

Commerce Envelopes

A small size envelope with a 5-centime denomination could be used to send calling cards qualified for a reduced rate if left unsealed.

This example posted from Cholon on the last day of 1894, a popular day for sending New Year's greetings, received a transit backstamp on the first day of 1895.



POSTAL MARKINGS
CHOLON COCHINCHINE 31 DEC 94
REVERSE
TANAN COCHINCHINE 1 JANV 95

Commerce
Envelopes
Uses of 5-centime Envelope to Internal Destinations



Commerce
Envelopes
Uses of 5-centime Envelope to French Community Destinations

To Cherbourg, France.



To Pointe Pitre, Guadeloupe.



Commerce
Envelopes
Uses of 5-centime Envelope to Foreign Destinations

To Cairo, Egypt.



To Zarate, Argentina.



Commerce
Envelopes
15-centime Envelopes

The two smaller 15-centime envelopes were 116 x 76 millimeters and 123 x 96 millimeters.



Commerce
Envelopes
Uses of 15-centime Envelope to French Community Destinations



Commerce
Envelopes
Uses of 15-centime Envelope to French Community Destination

The sender added two 5-centime Commerce stamps to arrive at the 25-centime regular letter rate, which had been in effect since 1879.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 11 DEC 91
MODANE A PARIS 9 JANV 92 (red)
REVERSE
PARIS POSTE RESTANTE 10 JANV 92

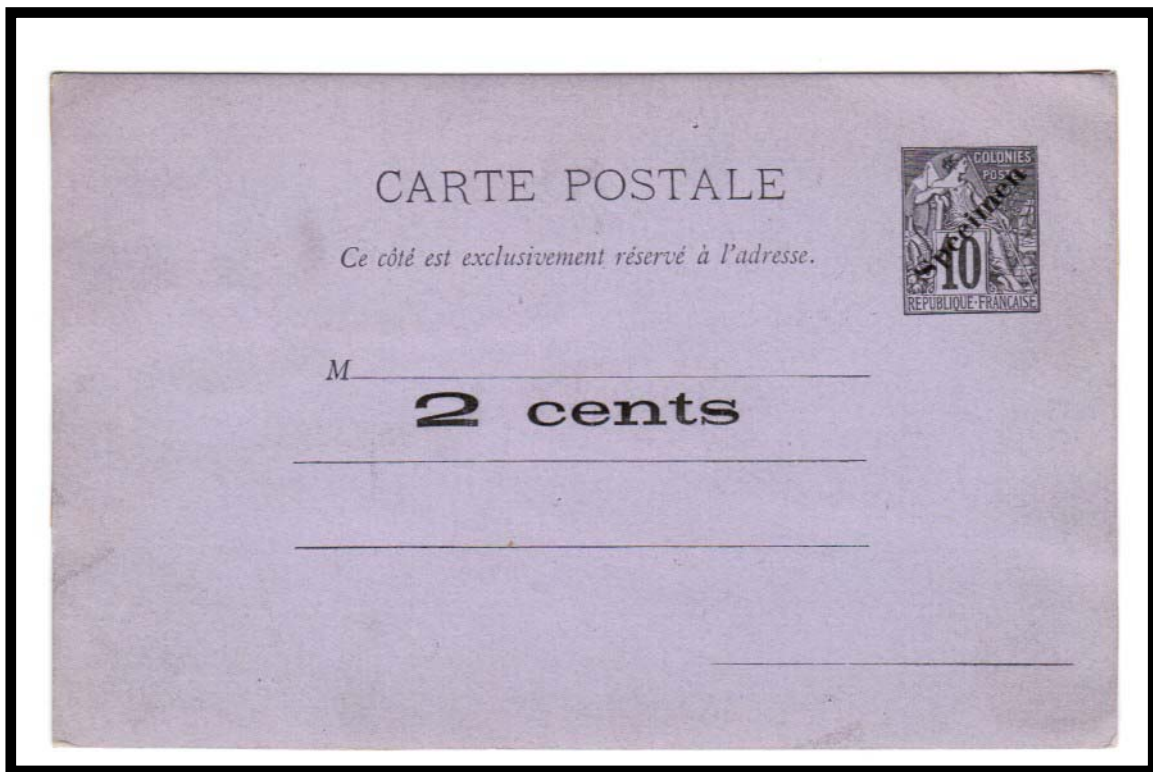
Commerce Postal Cards

Postal cards with 10-centime denominations were issued in two versions: a stand-alone card (black on lilac) and a with a response card attached (black on blue-green).



Commerce
Postal Cards
Display Sample

To inform patrons about its products, the Saigon post office posted samples of postal stationery overprinted "Specimen" with the selling price of the product printed in terms of the local currency (cents of the piaster).



Commerce
Postal Cards
Uses of Postal Card to France



Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Postal Card to Internal Destination

Posted from Khone, a small island in the Mekong River, this card went via Stung-Treng to Saigon. For a short period (1893-1904), Stung-Treng was a part of Laos before it reverted to Cambodia.



