

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Volume VII No. 11

Whole Series No. 83

SEPTEMBER 1972

Future Meetings

- 7th October 1972 French/British Campaign 1798/1801
and the Arab Revolt of 1882.
Introduced by J. Firebrace,
(E.S.C. No. 71).
- 2nd December 1972 Postal Stationery.
Introduced by C. W. Minett,
(E.S.C. No. 77).

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THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Published by the Egypt Study Circle

Vol. VII No. 11

Whole Series No. 83

September 1972

OFFICERS

President	...	...	Lt. Col. J.R. Danson, M.C., T.D., F.R.P.S.L., Dry Close, Grasmere, Westmorland.
Chairman	...	...	J.H.E. Gilbert, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., Morven, West Close, Middleton-on-Sea, Bognor Regis, Sussex.
Keeper of the Philatelic Record	...	...	Charles W. Minett, 3, Bridgefield Road, Whitstable, Kent.
Secretary/Treasurer	...	...	K. C. Brown, 4, Holm Wood Grove, Mill Hill, London, NW7 3 DT
Editor of the Quarterly Circular	R.A.G. Potter. 12, Middle Row (High Street), Maidstone, Kent.

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REPORT of the 142nd Meeting of the Egypt Study Circle held at the offices of the British Philatelic Association, London, on the 5th August 1972.

Our Chairman, John Gilbert, presided, and was supported by F.W. Benians, L. Bowyer, K.C. Brown, B. Conway, G.P. Green, J.S. Horesh, E.L.G. MacArthur, C.W. Minett, W. O'Beilly, P.E. Whetter and P.E. Woodland.

The following visitors were welcomed, and all have applied for membership: D.H. Clarke, J.A. Grimmer and R. Wheatley.

Apologies for absence were received from P. Andrews, L. Perry and R.A.G. Potter.

John Gilbert announced that as agreed at the Circle meeting in June, our President Lt. Col. J.R. Danson, M.C., T.D., F.R.P.S.L., had been made an Honorary Life President of the Circle. This is the highest honour which the Circle can bestow, and reflects the esteem in which he is held by us all. His unstinting help, so willingly given, is a special feature of his relationship with the Circle.

The Secretary reported that membership subscriptions to the British Philatelic Association were being increased during the coming year, and the meeting agreed that the Circle should retain its membership.

Reference was made to our members successes at 'Belgica 1972' which was held in Brussels. It is always gratifying to know that "Egypt" is being shown at these major exhibitions. Details of members awards and their exhibits are shown on page 185 of the June "Quarterly Circular", and an article on the Exhibition appears in this number.

The major subject for this meeting, the Civil Censorship Markings of World War II, was presented by Jim Benians (E.S.C. No. 123). Jim explained that the censorship was first started in Egypt on the 4th September 1939, and among the first markings was a sealing strip marked "Censorship Department", used to seal the envelope after opening.

There followed examples of all the known markings and the point was made that there must have been some logical reason for the different geometric designs used at different periods, although this reason and its effect is as yet unknown. An interim report of this study is to appear in the "Quarterly Circular" in the near future.

The highlight of member's recent acquisitions was a genuine full sheet of the Suez Canal 20 centimes, shown by J. S. Horesh. The Keeper of the Philatelic Record stated that full size photographs of

this sheet would be made available at a cost of £1.00 each. Any member who would like this photograph, and was not at the meeting, should contact Charles Minett immediately.

K.C. Brown (E.S.C. No.138)

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MEMBERSHIP

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members, who have joined us since the publication of the last number of the Circular:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---|
| E.S.C. Number 164 | J. A. Grimmer, | 48, York Road,
NEW BARNET, Hertfordshire. |
| 165 | D. H. Clarke, | 49, Tregelles Road,
HODDESDON, Hertfordshire. |
| 166 | R. Moore, | Boldmere Lodge,
Sutton Park,
SUTTON COLDFIELD,
Warwickshire. |
| 167 | K. Pierce, | C/O Health Datanet,
1492 East Duarte Road,
DUARTE,
California 91010,
U.S.A. |
| 168 | R. Wheatley, | 30, Queensway,
LEEDS, LS 15 7DA. |

Resignations from the following have been received:-

- | | |
|-----|----------------|
| 99 | E. A. Piprell. |
| 146 | D. H. Kirk. |

The following change of address is noted:

- | | | |
|-----|---------------|--|
| 130 | Keith Pogson, | 279, Gibbet Street,
HALIFAX, Yorkshire.
HX1 4JX. |
|-----|---------------|--|

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NOTES FROM THE KEEPER OF THE PHILATELIC RECORDCharles W. Minett, (E.S.C. No. 77)The Record.

On behalf of all members we wish to place on record our most grateful thanks to our President for his generosity in settling the account for the binding of three volumes of "L'Orient Philatelique" (Numbers 104 to 123) and two of the "Quarterly Circular" (Volumes V and VI). Col. Danson will be pleased to know that an excellent job was done by the Plumtree Bindery.

Posts in Egypt in 1798.

John Firebrace (E.S.C. No. 71) has drawn our attention to the book "Bonaparte: Governor of Egypt", the English translation by E. W. Dickes (Methuen, London, 1937) of F. Charles-Roux's "Bonaparte, Gouverneur d'Egypte" first published by Libraire Plon, Paris, 1936.

Whilst we know that an extract was given by the late Dr. Chase in "L'Echo de la Timbrelogie" for 31st July 1957 we are unaware of a similar one appearing in this Country's postal history publications and so offer the following for the benefit of our English speaking readers.

