

The British Post Office in Suez.

11d. rate cover.



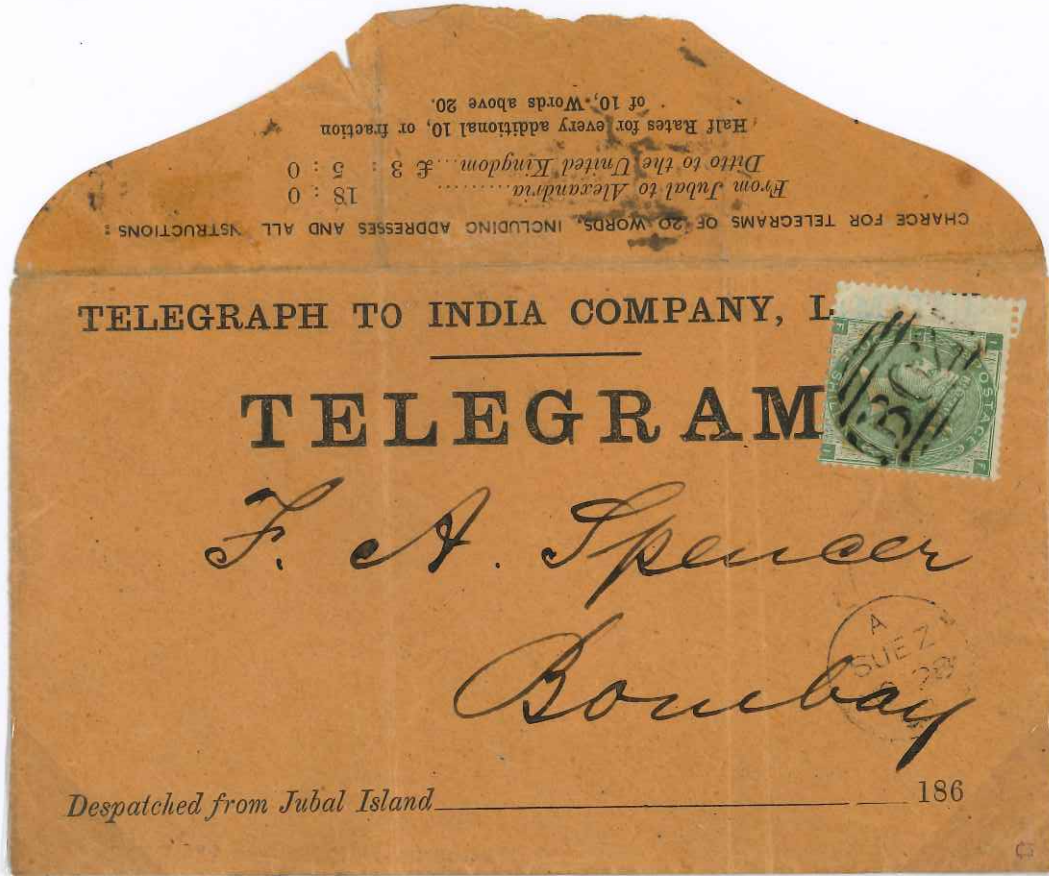
July 29<sup>th</sup> 1870. Ladies envelope used to Hamburg  
franked by Great Britain 1858 1d. red plate 137 and 1867 10d. red brown  
cancelled by 'B02' obliterations of Suez.  
Suez single ring datestamp at right and oval 'PD' (Paid to Destination) marking in red.  
Hamburg arrival (August 11<sup>th</sup>) on reverse.<sup>1</sup>

The 11d. rate is a rarity. The rate to the United Kingdom was adjusted to 8d. per half ounce  
on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1870, plus the additional 3d. for carriage to Hamburg.



**The British Post Office at Suez.**

The British Postal Agent at Suez was first appointed on January 8<sup>th</sup> 1847. It was run by Mr H Levick until August 6<sup>th</sup> 1880. The Office was originally opened at his home and remained based there until 1861 when a new Post office was built due to the opening of the Railway from Alexandria.



November 28<sup>th</sup> 1863. Telegram Envelope prepared for Jubal Island dispatches, used from Suez to Bombay franked by Great Britain 1862 ls. green cancelled by the Suez B02 obliterator with Suez cds alongside. Bombay arrival (December 30<sup>th</sup>) on reverse.

The reverse of the envelope gives to the tariff charged by the India Company Ltd., for Telegrams of twenty words including address and instructions:

*From Jubal to Alexandria.....18 shillings. From Jubal to the United Kingdom.....£3. 5 shillings..*

Telegrams at this date travelled from London to Jubal in an hour.  
From Jubal to India, nearly 30 days.

