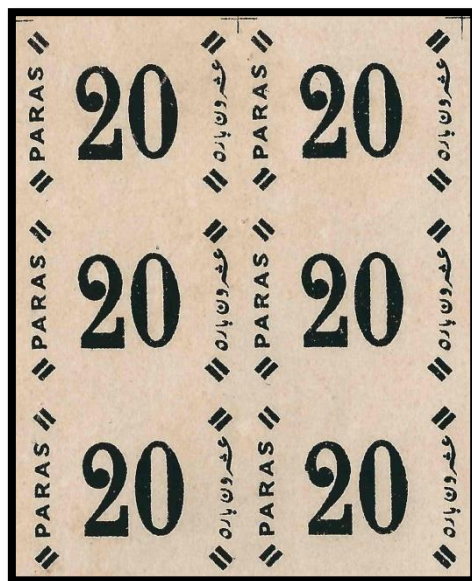


مجلة  
المجعية المصرية للهواة طوابع البريد



JOURNAL DE LA  
SOCIÉTÉ PHILATELIQUE D'EGYPTE  
LE CAIRE

JOURNAL OF THE  
PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF EGYPT  
CAIRO



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L'ORIENT  
PHILATELIQUE

# PHILATELIC SOCEITY OF EGYPT

16 Abd El-Khalek Sarwat St., Cairo – P.O. Box 142

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L'Orient Philatelique

PHILATELIC SOCEITY OF EGYPT



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**'The Queen of Stamps'**





Queen Elizabeth II (1926 – 1922) really was a stamp collector, and not only did she maintain the Royal collection, the Queen enhanced and developed this collection, as well as supported and encouraged the hobby. Inspired by her grandfather, King George V, Queen Elizabeth II took a real interest in organized philately.



Like her grandfather she became, in 1952, the Royal Patron of the Royal Philatelic Society London, the oldest philatelic society in existence, and visited their Devonshire Place premises in 1969, and their new premises in Abchurch Lane in 2019. On both occasions it was clear that her interest was indeed genuine and not just formality or ceremony, those who were fortunate to have been at these two events are on record as saying precisely that. And how many stamp collectors do you know who have spent £250k on a cover? Not many.



However, Queen Elizabeth II purchased the famous Kirkcudbright 1840 Penny Black first day cover in 2001, undoubtedly recognising its significance and no doubt the importance to the Royal collection. But don't go thinking that the Queen threw money around because she had wealth, because nothing could be further from the truth, the purchase was paid for by the proceeds of a sale of duplicates from the Royal collection which occurred in the same year.

The Queen has readily exhibited in the United Kingdom and overseas. She has generously allowed access to this fabulous collection – in fact such access has

never been so great as under her reign. This has aided the furtherment of the hobby by supporting specialists and experts to compare and study.

If all this wasn't enough to endorse the Queen's credentials as a great collector, then one of the most telling tales is that according to commentators who speak with heads of state staying at Buckingham Palace, the Queen is proud of her stamps so much that she loves showing them off to visitors. What a beautiful picture to underpin our respect to, a magnificent Queen for Great Britain and a wonderful Queen of stamp collecting. To 'The Queen of Stamps'.

By Devlan Kruck (at David Feldman)



**The Queen of Stamps**

## طابع معايدات الكريسماس للقوات البريطانية- عام ١٩٣٥

عادل حنا

آخر طابع يصدر من فئة الـ ٣ ملليم لمعايدات الكريسماس للقوات البريطانية بصورة الجمل عام ١٩٣٥ كان بالون الأحمر.



نفذت الكميه المعروضة للبيع بسرعه فتم طلب كميه إضافيه على وجه السرعة من المطبعه، و حتى تجهز الطبعة الثانية تم توشيح عشرة آلاف طابع من فئة القرش بتخفيض القيمة الى ٣ ملليم لإنقاذ الموقف و عرضت للبيع يو ١٦ ديسمبر ١٩٣٥ و فى يوم ١٨ ديسمبر وصلت الطبعة الثانية من طابع الجمل الأحمر الى منافذ البيع.

يعانى كثير من الهواة فى التفريق بين الطبعتين و هنا أضع صورته واضحة للفرق حيث ان الاولى لونها احمر قانى بينما الثانية تميل الى الأحمر البرتقالي و ايضاً لون عجينة الورق يختلف قليلاً.

و جدير بالذكر ان ثمن الطابع من الطبعة الثانية أغلى من الأولى بأكثر من خمسة أضعاف الثمن.

