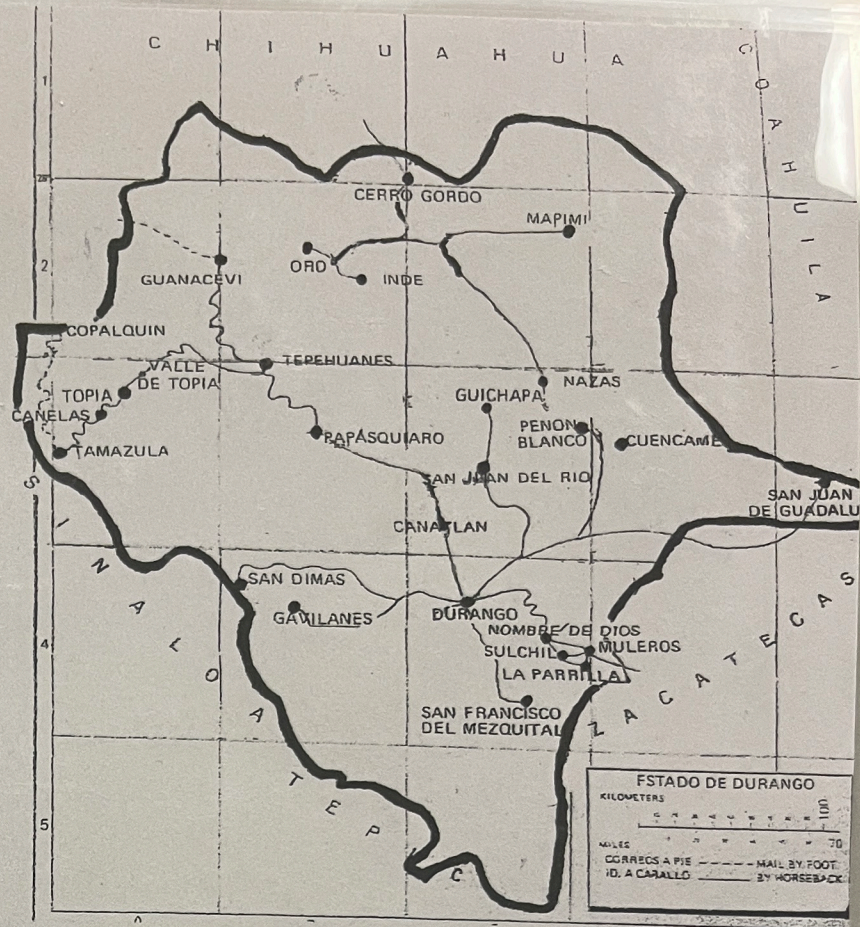


1856-1872 SUB OFFICES

Map of Mexico



On July 15, 1856, "The General Postal Regulations" were published. Article 15 directed District Postmasters to apply, by means of a hand stamp, the name of the district. A variety of cancelling devices at the local post offices were used and leads to the wonderful diversity of Durango cancellations

In 1868, the postal system, in force since 1856, was modified to an abbreviated year and district number. Durango's is 15.

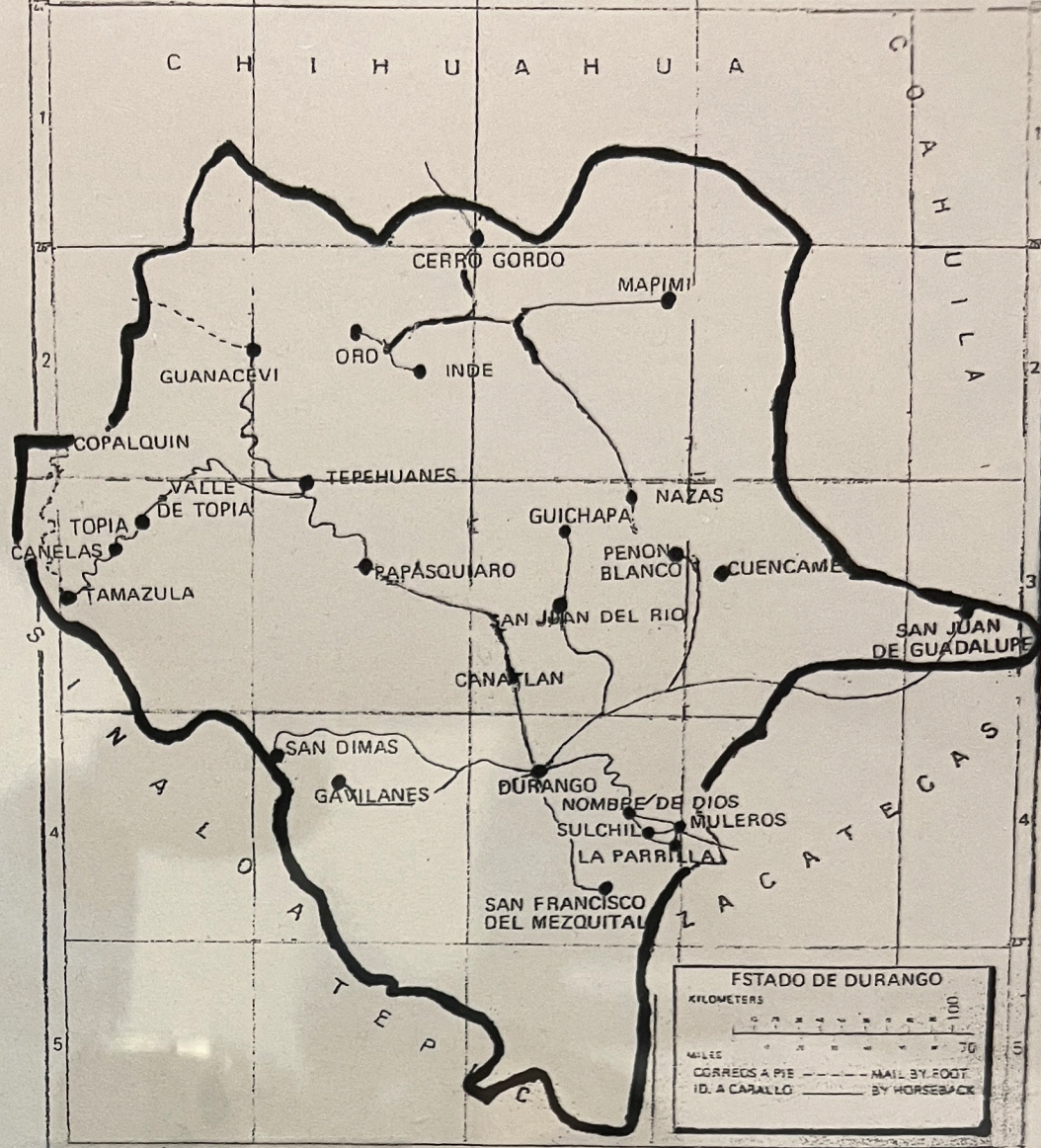
Chapman's 1926 work listed dates and quantities of stamps sent to Durango and Wilson's book listed reproductions of the cancelations known to date.

In 1901-1902 a group of forgers flooded the stamp world with excellent fakes of Mexican stamps which became known as "REPRINTS". It was not until 1935 that Smeth and Fayolle allowed us to tell the difference between forgeries and genuine stamps.

Modern authors have facilitated enjoyment of our hobby. I sincerely hope that you enjoy this exhibit and urge you continue to add to our philatelic data base.

6-1872 SUB OFFICES

Map of Mexico



Juan A. Diaz
1672 Clark Creek
Beaumont, CA 92223
(951) 849-9720

On July 15, 1856, "The General Postal Regulations" were published. Article 15 directed District Postmasters to apply, by means of a hand stamp, the name of the district. A variety of cancelling devices at the local post offices were used and leads to the wonderful diversity of Durango cancellations

In 1868, the postal system, in force since 1856, was modified to an abbreviated year and district number. Durango's is *15*.

Chapman's 1926 work listed dates and quantities of stamps sent to Durango and Wilson's book listed reproductions of the cancellations known to date.

In 1901-1902 a group of forgers flooded the stamp world with excellent fakes of Mexican stamps which became known as "REPRINTS". It was not until 1935 that Smeth and Fayolle allowed us to tell the difference between forgeries and genuine stamps.

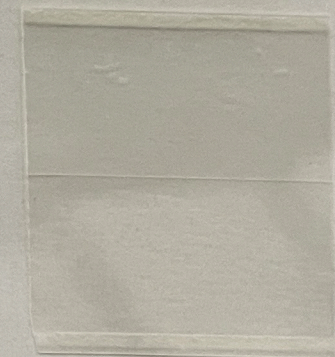
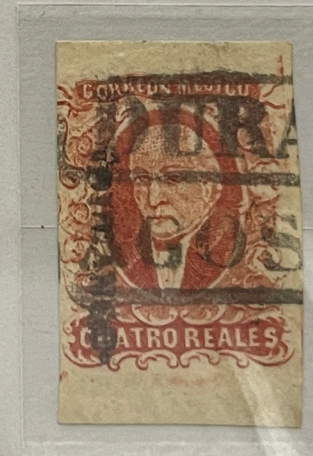
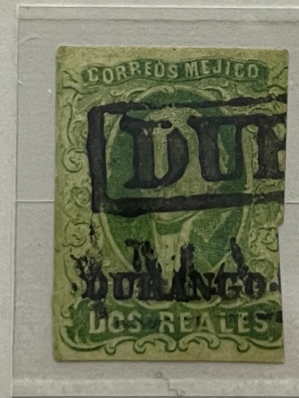
Modern authors have facilitated enjoyment of our hobby. I sincerely hope that you enjoy this exhibit and urge you continue to add to our philatelic data base.

First Issue --- 1856

The first shipment of stamps from the Main Post Office to the Durango Post Office was on August 30, 1856. ^{sent}

At the Durango Post Office the stamps were overprinted with the Province name:

•DURANGO•



Without overprint

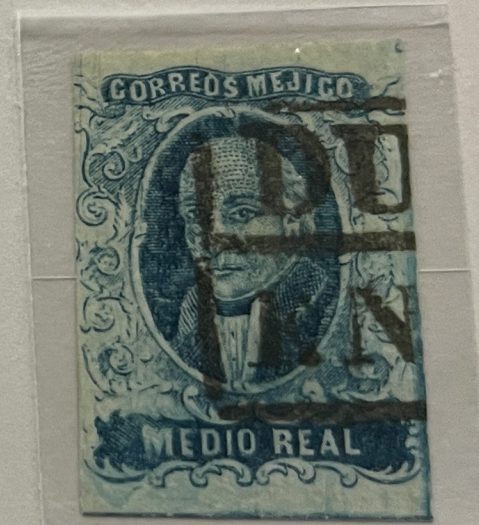
1856 issue of Mexico consists of five values: the *Medio Real* (1/2 Real), the *Un Real* (1Real), the *Dos Reales* (2 Real), the *Cuatro Reales* (4 Real), and the *Ocho Reales* (8 Real).

They are listed as Scott's #1-#5.

***Medio Real* stamps were printed with Plate I.
in sheets of sixty stamps –(6 x 10)**



Overprinted on the right
Reading up



Without overprint

Juan A. Diaz
1672 Clark Creek
Beaumont, CA 92223
(951) 849-720

MEXICO

2 ① DURANGO

SONAT, #234

~~20.00~~ 2



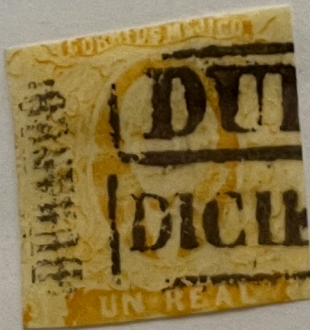
2 IR Durango Doubled

NE

Price

5⁵⁰

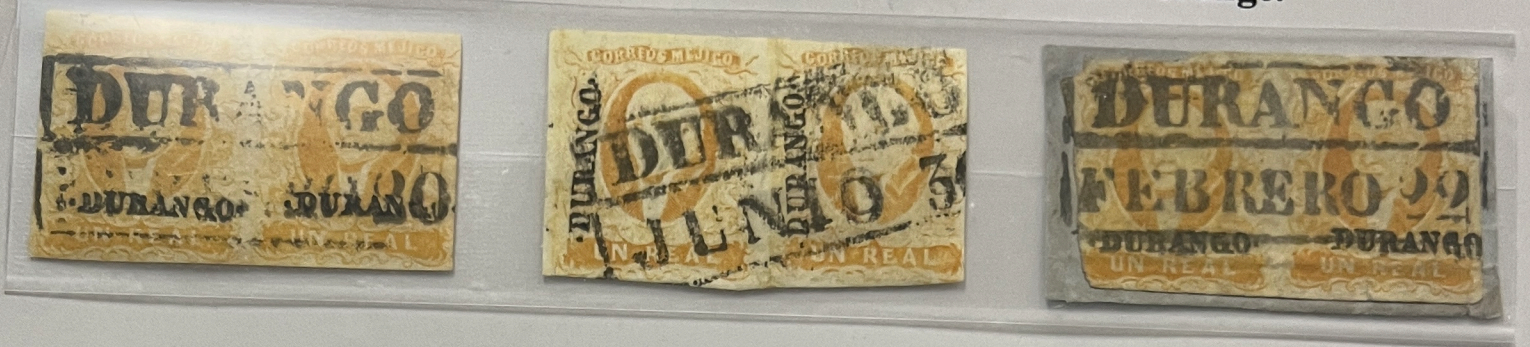
se10



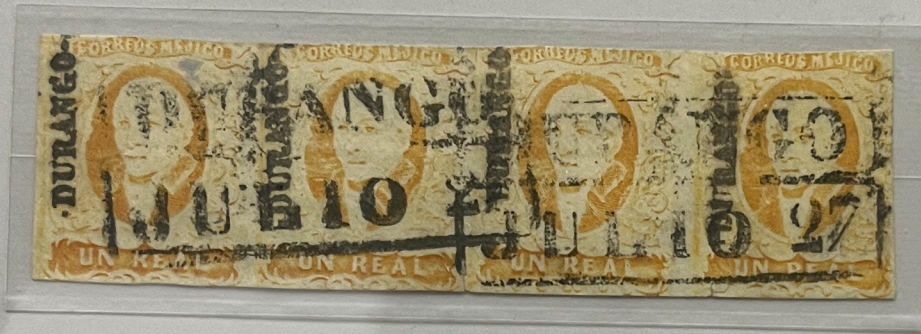
Style No. GK 102a

stamps were printed with Plate I in sheets of 60 (6 x 10): with Plate II in sheets of 200 (10 x 20) and with Plate III in sheets of 190 (10 x 19).

