

The 1890 4¢ Small American Bank Note Stamp: A Study of Usages

This 4¢ stamp, featuring Abraham Lincoln, was intended for the double 2¢ letter mail rate and as a make-up stamp for the registry fee, which was 10¢ in 1890 and reduced to 8¢ effective January 1, 1893.

Scope: Domestic and Foreign usages will be shown.

Plan: Starting with a double domestic rate on an oversize envelope shown on this page, continuing with other domestic double rates, a bisect use for the 2c single letter rate, Registered, Special Delivery, Quadruple Printed Matter Rate, Indian Territory Uses. **Overseas Uses: Europe:** England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark. **Africa:** South Africa, Egypt. **South America:** Brazil, Argentina. **Asia:** the Philippines. **Australia.**

Exceptional covers are outlined in red; reasons for their significance:

- Quadruple printed matter rate on an overall advertising cover, scarce usage.
- Registered cover from Gwenddale, Indian Territory. The only recorded example of this postmark.
- Usage to Scotland, Forwarded, Not Called For, sent to Dead Letter Office, Return to Writer D.L.O, rare usage.
- Registered cover to Egypt; scarce destination.



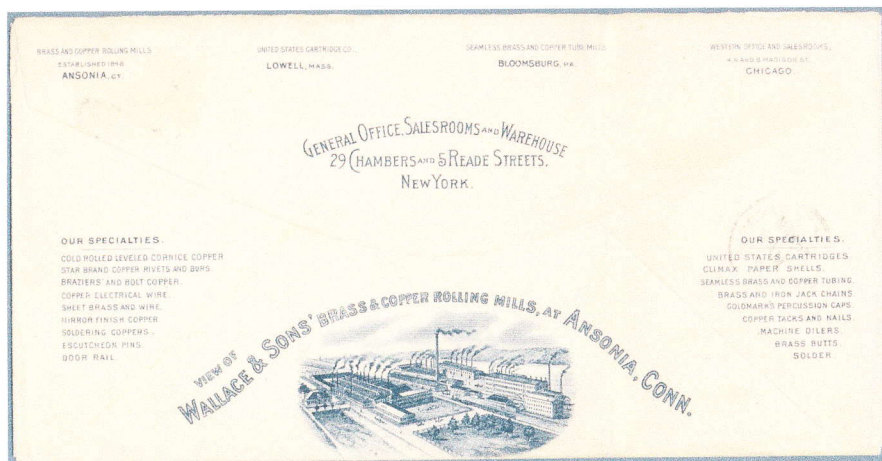
Wallace & Sons,
BRASS & COPPER
ROLLING MILLS.
(ESTABLISHED 1848.)
NEW YORK.



Messrs Goldsmith & Loewenberg,

Portland,

Oreg.



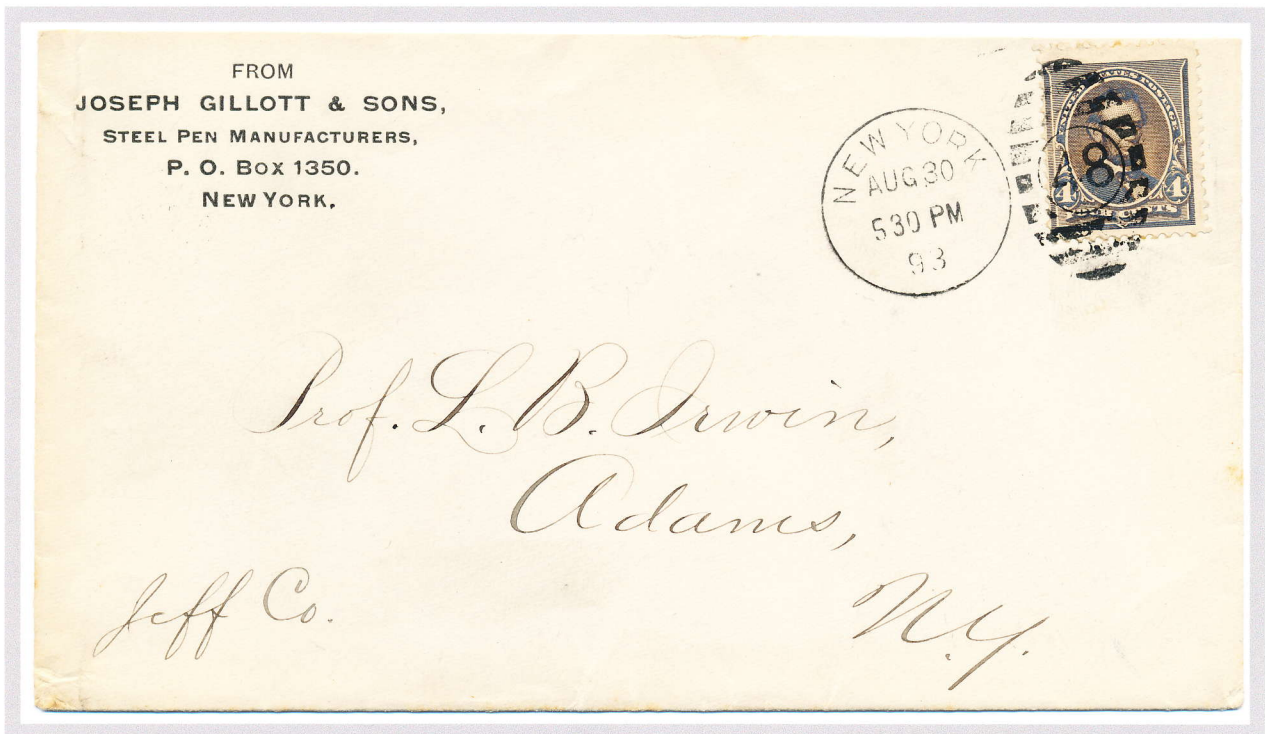
May 1894 New York, N.Y. advertising cover to Portland, Oregon, double domestic letter rate, weighing over 1 oz., up to 2 oz.