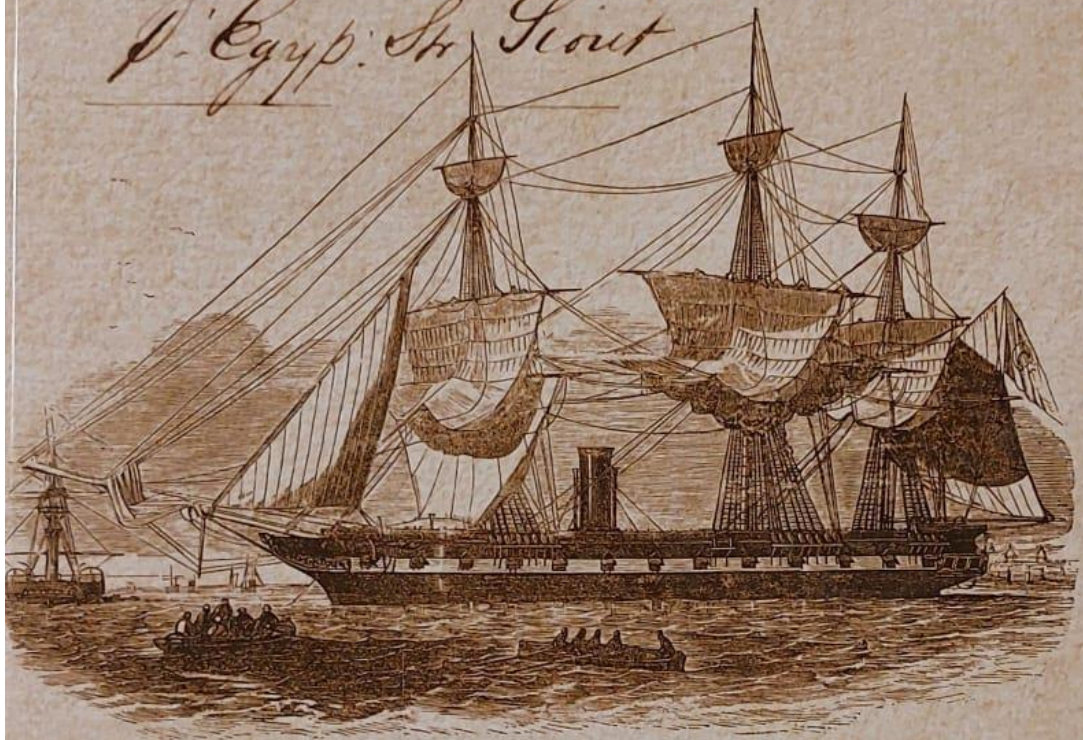






# **The Egyptian Maritime Postal History La Poste Maritime en Egypte 1845-1889**

*D'Egypte: St. Louis*



EGYPTIAN STEAM FRIGATE SHAHKIEH

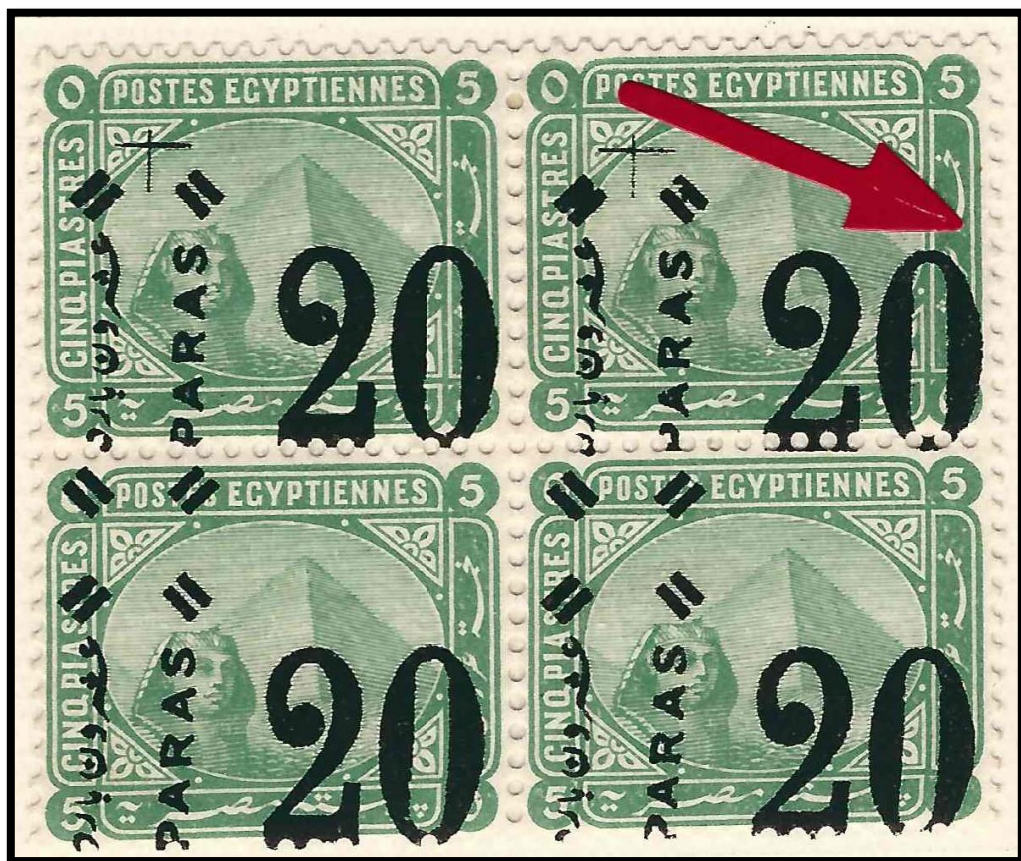
Hany Salam



## Egypt 1884 Provisional 20 Paras Surcharge

By EPS member Yasser Omar

\* Cairo 2022 – Gold medal exhibit



## Egypt 1884 Provisional 20 Paras Surcharge

The colors of the 1879 Egyptian stamps did not match the corresponding UPU defined colors of the 3 basic classes of international mail; 10 paras for printed matter (Violet vs. Green), 20 paras for postal cards (Blue vs. Red) and 1 piastre for letters (Red vs. Blue). That is why on December 24th 1883, Egypt ordered stamps in the new colors including changing the 5 piastre (Green to Grey) because the Green color will be adopted by the 10 paras.

The order was shipped in 5 consignments between February 20th and June 27th 1884. Records show a total delivery of 3,030,000 of the 10 para green and 1,764,000 of the 20 para red.

1879



1884



It was feared that the stock of the 20 para blue might run out before the new 20 para red arrived, and to use up the large stock of the 5 piastres green before the arrival of the new 10 para in the same color. Two birds could be killed with one stone by converting the 5 piastre stamps to 20 para by surcharging them locally.

Accordingly, the stock of 962,880 5p stamps (80% of the total printed) was surcharged by the Government Printing Works in Boulaq. The surcharging was done by lithography, on unseparated sheets of 240. The provisional was declared obsolete as of June 30th 1888 when the para currency was abolished.



