EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

VOL. II. No. 11. (Whole Series No. 23.) September, 1945.

CONTENTS.

Editorial	Page	136.
The Photogravure Process. Dr. Gordon Ward	Pages	137 - 138.
Study II. The History of the Foreign Post Offices in Egypt,		
The Posts of Austria in Egypt. F. S. Mumford		139 - 163.

Published by The Egypt Study Circle.

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VOL. II. No. 11.	Page 136.	September, 1945.	Whole Series, No. 2	23.
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EDITORIAL.

For the first time we are publishing a Report on a Study in the form envisaged for the chapter of our proposed book, in the hope that this may assist the Editorial Committee. Members are urged to seize the opportunity thus presented of commenting upon its form and arrangement and are assured that all such comments will be welcome. As far as possible suggestions received will appear in the "Q.C.".

Recently, a circular letter was sent out by our Secretary to all members of the Circle asking for approval of the Chairman's suggestion that we should support L'Orient Philatelique by offering for publication in that journal, material which had already appeared in the Q.C. This procedure was necessitated because the Circle is now functioning as a body of corresponding members only, and we suggest that this method of conducting our affairs should be adopted as normal routine, in the hope that it will give members who live at great distances from our usual meeting place, whether at home or abroad, as much say in the organisation and administration of the Circle as those who meet and work together.

Another matter to which we would like to draw attention is the increasing difficulty we experience when planning a programme to interest a gathering of all our members. This is caused by the tendency of some of our members of form groups, concentrating on limited fields for research - The Postal History Group, The Stamp Production Group; The Sudan Group, etc. This tendency, we feel, should be encouraged and no doubt the various groups will become regularised and developed, to the advantage of our effort and the furtherance of our aims. Such groups may even become known as segments of the Circle and the efforts of these segments may do much to accelerate the accumulation of information and thereby the completion of our book on Egypt; Its Stamps and Postal History. The conclusions reached by any one segment would eventually be laid before a larger gathering of members, who would thus enjoy the fruits of the labours of their fellows without being involved in their toil and the difficulties of the programme committee would largely disappear.

The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 137.

THE PHOTOGRAVURE PROCESS.

Dr. Gordon Ward.

On Saturday July 14th, 1945 a few members of the Egypt Study Circle met, by invitation of the Chairman at 92 Harley Street, London. W.1. when an interesting discussion of the photogravure process was opened by Dr. Gordon Ward. Many sheets and blocks of stamps were shown and the following problems discussed.

The first problem was presented by a marginal pair of the 15 mills, bright blue, of the first Fouad issue, whereupon there appeared a series of marks stretching across the stamps and the marginal paper, and looking much as if the sheet had been splashed with weak blue ink from side to side. Other specimens showed that these abnormal markings were constant. Moreover, under a glass, it was evident that they were broken up by the corn-grain and must therefore have arisen at an early stage of manufacture. It was suggested that if the multipositive, after developing but while still wet, had been stood on its side to dry, and had then been too rapidly dried, there might remain such marks as would produce the variety seen on the printed stamps. This view was accepted only in default of any better explanation.

The second problem was postulated by various large blocks of the Fouad memorial issue of 1944. Between the fifth and sixth vertical rows, partly on the former and partly in the vertical gutter, there were seen two converging lines extending downward from the top of the sheets to the middle of the bottom row. At their widest point, above, these lines were 8mm. apart and they converged to less than one mm. below. The lines were not sharp edged but appeared more like smudges. They seem to be constant upon sheets with the control 5.6mm. wide and lower margin imperf. Blocks were also shown from the companion sheet with control 6. 6 mm. wide and lower margin perf. On one of these a mark of similar character was present just to the left of the head, touching the moustache, on the 25th stamp. On another block from the same position there was no trace of it. It was suggested that this must be some sort of doctor blade variety. It is known that the doctor blade moves slightly from side to side as the cylinder revolves beneath it and that any fault in the blade normally leaves a line not quite parallel to the lay out of the impressions. This fact could account for one of the converging lines, but would not explain the other or tell us why they should be constant. The variety remained unexplained and readers who are able to throw light on the matter are cordially invited to do so.

The third problem was of a somewhat similar character. Copies were shown of the 5 mills value of the Medical Congress issue of 1928 to illustrate the well-recognised variety with parallel vertical lines in the background. Other copies of this stamp were shown with minute smudges which sufficed to show the direction in which the doctor blade was moving when it wiped the cylinder, i.e. at right angles to the lines of the blade. The vertical lines differ from other doctor blade marks in that they are parallel to the doctor blade. The fact that these lines are not constant, and that they do not appear on the companion 10 mills stamp, or upon any other issue, suggests that they are due to some temporary fault of the printing machinery, possibly a vibration of the machine causing the distance of the doctor blade itself. If a road sweeper were to bump along so that its brushes were at one moment on the road, and the next clear of it, there would remain lines of dirt across the road parallel to the length of the cleaner. This is the sort of thing which may have happened in printing this 10 mills stamp. No other explanation as forthcoming.

The fourth problem was one which had forced itself to the attention of many collectors. A copy of the current £1 was shown in which were a large number of short 'smudges' from left to right, each apparently originating in one of the ink-containing

cells between the grid lines. Similar lines occur from time to time on most other photogravure issues of Egypt. Several suggested explanation were considered. Some thought that these were true smudges due to the doctor blade; others that they occurred at a later stage. A third explanation was that these might be called "ink-spills " and were due to the ink spilling over the back of the cells owing to the rapid revolution of the cylinder and the centrifugal forces thus brought into play. It was agreed that they useful in affording evidence of the way in which impressions were laid down upon the cylinder, either " across the cylinder " (i.e. with the longest side in the axis of the cylinder) when the ink-spills would be at right angles to the longest side or " along the cylinder " (i.e. Shortest side in the axis of the cylinder) when the ink-spills would be parallel to the longest side.

