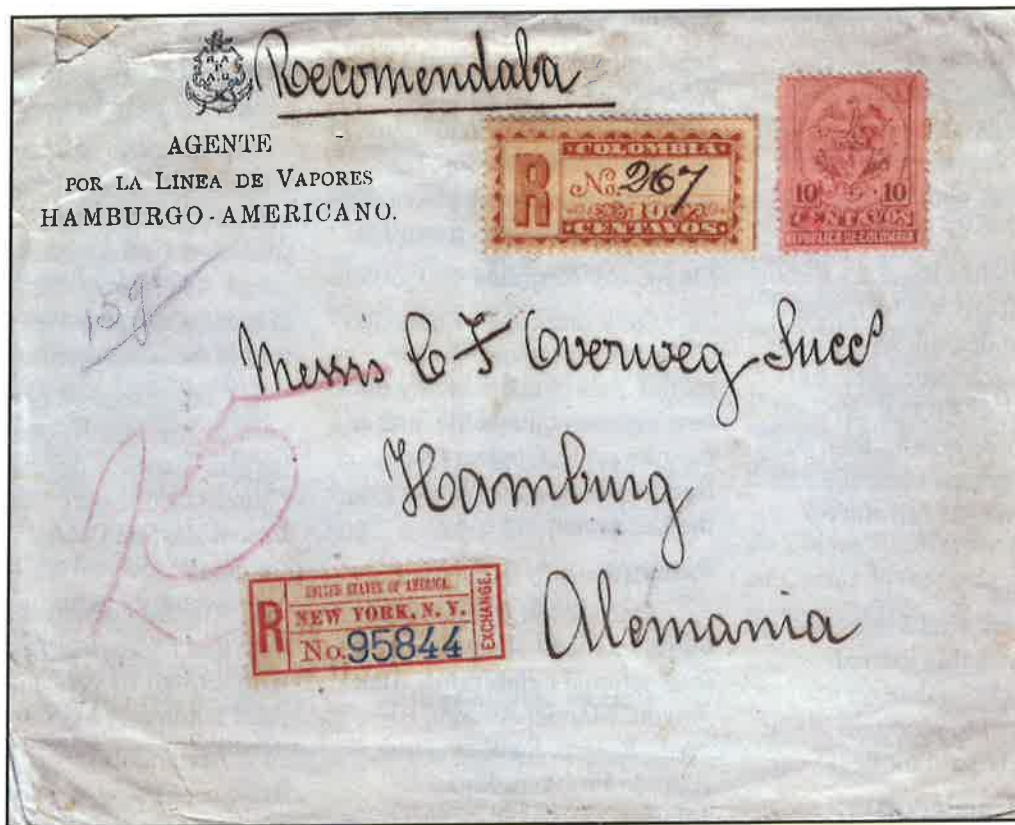


COPACARTA

Volume 29
Number 1
September 2011



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Dues Notice

Check the date on your mailing label. Do you need to pay your dues?

Editor's Remarks

This number of the journal features a major article on the postal services of the Independence Era by Manuel Arango. It is longer than I usually like to run in a single section but the importance of the subject and the absence of any obvious breaking points seemed to warrant the break with my usual practice.

Also in this issue are a couple of small articles by Richard Müller, one dealing with a possible Civil War precursor; the other with Ley 105 of 1899. Both are more queries than conclusions. Perhaps someone can help out with the full story.

Dues Notice

You will find a dues notice included with this journal. Please check the date on your mailing label to ascertain if you have already paid for next year.

Auction Remainders

Thanks to all who participated on sale #34 which had

total sales of \$9,016. Lots showing NB received no bid and are available at the opening price on a first come basis through October 30th. Please contact me at kenstampneb@cox.net or Ken Adams 5112 S 193rd St, Omaha, NE 68135. We do not yet have a schedule date for a 2012 sale but please contact me if you have material to consign.

One Copy Remains

Only one copy of Santiago Cruz' book on Antioquia remains. This is undoubtedly the best treatment available, and at a bargain price. Contact Debbie at rbreuerl@nycap.rr.com to get the last remaining copy.

Palmares

Once again Colombian exhibits fare well at national and international exhibitions. Alan Anyon, Manuel Arango, Ricardo Botero, Santiago Cruz, Alfredo Frohlich, James C. Johnson are all big winners.

Literature

Perhaps it is our concentration on minutia but philatelists have one of the greatest bodies of literature of any hobby. Debby mentions several new contributions in her column.

Those who collect the Colombian classics will want to make sure that Dieter Bortfeldt's studies of Colombian forgeries are in their library. The volume that deals with the 1859-68 period is the second edition.

Classic collectors may also wish to consider Bridgett Kaplan and Carlos Valenzuela's *Estudio de Sobres Clasicos de Colombia*. See Debby's column for details.

Airmail collectors should note that Dieter Bortfeldt deals with airmail forgeries in the third volume of his series.

And, don't forget Brid's *Stamps of Panama 1878-2007* and Jim Cross' *Panama Postal Markings.*, both published by Copaphil.

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From the President's Desk

Colombia has been well represented in two recent exhibitions. Congratulations to all. I was able to attend Stampshow and enjoyed the opportunity to see those collections. The material and write-ups of all of the collections were excellent and provided new information. It would be wonderful if more exhibits could be placed on the Internet so the many interested collectors unable to travel to shows could see and learn from these collections. I am looking forward to attending EXFIME 2011 in Medellin. A report on the show will be in the next COPACARTA.

While on the subject of information, some of our members may not be aware of several books of interest that have been published in the last few years. Please contact a philatelic litera-

ture dealer for availability and cost. If that resource cannot help, I suggest you contact Dieter Bortfeldt at colomphil@usa.net.

Authored by Dieter Bortfeldt, there are three volumes dealing with forgeries and reprints. These are:

The Workbook Notes on Reprints and Forgeries of Colombian Stamps

Part I The Classic Period 1859-1868 2nd rev edition 2006 212 pp

Part II The Sovereign States of Colombia 240 pp, 2007

Part III The Colombian Airmails 240 pp, 2007

Also published recently are:

Colombian Stamp Art Imre Von Mosdossy by Santiago Cruz 2011 Approx 200 pp unnumbered.

Mosdossy was the designer of more than 500 stamps for various countries, approx 200 for Colombia. About 80% of issued stamps in Colombia between 1958 and 1978 were created by him. Collection shows the original hand painted artwork and layouts for over 50 stamps and includes color trials, proofs, varieties and issued stamps. Unissued designs are also shown.)

Estudio de Sobres Clasicos de Colombia, Brigitte Kaplan, ed Carlos Valenzuela 2010 Approx 200 pp

*Debby Friedman
rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com*

Recent Palmares

STAMPSHOW 2011

United States of Colombia Alfredo Frohlich (in the Champion of Champions Competition)
Colombia's Cartagena Civil War Issues 1899-1902 Alfredo Frohlich Gold
Colombia Department of Antioquia 1886-1904 Santiago Cruz Gold and candidate for Grand Award
Revenues of Colombia 1858-1904 Manuel Arango Gold
Colombia Postal Markings 1840-1886 James C. Johnson Gold

PHILANIPPON 2011 Japan World Stamp Exhibition, Yokohama, (FIP recognised)

Colombia: The Department of Antioquia 1886-1904 Santiago Cruz Gold
Republic of Colombia Internal Mail 1886-1899 Alfredo Frohlich Gold
Provisional Issues of Colombia Alan Anyon Gold
Classic Colombia: The first six Issues (1859-1864) Ricardo Botero Large Vermeil
Colombian Incoming Mail 1922-1937 James C Johnson Vermeil

Ley 105 del 1889?

Robert Müller

Sorting my manuscript cancellations I found two puzzling stamps. The first (fig. 1), a 50c from 1888 is cancelled with a box-date cancel reading "de Correos" (so)gamoso (N)ov 1. 189 (1?) and a handwritten "/regreso/".



Fig. 1. Sogamosa

The second stamp (fig. 2) is a 5 peso red from 1892 with a small oval BOGOTA cancel and a handwritten "/Porte de icha y regreso y... Ley 105 del (89)"/, 89 in small thin letters added. It should mean "Law about Postage for way to and back? Does anyone know about this law? It probably concerned judicial postage where the papers



Fig. 2. Ley 105

were often sent both ways.

Does anyone have more stamps like this (or a document).

Information welcome to my email: romer23@gmx.de

One Copy Left!!

COLOMBIA THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTIOQUIA 1886-1904

In conjunction with his presentation at the Collectors Club of New York on May 4, Santiago Cruz prepared a book as a handout. It is soft covered, 8 ½ x 11" format in color. Well over 100 pages (un-numbered) the book shows many pages from the exhibited collection. With very little written about these issues, the book will be a valuable reference for anyone interested in this area. I have only **THREE copies** which are available for COPAPHIL members ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. The proceeds will go to COPAPHIL.

The cost is \$25 plus shipping and handling. (to US addresses \$4.00; to Canada \$7.50; all other overseas destinations \$ \$14.00) Payment by PayPal for overseas purchasers will be an additional \$2. **SINCE THERE IS ONLY ONE COPY PLEASE EMAIL ME FIRST** at rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com **TO CONFIRM AVAILABILITY**

A Quick Overview of Postal Services in the Colombian Independence Era

Manuel Arango Echeverri

Much has been written about the historical background of this particular period in Colombia. Despite the difficulty of separating oneself from the historical environment, the objective of this piece is to show new and little-known aspects of the postal service and philately of that time. By 1810, the year in which the independence movement started, the postal service in the colony worked in accordance to the established processes set forth in the *Itinerario Real de correos del Nuevo Reyno de Granada y tierra firme* (Royal Itinerary for Postal Services in the New Kingdom of Granada and the Mainland), also known as the *Manifiesto del Pando* (Pando Manifesto),¹ by José de Pando y Riba. Approved by the viceroy, don Pedro Messía de la Zerda, in October 1770, it made reference to the routes, known as *carreras*, couriers, fees applied between different cities or towns of the viceroyalty, and the corresponding regulations, among other things. The runs that linked up in Santa Fe de Bogotá at this time were the following:

The Cartagena Route.

This postal itinerary covered the correspondence of the provinces of Mariquita, Antioquia, Mompox, Santa Marta, Riohacha, Cartagena, Portobello, Panamá, Darién, and Veraguas, as well as the correspondence from overseas. This ser-

vice would arrive in Santa Fe on the 8th, 18th and 20th day of every month in the morning; and arrive at its destinations on the 9th, 19th and 29th of every month

at 12 midnight. The correspondence would be accompanied by an invoice showing the exact count of the correspondence included (fig. 1).

225

CERTIFICADOS.

CON el Correo Ordinario dirijo á Um. la correspondencia que se ha presentado en esta para esa Administracion, á quien segun la factura siguiente queda cargado el importe de la que no va franca.

Nuestro Señor guarde á Um. muchos años. Mompox. *22 de Diciembre*

AUTOS FRANCOS.

Fernando Dadin

FRANCOS.

AUTOS DE PAGO.

1. Sencillas	 á	100/10
Dobles	 á	
Triples	 á	
Pliegos	onzas, á	

DE PAGO.

2. Sencillas	 á	100/8
Dobles	 á	
Triples	 á	
Pliegos	 á	

EXTRAVAGAN. DE PAGO.

Intervine
Andrés José Moreno

Juan del Corral

Encomendas que lleva el Conductor en Carta-cuenta

Señor Administrador de los Correos de *Medellin*

Fig. 1. December 3, 1795. Delivery invoice of correspondence from Mompox to Medellín (The Cartagena Run).

The Quito Route.

This postal itinerary covered the correspondence of the provinces of *Neiva*, *Chocó*, *Popayán*, *Quito*, *Cuenca* and *Guayaquil* as well as those of the Viceroyalties of *Peru* and *Buenos Aires*. This service would arrive at the capital, *Santa Fe*, on the 4th and 19th of every month in the afternoon and depart on the 6th and 12th at 12 noon.

The Girón, Cúcuta, and los Llanos Route

This postal itinerary covered the correspondences of the provinces of *Tunja*, *Girón*, *Socorro*, *Pamplona*, the *Casanare* plains, and of *San Martín*, *Maracaibo*, *Guayana* and *Caracas* as well as those of the islands of *Trinidad* and *Margarita*. This service would arrive at the capital, *Santa Fe*, on the 5th and 20th of every month and depart on the 7th and 22nd at 12 noon.²

The organization of the postal service established by *Pando* was maintained until 1825/1826 at which time it was reformed by Vice-president *Francisco de Paula Santander* by means of the decrees of the 15th of May 1825 (3 monthly dispatches were established), and the decree of the 12 of June 1826 (increased to 4 monthly dispatches on the 3 different runs). The administration of General *Santander* reorganized the post office of the capital, the principal administrations, increased the number of couriers in the major townships, and incorporated the income collected from this activity into the Inland Revenue. Three principal Postal Districts were created with their

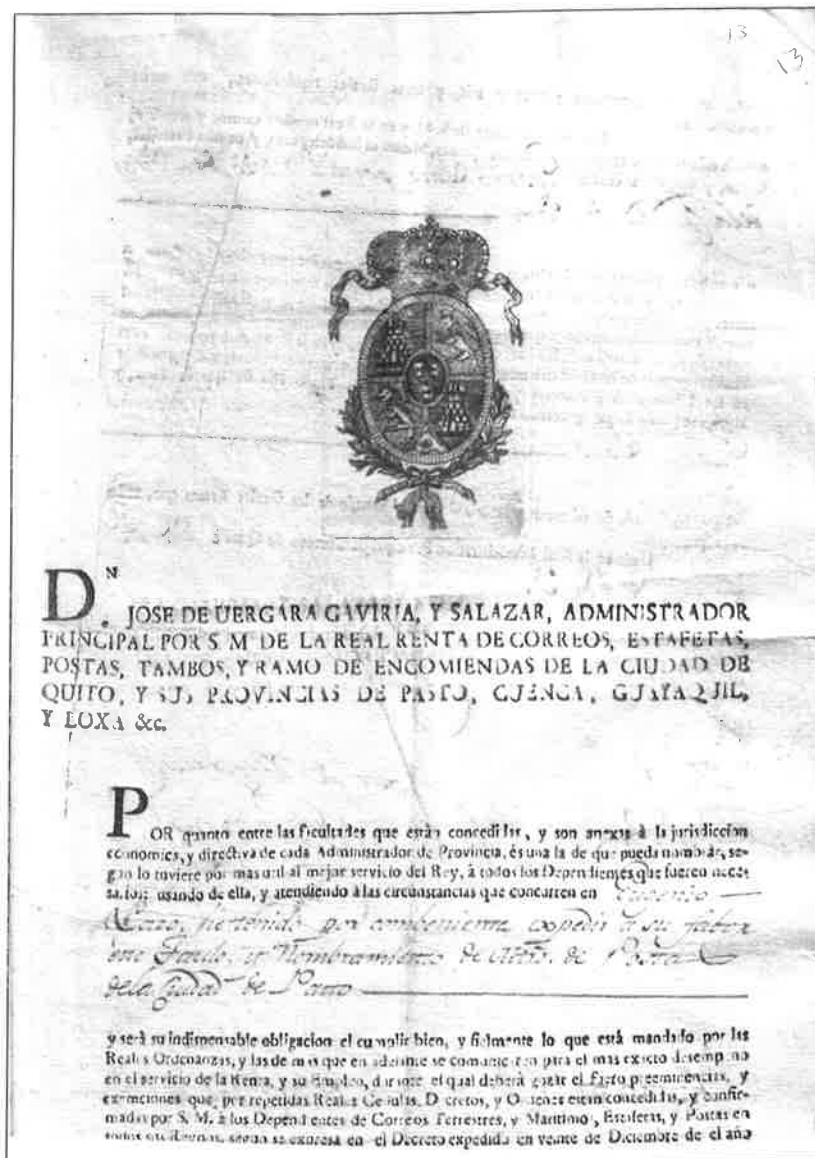


Fig. 2. Appointment of Eugenio Lazo as postal administrator in the Province of Pasto on April 28, 1803.

respective administrators, which were to reside in *Bogota*, *Caracas* and *Quito*. In *Bogota* the administrator was General *Manuel Calderón*. Another law promoted the enlightenment of villages and freed up postal courier services for the delivery of national and foreign newspapers in any amounts desired. Brochures had an exemption if their weight did not exceed four ounces.

We only have a fragmented view of the actual way in which the postal service operated at this time of political and administrative turmoil, and unfortunately not many postal registries are known that could give us a clear idea as to how things really happened. The existence of postal registries and/or circulated letters of the time are truly scarce. The vast majority of these examples are found in of-

ficial archives and a scarce few in personal archives. In *Colombia*, the General Archive of the Nation (AGN, for its acronym in Spanish) houses many collections of documents, including postal documents, which is where the majority of the registries we will be examining, have come from. A running postal service was an imperative necessity for improved communications, and also a very important activity both for the community and for the government. Additionally, wherever it was set up and organized, it brought great benefits to the localities. Nonetheless, its importance in terms of income was substantially lower and in 1810 it only repre-

sented 1.89% of the total state revenue.

At around 1810, New Granada had slavery mostly in the provinces of *Santa Marta*, *Cartagena*, *Panamá*, *Chocó*, *Antioquia* and *Popayan*. Although there was no shortage in the other provinces, the numbers of slaves were a lot smaller. According to several sources, there were as many as 70,000 and the numbers of free people of color went up to 140,000; the Indians summed up almost exactly 313,000, while the rest were white, making up a total of 1,400,000 inhabitants of New Granada at the beginning of the revolution (3). Few were literate and thus had little use for postal

services. By 1824, the situation had not changed in any substantial way, and the percentage of revenue derived from the postal services was at 0.73%, mostly as a result of a significant increase in other sources of income, aside from the postal service. See figure 3, where we can appreciate the general state of income levels in the years leading up to the revolution, compared with the income levels in the Republic of *Colombia* in 1824 (4).

In the *Audiencia of Santa Fe*, the emancipation process began in *Cartagena* with the signature of a charter establishing a temporary government in *Cartagena de Indias*, on the 22nd of May 1810; this was followed

Estado general de las rentas que tenia el gobierno español en los últimos años que precedieron á la revolución en el territorio que hoy compone la república de Colombia y en año medio.					Estado general de las rentas que ha tenido la república de Colombia en 1824.	
Ramos de rentas.	Venezuela.	Nueva Granada.	Presidencia de Quito.	Total de paises.	Ramos de rentas.	Productos líquidos.
Tabacos	700,000	470,000		1,170,000	Tabacos	Pesos. 907,875.
Aguardiente		295,048	50,000	345,048	Derechos sobre la destilacion y venta de aguardiente	134,477.
Naipes		12,000		12,000	Pólvera	45,300.
Pólvera		11,500		11,500	Aduanas	3,902,500.
Aduanas	400,000	191,000	67,000	658,000	Alcabalas	275,265.
Alcabalas	400,000	184,880	45,000	629,880	Derecho de internacion. — Su producto probable	453,750.
Quintos	40	78,000	200	78,240	Contribucion directa	420,000.
Casas de moneda		150,000		150,000	Quintos	62,500.
Papel sellado	30,000	55,000	30,000	115,000	Derechos de fundicion de oro	8,100.
Composicion y venta de tierras	13,000	4,000	1,000	17,000	Casas de moneda	133,400.
Tributos de Indios	50,000	47,000	215,089	290,089	Papel sellado	210,000.
Derecho sobre mieles	52,000			52,000	Venta de tierras baldias	75,000.
Derecho de pulperias	30,000	6,000		36,000	Medias anatas de empleos civiles	29,000.
Derecho de lanzas	4,000			4,000	Salinas administradas por cuenta de la República	130,500.
Medias anatas de empleos	10,000	15,000		25,000	Derechos sobre sales	58,125.
Oficios vendibles	8,000	10,000	4,000	22,000	Diezmos y vacantes	428,700.
Salinas	14,000	65,000		79,000	Mesada eclesiástica	12,500.
Diezmos y vacantes	130,000	100,000	89,000	319,000	Medias anatas eclesiásticas	12,500.
Mesada y medias anatas eclesiásticas	15,000	22,000		37,000	Anualidades eclesiásticas	25,000.
Anualidades	12,000	23,000		35,000	Correos	54,800.
Bulas de cruzada	26,000	30,000	15,000	71,000	Comisos	18,725.
Correos	25,000	35,000	10,000	70,000	Pacios de gallos	3,800.
Confiscaciones y comisos	4,000	25,000	4,000	33,000	Pacios de rios y peages	8,700.
Pacios de gallos		700	1,500	2,200	Derechos de bodegas de rios	3,969.
Totales parciales	1,882,340	1,848,128	527,789	4,257,957	Derecho para el museo nacional	16,050.
					Suma parcial.	7,430,327.

