

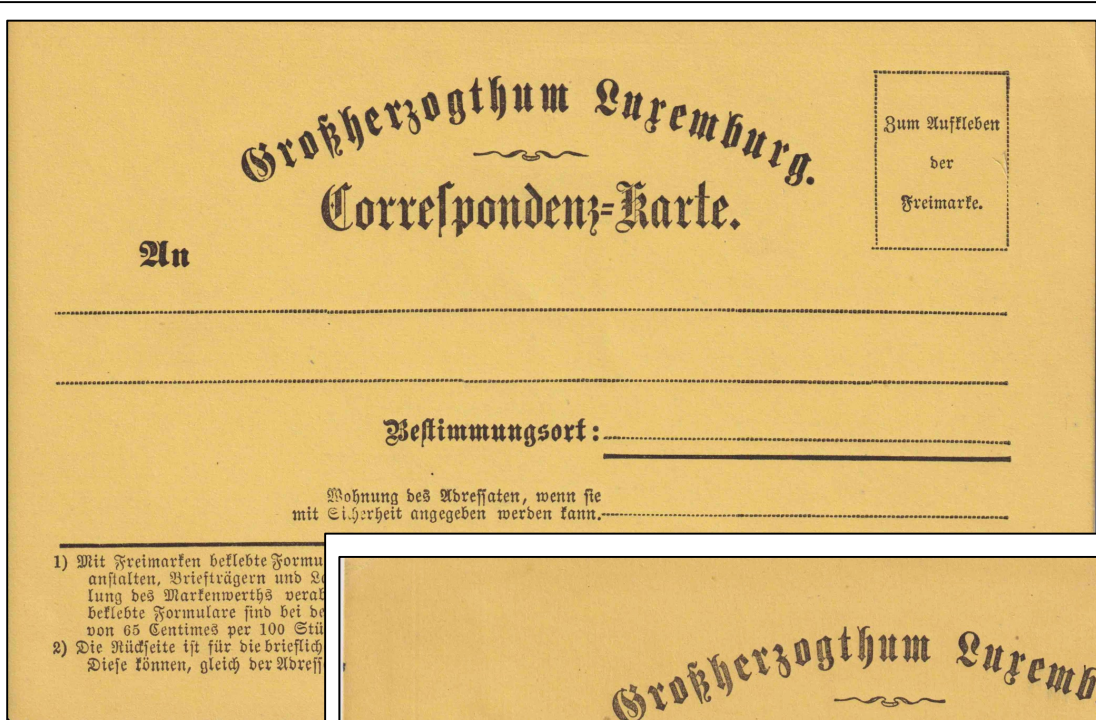
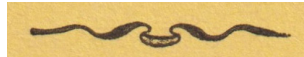
Luxemburg 1873 – third card, in German – type I & II

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).

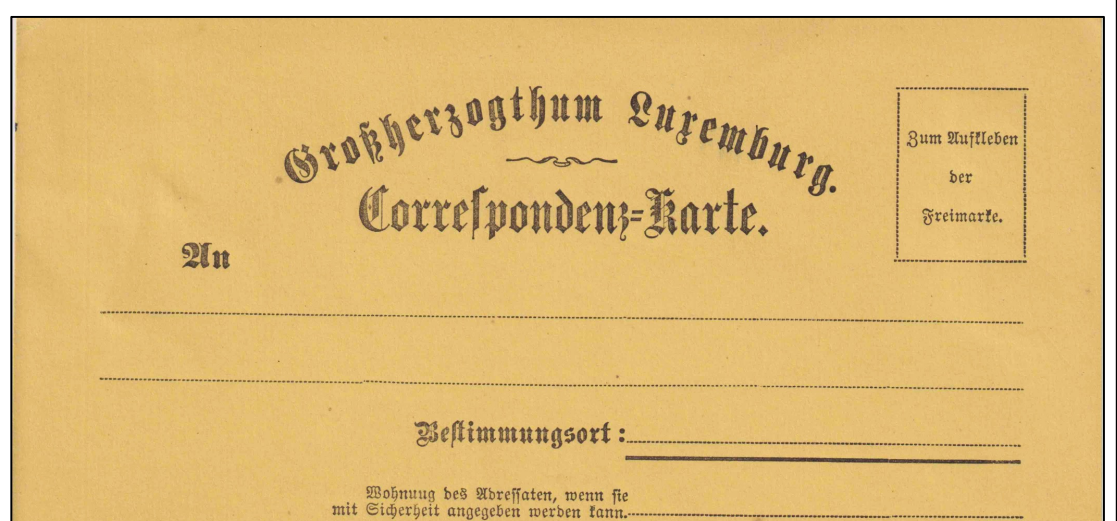
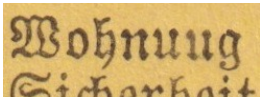
The cards #3 were also printed by T. Schroell in Luxemburg (M).

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.

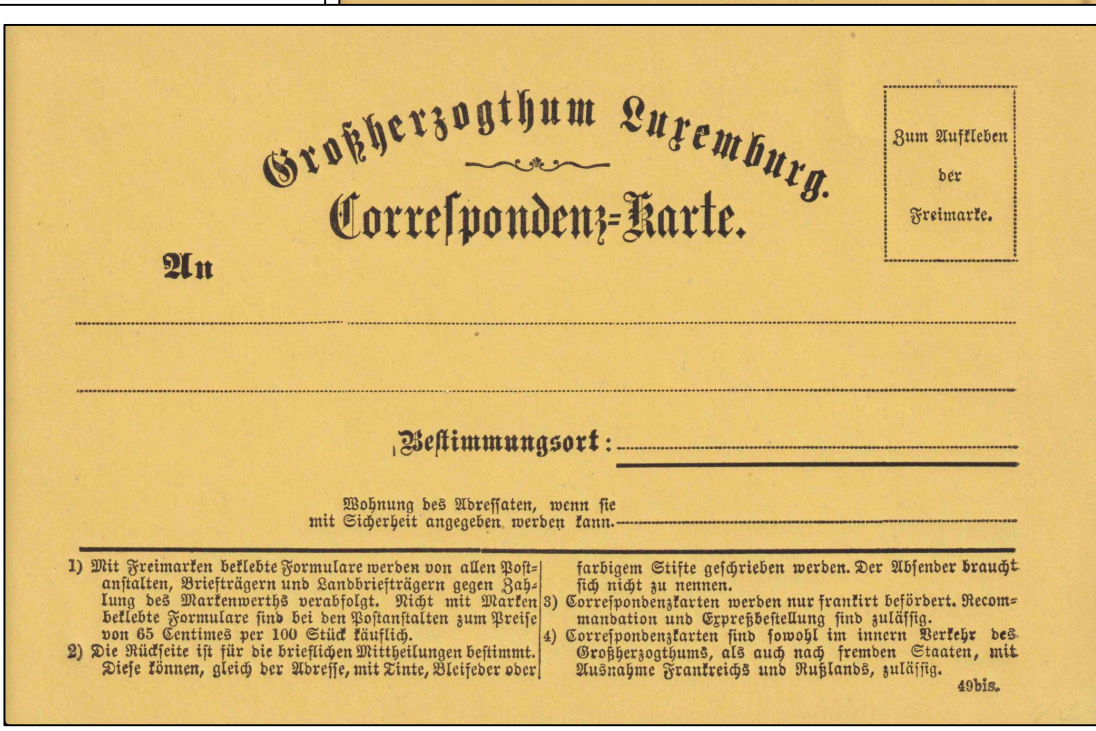
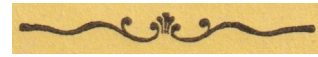


This card type I is a variety; it has a printing error: "Wohnung" on the last address line is spelled "Wohnuug":



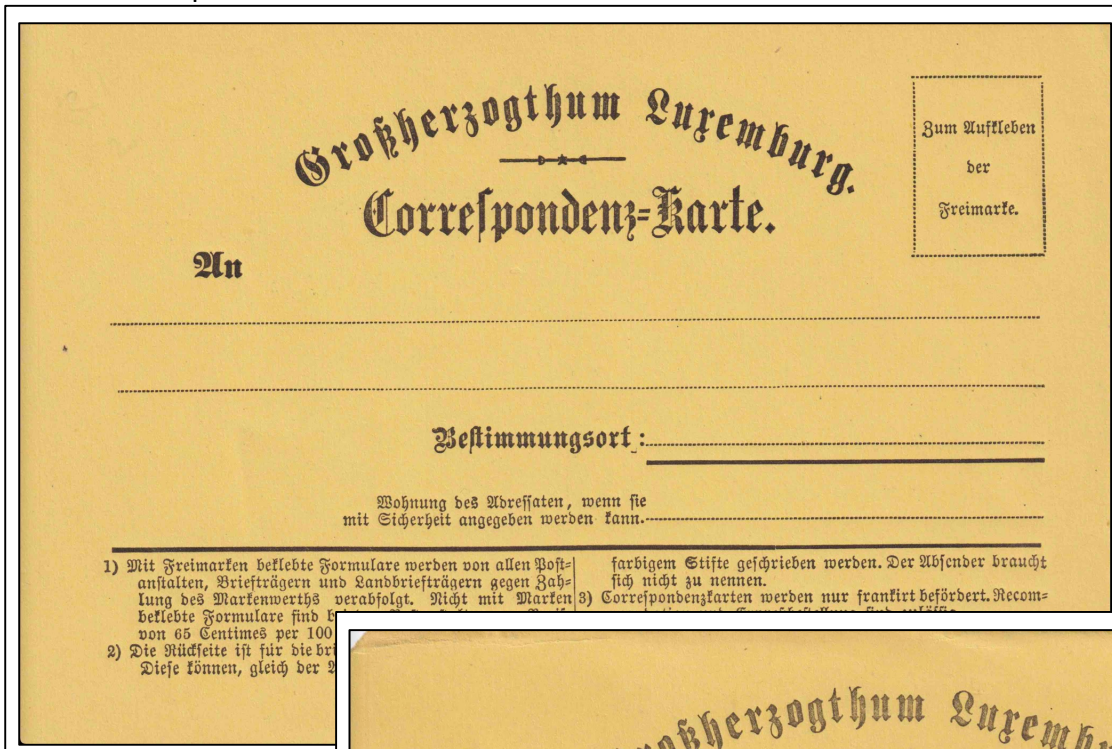
werden. Der Absender braucht nur frankirt befördert. Recommendation sind zulässig. sowohl im innern Verkehr des Reichs als auch nach fremden Staaten, mit Ausnahme Frankreichs und Rußlands, zulässig. 49bis.

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.



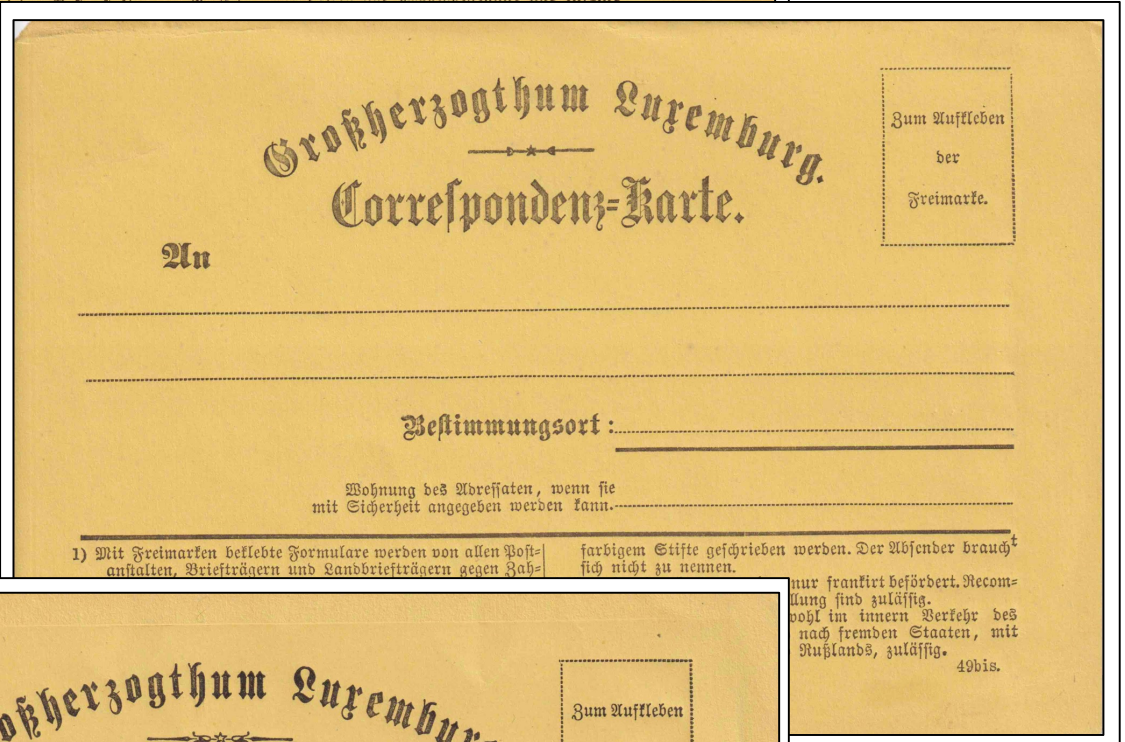
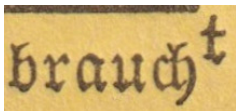
The third card type III (F), type 4 (M) and H&G #5, with an ornamentation below the first line of two simple spears and a filled star in the centre.



