

INTO THE GATHERING STORM -

SOUTHERN USAGES FROM THE 1850'S & 1840'S

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA MARCH 15, 1856



USA #11 STRIP OF 4, PAIR AND SINGLE ON COVER TO
PARIS FRANCE WITH ROUTE MARKINGS INCLUDING PARIS
BACK STAMP ON REVERSE.



AN EXTREMELY RARE, POSSIBLY UNIQUE STEAMBOAT COVER.
THE MILTON RELF WAS A 274 TON SIDEWHEEL STEAMBOAT BUILT IN
1856 IN LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY. THIS COVER WAS CARRIED ON THE MILTON RELF

(DOCKETING AS ZIP AND "2" MANUSCRIPT STEAMBOAT PAGE) DURING THE
LATE 1850'S. THE MILTON RELF CAME UNDER CONFEDERATE CONTROL
IN 1861 ITS FINAL FATE REMAINS UNKNOWN.



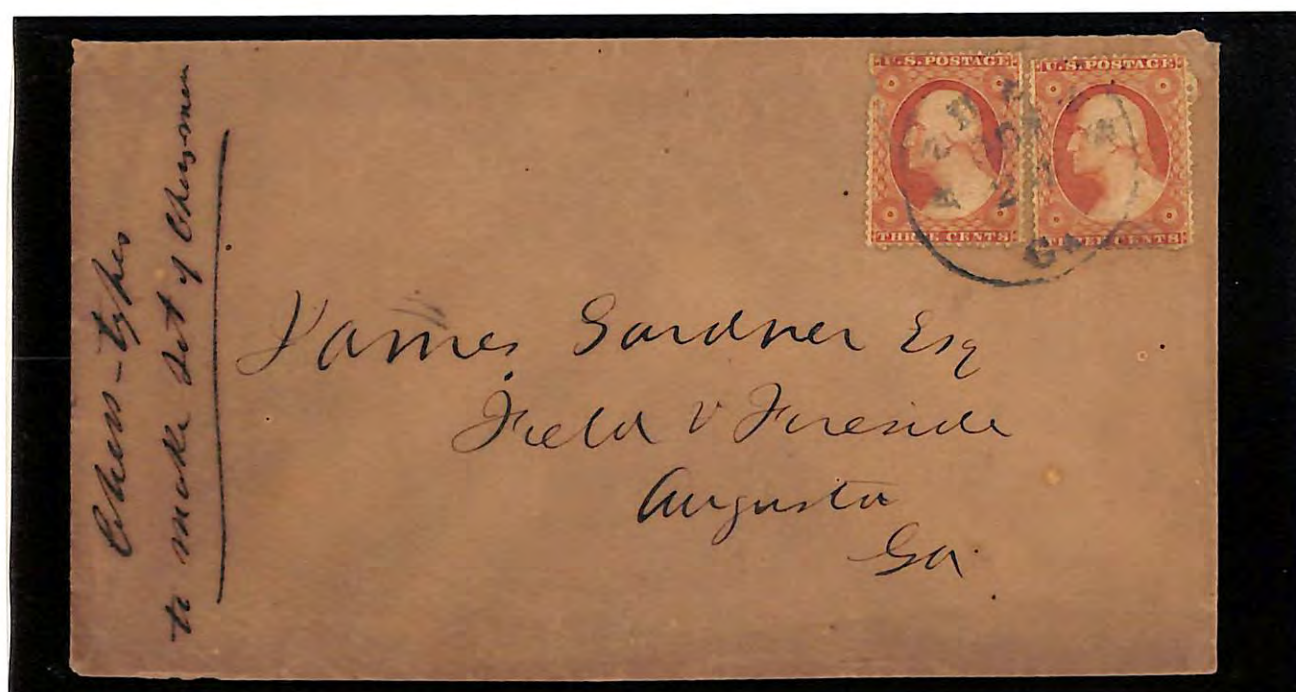
A SCARCE CAMERON TEXAS "PAID 3" IN CIRCLE WITH
A CAMERON, TEXAS C.D.S. CIRA 1850-1852.



AN 1857 SPL FROM NEW ORLEANS: THIS LETTER WAS
SENT TO NEW ORLEANS VIA RIVER STEAMER. NOTE THE
RED "WAY 11 CENTS" HANDSOMELY WRITTEN MANUSCRIPT DOCKETING
"PER RED RIVER" AT LOWER LEFT. THIS COVER ALSO FEATURES
A SPECIMEN OF THE PRE-WAR RED NEW ORLEANS CIRCULAR DATE STAMP.
RIVER COVERS ARE IMPORTANT HISTORICALLY- AS THE CONFEDERACY'S
INABILITY TO CONTROL ITS INTERNAL WATERWAYS WAS TO PLAY A
CRUCIAL ROLE IN ITS ULTIMATE DEFEAT.



A MANUSCRIPT CANCELLED US #26 & THE VERY RARE
ELKIN NORTH CAROLINA MANUSCRIPT POSTMARK.



AN ANTHON'S GEORGIA C.D.C. WITH TWO US #26'S TO A
 PRE-WAR 1880'S COVER TO AUGUSTA. NOTE THE MANUSCRIPT
 DOCKETING AT LEFT- "CHESS TYPES TO MAKE SET OF
 CHESSMEN!"

