# Adolfo Richter & Company EL Siglo XIX

Adolfo Richter, of German descent, was a resident in the Philippines from at least the early 1870s. Earliest records show that he established Adolfo Richter & Company from 1882. The company comprised a series of retail shops in the Philippines with the main office located in Escolta, Manila, and branches in Cebu, Nueva Caceres, Camarines Sur and Iloilo. A further establishment, El Siglo XIX, appears from around 1888. Products included hats, shoes, boots, saddles, spurs, sewing machines amongst other items. During the early part of the 20th century, they also stocked military supplies such as caps, insignias and other accessories. In 1918, Brias Roxas & Company was established through the acquisition and merger of Adolfo Richter & Company and Alfredo Roensch & Company.



Adolfo Richter (Fabrica de Sombreros) - First Building on Right

THE LEADING MILITARY-SUPPLIES HOUSE IN THE PHILIPPINES Old No. 15 Escolta New No. 57 Has always a full stock of the following lines:

Felt-Hats, Straw-Hats, latest styles, Shoes, Boots for Gentlemen, American and German made, Saddles, American and English ones, Sewing Machines, Spurs etc.

Adolfo Richter & Co.

Adolfo Richter & Co Advertisements (circa 1902)

# EL SIGLO XIX

#### Historical Timeline

#### 1873 - 1877

Adolfo Richter, assistant to Adolfo Roensch, hat manufacturer, located at Escolta 21, Manila.

#### 1879

Adolfo Richter, working for Adolfo Roensch as manager of the Iloilo branch. Bruno Richter also listed as working as an assistant for Adolfo Roensch in Manila.

#### 1882

Adolfo Richter, hat manufacturer, Escolta 15, Manila. Adolfo Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Bruno Richter and Federico Richter.

#### 1888 - 1889

Adolfo Richter, hat manufacturer, Escolta 15. Adolfo Bruno Richter (proprietor) and Federico Richter (assistant).

El Siglo XIX, Almacen de Tejidos y Novedades de Europa (Fabric and European News Store), Escolta 33. Adolfo Bruno Richter (proprietor) and Reinaldo Richter (proprietor), assisted by: M Sluch, A Arantegin and M Vicente.

#### 1892

Adolfo Richter & Co, hat manufacturer, Escolta 15. Adolfo Bruno Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Federico Richter, Rainfold Richter, Ricardo Walther and Salvador Rebollido.

El Siglo XIX, Almacen de Tejidos y Novedades de Europa, Escolta 24. Adolfo Bruno Richter (proprietor) and Reinaldo Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Federico Richter, M. Lluch, M. Vicente, R. Walther, R. Ortiz, M. Miranda, S. Reboullido, G. Roesseler and M. Fuster.

Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu. Emilio Richter (manager).

#### 1894

Adolfo Richter & Co, La Sombreria, Escolta 15. Adolfo Bruno Richter (proprietor), Reinaldo Richter (proprietor) and Federico Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Julio Camps, Ricardo Walther, Arturo (Arthur) Ruebe, Manuel Fuster, Ricardo Hermida, and Juan Braconz. It also shows Julio Roseler managing a branch in Nueva Caceres, Camarines Sur.

El Siglo XIX, Tienda de Novedades (News Store), Escolta 15. Moves into the same premises as Adolfo Richter & Co.

Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu. Miguel Lluch (manager), assisted by S Rebollido.

#### 1898 - 1899

Adolfo Richter & Co, La Sombreria, Escolta 15. Adolfo Bruno Richter (proprietor), Reinaldo Richter (proprietor) and Federico Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Arturo (Arthur) Ruebe, Manuel Fuster, U Quesada, R Schleinitz, M Pavon, Berthold Aue, Arturo Wagner, and F Ocampa.

El Siglo XIX, Tienda de Novedades, Escolta 24. Moves to new premises.

Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu. P Hermoso (manager).

