Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891-92
A Study & Plating Guide

Introduction:
This series of five stamps issued in 1891 replaced an earlier series which depicted President Salomon who was forced to flee to Paris in 1888. The Coat of Arms of this new series, issued during the presidency of Florvil Hippolyte (October 1889-March 1896) depicts a Date Tree with upright branches, instead of the usual Royal Palm with drooping branches. Different values of the series were not issued at the same time but intermittently during 1891 from June to September. In November 1890, when the supply of the 2c value was exhausted, the 3c stamp had a 2c surcharge applied.

The issue was recess engraved, printed on thin white wove paper, and single line perforated 13 ¼ by Emile Côte of Paris. The gum is thin and colorless. The quantity of stamps printed is unknown.

Aim:
This traditional exhibit will illustrate the production, the usage, and the plating of the stamps of 1891 and 1892.

Included are multiples (unused and used, illustrating differences of shade), earliest known usages, all known printing varieties, perforation varieties, cancels (town, paquebot, and transit markings), covers (illustrating internal and external rates for the period); and sheets of the 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, and 2c/3c values (showing different shades and/or selvedge); and an illustrated plating study by position of each value.

Organization & Highlights:
Part I - Essays, trial color proofs, and proofs.
- Typographed 3c essay. Unique, ex Hennon.
- Recess engraved “10 master” printing plate. Unique, ex Mangones.
- Color trial proofs of the “10 master.” Very rare; ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
- Proof sheets of the “10 master” differing in shade. Very rare; ex Hennon and ex Boarino.
- 2c violet trial color proof (5x3) on card. Largest known multiple.
- Plate proofs in entire sheets of 1c, 5c, and 7c. Only two of each value are known. Very rare; ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
  similar sheets for other values are unknown).

Part II - Each denomination of the 1891 series is treated individually.
- “Kiss” prints of the 2c, 5c, and 7c values. Very rare; ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
- 7c horizontal strip of five of the 7c imperforate vertically. Largest known multiple, ex Dean.
- Complete sheets of 1c, 2c, 3c, and 5c. Very rare.

Part III - the Provisional Issue of 1890 (the 3c stamp with a 2c surcharge).
- Surcharge varieties - double, inverted, or omitted. Very rare.
- Usage on cover representing printed matter rate. Very rare.
- Sheets (gray lilac and slate). Very rare.

Part IV - A Plating Guide.

Unless indicated otherwise, items for which fewer than 12 examples are known have been labelled “Very rare.”
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

Essay

Typographed on card.
Details coarser and frame lines heavier than on issued stamp.
Compare with recess engraved plate proof (below).
Unique.
Ex Hennan.

Recess Engraved Plate Proof
The method of plate production was quite ingenious. A steel engraved die was used to create a matrix of 10 subjects (2 x 5). This “10 master” was duplicated five times by electrolytic methods to form the plate of 50. The die, the “10 master,” and the first plate were of the 2c value. A mold was then taken of the 2c plate of 50 cliches and each numeral in relief was removed. Plates for the other denominations were then made with blank value tablets and the numerals engraved by hand. The stamps may be plated by secondary and tertiary flaws which were inadvertently created in the manufacturing process.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

Trial Color Proofs From the “10 Master”

On Bond

Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.

These trial color proofs can be identified as having been printed from the “10 master” plate because of the presence of “secondary” flaws and the lack of any “tertiary” flaws.

Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.

These trial color proofs were printed from the ten subject master plate which was the basic building unit for the sheet. Each of the examples represent positions 1 or 2 except the 2c red proof showing position 7 and part of position 9. It seems probable from the scarcity of these items that only a few impressions were made in each color.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

“10 Master” Proof Sheet

Ex Hennan.

Fewer than ten examples known. Very rare.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

Partial Reconstruction of “10 Master” Proof Sheet

Individual stamps that once were once part of a “10 master” proof sheet can be identified because of the presence of “secondary” flaws and the lack of any “tertiary” flaws. *Very rare.*

“Primary” flaws were made on the original die and reproduced on every stamp of the sheet. Such a die marking consists of a colored dot in the top middle portion of the numerals. This primary flaw was replicated in the process of manufacturing the “10 Master” plate. This can be seen on every numeral “2” of the “10 master” proof sheet and on virtually every stamp of the sheet of 50. At times, it is not visible on one of the two numerals because of the inking of the plate, and/or printing.