" Bonaparte set up an administration, with headquarters at Boulak, for 'everything concerning Nile navigation' and 'a service of river transports' was established; regular sailings took place at fixed dates from Boulak, Rosetta and Damietta. A postal service was created and rates fixed for the carrying of letters; post offices were opened in Cairo and seven towns of Lower Egypt. Natives were permitted to make use of the postal facilities. Suzy, the 'ordonnateur en chef', was made organizer and director of the new postal administration. This was the first time the government in Egypt, the state, had intervened in Nile navigation for any other purpose than to hold it to ransom; the first time that it had provided for the transmission of private correspondence; the first time that official communications and transport had been given a permanent and regular character. The navigation office, the Nile police, the river transport and postal organizations were in every respect entirely new public services. "

The De la Rue Issues, 1879-1914.

Earlier in the year Messrs. Robson Lowe received a large collection of these issues comprising sheets, panes and large blocks which were to be sold. Appreciating that there was much information readily available which would be of value to the Circle, Robbie Lowe wrote to our Chairman with the result that soon afterwards John Gilbert and I spent a day in his sanctum sanctorum gleaning much information on the papers, watermarks, plate numbers, jubilee lines, gums, colours and, in particular, printer's marginal dates. It goes without saying that we are greatly indebted to the House of Robson Lowe for providing the facilities which have so increased our knowledge.

By now it will be well known that the material was broken up for sale by Private Treaty. Our President decided to purchase a large lot with the express purpose of helping the Circle's Study of these issues - particularly with regard to the two types of watermark found in the paper used by the printers. Colonel Danson felt that the material was too costly for younger members, especially the married ones, whilst at the same time it was essential for it to be accessible for future study. His kindness and forethought is already bearing fruit as the following will demonstrate:

5 paras 1879 - the "Joined Characters" flaw (Zeheri 23b and 23d).

This occurs on stamp No. 7 of the upper right hand pane of 60 (10 x 6) from the sheets of 240 (4 panes of 60 each) bearing the Plate Numbers

(1)	<u>1</u>
<u>1</u>	(1)

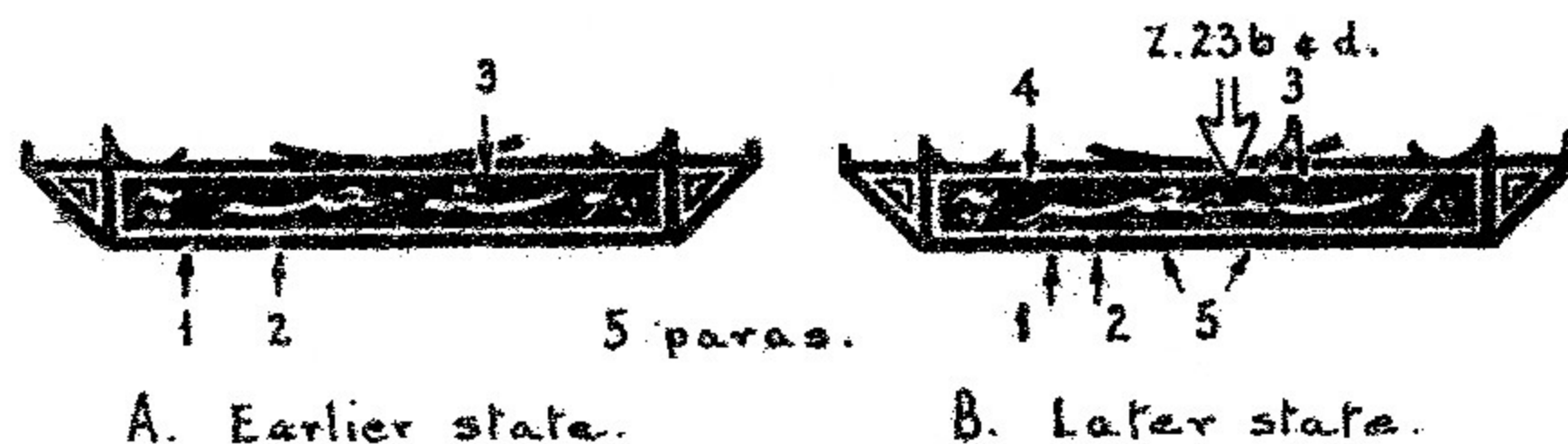
Col. Danson has this flaw on a sheet printed in brown on white paper with the narrow watermark inverted (Z.23d) and with white gum. In the MacArthur collection this variety occurs on a similar stamp in a top marginal block of 6 (3 x 2) only in this case the colour is a very slightly deeper shade of brown.

These two examples show also the curved white line under the first "re" of "masriya" which, so far as I am aware, was first reported by Lars Alund (E.S.C. No. 105) in "L'Orient Philatelique" No. 123 (April/October 1970) page 351. He has specimens with both normal and inverted watermark and it would be helpful if he would let us have details of the colours of the stamps, paper, watermark type and gum.

However, these flaws together with other nicks and scratches must have developed after the plate had been in use for some time since in the Danson collection there is a second sheet which shows

the same stamp in an earlier state with only 3 small nicks. The peculiar thing is that this sheet (which has the same plate numbers) is printed in sepia (Z.23) on heavily toned paper (light buff) with toned gum and with the wide watermark (upright) which we have considered was used for later printings. Dates of used copies would be most useful.

