

**Bibliography of 1883 Surcharges
by Ernesto Cuesta**

<ADAM1904> Adams, H. J.

"Cuba--The Surcharged Issue of 1883"

PM, No.98, 1 Apr 1919, p.100, ill., and

PM, No.99, 1 May 1919, p.134, ill.; the latter being a correction to the plating of the 10c sheet of the surcharged stamps shown in the first article and a letter to the editor from W. Dorning Beckton with comments and additional information. See <BECK1904>. (Need better copy of both).

<AP188812> The American Philatelist

"New Issue Notes and Chronicle: Cuba"

AP, Vol.3, No.x, Dec 1888, p.69.

Report of the existence of a 20c. 1883 surcharged stamp with double surcharge.

<AP188908> The American Philatelist

"New Issue Notes and Chronicle: Cuba"

AP, Vol.3, No.x, Aug 1889, p.326.

Report of the existence of a 10c. 1883 surcharged stamp with double surcharge.

<BACKyymm>* Backovitch, David

"Forgeries of the 1883 50c Giro Overprint" and "Listing of Known Forgeries of the 50c 1883 Giro Overprint"
Unpublished, undated. Received from the author as 7 photocopied pages, illustrated, in English.

The work discusses forgeries of the 1883 surcharges on Giro stamps and chooses the 50c value, being a common value and easy to find, as the focus of the article. It consists of a two page introduction, one page illustrating the five types of overprints used on the genuine stamps, and is followed by a 3 page description of the characteristics of the five genuine overprints and the corresponding five forged overprints. The last page is a brief bibliography.

<BARR91005> Barreras, Antonio

"Los Sellos de Cuba Remarcados en 1883"

("The 1883 Surcharged Stamps of Cuba")

RCFC, Yr.1, No.2, May 1910, pp.9-13 (5), ill., Span.

RCFC, Yr.1, No.3, Jun 1910, pp.17-21 (5), ill., Span.

RCFC, Yr.1, No.4, Jul 1910, pp.25-27 (3), ill., Span.

<BARR93812> Barreras, Antonio

"Los Sellos de Cuba Remarcados en 1883"

("The 1883 Surcharged Stamps of Cuba")

FCa, Yr.I, No.IV/VI, December 1938, pp.9-21 (13), ill., Span.

One of the best studies of the surcharged stamps of 1883.

<BARR9yymmd> Barreras, Antonio

Sellos de Cuba Remarcados en 1883

(Cuban Stamps Overprinted in 1883)

La Habana: Cooperativa de Prensa (Press Cooperative), Estudios Filatélicos Cubanos, n.d. [Need date of publication and photocopy.] Probably derived or reprinted from <BARR91005>.

<BECK1904>* Beckton, W. Dorning

"Cuba--The Surcharged Issue of 1883. A Correction."

PM, No.99, 1 May 1919, p.134, ill.

A correction from the editor of PM to the plating of the 10c sheet of the surcharged stamps shown in <ADAM1904> and a letter to the editor from Mr. Beckton with comments to <ADAM1904> and additional information about the surcharges. (Need better copy of both).

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<[BUTLF2000](#)> **Butler, F. Paige**

Cuba: La Contramarca 1883 (Cuba: The Surcharge of 1883)

Color photocopy of a collection by an unknown philatelist that was purchased around the year 2000 by Mr. F. Paige Butler who kindly provided a photocopy.

<[CA90104b](#)> **El Curioso Americano**

"Variedades" ("Varieties")

CA, 3rd Epoch, Yr.2, Nos.4-5, Apr-May 1901, pp.86-93 and two unnumbered pages of photos (corresponding to the first segment in the article) that I have labeled pp.86a and 86b in my files. The article is in Spanish.

This piece comprises several segments, some with sub-headings, some without. The first segment is titled "Cuba 1833", but should have read 1883 because it refers to two loose photos which are included in the journal showing full sheets of the 5 and 10 cent 1883 surcharged stamps with double surcharges [the sheet on p.86a is currently in my collection; it was purchased as part of lot 336 of the Soler y Llach auction of 14 Dec 1995]. The segment observes that in many cases the double surcharges of this issue present different intensities in the inking of the two surcharges and states that this is a normal occurrence and that such double surcharges should be considered genuine. The second segment is titled "Rarezas de Cuba" ("Cuban Rarities") and reports, among other things, the existence of several 1883 surcharged telegraph stamps with inverted and double surcharges.

