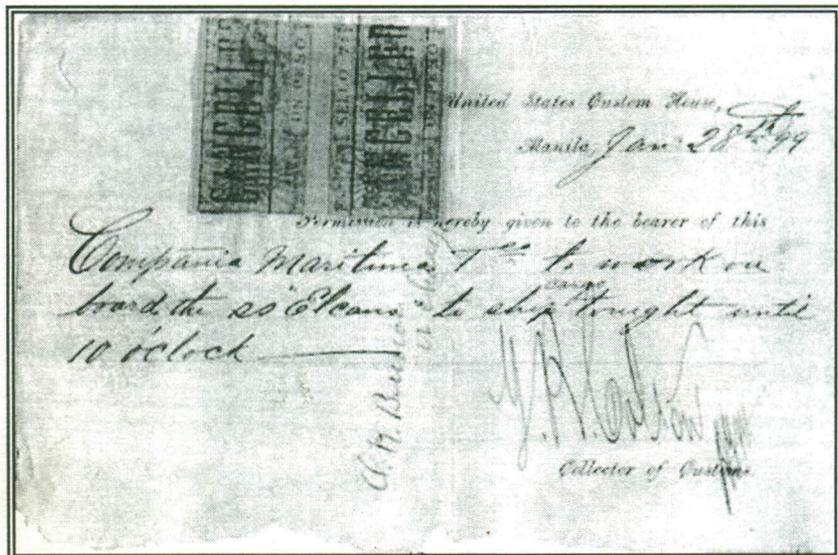




# PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Vol. XXVI No. 3



Third Quarter 2004

# PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Third Quarter 2004

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*Philippine Philatelic Journal*

# The Mystery of W-67

Douglas K. Lehmann

Bartels, Foster, and Palmer, in 1904, listed a Derechos de Firma (Signature Fee) stamp I-29. Warren repeated the listing as W-67 in 1967. The listing purports to be a 10 peso red stamp of 1884 similar in design to the known design found represented by the 20 centavos to 5 pesos values (W-62 to W-66). Warren never saw W-64 and found no law indicating its purpose. Since 1904, no specialized collector has found or seen this stamp.

This short article does not announce its discovery but its purpose. Warren does provide a hint for its purpose when he describes the 1896 issue of W-81, a 20-peso light greenish signature fee stamp. The 20-peso value was used for registration of Chinese residents or a Chinese Poll Tax. Warren states this value was *an increase* of the previous rate. I have come into

## Table of Contents

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>The Mystery of W-67</b>                                    |                |
| <b>Douglas K Lehmann.....</b>                                 | <b>Page 1</b>  |
| <b>State Payment Documentary Stamped Papers, 1879-86</b>      |                |
| <b>Douglas K Lehmann.....</b>                                 | <b>Page 5</b>  |
| <b>Registered Mail Receipts of the Spanish Philippines</b>    |                |
| <b>Don Peterson .....</b>                                     | <b>Page 11</b> |
| <b>Postal Card Forerunner—Part II</b>                         |                |
| <b>Douglas K Lehmann.....</b>                                 | <b>Page 17</b> |
| <b>Two New Reprints Discovered of the Spanish Philippines</b> |                |
| <b>1897 Surcharged Issue</b>                                  |                |
| <b>Don Peterson.....</b>                                      | <b>Page 19</b> |
| <b>1899-1903 Sellos on Document—Part II</b>                   |                |
| <b>Douglas K Lehmann .....</b>                                | <b>Page 21</b> |

possession of two Chinese registrations each with five 2-peso signature fee stamps of 1884 (W-65) totaling a fee of 10 pesos per certificate. They are dated 1894 and 1895. **Figure 1** shows the 1894 certificate that is printed in Spanish. The information given and requested is very basic and very verbose with legal laws and requirements. In this figure, the registrant was born in Laguna Province, is age 34, unmarried, a day laborer, and a resident of Manila.

I also have an 1896 Chinese Poll Tax certificate using the same form dated late 1895. However, this certificate has four 5-peso signature fee stamps (W-58) of 1880 totaling a fee of 20 pesos. **Figure 2** shows this certificate and this registrant was born in Korea, is age 37, and also unmarried, a day laborer, and a resident of Manila. This document shows a transition period of stamp usage for the new 20-peso rate. Clearly, some law doubled the rate from 10 to 20 pesos around 1895. Warren says the new law was late September 1894 and the printed form says January 19, 1894. Whatever date, the application of a 20-peso fee occurred in the 1895-1896 time frame.