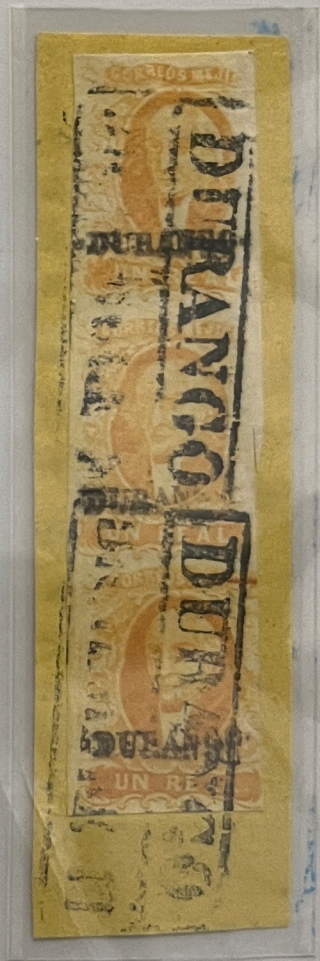
Colors range from yellow to lemon-yellow to Yellow- orange.



Most common postal rate was 2 Real and Durango Post Office soon ran out of 2 Real stamps, as a result we find many *Un Real* pairs, and strips of 3 and 4 stamps.



Vertical pairs are difficult and vertical strips of 3 are rare.



Dr. D. Lauro Molina

Mexico

Hacienda Catalina---Mexico City

September 26, 1857

First Issue stamps were printed from three plates.

- Plate I stamps widely spaced on a sheet of 60 (6 x 10)
- Plate II stamps printed on sheets of 200 (20 x 10)
- Plate III stamps were printed in sheets of 190 (19 x 10).

PLATE I

These stamps generally exhibit wide margins at top and bottom. (5-6mm).

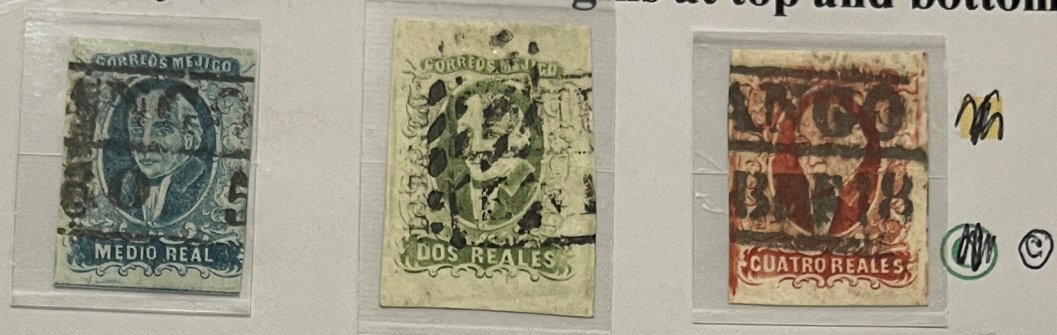


Plate II

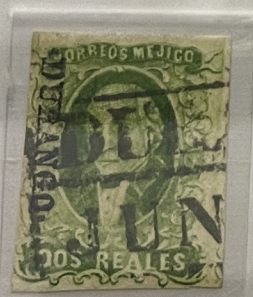


There are no Plate II stamps from DURANGO

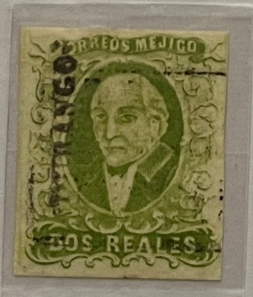
Plate III

These stamps exhibit almost no margins.

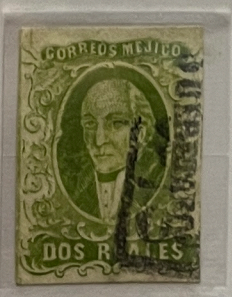
Two Real Stamps with various ·DURANGO· overprint orientations



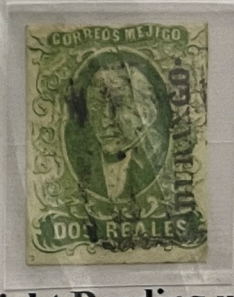
Left Reading down



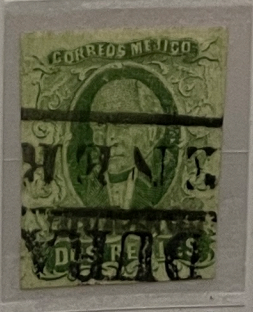
Left Reading up



Right Reading down



Right Reading up



Horizontal

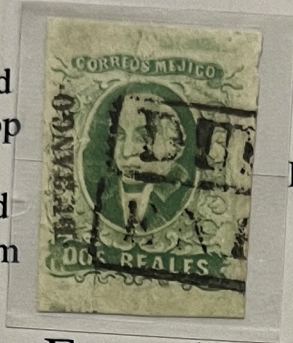
Dos Reales Stamp Varieties

- Philatelists can hunt for hues of green:

Plate I- we find Emeralds, Sapphires, Olives and hues in between.

Méjico repeated
at top

Dos repeated
At bottom

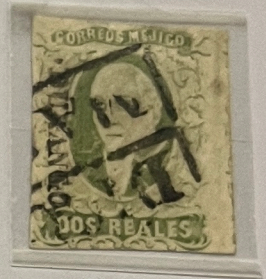


Positio48

Emerald

see
Nazas

Sapphire



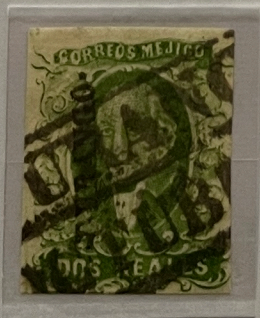
Olive

Plate II- Non exist

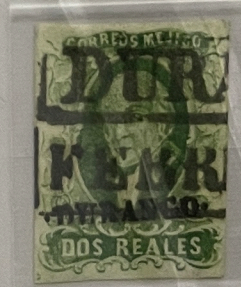
Plate III- Spectrum of greens from deep blue green to green to
Pale yellow green. (see next page)

- Within the deep green category we can explore
 1. "Dry"
 2. "Not dry "appearing stamps.
- Collectors can also look for wove varieties

Bright Green



Plain



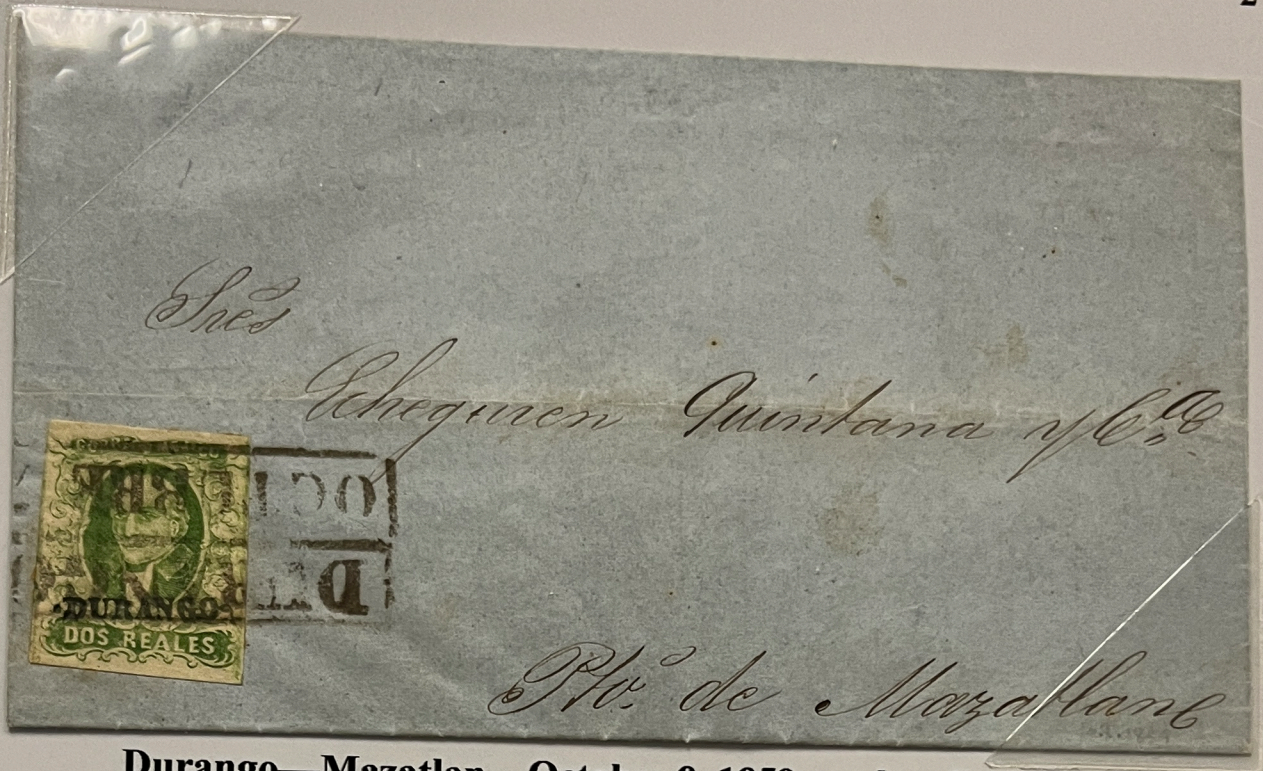
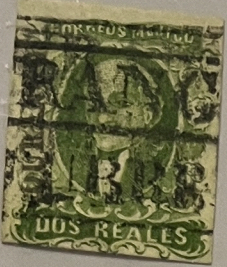
Lineal Wove*

Blue Green

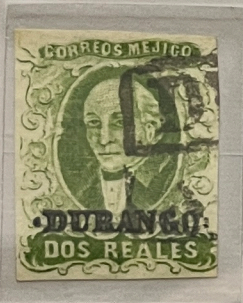
*This type of paper has small dashes in the wove, not like plain wove with undistinguished weave or wire wove with little oval shaped appearance

Durango
Main Post Office

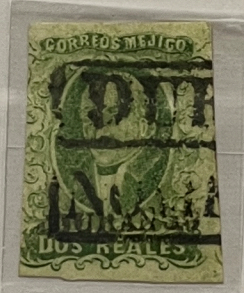
First Issue—1856
2 Real Varieties



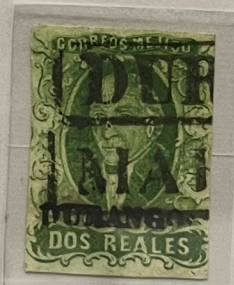
Durango—Mazatlan October 8, 1859 pale yellow green



