

The first formular cards

Background

The first postal cards, with a value stamp, were issued by Austria/Hungary, in late 1869. 31 countries followed until GPU in Bern 1874. Before that, Prussia had, in 1865, permitted the use of printed cards where a stamp could be affixed. During the next five years, 1870-1874, 12 countries and post districts issued formular cards without a printed value stamp but with space for, or sold with, an added stamp.

Of some 165 main types 24 are from the Old German States, 54 from the German Empire, 33 from Spain, 11 from Luxemburg, 16 from Chile and 20 from France. USA, The Netherlands and Russia issued only a few formular cards.

The reasons for issuing formular cards, and not postal cards with a value stamp, were different. Some countries/post districts had more than one currency and preferred to use already available stamps to be affixed. Some countries did not have the technique to print cards with a value stamp and others had several different local postages and postages to foreign countries; using stamps was easier.

The space for the stamp (if any), the address, "postal card" in the relevant language and the coat-of-arms (if any) are all on the same side of the formular card.

Most of the formular cards from the Old German States, the early cards from the German Empire and Luxemburg had all very similar card size, size of the space for the stamp, colour and overall appearance. The formular cards from other countries show a large variety in size, text, overall appearance and paper.

Number of formular cards issued 1870-1874 from different countries and post districts, according to literature.

1865	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874
Prussia	NDP* F9+6+5	NDP* F5	Russia F2	Heligoland F2	Heligoland F2
	Baden F2	German Empire F2	German Empire F37	German Empire F14	German Empire F1
	Bavaria F2	Netherlands F1	Bavaria F1	Bavaria F1	Netherlands F1
	Württemberg F1	Spain F1	Spain F1	Spain F31	
	Luxemburg F2	Chile F3	Chile F13	Luxemburg F5	Luxemburg F4
	France F8			France F10	France F2

*NDP: Norddeutsches Postgebiet; North German Postal District

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The Exhibit

The formular cards are presented by country or post district, in chronological order. Similarities and differences are pointed out and commented upon. When item number is given the numbering by Ascher (A), Higgins & Gage (H&G) or Frech (F) is mainly used. Examples of usage is shown of local, domestic and foreign mail; as early use as possible.

The exhibit ends before September 1874 when the first GPU-meeting was held in Bern; from that on the formular cards have almost disappeared completely.

Rarity

Examples of rare cards are the first-day card from NDP, the NDP card used outside the NDP, the used cards from occupied France 1870/71, some of the French "balloon cards" from the siege of Paris in 1870, the very early cards from the German Empire, the first Dutch card sent to England, the former unknown card from Chile with a watermark, the early used French cards from 1873, some of the very first cards from Spain and the used cards from Heligoland.

Main references (other references are used for each individual country, shown at the bottom of the pages):

- (A) Ascher (1925/28) *Großer Ganzsachen-Katalog 1925 & 1928. Band I&II*. Borna-Leipzig Verlag von Robert Noske. 1360 pp.
- (F) Frech, H. (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.
- (H&G) Higgins & Gage (1966) *World Postal Stationery Catalog*. 372 chapters.

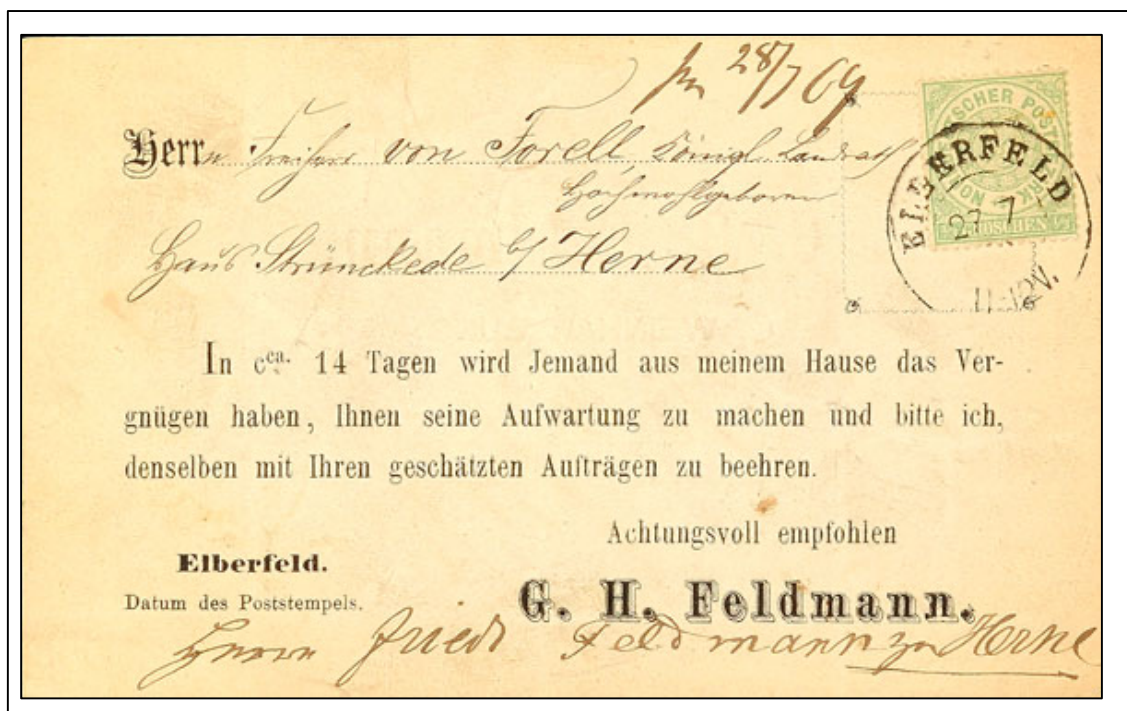
Prussia 1865-1870 - "Open cards" ("Vertreter-karten")

Prussia gave¹ already in May 1865 a possibility to send messages on "open cards", with the address, the message and a stamp at the same page. This possibility remained in NDP until 1870 when the formular cards were issued. The "open cards" were mainly used by companies announcing that one of their representatives, "Vertreter" in German, would soon pay a visit.



An "open card" sent on February 2, 1867 with a local, Prussian postage of 4 Pfennige, between Brandenburg and Northern Bohemia.

An "open card" sent on July 27, 1869 with a local NDP postage of 1/3 Groschen within North Rhine-Westphalia.



¹Reference: *Ausführung der Bekanntmachung wegen Zulassung offener Karten mit gebruckten Anzeigen*, Amts-Blatt No. 26 des Königlichen Post-Departements, May 30, 1865

North German Post District (Nord-Deutsches Postgebiet, NDP) 1870-71

The North German Postal District (1868-1871) included a number of Old German States, i.e., Braunschweig, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony and Thüringen.

NDP issued 14 formular cards in 1870 and 1871, starting on July 1, 1870, with space for or with an affixed stamp of different values. The stamp box has the inscription: "For affixing the stamp". The cards all have the approximate size of 163 x 108 mm, the title "Norddeutsches Postgebiet. Correspondenz-Karte" and six notes with instructions. These cards are described by (H&G) and (F) in great detail but only mentioned by (A).

The main differences between the cards are the type of dash between "Correspondenz" and "Karte", the lengths of the last two address lines (A & B) and the title above the notes (C), the type of the six notes, the font of "Bestimmungsort" and the space between back side lines.

Notes 1-3:

Notes 4-6:

V1	V2	V3 & V6	V4	V5	V3	V6
Form Posta das I Der Die lichen mit	Form allen werde Der Die lichen mit	Form Posta für de Der Die lichen mit	Form allen den; Der Die brieft Adress	Form allen werde Der Die brieft Adress	Die läufig; bestellu Die halb d Südde Der	Die läufig; preßbe Die halb d Südde Der

(the notes are copied from the cards on the next pages)

The numbering of the NDP-cards was created by Kalckhoff (1911) after the lengths of the address lines A & B and the type of notes. H&G (1966) and Frech (2015) use the same numbers. The cards are here shown in chronological order.

The postage for domestic mail was 1 Groschen in the Northern states and 3 Kreuzer in the Southern states. On July 1, 1872, it was reduced to ½ Groschen and 2 Kreuzer.

NDP's First Card, #1

Dash type a), curved:



Address lines A+B=51+50 mm. C=103 mm. Notes V1.

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An

Zum Aufkleben
der
Freimarkte.

Bestimmungsort:

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie
mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarkte bereits beklebt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu schriftlichen Mitteilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommandation, sowie der Expressbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mitteilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.



Early use of NDP's first card #1, July 2, 1870, with a one Kreuzer stamp affixed, for local mail within the Southern German States. The card was sent locally within Frankfurt that in 1870 was a part of the Prussian state of Hesse-Nassau.



Second earliest known use of NDP's first Formular card

Earliest known date used: June 17 (F), June 18 (H&G).

Card #1 was issued on July 1, 1870. The cards were distributed and sold before July 1; from June 18 in Berlin but earlier in some other cities (F). This card was used on June 18, 1870, between Hirschberg in Thuringia and Berlin, with a postage of 1 Groschen. Card size 109x164 mm.

Dash type a). Address lines A+B=51+68 mm. C=103 mm. Notes V1

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An Frau stud. phil. H. Langenberg 14.

Sehr angenehm, dankbar, dass Sie Briefe von Marienwerder, wofür ich
sicherlich die halbe Summe an der Post von Marienwerder in Lotze, Gröben, Dr.
Köner in dieser Zeit selbst auf Ihre
Sache selbst mitteilen.

Bestimmungsort: Jena

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie
mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. am Markt d. Anlaufsstr. Nr. 12

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarkte bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen
Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für
das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brief-
lichen Mitteilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse,
mit Tinte, Bleistift oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig;
dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expressbestellung
gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mitteilungen sowohl inner-
halb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den
Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

NDP's second issued Formular card #3, issued in July 1870. Earliest known date used: July 9, 1870 (F).

This card was used a week later within Thuringia with a postage of one Groschen.

Misprint type I. The digit 2 is missing in front of the second note (F).

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An Herrn Kümer, Jordan

Bestimmungsort: Hamburg

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie
mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarkte bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen
Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für
das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brief-
lichen Mitteilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse,
mit Tinte, Bleistift oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig;
dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expressbestellung
gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mitteilungen sowohl inner-
halb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den
Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

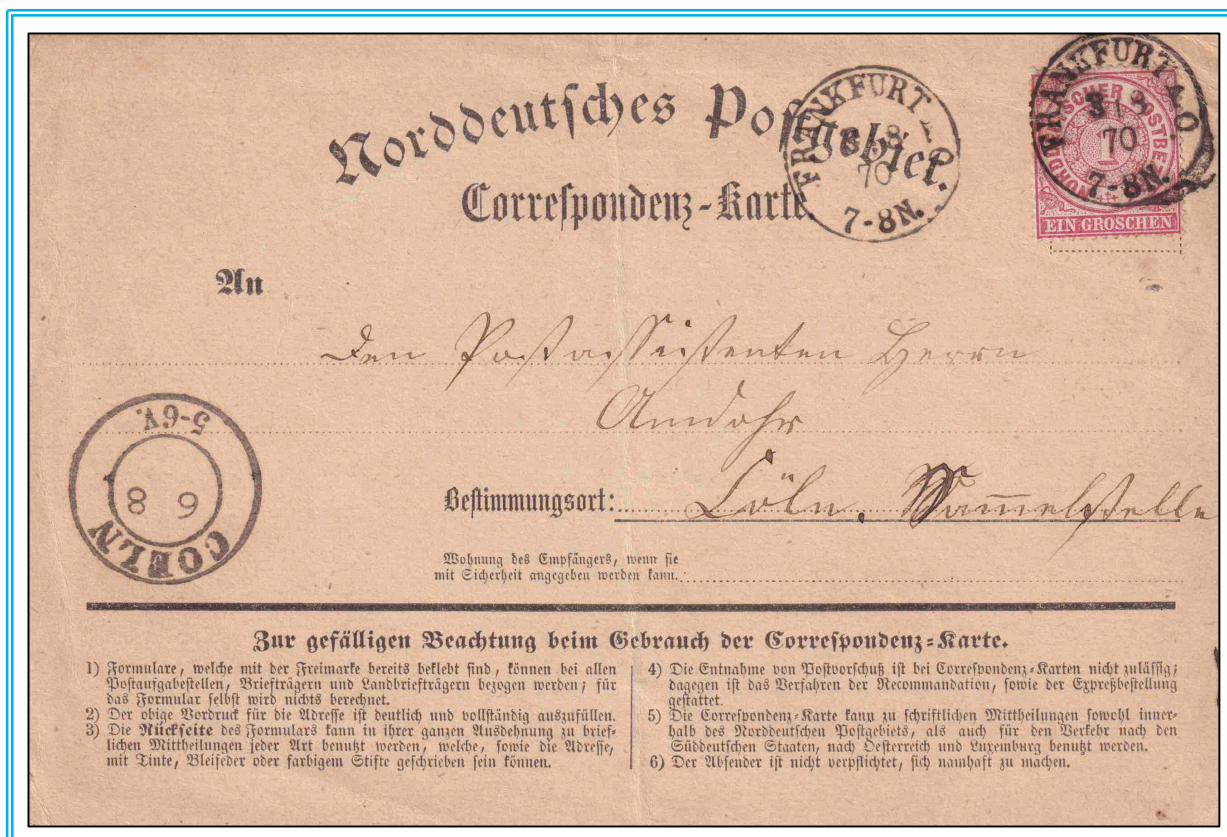
The card was used in September 1870 between Schlesvig-Holstein and the city of Hamburg with a postage of 1 Groschen.

North German Post District (NDP) – third card, #4, use from Alsace

NDP #4. Dash type a). Address lines A+B=76+66 mm. C=103 mm. Notes V1

NDP's third issued formular card, #4, issued in July 1870. Earliest known date used (F): July 29, 1870.

This card was used within Prussia, **already five days later, on August 3, 1870**. The postage is, correctly, 1 Groschen.



NDP's third issued formular card #4, used from Strasbourg in Alsace to Frankfurt in 1871, with a postage of 15 centimes of "occupation stamps". Cards sent from Alsace are rare.



NDP organized a mail system in occupied France 1870/71 with special NDP Cartes de Correspondance and "occupation stamps". From Alsace and German-Lorraine, however, NDP cards were used, with the "occupation stamps".

North German Post District (NDP) – fourth & fifth card – #2 and #13

NDP's fourth and fifth cards, #2 & #13, were issued in late November 1870. They were printed by Pickenhahn & Son in Chemnitz and have a different dash and type of K in "Karte" at the second line.

NDP #2. Dash type c) double:  Address lines A+B=51+50 mm. Notes V2

Formular card #2, issued 1870 from NDP. The third and the last address lines have a length of 51 and 50 mm, respectively. The notes are of type V2.

Earliest known date used: November 30, 1870. This card was used in March 1871 within Saxony.



Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An
Herrn J. Schuhmann

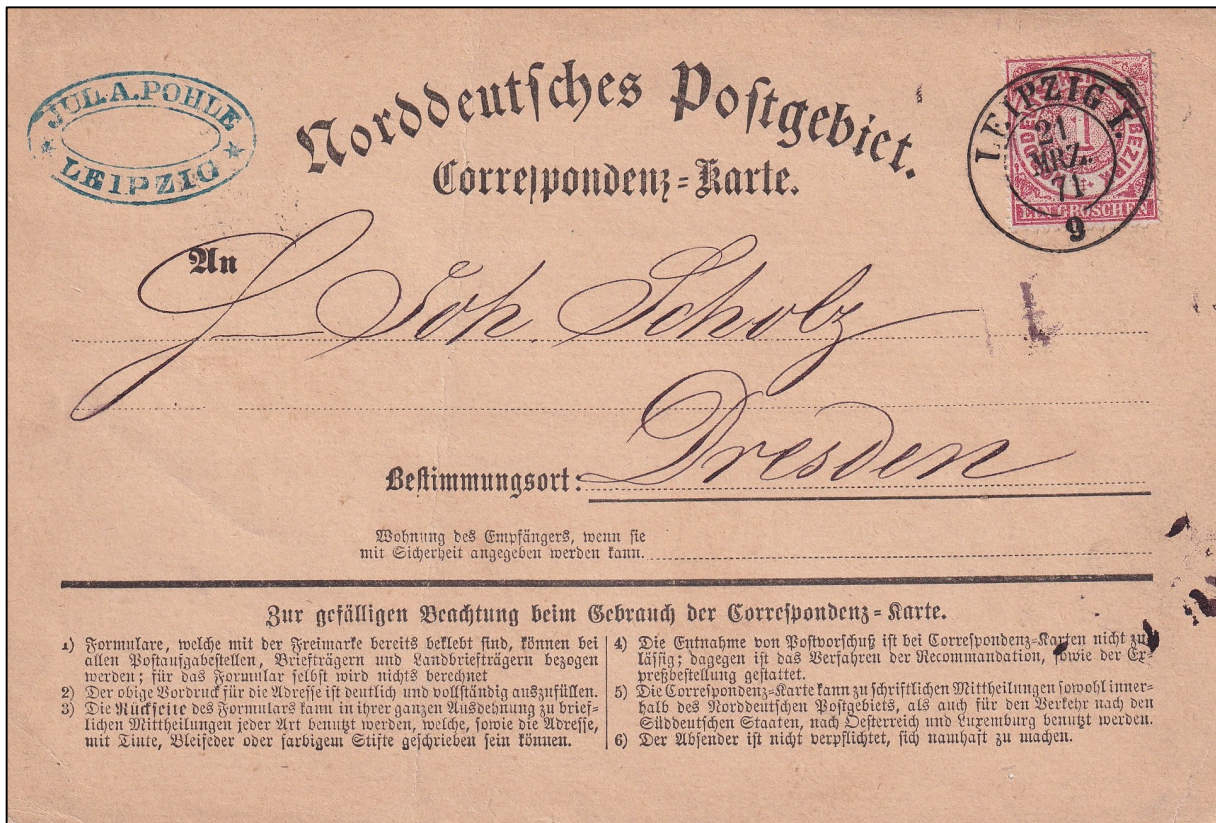
Bestimmungsort: *Leipzig*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarkte bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleistift oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expressbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

NDP #13. Dash type c) double. Address lines A+B=76+68 mm. C=91mm. Notes V2



Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An
Herrn J. Scholz

Bestimmungsort: *Dresden*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarkte bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleistift oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expressbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

Formular card #13, issued 1870 from NDP. The third and the last address lines have now a length of 76 and 68 mm, respectively. The title above the notes is short: C=91mm. Earliest known date used: December 1, 1870. This card was used in March 1871 within Saxony.

North German Post District (NDP) – sixth & seventh card – #6 and #9

NDP's sixth and seventh cards, #6 & #9, were issued in December 1870. They were printed by Bruns in Minden and Baensch Jr. in Magdeburg, respectively. They have the same dash and type of K in "Karte on the second line as the first three cards.

NDP #6. Dash type a). Address lines A+B=73+73 mm. C=103 mm. Notes V1

Formular card #6; a larger size than normal: 117 mm high. It is a card type I, with no lines on the back side, first used on December 20, 1870 (F).

This card was used between Schleswig-Holstein and North Rhine-Westphalia with a correct postage of 1 Groschen.

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An *J. C. P. Eyring*

Bestimmungsort: *Leipzig*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarke bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommandation, sowie der Expresßbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

NDP #9. Dash type a). Address lines A+B=78+69 mm. C=104 mm. Notes V4

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An *J. C. P. Eyring*

Bestimmungsort: *Leipzig*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarke bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommandation, sowie der Expresßbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

Formular card #9, issued 1870 from NDP. The third and the last address lines have now a length of 78 and 69 mm, respectively. The notes are of type V4. The B in "Bestimmungsort" is now type 12.

Earliest known date used: February 2, 1871.

North German Post District (NDP) – January 1871 – eight & ninth card

NDP's eight and ninth cards, #14 & #5, were issued in January 1871. They were printed in Düsseldorf and Hannover, respectively. They have a different, double, dash and type of K.

NDP #14. Dash type c) double:

m = K

Address lines A+B=78+69 mm. C=109 mm. Notes V3.

Formular card
#14, issued
1871 from NDP.

The title above
the notes is
long: C=109
mm.

This card is
larger than
normal:
165x 117 mm.

Earliest known
date used:
January 31,
1871.

This card was
used in March
1871 within
Westphalia.

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An *Herrn Ed. F. ...*

Bestimmungsort: *Crefeld.*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarke bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expresbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Abjender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

NDP #5. Dash type a). Address lines A+B=76+67 mm. C=95 mm. Notes V1

Norddeutsches Postgebiet.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An *Herrn A. Ranschoff*

Bestimmungsort: *Laimberg*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarke bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expresbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Die Correspondenz-Karte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen sowohl innerhalb des Norddeutschen Postgebiets, als auch für den Verkehr nach den Süddeutschen Staaten, nach Oesterreich und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Abjender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

Formular card
#5, issued
1871 from
NDP. The third
and the last
address lines
have a length
of 76+67 mm.
The notes 1-3
are of type V1.
Shorter note
title line.
Earliest known
date used:
January 27,
1871 (F).
This card was
used locally
1872 within
Lower Saxony
with a postage
of ½ Groschen.

North German Post District (NDP) – tenth & eleventh card - #10 & #11

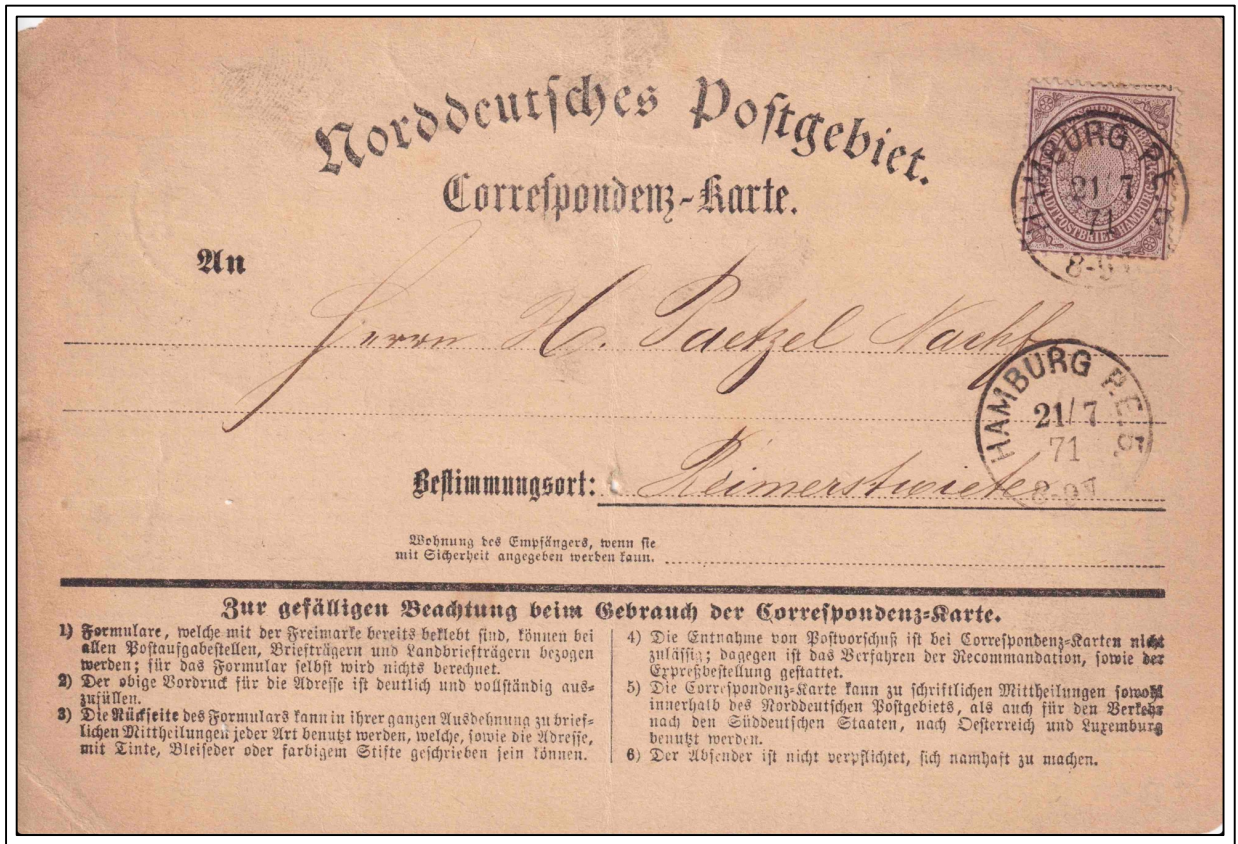
NDP's tenth and eleventh cards, #10 & #11, were issued in January 1871, in Hamburg and Frankfurt am main, respectively.

NDP's #10. Dash type a) cont. Address lines A+B=76+67 mm. Notes V5

Formular card #10, issued by Ober-Postamt in Hamburg. The third and the last address lines have now a length of 76 and 67 mm, respectively. The notes are of type V5.

Earliest known date used: January 28, 1871.

The card was used within the city of Hamburg with a stamp for city mail.



NDP's #11. Dash type b1) straight: **n3-Ra** Address lines A+B=75+67 mm. Notes V6



This card was used outside the NDP and has an affixed stamp with a value of 3 Kreuzer for the use between Southern Hessen (that did not belong to NDP) and Baden.

First card with (a small) C. 154 at bottom right.

C. 154.

NDP's twelfth and thirteen card, #7 & #8, were issued in February-March 1871. They were printed in Gumbinnen and Schwerin, respectively. They have the same dash and "K" as the first cards.

NDP's card #7, issued 1871 from NDP. The third and the last address lines have now a length of 78 and 68 mm, respectively. The notes are of type V1.

Earliest known date used:
February 25, 1871 (F).
This card was used in April 1871 within Prussia, with a postage of 1 Groschen.



“Bestimmungsort”, type 1: Bestimmungsort:



NDP's card #8,
issued in March
1871.
A very different
font for
Bestimmungsort
in front of the
third address
line.

Earliest known
date used:
March 3, 1871.
This card was
used in April
1871 from
Mecklenburg to
Thuringia, with
a postage of 1
Groschen.

North German Post District (NDP), July 1871 – fourteenth card - #12

NDP's fourteenth card, #12, was issued in July 1871. It was printed in Breslau by Friederich. It has a short, straight dash and a "K" like the first cards.

Dash type b2) straight:  Address lines A+B=75+67 mm. C=93 mm. Notes V1

NDP's last and fourteenth card #12, issued in July 1871

The title above the notes is short: C=93 mm. The notes are of type V1. Earliest known date used: July 3, 1871.































A large C.154. bottom right at the last line.

C. 154.

(C. 154. refers to the Announcement in Amtsblatt 37, Norddeutsches Postverwaltung, June 16, 1870).

An overview of the 14 cards from NDP, in chronological order, with the numbering by Kalckhoff (1911).
First Date (FD) recorded, printing place and differences in the printed text.

NDP-cards				Address lines		Titleline-notes					
Order (F)	Card No.(K)	First Date (F)	Printed or issued (K)	Dash	K-type	A	B	C	Notes	Bestimmungsort	C 154
1	1	1870-06-17				51	50	101.5-104.5	V1	3	
2	3	1870-07-09	Geh. Ober-Hofdruckerei, Berlin.			76-77	68	102			
3	4	1870-07-29				51	50	104.5			
4	2	1870-11-30	Pickenhahn & Son, Chemnitz			75.5	68	93	V2+V6	2	
5	13	1870-12-01				73.5	73	103	V1	8	
6	6	1870-12-20	Bruns, Minden			78		104	V4	12	
7	9	1870-12-29	Baensch Jr., Magdeburg			78		109	V3+V3	18	
8	14	1871-01-31	OPDn Düsseldorf, Köln, Koblenz und Trier			77		95	V1	4	
9	5	1871-01-27	Klindworth'schen Hofbuchdruckerei, Hannover			76		104	V2	19	
10	10	1871-01-28	Ober-Postamt, Hamburg			74-75	66-70	98	V3+V6	2	C.154
11	11	1871-02-02	Osterrieth in Frankfurt am Main			77.5		103	V1	11	
12	7	1871-02-25	Krauseneck, Gumbinnen			78		105	V3+V3	1	
13	8	1871-03-07	Sandmeyer, Schwerin			74		93	V1	16	C.154
14	12	1871-07-03	Friederich, Breslau								

Reference

Kalckhoff, F. (1911) *Die Erfindung der Postkarte und die Korrespondenz-Karten der Norddeutschen Bundespost*, Arge B.D.Ph.e.V. Norddeutscher Postbezirk Elsaß-Lothringen und Feldpost 1870/71. Heft 18, Verlag von Hugo Krötsch & Co., Leipzig 1911

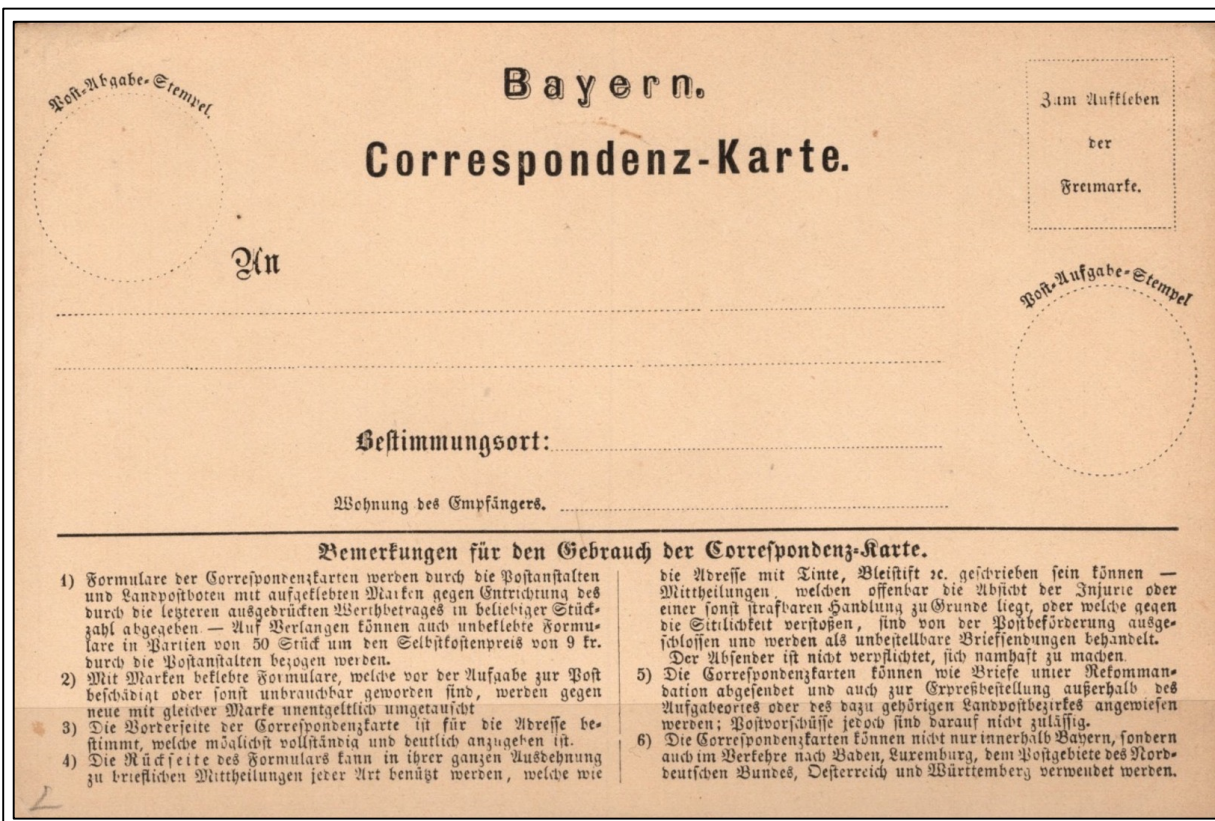
Bavaria (Bayern) 1870 – type I & II, varieties a & b

The old German state of Bavaria was an independent kingdom between 1806 and 1918. The kingdom issued its first formular card on July 1, 1870. The size is 166 x 111mm and the title is "Bayern. Correspondenz-Karte". The card has a space for an affixed stamp and two circular spaces for departure and arrival cancellations. The bottom third of the card has six paragraphs with instructions. The formular card is not listed by (H&G) but mentioned by (A). The card was printed in at least two types; the main difference between the types is a thick line (or none) under the postal address line.

Card #1, type I, with a thick line under the third address line.

This card was used already in Mid-July 1870, from the state of Pfalz to the state of Württemberg, with a postage of 3 Kreuzer.

In 1870 Pfalz belonged to the kingdom of Bavaria.



Formular card #1, type II, without a thick line under the third address line.

The text in the stamp box is the same as in NDP and Baden.

This card is variety d) with a latin "e" in "verstossen" in note 4 (F).

Bavaria (Bayern) 1870 – Field post

During the Franco-German war 1870-71 the kingdom of Bavaria organized a postal service for its troops with separate field postal cards.

Bavaria's field post card #1, type I, with a thick line under the third address line.

The top of the card has the same text as the formular card. "Feldpost" has replaced the stamp box in the top right corner.

The card has notes at the bottom, explaining how to use the card and for the sender to state to which troop he belongs.

Bavaria's field post card #1, type II, without a thick line under the third address line.

The card was delivered to the field post office "III" on August 12, 1870, and sent to Munich.

This is much earlier use than (F) says for a Bavarian field post card type II, September 2, 1870.

Baden Post District (Badischer Postbezirk) 1870 - card #1

The old German state of Baden was an independent Grand Duchy between 1806 and 1918. The Grand Duchy of Baden issued its first formular cards in August 1870. The size is 145-150 x 107-110 mm and the title is "Badischer Postbezirk. Correspondenz-Karte". The card has a large space for an affixed stamp. The bottom fourth of the card has four paragraphs with instructions. The formular cards are not listed by (H&G) but mentioned by (A) and described by (F).

The first formular card, issued on August 10, 1870, from the Duchy of Baden, printed on yellowish paper. Four address lines, four notes and a printing note "E.3." in the bottom right corner.

This card has a size of 153 x 108 mm. It has an affixed stamp of 1 Kreuzer, for local use.

Two dashes between "Correspondenz" and "Karte". Cards with only one dash are falsifications (A).



Baden's first formular card sent within the state of Baden with a postage of 3 Kreuzer for domestic mail.

The card size is 149 x 106 mm.

This card was used on August 14, i.e. it is fifth-day card.

The two cards are type I (F), with "p" in "Correspondenz" above the "die" at the line beneath.

Correspondenz
ist die Anwendung



Baden Post District (Badischer Postbezirk) 1870 - card #2

The second formular card from Baden was issued a week later than the first, on August 17, 1870, now printed on a reddish paper. The postage was 1 Kreuzer for local mail and 3 Kreuzer for domestic mail. The 1 and 3 Kreuzer stamps were larger than the stamps in NDP. Because of that the stamp box on the cards from Baden is exceptionally large. Baden never issued postal cards with a value stamp on its own. From 1872 the postal services of Baden became part of the German Postal district, "Deutsches Reichs-Post-Gebiet".

Baden's second formular card, issued on August 17, 1870.

Used in September 1870 as field post without postage. Sent from Woerth in Alsace to Pilsen in Bohemia. Stamped with the rare K.PR.FELDPPOST-RELAIS III double-ring postmark.

e

The stamp box instructions are:

"For gluing the stamp", in German. The card size is 152 x 104 mm.

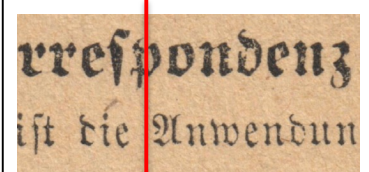
The card is type I.



Baden's second formular card with an affixed stamp with a value of 3 Kreuzer for domestic use or use to other states.

The size is 144 x 108 mm.

This card is type II (F), with "p" in "Correspondenz" between the "die" and the "Anwendung" at the line beneath:



NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Field Post Card #1 (K16)

During the German-Franco war 1870/71 a large part of eastern France was occupied. For the German troops a field post system was organized, with open mail as formular cards, "Feldpostkarten". Six slightly different formular cards were used for mail from the army and one for mail to the army, numbered 15-20 (K), or 1-7 (F), with no stamps but special field post cancellations.

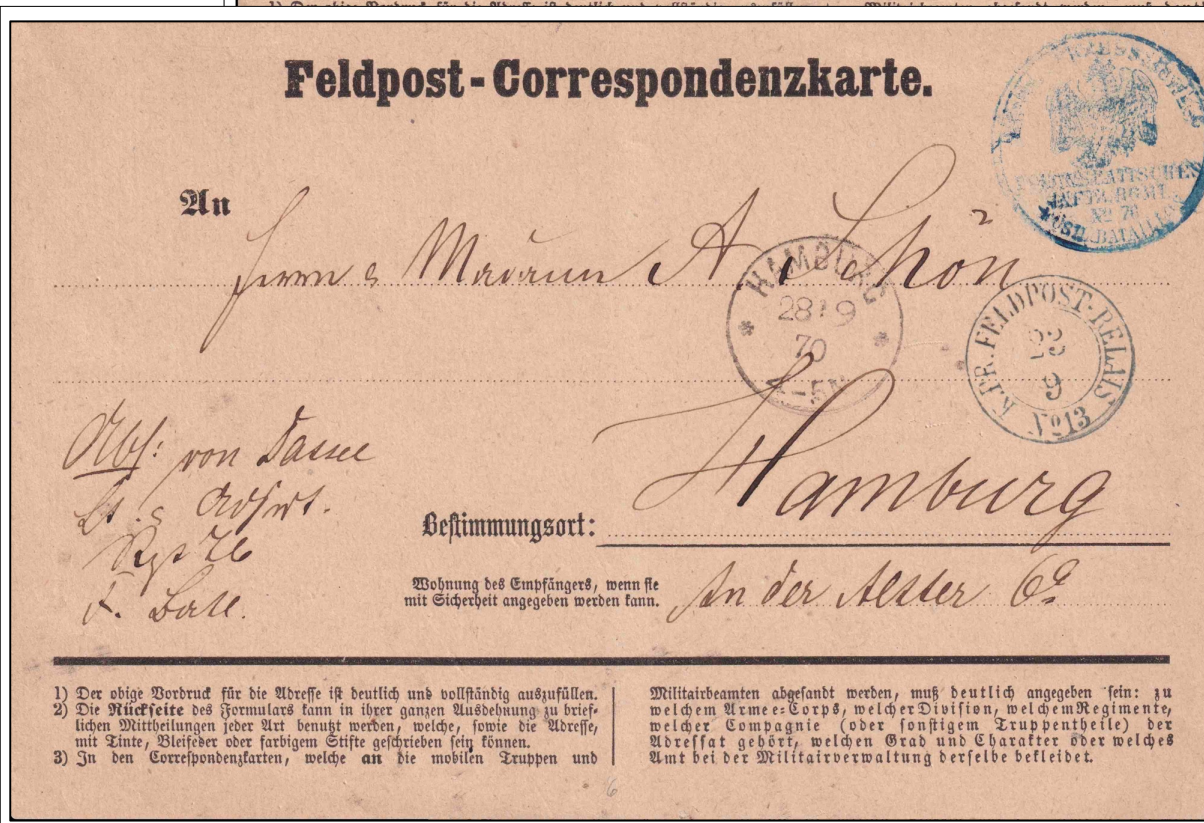
"Field Post-Card" #16 (K), or #1 (F). *Bestimmungsort* type 3, 21.5 mm. Notes with five lines.

Printed by Geh. Ober-Hofbuchdruckerei (R. von Decker) in Berlin (F).

Card size 108x162 mm. "First Date Seen" (FDS) 5.8.1870 (F).

"Field Post-Card" #1 used in late August 1870, before entering the field post system, from Bitterfeld in Saxony to Hamburg.

This card was folded in the middle; the cards were too large for ordinary pockets.



"Field Post-Card" #1 used in late September 1870, to the same address in Hamburg.

Sent from Chalons-sur-Marne near the Royal Prussian Field Post Relay No 13 in Bar-le-Duc, in western Lorraine, arriving in Hamburg a week later.

References: (K) Kalckhoff, F. (1911) *Die Erfindung der Postkarte und die Korrespondenz-Karten der NDP*, Arbeitsgemeinschaft in B.D.Ph.e.V. NDP Heft 18, Verlag von Hugo Krötzsch & Co, Leipzig 1911. 58pp.

(F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.

(G) Glasewald, A. E. (1913) *Die Post im Kriege. Beiträge zur Geschichte der Feldpost*. Private publisher, Gösßnitz. 241 pp.

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Field Post Cards #2 (K17)

"Field Post-Card" #17 (K), or #2 (F). *Bestimmungsort* type 2, 24.5 mm. Notes with five lines.

Printed by Osterrieth in Frankfurt am Main (F).

Card size 104x167 mm. **Type I**, grey, raw cardboard. FDS August 10, 1870.

Feldpost-Correspondenzkarte.

An General-Lieutenant v. Landwehr-Lieutenant

7

WITZENHAUSEN
12
11
9-10
V

Bestimmungsort: Witzenhausen

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. Reg. Br. Cpt.

1) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und Militärbefehlshaber abgehandelt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armee-Corps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militärverwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

Field Post Card #2 sent from the Royal Prussian Field Post Expedition of the 20. Infantry Division on September 7, 1870, arriving in Witzenhausen in the state of Hesse five days later.

"Field Post-Card" #17 (K), or #2 (F). **Type II**, brown-yellow cardboard. FDS October 25, 1870.

Feldpost-Correspondenzkarte.

An General-Major

K. PR. FELDPOST
RELAYS No 26.
6/11

9/11
2 1/2-4 Nm.

Bestimmungsort: Berlin

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. 37 Schöneberger Ufer

1) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und Militärbefehlshaber abgehandelt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armee-Corps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militärverwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

Field Post Card #2-II sent in early November 1870 from Clermont en Argonne Oise, some 25 km west of Verdun, near the Royal Prussian Field Post Relay No 26, arriving in Berlin three days later.

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Field Post Cards #3 & #5 (K18 & K20)

"Field Post-Card" #18 (K), or #3 (F). *Bestimmungsort* type 2, 21.5 mm. Notes with **five** lines.

Title line printed in font "Grotesk". Probably printed in Chemnitz (F).

Card size 105x162 mm. Thick, white cardboard. FDS August 19, 1870.

Field Post Card
#3 sent from
the Royal
Prussian Field
Post Expedition
of 21. Infantry
Division on
September 2,
1870, arriving in
Netra in Grand
Duchy of Hesse
nine days later.

2

Feldpost - Correspondenzkarte.

An Jan 30 1910

11 9 1870


Gen. Baruch Katzenstein

Off. v. Katzenstein, Bata. 87 Reg. 4. B. 3. 1.

1146 Name-Liste 30. 1. 1910

Bestimmungsort: *Vetro*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. *Wohnung 61/100 (B. 1. 1. 1.)*



1) Der obige Bordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.

2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.

3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und

Militairbeamten abgesandt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armeecorps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militairverwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

18

"Field Post-Card" #20 (K), or #5 (F). *Bestimmungsort* type 13, 26.5 mm. Notes with **six** lines.

No vertical line in the middle, between the notes. Probably printed in Magdeburg (F).

Card size 109x164 mm. Brown-yellow cardboard. FDS August 3, 1870.

“Character” with a “c” in the third note = unique to this card.

Feldpost-Correspondenzkarte.

An *Fr. v. S.*

Fr. v. S.

Genosse
2. 9. 1870.

Bestimmungsort: *Berlin*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. *Unter d. Linden 21*

1) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und Militärbeamten abgesandt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armer.-Corps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Character oder welches Amt bei der Militärverwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

Field Post Card
#5 sent in early
October 1870
from the Royal
Prussian Field
Post
Expedition of
1. Garde
Infantry
Division,
arriving in
Berlin eight
days later.

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Field Post Cards #4 (K19)

“Field Post-Card” **#19** (K), or **#4** (F). *Bestimmungsort* type 2, 24.5 mm. Notes with **six** lines. No vertical line in the middle, between the notes. Large (7mm) vertical spacing between the notes. Printed by Carl Kühn & Söhne in Berlin (F). Card size 108x168 mm. **Type I:** Address lines as lines. FDS August 27, 1870 (F).

Card #4 sent
in late
October
from
Montmenard
near the
Royal
Prussian
Field Post
Relay No 31,
in Nanteuil-
sur-Marne,
to Leipzig.

Feldpost-Correspondenzkarte.

An Fraülein Helene Harbach

RECEIVED POST
NOV 31
25/10



Bestimmungsort: Leipzig

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. Bosn. Trapp. No 17. 24.

1) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung in brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Meißel oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und Militärbeamten abgesandt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armeekorps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militär-Verwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

1914

Type II : Address lines of dots with large spacing. FDS November 29, 1870 (F). Card size 110x166 mm.

Feldpost-Correspondenzkarte.

An
Herrn Premier Lieutenant Faun
Hauptmann i. R.
Führer des 6. Landwehr-Regiments
Landwehr-Jubiläum Nr. 65.
Kapp. Barle Vieo.

14. November 1918
AUSG. TRIER
17 11
70
1-2N

Bestimmungsort: *Trier*
Saarstapel

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

1) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und Militärbeamten abgehandelt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armee-Corps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militär-Verwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

Card #4-II,
sent in Mid-
November,
1870 from
Bar-le-Duc
near the
Royal
Prussian Field
Post Relay
No 13, in
western
Lorraine,
arriving three
days later in
Trier.

This card was used earlier than previously known FDS (F).

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Field Post Cards 6 & 7 (- & K15)

"Field Post-Card" #6 (F), not numbered by (K). *Bestimmungsort* type 13, 26.5 mm. Notes with **six** lines.

This card was a gift from queen Augusta of Prussia to her regiment; 20.000 were issued, 10 cards to each soldier (K).

Card size 108x163 mm. FDS August 13, 1870 (F).

Field Post Card #6 sent on April 6, 1871, from Villers-Saint-Frambourg in the region of Picardie, some 50 km north of Paris, via the Royal Prussian Field-Post Expedition Reserve "Garde Corps", arriving in the city of Kaufbeuren in the kingdom of Bavaria three days later.

Feldpost - Correspondenzkarte.

4. Garde = Grenadier = Regiment Königin.

An *Julius Probst*

abfand:
J. Schmidt
1000

614

Kaufbeuren.

Bayern.

Bestimmungsort:

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann.

1) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
2) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
3) In den Correspondenzkarten, welche an die mobilen Truppen und Militairbeamten abgesandt werden, muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armee-Corps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militairverwaltung derselbe bekleidet.

"Field Post-Card" #15 (K), or #7 (F) for mail to the soldiers. Notes with **six** and **seven** lines.

Card size 108x162 mm. **Type I:** colon after "sein" in note 2. FDS August 8, 1870 (F).

Feldpost - Correspondenzkarte.

An den *Lieutenant*
Julius Oscar Haun
3^{te} Oltm.

MÜHLHAUSEN
IN THÜRINGEN
18 9 70 5-6N

4^{tes} Armee: Corps.

7^{te} Division. 14 Brigade

tes Aufst. Inf. Regiment No 93

te Compagnie.

te Schwadron.

Batterie.

1) Correspondenzkarten an die mobile Armee werden portofrei befördert und sind bei sämmtlichen Norddeutschen Postanstalten käuflich zu haben (5 Stück à 3 Pfennige).
2) In den Correspondenzkarten muß deutlich angegeben sein: zu welchem Armee-Corps, welcher Division, welchem Regimente, welcher Compagnie (oder sonstigem Truppentheile) der Adressat gehört, welchen Grad und Charakter oder welches Amt bei der Militairverwaltung derselbe bekleidet.
3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
4) In Privat-Angelegenheiten ist eine Recommendation der Correspondenzkarten nicht gestattet.

Field Post Card #7 sent from Thuringia on September 16, 1870, to a lieutenant in the 4th army corps, 7th division, regiment No 93.

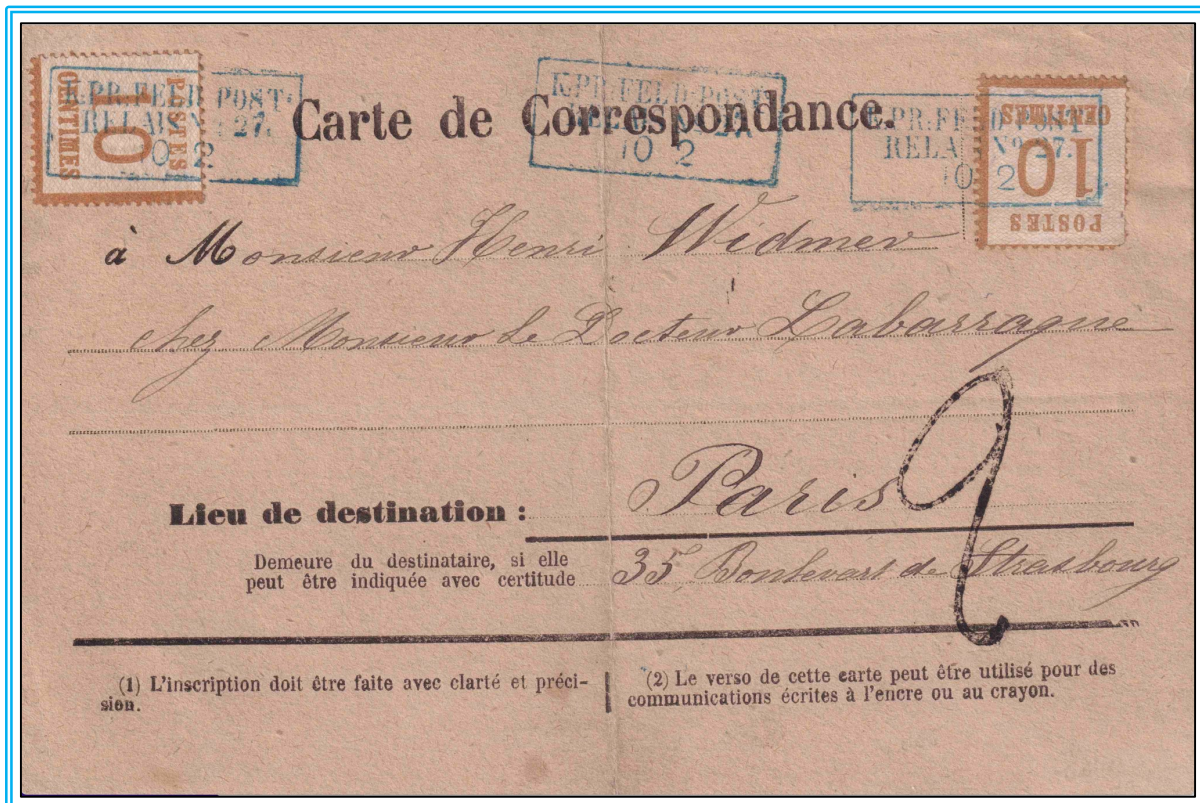
NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Carte de Correspondance #1(K#23)

For the French inhabitants of the occupied parts of France, during and after the German-Franco war 1870/71, a mail system was organised by NDP with special postal cards, "Correspondence Card", in French. A series of five cards were issued, printed in different cities, together with special "occupation-stamps".

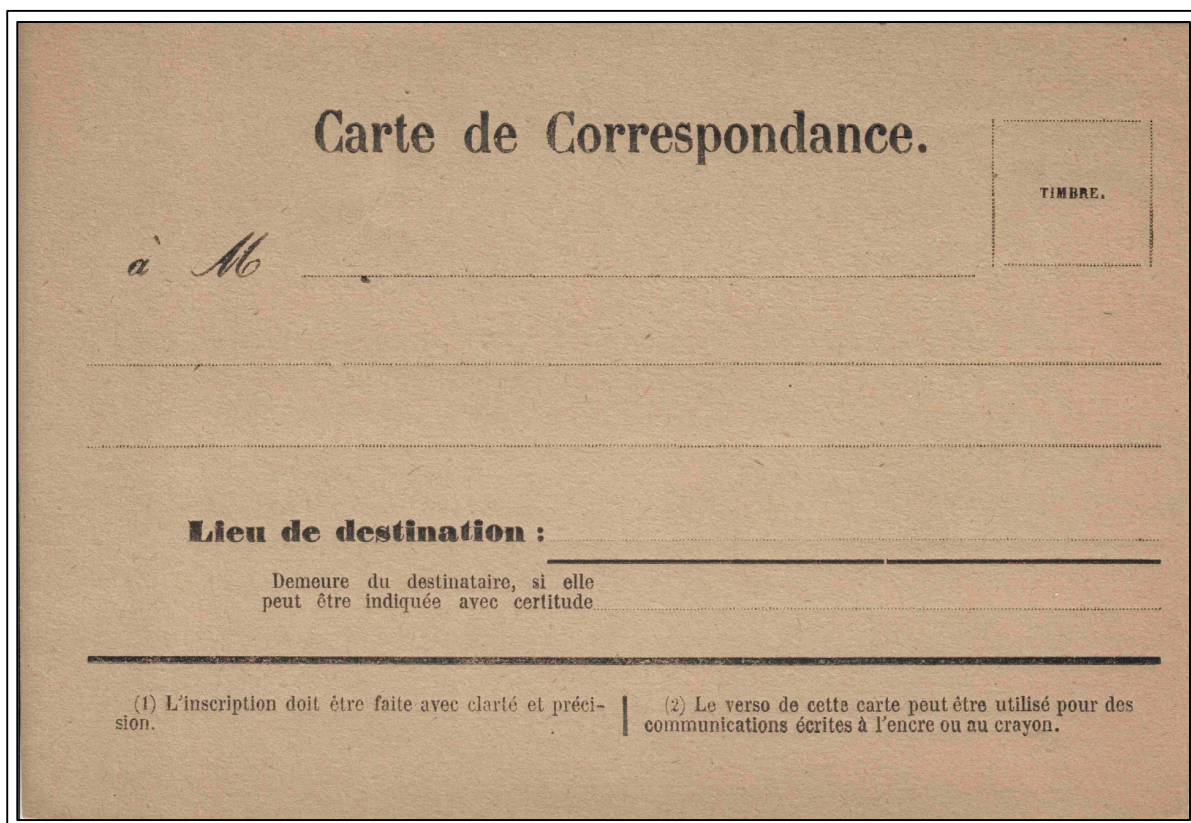
Formular card CdC #1 (F), #23 (K), FDS 16.9.1870, printed in Reims (F). An 86-88 mm long first headline, five address lines, two two-line notes. First line of notes ends with "préci-"/"des".

Card **type I**, "c" in "crayon" beneath "t" in "utilisé" (F).

The cards were introduced by a *Bekanntmachung* (Announcement) on September 29, 1870 but were used earlier than that.



- e The card was sent in early 1871 as a rare card from occupied Sedan to Paris, with a postage of 20 centimes, as two 10 c "occupation stamps". Cancellation by K.PR FELDPOST / RELAIS N° 27 / 10 2 (71) / Alsace N° 5.



Formular card CdC #1 (F), card **type II**, with "c" in "crayon" beneath "u" in "utilisé" (F). The cards have a stamp box, with the text "STAMP" in French. All the CdC cards have a square stamp box even though the "occupation stamps" are not square.

After the armistice, these cards were not meant to be used after March 23, 1871 (AdP).

References: (K) Kalckhoff, F. (1911) *Die Erfindung der Postkarte und die Korrespondenz-Karten der NDP, Arbeitsgemeinschaft in B.D.Ph.e.V. NDP Heft 18, Verlag von Hugo Krötzsch & Co, Leipzig 1911. 58pp.*
(F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.*

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Carte de Correspondance #2

For the French inhabitants of the occupied parts of France, during and after the German-Franco war 1870/71, a mail system was organised by NDP with special postal cards, "Correspondence Card", in French. A series of five cards were issued, printed in different cities, together with special "occupation-stamps". The cards were introduced by a "*Bekanntmachung*" (Announcement) on September 29, 1870 but were used earlier than that.

Formular card CdC #2 (F), not known by (K). Printed in Château-Thierry.
95 mm long first headline, five address lines, two- and three-lines notes.
First line of notes ends with "et"/"utilisé". No stamp box (type II).



This card was sent in early 1871 as a field-post card, without additional postage, to Brühl near Cologne. Ex. Mazánek. Signed *Spalink BPP* on the back.

Used cards #2 are rare; only four are known (M). This particular card is shown by Frech (2015).

References:

- (K) Kalckhoff, F. (1911) *Die Erfindung der Postkarte und die Korrespondenz-Karten der NDP*, Arbeitsgemeinschaft in B.D.Ph.e.V. NDP Heft 18, Verlag von Hugo Krötzsch & Co, Leipzig 1911. 58pp.
- (F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Korrespondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.
- (M) Mazánek, J. (2019) *Norddeutscher Bund / Deutsches Reich – Frankreich 1868 bis 1871. Korrespondenz im Frieden und im Krieg*. Arge NDP. 196 pp.

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Carte de Correspondance, #3 & #4(K#21)

Formular card
CdC #3 (F), not
known by (K).
FDS 17.9.
1870.

92 mm long
first headline,
six address
lines, two
two/three-
lines notes.
No stamp box.
First line of
notes ends
with et-
/utilisé.

Printed in
Meaux, issued
through
Fieldpost-
Relay No. 58.

The card was sent on October 8, 1870 from Meaux, outside Paris, with transit through Germany (red cancellation Bade (Basel) – Strasbourg 5), to Etables in Bretagne. Correct postage of 20 centimes confirmed in red F.20.

Formular card CdC
#21 (K),
#4 (F),
FDS 17.9. 1870.

82 mm long first
headline, five
address lines, two
two-line notes.
A square stamp box
with full lines.
The 10c stamp is a
later reprint.

First line of notes
ends with pré-/les.

This was the first
common issue,
issued from the
postal
administration in
Nancy (F).

References: (K) Kalckhoff, F. (1911) *Die Erfindung der Postkarte und die Korrespondenz-Karten der NDP, Arbeitsgemeinschaft in B.D.Ph.e.V. NDP Heft 18, Verlag von Hugo Krötzsch & Co, Leipzig 1911. 58pp.*
(F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.*

NDP - Occupied France 1870/71, Carte de Correspondance #5 (K#22)

Formular card
CdC #22(K),
#5(F)
FDS 18.11.1870.
This was the
second common
issue, issued
from the postal
administration
in Reims (F).

A square stamp
box with a note
"TIMBRE"
(stamp).

