

Mexico – The Provisional Period of 1867–68

This exhibit will show the various issues, marks and usages during the challenging period following the fall of the Maximilian Government in 1867. There was no National stamp issue during this time, Mexico's postal authority was in disarray. As a result, the various District post offices improvised. To keep the mail service going hand stamp frankings, Postmaster Provisionals, or the use of old remainder stamps were employed. The various stamps and stampless covers used during this interim period were critical to maintaining the posts and restoring the economy. This is the **Provisional Period of 1867-68**.



1868 VICTORIA DE SATEVO (SMALL TOWN IN CHIHUAHUA)

Scope: All the types of Provisional Stamps, Hidalgo remainders, and stampless covers known as Sellos Negro are shown. The most important issue, the Gothic Issue is given the most coverage. Rates, usages such as Registered, Maritime, Military mail, Extraordinario, Stage Coach, and Forwarded are shown.

Exhibitor's Bibliography:

Guadalajara Provisional Sellos Negro, MEXICANA, Vol. 55 No. 1. Jan. 2006, p.9.
The Bundled Rope Cancels of Guadalajara, MEXICANA, Vol.56 No.3. July 2007, p.134.
Notes on the Gothic Issues Issue of 1867-68, MEXICANA, Vol.58 No.2. April 2009, p67.
Notes on the Gothic Issues Issue of 1867-68 Part 2, MEXICANA, Vol.59 No.3. July 2010, p139.
The Cuautla Provisional of Mexico, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol 98 No 1, Jan/Feb 2019 pp16-24.
Reprints Counterfeits and Forgeries of Mexico's First Design – Stamps of the 1856, 1861 and 1867 Issues. Self published 2024, pp 315.

- Frames 1-3** **Sello Negro:** Stampless Covers: Arranged by Heath Types I-VI with subtypes, variants, Official mail, Army, Mixed use, Special delivery, Extraordinario, Registered & Maritime.
- Frame 4** **Postmaster Provisionals:** Cuautla, Cuernavaca, Chiapas, Guadalajara: 1st Printing, ½ r, 1r, 2r, 4r, Bisects, C. Guzman op; 2nd Printing, 2r, serrates;
- Frame 5** **Guadalajara Provisionals;** continued; 2r, 4r papers, 3rd printing, colors, serrates; 4th printing, serrates, papers, suboffices.
- Frame 6** **Hidalgo Provisionals:** Guadalajara, Jalapa-Perote, Cordova, Orizava, Puebla, includes Registered front from Jalapa. Start **Mexico City Gothics**. Thick Paper, Cuautla Diligencias (stagecoach)
- Frame 7-8** **Mexico City Gothic Issue:** continued; 1r & 2r ECU, 2r plate varieties, 4r, printed on both sides, forwarded, 4r varieties, registered, maritime, 8r varieties, ½ r, Rates; Thin Paper stamps: ½ r, 1r, stagecoach, 2r varieties, ECU, printed on both sides, 4r varieties, Maritime, rates.

Last page: **End of the Provisional Period** – Examples of the new National 1868 Issue including Registered cover.

The Sello Negro or “Black Stamp” Stampless Provisionals were first typed by John Heath in 2003 (*Mexicana* #205) . Further Subtypes are described by the exhibitor herein. Markings are identified by Schatzkes (*The Cancellations of Mexico 1856-1874*) numbering system – Sch.

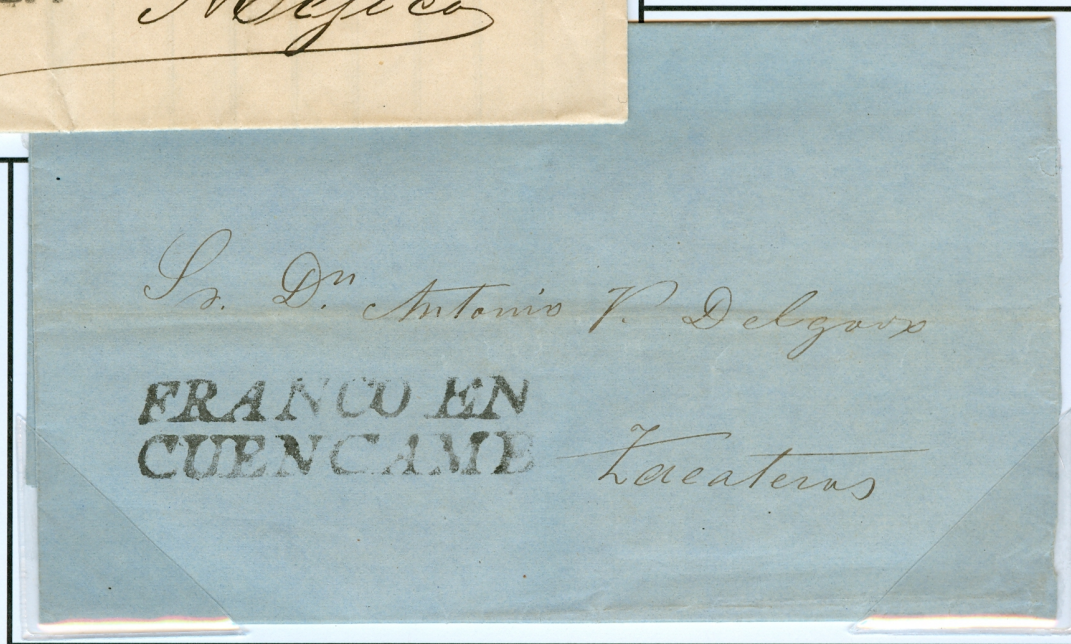
The Heath Type I cancel is characterized by having the word Franco, Franca, or Franqueada combined with the town name. Sometimes a rate marking is found in handstamp or manuscript form. The subtypes are Strait Line, Rectangular, Circular, and Oval.

CHIHUAHUA DISTRICT — PILAR DE CONCHOS SUB-OFFICE



April 2. 1868 to Mexico
Bellavista to Mexico
Sent from the nearest PO at
Conchos, Chihuahua Sch. 164A

Cuencame to Zacatecas
July 16, 1867 Sch. 249
Previously unrecorded



DURANGO DISTRICT — CUENCAME SUB-OFFICE

Historical Background – During the French Intervention not all areas of Mexico were occupied. Those areas not under French control resorted to the use of Sello Negro franking if no Republican stamps were available. As the French withdrew, this practice became more widespread eventually being used in all Districts although covers from all Districts have not been discovered yet.

TEPEJI DEL RIO

Tepeji Del Rio was a very small sub-office of Mexico with few uses known.



Tepeji Del Rio to Mexico - August 8, 1868

CHIHUAHUA DISTRICT — GUADALUPE Y CALVO SUB-OFFICE



Guad y Calvo to Parral - January 12, 1867

APAM



Apam to Mexico — January 26, 1868

RECTANGULAR STYLE

VERA CRUZ DISTRICT — TLACOTALPAM SUB-OFFICE



Tlacotalpam to Puebla — November 25, 1867

DURANGO DISTRICT - GUANACEVI SUB-OFFICE



Guanacevi to Durango
May 14, 1868 Sch. 258

ZACATECAS DISTRICT -
TLALTENANGO SUB-OFFICE

Tlaltenango to Zacatecas
June 13, 1867 Sch. 1920
Previously unrecorded use.



GUANAJUATO DISTRICT - PENJAMO SUB-OFFICE

Penjamo to Morelia dated January 14, 1868 — Schatzkes 514 hs "2" Rev.
Previously unknown during this period and unlisted by Banchik & Heath

ZACATECAS DISTRICT — OJOCALIENTE SUB-OFFICE



Ojocaliente to Zacatecas - November 2, 1867

OAXACA DISTRICT — TLAXIACO SUB-OFFICE



Tlaxiaco to OaxacaChihuahua Dec. 6, 1867 "2" rate on reverse

GUANAJUATO DISTRICT - YRAPUATO SUB-OFFICE

Yrapuato to Guanajuato
February 3, 1868 Sch. 1759



VERA CRUZ DISTRICT
ALVARADO SUB-OFFICE
Alvarado to Tlacotalpam
October 21, 1867 Sch. 1766, A
Unlisted by Banchik or Heath



GUADALAJARA DISTRICT - COLOTLAN SUB-OFFICE

Colotlan to Zacatecas dated September 6, 1867
Schatzkes 334 Cancel in brown ink - Unrecorded

CHALCO — CUAUTLA MORELOS SUB-OFFICE

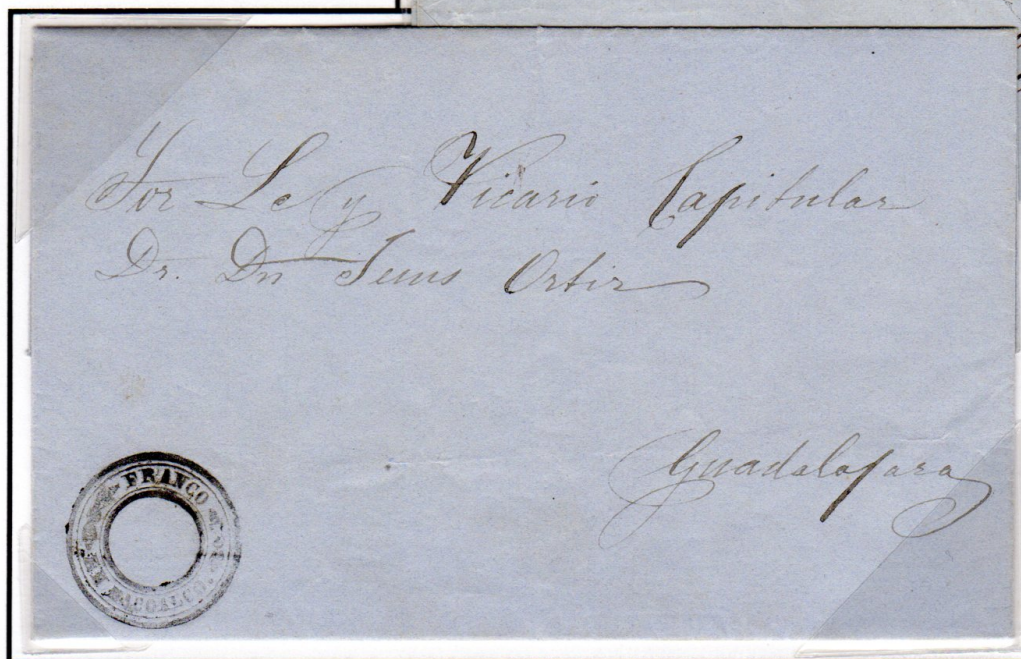
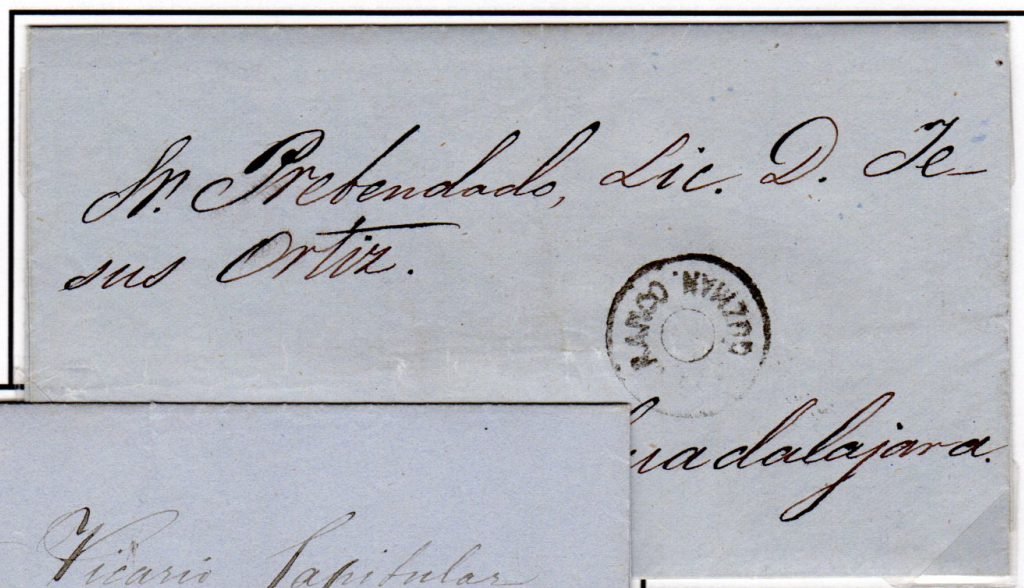
Sello Negro markings indicate postage paid, "Franco" = franked. Occasionally an MS or HS rate mark can be found on reverse in Reales form, this cover very unusual having a rate mark on front in decimal form — 38 centavos equal to 3 Reales rate.



Cuautla to Mexico Aug. 1, 1867 Sch. 94, 97A

GDA-CIUDAD GUZMAN

Originated in Tamazula
Feb. 4. 1868 Sch. 334
See GDA Provisional stamps
for more examples of this
cancel.



GDA-ZACOALCO SUB

Originated in Teocuitatlan
Feb. 2, 1868 Sch. 366
This cancel also found on GDA
Provisional stamps, see that sectic

MAZATLAN — SUB OFFICES

ESCUINAPA

Escuinapa to Mazatlan
July 11, 1868
UNIQUE



CULIACAN

Culiacan to Mazatlan
September 26, 1868



COPALA

Copala to Mazatlan
September 22, 1867

CHIAPAS — SAN CRISTOBAL SUB-OFFICE



San Cristobal to Tuxtla - August 3, 1868

Guanajuato District
SILAO SUB-OFFICE
 January 8, 1868
 hs "1" on reverse



Vera Cruz District
AMATLAN SUB-OFFICE
 Amatlan to Tlacotalpam
 January 8, 1868

TAMPICO



TAMPICO to San Luis Potasi
July 1, 1867 Sch. 1580

PUEBLA - TECAMACHALCO



TECAMACHALCO to Puebla July 7, 1868 Sch. 1229

ACAPULCO DISTRICT



Acapulco to Mazatlan dated July 1868 – Schatzkes 4
Previously unrecorded use by Heath, Banchik or Schatzkes.

ORIZAVA DISTRICT

Orizava to Mexico
July 5, 1867 Sch. 1092



PUEBLA DISTRICT —
ACATZINGO SUB-OFFICE

Acatzingo to Puebla
September 8, 1867 Sch. 1170
Previously unrecorded

GUADALAJARA DISTRICT



SAN BLAS TO TEPIC Dated December 1, 1867
Sch. 424 Unrecorded variety with ms rate mark



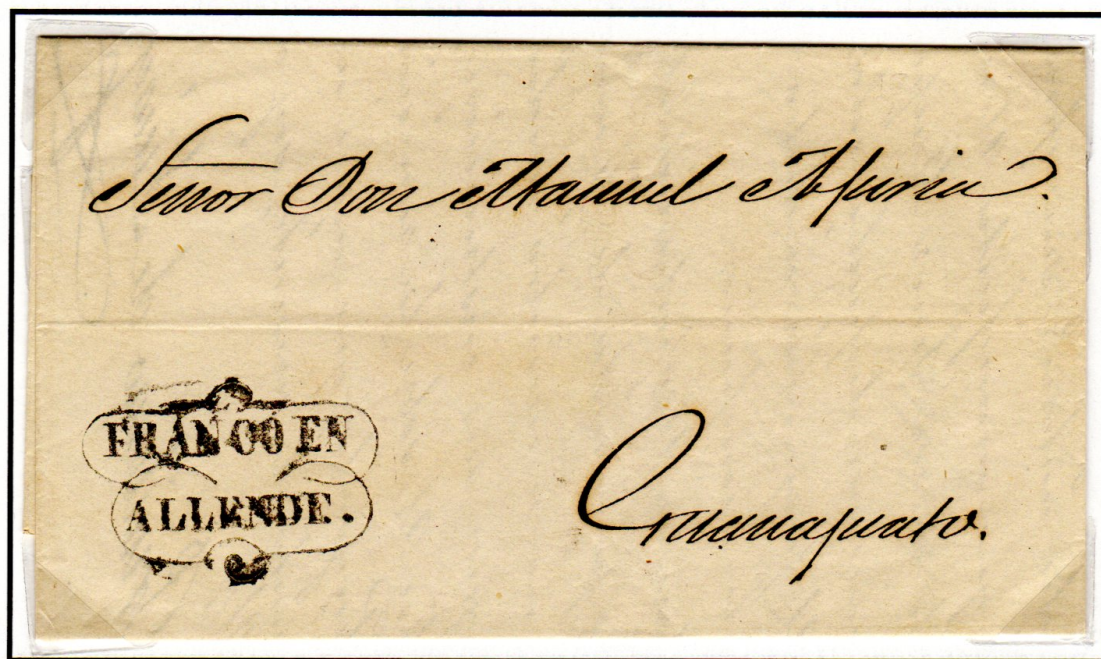
MAZIMITLA to Mexico February 5, 1868
Sch. 448 Previously unrecorded

JALAPA DISTRICT — TESIUTLAN SUBOFFICE



Tesiutlan to Puebla dated June 2, 1867

QUERETARO DISTRICT — SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE



Allende to Guanajuato dated 13 August 1868 hs "1" on reverse

The Heath Type II marking is characterized by having no date and having a Franco, Franca, or Franqueada added separately.

YGUALA DISTRICT



Yguala to Bravos - January 4, 1868 – Schatzkes 1845,1845A •
hs "2" reverse, not listed by Heath or Banchik.(unique)

LAGOS DISTRICT – ENCARCION SUB-OFFICE



Encarcion to Durango April 29, 1868 – Schatzkes 670,670A
hs "2" reverse, previously unrecorded.

