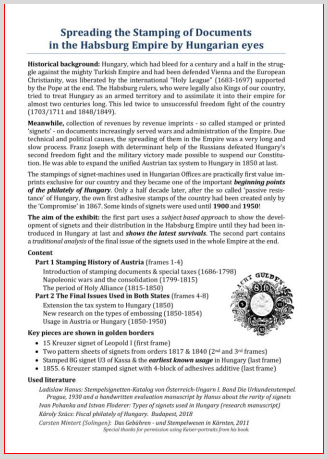
Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian Eyes



Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian eyes

Historical background: Hungary, which had bleed for a century and a half in the struggle against the mighty Turkish Empire and had been defended Vienna and the European Christianity, was liberated by the international "Holy League" (1683-1697) supported by the Pope at the end. The Habsburg rulers, who were legally also Kings of our country, tried to treat Hungary as an armed territory and to assimilate it into their empire for almost two centuries long. This led twice to unsuccessful freedom fight of the country (1703/1711 and 1848/1849).

Meanwhile, collection of revenues by revenue imprints - so called stamped or printed 'signets' - on documents increasingly served wars and administration of the Empire. Due technical and political causes, the spreading of them in the Empire was a very long and slow process. Franz Joseph with determinant help of the Russians defeated Hungary's second freedom fight and the military victory made possible to suspend our Constitution. He was able to expand the unified Austrian tax system to Hungary in 1850 at last.

The stampings of signet-machines used in Hungarian Offices are practically first value imprints exclusive for our country and they became one of the important ***beginning points of the philately of Hungary***. Only a half decade later, after the so called 'passive resistance' of Hungary, the own first adhesive stamps of the country had been created only by the 'Compromise' in 1867. Some kinds of signets were used until **1900** and **1950**!

The aim of the exhibit: the first part uses a *subject based approach* to show the development of signets and their distribution in the Habsburg Empire until they had been introduced in Hungary at last and ***shows the latest survivals***. The second part contains a *traditional analysis* of the final issue of the signets used in the whole Empire at the end.

Content

Part 1 Stamping History of Austria (frames 1-4)
- Introduction of stamping documents & special taxes (1686-1798)
- Napoleonic wars and the consolidation (1799-1815)
- The period of Holy Alliance (1815-1850)

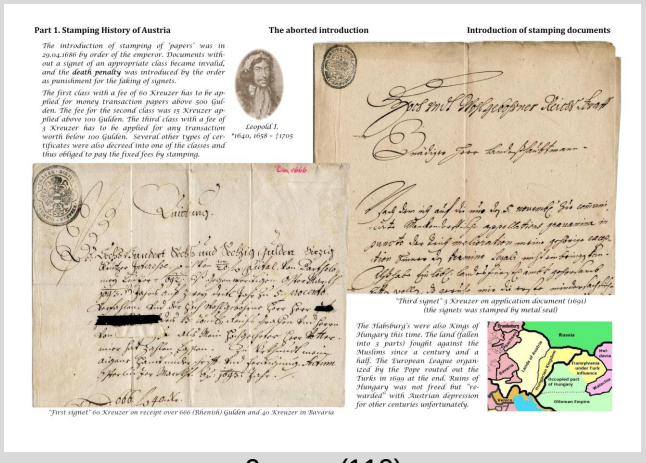
Part 2 The Final Issues Used in Both States (frames 4-8)
- Extension the tax system to Hungary (1850)
- New research on the types of embossing (1850-1854)
- Usage in Austria or Hungary (1850-1950)

Key pieces are shown in golden borders
- 15 Kreuzer signet of Leopold I (first frame)
- Two pattern sheets of signets from orders 1817 & 1840 (2nd and 3rd frames)
- Stamped 8G signet U3 of Kassa & the ***earliest known usage*** in Hungary (last frame)
- 1855. 6 Kreuzer stamped signet with 4-block of adhesives additive (last frame)

Used literature

Ladislaw Hanus: Stempelsignetten-Katalog von Österreich-Ungarn I. Band Die Urkundenstempel. Prague, 1930 and a handwritten evaluation manuscript by Hanus about the rarity of signets ivan Pokonba and Istvan Fluderer: Types of signets used in Hungary (research manuscript)
Károly Szücs: Fiscal philately of Hungary. Budapest, 2018
Carsten Mintert (Solingen): Das Gebühren- und Stempelwesen in Kärnten. 2011
Special thanks for permission using Kaiser-portraits from his book.

1 (111)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — The aborted introduction — Introduction of stamping documents

The introduction of stamping of papers' was in 29.04.1686 By order of the emperor. Documents without a signet of an appropriate class became invalid, and the ***death penalty*** *was introduced By the order as punishment for the faking of signets.*

The first class with a fee of 60 Xreuzer has to be applied for money transaction papers above 100 Gulden. The fee for the second class was 15 Xreuzer applied above 100 Gulden. The third class with a fee of 3 Xreuzer has to be applied for any transaction worth below 100 Gulden. Several other types of certificates were also decreed into one if the classes and thus obliged to pay the Fixed fees By stamping.

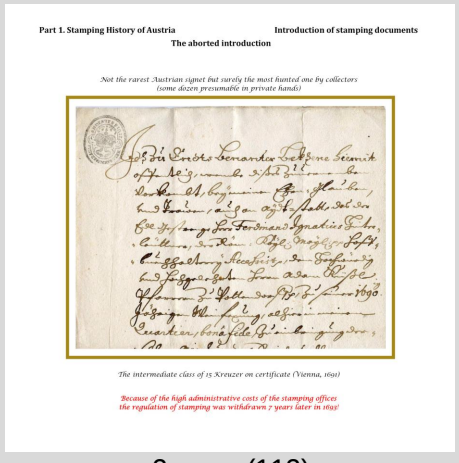
Leopold I. *1640, 1658 - †1705

"First signet" 60 Xreuzer on receipt over 666 (Rhenish) Gulden and 40 Xreuzer in Bavaria

"Third signet" 3 Xreuzer on application document (1691) (the signets was stamped By metal seal)

The Habsburg's were also Kings of Hungary this time. The land (fallen into 3 parts) fought against the Muslims since a century and a half. The European League organized By the Pope routed out the Turks in 1699 at the end. Ruins of Hungary was not freed But "rewarded" with Austrian depression for other centuries unfortunately.

2 (112)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — The aborted introduction — Introduction of stamping documents

Not the rarest Austrian signet but surely the most hunted one By collectors (some dozen presumable in private hands)

The intermediate class of 15 Xreuzer on certificate (Vienna, 1691)

Because of the high administrative costs of the stamping offices the regulation of stamping was withdrawn 2 years later in 1692

3 (113)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of stamping documents

Karl VI and the lease of taxing: re-introduceing from Land to Lands

The first reintroduction of signets was in the occupied Bavaria (1704/5)

In the first year the Bavarian seals were used, but they were exchanged in 1705 to Austrian seals.