CONTENTS
AS
LEFT



"MOBILS ALABAMA BLUE C.D.S AND "20" MANUSCRIPT RADE
ON A SCRAPLESS FOLDED LETTER DATED TWENTY YEARS, ON THE
DAY, PRIOR TO ALABAMA'S ADMISSION TO THE C.S.A.
(ALABAMA WAS ADMITTED TO THE CONFEDERACY FEB 4, 1861)

A VERY
RARE SMALL
DOWN
POSTAL MARKING



A U.S. #26 WITH MANUSCRIPT COVER AND AN EXTRA RING
COMPLETE STRIKE OF THE RED HERTFORD NORTH CAROLINA
CIRCULAR DATE STAMP ON AN 1859 MORNING COVER

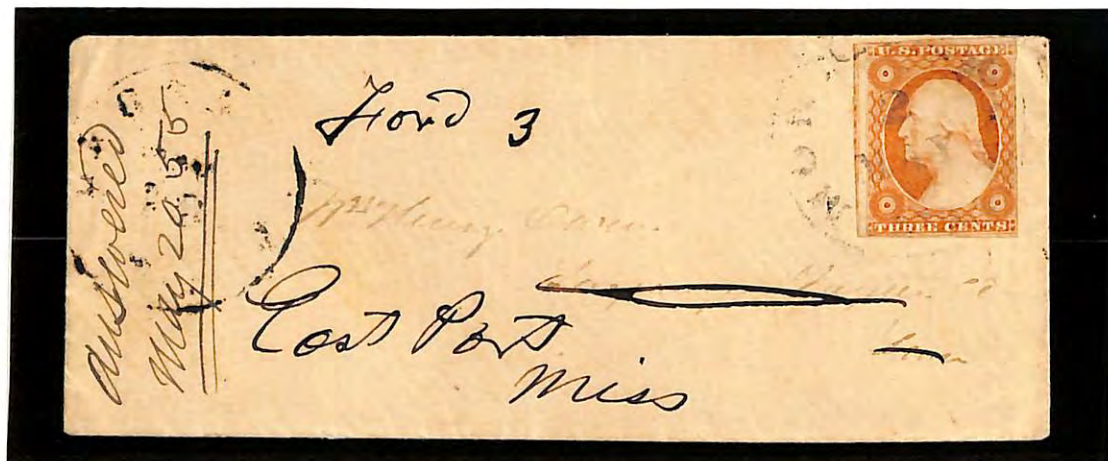


AN AUGUST 17 1859 CHARLESTON S.C. C.D.C. DIES A US #25
 DO THIS COVER DOCKETED TO THE TINY TOWN OF JEFFREYS STORE VA.

A VERY NICE STRIKE
 OF THE COLUMBIA
 DEN C.D.C. (MAY 17 1856)
 DIES THIS US #11 DO
 A SMALL COVER. NOTE
 THE TWO PAINT
 STRIKES OF THE
 BARTON NY C.D.S.
 THAT ALSO GRACE
 THE COVER.



A MORTON MISS.
 1855 C.D.C. DIES
 A US #11 DO THIS
 COVER THAT ALSO
 RECEIVED A M.S.
 "FORD 3" DUE
 MARKING AND
 ANOTHER C.D.C.



POLITICS AND THE WINDS OF WAR

IN 1856 THE YOUNG REPUBLICAN PARTY RAN ITS FIRST CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT. JOHN C. FREEMONT WAS REGARDED AS A HERO FOR HIS ROLE IN CONQUERING CALIFORNIA FROM MEXICO. HE RAN A VERY POOR CAMPAIGN AND LOST TO HIS DEMOCRATIC RIVAL-JAMES BUCHANAN.

