362 Corinphila Stamp Auction
26 November 2025, 10:30 h

FOREIGN POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT

The Sawaya Collection (part II)

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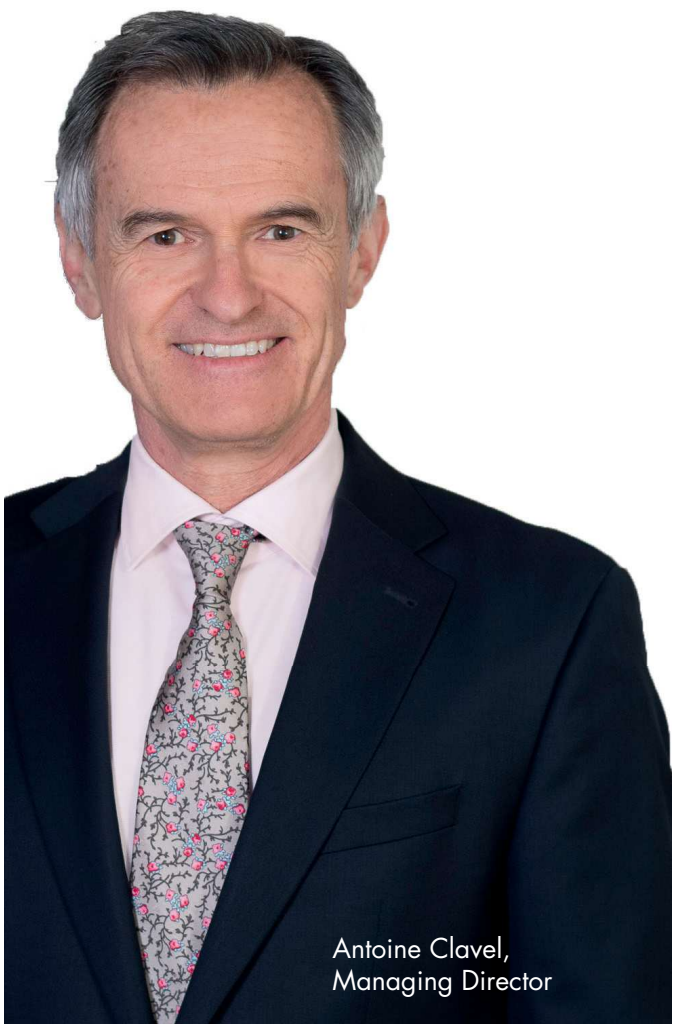

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FOREIGN POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT
THE SAWAYA COLLECTION (PART II)

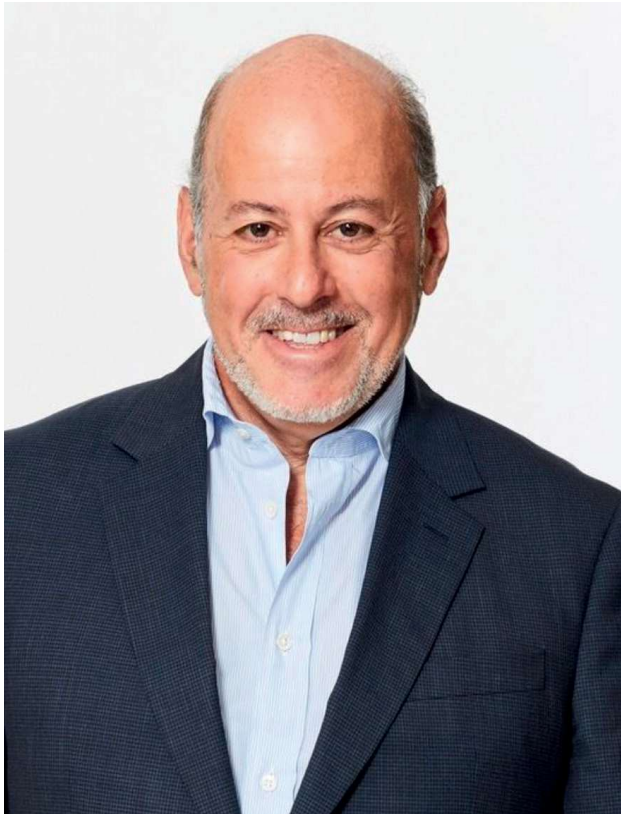
Fuad Sawaya currently serves as Vice Chairman and Global Head of Consumer Investment Banking at Canaccord Genuity, a globally renowned full-service investment bank. With over three decades of passion, energy, and industry experiences, Fuad has been instrumental in guiding some of the most respected Consumer Branded companies in the US and abroad. His strategic insights have enabled public companies, private equity portfolios, and family businesses to achieve their long-term value creation strategies.

Inspired by visionaries like Steve Jobs, Fuad established Sawaya Partners in September 2001. Recognizing the need to differentiate as a boutique firm amidst a sea of large investment banks, he embodied Jobs' mantra to „think different." Fuad advocated a business model that prioritized building deep, long-term relationships over mere transactional interactions, thus fostering a trust-driven environment anchored in integrity and dedicated service. He also understood the importance of fostering a collaborative and nurturing corporate culture, one that promotes employee well-being and professional growth without compromising on integrity, expertise, and trust.

This philosophy gave birth to the ‚Invested Banking' ethos, a cornerstone of Sawaya Partners' brand identity. As a strong believer in the power of empathetic leadership, Fuad places equal value on emotional intelligence and professional competencies, fostering an environment where each team member feels seen, heard, and valued. His leadership philosophy stems from the belief that a team's success is built on the collective strengths of its individuals.

Under Fuad's leadership, Sawaya Partners – now rebranded as CG Sawaya Partners – has emerged as a trusted advisor to esteemed clients, including Johnson & Johnson, Bayer AG, Prestige Consumer Healthcare, Groupe SEB, and Conair. Fuad is a sought-after speaker at Consumer Healthcare conferences across the U.S. and Europe.

Before launching Sawaya Partners, Fuad led JP Morgan's Middle Market Consumer Products Group and PaineWebber, Inc's Consumer Products Investment Banking Group. Outside his professional endeavors, Fuad leads a dynamic lifestyle, having participated in activities ranging from running marathons and completing triathlons, to racing cars across Europe. He is also a licensed private pilot and has a keen interest in Middle Eastern postal history.



Fuad Sawaya

For the past 40 years, Fuad has channeled his passion for stamp and postal history collecting as a way to preserve and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Lebanon and the Middle East. Since moving to the United States from Lebanon in 1984, he has viewed his collection as more than a hobby – it is a bridge to the past, a reminder of the beauty and history of a region often overshadowed by the news of conflict. Through his collection, Fuad finds a deeper connection to the history of Lebanon, a land marked by the passage of many foreign powers, and a source of pride that contrasts the narratives of destruction with one of enduring richness and cultural significance.

In addition to his professional and personal pursuits, Fuad is an accomplished triathlete, having completed multiple half Ironman and marathon races. His passion for speed extends beyond athletic activities, as he is also a race car driver, frequently racing across Europe. Coupled with his achievements in endurance sports, Fuad is a licensed private pilot, reflecting his lifelong drive for excellence and adventure in all areas of life.

Above all, Fuad is the proud father of two young men, Philippe and Alex, and cherishes the time spent with his family and two dogs. Fuad, a proud alumnus (class of ,79), holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the American University of Beirut and an M.B.A. from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business. Currently, he contributes his expertise as a member of the Advisory Boards of the Chazen Institute at Columbia Business School and SEAL of Lebanon.

ON THE WAY TO DAMASCUS

In the 1830s the ancient silk road was still an important commercial trade route from Central Asia to Europe. The classical region of Syria - comprising Syria proper and Lebanon - was a major hub for the trade between East and West. Corinphila is selling in three auctions the peerless collection of Fuad Sawaya from New York who has acquired in the last 30 years all the key pieces to document this unique trading position of Syria. This presentation will focus on mail to and from Damascus and 'its harbour' Beirut with Damascus being one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, a major cultural centre of the Arab world. The article will give a brief survey how and when the Western powers, in particular Austria, France, Russia, and Great Britain used shipping and consular postal services to put their feet into this booming market and to promote the commercial success of their citizens. Even after the establishment of the Suez Canal route in 1869, the prominent mail traffic via Syria showed its importance for trade with the East.

The 1830s have been a moved decade for Syria. Muhammad Ali Pasha of Egypt attempted to modernize Egypt by instituting dramatic reforms in the military, economic and cultural spheres. Militarily, he waged war against the sultan and captured Syria bringing fresh wind in the trade opportunities there. The British had to reorganize their activity in the Levant when the Ottoman provinces of Adana and Syria had become part of Egypt, and Ibrahim Pasha of Egypt became governor-general of the two provinces. In 1835 the British Consul-General for Syria, Mr. John William Perry Farren was maintaining a Dromedary Post between Damascus and Al Heet in the south of the country, and a communication by post between Damascus and Beirut

***British Courier Post from Damascus to Beirut 1835**: Second sheet of entire letter from Mr. Jean-Baptiste Baudin, the French agent consulaire in Damascus directed to the Consul de France in Acre, at that time in Beirut, using a postal service organized by the British consul-general in Damascus, the cover struck by crisp bilingual intaglio „DAMASCUS POST BRIT. CON. GEN. SYRIA / Poste Consulaire Générale Anglaise du Pays de Sham" seal with Sham being the Ottoman name of Damascus. An immaculate strike of this extremely rare handstamp.*

The first foreign shipping company which showed presence in Beirut was the Austrian DDSG which was originally founded to provide transport and postal services on the Danube and some of its tributary rivers. However, already in the 1830s it extended its services far beyond that river into the Black Sea and even into the Marmara and Aegean Seas. With a first journey on 1 June 1839, the vessel 'Seri Pervas' was running the line from Smyrna down to Alexandretta, from August 1839 further via Beirut & Jaffa down to Alexandria.

*Austrian **DDSG P.O. in Beirut**, Ingoing 1840 (March 27): Entire letter from Smyrna to Beirut, struck by a double-circle "D.D.S.G. / SMYRNE / P.P." handstamp in black, applied on the DDSG shipping line Smyrna - Beirut - Alexandria, slit disinfected. A most interesting entire of the short-lived Syrian line of the DDSG.*

But already in July 1840 during the second Egyptian - Ottoman War and finally with a severe accident of the 'Seri Pervas' the history of this line found its end. In 1845 all DDSG agencies outside the Danube were taken over by the Austrian Lloyd, the two companies were dividing 'the world of shipmail' between themselves.

The first **French Post Office** in Beirut must have been opened at about 1845 after Syria came back under Ottoman control. Beirut became the main French harbour in Syria.

French Post Office in Beirut 1869 (Dec 13): Double rate Registered Envelope to Paris, bearing 1867 Napoléon laureated 40 c. orange anda 80 c. rose, "BEYROUTH SYRIE" despatch cds in black, CHARGÉ and framed PD in black alongside. A rare, registered cover from the French Levant.

Due to economic problems, it took a full decade until the **Austrian Lloyd** ran its own Syrian coast shipping line aside the direct one to Alexandria. Beirut became the main harbour of the Lloyd in the eastern Mediterranean.

*Austrian Lloyd Agency in Beirut 1865 (May 3): Letter sheet from Beirut to Trieste, bearing Austrian 1864 **Arms 5 kreuzer rose and 15 kreuzer brown**, both perf. 9½ tied by clear "BERUTTI 3 / 5" cds in black, reverse with oval "TRIEST 22 / 5" arrival datestamp in black. An appealing cover with its exceptional franking, an astonishing usage of the Kreuzer values from Beirut. Ex Jerger.*

After the lost Crimean war, the **Russian ROPiT** was founded in 1857 to establish a Russian shipmail company which should compete with the Austrian Lloyd and the French Messageries impériales in the Black and Mediterranean Sea. A Russian Post at Beirut was established directly thereafter and it became the major port on the Syrian coast.

Russian P.O. in Beirut, Ingoing 1865 (April 8): Entire letter from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Beirut, bearing fine and fresh 1865 2 pia. blue & red, tied upon arrival by rhomboid numeral '783' of Beirut in blue, reverse with „PORT ALEXANDRETTA" transit cds in black (Tchilinghirian fig. 799) on reverse. Ex Liphschutz & Cihangir

A **British postal** agency was opened in Beirut on 20 March 1873 and the 'G06' obliterator used there. Combination frankings with French or Italian adhesives occur as mail could go via the British packet to Alexandria and then by either French, Italian or British packets to Europe.

*British Post Office in Beirut 1874 (Aug 13): **Combination cover** from Beirut to Lyon bearing Great Britain 1865 4 d. vermilion pl. 13 tied by bold 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (Aug 13) paying double rate to Alexandria and France Cérès 1871/75 80 c. carmine in a horizontal pair tied by Gros Chiffres '5080' numeral in black with „ALEXANDRIE / EGYPTE" datestamp in black (Aug 17). Struck with framed "AFFRANCHISEMENT / INSUFFISANT" in black at left and charged due at ‚14' décimes in manuscript. Reverse with ‚Marseille à Lyon' ambulant and LYON arrival cds's (Aug 25). A famous and magnificent cover. In his 2000 census, Alexander Kaczmarczyk noted 32 covers with combination frankings of Great Britain and France between September 1873 and October 1876. Ex collections Danson, Bollen, Cihangir & Dubois.*

Under the authority of the British Vice-consul at Beirut, who was also the Postmaster, two sheets totalling 480 stamps of the 2d. value overprinted LEVANT were provisionally surcharged '1 Piastre'. The surcharging was done at The American Press under the supervision of Mr. Fryer, who was an American and a director of The Press, and an Englishman named Glockler who was the manager of the printing department.

*British Post Office in Beirut 1906 (July 3): Registered Envelope from Beirut to Forest Hill London, forwarded to Folkstone, bearing **1906 Beyrouth Provisional** 1 pi. on 2 d. in a block of four, cancelled by central strike of oval „REGISTERED / BEYROUT" datestamp registration handstamp and two FOREST HILL datestamps alongside. Three London Registered datestamps as well as FOLKSTONE arrival cds on reverse (July 16). Small cover faults, fine and extremely rare with a total print run of only 480 stamps, multiples are therefore elusive.*

Antoine Clavel
Managing Director

Jonas Hällström RDP
Managing Director

Thomas Berger
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Das Corinphila Forum – Folge 31

Michael Maassen AVIJP
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Damaskus und Beirut

Ausländische Postämter in der Levante (Teil 2). Damas et Beyrouth — Les bureaux de poste étrangers au Levant (partie 2).

Bereits in SBZ 9|2024 wurde der besondere Reiz des als «Levante» bekannten Sammelgebietes, seine postgeschichtliche und historische Bedeutung in Zusammenhang mit der einmaligen «Sawaya-Kollektion» erstmals vorgestellt. Le n° 9|2024 du JPhS présentait pour la première fois l'attrait particulier de la région de collection connue sous le nom de « Levante », son importance post-historique et historique en lien avec l'unique « collection Sawaya ».

Abb. 1: Historische Ansicht von Damaskus, ca. 1840. Stahlstich von John Rogers nach William Henry Bartlett (1809-1854). Vue historique de Damas, vers 1840. Gravure sur acier de John Rogers d'après William Henry Bartlet.

In den 1830er-Jahren war die alte Seidenstrasse noch immer eine wichtige Handelsroute von Zentralasien nach Europa. Die klassische Region Syrien – bestehend aus Syrien selbst und dem Libanon – war ein wichtiger Knotenpunkt für den Handel zwischen Ost und West. Die unvergleichliche Sammlung von Fuad Sawaya aus New York dokumentiert diese einzigartige Handelsposition Syriens und lässt mit Briefen und Belegen die Postgeschichte der Levante lebendig werden.

In diesem Beitrag soll der Blick auf Postsendungen von und nach Damaskus, die Hauptstadt Syriens, und dessen «Hafen» Beirut gerichtet werden, das aus verschiedenster Hinsicht von besonderer Bedeutung war. Damaskus ist heute noch eine der ältesten kontinuierlich bewohnten Städte und ein wichtiges kulturelles Zentrum der arabischen Welt. Dies nutzten die westlichen Mächte, insbesondere Österreich, Frankreich, Russland und Grossbritannien, welche allesamt wirtschaftliche Interessen verfolgten und in der Region die Schifffahrt und konsularische Postdienste nutzten. Selbst nach der Eröffnung der Suezkanalroute im Jahr 1869 blieb der Postverkehr über Syrien für den Handel mit dem Osten weiterhin von grosser Bedeutung.

Die 1830er-Jahre waren für Syrien ein bewegtes Jahrzehnt. Muhammad Ali Pascha von Ägypten versuchte, das Land durch drastische Reformen im militärischen, wirtschaftlichen und

Abb. 2: Britische Kurierpost von Damaskus nach Beirut 1835 des britischen Generalkonsuls John William Perry Farren in Syrien an den französischen Konsul in Akko, der sich zu dieser Zeit in Beirut aufhielt. Gestempelt mit dem äusserst seltenen zweisprachigen Handstempel «DAMASCUS POST BRIT. CON. GEN. SYRIA».