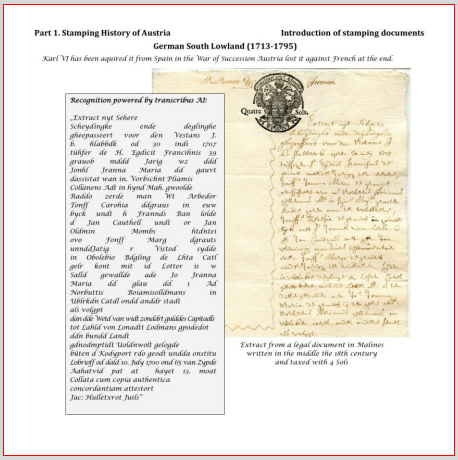
*Karl VI. *1685, 1711 - †1740*

1 Xreuzer signet of Austria (1705-1715)

Two provinces of Austria, the "Innviertel" and "Inner-Austria" also had to cancel deeds. After death of the emperor the right of the monarch for stamp duty was leased to more and more regions (1744-1762).

Lease signet of Anton Rinner for Inner-Austria on application document (1743). No value number in the signet because of the uniform 3 Xreuzer fee for all documents

4 (121)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of stamping documents

German South Lowland (1713-1795)

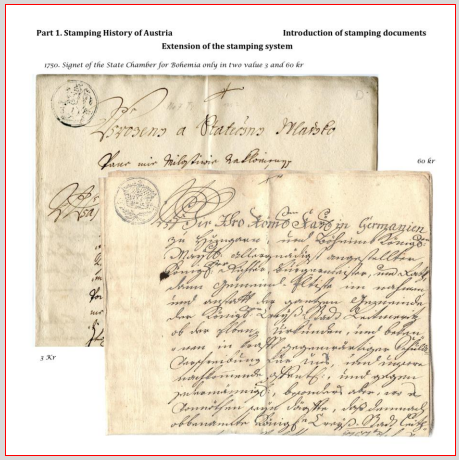
Karl VI has been aquired it from Spain in the War of Succession Austria lost it against French at the end.

Recognition powered by transcribus AI:

„Extract nyt Señere Scheydinghe ende deghinghe gheepasseert voor den Vestans J. B. Hubbuk od 30 indi 1707 tuhfer de H. Egdicit Francithnis 29 graaub mddd Jarig wz ddd Jonhf Jranna Maria dd gauvt dassistat wan in. Vorbichnt Pliamis Collamens Ack in hynd Mak. gwvolde Raddo zerde man Vt Arbedor Tenff Caronia ddgraus in ewv Byck undt A Jranndi Ban tolde d Jan Cauthell undt or Jan Oldmin Mombs ddatest ovo Jonff Marg dgrauts unnddJatig r Vstod vydde in Obolcbo Bdgitng de Lhta Catt gebr kont mit id Lotter is w Sadld gewaldde ade Jo Jranna Maria dd glau dd 1 Jd Norbattis Boiamsoldlemans in Ubbrdeis Catdl omdd anddr staall als voigpt dan dde Vstd van wall zonddrt gddddes Capttadi tot Lahld von Lomddt Lodmans gprodedot ddn Jbundd Landt gdnodmgrtdd Vddbrwdt gelogde Bdten d Xodgport rdo geodt vndda onstitu Lobroff ad ddd 10. July 1700 ond 65 van Zgnde Jathatvd pat al batyet 15. moat Collata cum copia authentica concordantiam attestort Jac: Hulletsrot Jutli"

Extract from a legal document in Malines written in the middle the 18th century and taxed with 4 Sols

5 (122)



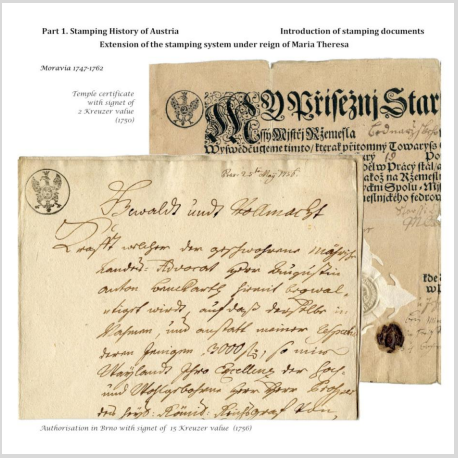
Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of stamping documents

Extension of the stamping system

1750. Signet of the State Chamber for Bohemia only in two value 3 and 60 kr

3 Xr *60 kr*

6 (123)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of stamping documents

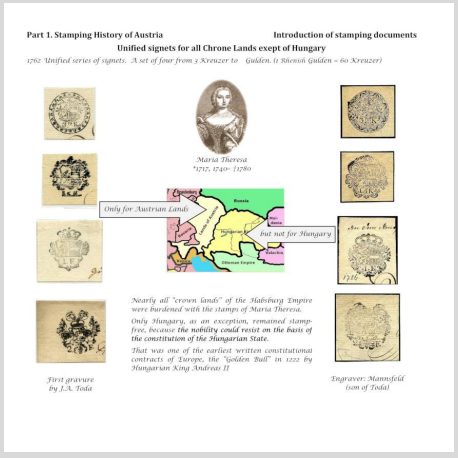
Extension of the stamping system under reign of Maria Theresa

Moravia 1747-1762

Temple certificate with signet of 2 Xreuzer value (1750)

Authorisation in Brno with signet of 15 Xreuzer value (1756)

7 (131)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of stamping documents

Unified signets for all Chrone Lands exept of Hungary

1762 'Unified series of signets. A set of four from 3 Xreuzer to Gulden. (1 Rhenish Gulden = 60 Xreuzer)

*Maria Theresa *1717, 1740- †1780*

Only for Austrian Lands

but not for Hungary

First gravure by J.A. Toda

Nearly all "crown lands" of the Habsburg Empire were burdened with the stamps of Maria Theresa. Only Hungary, as an exception, remained stamp-free, because the nobility could resist on the basis of the constitution of the Hungarian State. That was one of the earliest written constitutional contracts of Europe, the "Golden Bull" in 1222 By Hungarian King Andreas II.

Engraver: Mannsfeld (son of Toda)

8 (132)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of stamping documents

Two kind of 2 Gulden signet on documnets

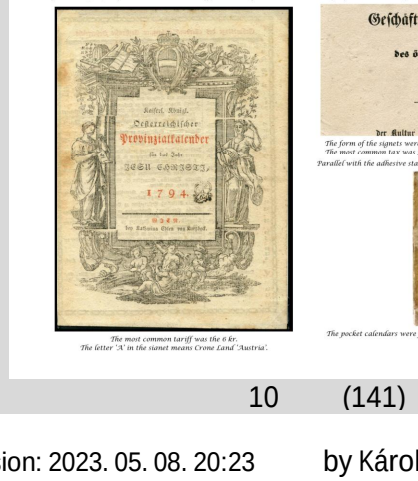
Mannsfeld signette

Toda signette

Church document in Brno (1768)

Consignation (1799)

