issues of Egypt, Gordon Relics, Seal markings and items from the Foreign Post Offices in Egypt. This truly wonderful array gained a Gold Medal for Dr. Byam. J. H. E. Gilbert's exhibit, for which he was awarded a Silver Gilt Medal at Libson consisted of several sheets of Egyptian Air Mail material.

#### AUSTRIAN POST OFFICE IN EGYPT.

We have received from Mons. Ibrahim Chaftar a copy of a document in Italian concerning the suppression of the Austrian Post Office in Egypt together with translations into French and Arabic. The following is the English translation -

Subject:- AUSTRIAN POST OFFICE.  
Suppression of.

Dossier No. 280.

Imp. Roy.  
Managing Office for  
Litorale & Carniola

Trieste, 3rd Fenruary 1875.

#### NOTE

No. 1037

Mr. Cavaliere V. Chioffi, Secretary General of the Egyptian Khedivial Post Offices and Mr. Ecardo Biringer, Secretary, attached to this Imp. Roy. Managing Office, have stipulated at Port Said on the 7th December of last year a convention for the regulation of postal services which had till then been handled by the Austro-Hungarian Lloyd Agency in Port Said.

It is presumed that the contents of this convention are well known to your Hon. General Managing Office. The main points of the said convention are : (1) that the Lloyd Agency in Port Said should cease its functions for the acceptance and distribution of correspondence, (2) that between the said Agency and the Egyptian Post Office in Port Said be established a periodical exchange of despatches containing correspondence originated in Egypt and directed to Trieste and further, and also to those locations in Turkey where this Postal Administration maintains postal offices, as well as correspondence originated in these locations and directed to Egypt.

Following the usual office procedure, the writer had transmitted the above convention to the I. R. Ministry of Commerce for approval but the Eminent Ministry has stated by Decree No. 190 of the 25th January current year that it cannot fully agree with the foregoing stipulations.

In fact, the above High Office wishes that the Lloyd Agency in Port Said be entirely relieved from all handling of postal matters, and that therefore it should not act as mediator in the exchange of the above correspondence. In view of this decision of the Eminent I. R. Ministry, the writer takes the liberty of proposing to your High Office the adoption of the measures laid down in Note No. 3928 of the 19th March 1874.

Looking forward to an early reply the writer renews to your Hon. General Managing Office the expression of his high consideration.

S. Bonez.

Hon. General Managing Office,  
Egyptian Khedivial Post Office,  
Alexandria.

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### THE THIRD FOUAD ISSUE.

Mr. G. T. Houston of Melbourne ( Member No. 83 ) in a letter, dated October 23rd, 1953, has put forward some interesting discoveries about this issue, with particular reference to the 5 mills value.

He points out that there are two dies for the 5 mills, one for the issue in sheets and another for the booklets. Their characteristics are as follows :-

Die I. Sheets. Size 18 by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  up to  $22\frac{3}{4}$ . The background to letter "F" in top left square is lighter than is seen in the case of "R". The outside frame line of "R" square is much thinner than its continuation downwards.

Die II. Booklets. Size  $17\frac{3}{4}$  or less by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  to  $22\frac{1}{2}$  or less. Shading in the "F" and "R" squares is approximately equal. Outside line of "R" square broadens hardly at all as it passes downwards.

A further point which has not been mentioned previously is that the A/37 Booklet stamps are printed in a red-brown shade contrasting with the brown shade of the sheets. The difference is distinct if not very great, and is supported ( as are Mr. G. T. Houston's other discoveries ) by the specimens which accompanied his letter. He lists five collectable varieties of the 5 mills -

1. Deep brown. Normal wmk. from sheets.
2. Ditto from A/36 booklets.
3. Ditto, with inverted wmk.
4. Dark red brown. A/37 booklets. Normal wmk.
5. Ditto, with inverted wmk.

A new flaw described by the same writer is seen above the tarboosh in the Arabic lettering. It consists of a solid darkening of the background of the letters and takes the form of a tache 3 mm. wide.

Finally he asks two questions - (1) Are any A/36 booklets known in the red brown shade, and (2) What was the date of issue of the 10 mills of this issue - L.O.P. Jan. 1937 gives Oct/Nov. 36 and Zeheri March 1937.

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The above notes from Mr. Houston's letter have been prepared by Dr. Gordon Ward. Further communications received from Mr. Houston will appear in the next issue of the "Q. C."

