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Authoritative Expertizing, Since 1970, of the Stamps and Postal History of Egypt and Sudan

I, the undersigned, having carefully and thoroughly examined the following item, submitted to me as

EGYPT - 1910, 5 millèmes rose-carmine 'Fourth Issue' definitive / regular issue stamp (type of January, 1888), on chalk-surfaced paper, a mint, horizontal strip of four examples

**FROM A COIL ROLL PREPARED FOR USE
IN AN AUTOMATIC MACHINE, ITS
SECOND STAMP SHOWING THE VARIETY
'MISSING LOOP TO "P" OF "POSTES"',**

of which an enlarged, color photograph is affixed and embossed to the reverse of this document, I hereby certify that it is

GENUINE IN ALL RESPECTS

Identification: ☉ ☉ Nile Post #D50e / D50ej, variety; Balian #90 / 90b, variety; Zeheri #41c, varieties; Stanley Gibbons #63d, varieties; Scott #48b, varieties. ☉ ☉

Condition: ☉ ☉ Fresh mint, with full, original gum; fully sound, but for vertical crease on first stamp. ☉ ☉

Remarks: ☉ ☉ A 16th March, 1910 letter from the Egyptian Postal Administration to Thomas De La Rue and Company states "This administration has placed at the service of the public an automatic machine for the sale and distribution of postage stamps". In that same letter, a request is made regarding the manufacture of, and cost of, rolls of 500 stamps for use in said machine. Sample rolls of 500 and 1500 coil stamps were sent by De La Rue to Egypt on 8th April, and on 12th May Egypt ordered 500 reels (750,000 units) of the 5 mills coil stamp. No further orders for such coils appear in the De La Rue archives. The rolls were formed by the pasting-up of horizontal strips of ten stamps which had been guillotined from stacked panes of ordinary stamps, with the result that the upper and lower edges of each stamp showed straight-cut perforation tips (in some cases, due to imperfect alignment of the stacked panes, the perforations on one edge of a strip were near-completely cut-away, while on the opposite, parallel edge they were of unusually extended length). Examples of this 5 mills coil stamp are exceedingly elusive. For nearly a century, the existence of only several used examples (including a cover) had been recorded (it is possible that the machine was not placed into service, and that the bulk of the coil stock was destroyed). NO mint examples were known to exist until, in the year 2006, a stamp dealer in Wales purchased a miscellaneous box-accumulation of stamps at a provincial auction. In that box was discovered a very small number of mint coil strips ranging in size from eighteen stamps to three stamps in length. Coincidentally, all had been guillotined from the SAME row of a stacked series of panes (the eighth row of the southeast pane), and several of them contained the variety, 'missing loop of "P"' (position #153 of sheets with control number ⑤), as is clearly visible on the second stamp of the submitted strip, representing positions #152-153-154-155 of the sheet. The 1910 5 millèmes coil stamp is one of the true rarities among the definitive stamp issues of Egypt.

☉ ☉

put in auction
@ Feldman Fall 2014

Charles F. Hass

10th February, 2008

Certificate No. 2008-002

Submitted by Mr. Joseph H. Chalhouh