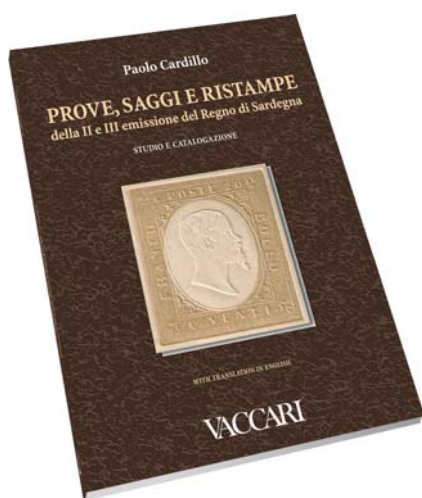


PRESENTATION OF THE VOLUME

PROOFS, ESSAYS AND REPRINTS
of the II and III issues of the Kingdom of Sardinia
A Study and Catalogue

Milanofil - Saturday, 6 April 2013 - 2.45 p.m. - sala verde 2

Together with Usfi, the Italian Philatelic Press Union
to present the volume
the author, Paolo Cardillo
the two experts, Giacomo Bottacchi and Giorgio Colla
the president of the Union, Danilo Bogoni, as the coordinator of the event



Paolo Cardillo

PROOFS, ESSAYS AND REPRINTS
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Deep ANALYSIS of the kinds of proofs that Francesco Matraire used for the II and III issues of the Kingdom of Sardinia, how and why he used them, the final essays he submitted to the ministerial authorities for approval, the genesis of the IV issue, the reprints the great type-lithographer produced at the end of his contract with the "Regie Poste", that is at the end of 1863. The author was able to examine a lot of material, in part coming from Emilio Diena's archives and carefully numbered by Diena or perhaps by Matraire himself.

The study is followed by a **detailed CATALOGUE** of these items, **most of which have never appeared in other publications**, divided by proofs, essays and reprints. The point scale of values based on the author's experience will allow the collector to understand which of the many catalogued items are more valuable and difficult to find.

An extensive appendix of **ILLUSTRATIVE TABLES** using high-definition magnification better shows the study methods used.

Enclosed, the **VALUATION** referred to the point scale in the catalogue, with the price relevant to this kind of items when first choice (Vaccari quality "A").

The history of stamps issued and regularly used cannot neglect the planning and preparation that led to their creation. Francesco Matraire controlled the fate of the postage stamps of the Kingdom of Sardinia, then Kingdom of Italy, for over 12 years, and through his work hundreds of collectors today have an opportunity to experience feelings that are unparalleled when building their collections.



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INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR

My passion for the postage stamps of the Kingdom of Sardinia began many years ago. It was certainly motivated in part by my love for the subjects of history and geography, an interest I maintained throughout my studies. So, when - quite by accident - I happened to examine a batch of material which came directly from the archives of Emilio Diena and everything related to proofs, essays and reprints of the II and III issues of Sardinia, I could hardly resist and decided to accept the challenge, encouraged by a few fragmentary but fundamental notes attributed to the master himself, and attempt to reveal the truth that had remained hidden in them for so many years.

The material was carefully numbered in pencil (by F.Matraire or by Emilio Diena himself), and is represented by a series of items that have allowed me, by means of careful and thorough study, to reconstruct the genesis of the two issues and especially what, in the form of attempts, proofs, essays, approvals, had preceded their final appearance in the post offices of the Kingdom of Sardinia.

My historical reconstruction of the work done by Francesco Matraire provides some information also regarding the origins of the IV issue in order to clarify the story - until now quite hazy and vague - of the reprints the great type-lithographer produced at the end of his contract with the Regie Poste at the end of 1863.

In the following discussion, I have tried to explain, in a simple and intelligible manner for even the uninitiated, the kinds of proofs that Matraire used, how and why he used them, and the final essays he submitted to the ministerial authorities for approval, with a numerical catalogue of the items I analysed (most of which have never been catalogued in other publications) at the back along with an extensive appendix of illustrative tables using high-definition magnification to better show the study methods I used to arrive at the conclusions that you will soon read.

These conclusions can now be shared by all collectors of these issues and by those interested in learning a little bit more about the marvellous history of Italian postage stamps.

THE AUTHOR



Paolo Cardillo was born in Turin on 21 February 1966. His parents were elementary and secondary school teachers and he received a humanist education. He attended the Conservatory of Music in Turin and a secondary school specializing in scientific studies, and then went on to study at the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Turin.

He began collecting in the 1990s. In 2001, his interest in the Italian States led him to further his exploration of the subject; at first this was limited just to stamps but soon included postal history and, more specifically, the origins of various postal issues, both from the point of view of the proofs and

essays, as well as the more technical nature of the printing methods used.

In 2008 he participated in the campionato Cadetti - category 1 frame - with his Postal History collection "Dal Regno di Sardegna verso gli altri Antichi Stati Italiani, 1851-1861" (From the Kingdom of Sardinia to the other Italian States, 1851-1861), winning the semi-final (Empoli) in a team with three other collections. He then took second place in the national finals in Rome the following year.

Beginning in 2010 he became a philatelic consultant specializing in colour classification of the IV issue of Sardinia, other Kingdom of Sardinia issues and of all the Italian States. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Turin, the AFIP, IFFDA and ASPOT.

This, his first specialist philatelic publication, the result of more than two years of work, seeks to open new collecting horizons as well as to shed light on the fragmentary and incomplete information provided in Cesare Rattone's book on the subject, dating back to 1951.

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