

Amadeo I, 1870s

1871, Manila to Cagayan
1872, Mancayan to San Sebastian, Spain

A Royal Order dated March 21, 1865 was issued, changing the monetary unit in the Philippines to an Escudo, which was to take effect from July 1, 1866. The value of the Escudo was fixed at 4 Reales de Plata Fuerte; or 100 Céntimos de Escudo. It was, however, permitted to use the previous monetary unit in order to save any great expenses caused by the change-over.

The long-awaited new issue of stamps was issued on February 18, 1871, with similar designs being used for Spain and her colonies. There were four values issued: 5, 10, 20 and 40 Céntimos de Escudo. The stamps were typographed by the Fabrica Nacional de Moneda y Timbre, Madrid.



Cover sent in Manila on August 18, 1871 to Cagayan (Misamis). Both stamps were cancelled by a Parilla cancel.

This issue is scarce on internal covers, **only recorded multiple usage** of this stamp. Two stamps, at 5 Céntimos de Escudo paying for double internal cover rate, 4 to 8 Adarmes. According to the Decree agreed on February 7, 1871, the internal postage was set at 5 Céntimos de Escudo for every 4 Adarmes. This Decree was applicable from February 18, 1871, the first day of the stamps. It was terminated by decree of the local government on November 10, 1884, published on November 14.

Provenance: Fritz-Walter Lange and Geoffrey Lewis



Dated Mancayan (Luzon) on October 24, 1872 to San Sebastian, Spain. In Manila the stamps were cancelled by Parilla cancel on November 4. The cover was routed via Suez to Marseille. It was received on December 16, 1872.

Stamps, at 5 and 20 Céntimos de Escudo paying for single cover rate to Spain. As that rate was still equal to 1 Real de Plata Fuerte, in fact only the currency denomination was changed.

The usage of a combination of stamps was necessary because there was no corresponding stamp for this rate.