

E G Y P T _ S T U D Y _ C I R C L E

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

Volume X Number 6

Whole Series No. 110

J u n e _ _ 1 9 7 9

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Future Meetings

1979 August 11	"Bring & Buy" and "Bring & Show"
October 13	PROVINCIAL MEETING in LEEDS AREA
	- 2nd Fuad Issue K. Pogson

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ESC Subscription rate for 1979 is

£ 4

(home and overseas Members)



If this Box contains a BLUE cross, your subscription is overdue !

If a RED cross, your subscription is VERY OVERDUE and no more QC's can be sent until payment received.

B O N U S I N S E R T W I T H T H I S I S S U E . . .

For the first time in the history of the "Quarterly Circular" of the Egypt Study Circle, we can take pride in the loose insert included with this issue. We feel sure that all members will welcome this memento of the printing firm of Penasson, whose work has provided collectors and students with endless delights.

It is a photograph of the staff, both European and Egyptian, of that firm, taken in May 1870. It is provided through the enterprise of Peter Feltus (ESC 114); Charles Hass (ESC 181) provided the expertise in improving the photo from a very poor original, and in adding the close-ups of the three principals. The following notes result from discussion with Ibrahim Chaftar, R.D.P., F.R.P.S., L., during a recent visit to Egypt by Peter Feltus.

The photograph of the group was presented to Mr Ibrahim Chaftar (ESC 42) by a son-in-law of L. Barkhausen. Certain other material, including drawings and essays, was given to Mr G. Piperno.

V. Penasson was a successful general printer, whose workshop was in a small street near Saad Zaghloul Boulevard in downtown Alex. The firm produced the second issue postage stamps of 1867-69, essays for the third issue, and for the 1974 U.P.U. intended issue. The printed stock of the latter was destroyed when the Penasson shop was burned down, and only the essays survive (the "Phanton Issue" of Ibrahim Chaftar, described by him in L.O.P. No. 67, 1949).

V. Penasson was the owner and financier. F. Hoff, from Silesia, was the engraver (on stone). L. Barkhausen, also from Silesia, was the designer and lithographer. The latter's family now live in Italy, and are known to G. Piperno.

After the fire, a less important workshop was established, and subsequently they produced the 1884/86 and 1888 Dues, and the first (1892) Salts.

V. Penasson was buried in Cairo, at the Cemetaire Latin Nouveau, in Vieux Caire.

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POSTA EUROPEA

TARIFFA

PEL TRASPORTO DI LETTERE, PlichI E GIORNALI

1860

Da Alessandria per Cairo e viceversa una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma pari a 3 P. Eg. e Terzili l'isola, all'impostazione soltanto.

Da Alessandria per Suez e viceversa 3 piastra la lettera semplice, 4 1/2 la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione soltanto.

Da Alessandria per Damour, Kafar Zajet, Taata, Birket-el-Sab, Benha e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Alessandria per Zagahk, Zifta, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Alessandria per Mansour, Damietta e viceversa, 3 piastra la lettera semplice, 3 piastra la doppia, e l'eccezione 30 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Del Cairo per Suez e viceversa, 3 piastra la lettera semplice, 3 la doppia, e l'eccezione 30 parà la dramma all'impostazione soltanto.

Del Cairo per Benha, Birket-el-Sab, Taata, Kafar Zajet, Damour e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Del Cairo per Zagahk, Zifta, Mihalla Samaaned e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Del Cairo per Mansour, Damietta e viceversa, due piastra la lettera semplice, 3 piastra la doppia, e l'eccezione 30 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Suez per Benha, Birket-el-Sab, Taata, Kafar Zajet, Damour e viceversa, 3 piastra la lettera semplice, 4 1/2 la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione soltanto.

Da Suez per Zagahk, Zifta e Mitgamer, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, 6 piastra la lettera semplice, 6 piastra la doppia, e l'eccezione 60 parà la dramma all'impostazione soltanto.

Da Suez per Mansour, Damietta e viceversa, 4 piastra la lettera semplice, 7 la doppia, e l'eccezione 60 parà la dramma all'impostazione soltanto.

Da Benha per Birket-el-Sab, Taata, Kafar Zajet, Damour e viceversa 20 parà la lettera semplice, 30 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Benha per Zagahk e viceversa, 30 parà la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Benha per Zifta, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Benha per Mansour, Damietta e viceversa, 3 piastra la lettera semplice, 3 la doppia, e l'eccezione 30 parà la dramma, all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Birket-el-Sab per Taata, Kafar Zajet, Damour e viceversa, 20 parà la lettera semplice, 30 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma, all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Birket-el-Sab per Zagahk, Zifta, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Birket-el-Sab per Mansour, Damietta e viceversa, due piastra la lettera semplice, 3 la doppia, e l'eccezione 30 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Taata per Kafar Zajet, Damour e viceversa, 20 parà la lettera semplice, 30 la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Taata per Zifta, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Taata per Mansour, Damietta, Zagahk e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Kafar Zajet per Damour e viceversa, 20 parà la lettera semplice, 30 la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Kafar Zajet per Zifta, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Kafar Zajet per Mansour, Damietta, Zagahk e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Damour per Zifta, Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Damour per Mansour, Damietta, Zagahk e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Zifta per Mihalla, Samaaned e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Zifta per Mansour, Damietta, Zagahk e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Mihalla per Samaaned e viceversa, 20 parà la lettera semplice, 30 la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Mihalla per Mansour, Damietta e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Mihalla per Zagahk, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma.

Da Samaaned per Mansour e viceversa, 30 parà la lettera semplice, 50 la doppia, e l'eccezione 10 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Samaaned per Damietta e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Samaaned per Zagahk e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Mansour per Damietta e viceversa, una piastra la lettera semplice, 60 parà la doppia, e l'eccezione 15 parà la dramma all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Mansour per Zagahk e viceversa, 60 parà la lettera semplice, 100 la doppia, e l'eccezione 25 parà la dramma, all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

Da Damietta per Zagahk e viceversa, 2 piastra la lettera semplice, 3 la doppia, e l'eccezione 30 parà la dramma, all'impostazione e alla ricezione.

OSSERVAZIONI.

I Giornali sotto fascia pagheranno per Cairo 5 parà l'uno, e 10 parà per qualunque altra destinazione all'impostazione soltanto. Quei Giornali che non saranno sotto fascia, si calcoleranno come Plichi, e pagheranno a ragione del peso.

Campioni di volume non se ne ricevono. I piccoli pagheranno piastra 5 all'impostazione soltanto.

La Lettera per consegna pagherà piastra 3 oltre il diritto di affrancazione stabilito come sopra, per ogni destinazione.

Per i Plichi e Pioghi voluminosi, perchè l'impostazione possa dimostrare ch'essi non contengono lettere, ma bensì Racconti, Contratti, Atti Consolari, od altro, avrà diritto al ribasso del 30 per cento sul peso.

N.B.—La presente Tariffa (già in vigore fino dall'Anno 1856) fu oggi ribassata di 10 terze sui plichi eccedenti la lettera doppia all'oggetto di facilitare coloro che hanno molta corrispondenza.

Alessandria d'Egitto, 1^{ma} Gennaio 1860.

PER LA DIREZIONE

G. MUZZI.

PROVINCIAL MEETING in LEEDS area - 13th October, 1979

One of our Members in the North of England - Keith Pogson (ESC 130) - who has so far been prevented from attending our meetings in London, has kindly offered to organise, and lead, a "Provincial Meeting" in the Leeds or Wakefield area. The precise venue will be decided when we have obtained an idea of the number of Members likely to attend. The date has been fixed for October 13th - the Saturday in October originally set for our usual meeting in London.

When I brought Keith's letter to the attention of the members at the meeting of April 21st, the idea was received with great enthusiasm, and I got the impression that a number of those present firmly intended to support him. I feel personally that this initiative must not be allowed to fail as it must provide an opportunity for more members to meet each other, and if it proves to be the success we hope for, there is no reason why it should not become an annual event.

Although the details have to be finalised (and these will depend on the response received), the main subject of the meeting will be the Fuad 2nd Issue, led by Keith Pogson. If members wish, a lunch of traditional "Yorkshire Fare" will be arranged to precede the meeting, which we hope will commence at 2 p.m., with tea at about 5 or 5.30.

Enclosed with this Issue is a separate slip for those wishing to attend, to complete and forward to Keith - please note this date in your diaries and try to come. Members notifying their intention of attending the Provincial Meeting will be sent, in good time, travelling details to enable them to find the venue without difficulty.

J. Sears (ESC 188), Chairman.

REPORT of MEETING of EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE at the Peacock, Maiden Lane, London WC2181st Meeting, held on 21 April 1979

Attending were the Chairman, Mr J. Sears, and Messrs Abou-Alam; P. Andrews; F.W. Benians; D.H. Clarke; C.E.H. Defriez; G.M. Dorman; J.A. Grimmer; E. Hall; J.S. Horesh; Maj. E.L.G. MacArthur; T. Ruebush; A. Schmidt; P.E. Whetter. A guest, Mr John Mann, of the Meter Marks Society, was also in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed the guest and members to the Meeting, which turned first to administrative matters.

The Chairman enquired whether meetings should be asked to deal with administrative matters; there were no objections.

The Chairman enquired whether time should normally be found for trading and exchanging at ordinary meetings. It was thought that shortage of material on offer for sale would be likely to detract from the effectiveness of this.

The Chairman again reported the increasing difficulty of finding Members willing to lead Studies, and lead discussion at Meetings. Mr Defriez reported that he had nearly completed the mounting of the Circle's New Issue collection.

The Chairman reported that, because of rising prices, the Circle's Library now contained a number of valuable books. A volunteer was needed to take over the administration of the Library, to allow the Secretary more time to deal with the big task of getting the Circle Records into good shape. Mr Benians volunteered to be Librarian. It was decided to put a notice in the 'Q.C.' to ask Members having books on loan to deal with Mr Benians in future.

Subscription rate: after discussion, it was agreed that the subscription for next year, for both U.K. and Overseas Members, would need to be increased to £5.

London 1980: it was agreed that ESC would hold a special meeting at the Exhibition, and a room would be booked. It was also agreed to have a social meeting, probably elsewhere than at the Exhibition venue (Earls Court); a sub-committee of Mr Horesh and Major MacArthur was empanelled to deal with this.

(Continued . . .

REPORT of 181st Meeting, 21 April 1979 - continued

The Chairman reported that Mr Keith Pogson, of Leeds, had volunteered to organise a Provincial Meeting of the Circle. It was thought that Saturday was most convenient, and the normal day for the October meeting (October 13) was suggested.

Major E.L.G. MacArthur reported on his work in the Expert Committee, and a number of recently-certified specimens were shown. A number of forgeries had been detected but the most interesting fake was a pair of 1875 1-piastre which appeared to be imperforate between. Examination had shown that the partly-blind perforations between the stamps had been filled with paper paste. The fakery was visible under the lamp, and traces of the perfs could be seen when held up to the light.

