

1878 KING ALFONSO XII ISSUE

50c dark blue green, steamship mail



Folded letters to Connecticut and Barcelona using 50 centésimos de peseta dark blue green stamps to pay the single weight letter rate to those cities. Manuscript notations on the letters indicate they were to travel on the steamers "City of Veracruz" and "Guipuscoa" (mispelling of Güipúzcoa) respectively.

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N.Y. IFM No. 2 on 50c dark blue green



Fragment of the address portion of a single weight folded letter to France franked with a 50 centésimos de peseta dark blue green stamp. The letter traveled to France via New York where the stamp received an incoming foreign mail (IFM) No. 2 cancellation, and the letter was backstamped with a Havana-New York transit date stamp of 27 November 1878. Upon arrival in France, a blue ETAT-UNIS 10 December 1878 CDS was applied on the front of the letter and a black Bordeaux backstamp was applied a day later.

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CORREOS HABANA on 50c green



Two varieties of a CORREOS HABANA circular date stamp, one without and the other with a concentric inner circle. Note that the top letter was postmarked 3 ENERO 1879 and should have therefore been franked with an 1879 stamp, as required by postal regulations.

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Coastal trading mark "LM"



Coastal trading ship mark "LM" tying a 50 c. dark blue green stamp to a folded letter sent from Santiago de Cuba to New York via Havana on a coastal trading ship. These marks were private marks applied by a clerk in charge of handling mail picked up by these ships at landing points along their routes.