ZACATECAS DISTRICT — CARRO SUB-OFFICE

Carro to Zacatecas
March 20, 1868
Sch. 1859, 1860
Blue Ink



Carro to Zacatecas
Jan 15, 1867
Sch. 1859, 1860
Black Ink — Most are Blue

VICTORIA DISTRICT —
TULA DE TAMAULIPAS
Tula to San Luis Potasi
Sept. 30, 1867
Sch. 1839, 1839A



The Heath Type III cancel is characterized by having a date added to the cancel. My subtypes are Rectangular and Square. In addition Type III will often have an additional "Franco" to indicate postage paid.

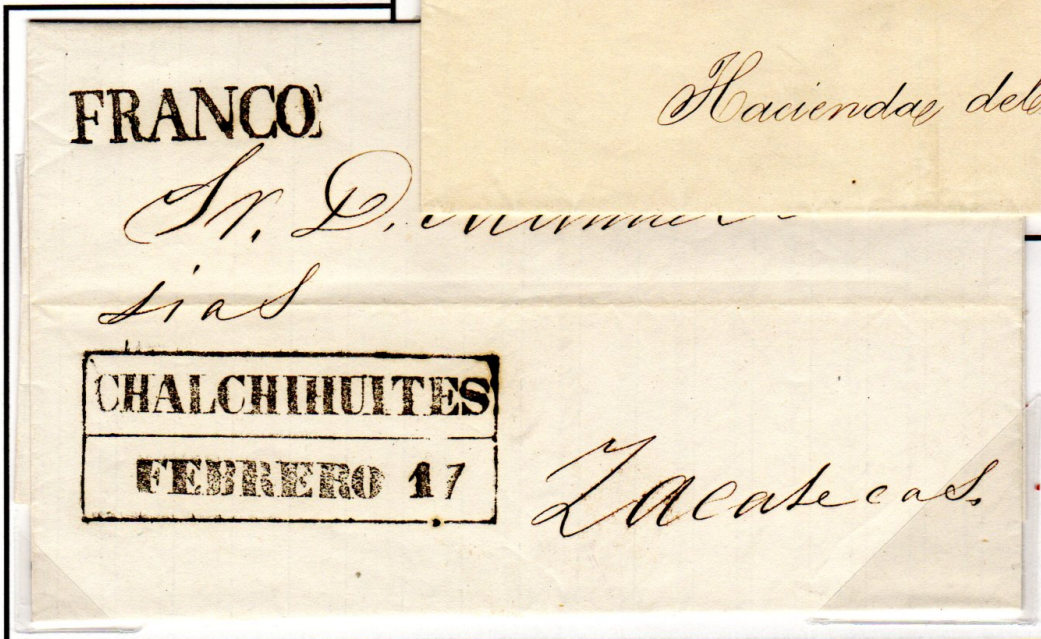


**SLP - SALINAS
DEL PENON BLANCO**

Sent to Carro
March 5, 1868 Sch. 1531
No Franco

SLP - JARAL

Jaral to Hacienda del Carro
Sept. 6, 1868 Sch. 1496, 1497
With "FRANCO"



**ZACATECAS -
CHALCHIHUITES**

To Zacatecas
Sch. 1862, 1862C
With "FRANCO"

MAZATLAN DISTRICT



Mazatlan to Durango April 2, 1867 Sch. 739, 740

AGUASCALIENTES



Aguascalientes to Guanajuato November 13, 1867 Sch. 11, 11A

SALTILLO — VIEZCA SUBOFFICE



Viezca to Monterrey dated June 20, 1867 Sch. 1432, 1432A

QUERETARO - SAN JUAN DEL RIO - SUBOFFICE



Cachet of Chief General
of 3rd Division sent to
General Geronimo Trevino
who later became key political
figure in Diaz Administration

San Juan Del Rio to Monterrey dated July 28, 1868

TYPE III WITH ADDED ADMON GRAL

Mexico City was the last area held by the Conservatives/Imperialists. Maximilian was executed on June 19, 1867 and Mexico City was captured by Porfirio Diaz on June 21, 1867. The Gothic stamps were made available almost immediately so from that date on the use of Sello Negro in Mexico City was very rare.

MEXICO CITY – JUNE 27, 1867



Mexico to Oajaca used after the Gothic stamps were released. Schatzkes 821 + 817
 Letter dated June 29, 1867 - Mexico City CDS dated June 27, 1867.
 See Gothic section for Gothic stamped cover dated June 25, 1867.

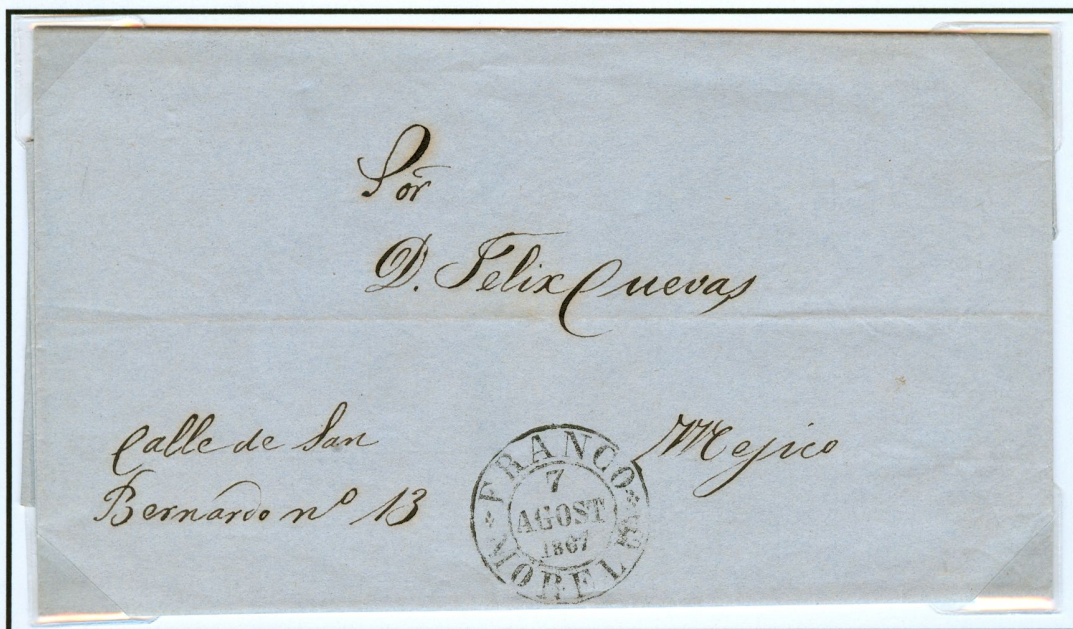
The Administration Building was the central location where stamps were distributed to all the District Post Offices, and where accounting was done. It was separate from the main Mexico City PO. Occasionally letters were posted at this office, perhaps due to after hours postings, or by special favor for important people. Such frankings are very scarce and are identified by "Admon Gral" markings. This cover also shows the curious habit that postmasters did not always change the dates of cancellers daily. The CDS on this cover is June 27th, however the letter is dated June 29th, 2 days after the postmark.

MAZATLAN DISTRICT



Mazatlan to Durango December 28, 1867 – Schatzkes 746

MORELIA DISTRICT



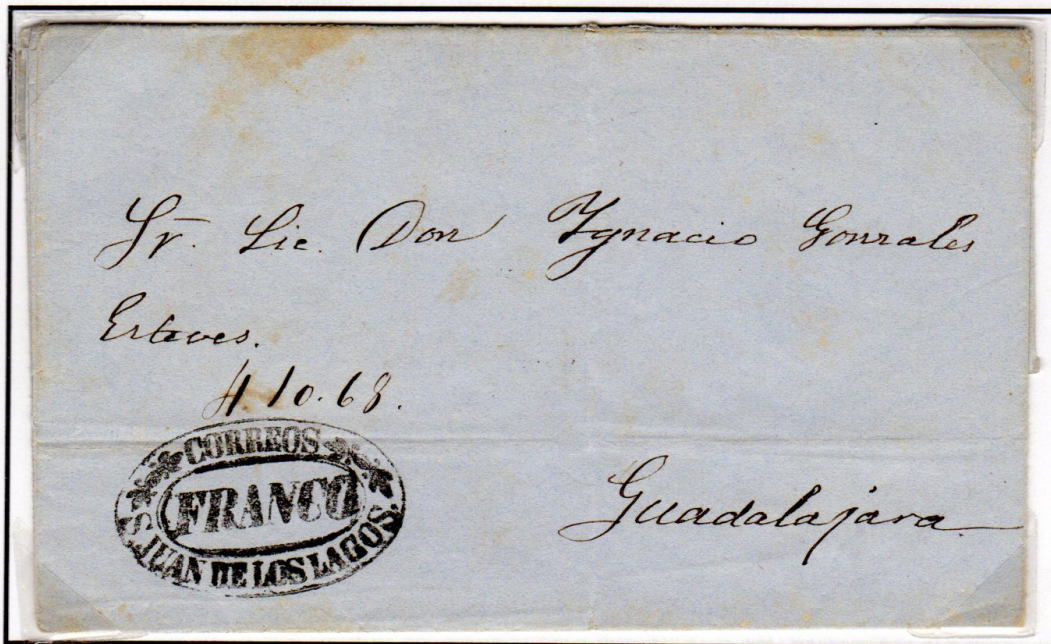
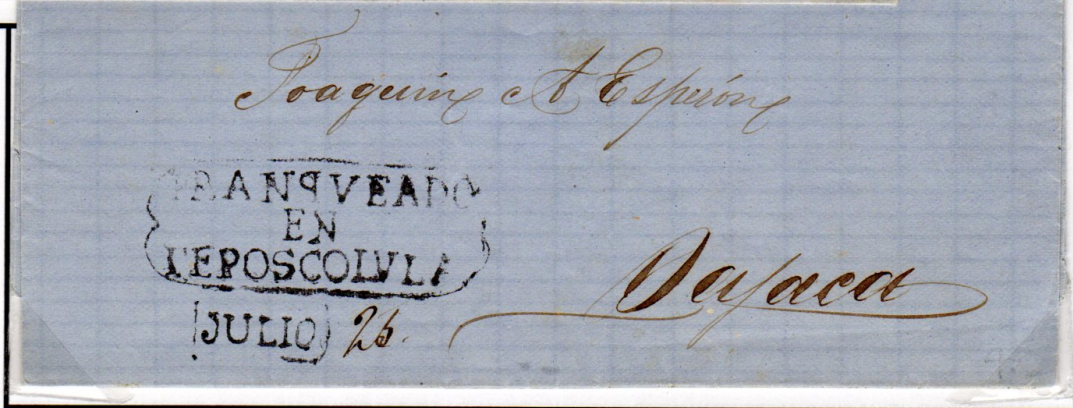
Morelia to Mexico August 7, 1867 – Schatzkes 902

SAN LUIS POTASI - MATEHUALA - SUBOFFICE



Matahuala to Tampico
December 31, 1867

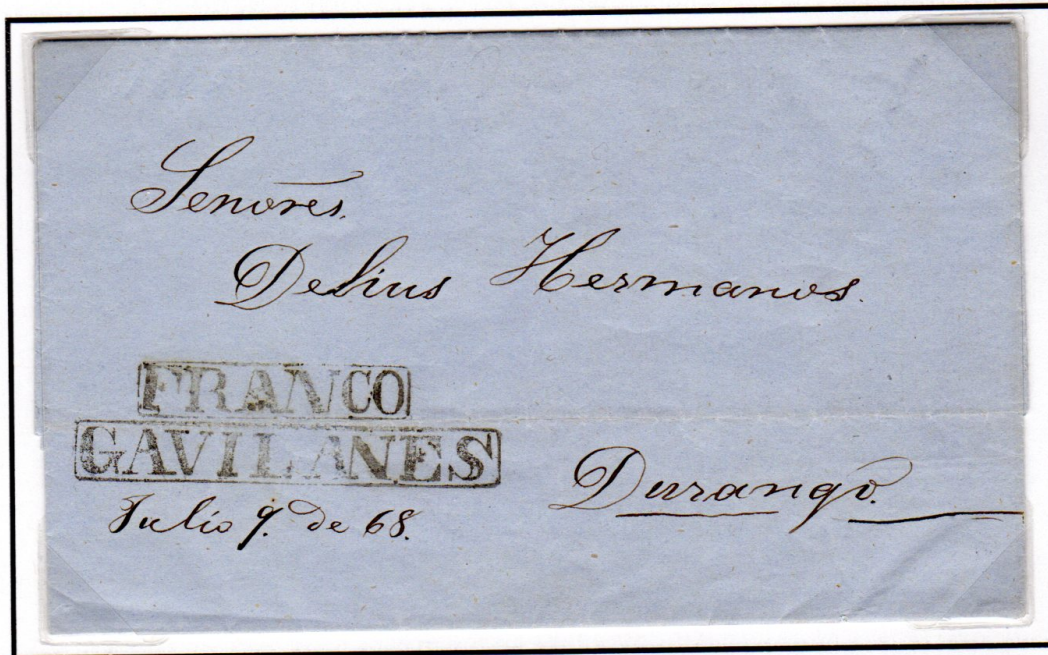
OAXACA
Teposcolula
July 25, 1868



LAGOS
S. Juan de los Lagos
April 9, 1868

The Heath Type IV cancel is characterized by having a manuscript date added alongside the handstamp marking, or in the case of oval or circular markings within the handstamp. My Subtypes include rectangular, circular & oval.

DURANGO DISTRICT — GAVILANES SUB-OFFICE



Gavilanes to Durango Dated July 9, 1868

VERA CRUZ DISTRICT — MINATITLAN SUB-OFFICE



Minatitlan to Tlacotalpan Dated July 18, 1867

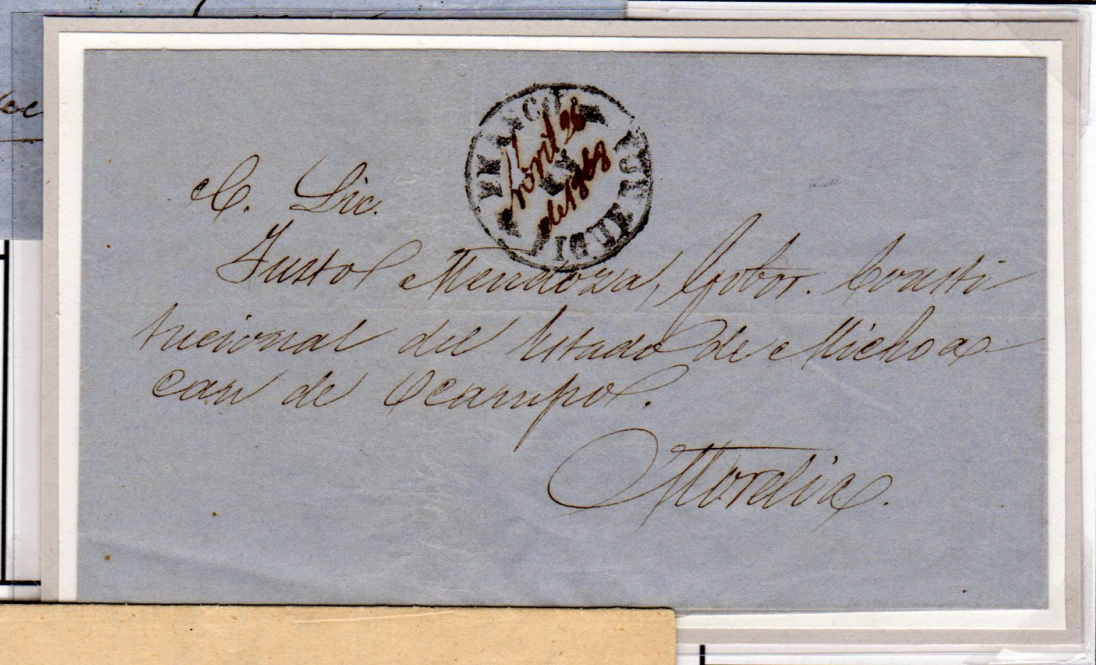
ZACATECAS DISTRICT — RINCON DE ROMOS SUB-OFFICE



Rincon de Romos to Carro
Dated Sept. 28, 1867
ms 2 Rev.

MARAVATIO - FIGUEROA

Figuroa to Morelia
April 26, 1868 ms "2" on rev.



VERA CRUZ - ACAYUCAN

Acayucan to Tlacotalpan
November 24, 1867
hs "2" on reverse

CHALCO DISTRICT — AYOTLA SUB-OFFICE



Ayotla to Mexico Oct. 14, 1867 Schatzkes 924 Previously unrecorded use, considered unique.

**GUADALAJARA DISTRICT
SANTIAGO IXCUINTLA SUB**
to Tepic a Dated Feb. 28, 1868
Schatzkes 436 unrecorded use.



**VERA CRUZ -
OTATITLAN SUB**
To Tlacotalpan Sch. 1971B
Dec. 15, 1868
Unrecorded late use.

Salamanca (Queretaro district) to Zacatecas
Discovery copy on mourning cover May 25, 1868



Huajuapam (Oaxaca district)
to Tlaxiaco Dec. 13, 1867



Tepic (Guadalajara district) to Guadalajara October 6, 1867

GUANAJUATO — PIEDRA GORDA SUBOFFICE



Piedra Gorda to Lagos dated 6 August 1867

VERA CRUZ — SAN ANDRES TUXTLA SUBOFFICE



San Andres Tuxtla to Tlacotalpam dated 15 Sept.. 1867

The Heath Type V cancel is totally manuscript, including date, Franco and city name. According to Heath all type V letters are rare. It is estimated that no more than 8-9 are known in total. The Amatlan & Coapilla below are discovery copies.

