Prince Carol Issue: 1866

Varieties

The lithographic process used for this issue resulted in numerous varieties caused by flaws in the plate or retouches. These are in addition to the consistent characteristics identified in the transfer blocks.

The following illustrate some of these recognised varieties.



2 para

dot after '2'



5 para

dot after 5 in bottom right corner



20 para

retouched 'favour' on cheek



20 para

circumflex above the 'N'



20 para

cidilla on 'A'



20 para

Carol 'smoking a cigarette'

Postmarks

As the volume of mail increased new cancellations were introduced. The double circle strikes gave information on the day and month, grid cancellations were phased out, and ' postal information' stamps were introduced.



Grid cancellation on 20 para, thin paper, type I



Bucharest cancellation on 20 para, thick paper type I



Mihaileni cancellation on 20 para thin paper type II



Blue cancellation on 20 para, thin paper, type I



Block cancellation on 20 para, thin paper Type IIa

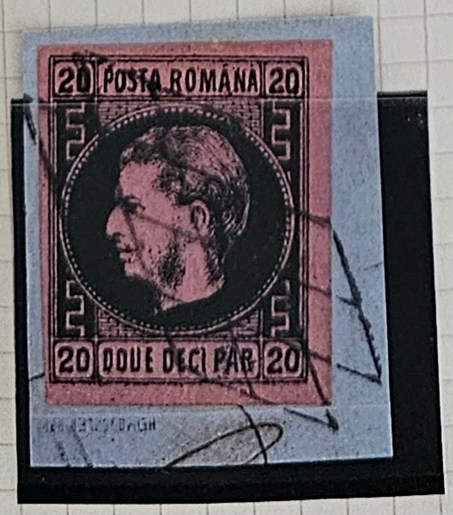


Post office instruction, mail received "Too Late" on 20 para type 1

Additional



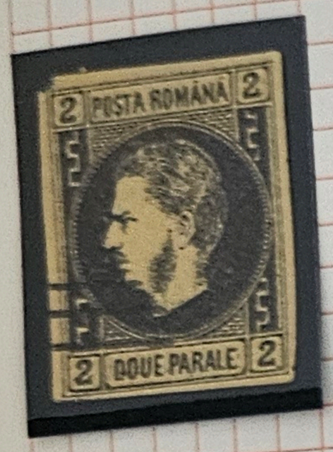




Prince Carol Issue: 1866

Forgeries

For a period in the 1880's used stamps were more expensive than unused and many postmarks were forged by unscrupulous dealers. The grid was the most easily forged postmark.



angry' Carol



incorrect 'favours'; wrong lines on chin



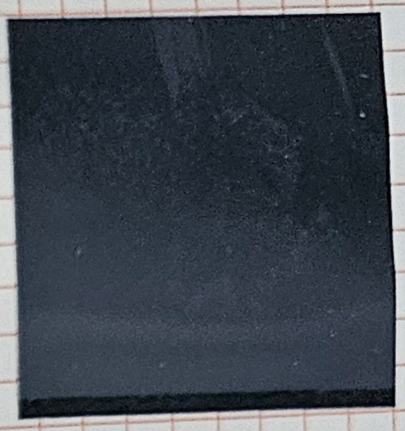
wrong paper, badly drawn favours



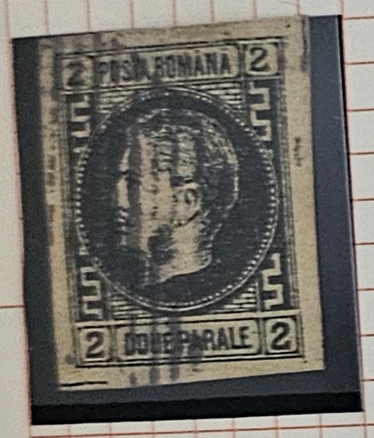
false postmark

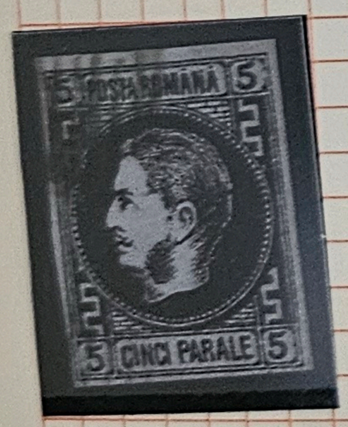


crude meander in bottom left



error in chin, bricks too small











The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol: the 1868/70 Issues; 2 Bani Yellow and Orange-yellow

There were multiple printings of this issue, using a variety of papers and with variations in the shade of ink. Two distinct transfer blocks were used with a second block being introduced in 1869. This second block is associated with the orange and ornage-yellow shades.

Reconstructed cliché for the 1868 transfer block





Characteristics of the 1868 Transfer Block.



Characteristics of the 1869 Transfer Block.

Reconstructed cliché for the 1869 transfer block



The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol - Second Issue

A monetary reform for the Romanian Principality in April 1867. This came into force on 1 January 1868 with a new currency of 1 Leu equalling 100 Bani instead of 40 Parale. This change required a new issue of postage stamps.

The new postal tariff was Printed Matter (2 Bani; previously 5 Parale): Local letter 4 Bani (previously 5 Parale: Ordinary letter 18 Bani (formerly 20 Parale). In effect postal fees were reduced for ordinary letters by about 50%.



Ochre | Yellow | Orange-yellow

2 Bani



Blue | Deep Blue

4 Bani



Yellow toned paper | Rose | Rose-red | Salmon | White wove paper

18 Bani

In May 1870 a fourth value - the 3 Bani mauve was issued. This also had two distinct variations in colour and was in addition printed on yellow toned paper.



Mauve | Deep Mauve | Yellow toned paper

3 Bani

New Currency 1868-1871

Reconstructed cliché for the 4 bani blue

Sanders and Co of Bucharest were awarded the contract for the 1868 'new currency' issue. They continued with lithographic printing using a transfer cliché, but this time of eight stamps in a block, to transfer the images to the main stone.

As with the 1866 issue this enabled collectors to identify the small variations on each of these stamps and to reconstruct a transfer block. Shown below is a reconstructed block for the 4 bani blue. In total there are nineteen consistent variations which may be used to identify the positions in the cliché of each stamp.



Illustration after Sir John Wilson, revised by Heinrich Birnbach

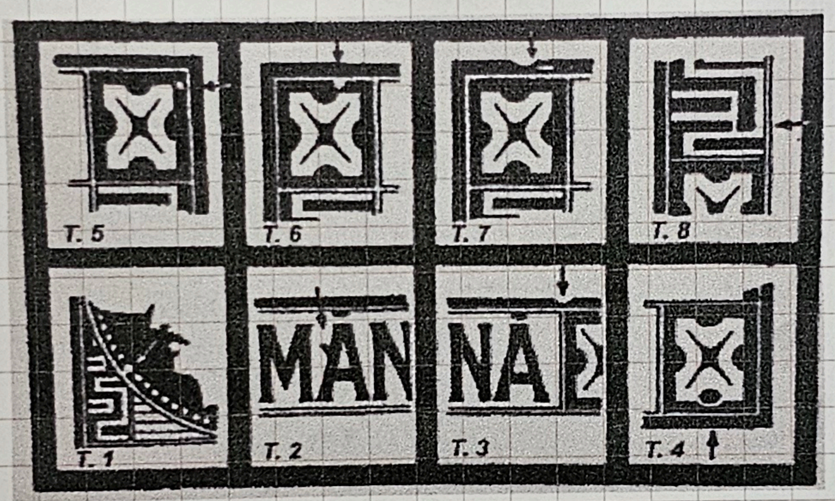
The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol: the 1868/70 Issues; 18 Bani Rose and 18 Bani Red

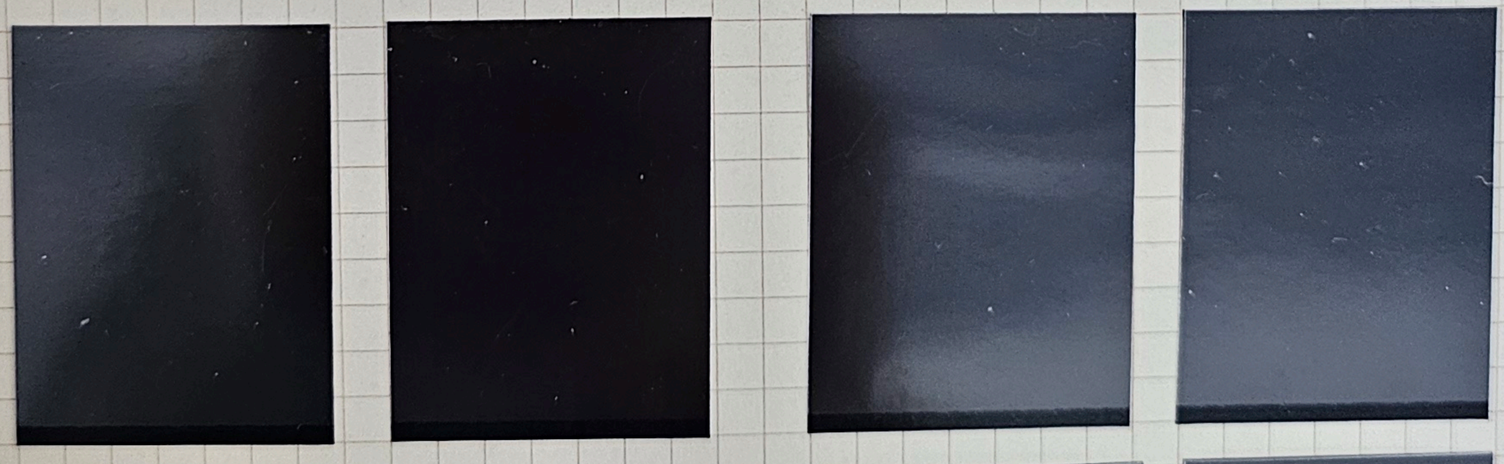
Reconstructed cliché for the transfer block: 18 Bani Red







Reconstructed cliché for the transfer block: 18 Bani Rose





H

New Currency 1868-1871

Reconstructed cliché for the 3 bani lilac

Sanders and Co of Bucharest were awarded the contract for the 1868 'new currency' issue. In 1870 they were commissioned to add a further stamp to with a face value of 3 bani in lilac to replace the 2 bani yellow.

Romania was in the process of negotiating treaties under which its stamps would be valid for international mail. The 3 bani lilac value was the first stamp to be accepted for international mail and these agreements necessitated the printed paper rate being raised to 3 bani. This change from the traditional yellow, red or blue colours was to aid their identification.

As with the earlier stamps of this issue Sanders and Co used transfer clichés of eight stamps for transfer to the main stone.





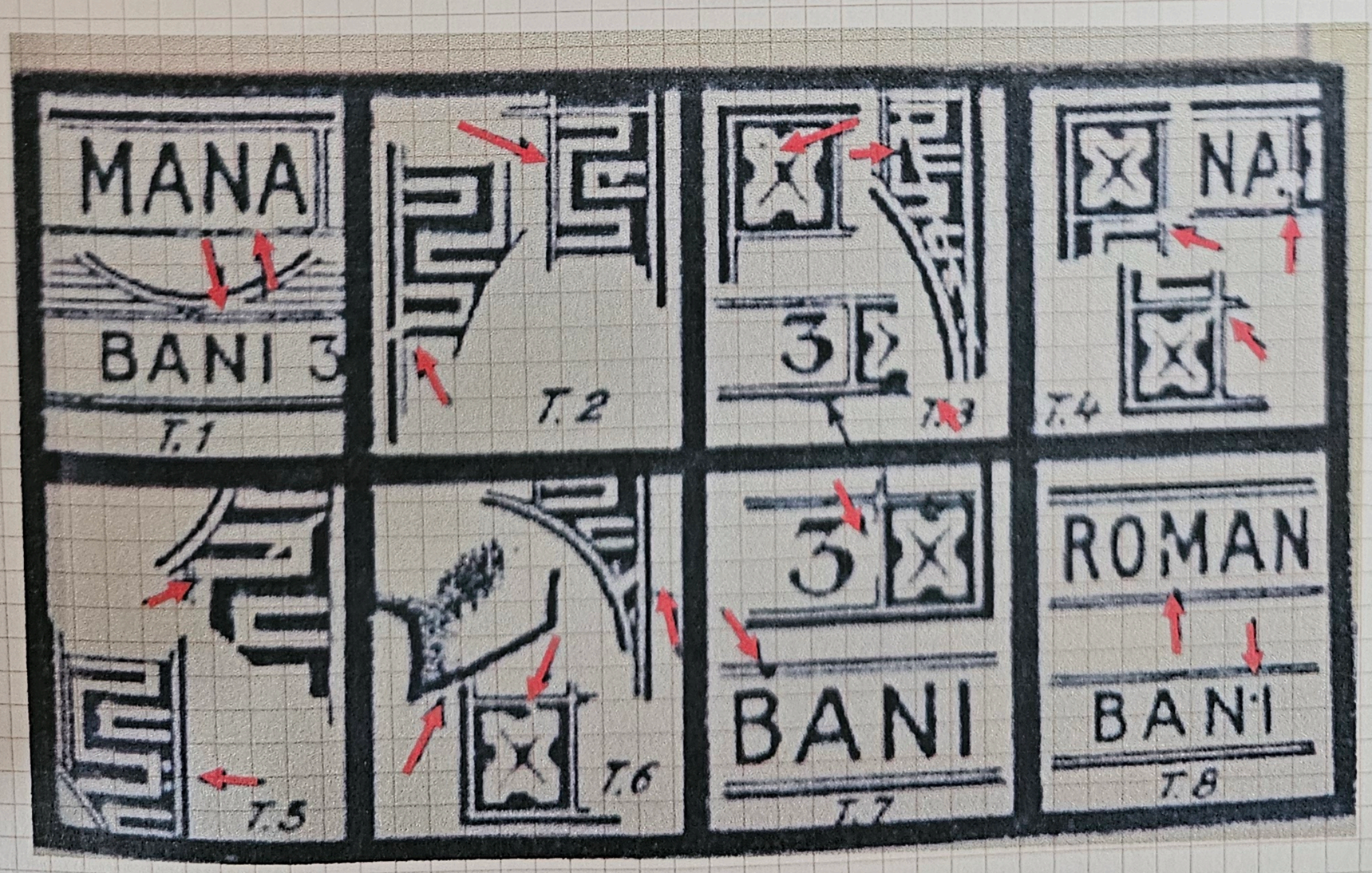


Illustration from Sir John Wilson

New Currency 1868 -1871

Varieties

The lithographic process used for this issue resulted in numerous varieties caused by flaws in the plate or retouches. These are in addition to the consistent flaws identified in the intermediate stones.

The following illustrate some of these recognised varieties and forgeries.