+

PARAS 20

=



The exhibit is devoted to the 1884 20 Paras Surcharge issue and its usage. It consists of proofs, stamps in blocks of four (Mint & used), printing varieties, and covers (including covers used abroad at the territorial offices in Sudan).

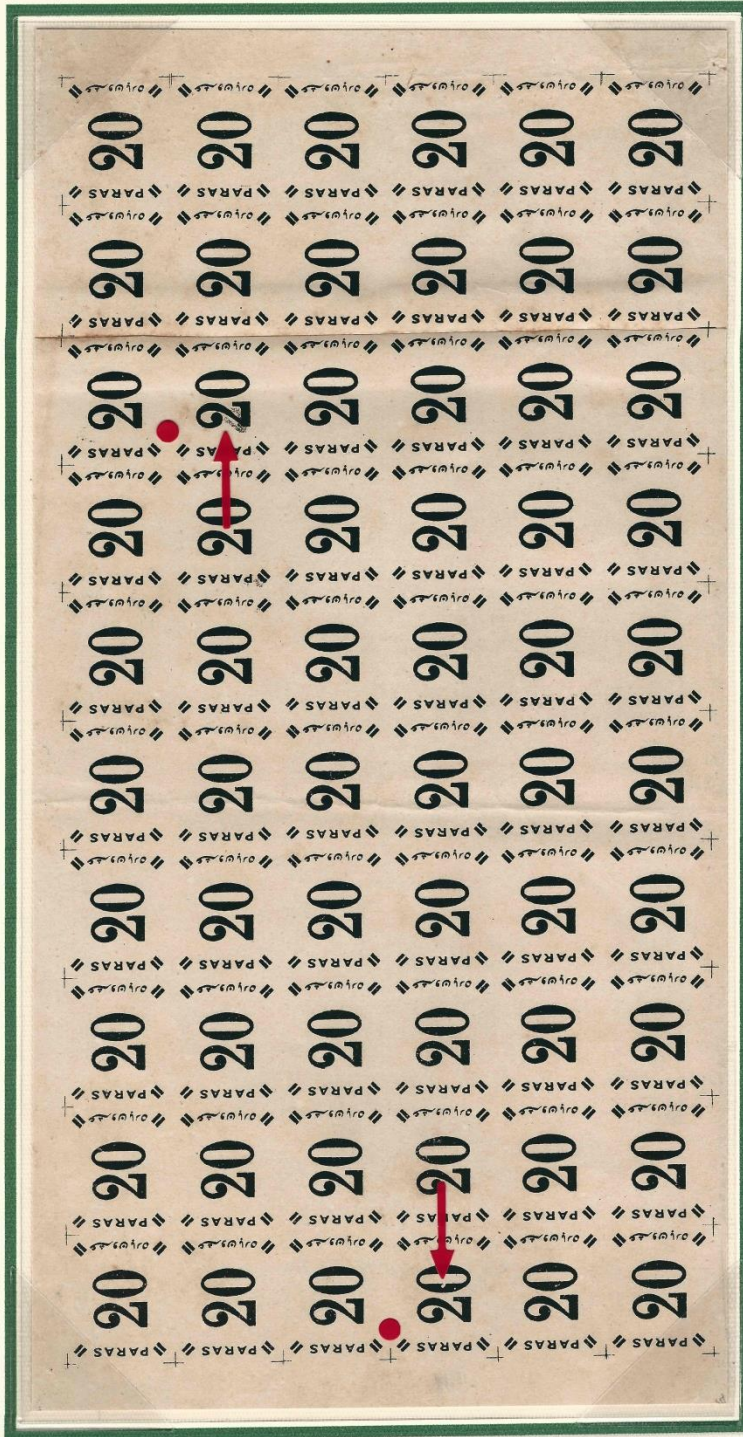
Rare & Unique items are marked with a RED Dot ● while Scarce items are marked with an Orange Dot ●

### The highlights of the frame are:

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Complete Pane of 60 of the Imperf Proof with positional varieties | Page 2  |
| • Scarce Issued top left corner block of 4 with Control Number      | Page 3  |
| • Rare block of 4 with Horizontal Gutter                            | Page 3  |
| • Scarce cover with Single Franking Usage from Cairo                | Page 4  |
| • Two scarce covers from Wadi Halfa & Souakin (Sudan)               | Page 5  |
| • Block of 4 with double a'cheval (Bottom & Left)                   | Page 6  |
| • Cover from Suez with Pair of stamps with a'cheval (Right)         | Page 6  |
| • Cover from Samanoud with Pair of stamps with a'cheval (Left)      | Page 7  |
| • Rare double rate cover from Korti (Sudan) with flaw in stamp      | Page 8  |
| • Scarce Cover from Kurti (Sudan) with with flaw on stamp           | Page 9  |
| • Unique Surcharge on Gum size                                      | Page 10 |
| • RARE (Possibly Unique) Cover from Massawah (Eritrea)              | Page 10 |
| • Corner block of 4 with Current Number & Inverted Surcharge        | Page 12 |
| • Unique Mixed Franking from Korti (Sudan)                          | Page 12 |
| • Scarce Re-directed cover from Dongola (Sudan)                     | Page 13 |
| • Rare Registered Cover with Double Rate from Chebrekhlt            | Page 15 |



## Proofs



Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20

Proofs exist in two forms: on thin white unwatermarked paper, perforated 13 1/2 x 13 and on thicker paper with an aged appearance imperforate.

A folded sheet of 240 and a pane of 60 of imperforate proofs exist.

The perforated proofs are not known in large multiples (not known larger than a pair). The flaws on the pair and singles match those of the issued stamps.