The last problem was also one familiar to collectors. Three corner blocks of the Ophthalmological Congress issue of 1937 were shown, one of each value. In each case a space of about 3 mm. Round the outer side of the stamps appeared as a coloured margin in which the lines of the diagonal screen were plainly obvious. The same appearance was present in the vertical gutters between the stamps but was almost entirely absent from the horizontal gutters. It was suggested that the appearances were due to over-inking and that the marginal markings showed the limits of the carbon tissue. This, however, did not explain what had happened in the horizontal gutters and this very common variety remained without a full and satisfactory explanation.

STUDYII.

THE HISTORY OF THE FOREIGN POST OFFICES IN EGYPT.

THE POSTS OF AUSTRIA IN EGYPT.

Study entrusted to -

F. S. MUMFORD. (E.S.C. No. 22.)

SUMMARY.

- I. <u>AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES IN EGYPT.</u>
- II. MAIL SERVICES BETWEEN EGYPT AND AUSTRIA.
 - (1) Austrian Services.
 - (a) Austrian Government Service.
 - (b) Austrian Lloyd Service, (including the Austrian Lloyd Agencies.)
 - (2) French Services.
 - (a) The French Government Service.
 - (b) Services Maritimes des Messageries.
 - (3) The Italian Service.
- III. <u>CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER POSTAL ORGANISATIONS BEFORE THE FORMATION</u> <u>OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.</u>
 - (1) The Egyptian Transit Company.
 - (2) Postal Services of France, Great Britain and Italy.
 - (3) The Posta Europea.
 - (4) The Modern Egyptian Government Post.
 - (a) Egyptian Government Franks.
 - (b) Egyptian Adhesives
 - (5) Postal Convention of 1868 between Austria and Egypt.
 - (6) Similar Convention with France.

The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 140.

IV. AUSTRIAN POST FROM EGYPT.

Franking of Mail.

- (a) Handstamps.
- (b) Adhesives.
- (c) Forgeries.

V. POSTAL MARKINGS.

- (1) Classification.
- (2) Detailed Description.
- (3) Forged Postmarks.
- VI. POSTAL RATES BETWEEN EGYPT AND AUSTRIA.
 - (1) Austrian Mail Service.
 - (2) French Mail Service.
 - (3) Registration Rates.

VII. MAIL CARRIED BY AUSTRIA FOR OTHER COUNTRIES.

- (1) Great Britain.
- (2) Italy.
- (3) Turkey, including Syria and Palestine.
- (4) Greece.
- (5) Black Sea Ports.

VIII. PHILATELIC MATERIAL AVAILABLE.

IX. SOME PROBLEMS AWAITING SOLUTION.

I. AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES IN EGYPT.

There were two Austrian Government Post Offices in Egypt. One in the Austrian Consulate in Alexandria, opened in 1837 (Muller) - though the date of its opening is given in "Les Postes en Egypte" as 1838 - and closed on September 30th, 1889. The other in the Austrian Consulate at Port Said, opened on April 13th, 1869, shortly before the Suez Canal came into use, and closed in 1874. Austrian stamps used at Port Said are extremely scarce which is accounted for by the smallness of the population there - 8000 in 1872 compared with 200,000 in Alexandria at the same time and by the fact that practically the only activity of the town in those days was in connection with traffic passing through the Suez Canal. The earliest Austrian postal specimen we have seen, a letter from Dum Dum, India to Heidelberg, where it was re-addressed and forwarded to Paris, is dated July 21st 1846 (Mumford).

In addition, the Gesellschaft des Oesterreich Ungarischen Lloyd (Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Company) opened an authorised postal agency in Alexandria in 1843 which, at first, dealt with European correspondence only. Subsequently branch offices were opened at Cairo and Suez and the postal service was extended to these two towns. Negotiations in 1867 and 1868 between Postmaster General Busic, on behalf of the Austrian Post Office, and the Egyptian Government led to this private service being taken over by the Austrian State. It is of interest and significance that, in the same year, the Suez Canal Company's postal venture was brought to a close by Egyptian Government action.

When the Government Office at Alexandria was closed in 1889 the official correspondence of the Diplomatic Agent of Austria-Hungary and the Consul and Vice-Consuls of Austria-Hungary in Egypt continued to enjoy free postage in the interior of Egypt and also to Austria-Hungary.

II. MAIL SERVICES BETWEEN EGYPT AND AUSTRIA.

(1) <u>Austrian Services</u>.

(a) <u>Austrian Government Service</u>.

Before 1837, the mail was carried by the Austrian Navy. Muller states that this service commenced in 1820, which is significant as Alberto Diena records that Carlo Meratti's courier service in Alexandria came into being that years. It was not till many years later, when the Cairo Office was opened, that this service became known as the Posta Europea.

(b) Austrian Lloyd Service.

The Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Company, founded as a shipping and trading company on September 3rd, 1835, with headquarters at Trieste acted for the Austrian Post Office as letter carriers to the Levant. On September 1st 1837 a postal contract was entered into between the Austrian Government and the Austrian Lloyd Steamship Company (Oesterreicher Lloyd) under which the latter agreed to carry mail for the Austrian Post Office in the Mediterranean and the Near East for a period of ten years, receiving 80 per cent of the postal charges. Simultaneously (1837) the Lloyd obtained, by agreement with the Austrian Ministry of Trade, the right to carry mail on their own account to and from their agencies for a term of 15 years. Both these agreements were later extended.

Austrian Lloyd Agencies.

