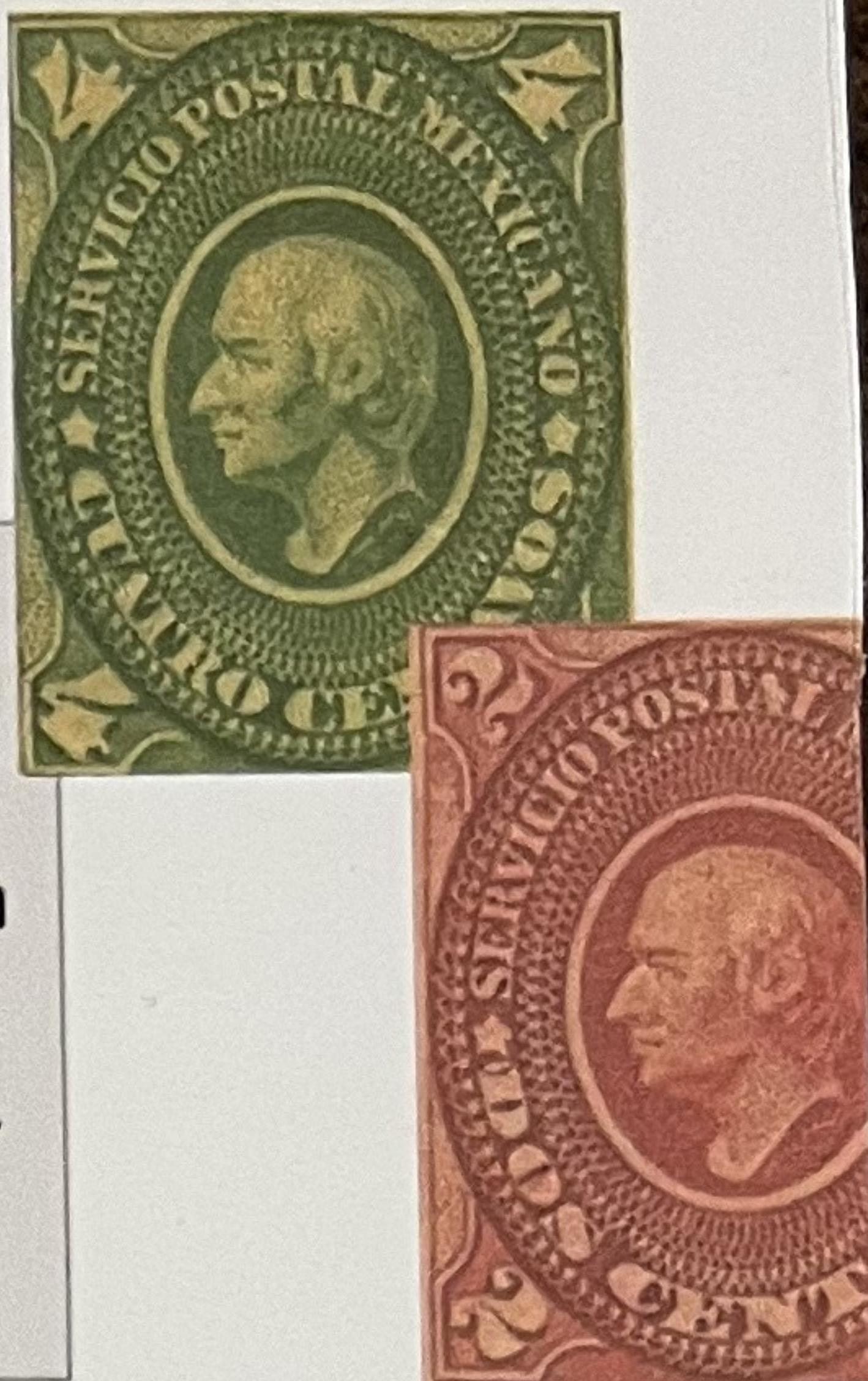


The Hidalgo Medallions Issues of México 1884-1895

INTRODUCTION

On January 1, 1884 new stamps picturing Hidalgo were issued in an effort to simplify old postal practices. Since 1856 Mexico had used the district overprint to prevent theft of stamps while in transit from the central office to the district offices. The new issue eliminated the need to do that (although briefly 25 districts kept on overprinting their names. All are scarce). When México joined the UPU it had 2 separate parallel stamp issues, one for domestic mail (with higher rates) and another for foreign mail. The Medallions were used for all rates, everywhere. So the importance of this issue was the overhaul of old practices into a more modern postal system. Joining UPU allowed to have registered mail abroad for the first time.



THE THREE ISSUES

1) **GREEN ISSUE:** 1884-1885 all the centavo denominations were printed in green ink, creating a lot of confusion as all stamps looked the same. The four Peso denominations were printed in blue

RAT

On Ja
rema
twice

THE FIFTEEN DENOMINATIONS AND

1c

- Domestic printed matter 30 grams (1884-1885) and 60 gr 1886-1895
- International printed matter 50gr (1884-1885) and 60 gr (1886-1895)



5c

- Domestic postal card (1884-1894)
- USA rate for 15 gr (1885-1895)
- AR Return receipt fee



2c

- Local City postal cards
- USA postal cards 1885-1895



6c

- USA rate 15gr (1884-1885)
- Official double domestic rate 30 grams



3c

- Official domestic rate 15 grams
- USA postal cards 1884-1885
- International postal cards



10c

- Domestic rate 15 grams
- International non-USA rate 15 gr (1885-1895)
- International registration flat fee (1886-1895)



4c

- Local city 15 grams
- 2nd Class publications per 400 gr



12c

- International Non-USA rate 15gr (1884-1885)
- USA registration fee (1884-1885)



Introduction & Basic Rates

2) **COLORED ISSUE:** In July 1, 1885 a new issue was released with each denomination in a different ink color. This aligned the 1c, 2c and 5c with the UPU basic colors.

3) **BLUE GREEN ISSUE:** By 1892 the \$5 and \$10 pesos had ran out, and a short new printing was ordered. Due to a misunderstanding in the order, part of the printing was made in carmine in the plates of the Numerals Issue (which ran parallel to the Medallions). When this was discovered, the rest of the order was printed in watermarked paper and blue-green ink with the plates of the high value Medallions. Only 200 and 100 stamps each of the 5 and 10 peso values were printed. Both are rarities.

None of these stamps were demonetized until 1895. The Green 1884 issue is far more abundant than the 1885 Color issue. Mixed frankings exist but are not common.

POSTAL RATES

On January 1, 1884 new postal tariffs were in effect for domestic mail, although the rates for foreign mail remained the same. On October 1885 new lower rates were created for foreign mail. The Certification rate was larger for domestic rate than for foreign mail.

POSTAL RATES THEY PAID

	1884	1885	Peso Values	
<p>20c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International non-USA & registered 15 grams (UPU) • Double domestic and non-USA international rate 30 grams 				\$ 1
				\$ 2
<p>25c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic registration flat fee (1884-1895) • Overseas Non-USA registered with AR service for 15 grams 				\$ 5
				\$ 10
<p>50c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large rates and heavy parcels • Seldom used 				

• Seldom used

• Large rates and heavy parcels



REGISTERED MAIL

in the system, particularly for registered mail. Joining UPU required the use of standardized formats and labels. For the first time registered mail are shown below.

HOW THIS EXHIBIT IS ORGANIZED

This exhibit is organized by the following chapters:

Introduction	Hidalgo Medallions			Official Labels
	Green Issue 1884 1c- 50c	Colored Issue 1885 1c-25c	Peso Values 1884 & 1892 1p- 10p	



R and C Labels

The first labels for registration were locally designed and used in Mexico. They were later replaced by the standardized horizontal labels. The labels with 'R' and 'C' for 'CERTIFICADO' and 'REPUBLIQUE MEXICAINE' were used for international (R) and domestic (C) mail, the rules were never changed. They can be found used in both Mexico and the United States.

F. NUM. 262)

RECIBO de pieza certificada en el servicio interior.

Núm. 27

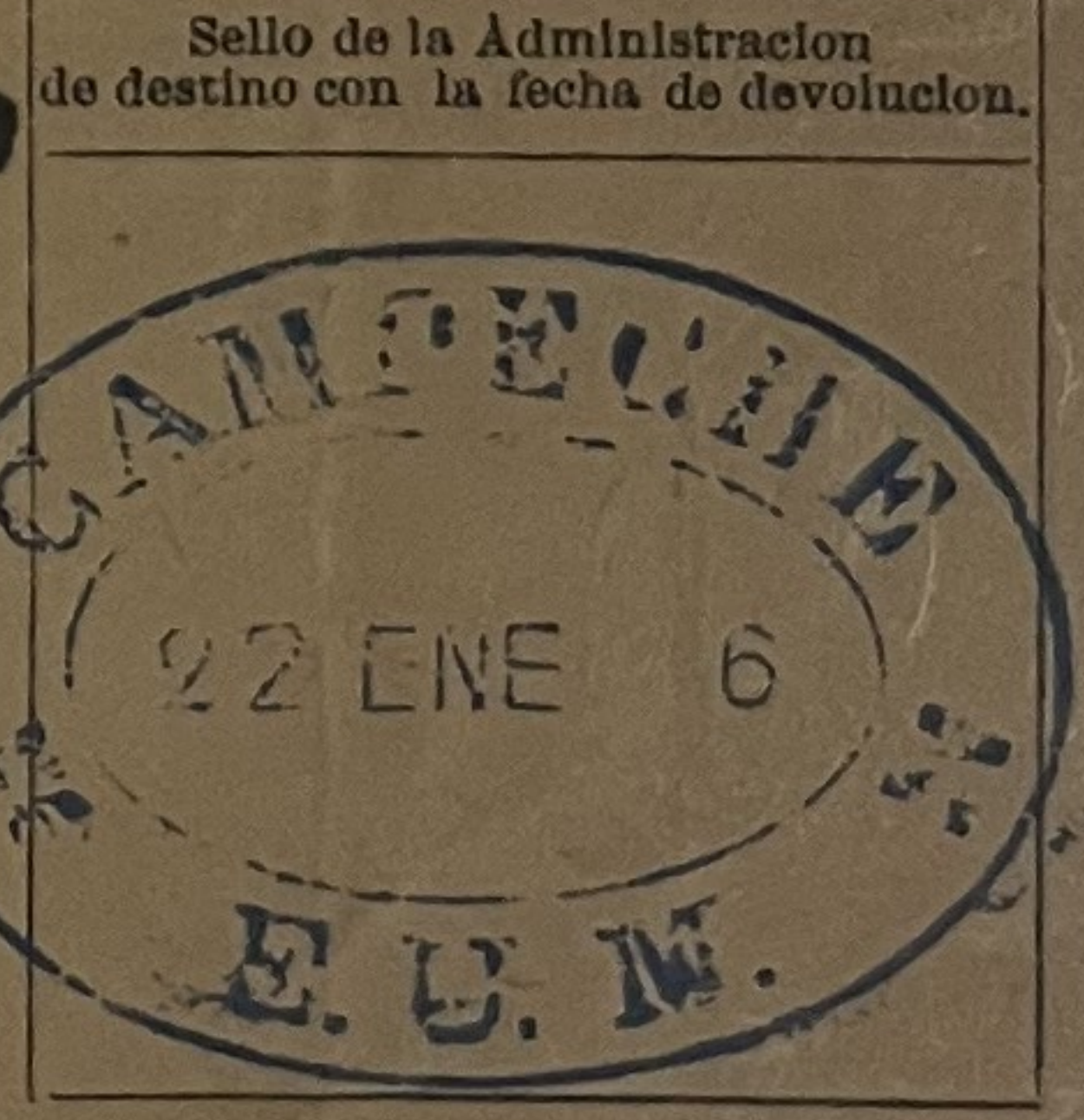
Recibí la pieza certificada que con la direccion del calce, remite al Señor Magistrado de Circuito al Jus que suscribe. Campeche, E. U. M.

Firma del que recibe la pieza. Prof. Montalvo

Direccion de la pieza. Al Cui C. Perfecto Montalvo, Jefe de Distrito del Estado de Campeche

Este recibo, fechado y firmado por la persona que recibe la pieza, lo devolverá al Administrador de destino por el correo inmediato al recibo de la pieza de que se trate.

Tif. Literaria.