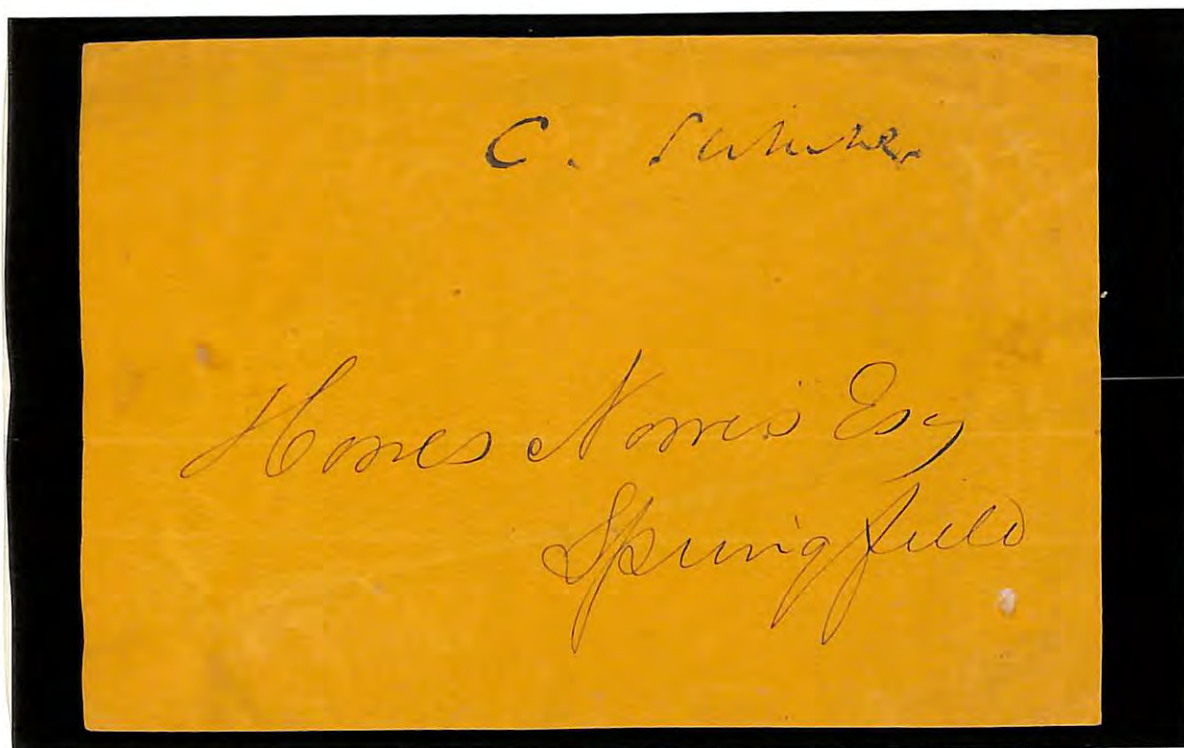


A SHEPHERD CLARK FREEMONT CAMPAIGN COVER (WALCOTT #1533) PROVIDED WITH A BROWNIST CARMIKE US #11 TIED BY A "PAID" IN GRID CONVEY. THE COVER ALSO FEATURES A RED BOSTON C.D.S.

FREEMONT HAD A TOTALLY UNDISCINGUISED CAREER AS A MAJOR GENERAL IN THE UNION ARMY BUT HIS RADICAL ABOLITIONIST VIEWS CAUSED HIM TO BE PROPOSED BY SOME RADICAL REPUBLICANS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO LINCOLN'S RE-NOMINATION IN 1864.

THROUGH THE LAST HALF OF THE DECADE "FIRE-EATERS" IN THE SOUTH AND RADICAL REPUBLICANS IN THE NORTH USED THE POLITICAL STAGE TO FAN THE FLAMES OF MISOBUST AND HATRED. CHARLES SUMNER WAS AMONG THE MOST STRIDENT OF THE RADICAL REPUBLICANS. ON MAY 22ND 1856, SUMNER- IN RETALIATION FOR A PARTICULARLY VITUPERATIVE ANTI-SOUTHERN SPEECH- WAS NEARLY BEATEN TO DEATH ON THE FLOOR OF THE U.S. SENATE BY REP. PRESTON BROOKS OF SOUTH CAROLINA. THIS INCIDENT- ALONG WITH THE "DRED SCOTT DECISION" AND JOHN BROWN'S RAID ON HARPER'S FERRY- CAME TO BE REGARDED AS ONE OF THE KINDLING POINTS OF THE CONFLAGRATION OF 1861-1865.

POLITICS AND THE WINDS OF WAR



CHARLES SUMMER FREE FRANK ON COVER FRONT

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1860 WAS CONDUCTED ALMOST TOTALLY ALONG SECTIONAL LINES. WHEREAS THE SOUTH HATED ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE REPUBLICANS; THEY ALSO DID NOT TRUST THE CANDIDATE OF THE NORTHERN DEMOCRATS STEPHEN DOUGLAS. SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS NOMINATED JAMES BUCHANAN'S VICE PRESIDENT - JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE - FOR PRESIDENT. A FOURTH CANDIDATE - JOHN BELL - WAS NOMINATED BY A NEWLY FORMED PARTY - THE "CONSTITUTIONAL UNION" PARTY. THE DIVISION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY ALONG SECTIONAL LINES INSURED ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S ELECTION.

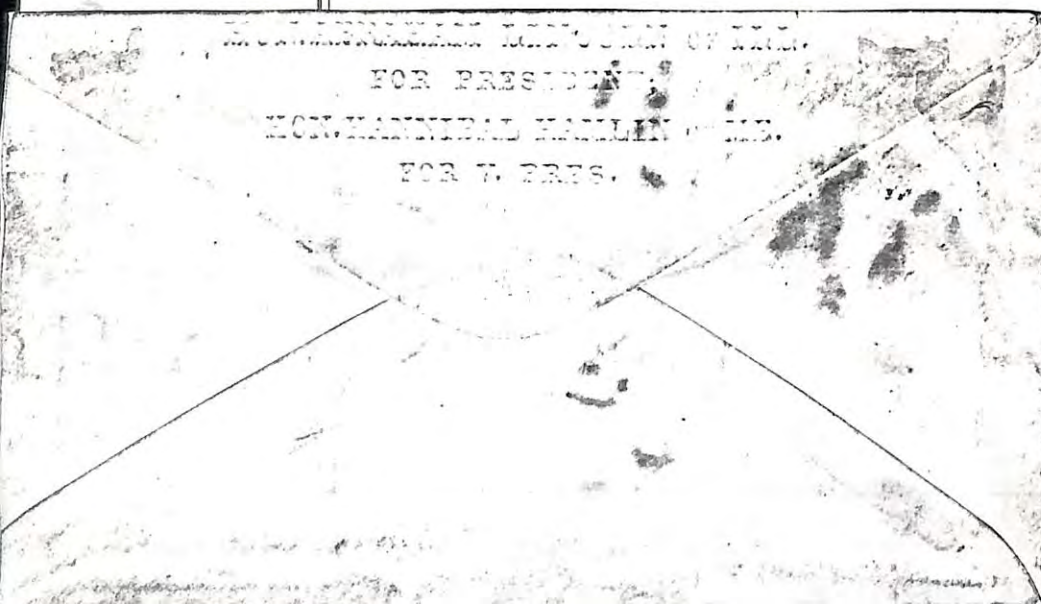
JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE, AFTER THE ELECTION OF 1860, WENT ON TO FORM THE PROVISIONAL CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT IN KENTUCKY, HIS HOME STATE, AND SERVED AS A BRIGADIER GENERAL IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY, AND AS SECRETARY OF WAR IN THE CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT.

