

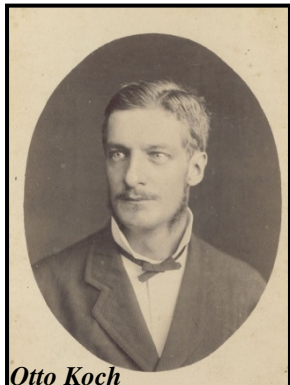
ALEXANDER SCHADENBERG



Alex Schadenberg (circa 1895)

Alexander (Alex) Schadenberg (1852-1896) was a collector, ethnographer, and natural history enthusiast. He was born in Breslau, Germany, on May 27, 1852, the son of a court dignitary. After graduating from school he was apprenticed for some time to a local pharmacist and later, with the practical knowledge he acquired, entered Breslau University where he studied chemistry, pharmacy, and botany. His great talent and appetite for all branches of natural sciences soon made him a favourite with his teachers, amongst whom were such eminent men as the botanist and palaeontologist Heinrich Goeppert. His record in chemistry was so outstanding that at the early age of 23, having achieved the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Schadenberg was appointed assistant director of the Potassium Salt Works at Stassfurt, where he worked until 1876.

In 1876, Schadenberg accepted a position as a chemist at Botica Boie, a wholesale drug firm of Pablo Sartorius in Manila. He remained with this firm for three years, at the same time indicating his interest in the exploration of the Islands. He carried out a number of excursions into the interior, visiting among others the Negritos of Bataan, Zambales, and Pampanga. A severe attack of a pernicious fever compelled him to return to Breslau in 1879. However, prior to his departure, he worked on



Otto Koch

a plan with Otto Koch on the exploration of southern Mindanao, specifically focussing on the country around Mount Apo. The expedition was delayed by Schadenberg's engagement in the spring of 1881. The interest, however, from all parties involved in the project and with high expectations that the expedition would yield valuable results for science, was sufficient to induce the young couple to agree to a temporary separation. Thus, in August 1881, supplied with all necessary instruments and with articles of exchange for dealing with the natives, Schadenberg set out again for the Philippines.

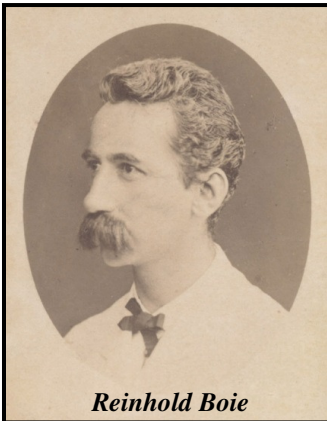


Paul 'Pablo' Sartorius

In Mindanao, the Spanish authorities, whilst ready to help in every possible way were sincerely concerned about the safety of the travellers as they explored the wilds of the country around Davao del Sur, a region which in parts remains unexplored even today. By December 1881 Schadenberg and Koch had established themselves at Bagobo village in Sibulan, south of Mount Apo, where, in exchange for some coils of brass wire, they had purchased the handsome bamboo cottage of one of the headmen. There they undertook ethnographic studies of the local tribe, documented vocabularies and assembled a comprehensive collection of anthropological and other natural history specimens. This vocabulary contains among other things the native names of nine plants; forty-two birds (the skins of which Schadenberg brought home); and numerous specimens of butterflies which they collected with the help of a young Bagobo tribesman specially trained by them for this work. From Sibulan as a base, they undertook a number of explorations into the surrounding country; most notably were two successful ascensions of Mount Apo on February 20 and March 16, 1882, and a trip to the mountain Parag, north of the volcano. The expedition to Mindanao ended with an exploration of the burial caves on the small island of Samal, which enriched Schadenberg's collections with a number of skulls, prehistoric dugout coffins, and many specimens of old Chinese pottery.