Fig. 3. Comparative tables showing the state revenues in New Granada for the years 1810 and 1824

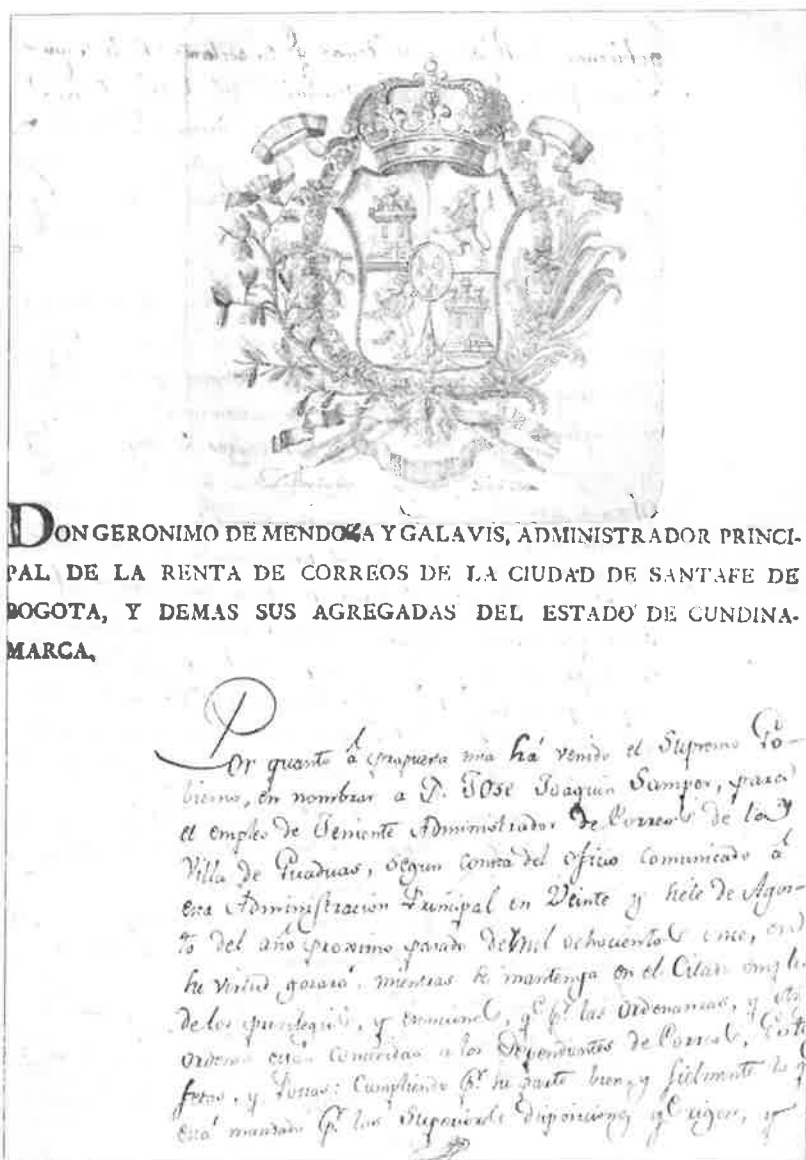


Fig. 4. Appointment of José Joaquín Samper as Lieutenant Administrator of the Postal Services of the Town of Guaduas on August 25, 1811.

by the charter to form a special Government Junta in *Santiago de Cali* on the 3rd of July 1810, the charter to form the Government Junta of the city of *Socorro* on the 11th of July 1810 and finally the charter of the special *Cabildo* (general town council assembly) of the city of *Santa Fe*, on the 20th of July 1810 in which a *Junta* was established which called itself

"*Junta Suprema del Nuevo Reino*" ("Supreme Junta of the New Kingdom of *Granada*").

The Supreme Government Junta of the New Kingdom of *Granada* was formally presided over by the viceroy Amar but actually led by Dr. *José Miguel Pey*, at the time the main speaker in the *Cabildo* of *Santa Fe* and the one who later ordered the viceroy to be arrested.

This Junta committed itself to:

"1) Defend and maintain the Catholic religion; 2) defend the sovereignty of *Fernando VII* over his territories; 3) avoid any divisions between provinces and possible conflicts between Spaniards of European and of American origin; 4) attend the requests of the people through a councilman elected amongst the people; 5) guarantee the internal and external safety of the people; 6) establish a voluntary battalion; 7) illuminate the city for three nights once the Supreme *Junta* has been established; and 9) prosecute, detain and punish any suspicious and criminal individuals" The Junta warned the citizens that any criticism of the actions of the *Cabildo* was equivalent to criticizing the people of *Santa Fe* as such, as the Junta was acting for the people, on behalf of the people. (5).

When a new modern state is created the main issue is "nothing other than the birth and affirmation of the concept of sovereignty". On Friday the 22nd of December 1810 the first Supreme Congress of the New Kingdom of *Granada* was installed in *Santa Fe*. The members present were representatives from the provincial juntas of *Socorro*, *Neiva*, *Santa Fe*, *Pamplona*, *Nóvita* and *Mariquita*. Although the provinces were the legal entities claiming the right to participate in the first congress of the kingdom, in fact it turned out to be a meeting of litigant attorneys being welcomed into the podiums of the *Audencia* of *Santa Fe* (6).

Altogether, the inability of the "attorneys" to find compro-

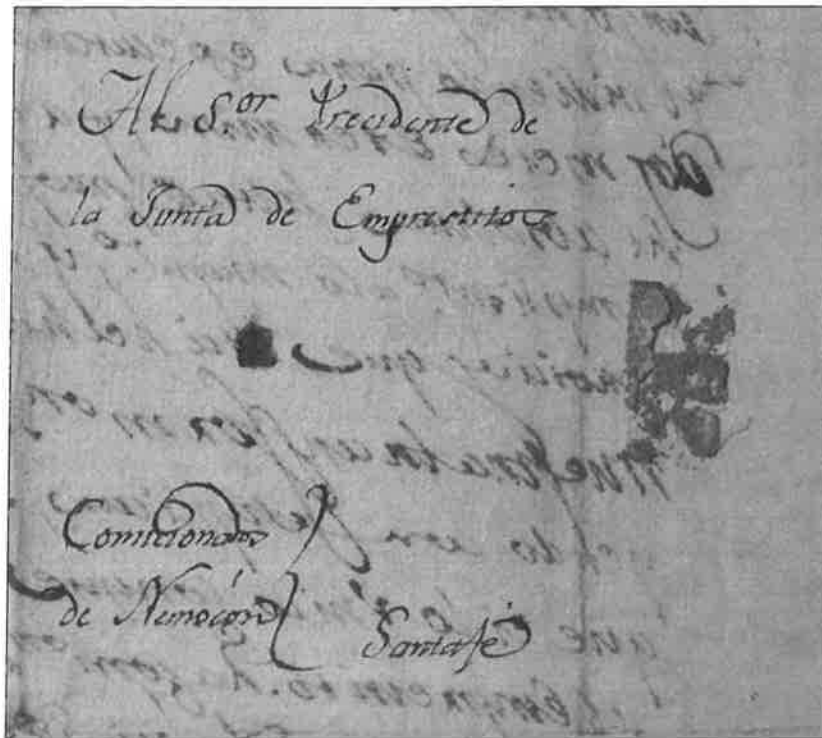


Fig. 5. Letter sent to the president of the commission of the Board of Loans dated October 23, 1813.

mises in the two debates raised in the first parliamentary experience in New Granada—that of

the representation of the provinces, on the one hand, and that of the dissolution of provincial sovereignties- forced the adjournment of the first General Congress and paved the way for two new



Fig. 6. Letter by the president of the Loans Commission, Pedro Groot, February 11, 1814.

events that were at odds with each other: the constitution of the Sovereign State of *Cundinamarca* led by *Antonio Nariño* and the formation of the federation of the United Provinces of New Granada led by *Camilo Torres*. This first attempt to govern through Congress in the New Kingdom failed because a consensus could not be negotiated regarding the problem of national representation in this entity, and so the provinces, following the example of *Santa Fe* and *Cartagena*, preferred retaining in themselves the same sovereignties that had been established in 1810. Before the failure of the National Congress there was a call for a Constituent Electoral College, created by the State of *Cundinamarca* and with *Jorge Tadeo Lozano* appointed as first president, who was in power between the 26th of March and the 19th of September 1811.

Within this whole set of situations, confounded by loyalties to *Fernando VII*, a duality of positions can be observed, neatly illustrated in Fig. 4



Fig. 7. Letter addressed to the President and Lieutenant General Antonio Nariño, dated August 17, 1813, bearing a pre-philatelic stamp FCA YBAGUE (Free Ibagué).



Fig. 8. Letter sent to Don Antonio Nariño, **President of Cundinamarca**, dated March 20, 1813. Only sample known of this postal marking: **LIBERTAD. ESTADO DE TUNJA FRANCA** (Liberty. Free State of Tunja).

above, which represents the appointment of the administrator of the post office of the Town of Guaduas by the administrator of postal revenues of Santa Fe de

Bogota, a document bearing the official royal seal of the Royal Postal Revenue and at the same time alluding



Fig. 10. Letter addressed to the Borrowing Commissioner, Don Esteban de Estrada, in Tocayma, bearing a pre-philatelic hand stamp **SANTAFE YNDIAS FRANCA** (Free and clear - Santa Fe of the Indies). January 13, 1814.



Fig. 9. Letter to President Antonio Nariño, September 13, 1813, sent by the deputies from the Casanare territory. The letter may have been carried by hand, as it has no postal markings.

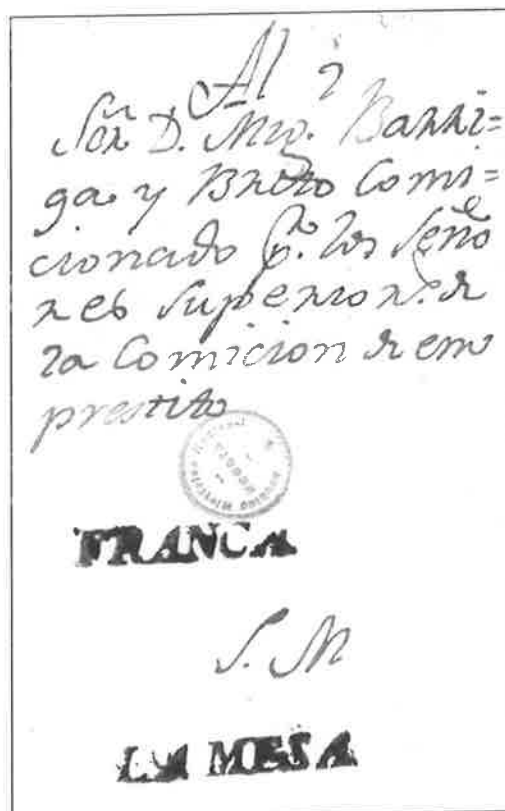


Fig. 11. October 12, 1813. Letter to Don Miguel Barriga y Brito, from the Borrowing Commission, bearing a pre-philatelic hand stamp **LA MESA FRANCA** (Free and clear - Santa Fe of the Indies). January 13, 1814.



Fig. 12. Letter sent from La Mesa on September 23, 1813, with a deeply patriotic content: "Long live our Independence", addressed to the Borrowing Commissioner Don Miguel Barriga y Brito, in Santa Fe. Handed in personally.

to the State of *Cundinamarca*. This contrasts with the document in Fig. 1 in which only symbols with the Spanish crown are to be found.

Lozano's main opponent was *Antonio Nariño*, whose writings came across so damning that soon a popular commotion arose which threw out the governance of the first president of *Cundinamarca* to put *Nariño* in power. The latter governed for the fleeting period of one year, (11th of September 1812 – August of 1813), as in September of 1813 he was to command a military expedition to the south.



Fig. 13. 4th class stamped paper for the years 1808-1809, revalidated for 1812-1813, showing the contributions by the indigenous people of Chocontá. November 3, 1813.

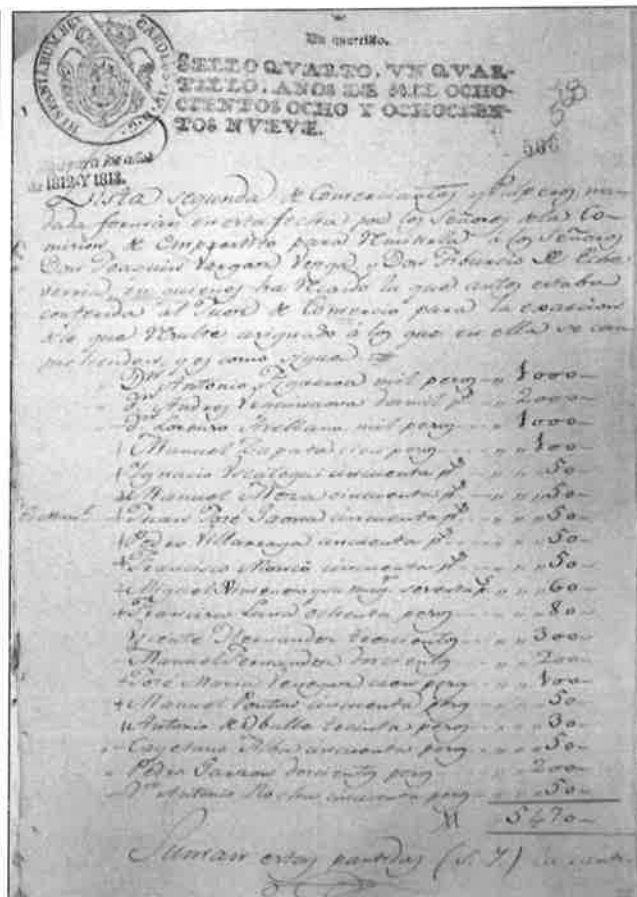


Fig. 14. 4th class stamped paper for the years 1808-1809, revalidated for 1812-1813 with the mandatory contributions of merchants and pulqueros.



Fig. 15. Statement of revenues and expenses for the first quarter of 1814 in the Villa del Socorro.

This first period (1810-1816) has gone down in history with the infamous name of the “foolish fatherland”, so called for the inability of its leaders to form a strong and stable government. The obvious jealousies and differences between *Camilo Torres* and *Antonio Nariño* brought a civil war between the two sides represented by *Tunja* as the capital of federalism and *Bogota* as defender of a centralist government. Meanwhile, in the midst of so much political and armed combat frequently generated by old family litigations, Spanish troops led by *Juan Sámano* took advantage of this to invade Colombian territory from the south. Figs. 7, 8 and 9 show us three letters addressed to the *Antonio Nariño* during his period as president of the State of *Cundinamarca*, all of them extraordinarily rare because of the stamps



Fig. 17. Letter dated 12 May, 1812 hand stamped “VELEZ debe”.



Fig. 16. Letter dated 31st December, 1813 stamped “Sta. ROSA de PURIFICACION FRANCA”. This is the only hand stamp known from this village.

used on them, especially the one from *Tunja* and its stamp (only known example) of *LIBERTAD. ESTADO DE TUNJA FRANCA* (Liberty. Free and clear-State of *Tunja*). In 1814, when *Nariño* was defeated and arrested in *Pasto*, the federalists organized a new offensive to submit *Cundinamarca*, this time with the support of Venezuelan colonel



Fig. 18. Letter dated 27 February, 1815 hand stamped “TOCAYMA FRANCA” (Free and clear – Tocaima).

Simón Bolívar, which ended in the surrender of the city of *Santa Fe* on the 11th of December 1814. However, the revolution urgently needed funds to subsist and by 1813 the costs of war and maintaining the state had left the coffers empty. The state fell back on a voluntary loan of \$112,000 in doubloons and on the 30th of June *Nariño* proposed an additional loan of \$300,000 distributed between commerce, agriculture, regular and secular clergy, supported with the products of the National Mint and the product of the salt works in *Zipacquirá*, *Nemocón* and *Tausa* (7) and created the "Borrowing Commission" which took charge of managing the resources that were given by citizens whether voluntarily or mandatorily.

In figs. 13 and 14 we see two types of contributions in sealed paper with the validation corresponding to the biennium of 1812-1813. The first of the two corresponds to the so-called *voluntary* contributions, in this case the indigenous donors of the villa of *Chocontá* and the value provided by each one in a free and voluntary manner, dated the 3rd of November 1813 and the second case deals with the mandatory loans from citizens who were obligated to contribute to the treasury with the promise of the government to reimburse them, which in fact happened years later. The provinces continued reporting a statement for each one of its administrations, clearly indicating the figures of correspondence sent and received, parcels on the runs and their corresponding couriers. Fig. 15 shows us the state of the values

of expenditure from January 1st to April 1st of 1814 of the principal post administration of the Villa of *Socorro*.

The interest in improving the postal service and a better distribution for correspondence, taking into account the difficulties of budget and administration management of this new nation, can be clearly seen in a project proposed in the *Socorro* province by its postal administrator, don

Josef Antonio Ardila, on the 8th of May 1815 with the intention of establishing three postal services every month from Pamplona to Santa Fe, similar to the already existing one from *Girón*.

This novelty consisted of requesting three dispatches per month instead of two as was

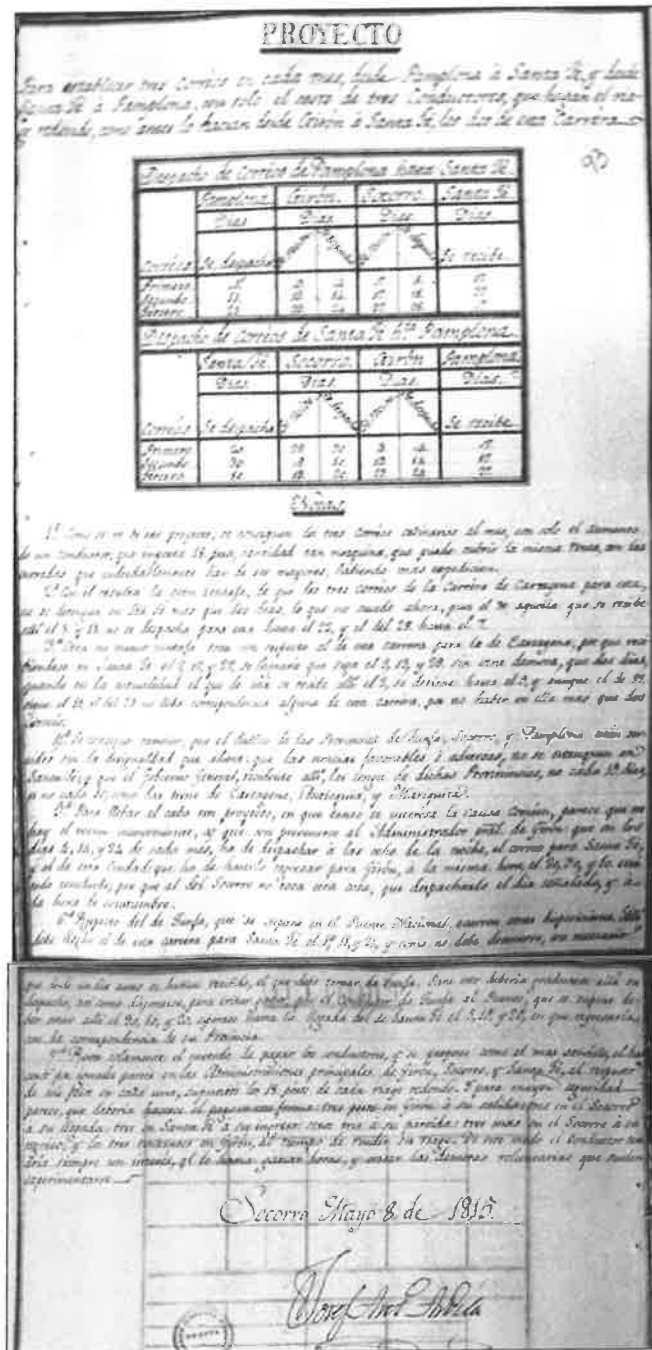


Fig. 20. Reform Project for the Pamplona – Santa Fe postal run.

being done on the *Girón*, *Cúcuta*, and *los Llanos* runs, now leaving Pamplona on the 1st, 11th and 21st of every month and returning from *Santa Fe* on the 20th, 30th and 10th of every month respectively, its purpose

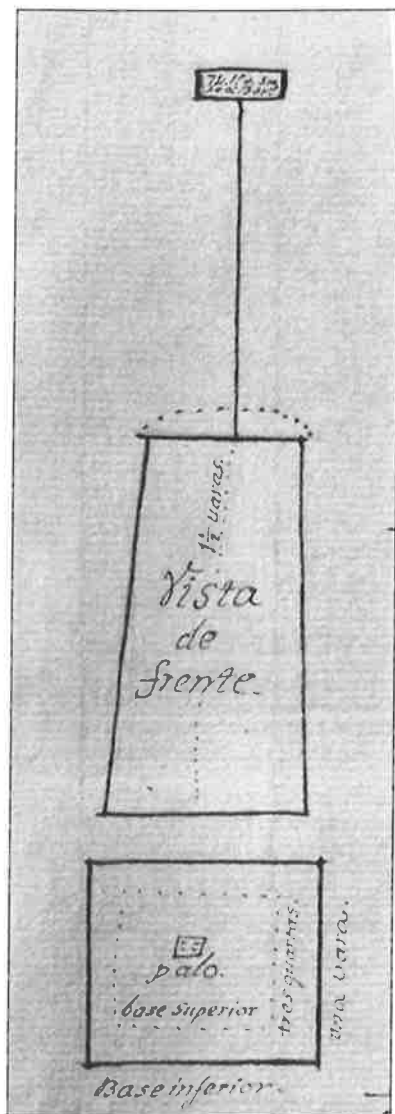


Fig. 21. Design of the road post, according to circular letter dated July 7, 1816.

being, among others "that news, whether good or bad, not be held up in Santa Fe and that the General Government there residing has them from its respective provinces not every 15 days but every 10 days, in the same way as Cartagena, Antioquia and Mariquita".

Fig. 20 shows the project in its original context and the corresponding explanatory notes that support this initiative. This

project was rejected on the 15th of September 1815 in light of the unfavorable views of *Gerónimo de Mendoza y Galaviz*, general postal administrator in Santa Fe. The reconquest on behalf of the Spanish crown had begun in *Cádiz* on the 24th of May 1815 commanded by lieutenant general *Pablo Morillo*. The troops of the *Pacificador* entered the territory of New Granada through different routes. Colonel *Sebastián Calzada* entered through *Cúcuta* and *Casanare* and decimated the national army in the battle of *Cachirí*. *Morillo's* army tore apart the government of the United Provinces. The triumvirate made up of *García Rovira* and *José Manuel Restrepo* was replaced by *Camilo Torres*, this lasts for a few days until he was finally succeeded by *José Fernández Madrid*. *Morillo* gained access to *Santa Fe* without difficulty on the 26th of May 1816. Fig. 21 shows how Navy Commander and Director of Roads and Postal Routes, *Antonio Van Halen*, passed on to the route administrators the instruc-

tion given by the expeditionary army chief *Don Pablo Morillo* with regards to the conservation of the boards and signs indicating the extension of roads (in leagues) and postal routes from *Puente Real* to *Botijas*.