The following drawings illustrate the two states:



- A. The earlier state shows (at 1 and 2) nicks in the bottom frame line; and 3 is a short white scratch to the right of the two dots of the "te" of "Posta".
- B. The later state shows (at 1 and 2) the curved line, but only one of the nicks in the bottom frame line. At 3 there are two nicks, one being a development of the earlier scratch.
At 4 there is an additional nick.
At 5 there is the joining of the Arabic characters with signs of horizontal scratches below and in the bottom frame line.

In addition a number of flaws have been observed on Danson's sheets but only two of them occur on both sheets.

2 piastres, 1879 - the "Fourth Dot". - a constant flaw worthy of catalogue status.

E.J.A. Knight (E.S.C. No. 85) has drawn our attention to a flaw which does not appear to have been recorded elsewhere and which is illustrated below.



2 PT. Extra dot

This consists of a fourth (but round) dot at the right hand end of the bottom panel and has been noted on stamps of four different blocks cancelled by the datestamps of Cairo and Alexandria "Colis Postaux" during July, September, October and November 1887. In all cases the watermark is the narrow one, three being inverted.

In the Danson collection this flaw is to be found on stamp No. 30 of a lower right pane of 60 Plate (1) printed in deep yellow-orange with the wide watermark.

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CORRIGENDA

"Quarterly Circular" Volume VII No. 10 June 1972:

Page 162 SAMANOUD Postmarks of 1891, lines 5 to 7, read ASSUREE and REBUT A REMETTRE / A L' ENVOYEUR / Arabic.

Page 164 1st line, for 1915 read 1914.

Page 185 - Rudi Jeidel writes from Cape Town:

"One small correction in respect of results at "Belgica" on page 185. The two vermeil for Monaco and Congo Belge were awarded to my better half (Hilda Jeidel). Apart from Egypt I collect "only" Liechtenstein and African Airmails - and that is really far too much."

Our apologies, and congratulations, to Mrs. Jeidel.

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B E L G I C A 7 2

by

Lars Alund, L.L.D., F.R.P.S.L.E.S.C. No. 105

So "Belgica '72", the International Philatelic Exhibition in Brussels, has come and gone. It was really a most impressive show, where you could see lots of interesting items from the unique and most expensive stamps, for ever out of reach for the ordinary collector, to more 'normal' collections.

The exhibition was held in the beautifully situated permanent exhibition hall in Heysel, once built for the International World Fair of 1936. Unfortunately the exhibition hall lies about 9 miles out from central Brussels, so you had either to take a taxi, which meant quite an expensive journey, or to use the tram line 52. I suppose that the figure means the year in which this line was constructed, although they have dropped the letters B.C., but all the same when you once were at the exhibition you forgot about the trouble to get there.

The exhibition was housed in two adjoining halls: a main building where you found the Court of Honour, the special post offices, and the rooms for administration; and the so-called Hall 6 where the entries for the competitive class were housed. Especially the latter seemed ideal for its purpose. The frames were widely spaced and you could easily study the various exhibits.

Altogether more than 800 exhibitors from 45 countries showed their choice items in about 4,000 frames. The fabulous pages from the Royal Collection, graciously shown by Her Majesty the Queen in the Court of Honour were of course greatly admired.

In the same Court was also displayed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and it was with special pride to a member of the Egypt Study Circle to recognise the signatures of our dear present Chairman John H. E. Gilbert and of our late founder and president Dr. Wm. Byam.

Under the heading EGYPT six collections were shown by Messrs. E. Antonini (E.S.C. No. 160) of Switzerland, R. Jeidel (E.S.C. No. 127) of South Africa, K. Mazrouk of Ethiopia, K. Khouzam of Italy, and myself (two entries). Mr. Khouzam also showed a very fine collection of Italian stamps used abroad. Besides Mr. E. Kehr (E.S.C. No. 39) of the

U.S.A. showed his well known collection of Egypt Air-Mails. Other items of interest to a collector of Egypt were to be found in some other exhibits as you will see below.

Especially the entries of Mr. Antonini and Mr. Jeidel contained a lot of interesting and valuable items.

Mr. Antonini showed the first three issues of Egypt, the Suez Canal stamps, foreign post offices in Egypt and Egypt used abroad. He started his show, however, with several covers from the Napoleonic Campaign with the straight linear postmarks and cachets from the staffs of the commanding officers.

From the first issue of the Egyptian stamps (1866) a representative range of scarce items were to be seen. The 5 paras was shown in mint and used blocks of four and in a block of eight used on a piece of a cover. There was also one copy with the watermark in its scarce upright position. Also the 10 paras was shown in mint and used blocks of four as well as in a mint imperforate pair. The 20 paras section included a mint block of eight and an imperforate marginal pair, also an imperforate block of four. A very nice cover franked with a pair of the 20 paras, showed the last date of use of the "retta" as a normal obliteration, 31st July 1866. Of the 2 piastres the bisected use was shown on entires from both Alexandria and Cairo, and this value was also shown in a mint block of four. Furthermore the 5 piastres and 10 piastres values were shown in mint blocks of four, the latter being the only recorded block that large. The 10 piastres also occurred in another part of the entry, viz: 'The Foreign Post Offices'. There you could see a 10 piastres used on a cover together with Italian stamps, this being the only recorded copy of the 10 piastres so used.

When coming to the second issue (1867-69) one noticed the official postal circular announcing the issue of these stamps, with stamps affixed. Of the stamps you could see a beautiful block of four of the 5 paras with the 'chain' variety, the 10 paras bisected on part of the newspaper "La Trombetta" and the 20 paras and 1 piastre in blocks, the former in a block of eight and the latter in a block of fifteen, both blocks mint. The two top values, the 2 piastres and 5 piastres, were shown in mint blocks of four and in used pairs, the 2 piastres on a most rare cover from Damanhour and the 5 piastres nicely tied to a piece of a cover.