9 (133)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of special taxes

Calendar tax

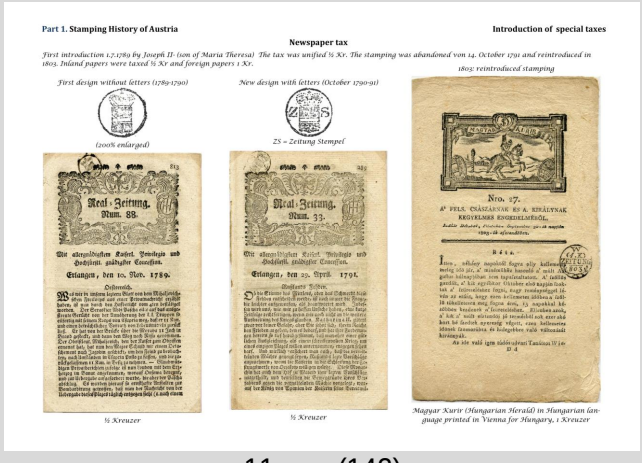
Beside the taxing some products (playing cards and cosmetics) a new special tax of calendars became obligatory from 29.11.1721 . Signets were used for this purpose By order on 3.2.1762 of Maria Theresa. The tariffs were changed more times and they depended on the origin, size and purpose between ½ Xr and 24 Xr.

The most common tariff was the 6 Kr. The letter 'A' in the signet means Crone Land 'Austria'.

The form of the signets were similar to the newspaper signets in the 19th century. The most common tax was 3 kr and designs were changed every years until 1848. Parallel with the adhesive stamps calendar remained in force until end of 19th century

The pocket calendars were popular but only a few survived in out-used condition.

10 (141)



Part 1. Stamping History of Austria — Introduction of special taxes

Newspaper tax

First introduction 1.7.1789 By Joseph II- (son of Maria Theresa) The tax was unified ½ Xr. The stamping was abandoned von 14. October 1791 and reintroduced in 1803. Inland papers were taxed ½ Xr and foreign papers 1 Xr.

First design without letters (1789-1790)

(200% enlarged)

New design with letters (October 1790-91)

ZS = Zeitung Stempel

½ Xreuzer

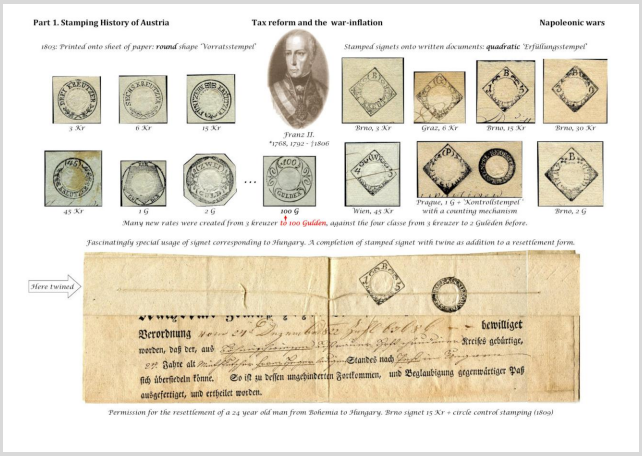
½ Xreuzer

1803: reintroduced stamping

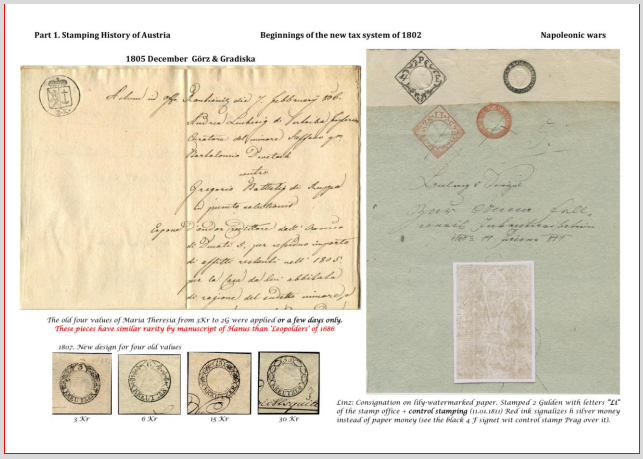
Magyar Xurir (Hungarian Herald) in Hungarian language printed in Vienna for Hungary, 1 Xreuzer

11 (142)

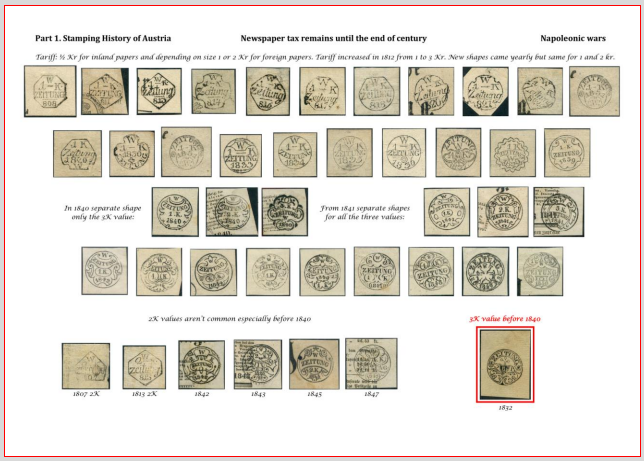
Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian Eyes



12 (211)



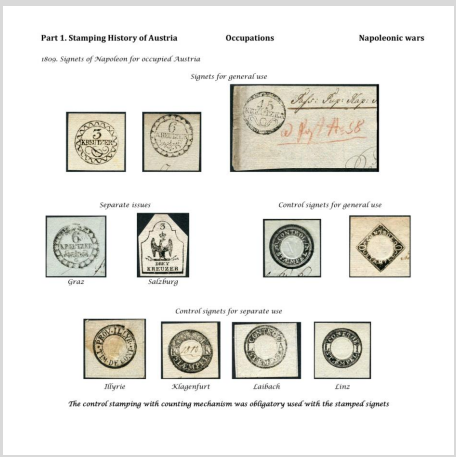
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14 (221)