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When Schadenberg's expedition ended at the end of 1882, he returned to Germany to work with his collections for the next three years (1883-1885). Unwilling to bind himself to any institution or museum, he secured the financial support for such work by purchasing the Hofapotheke in Glogau, Silesia. It was mainly during this time that he entered into friendly relations with several European museums and was made corresponding member of various anthropological and ethnographical societies in Berlin, Vienna, Dresden, Leyden, and Paris. Official recognition of his scientific zeal was given by the bestowal of some Orders and Crosses. He supplemented his publications on the results of his trips with a number of lectures. At the Anthropological Congress, held under the presidency of Rudolf Virchow in Breslau in 1884, he spoke on the artificial deformation observed in ancient skulls he found in Samal. All this but served to maintain and increase his desire for further exploration in the Philippines.



Reinhold Boie

In November 1885, Schadenberg settled with his family in Vigan, Ilocos Sur. From there he planned for further exploration, in particular to research and detail the inhabitants of northern Luzon. His expeditions expanded to the provinces of Abra, Bontok, Lepanto, La Union, and parts of Nueva Vizcaya and Isabela. Meanwhile, Pablo Sartorius, due to ill health asked Reinhold Boie (who had already returned to Germany) to come back to run the business. In 1884, Boie in partnership with Otto Ziegert purchased Botica Boie from Sartorius for 52,000 pesos.

In 1890 Schadenberg paid a short visit to his native country, returning with his family to the Philippines in the spring of 1891. When Ziegert died while on a trip to Germany, Boie took in Schadenberg as a partner, changing the name of the company to Boie and Schadenberg. As a result, Schadenberg was obliged to reside in Manila and, on resuming his trips into the provinces whenever he could find the time, he