Amongst the niceties of the third issue could be noted the 20 paras 1872 lithographed in a mint block of four and in a marginal pair. One could also see the only recorded mint pair of the 5 piastres in the 1872 printing. The 5 paras of 1875 was shown in a block of eight with

four vertical pairs without tete-beche. In this section was also to be seen the 5 paras surcharge of 1879, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, in a horizontal tete-beche pair.

In the Suez Canal section all the issued stamps were represented in mint blocks of four. Furthermore Mr. Antonini showed several covers with Suez stamps, inter alia the 20c value used together with a 1 piastre of 1867 and postmarked 20 July 1868. Another cover was franked with a pair of the 20c., cancelled with the 'figure with dots' postmark 5129 of the French Post Office in Port Said. Four copies of the 5c. were used as franking on another letter and I especially liked the very rare cover from Kantara to Port Said franked with a 40c. together with a 20c.. Amongst the Suez items should also be noted a cover, franked with a 2 piastres, a 1 piastre and a 20 paras of the second issue, postmarked Chantier VI. This is stated to be the only recorded cover with this postmark.

When coming to the section of Egyptian Post Offices Abroad one noted a fine cover with a pair of the 20 paras 1866, postmarked in Smirne 7 July 1866, and a registered letter postmarked Smirne 27 March 1869 franked with the 5 piastres 1867 and showing also the 'Raccommandate' boxed cachet. From the Dardanelli post office Mr. Antonini showed the double ringed postmark in blue and also a splendid cover with the same postmark in black dated 7 March 1872 and franked with the 5 paras of 1872 in a strip of four together with a nice 20 paras 1872 lithographed. From the same post office (Dardanelli) there was also a letter franked with a pair of the 20 paras 1867 cancelled with the very rare intaglio seal postmark (of Chanak-Kile).

Also the other rare post offices in the Mediterranean were shown, Alexandretta with a 5 piastres of 1867, Cavala with a cover to Constantinople franked with the 2 piastres of 1867 postmarked 26 May 1871, Galipoli, Lagos (franked with a strip of four 1 piastre of 1872 and postmarked 3 March 1872 although this post office was officially closed already on 28 February the same year), Metelino, Rodi, Tripoli and Volo (on cover postmarked 17 Jan. 1871 and also on a loose 20 paras lithographed of 1872). Some nice letters with the Gedda postmark were also included. The 'piece de resistance' was of course a 2 piastres 1872 with the extremely scarce postmark Iaffa 17 Feb. 1872.

Mr. Antonini finished his show with a representative array of the foreign post offices in Egypt, covering the Austrian, British, French, Greek, Italian and Russian consular posts. From the British Post Offices were to be noted the scarce Crowned Circle franks "PAID AT CAIRO" in red and the extremely rare "PAID AT SUEZ" in black, of which only three copies are recorded. From the Italian post office there was a beautiful cover franked with one 40c and a pair of the 10c Sardinia postmarked on 8 Nov.

1863 and with the boxed cachet 'Pirascifi Postali Inglesi'. There was also a cover with a mixed franking, showing not less than three copies of the 2 lire and two copies of the 60c from Italy together with one copy of the 10 piastres and two copies of the 1 piastre of 1866, post-marked in the Italian post office on 18 Aug. 1866. This is also, as stated above, the only recorded copy of the 10 piastres on a combination cover.

In this section was also a copy of the very scarce straight linear postmark "Da Alessandria d'Egitto" on a cover of 1864, franked with a contemporary Italian 60c stamp.

Also, Mr. Jeidel showed pages from an extraordinarily beautiful collection with lots of scarce items. Starting with a range of Napoleonic campaign covers, all with various straight line postmarks and with cachets from the commanding officer's staff; Mr. Jeidel showed a most complete series of the various markings from the Waghorn Overland Mail. Special attention was drawn to the very scarce cachets "From Mr. Langley / Agent to Mr. Waghorn" and "Forwarded by Waghorn and Co. / Overland Agents Bombay". Then followed a representative range of the foreign post offices in Egypt, where could be noted a vertical pair of the 50 soldi Austrian Levant, imperforate between, beautifully cancelled Alexandrien 27 Oct. 1884; and a pair of the Russian ROPIT stamps, cancelled at the Russian post office in Alexandria.

Of the second issue Mr. Jeidel showed, amongst other things, a fine mint block of the 5 piastres. He rounded off by showing some modern rarities, inter alia a Marc Pourpe cover with the equivalent cachet.

Mr. Marzouk showed the fourth issue (1879-1906), where a 5 paras of 1879 with joined inscription in the bottom panel is to be noted. He also showed several stamps and covers with the marking "Dopo la Partenza" in various colours and positions. Unfortunately the sheets in this part of his collection were very difficult to study due to the yellowish and only semi-transparent interleaves used by Mr. Marzouk.

The second part of this exhibit showed scarce postmarks. Especially fine was Mr. Marzouk's display of the scarce Arabo-Italian bilingual postmarks (type V - 5), showing most of the postmarks known in this type. Thus there was to be seen the markings of Esna, Guirgha, Kena and Schag, all on interpostal seals. Amongst postmarks of other types were to be noted the scarce "mute" Suakin postmark and the straight linear Fescne and Minie.

Mr. Khouzam's exhibit showed the development and the various postmarks of the Posta Europea and he showed practically everything there

is from this fascinating period of Egyptian postal history.

