

III. PERIOD

Now we come to another series of Duplex cancels, cut in steel, which were in use between the middle of 1888 and the middle of 1895, i.e. a rather long period of 7 years. These dated cancels consist of a double lined circle, the inner circle being much thinner, of a total \varnothing of about 33 to 35 mm. In the upper half we read the words CORREOS DE NICARAGUA and in the lower half the name of the town. The inner part of the circle is separated horizontally in the middle by a kind of "bridge" with the date (abbreviated month, day and complete year) with mostly at each side a little star. From the bridge a small decoration in form of 3 lines and two small rings goes to the upper part and the same decoration inverted is going to the lower part of the circle.

This dated cancel is accompanied by a Duplex consisting of a thin circle of about 18 to 20 mm in \varnothing . The Duplex is placed about 2 mm to the right of the date-stamp and has in its middle horizontally the name of the town. These names exist in antiqua and in straight line letters. (see figure 1 and 2)



fig. 1



fig. 2

These stampers must have been made in a way that both the dated and the Duplex stamp could be used together or separated. The use of these combined cancels was quite indifferent and probably to the personal and momentaneous "gusto" of each postmaster or postal employee, as all forms of usage can be found during the same period.

These Duplex cancels were applied in various colours, such as black, blue, red, violet and even in green.

There must be mentioned a Duplex - cancel from the little town Momotombo where the year 1894 is replaced by the letters REC^o (RECIBIDO). This cancelling device was probably ment as an arrival mark for telegrams and used on covers by error. (see fig. 3)

A regular TELEGRAPH cancel from MOMOTOMBO was used by error on covers as early as in May 1889. (see fig. 4)



fig. 3



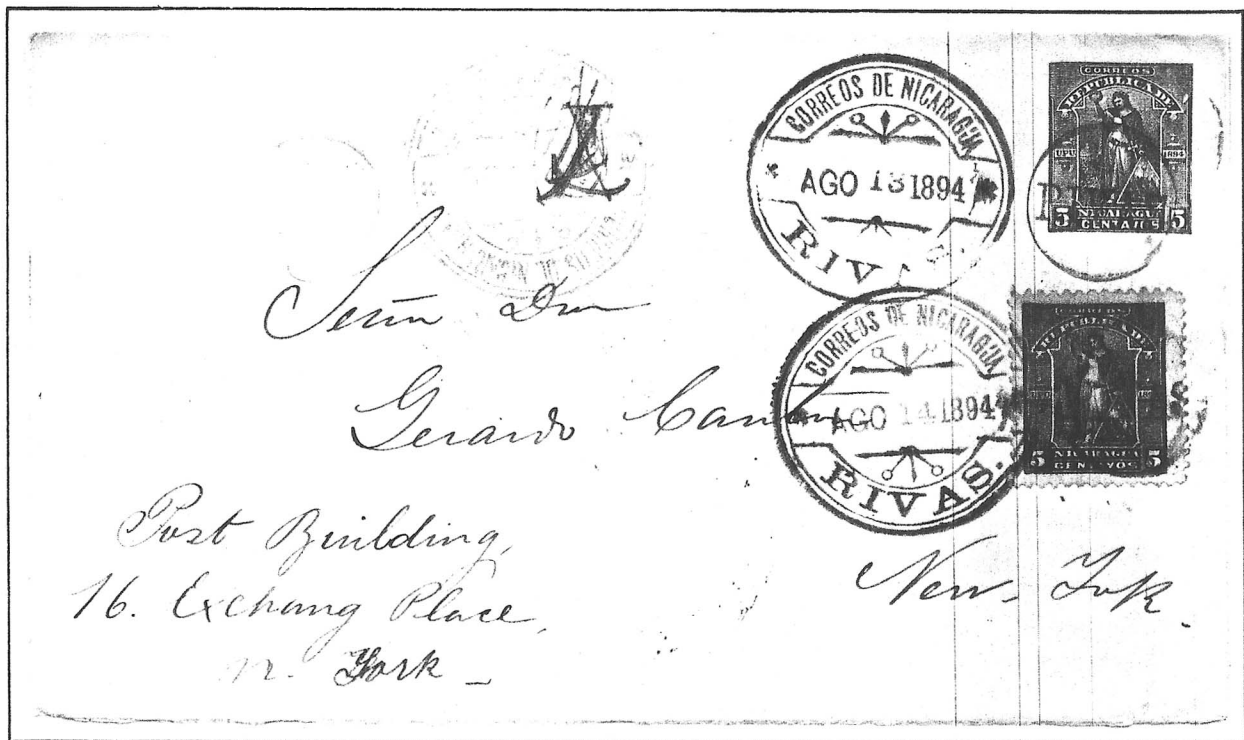
fig. 4

N I C A R A G U A

Fifth "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1894

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from Rivas to New York



Cancelled Rivas August 13, 1894

Cancelled Rivas August 14, 1894

Cancelled Rivas August 15, 1894

Transit postmark S.Juan del Sur August 15, 1894

Transit postmark S.Juan del Sur August 30, 1894

Arrival postmark New York September 12, 1894

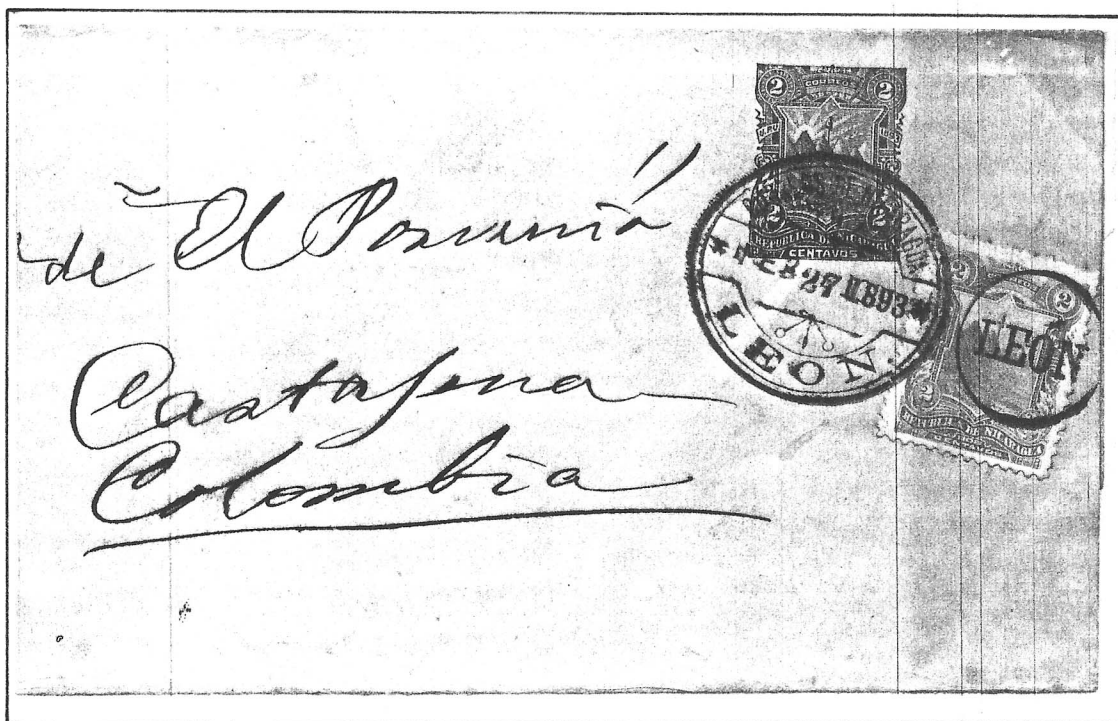
DUPLEX type 1. "antiqua"