POSTAL MARKINGS
KHONE LAOS 21 DEC 00
STUNG-TRENG LAOS 23 DEC 00
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 27 DEC 00

Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Postal Card to Foreign Destination

Posted from Hanoi to Berlin at the turn of the century, this postal card received a transit postmark from the French T Line.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI TONKIN 6 SEPT 1900
LIGNE T PAQ. FR. N° 4 24 SEPT 00

Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Postal Card to Foreign Destination

In 1900, a postal card posted from Saigon took over five weeks to reach Zurich, Switzerland.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 4 MAI 00
ZURICH BRF. DIS. 9.VI.00

Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Response Postal Card to Foreign Destination

The sender mailed a postal card with attached response card from Saigon to Dresden, Germany in 1887.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON CAL COCHINCHINE 3 NOV 87
LIGNE N PAQ. FR. N° 5 4 NOV. 87
DRESDEN ALTSTADT 12 87

Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Response Postal Card to France

Even though the postcard rate was 10 centimes, the sender elected to add a 5-centime Commerce stamp to a response postal card sent to Paris in March 1893. The message inside refers to the "new" Navigation and Commerce stamps that were available in Indochina from the Saigon post office.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANNE ANNAM 18 MARS 93

Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Response Postal Card to Internal Destination

There were no restrictions on where the response card could be used. In this case, the sender separated the response card and used it for a mailing from Saigon to Tay Ninh 1892.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 24 SEPT 92
TAYNNH COCHINCHINE 27 SEPT 92

Commerce
Postal Cards
Use of Response Postal Card to Foreign Destination

Posted from Hanoi, the sender affixed an 15-centime Navigation and Commerce postage stamp to pay the equivalent of the foreign letter rate in 1894.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HA-NOI TONKIN 12 MAI 94
LIGNE N PAQ. FR. N° 3 20 MAI 94
STEYR 5-F

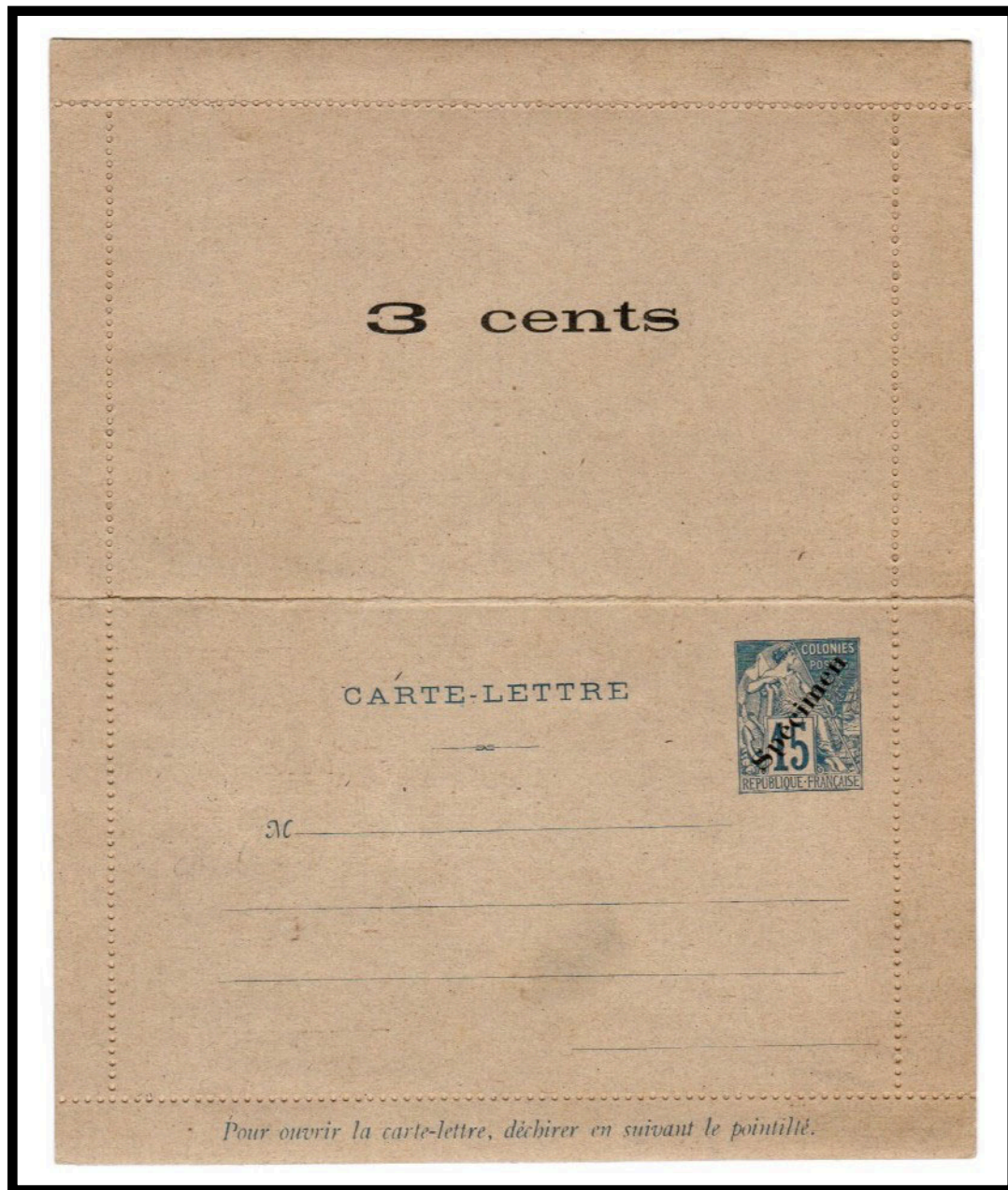
Commerce Letter Cards

Letter cards were issued in two versions: a 15-centime denomination for local use and a 25-centime denomination for external use.