So we have a purpose for a 10-peso signature fee stamp but no reference to when it was invoked as a Chinese Poll Tax. We also lack a surviving used certificate dating back to 1884 for a 10 year period of possible but unverified usage. What does that leave us with? We have (1) a good pedigree, (2) a need for the 10-peso usage, (3) no documented use for 10 years, and (4) no copy of the stamp for 100 years. I'm about ready to declare the 10-peso W-67 stamps as a nonentity. However, before I do, has anyone have an example, a photocopy, or seen it somewhere? Please email me at [dlehmann@erols.com](mailto:dlehmann@erols.com) with a scan of any possible leads.

Secretaría del Gobierno General de las Islas Filipinas

Sección de Orden Público.

Cédula de inscripción en el Registro Central de Chinos.

N.º del Registro central 12414

N.º del Registro parcial 8386



El chino Pera Ramonay, de 24 años de edad, natural de Quingui de estado soltero de profesión farmacéutico residente en la provincia de Manila, en cuyo registro parcial tiene el n.º 8386, queda inscripto con el n.º 12414, en el Registro Central de Chinos que lleva esta Secretaría, con sujeción á lo dispuesto en el art.º 5.º del Real Decreto, de 19 de Enero de 1894.

Y para que pueda hacerlo constar en donde le convenga, en cumplimiento de lo preceptuado en los artículos 3.º y 5.º, y á los efectos determinados en el 4.º, y en el 9.º del expresado Real Decreto, se le expide la presente cédula en Manila á 22 de Diciembre de mil ochocientos noventa y cuatro.

El Secretario del Gobierno General,

*J. D. Ochoa*

El Jefe de la Sección de Orden Público,

*Ramon Lujan*

Esta Cédula deberá ser presentada en el Gobierno Civil P. M. de la provincia donde el interesado fijó su residencia.

En y Comp. alib. M.

Figure 1

# Secretaría del Gobierno General de las Islas Filipinas

Sección de Orden Público.

Cédula de inscripción en el Registro Central de Chinos.

N.º del Registro central 29292.

N.º del Registro parcial \_\_\_\_\_

EL chino Sol Simong, de 37 años de edad, natural de Corea de estado soltero de profesión Journaler residente en la provincia de Chamla, en cuyo registro parcial tiene el n.º \_\_\_\_\_, queda inscripto con el n.º 29292, en el **Registro Central de Chinos** que lleva esta Secretaría, con sujeción á lo dispuesto en el art.º 5.º del Real Decreto, de 19 de Enero de 1894.

Y para que pueda hacerlo constar en donde le convenga, en cumplimiento de lo preceptuado en los artículos 3.º y 5.º, y á los efectos determinados en el 4.º, y en el 9.º del expresado Real Decreto, se le expide la presente cédula en Manila á veinte

de Noviembre de mil ochocientos noventa y cinco.

El Secretario del Gobierno General,

El Jefe de la Sección de Orden Público,

Esta Cédula deberá ser presentada en el Gobierno Civil ó P.º de la provincia donde el interesado ejerce su residencia.

Cl. y Comp. 5370-04

Figure 2

## State Payment Documentary Stamped Papers 1879-86

Douglas K. Lehmann

If you have been following this series of articles, this was to be Part III dealing with state papers used during the US Military Government. However, that installment will be delayed for one journal issue due to late breaking news. During the first two series, I received more collector feedback and additional information than during any other series that I have authored. This included acquiring the Robert H. Shellhamer Spanish era collection of stamped papers.

In Part I, the issues of 1886 to 1898, I alluded that the lettered series was a new test. Research shows that the lettered series began with the Reintegros (restitution's) issue of 1853-78 that preceded all of the Pagos Al Estado designs. Warren observed Series C and I have series B, D and E (one dated 1867). Next, we now have a definitive answer to the absence of any Series A documents on any of these three rate periods (1853-1898). I have a Series A document, 5 centavos, full uncut mint sheet, of the 1887-1898 design series. It is the same as that illustrated in Part I, except the stamp and top inscriptions differ. In both places, Filipinas is replaced with Puerto-Rico. I think it is safe to state that Series A was reserved for the Spanish Colony of Puerto Rico. In Part II, I reported that for the 1887-1898 designs, we now have observed 16 of the 20 possible examples. The listing now is 18 of 21 as shown in **Table I**. Added to the list was series H for the first design series. This example was one of about 20 Pagos Al Estado documents I obtained from the Shellhamer collection. I have not listed a series H for the second design series but it might exist too.