N I C A R A G U A

Fourth "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1893

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

WRAPPER from Leon to Cartagena, Colombia



Cancelled Leon February 27, 1893

DUPLEX type 1. "antiqua"

N I C A R A G U A

Second "Seebeck" issue, lithographed, 1891

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from Leon to Santa Ana, Rep. del Salvador



Cancelled Leon April 24, 1891
Transit postmark Corinto April 24, 1891
Transit postmark Sonsonate April 29, 1891



DUPLEX type 2. "stright line"

N I C A R A G U A

Postcard, 1888

Postcard from Managua to Masaya



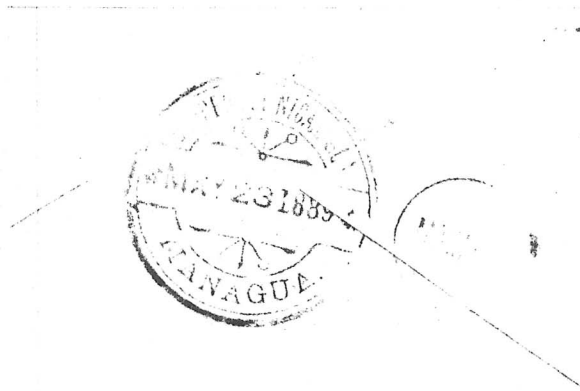
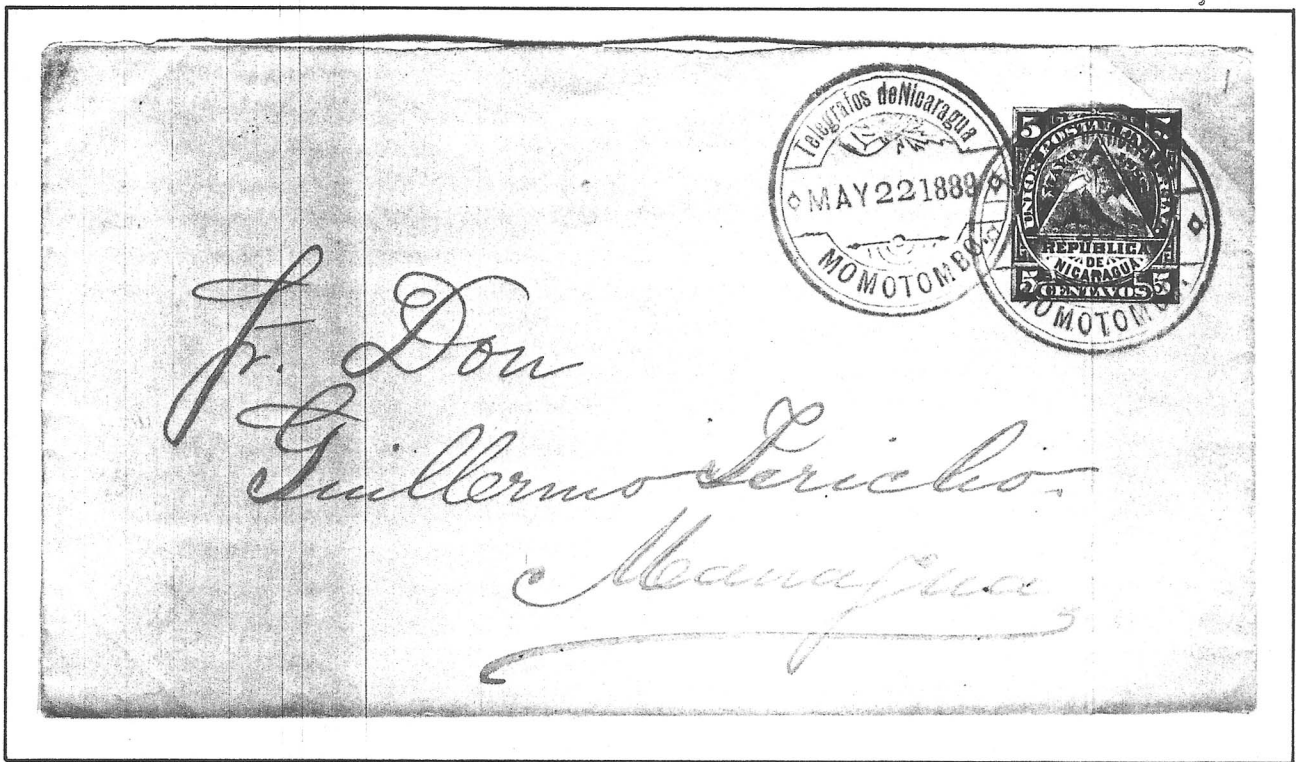
Cancelled Managua October 15, 1889
Arrival postmark Masaya Oct 15, 1889

DUPLEX type 1 and type 2 , both on one card

N I C A R A G U A

Envelope 1888

" TELEGRAPH " - cancel



A few words to the Duplex cancels SUR and NORTE which originally belonged to the cancels San Juan del Sur and San Juan del Norte. (Fig. 5 + 6). However, since about 1888 a separate Duplex circle of 16 to 17 mm in diameter with the word SUR appeared together with many other town cancels of this period, even together with the San Juan del Norte datestamp. (Fig.7). It was in use until about 1895. Covers with complete cancel from San Juan del SUR, i.e. date-cancel + duplex are very difficult to find. *



fig. 5



fig. 6



fig. 7



All Government documents regarding these Duplex cancels being lost, it is impossible to say what the original meaning of this SUR - Duplex was. Was it meant as a routing indication? May be, but it could have been only an "intention", as also on covers going north this SUR - Duplex is found very often. It was used also separate, i.e. without the dated town cancel. In San Juan del Norte the NORTE Duplex was used until much later as a separate and only cancel and in San Juan del Sur the SUR - Duplex was used in the same way as late as in 1903 and 1906.

SAN JUAN DEL NORTE

Together with the normal cancel of this period (fig. 6) this town had another dated cancel of the same form and with the same diameter but with changed "ornaments" and different letters (fig. 8).

It is not known to me if originally this cancel also had a NORTE - Duplex. According to E. Heinze this cancel existed in black and in blue. It must have been in use during a very short period only, as very few covers with this postmark still exist.