#### 1902

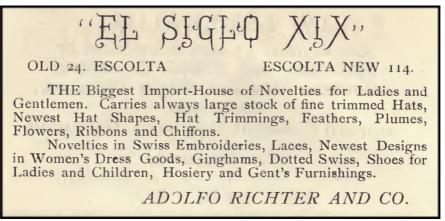
Adolfo Richter & Co, Hat Store, Military Supply House, Escolta 15. Reinhold Richter (proprietor) and Friedrich Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Arthur Ruebe, Adolf Ruebe, Robert Schleinitz, Arthur Wagner, R Malnenda, A Malnenda, J Martinez, J Sison, W Kreher, M Braun, and M Garcia.

El Siglo XIX. Dry Good Store, Escolta 24.

Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu. P Hermoso (manager), F Ocampa (assistant).

# EL SIGLO XIX

#### **Historical Timeline**



El Siglo XIX, Adolfo Richter & Co Advertisement (circa 1902)

#### 1905

Adolfo Richter & Co, Hat Store, Military Supply House, Escolta 57. Reinhold Richter (proprietor, absent) and Friedrich Richter (proprietor), assisted by: Arthur Ruebe (signs per procurationem), Arthur Wagner, F Wenzel, C Hengstbach, G Ferraz, J Sison, W Krecher, M Braun, H Mengel, E Hernandez, and F M Gomez.

El Siglo XIX. Dry Good Store, Escolta 114.

Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu. P Hermoso (manager), assisted by: R Malnenda, A Malnenda and A Urtasun.

#### 1908 - 1910

Adolfo Richter & Co, Hat Store, Military Supply House, Escolta 57. Reinhold Richter (proprietor, absent) and Friedrich Richter (proprietor, absent), Arthur Ruebe (manager), assisted by: Arthur Wagner (signs per procurationem), Ferd. Wenzel, Hans Mengel, Max. Geissler, Erich Schlack, Alfred Richter, Walter Ruebe, Gregorio Ferraz, Rafael Serrano, Francisco Pamies, and Jose Sison.

El Siglo XIX. Dry Good Store, Escolta 114.

Iloilo Branch – Eulogios Fernandez (sings per procurationem), Amaro Garcia, Santos Orozco

No mention of Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu.

#### 1912

Adolfo Richter & Co, Hat Store, Military Supply House, Escolta 57. Reinhold Richter (proprietor, absent, member of firm), Arthur Ruebe (member of firm), Alfred Richter (member of firm), assisted by: Arthur Wagner (signs per procurationem at Cebu), Eulogio Hernandez (aigns per procurationem at Iloilo), Walter Ruebe, Hans Schumann, Carl Preseber, Rafael Serrano, Antonio Villera, Gregorio Ferraz, Jose Sison, A Santos, and Salvador Thomas.

El Siglo XIX. Dry Good Store, Escolta 114.

Iloilo Branch – Eulogios Fernandez (sings per procurationem), Amaro Garcia, Santos Orozco

No mention of Bazar El Siglo XIX, Cebu.

#### 1918

Adolfo Richter & Company (La Sombreria) and El Siglo XIX businesses were seized by the US Governor General on February 16, 1918 (as part of World War I) under the 'Trading with the Enemy Act' of October 6, 1917, which called for the sequestration of enemy property during hostilities. The businesses were sold on April 1, 1918, wherein El Siglo XIX was sold to Lorza and Lozano and La Sombreria to Enrique P Brias Roxas. Note: Brias Roxas & Company was established through the acquisition and merger of Adolfo Richter & Company (La Sombreria) and Alfredo Roensch & Company.

**PRIVATELY PRINTED COVERS** 

#### PPC1: ADOLFO RICHTER. MANILA.



ADOLFO RICHTER. MANILA.

	ADOLFO RICHTER. MANILA.
C	Remania
-	Hum
ACUTON C	Otto Gierth x Or
CORDE	Hamburg
×.	grosse fofanne ftr. 17.