The display on Egyptian Meter Marks was then given by Mr Dennis Clarke, with additional material and comments by the guest, Mr John Mann. This revealed an unexpected amount of interest and it is hoped to have a study report of Mr Clarke's collection in a future Q.C.

THE EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE LIBRARY - NOTICE TO BORROWERS

Members having any of the Circle's books on loan are asked to note that the Library is now in the control of Mr F. W. Benians (ESC 123), 27 The Lawns, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8BH.

Will Members having books on loan please contact Mr Benians.

THE ESC RECORD - CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

In April, the Chairman wrote the following letter to Members believed to have any part of the CIRCLE RECORD :-

' Dear

You will recall that, following the unfortunate death of David Grover in 1976, the material which he had taken over from Charles Minett, being the Circle Record, was divided up amongst various members of the Circle who were designated "Study Leaders".

I may be wrong, but I believe you may have the material relating to :-

()

Assuming this to be the case, I should be very grateful if you could please list the material you have, quite briefly of course, and let me have a copy of the list so that we can once more have a central record of the information which the Circle has available.

If by any chance this particular material is not in your possession - please let me know.

Thank you for your kind help and assistance - I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely, JOHN SEARS, Chairman.

* * * If you have any material being part of the Circle Record, but have not yet listed it for the Chairman, or if you have such material but did not receive a letter, please do so speedily. It is vitally important that we should re-establish our central record of this material, which represents the fruit of research done by the great names in our past.

 EDITORIAL . . .

News of our Provincial Meeting on October 13, and the Photograph of the Penasson firm are, perhaps, the high points of this issue, but the content covers a wide range of interests from the early days of the Posta Europea to New Issues. The articles show the work of a large number of different Members. Are You one whose contribution has yet to be written? Don't be put off by the thought that

/ Continued at foot of next page . . .

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS . . .

We are glad to welcome the following New Members to the Circle.

- ESC 219 J. S. RILEY
52, Trevalence Way, Garston, Watford, Herts.
- ESC 220 THEMIS DACOS
Palaion Faliron, Athens, Greece.
- ESC 221 GUNTER SOBER
Post Fach 7023, Kreuzer 25, 4000 Dusseldorf, Germany.
- ESC 222 MOURADY BEBAWI
Alimenta SA 33, Quai Wilson 1201, Geneva, Switzerland.
- ESC 223 SEPPO J. LAAKSONEN
Permestarinrinne 2A6 00160, Helsinki, Finland.
- ESC 224 M. ABOU-ALAM
29, Gresham Street, London EC2V 7EX.
- ESC 225 H. KLEINSTUCK
61 Darmstadt, Ludwig-Buchner Strasse 15, Germany.
- ESC 226 E. A. HIRDLER
R. DI. Box 66, Hockessin, Delaware 19707, U.S.A.
- ESC 227 REV. W. O. BUSH
St Oswalds, St Oswalds Street, Old Swan, Liverpool,
Merseyside L13 5SB
- ESC 228 R. H. CARN
14 Gorselands, Sedlecombe, Battle, East Sussex TW33 OPT.
- ESC 229 ERNST ZIMMER
5438 Westerburg, Steinigass, 1, Germany.
- ESC 230 R. S. WILSON
RR #2, Box 20, Middle Patent Road, Bedford Village, NY 10506,
U.S.A.
- ESC 231 D. R. P. GLYN JONES
P.O. Box 176, Blantyre, Malawi.
- ESC 232 SIMON LUITSE
Herengracht 61, Muiden, The Netherlands.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- ESC 114 P. R. FELTUS
5709 Keith Avenue, Oakland, Ca 94618, U.S.A.
-

EDITORIAL - continued

contributions must be the scholarly work of leading collectors with great collections and great experience to draw upon. Such works, of which there are several in this (and, I hope, every) issue, are the backbone of literary contributions to philately. But a journal needs a leavening of lighter material, whether dealing with modern varieties, postmarks not in the classic period, design of commemoratives, etc. An admirable way to launch one's first essay into contributing to a journal such as the Q.C. is to raise a query in Question Time, which now attracts many queries and replies. Find something not absolutely commonplace, describe it and supply a good illustration, and you have begun the ladder reaching to the high-calibre contributions of the specialists.

by J. Boulad d'Humieres (ESC 16)

In Part 1 we saw the outline of the evolution of the Egyptian Postal Service since 1798. Let us now look at the Posta Europea, which used the Italian language in all its printing and postal markings.

The only official text of interest is a tariff dated 1st January 1860, in which are enumerated the different postal charges, separately for each town of despatch, for the transmission of letters, newspapers and packets, also the registration fees (Figure 3)

It is stated in the tariff that the charges had been in force since 1856, but that they had been reduced by one-third for letters whose weight exceeded two units, in order to encourage users having a great amount of correspondence.

These tariffs can be considered as applying from 1856 for single- and double-weight letters, in other words for the most part of the mail.

It should not be necessary to comment further on this: it is hoped that the reproduction will be legible enough to permit easy reading.

The original of the tariff is in the Postal Museum in Cairo.

It is necessary to point out that the Atfe and Rosetta offices, whose establishment has already been mentioned, do not figure in the tariff. They will, no doubt, already have been closed by 1860; however a letter is known to have originated from Atfe dated 16th August 1864.

A reminder: the unit of weight in use, and indicated in the tariff, was the dram or 'dirhem', which was equivalent to 3.12 grammes.

*
* *

We go now to a detailed examination of the different cachets used in stamping the letters handled by the Posta Europea.

They are generally found struck in black, but sometimes in blue, green or grey-green; this is not of great importance and varies according to the town and the period.

DATESTAMPS (Figure 4)

There are four different types for Alexandria and Cairo, and two different types for the other towns.

Up to 30th June 1863 they were struck on the front only of the envelopes, at the despatching office. From 1st July 1863 (that is, with cachet types V and VI) they were additionally applied to the back of the envelopes, by the receiving office, as was the practice with foreign postal administrations.

Type I Double oval, centre blank, size 37-38mm x 15-16mm; for Alexandria and Cairo.
Used from the outset, to the end of 1849.

Type II Double oval, size 52-54mm x 22-24mm; in the centre, by means of a date-block, the day and the month (but not the year), for Alexandria and Cairo.
In use from 1st January 1850 to the end of 1860.
These dated cachets can be found with the dates reversed, i.e. with the day after the month.

The full date of the envelopes hand-stamped with these two types of cachet will need to be looked for in the text of the letters. When they are written in Arabic, this date is more often than not expressed in the Mohammedan Calendar, and so it will be necessary to refer to a conversion table to obtain the corresponding date in the Gregorian calendar.

. . . / Continued

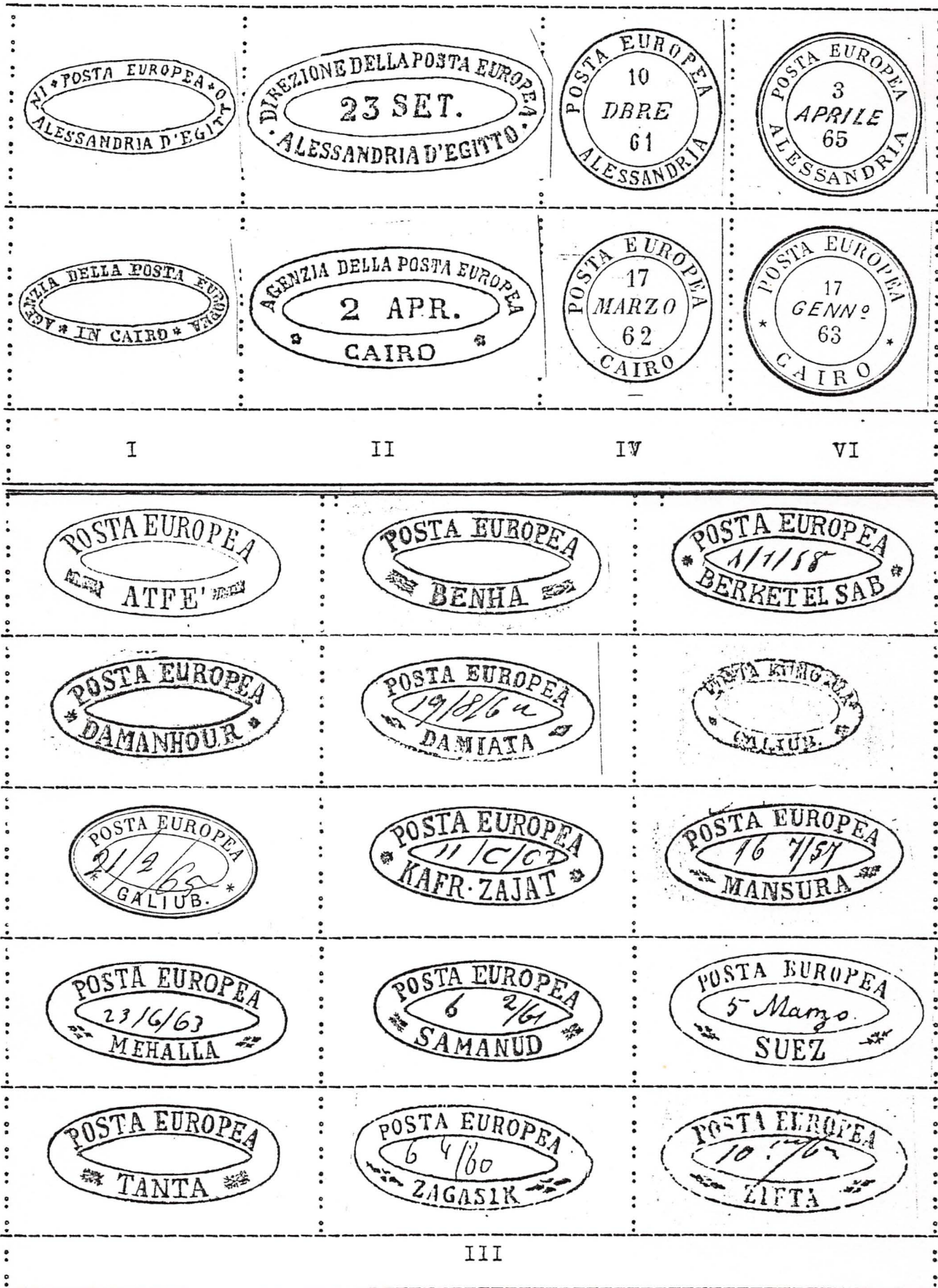


Figure 4.1 Date-stamps - Types I, II, IV, VI and III

The P O S T A E U R O P E A - continued

- Type III Double oval with blank centre, size 42-46mm x 16-21mm, except for Galiub which measures approximately 35 x 20mm. The date would be hand-written in the centre. Used from 1st January 1857 to 30th June 1863 by the Offices at Atfe, Benha, Berket El Sab, Damanhour, Damiata, Galiub, Kafr-Zajat, Mansura, Mehalla, Samanud, Suez, Tanta, Zagazik and Zifta.
- Type IV Double circle size 28mm, with the full date in the centre in three lines by means of a date-block; for Alexandria and Cairo. Used from 1st January 1861 to 30th June 1863.
- Type V Double oval, size 40 x 26mm, with the full date in the centre in three lines by means of a date-block. Used from 1st July 1863 to 14th April 1865 by the Offices at Benha, Birket El Sab, Damanhour, Damiata, Kafer-Zayat, Mansura, Michalla, Samanud, Suez, Tanta, Zagazik and Zifta. Inversions in the date-block, or reversed figures, can be found.
- Type VI Double circle size 33mm, with the full date in the centre in three lines by means of a date-block; for Alexandria and Cairo. Used from 1st July 1863 to 14th April 1865.

