

1893 FRENCH ESSAYS

Final (Third) Printing



Intermediate (Second) Printings



Initial (First) Printing



SUMMARY

The Design stone used in the [Final](#) printing has the images of (not actual) pinholes ^{note 1} at the Guide T locations ([Figure 1](#)). This means that the Design stone had been used in early printing so the usage of it in this (the Final printing) indicates that printings had preceded it and thus it cannot have been the first or second printing.

In positions B & D (Row 1/2 & Row 2/2) there remain the faint remnants of coloured text in the label surrounding the word “PROTECTORAT”. This text exactly matches in every way that of the coloured text found in the labels of the Second printing. It does not match the word “PROTECTORAT” which is in different text in the First Printing. ([Figure 2](#))

The conclusion is that the Final printing came after the Second printing and used the same coloured stones.

Both the Final and [Second](#) printings exhibit the same “plate” features, have the Guide T’s at 16.2 cm centres AND have the Guide T’s on all four stones ^{note1} ([Figure 3](#)). None of these three things are true of the First printing ([Figure 4](#)).

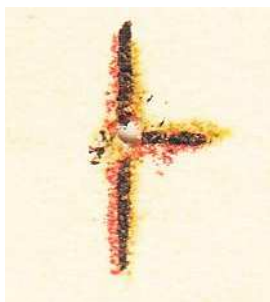
The [First](#) printing has its own unique “plate” features and does not share any of the “plate” features of the other two printings ([Figure 4](#)).

It has the Guide T’s set at 15.3 cm on the coloured stones only. Notably there are no Guide T’s present on the Design stone used at this time ^{note 1}. Yet the Design stone is THE design stone used in the Second printing. The “plate” flaws of the Design stone including minutiae are constant throughout ([Figure 5](#)).

There is no evidence that the Guide T’s present on the Design stone used in the Final or Second printings were erased or that the necessary pinholes in the stone were filled in order to give way to another printing.

Note 1: Guide T’s are found on lithographic stones where more than one stone is being used to complete a design. The Guide T positions have small holes drilled into the stone for pins to be inserted at the intersections of the T. These are used by printers to align the paper sheet into the correct position on each stone at each stage of printing process to ensure that the different design elements align on the paper as the printing progresses. Hence small holes in the paper are found at the Guide T positions on full sheets.

It is incomprehensible therefore that the First printing should have no Guide T’s for the Design stone unless the proofs taken of the initial Design stone when it was the only stone (thus requiring no Guide T’s) were used in the First coloured printings. This is however conjecturing and might never be provable.



[Figure 1](#)



Position B (Row1/2)



Position D (Row2/2)



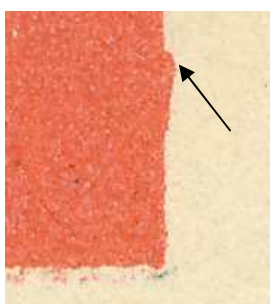
Position B (Row1/2) overlaid with Second printing
to show the match of the text in the background

[Figure 2](#)

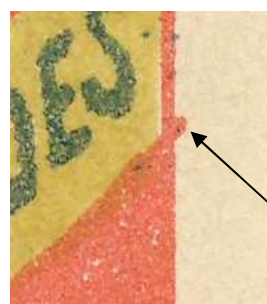


[Figure 3](#)

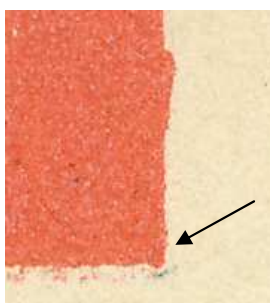
Stone Features common to both the Final & Second Printings



Position A (Row1/1) Presence of flaw absent in other printings



Position A (Row1/1) Presence of flaw absent in other printings



Position A (Row1/1) Absence of the corner flaw present in other printings



Position B (Row1/2) Absence of the corner flaw present in other printings

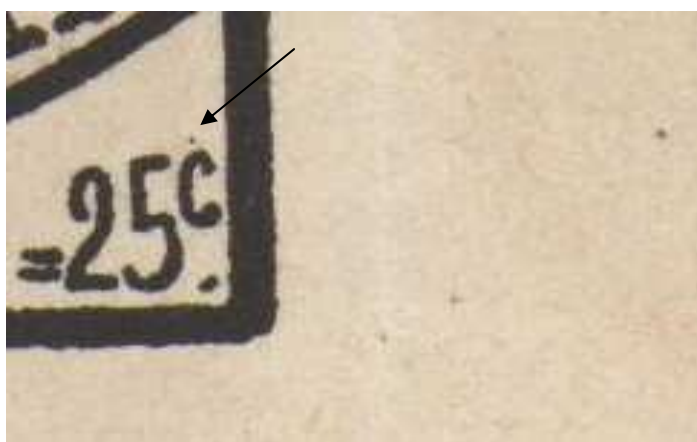
[Figure 4](#)
Stone Features of the First Printing



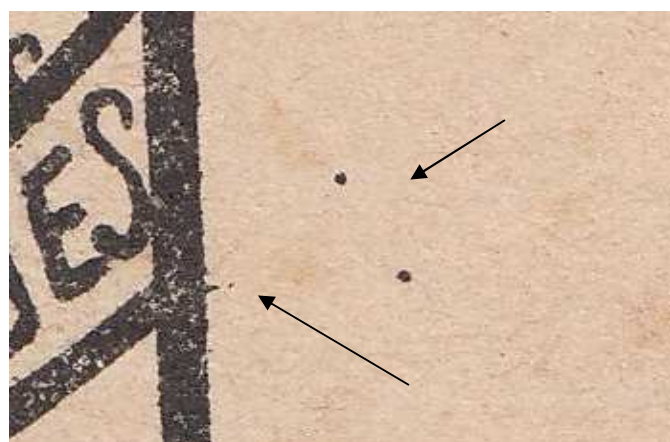
Position A (Row 1/1) Weak top to 2



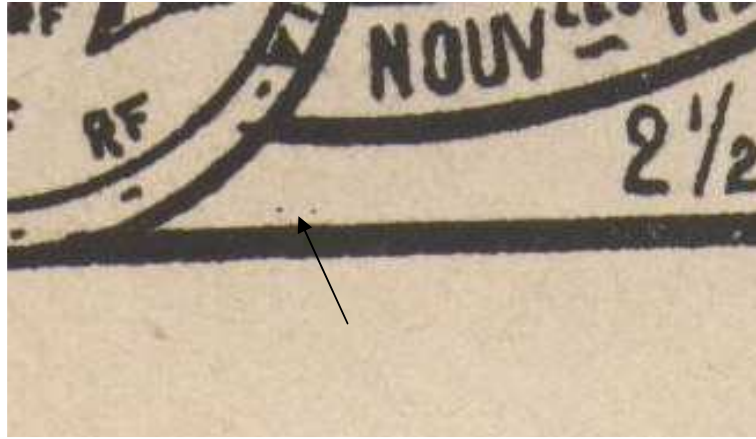
Position C (Row 2/1) dot over frame



Position C (Row 2/1) dot over C



Position D (Row 2/2). Two dots and a spur



Position D (Row 2/2). Two dots

[Figure 5](#)

Selected Common Features of the Design Stone