

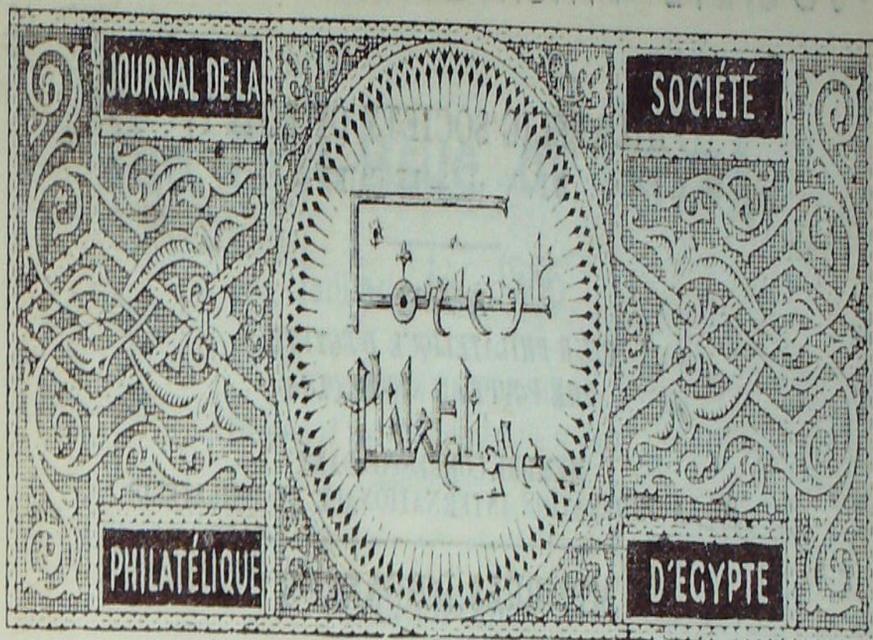
المجلة المصرية لهواة طوابع البريد
الجمعية المصرية لهواة طوابع البريد

JOURNAL
The of
PHILATELIC
SOCIETY
of EGYPT
CAIRO



L'ORIENT PHILATÉLIQUE

JOURNAL DE LA
SOCIÉTÉ PHILATELIQUE D'EGYPTE
LE CAIRE



MEMBRE FONDATEUR DE LA FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DE LA PRESSE PHILATELIQUE



Plaquette de Bronze, Exposition Internationale Philatélique « WIPA 1933 »

Plaquette de Bronze, Exposition Internationale Philatélique « PRAGA 1938 »

Médaille d'Argent, Exposition Philatélique d'Alexandrie 1939.

Médaille d'Argent, Salon du Timbre, Alexandrie 1945.

Médaille de Bronze, Exposition "Phila" Tel-Aviv 1945.

Médaille de Vermeil, Exposition Philatélique du Caire 1946.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER

TABLE DES MATIERES

	Page:		Page:
Table des matières	529	A la Direction Générale des	
Comité de Direction	530	Postes	586
The First Issue of Egypt	531	Official Communiqué G. P. O.	
Nouveautés et Variétés d'Egypte	551	Cairo, Re: Commemorative	
Assemblée Générale du 29 Avril		Stamps	587
1946	556	Easter Stamp Collectors	589
The History of the Foreign		Postal Marking MEX FIRST..	589
Post-Offices in Egypt: The		Jurisprudence Philatélique	589
Posts of Austria in Egypt ..	559	Iraq Varieties	590
Commentaires sur l'Article "The		Bibliography	591
History of the Foreign Post-		Les Emissions des Colonies Fran-	
Offices in Egypt"	567	çaises Libres (suite et fin) ..	593
Musée Fouad 1 ^{er} des Postes		Tirages des Timbres "Avion"	
Egyptiennes	568	1932-39	598
Overprint Errors and Varieties		Principales Annonces	599
on the Portrait issues of		Tarifs des Subscriptions et An-	
Transjordan	576	nonces	599
Commentaires sur l'Article "The		Liste des Nouveaux Membres ..	600
Early Air Stamps of Egypt			
and Sudan"	582		
Rare Stamp Find Hidden in			
Palace for 100 Years	583		

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The First Issue of Egypt

January 1st. 1866

by IBRAHIM CHAFTAR BEY
President of the Philatelic Society of Egypt

INTRODUCTION

Few people here know of the "Egypt Study Circle", its activities and object and only a very few fervent philatelists, specializing in the stamps of Egypt and the Sudan, are even acquainted with this interesting group, founded in 1935 in England amongst members of the Philatelic Society of Egypt.

This Association of advanced philatelists has undertaken the task of writing, in the form of a book, the Postal History of Egypt. This work, when finished, will be published under the title "Egypt: Its Stamps and Postal History". The formal plan has been framed in such a manner that each issue or subject is the object of a careful study.

The different chapters have been dealt with by one or more experts. A paper, once completed, is submitted by the author to the Meeting presided over by Dr. William Byam, O.B.E., a member of the Council of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and a well-known authority on Egyptian Philately. After discussion, the article is sent, in rotation, to all Members outside London for their comments.

Finally, after much scrutiny and examination of data, this is returned to the author and the second edition is published in the organ of the Association, the "Quarterly Circular". Only after review of this second edition by the Members of the "Egypt Study Circle" it is published in our Journal "L'Orient Philatélique".

In 1938, at Armant in Upper Egypt, I came across a copy of the "Quarterly Circular" (No. 2), and being an advanced collector of the stamps of "Emm", I was immediately struck with the value of the work of this group and shortly afterwards I became Member No. 42 and thus had the occasion to correspond with those I now call "my London friends" and to contribute, as far as I could, in the work of fixing the different stages of Egyptian postal history.

When I was transferred to Cairo in 1939, I firmly had in mind the further advancing of the work of the group, by examining amongst the Official Postal Archives such documents as might throw some light upon certain obscure facts. It must not be forgotten that it was not until January 1885 that the "Postal Bulletin" was published with a view to distribute amongst the personnel of the Administration, the Postal Circulars which were then circulated for a short time or were totally unknown.

When I first contacted the Authorities, I learnt that a Commission had already proceeded in 1911 with the task of destroying obsolete files, but the most important documents had, since 1934, been handed over to the Fouad the 1st Postal Museum.

I had hardly started serious research, when the war broke out, and the contents of the Postal Museum had to be moved to a place of safety. I was thus compelled to await better days in order to satisfy general curiosity. Nevertheless I was quite impatient, as I had just been able to catch a glimpse of the Collection of Postal Circulars (No. 81 of the Museum), which made me realise how important would prove my further investigations.

Towards the beginning of 1945, the military situation having become much easier and Egypt now out of danger, our Society approached the General Postmaster of Egypt with a view to reopening the Postal Museum, and this was done.

During the war, notwithstanding the impossibility of consulting the Postal Archives, I continued corresponding with the Members of the Egypt Study Circle, and, at one time Dr. Byam and Mr. J.C. Besly requested me to try and ascertain the exact date of issue of the Bulac printings (1874, 1875/6).

This long digression is necessary in order to explain to my colleagues of the Philatelic Society of Egypt how and why I obtained access to the Postal Archives, where I was fortunate enough to discover documents of the highest importance concerning the 1st issue of Egypt, which are set out as follows and are the object of the present study.

COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF EGYPT

- 1) Letter dated 7th June 1864, from Mr. Muzzi, Director of the Posta Europea, addressed to His Highness Prince Ismail Pasha, Viceroy of Egypt, proposing the issue of postage stamps for the franking of correspondence.
- 2) Letter from the Minister of Public Works, H.E. Nubar Pasha, dated 3rd January 1865, instructing Muzzi bey to proceed, with despatch, with the values, designs and inscriptions required for the postage stamps, in order that the necessary orders can be issued for their execution.
- 3) Notice to the public announcing the liquidation of the Posta Europea (20th November 1864).
- 4) Contract relating to the handing over of the Posta Europea to Messrs. Dervieu & Co. (2nd January 1865).
- 5) Contract in respect of the handing over of the Posta Europea by Messrs. Dervieu & Co. to the Egyptian Government, represented by G. Muzzi bey, first General Postmaster of Egypt (2nd January 1865).
- 6) Notice regarding the use of letter boxes in the streets of Cairo (14th April 1866).
- 7) Letter dated 19th April 1865 from the Ministry of Public Works to Mr. G. Muzzi Bey, General Postmaster of Egypt, delegating him abroad for the purpose of concluding an agreement with a printer for the execution of

the first Egyptian postage stamps, specimens of watermarks and the inscriptions on future postage stamps.

- 8) Correspondence from the Printers Pellas Bros., of Genoa, between 1863 and 1865 with Messrs. De Agostino and G. Muzzi (11 letters).
- 9) Letter dated 27th March 1865, from the Firm Bondi of Turin to Mr. G. Muzzi bey, sending sample and price of the watermarked paper required for the printing of the Egyptian postage stamps.
- 10) Invoice from the Printers Pellas Bros. of Genoa, dated 30th September 1865.
- 11) First postal tariff for the franking of correspondence 1866.
- 12) First postal tariff for the franking of printed matter 1866.
- 13) List dated 25th August 1868, indicating the quantity of stamps of the 1st issue, withdrawn from the Ministry of Finance between the 17th December 1865 and the 24th June 1867.
- 14) Declaration to Mr. G. Muzzi Bey, first General Postmaster of Egypt, presented by the postal Officials in acknowledgment of his services.
- 15) Commemorative medal presented by the employees of the Posts to Mr. G. Muzzi bey, in recognition of his services.

THE LAST DAYS OF THE « POSTA EUROPEA »

After the death of Carlo Meratti, the private postal enterprise founded by him, was transferred to his nephew Tito Chini.

Chini associated himself with Mr. Giacomo Muzzi, a native of Bologna. This choice was a good one, as Muzzi, a man of great intelligence and of a very active nature gave great impetus to Meratti's Post, then called the «Posta Europea» and he opened various offices successively in Lower Egypt.

Muzzi modernized the business, using the latest means of transport, the Railways, which had just been started in Egypt.

An agreement was concluded with the Transit Administration, which later became the Egyptian Railways Administration. This agreement provided for the carrying of mail between Cairo and Alexandria, and vice-versa, for a sum of 72,000 piastres; this was concluded in 1856 for a period of 5 years.

On the 5th March, 1862, a Firman (Decree) from the Viceroy, conferred on Chini and Muzzi the postal monopoly for a term of 10 years, authorizing them to have their postal bags transported on the State Railway Services free, provided they reciprocated by assuring the free delivery of all Governmental correspondence.

After the granting of this concession, it seems the affairs of the Posta Europea progressed rapidly, following the increasing prosperity of the country and above all, the great confidence displayed by the public in the Post, which was even entrusted with the transport of currency. The Government, in add-

Juillet, 1946

tion suppressed almost completely their own Postal service, Muzzi and his partner soon found themselves faced with a decidedly critical situation, because of the supplementary Governmental and private correspondence. The departmental work of franking rapidly became tedious and Muzzi had in mind, as early as 1863, of introducing the system of pre-franking, which had already been successfully tried out in various foreign states: the «postage stamp».

The large Dairas (Estates) and commercial Establishments had the faculty of opening current accounts with The Posta Europea, and one can easily imagine that the public on the other hand did not favour the necessity of going to the Post offices to hand in their letters in person and settle *cuer* in cash or on account. (1)

Soon after the death of Tito Chini, caused by a stupid horse carriage accident, Muzzi, soundly aided by Vittorio Chieffi, the highly experienced new agent, ceded by the Postal Administration of Turin (2), actively pushed on with the examination of his great idea and, in June 1864, prevailed upon the Italian Consul General in Alexandria to submit his petition to the Egyptian Government.

At the same time, Muzzi addressed to H.H. The Viceroy of Egypt, Prince Ismail Pasha, an explanatory note, detailing the advantages of their project, the principal one being the reduction of postal tariffs to a uniform charge of 25 centimes, no matter for what locality in Egypt.

We give below a translation in English of this important document, signed and dated the 7th June, 1864, drafted from the original in the French Language (Document No. 1).

TRANSLATION

HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE ISMAIL PACHA,
VICE-ROY OF EGYPT.

June 7th, 1864.

Your Highness,

The Posta Europea has had the honour to submit to Your Highness's Government through the medium of the Italian Consul General, an application tending to obtain the option of issuing, at its expense postage stamps bearing the August effigy of Your Highness, or such other design as may appeal to Your Highness's wishes, in order to facilitate the payment by the public of the charges due for the franking of correspondence.

This system, due to the initiative of the celebrated English statistician Sir Rowland Hill, is a fact henceforth acquired to the national economy of all the civilized nations of the World, adopted successively by them once this Science had proved its merits,

Egypt, marching forward resolutely on the road of progress, through the intelligent impulse given to its commerce, its industry, and its intellectual movement, by your Highness, cannot delay, without prejudice to its interests and even its credit, the adoption of a measure, the advantages of which are so apparent and Your Highness can do so, since Your Government runs no risk of a hypothetical result.

The Posta Europea on their side are only activated by their disinterestedness in soliciting from Your Highness a favour the country's commerce had already claimed

(1) Mr. Angeloglou tells me he remembers having sold to A.S. Mackenzie Low one of these Statements of Account of the "Posta Europea".

(2) This Agent became Assistant Postmaster General of Egypt, later.

through the medium of the press and only requests the honour of aiding, within the feeble limits of its means, in the work of civilisation that Your Highness has himself so deservedly promoted.

For this purpose, the Posta Europea offers to reduce the different taxes already in force to a uniform figure of 25 centimes per 10 grammes, without regard to distance or destination, for letters franked, and of 50 centimes for letters unfranked, following the system in use in the best organised nations such as England, France, Italy, Prussia, etc...

As demonstrated by the attached tables, the sacrifices resulting would be readily compensated for by the happiness of having contributed to the welfare of the Country and, if from the administrative point of view there may be a certain saving of time and material, the Posta Europea would always be pleased to allot some of the benefit primarily to Your Highness's Government, by allowing its franking to be optional where previously it was obligatory.

In the hopes of a favourable decision, would Your Highness deign to accept our humble respects, together with the assurance of our sincere devotion.

The Director:
G. MUZZI.

List of charges for correspondence in the interior of Egypt, in accordance with the Act of Concession (5th May 1861).

Alexandria to Cairo	P.T.	1	—	25	centimes
Kafr Dawar	„	2	—	52	„
Abu Hommos	„	2	—	52	„
Damanhour	„	2	—	52	„
Teh El-Baroud	„	2	—	52	„
Kafr Zayat	„	2	—	52	„
Tanta	„	2	—	52	„
Birket El Sab	„	2	—	52	„
Minuf	„	2	—	52	„
Milich	„	2	—	52	„
Schibbin	„	2	—	52	„
Benha	„	2	—	52	„
Zefta	„	3	—	78	„
Mehalla	„	3	—	78	„
Samanud	„	3	—	78	„
Zagazik	„	3	—	78	„
Suez	„	3	—	78	„
Atfe	„	3	—	78	„
Mansura	„	4	—	1,04	„
Sherbine	„	4	—	1,04	„
Damietta	„	4	—	1,04	„
Total of		21	—	13,77	centimes
Average			—	0,66	„
Average price per letter				0,66	
Proposed by the Administration				0,25	

Difference in favour of the public per letter .. 0,41 centimes

Muzzi desired, by the adoption of this method, not only to make it easier for the public to settle these charges, but also to save time and material and thus render pre-franking optional. The result, as foreseen by him, certainly would give new impulse to his enterprise, already so flourishing and valuable.

The Khedive Ismail Pa ha, realizing immediately the advantage of such a procedure, and wishing that his Government should control all the means useful to the progress of his Country, decided on the repurchase of the Monopoly, even though the concession had 8 more years to run. Ismail Pasha gave orders to conclude the operation in favour of the State, as quickly as possible, no matter at what cost.

It was the French banker Mr. Dervieu who concluded the deal in good time, at a sum of 950,000 gold francs.

Giacomo Muzzi and the heirs of Chini accepted the transaction, and it still exists in the hands of the latter, a copy of the original deed of sale, on which the proportions due to each are enumerated.

On the other hand, Muzzi accepted the post of Postmaster General of Egypt, with the title of Bey.

It must be assumed that the negotiators assured him that his project for the creation of Postage Stamps would be proceeded with, but on the account of the Egyptian Government.

The Deed of sale of the *Posta Europea* was signed on the 29th October, 1864, and the public informed of the cessation of its activities on the 20th November. The representatives of the Dervieu Bank formally took possession of the installation under a *proces-verbal* dated 2nd January, 1865 (Document No. 4).

The same day, the Egyptian Government acquired the property of the *Posta Europea* and it was Muzzi Bey himself, as Postmaster General of Egypt, who took over in the name of the Egyptian Government (Document No. 5).

PLACING OF THE ORDER

As soon as he took office as Postmaster General of Egypt, Muzzi Bey received from the Minister of Public Works, H.E. Nubar Pasha, an order dated 3rd January, 1865, to proceed immediately with the project of creation of postage stamps, particularly in regard to the different values, designs and inscriptions to be adopted in this connection (Document No. 2).

We have already mentioned that as far back as 1863, Muzzi Bey thought of introducing in Egypt, on account of the *Posta Europea*, a Postage stamp, similar to that of other foreign states.

He had called for tenders from various firms specializing in the printing of stamps, and had proofs prepared in Italy, Austria, England etc.

Offers were received from the following firms: Pellas Brothers of Genoa; The Press of the Imperial Court of the State C.R. Kallenbrunner of Vienna, and an English Company, the name of which was not quoted. It is also possible that Muzzi Bey may have received other offers, but no trace thereof can now be found in the Postal Archives.

In the file concerning the First Issue, we have come across two letters sent by the Firm Pellas Brothers to a certain Mr. de Agostini, Head of the Section in the Public Works Department of Turin. These letters, dated 17th August and 31st December, 1863, are of great importance (Document No. 8).

In the first letter Messrs. Pellas Brothers of Genoa, quote their price for the printing of these stamps, remarking that:—

« Owing to the restricted quantity required for the needs of this Kingdom, the preliminary expenditure, such as the preparation of designs, engraving, proofs on stone and plates and other graphic inscriptions necessary for each type of stamp, the estimated price would be 2000 lire per type »

« The price then for the manufacture of 500,000 of these stamps is 5 lire per thousand, whereas for one million the charge would be 4 lire per thousand. This price includes the cost of perforating by a machine of modern design ».

The second letter, dated 31st December, 1863, is also addressed to Mr. de Agostini, in answer to a request for a reduction in price, and informs Pellas Brothers of the existence of a cheaper offer received from an English firm.

Pellas Brothers, throughout their letter, outlined the quality of their work, the finish of their engraving, the vividness of their colours, etc. concluding that the English Firm's prices were vague, and asked Mr. De Agostini to inform his Alexandria Friend (Muzzi) that they were prepared to quote the same prices and even to offer a discount subject on the duration of the issue and sole rights on this work.

It is obvious by these two letters that the preliminary negotiations were well advanced and Muzzi, in submitting his petition of the 7th June, 1864, to the Viceroy of Egypt, had already made his choice and probably decided to entrust Pellas Brothers, his fellowcountrymen, with the execution of the proposed postage stamps.

On the 11th February, 1865, the Firm Pellas Brothers informed the Postmaster General of Egypt, of the death of their mutual friend, Mr. de Agostini, and at the same time they renewed their offer of 1863.

On March 11th, 1865, the Minister of Public Works, H.E. Nubar Pasha, instructed Muzzi Bey to contact an European firm specialized in such matters, for the supply of watermarked paper, necessary for the future issue and to have printed around all borders of such sheets in Arabic and European, the following inscription:—

« Amministrazione delle Vice-Reali Poste Egiziane ». (*)

On March the 27th, 1865, the Firm Bondi of Turin, forwarded samples of watermarked paper used for the manufacture of Italian postage stamps, quoted the cost (35 lire for each 500 sheets, each sheet 400 stamps, or 35 lire for each 200,000 stamps), undertaking to manufacture watermarked paper of whatever design required (Document No. 9).

(*) Incidentally, it must here be pointed out that on the final issue this inscription was only executed in the Italian language.

Ministero de Lavori Pubblici
Divisione V. R. Poste.

87 -
Oggetto

Fabbricazione dei
Franci Bolli
Cairo 19. Aprile 1865.

Per perfezionare l'orga-
nizzazione della V. R. Poste Egiziane
e per rendere ancor più facile la
contabilità a queste relative, è
necessario che al più presto possi-
bile siano posti in uso i
Franci Bolli postali.