Courrier britannique de Damas à Beyrouth en 1835, envoyé par le consul général britannique John William Perry Farren en Syrie au consul français à Acre, qui séjournait à Beyrouth à cette époque. Cacheté du tampon manuscrit bilingue extrêmement rare «DAMASCUS POST BRIT. CON. GEN. SYRIA».

Facsimile from Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung, Year 2025, Issue 10.

kulturellen Bereich zu modernisieren. Er führte Krieg gegen den Sultan und eroberte Syrien, was verschiedenste Veränderungen für den Handel in dieser Region mit sich brachte.

Die Briten mussten ihre Aktivitäten in der Levante neu organisieren, als die osmanischen Provinzen Adana und Syrien Teil Ägyptens wurden und Ibrahim Pascha von Ägypten neuer Generalgouverneur der beiden Provinzen wurde. Im Jahr 1835 unterhielt der britische Generalkonsul für Syrien, John William Perry Farren, eine Dromedar-Post zwischen Damaskus und Al Heet im Süden des Landes sowie eine Postverbindung zwischen Damaskus und Beirut.

Konkurrenz auf den Meeren

Die erste ausländische Reederei, die in Beirut präsent war, war die österreichische Donau Dampfschiffahrtsgesellschaft (DDSG). Diese war ursprünglich gegründet worden, um Transport- und Postdienste auf der Donau und einigen ihrer Nebenflüsse anzubieten. Bereits in den 1830er-Jahren dehnte sie ihre Dienste jedoch weit über diesen Fluss hinaus bis zum Schwarzen Meer und sogar bis zum Marmarameer und zur Ägäis aus. Mit einer ersten Reise am 1. Juni 1839 befuhr das Schiff «Seri Pervas» die Strecke von Smyrna nach Alexandretta, ab August 1839 weiter über Beirut und Jaffa bis nach Alexandria. Doch bereits im Juli 1840, während des zweiten ägyptisch-osmanischen Krieges und schliesslich mit einem schweren Schiffsunglück der «Seri Pervas», fand die Geschichte dieser Linie ihr Ende. Im Jahr 1845 wurden alle DDSG-Agenturen ausserhalb der Donau vom Österreichischen Lloyd übernommen. Die beiden Unternehmen teilten sich die «Welt der Schiffspost» untereinander auf.

Das erste französische Postamt in Beirut muss um 1845 eröffnet worden sein, nachdem Syrien wieder unter osmanische Kontrolle gekommen

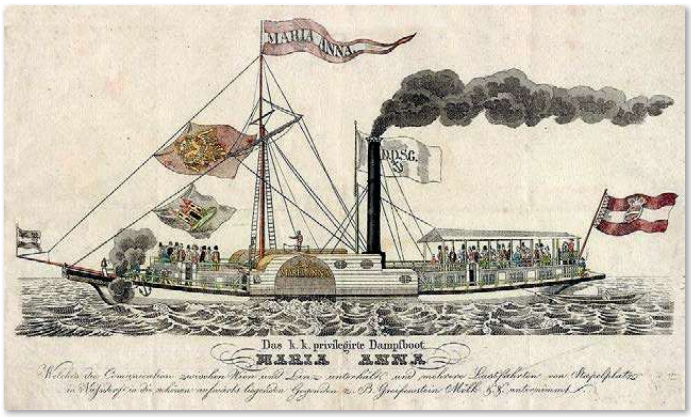


Abb 3: Kolorierte Ansicht des k.k. privilegierten Dampfschiffs «Kaiserin Maria Anna» aus dem Jahr 1837 der Donau Dampfschiffahrtsgesellschaft (DDSG).
Vue colorisée du bateau à vapeur impérial et royal privilégié «Kaiserin Maria Anna» datant de 1837 et appartenant à la Donau Dampfschiffahrtsgesellschaft (DDSG, compagnie de navigation à vapeur du Danube).

Abb. 4: Österreichischer Lloyd, Agentur in Beirut 13.11.1867: Briefumschlag von Beirut nach Florenz, Italien, mit attraktiver, seltener Dreifarben-Frankatur der Wappenausgabe.

Abb. 4: Lloyd autrichien, agence à Beyrouth en 1867 (13 novembre): enveloppe de Beyrouth à Florence, Italie, avec une affranchissement attrayant et rare en trois couleurs de l'émission «Wappenausgabe» (armoiries).

Abb. 5 : Lloyd autrichien à Beyrouth, 1869 (29 avril) : autre lettre avec combinaison décorative de quatre couleurs, acheminée vers la Suisse.

Abb. 5: Österreichischer Lloyd in Beirut, 1869 (29. April): Weiterer Brief mit dekorativer Frankaturkombination in vier Farben, gelaufen in die Schweiz.

Facsimile from Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung, Year 2025, Issue 10.

Abb. 6: Russische Post in Beirut, Incoming Mail aus dem Jahr 1868 (8. März): Brief (vermutlich aus Mersina) nach Beirut, auf der Rückseite mit einem vertikalen Block von 8 Briefmarken der Ausgabe von 1866 zu 10 Pa. in Rosa, entwertet mit blauem Stempel «PORT BEIRUT». Die grösste bekannte Einheit dieser Marke auf Brief, ein Ausstellungsstück von höchster Qualität.

war. Beirut wurde zum wichtigsten französischen Hafen in Syrien. Aufgrund wirtschaftlicher Probleme dauerte es ein ganzes Jahrzehnt, bis der Österreichische Lloyd neben der direkten Verbindung nach Alexandria eine eigene syrische Küstenschifffahrtslinie betrieb. Beirut wurde zum wichtigsten Hafen des Lloyd im östlichen Mittelmeerraum.

Nach dem verlorenen Krimkrieg wurde 1857 die russische ROPiT gegründet, um eine russische Schiffspostgesellschaft aufzubauen, die mit dem Österreichischen Lloyd und den französischen Messageries impériales im Schwarzen Meer und im Mittelmeer konkurrieren sollte. Unmittelbar danach wurde in Beirut eine russische Post eingerichtet, und die Stadt wurde zum wichtigsten Hafen an der syrischen Küste.

Am 20. März 1873 wurde in Beirut eine britische Postagentur eröffnet, in der der Stempel «G06» verwendet wurde. Es gibt kombinierte Frankierungen mit französischen oder italienischen Briefmarken, da die Post über das britische Paket nach

Poste russe à Beyrouth, courrier entrant datant de 1868 (8 mars): lettre (probablement en provenance de Mersina) à destination de Beyrouth, avec au verso un bloc vertical de 8 timbres de l'émission de 1866 à 10 pa. en rose, oblitérés au cachet bleu «PORT BEIRUT». La plus grande unité connue de ce timbre sur lettre, une pièce d'exposition de la plus haute qualité.

Abb. 7: Britisches Postamt in Beirut 1874 (13. August): Kombinationsfrankatur auf Brief von Beirut nach Lyon mit britischer 4 d., gestempelt «G06» und einem waagerechten Paar der französischen Cérès-Ausgabe 1871|1875 zu 80 c. karminrot, gestempelt mit Gros Chiffres «5080» in Schwarz und Datumsstempel «ALEXANDRIE / EGYPTE» in Schwarz (17. August).

Bureau de poste britannique à Beyrouth en 1874 (13 août) : Affranchissement combiné sur une lettre de Beyrouth à Lyon avec un timbre britannique de 4 d., oblitéré «G06» et une paire horizontale de l'émission française Cérès 1871|1875 à 80 c. rouge carmin, oblitérée avec Gros Chiffres «5080» en noir et cachet dateur «ALEXANDRIE / ÉGYPTE» en noir (17 août).

Facsimile from Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung, Year 2025, Issue 10.

Abb. 8: Britisches Postamt in Beirut 1906 (3. Juli): Einschreiben von Beirut nach Forest Hill London, weitergeleitet nach Folkstone, mit dem «Beyrouth Provisional» 1 Piaster auf 2 d. im Viererblock.
Bureau de poste britannique à Beyrouth en 1906 (3 juillet): lettre recommandée envoyée de Beyrouth à Forest Hill, Londres, puis réexpédiée à Folkstone, affranchie avec le timbre «Beyrouth Provisional» 1 piastre sur 2 d. en bloc de quatre.

Alexandria und dann entweder mit französischen, italienischen oder britischen Paketen nach Europa befördert werden konnte.

Unter der Aufsicht des britischen Vizekonsuls in Beirut, der auch Postmeister war, wurden zwei Bögen mit insgesamt 480 Briefmarken im Wert von 2 d. mit dem Aufdruck «LEVANT» vorläufig mit «1 Piastre» überdruckt. Der Aufdruck wurde von der «American Press» unter der Aufsicht von Herrn Fryer, einem Amerikaner und Direktor von The Press, und einem Engländer namens Glockler, dem Leiter der Druckabteilung umgesetzt.

Und dies sind nur ausgewählte Aspekte und Highlights der einzigartigen «Sawaya-Kollektion», deren Verkauf im Rahmen der nächsten Corinphila Auktion vom 24.–29. November 2025 fortgesetzt wird. ●

Weitere Informationen unter www.corinphila.ch.

Fuad Sawaya ist derzeit stellvertretender Vorsitzender und globaler Leiter des Bereichs Consumer Investment Banking bei Canaccord Genuity, einer weltweit renommierten Full-Service-Investmentbank. Mit über drei Jahrzehnten Leidenschaft, Energie und Branchenerfahrung hat Fuad massgeblich dazu beigetragen, einige der angesehensten Konsumgüterunternehmen in den USA und im Ausland zu beraten. Seine strategischen Erkenntnisse haben es börsennotierten Unternehmen, Private-Equity-Portfolios und Familienunternehmen ermöglicht, ihre langfristigen Wertschöpfungsstrategien umzusetzen.

In den letzten 40 Jahren hat Fuad seine Leidenschaft für das Sammeln von Briefmarken und Postgeschichte genutzt, um das reiche kulturelle Erbe des Libanon und des Nahen Ostens zu bewahren und zu würdigen. Seit er 1984 aus dem Libanon in die Vereinigten Staaten gezogen ist, betrachtet er seine Sammlung als mehr als nur ein Hobby – sie ist eine Brücke zur Vergangenheit, eine Erinnerung an die Schönheit und Geschichte einer Region, die oft von Nachrichten über Konflikte überschattet wird. Durch seine Sammlung findet Fuad eine tiefere Verbindung zur Geschichte des Libanon, einem Land, das von vielen ausländischen Mächten geprägt wurde, und eine Quelle des Stolzes, die den Erzählungen von Zerstörung eine Geschichte von anhaltendem Reichtum und kultureller Bedeutung gegenüberstellt.

Fuad Sawaya.

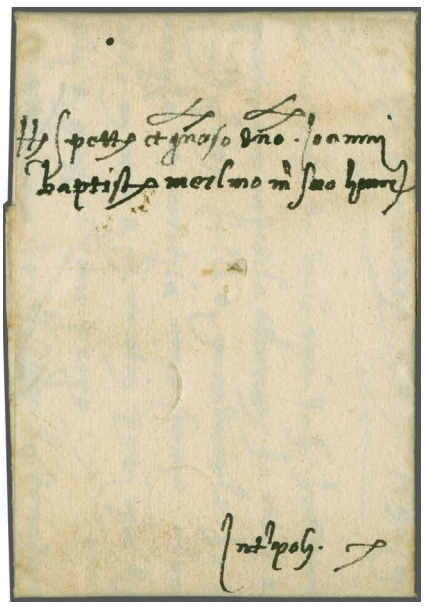
Facsimile from Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung, Year 2025, Issue 10.

Foreign Post Offices in the Levant
The 'Sawaya' Collection (part II)

View of Aleppo

Syria under Egyptian Administration

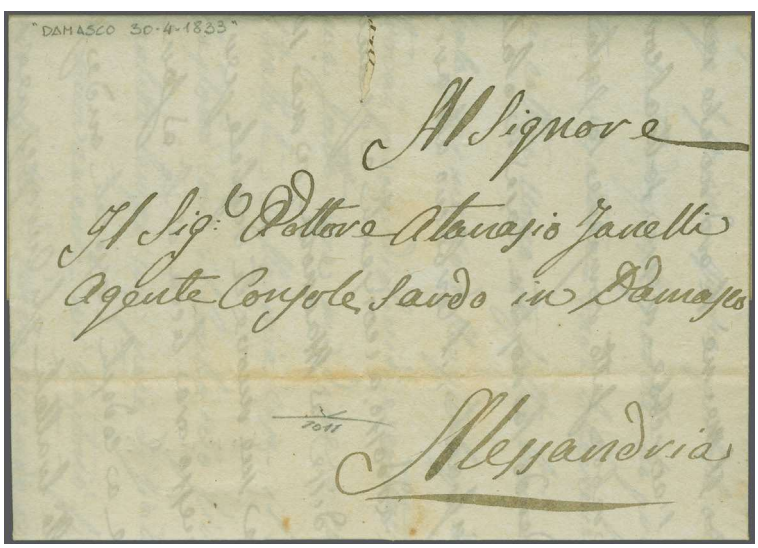
Couriers & Forwarders



ex 7001

View of Damascus

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7001	Courier mail during the early Ottoman period within Syria and Lebanon 1522/49: Selection three Entire letters incl. two 1522 entires from the same correspondence of Francesco de Brescia in Damascus to Gio Battista in Tripoli, and 1549 (March 19) Entire letter from Aleppo to Andrea Donado "in Baruto" (Beirut). Syria came under Ottoman control in 1514/16. Interesting group, two ex collection Herry Schäfer.	✉	**150**



7002

7002	Ibrahim Pasha period, delivered probably by Egyptian official post from Damascus to Alexandria, 1833 (April 30): Entire letter written in Italian dealing with a family drama and adressed to the Sardinian consular agent of Damascus, at that time in Alexandria. No postal markings at all, minor insect bite, a most interesting entire.	✉	**250**

7003

Michel | Start price in CHF

7003 **British Courier Post from Damascus to Beirut 1835**: Second sheet of entire letter from Mr. Jean-Baptiste Baudin, the French agent consulaire in Damascus directed to the Consul de France in Acre, at that time in Beirut, using a postal service organized by the British consul-general in Damascus, Mr. Farren, the cover struck by crisp **bilingual intaglio „DAMASCUS POST BRIT. CON. GEN. SYRIA / Poste Consulaire Générale Anglaise du Pays de Sham“ seal**. On obverse handwritten "*No. 13*" and "*2 ¾*" (piastres). Some acid ink imperfections, nevertheless an immaculate strike of this extremely rare handstamp, cert. RPS (2004).

Notes:In 1835 the British Consul-General for Syria, Mr. John William Perry Farren was maintaining a Dromedary Post between Damascus and Al Heet in the south of the country, and a communication by post between Damascus and Beirut. The British had to reorganize their activity in the Levant after the Peace Agreement of Kütahya in 1833, when the Ottoman provinces of Adana and Syria had become part of Egypt, and Ibrahim Pasha of Egypt became governor-general of the two provinces. John William Perry Farren was the British Consul-General for Syria, located in Damascus from August 1830 to September 1837.

Sent by Mr. Jean-Baptiste Baudin (1788-1848), born in Marseille but living in Syria nearly all his live. He settled in Damascus around 1825 as a merchant and even had a shop in the Khan Assad Pasha; he was apparently the only European established in Damascus at that time. He then represented the interests of foreign merchants and he even managed the affairs of the French, Austrian and Russian consulates. He later became the agent of the only French consul in Beirut. In 1839, a French consulate was established in Damascus. Finally, he would have been one of the first victims of the cholera epidemic which struck the city in July 1848.

Directed to Henry Guys (1787-1877), Consul de France de St. Jean d'Acre et dependances à Beyrouth. Henry Guys came from a French family of French diplomates. He was consul in Alger in 1818, thereafter in Aleppo, Beirut and finally in St. Jean d'Acre, the French name of Akkon, today in Israel. It seems that he lived in Beirut, where he had married in 1824.

Reference: Described by Norman J. Collins in his article 'Some Overland Mail Rarities' in the London Philatelist 105 (Oct 1996), pp 261-266), a xerox of which is added to this lot.