POLITICS AND THE WINDS OF WAR

ALTHOUGH THE CANDIDACIES OF BRECKENRIDGE AND BELL WERE INTERESTING SIDEBARS AND SHOWED HOW DIVIDED THE NATION WAS ALONG SECTIONAL LINES, THE ELECTION OF 1860 WAS MAINLY CONFINED BETWEEN THE ONLY TWO CANDIDATES WHO HAD A REAL CHANCE TO WIN- THE REPUBLICAN ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE NOMINEE OF THE NORTHERN DEMOCRATS- STEPHEN A DOUGLASS.



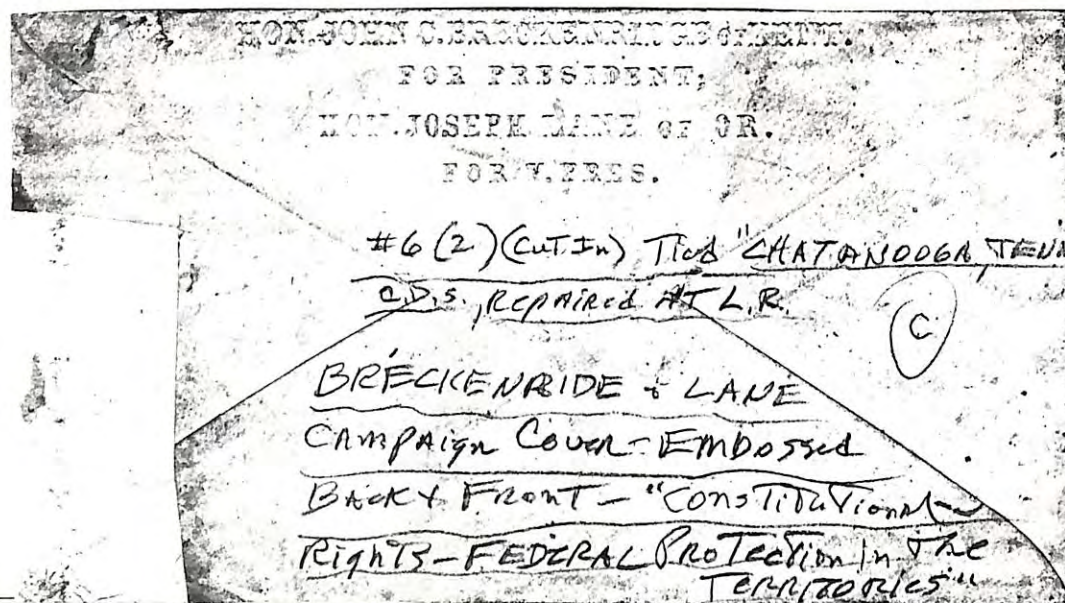
A NEW YORK, N.Y. DUPLY CONCEPTS A TOP SHEET MARGIN #26 TO AN 1860 LINCOLN CAMPAIGN COVER. THE COVER BEARS LINCOLN'S CAMPAIGN SLOGANS ON THE FRONT AND HIS NAME, ALONG WITH HIS VICE PRESIDENTIAL RUNNING MATE'S, ON THE REVERSE. NOTE THAT THIS COVER THE BRECKENRIDGE COVER, AND THE DOUGLASS COVER ALL BELONG TO THE SAME SERIES.



Politics and the Winds of War



A CHATANOOGA TENN. CDS TIES TWO CSA #6 STAMPS TO THIS BRECKENRIDGE / LANE CAMPAIGN COVER. WHILE THIS USE OF A LEFTOVER CAMPAIGN COVER FROM THE UNITED STATES ELECTION OF 1860 IS CERTAINLY AN ADVERSITY USAGE - THE FACT THAT BRECKENRIDGE AT THE TIME WAS SERVING AS A GENERAL IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY ALSO MAKES THIS SOMEWHAT OF A SOUTHERN PARTISAN COVER. IN ANY CASE - DESPITE THE REPAIR AT RIGHT - THIS COVER IS AN EXTREMELY SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL PIECE; AND I REGARD IT AS AN INVALUABLE LINK BETWEEN THE ELECTION THAT SPLIT THE NATION AND THE RESULTANT WAR.



POLITICS AND THE WINDS OF WAR



A FOUR MARGIN PAIR OF CSA #6 IS TIED TO THIS ADVERSITY COVER BY A GALVESTON TEXAS APRIL 23, 1863 CDS. THE COVER WAS CRAFTED FROM A POLITICAL HANDBILL USED BY TEXAS CSA SENATOR WILLIAM H. WARTON DURING HIS SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN. THIS COVER WAS PICTURED IN THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST (AS SHOWN BELOW) - BUT THE PORTRAIT WAS INCORRECTLY IDENTIFIED AS THAT OF US PRESIDENT WILLIAM H. HARRISON. DESPITE THE RIGORS AND DEPRAVATIONS CAUSED BY WAR, BLOCKADE AND INVASION THE SOUTH ENJOYED A RICH AND SPIRITED POLITICAL LIFE FROM 1861-1865. (SEE OTHER PARTS OF THIS COLLECTION)



Figure 148. Portrait of President Harrison used as envelope. From Galveston, April 23, 1863 (?).