It is somewhat embarrassing to write about my own two entries, viz: the third issue and the hotel postmarks. Anyway, the stamp section started with essays from Renard (1869), Penasson (1871), Skipper and East (1871) and Westfehling (1877). In this section were also included the two unique sketches of 1895 by an unknown artist for a superseding issue (Zeheri Nos. 61 and 62).

From the 1872 printing might be mentioned the 20 paras in a mint block of six with upper margin attached. Unfortunately this block was the 'usual' typographed printing and not the lithographed. All the same it is a scarce item. The section of 1 piastre 1872 was highly specialized, showing the different dies, all in typography and lithography and with varieties in perforation, watermark, etc.. The second printing from 1874-1875 was shown with all the known tete-beches and with some other varieties, amongst them the well known 'cleft pyramid' on the 2½ piastres. The two surcharges of 1879 were included in this section with the same variety (viz. the cleft pyramid). Of the 5 paras on 2½ piastres also was shown a vertical pair, tete-beche, in the compound perforation (ex Ferrary and Ceyssens). Only three copies are recorded.

The hotel postmarks! section included strikes from all the Egyptian hotel post offices, showing most of the so far recorded types as well as some hitherto unrecorded ones. Amongst the scarcer items the following may be recorded: Ghezireh Palace, Mena House (postmarked 7 March 1892, the earliest recorded date), Semiramis in types 1 and 3 and Shepherd Hotel in type 5 dated as early as 28 Dec. 1895, the earliest recorded date of this type. A selection of the Cook's Tourist Office postmarks was also attached and in this part was a strike of the type 1, used on an interpostal seal, so far the only recorded item of this use.

Egyptian items were, however, to be found also in other entries than under the heading "Egypt" - thus Mr. Khouzam also showed a highly specialised collection of Italian post offices abroad with many fine items also from the post offices in Egypt. Amongst the wealth of fine and scarce items may be noted a beautiful cover from Alexandria, franked with 40c and 20c Sardinian stamps and cancelled with the boxed cachet "Piroscafi / Postali / Italiani" and showing circular datestamps of the Italian post office in Alexandria of 19 May 1863 (in blue) together with a Posta Europea marking in type IV. One could furthermore admire a cover postmarked in Alexandria on 9 Dec. 1863 and showing the boxed cachet "Piroscafi / Postali / Francesi" and with a mixed franking of Sardinian and Italian stamps. In this collection was also included another example of the scarce straight postmark "Da Alessandria d'Egitto", mentioned above as shown by Mr. Antonini. Well deserved attention was also drawn to a

magnificent cover, franked with two 2 lire and some lesser values of Italy, all cancelled with a boxed "Piroussafi / Postali / Francesi" and showing the circular Alexandria postmark. This section of the exhibit also included some lovely mixed Italo-Egyptian frankings, inter alia a bisected 2 piastres of the first issue used together with an Italian 60c of 1863, postmarked in Alexandria on 25 July 1867; and also a letter with two 20 paras 1872 lithographed used together with a 40c Italian stamp.

Mr. A. Bollen of Belgium showed British post offices abroad, where in the Egyptian section was to be seen the rare cachet "Posted after / Departure of Packet" together with an Alexandria postmark and the 5 bars killer of Alexandria (B 01) with larger distance between the killer and the datestamp than normally. Only eight covers of this type are recorded.

Mr. N. Wasdekis of Greece showed a collection of the first Greek issue used abroad, amongst them several used in Alexandria and cancelled either with the Greek numeral and dot killer or with the Greek circular postmark with the two different spellings of Alexandria.

Also more modern rarities were displayed. Thus Mr. F.F. Blau of the U.S.A., showed "The Airmail History of Palestine" where you could find the scarce Zeppelin postmark of Port-Said (only three copies are recorded).

Mr. Kehr showed parts of his well known collection of pioneer airmail stamps and covers from Egypt. Amongst the interesting items were to be noted a Heliopolis Aerodrome postmark of February 1916, and a Marc Pourpe cachet on a flown card, etc.. Mr. Kehr also exhibited the two Zeppelin surcharges of 1931 in whole sheets. A fantastic display of "Aviation in Egypt before World War I" was presented by Mr. G. Naudet of France. He started with a full documentation of the "Aviation Week" in Heliopolis of 1910, including the official presentation, vignettes, postmarks, results of the flights, etc., and to crown it all Mr. Naudet showed not less than three Marc Pourpe covers.

In this connection must be mentioned also the very fine display by Mr. W.G. Richards (of Great Britain) of "British Pioneer Airmails up to 1919", showing also scarce and beautiful material from Egypt, inter alia the 1909 Heliopolis Meeting and the "Grande Semaine d'Aviation d'Heliopolis" 6-13 Feb. 1910.

Amongst these exhibits the awards were distributed in the following way:

Messrs. Antonini, Jeidel, Bollen and Wesdekis all got a well deserved vermeil, Mr. Naudet vermeil together with a special prize and the felicita-

tions of the jury, Messrs. Kehr and Blau silver, Mr. Richards silver-bronze, and Mr. Marzouk bronze. Mr. Khouzam got a vermeil for his exhibit of Posta Europea, but for his Italian Post Offices Abroad he received a well deserved large gold medal. My own third issue got a silver, and the Hotel Postmarks a bronze.

In this connection must, at the last, be noted the marvellous success of Mr. Antonini who exhibited not only Egypt but also France. For his really magnificent collection of France he gained the highest award possible, the Grand Prix d'Honneur with the special gold medal from His Majesty the King of the Belgians, and the prize of honour from the Belgian Minister of Posts. We all congratulate him upon his attainment of this peak of his philatelic career.

