



Dated Manila September 21, 1838 to Madrid. The cover bears a black "FILIPINAS" handstamp, applied in Manila to indicate its origin. Carried by the privately-owned Spanish ship *Colon* round Africa. Received in Madrid on May 13, 1839 and stamped with red rate marking "8.R" on front.



Letter sent from Manila to Comillas. A dated oval black "FILIPINAS / Manila" cancel, which was used between 1842 and 1845, was applied on November 24, 1842. The early use of the locally manufactured cancel resulted in a very clear strike.

The cover was carried by the Spanish brig *Nueva Bilbaino* round Africa to Spain. After arrival in Spain a red "8 R." marking was applied.

Charged 8 Reales de Vellón for unpaid letters less than 6 Adarmes. An Adarme is equivalent to $\frac{1}{6}$ Ounce. The corresponding rates ordinance was passed on November 16, 1807 and came into force on January 1, 1808.