The dot after the "g" in the top line is angular on card type III, not round:

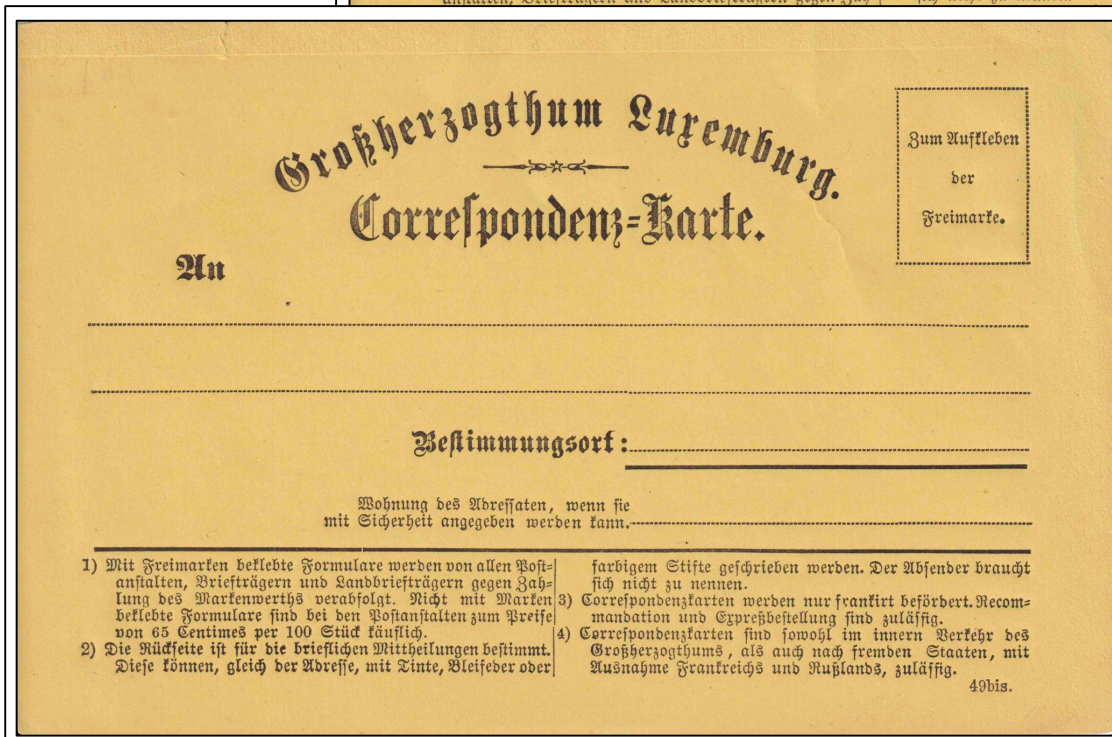
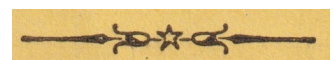


This card is a variety; the "t" in *braucht*, at the end of the top line of the notes is shifted vertically.



nur frankirt befördert. Recommendation sind zulässig. sowohl im innern Verkehr des nach fremden Staaten, mit Rußlands, zulässig. 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.



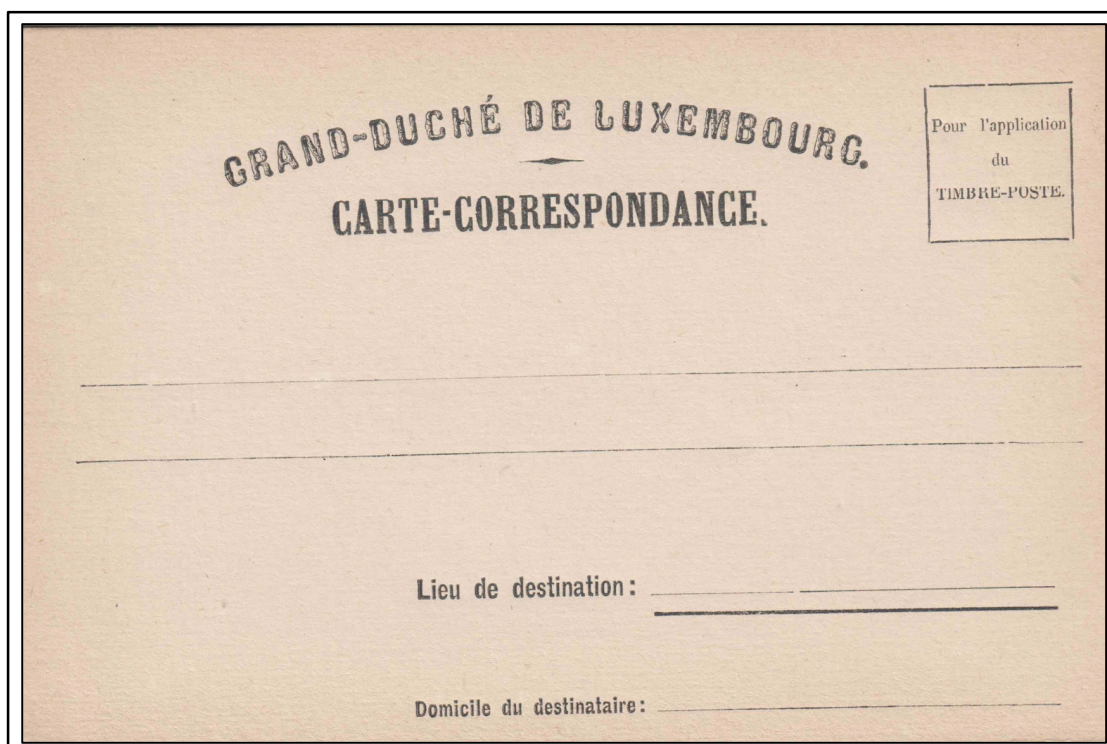
Luxemburg 1873 – card H&G 3 - varieties

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.

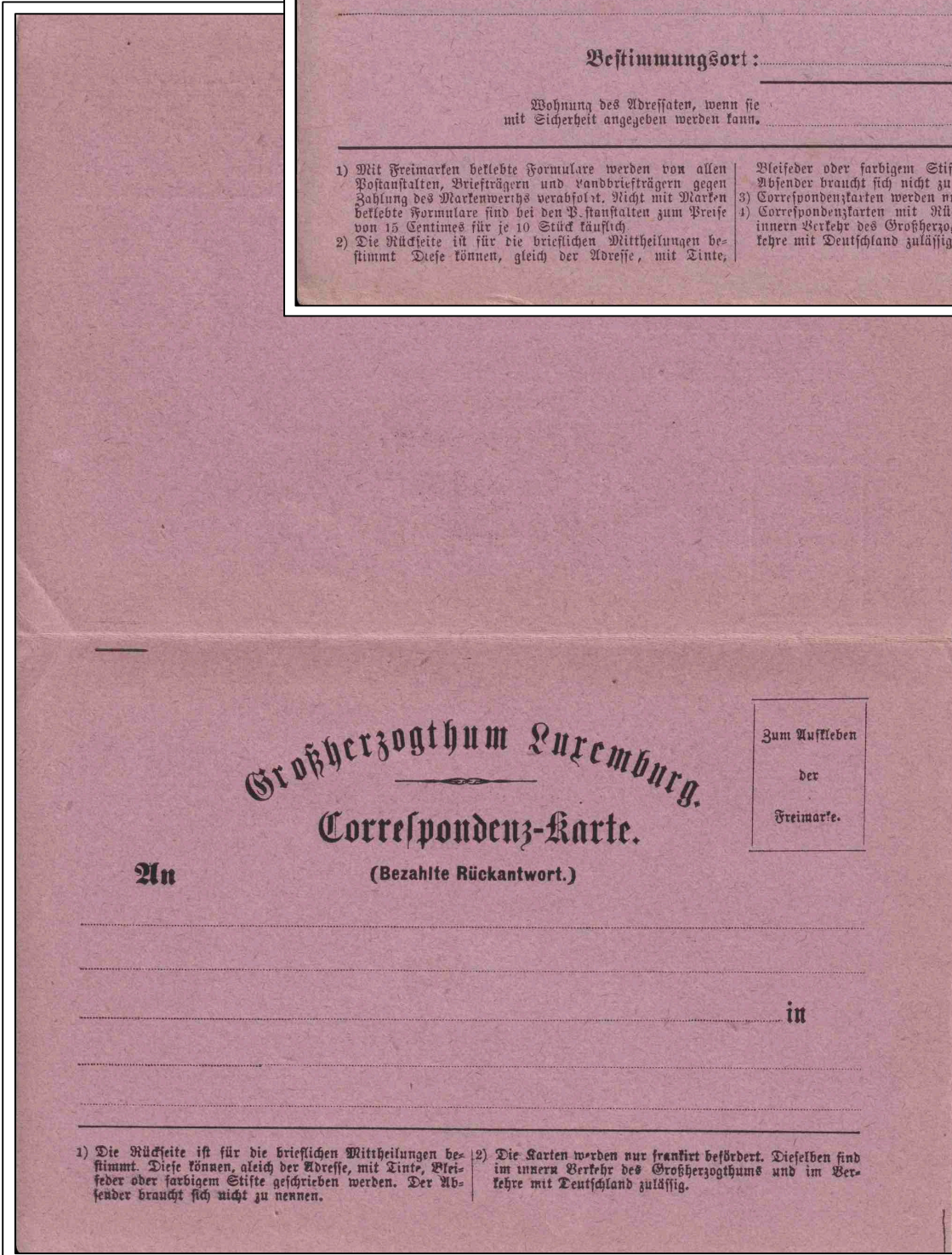
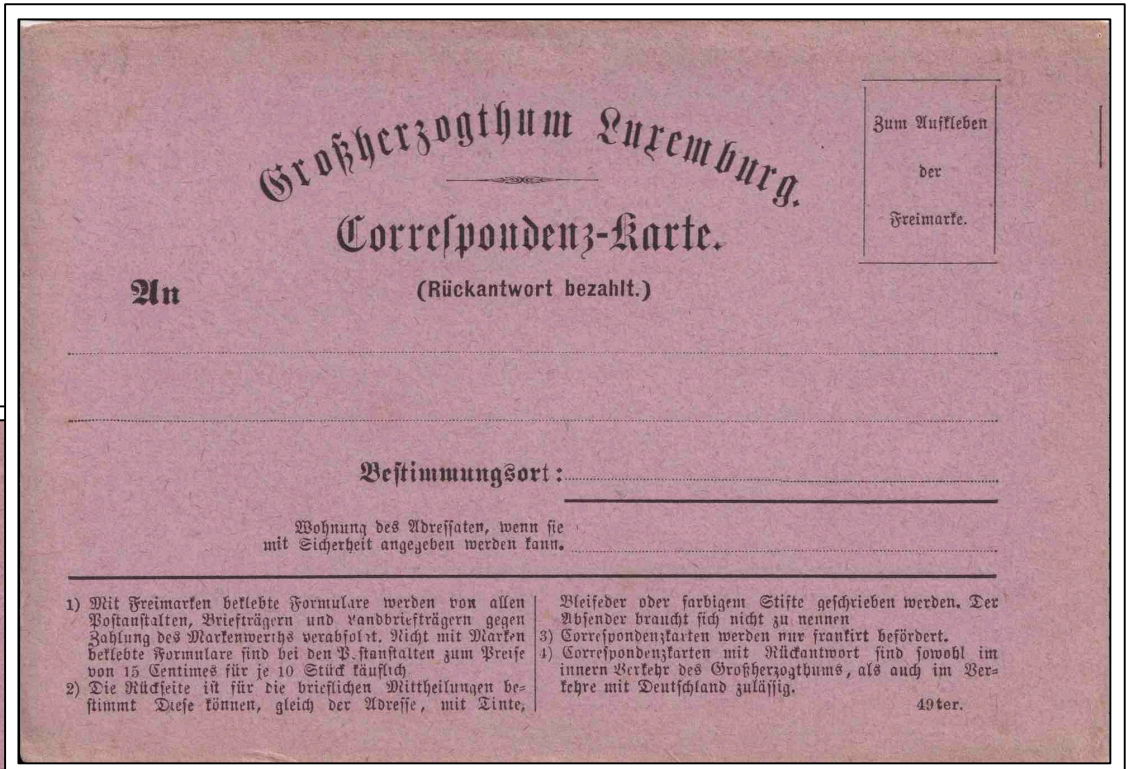
Luxemburg 1873 - double cards - type A

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.



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.

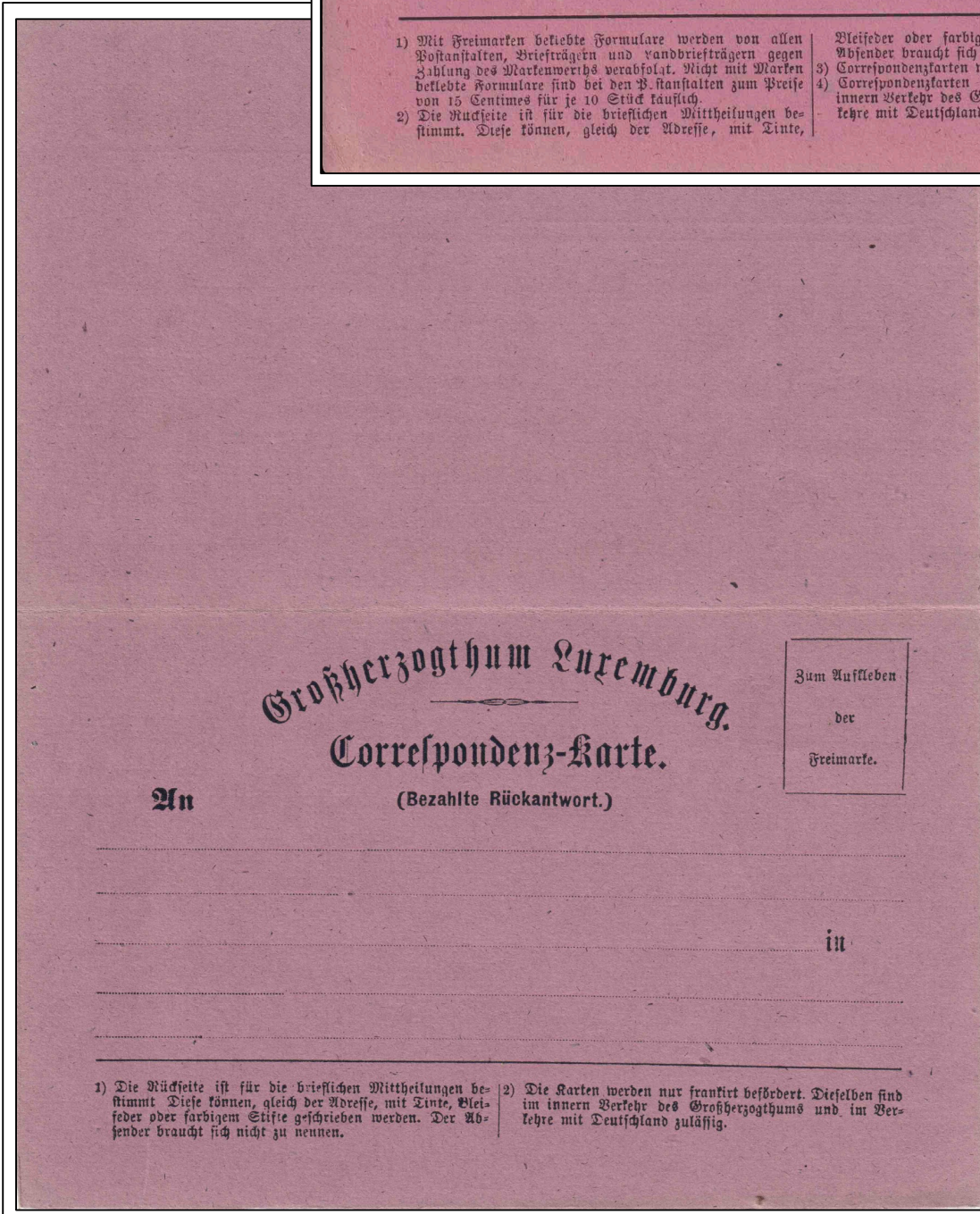
Cards type A have cutting and/or folding marks. The size is large: 149-150 x 96-101 mm.