Although these agencies did not have the right to accept mail in those ports in which Austrian Consular Post Offices were established (as was the case in Alexandria), letters of this kind were occasionally mailed directly at the Lloyd post Offices and then received the agency handstamp which was principally used for other purposes and it was not a postmark in the regular sense.

The Convention of 1858.

This was an agreement between the Austrian Government and the Austrian Lloyd under which the Steamship Company was to receive a subsidy in accordance with the Number of sea miles covered by their Foreign Lines. In return the Company undertook to maintain the three following lines from November 1st, 1858.

- (1) Trieste Corfu Alexandria. (Direct Route). 24 voyages a year.
- (2) Constantinople Smyrna Rhodes Cyprus Beyrouth Alexandria Smyrna Constantinople.
 (Circular Route). 26 voyages a year.
- (3) The same as no. 2. but in the reverse direction. (Circular Route). 26 voyages a year.

The Routes between Alexandria and Trieste.

(1) <u>The Original Route</u>.

On May 16th, 1837 the "Archduc Lodovico" made its first voyage from Trieste to Constantinople, via. Ancona, Corfu, Patras, The Piraeus, Syra and Smyrna. At Syra the Egyptian mail was transhipped to the "Comte Kolowrat" which sailed to Alexandria via Crete. This was a bi-monthly service and the journey from Trieste to Alexandria appears to have taken about 10 days.

(2) <u>The Shortened Route</u>.

In July 1845 the vessels sailed from Trieste direct to Corfu thus cutting out Ancona as a port of call.

(3) The Direct Route.

The Direct Route between Trieste and Alexandria was inaugurated by the departure of the "Italia" (Paqueboat No. 24.) on May 10th, 1848 from Trieste. The vessel called at Corfu and the journey from Alexandria took five days. The "Italia" left Alexandria on the return journey immediately after the arrival of the British mail from India. This service, which at first was monthly, became bi-monthly in 1851 and by 1873 it had become a weekly one.

Route between Port Said and Austria.

We have no exact information as to a mail route between Port Said and Austria and the only cover we have seen emanating from the Austrian Post Office at Port Said is one in the Mumford collection bearing the Austrian "Porto Said Egypten" circular mark, 6-11-69, and handstamped FRANCO. It went to Syros where it was stamped with the Greek 20 lep as Postage Due. It is, however, stated in "Murray's Handbook for Travellers in Egypt", 1873 edition, that "The Through steamers between Europe and the East of The P. and O. Company, The Messageries, The Austrian Lloyd, The Rabattino, and others, all stop at Port Said." In January 1870, a direct route to Bombay was inaugurated by the sailing of the "Apis" from Trieste and, by the end of June, five voyages had been made with disastrous results. This service was brought to and end in November 1870. The Austrian Government Post Office at Port Said was in existence throughout this period. So far, we have not seen a cover which travelled between Port Said and Trieste.

AUSTRIAN MAIL ROUTES .



(2) French Services.

(a) The French Government Service.

Established in 1837, vessels, passing between Marseilles and Alexandria, touched at Leghorn, Civita Vecchia, Naples and Messina. We have evidence that mail to Austria travelled by this route, the earliest example we have seen being a letter from India to Innsbruck inscribed "Par Marseilles", "By Waghorn Agency". bearing the Egyptian Transit Company's Suez cachet and the French P.O. Alexandrie circular marking dated 1-8-1846. (Byam)

(b) <u>Services Maritimes Des Messageries</u>.

From February 1851, the French State Lines were taken over by the Service Maritimes des Messageries Nationales and this, in June 1857, became known as the Service Maritimes des Messageries Imperiales. We have evidence that mail to Austria travelled by this route. We have seen a cover bearing French adhesives, totalling 1 Franc, dated 12 Jan. 1859. (Byam)

(3) The Italian Service.

There was a postal convention between Egypt and Italy which became operative on 1st January, 1873 whereby correspondence from Egypt to Italy and other countries which Italy served as an intermediary was to be franked by Egyptian stamps only.

III. <u>CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER POSTAL ORGANISATIONS BEFORE THE FORMATION OF</u> THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.

(1) The Egyptian Transit Company.

Of the seven Transit covers recorded by the Circle, four were carried to Austria.

(2) Postal Services of France, Great Britain and Italy.

There were agreements between these countries and Austria.

(3) <u>The Posta Europea</u>.

On July 7th, 1860 an agreement was entered into between the Posta Europea and the Austrian P.O. whereby the Austrian P.O. Accepted letters sent via Trieste to Europe against prepayment of postage and the Posta Europea took from the Austrian P.O. In Alexandria, mail for delivery in the interior of Egypt. This agreement was for a period of ten years but the Posta Europea, having been taken over by the Egyptian Government in January 1865, the arrangement was carried on by them. In the Mumford collection there is a letter from Cairo, 15th November, 1855, carried by the Posta Europea, P.E. frank, Type II, to Alexandria where it received the Austrian circular mark, Type II-1, from where it travelled to Leghorn in Italy. The letter bears M.S. markings 9/9 and 12 and is inscribed "par vapeur francais" so, while it bears no markings of the French service it was possibly handled by four postal organisations - The Posta Europea, and those of Austria, France and Italy.

- (4) Modern Egyptian Post.
 - (a) Egyptian Government Franks.

From April 1865, when the circular Egyptian Government frank came into use,

until the end of the year, correspondence from the interior of Egypt is found bearing this frank in combination with the 1864 issue of Austrian Italy. There is a cover in the Mumford collection stamped in Cairo with the Egyptian Government's circular frank, 8 OTT. 65, and, in Alexandria with the 15 soldi of Austrian Italy, 1864 cancelled with the Austrian circular mark, Type II-1, and carried by the Austrian P.O. to Trieste.

(b) <u>Egyptian Adhesives</u>.

