

THE WORK OF JEAN DE SPERATI II
MAURITIUS

1879 Thirteen Cents (Photographic Plate B)

The first reproduction is described on page 54 and illustrated on Plate 13 of *Sperati I*. It is now called Reproduction A. Two unused reproductions of another type, designated B, have been examined.

	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Reproduction B Sperati</i>
<i>Printing</i>	Typography	Photo-lithography
<i>Colour</i>	Slate	Slate to light slate
<i>Gum</i>	Clear	Yellowish
<i>Impression</i>	Clear	Clear

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) There is a white spot in the coloured oval over the right leg of "N" of "THIRTEEN".
- (ii) A white spot is in the background below and right of the "T" of "MAURITIUS".
- (iii) A long white cluster of splashes is in the outer coloured oval to the left of the left side of the "H" of "THIRTEEN".
- (iv) There are distinctive breaks at the left ends of the 10th, 11th and 13th shading lines from the bottom; there is another break in the middle of the fourth shading line from the bottom.
- (v) There is an indentation on the outside of and 0.5 mm from the top of the left outer frame line. An inverted white "v" crosses the frame line one mm from the top.



1879 Thirty-Eight Cents

A new forgery of this stamp is evidenced by the presence of three matrices (negatives) in the archives of the Musée de la Poste-Paris. The original forgery described on page 54 and illustrated in Plate 13 of *Sperati I* is now called Reproduction A and the new forgery, Reproduction B.

THE PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED FORGERIES

Reproduction B

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) In the background lines to the left of the base of the neck there are several splotches.
- (ii) To the SW of the ear lobe the second line down has a coloured dot on it.
- (iii) The fourth shading line on the neck, from the bottom, has been strengthened over a half mm, one mm from its left end.
- (iv) The horizontal shading line, to the right of the chignon and to the left of the midpoint of the bottom stroke of the "E" of "POSTAGE", has a dot under its right end and another near and under its left end.
- (v) The "S" of "POSTAGE" has a horizontal white line in the middle of its lower loop. The "P" of this word has a white line from its top to the white frame line above it.
- (vi) The "H" of "THIRTY" has a faint broken white line, 0.7 mm long, below its left leg.

