

Domestic Rate

Incorrectly franked post cards are rare, and represent not more than 1% of balloon postcards reported.



Overpaid

Paris (445 – Bercy),
13 October 1870 → Pontarlier,
16 October

Balloon – *Godefroy Cavaignac* or
Jean Bart I

Posted at the 20c letter rate and
receiving more prompt dispatch
than was typical of cards mailed at
the 10c post card rate.



Foreign

Paris (Senat), 3 October 1870 →
Tournai, Belgium, 14 October →
Lille, France

Unusual forwarded back to France

Balloon – *Louis Blanc*
or *Godefroy Cavaignac*

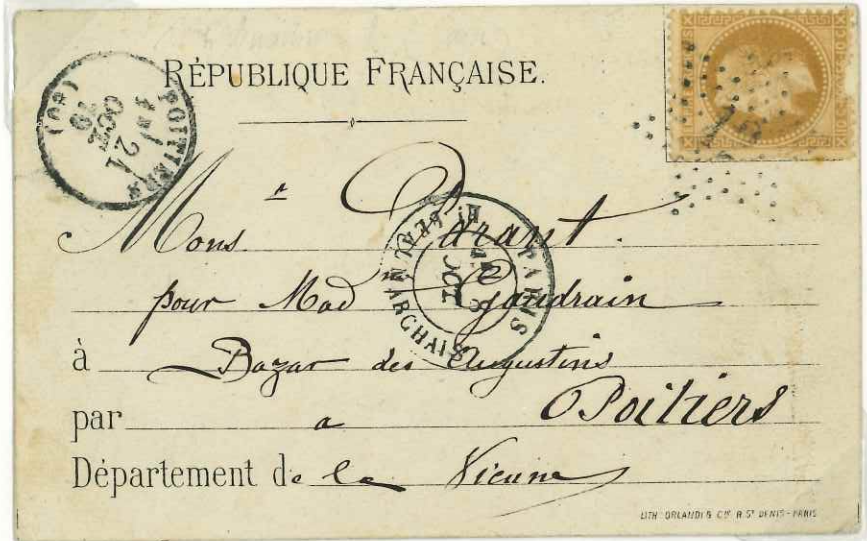
Certificate

T. Broadhead - P97

10c laureated Napoleon III is the most common franking.

Paris (12 - Boulevard Beaumarchais), 8 October 1870 → Poitiers, 21 October

Balloon - Jules Favre 1 or Jean Bart 2



30c Rate to England



Paris (24 Rue de Cléry),
29 September 1870 →
London, 13 October

Balloon – *Armand Barbès* – the
second manned balloon to carry
post cards.

Post cards to foreign destinations
required letter-rate postage, and
would be handled as letters.
Slightly delayed due to
destination.

Later Balloons

Following the removal of the backlog by the mid-October balloons, post cards received handling similar to letters, and no further delayed accumulations developed. However, the number of reported post cards indicates that their use diminished significantly, in total approximately 15% of all balloon post cards.

The 10c "Siege" issue printed from plates prepared for the first issue of French stamps became more common on post cards of the later balloons.



Paris (8 - Rue d'Antin),
28 October 1870 →
Caen, 2 November

Balloon – *Colonel Charras*

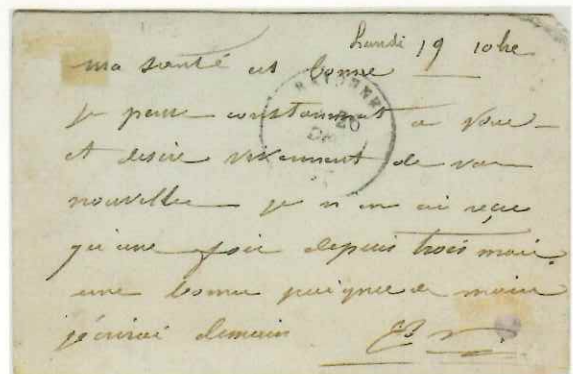


Paris (2 - Rue St.-Lazarre),
19 December 1870 →
Bayonne, 26 December

Balloon – *Lavoisier*

Non-obligatory manuscript
inscription "Ballon monté"