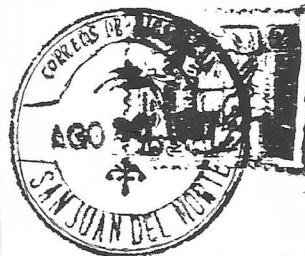


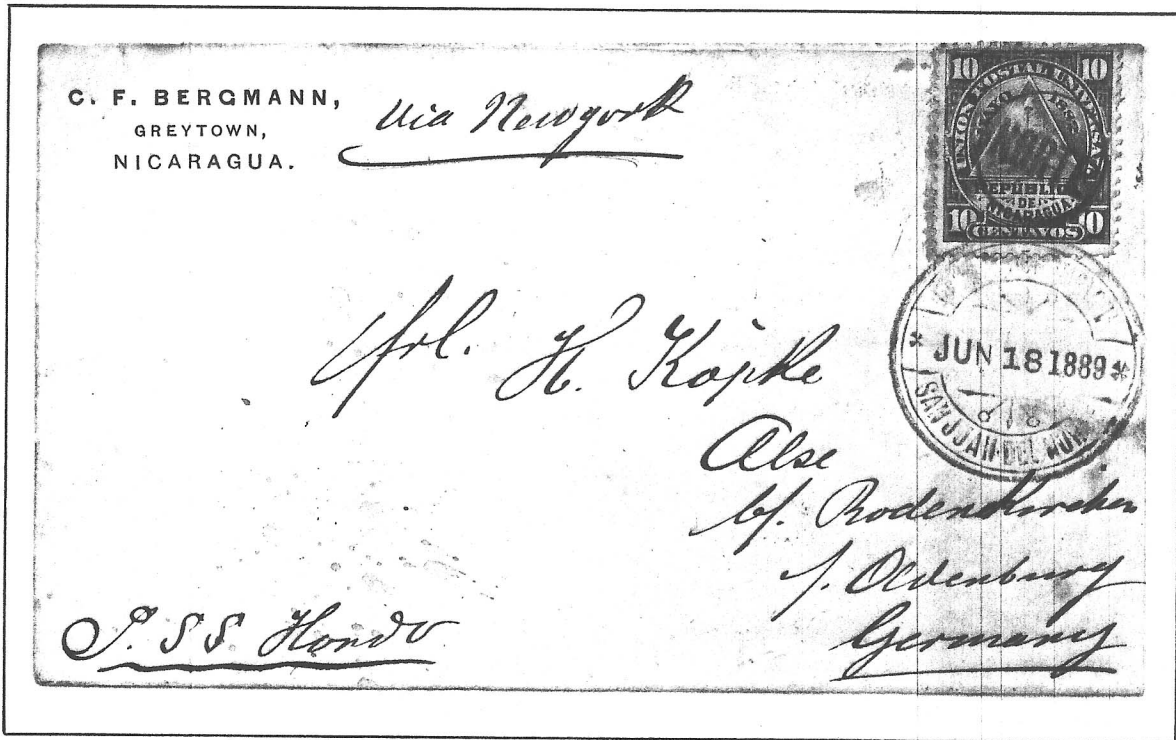
fig. 8

N I C A R A G U A

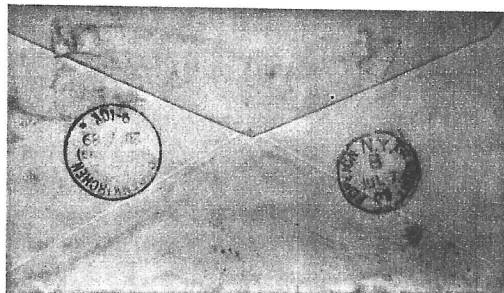
1 8 8 2

Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from San Juan del Norte to Bodenkirchen, Germany



Cancelled San Juan del Norte June 18, 1889
 Transit postmark New York July 7, 1889
 Arrival postmark Bodenkirchen July 20, 1889



N I C A R A G U A

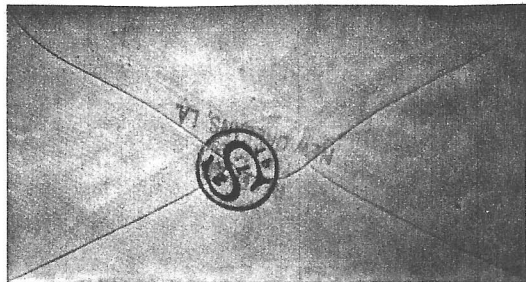
Second "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1891.

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from San Juan del Norte to New York, USA



Cancelled San Juan del Norte January 12, 1891
 Transit postmark New Orleans February 4, 1891
 Arrival postmark New York Feb. 7, 1891, S in circle



N I C A R A G U A

Postcard "return postage paid" - 1884

Postcard from Granada to Munich, Germany



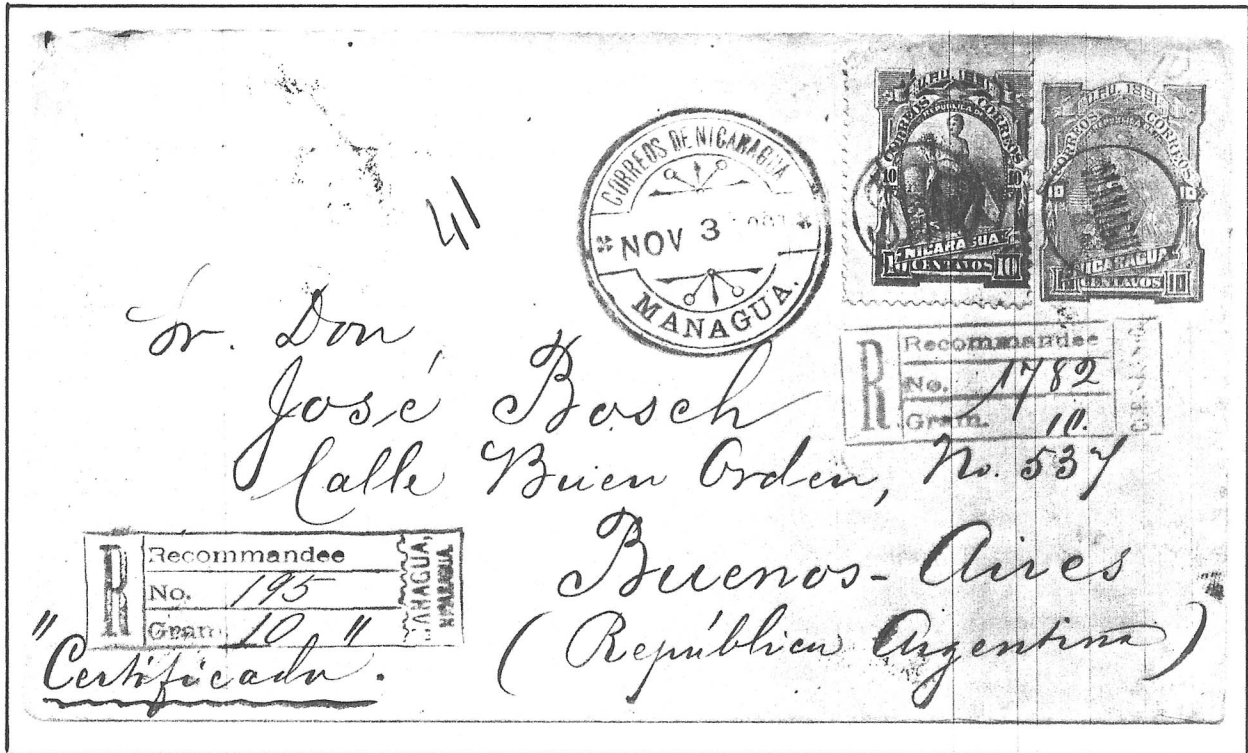
Cancelled Granada August 13, 1888
 Transit postmark Corinto August 15, 1888
 Arrival postmark Munich September 10, 1888