Yellow green

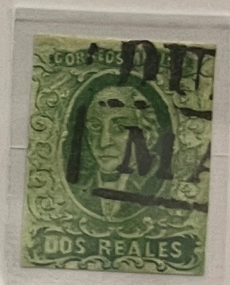


Green

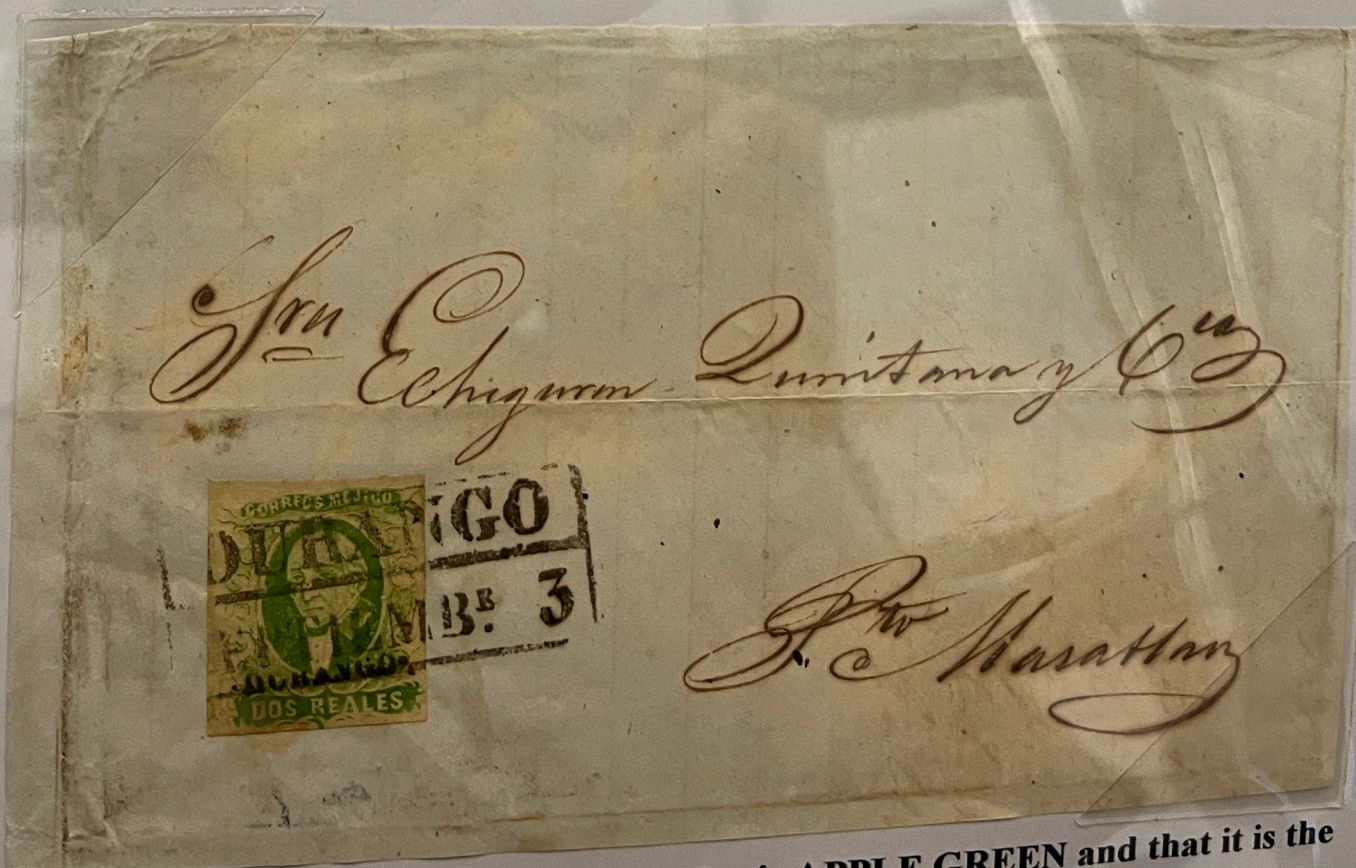


Blue green

Without
overprint



Deep blue green



Some experts have reported that this color is APPLE GREEN and that it is the

Rarest of the Two Real green

Durango Main Post Office

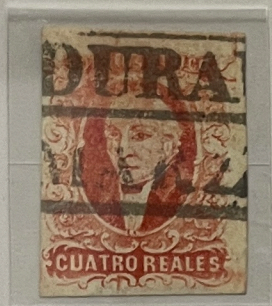
First Issue---1856
Cuatro Reales

DURANGO
ABRIL 28

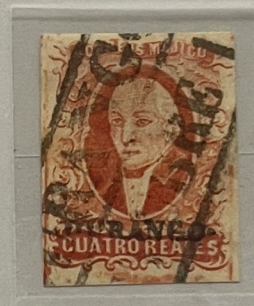
2100 sent and one returned

Mexico Post offices have few Fractionals

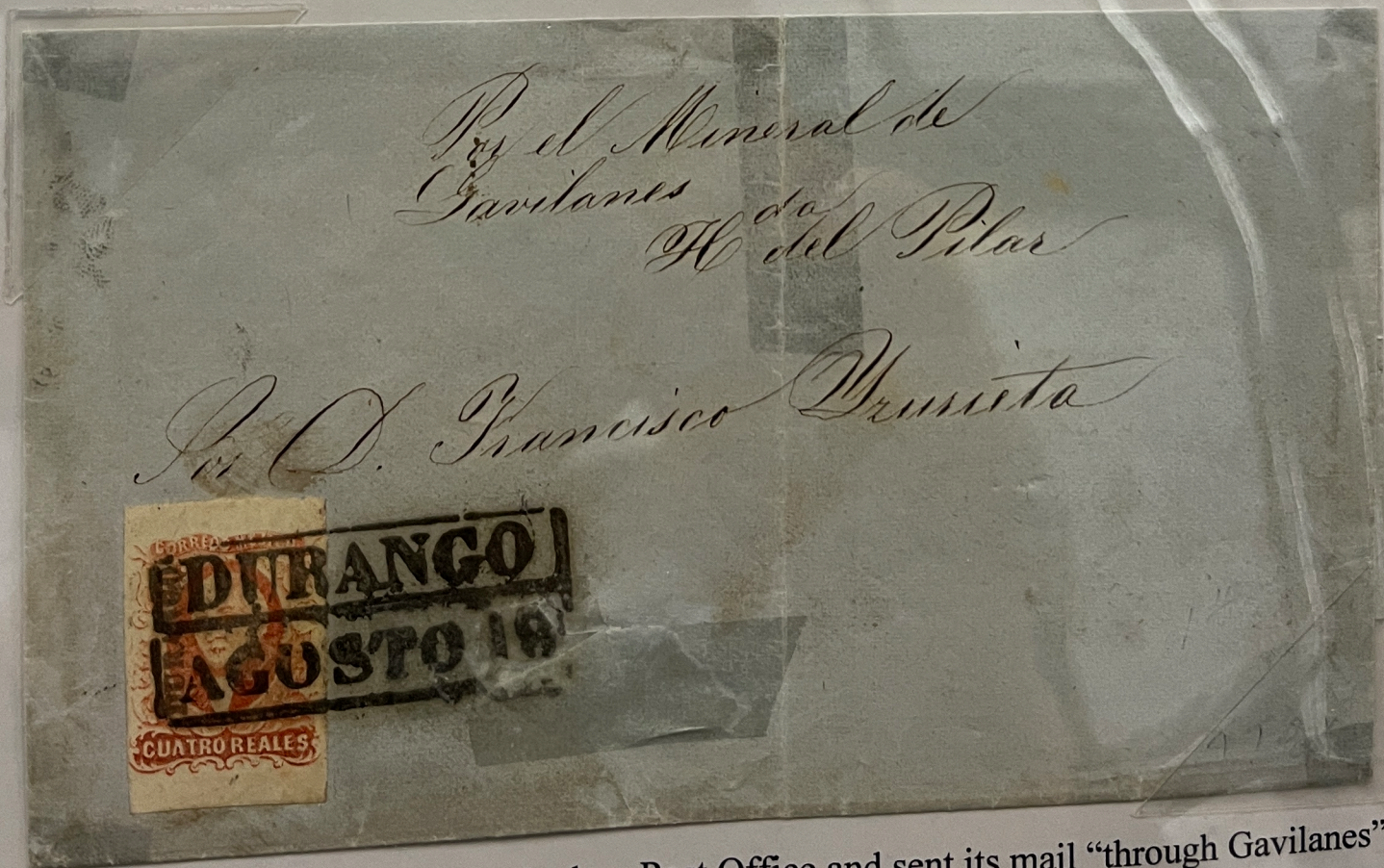
Durango has more fractionals than regular stamps on cover



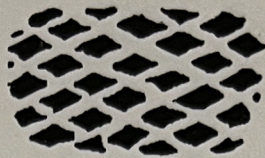
Without Overprint



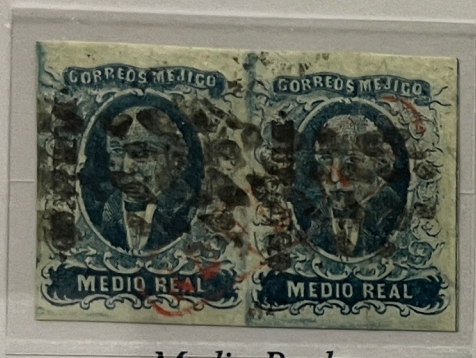
Horizontal Overprint



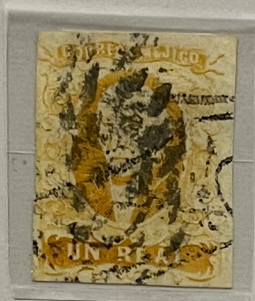
Hacienda del Pilar--Durango had no Post Office and sent its mail "through Gavilanes"



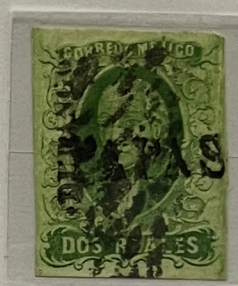
Often a letter received at the Durango Main Post Office may not have been cancelled in the originating mine, town, or village. To ensure fiscal conservation the postal clerk would obliterate the stamp with a mute cancel. The most common mute cancel was the "lozenges"—probably cut cork or wood- however, pen strokes were also employed. Even properly cancelled stamps and letters were sometimes obliterated with a mute.



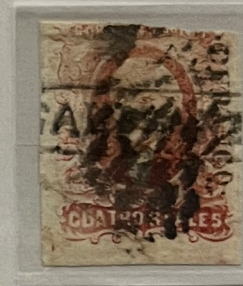
Medio Real
Real de San Dimas



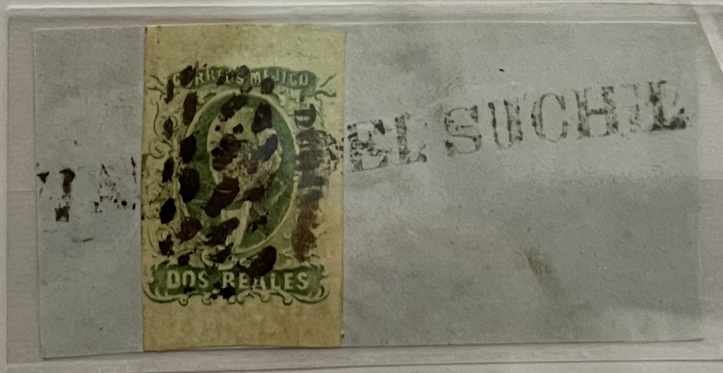
Un Real
Cuencame
without
overprint



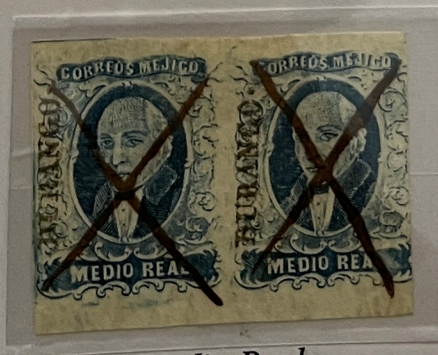
Dos Reales
Papasquiario



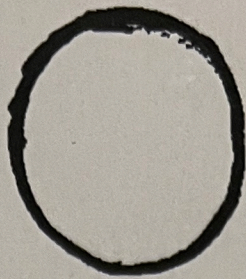
Cuatro Reales
Gavilanes



Dos Reales
Valle del Suchil

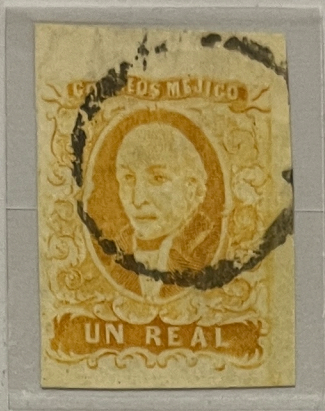


Medio Real
Pen cancel



Schatzkes 236 C

Without overprint



Normally found with Durango box.

Found only on Plate I



Sch 237



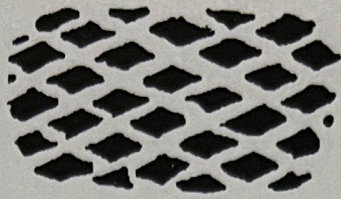
← 2nd light overprint

Usually accompanied by Durango box.

Discovery item Previously on *Dos Reales* only

MAPIMI.

Sch 269



Sch 235



241 D



Mapimi -- Durango-

January 5, 1857

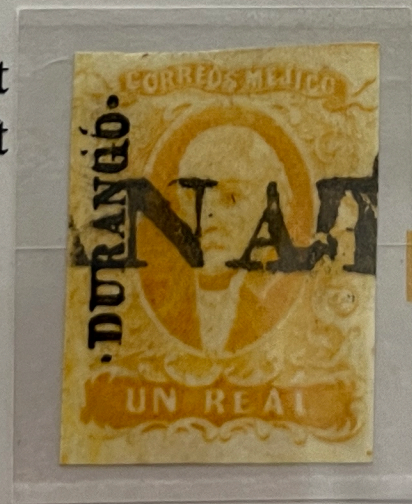
CANATLAN

**Sub Offices operated out of haciendas or small commercial establishments.
Supplies to these isolated towns and villages were generally sporadic –
Horseback or by foot was normal mode of mail transportation**

Canatlan is about 14 Leagues (37 miles) NNW of the City of Durango

Known only on yellow-orange *Un Real* from Plate I

Overprint
Left

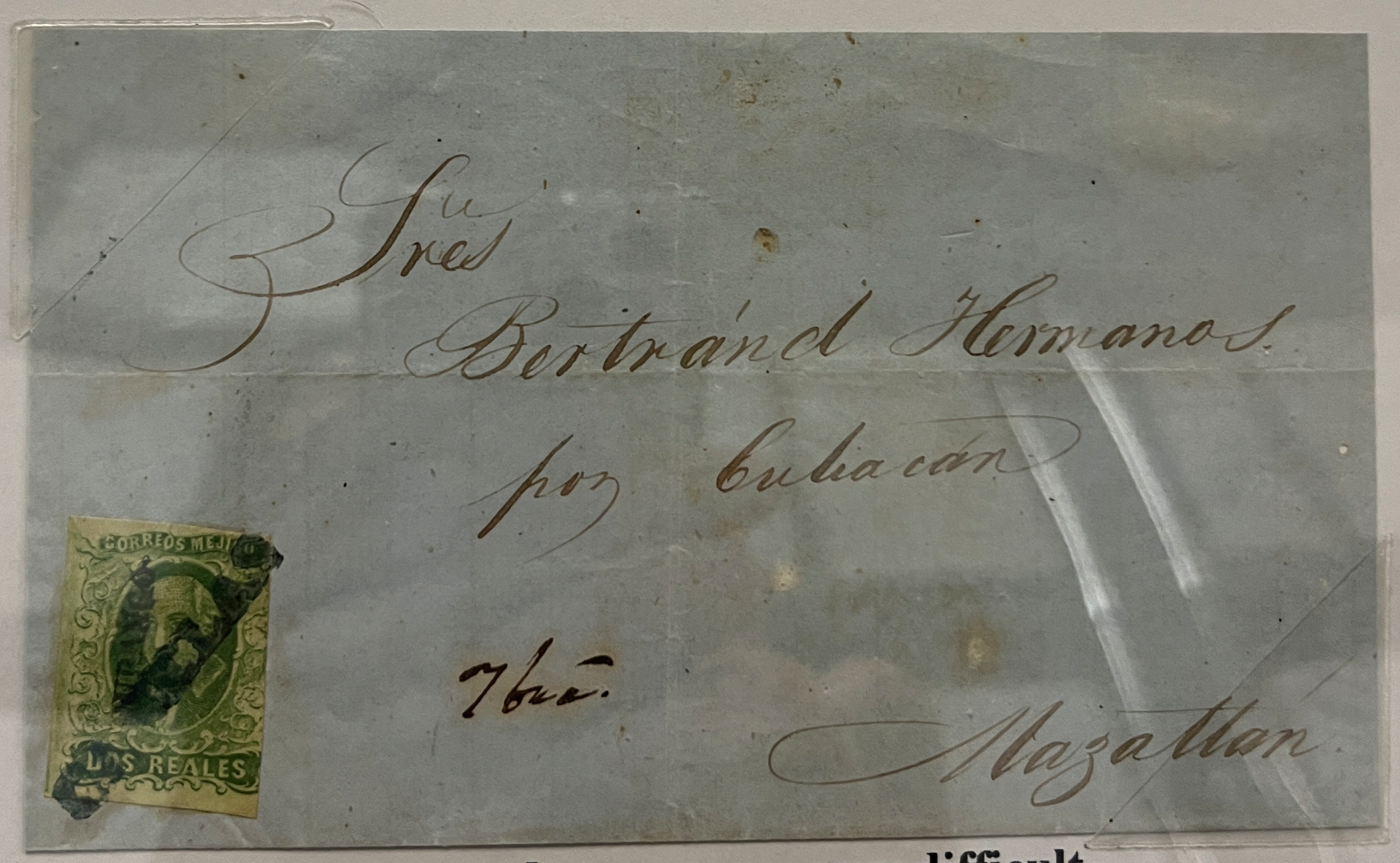


CANELAS

Canelas, 54 leagues (140 miles) WNW of Durango, high in the Sierra Madre

Very small mine

Blue cancellation covers most of stamp.



Covers ~~and~~ stamps are very difficult.
with

Front "Through Mail" on foot over Sierra Madre Occidental pass to Culiaca

with manuscript 7^o Froñ (February 7^o)₆

CERROGORDO.

Cerrogordo or Cerro Gordo, near Chihuahua border. It was difficult to keep supplied with st
Name of the town, today, is Villa Hidalgo

Overprinted
On left
Reading
Down



Medio Real
Plate I
pen cancel

Blue Cancel

Horizontal
overprint

Un Real



Cerrogordo---Durango April 7, 1857

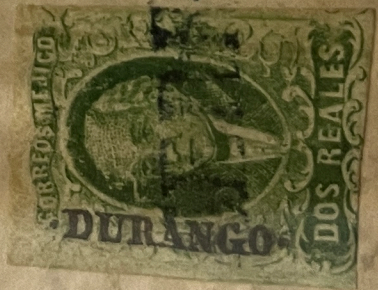
Mute cancel in Durango.

