

Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints

During the period 1886-88, officials approved the overprinting of available stocks of Commerce stamps to cope with the shortage of 5 and 15-centime stamps in CochinChina. Four different overprint types were applied to four different Commerce denominations resulting in five basic overprint varieties.

5



5
C CH.



5
C CH.

5



15
/ 15

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Multiples





Commerce
Cochinchina
Provisional
Overprints

Pane of
15/15

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Ascending Overprints

5 C. CH. on 25 centimes yellow



5 C. CH. on 2 centimes



5 on 25 centimes black



Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Shifted Overprints



SHIFTED
LEFT



SHIFTED
RIGHT



SHIFTED
LEFT



SHIFTED
LEFT



ASCENDING DIAGONAL LINE

Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Overprint Varieties

5
C. CH.
C. CH.



MULTIPLE OVERPRINT

5
C. CH.



COMBINED
OVERPRINT



COMBINED
OVERPRINT

5
C. CH.

5



INVERTED
OVERPRINT

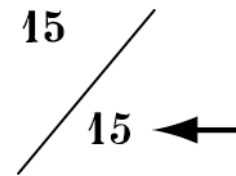


INVERTED
OVERPRINT

5

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Varieties

Italic 5 Variety



ITALIC 5 AT LOWER POSITION RIGHT STAMP

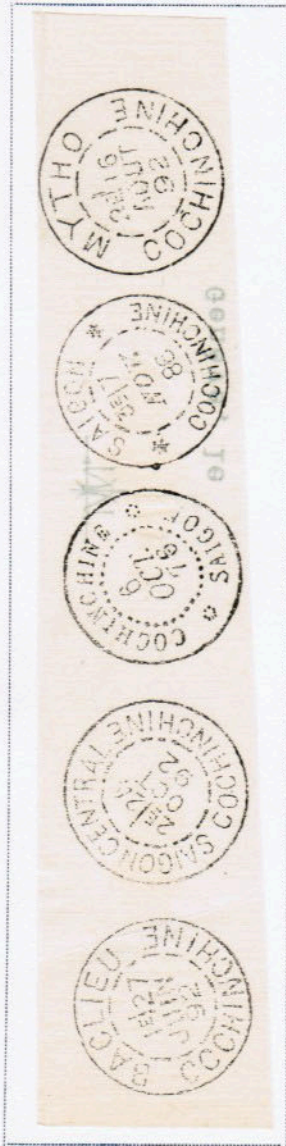
Postmarked block of 10



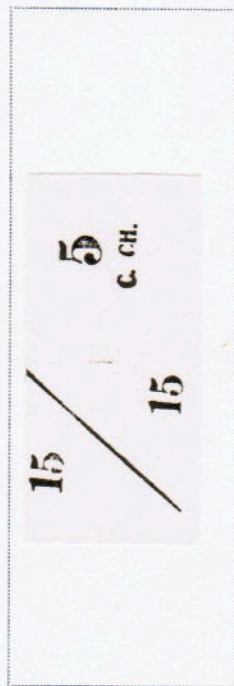
COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE



Surcharges sur timbres français 1881



Cochinchina Provisional Overprints

Fournier Facsimiles

An excerpt from one of the Fournier albums displays two examples of his faked overprints as well as some examples of postmarks indicating CochinChina origins.

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Saigon-Central Postmarks



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

5 on 25 centimes yellow



CHOLON
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON CAL
COCHINCHINE



Prior to 1889, Cochinchina and Cambodia fell under the same postal administration. [Annam and Tonkin were similarly managed under a single administration.] The shortage of 5-centime stamps in Cochinchina was also felt in Cambodia. Consequently, some of the provisional overprints were shipped to Cambodia as this example demonstrates.