<[CUES-FILACUBA](#)> **Cuesta, Ernesto**

FILACUBA Website

Bethesda, Maryland: Continuously updated.

The FILACUBA Website contains a section called "Pages From Cuban Collections" that contain the following subsections addressing the 1883 surcharges:

King Alfonso XII Issues 1876-1888

Cuba: The Surcharged Stamps of 1883

The 1883 Surcharges of the Collection "Cuba, The Overprinted Stamps, 1855-1960"

<[CUES-1883surcharges](#)> **Cuesta, Ernesto**

Bibliography of 1883 Surcharges

Bethesda, Maryland: Continuously updated section within the <[CUES-Biblio](#)> and <[CUES-LBiblio](#)> Internet Websites. This is a sub-bibliography listing only items dealing with the Cuban 1883 surcharges extracted from the main bibliography. You are presently reading this bibliography.

<[DORNyymm](#)># **Dorn, J. (publisher)**

The Forged Stamps of All Countries

London: J. Dorn, One Volume Stamp Library, n.d., 240 pp., 350 diagrams.

Forgeries of 1855-75 Cuban stamps covered under Spain. Other Cuban forged stamps covered on pages 203-204 and referenced with respect to Philippines' forgeries on p.205. In the Cuba section, the book only discusses Cuban forged stamps of 1878, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1898. No illustrations are provided. The treatment is superficial and of little value.

<[FCb7805a](#)> **Filatelia Cubana (FFC)**

"Los Resellados de 1883" ("The 1883 Surcharged Stamps")

FCb, Yr.13, No.2, May-Aug 1976, pp.25-29 (5), ill., Span.

FCb, Yr.13, No.3, Sep-Dec 1976, p.32, ill., corrigendum.

<[GARC4408b](#)> **García, Rafael R.**

"Catálogo de Sellos Fiscales de Cuba: Sección Recibos y Cuentas"

("Catalog of Cuban Revenue Stamps: Recibos y Cuentas Section")

AF, Yr.IX, No.28, Aug-Sep-Oct 1944, p.13, ill., Span.

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Listing of the 1871 through 1883 Recibos y Cuentas revenue stamps of Cuba. The listings include prices for unused and used stamps, mentions that it is not unusual to find these revenue stamps used as postage stamps and provides values for them postally used as singles, on cover, and as bisects on cover.

<HARM3506> Harmer, H.R. (Philatelic Auctioneer)

Catalogue of the Eleventh Portion of the "Arthur Hind" Collection of Postage Stamps

London: H.R. Harmer Philatelic Auctioneer, Sales 768-771, Hind Sale No.11, 24-27 June 1935, Cuba on pp.20-22, lots 207-227, selected lots illustrated on plates V-VI.

This was not a large holding of Cuban items but the sale included some outstanding rarities, including a block of 12 (4x3) of Scott #5; a block of 9 of Scott #15; an important collection of the 1883 ornamental surcharges that included three full sheets of the 5c value with different settings of the surcharges, one full sheet each of the 10c and 20 c values, and a block of 45 of the 20c value with displaced surcharges; several rare Puerto Príncipe stamps; the inverted centers of 1910; and a complete set of horizontal imperforate pairs of the 1914 map issue.

<IBSE3909> Boletín Filatélico I.B.S.E.

"Los sellos de Cuba sobrecargados en el año 1883"

IBSE, Yr.1, No.1, Sep 1939, pp.4-9 (6), ill., Span. This is basically a reprint of <BARR993812> without some of the illustrations and without mention of the surcharged telegraph stamps. Both are based on <BARR91005>.

Note: IBSE started publication as a monthly in San Sebastián, Spain, on Sep 1939, but printed only two numbers, ending with the Oct 1939 issue.

<JIMEF8302> Jiménez, Frank

The 1883 Surcharges of the Collection "Cuba: The Overprinted Stamps, 1855-1960"

Black & white photocopy provided by the author, Feb 1983, 25 pp., ill.

This is the section of 1883 surcharges in Mr. Jiménez's collection Cuba: The Overprinted Stamps, 1855-1960 that he kindly provided on February 1983.

<MANN2800> Mann, Percy McGraw

"Notes on Cuba. 1883."

WPG, Vol.13, No.8, 1928.

