

POSTAGE STAMPS SURCHARGED



1/8c Green Newspaper
Issued 1886



50 Mil. Bistre
Issued 1887



1c Gray-Green
Issued 1888



2c Carmine
Issued 1880



2 1/2c Brown
Issued 1880



2 4/8c Ultramarine
Original Issue
Issued 1882



2 4/8c Ultramarine
1st Retouch
Issued 1883



2 4/8c Ultramarine
2nd Retouch
Issued 1886



5c Gray
Issued 1882



8c Yellow Brown
Issued 1880



10c Green
Issued 1880



20c Bistre Brown
Issued 1882

When postal authorities concluded surcharging was the only means available to meet the demands of the public, they determined it would be necessary to utilize available stamps regardless of the previously intended usage of the stamp. As a result, postage, revenue and telegraph stamps were surcharged for use as postage and for prepayment of cables.

Eleven different postage stamps and one newspaper stamp from recent or current issues, were subsequently surcharged. Additionally, twelve revenue stamps and four telegraph stamps were pressed into duty.

The surcharge era stamps were provisional in nature. The Public Treasury Department issued ordinances under which surcharged values were created to tide the public until new supplies arrived. Each ordinance compelled the surcharging of particular stamps with specified values in pre-determined colors. When the supply created proved inadequate, additional ordinances were promulgated. Stamps on hand would again be surcharged. This often included recent shipments which had arrived from Spain in denominations inadequate to fill the needs of the public.