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ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE BRITISH POST OFFICES IN EGYPT

by

Michael M. Sacher (E.S.C. No. 154),
F.R.P.S.L.

- Bibliography :
- The Crowned Circle Handstamps of Egypt by
Brig. C. D. Rawson, C.B.E., D.S.O.
"Quarterly Circular" Volume III - 1
and IV - 2.
 - The History of the Foreign Post Offices in Egypt -
The Posts of Great Britain - by Brig. C.D. Rawson,
"Quarterly Circular" Volume III -
Nos. 10, 11 and 12 and Volume IV -
Nos. 1, 4 and 5, and Volume V -
Nos. 1, 2 and 3.
 - Samuel Shepherd - by John H.E. Gilbert, R.D.P., FRPSL.,
"Quarterly Circular" Volume VII - 1.
-

From an examination of my collection, I list a number of corrections and additions to the information contained in Brigadier Rawson's articles:

Page 145. ALEXANDRIA

Type II / 2	Black	Latest noted	7. 8.68
II / 2	Red	" "	17. 1.65.
II / 3	Black	" "	25.12.77
II / 4	Black	Earliest	" 30.12.66
II / 4	Black	Latest	" 10.10.69

Page 146. In addition to type III/2 which is oval, there is another type as figure 1. The latter has been noted used 24 FE 65 and 30 DE 66.

A REGISTERED mark (applied in red) as Figure II has been noted on an entire dated 4.12.67 to MALTA.

An oval registered mark 29mm x 24 mm (in red) inscribed REGISTERED/ALEXANDRIA as Figure III has been noted on covers dated between 30.4.76 and 1.3.78.

A mark inscribed INSUFFICIENTLY PAID in a rectangle 65mm x 10mm (Figure IV) has been noted on a cover dated 2.1.75 to LONDON.

A similar mark is illustrated as used in Larnaca on page 37 of Wilfred T.F. Castle's "Cyprus" (2nd Edition 1971).

Page 149.	Type IV / 1	Black	Earliest noted	11.11.60
			Latest noted	28. 1.73
	IV / 2	Black	Earliest	" 30.12.66
			Latest	" 21. 8.69
	IV / 3	Black	Latest	" 25.12.67
	IV / 4	Black	Earliest	" 16. 8.73
			Latest	" 10. 3.78

Page 153. ld. red add plate 85 X under IV/3

Page 154. ld. red add plate 119 X under IV/1
add plate 124 O under IV/3
add plate 188 X under IV/4
add plate 147 X under IV/3

Page 155. ld. red add plate 159 X under IV/1
add plate 171 X under IV/4

	<u>add</u> plate 177	X under IV/4
	<u>add</u> plate 179	X under IV/4
	2d. blue <u>add</u> plate 14	X under IV/1
	<u>add</u> plate 14	X under IV/4
	<u>add</u> plate 15	X under IV/1
Page 156.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (error of letters)	
	<u>add</u> plate 2	X under IV/3
	(blued paper)	
	<u>add</u> plate 1	X under IV/4
	3d. <u>add</u> plate 6	X under IV/1
Page 157.	3d. sage green	
	<u>add</u> plate 15	X under IV/3
	6d. buff <u>add</u> plate 12	X under IV/3
Page 158.	10d. <u>add</u>	X under IV/2
	1s. green (67/73)	
	<u>add</u> plate 4	Under cds also 2/4/66
	<u>add</u> plate 9	X under IV/3
	2s. blue <u>add</u>	Under cds 19/8/67
Page 159.	<u>SUEZ</u>	
	Type I/1 in blue	Dated 26.10.54
	II/1 in black	Earliest 20.10.54
	II/2 in reddish-brown	26.8.63 to 10.9.69
	in blue	Earliest noted 26.12.63
Page 160.	Type IV/1	Latest noted 9.77
Page 161.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. rose-red <u>add</u> plate 14	X under III/1
	1d. rose-red <u>add</u> plate 90	O under III/1
Page 162.	1d. rose-red <u>add</u> plate 107	O under III/1
	<u>add</u> plate 108	O under III/1
	<u>add</u> plate 119	X under III/1
	<u>add</u> plate 163	X under III/1
	<u>add</u> plate 168	X under III/1
	<u>add</u> plate 174	X under III/1
	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. rosy mauve (blued paper)	
	<u>add</u> plate 3	O under III/1 (with RPS certificate)

	3d. rose	<u>add</u> plate 5	X under III/1
	4d. red	<u>add</u> plate 4	X under III/1
Page 163.	6d. grey	<u>add</u> plate 14	16 JU 76 under III/1 cds
	1s. green	<u>add</u> plate 10	17 JA 75 under III/1 cds

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Some additional notes on the co-operation with other Postal Organisations before the formation of the UPU follow.

FRANCE I have a piece with 40c Laureated, perhaps cancelled BEYROUTH/SYRIE ? AU 70 with 2 x 1d. (plates 119, 122) and 4d. (plate 11) (6d. rate) cancelled BO1 (small) and ALEXANDRIA MR 5 70 with m/s Vapeur Anglais.