19/22 20/23

| PROBABLE ISSUE SEQUENCE                      |                         |                 |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Series Letters<br>(read left to right)       | Inscription<br>Location | 1898-99<br>Date |
| <b>A</b> B, C, CH*, D, E, F, G, H, I         | Top                     | No              |
| B, C, CH, D, E, F, G                         | Middle                  | No              |
| G, H, I, B*, C*, CH                          | Middle                  | Yes             |
| * Not observed but probably exists (3 total) |                         |                 |
| <b>Table I</b>                               |                         |                 |

Also in that collection were 7 documents belonging to the 1879-86 series that was never observed by Warren. They basically look the same as the 1887-1898 issues. There are three ways to tell them apart. First, certain values were unique to each series as shown in **Table II**. For values under 50 centimos, the values differ per issue. **Figures 1 and 2** show the 125 milésimas and 25 centimos values respectively of the 1879-1886 issue. Some of my 1879-1886 examples show under inking and color blotches within the stamps. Some documents also have the stamp partially printed onto the border. The printing did improve with time with the Pagos Al Estado stamps; however, the poorer printing of the earlier issues is not always a sure method of identification. The second method of identification to tell the two issues apart refers to the four peso values common to both issues that ranges from 1 to 50 pesos. The value within the bottom tablet is displayed differently for each series. For the older 1879 issue, the value uses the left and right portion of the tablet with an open space between the number and the word peso. For the newer 1886 issue, there is a button ornament at the left and right of the value designation with a closed space between the elements. The ornament is usually a circle surrounding a dot but sometimes it is a beaded circle (illustrated). **Figure 3** compares the one-peso stamps of each issue showing this difference (1886 left, 1879 right). As can be seen in this figure, the ornaments

cause the values to be a smaller size with the 1886 issue. The 50 centimos values of each issue look the same and the only positive way to determine which one is which is by a dated document (third method). However, this small set of examples indicates that the 1879, 50 centimos value has intense dark brown borders somewhat over inked. So far, this color border has not been reported for the 1886 issue. At the same time, only this one 1879 example, series D, 50 centimos value has been observed.



| State Payment Issues   |                |             |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Value  | 1879(?) - 1886 | 1887 - 1898 |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ c 6c (5m)  | ✓ X            |             |
| 125m   | X              |             |
| 2.5c   |                | ✓ ◆         |
| 5c   |                | X           |
| 10c  |                | X           |
| 15c  |                | X           |
| 20c  |                | X           |
| 25c  | X              |             |
| 50c*   | X*             | X*          |
| P1   | X              | X           |
| P5   | X              | X           |
| P25  | ✓              | X           |
| P50  | ✓              | X           |
| P250   | ✓              |             |
| P500   | ✓              |             |
| Total  | 10             | 10          |
| Key: X = Observed<br>✓ = Authorized not observed<br>◆ = Assumed not printed<br>* Same stamp design, 1879 issue has dark brown borders. |                |             |
| <b>Table II</b>  |                |             |

Since these are the first and only reported examples of the 1879-1886 issues, **Table III** presents all known examples. The earliest date is 1883. Warren believed that the issue might not have been available for use until 1880. The Shellhamer collection had 7 examples. Once I knew the hint on identifying peso values, I found an 8<sup>th</sup> example on a 3½ by 7-inch piece in my collection. This piece was used but the date is missing. The different colors of the one-peso stamp on the same lettered series with different color borders indicate that some values were printed more than once. There are five known letters from B to F and higher letters may exist. **Figure 4** shows the one document that was re-valued.