1 August 1867 San Jose to Tlacotalpam MS "Amatlan Franca Agosto 4, 1867" No rate mark.

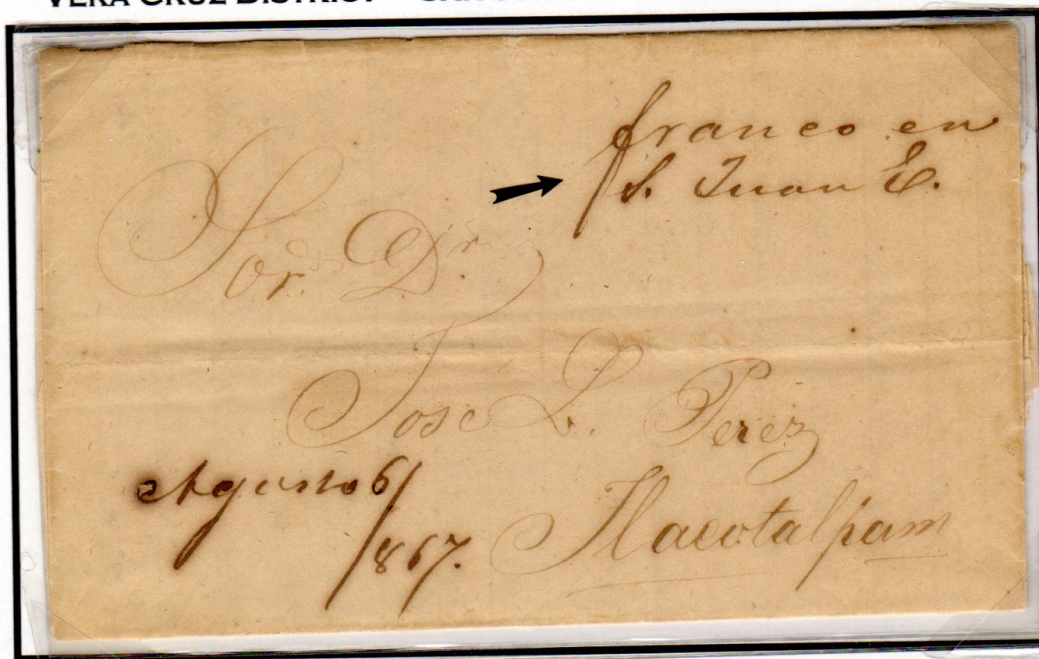


5 Sept. 1867 – Coapilla to Puebla
Rate crossed out.



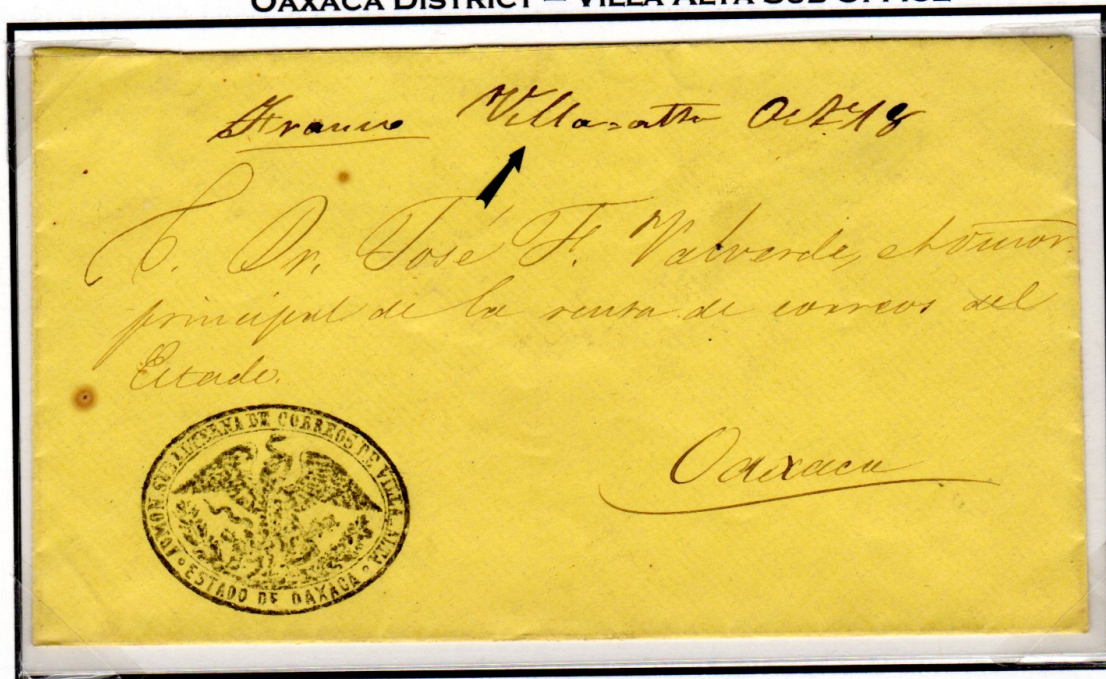
Ojinaga (Presidio del Norte)
to Parral, 2r rate on reverse.
3 January 1868

VERA CRUZ DISTRICT — SAN JUAN EVANGELISTA SUB-OFFICE



MS "S. Juan E." with August 6, 1867 date — Only recorded copy.

OAXACA DISTRICT — VILLA ALTA SUB-OFFICE



14 October 1867 Villa Alta to Oaxaca ms "Franco Villa Alta Oct 14" + Official cancel

This manufactured letter was franked "Franco Villa Alta Oct. 18" and addressed to Don Jose Francisco Valverde who was the Administrator Principal de la Renta de Correos in Oaxaca in 1867. In addition to the manuscript franking is an official seal of the sender. In this exhibit in the Official mail section is a similar letter sent from Mexico to the same recipient in the same time frame.

The Heath Type VI mark is characterized by having a form of "Admon De Correos" without a Franco, and no date. Linares & St. Rosalia unrecorded.

**MONTERREY—
LINARES SUB**

To Monterrey
March 21, 1868
Schatzkes 882



CHIHUAHUA

To Parral
Sept. 21, 1867
Sch. 138 hs 2 Rev.

**CHIHUAHUA —
SANTA ROSALIA**

To Parral Sch. 167
Dec. 10, 1867



CHIHUAHUA DISTRICT

RIO FLORIDO (VILLA CORONADO) SUB-OFFICE

Schatzkes 166A in various colors

To Parral May 29, 1867
Cancel in Black



Oct. 23, 1868
Cancel in Sepia



June 9, 1868
Cancel in Green



MORELIA DISTRICT — JIQUILPAN SUB-OFFICE
TYPE VI ADMON + TYPE II STRAIT LINE



Jilquilpan to Zamora 1867-8 – Schatzkes 948,949 + ms Del Admon
 Jilquilpan is not listed by Heath or Banchik, Discovery copy of S. 949 w/ "De"

VERA CRUZ — OTATITLAN TYPE VI + ADDITIONAL OVAL CITY NAME



VERA CRUZ — OTATITLAN To Tlacotalpan
 Sept. 6, 1867 Sch. 1791 + 1791B Unrecorded

VICTORIA DISTRICT — TULA DE TAMAULIPAS
TYPE VI ADMON + TYPE II



Tula de Tamaulipas to Tampico dated 18 Dec. 1867 Fancy ornamental

TULA-HIDALGO TYPE VI + TYPE I STRAIT LINE



TULA TO MEXICO DATED 9 MARCH 1868

MEXICO CITY

"THROUGH THE LINES"



Mexico to Oaxaca dated March 27, 1867 – Official seal of the Tax dept.
 Very unusual as it was sent from Imperial controlled Mexico City to
Republican controlled Oaxaca.

SAN LUIS POTASI



SLP to Catorce June 24, 1867 – Military Comandancia

PUEBLA DISTRICT

SAN GABRIEL CHILAC SUB-OFFICE



Chilac to Tehuacan Dated May 31, 1867 Judicial Court Official mail



Puebla State Government to Chihuahua - Official Seal + Sch. 1165

URUACHIC TO PHILADELPHIA
MIXED FRANKING MEXICO/US



Uruachic (Chihuahua) to Philadelphia – April 13, 1867

Complete letter from Uruachic a small mining town in Chihuahua – Double Line Franco
Posted in El Paso, Texas by forwarder F.R. Deffenderfer where placed in US mail - El Paso CDS
Franked with US 3c. arriving Philadelphia Rec. on reverse May 13, 1867.

General Porfirio Diaz (President 1872-80/1885-1911) commanded the Army of the East and had his headquarters in Oaxaca until capturing Mexico City on June 21, 1867.

ARMY OF THE EAST — PORFIRIO DIAZ

REPUEBLICA MEXICANA.
CUARTEL GENERAL
DE LA LINEA DE ORIENTE

N^o 32.

En of^a de esta fecha, digo
al jefe de la 2^a Brigada
de la línea de Oriente

Con^o 14
Oaxaca

C^o Ldo. Jose Pardo

REPUEBLICA MEXICANA.
CUARTEL GENERAL
DE LA LINEA DE ORIENTE

Oaxaca

Oaxaca, enero 14 de 1867.

Porfirio Diaz

U. Fuero Gral.

Presente.

Cachet of the Army of the East on Orders signed by Diaz Jan. 14, 1867, and envelope bearing the same cachet sent from Mexico City to Oaxaca after the capture on August 8, 1867

"POR EXTRAORDINARIO" – SPECIAL DELIVERY

The Foreign Extraordinario service was an express mail/special delivery service carrying mail between Vera Cruz and Mexico City. It was primarily used to carry Packet mail to and from Europe to the capital. Businesses also used the service domestically if they could afford the double rate fees.



Dateline Paris August 14, 1867 – Vera Cruz Sept. 9, 1867 Sch. 1757A
Forwarder L.S. Hargous Y Cerna handled the mail from France to US,
Then posted in VC using Extraordinario service paying double rate postage.
L.S. Hargous was former US Consul.

EXTRAORDINARIO & REGISTERED

Mexico to Vera Cruz dated October 29, 1867

**MEXICO CITY REGISTERED MAIL
CONTAINING THE FIRST SHIPMENT OF 1868 STAMPS.**

The first shipment of 1868 Thin Figure stamps were sent to the various districts starting on September 8, 1868. It took some time for all the districts to receive the stamps. This date is the "official" end of the Provisional Period, although there are provisional uses after this date.

The Original Registered wrapper carrying the first shipment of 1868 stamps to Mazatlan, Sept. 8, 1868.



Registered wrapper dated Nov. 22, 1867 Mexico to Veracruz. Note the cds date differs from the Registration date. It was not uncommon for the postmaster to not change the date on their cancelers every day. Nov. 21 date is fairly common!



JALAPA DISTRICT



Jalapa to Puebla dated November 27, 1867
 Schatzkes 597 & 601 previously unrecorded for this period.

DURANGO DISTRICT



Durango to Mexico - Late use dated October 24, 1868
 Transit receipts Zacatecas Oct. 27, San Luis Potasi Nov. 1, arrived Nov. 6
 Schatzkes 236D, 237 & 240

Maritime uses – Mexico had no ships for transatlantic transport so mail was handled by ships from England (RMSP), France, Spain and the US. Examples of all countries shown. Additional examples with Gothic stamps are shown in that section.

MEXICO CITY TO FRANCE – BRITISH LINE WITH FORWARDER

Datelined June 26, 1867 Mexico City carried by A. Ribere & Co (Blue Oval) Forwarder to Veracruz. Mexico postage paid (July 2, 1867 VC cds) – placed on British ship *Solent* departing VC on July 2 arriving St. Thomas July 13, departed on *Douro* July 14 arriving Southampton on July 27, British 1f60c tray, London red transit July 28, arriving Paris July 29 charged 10 decimes due then to Pyrenees on July 30.



TAMPICO TO FRANCE — BRITISH LINE

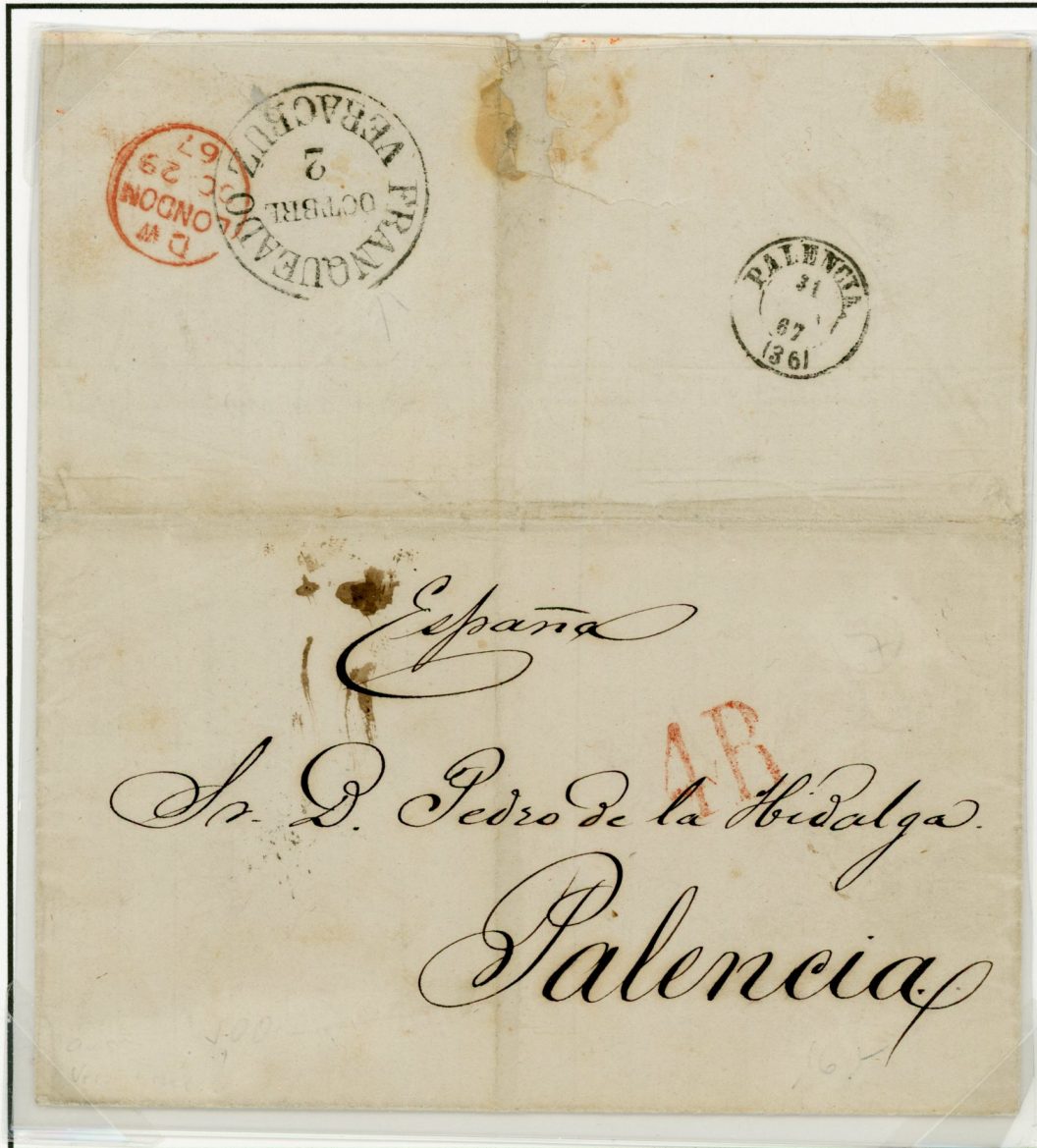


Folded letter sheet dated 26 August 1867 from Tampico to Ustaritz

Tampico — Type VI variant — Mexican postage pd round Tampico Correos, carried by RMSP steamer *Mersey* departed Aug 29 arriving St. Thomas Sept. 11, then on *Danube* departed St. Thomas Sept. 13 arrived at Southampton Sept. 27, to London cds Sept. 27, GB 1F.60c tray, Calais cds Sept. 28, 10 decimes ms due, Paris cds Sept. 28, arriving Bordeaux same day.

VERACRUZ TO SPAIN — BRITISH LINE

Folded lettersheet datelined Veracruz Oct. 1. 1867, Mexico postage paid VC
Cds Oct. 2, placed on *Eider* departing same day arriving St. Thomas Oct 12
Atrato depart St. Thomas Oct. 14 arriving Plymouth Oct. 28 thence Palencia
Oct. 31, 1867 charged 4 reales due.



MINERAL DEL MONTE TO LONDON — BRITISH LINE



Folded letter sheet Nov. 1867 from Mineral del Monte via Tampico to London

Mineral del Monte – Type I & VI SN – Mineral del Monte in Pachuca district, internal rate “2” hs on back to Tampico, carried by RMSP steamer *Tasmanian* & *Danube* arrived London 30 Dec. 1867, inscribed “por Paquete Ingles” ms.