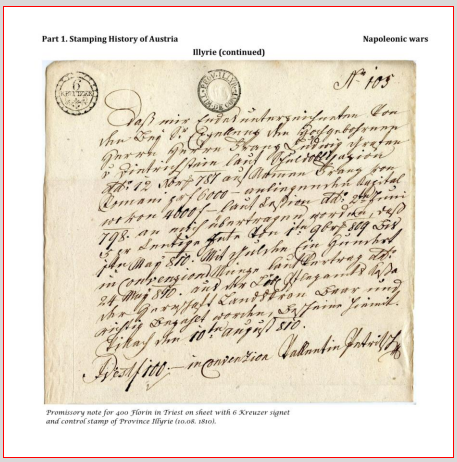
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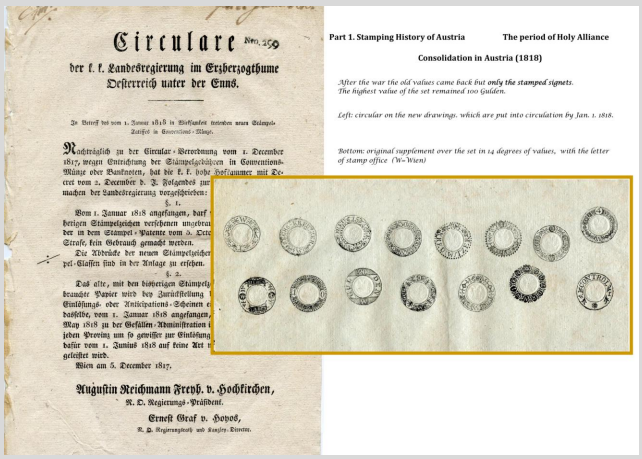
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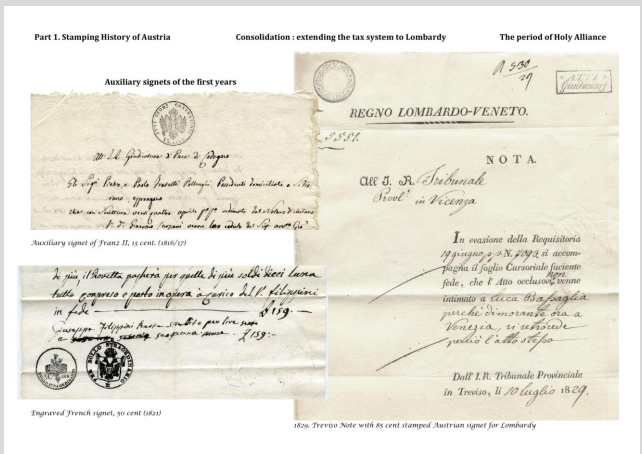
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18 (233)



19 (241)

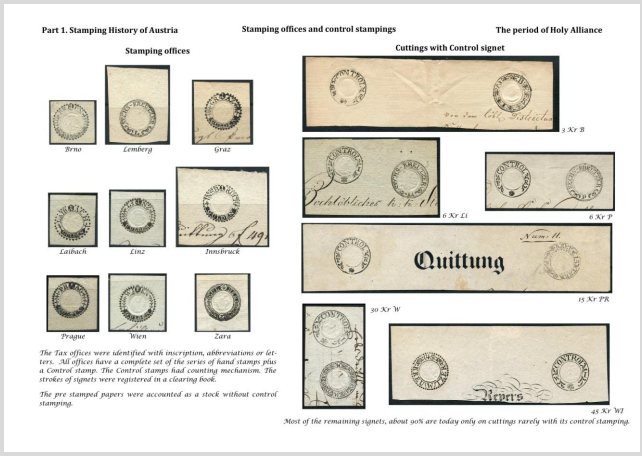


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Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian Eyes



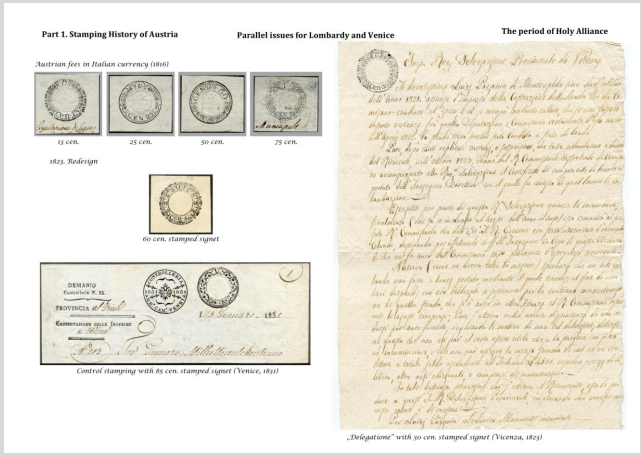
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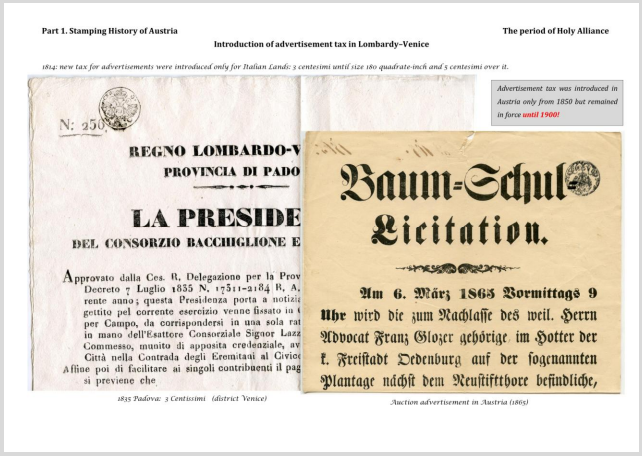
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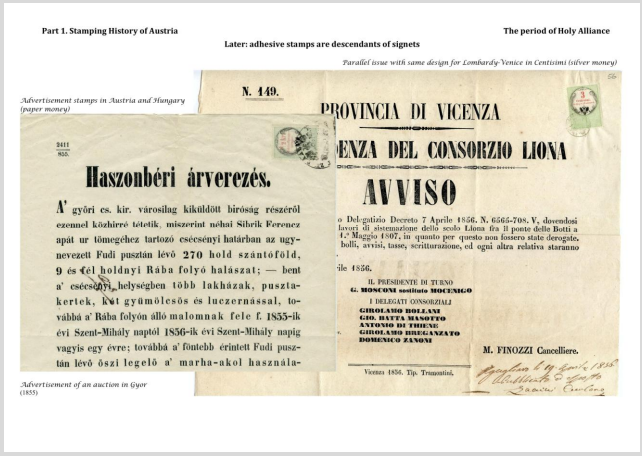
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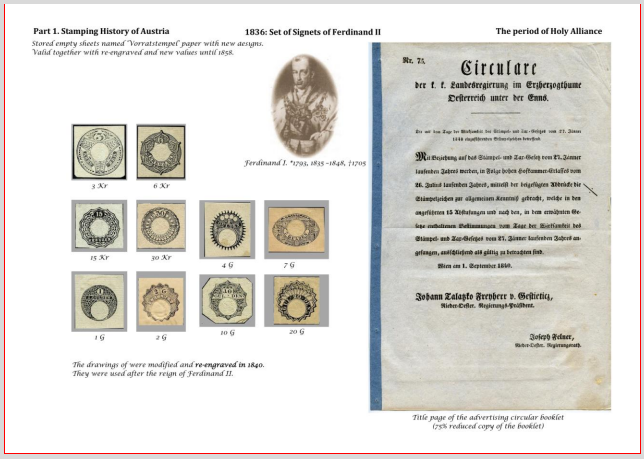


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Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian Eyes