*This cover is believed to be the earliest known from this well-known correspondence.*

The British Post Office at Alexandria.

8d. Rate Cover from the Cairo Office.



May 5<sup>th</sup> 1871. Cover from Cairo to London endorsed 'Via Brindisi'  
franked by Great Britain pairs of 4d. vermilion plate 12  
cancelled by horizontal four bar B01 obliterator with 'Cairo' datestamp below in blue.  
London arrival dated May 13<sup>th</sup> in black and readdressed locally to Richmond with 1858 1d. red.

The 8d. rate for letters under ½ ounce, via Brindisi, began on December 16<sup>th</sup> 1870.

Cairo used the "B01" obliterator also-however these can only be designated  
when on large piece or cover showing the Cairo British Post Office datestamp.



Great Britain 4d. vermilion  
Plate 7  
cancelled by Alexandria / Cairo B01  
obliterator.

The British Post Office at Suez.

8d Rate Cover.



December 1<sup>st</sup> 1872. Mourning cover to Edinburgh via Brindisi  
franked by pair of Great Britain 1865 4d. vermilion, plate 12 cancelled 'B02' obliterator  
with Suez datestamp alongside. Arrived Edinburgh December 20<sup>th</sup>.

The 8d rate for letters under ½ ounce was introduced for mail by British or French Packet on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1870.



Great Britain 1865 4d. vermilion, plate 12 pair  
cancelled 'B02' obliterator of Suez.

## *The General Gordon Relief Expedition.*

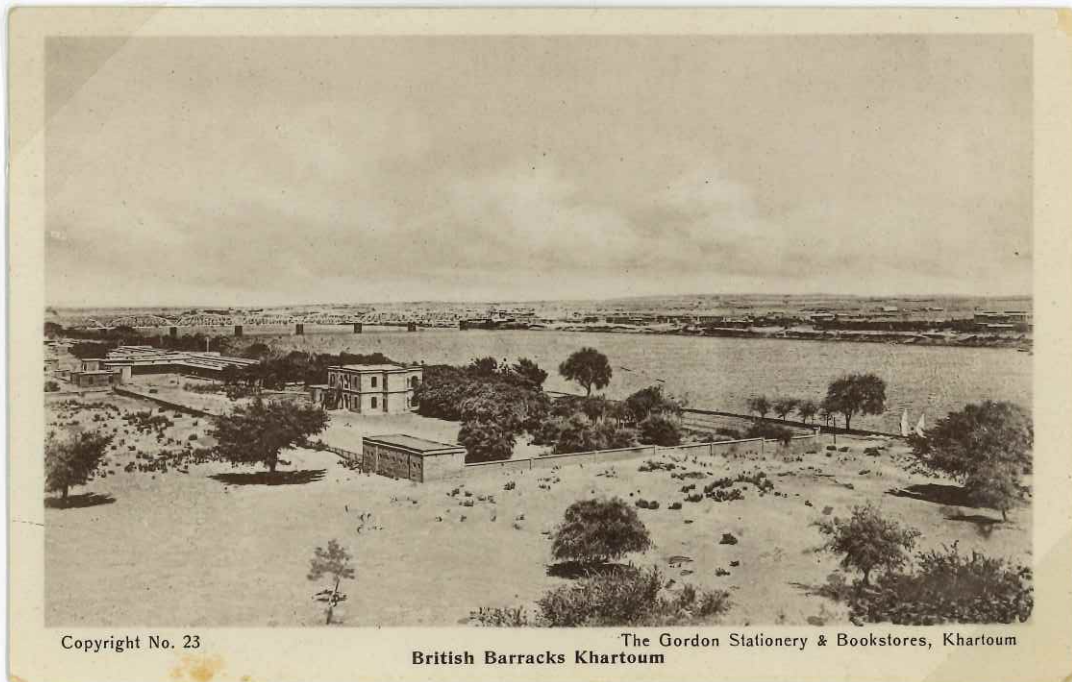
British Army Post Office.

Indian Forces.

*Indian Troops were almost the first to arrive at Suakim,  
and their stamps too were valid for use on Soldier's and Sailor's letters,  
although they are much rarer than the Great Britain usages.*



May 7<sup>th</sup> 1885. India 1882 issue 3 anna orange pair  
cancelled by 'British Army Post Office-Egypt'  
code A datestamps.