**1** Perforated proof pair printed on thin gummed unwatermarked paper perforated 13 x 13.5.

The right proof has the **PRINT FLAW** in '0' of position 31.

**2**

**DOUBLE KISS** of Number '2' in Position 18

**1**

**PRINT FLAW** in numeral '0' in Position 31

**●** **RARE** imperforate Lithographed complete Proof pane of 60 of the 20 Paras provisional surcharge printed at the Government printing works at Bulaq on thick unwatermarked paper.



## Issued Plate & Current Numbers

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surchage

20

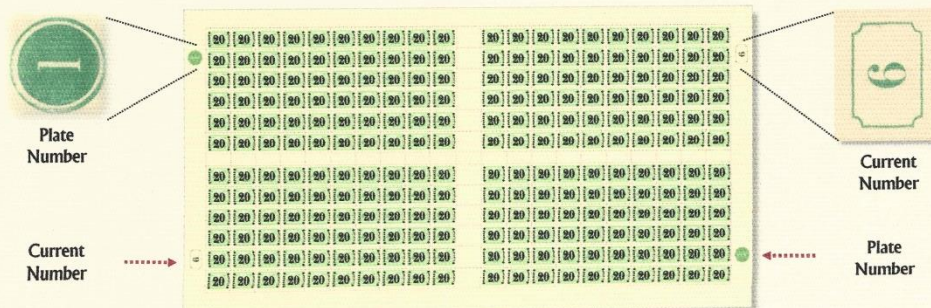


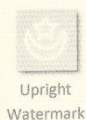
Illustration of full sheet of 4 Panes

**Issue date & quantity:** The stock of 962,880 5 piastre stamps (80% of the total printed) was surcharged by the Government Printing Works in Boulaq. The stamps were issued on February 1st 1884.

**Sheets:** Were made of 240 stamps (4 panes of 60 with gutters in between) with Current & Plate Numbers on the margins in opposing corners. The 20 Paras surcharge was done on unseparated sheets via Lithography

**Plate numbers:** Colorless numbers in bold, colored circles, and plate numbers begin with "1" for each denomination. The Plate Number appeared twice on each sheet (Top Left corner and Bottom Right corner). For most of these stamps one plate for each was sufficient to print all required stamps. Thus this issue has number 1 only.

**Current numbers:** Colored numbers in delicate rectangles with concave corners. The Current Number appeared twice on each sheet (Top Right corner and Bottom Left corner). Current numbers started with "1" for each country's stamps printed by De La Rue, and shouldn't repeat, so that the 5 paras plate shows current number "1", the 10 paras plate shows current number "2" and so on, with the 5 Piasters plate showing current number "6".



Upright  
Watermark

Block of 4 from the middle of the sheet with 2 stamps from the upper pane and 2 stamps from the lower pane with gutter in between.

**RARE BLOCK - POSSIBLY UNIQUE**

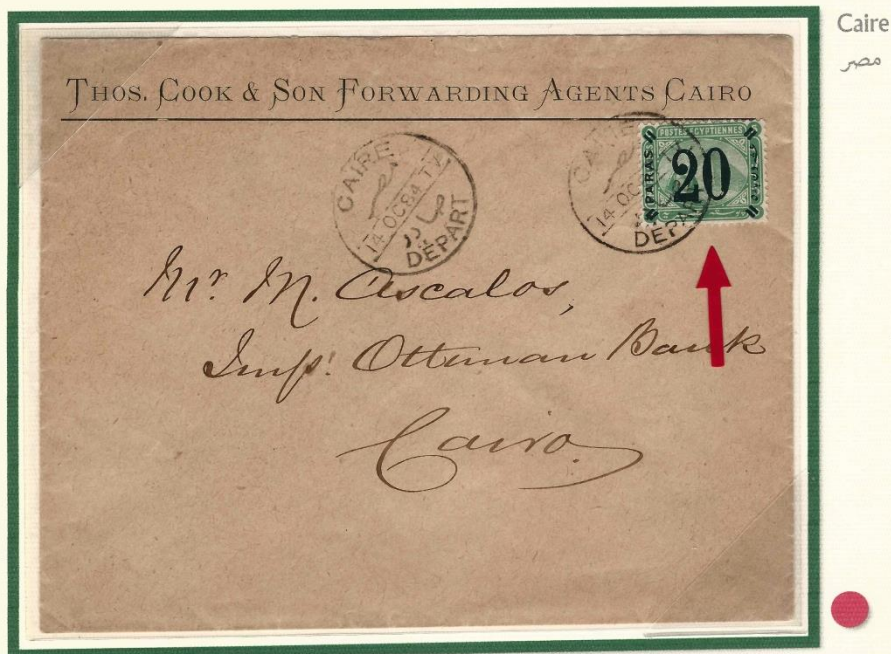


Top left marginal corner block of 4 from the upper left pane with the corresponding Plate Number 1  
**PLATE NUMBERS ARE CONSIDERED SCARCE**



## Usage - Egypt

The 20 Paras provisional was used mostly in pairs to pay the ordinary letter rate.



14 October 1884, Letter from TC & Son in CAIRO to Ottoman Bank, Cairo, franked by SINGLE stamp of the 1884 20 paras, tied by bilingual CAIRE DEPART - مصر صادر circular date-stamp and an additional strike alongside.

