

TYPE I OVERPRINT ON COVER



Lingayen to Manila, March 27, 1882. Interior Mail.

One Real (or 12½ centavos) significantly overpaying the internal single weight rate of 2½c. The overpayment is likely a function of the stamp shortage which required surcharging, and is therefore, a “necessity franking.”



Manila to Ronda, Spain, May 19, 1881.

Correctly paying the 12½c single weight rate to Spain, up to ½ oz.

*Six Covers Recorded*

The postal rates during the surcharge period were not complex. The Interior rate was 2½ centavos per half ounce. The Interior Circular rate was 2 or 2½ centavos, used interchangeably. The outbound rate to overseas destinations was 8 centavos per half ounce. The outbound rate to Spain and Spanish Colonies was 12½ centavos per half ounce. The registered mail rate for both interior mail and mail posted to Spain or its colonies was 15 centavos. And the registered mail rate for all other outbound countries was 8 centavos.

As a result of the stamp shortage which necessitated the surcharging in the first instance, it was as much the rule as the exception for mail to be overpaid, owing to a lack of availability of denominations to correctly pay the postage rate. Thus, mail posted at a somewhat elevated rate was done so out of “convenience”, while mail posted in an amount much higher than the listed rate was done so out of “necessity.”