2 bani

deep orange background to medallion



2 bani

worn plate and faint bricks



2 bani

retouched ear and chin



3 bani

retouch bricks above bottom margin



18 bani

retouched 'favours'



18 bani

hairline across hair on crown of head

Forgeries



2 bani *3 bani* *4 bani*

"angry Carol"; Spiro prints with fake postmarks



18 bani

poor effigy and incorrect favour



2 bani

wrongly sized numbers, faults in hair line



3 bani

thin number, extra row of bricks

1872

Perf 12½

White wove paper



Rose-red



Deep rose-carmine



Vermilion



Blue



Bright Ultramarine



Sepia

Yellowish wove paper



blue



bright ultramarine





Forgeries



Perf 12½

White wove paper



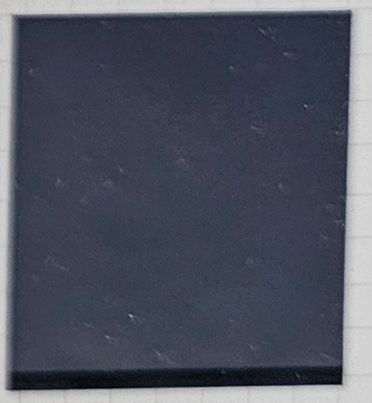





Yellowish wove paper







T1



T2

T3

T4

T5

T6

T7

T8

T9



T10


DECE
POSTA ROMANA
10 BANI 10






DECE
POSTA ROMANA
10 BANI 10





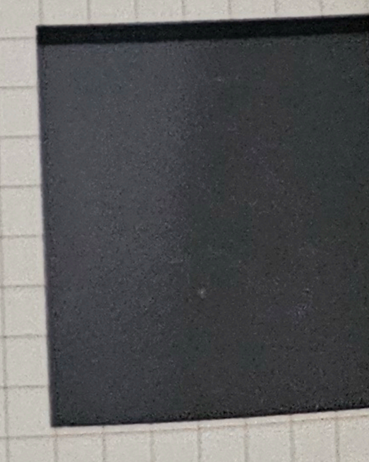







DECE
POSTA ROMANA
10 BANI 10

T1



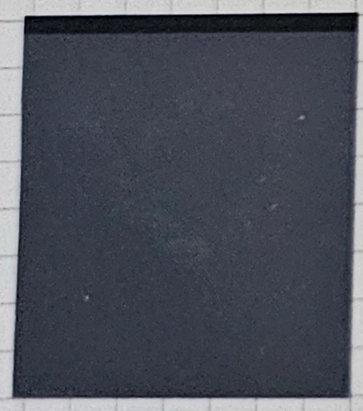
T2



T3



T4



T5



T6

T7

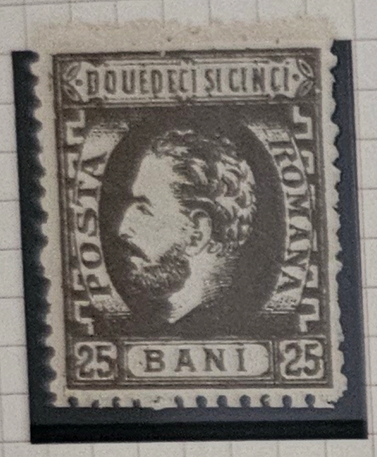
T8

T9



T10

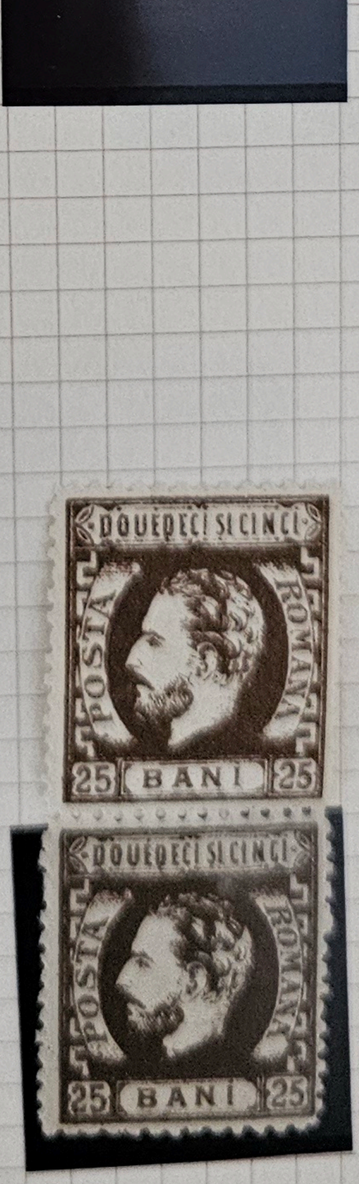



DOUĂZECI ŞI CINCI
POŞTA
ROMÂNĂ
25
BANI
25




DOUĂZECI ŞI CINCI
POŞTA
ROMÂNĂ
25
BANI
25




DOUĂZECI ŞI CINCI
POŞTA
ROMÂNĂ
25
BANI
25

The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol - The Effigy with Beard Issue Perforated, and the "Defective Print Issue"

In March and April 1872 three of the stamps showing the effigy of Prince Carol with a beard were re-issued but with a perforation of 12 1/2.



Rose-red Deep Rose-carmine

5 Bani



Blue Ultramarine

10 Bani



Sepia

25 Bani

In the summer an entirely new series of stamps was ordered from A. Hulot in Paris. Owing to the Franco-Prussian War and the seige of Paris the new issue was delayed in manufacture and delivery. In August 1872 an emergency printing was required of the 10 Bani and 50 Bani stamps. The Romanian Post Office therefore resorted to Sander and Co in Bucharest to quickly print stamps for these two values, using the previous designs of 1871 to fill the gap. This was done very quickly, resulting in poor quality stones. The stamps were issued imperforate. They were only on sale for between 4 to 6 weeks.



Ultramarine



Greenish-blue

10 Bani



Red & blue



Vermilion & blue

50 Bani



Block of four 10 Bani greenish-blue illustrating the variable and poor quality printing from the temporary stones.

1872

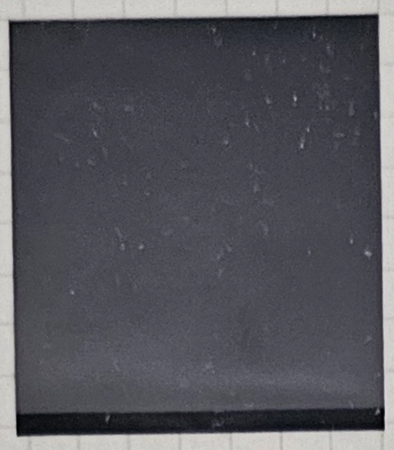
New stones

White wove paper



Ultramarine

99
M 29 4



Greenish-blue

99 a
M 29 11 b



Red and blue

100
M 31



Vermilion and blue

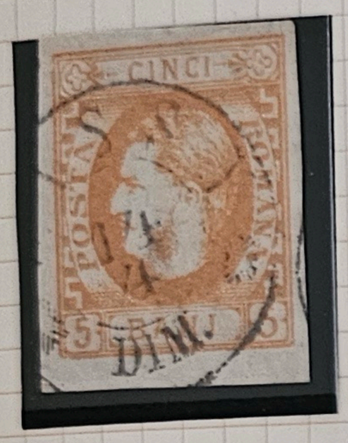
100 a



The International Issue of 1869 and the end of the 'local' stamps

In 1869 Romania concluded its first international agreements allowing mail with pre-paid Romanian stamps to be sent across its borders. Previously international mail had been sent though one of the foreign postal services based in Romania.

Five stamps were issued in accord with the new conventions and the days of the Romanian "local stamps" were over. However, the new issue reverted to the tradition of issuing stamps in the three national colours.



5 bani
yellow



10 bani
blue



15 bani
red



25 bani
blue and yellow

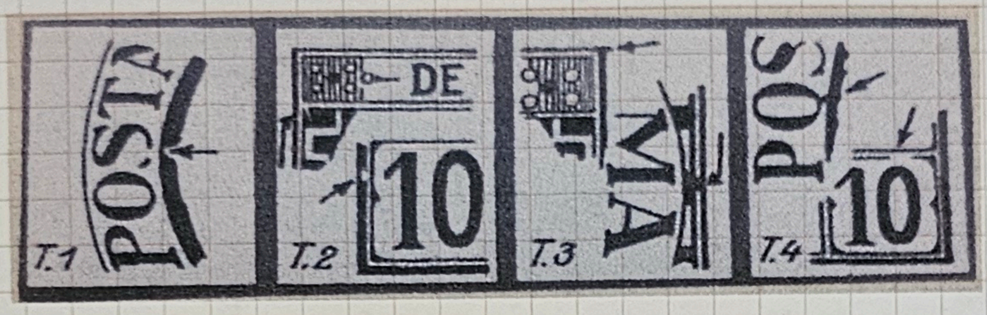


50 bani
red and blue

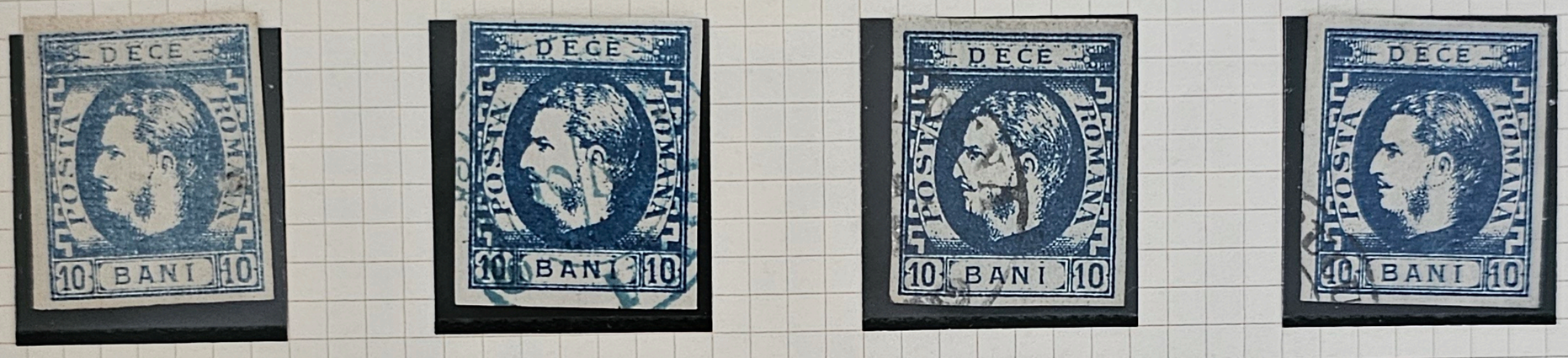
The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol - The International Issue Transfer Stones

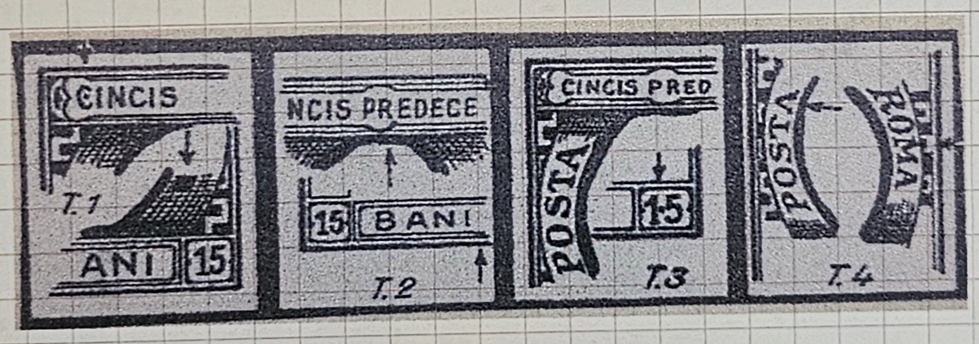
The lithographer changed the process for transferring the design to the final stone for this issue. Instead of using a transfer stone of eight stamps as utilized in the 1868 issue he adopted a smaller one of four stamps forming a horizontal strip. Two examples of reconstructed transfer cliches are shown below.