**SINGLE usage is considered SCARCE-RARE**



Alexandria Station  
أسكندرية محطة



Simbelawin  
السمبلالوين



Al Hadra  
الحضرة



Port Said  
بورسعيد



El-Khatatba  
الخطاطبة



1884 used block of 4 tied by  
FAYOUM - الفيوم



Vertical pair on fragment tied by ISMAI-  
LIA - الإسماعيلية and dated 21 June, 1884



Used block tied twice by ALEXANDRIE -  
أسكندرية and dated 4 October 1884

## Usage - Abroad

Substantial quantities of them must have been sent to the military front in the Sudan, for cancellations of the Territorial Post Offices Wadi Halfa, Korti, Dongola, and Tani, which figured in the campaign to relieve the siege of Khartoum, seem to occur on this provisional more frequently than on the regular stamps.

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20

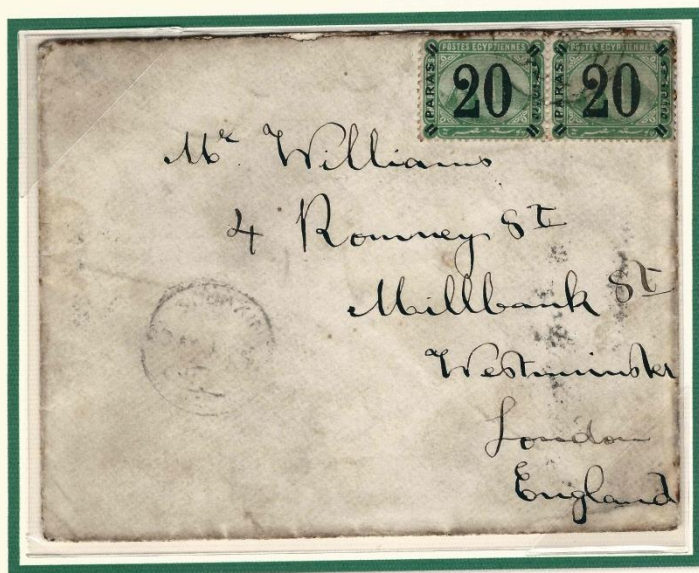


Wadi Halfa

وادي حلفة

6 Dec 1884, cover from WADI HALFA to New Cross, England. Franked by pair of the 1884 20 paras on 5 piastres green, tied by bi-lingual WADI HALFA - وادي حلفة cancel. Arrived in New Cross on Dec 22 84 and READDRESSED to the Telegraph Battalion, Royal Engineers, Bechuanaland, South Africa. On reverse, there is an arrival date-stamp from Capetown dated Jan 16 85.

SCARCE REDIRECTED COVER



Souakin

سواكن

22 Aug 1884 cover from Souakin to London. Franked by pair of the 1884 20 paras, tied by bi-lingual SOUAKIN - سواكن circular date-stamp. On reverse, there are intermediate Suez & Alexandria Date-stamps dated 29 & 30 Aug. There is also an arrival postmark from London dated 8 Sep, 1884.

SCARCE DESTINATION



Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surchage

20

## Shifted Surcharge - (Double a'cheval)

Some sheets had the surcharge badly misplaced, in some cases so severely that one column of stamps was without the left inscription and the numerals 20, and thus had only the right side inscription, placed on the left side of the stamp

Upright  
Watermark

A block of 4 from the top pane (guidelines at top) showing a major (DOUBLE) a' Cheval Horizontally and Vertically



Two used examples with the same a' Cheval cancelled Alexandrie - أسكندرية



السويس - Suez



6 June 1884, letter from SUEZ to Cairo franked with a horizontal pair of the 20 Paras stamps and tied by Suez Depart circular cancel. The cover seem to have been posted on board a ship where it received a double ring Oval hand cancellation with M. S. AAKADI - SUEZ dated 4 June 1884. On reverse there is a Cairo Arrival cancellation dated 6 June, 1884.

THE STAMP PAIR ON THE COVER SHOW SURCHARGE A'CHEVAL TO THE RIGHT

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surchage

20

## Shifted Surcharge - (Right & Left a'cheval)

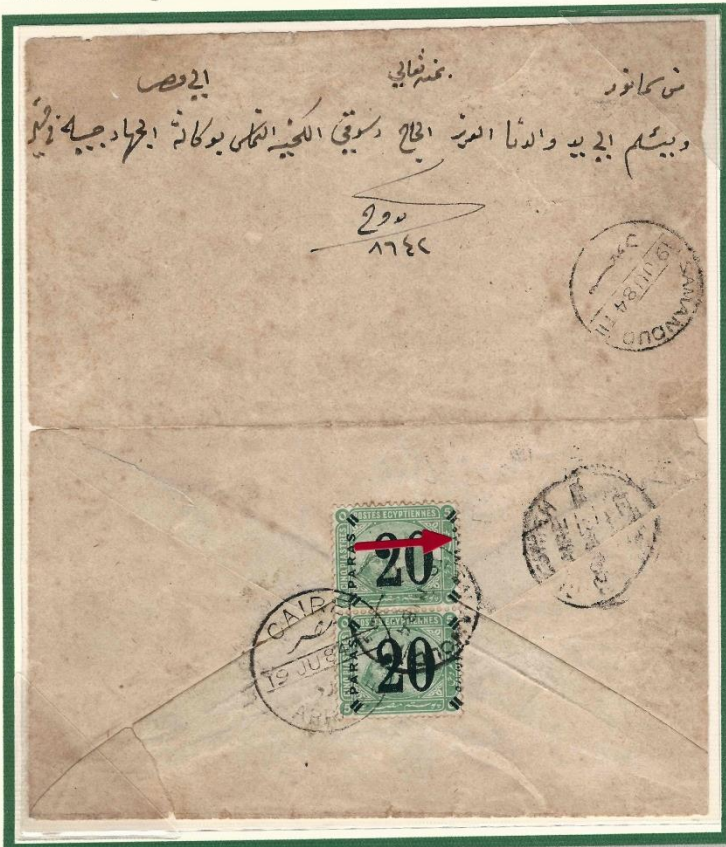


← ... A'CHEVAL to the LEFT in various degrees



A'CHEVAL to the RIGHT in various degrees ... →

سمنود - Samanoud



A'Cheval Right



19 June 1884, letter from SAMANOUD to Cairo franked with a vertical pair of the 20 Paras stamps at the back and tied by its cancel. On reverse there is also a Cairo Arrival cancellation dated 19 June, 1884.