Reverse

1890 Issue - Four Cents
Domestic Usages

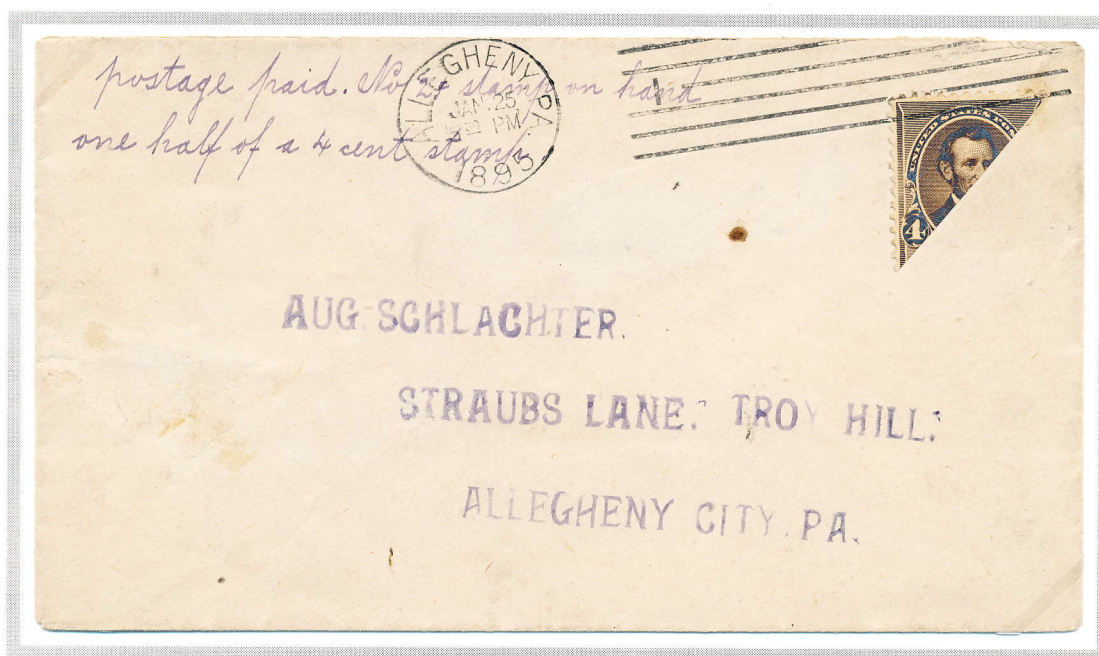


4 June 1891 Bridgeport, Conn. to W. Newbury, Wash., at double the 2¢ domestic rate.



30 August 1893 New York, N.Y. to Adams, N.Y., at double the 2¢ domestic rate.

1890 Issue - Four Cents
Domestic Usages - Bisect / Registered



25 January 1895 Allegheny, Pa. locally addressed letter bearing illegal diagonal **bi-sect** accepted as payment for the 2¢ local letter rate. Endorsed "postage paid. No 2¢ stamp on hand. One half of a 4 cent stamp."



2 July 1894 Watsonville, Cal. registered to St. Louis, Mo. prepaid with pair on 2¢ entire for the 8¢ registry fee plus 2¢ domestic rate.