Other differences, referred to as “secondary” flaws as found on the the “10 master” plate were inadvertently created when replicating the original steel engraved die to produce the plate of ten cliches. The “10 master” proof sheets and individual stamps that were once part of it can be recognized by “secondary” flaws but more easily because of what at first glance appears as printing offset. This was actually a result of the “bleeding” of the ink used and is evident on the examples of position IV and V above.

Reference:
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

Imperforate Proofs From the “10 Master”

Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.

Color Proof From the “50 Master”

Violet On card Largest known multiple.

Plate Proofs From the “50 Master”

Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

Plate Proofs From the “50 Master” (cont.)

Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part I

Order of Printing

The first full-sized plate was of the 2c value. In producing a second plate of what was either the 3c or 5c value, two flaws or breaks appeared. As these defects are found on all values except the 2c, it is evident that this second defective plate was used for manufacturing the plates used for the other values of the series.

The first defect is found in the left value tablet on the 7th stamp in the 3rd row (position 27). It takes the form of a break in the right frame of the left value tablet (opposite the “C” of “CENT”).

Purves noted that this flaw “probably” existed on the 7c and that this fault was corrected on the 1c “only.” Examples exhibited, however, indicate that this flaw was “retouched” or corrected on the 7c value as well.
A similar defect is found on the 4th stamp in the 4th row (position 34). The right frame of the left value tablet is broken, but below the “CENT” tablet. Multiple examples illustrate the constant and unvarying repetition of this flaw.

Based on the flaws on position 27 and 34, one can deduce the order of printing as being: first the 2c; then the 3c or 5c; and finally the 1c or 7c.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

One Centime Plate Proof Sheet

One of two known sheets.
Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part I

Five Centime Plate Proof Sheet

One of two known sheets.
Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part I

Seven Centime Plate Proof Sheet

One of two known sheets.
Very rare. Ex Tows, ex Lloyd.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - One Centime

Sheet of 50 (10x5)
*Only known sheet.*
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - One Centime

Multiples:

Note differences of shade.

(above) Block of 50 (10x5). Very rare.

(below) Block of 45 (9x5). Very rare.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - One Centime

Early Usage:

Port-au-Prince
13 July 1891
Earliest known usage.

Port-au-Prince
18 July 1891

Port-au-Prince
15 August 1891

Perforation Varieties:

Private perforation II.

Imperforate horizontally.

The 1c horizontally imperforate is not recorded by Montes, who notes the 1c as existing vertically imperforate. The existence of the 1c vertically imperforate existence, however, has never been confirmed.

Off center.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - One Centime

Used Multiples:

Town Cancels:

Aquín
Jacmel
Gonaives
Jeremie
Les Cayes
Port-au-Prince
Port-de-Paix
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - One Centime

Paquebot Cancels:

Dutch

HAPAG

HAPAG

ANDES

Transit Cancels:

Le Havre

N.Y. Incoming Foreign Mail.

Miscellaneous Cancels:

Otto Schutt
Forwarding Agent
25 July 1891

Aquín to Hamburg, Germany via Jacmel

The route of this single weight cover is established by the July 25 backstamp of Aquin, the July 29 circular date stamp of Jacmel, and the August 14 receiving backstamp of Hamburg. Note that the stamps were applied and cancelled at Jacmel with the 7c value covering an Aquin postmark on the face.

Company name stamp, Aquin CDS and Hamburg, Germany arrival backstamp.
27 July 1891

Cap Haitien to St. Thomas, D.W.I.

Unusual usage of two strips of four and a pair of the 1c denomination to pay the 10c postage fee to the Danish West Indies.

St. Thomas, D.W.I. backstamp
31 July 1891.
The single weight overseas weight was short-paid on this cover by 5c causing the application of the postage due handstamp of a "T" in a triangle. Using the U.P.U. equivalencies and doubling the deficiency, the Swedish post office marked "24 ore" in manuscript on the cover to be collected from the addressee.

London, England
backstamp
6 February 1898.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Two Centime

Block of 45 (9x5).
Ex Bustamente.
Largest known multiple.

Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Two Centime

Used Multiples:

Used multiples larger than pairs are very rare.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Two Centime

Early Usage:

The EKU of 2c is 20 June 1891. A registered cover illustrated on the final page of the Purves study (see reference) sent from Cayes 20 June 1891 to New York is franked with three examples of the 2c and two examples of the 7c. It was not indicated that this represented an EKU of the 2c value or that this cover was from the Sellers collection.