This circular letter was issued on the 7th of July 1816 and consisted of indicating how to maintain the boards that showed the distances of the route in question, as well as the method and means of how these posts were to be constructed, with a stone foundation a yard and a half high, the lower base being one yard long and the upper base being three quarters of a yard, the numbers, written in black with a white background and the planks in masonry clad green. The funding for the execution of this project was to be requested from the governors of the respective district.

The necessity of increasing the level and frequency of communications and postal couriers for the head of the expeditionary army, the *Pacificador Pablo Morillo*, are evidenced in a letter

a la Capital de Santafé que da principio en salida de esta Flota de Cartagena en 30. de Sept. de 1816.	
Desde Cartagena a Barranca un día	1.
Desde Barranca a Mompoxo 10 y medio	2 1/2
Desde Mompoxo a Cascajal 10 y medio	2 1/2
Desde Cascajal al Puente de Botijas - por el Rio Lebrija y Cañaveral 10 días y medio	2 1/2
Desde Botijas a Santafé 10 y medio	2 1/2
Expresa al Director de Caminos Cap.º X	18.
Exercito D.º Antonio Van Halen, g.º.º.º.	
Deseo ser por favor con alguna complacencia.	

Fig. 22. Course that the additional run should follow, from the port of Botijas along the Lebrija/Cañaveral River to Santa Fe. 1816.

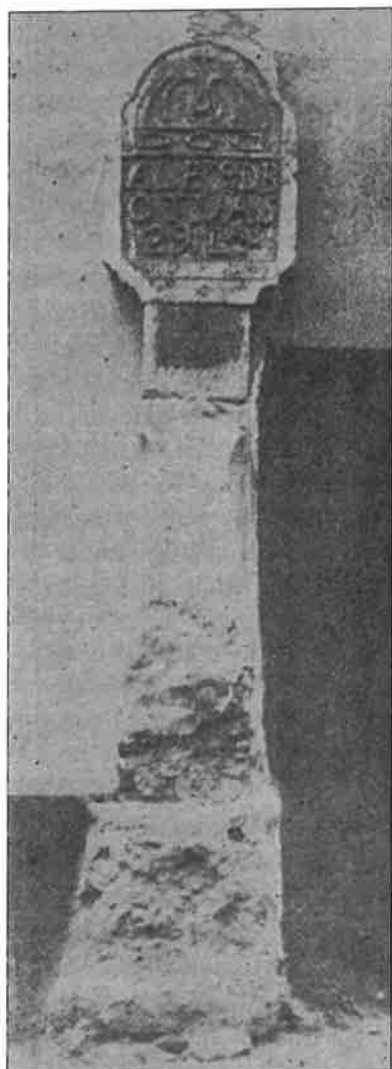


Fig. 23. Stone column of 1816

in which the postal administrator for Cartagena, Antonio García y Nieto advises viceroy Sámano (April 16, 1816) about the establishment, by order of Morillo, of an additional postal service on the Cartagena run. The purpose of this run would be to concentrate in the port of Botijas all the post destined for the Socorro province via the Lebrija/ Cañaverales River, leaving Cartagena for the first time on the 30th of September 1816 as an additional dispatch to the regular one running through Morales,

San Pablo, San Bartolomé, Nare and Honda and which encompassed all the commerce in the provinces of Antioquia, Chocó and Mariquita.

Fig. 22 shows a stone column commissioned by General Morillo in 1816 which indicates the distance of 29 leagues between Socorro and the (no longer existing) port of Botijas on the river Lebrija, back then the only way to travel between the province of Santander and the Atlantic coast.

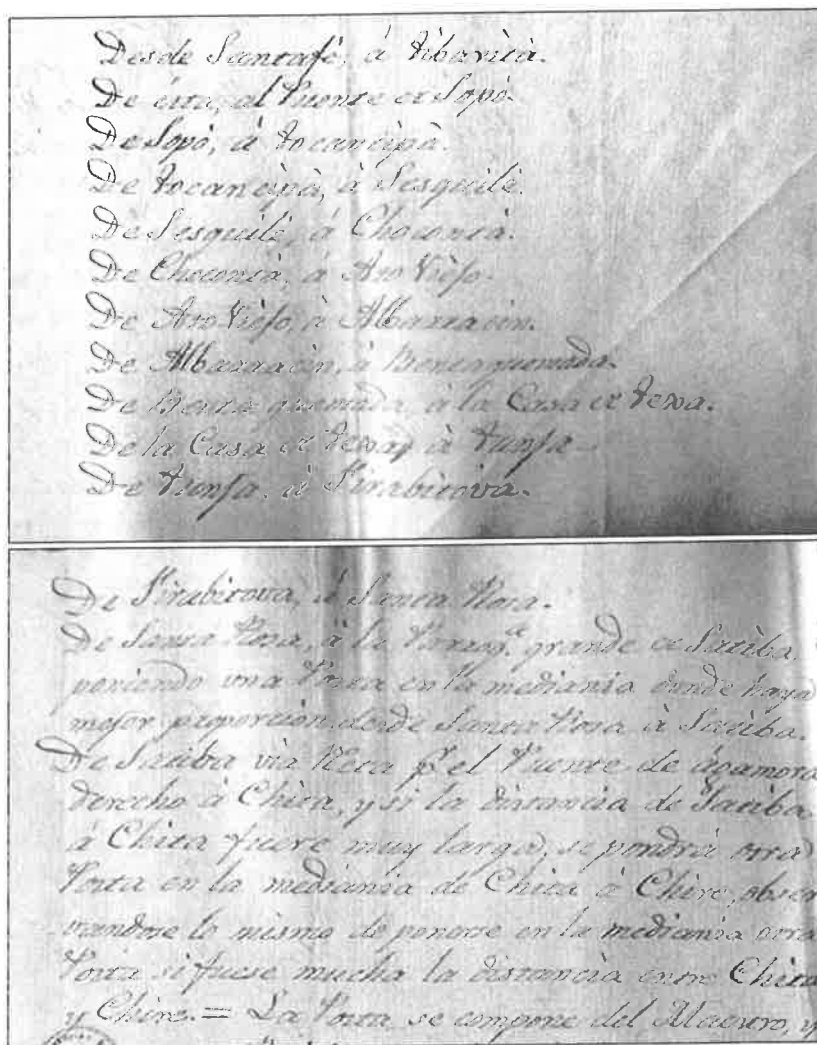


Fig. 24. Course that the run between Santa Fe and Chire (a town in the Eastern) should cover to establish communications with Pablo Murillo's army.

In January of 1817 Viceroy Juan Sámano ordered the head administrator if the postal service to establish an exclusive route from Santa Fe to the city of Chire, where the general headquarters of the army of General Pablo Murillo were stationed. This service was composed of one organizer and three outriders. It was ordered specifically that this route of dispatch was to be used only for correspondence of the royal service. Once the campaign of liberation was concluded, the different



Fig. 25. Communication sent on May 14 1817 by the government of Ocaña, using the run established in 1816.

administrators continued sending reports of revenues and expenditures. In Fig. 27, the balances for the months of June, August and September of the administration of Cocuy.

On the 30th of September 1820, the date of this report, they were not very clear on the name of the new central government (Confederation of New Granada).

There is a copious amount of correspondence of the year 1821, from which these seven letters are drawn, all addressed to the head post administrator for the province of Pore, Francisco Javier Vezga, and sent from Sogamoso and Labranza Grande with visible red postage stamps from both cities.

The reverse side of them was later used as receipts of payment for the service of mail delivery. Because of this administrative condition and the common paper shortage, all these letters were saved and are now jealously guarded in the AGN. Had it not been for this circum-

stance they would otherwise not have survived.

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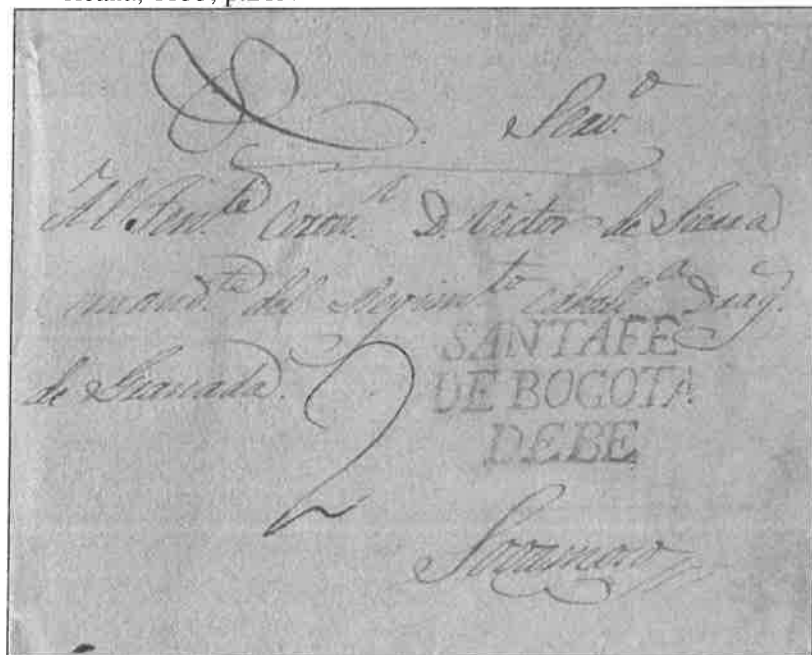


Fig. 26. Letter dated on December 27, 1818, whereby postage is to be paid by receiver, addressed to the Royal Commander of the stronghold of Sogamoso. Handstamped *SANTA FE DE BOGOTA DEBE* indicating that postage, 2 (reales), must be paid at destination.

International Mail in 1889 and 1890

Thomas P. Myers

Registered mail gives us an unusually detailed look at how the postal system actually worked. It is much better than regular mail because registered mail was carefully tracked by postal official and evidence of that tracking was recorded on the cover.

For the purposes of this essay I shall consider mail that originated in Colombia in 1889 and 1890. At that time the UPU rate was 10c per [how much] The registration fee an additional 10c with was paid with a registration stamp—a great convenience for us since there is no confusion about what was postage and what was the registration fee.

Let us begin with mail from Bogota, the national capital with a population of about 100,000. The cover shown in fig. 1 was mailed from Bogota in June 1889. The letter was franked with a 10c stamp (Sc 131) cancelled with a circular date stamp. The stamp features the



Fig. 1. Bogota to Germany, June 1889.

likeness of Raúl Nuñez who was President from 1884—1886—a nice piece of international propaganda for him. A registration stamp (ScF9) and the registration number, 7239, was inscribed on the stamp.

From Bogota the letter would have been carried to Honda on the Magdalena River where it was transported by steamer down the Magdalena to Barranquilla which was becoming increasingly important as the

port city for the interior of the nation. A registration transit stamp was applied in Barranquilla and a new registration number, 1218, assigned.

A similar letter originated in Medellin in August 1889, this time addressed to the United Kingdom (fig. 2). An oval date stamp was used to cancel the postage stamp but not the registration stamp. Both stamp and registration stamp are the same as used in the first letter. Again, the registration stamp is not cancelled. The registration number assigned, 723, suggesting that the amount of registered mail from Medellin was about a tenth that of Bogota where the registration number 7239 had been assigned a month earlier.

The letter passed through Barranquilla where a new registration number, 1846, was assigned. Some six hundred registered letters had passed through Barranquilla in the month between the two letters. The letter



Fig. 2. Medellin to UK, 20 Aug 1889.



Fig. 3. Neiva to United Kingdom, December 1890.

was placed aboard a French paquebot bound for Calais where it was transferred to a ship headed for England, reaching London on 27 September, five weeks after it had been mailed from Medellin.

A letter from Neiva (fig 3) mailed in December 1890 followed much the same course—down the Magdalena River to Barranquilla where it received a registration transit stamp on 15 December. Note that this is a different style of handstamp than had been used earlier in the year.

Two years earlier a letter originating in Barranquilla on 22 July 1887 (fig. 4) was placed

aboard a French paquebot in Savanilla on the 23rd on its way to Germany.

Conclusions

In these registered letters from the end of the 19th century we find the basic elements of Colombian international mail which endured until international airmail service began in 1929. That is, letters from the interior of the country—here represented by Bogota and Medellin was transported to a port on the Magdalena River whence it was carried to Barranquilla to be placed aboard a ship. In this epoch French paquebots were the principal carrier for mail directed to Europe. Only the mail from Cartagena was carried via New York.



Fig. 4. Barranquilla to Germany via French paquebot 1887.

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A Civil War Cover from Tumaco?

Robert Müller

Although the Civil war "of the 1000 days" started in Bolivar and Santander this cover from Tumaco (Cauca) could be a first hint of the uprising (fig. 1).

It was probably mailed in the week that the revolution began. The transit cancel from Panama is dated October 17th, which was a Tuesday. My other covers of that period have a 3-8 days travel to Panama.

The stamp on the cover is cancelled "TUMACO" in red by manuscript. This is unusual and there is no obvious explanation for it.



Fig. 2. Tumaco CDS dated 11 Oct 1899. (probably 1899) is cancelled normally with the duplex date-cancel rather than the manuscript

Jim Cross dated the beginning of the revolution to Oct. 12th, which was a Thursday. So this cover from the HAPAG ship-line agent "Arthur J. Woodville" in Tumaco could be probably from the 12-14th October 1899.

The registration stamps indicate that the cover was not transported by a private agent. Does anybody have a similar "Tumaco" manuscript cancel?

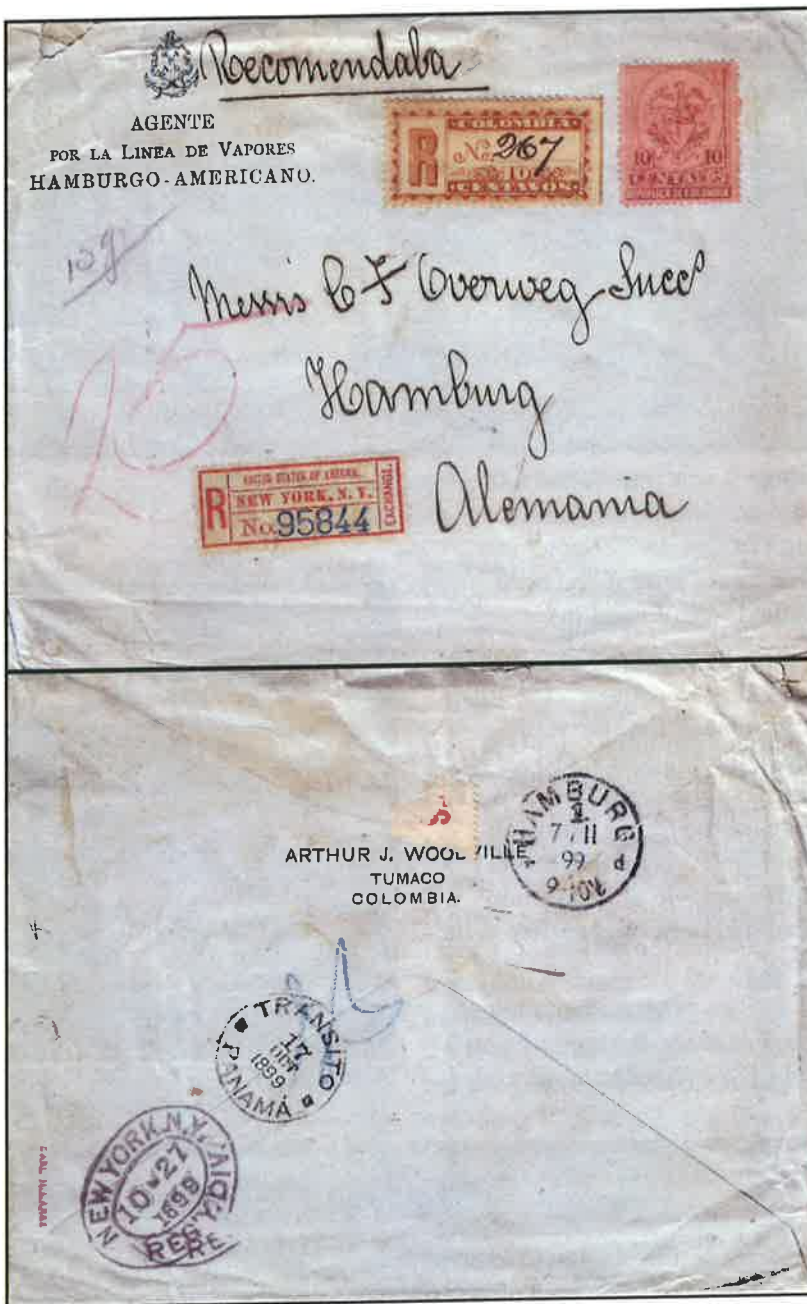


Fig. 1. Tumaco to Germany dated October 1899 may be an early indication of the civil war to follow.

COPACARTA

Volume 28
Number 4
June 2011



Colombia's Ambassador in London arranged an unexpected reception at his residence to mark the publication of the book The British Post Office in Colombia 1821-1881. Some fifty diplomatic folk and society presidents were in attendance.

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First International Philatelic Exhibition in the city of Medellin

First International Philatelic exhibition in the city of Medellin,
October 19-25, 2011



Santiago Cruz at the Collectors Club of New York

On May 4, Santiago Cruz showed and spoke about his collection of *Antioquia: The Departmental Issues of 1886-1904*. He recounted how he started out as a child as a coin collector, then started with his father's Colombia first day covers and then found religion. When he thought about exhibiting something in this area, he looked for a field where nobody was exhibiting so he had a chance to get the best pieces. Since there were already strong collections of the State of Antioquia, he settled on the Department of Antioquia. It was established when the new constitution creating the Republic of Colombia resulted in the State of Antioquia being divided into three departments. In 1906 the National Post Office took the system over and no further stamps appeared after 1904.

He explained that the first issue of the Department did not mention the Department by name — just Antioquia. Stamps



from this era are the most common of the states, but covers, multiples and proofs, all of which were shown, are scarce. Santiago explained that there are twelve Department issues, but only 40 recorded covers (10 in public collections) compared to between 50 and 60 from the State era; 25 were shown. The collection shows most of the known covers including items from the collections of the late

Gene Scott and Juan Santa Maria. He showed two covers sent to destinations outside of the Department, a tolerated usage. In many of the post offices the National Post Office and the Departmental one were run by the same person, even sitting at the same desk.

There was an interesting section on the 1889 and 1890

(Continued on page 19)

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From the President's Desk

First, a big thank you to Ken Adams for his hard work as Auction Manager. The recently closed sale was our largest ever. Thanks to the efforts of our webmaster, for the first time the sale was also listed on our web site. The prices realized are included and will be posted on our web site as well. Any unsold lots may be purchased for the Starting Price. Contact Ken Adams directly.

In May I was fortunate to be able to attend Santiago Cruz's presentation at the Collectors Club of New York on the Department of Antioquia 1886-1904. Elsewhere in this issue is a write-up of that talk and an announcement about the very limited availability of the book that was given to attendees. It contains much information that is not available elsewhere. I have also learned that member Eugene Langlais exhibited "Colombia: mail by the 1846 tariff" at the Royal Philatelic Society London as part of a presentation by the society's French Fellows and Members.

I have learned that the new-

est edition of *Fakes Forgeries Experts Volume 14* contains an article "Notes on Forgeries of the SCADTA Provisional Issues of 1921-1923" by Dieter Bortfeldt and Santiago Cruz. This is the most recent of several articles on various Colombia forgery subjects published in this annual publication.

What does a new US stamp showing the Tango King Carlos Gardel have to do with Colombia, SCADTA and SACO? Therein is quite a story. Gardel was killed in a plane crash at Olaya Herrera Airport, Medellin. In June 1935 Gardel was a passenger in an F-31 SACO plane that crashed with the SCADTA plane Manizales. The controversy over the cause of the crash continues on line. To read more, this link has an extensive writeup: <http://www.todotango.com/english/gardel/cronicas/medellin.html>

I was looking for something else and found another fascinating video on www.youtube.com – this site is far more than a place to see videos of cute children and dancing

cockatoos. If you search for SCADTA you will find several videos including **Gardel en Techo y Olaya Herrera** which shows fascinating film footage, including the SCADTA and SACO planes as well as dignitaries.

Word has been received about a major philatelic exhibition to be held in Medellin October 20-25th. EXFIME 2011 is an FIP show. For further information about the show, please contact either Ricardo Botero (ricbotero@yahoo.com) or Santiago Cruz at santiagocruzarboleda@yahoo.com. The U.S. Commissioner is Mark Banchik at mebanchik@aol.com. The deadline for entries may have passed by the time you read this, but you can contact any of these individuals to see if an entry is possible. I plan to attend.