1890 Issue - Four Cents
Domestic Usages - Registered



5 March 1894 Orphans Home, Tex. registered to Floral Park, N.Y. prepaid by pair on 2¢ Columbian entire for the 8¢ registry fee plus single 2¢ domestic rate.



10 April 1893 New York, N.Y. registered to Quincy, Mass. prepaid by strip of three for the 8¢ registry fee plus double the 2¢ domestic rate.

1890 Issue - Four Cents Domestic Usages - Registered

7 June (probably 1893) Washington D.C. registered to Bethlehem, Pa., 4¢ and 2¢ plus 6¢ Columbian pay 8¢ registry fee plus double 2¢ domestic rate.



17 April 1896
Lincoln, Nebr.
registered to
Hamilton, Mo.,
pairs of 3¢ and
4¢ pay 8¢ regis-
try fee and triple
2¢ domestic rate.

5 May 1892 Boston, Mass.
registered to Chicago, Ill.,
strip-of-three 4¢ pay 2¢ do-
mestic rate and 10¢ registry
fee.



1890 Issue - Four Cents
Domestic Usages -Third
Class Mail

Philadelphia, Pa. to Colrain, Mass. sent at quadruple the 1¢ domestic printed matter rate. Open-ended wrapper, required for postal inspection, containing 1892 Farm Annual Seed Catalog. Such wrappers were rarely saved and thus are scarce. Burpee (est. 1876) is still in business, now known as Burpee's Seeds.

BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL FOR 1892.

FROM

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.,

SEED GROWERS,



475 & 477 North Fifth St., } PHILADELPHIA, PA.
476 & 478 York Avenue,



For

F. L. Parbank
(Edm. Inve)

P. O.,

Colerain

MASSACHUSETTS.



THE GREATEST NOVELTY OF THE AGE!

BURPEE'S BUSH LIMA.

The Only Bush Form of the True Large Lima Bean.

Franklin
County,

**1890 Issue - Four Cents Domestic
Usages - Indian Territory**



24 November 1894, Yarnaby (Chickasaw Nation) Indian Territory registered to St. Louis, Mo. Double the 2¢ domestic rate plus 8¢ registry fee.



11 April 1902, Gwendale (Cherokee Nation), Indian Territory registered to Topeka, Ks., prepaid by 4¢ pair in combination with 2¢ 1894 issue for the 8¢ registry fee plus single 2¢ domestic rate. **This is the only known use of this postmark.** With original letter datelined Gwendale, I.T. April 11 1902.

**1890 Issue - Four Cents Domestic
Usages - Registered, Special Delivery**



8 January 1900 Philadelphia Pa. registered to Sterling, Nebraska with 4¢ 1890 issue and 6¢ 1894 issue, pay 8¢ registry fee and single letter rate.



20 August 1894 Altoona, Pa. to Chicago, Ill., registered, 4¢ and 15¢ 1890 issue used in combination with 8¢ and 10¢ Columbian, and 10¢ Special Delivery Issue.

1890 Issue - Four Cents
Foreign Usages: To Germany



New York City to Germany at five-times the 1¢ printed matter rate prepaid by single on 1¢ wrapper.



6 February 1894 New York City to Frankfurt, Germany, forwarded internally to Mannheim, bearing single in combination with 10¢ Columbian on 1¢ entire for three-times the 5¢ UPU rate.

1890 Issue - Four Cents

Foreign Usages: To Argentina / To Transvaal



17 October 1891 New York, N.Y. registered to Buenos aires, Argentina, prepaid with pair in combination with 3¢ 1890 issue on 4¢ entire for the 10¢ registry fee plus 5¢ UPU rate.



14 December 1891 Markesan, Wisc. To Johannesburg, Transvaal, prepaid by two singles used with 1¢ (three) and 2¢ 1890 issues on 2¢ entire for triple the 5¢ UPU rate.