San Martin

F. Orea

F.

El Encarnado, M. Garcia



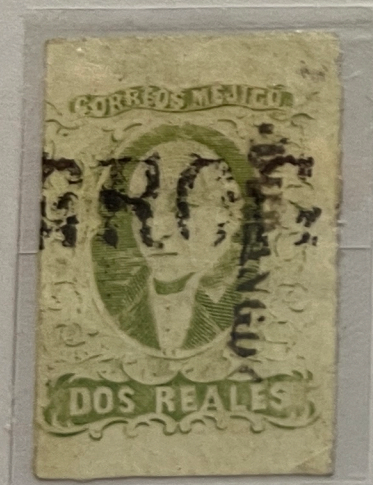
ENCARNADO

El Encarnado, M. Garcia

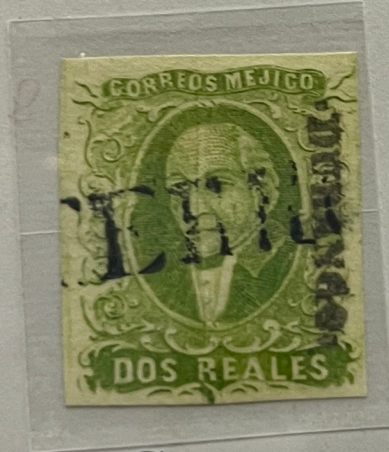
CERROGORDO.

Due to length of cancel, only part of it can be seen on any single stamp

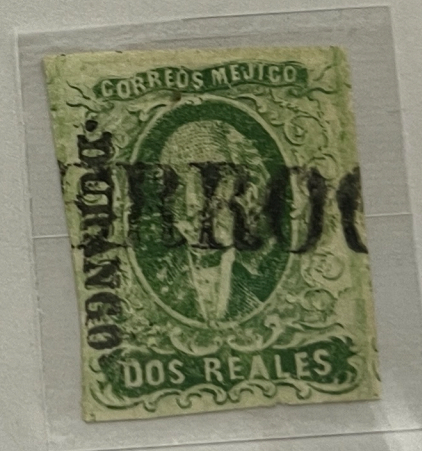
Dos Reales



Olive -green



Green



Blue-green

Plate I

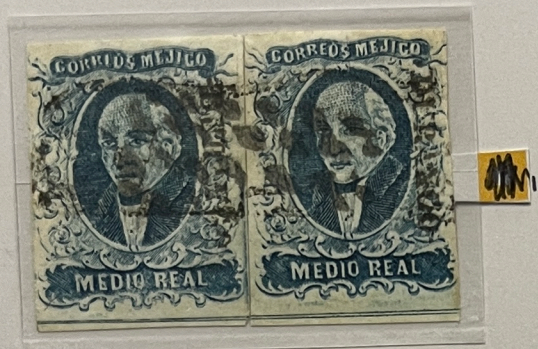
Cover

CVENCAME

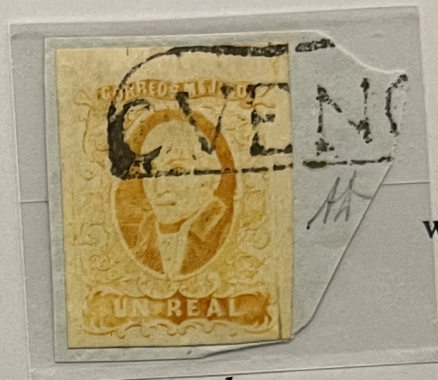
Cuencame, older mining town, about 33 leagues (85 miles) NE of Durango. in center of agricultural district... Cancel, relatively common, but not as easy to find as "Durango box".

Challenge is to find total cancel on piece or on cover.

Mute



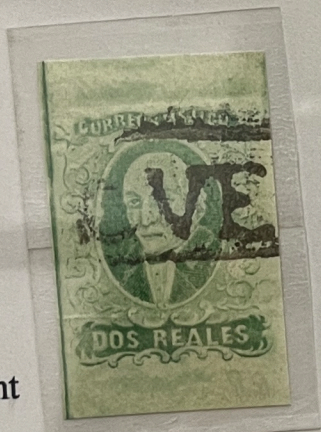
Medio real



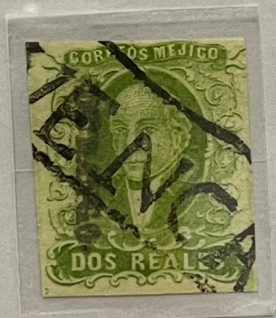
Un Real

without overprint

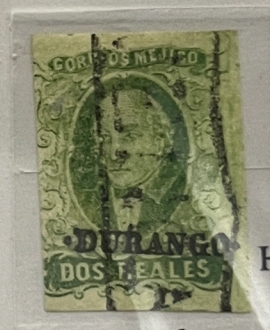
W/o overprint



Dos Reales
Plate I
Frame line

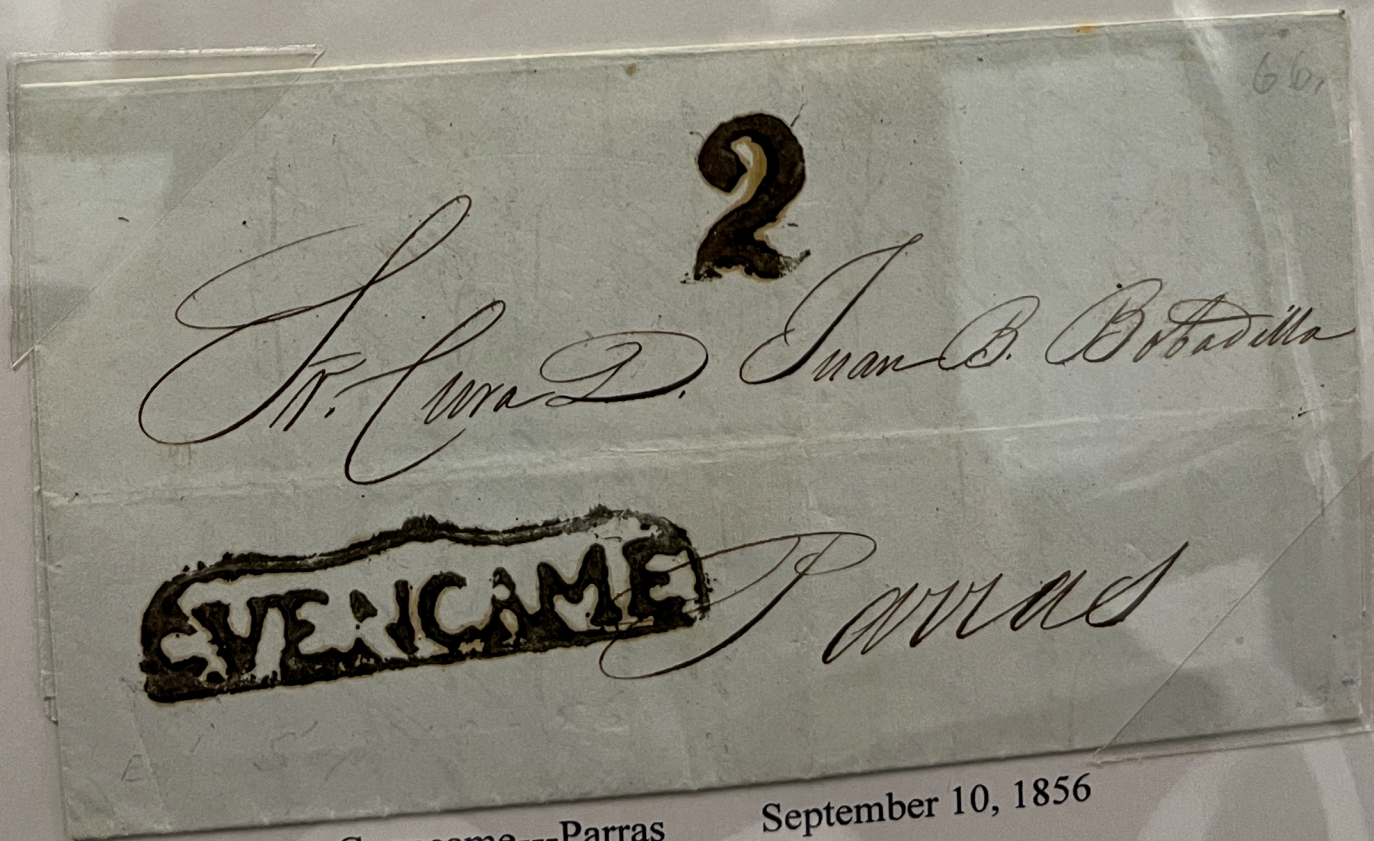


Dos Reales



Dos Reales
Plate III
Dry print

Horizontal overprint



Cuencame---Parras September 10, 1856
Adhesive era Pre Stamp

RDS DIMAS

Real de San Dimas is a scarce cancel from a very small mining village atop the Sierra Madre. Mail delivery was by horseback. It is 31 leagues (81 miles) from Durango at an altitude of 8200 feet above sea level. Its 1240 inhabitants were mostly mine employees.



M

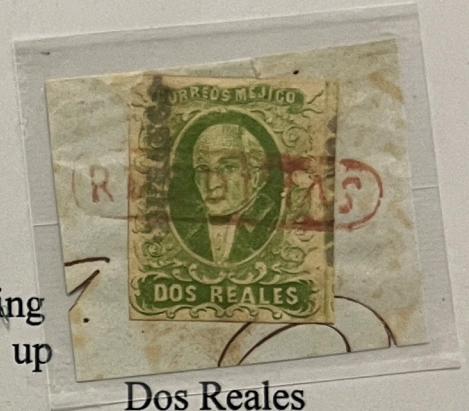
Reading down

Medio Real overprint on left



Reading up

Un Real overprint on right

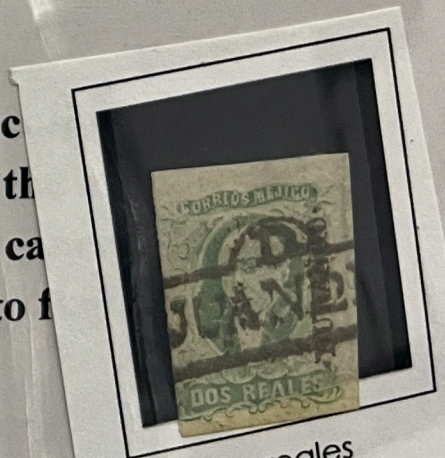


Reading up

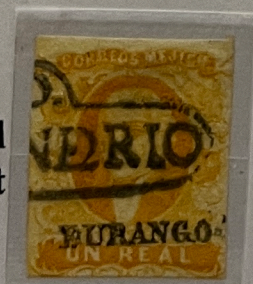
Dos Reales overprint on left

D.
SJVANDRIO

San Juan Del Rio had a fair sized population of about 2,300. An agriculturist grows beans and corn, it also has several cattle ranches. Famous as the home of *Doroteo Aranga Arámbula*, better as Pancho Villa. This "sombbrero cancel" is highly sought after and as a result it has become a difficult item to find.

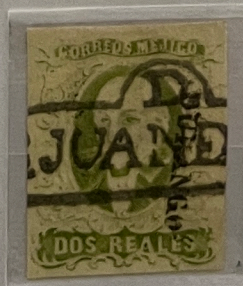


Dos reales ORRU



Horizontal Overprint

Un Real



Dos Reales

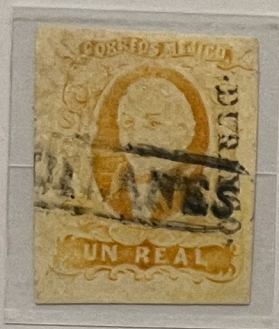
Fine example of a "Dry print" stamp good detail with low inking

GAUILANES

Gavilanes, translates as *Hawks*, is about 26 leagues (68 miles) east of Durango

It was one of smallest towns during the First Issue with 610 inhabitants

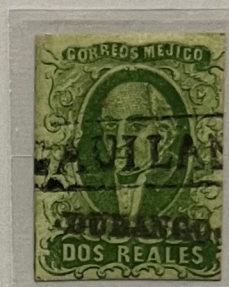
Overprints



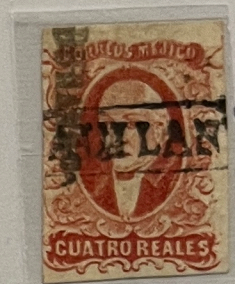
Un Real
Right



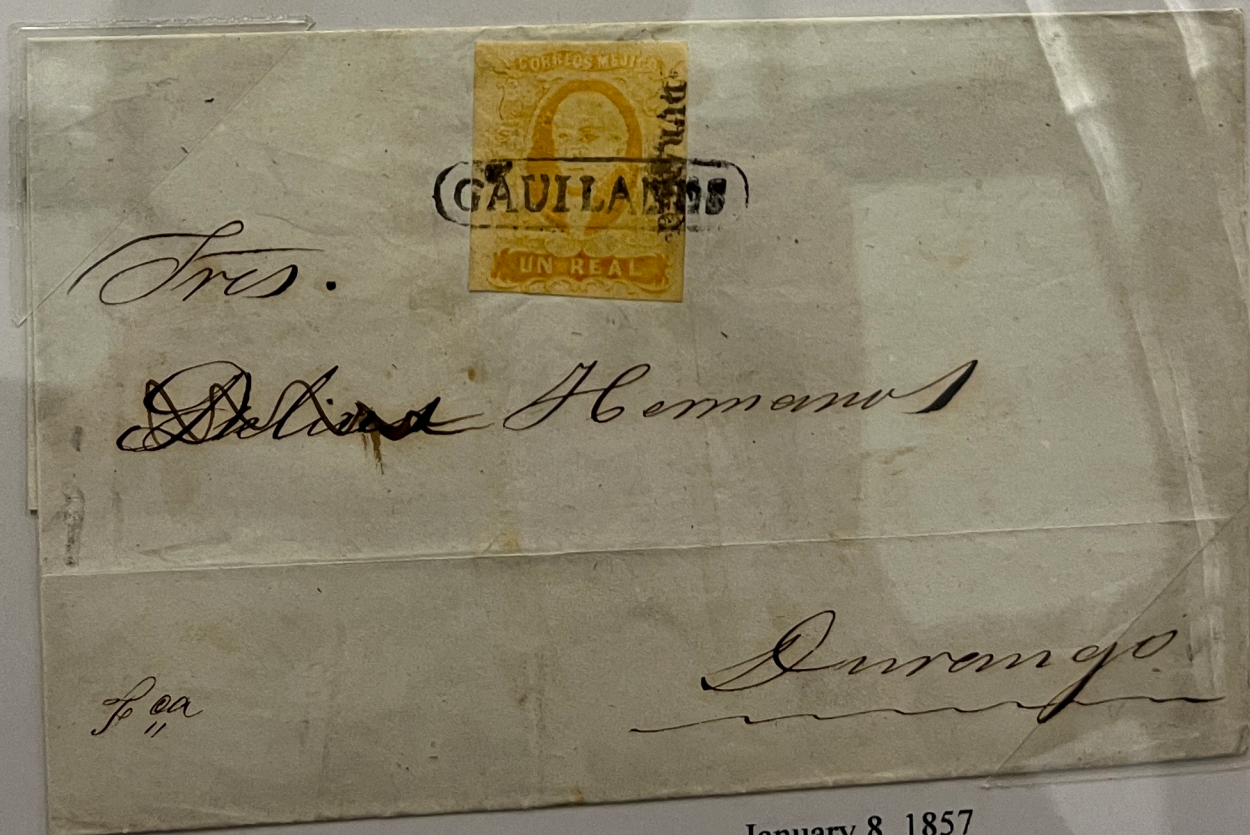
Un Real
Left



Dos Reales
Horizontal



Cuatro Reales
Double



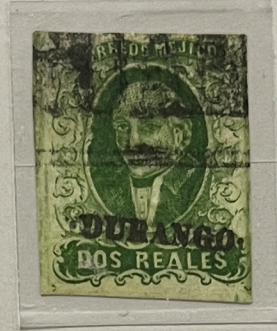
Gavilanes --- Durango

January 8, 1857

First Tariff

GUANACEVI.