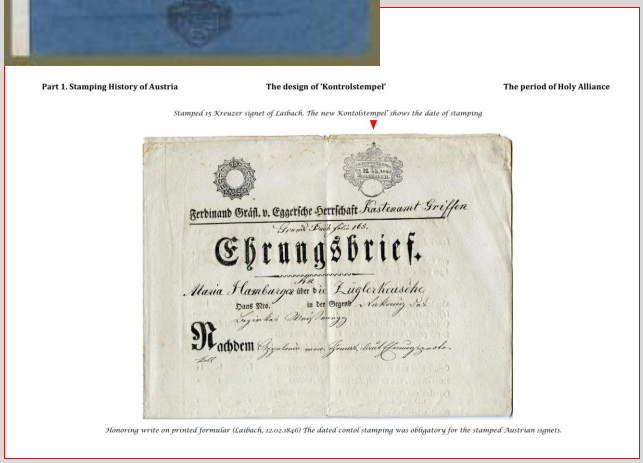
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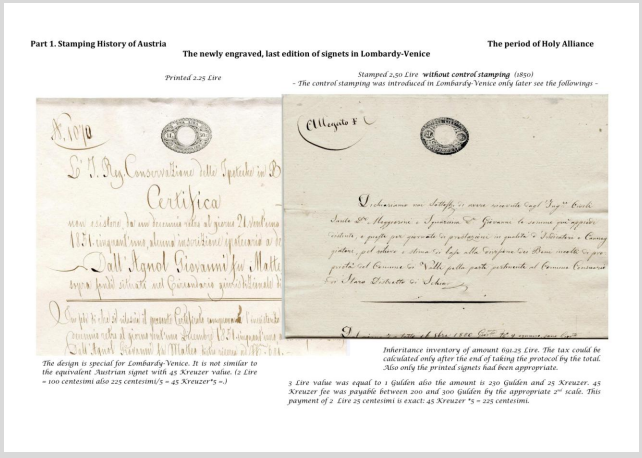
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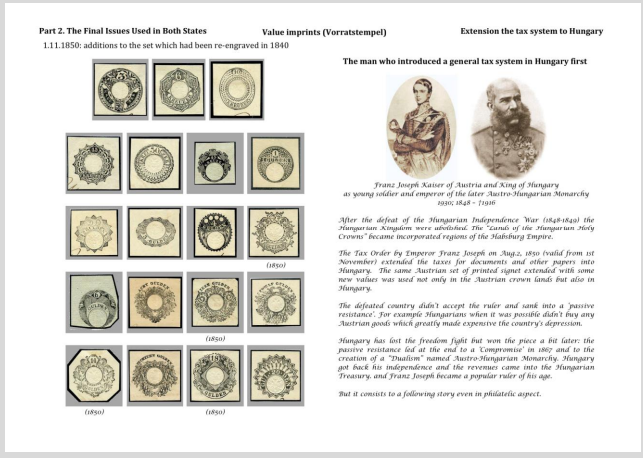
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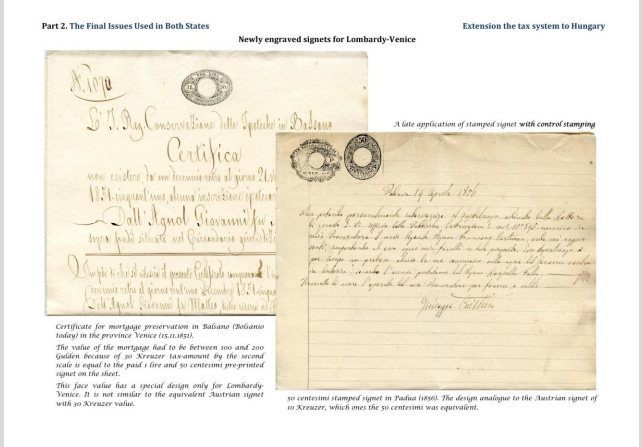
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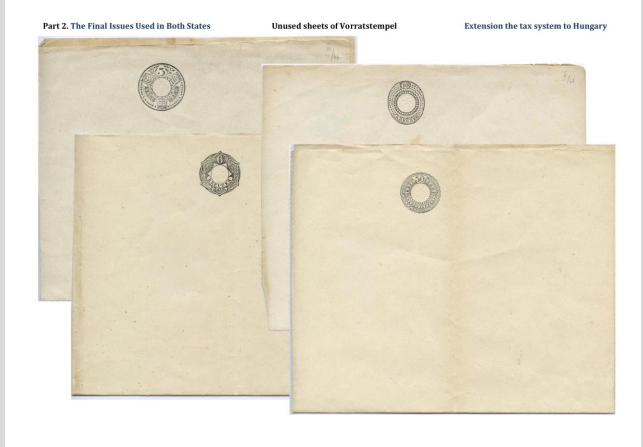
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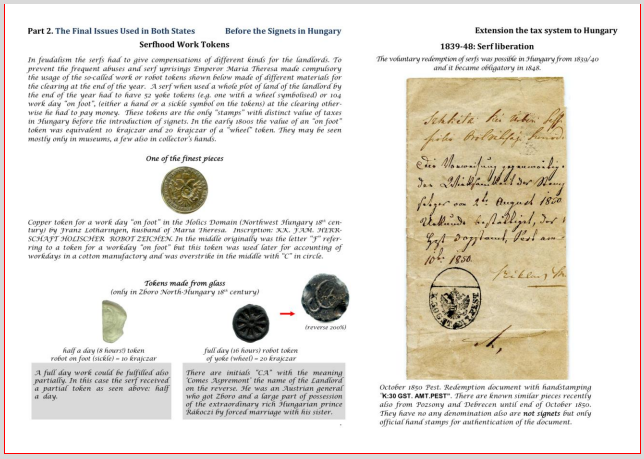


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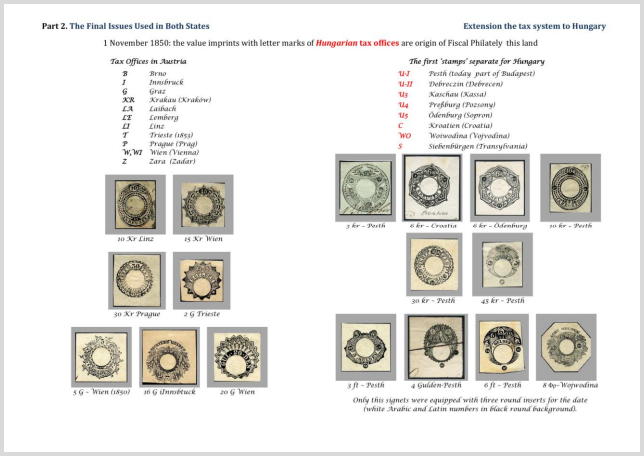