Although the Colored Issue was issued in 1885, the Green issue was not demonetized until 1895. Most likely there were a lot of green stamps available, as the colored stamps on covers are far scarcer

Green Issue 1884

International Printed Matter Rate

Pachuca to Wernigerode, Germany Dated December 14, 1886. Transit via Mexico City (where the stamp was cancelled), New York. Paid 1c international printed matter rate for 60 grams



Green Issue 1884 One Cent Green

- Domestic printed matter 30 grams (1884-1885) and 60 gr 1886-1895
- International printed matter 50gr (1884-1885) and 60 gr (1886-1895)



Blue Error of Color



(c)

This stamp should have been green. There is no record of how this error happened, but the color is the same than the 1884 Peso values. Maybe 15-20 are known. Most are uncanceled.



Scarce International Rate: 12c

Aguascalientes to Palermo Dated February 22, 1885. Transit was 22 days. Via New York (March) and Palermo (March 16). Paid the very scarce 12c rate International rate for 15 grams. This rate was in place very briefly in 1884-1885.

mostly in postal cards. This stamp was also used to make up other rates

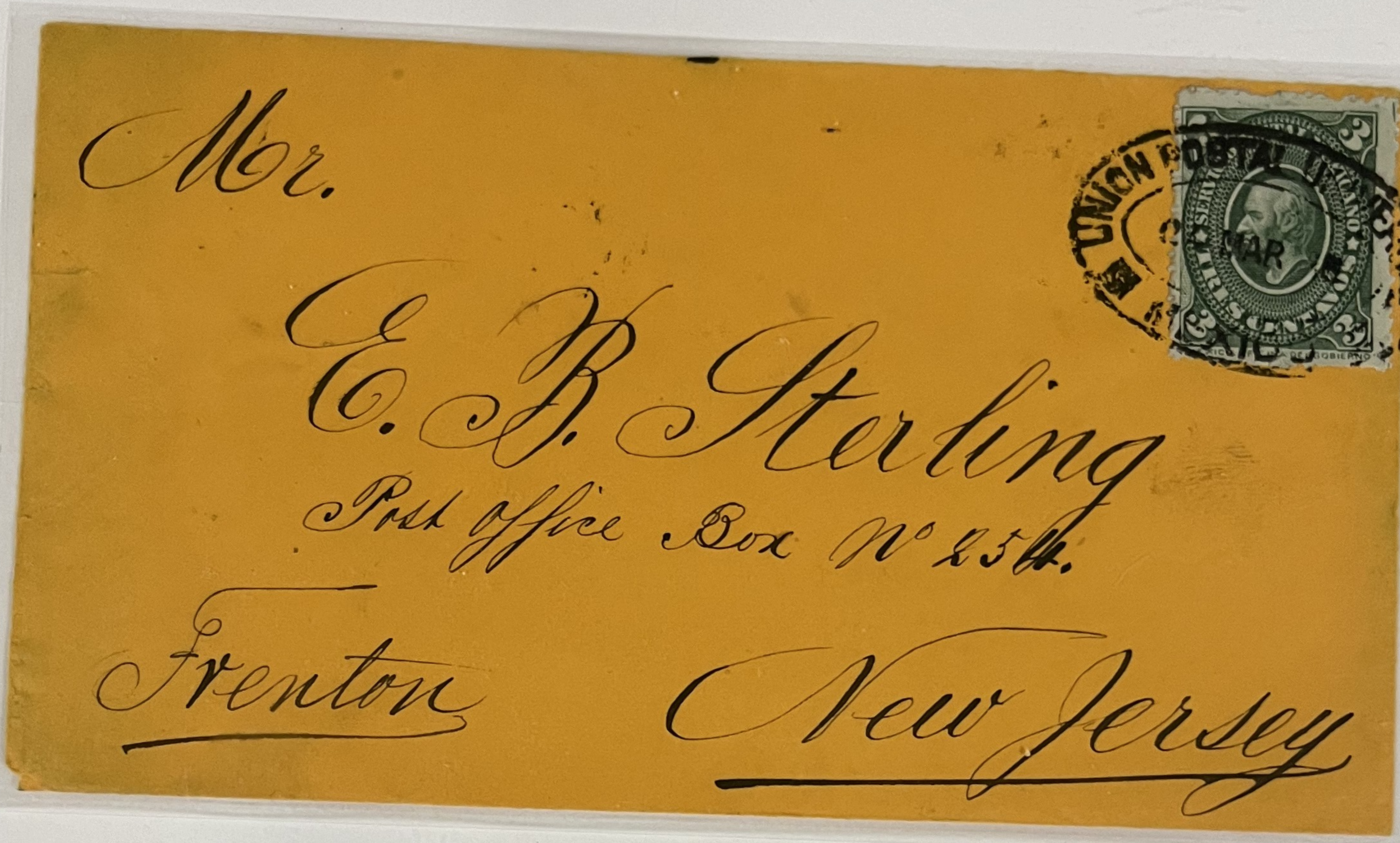


Non Philatelic Judiciary Wrapper: 60c Rate



Jalapa to Orizaba Judiciary wrapper dated May 15, 1887. Paid 60c domestic rate (6x) for 90 grams. It used a colorful combination of Green and Colored stamps and a Lilac Numeral. It is not a philatelic usage. Contained court papers.

ounted rate. This stamp was also used to make up other rates



ugust
and
ery

The 6c rate to USA was in place only from 1884 to 1885. Very few covers are known with this rate, or the rate which was valid in that period. The 12c cover below is of the rare Black Green shade.

Solo Usage to New York

Guaymas to New York
Dated March 13, 1885.
Transit was 9 days via
Nogales (March 16) and
New York (March 22). Paid
6c USA rate for 15 grams



Rare Black Green Shade



A handful of stamps exist in a Black Green shade. Seven denominations are known

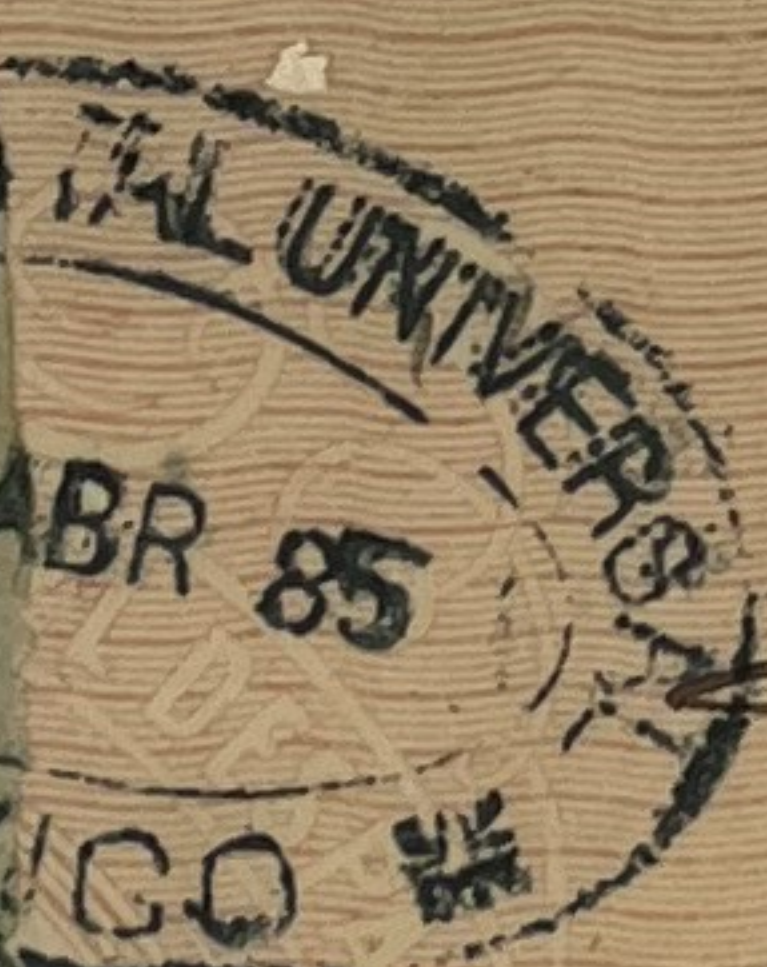
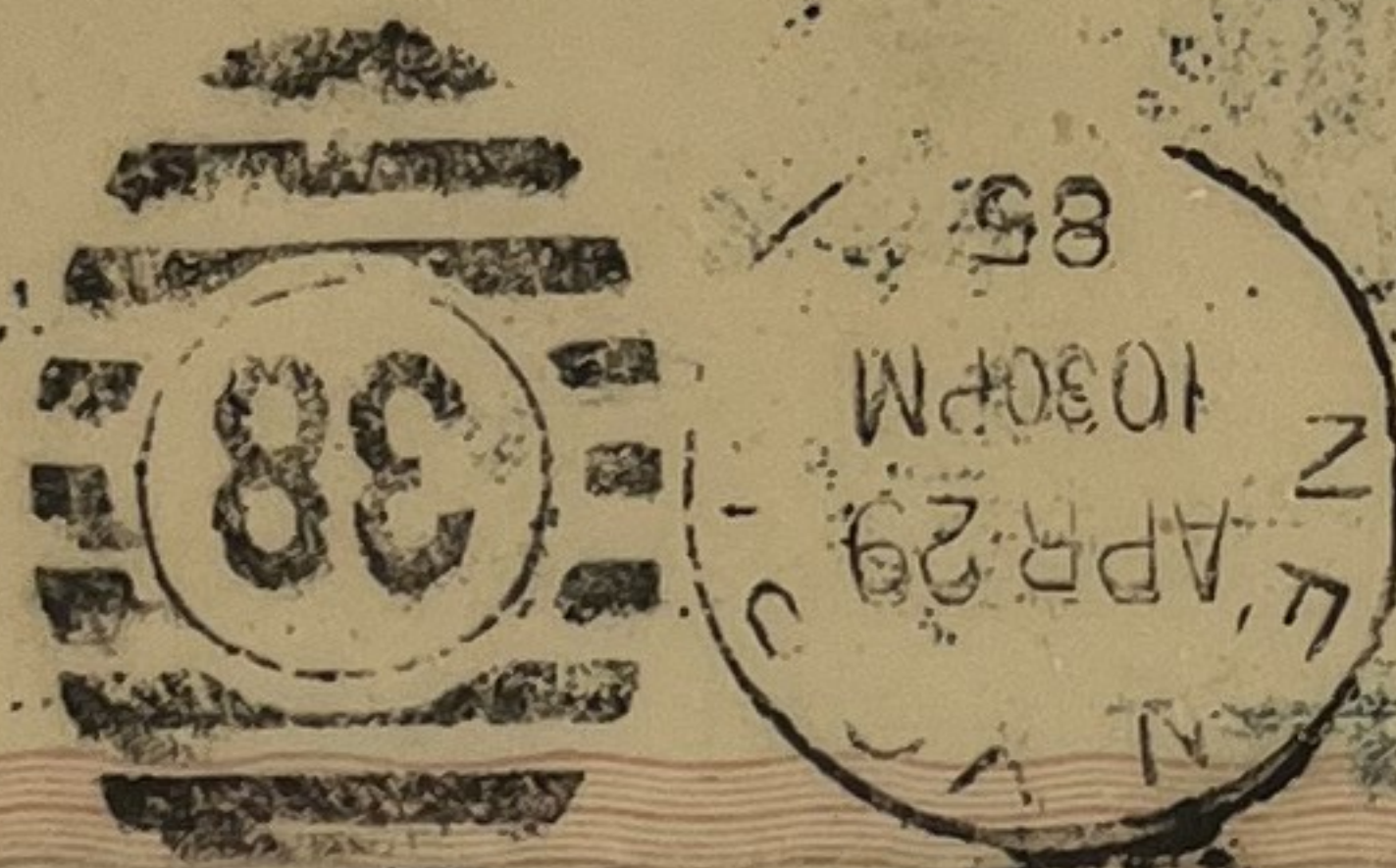
12c international non-USA