CAMBODGE
PNUM-PENH



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

5 C. CH. on 25 centimes yellow



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



CHOLON
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON
COCHINCHINE



BENTRE
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
CAP ST JACQUES



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

5 C. CH. on 25 centimes yellow



SAIGON CAL
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON-PORT
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



KROCHMAR
CAMBODGE



TANAN
COCHINCHINE



THU-DAU-MOT
COCHINCHINE



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

5 C. CH. on 2 centimes



CHOLON
COCHINCHINE



MYTHO
COCHINCHINE



PNOMPENH
CAMBODGE



SOCTRANG
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
VINH-LONG



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

5 on 25 centimes black



CHOLON
COCHINCHINE



CAP ST JACQUES
COCHINCHINE



TANAN & SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



KROCHMAR
CAMBODGE



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

5 on 25 centimes black



PNOMPENH
CAMBODGE



MONCAY
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON CA
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON-PORT
COCHINCHINE



TANAN
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
VINH-LONG



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

15/15 on 30 centimes



CORR. D'ARMEES
BENTRE



BENTRE
COCHINCHINE



CHOLON
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON CAL
COCHINCHINE



Commerce Cochinchina Provisional Overprints Postmarks

15/15 on 30 centimes



COCHINCHINE
TAN-AN



CORR. D. ARMEES
SAIGON



SAIGON CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



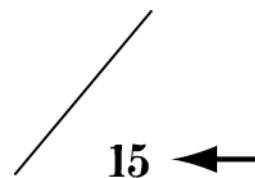
COCHINCHINE
VINH-LONG



SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Fake Overprints



Fake italic "5" variety

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 5 on 25 centimes yellow

A single 5 on 25 centimes yellow paid the postage for an unsealed printed matter mailing from Saigon to France in 1886. The first day of use for this stamp was 16 May 1886, the date of the mailing.



POSTAL MARKINGS
COCHINCHINE SAIGON 16 MAI 86

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 5 C. CH. on 25 centimes yellow

A single copy of the 5 C. CH. on 25 centimes yellow paid for mailing a small, unsealed envelope likely containing a calling card with New Year's greetings. Posted in January 1887 at Saigon, the envelope was addressed to Choquan.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 5 JANV. 87

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 5 C. CH. on 25 centimes yellow

A mixture of low-value Commerce and Navigation and Commerce stamps contributed to the 15 centimes postage for this internal mailing from Cantho to Longxuyen in 1894. The stamp with the greatest denomination was the "5 C. CH." on 25-centimes yellow provisional overprint.