The 1864 issue of Austrian Italy is found used in combination with the First and Second issues of Egypt.

The stamps of Austria prepared for use in the Turkish Empire and issued in 1867 are found used in combination with the Second issue of Egypt.

The stamps of the Third issue of Egypt (Boulac printing) are not found used with the stamps of Austria because the Convention to be described below came into force in 1868.

(5) The Postal Convention of 1868.

In 1868, during the period when Muzzi Bey was Director General of the Egyptian Postal Administration, a convention for the exchange of correspondence between Egypt and Austria-Hungary was drawn up and we have seen five covers (Byam collection) proving the franking of mail with Egyptian stamps for carriage by the Austrian service before the formation of the U.P.U.

(1) Cairo to Jaffa, bearing Egypt, 1867, 2 P.T., dark blue stamps cancelled with Egyptian Cairo mark, Type I-3-I. 1 Feb 69. cover marked FRANCA. On reverse Egyptian Alessandria mark, Type I-3. 1 Feb 69 and the Austrian Alexandrian circular mark II-2 (no year date). All markings in black. No Jaffa arrival mark.

(2) Cairo to Jaffa, bearing Egypt, 1867, 2 P.T., cancelled with Egyptian Cairo mark, Type II-1, 29 May 69. On reverse Egyptian Alessandria mark, Type II-1, 29 MAY 69 and the Austrian circular mark, Type II-2, (date illegible). Also on front FRANCA. All markings in black. No Jaffa arrival mark.

(3) Mehalla to Wien bearing Egypt 1867 20 para and I P.T. and 2 P.T. - total 3½ P.T. - cancelled with Egyptian Mehalla mark, Type III-2, 14 AGO 1870 T.1. and on the face of cover, RACCOMMANDATE in frame, Type F 1. On reverse the Alessandria mark, Type III-2, 15 AGO 1870 T 1. All markings in black. No Austrian marking.

(4) Cairo to Trieste bearing Egypt 1867, 20 para and 2 P.T. - total 2½ P.T. - cancelled with Egyptian Cairo mark, Type III-2, 4 GEN 1871 T.1.; cover stamped FRANCA. On reverse Egyptian Alessandria mark, Type IV-2, 4 GEN 1871 and the Austrian oval arrival mark Triest (date illegible). All markings in black.

(5) Cairo to Vienna bearing Egypt 1872 1 P.T. and 20 para and 2½ P.T. - total 3½ P.T. - cancelled with Egyptian Cairo mark, Type III-2, 4 OTT 1873 T.3.; cover stamped RACCOMMANDATE in frame, Type F 1. On reverse the Egyptian Alessandria mark, Type IV-2, 5 OTT 1873 T 1 (in blue) and the Austrian circular arrival mark, WIEN <u>12</u>

10 RECOMAND

in black. (Note. There is something before the 73 which is illegible) 73

(6) <u>Similar convention with France</u>.

In the Byam collection there is a cover marked "FRANCO" and "P.D." from Alexandria to Vienna. It bears the marking of the French office in Alexandria, 12-1-1859 and is inscribed " PAR VOIE MARSEILLE", the postal rate being 1 franc in French stamps. This would seem to imply that there was a postal convention with France.

IV. AUSTRIAN POST FROM EGYPT.

- (1) Franking of Mail.
 - (a) <u>Handstamps</u>.

The handstamps used before the introduction of adhesive stamps were :-

Types I-1, I-2, I-3, II-1, II-2 and II-3. As these, with the exception of Type I-1 were used also to obliterate adhesive stamps, it will be more convenient to describe all the postal markings together after enumerating the adhesives.

(b) Adhesives.

The stamps presumably sent to Egypt can be summarised as follows :-

Issues of Austrian Italy.

<u>1863, July</u>. Embossed Arms design. Plain white wove paper. No watermark, Perf 14. Engraved by Tantenheim of Vienna and printed at the Royal and Imperial State Printing Works, Vienna.

2 soldi, yellow.	10 soldi dull blue.
3 soldi yellow-green.	15 soldi stone-brown.
5 soldi dull rose.	
5 soldi bright rose.	

<u>1864</u>. Similar to the 1863 issue but perforated 9½. At first issued on unwatermarked paper but, from June 1864, on paper watermarked "BRIEFMARKEN" in double-lined capitals 22.25 mm. high, repeated at intervals of 9 inches across the sheet.

2 soldi yellow.	10 soldi dull blue.
3 soldi yellow-green.	10 soldi deep blue.
3 soldi blue-green.	15 soldi pale stone brown.
5 soldi dull rose.	15 soldi deep stone brown.
5 soldi deep rose.	

Stamps prepared for the Austrian Post Office abroad.

For use in the Turkish Empire.

- 1867, June 1st. Design: Profile of the Emperor Francis Joseph to the right. By Scharf and Brendler. Surface printed by the Austrian State Printing Works, Vienna. Dies engraved by Brendler & Marklowsky, Vienna. Thick white woven paper watermarked "Briefmarken". Perf. 9 - 91/2. (Coarse whiskers and hair.) Plate I. 2 soldi orange. 15 soldi bistre. 2 soldi yellow. 15 soldi deep brown. 15 soldi reddish brown. 3 soldi pale green. 3 soldi deep green. 25 soldi purple brown. 5 soldi pale rose. 25 soldi grey lilac. 5 soldi rose carmine. 50 soldi brown. 10 soldi pale blue. Perf. 10 - 10½. Also Compound 9-9½ and 10 - 101/2.
 - 10 soldi deep blue.. 50 soldi brown.
- 1877. As last. Plate II. (Whiskers and hair, fine and clear.) Thin semi-transparent paper. Perf 9-9½.