Provenance: David Feldman sale (April 2007), lot 60068. ✉ **7'500**

7004

Michel Start price in CHF

7004 British mail from Beirut 1845 (Oct 10): Unpaid Letter sheet to London, sent by courrier to ALEXANDRIA, where struck on reverse by large datestamp (Oct 22), then via Malta where struck on obverse by "PURIFIÉ AU LAZARET / MALTE", reverse arrival datestamp (Nov 3) in red. Charged upon arrival with 2 sh. / 1 d.
Note: Sent by courrier in the last month before the Anglo-French agreements included Beirut as a destination related to the opening of the French post office there in November 1845. ✉ **200**

7005

7005 Courrier letter from Kurdistan, then by French shipmail to Rome 1856 (Nov 23): Entire letter written in Italian by the missionary P. - Luigi di Negro from Sakow, Kurdistan dated "*Mar Sakow Kurdistan li 23 9bre 1856*" and directed to Cardinale Alessandro Barnabo, the Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith (Latin: Sacra Congregatio de Propaganda Fide) in Rome, obverse struck by "BORYSTHENE 14 JANV" (1857) Mediterranean ship's cds and upon arrival by "CIVITAVECCHIA / DALLA VIA DI MARE" handstamp. Reverse with CIVITAVECCHIA (Jan 19) and ROMA (Jan 20) arrival cds's in black and red, respectively. A most interesting entire from an elusive origin, directed with French shipmail to Rome, cert. BPA (2002). ✉ **1'000**

Protestant Female Seminary in Beirut

7006

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7006	With forwarder from Beirut 1857 (May 4): Entire letter from the missionary William Benton in Beirut to his brother Azariah Lathrop Benton in Tolland, Connecticut, clear strike of "BEIRUT / May 11 1857" two-line datestamp applied at origin and attributed to the U.S. Consul in Beirut. Entrusted to a courrier who transported the cover to Boston on behalf of J. M. Gordon forwarder who struck on the back his oval „FORWARDED BY / J. M. GORDON. / TREASURER / A.B.C.F.M. / BOSTON.“ handstamp in red with ABCFM being the abbreviation for the ‚American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Mission‘. The cover was franked with 1855 3 c. dull red type I(Scott 11), tied by superb PAID handstamp in grid and indistinct BOSTON cds in red. An extremely fine example of the 'Beirut' handstamp with only four to five known from the Benton correspondence. Cert. B.P.A. (2001). *Note: This cover is part of the correspondence to Azariah Lathrop Benton, born 1816 in Tolland and died there in 1896, sent by his brother William A. Benton. Azariah Lathrop Benton grew up with the intention of becoming a Congregational missionary. His parents were in such circumstances, however, that his more immediate duty seemed to be at home. William A. Benton, his brother, took up the work, and was a missionary in Syria for twenty-two years.* *Provenance: Robert Siegel sale 748 (March 1993), lot 640.*	✉	**500**

Austrian Post Offices in Syria & Lebanon

Beirut

7007

Michel — Start price in CHF

7007 **Austrian Lloyd P.O. in Beirut** 1854 (Dec 4): Entire letter from the well-known Diab correspondence to Alexandria, Egypt struck by clear „AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / BERUTTI“ handstamp (Tranmer fig. 1), dealer's cachet in blue alongside. File fold and some staining, nevertheless an appealing cover with the first Lloyd Beirut handstamp, the 'sunburst without sun'. Signed Sorani. ✉ **200**

7008

View of Morat

7008 1864 (Feb 7): Fully paid Envelope from Damascus via Beirut to Morat / Murten, Switzerland, struck by fair two-line „BEYRUT. / 7. FEB.“ datestamp(Tranmer fig. 2). Reverse with "J. J. WEBER & Cie / BAGDAD" bilingual sender's cachet in blue, BRIG transit cds, and MORAT arrival cds (Feb 23), both in black. Reverse shows postage calculation with 20 soldi for the Lloyd and 25 soldi for Austria & Switzerland. Cover torn at top and some staining, nevertheless a spectacular through the desert item to Switzerland.
Reference: Displayed and discussed in Cedar catalogue, page 17. ✉ **750**

7009

7009 **Austrian Consular P.O. in Beirut** 1865 (Sept 2): Entire letter to the Lloyd P.O. in Constantinople bearing 1864 Arms 5 so. rose and 15 so. brown perf 9½, a fresh examples tied by „BERUTTI 2 / 9“ cds in black(Tranmer fig. 3). Reverse with "LLOYD AGENZIE COSTANTINOPOLI 11 / 9" arrival cds(Tchilinghirian fig 446). A fine and fresh cover with the adhesives paying correctly the Lloyd rate, cert. E. Diena (1987). V21+ V23 ✉ **500**

7010

Michel — Start price in CHF

7010 1866 (Oct 30): Entire letter written in Hebrew to Trieste bearing a horizontal strip of three 1864 Arms 5 so. rose perf 9½, a fine slightly toned multiple well embossed, tied by „BERUTTI 30 / 10“ cds in brownish black (Tranmer fig. 3)., the bilingual sender's cachet of Aron Jedid Levy in blue alongside. Reverse with oval TRIEST arrival datestamp (Nov 13). Lower left part of cover front skillfully restored and part of address label redrawn, nevertheless an appealing cover with the adhesives paying correctly the 15 soldi Lloyd rate to Trieste harbour in its first month, valid from October 15, 1866.
Ferchenbauer = € 1'800 for the multiple on cover.
Reference: Displayed and discussed in Cedar catalogue, page 18. V21 ✉ **400**

View of Florence

7011

7011 1867 (Nov 13): Envelope to Florence, Italy, bearing a three-colour franking of 1864 Arms 3 so green, 10 so blue and 15 so brown, all perf. 9½, tied by clear “BERUTTI 3 / 5” cds (Tranmer fig. 3) in brown and decent framed PD in black, reverse with “FIRENZE 28 / 11 / 67” arrival cds and distribution cachet, both in black. An attractive small cover. Signed Avanzo, cert. E. Diena (1985).
Note: Until October 1866 a single 28 soldi rate to Italy was valid with 20 soldi for the Lloyd and 8 Soldi for Italy. However this rate was used in some offices without interruption also after in October 1866 the Lloyd part of the rate was reduced to and even after a new tariff with Italy came into force in October 1867 with 10 soldi for the Lloyd and 15 soldi for Austria and Italy. The present cover is such an example where the sender had to pay 28 instead of 25 soldi. V20+ V22+ V23 ✉ **750**

Panorama of Beirut

7012

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7012	1869 (April 29): Entire letter to Genova, endorsed „*via Brindisi*“, bearing 1864 Arms 3 so. green and 15 so. brown, both perf. 9½ in a **rare combination franking** with 1867 Coarse Whiskers 10 so. blue, three fine and fresh examples, tied by „BERUTTI 29 / 4“ cds in brownish black(Tranmer fig 3), in Brindisi a framed „PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI“ was struck aside. Reverse with „LLOYD AGENZIE SMIRNE“ and BRINDISI transit cds‘s as well as framed GENOVA arrival datestamp (May 21). One short perf. with the 15 soldi, nevertheless a most interesting late presentation of the wrong 28 soldi rate, a very rare franking with only two known from Beirut. Cert. Ferchenbauer (2024) Ferchenbauer = € 3‘200. *Note: Until October 1866 a single 28 soldi rate to Italy was valid with 20 soldi for the Lloyd and 8 Soldi for Italy. However this rate was used in some offices without interruption also after in October 1866 the Lloyd part of the rate was reduced to and even after a new tariff with Italy came into force in October 1867 with 10 soldi for the Lloyd and 15 soldi for Austria and Italy. The present cover is such an example where the sender had to paid 28 instead of 25 soldi.*	V20+ V23+ 4/I ✉	**1'000**

An Austrain Levant Post Office window

7013

Michel — Start price in CHF

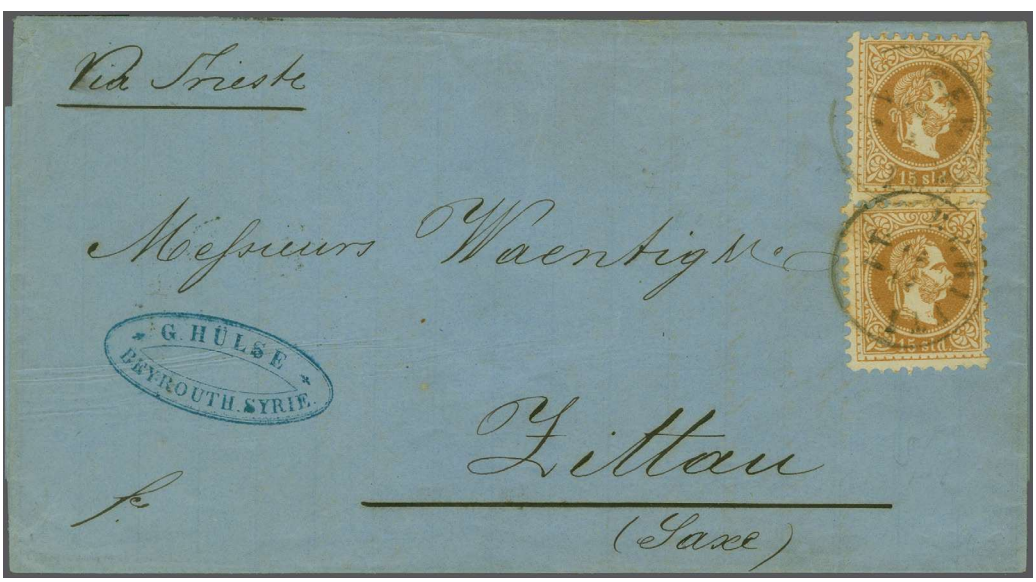
7013 1870 (Sept 12): **Stationery Envelope** 1867 15 so. brown directed to Milano, bearing an additional franking of 1867 Coarse Whiskers 10 so. blue, adhesive and imprinted stamp tied by „BERUTTI 12 / 9“ cds in black(Tranmer fig 3). Reverse with "LLOYD AGENTIE SMIRNE" and BRINDISI transit as well as MILANO arrival (Sept 22) cds's. Part of backflap missing, nevertheless an appealing delayed presentation of the 25 soldi rate to Italy already introduced in October 1867. Ferchenbauer for the stationery envelope = € 3'000.

Note: Until October 1866 a single 28 soldi rate to Italy was valid with 20 soldi for the Lloyd and 8 Soldi for Italy. However this rate was used in some offices without interruption also after in October 1866 the Lloyd part of the rate was reduced and even after a new tariff with Italy came into force in October 1867 with 10 soldi for the Lloyd and 15 soldi for Austria and Italy. In Beirut the recorded material suggests, that in 1870 the 25 soldi rate was introduced with a delay of about three years in 1870.

Stationery envelopes are great rarities in the Austrian Levant offices. Outside Alexandria only few 10 soldi envelopes are recorded in used condition, the 15 soldi envelope even rarer. U4+ 4/I ✉ **750**

7014

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7014	1872 (Nov 4): Letter sheet to Genova, bearing a three-colour franking of 1867 Coarse Whiskers 3 so. green, 5 so. red, and 15 so. brown, tied by „BERUTTI 4 / 11“ cds in black(Tranmer fig 3), "P.D." alongside. Reverse with oval TRIEST transit datestamp and GENOVA arrival (Nov 16) cds. An appealing cover. *Note: In 1871 the Italy rate was further reduced from 25 to 23 soldi.*	2/I+ 3/I+ 5/I ✉	**250**



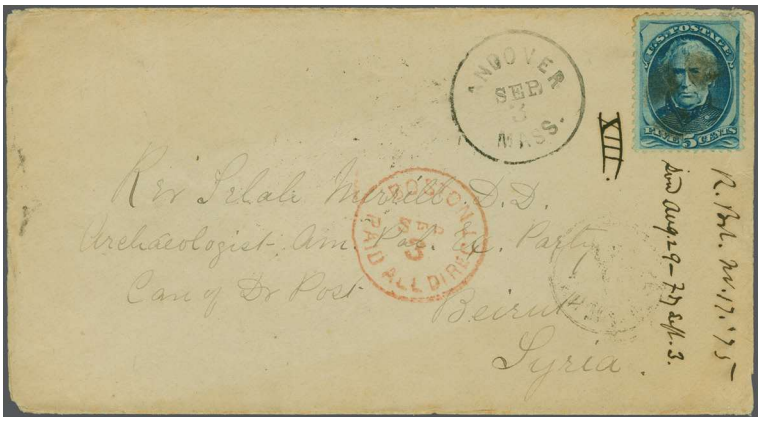
7015

7015	1872 (Nov 22): Double rate Entire letter to Zittau, Saxony, endorsed "*Via Trieste*", bearing 1867 Coarse Whiskers 15 so brown (2), tied by decent “BERUTTI 22 / 11” cds(Tranmer fig. 3) in black, reverse with oval TRIEST transit datestamp and ZITTAU arrival cds (Dec 7), both in black. Tear into the reverse, nevertheless an appealing cover to an unusual destination.	5/I ✉	**150**

Beirut Harbour

7016

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7016	**Austrian Lloyd Agency in Beirut** 1873 (March 24): Entire letter from Beirut to Netstall, Switzerland, bearing an attractive **four-colour franking** of 1867 Coarse Whiskers 2 so yellow, 3 so green, 5 so red, and 10 so blue, tied by decent "BERUTTI 24 / 3" cds(Tranmer fig. 3) in black, reverse with oval TRIEST transit and circular "NETTSTAL 6 IV 73" arrival datestamps in black. An attractive and rare franking, signed Pfenninger, cert. E. Diena (1983)Ferchenbauer = € 8'500.	1/I-4/I ✉	**1'500**



ex 7017

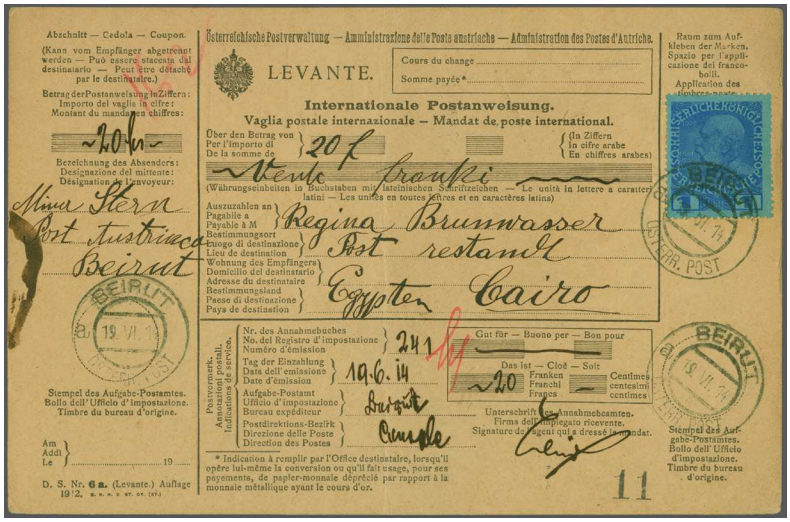
Selah Merril

Michel | Start price in CHF

7017 **Ingoing** 1876 (Sept 3): Envelope from Andover Mass. to Beirut, bearing 1875 Taylor 5 c. blue(Scott 179), tied by cork handstamp, ANDOVER despatch cds in black and BOSTON transit cds in red alongside. Reverse with WIEN and TRIEST transit datestamps as well as BERUTTI arrival cds of the LLoyd office. This cover is accompanied by another envelope sent 1900 from Stoneham Mass to the Syrian Protestant College in Beirut, delivered by the British office.
Note: This letter is directed to the American archeologist Selah Merril D.D. (1837-1909) at the American Palestine Exploration Society in Beirut. It was written by Adelaide Brewster Taylor (1845-1929), the third wife of Selah Merril, whom he had married in April 1875 in Andover. In 1874–1877, Merrill travelled to Palestine where he worked as an archaeologist for the American Palestine Exploration Society, excavating the second wall of Jerusalem and trying to determine the site of Calvary. ✉ **150**

7018

7018 1883 (Oct 20): Registered envelope via Alexandria to Cairo, Egypt, bearing a pair 1874 Fine Whiskers 10 so blue, tied by "BEIRUTH 10 / 10 83" cds(Tranmer fig. G) in black, "RACOM." handstamp and "ALEXANDRIE RECOMMANDÉE" alongside, reverse with thimble ALEXANDRIEN transit and "CAIRO RECOMMANDÉES. ARRIVÉE" arrival (Oct 25) cds's, both in black. Cover roughly opened on reverse, nevertheless an attractive franking. 4/II ✉ **100**



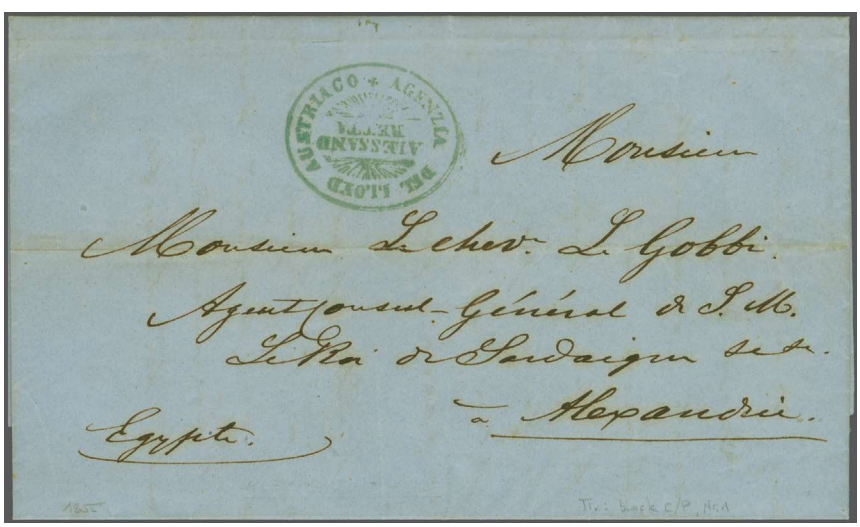
7019

	Michel	Start price in CHF

7019 1914 (June 19): Complete International Money Transfer to Cairo, bearing 1914 1 pi blue, tied by "BEIRUT / ÖSTERR. POST" type L cds in black. Reverse with CAIRO arrival (June 24) and money issue (July 2) cds's. A very scarce usage from the last months of the Austrian Levant mail.
Reference: Displayed and discussed in Cedar catalogue, page 22. 63 ✉ **200**