Reverse x 75%



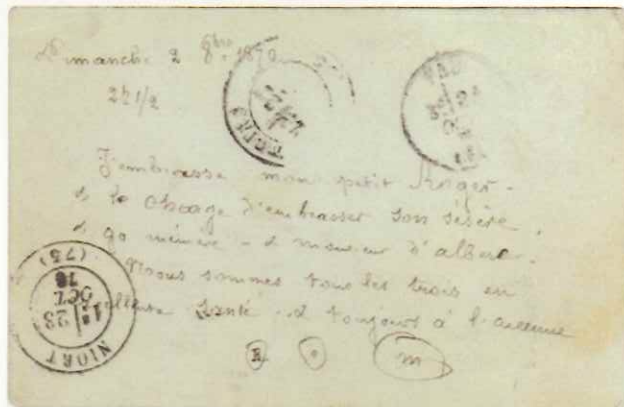
Delayed - Forwarded



Paris (2793, Passy-les-Paris),
2 October 1870 →
Tours, 22 October →
Niort, 23 October →
Pau, 24 October

Balloon - *Jules Favre 1*
or *Jean Bart 2*

Typical delayed mail dispatched
in the mid-October balloons



Reverse x 75%



Paris (8 Rue d'Antin),
29 September 1870 →
Brezolles, 30 October →
Alençon, 2 November

Balloon - *Vauban*

Unusually long delay, beyond the
characteristic transit or receiving dates
of post cards in the mid-October
balloons.

Mid-October Balloons

The large accumulated backlog of post cards, many posted in late September, was mostly carried by four large balloons, the *Godefroy Cavaignac* and *Jean Bart I* on 14 October and the *Jules Favre I* and *Jean Bart II* on 16 October. These mid-October balloons carried the largest volume of post card mail during the siege.



Paris (1 – Place de La Bourse),
30 September 1870 →
Lorient, 21 October

Balloon - *Jules Favre I*
or *Jean Bart 2*

Typical example of two to three
week delay.

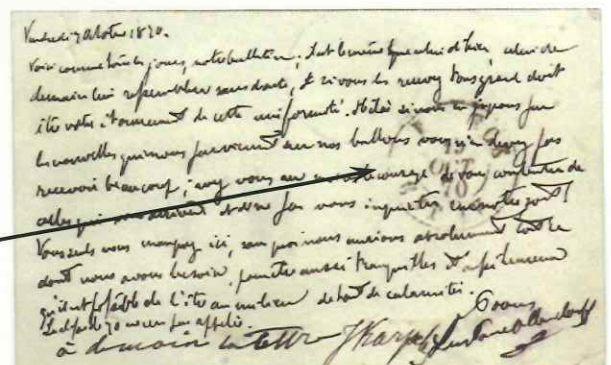


Paris (11 - Rue St. Honoré), 7 October 1870
→ France Est transit, 15 October → Brussels

Balloon - *Godefroy Cavaignac* or *Jean Bart 1*

Cards to foreign destinations required full
letter postage, and tended to be handled as
such. They were not subject to the long delays
experienced by cards to domestic destinations.

Belgian entry mark:
France - Est IV



Reverse x 75%

Manuscript "par ballon non monté" (by unmanned balloon) reflects the original intent to mail cards by unmanned balloons, which by early October had proven to be a failure.

Final Balloons

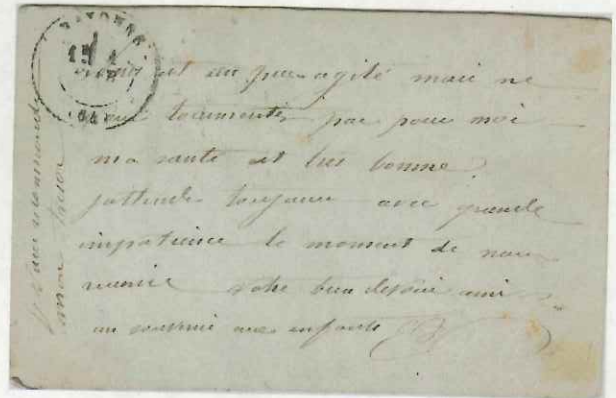


Reverse x 75%

Paris, (2 - Rue St.-Lazare), 22 January 1871
→ Bayonne, 4 February

Balloon – *Torricelli* – the third to last postal balloon. Post cards have not been reported in mail from the last two balloons.

The siege of Paris ended 1 February, 1871.



Post cards ceased to be used as discounted mail at the end of the war and are not reported from the postwar retaliatory period.