

New postage stamps were issued on January 1, 1898. The issue of 1898 was produced in Madrid, Spain. These stamps, like the previous stamp issue, show the young Alfonso XIII.

The use of these stamps was only possible until the Spanish-American War. The Manila post office, for example, was handed over to American soldiers on August 13, 1898. However, the stamps were also used after this date, for example by the insurgents or on the Mariana Islands.

* * *

On January 1, 1898, along with the issue of the stamps, a new Royal Decree, dated October 8, 1897, came into effect. By means of this decree, various postage rates for domestic mail and to mail to Spain were revised.

* * *



Cover sent from Manila to Cartagena, Spain. The cover was sent January 3, 1898. It was franked with a stamp at 6 Centavos de Peso of the King Alfonso XIII series, issued at the beginning of 1898.

The stamp was cancelled by the worn "CORREOS / MANILA" cancel. On January 4 it left Manila with the Spanish postal vessel *Elcano* via Marseille to Cartagena.

The postage rate for covers to Spain was lowered to 6 Centavos de Peso per 15 grams by the Royal Decree of October 8, 1891. The rate went into effect on January 1, 1898.

Provenance: Geoffrey Lewis