Alexandretta

View of Alexandretta



7020

7020 **Austrian Lloyd Agency in Alexandretta** 1855 (Feb 20): Entire from Alexandretta to the Sardinian Consul in Alexandria, internally dated 20 Feb 1855, struck on despatch with fine **very rare "AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / ALESSANDRETTA" sunburst handstamp**(Müller 2025a = 750 points / Tranmer fig. 2) in green. Very fine and rare.
Provenance: Collection Monte Napoleone, Corinphila sale 78 (Sept 1988), lot 905
Collection Cengiz Arsman, DF sale (May 2005), lot 20205. ✉ **1'000**

Aleppo

View of Aleppo

7021

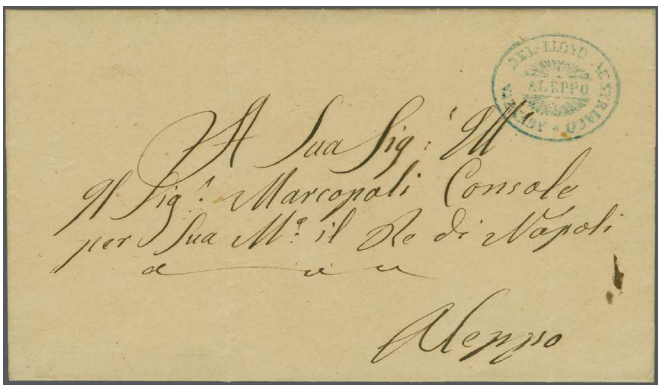
		Michel	Start price in CHF
7021	**Austrian Lloyd Agency in Aleppo** 1855 (June 12): Entire letter from Aleppo via Alexandretta to London, internally dated "*12 June 1855*", endorsed "*Voie de Trieste*", struck with clear and **very rare bilingual Arabic "L + A / An Djanibi Postai Nemce Haleb 1855"** (Lloyd Austriaco / from the Austrian Post in Aleppo 1855) handstamp (Müller 2024a = 1'400 points / Tranmer fig. 1) in bluish black. In transit in Alexandretta a clear"AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / ALESSANDRETTA" (Tranmer fig 1) and a framed "P.P." were struck in addition to the obverse. Reverse shows London arrival datestamp in red (2 July 1855). Prussia noted '7 1/4' (silbergroschen), the receiver had to pay '1/1' (shilling / pence), noted on obverse. Cover with two minute vertical file folds of no importance, an impressive and appealing entire, **unique** due to the combination of the Lloyd handstamps from Aleppo and Alexandretta. Cert. Ferchenbauer (2000). *Note: This is the only bilingual Austrian Levant postmark - a rarity only in use from 1855/56. Ing. Edwin Müller (1960) knew only two items with this cancellation in black, a number not changed until 1976, when Keith Tranmer published his study on this subject. He stated that this handstamp was used only as an arrival mark, however seven outgoing covers including the present one are known to the describer, all struck in 1855/56 in blue or bluish black and all being part of the same Dahlah correspondence, sent via Trieste or intended to be sent via Trieste to London, showing that this postmark clearly functioned as a temporary despatch postmark. An updated census of the ingoing and outgoing covers recorded regarding lot 7021 and 7022 can be found above lot 7022.* *Provenance: Collection Léon Dubus with an article from Orhan Brandt (1957) describing this cover Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 1994.*		✉	**4'000**

Census of the bilingual Arabic " L + A / An Djanibi Postai Nemce Haleb 1855" (Lloyd Austriaco from the Austrian Post in Aleppo 1855) handstamp:
Ingoing to Aleppo, 6 covers:
Date unknown; Alexandretta to Marcopoli in Aleppo; Collection Västras, Corinphila sale 99, June 1997, lot 9949
1855 (July 18), Marseille to Esdra de Picciotto in Aleppo; Gärtner sale 28, June 2014, lot 2015.
1856 (Feb 8); Alexandretta to Marcopoli in Aleppo; collection 'Monte Napoleone', Corinphila sale 78, Sept. 1988, lot 895;
1856 (March 6); Alexandretta to Marcopoli in Aleppo; collection 'Cihangir', Corinphila sale 121, May 2000, lot 1929
1856 (March 8); Alexandretta to Marcopoli in Aleppo; Collection Hans Smith FRPSL, Corinphila sale 182, Sept 2013, lot 1391
1856 (Nov 6); Constantinople to the Sardinian Consul in Aleppo; Corinphila sale 284, May 2023, lot 1955
Outgoing to London from Dahlah correspondence, sent via Trieste or intended to be sent via Trieste to London, 7 covers:
1855 (June 12); Collection 'Cihangir', Corinphila sale 121, May 2000, lot 1994
1855 (Aug 21); Collection Dubus, Robineau auction, Nov. 1987, lot 551
1855 (Sept 4); Collection Arsman, DF sale, May 2005, lot 20206
1855 (Oct ca); Collection Provera, Corinphila sale 292, Dec 2022, lot 3072
1855 (Dec ca); Collection Schindler, Corinphila sale 255, Sept 2020, lot 7548
1855 (ca); Collection Franz See, Corinphila sale 62, May 1979, lot 2423
1855 (ca); Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 124, Oct 2000, lot 5756

View of London

7022

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7022	1855 (Sept 4): Entire letter from Aleppo to London, internally dated "*4 7bre 1855*", endorsed "*Voie de Trieste*", struck with superb and **very rare bilingual Arabic "L + A / An Djanibi Postai Nemce Haleb 1855"** (Lloyd Austriaco from the Austrian Post in Aleppo 1855) handstamp (Müller 2024a = 1'400 points / Tranmer fig. 1) in blue green with framed "P.P." in the same shade alongside. Reverse shows London arrival datestamp in red (8 Oct 1855). Prussia noted '7 1/4' (silbergroschen), the receiver had to pay '1/1' (shilling / pence), noted on obverse. Cover with minute vertical file fold of no importance, an impressive and appealing entire, only seven covers sent abroad known. Signed Calves; cert. Ferchenbauer (2024). *Provenance: Collection Cengiz Arsman, DF sale (May 2005), lot 20206.*	✉	**2'000**



7023

7024

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7023	**Ingoing** 1856 (Nov 13): Entire letter from the consul of the Kingdom of Napoli in Beirut to Sig. Marcopoli, the corresponding consul in Aleppo, struck upon arrival with clear rare "AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / ALEPPO" sunburst handstamp (Müller 2024b = 750 points / Tranmer fig. 2) in blue. An entire in perfect shape, the rare handstamp optimally struck. *Provenance: Collection Cengiz Arsman, DF sale (May 2005), lot 20204.*	✉	**400**
7024	Ingoing 1857 (Jan 16): Entire letter from Smyrna via Alexandretta to Sig. Marcopoli in Aleppo, struck upon departure by indistinct "AGENZIA DES LLOYD AUSTRIACO / SMYRNE" handstamp(Tranmer fig 6), upon arrival with clear rare "AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / ALEPPO" sunburst handstamp (Müller 2024b = 750 points / Tranmer fig. 2) in bluish black. Vertical file fold just mentioned for accuracy, the rare handstamp clearly struck an appealing combination of two Lloyd handstamps.	(*)	**400**

Tripoli of Syria

7025

View of Tripoli

7025	1913 (July 24): Parcel card with a declared value of 400 francs, directed via Triest and Buchs, Switzerland to New York, bearing 1908 Anniversary issue pair 60 pa. violet and 20 pi. dark-blue, tied by "TRIPOLIS (SYRIEN)" type M cds, corresponding labels and transit cds's of TRIEST and "BUCHS BAHNHOF (St. GALLEN)". The pair with some perforation irregularities, filing folds and needle pinholes far away from the franking, nevertheless a most attractive item with rare declared value. *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 1925.*	56+ 61 ✉	**150**

Austrian Post Offices in the Holy Land & Egypt

View of Jaffa

7026

Michel — Start price in CHF

7026 **Austrian DDSG P.O. in Jaffa** 1840 (May 15): Entire letter from Jaffa to the French Consul in Beirut, struck by a decent strike of **extremely rare double-circle "D.D.S.G. / JAFFA / P.P."** handstamp in black, applied on the DDSG shipping line Smyrna - Beirut - Alexandria, slit disinfected. Cert. Nakri (2002)

Note: The DDSG was founded in 1829 and was originally thought to provide transport and postal services on the Danube and some of its tributary rivers such as Tisza and Save. However, already in the 1830s it extended its services far beyond that river into the Black Sea and even into the Marmara and Aegean Seas. At the end of this decade postal services from Beirut and Jaffa were offered. Keith Tranmer mentions in his treatise on the Austrian Post Offices abroad, part 8 (1976) on page 21 that the creation of a Constantinople - Beirut - Alexandria line of the DDSG was decided in 1838 but no material had been recorded. With a first journey on 1 June 1839, the vessel 'Seri Pervas' was running the line Smyrna - Chios - Cos - Rhodes - Larnaca down to Alexandretta, from August 1839 further via Beirut & Jaffa south to Alexandria. Already in July 1840 during the Egyptian - Ottoman War and finally with a severe accident of the 'Seri Pervas' the history of this line found its end. DDSG services in the Eastern Mediterranean in general had been short lived, in 1845 all DDSG Agencies outside the Danube (with just Odessa as the exception) were taken over by the Austrian Lloyd, with the two companies dividing 'the world of shipmail' between them.

*The present cover is **one of two recorded** with a DDSG JAFFA handstamp, both from the same correspondence to the French Consul in Beirut, the other written on 2 July 1840. Both came to the market circa 1997 and were therefore unknown to Müller in his monograph dealing with Austrian pre-stamp mail (1960) and its two supplements, and as already mentioned also in Tranmer - Austrian Post Offices Abroad, part 8 (1976). The present JAFFA cover shows the **earliest postmark recorded from any postal service used in Jaffa**, much earlier than any French or Russian service available. In addition it is the **earliest usage in the Holy Land at all,** if one takes into account the material in private hands only.*

Reference: Displayed and discussed by Norman J. Collins in his article 'A Danube Steam Navigation Company Postmark for Jaffa -1840' in HLPH Nos. 69-72 (1997) where he describes this item as 'the most important discovery and one of the major rarities of the Holy Land'.

Provenance: Christoph Gärtner sale 17 (March 2011), lot 2771. ✉ **3'000**

Bazaar at Jaffa

7027

Michel — Start price in CHF

7027 1854 (Aug 17): Entire from Jaffa to Athens, internally dated "*17 Aug 1854*", struck on despatch with fair strike of **extremely rare "AGENZIA DEL LLOYD AUSTRIACO / IAFFA" sunburst handstamp** (Müller 2041b = 3'000 points / Tranmer fig. 2) in bluish green. Reverse with Piraeus transit datestamp (Sept 3), charged upon arrival with '10' (lepta) in red crayon. An important showpiece for an advanced Holy Land collection, cert. Ferchenbauer (2024).
Provenance: Collection Cengiz Arsman, DF sale (May 2005), lot 20203. ✉ **5'000**

7028

7028 **Austrian Post Office in Alexandria** 1861 (Feb 4): Letter sheet to Trieste, endorsed "Vapore diretto", struck on obverse by clear ALEXANDRIEN despatch cds in blue (Tranmer fig. 5). Reverse with boxed TRIEST arrival datestamp (Feb 9). The '15' soldi due in blue crayon is not clear to the describer, it should have been 20 soldi before 1866. ✉ **150**

View of Port Said

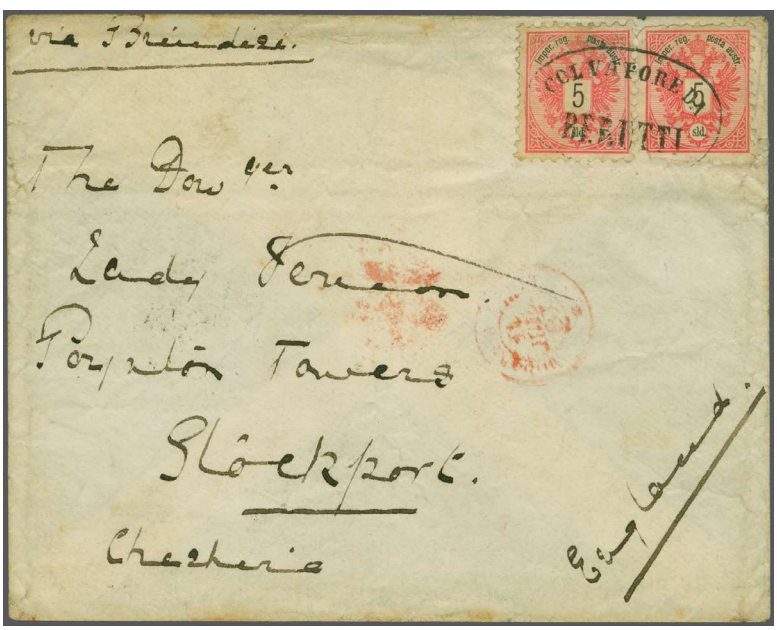
7029

		Michel		Start price in CHF
7029	**Austrian Consular Agency in Port Said** 1872 (Feb 3): Letter sheet from Port Said to Gera, Germany, endorsed "*Par Lloyd autrichien*", bearing 1867 Coarse Whiskers 5 so red and 10 so blue, the 5 soldi adhesive with a pre-use tear at top, tied by clear strikes of **extremely rare thimble "PORT SAID EGYPTEN** 3 / 2" cds (Tranmer fig. 1) in black, all in black. Reverse with a despatch cds of the consular P.O., transit strikes of the Egyptian P.O.'s from PORTO SAID, ISMAILIA, and ALESSANDRIA with framed "AFFRANCATURA INSUFFICIENTE" on front, as well as indistinct GERA arrival cds on reverse. Charge upon arrival with '4' silbergroschen in blue crayon. An attractive franking of utmost rarity as the few covers from this elusive post office are nearly all in a bad state; cert. Ferchenbauer (2024). *Provenance: Collection Kurt Wolfsbauer.*	3/I+ 4/I	✉	**7'500**

Austrian Shipmail

7030

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7030	**Ingoing** to Triest from Beirut 1876 (Nov): Envelope to Genova, endorsed "*Col Piroscafo Austriaco*", bearing 1867 Coarse Whiskers 10 so blue, cover despatched directly at the vessel, upon arrival in Trieste the stamp was tied by bold three-line "LETTERE ARRIVATE / COL VAPORE / DAL LEVANTE" (Tchilinghirian fig. 99), reverse with oval TRIEST (Nov 17) transit datestamp and GENOVA arrival (Nov 19) cds. Signed Sorani.	4/I ✉	**300**



7031

7031	Ingoing to Constantinople from Beirut 1887 (July): Envelope to Stockport, Great Britain, endorsed "*via Brindisi*", bearing pair 1883 Arms 5 so rose, cover despatched directly at the vessel, "ALEXANDRIEN 9 / 7 87" transit cds on reverse, upon arrival in Constantinople the pair was tied by fine oval "**COL VAPORE DA / BERUTTI**" handstamp (Tchilinghirian fig. 103), indistinct French entry cds in red alongside, thimble STOCKPORT arrival cds (July 15) on reverse.	10 ✉	**500**

French Post Offices in Syria & Lebanon

Beirut

View of Beirut

7032

Yvert

Start price in CHF

7032 French Post Office in Beirut & the postal connections to Jerusalem 1846 (Dec 12): Partially prepaid Entire letter from the Magistrato di Sanita in Genova via Alexandria to the French P.O. in Beirut and from there with the **Santelli & Micciarelli private postal service to Jerusalem**. Struck on despatch with two-line "GENOVA 12 DIC." datestamp and "P.D." both in red, the latter showing full prepayment to Beirut. The postage of 2.80 Sardinian Lira was noted on the obverse with 0,80 Lira equal to 1 Tuscany Lira weiterfranko were noted on top left. From LIVORNO (Dec 23) French vessels brought it to ALEXANDRIA (Jan 4, 1847) and further there to Beirut (Jan 7). The weiterfranko of 2 Sardinian = French Francs were noted with "f2" in manuscript on obverse. In Beirut, the entire was transfered from the French P.O. to the the Santelli & Micciarelli private postal service which struck its **straight-line BEYROUTH** on front and brought it to Jerusalem, where the internal endorsement gives January 19 as date of receipt. For the Beirut to Jerusalem part of the journey the receiver had to pay '3' piastres to Santelli & Micciarelli, noted on top of the obverse. The entire was on its way slitted and treated with vinegar which led to discoloration and damage in the address tablet, lateron restored. An exceptional and spectacular entire from the first year of the Beirut to Jerusalem private postal service by Santelli & Micciarelli, one of the **large rarities of the postal history of Syria & Holy Land.**
Note: In August 1845 a bureau de distribution was opened in Beirut. From November of that year, mail from Jerusalem was brought to Beirut, from where it was sent to the west. This connection run from Jerusalem via Ramleh, Jaffa, Caiffa, Acre, Sour, and Saida to Beirut, this private postal service was organized by Mrs. Santelli & Micciarelli from Beirut. In 1852, the newly opened French P.O. in Jaffa became the gateway from Jerusalem to Western Europe and the Levant.
The entire of the Sanitary director of Genova to the consul of Sardinia in Jerusalem asks about the actual effectiveness of the sanitary cordon between the Turkish and Syrian regions. In addition to its important postal history content, also a major item with regard to the history of desinfection and purification. ✉ **4'000**