1890 Issue - Four Cents

Foreign Usages: To Germany / To Philippines



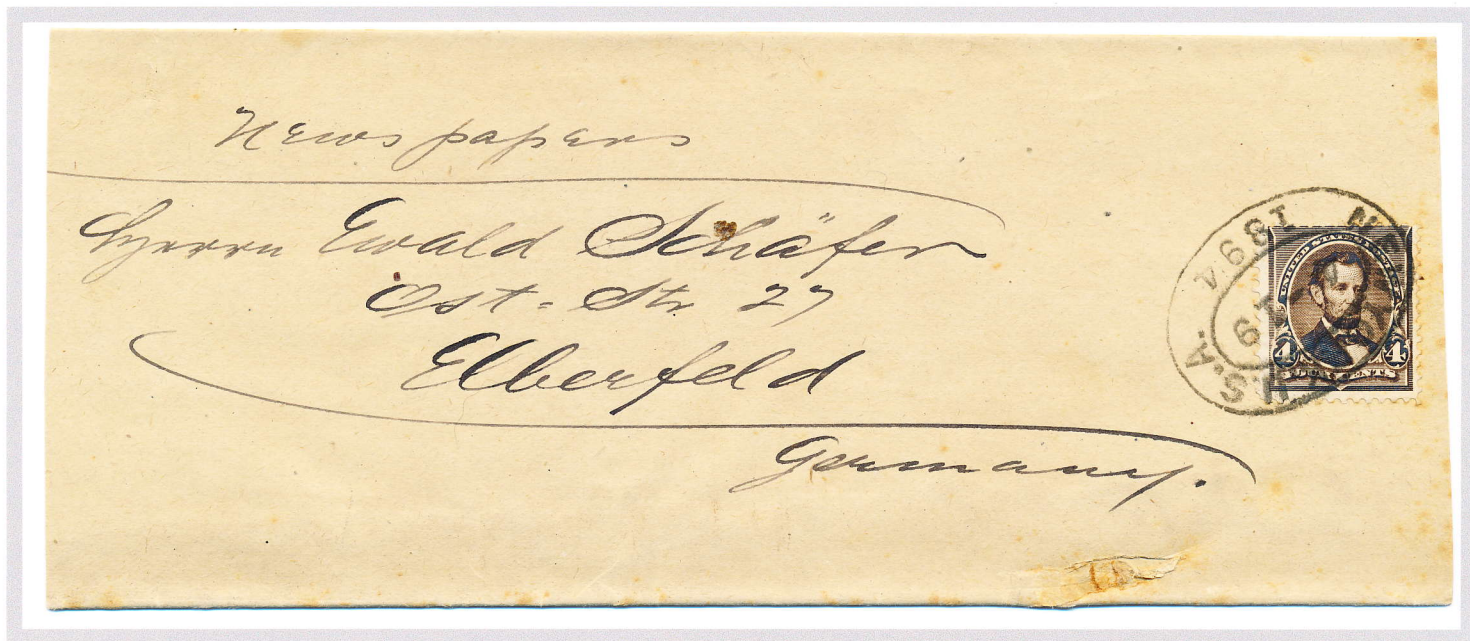
29 November 1893 New York, N.Y. registered to Antonshof, Germany, prepaid with single in combination with 15¢ Columbian and 15¢ 1890 issue.

18 February (ca. 1892)
Sierra Madre, Cal. To
Manila, Philippines,
forwarded upon arrival,
bearing single used in
combination with 1¢
1890 issue to prepay 5¢
UPU rate.

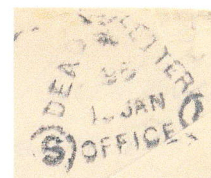
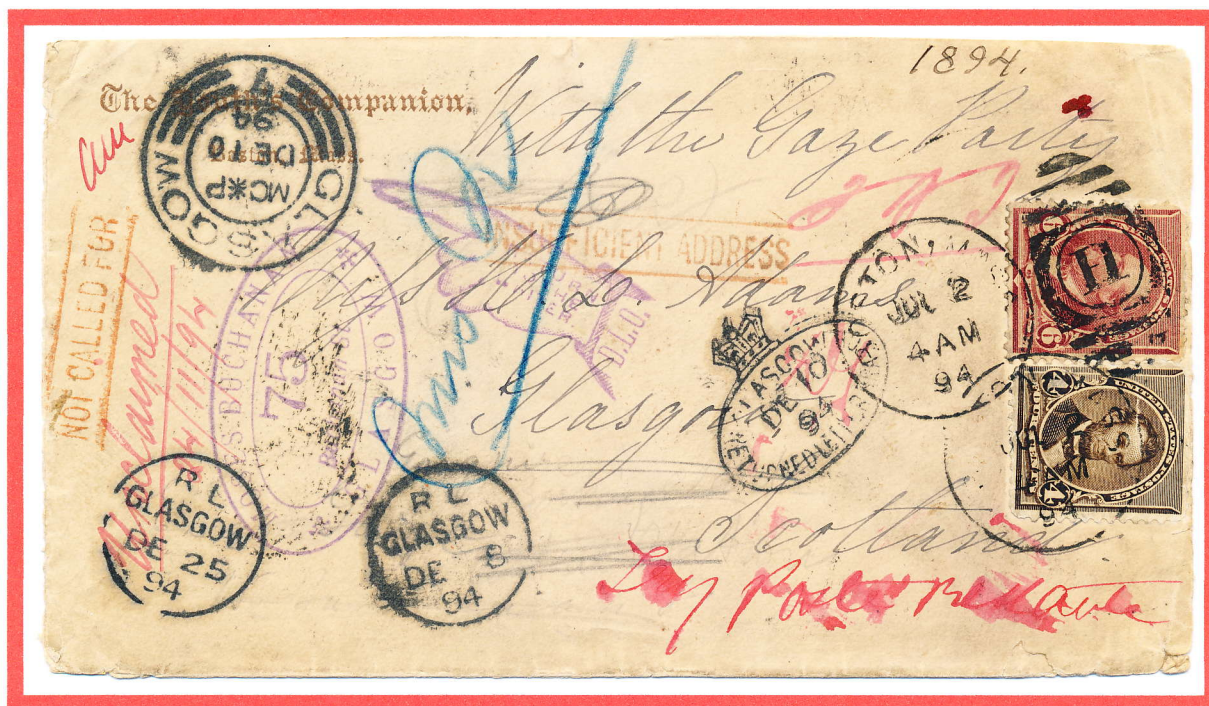