13 April 1890 - Cover from Manila to Hamburg, Germany

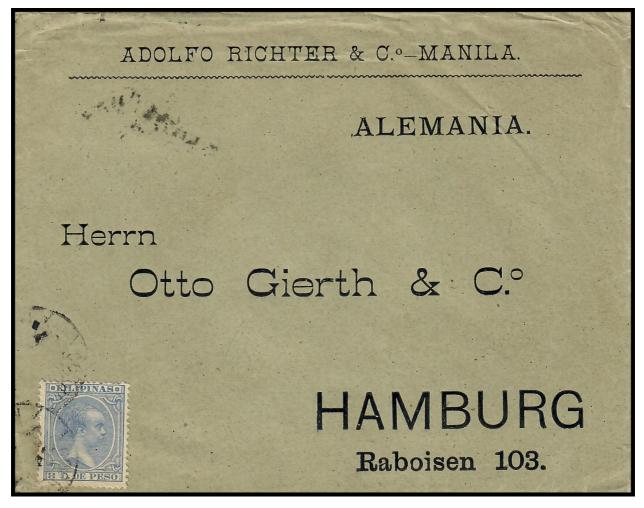
8c paying Single Weight Overseas Rate, cancelled with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps

**PRIVATELY PRINTED COVERS** 

### PPC4: ADOLFO RICHTER & C.o - MANILA.



#### ADOLFO RICHTER & C.o – MANILA.



1892 - Cover from Manila to Hamburg, Germany on Pre-Printed Cover to Otto Gierth & Co
 8c paying Single Weight Overseas Rate, cancelled with Indistinct 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps
 25 September 1892 'Hamburg' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

**PRIVATELY PRINTED COVERS** 

### PPC2: ADOLFO RICHTER Y C.a – MANILA



ADOLFO RICHTER Y C.a – MANILA CEBU - NUEVA CACERES.

	Abobro .	RICHTER DEBU-NUEVA	¢ Ç.ə.	MANILA	
to to	Q.		Aler	nania	
1	Konnu Connu	Max E	Krus	ser	
	500	1	Hloritz	, denel 2.	en
bayo	E CONPESSION			Solurs	Thir

23 February 1893 - Cover from Manila to Erfurt, Germany 8c paying Single Weight Overseas Rate, cancelled with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps 28 March 1893 'Erfurt' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

### FOREIGN INBOUND COVER

### SWITZERLAND ORIGINATING

Nia Bremelon	1 Hormourg	110
Deklarierter Wert.	A LUCAS	Frank harfm
Valeur déclarée.	ADRESS	Francobolli.
BULLETIN D'EXPÉDITIO	BOLLETTINO Di Oredicion	· / ·
pour ume Paisselle en toin	Paullee en fer bland Soud	TO TO TO
Wert Valeur Valore Fr. 100 - {	Notinahme Phyloursoment } Fr.	
An Alessien	re fille	X
agolfo .	Richter & Celiel	
Ma Promen ==	Manille	101
	Hes Philippines.	
Crewicht Poids	974 Chaux-de-Fonds	333
Peso ,	Jan andrea I anno a simmyra.	

22 August 1895 - Insured Parcel Card from Switzerland to Manila, via Bremen Addressed to Adolfo Richter y Cia, Manille, Isles Philippines Stamps with 'Chaux de Fonds' Departure Circular Date Cancels 24 August 1895 'Frankfurt' and 25 August 1895 'Bremen' (25 August 1895) Transit Cancels on Reverse

(Heinrich Köhler Auction – 24 September 2019)

### COVER ADDRESSED TO RICHTER Y CA ESCOLTA 15 MANILA



Circa 1895 - Domestic Cover Addressed to Richter y Ca, Manila Most Likely Non-Manila Originating Cover

2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, with Blue Parrilla Cancellation

5 January 1895 'Correos-Manila' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamps

# COVER ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER ESCOLTA 15 MANILA



1895 - Domestic Cover to Adolfo Richter, Manila Indistinct Originating Circular Date Stamp

2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with Indistinct 'Correos' Circular Date Stamp

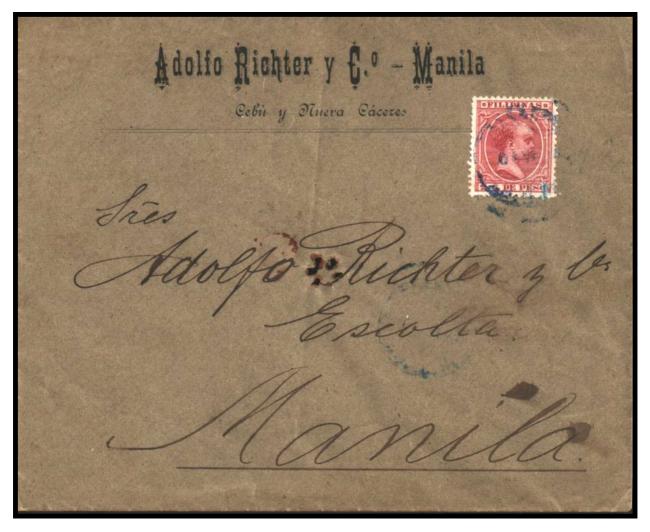
19 December 1895 'Correos-Manila' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

