3/1996

Suez Canal Forgeries.

Paper given to Royal Philatelic Society, London By Peter Bottrill 15th February 1996.

Frame 1.

Genuine stamps for comparison.
The service was due to start 1.7.1868 but the stamps did not arrive from the printers until 9.7. Earliest recorded usage is 14.7.68. The stamps were designed to pay postage within the area under the control of the Company. The service had been free up to then.
Row 1.
Presentation set given to Giacomo Muzzi Bey "Founder " of the Egyptian Post Office.
20c value used to explain the issues printing and colour variations.

Row 2.
The four values and their types (Illustrations by Mackenzie Low). The 20c value here is in the Prussian Blue shade, which is totally differant and quite scarce. Its existance is unexplained.

Row 3.
The watermark and various cancellations. Pen cancels, the Ismailia Retta type. Suez in an oval.

Frame *2.*

Row 1.
Genuine Stamps - Genuine and forged cancels.
French Post Office 5129 in dots Port Said. Cds V.R. Poste Egiziane forged
Forged Cancels by A.Venturini and E.Oneglia. Covers by Mousafe Ibrahim Bey.

Row 2.
Cover showing use of the Companys' Kantara handstamp to secure the letter. 2 recorded.
Chantier VI. This was a signalling station on the Canal, and was one of the offices which were taken over by the Egyptian Postal Authority.
The Lineage of Forgeries. This is designed to show the inspiration / source of forgeries.
J.B.Moens Timbres D'Egypt et de la Compagnie de Suez 1880 book and some of its results.

Row 3.
Classification of Suez Forgeries Historically.
Classification of Suez Forgeries in this exhibit, and the reasons.

Frame 3.

Philatelist Forgery. Page 86 of the Spud Papers June 1872. Earliest dateable forgery.
Spiros' Forgery. Typical 5x5 sheet format. Types ABABA.
One Type Fogery. Sheet format 12x10. One type only.

Note: For this exhibit, deliniation as a seperate forgery depends on sheet format and typing.

Frame 4.

Founders' Forgery.
There has historically been confusion as to what is and what is not Fourniers' work.
His price lists had two sections, First Choice and Second Choice. He claims First

Choice were produced by his company and "are obtained through a new procedure and drawnone after one carefully on plates" This matches Founders' Forgery as the sheet format of 6x6 has 36 plateable positions apparantly laid down signally.

FAUX This handstamp is found on items in the L'Union Philatelique de Geneve Albums of 1928. Thus other forgeries marked FAUX have been attributed to Fournier. However these appeared in Second Choice and for items in this section Fournier was acting as a purveyor.
Row 1
Fourniers' Forgery.
Fournier,Fhol and Spiro Forgeries handstamped FAUX.

Row 2 and 3.
3 Type Forgery. So named as each value has 3 types.Sheet format 12x10.
Type formats vay between values. Note the Repair to the 5c value.
There appear to be 2 types of paper used for this forgery.

Frame 5.

Fhols' Forgrey Double paned.no interpanneau pairs known. Sheet format 5x10 Type format 5 types in vertical columns. Plating varities differ on the left and right hand sheets.
Attributed by Varo Tyler.
This and Founiers' Forgery are much better described as Fantasy as the are drawings based on the original design.
Lithographic Forgery/Fantasy.
So named because there is another forgery based on this creation which was produced by typography. Sheet format 12x10. Type Format 5 types in horizontal lines repeated on the lower half of the sheet. Bogus Cancels and their sources.
Broadway Approvals Facsimile. Also showing "For Centenary Year" ammendment.

Frame 6.

Saatjians' Forgery.
Usually known as the Reprint Forgery, this is the most dangerous of the forgeries, it is the most prolific but is easy to determine. The printing is flat and dull (as of a watercolour) whereas the genuine is bright and thicker(as of an oil painting), Paper is very thin and white compared to the original and the gum is clear,smooth and shiney. Original gum is brown, thick and crackled.

Mackenzie Low Forgery. So named as 'discovered' by him. Note the 20c value.

Typographic Forgery.	So named as it is a typographic version of the Lythographic Forgery.
PS89 Forgery	So named because of its cancel. However I have since seen Saatjians' Forgery with this cancel, and two of these have a cancel usually found on Saatjians'.
Solid Smoke Forgery.	So named because of the way the smoke is designed.
Art paper Forgery.	So named because of the paper used. Germany 1908 possibly.
10c Black Forgery.	So named the 10c Black is an error for the 1 c in one of the two versions. The differances lie in the hand drawn/formality of the value figures, an the shading in the ornaments.

Thin Letters Forgery. So named as although it is of the Spiro Type the letters are differant.

Various Unidentified Forgeries. In most of these only single items have been seen.

Conclusion.

There is still work to be done in this field and it is the lack of material that is the problem.