

THE PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED FORGERIES

This setting was used to overprint the Crown CA 2c brown, 8c orange and 10c slate, as well as the Crown CC 4c rose, amongst the rarest stamps of this State. Of this setting of three, two had all the letters narrow, and one the wide "S". This two to one ratio is, of course, reflected in the values for these particular stamps.

Moreover, Dr. F. E. Wood in his series, *The Postage Stamps of the Straits Settlements and the Native Protected States of Malaya*, suggests that the setting of the word "UJONG" was found not to be satisfactory after the 10c slate had been overprinted and was adjusted. Norris has seen some examples of the 10c with the letters of "UJONG" level, but has only seen examples of the wide "S" on the 2c, 4c and 8c with the "O" raised. This is exactly as for the Sperati type.

Norris concludes by doffing his hat to the skills of Sperati!

MALTA

1886 Five Shillings (Photographic Plate B)

This forgery was produced by photo-lithography instead of the typography of the genuine. Two unused copies on genuine paper have been seen. The colour is a pale rose.

Specific Tests

- (i) There are white dots on the first "S" of "SHILLINGS", one on the head and the other under the central curve.
- (ii) The top edge of the background has a flaw over the first "L" of "SHILLINGS".
- (iii) There are several white flaws in the background between the "G" and "S" of "SHILLINGS".
- (iv) The second shading line from the bottom is broken near the right end.
- (v) There is a white dot in the background to the right of the crossbar of the first "A" of "MALTA".
- (vi) A coloured dot is in the white space above the upper left corner pearl and another attached to the top of this corner's background.