THE STAMPS ON THE COVER SHOW THE VARIETY OF A'CHEVAL RIGHT



## Surcharge Flaws in Numerals (0)

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20



Group of singles, pair and a block of 4 with **PRINTING FLAWS** in Numeral '0' in various positions on the 0.

Korti (Sudan) - قرطي (السودان)



23 Feb 1885, Nile Expedition soldier letter written at "Gabat" 13 Feb 85 and posted at "KORTI" addressed to London. Franked with a strip of four of 1884 provisional 20 paras on 5 plastrs green tied by four strikes of "KORTI" Star & Crescent cds's (Feb 23) in black with superb information strike below. Reverse with South Kensington B.O. arrival cds (March 17). The fourth stamp with overprint flaw on '0'

**JUST TWO DOUBLE RATE USAGES ARE RECORDED FROM KORTI**



Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20

## Surcharge Flaws in Numerals (2)



6 singles with the variety of **PRINTING FLAWS** in Numeral **2** in various positions on the 2.

Korti (Sudan) - قرطي (السودان)



2

Cover to Wales bearing two Egypt 20pa stamps tied by "KORTI" star and crescent c.d.s.

THE STAMP ON THE RIGHT SHOW THE VARIETY OF PRINTING FLAW IN NUMERAL **2**

## Surcharge Errors & Flaws

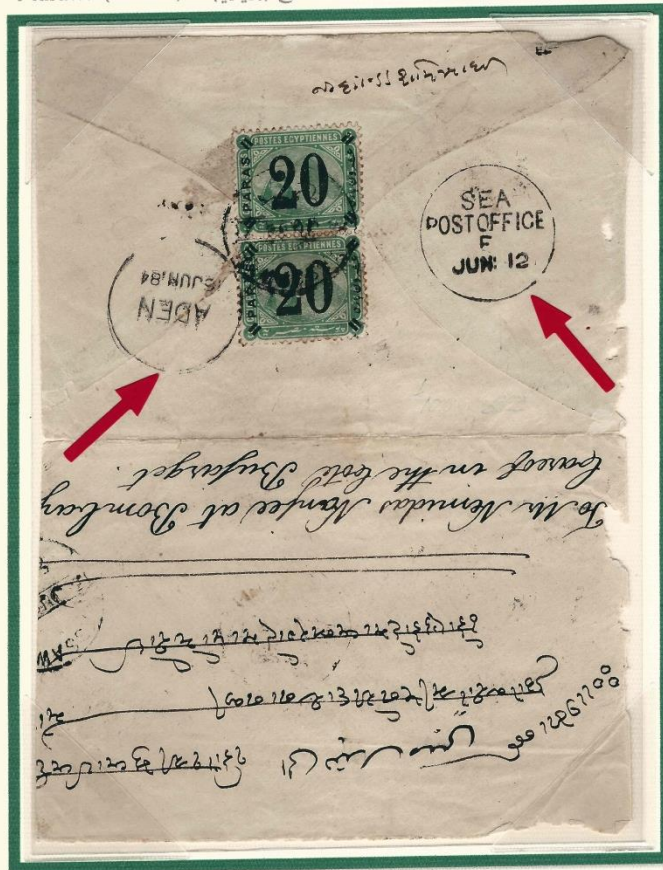
Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20



Unrecorded and probably unique variety of folded part of the sheet resulting to full overprint on the gum side of one stamp and partial overprint in another stamp with bars of the overprint at the gum side

Masawa (Eritrea) - مصوع (إريتريا)



13 April 1884, Cover from Massawa, Eritrea to Bombay, India, franked vertical pair of the Provisional 1884 20 paras on 5 piastres green, tied by bi-lingual MASSAWAH - مصوع date-stamp, further strike on front, with SEA POSTOFFICE / JUN: 12 circular date-stamp and ADEN / 16 JUN. 84.

**RARE USAGE**



Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20

## Surcharge Errors & Flaws Cont'd

AS II



Missing bottom left bars  
and most PARAS



Extra black ink dot next  
to the bottom left bars



Deformed bottom left bars  
and toothed base of '2'



Joined Bars variety in  
the upper left bars



Joined Bars variety in the upper right  
bars in the two upper stamps



Break between in the  
middle of the Arabic  
letter "Sheen" (ش)

Cairo Depart - مصر صادر



The lower stamp has the variety  
of deformed bars in the upper  
left bars.

16 Sep, 1884 part-over from Cairo to Alexandria to franked by vertical pair of the provisional 1884 20 paras on 5 piastres green, tied by bilingual CAIRE DEPART - مصر صادر circular date-stamp and an additional strike alongside.