The first lines of
notes (1) and (2)
ends with "et"
and "pour",
respectively.

The size of the
card is 111 x
161 mm.

The image shows a blank, aged, light brown paper card titled "Carte de Correspondance." in a bold, black, serif font. The card has a simple rectangular border. On the left side, there is a line for the recipient's name, starting with "à M." followed by a dotted line. Below this, there are several horizontal dotted lines for the address. In the center, there is a section labeled "Lieu de destination:" followed by a dotted line. Below this, there is a line for the recipient's address, starting with "Demeure du destinataire, si elle peut être indiquée avec certitude" followed by a dotted line. On the right side, there is a square box labeled "TIMBRE." for a stamp. At the bottom, there are two lines of text: (1) L'inscription doit être faite avec clarté et précision. and (2) Le verso de cette carte peut être utilisé pour les communications écrites à l'encre ou au crayon.

The only known NDP correspondence card with single franking of 10 centimes in the imperial post area, sent completely without any complaints about missing additional postage.

The image shows a filled-out version of the "Carte de Correspondance" form. The title "Carte de Correspondance." is at the top. The recipient's name is "à M. Cottasche" and the address is "Lunenburg". The destination is "Stuttgart". The card is stamped with a red "10 CENTIMES" stamp and a circular postmark from "CHATEAU-SALINS" dated "28 11 71". The card is framed by a blue border.

Formular card
CdC #22 (K), #5 (F),
sent in October 1871
from Lorraine in
occupied France to
Stuttgart in
Württemberg with a
postage of 10
centimes.

The size of the card is
somewhat small, 97 x
152 mm.

References: (AdP) Archiv für deutsche Postgeschichte 2/1987

(K) Kalckhoff, F. (1911) Die Erfindung der Postkarte und die Korrespondenz-Karten der NDP,
Arbeitsgemeinschaft in B.D.Ph.e.V. NDP Heft 18, Verlag von Hugo Krötzsch & Co, Leipzig 1911. 58pp.

(F) Frech, H-P (2015) Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer
und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.

France 1870, late September - early October – par ballon (non) monté

France issued special formular cards in 1870, as “balloon cards”, to be used during the siege of Paris 1870-71 for communication by balloon between Paris and the unoccupied parts of France.

(The first formular cards called “carte postale” were issued in 1873.)

The size limit is 70 x 110 mm, which is the limit set by the decree of 26th of September 1870. The decree also put a limit to the weight at 3 grams. The decree required a stamp to be affixed. The postage was set at 20 centimes for a destination within France or Algeria if sent by a manned balloon and 10 centimes if sent by an unmanned balloon. Cards to foreign countries had the same postage as for letters.



The first formular cards could be a small piece of card where “par ballon monté” had been written by hand.

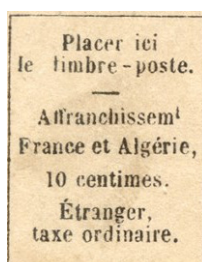
This card is an example of such a card with a thick cardboard, size 62 x 100 mm, no lines or printed text.

The red P.D. in a box means “Paye Depart”, paid to the destination, i.e. the postage of 30 centimes to Belgium is correct.

The card was mailed on October 1, for Belgium, and most probably sent on October 7 with balloon No. 7, “George Sand”, that landed in Crémery, after a five hours flight of 110 km towards Belgium (L). Arrival cancellation of October 9 from St. Joffe in Brussels

The first formular card issued by France in late September 1870 during the siege of Paris, card #1 (P&B).

The text in the stamp box in the top left corner:



The red P.D. in a box confirmed the postage to England of 30 centimes.



The first formular card #1 (P&B), very thick cardboard, size 68 x 105 mm, weight 3.2 grams, five address lines with initial text “M, -, à, par, dép”.

Balloon cards sent in September, and cards sent to England, are rare.

References: (P&B) Le Pileur, J. & de Beaufond, E.H. (1947) *Catalogue des Ballons Montés du Siege de Paris (1870-1871)*, Yvert & Tellier (eds), Amiens 1947

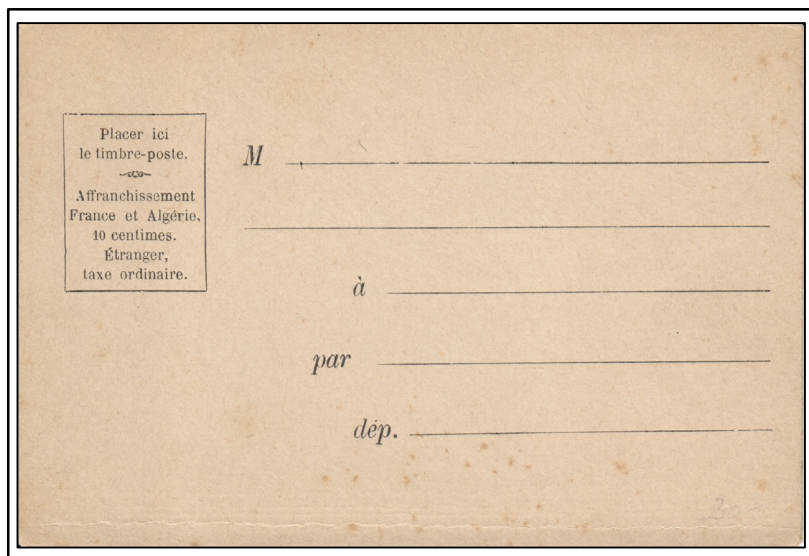
(Phil.net) Les Ballons Montés, www.philatelistes.net

(W) Wikipédia (2014) Timbres de France 1870, http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timbres_de_France_1870.

(L) Lhéritier, G. (2000) *Collection 1870. Ballons Montés. Boules de Moulins*. Édition 2000, Valeurs & Références, Paris

France 1870, mid October – varieties of card #1

Varieties of the first formular card issued by France in late September 1870 during the siege of Paris, card #1 (P&B). The varieties seem to be used from mid-October 1870.



A variety of the first formular card #1 (P&B), thick cardboard, size 70 x 107 mm, weight 3.2 grams, with a stamp box in the top left corner, five lines with initial text "M, -, à, par, dép.". The initial "à" at the 3rd line 15 mm to the right of M at the 1st line. No printer's note.



The text in the stamp box is slightly different from the original card #1.

The initial text "dep." at the last line is also different from the first card and the second variety.

dép.

A second variety of the first formular card #1 (P&B), thin cardboard, size 67 x 103 mm, weight 1.8 grams, five lines with initial text "M, -, à, Dép". The initial "à" at the 4th line beneath "M" on the 1st line. No printer's note. No text in the stamp box. C

Postage now 10 centimes. The postage was changed on October 15, from 20 c. to 10 c. for cards sent by manned balloons, "ballons montés", (P).

This card was used on October 16, 1870, from Paris, Pl. Belleville. It was, most probable, sent on October 18 with Ballon No. 15. Le Victor Hugo ("Cachets de départ du 16 au 18 octobre") (Phil.net) that departed at 11.45 from Jardin des Tuileries, 7 km from the post office at Place Belleville) and arrived at 17.30 in Coeuve, près de Vaubéron (Aisne), 100 km north-east of Paris. From there the card travelled some 140 km north with normal postal services to the final destination, Arras, where it arrived on October 22.



A third variety of the first formular card #1 (P&B), thin cardboard, size 67 x 110 mm, weight 1.6 grams. The printed text is exactly the same as on the original card #1 but with the font in bold. No printer's note. Postage 20 centimes for travelling with a manned balloon.

The text in the stamp box is the same as on the first variety.

This card was used on October 30, 1870, from Paris, La Maison Blanche. It travelled from Gare d'Orleans on November 2 with Ballon No. 22. "Le Fulton" 300 km south-west in 5h45. From there the card travelled with normal postal services some 600 km to the west and reached its final destination in three days.

The card is severely damaged at the right edge. C

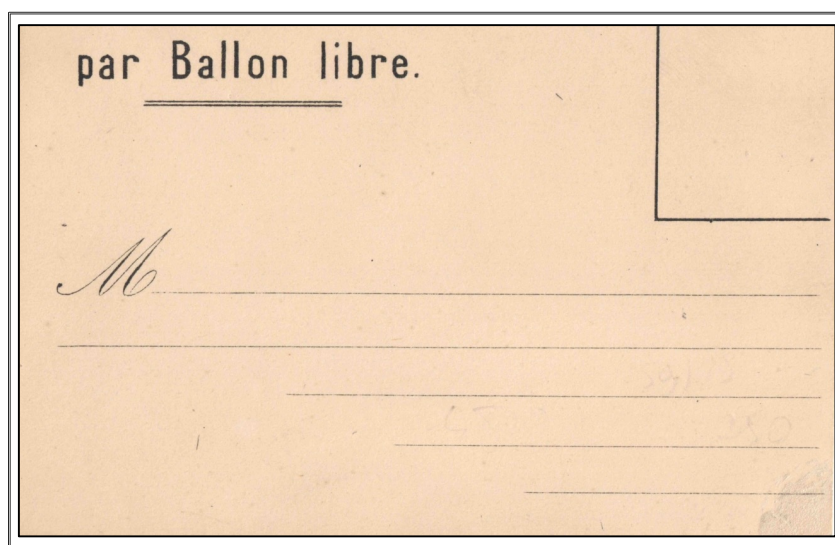
References: (P) Le Pileur, J. (1943) "La Poste par Ballons Montés 1870-1871", Association des Aeronautes du Siège de Paris, de l'Académie de Philatélie, Yvert & Tellier (editors), Amiens, pp.176
(P&B) Le Pileur, J. & de Beaufond, E.H. (1947) Catalogue des Ballons Montés du Siège de Paris (1870-1871), Yvert & Tellier (eds), Amiens 1947
(Phil.net) Les Ballons Montés, www.philatelistes.net
(W) Wikipédia (2014) Timbres de France 1870, http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timbres_de_France_1870

France 1870, late September - early October – “par Ballon libre”

France issued special formular cards in 1870, as “balloon cards”, to be used during the siege of Paris 1870-71 for communication by balloon between Paris and the unoccupied parts of France.

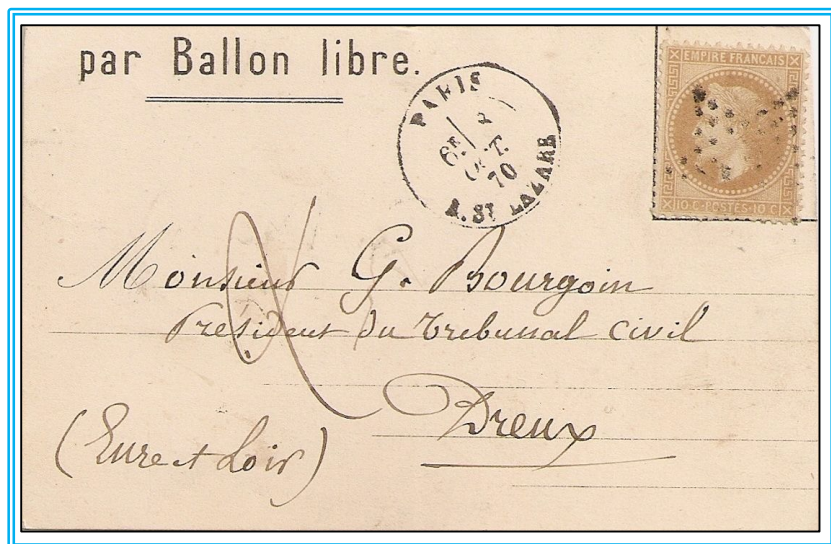
Formular card #2 (P&B) has the title “par Ballon libre.”, by “free” balloon, i.e. it was meant to be sent by an unmanned balloon, for a postage of 10 centimes.

The first, and only, attempt on September 30 failed, however (M). These cards were, instead, sent by manned balloons.



Thick cardboard, size 69x105-108 mm, weight 2.4 grams, with an empty stamp box in the top right corner, five address lines with an initial, fancy “M” at the first line.

No printer’s note.



Formular card #2 used on October 8 and sent by a manned balloon, even though the title line says, “with a free balloon”. The postage, 10 centimes, still is for cards sent by an unmanned balloon.

This card was used on October 8, 1870, from Paris, Rue St Lazare. It was most probably sent by Ballon No. 10.

“Le Louis Blanc” (Phil.net) and landed in Béciers, in Belgium, 290 km north of Paris. From there the card travelled with normal postal services to its final destination Dreux, some 80 km west of Paris. The card carries a cancellation at the back side from a train towards Paris on October 20, 1870.

References:

(M) Maury, A (1907) *Histoire des Timbre-Poste Français. Enveloppes, Bandes, Cartes etc.*

(P&B) Le Pileur, J. & de Beaufond, E.H. (1947) *Catalogue des Ballons Montés du Siège de Paris (1870-1871)*, Yvert & Tellier (eds), Amiens 1947

(Phil.net) Les Ballons Montés, www.philatelistes.net

(W) Wikipédia (2014) *Timbres de France 1870*, http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timbres_de_France_1870

France 1870, mid October – “Par Ballon non monté”

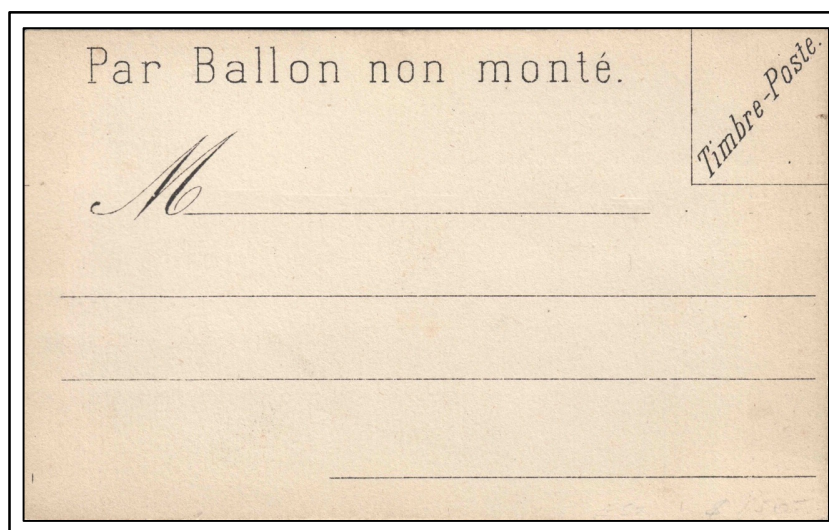
The fourth formular card #4 (P&B) has the title “Par Ballon non monté.”, by Balloon without a pilot, i.e. it was meant to be sent by an unmanned balloon, for a postage of 10 centimes. These cards were, instead, sent by manned balloons even though the postage was too low.

The fourth formular card #4 (P&B), thin white paper, size 68 x 110 mm, weight 1.4 grams.

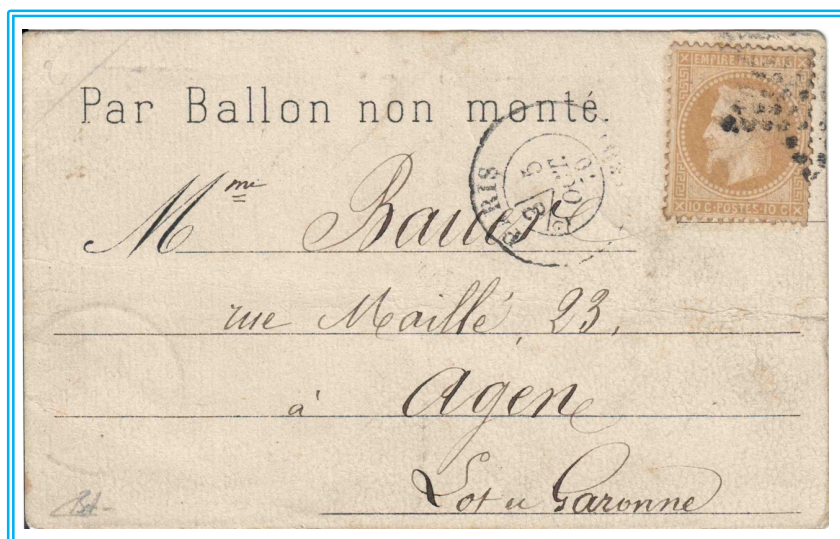
It has a box for a stamp (“Timbre-Poste”) in the top right corner and an “M”, for “Monsieur”, at the first address line. Four address lines.

No printer’s note.

Intended postage 10 centimes as for cards to be sent by unmanned balloons.

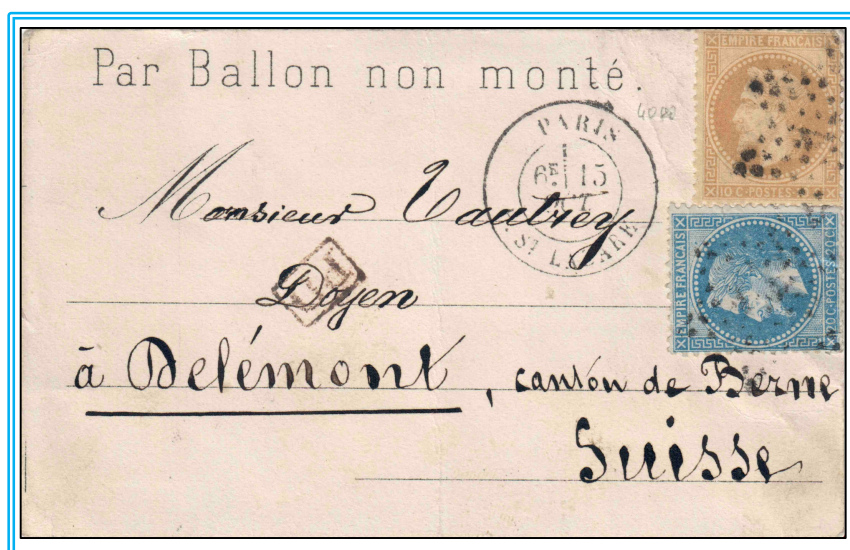


This formular card #4 was used on October 5, 1870, from St-Ouen, a northern suburb to Paris, to be sent to the south-west of France. The postage is 10 centimes as for cards to be sent by an unmanned balloon. The back side of the card has an arrival cancellation on October 21 from Agen. It took more than two weeks to find its final destination, starting with a short balloon trip with the wind out of Paris.



The card was sent by Ballon No. 6. L'Armand-Barbés that departed on October 7 from Place Saint-Pierre (some 4 km from St-Ouen) and landed 98 km north of Paris. From there the card travelled with normal postal services, around the besieged Paris, to its final destination on October 21, some 700 km south of Paris.

C



This formular card #4 was used on October 15, 1870, from St-Lazare, in central Paris, to be sent to Switzerland. The postage is 30 centimes as for cards to be sent to a foreign country. Correct postage is confirmed by the red “PD” in a box.

The card was most probably sent on October 16 by Ballon No. 13 or 14, that both landed in Belgium.

The back side of the card has an arrival cancellation from October 23 from Delemont.

Balloon cards sent to Switzerland are rare.

France 1870, October – “Par Ballon non monté” - varieties

The fourth formular card #4 (P&B) has the title “Par Ballon non monté.”, by Balloon without a pilot, i.e. it was meant to be sent by an unmanned balloon, for a postage of 10 centimes. These cards were, instead, sent by manned balloons even though the postage was too low.

A variety of the fourth formular card #4 (P&B), with a different font in the title line and with text in front of the lines: “a”, “par”, “Dept”.

This card is printed on a much thicker cardboard; weight 2.3 grams, size 70 x 110 mm.

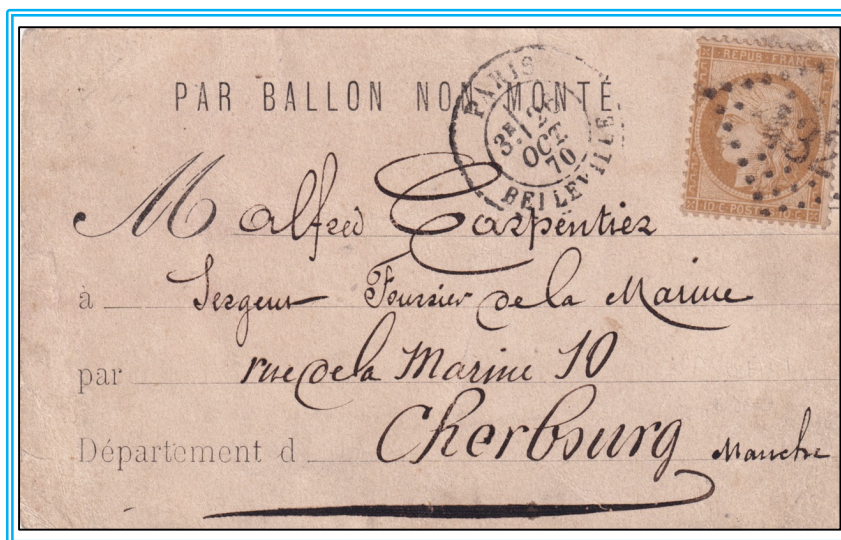
This variety of formular card #4 was used on October 12, 1870, from Place de la Madeleine in Paris, and sent to Belgium, with an insufficient postage of 20 centimes, instead of 30 centimes.

The back side of the card has an arrival cancellation on October 18. It took only six days to Belgium, starting with a balloon trip with the wind.



The card was most probably sent by one of the two balloons leaving on October 16 from Gare d'Orleans headed for Belgium (M). Those two balloons actually reached Belgium (M).

C



The card was most probably carried by Le Vauban, leaving on October 27 from Gare d'Orleans, landing four hours later 248 km to the east. The card then travelled by train, around Paris, to the coast of the English Channel, more than 700 km to the west.

The sixth formular card #6 (P&B), thin white paper, size 68 x 110 mm, weight 1.7 grams. with the first line in capital letters.

Four address lines. Text in front of the lines shifted to the left: a large “M”, “a”, “par” and “Département d”.

This formular card #6 was used on October 26, 1870, from Belleville in Paris, and sent to Cherbourg, with a postage of 10 centimes, for travelling with an unmanned balloon. The back side of the card has an arrival cancellation of November 2 in Cherbourg.

C

This particular card was shown in the books by Maury (1907) and Le Pileur (1943).

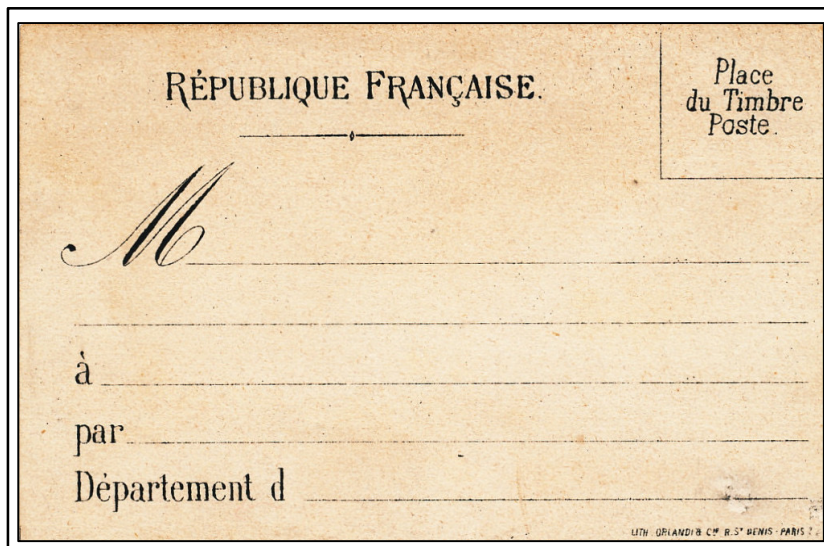
France 1870 – late October - “République Française” – varieties

Formular card #7 (P&B) issued by France in 1870 during the siege of Paris. The title is now, for the first time, “République Française”.

A stamp box with new text, “Place for the stamp”, and five address lines starting with a fancy “M” at the first address line. The last line starts now with the full word “Département”. The back side is blank. The cards #7 weigh only 2.0 grams; the card size is 70 x 110 mm.

The card has a note at bottom right, naming the printer: *Lith. Orland & Co in S^t Denis.*

The last address line ends with a single “d”.



A variety of formular card #7, without the first title line and the line beneath. The large M is thinner but has a larger loop. Another printer in the note at bottom right.

The last line now ends with “de”.

A postage of 10c for “Ballon non Monté”. Posted on October 18, probably sent by the balloon No. 16, “La République Universelle”, on October 19, 256 km to north-east, after a two hours flight. The card arrived on October 24 at its final destination Bourg-en-Bresse 500 km to the south.

This variety is not recorded by (P&B).

A second variety of formular card #7 (P&B), the same text but in a new font. A new, short wavy line below “RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE”.

Only four address lines.

“Department” shortened to “Dèp”.

The cardboard is somewhat thinner, and the card is 4 mm shorter; weight 1.8 g, size 70 x 106 mm.

Sent from Paris by “Ballons Monté” with a postage of 20 c. Two rare cancellations: “ARAL” and “Armée du Rhin 13^e Corps” from October 27. Travelled most probably with “Le Colonel Charras” on October 29, 308 km east-south-east. An arrival cancellation says that the card reached its final destination at the Atlantic coast on November 3.



References: (D) Décrets du 26 septembre 1870. Le Gouvernement de la Défense Nationale. Expédition des correspondances de Paris par ballons montés et non montés. – Avis au public. Paris le 27 Septembre 1870.

(B) Bulletin Mensuel de l'Administration des Postes, no 28, July 1871.

(P) Philatelistes.net (2014). Les Ballons Montés, www.philatelistes.net.

(P&B) Le Pileur, J. & de Beaufond, E.H. (1947) Catalogue des Ballons Montés du Siege de Paris (1870-1871), Yvert & Tellier (eds), Amiens 1947

France 1870 – “Correspondance Aérienne”. A variety



Formular card #8 is printed on very thick cardboard, size 70 x 110 mm, weight 2.4 grams. Five address lines with initial text “M, -, à, par, Département d”.

The printer is mentioned to the left at the bottom: Lith. Orland & Co in St Denis.

This card is very early used, with a postage of 10 c., already on October 1, travelled most probably with “Victor Hugo” on October 18, 117 km to north-east, and arrived in Lyon on October 23.

Formular card #8 (P&B) has the title “République Française”, and a new decorative line. The stamp box has the same text as on cards #7.

“Correspondance Aérienne” is printed in the top of the back side, followed by the same decorative line as on the front side.

The top of the back side:



The back side, with “Correspondance Aérienne”:

Variety of Formular card #8 (P&B) has the same back side, but another front page. The front page is the same front page as card #7 with the title “République Française” but a blank back side.

This card could also be seen as a **variety of the Formular card #7 (P&B)** with the same back side as card #8. The card is somewhat shorter, 108.5 mm, and the cardboard is thinner; weight 1.9 grams.

The postage was 30 centimes to Belgium, confirmed by the red stamp “PD”.



The card was posted on October 24, travelled with “Le Vauban” on October 27, 308 km to the east, and arrived in Brussels on November 6.

References: (M) Maury, A (1907) *Histoire des Timbre-Poste Français. Enveloppes, Bandes, Cartes etc.*

(P&B) Le Pileur, J. & de Beaufond, E.H. (1947) *Catalogue des Ballons Montés du Siege de Paris (1870-1871)*, Yvert & Tellier (eds), Amiens 1947

Württemberg, July-August 1870, Field post cards

The Kingdom of Württemberg issued postal cards with a value stamp already in July 1870 for the ordinary mail. For the field post during the war 1870-71 a series of formular cards were issued in July-August 1870, looking very much like the postal cards but without a value stamp and no stamp box.

The "Front card" to be used by the soldiers.

"Von" (From) as the first word in the first title line.

Card size
112x169 mm.

Von der Königl. Württembergischen Feldpost.

Correspondenz-Karte.

An

Bestimmungsort: _____

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Feldpost-Correspondenz-Karten.

- 1) Formulare können bei allen Feldpoststellen bezogen werden; für das Formular wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu Mitteilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß, sowie das Verfahren der Recommendation und der Expressestellung ist bei Feldpost-Correspondenz-Karten nicht gestattet.
- 5) Die Feldpost-Correspondenz-Karten können zu schriftlichen Mitteilungen sowohl innerhalb Württembergs, als auch für den Verkehr nach Norddeutschland, Oesterreich, Bayern, Baden und Luxemburg benutzt werden.
- 6) Der Absender hat sich auf der Rückseite der Karte namhaft zu machen.

Unterschrift des Absenders: _____

The back side of the "Front card", with 11 dotted lines for the message and "Signature of the sender:" at the front of the last line.

References:

(F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Self-published.

Württemberg, July-August 1870, "Home" field post cards - varieties

For the field post during the war 1870-71 the kingdom of Württemberg issued a series of formular cards in July-August 1870. Two types of the cards to be used for mail to the soldiers were issued.

Nach der Königl. Württembergischen Feldpost.



Correspondenz-Karte.

An den mit der K. Württembergischen Felddivision ausmarschirten

Name:

Dienstgrad: im Regiment
..... Bataillon
..... Compagnie
..... Eskadron
..... Batterie

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Feldpost-Correspondenz-Karten.

1) Formulare können bei allen Württemb. Poststellen und Landpostboten gegen Entrichtung von 1 fr. für 4 Stücke bezogen werden.	4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß, sowie das Verfahren der Recommendation und der Expresßbestellung ist bei Feldpost-Correspondenzkarten nicht gestattet.
2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.	5) Der Absender hat sich auf der Rückseite der Karte namhaft zu machen.
3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.	

Card #2, type I of the "Home card" to be used for mail to the soldiers. "Nach" (To) as the first word in the first title line. The third title line has "Württembergischen" without shortening. This card is large, 112x174 mm.

Card #3, type II of the "Home card". "Württembergischen" shortened in the third title line. The line breaks in note 4 are different in the two types of cards. Card size 112x166 mm.

Nach der Königl. Württembergischen Feldpost.



Correspondenz-Karte.

An den mit der K. Württemb. Felddivision ausmarschirten

Name:

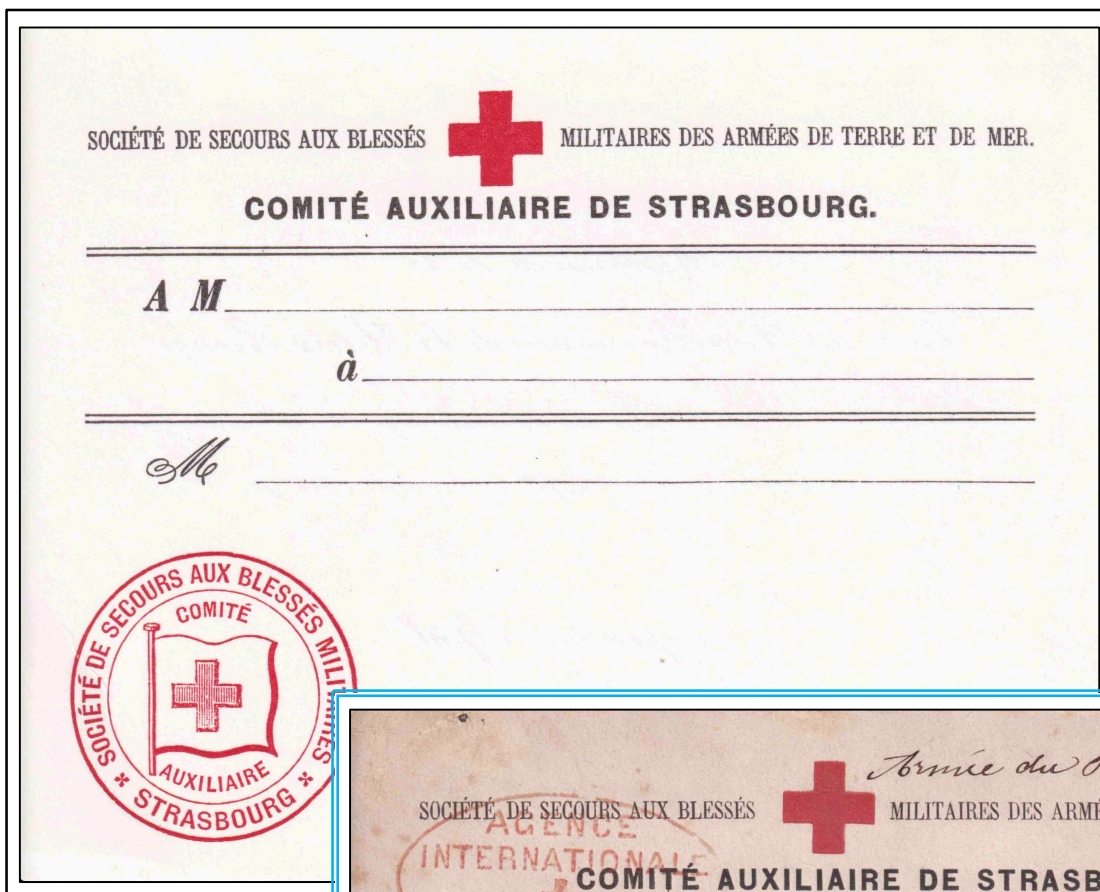
Dienstgrad: im Regiment
..... Bataillon
..... Compagnie
..... Eskadron
..... Batterie

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Feldpost-Correspondenz-Karten.

1) Formulare können bei allen Württemb. Poststellen und Landpostboten gegen Entrichtung von 1 fr. für 4 Stücke bezogen werden.	4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß, sowie das Verfahren der Recommendation und der Expresßbestellung ist bei Feldpost-Correspondenzkarten nicht gestattet.
2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.	5) Der Absender hat sich auf der Rückseite der Karte namhaft zu machen.
3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.	

During the Franco-German war 1870 the city of Strasbourg was under siege by the Prussian army during August-September. The French Red Cross took an initiative to prepare correspondence cards for communication for civilians, soldiers and wounded with the rest of France. Some 10,000 cards were sent (B), but a very limited number passed the walls of Strasbourg. Only 31 used cards are known.

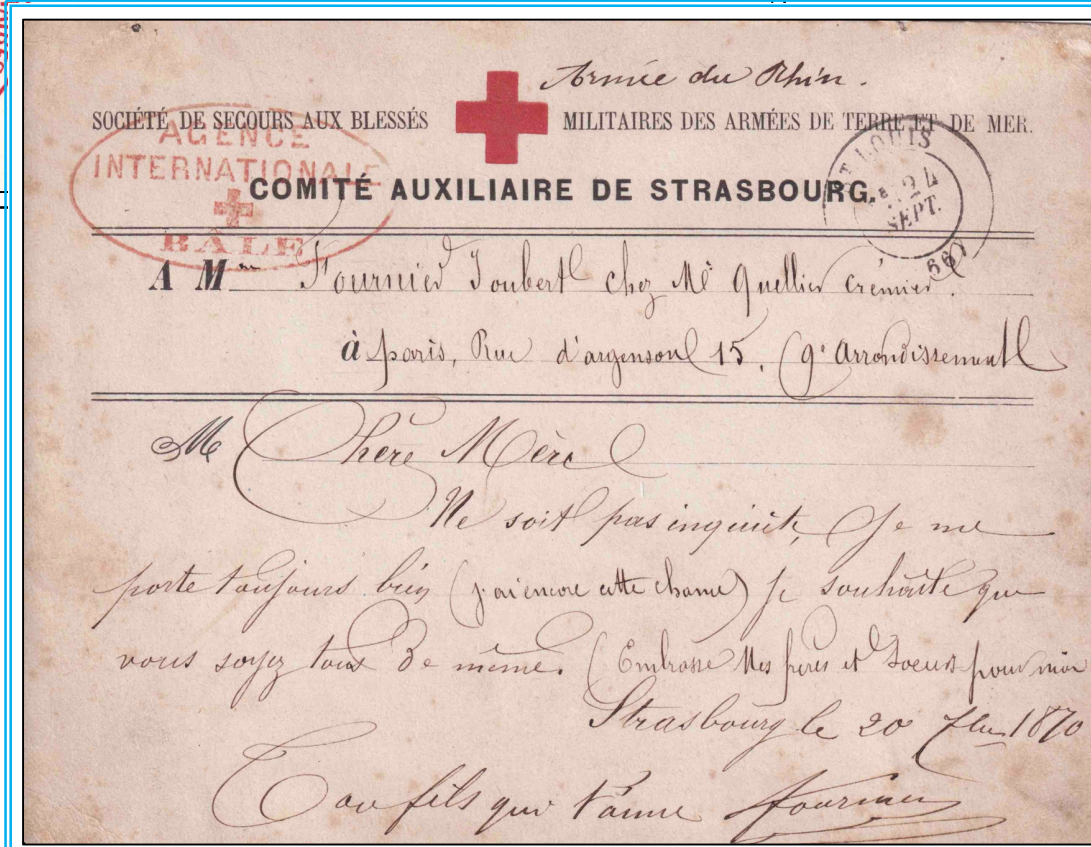
The cards were printed on white paper, with a card size of 112 x 145 mm. The print is black text; a first line with a red cross, a second, larger line saying "Auxiliary committee of Strasbourg" and three address lines starting with "A M, à and M".



A 1970 reprint of a card from the Red Cross in Strasbourg.
A large, round red stamping of the Strasbourg Red Cross Committee.

One of 31 known (B) cards from the siege of Strasbourg 1870. The card was used on September 20 and transited via Saint Louis, close to the Swiss border, and Basel (Bâle) to Paris. Red oval stamping of "Agence International" of the Red Cross in Basel.

The card is one of five known (B) that travelled with the last convoy of wounded out of Strasbourg to Saint Louis near the Swiss border. It has a September 24 stamping of St. Louis and a large blue "Auxiliary committee of St. Louis" on the back side.



(B) Boutserin, P. (2020) *Les Cartes de Correspondance de la Croix Rouge en Alsace en 1870*. SPAL Association de Spécialistes en marques postales et oblitérations d'Alsace-Lorraine. Histoire Postale de la guerre de 1870-1871 en Alsace-Lorraine.

France 1870, early November – Dépêche-Réponse cards using pigeons

In November 1870, formular cards were issued for general use of pigeons for mail to the besieged city of Paris. Before November 1870, this mail was only used by the military. Messages to Paris could be transferred by formulating (four) questions that could be answered by yes or No and send the questions in a letter together with a Depeche-Answer card. The letter was sent by a balloon out of Paris. The answer cards were microfilmed and sent by a pigeon back to Paris where the microfilm was developed and returned to the original sender.

Recto.

DÉPÊCHE-RÉPONSE.

(Décret du Gouvernement de la défense nationale en date du 10 novembre 1870.)

Les réponses doivent être exprimées par **oui** ou par **non** dans les colonnes 4 à 7; elles ne peuvent excéder le nombre de 4; la taxe d'affranchissement des réponses, qu'elles atteignent ce nombre ou qu'elles y soient inférieures, est uniformément fixée à 1 franc.

La vente de la présente carte est soumise à une taxe de 5 cent., qui doit être représentée au moyen d'un timbre-poste de cette valeur qui sera placé dans le cadre ci-dessus.

NOM DU PAYS ou RÉSIDE L'EXPÉDITEUR. 1	INITIALES DU PRÉNOM ET DU NOM de l'expéditeur. 2	NOM ET DOMICILE (en toutes lettres) DU DESTINATAIRE. 3	RÉPONSES AUX QUATRE QUESTIONS POSÉES.			
			1 ^{re} question 4	2 ^e question 5	3 ^e question 6	4 ^e question 7

A decree was issued on November 10, 1870, by the "Gouvernement de la défense nationale" describing the use of these cards. The cost of a Depeche - Answer card was 5 centimes, confirmed by a 5c stamp.

Cards were obviously issued in several types, not listed anywhere. Here four types are shown, with differences in the wording, the font and the position of the text, on both sides.

A Depeche - Answer card with size 66x107 mm, thick cardboard and a 5 c stamp affixed.

The back side of this card.

Recto.

DÉPÊCHE-RÉPONSE.

(Décret du Gouvernement de la défense nationale en date du 10 novembre 1870.)

Prix de la présente carte, **cinq centimes**, représenté par un timbre-poste qui sera placé dans le cadre ci-contre.

Les réponses doivent être exprimées par **oui** ou par **non** dans les colonnes 5 à 8. Taxe d'affranchissement des réponses, au nombre de 4 ou au-dessous, **un franc**.

(Le numéro de la réponse doit être indiqué, à Paris, par l'expéditeur. Les autres colonnes de la dépêche-réponse seront remplies par le correspondant dans les départements.)

N ^o d'ordre de la dé- pêche- réponse. 1	NOM DU PAYS ou réside LE CORRESPONDANT. 2	INITIALES DU PRÉNOM ET DU NOM du correspon- dant. 3	NOM ET DOMICILE (en toutes lettres) DU DESTINATAIRE à Paris. 4	RÉPONSES AUX QUATRE QUESTIONS POSÉES.			
				1 ^{re} ques- tion. 5	2 ^e ques- tion. 6	3 ^e ques- tion. 7	4 ^e ques- tion. 8

Verso.

La présente carte, revêtue des réponses par **oui** ou par **non** qui doivent être portées aux colonnes 4 à 7, d'autre part, devra être remise par l'expéditeur entre les mains du receveur du bureau de poste d'expédition, qui est tenu d'y apposer lui-même, ci-dessous, les timbres-postes destinés à en opérer l'affranchissement, et de l'adresser ensuite, par le premier courrier, au délégué du Directeur général des postes à Clermont Ferrand.

Timbre à date
du bureau expéditeur.

A second type of a Depeche - Answer card with size 61x107 mm, white thin paper, and an empty stamp box.

Recto.

DÉPÊCHE-RÉPONSE.

(Décret du Gouvernement de la défense nationale en date du 10 novembre 1870.)

Il est dû, pour le prix de la présente carte, un droit de **cinq centimes**. Ce droit sera acquitté au moyen d'un timbre-poste qui sera placé dans le cadre ci-contre.

Les réponses doivent être exprimées par **oui** ou par **non** dans les colonnes 4 à 7; elles ne peuvent excéder le nombre de 4. La taxe d'affranchissement des réponses, qu'elles atteignent ce nombre ou qu'elles y soient inférieures, est uniformément fixée à **un franc**.

NOM DU PAYS ou RÉSIDE L'EXPÉDITEUR. 1	INITIALES DU PRÉNOM ET DU NOM de l'expéditeur. 2	NOM ET DOMICILE (en toutes lettres) DU DESTINATAIRE. 3	RÉPONSES AUX QUATRE QUESTIONS POSÉES.			
			1 ^{re} question 4	2 ^e question 5	3 ^e question 6	4 ^e question 7

A fourth type of a Depeche - Answer card with size 59x107 mm, white paper, with a 5 c stamp affixed.

Recto.

DÉPÊCHE-RÉPONSE.

(Décret du Gouvernement de la défense nationale en date du 10 novembre 1870.)

Prix de la présente carte, **cinq centimes**, représenté par un timbre-poste qui sera placé dans le cadre ci-contre.

Les réponses doivent être exprimées par **oui** ou par **non** dans les colonnes 5 à 8. Taxe d'affranchissement des réponses, au nombre de 4 ou au-dessous, **un franc**.

(Le numéro de la réponse doit être indiqué, à Paris, par l'expéditeur. Les autres colonnes de la dépêche-réponse seront remplies par le correspondant dans les départements.)

N ^o d'ordre de la dé- pêche- réponse. 1	NOM DU PAYS ou réside LE CORRESPONDANT. 2	INITIALES DU PRÉNOM ET DU NOM du correspon- dant. 3	NOM ET DOMICILE (en toutes lettres) DU DESTINATAIRE à Paris. 4	RÉPONSES AUX QUATRE QUESTIONS POSÉES.			
				1 ^{re} ques- tion. 5	2 ^e ques- tion. 6	3 ^e ques- tion. 7	4 ^e ques- tion. 8

A third type of a Depeche - Answer card with size 61x107 mm, brown paper, with a 5 c stamp affixed.

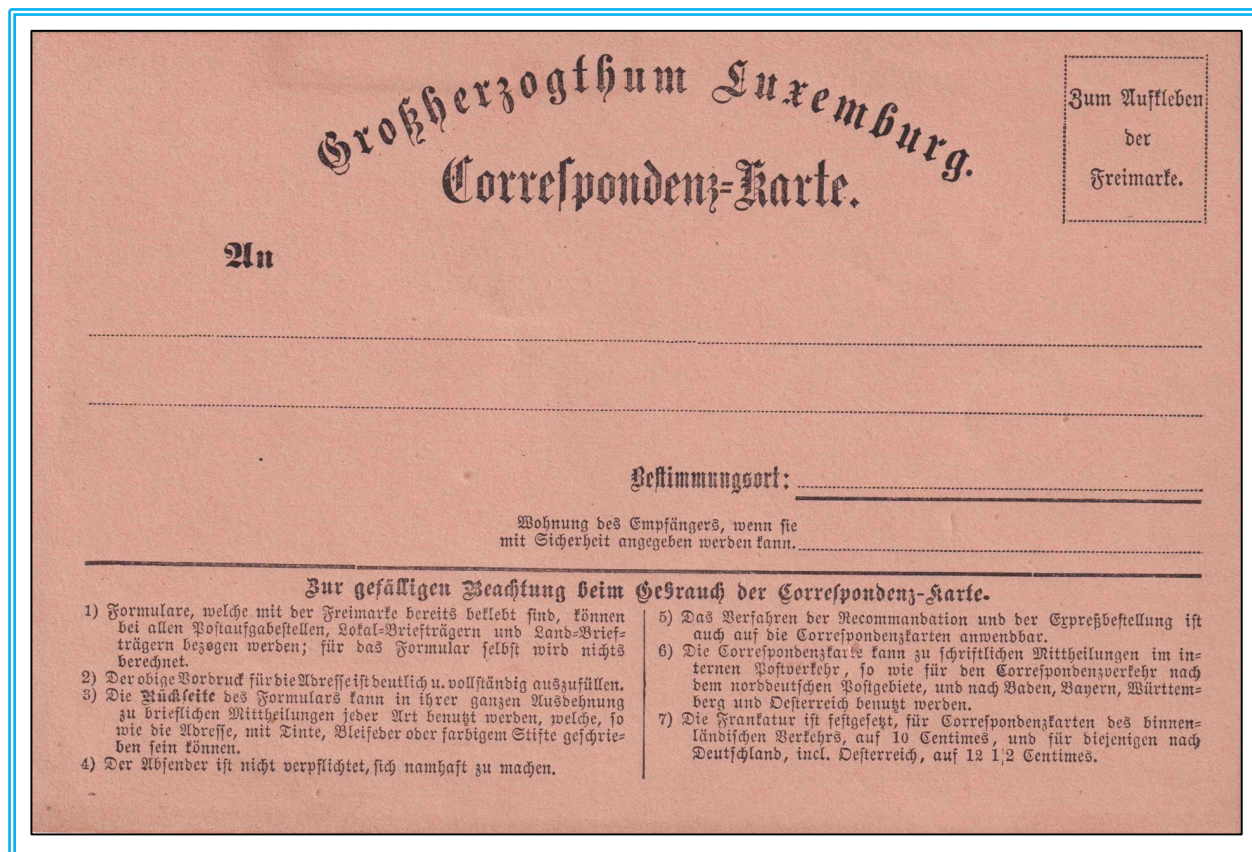
References:
 DECRET CONCERNANT LES DEPECHEES PAR PIGEONS.
 Journal Officiel de Paris., 10 novembre 1870.
 La Perre de Roo, M.V. (1872) *La Poste par Pigeons Voyageurs, Pendant le Siége de Paris (1870-71)*.
 Bulletin de la Société d'Acclimatation,
 October 1872.

Luxemburg, September 1, 1870 – first card, in German

The Grand Duchy of Luxemburg was formed in 1815 but was ruled by the King of The Netherlands until 1890. It was obviously independent from The Netherlands in the 1870s when it comes to issuing postal cards. Luxemburg issued eight formular cards before 1874, when the first cards with an imprinted stamp were issued. The formular cards appeared similar to the cards from NDP and were issued in both German and French, two of them already in September 1870. Luxemburg was in the 1870s part of the North German postal union and the cards could be used to NDP, Baden, Bavaria, Württemberg and Austria, as said in note 6 on the first cards (F).

The postage was 10 centimes for domestic mail and 12.5 c. to Germany and Austria.

The first formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in German, issued on September 1 & 10, 1870 (F). The cards were printed by T. Schroell in Luxemburg (M) on different coloured paper and had a number of differences in the printing of the text.

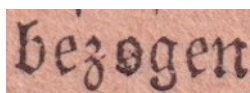


This card is printed on brown-red paper. Only 100 cards were issued, on September 1, 1870.

The card is type III (F), with a long, thin dash between *Correspondenz* and *Karte* in the headline of the notes, different digits "2" in notes 2) and 7) and "für" in note 7.



thin, long dash in the head-line of the notes



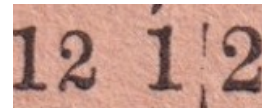
damaged "o" in *bezogen*
on line 3 in note 1



"für" in note 7



A digit "2" with a straight foot in note 2) and in ½ of 12 ½ in note 7.



References:

(F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Self-published

(M) Montagne, J.F. (2018) *Les Cartes Correspondance du Grand Duche de Luxembourg. Postkarten. Formulare*. Self-published, November 2018.

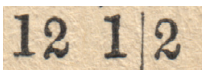
Luxemburg September 10, 1870 – first card, in German – varieties

The first formular card from Luxembourg, "Correspondence card" in German, issued on September 10, 1870 (F).

Card type IV,
with a short,
thick dash
between
Correspondenz
and *Karte* in
the headline of
the notes (F).



All digits "2"
with a curved
foot:



"die" in note 7:

die Corre

Großherzogthum Luxemburg.
Correspondenz-Karte.

Zum Aufkleben
der
Freimarte.

An

Bestimmungsort: _____

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie
mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarte bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Lokal-Briefträgern und Land-Briefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich u. vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, so wie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.
- 5) Das Verfahren der Recommandation und der Expresbestellung ist auch auf die Correspondenzkarten anwendbar.
- 6) Die Correspondenzkarte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen im internen Postverkehr, so wie für den Correspondenzverkehr nach dem norddeutschen Postgebiete, und nach Baden, Bayern, Württemberg und Oesterreich benutzt werden.
- 7) Die Frankatur ist festgesetzt, die Correspondenzkarten des binneländischen Verkehrs, auf 10 Centimes, und für diejenigen nach Deutschland, incl. Oesterreich, auf 12 1/2 Centimes.

Großherzogthum Luxemburg.
Correspondenz-Karte.

Zum Aufkleben
der
Freimarte.

An

Bestimmungsort: _____

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie
mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarte bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Lokal-Briefträgern und Land-Briefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich u. vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, so wie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet sich namhaft zu machen.
- 5) Das Verfahren der Recommandation und der Expresbestellung ist auch auf die Correspondenzkarten anwendbar.
- 6) Die Correspondenzkarte kann zu schriftlichen Mittheilungen im internen Postverkehr, so wie für den Correspondenzverkehr nach dem norddeutschen Postgebiete, und nach Baden, Bayern, Württemberg und Oesterreich benutzt werden.
- 7) Die Frankatur ist festgesetzt, für Correspondenzkarten des binneländischen Verkehrs, auf 10 Centimes, und für diejenigen nach Deutschland, incl. Oesterreich, auf 12 1/2 Centimes.

Card type V,
with "Lokal-"
instead of
"Lokal-" on
the second
line of note
1) (F).

The card
has a short,
thick dash
between
Correspondenz
and
Karte in the
headline of
the notes,
different
digits "2" in
notes 2) and
7) and "für"
in not7.

Lokal-Brief

"Lokal-" on the second line of note 1) erroneously spelled "Lokal-".

Luxemburg September 10, 1870 – second card, in French

The second formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" now in French, issued on the same date as the card in German, September 10, 1870. The cards #2 were also printed by T. Schroell in Luxemburg (M).

This card is type I (F), or type 3 (M), with a thin dash in the headline of the notes:

S-C

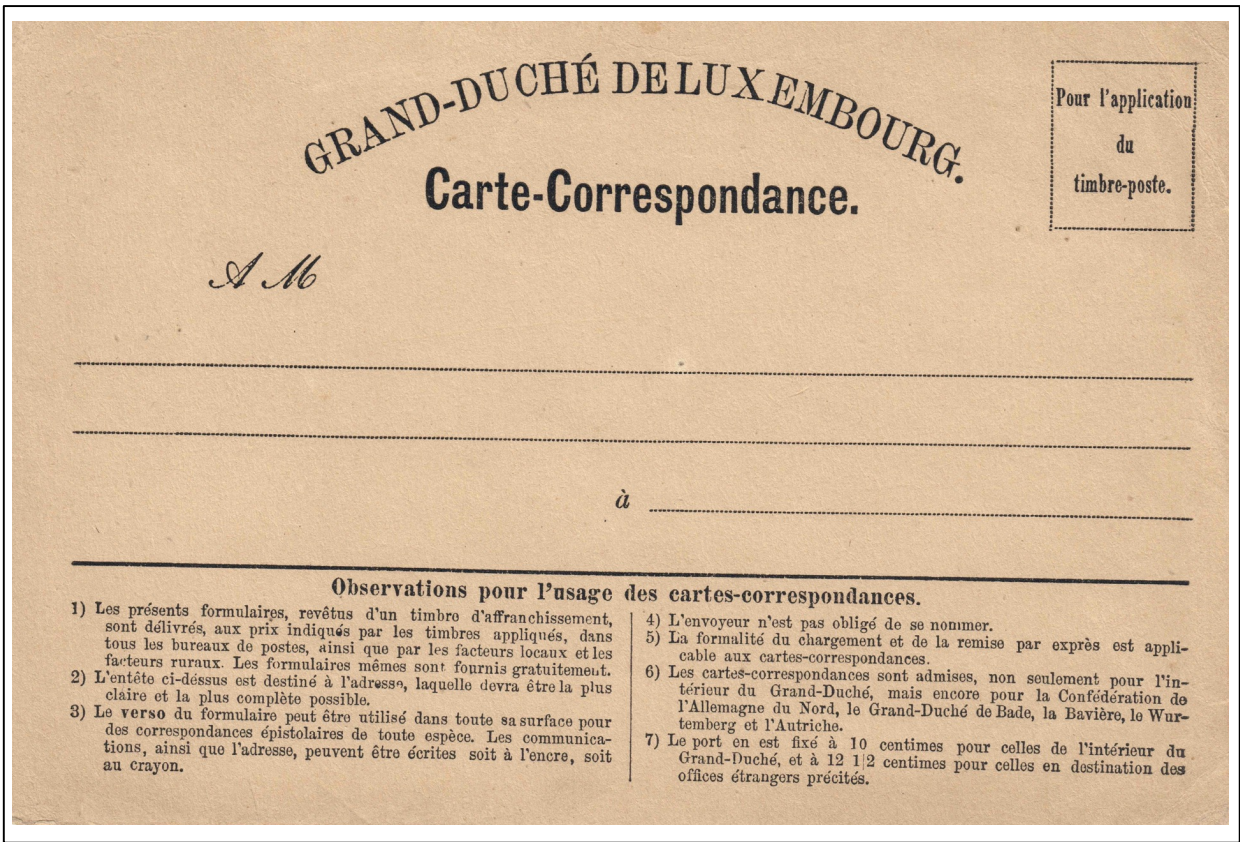
The horizontal positions of the words "pour" in note 7) are different in card type I/3 and type II/2 (F, M).

pour
pour

I/3

pour
pour

II/2



This card is type II (F), or type 2 (M), with a thick dash in the headline of the notes:

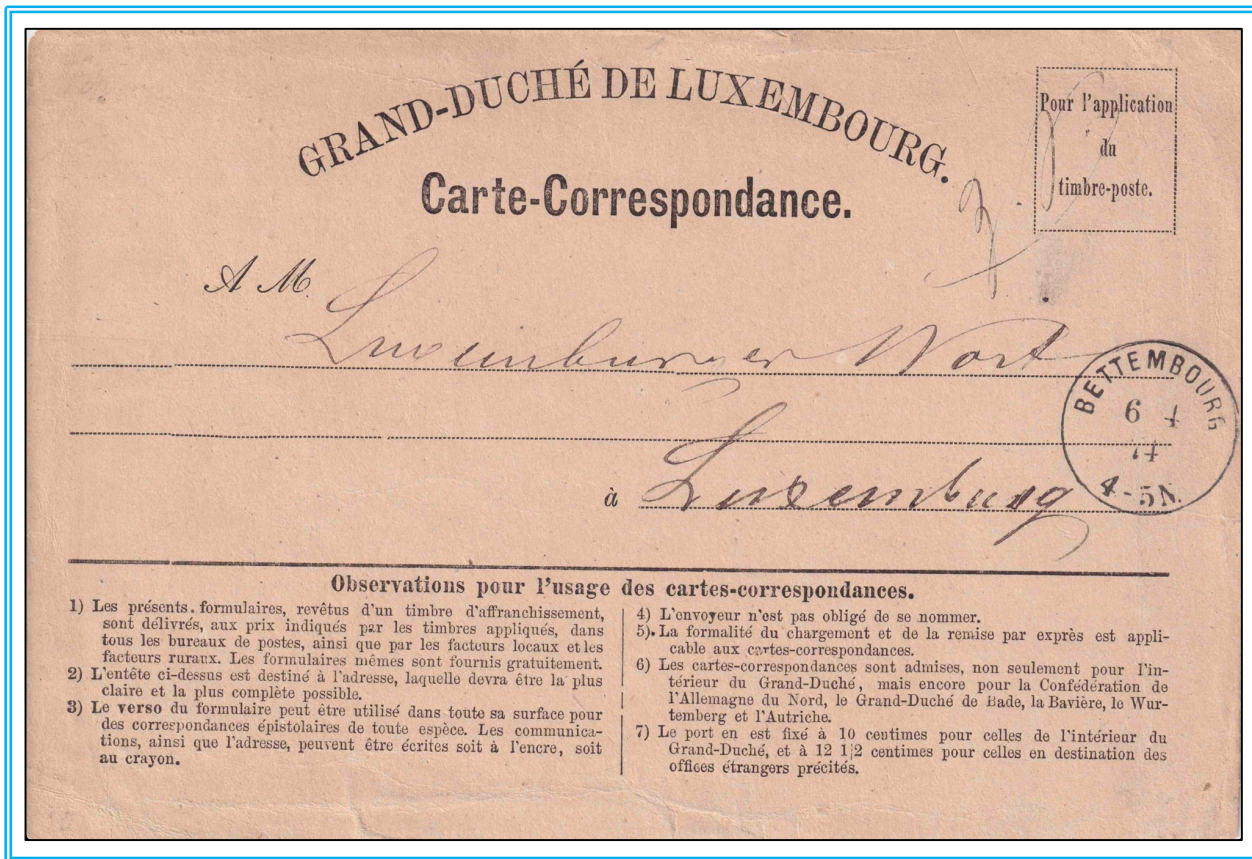
S-C

On the two cards the last word of the third line of note 1) is "les"

et les

and the last word of line 3 in note 6) is "Wur-".

