



Sets of educational cards, with engraved maps of the French departments and plain backs, had been published in Paris early in the nineteenth century (see 1819). Much later on, the outstanding Parisian lithographer, Jean L. Bognard, produced various sets of cartographical trade cards (see 1883). He sometimes outsourced artwork and one of the designers he used was A. Normand, whom he commissioned to draw a series of 103 chromos featuring maps of the departments and colonies of France:

*Ain; Aisne; Allier; Basses-Alpes; Hautes-Alpes; Alpes-Maritimes; Ardèche; Ardennes; Ariège; Aube; Aude; Aveyron; Bouches du Rhône; Calvados; Cantal; Charente; Charente Infre.; Cher; Corrèze; Corse; Côte d'Or; Côtes du Nord; Creuse; Dordogne; Doubs; Drôme; Eure; Eure et Loir; Finistère; Gard; Haute-Garonne; Gers; Gironde; Hérault; Ile-et-Vilaine; Indre; Indre et Loire; Isère; Jura; Landes; Loir-et-Cher; Loire; Haute-Loire; Loire-Inférieure; Loiret; Lot; Lot-et-Garonne; Lozère; Maine et Loire; Manche; Marne; Hte. Marne; Mayenne; Meurthe et Moselle; Meuse; Morbihan; Nièvre; Nord; Oise; Orne; Pas de Calais; Puy-de-Dome; Basses-Pyrénées; Hautes-Pyrénées; Pyrenées-Orientales; Territoire de Belfort; Rhône; Haute-Saône; Saône et Loire; Sarthe; Savoie; Haute-Savoie; Seine; Seine-et-Marne; Seine-et-Oise; Seine-Inférieure; Deux-Sèvres; Somme; Tarn; Tarn-et-Garonne; Var; Vaucluse; Vendée; Vienne; Haute-Vienne; Vosges; Yonne.*

*Paris; Alsace-Lorraine; Tunisie; Dept. d'Oran; Dept. d'Alger; Dept. de Constantine; Cochinchine Tonkin-Annan-Cambodge; Inde établissements français; Guadeloupe; Guyane française; La Martinique; La Réunion Ile Bourbon; Nouvelle Calédonie; Iles St. Pierre et Miquelon près Terre-Neuve; Sénégal; Taiti Iles Marquises.*

These cards feature coloured maps surrounded by sepia vignettes of buildings and scenery, with Bognard's imprint usually below the title. Sometimes it is also on the back, together with the designer's signature: 'A. Normand. Dess.' The date of the cards is uncertain, but it is thought that they first appeared in the 1880s. If their survival rate is any guide, the largest number were printed for the publisher Louis Hachette et Cie., usually with topographical notes on the back and often with its monogram (see above & below) on the front.

The full series is illustrated (ref: Bog 4-3-4-1), in Giuseppe Sorisi's chromo catalogue: *Bognard Jeune - Paris*, Milan, Ed. Chiara, 2005. According to Sorisi they are found in five sizes, ranging from 116 x 89 to 98 x 70 mm. Over time there were many issues and the printing variations include the following in different combinations:

- borderlines on front in gold (see below), brown or black / no borderlines;
- vignettes on front tinted (see below) / no tinting (see above);
- advertising or publisher's monogram on front / no advertising or monogram;
- Bognard's imprint on front / no imprint;
- individual numbers 1-103 at top left on back / no numbers;
- signature and imprint on back / no signature or imprint;
- advertising and/or topographical information on the back / plain or printed design.

Bognard produced another set in the same style, probably also designed by Normand, but they were for a British publisher and related to the British Isles (see 1885c).

(*Cartes géographiques des départements et colonies de France*). Paris, Jean L. Bognard, (1885-).