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.

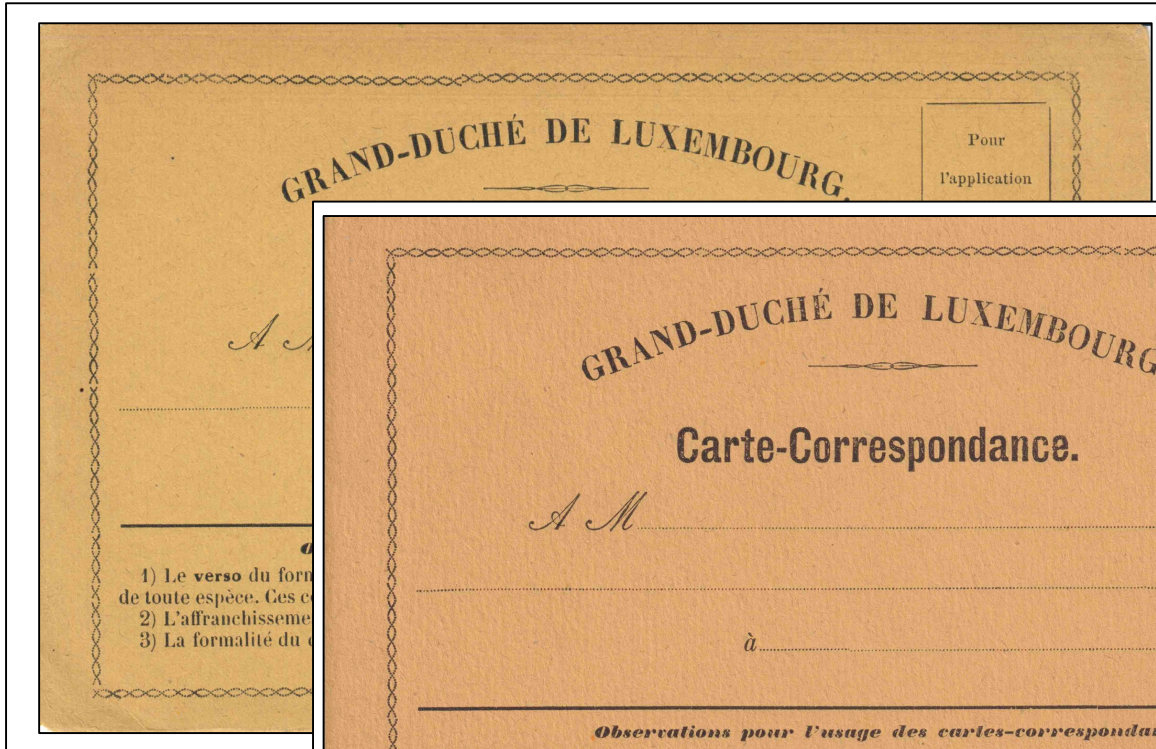
The postage for double-cards, from January 31, 1873, was 10+10 centimes within Luxemburg and 6+6 centimes for mail to Germany (U). For domestic mail it was reduced to 5 centimes on January 1, 1874.

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.

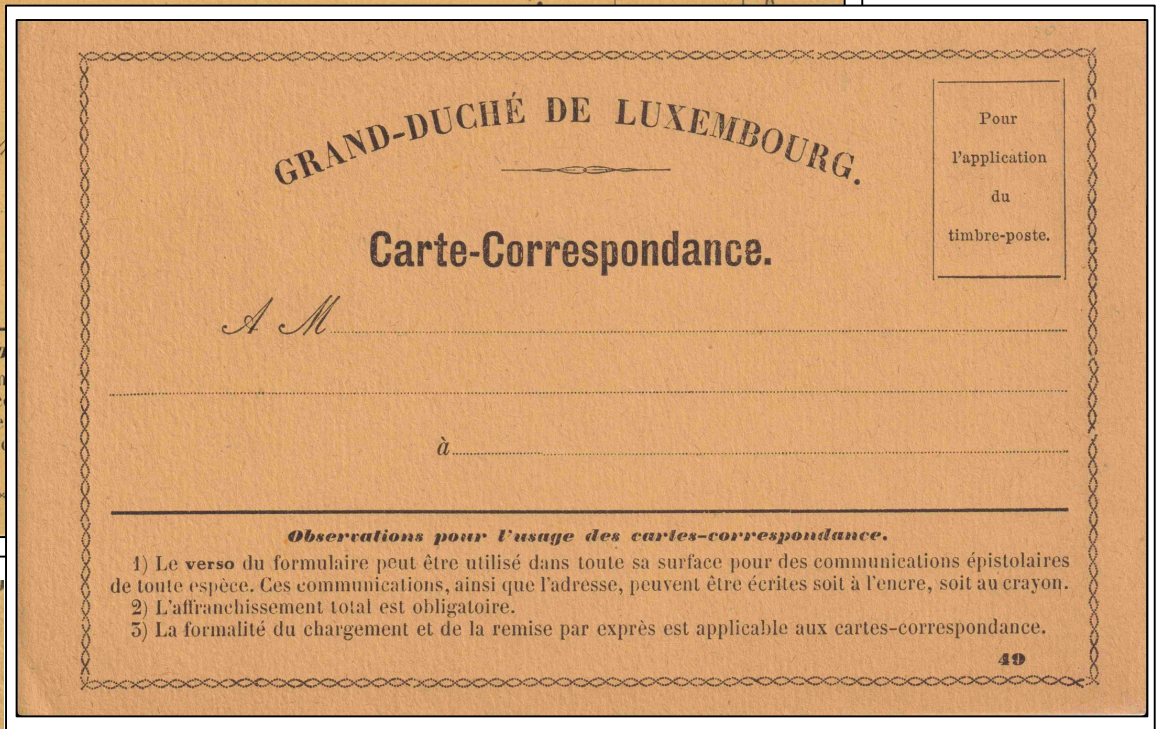
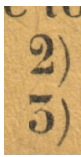
Luxemburg - January 1874 - fourth single card, in French

The Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg 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.



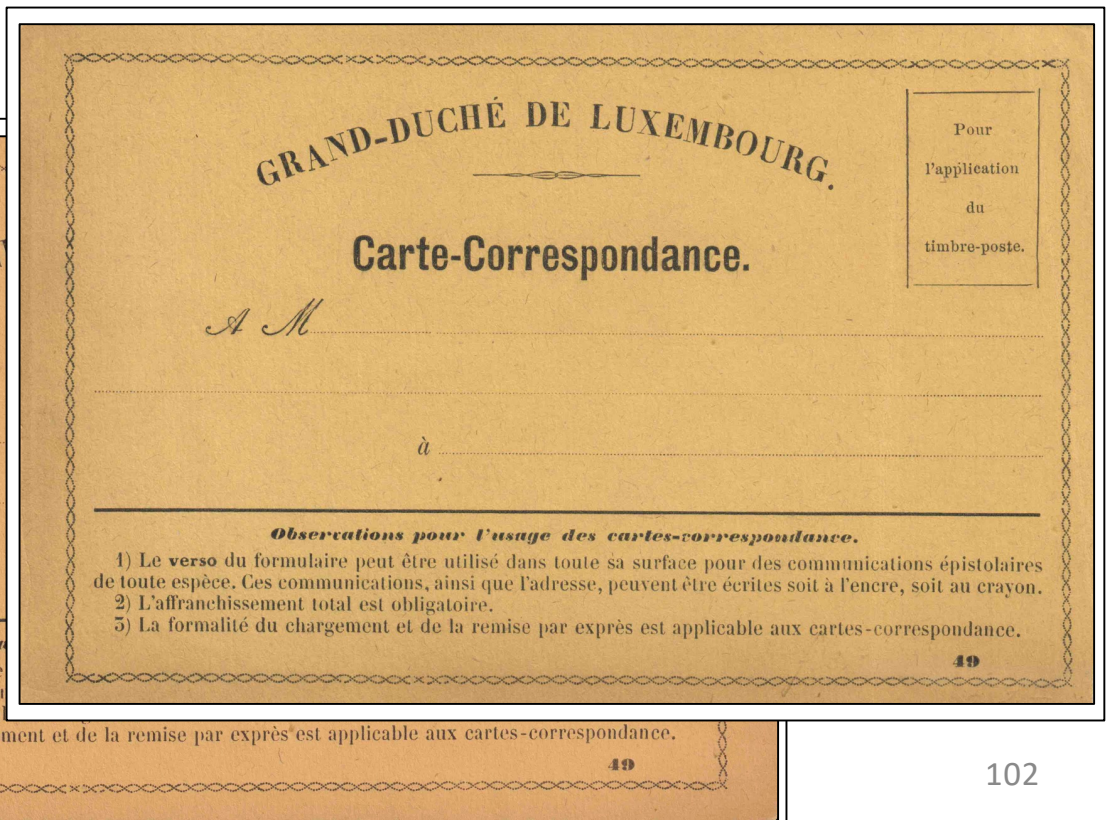
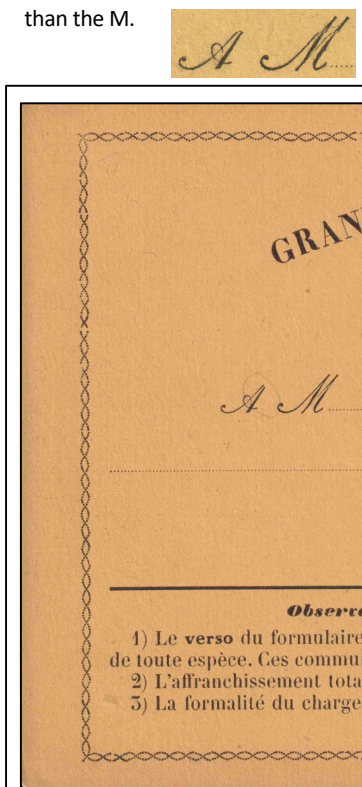
This card is #4, type I (F) and H&G #8; the letters A and M in the first address line have the same size and the digit 3 in the third note has a rounded top.

This card is #4, type II (F) and H&G #8a; the digit 3 in the third note has a flat top.



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

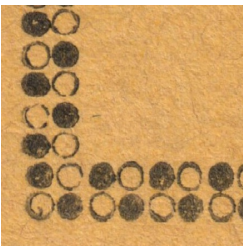
The second card 1874 was in German, with a new frame of black and yellow balls. The cards were printed by P. Bruck in Luxemburg (M) on orange-yellow paper. A formular number "49bis" is printed in the bottom right. The card has four notes at the bottom in two columns, without a headline. The card was issued on February 10, 1874.

This card is #5 type I (F), No. VI type 1 (M) and H&G #9c.

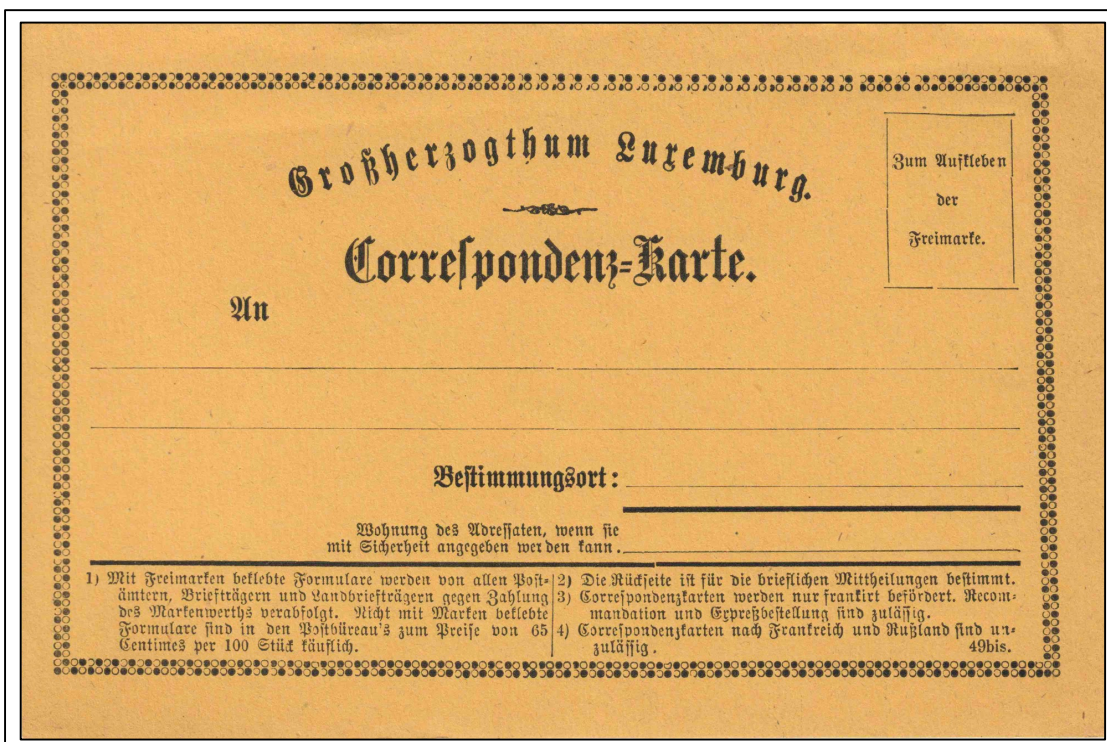
The first line is 77 mm long.

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.

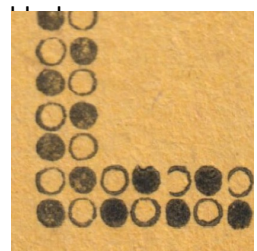


This card is #5 type II (F), No. VI type 2 (M) and H&G #9b.

The first line is only 70 mm long.

A stamp-box with thin lines.

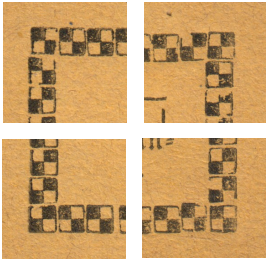
The small ball in the bottom left corner is



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.