È incarico di far sta-
guire in Europa la fabbrica-
zione dei Franci Bolli occorrenti
non saprei a chi meglio affidar-
se non a Lei S. G. Direttore
Generale, onde il Governo possa
essere sicuro che la spesa non
vi s'inchioda e perché son
persuaso che la S. V. M. M. M. pre-
sidi sul proposito tutte le
precauzioni necessarie. In
conseguenza di che Ella è
autorizzata di recarsi in Europa
per suddetti scopo e di rimanervi
fino alla completa fabbricazione
delle quantità necessarie per far
fronte ai bisogni postali per due
anni

N. 1 -
20/4/65 -
1/2

All. Illmo Signore
G. C. Murri Bey
Direttore G. R. delle V. R. Poste
Egiziane
Cairo

anni almeno.
Le spese relative tanto alla
fabbricazione dei Franci Bolli quanto
a quelle di Ella incontrerà per
di Lei viaggio, le porterò a carico
della V. R. Poste.
Li Franci Bolli in discorso
devranno riunire le seguenti con-
dizioni.

1. La carta dovrà essere fab-
bricata da una cartiera che abbia
di già fornito con soddisfazione
altro Governo e che presenti tutta
la garanzia possibile. Questa
carta avrà ai quattro lati le
seguenti legende.
"Franci Bolli"
"V. R. Poste Egiziane"
"Ministero di Lavori Pubblici" per
due lati.

L'imbrio a filigrana di
ciascun Franci Bolli, da essere impressa
nella carta sarà come all'annesso disegno.

2. La serie dei Franci Bolli
saranno divise come segue nelle
qui sotto descritte quantità

Da. Paia 5. A 200000 rappresentando il valore di Paia	57,500.
" " 10. A 200000 " " " "	50,000.
" " 20. A 200000 " " " "	100,000.
Da. Paia G. 1. A 200000 " " " "	1,200,000.
" " 2. A 500000 " " " "	1,000,000.
" " 5. A 300000 " " " "	1,500,000.
" " 10. A 200000 " " " "	2,000,000.
Totale A. 2,900,000 " " " "	P. E. 5,880,500.

Ministero de Lavori Publici
Divisione V. R. Poste.

N. 87 -
Oggetto

Fabbricazione dei
Franco Bolli

Cairo 19. Aprile 1865.

Per perfezionare l'orga-
nizzazione della V. R. Poste Egiziane
e per rendere ancora più facile la
contabilità a queste relative, è
necessario che al più presto possi-
bile siano posti in uso i
Franco Bolli postali.

Si incarico di far ese-
guire in Europa la fabbricazio-
ne dei Franco Bolli occorrenti
non saprei a chi meglio affidarlo
se non a Lei S. G. Direttore
Generale, onde il Governo possa
essere sicuro che la Spese non
vi si intrometta e perché son
puntuato che la S. V. M. M. sia
decisa sul proposito tutte le
precauzioni necessarie. In
conseguenza di che Ella è
autorizzata di recarsi in Europa
pel suddetto scopo e di rimanervi
fino alla completa fabbricazione
delle quantità necessarie per far
fronte ai bisogni postali per due
anni

N. 1 -
20/4/65 -
1/2

All' Illmo Signore
G. C. Murri Bey
Direttore G. R. delle V. R. Poste
Egiziane
Cairo

anni almeno.

Le spese relative tanto alla
fabbricazione dei Franco Bolli quanto
a quelle ch' Ella incontrerà pel
di Lei viaggio, le porterò a carico
della V. R. Poste.

Li Franco Bolli in discorso
dovranno riunire le seguenti con-
dizioni.

1. La carta dovrà essere fab-
bricata da una Cartiera che abbia
di già fornito con soddisfazione
altrò Governo e che presenti tutta
la garanzia possibile. Questa
carta avrà ai quattro lati le
seguenti legende.

- "Franco Bolli"
- "V. R. Poste Egiziane"
- "Ministero di Lavori Publici" per
due lati.

L'ombra o filigrana di
ciascun Franco Bollo, da esser impressa
nella carta sarà come all' esempio disegno.

2. La serie dei Franco Bolli
saranno divise come segue nelle
qui sotto descritte quantità

Da Paris 5.	A 500000	appresentanti il valore di P. E.	57.500.
" " 10.	A 200000	" " "	50.000.
" " 20.	A 200000	" " "	100.000.
Da Porto S.	A 1.600.000	" " "	1.200.000
" "	A 500000	" " "	1.000.000.
" "	A 300000	" " "	1.500.000.
" "	A 200000	" " "	2.000.000.
Totale	A 2.900.000	" " "	P. E. 5.887.500.

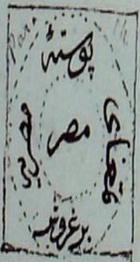
3°

Modello dell'Ombra a Siligiana per i Franco-Bolli
Egiziani



Cairo 20. Aprile 1865.

Franco-Bolli Postali Egiziani



Cairo 19. Aprile 1865.

Il Ministro

- Paro 5. بنس
- Paro 10. اونبار
- Paro 20 بكمبار
- PE 1. برعوض
- PE 2. ابيعوض
- PE 5. بنعوض
- PE 10. اونعوض

3° I. Franco Bolli
dovranno essere del tutto
simili al campione che
unisce, solo che nei quattro
angoli vi sarà posto in
cifre europee il loro valore.

Lascio a di Lei scelta
i colori includendo soltanto
il Verde.

Interesso poi la S.V.
Stima aver fare in
modo che questa Commissione
sia quanto più presto possi-
bile compiuta, poichè è
desiderabile che per comodità
del Commercio, sia tal
misura adottata senza
ritardo.

Il Ministro
M. Nubar

On April 19th, 1865, all administrative and preparatory work being completed, the Minister of Public Works, H.E. Nubar Pasha, instructed Mr. G. Muzzi Bey, to leave for Europe on behalf of the Government, in order to conclude an agreement with a printing house for the manufacture of Postage stamps for the Egyptian Government.

Specifications for the supply of the watermarked paper were set out in detail together with a drawing of the watermark: a Pyramid surmounted by a star, and the text of the inscription to be printed on either margin of the sheet.

The set was designed to contain seven values, 5, 10 and 20 paras, 1, 2, 5 and 10 piastres, of a generally identical aspect, with slight variations in the corners for the inscription of the values in European numbers. Specimen of the superscriptions for all values was also supplied.

The choice of colour for each value was left to the discretion of Muzzi Bey, the green colour, however, being excluded.

This document is so interesting that we reproduce it here in facsimile (Document No. 7). Note the inscriptions, the figures and the design for the watermark.

Muzzi Bey left for Europe, contacted Pellas Brothers, and entrusted them with the printing of the Egyptian Postage Stamps.

Apparently he remained in Italy until the end of September, as would appear from a letter from Giuseppe Pellas dated 27th September, 1865, sent to his address in Egypt, where he was returning after his mission was completed.

This letter is so important from a philatelic point of view that we give below a copy and a translation thereof.

FRATELLI PELLAS FU L.

Genova, 27 Settembre 1865.

Carissimo Signor Muzzi,

Non gli ho scritto a Messina come avevo annunciato con mio dispiacimento nella convinzione che partendo prestamente da questa città per Napoli, forse la mia lettera non perveniva, riservandomi invece di scrivergli a Napoli, ma il suo telegramma del 26 corrente manda a vuoto le mie risoluzioni, e mi spiace assai di questa contrarietà, perchè posso essere tacciato, benchè innocentemente, di poco diligente. Al suo arrivo in Egitto troverà questa mia.

Prima di entrare in affari permetta che le esprima il dolore che provai nel sentire che il suo soggiorno in Messina fu amareggiato da sciagure e sofferenze. Queste mie scuse di dolore voglia pure presentare alla degnissima sua consorte per lo sventurato caso che le occorre. Faccio voti che tali dolorosi accidenti non debbano più amareggiare la loro vita, e che giunti in Egitto possano trascorrere giorni più lieti in seno alla loro famiglia, di quelli che passarono in Genova e a Messina.

Abbas partirà sabato corrente con tutti i francobolli, col vapore inglese. Io lo raccomandai particolarmente agli Agenti di Genova, e li pregai, marcando le stanze per i passeggeri, di far mettere in luogo sicuro la cassa contenente i francobolli, e mi risposero che avrebbero pregato il Capitano di metterla nella sua propria stanza.

Al suo arrivo in Egitto avrà trovato una cartella contenente due copie d'ogni qualità di francobolli da presentare a S.A. Una copia di questi è stampata sulla carta filigranata, e un'altra sopra diverse qualità di carta uguale a quella colla quale feci stampare i francobolli da una piastra.

Io mi sono deciso a far ciò per le seguenti ragioni:

Primieramente, avendomi il fabbricante di carta fornito la medesima assai male incollata, ne succedeva che stampati e quindi ingommati affinchè possano rimanere attaccati alle lettere, ne succedeva che il foglio di carta a mano lasciava passare attraverso alle sue fibre la gomma, e questo rendeva il foglio come se fosse stato sporcato dall'olio. Per evitare un tale inconveniente credetti opportuno, essendo già stampata la massima parte dei francobolli, meno quelli da una piastra, di immergere il foglio di carta già stampato in una soluzione di allume, affinchè lo rendesse impermeabile alla gomma, questo rimedio per una parte riuscì, ma per un'altra, cioè per quelli che avevano una pessima colla, non valse a nulla ed ebbi per risultato una immensa quantità di fogli guasti, come potrà attestarle Abbas.

L'immersione dei fogli nella soluzione ad allume restringendo alquanto i fogli nel tempo che asciugavano, mi risolvetti secondariamente a non volerla più metter in uso in quelli da una piastra. Il restringimento del foglio, cagionava un guasto ragguardevole sui francobolli per l'operazione della puntigliatura, perchè messo a segno lo marchino per puntigliare due fogli se questi sono perfettamente uguali, perfetta ed uguale ne riesce la puntigliatura; e difettosa invece se questi, come nell'attuale caso, sono differenti.

Vedrò dai campioni quanto quelli da una piastra superano gli altri in bellezza, e quanto meglio sia riuscita la puntigliatura.

Questo arrangiamento di carta mi cagionò assai danni, primieramente la lavorazione andò assai più lenta, e i fogli guasti riuscirono considerevoli, secondariamente mi rimase tutta la carta che era destinata alla stampa dei francobolli da una piastra inservibile, perchè colla filigrana della piramide non mi può più servire a nulla. In considerazione di questo danno se lei crede che io possa domandare un prezzo maggiore, cioè di cinque lire al mille in luogo di quattro e cinquanta, io lo farò; altrimenti mi contenterò della somma patuita, avendo imparato a mie spese di non fidarmi più di alcun fabbricante di carta del paese. A questo riguardo io gli spedirò due conti, uno conteggiato a ragione di quattro lire e mezza per ogni mille, giusto l'accordo, e l'altro in ragione di lire cinque al mille, e lei presenterà al Governo Egiziano quello che crede; quello che farà sarà ben fatto.

In quanto concerne la commissione delle cassette ho scritto al fabbricante e attendo un riscontro—io, da conto mio, solleciterò il più possibile l'esecuzione dei suoi ordini.

Termino d'annoiarla pregandola di presentare i miei vivi saluti alla gentile di lei consorte, dia un bacio per me ai suoi due graziosi bambini che conobbi a Genova, e lei s'abbia una stretta di mano.

Dal suo affmo. amico

(GIUS. PELLAS)

TRANSLATION

FRATELLI PELLAS FU L.

Genoa, September 27th, 1865.

Dear Mr. Muzzi,

I have not written to Messina, as I had wired you, because I knew that you had to leave quickly for Naples, probably would not get my letter in time. So I thought it better to write you in Naples; but your cable of 26th inst. changed my plans again. I feel sorry about it, as I can be blamed for neglect. On your arrival in Egypt you will find this letter.

Before going into other matters, let me tell you how grieved I was to hear of the misfortune and sufferings during your stay in Messina. Kindly convey to your wife all my sympathy for the unfortunate circumstances she has met with. I hope that such sad events will never occur again and that, on your arrival in Egypt, you will enjoy with your family happier days than those spent in Genoa and Messina.

Abbas will sail on Saturday next, carrying all the postage-stamps, by the English steamer. I recommended him to the Genoa representatives, and I asked them while I was booking the tickets, to keep the stamp-box in a safe place. They promised me they would arrange with the Captain to have this box kept in his own cabin.

On your arrival in Egypt you must have found an envelope containing two copies of each type of postage-stamps to be shown to His Highness. One of these copies is printed on filigrane-paper and the other on several qualities of paper, the same on which the one-piastre stamps has been printed.

I decided to do so for the following reasons:

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. In order to avoid this, I thought it better, as most of the postage-stamps were already printed—except those of one piastre—to plunge the printed sheets of postage-stamps in an alum-bath to render them gum-proof; this processing was successful for some sheets but it was a failure in the case of the poor pasted sheets; as a result, an enormous quantity of paper was lost, as Abbas can certify.

The plunging of the sheets in the alum-bath shrank them while they were drying, so I decided to abandon this process for the one-piastre postage-stamps. The shrinking of the sheets caused a serious damage on the postage-stamps when perforated. This is due to the fact that the perforation device being intended to work on two sheets, the result is perfect if the two sheets are absolutely equal, otherwise it is quite unsatisfactory.

You will notice from the samples, that the one piastre postage-stamps are the most beautiful, with a perfect perforation.

This change of paper caused me some loss: first—the workmanship was slower and more paper was wasted, second—I was left with all the paper of the one piastre postage-stamp which is useless being printed with the pyramid filigrane.

Consequently, if you think that I can charge a higher price—5 lire %^o instead of 4, 5%^o—I shall do so; otherwise I will maintain the price already agreed. Anyhow I have learned, to my detriment, that I must not rely upon any paper dealer in this country.

I shall send you two invoices: one made out for 4 lire and half per 1,000; as agreed, and a second one for 5 lire per 1,000; you will present to the Egyptian Government the one you will think suitable and I agree, beforehand, on all you will do.

In regard to the letter-boxes, I have written to the manufacturer and I am waiting for a reply. I shall do my best to accelerate your orders.

I beg to convey my kind regards to your wife and a kiss to your two nice babies I knew in Genoa.

Shakehand to you,

Your friend,

G. PELLAS.

The first impression from the perusal of this letter is that Muzzi Br^o must have attended the engraving process, and approved the designs, but that he had to get on his return journey before seeing the actual impressions, leaving this matter to the supervision of an employee of the Egyptian Postal Administration, a certain Abbas.

This document, however, proves definitely why the stamps of the First Issue of Egypt are so badly centred (shrinkage of the paper after the various washings, especially the alum bath prior to perforation), also why on certain stamps the gum appears on the printed surface and, above all, why the 1 piastre stamps are differently printed from those of other values, and on a totally different paper, unwatermarked.

Further, this letter puts on record that the stamps were perforated by Pellas Brothers in Italy, before delivery to the Egyptian Postal Administration.

Nevertheless, from the testimony of contemporaries, it is also proved that some sheets of stamps of different denominations arrived in Alexandria non perforated or irregularly perforated, leaving complete rows without separation, vertically or horizontally.

It is probable therefore that trials of local perforations were made with machines of the Alexandria Lithographers V. Penasson, the perforation 12 1/2 x 15 having surely been made by the machine used for the perforation of the stamps of the second issue.

The letter dated 2nd October confirms the previous one of 27th September, 1865, and mentions that the 1 piastre stamps were printed on a better paper and were superior to the others. Pellas Brothers confirm having handed to Abbas, besides the stamps themselves, the plate of the watermark serving for the production of the paper used for the issue, the plates for the 1 piastre stamps, the plates for the superscriptions for the 2 piastres value, and the original text which was used for the superscriptions of all the types of stamps. The drawing of the other stamps was not sent as having been lithographed on stone it was afterwards defaced. The original had been carved on a stone bearing also other designs which could not therefore be sent unless expressly requested to be returned.

Owing to the ambiguity of the Italian text, we quote below an extract of the passage where this information is given. After consultation with several people, well versed in the Italian language, the translation we have given of the paragraph below could, we believe, be considered correct.

Consegnai ad Abbas il tutto in buono stato e condizione, i pacchi furono da lui contati e sigillati in sua presenza, e quindi incassati. Nella medesima mandai la filigrana che servi' per la confezione della carta e le stampe dei francobolli da una piastra, e lo scritto di quelli da due, e l'originalo che servi' a confezionare lo scritto di tutte le qualità dei francobolli. Non mandai il disegno delle altre perchè inciso su pietre litografiche che tosto eseguito fu cancellato. L'originale fu messo su pietre che contengono altri disegni che mi rinerescerebbe perdere, se pero' vuole che gli mandi gli spediro'.

TRANSLATION

I handed to Abbas all in good order and condition, the contents of the packets having been checked by him and sealed in his presence and then settled for. With same, I sent the watermark used for the manufacture of the paper and the plate of the 1 piastre stamp and the inscription of that of the P.T. 2, also the original which served for the preparation of the inscription on all the types of stamps. The drawing of the others were not sent as, having been lithographed on stone they were afterwards defaced. The original was carved on stone which bore other drawings and which I would regret to lose, if you want it, please let me know and I will despatch it.

NUMBERS PRINTED. — ESSAYS.

Below we give in reproduction the facsimile of the account rendered by Messrs. Pellas Brothers, dated 30th September, 1865. One notices at once that Mr. Muzzi, satisfied with the work and the verbal explanations given by Abbas, gave orders for settlement to be made on the basis of 5 lire per thousand stamps, instead of 4,50 as agreed; nevertheless, he asked that the watermarked paper not utilized as well as the printing residues be handed over. This was done by the printers as stated in their letter of the 26th October, 1865. These remainders were shipped on the British steamer «America».

Unfortunately, it would appear that the sheets of watermarked paper were not carefully kept as some were subtilised from the State by an audacious forger, who, in 1891, had the temerity to propose to the Firm Stanley Gibbons to reprint the 5 and 10 piastres, as well as the error in superscription of the 10 piastres on 5 piastres, to the exclusion of the other values.

In his letter, he said he was in possession of 20 sheets, sufficient to contain 100 units each, or 2000 stamps. In the light of documents, we understand now that they really were 20 half-sheets.

Melville, who reports this matter in his book «Egypt» relates that thanks to the prompt action of Stanley Gibbons, the Postmaster General of Egypt then in office, was able to get hold of the stolen sheets, as well as the date stamps in possession of the forger. The sheets were destroyed and the date stamps were deleted.

Nevertheless, we know to-day, that the forger was able to carry out part of his scheme which we call the «Salama» forgeries. The 5 and 10 paras and the 2, 5 and 10 piastres and the superscription error of the 10 piastres on 5 piastres exist in circulation. They were printed on officially watermarked paper, ungummed, generally with some writing in ink on the reverse, and they unfortunately appear in many collections.

They can be classified as so-called «dangerous forgeries». Fortunately, however, we specialists in Egypt, thanks to certain imperfections of the engraving and superscription, are able to detect and describe all we know about them, to say more now would be beside the subject. These «Salama» forgeries will certainly be the subject of a forthcoming article.

Let us revert to the interesting letters of Pellas Brothers. That of the 26th October, 1865, acknowledges receipt of a letter of the 18th of the same month, from the Secretary General of the Egyptian Postal Administration, Mr. Chietfi, informing the suppliers, of the satisfaction expressed by H.H. the Viceroy for the execution and finish of the Egyptian stamps, judged from a view of the essays submitted to him.

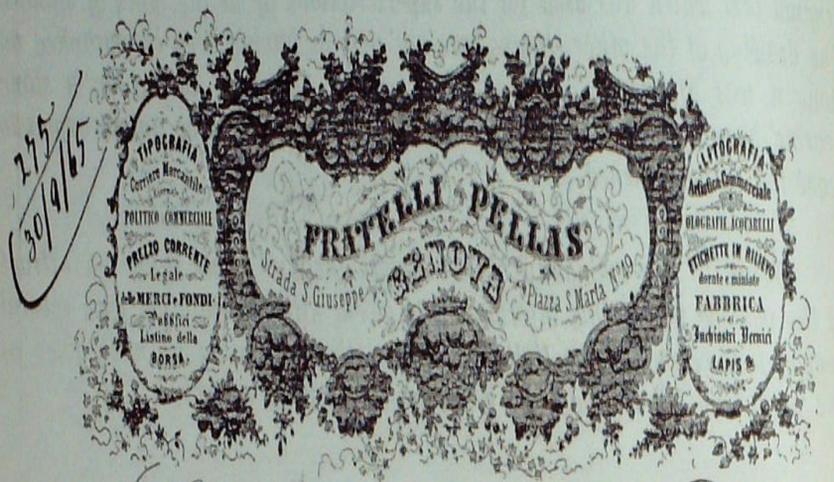
It must be remembered, here, that in the letter dated 27th September, mention is made of the despatch, before the delivery of the main order, of a small parcel containing the printed essays, some on officially watermarked paper, and the others on various qualities of paper identical to that used for the manufacture of the 1 piastre stamps.

The remainder of the correspondence from Pellas Brothers concerns an order for Postal Boxes to be placed in various parts of the Capital and of Postal Sacks. The Postal Boxes were used for the first time in Cairo on the 14th April, 1866 (Document No. 6).

Here we conclude our study of the valuable correspondence which has thrown such light on the question of the First Issue of Egypt, from a Philatelic point of view: manufacture; perforation; essays; printing of the stamps of 1 piastre; 2 piastres; etc., etc.