Green Issue 1884
6 Cents Green

- USA rate 15gr (1884-1885)
- Official double domestic rate 30 grams



Rare Black
Green



W

1717

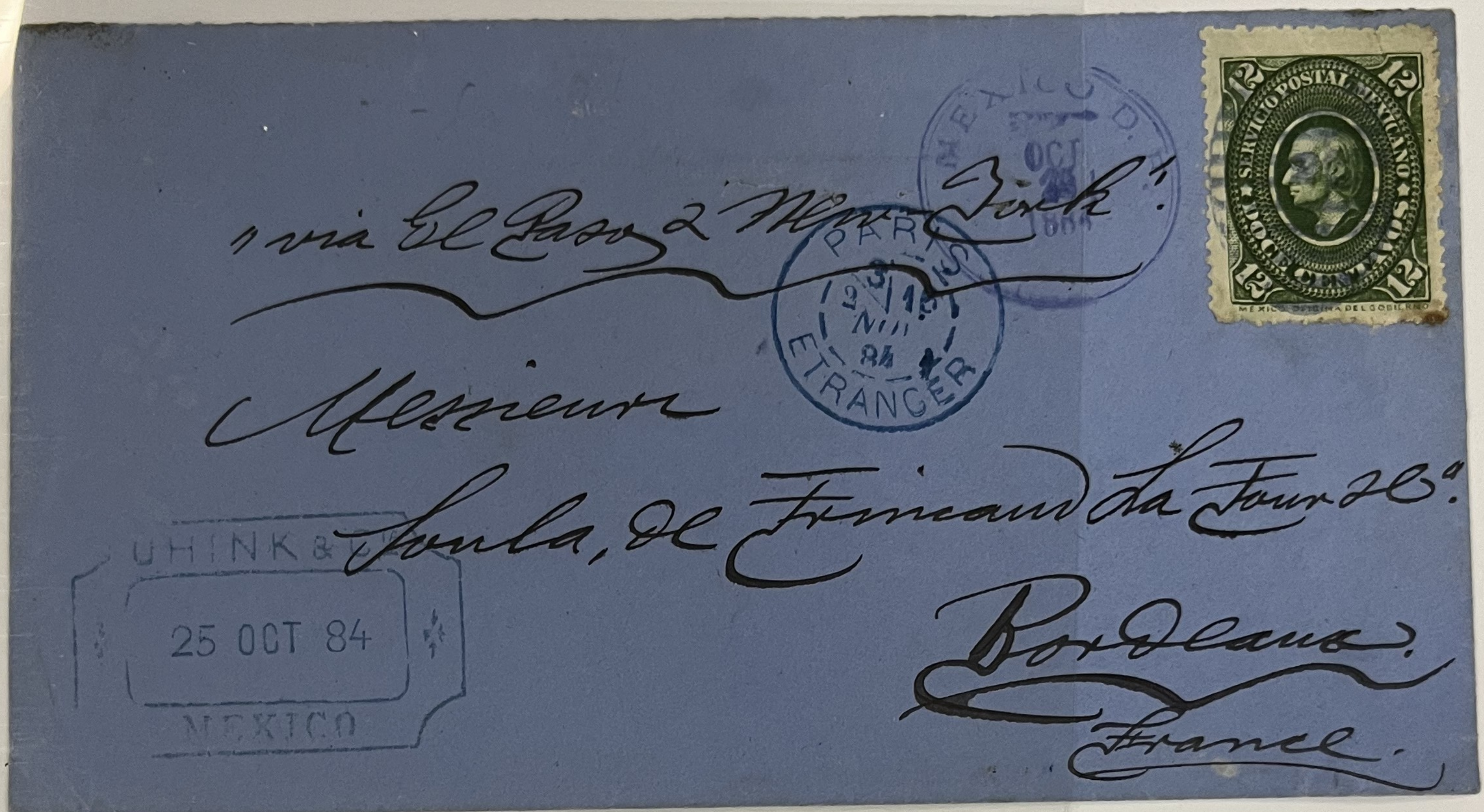
General de Brigada
DE
Francisco Sar
Mme & Mademoiselle
Paris



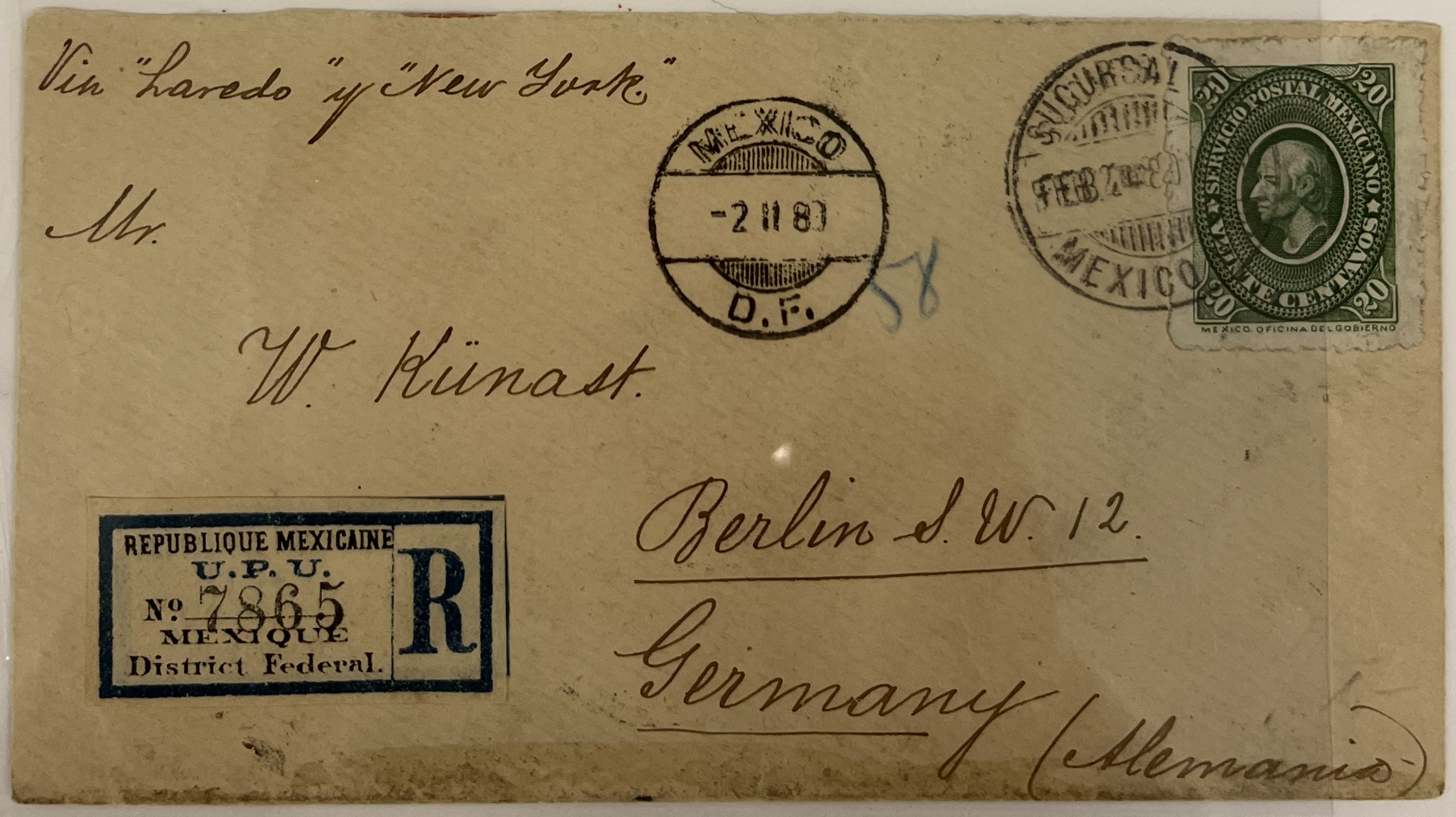
Mexico City to Paris Official cover dated April 19, 1885. Transit was 26 days via New York (April 29), and Paris (May 15). Paid 12c international rate for 15 grams. Sent by the Ministry of War and Navy. At this time the government did not have free franking privileges abroad, so it has to use regular stamps. These stamps are of the very rare Black Green color.

4

... were in place only from 1884 to 1885. Very few covers are known with



and it is very scarce on cover



ofed Issues. It is very scarce on cover



The 50c stamp was only printed in green and saw very little use. It is abundant unused and very scarce on c



Quintuple Rate. Only Solo Use Known



Mexico City to Frankfurt Dated September 19, 1894. Transit was 21 days via Nuevo Laredo (September 26) and Frankfurt (October 11). Paid 50c 5x international rate for 75 grams. Sent by the Ministry of France. This is the only solo use of a 50c stamp. There are less than 10 covers with this stamp

over

Green Issue 1884
50 Cents Green

- Large rates and heavy Parcels
- Seldom used



Registered and Quintuple Rate

CARLOS FELIX Y CIA
4-PROFESA-4
MÉXICO.

Sobre Laredo & New York!

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEW YORK, N. Y.
No. 32418
CITY

REPUBLIQUE MEXICAINE
U.P.U.
No. 2638
R

Se. J. H. Anheisser
Avis de Reception.



MEXICO.
D.F.

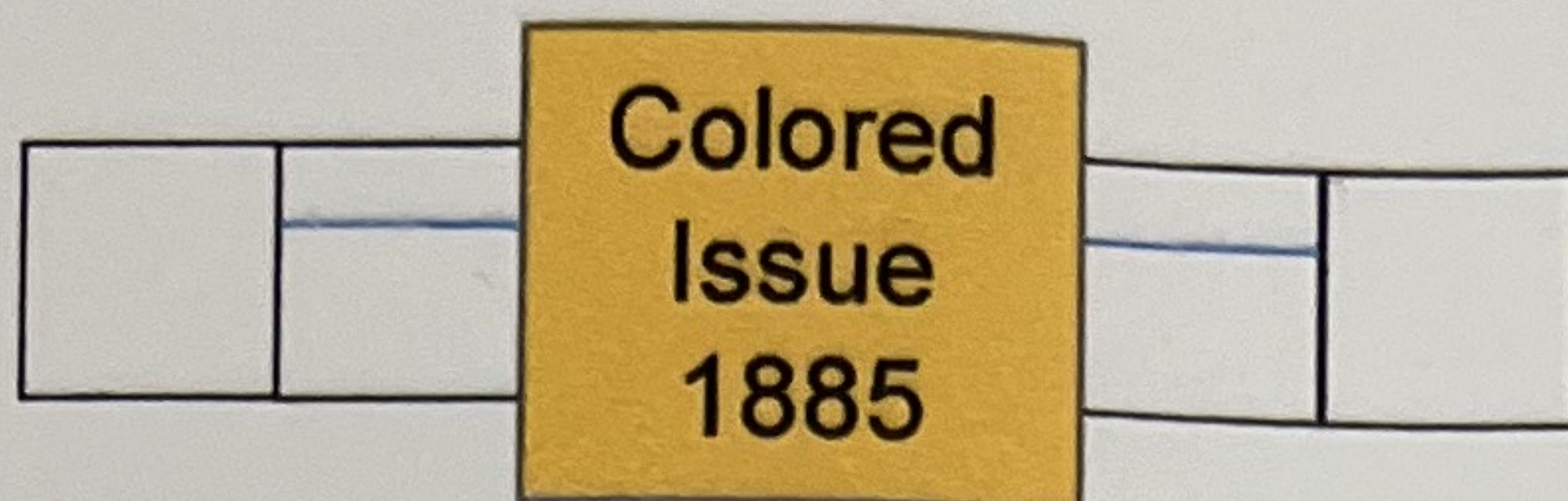
Certificado!

Dusseldorf
Rhondorf
Alemannia!
5/21/8
5/21/8



Mexico City to Dusseldorf, redirected to Rhondorf Registered cover dated August 5, 1893. Transit was 17 days via Laredo, New York (August 11), Dusseldorf (August 21), Konigswinter (August 22) and Rhondorf (August 22). Paid 65c: 10c international registration flat fee + 50c 5x international rate for 75 grams + 5c AR flat fee

ted in the official UPU colors. So
e same plates but in different
PU colors for those values.
in postal cards.