American Philatelist / May 1968 / Volume 82 / No. 5

Texas Senator Wm. H. Warton
 2-31-83 Purchased Robert Kaufman #27-198+576

UNITED STATES POSTAL ISSUES USED AFTER SECESSION

"INDEPENDENT STATE" USAGE & "CONFEDERATE STATES" USAGE

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



CONFEDERATE STATES USAGE (ADMIRAL ID CONFEDERACY 2/4/61)
U.S. #26 CHARLESTON DOUBLE CIRCLE CONGR ON AN
EXTREMELY FINE COVER.

GRAYSVILLE, GEORGIA



INDEPENDENT STATE USAGE (GEORGIA WAS AN INDEPENDENT
STATE FOR ONLY 17 DAYS, 1/8/61-2/3/61). U.S. 3¢ RD ON WHITE
STAR DIE ENTIRE (U26). BLUE CDS REPEATED AT LFT WITH
RECIPIENT'S DATE DOCKETING ON BACK. PRISTINE COVER AND RARE.

150

300



150

CONFEDERATE STATE USAGE (SOUTH CAROLINA - ADMITTED TO CONFEDERACY 2/14/61) US # 26 WITH GRID CANCEL (AND CHARLESTON S.C. MARCH 9, 1861 C.D.S. THE COVER'S DOWNSIDE TO SUMTER IS PROPHETIC - ON APRIL 12, 1861 THE FIRST SHOT OF THE WAR WAS FIRED FROM CHARLESTON AT A FORT NAMED SUMTER



150

A GRID AND A CHESTER COURT HOUSE SOUTH CAROLINA MAY 23 1861 DOUBLE CIRCLE DATE STAMP ON A 30 RD BINDER. THIS IS A VERY LATE CONFEDERATE STATE USAGE, AS MAY 31ST 1861 WAS THE LAST DAY US POSTAGE COULD BE USED IN THE CONFEDERACY. ORIGINAL CONTENTS AT LEFT - A YOUTH'S LETTER WITH SOME WAR CONTENT & A GREAT POSTAL HISTORY P.S. AT THE CLOSE.

I like to go to school tolerably
well & I like Miss May I
over much for my acquaintance

I am studying Grammar
Philosophy & Arithmetic. He
wanted me to study drawing
but I did not care about it.
I had rather study music but
I knew that would not suit
me. I hear the Piano so much
that I am getting tired of it.
you ought to come over & hear
Miss May play. Mary Cat is a
very good performer I think.

The quarterly meeting
begins at the Chapple Saturday
I am going to stay down in
land till they have been

enlarging the church this week
I expect there will be a great
many people there I should be
very glad to meet with you
there.

I must close for my time is
limited you must excuse this
composition & writing for I am
in haste.

John you must answer this
letter as soon as you can I
want to hear from you give
me all the good news I &
direct your letter to Chester as
I can get it sooner from
there.

I am as ever

M L Winter

A CHILD'S COMMENTS ON THE DAWN OF THE CONFEDERATE POSTAL SYSTEM



John they say these
envelopes & stamps will
not pass in a week from
now & that the confeder-
ate stamps will cost 5 cts
each

Sandy River Arkansas
May 22nd 1861

My dear brother,
I embrace the
present opportunity to write you
a few lines. I & am well. The
rest were well when I left
home. I was at Bullock Creek last
Sabbath. I expected to see you
there but I was disappointed.
I saw Joshua that evening he
said you was better which
of course was good news to me.
I have not heard from
Charleston this week but I heard
yesterday that they were fighting
at Vicksburg.

THE INNER PORTION OF THIS WONDERFUL
LETTER IS DISPLAYED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE



175

THIS CONFEDERATE STATE USAGE FEATURES A GRID CONCEPT OVER A 3d RED SOR DIE ENDS & A DALTON GEORGIA MAY 4 1861 CDS. NOTE THAT THE ADDRESS IS IRONICALLY TO UNIONTOWN ALABAMA.



175

THIS MISSISSIPPI CONFEDERATE STATE USAGE FEATURES A SEGMENTED CORK CONCEPT AND A COLUMBUS MISS MAY 3, 1861 CDS. A LOVELY UP + COVER USED IN THE LAST MONTH OF U.S. POSTAL SERVICE IN THE CONFEDERACY.

A VERY RARE "KEY DIALS" COVER



175

A MISSISSIPPI CONFEDERATE STATE USAGE WITH A SEGMENTED CORK GRID AND A VICKSBURG APRIL 5 1861 DOUBLE CIRCLE CDS ON A 3d RED SOAR DIE ENTIRE. VICKSBURG WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE WAR THAT WOULD START SEVEN DAYS AFTER THIS COVER WAS POSTED.



175

THIS MISSISSIPPI CONFEDERATE STATE USAGE ON A 3d RED SOAR DIE REQUIRES A ABERDEEN MISS MAY 31 1861 C.D.S. MAY 31st WAS THE LAST DAY OF FEDERAL POSTAL SERVICE IN THE CONFEDERACY. THE VERY NEXT DAY SAW THE BIRTH OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES POSTAL SYSTEM.

