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

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After a thorough and careful study of the item submitted to me for authentication as EGYPT, 1866 (1st January), 10 para brown, with Turkish-language "MASR" overprint in black, watermarked \* an unused example, without gum, of the .....

**VARIETY, PERFORATED 13 ON ALL SIDES,**

*Nile Post #D20; Balian #2k; Zeheri #2k; Stanley Gibbons #2e; Scott #2c, of which an exact-size, color photograph is affixed to this document, I hereby certify it to be .....*

**GENUINE IN ALL RESPECTS**

*Charles F. Hass*

14<sup>th</sup> February, 2008

With its brown background and black "MASR" overprint both produced by stone lithography, this submitted stamp is completely sound and without faults and, unusually, has all of its perforation teeth near-perfectly intact. It is from position #20 of the sheet of 200 subjects (the twentieth stamp of the first row). Of the vertical transfer matrices, each of ten types, from which the two printing stones were produced, it is of background transfer type 1 and overprint transfer type 1 (showing a small indentation in the top of the letter *sad* (س) of its central word, "Masr" ... a constant flaw found *only* in the overprint of pos. #20). With its perforations gauging 13 on all four sides, it is correctly from a corner of the sheet. Normally, a stamp perforated 13 on *any* side, when it is able to be plated, is shown to be from the outer two columns and/or rows of the sheet. This is because of the fact that on many (possibly on all) sheets of the majority of the values of the First Issue (apparently with the exception of most of the 2 piastres sheets and most of the 5 piastres sheets), both a peripheral row and a peripheral column of stamps were left imperforate, most likely as a result of those two edges having served as a finger-hold during the feeding of the sheets into the 12½-gauge machine. For reasons that remain a mystery, the sheets were not immediately turned around to finish their imperforate edges. This was accomplished (apparently later) on a machine gauging 13, thus resulting in outer-row and/or outer-column stamps with various combinations of perfs gauging 12½ and 13 ... and, on only one corner stamp per sheet ... the rare examples gauging 13 on all sides ... such as the submitted example. I have applied my C.F.H. authentication mark, in violet, to the reverse of the stamp. C.F.H.



Certificate No. 2008-008 (\*©2008)

Submitted by Mr. Joseph H. Chalhoub