2 soldi yellow.	Perf. 10 - 10½.
3 soldi pale green.	10 soldi pale blue.
5 soldi red.	15 soldi red brown.
10 soldi pale blue.	Perf. 12.
15 soldi red brown.	50 soldi pinkish brown.
25 soldi grey lilac.	

Perf. compound of 9-9½ and 10-10½. 10 soldi pale blue. <u>1883, September</u>. Design: Imperial Austrian Arms. Inscribed "Imper Reg. posta Austr." and values in soldi. Surface printed by the State Printing Works, Vienna. Values in black. White wove paper, watermarked "BRIEFMARKEN" as before. Perf. 9 - 9½.

2 soldi brown.	20 soldi greenish grey.
3 soldi emerald green.	50 soldi rosy mauve.
3 soldi yellow green.	
5 soldi rose.	Perf. 10 - 10½.
5 soldi rose carmine.	5 soldi rose red.
10 soldi ultramarine.	20 soldi greenish grey.
10 soldi dull blue.	

<u>1886.</u> 1st September. Provisional issue of one value.

There being no stamp in the previous issue of the value of 10 para. For which a demand had arisen, 2879 copies of the 3 soldi September 1883 issue were overprinted by topography, 10 PARA 10, in black, at Constantinople and were issued on September 1st 1886. These were only in use for one day when a second printing arrived from Vienna. These printing may be distinguished as follows :-Constantinople printing :-Surcharge 16mm. across the middle, space between the 10 and "P" being 2 mm. Vienna printing :-Surcharge 15.5 mm. across the middle, space between 10 and "P" being 1.5 mm. PARA on line with 10. So far we have not seen the Constantinople printing used in Egypt.

1888. June. Five values, overprinted in Turkish currency, in black, on the contemporary Austrian issue of 1883 with values in Kreuzer. Inscribed "Kais Königl Oesterr Post". White wove paper, watermarked "BRIEFMARKEN" as before. Perf 10 - 10½. Printed and overprinted by the Austrian State Printing Works, Vienna.

10 para on 3 Kreuzer green.
20 para on 5 Kreuzer rose.
1 piaster on 10 Kreuzer blue.
2 piaster on 20 Kreuzer grey.
5 piaster on 50 Kreuzer mauve.

The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 149.

The only stamps listed above which we have not seen used in Egypt, (Alexandria), are :-

1863 Issue - 5 soldi rose; 1864 Issue, 3 soldi green.

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

The most probable explanation for the change of currency from Kreuzer to Soldi is that given in " A Catalogue for Advanced Collectors of Postage Stamps, Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers "by Henry Collin and Henry A. Calman which states :-"Special stamps, different from those of the mother country were used in 1867 because the offices in the Levant only received gold in payment, while in Austria paper currency was accepted.As there was a premium on gold some merchants in the Levant imported their own stamps from Austria and in that way cheated the government out of the difference ".

Stamps of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy are occasionally found used in Egypt and we have seen the following :-

Issue of November 1st, 1858-59. Perf. 15. 15 Kreuzer blue postmarked with Type II-1.
Issue of 1863-64. Perf. 9¹/₂. 15 Kreuzer pale stone brown on piece with a copy of the 10 soldi blue of 1864, postmarked Type I-3.

Issue of 1877, 10 Kreuzer blue postmarked with Type II-4.

These Kreuzer strays were, nearly certainly, unnoticed by the postal clerks owing to their resemblance to the soldi issues. There is no reason to think they were on sale at either of the Austrian Post Offices in Egypt.

Forgeries of the Adhesives.

Quoting from Collins' "Handbook for Advanced Collectors" once more -

"The few counterfeits we have seen are so wretchedly done that it is hardly necessary to mention them ". " The Soldi stamps surcharged 20 paras, 1, 2 and 5 Piastres are frauds concocted by a dealer in Constantinople. Their issue has been officially denied by the Director of the Austrian Post Office in Beyrouth ".

The Rev. R. R. Earée in "Album Weeds" states that in the Foreign Offices' issues (of Austria) the only forgery he has seen is the 3 soldi green of the issue of 1877 (Fine whiskers) which can be distinguished by being perforated 9 instead of 9½ and by being produced by lithography. Also in the forgery there are 80 pearls or thereabouts in the circle around the head instead of 90. The pearls in the forgery instead of being of uniform size, are small and uneven.

V. <u>POSTAL MARKINGS</u>.

1. Classification.

Type.	Illustrations.	Period of Use.	Ink.	Function & Remarks.
	I. <u>Straight Line Inscription</u>	<u>ns without frame</u> .		
I-1.	ALEXANDRIEN 24. JUL.	21-7-46 - 17-1-58.	Black.	Seen on stampless covers.
I-2 .	ALEXANDRIA	1866.	Black.	Seen on stampless covers, also used as obliterator.
I-3.	COL VAPORE D'ALESSANDRIA	8-9-55 - 11-1-68.	Black.	Applied at Trieste to incoming mail from Alexandria. Also used as an obliterator.
I-4.	COLVAP DA ALESS		Black.	Applied at Trieste, Constantinople and Smyrna to incoming mail from Alexandria.
I-5	COL VAP. DA COSPOLI		Black.	Applied at Alex- -andria, Smyrna & Trieste to letters arriving from Constantinople.
	II. <u>Dated Circular markings</u> .		Usually	
II-1.	22 mm. circle	20-12-52 - 28-12-69.	Blue. Black after 1864.	Information and Obliterator.
II-2.	Do. but 23 mm. Circle.	13-3-62 - 18-11-67.	Do.	JB. 22-6-55 DO• 26-12-52 Boulad 21-1-52
II-3 .	Do. but 24 mm. circle	February, 1869.	Black.	Obliterator. Only one cover seen. (Byam Collection)
				See JB. Dated 1864