Commerce
Lettercards
Display Sample of 15 centimes

At the officially sanctioned exchange rate of 1 Indochinese piaster per 5 French francs, a 15-centime lettercard would cost 3 cents in the local currency. This sample was displayed in the Saigon post office to visually demonstrate this relationship to the public.



Commerce
Letter Cards
Use of 15-centime Letter Card to Internal Destination

Posted from Tanan, Cochinchina to Saigon in 1891 this 15-centime lettercard served the purpose of sending short messages within Indochina.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TANAN COCHINCHINE 21 JANV 91
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 21 JANV 91

Commerce
Letter Cards
Use of 15-centime Letter Card to External Destination

The sender added two 5-centime Commerce stamps to pay the external letter card rate for a mailing to Paris in 1889.

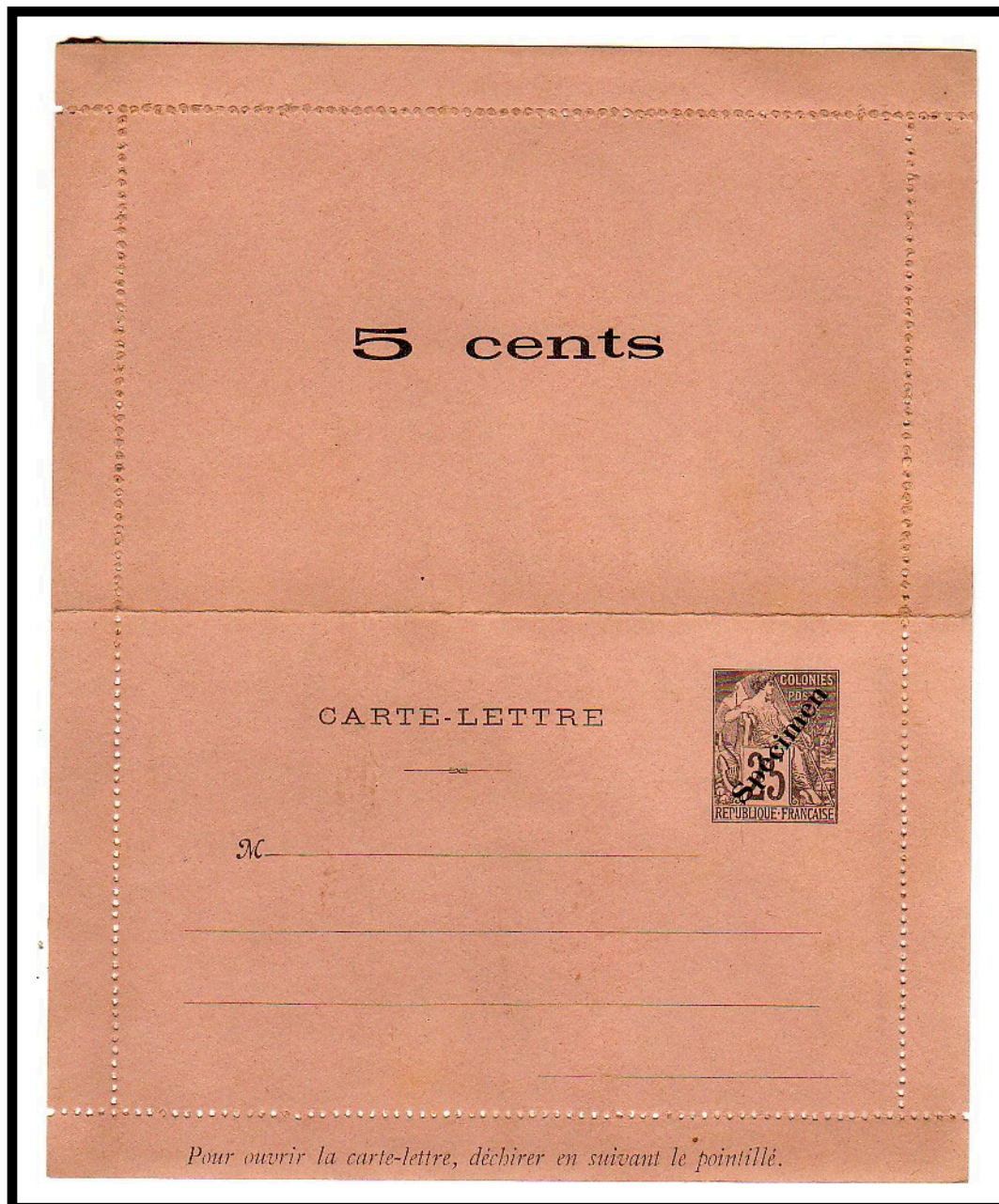


POSTAL MARKINGS

MYTHO COCHINCHINE 29 SEPT. 89
MARSEILLE A LYON SPECIAL 23 OCT 89

Commerce
Lettercards
Display Sample

A 25-centime lettercard was overprinted "Specimen" with the selling price of the product printed in terms of the local currency (cents of the piaster) as a display sample to be posted at the Saigon post office.