**PRIVATELY PRINTED COVERS** 

### PPC3: Adolfo Richter y C.o – Manila



Adolfo Richter y C.o – Manila Cebú y Nueva Cáceres



1896 - Domestic Cover Addressed to Adolfo Richter and Company, Manila Most Likely Non-Manila Originating Cover
2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with Indistinct 'Correos' Circular Date Stamp 20 January 1896 'Correos - Manila' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

**PRIVATELY PRINTED COVERS** 

### PPC3: Adolfo Richter y C.o – Manila



Adolfo Richter y C.o – Manila Cebú y Nueva Cáceres

Ådolfo	Richter y G.º - Manila Cebit y Oluera Cáceres
fres Ado	ARichterg b. Escolta Manila.

1896 - Domestic Cover Addressed to Adolfo Richter and Company, Manila Most Likely Non-Manila Originating Cover

2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with Indistinct 'Correos' Circular Date Stamp 4 February 1896 'Correos - Manila' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

# ADOLFO RICHTER & COMPANY EL SIGLO XIX



Manila Circulating Cover

2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate

7 February 1896 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamp

XIX. IPAS-IMPRE 1/2 DE CE

13 March 1896 - Cover Addressed to El Siglo XIX, Escolta

1/8c paying Single Domestic Circular (Printed Matter) Rate. Cancelled with 'Correos-Manila' Circular Date Stamps Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse

### **EL SIGLO XIX**

Sies. Me Adalo Richter y Ca El Siglo XIX. FILIPINAS Mi anila

Circa 1896 – Manila Circulating Cover Addressed to Adolfo Richter y Ca, El Siglo XIX, Escolta 2c paying Single Domestic Rate and tied with 'Correos-Manila' Circular Date Stamp

Ebay – March 2023

### COVER ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER MANILA



1896 - Domestic Cover from Mindoro to Adolfo Richter, Manila

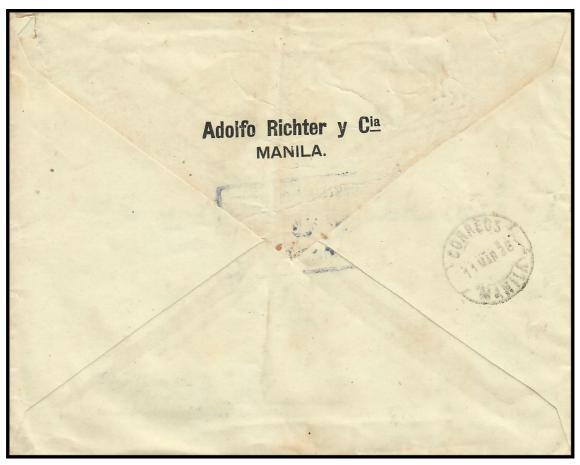
2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, with Red 'Filipinas - Correos - Mindoro' Circular Cancellation 18 February 1896 'Correos-Manila' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp



PRINTED RETURN ADDRESS ON BACK OF COVER

### **RA1: Adolfo Richter y Cia**





1896 - Non-Manila Originating Domestic Cover Addressed to Adolfo Richter y Cia, El Siglo XIX, Manila Most Likely Un-cancelled at Origin

2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, carried via Steamship 'Bohol'