7033

7034

		Yvert		Start price in CHF
7033	1858 (Aug 1): Small Entire letter to Alexandria, Egypt, bearing Napoléon imperforated 10 c. bistre and 40 c. orange, two fresh examples with fair to good margins, the 40 c. with light filing fold, tied by light Petits Chiffres '3769' numeral, indistinct "BEIROUTH SYRIE" cogwheel despatch cds and framed "P.P." in black alongside, reverse with "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" arrival (Aug 8) cds in black. Minor toning, nevertheless an appealing cover.	France 13A+ 16	✉	**200**
7034	1859 (Oct 16): Cover front of a formerly triple rate letter to Marseille, bearing a three-colour franking of Napoléon imperforated 10 c. bistre with **complete sheet margin**, 20 c. blue, and three single examples of 40 c. orange, the 20 c. touched at left, otherwise fine examples with good margins, tied by indistinct Petits chiffres '3706' numeral, "BEYROUTH SYRIE" despatch cds and framed PD in black alongside. Receiver's name restored, some scotch remnants at lower left far away from the adhesives, the 40 c. adhesives with some oxidation, nevertheless an appealing item.	France 13A+ 14A+ 16	✉	**150**

7035

7036

7035	1868 (March 3): Unpaid Entire letter to Marseille, struck by "BEYROUTH SYRIE" despatch cds, framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERAANÉE" handstamp in red alongside, reverse with illisible MARSEILLE arrival cds in black. Taxed with handstruck '6' décimes, the new port du rate of January 1866. A fine and fresh entire.		✉	**150**
7036	1868 (Dec 13): Double rate Entire letter to Gera, Germany, bearing Napoléon laureated 20 c. blue, three single examples, one with corner fault and a **strip of five**, tied by clear Gros chiffres '5082' numeral, matching "BEYROUTH SYRIE" despatch cds and framed PD in black alongside, reverse with "PARIS ETRANGER" transit cds in blue and GERA arrival cds (Dec 28). Horizontal file fold just mentioned for accuracy, an exceptional franking overpaying the 120 centimes double rate by 40 centimes.	France 29A	✉	**250**

7037

		Yvert	Start price in CHF
7037	1869 (Dec 13): Double rate Registered Envelope to Paris, bearing 1867 Napoléon laureated 40 c. orange and 80 c. rose, this with perforation irregularities at left, tied by Gros chiffres '5082' numeral of Beirut, matching "BEYROUTH SYRIE" despatch cds in black, CHARGÉ and framed PD in black alongside. Reverse with timbre indicatif de chargement and PARIS arrival (Dec 27) cds, both in black. Pinhole damage of the cover well away from the adhesives, a rare registered cover from the French Levant.	France 31+ 32 ✉	**400**

7038

7038	1871 (June 10): Shipmail envelope from Beirut to Genova, Italy, bearing Bordeaux 20 c. blue type I report 1 and 40 c. orange, two fresh examples, the 40 c. damaged, cancelled by decent Anchor lozenge in black, octagonal "BEYROUTH / PAQ, FR. X No 3" datestamp in black, framed PD in black alongside, reverse with MESSINA transit and GENOVA arrival (June 20) cds's in black. In spite of its imperfections, a fresh and attractive shipmail cover.	France: 44+ 48 ✉	**600**

The Port of Beirut

7039

		Yvert	Start price in CHF
7039	1871 (Aug 31): Letter sheet to Lyon, bearing Bordeaux 20 c. blue type I report 1 and pair 30 c. brown, fresh and fine adhesives with good to large margins and in vivid colours, tied by Gros Chiffres '5082' numeral of Beirut, "BEYROUTH SYRIE" cds in black, framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERAANÉE" in red and framed PD in black alongside, reverse with MARSEILLE transit and LYON arrival (Sept 15) cds's in black. A most attractive and rare Bordeaux franking paying correctly the new 80 centimes rate from France to the offices in the Levant becoming valid in July 1871, signed Dillemann & G. Marchand.	France 44+ 47	✉ **1'000**

Aleppo

7040

		Yvert	Start price in CHF
7040	1864 (Jan): Ingoing Letter sheet from Marseille to Aleppo bearing Napoléon perforated 10 c. bistre, 20 c. blue, 40 c. orange, and 80 c. rose, each tied by Anchor lozenge, "INDUS 23 JANV. 64" ship's cds and framed PD in same bluish black alongside. Front struck upon arrival in addition with two line "POSTE FRANÇAISE / D'ALEP" handstamp in blue. Attractive four-colour franking to pay the triple Levant rate to Aleppo.	France 21-24 ✉	**600**

7041

7041	1865 (July): Quadruple rate Letter sheet from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Marseille, bearing a strip of five Napoléon perforated 40 c. orange, a fresh and fine multiple in a vivid shade, the adhesives tied by Gros chiffres '5079' numeral of Alexandretta, a matching "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE 13 NOV 65" cogwheel cds, framed PD in black, two line "POSTE FRANÇAISE / D'ALEP" despatch handstamp in blue and framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" handstamp in red alongside. Reverse with MARSEILLE arrival cds (July 16). A most attractive presentation of the 200 c. rate for a quadruple cover.	France 23 ✉	**750**

Alexandretta

7042

7043

Yvert | Start price in CHF

7042 1852 (Nov 13): Entire letter from Alexandrette to Paris, dated inside, struck by decent cursive handstamp "*Alexandrette*" in black(Pothion = 28 points), indistinct "BEYROUTH TURQUIE" transit cds alongside, reverse PARIS arrival cds (Dec 14), all in black. Taxed upon arrival with '10' décimes, horizontal filing fold just mentioned for accuracy. ✉ **200**

7043 1853 (July 15): Entire letter from Alexandrette to Marseille, dated inside, struck by decent cursive handstamp "*Alexandrette*" in black (Pothion = 28 points), framed large-sized "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" in red alongside, reverse with "BEYROUTH TURQUIE" transit and MARSEILLE arrival cds (Aug 15), all in black. Taxed upon arrival with '10' décimes, light horizontal filing fold. ✉ **200**

7044

7045

7044 1857 (Aug 29): Quadruple rate Entire letter to Beirut, endorsed "*par post français*", bearing Napoléon imperforated 40 c. orange and horizontal pair 80 c. carmine, fresh and overall fine adhesives, the 40 c. with minor wrinkles, tied by Petits chiffres '3766' numeral of Alexandretta, matching superb „ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds alongside. Reverse with "BEYROUTH SYRIE" arrival (Sept 1) cds. Most attractive franking to pay the fourth Levant rate. France 16+17 ✉ **750**

7045 **Outgoing** to Aleppo 1869 (March 30): Entire letter from Alexandretta to Marseille, returned to Aleppo, bearing Napoléon perforated 40 c. orange, tied by indistinct Gros chiffres '5079' numeral, matching "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds, framed PD and framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" alongside. Reverse bears Turkey Dulos 1 pi. yellow and 20 pa. green, tied upon arrival in Aleppo by triple-framed ALEP despatch handstamp. The obverse shows also "BEYROUTH SYRIE 1 AVRIL" transit and two MARSEILLE cds's, further "SMYRNE TURQUIE 25 AVRIL" and indistinct "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" transit cds's along the Turkish franking. Some ink bite, but an interesting **combination entire** which made its journey twice over the Mediterranean. France 23 ✉ **300**

7046

Yvert Start price in CHF

7046 Outgoing to Aleppo 1871 (Aug 20): Envelope **from Trebizonde via Alexandretta to Aleppo**, bearing Bordeaux 20 c. blue (2), tied by Gros chiffres '5100' numeral of Trebizonde, matching "TREBIZONDE TURQUIE D'ASIE" cds and framed PD alongside. Reverse bears Turkey Dulos due 1 pi. & 20 pa. brown, tied upon arrival in Aleppo by triple-framed ALEP despatch handstamp. The reverse shows also "CONSTANTINOPLE TURQUIE", "SMYRNE TURQUIE" and "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" transit cds's as well as bilingual ALEP arrival (Sept 7) cds. Minor toning but a rare postal connection between the Black Sea and Syria, a **combination cover** full of postal history. France 46 ✉ **1'500**

7047

7047 **Ingoing** from Aleppo 1871 (Sept 6): Envelope from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Rome, opened up for display, bearing Napoléon laureated 40 c. orange, slightly oxidised in combination franking with Siège 20 c. blue, tied by indistinct Gros chiffres '5079' numeral of Alexandretta, a matching "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds and framed PD in black alongside. Reverse bears Turkey Dulos 1 pi. yellow and 20 pa. green, tied by triple-framed Arabic HALEP despatch handstamp with bilingual ALEP despatch (Aug 22), "BEYROUTH SYRIE", "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" and BRINDISI transit, as well as ROMA arrival (Sept 18) cds's. Cover shortened at the edges, nevertheless a most attractive **combination cover**, nicely presenting the 60 centimes rate to Italy, rarely seen in this quality, certs. A. Diena (1951), Brun (2000). France 31+ 37 ✉ **900**

Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 2899.

7048

7049

		Yvert		Start price in CHF
7048	1871 (Nov 29): Entire letter to Trieste, Austria, bearing a left marginal horizontal strip of three of Bordeaux 20 c. blue type III report 2 from positions 6-8, tied by indistinct strikes of Gros Chiffres '5079' numerals, matching "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds and framed PD handstamp alongside, all in black. Reverse with "BEYROUTH SYRIE" and "PARIS ETRANGER" transit cds's as well as oval TRIEST arrival (Dec 16) datestamp in black. Some wrinkles on the adhesives, nevertheless an attarctive cover paying the new 60 centimes rate valid since July 1871, signed A. Diena & G. Bolaffi.	France 46	✉	**500**
7049	1879 (Feb 21): Cover to Marseille bearing Sage 1878 25 c. black on red, the adhesives tied by „ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds in blue, a clear information strike as well as framed „PAQUEBOTS DE LA MEDITERRANÉE" in red alongside. Reverse with "SMYRNE TURQUIE" transit and MARSEILLE arrival (March 6) cds's. Most attractive, signed Calves.	France 91	✉	**200**

7050

7050	**Outgoing** to Aleppo 1880 (Aug 10): Envelope coming from a dealer's address in Tarsus or Mersina, despatched on the vessel to Syria getting struck by oval BM handstamp, directed via Alexandretta to Aleppo, bearing Siège 40 c. orange, two short perfs and some oxydation in combination with Sage 10 c. black, tied by clear "ALEXANDRETTE SYRIE" cogwheel cds, information strike alongside. Reverse bears Turkey Dulos 1 pi. yellow in a strip of three, 20 pa. green & 10 pa. violet, tied by "ALEP TURQUIE" arrival cds (Aug 11) and pen stroke. Minor toning of the envelope, nevertheless a fine and **very late combination cover**. Cert. Brun (2000) *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 2902.*	France 38+ 89	✉	**1'000**

Lattakia

7051

The Port of Lattakia

		Yvert		Start price in CHF
7051	Mail from Lattakia 1872 (Aug 14): Entire letter written in Lattakia and despatched in Marseille, internally dated, bearing 1871 Napoléon laureated 1 c. olive and 1872 Cérès 4 c. grey, both in fresh and fine horizontal strips of three, tied by Gros chiffres '2240' numeral of Marseille, matching despatch cds in black alongside, reverse with MARSEILLE arrival (Aug 30) cds. An exceptional 15 centimes inland franking, the cover with a rare provenance.	France 25+ 52	✉	**750**

Tripoli of Syria

7052

7053

7052	1853 (April 9): Unpaid Entire letter from Tripoli to Lyon, dated inside, struck by decent cursive handstamp of "*Tripoli / de Syrie*" in black(Pothion = 32 points), framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" in red, and "SMYRNE TURQUIE" transit cds alongside. MARSEILLE transit and LYON arrival (May 6) cds's on reverse, all in black. Taxed upon arrival with '10' décimes.		✉	**400**
7053	1876 (April 26): Letter sheet to Livorno, bearing 1872 Cérès 30 c. brown tied by "TRIPOLI SYRIE" cogwheel cds with oval BM handstamp alongside, both in black. Reverse with "BEYROUTH SYRIE", "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE", "ALESSANDRIA d'EGITTO / POSTE ITALIANE", and BRINDISI transit as well as LIVORNO arrival (May 5) cds's, all in black. A fine and fresh cover from a rare office, a rare usage of the datestamp on the Cérès adhesive possible since April 1876. *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 2920.*	France 56	✉	**400**

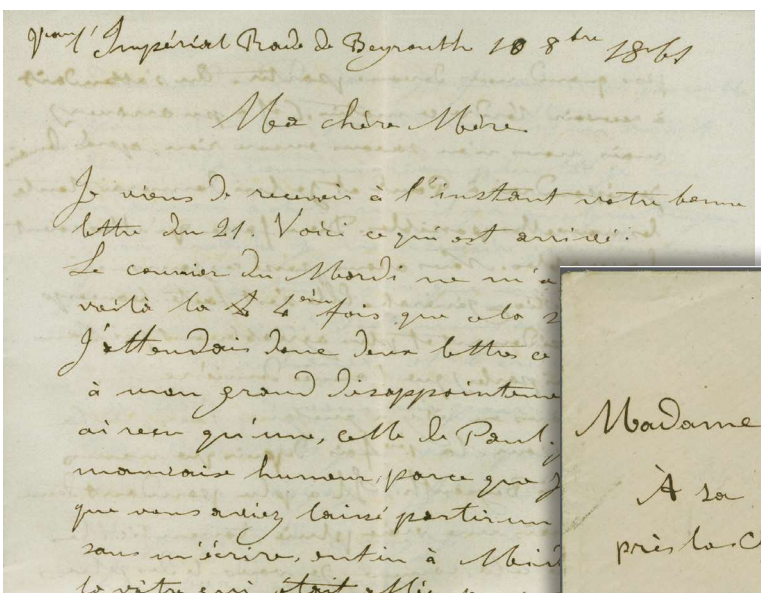
1860/61, French Syrian Expedition

Note: The 1860 civil conflict in Mount Lebanon and Damascus, also known as the 1860 Syrian Civil War or the 1860 Christian–Druze war, was a civil conflict in Mount Lebanon during Ottoman rule in 1860–1861 fought mainly between the local Druze and Christians. Following decisive Druze victories and massacres against the Christians, the conflict spilled over into other parts of Ottoman Syria, particularly Damascus, where thousands of Christian residents were killed by Muslim and Druze militiamen. The fighting precipitated a French-led international military intervention (ex Wikipedia).