Colombia has been very visible at recent exhibitions. Separately in the journal is a list of recent awards that I have compiled. Congratulations to all and please accept my apologies

(Continued on page 18)

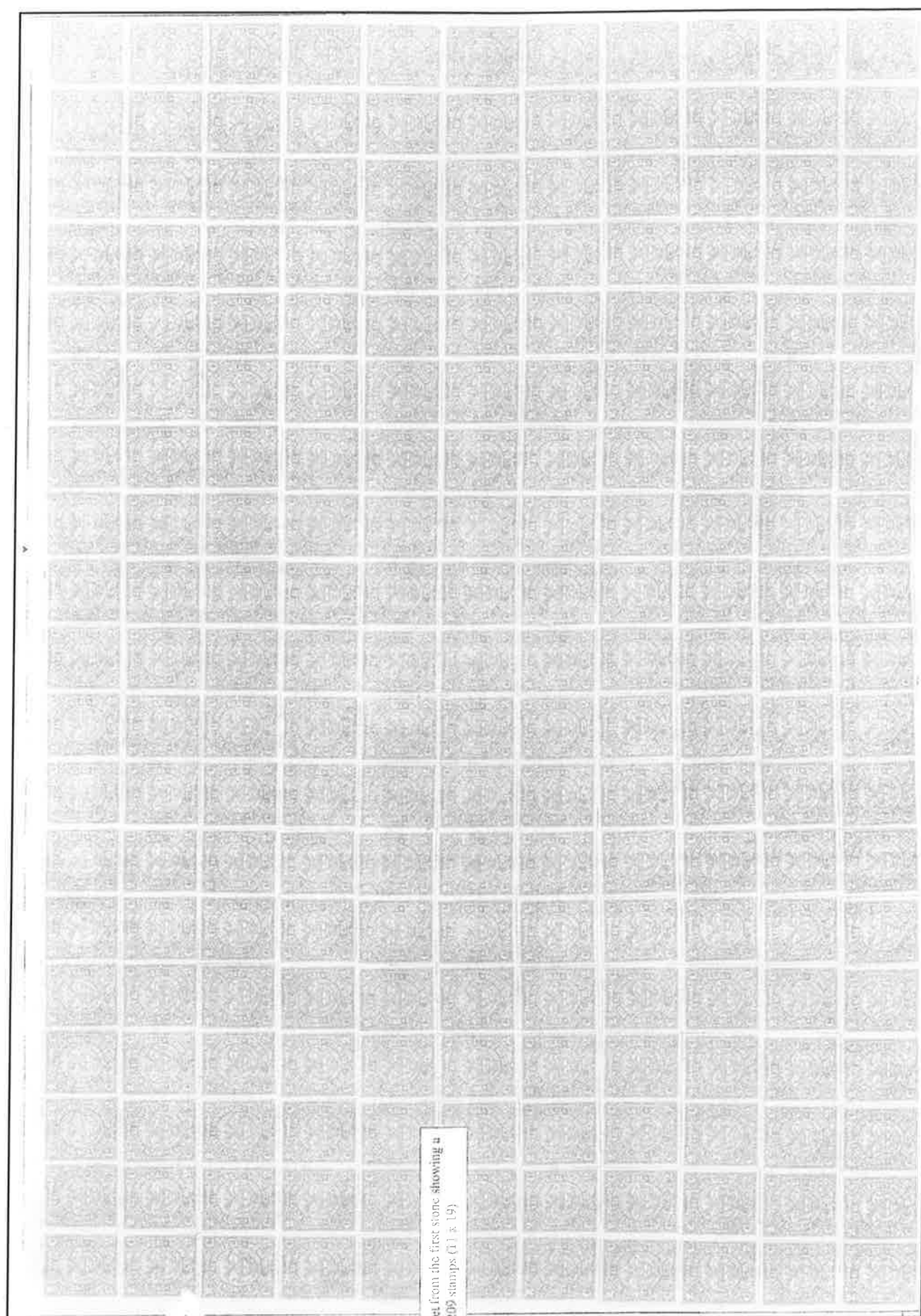
BOOK AVAILABLE

COLOMBIA THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTIOQUIA 1886-1904

In conjunction with his presentation at the Collectors Club of New York on May 4, Santiago Cruz prepared a book as a handout. It is soft covered, 8 1/2 x 11" format in color. Well over 100 pages (un-numbered) the book shows many pages from the exhibited collection. With very little written about these issues, the book will be a valuable reference for anyone interested in this area. I have only **THREE copies** which are available for COPAPHIL members ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. The proceeds will go to COPAPHIL.

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SINCE THERE ARE ONLY THREE COPIES PLEASE EMAIL ME FIRST at rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com TO CONFIRM AVAILABILITY.



et from the first stone showing a
209 stamps (11 x 19)

Fig. 2. Sheet of 209 (11 x 19) from the first printing.

The 1881 2 centavos Colombian UPU Stamp

by Walter H. Weber

There is no way that you stop learning about stamps; a dynamic hobby always evolving!

When reading all those articles accumulated in the pages of *Copacarta* I often came across new and valuable information and when it referred to my own collections the interest is, of course, even higher and drew my special attention.

Here is an example. Jim Cross' article "They Got Their Two Cents Worth" in *Copacarta* . XX, No.4 pp. 66-68 June 2003 is partially related to



Fig. 1. Honda to USA with mixed franking of UPU and domestic use stamps.

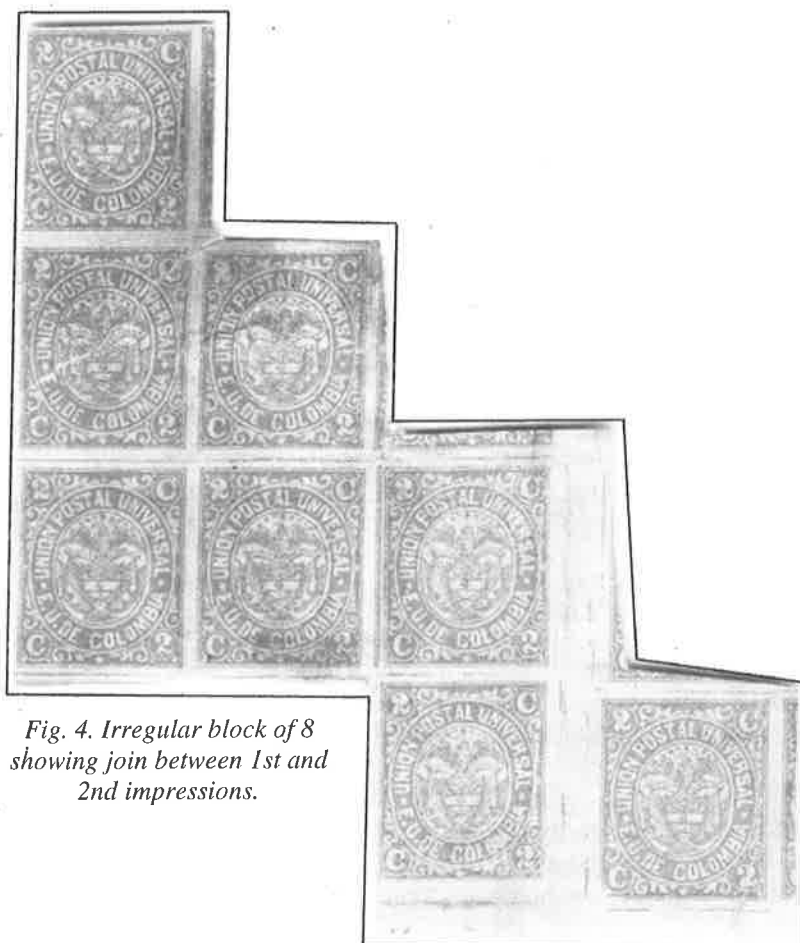


Fig. 4. Irregular block of 8 showing join between 1st and 2nd impressions.

the first Colombian UPU issues of 1881 and 1883, which I do collect.

In Fig. 1 the 2 centavos 1881 UPU issue (Sc104) can be seen together with 3 x 2 centavos 1881 Liberty Head (Sc110) plus the 2 centavos 1883 definitive (Sc117), both domestic stamps, on a cover from Honda to New York. This cover is probably unique because the Liberty head stamps were intended only for domestic mail. It should not have been accepted at the post office.

It is interesting that Scott #104 was printed in red, vermilion, rose and magenta, with and without the Lacroix Freres watermark, in sheets of (a) 11 x 19 = 209 stamps and (b) 10 x 20 = 200 stamps.

Daniel Ayala, the printer, delivered 200 sheets of 11 x 19 stamps (Fig. 2 – facing page) in two basic colours, carmine-red

and vermilion against the contract published in *Diario Oficial* No. 5122 on June 27th 1881.

Later the same stone was used for the second sheet setting of 200 stamps (10 x 20).

To comply with the government's request that the sheets should be of 100 stamps or multiples thereof the two extreme left and extreme right vertical rows, as well as the bottom horizontal row, were erased from the first stone, leaving a stone of 150 stamps. Using this stone, and the paper size used for the first printing, 291 sheets were printed and put aside.

Then the stone was again partially erased and all but the first five vertical rows were taken out leaving a printing stock of 50 stamps. The previously printed sheets received an additional impression of 50 stamps on the right side creating the sheets of 200 stamps (Fig. 3 on back page, fig. 3a). This can be seen on all of these sheets by the two impressions not match-

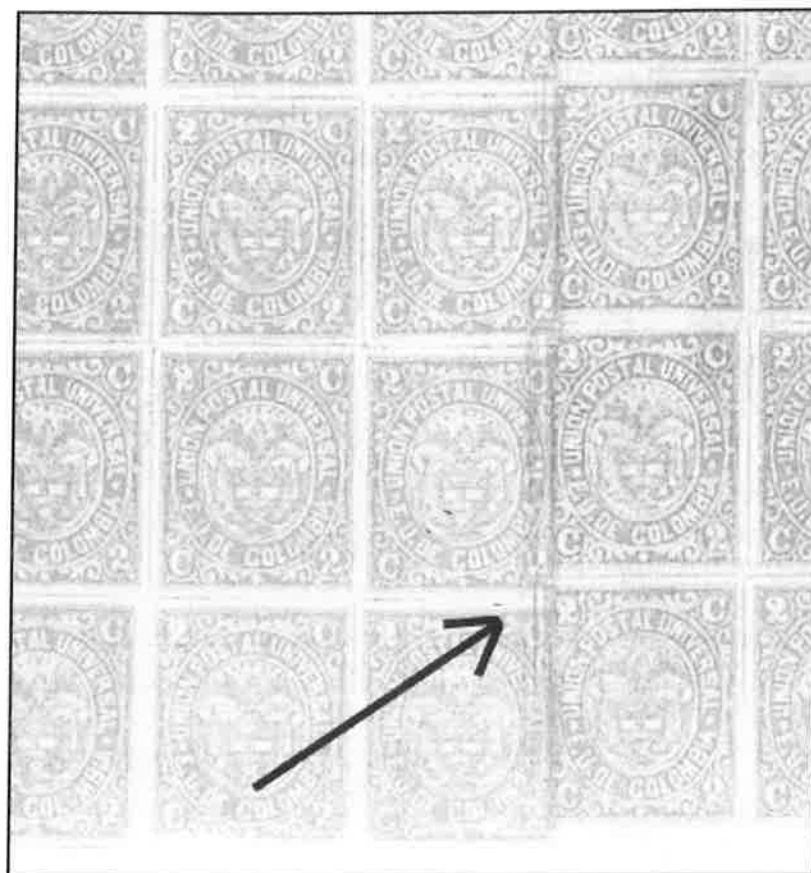


Fig. 3a. Detail showing join between 1st and 2nd impressions.

ing perfectly and/or by the different shades of red in the same sheet. The colours found are red, rose-red and magenta. There are

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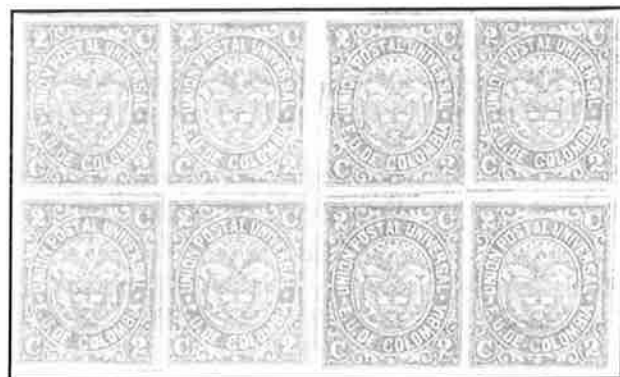


Fig. 5. Block of 8 showing join of 1st and 2nd impressions.

no distinct differences in design of the single stamps other than indications of overlapping, spacing or shades of red (Figs. 4, 5).

The 2 centavos stamp is rather difficult to find on cover. There are, however, several newspaper wrappers from Panama to London with different hand stamp cancellations (Fig. 6). I suppose that the item mentioned in Cross' article ex the Castilejo collection sold by AF-INSIA is the one illustrated here (Fig. 7). This is a unique newspaper cover with the bisected 2 centavos stamp from Panama to London tied by a large Panama "DES" cds cancellation.

Recently I acquired an unusual GB UPU stationary reply

card sent from Cartagena (hand stamp) to England with the 2 centavos Colombian UPU stamp and a red ship letter marking in Liverpool (Fig. 8).

Needless to say this 2 centavos stamp has often been used in combination with other 1881 UPU stamps of the various values (1, 5, 10, 20 centavos) to comply with the very scarce 7 centavos (or multiple) rate valid only from 1st November to 31st December 1881.

The information provided here should be considered an addition to Jim Cross' article mentioned above.

I would like to thank Alan A. Anyon for his help in revising this article.



Fig 6a, b, c. Wrappers from Panama to London using the 2c UPU issue.



Fig. 7. Newspaper cover from Panama to London with bisected 2c stamp tied by large DES cancellation.

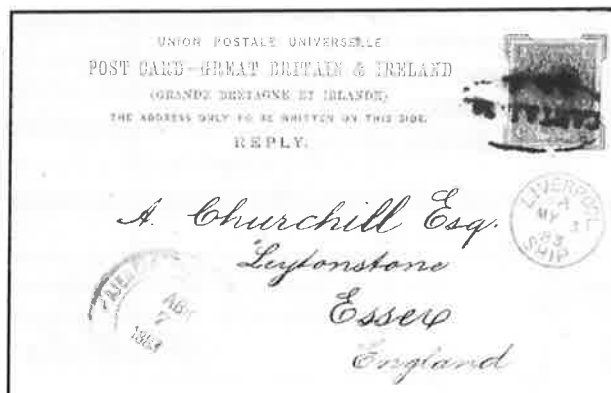


Fig. 8. British reply card franked with 2c UPU stamp.

The 1908 Numeral Issue

Stan Anderson

From September 1989 to September 1993, *Copacarta* published a series of articles by Kenneth Rowe about the 1908 Numeral issue printed by the Litografia Nacional (Scott 325 - 330). These articles discussed the many printings of these stamps. As a specialized collector, I've tried to interpret these articles into some structure for my collection. Here are my interpretations. As I've looked at my accumulation, I find that even though Rowe's articles include exhaustive detail, I think there is even more diversity in this series. For example, the series leaves room for additional discoveries as I will explain below.

In this article, I will discuss only the half centavo issue, Scott 325, that was discussed in the March 1993 issue of *Copacarta*.

Rowe's article identified three die varieties, which he labeled A, B, and C (fig. 1). Die A was used only for the first printing of 1908. Die B was used for the second through fifth printings of 1913 - 1914. Finally, Die C was used for the final, sixth printing, in 1915. While the die varieties often are



Fig. 1. Die varieties of the 1/2 c stamp. After Rowe 1993.

difficult to discern on an individual stamp, when color of the stamp is considered, most stamps (even those with obliterating cancellations) should be assignable to a specific die.

There are several ways to look at varieties of this stamp, by perforation, paper, color, and the presence or absence of guidelines.

The easiest way to classify this stamp is to list which perforation varieties exist for each die. Perforation 13½ and 9½ varieties exist for all three dies, while, according to Rowe, the perforation 9½ x 13½ variety exists for only dies B & C. So, there are eight perforation/die varieties.

When paper differences are added, the number of varieties starts to multiply. Table 1 lists varieties according to Rowe's descriptions, increasing the varieties from eight to 11. Here's where some additional study is

needed because from my accumulation I have at least one additional variety, perforated 9½, die C, on thin medium opaque **horizontally wove** paper, as opposed to ordinary paper. Please let the author know of any other paper varieties you possess.

If we conservatively choose two color shades for Die A, two for Die B, and three for Die C, the number of collectible varieties grows to 20 (if we count the wove paper variety I've found). See Table 1.

There is yet one more level of varieties--guide lines--that can expand the number of collectible varieties. Rowe lists six guideline varieties (including one with no guidelines). Collecting to this level probably is possible only by those who collect blocks, rather than single stamps (as I collect). What remains unclear is how many varieties this level of specialization would add. Table 2 offers a possible list of varieties. Combining tables 1 & 2 leads conservatively to 28 varieties. Since paper and color don't appear to be uniform within a printing, there could be many more collectible varieties.

Write for Copacarta

Table 1

Perforation	Die	Paper Types per Rowe	Color per Rowe	Guideline Types per Rowe	Notes
13 1/2	A - No flaws in right margin	Medium white surfaced paper	Shades of orange	Guideline Type A - Lines form right angle 1.5mm beyond stamp image	
	B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy surfaced paper	Pale orange, brown orange	Guideline type B (see descriptions in Table 2)	
	B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy matte paper	Pale orange, brown orange	Guideline types C - E (see descriptions in Table 2)	
	C - Dash as in Die B, plus a dash between the 4th & 5th pearls & a line from the left leg of the M in Colombia into the lathework	Thin, coarse medium-opaque paper	Pale lemon to deep orange	Guideline Type F - Lines form a + in the margins between stamps	
10	A - No flaws in right margin	Medium white surfaced paper	Shades of orange	Guideline Type A - Lines form right angle 1.5mm beyond stamp image	
	B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy surfaced paper	Pale orange, brown orange	Guideline type B (see descriptions in Table 2)	
	B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy matte paper	Pale orange, brown orange	Guideline types C - E (see descriptions in Table 2)	
	C - Dash as in Die B, plus a dash between the 4th & 5th pearls & a line from the left leg of the M in Colombia into the lathework	Thin, coarse medium-opaque paper	Pale lemon to deep orange	Guideline Type F - Lines form a + in the margins between stamps	I have an example on thin, coarse medium-opaque <i>horizontally wove</i> paper
10 x 13 1/2	B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy surfaced paper	Pale orange, brown orange,	Guideline types B (see descriptions in Table 2)	
	B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy matte paper	Pale orange, brown orange	Guideline types C - E (see descriptions in Table 2)	
	C - Dash as in Die B, plus a dash between the 4th & 5th pearls & a line from the left leg of the M in Colombia into the lathework	Thin, coarse medium-opaque paper	Pale lemon to deep orange	Guideline Type F - Lines form a + in the margins between stamps	

Table 2

Die	Paper Types per Rowe	Color per Rowe	Guideline Type per Rowe	Notes
A - No flaws in right margin	Medium white surfaced paper - printing 1	Deep orange	Guideline Type A - Lines form right angle 1.5mm beyond stamp image	
A - No flaws in right margin	Medium white surfaced paper - printing 1	Yellow orange	Guideline Type A - Lines form right angle 1.5mm beyond stamp image	
B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy surfaced paper - printing 2	Pale orange in shades	Guideline Type B - vertical & horizontal lines cross or are broken	
B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy matte paper - printing 3	Brownish orange in shades	Guideline Type C - Lines form right angle 1.2mm beyond stamp image	
B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy matte paper - printing 4	Brownish orange in shades	No guidelines (Type D)	
B - Dash between frame lines at LR	Creamy matte paper - printing 5	Brownish orange in shades	Guideline Type E - Lines form right angle 2.5 - 3.0mm beyond stamp image	
C - Dash as in Die B, plus a dash between the 4th & 5th pearls & a line from the left leg of the M in Colombia into the lathework	Thin, coarse medium-opaque paper	Pale lemon	Guideline Type F - Lines form a + in the margins between stamps	I have an example on thin, coarse medium-opaque <i>horizontally wove</i> paper
C - Dash as in Die B, plus a dash between the 4th & 5th pearls & a line from the left leg of the M in Colombia into the lathework	Thin, coarse medium-opaque paper	Deep orange	Guideline Type F - Lines form a + in the margins between stamps	
C - Dash as in Die B, plus a dash between the 4th & 5th pearls & a line from the left leg of the M in Colombia into the lathework	Thin, coarse medium-opaque paper	Yellow orange (not specifically listed by Rowe)	Guideline Type F - Lines form a + in the margins between stamps	

The 1925 Cali Provisional Issues

Alan D Anyon FRPSL

An article from the April 1929 edition of *The American Philatelist* is reprinted in the December 2010 issue of *Copacarta*.¹ This deals with what the Editor calls *Ghosts and Phantoms from the Past* and embraces, amongst other things, the 1925 provisional stamps issued in Cali.

The well known researcher, John N. Meyer, was at the time Secretary of the Latin-American Unit of the American Philatelic Society. He was active in numerous areas of Colombian philately and decided to explore the Cali provisionals. The result of his research was included in his 1940 booklet *Studies in the Philately of Colombia*.^{2,3}

On 1st October 1925 and covered by Decree 1197 of 5th August 1925 Colombia adopted a revised postal tariff, increasing the letter rate from 3c to 4c per 20 grams for mail within the

country and for various other countries including Spain and USA.

Although there was a 4c postage stamp included in the issue current at the time, due to the anticipated increased demand Decree 1396 of 17th September 1925 authorized the typeset surcharging of current 4c revenue stamps for postal use (Sc383, 385). However in Cali a series of revenue stamps in denominations of 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c and 5c appeared with the rubber stamped surcharge "Correos Provisional" in sans-serif letters. This was applied diagonally reading up or down in blue, black and violet inks (x 150% Fig. 1). The surcharge has a distinctive dropped 'e' in 'Correos'.

When the authorities learned of this unauthorised overprint they immediately took steps to suppress it. Their inspection of the Cali Central Post



Fig. 1. 2c revenue stamp with Cali provisional overprint.

Office revealed a state of total disorganisation and they quickly appointed new employees. Jorge Mora was formally appointed the new Postmaster effective 7 January 1926. The authorities accepted the excuse that the outgoing Postmaster had misunderstood Decree 1396 and had prepared a suitable rubber stamp to surcharge the revenue stamps locally.

Whilst numerous envelopes did pass through the postal system bearing these revenue stamps in the period September–November 1925 the Postmaster was not being truthful. A cover in the writer's collection from Cali to Manizales bearing a surcharged 3c stamp is clearly dated 5th July 1925 (Fig. 2) before the increased 4c rate came into effect. In addition the existence of 1c, 2c and 5c surcharged revenue stamps also gives lie to the Postmaster's excuse.