A TIME OF DECISION IN NORTH CAROLINA



U.S. #26 with manuscript cover and a PATTERSON NORTH CAROLINA FEB 28 (1861) CIRCULAR DATE STAMP ON A VERY FINE COVER.

THE IMPORT OF THIS COVER, HOWEVER, RESIDES IN THE MAKER'S DOCKETING ON THE REVERSE. IN LATE FEBRUARY 1861 THE CONFEDERACY CONSISTED OF ONLY SIX STATES - WITH TEXAS ALREADY HAVING PASSED AN ORDINANCE OF SECESSION AND ABOUT TO BECOME THE SEVENTH STATE. THE NORTHERN Tier STATES OF ARKANSAS, NORTH CAROLINA & TENNESSEE WERE THE LAST TO SECEDE AND SENTIMENT IN THESE STATES WAS DIVIDED ALMOST EVENLY. THE MAKER'S POSTSCRIPT ABOUT EVENLY DIVIDED SENTIMENT IN CALDWELL COUNTY IS A PRECISE REFLECTION OF FEELINGS IN NORTH CAROLINA IN GENERAL IN THE DAYS PRECEDING THE SECESSION CONVENTION.

NORTH CAROLINA
SECEDED ON
MAY 20th 1861
AND ON MAY 27th
BECAME THE
TENTH STATE IN
THE CONFEDERATE
FLAG.

Ev Jones' majority in Caldwell County
is about 550 & majority against the
Convention about the same
J.C.H.

WRG

#26 Note

Rare Southern Town
Above Note on Flap Most
Likely Concerns the Convention
to Establish the Confederacy.

264/101

WRG

CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS COVERS WITH POSTAL MARKINGS



A SOLDIER'S LETTER FROM A SOLDIER IN THE
13th REGIMENT, NORTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS, COMPANY A
WITH A TUDOR HALL MANUSCRIPT DUE "5" MARKING AND
A NICE STRIKE OF THE TUDOR HALL CIRCULAR DATE STAMP.
EX BRON GREEN

A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S LETTER- SENT HOME IN A UNION PATRIOTIC



A LETTER FROM J. H. B. SMITH - A SOLDIER IN FULTON'S BATTERY, IMBODINO BRIGADE, LOMAX DIVISION. THIS WONDERFUL MILITARY DOCKETING MENTIONS THREE GENERALS. THE COVER HAS A DUE 10 LISTED WINCHESTER VA "DUE 10" HANDSTAMP AND A STAMP OF THE WINCHESTER VA C.O.S.

THE EAGLE AND SHIELD ON THE BACK FLAP OF THE COVER CLEARLY IDENTIFY THE COVER AS A UNION PATRIOTIC. NOTE THAT NEAR THE HANDS SYMBOL, THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIER



WRITES SOMETHING ABOUT THE "INDOMITABLE" SOLDIERS OF THE SOUTH.

HAND CARRIED CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS COVERS

Capt. Stiles }
16th Ga. Regt. }
major A

Mrs. M. A. Stiles
Clarksville
Habersham Co.,
Ga.

Miss Emma D. Nicholson
Enfield
Halifax Co
N.H.

NOTE THE TOUCHING PENCIL NOTATION "MA'S LETTERS" ACCORDING TO A NOTATION IN THE SAME HAND, THIS COVER WAS SENT IN AUGUST OR 1864.

Col. W. W. Wood
March
1863
Capt. W. S. Robbins
New York
send to
W. S. Robbins

Collected (2.64)
[Dec. 10. 61]
179
105-
2.84
Phil B. Hawkins
Baluzh

from Corporal R. A. Root, Comp. "G" Creek
Regt.

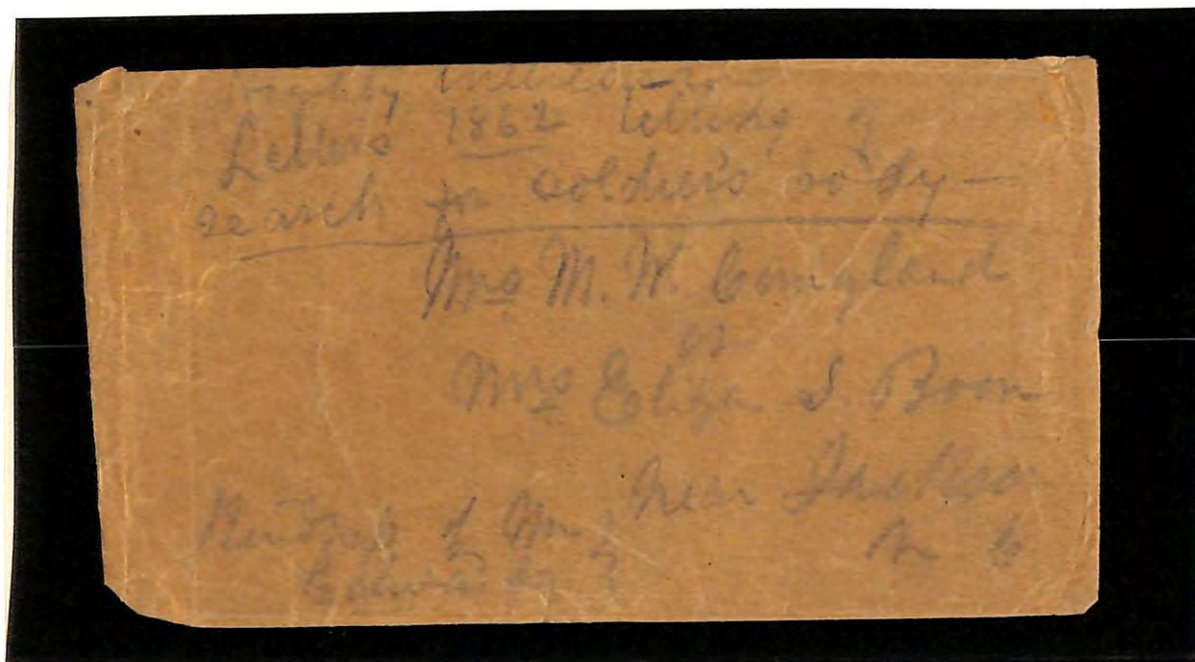
A. M. Collam, Jr.
St. Marysborough
Camp Hunter La.

