

# THE PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED FORGERIES

## SPAIN AND COLONIES

### SPAIN

#### 1865 Four Cuartos

A Sperati matrix (negative) at the Musée de la Poste-Paris shows that this forgery of the rare imperforate stamp was copied from a perforated original. It would have required retouching in order to be used.

#### SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The left outer frame line stops just short of the top frame line, leaving a gap of length about equal to the width of the frame lines.
- (ii) The "E" of "ESPANA" is pinched in at the bottom, just to the right of the vertical. There is a colourless dot between the "P" and "A". The tilde over the "N" has a colourless line dropping from its left end.
- (iii) The ornament containing "CS" has scratches inside, one close to the top and one close to the bottom.
- (iv) The first "R" of "CORREOS" has a colourless dot to its right, just above its middle horizontal. The second "R" has diagonal white scratches extending upward to the right from the lower part of both legs. There are colourless dots inside the "C", first "O", top loop of the first "R", top loop of the second "R" (two or more), final "O" (two), and upper loop of the "S".
- (v) There are numerous breaks in the background lines, especially in the lower half.
- (vi) A break extends through four lines of the hair, to the left of the top of the chignon.
- (vii) A coloured line crosses the inner white oval at 3.30.
- (viii) The white ornament above the "4" is deformed.



#### 1878 Forty Centimos (Photographic Plate D)

Two new forgeries have been seen. One is either copied from the same original as Reproduction A and the other from the same original as Reproduction B in *Sperati I*, or they are retouches of those forgeries. Since Reproduction B was previously seen only in the form of a negative, that described below may not be a new forgery, but rather the result of retouches to the matrix/negative and thus the

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only version of this forgery, as opposed to a second state. In any event, they are designated Reproduction A (second state) and Reproduction B (second state). The first is unused and the second is cancelled.

### *Reproduction A (second state)*

#### SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) Of the previous test (i) only the break in the head of the "E" of "COMUNICACIONES" is there. Additionally, there is a dot on the left frame of the first "C" of this word. Previous tests (ii) and (iii) no longer apply. Test (iv) still pertains: the flaw in the line over the head of the "P" of "PESETA" and the one in the bottom frame below the "S" of this word.
- (ii) A colourless spot is in the neck and two in front of the neck.
- (iii) The heavy oval has a short, thick line across it above the "SE" of "PESETA".
- (iv) The ornament in the upper left corner has a coloured dot in its extreme NW.



### *Reproduction B (second state)*

#### SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) Previous tests (v), (vi), (viii) and (ix) no longer apply. The dot on the fancy frame below the "NE" of "COMUNICACIONES", previous test (vii), is still there.
- (ii) There is a dot in the middle of the thin vertical frame line to the right of the final "S" of "COMUNICACIONES".
- (iii) There is a colourless spot to the right of the bridge of the nose and several colourless spots on the face.