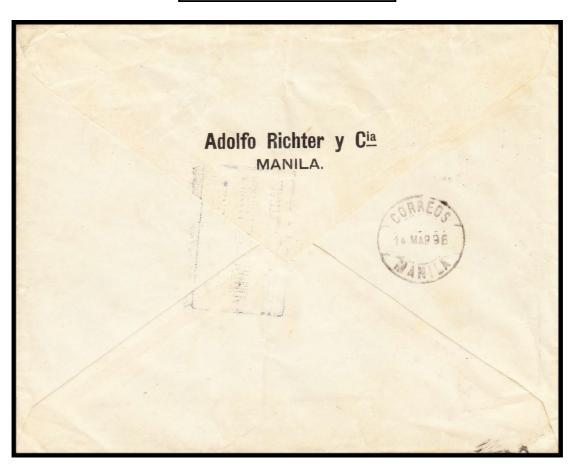
Cancelled with 11 March 1896 Arrival 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamp on Front and Reverse Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse

Por V. Bohol. Sies. Adolfo Richtor y Cin El Siglo XIX \_\_\_\_Manila.\_

**PRINTED RETURN ADDRESS ON BACK OF COVER** 

### **RA1: Adolfo Richter y Cia**

Adolfo Richter y Cia MANILA.



14 March 1896 - Domestic Cover Addressed to Adolfo Richter y Cia, El Siglo XIX, Manila 4c paying Double Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse

Sies. Adolfo Richtor y Cia

### COVER ADDRESSED TO FEDERICO RICHTER ESCOLTA SOMBRERIA MANILA



15 April 1896 - Manila Circulating Domestic Cover to Federico Richter in Manila 2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with 'Correos-Manila' Circular Date Stamp Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse

Federico Richter is known to be associated with Adolfo Richter & Company between 1882 and early 1900

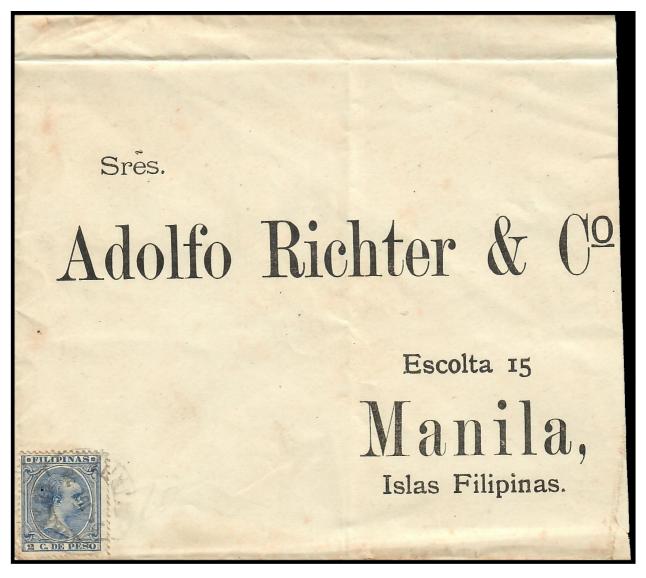
COVER ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER ESCOLTA NO. 24 MANILA

Yor, X. Adolfs Richter Ecolta is? 24. LIPINAS

8 May 1896 – Non-Manila originating cover addressed to Adolfo Richter, Manila
2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with partially indistinct 'Correos' CDS
Backstamped with 'Correos - Manila' (13 May 1896) Receiving Circular Date Stamp

**PRE-PRINTED ADDRESSED COVER** 

Adolfo Richter & Co Escolta 15 Manila, Islas Filipinas.



25 July 1896 – Manila Circulating Domestic Cover (cropped slightly on right) 2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamp On Pre-Addressed Cover to Adolfo Richter & Co, Escolta 15, Manila Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse

#### **BUSINESS HANDSTAMP**

#### ADOLFO RICHTER Y CA SINGLE LINED OVAL HANDSTAMP





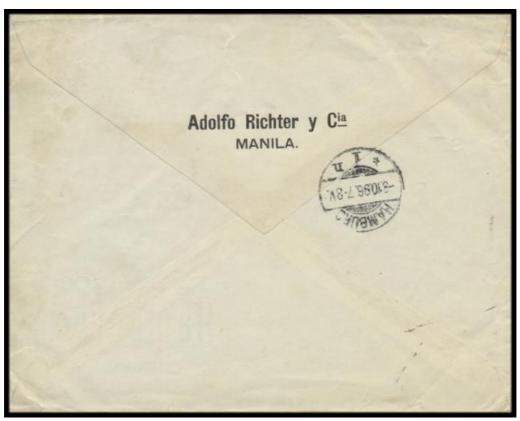
Mainla , 17. Au Rinha Mullis.