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The Gordon Stationery & Bookstores, Khartoum  
British Barracks Khartoum

**The British Post Office at Alexandria.**

8d. Rate Cover.



January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1872. Cover to London endorsed 'Via Brindisi'  
franked by Great Britain pair of 4d. vermilion plate 12  
cancelled by vertical four bar B01 obliterator with Alexandria datestamp below.  
London arrival dated January 29<sup>th</sup> in red.

The 8d. rate for letters under ½ ounce, via Brindisi, began on December 16<sup>th</sup> 1870.



Two pairs of 4d. vermilion  
Plate 13 and Plate 14,  
each cancelled by Alexandria B01  
obliterators.

The British Post Office at Suez.

2½d Rate Cover.



February 21<sup>st</sup> 1876. Cover to Henley on Thames endorsed 'Via Marseille'  
franked by three Great Britain 1d. red, two from plate 185 and one from plate 168,  
cancelled by B02 obliterator with Suez datestamp alongside.

The cover represents an over-payment of ½d on the 2½d. under ½ ounce via Marseilles  
rate introduced on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1876.

*The British Post Office in Suez.*

Great Britain used with B02 cancels.



1865-73. Great Britain 4d vermilion,  
Plate 12.



1865-73. 4d vermilion, Plate 13.



1865-73. 4d vermilion, Plate 14.



1875. 2½d rosy mauve, white paper,  
Plate 1.



The British Post Office at Suez.

6d. Rate Covers.



April 17<sup>th</sup> 1864. Cover to Sheffield with Great Britain 1862 6d. lilac cancelled B02 obliterator in black with blue Suez datestamp alongside. Arrived in Sheffield April 28<sup>th</sup>.

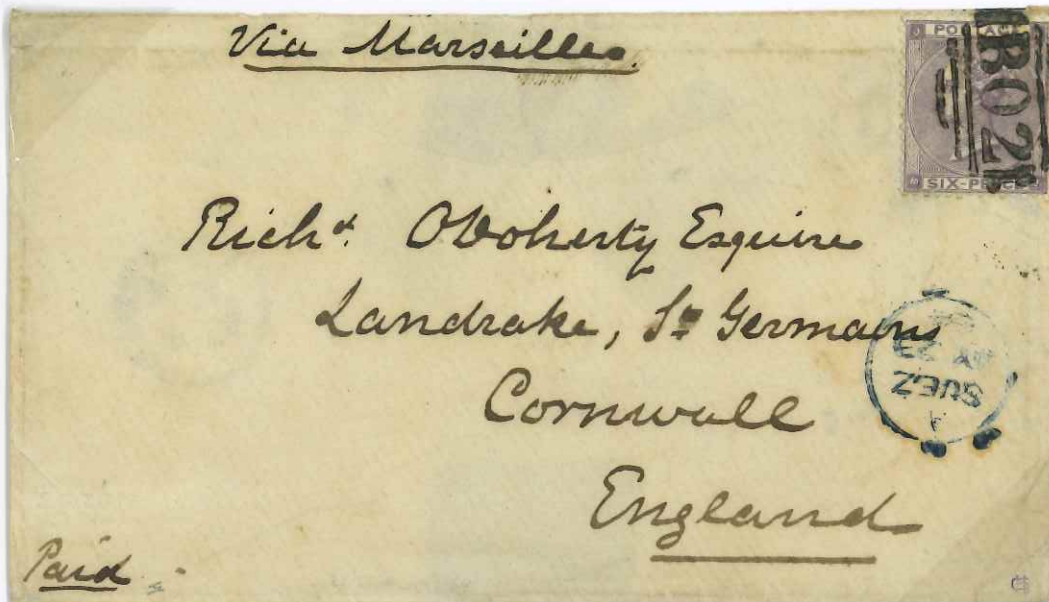
6d. was the under ½ ounce rate for mail via Southampton or by British Packet.



January 16<sup>th</sup> 1872. Cover to Naval Outfitters in Portsea, Hampshire endorsed 'Via Southampton' with Great Britain 1870 6d. mauve plate 9 cancelled by B02 obliterator with black Suez datestamp alongside. Arrived at Portsmouth on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

The British Post Office at Suez.

6d Rate Cover.



May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1864. Cover to St.Germans, Cornwall endorsed 'Via Marseille'  
franked by Great Britain 1862 6d. lilac tied by B02 obliterator with Suez datestamp in blue below.  
St.Germans arrival on reverse dated June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The 6d rate for letters under  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce via Marseille  
by French Packet was introduced on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1857,  
and by British Packet on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1863.

