

THE REST OF EUROPE AND COLONIES

Roumania—1872 50 bani—*contd.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The break referred to in (b) above is much smaller in the reproduction.
- (ii) The dot above the second "I" in "CINCIDECI" is no more than a thickening of the frame line and lacks the definition of the genuine.
- (iii) The dots below the "ID" are not so large as in the genuine.
- (iv) The break in the inner frame to the left of the left numeral has become a diagonal cut slanting downwards to the left, whereas in the genuine it is a diagonal cut slanting downwards to the right; the projection on the inside of the line below the break has two spike-like lines coming from the centre which are missing in the genuine.
- (v) In the top left of the letter "N" of "BANI" is a white spot, there is a break and a white spot in the head of the "I" although both the reproduction and the genuine show a constant flaw towards the lower part of the letter.

CANCELLATIONS :

Cursive frame

■ "FRANCO/GALATZ"

Circular date-stamps

- 2 "BAKEU/MOLDOVA/2/9"
- 3 "BAK.../MOL.../1." half impression
- 4 "D.../MOLDOVA/3/9" part impression
- 5 "DOROH/MOLDOVA/24/10"
- 6 "JASSY/MOLDOVA/23/2" poor impression
- 7 "JASSY/MOLDOVA/6/8"
- 8 "JA.../MOLDO.../10/8" part impression
- 9 "JASSY/MOLDOVA/8/9" one and a part impressions.
- 10 "JAS.../1/1." quarter impression.

In the B.P.A. reference collection there is an example of the 108 parales cancelled with type 6 in red.

RUSSIAN - WENDEN

There are three of the 2 Kopecs stamps known to have been reproduced, the green and red stamps of 1864, 1866 and 1871. The following commentary applies to all three.

For **comparison** use the genuine stamps.

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in the issued colours and the reproductions have been seen only in this form. These stamps were probably made many years ago, the negative being undated.

The genuine stamps were printed by lithography and the reproductions by photo-lithography.

BASIC TESTS: *D and E.*

1864 TWO KOPECS PLATE 115

The **colours** of the reproduction are brighter than the genuine and the **impression** is more coarse.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The frame line varies in width and shows breaks at top 3 mm. and 9.5 mm. from the left, at left 12 mm., 13 mm., 13.5 mm. from the top, at right 5½ mm. from the top, at foot 9.25 mm. from the left and many others.
- (ii) The letters in "Briefmarke" show many flaws, there being a big break in the middle of both the first and second "r"s.
- (iii) There are many breaks in the vertical serpiginous background which has become thicker and therefore the lettering at the foot tends to lose definition.
- (iv) There is a break in the inner frame at right 13.5 mm. from the top.
- (v) There is a spot of colour on the oval frame just opposite the left forefoot of the griffin.

1865 TWO KOPECS PLATE 115

The **colour** of the reproduction has less carmine and the centre is more yellow-green than the genuine. The **impression** is more coarse. The sheet position imitated is the eighth of the first setting.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The frame line shows distinctive breaks at top 1.75 mm. from the left and this side does not join the right, at left 4 mm. and 6.5 mm. from the foot, at right 2.75 mm. and 10.5 mm. from the top.
- (ii) There is a smudge of colour between the outer and inner frame line at top 3 mm. from the left.
- (iii) There are many breaks in the vertical serpiginous background which has become thicker and therefore the lettering at the foot tends to lose definition.
- (iv) There are several spots of colour between the inner and outer frame lines at right, the largest being 3 mm., 9.5 mm. and 18.5 mm. from the top.

THE REST OF EUROPE AND COLONIES

Wenden—*contd.*

1871 TWO KOPECS PLATE 115

The **colour** of the reproduction is slightly more carmine and a deeper green than the genuine, and the impression is coarser.

SPECIFIC TESTS

(i) There are many distinctive breaks in the frame, particu-

larly on the left, right and at bottom.

- (ii) There are several spots of colour between the inner thin red oval at left and the thick band of colour.
- (iii) There is a defect in the solid background at foot, 2.25 mm. from the left (Plate 115).

RUSSIAN LEVANT

1865 TWO KOPECS PLATE 115

Sperati is known to have made "die" proofs in black and in colour as well as unused reproductions.

The cliché is dated July 1948 but the reproduction must have been manufactured about twenty years earlier as the B.P.A. Expert Committee examined a copy (and considered it to be genuine) in 1931 and a well known German expert signed an example which is in Sperati's *Livre d'Or*.

The type position copied by Sperati is the eighteenth.

For **comparison** use the genuine stamp.

The genuine stamps were printed by lithography and the reproductions by photo-lithography.

The **colour** of the genuine is rather deeper than the reproductions examined and the **impressions** are not so clear as the genuine.

BASIC TESTS: *D and E.*

SPECIFIC TESTS

- (i) The frame line is not so firm as the genuine and there is a weakness on the right opposite the top scroll and the top frame line does not join the left.
- (ii) There is a spot of colour in the lower left white space of the inner oval frame around the ship.
- (iii) The "0" in the top panel is misshapen and apparently retouched.
- (iv) There is a considerable difference in minor details of the ship and the double headed eagle which are obvious in the enlarged illustration.

SAN MARINO

Sperati is known to have made used reproductions on genuine paper of the 1 and 5 lire and both these have been known for over forty years. The reader interested in the stamps of this country is referred to Chapter III and the remarks made in "BERLINER BRIEFMARKEN-ZEITUNG" concerning fourteen forgeries made by Jean de Sperati's elder brother, Mariano, which included the 5 lire described below.

For **comparison** use the genuine stamps of the same design.

The genuine stamps were typographed and the reproductions were printed by a form of photo-lithography.

The **paper** with its **perforations** and **watermark** is genuine, but it lacks the smooth surface which has been lost with the removal of the original stamp.

The **impression** is spotty in comparison with the genuine which is clear and firm.

CANCELLATIONS: These are genuine (see Chapter IV, page 28). The genuine low values which were used to make the reproductions were often cancelled to order, the following dates being noted—20 SET 1904, 4 LUG 1907, 29 LUG 1907, 16 MAR 1908, 2 AGO 1909.

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