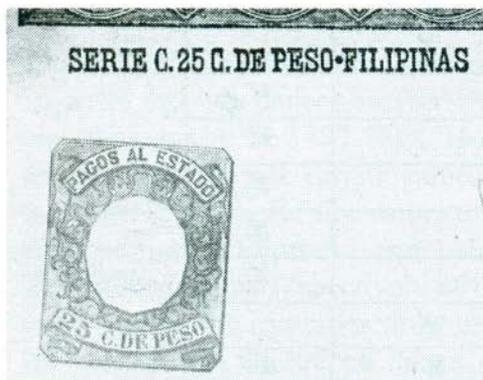


Figure 1



Figure 2



SERIE E. UN



Figure 3

| 1879-1886 Pagos Al Estado Known Examples |        |          |            |             |
|--|--------|----------|------------|-------------|
| Value                                    | Series | Position | Borders    | Date        |
| 125m Rose                                | B      | Bottom   | Dark Blue  | 27 Jan 1888 |
| 25c Green                                | C      | Bottom   | Dark Blue  | 11 May 1887 |
| 50c Rose                                 | D      | Bottom   | Dark Brown | 17 Nov 1886 |
| P1 Pink                                  | E      | Bottom   | Dark Brown | 8 Nov 1884  |
| P1 Green                                 | E      | Bottom   | Dark Blue  | 7 Jun 1886  |
| P1 Green                                 | E      | Piece    | Dark Blue  | None        |
| P5 Lt Brown                              | F      | Bottom   | Dark Brown | 3 Apr 1883  |
| Re-valued P5 on 25c Green                | C      | Bottom   | Dark Blue  | 29 Sep 1886 |
| 2/4c (Sm)                                | A      | TOP      | GREEN      | 11 Sep 1890 |

Table III

SERIE C. 25 C. DE PESO • FILIPINAS  
HABILITADO PARA 5 PESOS



*Este  
siguen de  
para exhibir*

Figure 4

Readers are urged to contact me at [dlehmann@erols.com](mailto:dlehmann@erols.com) if you own additional examples of this issue.

## Great News!

We finally have an index of previous IPPS publications and articles!

Thanks to an outstanding effort by Don Peterson, with Bill Oliver's able assistance, we will have an easy to use reference for the information that has been published over the years. IPPS Journal, the last issue of this year, will contain the entire listing and should be in member's hands by the end of the year.

Many thanks to both Don and Bill for their yeoman's efforts.

## REGISTERED MAIL RECEIPTS OF THE SPANISH PHILIPPINES

By Don Peterson

During the Spanish period, the sender of a registered (“certificado”) letter received a receipt for the letter from the post office when it was mailed. These receipts are quite rare and only a handful have survived.

### Background on Registered Mail

The first mention of registered mail in the Philippines is found in a Circular signed by Captain-General Antonio de Urbiztondo in Manila, dated December 7, 1853 (Hanciau, 1905). The Circular, and the Instruction that accompanied it, became effective on February 1, 1854, with the issuance of the first postage stamps. Although the 1853 Circular and Instruction only applied to interior mail, a General Post Office Department circular from Madrid, dated June 26, 1855, stated that the registration of mail was also applicable to mail from the Philippines to Spain. Ambiguity resulted regarding whether registration applied to mail to other overseas destinations, and at what rate. In practice, the registration procedures evolved to apply to all overseas mail, beginning in the 1860s. However, this was officially implemented in 1877 with the joining of the Philippines to the General Postal Union (later renamed the Universal Postal Union) – in which the standardized UPU procedures for overseas mail, including registration, became effective in the Philippines on September 1, 1879.

Based on information in Peterson and Lewis (2000), the earliest known registered cover was a Manila local, dated March 12, 1855, as evidenced by the addition of the 2-reales registration fee. The only evidence of registration prior to the

1860s was by inference, when the cover showed sufficient postage to cover the 2-reales registration fee. Beginning in 1862, the Manila Post Office began the practice of numbering registered covers. By the late 1860s, the first examples of envelopes with signatures on the back (and occasionally on the front) appeared, indicating that the cover was registered and that it was returned to the sender, as proof of delivery.

### Registered Letter Receipts

The 1853 Circular and Instruction provide little information regarding the registration process, and make no mention of a registered receipt. However, from various historical accounts and by the inspection of registered mail and receipts, I have made several conclusions regarding the procedures and practices for registered mail:

1. Registered mail was not to be placed in a mail box as the case of ordinary mail, but instead, it was required to be delivered to the post office where it was "registered," and a receipt was provided to the sender.
2. The receiver (addressee) of the registered letter signed the back of the envelope (or occasionally the front) to prove receipt of the letter and returned the envelope (but not the enclosed letter) to the receiving post office.
3. The receiving post office returned the signed envelope to the post office of origin.

Although, in Spain, registered mail receipts are referred to as Acknowledgement of Receipt, I have never heard this terminology used in Spanish Philippine philately. For all practical purposes, the Spanish Philippines' registered mail receipt essentially serves the same purpose as Spain's Acknowledgement of Receipt.