The postal authorities writing to John Meyer on 26th April 1936 made it quite clear the rubber stamped revenue issue was entirely illegal. Notwithstanding that fact there remains a market

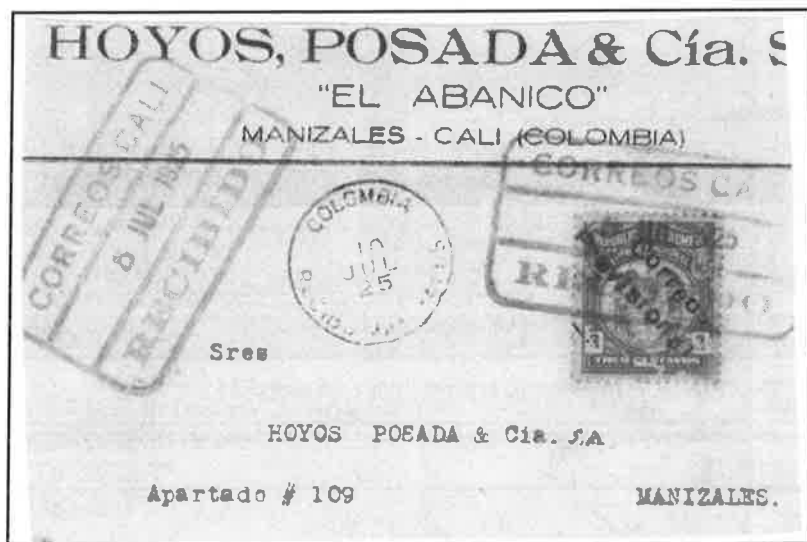


Fig. 2. Cali provisional dated 5 Jul 1925, seven weeks before overprinting of definitive stamps was authorized.

Table I. Summary of Cali Overprints		
Value	Printer	Colour of Surcharge
1c green	Perkins Bacon	black
	American Bank Note	blue
	Waterlow & Sons	blue, violet
2c vermilion	Perkins Bacon	blue, violet
	American Bank Note	blue, black
	Harrison & Sons	violet
3c brown	American Bank Note	blue, black, violet
4c purple	American Bank Note	blue, violet
	Waterlow & Sons	black
5c blue	American Bank Note	blue, violet

for these "confections" and they still sell for significant prices.

A further letter from the Post Office Department dated 1 June 1936 also confirmed the use of revenue stamps without surcharge was absolutely irregular and not authorized by any decree. However the authorities had overlooked Article 41 of Decree 894 of 1915 which specifically authorized the use of revenue stamps for postage effective 1st January 1916. This Decree was repealed by Law 55 of 1921.

To round off knowledge of these "ghosts" the Table I summarises recorded varieties.

The saga of these Cali stamps does not end there. Besides the revenue stamps overprinted by rubber stamp as

above, covers are known where they are surcharged by typewriter CORREOS PROVISIONAL in serif upper case letters vertically reading down in purple. This is known on the 4c

American Bank Note stamp (Fig. 3). This stamp has also been found where the same surcharge in the same position is applied by rubber stamp in black. Usages in October and November 1925 have been encountered for these two types.

If any reader knows of other varieties of these provisionals the writer would appreciate details via the Editor.

References:

- 1) *Copacarta* 28 No. 2 pp.12-13, December 2010
- 2) John N. Meyer, Two Problems in Twentieth Century Colombia *Studies in the Philately of Colombia*. 1940. p.1-3.
- 3) More About Those Two Problems in Twentieth Century Colombia. *Studies in the Philately of Colombia*. 1940 pp.5-6.

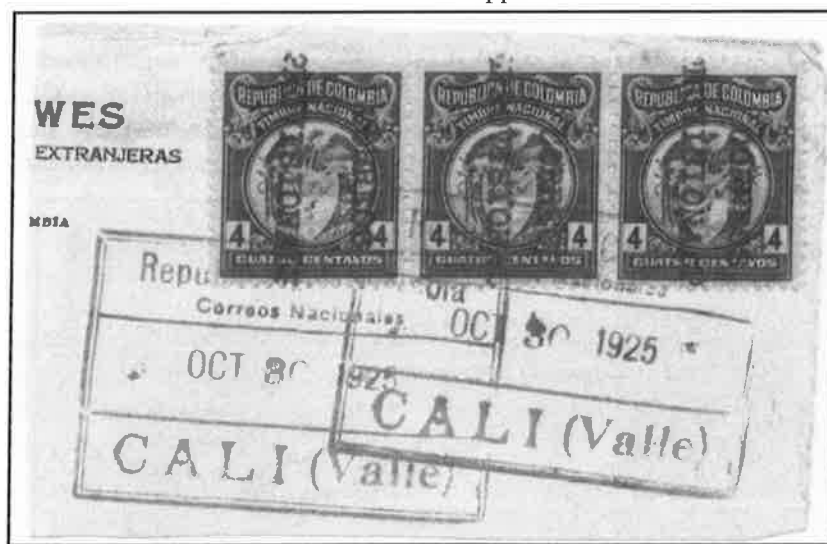


Fig. 3. Typewriter overprint from Cali dated 25 oct 1925.

Write for Copacarta

Duplex Datestamps with Flower Killer

Federico Teppa

The duplex datestamps with flower killer (*Fig.1*). came into use between the end of 1892 and beginning 1893.

They are formed by a circular date stamp of 30mm in diameter accompanied by a 13mm diameter killer showing a stylized flower, the distance between the two varies from 2.5mm to 8mm.

The killer was struck on the stamp, while the circular datestamp with the town and date of departure was on the cover. Only a few loose stamps provide useful information. In the listing compiled at the end (*Table II*), only five loose stamps served to identify new towns : (Caloto, Choconta, Florida, Providencia, and Toro) .

The datestamp is composed by a double line outer circle, inscribed *CORREOS NACIONALES* at top and the town's name at the bottom. The size of the characters varies from 2mm to 4mm with 2 styles of letters: block and Roman.

The date in the middle is usually found on 3 lines, Month/day/year, but inversions can be found, exemplars with a linear date are also known (e.g., Buga, Florida, and Palmira)

This postmark was widely distributed among the Colombian postal agencies, but it was never introduced in the Panama region. The only large town unreported is Barranquilla

The earliest date of a flower killer in my collection is



Fig. 1. Flower duplex with only the town name in the dial.

from Honda 4/Mar/1893, the latest is from Mariquita 14/Jun/1906 (*Fig.2*), this last one has the top inscribed *admn de correos nacionales*, only town with Popayan showing this variety.

Modified handstamps (*Fig.3*) with the town name followed by the department, where place in use from 1898 in a different number of towns (e.g., Buga, Cali, Caqueza, El Espinal,

Table I : Bogota Flower Killer Inscription Varieties

<i>top/bottom</i>	Color	Earliest	Latest
ADMON. GNAL. DE CORREOS NACIONALES / SECCION 4a BOGOTA	violet	25/Jul/1903	13/Sep/1904
	black	7/?/1902	
ADMON. GNAL. DE CORREOS NACIONALES / SECCION INTERNACIONAL	black	13/Sep/1903	25/Jul/1903
CORREOS NACIONALES / Recomendado - Bogotá	black	8/Aug/1898	7/Apr/1902
CORREOS NLES SERVICIO INTERIOR SECCION 5a / BOGOTA	black	20/Mar/1899	
CORREO URBANO / BOGOTA	violet	26/Nov/1896	
	red	30/Aug/1897	
SECCION INTERNACIONAL / BOGOTA - COLOMBIA	black	13/Jan/1898	10/Feb/1998
SERVICIO INTERNACIONAL DE CORREOS / BOGOTA - COLOMBIA*	blue	3/Mar/1899	12/Aug/1899
	black	7/Nov/1998	11/Mar/1901
SERVICIO DE ENCOMIENDAS / BOGOTA	black	8/Oct/1897	

*(outer circle with teeth)



Fig. 2.

Girardot, Guacari, Ipiales, Medellín, Mompos, Neiva, Paipa,



Fig. 3. Flower duplex with town name and department in the dial.

Popayan, San Vicente, Sincelejo, Tumaco).

Bogotá had many varieties of flower killer duplexes. Besides the common type (*correos nacionales/Bogotá*) we can find seven additional varieties as shown in Table II.

Some post offices had to replace worn or damaged hand-stamps during the period that the

flower killer was in use. As consequence, modification in size or style of the town name characters sometimes occurred. Fig.4 shows some examples from Bogotá, Cali, Honda, and Santa Marta)

Combining Jim Cross listing from *Copacarta*¹ with my collection, plus additions from articles and sales, I was able to record 108 postmarks from 69 different cities or towns.

Table II lists the flower killer duplexes inscribed *CORREOS NACIONALES* or *ADMON DE CORREOS NACIONALES* on top with the town at the bottom.

There is no doubt that many other towns exist, and I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any addition to make. You can contact me at: fteppa@freesurf.ch.

Footnotes:

- 1) Cross, Jim (1990) The date-stamps of the correo nacional with flower killer. *Copacarta* VII(4).

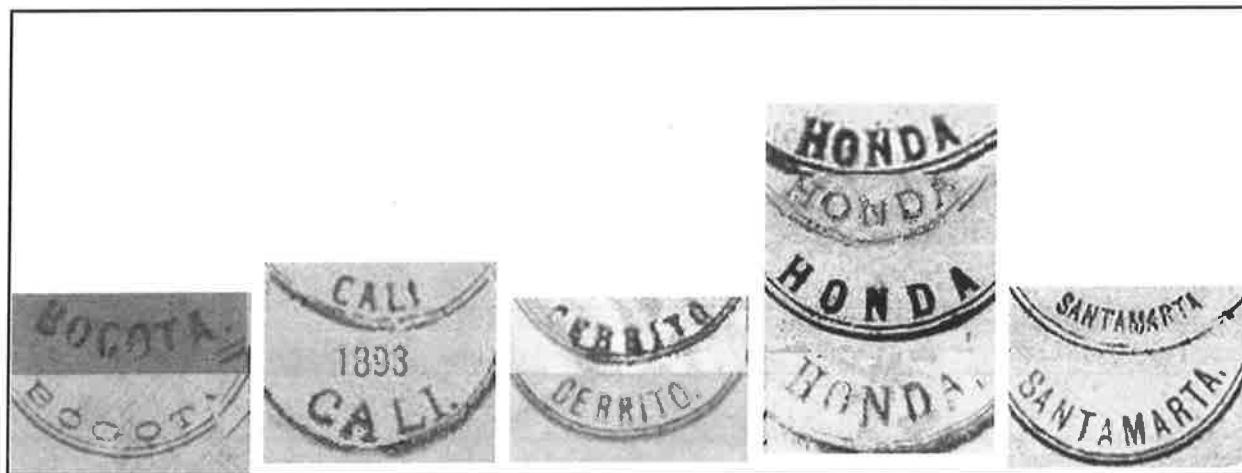


Fig. 4. dial varieties of the flower killer duplex from Bogotá, Cali, Honda and Santa Marta.

Table II: Colombian Flower Killer Duplexes

Town	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Agrado	black	Roman	30/Nov/1895	
Anapoima	black	Roman	20/Jan/1895	
Anolaima	black	Block	6/May/1899	
	violet	Roman	3/Apr/1897	
Barbacoas	black	Block	4/Nov/1895	
	blue	Roman	28/Ago/1899	
Bogota	blue	Block	7/Aug/1899	
	pink	Block	11/Jan/1894	
	black	Block	23/Apr/1893	25/Feb/1904
	black	Roman	3/May/1899	
Bucaramanga	black	Roman	29/Dec/1894	18/Aug/1899
Buenaventura	black	Roman	27/Nov/1897	17/Jan/1902
	black	Block	21/Oct/1894	28/Nov/1896
Buga	black	Block	2/Dec/1893	
Buga (<i>linear date</i>)	violet	Roman	23/Jun/1897	
Buga (Cauca)	violet	Roman	4/Oct/1899	25/Aug/1902
Calamar	black	Roman	9/Jun/1897	
Cali	violet	Roman	3/May/1895	30/Dec/1898
	black	Block	13/Sep/1895	
<i>Cali big</i>	black	Roman	28/Apr/1893	
Cali (Cauca)	red	Roman	26/Nov/1903	8/Apr/1904
	violet	Roman	20/Oct/1899	27/Apr/1904
Caloto	violet	Block	30/Jan/1897	
Caqueza (Cundinamarca)	black	Roman	21/Feb/1904	
Cartagena	black	Block	16/May/1894	
	violet	Roman	17/Jul/1893	17/Jul/1898
Cartago	black	Block	6/Oct/1896	
Cerete	black	Roman	11/Apr/1894	
Cerrito	black	Block	17/Feb/1898	
	black	Roman	19/Nov/1903	31/Dec/1903
Chaparral	black	Roman	18/Oct/1898	
Choconta	?	Roman	10/May/1898	
Corozal	?	Block	21/May/1898	

Table II (2): Colombian Flower Killer Duplexes

El Espinal (Tolima)	black	Block	9/Apr/1898	
Florida (<i>linear date</i>)	black	Block	29/Oct/1896	
Fusagasuga	black	Block	28/Feb/1894	
Garzon	black	Roman	10/Jun/1894	5/Aug/1899
Girardot (Cundinamarca)	black	Block	26/Sep/1899	
Guacari	black	Block	2/Aug/1894	28/Jul/1898
Guacari (Cauca)	black	Roman	11/May/1899	
Guataque	?	Block	15/Jun/1897	
Honda	violet	Roman	4/Mar/1893	16/Oct/1899
	green	Roman	30/Nov/1901	10/Jan/1904
	blue	Roman	9/Sep/1896	28/Nov/1898
	black	Roman	23/Apr/1897	10/Jan/1904
	red	Roman	17/Sep/1905	
Ibague	black	Block	8/Jun/1894	27/May/1898
Ipiales	black	Block	21/Oct/1894	
Ipiales (Cauca)	black	Roman	7/Sep/1903	
La Uvita	violet	Roman	4/Mar/1897	
Magangue	violet	Block	13/Feb/1894	
	black	?	11/Oct/1896	
Malaga	red	Roman	14/Mar/1898	
Manizales	black	Block	21/Oct/1895	22/Feb/1904
	violet	Roman	22/Feb/1904	29/Mar/1904
Mariquita *	black	Roman	14/Jun/1906	
Marmato	blue	Block	19/Mar/1893	
Medellin	black	Block	22/Apr/1893	16/Aug/1897
	black	Roman	23/Ago/1898	
Medellin (Antioquia)	violet	Roman	24/Oct/1901	16/Jul/1904
	blue	Roman	30/Oct/1902	
	black	Roman	5/Nov/1901	13/Nov/1901
Mompos	black	Block	16/Jun/1894	20/May/1897
Mompos (Bolívar)	violet	Roman	16/May/1899	
Neiva	violet	Block	1/Nov/1893	9/Mar/1898
Neiva (Tolima)	violet	Roman	15/Jun/1898	

Table II (3) Colombian Flower Killer Duplexes

Ocaña	black	Block	21/Oct/1896	3/Feb/1904
Orocue	black	Roman	14/Jun/1898	14/Dec/1898
Paipa (Boyaca)	black	Roman	?/Jun/1898	
Palmira (<i>linear date</i>)	green	Roman	13/Sep/1895	
Palmira	green	Roman	3/Sep/1896	10/Feb/1998
Pamplona	black	Block	26/Dic/1897	
Plato	violet	Roman	12/Sep/1899	
Pasto	violet	Roman	27/Dec/1894	?/Oct/1903
	violet	Block	16/May/1895	23/Jul/1897
	blue	Block	23/Jan/1896	
Popayan	violet	Block	20/Nov/1893	29/Nov/1897
Popayan*	violet	Roman	21/Dec/1903	
Popayan (Cauca)	violet	Block	13/Jun/1898	18/Jun/1903
-?- Providencia	black	Roman	24/Feb/1902	
Puerto Berrio	black	Roman	29/Aug/1895	
Quibdo	pink	Roman	21/Apr/1899	
	black	Roman	21/Jan/1896	
Rionegro	black	Roman	17/Jul/1896	18/Mar/1903
Salamina	?	Roman	17/Jun/1897	
San Gil	black	Roman	27/Apr/1899	
San Vicente (Cauca)	black	Roman	16/Aug/1899	
Santamarta	black	Block	30/May/1893	
	violet	Block	18/Sep/1897	1/Dec/1903
<i>Santamarta small</i>	black	Block	13/?/1901	
Santander	green	Block	20/Jan/1894	
Sincelejo	black	Block	26/Mar/1897	
Sincelejo (Bolívar)	Red	Roman	15/Feb/1904	18/Aug/1904
	black	Roman	20/Mar/1903	
Socorro	violet	Roman	27/Feb/1897	25/Mar/1898
Sogamoso	green	Roman	6/May/1899	
Suaita	violet	Block	?/?/?	
Toro	black	Roman	14/Mar/1896	
Tulua	black	Roman	28/Aug/1895	
Tumaco (Cauca)	black	Roman	9/Jun/1899	24/Aug/1901

Table II (4) Colombian Flower Killer Duplexes

Tuquerres	black	Block	15/May/1897	22/Aug/1903
Ubate	black	Roman	3/Mar/1897	
Victoria	black & blue	Block	11/Feb/1897	4/Jan/1899
Villeta	black	Roman	28/Jul/1897	
Zambrano	blue	Block	7/May/1899	
	black	Block	7/May/1897	
Zapatoca	pink	Roman	?/Nov/1903	
Zaragoza	black	Block	25/May/1895	

* ADMN DE CORREOS NACIONALES instead of CORREOS NACIONALES

2011 Exhibition Awards

NAPEX 2011

Alfredo Frohlich
Santiago Cruz

AMERISTAMP EXPO, Charleston

Jerry Kasper SCADTA Postal Stationery

WESTPEX

Colombia Prephilatelic Correspondence Dieter Bortfeldt Gold
Colombia The 1917 Perkins Issue Santiago Cruz
Gold and Best 20th C. exhibit
Colombia's Cartagena Provisional Civil War Issues
1899-1902 Alfredo Frohlich Gold

INDIPEX 2011

Colombia Prephilatelic Postal Services and Routes
James Johnson Large Gold and Special Prize
United States of Colombia Large Gold Alfredo Frohlich
Classic Colombia Gianmarco Caruso Large Vermeil

SCADTA Consular Mail James Johnson Large Vermeil

Gianmarco Caruso Post Cards of Colombia Vermeil

Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition

Republic of Colombia International Mail 1886-1900
Alfredo Frohlich Gold

TEXPEX

Republic of Colombia International Mail 1886-1900
Alfredo Frohlich Gold

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition

Department of Antioquia 1886-1904 Santiago Cruz
Gold and APS Pre 1900 Medal of Excellence
Colombia's Cartagena Provisional Civil War Issues
1899-1902 Alfredo Frohlich Gold and APS 1900-1940 Medal of Excellence

(Continued from page 3)

for any I have accidentally overlooked. Most recently, Alfredo Frohlich exhibit of the United States of Colombia won the Grand Award at NAPEX and the APS Research Award; he will once again compete in the APS Champion of Champions to be held at STAMSHOW 2011 in Columbus Ohio August 11-14.

Information on the show is available at the APS web site www.stamps.org. Besides Alfredo's magnificent collection, there will also be additional exhibits in the open competition - Santiago Cruz will show The Department of Antioquia 1886-1904, Alfredo will show Colombia's Cartagena Civil War Issues 1899-1902 and James John-

son will show Colombia Postal Markings 1840-1886. I am looking forward to seeing these collections.

Lastly, congratulations to our editor Tom Myers for his gold medal and APS Research award for his ROPEX exhibit Peruvian Airmail.

Debby Friedman

rbreuerl@nycap.rr.com

Treasurer's Report

Please note that the year ending shows a small loss because the mail sale has not been closed out. Therefore buyer payments are in a reserve and when all payments have been received and sellers paid, I will provide a final mail sale report. Only the printing cost are shown as an expense.

INCOME STATEMENT 1 JULY 2010 - 30 JUNE 2011

<u>INCOME</u>	
MEMBERSHIP DUES	1,809.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	172.00
PUBLICATION & CD SALES	406.10
MAIL SALE GROSS RECEIPTS(2)	-
INVESTMENT INCOME	168.16
AD REVENUE	30.00
FEES eBay & PayPal	15.19
TOTAL	2,600.45

<u>EXPENSES</u>	
PRINTING	1,170.15
POSTAGE	942.91
MAIL SALES EXPENSE	194.95
CD EXPENSE	32.00
FEES eBay & PayPal	0.38
BOOK EXPENSE	308.18
SUPPLIES & EXHIBIT AWARDS	29.00
INSURANCE/BANK FEES	58.00
TOTAL	2,735.57

NET INCOME (135.12)

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 30 JUNE 2011

<u>ASSETS</u>	
CASH IN BANK	4,718.72
CASH ON HAND	
INVESTMENTS (US BANK CD'S)	14,355.89
PAYPAL ACCOUNT	687.15
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	
TOTAL	19,761.76

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
PREPAID DUES	1,295.75
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	23.11
TOTAL	1,318.86

<u>RESERVES</u>	
BALANCE 1 JULY 2010	16,495.71
MAIL SALE RESERVE (2)	2,187.06
RESERVE ADJUSTMENT (1)	(104.75)
NET INCOME FY 2010-2011	(135.12)
TOTAL	18,442.90

TOTAL LIABILITIES & RESERVES 19,761.76

Notes:

- (1) Reconciliation Entry Prior Year Reserve Adjustments
- (2) Mail Sale Buyer Payments Held in Reserve until Close

(Continued from page 2)

Provisional Medellin issues with much detailed information. He made the point that Paredes made philatelic varieties and after the 1890 issue the government stopped using him. Forgeries of that issue were shown. He discussed the scarce center missing varieties of the 1896-7 Coat of Arms issue – printed by the American Bank Note Company. The government decided to use the 2 and 5 pesos center missing errors. Of approximately 1,000,

there are no known covers, but perhaps 50 stamps survive; he had the data to what offices these stamps were distributed. Bisects were also shown, again a prohibited, but tolerated usage. The Cordoba issue of 1899 is the most common Colombian stamp. The printer was the Compagnie Francaise des Papiers Monnaie, Paris. There were approximately 825,000 total printed, plus proofs and essays. Covers are extremely rare; 2 are known.

In discussing the high values (2 and 5 pesos) that were part of the 1889 and 1903 issue, he pointed out that Antioquia had gold mines and these were used to mail heavy parcels of gold; no covers with these values are known.

