

El Banco de Londres Mexico Y Sud America

By Elmer Powell, R-

Several previously unknown El Banco de Londres Mexico Y Sud America bank notes have been discovered which further expand the knowledge of this unique bank in Mexico history.

A previously unknown 5 peso specimen note undated, other than a printed 187 blank space on the note and numbered AO24003 with one printed signature is shown in UNC condition with 'manuscript' SPECIMEN in red ink on the face. The printer is DE LA RUE Y COMPANIA LONDRES. If this note had been printed and released it would have been the second in series after the known 1 st series note only one in existence dated November 15, 1867, as reported in THE COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MEXICAN PAPER MONEY, 1981. Further possible examples on this unknown specimen series is reflected in a similar series of notes actually printed and released by this bank in Peru in 1871 and reflected in the Krause publication, World Paper Money Specialized issues, S281-S284, printer TDLR. It is the assumption of the writer that this series may have been created in specimen form for a Mexico series but released in Peru with the Mexico design substituting Lima for Mexico and issuing the notes in Soles. The 5 peso Mexico specimen is the only known note in existence.

Four additional unreported notes, 10, 20, 50, 100 pesos, all punch CANCELLED in English and not the Spanish CANCELADO, from a framed set of front and backs are reflected below and are representative of the 4th series of notes from this bank. The printer for all four notes is Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Engravers, London. The 10 peso punch CANCELLED, four times, example is serial number 18167, serie F, dated September 1, 1887 and is in UNC condition with glue stains on the reverse top of the note. Previously only one known example was reported in THE COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MEXICAN PAPER MONEY, 1981, dated May 1, 1889 bearing a Guanajuato branch overprint.

The 20 peso punch CANCELLED, six times, example serial number 10406, serie D, dated September 1, 1887 is in UNC condition. Previously only two known examples of the 20 peso denomination were known dated September 1, 1887 with one bearing no overprint and the other bearing a Puebla branch overprint reported in THE COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MEXICAN PAPER MONEY, 1981.

The 50 peso punch CANCELLED, six times, example serial number 02438, serie C, dated September 1, 1887 is unknown as an issued note and is in UNC condition. The issued note design differs from the face proof 50 peso, BK-DF-17 or S228, reported in THE COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MEXICAN PAPER MONEY, 1981, by replacing the young boy in a boat with a young boy holding ore sample with mining implements at his feet at the lower right front of the note.

The 100 peso example serial number 07921, serie B, is punch CANCELLED, five times both horizontal and vertical, and dated September 1, 1887 and is unknown as an issued note.. The issued note design is different from the face proof 100 peso BK-DP-18 or

S229, reported in THE COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MEXICAN PAPER MONEY, 1981, by replacing the seated man with a young lady holding what appear to be grapes. The 100 peso note is in UNC condition with glue stains across the top of the note. In addition the image of the issued and cancelled 100 peso note is the same as the face proof 10 peso note listed as BK-DF-14 or S226.

The London Bank of Mexico and South America was chartered on February 15, 1864 in Mexico City as the London Bank of Mexico L TD. However it changed its name in 10 days to the former. It operated until July 1., 1889 when it became the Banco de Londres Y Mexico.