TAMPICO TO NEW YORK — BRITISH/US LINES VIA VERACRUZ/HAVANA

Printed matter mourning letter from Tampico carried out of the mails to Veracruz, Mexican postage paid VC CDS dated Oct. 1, British Postal Agency Crown circle "Paid at Veracruz" with additional British CDS Oct. 2, assessed 4d (normal letter rate) carried by RMSP steamer *Eider* departing Oct. 2 arrived at Havana Oct. 6, Havana blue oval Franco, thence to New York on US ship, NY Steamship 10c CDS Oct. 17. **Late use of VC Crown marking.**



Mourning cover unsealed printed matter dated 3 Sept. 1867 from Tampico to New York

**PUEBLA TO NEW YORK — US LINE
FORWARDER FORMENTO**

Folded lettersheet w/enclosure datelined Puebla 15 Nov 1867 carried by Forwarder to Veracruz 22 Nov 1867 cds on reverse, thence to New Orleans 10 Dec 1867 and to New York Steamship 10. Received 16 Dec. 1867.

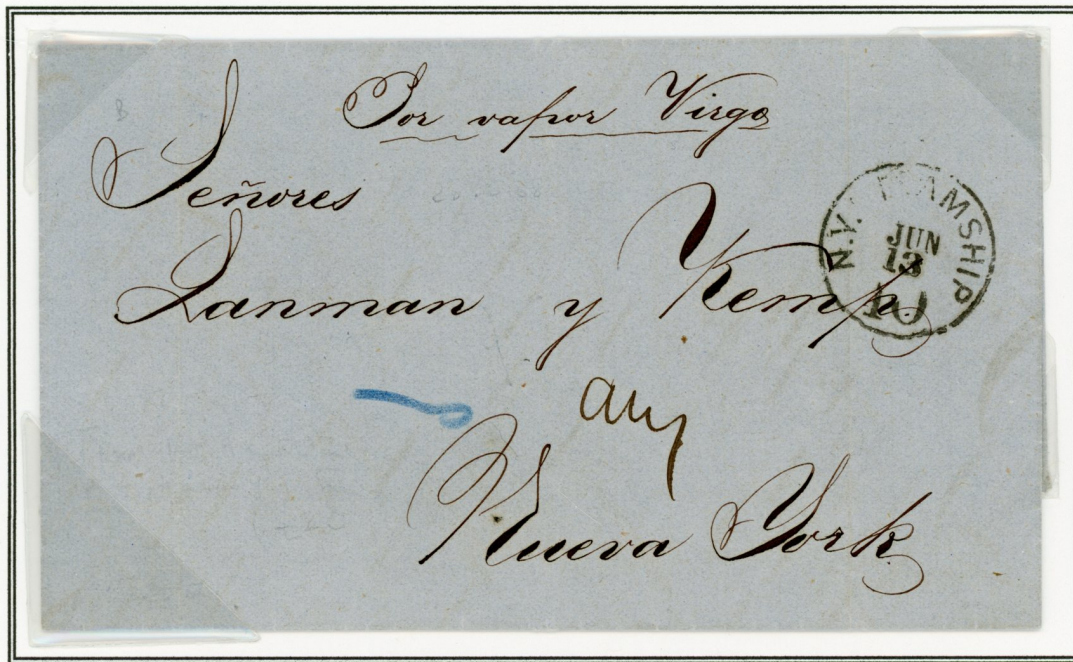


Posted in Puebla Feb. 28
Veracruz to New Orleans,
CDS March 20, 1868 then
to NY, Received Mar. 26

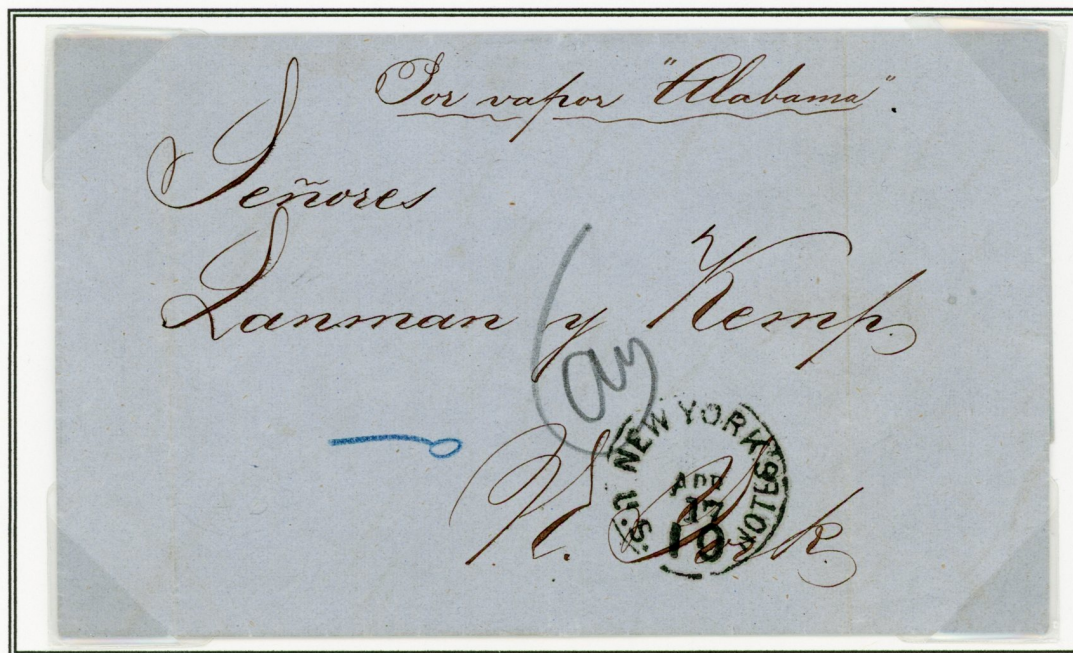


VERACRUZ TO NEW YORK — US LINE

Folded letter sheet datelined Veracruz May 28, 1868 to New York. Mexican postage paid VC cds on rear May 30. On US steamship *Virgo* arriving NY "N.Y. Steamship 10 June 13" cds. Recipient received on June 15, 1868



Similar folded letter sheet datelined Veracruz March 31, 1868 to New York. Mexican postage paid VC cds on rear April 1. On US steamship *Alabama* arriving NY April 17 "New York US Notes 10 April 17" cds. Recipient received the same day.



PUEBLA TO LONDON – FRENCH LINE



Folded cover dated 10 June 1868 from Puebla to London

Puebla, h/s date and Franco – Type III SN – h/s “4” showing internal rate paid
 Carriage by a French Compagnie Générale ‘Ligne B Paq.Fr.N.2’ ship, London
 Cds arrival mark ‘Jy’, with oval ‘Fr./2F 20c’ due France. ms ‘Per Paquete Frances’
 The ‘1/- to pay’ is in ms.

VERA CRUZ TO LONDON — FRENCH LINE



Mexico postage paid at Vera Cruz September 13, 1868, Schatzkes 1757A.
 French Line "B" Port of Call cancel – Octogon "Vera Cruz" Sept. 13, 1868
 & ship cancel double circle "Paq. Fr. No. 2" dated Sept. 13, 1868,
 Arrived in London October 8, 1868 per Red London transit cds.
 French ms due "8" decimes marking, and oval accountancy tray "FR. 2f 20c"
 for 2.2 francs bulk rate per 30 grams credited to France.
 Per *Washington* steamship.

VERACRUZ TO LONDON — SPANISH LINE



Mexico postage paid at Veracruz March 26, 1868 VC cds, carried by the "Lopez Line" operating between 1864-80 to Havana and on to Cadiz, cds April 22 and to Madrid cds April 24. Charged 4 reales due in Spain for single letter rate started May 1, 1855.

Both of these issues were created using an existing cancel device.

CUAUTLA PROVISIONAL

The Cuautla Provisional is the rarest of the 1867-8 Provisionals, although it is listed as a "2 reales" value in all catalogs, original research published by the Exhibitor in *Collectors Club Philatelist* provides evidence that it is a 1 real value. It's period of use was between Feb.- Nov. 1867. Eleven examples are recorded, including on covers, on piece & singles, all in the hands of only 3 collectors.



1 Real value ●

CUERNAVACA PROVISIONAL

Cuernavaca was a French stronghold and part of the defenses of Mexico City. In late February 1867 the Liberals overtook the area and a Republican Postmaster was installed who created his own stamps using an existing cancellation device. The normal overprint device was used to validate the stamp on cover. It is often found without a separate cancel. The Bash/Follansbee census lists 25 copies are known, a 2 reales is known, no unused are known.



1 Real value on piece ●



Sent to Mexico City with oval receipt cancel on reverse dated April 6, 1867 ●

Chiapas was never under French control, therefore received no Imperial stamps. During the early part of Maximilian's regime, Chiapas used leftover Hidalgo stamps and Sellos Negro. Toward the end of 1866 the Chiapas Provisional stamps were created, the earliest recorded date is Dec. 24, 1866. According to the Bash census slightly more than 100 total copies are known, most are damaged due to the custom of using the stamps to seal the back flaps of the covers. The known values are Medio, Un, Dos, Cuatro, and Ocho, although only 2-3 Ochos are recorded. The Chiapas district overprint was also used on approximately 20 total stamps.

THE CHIAPAS PROVISIONAL STAMPS



The Medio Real •
Black on Grey-Blue Paper
15 copies recorded.



Un and Dos Reales with Overprint •
Dos - Black on Rose - 4 copies known with op.
Un - Black on Light Green - 12 known with op.



UNDAMAGED DOS REALES USED IN TUXTLA.

Undamaged Dos Reales on rose paper used in San Cristobal cover addressed to Tuxtla.



San Cristobal – Circular cancel on front, Fancy San Cristobal ties stamp on rear •

The Conservative forces were driven out of Guadalajara (GDA) in Dec. 1866, at which point the new Liberal Postmaster F.G. Montenegro created his own Provisional postage stamps. GDA was the second largest Postal District in Mexico and this issue was used for nearly two years. It was produced over four different printings, using five different papers, and eight different colors including the first use of Roulette Perforations in Mexico.

The GDA Provisionals stamps were created using an existing cancel, Sch. 298. This circular cancel was unusual as it was applied by a Ribbon Cancellor device (see enlargement showing the characteristic ribbon dots). The interior date slugs were removed and the values and year date were inserted to create the GDA stamps.

Sch. 298 on Imperial Eagle.
Cover dated Feb. 13, 1866

Enlargement



THE MEDIO REAL

The First Printing appeared in early January 1867. They are all on medium wove paper in various colors. The Medio Real was produced only during the First Printing.



MEDIO REAL ●
Unused



WREATH CANCEL ●
Left stamp double print



GUAD OVAL CANCEL ●

The **First Printing** GDA Provisionals 1 real have a small "u" in un, and a period at the end of real. They are all on medium wove paper and known in three major paper colors, white, dark blue, and gray blue, with a light blue gray variant, the dark blue being the rarest. No unused of the dark blue are known. The Unused white not listed in any catalogs, the block below is the only known copy.

UN REAL



White •



White UNUSED block only copies recorded •



Dark Blue •

NO MORE THAN 5 COVERS WITH 1 REAL DARK BLUE ARE RECORDED.



2 reales green and 1 real dark blue March 7, 1867 to Guanajuato 3 reales rate •

UN REAL



Light Blue Gray



Light Blue Gray



Gray Blue



LIGHT BLUE GRAY SHADE UN REAL RATE C. GUZMAN TO SAYULA •



WHITE UN REAL WREATH CANCEL – JANUARY 27, 1867 – FIRST MONTH OF ISSUE •

DOS REALES – WHITE

There are no known unused First Printing white Dos Reales stamps.



RIBBON & MUTE CANCELS OF CIUDAD GUZMAN ●

Dated Jan. 25, 1867 – First Month of Issue



DOS REALES WHITE WITH WREATH CANCEL DATED JAN. 27, 1867 ●

The earliest recorded date for the Guadalajara Provisionals is January 2, 1867

DOS REALES – GREEN



DOS REALES GREEN - UNUSED

ROPE MUTE CANCEL OF GUADALAJARA
Sent to Zapotlan (C. Guzman)



DOS REALES SENT TO LEON DATED FEBRUARY 10, 1867

CUATRO REALES – WHITE



CUATRO REALES RATE GDA TO LEON DATED FEB. 10, 1867 •

SEIS REALES RATE C. GUZMAN TO GDA DATED APRIL 19, 1867 •
1st Printing 4 reales. White & 2nd Printing 2 reales. Green laid batonné

CUATRO REALES & UN PESO



CUATRO REALES •
White



CUATRO REALES
Rose



Serrate •



UN PESO •



CUATRO REALES — ROSE PAPER

APRIL 15, 1867

DOUBLE RATE COVER TO GUANAJUATO

DOS & CUATRO REALES BISECTS

During the First Printing the use of splits in Guadalajara occurred due to shortages of various values, mostly the Dos reales. Their use was not officially sanctioned. The recorded varieties are the Cuatro reales both Rose and White bisected to make up the 2 reales rate. The Dos reales bisect shown is the only recorded example of white 2 reales bisect.



PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED WHITE DOS BISECT - 5 REALES RATE ●

CUATRO REALES ROSE BISECT – 2 REALES RATE FROM C. GUZMAN DATED AUG. 11, 1867 ●



CUATRO REALES WHITE BISECT – 2 REALES RATE FROM C. GUZMAN DATED AUG. 15, 1867 ●

CIUDAD GUZMAN OVERPRINT

For approximately one month from mid February to mid March of 1867 Ciudad Guzman (Zapotlan) used a **C.Guzman** name overprint on some of the First Printing stamps. This was not necessary as the city was not a Postal District and these Provisionals did not require a name to validate. There are less than 30 copies recorded, all five values having this overprint are shown here.



UN REAL WHITE ●



UN REAL GRAY BLUE ●



DOS REALES WHITE ●



DOS REALES GREEN ●

CUATRO REALES WITH OVERPRINT ON FOLDED LETTER

Only two such covers are recorded, this being the only solo usage.



CUATRO REALES ROSE DATED FEBRUARY 28, 1867 TO GUADALAJARA ●

The **Second Printing** GDA Provisionals are all Dos Reales on green paper dated 1867 with a period after reales. There were two paper types, laid batonné and quadrille paper, and they are either imperforate or serrated.

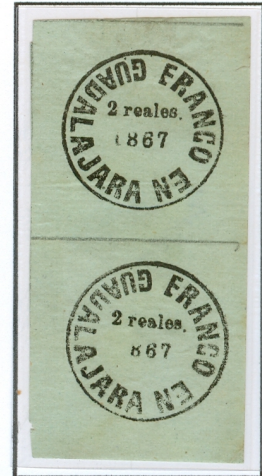
LAID BATONNÉ PAPER/GREEN



IMPERFORATE



SERRATE ●



"867" ERROR

SERRATED TO LEON ●
DATED MAY 17, 1867

DOS REALES DATED SEPTEMBER 2, 1867 TO MEXICO

QUADRILLE PAPER/GREEN



IMPERFORATE

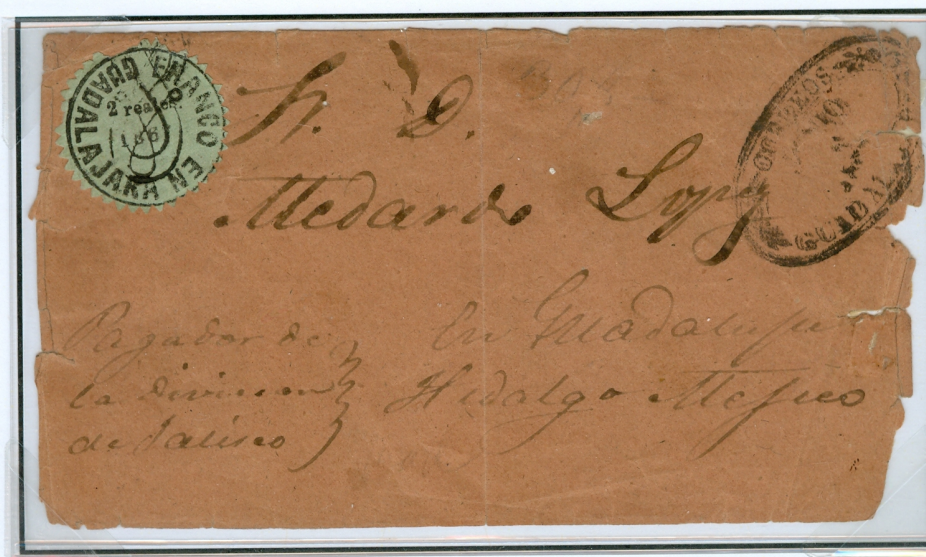
Unused



SERRATE •



CIUDAD GUZMAN (ZAPOTLAN) TO GUADALAJARA
Dos Reales on cover dated July 6, 1867



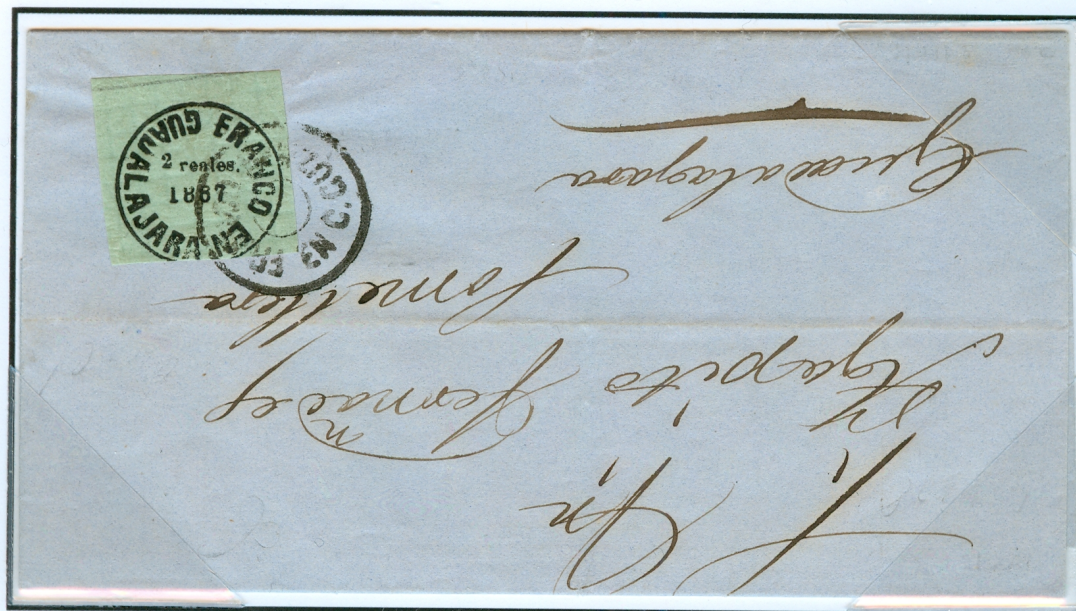
DOS REALES SERRATED ON QUADRILLE PAPER •
Addressed to **Guadalupe Hidalgo** (Rare Destination)

REDIRECTED COVER



Very unusual cover sent June 1867 to Villa de Guadalupe but was redirected to Mexico, showing Mexico CDS & Administration cancel - Dos Batonné •

For additional examples of Administration cancel see the Sello Negro and Gothic sections.