Commerce
Letter Cards
Use of 25-centime Letter Card to External Destination

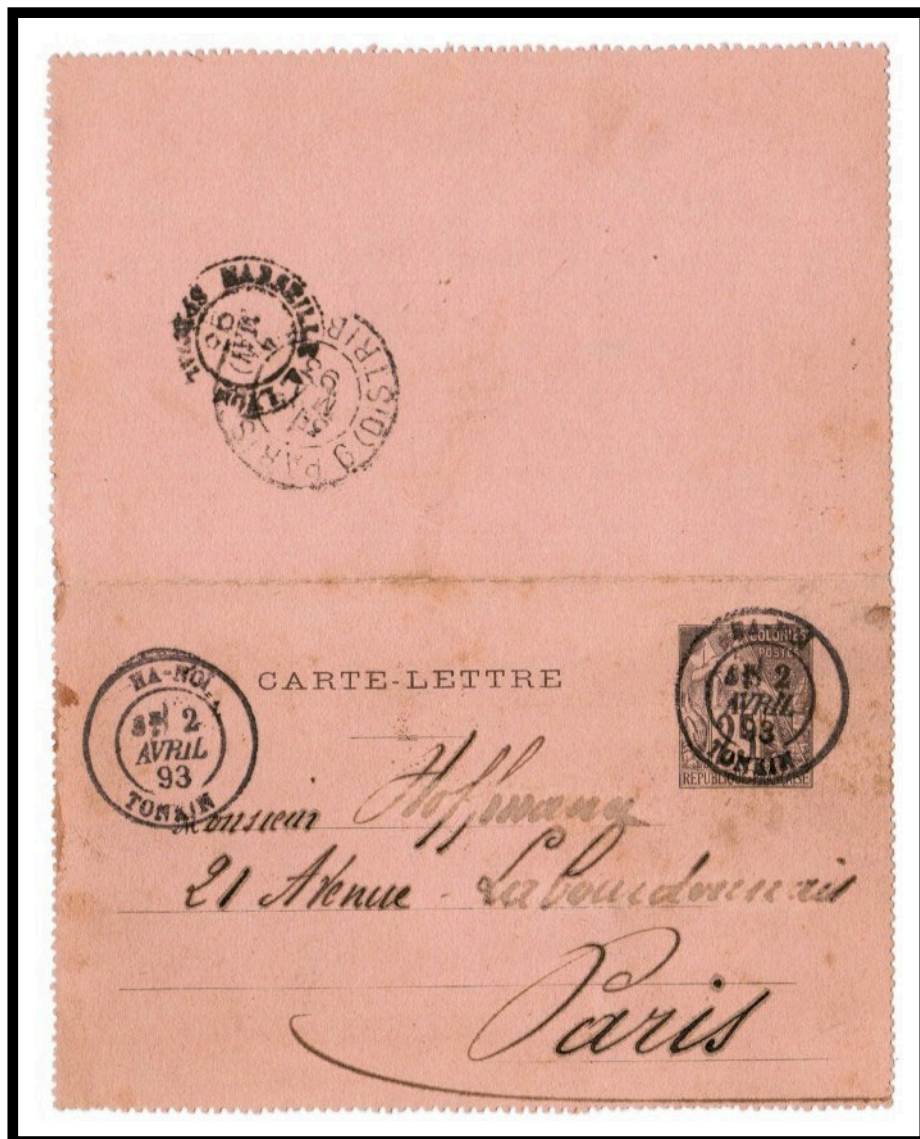
Posted from Cholon in early 1890, this letter card reached Paris in about a month.



POSTAL MARKINGS
CHOLON COCHINCHINE 8 JANV 90
SAIGON CA COCHINCHINE 8 JANV. 90
PARIS (RIGTRIE) 7 FEVR 90

Commerce
Letter Cards
Use of 25-centime Letter Card to External Destination

The transit time for a 25-centime letter card sent from Hanoi to Paris in 1893 was about one month.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HA-NOI TONKIN 2 AVRIL 93
MARSEILLE A LYON SPECIAL 4 MAI 93
9 PARIS 9 (DISTRIBUTION) 5 MAI 93

Commerce
Letter Cards
Use of 25-centime Letter Card to External Destination

The 25-centime denomination allowed a letter card to be sent to a foreign destination, the same as the foreign letter rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON PORT COCHINCHINE 8 NOV. 88
SAIGON ^{CA} COCHINCHINE 8 NOV 88
WIEN WIEN 15 12 88

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 1-centime Wrapper

A 1-centime wrapper was used for a local mailing within Saigon in 1904. A large "T" signified that the postage was inadequate and a due amount was required from the recipient. The amount due of 5 centimes was indicated with a single copy of Indochina's first postage due stamp, which bears the same postmark as the one on the wrapper's indicium.



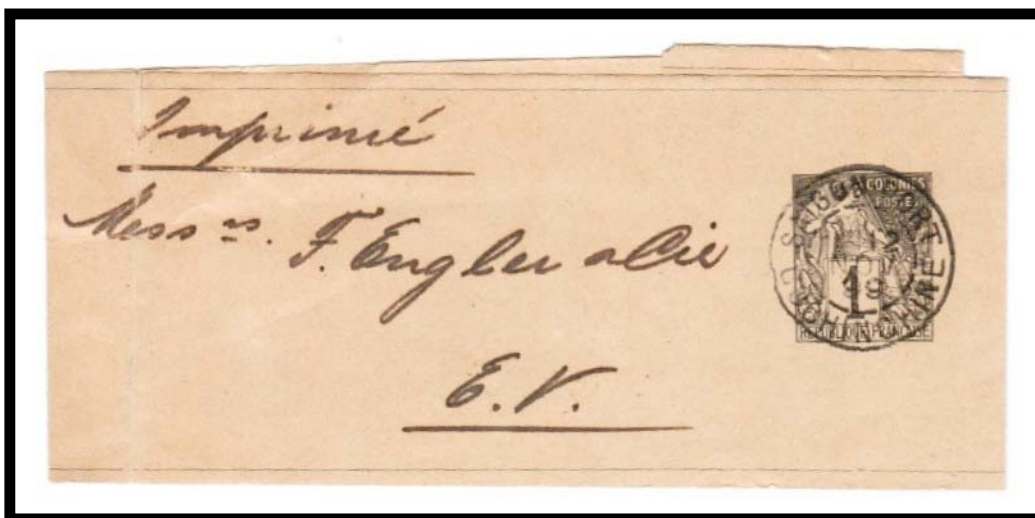
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 29 JUIN 04
large plain "T" handstamp