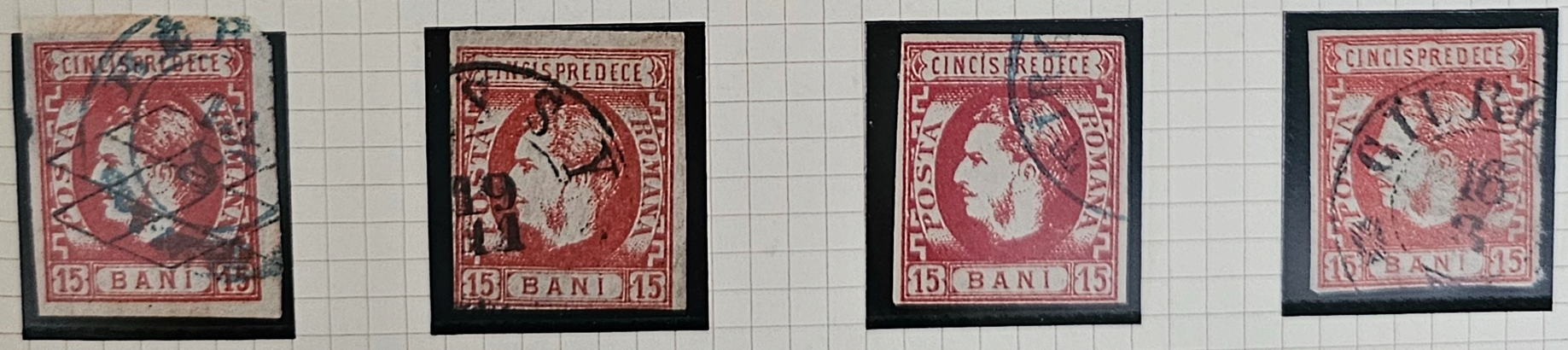
From Heinrich Birnbach



10 Bani Blue



From Kiriak Dragomir



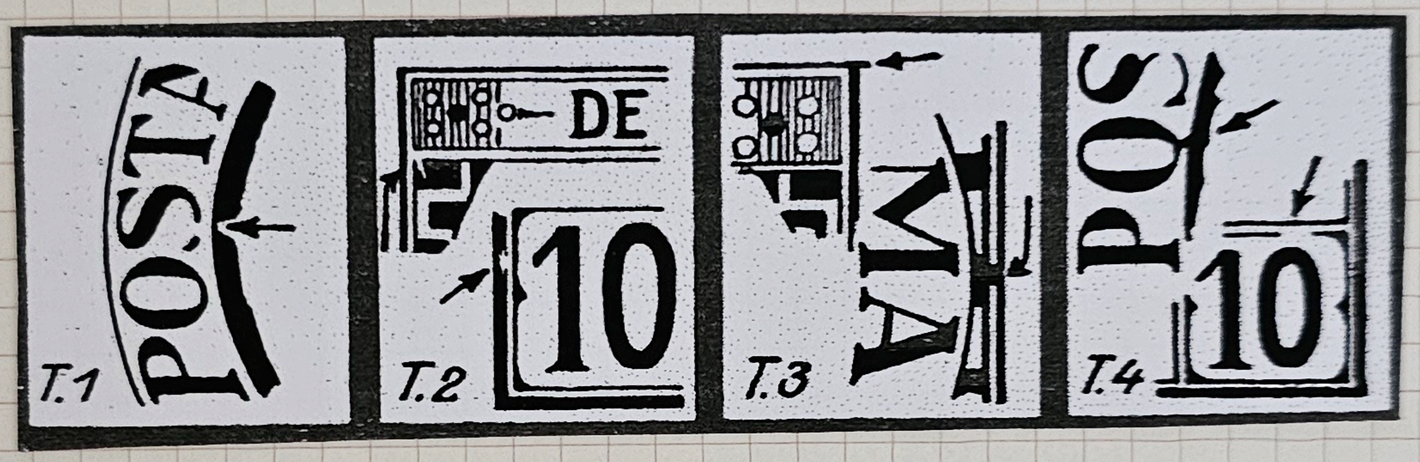
15 Bani Red

1869

10 Bani Blue

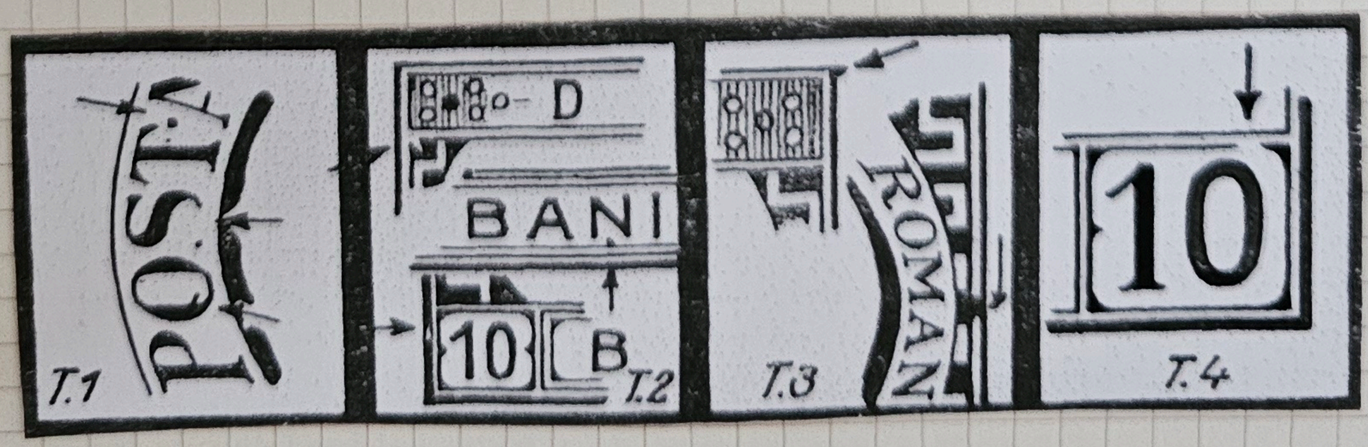
Type I





10 Bani Prussian Blue / Indigo

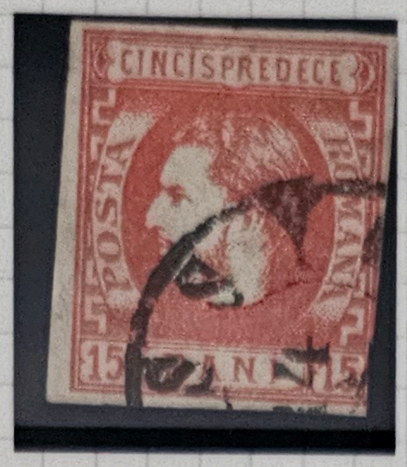




Yellowish toned paper



80



81



82

The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol - The International Issue

In 1869 Romania concluded its first international postal agreements allowing mail with pre-paid Romanian stamps to be sent across its borders. Previously international mail had been sent through one of the foreign postal services based in Romania. These were primarily the Austrian Imperial Post and the Russian Imperial Post serving as relays on the routes from Constantinople to Vienna and St Petersburg. A Turkish post office also accepted mail to the Ottoman Empire transported by boat into Drobuja province at the mouth of the Danube.

Five stamps were issued in accord with the new international conventions: 5 Bani for printed matter or samples; 25 Bani for ordinary letters up to 15 gms for adjoining countries; 50 Bani for ordinary letters up to 15 gms for 'abroad'. In addition applicable internal rates were: 3 Bani for printed matter and samples; 5 Bani for drop letters; 10 Bani for ordinary letters up to 15 gms. Additional fees could be paid using 30 Bani in stamps for a Registration fee.



Yellow



Orange Yellow

5 Bani



Dull Blue



Prussian Blue

10 Bani



Ultramarine



Red



Vermilion



Scarlet

15 Bani



Blue/Yellow



Dp Blue/yellow



Blue/Orange



Dp Blue/Orange

25 Bani



Red /Blue



Red/Pale Blue



Red/Deep Blue

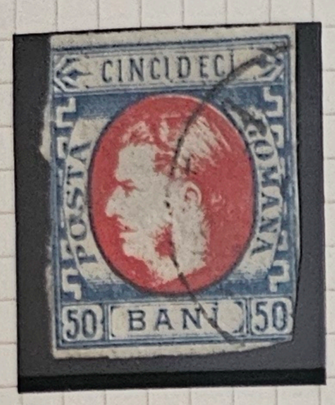
50 Bani

The stamps continued the tradition of using the national colours of yellow, red and blue. The same effigy of the Prince (often referred to as "çu favoriti" - with 'favours' or sideburns) was retained from the previous issue but set in a new frame. The 25 Bani and 50 Bani stamps required two separate printing operations; one for each colour - first the frame and then the effigy. There are numerous variations in colour and shade occasioned by different printings and papers. Some of the major categorisations are shown above.

The new international status of the Romanian post was greeted with great pride and Prince Carol himself visited the Central Post Office on the first day of issue to send letters franked with the new stamps to his family in Germany.

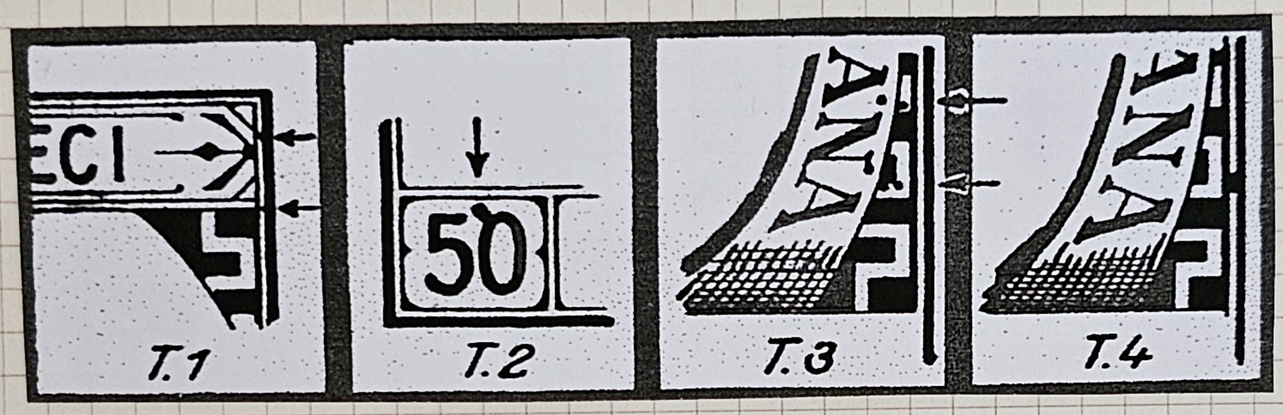
1869

50 Bani Red and Deep Blue






Break dive 1 of CINCI













Lumin 'M°A'

Head of letter too thin Click 1

Lumin 'M°A' over inked

Thin letters CRAIOVA Dirty Plate

Click 1

Fold









Click 3 SEVER

Click 4 GALATZ

Missing serif A 1 BANI * 50 stolow (Sultin - Bule) Lumin 'M°A' C

Lumin 'M°A'

Small CINCI Serif 50

GALATI

Poor? Red oval loop?