7054

French Expeditionary Corps landing in Beirut

	Yvert	Start price in CHF
7054 French Fieldpost during the Syrian Expedition, 1861 (March 1): Envelope with full content to Nantes, Loire-Infèrieure, bearing Napoléon imperforated 20 c. blue(Yv 14A), tied by "CESA" in dots, corresponding "CORPS EXP. DE SYRIE Bau A" cds alongside, reverse with PARIS transit and NANTES arrival (March 18) cds's, all in black. A fine and fresh cover showing the military concession rate.	✉	**600**



The 'Imperial'

7055

7055 1861 (Oct 10): Envelope with full content from Beirut via Marseille to La Seyne sur Mer, Var, internally dated "Vaisseau l'Imperial, rade de Beyrouth 10 8bre 1861", bearing Napoléon imperforated 20 c. blue, tied by Petits Chiffres '1896' numeral of Marseille, "ESCAD. DE LA MÉDITée / Marseille" cds alongside, reverse with SEYNE-SUR-MER arrival (Oct 22) cds in black. The vessel 'Imperial' was built in 1856 and equipped with 90 canons. Marine Fieldpost was directly transfered to Marseille without passing a Fieldpost office. A fine and fresh cover showing the military concession rate, a rare item, signed Brun.	France 14B ✉	**1'000**

French Post Offices in the Holy Land

Jaffa

7056

View of Jaffa

		Yvert	Start price in CHF
7056	1853 (July 24): Entire letter from Jaffa to Marseille, dated inside, struck by superb **cursive handstamp of "*Jaffa*"** in black(Pothion = 32 points / Livnat no 1), framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MEDITERRANÉE" handstamp in red alongside, reverse with "SMYRNE TURQUIE" transit and MARSEILLE arrival cds's (Aug 15) in black. Horizontal file fold well away from the perfect strike of the elusive handstamp in use between 1852-1854. Taxed upon arrival with '10' décimes.	✉	**750**

ex 7057

7058

7057	1857 (Oct): Two Entire letters from the same correspondence from Jaffa to Marseille, struck by decent "JAFFA SYRIE" cogwheel cds's in black and framed large-sized "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" handstamps inred, reverse with "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" transit and MARSEILLE arrival cds's in black. Taxed upon arrival with '10' or '20' décimes, respectively a nice duo. *Note: Adhesives were introduced in Jaffa in February 1858.*	✉	**300**
7058	1873 (Jan 10): Triple rate Letter sheet from Jaffa to Marseille, bearing a horizontal strip of three Cérès 1872 80 c. rose, some perf. toning, tied by Gros chiffres '5089' numeral of Jaffa in black, crisp "JAFFA SYRIE" cogwheel cds, framed PD in black and red, and indistinct "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" handstamp in red alongside, reverse with "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" transit and MARSEILLE arrival cds's (Jan 22) in black. *Provenance: Collection David Franco, David Feldman sale (Dec 2017), lot 30153.*	France 57 ✉	**500**

7059

		Yvert	Start price in CHF
7059	1877 (Nov 23): Letter sheet from Jaffa to Marseille, bearing a pair of Sage 15 c. grey type II, tied by clear "JAFFA SYRIE" cds of the newly established bureau de distribution, oval BM in black and framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" handstamp in red alongside, reverse with "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" transit and MARSEILLE arrival cds's. A beautiful entire, signed Lamy.	France 77 ✉	**300**

7060

7060	1898 (Feb 4): Envelope from Jaffa to Samsun, bearing a **diagonally bisected example** of French Levant 1886/1901 2 pi. on 50 c. rose type II(YT 5), tied by clear "JAFFA SYRIE" cds, an information strike alongside, reverse with "SAMSUN TURQUIE" arrival (Feb 12) cds. Vertical filing crease, nevertheless one of three bisected usages recorded from the Beirut, cert. Nakri (2001). *Reference: Displayed and discussed in Steichele - Handbook of Holy Land Philately (1990) on page 138.* *Provenance: Collection Schüssler* *Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 2182* *David Feldman sale (Nov. 2004), lot 20179.*	5 ✉	**750**

Jerusalem

7061

Yvert — Start price in CHF

7061 1872 (Aug 10): Letter sheet via Jaffa to Lyon, bearing Napoléon laureated 80 c. rose, three superficial minor imperfections, tied by indistinct Gros chiffres '5089' numeral of Jaffa, **Jerusalem Cross / Croix potencée de Jérusalem** in blue green(Steichele no 325 / Pothion = 35 points), "JAFFA SYRIE" cogwheel transit cds in bluish black, and framed PD in the same shade alongside. Reverse with "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" transit, Marseille-Lyon ambulant as well as LYON arrival (Aug 20) cds's. Vertical file crease well away from adhesive and handstamps, an attractive item, signed Lamy; cert. Brun (2024). France 32 ✉ **1'200**

7062

7062 1876 (Oct 13): Part cover via Jaffa to Marseille, bearing Cérès 30 c. brown, tied by superb "JAFFA SYRIE" cogwheel cds in black, an information strike and **Jerusalem Cross / Croix potencée de Jérusalem** in blue(Steichele no 325 / Pothion = 35 points) alongside. The front shows in addition a **private Jerusalem cachet from the Carmelite order depicting also the Jerusalem Cross of the Crusader Kingdom**, and a French "PAG. ANG: V. BRIND. A MOD." entry (Oct 21) cds. On reverse part strike of French ambulant cds. As usual for this correspondence, the receiver's name was cut out of the address tablet and replaced, nevertheless a balanced part cover full of visual appeal showing the crusader's cross in an official and a private cachet. Correct 30 c. rate abroad in the first year of the General Postal Union.
Provenance: Cherrystone sale (May 2002), lot 1551. France 56 ✉ **1'000**

French Post Office in Jerusalem

7063

		Yvert	Start price in CHF
7063	1879 (Nov 27): Registered envelope via Jaffa to Paris, bearing two single examples of Sage 25 c. black on red, left stamp cut at top, each tied by light "JAFFA SYRIE" cds in black, an information strike, **empty Jerusalem Cross / Croix de Jérusalem évidé** (Steichele no 326 / Pothion = 38 points), and octagonal "R", both in blue alongside. The reverse was struck in transit by "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" cds (Nov 30), Lyon - Paris ambulant and PARIS arrival (Dec 9) cds's. Reverse of envelope detached from front and rejoined, nevertheless a usage of **utmost rarity of the empty Jerusalem Cross** of which Livnat can show only five examples between November 1878 and July 1880. Correct UPU rate of 25 centimes each for postage and registration. Cert. Brun (2024). *Reference: Shown and described in Livnat - Jérusalem et la Poste Française en Terre sainte 1843 - 1914 on page 191.* *Provenance: David Feldman sale (April 2007), lot 60062.*	France 91 ✉	**10'000**

Russian Post Offices in Syria & Lebanon

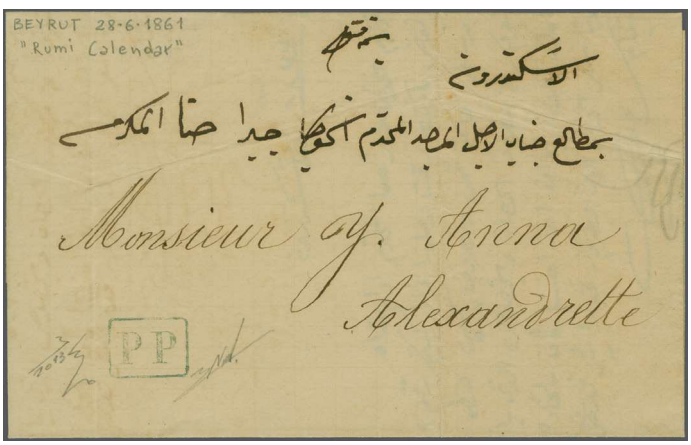
Beirut

7064

7066

Michel — Start price in CHF

7064 Russian P.O. in Mersina 1861 (March 21): Prepaid cover front from Mersina to Beirut struck with framed "COMPAGNIE RUSSE / MERSINE" datestamp in blue-green(Tchilinghirian unrecorded) with dates sideways and framed "P.P." in same ink(also unrecorded by Tchilinghirian). File fold but a superb strike of this marking, in conjunction with the P.P. almost certainly unique.
Provenance: Collection Liphschutz
Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 537
Collection Gregory Frantz, Corinphila sale 261 (Jan 2021), lot 6170. ✉ **750**



7065

7065 Russian P.O. in Beirut 1861 (June 28): Entire letter from Beirut to Alexandretta, struck on obverse by framed PP in blue of the Russian P.O. (Tchilinghirian unrecorded / Cedar catalogue fig. 78, valuation 11). Presumably **one of the first letters despatched at the Russian office in Beirut, for a most advanced collection of Beirut**.
Note: Usage prior to the issuance of Russian Imperial stamps in the Levant from November 1862. The letter is dated 28 June 1861 in the so called Rumi calendar corresponding to 10 July 1861 in the gregorian calendar. ✉ **2'000**

7066 1863 (July 6): Entire letter from Damascus via Beirut to Aleppo, internally dated "Damas 15 Juin 1863", struck on reverse in transit by "PORT BEIRUT" cds(Tchilinghirian fig 217) with encircled „P.P" of Beirut (Tchilinghirian fig 812) on front, both in black. Taxed in Aleppo in red crayon for the journey from Alexandretta. Most interesting, fine and attractive, signed Sorani.
Provenance: Collection Matuhin; Heinrich Köhler sale 203 (March 1972), lot 5761
Collection Pavlovsk; Corinphila sale 92 (March 1996), lot 4907
Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 571
DF sale (May 2004), lot 30277. ✉ **300**

7067

View of the Port of Beirut

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7067	1863 (Nov 19): Letter sheet from Beirut to Constantinople, bearing marginal horizontal pair of Russia Imperial Arms 1858 10 kop. brown & blue perf. 12½, tied by rhomboid numeral '783' of Beirut (Tchilinghirian fig 216) with matching "PORT BEIRUT" cds in black (Tchilinghirian fig. 217) on reverse. Some soiling of the stamps, minor paper faults of the letter well away from franking and handstamps, nevertheless a spectacular and extremely attractive full-Arabic entire showing the Port-to-Port rate, rare due to the usage of Russian Imperial adhesives outside Constantinople, unrecorded in Tchilinghirian, one of three covers recorded, cert Buchsbayew (2024). *Note: Russian Imperial stamps were used from November 1862 until they were replaced by the 'Ship & Eagle' adhesives of the ROPiT in 1865.*	Russia 5 ✉	**3'000**

7068

7069

7068	**Ingoing** 1865ca: Lettersheet to Beirut, bearing fine and fresh marginal 1865 2 pia. blue & red, tied upon arrival by rhomboid numeral '783' of Beirut in blue, matching "PORT BEIRUT / Jan 31" cds without year slug in blue (Tchilinghirian fig. 217) on reverse. One sideflap missing, nevertheless an appealing cover. *Provenance: Collections Kirchner and Agathon Fabergé with his handwritten notes on reverse, DF sale (May 2004), lot 30279.*	Ropit 2 ✉	**750**
7069	1866: 10 pa. rose & blue, a magnificent upper left corner marginal block of four from pos. 1-2 / 8-9 of the printing sheet with 28 examples (7 x 4), a fresh and fine multiple, cancelled by three strikes of rhomboid '783' numeral of Beirut.	Ropit 3/I	**250**

Agathon Fabergè

7070

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7070	Ingoing 1868 (March 8): Entire letter presumably from Mersina to Beirut, bearing on reverse a superb vertical block of 8 adhesives of the 1866 10 pa. rose & blue, cancelled / tied by "PORT BEIRUT" cds in blue (Tchilinghirian fig. 813). A spectacular and fine item, the largest multiple known of this stamp on cover to pay correctly the rate of 2 piastres, a **magnificent exhibition item of the highest calibre**. Signed A. Diena & G. Bolaffi; cert. Mikulski (2000). *Provenance: Agathon Fabergé collection, Harmer's sale (Jan 1940), lot 145* *Burrus collection (1964), lot 213* *Liphschutz collection; Cihangir collection, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 293.*	Ropit 3/I	✉ **10'000**

7071

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7071	1879: Thin '7' of Beirut surcharge in blue on 1872 10 kop. carmine & green, an **vertical pair showing variety: surcharge inverted** on lower stamp, original gum with hinge remnants, each stamp signed Mikulski and coming from his collection. *Note: In 1876 Beirut sold the 10 kopeck adhesives at the new rate of 8 kop, while the thin '7' kopeck surcharge in 1879 was attributed to Beirut, see Tchilinghirian & Stephens, part 2 on p. 156.* *Provenance: DF sale (May 2004), lot 30249.*	11/IIb var	* **1'000**

7073

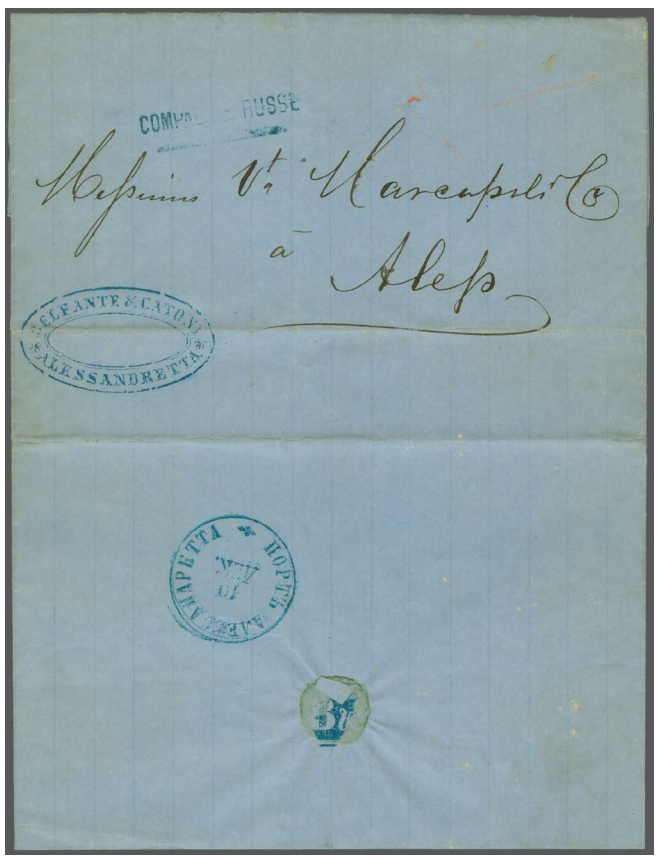
7072

7072	1899 (Sept 23): Registered stationery postcard 4 kop. green directed to Dresden, Germany, bearing an additional franking of 1888 1 kop. orange (2) and 2 kop. green (two vertical pairs), all perf. 14 1/4 : 14¾, tied by small straight-date "R.O.P.iT. / BEIRUT" datestamp (Tchilinghirian fig 220) in violet, 'R' in dots encircled alongside as well as ODESSA transit and Dresden arrival (Oct 17) cds's. Reverse with two KONSTANTINOPOL transit cds's, all in black. A fine uprated franking, no usage of the 1899 introduced provisional registration labels. *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 578.*	15C+ 16C	✉ **300**
7073	1911 (Dec 3): Large-sized registered envelope to Odessa, bearing horizontal strips of five adhesives of 1909 ROPiT Anniversary 5 para on 1 k., 10 para on 2 kop., 20 para on 4 kop., and 1 pi. on 10 kop., tied by double-circle "R.O.P.iT. / BEIRUT" datestamp (Tchilinghirian fig 221) in black, matching registration label alongside, reverse with ODESSA arrival (Dec 13) cds. A remarkable, philatelically inspired franking. *Provenance: DF sale (May 2004), lot 30257.*	39/I-42/I	✉ **250**

Alexandretta

View of Alexandretta

7074



7075

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7074	1865 (March 16): Entire letter from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Beirut, opened out for display, bearing 2 pi. deep blue and rose with good to large margins, tied upon arrival by clear rhomboid '783' numeral of Beirut, ornamental framed "P.P." of Alexandretta alongside, reverse with "PORT ALEKSANDRETTA" cds of transit (April 8) in black (Tchilinghirian fig 799). A beautiful cover, cert. Mikulski (2000). *Provenance: Collection Liphschutz* *Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 559.*	Ropit 4/I	✉ **1'500**
7075	1865 (Dec 10): Entire letter from Alexandretta to Aleppo, internally dated "22 Dbre 1865" (gregorian), struck on obverse by straight-line "COMPAGNIE RUSSE" (Tchilinghirian unrecorded) and on reverse by clear "PORT ALEKSANDRETTA" cds with year slug omitted (Tchilinghirian fig 799), both in blue. Arabic taxation in red crayon,an exceptional cover with this 'COMPAGNIE RUSSE' cancellation. *Note: This may be the detoriated strike of a formerly three-line datestamp "COMPAGNIE RUSSE / ALEXANDRETTE / Date" which is known only from one 1863 cover ex collection Pavlovsk, Corinphila sale 92 (March 1996), lot 4889. Figure attached to this lot.* *Provenance: Collection Liphschutz* *Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 546.*		✉ **500**

7076

7077

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7076	1866 (May 27): Entire letter from Beirut via Alexandretta to Aleppo, internally dated "6 Giugno 1866" (gregorian), struck in transit by clear "PORT ALEKSANDRETTA" cds with year slug omitted in blue (Tchilinghirian fig 799) with sender's cachet at left. Fine and most attractive. *Provenance: Corinphila sale 123 (Oct 2000), lot 3594.*	✉	**250**
7077	1866 (Aug 13): Letter sheet from Alexandretta to Aleppo, internally dated "25 Ago 1866" (gregorian), struck by clear "PORT ALEKSANDRETTA" cds with year slug omitted in blue (Tchilinghirian fig 799). Arabic taxation in red crayon, fine and fresh cover. *Provenance: Collection Liphschutz* *Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 547.*	✉	**150**

7078

7078	1872 (May 5): Envelope from Alexandretta to Constantinople, bearing on front two single examples of Russian Levant 1872 3 kop. green perf. 14½:15, tied by rhomboid numeral '782' of Alexandretta, on reverse a rare strike of the **large ornamental rectangular "ALEKSANDRETSKOJE / AGENSTVO / V / 5" datestamp** in blue (Tchilinghirian fig 201) and a crisp "KONST-POLSK AGENSTVO" arrival cds (May 13), both in blue. A highly appealing usage of the agency datestamp. Cert. Mikulski (2000). *Reference: This agenstvo handstamp is shown as fig. 201 in Tchilinghirian.* *Provenance: Liphschutz collection* *Cihangir collection, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 551.*	7	✉	**2'000**