In the following table are summarised the earliest and latest dates so far known, for each cachet type and for each town.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>T O W N</u>	<u>EARLIEST DATE</u>	<u>LATEST DATE</u>
I	Alessandria	15. 9. 1847	7. 4. 1848
	Cairo	25. 5. 1844	1849
II	Alessandria	31 GEN. 1851	2. NOV. 1860
	Cairo	8 GEN. 1850	29. SET. 1860
IV	Alessandria	6 GENN ^o 1861	5 GIUG ^o 1863
	Cairo	13 GENN ^o 1861	16 GIUG ^o 1863
VI	Alessandria	28 GIUG ^o 1863 (1)	14 APRILE 1865
	Cairo	13 LUGL ^o 1863	18 APRILE 1865 (2)
III	Atfe	-	16. 8. 64 (3)
	Benha	26. 9. 59	-
	Berket El Sab	13. 1. 57	7. 11. 58
	Damanhour	18. 1. 59	-
	Damiata	3. 5. 58	25. 3. 63
	Galiub	-	21. 2. 65 (3, 4)
	Kafr-Zajat	4. 1. 58	30. 6. 63
	Mansura	16. 7. 57	1. 5. 64 (3)
	Mehalla	15. 4. 58	23. 6. 63
	Samanud	17. 8. 57	29. 6. 63
	Suez	5. 3. 60	17. 2. 63
	Tanta	1. 1. 57	22. 5. 63 (4)
Zagazik	15. 8. 58	18. 6. 63	
Zifta	24. 5. 59	24. 4. 63	
V	Benha	11 OTT ^{BRE} 63	15 MARZO 65
	Birket-El-Sab	-	19 NOV ^{BRE} 64
	Damanhour	2 GENN 65	29 MARZO 65
	Damiata	24 LUGL ^o 63	21 FEBB ^o 65
	Kafer-Zayat	4 LUGL ^o 63	14 APRILE 65
	Mansura	1 LUGL ^o 63	7 APRILE 65

. . . / Continued

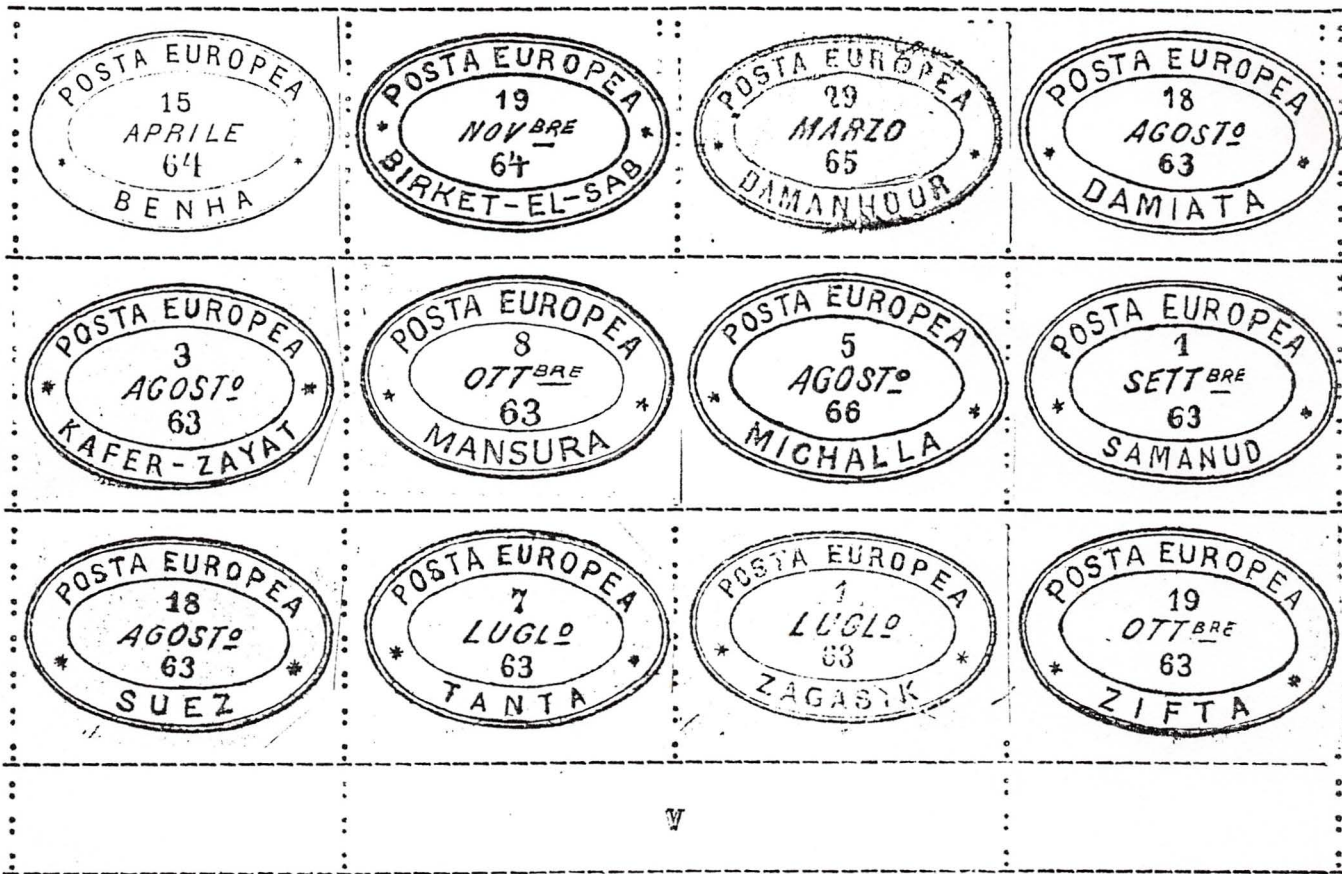


Figure 4.2 Date-stamps - Type V

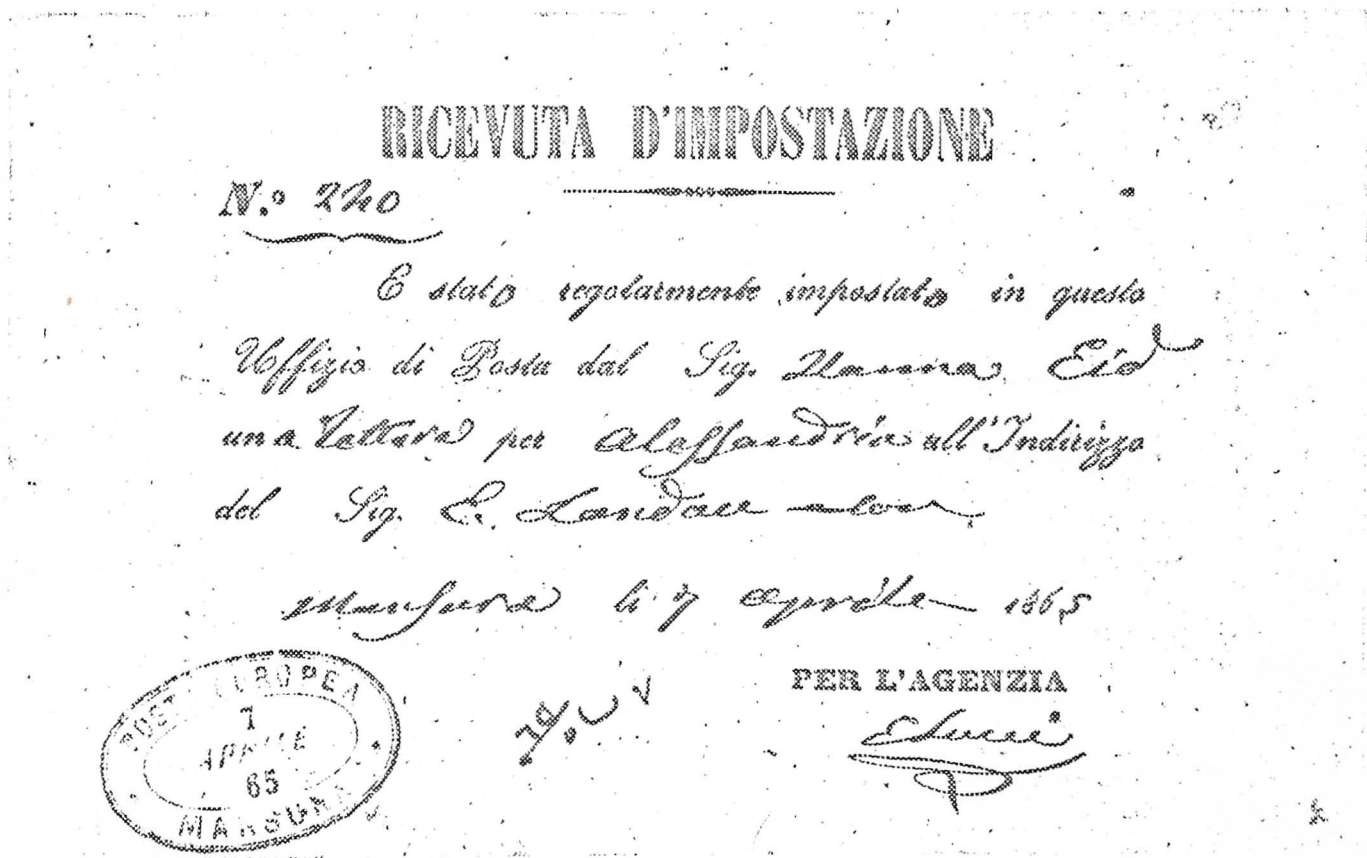


Figure 5 Registered Letter Arrival Notice

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>T O W N</u>	<u>EARLIEST DATE</u>	<u>LATEST DATE</u>
V	Michalla	13 LUGL ^o 63	15 APRILE 65
	Samanud	4 LUGL ^o 63	29 MARZO 65
	Suez	18 AGOS 63	14 APRILE 65
	Tanta	7 LUGL ^o 63	28 MARZO 65
	Zagazik	1 LUGL ^o 63	15 MARZO 65
	Zifta	25 LUGL ^o 63	20 MARZO 65

Note (1). Use prior to official issue date.