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 1-centime Wrapper

Local mailings used "En Ville" or simply "E. V." to indicate "within the city."



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 23 JUL 90



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 12 NOV 99

Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 1-centime Wrapper



CAP ST. JACQUES
COCHINCHINE



HAI-PHONG
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 1-centime Wrapper



HANOI-CONCEN
TONKIN



HANOI-RECIE
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 1-centime Wrapper



LAO-KAI
TONKIN

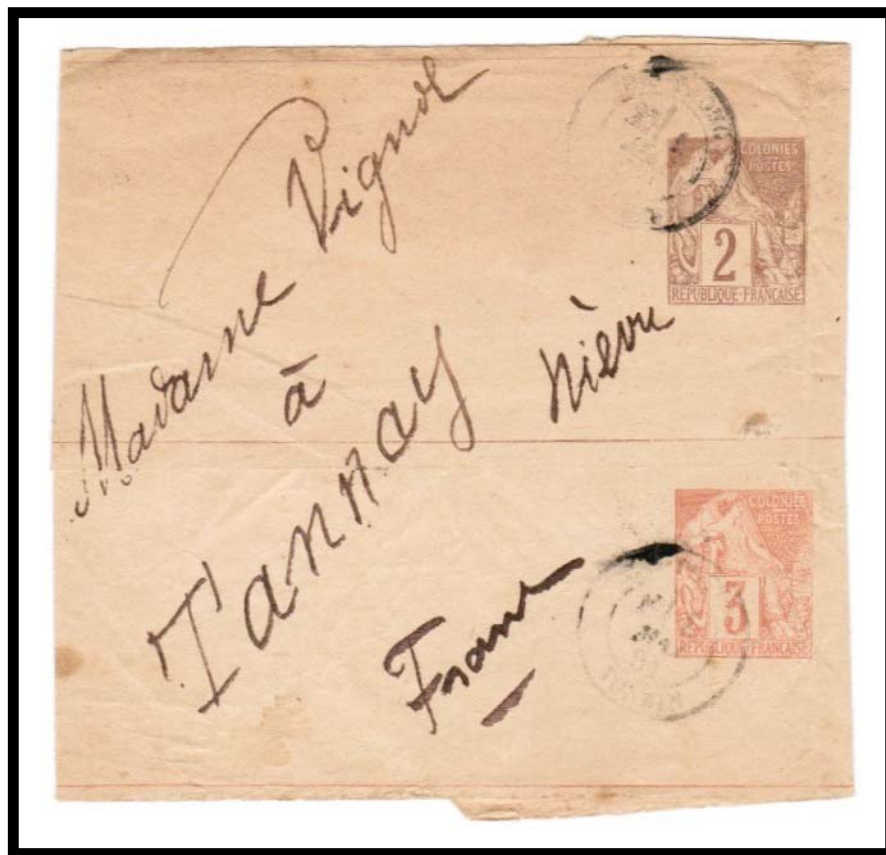


SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



Commerce
Stationery
Combined Use of 2-centimes and 3-centimes Wrappers

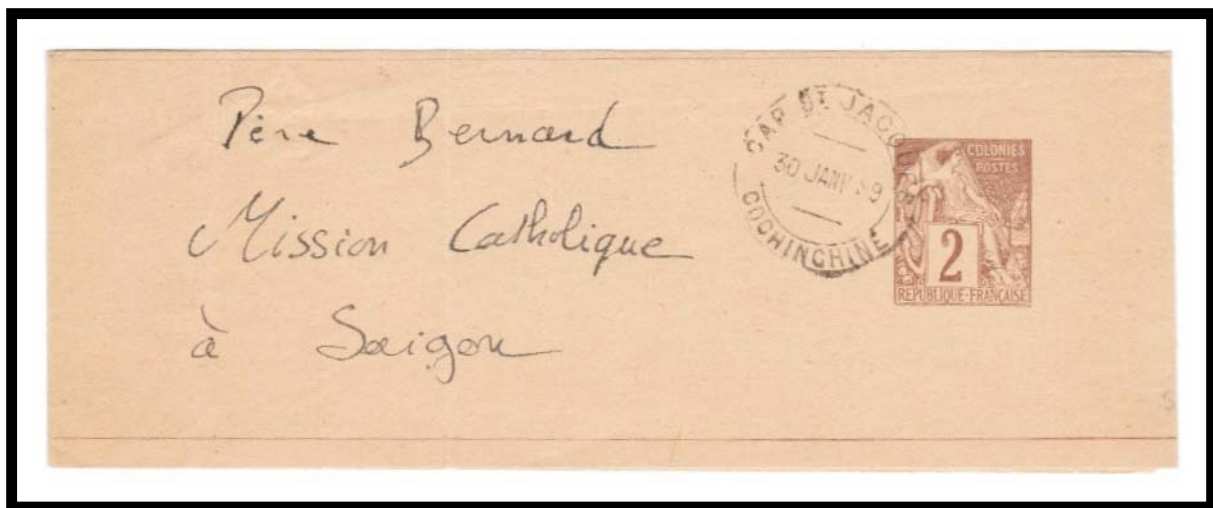
Examples of the 2 and 3-centimes wrappers were joined together for a heavy mailing to France in 1891.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 1 MAI 91

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 2-centimes Wrapper

The Cap Saint Jacques postmark applied to this 3-centime wrapper has a distinctive scalloped outer border. This style postmark was usually used at telegraph offices, but occasionally was applied to mail.