Dos Quadrille dated May 10, 1867 showing the circular C.Guzman cancel.

The **Third Printing** GDA Provisionals are characterized by having a capital U in Un, and a period after 2 and 4. They are known on Thin Wove, Laid Batonné, Quadrille, and Oblong Quadrille paper, and serrate perf. The colors known are white, blue, lilac, green, blue and rose.

Un Real

BLUE PAPER – THIN WOVE PAPER



Pair Un real dated Sept. 7, 1867 to Leon

BLUE PAPER - OBLONG QUADRILLE



SERRATE •



MUTE ROPE CANCEL OF GUADALAJARA



OVAL GUADALAJARA CANCEL

GREEN PAPER – LAID BATONNÉ



UNUSED



WREATH CANCEL



ZAPOTLAN (C. GUZMAN)

DOS REALES – ROSE - QUADRILLE PAPER



UNUSED



OVAL CANCEL



SERRATE PERF ●

VERY LATE USE OF 3RD PRINTING

ZAPOTLAN (C. GUZMAN) JUNE 8, 1868 TO GUADALAJARA

DOS REALES — ROSE — WOVE PAPER



LATE USE - APRIL 26, 1868 TO SAN LUIS POTASI



EARLY USE — APRIL 7, 1867 TO SAN LUIS POTASI

DOS REALES – ROSE – LAID BATONNÉ PAPER



UNUSED - OG



OVAL



C. GUZMAN



C. GUZMAN - MUTE



ZAPOTLAN (C. GUZMAN) APRIL 3, 186(7) TO GUADALAJARA

CUATRO REALES

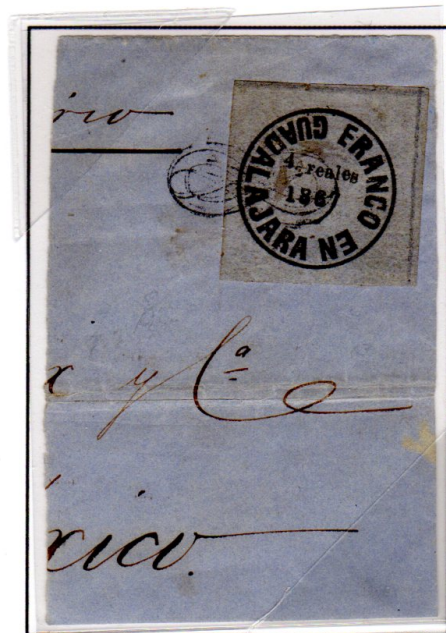
QUADRILLE PAPER



WHITE – UNUSED ●



BLUE – UNUSED



MUTE ROPE CANCEL OF GUADALAJARA

6 REALES RATE – BLUE QUADRILLE CUATRO & 4TH PER. LILAC WOVE DATED AUG. 14, 1868

CUATRO REALES

LAID BATONNÉ PAPER



WHITE



BLUE – USED



BLUE - UNUSED



Blue Laid Batonné on cover dated Sept. 21, 1868 to Leon, after new issue was released. The GDA postmaster did not follow the rules in that he continued to use provisional stamps after the new National Issue of 1868 was released. •

OBLONG QUADRILLE PAPER



GDA CANCEL •

COMBO USE 3RD PRINT CUATRO / 4TH PRINT DOS



Dos Lilac Wove / Cuatro Blue Laid Batonne

UN PESO



QUADRILLE – LILAC



QUADRILLE – LILAC ●
Guadalajara oval cancel



QUADRILLE - ROSE



QUADRILLE - GREEN

UNLISTED – Discovery copy – Color Error



QUADRILLE – WHITE ●



BATONNÉ - LILAC
No Period variety



BATONNÉ - LILAC
Guadalajara oval cance



BATONNÉ - LILAC ●
Serrate



WOVE – LILAC ●

The **Fourth Printing** GDA Provisionals are all dated 1868 and either Un or Dos. There are four papers and three colors. The Un are only known on Green Laid and Laid Batonné. The Dos are known on all four papers in lilac and on three papers in rose. Serrates are known, as well as an error in spelling, “nu” for un.

Un Real

GREEN – LAID PAPER



Unused



Serrate – Wreath cancel

Watermark “La + F”



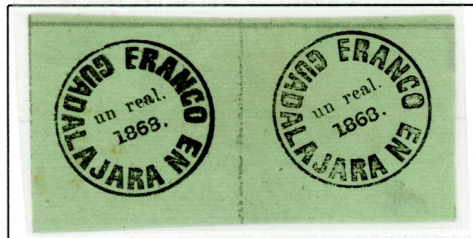
un real, no more than 3 known •

Error - “Nu” for “Un”



Mute rope

GREEN PAPER – LAID BATONNE



Unused Pair



Double Printing



Tete-Beche Pair



1863 for 1868 Variety



Missing print



Wreath cancel



C. Guzman cancel

Dos Reales – Wove Paper



Lilac-Unused ●



Lilac – Wreath cancel



ROSE - Unused



ROSE – Oval cancel



Lilac – Serrate ●



Pasted upside down

Guadalajara had a large “conservative” population pasted upside down in protest of “liberal” stamps.



Very Late usage dated September 14, 1868 – 6 days after the 1868 issue was released.

DOS REALES

LAID PAPER

Rose 2 reales with
"La + F" watermark ●



Discovery Copy
Unique



Lilac - Unused



Lilac - Oval cancel



Rose - Unused



Rose - Serrate ●

LAID BATONNÉ PAPER



Rose - Unused



Lilac - Unused



Lilac - Oval cancel

QUADRILLE PAPER



Lilac - Unused



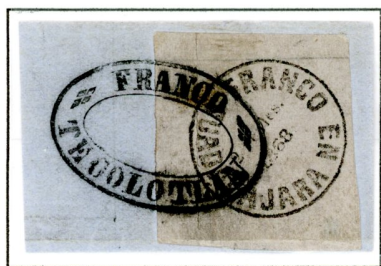
Lilac - Oval cancel

Most of the known Guadalajara stamps are either from the main office in Guadalajara or from the smaller post office in Ciudad Guzman (Zapotlan). A small number of stamps were issued to a select few sub-offices. Most of the sub-offices used Sello Negro franking, shown in the Sello Negro section of this exhibit. All the stamp usages from these sub-offices are considered very scarce to rare.

TECOLOTLAN



1st printing 2 reales •



Fourth Printing – Dos
Lilac Wove Paper



Fourth Printing – Dos Lilac Wove
and Un on Green Batonné Paper



First Printing – Medio

AUTLAN



First Printing – Dos



Second Printing – Dos •
Green Quadrille Paper



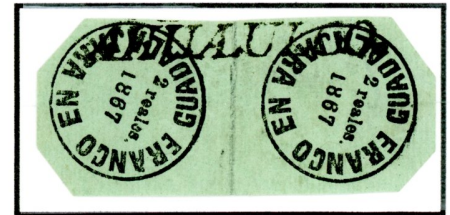
Fourth Printing Dos
Lilac Wove Paper

AHUALULCO



**FRANCO EN
AHUALULCO.**

1st Printing 2 reales Green
Cut Octagon •



2nd Printing Laid Batonné •

AMECA



3rd Printing Dos
Rose Batonné
Cut to shape •



UNION DE TULA



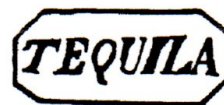
2nd Printing - Dos
Green – Quadrille
Cut to shape

COCULA



4th Printing – Dos Lilac – Wove paper

TEQUILA



3rd Printing - Un
Green – Batonné
Cut to shape

TALPA



3rd Printing - Dos
Rose – Wove paper
Cut to shape



TALPA TO GUADALAJARA 3 reales rate March 22, 1868
3rd Period (laid batonné) Un Green & Dos Rose cut to shape

TEPIC

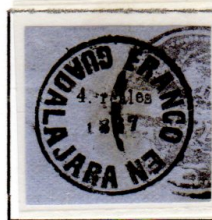
The Tepic sub-office used two cancels, a negative seal normally placed on the stamp and an ornamental oval which would have an ms date and placed on the cover.



Fourth Printing – Dos - Gray Quadrille Paper
Dated July 4, 1868 to Guadalajara



Third Printing – Cuatro
Blue Quadrille Paper



Third Printing – Cuatro
Blue Batonné Paper



Fourth Printing - Un
Green Laid Paper

ZACOALCO

3rd Printing 2 reales rose/wove
tied to 6 March 1868 letter. ●



Zacualco to Guadalajara sent September 29, 1868 – Used 3 weeks after the National
issue of 1868 was introduced. 4th Printing 2 reales lilac/wove paper.

TONYLA

FRANCOEN
TON YLA



3rd Printing 1 Real Blue Oblong Quadrille paper

SAYULA

Some of the Sub-offices cut their stamps to shape. In Sayula both cut round and cut square are known.

Cut Square

1st Printing Blue Un ●

Cut Round

3rd Printing Un – Blue oblong quadrille3rd Printing Dos - Rose Batonné3rd Printing Un - Green Batonné

CUT SQUARE →
1st Printing



← **CUT ROUND (TO SHAPE)** ●
June 19, 1867 – 2nd Print Quadrille

After the execution of Maximilian there was an urgent need for Republican stamps in the Capital. Existing supplies of the Hidalgo Issue of 1861 were placed into service. Initially the stamps were used without an overprint. Eventually the Gothic overprint used during the Imperial period was employed. In other parts of the country small supplies of stamps with and without overprints still existed and were used, the Hidalgo Provisionals.

UNOVERPRINTED 1861 STAMPS

Examples of the 1861 Issue printings, the basic stock for the Gothic Issue of 1867 and the Hidalgo Provisionals. The Black on Brown Medio Real was not initially used in the Capital but reprinted in 1868 using the paper and color of 1861.



CUATRO REALES ●

Red on Yellow paper
Plate line at top



OCHO REALES ●

Black on Brown paper
Position 43-44 plate line at left.



OCHO REALES

Green on Brown paper



UN REAL BLOCK OF 9



MEDIO REAL

Brown on Brown paper



DOS REALES BLOCK OF 4

During the Provisional Period various Post Offices had leftover Hidalgo stamps from 1856-61. They were used spontaneously in few numbers from about a half dozen districts. Most were 1861 stamps. They can be recognized by having cancels not used during the period of original issue, or on dated covers.

GUADALAJARA

Although the postmaster in Guadalajara FG Montenegro produced his own Provisional postage stamps (see previous section), there were a few 1856-61 Hidalgo stamps used provisionally during this time. These stamps are only identified by the wreath cancel Schatzkes 298 used only after 1867.



1856 Half Real



1856 One Real



1856 Four R.



1856 8 R. •



1861 8 R. •



8R with cds •



Sch. 298

This 1861 2 reales is the only recorded Mexico overprinted Hidalgo used in Guadalajara during the Provisional Period. •



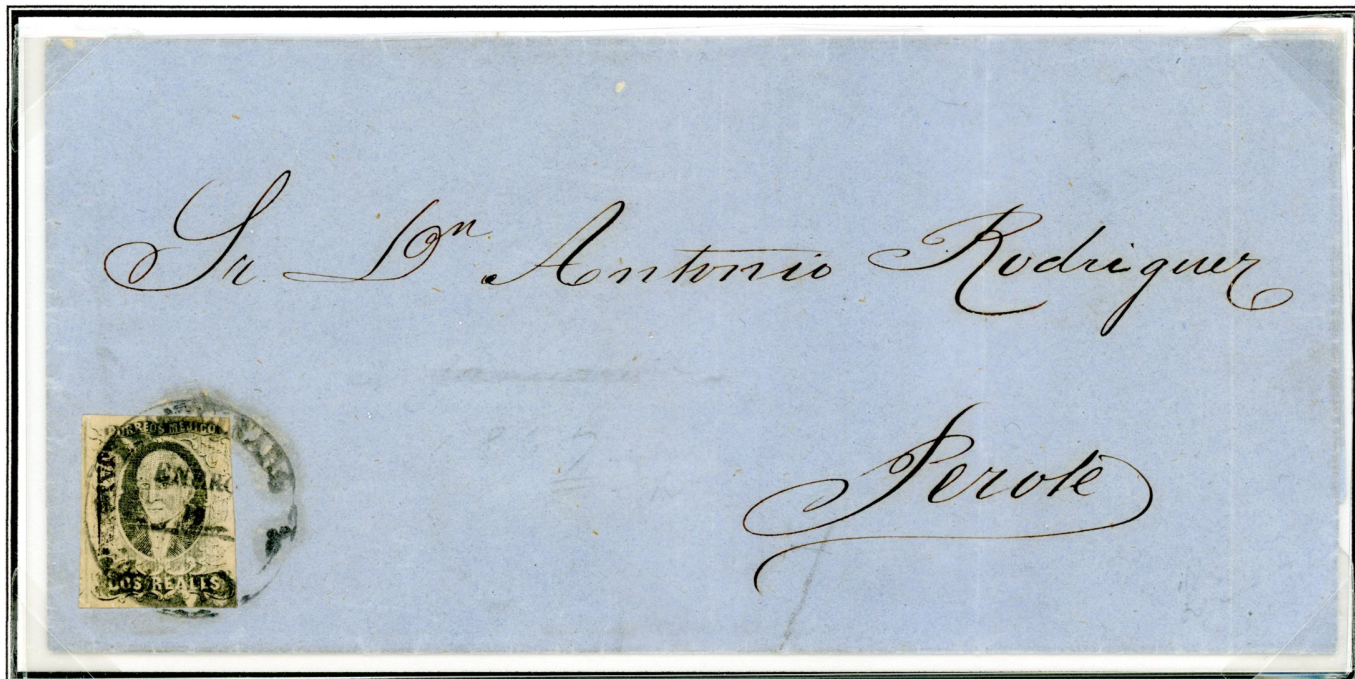
1856 Dos Reales on front circa Jan. 1867 •

Of the 1856 types the Dos and Ocho Reales are the scarcest.

JALAPA

A few 1861 Hidalgos remained at the Jalapa district office at the end of 1866 with the large Jalapa overprint (14.5 mm) as two covers with 2 Reales are recorded, one from Jalapa and one from Misantla. In addition 3 registered covers with 8 reales stamps are known with the large OP. In addition a supply of un-overprinted stamps existed which received the small Jalapa name first used on Eagle stamps.

EARLIEST KNOWN USE OF THE JALAPA PROVISIONALS



Dos Reales from Hacienda Molino dated Jan. 18, 1867 •
This is the only recorded 2r cover used in Jalapa, all others are from sub-offices.



REGISTERED COVER JALAPA TO PUEBLA DATED JUNE 6, 1867 •

JALAPA- SUBOFFICES

Most of the Jalapa small name overprinted stamps were used in sub-offices, primarily Perote and Misantla. Two examples are recorded from Jicaltepec. Others are found in towns outside the district such as Tuxpan (2 copies known) and Cordova normally having a Vera Cruz district name during this time. Also shown is the newly discovered example from Paso Del Macho and the unique cover from Cuantotulapa.

FRANCO EN
MISANTLA

TUXPAM.



