

ITALIAN STATES  
ITALIAN POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT

1874 TWENTY CENTESIMI

PLATE 66

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in colour and probably made unused and used reproductions on genuine paper from which the impression of a genuine but common stamp had been successfully removed.

The genuine stamp and overprint were produced by typography and the reproductions were made by photo-lithography.

**Basic tests:** *B, D, E and F.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The thick square in the upper right corner is broken at bottom.
- (ii) There is a dot in the "C" of "Fco"
- (iii) There is a break in the second frame line under the "PO" of "POSTALE."
- (iv) The thin square in the lower right corner is broken at bottom.
- (v) The "ESTERO" over print is heavier and by comparison the serifs are very much thicker than the genuine.