Guanaceví is now an abandoned mine located about 59 leagues (154 miles) from Durango high in the mountains. It is a difficult cancel to find and is so large that only a small part of it is found on any single stamp.

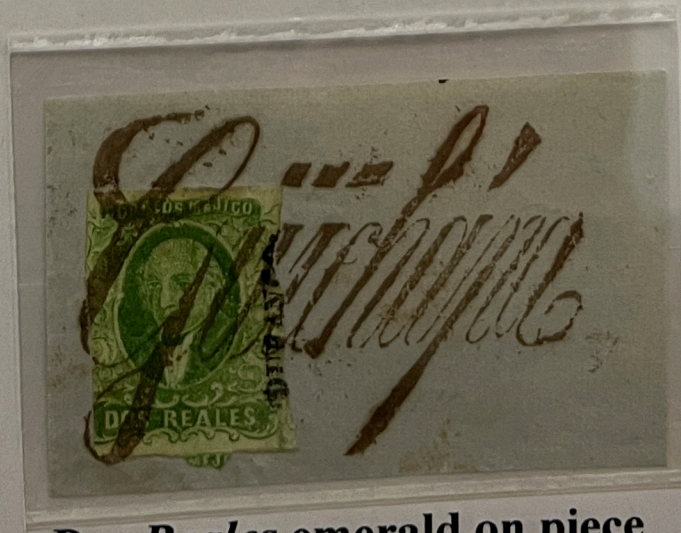


Dos Reales with a horizontal overprint

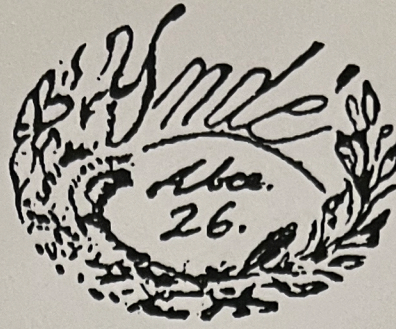
Güichápa

GÜICHÁPA, located about 28 leagues (73 miles) NNE from Durango, had about 400 inhabitants . Today it is a ghost town.

First Issue stamps cancelled Güichápa are **EXCEEDINGLY RARE!**



Dos Reales emerald on piece

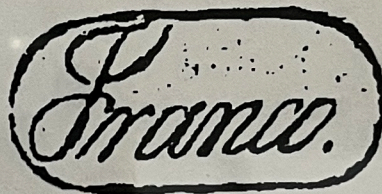


Ynde is in an agricultural district about 52 leagues (135 miles) NNW of Durango.

It had about 1000 inhabitants

The flowery cancellation usually had a blurry and oily appearance and is normally accompanied by *FRANCO* in an oval. The postmaster wrote the date inside of the cancel just below the word *Ynde*. It is known in black and red.

Whatever the color, it is a very difficult cancel to find.

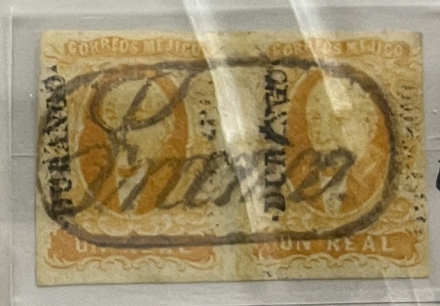


Stamps are often found only with this oval, without the fancy YNDE cancel

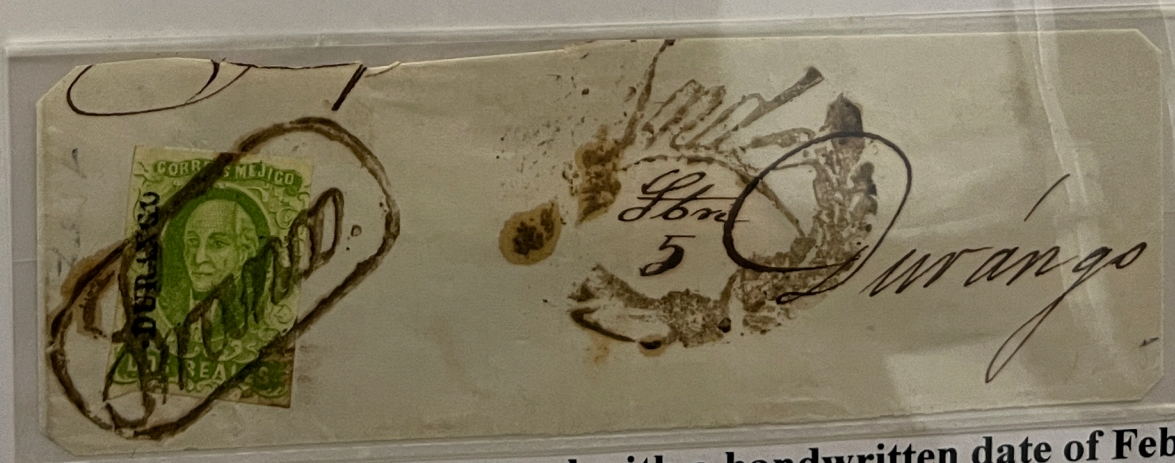
Medio Real



Un Real



dos Reals



Fragment showing the complete cancel with a handwritten date of February 5.

MAPIMI.

One of oldest mining settlements in Durango. founded in Sixteenth century, at foot of Ojuela Mountain and remains one of richest mineral locations in the District with over 140 precious and semi precious minerals still being extracted from mines.

Silver was primary wealth that built Mapimi which is about 52 leagues (135 miles) NNW of Durango

MAPIMI cancel appears in **black** and **red**, with red being primary color in pre-stamp period and on 1856 issue.

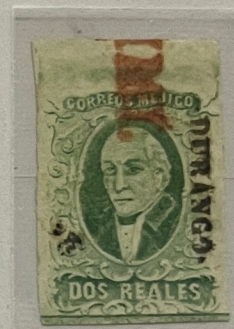
No 4 Real nor 8 Real stamps from this Sub-Office



MEDIO REAL



UN REAL
Part of two
Cancels

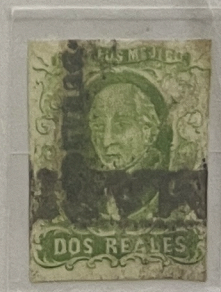


DOS REALES
Frameline

Black cancel is more difficult to find than red cancel.



UN REAL



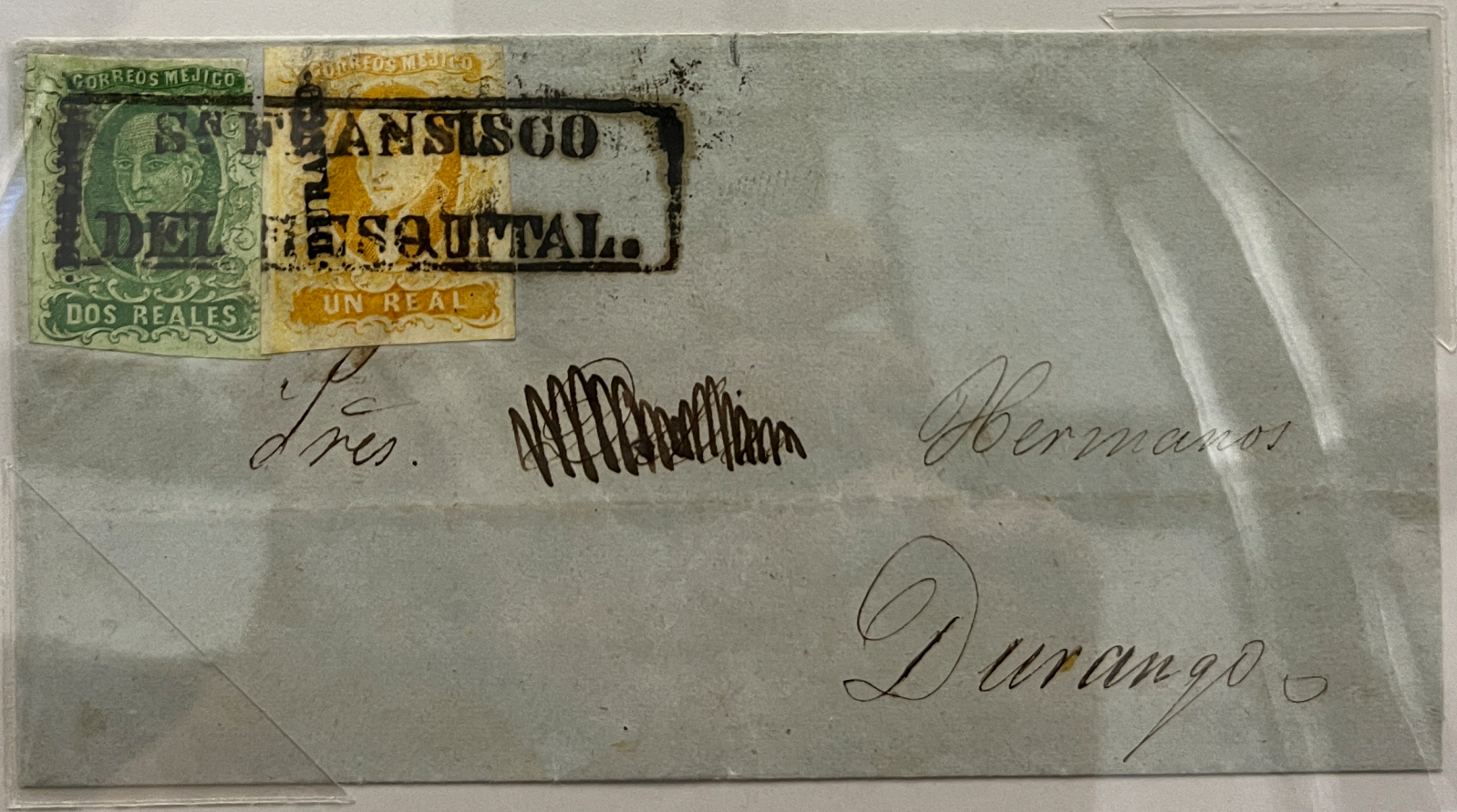
DOS REALES

**S^o FRANCISCO
DEL MESQUITAL.**

cultural center about 16 leagues (42 miles) south of Durango, chief product: m

Important in development of Durango as first stop during initial exploration

Rated in medium range of difficulty but seldom comes on market.



San Francisco del Mezquital--- Durango June 27, 1857

Durango

First Issue – 1856
Muleros

Muleros.

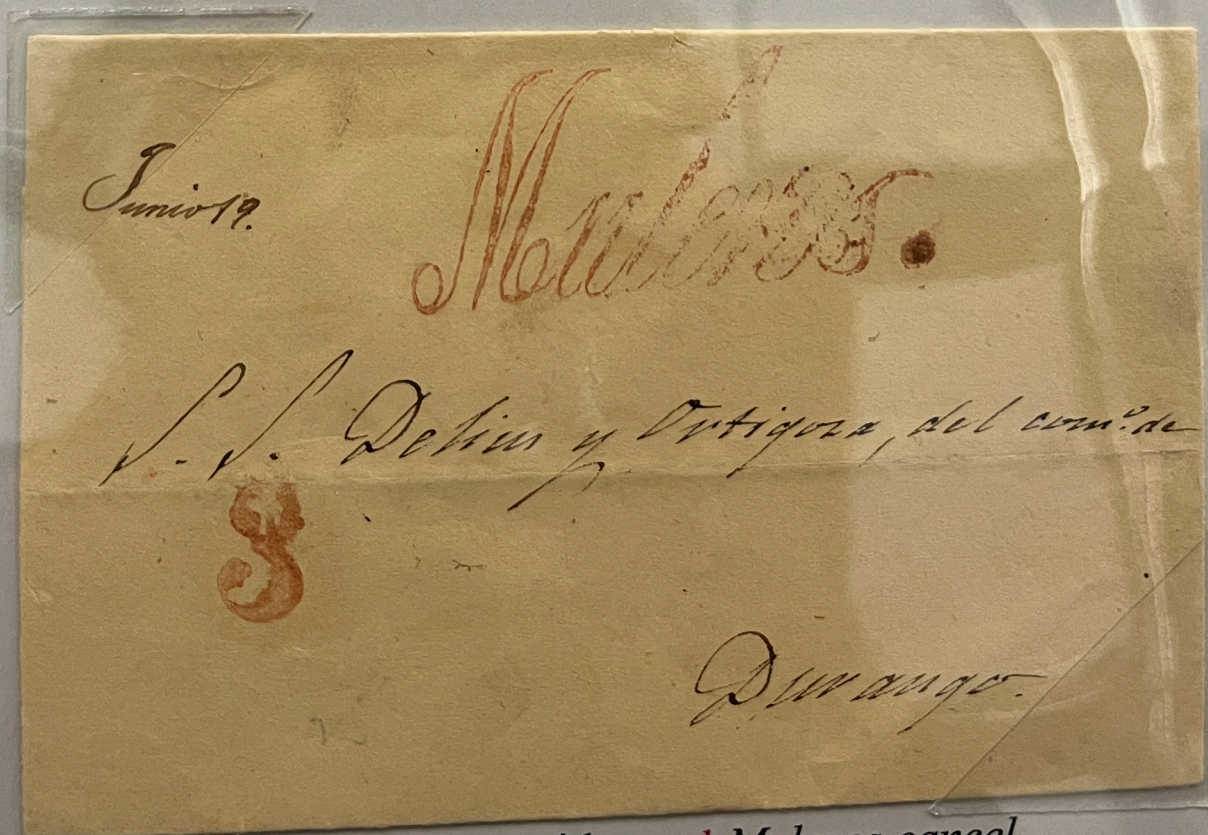
Schatzkes 272

Muleros (“Mule drivers”), today known as *Vicente Guerrero*, is about 18 leagues (48 miles) SW of Durango. Town was a stage coach stop (supplier of mules) on Durango-Zacatecas stage line. Postal facility was under administration of Nombre de Dios. While t cancel is found in Pre stamp era in red it has only been found in black on first issue.