Perforation Varieties:

- Imperforate between. Very rare.

Off center.

Private perforation 11.

Double perforation.

Miscellaneous Varieties:

- "Kiss print" or "slurred print." Very rare.

Specimen.

Paper fold.

Printing offset.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Two Centime

Town Cancels:

Aquín
Cap-Haitien
Gonaives
Jeremie
Les Cayes
Petit-Goave
Port-au-Prince
Port-de-Paix

Paquetbot Cancels:

Dutch
French Line F
Pen cancels

Transit Cancels:

N.Y. Incoming Foreign Mail.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Two Centime

Plate Flaw:

Position 39 is easily recognized by a protruding NE corner. A plate flaw is not a plating characteristic because it was created after printing began and therefore not found on all examples of a particular position. This example which appears to have been made by a thread is the only example seen to date.

29 July 1891

Jacmel to Paris, France

Illustrates single weight registered mail rate as 20c - 10c regular mail rate plus 10c for registry fee.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Two Centime

12 March 1892
Jeremie to Port-au-Prince

The 1c and 2c values were primarily intended for use on internal mail. For this issue, few examples of internal usage have survived and examples are very rare. The vertical pair, used to pay the double inter-town letter rate, shows signs of having been doubly perforated on the right.

30 May 1892
Cap-Haitien to Schwellbrunn, Switzerland

The 1c and 2c denominations were used widely for internal correspondence, most of which was discarded. On occasion one finds these two values used with the 7c stamp to pay the 10c single weight overseas rate. The above cover shows the blue Paris transit mark of June 20 on the front and the transit and receiving marks of June 20 and June 21 of Zurich and Schwellbrunn, respectively, on the back.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Three Centime

Sheets of 50 (10x5) in gray lilac and slate.
Very rare.
Note difference in selvedge.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Three Centime
Unused Multiples:

Note shades.

Used Multiples:

Earliest Known Usage:

Port-au-Prince
1(?) September 1891
Earliest known usage.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Three Centime

Perforation Varieties:

*Imperforate between. Very rare.*

*Off center.*

*Private perforation 11.*

Town Cancels:

Cap-Haitien

Gonaives

Jacmel

Jeremie

Les Cayes

Petit-Goave

Port-au-Prince

Port-de-Paix

Saint-Marc
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Three Centime

Paquebot Cancels:

- Dutch
- German HAPAG Ship AND(ES)
- German HAPAG Ship ASC(ANIA)
- German HAPAG Ship (FLAN)DRIA

Transit Cancels:

- Cologne, Germany “AUS WESTINDIEN” handstamp.
- Havana, Cuba
- Jamaica
- Le Havre, France
- N.Y. Incoming Foreign Mail
- Paris, France

13 December 1892

Port-au-Prince to New York, New York

10c postage paying single weight letter rate.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Three Centime

13 June 1893
Jacmel to Livorno, Italy

Mixed usage of the 3c of 1891 and the 7c of 1892 to pay the 10c postage to Europe.

Livorno, Italy backstamp
30 June 1893.

10 July 1895
Cap-Haitien to Hamburg, Germany

Mixed usage of 3c Date Tree with 2c Royal Palm of 1892. Franking of 10c paid single weight letter rate to Europe. Le Havre, France transit postmark of 12 August 1895 on front.
April 1895

Jeremie to Bordeaux via Kingston, Jamaica

Mixed usage of the 3c of 1891 and the 7c stamp of 1892 which paid the single weight letter rate to Europe. “JAMAICA TRANSIT” route marking on front and backstamped with transit postmark of Kingston, Jamaica and arrival postmark of Bordeaux, France.

Kingston, Jamaica transit backstamp 27 April 1895.

Bordeaux, France arrival backstamp 18 May 1895.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Three Centime

29 April 1895

Port-au-Prince to Paris, France

Mixed usage of the 3c of 1891 and the 7c of 1892 which paid the single weight letter rate of 10c to Europe.

12 August 1895

Jeremie to Hamburg, Germany

Mixed usage of the 3c of 1891 and the 7c of 1892 which paid the single weight letter rate of 10c to Europe.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Five Centime

Sheets of 50 (10x5) in orange and bright orange.

