

BRITISH EMPIRE

British Columbia—*contd.*

1865 FIVE CENTS

PLATE 2

The cliché is dated November 1942. The colour is rather deeper and has more rose than a genuine and the impression is comparatively flat.

BASIC TESTS: *B, D, E, F, H and K*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) There is a constant flaw in the fourth oblong from the left in the top frame, which extends into the fifth oblong (Plate 2).
- (ii) There is a constant weakness in the bottom frame line immediately below the right corner of the "N" of "CENTS"
- (iii) Both the upper and the lower lips lack the definition of the genuine as the lines of shading are more broken and have a spotted appearance.
- (iv) The fine lines around the nostrils and the mouth are much coarser than in the genuine.

CANCELLATIONS

- (1) The obliteration "35" in black (normally the genuine is in blue).
- (2) "POST OFFI(CE) / VICTORIA VANCOUVER (ISLAND)/PAID" in black (normally the genuine is in blue). There are two states of this cancellation (see illustration).
- (3) "PAID" in double oval frame in black and in blue (normally the genuine is in blue). In the genuine the inner line is much thinner than the outer.
- (4) "NEW WEST(MINSTER)/POST (OFFICE)/BRITISH (COLUMBIA)" in black (normally the genuine is in blue).

1865 TEN CENTS

PLATE 2

The cliché is dated January 1953. The colour is deeper than the genuine and the impression is much more coarse.

BASIC TESTS: *B, D, E, F, H and K.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) There is a constant flaw in the background above and between the "NC" of "VANCOUVER" and a dot in the floral ornament below the "N." (Plate 2.)
- (ii) There are two weak spots in the outer frame line above the "N" of "ISLAND."
- (iii)*There is a constant break through two lines of shading on the extreme right of the background on a level with the end of the pendant curl.
- (iv) There are two constant weak spots in the solid background in the lower right corner.
- (v) The lobe of the ear has been retouched as have the two horizontal lines of shading on the cheek immediately to the right of the mouth.

*One example has been seen with this defect touched up.

CANCELLATIONS

See 5 cents above.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

The following comments apply to all three denominations described.

	GENUINE	SPERATI
PRINTING	<i>Lithography</i>	<i>Photo-lithography</i>
WATERMARK	<i>Some stamps in the sheet show portions of "Pure Linen Bank" and "W.C.S. and Co." in monogram</i>	
PERFORATION (8AS. AND 1R.)	<i>14, line</i>	<i>Genuine</i>
GUM	<i>Colourless</i>	<i>Colourless</i>
IMPRESSION	<i>Clear but spotted</i>	<i>Clear, less spotted</i>

BASIC TESTS: *The double lines that form the frame at the top and the sides are stronger than those in the genuine.*

For comparison use the genuine stamps in the common colours.

B R I T I S H E M P I R E

British East Africa—*contd.*

1890-94 FOUR ANNAS

PLATE 3

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in colour, as well as unused reproductions on genuine paper(?).

	GENUINE	SPERATI
COLOUR {DL MVL	Grey Grey on soiled paper	Grey Grey, yellowish wash on surface
PAPER {DL MVL	Toned Soiled grey	White Yellowish grey; yellow on reverse

- SPECIFIC TESTS: (i) Small dash in the head of the "C" of "COMPANY" (Plate 3).
 (ii) Nick in the top of "O" of "COMPANY" (Plate 3).
 (iii) Two dots (like a colon) between the "I" and "G" of "LIGHT."

1890-94 EIGHT ANNAS

PLATE 3

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in colour, as well as unused and used reproductions on genuine paper.

	GENUINE	SPERATI
COLOUR {DL MVL	Grey Deep purplish-grey	Grey—the used is rather pale Grey, yellowish wash on surface
PAPER MVL	Greyish-white	Yellowish-grey; yellow on the reverse

SPECIFIC TESTS

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| (i) Between the fifth and sixth pairs of short lines from the bottom in the left frame, there is a dash to the right. (<i>N.B.</i> This flaw is on one of the genuine types.)
(ii) There is a dot in the upright of the "R" of "IMPERIAL." (Plate 3).
(iii) There is a dot in the upright of the "B" of "BRITISH." (Plate 3). | (iv) The lettering is not so well formed as in the genuine.

CANCELLATIONS
1. "Squared" circle "MOMBASA/A/4 FE/92."
2. Circle—"MOMBASA/A/AU 28/94."
3. Circle—"MOMBASA/A/MR 13/95." |
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1890-94 ONE RUPEE

PLATE 3

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in colour, as well as used reproductions on genuine paper.

	GENUINE	SPERATI
COLOUR {DL MVL	Grey (a) Deep purplish-grey, or (b) Brownish-grey	Grey Grey, yellowish wash on surface
PAPER MVL	(a) Greyish-white, or (b) Toned	Yellowish-grey, yellow on the reverse

SPECIFIC TESTS

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|--|--|
| (i) The crescent of dots which forms the shading on the sun has shorter points and the unshaded portions of the sun lack the small incidental dots which are obvious on the genuine.
Sperati "cleaned up" the unshaded portion of the sun on his negative, thus affecting the dotted shading. | (ii) The top horizontal stroke of the last "E" of "REVENUE" is detached from the upright (Plate 3).
(iii) The "M" of "COMPANY" is badly made. The solid "V" of colour that forms the top of the letter is squat instead of sharp and well pointed as in the genuine (Plate 3).
CANCELLATIONS: See 8 annas. |
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