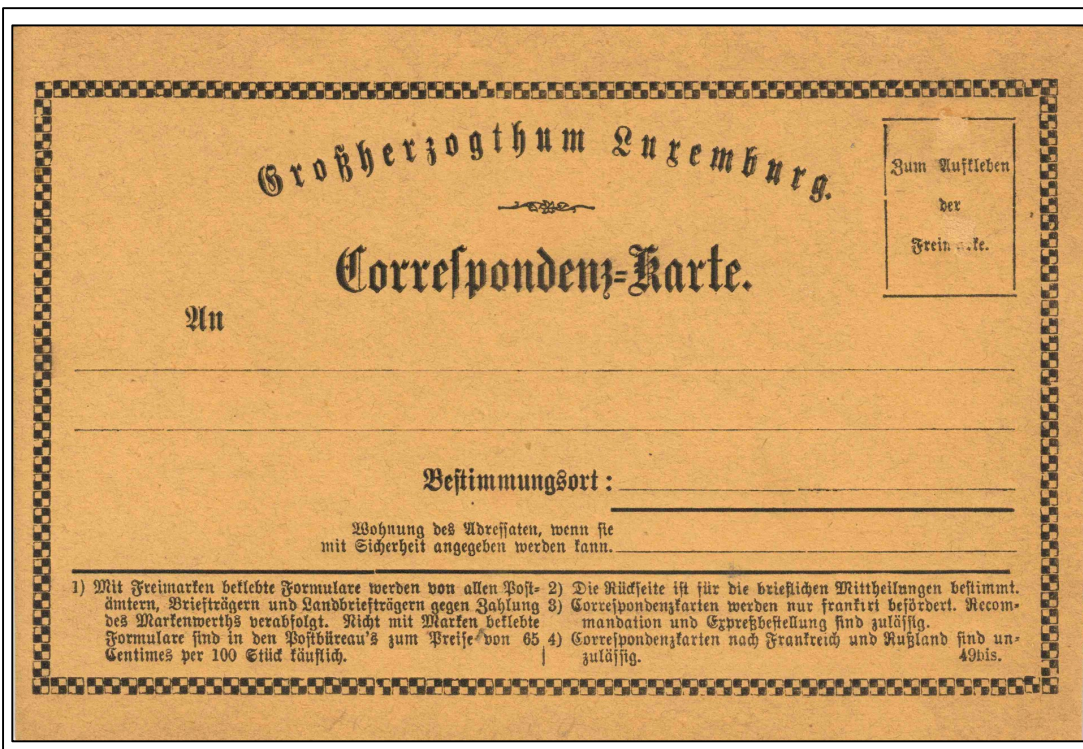
This card is #6, type I (F), H&G #9a and No. VIa type 1a (M). The first line is 77 mm long and all corner squares are black:



Large card size, 97 x 157 mm.



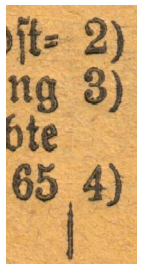
The sixth single formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in German, issued in March 1874 (F), with a frame of small, black and yellow squares.



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.

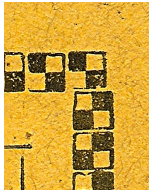


(F) mentions a card #6, type II, identical to type I but with a shorter (70 mm) first line. Such a card is not known to H&G or (M) and has not been found.

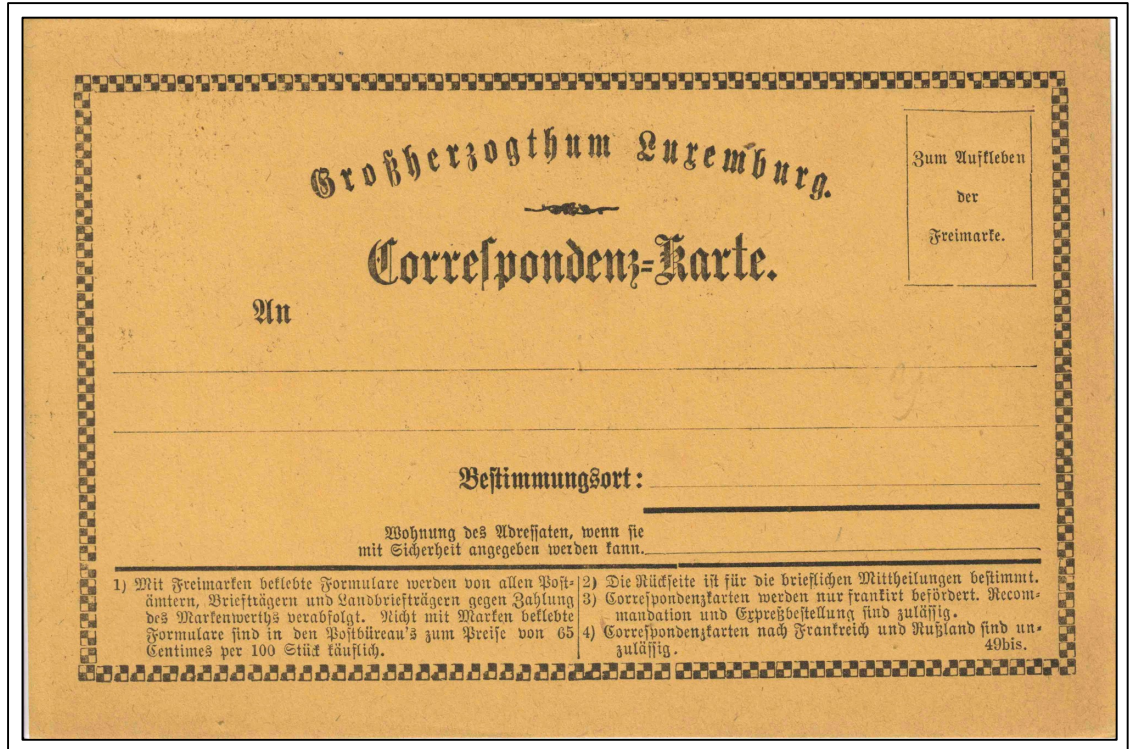
Luxemburg - March 1874 - sixth single card, in German - type 2 & 3

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.

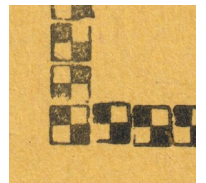


The sixth single formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in German, issued in March 1874 (F), with a frame of small, black and yellow squares.



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.

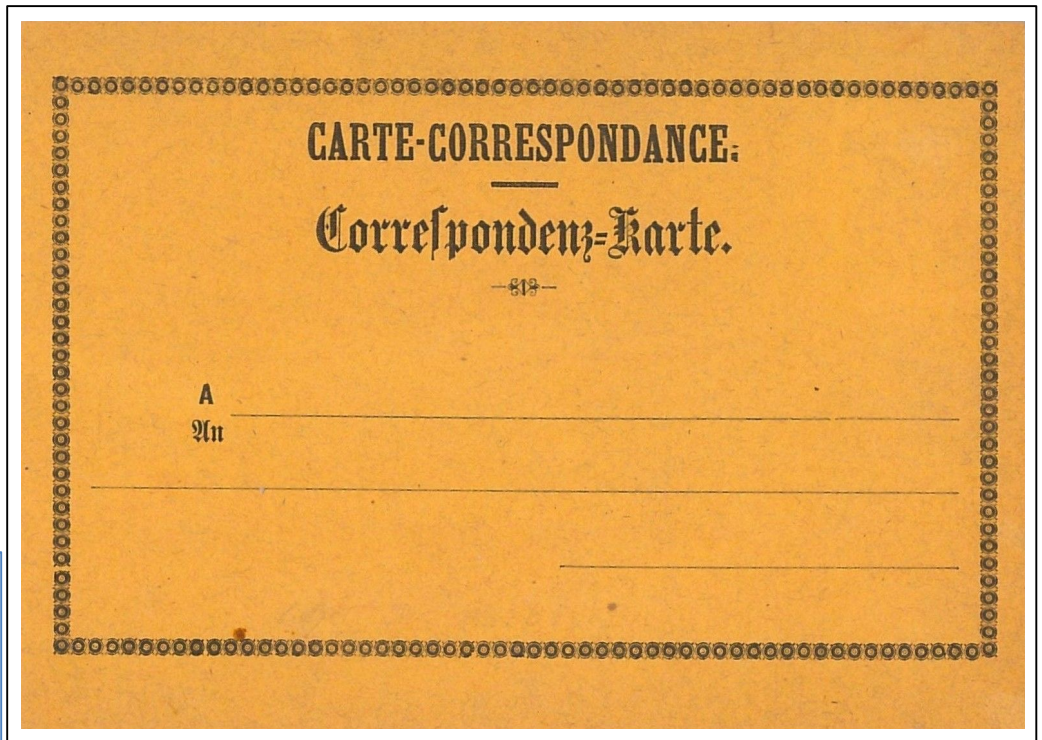
Luxemburg - May 1874 – seventh single card, in French and German

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.

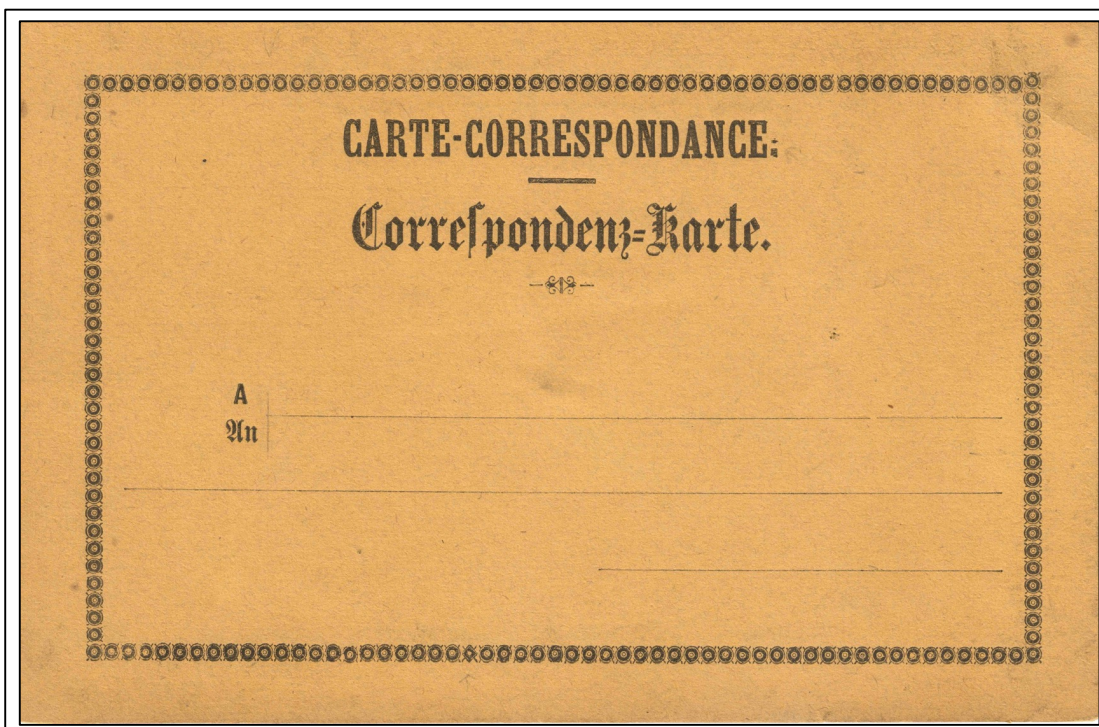
The seventh single formular card from Luxemburg, “Correspondence card” in French and German, issued on May 20, 1874 (F), with a frame of small balls. Frame size 75 x 125 mm. Black print on orange-yellow paper.

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

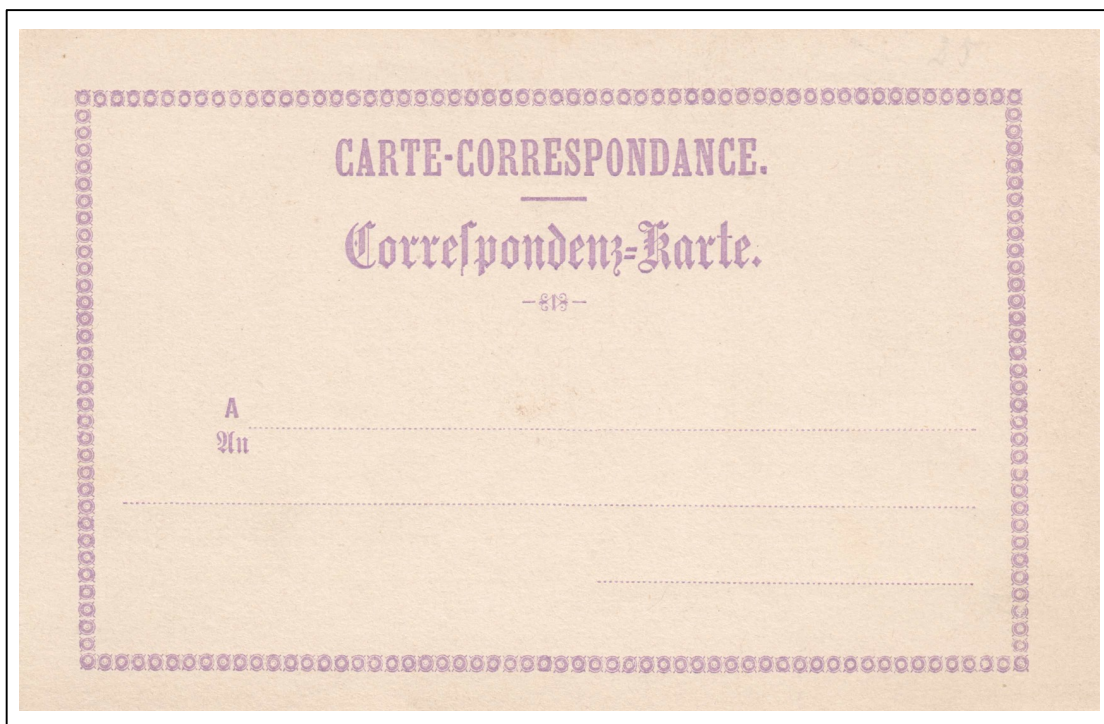
Luxemburg - May 1874 - eighth, unknown card, in French and German

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).