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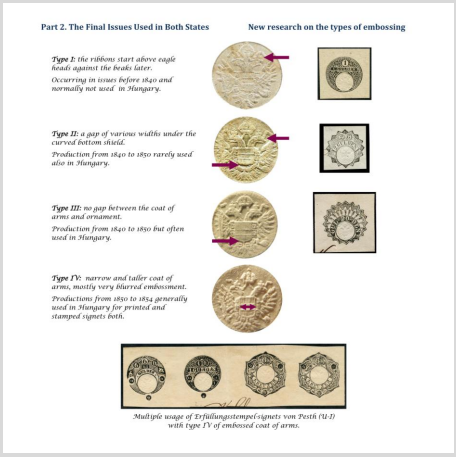
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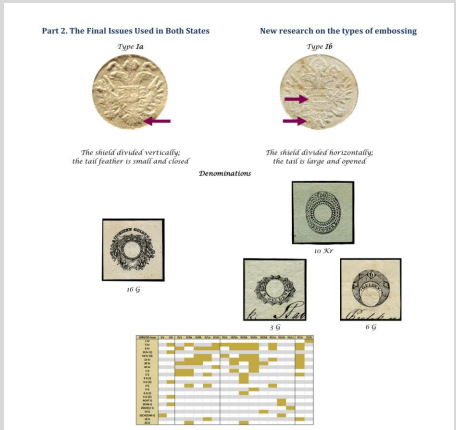
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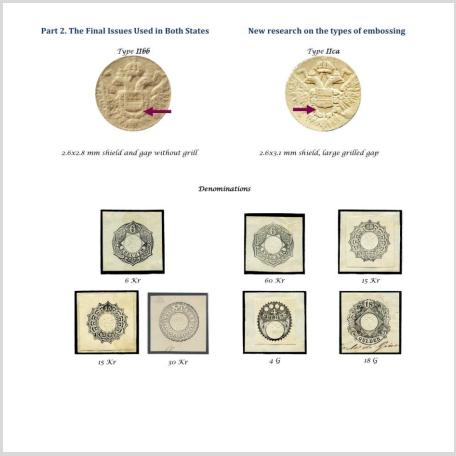
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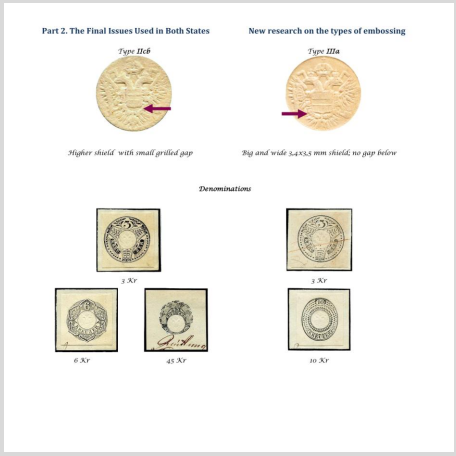
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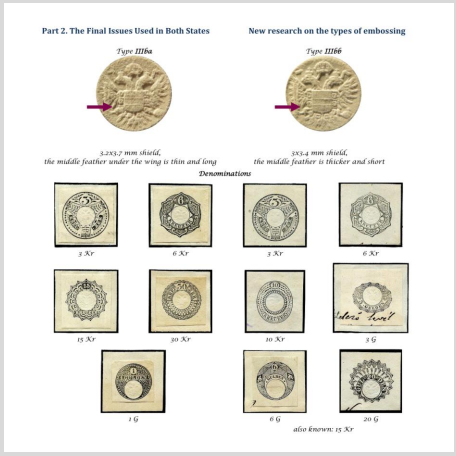
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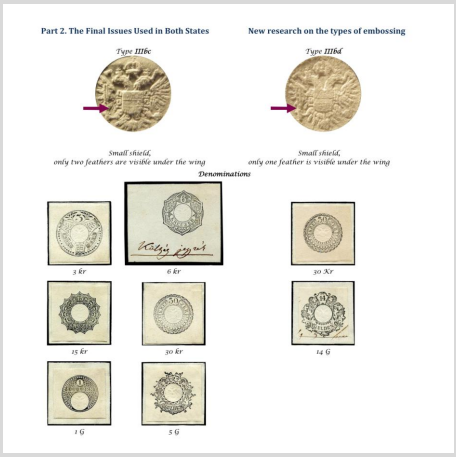
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44 (533)



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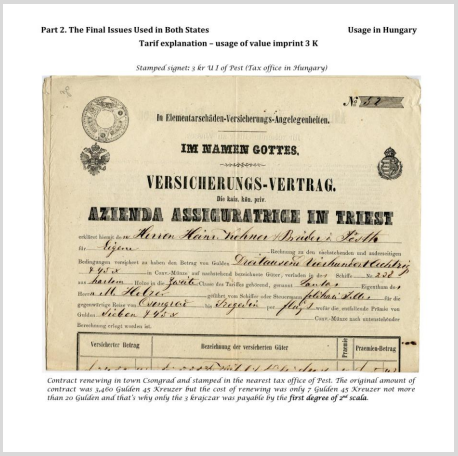


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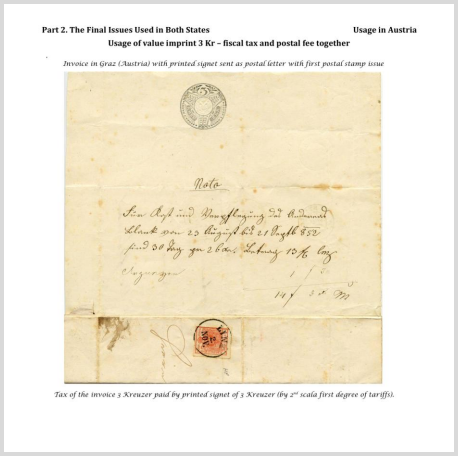


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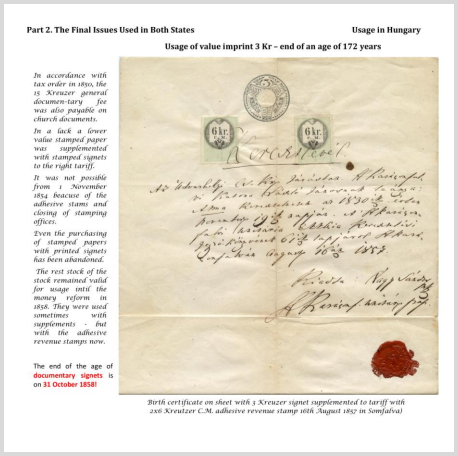
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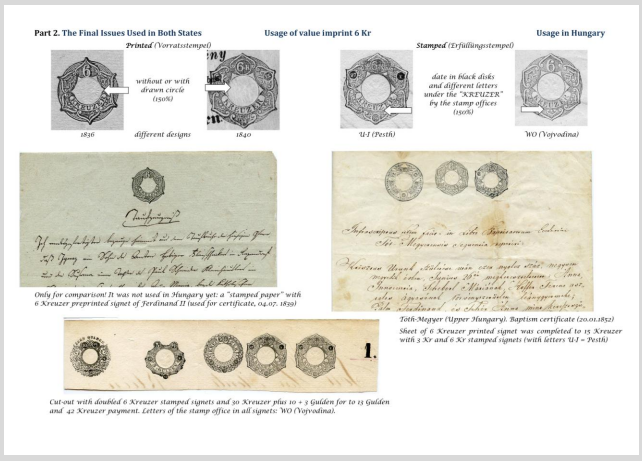
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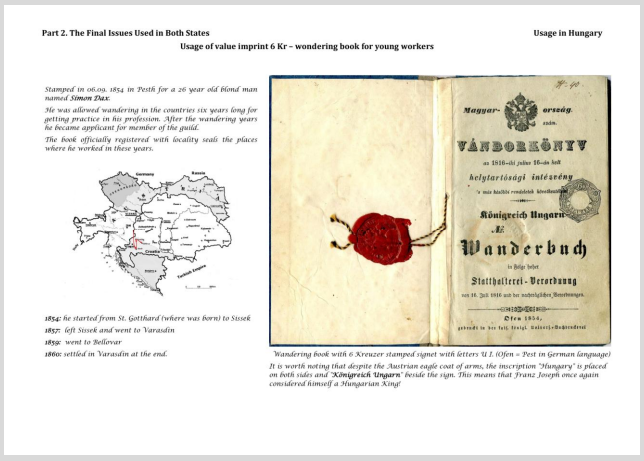
49 (612)