Page 143.AUSTRIA

- I) Piece with Austria 1863, with 2 and 15 kreuzer and 2 x 6d. (plate 6 11-66) cancelled BO1. The original Austrian cancellation is Innsbruck 21.11.6? bearing out the contention of the 1s. rate.
- II) Piece with 2 x 15 kreuzer (1863) cancelled TRIESTE date unreadable, and 1s. (plate 4 - 1865) added, cancelled BO1, again confirming the 1s. rate.
- III) Entire with 3 x 3 kreuzer (6 - 67) cancelled WIEN 9.5.68, TRIESTE 10.5.68 3d. plate 4 (3-65) added, cancelled BO1, cds ALEXANDRIA MY 22 68 to BOMBAY arrived 5 JU 68. This conflicts with all the contentions of Brigadier Rawson (rate and cds).

MODERN EGYPTIAN POST

I have one cover with 6d. plate 5 (JA 65) cancelled BATH 4 JU 66 to HBM Consul Suez, LONDON 4 JU 66 with Egypt 1 piastre added and cancelled POSTE VICE REALI EGIZIANE/SUEZ 14 LUG 66, the cover being re-addressed to HBM Consul Jeddah.

Clearly the Egyptian Postal Service was used for the onward transmission of British Mail in Egypt or to Egyptian Post Offices abroad.

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Pages 2-3. CAIRO

The latest use of the Crown Circle type in Red should be amended to 23.12.63.

The earliest and latest dates for cds in Blue, Letter A, should be amended to 30.12.65 and 28.1.73.

ADDITION TO HAND STAMP RECORD

	Crown Circle Type	Circle Colour.	Addressed to	Instructions	Disinfestation Malta
A* Alexandria	Entire	Double circle	Red John Garrett Liverpool	---	Purifée au Lazaret/Malta
B* Suez	Entire	Double Circle	Blue Factory der Nederland- isch Handel Mansschuppj Batavia	---	---
C* Cairo	Cover	Single Circle	Red Mrs. Stewart London	---	---
D*	Cover	Single Circle	Red John Chambers Esq., Sheffield	---	---

	Rate charged Rate	Colour	Type	Date Stamp Type	Colour	Date	Time of Transit	Arrival Stamp Type	Date
A* Alexandria	1/8	Red	m/s	Double Circle	Black	22 AP 50	12 days	Red Paid 1 MY 50 LIVERPOOL 4 MY 50	
B* Suez	1/4	Red	m/s	Double Circle	Black	20 OC 54	?	-- --	
C* Cairo	9d.	Red	m/s	Single Circle	Blue/ black	5? AP 61	14 days	Red Paid AP 19 61 LONDON	
D*	6d.	purple	m/s	Single Circle	Blue/ black	10 DE 63	13 days	Black Single Circle	28 DE 63

THE THIRD ISSUE1872 printings

by

E.L.G. MacArthur
(E.S.C. No. 125)Continued from Volume VII No. 10 (June 1972) page 185.GUM:

This issue can be found with both colourless and amber tinted gum. Since we are not involved in searching for re-issues, we can accept that this variation is due to the quality of the gum, atmospheric conditions, or ageing, or a combination of all three.

The gumming of the stamps was done by hand, using a large brush and was done before perforating. The gum used was obtained from the Acacia plant and was generally called 'Gum Arabic', its colour ranging from almost white to amber, according to its quality. A workable solution was found to be about two parts gum mixed with about three parts water; the whole was well stirred and then strained to get rid of lumps. Gelatine was occasionally added to help counteract atmospheric conditions.

The gumming of sheets gave stamp makers more trouble than any of the other processes. Too much gum gave rise to excessive curling and damage to the sheet and too little meant that the adhesive would not stick properly. The amount of gum used also had a bearing on the drying time, for if allowed to dry too slowly, the gum penetrated the paper too deeply and set up a chemical reaction. There was also the effect of the paper going through the expansion and contraction process again, due to being moistened by the gum.

In respect of the penetration of the paper by the gum, and the oily appearance of the paper of some of the stamps, I remembered something I had read in LOP 55 of 1946. Mr. Ibrahim Chaftar had uncovered some very interesting correspondence about the 1866 issue, and in the LOP 55, there is a translation of a letter from Pellas (the printer in Genoa) to Muzzi Bey (in Egypt) where mention is made of a large amount of printed sheets being spoilt during the gumming process.

The following paragraph from the letter is interesting and I repeat it.

"First, as the paper dealer gave me a very poor pasted paper,

when the sheets of stamps were printed and pasted, ready for sticking to letters, the gum transpired and the sheets were looking as oil stained."

I was not too happy about this translation and had an Italian friend give me his version, which goes:

"First, the paper dealer gave me a poorly sized paper so that when the printed sheets were gummed, ready for sticking to letters, the gum penetrated the fibres of the paper, making the sheets appear as if oil stained."

Mr. Chaftar, to whom I wrote about this, agrees that the second translation is more technically correct and, that in his own mind, is as he had always thought of it.

PERFORATION: The chapter on perforation is in the process of complete revision, due to much recent research on the part of the author who is currently awaiting confirmation from other members of his astonishing discovery. (Editor).

POSTAL RATES AND POST OFFICES - 1st January 1872 to 31st October 1879.

For the postal rates that follow I owe thanks to Prof. Peter Smith (E.S.C. No. 74). For the list of Post Offices I owe thanks to Mr. Charles Minett (E.S.C. No. 77) for checking the list and amending the spelling of the names.

Rates

- 5 paras : printed periodical newspapers
- 10 paras : non periodical printed matter (printed circulars), and greeting cards, etc..
- 20 paras : money order advice; after about 1878, intra-city letters in Cairo or Alexandria.
- 1 piastre : single letter rate (domestic or seaport to seaport).
- 2 piastres: interior of Egypt to Levant ports and visa versa; single letter rate to Upper Egypt.
- 2½ piastres: Single letter rate from Egypt to European points served by the Austrian Post Offices (Austro-Egyptian Postal Treaty) prior to the U.P.U. (July 1875). Registered letters (later period only: 1 piastre single letter rate plus 1½ piastres registration fee = 2½ piastres)

5 piastres : Multiple rates.