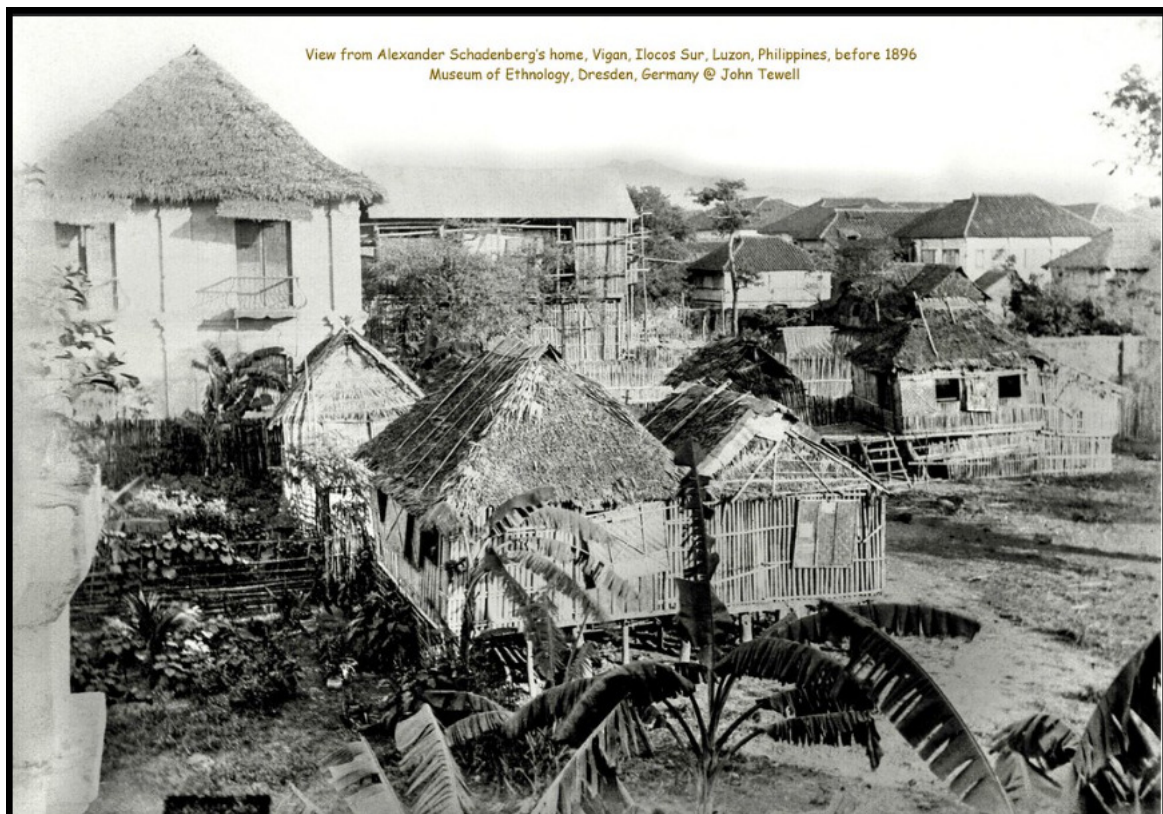


was warned against the danger to his health arising from his known propensity to fevers, especially those of the malarial type. Notwithstanding this, he soon developed an irresistible desire to find out more than was known at that time about the interior of Mindoro Island, in easy reach from Manila. An ascent of Mount Halcon (2,587 metres) and a study of the Mangyans were uppermost in his mind. He visited the island for the first time in 1894, and a second time the following year, bringing back valuable results from each trip. Despite Schadenberg suffering from malaria, he was planning a third trip to Mindoro which was to take him to the top of Mount Halcon in 1896. Sadly he passed away on January 15, 1896 in Capiz, Panay, at the early age of 43, before he could make the trip. After Schadenberg's death, his collections, including photographs documenting Philippine people in their natural and built environments, passed to several museums in Dresden, Vienna, Berlin, and Leyden.

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Home of Alexander Schadenberg, Vigan, Ilocos Sur (circa 1855)



View from Alexander Schadenberg's home, Vigan, Ilocos Sur (circa 1855)

ALEXANDER SCHADENBERG

OUTBOUND COVER TO GERMANY



1 January 1882 – Cover front from Manila to Breslau (Germany)

Reduced cover with two 2c on 200m Surcharge Era stamps affixed

Most likely two additional stamps missing to pay 8c Single Weight Rate to UPU Member Country

Stamps tied with Parrilla Cancels and

'Manila – ★' (1 January 1882) Departure Circular Date Stamp

It is assumed this was sent from Alexander Schadenberg in line with other covers from this period which shows correspondence using similar penmanship and address details.

First Day of Issue for the 2c on 200m Stamp (Scott #120)

ALEXANDER SCHADENBERG**HANDSTAMPED RETURN ADDRESS ON BACK OF COVER****RA1: ALEX SCHADENBERG**

Sibulan, 9 Maerz 82
Alex Schadenberg



March 1882 – Cover from Sibulan (Negros Oriental) to Breslau (Germany)
8c Single Weight Postal Rate with combined usage of the 6c and 2-4/8c Alfonso XII stamps
Carried by Steamship 'Pasig' (originally intended for Steamship 'Francisco Reyes')
Manuscript (pen) cancel applied at origin where no postal canceller was likely present
'Manila – *' (March 29, 1882) Receiving (and Departure) Circular Date Stamps
Breslau (May 3, 1882) Receiving Circular Backstamp
Most likely addressed to Alexander's wife and sent just before his second ascension
to Mount Apo on March 16, 1882



Return Address on Back of Cover

ALEXANDER SCHADENBERG**OUTBOUND PRINTED MATTER COVER TO GERMANY**

30 March 1889 – Part Printed Matter Cover front from Manila to Breslau (Germany)

Two 2-4/8c Surcharge Era stamps Paying Double Printed Matter Rate of 5c

'Correos - Manila' Departure Circular Date Stamp

Two Paquebot (9 April 1889) Cancellations

It is assumed this was sent from Alexander Schadenberg in line with other covers from this period which shows correspondence to the same address in Breslau.