

1898 KING ALFONSO XIII ISSUE

Pre- and post war letter rates to the U.S.



A pair of covers to the same addressee in the U.S. showing the pre-war and post-war rates for single weight letters to the U.S. franked with Cuban stamps. The top letter was posted on 29 Mar 1898 in Habana and paid 5c. postage; the bottom letter was posted in late August of the same year also in Habana and paid 6c. postage—a 1c. penalty fee was assessed by the U.S. postal administration on letters franked with Cuban stamps.

CUBA

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5 centavos carmine rose
To "Dead Letter Office, Washington, D.C."
WASH D.C. TRANSIT backstamp



A single 5c. de peso carmine rose stamp paying the single weight letter rate from Trinidad, Santa Clara province, to the Dead Letter Office in Washington, D.C. Mailed in October 1898, the letter should have been assessed an extra 1c. penalty fee for using Spanish stamps to pay the postage. Although addressed to Washington, D.C., the letter was backstamped with a rare "WASH D.C. TRANSIT" cds by the receiving post office.

CUBA

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5 centavos carmine rose
10c. single weight letter to England
Spanish Administration Period



Horizontal pair of 5c. stamps paying the single weight letter rate to England during the Spanish administration period. The cover was postmarked at La Habana on 9 Apr 1898 and was backstamped at Watford, England, on 21 April.

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12c. double weight letter rate to Spain
U.S. Administration Period



Cover front illustrating the 12c. double weight letter rate to Spain during the U.S. postal administration. When the United States took over the postal service after the Spanish-American War, the rate to Spain was changed to 12c. for double weight letters franked with Cuban stamps. This cover was mailed from La Habana to Barcelona late in 1898.