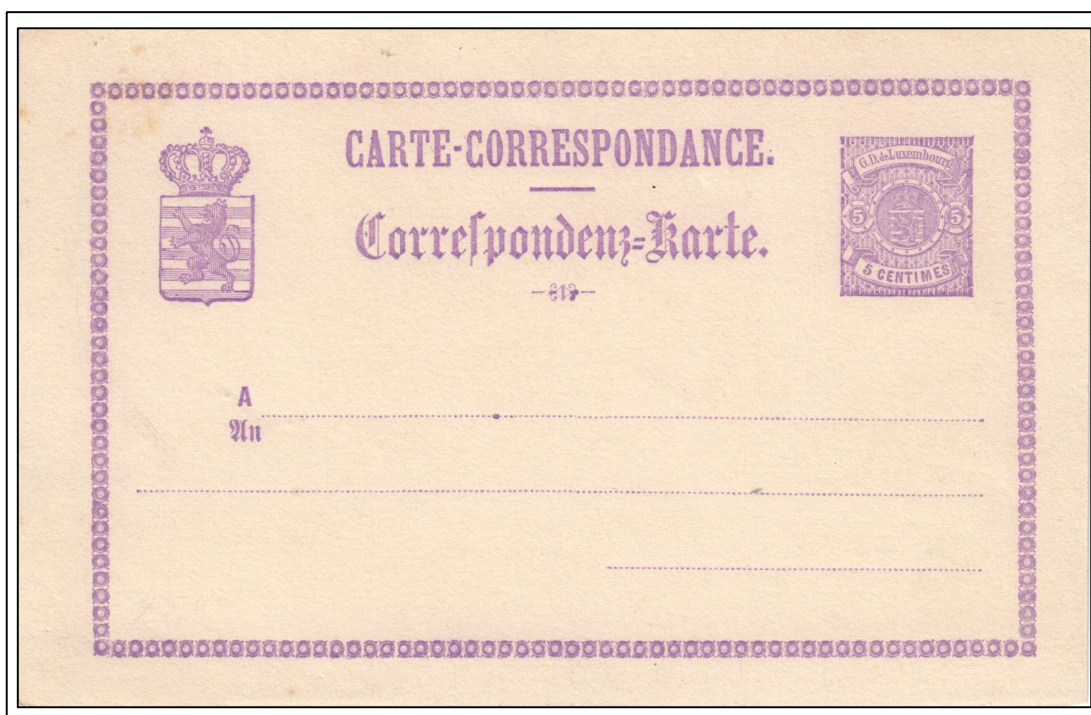
An eighth single formular card from Luxemburg, "Correspondence card" in French and German, with a frame of small balls. Frame size 75 x 125 mm. Black print on white paper.

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 yellow-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:

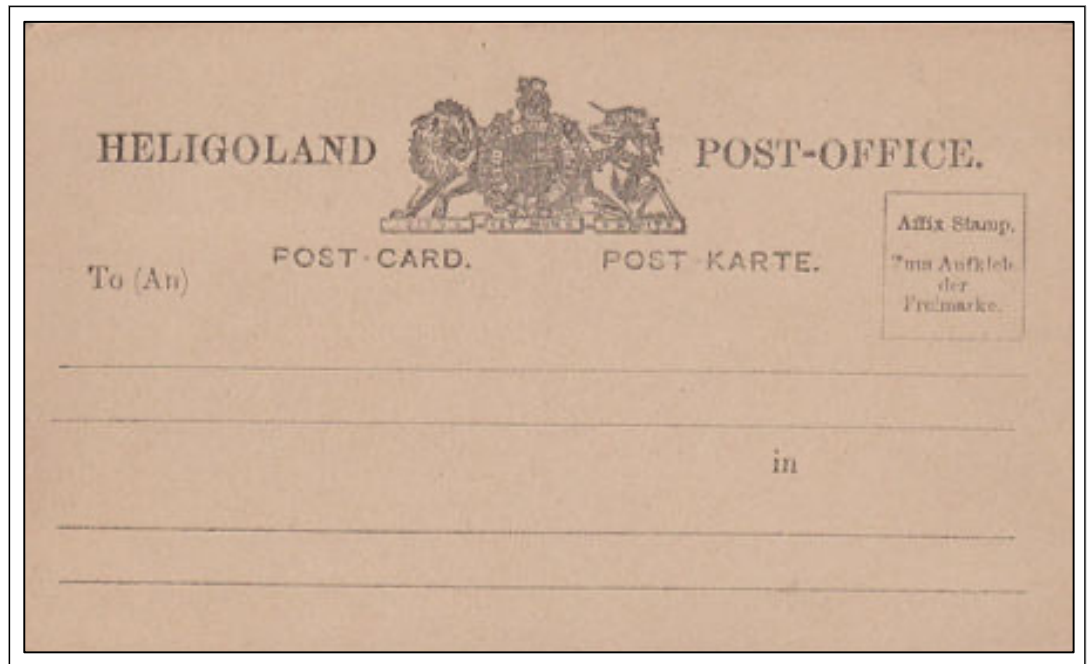
(L) Lemberger, H.: *Helgoland-Philatelie*. Verlag Walter Wulf, Hamburg 1970.

(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.

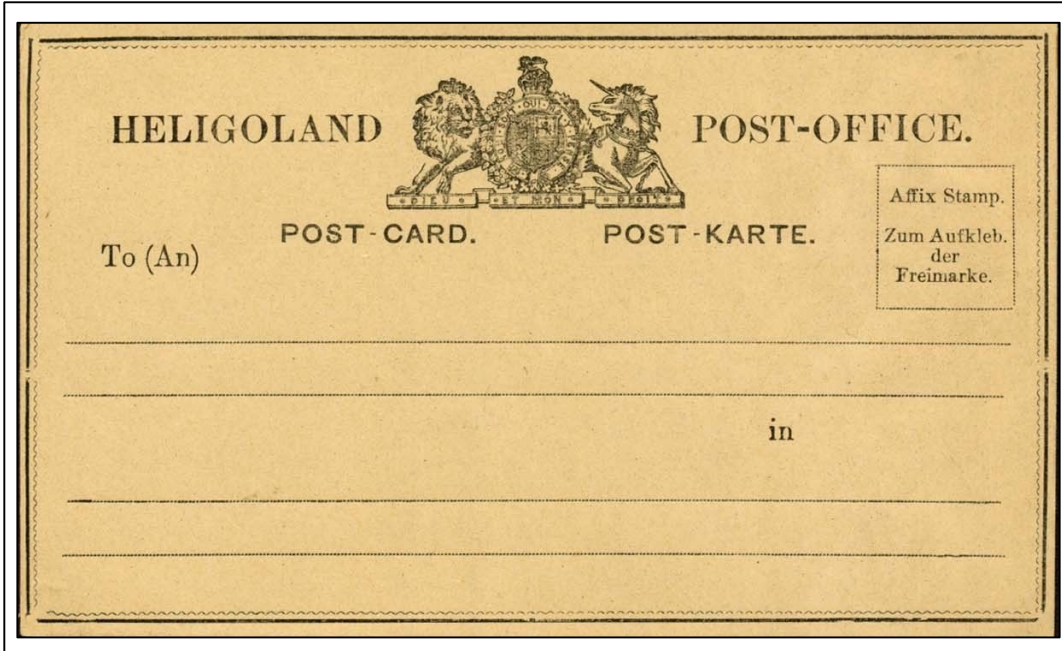


Formular cards #3-I and 3-II (F), 03 & 03a (L) and H&G #7, with four address lines and a frame with wavy lines inside a thick black line.

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).

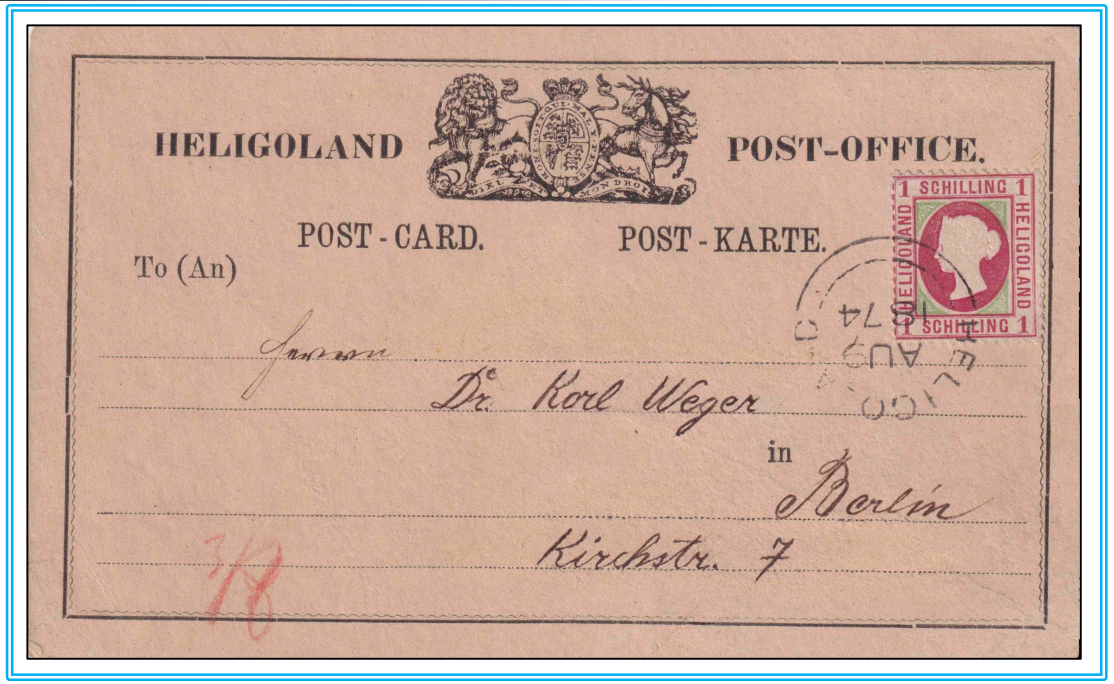


Heligoland (Helgoland) 1874

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).

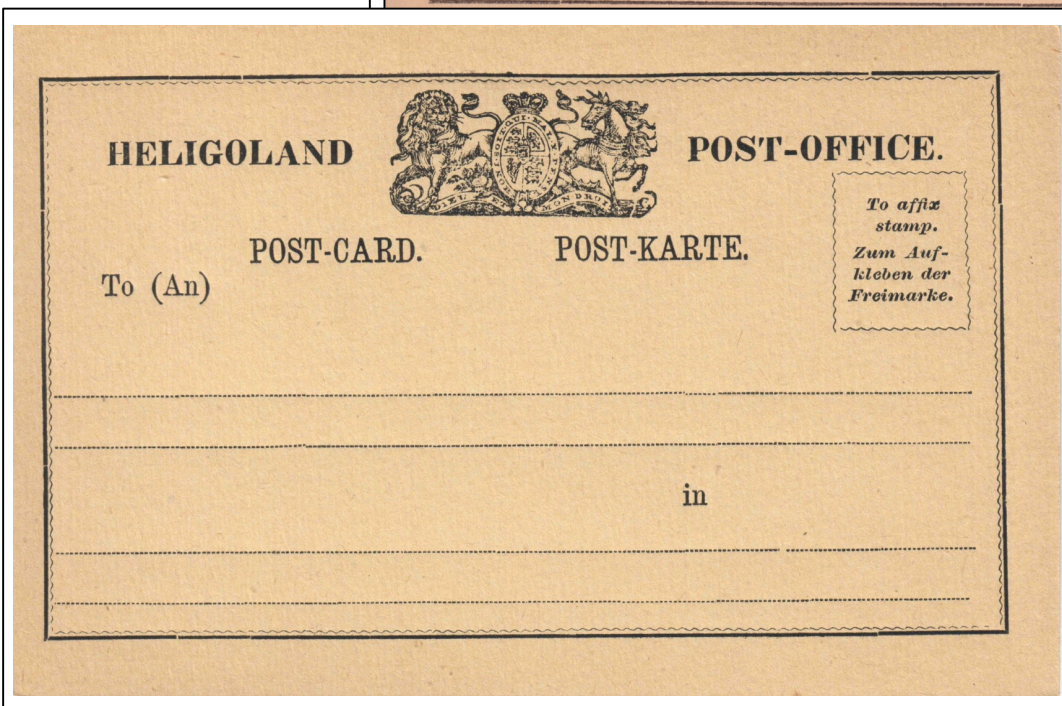
This card #4 was sent from Heligoland to Berlin, overfranked by ¼ Schilling, in August 9, 1874. Cards used before 1875 are rare.

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).



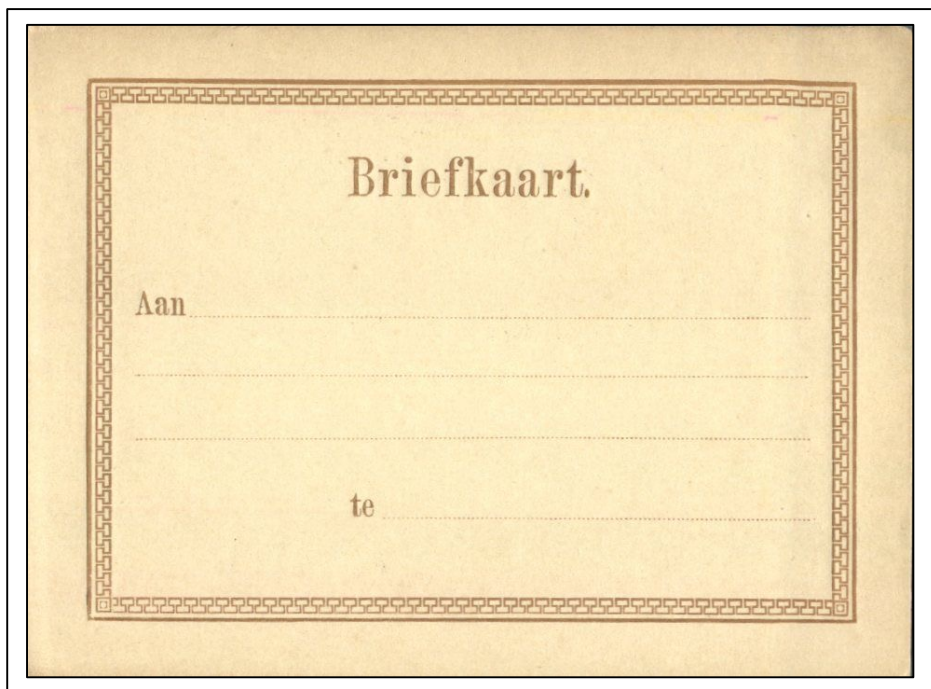
Formular card #6, H&G #8, is similar to card #5, but the text "Post-card, Post-Karte" and the stamp box are shifted to the left.