Wur-



This card was used in 1874 from Bettembourg in the south to a newspaper in the city of Luxemburg without a stamp affixed for the postage, confirmed by handwritten "Z.S.", Zeitungssachen, in the stampbox..

Luxemburg 1870 – second card, in French - varieties

The second formular cards, in French, were also printed on different coloured paper and with a number of varieties in the printed text.

This card is type III (F), or type 4 (M), with a thick dash in the headline of the notes.

The last word of the third line of note 1) is "les":

et les

The last word of line 3 in note 6) is "le":

le

GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG.
Carte-Correspondance.

Pour l'application
du
timbre-poste.

à

Observations pour l'usage des cartes-correspondances.

- 1) Les présents formulaires, revêtus d'un timbre d'affranchissement, sont délivrés, aux prix indiqués par les timbres appliqués, dans tous les bureaux de postes, ainsi que par les facteurs locaux et les facteurs ruraux. Les formulaires mêmes sont fournis gratuitement.
- 2) L'entête ci-dessus est destiné à l'adresse, laquelle devra être la plus claire et la plus complète possible.
- 3) Le verso du formulaire peut être utilisé dans toute sa surface pour des correspondances épistolaires de toute espèce. Les communications, ainsi que l'adresse, peuvent être écrites soit à l'encre, soit au crayon.
- 4) L'envoyeur n'est pas obligé de se nommer.
- 5) La formalité du chargement et de la remise par exprès est applicable aux cartes-correspondances.
- 6) Les cartes-correspondances sont admises, non seulement pour l'intérieur du Grand-Duché, mais encore pour la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord, le Grand-Duché de Bade, la Bavière, le Wurtemberg et l'Autriche.
- 7) Le port en est fixé à 10 centimes pour celles de l'intérieur du Grand-Duché, et à 12 1/2 centimes pour celles en destination des offices étrangers précités.

This card is type IV (F), or type 1 (M), with a thick dash in the headline of the notes.

The last word of the third line of note 1) is "et":

et

The last word of line 3 in note 6) is "Wur-":

Wur-

GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG.
Carte-Correspondance.

Pour l'application
du
timbre-poste.

L'Éditeur du Journal
Luxemburger Post
à Luxembourg

Observations pour l'usage des cartes-correspondances.

- 1) Les présents formulaires, revêtus d'un timbre d'affranchissement, sont délivrés, aux prix indiqués par les timbres appliqués, dans tous les bureaux de postes, ainsi que par les facteurs locaux et les facteurs ruraux. Les formulaires mêmes sont fournis gratuitement.
- 2) L'entête ci-dessus est destiné à l'adresse, laquelle devra être la plus claire et la plus complète possible.
- 3) Le verso du formulaire peut être utilisé dans toute sa surface pour des correspondances épistolaires de toute espèce. Les communications, ainsi que l'adresse, peuvent être écrites soit à l'encre, soit au crayon.
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- 5) La formalité du chargement et de la remise par exprès est applicable aux cartes-correspondances.
- 6) Les cartes-correspondances sont admises, non-seulement pour l'intérieur du Grand-Duché, mais encore pour la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord, le Grand-Duché de Bade, la Bavière, le Wurtemberg et l'Autriche.
- 7) Le port en est fixé à 10 centimes pour celles de l'intérieur du Grand-Duché, et à 12 1/2 centimes pour celles en destination des offices étrangers précités.

This card was used in 1874 from Esch-Alzette in the south to a newspaper in the city of Luxemburg without a stamp affixed for the postage, confirmed by handwritten "Z.S.", *Zeitungssachen*, in the stampbox.

The Netherlands, January 1871 - formular cards for foreign use

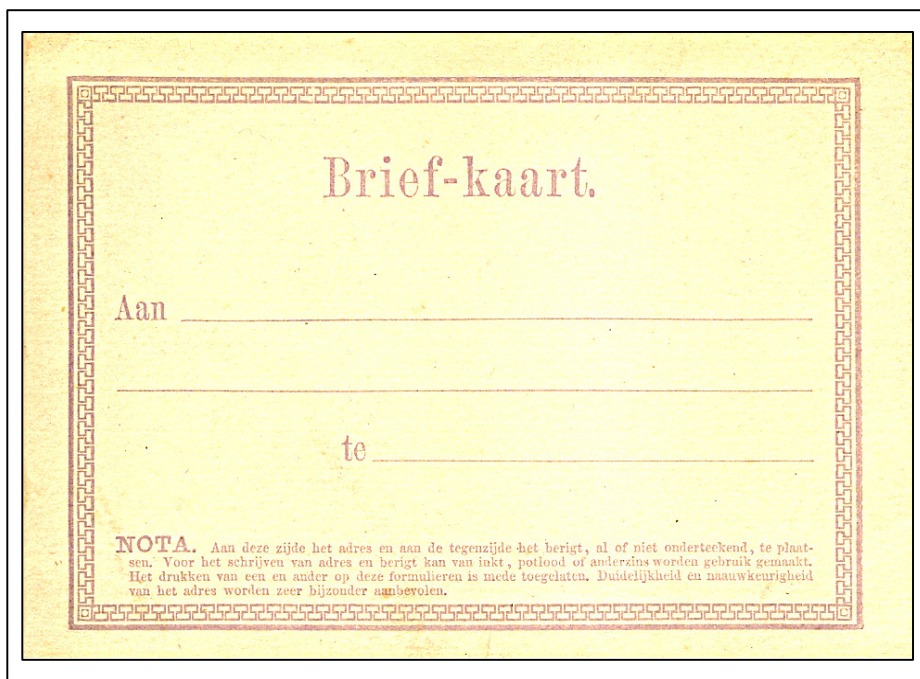
The only difference between the 1871 postal cards and the 1871 formular cards is the imprinted stamp missing on the formular cards. The frame, the title Postal card in Dutch and the four notes at the bottom are all the same. They were both printed in the same colour variations. The formular cards were meant for foreign use, with different postage to different countries.

Later, in November 1873, the remaining formular cards were issued with an imprinted 2 ½ cent stamp. Then the printed stamp had a somewhat different colour than the frame and the text.

Formular card #I, called Postal card in Dutch, without the 2 ½ cent imprinted stamp but with the four line note at the bottom of the card.

Brown-lilac colour.

550.000 formular cards were issued but 465.000 of them were used to print the value stamp postal card #1a.



Formular card #I, called Postal card in Dutch, without the 2 ½ cent imprinted stamp but with three 5c stamps for international use, to London in 1873.

Cards sent to other countries than Belgium and Germany are very rare (G).

This card is one of only two cards known sent to England (C).

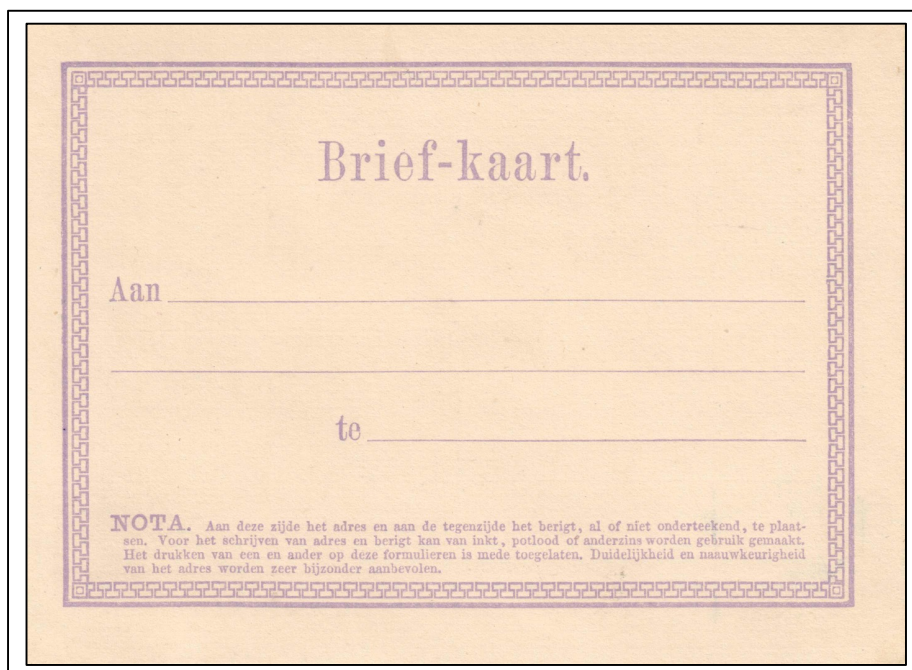
The Netherlands 1871 formular cards - new colour

The frame, the title Postal card in Dutch and the four notes at the bottom are all the same on the formular card as on the postal card. They were both printed in the same colour variations.

Formular card #1, called Postal card in Dutch, without an imprinted stamp but with the four line note at the bottom of the card.

Blue-lilac colour.

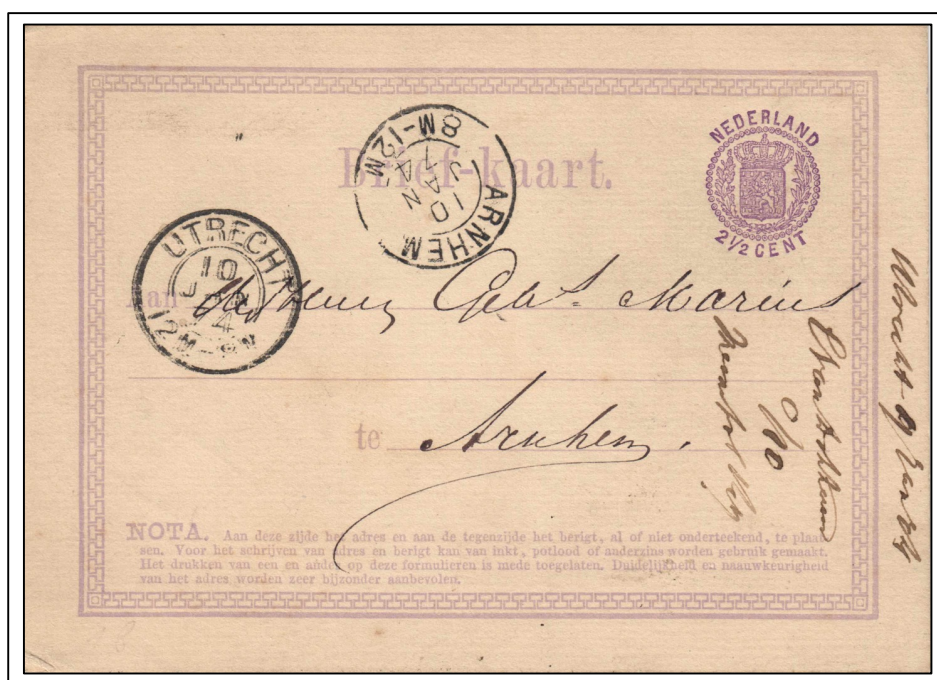
550.000 formular cards were issued but 465.000 of them were used to print the value stamp on postal card #1a.



The Netherlands 1873: postal card from formular card for domestic use

In November 1873 The Netherlands issued a new print of postal card #1, using the **leftover formular cards #1** from 1871! The formular cards became obsolete since a new postal card with a 5 c value stamp was issued, meant for mail to Belgium.

The formular card, #1, was imprinted with a violet 2 ½ cent stamp. In this way the value stamp got a different colour than the rest of the card.



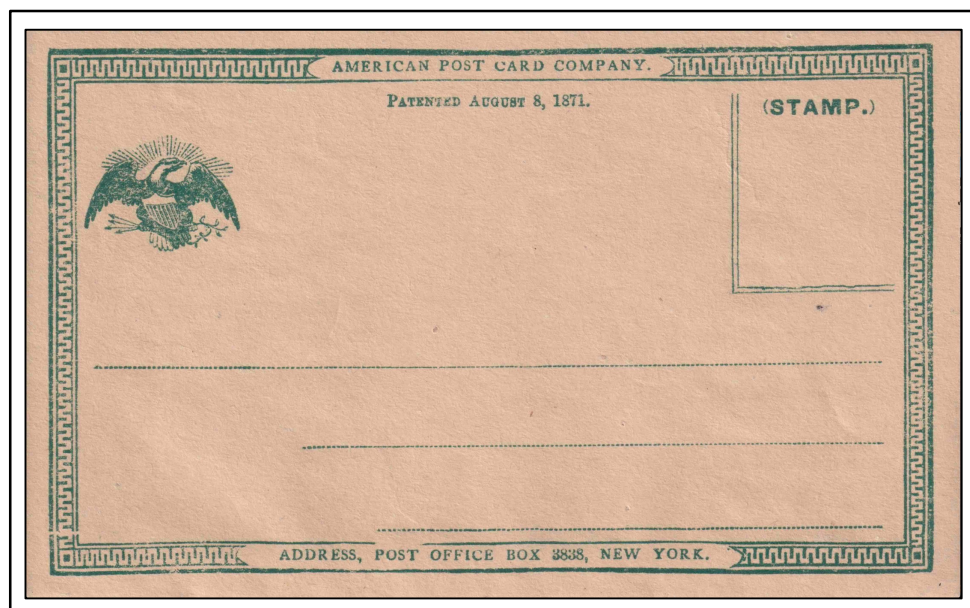
Card #1a, G4 (G), with 2½ cent violet imprinted value stamp. The value stamp was imprinted in November or December (G) 1873 on formula card #1 from 1871 and has a different colour than the rest of the card.

The card was issued in 465.000 copies.

This card was used in January 1874 from Utrecht to Arnhem.

USA 1871, American Post Card Company - Essay

The American Post Card Company card was patented in August 1871 and is the first “forerunner”/essay of the first American postal card issued in 1873 (Fa).



UPSS Essay Card No. S1E-Ea (Fa) patented by the American Post Card Company on August 8, 1871.

Thick cardboard with card size 77 x 126 mm. Dark green print of a thick frame, stamp box, three address lines and an eagle in the upper left corner.

The frame has “American Post Card Company” in the top frame and the address of the company at the bottom frame.



The back side of UPSS No. S1E-Ea with a facing paper and thin paper flaps on the sides and the top forming an envelope. The top flap is gummed to seal the message.

The message could be written on the back side of the card and on the two sides of the facing paper.

The American “**Lipman Card**” had a similar appearance as the front page of the American Post Card Company card, with the same size, the same location of the stamp box and the same three address lines.

The Lipman card was believed for a long time to be the first “post card”, bearing a copyright claim from 1861.

“*New information has been found that totally rewrites the story of the Lipman Postal Card*”, says Toal (2020), however.

The copyright was not for the card but for features like the address lines on the card. The first use of the card was for a long time believed to be 1870, but the examination by Toal (2020) points at 1872.

References:

(Fa) Falberg, B. (2018) (ed.) *A Historical Catalog of U.S. POSTAL CARD ESSAYS AND PROOFS*. 8th Edition, revised December 2018. 503 pp. United Postal Stationery Society, Chester, VA.

(T) Toal, R. (2020) *The Lipman Postal Card: Forerunner From Philadelphia*. 123 pp. United Postal Stationery Society, Chester, VA.

(S) Stevens, C.H. (ed.) (1970) *United States. Postal Card Catalog*. United Postal Stationery Service UPSS. 136 pp.

Spain – August 1871 to 1872 - precursor cards with letter postage

The new king of Spain, Amadeo I, issued a royal order on May 10, 1871 that was signed by the prime minister, to issue postal cards on July 1, 1871 (L). The political instability, however, postponed the issue of postal cards with a value stamp until December 1873; a delay of more than two years. In the meantime, several formular cards without a value stamp were issued by private initiatives.



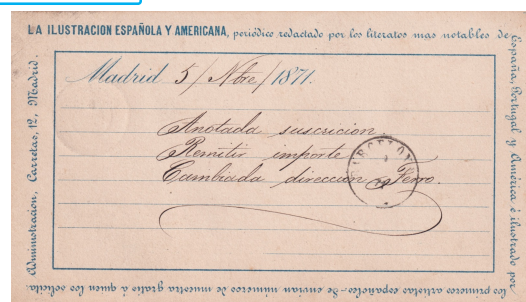
The rare, very first Spanish precursor card (J), issued in Madrid in August 1871 by Abelardo de Carlos, also meant as advertisement for his fashion magazine.

Thick cardboard, size 137x78 mm. Lithographic printing in blue.

A single line frame leaving a margin for the advertisement. A first line reading "Province of ..." and three address lines. A stamp box in the bottom left corner.

This card was used already in November 1871 between Madrid and Barcelona. The postage, 50 milésimas, corresponds to the postage for an ordinary letter since the reduced rate for postal cards was not yet applicable.

A rare second version of the first Spanish precursor card (J), issued in Madrid in August 1871 by Abelardo de Carlos, again with advertisement for his fashion magazine, now on the back side. Thick cardboard, a different size: 103x71 mm. Lithographic printing in blue. Again, a first line reading "Province of ...", three address lines and a stamp box in the bottom left corner.



The back side of the first precursor card, with printed space for the date in 1871 and space for the message.



This card was used already in April 1872 between Madrid and Bilbao. The postage, 1 milésima, corresponds to the postage for printed matter.

C

The back side of the second version of the first precursor card, with a printed message and a cancellation from April 1872.



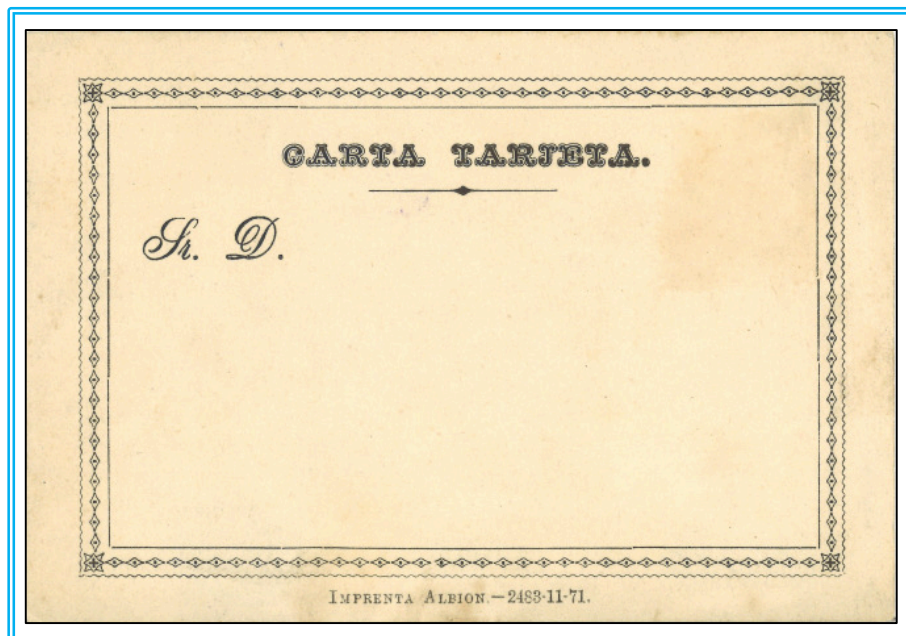
References: (J) Javier Padín Vaamonde, F. Enteros Postales de España (1873-1973). Dirección General de Correos y Telégrafos, 1990

(C) Carreras, F. Las Tarjetas Postales en España, Imprenta de Francisco Altés, Angeles, Barcelona 1903

Chile, 1st and 2nd printings, November and December 1871

Chile printed the first formular card in November 1871. Only 6000 cards were printed. They were put on sale on December 24, 1871 and some two thousand cards were sold the first four days (H). The cards were supposed to be stamped with a two centavos stamp for inland postal services and two+two centavos stamps when the card had to be carried by ship.

At the end of December 1871 a second printing was made, now with 60,000 copies. Both printings were made by the Albion Press of the Cox & Taylor Company in London (H) which is seen as a note at the bottom of the cards; the first having a legend of IMPRENTA ALBION -2483-11-71 and the second IMP. ALBION -2571-12-71.



Chilean formular card from the first printing in November 1871, issued on December 24, (H&G) (H).

The card has a frame with an outer wavy line with sharp corners, 35 x 22 diamonds and an inner straight line. The first text line says "Postal card" in Spanish. All of the A's have a cross bar. Below this is a 25 mm long line "of ornamental rule" (H) with a filled diamond in the centre. The second text line has the letters "Sr.D." to the left.

This card is H&G 3 and SFC-TP1a with yellowish white paper.

IMPRENTA ALBION. — 2483-11-71.

The note at the bottom of the card gives the name of the printer and the month (11-71) of printing.

A Chilean formular card H&G 6, SFC-TP5, from the second printing in December 1871; 60,000 cards were issued in late December 1871 (H).

The frame has 35 x 21 diamonds, and the outer corners are rounded. All of the A's have a cross bar. Thick white paper.

The line below the first text line is now 40 mm long and has a wider ornament in the centre.

The second text line has now the letters "S.D." to the left.



The note at the bottom of the card gives the name of the printer and the month (12-71) of printing.

IMP ALBION. — 2571-12-71

Chile 1871 - or 1892?

Chile printed the first formular card in November 1871. Only 6000 cards were printed. They were put on sale on December 24, 1871 and some two thousand cards were sold the first four days (H).

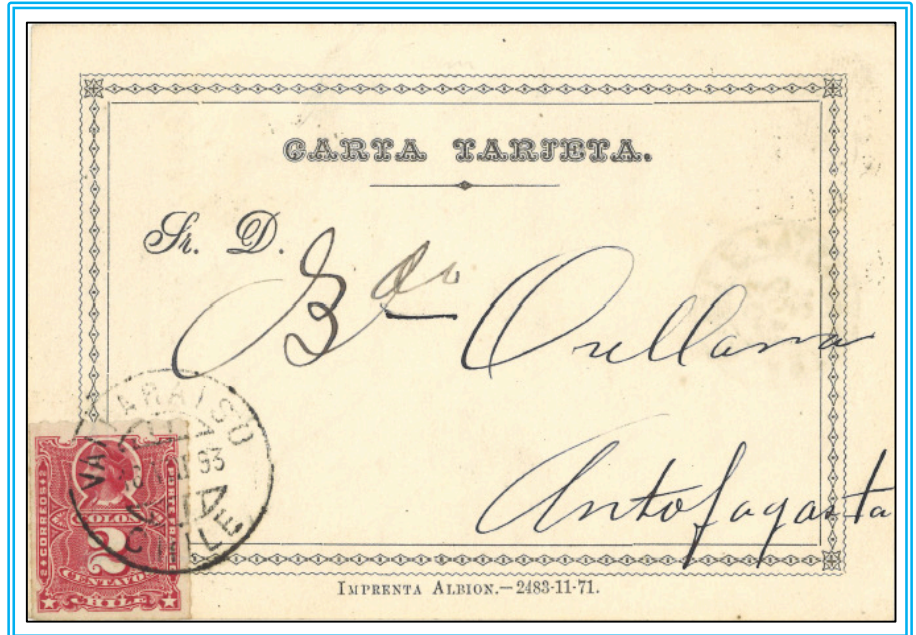
Only one used card of the true November printing is known, according to Towle (www.postalstationery.org).

A large number of similar cards used in 1892 and 1893 are known, however. These cards must be questioned. One card to support that is shown below.

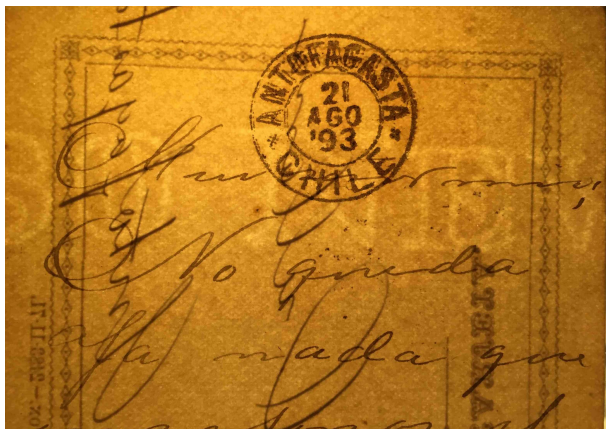
Another Chilean formular card from the first printing in November 1871, issued on December 24, (H&G), (H). This card is late used, between Valparaíso and the north of Chile and carries one two-centavo stamp.

This card is #3 according to (H&G), (H) and (SFC).

The card, however, has a watermark! That is not mentioned anywhere, in any literature. Towle (2006) studied the watermarks on the later cards #13-16 printed in 1872: watermarks as parallel lines appear on the whole part of a large paper but watermarks as text and a year are rare and appear only in the centre of a large paper.



The back side of the card with a watermark, most probably "1880 New...".



Searching for an explanation by contacting Chilean philatelic experts, Towle (2015) had one: The cards H&G #1-3 are later reprints from 1892-93! This will be published in an upcoming book by R.A. Towle.

His claim is supported by the following facts:

- no used cards H&G #1-3 are known that are cancelled before 1892,
- a large number of cards H&G #1-3 that are cancelled 1892-1893 are available; two are shown in this exposition,
- one card is known with a watermark "1881", Towle (2015).

The card shown here strongly supports this claim, with a watermark "1880" and another paper maker, "New...", than Green & Son.

30 NEW

References:

(H) Haworth, W.B. (1919) CHILE. An outline of the Postal Issues 1766-1919. Stamp Collecting Handbook No. 17. Offices of Stamp Collecting, London 1919. 193 pp.

(SFC) SFC (2006), Sociedad Filatelica de Chile, Tarjetas Postales Provisorias, Filatelia Chilena Catálogo Especializado 2006, pp. A54-A57

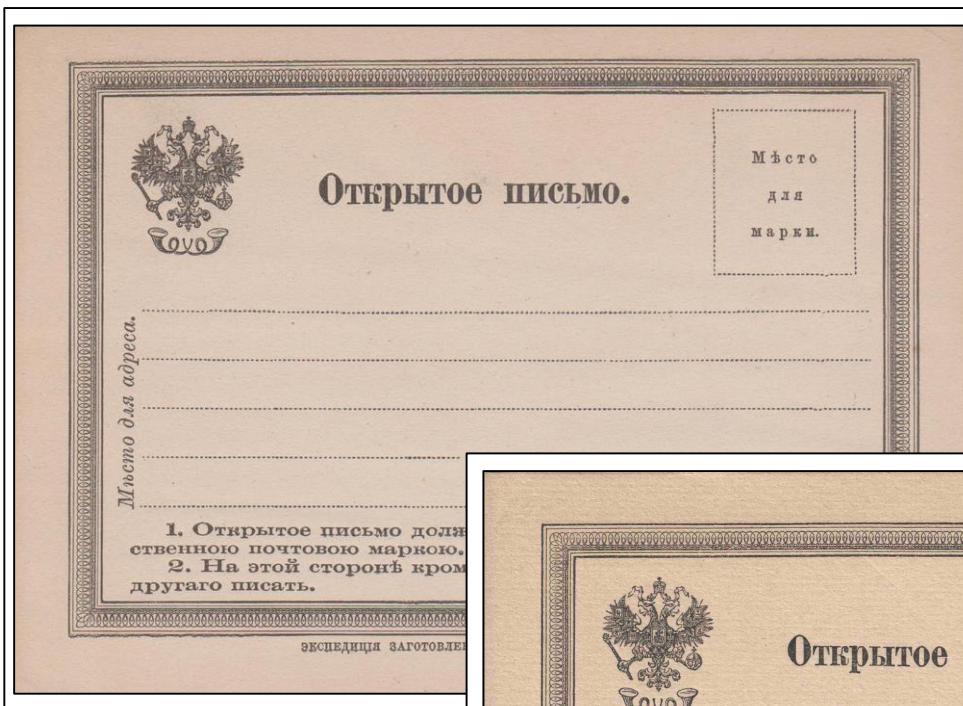
Towle, Ross A. Chile: 10 or less, https://www.postalstationery.org/html/chile_10_or_less.html

Towle, Ross A. (2006) Watermarked Chilean Formular Cards, Postal Stationery #350, September-October 2006

Towle, Ross A. (2015) Private communication with R.A. Towle, San Francisco, USA

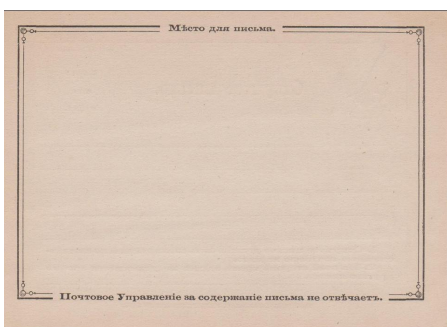
Russia – January 1872

In January 1872 (A) Russia issued its first formular card printed in black with a size of 130 x 90 mm with space for, or with an affixed, stamp. The card has a double-eagle coat-of arms top left and a first title line saying “open letter” in Russian Cyrillic letters.

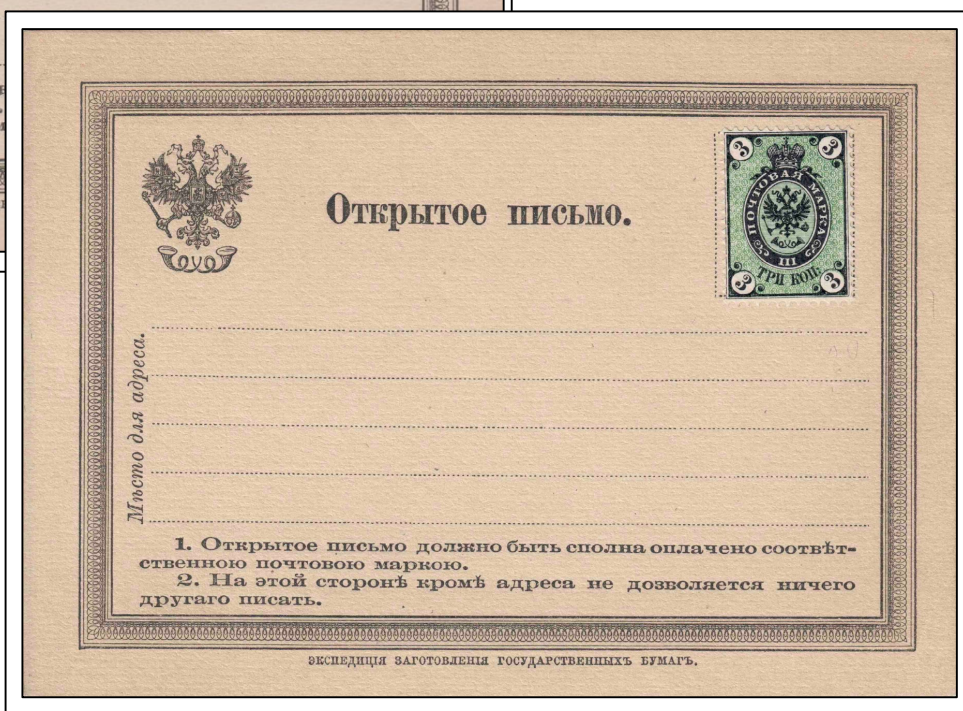


Russian formular card #1 with space for a stamp, a title with small Cyrillic letters, coat-of-arms to the left, five address lines and two notes at the bottom. This card is type b.

Card #1 type g with a 3 kopek stamp affixed for local mail.



The back side has a frame with two notes.



This card #1, type x, was sent from Moscow to Riga in Latvia in 1872 with a postage of 5 kopek for domestic mail.

Reference: (I & F) A.C. Ilyushin & O.B. Forafontov (2003) Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the Russian Empire 1845-1917 (in Russian). Russian Union of Philatelists, Moscow 2003

Russia – May 1872

In early May 1872 (MiE) Russia issued the first two postal cards, together with a second formular card in black with the same appearance as the first one but a larger font size on the first line.

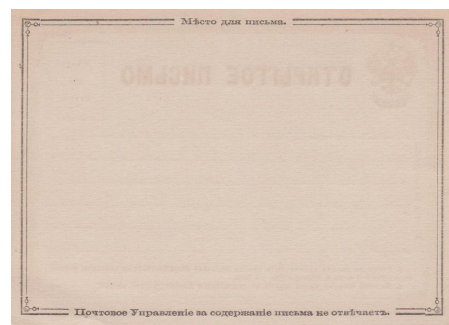
The second formular card has the same appearance as the the two postal cards with value stamp.

All four cards issued in 1872 have the same first title line saying “open letter” in Russian Cyrillic letters.



Russian formular card #2 with space for a stamp, the same coat-of-arms to the left, the same title but with large letters, six address lines and two notes at the bottom. Issued in May 1872.

The first note tells what postage to use, 3 kopek for local use and 5 kopek for national use, as for the postal cards issued at the same time.



The back side has a frame with two notes; the frame being somewhat larger than the frame on formular card #1.

Russian formular card #2 used after UPU, sent to Hamburg in 1879 with a postage of 3 kopek.

The postage was reduced once in 1875 and once again in 1879.



German Empire (Deutsches Reich) 1871-1873

In early 1871 the German Empire was created, including 27 old German states or regions. The empire took over the postal services from all the states except Baden, Bavaria and Württemberg, which continued to issue postal cards of their own. During 1871-1873 the German Empire issued 36 single cards and 19 double cards, printed in numerous cities around the empire. Many of the cards have only small differences in the type of eagle used, details in the notes, with/without formular number C.154 and number of address lines.

Fourteen different eagles were used for these cards:



The postage rates for domestic mail differed between Northern and Southern States. For local mail numerous postage rates were used, including city stamps without value.

Postage rates for cards	Northern States	Southern States
1.1.1871 - 30.6.1872	1 Groschen	3 Kreuzer
1.7.1872 - 31.12.1874	1/2 Groschen	2 Kreuzer

German Imperial Postal District - large "correspondence card" 1871, #1

The empire issued its first formular cards in 1871 with a large size of 163 x 108 mm. The appearance is similar to the previous cards from NDP. Up till June 30, 1872, the two first lines read "*Deutsches Reichspostgebiet. Correspondenz-Karte*" ("German Imperial Postal District. Correspondence cards"), with the German eagle in the middle of the first line.

The first group of large formular cards had five notes at the bottom; later cards have only four notes.

The first formular card from the German Empire, #1 (F), issued in July 1871. The eagle is No. 4 with a small shield and no leaves around the crown. A straight first line with a large font. "*Deutsches Reichs-*" to the left of the eagle and "*Post-Gebiet*" to the right.

"*Bestimmungsort*" type 2. Five notes and C.154 bottom right. The card was issued by OPD in Frankfurt am Main (F).



The earliest known use of the first formular card from the German Empire, #1 (F).

Sent from Bad Ems to Bad Weilbach on July 22, 1871, with a postage of 1 Groschen.

This card was shown by Müller (2013).

References: (F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.
Müller, P. (2013) *Die Deutsche Reichspost 1871*, ArGe NDP, Schriftenreihe 57. 210 pp.

German Postal District - large "correspondence cards" 1871, #2

The second formular card issued by the German Empire in 1871 had the same size and text but "Postgebiet" in one word. Now the first line in an arch and a smaller font size. "Deutsches Reichs-" to the left of the eagle and "Postgebiet" to the right. The size is 163 x 111 mm. Five notes, without the formular number C.154 bottom right.

Cards #2 issued in July 1871 from the central post offices in Schwerin and Hamburg (F). The eagle is No. 3 with a small shield. No "C.154" at bottom right.

"Bestimmungs-ort" type 1.

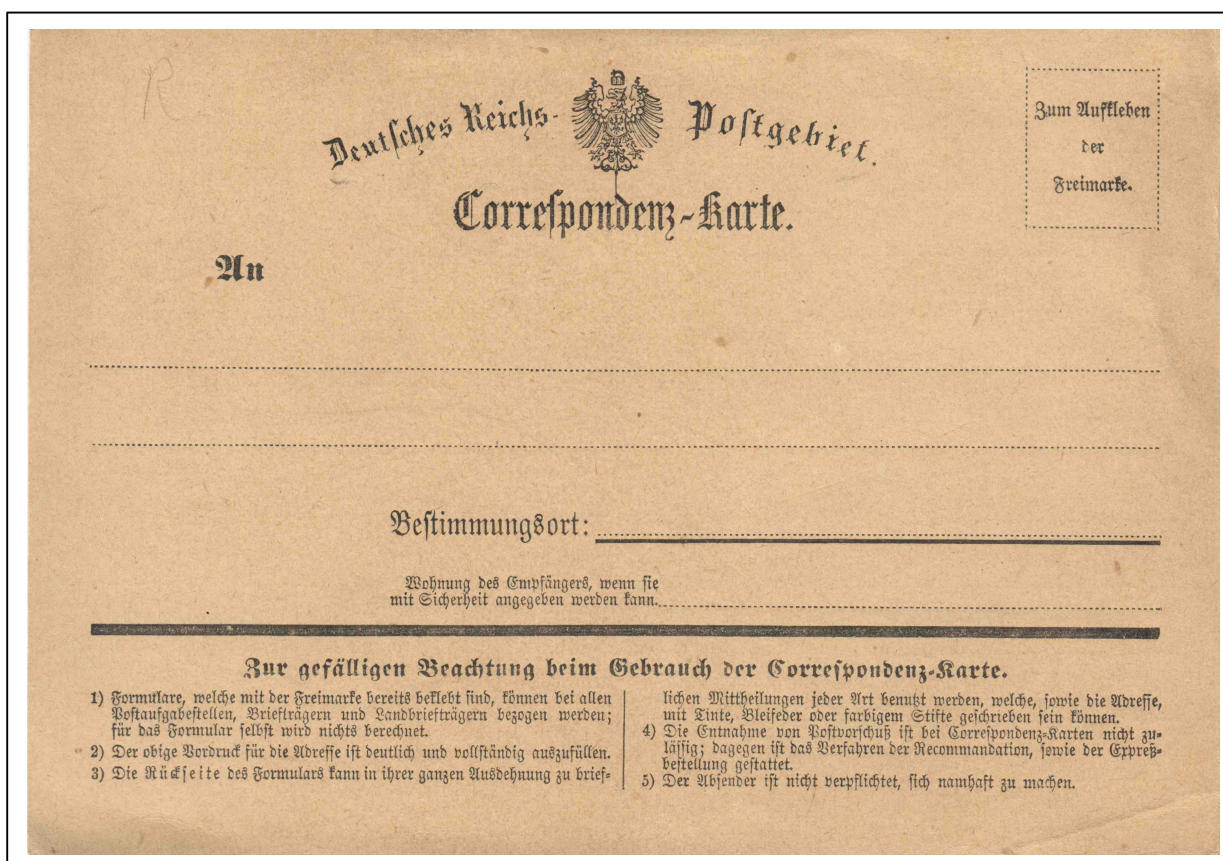
This card is type I, with thick dashes before "Karte" in the line above the notes.

Type I:

denz-Ka



The earliest recorded use of card #2, July 31, 1871 (F), from Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania to Saxony, with a postage of 1 Groschen.



This card is type II, with thin dashes before "Karte" in the line above the notes.

Type II:

denz-Ka

German Postal District - large "correspondence cards" 1872, #3 & #4

The third and forth "correspondence cards", issued in 1872, were very similar to the first and second card, respectively. The main differences are the eagles; the eagles now have leaves around the crown.

Card #3 issued
in January 1872
by OPD
Frankfurt/Main.

Eagle No. 6
with a large
shield and
leaves around
the crown.
"Deutsches
Reichs-" to the
left of the
eagle.

The size is 164 x
113 mm.
Formular No.
"C.154" at
bottom right.
"Bestimmungs-
ort" type 2.

Deutsches Reichs-Post-Gebiet

Correspondenz-Karte.

An *Herrn Major Hermann v. Grunberg Dp.*
Leinfelden-Ludwigsburg, Meissener Mag.

Bestimmungsort: *Frankfurt a.M.*

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. *Villa Leonhardsbrunn.*

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarke bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expresßbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

C. 154.

Card #3 used locally in Southern NPD, within Frankfurt am Main, with a postage of 1 Kreuzer.

Deutsches Reichs-Post-Gebiet

Correspondenz-Karte.

An

Bestimmungsort:

Wohnung des Empfängers, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann

Zur gefälligen Beachtung beim Gebrauch der Correspondenz-Karte.

- 1) Formulare, welche mit der Freimarke bereits besetzt sind, können bei allen Postaufgabestellen, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern bezogen werden; für das Formular selbst wird nichts berechnet.
- 2) Der obige Vordruck für die Adresse ist deutlich und vollständig auszufüllen.
- 3) Die Rückseite des Formulars kann in ihrer ganzen Ausdehnung zu brieflichen Mittheilungen jeder Art benutzt werden, welche, sowie die Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben sein können.
- 4) Die Entnahme von Postvorschuß ist bei Correspondenz-Karten nicht zulässig; dagegen ist das Verfahren der Recommendation, sowie der Expresßbestellung gestattet.
- 5) Der Absender ist nicht verpflichtet, sich namhaft zu machen.

C. 154.

Card #4 issued in
March 1872 by
OPD Münster.
"Deutsches" to
the left of the
eagle, contrary
to card #2 that
had "Deutsches
Reich". The size
is 164 x 113 mm.
The eagle is No.
7 with a large
shield and leaves
around the
crown. Formular
number "C.154"
at bottom right.
"Bestimmungs-
ort" type 18.

Only two used
copies are
known (F).

German Postal District – large/smaller “correspondence cards” 1872, #5&6

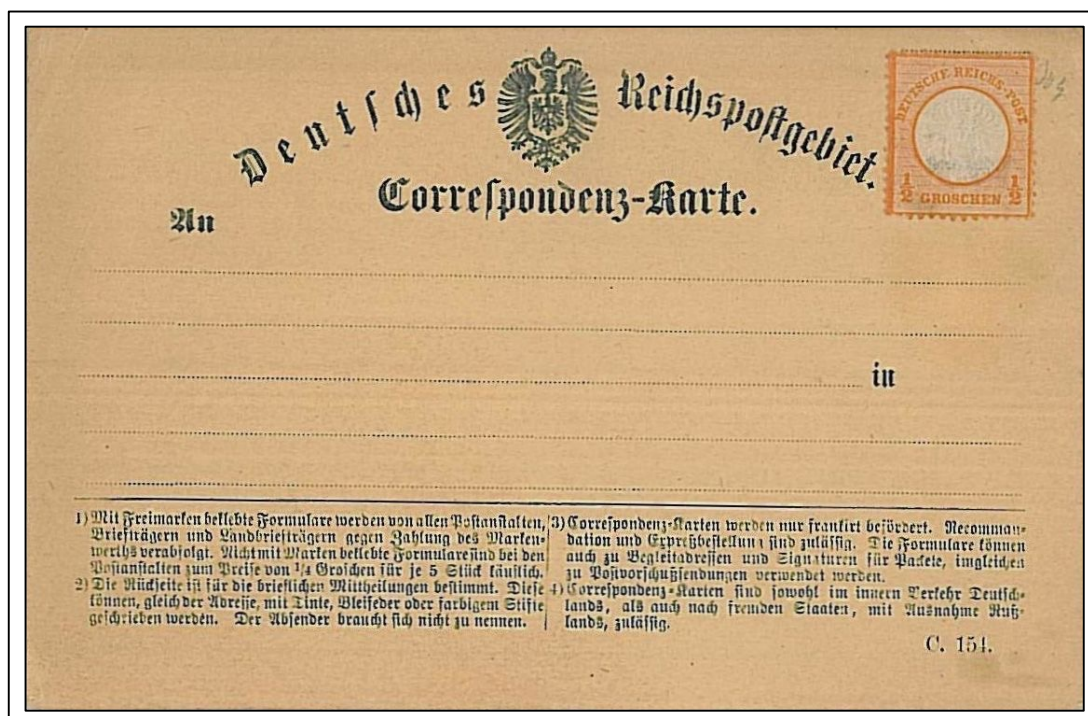
The fifth “correspondence card” was very similar to card #4 and they were issued the same month. The differences are the eagle, different notes, no formular number, no lines on the back side.

Card #5 issued in March 1872 from the OPD in Hannover, printed by Druckerei Kümmel (F). “Deutsches” to the left of the eagle. The size is 163 x 108 mm. The eagle is No. 10 with a large shield and leaves around the crown. No formular number “C.154” at bottom right. “Bestimmungsort” type 8.



The first known use of card #5, March 8, 1872 (F).

Postage 1 Groschen for use from Harburg in Hamburg to Northern Lower-Saxony.
(The card is damaged at the top edge)



Card #6 in a smaller size, 145 x 93 mm, issued in May 1872 from the central post office in Frankfurt am Main (F). “Deutsches” to the left of the eagle and “Reichspostgebiet” to the right. The eagle is No. 6 with a large shield. Formular number C.154. bottom right.

A 1/2 Groschen stamp affixed, for usage after July 1, 1872.

German Postal District - smaller "correspondence cards" 1872, #7 & #8

The third group of formular cards issued by the German Empire in May-July 1872 were smaller, 145-148 x 92-93 mm, had the first line in an arch, the text with a smaller font size and a large eagle. Four notes, with some differences, five address lines and with or without the formular number C.154 bottom.

Card #7 in a smaller size, 148 x 93 mm, issued in July 1872 (F) from the central post offices in Schwerin and Hamburg.

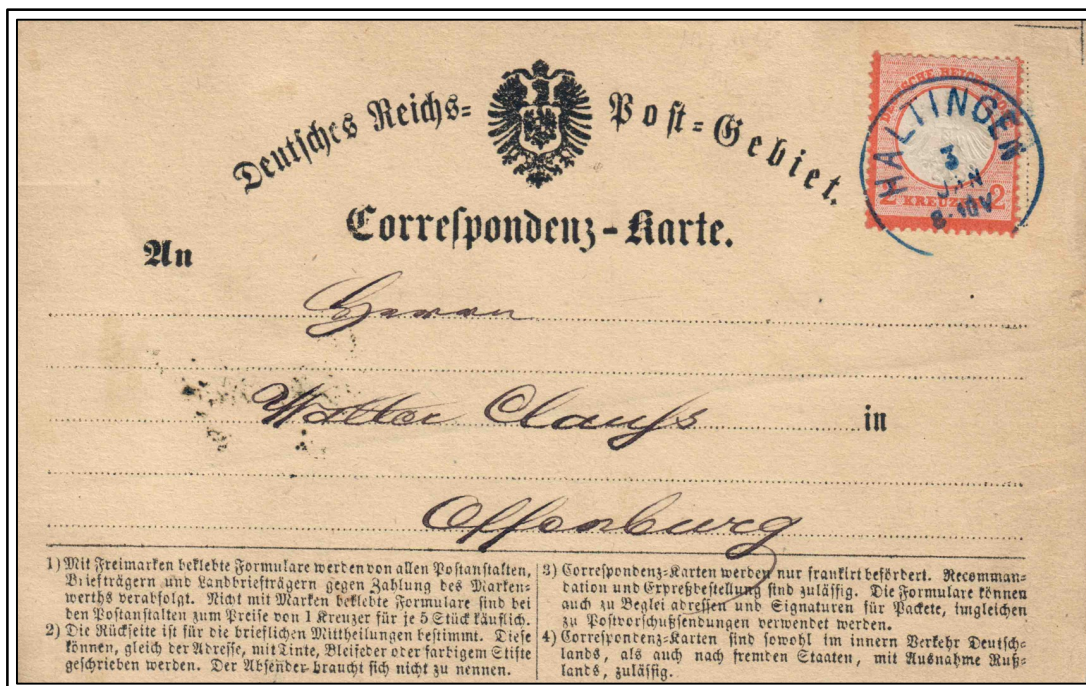
"Deutsches" to the left of the eagle and "Reichs-postgebiet" to the right.

The eagle is No. 8 with a large shield.

No "C.154" at bottom right.



Early usage, on July 15, 1872, within the city of Hamburg with a local stamp with no value digit.



Card #8 in a smaller size, 145 x 89 mm, issued in January 1872 (F) from the OPD in Karlsruhe and Konstanz.

"Deutsches Reichs-" to the left of the eagle and "Post=gebiet" to the right.

The eagle is No. 6 with a large shield. No "C.154" at bottom right.

Used in 1873 within Baden with a correct postage of 2 Kreuzer. Rare blue cancellation.

e

German Post 1872 - small "postcards" with notes – "nach", #9 & #10

The German Empire issued new formular cards in July 1872. From July 1, the first two lines now read "*Deutsche Reichspost. Postkarte*" (German Post. Postal card), and the size is somewhat smaller, 144 x 88 mm. The bottom fourth has four notes with instructions. The first word in the last line of note 4 is "*nach*".

Formular card #9 (below) and #10 (right) with the only difference being the eagle and the horizontal position of the formular number C. 154. The notes are identical.



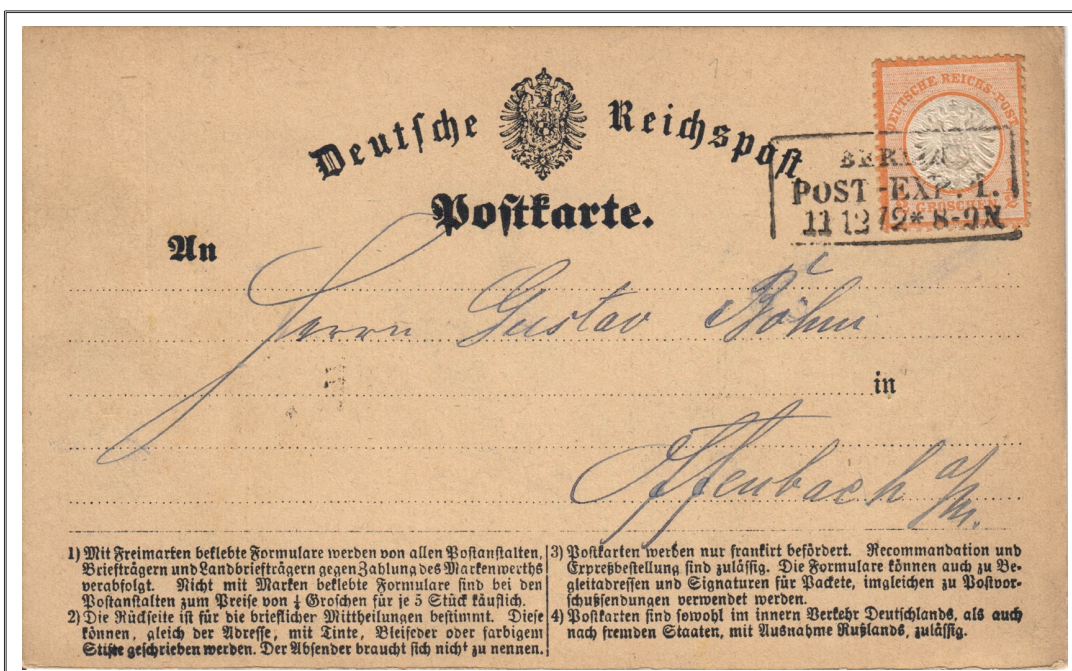
Formular card #10 (above) issued by the German Empire in July 1872, in Hamburg, Mecklenburg and Schleswig-Holstein. Eagle No. 8.



Formular card #9, with eagle No. 11, issued by the German Empire in July 1872, printed by Geheimen Ober-Hofbuchdruckerei in Berlin for use in Brandenburg and Pommern.

This card #9 was used [already on July 2, 1872](#), from Berlin to Lower Saxony with a ½ Groschen stamp. First recorded use is July 1 (F).

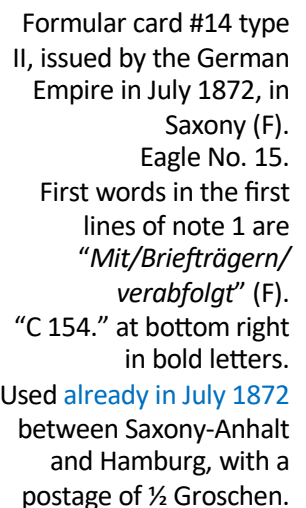
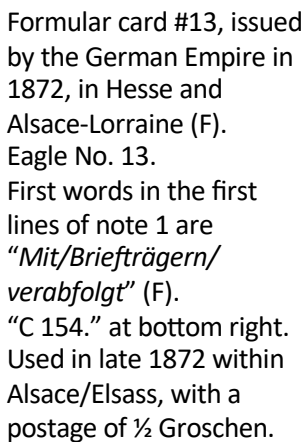
Both cards have four notes at the bottom and "C. 154" at bottom right. The first words in the first lines of note 1 are "*Mit/Briefträgern/verabfolgt*". Large space between the dots in the address lines (F).



Formular card #10E issued by Carl Kühn & Söhne in October 1872 in Berlin but used in all of the German Empire (F). The card is identical to cards #9 and #10 except for the eagle No. 9 and "C 154." is missing at bottom right. This card is type II that was printed on a thick cardboard made of leftover NDP-Feldpost cards that were glued together (F).

Used in December 1872 from Berlin to Hessen with a ½ Groschen stamp.

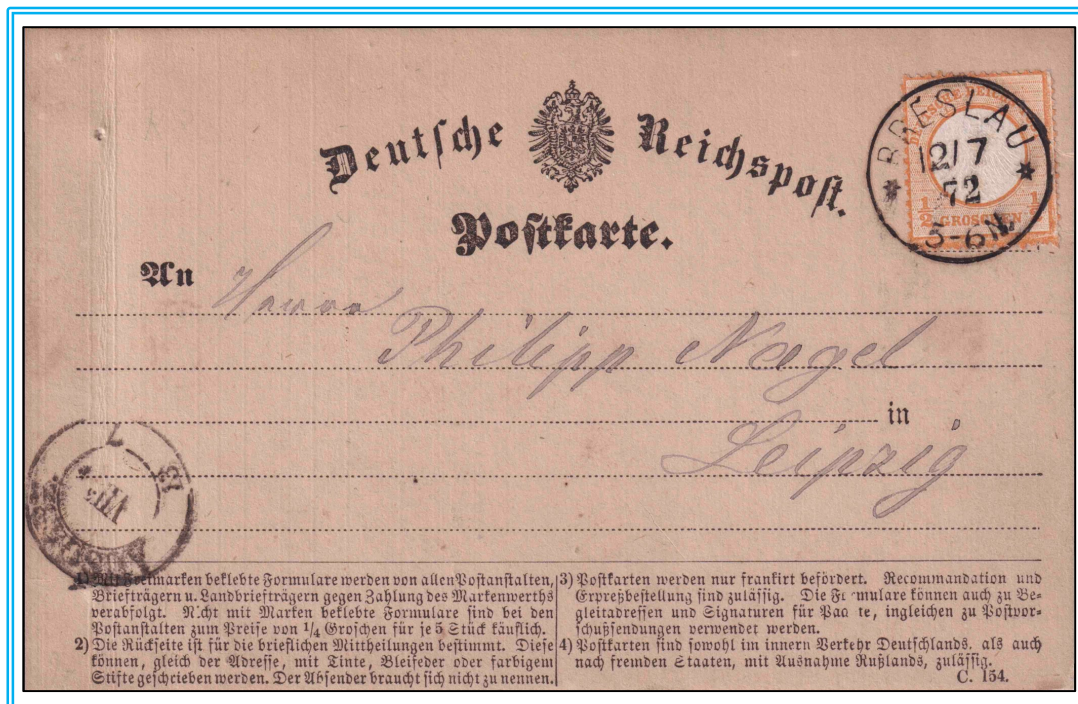
Formular card #11, issued by the "Upper Post Office Hamburg" in July 1872 (F). Eagle No. 10.
First word in the last line of note 4 is "nach".
First words in the first lines of note 1 are
"Mit/Briefträgern/verabfolgt" (F).
"C 154." at bottom right.
Used in 1873 in the Northern state of Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania, with a postage of ½ Groschen.



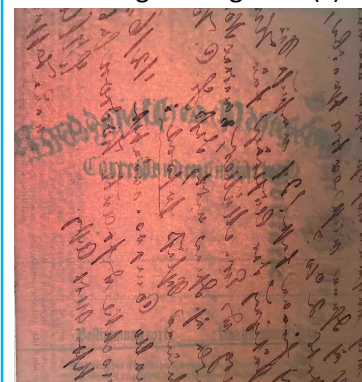
German Post 1872 - small "postcards" with notes – "nach", #12. Early

usage

Formular card #12 issued by the German Empire in July 1872, in Schlesien and printed by Friederich in Breslau (F), on thick cardboard. Eagle No. 12. First word in the last line of note 4 is "nach". First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/Briefträgern/verabfolgt" (F). "Ingleichen" in 3rd note. "C 154:" at bottom right. Large spaces between the dots in the address lines.



Card #12, type II, printed on thick cardboard from two left-over NDP-cards glued together (F).



The printing of the NDP-cards visible in through-light.

e

Card #12, type II, sent from Silesia to Saxony on July 12, 1872, the **First Date Seen** (F), with a postage of 1/2 Groschen.

Card #12, type III, printed on gold yellow, thick cardboard. Sent from Silesia to Berlin already on July 23, 1872, one day **before the First Date Seen** (F), with a postage of 1/2 Groschen.



German Post 1872 - small "postcards" with notes – "nach", # 22

Formular card #22 issued by the German Empire in July 1872, in Baden.