Note (2). Use after official withdrawal date.

Note (3). The exceptionally late use of this Type at the Atfe, Galiub and Mansura Offices, more than a year or so after its replacement by the next Type, can be explained by the fact that these Offices (and perhaps others not as yet noticed), having retained the datestamps which were taken out of use on 30th June 1863, used them accidentally or in error after this date.

Note (4). During the six and a half years of use of this Type, it became necessary to provide replacement datestamps. This is how the two slightly different datestamps for Galiub came about (the first, very worn, is on display at the Postal Museum in Cairo; the second, which is clearer, is on a cover dated 21. 2. 65). Similarly for Tanta (the original measures 43mm in length; the substitute measures 41.5mm in length, is seen only with the date 27.10.62, and was pointed out by Dr D. J. Jordan of Guelph, Ontario, Canada; the letter 'A' of 'POSTA' is lower than the other letters of the word and the upper bar of the second 'T' of 'TANTA' is slightly deformed).

Other versions must exist for other Offices also, but is it really necessary to take this further ?

REGISTRATION MARKS - "PER CONSEGNA"

From 1858, it appears, the Posta Europea, whose organisation had reached a high level of perfection and security, accepted Registered Letters ("Per Consegna" in Italian).

The fixed Registration Fee was 2 Piastres.

At first, the covers were marked with a manuscript note, and later by a special handstamp which was changed in form several times, depending on the office. This stamp read "PER CONSEGNA".

A receipt used to be given to the sender; it was sometimes stamped with the datestamp of the despatching office, but this was not always done. At the destination the recipient was requested, by a special form, to collect the letter from the post office (figure 5).

Below are shown the various Registration Marks known on letters with the names of the offices where they were used (figure 6).

Manuscript Marks. 24th September 1858, from Cairo and from Zagazig
24th November 1860, from Samanoud.

Type 1 - "PER CONSEGNA", 35 x 5 mm
30th May 1859 and 15th May 1863, from Tanta.

. . . / Continued

77 Sig. Giovi & Co



Per impostazione, e ricezione di lettere, pel mese di *Aprile 86*

1860	IMPOSTATE	RICEVUTE	N. delle lettere	OSSERVAZIONI	IMPORTO		TOTALE	
					Eg. Piastre	Parà	Eg. Piastre	Parà
<i>30 Aprile</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>Lettere 83</i>				
				<i>Posta del mese scorso</i>		<i>315</i>		
				<i>complesivo L. 86 15</i>				



Figure 7 Statement of Account

Figure 6 The cachets used for marking Registered Letters

1 PER CONSEGNA

2 PER CONSEGNA

3 PER CONSEGNA

4 PER CONSEGNA

PER CONSEGNA

5



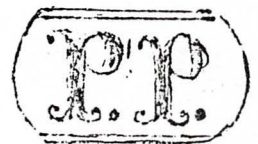
6



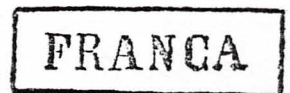
1



2



3



4

Franca

4

Franca

Figure 8 The cachets used for marking franked or paid covers

Registration Marks

- Type 2 - "PER CONSEGNA", in a box 47 x 11 mm
4th January (between 1850 and 1860, the year is not stated), at Alexandria.
21st June 1861, from Alexandria
2nd July 1859, from Mansura
11th February 1862, from Cairo
1st July 1864, from Damietta
- Type 3 - "PER CONSEGNA", in a box 48 x 12 mm
24th February 1861 and 20th November 1862, from Mansura
6th November 1862, and 9th February 1865, from Samanoud
21st June 1861, from Alexandria
- Type 4 - "PER CONSEGNA", in a box 50-51 x 10-9 mm
7th March 1862, and 10th August 1863, from Zagazig
19th July 1863, 22nd May 1864, 29th December 1864 and 3rd January 1865, from Mansura
3rd December 1863, 3rd March 1864 and 9th February 1865, from Samanoud
17th April and 14th October 1864, from Kafer-Zayat
10th December 1864, from Zifta
- Type 5 - "PER CONSEGNA / POSTA EUROPEA ALESSANDRIA", in a double oval, 47 x 28 mm, with the Registration number in the centre, struck by a numbering machine.
20th May and 23rd August 1863
- Type 6 - "PER CONSEGNA / POSTA EUROPEA CAIRO", in a double oval, 47 x 28 mm, with the Registration number in the centre, struck by a numbering machine.
30th January, 13th May, 30th July and 4th September, 1864

POSTAGE PAID MARKS - "P.P." and "FRANCA"

A large number of important users of the Posta Europea, especially Agricultural Estates and Business houses, were permitted to open a "Current Account for the Carriage of Letters" at their local post office; they settled their accounts periodically on receipt of a statement (figure 7). This system avoided having to spend a long time at the counter while the cost was worked out and the mail stamped.

The covers were then struck with a special cachet to show clearly that they were post paid ("P.P.") or were carried under an exemption ("FRANCA"). This system had started before 1860, to judge from covers examined to date.

Given below are the different types of cachets known on letters, with a note of the Offices where used (figure 8).

- Type 1 - "P.P." in script capitals, in an oval. This appears on a "PER CONSEGNA" (Type 2) letter, sent from Alexandria 4th January (between 1850 and 1860, the year not being stated). This item, which was exhibited at "LISBOA 53" by Madame G. Wissa of Cairo, had been described by Dr W. Byam in L'Orient Philatelic, No. 86, April 1954, page 357.
- Type 2 - "P.P." in an oval/rectangular box, 30 x 17 mm, appears on a letter sent from Samanoud on 6th February 1862. Also noticed on a scorched fragment from Samanoud, 30th June 1863

. . . / Continued

Type 3 - "FRANCA", in a box 3/4 x 12 mm, with several varieties among the various Offices.

6th December 1862 from Zagazig
10th December 1864 and 14th August 1865, from Zifta
9th February 1865 from Samanoud
1865 from Mansura

Type 4 - "Franca", in script, with several varieties among the various Offices.

29th December 1864, from Mansura
March, 27th May, 15th November and 7th December 1865, from Alexandria.

Editor's Note: M. Jean Boulad's article on the Posta Europea will be concluded in our next issue.

1888 5-Millimes: Plate Proof in Black

by P. A. S. Smith (ESC 74)

Western Auctions Ltd (Cardiff) offered in late 1978 and again in January 1979, a proof of the 1888 5-Mills in black, in blocks of four. In the auction catalog, they were erroneously described as "1879". They are printed on heavy white paper with a smooth finish, stuck down on thick, coarse, olive-bistre cardboard. The block I have seen had evidently been cut down from a larger piece by means of a sharp knife.

Presumably, at least a sheet of 240 was so prepared, probably at the time of manufacture. It might even be that a full sheet was pulled for proof purposes of each plate for this stamp, and the quantity of these hitherto unknown proofs that may exist is thus quite speculative. This situation presents yet another facet of the dispersal of De La Rue archival material, so much of which was auctioned in sales of Robson Lowe Ltd in conjunction with the auctions of the Gilbert and Danson collections of Egypt and Sudan. (These proofs, and related essays and artist's drawings, were not part of the collections of our late members, John Gilbert and Ray Danson; the lots were intermingled with the lots from their collections without being specifically identified).

One is now set to wondering if similar proofs exist of all the other values printed by De La Rue, and may be expected to trickle on to the market in the near future.

A Pane of 60 of this same black proof appears as a lot in the March 22, 1979, auction of Robson Lowe International Ltd, in Basel. It appears to differ from the Western Auctions item in not being stuck down on cardboard; it may nevertheless be a pane from the same sheet of 240. It is interesting that this is the only value in the form of black proofs in this sale. However, several lots include "stamp-size black proofs" mounted on board or thick paper; these may be die proofs, but it seems very reasonable that they are plate proofs, cut out from full sheets and placed in the archives of Thomas De La Rue for record purposes. Most of the 1879-1913 issues are involved, including the postage dues.

Can anyone offer advice on how we may distinguish cut-down die proofs from singles cut from proof sheets ?

P. A. S. Smith

(Illustration on page 156)

(all stamps are printed Rotogravure by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, and with watermark Multiple Eagle unless noted otherwise)

<u>Commemorative Stamps</u>	<u>SG 1362</u>	<u>SG 1363</u>		
Occasion	Centenary of Ministerial System	5th Anniversary of Suez Canal Crossing		
Date of issue	28th August 1978	6th October 1978		
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	W. Farag and M. Abdallah		
Design	Wall of Ministerial Emblems	President Sadat and "The Crossing" Statue		
Denomination	20 mills	20 mills		
Sheet	50 (10 x 5)	50 (5 x 10)		
Stamp Dimensions	31 x 51 mm	51 x 31 mm		
Perforation	11	11		
Quantity printed	1,500,000	1,500,000		
Supplementary	A council of seven Ministries in Egypt was formed on 28th August 1878	-		
	<u>SG 1364</u>	<u>SG 1365</u>	<u>SG 1366</u>	<u>SG 1367</u>
Occasion U N I T E D N A T I O N S D A Y			
Date of issue 24th October 1978			
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Lotfy el Sawaf	M. Abdallah	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Anti-Apartheid Emblem	Mosque of Kobet al Sakra	Philae Temples	Dove, Flame and Olive Branch
Denomination	20 mills	45 mills	55 mills	140 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5)	35 (5 x 7)	50 (5 x 10)	50 (10 x 5)
Stamp Dimensions	31 x 51 mm	40 x 40 mm	51 x 31 mm	31 x 51 mm
Perforation	11	11½	11	11
Quantity printed 500,000 of each			
Supplementary	Anti-Apartheid year	Palestinian Welfare	U.N.E.S.C.O.	30th Anniversary of Declaration of Human Rights
	<u>SG 1368</u>	<u>SG 1369</u>	<u>SG 1370</u>	
Occasion	. . . Festivals 1978		Pilgrimage to Mecca	
Date of issue	. . . 7th November 1978		7th November 1978	
Designer	. . . Waheeb Farag		Ibrahim el Tahtawi	
Design	. . . Tahtib Horse Dance		Mount Arafat and Pilgrims	
Denomination	10 mills	20 mills	45 mills	
Sheet	. . . 100 (10 x 10) of each . . .		50 (5 x 10)	
Stamp Dimensions	25 x 30 mm	25 x 30 mm	51 x 31 mm	
Perforation	11	11	11	
Quantity printed	. . . 1,000,000 of each		1,500,000	
Supplementary	The Tahtib Dance on Horseback is popular among the people of Upper Egypt		The Pilgrimage is one of the 5 principles of Islam	

NEW ISSUES by C. E. H. Defriez

(all stamps are printed Rotogravure by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, and
with watermark Multiple Eagle unless noted otherwise)