Paid

Genl Lane H. Patterson
Patterson
Calhoun City
Maine

DOCKETED TO GEN. LANE H. PATTERSON
THIS COVER MAY HAVE GONE THROUGH THE MAIL.
THERE IS AN INSCRIPTION "MAIL" AT BOTTOM LEFT -
AND A MANUSCRIPT "PAID" WITH NO RATE AT
THE TOP.

GEN. PATTERSON SEEMS TO HAVE RESIDED
IN A TOWN THAT BORE THE NAME OF HIS FAMILY.



FROM THE NOTATION AT THE TOP, THE CONTENTS OF
 THIS COVER WERE ABOUT THE LESS THAN GLORIOUS
 CONSEQUENCES OF BATTLE.



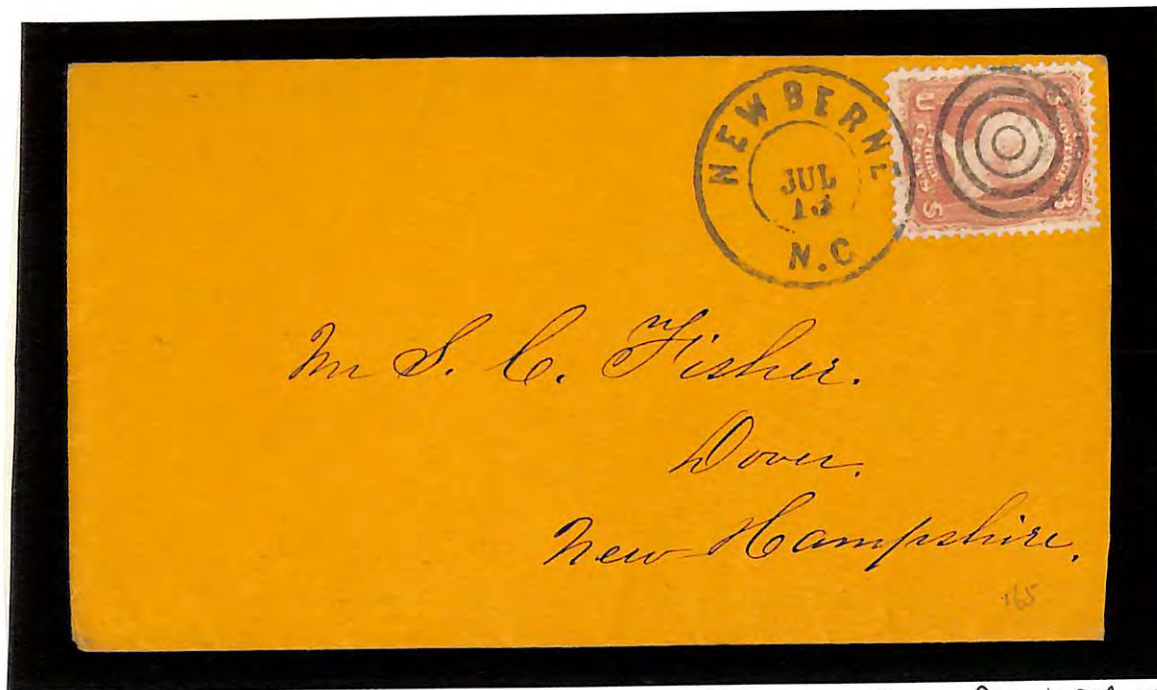
356
 Capt. A. H. Boykin
 Exchange Hotel
 Attention of Mr. Smith { Richmond
 Va

ADDRESSED TO THE EXCHANGE HOTEL IN RICHMOND -
 ONE OF SEVERAL ESTABLISHMENTS THAT GREW AND THRIVED
 IN RESPONSE TO THE NEEDS OF A SMALL PORT CITY
 SUDDENLY THRUST INTO THE ROLE OF CAPITAL OF A NATION.