*Very rare.*

Note difference in selvedge.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Five Centime

Used Multiples:

Larger used multiples are not known.

Perforation Varieties:

Double vertical perforation. Very rare.

Private perforation 11.

Off center.

Blind perforation.

Imperforate at right.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Five Centime

Miscellaneous Varieties:

- Position 41 plate flaw.
- “Kiss” or “slur” prints. Very rare.
- Paper fold.

Early Usage:

- Port-au-Prince 20 August 1891 Earliest known usage.
- Port-au-Prince 27 August 1891
- Port-au-Prince 7 September 1891

Town Cancels:

- Aquin
- Cap-Haitien
- Gonaives
- Jacmel
- Jeremie
- Les Cayes
- Les Cayes
- Petit-Goave
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Five Centime

Town Cancels (cont.):

Port-au-Prince
Port-de-Paix
Port-de-Paix, Very rare.
Saint-Marc

Paquebot Cancels:

Dutch
French Line No. 1
HAPAG Allemannia & French UNION PAYS
HAPAG (ALB)INGIA

Transit Cancels:

Cologne, Germany “AUS WESTINDIEN” handstamp
Havana, Cuba
Jamaica

Le Havre, France
N.Y. Incoming Foreign Mail
Paris, France
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Five Centime

25 December 1891
Jeremie to New York, N.Y.

Kingston, Jamaica transit postmark on back dated 23 December 1891, as well as New York arrival postmark dated 30 December 1891.

10c franking paid single weight letter rate to the United States. “JAMAICA TRANSIT” mark on front.

18 April 1892
Port-au-Prince to Berne, Switzerland

Berne, Switzerland backstamp 6 May 1892.

Pair of the 5c value paid the single weight rate to Switzerland.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Five Centime

25 July 1892
Port-au-Prince to Berlin, Germany

10c postage paid the single weight letter rate to Europe.

22 January 1894
Port-au-Prince to Jersey City, New Jersey


Pair of the 5c paid the single weight letter rate to the United States.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Five Centime

5 February 1894
Port-au-Prince to Berlin, Germany

Mixed usage of 3c and 5c of 1891 issue and 2c stamp of 1892 which is blue paper variety.

Hamburg American Packet Company handstamp on back and Berlin arrival backstamp.

April 1894
Port-au-Prince to Paris, France

Monsieur L. LAROCHE
51, Rue Taitbout

PARIS

As most mail from Haiti originated in Port-au-Prince, it is likely that this cover was posted in Haiti’s capital. A “PAQUEBOT” marking indicates that it was placed aboard a paquebot without having gone through through the Haitian post office. Since the trans-Atlantic voyage to Paris took an average of 16-17 days, Le Havre, France and Paris, France postmarks, both dated 28 April 1894, suggest that this letter was probably posted around April 12th.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Seven Centime

Unused Multiples:

Used Multiples:

Very rare.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Seven Centime

Early Usage:

Port-au-Prince
9 June 1891
Earliest known usage.

Port-au-Prince
15 June 1891

Port-au-Prince
15 June 1891

Port-au-Prince
15 June 1891

Port-au-Prince
20 June 1891

Perforation Varieties:

Imperforate vertically. Largest known multiple.

Private perforation 11.

Double vertical perforation.

Off center.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Seven Centime

Varieties:

Noted by Montes as a “double impression.”
These are, however, examples of a “kiss” print.” Very rare.

Natural paper fold.

Town Cancels:

Cap-Haitien

Gonaives

Jacmel

Jeremie

Les Cayes

Port-au-Prince

Port-de-Paix

Paquebot Cancels:

Dutch

French

German

HAPAG

(A)lbing(ia)

German

HAPAG

THURINGIA
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Seven Centime

Transit Cancels:

- Le Havre, France
- N.Y. Incoming Foreign Mail.
- Paris, France

15 June 1891

Port-au-Prince to Paris, France

Mixed usage of 3c Salomon stamp of 1887 and 7c of 1891 paying single weight letter rate to Europe. Earliest known usage of 7c on cover.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891
Part II - Seven Centime

17 November 1891

Jacmel to Hamburg, Germany

Messrs

Münchmeyer & Co

in Nếuer Wall.

HAMBURG
Germany.

Triple weight cover bearing the December 3 receiving mark of Hamburg, Germany on the back.