POSTAL MARKINGS
CAP ST JACQUES COCHINCHINE 30 JANV 89

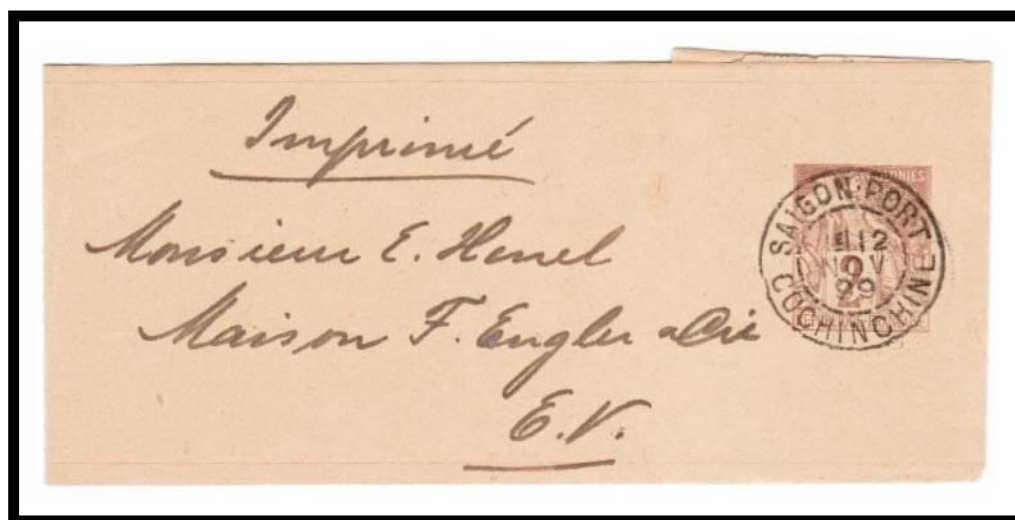
Commerce
Stationery
Use of 2-centimes Wrapper



POSTAL MARKINGS
CHAUDOC COCHINCHINE 7 JUIN 91



Commerce
Stationery
Use of 2-centimes Wrapper

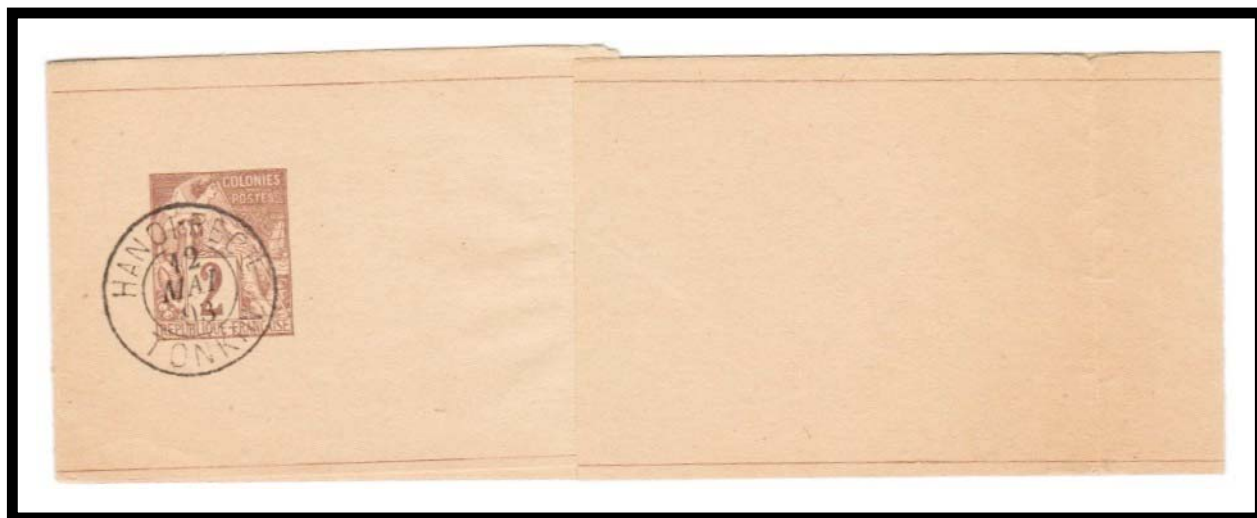


POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 12 NOV 99

Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 2-centimes Wrapper



HANOI-CONCESSION
TONKIN



HANOI-RECEPTE
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 2-centimes Wrapper