Needless to add that the decree announcing the issue was sanctioned on the 21/12/1865 and the sets were put on sale in all the Post Offices on the 1st of January 1866.

Amongst the documents placed at our disposal was an original document dated « Alexandria, — 25th August 1868 » signed by the Postmaster General of Egypt, G. Muzzi Bey, transmitting to the Ministry of Finance a detailed statement of issues of stamps of the First Issue, value by value, the number sold, and those returned to the Ministry.



225/30/9/65
 Fog. _____
 Sig.^{ro} Cav. Muzzi Bey, Direttore Generale
 delle Poste Egiziane per conto del Governo Egiziano in Alessandria
 Genova, 30. Settembre, 1865.

Per fornitura di:

6000	Fogli Francobolli da Piastre 1.	
2500	" " da " 2.	
1500	" " da " 5.	
1000	" " da " 10.	
1500	" " da Para 5.	
1250	" " da " 10.	
1250	" " da " 20.	
15000	Fogli in totale a 200 Francobolli caduno	
	formano L. 3,000,000 di Francobolli	
	a Lire Italiane 5. al migliaio Lire 15000. " "	
	Forme per la Carta Filo-ranata	500. " "
	Regalato per suo ordine a lavoranti	500. " "
	N. 8. Scatole di latta per imballaggio	45. " "
	N. 1. Casse di legno per imballaggio	25. " "
	Affrancazione di Una Cassetta Campioni	1000. " "
	per Alessandria Egitto	40. 20.
	Totale Lire Italiane	16110. 20.

Diciamo Lire Italiane Sedecimila Cento dieci
 e Centesimi Venti.
 Genova add. 30. Settembre 1865.



F. Pellas

9/2

no 103 - F/3
31/12/67.-

FRANCOBOLLI RITIRATI DAL MINISTERO DELLE FINANZE

DAL 17 DICEMBRE 1865 AL 24 GIUGNO 1867

	PARA			PIASTRE			
	5	10	20	1	2	5	10
<u>1865</u>							
17 Dicembre	12000	20000	20000	40000	30000	20000	8000
<u>1866</u>							
4 Gennaio				100000			
12 Gennaio	100000	100000	100000				
10 Febbraio				100000	60000	10000	10000
8 Aprile	20000	20000	20000	100000	20000	20000	5000
1 Giugno			50000	150000			
8 Agosto	100000	60000	60000	100000			
4 Ottobre				200000	20000		
9 Novembre		40000		200000	40000		
<u>1867</u>							
14 Marzo	67800	9800		209800			
24 Giugno					30000		
Ritirati - Totale	299800	249800	250000	1199800	200000	50000	23000
Consumati "	254400	238600	240199	1190657	165400	18400	7600
Restituiti "	45400	11200	9801	9143	34600	31600	15400

Alessandria, li 25 Agosto 1868

Il Direttore Generale.

This statement immediately raises a very serious question: the fate of the unsold stamps?

A copy of this recapitulation follows:—An analysis of this statement gives us to understand that the stamps of the 10, 20 paras and P.T. 1 values were almost exhausted when the stamps of the second issue were put on sale. It is for this reason that unused copies of these values are so rare.

On the other hand, there was left a remainder of the 5 paras and P.T. 2 values, and an important quantity of stamps of the 5 and 10 piastres denominations, which explains the difficulty arising to find copies of the latter in used condition.

A single document, which might have clarified the matter, is a letter from an European firm, dated 12th December, 1868, offering to purchase the remainder of all the stamps of the 1st Issue. This is all we now have to work upon. This mystery remains complete: Did they destroy, or did they sell the stamps obsolete?

My personal opinion, unless I receive proof to the contrary, is that they were destroyed, because it is almost impossible to secure blocks of the higher values of the 1866 stamps, which are rare enough to-day.

Towards the end of the issue, the 13th July 1867, the 1 piastre value having become exhausted, the Administration officially authorized the use of the 2 piastres cut diagonally to serve as a 1 piastre to take effect in Alexandria on the 16th July 1867 and in Cairo on the 19th July 1867.

Here it must be noted that the Second Issue was placed on sale on 1st August, 1867, and that the above-mentioned permission was granted solely to take over a shortage difficulty between the two issues.

This commentary on the documents concerning the 1st Issue ends here. I believe I have given a pretty clear account, allowing us to gather new facts that have come to our notice, now for the first time, without having to publish them all.

These documents may prove a revelation to Philatelists in general and to specialists in Egypt in particular. It appears worthwhile now to revise all the facts in our possession and to review our records, to bring them into line with the sensational findings, which, we may now reveal, furthered in good part the holding of the FIRST CAIRO PHILATELIC EXHIBITION of February 1946, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the issue of the First Egyptian Postage Stamp.

In my opinion, the only point remaining to be verified, is that of the Essays on Watermarked and sundry unwatermarked papers. What are they and what has been saved of such Essays?

At this point we must refer, if we can, to the important records which must exist in Royal, State or Private collections.

Now that hostilities are over, Dr. W. Byam will, I hope, have an opportunity and the permission—once more—to look over His Britannic Majesty's Collections, placed in safety during the London blitz, and to draw up a detailed account of these watermarked or unwatermarked Essays.

Other State Collections, such as the Tapling's, possibly the Berlin, etc... may supply unvaluable information so far neglected, forgotten or unknown.

A Royal collection, which will no doubt reveal untold treasures and marvels only if they could be glanced at, is that assembled by the Royal Dynasty of Egypt. This collection, further enriched by numerous purchases of advanced specialised studies is well kept in fine order and as already referred to in the Pellas correspondence, a record mentioned «A small box despatched to H.H. Prince Ismail Pasha, Vice Roy of Egypt, containing a complete set of Essays and to the satisfaction expressed in their respect by His Highness»...

This «treasure» which probably must still exist at the Royal Palace holds the clue of the interesting query on early Essays and Stamps of Egypt.

I appeal to all philatelists, Collectors of Egypt, here and abroad, to communicate to me any information, photographs, documents or, eventually, to forward to me the Essay itself, properly protected, Registered and Insured.

These notes will be revised and regrouped, and will become the object of a study, the result of which will be communicated here.

THE END

NOUVEAUTES ET VARIETES D'EGYPTE

par JEAN BOULAD (S.P.E. 155)

VARIETES DE LA 3^{me} EMISSION 1872-1874/5.



M. V. Casano, notre spécialiste d'Egypte bien connu, nous communique les variétés suivantes:—

5 paras brun, Penasson, dentelure 12 1/2 x 13 1/4, existe avec *Cadre brisé* en bas à droite (voir illustration).

10 paras mauve, Penasson, dentelure 12 1/2 x 13 1/4, existe en filigrane renversé (IV).

1 piastre rose rouge, Penasson, dentelure 12 1/2 x 13 1/4, existe en filigrane renversé (IV).

1 piastre rose rouge, Penasson, dentelure 12 1/2 x 13 1/4, cadre brisé en haut, à gauche, Zeheri N° 17-f., existe en filigrane renversé (IV).

5 paras brun, Boulac, diverses dentelures, variétés des cadres brisés (voir illustrations).

1 piastre rouge clair, Boulac, dentelure 13 1/2 x 12 1/2, existe avec variété du cadre brisé presque identique à la variété Zeheri N° 17-f.

1 piastre rouge clair, Boulac, existe dentelé 13 1/2 x 13 1/2 x 12 1/2 x n.d.

20 paras sur P.T. 5 vert (Zeheri N° 31) existe l'essai de la surcharge en noir en feuilles de 240 unités.

Timbres taxe de la troisième émission 1888, existent les essais en noir de chaque valeur en feuilles de 100 unités.

A. SHIFRIN

R.C.C. 53971

P.T.S.

S.P.E. 676.

B.P.A.

S.D.A.

J.P.S.

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CAIRO, Egypt.

Dr. O. REICHERT

NEGOCIANT EN TIMBRES-POSTE

R.C.C. 1935

S.P.E. 308

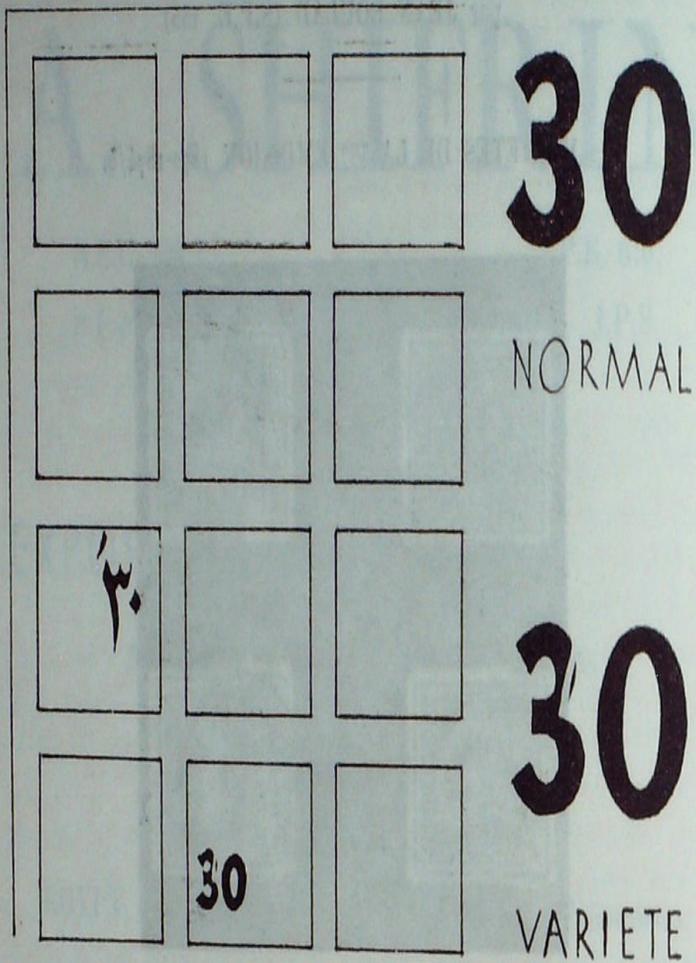
Achats — Echanges — Ventes de Timbres du

Monde Entier — Expertise Gratuite

4, RUE EMAD EL DINE

LE CAIRE

30 MILLS. FAROUK: VARIETE CONSTANTE DU 3 CASSE.



M. I. Chaftar Bey illustre ci-dessus une variété constante du chiffre "3" du 30 millièmes Farouk.

Celle-ci est visible sur un des panneaux du 30 millièmes gris noir, contrôle A/45. La position de cette nouvelle variété est montrée au schéma représentant un bloc de 15 détaché du coin supérieur gauche du panneau.

Le "3" est nettement cassé et il semble que cette variété soit le résultat d'un choc subi par le cliché à cet endroit.

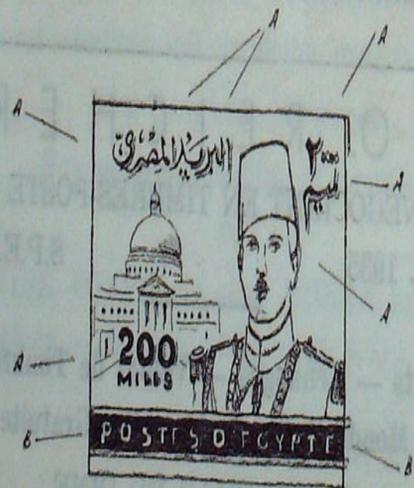
Le nouveau 30 millièmes de couleur verdâtre, contrôle A/45; reproduit lui aussi

cette même variété exactement au même endroit. Ces "3" cassés seront par conséquent bien représentés dans une collection par deux blocs de 15 des deux teintes du timbre en question.

Un petit accent constant à l'encre, au dessus du 3 arabe est incidemment à remarquer sur le même bloc de 15.

On pouvait à juste titre préjuger que les deux tirages (celui du gris noir A/45 et du verdâtre A/45) proviennent d'une même et unique planche et ceci a été confirmé après enquête.

200 MILLS. FAROUK: DOUBLE IMPRESSION.



M. H.J. Fresco, notre sympathique architecte, nous communique une pièce ainsi qu'une bande de trois du 200 mills. Farouk

en cours: ces quatre timbres montrent à l'œil nu une double impression tel que montre le dessin illustrant cette rubrique agran-

dissant fidèlement un des timbres en question, sur l'inscription à la base du timbre.

Ces timbres proviennent d'un fragment de feuille-bloc de 12—découvert dans une inscription et du portrait et les points B réserve de timbres pour correspondance, le le chevauchement causé par le doublage numéro de contrôle est inconnu.

MISPLACED PERFORATIONS KING FAROUK.



Although misplaced perforations are perhaps only of secondary importance, they at any rate deserve to figure in specialised collections of Egypt and the above 10 mills. (see photo) is particularly outstanding because the Arabic inscription "The Kingdom of Egypt" in the top label is almost obliterated by the misplaced perforation in question.

It also follows that owing to the perforation having been dropped about 3 millimetres there is a margin of similar dimensions under "Postes d'Egypte" which should not exist, whilst on the stamps of the bottom row there is a white margin on what should be non-marginal stamps.

F.A. Smyth (S.P.E. 411)

CURIOUS 4 MILLS. FAROUK 1937 "OFF CENTER"



An S.G. 282, 4 mills. green of Egypt discovered used postally, showing curious "off centering", causing the inscriptions in French on arabic to appear both on the lower edge of the stamp as if it were of a new design.

The stamp on the left shown here is a normal piece, the one on the right is the variety reported and which is now included in the Mr. A. Ceysens collection.

Only this one used specimen has so far been seen.

10 MILLS. FAROUK, FOLDED SHEET.



A curiosity caused by the folding of a sheet of the current 10 Mills. stamp of Farouk (Control N° B/44).

This fold runs across from the top of the

second vertical column to the bottom of the third. The effect on the portrait will be noted and it shows how in these days of speed and urgency, accidents in printing can occur in spite of the greatest of care.

TIMBRES POSTE.

En Janvier-Février dernier, les 40 et 50 mills. ont été émis dans une nuance nettement plus foncée que jusqu'alors; les chiffres de contrôle sont respectivement B/44 et A/45.

Faisant suite à l'information publiée p. 409 à propos de l'emploi de la couleur verte, au lieu de bleue, pour le timbre de 22 mills. de l'émission commémorative de l'Union Arabe, signalons que cette explication est également applicable au timbre de 22+22 mills. de l'émission du 28 Février 1946.

ENTIERS POSTAUX.

Une carte postale timbrée à 13 mills. rouge à l'effigie de S.M. le Roi en tenue militaire a été émise en Mars dernier. Elle est vendue à 14 mills.

POSTE AERIENNE.

Timbres-Poste. — La variété du "nuage supplémentaire" se retrouve à la même place sur la nouvelle impression du 25 mills. annoncée p. 459.

Liaison rapide Etats-Unis-Egypte par la Trans World Airline. — Le lundi matin 1^{er} Avril 1946, le "Sphinx", un modèle perfectionné de "Skymaster", a quitté Washington à 5 heures (heure locale); il a atterri à l'aérodrome de Payne Field, près du Caire, le Mardi soir, 2 Avril, à 20 heures 10 (heure locale), après avoir fait escale à Paris, Rome et Athènes, effectuant le trajet Washington-Le Caire en 39 heures.

A l'occasion de ce voyage inaugural, un

cachet spécial a été apposé en noir sur les plis embarqués à bord de cet appareil; ce cachet illustre par l'image les différents pays traversés par la nouvelle ligne aérienne depuis New-York avec la statue de la Liberté jusqu'en Egypte avec les Pyramides et le Sphinx, en passant notamment par Paris (Tour Eiffel), la Suisse (Chalet dans la montagne), l'Italie (La Tour Penché de Pise) et la Grèce (L'Acropole).

La mention "First Flight/U.S. AIR MAIL/F. A. M. 27/TO EGYPT/T. W. A." datés de Washington et New-York 31 Mars complète le cachet.

Les plis que nous avons examinés sont 19 heures 30 et 21 heures respectivement; à leur arrivée au Caire, ils ont été timbrés au verso: 3 Avril 7 heures du matin.

EGYPTIAN AIRWAYS.

Le 30 Avril 1946 a été signé au Caire une convention aérienne approuvant la création et l'établissement d'une compagnie aérienne civile de transport anglo-égyptienne, qui prendra le nom de "Egyptian Airways".

Les actions sont divisées en parts égales entre la B.O.A.C. et la Misr Air-Work.

Le but de cette compagnie est de diriger des lignes aériennes internationales. Les deux premières lignes relieront Le Caire à Londres, mais elles n'entreront en service que d'ici 2 à 3 mois. La première passera par Athènes, Rome, Genève et Paris, tandis que la seconde touchera Lydda, Beyrouth, Chypre, Ankara, Istamboul, Bucarest, Budapest, Vienne, Leipzig et Bruxelles.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

BUY -- SELL -- EXCHANGE

STAMPS FOR COLLECTIONS
EGYPT, SUDAN & NEAR EAST

ANIS MAHER
STAMP DEALER

R.C.A. 30357. —

23, El-Dier Street, Cleopatra, Sidi Gaber (Egypt)

ASSEMBLEE GENERALE DU 29 AVRIL 1946

L'Assemblée Générale convoquée pour le 15 Avril 1946 (suivant lettre du 25 Mars 1946 publiée dans l'Orient Philatélique page 520) n'ayant pu être tenue faute de quorum, fut remise au 29 Avril 1946, soit à quinzaine (le Lundi 21 étant jour férié : Cham-el-Nessim).

La séance est ouverte à 19h. 30.

Prenant la parole, le Président Ibrahim Chaftar Bey déclare l'Assemblée Générale ouverte, et prononce l'allocution suivante :

Messieurs et Chers Collègues,

Je souhaite la bienvenue à mes collègues qui ont bien voulu nous faire l'honneur de venir assister à notre Assemblée Générale pour approbation des comptes des Exercices de 1944 et 1945.

Pour ne pas prolonger inutilement cette séance, je sollicite de vous, Messieurs, de considérer comme lu à présent le procès verbal de la dernière Assemblée Générale (18/12/1944) et qui a été publié dans le N° 49 de l'Orient Philatélique de Janvier 1945 (cette suggestion est retenue par les membres présents et le Président continue son discours).

Notre situation financière se résume comme suit pour la période comprise entre le 1^{er} Mai 1944 (date de la reprise) et le 31 Décembre 1945.

	L.E. M.	L.E. M.	L.E. M.
Solde en Caisse au 1 ^{er} Janvier 1944		33.205	
RECETTES:—			
Cotisations et droits d'entrées	430.537		
Ventes Revues	87.620		
Donations	49.910		
Publicité	63.437		
Retributions	6.179		
Recettes diverses	46.912		
Total Recettes		684.595	717.800
DEPENSES:—			
FRAIS GENERAUX.			
Dépenses diverses	14.178		
Affranchissements et timbres fiscaux	39.906		
Frais d'encaissement et divers	9.000		
Fournitures de Bureau	3.070		
Frais consultations Archives de la Poste	6.585		
Frais d'Agence	7.221		
		79.960	
FRAIS POUR LA REVUE.			
Photos et clichés	46.627		
Rokhsa et légalisation signatures	1.530		
Impression	253.250		
Frais de surveillance	19.650		
Total Dépenses		321.057	401.017
Solde en Caisse au 31 Décembre 1945			316.783

Pour mémoire:..

Solde en Caisse au 31 Décembre 1944	348.672
Timbres en Stock	9.760
Compte des Agents	17.670
Frais Exposition 1946	72.611
Frais Revues 1946	65.180

A déduire:..

	513.893
Cotisations 1946	197.110

316.783

De l'exposé de ce bilan vous avez certainement remarqué que notre Société est en plein essor. La majorité des anciens membres se sont réinscrits. Par ailleurs nous relevons une grande affluence de nouveaux qui, convaincus des avantages accordés aux membres de notre Société, viennent se joindre à notre groupement.

Jamais, depuis la fondation de notre Société, nous n'avons été aussi nombreux, c'est vous dire combien notre Association est solidement établie maintenant.

L'affluence des nouveaux membres a deux causes:

1^o.—La réorganisation sur des nouvelles bases et la nouvelle impulsion donnée par l'actuel Comité de Direction et;

2^o.—La facilité avec laquelle nos membres peuvent se faire servir les nouveautés de l'Egypte.

En effet ce n'est qu'après avoir déployé de grands efforts que nous avons pu obtenir du Directeur Général des Postes le privilège d'être servis sur la base que vous savez, avantage qui s'est avéré primordial sur l'essor de notre Société.

A la suite de l'augmentation phénoménale de nos membres actifs nous n'avons pu que nous assurer des services d'un Secrétaire appointé.

Monsieur Alfred Dazzi, notre ancien Secrétaire honoraire, était le seul apte à remplir ces délicates fonctions, c'est pour cela qu'il est démissionnaire de notre Comité de Direction.

Je suis en outre heureux de vous annoncer que M. H.J. Fresco, membre de notre Comité, a accepté la charge de Secrétaire Honoraire.