N I C A R A G U A

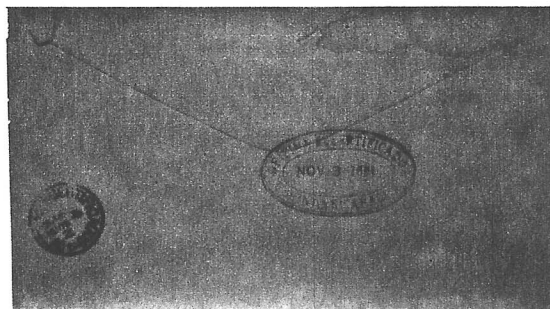
Second "Seebeck" issue, lithographed, 1891

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from Managua to Buenos Aires, Argentina



Cancelled Managua November 3, 1891
 Transit postmark Corinto No. 3, 1891
 Arrival postmark Buenos Aires Jan. 5, 1892



N I C A R A G U A

Fourth "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1893

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from San Juan del Norte to Hamburg



Cancelled San Juan del Norte February 7, 1893

Transit postmark New York February 27, 1893

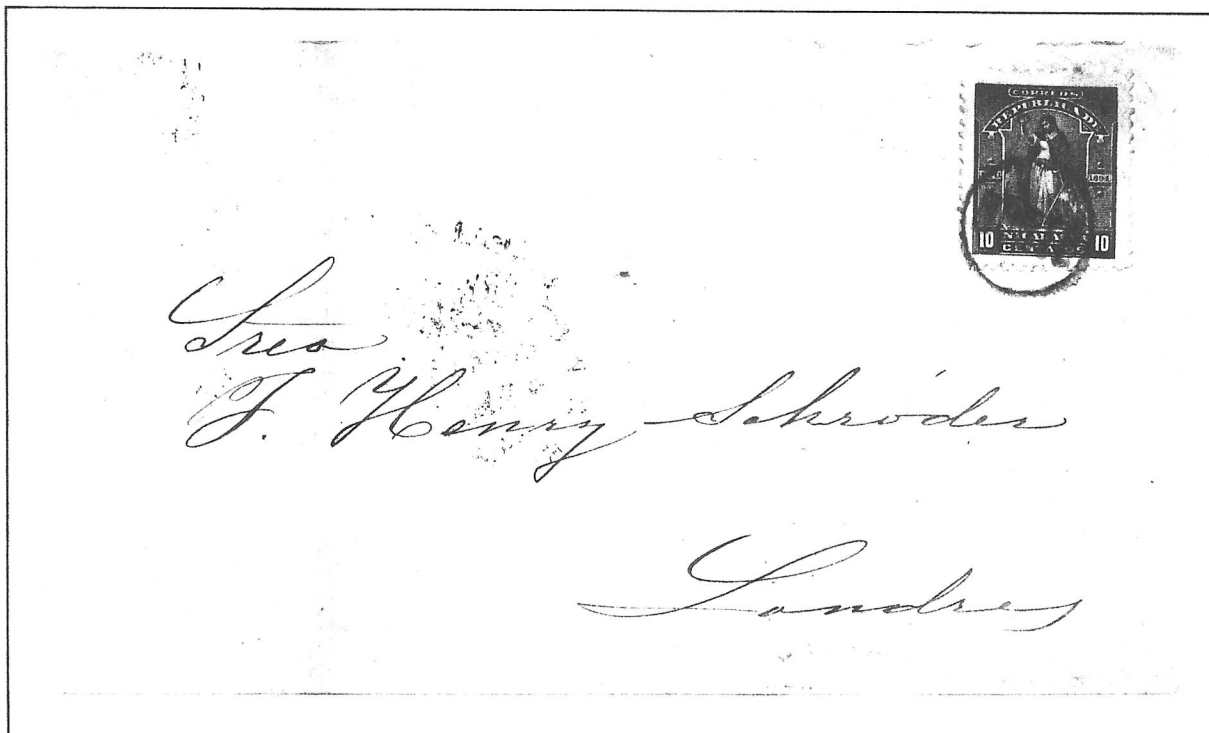
Arrival postmark Hamburg March 11, 1893

N I C A R A G U A

Fifth "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1894

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from San Juan del Norte to London



Cancelled San Juan del Norte Nov. 13, 1884

Transit postmark New Orleans Nov. 28, 1884

Transit postmark New York Nov. 30, 1884

Arrival postmark London December 8, 1884

Still another completely different cancel was in use in SAN JUAN DEL NORTE at least in 1894 and 1895. This type of cancel is not mentioned by E. Heinze.

The cancel consists of a double lined circle with an outer diameter of 35 mm. In the upper half it reads CORREOS DE NICARAGUA with 3 bended lines underneath. In the middle comes the date (abbreviated month, day + full year), then again 3 bended lines, but in inverted position and underneath SAN JUAN DEL NORTE. (Fig. 9)

This cancel was used without (mostly) and with a separately applied duplex NORTE. (fig.10)