Münchmeyer, Neveu & Co. name stamp indicating that cover originated in Jacmel and Hamburg, Germany arrival backstamp dated 3 December 1891.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Seven Centime

8 February 1892

Port-au-Prince to Paris, France

A pair of imperforate proofs of the 7c stamp of this issue combined with three lower values of this series to satisfy the 20c single weight registered letter rate. Why or how proofs were used is unknown but it is known that the addressee was a stamp dealer. Very rare.

Paris, France
receiving backstamp
25 February 1892.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891

Part II - Seven Centime

11 July 1892
Port-au-Prince
to
Paris, France

A 7c vertically imperforate, a 7c imperforate proof, and two 3c values paid the single weight registered letter rate to Europe. Very rare.

Paris arrival backstamp
28 July 1892.

6 September 1892 Jacmel to Hamburg, Germany

Unusual quintuple weight cover to Germany. Company namestamp of Münchmeyer, Neveu & Co. indicates that cover originated in Jacmel. Hamburg, Germany arrival backstamp dated 22 September 1892.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue
Part III - 2c Provisional of 1892

Background:

When a shortage of the 2c stamp occurred in 1892, the government again resorted to the expediency of revaluing a denomination in ample supply. Thus, the 3c value of 1891 was surcharged in November with the same overprint device that was used in 1890.

Covers franked with this stamp are very rare. This is in part explained by the fact that 2c stamps were usually used for domestic postage on covers which had a very low survival rate. Also, L. W. Crouch (1912) noted that the surcharged stamp "...was demonitized and declared invalid for postage from the 15th December 1892." This suggests a short period of usage. In December 2c stamps of a new issue with the drooping palm were delivered and put into use. The purported demonitization, however, was not strictly observed as evidenced by two covers exhibited sent in 1893.

As with the provisional of 1890, the 2c surcharge is frequently found with missing or defective letters. These are considered minor varieties. Inverted surcharges, double surcharges, and multiples with missing surcharges are very rare.

The quantity of the 3c stamps surcharged is not known. A short period of usage explains why more often the stamps are found unused than cancelled. Multiples with cancellations are uncommon.

Forgeries

The forgeries of the provisional consist of the genuine 3c value with a forged 2c surcharge. Forgeries are recognizable because of their larger letters and brighter color. Forgeries of this surcharge are very rare on this stamp, unknown on the Salomon issue, and also very rare on the 20c brown of 1895. The forgery can easily be differentiated from the genuine by drawing line drawn through the downstroke of the "D." On the forgery the line extends considerably right of the point, whereas on the genuine it goes through the point. The illustrations above have been enlarged 150%.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue
Part III - 2c Provisional of 1892
Sheets of 50 (10x5) in gray lilac and slate.
Very rare.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue
Part III - 2c Provisional of 1892

Used Multiples:

Port-au-Prince 10 December 1892.
Largest known used multiple.

Port-au-Prince 2(?) November 1892.
Earliest known usage.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue
Part III - 2c Provisional of 1892

Surcharge Varieties:

Inverted surcharge. Very rare.

Inverted surcharge. Very rare.

Inverted surcharge. Very rare.

Center stamp without surcharge. Very rare, ex Ferrari Sale #9 (9 April 1924, lot 279).

Double surcharge. Double surcharge (on left). Very rare.

Center stamp with double surcharge. Very rare. Ex Tows.

Double surcharge. Very rare.

Missing letters “EUX.”

Defective letters of “CENT.”

Without “CENT.”
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue
Part III - 2c Provisional of 1892

14 January 1893
Saint Marc to Hamburg, Germany

Hamburg arrival backstamp
3 February 1893
(below)

(above)
New York Foreign Mail postmark dated
23 January 1893.

Probably because the stamps were lightly cancelled, a New York Foreign Mail cancel was applied.

28 January 1893
Cap Haitien to Nantes, France

Nantes, France backstamp
24 February 1893.

Most covers with this provisional represented internal usages. The majority of these were not saved for posterity. According to Carroll L. Lloyd, this stamp is “one of the rarest Nineteenth Century Haitian adhesives on cover with only several examples having been seen by this observer. The usage illustrated above is even more unusual in that the stamp satisfies the circular or unsealed letter rate to France.” The Nantes receiving mark of February 24th of is handstamped on the back.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Secondary Flaws
Inadvertently, flaws or defects were created at each stage of production. These reproduced at each subsequent stage. Primary flaws are found on the original recess steel engraved die. This die had the numerals “2” engraved in the value tablets. Secondary flaws were created in the duplicating process to manufacture the “10 Master” plate.