<u>Commemorative Stamps</u>	<u>SG 1371</u>	<u>SG 1372</u>
Occasion	U.N. Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	National Petroleum Festival
Date of issue	30th November 1978	30th November 1978
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	U.N. and Conference Emblems	Oil Pipeline and Sumed Badge
Denomination	20 mills	20 mills
Sheet	35 (5 x 7)	35 (5 x 7)
Stamp Dimensions	40 x 40 mm	40 x 40 mm
Perforation	11½	11½
Quantity printed	1,000,000	1,000,000
Supplementary	-	The Oil Pipeline links Suez to Alexandria
	<u>SG 1373</u>	<u>SG 1374</u>
Occasion	150th Anniversary of "EL Masreya" Newspaper	800th Anniversary of death of Ebn Roshd (Philosopher)
Date of issue	24th December 1978	24th December 1978
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Saber Saida
Design	Newspaper headings and Editors	Ebn Roshd
Denomination	20 mills	45 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5)	50 (10 x 5)
Stamp Dimensions	26 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11 x 11½	11 x 11½
Quantity printed	1,000,000	1,000,000
	<u>SG 1375</u>	<u>SG 1376 (Air Mail)</u>
Occasion	75th Anniversary of Helwan University	75th Anniversary of first Powered Flight
Date of issue	31st December 1978	31st December 1978
Designer	M.N. el Hendawi	Lotfy el Sawaf
Design	Old and Modern Observatories, and Stars	"Flyer" and International Civil Aviation Emblem
Denomination	20 mills	140 mills
Sheet	25 (5 x 5)	50 (10 x 5)
Stamp Dimensions	41 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11 x 11½	11 x 11½
Quantity printed	1,000,000	500,000
Supplementary	The Observatory is one of the oldest scientific institutions in Egypt	Commemorating the achievement of the Wright brothers (December 1903)

New Issue illustrations are not always stamp-size. Please refer to Data Sheets for dimensions.



SG 1362



SG 1363



SG 1364



SG 1365



SG 1367



SG 1366



SG 1368/9



SG 1370



SG 1371



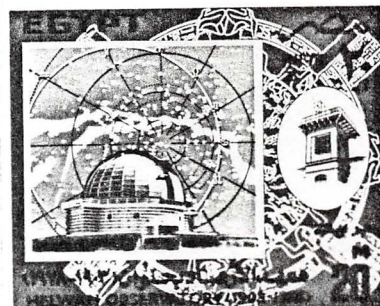
SG 1372



SG 1373



SG 1374



SG 1375

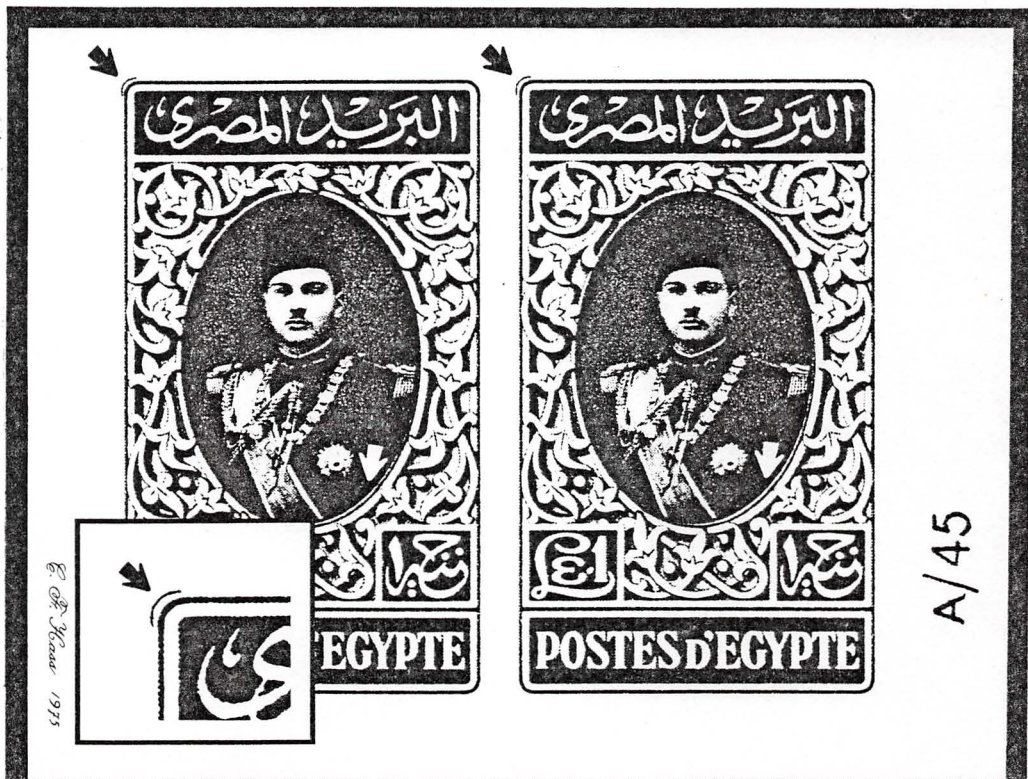


SG 1376

Illustration to GUIDE MARKINGS on the £E 1 stamp of Farouk - 1945-46

by Charles F. Hass

see page 150



E. P. Hassan 1973

A/45

TABULATION OF S.G. AND ZEHERI CATALOGUE NUMBERS - Sept 1971 to Sept 1977

The 1978 Supplement to the 1972 edition of the Zeheri Catalogue lists Issues from 28th September 1971 to 3rd September 1977. Shown below are the Zeheri numbers allocated to the New Issues up to 3rd September 1977, which have appeared in the Q.C. under S.G. numbers only. It will be noticed that the Zeheri numbers do not all run consecutively, owing to a variation in the Zeheri order of listing.

SG No	Zeheri Catalogue Numbers			SG No	Zeheri Catalogue Numbers		
	Commemorative	Airmail	Miniature Sheet		Commemorative	Airmail	Miniature Sheet
1233	642			1283	685		
1234	643			1284	686		
1235	644			1285	687		
1236		162		1286	688		
MS 1237			34	1287	689		
1238	645			1288	690		
1239	646			1289	691		
1240	647			1290	692		
1241	648			1291	693		
1242	649			1292	694		
1243	650			MS 1293			35
1244	651			1294	695		
1245	652			1295	696		
1246	653			1296	697		
1247	654			1297	698		
1248	655			1298	699		
1249	656			1299	700		
1250	657			1300	701		
1251	658			1301	702		
1252	659			1302	704		
1253	660			1303	703		
1254	661			1304	705		
1255	662			1305	706		
1256	663			1306	707		
1257	664			1307	708		
1258		163		1308	709		
1259		164		1309	711		
1260	665			1310	710		
1261		165		1311	712		
1262	666			1312	713		
1263	667			1313	714		
1264	668			1314	715		
1265	669			1315	716		
1266	670			1316	717		
1267	671			1317	719		
1268	672			1318	718		
1269	673			1319	720		
1270	674			MS 1320 *	721		
1271	675			1321	722		
1272	676			1322	723		
1273	677			1323	724		
1274		166					
1275		167					
1276	678						
1277	681						
1278	679						
1279	680						
1280	682						
1281	683						
1282	684						

* Note re SG 1320. This is listed as a Miniature Sheet by SG, but classed as a Commemorative Stamp by the Philatelic Society of Egypt.

V A R I E T I E S O N N E W I S S U E S

In response to our published request for members' discoveries of varieties on New Issues (i.e. post-Monarchy), Mr David Carew (ESC 193) has written as follows.

The best printing variety I have come across occurs on Zeh 173, issued on 19th December 1957 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Egyptian Civil Airlines. On stamp 41 of the sheet of 50, the Viscount plane appears to have "front wheel down", as there is an extra green blob of colour on the underside of the plane close to the nose. This stamp was issued se-tenant with Zeh 172.

The perforations on the sheet are also interesting, as several of the pins were bent, giving perforation holes which are not in perfect straight lines. A top-feed single-comb perforator was used which treated one row of 5 stamps at the top and the vertical margins between them, at one bite. The second bite of the perforator treated the bottom margins of the first stamp row and the vertical margins between the second row. Thus varieties of the horizontal perforations were repeated on all horizontal rows, and varieties of the vertical perforations repeated on each stamp of that file.

The same perforator was used for the Afro-Asian People's Conference set issued on 27th December 1957, but only on the 5m and 10m values. The 15m violet (Zeh 176) was perforated with a double-comb head perforator, thus perforations were repeated on alternate rows of stamps. Curiously, the space set between each bite of the double-comb perforator was wider than the normal space between perforation holes, thus each alternate stamp is slightly longer. It could be argued that the 15m violet of this set exists in two sizes! - whereas the other values of this set exist in only one size.

D. Carew.

HAVE YOU discovered any varieties on post-Farouk issues? Other Circle members would like to know about them, via the Q.C.

G U I D E M A R K I N G S o n t h e £ E 1 S t a m p o f F a r o u k - 1 9 4 5 - 4 6

by Charles F. Hass (ESC 181)

It is indeed an uncommon occurrence when a major alteration takes place in the design of a stamp, that change going unnoticed, or at least unexplained, for a period in excess of thirty years. Such is the case, however, with the first £E1 Farouk definitive stamp of Egypt. First appearing in 1939, that stamp went through 5 printings over a period of 6 years (A/39; A/40; ~~A/40~~ A/43; A/40 A/43 B/43; ~~A/40~~ A/43 B/43 A/44 - all but the first from the same pair of flat-etched copper plates clamped to the machine cylinders of the rotogravure printing press). In 1945 a new set of plates, bearing control A/45, was prepared.

During the printing life of the original plates, there was apparently some difficulty encountered with the registration of the two colors of the design (sepia for the oval portrait of the vignette, blue for the frame), many examples of this stamp having been seen with their centers quite markedly misplaced within the frame. It is indeed a fact of life in the printing trade that an oval or a circle within another presents far greater difficulty in registration than a square or a rectangle within another. The degree of movement required to register both the horizontal and vertical planes on the press is more easily seen and adjusted on the latter. When dealing with the former, however, the problem is magnified many times, it being quite difficult to determine the axis on which the press must be corrected in order to bring the colors into proper registration.

With the manufacture of the new (A/45) plates, an effort was made to provide a device to be used by the printer (The Survey Dept. of Egypt) to facilitate proper registration of the two colors on the rotogravure press. That device took the form of a small sepia arc in the upper left-hand corner of each stamp on the press sheet of 50 subjects, corresponding to the rounded corner of the blue frame line.

. . . / Continued

The addition of such a mark was obviously geared to alleviate the previously-encountered misregistration problems by providing a more readily seen guide for the pressmen. When the stamps bearing the guide were printed in perfect registration, the sepia arc became nearly invisible, having been "killed" by the blue ink of the frame line. The merit of such an addition is somewhat doubtful, as I have seen numerous copies of the stamp in question with varying degrees of misregistration. However, the problem does seem to be more acute on the stamps of the earlier printings, so some small improvement must have resulted from the change. The illustration accompanying this article (see page 147) shows a corner pair with control A/45, magnified 2x linear. The degree of misregistration is obvious at the lower right of each vignette (indicated by white arrows), and the corner guides are easily seen at the upper left-hand corner of each stamp (black arrows). The inset at lower left shows a 4x linear enlargement of the corner and guide marking.