Type.	Illustrations.	Period of Use.	Ink.	Function & Remarks.
II-4.	HANDP 29 E 5 82 20 mm. Circle	22-6-73 until closure of office. (30 Sept. 1889)	Black.	Obliterator only.
II-5.	22 mm. circle	31-8-73 - 3-2-74.	Black.	Obliterator only.
II-6.	RTO ST 28 17 mm. Circle R 69 R 69 R 69 R 69 R 69 R 7 R 69 R 7 R 69 R 7 R 7 R 7 R 7 R 7 R 7 R 7 R 7	1869 - 1872.	Blue.	Obliterator and Information.
III-1.	III. <u>POSTAL INSTRUCTIONS</u> . ANDP 16 FCON 26 mm. Circle. PECON	On issues of 1864, 1867 and 1877.	Black.	Registered Marking,
III-2.	RECOM: N ^⁰ 19 x 12 mm.	Found associated	with	Type III-1.
III-3.	FRANCO	31-1-59 - 16-12-62.) Office of
III-4.	P.D.	16–12–62) Despatch to) signify that) the postal
III-5.	P. D.	1866.) charges have) been paid.
III-6.	"Dummy"	Issues of 1883 and 1888.		Although found on Austrian stamps, it may not be an Austrian marking.

Type.	Illustrations.	Period of Use.	Ink.	Function & Remarks.
IV-A.	IV. AUSTRIAN LLOYD AGENCIES.	1846.	Blue.	Information. Only one specimen seen. Mumford collection

As it was not until December 20th 1872 that postmarks bearing the full year dates came into use at the Austrian Offices, it is only possible to establish the earliest and latest dates of use of most of the markings when dated covers are found.

So far we do not know how " MORE TO PAY " and " INSUFFICIENTLY FRANKED " were indicated on letters.

(2) <u>Detailed description</u>.

Type I. Straight-line inscriptions without frame.

I-1. ALEXANDRIEN in serif cap., word 36 mm. long, the letters being 4 mm. high, with date, without year, beneath it, e.g. 21. JUL., letters 3.5 mm. high. Struck in black and only seen on covers without adhesive stamps. Muller states that it was used from 1837.

> Earliest date 21 July 1846 (Mumford). Latest date 17 January 1858. (Mumford)

We have seen this marking with date above the town name and also with the month preceding the day as well as the whole date inverted. This is due, no doubt, to the fat that the date was set in loose type.

I-2. ALEXANDRIA in Roman letters 5 mm. high, the word being 39 mm. long. It has only been recorded on stamps of the 1863 and 1864 issues. Muller states that this cancellation is not the English spelling of the town name, but a bad mixture of Italian and German, in which it is similar to other postmarks of the Austrian offices in the Levant. It is a mixture of the Italian "Alessandria" and the German "Alexandrien"; In conformation may be quoted :- the spelling of "Salonicho", used for Salonica, the German name was "Salonich" and the Italian " Salonicco". In the Byam collection there are :- (a) a letter, form Alexandria to Constantinople, bearing this mark on the front and, on the reverse, the Constantinople arrival mark of the Austrian Lloyd Agency, dated 25 July 1866, This letter is marked 15 in M.S. in blue and bears no adhesive stamps. (b) a cover from Alexandria to Liverpool, via Trieste, bearing eight copies of the 15 soldi Austrian Italy 1864 obliterated with this marking. It also bears the mark P.D. in frame and, in M.S., 42. On the reverse is the Liverpool arrival mark dated, 24 July 186.

In the Mumford collection a portion of this marking is seen on a copy

of the 15 soldi Austrian Italy 1864. We record this specimen owing to the extreme rarity of this marking.

- <u>I-3</u>, <u>I-4</u>, <u>I-5</u>. These are really Harbour marks. During the period of their use, many letters were posted on outgoing steamers without the intervention of a land office. As the carrying vessel had no office stamp the adhesive was cancelled on arrival at Trieste with a cachet which showed the origin of the letter. In pre-adhesive days the cachet was struck on the cover.
- I-3. COL VAPORE (28 mm. X 3.5 mm.) D'ALESSANDRIA (33 mm. X 3.5 mm.) in Roman letters in two lines. Applied at Trieste, from about 1855, to incoming mail from Alexandria which bore no marking. Struck in black only on letters without adhesive stamps, and when used as an obliterator. Seen on the stamps of the 1863 and 1864 issues of Austrian Italy and on the 1867 issue.

Earliest date 8 September 1855 (Mumford). Latest date 11 January 1868. (Byam)

I-4. A similar inscription abbreviated to COL VAP DA / ALESS, in two lines,
(30 X 4 mm.). Applied at Trieste, Constantinople and Smyrna to incoming mail form Alexandria. Struck in black. Seen on the 1867 and 1877 issues of Austria prepared for use in the Turkish Empire.

II. Dated circular markings.

<u>II-1, II-2, II-3</u>. ALEXANDRIEN in Roman capitals 3mm. high within the upper portion of a circle. In the centre is the date without the year. First used from about 1852 before adhesive stamps came into use. The earliest example seen by us is in black, though early examples are usually struck in blue. After about 1864 most markings were in black. There are three sizes of circle.

II-1.22 mm. diameter circle.

Earliest date 20 December 1852. (Mumford). Latest date 28 December 1869. (Mumford)

II-2.23 mm. diameter circle.

Earliest date 13 March 1862. (Mumford). Latest date 18 November 1867. (Mumford)

II-3.24 mm. diameter circle.

We have seen only one example of this marking on a letter dated February 1869 (Byam).

The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 154.

