

1880

*De Casabianca & Cie.*



An attractive example of trade cards featuring maps was issued by the Paris firm of De Casabianca & Cie., and is sometimes assigned to 1874. However, there is some evidence to suggest about 1880 is more likely, as their design also includes costume figures, heraldry and coins dated 1875/1879. An example is also known overprinted with a calendar for 1881. The set consists of eight cards:

*Allemagne; Autriche-Hongrie; Espagne; France; Iles Britanniques; Italie; Russie; Turquie.*



There are some differences in the chromolithography. The earliest cards have gold borderlines but on the later ones they are red. Another variant is the colour of the sea and surface finish: either pale blue and glossy or pale green and matt (see above).

The cards measure about 115 x 90 mm. with the printed area 107 x 80 mm. As well as those overprinted with advertisements, they are found as unissued stock cards with plain backs.

(*Cartes géographiques et monnaies*). Paris, De Casabianca et Cie., (1880).