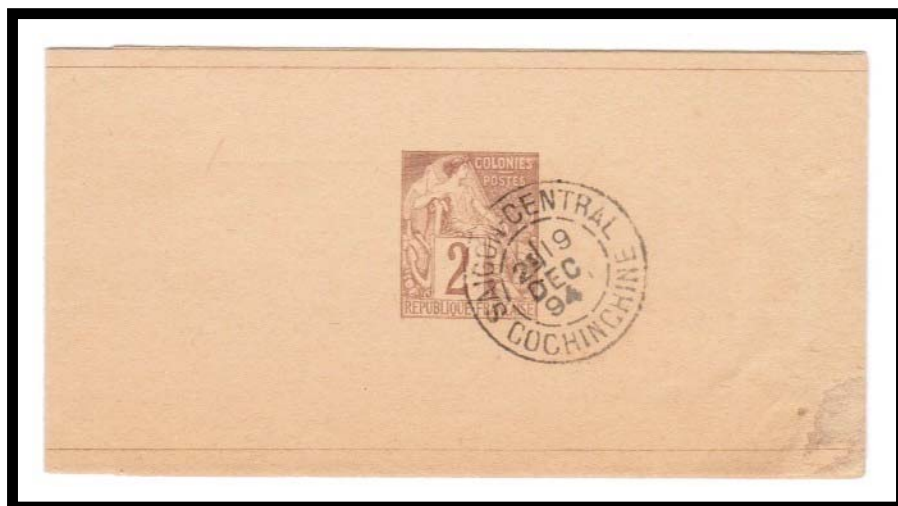
HA-NOI
TONKIN



LAO-KAI
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 2-centimes Wrapper



SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



THUAN-AN
ANNAM



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 2-centimes Wrapper

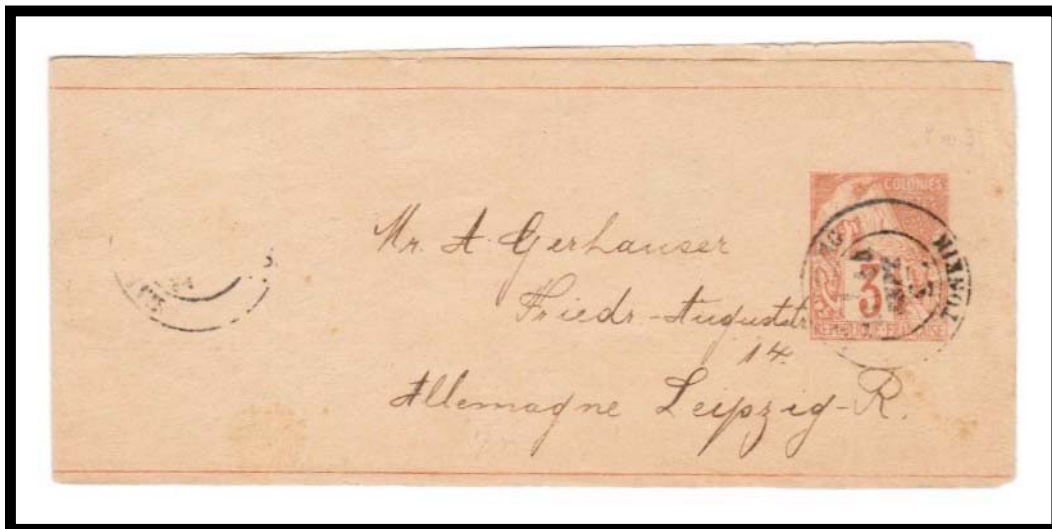


CAP SAINT
JACQUES
COCHINCHINE



Commerce
Stationery
Use of 3-centimes Wrapper

These examples of 3-centimes wrappers indicate foreign destinations.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 14 SEPT. 93



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 23 JUIL 90

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 3-centimes Wrapper

These 3-centimes wrappers were sent to cities in France.



POSTAL MARKINGS
CHAUDOC COCHINCHINE



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 28 AOUT 91

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 3-centimes Wrapper



POSTAL MARKINGS
MYTHO COCHINCHINE 8 DEC. 89



Commerce
Stationery
Use of 3-centimes Wrapper

Both of these of 3-centimes wrappers are addressed to Pnompenh, Cambodia.



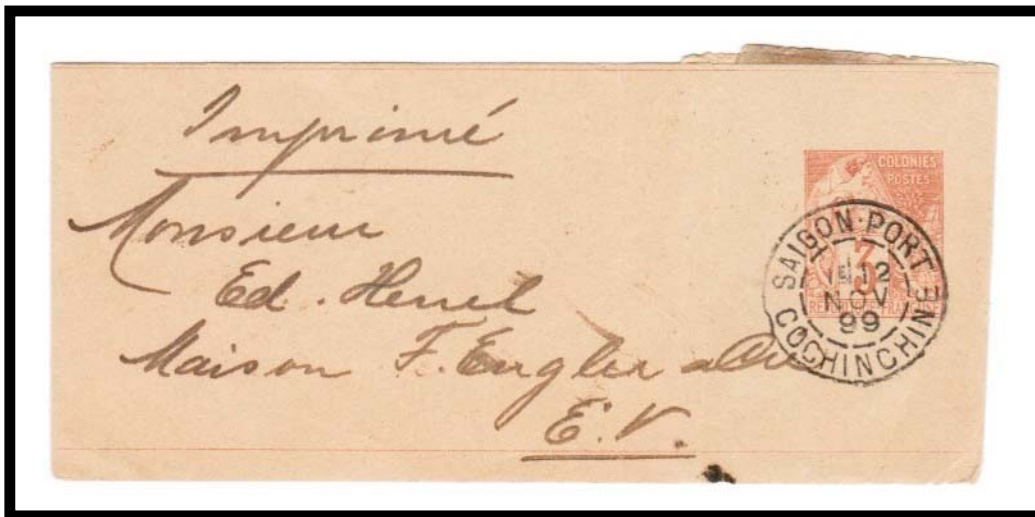
POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 13 DEC 99