A partial reconstruction of the “10 Master” is exhibited (frame 1, page 5). Individual stamps from the “10 Master” proof sheet can be identified because of secondary flaws present and the lack tertiary flaws. Tertiary flaws were created in the process of reproducing the “Ten Master” five times to create a 2c printing plate of 50 cliches. The numerals of value were removed and it was used for the other four values. Flaws which occurred at the third step and are unique to a particular position are plating characteristics. By identifying flaws unique to a particular position, the philatelist can plate the stamps.

Despite not being unique to a particular position, secondary flaws can be most useful in plating a stamp. If one can determine which of five types a specimen is, one needs to refer to the descriptions of only FIVE positions, rather than having to check the description of fifty different positions. Although some secondary flaws may be difficult to see because of being minute or the color of a stamp, the presence and visibility of other characteristics makes the identification of a particular type certain.

**Type I**

**Type Ia**
Position 1

**Type Ib**
Position 9

**Type Ic**

Type I is found on positions 1, 3, 5, 7, & 9.
(a) Tiny colored, more or less vertical, line of color, in left margin, at middle, close to outer left frame (NW of mouth of cannon at left).
(b) Small colored excrescence protruding downwards from the lower of the two thin colored lines under (and between) the “HA” of “HAITI.”
(c) Spot of color immediately left of tip of leaf NE of mouth of right cannon.

**Type III**

**Type IIIa**
Position 11

**Type IIIb & d**
Position 19

**Type IIIc**

Type III is found on positions 11, 13, 15, 17, & 19.
(a) Spots of color inside NE corner of right value tablet and other spots on vertical white to right of and below the first spots.
(b) Two colored spots to left of top portion of “N” of “CENT” and another between the two right strokes of the “N.”
(c) Spot of color in left margin, at center.
(d) Swollen base of colored line over “T” of “CENT.”
Type V is found on positions 21, 23, 25, 27, 29.
(a) Prominent flaw on the right of the “Q” of “REPUBLIQUE” at its middle.

Type VI is found on positions 22, 24, 26, 28, 30.
(a) Blob across left vertical white opposite mouth of left cannon.
(b) Left portion of base frame is concave as far as “Q” of “REPUBLIQUE.”

Type X is found on positions 42, 44, 46, 48, 50.
(a) Blob inside outer left frame, opposite center of left value tablet.
(b) Tiny diagonal line in base margin under right of second “U” of “REPUBLIQUE.”
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Introduction:

The description of plating characteristics is based on the excellent study by J.R.W. Purves (1960) which has been slightly edited. Notably Type IX of the "10 master" was not included the description because the characteristics described by Purves could not be discerned and illustrated. The illustration (at right) summarizes the tertiary flaws.

The following illustrations were created by this exhibitor using a computer scanner and enlarged 300%.

All characteristics are found on all values, unless noted otherwise.

Reference:

Position 1 (Type I)

a) Spot outside right frame, just above SE corner.
b) Ornament under left hand figure has top cut down or flattened appearance (all except 2c).
c) Ornament under right hand figure has top cut down or flattened appearance (all except 2c).

Position 2

a) Excrucence at top right end of "E" of "CENT."
b) Small ornament under right hand figure broken in top middle (all except 2c).
c) Spot on white in middle of ball of left "5" (on 5c only).
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 3

a) Spot in the top left value tablet about 1.75 mm to the NW of the SE corner (all except 2c).
b) Ornament over right hand figure has weak base line weak or missing at right end (all except 2c).
* The process of elimination must be used for the 2c.

Position 4

(a) Excrecence across vertical white on outer side of right side of top right tablet, at middle.
(b) Outer left frame thinned in top portion (probably recut, 3c only).

Position 5 (Type I)

(a) Outer frame at base noticeably thickened at SE corner, due probably to recutting.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 6
(a) Color across vertical white to immediate SE of SE corner of top right hand tablet.

Position 7 (Type 1)
(a) Slight nick in inner side of right frame of right value tablet, just above the middle (all except 2c).
* The process of elimination must be used for the 2c.