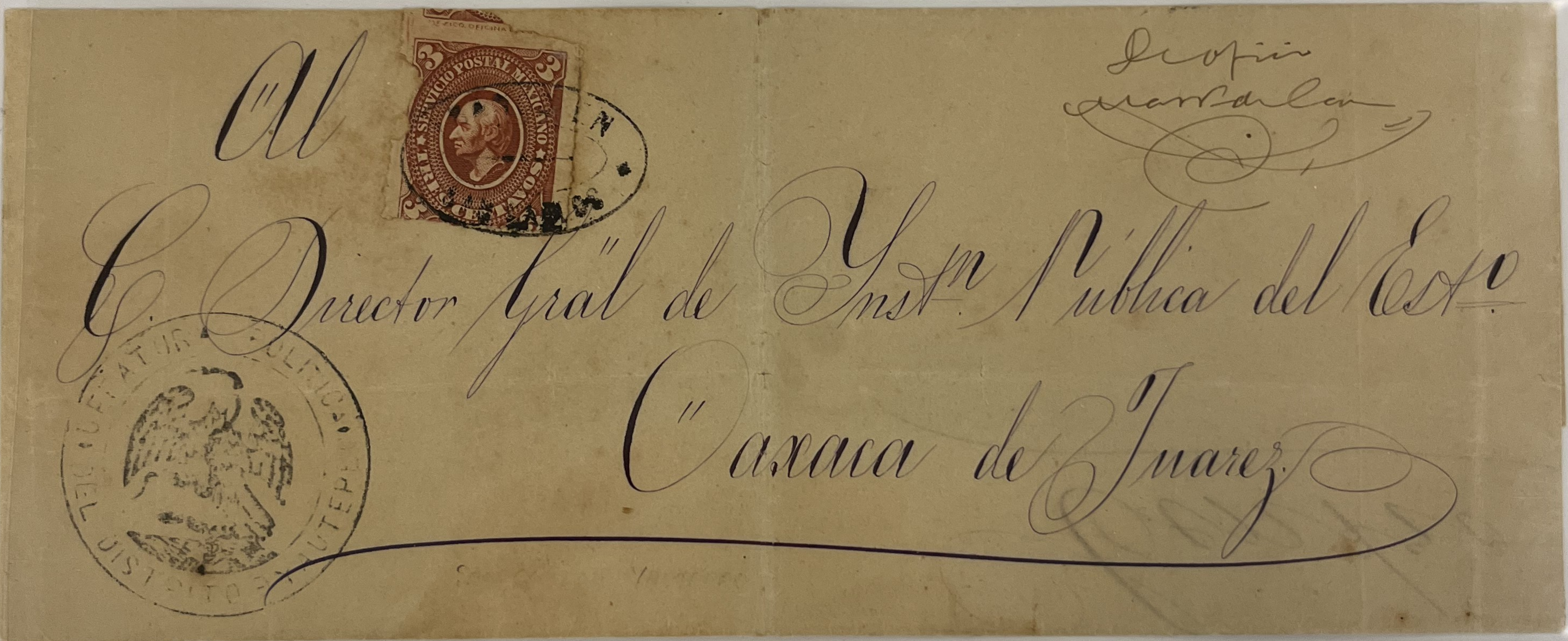
Largest 2c Red Combination



Veracruz to Mérida Dated January 25, 1886. Transit was 8 days. Paid 10c domestic rate for 15 grams. Maritime mail via the ship "El Tabasqueño", It is the largest and unique combination of 2c red on cover.

s it was for a government discounted rate.

Official 3c Government Rate



Yautepec to Oaxaca Dated 1886. Paid 3c government rate for 15 grams. Snet by the Chief of the local government of the Yautepec district to the Public Education Director of Oaxaca State. This solo use is very rarely found on cover.

Very few solo uses of this stamp are known as it was for a government discounted rate. This stamp was also used

★ 5c AR Service on Back of the Form #276



St. Hartung Kern 196

UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL

(E. NUM. 276)

Recibí hoy una pieza certificada que me fué dirigida por.....

Amey Cal
de 188

El suscrito declara que en voz chargé, d son adresse, prove- nant de M. *St. Hartung Kern*

Administrador
Pobos de Mexico

Director de la oficina
(Admision de recibos)

Stamp: **REGISTERED**
DEC 20 1886
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Le destinataire
lui a été remis aujourd'hui par le bureau de posta.

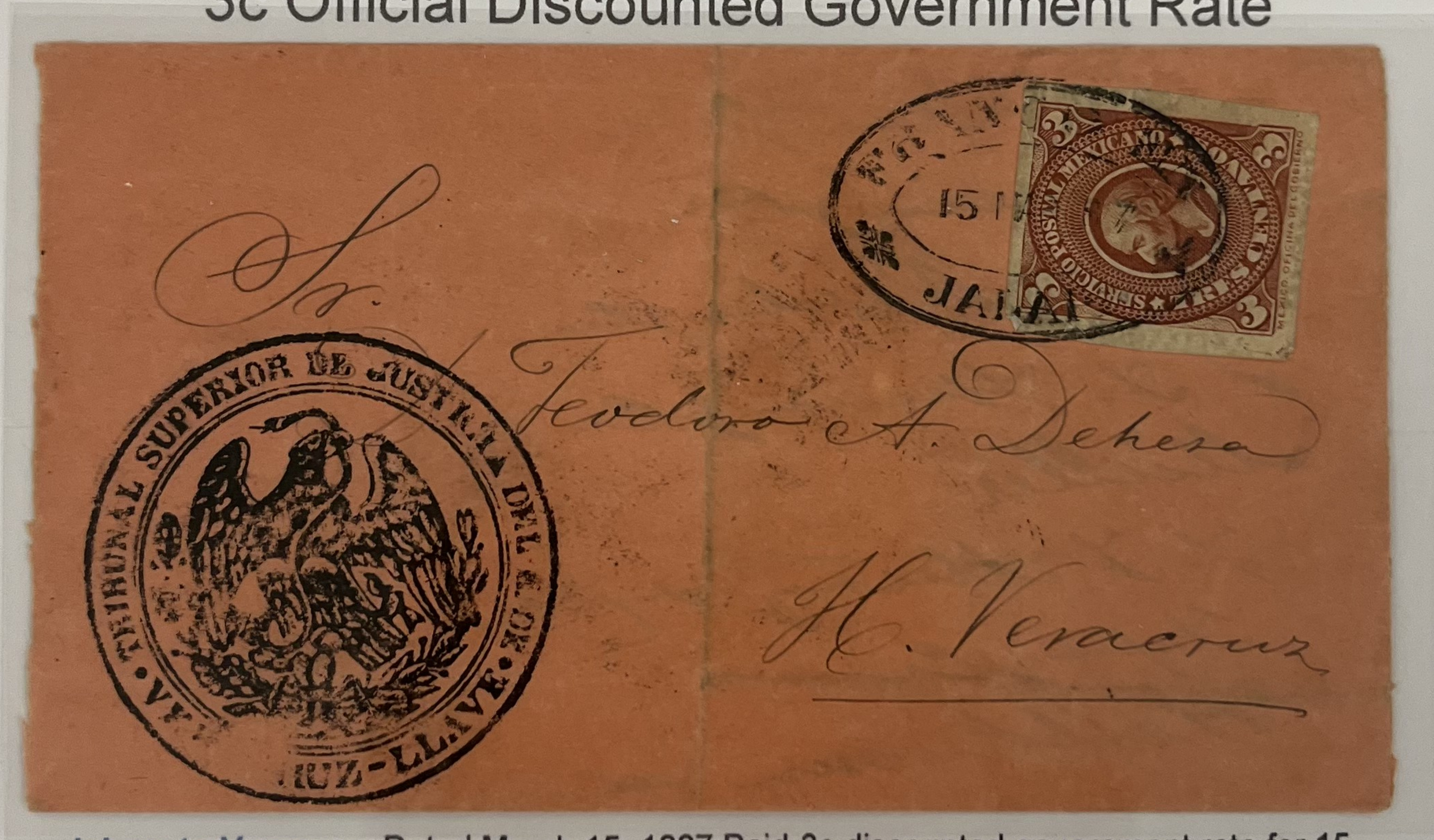
Ce récépissé doit être renvoyé au Bureau de Postes de par le premier courrier.

to make up other rates

Colored Issue 1885
3 Cents Orange Brown

- Official domestic rate 15 grams
- USA postal cards 1885
- International postal cards

3c Official Discounted Government Rate

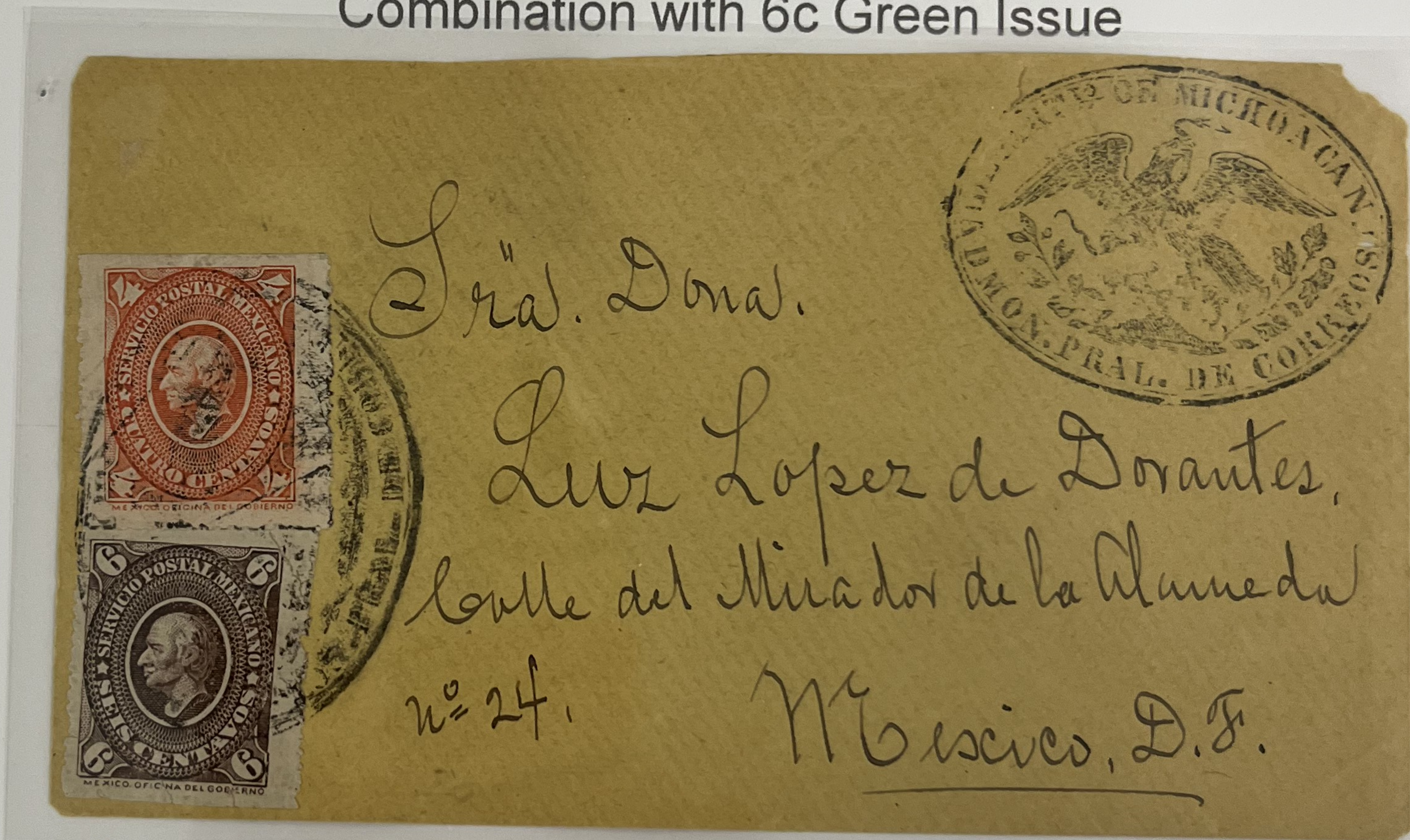


Jalapa to Veracruz Dated March 15, 1887 Paid 3c discounted government rate for 15 grams, instead of the regular domestic rate of 10c. Sent by the Veracruz Superior Court to a private individual.