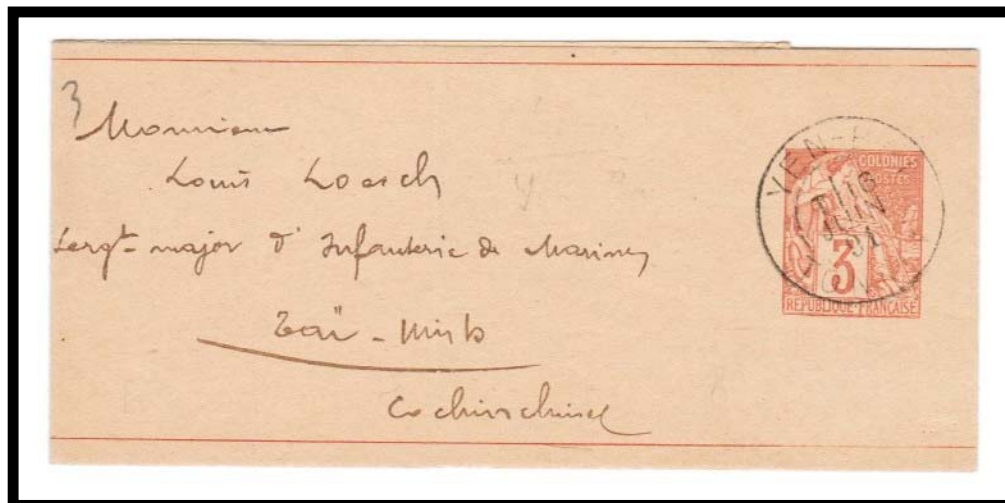
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 13 FEVR 97
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 13 FEVR 97

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 3-centimes Wrapper

These 3-centimes wrappers were addressed within Indochina.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 12 NOV 99



POSTAL MARKINGS
YEN-BAI TONKIN 16 JUIN 91

Commerce
Stationery
Use of 3-centimes Wrapper



POSTAL MARKINGS
CHAUDOC COCHINCHINE 16 FEVR 92



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 3-centimes Wrapper



HAI-PHONG
TONKIN



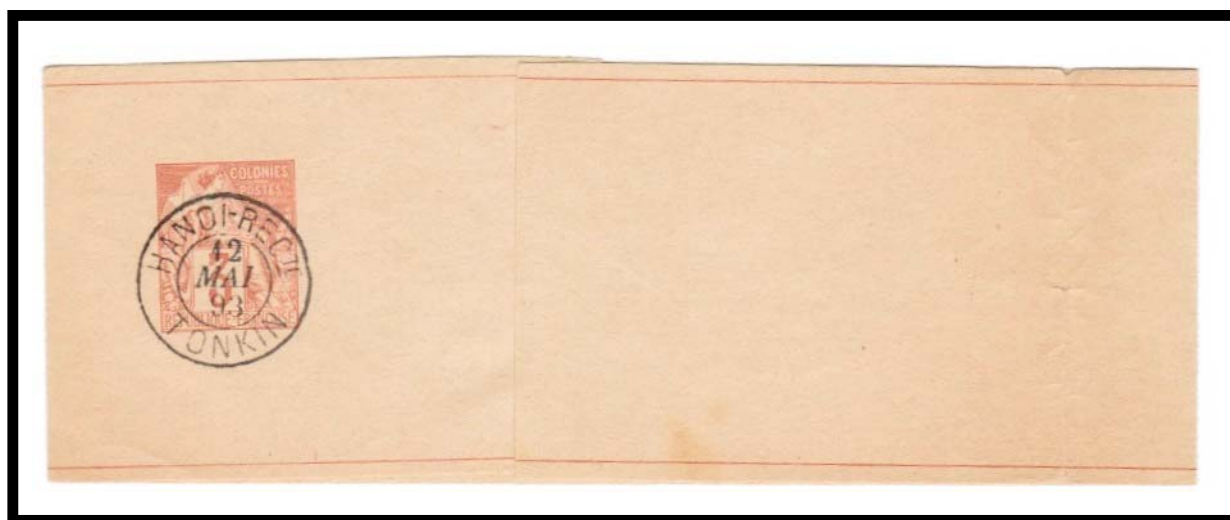
LAO-KAI
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 3-centimes Wrapper



HANOI-CONCES
TONKIN



HANOI-RECTE
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 3-centimes Wrapper



SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE



THUAN-AN
ANNAM



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 3-centimes Wrapper



PHAN-TIET
ANNAM



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 3-centimes Wrapper

The postmark applied at Yen-Bai was from the telegraph office. Instead of a pickup number, a capital "T" was located at the upper right of the center portion of the postmark.



YEN-BAI
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Favor Postmarks on 4-centimes and 5-centimes Wrapper



THUAN-AN
ANNAM



HANOI-CONCES
TONKIN



Commerce
Stationery
Postmarks on Wrapper Cut-Squares



SAIGON-PORT
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON-PORT
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON-PORT
COCHINCHINE



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



THUAN-AN
ANNAM