Colour Shift 50 Farbverschiede

Click 4 Lumin Left Head Colour Shift

Colour Shift Click 1

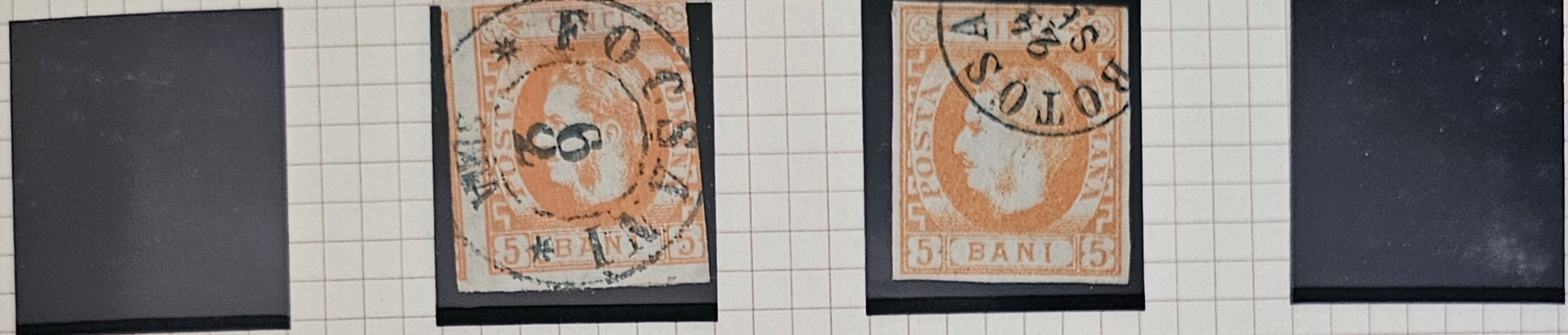
Click 3 Dot above CINCI

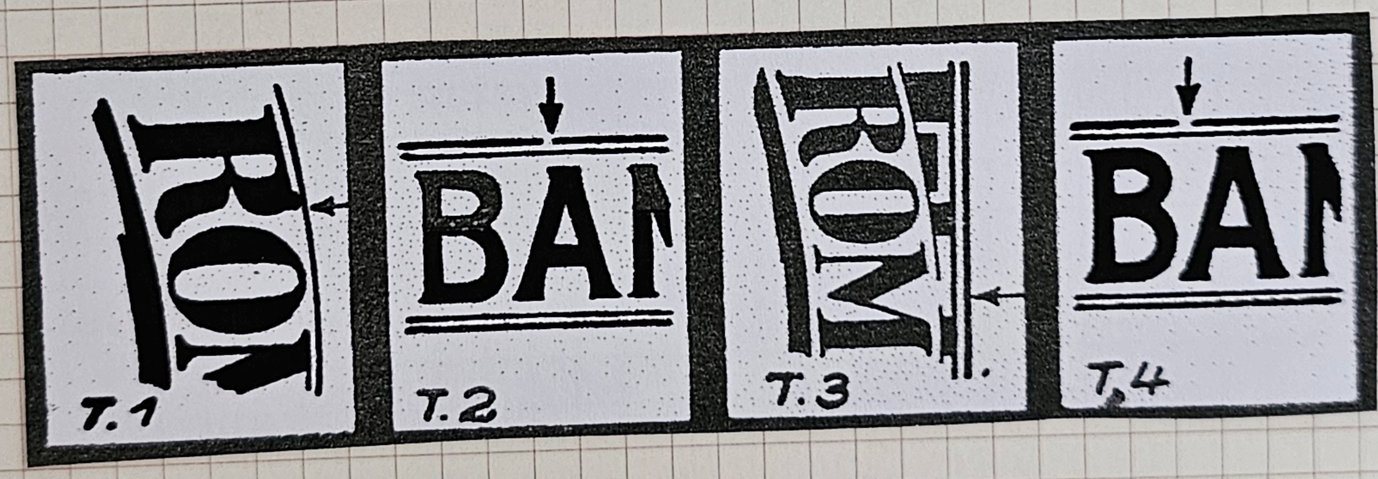
red oval loop

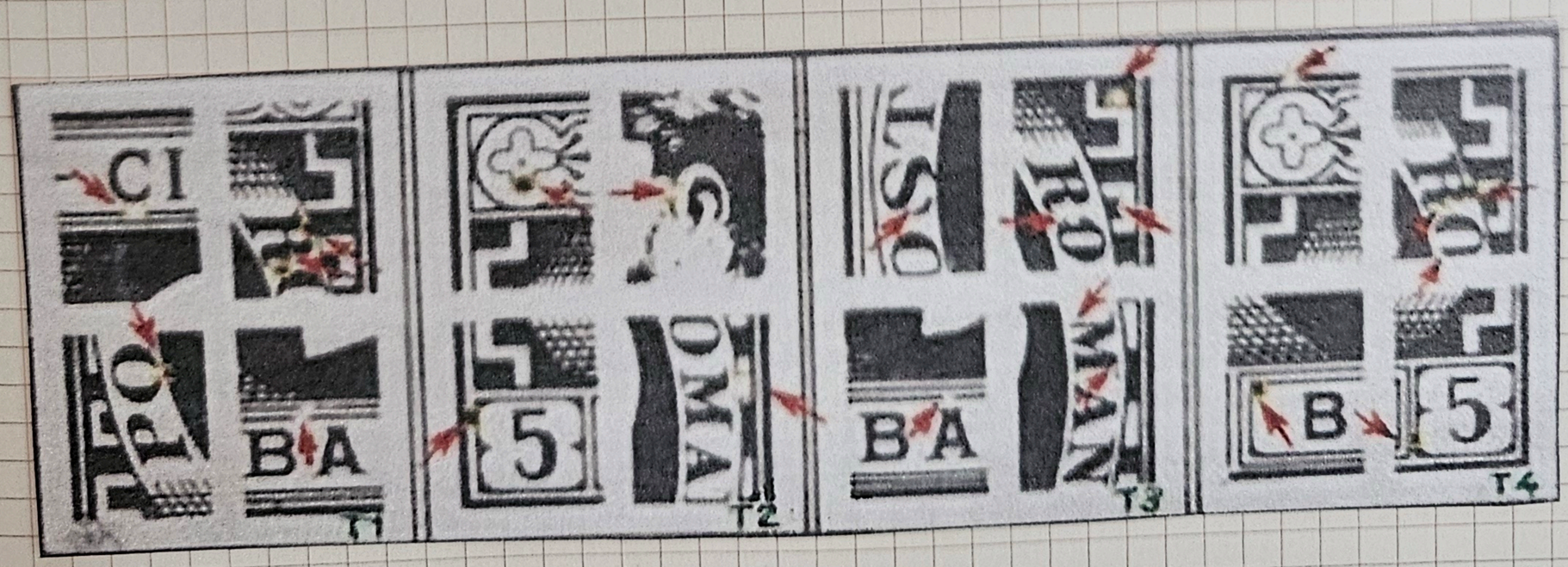
1869

5 Bani Orange

Types



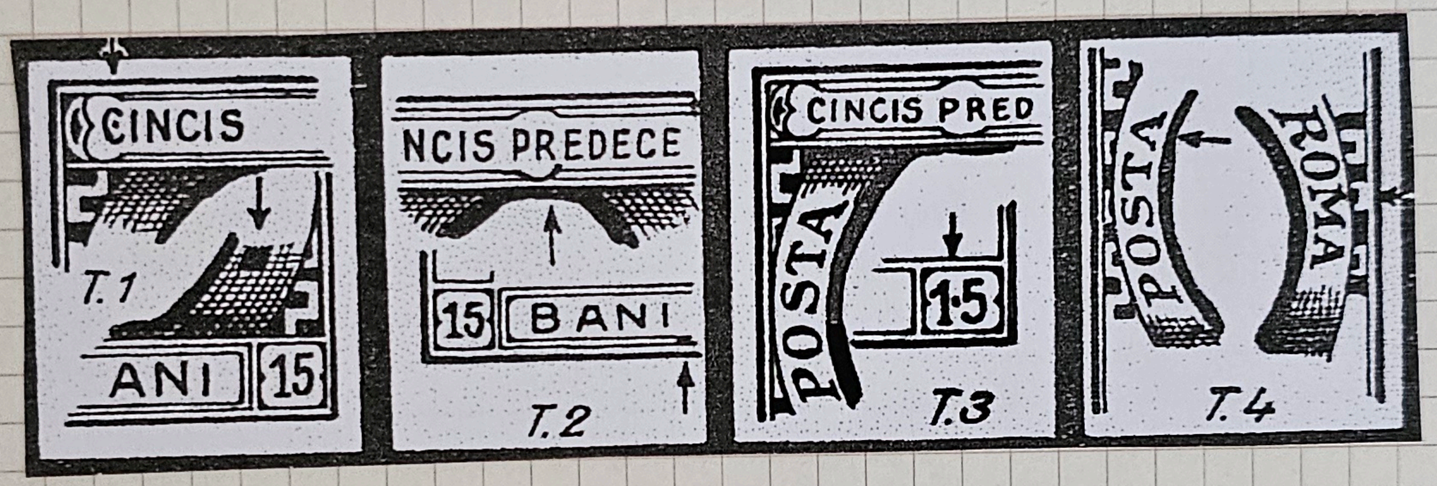




1869

15 Bani Red

Typer



1869

No beard

White wove paper



74 Orange-Yellow
M 21
S 37-42



74.a Orange



74b Dp Red-Orange



75 Dull blue
M 22 a



75b Dp Prussian blue
M22c



75c Ultramarine
M 22 b



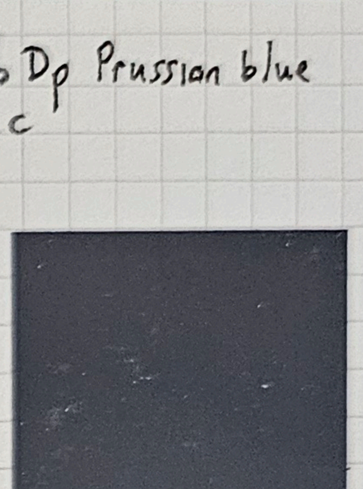
76 Red
M 23



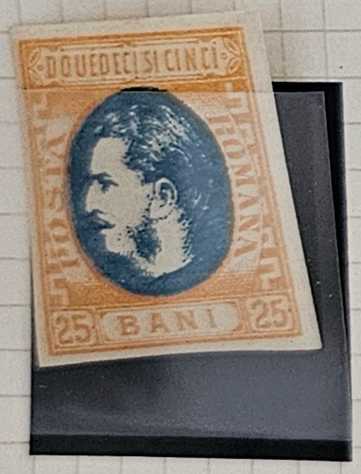
76a Rose



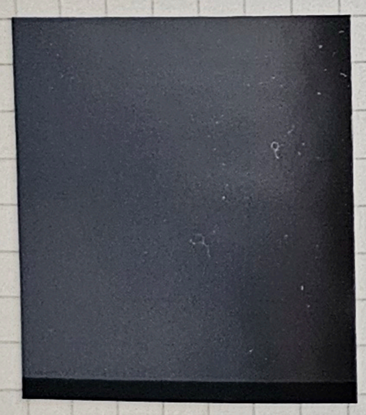
76b Vermilion



76d Scarlet



77 Blue and Yellow
M24



77a Dp-blue and Yellow



77b Blue and Orange



77c Dp Blue and Orange

78 Red and Blue
M25



78a Red and Pale blue



78b Red and Dp blue
M 25b

Varieties



Red and Pale Blue

Inverted Double-Head



Red and Blue

Neck. Retouch



Red and Dp Blue

Neck - Retouch



Red and Blue

Damaged 'i' in DECI



Red and Blue

Retouch

The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia
Prince Carol - The International Issue Varieties

The requirement for two separate printing operations for the two coloured 25 and 50 Bani stamps resulted in a number of varieties. These included: frequent retouches as the realignment of the plates occasioned more wear than on single colour printings and faulty alignment of the two colours, as well as the usual flaws and corrections resutling from the plate transfers.

Some examples of these variations are shown below.



Neck retouched



Colour alignment & neck retouch

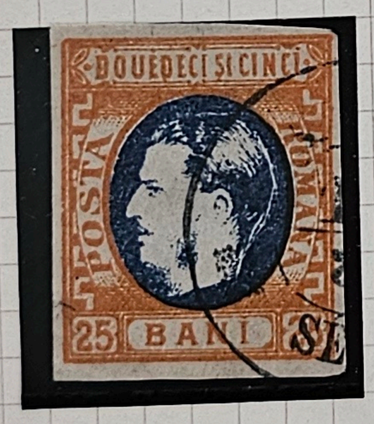


Damaged 'i' in Deci



Inverted double-head

25 Bani Blue & Red



Neck retouched



Hand painted border on left of head

50 Bani Blue and Orange



74 Orange - Yellow



74a Orange



74b Dp Red-Orange



75 Dull Blue



75b Dp Prussian blue



75c Ultramarine



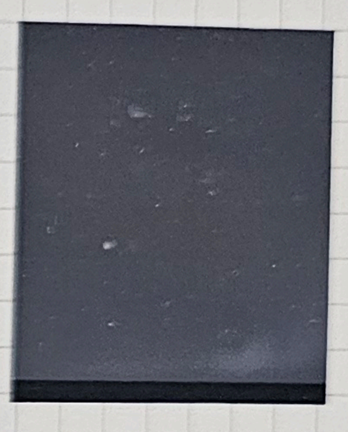
76 Red



76a Rose



76b Vermilion



76d Scarlet



77 Blue and Yellow



77a Dp Blue and Yellow



77b Blue and Orange



77c Dp Blue and Orange



78a Red and Blue



78 Red and Pale Blue



78b Red and Dp Blue

1869

25 Bani Blue and Orange

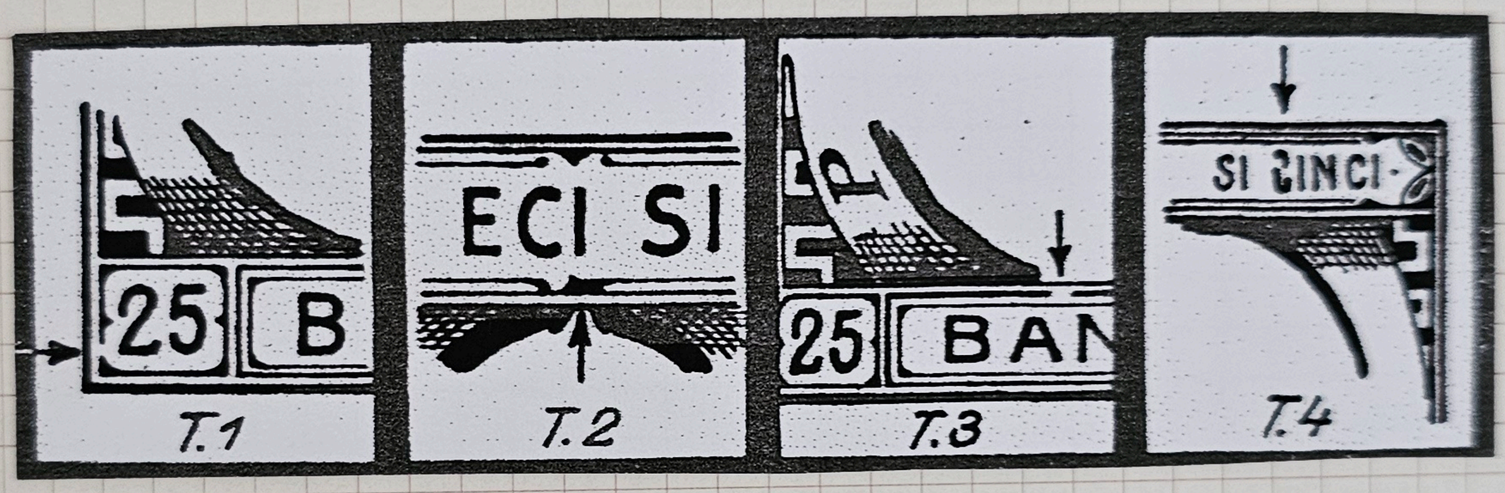
Types













Neck retouch



Head painted border on left of head

The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia
The Danube and Black Sea Railway

The Danube and Black Sea Railway extended a distance of 46 miles between Kustendje (Constantz), a port on the Black Sea, and Czernawoda on the river Danube, thus forming a link between the mail boats of the Danube Steam Navigation Company at Czernawoda and the mail boats of the Austrian Lloyd Company at Kustendje. Both these companies had a contract with the railway for the conveyance of mail, the railway issuing a single stamp of 20 paras value from 1867 for the conveyance of loose letters over the route.

The stamp depicts the Black Sea and mountains - together with the Ottoman symbols of a star and the moon.

The original stamp issue (copies of which are extremely rare) was followed by three reprints. An example of the second reprint is shown below.



In 1878 under the the Treaty of San Stefano the province of Dobruja was divided between Russia and the newly independent Bulgaria. Russia exchanged its portion of Dobruja that covered the mouth of the Danube on the Black Sea for Bessarabia with Romania, and Romanian stamps could then be used to cover the transit to Constantz.

In 1890 the printers M. Kaiser in Vienna issued three different reprints using the original cliches. These can be identified by variations in colour and elements of the design. Three examples are shown below.







The United Provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia

Prince Carol - With Beard

In 1871 there was a new issue of stamps with a new effigy of Prince Carol. This shows him as a little older and with a beard instead of 'favours'. The colours of this issue also departed from the traditional yellow, red and blue with the addition of brown for the 25 Bani.

These stamps were first issued on 1 April 1969 as imperforated. Then in March 1872 with a perforation of 12 1/2.



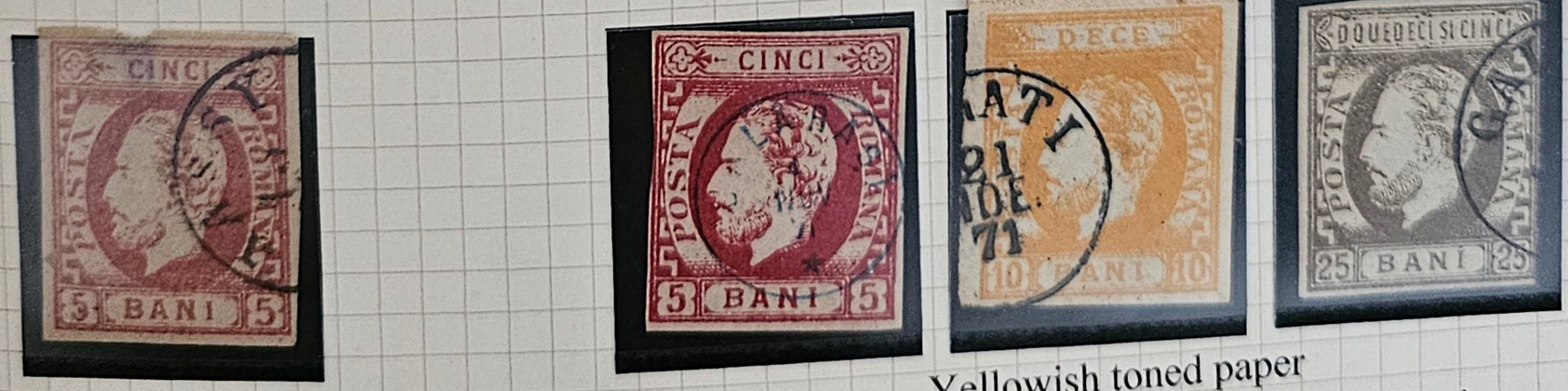
Red | Scarlet | Rose | Rose-carmine | Orange-yellow | Orange-yellow | Orange

5 Bani | **10 Bani**



Blue | Deep Blue | Carmine-red | Rose-red | Olive-Brown | Deep brown | 'Linci' for 'Cinci'