- <u>II-4 and II-5</u>. ALEXANDRIEN above in sans serif caps. In the centre is the date with year added. This is the first marking of the Austrian Post Office to include the date of the year. There are two sizes of circle, 20 mm. and 22mm. The former stamp was delivered to the Post Office by the engraver on December 20th 1872 and marks are known with year dates from 1873. The larger size was delivered by the engraver on July 30th 1873 and was in use from the same year, but it is not thought that it remained in use until the closing of the post office at Alexandria.
- II-4. Circle 20 mm. In diameter. Letters 3.5 mm high. Only struck in black and used as an obliterator only. This mark is frequently spoken of as the "Thimble " postmark, probably on account of its size. The stamp was returned to store in Vienna when the office at Alexandria was closed, 30th September, 1889.

Earliest date 27-6-1873. (Mumford).

II-5. Circle 22 mm. in diameter. Letters 4 mm. high. used as an obliterator only.

> Earliest date 31 August 1873 (Mumford) Lates date. 3 February 1874. (Mumford)

II-6. PORTO SAID in sans serif caps. 2.5 mm. high within the upper portion of a circle of 17 mm. in diameter. EGYPTEN in sans serif caps 2mm. at the bottom and the date, with year, in the centre. Muller states that this stamp was delivered by the engraver to the Post Office on December 12th 1868. The marks, which are very scarce, are found on the 1864 and 1867 issues, but on the 1864 issue only when used late, viz. about 1869. Struck in blue; used as an obliterator and elsewhere on cover for information. In the Mumford collection there is a cover emanating from Port Said bearing this mark, 6-11-69., and stamped "FRANCO"; sent to Syros where the Greek 20 Lep was applied for postage due.

III. Postal Instructions.

- <u>III-1.</u> Registered marking. ALEXANDRIEN in Roman capitals 3.5 mm. high within the upper portion of a circle 26 mm. in diameter; date, with year omitted, in the centre and RECOM below in sans serif caps, 3 mm. high. Used as an obliterator; struck in black. We have seen this marking on the stamps of Austrian Italy 1864 and of those of Austria prepared for use in the Turkish Empire, issues of 1867 and 1877.
- III-2. Associated with Type III-1, but struck on the cover, is a rectangular frame measuring 19mm. X 12 mm. enclosing RECOM in sans serif letters and "No". This frame has its upper corners rounded and the bottom line omitted.

The only cover we have seen, bearing these two registered markings, is in the Mumford collection. It travelled from Alexandria, via Brindisi, to London and bears three copies of the 10 soldi blue of 1877 cancelled with Type III-1, 5-5. Type III-2 appears on the cover alongside the stamp. It also bears the London registration mark in red 11 MY 78 and "14 " in MS., in blue.

III-3. FRANCO in Roman letters 4 mm. high, the word being 21 mm. long. This marking was applied at the office of despatch to signify that the postal charges had been paid. Of three examples seen on cover, two were struck in blue and one in black. Each over in addition bears a large cross in M.S., two in blue nd one in red, placed diagonally on the face of the cover.

- III-4. P.D. Without frame. Roman letters 6.5 mm. high. We have seen this marking struck in black on a cover which travelled from Alexandria to Florence, 16-12-1862. This cover is inscribed Via Trieste, vapore diretto and bears the following markings :- The Austrian circular mark, Type II-2, 16-12, struck in blue; FRANCO, Type III-3, struck in blue, P.D. Type III-4, s truck in black, and the diagonal cross in M.S., in blue. (Mumford).
- III-5. P.D. In frame. Roman letters 6 mm. high, the frame measuring 25 X 9.5 mm., struck in black. We have seen this marking on two covers which travelled from Alexandria to Liverpool and were carried by the Austrian mail. (Byam). see Section VII of this Report under Great Britain.p.158
- III-6. A net of diagonal lines about 2.5 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 uncancelled. 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 -

<u>Type A.</u> Consists of an ellipse measuring 28 X 24 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 I-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 1869 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 - No. 4. - on October 4th 1873. Muller writes :- "These ship post offices had circle cancellations, with the inscription SCHIFFSAMT No. 1 or No. 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 :-

- SCHIFFSAMT No. 1 on the 1863, 1864 and 1867 issues, with the date 1869 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. SCHIFFSAMT No. 2., as before, Three stamps were delivered, two on August 17, 1868 and one on April 20, 1872.
- 3. SCHIFFSPOSTAMT 4, known on the 1867 issue only with the dates 1873 1876, in black. Three stamps were delivered by the engraver to the Post Office, two on November 8th 1872 and one on February 10th 1874.

Forged Postmarks.

In Senf's Katalog for 1921, four forged postmarks are illustrated and described as follows :-

- F.1. Year date generally indistinct. First " E " in Alexandrien has its top horizontal limb pointing upwards instead of being slightly crooked. The circle being 18.5 mm. in diameter instead of 20mm.
- F.2. In this only a portion of the mark appears. Letters are 3 mm. high instead of 3.5 mm. It is without date or with only and 8, 5 or 2.
- F.3. The lettering is rather larger than in the genuine mark.
- F.4. In black. Serif letters altogether different to those in genuine mark and the date is 10-6.



Forged postmarks are found on the 1877 (Fine Whiskers) issue, of which there were large remainders. The 2 soldi yellow of this issue being particularly liable to the forger's attention because it is so rare in genuinely used condition.

Red Postmarks. PLOJESTI in Roumania was the only Austrian Post Office striking a postmark in red and therefore red markings having the names of other towns are bogus. In the Mumford collection there is a copy of the 2 soldi yellow of 1877 issue bearing a forged circular mark in red, the inscription being - ALEXANDRIEN in sans serif caps above and, below, l.N. This Levant stamp was catalogued by Stanley Gibbons in his 1936 catalogue 4d unused; 80/- used. The 25 soldi of the same issue which is catalogued 9d unused; 50/- used, must also be a temptation to the forger of postmarks.

