















JA OF Fuan Waterich

Bascelang



### 1.3 The Intermediate Period (1851 -1861)

#### 1.3.1 Non-Contract mail

For a period up to 1854 the administration was unable to find a dependable contractor for mails to Spain. In the meantime it arranged for Spanish naval vessels to take more or less regular mails, augmented by dispatches by merchant vessels. Whether the naval sailings were specifically dedicated for the mail service or were incidental to other military operations is not reported.



**HABANA (30), June 4, 1852**, endorsed "*per Caledonia*" to Barcelona; arrival: **July 1, 1852** rated 5 Reales de velón + 6 Maravadies (*local charge for street building and repair in Barcelona 1852 - 1856*)



**HABANA (30), November 8, 1852**, endorsed "*per Isabel la Catolica*" to Cadiz arrival: **December 7, 1852**, rated 5 Reales de velón

### **1.3.2** The *Zagroniz Hermanos* Company (1854 – 1856)

In 1854 - 1855 (or 56) the *Zagroniz Hermanos* company unsuccessfully tried to install and operate the required service for the Spanish postal administration.

In the meantime a *Royal Decree by Queen Isabella* dated December 18, 1854, ordered that postage rates within the West Indian colonies or to Spain be established as  $\frac{1}{2}$  Real plata (silver real) for a single letter weighing not more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce, 1 Real plata for a double = ounce-letter, and so in progression. Unpaid letters were charged the double.



SANTIAGO DE CUBA, May 31, 1854, forw. twice by D. Hermanoz (m.s.) and BADEL via Le Havre and Paris (27. June) to Santander; unpaid letter weighing up to 1/2 ounce – 2 Real plata to pay on arrival

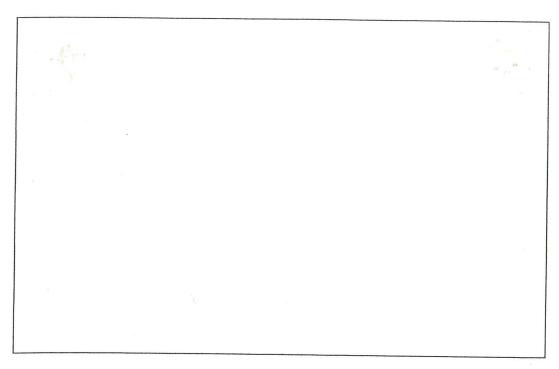


**HABANA (30), October 9, 1855,** forw. twice by DEMESTRE & LESER and LESER/Paris via Le Havre and Paris (31. Oct.) to Madrid; arrival: **November 4**, - unpaid letter weighing up to 1 ounce – 4 Real plata to pay

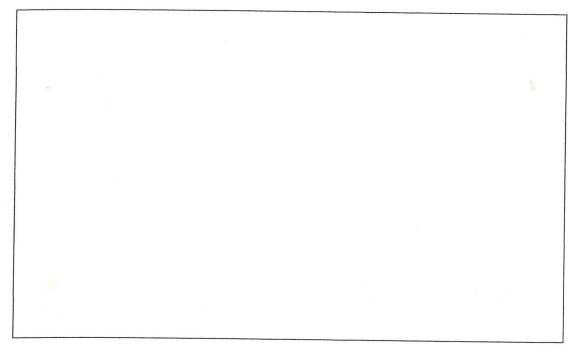
# **1.3.2 The** *Zagroniz Hermanos* Company **(1854 – 1856)**

In 1854 - 1855 (or 56) the Zagroniz Hermanos company unsuccessfully tried to install and operate the required service for the Spanish postal administration.

In the meantime a *Royal Decree by Queen Isabella* dated December 18, 1854, ordered that postage rates within the West Indian colonies or to Spain be established as ½ Real plata (silver real) for a single letter weighing not more than ½ ounce, 1 Real plata for a double = ounce-letter, and so in progression. Unpaid letters were charged the double.



**SANTIAGO DE CUBA**, **May 31**, **1854**, forw. twice *by D. Hermanoz* (m.s.) and BADEL via Le Havre and Paris (27. June) to Santander; unpaid letter weighing up to 1/2 ounce – 2 Real plata to pay on arrival



**HABANA (30), October 9, 1855**, forw, twice by DEMESTRE & LESER and LESER/Paris via Le Havre and Paris (31. Oct.) to Madrid; arrival: **November 4**, - unpaid letter weighing up to 1 ounce – 4 Real plata to pay



## 1.1.2 Military and Charity Mails

Military and charity mails were free of charges in Spain but local charges were levied on arrival.



**Crowned VALENCIA / DEL CID, February 25, 1839**, to the "*Regimento de Leoné*" on Cuba, shipped by the Empresa (**E**)



Madrid, November 3, 1851, sent by the NUNCIATURA APOSTOLICA / MADRID to Havana; heavy letter up to 23 adames (nearly two ounce in weight) – to pay 24 Real de vélon local charge