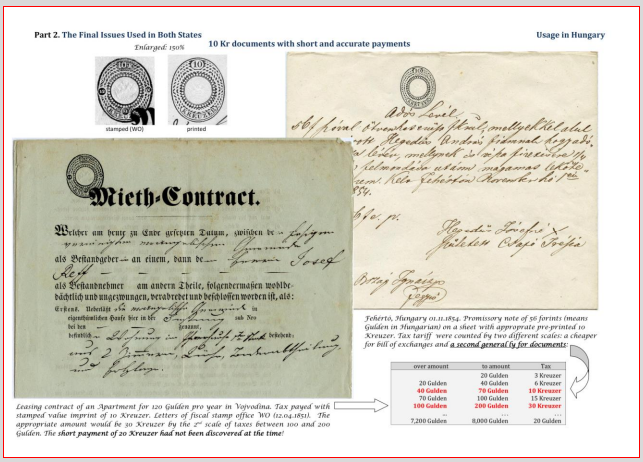
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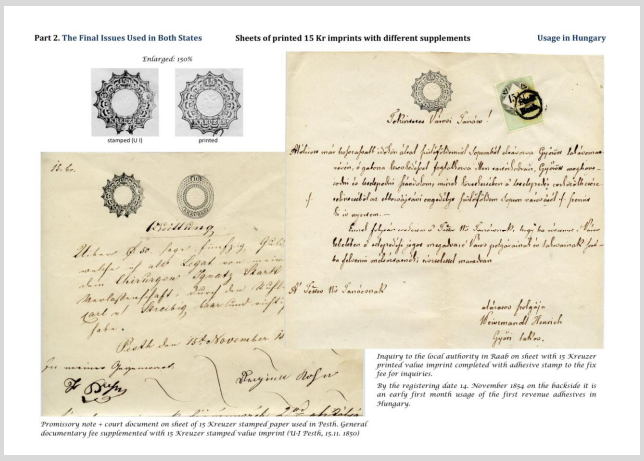
51 (621)



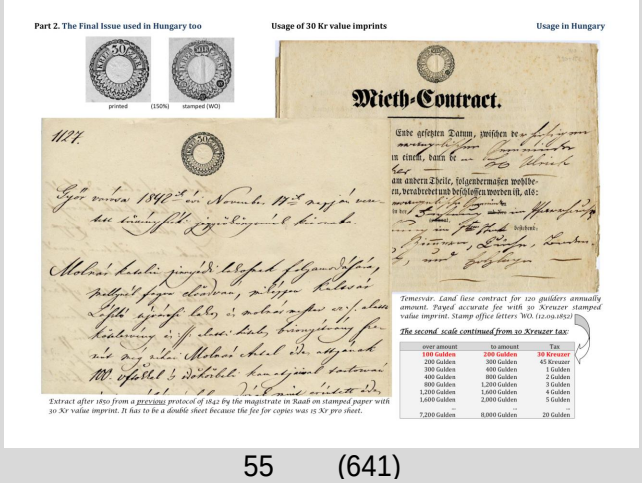
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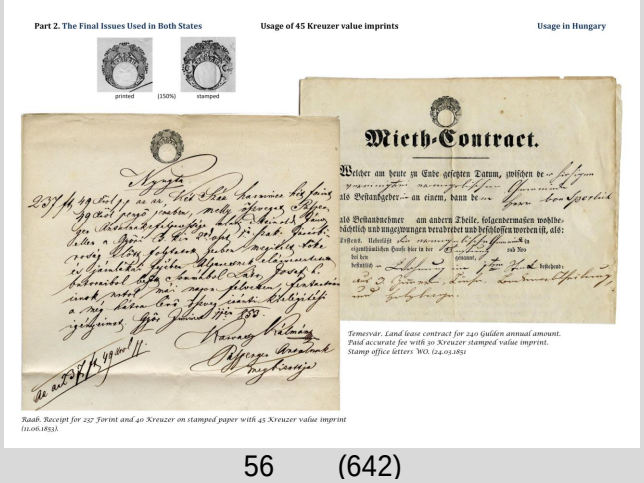
53 (631)



54 (632)



55 (641)



56 (642)

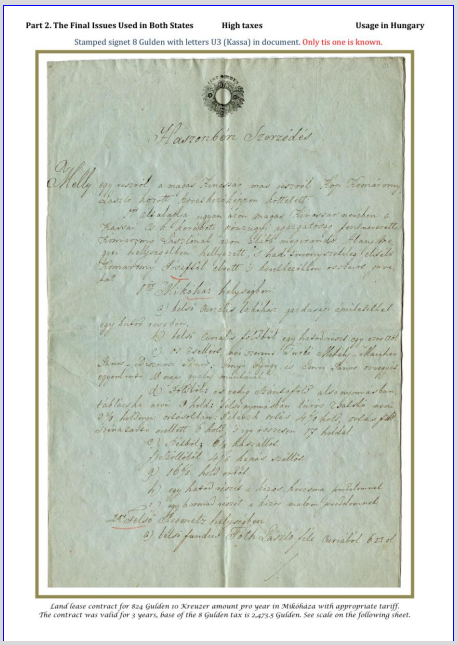
Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian Eyes