fig. 9

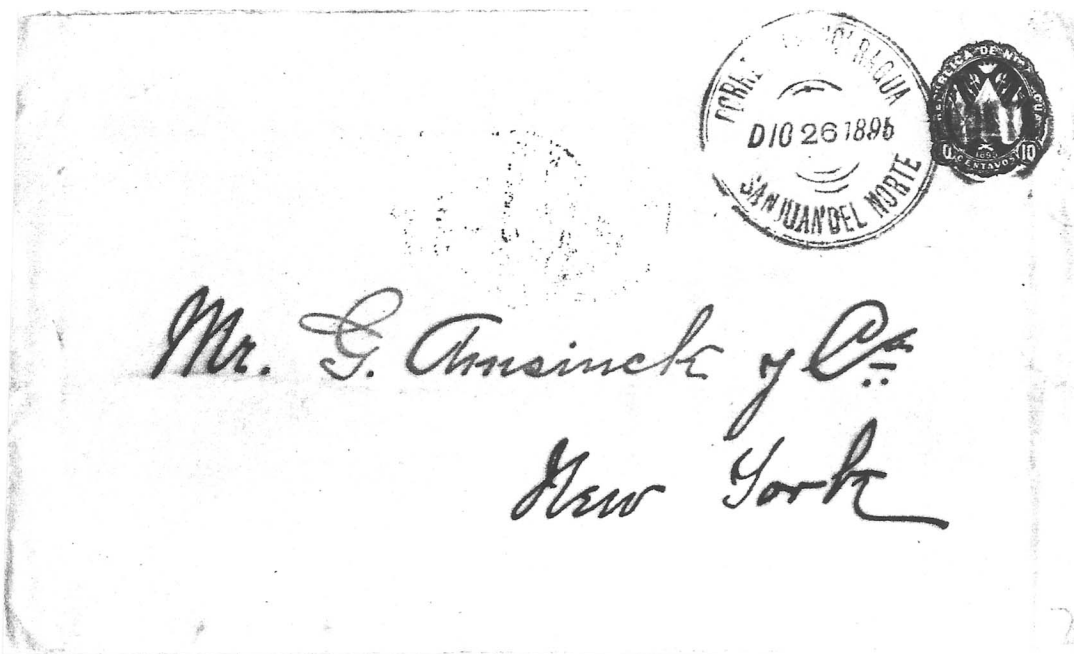


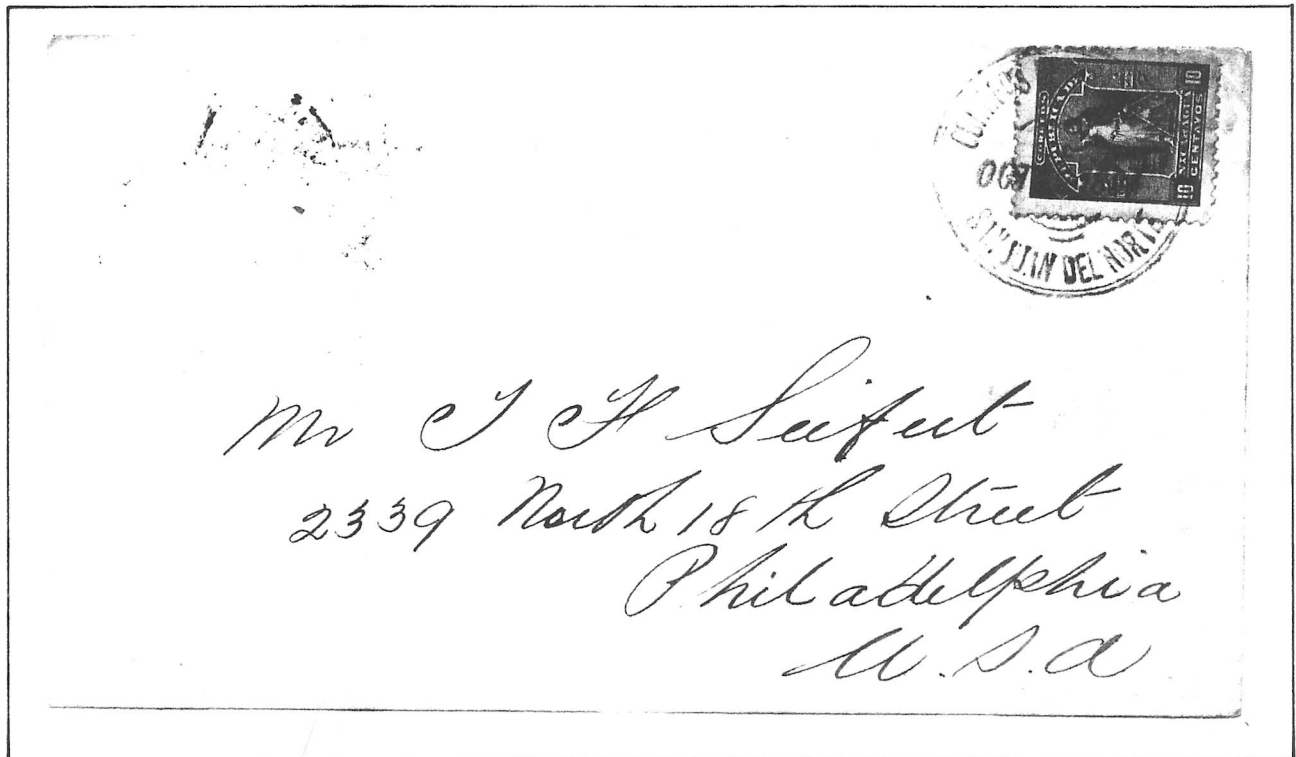
fig. 10

N I C A R A G U A

Fifth "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1894

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from San Juan del Norte to Philadelphia, USA



Cancelled San Juan del Norte October 12, 1894

Arrival postmark Philadelphia October 30, 1894

C O R I N T O

This Port-town was very important as to outgoing and incoming international mail and held - as far as its postmarks is concerned - a special position. Next to the normal cancel of this period, which appeared in 1890, a second type of cancel reading CORINTO on top and NICARAGUA (without "CORREOS DE") in the lower half of the cancel, with a serif instead of a point after CORINTO and with different ornaments came into use. (Fig. 1) + 1a)

The corresponding DUPLEX, also with the same diameter as the one of the normal type cancel, is located to the right at a distance of 4 mm instead of 2 mm. This special cancel was used right from the beginning with or without the Duplex.



fig. 1



fig. 1a

Another type of cancel, also with the same diameter, but reading FRANCO EN CORINTO was in use. (Fig. 2)



fig. 2

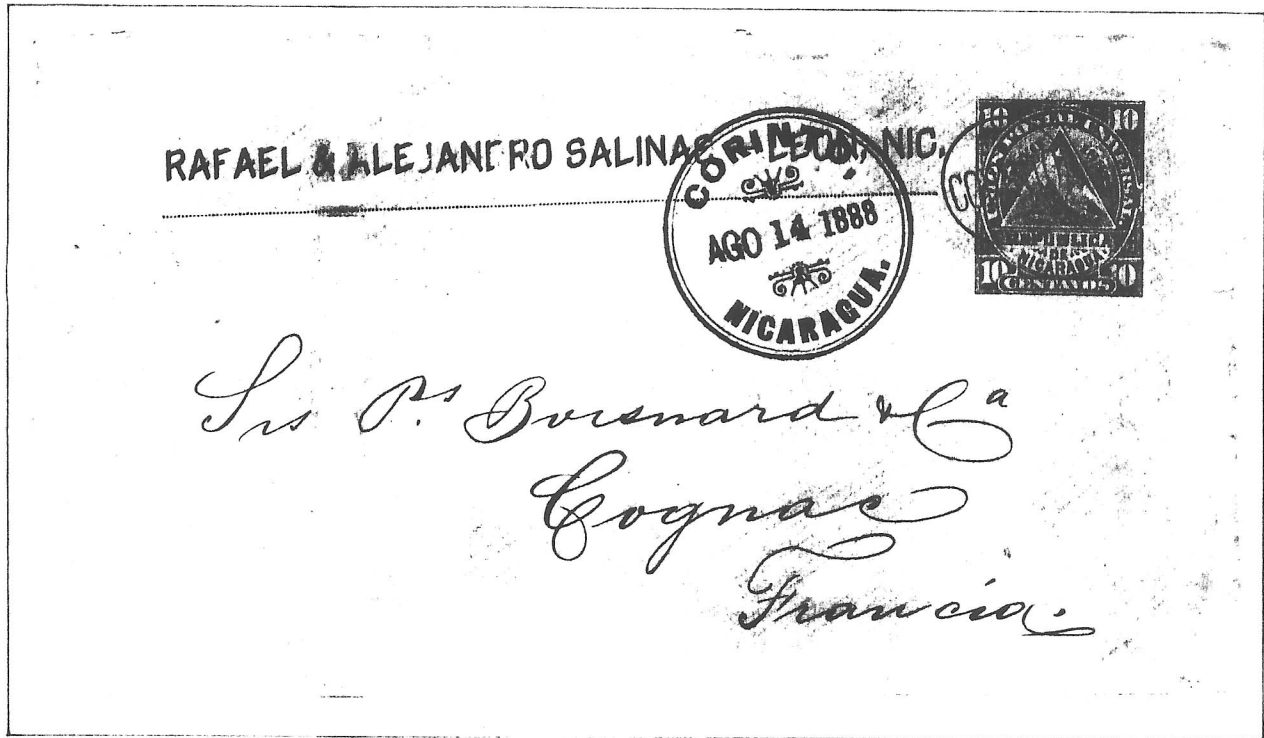
I have this cancel as a transit - postmark on a regular 10 centavos envelope from Chinandega to Caracas, Venezuela. The envelope received in addition the French Paquebot cancel: LIGNE D / PAQ. FR. N° 1 / 22 AVRIL 90
This FRANCO EN CORINTO cancel is so far only recorded on two items.