10 Bani | **15 Bani** | **25 Bani**



Rose-tinted paper

5 Bani

5 Bani

Yellowish toned paper

10 Bani

25 Bani

1871-2

10 Bani Yellow

Reconstructed Block



T1



T2



T5



T6



T3



T4



T7



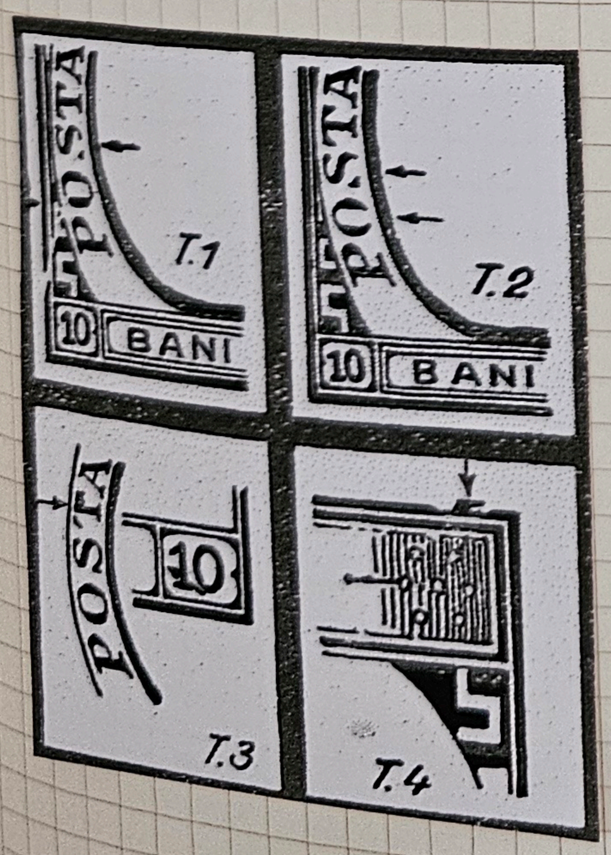
T8



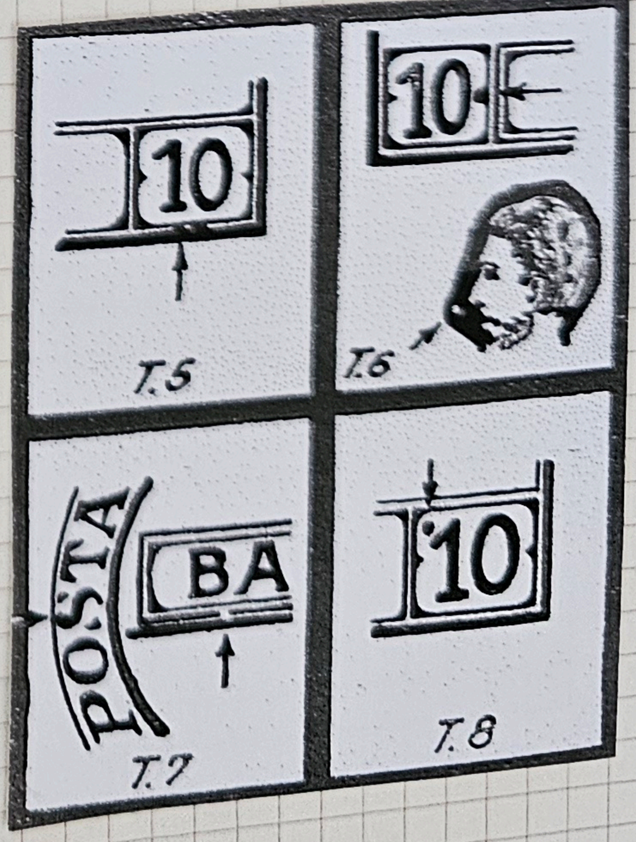
T9



T10







Shades













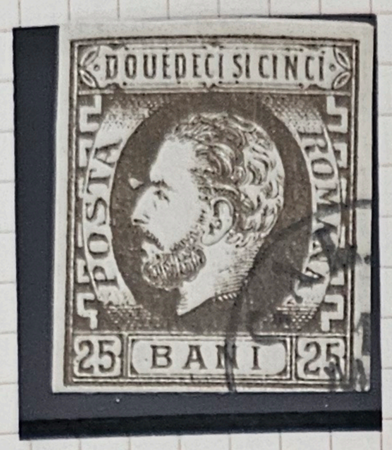
1871

25 Bani Brown

Reconstructed Block



T1



T2



T5



T6



T3



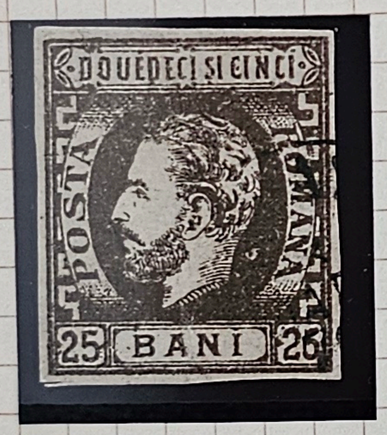
T4



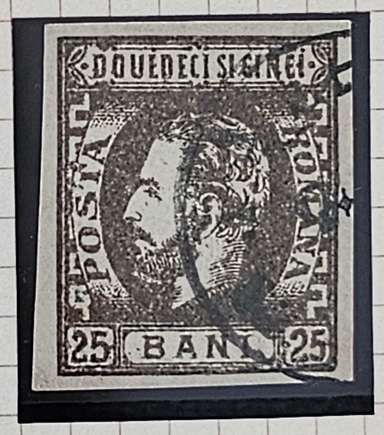
T7



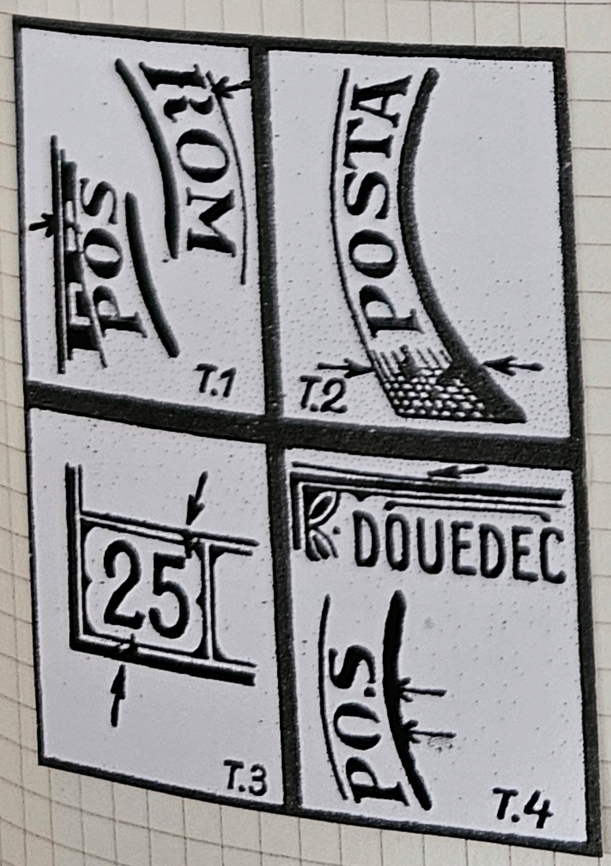
T8

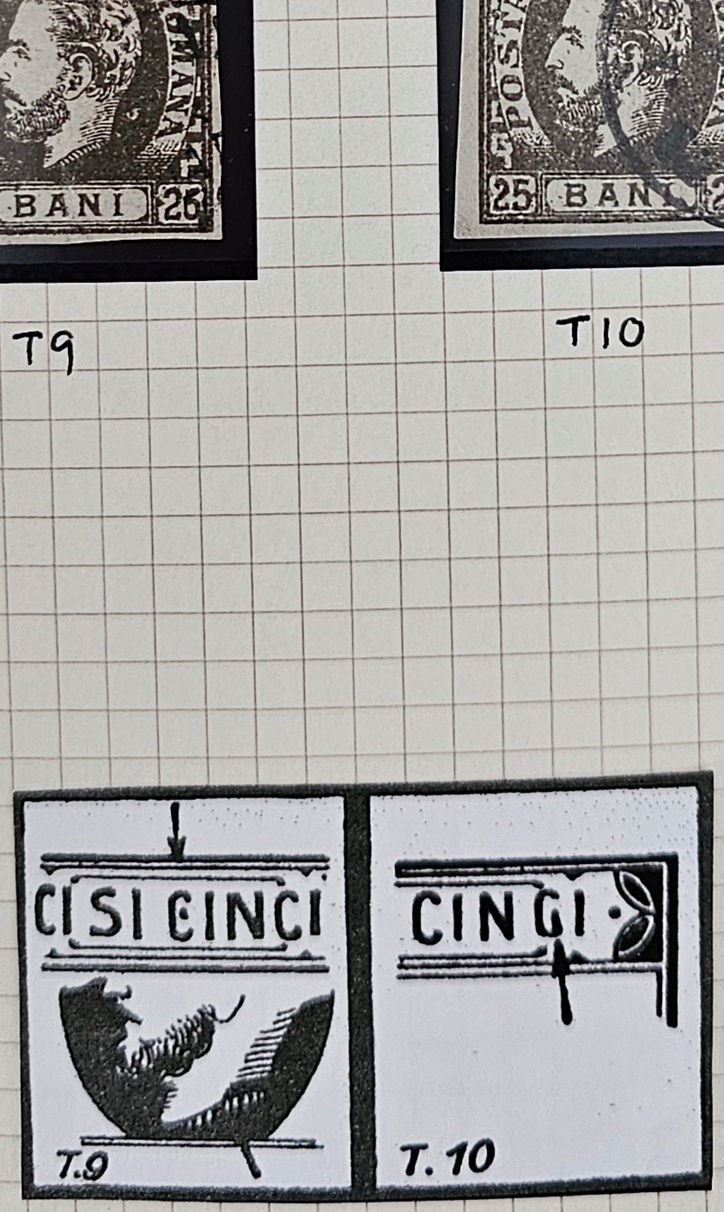


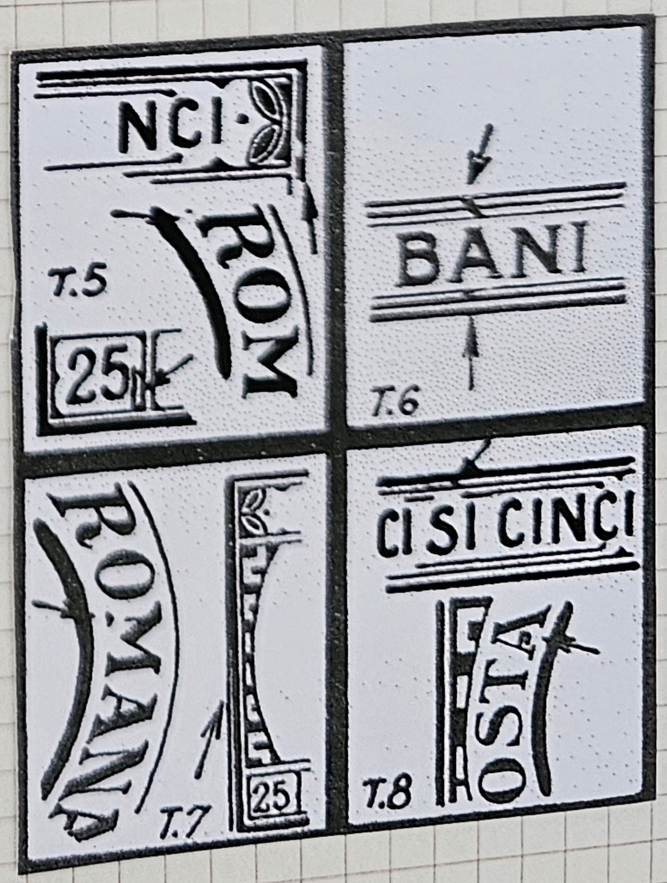
T9



T10







1871-2

5 Bani Red

Reconstructed Block



T1 *H
Braila T69 '18'



T2



T5 "H"



T6 'dr'