The surprising fact is that almost no mention of the guide marking has ever been made in the philatelic press. None of the catalogues listing Egypt mention it, not even Zeheri. I have seen only two references to the guide, both of them in L'Orient Philatelique over 25 years ago. The first, in L'O.P. No. 78 (April 1952), was a short piece by Leopold Meggle. It illustrated three different configurations of marks seen by the writer, and was basically an inquiry as to their significance and location on the sheet. I have yet to see any examples of the two deformed marks illustrated by Meggle, and I can only attribute their appearance to varieties of inking. The second reference to the marks appeared in L'O.P. No. 80 (Oct. 1952), and was a reply to the query of Megglé by the late Charles Minett. Minett came close to the answer, stating that the marks appeared to be "in the nature of guide lines", but made no attempt to explain their positions on the sheet or to which printings they belonged. He did enquire as to the presence of such marks on the 50 pt stamp of the same issue, as well as on the later 50 pt and £E 1 stamps of 1949-52. Apparently no further attempts were made to clarify the situation.

The fact is that the guide markings appear only on the £E 1 stamp in question, none having been used for the 50 pt of that issue, or for the 50 pt and £E 1 of the later issue. The registration problem was apparently solved in another way for the later £E 1, as I have yet to encounter a badly misregistered example (with the exception of the "imperforate with misplaced center" variety catalogued by Zeheri).

To sum up, let me state the circumstances of the occurrence of the guide marking. It is found on all stamps printed from plates A/45 and A/45 A/46, the latter having also been overprinted for Palestine in 1948, and further overprinted with three bars in 1953. It appears on all positions of the sheet of 50 stamps, having been photocomposed into the sepia multipositive used to produce the rotogravure printing plate. It is difficult to discern when the two images are printed in exact registration, but a good glass will reveal its presence.

Charles F. Hass

N A P O L E O N - L E T T E R S

D. H. Clarke (ESC 165) has recently been fortunate enough to acquire a copy of "Napoleon - Documents, Discours, Lettres", published in Germany in 1921. The occasional extract from this book may be of interest.

a Madame Brueys

Quartier generale au Caire,
2 fructidor, an VI
(= 19 August 1798)

" Votre mari a ete tue d'un coup de canon, en combattant a son bord.

" Il est mort sans souffrir et de la mort la plus douce, la plus enviee par les militaires. "

PALESTINE (GAZA STRIP)

A situation somewhat analogous to that of the 1932 provisional applies to the 500m and £E 1 King Farouk issue overprinted PALESTINE. The basic stamps are common, used, but those overprinted for Palestine are extremely difficult to obtain used, and are worth more than the mint. Forgeries of the overprint, applied to used stamps, have been on the market for at least fifteen years.

They are difficult to detect, owing to the dark background of the stamps, which makes it difficult to read cancellations or to inspect the overprint with precision. I have seen a number of forgeries with cancellations of Egyptian offices, such as Cairo, and impossible dates.

I have yet to find genuine copies for my collection; can anyone help?

EARLY COVERS

In a collection of major importance on exhibit, I have seen a cover franked with 1866 stamps cancelled at Alexandria, and addressed to Switzerland. Two things were obviously wrong: stamps of this issue had no franking power outside of the Egyptian postal system, and the cancellation on the stamps, Type III, was not introduced until about two years after the First Issue had become obsolete.

Nevertheless, the cover was otherwise very convincing, and bore quite genuine Swiss backstamps of proper date. The stamps had been added to an otherwise genuine cover, probably stampless, and were then provided with a forged cancellation. A similar case was described not long ago in the Q.C.

Still another cover of similar character appeared in a major auction in April, and was even illustrated in color. A glance at the illustration was enough to give away its spurious nature, for it bore a Type III cancellation, an impossibility for this issue, and the stamps were cancelled at Alexandria for passage to Trieste, a journey for which they had no validity. As with the foregoing examples, the cover itself was genuine, although probably originally stampless. It also bore a straight-line COL VAPORE D'ALESSANDRIA marking, genuinely applied at Trieste on mail arriving by the Austrian post. The auctioneers withdrew the lot as soon as its nature was pointed out to them.

The same sale featured another forgery, also later withdrawn: an 1879 10-para cancelled "KASSALA" in an impossible Swiss-type of cancellation, with the name at top, and vertical lines filling the spaces above and below the date band (Kassala, of course, used a Type V cancellation exclusively, right up to its closing).

P. A. S. Smith

COMMENT ON EARLIER CONTENT of the Q. C.

re: "5 Paras 1879 - The 'Joined Characters' Flaw"

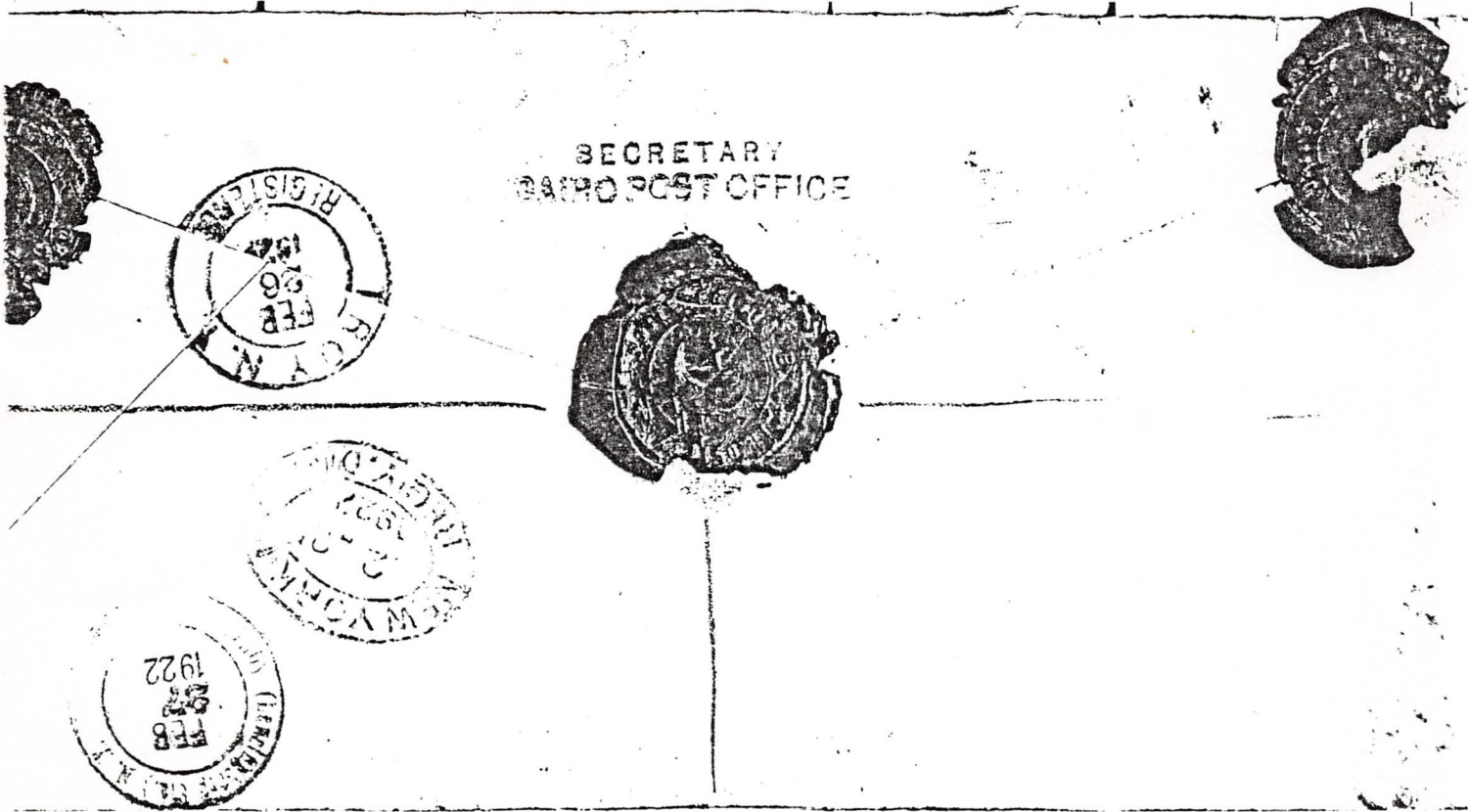
Information regarding the sheet gutter margins watermark "POSTES EGYPTIENNES" for issues after 1884 is requested by Ibrahim Chaftar in his article as above, Zeh 23b and 23d, which appeared in Q.C. Vol. X, No. 1 (March 1978).

From the small amount of material to hand I can confirm that the following do have this type of gutter watermark :-

- | | | | |
|----|------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1) | 1884 | 10 para green | Zeh 32 definitive |
| 2) | 1906 | 4 mills red | Zeh 40 " |
| 3) | 1888 | 5 mills rose | Zeh 41 " |
| 4) | 1889 | 2 pi orange | Zeh 18 postage due |

Items (3) and (4) have of course the red security pillars in the central margin but the watermark can be quite plainly seen. Mr Chaftar's article seems to prove that the 5 para with large upright watermark is part of the 1884 printing and I can confirm that this too has the gutter watermark "POSTES EGYPTIENNES".

- P. Andrews (ESC 122)



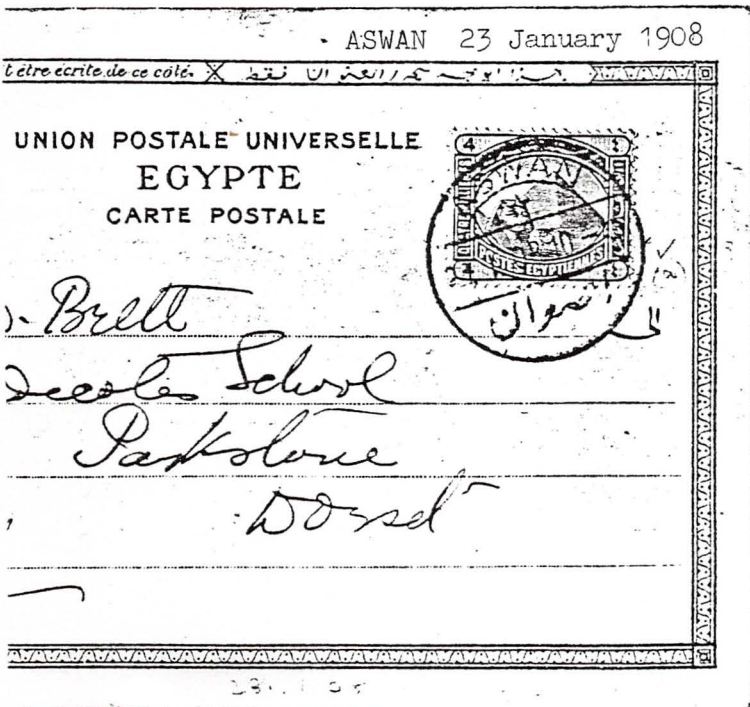
Rubbings on Carbon Paper

Retouched

Pencil Rubbing



'STAR & BRIDGE' Cancels - Peter Andrews Collection



Port Taufiq 20 August 1915



ASWAN
Nov 1912

A NEW POSTAL STATIONERY HANDSTAMP

AND

EXCEPTIONALLY LATE USE OF ITALIANby P. A. S. Smith (ESC 74)

I recently had a look at a cover that had lain unappreciated in a box of mine for nearly thirty years, and was astonished to find that it bore a postal marking of most unusual character. It is a 1922 cover, sent by Registered Mail from Cairo to New York, and overfranked by a set of the unoverprinted Harrison stamps of 1921, which were thus used at just about the changeover to the Crown Overprint series. The reverse is illustrated (on page 152) for it bears the interesting feature: Sealing Wax impressed with a circular handstamp reading " * POSTE EGIZIANE * CAIRO ", with an upright Crescent and Star in the center.