View of Aleppo

7079

Michel — Start price in CHF

7079 1872 (May 5): Envelope from Aleppo via Alexandretta to Tarsus, opened out for display, sent first with the Turkish post and franked on reverse with two adhesives of 20 pa. and 1 pi., these tied by triple framed Arabic HALEP handstamp. Upon arrival in Alexandretta a rare strike of the large **ornamental rectangular "ALEKSANDRETSKOJE / AGENSTVO / V / 5" datestamp** in blue (Tchilinghirian fig 201) was struck on reverse, on front a pair of Russian Levant 1872 3 kop. green perf. 14½:15 on horizontally laid paper was tied by rhomboid numeral '782' of Alexandretta. The cover has been roughly opened and the resultant tears at the back protected by backing paper, nevertheless a marvellous usage of the agency datestamp. Cert. Mikulski (2000).
Reference: This agenstvo handstamp is shown as fig. 201 in Tchilinghirian.
Provenance: Liphschutz collection
Cihangir collection, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 550. 7x ✉ **2'500**

7080

View of Grossmunster in Zurich

Michel | Start price in CHF

7080 1872 (May): Lettersheet from Zürich via Alexandria and Alexandretta to Aleppo, internally dated "Zürich le 24 Avril 1872", endorsed "*Voie de Trieste & Alexandrette*", forwarded by 'Gsell & Co / à ALEXANDRIE (EGYPTE)", bearing on front Russian Levant 1876 10 kop. carmine & green surcharged '8' kop. in blue, tied by indistinct rhomboid numeral, on reverse part strike of a large **ornamental rectangular "ALEKSANDRETSKOJE / AGENSTVO"** datestamp in blue(Tchilinghirian fig 201) all in blue, the cover internally dated 11 May upon arrival. On reverse Turkey Duloz dues bisected 20 pa. and 2 pi. paying the journey to Aleppo, tied by triple framed Arabic HALEP handstamp in black. A cover in suboptimal condition, nevertheless an extremely rare incoming item from Switzerland with forwarder to Alexandria, from there by ROPiT to Alexandretta and the rest of its journey with the Turkish post, a desirable item for an advanced postal historian. 10b ✉ **500**

7081

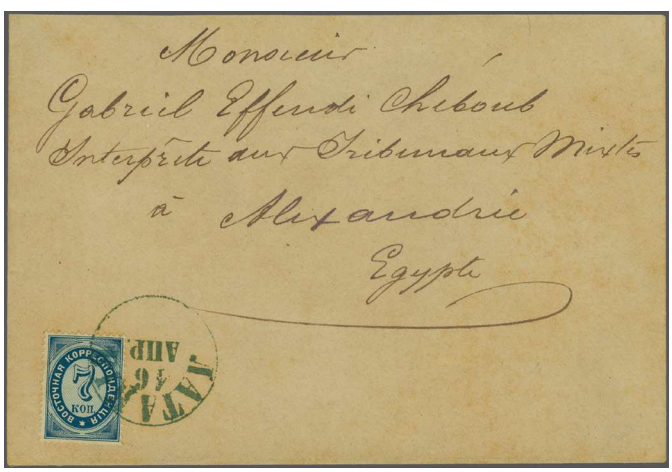
7081 1879 (June 24): Entire letter from Mersina via Alexandretta to Aleppo, bearing Russian Levant 1872 5 kop. blue on horizontally laid paper and 1879 1 kop. black on orange on vertically laid paper, tied upon arrival by ALEKSANDRETA cds(Tchilinghirian fig 200) in bluish black, an information strike alongside. On reverse Turkey 1869 20 pa. green & 1 pi. yellow paying the journey to Aleppo, tied by all Arabic HALEP intaglio handstamp in black. A fine combination cover.
Provenance: Oscar Collection, DF sale (Nov 1999), lot 20136. 8x+ 12y ✉ **500**

7082

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7082	1880 (March 15): Envelope from Alexandretta to Aleppo, bearing Russian Levant 1872 5 kop. blue on horizontally laid paper and 1879 1 kop. black on orange on vertically laid paper, tied by light ALEKSANDRETA cds (Tchilinghirian fig 200) in blue, an information strike alongside. On reverse Turkey Duloz 10 pa., 20 pa., 1 pi., and 2 pi. applied as dues and paying the journey to Aleppo, tied by all Latin "ALEP TURQUIE" cds in black. A fine combination cover. *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 554.*	8x+ 12y ✉	**750**

Lattakia

7083



7084

7083	1865 (Oct 26): Part letter from Lattakia to the telegraph station in Acra bearing 2 pi. blue and rose with good to large margins, tied by fair "RUS. OBSHCH. PAR i TOR. / LATAKIICK. AGENTSTVO" agency seal handstamp (Tchilinghirian fig. 805), "PORT LATAKIE" despatch cds (Tchilinghirian fig 207) alongside, both in blue. Fine and rare. *Provenance: Collection Cengiz Arsman, DF sale (May 2005), lot 20262.*	Ropit 4/II ✉	**750**
7084	1889 (April 16): Envelope from Lattakia to Alexandria, bearing 1888 7 kop. blue, tied by crisp strike of LATAKIYA datestamp in blue (Tchilinghirian fig. 209), showing on reverse "ALEXANDRIE ARRIVÉE" arrival cds (May 2, gregorian). Attractive. *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 570.*	18C ✉	**150**

Tripoli of Syria

View of Tripoli

7085

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7085	1863 (Feb 13): Unpaid Entire letter from Tripoli to Aleppo, internally dated "13 Février 1863", struck with oily strike of framed "**COMPAGNIE RUSSE / TRIPOLI**" datestamp in black (Tchilinghirian fig 806) with last ciffer of year date sideways. Charged with '20' kopeks in blue crayon and '4' in Arabic writing in red crayon. The only such recorded letter with this datestamp. *Reference: Described and displayed in detail in Tchilinghirian part VI on pp. 539-540, the present strike is the template for the figure. Displayed and discussed in Cedar catalogue, page 90.* *Provenance: Collection Liphschutz* *Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121, May 2000, lot 58* *DF sale (May 2004), lot 30381.*	✉	**2'000**

7086

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7086	1881 (July 3): Envelope from Tireboli to Constantinople, opened on three sides for presentation purposes, bearing on reverse pair Russian Levant 1872 10 kop. carmine & green (filing crease through the adhesives), tied by light "PORT TRIPOLI." cds (Tchilinghirian fig 212) in bluish black, an information strike on front. KONSTANTINOPEL arrival cds (July 12 adjacent to the franking. An extremely rare cancellation, no covers known to Tchilinghirian, only two covers known to the describer. Cert. E. Diena (1981). *Note: The 'old-fashioned' wording Port Tripoli in the late 1870s suggests that this datestamp was intended for a branch office operated by the Ropit agency at Tripoli harbour (El-Mina). One of two items recorded with this cancellation, the other one an 1897 stationery postcard directed to Metz and sold in Corinphila sale 106 (September 1998), lot 9681.* *Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 586.*	9 ✉	**1'500**

7087

View of Patras

7087	1913 (Feb 21): Envelope to Patras bearing 1913 Romanov 5 pa. on 1 kop., 15 pa. on 3 kop., and 20 pa. on 4 kop., tied by "P.O.P.iT. / TIREBOLI" cross-type cds in black (Tchilinghirian fig. 215), reverse with ALEXANDRIA transit and indistinct PATRAS arrival cds's. Interesting cover, correctly franked at 1 piastre. *Provenance: DF sale (May 2004), lot 30383.*	61+ 63+ 64 ✉	**200**

Aleppo

The Citadel of Aleppo

7088

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7088	**Ingoing** 1869 (Jan 28): Entire letter from Alexandretta to Aleppo, sent unpaid and struck by extremely rare two-line "POSTE-RUSSE / d'ALEP" in greenish blue (Tchilinghirian fig 205). One of four covers known to date, this being the best strike of this elusive cancellation. Cert. Mikulski (2000). *Note: The existence of a Russian post at Aleppo remained unsuspected for a long time. Most letters were transported by the Turkish post from Aleppo to Alexandretta, where they were transferred to the foreign postal services. Vice versa, incoming mail was charged and Turkish postage due was added. However, Tchilinghirian (1958) described in the collection of Franz See an ingoing stampless cover from the Marcopoli correspondence which was struck in Aleppo by a two-line "POSTE-RUSSE / d'ALEP". In the 1960 supplement of their work, Tchilinghirian & Stephen noted two additional covers with this cancellation, the present stampless item from the same correspondence ex Liphschutz and another one from Smyrna ex collection Matuhin, franked with 5 kop Levant adhesive. These covers establish that some sort of a Russian post was functioning in Aleppo. In between a fourth cover was found, all ingoing to Aleppo on the two dates of January 22 and January 28, 1869.* *Interestingly, this cancellation looks were similar to the French "POSTE FRANCAISE / d'ALEP" and may have been manufactured by the same craftsman.* *All four covers show a taxation of '1' (piastre) in red crayon.* *Reference: Described in detail in Tchilinghirian "Stamps of the Russian Empire used abroad", part VI on pp. 536-537 (1957).* *Provenance: Liphschutz collection* *Cihangir collection, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 560.*		✉	**2'000**

Russian Post Offices in the Holy Land

Jaffa

7089

		Michel		Start price in CHF
7089	1872ca: Russian Levant pair 1872 3 kop. dark green, cancelled by clear double-framed „JAFFA / P.P.“ in blue (Tchilinghirian fig. 234, Steichele 621), mounted on cut-out from bluish envelope. A most attractive usage of this handstamp which was in use between the late 1860s and 1875, cert. Muentz (1996). *Provenance: Asia Minor sale, DF (Nov 2004), lot 20213.*	7	△	**300**

Jerusalem

7090

The Russian Post Office in Jerusalem

7090	1913 (July 2): Registered Envelope to Korntal, Germany, bearing 1910 Arms 5 pa. on 1 k. and 10 pa. on 2 kop. in combination with 1913 Romanov Tricentenary 10 pa. on 2 k., 20 pa. on 4 k., and 1 pi. on 10 kop., tied by light cross-date "R.O.P.iT. / IERUSALIM" cds (Tchilinghirian fig 247) in black, 'R' in dots encircled and matching registration label alongside. Impressive Holy Land item, signed Nakri.	49+ 50+ 62+ 64+ 65	✉	**750**

Russian Post Offices in Egypt

Alexandria

View of Alexandria

7091

		Michel	Start price in CHF
7091	1863 (Dec 12): Entire letter from Aleppo via Alexandria to Marseille, struck in transit by "PORT ALEKSANDRIA" cds in blue (Tchilinghirian fig 256) with ornamental framed „P.P." of Alexandretta (Tchilinghirian unrecorded) in blue alongside. The entire was transferred to the French P.O. in Alexandria, there struck by "ALEXANDRIE EGYPTE" cds in black (Dec 24) and reached Marseille with a British vessel, part strike of "PAQ. ANG MARSEILLE" cds in red (Jan 7, 64). The Russian pre-payment was not accepted, and the letter charged with '10' décimes. An **exceptional combination cover from Syria using for its journey Russian and British Shipmail services mediated by the French P.O. in Alexandria**. Most interesting, fine and attractive, signed Sorani, cert. Buchsbayew (2024). *Provenance: Pavlovsk collection, Corinphila sale 92 (March 1996), lot 4923.*	✉	**5'000**

View of Latakia

7092

Michel — Start price in CHF

7092 Ingoing 1865 (Nov 3): Entire letter from Lattakia to Alexandria, opened out for display, bearing 2 pi. blue and rose with shaved to huge margins, tied by fair "RUS. OBSHCH. PAR i TOR. / LATAKIICK. AGENTSTVO" agency seal handstamp(Tchilinghirian fig. 805) in black, **very rare ornamental rectangular "ALEKSANDRIISK AGENSTVO** 20 / XI" arrival datestamp in blue (Tchilinghirian unrecorded) on reverse. A **spectacular combination of these two rarities of the Russian Levant**, one of only two recorded covers with this Alexandria datestamp, unrecorded by Tchilinghirian but mentioned in Peter Smith's treatise on Egypt, pp. 117-18. Cert. Mikulski (2000).
Note: Interestingly, the ornamental datestamp of Alexandria has the sideways date with the month at right and the day at left, while the corresponding ornamental of Alexandretta is oriented vice versa.
Provenance: Collection Liphschutz
Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 131 (May 2000), lot 563. Ropit 4/I ✉ **3'000**

7093

Michel | Start price in CHF

7093 1866ca: Undated envelope from Alexandria to Tripoli, bearing fine and fresh horizontal pair of 1865 2 pia. blue & red, tied by rhomboid numeral '785' of Alexandria. No datestamps, a **most attractive double rate cover**. Signed Sorani. Ropit 4/I ✉ **1'500**

7094

7094 Ingoing 1866ca: Entire mourning letter to Alexandria bearing 2 pi. blue and rose, a used example with large even margins all round, tied upon arrival by rhomboid numeral '785' of Alexandria in blue, reverse with part strike of "PORT ALEKSANDRIYA" datestamp (Tchilinghirian fig 256) in blue.
Provenance: Collection Cengiz Arsman, DF sale (May 2005), lot 20252. Ropit 4/II ✉ **1'200**

7095

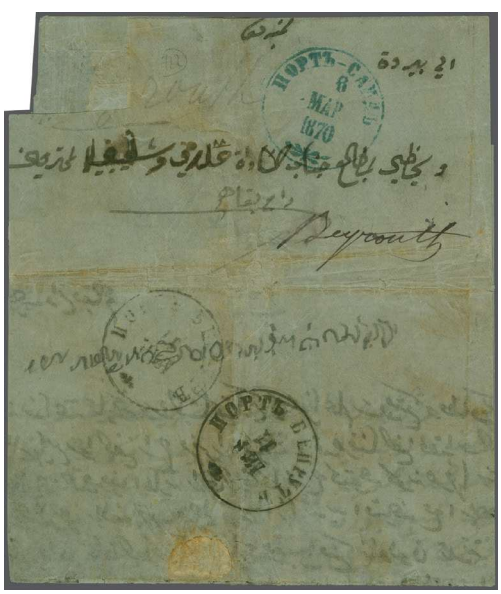
7095 Ingoing 1871 (Jan 5): Entire letter from Lattakia to Alexandria, bearing 1868 1 kop. brown and 5 kop. blue, perf. 11½ (minor faults), tied by indistinct rhomboid numeral in blue, on reverse LATAKIA despatch cds (Tchilinghirian fig. 208) and **very rare "ALEKSANDRIISKOE AGENTSTVO ROPiT** 5 I 1871" large sized arrival cds with inverted year slug (Tchilinghirian fig. 838), both in blue. An interesting cover.
Provenance: Collection Pavlovsk, Corinphila sale 92 (March 1996), lot 4925. 2+ 4 ✉ **1'000**

7096

Michel | Start price in CHF

7096 1871 (April 3): Letter sheet from Alexandria via Alexandretta to Aleppo, bearing two single examples of 1868 1 kop. brown and 5 kop. blue each, both perf. 11½, tied by lightest strikes of rhomboid numeral '785' of Alexandria in blue, there or at a later office cancelled in addition by pen strikes. On reverse of entire a matching **very rare "ALEKSANDRIISKOE AGENTSTVO** ROPiT 3 APR 1870" large sized despatch cds with inverted year slug (Tchilinghirian fig. 838) and transit "PORT ALEXANDRETTA" cds (Tchilinghirian fig. 799), both in blue. The residual journey was paid by the receiver, on reverse five adhesives of 2 pi., 20 pa. (3) and 10 pa. were tied by triple framed Arabic HALEP handstamp with double circle bilingual ALEP (April 24, 1870) struck adjacent. An interesting and attractive double rate cover with part pre-payment, sent from Egypt to Alexandretta with ROPiT vessels, then by Turkish post to its receiver.
Provenance: Collection Col. J.R. Danson, Robson Lowe, Geneva (April 1977)
Collection Pavlovsk, Corinphila sale 92 (March 1996), lot 4926. 2+ 4 ✉ **1'500**

Port Said

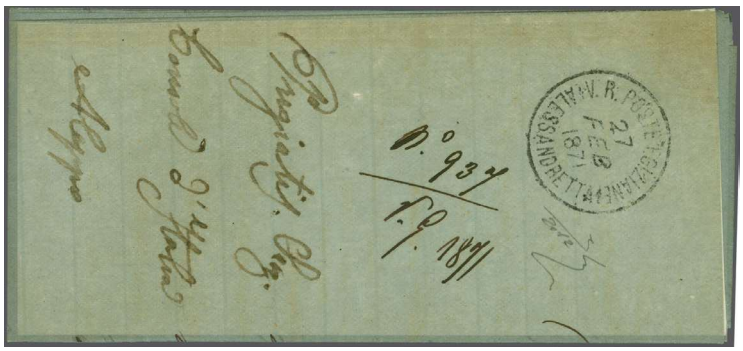


7097

View of Port Said Harbour

7097 1870 (March 6): Entire letter from Port Said to Beirut, struck by "PORT-SAID" despatch cds (Tchilinghirian fig 261) in blue, reverse two "PORT BEIRUT" (Tchilinghirian fig 217) arrival cds's of March 11. A rare entire opened up for presentation, the top left corner cut away, nevertheless a most interesting usage at the post office in Port Said.
Note: Port Said is the Mediterranean entrance to the Suez Canal, inaugurated in 1869. A Russian PO was opened there in 1867 and Port Said became a regular port of call for several Russian shipping lines. The Russian PO's in Alexandria and Port Said were closed on 1 October 1875.
Provenance: Heinrich Köhler sale 202 (Dec 1971), lot 2281;
Collection Pavlovsk, Corinphila sale 92 (March 1996), lot 4932. ✉ **300**

