

THE REST OF EUROPE AND COLONIES

Austria—Journal Stamps 1858—*contd.*

BASIC TESTS: *C, D, E and F.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

ONE KREUZER

Reproduction A

As only one example is available some of these tests may not be constant.

- (i) The inner frame line is thicker at left 10 mm. from the top of the stamp, apparently retouched at right 5-6 mm. from the foot of the stamp, at bottom 1-1½ mm. from the right.
- (ii) There is a small black spot between the "tu" of "Zeitungs."
- (iii) There is a nick in the left foot of the "n" of "Kon" (Plate 107).
- (iv) There is a dot just above the right lower serif of the "p" of "Stempel" and there is no top serif to the "l."
- (v) There is a weakness in the lower half of the "u" of "Kreuzer" and the tip of the second "e" is broken (Plate 107).

Reproduction B

- (vi) There is a break in the thick outer frame at left 5 mm. from the foot of the stamp.
- (vii) The top and bottom serifs of both "K"s in "Kais.Kon" are joined.

- (viii) There is a flaw in the right side of the centre stroke of the "m" of "Stempel."
- (ix) The lower right serif of the "z" of "Kreuzer" is broken away from the diagonal and there is a flaw in the nose of the second "e."
- (x) The lower part of the bottom right circular ornament is broken.

FOUR KREUZER

- (i) There are breaks in the outer frame at top 2.6 mm. and 4.5 mm. from the right, and at the right 4.5 mm. from the bottom. The left frame is vertically split and weak towards the top.
- (ii) The inner frame line is broken in the top left corner and very weak at the top right.
- (iii) The "Z" of "Zeitungs" is broken at the top of the diagonal stroke (Plate 107).
- (iv) The horizontal stroke of the "e" of "Stempel" is broken.
- (v) The lower right serif of the "z" of "Kreuzer" is separated from the diagonal.
- (vi) The circular ornament in the upper left is broken at the top and those in the lower corners are broken at the bottom.

CANCELLATIONS

Unrecorded but examine those illustrated as being found on the Newspaper stamps.

BELGIUM

1854

Sperati does not remember for what reason he made reproductions of the 1853-54 date-stamps. They may have been used as arrival or transit date-stamps on covers.

The negatives of these items were found in Sperati's materials and are therefore recorded here.

Circular date-stamps

- 1 "ANVERS 1853/29/NOV./7-8M"
- 2 "ANVERS 5S/17/JANV./54"
- 3 "ANVERS 5S/27/JANV./54"
- 4 "ANVERS 1854/20 FEV 7-8M"
- 5 "MONS/5S/30 11/53"

Note: Type 3 is a retouched transfer of Type 2.

1878-81 FIVE FRANCS PLATE 109

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

For **comparison** use a contemporary low value stamp of a similar design.

Neither the negative nor the cliché are dated but examples of the reproduction are in the *Livre d'Or*.

## THE REST OF EUROPE AND COLONIES

Belgium—1878-81 5 francs—*contd.*

signed by two German experts and they were almost certainly first made prior to 1935.

There are two states (and therefore two clichés) of this reproduction, one of which is found in both colours while the other has been seen in pale yellow-brown colour.

The genuine stamps were typographed and the reproductions were printed by a form of photolithography.

It is well to note that there are three definite printings of the genuine—February 1878 pale yellow-brown (poor impression), June 1878 red-brown (De La Rue ink—good impression), August 1881 deep red-brown (Belgian vegetable ink, good impression).

The reproductions are a fair match for the genuine but under the MVL the following reactions are noted (as opposed to the genuine) and they appear to fall into four groups or printings for the red-brown stamps.

1. Red; 2. Deep chocolate-brown; 3. Dull brown; 4. Dull brown on tinted paper.

The genuine are very similar to group 2.

The **paper** and **perforations** are genuine. The **gum** is often genuine.

The **impression** of the first colour is clearer than the genuine but the red-brown colour is more coarse than the genuine.

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

### SPECIFIC TESTS

#### Reproduction A

(Yellow-brown and red-brown)

- (i) There is a second and smaller dot after the dot following "BELGIQUE."
- (ii) The background above the "N" of "CINQ" extends into the curved white space (Plate 109).
- (iii) There are weaknesses which sometimes show as white spots just right of the centre of the "R" of "FRANCS," between the legs and following the right leg of the "A."
- (iv) There are a number of spots of colour between the outer frame line and the main design of the stamp, the most pronounced being:
  - (a) at left: 4.2 mm. from the top, .6 mm., 1 mm., 3.1 mm. and 3.4 mm. from the bottom.
  - (b) at right: 5 mm. from the top.
  - (c) at bottom: 1 mm., 7 mm. and 11 mm. from the left.

#### Reproduction B

(Yellow-brown)

Tests (ii) and (iv a) also

- (v) There is a pronounced white spot between the "A" and "N" of "FRANCS."

### CANCELLATIONS

Genuine. See Chapter IV, page 28.

## BELGIAN CONGO

1891 TEN FRANCS PLATE 109

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in black and in colour as well as used reproductions on genuine paper. Neither the negative nor the cliché are dated.

For **comparison** use a genuine stamp of a common denomination.

The genuine stamps were typographed and the reproductions were printed by a form of photolithography.

The **colour** of the genuine stamps varies from yellow-ochre to a rather deeper (almost orange)

ochre, both on a creamish toned paper. The reproductions appear as yellow-ochre, brown-ochre and orange-brown. Under the MVL the genuine appears greyish stone on yellowish-grey; there are five distinct colours of the reproductions:

greenish-brown on very white paper or a stained greyish paper.

brown on dull white paper, back appears ribbed.

dull brown on near white, back appears ribbed.

red-brown on near white.

red-brown on bluish, back appears ribbed.