

THE REST OF THE WORLD

MEXICO

1868 (AUGUST) HALF REAL PLATE 129

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in colour as well as unused and used reproductions. For **comparison** use the genuine.

The genuine stamp was engraved and the reproduction made by photo-lithography.

The **colour** of the original is grey-black or greenish-grey and the reproductions are a fair match. The genuine paper is thin bluish-grey or greenish-grey wove and in daylight the reproduction is very similar, but under the MVL the genuine appears bluish and the reproduction yellowish.

The **impression** of the reproduction is rather more lightly printed than the genuine.

BASIC TESTS: *A, D and E.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The cross hatching to the right of the word "REAL" is very broken, whereas in the genuine it is quite clear and definite, one line crossing the next.
- (ii) The tip of the nose is no more than a shaped dot instead of being a definite curve as in the genuine.
- (iii) The horizontal lines of shading on both sides of the head are very broken and do not show the variations from thin to thick as in the genuine.
- (iv) The lines of shading alongside the outline of the head are nearly all separate from one another, whereas in the genuine they have a tendency to become solid.

1895 FIVE PESOS PLATE 129

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in black and in colour and probably unused and used reproductions on genuine paper. This reproduction could have been used for either the 1895 or 1896 or 1897 issue. For **comparison** use the genuine.

The genuine stamp is line-engraved and the reproduction photo-lithographed, although the "die" proof in possession of the B.P.A. shows some signs of engraving. The **impression** is very good but not so recessed as the genuine.

BASIC TESTS: *A, D, E and probably K.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

None are given as only the one "die" proof has been examined, but the finished reproduction could be easily recognized by the method of printing.

1895 TEN PESOS PLATE 129

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in black as well as unused and used reproductions on genuine paper. This reproduction can be found for the 1895, 1896 and 1897 issues. The cliché is dated August 1953 but this reproduction was on the market prior to that date. For **comparison** use the genuine.

The genuine stamps were line-engraved and the reproduction made by a mild form of photo-engraving, but the **impression** is obviously not engraved as deeply as the genuine.

The **colour** of the genuine is deep blue and of the reproductions various shades of deep blue to blue. The **paper** and **perforations** are genuine.

BASIC TESTS: *A, D, E and K.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) In the panel containing the word "CORREOS" there is one dot over the first "R" and two dots under the upright of the same letter.

CANCELLATIONS: Genuine. See Chapter IV, page 28.