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

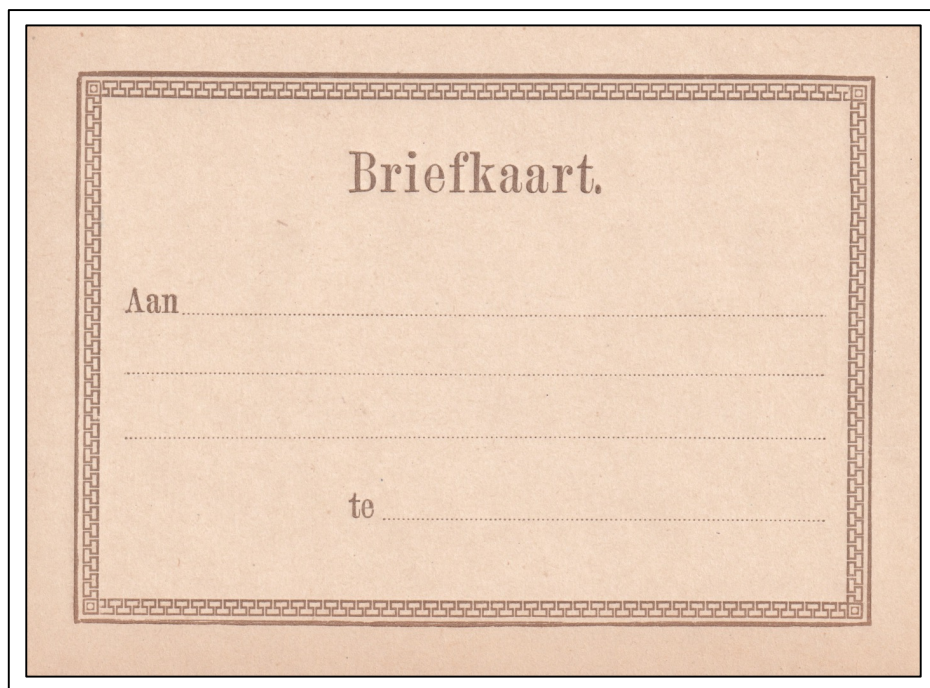
In February 1874 the Netherlands issued a new formular card without a value stamp. It was meant to be used internationally where the 5c postal card was no longer applicable. The Netherlands had a number of agreements with other countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Great Britain, Denmark, 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).

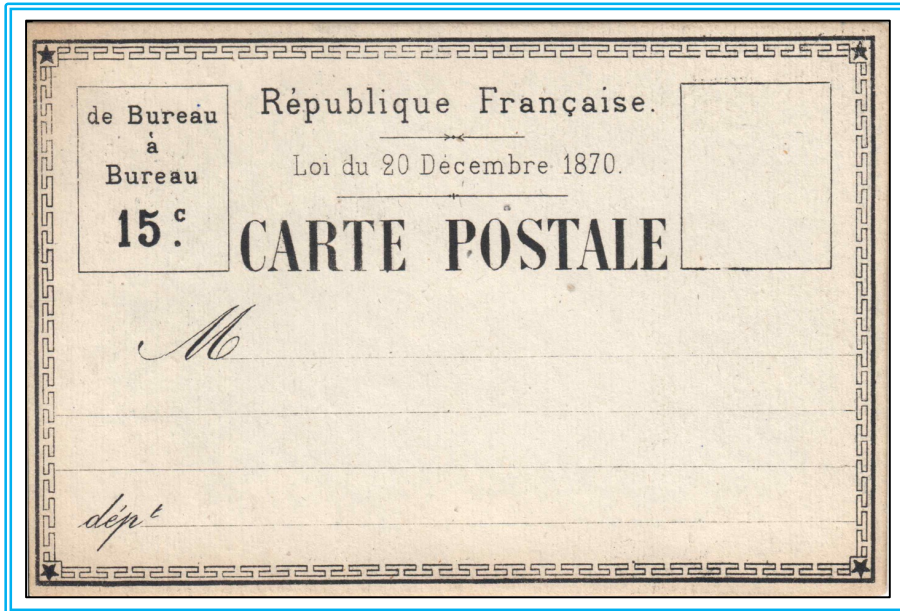
This formular card, turned into a postal card, was used to Köln in Germany.

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.

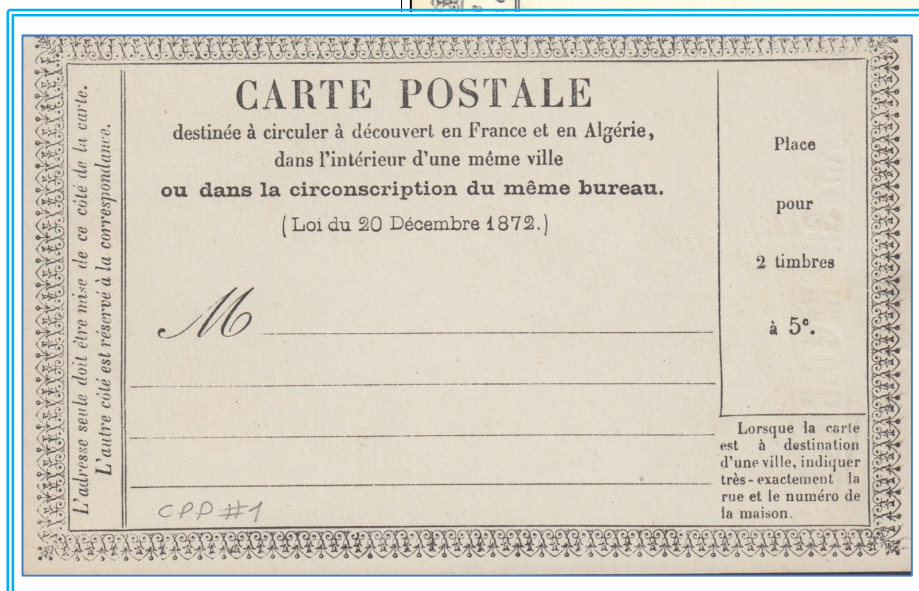
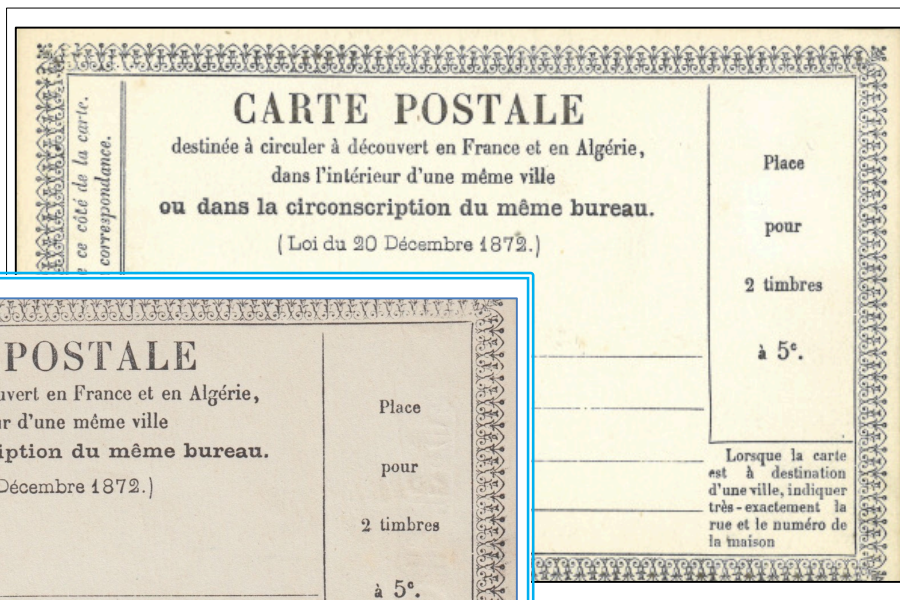
Formular cards No. 1 (H&G)(CEP)

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).

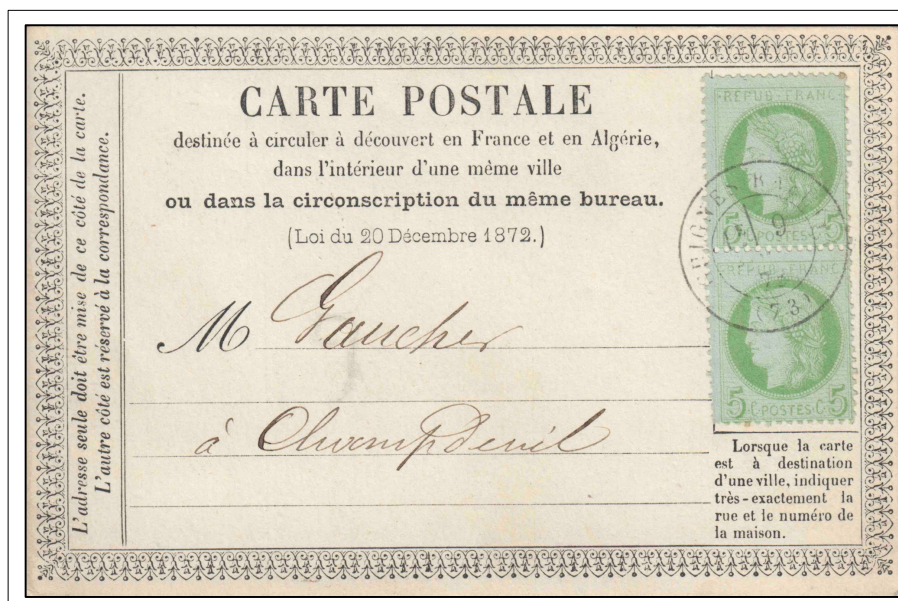
Card size 121 x 76 mm. White paper.

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.

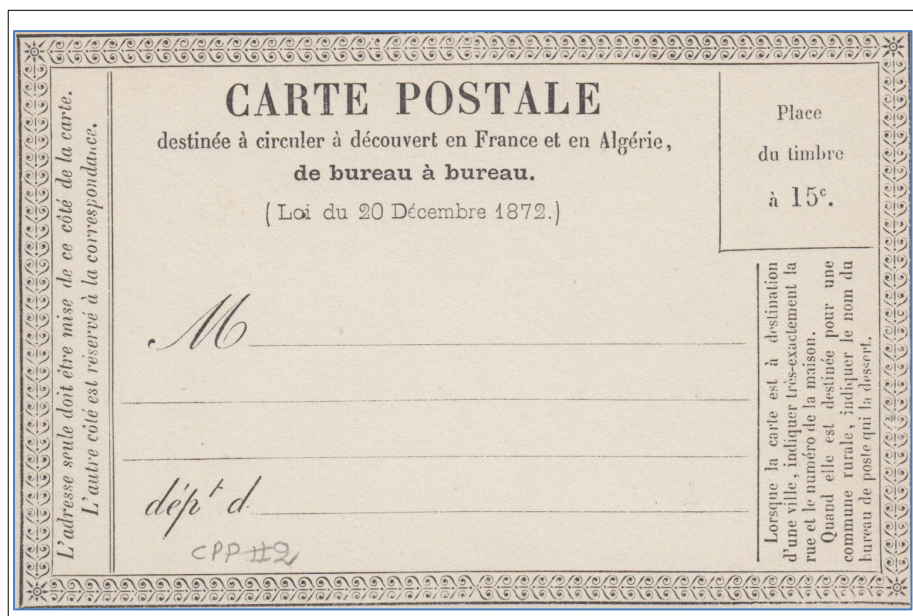
The text in the stamp box says that two 5 centimes stamps should be used and the card was meant to be used within a city. Here it is used between two cities and the postage had to be 15 centimes.

France 1873 - 1st issue - second card

The second card, in the 1st issue, was also issued on January 15, 1873.

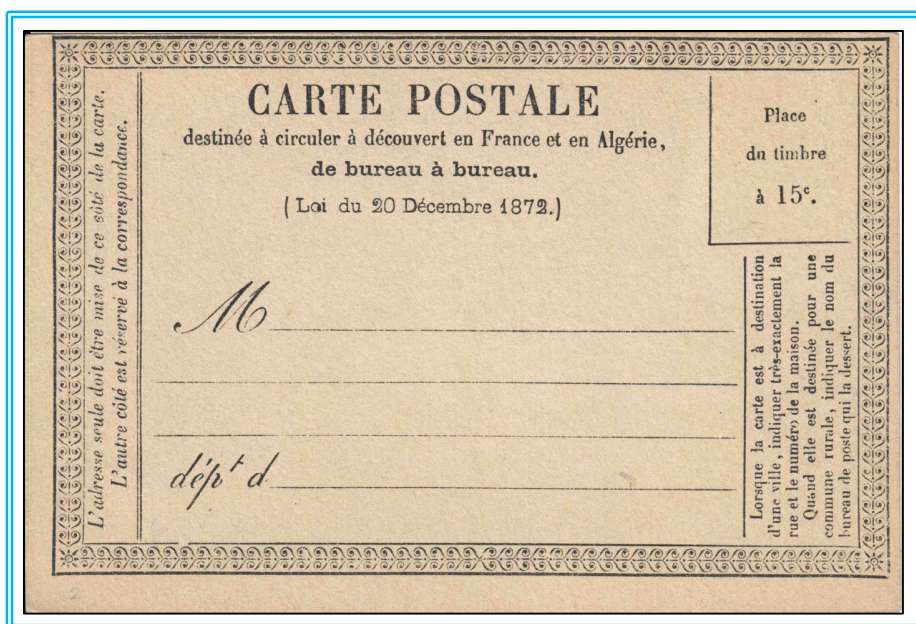
Formular card No. 2.

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.