For reasons now obscured by time, I am not aware of any registered covers (envelopes) returned to the originating post office, and then to the sender, until the 1860s. The earliest known use of a registered mail receipt in the Philippines is from 1880 (Antonio Cuesta, pers. com).

The registered mail receipts provide valuable insight into how the registration process worked. With the help of Antonio Cuesta, we have recorded only five known receipts. Likewise, there are at least five different receipt types, and possibly six. The five types are in two forms: pre-printed with the word PENINSULA, meaning to Spain; or pre-printed with the word EXTRANJERO, meaning to other overseas countries (other than to Spain). A third form is suspected for interior registered mail, with perhaps the word INSULAR as a header. However, none have been seen. Refer to **TABLE 1** for a description of the registered mail receipt types.

**TABLE 1**  
**Types of Spanish Philippine Registered Mail Receipts**

| Type | Description<br>(Headings on Receipt)   |
|------|--|
| 1    | PENINSULA and CORREOS DE FILIPINAS   |
| 2    | PENINSULA and ADMON. GENERAL DE CORREOS DE FILIPINAS   |
| 3    | PENINSULA and COMUNICACIONES   |
| 4    | PENINSULA and COMUNICACIONES DE FILIPINAS  |
| 5    | EXTRANJERO and CORREOS DE FILIPINAS  |
| 6    | Although not seen, I suspect that there may be an interior registered mail receipt, with perhaps the word INSULAR as a header. |

**FIGURE 1** is a registered mail receipt, dated February 18, 1888 (Don Peterson collection). The pre-printed form (Type 1) contains the word CORREOS on the left side, PENINSULA (meaning to Spain) on the top, CORREOS DE FILIPINAS, the Certificado Number, from sender (Ha entregado), to addressee (uno dirigido a), printed text, date of the receipt, and signature of the post master (El Encargado). In this example, the registered cover was sent from Manila to Santander, Spain.

The left side of the receipts show either the word CORREOS or COMUNICACIONES. Like a check book stub, it was separated from a receipt that remained with the post office (Antonio Cuesta, pers. com.). However, no post office receipts have ever been found.

The pre-printed text on the receipt (**FIGURE 1**) helps explain the registration process. It states (with clarifying words provided in brackets) that:

*The sender can exchange this receipt for the original envelope, without cost, when it [the signed envelope] is returned [to the post office of origin in the Philippines], which will be held [for the sender to pick up at the originating post office] no longer than two years [from the date of receipt].*

What is not said here or anywhere as far as I know is that the receiver (addressee) would be notified by the receiving post office that a registered letter has arrived for the addressee. To obtain the letter, the receiver must sign the envelope and leave it with the receiving post office. The receiving post office then sends the envelope back to the originating post office. From here on, the story gets a little speculative, since I have not seen any official procedures explaining how the envelope was sent back to the Philippines. Was the letter-less envelope sent like a return-to-sender letter, or was it enclosed (mailed) in another envelope to the originating post office?

(Mod. n.º 28.)

PENINSULA.

CORREOS DE FILIPINAS.

Certificado Núm. 8183

HA entregado D. *José Velarde*  
uno dirigido á D. *Pilar Valle*  
residente en *Santona Santander*  
y se le dá este resguardo para que pueda canjearlo por el sobre original cuando sea  
solicitado, quedando sin valor este documento á los dos años de su data.

*Manila 18 de Febr* de 188 *8*

El Encargado



C. 1886. 3. Comp. P. 1702.

Figure 1

Perhaps these details were specified in separate postal arrangements or treaties between the Philippines and Spain with other countries, which existed prior to 1877. However, at this point, I do not know.

The pre-printed text on the registered mail receipt clarifies the role of the originating post office by confirming that it provides a receipt to the sender, provides evidence to the sender that the letter was received, and maintains the envelope for at least two years for the sender to retrieve, at no cost.

A great expectation of mine is to match the registered mail receipt with the actual registered cover. I'm not holding my breath.

I especially wish to thank Antonio Cuesta (Barcelona, Spain) for his valuable assistance in clarifying the registered mail receipt process and reporting three new receipt types.

#### References

Hanciau, L. "The Postal Issues of the Spanish Colony of the Philippines." *STANLEY GIBBONS MONTHLY JOURNAL*. March 31, 1905. London, England.