<MANN2801> Mann, Percy McGraw

"Notes on Cuba, 1883"

CCP, Vol.7, No.1, January 1928, pp.8-10.

Extensive discussion of the varieties and positions (types) of the surcharged stamps of 1883. The author's explanation of the surcharges, however, is erroneous.

<MANN2805> Mann, Percy McGraw

"Notes on Cuba, 1883"

WPG, Vol.13, No.8, WNo.341, 19 May 1928, pp.267-268, ill. Reprint of entry <MANN2801>.

<MP89406>* Metropolitan Philatelist

"Chronicle"

MP, Vol.5, No.3, June 1894, p.42.

Report of several surcharge varieties on the 5c. blue, 1883 stamp issue.

<PETEG4104> Peterson, George A., Jr.

"The Cuban Surcharged Issue of 1883"

CSJ, Vol.13, No.25, 7 Apr 1941, pp.400-402 (3), ill.

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<PRATyymm> Prats, Ignacio

"Sellos Sobrecargados 1883 -- Arabescos"

("Surcharged Stamps of 1883 -- Arabesques")

Unpublished notes on varieties and plating of the 1883 surcharged stamps.

<RICE1608>* Rice, George W.

"Cuba. The Surcharged Issue of 1883."

AP, Vol.29, No.22, 15 August 1916, pp.567-569 (3).

<SCH1811> Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc.

136th Public Auction Sale: United States, United Nations, Worldwide Stamps and Postal History

New Jersey: Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc., 136th Public Auction Sale, 21-23 Nov 1981, Cuban lots #2031-2125, ill.

This sale contained a substantial holding of Cuban material from the collection of George A. Peterson, Jr., among them a collection of 1883 surcharges (lot #2043); a collection of mint stamps, blocks of four and FDCs of the Republic (the bulk of which were lots [2079](#), [2082](#), and [2083](#)); a collection of officially sealed stamps (lot #2094) and a collection of Cuban slogan cancellations ([lot #2098](#)) that I bought at the auction. Before incorporating these collections into my own, I photocopied them and have scanned them and are available in PDF format.

Unfortunately, my photocopier was not working well at the time and some of the images are very faint, but they give an overall picture of the extent of Mr. Peterson's collection. The collection of 1883 surcharges in particular, was the basis of Mr. Peterson's article titled "The Cuban Surcharged Issue of 1883" that he published in CSJ, Vol.13, No.25, 7 Apr 1941, pp.400-402 (see [<PETEG4104>](#)).

<SCOT9304>* Scott, J. W.

Auction Catalogue of the Postal Issues of the Western Hemisphere Collected by F. de Coppet, Esq.

New York: The J. W. Scott Co., Limited; Auction Sale of April 3-5, 13-14, 2426, 1893; Cuban lots 632-690 (59 total) on pp.45-49 (5); prices realized.

The sale covered issues from 1855 through the 1883 surcharged issues.

Of the latter, a few full sheets of 100 stamps were offered, including a sheet of the 20c value which sold for \$30.

<SERR9310> Serrane, Fernand

"The Serrane Guide"

AP, Vol.108, No.3, WNo.1118, March 1994, pp.954-956, no ill. Cuban listings on p.955.

This is the Cuba section of the American Philatelist's serialization of Serrane's classic Volume II--Vade Mecum du Specialiste-Expert en TimbresPoste hors d'Europe. Listings for Cuba include forgeries of the stamp issues of the years 1873, 1875, 1876, 1883, 1883-88, 1890, 1898, and 1899. The listings provide descriptions of forgeries some values of the cited stamp issues, but none are illustrated.

<SIEGR8210>* Siegel--Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

ESPAMER '82 Exposition Auction Catalog

New York, N.Y.: Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.; catalog of the 603rd sale, held 15 Oct 1982 at the ESPAMER '82 Exposition of 12-17 Oct 1982, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Cuba on pp.36-42 plus photo plates (pages unnumbered), lots 283-390A.

<VANDH4601>* Vanderhoof, E. R.

"A Cuban Study"

WPG, Vol.41, No.19, WNo.1262, 12 Jan 1946, pp.490-491, ill.