Jicalcatepec ●



Misantla Sept. 2, (1867



Tuxpan ●



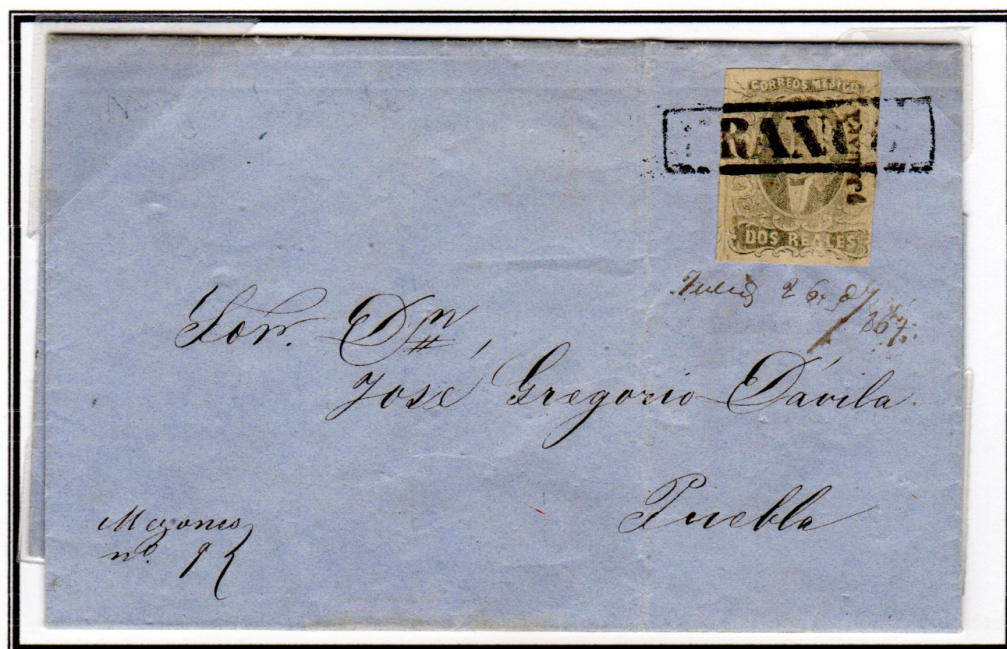
Used in Paso del Macho ●



Used in Cordova



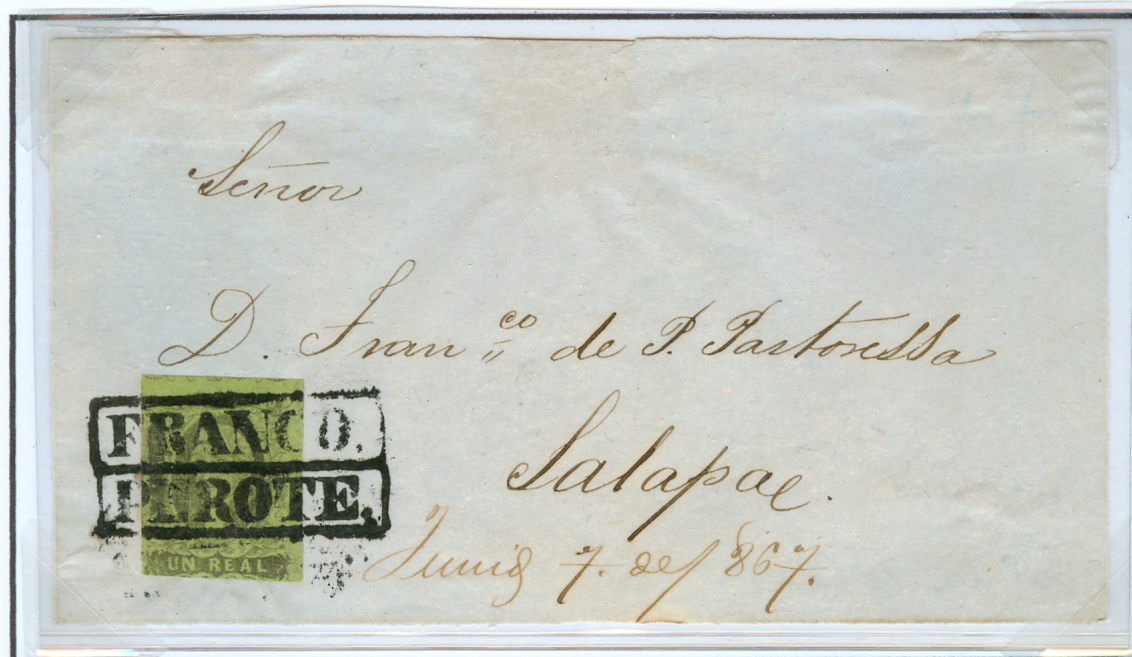
CUANTOTULAPA



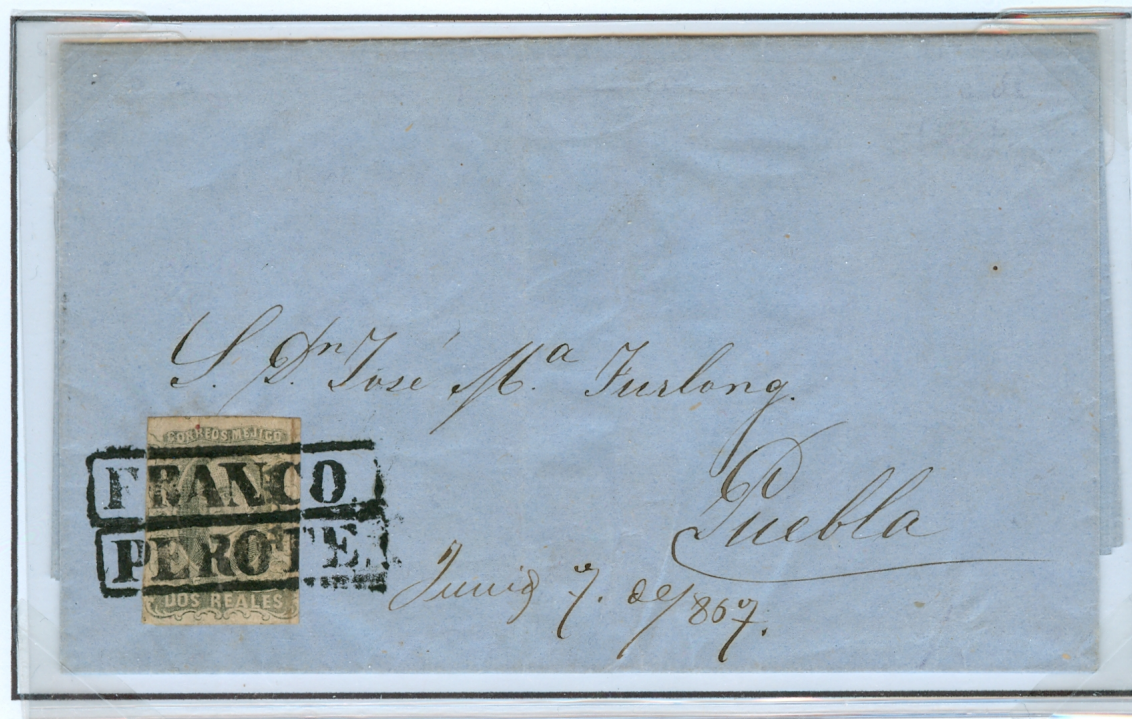
Unique folded letter dated July 26, 1867 originating in Cuantotulapa ●

JALAPA-PEROTE

Six covers are recorded with Jalapa provisionals used in Perote from May 24 - June 30, 1867. Four are Dos Reales and two are Un. The Jalapa postmaster hand dated each cover on the front. Two covers below with same date. only such covers matched thus from Perote.

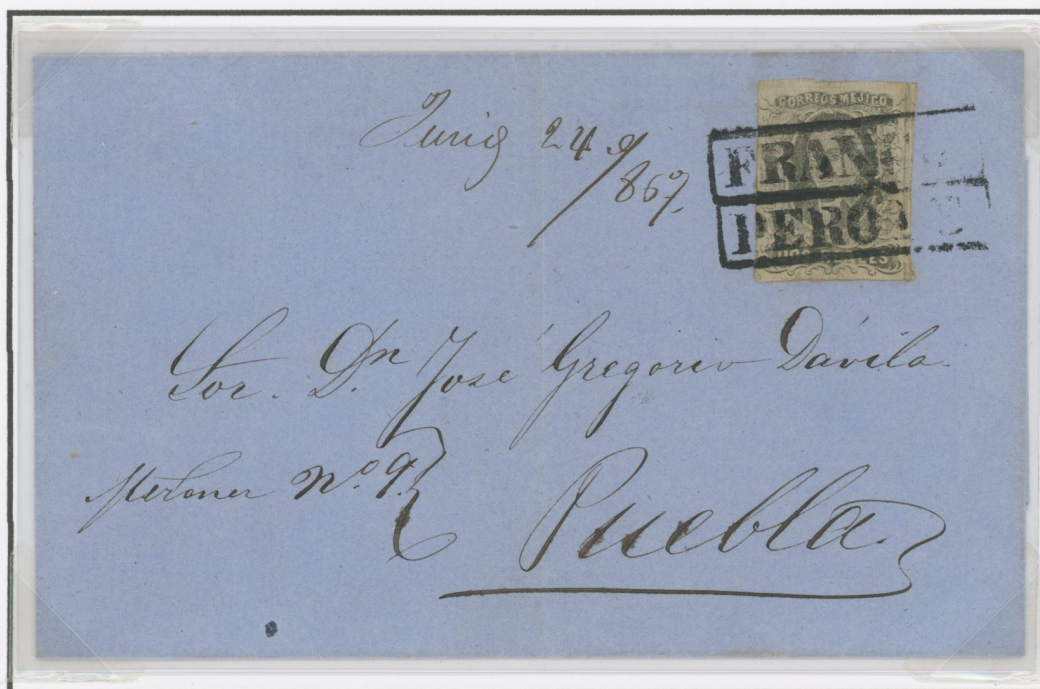


Un Real paying the short distance rate to Jalapa dated June 7, 1867



Dos Reales used pay rate over 30 leagues dated June 7, 1867 ●

JALAPA-PEROTE



Perote to Puebla, 2 reales rate dated June 24, 1867

CORDOVA

The Cordova Provisionals are unusual in that they all have a Vera Cruz district overprint, not Cordova! They are all cancelled with Schatzkes 189 Cordova oval cancel, usually with an ms date in the center, most in July 1867. This cancel was first used on Eagles, after the 1861 stamps were demonetized. No more than 10 examples of the Un are known, only 2-3 of the Dos recorded..



UN REAL

Sch. 189



DOS REALES



PAIR WITH JULY 27 MS DATE



STRIP OF 3 JULY MS DATE ●

The Orizava Provisionals are identified by the large district overprint 18mm x 2.5 mm. They are normally found with the football shaped cancellation Sch. 1094 first used on the Imperial stamps. A few are recorded with the Sch. 1092 oval cancellation. Of the 15 recorded dated covers most are dated between March and June of 1867.



UN REAL



PAIR UN REAL

UN REAL
No overprint

Sch. 1094

UN REAL
No overprint
Defective right side of plate

DOS REALES

DOS REALES •
No overprintCUATRO REALES •
BLACK ON YELLOWCUATRO REALES •
RED ON YELLOW
Maritime use (only copy known)
Red French transit

Sch. 1092

CUATRO REALES •
BLACK ON YELLOWCUATRO REALES •
BLACK ON YELLOW (MISCUT)



Three Reales Rate – One of two such covers known



Pair Un Real on cover sent to Puebla dated June 5, 1867

ONLY KNOWN COVER WITH NO OVERPRINT



Dos Reales – No OP - on cover sent to Puebla dated May 13, 1867

LATEST KNOWN USE OF THE ORIZAVA PROVISIONAL



Dos Reales on cover sent to Puebla dated May 15, 1868 •

PUEBLA

John Bash reported in 1977 that S. Chapman found records of the 1861 issue sold between April and November 1867 in Puebla. Only 6-8 covers are known. The same cancel used in 1861 was also used on Provisional covers, therefore the only way to identify them is by internal docketing.



Pair Un Real on cover to Huajuapam dated June 14, 1867.

PUEBLA/ORIZAVA

Puebla Provisional used
Mexico City July 5, 1867



Puebla Provisional used in Orizava – Only recorded copy – April 22, 1867

THE GOTHIC ISSUE STAMPS

The Gothics were issued over three periods. The first period consisted of emergency use of remainder stamps from 1864. A new printing on thin watermarked paper stamps defines the second period. The third period consists of both the use of new printings of thick paper stamps, (Dos, Cuatro, & Medio) and the use 1864 remainders (Un). The Ocho Reales stamps were all used up during the first period, and none were reprinted. The stamps get their name due to the use of the Gothic style ~~Alexito~~ overprint, which had not been used on Hidalgo stamps prior.

THE THICK PAPER UN REAL



Unused block of 6



Plate IV Pos. 1
Showing plate crack



Double Overprint



Dry Print ●

147,388 Remainder Un Real stamps existed at the beginning of the Gothic period, only 98,570 were used during both first and third Gothic periods.

EARLY USE NO OVERPRINT TO SAN LUIS POTASI AUG. 2, 1867

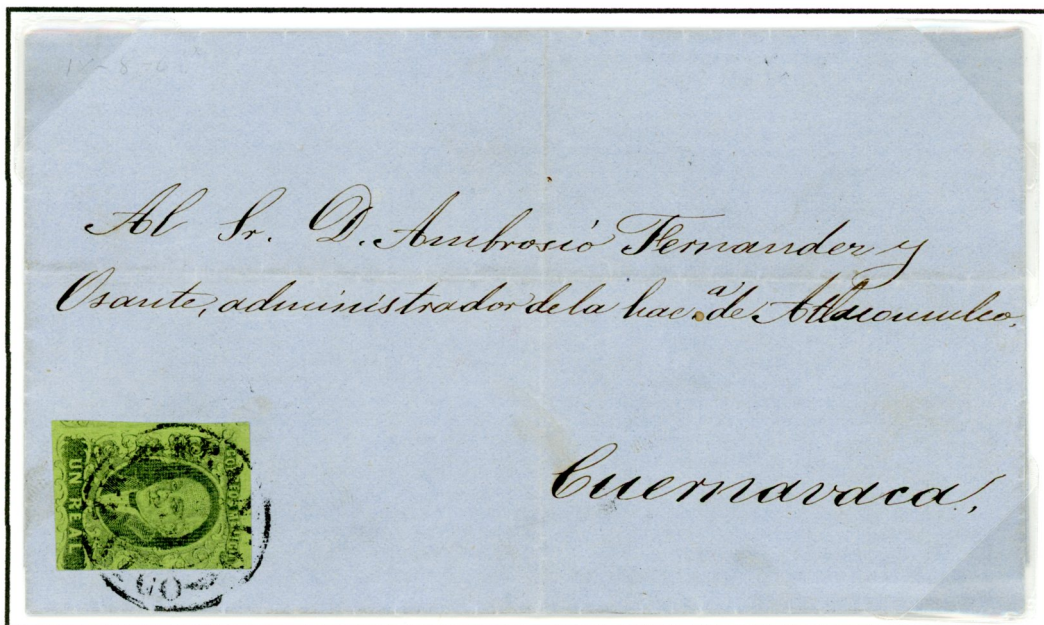


Double Overprint



Strip of 3 Plate line at left

LAST DAY OF ISSUE



SEPTEMBER 8, 1868 — TO CUERNAVACA

UNOVERPRINTED STAMPS – 1868 PRINTING UNUSED

Early in 1868 a new printing (reprinting) of the Dos Reales was made using the same thick paper and color of the 1861 printing. Plate III was quite worn at this point and the printings show this wear and are often blurred. Also many plate cracks exist.



PRINTED ON BOTH SIDES BLOCK OF 4 ●



REVERSE (REDUCED)

BLOCK OF 6 SHOWING THE MAJOR PLATE FLAW
POSITIONS 169-171, 188-190

WEAK PRINT

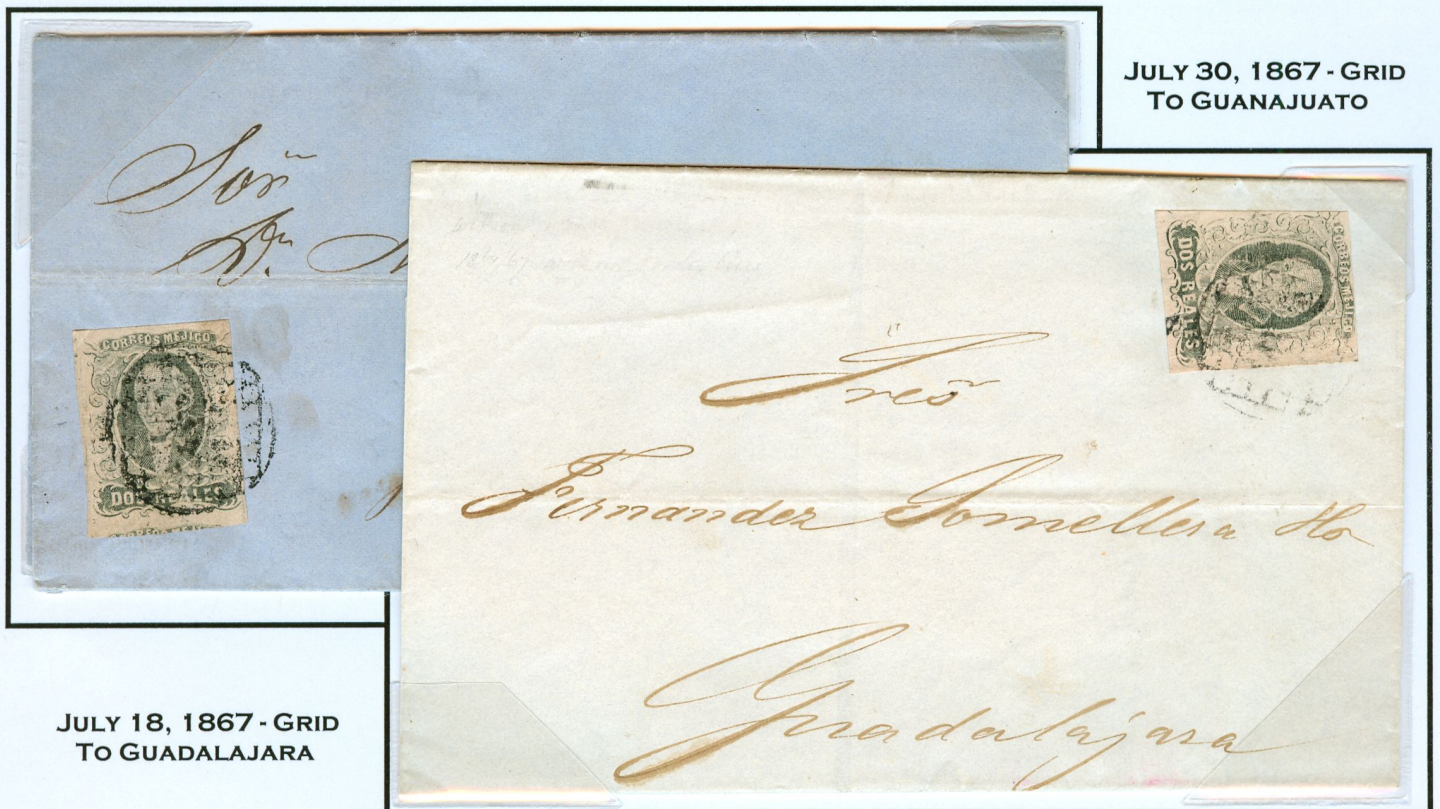
POSITION 178
PLATE CRACK

FIRST PERIOD DOS – 1861 PRINTING

The First Period stamps were remainders left over from the 1861 Hidalgo stamps. In total 31,540 Dos Reales stamps were on hand at the beginning of the Gothic Period (1st Period Dos stamps). These were all used up by the end of Aug. 1867. Initially no overprint was used until it was required by Postal Decree in August.