Unusual usage was shown in the last few pages. There was a *cubierta* of the 1905 series on cover with a Department cancel from Andes and two AR forms.

Debby Friedman

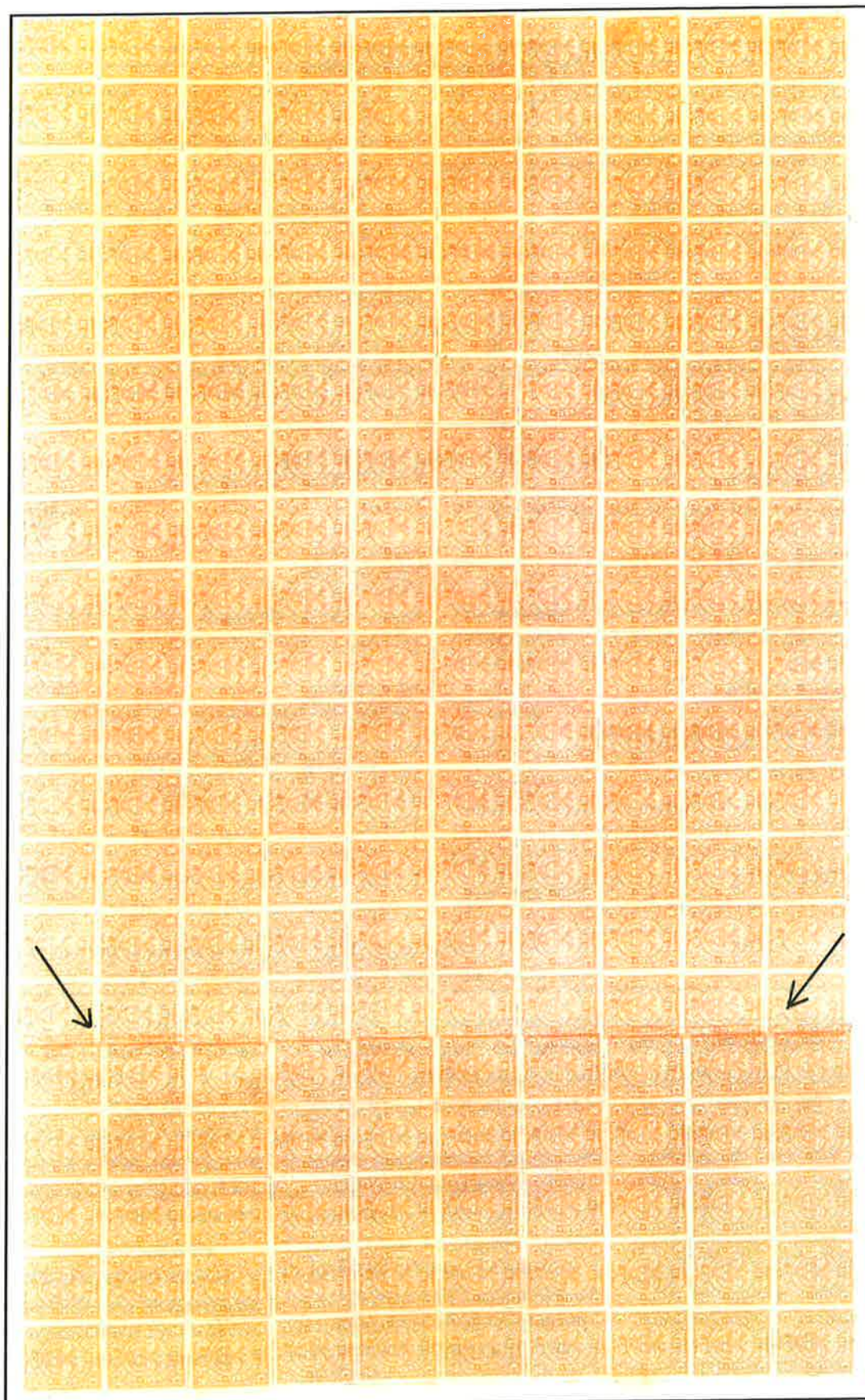
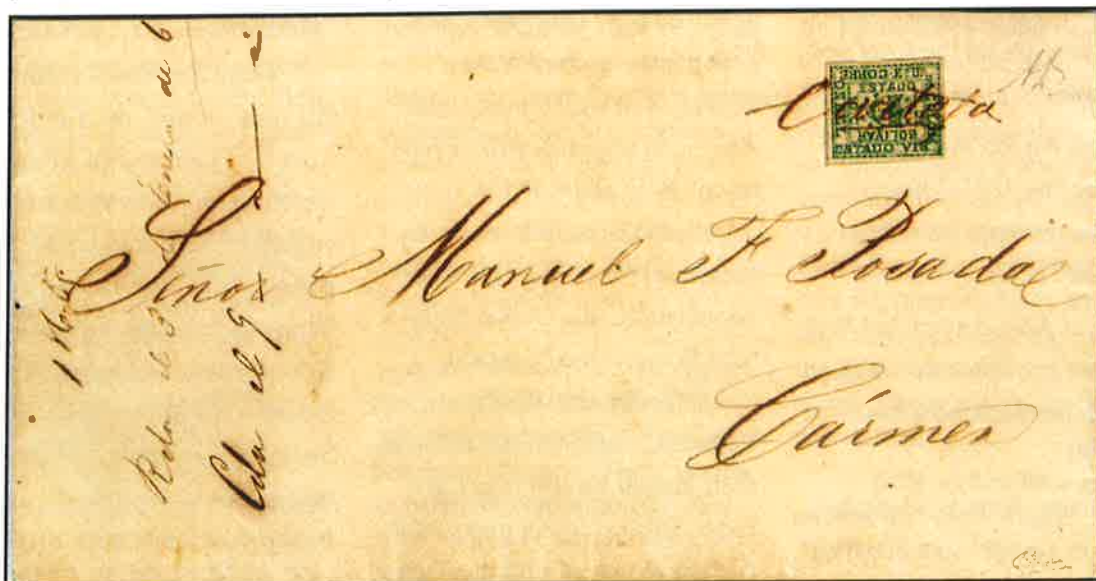


Fig. 3. Composite sheet of 200. Arrows mark the join between the 1st and 2nd impressions.

COPACARTA

Volume 29
Number 2
December 2011



Earliest known use of the 10c green, 3 Jan 1865. See article beginning on p. 4

Some thoughts on Dr. Gene Scott's monograph:
NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF THE COLOMBIAN STATES by Walter H. Weber 4
COLOMBIA: The 1881-83 UPU Bogus Sur-
charges by Alan D Anyon FRPSL 6
COPETRAN: Another "Private Carrier"? By
Rainer Fuchs 7

The Santander Stamp Issues of 1904-07 by Alan D
Anyon FRPSL and Walter H Weber 8
El Gran General Tomas Cipriano de Mosquera
takes on Queen Victoria (A Small Postal Tiff
between Colombia and Great Britain in
1867) 11

FIESTA FILATELICA AT CHICAGOPEX

November 16-18

Six Latin American specialty societies will hold their annual meetings.

A great chance to chatch-up on Latin American philately

Editor's Remarks

This number leads off with Walter Weber's remarks on the first issue of Bolivar, expanding and sometimes taking issue with Gene Scott's monograph. Color illustrations are on the front and back pages.

Alan Anyon provides an update on the 1881/3 bogus overprints perhaps best known from Earee's *Album Weeds*.

Then Alan Anyon and Walter Weber provide a detailed study on the Santander issues of 1904-1907.

Finally, there is a lengthy article on a postal spat between General Tomas Cipriano and Queen Victoria in 1867. And this is only the first part.

Fiesta Filatelica at Chicagopex

For Latin American specialists the event of the year will take place at Chicagopex 2012 in November. This year Chicagopex features the *Fiesta Filatelica* at which many Latin American societies will be represented. In addition to Copaphil, the Brazil Philatelic Association, The Chile Specialist Association, the Cuban Philatelic Society, the Nicaragua Study Group, and the Peru Philatelic Study Circle will hold their annual meetings in Chicago. This is a great opportunity not only to meet with members of our own group but also other Latin American specialists.

Given that the Latin Ameri-

can groups will fill the frames I cannot imagine why more shows do not get on the Latin American bandwagon.

Palmares

There are lots of palmares this time around, most of them from EXFIME in Medellin upon which Debby Friedman reports on page 3. Congratulations to all participants. Particularly notable is the fact that Alfredo Frohlich won the Grand Award a VAPEX for this exhibit, "United States of Colombia." That means that Copaphil will again be represented in the Champion of Champions at StampShow in Sacramento.

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From the President's Desk

Last month I made my first visit to Colombia since 1978 – needless to say there are changes, many for the better. EXFIME 2011 was held in Medellin. I enjoyed the opportunity to meet several COPAPHIL members I only knew by email and also to visit the homes of several members to see some of their collections and reference materials. I hope some of the collections I saw will appear in exhibitions so others can enjoy and learn from the material. It is not too early to start thinking about exhibits for CHICA-GOPEX where we will next meet. Likewise I hope some of the information and interesting items will turn into articles.

It is also clear that some interesting literature, both books and articles, have been pub-

lished in Colombia, have not been publicized outside of Colombia. Since Bob D'Elia and the late Bob Mitchell completed their epic work on the Colombia and Panama Bibliography over a decade ago, there has been no systematic effort to compile additions and new listings. For example I learned from Carlos Valenzuela that in 2007 he had published *Historia Postal de la iniciacion del servicio de correos en el Nuevo Reino de Granada 1718-1769*. It's 70 pages include information essential to anyone interested in the postal history of this era. There is also an extensive bibliography. Another source of articles are the bulletins and programs issued for the exhibitions held in Colombia. For example in the EXFIME 2011 program is an inter-

esting article by Ricardo Botero on Cancan and an unusual 1800 cover from there. I also picked up a few recent copies of *Medellin Filatelico*, a bulletin of the Club Filatelico de Medellin. Those too contained references that should be recorded. If you are interested in working on a supplement to the bibliography we published, please contact me. Bob Mitchell had begun work on a supplement and I have that information. I also have a growing pile of more recent references. Those will jumpstart a new effort.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

Debby Friedman

rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com

Palmares

EXFIME 2011

Non-competitive

Hugo Goggel *Colombia Colonial Pre-philately*

Large Gold

Alvaro Castro-Harrigan *Panama: The First Issue of the Republic*

Gold

Walter Weber *Santander 1884-1886*

Manuel Arango *Revenues of Colombia 1858-1904 & special prize*

Manuel Arango *Colombian Red Cross* 1 frame

Augusto Peinado *Sovereign State of Antioquia & special prize*

Large Vermeil

Ricardo Botero *Colombia The First Six Issues*

James Johnson *SCADTA 4th Issue Postal Routes*

Carlos Department of Tolima 1886-1903

Jorge Enrique Arbelaez *Colombia Prephilatelic*

Letters with Content

Vermeil

Dario Diez *Colombia Official Cubiertas*

Debby Friedman *Colombia: The Internal Postal Cards of 1880-1881* (1 frame)

Raymond Ireson *In Search of El Dorado* (1 frame)

Arturo Ferrer *First Postal Entires of Colombia*

Bronze

Luis Fernando Maguin *Colombia 19th Century* (1 frame)

Chicagopex

Alfredo Frohlich *SCADTA Von Krohn Air Crash Vermeil* (1 frame)

Malcolm Bentley, *British Post Offices in Colombia 1821-1881* Gold, literature

VAPEX

Alfredo Frohlich *United States of Colombia Grand Award*

Some thoughts on Dr. Gene Scott's monograph: *NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF THE COLOMBIAN STATES*

Walter H. Weber

The book was published in 1997 by Wilshire Monographs, L.A. It is said that most of the studies were done by the curator of Scott's collections, Mr. Carol Weyna, one of the great experts in this particular field. I believe that these notes had the greatest ever influence on collectors of the stamps of the Colombian States and it remains the main reference work.

Since 1997 to date, 14 years later, numerous new finds have been reported and further research has been done by both expert and amateur collectors.

This article deals with the first three stamps of the Sover-

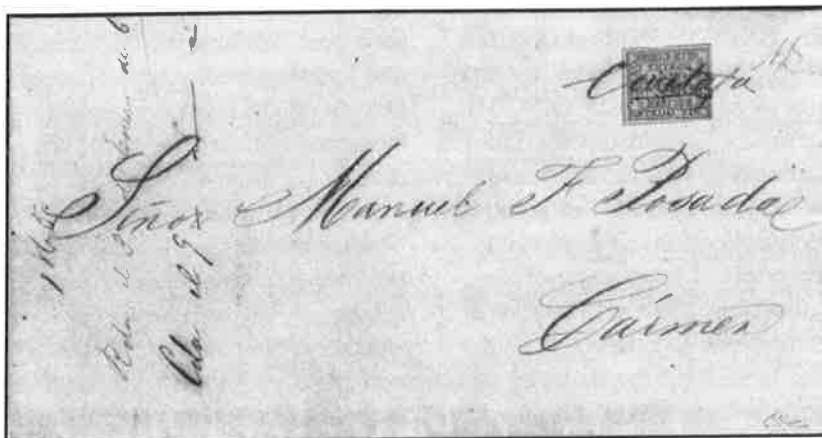


Fig. 1. Earliest known use of the 10c green, 3 Jan 1865.

eign State of BOLIVAR, which were the first of any Colombian State.

First issue (1863) 10 centavos green (Sc. #1) – Gene Scott reported that the earliest cover had an arrival cancel of

November 15th, 1865 (page 20). However I do have in my collection two earlier entires:

- 1) A cover from Cartagena to Carmen of January 3rd, 1865 (fig. 1 and front cover)
- 2) A cover from Cartagena to Barranquilla of September 16th, 1865 addressed to the U.S. Consul Mr. A. Chapman (fig. 2).

Scott states (page 17) that only 5 stamps of type 12, with the "5 stars" variety, have been recorded. As I have 6 examples (one on cover) in my collection, and there will be some additional copies in other collections, this count is incorrect.

The same is true of recorded covers of the 10 centavos green. There are certainly more



Fig. 2. Cartagena to Barranquilla, 16 September 1865.

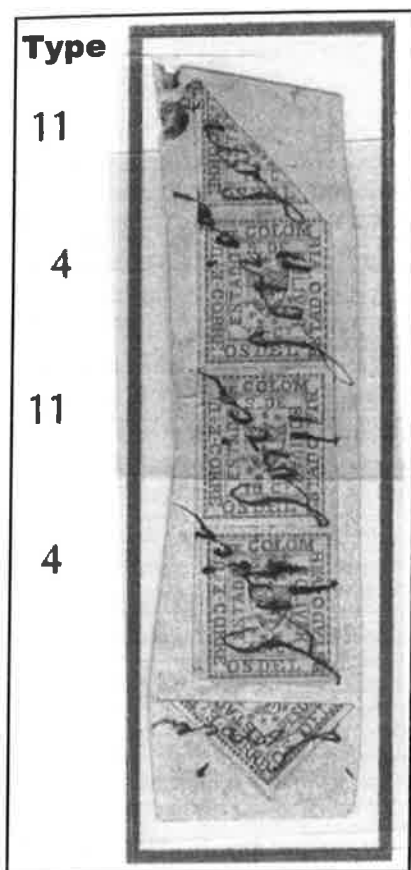


Fig. 3. Probably unique 1 peso stamp with a strip of three 10c stamps and a 10c bisect on piece with a Lorica manuscript cancel.

known than the eight examples mentioned by Scott on page 20.

First issue (1863) 1 peso red (Sc. #3). There is a probably unique bisected 1 peso stamp on piece with a Lorica manuscript cancellation together with a strip of $3\frac{1}{2} \times 10$ centavos red stamps (fig. 3). This is not mentioned in the monograph.

First issue (1866) 10 centavos red (Sc. #2) – the same stone as used for Sc. #1 green.

Only three covers have been reported with the entire

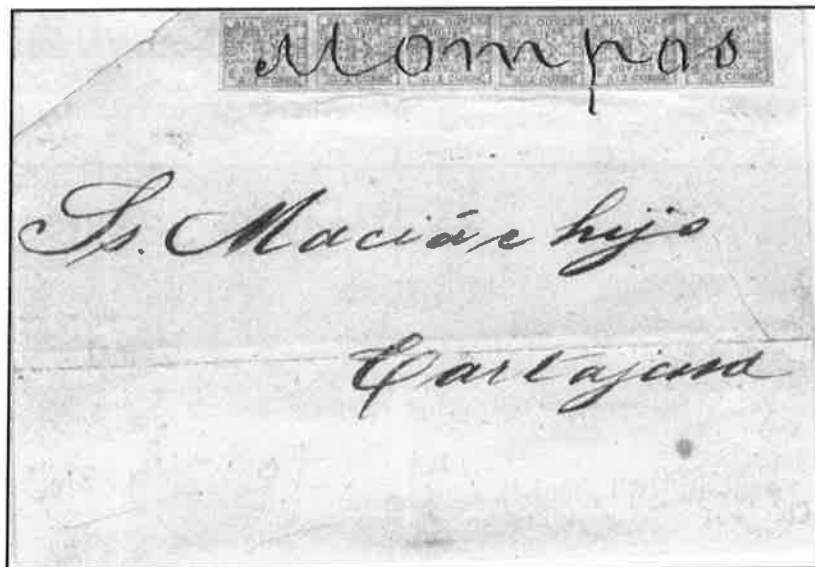


Fig. 4a. Mompos to Cartagena with a strip of seven of the 10c red.

stamp. I do have my doubts about the cover (front) sent from Mompos to Cartagena with a strip of six stamps, types 13-2-9-6-13-4. (sheet positions 67-84-101-118-135-152) It seems that a non-judicial letter with a 60 centavos postal rate is rather high and the Mompos cancella-

Scott's diagram on page 18. Interesting though, I do have an example of a strip of 7 of these stamps (types 6-13-6-13-6-13-6) with the same Mompos handwritten cancellation but tied to a piece (fig.4a). Is this, perhaps, from a judicial letter?

Regarding the bisected 10

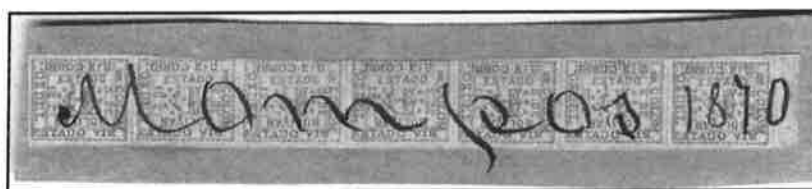


Fig. 4b. Strip of seven of the 10c red. dated 1870

tion does NOT tie the stamps to the cover (fig.4a). The interesting part is that this strip is unique because it shows the key positions for the reconstruction of the whole sheet of 170 stamps, illustrating the right portion of the second row. See

centavos red on letters, Scott says that the dates range from August 1871 to May 13, 1873. However I have covers sent from Barranquilla to Cartagena on December 12, 1870 and from Soledad to Cartagena on March

(Continued on page 20)

COLOMBIA: The 1881-83 UPU Bogus Surcharges

Alan D Anyon FRPSL

Many South American republics have been bedevilled by bogus stamp issues and Colombia is no exception. Two of the earliest were reported in *The Philatelic Record* in 1883¹⁻⁵ as genuine stamps. The 10c purple of the 1881 UPU issue has been found surcharged as a 2½ cen-



Bogus overprints on the 1881 issue

tavos value and the 5c blue of the same issue as a 4 centavos value. Recently close examination of the latter revealed it was the 1883 redrawn 5c that was overprinted. It is interesting to note that when these stamps were produced there was no postal rate requiring 2½c or 4c denominations.

In the early 1880's the so called "London Gang" was producing and selling forgeries and bogus stamps. The printer was George Kirke Jeffryes and distribution was initially handled by the stamp dealer partnership of Alfred Benjamin and Frederick Bannister. Re-

putedly J B Moëns in *Le Timbre-Poste* exposed Jeffryes as fabricating these Colombian fantasies. Indeed, due to his activities, Jeffryes attracted the sobriquet "Mr Two and a Half" in the stamp trade.

In his excellent book *Al-*

Table I: London Gang Overprints

1A	2 ½c in black on 1881 10c violet normal *
	a. inverted *
	b. sideways reading up *
	c. inverted slightly diagonal *
	d. double
1B	2 ½c red on 1881 10c violet normal *
	a. inverted
	b. sideways reading down
2	2 ½c in red on 1881 10c violet normal
3	2 ½c in red on 1881 10c violet normal
4	2 ½c in red on 1881 10c violet normal
5	4c in black on 1883 5c blue normal *
	a. inverted *
6	4c in red on 1883 5c blue normal

* in the Tapling Collection

*bum Weeds*⁶ R B Earée provides a basic listing of these stamps. However since that time more varieties have come to light. Examples of nine of them are contained in the Tapling Collection in The British Library, Lon-

(Continued on page 18)

DOS Y MEDIO centavos. 1.	DOS Y MEDIO centavos 2.	DOS Y MEDIO CENTAVOS 3.	DOS I MEDIO centavos 4.
	4 -CUARTO- Centavos. 5.	4 CUATRO Centavos 6.	

Fig. 1. London Gang overprints.

COPETRAN: Another “Private Carrier”?

Rainer Fuchs

I have the illustrated cover (fig. 1) in my collection for several years. It always puzzled me as I could not explain the service. Over the years I owned that cover I believed that inscription *Servicio de Encomiendas* was the name of the company and not related to the postal service itself. However, after I looked at the cover a bit more intensively I realized that the name of the private carrier was COPETRAN.

The reverse the cover carries a label inscribed with: *Servicio de Encomiendas* [Parcel Service] No. 11503. Fecha [Date], Oficina de Origen [Sending Office] and Porte \$ [Postage in Colombian Pesos].

The label is cancelled with the hand stamp *Copetran/ Agencia - Pamplona* and perforated on top so I assume it was printed in larger sheets, furthermore, the label carries a pre-printed registration number.

