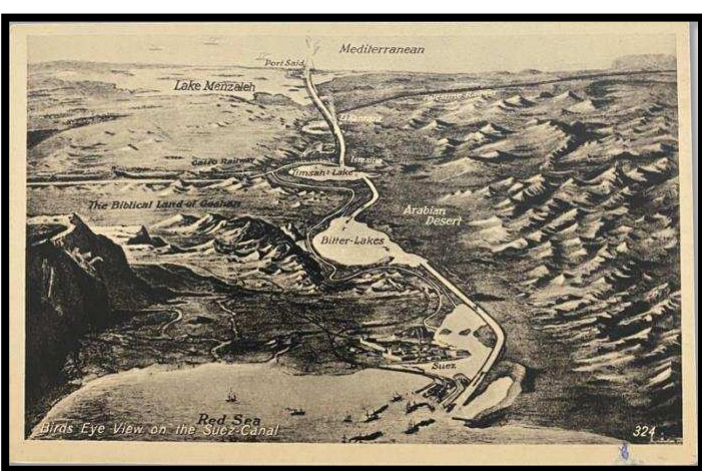


STAMPS OF SUEZ CANAL COMPANY 1868

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THE SUEZ CANAL CO. carried mail between Port Said and Suez free between 1859 and 1867. In July 1868. The company started charging for this service and issued stamps 'imperforate' in four denominations 1c., 5c., 20c., and 40c. The stamps are **lithographed** in sheets of 12x10 stamps, each stamp 27x20mm. The **Watermark 'LA+.-F'** (La Croix Freres), but only a few stamps bear a portion of this watermark. Stamps were **only in use for only 40 days**.



Postcard: View of Suez Canal.
#324, Published on 1920 by OCB. (Egypt)



Quantity Ordered
15/4/1868: 1,000 stamps.
29/7/1868: 4,800 stamps.
Quantity Delivered
25/6/1868: 1,220 stamps.
4/8/1868: 4,800 stamps.
Max. Possible Used: 2,806

1 Centimes (cert.) Black.
#Suez Canal Company, 1868. 1c. unused, type IV.



Quantity Ordered
15/4/1868: 30,000 stamps.
Quantity Delivered
4/8/1868: 31,236 stamps.
Max. Possible Used: 2,708

5 Centimes (cert.) Green.
#Suez Canal Company, 1868. 5c. unused, position 90.



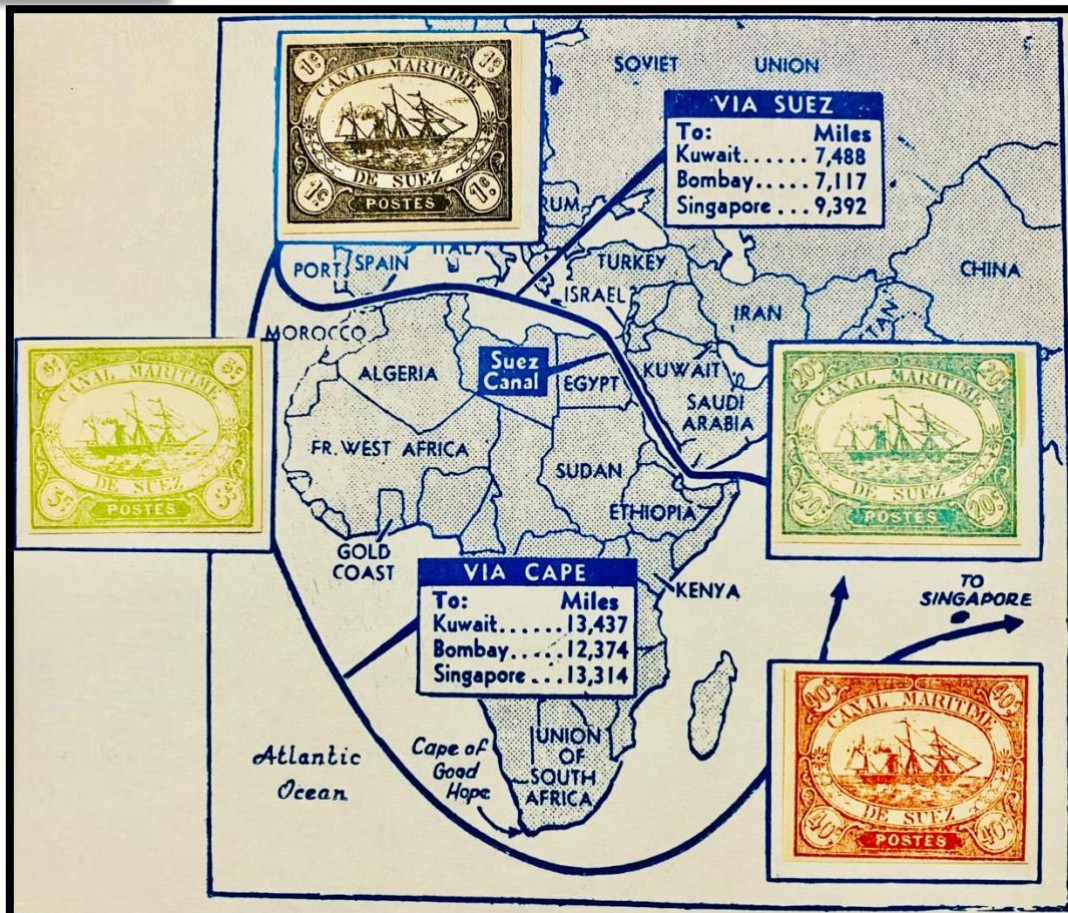
Quantity Ordered
15/4/1868: 100,000 stamps.
Quantity Delivered
4/8/1868: 105,644 stamps.
Max. Possible Used: 11,777

20 Centimes (cert.) Blue.
#Suez Canal Company, 1868. 20c. unused, position 69.



Quantity Ordered
15/4/1868: 10,000 stamps.
Quantity Delivered
4/8/1868: 10,863 stamps.
Max. Possible Used: 11487

40 Centimes (cert.) Red.
#Suez Canal Company, 1868. 40c. unused, position 8.



Connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through the Isthmus of Suez and dividing Africa and Asia. The 193.30 km (120.11 mi) long canal is a popular trade route between Europe and Asia.

#Map created by exhibitor with unused 'Spiro' 1880. forged stamps.

Rates: The Company set its postal rates to be the same as those in force in France:

Letters – 20c. per 10g.

Circulars – 1c. per 10g, with minimum of 5c.

Newspapers – 1c. per 10g, with a minimum of 2c.

Delivery to the address's premises – 20c. + Normal postal

Registered mail service was apparently not available.

Variety: "Steamship" 5 centime green, imperforate, lithographed by Chezaud, Aine & Tavernier, Paris, in sheet of 120 objects, on medium white wove paper without watermark. Position 34 on the sheet, 'P' of 'Postes' with stop after 'P' and break in circle above number '5'.

#Suez Canal Company, 1868. 5c. green unused, position 34.

Forgeries: These are obviously some of the most classic stamps. Given the short validity period and the low production, the resulting demand produced a tremendous forgery opportunity. These stamps should only be purchased from a trusted reliable source, and any used ones should be **CERTIFIED**.

#Block of four forgery type 18, made by Saatjian of Paris. Reduced 40%



'Spiro' 1880. forged stamp. Type I & III