

1854 - 1879

EARLY REGISTERED MAIL

Registration of mail (certificado) was first authorized in the Philippines by Spanish royal order, Madrid, dated January 14, 1853; and became effective with the first issuance of stamps on February 1, 1854 (for interior mail); on January 1, 1856 (for overseas mail to Spain and colonies); and September 1, 1879 (for over-seas mail to other countries. The receiver was required to sign the letter (usually on the back) which was removed and kept by the destination post office as evidence of receipt. In 1865, certificado handstamps first appeared, and in the 1880s, registration numbers appeared on the covers. Prior to 1879, a registered letter required a registration fee of 2 Reales, regardless of weight + the normal postal rate.

EARLY REGISTERED LETTER TO SPAIN

2 Reales Double-Weight Rate + 2 Reales Registration Fee = 4 Reales



1863 (June 22) Manila to San Sebastian, Spain for double-weight registered letter (2 reales postage + 2 reales registration fee). It is a "front", indicating separation for registration receipt purposes.