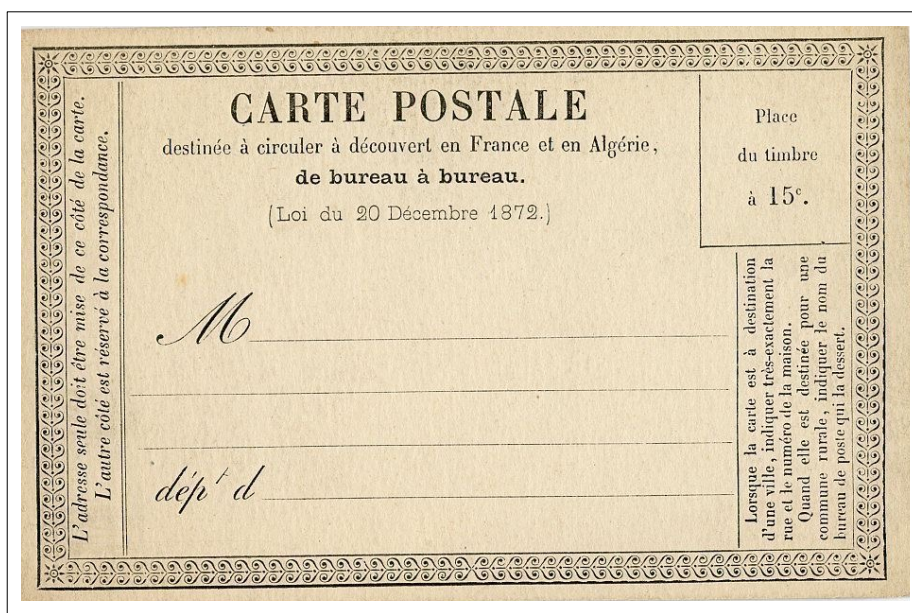
This card was used in January 1873 for local mail with two 5 c stamps for the correct postage of 10 centimes.

France 1873 - 1st issue - second card; watermarks

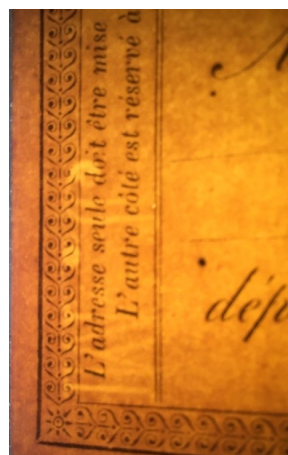
The second card, in the 1st issue, was also printed on papers with watermarks.

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).



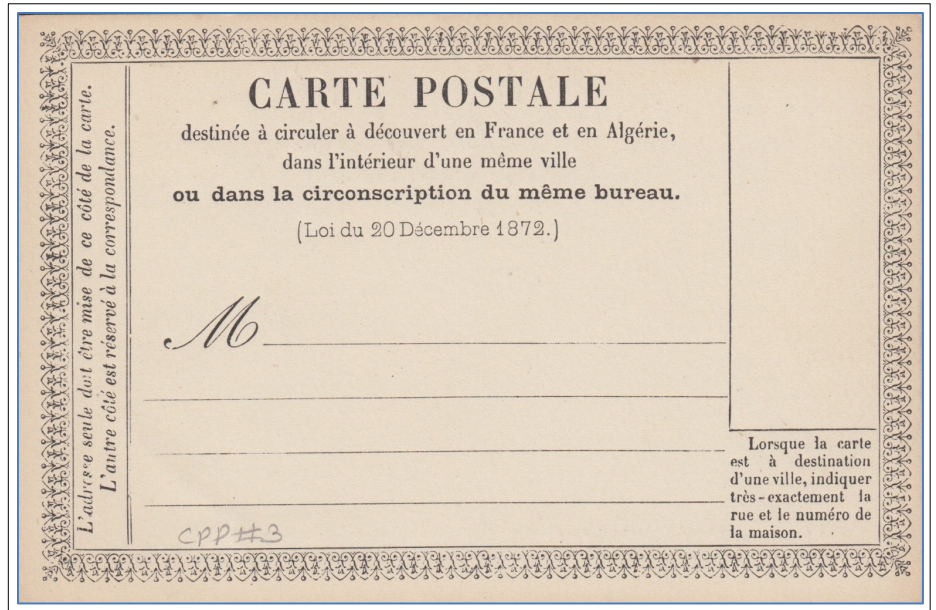
This card was used in September 1873 between Bordeaux and St Genis with a (correct) postage of 15 centimes.



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 5c 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.

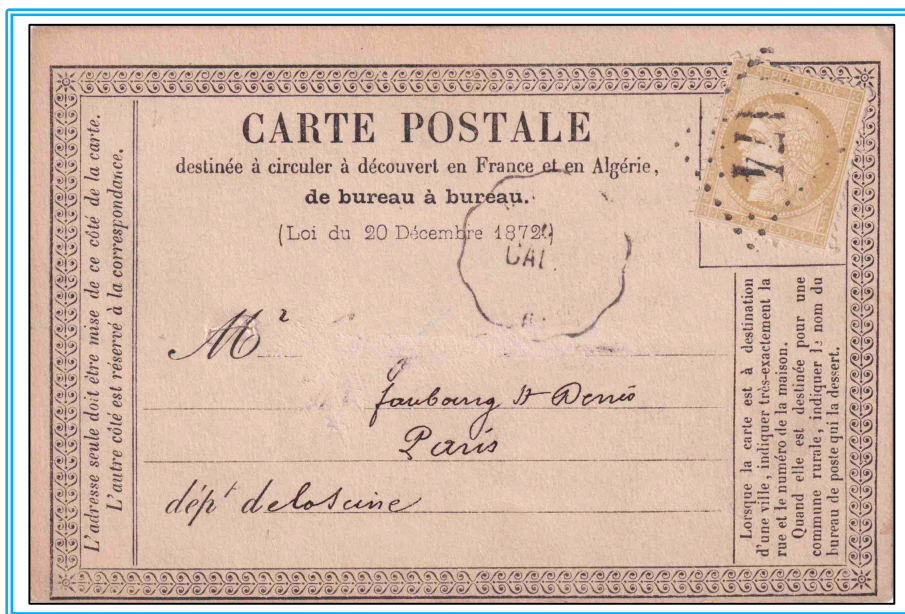
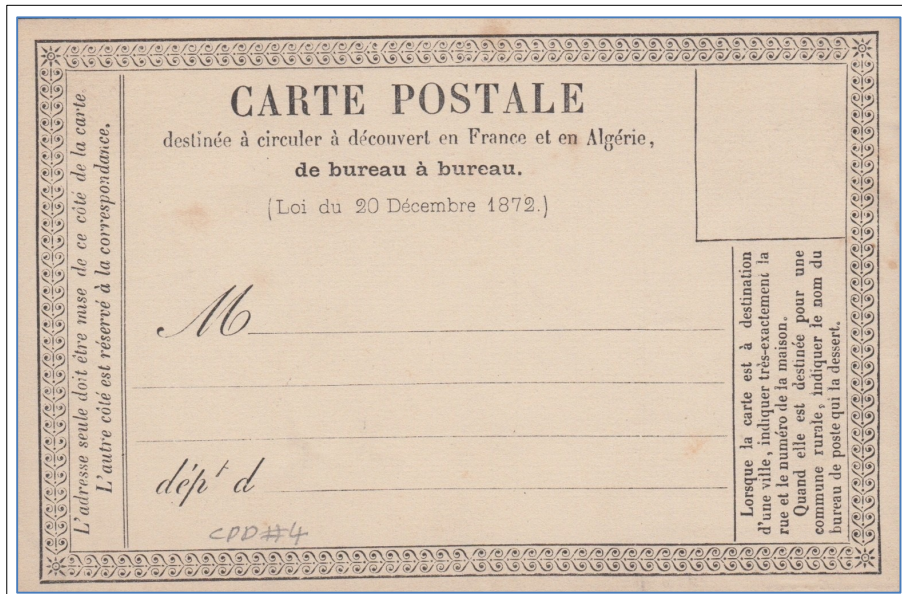


France 1873 - 2nd issue – card #4 (and #3) – France 3 domestic mail

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:

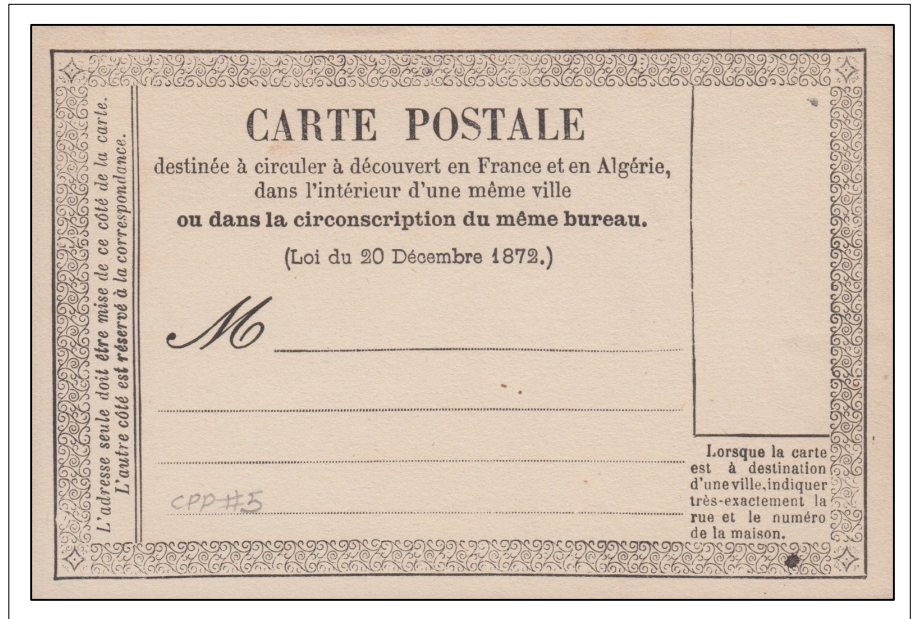
Licres le 6 février 1873

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.



France 1873 - 3rd issue - card #5

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.



This card No. 5 was used on February 15, 1873, within the centre of Paris, with a correct postage of 10 centimes. Again, one old 10 centimes stamp was used instead of the two 5 centimes stamps that the large stamp box was meant for.

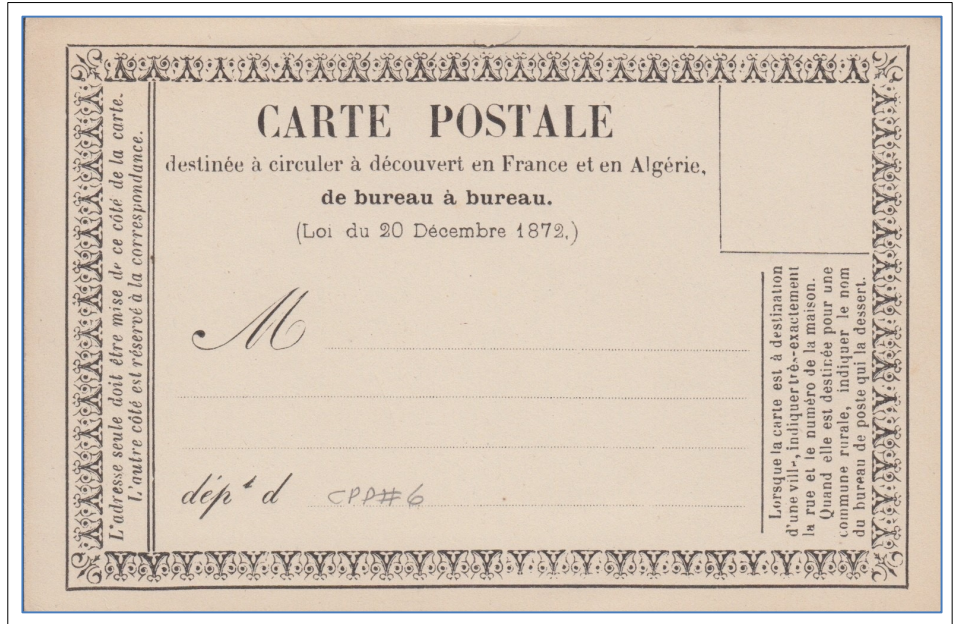
This card #5 was used in October 1873 from Pacy-sur-Eure to Paris, a distance of 80 km including the train Cherbourg-Paris (back side cancellation), with too low postage, 10c.

Stamped "Insufficient postage", in French, in red. Note in blue on the missing 5c stamp.



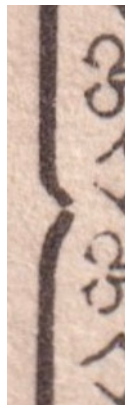
France 1873 - 3rd issue - card #6

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

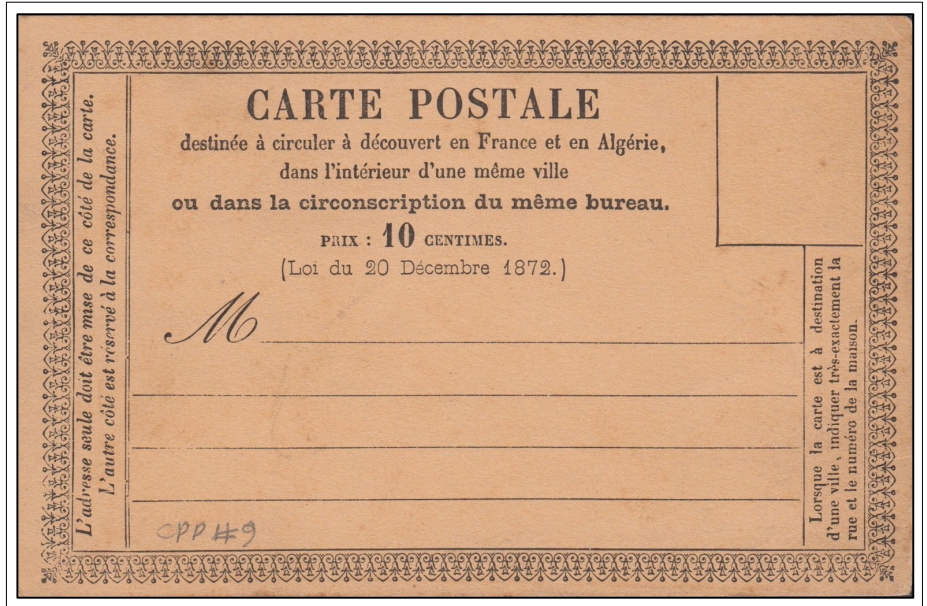
Cards #9 and #10 were also printed by *Imprimerie Nationale*, according to (S&S) and Maury (1907).

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.