The British Post Office at Alexandria.

1s. Rate Cover.



June 25<sup>th</sup> 1870. Cover to London endorsed 'Via Brindisi'  
franked by single Great Britain 1869 6d. mauve plate 8 cancelled B01 obliterator  
with Alexandria datestamp below in black.

Handstamped with unframed 'INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID' applied in the British PO in Alexandria  
and 'MORE TO PAY' on arrival in London on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The rate via Brindisi at this date was 1s. brought into effect on October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1869.  
The confusion for the sender probably arose due to the Sea Rate via Southampton or Falmouth  
being 6d. at this time.

However, the letter was found to be over ½ ounce and annotated '2' for double rate.

The amount of 2s. was charged to the addressee on delivery in London:  
1s.-double the original deficiency of 6d. and a further 1s. for the second ½ ounce.

The Insufficiently prepaid mark was sent from London on September 12<sup>th</sup> 1867.

## The Arabi Rebellion.

### The British Army Post Office.

The British Army's Post Office Corps was established during this Campaign, a decree dated July 15<sup>th</sup> and signed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> by Hugh Childers, Secretary of War and Queen Victoria led to the formation of the Corps and provided cheaper postage for those serving in the Field with the Armed Forces.



Great Britain 1870 1d. lilac  
cancelled by the  
'British Army Post Office-Egypt'  
code A datestamp of September 11<sup>th</sup> 1882.

1d. was the Soldier's concession rate,  
this stamp being used  
just after the Battle of Kassassin and two  
days prior to Tel-El-Kibir.



October 8<sup>th</sup> 1882. Cover to Plymouth from Cairo.  
Probably mailed at ½d. over-payment of the concessionary Officer's rate of 2½d,  
with three Great Britain 1870 1d. lilac tied by domestic Cairo datestamps.  
Plymouth arrival on reverse of October 18<sup>th</sup>.

The build-up of Military Forces in Egypt had begun in earnest by this time, it is interesting to note that the Civilian and Military Post Offices were so closely allied and accepted each other's stamps for pre-payment of postage.

*The Arabi Rebellion.*

The British Army Post Office.



Great Britain 1883 2½d. lilac  
cancelled by the  
'British Army Post Office-Egypt'  
code A datestamp of April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1885.

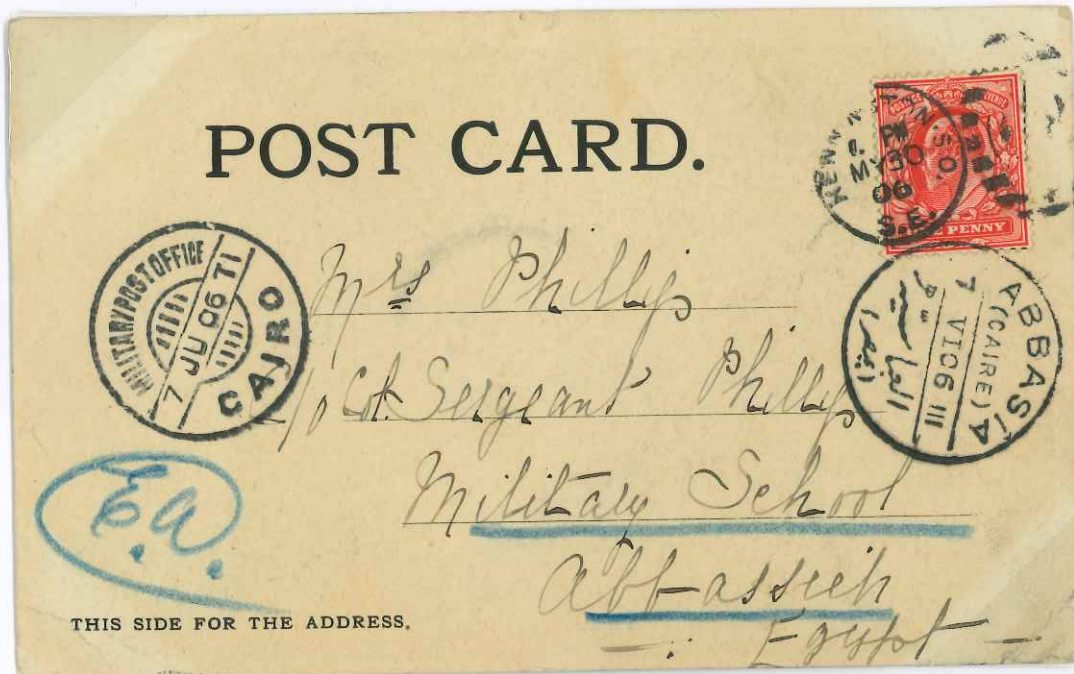


Great Britain 1883 5d. dull green  
cancelled by the  
'British Army Post Office'  
code C datestamp.