Position 8
(a) Extra color on top of white over left of ‘P’ of “REPUBLIC.”
(b) Small dash in base margin under “LI” of “REPUBLIC.”
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 9 (Type I)

(a) Swelling in outer edge of inner solid color at right, just above level of the base of the cannon wheel.
(b) Small excrescence on outside of outer left frame, about .5 mm below SW corner of top left numeral tablet.

Position 10

(a) Prominent spot on white immediately above palm leaves left of cap, under “CE.”

Position 11 (Type III)

(a) Excence on left of upper portion of vertical stroke of “T” of “HAITI.”
(b) Color across vertical white to right of and slightly above level of mouth of right hand cannon.
(c) Small ornament over left hand figure has base broken in middle (all except 2c).
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 12

(a) Colored swelling in top of two thin lines over first “E” of “REPUBLIQUE.”

Position 13 (Type III)

(a) Weak lower half of vertical colored line to left of “C” of “CENT” (all except 2c).
(b) Spot on white about 1.25 mm to left of center of left hand cannon wheel (5c only).
* The process of elimination must be used for the 2c.

Position 14

(a) Lower 12 mms of outer right frame has been recut, this portion veering inwards. The recutting also affects the right half of the base frameline.
(b) Colored flaw to immediate SE of base of “T” of “HAITI.”
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 15 (Type III)

(a) Lowest of three thin horizontal lines at base tilts upwards at its left and, under “R” of “REPUBLICUE.”
(b) Outer left frame is thicker towards SW corner.
(c) Small ornament under right hand figure is broken at top left (all except 2c).

Position 16

(a) Color across vertical white just under NE corner of stamp.

Position 17 (Type III)

(a) Base of small ornament over right hand figure is weak (all except 2c).
* The process of elimination must be used for the 2c.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 18
(a) Extra color inside NW portion of lower loop of “B” of “REPUBLIQUE.”

Position 19 (Type III)
(a) Spot on white in middle of “C” of “CENT” (all except 2c and 7c).
* The process of elimination must be used for the 2c.

Position 20
(a) Excrecence on bottom of lower of top two thin lines under right and of first “E” of “REPUBLIQUE.”
(b) Tiny dash in top margin, close to top frame, over middle of “N” of “CENT.”
(c) Color on top horizontal white, just in from NE corner of stamp (found on 3c and 5c not on 1c, 2c, and 7c).
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 21 (Type V)

(a) Short line under ornament over right numeral of value (all values except 5c, where it is obscured by the numeral of value.
(b) Tiny line in margin SE of SE corner of stamp.

Position 22 (Type VI)

(a) Tiny excrescence outside of base of downstroke of the “B” of “REPUBLICHE.”
(b) Base of small ornament over right numeral is weak, there being little or no point at its left end (all except 2c).

Position 23 (Type V)

(a) Fine horizontal line on lowest horizontal white, under first “I” of “HAITI.”
(b) Top portion of right half of small ornament under right hand figure is broken (all except 2c).
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 24 (Type VI)

(a) Outer left frame thinner than normal opposite top left tablet. From this part down it presents, for another 5 mms a thicker appearance.

Position 25 (Type V)

(a) A slight dent in outer right frame opposite top portion of second “I” of “HAITI.”
(b) Top left portion of small ornament under right hand figure is broken (all except 2c).

Position 26 (Type VI)

(a) Small ornament over right figure of value has weak base at left and there is a stroke (short line) immediately below (all except 2c).
(b) An excrescence on outside of outer left frame, about 2 mms up from the SW corner of the left value tablet.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 27 (Type V)

(a) Outer right frame thinner (pinched) at SE corner of stamp.
(b) Lower half of vertical line to left of “C” of “CENT” is missing (3c, 5c only).
(c) The (b) fault corrected by retouching on 1c.

Position 28 (Type VI)

(a) Outside of outer right frame thickened for about 2 mm, starting over 1 mm above the base of right value tablet.

Position 29 (Type V)

(a) Dot (or stroke) in outer left margin opposite (and just above) middle of top left leaf.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 30 (Type VI)

(a) Extra color on outside and inside respectively of top left arm of the second “U” of “REPUBLIC”
(b) NE corner of “CENT” tablet filled in with heavy color – probably due to retouching.