Good study of the surcharged Giro revenues of 1883. The article notes the existence of only four types of surcharges applied to the regular 1882 bistre Giro stamps, similar to the surcharges applied to the regular postage stamps but with the value in the center replaced by a core of facing semicircles. One interesting item in the article

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is the mention of the existence of a pane of the stamps in the possession of the author from which he deduces that the setting for the surcharges was done in groups of 50 consisting of 5 rows of ten stamps. The author illustrates the setting of the 50 surcharges in the article. It is not clear, however, whether the pane in his possession is a pane of 50 or 100 stamps--if it is a pane of 100 it would have been key to state that the setting repeated in the bottom half of the pane. The article mentions that the surcharges are apparently symmetrical in the four cardinal directions but with minor variations which can be identified upon careful examination. This assertion is incorrect because the symmetry only exists in two directions, the surcharges being rectangular, not square. The article goes on to note varieties in the printing of the four denominations of the surcharges consisting of missing or broken letters or numerals. Another interesting observation is that it appears that the surcharges were printed separately from the word GIRO above them and the values of the surcharges below them.

Included in the auction were major rarities from the Samuel Israel Collection of Cuba and Puerto Rico which Mr. Israel donated to the Philatelic Foundation of New York (probably in the mid 1930's). The material in this sale was withheld because of its rarity and value as reference material for expertization purposes when the bulk of the Israel Collection was sold at auction by the Foundation through Harmers of New York in January of 1980. See <HARM8001> for details of that sale and <ISRA????> for further details of the contents of the Israel Collection. The Siegel sale included 48 lots of Spanish Administration issues, 36 lots of U.S. Administration issues, and 22 lots of Republic issues, plus 3 lots of stamp and cover accumulations. Among the Spanish Administration rarities in the sale were Scott Nos. 5, 7 (3), 8 (one of 3 known), and 15 all on cover, and a combination cover with 15 and 15a sent to Puerto Príncipe; a vertical pair of Nos. 6 and 8 (unique and one of the greatest rarities of Cuban philately); and 2 sheets of the 5c. and one of the 10c. 1883 surcharged stamps. Among the U.S. Administration rarities were Puerto Príncipe surcharged stamps Scott Nos. 179G, 197 Pos. 3 tied on cover, 214 Pos. 4 tied on piece, 218a Pos. 3, 219a Pos. 1, 219b Pos. 3 "eents" error, 219c Pos. 3 "eents" error inverted surcharge, and three 220a Pos. 4. Also offered were Scott No. 226A and small die proofs 227P2-231P2 and E3P2. Among the Republic period rarities were Scott Nos. 239a, 239a unused horizontal strip of 3, 240a, 244a, and E4a inverted centers; 3 lots of Chambelona overprints; and 1-10c. Máximo Gómez imperforate set. Beyond the illustrations in the catalog, photocopies of the material sold at auction may be available at the library of the Philatelic Foundation.

<SMJ6303>* Scott Monthly Journal

"V for Variety"

SMJ, Vol.43, No.12, WNo.494, March 1963, p.388.

Report of the finding of the 20c value of the 1883 issue with double surcharge (Scott 108b) and its intended inclusion in the 1964 edition of the Scott catalog.

<VANDH4601>* Vanderhoof, E. R.

"A Cuban Study"

WPG, Vol.41, No.19, WNo.1262, 12 Jan 1946, pp.490-491, ill.

Good study of the surcharged Giro revenues of 1883. The article notes the existence of only four types of surcharges applied to the regular 1882 bistre Giro stamps, similar to the surcharges applied to the regular postage stamps but with the value in the center replaced by a core of facing semicircles. One interesting item in the article is the mention of the existence of a pane of the stamps in the possession of the author from which he deduces that the setting for the surcharges was done in groups of 50 consisting of 5 rows of ten stamps. The author illustrates the setting of the 50 surcharges in the article. It is not clear, however, whether the pane in his possession is a pane of 50 or 100 stamps--if it is a pane of 100 it would have been key to state that the setting repeated in the bottom half of the pane. The article mentions that the surcharges are apparently symmetrical in the four cardinal directions but with minor variations which can be identified upon careful examination. This assertion is incorrect because the symmetry only exists in two directions, the surcharges being rectangular, not square. The article goes on to note varieties in the printing of the four denominations of the surcharges consisting of missing or broken letters or numerals. Another interesting observation is that it appears that the surcharges were printed separately from the word GIRO above them and the values of the surcharges below them. The article ends by mentioning

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the existence of forgeries of these surcharges and classifies them into two types, providing identifying characteristics for each, and commenting that they are quite rare.