COPETRAN was founded in 1942 in Bucaramanga as a corporation of 3 bus owners. The governor of the province,

Dr. Arturo Santos, had supported one of the companies that was controlled by the government. The first trip was from Bucaramanga to Bogota in a bus with wooden seats and 20 passengers. In front of the bus, 2 jerry cans with gasoline were stored for the trip of 24 hours.

The company is still in op-

eration and the route network currently serves around 100 destinations in Colombia. Their buses are from 2007, have 2 toilets, LCD television with DVD, air conditioning and a capacity for 2 drivers.

Any additional information to the cover, the label, the company COPETRAN and its agencies and services is highly appreciated.

Due to high number of business travel I am involved, correspondence by Email at rainer@fuchs-online.com is preferred, alternatively also by ordinary mail to my postal address “Am Burkardstuhl 33” in “97267 Himmelstadt”.

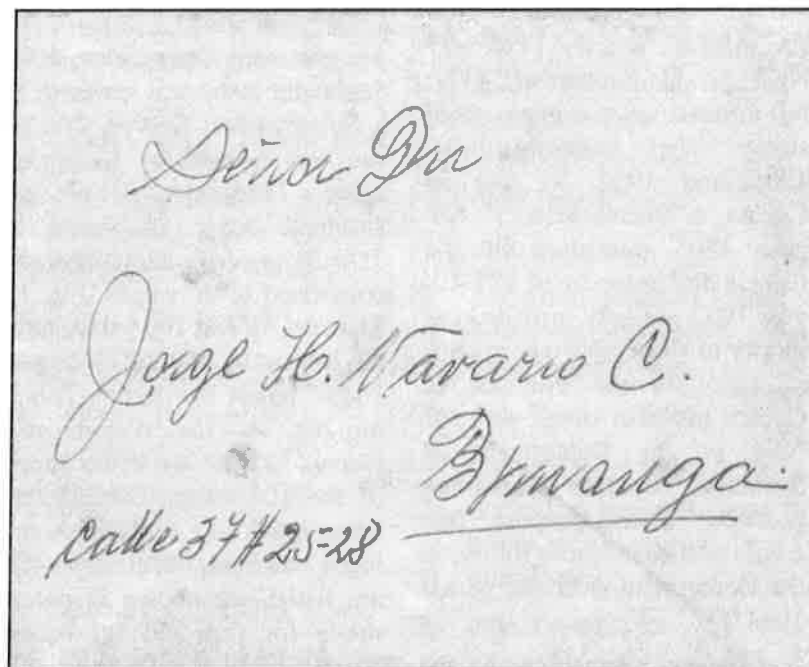


Fig. 1. The front of the cover reveals nothing but the addressee and the street address.

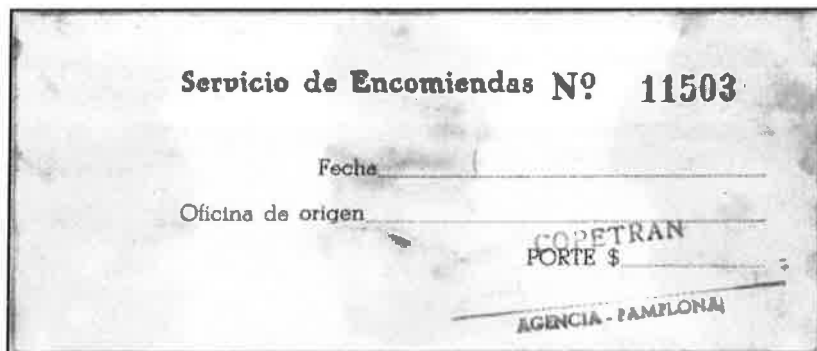


Fig. 2. COPETRAN label on reverse.

The Santander Stamp Issues of 1904-07

Alan D Anyon FRPSL and Walter H Weber

In a previous COPACARTA article (Vol. 27 No.1 p.5-11 September 2009) full information was given about stamp issues made in 1904, 1905 and 1907 for use in Cúcuta. A Decree dated 1st August 1903 published in the *Gaceta de Santander* of 11th August 1903 not only provided authority to supply postage stamps in 1904 for the Province of Cúcuta but also to all post offices in the Department of Santander. Separate issues were produced for this purpose. This article will cover those for use in the Department over the period 1904-07.

Before commencing on the Santander stamps some typographical corrections need to be made to the original Cúcuta article. On page 5 change #2 the 2c yellow-brown to yellow-green. Below the f/g/h table on page 8 insert the caption "Fig. 7 Arrangement of types in the sheet". Below the Fig. 10 table on page 9, at the end of the caption alter "20c yellow (right)" to "20c olive-green/yellow (right)". On page 10 Fig. 12 change the caption to read "Part sheet showing 'sliced C' in position 5 and 'broken 2' in position 9".

First Issue 1904

As seen above, the 1904 Santander issue was covered by a Departmental Decree. The issue was printed by L. Nuñez using lithography, on ungummed paper in sheets of 7x4=28 imperforate stamps and comprised seven values (Fig. 1). The 50c, 5p and 10p values have the imprint *L. NUÑEZ Fotogra-bador* below the design. This is missing on the bottom row (stamps 22-28) on some sheets of the 10p value. For convenience the Yvert & Tellier catalogue numbers, when the stamps are listed, are shown in parenthesis for this and subsequent issues.

- 1 5c dark green (21)
- 2 5c yellow-green (22)
- 3 10c rose (shades) (23)
 - a. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
- 4 20c violet-brown (shades) (24)
- 5 50c yellow with imprint (25)
 - a. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
 - b. on pelure paper
 - c. orange
- 6 1p black (26)
 - a. Grey
- 7 5p blue with imprint (27)
 - a. unofficially p. 11 1/2 vertically

b. Printed n both sides

- c. On pelure paper (27a)
- 8 10p red with imprint (28)
 - a without imprint

The values on pelure paper are extremely scarce.

Second Issue 1905

A second issue was made in 1905, apparently without official authority. The same designs and values as in the earlier set were used but the colours were altered. The stamps were printed by Colonel C J Carreño, who also printed the Cúcuta 1900 Provisional stamps, using the Nuñez lithographic stones as shown by the imprint. The paper was ungummed and the sheet size was 7x4=28 imperforate stamps except the 5c value which only exists in sheets of 6x3=18 stamps. Most values are found on both white and buff papers. Several values are encountered printed in black and these may be proofs or colour trials. The 50c, 5p and 10p values have the Nuñez imprint below the design but missing on the bottom row (stamps 22-28) of the 10p value on some sheets.

- 9 5c pale blue (29)
 - a. on buff paper
 - b. black on buff paper (37)



Fig. 1.

- 10 10c red-brown (30)
a. on buff paper
- 11 20c yellow-green (31)
a. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
b. on buff paper
c. black on buff paper (38)
- 12 50c red-violet with imprint (32)
a. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
b. on buff paper
- 13 1p blue (shades) (33)
a. on buff paper
b. black on yellow pelure paper (39)
- 14 5p pink with imprint (34)
a. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
b. on buff paper
c. blue on yellow pelure paper (40)
- 15 10p red on rose paper with imprint (36)
a. without imprint
b. rose on bluish paper (35)
c. rose on red paper
- Third Issue 1907**
- In 1907 further apparently unauthorised stamps were issued by surcharging some values of the two earlier issues. This was despite Departmental Decree No. 906 of 28th June 1906 that stated no further departmental stamps may be issued. The surcharges comprised ½c on 50c yellow (#5) and on 50c red-violet (#12), 1c on 1p black (#6) and on 1p blue (#13), 2c on 5c dark green (#1), on 5c yellow-green (#2), on 20c violet-brown (#4) and on 5p blue (#7). The actual type setting and sheet formation was identical with that used to surcharge the Cúcuta 1904 and 1905 stamps and included the same varieties. However a few more varieties have been found. Please consult the previous article for illustrations of the overprints and sheet formation.
- The 2c/5c yellow-green
- 16a ½c/50c yellow #5 (green overprint) Type a. (42)
16b ditto Type b. (42a)
16c ditto Type c. (42b)
16d ditto Type d. (42c)
16e ditto Type e. (42d)
17a ½c/50c red-violet #12 (black overprint) Type a. (43)
17b ditto Type b. (43a)
17c ditto Type c. (43b)
17d ditto Type d. (43c)
17e ditto Type e. (43d)
18a 1c/1p black #6 (blue overprint) Type f. (45)
18b ditto Type g. (45a)
18c ditto Type h. (45b)
18d 1c/1p grey #6a (blue overprint) Type f.
18e ditto Type g.
18f ditto Type h.
19a 1c/1p blue #13 (black overprint) Type f. (46)
aa. NU for UN (sheet position 18) (46c)
ab. double overprint black & green
ac. NU with double overprint black & green
19b ditto Type g. (46a)
ba. double overprint black & green
19c ditto Type h. (46b)
ca. double overprint black & green
- 20a 2c/5c dark green #1 (red overprint) Type i. (47)
20b ditto Type j. (47a)
20c ditto Type k. (47b)
20d ditto Type l. (47c)
21a 2c/5c yellow-green #2 (red overprint) Type i.
21b ditto Type j.
21c ditto Type k.
21d ditto Type l.
22a 2c/5c dark green #1 (dark blue overprint) Type i. (48)
22b ditto Type j. (48a)
22c ditto Type k. (48b)
22d ditto Type l. (48c)
22e 2c/5c dark green #1 (light bright blue overprint) Type i.
22f ditto Type j.
22g ditto Type k.
22h ditto Type l.
23a 2c/20c violet-brown #4 (blue overprint) Type i. (52)
aa. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
23b ditto Type j.
ba. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
23c ditto Type k. (52b)
ca. unofficially p. 11½ vertically
24a 2c/5p dark blue #7 (blue overprint) Type i. (54)
aa. double overprint
24b ditto Type j. (54a)
ba. double overprint
24c ditto Type k. (54b)
ca. double overprint
24d ditto Type l. (54c)
da. double overprint
db. Cv . for Cvs. (sheet position 7)

- 24e 2c/5p very light blue (blue overprint) Type i.
 24f ditto Type j.
 24g ditto Type k.
 24h ditto Type l.

stamps (#21a-d) are very scarce and not listed by Yvert & Teller. The 2c/20c violet-brown (23a-c) does not exist with the Type l. overprint. Instead sheet positions 6 and 7 are filled with Type j. The error 24db. appears only on some sheets indicating the 's' was either lost and replaced or it occurred only on later printings.

Fourth Issue

This was issued concurrently with #16-24 above, but consists of a single type setting where '2' is above the word 'Centavos' (Type m.) printed on 5c, 10c, 20c, 5p and 10p denominations. The sheet size was 7x4=28 stamps and the constant errors 'Centavas' and 'Cantavos' occurred in sheet positions 9 and 20 respectively.

The 2c/5c dark green #25 has only been seen with an inverted normal overprint and has not been recorded previously.

- 25 2c/5c dark green #1 (black overprint)
 a. inverted overprint
 b. Cantavos error
 ba. ditto inverted overprint
 c. Centavas error
 ca. ditto inverted overprint
 26 2c/5c blue #9 (black overprint) (49)
 a. Cantavos error (49aII)
 b. Centavas error (49aIII)
 c. unofficially p. 11½ vertically

- 27 2c/10c rose #3 (green overprint) (51)
 a. Cantavos error (51aII)
 b. Centavas error (51aIII)
 28 2c/10c red-brown #10 (blue overprint) (50)
 a. Cantavos error (50aII)
 b. Centavas error (50aIII)
 c. inverted overprint (50b)
 d. Cantavos error inverted (50c)
 e. Centavas error inverted (50d)
 29 2c/20c yellow-green #11 (black overprint) (53)
 a. Cantavos error (53aII)
 b. Centavas error (53aIII)
 c. inverted overprint
 d. Cantavos error inverted
 e. Centavas error inverted
 30 2c/5p pink #14 (blue overprint) (55)
 a. Cantavos error (55aII)
 b. Centavas error (55aIII)
 c. very dark blue overprint
 ca. ditto Cantavos error
 cb. ditto Centavas error
 31 2c/10p red with imprint #8 (green overprint) (57)
 a. Cantavos error (57aII)
 b. Centavas error (57aIII)
 32 2c/10p red without imprint #8a (green overprint)
 33 2c/10p red with imprint #8 (black overprint) (56)
 a. Cantavos error (56aII)
 b. Centavas error (56aIII)
 c. inverted overprint
 ca. ditto Cantavos error
 cb. ditto Centavas error
 34 2c/10p red without imprint #8a (black overprint)

- 35 2c/10p red/rose with imprint #15 (green overprint)
 a. Cantavos error
 b. Centavas error
 36 2c/10p red/rose without imprint #15a (green overprint)

The 2c/5c blue #26 exists with double and triple surcharges. The Cantavos and Centavas errors cannot exist on #32, 34 and 36 as the basic 10p stamp is only found without imprint in the bottom row of the sheet (stamps 22-28).

Postal History

With the exception of the 1904 issue, the stamps printed in 1905 and 1907 for use in the Department of Santander have a doubtful provenance. Notwithstanding that fact a number of covers have survived indicating they did serve a proper postal purpose.

Conclusion

The stamps issued in 1904, 1905 and 1907 for use in the Department of Santander and the Province of Cúcuta have long been considered "Cinderellas of Colombian philately". However due to the many varieties encompassed in the issues and the fact that they apparently did provide a proper postal service they deserve further consideration. It is hoped this article and its companion covering the Cúcuta issues will provide impetus to re-consider them. Any corrections or additions to the listings will be greatly appreciated via the Editor.

El Gran General Tomas Cipriano de Mosquera takes on Queen Victoria

(A Small Postal Tiff between Colombia and Great Britain in 1867)

The following article appeared in the 4 April 1867 edition of *The Times* of London:

"The British Consul at Cartagena (*sic*) having complained to the Commodore on the station that the letter bags of British residents were opened and detained by the Authorities there, Her Majesty's ship Doris was dispatched from Port Royal on the 23d (*sic*) February to inquire into the circumstances, and to demand that the practice be discontinued.

The Doris arrived at Cartagena (fig. 1) on the 26th and Captain Vesey immediately communicated to the Governor the object of the mission, which was to secure to the British Consul the same advantages in postal matters as were conceded to the French and American consuls at that port. The Governor at first stated that he had not the power to grant the request. The Doris, therefore, sent an armed force on board the Columbian (*sic*) steamer of war Columbian, and she was seized

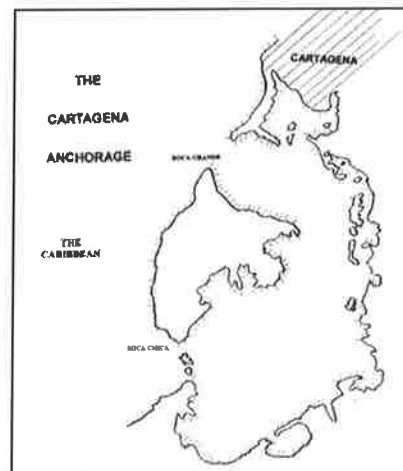


Fig. 1. The anchorage at Cartagena

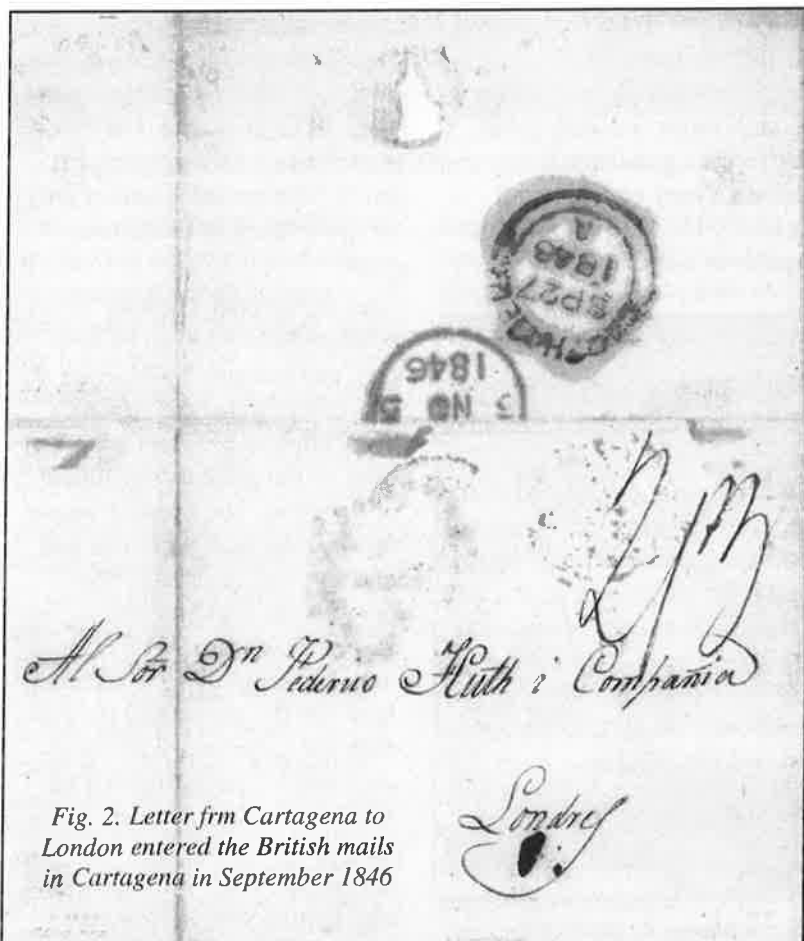


Fig. 2. Letter from Cartagena to London entered the British mails in Cartagena in September 1846

and held possession of.

The Governor was stubborn until these measures were resorted to. After two days' consideration the Governor found that he had the power to grant the request, and the British Consul assured the captain the difficulty was arranged, and that the British interests would not be interfered with for the future. Affairs having been settled, the officers of the ship were invited ashore and kindly entertained by the inhabitants. The Columbian was released on the 1st March.

The Doris left Cartagena on the 3d (*sic*), stopped at Santa Martha (figs. 3, 4) on the way back to Jamaica, and arrived at Port Royal on Wednesday evening, the 6th last.

The following additional particulars in reference to the Cartagena affair have been sent to us by an eyewitness:-

The natives alleged that a pri-

vate misunderstanding existed between the President and the British Consul. These petty indignities or discourtesy had grown so serious that they had become quite a national question between the President and the Consul. The objection of the British Consul was that a difference was shown to him that was not observed towards the other Consuls. First, his bags were opened. Secondly, unfair tonnage dues were extracted from British vessels, and these dues were not demanded of other foreign vessels. Thirdly, proper respect was not shown to British residents. Representations of these grievances were made by the Consul to the President, without any favourable results. The Consul, therefore, felt it his duty to communicate with Commodore Sir Leopold M'Clintock on the subject, who immediately dispatched Her Majesty's steamer Doris, Captain Vesey, to Carthagena.

On her arrival dispatches were



Fig. View of Santa Marta harbour, in water colour by Edward Mark, British Consul there in the 1840s.

forwarded to the British Consul to be delivered to the President, and there being considerable delay in obtaining any answer – the authorities showing great indifference and disinclination – Captain Vesey considered it necessary to make some demonstration of earnestness in his

demands. Just about this time a steamer belonging to the Government, the *Columbian*, came into port. The Captain and crew were all Englishmen, but the purser was a native Spaniard (*sic!*). This vessel is one of only two belonging to the Government.

As she arrived, Captain Vesey ordered three boats to be lowered and manned by Marines and bluejackets fully armed. They approached the *Columbian*, to the great astonishment of the crew. The Spanish purser ordered the sentries to fire and prohibit any attempt to board her, but the captain ordered that no resistance should be offered, which created some altercation between the purser and the captain, the latter (*more probably the former!*) declaring that he would rather die than see an insult offered to his flag. The vessel and the crew were disarmed, and British sentries placed on board, but the *Columbian* flag

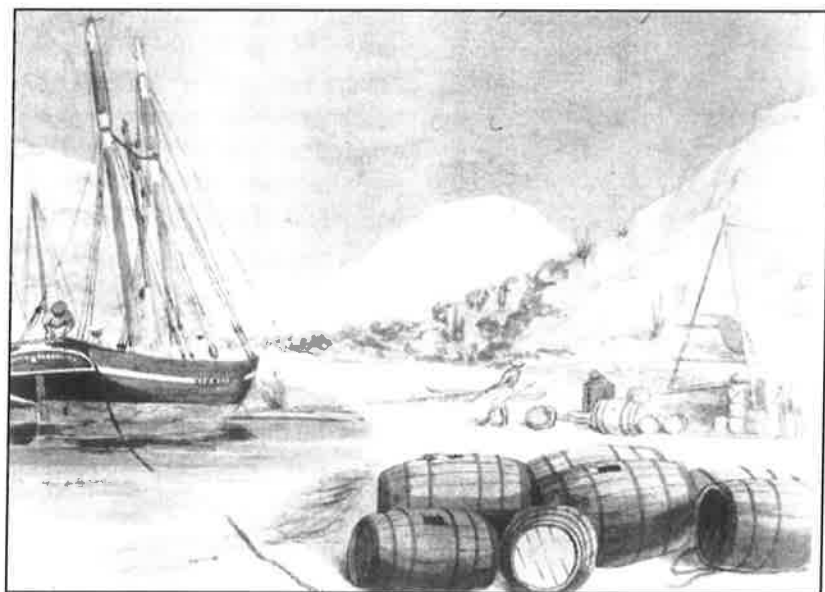


Fig. Rudimentary post facilities at Santa Marta. As depicted by Edward Mark in 1845.

