

BRITISH EMPIRE

ST. CHRISTOPHER

1890 SIX PENCE

PLATE 18

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in black as well as used reproductions on genuine paper. For comparison use the earlier 6d. green, or compare the key plate with that of any low value.

	GENUINE	SPERATI
PRINTING	<i>Typography—double plate</i>	<i>Photo-lithography—single plate</i>
COLOUR DL	<i>Olive-brown</i>	<i>Not quite so olive</i>
PAPER MVL	<i>White</i>	<i>Stained a rosy-red</i>
PERFORATION	<i>14 comb</i>	<i>Genuine</i>
WATERMARK	<i>Crown over CA</i>	<i>Genuine</i>
IMPRESSION	<i>Clear</i>	<i>Not so clear</i>

BASIC TESTS: *B, D, E, F, J and K.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) There is a break in the circular frame below the "IN" of "SAINT."
- (ii) There is an indentation followed by two breaks in the right hand frame below the letter "R."
- (iii) There is a break in the inner frame below the "X" of "SIX" (Plate 18).

- (iv) Note the curious shape of the "C" in "PENCE."

CANCELLATIONS

- 1. "A 12," full impression, note the defect in the bars above the "A 1" and at the right of "2."
- 2. "A 12," part impression. Note that the serif of the foot of the right leg of the "A" is missing.

ST. LUCIA

1886 SIX PENCE

PLATE 18

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in black; also probably made unused and used reproductions on genuine paper. The cliché is dated August 1953.

For comparison of the key plate use any Die 1 value with Crown CC or Crown CA watermark.

PRINTING: Genuine—typography, double plate. Sperati—photo-lithography, double plate.

BASIC TESTS: *B, D, E, F, J and probably K.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) There is a white spot in the outer frame-line at top above the "T" and to the right of the "A."
- (ii) There is a defect on the inside of the outer frame at left just below the tablet containing the name of the Colony.
- (iii) There is a break in the horizontal line of shading just above the tip of the nose.
- (iv) The horizontal lines of shading immediately in front of the upper lip and mouth are partially retouched.

- (v) There are two dots or smudges between the panel containing the value and the outer frame-line at left.

- (vi) There is an indentation in the top of the "P" of "PENCE" (Plate 18).

- (vii) There is a dot below the "U" of "LUCIA" just above the top line of horizontal shading in the octagon.

CANCELLATIONS

- 1. "A11" full impression. Note defect in bottom bar.
- 2. "A11" part impression. Note the top of "A" is missing and the dot in the middle of the bar below the central "1."
- 3. "ST. LUCIA/C/API0/85" date stamp.

It should be noted that Sperati made a double plate but instead of including the name of the Colony and the value on his duty plate as did De la Rue, he only included the value.