

Peace and Commerce  
Use of 4 centimes green

Behre and Company was established in 1860 by a Gustav Behre, a German merchant. With branches in Singapore and Hong Kong, it was the first German company to establish a foothold in Indochina. The import-export company benefitted from strong German backing – no doubt motivated by the fact that successive managers of Behre & Co. in Saigon were also acting Consuls of Germany in the territory. The company operated until 1884.

Presumably, the company distributed price lists and other commercial printed matter using the most economical channels. This example is from a mailing wrapper that only required 4 centimes postage for transport to Germany in 1878.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 28 JANV. 78

# Peace and Commerce Use of 5 centimes

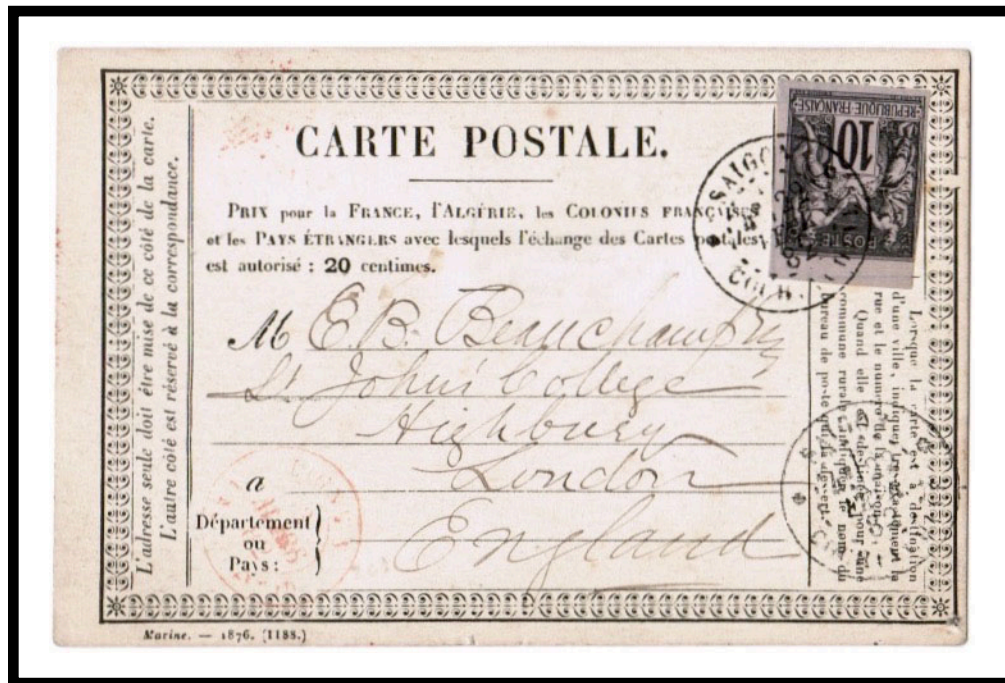
A copy of the *Journal Officielle de la Cochinchine Française* was posted from Saigon in 1881. A single 5 centimes Peace and Commerce stamp paid the printed matter postage rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 9 MAI 81  
MODANE A PARIS 10 JUIN

## Peace and Commerce Use of 10 centimes black

Although the 1876 postal card's text clearly specifies a postal rate of 20 centimes when sent within the French Community, Universal Postal Union rules governed international mail. Article 5 of the Paris Convention of 1878 fixed the international postage rate for postcards at 10 centimes. Here the sender used the 10-centime black Peace and Commerce stamp for a mailing from Saigon to London in 1882.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 22 FEVR. 82



Peace and Commerce  
Use of 10 centimes black and 15 centimes blue

As a member of the Annam-Tonkin Expeditionary Corps, the sender had free mail privileges for letters sent to France and within the French Community. Nonetheless for this letter addressed to Tunisia, the sender affixed two Peace and Commerce stamps and had then cancelled with an administrative handstamp. Postal clerks ignored the superfluous stamps and placed their postmarks on the envelope in areas away from them. Penned markings indicated that the stamps were unnecessary.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TONKIN CORPS EXPEDITRE 28 AVRIL 94  
HA-NOI TONKIN 28 AVRIL 94

## Peace and Commerce Use of 15 centimes gray

The 15 centimes gray was a part of the original colonial Peace and Commerce issue in 1877. However, a change in rates in France in 1878 and a desire to make the stamp color blue for the basic internal letter within France, prompted a shift of the blue color from the 25-centime denomination to the 15 centimes stamps. As a result, the imperforate 15 centimes gray saw a relatively limited service life.