D'autre part, d'après l'Art. 17 des Statuts, le tiers des membres du Comité de Direction est sortant. Le tirage au sort en Conseil du 12 Avril 1946 a désigné MM. J. Arnaud et A. Ceysens; ils sont rééligibles et se représentent de nouveau à vos suffrages. Nous recommandons leur réélection. De plus, en remplacement de M. Alfred Dazzi, le Comité pose la candidature du Major Maurice de Termes, membre de la Royal Philatelic Society, London, et que vous connaissez si bien. C'est un fervent aérophilatéliste et un enthousiaste et nous ne pouvons que profiter de ses vastes connaissances philatéliques. (Les membres présents votent à l'unanimité la réélection de M. J. Arnaud, A. Ceysens ainsi que la nomination de M. Maurice de Termes, comme membres du Comité de Direction).

J'espère que les lecteurs de notre revue *L'Orient Philatélique* sont satisfaits de notre nouvelle forme de publication.

Nous lui donnons en effet le meilleur de notre effort, et nous ne cessons d'en améliorer et le fond et la présentation. Nous saisissons cette occasion pour vous demander de vous intéresser aux sujets traités et de stimuler les auteurs par des remarques ou commentaires. Nous serions aussi heureux de publier des articles philatéliques inédits, dans les trois langues: française, anglaise et arabe.

Vous avez dû remarquer la grande importance que nous donnons aux textes arabes, et nous tâcherons d'améliorer cette section afin de toucher le grand public Egyptien en particulier et le monde arabe en général. Déjà nous comptons un certain nombre de membres appréciables en Syrie, Irak, Liban et Arabie Séoudite.

Notre Comité a, dans sa dernière séance décidé la nomination de deux membres d'honneur. Ce sont :

M. A.S. MACKENZIE LOW
et S.E. MOHAMED AMINE FIKRI BEY

M. A.S. Mackenzie Low, de Bexhill-on-Sea, fellow de la Royal Philatelic Society, London, membre de The Egypt Study Circle, est bien connu de tous les spécialistes des timbres d'Egypte.

Sa fameuse collection d'Egypte, primée de plusieurs Médailles d'Or dans les Expositions Internationales de Londres, Bruxelles et New-York, a été achetée en bloc par feu Le Roi Fouad 1^{er} et se trouve maintenant entre les mains de Sa Majesté Le Roi Farouk 1^{er}, Premier Philatéliste d'Egypte.

M. Mackenzie Low, archiviste de l'Egypt Study Circle, n'a pas laissé un domaine de la Philatélie Egyptienne sans l'étudier à fond, et notre Revue a publié plusieurs de ses études magistrales.

S.E. Mohamed Amin Fikri Bey, Directeur Général de l'Administration des Postes Egyptiennes, a bien mérité de notre Société.

C'est grâce à son intelligence et à sa compréhension, que nous avons pu faire admettre les règles de distribution des timbres commémoratifs Egyptiens, si vivement appréciés des membres de notre Société.

Dès le début de l'organisation de la Première Exposition Philatélique au Caire, il nous a été de bon conseil et nous a toujours donné son concours et assuré l'aide de toute son Administration.

Depuis le 24 Avril dernier, S.E. Mohamed Amine Fikri Bey, a démissionné de son poste de Directeur Général des Postes pour occuper celui de Secrétaire Général de la National Bank of Egypt.

Vous regretterez tous son départ et vous vous joindrez certainement à moi pour le féliciter pour sa nouvelle nomination.

♦♦

Je ne voudrais pas terminer mon discours sans exprimer notre loyalisme et notre joie pour la Haute Sollicitude que Notre Auguste Maître et Souverain, Sa Majesté Le Roi Farouk 1^{er}, a bien voulu daigner nous manifester en exprimant publiquement Sa Satisfac-tion pour les activités de notre Société lors de l'inauguration le 28 Février dernier, de la 1^{re} Exposition Philatélique au Caire.

Aussi, c'est avec orgueil que je vous convie, Messieurs et Chers Collègues, à clôturer cet exposé par une triple ovation à Son Auguste Majesté Le Roi Farouk 1^{er}, Premier Philatéliste d'Egypte, Protecteur de notre Société (tout le monde, debout, acclame par trois fois Sa Majesté Le Roi Farouk 1^{er}, Premier Philatéliste d'Egypte).

Après lecture de cet exposé, le Censeur de la Société, M. Georges Zeheri, donne lecture de son rapport et déclare le bilan sincère et conforme aux écritures de la Société.

Les membres présents approuvent les comptes des exercices 1944 et 1945, donnent quitus aux membres du Comité; acceptent la démission de Mr. A. Dazzi de la charge de Secrétaire; y nomment Mr. M.J. Fresco; réélisent Messieurs Jules Arnaud et Albert Ceysens, nomment Mr. Maurice de Termes membres du Comité de Direction; approuvent la nomination comme membres d'honneur de Messieurs A.S. Mackenzie Low et S.E. Mohamed Amin Fikri Bey.

Mr. le Dr. O. Stross propose ensuite de remercier le Président S.E. Ibrahim Chafar Bey ainsi que les membres du Comité pour tous les efforts qu'ils font afin d'assurer le succès de la Société Philatélique d'Egypte.

Après diverses petites conversations, les membres prennent congé et la séance est levée à 21 heures.

Egypt Study Circle — Study II.

The History of the Foreign Post Offices in Egypt (*)

THE POSTS OF AUSTRIA IN EGYPT.

STUDY ENTRUSTED TO F.S. MUMFORD (E.S.C. N° 22)

III-6. A net of diagonal lines about 2.25 mm. apart in a circle of 27 mm. diameter. The only examples we have seen are in the Mumford collection, both on the 10 soldi of 1883. Philatelically, this obliteration is known as the "Dummy" postmark. It may have been applied at the office of destination, because the stamp was uncanceled. Struck in blue. Not yet seen by us on cover. The exact status of this marking is uncertain and Muller suggests that it may have been applied by a shipping line of some other country although it is found on the Austrian Levant issues of 1883 and 1888.

Austrian Lloyd Agencies.

These have already been referred to at the commencement of this Report. There is every reason to suppose that markings exist for Alexandria, Cairo and Suez, as agencies were opened at these three places. The Agency at Alexandria was opened in 1843, the others subsequently. They were closed in 1867 or 1868. The only marking we have seen is on a letter in the Mumford collection.

Type A.—Consists of an ellipse measuring 28x24 mm., with an inscription reading AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO and in fancy letters horizontally across the centre, ALESSANDRIA, struck in blue. The letter started from Dum Dum, India, on June 2nd, 1846 and travelled via: (1) SUEZ, where it received the Egyptian Transit Co's Suez cachet; (2) ALEXANDRIA where it received the Austrian Government marking type 1-1 dated 21 JUL. and, on reverse, the Lloyd Agency marking

described above; and, (3) TRIESTE, to HEIDELBERG where it was re-addressed and forwarded to Paris. We have no reason to suppose that circular Lloyd Agency marks, similar to those in use in Constantinople and elsewhere, were ever applied in Egypt.

Ship Post Offices.

On January 2nd, 1860, two Ship Post Offices—Nos 1 and 2.—were opened in the packet boats on the Trieste—Corfu—Alexandria line; these were joined by a third—N° 4—on October 4th, 1873. Muller writes:—"These ship post offices had circle cancellations with the inscription SCHIFFS-SAMT N° 1 or N° 2 or SCHIFFSPOSTAMT 4 curved with the circle, and the date with a straight-line town name in centre. This town name marked the port in which the mail was received. All these postmarks are only known with the town name of Corfu on soldi stamps, which seems to indicate that the postal clerks did not bother to change the name; on Kreuzer stamps they are also known with the name of Trieste and other ports. The following are known:

1.—SCHIFFS-SAMT N° 1 on the 1863, 1864 and 1867 issues, with dates 1860-1876, in black, also on the 1863 issue in blue. The two types of this postmark were delivered by the engraver to the Post Office on August 17, 1868 and April 20, 1872 respectively.

2.—SCHIFFS-SAMT N° 2, as before. Three stamps were delivered, two on August 17, 1868 and one on April 20, 1872.

(*) See *L'Orient Philatélique* N° 53 and 54.

3.—Registration Rates.

The registration rate before the formation of the U.P.U. was 10 soldi (1 P.T. in Egyptian currency). Among the registered covers we have seen is one in the Byam collection which passed from Cairo to Vienna, dated 1873, franked with Egypt third issue (Penasson) 1 P.T. and 2½ P.T. This confirms the registration rate as 1 P.T.

VII.—MAIL CARRIED BY AUSTRIA FOR OTHER COUNTRIES.

1.—Great Britain.

Austrian stamps were used to frank letters to Great Britain and we are trying to trace the convention which made this possible. In the Byam Collection are two letters which travelled between Alexandria and Liverpool both franked with Austrian stamps and both being addressed to the same firm—Messrs. Ogilvy, Gillanders & Co a.—franked with 12 copies of the 15 soldi and one of the 5 soldi Austrian Italy 1864. Total 185 soldi. Originally there was an additional stamp on this cover. These adhesives were cancelled by the Austrian circular mark, Type II-3. 15-5 (1866) and the cover bears the Liverpool arrival mark, 26 May 1866. It is inscribed "Via Trieste" and bears P.D. in frame and, in MS. 170.

b.—franked with eight copies of the 15 soldi Austrian Italy, 1864. Total 120 soldi. Cancelled by the straight-line. ALEXANDRIA, Type I-2. It bears the Liverpool arrival mark, 24 July, 1866 and is inscribed "Via Trieste" and bears P.D. in frame and in MS., 42.

In the Mumford collection is the front of a cover, Alexandria to London, franked with three copies of the 10 soldi blue of Austria 1877, cancelled with the Austrian registered mark, Type III-1; bearing Type III-2 on the cover alongside the stamps. This cover is inscribed "Via Brindisi" and "Registered" and bears the Liverpool registered mark 11 MY 78, in red; also, in MS., 14 in blue. Total 30 soldi, after the formation of the U.P.U. Presumably, 15 soldi (½ P.T.) postage and 15 soldi registration fee.

2.—Italy.

The Austrian service was used extensively for the carriage of mail between Egypt and Italy and, of rather more than 60 Austrian covers inspected, no less than 22 were carried to or from Italy. The earliest speci-

men we have seen is a letter, dated 8 May, 1851, from Alexandria to Genoa. It bears the following markings.

- 1.—ALEXANDRIEN, 10 MAI. Type I-1;
- 2.—AT in serif letters in black; 3.—T.A. in serif letters in red and 4.—8. in MS. in red. On the reverse—double circle mark, Trieste, 15-5; another mark in red, 17 MAG. (town name illegible); and, in serif letters, 18 MAG. in red. There is also a 9 in MS. in black (Mumford).

3.—Turkey, including Syria and Palestine.

Reference has already been made on page 417 to the Convention of 1858, under which the Austrian Lloyd undertook to operate 26 voyages a year on the circular route—Constantinople, Smyrna, Rhodes, Cyprus, Beyrouth, Alexandria, Smyrna and Constantinople—and a further 26 voyages a year by the same route but in the opposite direction.

In addition there were two other services between Alexandria and Constantinople:—

a.—Turkish Route.

Alexandria, Smyrna, Mytilene, Tenedos, Dardanelles, Constantinople.

b.—The Levant Route.

This route linked the towns on the coast of Syria with Alexandria and Port Said. It ran from Alexandria to Constantinople via: Port Said, Jaffa, Beyrouth and Alexandretta.

There was a service by both of these routes every fifteen days.

We have seen the following:—

1.—A cover without adhesives, from Alexandria to Salonica, 26-11-1863, bearing the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, Type II-1, in black. Franco in black and, in MS., 15 in blue. On the reverse, Smyrna 3-12. No Salonica arrival mark. (Byam).

2.—A letter from Alexandria to Salonica, 15-2-1865, bearing one copy of the 15 soldi Austrian Italy, 1864, obliterated with the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, 15-2, struck in black, Type II-1, and, on the reverse, the Lloyd Agency circular mark, 23-2 in black. No Salonica arrival mark (Mumford).

Types.	PERIOD OF USE OF THE VARIOUS POSTAL MARKINGS.	
	Earliest date.	Latest date.
I-1. ALEXANDRIEN 21 JEL	21-7-46	17-1-58
I-2. ALEXANDRIA	1866	1866
I-3. COL VAPORE D'ALESSANDRIA	8-9-55	1862
I-4. COL VAP DA ALESS		
I-5. COL VAP DA COSPOLI		
II-1. 22mm. Circle. No year date.	20-12-52	28-12-69
II-2. 23 mm. Circle. No year date.	13-3-62	18-11-67
II-3. 24 mm. Circle. No year date.	Feb.-1869.	
II-4. 20 mm. "Thimble" Year date added.	22-6-73	30-9-89
II-5. 22 mm. Circle. Year date added.	31-9-78	3-2-74
II-6. PORT SAÏD.	28-8-69	6-11-69
III-1. Registered marking.		
III-6. Dummy.	1878	

3.—A letter dated November 23rd, 1864, from Alexandria to Constantinople. It bears no adhesive stamps but, on the front, it is franked with the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, 23-11, Type II-2, and, in blue, a MS. 15. On the reverse is the Lloyd Agency Constantinople circular mark, 7-11 (Mumford).

4.—A letter, dated 8th March, 1865, from Constantinople to Alexandria. It is franked with one copy of the 5 soldi and one copy of the 10 soldi, Austrian Italy, 1864, obliterated with the Lloyd Agency Constantinople circular mark, 8-3. On the reverse is the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, date illegible, in black (Mumford).

5.—A similarly franked letter, Alexandria to Constantinople, dated March 1866 (Byam).

6.—The front of a cover from Alexandria to Constantinople, franked with three copies of the 10 soldi, Austrian Italy, 1863 (year unknown) Byam.

7.—A letter sent from Alexandria to Constantinople in 1866. It bears no adhesive stamps but is franked with the Austrian ALEXANDRIA straight-line mark in black, Type I-2. On the reverse is the Lloyd Agency Constantinople circular mark, 25-7 (Byam).

8.—A cover from Alexandria to Constantinople, bearing no adhesive stamps but franked with the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, Type II-1, 26-5, in blue, and marked Franco in blue. On the reverse the Lloyd Agency Constantinople circular mark, 2-6, in blue. There is no record of the year. (Mumford).

9.—A cover which travelled from Smyrna to Alexandria in 1888. It is franked with one copy of the 10 soldi blue of Austria, 1877, obliterated, Smyrna, date illegible. On the reverse is the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, 3-1-88, in black, Type II-1 (Mumford).

10.—A letter dated 16-12-1860, from Alexandria to Candia franked with one copy of the 10 soldi blue of Austria 1867, obliterated with the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, 28-12, in black, Type II-1. On the reverse, the Lloyd Agency Smirne circular mark (date illegible). No Candia arrival mark (Mumford).

11.—A letter from Alexandria to Volo (undated) without adhesive stamps bearing the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, 4-12, struck in black, Type II-1, and Franco in black. On the reverse is the Lloyd Agency Smirne circular mark (date illegible) in blue and, in MS., 15 in blue (Mumford).

On page 420 details of two covers in the Byam collection which passed between Cairo and Jaffa, and were franked with Egyptian stamps and carried by the Austrian service have already been given.

4.—Greece.

Cover emanating from Port Said bearing the Austrian Porto Said Egypten circular mark, 6-11-60, struck in blue, Type II-6, and FRANCO, sent to Syros and stamped there with the Greek 20 Lep. as postage due. This cover bears, in MS., 80 and, on the reverse, a double circle mark in black, illegible (Mumford).

5.—Red Sea Service.

In 1870 the Lloyd signed an agreement with the Turkish Government to establish a monthly service between Suez, Gedda and Hodeida. This service was terminated at the end of 1873.

We have seen no examples of this mail

6.—Indian Route.

By an agreement of December 22nd, 1871 between the Austrian Government and the Austrian Lloyd, the steamship company undertook to establish a monthly service between Trieste and Bombay, via Port Said and Suez. The vessels eventually called at Gedda and Aden.

No mail, carried by this service, has been seen so far.

VIII.—PHILATELIC MATERIAL AVAILABLE.

It is worthy of note that, of the early covers bearing straight-line inscriptions and passing between Alexandria and Trieste, about one quarter received no postal marking at Alexandria but, instead, COL VAPORE D'ALESSANDRIA applied at the port of arrival.

Very few covers, bearing stamps of the 1863 issue of Austrian Italy have so far been seen. We have no record of the 5 soldi, rose, of this issue or the 3 soldi, green, of the 1864 issue, having been used in Egypt.

The only stamp used in Port Said which we have seen is the 10 soldi of the 1867 issue of the Austrian Levant.

In general, covers passing from Austria to Egypt are rarer than those travelling in the opposite direction, the ratio being about 1: 12.

As the single letter rates were 10 soldi, and 15 soldi, postally used stamps of lower denominations are rare.

5.—What postal agreements existed between Austria and Great Britain before the formation of the U.P.U.?

6.—What postal agreements existed between Austria and Italy before the formation of the U.P.U.?

7.—How were "MORE TO PAY" or "INSUFFICIENTLY FRANKED" indicated on letters?

8.—What occasioned the demand for the 10 para value in the 1886, 1st September. Provisional Issue? Was it a new rate or a new service?

9.—Do Austrian Lloyd Agency markings exist for Suez and Cairo?

10.—Is any information available as to the postal rates by the Austrian mail service during the pre-adhesive period?

11.—In what circumstances were the marks, A.T. and T.A. 3 in serif letters, found on mail carried from Egypt to Italy by the Austrian service, applied?

12.—Why did so few of the early covers passing between Alexandria and Trieste receive postal markings at Alexandria?

IX.—SOME PROBLEMS AWAITING SOLUTION.

1.—Was the Austrian Post Office in Alexandria opened in 1837 or 1838?

2.—What mail services were in existence between Trieste and Port Said, between 1869 and 1874?

3.—What was the exact date of the closing of the Austrian Post Office in Port Said?

4.—What postal agreements existed between Austria and France before the formation of the U.P.U.?

THE END

S. ASMAR

Stamp Dealer

4, MIDAN MOUSTAPHA KAMEL

R.C.C. 53870

CAIRO

S.P.E. N° 694

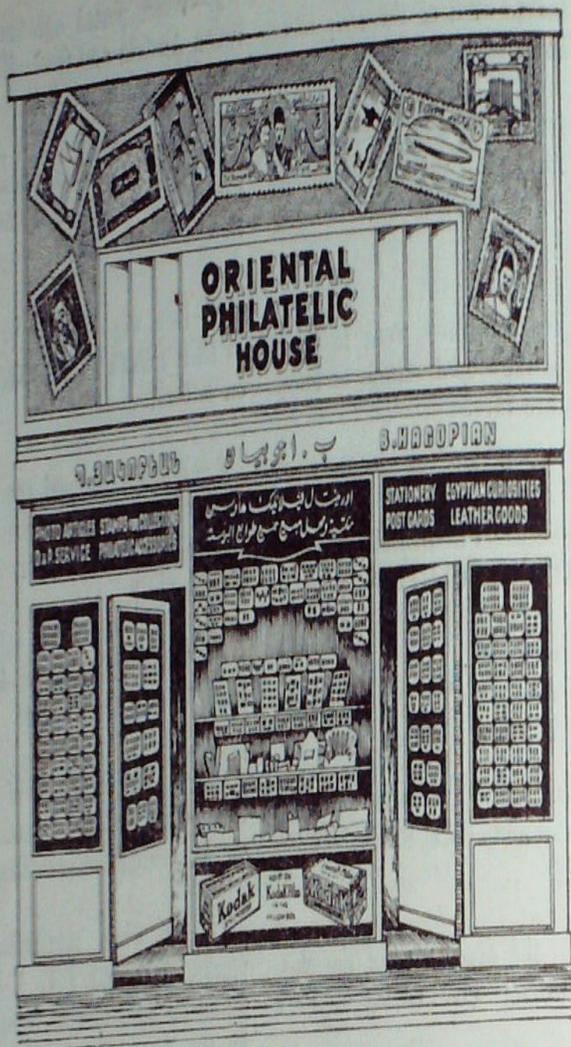
BUY, EXCHANGE & SELL

EGYPT — SUDAN — FRANCE LIBRE AND NEAR-EAST

Commentaires sur l'article

THE HISTORY

OF THE FOREIGN POST OFFICES IN EGYPT (*)



ORIENTAL PHILATELIC HOUSE

B. HAGOPIAN

R.C. C. 246

1, ADLI PASHA STREET
CAIRO (EGYPT)

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF EGYPT,
SUDAN, NEAR-EAST, BRITISH COLONIALS
AND EUROPEAN MODERN STAMPS

YOUR ORDER AND OFFERS WILL ALWAYS
RECEIVE MY IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

MEMBER: { S.P.E. CAIRO No. 209
J.P.S. LONDON No. 10278
S.D.A. LONDON No. 430
S.I.N.T.P. PARIS

Alexandrie, le 17 Avril 1946.