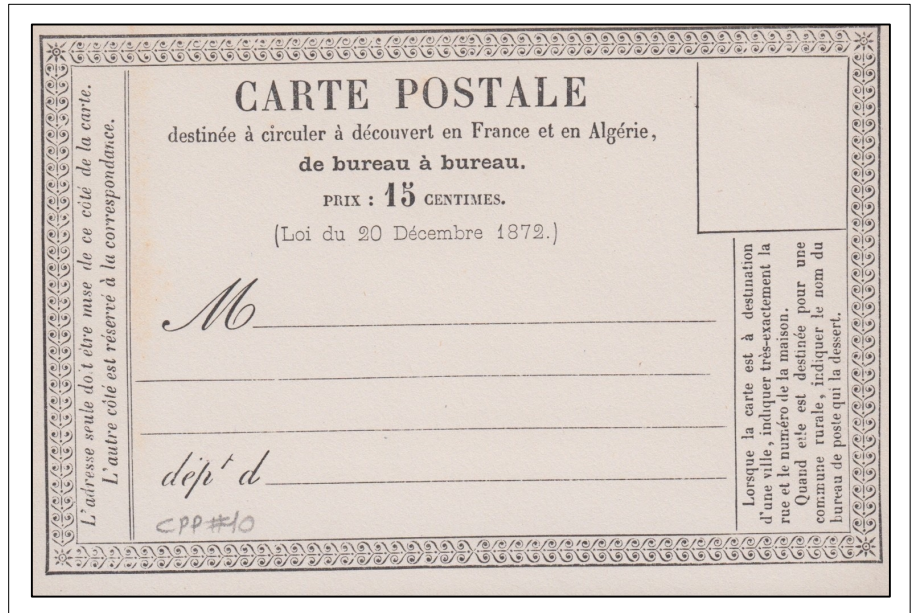
France 1873 – 4th issue – Card #10

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.

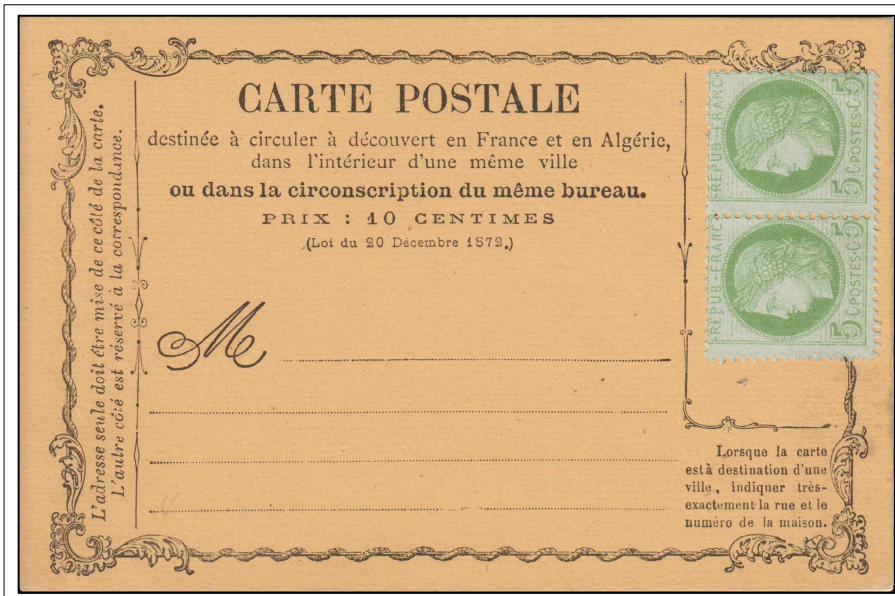
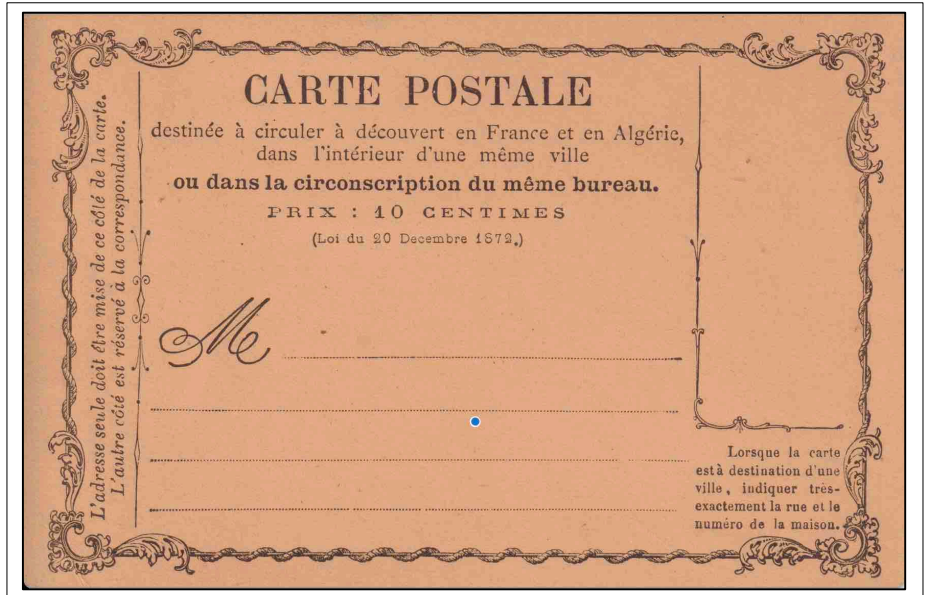
Formular card No. 10, late used to England, from Haute-Garonne in south-west France to South Devon in south-west England, with a postage of 15 centimes.



France 1873 - 5th issue - Card #7

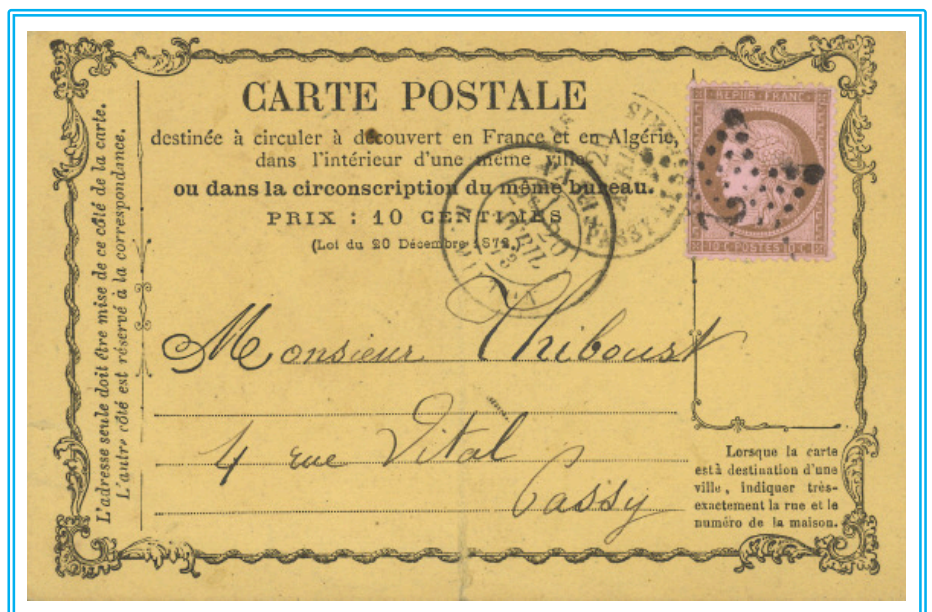
Formular card No. 7, issued in May 1873 according to (S&S) & Maury (1907).

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.

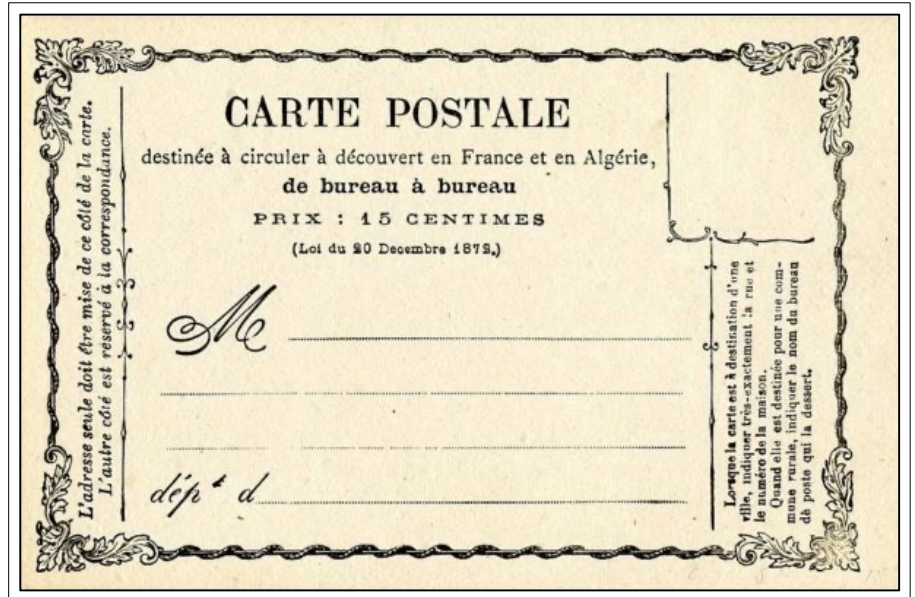
Formular card No. 7, used on April 20, 1873, long before the known date of issue (S&S, Maury), with a 10 centimes stamp within Paris.



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.



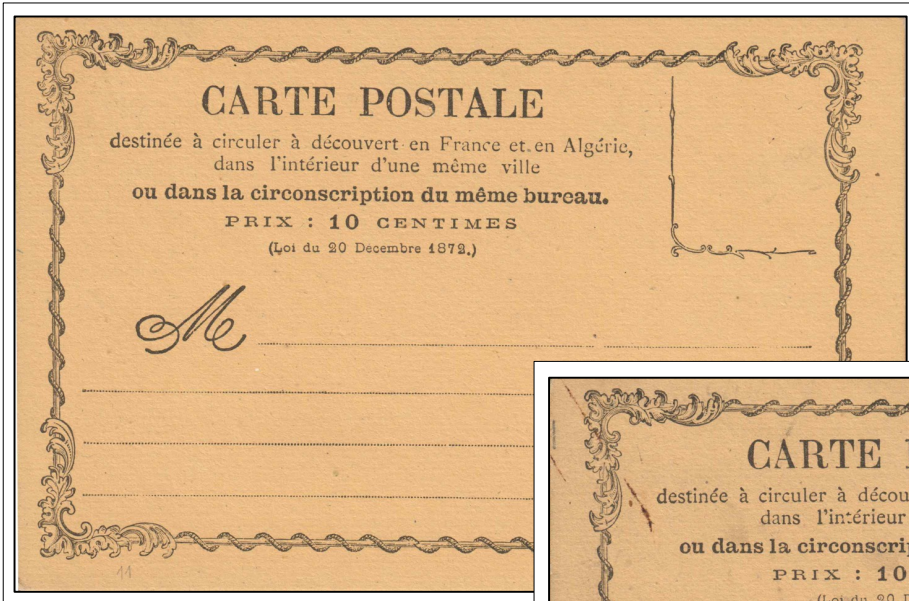
Formular card No. 8, used already on March 15, 1873, long before the known date of issue (S&S, Maury), with a 15 centimes stamp from Bar-le-Duc in south-west France to Bordeaux.

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



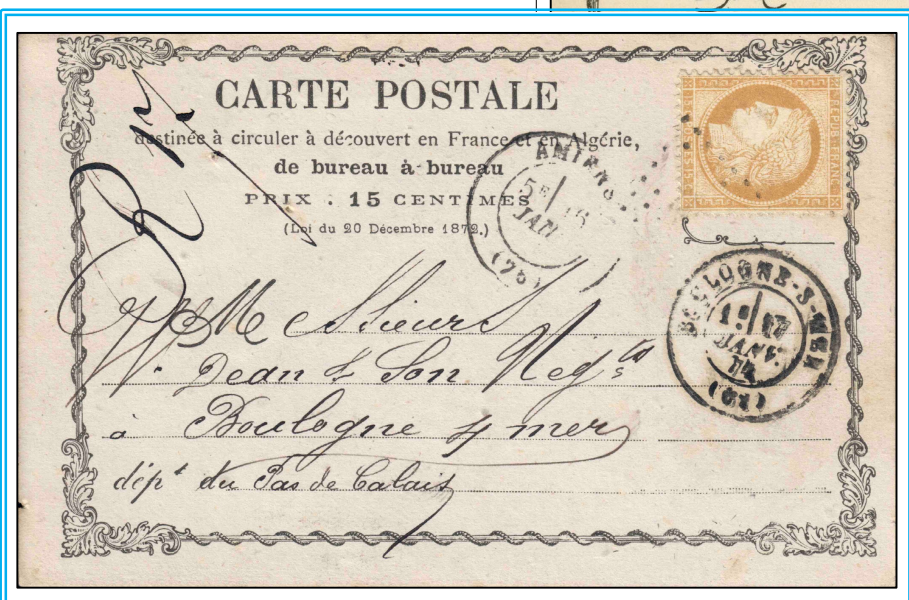
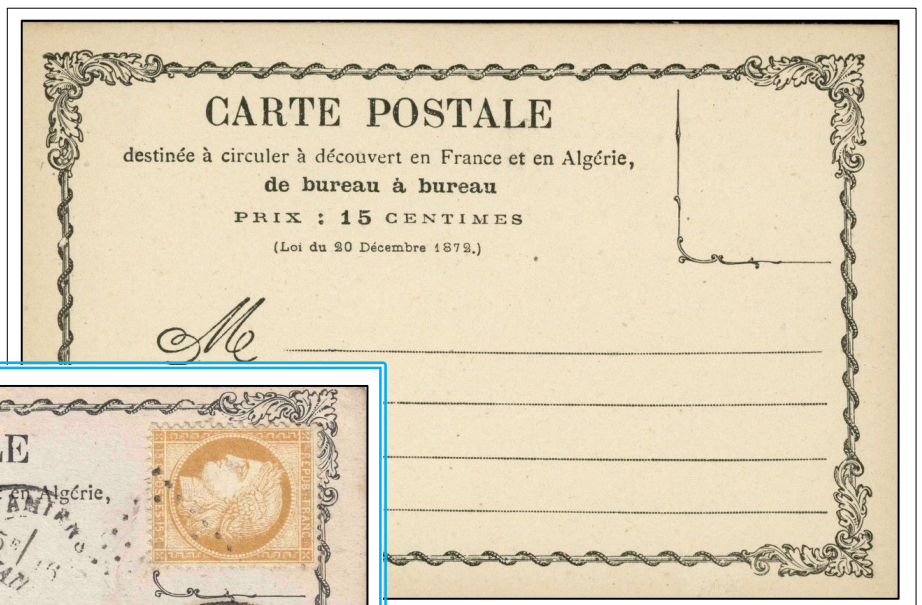
Formular card No.11, issued in January 1874 (S&S) or February (Maury); privately printed (S&S).

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.