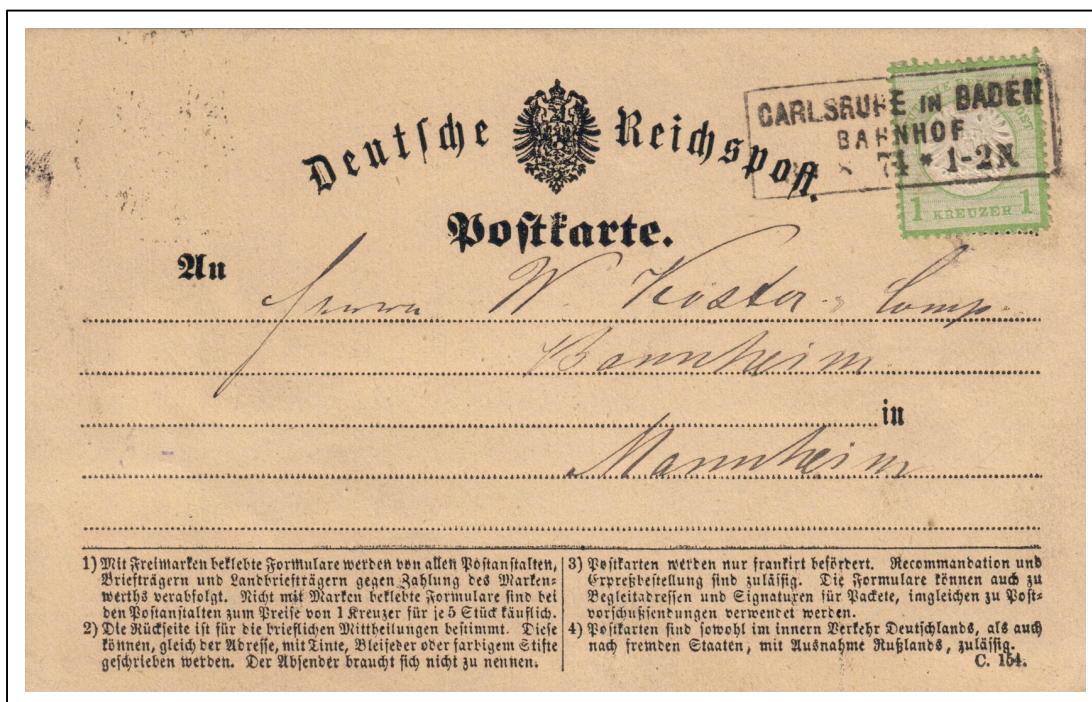
Eagle No. 9.

"C 154." at bottom right.

First word in the last line of note 4 is "nach".

First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/Briefträgern/werths".

"Price of 1 Kreuzer for 5 cards" in note 1.



Used locally within Baden with a postage of 1 Kreuzer.



Formular card #22 issued by the German Empire in July 1872, in Baden.

Eagle No. 9.

"C 154." at bottom right.

First word in the last line of note 4 is "nach".

First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/Briefträgern/werths".

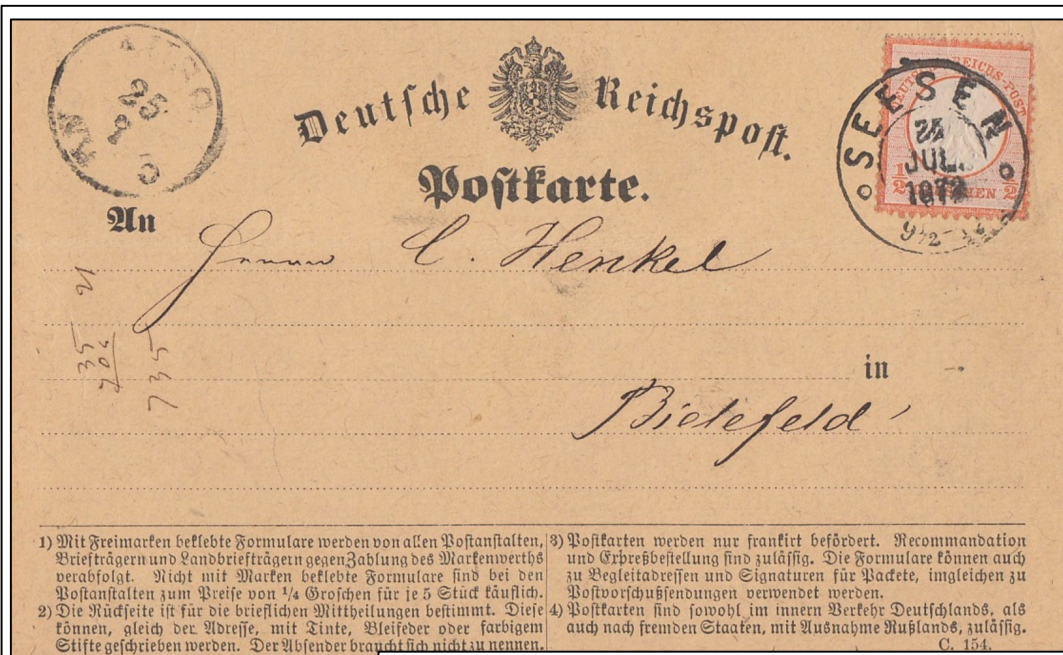
"1 Kreuzer" in note 1.

e

Used from Baden to Paris with a postage of 3 Kreuzer.
Correct postage confirmed by the red "PD" mark.

German cards to France are very rare.

German Post 1872 - small "postcards" with notes - "auch", #15, 16 & 17



Formular card #15 issued by the German Empire in July 1872, from OPD Hannover and Oldenburg, with four notes at the bottom. "C 154." at bottom right. Eagle No. 10.

First word in the last line of note 4 is now " ".
First words in the first lines of note 1 are
"Mit/Briefträgern/verabfolgt" (F).

Early use in July 1872 from Lower Saxony to the province of Westphalia with a postage of ½ Groschen.

Formular card #16 issued by the German Empire on July 19, 1872, in Westphalia, with four notes at the bottom. Eagle No. 7. "C 154:" at bottom right.

First word in the last line of note 4 is "auch".
First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/anstalten".
First word in the last line of note 2 is "geschrieben" (F).

Early use, in the first week, within the province of Westphalia, with a postage of ½ Groschen.



Formular card #17 issued in July 1872, printed by Pickenhahn & Sohn in Chemnitz for use in Saxony. Eagle No. 13. "C 154." at bottom right in bold letters.

First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/stalten".
First word in the last line of note 4 is "auch" (F).

Sent from the vicinity of Dresden, with cancellations on the railway to Dresden, with a postage of 2½ Groschen to England, the same as the letter rate. Correct postage confirmed by the "PD" mark.

German cards to England are very rare.



e

German Post 1872 - small "postcards" with notes - "auch"/"werths"



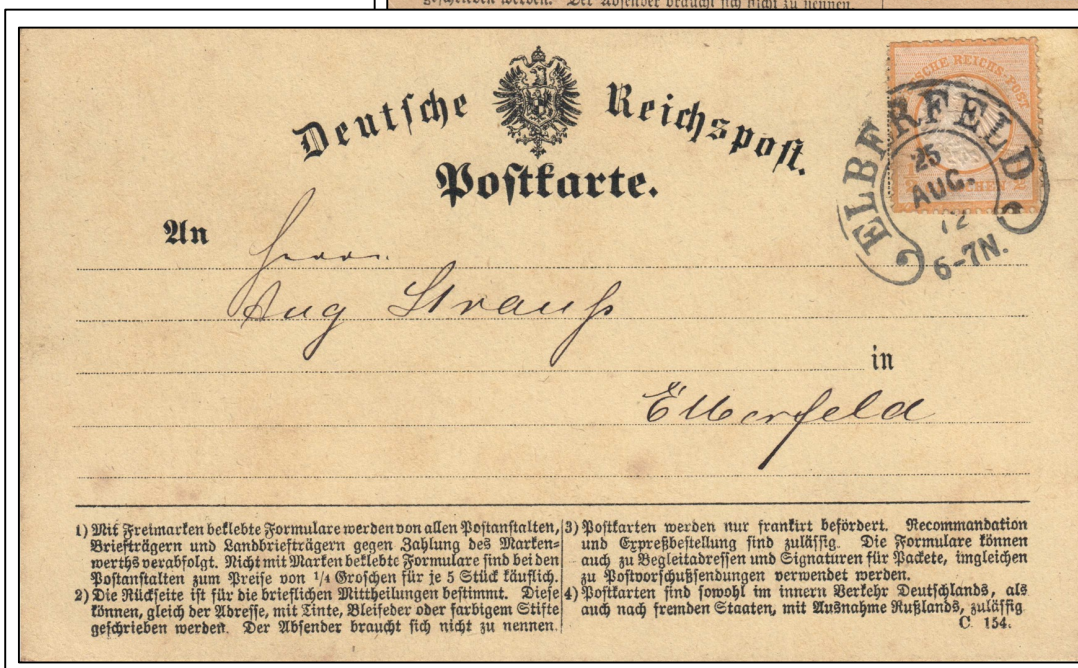
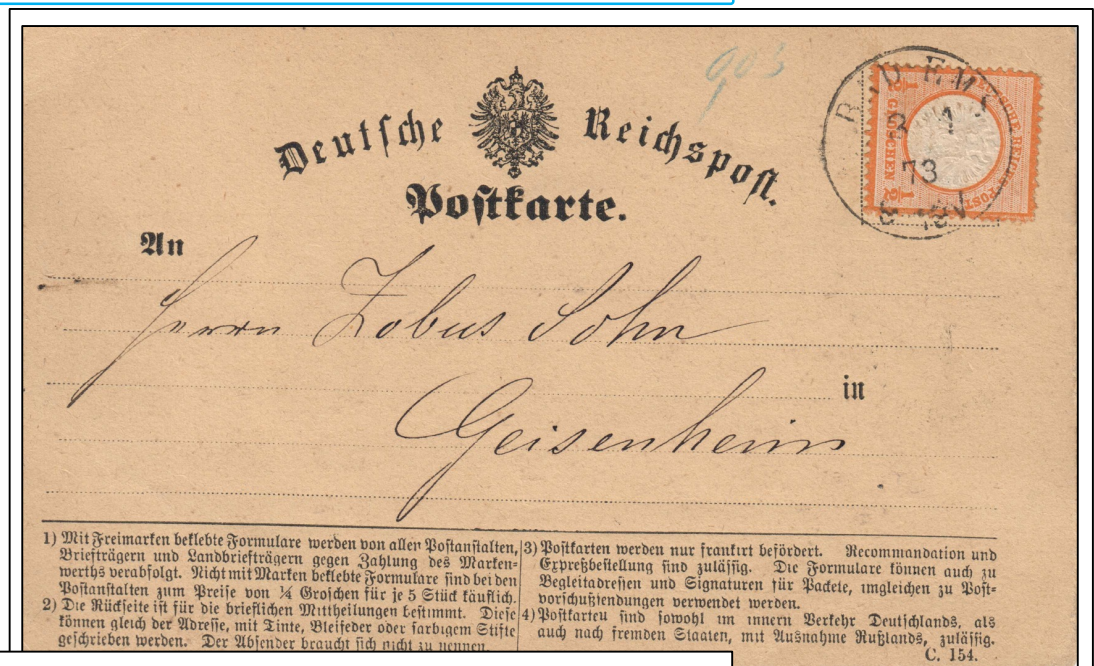
Formular card #18 issued by the German Empire in July 1872, in Prussia and Posen, Eagle No. 14. "C 154." at bottom right. First word in the last line of note 4 is "auch". First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/Briefträgern/werths". First words in 2nd and 4th line of note 3 are "und/chen".

Used on July 3, 1872, earlier than FDS (F), within the province of Posen.

Formular card #20 issued by OPD Frankfurt am Main in July 1872. Eagle No. 17. "C 154." at bottom right.

First word in the last line of note 4 is "auch". First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/Briefträgern/werths". First word in the 2nd line of note 3 is "Express" (F).

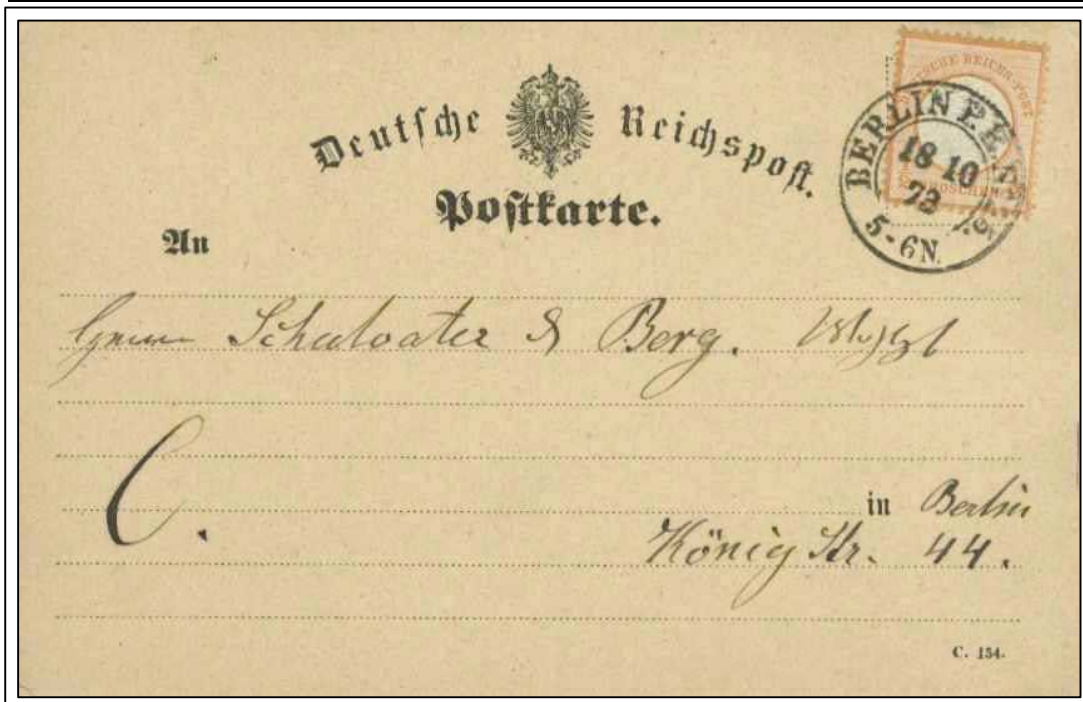
Used within the state of Hesse, with a postage of 1/2 Groschen.



Formular card #21 issued in July 1872, in the Rhine Province. Eagle No. 16. "C 154." at bottom right. First words in the first lines of note 1 are "Mit/Briefträgern/werths". First words in 2nd and 4th line of note 3 are "und/zu".

Used in August 1872 within the city of Wuppertal, with a postage of 1/2 Groschen.

German Post 1872-73 - small "postcards" without notes, 7 lines, #23-25



Card #23 issued in October 1872 by OPD Berlin for use in Brandenburg and Pommern.

Eagle No. 11.

Seven address lines. "In" after the shorter fifth line.

"C 154." at bottom right.

Used within Berlin with a postage of ½ Groschen.

Card # 24, issued in November 1872 by OPD Breslau for Schlesien; printed by W. Friederich in Breslau.

Eagle No. 12.

Seven address lines. "In" after the shorter fourth line.

"C 154." at bottom right.

Used within Saxony with a postage of ½ Groschen.



Card # 25 issued in August 1873 in Schlesien as a follower of card #24.

Eagle No. 9.

Very short distance between "An" and the first address line. Seven address lines. "In" after the shorter fourth line.

"C 154." at bottom right.

Sent from Silesia to Brandenburg in 1874 with a postage of ½ Groschen.

German Post 1872-73 - small "postcards" without notes, 7 lines, #26-27

The German Empire issued new formular cards in 1872. From October 1872 the four paragraphs at the bottom were removed. These cards were not known by (H&G), were mentioned by (A) and described by (F).

Card #26 issued in April 1873 by OPD Kassel.

Eagle No. 16.

Seven address lines. "In" at the right part of the fifth line.

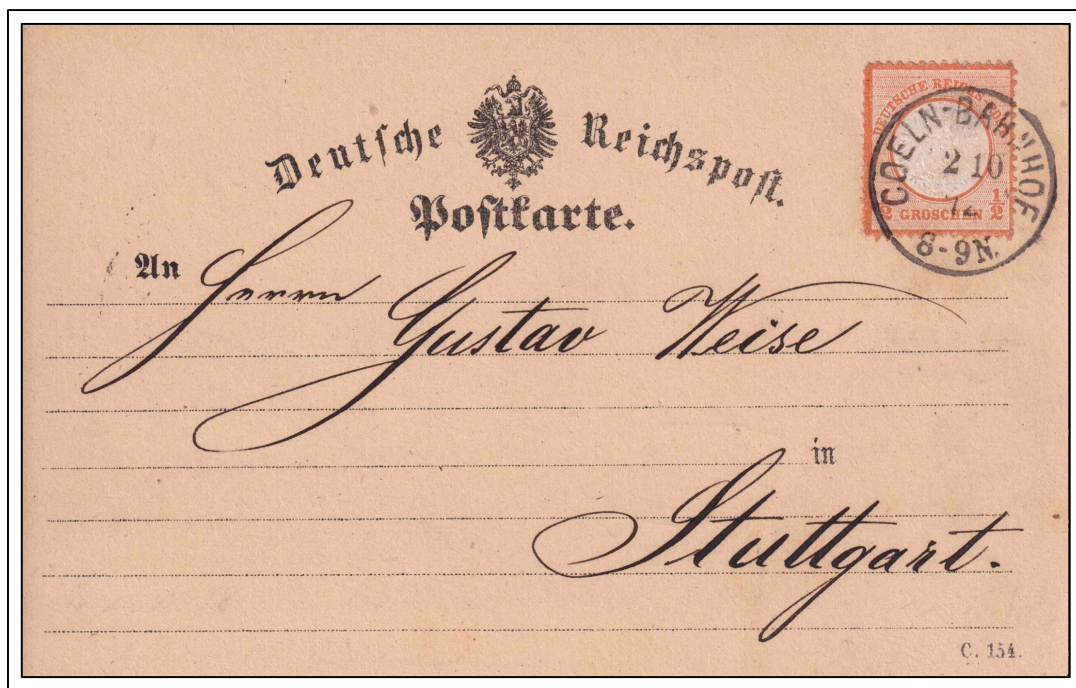
"C 154." at bottom right.

Large card size: 145 x 95 mm.

Used over the river Main, with a 2 Kreuzer stamp. 2 Kr. was the postage in the southern part of the German Empire, the "Kreuzer district", between July 1, 1872 and December 12, 1874.



e



Card # 27 issued in September 1872 by OPD Düsseldorf for use in the Rhine Province. Printed by Bagel in Wesel.

Eagle No. 16.

Seven address lines. "In" after the shorter fourth line.

"C 154." at bottom right.

Small card size: 143 x 87 mm.

Sent in early October 1872 from the Rhine Province to the kingdom of Württemberg with a postage of ½ Groschen.

German Post 1872-73 - small "postcards" without notes, 6 lines, #28-29



Card #28 type I, issued by OPD Münster for Westphalia and Lippe. Printed by Bruns in Minden.

Eagle No. 7.

Six address lines. "In" after the shorter fourth line.

Card type I with "C 154." at bottom **left(!)** (F).

First known use by (F) is December 1873; should be 1872(?). This card was used already in January 1873, within Westphalia!

Card # 29, type I, issued in October 1872 by OPD Schwerin for Hamburg, Lübeck, Mecklenburg and Schleswig-Holstein. Eagle No. 8.

Six address lines. "in" after the shorter fourth line. Large distance between "An" and the first address line.

"C. 154." at bottom right.

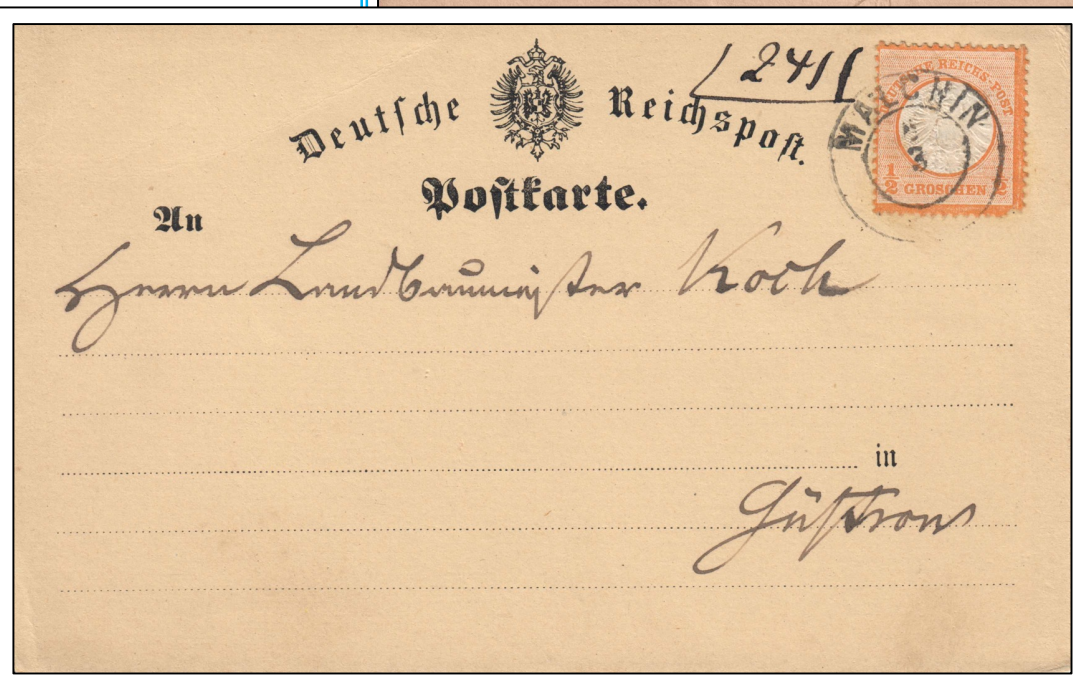
Used in 1872 from Berlin to Potsdam, **before FDS** (F).



Card # 29, type II, issued in October 1872 for Schwerin, Hamburg, Lübeck, Mecklenburg and Schleswig-Holstein.

Type II has no "C. 154." at the bottom.

Used in 1873 within Mecklenburg.



German Post 1872-73 - small "postcards" without notes, 6 lines, #30-32



Card #30 type I, issued in the kingdom of Saxony and in Saxony-Altenburg (F).

Eagle No. 13.

Six address lines. "In" after the shorter fourth line.

Type I with large "C. 154." at bottom right (F).

First date seen by (F) is October 1872; this card was used in early November 1872, within Saxony, with a postage of ½ Groschen.

Card # 31, issued in September 1872 in the Province of Saxony and Thuringia.
Eagle No. 15.

Six address lines; "in" after the shorter fourth line. Card type II: large horizontal distance between the start of the the first address line and "An".
"C. 154." at bottom right.

Used in November 1872 within Saxony.



Card # 32, type I, issued in December 1872 for OPD Frankfurt/Main.
Eagle No. 17.

Type I has the "C. 154." 6 mm below the last address line.

Used 1873 within Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach

German Post 1872-73 - small "postcards" without notes, 5 lines, #33-37



Card # 33 issued in early January 1873 by OPD Karlsruhe for Baden.

Eagle No. 9.

Five address lines. "In" after the third, shorter line.

"C. 154." at bottom right, 17 mm below the last line.

Used in late 1873 from Baden to Bavaria with a correct postage of 2 Kreuzer.

e

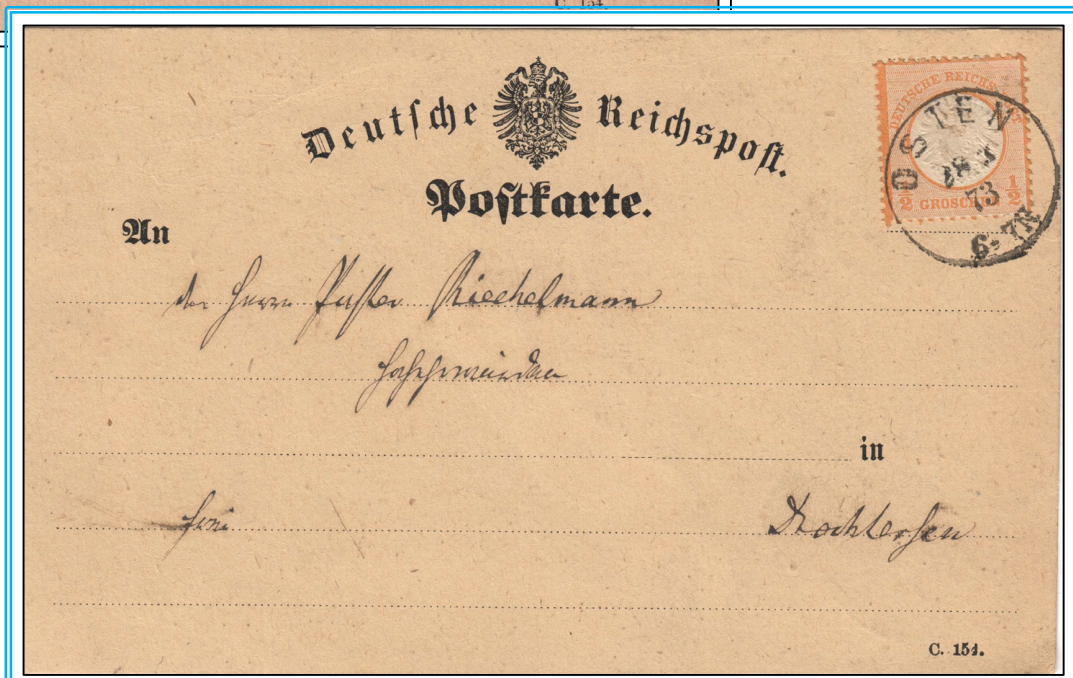
Card #34 issued in October 1873 by OPD Bremen, Hannover and Oldenburg.

Eagle No. 10.

Five address lines. "In" after the third, shorter line. The 3rd line is partly dashes; the rest of the lines are periods.

"C 154." at bottom right.

First date used known by (F) is October 1873; this must be a printing error (1872?). This card was used already in February 1873, within Lower Saxony.



Card # 37 issued in July 1873 by OPD Schwerin and Hamburg.

Eagle No. 8.

Five address lines. "An" to the left of the first address line.

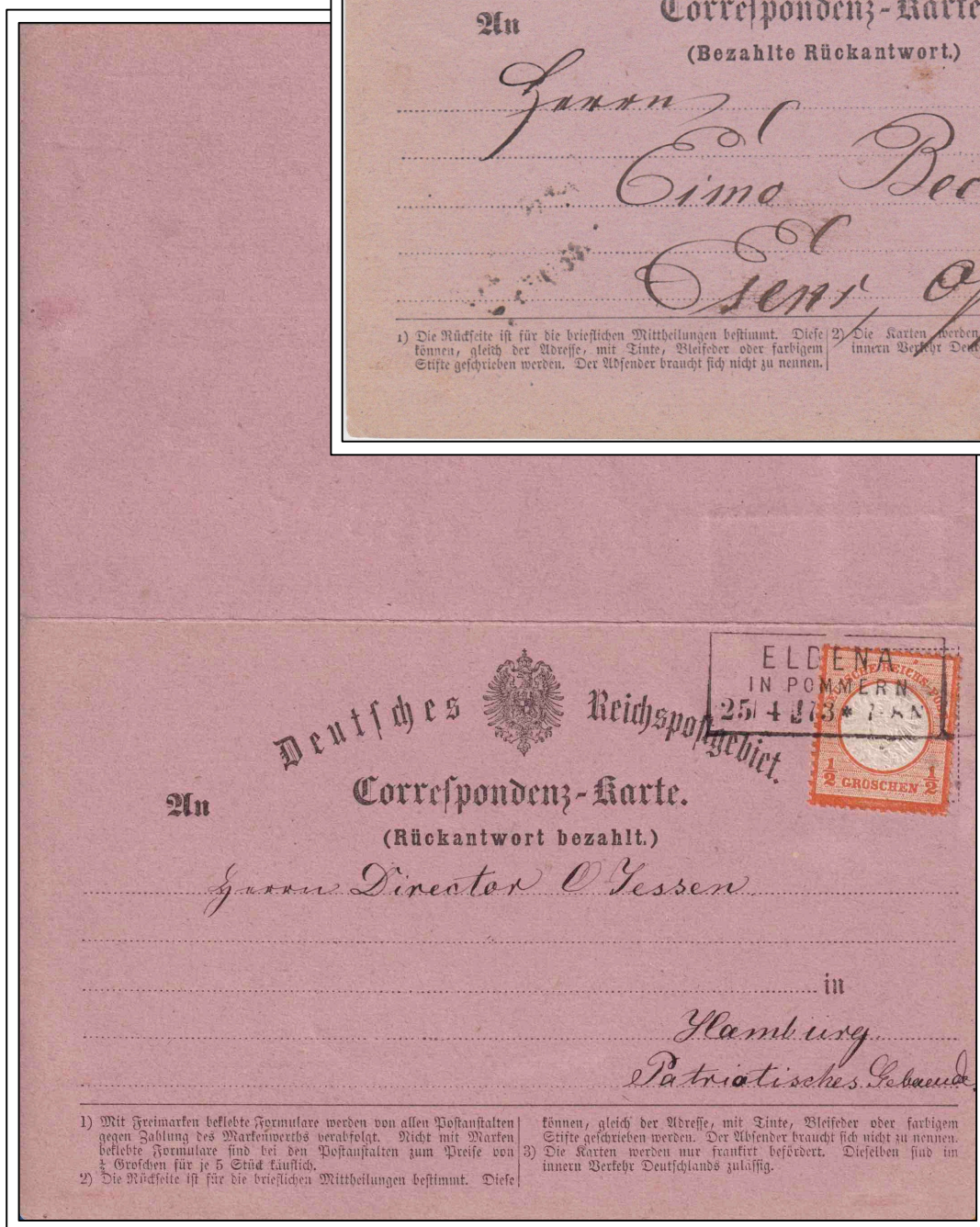
This card is type II (F) with a 69 mm long 1st line and without "in" and "C. 154." Now with additional text above and in front of the address lines, identical to the text in the later postal cards with a value stamp.

German Postal District 1872 - double "correspondence cards", #1

The first group of 11 double cards, called "*Correspondenz-Karte*", were issued in 1872-73. The first line was "*Deutsches Reichspostgebiet*", in an arch, on the first 10; only "*Deutsche Reichspost*" on the 11th.

The first double formular card #1, was printed by Geh. Ober-Hofdruckerei in Berlin (F) and **issued on January 1, 1872**.

This is one of the four first double cards in the World. Two double postal cards from Württemberg and a double formular card from Bavaria were also issued in early 1872. The German eagle No. 11. No formular number C.154. bottom right. The third lines say "Paid Answer" and "Answer Paid" in German. Three notes on the question card, two on the reply card.



The unfolded message card of a double formular card #1, sent from Pomerania to Hamburg in 1873 with a postage of ½ Groschen.

The reply card is addressed, and franked with ½ Groschen stamp, but not sent.

The double cards # 1-4 have the same notes, with the lines starting with Mit/gegen/beklebte/1/2 Groschen/Die and können/Stifte/Die/innern on the question card and Die/können/Stifte and Die/innern on the reply card.

Reference: *Post-Reglement vom 30. November 1871*, German Empire.

German Postal District 1872 - double "correspondence cards", #2

The first group of 11 double cards, called "Correspondenz-Karte", were issued in 1872-73. The exact date of issue is not known; reference is given to FDS, "First Date Seen", by (F).

A message card of double formular card #2, sent within the northern German state of Schleswig-Holstein in late 1872 with a postage of ½ Groschen.

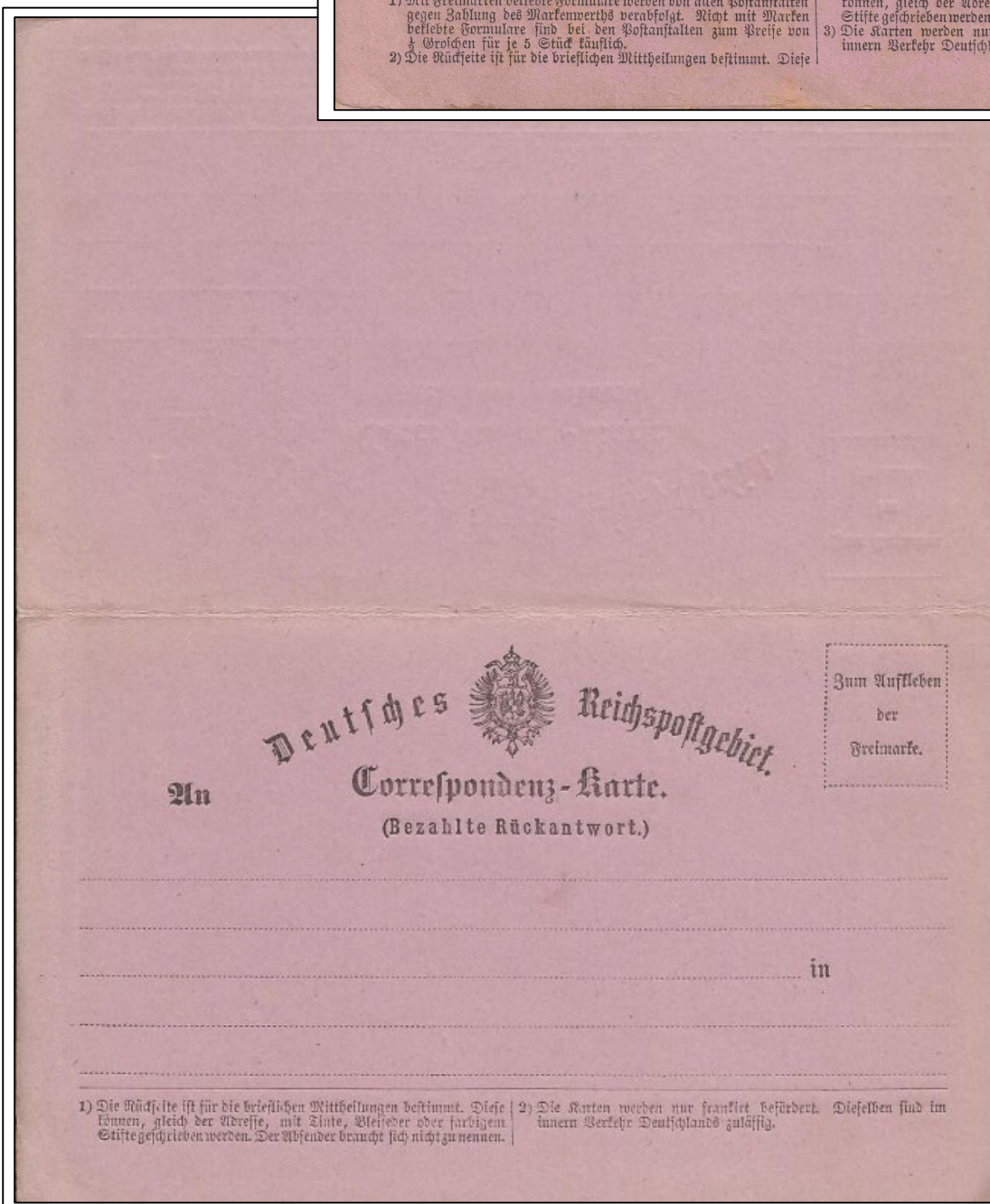
This card #2 is type I or II (F); the message card has thick parenthesis around the third line.



Double formular card #2, question card (top) and unfolded reply card (left), issued in early February 1872 by OPD Schwerin for Mecklenburg, Hamburg, Lübeck and Schleswig-Holstein. German eagle No. 8. No C.154 bottom right.

This card #2 is type II (F); the question card has thick parenthesis around the third line but this reply card has thin parenthesis.

The double cards # 1-4 have the same notes, with the lines starting with Mit/gegen/beklebte/1/2 Groschen/Die and können/Stifte/Die/innern on the question card and Die/können/Stifte and Die/innern on the reply card.



German Postal District 1872-73 - double "correspondence cards", #3 & #4

Double formular cards #3 and #4, "Correspondenz-Karte", were both issued in Silesia, in August 1872 and.

These two cards are the only cards where the third address line continues to the right of "in".

1) Mit Freimarken beklebte Formulare werden von allen Postanstalten gegen Zahlung des Markenwerths verabfolgt. Nicht mit Marken beklebte Formulare sind bei den Postanstalten für je 5 Stück käuflich.
2) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt.

A message card of double formular card #3, "Correspondenz-Karte", issued in Silesia in August 1872.

The message card has three notes on five lines and a formular number C.154 a. at bottom right.

The card was sent from the province of Silesia to Saxony in 1872 with a postage of ½ Groschen.

A reply card of double formular card #4, "Correspondenz-Karte", issued in Silesia in July 1873.

The reply card has two notes but no formular number C.154a. bottom right.

The card was used within the province of Silesia with a postage of ½ Groschen.

1) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt. Diese können, gleich der Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben werden. Der Absender braucht sich nicht zu nennen.
2) Die Karten werden nur frankirt befördert. Dieselben sind im innern Verkehr Deutschlands zulässig.

A folded message card of double formular card #4, "Correspondenz-Karte", issued in Silesia in July 1873.

The message card has three notes on five lines and a formular number C.154a. bottom right.

1) Mit Freimarken beklebte Formulare werden von allen Postanstalten gegen Zahlung des Markenwerths verabfolgt. Nicht mit Marken beklebte Formulare sind bei den Postanstalten zum Preise von ½ Groschen für je 5 Stück käuflich.
2) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt. Diese können, gleich der Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben werden. Der Absender braucht sich nicht zu nennen.
3) Die Karten werden nur frankirt befördert. Dieselben sind im innern Verkehr Deutschlands zulässig.

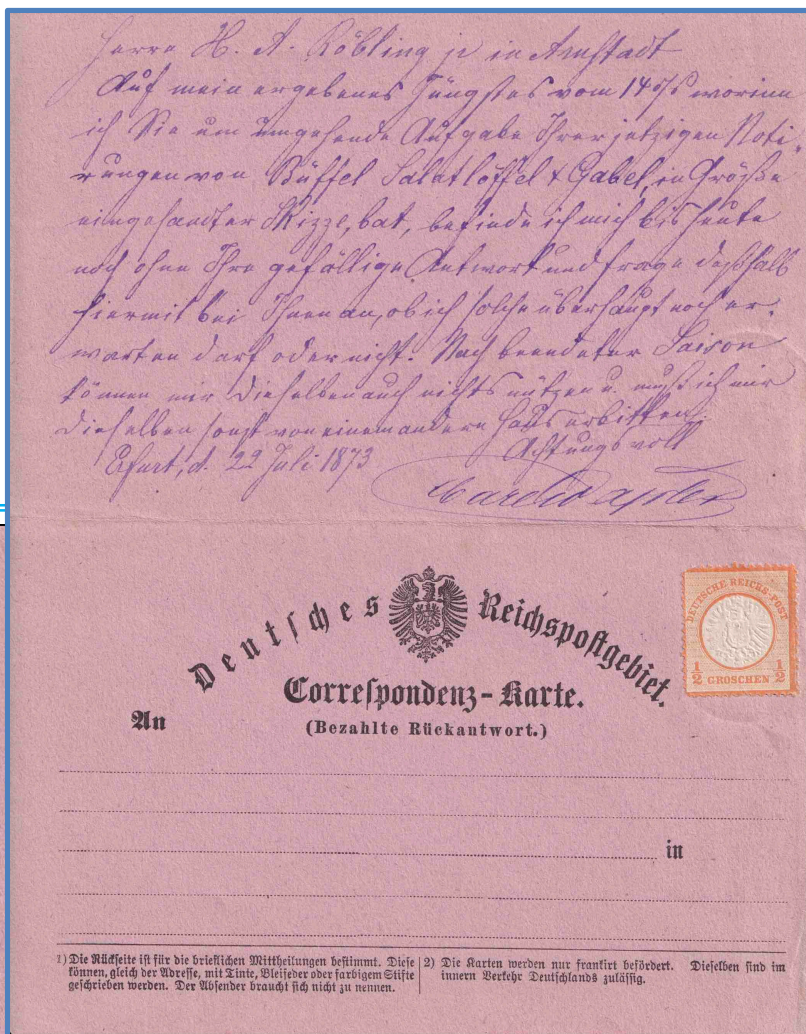
German Postal District 1872 - double "correspondence cards", #5

Double formular card #5, "Correspondenz-Karte", was **issued in early January 1872** by OPD Frankfurt/Main, but also used in Baden and Elsass-Lothringen. Eagle No. 6. The message card has three notes and a large "C.154 a." at bottom right. The reply card has only two notes; no C.154.

The double card # 5 have three notes, on the message card, with the lines starting with Mit/ten/Marken/Preise/Die and Diese/farbigem/nicht/Die/innern.

The second note on the message card is four lines on cards #5-6 and #8-11; contrary to three lines on cards #1-4.

The lines of the notes on the reply card starts with Die/können/geschrieben and Die/innern.



The unused reply card of the double card #5, with a postage of ½ Groschen affixed.

This double card was used within the state of Thuringia in July 1873 with a postage of ½ Groschen.

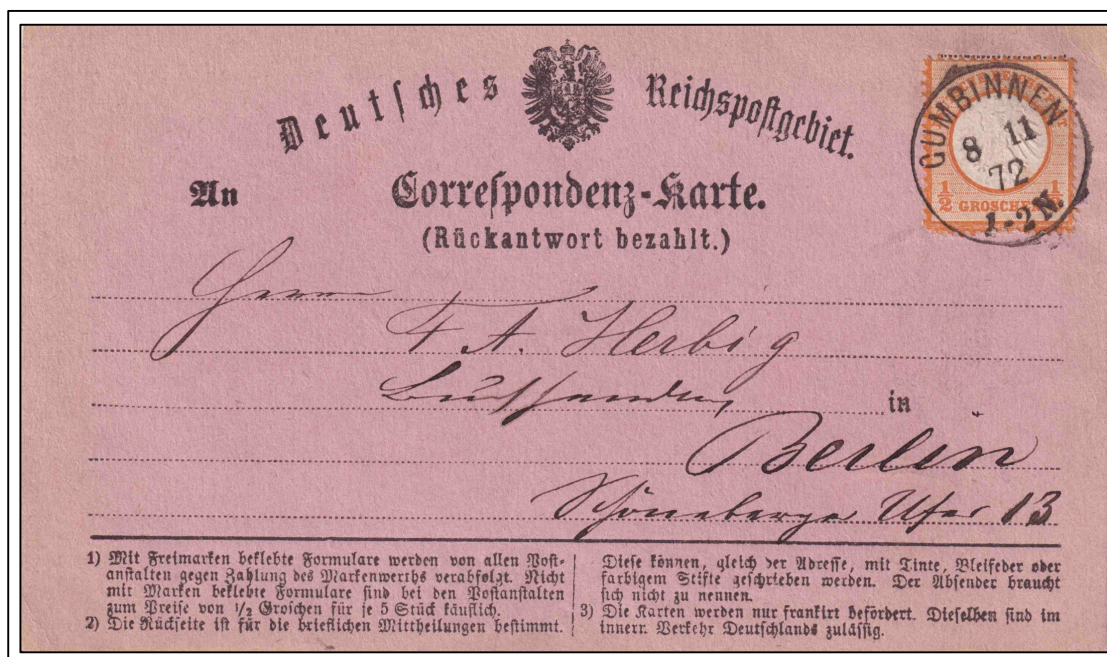
Undivided double cards are rare.

e



German Postal District 1872-73 - double "correspondence cards", #6 & 7

Double formular cards #6 and #7, "Correspondenz-Karte", were both issued in late January 1872. in the Provinces of Prussia and Posen. The message cards have three notes and the reply cards have only two notes.



A message card of double formular card #6, "Correspondenz-Karte", issued in late January 1872 in the Provinces of Prussia and Posen (F). Eagle No. 14.

The message card has three notes but no formular number bottom right.

The second note is four lines.

The card size is 85 x 147 mm.

The card was sent from Province of East Prussia to Berlin in the Province of Brandenburg with a postage of ½ Groschen.

A message card of double formular card #7, "Correspondenz-Karte", issued in late January 1873 in the Province of Westphalia (F). Eagle No. 7.

The message card has three notes; the reply card has only two notes; both cards have a small C.154a. bottom right.

The second note on the message card is three lines.

This card is very large, 98 x 153 mm.

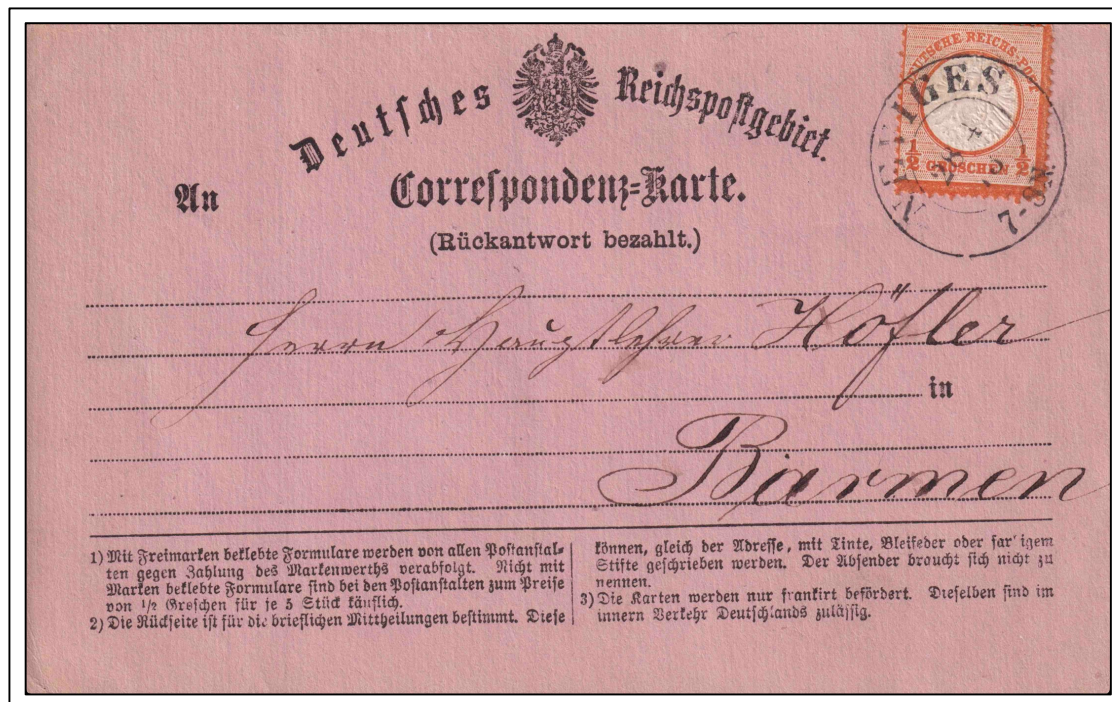


The card was used in July 1873 within the Province of Westphalia, with a postage of ½ Groschen.

German Postal District 1872 - double "correspondence cards", #8

Double formular card #8, message card (top) and reply card (bottom). **Issued in December 1872** in the Rhine Province.
German eagle No. 10. No formular number C.154.

The lines of the notes start with Mit/ten/Marken/von/Die and können/Stifte/nennen/Die/innern on the message card and
Die/können/Stifte/nennen and Die/innern on the reply card.



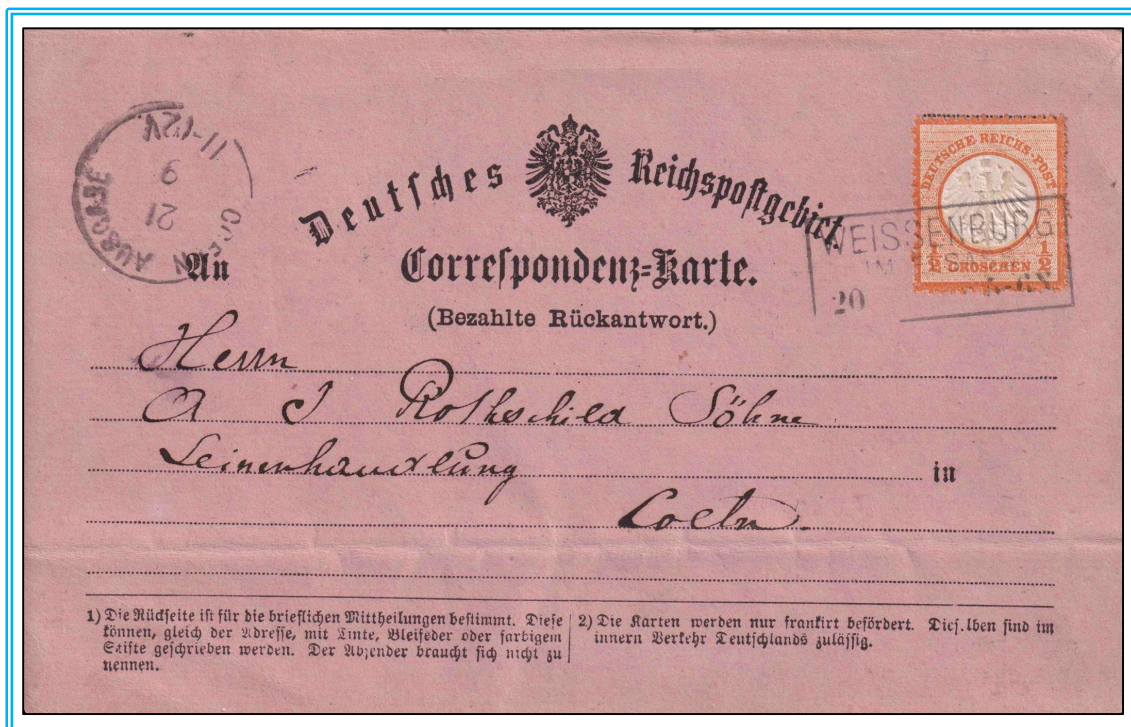
A message card of double formular card #8, sent in 1873 within the kingdom of Saxony with a postage of 1/2 Groschen.

Card size 148 x 89 mm.

A reply card of double formular card #8, with a larger size than normal, 150 x 94 mm, compared to 143-146 x 88-90 mm (F).

The card was returned in September 1872 from Alsace/Elsass to Cologne with a postage of 1/2 Groschen.

The use of this card is **much earlier than the FDS*** by (F), December 1872.



*FDS = First Date Seen =
EKU = Earliest Known Use

German Postal District 1872 - double "correspondence cards", #9

Double formular card #9, message card (top) and reply card (bottom). Issued in October 1872 in the kingdom of Saxony.
German eagle No. 13. No formular number C.154.

A message card of double formular card #9, sent in 1873 within the kingdom of Saxony with a postage of ½ Groschen.

This is from a double card of type I or type II, with a distance of 35 mm between "An" and "Correspondenz" on the message card.

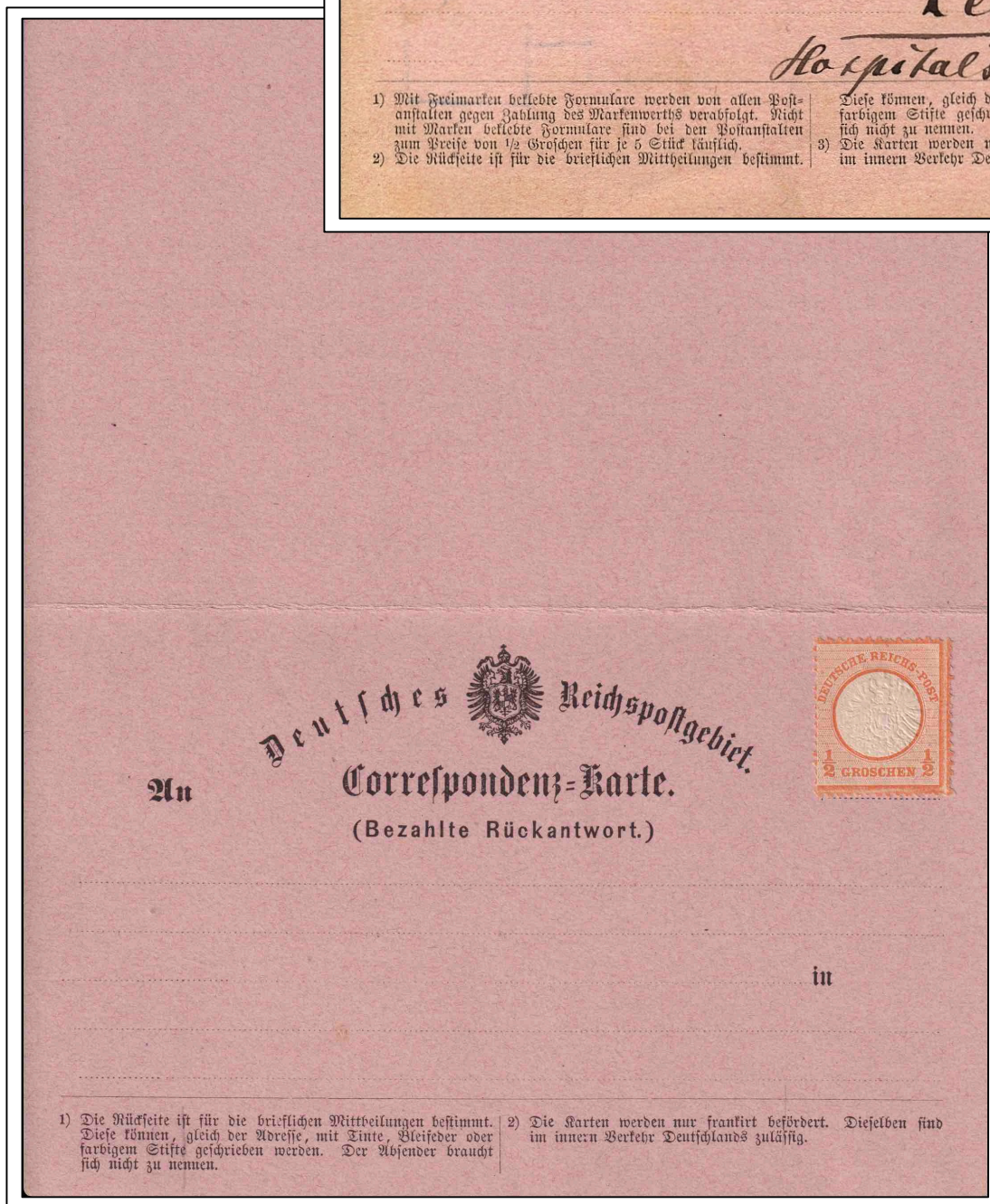


The lines of the notes start with Mit/anstalten/mit/zum/Die and Diese/farbigem/sich/Die/im on the message card and Die/Diese/farbigem/sich and Die/im on the reply card.

The last line of the third note on the message card #9 starts with "im", contrary to "innern" on all other cards #1-11.

An unfolded reply card of double formular card #9 with an affixed ½ Groschen stamp.

This double card is type I, with a distance of 35 mm between "An" and "Correspondenz" on the message card but only 23 mm on the reply card.



German Postal District 1872 - double “correspondence cards”, #10

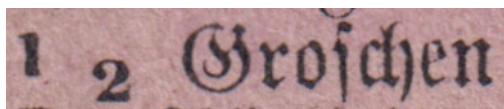
Double formular card #10, message card, **issued in early January 1872** in the kingdom of Saxony. German eagle No. 15.
No formular number C.154.

The lines of the notes start with Mit/gegen/beklebte/1/2 Groschen/Die and können/Stifte/nennen/Die/innern on the message card
and Die/können/Stifte and Die/innern on the reply card.



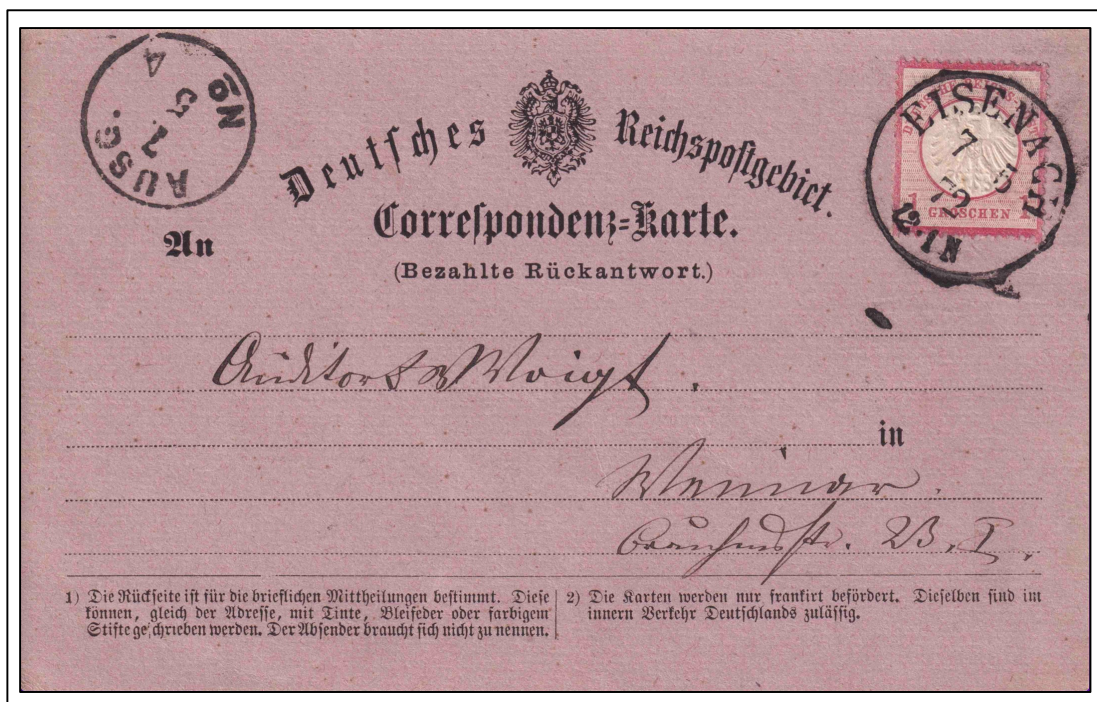
Foreign use of a double formular card #10, sent in 1874 from Saxony-Anhalt to Luxemburg, with a postage of ½ Groschen.

Luxemburg was part of the ‘Extended’ “German Agreement”, accepting each other’s stamps, from February 1, 1873.



The last line of note 1) has the price of five cards: ½ Groschen. The slash between 1 and 2 is missing on this message card.

The reply card of double formular card #10, sent from Thuringia in May 1872 with a postage of 1 Groschen.



German Post 1873 - double "correspondence cards", #11

The last double "correspondence card", formular card #11, **issued in June (?) 1873** by OPD Magdeburg in the kingdom of Saxony. German eagle No. 15. No formular number C.154.