## Inverted 03 Surchage - Block

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surchage

20

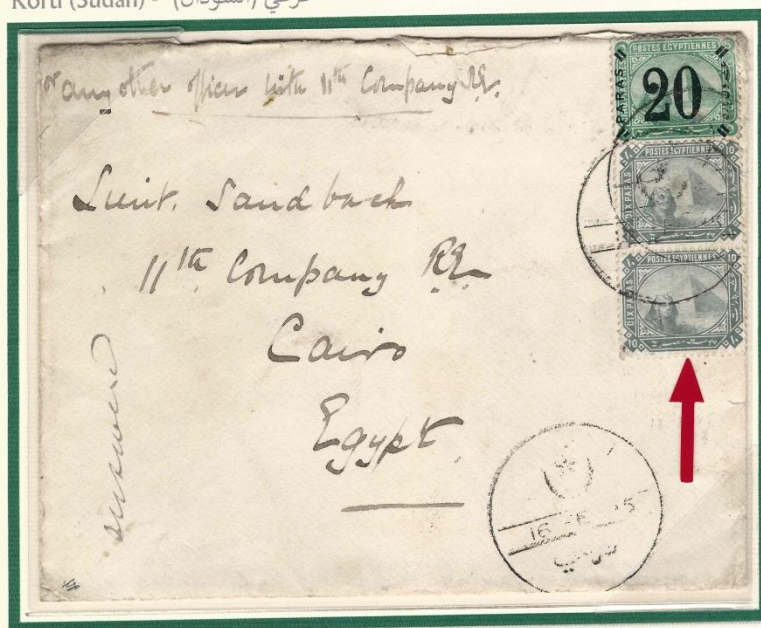
It has been stated that 2,880 of the total 962,880 5 piastre stamps surcharged had the surcharge inverted. The inverted surcharge is found with both upright and inverted watermark (Scarce).



Top right marginal corner block of 4 with the corresponding Current Number 6 with inverted surcharge. (Upright watermark) The block has the printer's guidelines in both the top and right margins.

Current & Plate numbers of this issue with inverted surcharge are considered **SCARCE**

Korti (Sudan) - قرطي (السودان)



16 Feb, 1885 Nile Expedition - Soldier's cover from Korti to Cairo ; Franked with Provisional 1884 20 paras on 5 piastres green and 4th Issue 10 paras bluish gray in a vertical pair, all tied by Star and Crescent KORTI / 16 FE 85 date-stamp with an additional strike below. Backstamped on arrival in Cairo 2 March 85.

**PROBABLY UNIQUE MIXED FRANKING USED AT KORTI**

# Inverted 02 Surcharge - Varieties & Usage

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20



Upright  
Watermark



Large marginal block of 10 with inverted surcharge  
The bottom left stamp has the variety of joined bars



A block of 4 with INVERTED SURCHARGE  
tied by a SCARCE Bi-lingual "CAIRE - مصر"  
"cancellation"



A horizontal pair with INVERTED SURCHARGE on  
a fragment and tied by a SCARCE Bi-lingual "Tantah  
Gouvernementales - طنطا ميري" official cancellation

Dongola (Sudan) - دونقلا (السودان)



1884 OHMS cover from Dongola to New Cross, London. Franked by pair of the Provisional 1884 20 paras,  
tied POSTE EGIZIANE / DONGOLA circular date-stamp (Wrongly dated 1880 in Arabic). Arrived in Lon-  
don on Dec 29 & 30 and then READDRESSED from New Cross to the Telegraph Battalion, Royal Engineers,  
Bechuanaland, South Africa. On reverse there is an arrival date-stamp from Cape Town Jan 22 85.

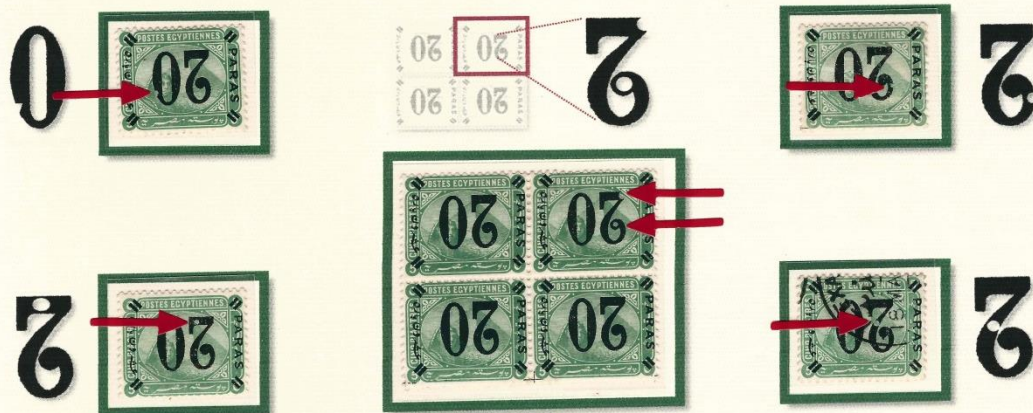
SCARCE REDIRECTED COVER



## Inverted 02 Surcharge - Flaws in Numerals

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20



Stamps with Inverted Surcharge with the variety of **PRINTING FLAWS** in Numeral **2** & **0** in various positions .

Beni Mazar - بني مزار



6 June 1884, Letter sent from Beni Mazar - بني مزار on to Cairo (المحروسة), franked at the back with a horizontal pair of the 20 Paras stamp and tied by its cancel. There is an arrival postmark at the back also from Cairo (CAIRE ARRIVEE - مصر وارد - مصر وارد) dated 6 June, 1884.