Medio Real with part of ***MULEROS*** cancel

There are no known covers with this extremely rare cancel.



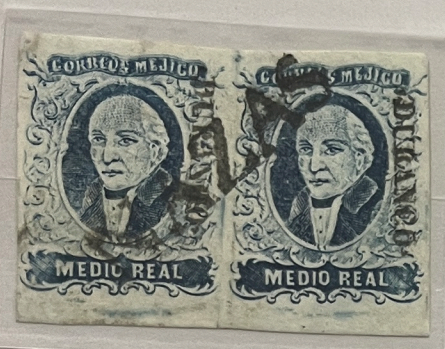
Pre stamp cover with a **red** *Muleros* cancel

Durango

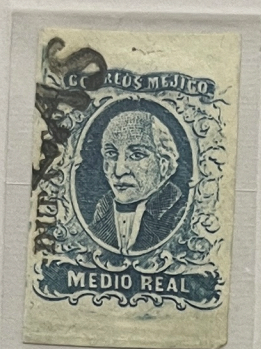
First Issue - 1856
Nazas

NAZAS

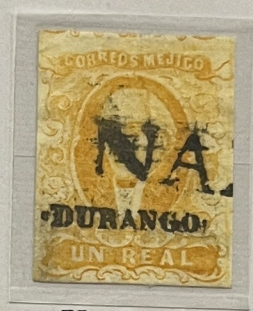
Nazas was, and is an agricultural center about 33 leagues (90 miles) NNE of Durango. Cancelled stamps are relatively easy to find and offer specialists challenges in finding various overprint orientations and hues of the *Dos Reales*.



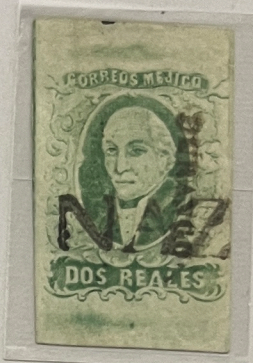
*Medio Real pair
overprint
on right*



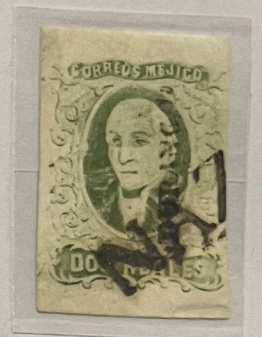
*Medio Real
overprint
on left*



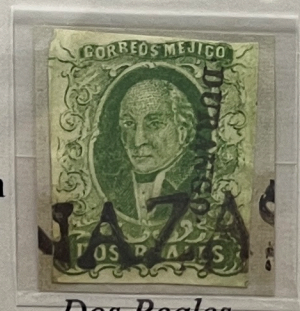
*Un Real
horizontal
overprint*



*Dos Reales
Plate I
EMERALD
overprint
on left right*

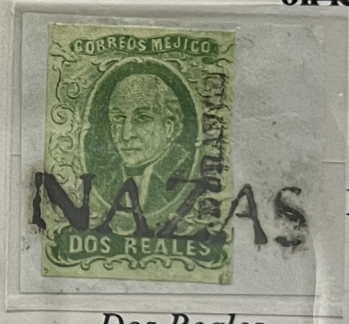


*Dos Reales
Plate I
OLIVE-GREEN
overprint
on right*



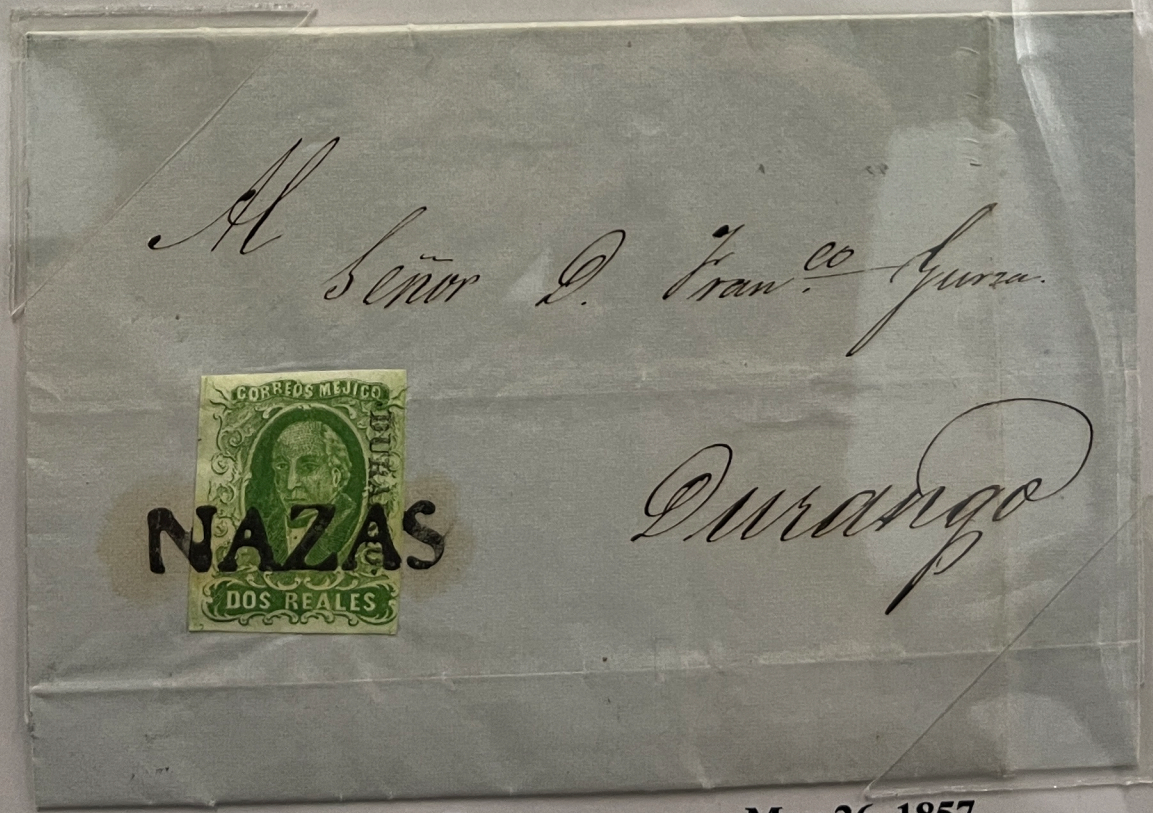
Reading down

*Dos Reales
Plate III
Green*



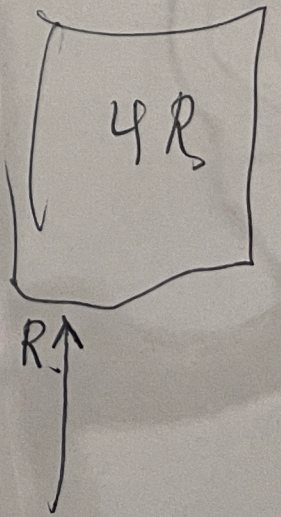
Reading up

*Dos Reales
Plate III
Green*



Nazas to---Durango

May 26, 1857

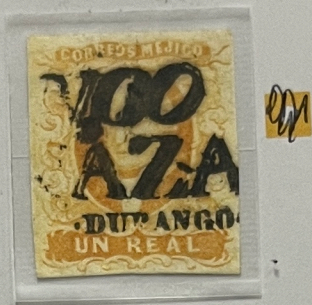


Durango

First Issue – 1856
Nazas/Nombre de Dios

FRANCO EN NAZAS

For some unknown reason Nazas also used this two line cancel. It has been found on *Un Real* and *Dos Reales* stamps and is scarce



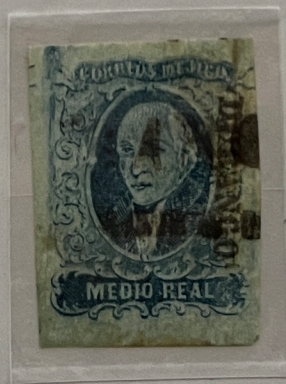
Un Real overprinted •DURANGO• horizontally

FRANCO EN NOMBRE DE DIOS

Nombre de Dios, relatively large town of 6300 inhabitants, about 11 leagues (30 miles) ESE of Durango. Cattle ranching and agriculture were its main industries

Cancel has been reported on a *Un Real* but had not previously been reported on a *Medio Real* stamp

Not Previously Recorded

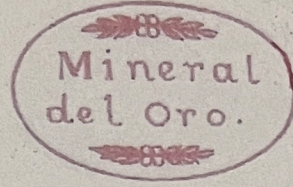


Medio Real cancelad Franco en Nombre de Dios

This cancel is not yet known on 2, 4, or 8 Real stamps

Durango

First Issue – 1856
Mineral del Oro

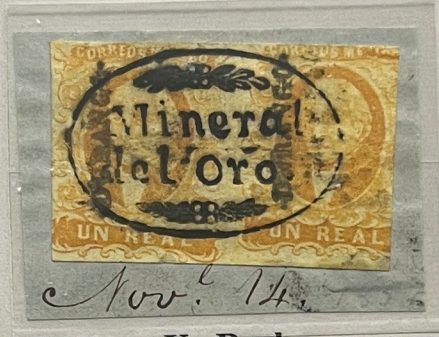


Mineral del Oro had about 600 inhabitants. It is located about 54 leagues (140 miles) NNW of Durango in an agricultural area that was prominent because of gold being found “lying on top of the ground”. Oval cancel found in both black and red.

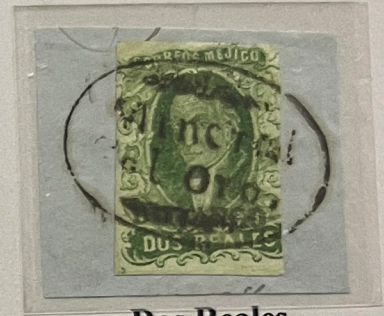
In black it is found on the *Un Real* and the *Dos Reales*



Un real --
Horizontal Over print



Un Real --
Overprint on left reading up

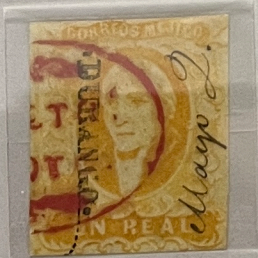


Dos Reales
Horizontal overprint

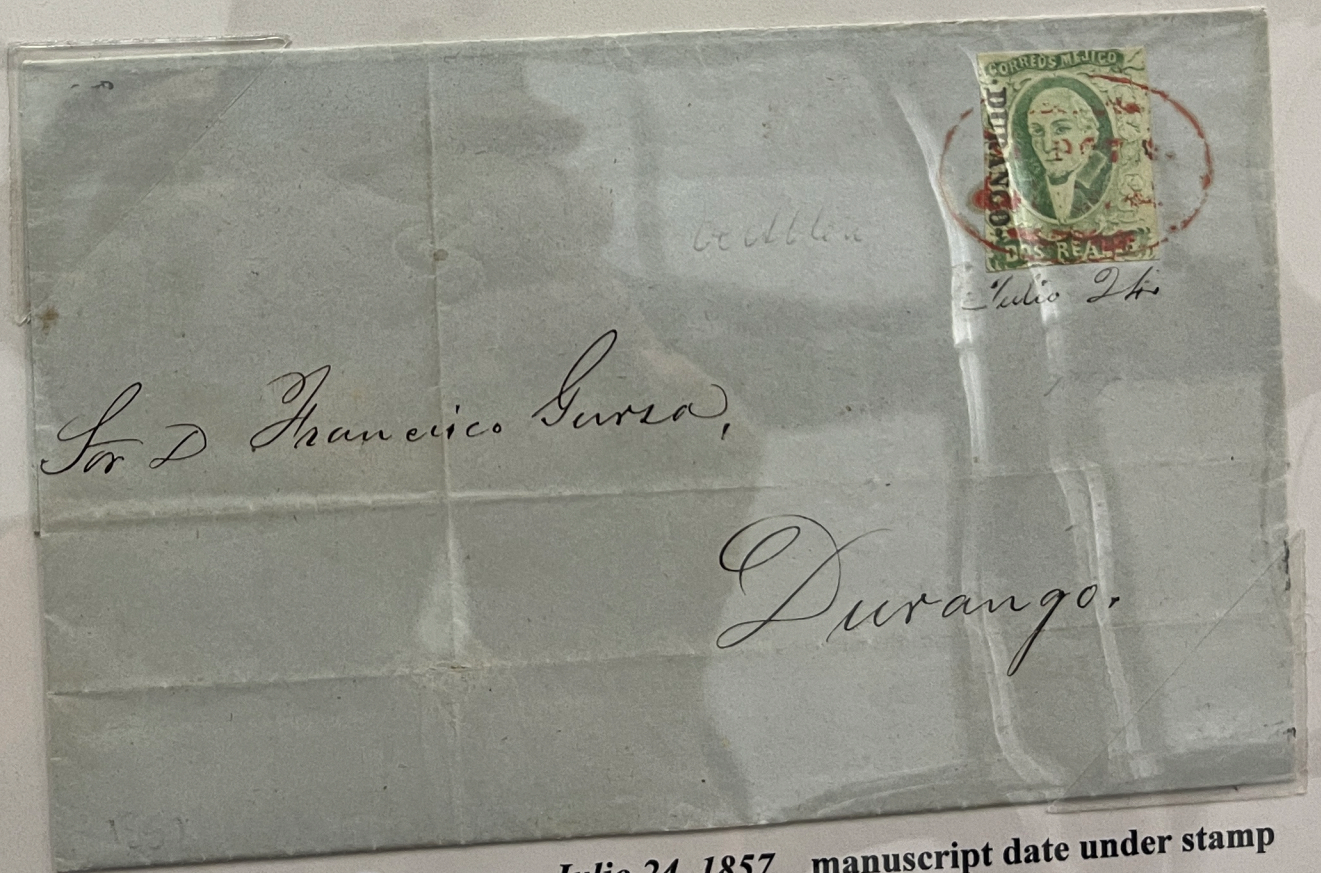
Red cancel is known on the Medio Real, *Un Real* and *Dos Reales*.