<u>Fraudulent use of genuine postmark</u>. In the Mumford collection is a copy of the 5 piaster on 50 Kr. 1890 - 92 issue with a Type II-4 postmark in black, bearing the date 8-5-00. The Austrian P.O. in Alexandria was closed and this obliterating stamp returned to store in Vienna on 30-9-1889.

VI. POSTAL RATES BETWEEN EGYPT AND AUSTRIA.

(1) <u>By the Austrian Mail Service</u>.

We have no information as to the postal rates which were in force during the pre-adhesive period but, after the introduction of adhesive stamps in 1863, the rate was 15 soldi for single letters (15 grammes weight) between Alexandria and Austria and Austria and Constantinople; and 10 soldi for letters passing between places situated in the Levant, e.g. Alexandria and Candia, Alexandria and Smyrna; etc.

Letters passing between Austria and towns in Egypt (other than Alexandria and Port Said, where there were Austrian P.O.s) were charged an additional I. P.T.equivalent to 10 soldi - for single letters, to defray the Egyptian postage.

The printed circular or newspaper rate between Alexandria and Austria was 4 soldi for 40 grammes weight.

Theses rates are borne out by the following extract from "The Postal Union, its formation and development", a memoir published by the International Post Office on the occasion of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Union, kindly furnished by Mons. Jean Boulad of Ismailia.

"Extrait de "<u>L'UNION POSTALE</u>" sa fondation et son development. Mémoire publié par le Bureau International à l'occasion de la célébration du XXVe de l'Union, 2-5 Juillet 1900.

"..... Avant la mise à l'exécution de la Convention de Bérne, le 1er juillet 1875, la partage du produit des taxes des correspondences entre l'Autriche et l'Egypte qui entretenaient un échange direct de dépeches, s'effectuait sur la base de :

> Lettres, Autriche, 15 Kr. (1½ piastres). Egypte, 10 Kr (1 piastre). par port de 15 grammes. Imprimés, Autriche, 4 Kr. (16 paras). Egypte, 2 Kr. (8 paras). par port de 40 grammes.

(2) By the French Mail Service.

The rate between Austria and Egypt by this service was 1 Franc in 1859.

(3) <u>Registration Rates</u>.

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

VII. MAIL CARRIED BY AUSTRIA FOR OTHER COUNTRIES.

(1) <u>Great Britain</u>.

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 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 (1½ P.T.) postage and 15 soldi registration fee.

(2) <u>Italy</u>.

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 specimen 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.3. 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 pages 141 & 142 to the Convection 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. The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 159.

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

(a) <u>Turkish Route</u>.

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

(b) <u>The Levant Route</u>.

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 :-

 A cover without adhesives from Alexandria to Salonica, 26-1-1863, bearing the Austrian Alexandrien circular mark, Type II-1, in black, Franco in black and, in MS., 15 in blue. On 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).

(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. 23-1, Type II-2, and, in blue, a MS. 15. On the reverse is a Lloyd Agency Constantinople circular mark, 7-12. (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 it 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 16-12-1869, 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 145 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) <u>Greece</u>.

Cover emanating from Port Said bearing the Austrian Porto Said Egypten circular mark, 6-11-69, 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 reverse, a double circle mark in black, illegible. (Mumford).

(5) <u>Red Sea Service</u>.

In 1870 the Lloyd signed and 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) <u>Indian Route</u>.

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. <u>PHILATELIC MATERIAL AVAILABLE</u>.

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.

The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 161.

IX. <u>SOME PROBLEMS AWAITING SOLUTION.</u>

- 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. ?
- 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 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 ?

		PERI	OD OF	USE OF	THE VA	RIOUS PO	OSTAL N	MARKINGS.			
Types.	1850	1855	1860	1865	1870	1875	1880	1885	Earliest <u>date</u> .	<u>Latest date</u> .	
I-1. ALEXANDRIEN 21 JUL			-						21-7-46 1866	17-1-58 1866	The
I-2. ALEXANDRIA I-3. COL VAPORE D'ALESSANDRIA				. _					8-9-55	1862	The Quarterly Circular.
I-4. COL VAP DA ALESS											ly Cir
I-5 COL VAP DA COSPOLI II-1.22 mm. Circle.											cular.
No Year date. II-2.23 mm. Circle.			_		-				20-12-52	28–12–69	Vol.
No Year date. II-3.24 mm. Circle. No Year date.					_				13-3-62 Feb	18-11-67 1869.	II. No.
II-4.20 mm. "Thimble" Year date added.									22-6-73	30-9-89	1
II-5.22 mm. Circle. Year date added.						-			31-8-73	3-2-74	Page 162.
II-6. PORT SAID III-1. Registered marking.									28-8-69	6–11–69	52.
III-6. Dummy.								-	1878		

The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. No. 11. Page 163.

ISSUES ON WHICH THE VARIOUS POSTAL MARKINGS ARE FOUND.

	TYPES.	PRE- STAMP.	AUSTRIAN ITALY. 1863 1864	PRI 1867.		H EMPIR	1888.
I-1.	ALEXANDRIEN - 21 JUL						
I-2.	ALEXANDRIA.			+			
I-3.	COL VAPORE D'ALESSANDRIA			+			
I-4.	COL VAP DA ALESS						
I-5.	COL VAP DA COSPOLI						
II-1.	22 mm. Circle. No Year Date.						
II-2.	23 mm. Circle. No Year Date.						
II-3.	24 mm. Circle. No Year Date.				-		
II-4.	20 mm. Circle. Year Date added. (Thimble)						
II-5.	22 mm. Circle. Year Date added.						
II-6.	Port Said.						
III-1.	REGISTERED MARKING.						
III-6.	DUMMY.						