

January 21, 1966
ANTONIO REGIDOR - THE FILIPINO PATRIOT

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(1845 - 1910)

New stamps are issued today by the Postmaster General Enrico Palomar in honor of Dr. Antonio Regidor, one of the noblest Filipino martyrs who suffered under the Spanish yoke.

This special Dr. Regidor stamps are designed by philatelic artists Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr., and Regis Barreto and printed by Bradbury, Williams & Co. Ltd., of New Balden, Surrey, England, by intaglio steel plate process, at quantities of 15,000,000 of the blue 6-centavo denomination and 5,000,000 of the dark brown 30-centavo denomination.

Measuring 22.5 x 37.9 mm all around its border, excluding marginal space and is vertically arranged with the word "Pilipinas" on top and the denomination and "Koreo" at the bottom, left hand corner.

Depicted on the stamps is the bust portrait of Dr. Regidor enclosed in an oval frame. On the upper right background of the frame may be seen the small figurin of Regidor as he sits writing and on the upper left background is a group of revolutionists. Behind the oval frame are prominently displayed some book and publications.

The figure of Regidor as he writes and the books and publications portrayed on the stamps stand for the renown of Dr. Regidor as a prolific writer. He wrote under the pseudonym of Luis R. Rances and was the editor in Manila of "El Comercio" and "El Diario de Manila." In London he was the correspondent of the Spanish newspaper "La Igualdad," "El Liberal" and "El Pais."

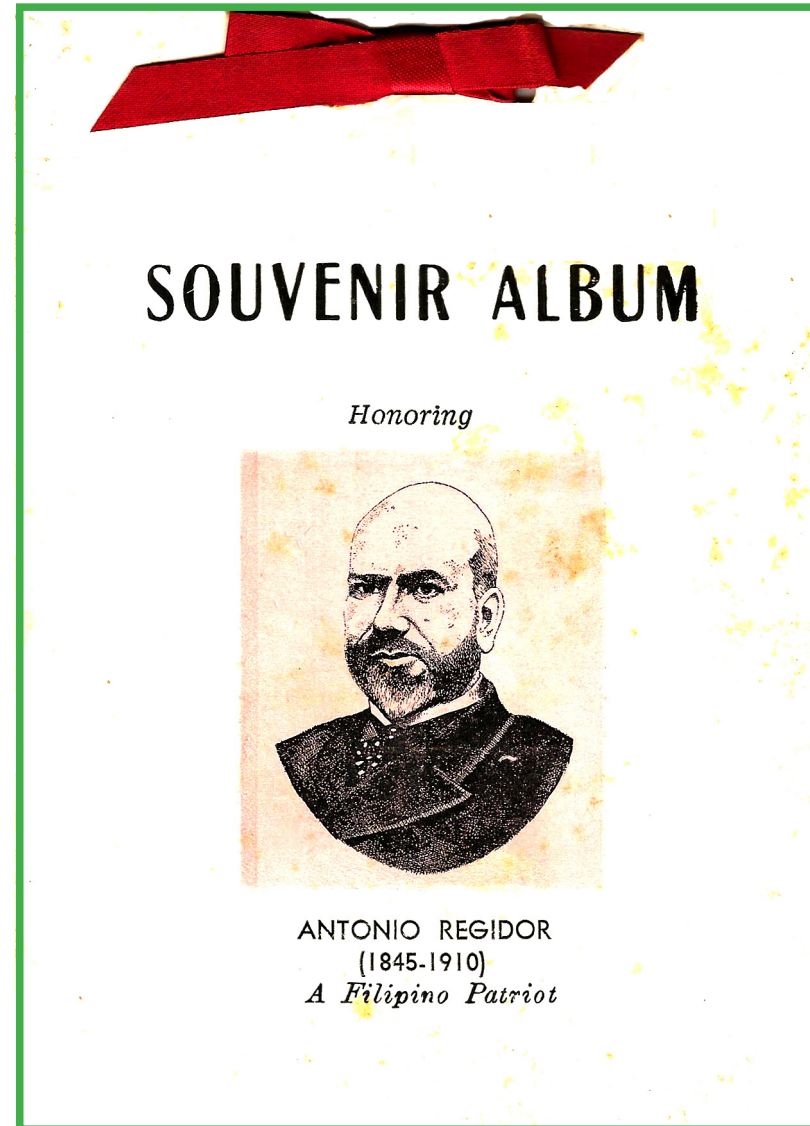
He was the founder of the Filipino monthlies "Filipinas entre Europa," "La Asamblea Filipina" and the "Filipino Students Magazine," and published many booklets in Europe, the United States and the Philippines.

The group of revolutionists on the upper left background stand for the active participation Regidor took in the Cavite uprising for which he was banished to Guam.

One of his most read books was "The Commercial Progress of the Philippines."

Dr. Regidor was a great patriot, an eminent lawyer and an erudite historian. He was born in Manila on April 16, 1845. Both of his grandparents and parents were Spaniards born in the Philippines.

He was educated at San Juan de Letran and then at the University of Santo Tomas and graduated as a Doctor of Civil, Criminal and Canonical Laws. In Spain, where he later went, he obtained further legal honours at the Central University of Madrid. Back in Manila, he occupied many posts including those of Secretary of the High Court, Alderman, Mayor of Manila and Secretary of Education.



By means of his pen, he defended the Filipinos and their Independence. In 1872, Regidor was one of the prime figures of the rising in Cavite and was banished to Guam, Marianne Islands. His escape from Guam forms part of Filipino history as does his entire life which was dedicated to the Philippine independence.

He made his escape on March 25, 1873, disguised as a friar. An American ship "Rupex" took him to the island of Yap. Then an English vessel "The Islander" took him to Malakka and later to the island of Palaos. From Palaos, another very small English sailing schooner, the "Cochran" took him aboard and landed him in Hong Kong. From there he went to Marseilles, France, then to Paris and finally settled in London, where he married an Irish Lady, Miss Julia Stanton.

He died in Nice, France on December 28, 1910.

In the Philippines a large monument and statue of him stands in the plaza in front of the Tondo Church, Manila. and the Antonio Regidor Elementary School has been named in his honor.

The robes he used during his escape were donated by his heirs to the Philippine Republic and are now in the National Museum in Calle Herran, Manila.