1890 Issue - Four Cents

Foreign Usages: To Germany/ To Scotland



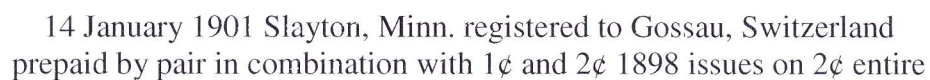
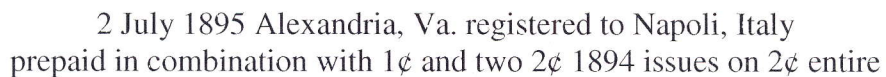
19 April 1894 New York, N.Y. to Elberfeld, Germany at 4X the 1¢ printed matter rate by single 4¢ on wrapper endorsed “Newspapers”.



Dead Letter Office
Jan. 1895 marking
(Washington, D.C.)
backstamp

July 2 1894 Boston, Mass. to Glasgow, Scotland, bearing single 4¢ used with 6¢ 1890 issue prepaying double the 5¢ UPU rate. Forwarded within Scotland several times with numerous forwarding postmarks and markings including “Insufficient Address” and “Not Called For”. Eventually returned to sender via the **Dead Letter Office**. Rare usage.

Foreign Usages: To Italy / To Switzerland



1890 Issue - Four Cents Foreign Usages: To Denmark, Austria and Brazil



New York, N.Y. 4 Jan. 1892 to Amager, Denmark, 4¢ postal entire upgraded with two 1¢, single 4¢ and two 5¢, to pay double 5¢ UPU rate and 10c registry fee.

New York, N.Y. 3 Feb. 1894 to Gablonz, Bohemia, Austria via Paris. 4¢ used with 1¢ Columbian for UPU single rate. Endorsed "SS La Bourgogne" French line.



New York, N.Y. 9 Oct. 1891 to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 5¢ postal entire upgraded with 4¢ and 1¢ to pay 10¢ double UPU rate. Endorsed steamer "Advance".

backstamp

1890 Issue - Four Cents Foreign Usages: To Australia/ To Egypt



Boston Mass. flag cancel 15 Dec. 1899 to Bendigo, Victoria, Australia. 1¢ postal entire upgraded with 4¢ for 5¢ UPU rate. San Francisco 30 Dec. 1899 and Melbourne 23 Jan. 1900 transit backstamp, Bendigo 24 Jan. 1900 arrival backstamp.



San Francisco, Cal. 24 Feb. 1892 registered to Cairo, Egypt. 4¢ postal entire upgraded with 2¢, 4¢ and 5¢ 1890 issue to pay 10c registry fee plus 5¢ UPU rate. New York 1 Mar 1892 transit backstamp, London Registered red transit oval datestamp, Cairo 17 Mar. 1892 arrival backstamp. Scarce destination.

1890 Issue - Four Cents
Foreign Usages: To Ireland,
England and Germany

Conclusion: the 4¢ 1890 Issue stamp was replaced in September 1894 by the First Bureau Issue. A late usage from 1902 is shown at bottom.

New York, N.Y. 30 Dec. 1892 to Ballyjamesduff, County Cavan, Ireland, 1¢ and 4¢ pay 5¢ UPU rate.



R.P.O. 3 Nov. 1890
 to Lt. Commander of
 USS Pensacola, c/o
 U.S.. Despatch Agent
 B.F. Stevens in Lon-
 don, England. 1¢ and
 4¢ pay 5¢ UPU rate.