MEDIO REAL



UN REAL with
Unusual set of dots
Following overprint
Manuscript date



Mineral del Oro---Durango *Julio 24, 1857* manuscript date under stamp

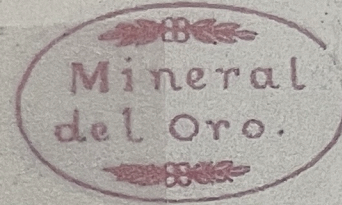
27 30

First Issue – 1856

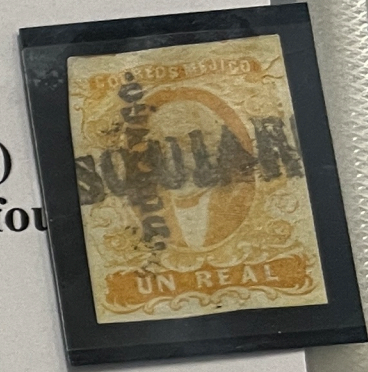
Mineral del Oro



Juan A. Diaz
1672 Clark Creek
Beaumont, CA 92223
(951) 849-720



Mineral del Oro had about 600 inhabitants. It is located about 54 leagues (140 miles) NNW of Durango in an agricultural area that was prominent because of gold being found "lying on top of the ground". This oval cancel is found on both black and red.

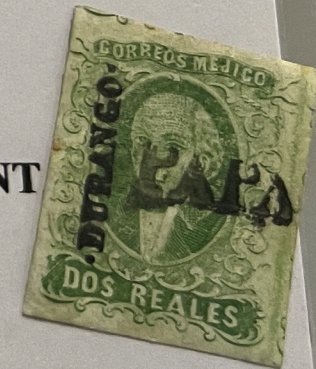


In black it is found on the *Un Real* and the *Dos Reales*

Un real with Horizontal overprint

Un Real pair with overprinted on left reading up

Dos Reales with HORIZONT overprint



The red cancel is known on the Medio Real, *Un Real* and *Dos Reales*.

Durango

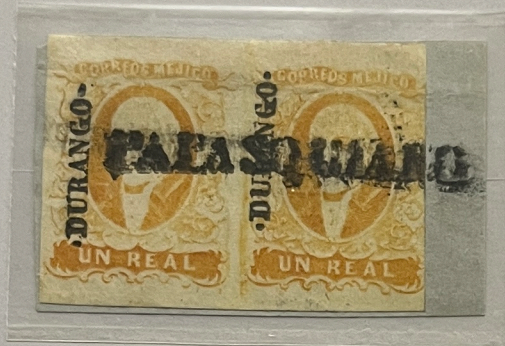
First Issue - 1856
Papasquiario

PAPASQUIARIO

Santiago de Papasquiario, a busy postal substation, received regular shipments of stamps, 1856 to 1858. It is about 33 leagues (85 miles) northwest of Durango. Because of the relative availability of stamps with this cancel, philatelists can spend many enjoyable hours looking for plate varieties, overprint orientations and different *Dos Reales* greens.



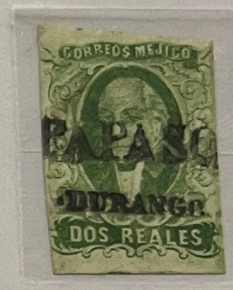
Medio Real
with additional
pen cancel



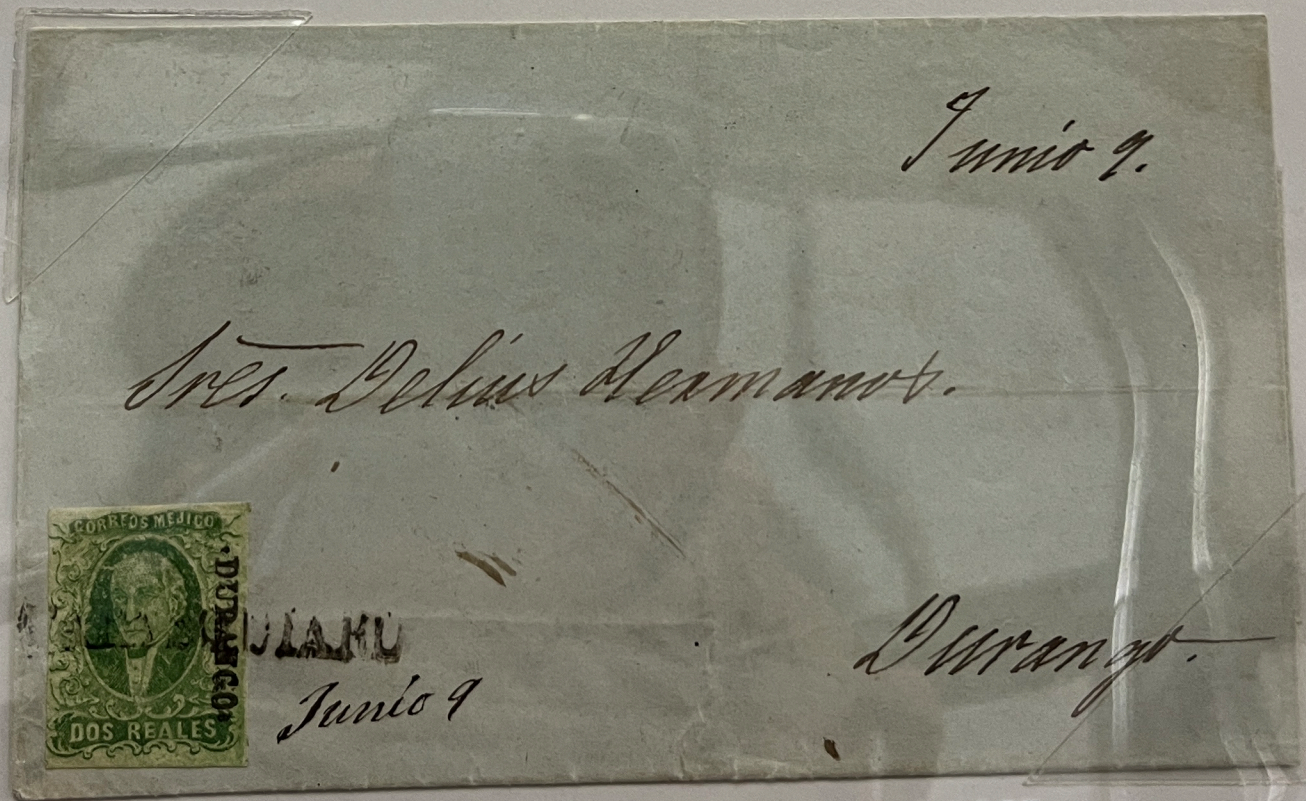
Un Real
pair with
overprint
on left



Un Real
horizontal
overprint



Dos Reales
horizontal
overprint



Papasquiario --- Durango June 9, 1857

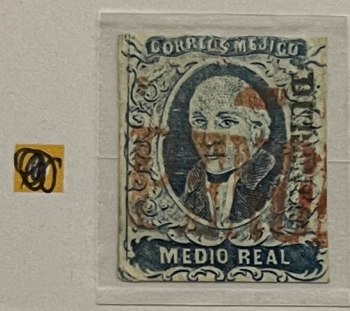
Not yet reported on 4 or 8 Real stamps

Durango

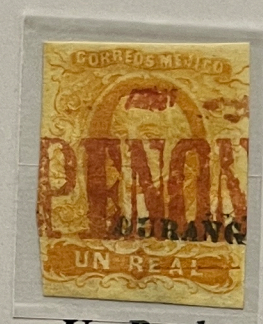
First Issue - 1856
Peñon Blanco

PEÑON B^{CO}₇₉

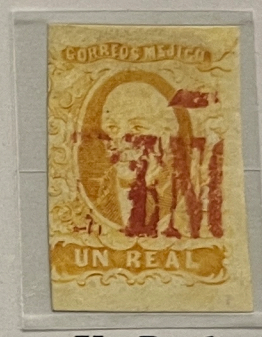
Peñon Blanco, Spanish for "White rock", 26 leagues (66 miles) NE of Durango. Noted for mineral resources, agriculture, commercial houses and for its numerous sulfur hot springs.



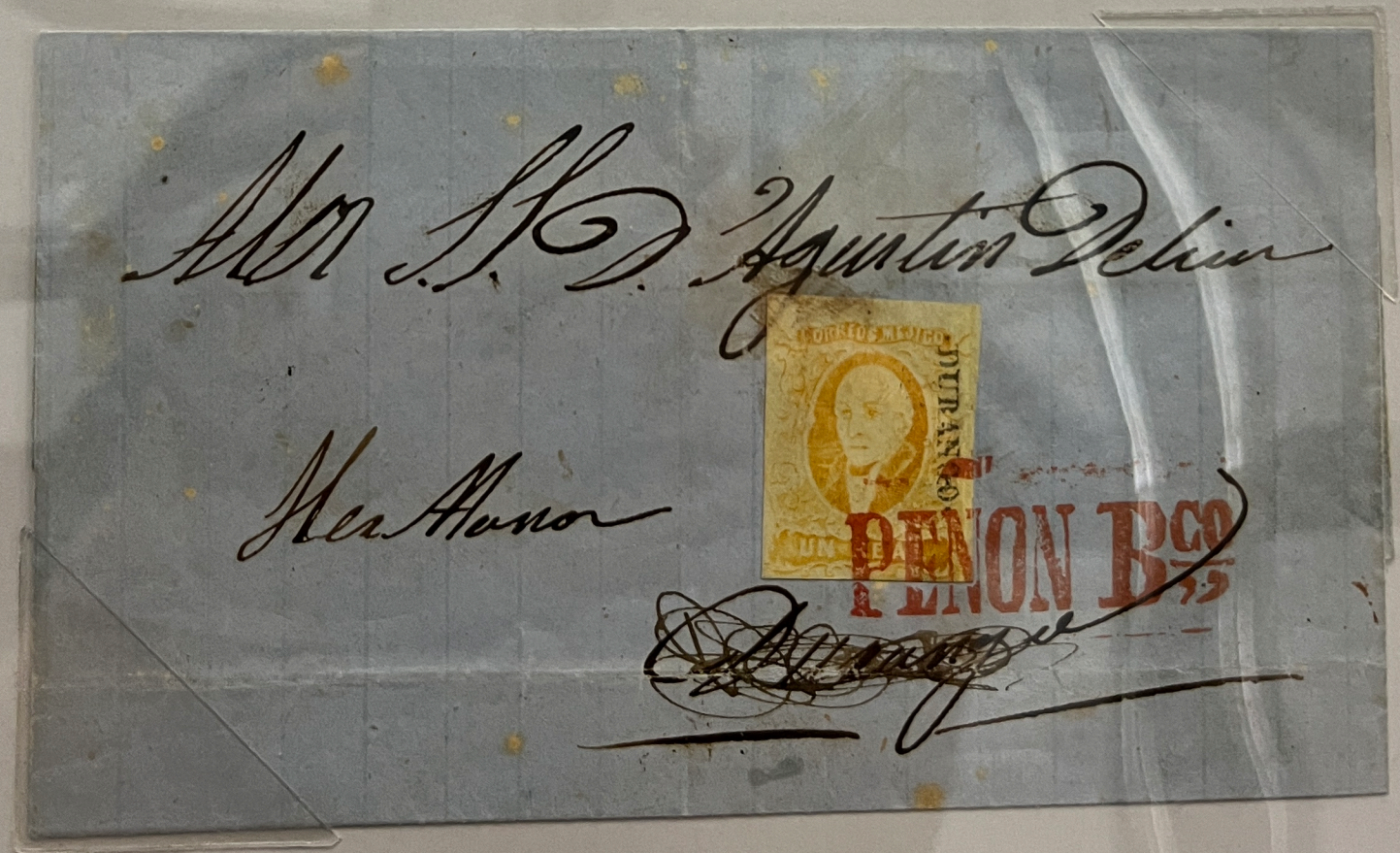
Medio Real
overprint
on right



Un Real
horizontal
overprint



Un Real
without
overprint



FIRST TARIFF

Peñon Blanco --- Durango October 17, 1856, *Un Real* overprinted on the right side

Durango

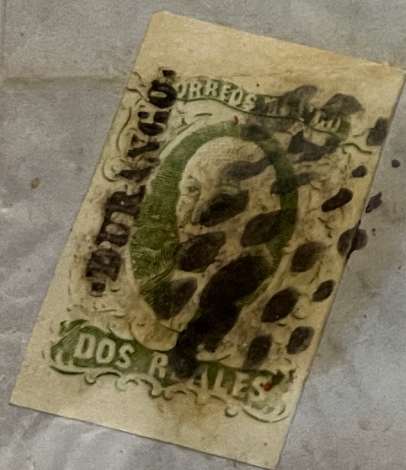
First Issue – 1856

Santa Catalina de Tepejuanes

Santa Catalina de Tepehuanes later became just Tepehuanes, mine 43 leagues (113 miles) NW of Durango, probably used Santiago de Papasquiario for its postal needs.

Santa Catalina --- Mexico City MM Corbelo to Mr. (Don) Lauro Molina

Mr. Don Lauro Molina



Mexico

23 Feb 1857

Olive Green

Durango

First Issue - 1856
Tamasula

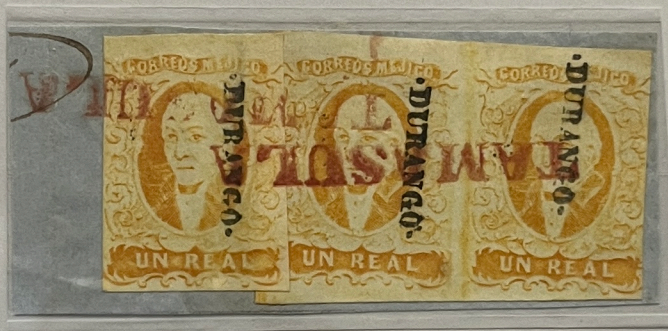
FRANCO EN TAMASULA

Tamasula, founded in 1606, is about 61 leagues (158 miles) WNW of Durango on border between Durango and Sinaloa at foot of Sierra Madre. About 6,500 inhabitants.

