

AN UNPUBLISHED VARIETY IN THE 1676 CARLO II'S FILIPPO

by Antonio Rimoldi

In this short article we would like to report to the attention of scholars and collectors of Milanese coins an interesting variety in the coinage of Charles II of Spain.

The specimen here described is a filippo (type Crippa 3) which was kindly shown to us by its owner, Daniel Arias¹. The coin bears the date 1676, with the last 6 clearly repunched over a 1, this variety is for far as we know unlisted.

In our searches we found another specimen with this peculiarity, sold at the auction Aureo 27 (Barcellona 19th May 1992), lot number 699 (Img. 1), in a lower grade than the specimen we already knew about.

This type of filippo was struck during Charles II's second period of reign and it is inconsistent beyond any doubt with a possible 1671 issue (Img. 2). This year was in fact part of the ten year regency of Charles II with the mother Mary Anne of Austria, a period during which coins with completely different types were struck.

According to that, this variety is an obvious correction of a mistake in the fase of cutting the obverse die and not a reuse of a previous dated issue die².

We would like to report also the presence, under the king's chest, of the rare symbol composed by a square formed by four pellets³. This symbol is listed in CNI at n. 53, the coin there described belongs to His Majesty collection. However in the description is not evident any date correction and, given the attention of CNI authors to the minimum variations, we can assume that the specimen in the ex-Royal Collection is without the variety presented in this paper.



Img. 1
Charles II, second period (1675 – 1700). Filippo 1676
(last 6 over 1), 27,67 g. Image courtesy of Daniel
Arias – Filatelia Arias.

Img. 2
Detail

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¹ Filatelia Arias; Plaza Mayor, 28; Madrid

² I. e. the half scudo Crippa 26/C-2 and 26/C-3, struck during the reign of Philip II.

³ This symbol is very often replaced by a triangle formed by three pellets or by one single pellet.