Peterson, Don and Geoffrey Lewis. *POSTAL HISTORY OF THE SPANISH PHILIPPINES, 1565-1898*." 2000. Washington, D.C.

## Postal Card Forerunners-Part II

By Douglas K. Lehmann

In our last issue (Fourth Quarter 2003), I stated "There are only *three* known US postal card forerunners..." Researcher Thomas Henry Huxley (1825-1895) observed about such a statement that is was "a beautiful theory, killed by a nasty, ugly little fact"

That new fact is the existence of UX13 making *four* known forerunners (the other three are UX6, UX12, and UX14).

The newly discovered UX13 belongs to our editor Bob Yacano who found the card after reading my submitted article and sorting through his military cancel collection. His forerunner is at **Figure 1** and was sent to New Jersey on November 8, 1898. The providence of this card cannot be determined with 100 percent accuracy but there is strong circumstantial evidence the recipient was either the sender or the original owner. The reverse of this card has no messages but only a signature written in a language not recognized by this author. Plus, the signature and address portion is written in different handwriting and ink. This leads to the theory that Dr. Sickenburger either sent it home to his US address or he gave or sent the card to a friend in the Philippines to post back to himself.

The same quoted Huxley also warned that "Irrationally held truths may be more harmful than reasoned errors." And, to my defense, I did state in part I that UX13 and UY2r *may* exist Can anyone now report UY2r?

Member Geoffrey Brewster also sent in a revised Earliest <sup>REPORTED</sup> Known Postmark (ERP) for UX12. Table I shows the ERP data I have been able to capture. I hope that this information can benefit postal historians. I also truly believe some of these dates can be moved earlier, so please let us know if you a new ERP.

^  
HAVE

| Scott # | Date             | Collector/Reference              |
|---------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| UX6     | February 6, 1899 | Apfelbaum Auction<br>#573 (1987) |
| UX12    | August 20, 1898  | Geoffrey Brewster                |
| UX13    | November 8, 1898 | Robert F. Yacano                 |
| UX14    | April 30, 1899   | Douglas K. Lehmann               |

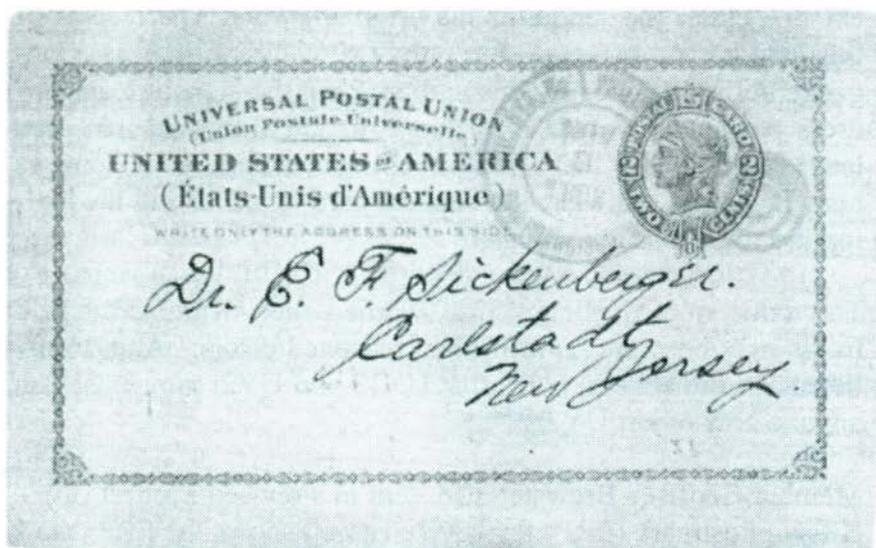


Figure 1

## TWO NEW REPRINTS DISCOVERED OF THE THE SPANISH PHILIPPINES 1897 SURCHARGED ISSUE

by Don Peterson

It is always a surprise to discover new stamps, especially when they are over 100 years old. The Scott Catalogue describes six reprints of the 1897 surcharged issues in a footnote following that section. A more detailed description of these reprints was presented in an article in the *Philippine Philatelic News*, Vol. XI, No.2, Second Quarter 1989. Refer to that article for more details. Then, several years ago, I discovered an unlisted reprint in a small collection; and recently, I obtained another unlisted reprint from Bob Yacano. I have found no other record or reference about these new reprints. After careful inspection, I believe the new reprints are genuine in all respects. Both occur mint.