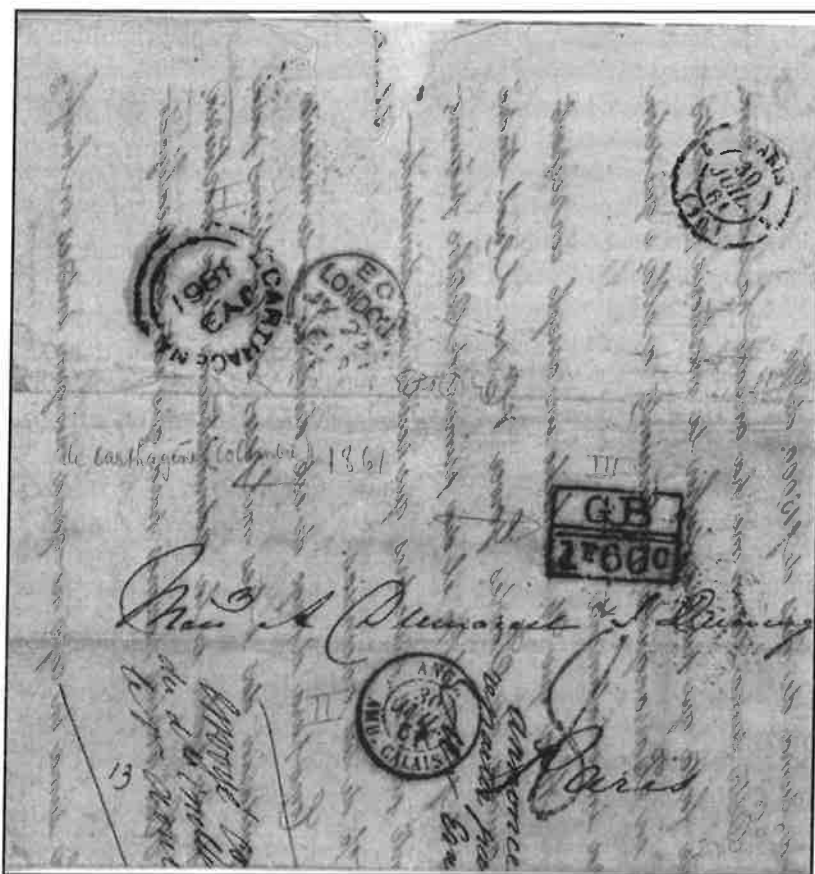


Fig. Cartagena to Paris 1861 by the British mails.

was not displaced. Captain Veseley having accomplished the seizure, sent notification at 6 p.m. to the British Consul, that six hours would be granted for the adjustment of the difficulties with the British Consul or he would resort to other measures. The seizure of the Columbian produced intense excitement on shore against the British; the Consul's life was threatened, and hundreds of the inhabitants paraded the streets with machetes (?machetes, long, sharp knives used to cut sugar cane, a local staple at the time) spikes and other arms, at the same time vowing vengeance and using violent language towards the British officers who had gone ashore. The other Consuls went

on board the Doris to request that their property should be respected, and the captain extended the time to 10 a.m. the next day, when he would decide upon the measures to be taken. In the meantime, three hundred men were under arms in preparation to land. Just half an hour before the expiry of the time, a boat was seen coming from the shore, with dispatches from the Consul, to say that an apology had been amply given, and all that had been demanded had been conceded by the President. This put a stop to hostilities, and the Columbian was restored to her captain. The Doris remained in port for a couple of days, and left for Santa Martha."

In fact, *The Times* picked up

this story from the British Caribbean fleet's local rag, published in Kingston, the *Jamaican Gleaner*. *The Times* must have had further access to information direct from a member of the *Doris* crew.

The first inkling of the spat comes in the *Jamaican Gleaner* of 13 March 1967:-

"THE DIFFICULTY AT CARTHAGENA

The question which arose, so far back as the end of November last, between the British Consul (who is also packet agent) at Carthagena, and the local authorities, respecting the pretensions of the latter to break open and distribute British Mail, has now come to a crisis, and is involved with others no less serious.

Consul de Fonblanque acting, as it is said, under instructions from H.M.'s Minister at Bogota, had resolutely resisted these unfriendly proceedings, but in vain. Two mails – the one by the Liverpool Steamer "West Indian", from Colon, and the other by the R.M.C. Packet "Tamar" were violated by the local authorities; but the facts having been reported to Commodore McClintock, H.M. steamer "Doris" was dispatched to Carthagena. As we before observed, the affair has reached its crisis.

The worst feature, perhaps, in this case is, that a provisional arrangement or compromise entered into by Consul de Fonblanque with the President of the States was broken by that official whilst the Consul was spending Sunday in the country. –This was the case of the "West Indian" which arrived unexpect-

edly.

If the accounts which were current in Carthagena respecting the correspondence between the Consul and the local authorities be correct, the latter have placed themselves on the horns of a dilemma, from which, in spite of some questionable quibbling, the Consul has held them firmly.

The same laws which govern the case of in-coming mails, relate to outward; and the authorities, foreseeing some difficulty in getting their correspondence off to Europe, relaxed for *their own convenience* in the one instance, the decrees which they rigidly enforced against British honour and interests. In the other they acknowledged Mr. de Fonblanque as duly authorized to make up and send mail, but required him as Packet Agent, to receive one. They have therefore done for themselves pretty much what worthy Dogsboddy wished he had somebody to do to him.

The postal communication (? *Convention*) between Great Britain and Columbia was put an end to in the year 1863, but from that time up to November last, its provisions have been contin-

ued, by mutual consent, to the great advantage of Colombia, as the postal service costs many thousands a year beyond the sums received as postage. The Steamers of the Royal Mail Company continued to be free of tonnage dues and Custom's regulations; and all went well till President Mosquera made a decree in August last, by which their privileges were withdrawn, their registers extracted, and the mails subjected to local control. This decree, we understand, *has never been notified to H.M.'s Government*. Hence the present questions.

On the arrival of the Doris, Consul de Fonblanque by direction of Capt Vesey required a postponement questions respecting them, then pending between the two Governments should be settled; and also certain explanations of past proceedings which were deemed derogatory to British honour.

To this the President made the usual reply *non possumus*, Captain Vesey then detained the so called man-of-war *Columbia*, and notified that when he received a satisfactory answer to his requisitions by 10 O'clock p.m. (afterwards prolonged till

10 a.m. next day) he should take further steps.

During the evening and night of the 28th, the greatest excitement prevailed in Carthagena, and pressure was put upon the President to take advantage of the excuse for yielding, carefully provided for him by the British Consul, namely, that Presidents of other States of Columbia had acted differently, and the majority was against him. In due course a satisfactory reply was returned on all the points, the *Columbia* was giving (*sic*) and the city relieved of its fears, "We are not afraid of the British Forces", they said, "these will be under discipline, but who will save us from the rabble that will take advantage of the confusion to plunder us?"

The lesson thus given has long been required, and President Carazo may yet live to thank Doctor Vesey for the bitter but wholesome pill which that able physician has administered".

The "Gleaner" takes up the story once again on 25 April:

"OUR COLOMBIAN DISPUTE"

The latest accounts from Bogota bring us the intelligence

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that the differences between the President and the Congress have been arranged in a satisfactory manner. General Mosquera had to acknowledge that many of his acts lately have been subversive to the Constitution and the laws of the Republic; even the minority who supported the Government in Congress, had to join the majority, having to put a stop to the arbitrary measures of the Ejecutivo. The threatened revolution has thus been averted. The doings of H.M. Ship "Doris" at Carthagena, had reached Bogota, and, as expected generated a great sensation. General Mosquera did not approve of the conduct of the authorities of that place, and retired the *exequatur* of Mr. Fonblanque, Her Majesty's Consul. It was at first reported that this gentleman was going to leave; but he has since changed his mind, preferring to await the decision of the British Government. We should not, therefore, be surprised if new complications arise out of the Mail Bag question".

In the same edition the "Gleaner" prints a report dated 5 April from a Special Correspondent in Carthagena:

"The curtain now rises upon the third scene of this melodrama "*A storm in a mail bag or tonnage doos*", which is being enacted in this city. One of the chief attractions of this class of entertainments is the rapid alterations of fortune suffered by the various characters and by which the spectator's interest is kept continually at work. The drama now under consideration is full of "startling effects". At the end of the first scene we find

the poor British Consul weeping over the outraged seal of a mail bag. In the second H.M.S. "Doris" appears, and Captain Vesey – admirably played (by himself) puts an end to the insult heaped on his country, and exits in a blaze of triumph. At this juncture every old play-goer knows that things must take a turn, or how is the second act to be fitted out?

It is difficult to be serious with Colombians, but we must try, after giving a few examples of the difficulty of our task.

It was at one time seriously intended to resist Captain Vesey by force of arms. A patriotic Carthaginian presented the Government with fifty rifles (!) (valued at nine francs each) to assist in sinking the "Doris", and \$800 worth of small shot was bought to be cast into bullets for the destruction of the doomed vessel.

An adventurous carpenter volunteered to go off at night in a canoe, and scuttle Her Majesty's Ship *with his augur*.

In a debate on the Mexican question at the Capitol, a Senator opposed sending aid to the Republican party on the ground that they should strike at the root of the evil, and that in the event of the Emperor of the French not withdrawing his support for his "brother" Maximilian, the Columbian navy (one ship of 700 tons) should be sent to Cherbourg to bring Napoleon III to reason – a la Vesey!

President Mosquera is busily engaged correcting the errors of Humboldt, and allows himself to be publicly told that next to Julius Caesar and Mr Pitt he is

the greatest man who ever was – or, perhaps, ever will be. So he has "disapproved" his agent here – President Curago – for not having sunk the "Doris" (with rifles and partridge shot afore-said), withdrawn the British Consul's Exequatur, and declared null and void the arrangement made by Capt. Vesey. The compromise entered into between Consul de Fonblanque and President Curago (the breaking of which by the letter was partly the cause of the mission of the "Doris") is to be revived. It is thus admitted that President Mosquera's decree as to British mail, which has caused all these difficulties, is impracticable.

President Curago – the Agent in Carthagena of the National Government – has been disapproved for breaking the seals of the British Mail; and long before the "Doris" arrived, was ordered to continue his compromise with Consul de Fonblanque. He continued to break the seals and disregarded these orders; and is therefore wholly to blame for all that has happened. – We learn that the proceedings of Consul de Fonblanque up to the arrival of the "Doris" in Carthagena have been approved by Government. We hope shortly to be able to report the same of Captain Vesey's operations and to give the finale to the second Act. We are no advocates for the use of force, but when a people steeped in worse than Chinese egotism and arrogance, insult British officers, and injure British commerce, what other argument is left?"

The Stamp-Collector's Magazine soon took up the story and

the edition of 1 May reproduced part of the Times story. Strangely, they inserted the following additional phrase – “he (Captain Vesey) at the same time requested the foreign consuls to hoist their flags over their respective consulates at day-break the next morning.” This may have been standard practice in such cases to avoid damaging friendly property, but it is certainly not in the cited articles. But the magazine in its final paragraph did get its priorities right:-

“From a philatelic point of view, a rupture with New Granada (*at this time The United States of Colombia*) would be very undesirable. Stamp-collectors must always be anxious for the preservation of peace, as war with a stamp-emitting country would result in the partial stoppage of their supplies of stamps, and should a new series be issued, they could only be obtained at an increased cost from the stamp dealers of a neutral country, unless perchance our troops should happen to seize the enemy’s post offices, and confiscate the stock of adhesives”. So much for the loss of life! Philately is now just another excuse to declare war!

The Log Book of *HMS Doris* is available at the Caird Library at the National Maritime Museum, reference SIS/3. Her home base was Devonport. The Log reproduces a typically military and succinct account of the action:-

“26 February 1867 Came to off Carthagena.

27 9.25 Consul came on board. 10.45 left the ship saluted seven



Fig. 2. El Cerrejón coal field near Santa Marta has only been in production since 1981.

guns. A demand for an apology was sent to the President.

28 An apology being refused we took possession of the War Steamer “Columbian” and threatened further proceedings.

1 March Small arm men and boats crew were paraded ready for landing at 10.30.

10.20 Consul came on board with full apology from President.

3 Weighed and proceeded under steam to Santa Martha.”

Life must have been pretty boring aboard a sailing vessel those days – so many days to travel a relatively short distance. Steam improved matters somewhat, but entertainment was still required and often self devised. Two thirds of the log book are taken up with the efforts of the ship’s artist. There are pen and ink drawings and water colours of rocks and headlands off Santa Marta. Unfortunately he places Santa Marta in Venezuela! It is to be hoped that the ship’s artist was not also the navigator!

On a more serious note, between 25 and 29 March at Port Royal, Kingston, Jamaica the ship suffers more than thirty cases of Yellow Fever. They had

to bury on shore seamen William Spurrell, Henry Jones, and Henry Lucky. Could this have been a case of Mosquera’s Revenge? Probably not. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica the incubation period for Yellow Fever is from three to six days. The crew were bitten by Jamaican mosquitoes.

But how accurate are these reports and why was the greatest Power on Earth threatening a backward country which had made little or no economic, social or political advances since independence from Spain in 1819 and had no hope of defending itself? The “President” referred to was the President of the State of Bolívar, a constituent of the recently formed United States of Colombia, and his correct name was Sr. Gonzalez Carazo. The Colombian “man-of-war” was the *Colombia*, under the Englishman, Mr. Dinsdale.

In fact the whole episode has little to do with Cartagena at all, but rather with Panamá, another part of los Estados Unidos de Colombia. It had to do with the Postal Convention between the two countries of 1847 and the contract between Nueva Granada as Colombia was then known, and the Panama Railroad Company – of American capital – signed in 1850. It had to do with commerce, with personalities and, of course, money.

The Gleaner was not far off the mark when it likened the episode to a stage play. It transpires that it was more of a Whitehall farce, or, better still, a Gilbert & Sullivan operetta. Communication and distance

contrived to ensure decisions were usually overcome by events. Four months could easily elapse between the dispatch of a letter from Bogotá to London and the receipt of a reply. The complication of carrying a letter in those days from Cartagena on the Coast, to Bogotá, is mindboggling, and could well be the subject of a separate article.

THE 1847 POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF NEW GRANADA

This Convention was drafted principally to recognise an unofficial service being offered from quite early on after Colombia's declaration of independence from Spain in 1819, both on the Caribbean coast and across Panamá, then and until 1903, forming part of the new Republic. It followed upon a similar convention with the French in 1845 but, as this one hardly came into activity until the middle of the 1860s, Nueva Granada depended entirely upon the British Post Office for the carriage



Fig. Mosquera's mustache hid the disfiguration of his jaw caused by a bullet.

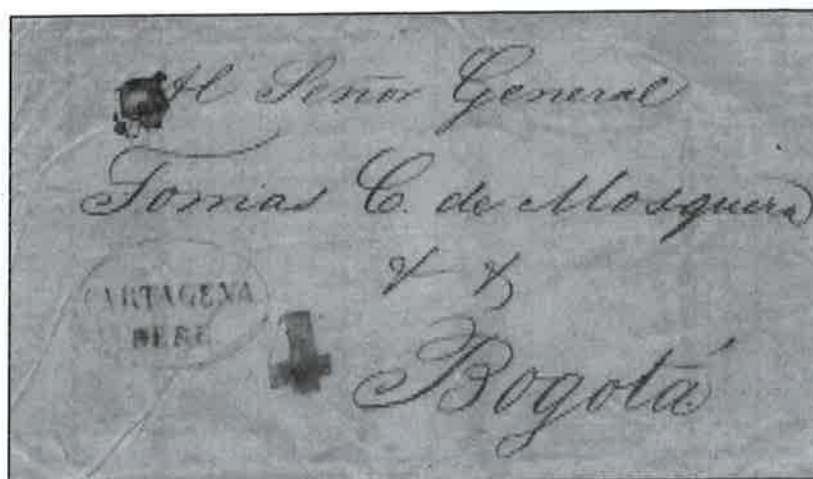


Fig. Letter sheet addressed from Cartagena to General Tomás C. de Mosquera in Bogotá.

of the foreign mails, both inward and outward. The Royal Navy and private British vessels contracted to the Post Office were allowed access to the ports of Santa Marta, Cartagena and Chágres, a small port on the Northeast coast of Panamá destined for oblivion once the Panamá Railroad began operations, and the City of Panamá itself. The first two towns were invariably spelled Santa Martha and Carthagenas by the British throughout the nineteenth century. These ports of call were variously interchanged or substituted as the century progressed with developments in trade and changes in communication via the River Magdalena with the interior, especially with the Capital, Bogotá, as indeed were the Consulates/post offices attached to them, until 1881 when Colombia joined the Universal Postal Union and the offices were closed (with the partial exception of Panamá and Colón). Access was to be free of tonnage dues along with several other advantages to facilitate the assistance being afforded by the British, as well as allowing the

carriage of passengers. Remarkably, there was an exception to the prohibition of carriage of freight (imports and exports), and that was to carry on the very Spanish practice of transporting gold and silver bullion and coins!

By now steamships, and in particular those of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, were operating in the Caribbean, so that access to coal was essential. Article 7 of the Convention permitted coaling stations to be set up at these ports. It is ironic that Santa Marta should today be so close to one of the world's largest open cast coalfields and to serve as the exit point for coal exports overseas. The coal mine, El Cerrejón, as a major Colombian mineral asset was commemorated on a Colombian postage stamp in 1986 (fig. 2). Santa Marta was the only city apart from Panamá, visited on the Colombian coast by Anthony Trollope. He was not impressed; he found it dirty, undeveloped and invaded by sand blown up from the seashore.

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

Strange that he makes no mention in his *Spanish Main* of the imposing cathedral in the city. Backward or not, the Bishop of Santa Marta had always been very influential politically. These regional differences were to be a bane on Colombian progress throughout the nineteenth century. Nor did the famous Post Office employee/ novelist describe the remarkable backdrop to Santa Marta, the impressive Sierra Nevada, capped in snow the year round despite its proximity to the Equator. The weather must have been very poor for him to have missed the sight approaching from the sea.

Note Art. 8: "In the case of war between the two nations (which God forbid),.....this service shall continue....." The importance of the post!

And so to the treatment of the crossing of the Isthmus. Earlier, the New Granadian carriage of the British mails from Chágres to Panamá City had become so

irregular that an agreement had been negotiated whereby the job would be undertaken by messengers employed directly by the British. The upkeep of the trail to Panamá from the point where the mails were offloaded from the River Chágres was to be the responsibility of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. The use of private messengers was now specifically recognized under Art. 11 of the Convention.

Tariffs were the object of Articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. Newspapers were to be carried free of charge, a considerable benefit to the locals. Letters to and from Europe were to be charged at one shilling per half ounce. Art. 20 encompassed Nueva Granada's right to charge two reales (twenty cents of a Granadian peso – about ten pence) for each Granadian ounce weight of letters crossing from Panamá to Chágres and vice versa. In other words, of the postage of a simple letter from Panamá to London of one shilling, five pence would go to the

local Government.

The document was signed on 24 May 1847 by Manuel M. Mallarino, the Foreign Minister on behalf of New Granada, and by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul General in Bogotá, Daniel Florence O'Leary. The Irishman, O'Leary, had commanded the British Legion which had fought alongside Simón Bolívar during the struggle for independence, and had become a personal friend of the region's greatest hero.

The Convention, which was to run for five years and was renewable for five years successively thereafter, was ratified during the following year by the then President of New Granada, General Tomás Cipriano de Mosquera.



Continued in next issue

Write for Copacarta

(Continued from page 6)

don. The following are known to exist (Fig. 1, Table I).

Now 130 years after they were produced by Jeffries these stamps are quite rare. Other varieties may exist and the writer would very much like to learn of

them via the Editor.

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1. *The Philatelic Record* Vol. IV No. 48 p.219 Jan 1883
2. *ibid.* Vol. V No. 50 p.38 Mar 1883
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Apr 1883

4. *ibid.* Vol. V No. 53 p. 93 Jun 1883

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6. *Album Weeds or How to Detect Forged Stamps* by Rev R B Earée 3rd Edition 1906 p.268

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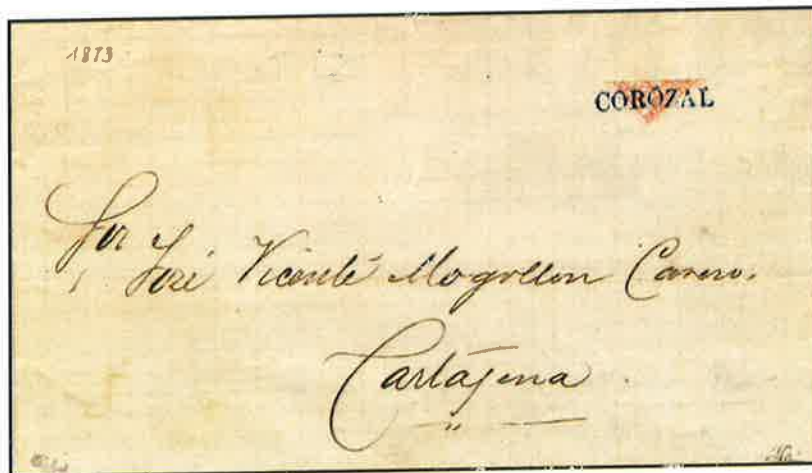


Fig. 5. Bisect from Corozal to Cartagena. Note rare Corozal handstamp.

(Continued from page 5)

22, May 2 and July 12, 1871. The latest I have is dated May 20, 1873 sent from Corozal (with a rare handstamp) to Cartagena (fig. 5).

Scott does not mention the very rare possibility of the 10 centavos red "5 stars" variety bisected on cover. I do have one such cover dated August 7th, 1871 from Sincelejo to Cartagena (fig. 6). Very few additional such covers are recorded.

Scott's list of the manuscript cancellations is missing Calamar, Lorica, Magangué, Sabanalarga and Simiti and in the handstamp list Cartagena and Corozal should be added.

I personally doubt the genuineness of the crude straight

line cancel of Sincelejo on a block of seven 1 peso red stamps (mentioned on page 21

and illustrated on page 22) at this early date (1863). I have not found this **handstamp** cancellation on the first, second or third Bolivar stamp issues but all exist with Sincelejo in **manuscript**. The handstamp appeared again on several stamps of the Bolivar Seebeck issue of 1879. It is strange that it apparently disappeared for about 16 years.

I would to thank Mr. Alan D Anyon FRPSL for revising the text.



Fig. 6, 6a Bisected 10c from Sincelejo to Cartagena dated 7 August 1871.