Impressions in wax are very difficult to illustrate, but I think a few details may show through. The style of this handstamp is typical of the early P.S. markings, but its type is new; none of the recorded types have the same inscription, except for type PS-3.5, which, however, has a sideways Crescent and a large space where 'REGIE' was presumably removed. I shall try to make a tracing of this new marking, but one can readily appreciate the difficulties in tracing a seal impressed in wax !

This must certainly be the record for late use of the Italian language on Egyptian postal markings !

The conversion to French, which began in the late 1870's, was essentially complete by the mid-1880's. It is remarkable not only that the present handstamp survived until 1922, but also that it has not hitherto been noticed. Perhaps some one may yet find an inked impression of it. Such an impression would be in intaglio: colorless letters on a dark background. The dimensions are: outer circle, ca. 25mm. diameter; inner circle, ca. 16 mm. in diameter; letters ca. 1.5 mm. high.

If an inked impression should be found, it would become a new type in the 'Seal - R' series, rather than the P.S. series.

P. A. S. Smith

U P D A T A

EGYPTIAN POSTAL MARKINGS - Further amendments to the 1865-79 Data Sheets
Contributed by A. Schmidt (ESC 198)

		<u>Earliest</u>	<u>Latest</u>	<u>Notes</u>
IV-1	SCIRBIN	? MAR 73 (AS)		
Tax-1.9	ALESSANDRIA TO COSTANTINOPOLI	1 MAY 66 (PASS)		New
TL-1	CAIRO			In red (RSB)
TL-1.5	CAIRO		1 JAN 79 (RSB)	
PS-1	BENHA		IP IX (AS)	In green, purple (AS)
"	BIRKET-EL-SAB	IP III (GMD)		
"	GALIUB	IP VIII (GMD)		
"	MANSURA	IP IVA (AS)		
"	POST-SAID	IP IVA (GMD)		
"	TANTA		IP IX (AS)	

Note: GMD = Mr Mark Dorman (ESC 211)

MARY POST CARD
CAIRO

On Active Service.
Alexandria

It hardly seems possible this is the night before Xmas

Passed by No. 2847 CENSOR

Mrs Winnie Dunn
"Rosemount"

Castro Brothers Editors Cairo

MARY POST CARD
CAIRO

To Mrs Creech,
Gable end
Hersham Road
Walton-on-Thames
Surrey

England
Sultan Hasan mosque

Passed by No. 718 CENSOR

Castro Brothers Editors Cairo

Question Time 10



Question Time 9 - New First Day Cancel on 1928 Medical Congress ? (P. Andrews)

CENTENAIRE DE LA FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE DU CAIRE
ET
CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL DE MÉDECINE TROPICALE ET D'HYGIÈNE.

15 DE 28 3-4 p
EXPOSITION MEDICAMENTS INSTRUMENTS, APPAREILS CHIRURGICAUX

15 DE 28 3-4 p
EXPOSITION MEDICAMENTS INSTRUMENTS, APPAREILS CHIRURGICAUX

15 DE 28 3-4 p
EXPOSITION MEDICAMENTS INSTRUMENTS, APPAREILS CHIRURGICAUX

15 DE 28 3-4 p
EXPOSITION MEDICAMENTS INSTRUMENTS, APPAREILS CHIRURGICAUX

15 DE 28 3-4 p
EXPOSITION MEDICAMENTS INSTRUMENTS, APPAREILS CHIRURGICAUX

by P. Andrews (ESC 122)

In an article reprinted from the "Philatelic Record", February 1976, (Q.C. Vol. IX, Nos 7/8, page 81, Sept/Dec 1977) Mr Th. Dacos discusses the 'Star and Bridge' cancellations (ESC type XI-I) and gives dates extending the period of use for a number of towns.

Whilst looking through my collection I came across a cover which further extends the date of this type of cancellation for Port Taufiq to 20 VIII 15, 6.30 A.M. I also found a postcard which brings forward the earliest date of use for Aswan to 23 I 08.

In Q.C. Vol. X, No. 4 (Dec 1978), Mr F. A. Ford gives dates for the town of Aswan and it should be pointed out that the previous article by C.W.Minett to which reference is made (L.O.P. No. 91, July 1955) does list Aswan with earliest and latest dates 13-IV-10 and ?-11-12 (the former date now being displaced by my item mentioned above).

The revised listing is now as follows :-

	<u>Earliest</u>	<u>Latest</u>
Luqsor	27-III-09	24-XII-10
Port Said	28- V -07	17- VI-13
Port Taufiq	30- 10-08	20-VIII-15
Zagazig	4- X -07	23-XII-12
Mansura	11-III-08	21-III-10
Ismailia	20-III-08	1914
Suez	11-VII-07	1916
Tanta	19- I -09	15- V -09
Aswan	23- I -08	?- 11-12

Illustrations of the late Port Taufiq cancel, and the early and late Aswan cancels, appear on page 152.

P. Andrews

" M A R Y " P O S T C A R D S

In our December 1978 issue, Whole Series No. 108, Mr F. A. Ford (ESC 157) wrote on page 88 to mention this, and his example was illustrated on page 102. Mr Ford presumed that the word 'MARY' was caused by an error in the typesetting of 'ARMY'.

Mr F. W. Benians (ESC 123) writes as follows :-

These postcards were published by Castro Brothers, Editors, Cairo and measured 150 mm by 75 mm wide.

The view was printed either in autochrome or more usually in sepia.

There are at least two types of lettering on the address side, printed in an olive-green. (Illustrated on page).

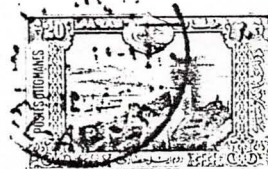
I feel it is a matter of conjecture if the word 'MARY' was a mis-spelling for 'ARMY', but it is a nice thought, and they were invariably used by military personnel.

The following are noted from specimens in my, and John Firebrace's, collections

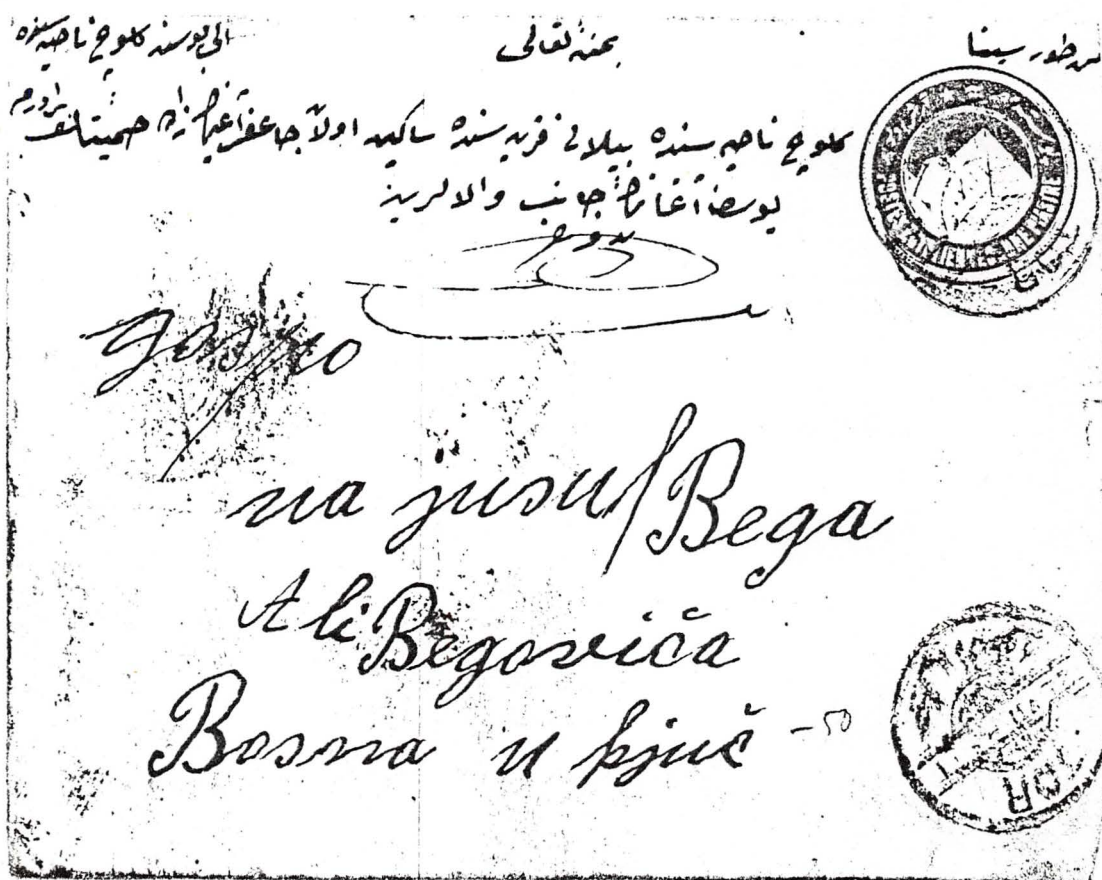
LARGE SERIFFED CAPITALS, printed in olive-green		
'The Sphinx' (70705)	single-ring ALEXANDRIA/J	23.vii.15
'Panorama of Cairo'	double-ring F P O D54	A 24 DE 15
'The Pyramids of Cheops'	s-ring N.Z. Base Details/Military Post Office	
Cachet: N.Z. General Hospital, Pont de Koubeh		12-11-15
SMALL BLOCK CAPITALS		
'Sultan Hassan Mosque'	s-ring A P O SZ10	B/ 8 DE 17
octagonal: Passed by Censor / 718		(date in two lines)

Egyptian post office mark on Egypt adhesives

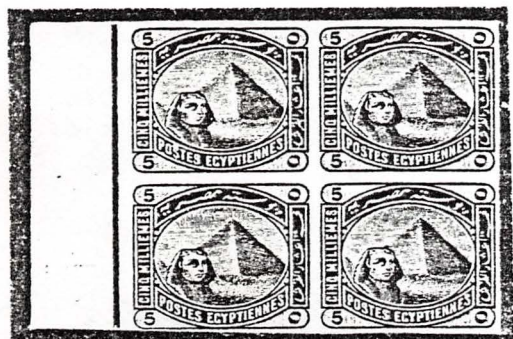
Turkish post office on Turkey adhesive, World War I



1893 Postal Stationery Cover from El Tor, Sinai (Peter Smith Collection)



1888 Plate Proof (Peter Smith)



SEE PAGE 136

Q U E S T I O N T I M E . . .