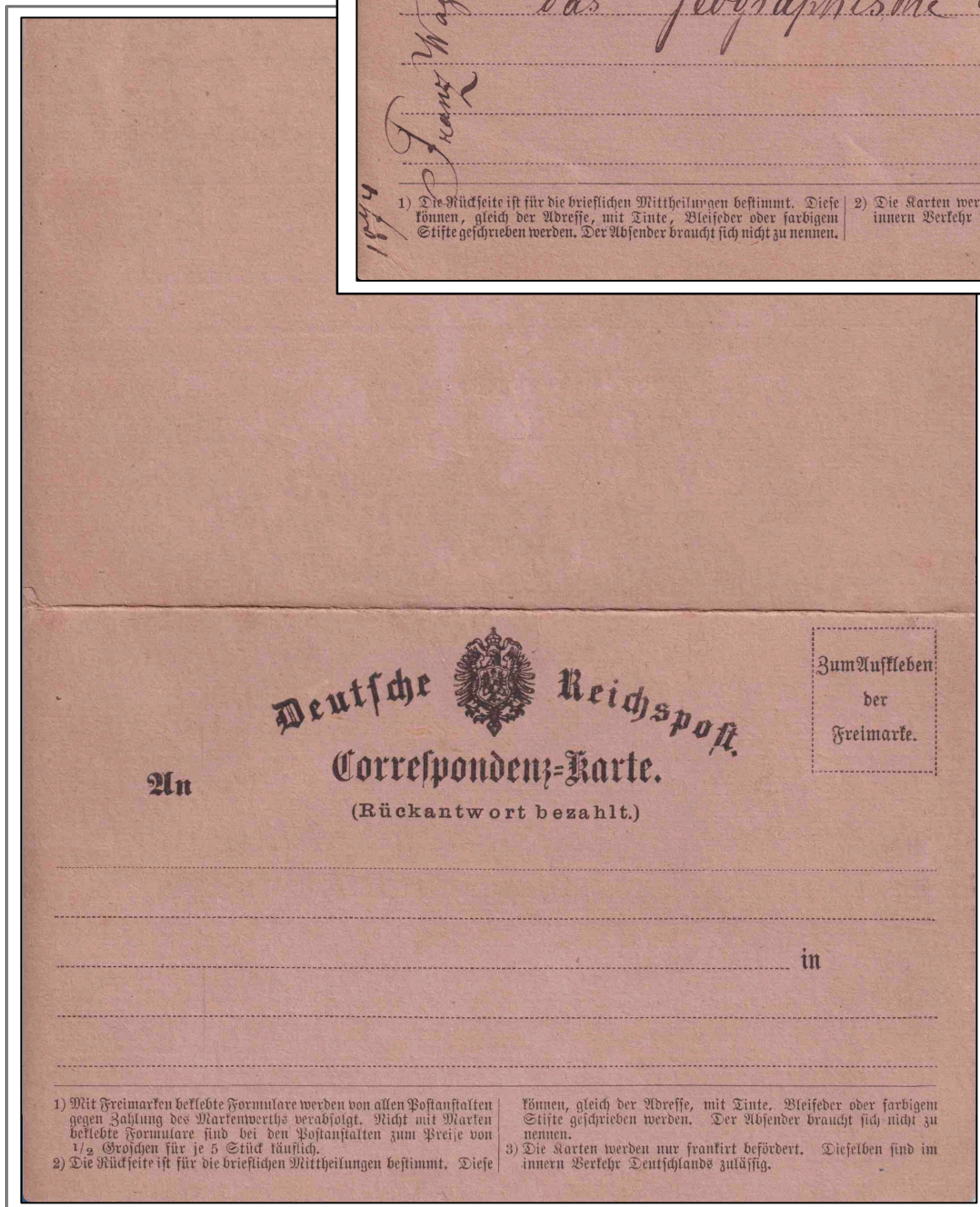
The lines of the notes start with Mit/gegen/beklebte/1/2 Groschen/Die and können/Stifte/nennen/Die/innern on the message card and Die/können/Stifte and Die/innern on the reply card.

This is the only double card with the title combination of "German Post" and "Correspondence card".

The reply card of a double formular card #11, sent from the kingdom of Saxony 1874 to the Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach, with a postage of ½ Groschen.



The message card of an unfolded double formular card #11. This card is type I, with five address lines (F).



German Post 1872 – the first double “postcards” of #12- 24

The second group of 13 double cards, called “Postkarte”, were issued in 1872-76. The first line is now “Deutsche Reichspost”.

The first issued double “postcard” #16, “Post=karte”, issued by the German Empire in December 1872 in Elsass-Lothringen (Alsace-Lorraine) (F). This is the only card (single or double) with a (double) dash between “Post” and “karte”.
Eagle No. 13 in the middle. Size 142 x 91 mm.



The message card of the first issued double “postcard” #16, “Postkarte”.

The five lines of the notes starts with Mit/anstalten/mit/stalten/Die and Diese/farbigem/nicht/Die/im.

Germany misspelt in the last line of note 3): “Deutschand”.

Formular number “C.154. a” at the end of the last line.

The reply card of the first issued double “postcard” #16, “Postkarte”.

The four + two lines of the notes starts with Die/Diese/farbigem/sich and Die/im.

Germany correctly spelt in the last line of note 2): “Deutschland”.

No formular number “C.154. a” at the bottom.



The two cards are split from one double card of type II, printed on rose cardboard.

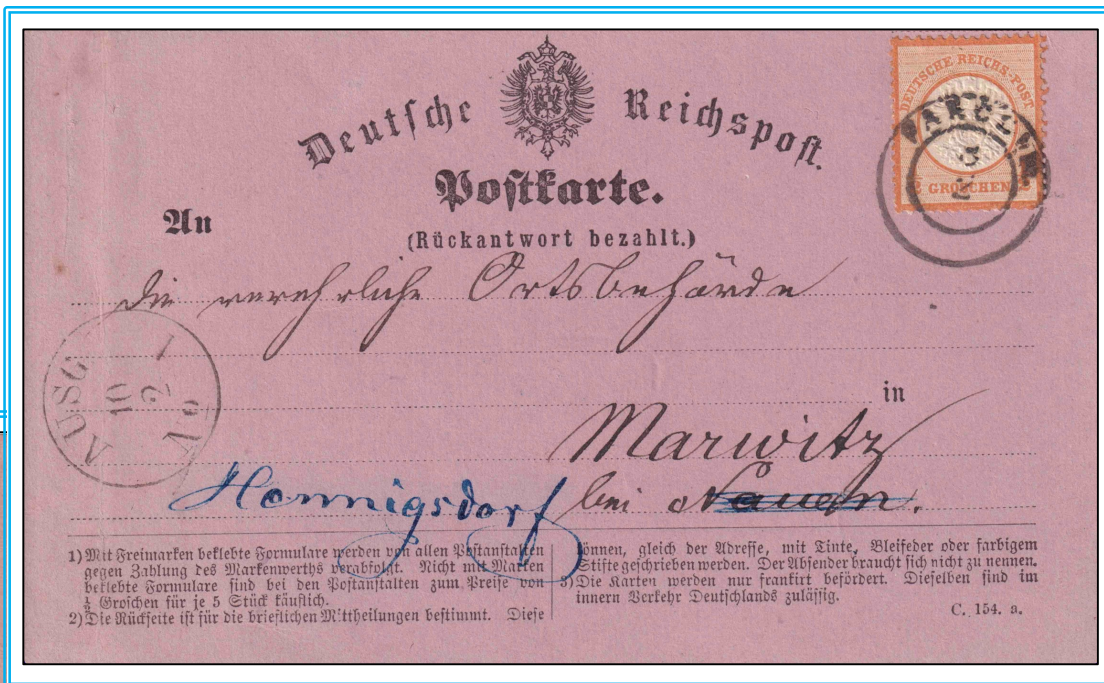
German Post 1873 - double "postcards" #12- 22

Eight cards in the second group of 13 double cards, called "Postkarte", were issued in 1873-74. The first 7 have notes at the bottom; one has no notes.

The message card of a double formular **card #12**, issued on November 9, 1873 (F).

The lines of the notes start with Mit/gegen/beklebte/½ Groschen/Die and können/Stifte/Die/innern on the message card and Die/können/Stifte and Die/innern on the reply card.

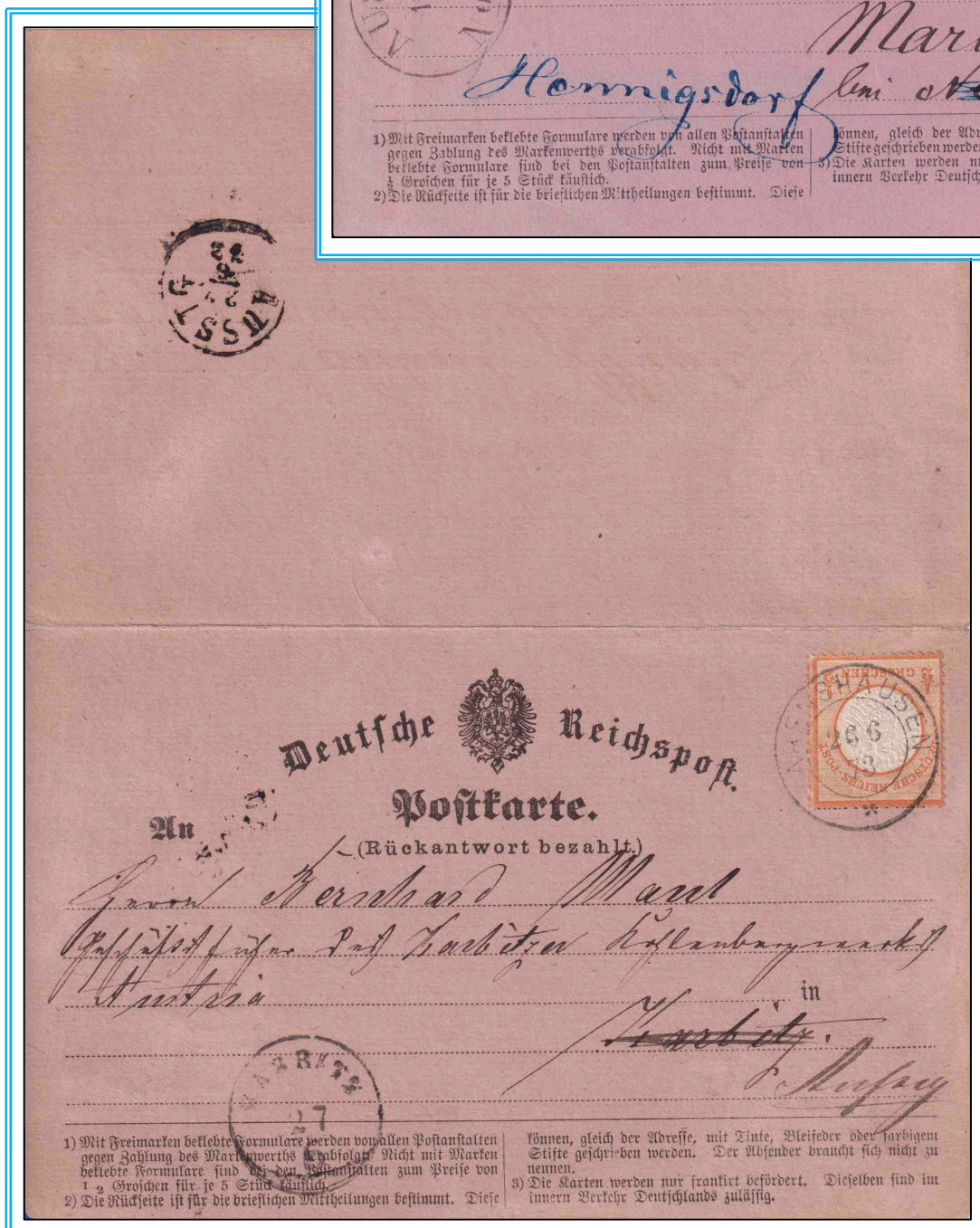
This card was used very early, on February 1873, from Mecklenburg to the province of Brandenburg, with a postage of ½ Groschen.



The message card of an unfolded double formular **card #14**. This card is type II, without a line above the notes on the reply card (F).

The lines of the notes start with Mit/gegen/beklebte/1/2 Groschen/Die and können/Stifte/nennen/Die/innern on the message card and Die/können/Stifte and Die/innern on the reply card.

The card was used in June 1873, with a postage of ½ Groschen, from Saxony to Austria and then forwarded to Bohemia.



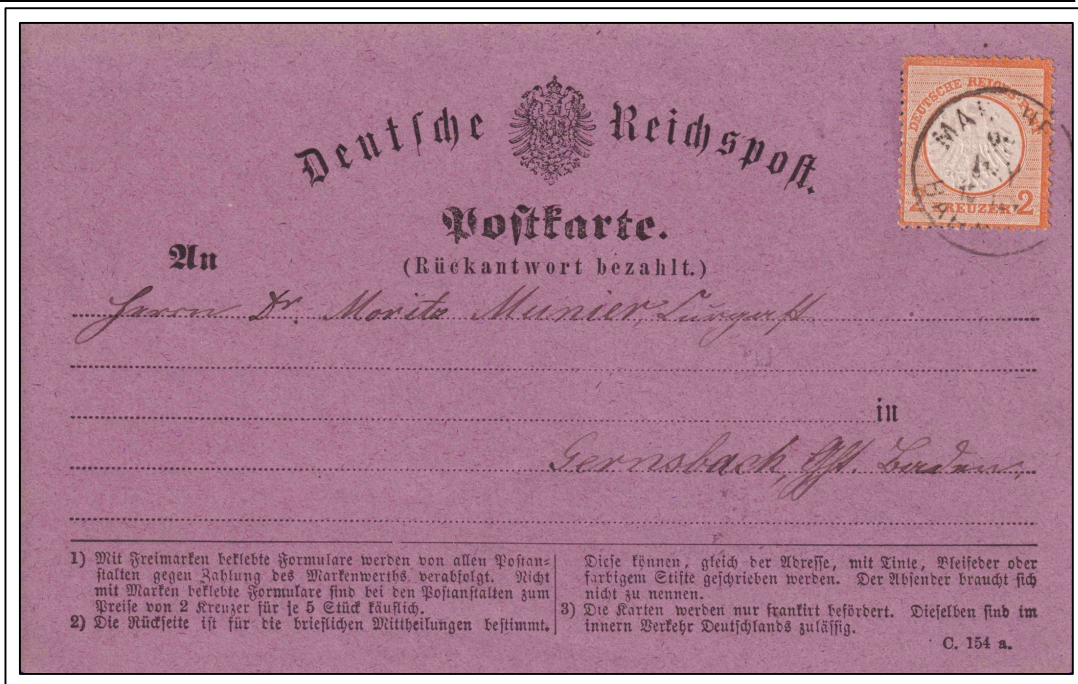
German Post 1874 – the only double “postcard” issued in Baden, #18

Double “postcard” #18 is the only one issued in the Grand-Duchy of Baden, in July 1874 (F) .

Eagle No. 9. Five address lines. The formular number C.154a. bottom right on the message card.

The price for these cards were 2 Kreuzer for 5 cards, as said in note 1.

This message card was used from Mannheim to Gernsbach, within Baden, with a postage of **2 Kreuzer**.



German Post 1872-74 – the last type of double “postcards”, #23

The last type of double “postcards”, #23, “, issued in June 1873 in the Kingdom of Saxony (F), have no notes at all.

Eagle No. 13. Five address lines.

No notes but the formular number C.154a in bold, italic on the message card (type I).



The message card used in 1874 from the capital of Saxony to the capital of Lower Saxony, with a postage of ½ Groschen.

Card type I, with the formular number C.154a. in bold Italic.

The reply card #23 used within Saxony in late 1873, with a postage of ½ Groschen.

Bavaria (Bayern) 1872 – the first double card

The kingdom of Bavaria issued the World's first double (formular) card on January 1, 1872, printed on green paper. This is one of the four first double cards issued on January 1, 1872 (the other are two postal cards from Württemberg and a formular card from the German Empire). The size is 144 x 113 mm and the print is similar to the first card in 1870.



The first line of the title, however, is now "Kingdom of Bavaria", in German, and has the coat-of-arms in the centre. The second line is the same as in 1870: *Correspondenz-Karte*.

This card has a rectangular space for an affixed stamp with text saying "For affixing the stamp".

The card has also two circular spaces for departure and arrival cancellations.

The bottom third of the question/reply card has three/two paragraphs with instructions.

This formular card is not listed by (H&G) but mentioned by (A) and described by (F).

The message part of an unfolded double formular card from Bavaria 1872, with "Answer paid", in German, on the message card (and "Paid answer" on the reply card).

Bavaria (Bayern) 1872 – the first double card

The message part of the first double card from Bavaria sent to Bavaria on New Year's Eve.

Used double cards are rare (F).



This double card was, most probably, brought to the city of Eichstätt in the Province of Brandenburg, with the two 1 Kr Bavarian stamps affixed on both cards, and sent from there to Bavaria.

Arrival cancellation on the back: Regensburg January 1st.

The reply card was carelessly ripped off and used.

An unfolded reply card from Bavaria 1872, with "Paid answer" on the reply card.

Only two notes at the bottom third of the card.

This card is printed on a paper with a light green colour.



Bavaria (Bayern) 1872 – smaller cards

In April 1872, the Kingdom of Bavaria issued its second formular card, in a smaller size similar to the cards in the German Empire. The size is now 142-144 x 86-88 mm. In early 1873 a third and fourth formular card was issued. The main difference between the second and the third formular card is the text in the last line of note 1). The fourth card has no stamp box.

The postage for long-distance use was 3 Kreuzer when the card was issued but changed to 2 Kreuzer after a few months, July 1, 1872.

The formular cards are not listed in (H&G) but is mentioned by (A) without being numbered. (F) describes the formular cards in great detail.

Formular card #2 issued in April 1872.

The card is type I (König).

The first note on cards #2 begins with:
"Mit Freimarken beklebte .."

The card has a stamp box with the text, in German: For affixing the stamp. The word for "stamp" is here:
"Freimarke".

Another difference between cards #2 and #3 is the text in the last line of note 1)

#2:

für je 5 Stück

#3:

für das Stück



Formular card #2 issued in April 1872.

This card is type I (König). It was used in 1873 within Bavaria with a postage of two 1 Kreuzer stamps.

Bavaria (Bayern) 1873 – smaller cards - #3 & #4

In early 1873 a third and fourth formular card was issued.

Formular card #3 issued in February 1873. The card has a stamp box with the text, in German: For affixing the stamp. The word for “stamp” is here: “Freimarke”.

The first note on cards #3 begins with:
“Mit Briefmarken beklebte ..”.
 Two different words are used for “stamp” on card #3.

The text in the last line of note 1) is different:

#3: *für das Stück*

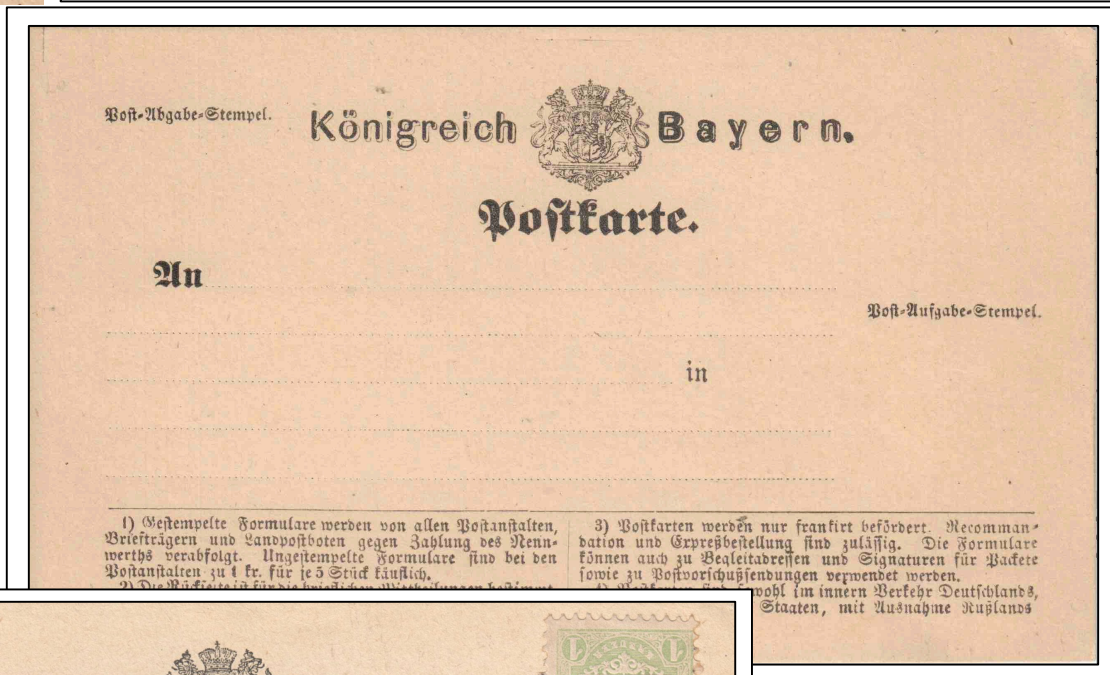
#2 & #4:

für je 5 Stück

Formular card #4 issued in March 1873 (F).
 This card is type I (König).

Card €4 has no stamp box.

The first note begins with:
“Gestempelte Formulare..”.



This card is type II (König).
 It has two affixed stamps of
 1 Kreuzer for domestic use
 in April 1874 within Bavaria.

Reference:
 (F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die
 Correspondenzkarten und
 Postkartenformulare der
 Ehemaligen
 Postvereinsländer und des
 Deutschen Kaiserreiches.*
 Private publisher, Hausach.
 672 pp.

Chile, 3rd printing, 1872

From early 1872 60,000 formular cards were issued by Chile in a series of printings. Besides the size (118 x 80 mm), the frame and the printers name at the bottom, the variety is large. The main characteristic differences between the 13 main types are the length and shape of the line below Carta Tarjeta, the number of diamonds in the frame, the cross bars of the A:s, the type of paper and the watermarks. Card numbers are shown according to (H&G).

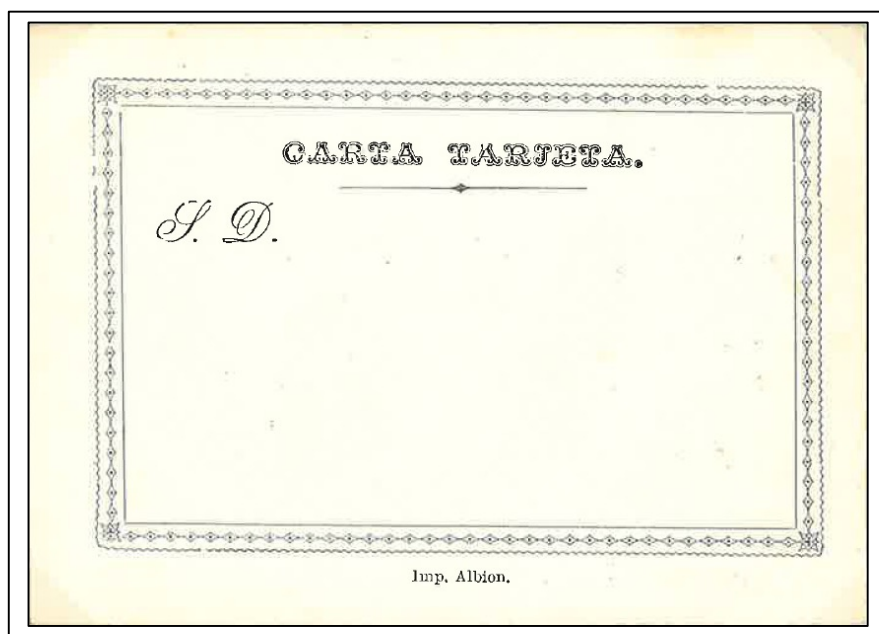
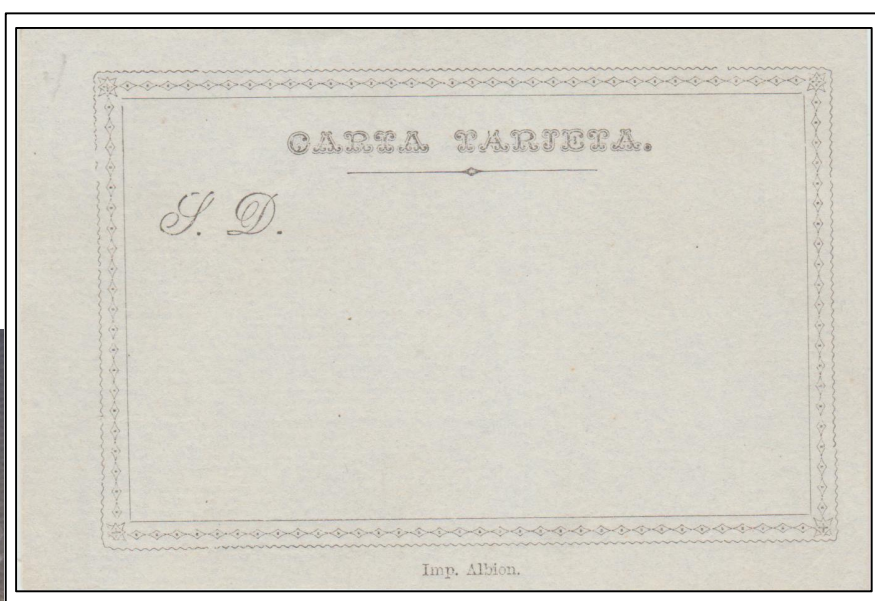
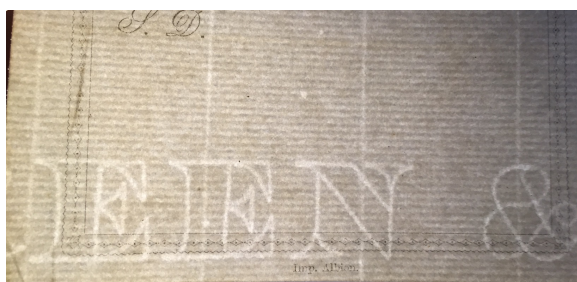


The Chilean formular cards (H&G 7-8, SFC-TP6) in the third printing has a simple, 34 mm long line below Carta Tarjeta. The first line has all the A:s crossed but the first A in Tarjeta is broken at the top.

The frame size is smaller than all other printings, only 100 mm wide.

Card H&G 7b, SFC-TP6a, with 34 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame. This card is smaller and has a smaller frame than all other cards; 100 mm wide instead of 103 mm.

Thin, bluish white paper with watermarks of vertical lines. This card has also watermarks of part of the printers name "J. Green & Son":



Card H&G 8b, SFC-TP7a, with 34 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame. This card is smaller and has a smaller frame than all other cards; 100 mm wide instead of 103 mm.

This card is printed on white paper.

The exact date of issuing the cards of the 3rd or later printings is not known (H). Timbre-Poste (1872), however, reports in July 1872 to have received a card from Valparaiso with the small frame, 10 cm wide. That means that the cards in the 3rd printing were issued before July 1872.

Chile, 4th printing, 1872

The Chilean formular cards in the fourth printing have also a simple, 34 mm long line below Carta Tarjeta and all the As crossed but the first A in Tarjeta is broken at the top.

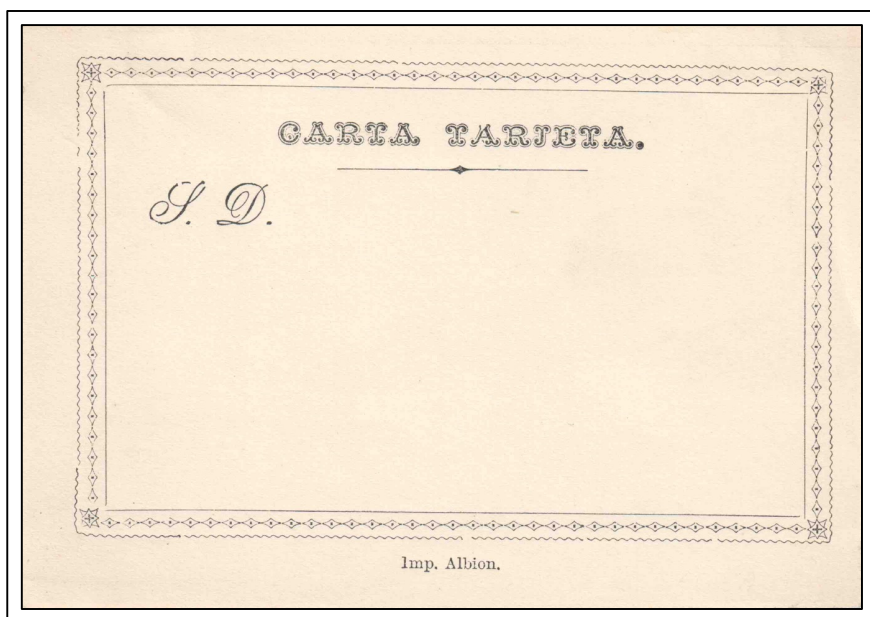
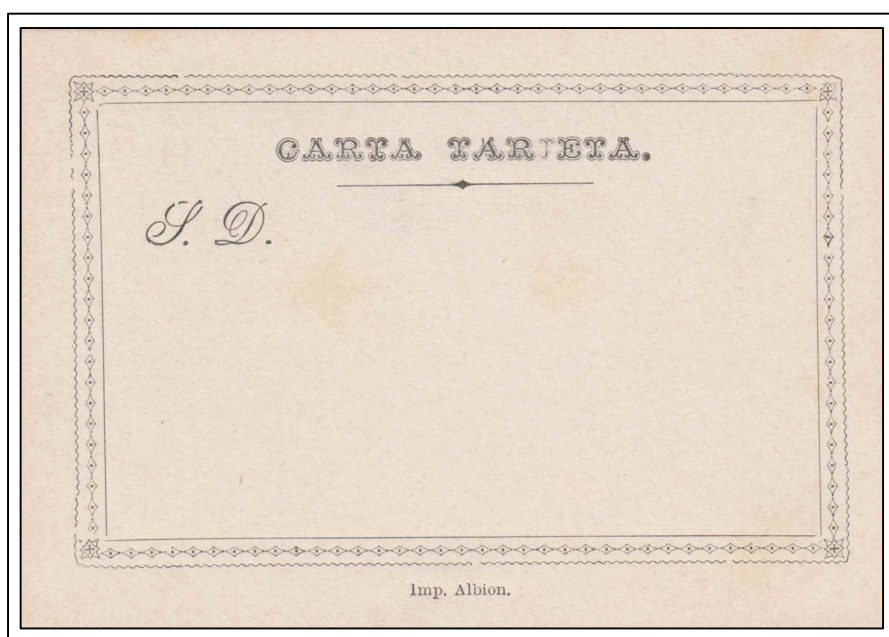
Now, the frame size is larger, 103 mm wide, as all other cards except in the third printing.



Formular card H&G 9, SFC-TP9, with 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame and the first A in Tarjeta broken at the top.

The "J" in Tarjeta is weakly printed.

The card is printed on thick, smooth, buff coloured cardboard.



Formular card H&G 8a, SFC-TP8, with 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame and the first A in Tarjeta broken at the top.

The "J" in Tarjeta is clearly printed.

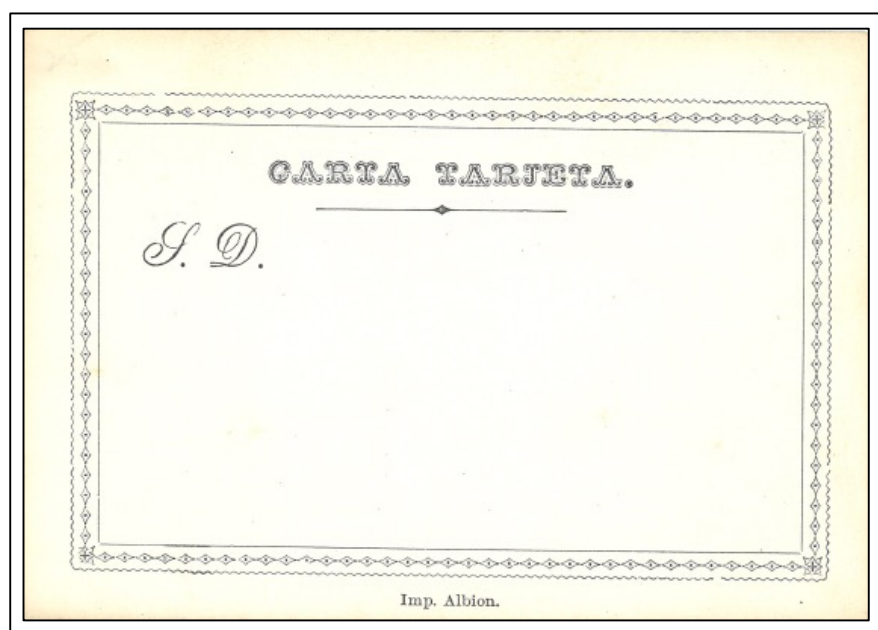
Thin white paper.

Chile, 5th printing, 1872 - frame types I & II

The Chilean formular cards in the 5th printing have also a simple, 34 mm long line below Carta Tarjeta but none of the As crossed in Carta Tarjeta. The four As are inverted Vs.

CARTA TARJETA.

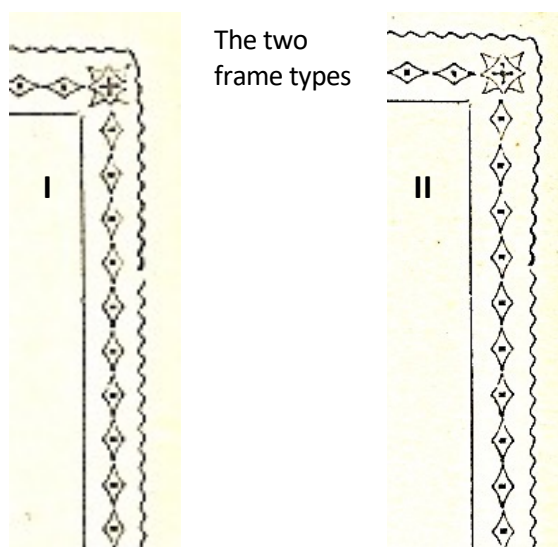
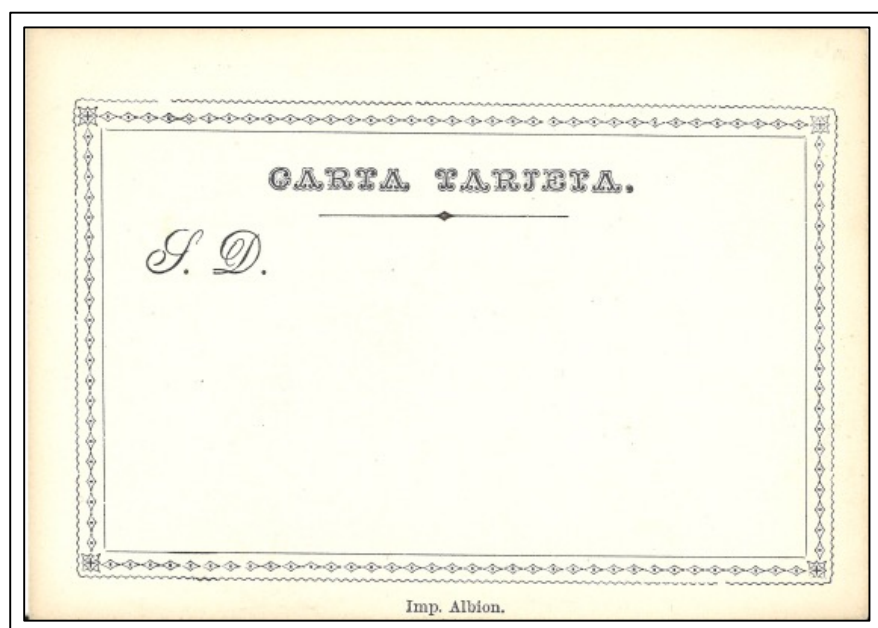
The cards are found with two different frame types. This is not mentioned in any literature.



Chilean formular card H&G 11, SFC-TP17, printed on thin white paper.

35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame and with none of the As in Carta Tarjeta crossed.

Frame type I, with an equal distance between the outer and inner right frames



The two frame types

Chilean formular card H&G 11, SFC-TP17 with thin white paper. 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame and with none of the As in Carta Tarjeta crossed.

Frame type II, with a larger distance between the top right of the outer and inner frames

Chile, 5th printing, 1872 - frame type II; grades of wear

Cards in the 5th printing have none of the As crossed in Carta Tarjeta. The four As are inverted Vs.

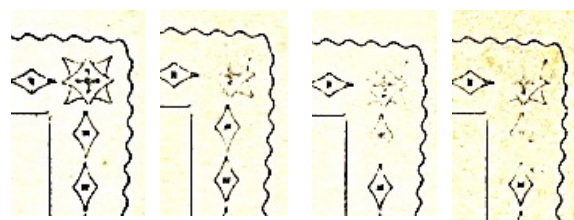
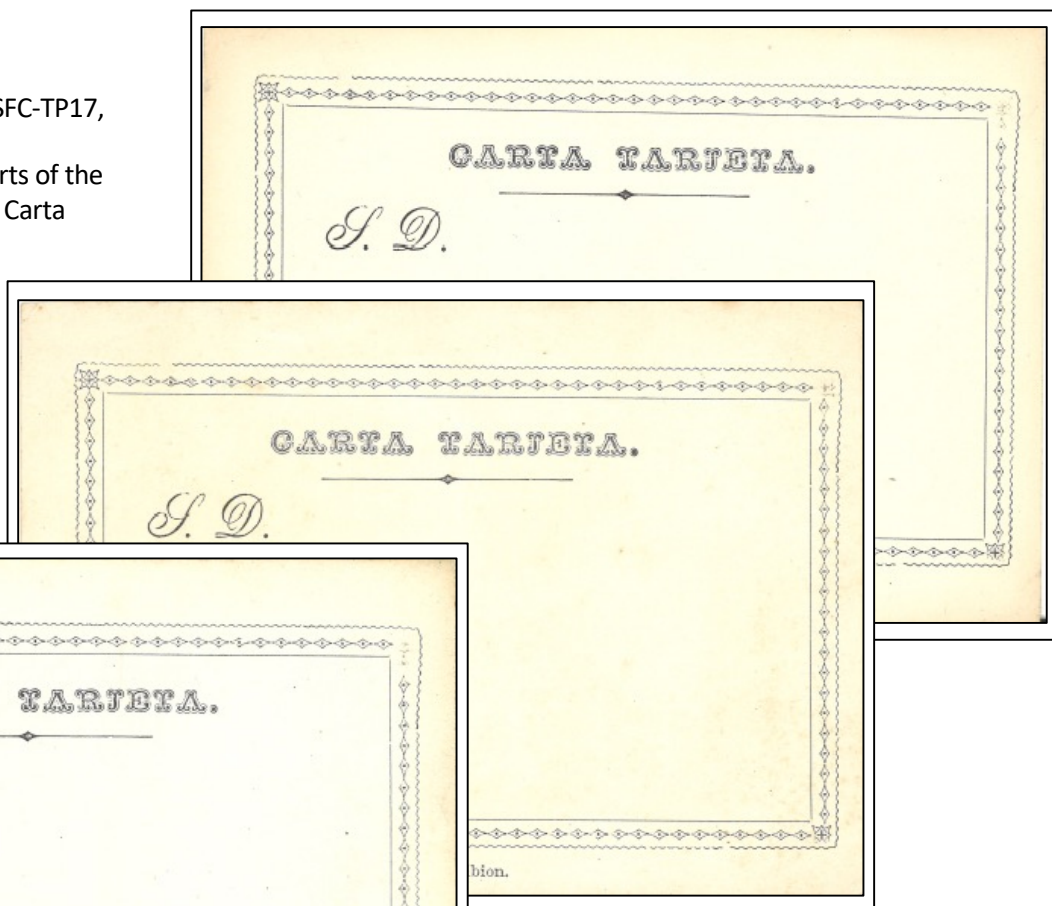
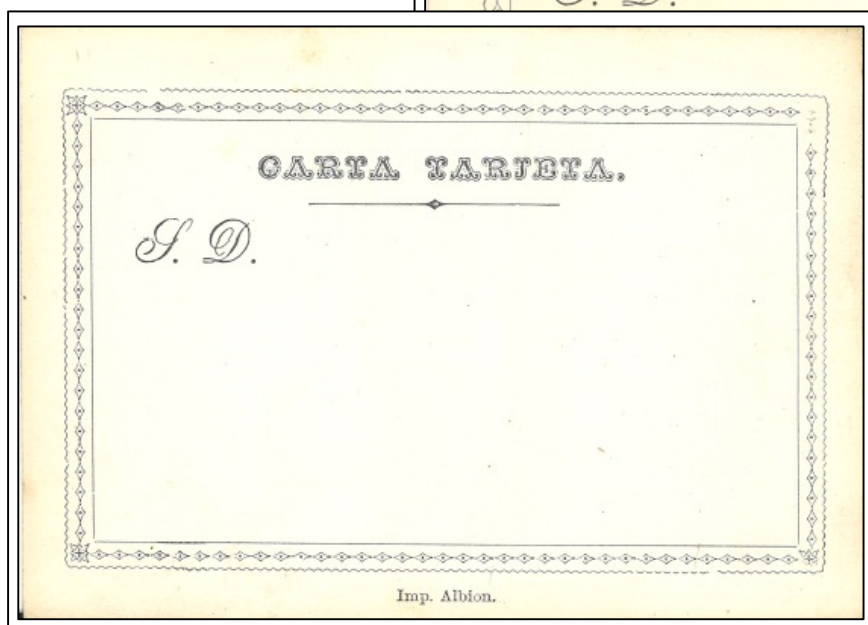
Cards with frame type II have a clear wear of the cliché used for printing. This is not mentioned in any literature.

Chilean formular cards H&G 11, SFC-TP17, with thin white paper.

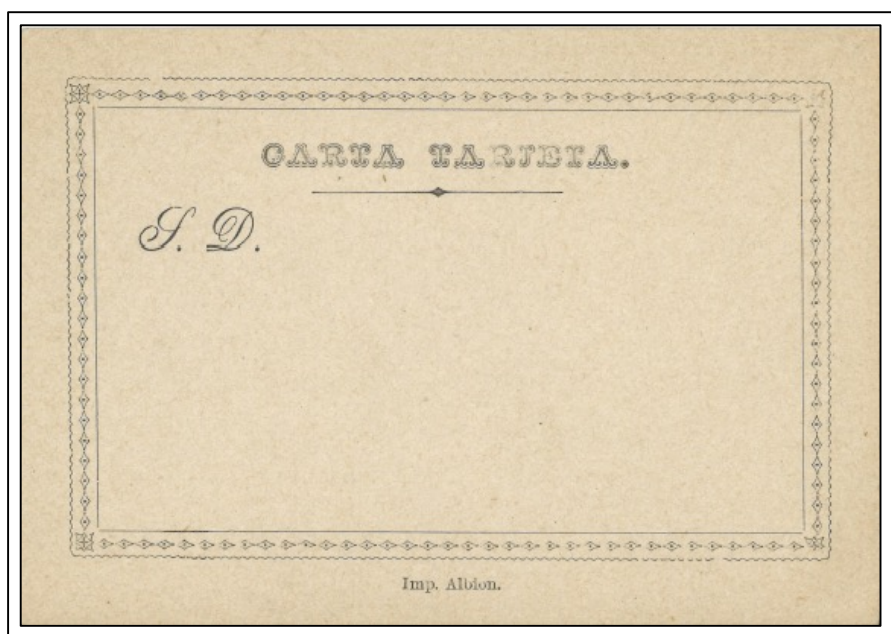
35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame and with none of the As in Carta Tarjeta crossed.

Frame type II.

Different wear of the upper right corner of the dye used for printing.



The wear of the dye in the upper right corners.



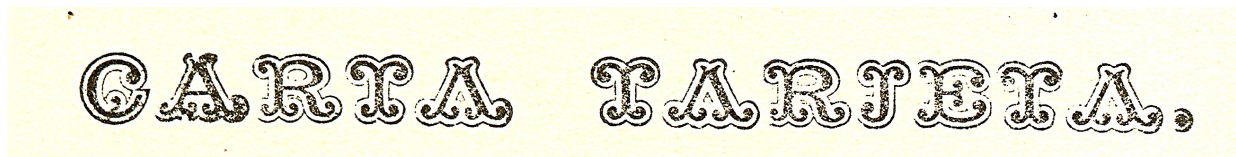
Chilean formular card H&G 12, SFC-TP16, now with **thick** grey paper. 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame and with none of the As in Carta Tarjeta crossed. Frame type II.

The wear of the dye, visible in the upper right corner, is roughly the same as the cards printed on thin white paper.

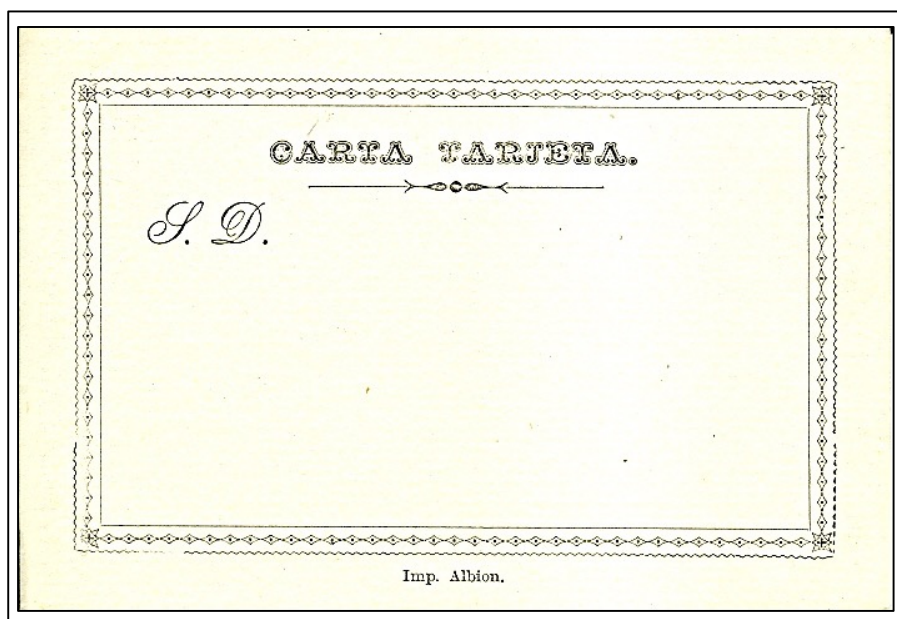
Chile, 6th printing, 1872; type I – watermark: lines

The cards in the sixth and seventh printings of the Chilean formular cards have a 40 mm long, fancy line below Carta Tarjeta and 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame. The differences between the cards are the As being crossed or not and the types of paper, with different watermarks.

Chilean formular cards in the 6th printing have only the first A crossed in Carta Tarjeta. The other three As are inverted Vs.

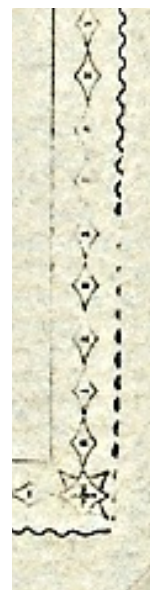


Chilean formular cards in the 6th printing have three types of frames, not mentioned in any literature. The first type has a lot of defects in the bottom half of the right frame.



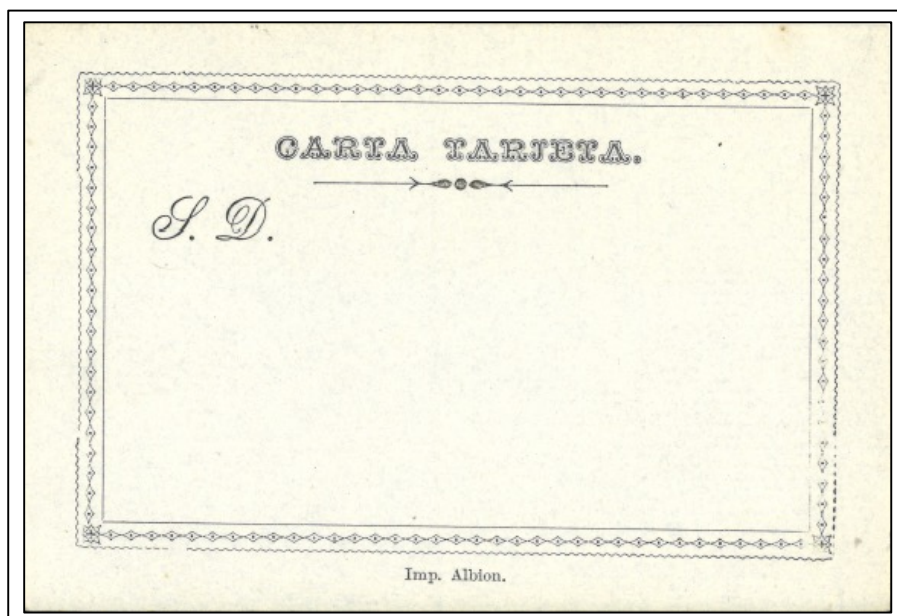
Chilean formular card H&G 13, SFC-TP10, with thin bluish white paper with watermark of vertical lines.

Frame type I where the bottom right outer frame has a dashed line instead of the normal, wavy line.



The bottom half of the right frame of type I of the 6th printing, with numerous defects.

The bottom half of the outer frame is dashed instead of the wavy line.



Another Chilean formular card H&G 13, SFC-TP10, with thin bluish white paper with watermark of vertical lines.

Frame type I where the bottom right outer frame has a dashed line instead of the normal, wavy line. Severe wear in the bottom right corner of the frame.

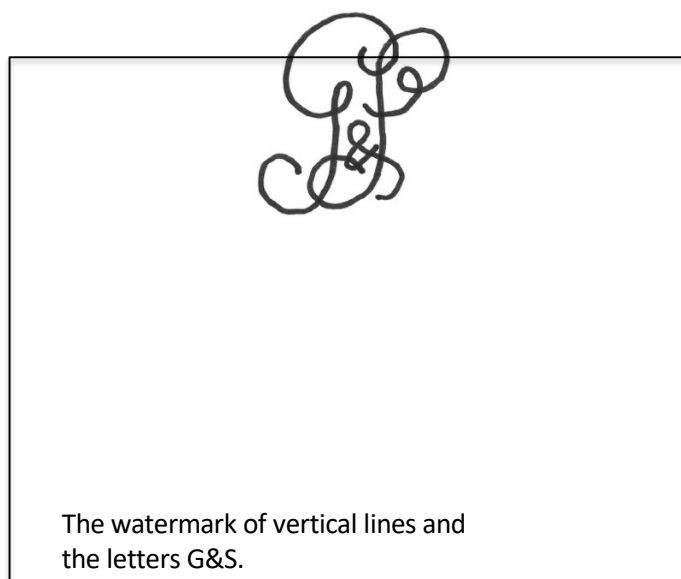
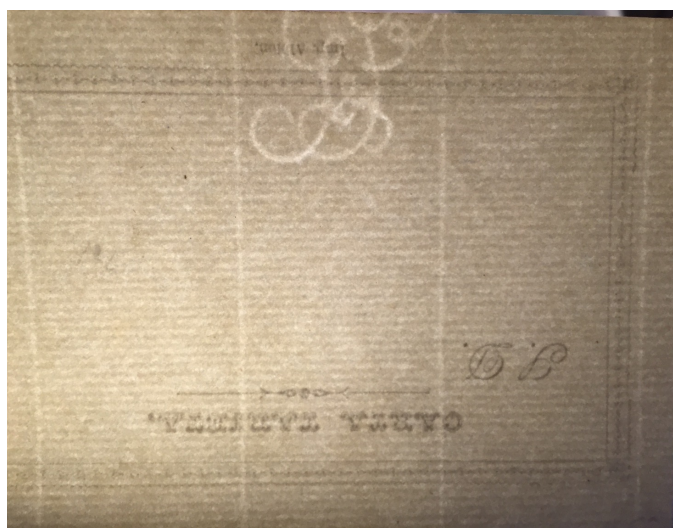
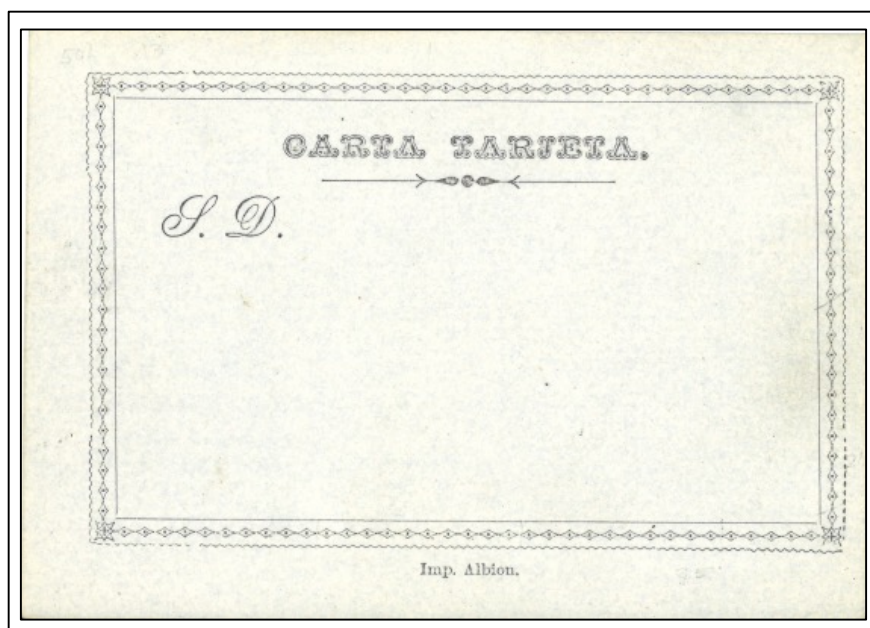
Chile, 6th printing, 1872; type I – watermark: G&S

The cards in the sixth and seventh printings of the Chilean formular cards have a 40 mm long, fancy line below Carta Tarjeta and 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame. The differences between the cards are the As being crossed or not and the types of paper, with different watermarks.

Chilean formular cards in the 6th printing have only the first A crossed in Carta Tarjeta. The other three As are inverted Vs.

These cards have three types of frames, not mentioned in any literature. The first type has a lot of defects in the bottom half of the right frame. All cards in the 6th printing with frame type I are printed on thin bluish white paper with watermarks of vertical lines. Some cards have additional watermark of the letters G&S.

Formular card H&G 17, SFC-TP10, with thin bluish white paper with watermark of vertical lines and the letters G&S ("Green & Son").



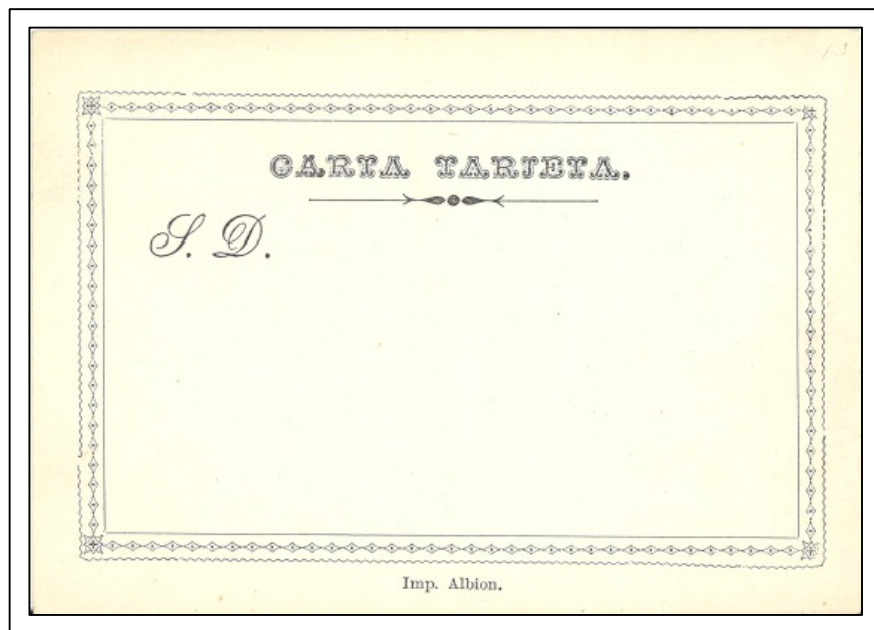
The watermark of vertical lines and the letters G&S.

Chile, 6th printing, 1872; type II

The cards in the sixth and seventh printings of the Chilean formular cards have a 40 mm long, fancy line below Carta Tarjeta and 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame. The differences between the cards are the As being crossed or not and the types of paper, with different watermarks.

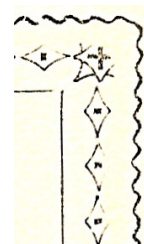
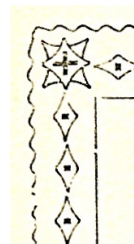
Chilean formular cards in the 6th printing have only the first A crossed in Carta Tarjeta. The other three As are inverted Vs.

These cards have three types of frames, not mentioned in any literature. The second and third type does not have the defects in the bottom half of the right frame as type I. All cards in the 6th printing with frame type II are printed on thin yellowish white paper without any watermarks.



Chilean formular card H&G 14, SFC-TP13, with thin white paper. No watermark.

Frame type II.



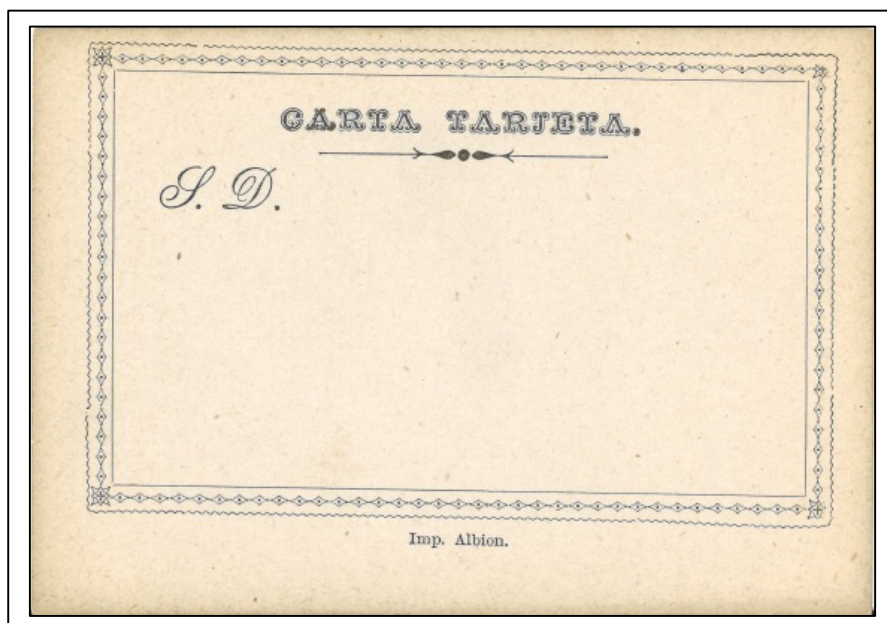
Frame type II with a wavy line in the outer frame of the bottom half of the right frame.