Monsieur IBRAHIM CHAFTAR BEY,
Président de la Société Philatélique
d'Egypte
B.P. 142 — LE CAIRE.

Mon cher Président,

J'ai pris connaissance avec le plus grand intérêt, dans le dernier numéro de l'O.P. (No. 54), de l'étude consacrée par notre Collègue Mr. Mumford aux Bureaux de la Poste Autrichienne en Egypte, étude des mieux documentées.

Je me permets cependant de vous signaler quelques données qui permettent de modifier légèrement les premières ou dernières dates indiquées dans cette étude, et ce d'après des éléments en ma possession.

C'est ainsi qu'en ce qui concerne les oblitérations indiquées par notre Collègue, l'oblitération circulaire II-1. d'Alexandrie de 22 mm. de diamètre, dont il indique la première date comme étant le 20 Décembre 1852, je trouve cette oblitération chez moi (en noir) sur une lettre partie de Trieste le 12 Février 1852 et arrivée à Alexandrie le 23 du même mois, ce qui est antérieur de dix mois environ à la date indiquée dans l'étude. J'ai aussi la même oblitération (également en noir) sur une lettre semblable avec la date du 15 Mai 1852.

Enfin je possède cette oblitération en bleu avec les dates des 1er Décembre 1853, 4 Mars 1854, 16 Mars 1859 et 3 Février 1863.

Quant à l'oblitération semblable classée sub II-2, c'est-à-dire ayant 23 mm.

de diamètre, il est souvent assez difficile de la distinguer de la précédente, la différence d'un seul millimètre étant difficilement perceptible à raison de l'empâtement résultant de l'usage de l'encre par le tampon. D'après moi, les deux oblitérations, de 22 et de 23 millimètres, à supposer qu'il y en ait effectivement deux, ont été employées en même temps au courant des années 1853 à 1864.

Je possède, en effet, une lettre partie d'Alexandrie portant l'oblitération circulaire avec un diamètre qui me semble être de 23 mm. plutôt que de 22, avec la date du 21 Janvier 1853.

En ce qui concerne l'oblitération circulaire II-4 (de 20 mm.) notre Collègue en indique la première date connue comme étant le 22 Juin 1873. Cependant j'en possède une sur un timbre détaché de 10 sld. de 1867 (No. 4 Yvert) avec la date très claire du 18 Mars 1873, ce qui anticipe la date indiquée de trois bons mois. J'en ai d'ailleurs une autre semblable avec la date du 25 Mars 1873 sur un timbre de 15 sld. (No. 5 Yvert).

Enfin en ce qui concerne le cachet : « Franco », dont notre Collègue donne une reproduction en caractères droits, je dois dire que j'en possède une autre empreinte en caractères penchés sur une lettre partie de Trieste le 26 Mai 1853 et arrivée à Alexandrie le 1er Juin 1853. Cette empreinte aurait-elle été apposée au départ de Trieste et non à l'arrivée à Alexandrie ? Cela est possible; elle ne serait donc pas attribuable au Bureau Autrichien d'Alexandrie. Ce qui confirme cette manière de voir c'est ce que dit notre Collègue comme quoi ce cachet était apposé par le bureau de départ, ce qui est tout-à-fait plausible.

Veuillez agréer, mon cher Président, l'assurance de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

(signé) : G. Boulad.

(*) Voir *L'Orient Philatélique* N° 53, 54 et 55.

MUSEE FOUAD Ier

DES POSTES EGYPTIENNES

par IBRAHIM CHAFTAR BEY (S.P.E. N° 552)

UN POINT D'HISTOIRE PHILATELIQUE

Les documents ci-après, terminent la série des Circulaires Postales Egyptiennes que nous nous sommes assignés de publier dans cette rubrique afin de jeter la lumière sur les dates d'ouverture et de fermeture des Bureaux Postaux Egyptiens établis à l'Etranger.

Les spécialistes d'Egypte se souviendront certainement de l'excellente étude publiée dans notre revue sous la signature de M. Charles Fox (*) et qui avait abouti à un point d'interrogation sur les noms des huit derniers bureaux fermés en 1881; de plus la date exacte de leur fermeture n'avait pu être déterminée.

Nous sommes en mesure aujourd'hui de nommer ces Bureaux, (fermés officiellement pour le public le 30 Juin 1881), ce sont les Bureaux de: Constantinople, Smyrne, Chio, Mettelin, Gallipoli, Dardanelles, Rhodes et Djeddah.

A-128

Sezione II.

N° di Protocollo 110.

OGGETTO: Agenzia di Leros soppressa temporaneamente.

Alessandria, 7 Gennaio 1874.

Fino a nuova disposizione la S.V. non accetterà più alcuna corrispondenza da spedirsi coi Battelli Postali Khedevie per Leros, essendo quell'Agenzia temporaneamente soppressa.

Il Vice-Direttore Generale

A-128

Second Department

File N° 110.

RE: Leros Agency temporarily suppressed.

Alessandria, January 7th 1874.

Until new instructions, you will accept no more correspondence to be forwarded by the Khedivie postal ships to Leros, that Agency having been temporarily suppressed.

The Sub-General Manager.

(*) Voir L'Orient Philatélique N° 39-40. "The History of the Egyptian Post Offices in Turkey (before 1896)".

A-138

Sezione II.

N° di Protocollo 3170.

OGGETTO: Battelli della Khedevie a Leros.

Alessandria, 18 Maggio 1874.

L'amministrazione dei battelli postali della Khedevie Egiziana riprendendo colla data di domani martedì 19, i suoi approdi all'isola di Leros, la S.V. è prevenuta che tanto per la data suddetta quanto per l'avvenire, tutte le corrispondenze per quella destinazione siano in tempo utile, cioè per ogni secondo martedì, cominciando da domani, rimesse alla Direzione Locale d'Alessandria.

Il Vice-Direttore Generale

A-138

Second Department

N° 3170.

RE: Khedivial Ships for Leros.

Alessandria, May 18th 1874.

The Egyptian Khedivial Postal Ships resuming as from to morrow Tuesday 19th their calling at Leros Island, you are hereby informed that for the above date as well as in future the whole mail for this locality will be handedover to the Local Direction of Alexandria, every second Tuesday.

The Sub-General Manager.

A-148

Sezione II.

N° di Protocollo 6529.

OGGETTO: Soppressione Ufficio di Leros.

Alessandria, 10 Ottobre 1874.

I battelli Postali Khedevie non toccando più l'Isola di Leros, è soppresso questo Ufficio Postale.

Perciò dalla recezione della presente la S.V. non accetterà più nessuna corrispondenza per quella destinazione.

Qualora fossero trovate nella buca lettere per Leros, la S.V. le restituerà ai mittenti conoscendoli o, le condannerà ai rifiuti.

Il Vice-Direttore Generale

A-148

Second Department

N° 6529.

RE: Cancelling of the Leros Branch.

Alessandria, October 10th 1874.

The Khedivial Postal ships service for Leros Island being discontinued, this Postal Office is closed up.

In consequence thereof, on receipt of this notice you will not accept any more mail for that destination.

If you have in your Office some letters for Leros, you will have to return them to the senders—if known—otherwise you will destroy such mail.

The Sub-General Manager.

Sezione I.

N° di Protocollo 3553.

OGGETTO: Isola di Leros nell'Unione Postale.

Alessandria, 20 Maggio 1876.

D'ora innanzi e fino ad altro ordine in contrario, la S.V. è autorizzata a ricevere corrispondenze (escluse le raccomandate) a destinazione dell'Isola di Leros alla stessa condizione di tassa fissata per i Paesi dell'Unione Postale.

Il Vice-Direttore Generale

First Department

N° 3553.

RE: Isle of Leros in the Postal Union.

Alexandria, May 20th 1876.

As from now and until further notice, you are authorized to receive the mail (registered letters excepted) for Leros Island with the same postage as established for the Postal Union.

The Sub-General Manager.

A-168

Sezione II.

N° di Protocollo 5970.

OGGETTO: Affrancazione obbligatoria per l'isola di Leros.

Alessandria, 12 Settembre 1876.

D'ora innanzi e fino a nuove disposizioni le corrispondenze (escluse le raccomandate) a destinazione dell'isola di Leros dovranno essere obbligatoriamente, affrancate secondo la tariffa dell'Unione Postale.

Il Direttore Generale

A-168

Second Department

N° 5970.

RE: Compulsory postage for the Isle of Leros.

Alexandria, September 12th 1876.

As from now and until further notice the mail (registered letters excepted) for Leros Island, shall be charged according to the Postal Union rates.

The General Manager.

Remise en vigueur du Sce.
hebdomadaire des bateaux
Khedivié dans la Méditer-
ranée.

Lettre N° 700/172

Page 20.

25 Juin 1878.

Une communication reçue de l'Administration des Paquebots Poste Khedivié porte à la connaissance de la Direction Générale que le service hebdomadaire de ces bateaux dans la Mer Méditerranée est remis en vigueur à partir du 27 Juin crt.

Le premier départ d'Alexandrie "voie de Rhodes" aura lieu le Jeudi 27 Juin, à 4 heures 30 s., en touchant les Echelles de Rhodes, Chio, Smyrne, Mettelin, Dardanelles, Gallipoli et Constantinople.

Le premier départ de Constantinople "voie de Rhodes" au retour en touchant les mêmes échelles s'effectuera le Mardi 16 Juillet prochain.

Le premier départ d'Alexandrie "voie du Pirée" aura lieu le Jeudi 4 Juillet en desservant les Echelles du Pirée, de Syra, Chio, Smyrne, Mettelin, Dardanelles, Gallipoli et Constantinople.

Le premier départ de Constantinople au retour en desservant les mêmes échelles s'effectuera le Mardi 9/7 prochain.

Veuillez en attendant porter le fait à la connaissance du Public, des Autorités et des hauts fonctionnaires et vous recevrez plus tard des instructions ultérieures.

Le Vice-Directeur Général

HALTON.

AVIS

La Direction Générale a l'honneur d'informer le public que par suite du rétablissement de la ligne des Bateaux-Poste de la Cie. Khedivié entre Alexandrie-Constantinople le service postal Egyptien reprendra en même temps son cours pour les Echelles du Levant desservies par les bateaux de la Compagnie.

Le tarif pour les correspondances est fixé pour les Pays faisant partie de l'Union Postale.

La reprise de ce service ne change en rien les arrangements actuellement en vigueur pour l'expédition des correspondances pour la Syrie, la Grèce et la Turquie au moyen des Bateaux-Poste des Messageries Maritimes et du Lloyd Autrichien ainsi que pour l'Expédition des groupes par les bateaux de cette dernière Compagnie.

Le Directeur Général

A. CAILLARD.

Re-establishment of the Khedivial
Ships Weekly Service on the
Mediterranean Sea.

Letter N° 700/172.

(Page 20).

June 25th 1878.

A message received from the Khedivial Mail Lines informs this General Management that the weekly service of their ships in the Mediterranean Sea will be resumed as from the 27th inst.

The first departure from Alexandria "Via Rodi" will take place on Thursday, June 27th, at 4.30 p.m., bound to the seaports of Rodi, Chio, Smyrne, Mettelin, Dardanelli, Gallipoli and Constantinople.

The first departure from Constantinople "Via Rodi" back to the same seaports will take place on Tuesday, July 16th.

The first departure from Alexandria "Via Pireo" will take place on Thursday, July 4th, for the seaports of Pireo, Syra, Chio, Smyrne, Mettelin, Dardanelli, Gallipoli and Constantinople.

The first departure from Constantinople back to the same seaports, will take place on Tuesday next, July 9th.

Please notify the above informations to the public, the Authorities and your Staff. You will receive, later on, further instructions.

The Sub-General Manager

HALTON.

NOTICE

This General Management informs the Public that, following the re-establishment of the Khedivial Mail Lines between Alexandria and Constantinople, the Egyptian Postal Service will also be resumed, for the Levant seaports visited by this Company's ships.

The postage for the correspondence is the same as the one fixed for the Countries of the Postal Union.

The re-opening of this service, does not implicate any change in the agreement in force for the forwarding of the mail to Syria, Greece and Turkey by the postal Ships of the Messageries Maritimes and the Austrian Lloyd, as well as for the forwarding of money by the ships of the latter Company.

The General Manager
A. CAILLARD.

N° 411/79-193.

Alexandrie, le 14 Juin 1881.

Le Gouvernement ayant décidé la suppression dès le 30 Juin courant des Bureaux de Postes Egyptiens établis en territoire turc (Constantinople, Smyrne, Chio, Mettelin, Gallipoli, Dardanelles, Rhodes et Djeddah), vous aurez à partir du dernier départ du mois courant pour ces ports, à adresser aux Bureaux Ottomans fonctionnant dans les localités sus-indiquées les dépêches que jusqu'ici vous adressiez aux Bureaux Egyptiens.

Le Sous-Directeur Général
Signé: V. CHIOFFI.

N° 411/79-193.

Alexandria, June 14th 1881.

The Government having decided the suppression from the 30th instant, of the Egyptian Post Offices established in Turkish Territory (Constantinople, Smyrne, Chio, Mettelin, Gallipoli, Dardanelles, Rhodes and Djeddah), you will have, from the last departure of the present month to those seaports, to address to the Ottoman Offices, operating in the localities mentioned above, the mail usually addressed till now, to the Egyptian Offices.

Assistant General Manager
V. CHIOFFI.

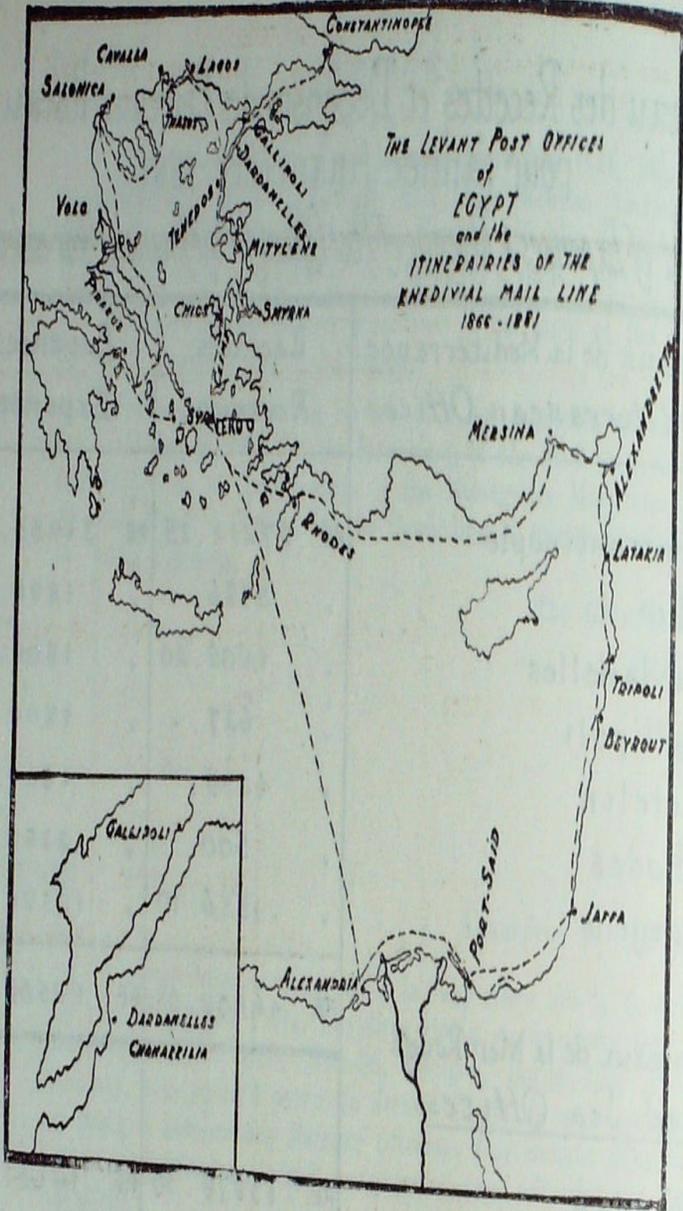
Tableau des Recettes et Dépenses des Bureaux Postaux
pour l'année financière 1881.
Statement of Expenses & Revenue of Post Offices for the financial Year ended 1881

Bureaux de la Méditerranée <i>Mediterranean Offices</i>	Recettes <i>Revenue</i>	Dépenses <i>Expenses</i>
Constantinople	PE 27.212.25	PE 31.233.-
Chio	. 3.486.-	. 1.805.30
Dardanelles	. 1.009.20	. 1.800.-
Gallipoli	. 627.-	. 1.800.-
Mettelin	. 4.239.-	. 1.800.-
Rhodes	. 500.-	. 2.280.-
Smyrne	. 9.336.10	. 19.790.10
	PE 46.409.55	PE 60.508.40
Bureaux de la Mer Rouge <i>Red Sea Offices</i>		
Djeddah	PE 13.979.35	PE 10.051.10
Massawa	. 12.200.15	. 10.606.-
Saouakim	. 9.615.20	. 12.716.20
Barbera	. 521.25	. 1.760.-
Zeyla	. 527.05	. 1.560.-
	PE 36.843.-	PE 36.693.30
	PE 83.252.55	PE 97.201.70

Nous avons relevé ce tableau, des Recettes et Dépenses des Bureaux Postaux Egyptiens établis à l'Etranger, du rapport annuel de l'Administration des Postes de 1881.

La balance générale des susdits Bureaux était déficitaire. Seuls les bureaux de Chio, Mettelin, Djeddah et Massawa étaient créditeurs.

Le désir du Gouvernement Egyptien de voir supprimer de sur son territoire les Bureaux des puissances capitulaires, d'un côté, la situation déficitaire des Bureaux Egyptiens établis à l'Etranger, d'autre part, expliquent la décision de fermeture prise par l'Administration des Postes Egyptiennes.



Il existe aux Archives Postales un registre, très intéressant, intitulé «Inventario dei Documenti Postali — 1865 — 1879», sur lequel étaient inventoriés les rapports mensuels unifiés reçus de tous les Bureaux Postaux Egyptiens.

Ces rapports étaient de 4 sortes : 1.) Conto corrente : compte-courant ; 2.) Rendiconti : compte-rendu ; 3.) Ricevute spese : reçus de dépenses ; 4.) Personale : personnel.

Le registre en question se compose d'une liste de tous les Bureaux Egyptiens — y compris, bien entendu, ceux établis à l'Etranger — dont les noms sont inscrits à la suite les uns des autres dans une colonne, en face de chaque nom de localité il était noté la nature du rapport reçu, et ceci mois par mois.

L'année terminée, une nouvelle liste était inscrite et ainsi de suite depuis 1865 à 1879.

L'importance de ce registre n'échappera pas à ceux qui s'intéressent à l'histoire postale égyptienne car sa consultation pourra prouver et corroborer l'existence de n'importe quel bureau égyptien en fonctionnement durant la période si peu connue de 1865 à 1884.

Le tableau publié ci-après est une récapitulation des dates d'ouverture et fermeture des Bureaux Postaux Egyptiens établis à l'Etranger telles qu'elles ressortent soit des Circulaires Postales (C.P.) que nous avons publiées ici soit du Registre de l'Inventaire des Documents Postaux ci-haut cité.

Nous avons pu, par le registre des inventaires, corroborer l'existence du bureau de Leros, par contre, pour celui de Syra nous ne pouvons qu'affirmer qu'une circulaire a été envoyée à cette île, mais sans pouvoir identifier à quelle Administration : égyptienne, turque, autrichienne ou française.

DATES D'OUVERTURE ET DE FERMETURE des Bureaux Postaux Egyptiens établis à l'Etranger d'après les Circulaires Postales (C.P.) et l'Inventaire des Documents Postaux de 1865 à 1879 (I.D.P.)

BUREAUX	C. P.		I. D. P.	
	O.	F.	O.	F.
Alessandretta	14 Juillet 1870	15 Février 1872	Août 1870	Février 1872
Beyrut	"	"	Juillet 1870	"
Cavalla	"	"	Août 1870	"
Chios	"	30 Juin 1881	Novembre 1869	30 Juin 1881
Constantinople	9 Mai 1865	"	Mai 1865	"
Dardanelles	10 Juin 1868	"	Septembre 1867	"
Gallipoli	"	"	Novembre 1867	"
Gedda	8 Juin 1865	"	Juillet 1865	"
Jaffa	14 Juillet 1870	15 Février 1872	Juillet 1870	Février 1872
Lagos	"	"	Août 1870	"
Latakia	"	"	"	"
Leros (*)				
Mersine	14 Juillet 1870	15 Février 1872	Août 1870	Février 1872
Mitylène	"	30 Juin 1881	Janvier 1870	30 Juin 1881
Rhodes	13 Août 1872	"	Août 1872	"
Sainique	14 Juillet 1870	15 Février 1872	Juin 1870	Février 1872
Smyrne	14 Novembre 1865	30 Juin 1881	Novembre 1865	30 Juin 1881
Syra	14 Juillet 1870			
Tenedos	14 Juillet 1870	"	Juin 1870	Mars 1871
Tripoli	"	"	Août 1870	Février 1872
Volo	"	"		

(*) Il semble que le Bureau de Leros n'était ouvert que par intermittence durant la saison d'été, à l'occasion du séjour en villégiature de Son Altesse le Khedive. Ainsi, il ressort du registre de l'Inventaire des Documents Postaux que des rapports de ce Bureau ont été reçus de Juillet à Décembre 1873 et de Juin à Septembre 1874.