T3



T4 *H



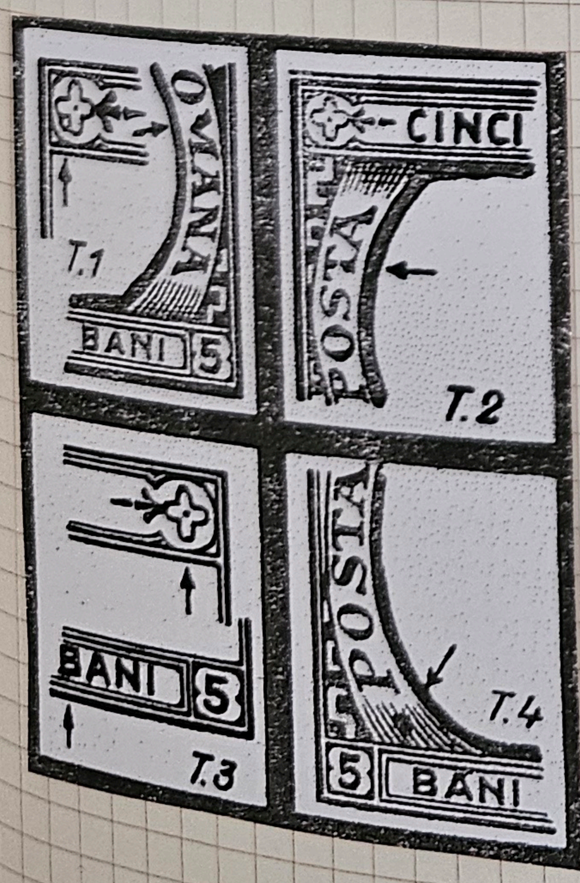
T7

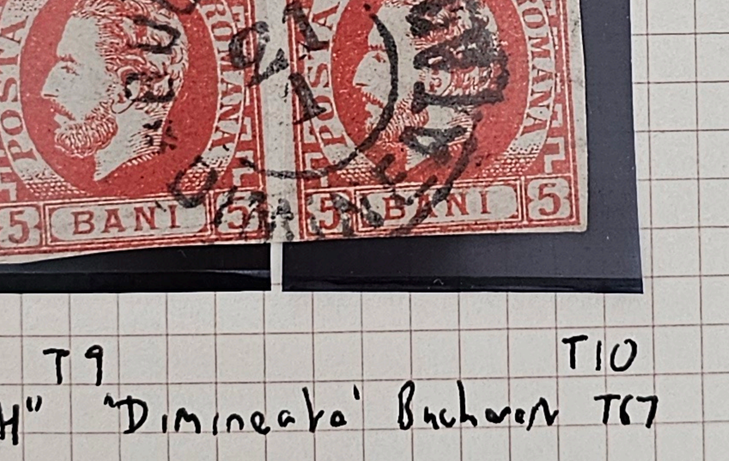


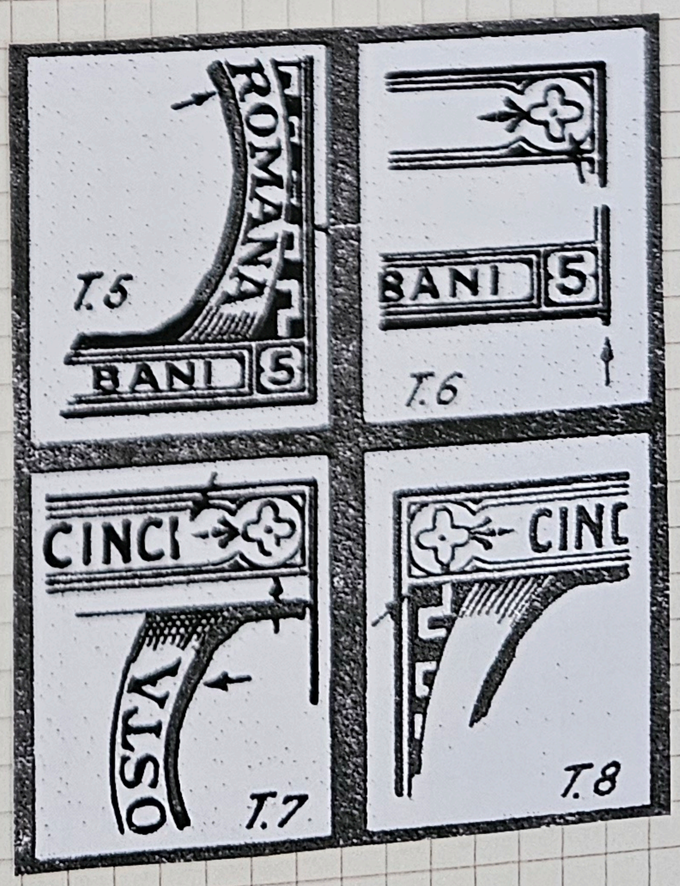
T8



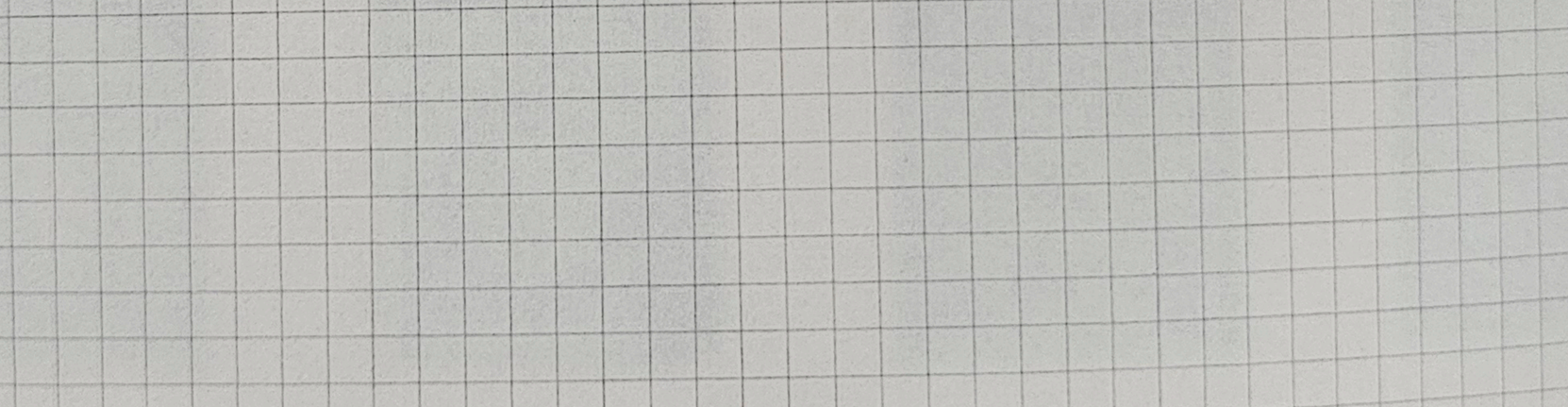
T9 T10
"H" "Dimineata' Bucuresti T67







17



1871

10 Bani Blue

Reconstructed Block



T1



T2



T5



T6



T3



T4



T7



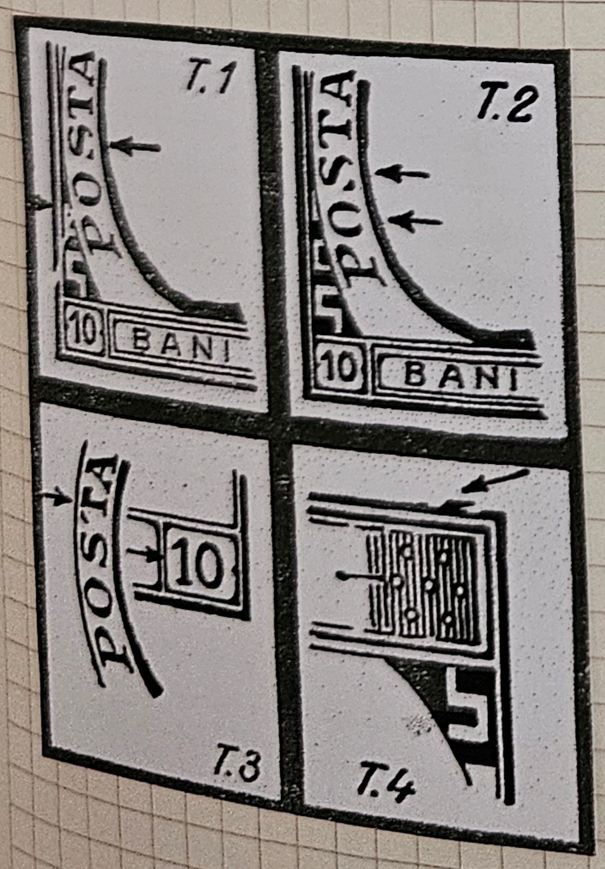
T8



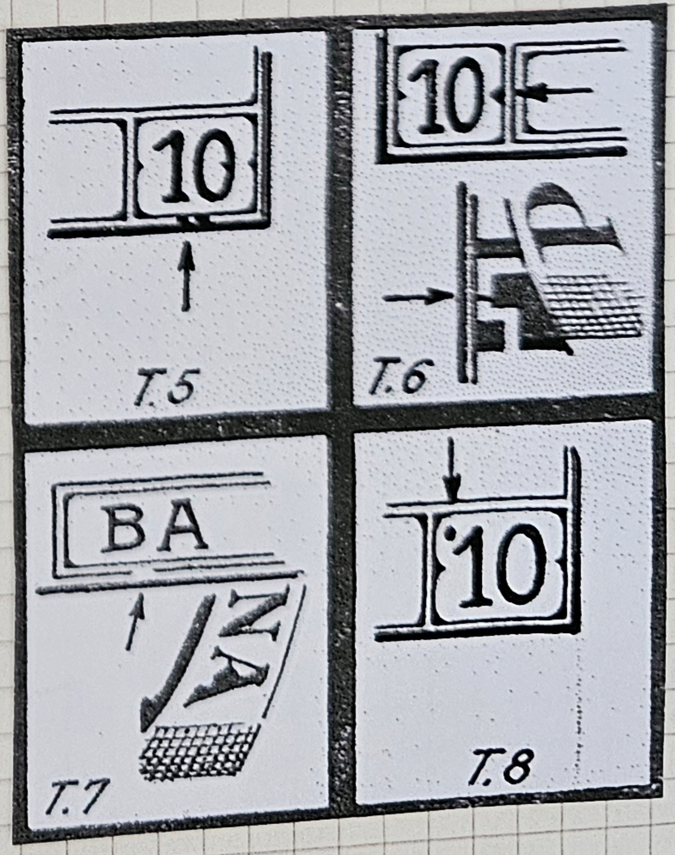
T9



T10













Type 5 "Linii for Cinci"
in upper panel

1871-2

With Beard

Imperf: White wove paper



83 Red
M 26
S 44



83a Scarlet



83b Rose



83c Rose-carmine
M 26b
S 44



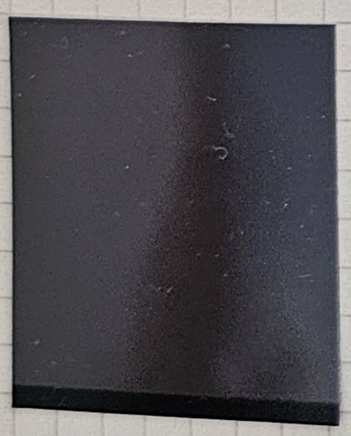
84 Orange-Yellow
M 27



84b Orange



85
M 29



86a Carmine-red
M 30



86a Rose-red



87
M 28
S 47

1872

Piece
Dated July 3. Craiova



Unused

Imperf
rose-tinted wove paper



88

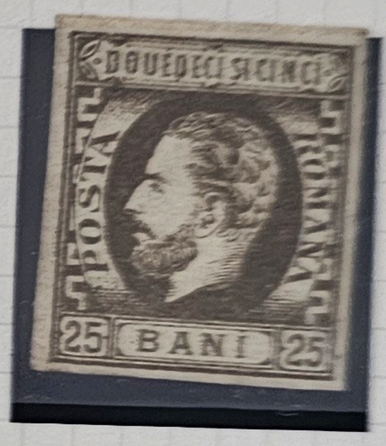
Yellowish toned wove paper



89
Position 9



90



91

Laid paper



92

The "Angry Carol" forgeries

The "Angry Carol" is a celebrated forgery by the Spiro Brothers.

In 1864 the Spiro Brothers a well-established printing firm of Hamburg starting producing stamps facsimiles. After increasing criticism by dealers and collectors the Spiro Brothers ceased the manufacture of these facsimiles in 1880.

The brothers produced their forgeries in sheets of 25 stamps with their own created fake cancellations that were never used by the Post Office. Spiro claimed these stamps were sold as 'reproductions', were easily identifiable, and were therefore not 'forgeries'.



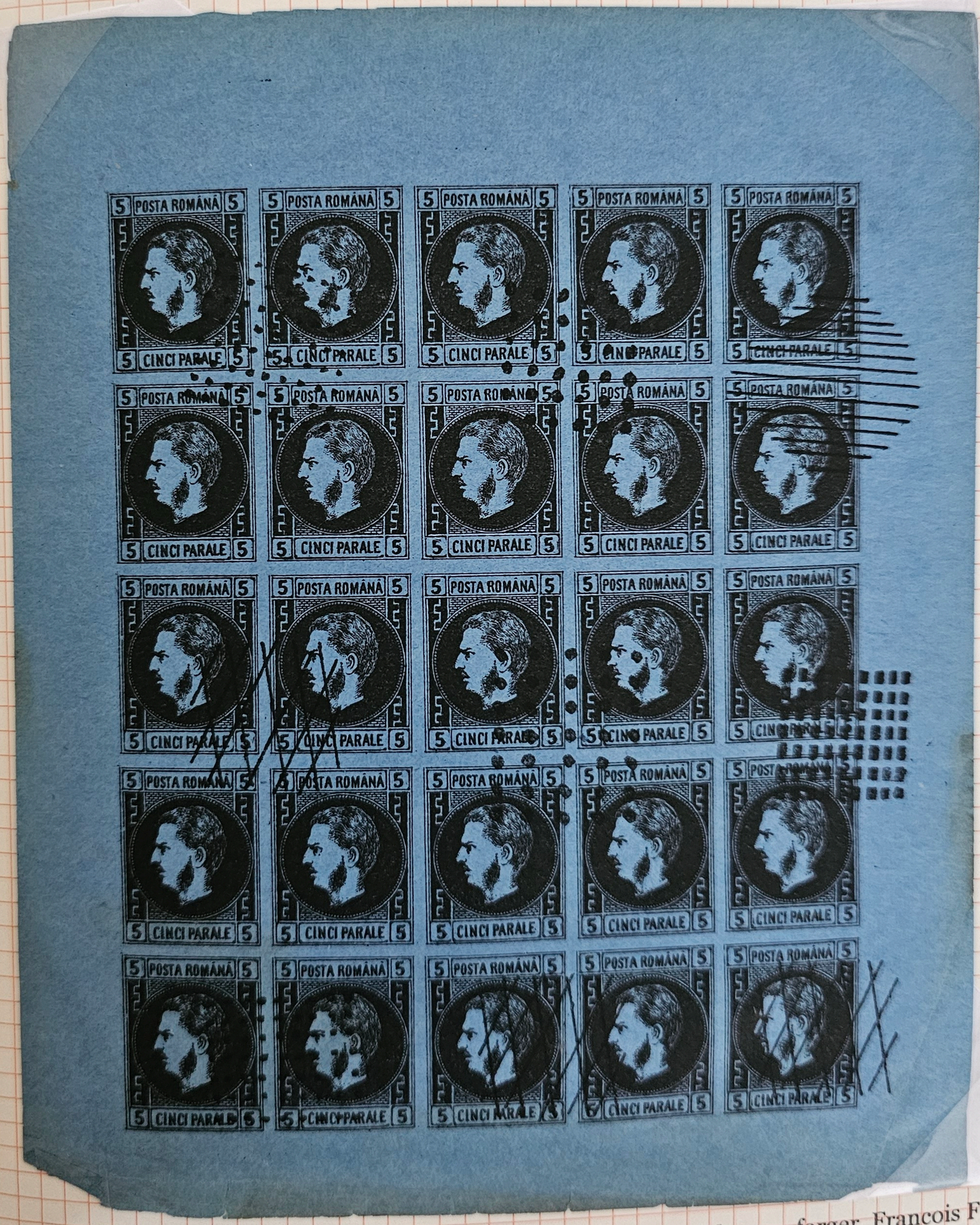
This sheet is of additional interest as it was probably printed by another well known forger, Francois Fournier of Geneva, who bought some of Spiro's dies when he started operations in 1903. Fournier did not pretend that these were 'facsimiles' and not forgeries.

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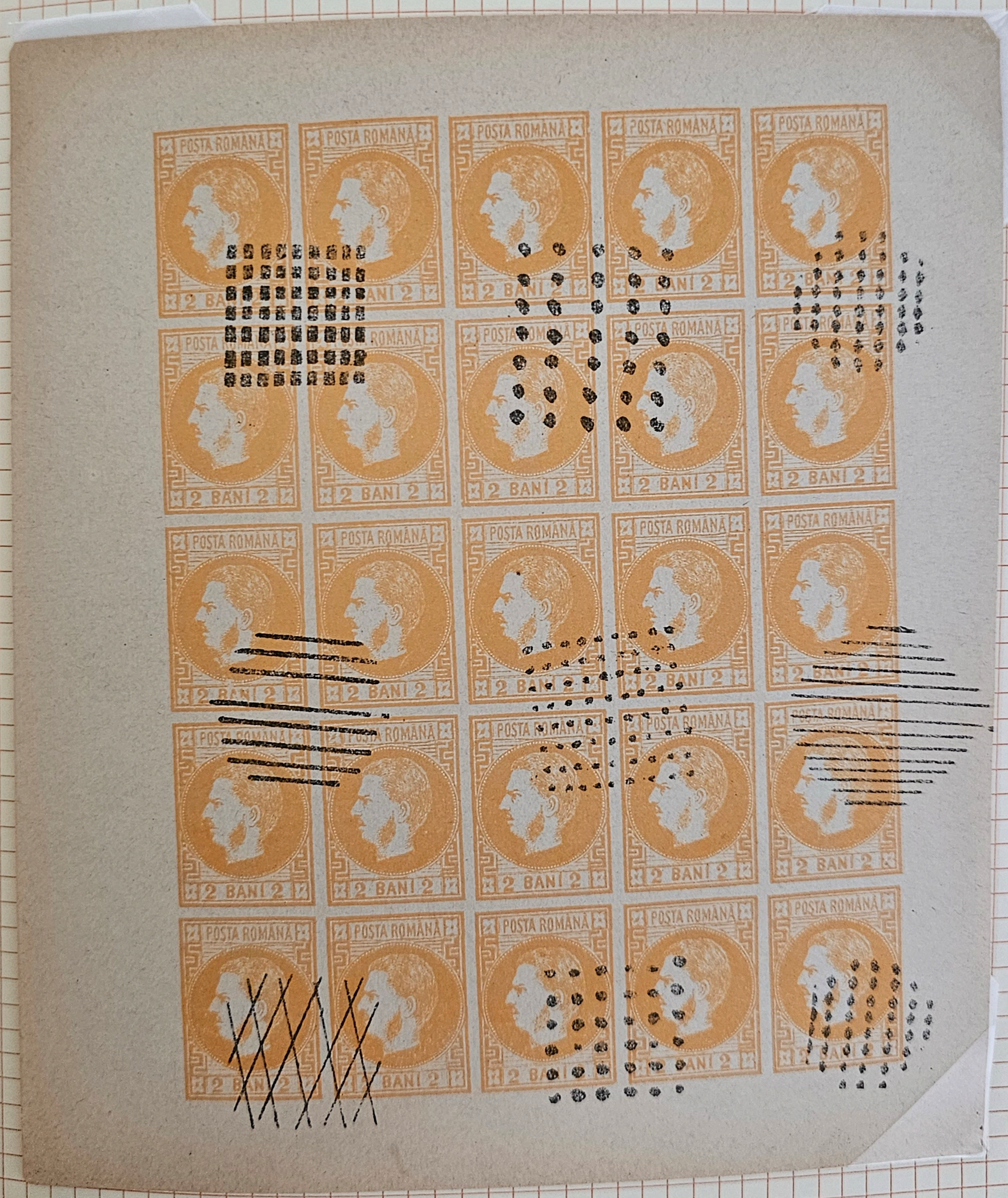
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c 1857

Lettr from Tekutsch Moldova

to Buden



Domnisale D: Președente

alu Tribunalui de

Buzeu.

