

TYPE SAGE

REGISTERED AND INSURED MAIL

The first type Sage stamps were introduced in mid-1876. The stamps particularly associated with registration were the 40c, 50c, 75c, F1.00 and F5.00. The F2.00 appeared in the last year of the issue. However, in parallel with the running down of the previous "Cérès" issue the first stamps issued were the lower values and it was some months before the higher ones appeared. It is therefore quite normal to see examples of mixed franking with "Cérès" in the early days of the issue and especially the 40c and 80c and occasionally the F5.00 "empire lauré".

The period is an interesting one: type Sage is very much a child of the General Postal Union (later U.P.U) that France joined on 1 January 1876. The first period up to 1 May 1878 combined a mixture of pre G.P.U and post G.P.U elements. Although the basic weight step of 15g had been adopted, different weight bands applied thereafter and a twin rate tariff continued to separate local and territorial mail. The insurance element was expensive at 20c per F100 and a combination of these features gave rise to the possibility of high value frankings.

The postal reform of 1 May 1878 was significant in that it saw the replacement of the twin rate tariff with a single territorial rate with equal steps of 15g and a substantial reduction in the insurance rate. Other rates for reduced price items such as printed matter, samples, postcards etc were also unified and simplified. Over the rest of the period of the issue the rates remained fairly stable but with a tendency for reduction and a number of new products were introduced where registration and/or insurance were involved.

A selection of these rates is shown along with the postal markings used by the different categories of office. Whilst each category had separate distinguishing marks there was especially as concerned full service "recette" offices, a great variety of marks used and some that applied specifically to registered and insured mail. The issue was replaced by the "Blanc, Mouchon and Merson" issue in 1900 although Sage stamps continued to be used for some years and were never officially withdrawn.

PLAN OF THE DISPLAY

FRAME ONE

THE TARIFF OF 1 JANUARY 1876

Local and territorial mail, registered and insured.
Mixed franking with "Cérès"
Reduced price items.

FRAME TWO

THE TARIFF OF 1 JANUARY 1876 (continued)

Registered postcards. Local and territorial rates.

THE TARIFF OF 1 MAY 1878 THE REDUCTION OF REGISTRATION RATE (16.1.1879)

Combination frankings.

Samples, printed matter under wrapper
Postcards

REDUCTION IN REGISTRATION RATE FOR REDUCED PRICE ITEMS (TARIFF 1 APRIL 1898

INTRODUCTION OF REGISTRATION LABELS. 16 FEBRUARY 1900

FRAME THREE

Secondary offices: bureaux auxiliaires and
facteurs boitiers.

Insured mail on a TPO (ambulant)

Particular cancellers used by 'recette' offices:
'Chargements, Affranchissements, Guichets and
Articles d'Argent.

"Avis de reception". A.R.

Mail to be insured handed to a postman on his
rounds.

Registered mail posted in a moveable box (B.M.)
Mail registered at exhibitions.

TYPE SAGE 1876-1900
REGISTERED AND INSURED MAIL.

POSTAGE, REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE RATES.

	POSTAGE	REGISTRATION	INSURANCE.
AS AT 1.1.1876			
Local letter	15c	50c	20c per F100
Territorial letter	25c	50c	20c per F100
Local postcard	10c	25c	
Territorial postcard	15c	25c	
Business papers	5c (50 grams)	25c	
Local printed matter	5c (10 grams)	25c	
Territorial printed matter	10c (10 grams)	25c	
AS AT 1.5.1878			
Letter	15c	50c	10c per F100
Postcard	10c	25c	10c per F100
Business papers	5c (50 grams)	25c	
Printed matter	5c (50 grams)	25c	
AS AT 16.1.1879			
Letters. Reduction registration fee		25c.	
AS AT 1.7.1892			
Reduction insurance			10c per F500
AS AT 1.4.1898			
OPR. Reduction		10c.	

NOTE

1. Printed matter and business papers. The registration fee is the same whether under wrapper or in envelope.
2. OPR = Objets à prix réduit. Reduced price items include all forms of printed matter, business papers.

TYPE SAGE

INSURED MAIL.



23 April 1891

Insured letter from Argenton l'Eglise (Deux Sèvres) to Pontoise (Seine & Oise)

Received at Pontoise 24.4



Argenton. Office 157
Insured value F3700
Weight: 21 grams.

Franked F4.25

Postage 30c (2nd weight step T1.5.1878) + Registration 25c (T 16.1.1879)

+ Insurance F3.70 (T 1.5.1878 - 10c per F100)

Note. Use of five 75c rose/pale rose Type II (Dallay 80) + 50c rose / pale rose Type II (Dallay 97). This is a scarce combination and, perhaps a confusing one for the public as well as the post office. The 75c was introduced in 1877 and replaced in 1890, the year that the 50c was issued.

Monsieur Debarre ;
Paris mille cinq cents francs.

393

CHARGE

Commission
Norman

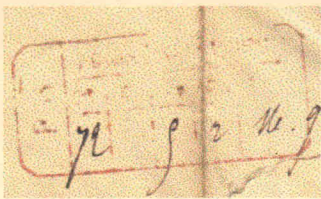
de Commerce
à Paris

Garnier



4.50
68
4.15
10^h

TYPE SAGE
INSURED MAIL



Insured value F6.000
Weight 72 grams

18 January 1877
Paris, Rue d'Antin to Barcelonnette (Basses Alpes)

Franked 13f75
Postage 1-25 4th weight step. 50-100 grams.
Tariff of 1.1.1876.
Registration. 0-50 Tariff of 2.1873.
Insurance 12-00 20c per F100. Tariff of 2.1873

In order to extinguish the stocks of the 5 franc Empire the 5 franc Sage was not introduced until 1st June 1877. It remains a very scarce combination with Sage.