The first new reprint is a 5c dark violet surcharge on a 2 4/8c olive gray (#150) stamp. This is the only known record of any reprint on the 2 4/8c olive gray issue. The second new reprint is a 5c very dark violet (almost black) surcharge on a 25c



5 c dark violet on  
2 4/8c olive gray



5c very dark violet  
on 25c brown

The table below is an up-dated description of all of the reprints of the 1897 surcharged issues, including the two newly discovered stamps.

| <b>Description</b>                                    | <b>Scott #<br/>Of<br/>Host<br/>Stamp</b> | <b>Relative<br/>Scarcity</b> | <b>Remarks</b>  |
|---|--|------------------------------|---|
| 1. 5c dark violet on<br>5c blue-green                 | 156                                      | Scarce                       |   |
| 2. 15c black on<br>15c red-brown                      | 169                                      | Scarce                       |   |
| 3. 15c violet-black on<br>15c rose                    | 170                                      | Scarce                       | Distinguished from<br>Scott #'s 188 & 191<br>by having the upper<br>2/3s of surcharge vio-<br>let and lower 1/3<br>black. |
| 4. 20c violet on<br>20c gray-brown                    | 174                                      | Very Scarce                  |   |
| 5. 20c. Violet-black on<br>20c dark violet            | 175                                      | Rare                         | No copies have been<br>seen by this author.   |
| 6. 20c dark violet or<br>violet-black on<br>25c brown | 177                                      | Scarce                       |   |
| 7. 5c dark violet on<br>2 4/8c olive gray<br>(new)    | 150                                      | Rare                         | Only one known ex-<br>ample.  |
| 8. 5c very dark violet on<br>25c brown (new)          | 177                                      | rare                         | Only one known ex-<br>ample. The surcharge<br>color is almost black.  |

## 1899-1903 Sellos on Document -Part II

by Douglas K. Lehmann

In the Fourth Quarter 2003 issue of this journal, I mentioned that collectors had not reported the 1899 imperforate Sello issue of stamps on document. Donn Lueck now reports such a document. **Figure 1** pictures this document that has an imperforate pair of the 1 peso, W-366 issue of 1899 attached and dated January 28, 1899. The 2-peso fee pays the customs fee for a miscellaneous certificate (usable for only one day). This is a hefty fee in 1899 as it would be over \$20 today. I assume the owner of the goods being unloaded paid both the fee and the wages of the laborer. This document is also interesting in two other ways. First, this issue came out in January and therefore is a very early use. Second, use on Sellos on Custom documents was known from May 1899 to February 1902. We can now move that date back to January 1899.

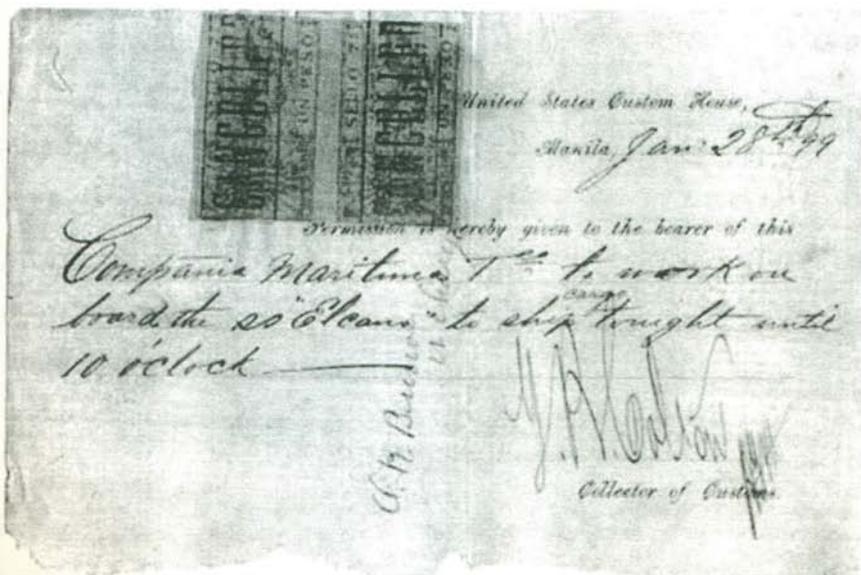


Figure 1

# International Philippine Philatelic Society

*(A non-profit, non-stock, educational organization incorporated in the  
City of Manila, Philippines, on September 24, 1974 as per  
SEC Registration #58004.)*



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Address Correction  
Requested