EARLIEST RECORDED USE OF THE GOTHIC OVERPRINT JULY 1, 1867



JULY 18, 1867 - GRID
TO GUADALAJARA

MOST 1ST PERIOD DOS STAMPS HAD NO OVERPRINT

FIRST PERIOD Dos – 1861 PRINTING



Grid cancel No Overprint

Sch. 838 – Admon Gral- Early Ribbon Cancellor
Not all 1st Printing stamps were clearly printed.

DOS MULTIPLES ARE VERY SCARE, USUALLY ONLY FOUND IN THE EARLY PERIOD BEFORE THE THIN PAPER CUATRO REALES BECAME AVAILABLE.



DOUBLE RATE COVER WITH DOS PAIR TO MORELIA DATED AUG. 8, 1867



JUL 1867 CDS



AUGUST 9, 1867 CDS



WITH OVERPRINT

THIRD PERIOD DOS - 1868 PRINTING – UNUSED WITH OP

Since the Thin Paper stamps were not working well, the Post Office reverted to printing stamps on thick paper in the original colors. Plate III was deteriorating and poor printings were the norm. 109,666 Period III Dos stamps were issued.



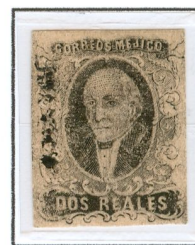
BLOCK OF 8 – ORIGINAL GUM ●



GRAY SHADE



GRAY BLACK SHADE – ORIGINAL GUM



BLACK SHADE



**POSITIONS 1-2, 19-20, 37-38
CRACK TOP LEFT**



**POSITION 187-8
DOUBLE PLATE LINE + CRACK**

JUNE 25, 1867 EARLIEST RECORDED USE OF GOTHIC PROVISIONALS

The Emperor Maximilian was executed on June 19, 1867. Mexico City was occupied by Porfirio Diaz on June 21. The Republican forces were officially in place in Mexico City on June 22, 1867, but the earliest reported Republican usage in the Capital is June 25. Initially old stamps remaining from 1861 were used without district overprint, later on the Imperial Gothic district overprint was employed.

TWO COVERS BOTH DATED JUNE 25, 1867

México Junio 25. 67.
Al Sr. Manuel Apurta
Guanajuato.

Dos Reales rate to Guanajuato



Un Real rate to Guanajuato, under 16 leagues

México. Junio 25 de 1867

There were only 48 remainder Cuatro stamps (1st period) on hand at the beginning of the Gothic period. To date none of these 1st Period stamps have been identified and were probably used up by early July 1867. After the 2nd Period thin Paper stamps were used up in late 1867 the 3rd Period printing of Thick paper Cuatros took place. It is estimated that in total 36,602 thick paper Cuatros were produced. The plate was quite worn by 1868 and printings on both sides are known. The elusive red on white Cuatro is believed to have been produced in July 1868 when a few sheets of white paper were used inadvertently.



RED ON WHITE ●



ORIGINAL GUM ●



THREE STRIPS OF 3 ARE RECORDED ●



DECEMBER 1867

PRINTED ON BOTH SIDES



REVERSE ●



OBVERSE - REDUCED



REVERSE — FLIPPED



OBVERSE - REDUCED



DATED JUNE 28, 1868 TO GUADALAJARA
Double Rate Cover



ADMINISTRATION CANCEL SCH. 818 A



PEN CANCEL

MARITIME CANCELS



BRITISH TRANSIT



RED MARTIME



RED BRITISH RECEIPT CANCEL ●

DRAMATIC DOUBLE IMPRESSION IN UPPER TABLET



DATED MARCH 1, 1868 TO GUADALAJARA •

LATE PRINT BLURRED CUATRO REALES



DATED APRIL 28, 1868 TO GUADALAJARA

REGISTERED MAIL

As is the custom today Registered mail was a secured delivery method requiring a signature receipt. The front of the cover was cut from the envelope and signed on the reverse by the recipient, then returned to the original sender as proof of delivery.

LATEST KNOWN USAGE OF A GOTHIC STAMP



REGISTERED FRONT DATED OCTOBER 23, 1868 ●

The issue of 1868 premiered on September 8, 1868. This registered front was franked and sent six weeks later. No later use of Gothics are known. The signature receipt on reverse is dated November 10, 1868.



"CERTIFICADO" - REGISTERED
DATED IN AUG. 1868



SCH. 837A
REGISTERED CANCEL

MARITIME USE — ENGLISH PACKET

Both covers below traveled from Mexico on the same ships
to England but then on to separate countries.

Depart Vera Cruz 4/1 (*Danube*), arrive St. Thomas 4/13. Depart 4/14 (*Atrato*) arrive Plymouth 4/28

TO ITALY



MEXICO TO GENOA, ITALY DATED MARCH 29, 1868

Less than 20 Maritime Gothic covers are recorded, only 2 to Italy.

TO FRANCE



MEXICO TO GENTILLY, FRANCE DATED MARCH 29, 1868

Arrived in Gentilly France on April 29, 1868

ENGLISH PACKET TO FRANCE — LATE USE



Originated in San Luis Potasi, then to Mexico Aug. 29, 1868, less than two weeks before the Gothic issue was discontinued on Sept. 8. Arrived in France on Oct. 15, 1868

MARITIME USE TO MADRID — SPANISH SHIP



CARRIED BY THE LOPEZ LINE VIA HAVANA & VIGO TO MADRID DATED JUNE 10, 1868

OCHO - BLACK ON BROWN – GREEN ON BROWN

Unlike all the other Gothic values, the Ocho Reales were not reprinted, only the 1861 remainder stamps were used. Postal records indicate that 4288 Ocho stamps were issued, it is estimated that only 300 of these were Green on Brown of which approximately 10 used copies survived, no unused Green are recorded.

GREEN/BROWN**GRID CANCEL 9-10 COPIES KNOWN**

Preprint paper fold showing portion of 2nd stamp at right

BLACK/BROWN

JULY 67 CDS ●
Black/Brown



DILIGENCIAS (STAGECOACH)
CDS Aug. 29, 1867
Only known copy used by Diligencias



GRAY SHADE ●
Position 1

WITHOUT OVERPRINTS

GRID CANCEL



SEPT. 2, 1867
+ GRID



JULY 9, 1867

Very few copies of the Ocho without Mexico overprint are known, a legible 1867 date must be present to identify.

THE THICK PAPER MEDIO REAL



ORIGINAL GUM ●

Position 17



CDS ●

**FEWER THAN 14 EXAMPLES REMAIN, INCLUDING A USED PAIR,
AND A SMALL UNUSED BLOCK.**

The primary use of the Medio real stamp was the printed matter rate. No other domestic rates called for Medio Real stamp. At the beginning of the Gothic period there were no Medio stamps on hand. The thin paper Medios were first printed but ran out by mid 1868. Then a small printing of thick paper Medios were made. In total 1,601 stamps were sold. No genuine covers are known.

POSTAL RATES

The postal rates in effect during the Provisional period were originally set on December 20, 1856. Postal charges were determined by distance and weight.

WEIGHT OF LETTER	DISTANCE ≤ 16 LEAGUES	DISTANCE > 16 LEAGUES
LESS THAN 1/2 OZ.	UN REAL	DOS REALES
1/2 OZ. UP TO 3/4 OZ.	DOS REALES	TRES REALES
3/4 OZ. UP TO 1 OZ.	TRES REALES	CUATRO REALES
1 OZ. UP TO 1 1/4 OZ.	CUATRO REALES	CINCO REALES
1 1/4 OZ. UP TO 1 1/2 OZ.	CINCO REALES	SEIS REALES

An additional 1 real was charged for each additional 1/4 oz.

UN REAL RATE (< 1/2 OZ./< 16 LEAGUES)



Mexico to Cuernavaca – March 19, 1868 – Un shows plate line

DOS REALES RATE (< 1/2 OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)



PAIR THICK PAPER UN REAL TO MONTERREY - NOVEMBER 7, 1867



1861 PRINTING Dos Reales
To Monterrey August 25, 1867

1868 PRINTING Dos Reales
To Mazatlan June 21, 1868



TRES REALES RATE ($\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)

Machine made envelope – Very unusual as the Dos has no overprint but the Un has the overprint, this is the **earliest known use of overprint on Un Real**.



DATED JULY 2, 1867 TO MORELIA – ONE OF EARLIEST COVERS KNOWN



JULY 22, 1868 TO HACIENDA DE LA CONCEPCION – SECOND LARGEST MULTIPLE

CUATRO REALES RATE ($\frac{3}{4}$ -1 OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)

January 18, 1868
To Durango



July 5, 1868 to Guanajuato
Blue merchant mark



LAST DAY OF USE TO ZACATECAS – SEPTEMBER 8, 1868
On this day the National issue of 1868 was issued. Blue merchant mark

CINCO REALES RATE (1- 1½ OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)



AUGUST 20, 1868 TO GUADALAJARA •



JULY 25, 1868 TO DURANGO — Left Dos is dryprint

SEIS REALES RATE (1- 1 1/4 OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)



DATED AUGUST 19, 1868 TO SAN LUIS POTASI

SIETE REALES RATE (1 1/4 - 1 1/2 OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)



DATED JUNE 18, 1868 TO GUADALAJARA •

OCHO REALES RATE ($1\frac{3}{4}$ -2 OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)

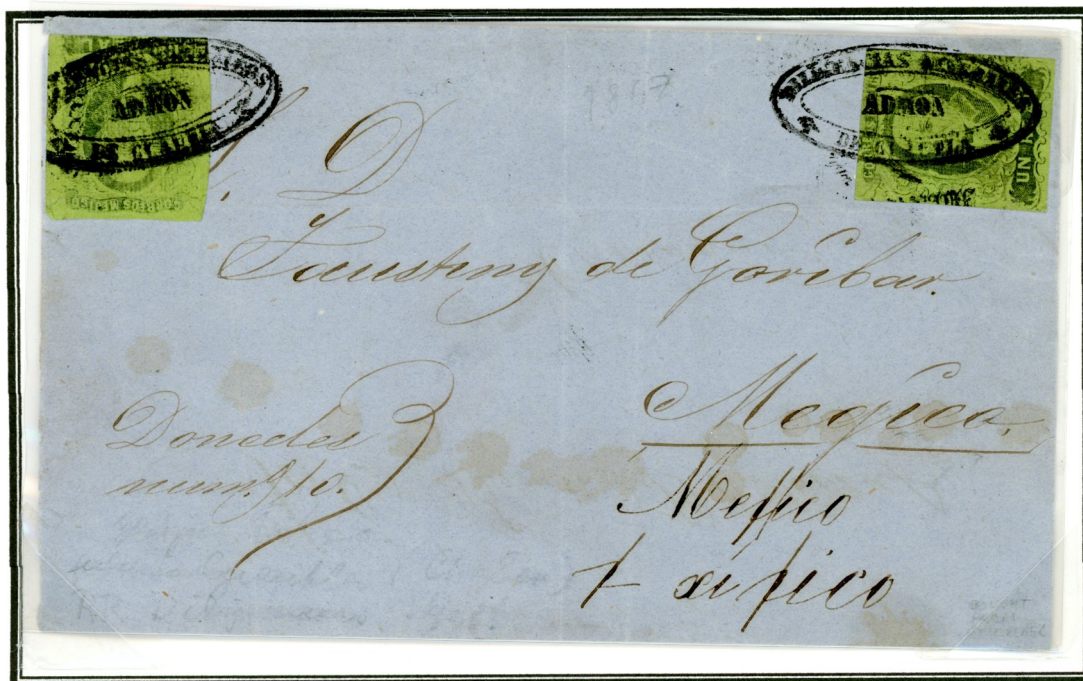


DATED APRIL 12, 1868 TO DURANGO ●
Quadruple Rate Cover

Although pairs of the thick paper Cuatro are not scarce since the Ocho Reales stamps ran out early in the Gothic period, they are seldom seen on cover. Most known covers with pairs are registered or maritime use.

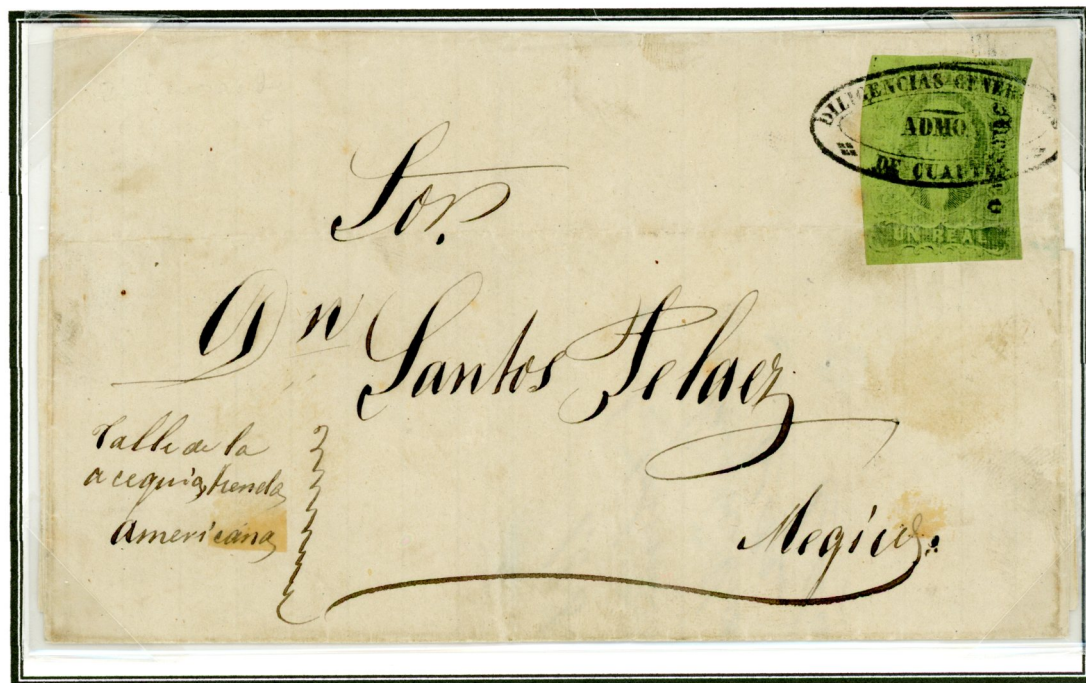
CUAUTLA — DILIGENCIAS STAGECOACH OFFICE

Cuautla received a few small shipments of Gothic stamps. The “Diligencias” office at Cuautla handled **stagecoach** mail. Seven covers with Cuautla used stamps are recorded, 4 are thick paper and 3 thin paper. See the thin paper section for examples of thin paper Cuautla usages. Two thick paper covers are shown here, one being an unusual double rate franking (only known) and a turned cover.



TURNED DOUBLE RATE

TO MEXICO CITY ●



SINGLE RATE DATED JULY 23, 1868 TO MEXICO CITY. ●



LARGEST KNOWN MULTIPLE OF DILIGENCIAS

CHALCO — AND SUB-SUB-OFFICE IN AMECAMECA & TLALMANALCO

In addition to Cuautla, the sub office of Chalco received Gothic stamps. Records show that 1650 thick paper Un Real and only 430 Dos Reales stamps were sent to Chalco. A small number were then forwarded to smaller sub-sub post-offices. No more than 5-6 examples are known from Amecameca with only one recorded cover. The 2 reales Amecameca stamp below is believed to be unique. Three off cover singles are recorded from Tlalmanalco.

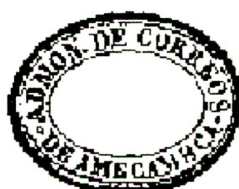
AMECAMECA — ONLY RECORDED COVER



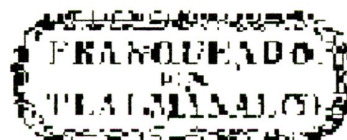
DATED MAY 22, 1868 TO PUEBLA ●



Chalco



Amecameca



Tlalmanalco

1 REAL

2 REALES



CHALCO



AMECAMECA ●



TLALMANALCO

THE THIN PAPER MEDIO

There were no thick paper ½ real remainders available at the beginning of the Gothic period, so the first printing of thin paper stamps was the ½ real (July 6, 1867), the first delivery was July 8, 1867. Since there was little demand for ½ real stamps, only 15,000 Thin Paper Medios were issued.