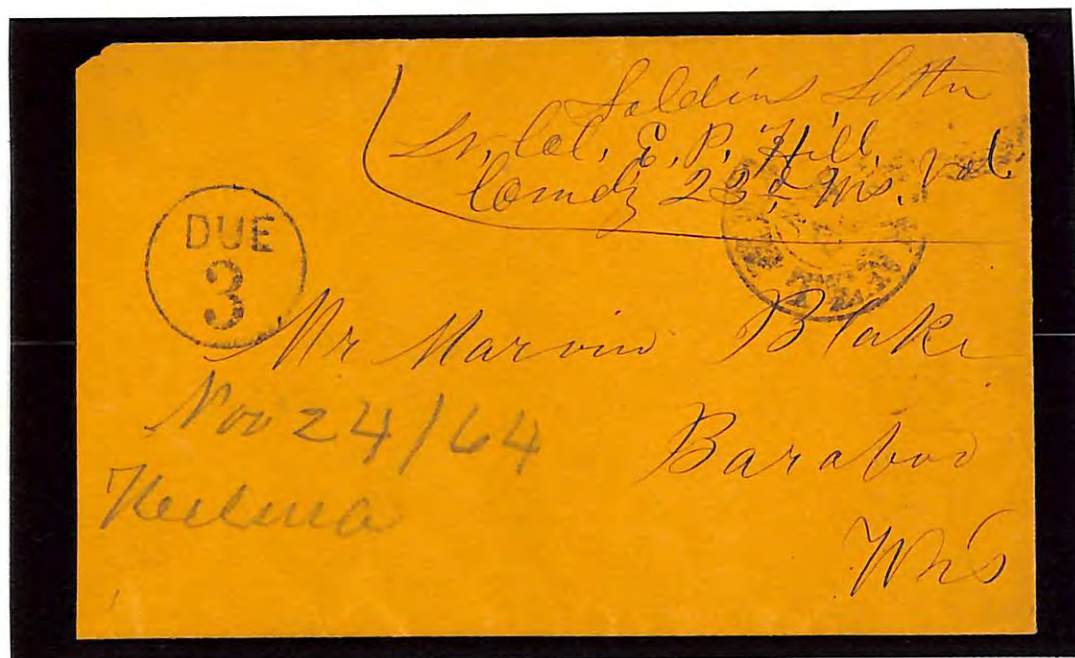
Capt. E. L. Gordon }
 Co. H 15th Reg. I.C. Troops }
 [1862]
 Mrs. E. L. Gordon
 Care of Hon. W. J. Robertson
 Charlottesville
 Albemarle Co
 Va
 Via Lynchburg }

ROUTING INSTRUCTIONS AT LOWER LEFT.

COVERS FROM THE OCCUPIED SOUTH



NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA WAS OCCUPIED BY NORTHERN FORCES ON MARCH 14, 1862. THIS PRISONER COVER FROM NEW BERN FEATURES AN EXTRAORDINARILY FRESH ADHESIVE (U.S. #65 P/P+) A FOUR RING S.O.N. CANCEL AND AN EXTRA FINE STRIKE OF THE NEW BERN C.D.S.



A SOLDIER'S COVER FROM A LT COL. IN THE 23RD WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS IS PROVIDED WITH A U.S. "DUE 3" AND A MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE DOUBLE RING C.D.S. MEMPHIS WAS OCCUPIED BY UNION FORCES ON JUNE 6, 1862.

New- Iberia, La. Sunday Afternoon. November 1st 1863.

My Dearest Wife,

It is with pleasure that I
seat myself this beautiful afternoon to write you a few lines
in the form of a letter to let you know where I am, how I am,
and how I am getting along. I am well at present and
hope this may find you and little Johnny enjoying the
same great blessing. Since I wrote you last, at Vermillionville
over a week ago, we have done some hard marching, and been
constantly on the move, and this accounts for my not writing
sooner. I will now proceed to give you a short and brief
history of our marches, and doings since I wrote you last.
We left Vermillionville on the morning of Oct. 23rd and marched
about 12 miles and encamped for the night. It commenced
raining in the morning after we started, the rain fell in
torrents all day, and the wind raised very high, and it got
awful cold, and the mud was shoe mouth deep in the road.
This country is principally all prairie, and very flat, and when
the wind does raise it sweeps over the prairie like a hurri-
-cane. Well we were all wet to the skin before we got fairly
started, and we had an awful time of it, nevertheless we made
a big days march, under the circumstances. The last four
miles I could not march, my groins got so sore that my
legs refused to move, and I rode the last four miles a horse

of going to hear a sermon that is to be preached in
camp, (Not having heard a sermon for ten months) therefore
you will have to excuse the brevity of this letter.

I will try and write soon again, and I want you
to write often. I have not received a letter from you
since Houser came down.

Respectfully
Yours,

J. P. Van Nest,
New-Orleans,
La

P.S. Likely Father can send my Boots with Franklin Emery
or some of them sick-furloughed men. My respects
to all. When you write still give me the dates of my letters
that you have received, and then I can tell whether you
receive them all or not. For I keep a memorandum of all
letters I send.



A NEW ORLEANS (OCCUPIED APRIL 28th 1862) DOUBLE RING CDS AND A US #65 WITH A SON 4 RING TARGET ADORN A SOLDIERS COVER THE ORIGINAL LETTER IS AT LEFT.

A MEMPHIS TEN.
DOUBLE RING CDS &
A US "DUE 3"
FROM THIS VET
COVER FROM A
MAJOR IN THE
27th IOWA INFANTRY.



A U.S. #63 & #65 WITH ENCLOSED CIRCULAR GRIDS AND A US "DUE 6" HANDSOME FROM THIS COVER INTO OCCUPIED MEMPHIS THE COVER IS ADDRESSED TO A CIVILIAN SERVING WITH THE QUARTERMASTERS CORP ATTACHED TO THE 117th REG. ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS.