

## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

The British occupied Egypt from September 1882 until June 1956 when the last troops withdrew from their Suez Canal base. Most of the troops were based in or around Cairo and Alexandria. The official title was the "Force in Egypt" but it was popularly known as the "Army of Occupation." The manpower of the force varied considerably in the early years, ranging from 14,000 to 18,000 in 1885-86 to as few as 4,000 in 1893.<sup>1</sup>

Covers of special interest include: • an incoming hand-painted cover from England to the Citadel Barracks, Cairo, March 1888, and • several outgoing covers from enlisted soldiers and sailors bearing the five milliemes concession rate.

ALEXANDRIA to ENGLAND

29 XII 04



Picture postcard showing members of the Army of Occupation. It was mailed by a tourist and on the reverse it bears two 2-milliemes stamps paying the correct postage for foreign postcards.

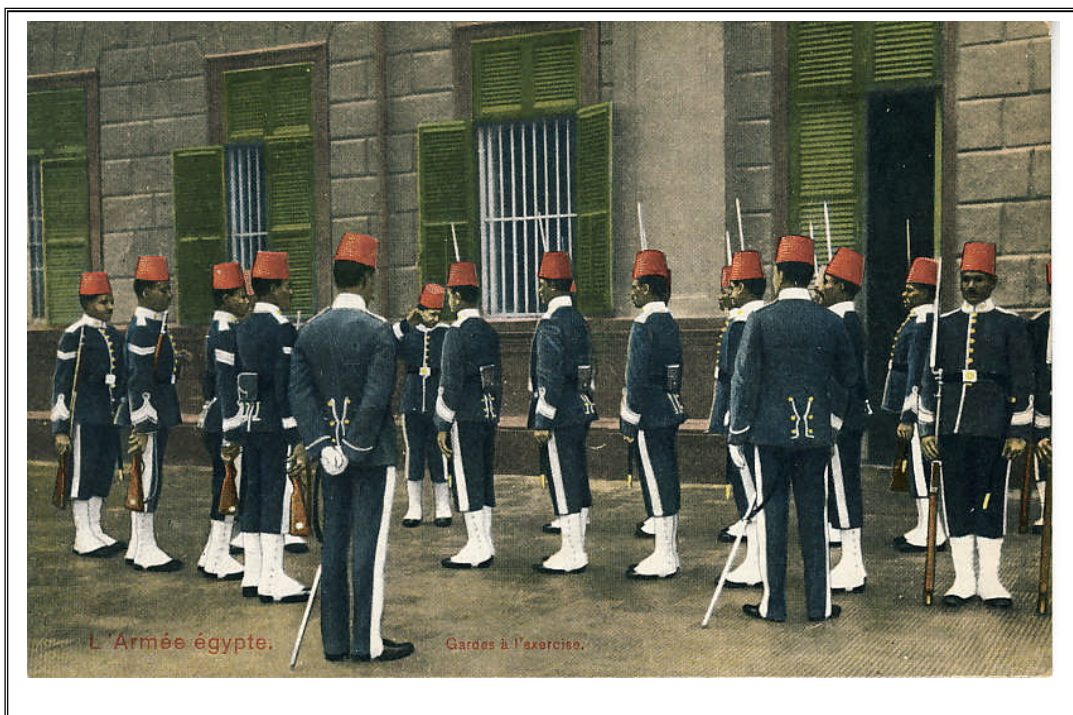
<sup>1</sup> Firebrace, page 196.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION



English Soldiers in Egypt



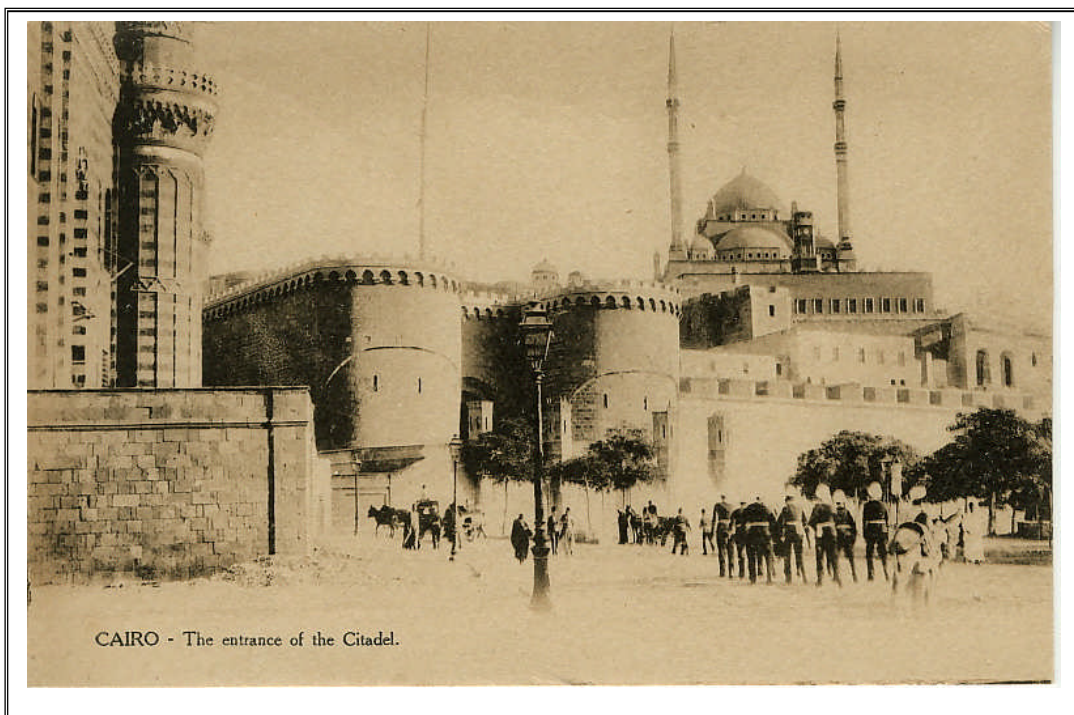
The Egyptian Army



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION



Kasr-el-Nil Barracks

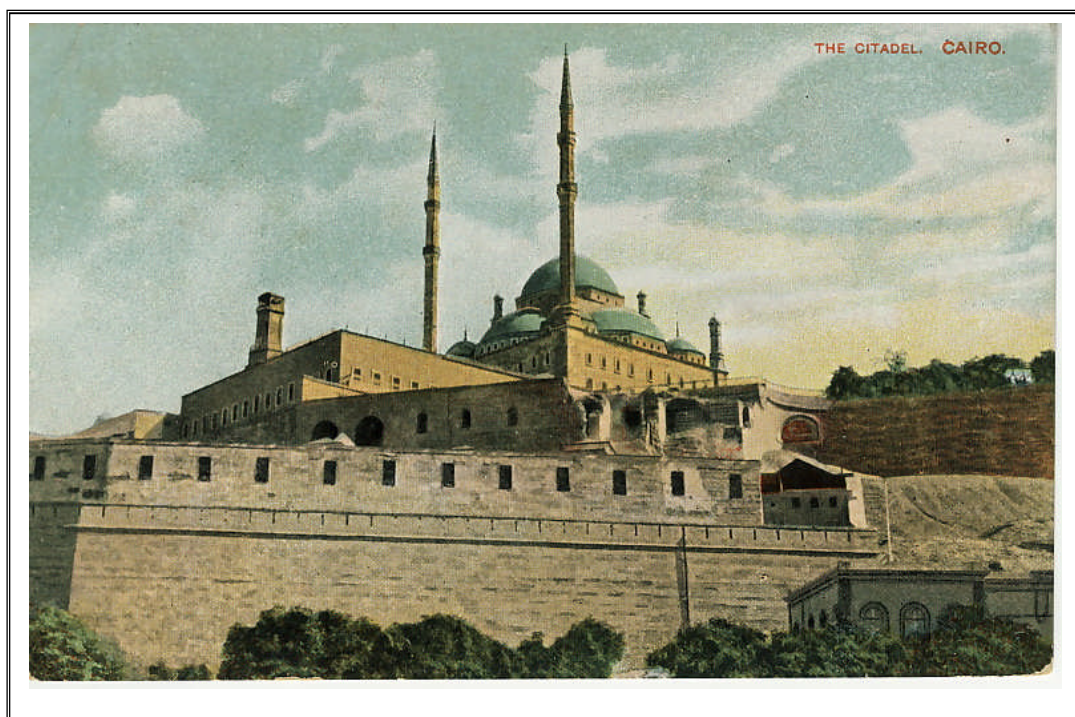


Entrance to the Citadel



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### The Citadel – Cairo





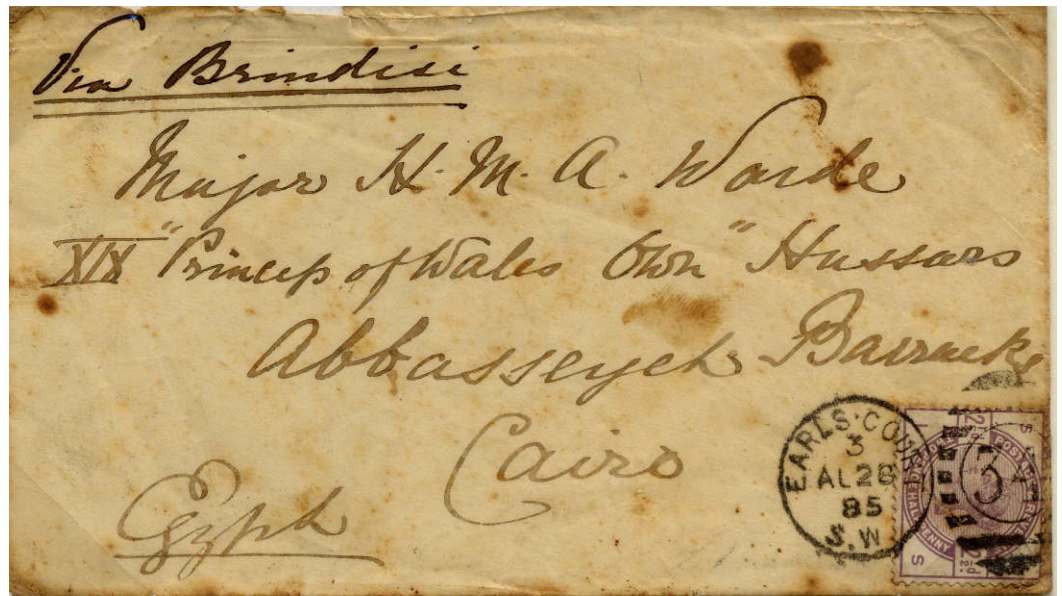
## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### ENGLAND to ABBASIA BARRACKS, CAIRO

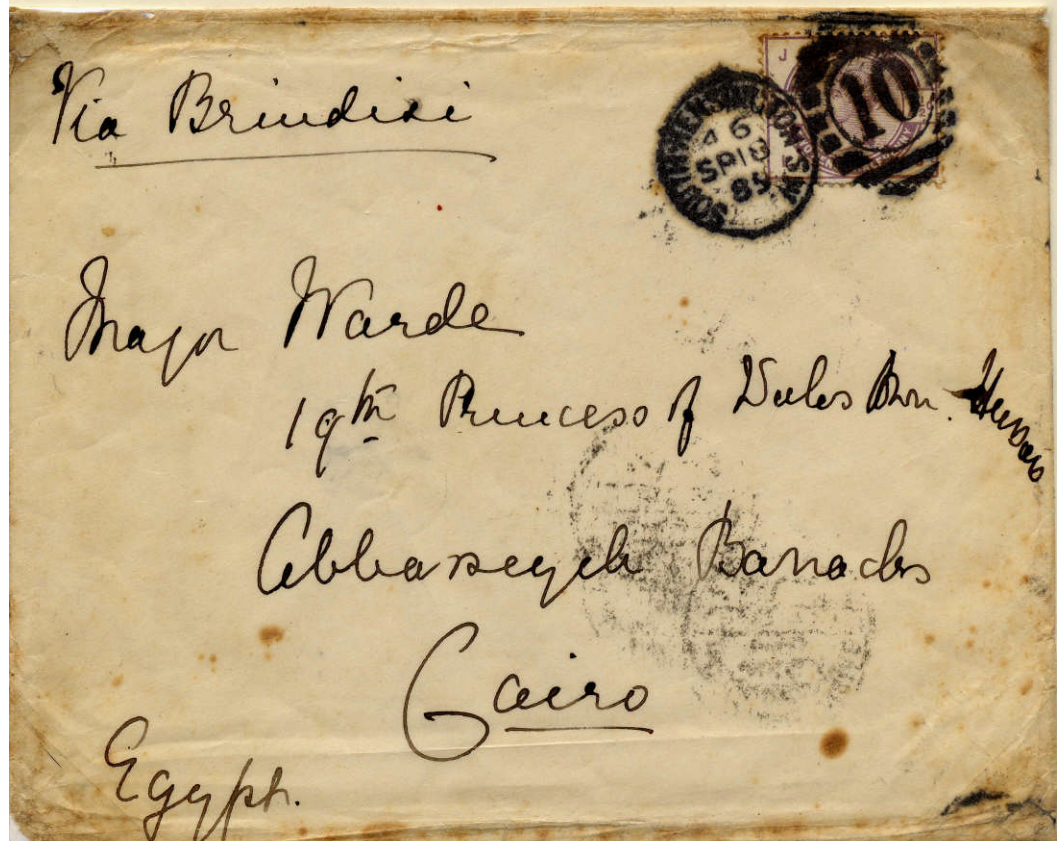
The 19<sup>th</sup> Hussars (Princess of Wales Own) served in Egypt in 1882 and 1884-85. It was awarded battle honors for Tel-el-Kebir, First Suakin Expedition, Gordon Relief Expedition, and Abu Klea. Later they were assigned to the Abbasia Barracks in Cairo as part of the Army of Occupation.

EARL'S COURT

AU 28 85



SOUTH  
KENSINGTON  
SP 18 85





## BRITISH ARMY OF OCCUPATION

1 Piastre Officer's Letter

CAIRO to BAREILLY, INDIA

23 SE 85

Cover from Lieutenant Edward Arthur Fanshawe to Henry Martin Sandbach, Royal Artillery. The stamp is cancelled with the **CAIRE DEPART 23 SE 85** c.d.s. and is backstamped **SEA POST OFFICE A 25 SEP 85** and **BAREILLY OC 9 85**.



Edward Arthur Fanshawe, RA, was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery on 31 January 1878. He served in the Afghan War 1878-80 (medal) and in the Sudan in 1885. He was present at the engagement at Hasheen, the Tofrek zereba, and at the destruction of Temai (medal with two clasps). The enclosed letter written at Abbassiyeh covers general chit chat about some of the battery's officers who served in Suakin.



## BRITISH ARMY OF OCCUPATION

Transcript of Letter from Edward A. Famshawe to Martin Sandbach — 23 September 1886.

Abbassiyeh  
Cairo  
Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>

*My dear Sandbach,*

*I wrote to you some time back to say that your brother had taken your bundle of horse clothing, as I then thought that he had, but I now find that he did not have ~~them~~ it, but that Liddel's servant has had ~~them~~ in his charge all the time. Your brother has now gone so I cannot give ~~them~~ to him to take out to India with him. What shall we do with it. One of us going home or leave could very well take it home and send it to any address in England.*

*What chance have you of getting home. Are you thinking of leave at all . . . hot weather.*

*I sent a certificate to Cox with all of our names on it stating that we were all at Suakin to enable him to draw the batta money for us, £15 for a sub , £24, I think for a captain. I put a note in to say that you did duty after promotion but could not find the order, if required. I daresay that Sawnantine (?) would produce it. Anyhow I hope that you will get the Capt's allowance.*

*We have Lecky out here now instead of Gores. Enthovern has been on leave since the beginning of July & I expect will now get an extension till 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. Liddell has been on the sick leave for nearly 6 weeks with fever, enteric, he is now much better & will be sent home on sick leave in a week or two. Our new major, Kingscote arrived in Cairo from India last Saturday and at present has not troubled himself much about the battery. As soon as he has fairly settled down I shall be able to go on leave. I have not heard yet whether Allsopp means to exchange from Pheurness, where he has fallen. Corydon(?) Battery is here with Hibbert & Herbert doing duty with it. G/2 have gone home to Woolwich, I believe. Don't you wish that you were with C/B at Dorchester(?). I have not heard from Auchinleck for a long time. I hear of Apsley Smith, he is to be married at Xmas I believe. A great many gunnders have gone wrong that way lately. Sincerely,*

*E. A. Ganshaw.*



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

SIDI GABER to STAFFORDSHIRE, ENGLAND

18 MA 86

The British had a military installation at Sidi Gaber, a suburb of Alexandria. This cover from an officer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment bears the correct 1 piastre postage to England. It is backstamped **ALEXANDRIE 16 V 86 T3** and **STONE STAFF A MY 25 86**.



Regimental Crest on Envelope Flap

The regiment was awarded battle honors: Egypt 1882, Nile 1884-85, Kirbekan



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

ASSOUAN to MINBOO, UPPER BURMAH

20 JA 87

The cover is backstamped **CAIRE ARRIVÉE 24 JA 87, SEA POST OFFICE E 27 JA 87, RANGOON FE 13 87, and MINBOO FE 23 87**. While the normal rate for letters to foreign destinations was one piastre this cover bears postage of 1 piastre and ten paras. Under the Universal Postal Union Convention of 1875, signatory countries had some leeway around the basic rate of 25 centimes. At that time the postal system in Burma was run by India and perhaps this is an example of a rate within the permitted leeway. As Smith says, “. . . letters posted to exotic places such as Japan or Chile are so rare that examples for confirming rates are few indeed.”<sup>2</sup> Could Burma be such an exotic place?



Sandbach departed England for India in September 1886. Upon arrival he was immediately assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Company of the Bengal Sappers and Miners in Upper Burma during the Third Burma War (1885-1887). He spent five months campaigning before returning to the sappers at Roorkee in India.

<sup>2</sup> See Smith, page 547.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

ASSOUAN to MINBOO, UPPER BURMAH

20 JA 87

Back of Cover



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

MACCLESFIELD, ENGLAND to CAIRO

MR 11 88

One penny concession rate cover to an enlisted soldier of the Third Rifle Brigade quartered at the Citadel in Cairo. Postmarked at **MACCLESFIELD 491 MR 11 88**, it is backstamped **CAIRE 19 MR 88**. Incoming concession rate covers are rather scarce.





## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

ALEXANDRIA to ENGLAND

18 XII 89

Cover from a sailor serving on H.M.S. Landrail in Alexandria. Postmarked **ALEXANDRIA D 18 XII 89**, it is backstamped with the **ROSS A DE 27 89** circular date stamp. While the cover does not have the **ARMY OF OCCUPATION, EGYPT** endorsement, it was initialed by the commanding officer.



Enlisted men (as well as sailors) in the FORCE IN EGYPT better known as the ARMY OF OCCUPATION, were entitled to a concession rate of five milliemes for letters to the United Kingdom. Those sent from about 1890 are usually endorsed ARMY OF OCCUPATION, EGYPT and are countersigned by the commanding officer of the soldier's or sailor's unit. From about 1897 it seems as though the requirement for an officer's signature was no longer enforced.

## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

ALEXANDRIA to ENGLAND

22 III 94

Five millimes concession rate postal stationery envelope endorsed in red *British Army of Occupation* but without the name of the soldier sending it. It is endorsed on the left side by *J. Stoneman, Major, Comg. A. S. Corps*. It bears the cachet of the Army Service Corp detachment in Alexandria and is backstamped **BIRMINGHAM / 27 / MR 31 / 94 / W.**



James Stoneman entered The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry as a Lieutenant on 1 April 1875. He was promoted to Deputy Assistant Commissioner General ranking as Captain when appointed to the Army Service Corps (late the Commissariat and Transport Staff) on 1 April 1880. Three months after endorsing the above cover he was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel on 25 June 1894. He served in the Egyptian War of 1882 and was awarded the Egyptian Medal and Khedive's Star.

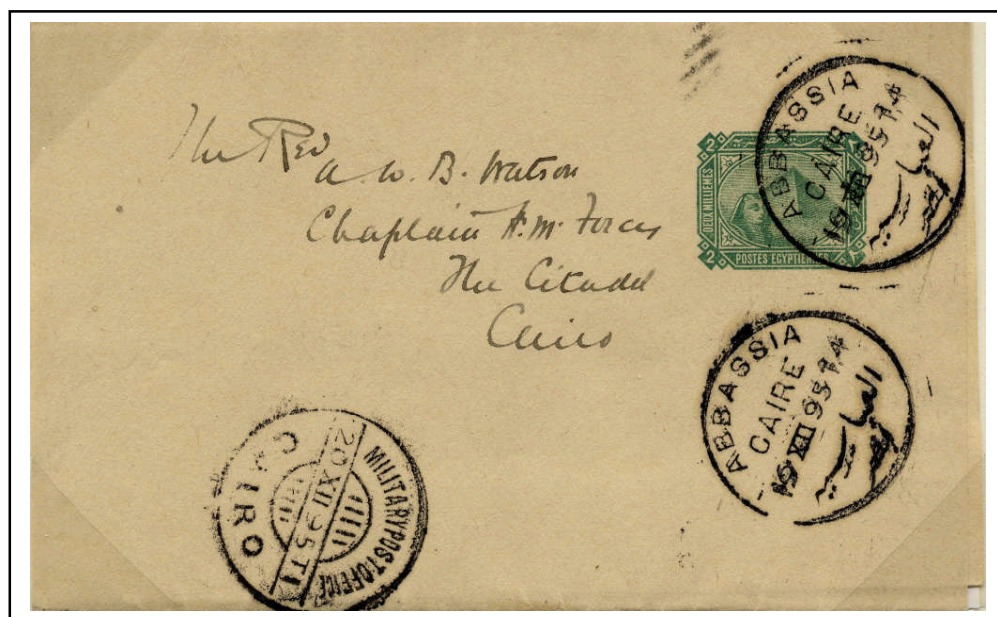


## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

ABBASSIA to the CITADEL, CAIRO

19 XII 95

This two milliemes wrapper, paying the rate for newspapers and other periodicals mailed by those other than the publisher, is addressed to the Reverend Alfred William Brown Watson, the Senior Chaplain to Her Majesty's Forces. It is postmarked **ABBASSIA CAIRE 19 XII 95** and has the transit marking of the barrel-type **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 20 XII 95** with the date expressed in Roman numerals. The latter is recorded used from February 18, 1895 to July 14, 1899, although these dates could be extended.<sup>3</sup>



Abbassia, a section in northeastern Cairo, housed the Egyptian Military School and Barracks; British troops were quartered there since 1882. Abbassia also contained the Government Lunatic Asylum. The Citadel is another fortress in Cairo used as a British army post.

Reverend Watson was commissioned Chaplain to the Forces, 4th Class, ranking as Captain, 4 September 1888, promoted to 2nd Class ranking as Lieutenant Colonel, 14 December 1898, and to First Class ranking as Colonel, 26 June 1902. He served with the Dongola Expeditionary Force under Sir Herbert Kitchener in 1896 (medal with Clasp).

<sup>3</sup> See *The Quarterly Circular*, whole number 119, September 1981. Firebrace and Benians list five recorded covers not including the above.

## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

SIDI GABER to ENGLAND

3 V 97

Five milliemmes concession rate cover from Soldier N<sup>o</sup>. 3529, Private H. Shipley, D Company, 1<sup>st</sup>. Royal Warwickshire Regiment, formerly known as the Sixth Royal Regiment. The soldier properly endorsed the envelope but it lacks the required commanding officer's authorization. It is backstamped **ALEXANDRIE A 3 V 97** and **MANCHESTER 18 10.30 PM MY 11 97**. On Sunday, 2 January 1898, orders were issued to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal Worcestershires at Alexandria to proceed immediately to Wadi Halfa. They arrived there by 22 January. The regiment was later present at the battle of Atbara (April 8, 1898) and Omdurman (September 2, 1898).



From around 1897 the requirement for the commanding officer's signature was not enforced. However, chapter VII of the *EGYPTIAN POSTAL GUIDE*, January 1902, page 26 states:

Non-commissioned officers or privates of the Army of Occupation can send letters not exceeding 15 grammes in weight to the United Kingdom or to one of the British Colonies or Possessions for M. 5. This privilege also applies to sailors of British men-of-war stationed in Egyptian waters.

Letters to be transmitted at this reduced rate must be countersigned on the address side of the envelope, by the officer in command, who must also specify the ship or regiment, corps or detachment to which the sender belongs.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### Five Milliemes Sailor's Concession Rate

PORT SAID to ENGLAND

13 VII 98

Five milliemes concession rate cover from W. Howe, a member of the crew of H.M.S. Fearless. The envelope does not have the commanding officer's signature or initials in the place provided at the lower left corner. It is postmarked **PORT SAID 13 VII 98** and backstamped **NORWOOD S.F. X JY 18 98**.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

CAMP ABOUKIR to ALDERSHOT, ENGLAND

19 SE 98

Five milliemes concession rate cover to Aldershot, England endorsed *Army of Occupation Egypt*.. It is backstamped **ALEXANDRIE 19 IX 98i** and **ALDERSHOT SE 26 98**. Camp Aboukir was located some 15 miles east of Alexandria





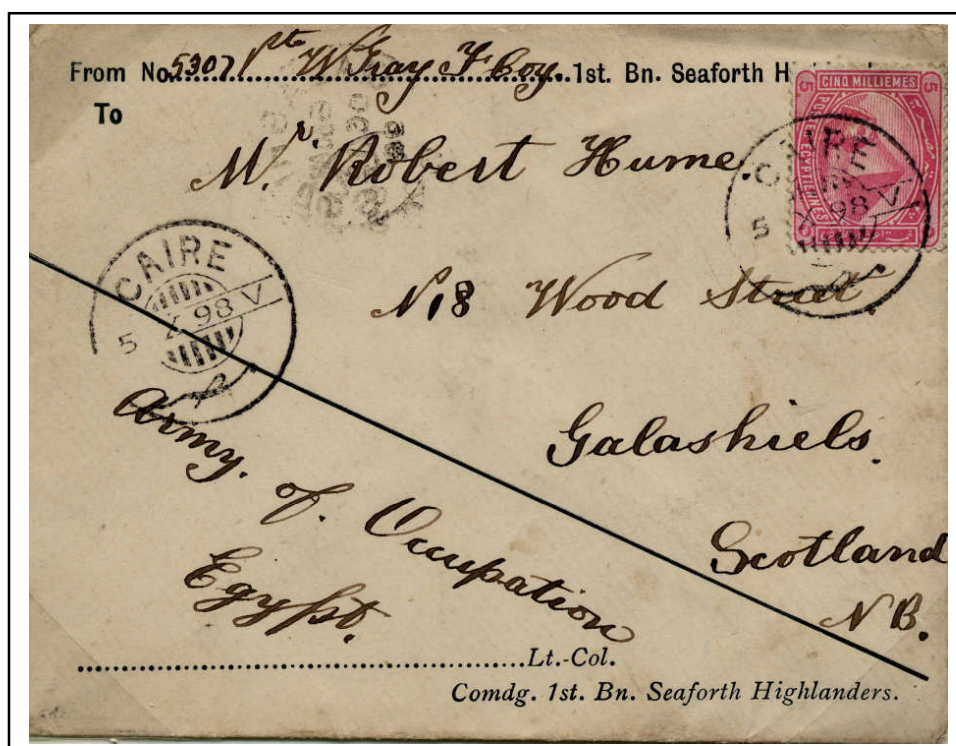
## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### Five Milliemes Soldier's Concession Rate

CAIRO to SCOTLAND

5 X 98

Five milliemes concession rate on printed regimental envelope from Ptr. W. Gray, F Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders.<sup>4</sup> It carries the endorsement but not the commanding officer's signature. Backstamped at **GALASHIELS 630 AM OC 12 98**. The regiment was present at the battle of Omdurman.



Reverse of Cover

<sup>4</sup> See Firebrace, p. 180, for another cover from Private Gray from Halfa dated 27 IV 98.

## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

MINET EL-BASSAL to ENGLAND

7 X 98

The quarter of Minet el-Bassal was the center of the cotton trade in Alexandria. This five milliemes postal stationery cover is backstamped **ALEXANDRIE A 7 X 98** and **GRIMSBY 7<sup>30</sup> PM OC 13 98**. It is from Staff Sergeant du Plesgny, No. 7 Company, Army Ordnance Corps.<sup>5</sup> While it bears the required **ARMY OF OCCUPATION ALEXANDRIA EGYPT** endorsement, it is not countersigned by the commanding officer.



<sup>5</sup> See Firebrace, p.209 for a similar cover from Staff Sergeant du Plesgny but postmarked 8 November 1898. It is interesting to note that the two covers, both from the Sergeant and addressed to the same Mrs. Patterson, are in different handwriting. Also, the Firebrace cover is care of Mr. Johnson, Esq.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

CAIRO to LONDON, ENGLAND

1 XI 98

One piastre paying the regular letter rate to England. The cover is backstamped **LONDON S.W. 71 1.30 AM NO 98.**



This is assumed to be from a member of the Army of Occupation or an officer in transit. The addressee, Arthur Edmund Sandbach, left England for service with the Egyptian Army on December 31, 1897. During the time he was with the Egyptian Army he was assigned to Staff and Line of Communications work; he was Assistant Adjutant General, Dongola District; Commandant Wadi Halfa, and Assistant Adjutant General Line of Communications. He came to the front as AAG, Headquarters Staff, in time to be present at the Battle of Omdurman. He was mentioned in dispatches and made a Brevet Lieutenant Colonel. His period of service with the Egyptian Army came to an end officially on November 30, 1898, but was back in England before the end of October and was soon appointed Military Secretary to Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India. <sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> The Royal Engineers Journal, "Memoir — Major-General Arthur Edmund Sandbach, C.B., D.S.O.," December 1929, pp. 657-677.

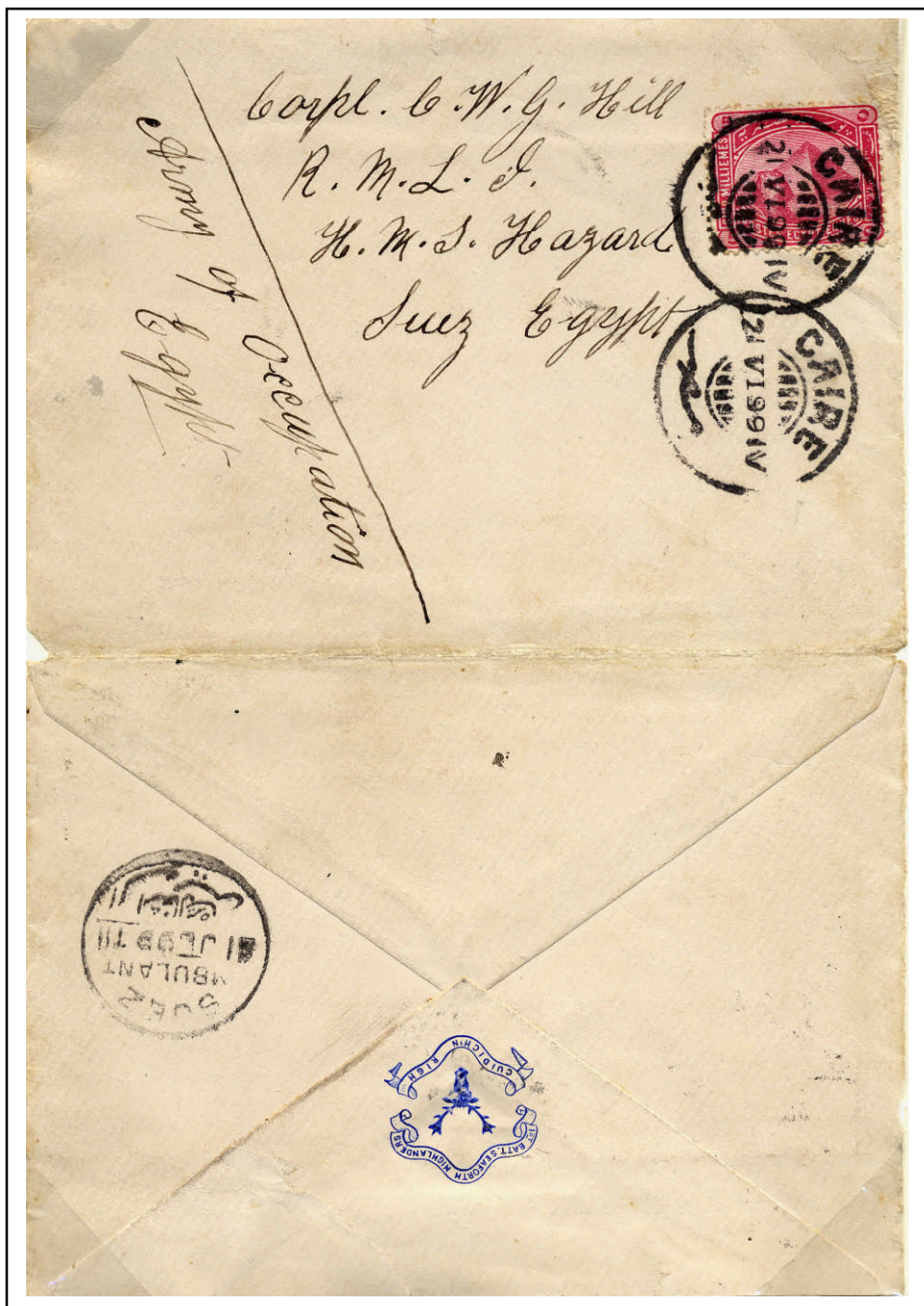
## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### Five Milliemes Domestic Letter Rate

CAIRO to SUEZ

21 VI 99

A regimental envelope of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders to a marine on H.M.S Hazard backstamped with a late usage of the **SUEZ AMBULANT 1 JL 99 TII** c.d.s. The cover was unusually long in transit, some 11 days. The endorsement is unnecessary for fully paid domestic mail. The battalion was stationed at Kasr el Nil Barracks in Cairo. H.M.S. Hazard was a first class screw gunboat that was launched in 1894 and sunk in the English Channel on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1918.





## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

One Piastre Foreign Letter Rate

SUEZ to LONDON

25 VII 00

Cover from Suez to the wife of a holder of the Victoria Cross. The cover is backstamped **ALEXANDRIE 26 VII 00** and **LONDOON AU 2 00**. The flap has the seal of the British Central African Rifle Regiment.



"Ernest Beachcroft Beckwith Towse, Captain, served with the Chitral Relief Force under Sir Robert Low in 1895 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, including the storming of the Malakand Pass (Medal with Clasp). Served in the campaign on the North West Frontier of India under Sir William Lockhart in 1898 with the Tirah Expeditionary Force (two Clasps). Served in the South African War 1899-1900, and was present with the Kimberly Relief Force at the engagement at Magersfontein—dangerously wounded (mentioned in dispatches VC, Medal with three Clasps);. The Victoria Cross was awarded for the following service: — Date of Acts of Bravery: 11th December, 1899; 30th April, 1900. "On the 11th April, 1899, at the action of Magersfontein, Captain Towse was brought to notice by his commanding officer for his gallantry and devotion in assisting the late Colonel Dowman, when mortally wounded, in the retirement, and endeavouring when close up to the front of the firing line, to carry Colonel Dowman on his back; but finding this not possible, Captain Towse supported him till joined by Colour-Sergeant Nelson and L/Cpl. Hodgson. On the 30th April, 1900, Captain Towse, with twelve men, took up a position on the top of Mount Thaba, far away from support. A force of about 150 Boers attempted to seize the same plateau, neither party appearing to see the other until they were but one hundred yards apart. Some of the Boers then got within forty yards of Captain Towse and his party and called on him to surrender. He at once caused his men to open fire, and remained firing himself until severely wounded (both eyes shattered), thus succeeding in driving off the Boers. The gallantry of this officer in vigorously attacking the enemy (for he not only fired, but charged forward) saved the situation; notwithstanding the numerical superiority of the Boers." *London Gazette*, 6 July 1900.

War Office, July 6, 1900.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned Officers, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Trooper whose claims have been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for their conspicuous bravery in South Africa, as stated against their names :—

Regiment.	Name.	Acts of Courage for which recommended.
The Gordon Highlanders	Captain Ernest Beckwith Towse	<p>On the 11th December, 1899, at the action of Majesfontein, Captain Towse was brought to notice by his Commanding Officer for his gallantry and devotion in assisting the late Colonel Downman, when mortally wounded, in the retirement, and endeavouring, when close up to the front of the firing line, to carry Colonel Downman on his back; but finding this not possible, Captain Towse supported him till joined by Colour-Sergeant Nelson and Lance-Corporal Hodgson.</p> <p>On the 30th April, 1900, Captain Towse, with twelve men, took up a position on the top of Mount Thaba, far away from support. A force of about 150 Boers attempted to seize the same plateau, neither party appearing to see the other until they were but 100 yards apart. Some of the Boers then got within 40 yards of Captain Towse and his party, and called on him to surrender. He at once caused his men to open fire and remained firing himself until severely wounded (both eyes shattered), succeeding in driving off the Boers. The gallantry of this Officer in vigorously attacking the enemy (for he not only fired, but charged forward) saved the situation, notwithstanding the numerical superiority of the Boers.</p>
The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)	Captain Charles FitzClarence	<p>On the 14th October, 1899, Captain FitzClarence went with his squadron of the Protectorate Regiment, consisting of only partially trained men, who had never been in action, to the assistance of an armoured train which had gone out from Mafeking. The enemy were in greatly superior numbers, and the squadron was for a time surrounded, and it looked as if nothing could save them from being shot down. Captain FitzClarence, however, by his personal coolness and courage inspired the greatest confidence in his men, and, by his bold and efficient handling of them, not only succeeded in relieving the armoured train, but inflicted a heavy defeat on the Boers, who lost 50 killed and a large number wounded, his own losses being 2 killed and 15 wounded. The moral effect of this blow had a very important bearing on subsequent encounters with the Boers.</p> <p>On the 27th October, 1899, Captain FitzClarence led his squadron from Mafeking across the open, and made a night attack with the bayonet on one of the enemy's trenches. A hand-to-hand fight took place in the trench, while a heavy fire was concentrated on it from the rear. The enemy was driven out with heavy loss. Captain FitzClarence was the first man into the position and accounted for four of the enemy with his sword. The British lost 6 killed and 9 wounded. Captain FitzClarence was himself slightly wounded. With reference to these two actions, Major-General Baden-Powell states that had this Officer not shown an extraordinary spirit and fearlessness the attacks would have been failures, and we should have suffered heavy loss both in men and prestige. On the 26th December, 1899, during the action at Game Tree, near Mafeking, Captain FitzClarence again distinguished himself by his coolness and courage, and was again wounded (severely through both legs).</p>
10th Hussars	Lieutenant (now Captain) Sir John P. Milbanke, Bart.	<p>On the 5th January, 1900, during a reconnaissance near Colesberg, Sir John Milbanke, when retiring under fire with a small patrol of the 10th Hussars, notwithstanding the fact that he had just been severely wounded in the thigh, rode back to the assistance of one of the men whose pony was exhausted, and who was under fire from some Boers who had dismounted. Sir John Milbanke took the man up on his own horse under a most galling fire and brought him safely back to camp.</p>



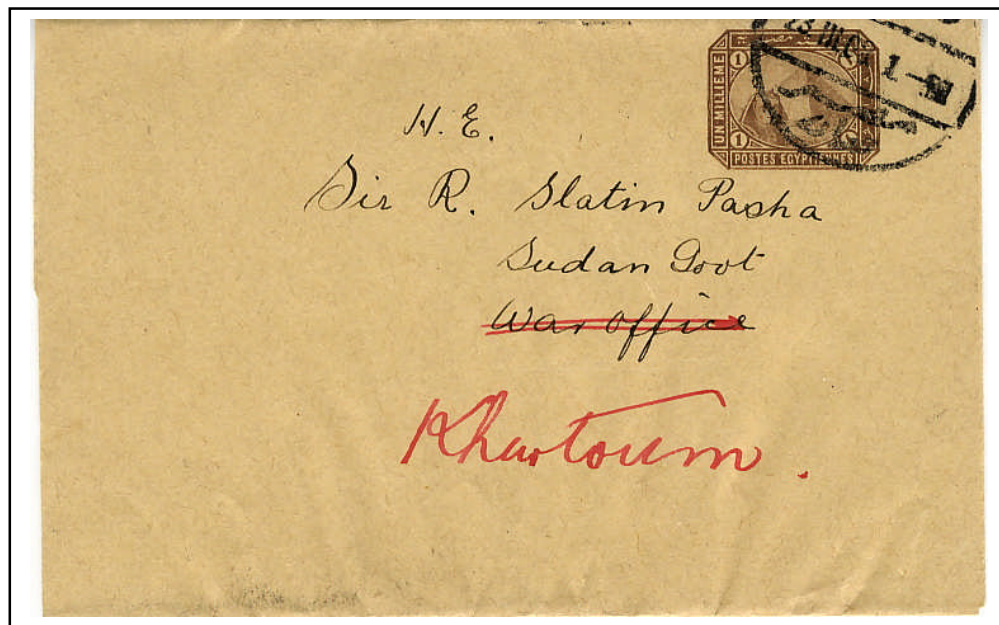
## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

One Millieme Wrapper

CAIRO (?) to KHARTOUM, SUDAN

23 III 03

A newspaper wrapper addressed to H. E. Sir R. Slatin Pasha at the War Office in Khartoum. Slatin Pasha was a protagonist in the governmental and military affairs of the region from 1881 to 1914.



Rudolf Anton Slatin (1857-1932), C.B., K.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., served in the Austro-Hungarian Army before becoming governor of Darfur Province in the Sudan. At the end of 1883 he was arrested by the Mahdi and was held captive by the Dervishes until February, 1895, when he escaped. During his captivity he served as a slave, servant, and advisor to the Khalifa. Finding his way back to Cairo he was made a colonel in the Egyptian Army. He became Assistant Director of Military Intelligence and participated in the Dongola and Nile Expeditions. In 1900 he was Inspector General of the Sudan and a Major-General. He stayed in the Sudan until 1914 when he resigned from Sudanese service and devoted himself to the work of the Austrian Red Cross.

## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

CAIRO to SLIEMA, MALTA

9 VII 04

The British Army of Occupation usually had at least one battery of the Royal regiment of Artillery. This regimental cover probably did not come from a member of the occupation army as there is no counter signature. Also, it is franked with a block of eight and a pair of one milliemmes paying the foreign letter rate, it is backstamped **VALLETTA MALTA 18 JY 04** and **SLIEMA · B · O · MALTA 19 JY 04**.



Regimental Crest on Envelope Flap





## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

CAIRO to CROYDEN, ENGLAND

1 VI 05

Front of a soldier's letter to England at the reduced rate of 5 milliemes. It bears the name, rank and unit of the soldier (Corporal E. H. Bing of the Army Service Corps.) and is countersigned at the lower left with the rubber stamp of the unit in lieu of the commanding officer's signature.

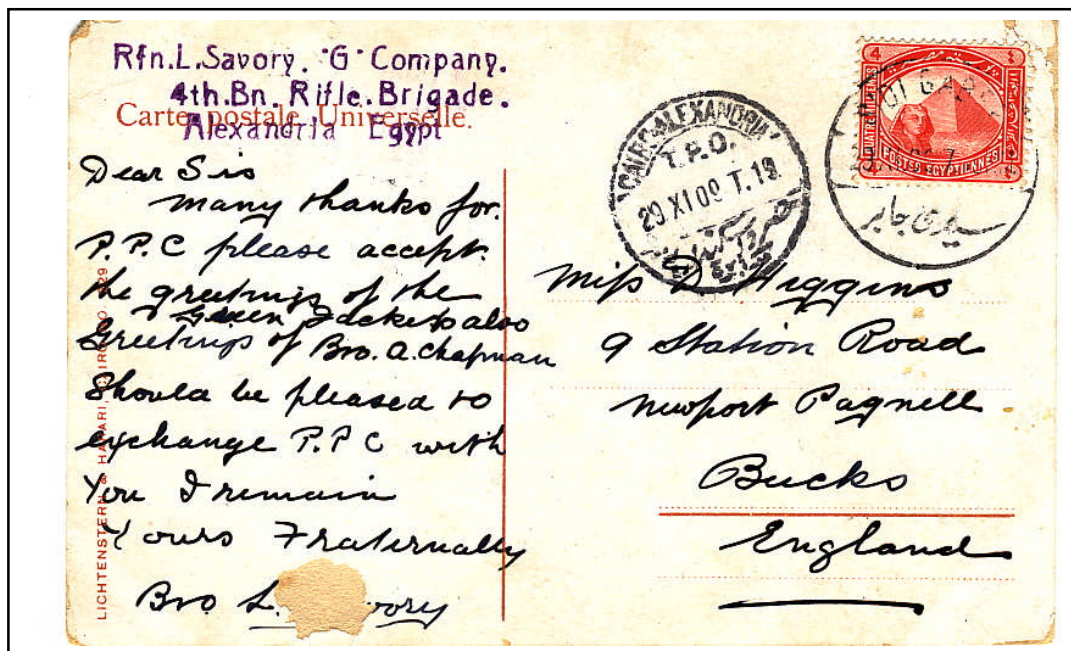


## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

SIDI GABER to NEWPORT PAGNELL, ENGLAND

29 XI 09

4 milliemmes postcard from Rifleman L. Savory, a soldier in the Army of Occupation. He was a member of G Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Rifle Brigade. It has the traveling c.d.s. of **CAIRO-ALEXANDRIA T.P.O. 29 XI 09**. The message on the card reads: *Dear Sis, Many thanks for P.P.C. Please accept the greetings of the Green Jackets & also Greetings from Bro. A. Chapman. Should be pleased to exchange P.P.C with you. I remain Yours Fraternally, Bro. L. Savory.*





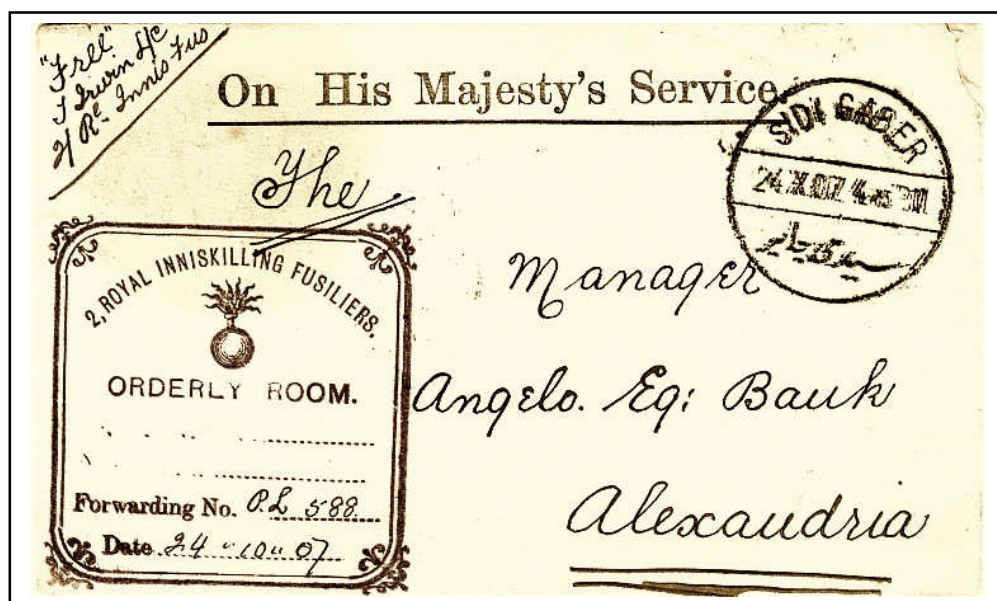
## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### Official Correspondence

SIDI GABER to ALEXANDRIA

24 X 07

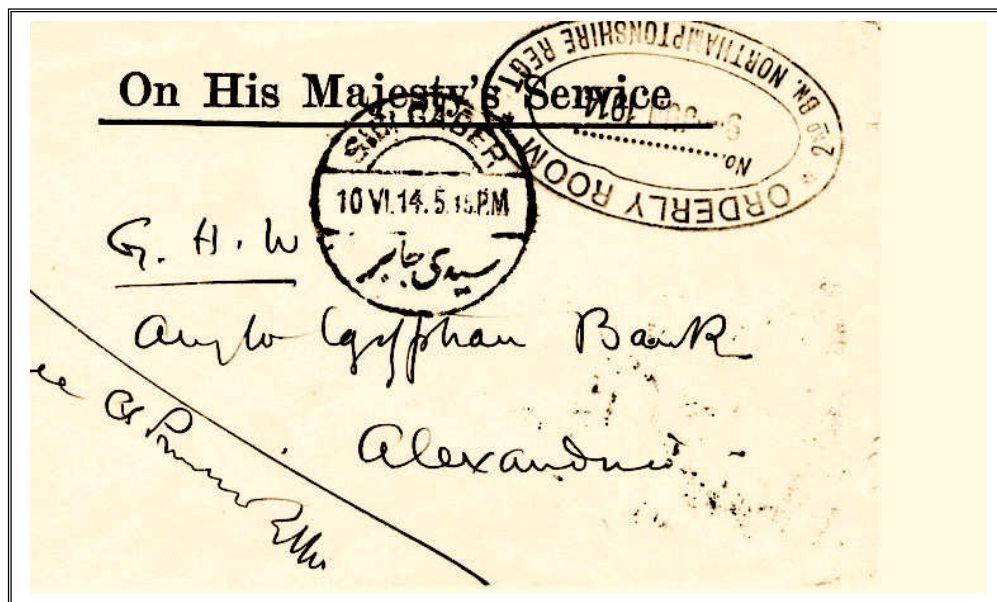
2, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers



SIDI GABER to ALEXANDRIA

10 VI 14

2<sup>ND</sup> Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.



Inland official correspondence of the Army of Occupation was exempt from postage. Both covers are endorsed *FREE* by the senders and are countersigned with the respective unit's orderly room stamp.

**BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION**

**Military Post Office Alexandria**

**PADDINGTON. W LONDON to ALEXANDRIA**

**JA 28 02**

The barrel type **MILITARY POST OFFICE ALEXANDRIA 3 II 02** (type Iai) c.d.s. is known used as a receiving datestamp at the military hospital at Ras-el-Tin from 23 January 1902 to 20 July 1902.





# BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

## Military Post Office Alexandria

BOMBAY to ALEXANDRIA

31 JAN 03

One anna post card with **SEA POST OFFICE** and **SUEZ 9 II 03** transit datestamps. It has the barrel type **MILITARY POST OFFICE ALEXANDRIA 10 II 03** type IAI c.d.s.



ALEXANDRIA to RAS-el-TIN

30 I 13

One millieme unsealed letter rate to the *Sister in Charge* at the *Military Hospital* at Ras-el-Tin backstamped with the **MILITARY POST OFFICE ALEXANDRIA 30 I 13** type IAIi date stamp.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Named Military Post Office

Military Post Office Cairo -- Type ICii

CARDIFF to ALEXANDRIA

JA 16 02

A picture post card paid with a one penny stamp postmarked **CARDIFF 4-9PM JA 16 02** to The Citadel, Cairo and forwarded on to Alexandria. It has the barrel type **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 22 JA 02 TI** c.d.s. and the **ALEXANDRIE 23 I 01** and **MILITARY POST OFFICE ALEXANDRIA 23 I 02** (type 1Ai) date stamps. The named military date stamps were usually used as transit and receiving marks.





## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Named Military Post Office

Military Post Office Cairo - - Type ICii

NEW YORK to CAIRO

MAR 2 1906

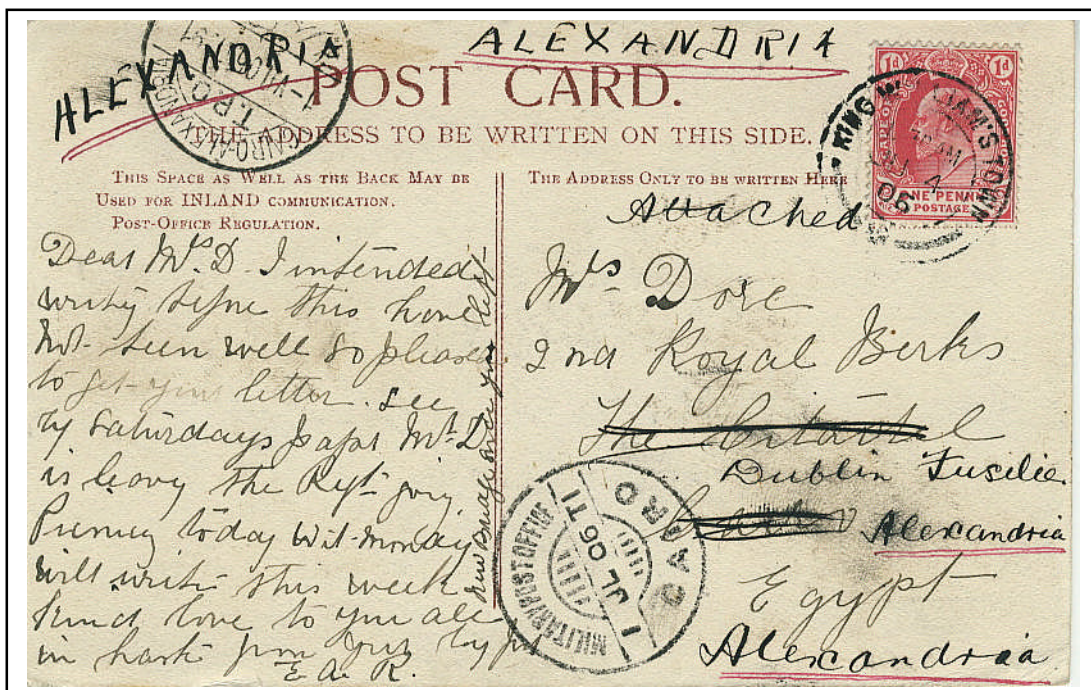
A picture post card paid with a two one-cent stamps from **NEW YORK, N.Y. STA. D MAR 2 1 PM 1906** to Cairo via Alexandria. It has the barrel type **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 18 MR 06 TVI** c.d.s. This type of date stamp has letters for the month and not Roman numerals as with type ICi.



KING WILLIAM'S TOWN, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE to ALEXANDRIA

JU 4 06

One penny paying the post card rate to Cairo, then forwarded to Alexandria. It has the **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 1 JL 06 TI** and **CAIRO-ALEXANDRIA T.P.O. 1 VII 06 T91** date stamps.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

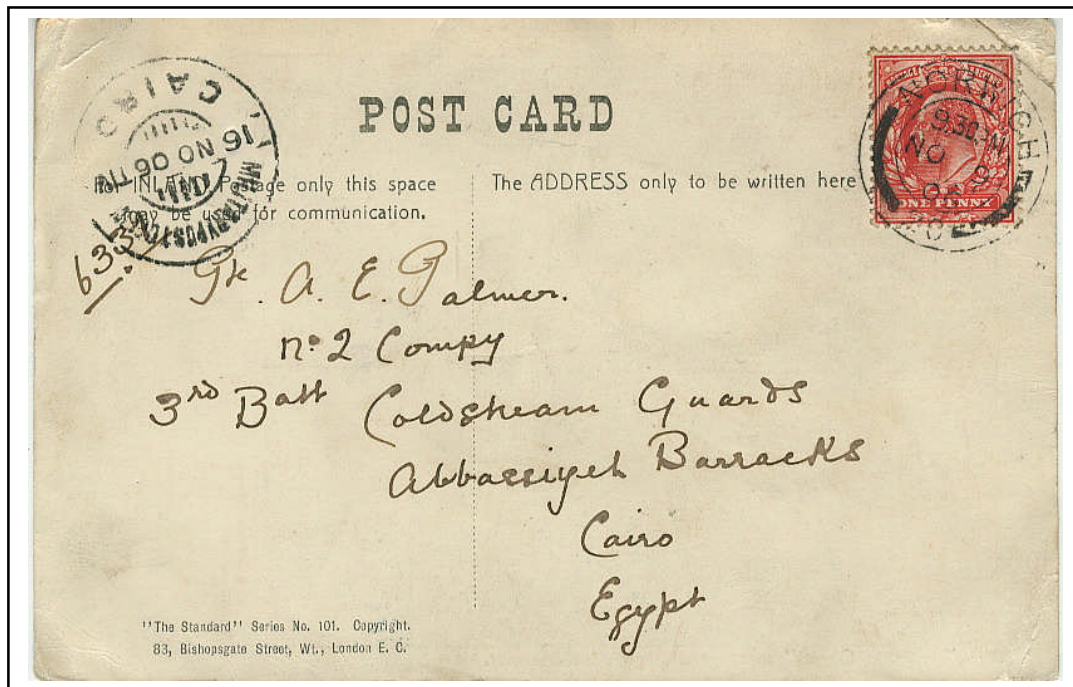
Named Military Post Office

Military Post Office Cairo - - Type ICii

NORWICH, ENGLAND to CAIRO

NO 9 06

A picture post card showing the Brighton Queen mailed from **NORWICH 20 9.30 PM NO 9 06** and paid with a one penny stamp. It bears the barrel type receiving stamp **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 16 NO 06 TVI**.



The card was sent to 6337 Private A. E. Palmer, No 2 Company, 3rd. Battalion, Coldstream Guards at Abbassiyeh Barracks in Cairo. The Third Battalion served in Egypt from October 1906 to February 1911.



# BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

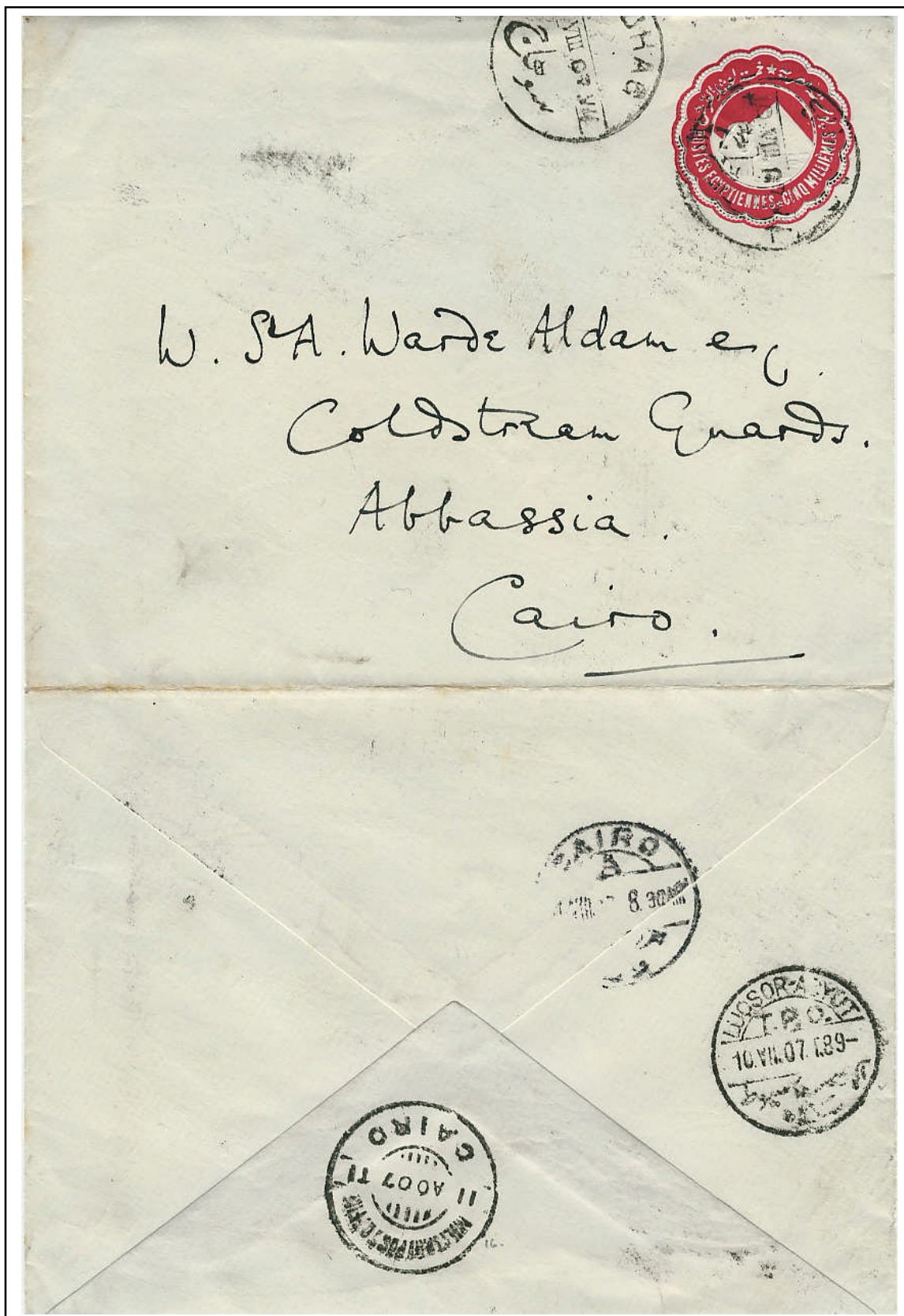
Named Military Post Office

Military Post Office Cairo - - Type ICii

SOHAG, EGYPT to CAIRO

10 VIII 07

Five milliemmes embossed envelope from **SOHAG 10 VII 07** to Cairo with transit marks **LUQSOR-ASYUT T.P.O. 10 VII 07 T.89**, **CAIRO A 11 VII 07** and the receiving stamp **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 11 AO 07 TI**.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

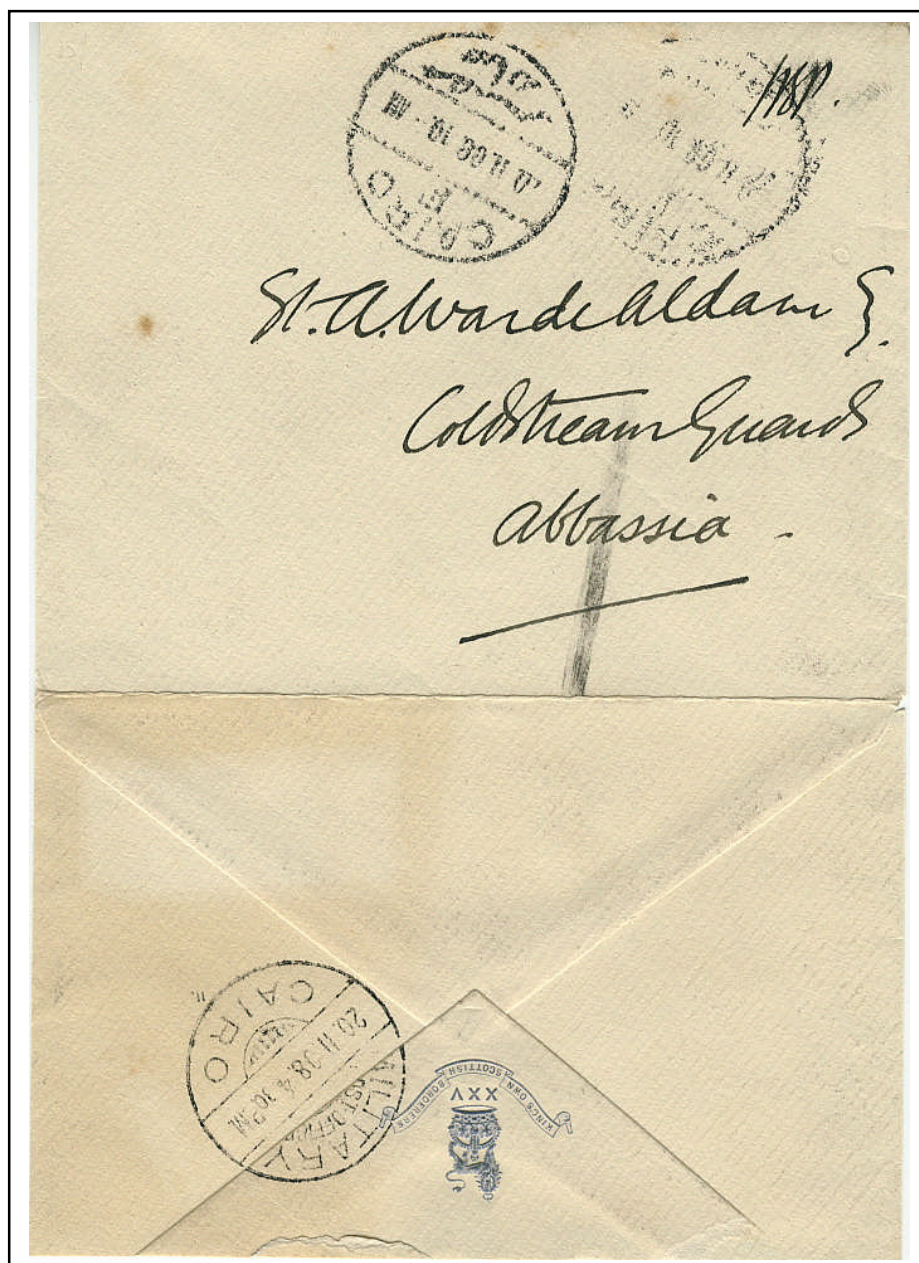
### Military Post Office Cairo - - Type ICiil

CAIRO to ABBASSIA

20 II 08

It appears that this inland letter to a member of the Army of Occupation escaped postal charges. The local letter rate was 3 milliemes but apparently the letter was mistaken for official correspondence. While it does not have the required inscription "*On His Majesty's Service*," the initials in the top right could be mistaken for the countersign of a "responsible officer."

It bears the type ICiii **MILITARY POST OFFICE CAIRO 11 AO 07 T1** receiving c.d.s. This type is different from the type ICii c.d.s. in that **MILITARY POST OFFICE** is in two lines and the month is expressed in roman numerals rather than letters.





# BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Military Post Office Cairo - - Type ICiil

CAIRO to ABBASSIA

25 II 08

Registered official cover from Cairo to Abbassia from the Army Pay Office. Lieutenant Warde-Aldam served in Egypt from June 1906 to August 1910. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion served from October 1906 to February 1911.



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Military Post Office Cairo -- Type ICil

PANAMA CANAL ZONE to ABBASSIA

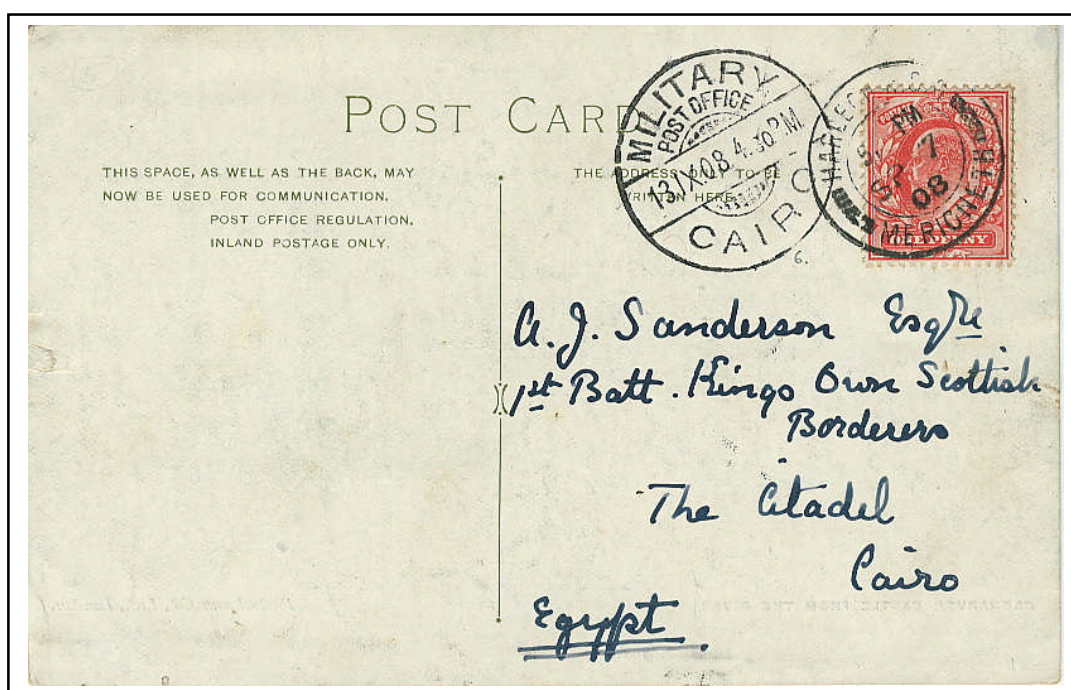
FEB 4 08



HARLECH, WALES to CAIRO

SP 7 08

Addressed to Captain Archibald James Sanderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers. Served in Cairo and Khartoum and died of wounds at Gallipoli on May 2, 1915.





## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Military Post Office Cairo - - Type ICii

FAIYUM to ABBASSIA

12 IX 10

Four milliemes inland post card rate



## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND to ABBASSIA BARRACKS, CAIRO

12 MY 07

1d. post card to Sergeant D. K. Kirkwell, Army Service Corps at Abbassia. It bears the travelling post office marking **ALEXANDRIE-CAIRE 19 V 07 IV** and the receiving office date stamp **ABBASSIA (CAIRE) 19 V 07 1 V**.





## BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

### British Barracks Cairo

Two types of this normal Egyptian postmark are known although the difference are quite minimal. Type IIICv has the "C" of Cairo under "SH" while Type IIICvi has the "C" under the "S".



Type IIICv  
- SE 12



11 OC 13



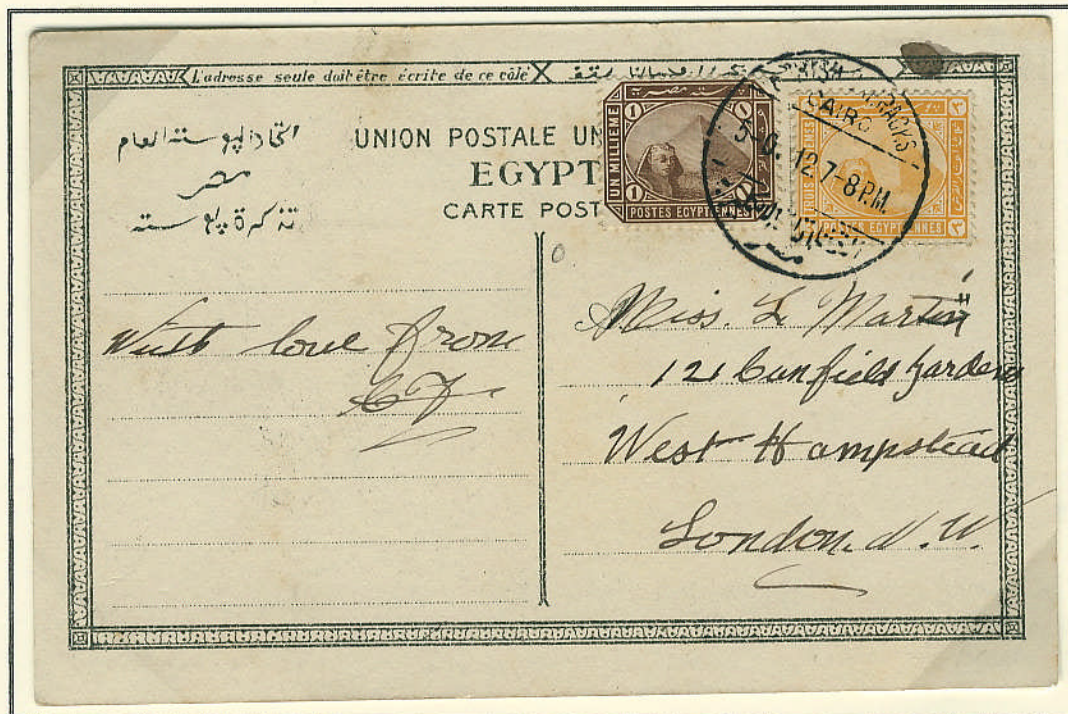
Type IIICvi  
OC 13



to LONDON

5 OC 12

Four milliemes foreign post card rate  
Type IIICvi

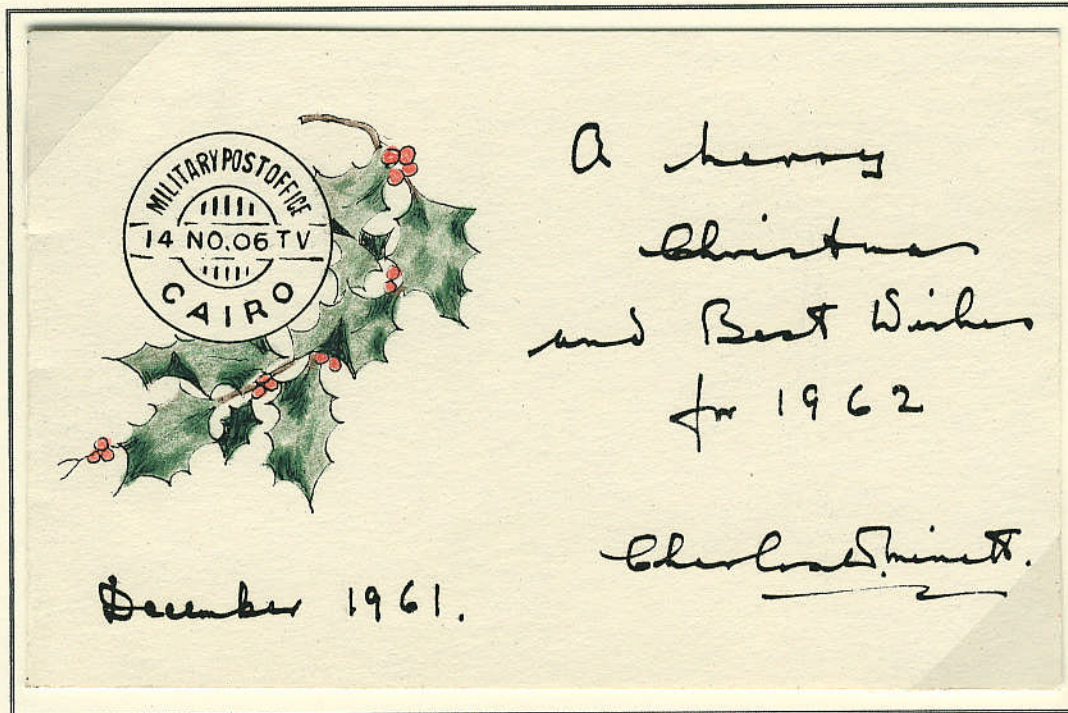




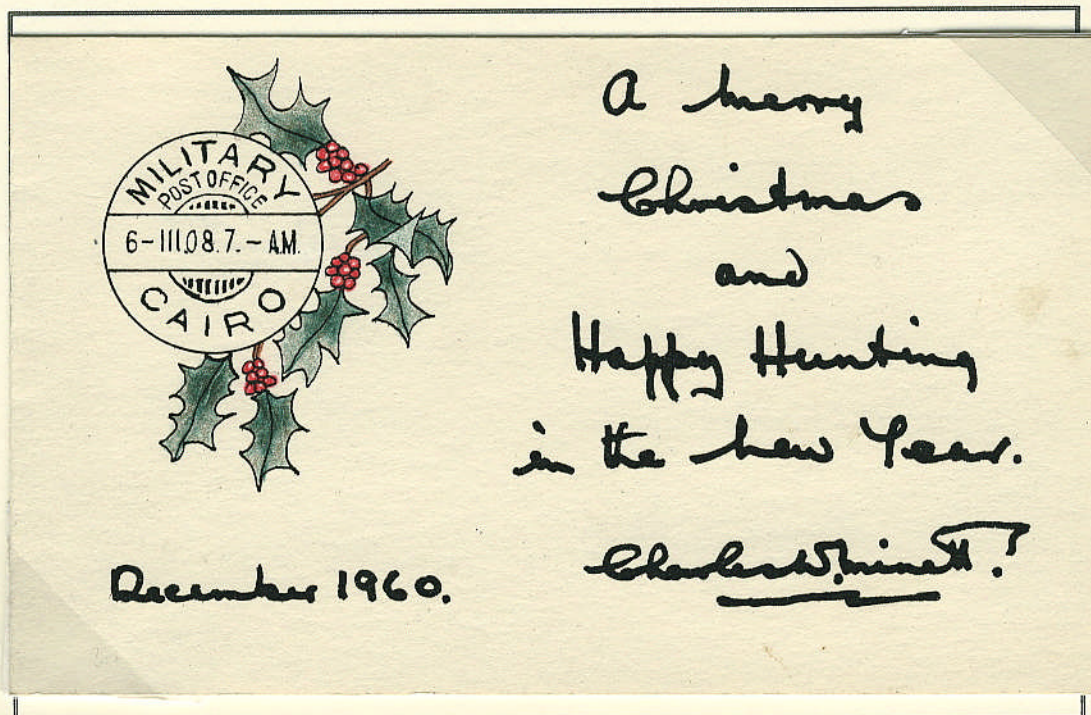
BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Military Post Office Cairo -- Type ICii and ICii

The "MINETT" Christmas Cards



Type ICii



Type ICiii



BRITISH ARMY of OCCUPATION

Military Post Office Alexandria -- Type IAIII

The "MINETT" Christmas Cards



A Very Merry  
Christmas  
and a  
Bright New Year

December 1912

Charles Minett?