

THE WORK OF JEAN DE SPERATI II

<i>Wurtemberg 1852 Eighteen Kreuzer</i>		
	Type I	Type II
HEIGHT (at outer frame)	23 to 23 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> mm	22 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> to 22 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> mm
TOP of "v." at right (not "B")	Open	Closed
STOP after "6" at right	Present	None
FRAME LINE under "Württemberg"	Uniform	Thicker at left
THICK SPOT under arabesque (above "a" in "Freimärke")	None	Present

these the Sperati reproductions show all those of Type I.

In specific test (iii) the "second 'D'" is actually an "O". Since the break in it and in the "P" occur variably in the genuine, this test should be dropped.

As noted in the table, in specific test (iv) the "B" is actually a "v" and the break, or openness, occurs in genuine Type I copies. Therefore, this test should be dropped.

page 97, 1875 TWO MARKS

In specific test (iv) the "white line" is present faintly in the genuine, delineating the shadowing of the "2".

ITALY

page 108, POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT

1874 TWENTY CENTESIMI

Ten finished, unused copies of this reproduction have been examined. The matrix (negative) for the overprint, which is at the Musée de la Poste-Paris, reveals that it was copied from a genuine 1874 60c lilac.

Test (iii) is not constant. Test (iv) occurs only occasionally, however the thick square at the bottom right generally has a weakness toward the left end of its lower side.

The "ESTERO" overprint, discussed in test (v), is not heavier on the finished forgeries examined than it is on the genuine. Both in the matrix and the finished forgeries the top right of the "S" is detached and the serif on the right leg of the "R" is pinched at its join with the leg.

The forged overprints show white spots. An additional test for the underlying stamp is:

- (vi) There is a small bite from the left side of the left outer frame line opposite the second "A" of "ITALIANO".

SPAIN AND COLONIES

SPAIN

page 111, 1851 TWELVE CUARTOS

In Sperati's archives there was a working proof of this forgery in blue with the note "Egisto". Egisto was the middle name of Sperati's next older brother, Mariano, the photographer, and was the name his family used for him. Since Mariano died in 1936, this forgery may have been first made before then.

page 117, 1853 MADRID LOCAL THREE CUARTOS

In Sperati's archives there were four coloured working proofs of Reproduction A of this stamp in blue, black, green and vermilion. In Sperati's hand were the notes "Egisto" and "1953". (See note for page 111, Spain 1851 12 cuartos, above)

page 125, 1872-73 TEN PESETAS

In the right column, under Reproduction A, line 17, "4 cuartos" should read "4 pesetas".

SPANISH COLONIES

CUBA

page 132, 1878-79 TEN CENTIMOS

A finished copy of the 1878 ten centimos forgery has been seen.

A finished copy of the 1879 ten centimos forgery has been seen, however tests (iv) and (vi) do not apply.