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#### EGYPT. THE THREE BAR OVERPRINT.

Ahmed Mazloun, writing to Dr. Byam on July 19th 1953, states -

" The Three bar overprint has been forged and, as was to be expected, double overprints have appeared. I have seen the 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 15, 17, 20, 30 mills. Prices were prohibitive at first, but now they are very reasonable ".

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THE WATERMARKS OF THE DE LA RUE ISSUES OF EGYPT, 1879 - 1902.

by A. J. Revell.

Several years have now elapsed since I first noticed a variation in the watermarks of the above mentioned issues. With this discovery at hand and the knowledge, as far as I know now, nothing has ever been mentioned before in print regarding these varieties of watermark.

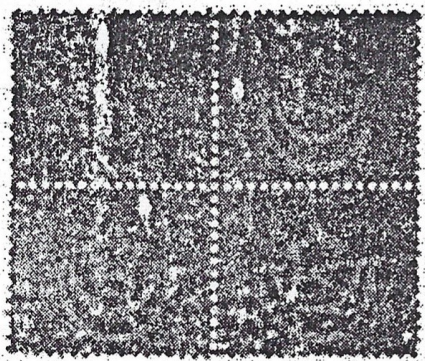
So, setting to and gradually accumulating material over the years, I can now set forth my findings believing that this study is as near complete as it is ever likely to be.

Throughout the study I have examined, at a rough guess, over 100,000 of these issues in panes, blocks, and single items: the panes being kindly loaned to me by Colonel Danson.

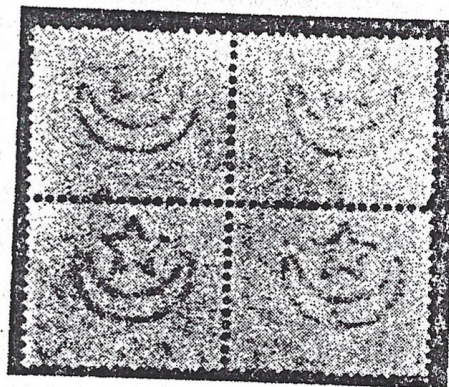
THE STAR AND CRESCENT WATERMARK.

As will be seen by the illustrations, there are two distinct sizes of this watermark, not only the "Crescent" being a different size, but the "Star" is also different. From the check list it will be seen that the two types occur on the issues between the 1st April, 1879 and the 1st February, 1884. The remaining issues over the period they were in use up to the Pictorial issue of 1914 ) have only been found with Wmk Type II.

WMK. TYPE I.



WMK. TYPE II.



The reason for these two types is not certain but can probably be put down to either of the following -

- I. The paper was supplied by different papermakers. If one examines the illustrations one can see a slight difference in the texture of the paper. De La Rue have been approached on this matter by E. H. Warren but will not impart any information.
- II. Type I has been established beyond doubt as the original watermark and therefore the possibility is that Type II was a stand-by "Dandy roller" which was brought into use owing to the original "dandy roller" being damaged.

CHECK LIST OF THE TWO SIZES OF WATERMARK.

FOUND ON THE DE LA RUE, SPHINX AND PYRAMID ISSUES.

DATE.	VALUE.	COLOUR	WATERMARK TYPES.			
			I.	I. Inv.	II.	II. Inv.
1st April, 1897. 1879	5 Paras	Brown			X	
	-	Pale brown	X	X	X	
	10 Paras	Mauve		X		
	20 Paras	Blue	X	X		
	1 Piastre	Rose	X	X		
	-	Pale rose	X	X		
	2 Piastres	Orange	X	X	X	
	-	Orange yellow	X	X	X	
	5 Piastres	Green	X			
	-	Blue green		X		
January 1881.	10 Paras	Lilac rose		X		
25th January, 1882.	10 Paras	Grey	X	X		
	-	Pale grey	X			
1st February, 1884.	20 Paras on 5 Piastres	Green	X			
	-	Blue Green *				

\* I have no copies of this shade with the surcharge, but I assume that this stamp would have watermark Type I Inv. as on the original T P.T. of 1879.

Colonel Danson confirms this from the two copies in his collection.

All subsequent De La Rue printings of the Sphinx and Pyramid issues, I have only found with the large watermark, Type II.

( to be continued ).