Dateline: 17 August 1896 - Postal Card from Manila to Erfurt, Germany Uprated card paying 3c Postal Card Rate to UPU countries (overpaid by 1c possibly due to no 1c stamps being available) Tied with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Cancellations Adolfo Richter y Ca (17 August 1896) dated handstamp on reverse side Erfurt (16 September 1896) Receiving Circular Date Stamp on front

#### PRINTED RETURN ADDRESS ON BACK OF COVER

### **RA1: Adolfo Richter y Cia**





2 September 1896 - Cover from Manila to Hamburg, Germany on Pre-Printed Cover to Otto Gierth & Co
 8c paying Single Weight Overseas Rate, cancelled with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps
 3 October 1896 'Hamburg' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

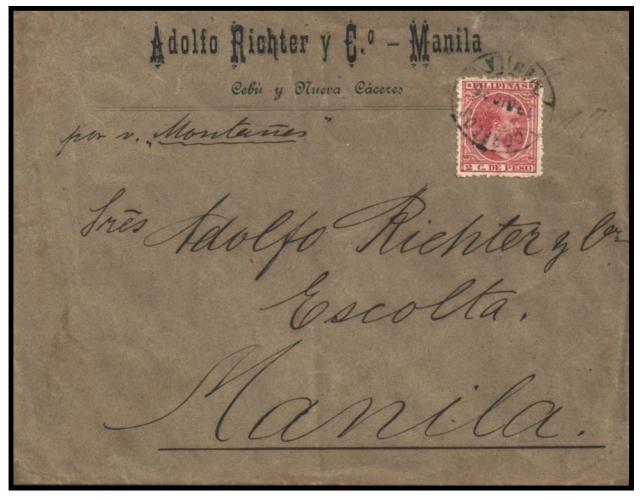


**PRIVATELY PRINTED COVERS** 

### PPC3: Adolfo Richter y C.o – Manila



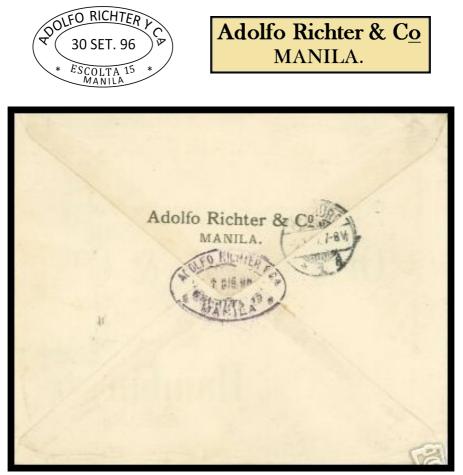
Adolfo Richter y C.o – Manila Cebú y Nueva Cáceres



 1896 - Domestic Cover Addressed to Adolfo Richter and Company, Manila Non-Manila Originating Cover, Carried by Steamship 'Montañes'
 2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, Stamp Un-Cancelled at Origin
 19 December 1896 'Correos - Manila' Arrival Circular Dated Cancels Tied to Stamp and on Reverse
 Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse

#### BUSINESS HANDSTAMP AND PRINTED RETURN ADDRESS ON BACK OF COVER

### BH1: ADOLFO RICHTER Y CA SINGLE LINED OVAL HANDSTAMP RA2: Adolfo Richter & Co



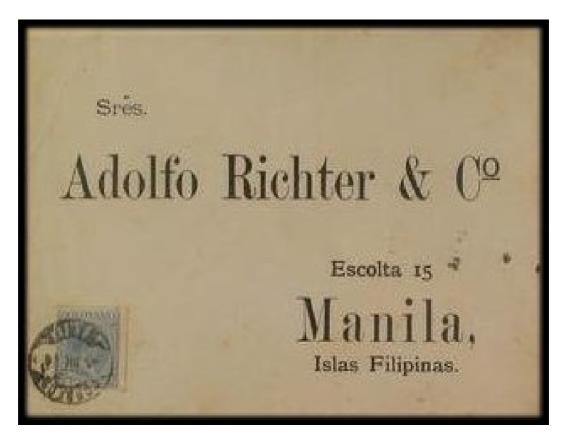
27 December 1896 - Cover from Manila to Hamburg, Germany on Pre-Printed Cover to Otto Gierth & Co 16c paying Double Weight Overseas Rate, cancelled with 'Correos-Manila' Circular Date Stamps Indistinct 'Hamburg' Arrival Circular Dated Backstamp