Les circulaires confirment, par contre, le fonctionnement durant la saison d'été en 1873, 1874 et 1876.

A Philatelic discoveryOVERPRINT ERRORS AND VARIETIES ON THE
PORTRAIT ISSUES OF TRANSJORDAN

by Dr. ZIRKER (S.P.E. N° 402)

If you go carefully through the list of countries specialised in by the stamp collectors mentioned in "Who's Who in Philately", you will find that a comparatively small number have made Transjordan their speciality.

If however, you add to this list the very numerous collectors of stamps of the British Empire,—abstracting therefrom those who, because they only collect some of the Empire stamps, leave out Transjordan—your calculation will give you nevertheless quite a substantial total number of collectors of Transjordan.

Here it would be well to note that many of these collectors, concentrate on or collect only the Portrait stamps of Emir Abdullah and sometimes pictorials neglecting the issues from 1920 to 1925.

The stamps from 1927 are particularly popular not only because of their beauty but also because of their attraction as a possible fruitful investment.

It will be easily seen by a glance at a newly printed Gibbons that errors and varieties are in great favour today because when compared with even old time issues—slow to rise in value—varieties have often gone through frequent rises in price. For this reason, the varieties of the Overprinted Portrait stamps of Transjordan deserve a special attention and examination; and as will be seen by the details given hereunder, the philatelic world is about to be well surprised, the layman stunned, the expert amazed.

Errors and varieties of these stamps issued more than 15 years ago are suddenly made known or see the light, not because they have only just now been discovered but because those who devoted themselves to the study of the stamps at the time of issue have preferred to withhold at least part of their knowledge for such a lengthy period.

Of the 1930 "LOCUST CAMPAIGN" stamps overprinted by Whitehead Morris & Co. of Alexandria to help in the fight against an invasion of Locusts (Overprint Type S.G. 21) Gibbons only mentions three varieties. These are:

Orange. S.G. 186a, 5 mills,
Overprint double.

Ultramarine S.G. 188a, 15 mills,
Overprint inverted.

Brown S.G. 194a, 500 mills,
"C" of LOCUST missing.

In addition to the two first errors, Darlow, in his specialised catalogue of (Palestine and) Transjordan, mentions others in the same issue.

He alleges without giving precise descriptions "rare Type-varieties" of the 100 and 200 mills. Also of all other values up to the 20 mills, a variety "LOCUST". Another variety "LO JST" is also mentioned for the 500 mills.

Of the Postage Due stamps of 1929 which was overprinted in Cairo (Overprint Type S.G. D6) Gibbons mentions two errors:

S.G. D28 2 mills

S.G. D31 20 mills on 100, both without surcharge.

Of course such "no surcharge" stamps cannot be distinguished from the normal unless they are, at least, in pairs horizontal or vertical — see tenant — Darlow does not mention any varieties or errors in this issue.

A few months ago, the author was shown two almost complete sheets of these two issues (Ordinary and Postage Due) by an absolutely trustworthy person. Of these sheets composed of a 100 stamps each, only a very few pieces were missing, namely at the lower edges. The author was also shown

enumerated and described here are absolutely genuine.

The very large size of the sheets alone considerably facilitates a thorough examination of the various overprints which, in addition, and above all, were compared with other similar overprints. The personalities referred to, the high officials still in office, who made a thorough examination of the entire material with the permission of the authorities concerned as soon as the stamps arrived in Transjordan resulting in the discovery of the under-mentioned errors and varieties. The fact that they were bought at the time from the main Post Office at Amman proves this point.



Plate 1.

Locust Campaign. The 2 mills, greenish blue with overprint inverted.

part of another sheet as well as smaller blocks, pairs and singles. These sheets and stamps have now been handed over to the author of this article and with this material in hand it will be possible to supplement the meagre information available so far, concerning the errors and varieties of the Transjordan Portrait issue, thus considerably increasing our present knowledge.

From information now gathered, there can be no doubt that the pieces

In order to facilitate an examination of these errors, some of them have been photographed, enlarged and reproduced here. Only a few of these varieties — namely those hitherto known — have years ago passed into the hands of third persons such as collectors and dealers who acquired them from the original discoverers. All the others were not made public.

1) An S.G. 183a can be added to the catalogue of the varieties of the Locust

Campaign: the 2 mills, Greenish blue, Overprint inverted. Existing in one almost complete sheet bearing the number 1400 as can be seen in the illustration which shows nine stamps of the top right corner of the sheet. (Plate 1)

The original owner of this sheet allowed himself to be cajoled into giving away a bottom corner copy to an English collector residing in Jerusalem some years ago. Since then several other pieces were sent abroad for ex-

In one block of four in the possession of the author, the double overprint is much misplaced. A number of these double overprints were sold years ago and altogether it is estimated that only a few dozen of this error exist to day. This error is only known used on two entires together with the error S.G. 188a.

III) The 15 mills, Overprint inverted (S.G. 188a) was also found in a complete sheet of a 100 stamps. The greater part of these stamps having gone into the hands of collectors or dealers years



Plate 2.

Locust Campaign. Variety of the 500 mills. S.G. N° 194a (enlarged)

mination but the sheet is otherwise intact even though some of the perforations have, in part, become separated. It appears after inquiry that this error, 2 mills, Overprint inverted, is not known used.

II) For the variety S.G. 186a, 5 mills. Orange. Overprint double, mentioned by Gibbons and Darlow, according to information received by the author, a great number were found on one and the same sheet together with stamps showing a single overprint, i.e. some showing a double overprint, the others a normal single overprint.

ago, this error has been known for a long time. In spite of its scarcity, the author has succeeded in securing a part sheet of 26 as well as various pairs and singles. This stamp is known used on two entires together with the error S.G. 186a.

IV) The "rare Type-varieties" mentioned by Darlow are minor varieties of the Locust overprint.

Darlow mentions three.

a) The variety which can be found on all values up to the 20 mills and on

which the first letter "L" in Locust is an "I" so that the word reads "IOCAST".

tion was made by the author only on the 200 mills values, but also, in odd instances, on the 90 mills values.

Here this is an inexactitude or perhaps a printer's error in Darlow's text, namely that the "L" was not replaced by an "I" but rather that the lower bar of the "L" is simply broken. Since the type of this letter and indeed the whole of the word is thin, it must be alternatively presumed that the lower bar did not print well.

There can be no question of it being an "I".

(b) According to Darlow there are "rare Type-varieties" on the 100 and

(c) The third variety referred to by Darlow is to be found on the 500 mills Locust. According to Darlow the overprint on these values is "LO JST". The fact that on this variety the letter "C" is missing is confirmed by Gibbons as well as by more careful scrutiny of the item in question. It can also be clearly seen from the enlarged photographs of this overprint shown on Plate 2. It is however, not clear why Darlow maintains that in place of the "U" a "J" is shown in this particular overprint. It is more correct to



Plate 3.

Postage Due S.G. N° 28a Block of 40. The vertical row of four stamps without overprint, on the others the overprint has slipped down.

200 mills values of the Locust Issue. As to which variety is meant, the writer does not give details. I suppose however that he refers to a mutilation of the letter "T" in the word "LOCUST". This mutilation is according to the observations of the author, the missing right top part of the bar of the "T" which, therefore, appears only as though it was a "I". This observa-

assume that the left half of the letter "U" does not appear in the print, whether as a result of a setting error on the part of the printers or of too weak a print. Apart from these minor variations there are also several other small ones such as misplaced overprints on the 20 mills values, of which the author possesses a vertical stripe of three.

V. The errors in the 1929 Postage Due stamp, are no less interesting. On a photograph of the block of 40 of the stamps of the block the overprint slips value remained entirely without receiving the overprint. On several stamps of the block the overprint slips

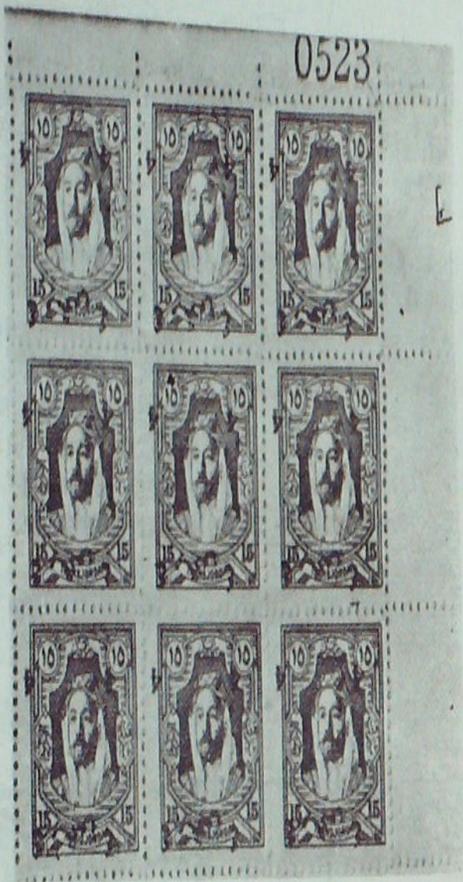


Plate 4.
Postage Due N° 29 with overprint inverted.



Plate 5.
Postage Due S.G. N° 32
one stamp with no surcharge.

2 mills (S.G.D. 28a) in the possession of the author, (see Plate 3.) it is seen why a few stamps of the whole the vertical row of four stamps down gradually, finally reaching the lower margin of the block. On the

at the right margin of the sheet has remained completely without overprint which makes it a very interesting and quite unique Block.

VI. The almost complete sheet of the values S.G. D 29 (4m. on 15m.) with "overprint inverted", is entirely new, i.e. has been unknown for more than 15 years and is not listed in any of the catalogues. Of this a block of nine bearing the sheet No. 0523 is illustrated in plate 4.

A few of these errors are known used on piece or entire.

VII. Plate 5 illustrates a block of four of Gibbons error D 31a. In the top right stamp the overprint is missing.

Of this error 4 pairs and 2 blocks of four were discovered according to information received by the author.

VIII) Finally the same error as D 31a, appears also on the 50 mills Purple illustrated in plate 4. This sheet is the only one known and this error of S.G. D 32 has only just become known to the public. Of this error there exists according to the same source 2 blocks of four but no pairs, on which one of the stamps is **without the overprint** (Plate 5).

As for stamp D 29 this error can only be recognised if the stamps are in pairs or more, se-tenant, one with, one without; overprint.

THE END

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S.P.E. 52

R.C.C. 279

Commentaires sur l'article

THE EARLY AIR STAMPS OF EGYPT AND SUDAN (*)

Alexandrie, le 8 Mars 1946.

A Monsieur IBRAHIM BEY CHAFTAR
Président de la Société Philatélique
d'Egypte
B.P. 142 — Le Caire.

Monsieur le Président,

La Revue de notre Société « L'Orient Philatélique » a publié dans son Numéro de Janvier dernier (Page 428) un article intitulé « The Early Air Stamps of Egypt and Sudan », signé par Mr. W. Buckland Edwards. — Or cet article contient certaines erreurs que je crois devoir rectifier; c'est pourquoi je vous adresse la présente lettre pour être publiée dans L'O.P.

L'auteur commence son article en disant que le premier vol postal de Londres vers l'Est Africain a été celui qui a quitté Londres le 28 Février 1931, que le 2me. vol a eu lieu le 9 Décembre 1931 et le 3ème le 20 ou 24 Janvier 1932.

Or il est bien connu que le 1er vol postal (avec courrier) de l'Europe vers l'Egypte a été celui de l'aviateur Mittelholzer, qui a quitté Zurich (Suisse) le 28 Novembre 1926. — Il y a eu aussi un vol du Zeppelin vers l'Orient le 24 Mars 1929, et ce Zeppelin a survolé l'Egypte et y a laissé tomber du courrier à Burollas. Mais même en laissant de côté ces deux vols pour ne parler que des départs réguliers de Londres, il est certain que le premier vol de l'Imperial Airways vers l'Egypte a été celui, bien connu, qui a quitté Londres le 30 Mars 1929 pour arriver à Alexandrie le 3 Avril 1929. — Ce vol s'est prolongé jusqu'aux Indes Anglaises, avec retour vers l'Egypte et Londres.

Quant au vol du 28 Février 1931 dont il est parlé dans l'article, il est exact que l'avion arriva à Mwanza le 10 Mars

1931; mais l'avion ne s'est pas arrêté là; il a atteint ensuite Kisumu le même jour, puis Nairobi le lendemain et Butiaba le 12 Mars. Sauf erreur de ma part, l'avion a aussi atteint Dar El Salam le 14 Mars, Mombaza le 16 Mars et même Le Cap, mais à une date que je n'ai pas pu préciser a'ors que Mr. Edwards ne parle du Cap que pour ce qu'il appelle le second vol.

Cette erreur au sujet de la date du 1er vol Angleterre-Egypte a naturellement entraîné une erreur au sujet du timbre égyptien qui avait cours à l'époque de ce vol, timbre qui est le 27m. violet et non le 27m. rouge-brun, comme il est dit dans l'article.

D'autre part, il est exact que la première date d'emploi de ce timbre de 27m. violet est, comme indiqué dans l'article, le 10 Mars 1926 (vol vers Bagdad).

Mais Mr. Edwards se trompe ensuite de nouveau en parlant du 27m. rouge-brun, là où il semble dire que sa première date d'emploi serait le 4 Mars 1931, alors que la première date en question est le 17 Juillet 1929, date qu'indiquent le Catalogue Champion et le Catalogue Zeheri.

Mr. Edwards se trompe aussi en parlant des deux timbres surchargés «Graft-Zeppelin», dont il indique la date d'émission comme étant le 9 Avril 1931, alors que cette date est le 6 Avril, d'après le Catalogue Zeheri. Je possède d'ailleurs un entier portant ces deux timbres et oblitéré d'Alexandrie 7 Avril 1931, entier que j'ai exposé à l'Exposition Philatélique qui vient de se tenir au Caire, comme j'ai exposé des entiers relatifs aux premiers vols ci-dessus mentionnés de l'aviateur Mittelholzer, des Imperial Airways, etc.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma parfaite considération.

(signé) : G. Boulad.

Rare stamp find HIDDEN IN PALACE FOR 100 YEARS

8/- in 1840 : now £5,000.

From H.R. HARMER, 39-42, New Bond Street, London, W.1.



Dalkeith Palace (Scotland)

A valuable find of rare early British stamps has just occurred at Dalkeith Palace a Scottish Ducal Seat. It is assumed that they were purchased by the Great-grandfather of the present Duke of Buccleuch.

A remarkable part sheet of forty-eight of one of the World's first stamps, the 2d blue of 1840, was discovered in an old leather travelling writing set, on a table in the Palace Library. The block of stamps, comprising the bottom four rows of the sheet, is unused and in extremely fine condition and has remained hidden for over 100 years until discovered by Mr. Alexander Martin, the Duke's Secretary, with 55 penny stamps of the less valuable red-brown issue of 1841. In the writing-set, beside the stamps, was lying a quill

pen, pencils, sealing wax and 21 embossed letter seals bearing the initial "B" surmounted by the ducal crown.

The two pieces have been handed to Messrs. H.R. Harmer, the Bond Street Stamp Auctioneers, and will be sold in the near future either at Auction or by Private Treaty. They may realise over £5,000 against an original price of 10/7d. An official of the firm said: "The block of 2d stamps is probably the most valuable philatelic piece in so far as British stamps are concerned. An almost complete sheet—there were 240 stamps to the sheet—once existed in the late Lord Crawford's collection but this was cut up many years ago. An unused block of four is to-day worth around £300."

(*) Voir L'Orient Philatélique N° 53.



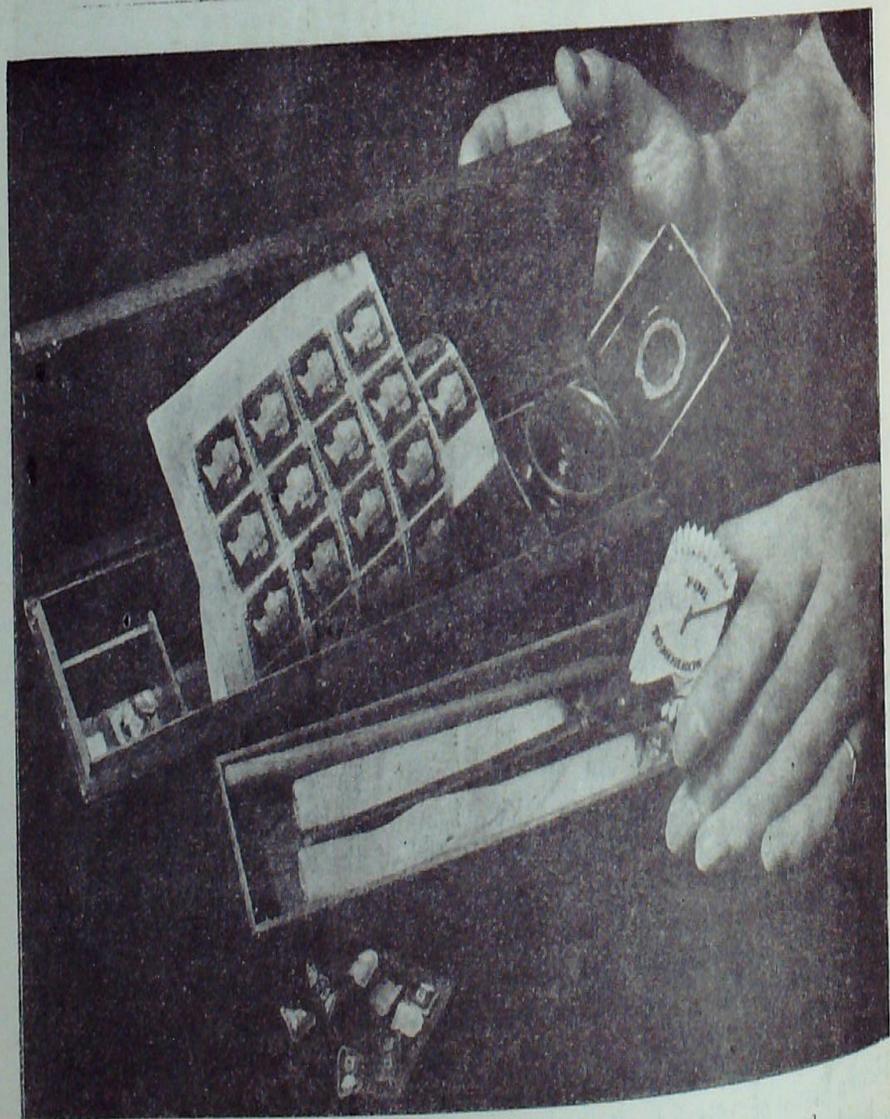
The valuable block discovered.

The block of 2d stamps has the side and bottom margins intact and the inscription beneath the bottom row reads: "PRICE 2d per label, 2/ per row of 12, £2..... per sheet. Place the labels ABOVE the address and towards the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the letter. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the Cement."

Two different plates were employed for the production of the 2d stamp and this

block was printed from plate 2 which went to press on the 21st July, 1840, the distribution to Post Offices commencing around the beginning of October of that year. Blocks of the stamp printed from plate 2 are decidedly rarer than plate 1.

Walter Francis became the 5th Duke of Buccleuch and 7th Duke of Queensberry in 1819 and was Lord Privy Seal from 1812 to 1846.



The old leather travelling writing set where the stamps were found.

DETAILS OF THE WRITING SET.

The small cabinet in which M. Alexander Martin found the stamps measures 11" by 2 3/4" by 2 3/8" is handsomely bound in tooled leather and contained, in addition to the 103 stamps, a fitted spring-top inkwell similarly bound which bears the gold embossed name of the makers "Coombs & Co." It is a tribute to their workmanship that the spring which renders the inkwell non-spilling is still in perfect working order.

A removable wooden tray contains three pieces of sealing wax, two bearing the maker's name "W.S. Elliott, Torquay". With the wax was found a wooden-handled pen with a curiously designed metal holder, in which is still fixed the quill nib. The holder bears the maker's name "J. Bramah—Patent". A loose three pronged metal nib marked "Patent-Perry-London" lies alongside with two lead pencils stamped "C.R. Artists Warranted Pure Cumberland Lead by S. Mordan & Co., London"; also a

curious bone object with silk ribbons attached for marking numbers from 1 to 10 in the serrations. One side bears the inscription "FOR TODAY" and the reverse "FOR TOMORROW". The purpose of this article is unknown to London Museum authorities.