Shatzkes lists with highest Degree of Rarity

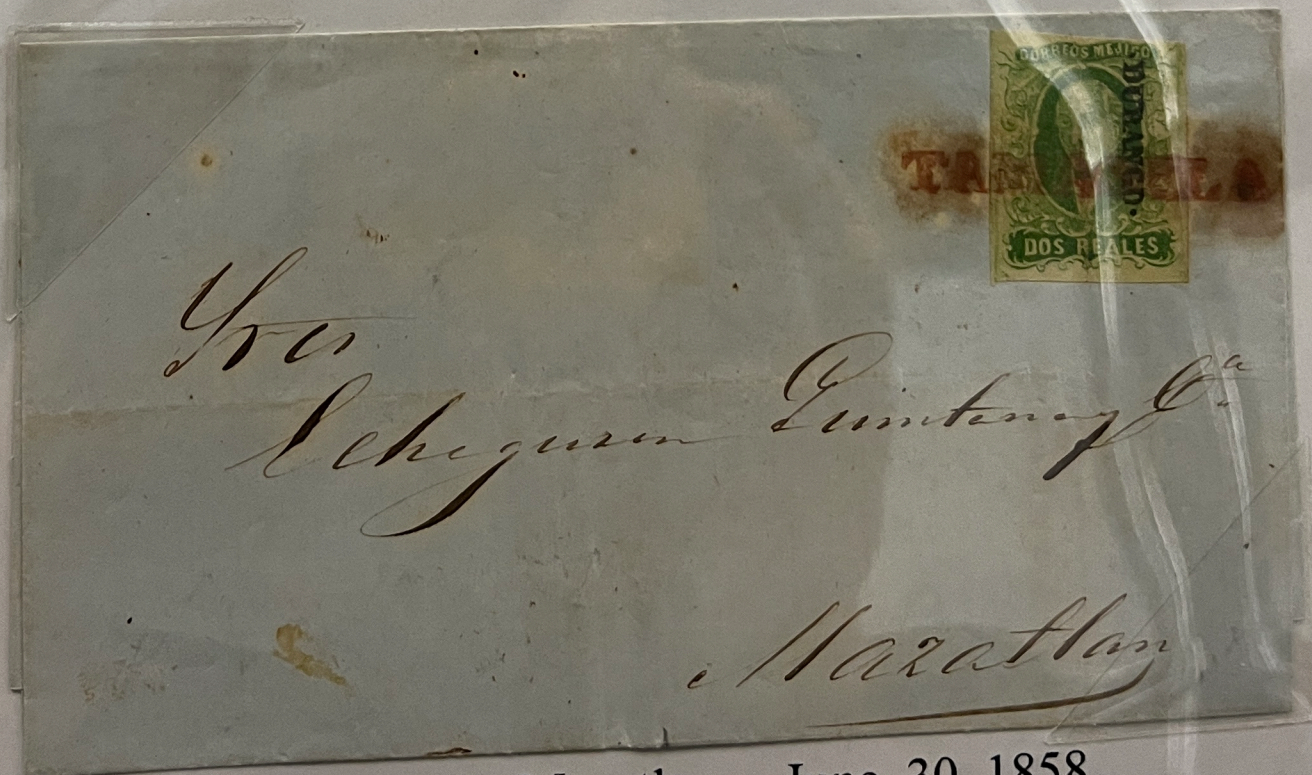
Liera and Schatzkes show with **FRANCO EN**

Upside cancel



Second lighter cancel

Only multiple usage known



Tamasula --- Mazatlan June, 30, 1858

Only *Dos Reales* known with this cancel

TOPIA

290

Isolated mining village in far west near Sinaloa border, 56 leagues (145 miles) from Durango.

Later received postal service from Canelas.

Normally appears across middle of stamp in a neat horizontal manner.

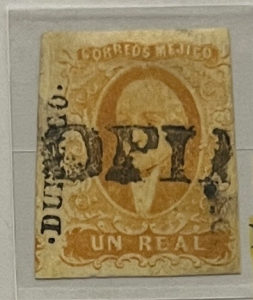
Most common of the Topia cancels, very difficult to find.

Without
overprint



Medio Real
With Frame line

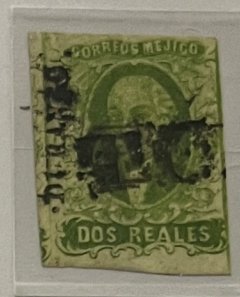
OK



Un Real

Not previously
reported

OK

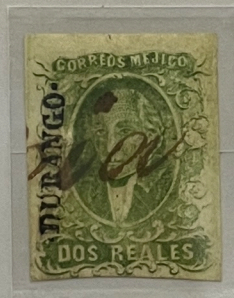


Dos Reales

OK

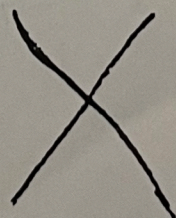
Topia

290 A

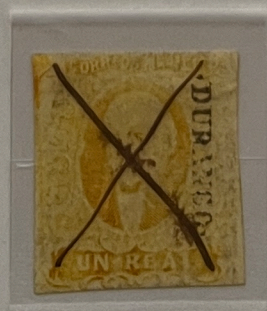


Dos Reales

Extremely rare



290 B

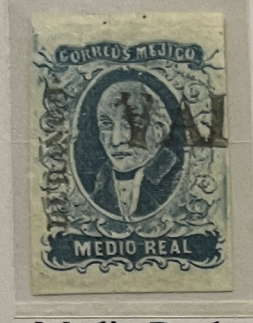


OK

VALLE DEL SUCHIL

Valle del Suchil (word suchil=Mexican lumber tree), former Spanish land grant, 21 leagues (55miles) SE of Durango, near Zacatecas border, former agricultural village

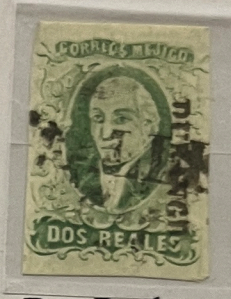
Stamps with this cancel are difficult to find.



Medio Real



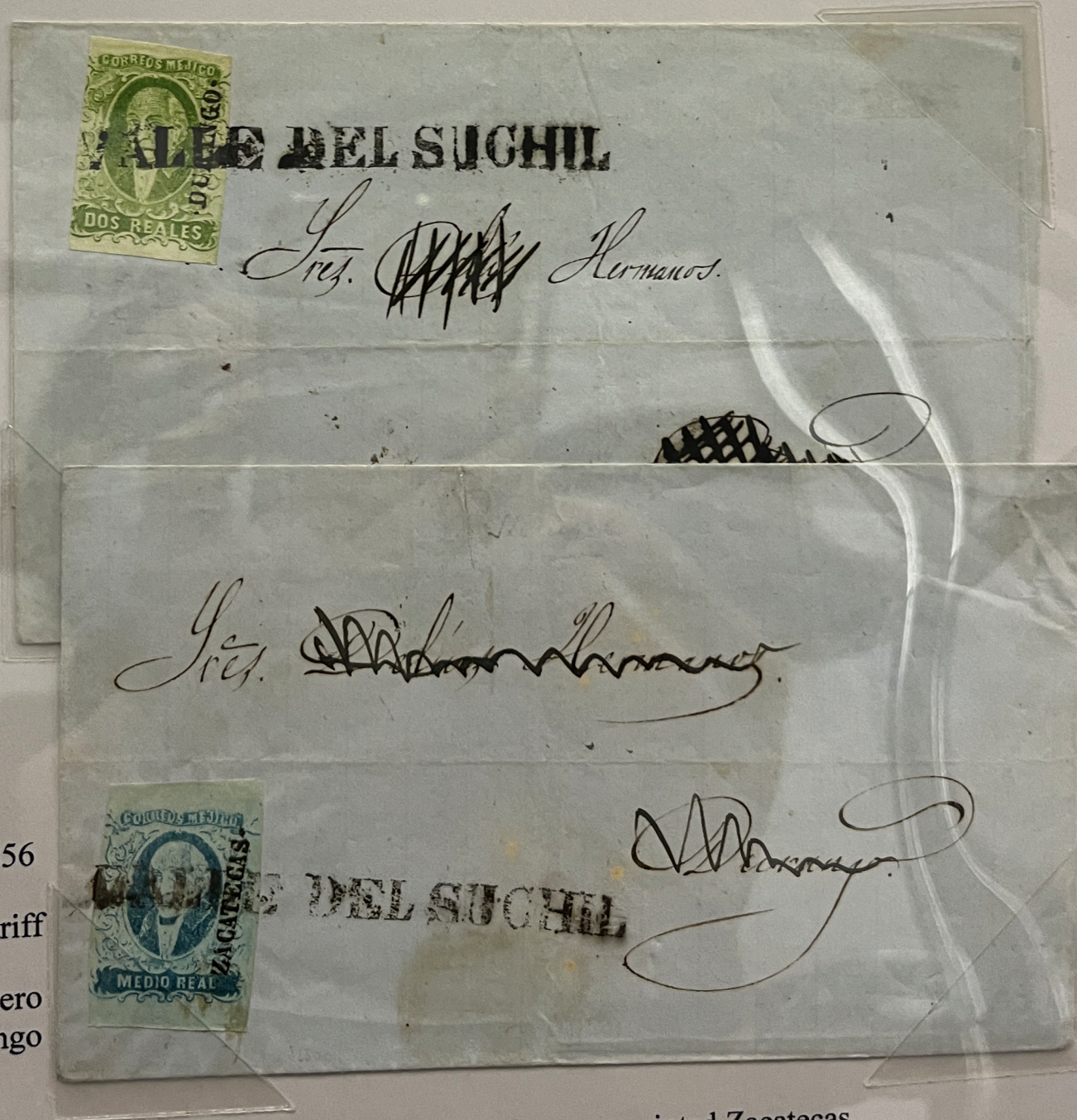
Un Real



Dos Reales
Emerald

February 14, 1857

Hacienda Mortero
-- Durango



Nov 1856
First Tariff
Hacienda Mortero
To Durango

Out of District Usage, stamp overprinted Zacatecas.

Fractionals are parts of higher value stamps that were cut to make up necessary rates when post offices ran out of the appropriate value stamps to complete a required tariff.

In 1971, Dr. Karl Schimmer and John Bash collaborated to write a three part article in MEXICANA: (July 1971, August 1971 and January 1972):

THE BISECTS OR SPLITS OF EARLY MEXICAN STAMPS 1856-1861;

. It lists Durango Splits known at the time. Most are RARE to VERY RARE.

DURANGO
ABRIL 28



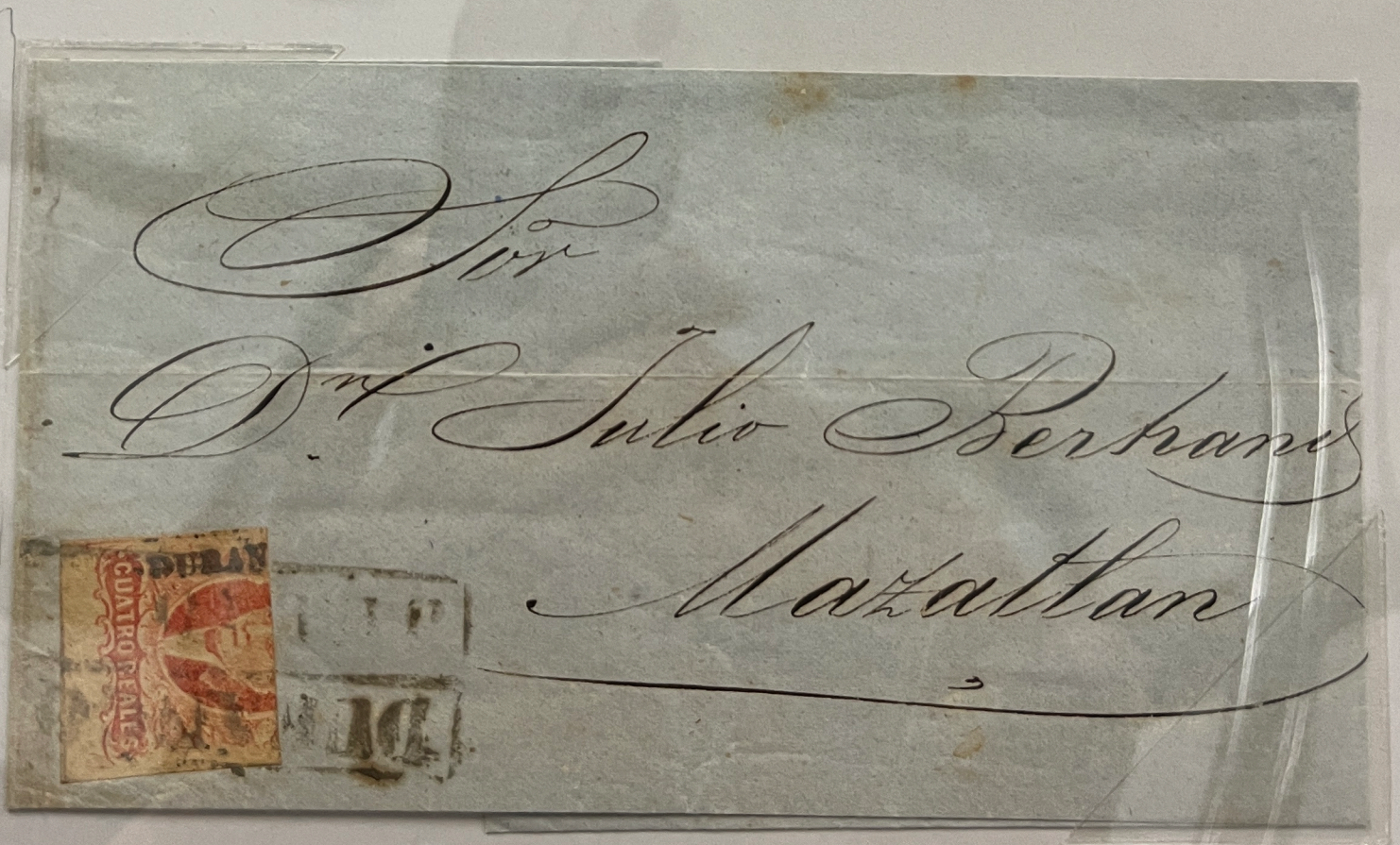
Durango --- Mazatlan Octubre, 1858

Only Known use of Durango Bisect of *Dos Reales*

Durango
Cuatro Real Bisect

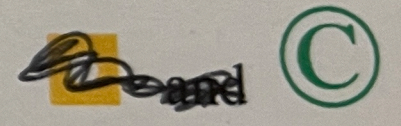
First Issue
Fractio

DURANGO
ABRIL 28



Durango --- Mazatlan July 17, 1858

CVENCAME



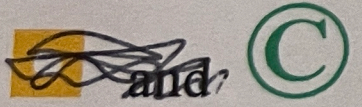
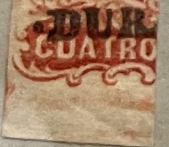
Left vertical half of 4 Real used as 2 Real with Cuencame overprint

**FRANCO EN
GUANACEVI.**

J. S. Delius Hermanos

**FRANCO EN
GUANACEVI.**

Durango.



PAPA SQUIARO

X