With Printed Return Address (RA2) and 'Adolfo Richter y Ca' Business Handstamp (BH1) on Reverse



**PRE-PRINTED ADDRESSED COVER** 

Adolfo Richter & Co Escolta 15 Manila, Islas Filipinas.



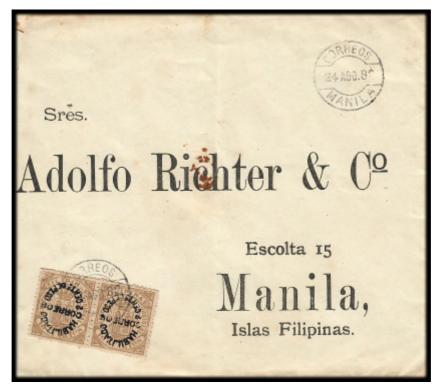
Circa 1896 – Manila Circulating Domestic Cover

2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, cancelled with 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamp On Pre-Addressed Cover to Adolfo Richter & Co, Escolta 15, Manila

Picture from old Auction Catalogue

**PRE-PRINTED ADDRESSED COVER** 

# Adolfo Richter & Co Escolta 15 Manila, Islas Filipinas.



Circa 1896 - Pre-Addressed Cover to Adolfo Richter & Co, Escolta 15, Manila

#### TAMPERED COVER

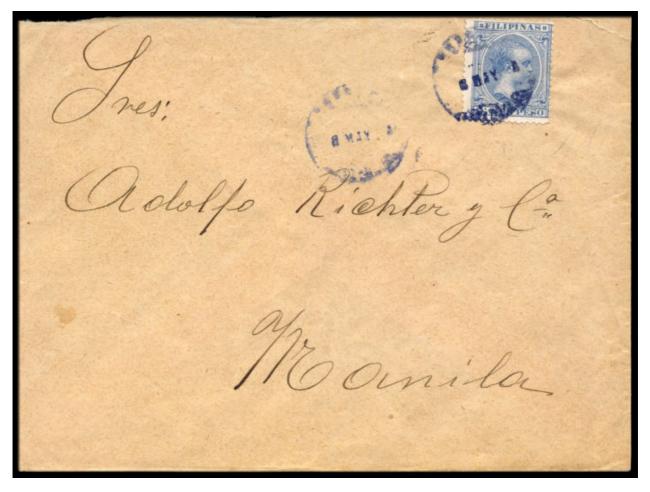
Original Cover with Genuine Stamps Affixed but cancelled with Bogus 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps Created to show 4c Postage, paying Double Weight Domestic Rate

Cancelled with Bogus (24 August 1882) 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamps

Genuine 'Correos - Manila' Circular Date Stamp on Reverse dated 24 August but with Indistinct Year Boxed 'Communicaciones/Admin Pral Manila/Cartera Central' (Manila PO Central Sorting Section) on Reverse This cancel was not used until the mid-1890s

	mine a
	191/1-
101 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
B stra	
K. A.	14
AST I	
A	+
rcept	carnos
Acepto Manila. d	de

### COVER ADDRESSED TO RICHTER Y CA MANILA



Circa 1896 - Domestic Cover Addressed to Richter y Ca, Manila 2c paying Single Weight Domestic Rate, with 'Correos - Manila' (8 May ??) Circular Date Stamps