MEMBERS' REPLIES to Questions appearing in previous issues.

Q. Time 4.1 - Subject - 'DIPLOMATIC MAIL TO U.S.A.'
(Question raised Dec 1978; reply appeared March 1979)

FROM Ernest A. Kehr (ESC 39) -

' Many, if not all, embassies permit staff members* to send personal mail home via the Diplomatic Pouch which often is safe (and almost always faster). But as international regulations prohibit such personal usage, it is necessary for the sender to affix stamps in the amount of postage required if the letter were sent through the regular mail of the dispatch country. The pouch is then carried to Washington, where the sorting clerk hand-stamps it to indicate that it was originally mailed abroad.

The duplex 8 merely represents the station in Washington whence the letter was forwarded through the regular U.S. mails. The "8" was for many years the designation of the postal station in the State Department.

* When one knows an embassy official he can sometimes prevail upon him to extend the service to non-staff persons. I know, for on many of my global trips I had news stories and other urgent mail thus dispatched from lands whose own mail service left much to be desired. '

FROM Ed. Hirdler (ESC 226) there was an interesting letter, raising some points which are settled by Ernest Kehr's definitive account of the routines, but also giving the exact wording of the cachet. Ed. Hirdler describes his cover thus :-

' I have a cover sent from Belgian Congo to a woman in our Department of State in Washington, D.C. This bears a single stamp, the 50 centimes green 'Palms' from the definitive series of Belgian Congo which was in normal usage until 1st January 1953. The stamp was not cancelled in Belgian Congo, but in Washington, D.C., with either the same, or a similar, hand canceller as the cover illustrated in ESC Q.C. Volume X, No. 4. This cancel was applied in January 1946 (day of month unclear). The addressee must have moved because the address is crossed out in red pencil or crayon and her home address (also in Washington, D.C.) inserted in the same red. Near the bottom right-hand corner is a stamped inscription in upper and lower case, in two lines, in violet ink :-

" This article originally mailed
in country indicated by postage "

Q. Time 7 (Question raised March 1979) Subject - EGYPTIAN P.O. IN SINAI

The following authoritative reply from Peter Smith (ESC 74) -

' In the March, 1979, issue of the Q.C., John Firebrace raised a question about the El Arish post office. The cover shown there is definitely from El Arish, for the proper Arabic version of the name is clearly legible.

The El Arish post office was probably opened in 1883 or 1884, for the 1884 series of Interpostal Seals includes one for it, but earlier issues do not. The earliest cancellation I have seen is dated 1886, and is a Type VIII-1; the two examples I have are not complete, and are not strong strikes, but perhaps the illustrations will show something of them (Illustrations on page 156).

El Arish is listed in the Postal Guide for 1892 as a Class 4 office. This is a minor category, and such offices were authorised to handle ordinary, registered and official mail, but not parcels or specie. The 1892 Guide also lists (El) Tor, another office in the Sinai, on the Gulf of Suez. It had some importance as a quarantine station for pilgrims on the Hegira. Since no interpostal seal was issued for it, it must have opened after 1884. The somewhat messy cover that I can illustrate, dated July 1893, is the earliest date I know of.

Other offices in the Sinai were probably opened in more recent years, owing to the development of the oil fields at least, and the courier service for mail from St. Catherine's Monastery is well known.

/ Continued . . .

R E P L I E S t o Q . T I M E 7 (EGYPTIAN P.O. IN SINAI)

FROM Peter Smith (continued) -

' Less well known is the fact that the Turks opened several post offices in the Sinai when they invaded it during World War I. Most of the Turkish offices were at wells or springs, which were not real settlements, but probably military centers. However, they did hold El Arish for a time, and provided that town with a cancellation in the style typical of Turkish postmarks of the time. I have never seen a cover, but can illustrate an example on a loose 20-para red of the contemporary Turkish issue.

In closing these comments, it should be emphasized that the Egyptian post offices in the Sinai should in no way be compared with the consular offices in Jaffa and other Mediterranean ports. The consular offices were located on Turkish territory under Turkish administration, and possessing Turkish post offices as well. The Sinai, however, was Egyptian territory, and the post offices there were domestic offices, just like those elsewhere in Egypt. The territory of the Sinai was administered by Egypt, and neither Turkish nor other post offices were in existence (except for the military occupation in World War I, mentioned above).

FROM Dennis Clarke (ESC 165), there are some useful facts -

' In the 1962 Egyptian Post Office Guide (printed in Arabic) these are listed :-

Ariche el
Ariche el camp

The Guide gives the opening date for the former as 1883; it may be that the camp office opened prior to this date.

In L'O.P. 113 (1964) on page 334, Ibrahim Chaftar in his article "Egyptian Postal Services 1865-1889" also lists Ariche as opening in 1883. In fact, it was the only additional office to be opened in that year, whereas the previous year saw the opening of 6 new offices, and the following year (1884) saw 17 additional P.O.'s, making the total operational post offices 151.

There are references in "Gazetteer No. 45 - Egypt and the Gaza Strip" which shows official standard names, approved by the United States Board on Geographic Names, prepared in the office of Geography, Department of the Interior, Washington D.C., Jun 1959. The only references are to :-

Arish, Wadi el
or Arish, Wadi al, and this is listed in Sinai.

This Gazetteer lists 27,800 places and features in Egypt, with an additional 200 in the Gaza strip. It is therefore safe to take it that this is the only office with that name.

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T - Q. Time 1 - RAF AIRMAIL SERVICE,
Cairo to Baghdad

FROM Bill Andrews (ESC 132) -


' Thanks to all those Members of the Circle who contributed to the replies to my query about the R.A.F. Airmail Service, Cairo - Baghdad. Their replies and the illustrations enabled me to recognise and obtain a cover dated 29th September 1923 from Baghdad to England via Baghdad-Cairo Air Mail with Cachet A4 as shown in QC on page 70 (September 1978 issue, No. 107).

May I suggest a small AMENDMENT to the illustration of Cachet A4. There is an apostrophe in front of 'IRAQ in the wording: GENERAL HEADQUARTERS / AIR MAIL / BRITISH FORCES IN 'IRAQ. This apostrophe can be seen rather indistinctly on the two illustrations of cachet A4 on piece on the same page.

*** Our thanks are due to Bill Andrews, for his intriguing question, which revealed, for the first time for many of us, an unusual function of the R.A.F., and which generated a great deal of interest - Ed.

NEW HAND-STRUCK '8' POSTAGE DUE MARK

The Charge is 8 Piastres, being quadruple rate - Peter Smith Collection



Monsieur
Monsieur George Bey Ibrahim
Constantinople

المستشار
الجنرال
البريد

Type: Tax-1.9

ABDIN PALACE CANCEL - Q. Time 11 - Robin Bertram



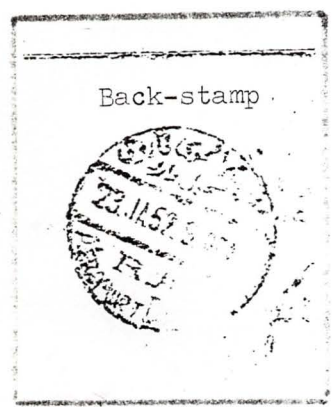
SECRETARIAT PRIVE
 DE S.M. LE ROI

SECRETARIAT PRIVE
 No. 59

580



THE LONDON CIGARETTE CARD Co.Ltd.,
 Cambridge House,
 30 Wellesley Road,
 Chiswick,
 London, W.4.
 ENGLAND



Q U E S T I O N T I M E - M O R E Q U E S T I O N S . . .

Q. Time 9 - submitted by P. Andrews (ESC 122)

' Whilst sorting through a pile of postcards and covers, I came across a postcard bearing the 5- and 10-mills pair commemorating the International Medical Congress 15th December 1928. The card is headed "Centenaire De La Faculte De Medecine Du Caire Et Congres International De Medecine Tropical Et D'Hygiene" on the reverse and has a picture of an anatomy lesson at the Abou Zabal School of Medecine 1827 on the obverse.

Most interesting, however, is the commemorative datestamp which reads "Exposition Medicaments / Instruments, Appareils Chirurgicaux" and dated 15-DE-28 3-4P, whereas the first day obliteration indicated in Zeheri has the text "Congres International de Medecine".

Can anyone confirm this particular marking and are there other markings of similar type for related subjects other than Medecine and Surgery ?

(Illustration on page 154).

Q. Time 10 - submitted by Robin Bertram (ESC 137)

' The illustration (on page 154) shows a mint marginal "British Navy" label, blue on white with correctly coloured 'White Ensign'.

Any information at all, please ? '

Q. Time 11 - submitted by Robin Bertram (ESC 137)

' The illustration (on page 159) is of a cover from the king's private secretary. Information, please, regarding the cancellation of "Palais d'Abdine" ? Where is this palace, and does anyone have a photo of it for write-up purposes ? Is it a royal cancellation used on royal mail only ?

Can the mark on the reverse be identified ? '

* * * Would any Member of the Circle like to use this query as a starting-point for a study of marks of all the palaces used by Egypt's rulers ? Times of occupancy, and by whom, sketches of the various marks, dates of earliest and latest use, use of the buildings prior to and subsequent to royal occupation, including occupation by the khedive, viceroy, etc. ? Come on, somebody ! - Ed.

TAX (POSTAGE DUE) HAND-STRUCK MARK - A NEW DISCOVERY

Illustrated on page 159 is an unstamped letter sent from Alexandria to Constantinople and bearing the previously-undiscovered handstruck '8' mark, which becomes type Tax-1.9 in the listing of Egyptian Postal Markings of 1865 through 1879.

The postage due has been charged at quadruple rate, eight piastres. The date appears to be 1st May 1866 or 1868.

This cover was reported by P. A. S. Smith, in whose collection it now is.

LONDON 1980

Mr P. R. Feltus (ESC 114) intends to submit his collection of Egypt Salt Stamps as an entry in London 1980. This collection, shown at the June Meeting in London, comprises magnificent material, magnificently presented, on jumbo-sized album sheets. It will be interesting to see whether the Exhibition Organisers will allow an exhibit of Revenue Stamps.

What are YOU intending to exhibit ?