8 958

3744

1860

Letter from Fokschoni to Bucharest
14 October 17 October

Tribunal. Fokschoni

14/10

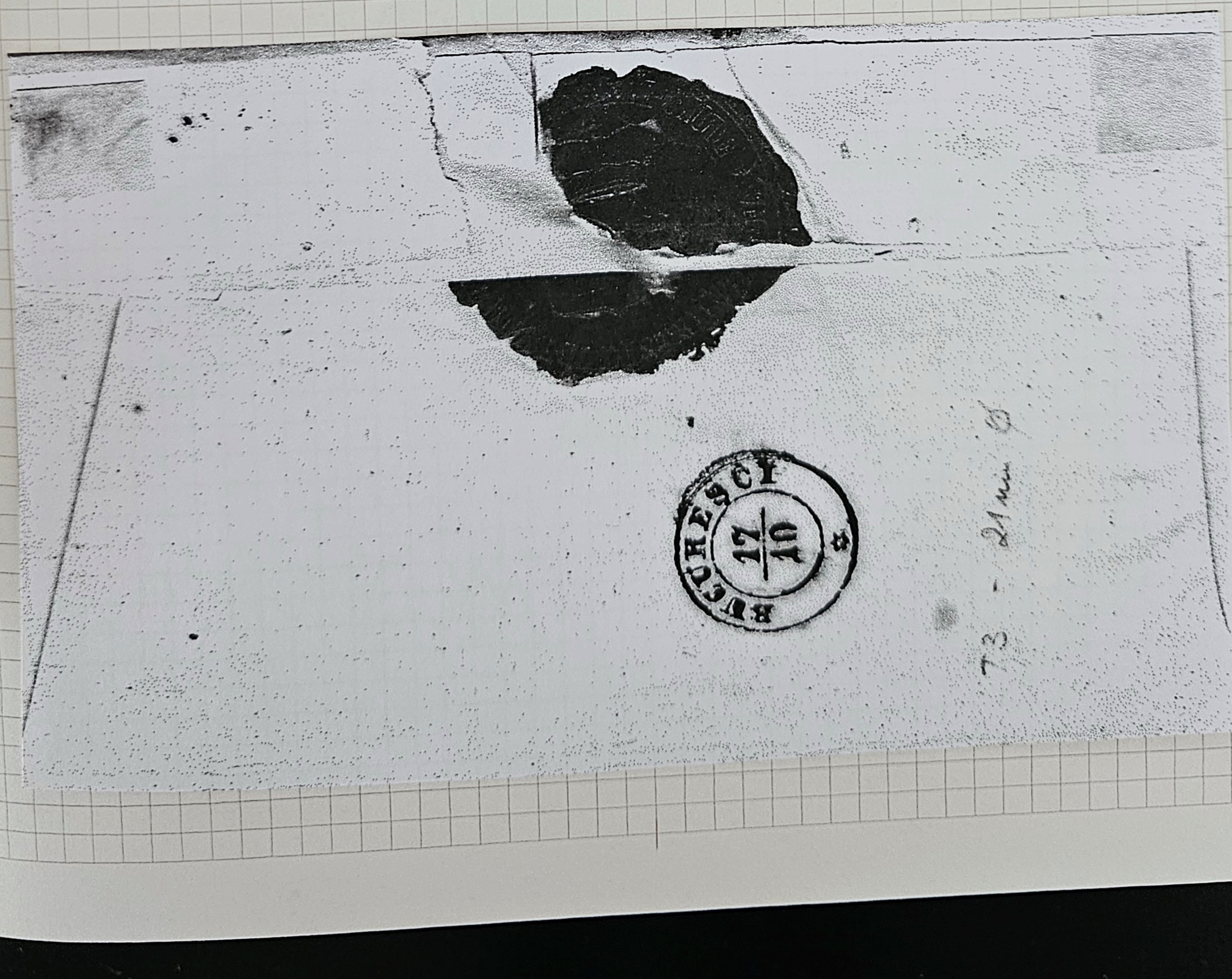
Secretariat

Procesul Curtei de apel civ

le sec. II

Nro 886

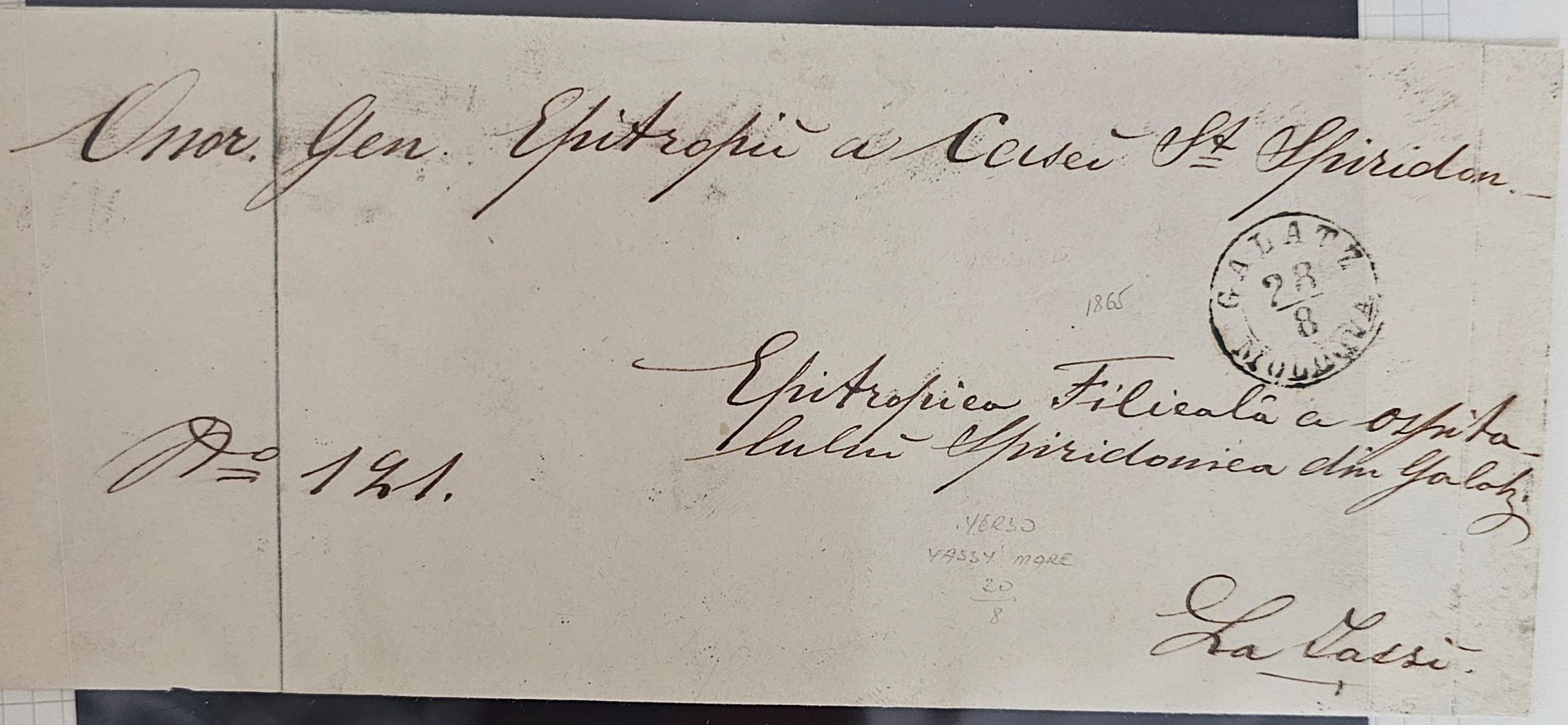
Bucuresci



1862

Entire letter dated 30 May

Sent from Galatz to Jassy.


Onor. Gen. Epitropii a Casei Sf. Spiridon.

Nr. 121.

Epitropica Filiceală a Ospita-
lului Spiridonica din Galaţi.

1865

GALATZ
28
8

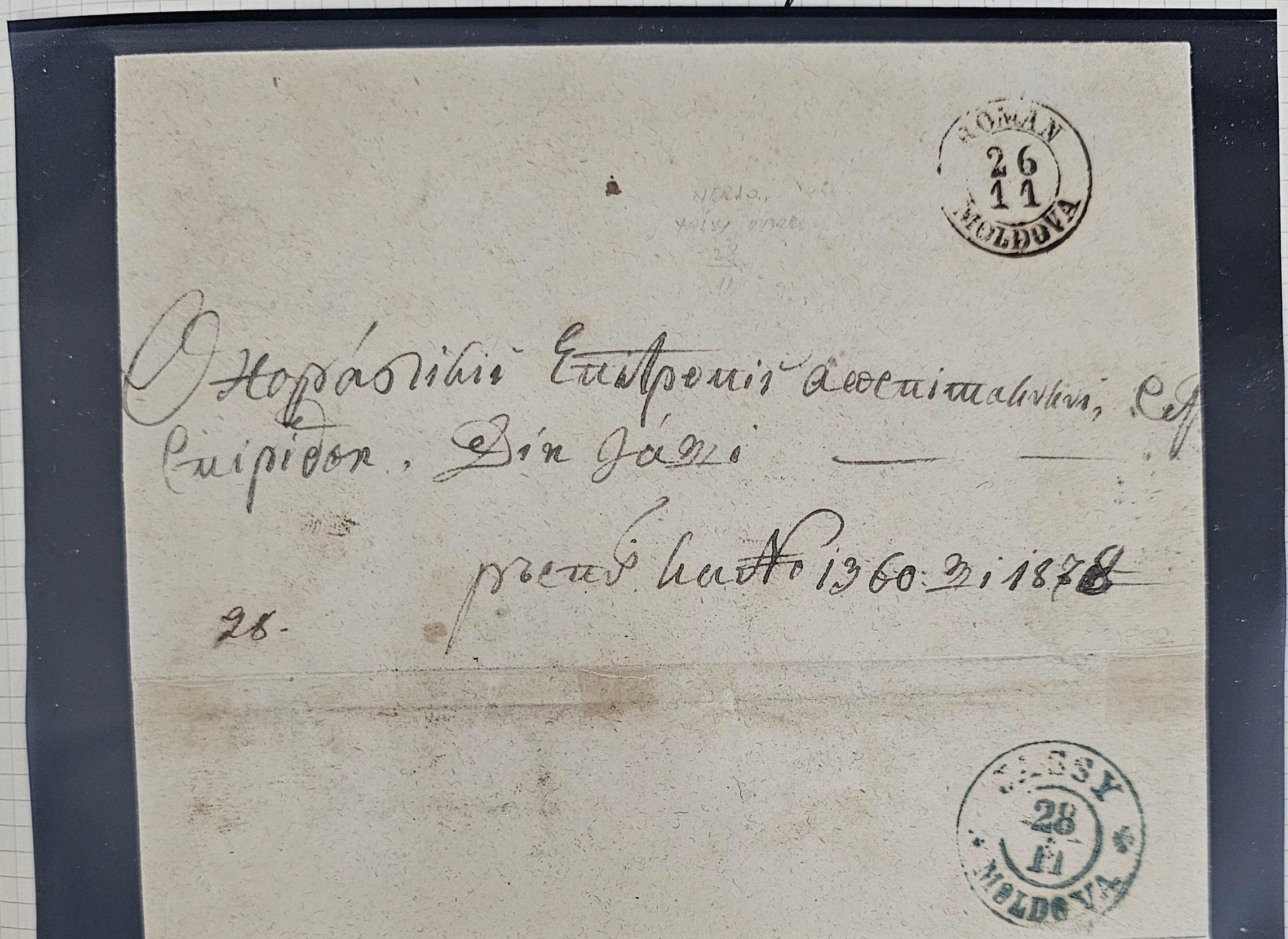
VERSO
VASSY MORE
20
8

La Iassi.

1862

26 Novembr - 28 N.vembr

Roman Moldova to Jassy Moldova



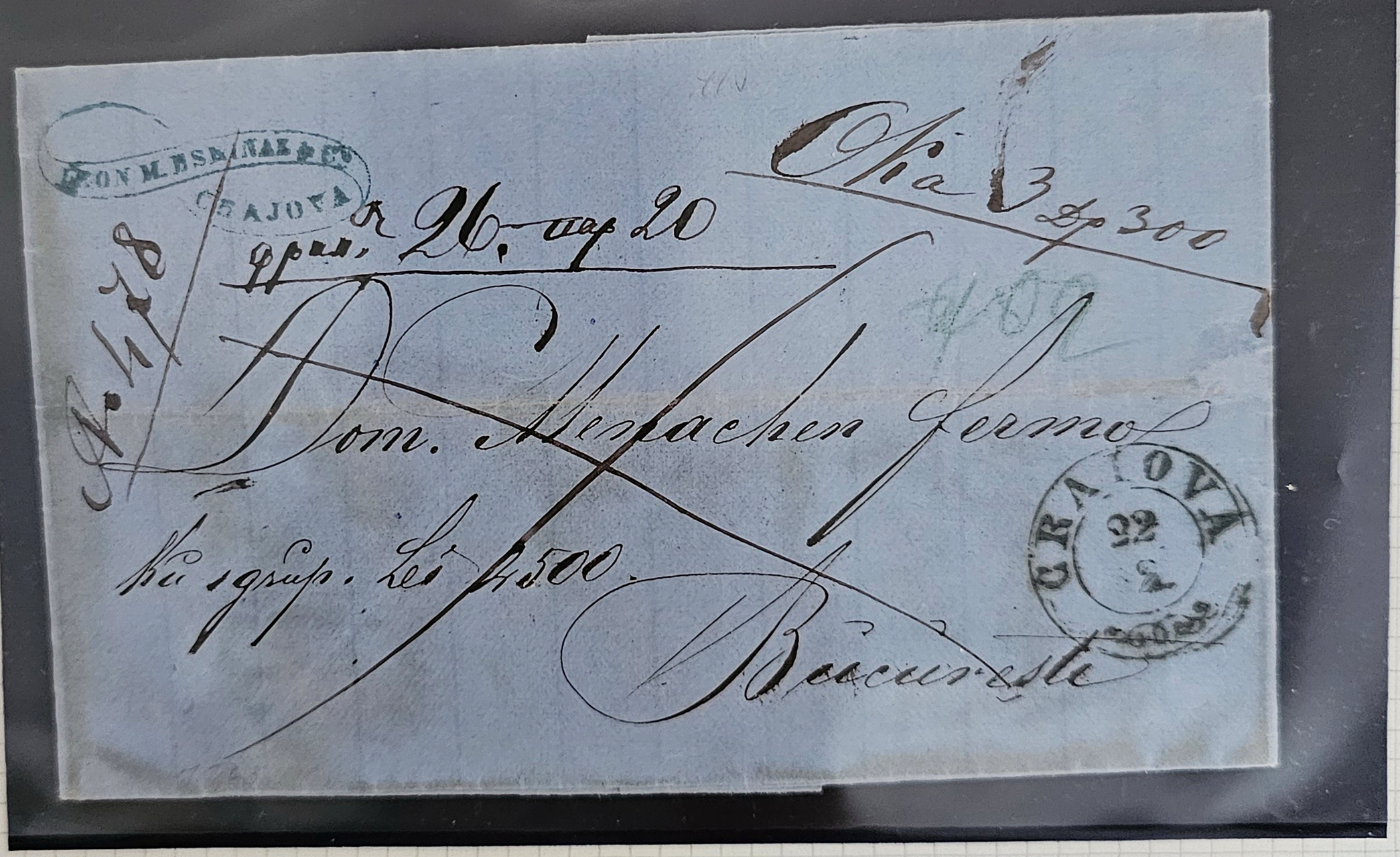
Ο Ηγεμόνικὸς Ἐπίτροπος τῆς Θεοσπασλευτου Ε
Επιτροπον . Δίν Ιάσι

Ρεντ Ιουλ 1360 Β, 1878

28.