Very few covers are known with this stamp, because the rate it paid was seldom used. Some covers exist with the rate with others. All are rare



Combination with 6c Green Issue



Morelia to Mexico City Paid 10c domestic rate for 15 grams. The eagle cancel from the Michoacan Principal Post Office is very scarce. Although both the Green and the Colored issues were simultaneously valid, combinations of different issues on cover are very rare.

this stamp making up

Colored Issue 1885
4 Cents Red Orange

- Local city 15 grams
- 2nd Class publications per 400 gr



Consular Mail



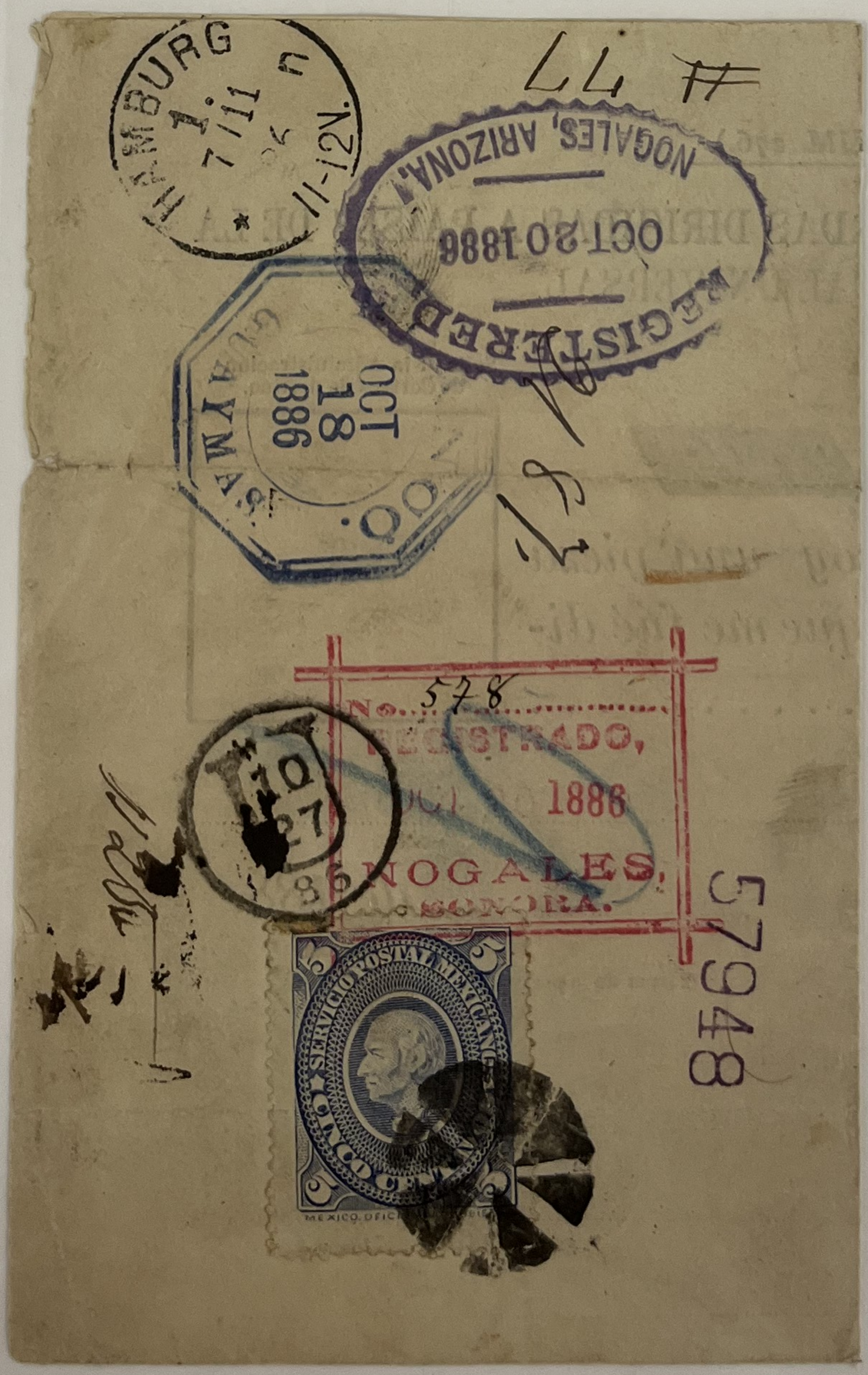
Tepic to Mexico Addressed to the French Consul in Mexico City. Paid 10c domestic rate for 15 grams. The combination of 6c Green (1884) and 4c Orange (1885) is very uncommon, although both the Green and the Colored issues were simultaneously valid.

The rate to USA was 6 cents in 1884-1885, but it went down to 5c in the second part of 1885 probably adjustment. It kept at that level for a long time. The 5c blue stamp is not common on cover.

Mazatlán 10c Domestic Rate



Mazatlán to Parras Paid 10c domestic rate for 15 grams.



Mazatlán 5c AR Service Pasted on Back of Form 276

Mazatlán to Hamburg Receipt (form 276) for an international registered letter dated October 16, 1888. Transit was 23 days via Guaymas (Oct 18), Nogales (Oct 20), New York (Oct 27) and Hamburg (Nov 7). The letter paid 5c additionally to the franking for AR service (Return receipt). The stamp paying that service was pasted on back. A very rare item.

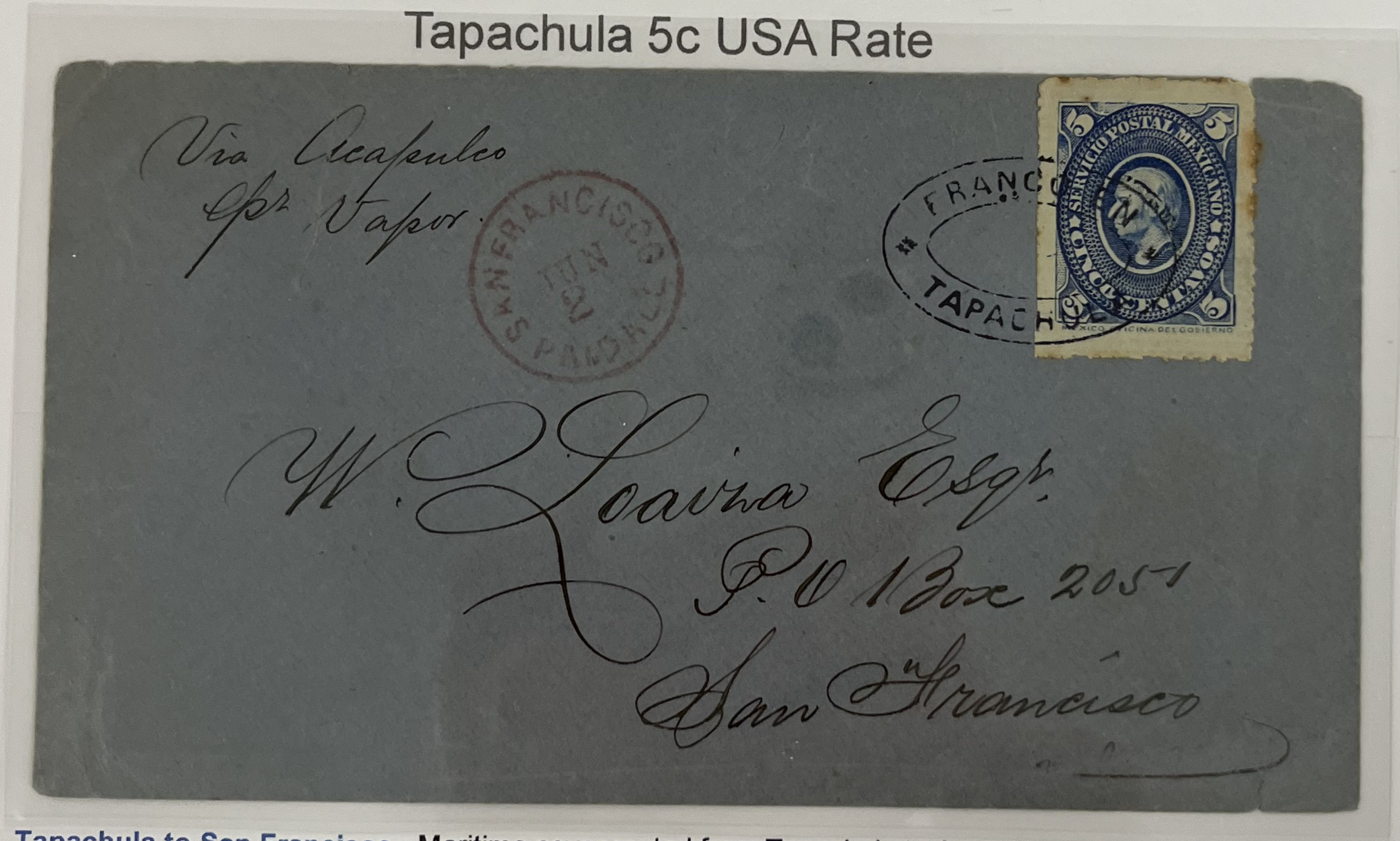
as a result of an exchange rate

Colored Issue 1885
5 Cents Ultramarine

- Domestic postal card (1884-1894)
- USA rate for 15 gr (1885-1895)
- AR Return receipt fee

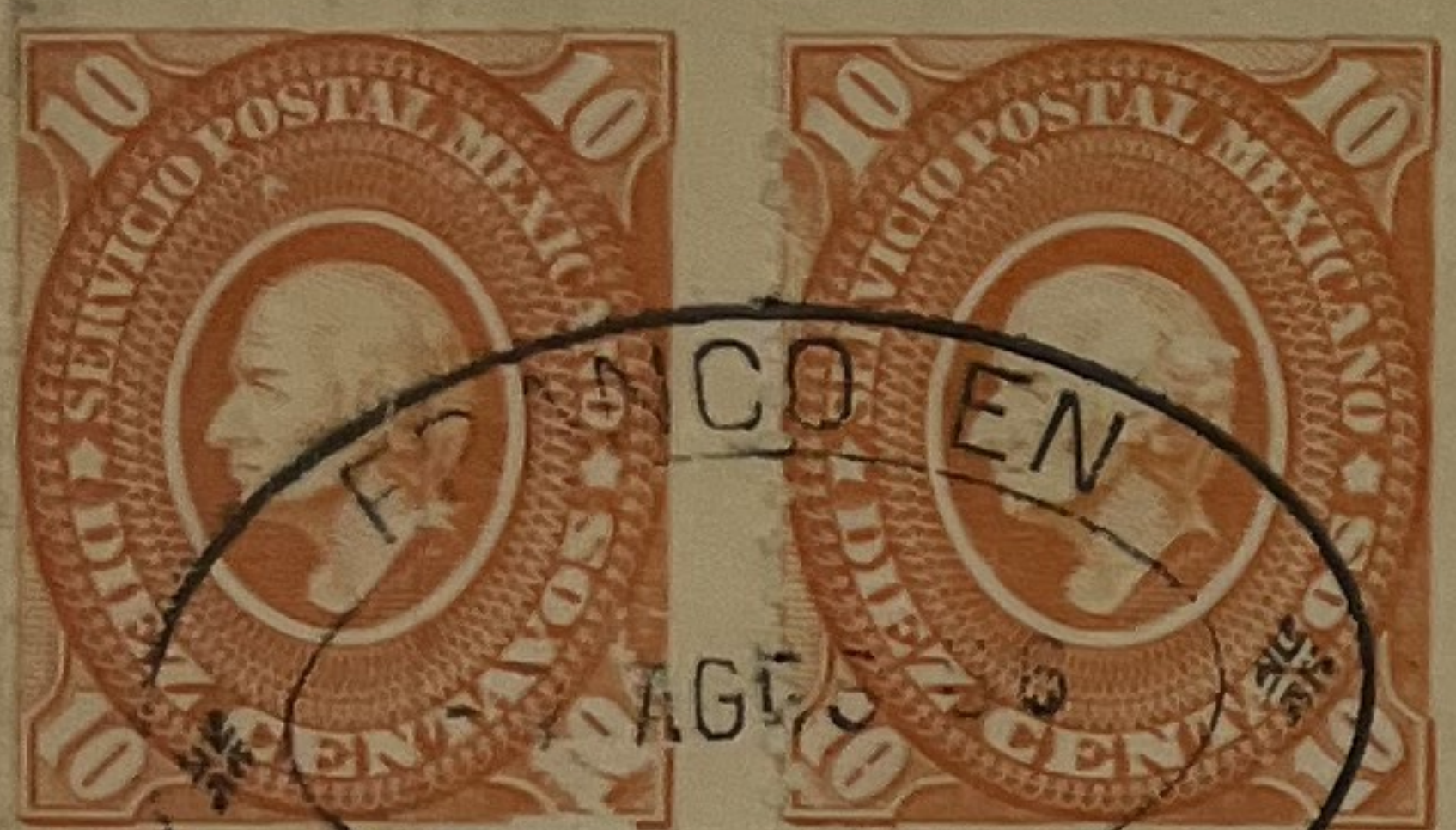


Maritime to San Francisco
Tapachula 5c USA Rate



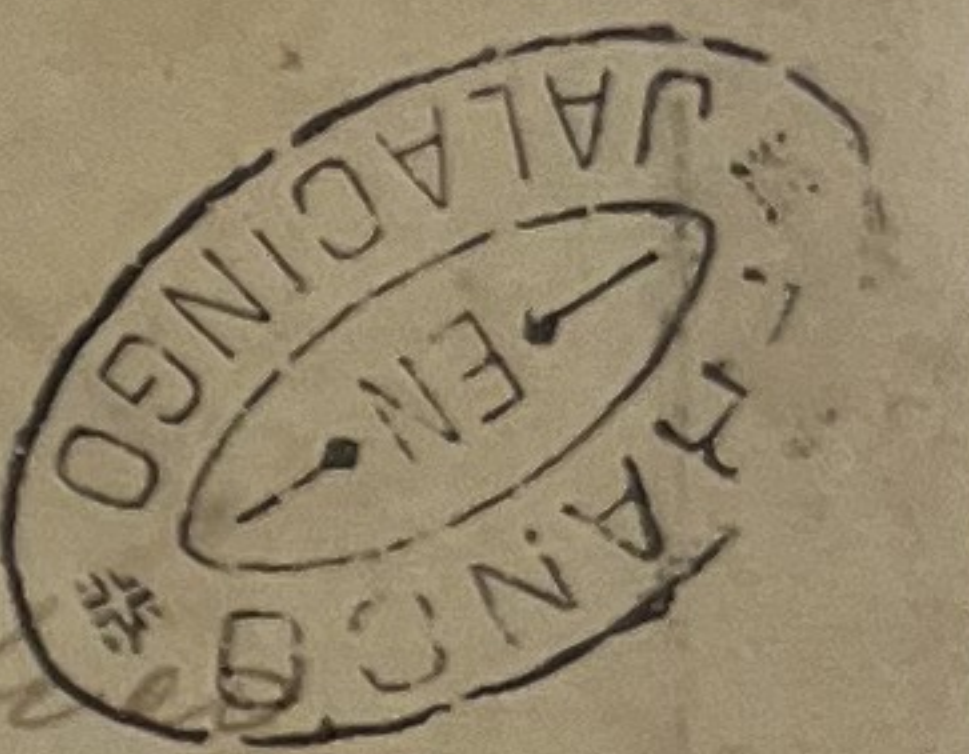
Tapachula to San Francisco Maritime cover routed from Tapachula to Acapulco arriving in San Francisco, CA on June 2. Paid 5c USA rate for 15 grams. This small town in Chiapas had very little mail. This cancel is almost unique in this issue.