**SCARCE USAGE**

# Inverted 07 Surcharge - Shifted Surcharge

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20



Inverted surcharge with overprint A'CHEVAL to the right



Block of 4 with inverted surcharge and has overprint A'CHEVAL to the left



Inverted surcharge with overprint A'CHEVAL to the right

Chebrekhit - شبرخيت



27 June 1884, Letter from CHEBREKHIT to Cairo (المحروسة), franked with a strip of 4 of the 20 Paras tied by Chebrekhit - شبرخيت & arrival postmark CAIRE.A - مصر (Recommandée Arrivée - وارد بالتوصية) dated 27 Jun, 1884

**REGISTERED covers with 4 stamps are considered uncommon - SCARCE CANCEL**



## Watermark Varieties

Egypt 1884 Provisional  
20 Paras Surcharge

20



Used stamp with Normal Surcharge  
and **INVERTED WM Variety** & tied  
by CAIRE



Inverted  
Watermark



Used stamp with Normal Surcharge  
and **INVERTED WM Variety** &  
tied by CAIRE GHURIYAH



Inverted  
Watermark



**INVERTED SURCHARGE Variety** with **INVERTED WM Variety**

Qina - قنا



21 August, 1884 Letter sent from QINA on to Godalming, Surrey, ENGLAND franked with a pair of the 20 Paras stamp and tied by KENEH - قنا cancel. At the back, there are two intermediate postmarks from ASSIOUT - أسبوت and ALEXANDRIE ARRIVEE - أسكندرية وارد dated 23 August, 1884. There is also an arrival postmark at the back from Godalming dated 31 August, 1884



The members of the Philatelic Society of Egypt, PSE, have for some time noticed that Arabic texts whether on covers, postcards, documents ... etc. are being erroneously translated into English in catalogs, magazines, websites and even private collections, with serious consequences to the interpretation of the item in question.

The PSE has a group of members who are fluent in both Arabic and English languages and are gladly willing to help not only with any translation required, but also with the interpretation of other aspects relating to social, historical and geographical circumstances of the time, such as familial salutations, bureaucratic jargon, handwritten annotations and talismanic markings.

This service is available to anyone, just send to this email a clear scan of the item; front and back of a cover, postcard, content of a letter or document ... etc. and we shall be happy to oblige as soon as possible.

Provisionally, this service is free of charge for single items.

Email: [egyptianphilatelicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:egyptianphilatelicsociety@gmail.com)

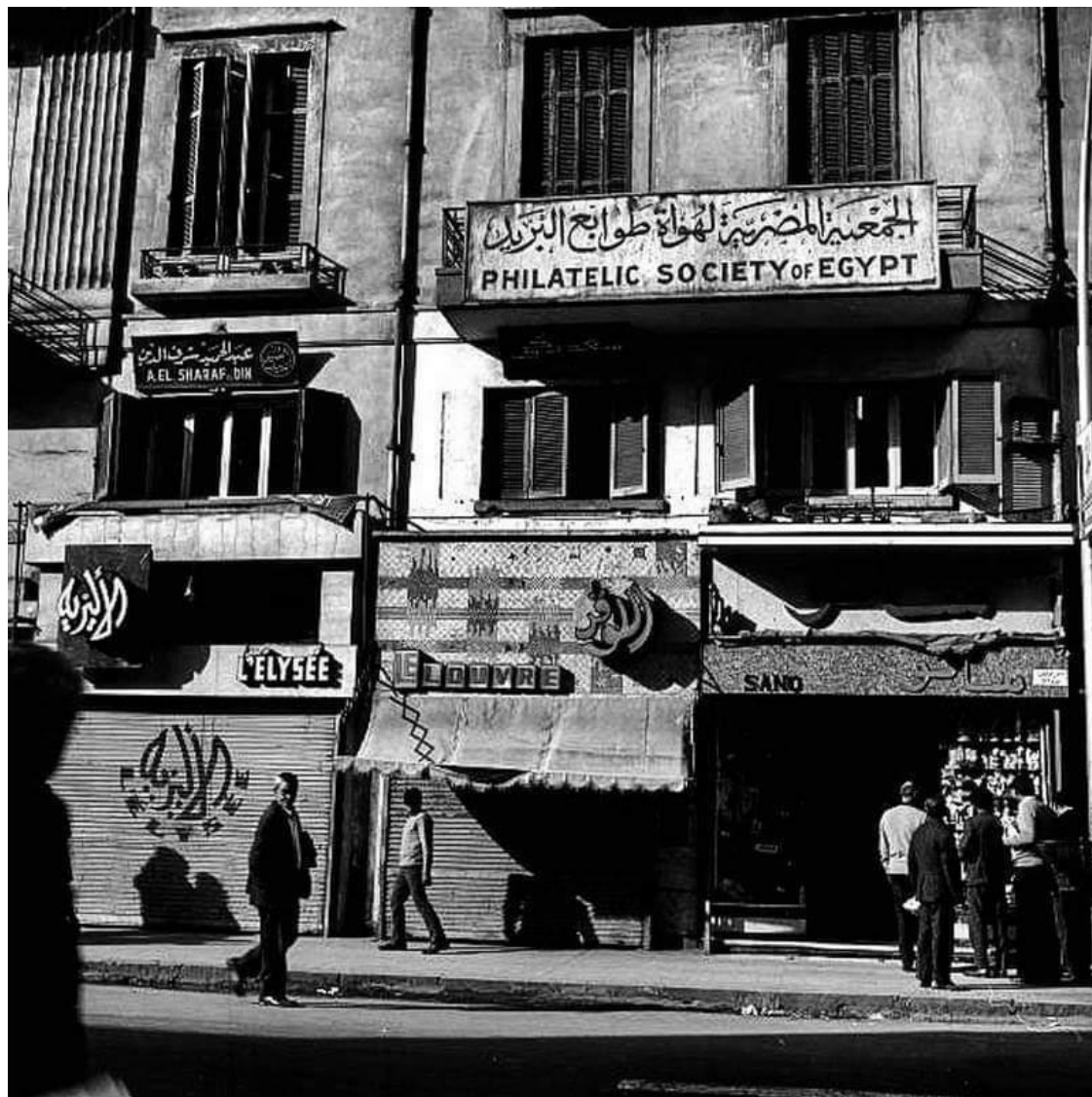


# **The Mohamed Aly Post (MAP)**



## **The True Origin of the Egyptian Vice Royal Post**

**By  
Mahmoud Ramadan**



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