

TYPE 3 SURCHARGE ON COVER

Interior mail, circa 1882, to San Jose, Antique. Colonial Parilla cancel. 4c double weight interior rate, 1/2-1 oz. (Technically underpaid 1c) (APS Cert.)



Manila circulating,
August 24, 1882
Inverted Surcharge
(both stamps in pair)
4c double weight interior
rate, 1/2-1 oz.
(Technically underpaid 1c)

Two examples of the rate conflict which existed in the Philippines during this period. From 1880 to 1898, stamps were issued with the 2 centavos, 2 1/2 centavos and 2 4/8 centavos values. No official explanation has been found for issuing stamps with identical values (2 1/2c and 2 4/8c) stated in two different ways. The interior rate prior to 1890 was 2 1/2 centavos or 2 4/8 centavos. However, the 2 centavos stamps would have served no true purpose then, other than for "make-up" rates. As such, the 2 centavos stamps were used interchangeably with the 2 1/2 centavos stamps, and indeed, were sold for and used as 2 1/2c stamps to pay the interior rate. While this practice resulted in a loss of revenue for the government, it was tolerated during the provisional period. In light of the fact so many covers were overpaid, either out of "convenience" or "necessity," in the end there was a greater profit offsetting this small loss.