# **US OCCUPATION**

### PRE-STAMPED COVER ADDRESSED TO ADOLF RUEBE

#### P. B. 232

MANILA



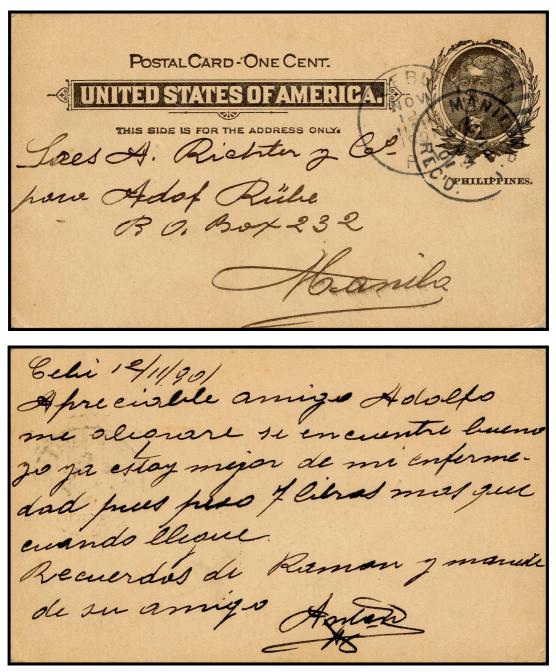
18 June 1901 – Manila Circulating Pre-Stamped Cover (Scott #U1) addressed to Adolf Ruebe 'Manila' 18 June 1901 Departure Duplex Cancel and Receiving Circular Date Backstamp

Christian Preusse Collection

### **US OCCUPATION**

# POSTAL CARD ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER & CO PO Box 232

#### MANILA



12 November 1901 - Postal Card (Scott #UX1) from Cebu to Manila, addressed to Adolf Ruebe 'Cebu' Departure Duplex Cancel and 14 November 1901 Manila Receiving CDS

Christian Preusse Collection

### **US OCCUPATION**

### POSTAL CARD ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER & CO

#### **57 ESCOLTA**

#### MANILA

POSTALCARD - ONE CENT. 31 THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ON PO PHILIPPINES. ichter to Escat ula adolpho Richter to July 20 -maniela. Dear Lins: Please such me y thells loaded in the any Truly Camalig, all

22 July 1905 - Postal Card (Scott #UX1) from Camalig, Albay to Manila 'Camalig - Albay' Departure Duplex Cancel and 28 July 1905 Manila Transit CDS

### **US OCCUPATION**

#### POSTAL CARD ADDRESSED TO MONSIEUR RICHTER

73 ESCOLTA

#### MANILA

THE SPACE ABOVE IS RESERVED FOR STAN BELOW IS FOR THE ADDR PHILIPPINES nousieur Richter 73, Geolle Manille Maniele, ce Gendi 28 mars 1907. Insurieur, par un bleztomme morse de Santo. cruz Bimanche der. nier, je wus ai peus de menoyer nier, je wus ai peus de menoyer to o carton ches parle va peur fafadito. Le dit pagnet me m'agaul Tafadito. Le dit pagnet me m'agaul peus rejoint, je wus peue dele faire remettre chez moi 102 calle H. malate. Recers, ploussieur, me satulations distingues, Lalensuche

Dateline: 28 March 1907 – Manila Circulating Postal Card (Scott #UX7) 'Manila' 29 March 1907 Duplex Cancel

Ebay Listing (October 2021)

### **US OCCUPATION**

# PRE-STAMPED ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER & CO PO Box 778 MANILA



28 April 1909 - Pre-Stamped Envelope (Scott #U30) from Olongapo, Zambales to Manila
 'Olongapo - Zambales' Departure Duplex Cancel
 29 April 1909 'Manila' Receiving Circular Date Backstamp

### **US OCCUPATION**

# PRE-STAMPED ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER & CO

#### PO Box 778

MANILA



30 December 1909 - Pre-Stamped Envelope (Scott #U30) from Viga, Albay to Manila
 'Virac - Catanduanes' Departure Duplex Cancel
 8 January 1910 'Manila' Receiving Circular Date Backstamp

### **US OCCUPATION**

### PRE-STAMPED ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ADOLFO RICHTER

**E**SCOLTA

MANILA



2 December 1910 - Pre-Stamped Envelope (Scott #U30) from Dagupan, Pangasinan to Manila
 'Dagupan - Pangasinan' Departure Duplex Cancel
 2 December 1910 'Manila' Receiving Circular Date Backstamp