It seems that all these before mentioned Corinto cancels were in use between 1887 and 1893.

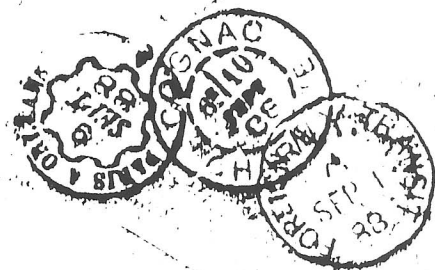
N I C A R A G U A

Envelope 1888

Cover from Corinto to Cognac, France



Cancelled Corinto August 14, 1888
 Transit postmark New York September 1, 1888
 Transit postmark Paris à Orleans Sept. 9, 1888
 Arrival postmark Cognac September 10, 1888



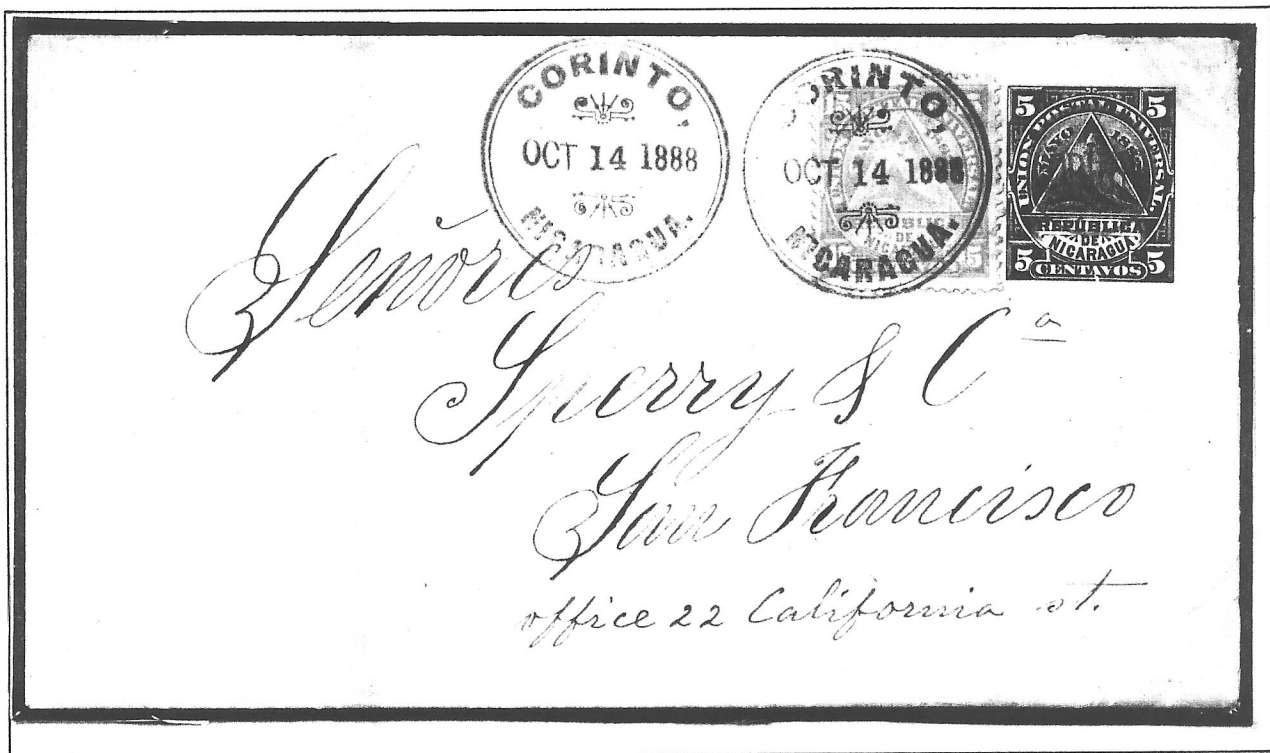
N I C A R A G U A

1882

Soft porous and hard white paper, engraved, perf. 12

Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York

Cover from Corinto to San Francisco, California



Cancelled Corinto October 14, 1888

From 1893 on and until about 1895 there was another CORINTO cancel in use, a cancel which differs completely from all other cancels of this period and which seems to be an exact copy of a San Francisco, Cal. postmark of the same period. It is a small cancel with a diameter of 27 mm, reading * CORINTO, NICARAGUA*, date, hour (abbreviated in english AM or PM) and year. It is possible that this cancel was formerly used on telegrams. (fig. 3)



fig. 3

From about August 1895 onwards the normal Corinto Duplex - cancel came into use.

More than 7 years of use of the described Duplex cancels made most of them defective and they had to be replaced. The new ones had a slightly different, i.e. oval form of about 34 x 32 mm. The cutting of the letters differed somewhat from the former ones. (fig. 4)



fig. 4

However, in the middle of 1895 the beforementioned cancels were replaced by a new type with a "Target" - Duplex. (fig. 4 a)

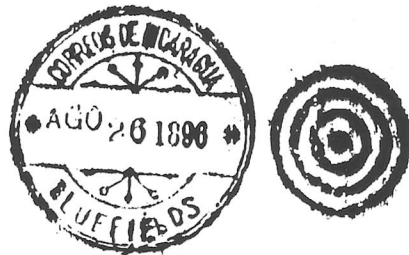


fig. 4 a

The "Target" - Duplexes were never used separately during this period. However, the separate use of them on stamps happened in later times, specially from 1899 on in Masaya when mail from small stations of the railway side-line Jinotepe-Masaya was cancelled by the railway postman.

These "Target" - Duplexes disappeared in the first half of 1897. The reason for the rather short life of this type of cancel was a political one, as the official name of the country changed to "REPUBLICA MAYOR DE CENTROAMERICA". This called for new devices, used starting March 1897.

Early in 1894 , a new distinctive datestamp was put into use at BLUEFIELDS. It is of similar style to the standard type of datestamp, but without the bridge lines and with considerably different lettering and ornaments.

It is possible that this datestamp was made locally and it was in use to about July 1895.