The diamonds in the left frame are well centred between the outer and inner frames.



Chilean formular card H&G 15, SFC-TP11, with thick, greyish white paper. No watermark.

Frame type II.

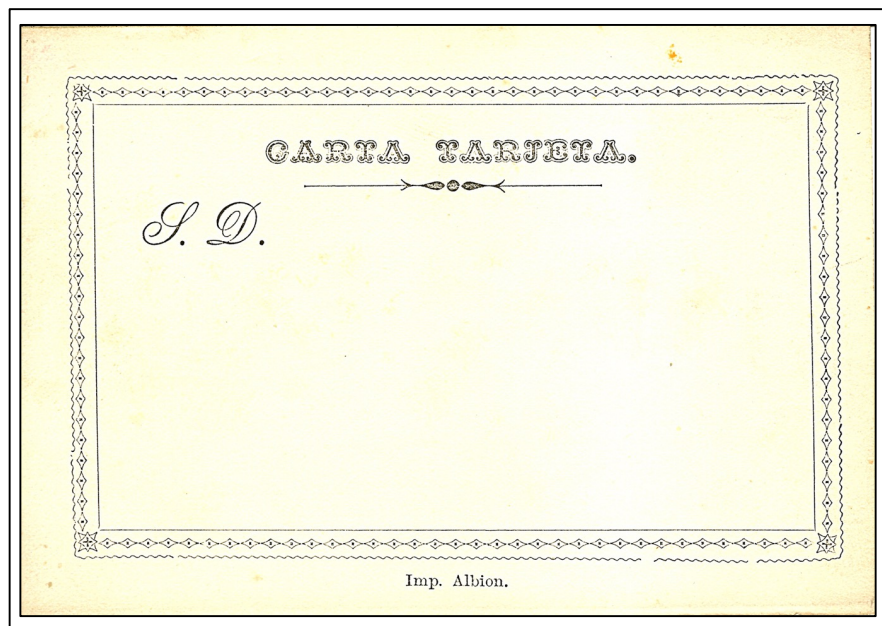


Chile, 6th printing, 1872; type III – no watermark

The cards in the sixth and seventh printings of the Chilean formular cards have a 40 mm long, fancy line below Carta Tarjeta and 35 diamonds in the horizontal parts of the frame. The differences between the cards are the As being crossed or not and the types of paper, with different watermarks.

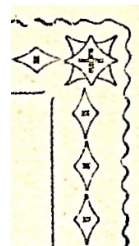
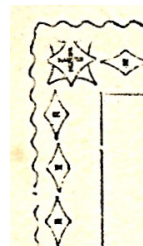
Chilean formular cards in the 6th printing have only the first A crossed in Carta Tarjeta. The other three As are inverted Vs.

These cards have three types of frames, not mentioned in any literature. The second and third type does not have the defects in the bottom half of the right frame as type I. All cards in the 6th printing with frame type III are printed on thin yellowish white paper without any watermarks.



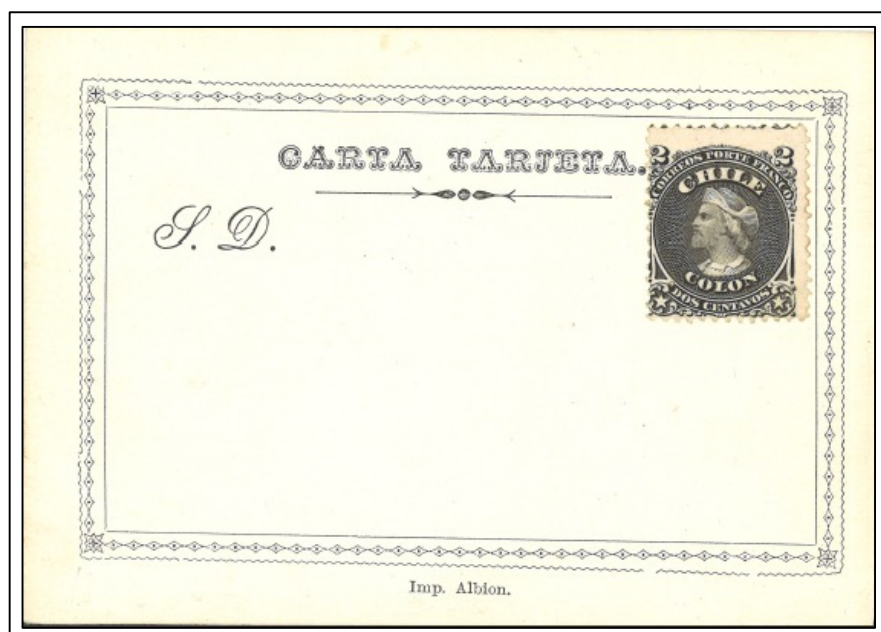
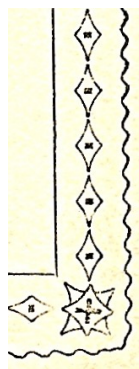
Chilean formular card H&G 14, SFC-TP13, with thin white paper. No watermark.

Frame type III.



Frame type III with a wavy line in the outer frame of the bottom half of the right frame.

The diamonds in the left frame are off-centred between the outer and inner frames.



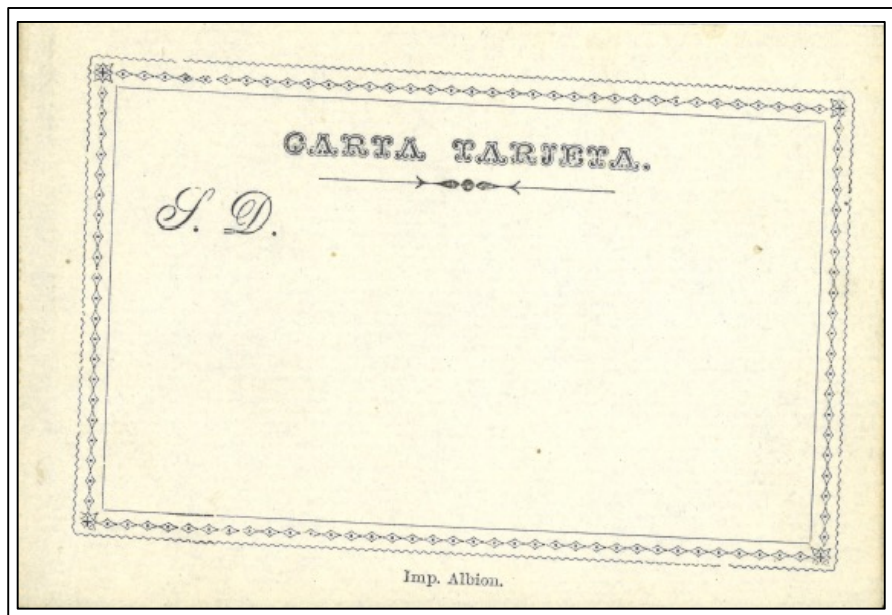
Chilean formular card H&G 14, SFC-TP13, with thin white paper. No watermark. A two colon stamp attached, for use on land.

Frame type III with off-centred diamonds in the left frame.

Chile, 7th printing, 1872 – watermark: text

The Chilean formular cards in the seventh printing were printed on bluish white paper with different types of watermarks. They all have the same 40 mm long fancy line below Carta Tarjeta as in the 6th printing. None of the As are crossed, however.

CARTA TARJETA.



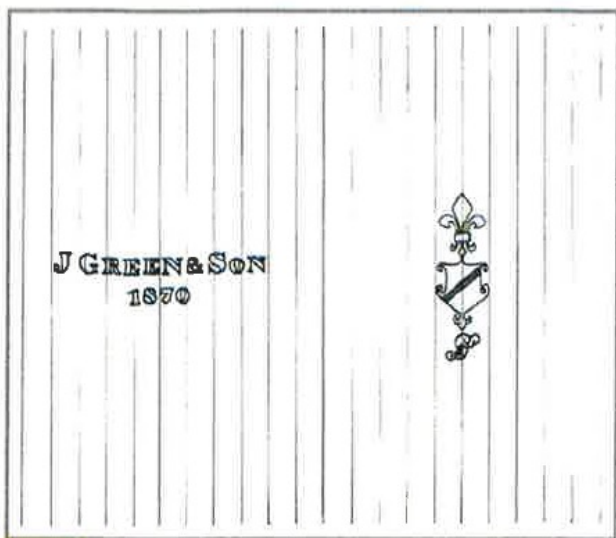
Chilean formular card H&G 16, SFC-TP18a, printed on thin bluish white paper.

Watermark of vertical lines and part of the text "J Green & Son"

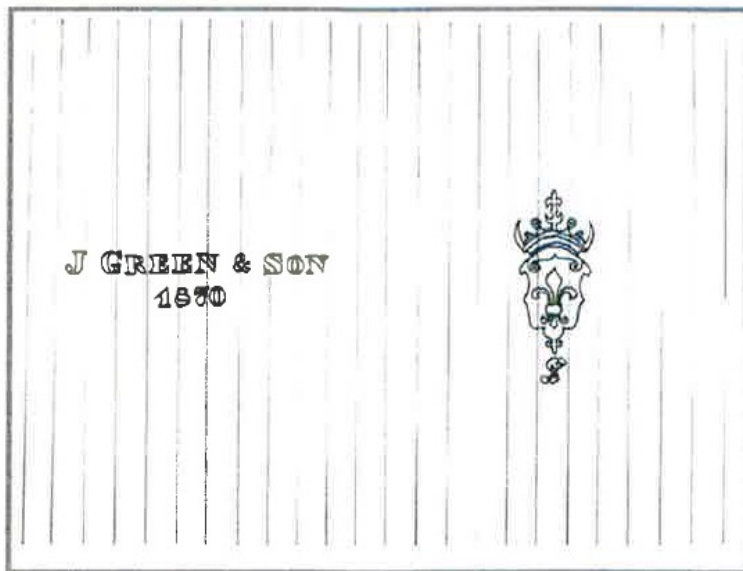
The watermark as part of the text "J Green & Son" on this card:

EEN & SO

FILIGRANA : IMPERIAL
J GREEN & SON , 1870



FILIGRANA : ROYAL
J GREEN & SON , 1870



The two types of paper used for the 7th printing of the Chilean formular cards H&G 16 with watermark of vertical lines. Some of the cards, from the centre of the papers, may carry a watermark with parts of the text, shield, crown or lily. Pictures from Towle (2006)

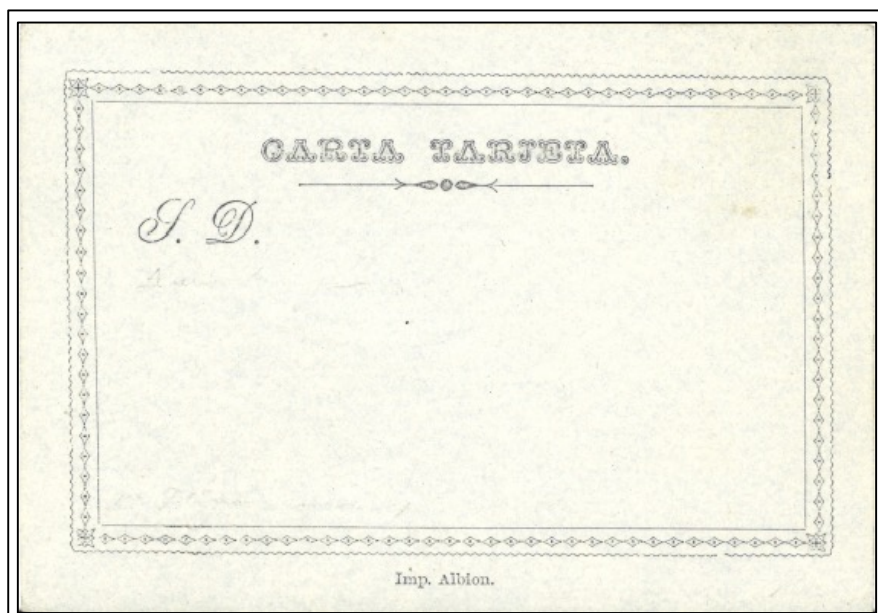
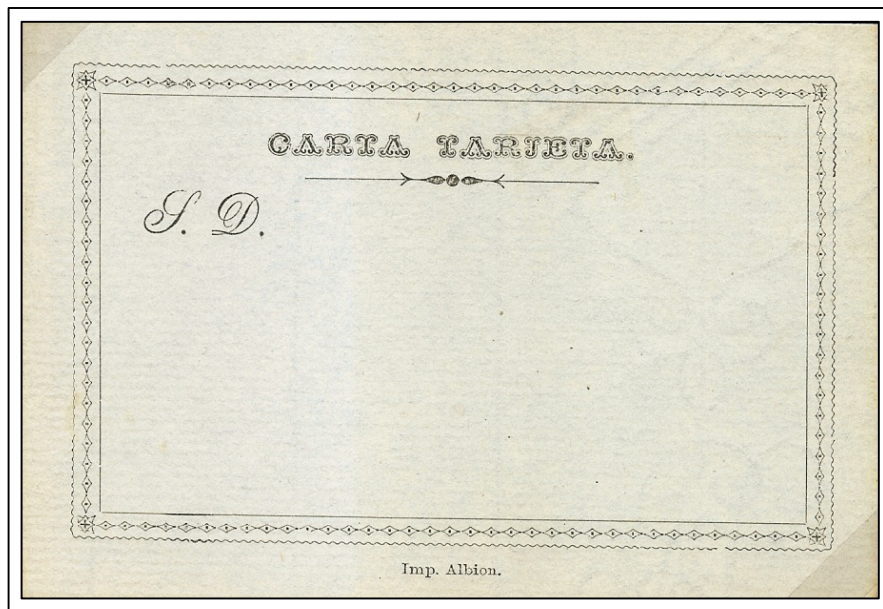
References:

- (H) Haworth, W.B. (1919) CHILE. An outline of the Postal Issues 1766-1919. Stamp Collecting Handbook No. 17. Offices of Stamp Collecting, London 1919. 193 pp.
(SFC) SFC (2006), Sociedad Filatelica de Chile, Tarjetas Postales Provisorias, Filatelia Chilena Catálogo Especializado 2006, pp. A54-A57
Towle, Ross A. (2006) Watermarked Chilean Formular Cards, Postal Stationery #350, September-October 2006

Chile, 7th printing, 1872 – watermark: shields

The Chilean formular cards in the seventh printing were printed on bluish white paper with different types of watermarks. They all have the same 40 mm long fancy line below Carta Tarjeta as in the 6th printing. None of the As are crossed, however.

Chilean formular card H&G 16b, SFC-TP18a, printed on bluish white paper with watermarks of vertical lines, the letters G&S and part of a shield.



Chilean formular card H&G 16b, SFC-TP18a, printed on bluish white paper with watermarks of vertical lines, part of a shield with a lily and a crown.



H&G, and SFC, list only this watermark and number the card as H&G 16b, SFC-TP-20, but do not include a bluish white paper, only a white paper. H&G is referring to the information in SFC.

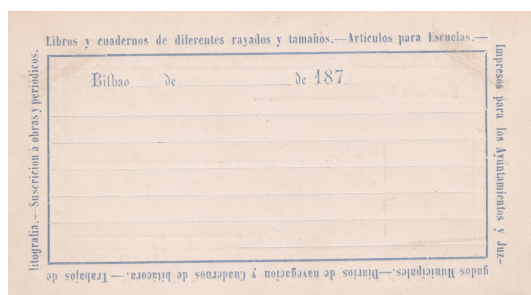
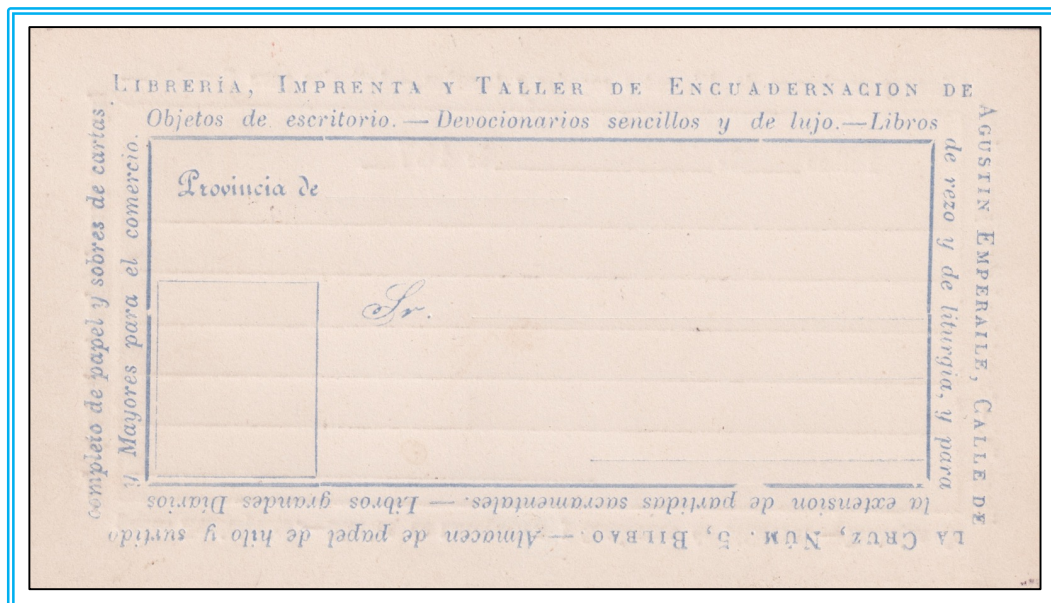
SFC lists the watermark "J Green & Son", as TP18a, on a bluish white paper but do not include the other watermarks shown here.

Spain – May 1873 – precursor cards by Emperaile & Dr. Thebussem

Between May 1872 and May 1873, two formular cards was issued by further private initiatives.

The second precursor card, the Emperaile card, issued in Bilbao and circulated in 200 copies from May 1872 (J). Card size 137 x 77 mm on white cardboard with blue lithographic print (J).

Space for a stamp in the bottom left corner inside the frame. Advertisement for “Bookstore, Printing and Binding Workshop of Agustín Emperaile” around the frame.



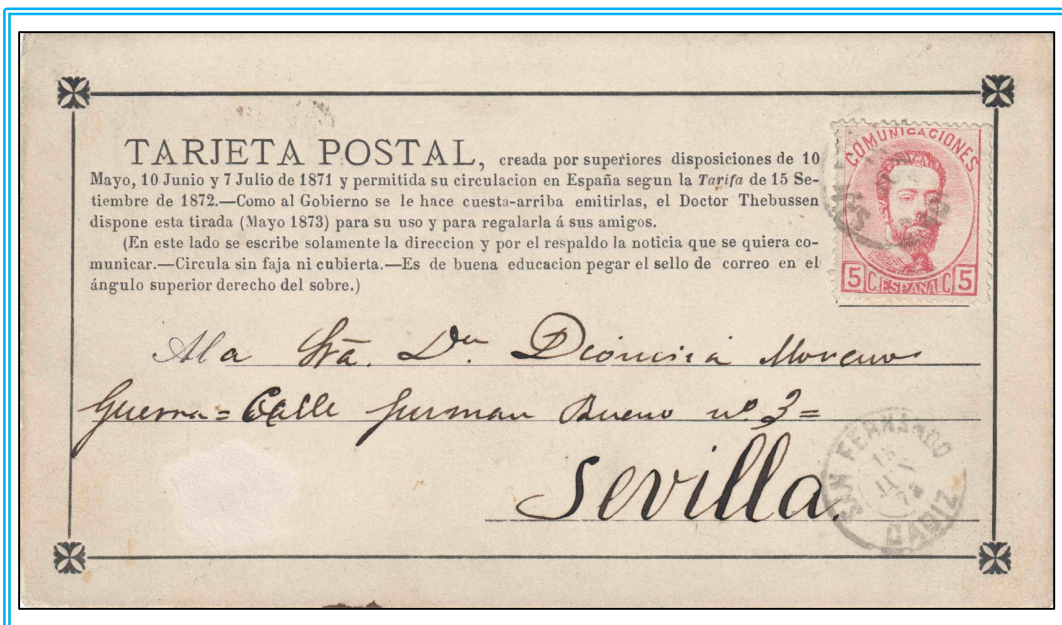
The back side of the Emperaile precursor card, with printed space for the date and space for the message.

In May 1873, a formular card was issued by a private initiative by “Dr. Thebussem” (C), one of the “Fathers of Philately” Mariano Pardo de Figueroa, mentioned by Ascher (A). The cards have no value stamp but a stamp box for a five céntimos de peseta stamp. Card size 143 x 79 mm.

This card is the first, PR1(L), with the name Thebussem spelt wrong at the third line, with an “n” at the end, issued in Cadiz in May 1873. Issue: 100 (L).

The back side is blank.

This card PR1 was used already in Mid-June 1873 from the province of Cadiz to Sevilla with a postage of 5 céntimos.



Figueroa (1873) explains the appearance of the card being a “death card” with a black frame with black crosses in the corners. The four crosses symbolize the funerals of the finances of Spain, the military discipline, the public order and the right of ownership (T-P).

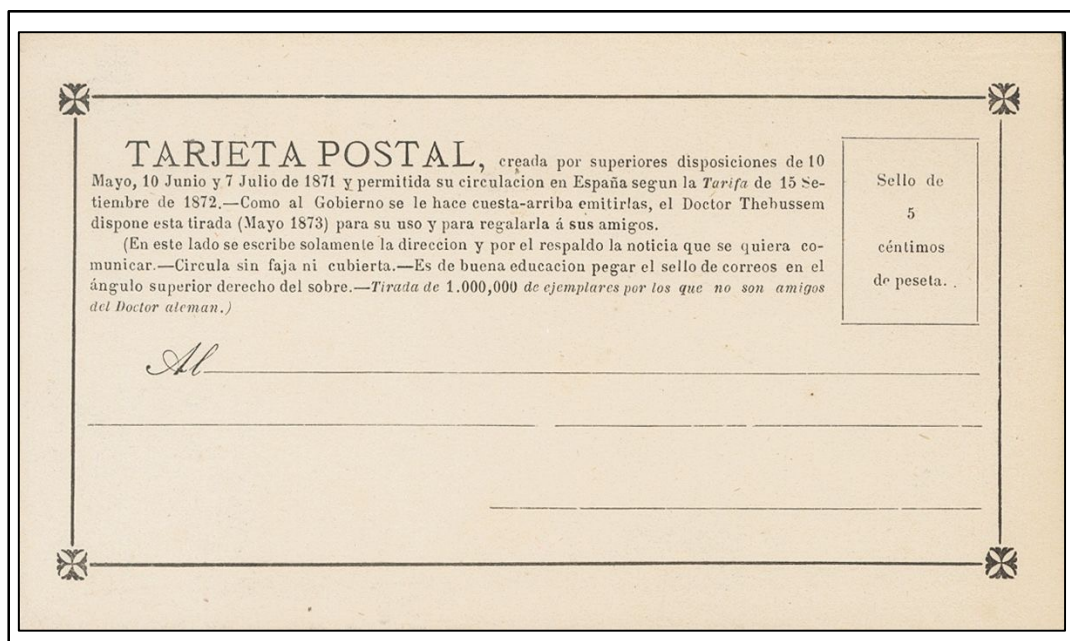
References: (L) Laiz, Ángel: *Catálogo Especializado de Enteros Postales de España, Colonias y Dependencias*. (1. ed. 1992; 2. ed. 2000. Madrid.

(C) Carreras, F. *Las Tarjetas Postales en España*, Imprenta de Francisco Altés, Angeles, Barcelona 1903

(T-P) Figueroa, M. P. (1873) *Cartes de correspondance, en Espagne*. Timbre-Poste, July 1873.

Spain – May/June 1873 – further Dr. Thebussem precursor cards

In May 1873 a copy of the Thebussem card was issued. In June 1873, two more formular cards were issued by "Dr. Thebussem" (C),

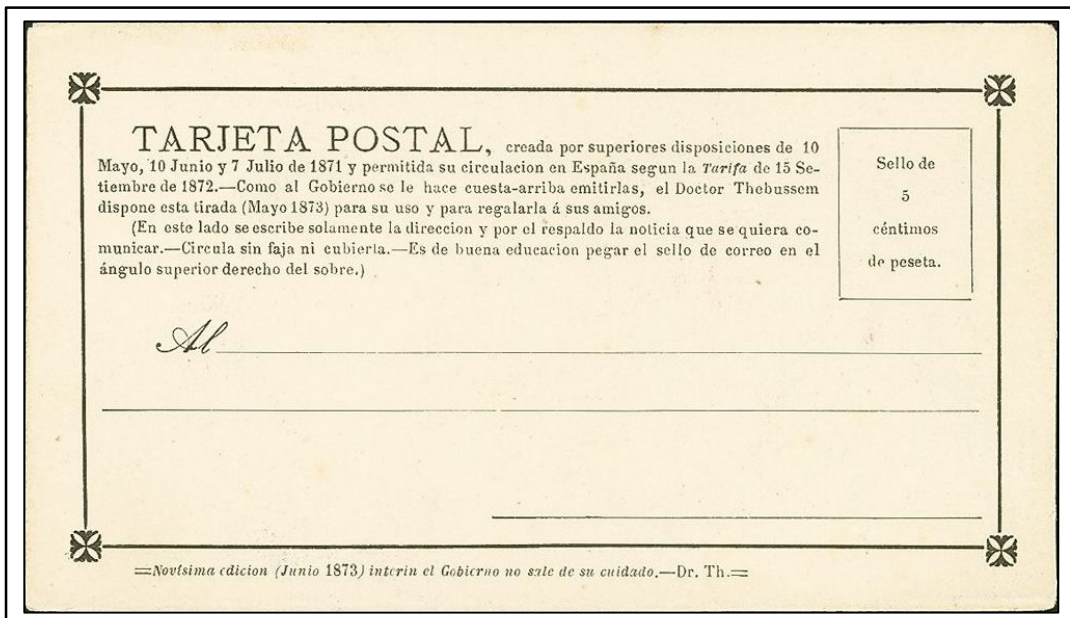
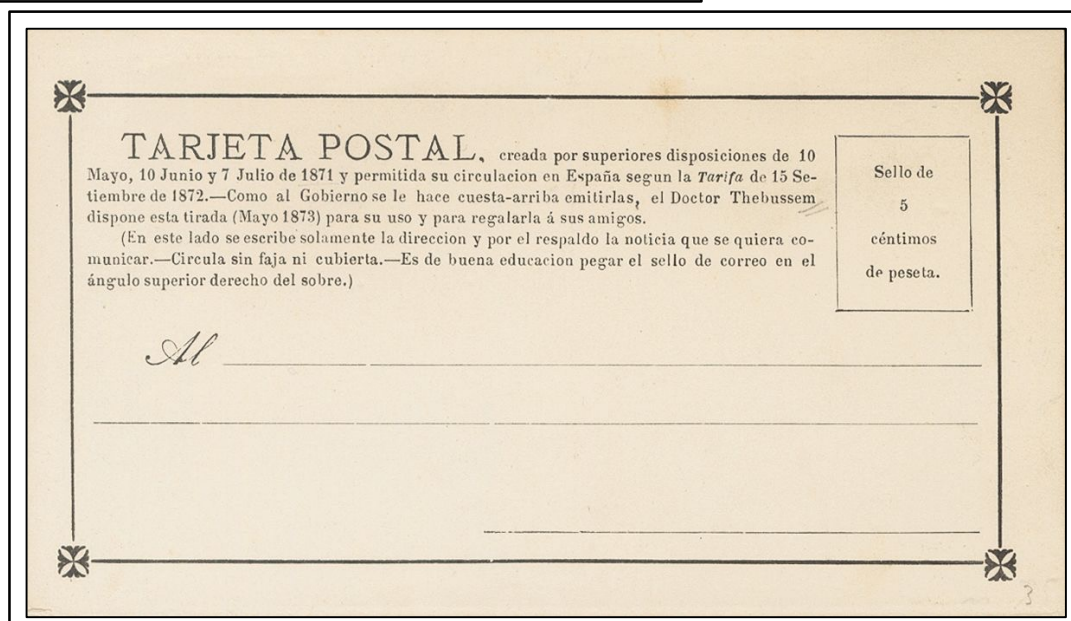


Card PR2 (L) is a copy of card PR1, with the spelling error corrected. It was issued by Navy officers from the Department of Cádiz at the end of May 1873 and has a note in italic at the end of the text saying: "Print run of 1,000,000 copies by those who are not friends of the German doctor".

The actual issue: 500 (L).

Card PR3 is identical to card PR1 but had the name Thebussem corrected.

Issue: 100 (L).

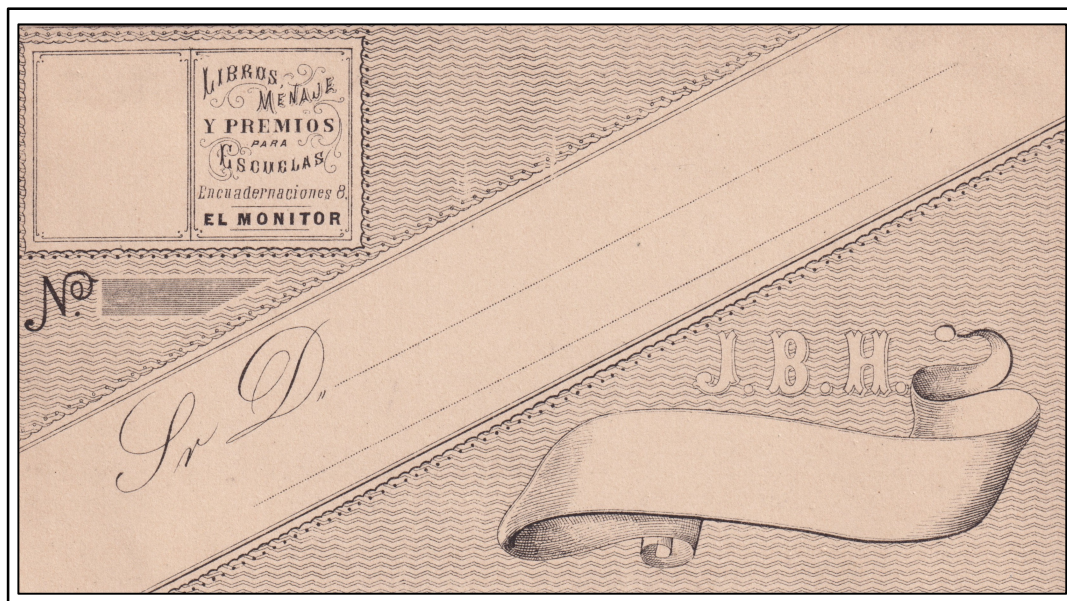


Card PL4 (L) was issued as a new edition in June 1873 as mentioned in the note at the bottom, below the frame.

Issue: 300 (L).

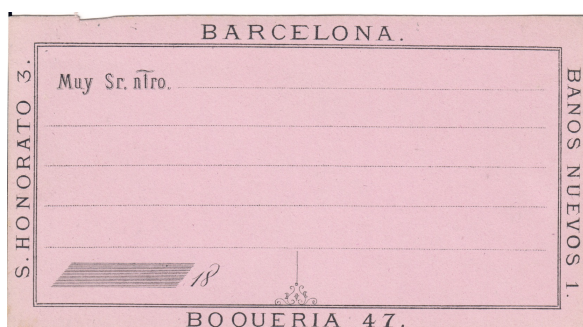
Spain - June 1873 – Bastinos' precursor cards

A number of formular cards were issued in June 1873 in different cities (J). In Barcelona Julián Bastinos issued cards in various colours with advertisement for his company.



Decorative formular card with advertisement printed in black on white paper. Issued in June 1873 in Barcelona (J).

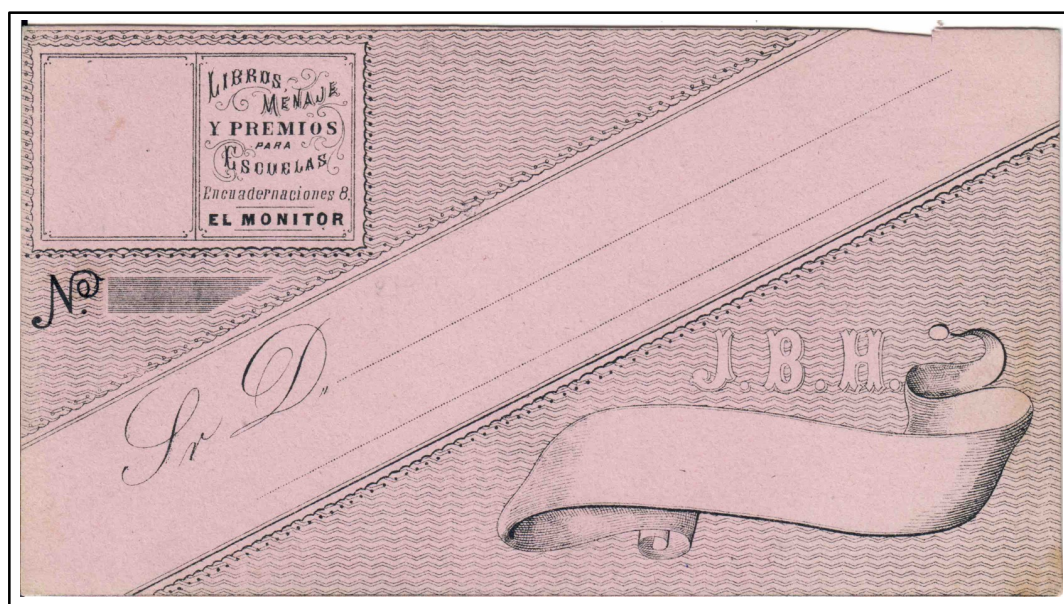
An empty space box in the top left corner for a 5 céntimos de pesetas stamp. Two diagonal lines for the name and address on the front page. Card size 140 x 76 mm. Issue unknown.



The back side print of the Bastinos precursor cards, with printed space for the date bottom left and space for the message.

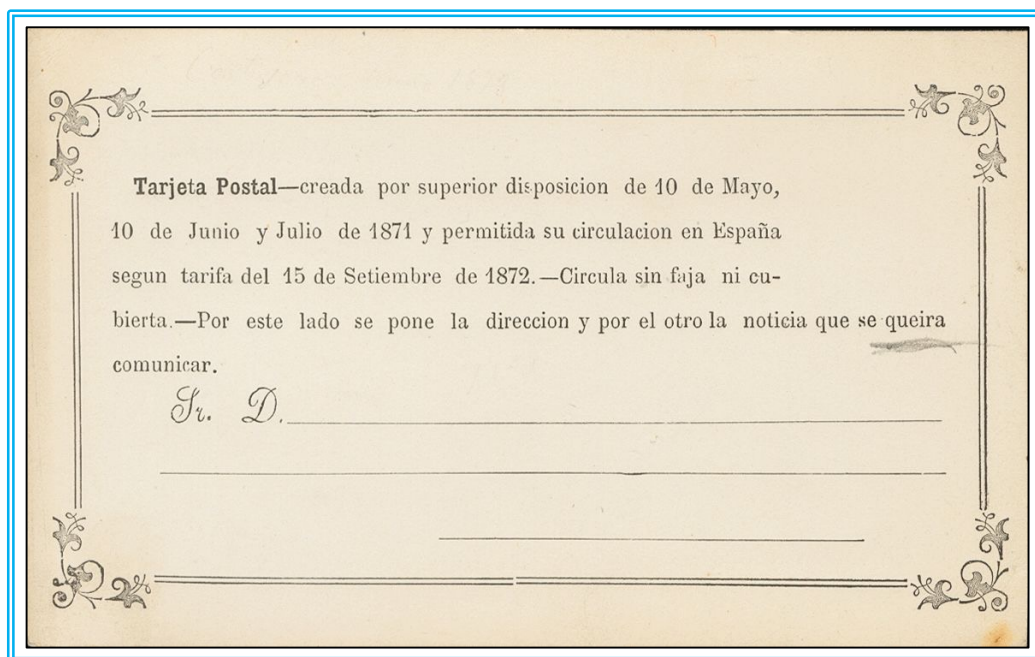
Decorative formular card with advertisement printed in black on rose paper. Issued in June 1873 in Barcelona (J).

An empty space box in the top left corner for a 5 céntimos de pesetas stamp. Two diagonal lines for the name and address on the front page. Card size 140 x 76 mm. Issue unknown.



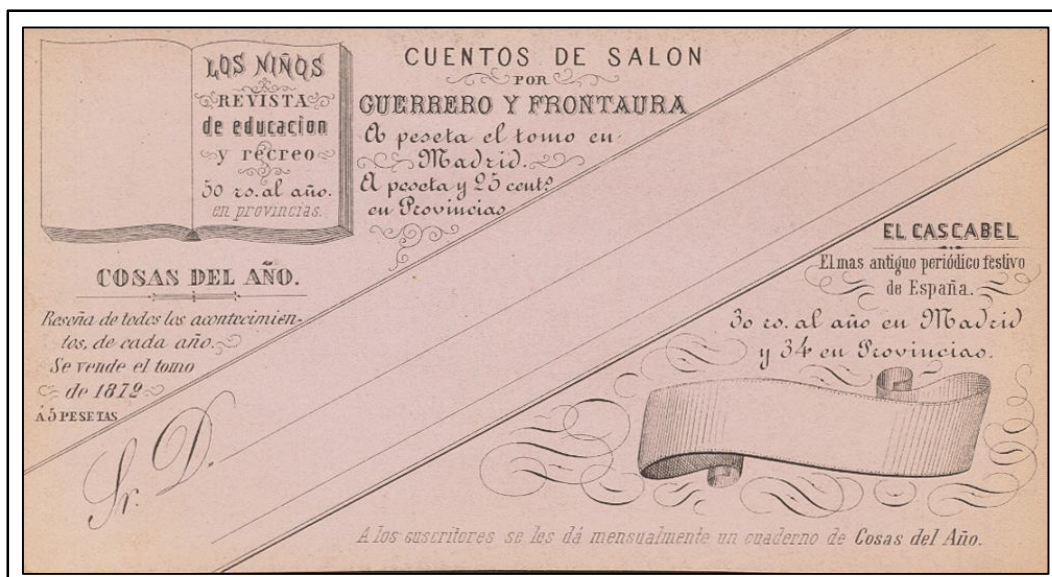
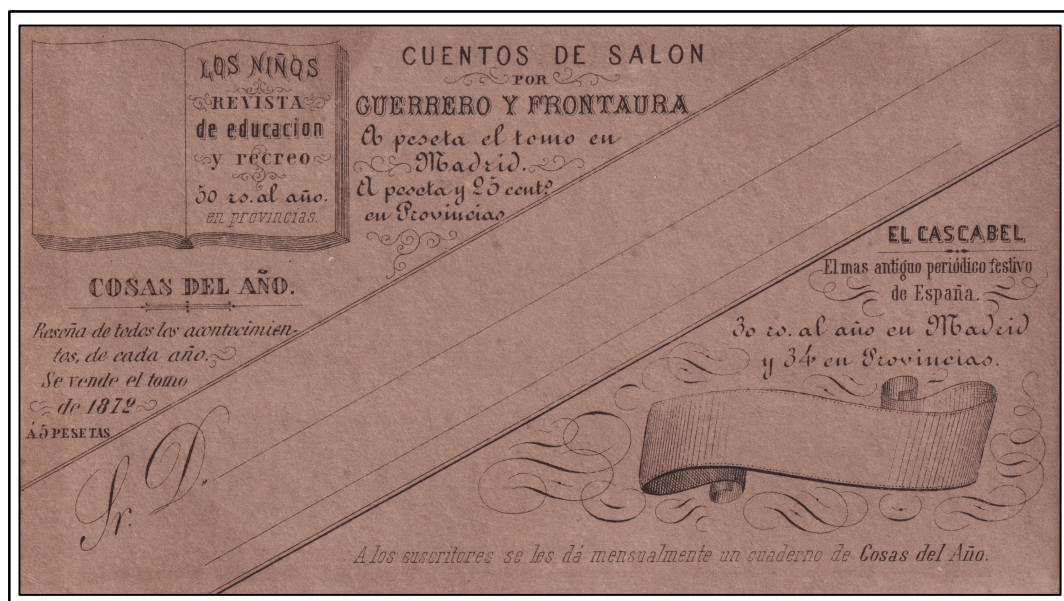
Spain - June 1873 – Cartagena and Frontaura precursor cards

Postal Card ("Tarjeta Postal") in Spanish, not mentioned by Ascher (A) or Laiz (L). It was issued in Murcia (J).
Text copied from the Dr. Trebussem cards.
Space in the top right corner for a stamp. Lines for the address on the front page as for most other postal cards.
"Sr. D." (Mr.) in front of the first line.
Card size 143 x 79 mm.
Issue unknown.

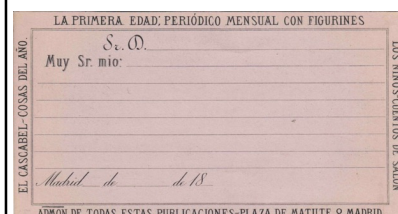


Decorative formular card with advertisement printed in black on brown paper.
Issued in June 1873 in Madrid (J).

An empty space box in the top left corner for a 5 céntimos de pesetas stamp.
Two diagonal lines for the name and address on the front page.
Card size 140 x 75 mm.
Issue unknown.



The same card printed in black on grey-rose paper.



The back side with a frame of double lines, leaving a margin for further advertisement.

Eight printed lines for the message, preceded by "Sr.D.", and followed by "Madrid .. De De .. 18 ...".

Reference: (L) Laiz, Ángel: *Catálogo Especializado de Enteros Postales de España, Colonias y Dependencias*. (1. ed. 1992; 2. ed. 2000. Madrid.

(J) Javier Padín Vaamonde, F. *Enteros Postales de España (1873-1973)*. Direccion General de Correos y Telegrafos, 1990

Spain – June-July 1873 – the “bookshop cards”



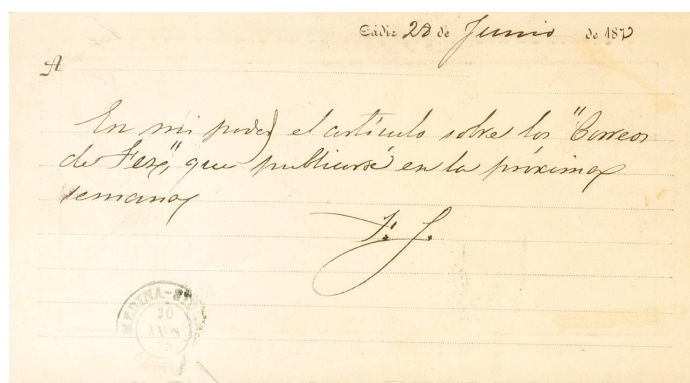
The Verdugo y Compania card, issued in Cadiz in June 1873.

Card size 140 x 76 mm on white, thick cardboard with black lithographic print (J). A frame as thick black lines forming a rectangle leaving an outside margin with advertisement for the Verdugo bookshop in Cadiz. Space for a stamp in the top right corner inside the frame.

This card was sent from Cadiz in late June 1873 to Medina with a postage of five céntimos. Only two used cards are known.

The back side of the Verdugo y Compania card, with “Cadiz ... de De 187 ..” printed at the top. A first, broken, dotted line preceded by “A” and seven dotted lines for the message.

This card was written, and sent, on June 28, 1873 and has an arrival cancellation on the back side from Medina-Sidonia, in the province of Cadiz, two days later.

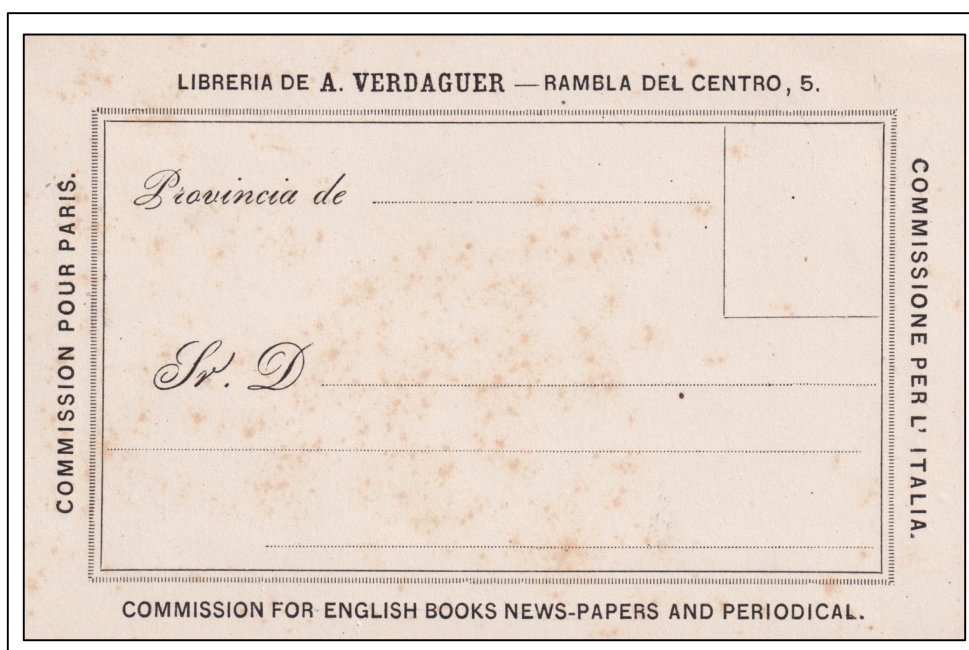


The Verdaguer card, issued in Barcelona in July 1873. Card size 127 x 82 mm on white cardboard with black lithographic print (J).

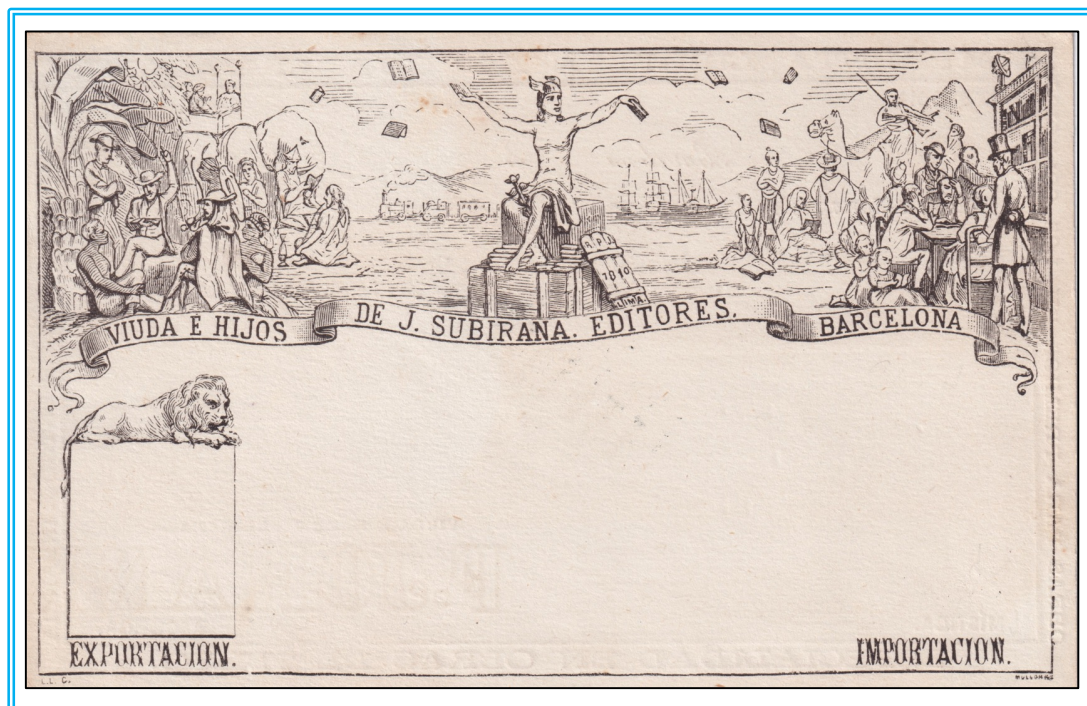
A frame of two lines, the outer of short dashes, leaving a margin for advertisement.

Space for a stamp in the top right corner inside the frame.

The back side is blank.



Spain – October-November 1873 – new precursor cards

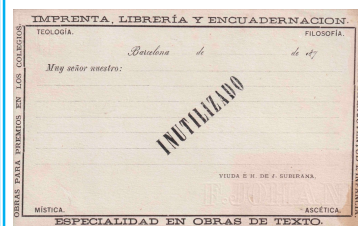


The Subirana card, inspired by the famous British Mulready envelope from 1840, issued in Barcelona in October 1873.

Card size 143 x 90 mm on white cardboard with black lithographic print (J).

A stamp box in the bottom left corner under a lion.

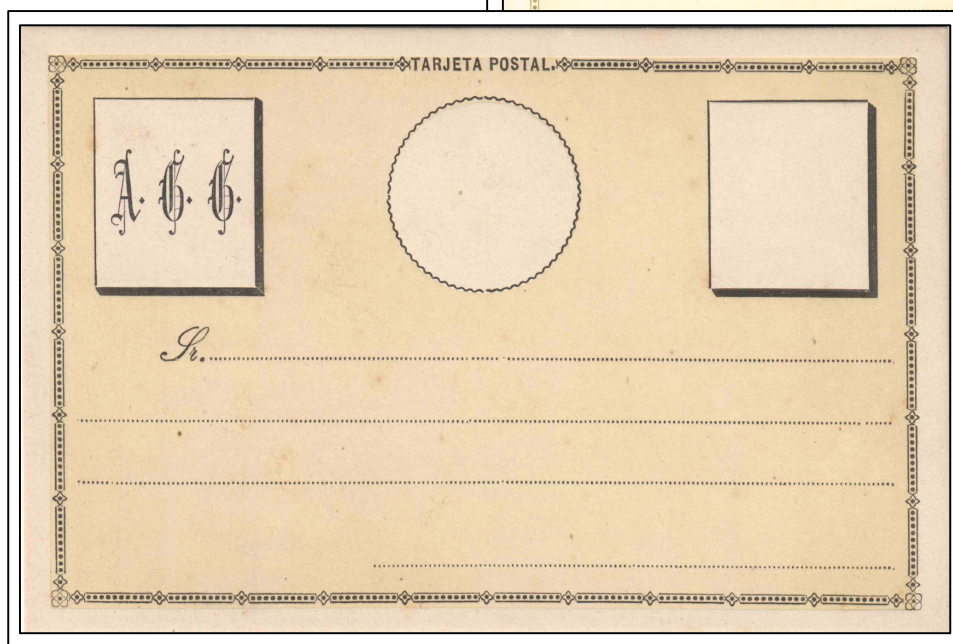
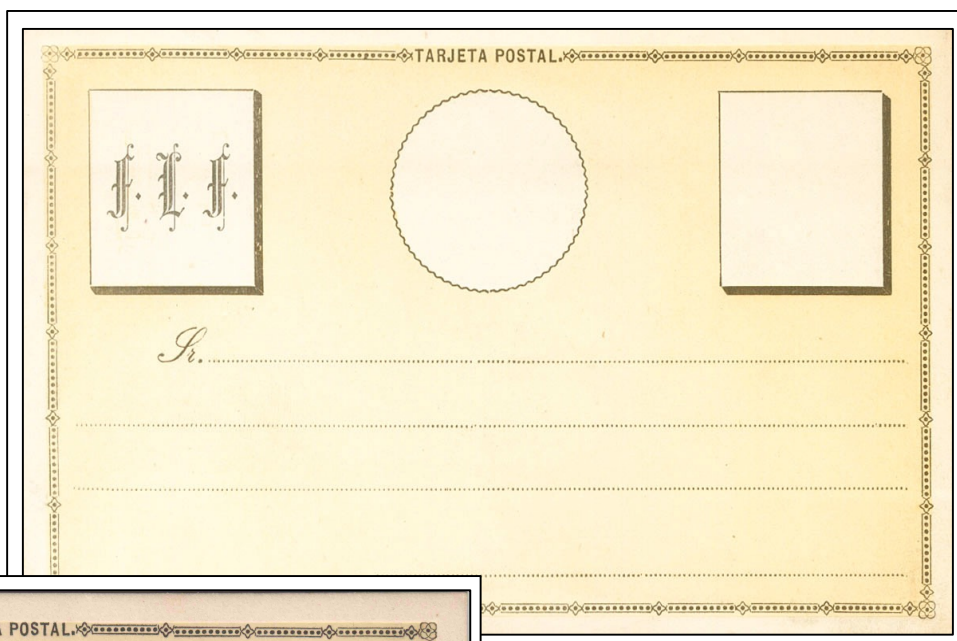
Watermark: "F.JOHANN".



The Francisco López Fabra, "FLF", card, issued in Barcelona in October 1873.

Card size 125 x 81 mm on white, thick cardboard with black letterpress printing and a decorated frame (J). One rectangle top left with the initials "F.L.F." in Gothic letters, one rectangle top right with space for a stamp and a circle in-between for the date cancellation (J).

The back side is blank.



The Alvaro de la Gándara and González, "AGG", card, issued in Barcelona in November 1873.

Card size 125 x 81 mm on white, thick cardboard with black letterpress printing (J).

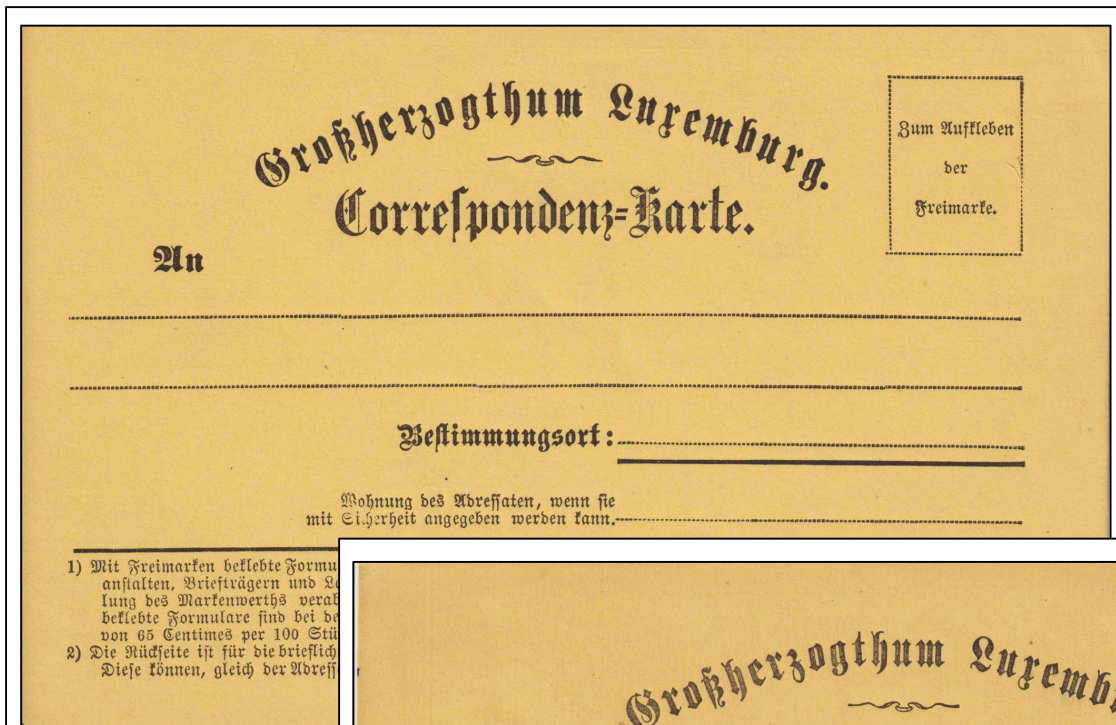
The card is identical to the FLF card except for the initials "A.G.G." in the rectangle top left.

The back side is blank.

Luxemburg 1873 – third card, in German – type I & II

The Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg issued several new formular cards during 1873. Again, as in 1870, the formular cards appeared similar to the cards from NDP, but are now smaller. The information about these cards by (H&G) must now be questioned after new literature has been published in 2015 (F) and 2018 (M).

The cards #3 were also printed by T. Schroell in Luxemburg (M).



