

GEOFFREY BREWSTER



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Ernesto Cuesta
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Dear Ernesto,

At last I can respond in detail to the package of material you sent me in Nov. Sorry if my typing is faint; either ribbons last shorter, or the Ariz. dry climate is causing them to go faint long before they used to do.

I am happy you sent xeroxes of some Puerto Principe literature, as well as these catalogs I did not have: Andreini Part I; Spiegelberg 1915 with buyer names; Hatfield 1918; Walsh 1934; Tyler 1940; & Robertson 1988. The others I already had, usually in original catalogs.

In case you're interested, in Siegel Sale 524 of 2/78 I bought lots 2000 & 2007 (I bid on many lots but was badly beaten, mostly by Robertson according to my agent); and in Sotheby 39 of 11/79 I bought lots 1129, 1142, 1152, 1153, and 1154, but again was outbid on most lots.

In the Spiegelberg Sale, Morgenthau Sale 93 of 3/1915, introduction says the Thorne Sale occurred in Feb. 1907; *I wonder if Morgenthau was the auctioneer, or maybe Scott? In that same sale, note that Clapp bought lot 506, and maybe others with "C" (unless that refers to the dealer Colson); Clapp was a Pres. of N.Y. Collectors Club, I believe; his Hawaii was sold privately by a dealer about 1940, so maybe Clapp's Cuba was not sold at auction. Note that other Cuba collectors are mentioned--Mandel for lots 515 & 543; Clotz lot 556; Bernichon lots 558 & 567; and Stanton lot 561. Even at least one lot in the Robertson sale mentions it was in the Bernichon collection. All those sales must pre-date 1915, and I'd guess are after 1905, so one needs only research about a 10-year period or less, to find these sales.

Sad that not all those early cats. had photos; but I have a xerox of a Scott cat. in 1899 that pictures some Hawaii, so some early cats. did have photos of some lots.

You've sent me so much stuff that perhaps I can begin working on P.P. articles for the Cuba section, although with so much already written I'm not sure I can add anything worthwhile. But I may be able to give more details about position identification, and hence of genuine stamps, regarding idiosyncracies of some of the type-set letters used.

I enclose the Pedro Monge xerox I mentioned, for you to keep.

Happy New Year,

Geoff

* But for some reason I have a note that it was 1905, and had no photos: maybe 2 part 1905 & 1907? My notes also say it was a Morgenthau auction.

PS No e-mail, as haven't even unpacked my computer! But my phone is 480-607-7184. You can find more PP's in Siegel Sales 535, 549, 588, & 603 at least.