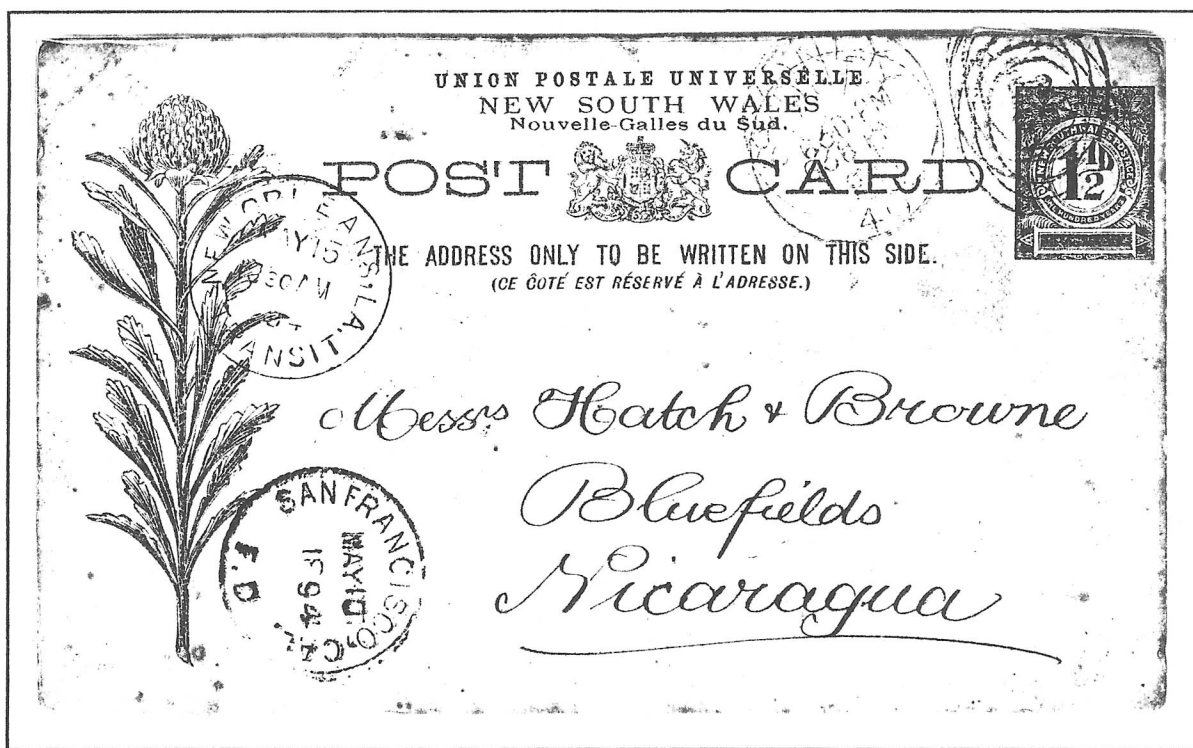
fig. 4 b

N I C A R A G U A

1 8 9 4

EARLY I N C O M I N G M A I L

Postcard from SYDNEY, New South Wales / AUSTRALIA to Bluefields / Nicaragua



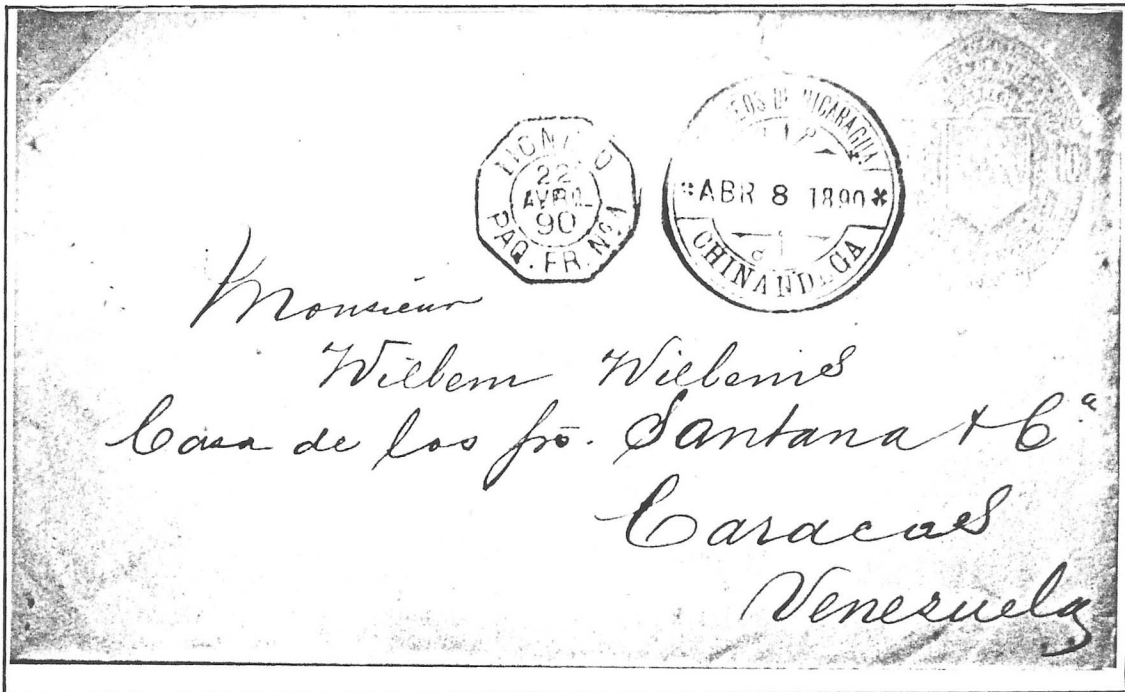
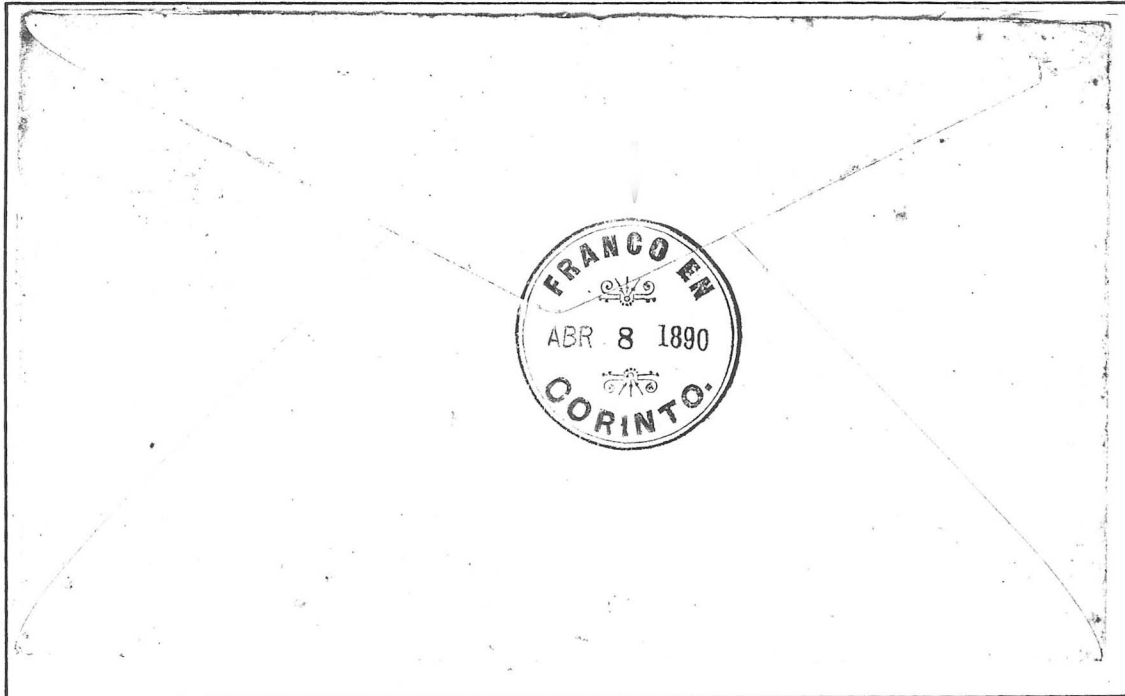
N I C A R A G U A

Postmark: FRANCO EN CORINTO + date
+ ornaments, in double circle

First "Seebeck" issue - ENVELOPE - 1890
Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Only very few specimens of this
postmark are known to exist !