1884 to 1885. Very few covers are known with this rate. The very few covers with this



N.º 68

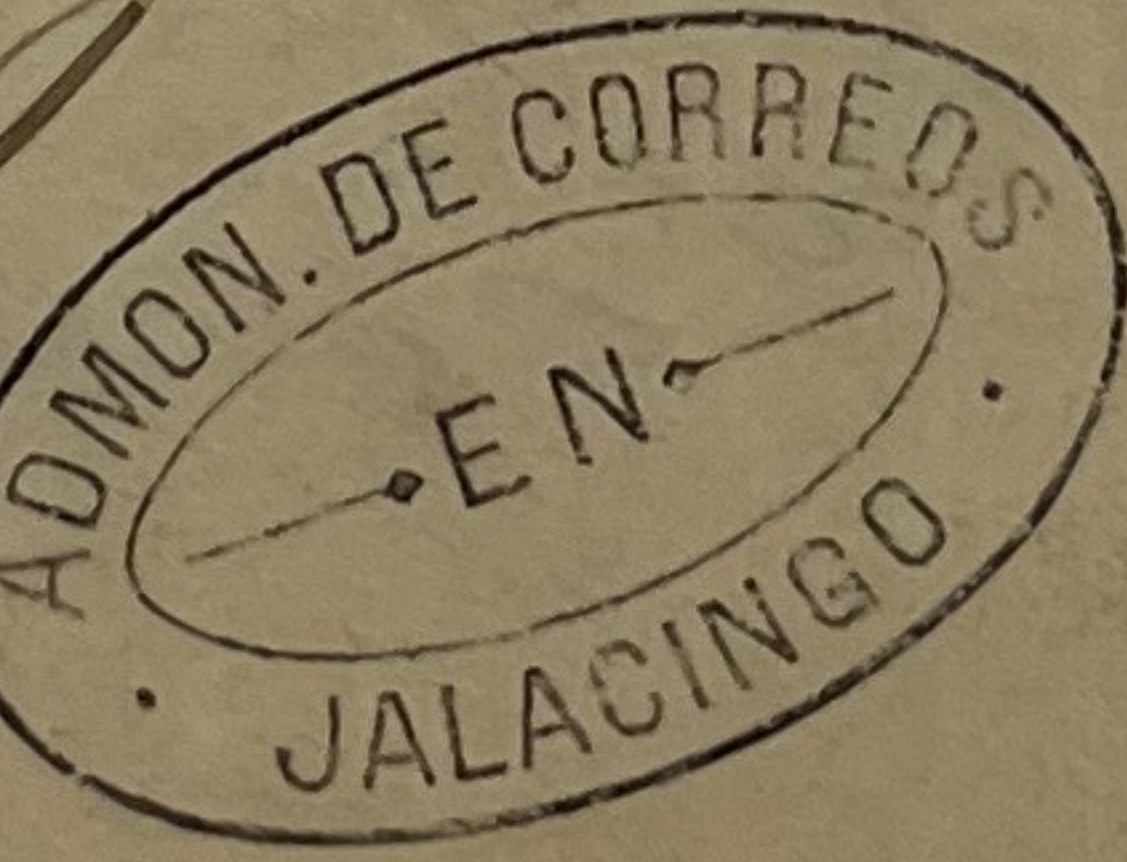
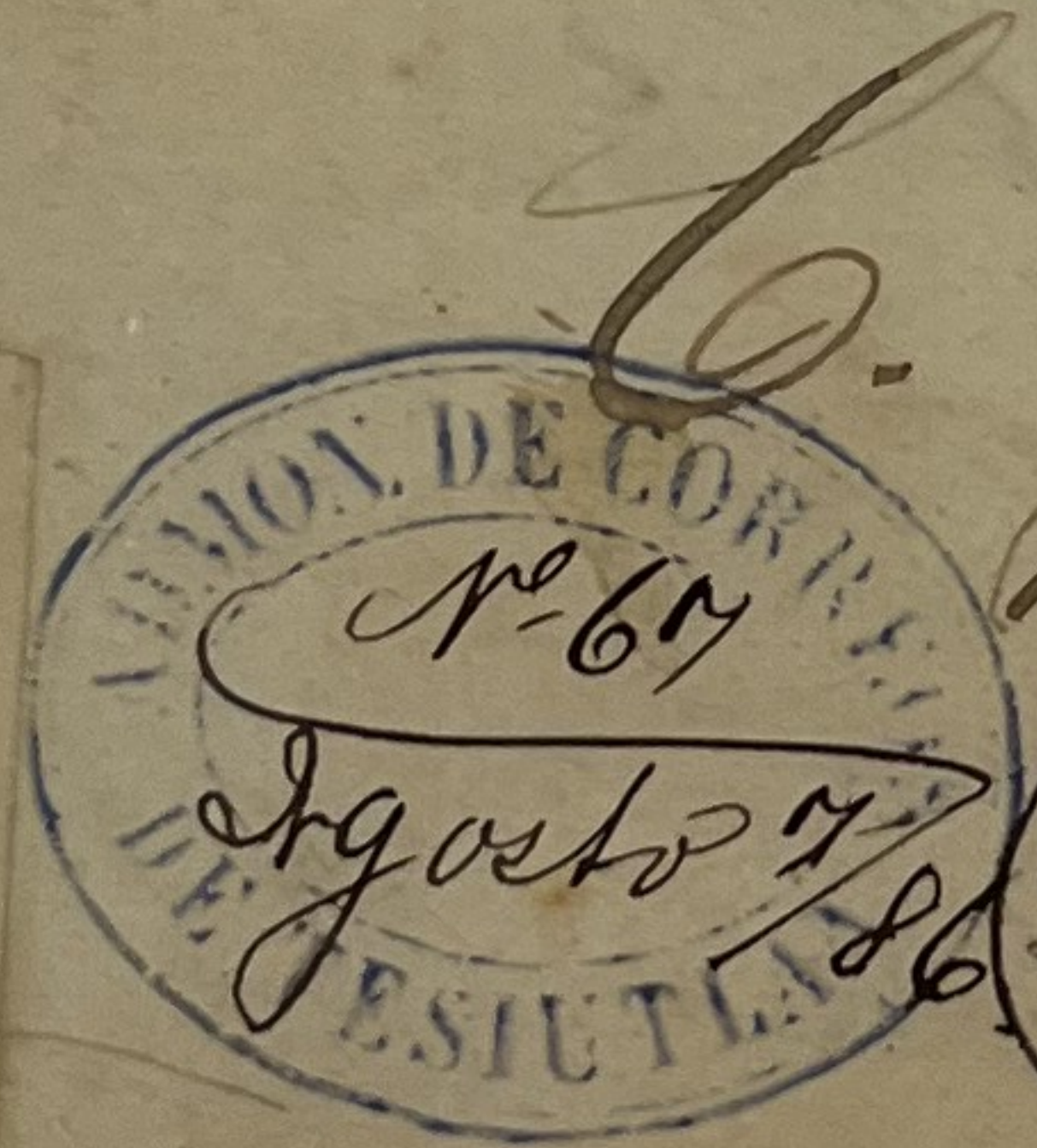
Criminal dep. Locertif



Certificado

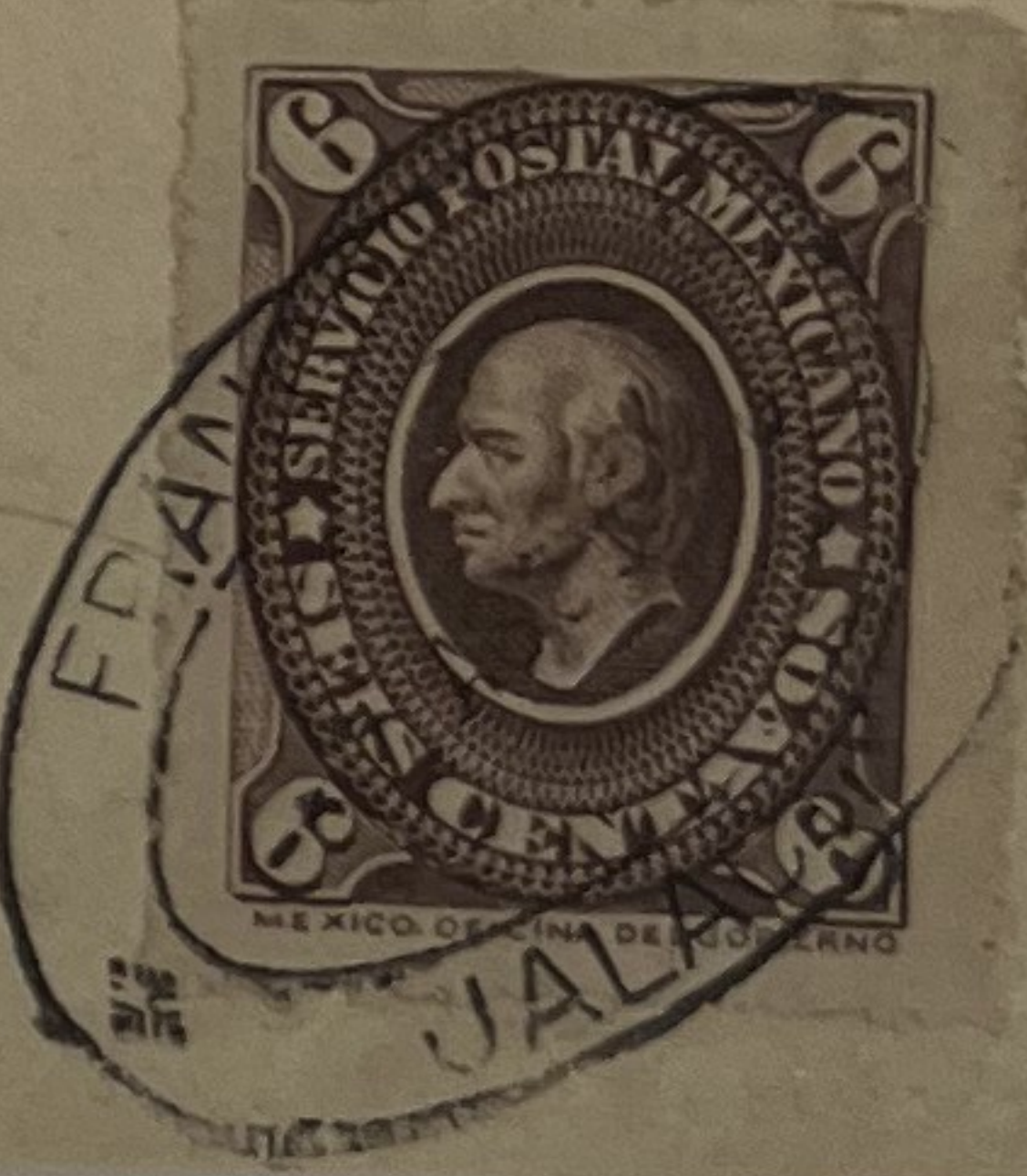
CERTIFICADO EN JALACINGO
SALE EN 7 DE Agosto DE 1886.

Sanchez
Hijos



C. Juan P. de San

Flapacoyam.



Although the 10c stamps saw a lot of use for many common rates, the 10c Red Orange was used very little. Most Green Issue.