## 1906. British Forces in Egypt.

Due to the strategic importance of Egypt, Great Britain kept a large  
Military force based there.

This included a Military School.



May 30<sup>th</sup> 1906. Postcard from Kennington, London with 1902 1d. red  
used to the Military School, Abbasia, Cairo.

On arrival cancelled at Abbasia and by MILITARY POST OFFICE-CAIRO datestamps.

## The British Post Office at Alexandria.

The British Post Office was opened in Alexandria by Anthony Trollope in 1858,  
the Postal Treaty having been signed on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

The B01 obliterator was sent from London on August 8<sup>h</sup> 1859.



Great Britain 1862-64 3d. deep carmine rose.



Piece bearing 1864 1d red. plate 129 pair  
and 1869 6d. mauve, plate 8.



1870 4d. vermilion, plate 12.



1873-74 6d. grey, plate 12.



1867 5s. rose, plate 2.



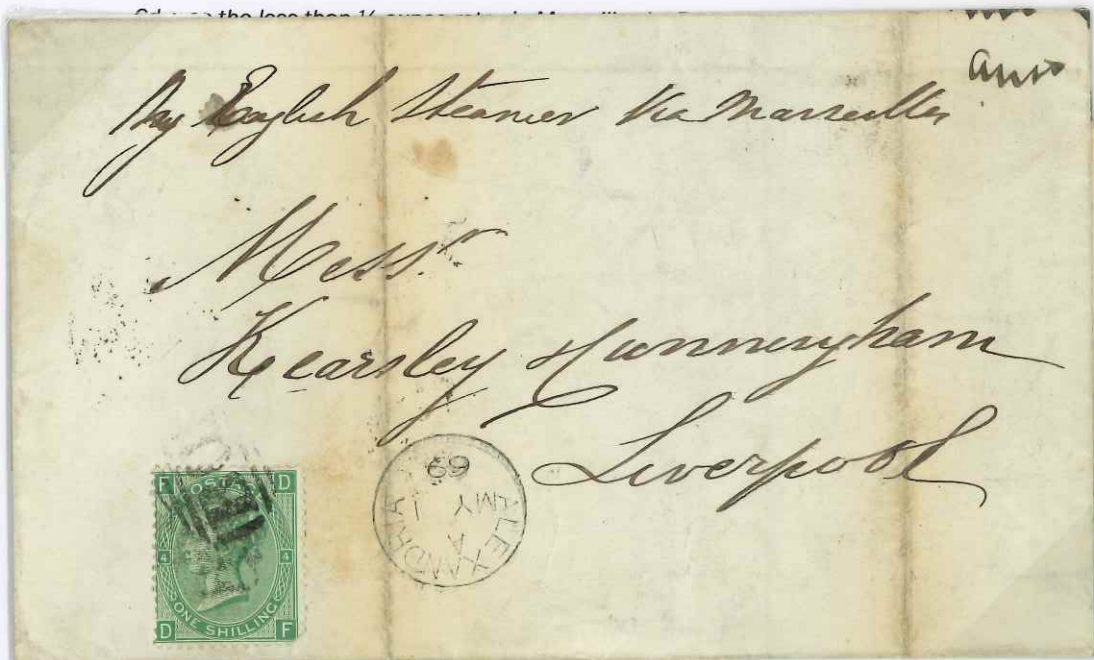
1867 2s. deep blue, plate 1.

The British Post Office at Alexandria.

6d. Rate Covers.



December 9<sup>th</sup> 1869. Cover to Liverpool endorsed 'By French Steamer via Marseille'  
franked by Great Britain 1868 6d. bright violet, plate 6 cancelled B01 obliterator.  
Alexandria datestamp alongside and arrival (December 19<sup>th</sup>) at Liverpool.



May 1<sup>st</sup> 1869. Cover from the same correspondence to Liverpool  
endorsed 'By English Steamer via Marseille' carried at double rate (above ½ ounce) of 1s.  
franked by Great Britain 1867 1s. green plate 4, cancelled B01 obliterator.  
Arrived at Liverpool on May 9<sup>th</sup>.