Rolled up underneath the removable tray in a space 6 1/2" by 2 1/4" by nearly 3/4" the century old stamp find was made—perhaps the most remarkable of all time. At the left of the section in which the stamps lay, a further tiny compartment covered by a wooden lid with a silk ribbon "handle", disclosed the twenty-one seals or wafers such as were frequently used to close the letter-sheets of the period. These are 1/2" by 3/8" with clipped corners in various colours and are embossed with the ducal surmounting the letter "B". They indicate with reasonable certainty that the writing set was personally used by the 5th Duke.

COMPTOIR TIMBROPHILE

D'ALEXANDRIE

Jean FRANGAKIS

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ALEXANDRIE

R.C.A. No. 700

Achat et Vente en gros et en détail de timbres-poste

d'EGYPTE, SOUDAN et MOYEN-ORIENT

A LA DIRECTION GENERALE DES POSTES

Son Excellence Mohamed Amine Fikry Bey, nommé Secrétaire Général de la National Bank of Egypt, a quitté la Direction Générale des Postes, le 30 Avril 1946.

Tous les Sociétaires verront par ailleurs que vu les services rendus par Fikry Bey à notre Société, notamment en ce qui concerne le règlement posé pour la distribution des nouveautés et timbres commémoratifs, le Comité de Direction a décidé de le nommer membre d'honneur à vie.

Avec son départ, les philatélistes perdront un excellent ami très compréhensif et très serviable.

C'est Son Excellence Ahmed Mamdouh Moursi Bey, Directeur Général des Impôts au Ministère des Finances qui a été nommé, par Décret Royal en date du 24/4/46, pour succéder à Fikry Bey en qualité de Directeur Général des Postes Egyptiennes.

Né au Caire le 23 Février 1899, il fit ses études à la Faculté Royale de Droit du Caire, puis à l'Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques de Paris. Il débuta dans la carrière diplomatique commençant au grade de Chancelier de Légation à Paris en 1924, pour devenir 1^{er} Secrétaire à Washington en 1932. Puis ce fut le transfert au Ministère des Finances au Poste de Sous-Contrôleur Général de Statistique. En 1939, il en devint le Contrôleur Général.

En 1945, il fut nommé Directeur Général de l'Administration des Impôts.

S.E. Ahmed Mamdouh Moursi Bey a pris possession de son poste le 1^{er} Mai 1946.

Au cours d'une entrevue qu'il a bien voulu accorder à Ibrahim Chafar Bey, notre Président, il a accepté volontiers de devenir — suivant la tradition — membre d'honneur de notre Société.

Il a en outre promis de toujours accorder aux philatélistes en général, et aux membres de notre Société en particulier, un efficace appui moral.

Notre Président profita de l'occasion pour l'entretenir au sujet de la politique égyptienne d'émission des timbres-postes commémoratifs. Notre pays est tellement en vogue dans le monde philatélique que le moindre faux pas peut avoir des répercussions imprévisibles.



S.E. Ahmed Mamdouh Moursi Bey.

Avant la guerre, nos tirages des commémoratifs étaient trop petits, et les négociants à l'étranger ne parvenaient pas à se faire allouer un quota. Actuellement, les tirages sont trop élevés et, quoique l'Administration ait posé des règles logiques et saines, les distributeurs étrangers ne parviennent pas encore à obtenir entière satisfaction, ni de l'Administration, ni des agents qu'ils sont obligés de nommer en Egypte pour les représenter.

Notre Président le mit au courant de son projet de créer en Egypte une Association des Négociants en timbres-poste dont le Président pourrait représenter, entre autres, cette corporation auprès de l'Administration, régler le commerce des timbres et régler les litiges.

S.E. Mamdouh Moursi Bey se montra très attentif aux desideratas des philatélistes égyptiens et étrangers et promit de mettre ces suggestions à l'étude par ses services.

L'entrevue se termina très cordialement et nous voilà de nouveau tranquilles au sujet de notre avenir.

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE G.P.O. CAIRO.
RE : COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS.

COMMUNIQUE

With a view to establish a uniform policy insuring as much as possible the due consideration of applications received for the purchase of commemorative postage stamps occasionally issued by the Postal Administration and to avoid complaints the following measures have been decided to the stamp dealers:—

- I — A quantity will be reserved to stamp dealers established in Egypt and inscribed in Egyptian Commercial Register.
- II — Another quantity will be reserved to stamp dealers residing abroad provided that they notify their desire directly to the Postal Administration by a letter in which they must state their names and addresses as well as the quantities required. Moreover, they will have to appoint an agent or a representative in Egypt for the withdrawal, against payment, of the quantities allotted to them and for

which they will be notified on delivery.

- III — The value of the quantity to be reserved should in no case be less than L.E. 10.— per stamp dealer.

The applicant or this representative must take delivery of the whole quantity reserved for him within the period fixed by the Administration for each issue.

- IV — Any application not complying with the above conditions will be neglected.

- V — Stamp dealers abroad have to acknowledge receipt of the quantity received through their agent for control purposes, so that in case of any complaint the name of the responsible agent will be cancelled.

The Postal Administration assumes no responsibility, should it be unable for any reason whatever, to comply with certain requests or to supply in their integrity the quantities required.



P. La Renotière von Ferrary

Nous reproduisons ci-dessus la photo de feu P. La Renotière von Ferrary, dont S. E. Ahmed Bey Mazloum nous a promis un article à paraître dans notre prochaine Revue sur sa vie et sur l'activité philatélique d'un des plus grands collectionneurs du monde entier.

محمد محمد حسين ليطة

٥ شارع بابل بور سعيد

وصلت مجموعات الجلاء عن سوريا

واستقلال الفلبين

في الطريق البومات ماركة سكوت

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Auteur et Editeur du CATALOGUE DES TIMBRES D'EGYPTE

MEMBRE : { THE EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE (LONDRES)
No. 79 DU S.P.E. DU CAIRE
No. 9352 DU J.P.S. DE LONDRES

REGISTRE DU COMMERCE No. 26511 (LE CAIRE)

Juillet, 1946

L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE

539

EASTER STAMP "COLLECTORS"

Postage stamps to the value of £29,000 were stolen from the premises of Messrs. Harrison, printers at High Wycombe, Bucks, during the Easter holiday.

The stamps which were in twelve packages, weighing 3 cwt. represent the total of 2,784,000 twopence-halfpenny stamps.

The robbery was discovered when work was resumed.

The thieves had apparently climbed on the roof, removed the putty round a pane of glass and forced an entry into the strong room.

Bucks police believe that a triple-leverage cutter, an American instrument, was used by the thieves to cut through the iron bars which protect the strong room.

WELL PLANNED.

It is obvious that the robbery had been carefully planned and thieves had chosen the Easter holidays to carry out the robbery, fully equipped for a difficult operation.

The iron bars which protect the strong room are nearly an inch thick. The police believe the robbery took place on Sunday night.

Harrison and Sons Ltd., were established in 1750 and are specialists in the production of stamps, bank notes and securities. They are the printers to the King and Queen Mary.—(G.S.S.)

QUERY



Extract from a letter of M. A.S. Mackenzie Low to M. Jean Boulad, dated 5th December 1945.

"I enclose you a drawing I have, made of an Egyptian postal marking that I have in my collection.

"It is on a cover from MEX FIRST near Alexandria, addressed to England and franked with the 1 P.T. stamps of 1884— which are obliterated with this postmark. Have you ever seen this marking? In my

copy of the Post Office Guide of 1917, MEX is listed. Is this the same as MEX FIRST? I would be glad of any information you have about this office".

JURISPRUDENCE PHILATELIQUE

En 1895, un procès philatélique mettait aux prises deux marchands très connus sur la place de Paris: Arthur Maury et Victor Robert. A. Maury reprochait à V. Robert d'avoir copié son catalogue, il demandait au Tribunal d'interdire la vente du catalogue Robert et de gros dommages-intérêts pour préjudice causé. Il fut débouté de sa demande et condamné aux dépens. Ce jugement, d'espèce, retenait: "qu'un catalogue de timbres, quel que soit d'ailleurs son mérite aux yeux des collectionneurs, ne saurait être classé parmi les créations de l'esprit, que son caractère commercial ne permet même pas de l'assimiler à un catalogue de vente, qu'en établissant ses nomenclatures dans l'ordre alphabétique le demandeur n'a rien inventé, qu'il n'a pas donné à son ouvrage une empreinte industrielle sous la forme d'appréciations, de commentaires ou simples notes constituant une production intellectuelle. Qu'il y a donc lieu de rejeter la demande comme mal fondée."

AHMED MAZLOUM.

Robert PERULLO

Négociant en timbres-poste

R.C.C. 4349

S.P.E. No. 156

13, RUE ADLY PACHA, LE CAIRE

ACHATS

ECHANGES

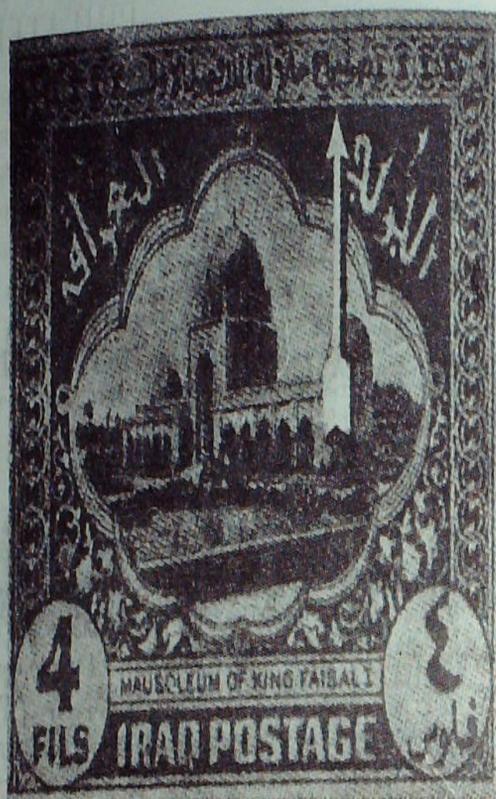
VENTES

Egypte — Soudan

Palestine — France-Libre

Colonies Anglaises

IRAQ VARIETIES



Cairo, 20 May 1946.

To the Editor,

GIBBONS STAMPS MONTHLY,

37, Southampton Street,

LONDON, W.C. 2.

Dear Sir,

I read in the N° 8 "Stamp Monthly" for April, an article signed CPR on the Iraq faulty inscription varieties.

I cannot explain how the flaw occurs but in answer to the query made by the author of the article, I beg to inform him I was presented with 3 blocks of four of the 3, 4 and 5 fils of Iraq, one stamp of each block showing the faulty inscription.

These blocks I have in turn presented to the Philatelic Society of Egypt for its General Collection of Stamps, varieties, forgeries, etc...

The faulty inscription therefore appears on the 3 and 5 fils as well as on the 4 fils.

I am yours faithfully,

(signed) IBRAHIM CHAFTAR
President of the
Philatelic Society of Egypt.

STANLEY GIBBONS LTD

37, Southampton Street,

LONDON, W.C. 2.

24 May 1946.

IBRAHIM CHAFTAR BEY,

P.O. Box 142,

CAIRO.

Dear Sir,

We are much obliged to you for your letter of the 20th May, in reference to the Iraq flaw. Since our article was written for the April number of our Magazine we have been told of its existence in the other values and, in the June issue of our Magazine, we shall be publishing a full explanation of how this variety occurred.

It is a very interesting item and we are grateful to you for writing us about it.

Yours faithfully,

for and on behalf of
STANLEY GIBBONS LTD.
(signed) STANLEY PHILLIPS
Managing Director.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

POLISH POST SEVEN YEARS WAR
by H.M. SMITH, P.T.S., S.D.A.,

Member International Stamp Collectors' Association, American Philatelic Society, Stowarzyszenie Filatelistow Polskich w W. BRYSTAUI.

A beautifully produced treatise and catalogue entitled "Polish Post Seven Years War", has been presented by the author to the Philatelic Society of Egypt. It is what it purports to be, a complete record of all stamps, seals, field posts, labels, etc... issued by the Polish Authorities at home and abroad during the war years. All subjects are fully described and covers, Airgraphs, Letter cards, Air Force, Assembly Camps, Postmarks, Army Services, Baltic States, Canada Training Camp, Charity, Covers, Internment Camps, Sea Stamps, Slogans, Occupation etc. etc...

The way the items are reviewed and illustrated in this book which by the way, is published by the Bristol Stamp Company and printed by Messrs. D. Leslie on the finest glossy paper gives credit to the Author and all those who have contributed to its production.

This volume should be in the hands of every specialist of Poland.

Full historical details, dates, precisions are given for each stamp, cover, slogan or postmark. Clear illustrations and details are given for numerous items and where prices appear they seem to be low when numbers issued are considered.

It is at once obvious, the Author is a philatelist and not a speculator.

CANCELLED IN RED

by Hugh Pentecost.

Not a philatelic book but still a book for philatelists.

"Cancelled in red" is a 1000 dollar prize-winning novel about stamp collecting, rare stamps, wealthy stamp dealers and police inspector Luke Bradley.

Those who are tired (for the moment) of reading Gibbons or Yvert for the

umpteenth time or are about to start on their summer holidays will find it interesting. In a "Public Library Edition" printed in the United States in pocket book form, it is quite cheap to purchase.

ANNUAL RESUME
OF THE H.R. HARMER STAMP
AUCTIONS FOR THE SEASON 1944-1945

We have received the above interesting Annual Resumé of Sales held by Messrs Harmer during the last «War time» season.

It would be futile to attempt listing the numerous collections and rare pieces sold by this famous firm in even a single season. Their catalogues are an encyclopædia of Philately which, with the lists of prices realised give a real idea of the trend of the market, the rarity of certain stamps and provide hours of fascinating study to say nothing of the opportunities offered to purchaser and vendor alike.

The probable trend of conditions in the London market, for at least the coming year, is summarised as follows:

THE «CLASSIC» ISSUES. Foreign and British Colonial in superb condition.
= Rising.
in average condition. = Steady.

«MODERN AND MIDDLE» ISSUES. Foreign and British Colonial. = Steady to slightly upward tendency.

We are awaiting with great impatience Messrs H.R. Harmer's «Back to normal» efforts when the publication of larger size catalogues and the famous «Harmer's Stamp Hints» will be resumed. The 4 issues of the last will cost 7/6.

We also have been promised for 1946 a special 200-page Handbook on the DOMINION OF NEWFOUNDLAND, Britain's Oldest Colony, in preparation since 1920 Written by Lt. C.H.C. Harmer and R.E.R. Dalwick this book will be a useful addition to the Philatelic Libraries of all serious collectors of Empire Issues.

Some considerations upon the Zeheri Catalogue and on the miniature sheets of the Cairo Exhibition, by our American Agent, in The American Philatelist, of May 1946.

CATALOGUE OF EGYPTIAN STAMPS, by G.N. Zeheri, 146 pp. \$ 7.50 post-paid, from E. A. Kehr, 127-10 103 Avenue, Richmond Hill 19, N.Y.

Egypt long has been one of the top favorites of American collectors, and the publication of the 1946 edition of the Zeheri catalogue, the first since the war began, is a contribution of major philatelic importance. Because of printing and paper restrictions, only 200 were published and of these, 24 were allocated to the United States and arrived. An examination reveals not only the wide scope of philatelic possibilities of Egyptian stamps, but also the high prices these stamps are commanding in Egypt.

The book is a combination handbook and catalogue, for it lists every known major and minor variety, hundred of which are not listed by Scott, but which are recognized by Egyptian specialists. It also illustrates, lists and prices essays, proofs and military stamps and

the Suez Canal issues.

Scott for example completely omits mention of the 10-p, 1867, with extra Arabic character, but Zeheri prices this rarity at \$30. Scott prices No. 117a at \$35; Zeheri at \$75.

Other differences are:

Scott No.	Scott Price	Zeheri Price
124	\$ 150.00	\$225.00
167	50.00	75.00
168-71	9.25	13.00
190	35.00	85.00
024a	30.00	75.00

Although the miniature sheets (perf. and imperf.) are commanding astonishing prices in the regular market, every member of the Egyptian Philatelic Society received, as a part of the society's new issue service, a complete set at face value. These, recently announced, were issued to commemorate both the 80th anniversary of the first Egyptian stamps and the international exhibition staged in Cairo from Feb. 28 to Mar. 8. Information about the society may be obtained from E. A. Kehr, American Agent, 127-10 103 Avenue, Richmond Hill 19, N.Y.

Les Emissions des Colonies Françaises Libres (*)

(suite et fin)

par GINO PIPERNO (S.P.E. N° 696)

et JEAN BOULAD (S.P.E. N° 155)

LES ETABLISSEMENTS FRANÇAIS DANS L'INDE

EMISSIONS PROVISOIRES (suite)

JANVIER 1942 à AVRIL 1943. — Surcharge "FRANCE LIBRE" et Croix de Lorraine, sur deux lignes horizontales sur les timbres verticaux et sur une ligne diagonale sur les timbres horizontaux, en noir (N), rouge (R), bleu (B) ou bleu foncé (BF) sur diverses valeurs des émissions de 1923 à 1940.

Cette surcharge a été exécutée typographiquement sur des panneaux de 25 timbres, par l'Imprimerie du Gouvernement à Pondichéry.

Cette surcharge a fait l'objet de trois émissions successives.

JANVIER 1942. — Approuvée par arrêté du 6 Mars 1943.

La surcharge est nette et de couleur foncée; sur les timbres verticaux la distance entre la Croix de Lorraine et le mot FRANCE varie entre 11 et 13 millimètres.



? 1943. — Autorisée par arrêté du 4 Février 1943.

La surcharge est floue, baveuse et de couleur plus claire; sur les timbres verticaux, la distance entre la Croix de Lorraine et le mot FRANCE varie entre 6 et 9 millimètres.

? 1943. — Autorisée par arrêté du 17 Avril 1943, modifié par arrêté du 9 Juin 1943.

Surcharge floue, impression extrêmement mauvaise, épaisseur des caractères très inégale; sur les timbres verticaux la distance entre la Croix de Lorraine et le mot FRANCE est d'environ 8 millimètres, en outre l'E final de FRANCE est généralement rempli d'encre et se présente comme un carré plutôt indistinct.

(*) Voir L'Orient Philatélique N° 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 et 54.

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	Quantités Emises:		
	Emissions		
	1 ^{re}	2 ^{me}	3 ^{me}
STATUE DE BRAHMA.			
2 ca. violet-brun et noir	(R)(N)5.000	(R)20.000	
	Croix (R)		
	France (N)		
3 ca. brun et noir	(R)4.000	(R)20.000	(R)50.000
6 ca. vert foncé et vert	(N)(R)(B)4.000	(B)20.000	
16 ca. bleu clair et noir	(R)3.000	(R)20.000	
18 ca. sur 30 c. rose et noir	(BF)2.000		
18 ca. rouge et rouge clair	(PF)2.000	(R)20.000	(R)50.000
20 ca. bleu et vert sur azuré	(R)2.500	(R)20.000	(B)45.000

TEMPLE PRES DE PONDICHERY.

12 ca. vert et jaune	(B)2.000	(B)20.000	
1 fa. vert et rose	(BF)4.000	(B)20.000	(B)50.000
1 fa. 6 ca. rouge-orange et noir	(B)6.400	(R)20.000	
1 fa. 12 ca. bleu et outremer	(R)3.000	(R)20.000	
1 fa. 16 ca. rouge et vert	(B)3.000	(BF)20.000	
2 fa. 12 ca. lilas et brun	(BF)3.000	(R)20.000	
6 fa. 6 ca. violet et noir	(R)2.500	(R)20.000	
1 Roupie vert foncé et bleu	(R)2.500	(R)20.000	
2 Roupies rouge et noir	(R)1.500	(R)20.000	
3 Roupies gris et violet	(B)600	(R)20.000	
5 Roupies rouge et noir sur vert	(R)600	(R)20.000	

EMISSION COMMEMORATIVE DE L'EXPOSITION DE PARIS 1937.

8 ca. violet	(B)2.000	(B)12.000
12 ca. vert	(B)2.000	(B)12.000
16 ca. rose carminé	(B)300	
1 fa. 12 ca. rouge	(B)2.000	(B)12.000
2 fa. 12 ca. outremer	(R)2.000	(R)12.000



EMISSION COMMEMORATIVE DE L'EXPOSITION DE NEW-YORK 1939.

1 fa. 12 ca. rouge	(B)3.000	(B)12.000
2 fa. 12 ca. outremer	(R)2.000	(R)12.000

? 1943. — Timbre de 16 caches de 1929 avec nouvelles valeurs et traits sur l'ancienne valeur en surcharge rouge.

Cette émission a été ensuite surchargée "FRANCE LIBRE sur deux lignes et Croix de Lorraine" en rouge, en exécution d'un arrêté du 16 Décembre 1942.

Cette double surcharge a été appliquée typographiquement par l'Imprimerie du Gouvernement à Pondichéry sur des panneaux de 25 timbres dont les marges latérale droite et supérieure avaient été préalablement détachées. Distance entre la Croix de Lorraine et FRANCE LIBRE: 8 millimètres.