UNUSED



WITH OVERPRINT

NO OVERPRINT

USED



GRID CANCEL - 3 USED PAIRS KNOWN



SLATE COLOR VARIETY BLuish GREEN SHADES



Nov. 24, 1867 CDS

NO OVERPRINT - WATERMARK

WATERMARKED GRAY COLOR SHADES



In total 26,200 2nd Period Un Real stamps were printed. The earliest known use is September 17, 1867 and is shown in this exhibit. All unused thin paper values are scarce to rare as they were printed in small quantities and all used up.



UNUSED ●



NO OVERPRINT ●



USED PAIR WITH OVERPRINTS

One of two pairs known without OP
Powder Blue - Largest multiple



DARK BLUE
Plate line at top



LIGHT BLUE



WATERMARK



MISCUT ERROR

UN REAL RATE (< 1/2 OZ./< 16 LEAGUES)



DATED DECEMBER 31, 1867

Un Real rate for short distances, this letter sent to
the Hacienda Atacomulco in Cuernavaca

THE THIN PAPER DOS REALES

Records show that 81,320 2nd Period thin paper 2 Reales stamps were issued. The first delivery of these stamps was August. 23, 1867 with the earliest known use August. 26, 1867 shown below. Very few unused copies remain as the issue quickly ran out and was not reprinted.

PRINTED ON BOTH SIDES



DOUBLE OP UNUSED •
Watermarked



NO OVERPRINT UNUSED
Watermarked - Original Gum



Reverse •



Obverse

Rarest of the Gothic POBS issues.
No more than three used copies known.

WITCH'S HAT



Enlargement

An unusual mute seen only on Registered,
one cover and two singles recorded.

DRY PRINT



NO OVERPRINT



THE EARLIEST RECORDED USE OF THE THIN PAPER DOS STAMP



AUGUST 26, 1867 SENT TO JALAPA

PLATE III VARIETIES — PLATE CRACKS

Plate III had been in use from the time of the 1856 issue and shows consistent well known interesting plate varieties.

THE LARGE CRACK — POSITION 189

The Position 189 crack began with the 1856 issue and progressed, by the time the 1867 stamps were printed it had reached the top of Hidalgo's head.



UNUSED - WATERMARKED •



LATE PRINT - WATERMARKED

FIRST ROW PLATE CRACKS

POSITION 1
crack in left margin
plate line at top & side



POSITION 16
small "y" crack at top
watermarked



POSITION 17
small crack at top
watermarked

BOTTOM ROW VARIETIES

POSITION 176
larger crack



POSITION 177
small crack



POSITION 185
doubling of scrolls
Watermarked



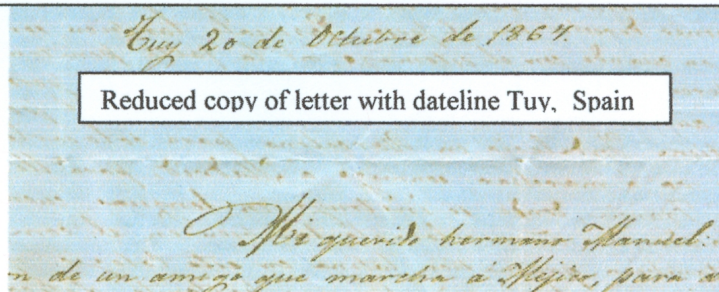
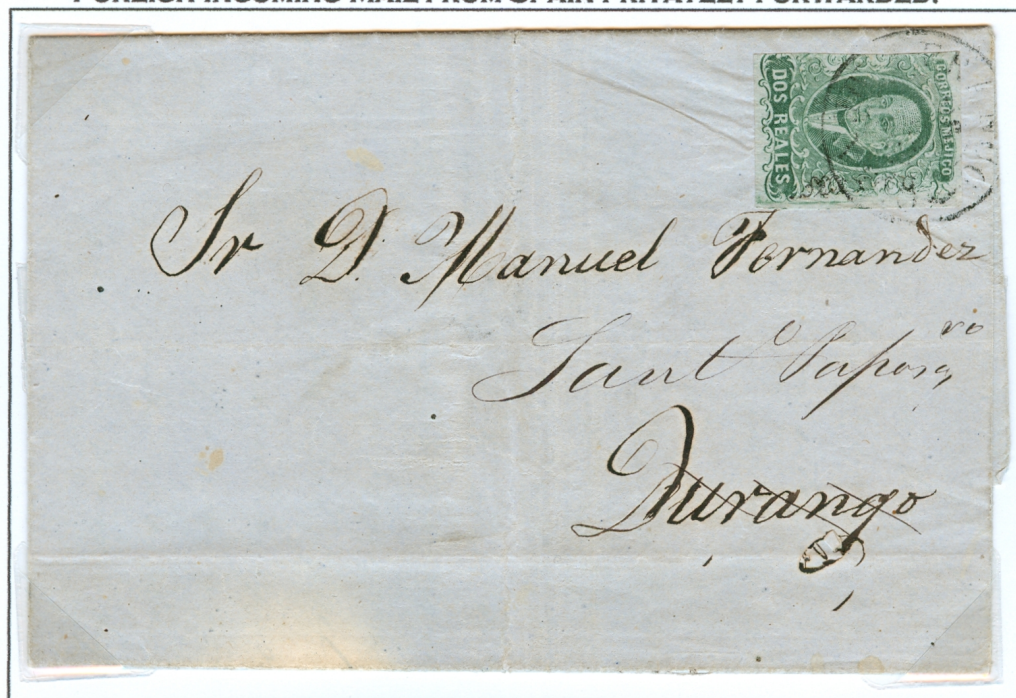
POSITION 188
Small crack

FOREIGN INCOMING/OUTGOING MAIL



LARGE PIECE FROM LETTER SENT NOV. 29, 1867
FROM MEXICO CITY TO ITALY VIA BRITISH SHIP

FOREIGN INCOMING MAIL FROM SPAIN PRIVATELY FORWARDED.



Reduced copy of letter with dateline Tuy, Spain

Folded letter datelined October 20, 1867 from Tuy, Spain addressed to Durango sent via a private forwarder from Spain to Mexico City. Upon arrival a Gothic Dos Reales stamp was applied. It was then redirected to Santiago, Papasquiaro. The Dos Reales stamp paid the inland rate of up to $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. over 16 leagues in distance.

THE THIN PAPER CUATRO REALES

The Cuatro reales were printed immediately at the start of the Gothic period and delivered July 6, 1867, with the first shipment on July 8. Only 13,470 2nd Period (thin paper) 4 reales stamps were produced and were used up by early 1868. In January 1868 the 3rd Period (thick paper stamps) were printed replacing the thin paper 4 reales.

NO OVERPRINT



CDS CANCEL



GRID CANCEL

WITH OVERPRINT

DARK PINK
SHADES

ROSE

ADMON GRAL
ONLY RECORDED COPY

MARITIME USE



BRITISH ACCOUNTANCY

AUG. 9, 1867
FRENCH TRANSIT

BRITISH



SHIP CANCEL

MARITIME USE TO FRANCE



MACHINE MADE ENVELOPE SENT BY FRENCH PACKET DATED AUG. 9, 1867
No more than 10 Maritime Gothic covers are recorded with this stamp.

COMBINATION OF THIN PAPER CUATRO REALES AND THICK PAPER UN REAL

CINCO REALES RATE (1- 1½ OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)

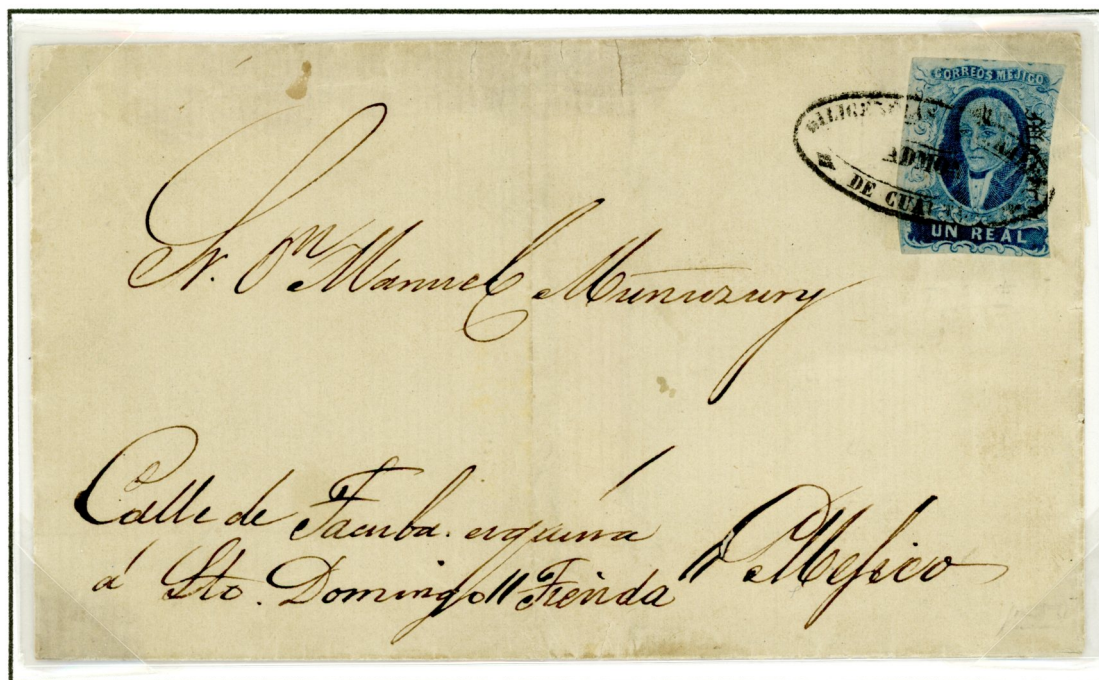


DATED NOVEMBER 18, 1867

Unique combo cover with the thick paper stamp having no overprint.

CUAUTLA — DILIGENCIAS OFFICE & AMECAMECA

The Diligencias office in Cuautla provided **stagecoach** mail service. Records show that only **800 Un Real** and **570 Dos Reales** thin paper stamps were sent to this office. It is one of the very few instances where Gothics were shipped and used outside of Mexico City. Stagecoach letters were cancelled with the oval Diligencias Generales cancel of Cuautla. **Amecameca** is a small town outside of Mexico City that was a sub-sub-office of Chalco which received only 60 Medio Real stamps. The Medio Real stamp below is unique. See the Thick Paper section for an example of a unique Amecameca cover.



DATED DECEMBER 21, 1867 TO MEXICO CITY

Five covers are recorded

UN REAL PAIR



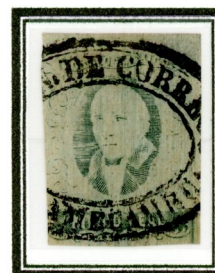
LARGEST MULTIPLE KNOWN ●

DOS REALES



Only 570 sent ●

AMECAMECA



UNIQUE MEDIO ●

GOTHIC ISSUE — OUT OF DISTRICT

The Gothic Issue stamps were intended to be used only in Mexico City and 4 small sub offices. A very few stamps were used outside Mexico District and are all scarce to rare. A testament to how difficult it was to obtain stamps.

MORELIA



2 R Thick paper + 1/2 R Thin paper

PEROTE •



1 R Thick paper

ORIZAVA •



2 R Thin paper

TASCO •



2 R Thin paper

VERACRUZ •



2 R Thin paper

PUEBLA

THIN PAPER



1/2 R



2 R •



2 R •

THICK PAPER



1 R •

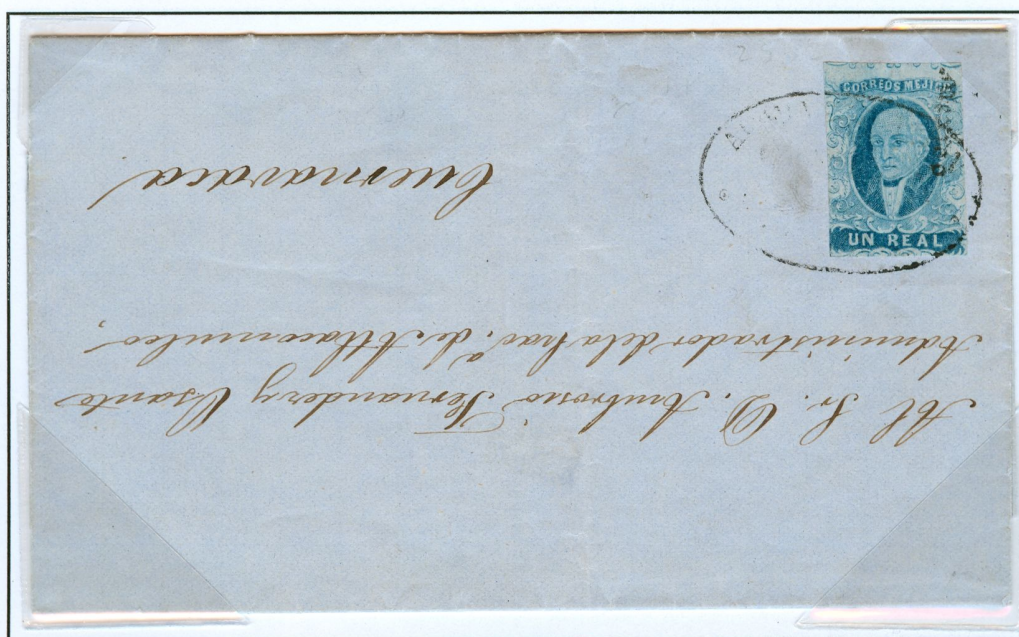


2 R



4 R (2 copies known)

UN REAL RATE (< 1/2 Oz./ > 16 LEAGUES)



ONLY RECORDED USE OF THE ADMINISTRATION CANCEL ON COVER.



SCH. 818A

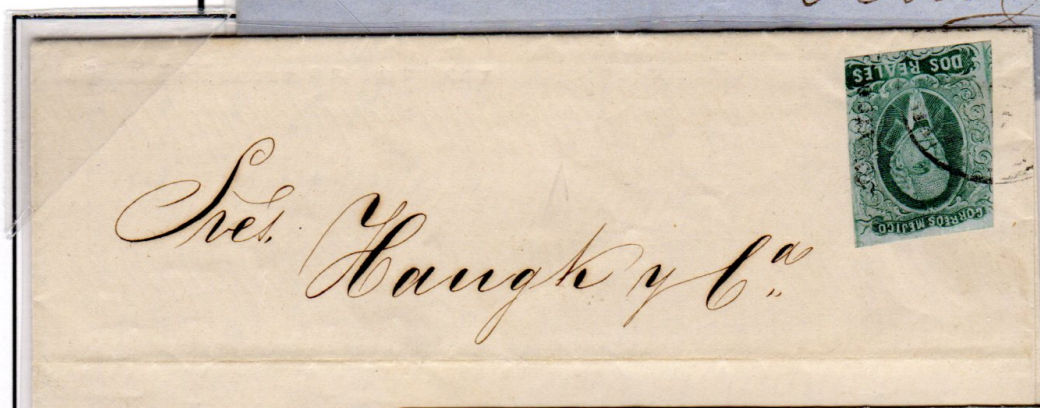
DATED JANUARY 9, 1868



DATED JANUARY 15, 1868 TO CUERNAVACA

DOS REALES RATE (< 1/2 OZ./> 16 LEAGUES)

Two thin paper Un Real on folded letter dated Oct. 16, 1867 to pay the single letter rate to Vera Cruz. The stamp on the left is an exceptional corner copy Pos. 1, Plate IV with the double frame line at the top and selvage showing a large plate crack.



September 17, 1867
To Guanajuato



Late use Dos
January 2, 1868
Very unusual light
green print to VC.

TRES REALES RATE ($\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ OZ./ > 16 LEAGUES)

This cover is the earliest known use for the thin paper Un Real.



DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 1867 TO GUANAJUATO - BLUE MERCHANT OVAL MARK



DATED DECEMBER 5 17, 1867 TO DURANGO - LEFT STAMP WITH PLATE LINE

CUATRO REALES RATE ($\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 Oz./> 16 LEAGUES)



Dated Nov. 30, 1867 to Durango – 4 reales stamps were plentiful, pairs of 2 reales are scarce.

COMBO THIN/THICK PAPER



Only 3-4 such covers reported. 3 Reales rate dated Jan. 8, 1868 to Morelia PFCert.

Finally on September 8, 1868 the new National Issue of 1868 was released. Within days shipments were sent to all the Postal Districts for immediate use. Thus bringing to an end the Provisional Period of 1867-68

THIN FIGURE FULL FACE HIDALGOS – ISSUE OF 1868

Examples of the new stamps that replaced the Provisional stamps and stampless covers being used throughout the country. Stamps were overprinted with the district number and year (68) as well as the district name. 40 districts received stamps, each with a different number.



6 c.
8 68 - Mazatlan



12 c.
3 68 - Guadalajara



25 c.
17 68 - Pachuca



50 c.
2 68 - Vera Cruz



100 c. BLACK/BROWN
1 68 - Mexico



100 c. BROWN/BROWN
5 68 - S.L Potasi



EXTRAORDINARY REGISTERED FRONT – MAZATLAN 19 NOV. 1868