Egyptian Consular Post Offices in the Levant



7098

Gibbons Start price in CHF

7098 **Egyptian Consular Post Office abroad in Alexandretta** 1871 (Feb 27): Entire condolence letter, delivered privately by the director of the Egyptian post office in Alexandretta named Giovanbattista Gasparoli and adressed to the Italian consul in Aleppo. The letter was was folded and sealed and on front the rare "V. R. POSTE EGIZIANE ALESSANDRETTA 27 FEB 1871" (Smith scarcity factor = 175) was struck. A most interesting item with this rare Alessandretta datestamp.
Note: The Egyptian post offices at the Syrian coastline were open from July 1870 until February 1872. ✉ **500**

Port of Mersina

7099

7099 **Egyptian Consular Post Office abroad in Mersina** 1871 (Feb 15): Letter sheet from Mersina to Beirut, bearing Egypt 1867 1 pi. rose-red, tied by "V. R. POSTE EGIZIANE MERSINA" cds (Smith scarcity factor = 350) with clear information strike alongside. Reverse with "V. R. POSTE EGIZIANE BAIROUT" arrival cds (Feb 19). A rare and fine Shipmail cover, **only two such recorded**.
Note: The Mersina Office was open from July 1870 until February 1872.
Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 2654
Rarities of Egypt collection, David Feldman sale (Dec 2006), lot 30045. 14 ✉ **5'000**

British Post Office in Beirut

The Harbour of Beirut

7100

Gibbons

Start price in CHF

7100 1874 (Jan 1): Envelope from Beirut to New York, bearing Great Britain 1864 1 d. red pl. 138, 1873 3 d. rose pl. 11 and wing marginal example of 1873 6 d. grey pl. 12, tied by bold strikes of 'G06' obliterator with superb "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds adjacent in black. Reverse with ALEXANDRIA transit cds of British P.O. (Jan 8) and 'New York / Paid All' arrival in red and '2 / Cents' credit marking on obverse. A charming and rare three colour Transatlantic franking.
Note: Correct 10 d. rate via Alexandria and Brindisi. A British postal agency was opened in Beirut on 20 March 1873 and the 'G06' obliterator used there.
Provenance: Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 123 (Oct 2000) lot 2143 Z2+ Z11+
Collection Dubois, Corinphila sale 267 (June 2021), lot 4259. Z21 ✉ **1'000**

7101

7101 1875 (Oct 14): Mourning envelope from Beirut to Firenze, bearing Great Britain 1875/76 2½ d. rosy mauve tied by 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (Oct 14) paying single GPU rate. Reverse with BRINDISI transit and FIRENZE arrival (Oct 23) cds's. Slitted for disinfection, an attractive cover, presumably **one of the first covers directly after the 1873/75 period of UK - Italy combination covers**.
Provenance: Oscar Collection, David Feldman sale (Nov. 1999), lot 20252. Z6 ✉ **750**

7102

André Bollen

Gibbons | **Start price in CHF**

7102 1876 (June 26): Envelope from Beirut to Calcutta, British India, endorsed "*Via Alexandrie Suez & Bombay*", bearing Great Britain 1876 2½ d. rosy mauve pl. 3, two horizontal pairs, cancelled together by'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds adjacent in black. Reverse with British ALEXANDRIA cds (June 29), thence via Suez with 'Sea Post Office / F' datestamp in black (June 30) and CALCUTTA arrival (July 5) cds. Cover abrasions but a very scarce usage prior to the adherence of India to the GPU in July 1876.
Provenance: Collection André Bollen, Köhler sale (Feb 1983), lot 286. Z6 ✉ **500**

7103

View of Pistoia

7103 1874 (Aug 6): **Combination envelope from Beirut to Pistoia**, bearing Great Britain 1858/69 2 d. blue pl. 14 in a deep shade tied by 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (Aug 6) paying single rate to Alexandria. In addition, Italian ESTERO 1874 40 centesimi rosa (Sassone 7) was added, tied by indistinct grill numeral in black. Struck alongside with "ALESSANDRIA D'EGITTO / POSTE ITALIANE 13 AGO 74" cds. Reverse with British ALEXANDRIA, BRINDISI, and BOLOGNA transit as well as PISTOIA arrival (Aug 22) cds's. An attractive combination cover.
Note: A British postal agency was opened in Beirut on 20 March 1873 and the 'G06' obliterator used there. Combination frankings with French or Italian adhesives occur as mail to France or Italy, respectively went via the British packet to Alexandria and then by either French or Italian packets to Europe. One has to assume that the ESTERO adhesive had been added to the letter already in Beirut. Between October 1873 and September 1875, a total of 18 combination covers are known despatched at the British P.O. in Beyrouth and franked at the Italian P.O. in Alexandria with Italian or ESTERO adhesives for the onward journey to Western Europe, see Zanaria & coworkers - Catalogo storico-postale dei francobolli in uso negli uffici postali italiani all'estero 1852-1890 on pages 274-277. Z4 + Sassone 7 ✉ **2'000**

A British postal agency was opened in Beirut on 20 March 1873 and the 'G06' obliterator used there. Combination frankings with French or Italian adhesives occur as mail to France or Italy, respectively went via the British packet to Alexandria and then by either French or Italian packets to Europe. One has to assume that the French adhesives had been added to the letter already in Beirut. In his 2000 census, Alexander Kaczmarczyk noted 32 covers with combination frankings of Great Britain and France between September 1873 and October 1876.

7104

Gibbons

Start price in CHF

7104 1874 (Oct 8): **Combination cover from Beirut to Lyon** bearing Great Britain 1858/69 2 d. blue pl. 14 tied by 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (Oct 8) paying single rate to Alexandria. In addition, France Siège 1870 40 c. orange in a horizontal pair was added, tied by Gros Chiffres '5080' numeral in black with part strike of "ALEXANDRIE / EGYPTE" datestamp in black (Oct 12). Struck alongside with framed PD in red. Reverse with British ALEXANDRIA and "MARSEILLE - LYON SPECIAL" transit as well as LYON arrival (Oct 20) cds's. A fine combination cover. Z4 + Yvert

Provenance: Harmers of New York sale (Nov 1983), lot 837. 38 ✉ **2'000**

7105

7105 1875 (June 17): **Combination cover from Beirut to Lyon** bearing Great Britain 1858/69 2 d. blue pl. 14 tied by 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (June 17) paying single rate to Alexandria. In addition, France Cérès 1872 80 c. rose was added, tied in transit by Gros Chiffres '2040' numeral of Marseille in black with framed "PAQUEBOTS DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE" and framed PD, both in red alongside. Reverse with MARSEILLE transit and LYON arrival (June 29) cds's. Slitted for desinfection, in Alexandria given direct to the French vessel, horizontal file fold just mentioned for accuracy, otherwise a fine combination cover. Z4 + Yvert 57 ✉ **1'500**

Panorama of Beirut

7106

André Bollen

		Gibbons	Start price in CHF
7106	1874 (Aug 13): **Combination cover from Beirut to Lyon** bearing Great Britain 1865 4 d. vermilion pl. 13 tied by bold 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (Aug 13) paying double rate to Alexandria. In addition, France Cérès 1871/75 80 c. carmine in a horizontal pair was added, tied by Gros Chiffres '5080' numeral in black with "ALEXANDRIE / EGYPTE" datestamp in black (Aug 17). Struck with framed "AFFRANCHISEMENT / INSUFFISANT" in black at left and charged due at '14' décimes in manuscript. Reverse with 'Marseille à Lyon' ambulant and LYON arrival cds's (Aug 25). A **famous and magnificent cover.** *Provenance: Collection Col. J. R. Danson, Robson Lowe sale (April 1977), lot 103* *Collection André Bollen, Köhler sale (Feb 1983), lot 278;* *Collection Cihangir, Corinphila sale 121 (May 2000), lot 2695;* *Collection Dubois, Corinphila sale 267 (June 2021), lot 4261.*	Z13 + Yvert 57 ✉	**5'000**

7107

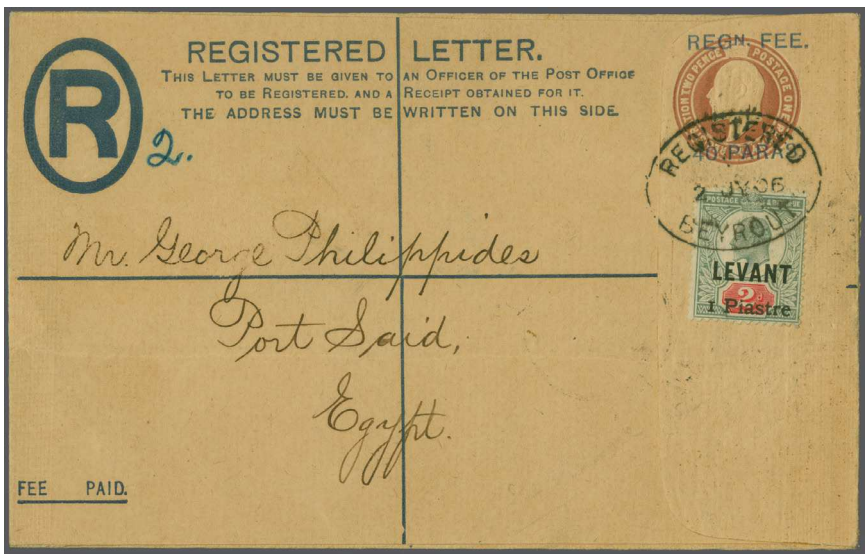
Market in Beirut

		Gibbons	Start price in CHF
7107	1876 (Oct 5): **Combination letter sheet from Beirut to Lyon** bearing Great Britain 1876/79 2½ d. rosy mauve pl. 3 tied by 'G06' obliterator with "BRITISH POST OFFICE / BEYROUT" cds in black alongside (Oct 5) paying the single GPU rate to Alexandria. In addition, France Cérès 1872 10 c. brown on rose in a vertical strip of three was added, tied by "ALEXANDRIE / EGYPTE" datestamp in black (Oct 9). Reverse with British ALEXANDRIA, "MARSEILLE - LYON SPECIAL" transit and LYON arrival (Oct 17) cds's. An attractive combination cover **after the foundation of the General Postal Union**, the **last date noted in the Kaczmarczyk census for such a combination cover.** *After the foundation of the GPU in July 1875, the British vessel rate from Beirut to Alexandria was increased from 2 d. to the new 2½ d. GPU rate, while the French part stayed at the pre-GPU rate of 80 centimes. After France joined the GPU in January 1876 the GPU rates of 2½ d. and 30 c., respectively had to be paid for both parts of the Beirut - Alexandria - France journey although it is not clear why this was necessary at all as all involved postal administrations had been members of the General Postal Union.*	Z6 + Yvert 54 ✉	**2'000**

7108

7108	1906 (July 2): **1906 Beyrout Provisional 1 pi. on 2 d.**, tied by part strike of "BEYROUT / BRITISH POST OFFICE" cds to piece. A rare first day usage of this stamp with a print run of just 480 adhesives, certs. R.P.S. (1981), Sismondo (1999)Gi = £ 700+ .	15	△ **300**

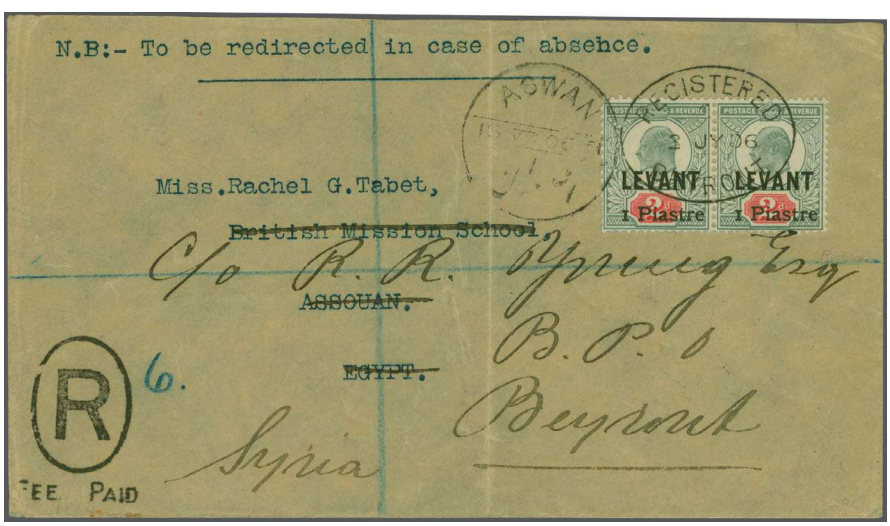
Under the authority of the British Vice-consul at Beirut, who was also the Postmaster, two sheets totalling 480 stamps of the 2 d. value overprinted LEVANT(SG L4) were provisionally surcharged ' 1 Piastre'. The surcharging was done at The American Press under the supervision of Mr. Fryer, who was an American and a director of The Press, and an Englishman named Glockler who was the manager of the printing department.



7109

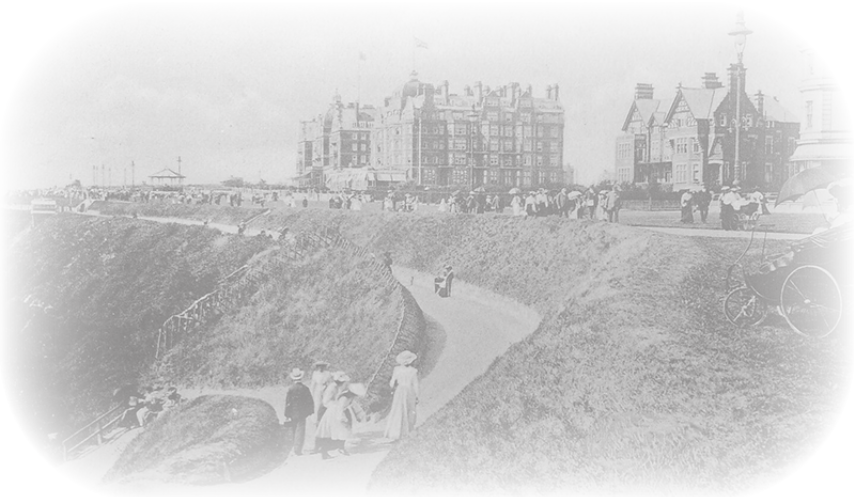
Gibbons Start price in CHF

7109 1906 (July 2): **Registered stationery letter from Beirut to Port Said**, Egypt, bearing in addition **1906 Beyrout Provisional 1 pi. on 2 d.**, tied together by oval "REGISTERED / BEYROUT" registration datestamp, giving no. '2' in blue crayon aside the 'R' in oval. Reverse with "PORT-SAID" arrival (July 4) cds. A most attractive usage from the day of issuance, presumably the second cover despatched, much rarer than a usage from July 3, which is the only other date known for this issue. In addition, the only usage on a stationery known to the describer, a wonderful cover combining beauty and rarity. Cert. B.P.A. (1968).
Provenance: David Feldman sale (April 2006), lot 30677. 15 ✉ **1'000**



7110

7110 1906 (July 3): **Registered Envelope from Beirut to Assuan, Egypt**, redirected to Beirut, bearing **1906 Beyrout Provisional 1 pi. on 2 d. in a horizontal pair**, tied together by central strike of oval "REGISTERED / BEYROUT" registration datestamp, the left adhesive in addition by ASWAN transit (July 16) cds, oval "R - FEE PAID" handstamp alongside. Reverse with two CAIRO transit (July 10 & 19) and ASSOUAN transit (July 11) cds's. Vertical file fold well away from the adhesives just mentioned for accuracy, a most appealing cover, cert. R.P.S. (1989) Gi = £ 2'100 for a single on cover.
Provenance: Philipps London (Nov 1988), lot 581
Heinrich Köhler sale 269 (Oct 1990), lot 3875. 15 ✉ **1'000**



View of Folkstone

7111

Gibbons | Start price in CHF

7111 British Post Office in Beirut 1906 (July 3): **Registered Envelope** from Beirut to Forest Hill London, forwarded to Folkstone, bearing **1906 Beyrout Provisional 1 pi. on 2 d. in a block of four,** cancelled by central strike of oval "REGISTERED / BEYROUT" registration datestamp, two FOREST HILL datestamps alongside. Three London Registered datestamps as well as FOLKSTONE arrival cds on reverse (July 16). Small cover faults, fine and extremely rare, only known used from 2 & 3 July 1906, one of three covers known to the describer with a block of four, cert. RPS (1936) Gi = £ 2'100 for a single on cover.

Provenance: David Feldman sale (Dec 2002), lot 31337. 15 ✉ **1'500**