Single letter rate from Interior Egypt to England during the short period of the Anglo-Egyptian Postal Treaty (1873-1875).

Post Offices

Adhesives recorded with:

Abe (= Aba el Wakf)	Abu Homus or Abuhomus	
Alessandria or Alexandria	Assuan	Atfe
Benha	Benisuef	Bilbes
Birket-el-Sab	Bulah Dagruf	Cairo
Damanhour or Damanhur	Damiata	Desuk
Esna	Fescne	Galiub
Godaba	Ghirgheh	Ghisa
Helouan	Ismailia	Kafer Dausar
Kafr-Zayat or Kafer Zaiat	Karaskon (Karaskou)	Kena
Luxor	Magaga	Mansura
Mehalla or Michalla	Mellau	Mahallet el Roh
Minet -el-Faium	Minet-el-Gamh or Minet el Gam	
Minie	Minuf	Porto-Said
Ramses	Ras-el-Khalig	Roda
Rosetta	Samanud	Scibin-el-Anater
Scibin el Com or Scibin el Kom		Scirbin
Siut	Sohag	Suez
Tanta	Teh-el-Baroud or Teh el Barud	
Teh-el-Kibir	Toh	El Uasta (= Wasta)
Zagazig or Zagasik	Zefta	Zifta Mitg

There were sub post offices at Railway Stations in the following cities and towns. The cds having the word "Stazione" outside:

Alessandria	Cairo	Damanhour
Damiata	Faium	Fescne
Magaga	Mansura	Mehalla
Minia	Samanud	Scibin el Kom
Suez	Tanta	Zagazig

There were sub post offices adjacent to various tramway stations in Alexandria, namely:

St. Alessandria	St. Bacos	St. Bulkeley
St. Fleming	St. Mustafa	St. Schutz

Mediterranean and Aegean:

Alessandretta	Bairut	Cavala
Costantinopoli	Dardanelli	Galipoli
Iaffa	Lagos	Leros
Mersina	Metelin	Rodi
Scio	Smirne	Tripoli
Volo		

The following offices closed in February 1872:

Alessandretta	Beyruth	Cavala
Iaffa	Mersina	Tripoli
Volo		

The following post offices are only recorded on 2nd issue stamps, and they also closed in February 1872:

Latakia	Salonicchi
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(Tenedos is believed to have closed before 1872).

Sudan and Red Sea:

Barbar	Dongola	Gedaref
Gedda	Hartum or Kartum	Kassala
Massawa	Suakin or Suakim	Wadi Halfe
Zeila		

Sea Post Offices:

Uffizio Natante Ales	(= Alessandria)
Uffizio Natante Cosp	(= Costantinopoli)

T.P.O.

Ales-Cairo and Cairo-Ales

The following Post Offices are shown as open in the official 1892 list, but no 3rd Issue adhesives have been recorded from them so far:

Abou-Choukuk (Abu el Seekuk Shouk-Choukuk)		
Assiout (spelt thus)	Beni Magar	Embaba
Fayoum (spelt thus)	Kafr el Cheikh	Kotour or Gotour
Ramle	Tala (Telah).	

The following Post Offices are recorded both before and after 1872-1879, but not during this period:

Chaluf-el-Tarabba (up to 1869 only) or Challoufa	
Cantara or Kantara (up to 1871 only)	El-Ghirs (Canal Zone up to 1871 only)

The following Post Offices (Sudan) were opened in 1878 but there is no record of them on 3rd Issue adhesives:

Abu-Hamed	Amedib	Berbera (= Barbara-Somaliland)
Chaka	Dara	
Debba	Facher (El)	Fachouda
Fazoglou	Fodja	Gallabat (El Kalabat)
Halfaie	Kawa	Kobkobie
Kolkal (Kalkal)	Karkough	Metamme
Messallemieh (El Meslemieh)		Obeid (El Abead)
Omdurman	Sennaar	Senekhit

Interpostal Seals exist for the following, some of which are alternative spellings of places already mentioned, but we have no record on adhesives of the 3rd Issue:

Abuelscekuk	Assiout	Beni-Mazar
Chalouf	El Ghirs or El Guisr (Canal)	
Embabe	Fayum	Kafr el Cheikh
Kantara	Ramle	Telah
<u>SUDAN:etc..</u>		
Abu Hamed	Amedib	Berbera
Chakar	Dara	Debba
Fasher	Fashoda	Fazoglou
Fodja	Gallabat	Halfaya
Kawa	Kobe	Kobkobie
Kolkal	Kotour	Karkouk
Matamme	Messellemiya	Obeid
Omdurman	Senna	Senekhie
*Taca	*Harrar	

*Note There is no evidence of a Post Office at Harrar before 1880. Taca (may be Tokar), no evidence of a Post Office before 1890.

Korosko which is shown in some lists as being in the Sudan was definitely in Egypt. Old guide books, before the official demarcation of the Sudanese border, stated "after passing Korosko, one enters the Sudan". This 'geographical' Nubia began just south of Korosko.

Finally, I would draw readers' attention to the difficulties in having to sort out the various spellings for the same place. Some names have the Italian version and the French version whilst many of the Interpostal Seals have a different spelling from that seen on the circular date stamps.