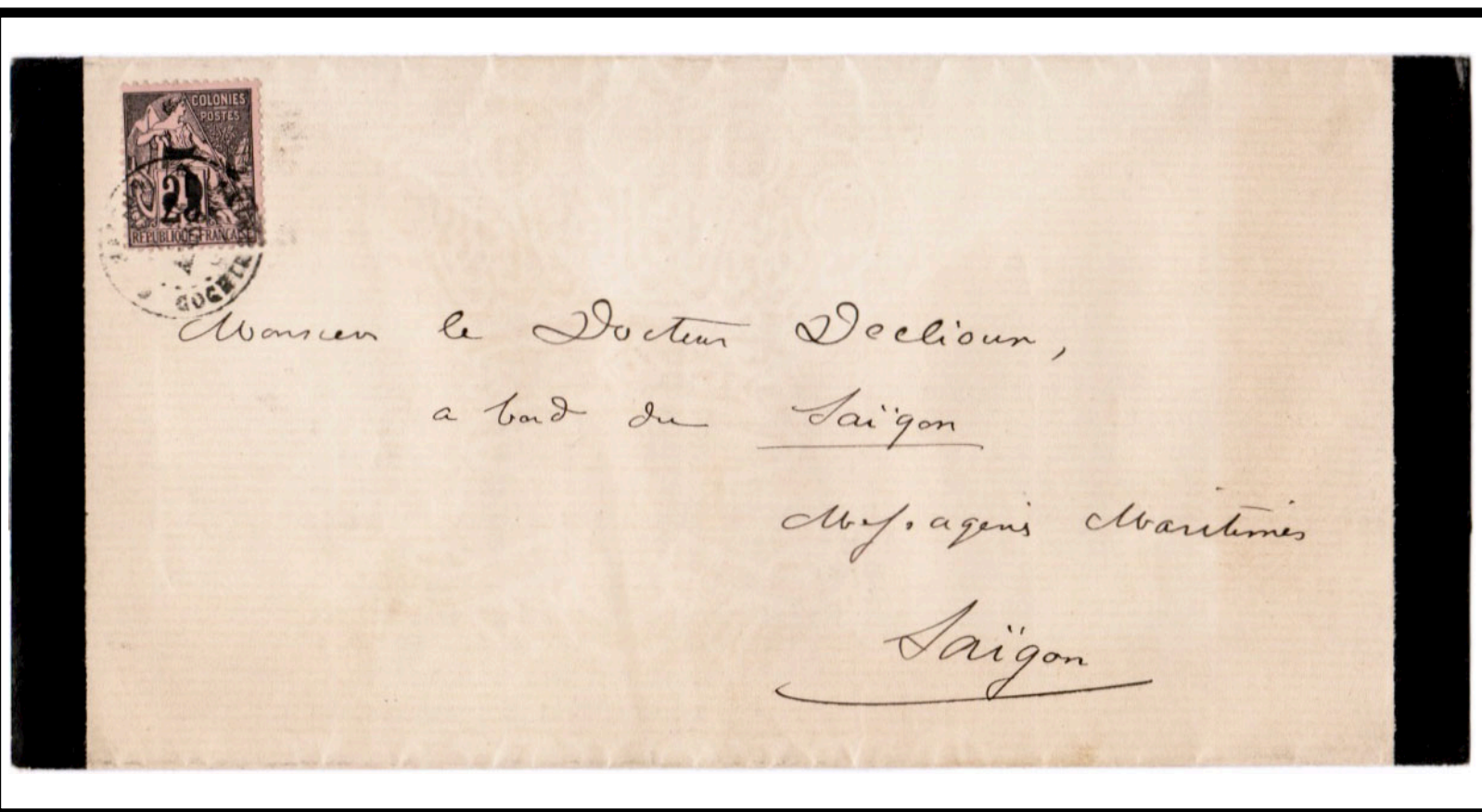


POSTAL MARKINGS
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 24 JANV 94

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 5 on 25 centimes black

A single example of the overprinted 5 on 25 centimes black Commerce stamp paid the 5-centime drop letter rate for a printed death notice in 1887. The notice was addressed to a doctor aboard a Messageries Maritimes ship at Saigon.

The notice is a folded two-page form. The edges of each page bear the black border signifying mourning. The printed notice informs recipients that Madame Thérèse-Julie-Aglaré Pujol had died at the age of 58 at her home in Paris. On the inside, the notice is dated 9 March 1887.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 12 MARS 87

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 5 on 25 centimes black

A strip of five overprinted stamps correctly paid the postage for a mailing from Saigon to France in February 1887. It is ironic that 25-centime stamps were overprinted due to a shortage of 5-centime stamps, yet five of them were required to make up the 25-centime letter rate to France.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 15 FEVR 87
MODANE A PARIS 19 MARS 87 (red)
REVERSE
BOURG S^T ANDEOL ARDICHE 20 MARS 87

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 15/15 on 30 centimes

In combination with three 10-centime Commerce stamps, three overprinted stamps (each with a postal value of 15 centimes) paid the postage for a registered mailing to France in 1888. Postage was calculated as:

foreign letter rate (second weight step)	50 centimes
<u>registration fee</u>	<u>25 centimes</u>
total	75 centimes



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 6 AVRIL 88
framed R (red) with manuscript registration number

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Use of 15/15 on 30 centimes

Five copies of the 15/15 overprint were symmetrically arranged on the flap-side of a registered mailing from Vinhlong, Cochinchina to France in 1896. Posted at Vinhlong by the post orderly via the military postal system (with commander's endorsement on flap), the letter must have been a second weight step letter to require 75 centimes worth of postage.



POSTAL MARKINGS

VINHLONG COCHINCHINE 12 FEVR 96
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 13 FEVR 96
framed R (red)
DIJON COTE-D'OR 15 MARS 96
LONS-LE-SAUNIER JURA 15 MARS 96

REVERSE

framed R (red) with manuscript registration number
MODANE A PARIS 14 MARS 96 (red)

Commerce
Cochinchina Provisional Overprints
Usage

Three different Cochinchina overprints frank a cover posted into Paris in 1887. Likely, another copy of a 5 centime stamp had fallen off of the mailing as the letter rate was 25 centimes at the time. The letter was addressed to Arthur Maury, a famous Parisian stamp dealer of the 1800s.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 11 FEVR. 87
REVERSE
PARIS 8 (DISTRIB^{ON}) 10 MARS 87