



1886 4k, red violet (light or dark), Chuchin 9 & 9a, typographed on yellowish paper, white or brownish-yellow gum, imperforated. The sheet format is 6 x 8, with the top four horizontal rows inverted, producing six vertical tête-bêche pairs; there are six types distinguished by small typesetting differences, with type 3 being the principal type: no period after '4k'.

Here we have at top, a horizontal strip of 6 showing all the types from left to right.

The left pair has types 1 & 2.

The block of 4 has types 4, 5 / 4, 5.

The right pair has types 5 & 6.

The tête-bêche pair at left has types 1/6 or 6/1 depending on orientation.

The tête-bêche pair at right has types 3/4 or 4/3 depending on orientation.



9	5	7	3	2	1
9	5	7	3	2	1
9	5	7	3	2	1
9	5	7	3	2	1
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6



Most catalogs give 20 x 20 mm as the dimensions of this stamp, however, all those I'm showing here measure 19 1/2 x 19 1/2. The overall size of the stamp changed depending on the person cutting it from the sheet. On this issue, the word 'ПОЧТОВАЯ' was changed to read 'ПОЧТОВ'. The second single from the left in the top row shows a faint district postmark which began use in 1889, prior to that there were only manuscripted cancels as those on the 2nd and 4th rows.

Upper row singles: types 1, 1, 2 and 2.

Second row mint and used singles: type 2.

Third row mint singles: type 3.

Fourth row singles: types 5, 5 and 6.