Position 31

(a) Bottom outer frame slopes downwards at left end (all except 2c).
(b) Bottom of ornament over left numeral of value broken in middle (all except 2c).
* The process of elimination must be used for the 2c.

Position 32

(a) Prominent spike protrudes up from top frame over left end of top right numeral tablet.
(b) Small ornament over right numeral has practically no base, and point at right end is missing (all except 2c).
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 33
(a) Thin diagonal line in NE portion of top left value tablet (all except 2c).
(b) Dot on white between “E” and “N” of “CENT.”

Position 34
(a) Two tiny dots in base margin, immediately under SW corner of stamp, which is slightly blunted.
(b) Marked break, about 1 mm, in right side of top left value tablet, just below the middle (all except 2c).
(c) Marked break in base of small ornament over left hand figure (all except 2c).

Position 35
(a) Base frameline under “UBL” of “REPUBLIQUE” thinned, there being a slight downwards excrecence under the left of “U.” This is one of the most difficult positions to identify.
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 36
(a) Part of the outer frame has a split appearance, extending downwards for about 2 mms from about the level of the left cannon.

Position 37
(a) Excrsence outside outer right frame, NE of second "I" of "HAITI."
(b) Middle of base of small ornament over right numeral broken (all except 2c).
(c) Left frame of "CENT" tablet weak at center.

Position 38
(a) Left outer frame thinner opposite left side of left value tablet.
(b) Small blob on top of two horizontal lines over "RE" of "REPUBLICUE."
(c) Small excrescence outside of inner vertical frame-line, about 1 mm down from NE corner of stamp.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 39

(a) Protruding NE corner of stamp (likely the result of recutting).
(b) Short vertical dash (and usually traces of a fine vertical line above this) in right margin opposite and also over top flag at right.
(c) Top frame has several irregularities over left value tablet.

Position 40

(a) Prominent excrescence over right end of “T” of “CENT.”
(b) NE corner of stamp, as in position 39, ends in a protruding point, which not as prominent.
(c) Spot on white immediately under base of right value tablet, slightly right of center.
(d) Excrescence outside outer left frame, opposite base of top left value tablet.

Position 41

(a) Small dot in base margin under left of “B” of “REPUBLICUE.”

Pos. 39a & b  Pos. 39c

Pos. 40a & b & c  Pos. 40d

Pos. 41a
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 42 (Type X)

(a) Outside of outside left frame hollowed opposite lower half of “R” of “REPUBLICUE.”
(b) Left half of base of small ornament over left numeral is missing (all except 2c).
(c) Most of base of small ornament over right numeral is missing, except right end (all except 2c).

Position 43

(a) Prominent blob immediately over right end of right cannon.
(b) Outer right frame swollen just below center of right side of top right value tablet.
(c) Faint blob to immediate NE of “T” of ‘CENT.”
(d) Right point of ornament over right numeral is missing (all except 2c).

Position 44 (Type X)

(a) Outside of left fame swollen (and, just below, dented in) opposite lower portion of upper leaf at left.
(b) Two dots in right margin at NE corner.
(c) Base of small ornament over right numeral is very weak (all except 2c).
Haiti's Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 45
(a) Base frame slopes upwards at SW corner and outer left frame slopes outwards at SW corner (the results of recutting).
(b) Color on vertical white to left of top of “R” of “REPUBLICE” [(a) and (b) appear on all values].
(c) Short stroke in SE portion of right value tablet (all except 2c).
(d) Heavy color (staining) down inside of lower right edge of stamp (2c only).

Position 46 (Type X)
(a) Outer left frame thickened and distended at SW corner (due to recutting).
(b) Two tiny dashes in top margin over middle of “C” and left of “N” of “CENT.”

Position 47
(a) Excrescence on outside of outer right frame, about 9 mms up from SE corner and to the E SE of mouth of cannon.
(b) Outer right frame above and below the (a) flaw is uneven.
Haiti’s Date Tree Issue, 1891-1892
Part IV - A Plating Guide

Position 48 (Type X)

(a) Small dot right of lower portion of downstroke of “P” of “REPUBLIQUE.”
(b) Dot in SE portion of right value tablet.

Position 49

(a) Spot over “E” of “CENT,” slightly to right of middle.
(b) Diagonal stroke in top margin over “N” of “CENT.”

Position 50 (Type X)

(a) Tiny dash in right margin, close to outer right frame, almost exactly in center.