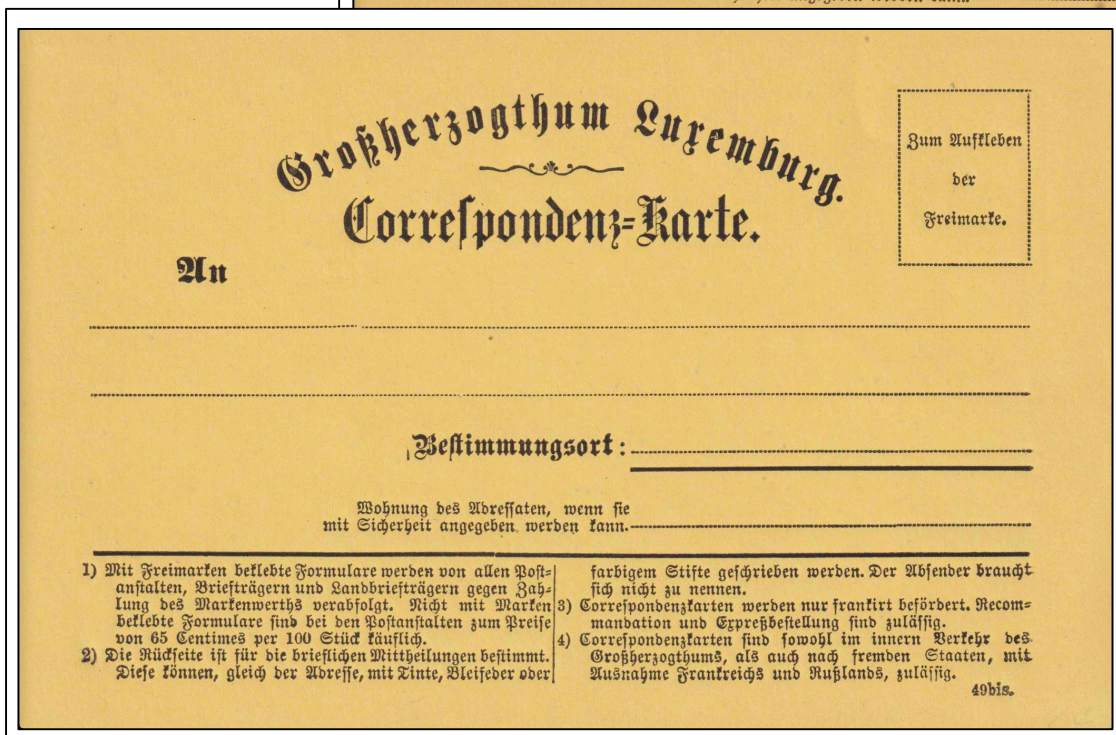
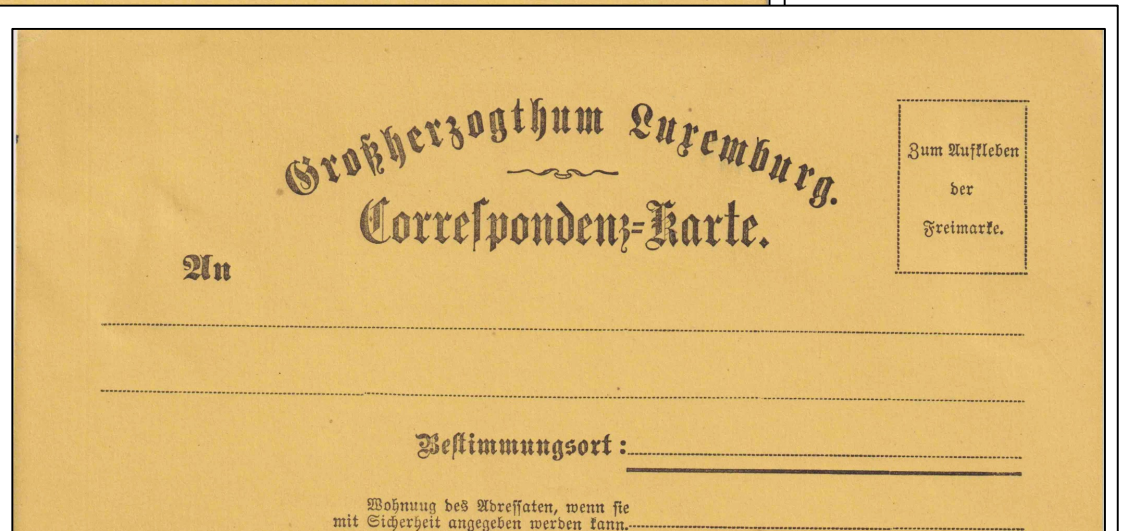
The third formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in German, issued on January 1, 1873 (F).

Different styles of the ornamentation between the 1st and 2nd lines; this card is type I (F), type 1 (M) and H&G #4, with a wavy ornamentation.



This card type I is a variety; it has a printing error: "Wohnung" on the last address line is spelled "Wohnuug":

Wohnuug
Sicherheit



n werden. Der Absender braucht
n nur frankirt befördert. Recom-
stellung sind zulässig.
sowohl im innern Verkehr des
sch nach fremden Staaten, mit
nd Auslands, zulässig. 49bis.

Card type II (F), type 2 (M) and H&G #6A, with a flower in the



Luxemburg 1873 – third card, in German – type III & IV

The third and fourth type of Luxemburg's third formular card have an ornamentation below the first and second lines of two spears and a star.

Großherzogthum Luxemburg.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An

Bestimmungsort: _____

Wohnung des Adressaten, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

1) Mit Freimarken belegte Formulare werden von allen Postanstalten, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern gegen Zahlung des Markenwerths verabfolgt. Nicht mit Marken belegte Formulare sind bei den Postanstalten zum Preise von 65 Centimes per 100 Stück käuflich.
2) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt. Diese können, gleich der Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleisfeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben werden. Der Absender braucht sich nicht zu nennen.
3) Correspondenzkarten werden nur frankirt befördert. Recommendation und Expressbestellung sind zulässig.
4) Correspondenzkarten sind sowohl im innern Verkehr des Großherzogthums, als auch nach fremden Staaten, mit Ausnahme Frankreichs und Rußlands, zulässig.

Zum Aufkleben der Freimarke.

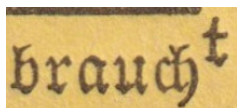
The third card type III (F), type 4 (M) and H&G #5, with an ornamentation below the first line of two simple spears and a filled star in the centre.



The dot after the "g" in the top line is angular on card type III, not round:



This card is a variety; the "t" in *braucht*, at the end of the top line of the notes is shifted vertically.



Großherzogthum Luxemburg.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An

Bestimmungsort: _____

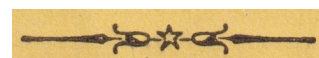
Wohnung des Adressaten, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

1) Mit Freimarken belegte Formulare werden von allen Postanstalten, Briefträgern und Landbriefträgern gegen Zahlung des Markenwerths verabfolgt. Nicht mit Marken belegte Formulare sind bei den Postanstalten zum Preise von 65 Centimes per 100 Stück käuflich.
2) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt. Diese können, gleich der Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleisfeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben werden. Der Absender braucht sich nicht zu nennen.
3) Correspondenzkarten werden nur frankirt befördert. Recommendation und Expressbestellung sind zulässig.
4) Correspondenzkarten sind sowohl im innern Verkehr des Großherzogthums, als auch nach fremden Staaten, mit Ausnahme Frankreichs und Rußlands, zulässig.

Zum Aufkleben der Freimarke.

49bis.

The third card type IV (F), type 3 (M) and H&G #6, with an ornamentation below the first line of two "decorated" spears and an empty star in the centre.



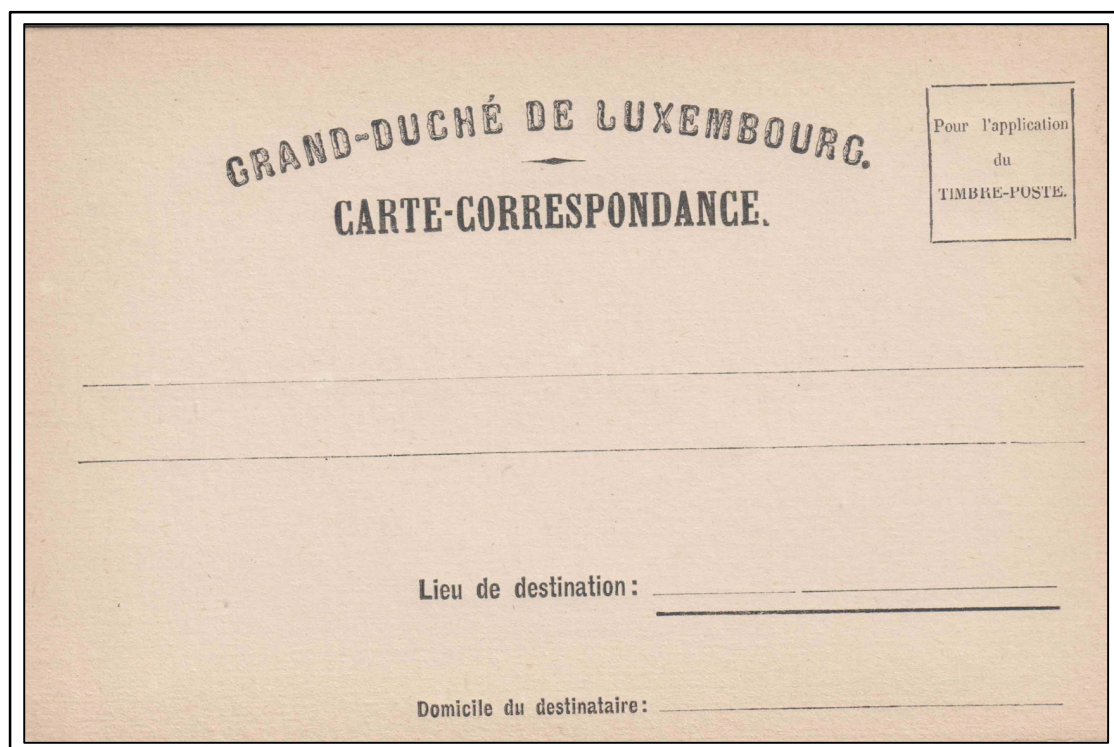
Luxemburg 1873 – card H&G 3 - varieties

Formular card H&G #3 from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in German, without notes.

The card has a printing very similar to formular card #3, without the notes at the bottom, but the card has an "s" in "Correspondenz-karte" that is different from all other cards:



According to Frech (2015), and (M), the card is a private card (F).



A formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in French. The card has a printing very similar to card H&G #3.

This card is not known by (H&G) or (F), but shown by (M) as a private card.

Luxemburg 1873 - double cards - type A

The Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg issued several new formular cards during 1873, including double-cards, issued on February 1, 1873. The double cards were printed by V. Buck in Luxemburg (M) on rose paper.

Formular card N° IVA (M), H&G #7, as a double card, with German text.

The print is very similar to the third card printed on yellow paper.

Four notes at the bottom; note 4 says that double-cards can also be used to Germany.

Großherzogthum Luxemburg.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An (Rückantwort bezahlt.)

Bestimmungsort: _____

Wohnung des Adressaten, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

1) Mit Freimarken beklebte Formulare werden von allen Postanstalten, Briefträgern und vambriefträgern gegen Zahlung des Markenwerths verabsolgt. Nicht mit Marken beklebte Formulare sind bei den Postanstalten zum Preise von 15 Centimes für je 10 Stück käuflich.
2) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt. Diese können, gleich der Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben werden. Der Absender braucht sich nicht zu nennen.
3) Correspondenzkarten werden nur frankirt befördert.
4) Correspondenzkarten mit Rückantwort sind sowohl im innern Verkehr des Großherzogthums, als auch im Verkehr mit Deutschland zulässig.

Zum Aufkleben der Freimarken.

49ter.

The message card (top, folded) has a third line in parenthesis saying "Answer paid". The period is missing after "nennen" on the last line of note 2) on this message card (top).

The message card, but not the reply card, has a formular number "49ter" bottom right.

The reply card (left) is identical with the message card, except the third line saying "Paid answer" and only two notes at the bottom. The second note says, again, that the reply card can also be used from Germany.

Cards type A have cutting and/or folding marks. The size is large: 149-150 x 96-101 mm.

Großherzogthum Luxemburg.
Correspondenz-Karte.

An (Bezahlte Rückantwort.)

Bestimmungsort: _____

Wohnung des Adressaten, wenn sie mit Sicherheit angegeben werden kann. _____

1) Die Rückseite ist für die brieflichen Mittheilungen bestimmt. Diese können, gleich der Adresse, mit Tinte, Bleifeder oder farbigem Stifte geschrieben werden. Der Absender braucht sich nicht zu nennen.
2) Die Karten werden nur frankirt befördert. Dieselben sind im innern Verkehr des Großherzogthums und im Verkehr mit Deutschland zulässig.

Zum Aufkleben der Freimarken.

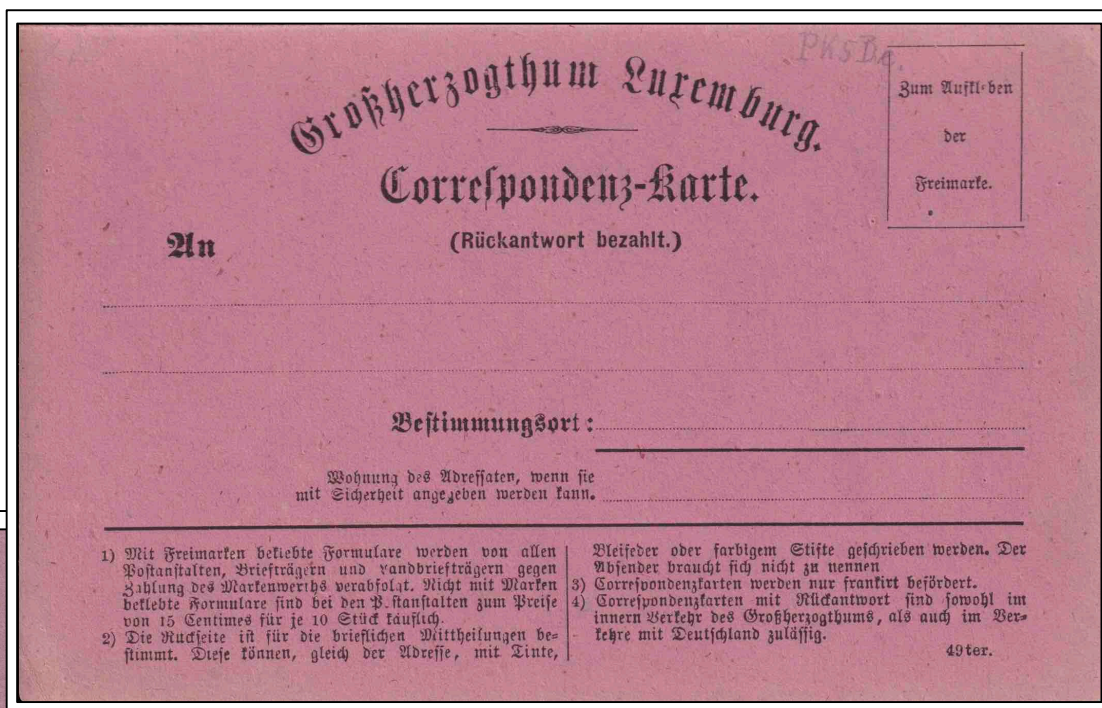
49ter.

Luxemburg 1873 - double card - type B

The Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg issued several new formular cards during 1873, including double-cards, issued on February 1, 1873.

Double-cards type B (M) have no cutting or folding marks at all. The card size is smaller than cards type A: 146-149 x 92-95 mm.

A folded message card (right) printed on rose, reddish paper. The period is missing after "nennen" on the last line of note 2) on this message card.

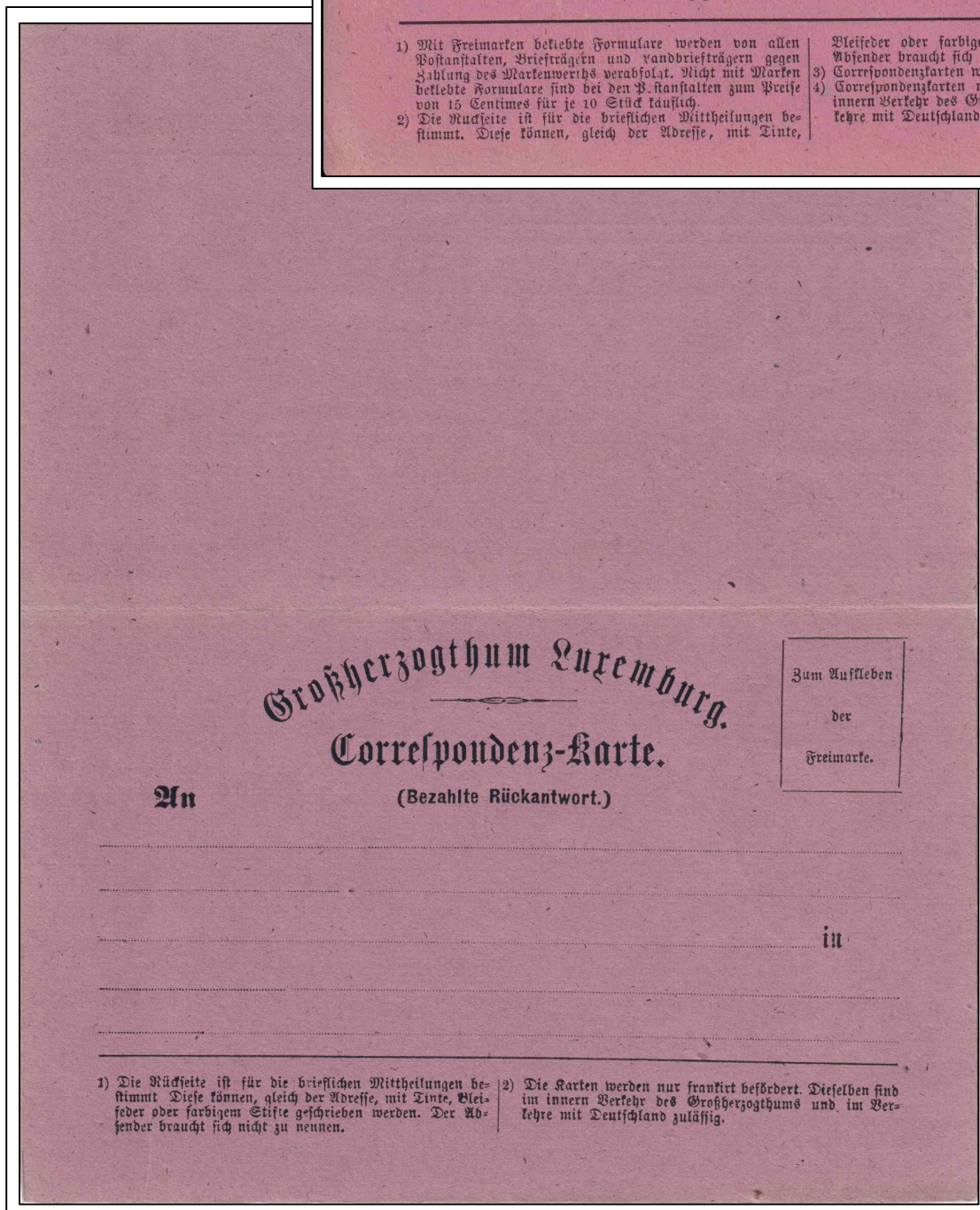


This unfolded reply card (left) is printed on a rose, lilac paper.

The postage for double-cards, from January 31, 1873, was 10+10 centimes within Luxemburg and 6+6 centimes for mail to Germany (U). For domestic mail it was reduced to 5 centimes on January 1, 1874.

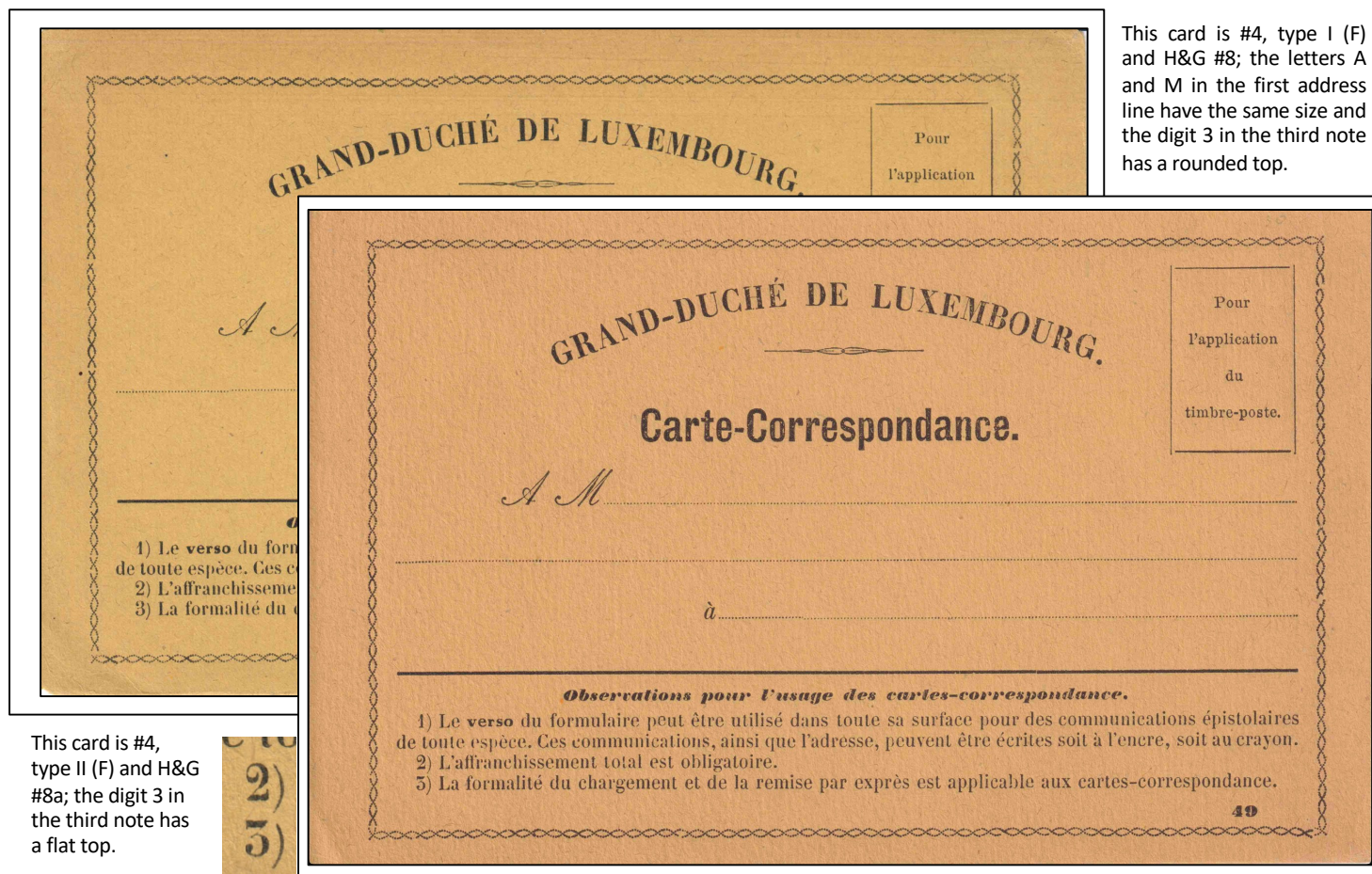
The rural postman could wait five minutes for the addressee to write a reply. The city postman, however, was not permitted to wait for a reply (U).

Reference: Ulveling, G. (1873) *Bekanntmachung – Postwesen*. Avis des postes. Luxemburg January 31, 1873.



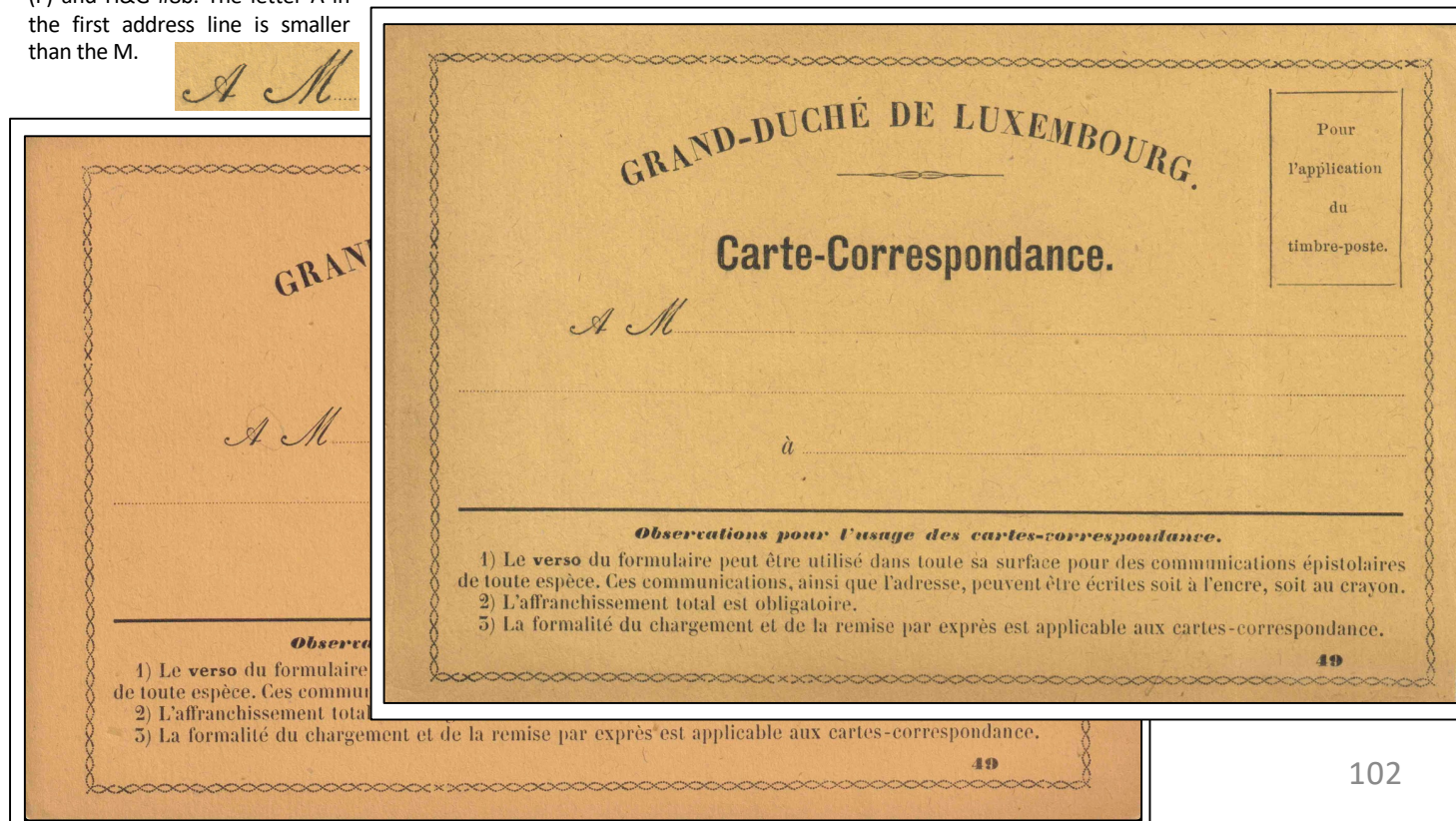
Luxemburg - January 1874 – fourth single card, in French

The Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg issued several new formular cards during 1874, now for the first time with a frame. The first card 1874 was in French as a complement to the third card in German in 1873. The cards were printed by V. Buck in Luxemburg (M) on yellow paper. A formular number “49” is printed in the bottom right. The card has three notes at the bottom in long lines, contrary to notes on all previous cards in two columns.



These cards (bottom) are type II (F) and H&G #8b. The letter A in the first address line is smaller than the M.

The A in “GRAND” is vertically shifted downwards on type 1a (M).



Luxemburg - February 1874 – fifth single card, in German

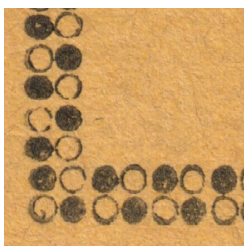
The second card 1874 was in German, with a new frame of black and yellow balls. The cards were printed by P. Bruck in Luxemburg (M) on orange-yellow paper. A formular number “49bis” is printed in the bottom right. The card has four notes at the bottom in two columns, without a headline. The card was issued on February 10, 1874.

This card is #5 type I (F), No. VI type 1 (M) and H&G #9c.

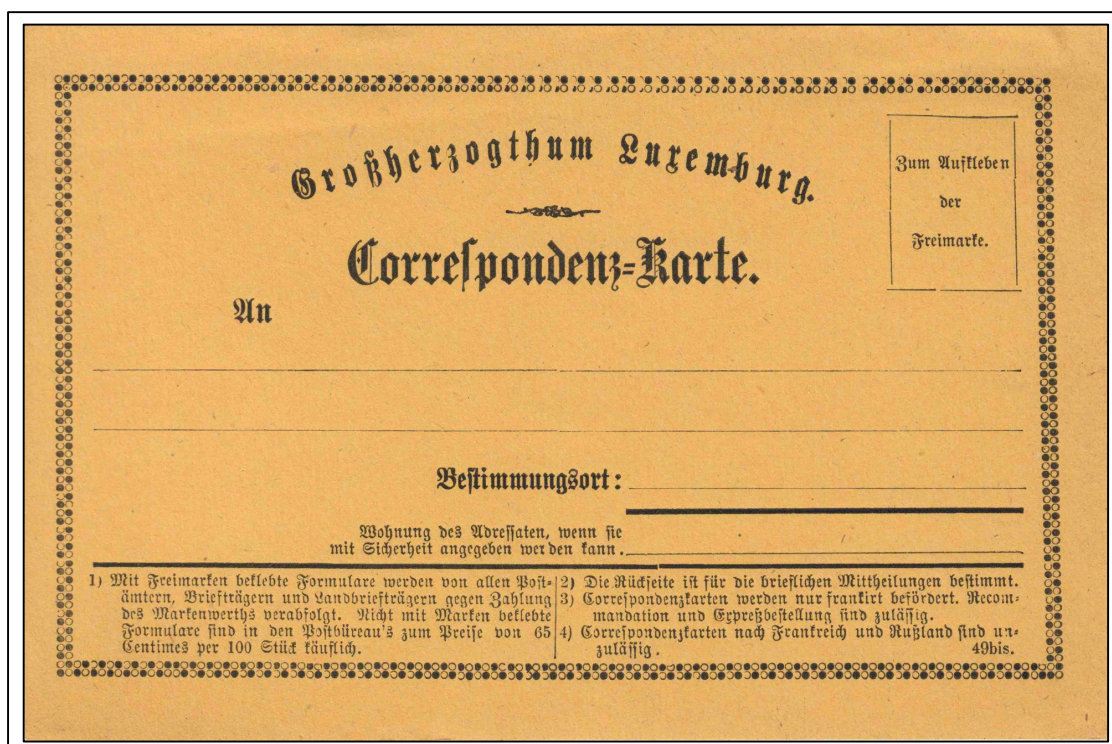
The first line is 77 mm long.

A stamp-box with thick lines.

The small ball in the bottom left corner is yellow:



The fifth single formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in German, issued on February 10, 1874 (F), with a frame of small, black and yellow balls.

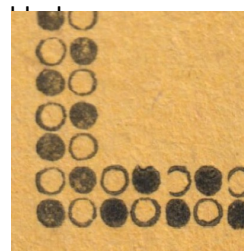


This card is #5 type II (F), No. VI type 2 (M) and H&G #9b.

The first line is only 70 mm long.

A stamp-box with thin lines.

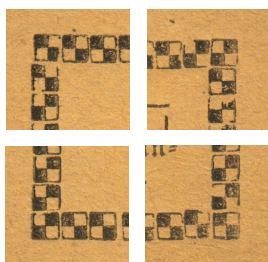
The small ball in the bottom left corner is



Luxemburg - March 1874 – sixth single card, in German – type 1a & 1b

The third card 1874 was also in German, but with a new frame of black and yellow squares. These cards were also printed by P. Bruck in Luxemburg (M) on orange-yellow paper. The same formular number “49bis” is printed in the bottom right. The card has four notes at the bottom in two columns, without a headline. The cards were issued on January 10, 1874.

This card is #6, type I (F), H&G #9a and No. VIa type 1a (M). The first line is 77 mm long and all corner squares are black:



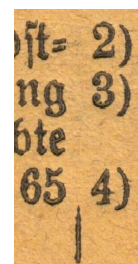
Large card size, 97 x 157 mm.

The sixth single formular card from Luxemburg, “Correspondence card” in German, issued in March 1874 (F), with a frame of small, black and yellow squares.

A variant of card #6, type I (F) not known to (F) or H&G, with only a short vertical line between the two columns of the notes.

The card is numbered No. VIa type 1b by (M).

Small card size, 97 x 144 mm. 77 mm long first line.

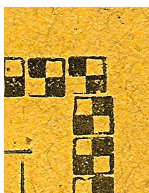


(F) mentions a card #6, type II, identical to type I but with a shorter (70 mm) first line. Such a card is not known to H&G or (M) and has not been found.

Luxemburg - March 1874 – sixth single card, in German – type 2 & 3

The third card 1874 was also in German, but with a new frame of black and yellow squares. These cards were also printed by P. Bruck in Luxemburg (M) on orange-yellow paper. The same formular number “49bis” is printed in the bottom right. The card has four notes at the bottom in two columns, without a headline. The cards were issued on January 10, 1874.

This card is #6, type IV (F), H&G #9 and No. VIa type 2 (M). The first line is now 70 mm long and all corner squares are black except the upper right corner square:

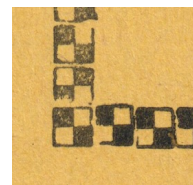


Card size 97 x 148 mm.

The sixth single formular card from Luxembourg, “Correspondence card” in German, issued in March 1874 (F), with a frame of small, black and yellow squares.

This card is #6, type III (F), H&G #9 and No. VIa type 3 (M).

The first line is now 70 mm long and all corner squares are black except the bottom left corner square:



Card size 99 x 149 mm.

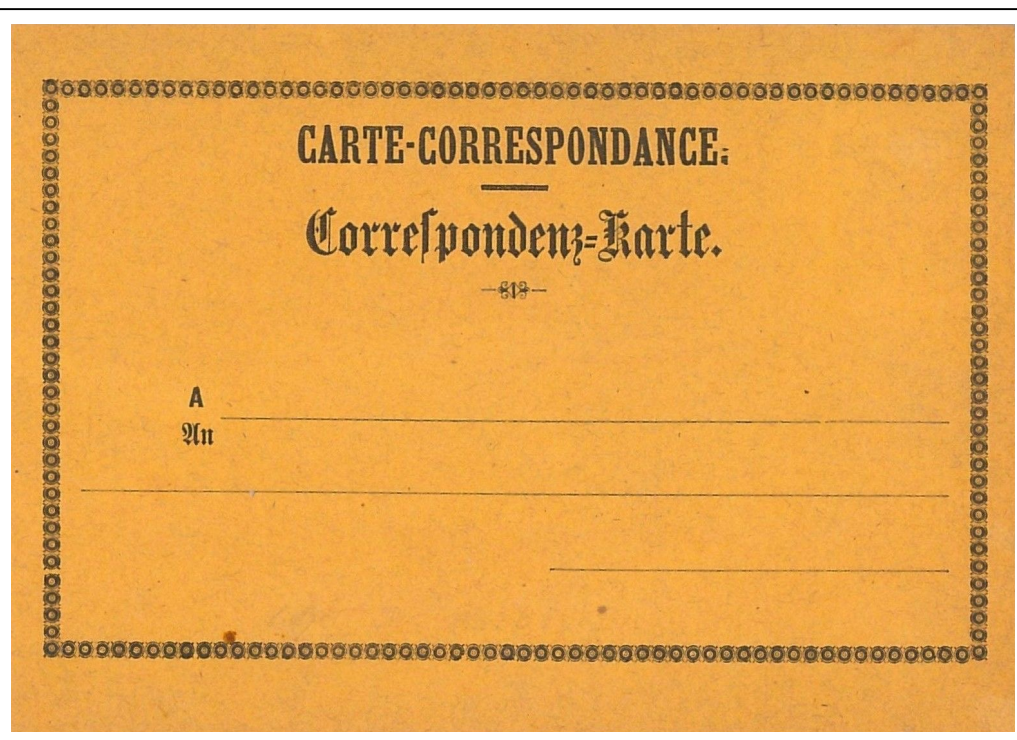
Luxemburg - May 1874 – seventh single card, in French and German

The fourth card 1874 was in both French and German, again with a new frame of black balls. These cards were also printed by P. Bruck in Luxemburg (M) on orange-yellow paper. No formular number “49bis” and no notes. The cards were issued in May 1874.

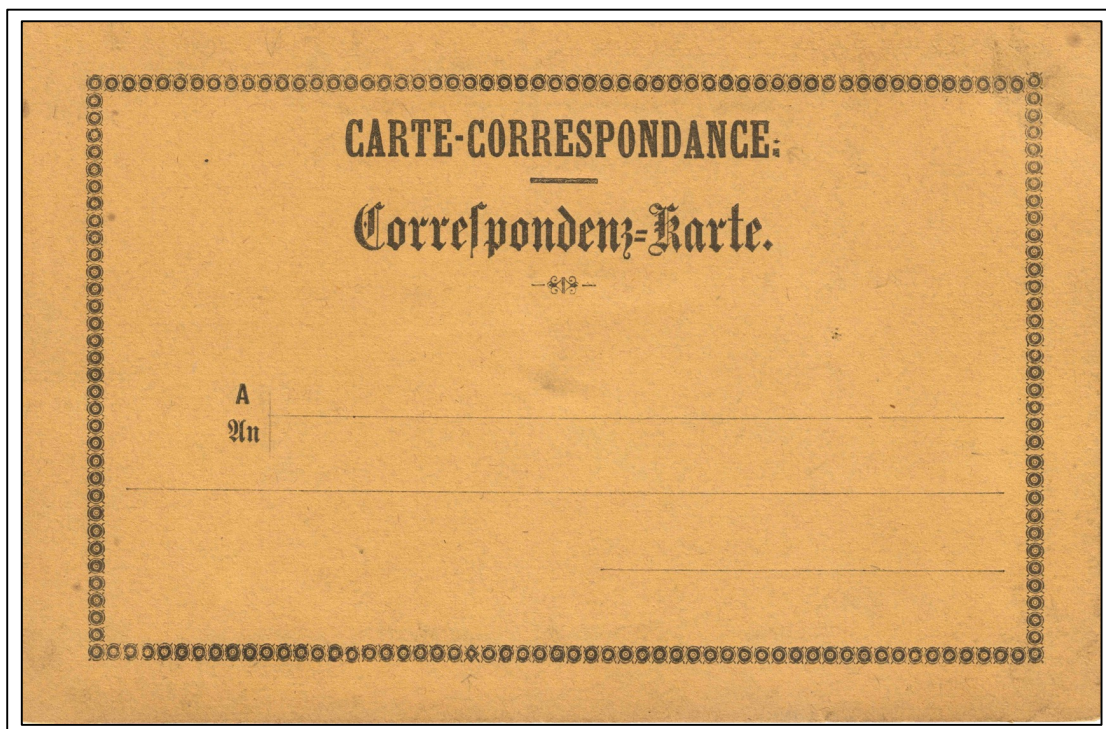
The seventh single formular card from Luxemburg, “Correspondence card” in French and German, issued on May 20, 1874 (F), with a frame of small balls. Frame size 75 x 125 mm. Black print on orange-yellow paper.

This card is #7 type I (F), and H&G #10, with all balls in the frame being similar.

The seventh single formular card from Luxemburg is also an essay for the first postal cards; a value stamp and coat-of-arms were added in June 1874.



Little (2009): “This card was rushed into service when stocks of the preceding cards sold out earlier than expected. It was intended that the card include a printed postage stamp in the corner, but the cliché was not quite ready. The same card, with the printed stamp, was issued less than two weeks later.”



This card is #7, type II (F) and H&G #10, with one ball in the bottom frame being different. On this card the 23rd ball in the bottom frame is a diamond:



References:

- (F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.
- (GL) Little, G. (2009) *Luxembourg Postal Stationery*; <http://www.luxcentral.com/stamps/LuxStationeryDB.html>
- (M) Montagne, J.F. (2018) *Les Cartes Correspondance du Grand Duché de Luxembourg*. Postkarten, Formulare. Novembre 2018. Self-published

Luxemburg - May 1874 - eighth, unknown card, in French and German

The Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg issued several new formular cards during 1874. Again, as in 1870, the formular cards appeared similar to the cards from NDP, but are now smaller. The information about these cards by (H&G) must now be questioned after new literature has been published in 2015 (F).

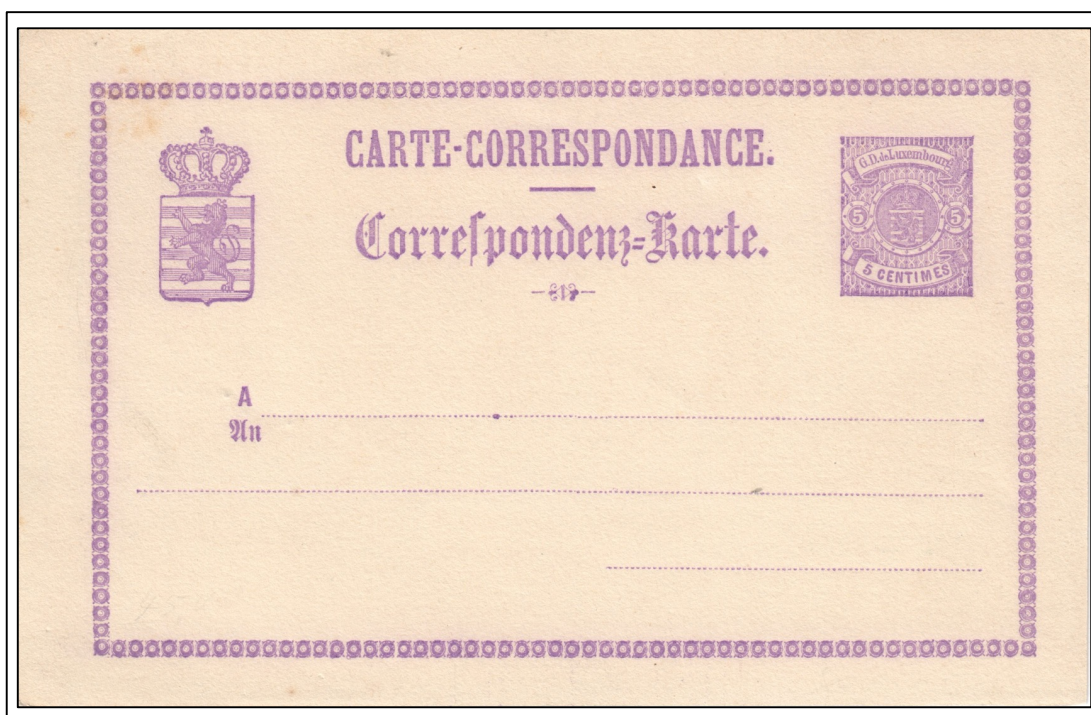
An eighth single formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in French and German, with a frame of small balls. Frame size 75 x 125 mm. Black print on white paper.

This card is not known to (A), (H&G) or (F), but shown by (M).

This eighth single formular card from Luxemburg is also an essay for the first 5 c. postal card on white paper; a value stamp and coat-of-arms were added in June 1874.



Little (2009): "This card was rushed into service when stocks of the preceding cards sold out earlier than expected. It was intended that the card include a printed postage stamp in the corner, but the cliché was not quite ready. The same card, with the printed stamp, was issued less than two weeks later."



The first postal card from Luxemburg, with a 5 centimes value stamp, printed on white paper.

This postal card is the eighth formular card where the value stamp of 5 centimes and the coat-of-arms has been added.

Heligoland (Helgoland) 1873

The small island of Heligoland (Helgoland) in eastern North Sea had a British administration 1807-1890, but is traditionally regarded as one of the "Old German States" in philately.

Between June 1873 and November 1874 Heligoland issued six similar formular cards, with and without frames, large and small (British) coat-of-arms and three different paper colours. The card size is 140-144 x 85-92 mm and the print is black.



Formular card #1 (F), H&G #1, #01 (L) with "Post-card", "To" and instructions in the stamp box in both English and German. A large, round shield in the British coat-of-arms. Six address lines and no frame; "in" after the shorter fourth address line. The first address line on the same level as the bottom of the stamp box.

Card #1 was issued in June 1873 (F)(L). From July 1, 1873 the postage to be affixed was $\frac{3}{4}$ Schilling. This card was printed on yellowish-brown cardboard.

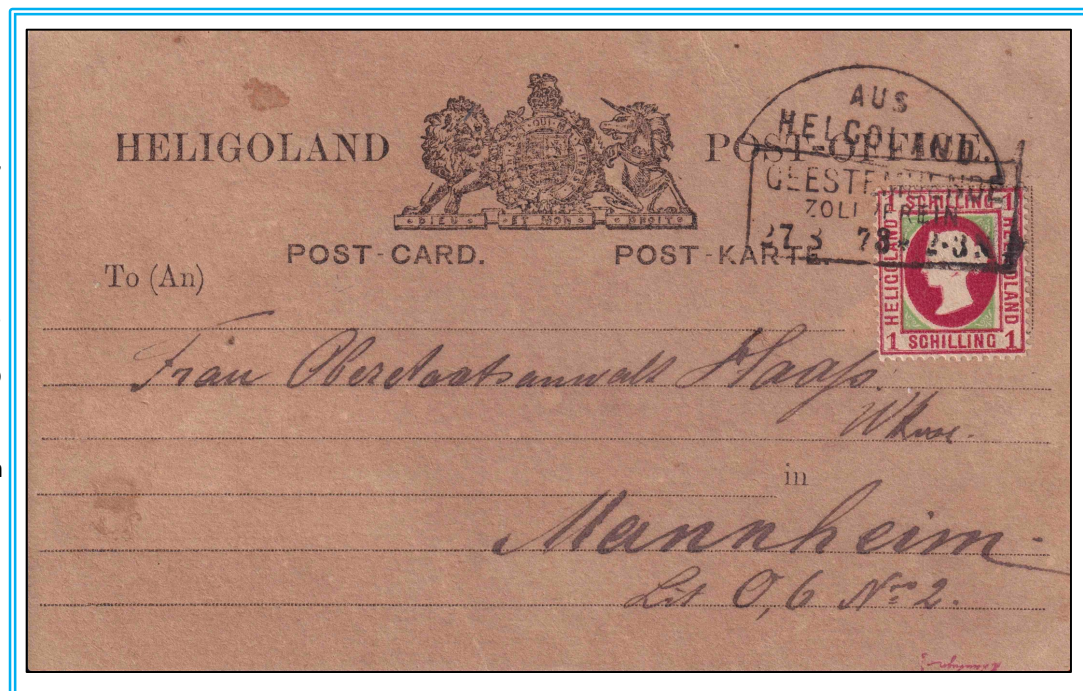
Card #1 was issued in June 1873 (F)(L). From July 1, 1873 the postage to be affixed was $\frac{3}{4}$ Schilling. Really used cards #1 from Heligoland are not known (L).

Formular card #01a (L), H&G #2, printed on dark brown-yellow cardboard.

Sent over franked with a 1 Schilling stamp from Heligoland, via Geestemuende Zollverein in Bremerhaven, in August 1873 to Mannheim.

Signed *Lemberger* in the bottom right corner. Provenience: Dr. Hans Friedrich Häuser.

Used cards from Heligoland are rare.



C

References:

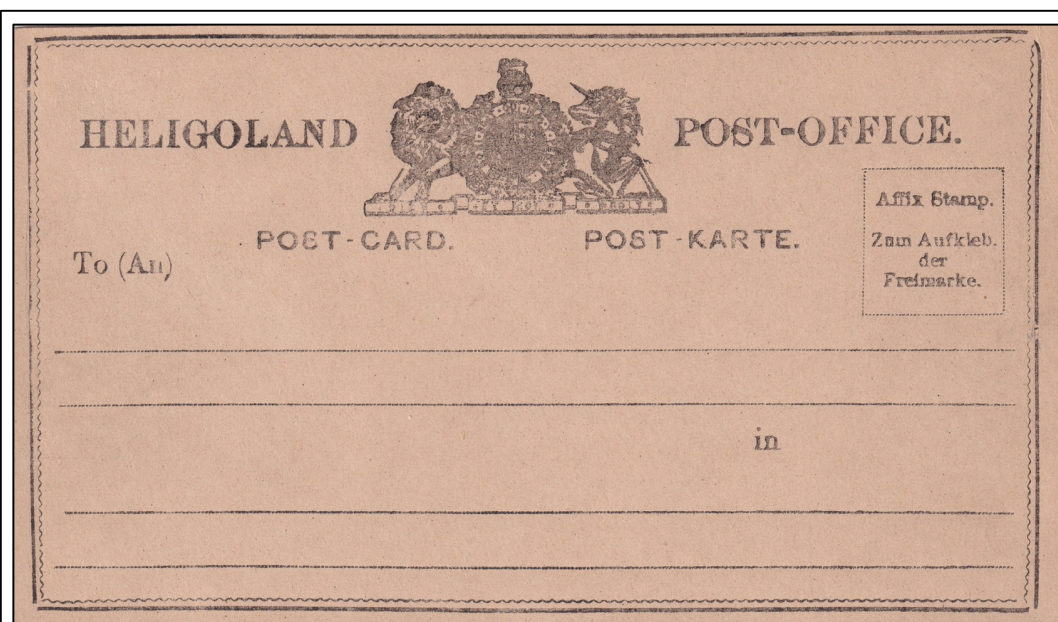
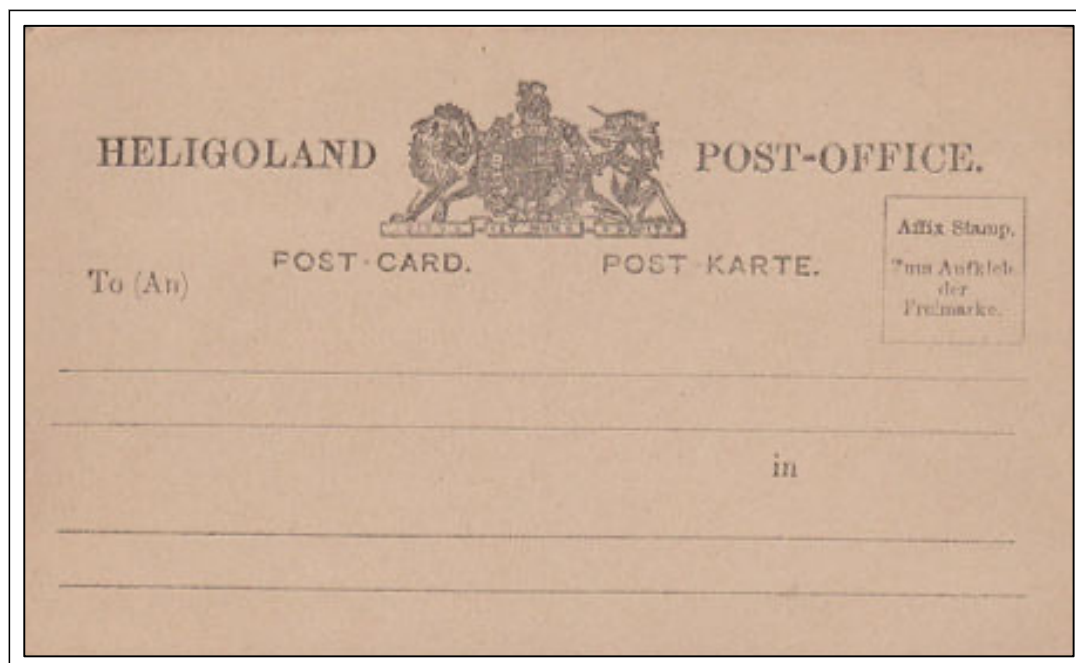
(L) Lemberger, H.: *Helgoland-Philatelie*. Verlag Walter Wulf, Hamburg 1970.

(F) Frech, H-P (2015) *Die Correspondenzkarten und Postkartenformulare der Ehemaligen Postvereinsländer und des Deutschen Kaiserreiches*. Private publisher, Hausach. 672 pp.

Heligoland (Helgoland) 1873-74

Formular card #2 (F), the most rare of the cards (F), with four address lines and the first address line passing below the stamp box; "in" between the second and third address lines.

Card #2 was issued in October (F) or November (L) 1873.

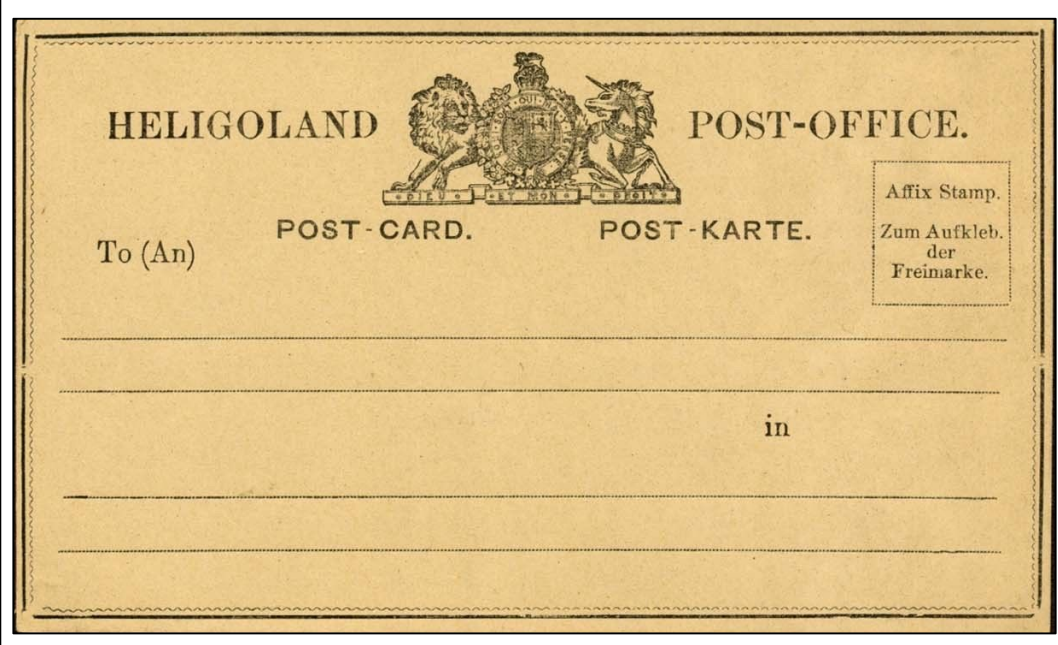


Formular cards #3-I and 3-II (F), 03 & 03a (L) and H&G #7, with four address lines and a frame with wavy lines inside a thick black line.

The frame sizes are different: 137x77 (3-I) and 140 x 80 mm (3-II).

The first address line passes below the stamp box.

Cards #3 were issued on January 1, 1874 (F)(L).

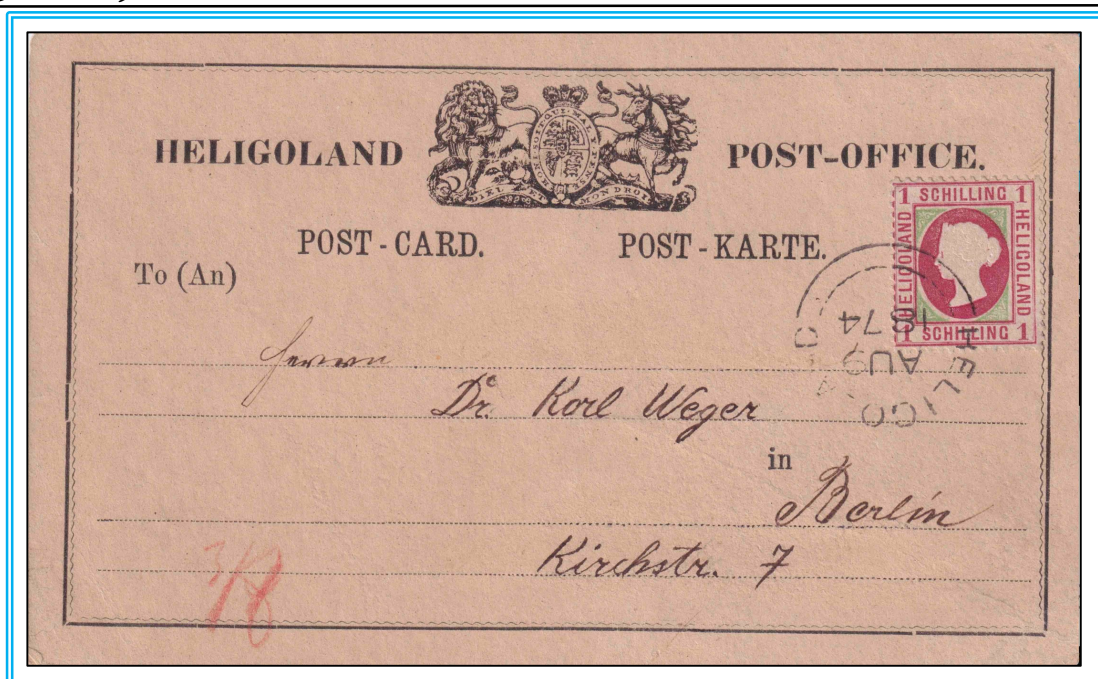


Heligoland (Helgoland) 1874

Formular card #4 (F), 04 (L), H&G #10, with four address lines and a frame with wavy lines inside a thick black line. Frame size 132 x 75 mm. A new text style, a new coat-of-arms with an oval shield, a new, empty stamp box of wavy lines. Card # 4 was issued in June 1874 (F, L).

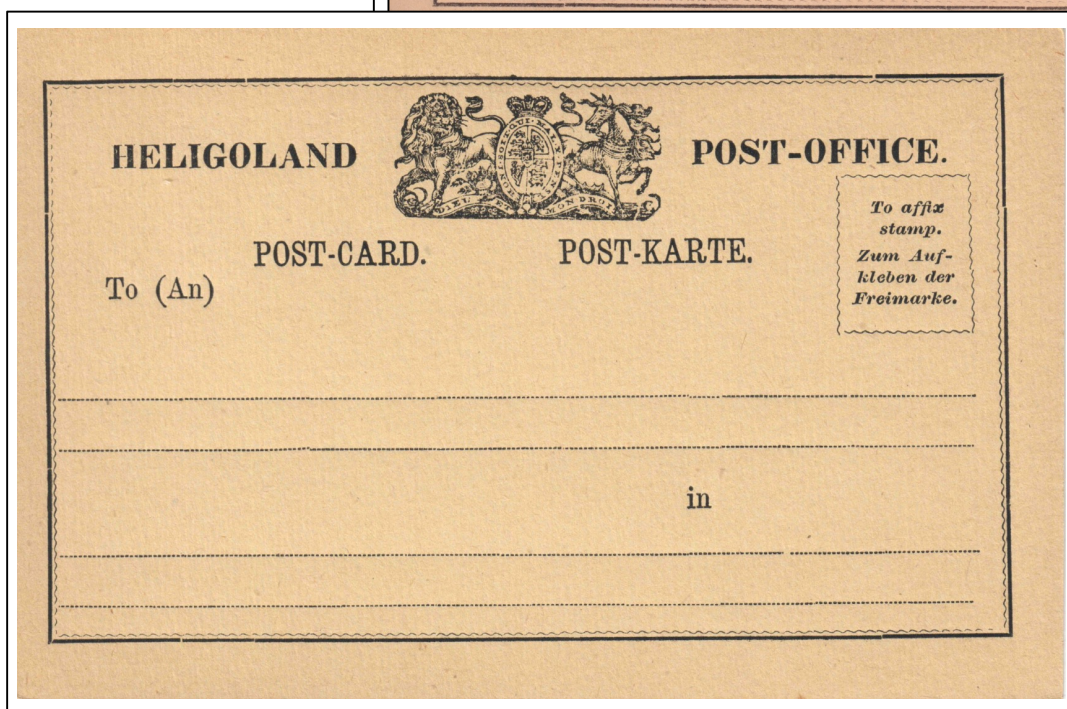
This card #4 was sent from Heligoland to Berlin, overfranked by ¼ Schilling, in August 9, 1874. Cards used before 1875 are rare.