1863

Entire letter dated February 22
Sent from Craiova to Bucarest.



c 1865

[redacted]

Dnul. Vasili Lac. III

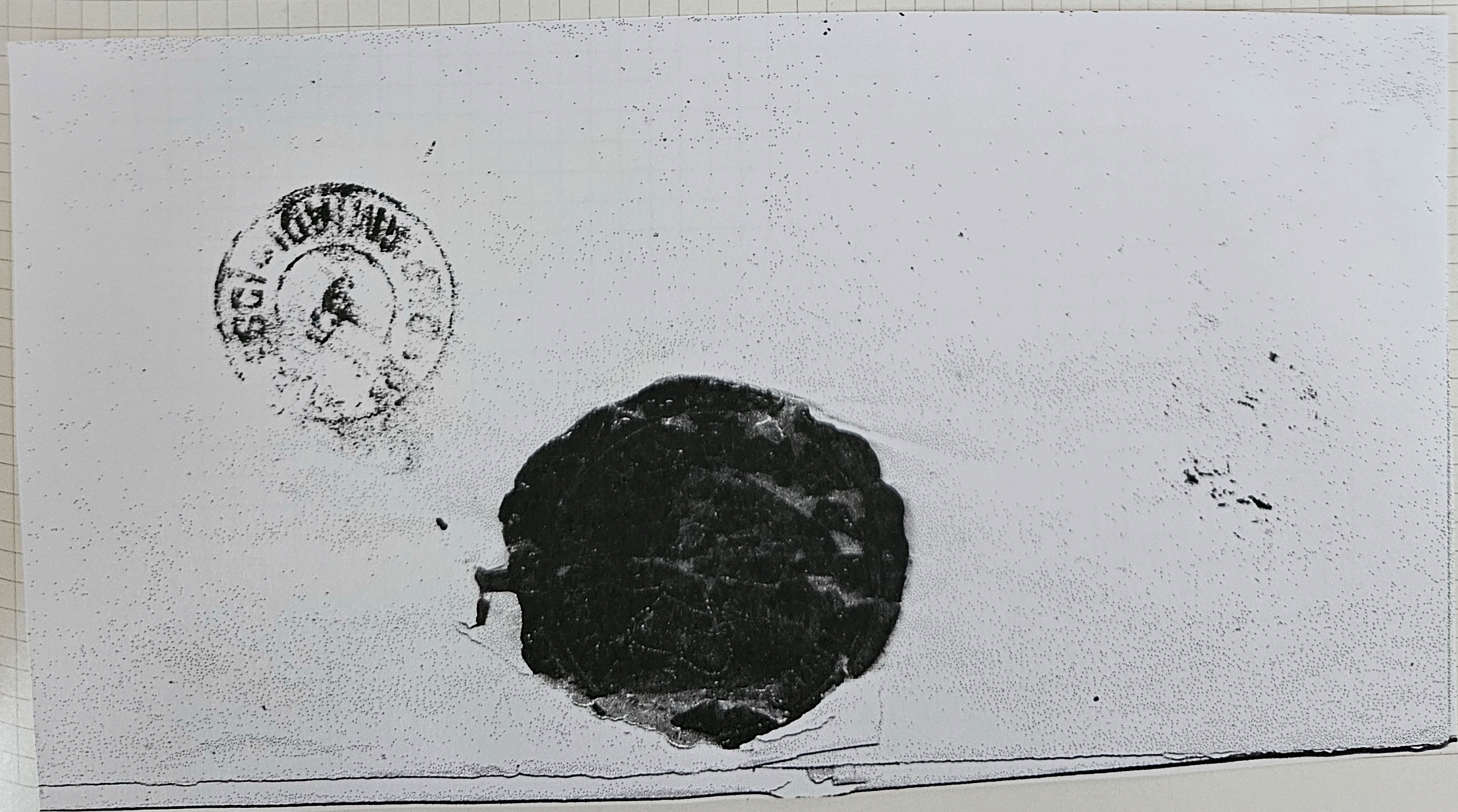
Domnie. Sale
Dom. Prim Presidinte Curtei de

Callatie. ——

No 5791

Bucuresti

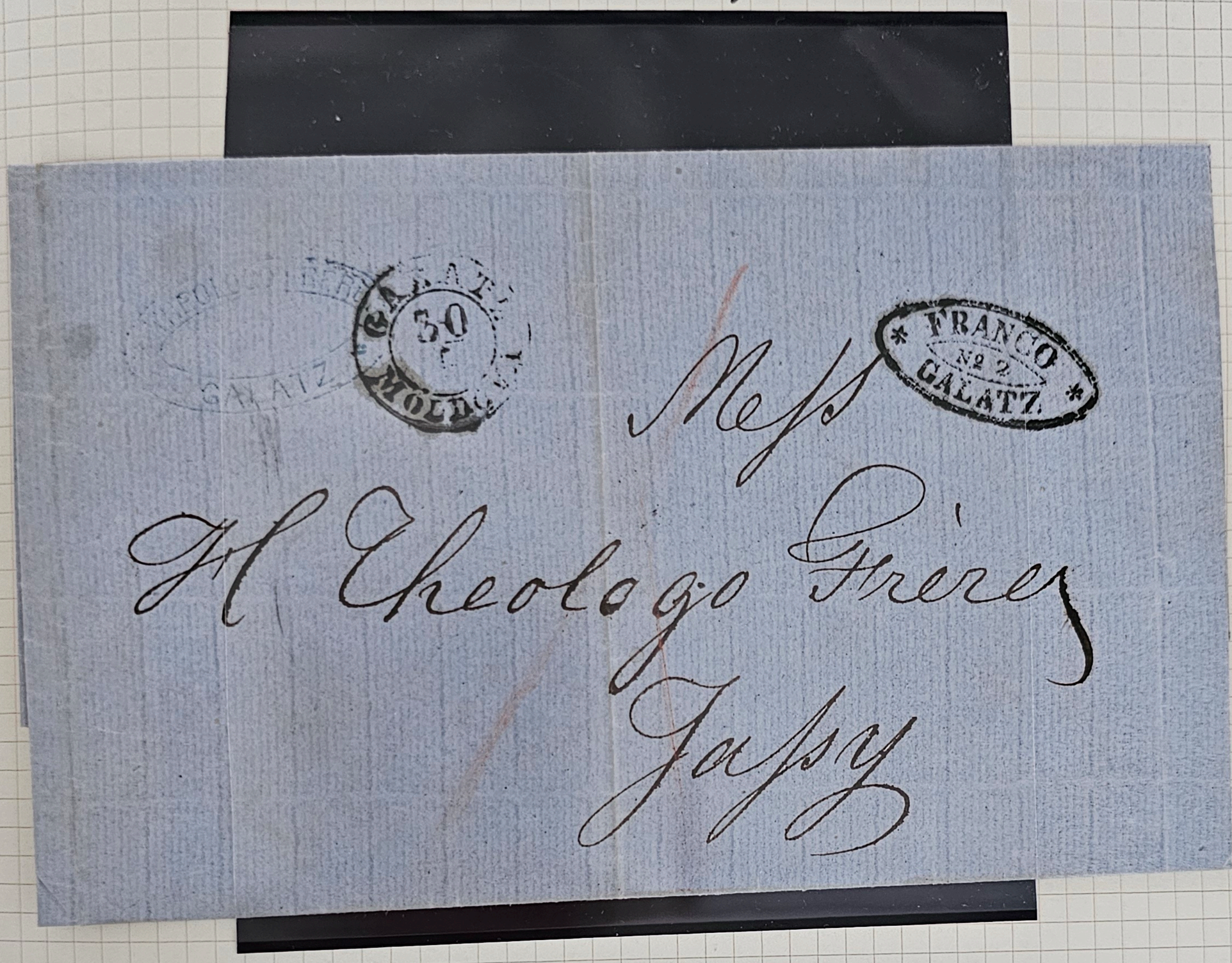
Blue-Black circular Jassy DKR with 'I' not 'J'



1865

28 August
- 30 August

Galatz Moldova to Jassy Moldova



1865

Entire letter dated March. 20 para (type A) Early use of double ring cancellation: Showing town, day and month with posthorn – not year
Sent from Jassy to Romanu: distance 86 kms.

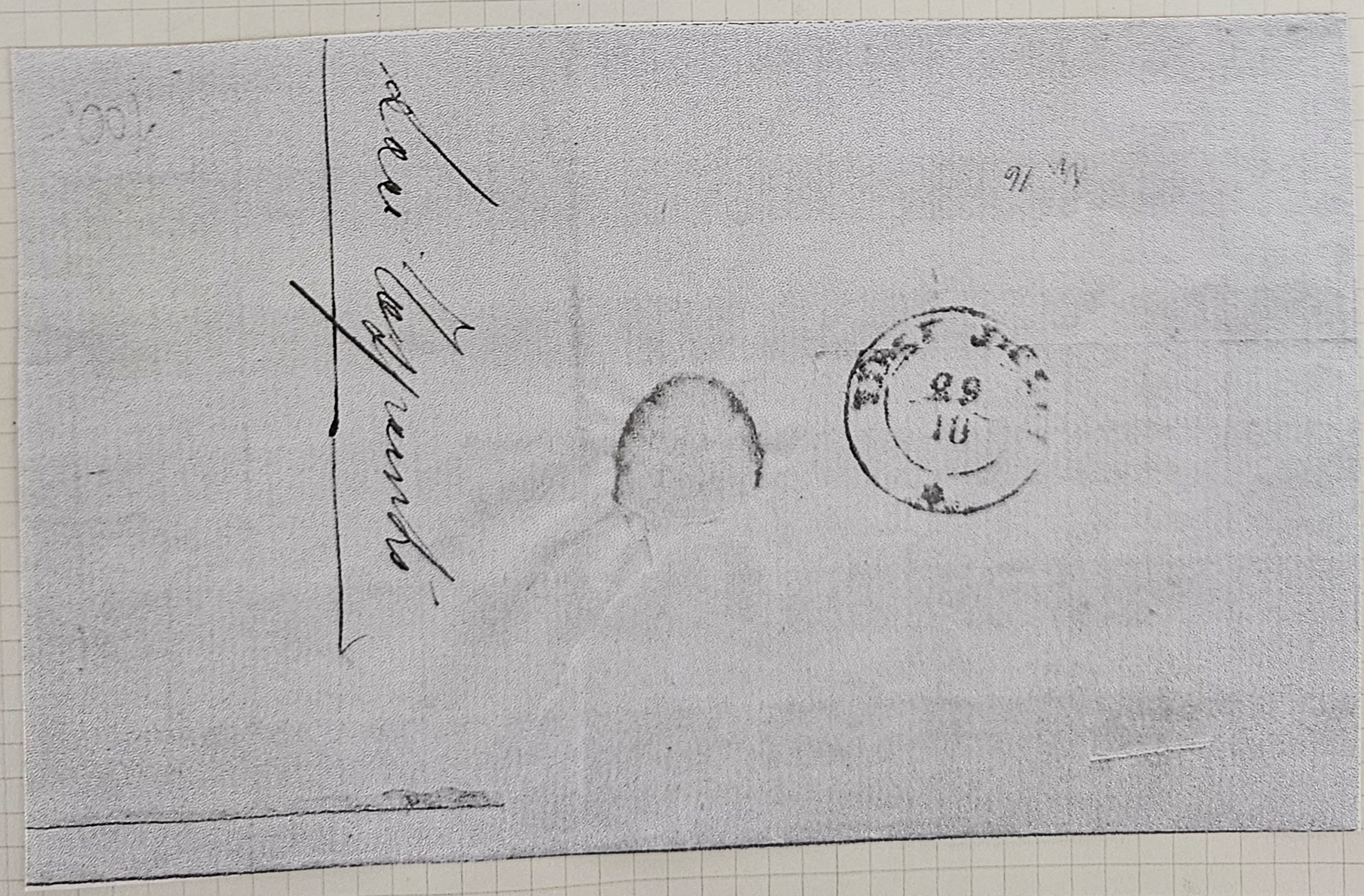


Prewar double cancellation 'killer' replaced by cds. Common placement of stamp in NW corner

1867

Entire letter dated 29 October . Carried 94 kms
To Târgu Jiu : capital of Gorj County
From Craiova : capital of Dolj County
20 pare black (type A) . Commercial letter.





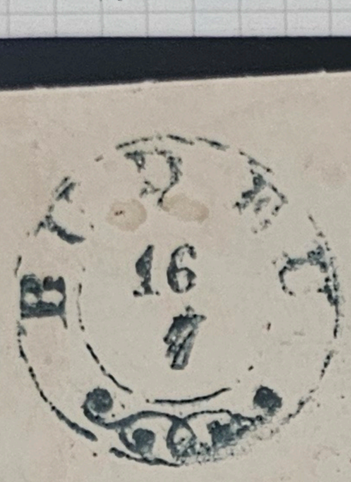
1867

Entire letter dated 16th July A distance of 94 kms
Sent from Buden to Braila Budea and Braila postmarks cancellations

20 Para black (type A) on cover. legal seal on reverse.



#31 TYPE I

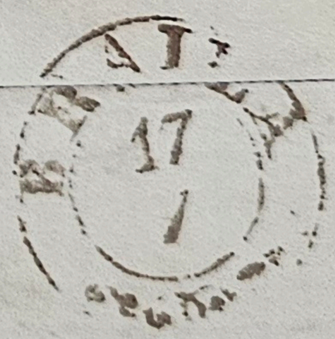


Domnului

Ioan D Hangeaff

Braila





1868 - 1870

Bucharest to Vienna

18 June 1869





1868 21-23 Sept

From Budeo to Braila : a distance of 94 kms

18 bani on cover: legal seal on reverse. Budeo and Braila porthorn cancellations



to Braile