Very Early Advertising Cover

Chihuahua to Paris
Dated May 14, 1886.
Transit was 17 days via New York, Paid 10c international rate for 15 grams. Advertising covers before 1900 are very rare.



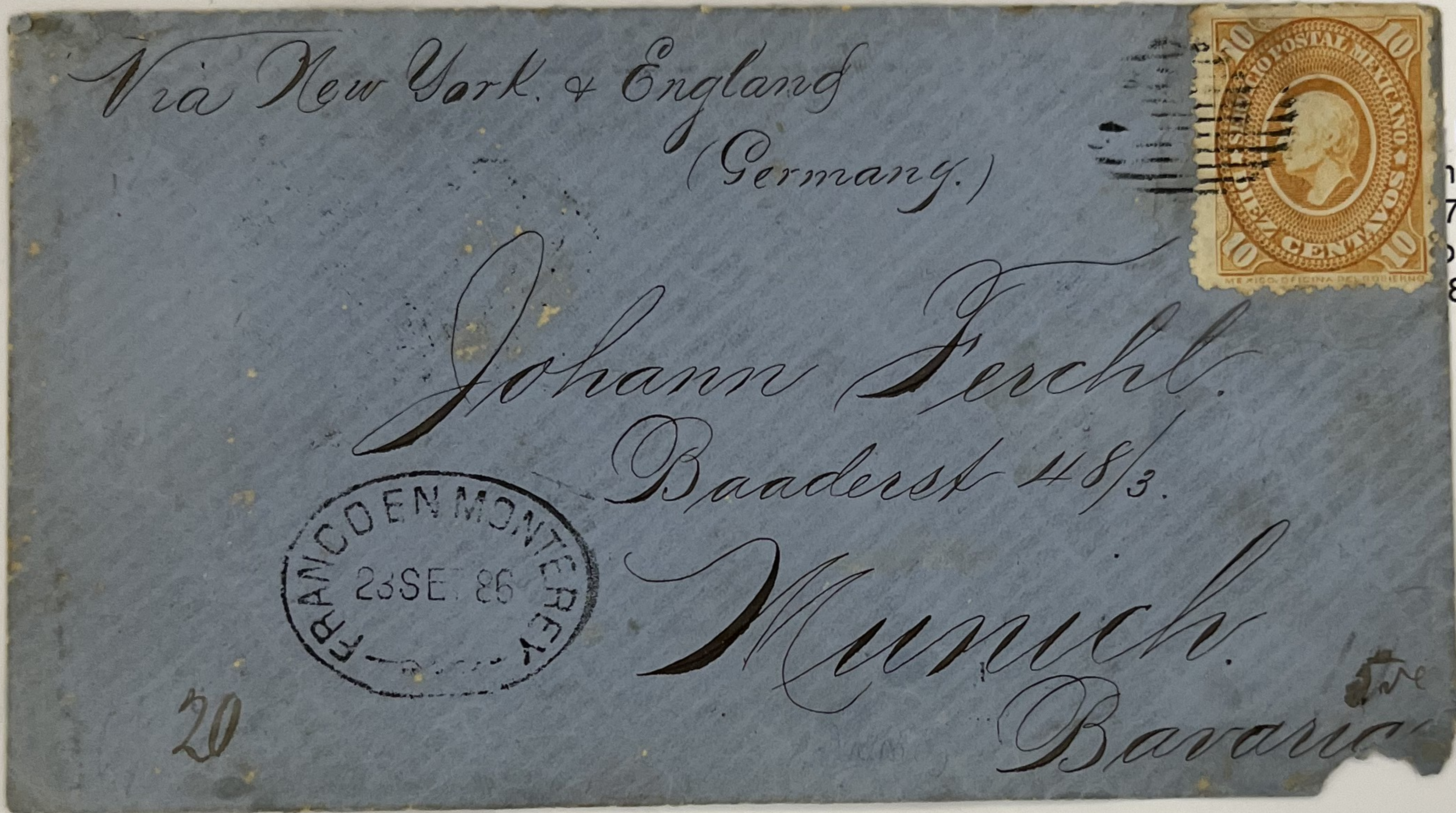
FRASER & CHALMERS
AND No 11 Calle de Juarez.
CHIHUAHUA CITY, MEXICO.

Monsieur Paul Mirabaud
29 Rue Taitbout
Paris

10c on cover are of the

Colored Issue 1885
10 Cents Orange

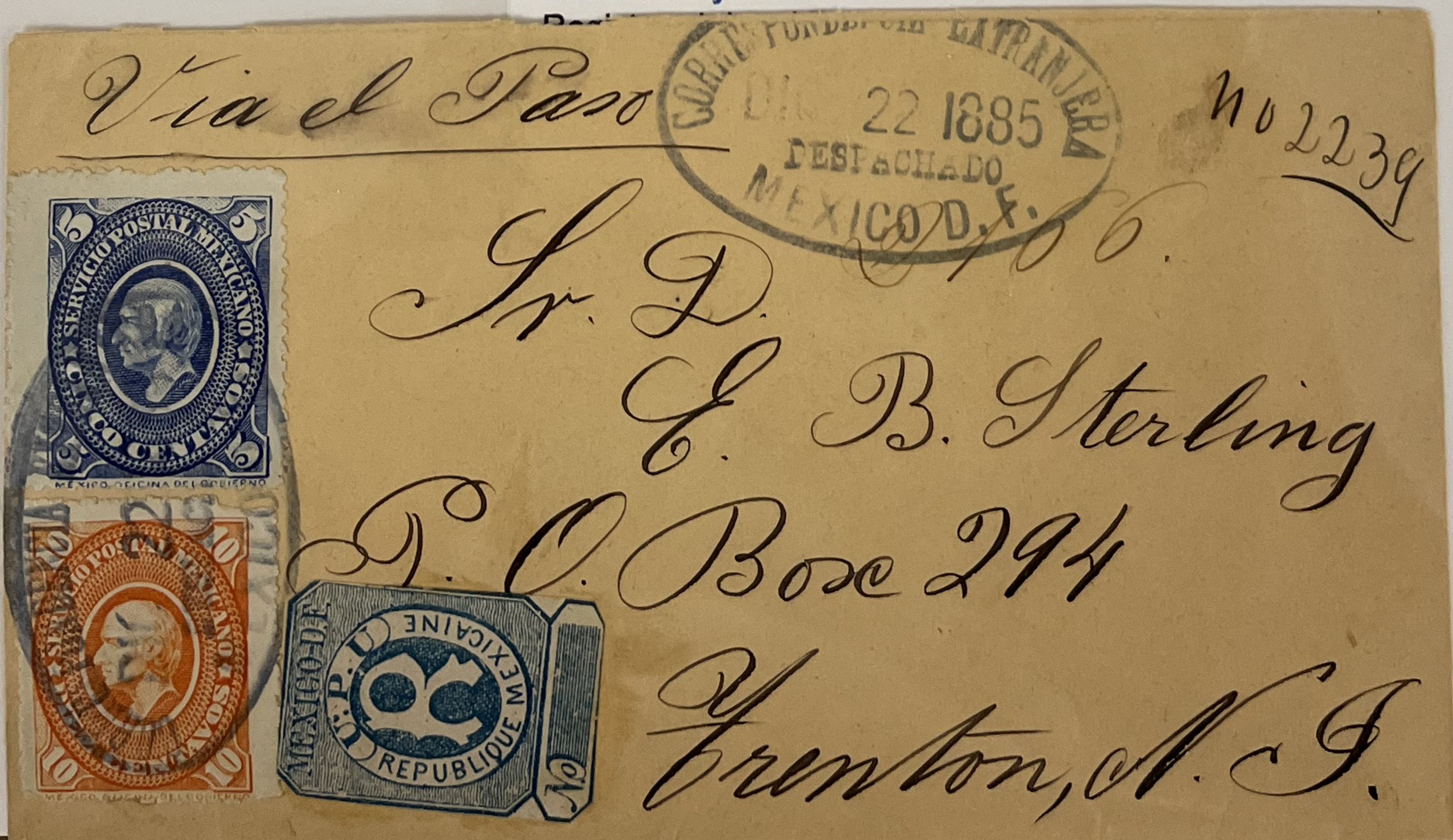
- Domestic rate 15 grams
- International non-USA rate 15 gr (1886-1895)
- International registration flat fee (1886-1895)



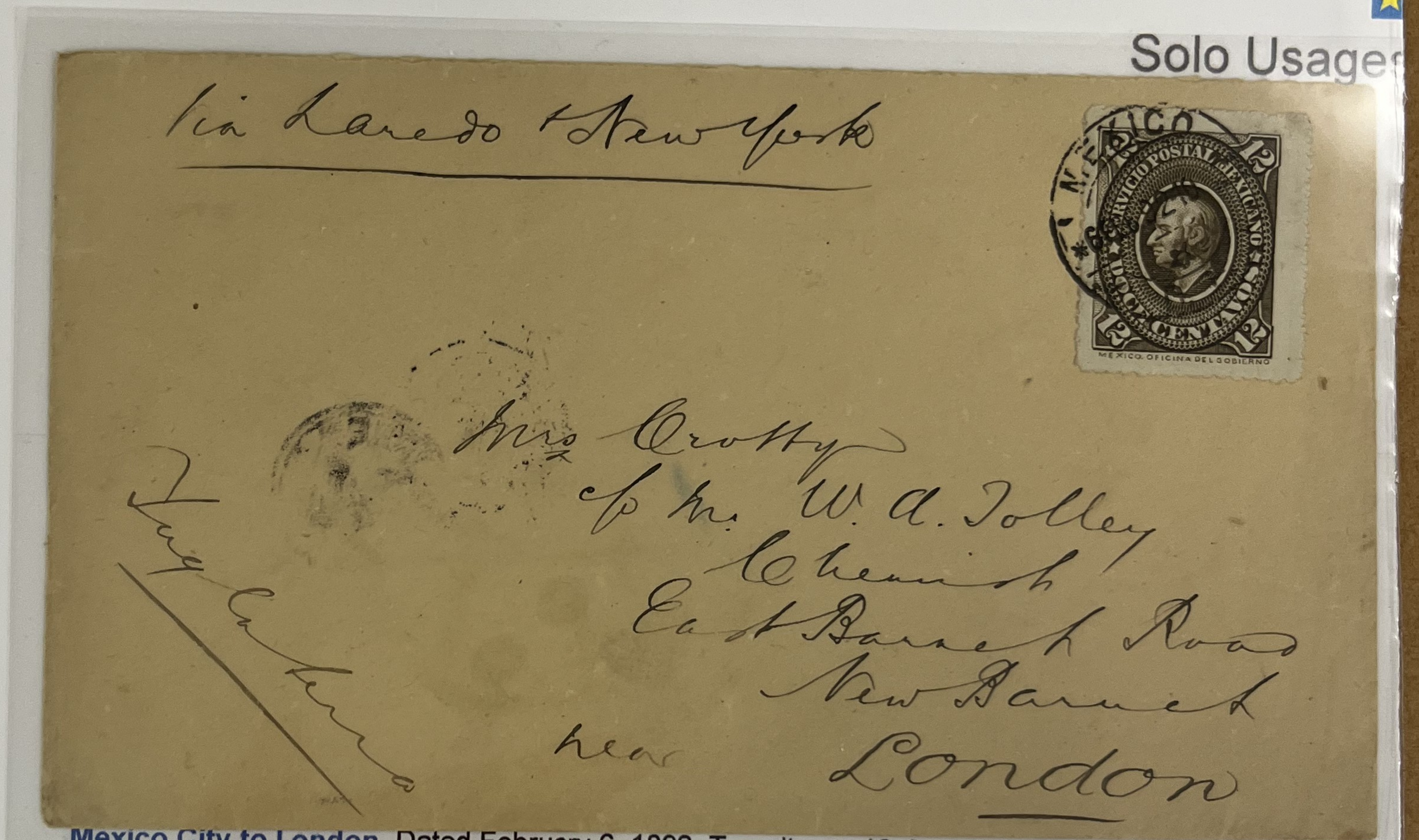
Munich
September 23, 1886.
7 days via El
New York
(8) and GB.