A military letter rate of 15 centimes was put into effect on 1 May 1878 and lasted more than two decades. This letter from 1879 was franked with the short-lived 15-centime gray and posted at Saigon by a sailor, who was a part of France's military occupation forces in the French colony of Cochinchina.



### POSTAL MARKINGS

CORR. D. ARMEES SAIGON 12 MARS 79  
COL. F.V. SUEZ PAQ. F. 3 MARS. 3 11 AVRIL 79

French Peace and Commerce  
Use of 15 centimes blue

While imperforate Peace and Commerce stamps served the colonies, perforated French versions saw occasional use from the colonial locations. Here a 15-centime blue stamp, likely carried by a sailor since the time he had left France, was used to post a military rate letter from Saigon to Brest in 1884.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON COCHINCHÉ CORPS EXPÉ 17 NOV 84  
REVERSE  
BREST FINISTERE 21 FEVR 84



Peace and Commerce  
Use of 15 centimes blue

Starting 1 May 1878, deployed soldiers had a reduced military postage rate of 15 centimes for letters to France.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
CORR. D. ARMEES SAIGON 4 JUIL 81  
REVERSE  
AVIGNON VAUCLUSE 4 AOUT 81

## Peace and Commerce Use of 25 centimes blue

Beginning in 1883, soldiers serving in combat zones of Annam and Tonkin had a free franchise for mail within the French Community. However, the free mail privilege did not extend to foreign countries. In this case, a 25-centime blue Peace and Commerce stamp paid the postage to Switzerland for soldier's letter posted via the military postal system.



### POSTAL MARKINGS

CORPS EXPEDITÉ TONKIN 18 FEVR 84

### REVERSE

CORR. D. ARMEES SAIGON 9 MARS 84

AMBULANT N° 39 11 IV 84

SIENNE ETRS-LETT 11 IV 84

YVERDON 12 IV 84



Peace and Commerce  
Use of 25 centimes blue

From 16 February 1878 to 31 December 1898, the civilian letter rate to France was 25 centimes. Mail was offloaded at Modane, Italy and transported by train to Paris.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON COCHINCHINE 9 DEC. 82  
MODANE A PARIS 5 JANV. 83

Peace and Commerce  
Use of 25 centimes blue

From 16 February 1878 to 31 December 1898, the civilian letter rate to France was 25 centimes. Mail was offloaded at Modane, Italy and transported by train to Paris. In this case, the railway postmark lacked a year and it was entered by hand by a postal clerk on the train.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON COCHINCHINE 25 NOV. 81

MODANE A PARIS 26 DEC. 81

REVERSE

DIJON CÔTE-D'OR 26 DEC 81

Peace and Commerce  
Use of 30 centimes

As a matter of the sender's convenience, a single 30-centime brown Peace and Commerce stamp overpaid the 25-centime letter rate to France in 1885. The civilian letter rate to France had been 25 centimes since 1879.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TONQUIN HAI-PHONG 10 JANV 85  
MODANE A PARIS 22 FEVR 85 (red)

REVERSE

HAPSHEIM 9-10V. 23-2 85



Peace and Commerce  
Use of 40 centimes

During the period 1 July 1876 through 30 April 1878, the letter rate to France for civilian mail was 40 centimes. For the ocean voyage to Europe, this letter was carried by the Ava, which departed Saigon on 11 March 1878.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON COCHINCHINE 10 MARS 78  
REVERSE  
BORDEAUX GIRONDE 9 AVRIL 78  
LORMONT GIRONDE 10 AVRIL 78