

THE PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED FORGERIES

PUERTO RICO

1877 Five Cents

There is a Sperati matrix (negative) for this stamp at the Musée de la Poste-Paris. Sperati noted on it that it was for the error of colour.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The line over the top caption has breaks NW of the "P", above the left of the "R", above the right of the "C", above the right of the "O", over the first "7" (large) and above the second "7".
- (ii) "I" of "RICO" has a bite from its left side, below its mid-point. The "1" of "1877" has a dent in its right side, at mid-height.
- (iii) "P" of "PESETA" has a nick in the bottom of its vertical. The vertical of the first "E" bulges out at the left. There are breaks in the lower limbs of the letters "ESE". The top right arm of the "T" is detached.
- (iv) The left Greek border is disconnected from the lower left square. There is a white dot to the right of the figure in this square and another to the NE.
- (v) The shading on the face and neck shows many under strength and over strength dots and dashes.



THE WORK OF JEAN DE SPERATI II

1877 Ten Cents

A Sperati matrix (negative) for this stamp is at the Musée de la Poste-Paris. On it there is a Sperati note that it is for the error of colour.

SPECIFIC TESTS

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| <p>(i) There are breaks in the line above "RICO" over the right side of the "O", above the "1" of "1877", over the first "7", and over the left of the second "7".</p> <p>(ii) "T" of "PTO" is pinched inward at its join with the top arm.</p> <p>(iii) "C" of "RICO" has two colourless dots toward the end of its lower arm and another in the upper part of its lower horizontal at the right. The "O" of this word has a nick on its inside at the NE corner.</p> | <p>(iv) "0" in "10" has a white dot on its right side, below mid-height.</p> <p>(v) "P" of "PESETA" has its lower right serif broken away. There are two white dots in the right leg of the "A".</p> <p>(vi) The eighth shading line above the bottom left of the neck is broken away from the neck.</p> <p>(vii) There are two large, white flaws in the hair, above the forehead.</p> |
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Musée de la
Poste—Paris

THE PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED FORGERIES

1878 Ten Centimos (Photographic Plate D)

A finished copy of this forgery has been examined, as well as a matrix (negative) for it at the Musée de la Poste-Paris.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) In the upper panel there is a break in the lower frame line below and to the right of the "P".
- (ii) There is some retouching on the cheek and a dark mark on the cheekbone, below and to the left of the eye. There is no shading on the nose.
- (iii) "CORREOS" in both side panels is not clear. On the left the "E" looks like a broad "I". In the right panel the first "R" is solid.
- (iv) The outer lower frame line has a weak spot in its top side, below the "T" of "PESETA".



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