Registered Cover
to USA

Mexico City to Trenton



The 12c rate for international letters or for USA registration were in place only from 1884 to 1885. Very few covers at these rates. All covers are rare



Mexico City to London Dated February 6, 1892. Transit was 16 days via Laredo, New York and New Barnet (February 22). Paid 12c: 10c international rate for 15 grams + 2c overpayment. The likely reason for the overpayment was that the sender was not aware of the reduction in this rate in 1886.

covers are known with

Colored Issue 1885
12 Cents Olive Brown

- International Non-USA rate 15gr (1884-1885)
- USA registration fee (1884-1885)

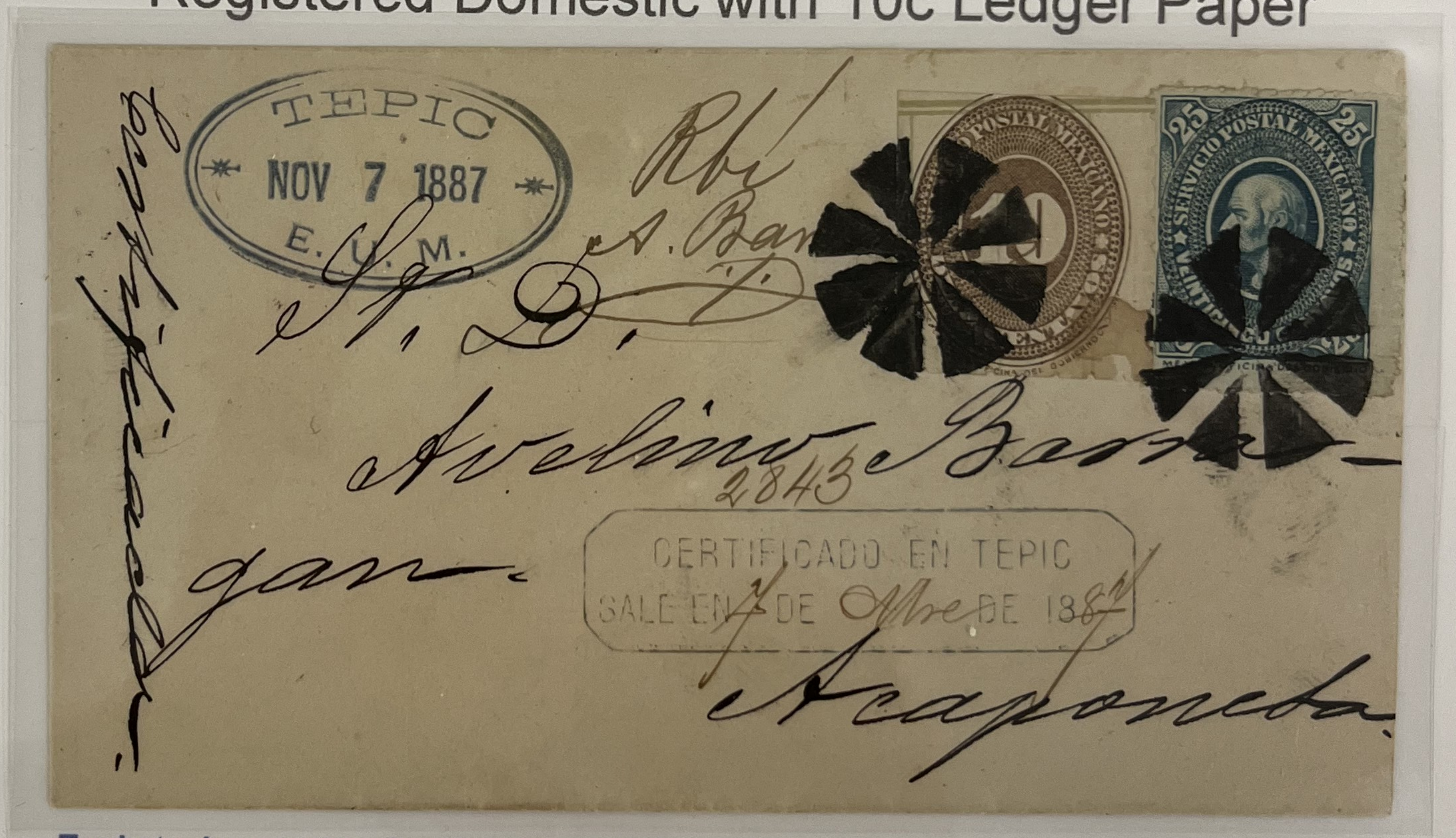
to London



Mexico City to London Undated cover from the same correspondence from Mexico City to London. Transit via New York and New Barnet (June 17, 1892). Paid 12c: 10c international rate for 15 grams + 2c overpayment. The likely reason for the overpayment was that the sender was not aware of the reduction in this rate in 1886.

The 25c stamp was printed in both the Green and the Colored Issues. It is very scarce on cover

Registered Domestic with 10c Ledger Paper



Tepic to Acaponeta Registered dated November 7, 1887. Paid 35c: 25c domestic rate for 15 grams + 25c domestic registration flat fee. The 10c is from the very scarce ledger color lines paper.

Colored Issue 1885
25 Cents Greenish Blue

- Domestic registration flat fee (1884-1895)
- Overseas Non-USA registered with AR service for 15 grams

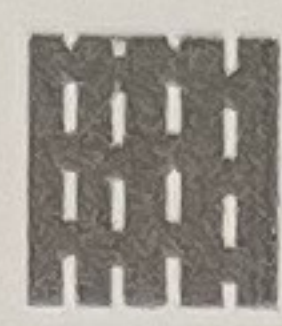
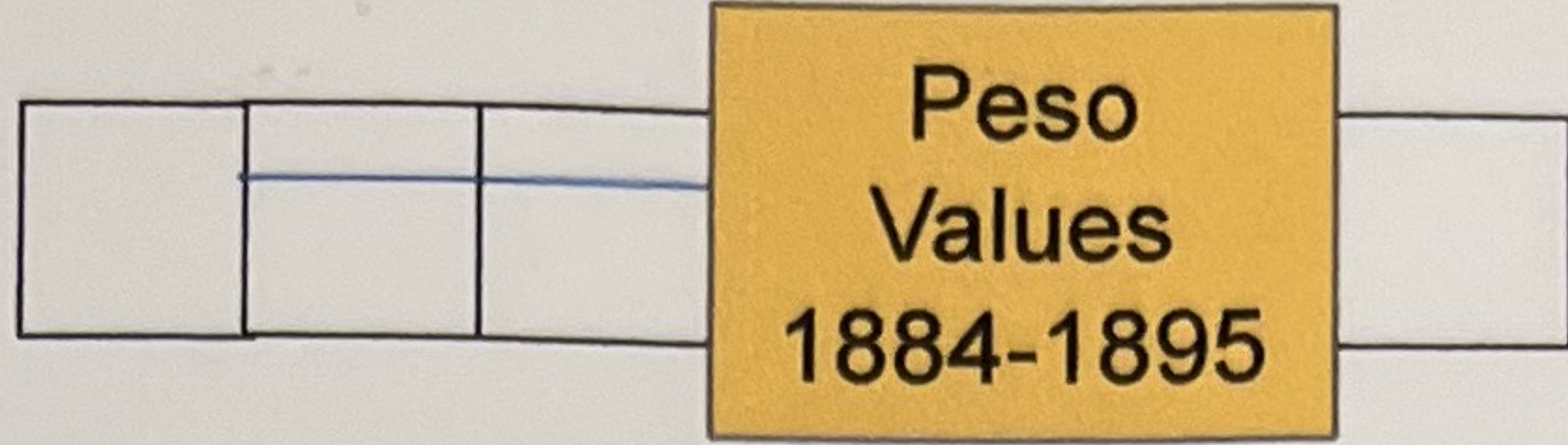


Solo Usage: Quintuple Rate



Mexico City to San Antonio, TX Government cover dated April 15, 1887. Transit was 4 days via El Paso (April 18) and San Antonio (April 19). Paid 25c 5x USA rate for 75 grams, The only solo usage known of the 25c Blue Green

ed paper. The 1 and 2 Pesos
fronts exist of the Peso



1884-1895
Unwatermarked
Blue



1 Peso

2 Pesos

5 Pesos

5 Pesos
Used

10 Pesos



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
R NEW YORK, N. Y.
 No. 97330
 EXCHANGE



Mexi
24, 1
and C
intern
for 1
stam

Certain federal business were free franked and required no stamps. This was obvious in case the sender was a known authority, like the President. To regulate the privilege from less obvious entities, from 1884 and until 1895 the post office issued stamps for official use of certain government entities. These labels had no denomination and changed colors at unequal periods of 1-2 years. They are plentiful as singles or unused but very scarce on covers. 50-60 covers or front are known, but less than 10 are registered.

Porfirio Diaz Presidential Free Franking



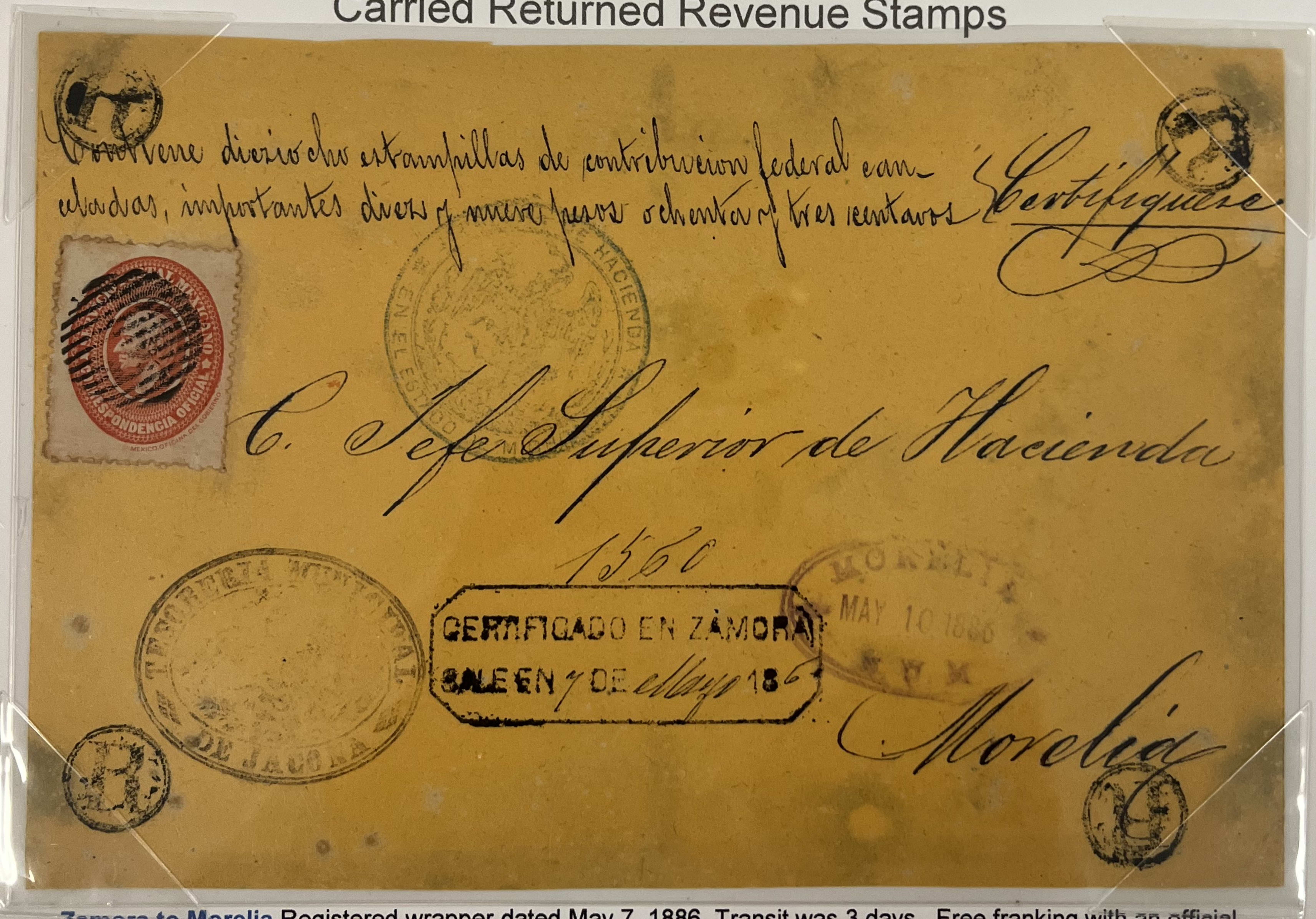
Mexico City local mail From the personal stationary of General Porfirio Diaz, the long time president of Mexico. This was free franking because he was the head of the federal government.

Official Free Franking Labels

Official
Labels
1884-1895



Registered Official 1886
Carried Returned Revenue Stamps



Zamora to Morelia Registered wrapper dated May 7, 1886. Transit was 3 days. Free franking with an official scarlet label. It was sent by the Jacona Treasury to the head of Finance of the state of Morelia. It contained the return of \$19.83 in federal contribution revenue stamps. It was a free franking because the stamps inside were federal taxes.