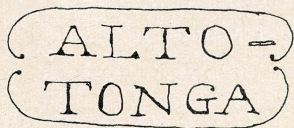


Early Postmarks of Latin America

By Major F. R. B. Whitehouse, C.B.E.

(Continued from page 431, May 21st)

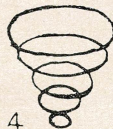


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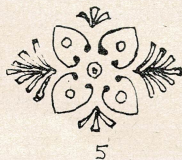
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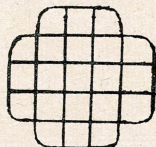
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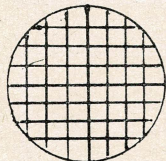
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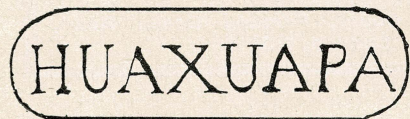
13

FRANCO EN
PAZCUARO.

14



15



16



17

SOYANIQUILPAN

18

MEXICO

(Period 1856-1864)

Pre-stamp covers date from about 1770 and bear a single-line town mark, e.g. PARRAL, usually in red. Some of these hand-stamps were in use for the cancellation of the early adhesive stamps.

As will be seen from the illustrations, the length of the word renders it impossible to obtain the complete cancellation on a single stamp and, in consequence, covers or pieces are in great demand and fetch correspondingly high prices.

For this reason, coupled with the catalogue value of the stamps on which these postmarks occur, Mexico, despite the enormous range of cancellations, is less frequently chosen for postmark collecting than the majority of the Latin American countries. Nevertheless, with the exception of the U.S.A. and Brazil, no other country can offer such a wide range of wonderful postmarks.

The illustrations are merely representative and collectors are referred to "The Postmarks of Mexico" by W. T. Wilson, published in 1927, or the fine work (limited to an edition of 265 copies) published in June 1964 by Robson Lowe, the author of which, Joseph Schatzkés owns probably the best collection of these postmarks in the world.

(To be continued)