

JANUARY 1863

5-CUARTOS



Gooding #14F1. Lithographed in vermilion on thick, hard, very white wove paper. There is a colon after 'CORREOS'. Both upper and lower inscriptions are in ordinary Roman capitals. There is a very thin, broken outline under 'CORREOS INTERIOR', which is some little distance from the upper outline of the rest of the stamp. There are three bell-shaped ornaments, and part of a fourth, in each half of both side-frames. Some of them are very indistinctly drawn, and they vary much in shape. There are seventy-five very small white pearls round the head, none of them being oval, and some of the being mere dots. The fish-scale ornamentation in the spandrels is very poorly imitated by a lattice-work of crossed, straight, oblique lines; the whole being much too dark, almost as dark as the side-frames, instead of quite light. The wreath is very blotchy. There seem to be six leaves, without veining. The shading of the hair is in dark, solid patches, instead of lines. There are no visible leaves at the back of the neck, where the ribbons come out of the hair. The letters of the lower inscription touch the outline of the label above them; but they are no taller than those of the upper inscription. There is a dash, instead of a stop, under the little 's' of 'Cs'. The end of the ribbon, which comes across the neck, is not at all wavy.



Gooding #14F2. A dangerous imitation. Colour nearer scarlet. Dots of the circle are quite irregular and too small. Letters in the upper label vary in height. The 'C' and 'OS' of 'CORREOS' are lower than the other letters. The bell shaped ornaments generally open wider than in the genuine stamp. Dots of the circle are quite irregular and too small. The loop in '5' is narrow and the top horizontal line is long and solid.