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

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After a thorough and careful study of the item submitted to me for authentication as EGYPT, 1904 (4th December), picture postcard from Cairo to France, franked by a single 3 mills orange-yellow adhesive (on chalk-surfaced paper), the stamp being

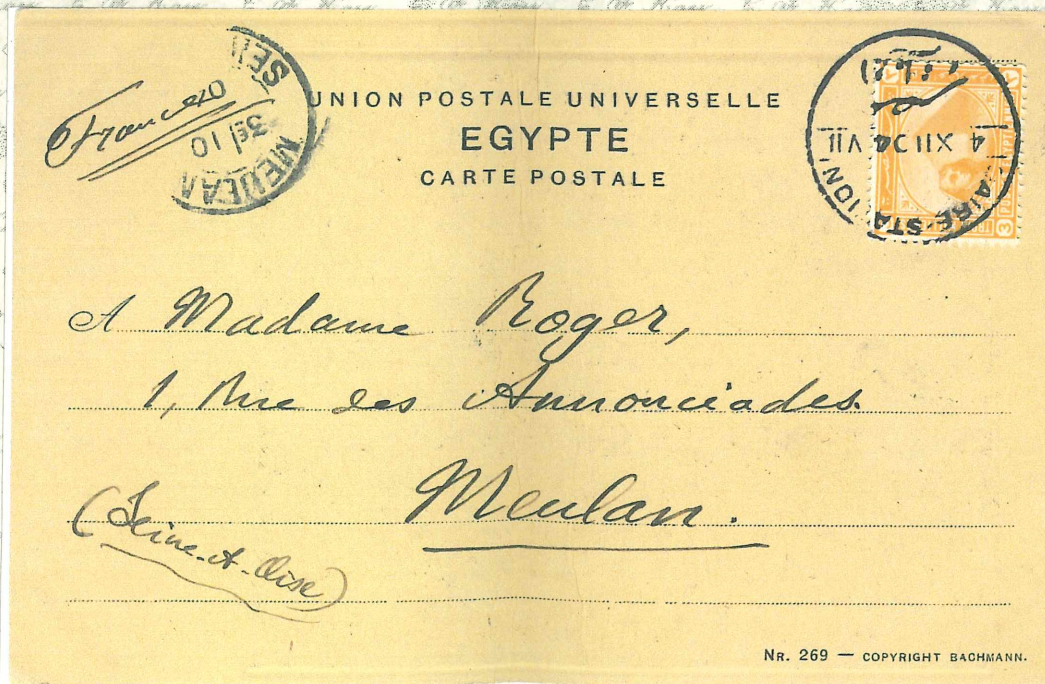
FROM THE 73 MILLS BOOKLET OF 1st JULY, 1903.

Nile Post #D48b (variety, from booklet #SB2); Balian #98b (from booklet #98); Zeheri #39b (variety); Stanley Gibbons #61ab (variety, from booklet #SB2); Scott #46a (variety). An exact-size, color scan of the address side of the postcard is affixed and embossed to the face of this document. A greatly enlarged scan of the 3 mills booklet stamp, as well as an exact-size scan of the view side of the card, are affixed and embossed to the reverse of this document. I hereby certify the item to be

GENUINE IN ALL RESPECTS

The submitted item ... formerly in the collection of the late A John Revell, and illustrated by him in his self-published book, "The Stamp Booklets of Egypt" (1997) ... is franked by a single adhesive from the second stamp booklet to be issued by Egypt. Composed of four panes, each of six 3 mills stamps (totaling 72 mills), the booklet was sold at post offices for 73 mills ... incorporating a "convenience-surcharge" of 1 mill (as was the case for the first, 5 mills booklet). Like its 5m predecessor, the 3m booklet proved somewhat unpopular with the public, most likely as a result of the 1 mill surcharge. Consequently, as directed by a Post Office Circular dated 15th October, 1907, postmasters were directed to explode the remaining 3 mills booklets, and to sell their contents to the public as loose stamps. The booklet's four panes were separated by interleaving of paraffin-waxed paper, and were enclosed between blue card covers with black imprinting. The front cover bore text in English and French: "Egyptian Post Office / This Book contains 24 Three Millieme Stamps / Price: 73 Milliemes" and "Postes Egyptiennes / Carnet de 24 Timbres-poste de 3 Millièmes / Prix: 73 Millièmes". The back cover bore the equivalent Arabic-language text. The booklets were stapled either at their left-hand or right-hand edges (two staples, approximately 125mm in width). Complete examples of this booklet (only several are recorded), and even of the individual panes, are of the greatest rarity. Loose stamps, and stamps on cover or card, are extremely elusive as well. The booklet's degree of rarity is most likely a consequence of the destructive actions resulting from the Post Office Circular. I have applied my "C. F. Hass" authentication mark, in violet, to the view side of the card. cfr.

Charles F. Hass
26th January, 2009



Certificate No. 2009-006 (*©2009)

Submitted by Mr. Joseph H. Chalhoub