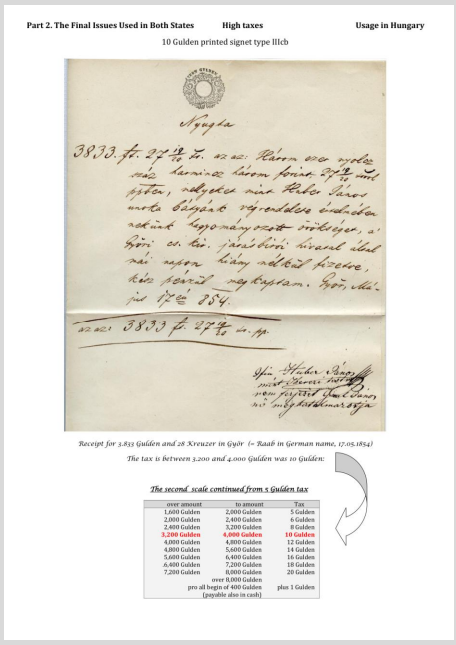
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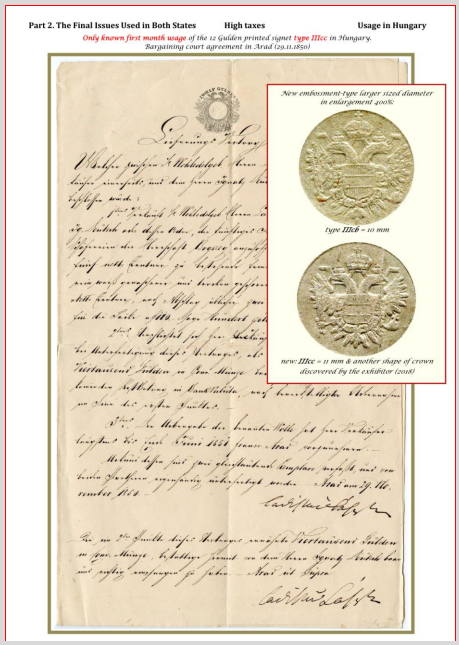
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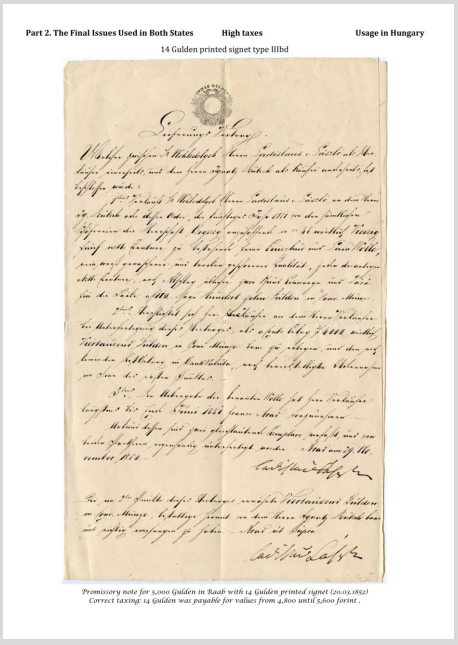
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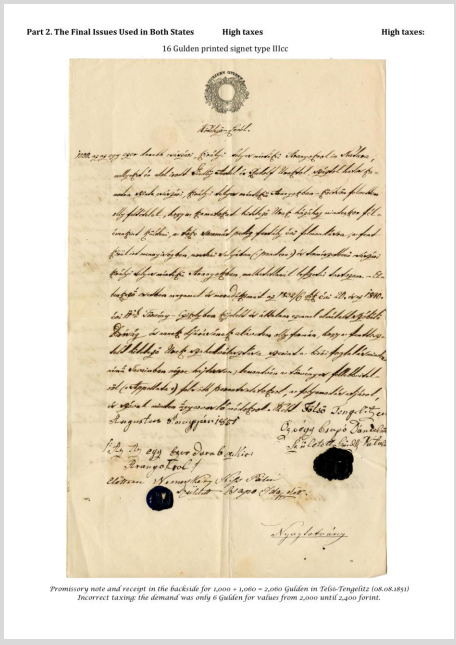
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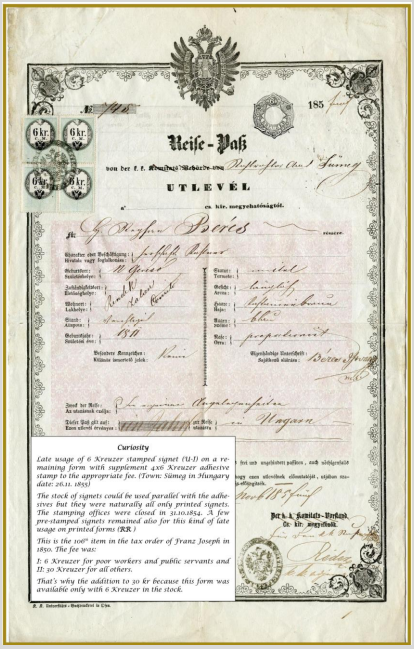
61 (723)



62 (731)

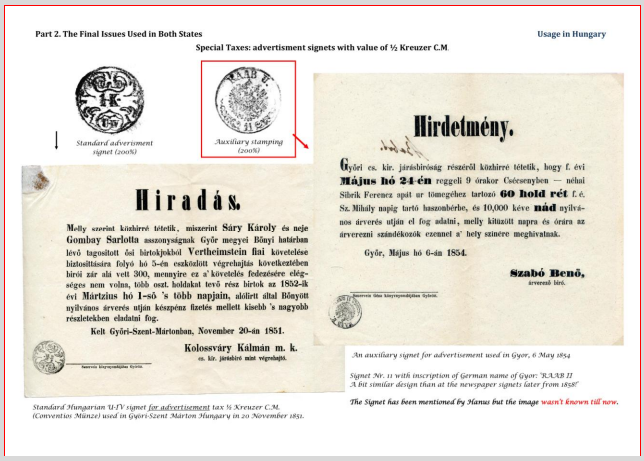


63 (732)



64 (733)

Spreading the Stamping of Documents in the Habsburg Empire by Hungarian Eyes



65 811



66 (821)



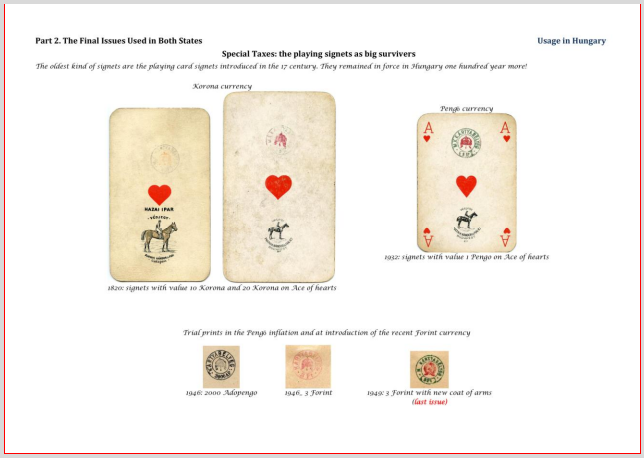
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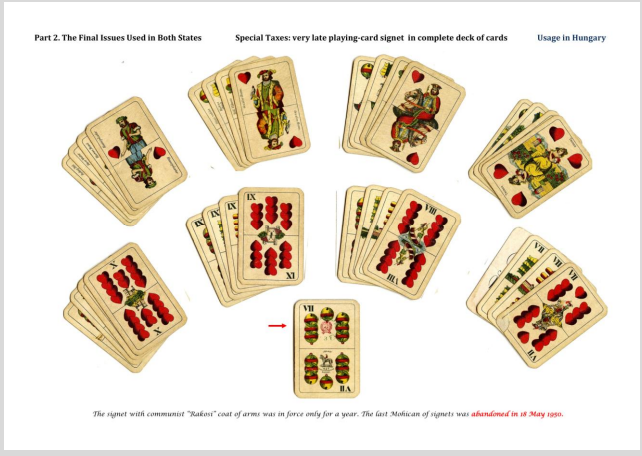
68 (831)



69 (832)



70 (841)



71 (842)