	Exemplaires émis	
1 ca. s/16 ca. bleu clair et noir		
4 ca. s/16 ca. » » » »		5.000
10 ca. s/16 ca. » » » »		5.000
15 ca. s/16 ca. » » » »		5.000
1 fa. 3 ca. s/16 ca. » » » »		5.000
2 fa. 9 ca. s/16 ca. » » » »		5.000
3 fa. 3 ca. s/16 ca. » » » »		5.000

? 1943. — Timbre de 6 fanons 6 caches de 1929 avec nouvelles valeurs et traits sur l'ancienne valeur en surcharge rouge.

Cette surcharge a été appliquée typographiquement par l'Imprimerie du Gouvernement à Pondichéry en exécution d'un arrêté du 4 Février 1943.

1 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. violet et noir		
4 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		20.000
10 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		20.000
15 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		20.000
1 fa. 3 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		20.000
2 fa. 9 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		20.000
3 fa. 3 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		20.000

? 1943. — Surcharge "FRANCE LIBRE sur une ligne et Croix de Lorraine" en rouge sur les trois quarts de chacune des valeurs décrites ci-dessus.

Cette seconde surcharge a été appliquée typographiquement par l'Imprimerie du Gouvernement à Pondichéry en exécution du même arrêté du 4 Février 1943, sur des panneaux de 25 timbres dont les marges latérale gauche et supérieure avaient été préalablement détachées.



1 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. violet et noir		15.000
4 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		15.000
10 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		15.000
15 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		15.000
1 fa. 3 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		15.000
2 fa. 9 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		15.000
3 fa. 3 ca. s/6 fa. 6 ca. » » »		15.000

? 1943. — Timbres de 1, 2, 3 et 5 Roupies de 1929 avec nouvelles valeurs et traits sur l'ancienne valeur en surcharge rouge.

Cette émission a été ensuite surchargée "FRANCE LIBRE sur une ligne et Croix de Lorraine" en rouge en exécution d'un arrêté du 17 Avril 1943.

Cette double surcharge a été appliquée typographiquement par l'Imprimerie du Gouvernement à Pondichéry, sur des panneaux de 25 timbres dont les marges latérale gauche et supérieure avaient été préalablement détachées.

Exemplaires
émis

1 ca.	s/1 R.	vert foncé et bleu	50.000
2 ca.	s/1 R.	vert foncé et bleu	50.000
4 ca.	s/1 R.	vert foncé et bleu	50.000
6 ca.	s/2 R.	rouge et noir	50.000
10 ca.	s/2 R.	rouge et noir	50.000
12 ca.	s/2 R.	rouge et noir	50.000
15 ca.	s/3 R.	gris et violet	50.000
16 ca.	s/3 R.	gris et violet	50.000
1 fa. 3 ca.	s/3 R.	gris et violet	50.000
1 fa. 6 ca.	s/5 R.	rouge et noir s/vert	50.000
1 fa. 12 ca.	s/5 R.	rouge et noir s/vert	50.000
1 fa. 16 ca.	s/5 R.	rouge et noir s/vert	50.000

EMISSIONS DEFINITIVES

JUN 1942. — POSTE ORDINAIRE.

Impression en photogravure exécutée par MM. Harrison & Sons Ltd., Londres, sur papier uni par feuilles de 50 exemplaires. Dent. 14.

Dessin de Mr. Edmond Dulac représentant une fleur de lotus se détachant sur un fond de motif hindou, d'après un bas-relief Sanchi (1^{er} s.A.D.)

Ce sujet a été choisi par le Commandant Hackin, conservateur du Musée Guimet, pour que ce symbole ne choquant aucun croyant des Indes où les religions sont si diverses.

2 ca.	brun	1 fa.	rouge
3 ca.	bleu	1 fa. 18 ca.	gris-noir
4 ca.	vert-jaune	6 fa. 6 ca.	ouatremer
6 ca.	orange	1 R.	violet
12 ca.	vert-gris	2 R.	jaune bistre
16 ca.	marron	3 R.	chocolat
20 ca.	lilas-rose	5 R.	vert foncé

OCTOBRE 1942. — POSTE AERIENNE.

Impression en photogravure exécutée par MM. Harrison & Sons Ltd., Londres, sur papier uni par feuilles de 50 exemplaires. Dent. 14.

Dessin de Mr. Edmond Dulac représentant un quadrimoteur français en plein vol.

Il est intéressant de signaler que lors de l'établissement du projet de ce timbre, en 1941, le désir d'y voir reproduit l'avion le plus moderne, obligea l'artiste à le dessiner d'après une maquette réduite, seul document alors existant.

4 fa.	orangé foncé	5 R.	noir
1 R.	rouge foncé	8 R.	ouatremer
2 R.	brun-rouge	10 R.	vert foncé

VARIÉTÉS

EMISSION PROVISoire DE 1943.

STATUE DE BRAHMA,

Point coloré après "LIBRE"

On rencontre toutes les valeurs à ce type avec cette variété.

N° 21

TEMPLE PRES DE PONDICHERY.

"FRANCE" au lieu de "FRANCE"

N° 16

On rencontre cette variété sur toutes les valeurs à ce type.

"FRANOE" au lieu de "FRANCE"

N°

Point coloré après "LIBRE"

N° 23

On rencontre ces variétés sur les 1, 2, 3 et 5 Roupies surchargées.

Nous voici arrivés au terme de ce grand voyage, commencé il y a près de deux ans, à travers les Colonies Françaises Libres, témoins d'une glorieuse page de l'histoire de la France.

Si nous avons pu intéresser quelques amateurs, nous nous considérerons très heureux d'avoir contribué pour une petite part au développement de la philatélie.

Si cependant quelques lacunes et erreurs ont pu se glisser,—et il y en a certainement eu—nous nous en excusons, laissant le soin à d'autres spécialistes, de les relever.

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CANADA	NEWFOUNDLAND	SOUTHERN RHODESIA
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5 "	520.000				225.000	140.000 A 260.000 B	165.000 A 795.000 B
6 "	220.000					20.000	
7 "	220.000			65.000			
8 "	537.500			550.000	525.000	117.500	
9 "	205.000				12.500	25.000	
10 "	220.000			60.000	90.000	117.500	140.000 A 155.000 B
20 "	550.000			220.000 A 550.000 B	800.000	275.000	220.000
30 "	550.000				220.000	415.000	225.000
40 "	545.000						
50 "	550.000						
60 "	225.000						
70 ^o	235.000						
80 "	230.000						
90 "	230.000						
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PRINCIPALES ANNONCES DANS CE NUMERO

INDEX TO PRINCIPAL ADVERTISERS

ANGELOLOU, E.L.	Page iii
ANHOURY, VICTOR	" 592
ASMAR, S.	" 565
COMPTOIR PHILATELIQUE D'ALEXANDRIE (J. FRANGAKIS)	" 585
FIELD LTD., DAVID	" 597
HARMER, H.R.	" ii
ITALIA FILATELICA	" 588
KLEIN, FICHEL	" 581
MAHER, ANIS	" 555
MOHAMED MOH. H. LEHETA	" 587
ORIENTAL PHILATELIC HOUSE (B. HAGOPIAN)	" 566
PERULLO, ROBERT	" 589
PHILATELIST'S STORES (M. HAGOPIAN) ..	" iii
RAFTOPOULOS, N.D.	" 592
REICHERT, Dr. OTTO	" 551
SHIFRIN, A.	" 550
ZEHERI, GEORGES N.	" 588

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- 1383— WEE, Mlle Elisabeth de — 5, Rue Chagaret el Dorr, Zamalek, Le Caire (Egypte).
- 1384— NESSIM, Georges — Prof. d'Anglais, Ecole Markossia, Alexandrie (Egypte).
- 1385— KLEIN, Ernest — Neos Dental Co., 8, Rue de Hesse, Genève (Suisse).
- 1386— BELLELI, Giuseppe — Banca Commerciale Italiana per l'Egitto, Alexandria (Egypte).
- 1387— LAMBERT, Fernand — 31, Rue Emad El Dine, Le Caire (Egypte).

CHANGEMENTS D'ADRESSE CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 1186— ARGHYRIOU, N. — 113, Rue Mosquée Aftarine, Alexandrie (Egypte).
- 736 — ABRAVANEL, M. — 88, Rue Michel Ange, Paris 16^e (France).
- 593 — ELIE, A.R. — 5, Rue du Casino, Dinard (Ille et Vilaine), (France).
- 825 — ESPINOSA, M. — 1928, Grove Street, Oakland 12, California (U.S.A.).
- 1010— HADDAD, E.M. — 61, Avenue Prince Ibrahim, Ibrahimieh, Ramleh, Alexandria (Egypte).
- 771 — HILL, C.E. — 1784, West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan (U.S.A.).
- 953 — IRGOLITCH, L. — Pension Sherif, Sharia Sherif Pacha 41, Cairo (Egypt).
- 1065— LANG, J.A. — 13, Kapuzinenweg, Lucern (Switzerland).
- 805 — LEVISOHN, G. — Stamp Corner — Cinema Rex Bldg., Princess Mary Ave. — Jerusalem (Palestine.).
- 692— LOTFI, G. — 19, Sharia Kasr El Eini, Cairo (Egypt) Phone 59929.
- 1264— MORPURGO, G. — 49, Rue Fouad 1er — Alexandrie (Egypte).
- 894 — RASHTY, A.H. — 6-111, Babel Agha, Baghdad (Iraq).
- 749 — TELLAM, W.H. — 177a Barton Street, Gloucester (England).
- 820 — WORWOOD, V.E.A. — « Three Pines », Sea Avenue, Rustington, Sussex (England).
- 757 — ZAMARIAN, J. — 30, Rue Kosrof Pacha, Hérouan (Egypte).

MEMBRES NE FAISANT PLUS PARTIE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ MEMBERS RESIGNED OR DECEASED

- 687 — SOLNIK, Dr. S.
13 — The Near East Philatelic Mart., A. Malek Choucri.

البريد المستعجل

بدأ إصدارها في سنة ١٩٢٦ بطابع واحد بقيمة ٢٠ مليما تغير لونه في سنة ١٩٢٩. وفي سنة ١٩٤٣ عدت القيمة إلى ٢٦ مليما ثم عدت مرة ثانية في سنة ١٩٤٤ إلى ٤٠ مليما



وهي كالبريد الجوي في ظهور اللغتين العربية والفرنسية عليها بالتساوي دون لغة أخرى والرسم على الطابع في الحالات الأربع (راكب الموتوسيكل) لم يتغير. ولكن في طابع سنة ١٩٤٣، ١٩٤٤، ١٩٤٤، ١٩٤٤ (الدولة المصرية) لتكون (المملكة المصرية) وكلمة (المستعجل) لتكون (البريد المستعجل)

تذييل

لفت نظري عند بحث اللغات على الطوابع التذكارية مدى الاختلاف وعدم التوحيد فيما صدر منها. فكلمة بريد تظهر في بعض المجموعات وتختفي في البعض الآخر. ومصر مرة (مملكة) وأخرى (دولة) وثالثة (البريد) والتوار يخ في الأختام بأرقام غير عربية الا فيما ندر وأرقام الرقابة في أفرخ الطوابع بحروف لاتينية الامر واحد لم تتكرر وهذا ان دل على شيء فعلي ضعف الأساس في إصدار الطوابع وعلى ان القومية المصرية او العربية لانزال نجو بين جدران مصلحة البريد والى اللقاء في عدد قريب لبحث هذه النقطة على مجال واسع



و١١ فبراير ١٩٣٨ على التوالي .
وظهرت أيضا في الطابع التذكاري لزيارة
جلالة الملك ابن السعود اذ كان التاريخ (صفر
سنة ١٣٦٥) يقابلها بالقرنسية (يناير سنة ١٩٤٦)

البريد الجوي

أصدرت مصر في سنة ١٩٢٦ أول طابع بريد جوي عادل لونه في سنة ١٩٢٩ وفي سنة
١٩٣١ أضيفت عبارة تذكارية لهذين الطابعين بمناسبة مرور المنطاد جراف تسيلين في الأراض
المصرية مع تعديل فئاتها الي ١٠٠٠٠٠٠ مليم



وفي سنة ١٩٣٣ صدرت مجموعة كاملة من طوابع البريد الجوي ولكن برسم آخر من فئة
مليم الي ٢٠٠ مليم وكان الطبع بطريقة (الليثو) وفي سنة ١٩٤١ صدرت مجموعة صغيرة (٤ فئات)
بنفس شكل مجموعة ١٩٢٣ مع تغيير طريقة الطبع (فوتو)
وفي جميع هذه المجموعات حتى سنة ١٩٢٦ (بما في ذلك مجموعة المنطاد جراف تسيلين)
شاركت الفرنسية اللغة العربية الظهور على الطوابع متساويتين في الشرح والتفسير



هذه اللغة في حالتين على الطوابع المصرية في نطاق ضيق
أولها مؤتمر الرمد سنة ١٩٣٧ اذ كان الشرح لاتينيا
بالاشراك مع العربية والفرنسية . والمرة الثانية على
طوابع المؤتمر الدولي للجذام اذ كان اسم الشجرة (الفولجرا)

بالعربية واللاتينية HYDNOCARPACEAE

أربع لغات

في طوابع (تذكار ٨٥ عاما لأول طابع بريد مصري) التي صدرت هذا العام كان طابع
فئة ١+١ مليم يشمل صورة طبق الأصل من طابع ٥ بارة
الصادر في سنة ١٨٦٦ واذا رجعنا الي مقال العدد الماضي
نجد أن مجموعة سنة ١٨٦٦ تحمل اللغتين الايطالية والتركية
فاذا أضفنا اليها العربية والفرنسية وهما لغتا التفسير الحديث أصبح لدينا أربع لغات على طابع
بريد واحد وهي حالة نادرة في الطوابع عموما . وهذه الحالة تنطبق أيضا على مؤتمر الرمد اذ تشمل
الطوابع على ٤ لغات هي العربية والفرنسية واللاتينية واليهوغليفية



التاريخ التزكاري

كان التاريخ الميلادي هو المستعمل دائما على الطوابع التذكارية سواء باللغة العربية
أو الفرنسية ولكن هناك حالات خاصة
ظهر فيها التاريخ الهجري باللغة العربية يقابله
التاريخ الميلادي بالفرنسية مثال ذلك طابع
الزواج الملكي ١٨ ذي القعدة ١٣٥٦
وطابع الميلاد ١٠ ذي الحجة ١٣٥٦ يقابلهما التاريخ الميلادي باللغة الفرنسية ٢٠ يناير



اللغة الإنجليزية

ظهرت هذه اللغة في مجموعة تذكارية واحدة كانت لها مناسبتها وكانت لغة جميلة في حينها لتوثيق العلاقات المصرية والانجليزية وفي أغسطس سنة ١٩٣٦ عقدت المعاهدة المصرية الانجليزية

وصدرت في ديسمبر ٣٦ مجموعة تذكارية لهذه المناسبة كانت اللغة الانجليزية شريكة للعربية وكان الشرح باللغتين وفي الركن العلوي اليمين مونوجرام (فاروق الأول) يقابله حرف F



وطابع المعاهدة هي المجموعة الوحيدة لظهور الانجليزية والعربية سويا. وانا نرجو أن نكون المرة الثانية لظهورها هي ذكرى جلاء الجيش الانجليزي نهائيا عن مصر ووحدت وادي النيل فمتحقق بذلك أماني البلاد في ظل الفاروق العظيم

اللغة الهيروغليفية



وها هي لغة نالمة تطل علينا من أحقاب بعيدة تظهر لنا آثار المجد المصري القديم. ظهرت هذه اللغة شريكة نالمة للعربية والفرنسية على طابع المؤتمر الجغرافي سنة ١٩٢٥ وطابع المؤتمر الملاحي سنة ١٩٢٦ في صورة خرطوشة

باسم الملك فؤاد. وظهرت الكتابة الهيروغليفية مرة نالمة تحيط العين المقدسة للاله رع

في طابع المؤتمر الرمدى الدولي سنة ١٩٣٧. والملاحظة ان كثير من الطابع التذكارية المصرية تشمل فنا مصريا قديما أو صورة فرعونية من الآثار القديمة يعطيها حفا من الجمال والرونق



اللغة اللاتينية

المعروف ان اللغة اللاتينية هي الأساس الأول للاصطلاحات العلمية والفنية وقد ظهرت

اللغة الفرنسية

هي الشريكة الأساسية للغة العربية على الطابع التذكارية المصرية اذ ظهرت في ٢٨ مجموعة من ٢٩ وكان الشرح والتفسير على كل طابع باللغتين سويا ما عدا قليل منها كان لاحداها بعض الغلبة على الآخر



١ - تغلبت الفرنسية على العربية في طابع المؤتمر الجغرافي سنة ١٩٢٥ اذ كان التفسير بالفرنسية فقط (والمدهش حقا ان هذه الطابع هي الوحيدة التي كان رقم الرقابة على الأفرخ باللغة العربية فرياً / ٢٥، ب / ٢٥ بينما جميع ماظهر من الطابع المصرية قبلها وبعدها بالحروف اللاتينية وكانت الفرنسية أيضا هي لغة تعديل الفئات العالية لطابع معرض سنة ١٩٢٦. كما انه في الطابع التذكارية لافتتاح مدينة بور فؤاد ذكر اسم المدينة الجديدة باللغة الفرنسية فقط



٢ - كان ظهور اللغة العربية واضحا على الفرنسية في بعض المجموعات وخاصة ماظهر منها في السنين الأخيرة فطابع الزواج الملكي والميلاد سنة ١٩٣٨ يشمل مونوجرام جلالتي

الملك (فاروق الأول) والملكة (فريدة) باللغة العربية فقط كما ان الشرح والتفسير على طابع مؤتمر اللاسلكي والجذام سنة ١٩٣٨ كان وافييا باللغة العربية مختصرا بالفرنسية وتغلبت اللغة العربية أيضا في مجموعة جامعة الدول العربية اذ ذكر اسم الجامعة وتاريخ الاجتماع بها فقط



٣ - أما باقي المجموعات التذكارية فقد تساوت اللغتان الظهور على الطابع

اللغات على الطوابع المصرية

للبريد المصري

- ٢ -

يشمل القسم الثاني من البحث الطوابع
التذكارية والبريد الجوي والمستعمل

الطوابع التذكارية

صدرت أول مجموعة تذكارية مصرية سنة ١٩٢٥ واستمر الاصدار حتى اليوم فبلغ خلال
عشرين عاما تقريبا ٢٩ مجموعة تذكارية يضاف اليها مجموعتين تعدت قوائمها وأخرى تعدت سنة
الاصدار . وتتكون المجموعة من طابع واحد الى عدة طوابع (ثلاثة فئات بشكل واحد عادة)
ولكنها وصلت في طوابع مؤتمر البريد الى ١٤ فئة

ذكرت في مقالتي السابق ان اللغة الفرنسية عادت للظهور بحجاب اللغة العربية على
الطوابع العادية بعد سنة ١٩٢٣ حتى اليوم وينطبق هذا أيضاً على الطوابع التذكارية
ولكنه لم يمنع ظهور لغات على بعض المجموعات حلت محل الفرنسية أو شاركتها الظهور تبعاً
للمناسبات والظروف نذكرها فيما يلي

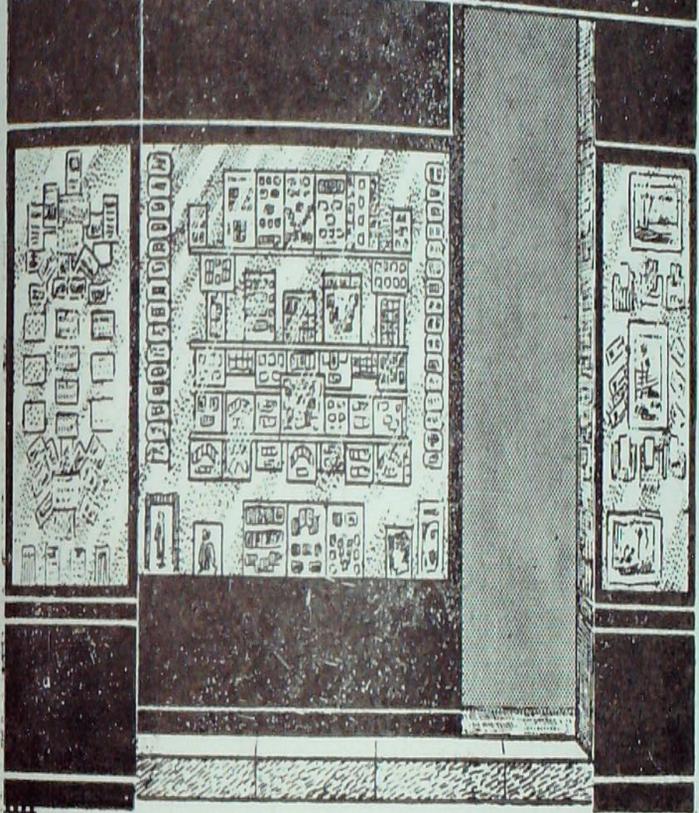


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