Cover from Chinandega to Caracas, Venezuela



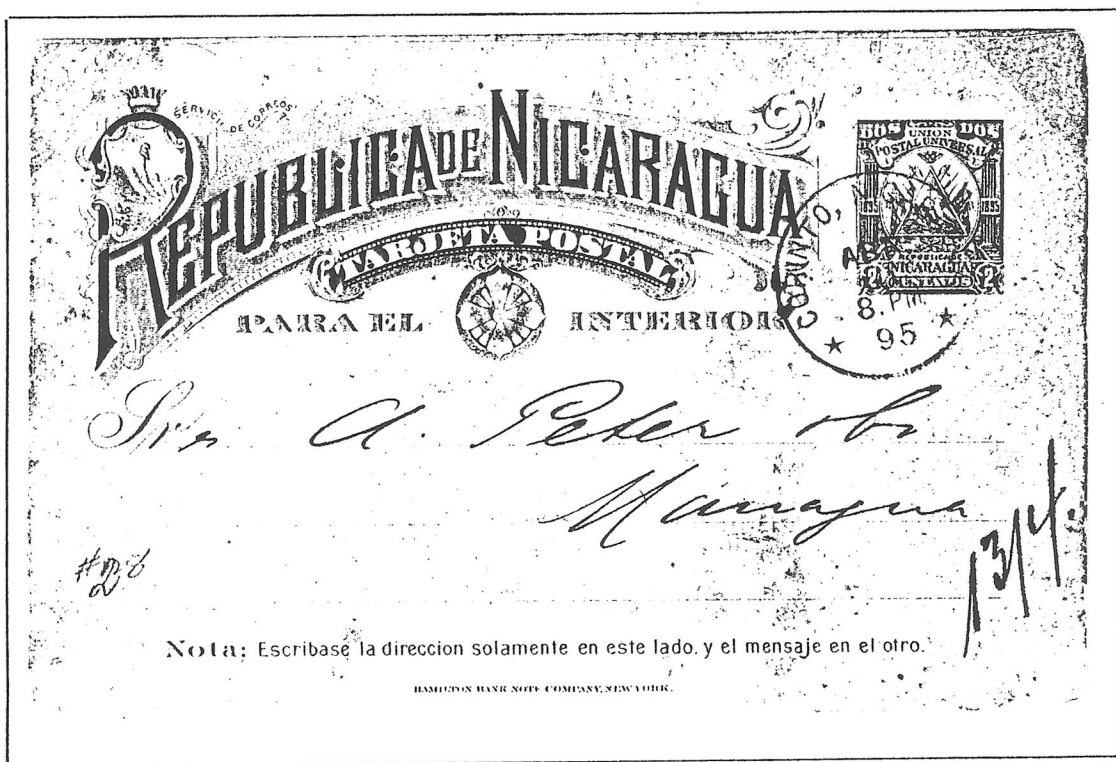
FRENCH PAQUEBOT CANCEL :

Cancelled Chinandega April 8, 1890
Transit postmark Corinto April 8, 1890
Transit postmark LIGNE D PAQ.FR.No.1 / 22 AVRIL 90

N I C A R A G U A

Postcard, 1895

Postcard from Corinto to Managua, Nic.



Cancelled Corinto (steel cancel) April 10, 1895 / 8 PM

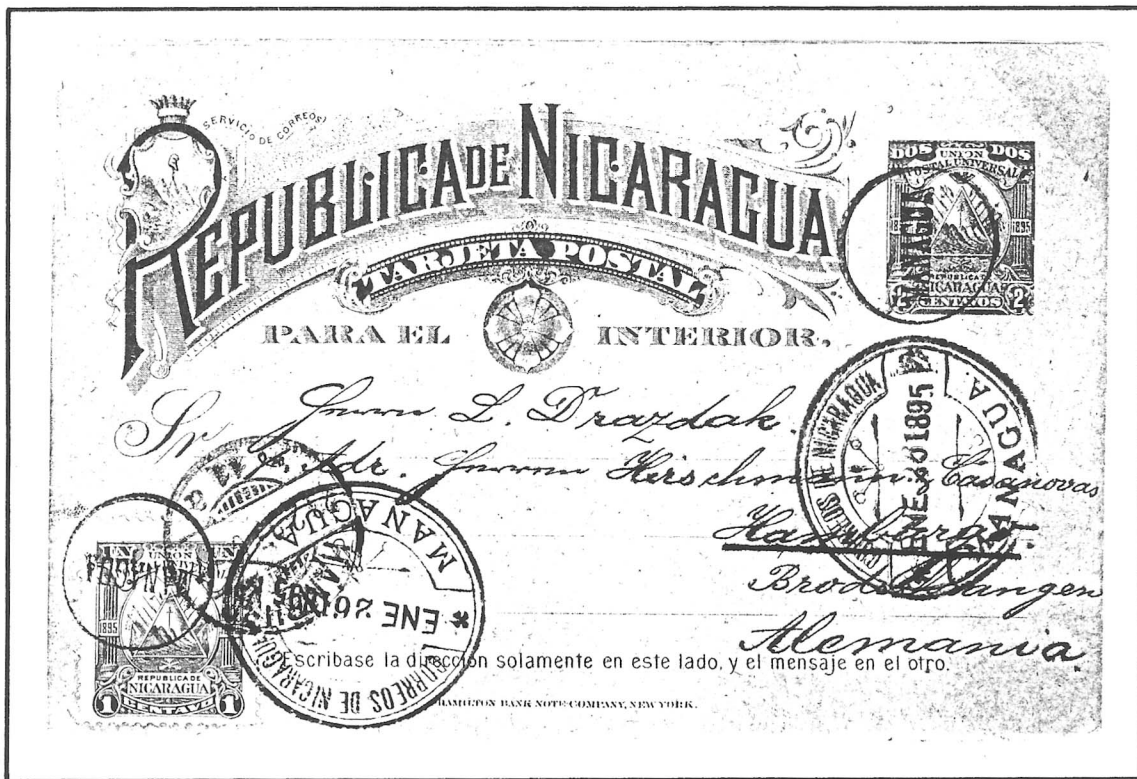
Arrival postmark Managua April 11, 1895

N I C A R A G U A

Sixth "Seebeck" issue, engraved, 1895

Printed: Hamilton Bank Note Co., New York

Postcard from Managua to Hamburg



Cancelled Managua January 26, 1895

Arrival postmark Hamburg Febr. 28, 1895