C



Card #5 has the same black printing as #4, but has new Italic text in the stamp box. Card #5 was issued in November 1874 (F,L).

Card #5 with a 3/4 Schilling stamp No. 9 (L) affixed. This stamp was the correct postage for formular cards between December 5, 1873, and February 15, 1875 (L).



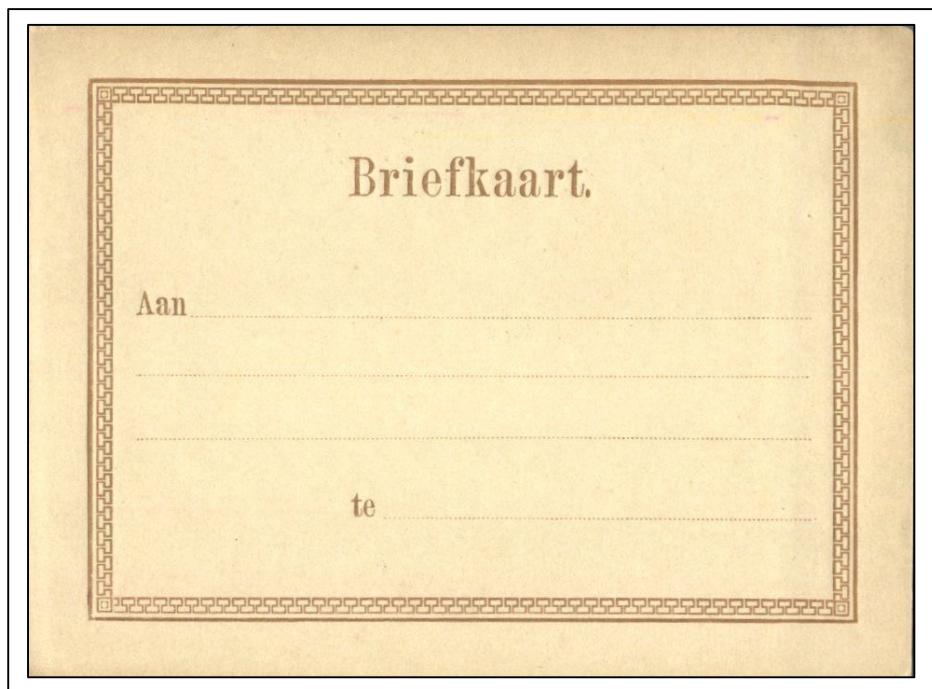
Formular card #6, H&G #8, is similar to card #5, but the text "Post-card, Post-Karte" and the stamp box are shifted to the left.

The Italic text in the stamp box is the same as on card #5.

This card is type I, printed on brown rough paper.

The Netherlands 1874 formular card

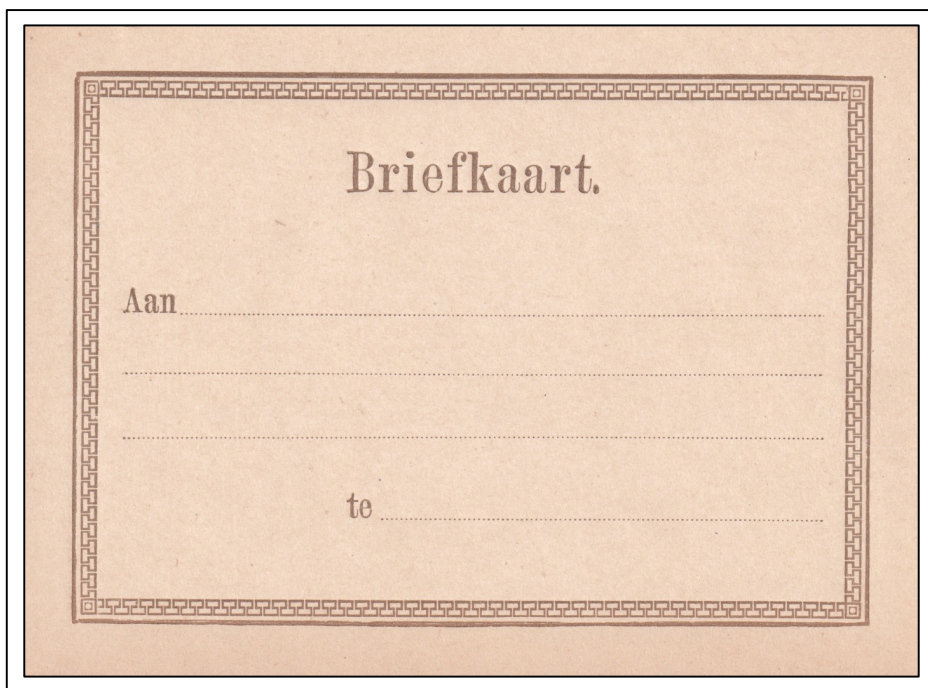
In February 1874 the Netherlands issued a new formular card without a value stamp. It was meant to be used internationally where the 5c postal card was no longer applicable. The Netherlands had a number of agreements with other countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Great Britain, Denmark, France, Sweden, Belgium, Italy (G)) that postal cards could be used between the countries. The required postage was 5 cents or higher. This new formular card is identical with the first, except for the notes being removed and the colour being changed, to brown.



Formular card #II, called Postal card in Dutch, without a value stamp and without the four line note at the bottom of the card #I. Now printed in February 1874 in a new, brown colour.

45.000 formular cards were issued but 10.000 of them were used to print the value stamp on postal card #7, G11 (G).

Formular card #II, in a darker, brown colour.



Reference:

(G) Geuzendam's Catalogus van de Postwaardestukken van Nederland en Overzeese Rijksdelen. 8e Editie. Geuzendam's Postzegelhandel, Gravenhage 2008

The Netherlands 1874 formular card – and made into a postal card

In February 1874 the Netherlands issued a new formular card without a value stamp. It was meant to be used internationally where the 5c postal card was no longer applicable. The Netherlands had a number of agreements with other countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Great Britain, Denmark, France, Sweden, Belgium, Italy (G)) that postal cards could be used between the countries. The required postage was 5 cents or higher. This new formular card is identical with the first, except for the notes being removed and the colour being changed, to brown.

Formular card #II used in 1875 to Mainz in Germany with a correct postage of 5 cents.



Postal card #7, G11 (G).

Formular card #II was printed in February 1874 in 45.000 copies. 10.000 of the left-over copies were printed with a blue 5c value stamp in 1876, for international use, called postal card #7, G11 (G).

This formular card, turned into a postal card, was used to Köln in Germany.

Reference:

(G) Geuzendam's Catalogus van de Postwaardestukken van Nederland en Overzeese Rijksdelen. 8e Editie. Geuzendam's Postzegelhandel, Gravenhage 2008

France 1872 - essays

France issued a number of essay formular cards in late 1872, before issuing a series of 12 formular cards in 1873 and 1874.



Essay formular card No. A. (H&G), called "Postal card" in French. The card size is 122 x 78 mm, somewhat larger than the final cards issued in 1873.

The card has a misprint "1870" on the second line.

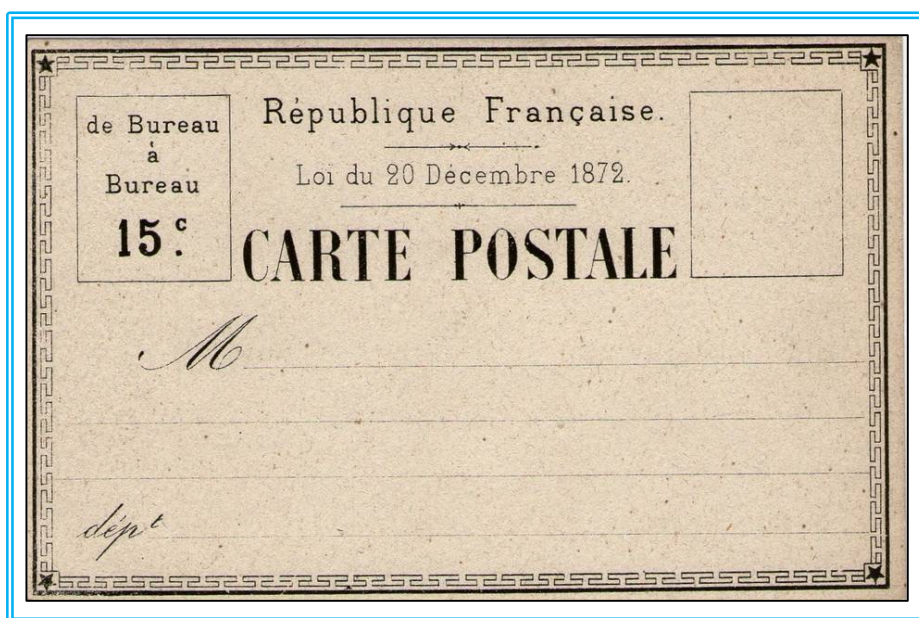
This card is numbered #ESS 5B by S&S.

The required postage is given in the box top left: 15 centimes for mail from (post) office to (post) office.

Essay formular card No. B (H&G), with the "M" and "dept" to the left of the card.

The card has the correct year "1872" on the second line.

This card is numbered #ESS 5 by S&S.



France 1872 – essays, cont. Issuing dates

France issued a series of essay formular cards in late 1872, before issuing a series of 12 formular cards in 1873 and 1874.



An essay formular card not known to (H&G), called "Postal card" in French. The card size is 122 x 78 mm, somewhat larger than the final cards issued in 1873.

This card is numbered #ESS 9 by S&S.

The required postage is given on the fourth line: 15 centimes for mail from office to office.

The essay cards are based on a law from December 20, 1872, but the final cards were first issued on January 15, 1873.

Issuing dates of the precursor cards

The dates of issuing the precursor cards are quite unclear. Even the same authors, (S&S), contradict themselves. The dates given by (S&S) are shown in the table, together with the first date of cancellation in the exhibit.

Emission	Card #	Date acc. to (S&S)	Earliest cancellation in exhibit
1	1	15.01.1873	17.01.1873
	2		17.01.1873
2	3	02.02.1873 ¹	11.02.1873
	4		06.02.1873
3	5	xx.02.1873	15.02.1873
	6		26.01.1873
4	9	19.02.1873	30.05.1873
	10		17.01.1873
5	7	xx.05.1873	20.04.1873
	8		15.03.1873
6	11	08.01.1874 ²	21.12.1874
	12		16.01.1874
#9-10 were issued before #7-8!			Earlier than (S&S)!
Maury (1907): ¹ 04.02.1873, ² xx.02.1874			

References: (CEP)(1965) *Catalogue des Entiers Postaux de France. Cartes postales, carte-lettres, enveloppes et bandes*. Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux (l'ACEP), Paris 1965. 50 pp.
 (S&S) Storch, J. & Sinais, B. (2007) *Catalogue des Cartes Postales précurseurs de France et des colonies*. Éditions Bertrand Sinais, 333 pp.
 Maury, A. (1907) *Histoire des Timbres-Poste Français. Enveloppes, Cartes, Timbres-Telegraphe et Telephone*. Private published, Paris

France 1873 - 1st issue - first card, for local mail

France issued a series of ten formular cards (#1-10) during 1873. The size varies a little, 112-117 x 72-75 mm and the frames are always different. The different cards are for different use, locally, between office to office, within the same office etc. The first two cards were printed by *Imprimerie Nationale* and issued on January 15, 1873.

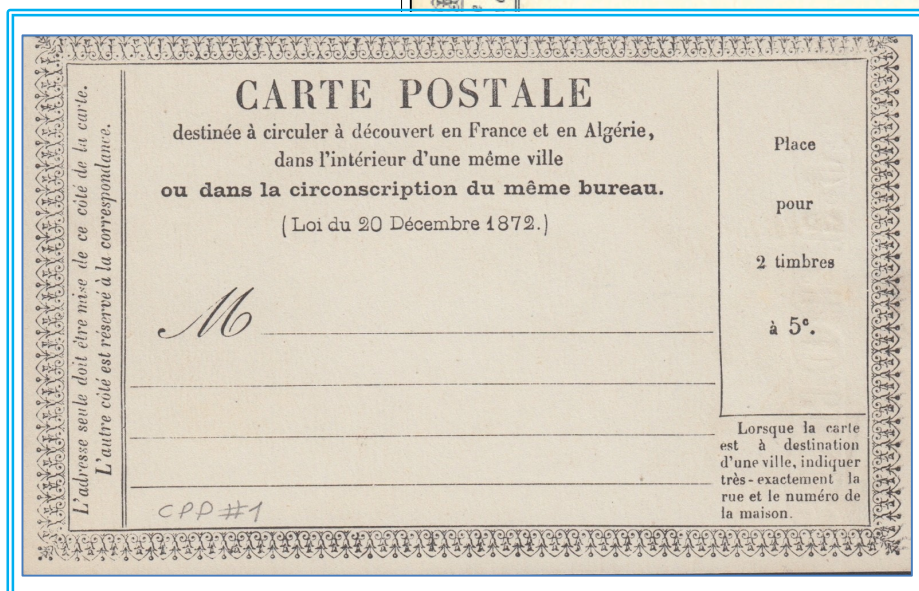
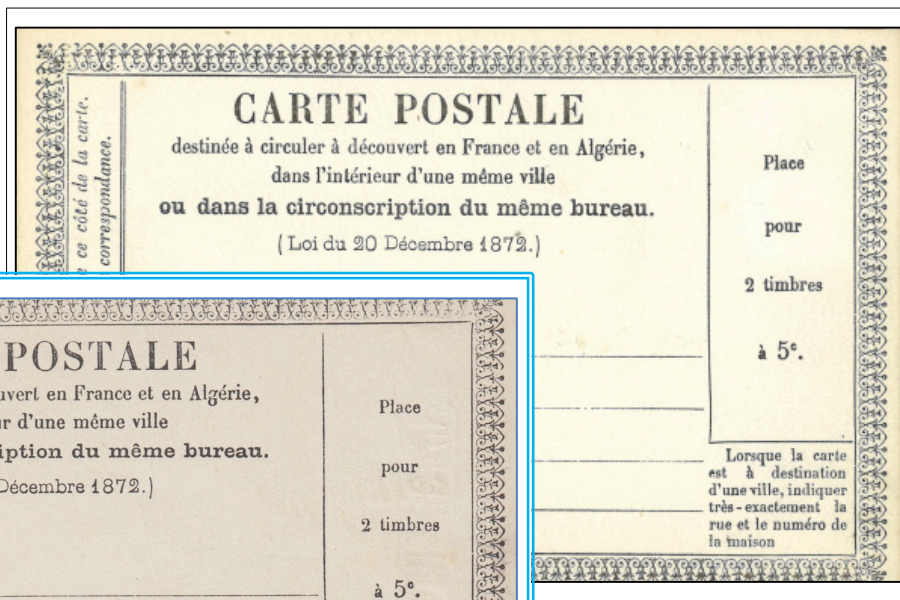
Formular cards No. 1 (H&G)(CEP)

The required postage is given in the large stamp box top right: two 5 centimes stamps for local use within a city or within one office. Subtitles in four lines without any postage given.

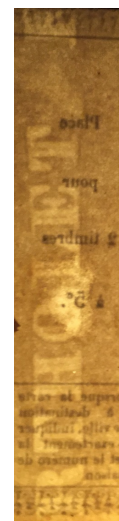
Notes on both sides. Frame type A (CEP).

Card size 121 x 76 mm. White paper.

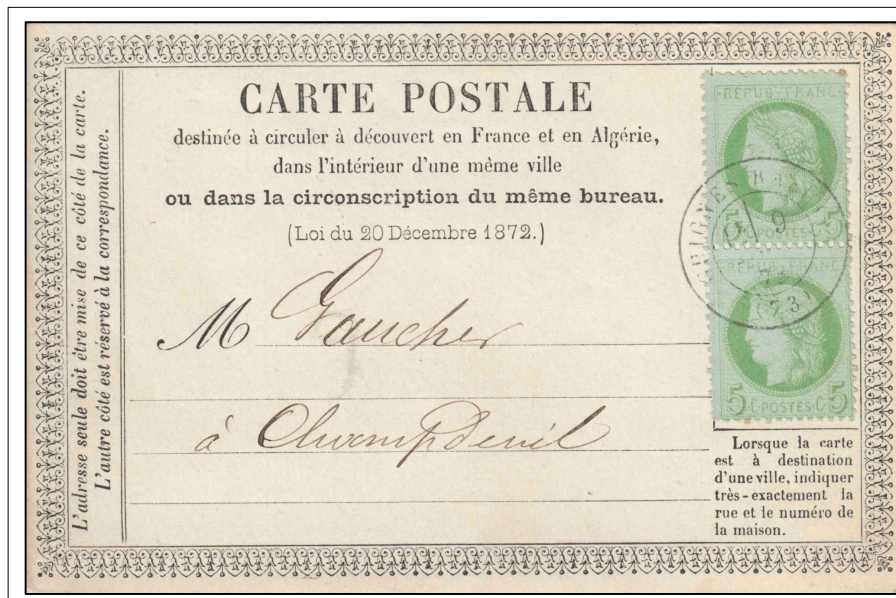
Formular card No. 1 printed on white paper without watermarks.



Formular card No. 1 printed on white paper with a vertical watermark “.. RTHOLET ..”, not known to (S&S) or (H&G).



The first formular card No. 1 (H&G)(CEP) used as intended, with a postage of two 5 centimes stamps for local mail.



References: (CEP)(1965) *Catalogue des Entiers Postaux de France. Cartes postales, carte-lettres, enveloppes et bandes*. Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux (l'ACEP), Paris 1965. 50 pp.
(S&S) Storch, J. & Sinais, B. (2007) *Catalogue des Cartes Postales précurseurs de France et des colonies*. Éditions Bertrand Sinais, 333 pp.

France 1873 - 1st issue - first card – early use and used for domestic mail

France issued a series of ten formular cards (#1-10) during 1873. The size varies a little, 112-117 x 72-75 mm and the frames are always different. The different cards are for different use, locally, between office to office, within the same office etc.

Formular card No. 1, very early used on January 17, 1873, within Paris, two days after being issued.

Postage with a 10 centimes stamp with a star 13 cancellation which is from Hôtel de Ville.

The Paris cancellation is from the post office at Rue de la Tacherie, a few blocks from Hôtel de Ville.

The text in the stamp box says that two 5 centimes stamps should be used. The post offices did not have any recently issued 10 centimes stamp. The stamp used on this card was issued several years earlier.



Formular card No. 1 used for domestic mail, between Le Mans in west central France and Paris, in 1874, with 5 and 10 centimes stamps with a star cancellation.

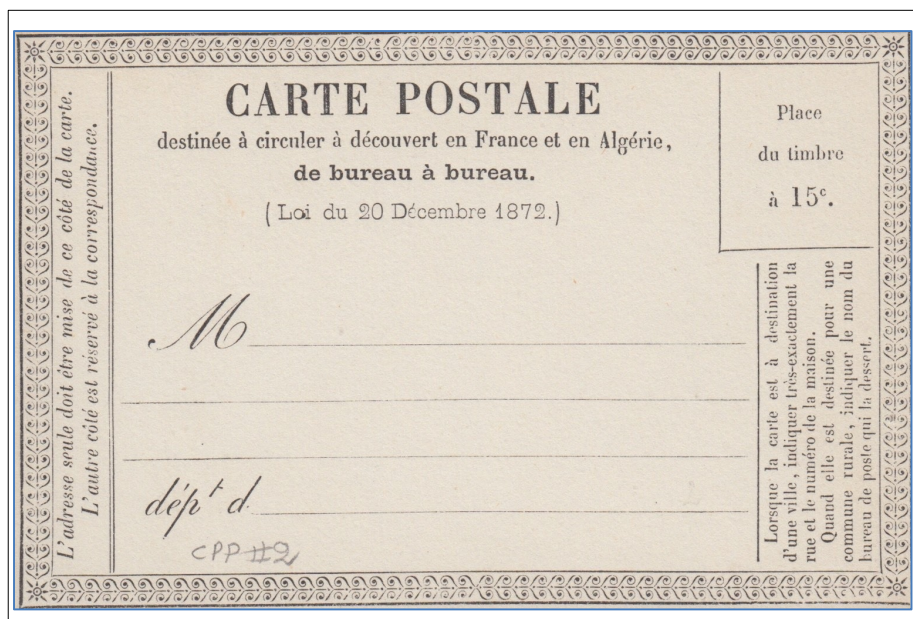
The text in the stamp box says that two 5 centimes stamps should be used and the card was meant to be used within a city. Here it is used between two cities and the postage had to be 15 centimes.

France 1873 - 1st issue - second card

The second card, in the 1st issue, was also issued on January 15, 1873.

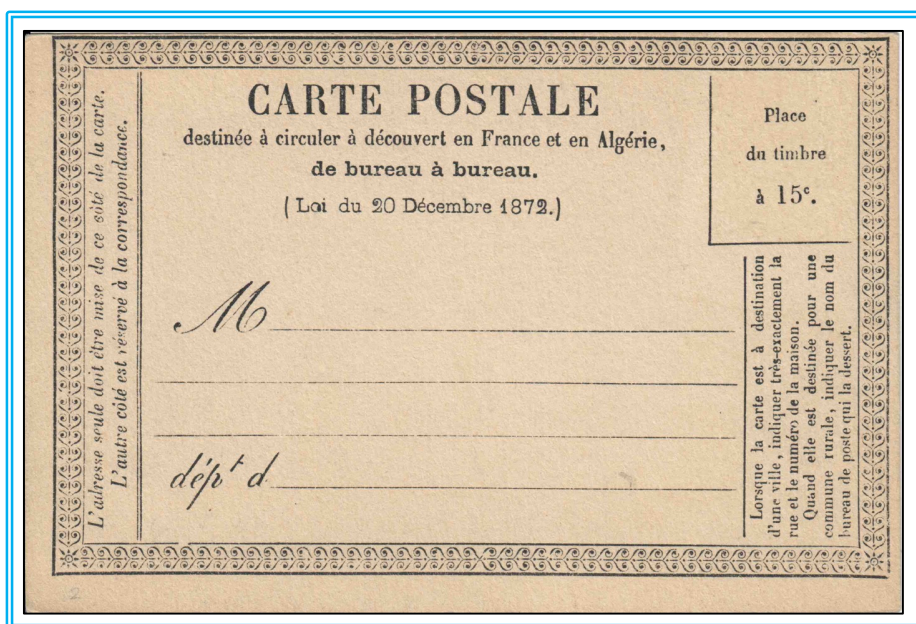
Formular card No. 2.

The required postage is given in the stamp box top right: 15 centimes for use between offices.
Subtitles in three lines. Notes on both sides. Frame type B (CEP). Card size 116 x 75 mm.



Formular card No. 2 with the text in the stamp box saying "Place for a stamp of 15 centimes".

This card is printed on white paper.



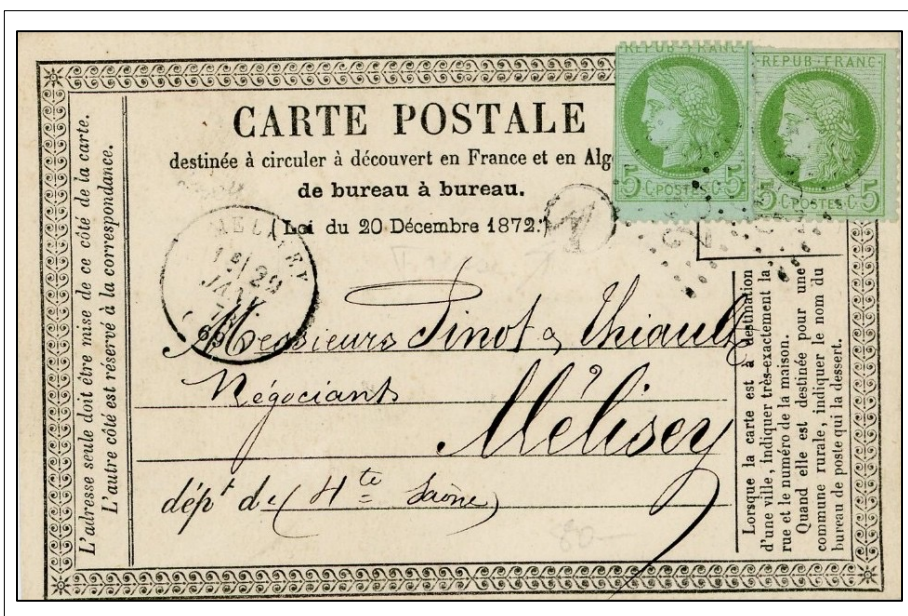
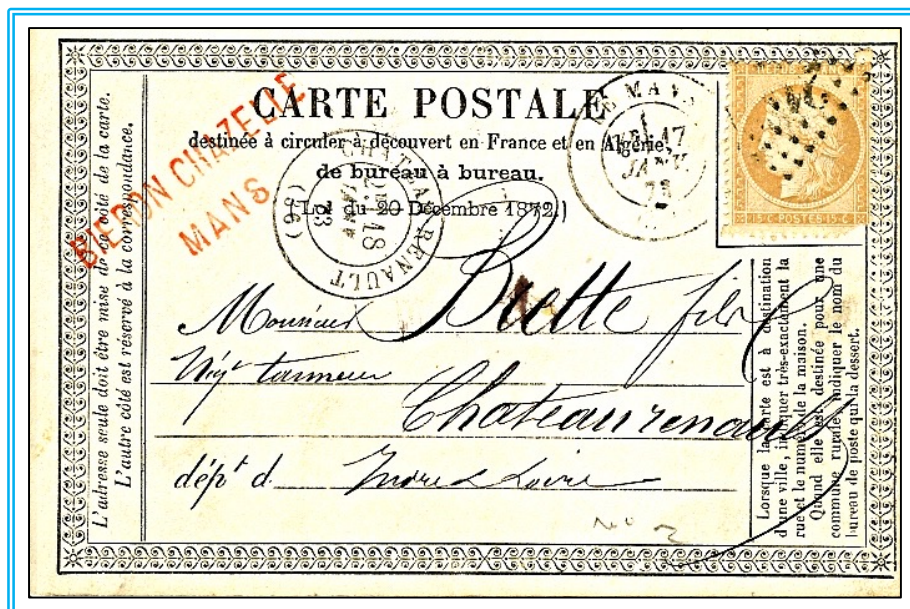
Formular card No. 2 printed on brown paper, not known to (S & S).

France 1873 - 1st issue - second card - used for domestic and local mail

The second card, in the 1st issue, was issued on January 15, 1873.

Formular card No. 2 used very early, two days after the card was issued, on January 17, 1873, between Le Mans and Chateau Renault in west central France.

The postage is correct, 15 centimes.
The card carries a star cancellation.



Formular card No. 2 intended for domestic mail with a stamp box for one 15 centimes stamp.

This card was used in January 1873 for local mail with two 5 c stamps for the correct postage of 10 centimes.

References: (CEP)(1965) Catalogue des Entiers Postaux de France. Cartes postales, carte-lettres, enveloppes et bandes. Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux (l'ACEP), Paris 1965. 50 pp.

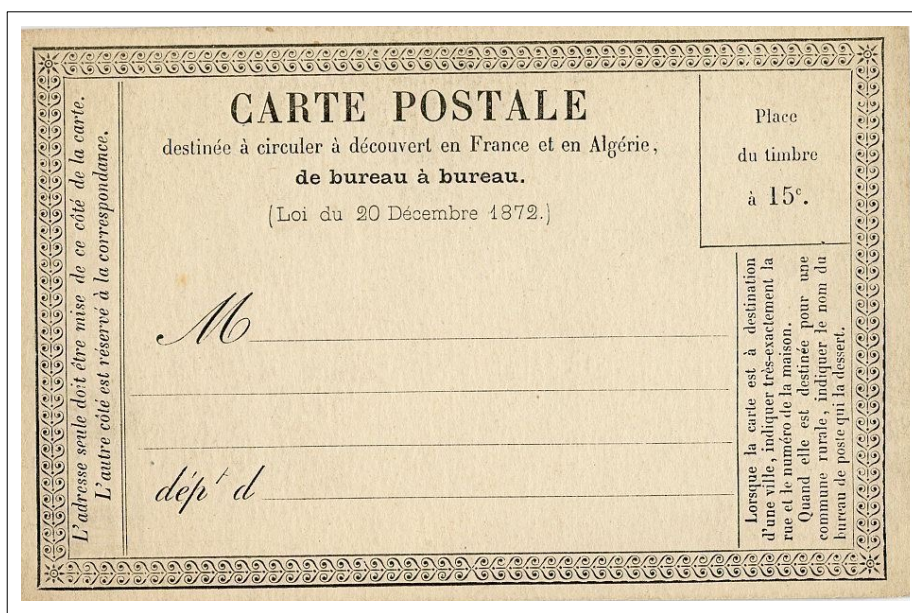
(S&S) Storch, J. & Sinais, B. (2007) Catalogue des Cartes Postales précurseurs de France et des colonies. Éditions Bertrand Sinais, 333 pp.

France 1873 - 1st issue - second card; watermarks

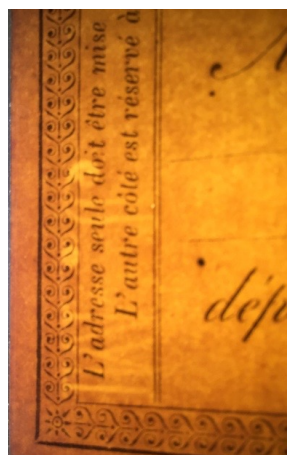
The second card, in the 1st issue, was also printed on papers with watermarks.

Formular cards No. 2, with watermarked paper

The required postage is given in the stamp box top right: 15 centimes for use between offices. Subtitles in three lines. Notes on both sides. Frame type B (CEP). Card size 116 x 75 mm. White paper.



Formula card No. 2 printed on white paper with watermark "J.M." from "J.M.Aussedat" (S&S).



Formula card No. 2 with watermark "...ANSON & MO.", not known to (S&S) or (H&G).



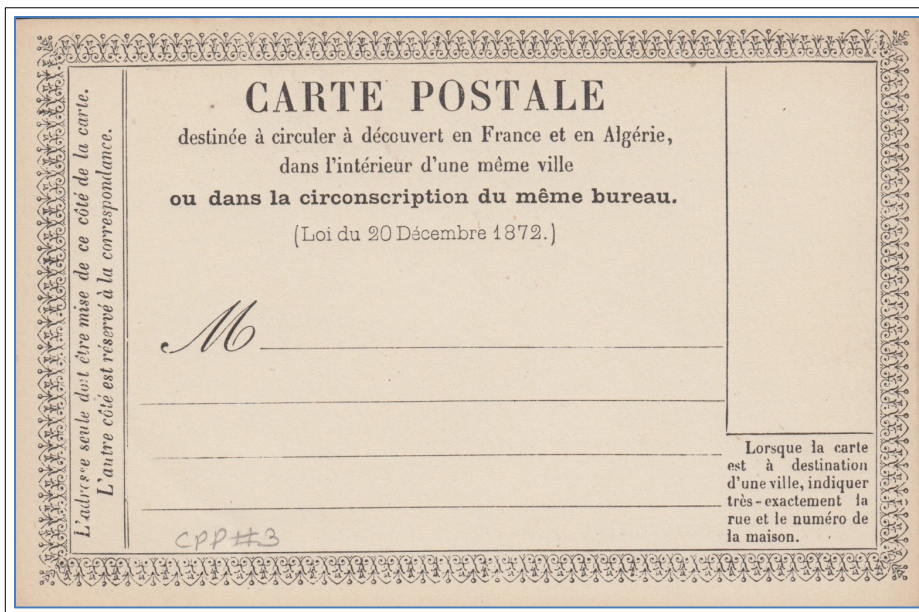
This card was used in September 1873 between Bordeaux and St Genis with a (correct) postage of 15 centimes.



France 1873 - 2nd issue – card #3

Card #3 was also printed by *Imprimerie Nationale* and issued on February 2, 1873, according to (S&S); on February 4, 1873 according to Maury (1907).

Formular card No. 3, similar to #1, but the required postage is now not given in the stamp box. The large stamp box top right has space for two stamps: The card is for local use within a city or within one office. Subtitles in four lines without any postage given. Frame type A (CEP). Notes on both sides. Card size 124 x 81 mm.



Formular card No. 3, used as intended as local mail within Paris, with two 5 c stamps.

The experience from the first card was, obviously, that many people used one old 10 centimes stamp instead of the two 5c stamps that was said in the stamp box of card #1. Now, this limitation was removed, after just a few weeks.

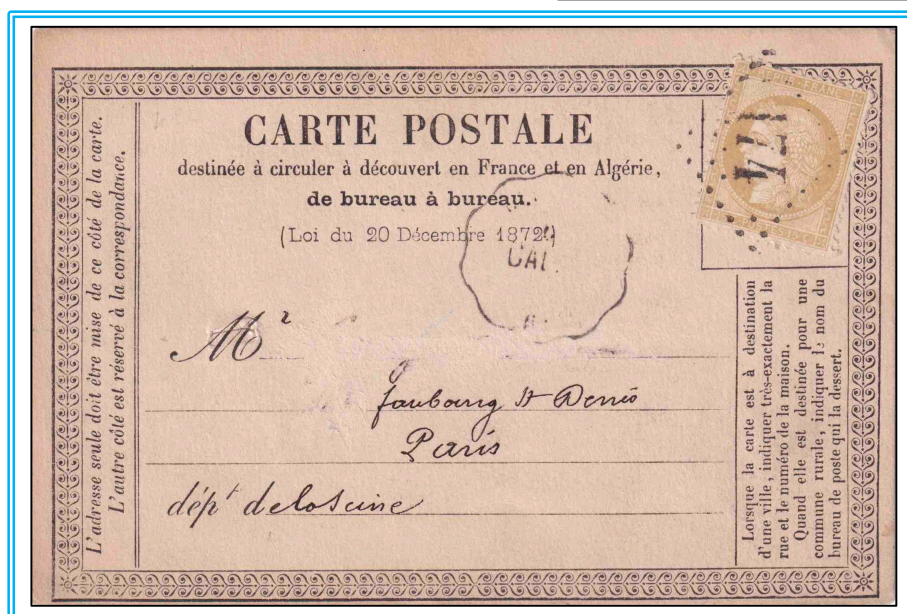
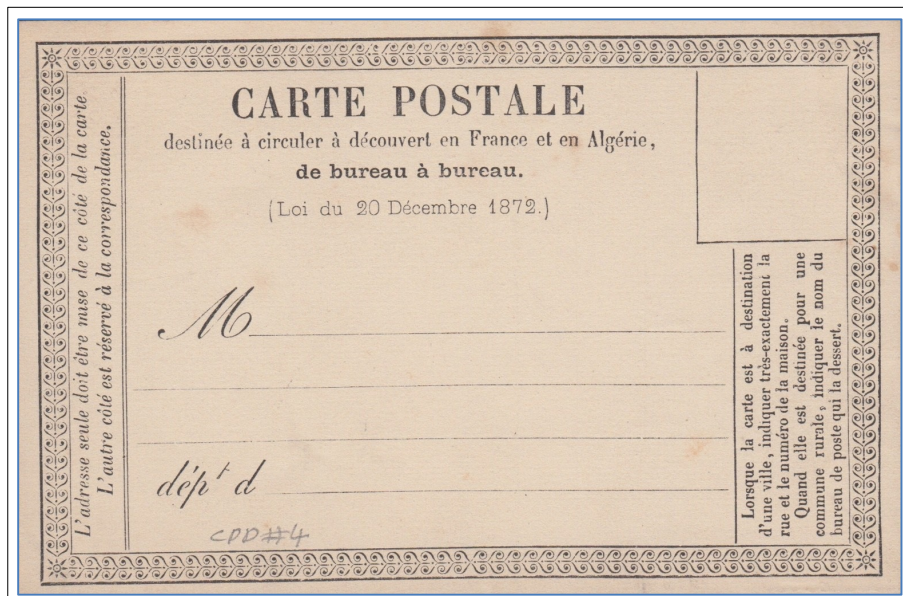
This card was used in early February 1873 within Paris, with a postage for local mail of one 10 c stamp.



France 1873 - 2nd issue – card #4 (and #3) – France 3 domestic mail

Card #4 was also printed by *Imprimerie Nationale* and issued on February 2, 1873, according to (S&S); on February 4, 1873 according to Maury (1907).

Formular card No. 4, similar to #2 but the required postage is now not given in the stamp box. For use between offices. Subtitles in three lines without any postage given. A small stamp box with space for one stamp. Frame type B (CEP). Notes on both sides.
Card size 121 x 79 mm.



This card No. 4 was used already on February 6, 1873, between Pas-de-Calais and Paris, with a correct postage of 15 centimes. The date on the back side:

Licres le 6 février 1873

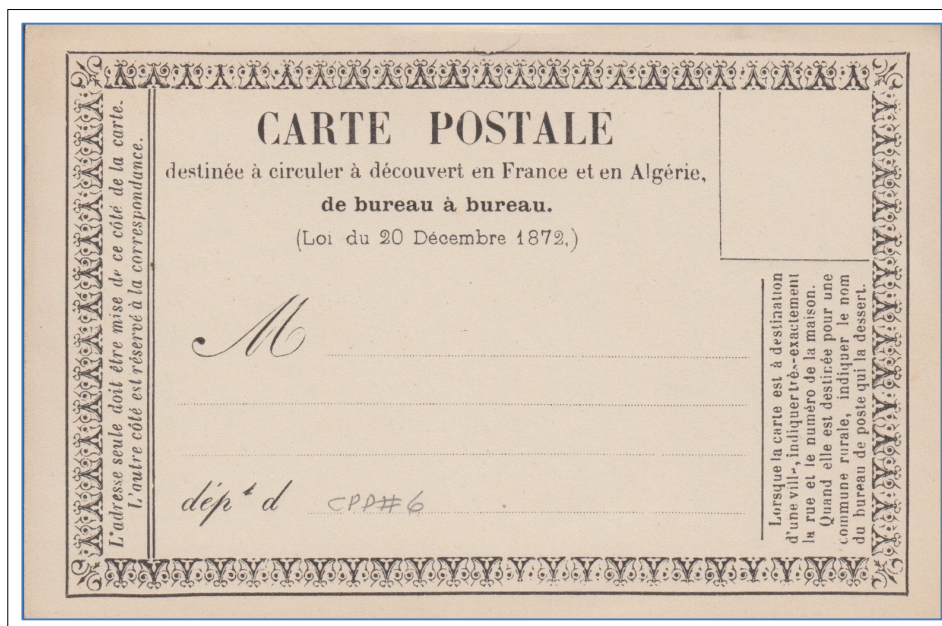
Formular card #3, meant for local mail but used for domestic mail. Sent in February 1873 from Meursault in Bourgogne to Tarascon in south-east France. A correct postage of 15 centimes in a stamp box meant for two 5 c stamps.



Formular card No. 5, printed by D.Hutinet (S&S), issued in February 1873 (S&S). The required postage (10c.) is again not given but the large stamp box has space for two stamps: The card is for local use within a city or within one post office. Subtitles in four lines without any postage given. Frame type C (CEP), with diamonds in the corners. Notes on both sides. Card size 120 x 80 mm.

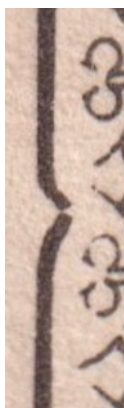
France 1873 - 3rd issue – card #6

Formular card No. 6, also printed by D.Hutinet, issued in February 1873 (S&S). The required postage (15c.) is not given in the stamp box. For use between (post) offices. Notes on both sides. Subtitles in three lines without any postage given. Frame type D (CEP), with lilies in the corners. Large card size: 126 x 82 mm.



This card #6 was used very early, on January 26, 1873, to Lyon. This is earlier than (S&S) says.

This card #6 has a “dimple” in the left outer frame.



France 1873 – 4th issue – card #9

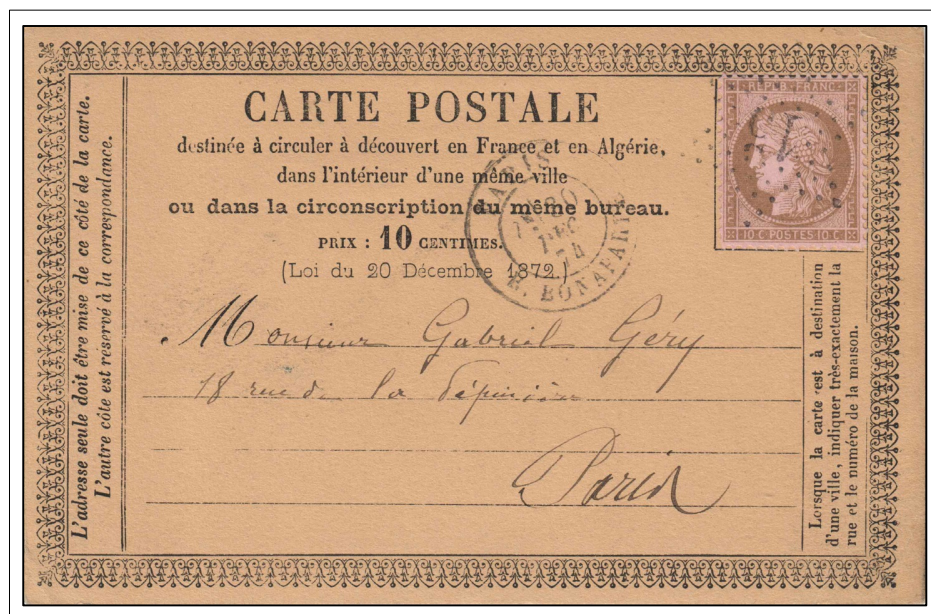
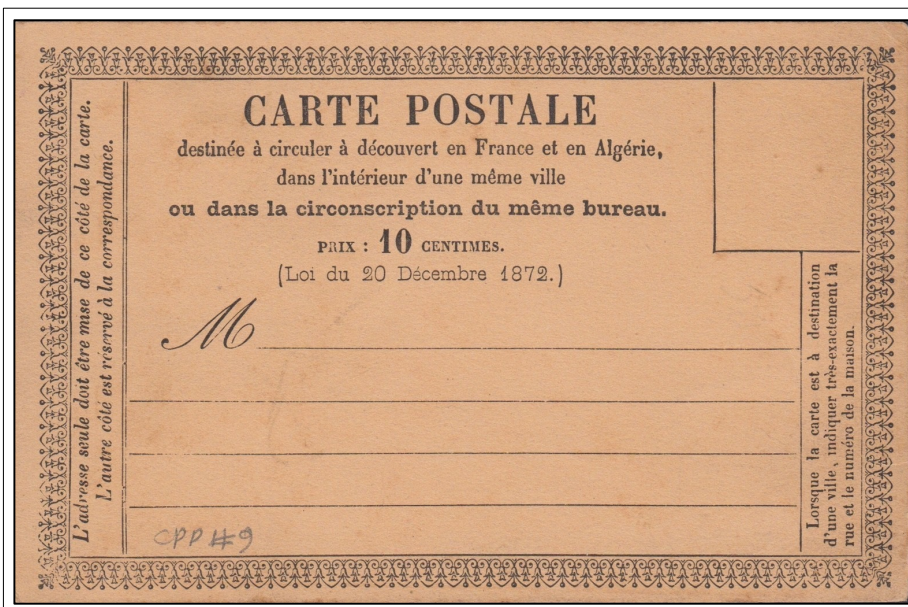
Cards #9 and #10 were also printed by *Imprimerie Nationale*, according to (S&S) and Maury (1907).

Formular card No. 9, issued on February 19, 1873 (S&S (2007), Maury (1907)).

Subtitles in five lines with the required postage is given in the text: 10 centimes for local use within a city or within one office. Frame type A (CEP), with a flower in the corners.

Notes on both sides. Card size 122 x 79 mm. Buff coloured paper.

NOTE: The original numbering were wrong; cards No. 9 & 10 were issued before cards No. 7 & 8 (S&S).



Formular card No. 9, used as intended as local mail within Paris with a postage of 10 centimes.

Formular card No. 9, meant for local use, used in May 1873 with 5 centimes postage added for domestic mail from Paris to Cognac.



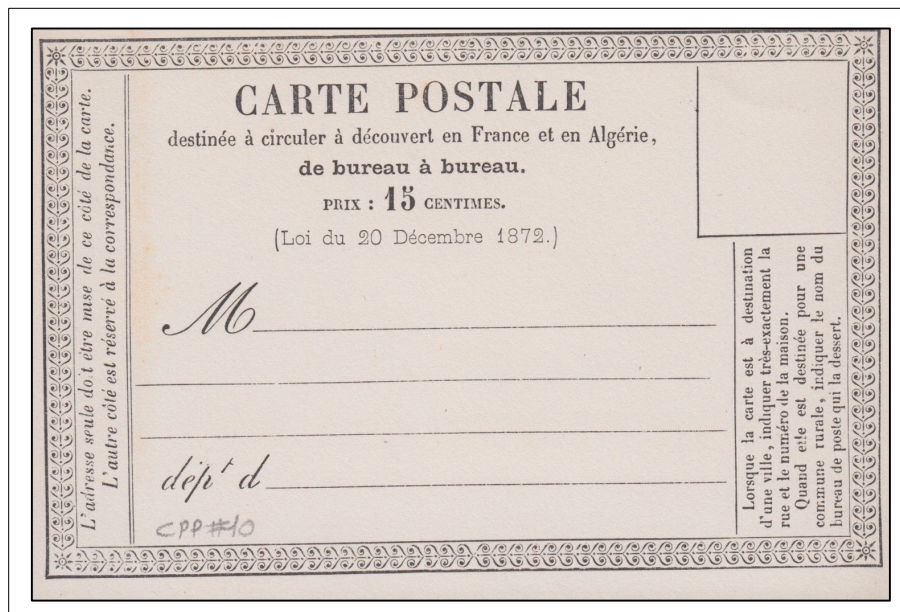
France 1873 – 4th issue – Card #10

Card #10 was also printed by *Imprimerie Nationale*, according to (S&S) and Maury (1907).

Formular card No. 10, issued on February 19, 1873 (S&S (2007), Maury (1907)).

Subtitles in four lines with the required postage is given in the text: 15 centimes for use between offices. Frame type B (CEP), with a star in the corners. Notes on both sides. Card size 120 x 80 mm.

NOTE: The original numbering were wrong; cards No. 9 & 10 were issued before cards No. 7 & 8 (S&S).



Formular card No. 10, used on January 17, 1873, long before the date of issue (S&S), from Bar-le-Duc to Rouen, with a postage of 15 centimes for domestic mail.

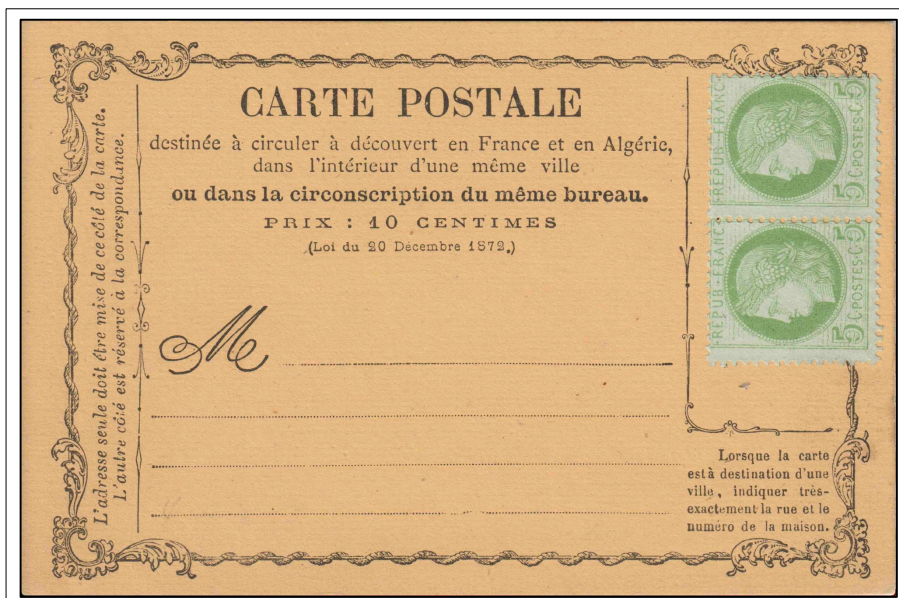
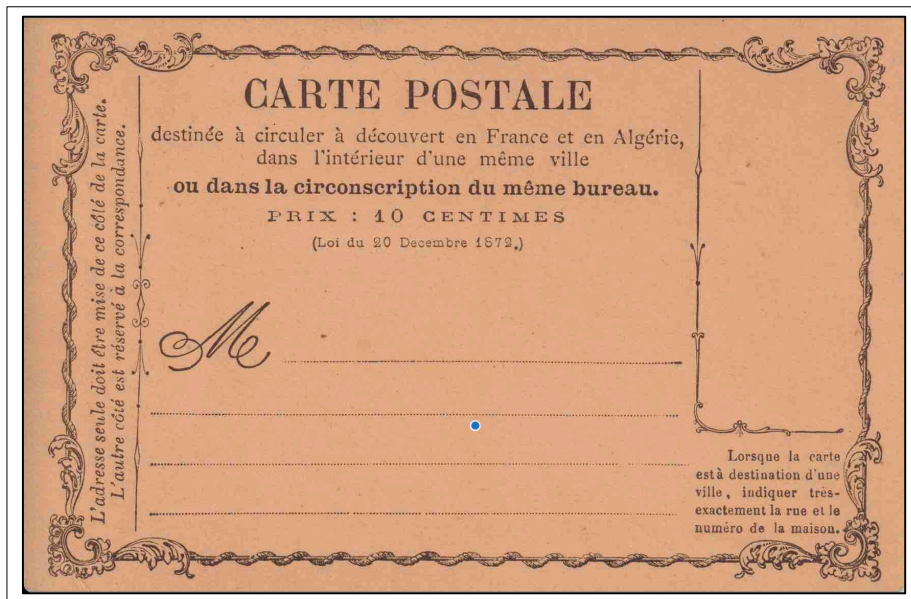
Formular card No. 10, late used to England, from Haute-Garonne in south-west France to South Devon in south-west England, with a postage of 15 centimes.



France 1873 - 5th issue – Card #7

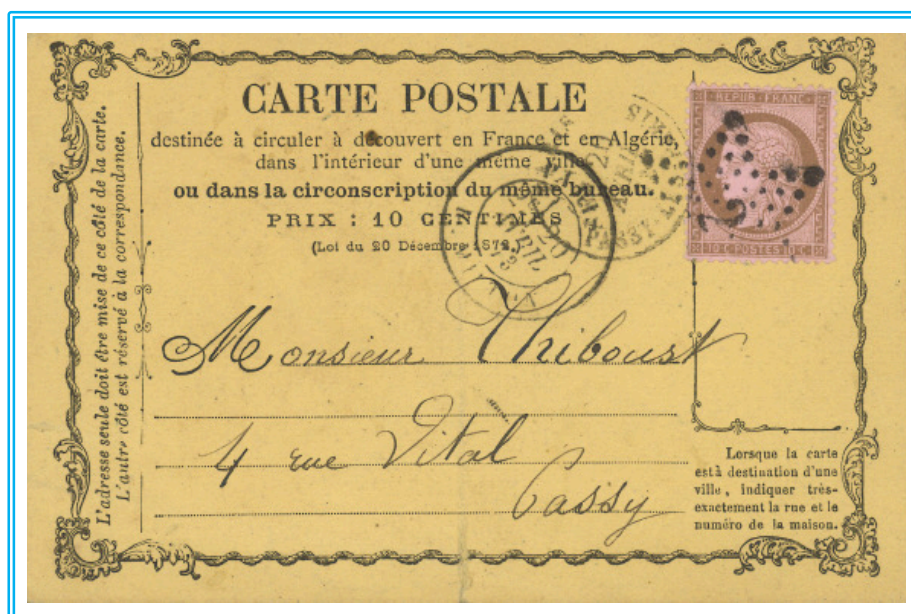
Formular card No. 7, issued in May 1873 according to (S&S) & Maury (1907).

The required postage is now, again, given: 10 centimes. The large stamp box top right has space for two stamps: The card is for local use within a city or within one post office. Subtitles in five lines with the postage given. Notes on both sides. Frame type E (CEP). Card size 120 x 78 mm. Thick, deep yellow coloured paper.



Formular card No. 7, with the intended use of two 5 centimes stamps in the large stamp box for local mail.

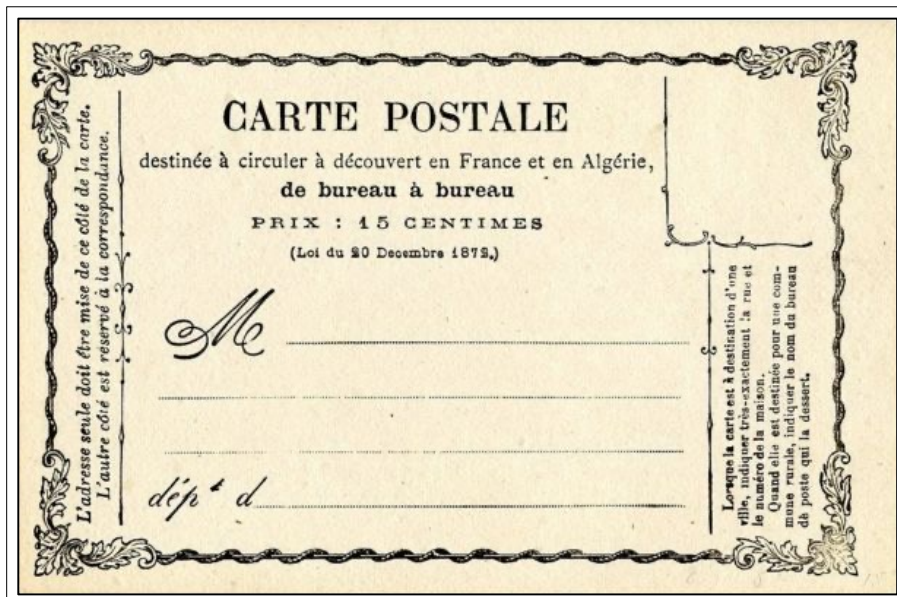
Formular card No. 7, used on April 20, 1873, long before the known date of issue (S&S, Maury), with a 10 centimes stamp within Paris.



France 1873 - 5th issue – Card #8.

Formular card No. 8, issued in May 1873 according to (S&S) and Maury (1907).

Subtitles in four lines giving the required postage: 15 centimes for use between post offices. Frame type E (CEP). Notes on both sides. Card size 120 x 78 mm. Thick, white paper.



Formular card No. 8, used already on March 15, 1873, long before the known date of issue (S&S, Maury), with a 15 centimes stamp from Bar-le-Duc in south-west France to Bordeaux.

Formular card No. 8, sent from Philippeville in Algeria in 1873 to southern France, with a correct postage of 15 centimes.

Cards used from Algeria in 1873 are rare.



France 1874 - 6th issue



Formular card No.11, issued in January 1874 (S&S) or February (Maury); privately printed (S&S).

Subtitles in five lines giving the required postage: 10 centimes for use for local use within a city or within one post office. The stamp box top right has space for one stamp. Frame type E (CEP). No notes. Card size 120 x 78 mm. Buff coloured paper.

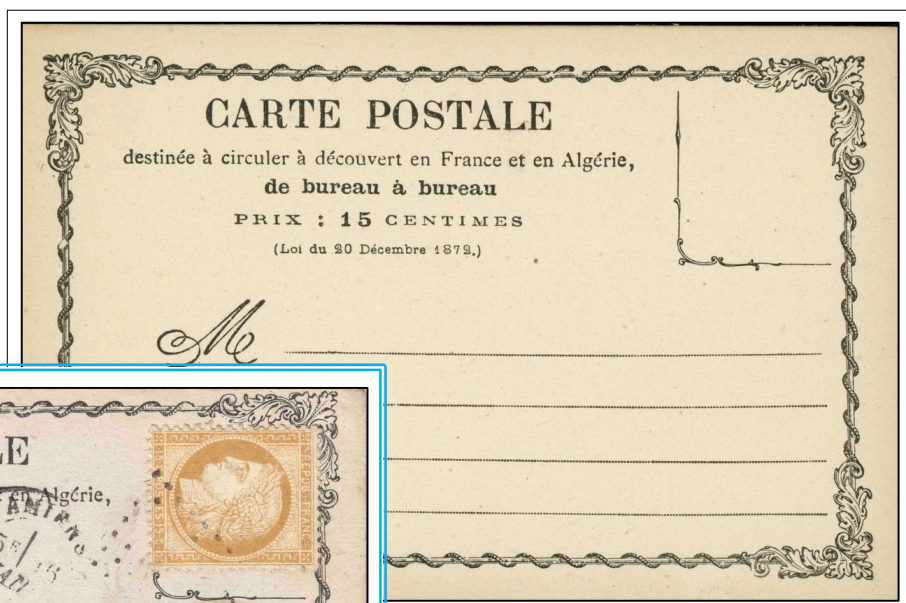
Formular card No. 11, used within Paris in December 1874, with a 10 centimes stamp.



Formular card No. 12, Issued in January 1874 or February (Maury); privately printed (S&S).

Subtitles in four lines with the required postage given in the text: 15 centimes for use between post offices.

Frame type E (CEP). No notes. Card size 122 x 79 mm. White paper.



Formular card No. 12, very early used in northern France on January 16, 1874, with a postage of 15 centimes.