

SYNOPSIS
INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA
1861 - 1865

There has been a conscious effort in this exhibit to include as many towns and counties as possible, in addition to various rates, postal markings and routes.

The study of West Virginia postal history during the civil war tends to be very complex and challenging. The lack of "year dated" covers in this time period makes it hard sometimes to determine the actual year of usage. Many of the covers are dated based on Confederate soldiers being in that particular area during the time period. Questionable covers and "bogus" items have been excluded from this exhibit. A number of bogus and incorrectly described items have shown up in many auction catalogs and publications during the years and are of concern when attempting to collect and exhibit West Virginia postal history during this time period. Cover condition is of concern also, as many of the scarcer covers of this time period have varying degrees of flaws, tears, toning spots, reductions and damaged stamps.

Confederate usages from West Virginia are scarce, as about 350 different examples were cataloged by the Virginia Postal History Society in their quarterly publication of "Way Markings" from the August 2000 edition through February 2002. Approximately 50 additional covers have shown up in the past 14 years since publication. This exhibit shows 97 Confederate examples from 32 of the 36 "verified" reported towns. 12 of the Confederate town usages are the only recorded usages from those towns. 12 of the 29 recorded Confederate West Virginia patriotic covers are found in this exhibit. All of the usages in this exhibit originate from towns within West Virginia, except for the two "flag of truce" covers and the cover to Edray. A number of the items in this exhibit originated from the collections of Harvey Sheppard, Jim & Renate Thayer, Scott Gallagher, Jim Thompson, Gordon Bleuler & others.

The periods of "independent state" and "U.S. stamps used in the CSA" cover a time period of 45 days (April 17 through May 31, 1861). 37 usages from 16 towns statewide have been recorded in the VPHS census. 19 usages from 13 of the towns recorded are shown in this exhibit, including 7 unique ones.

Highlights – 16 exceptional (red framed) items:

- Frame 1, pg. 5: First day U.S. in the Confederacy (Fayetteville)
- Frame 1, pg. 6: U.S. in the Confederacy (Harpers Ferry Confederate patriotic)
- Frame 1, pg. 9: Last day U.S. in the Confederacy (Harpers Ferry)
- Frame 2, pg. 2: Confederate patriotic (Sweet Springs)
- Frame 2, pg. 6: Confederate patriotic (Kabletown)
- Frame 2, pg. 12: Middleway/Shepherdstown unique turned usage – both usages from West Virginia
- Frame 2, pg. 14: Unique Princeton usage; this cover was the basis for a recent publication in the CSA Journal disproving the "fake" Princeton cancel theory on 2 cent and 20 cent stamps which has circulated for over 90 years.
- Frame 2, pg. 16: Latest recorded Confederate usage from eastern panhandle (Charlestown)
- Frame 3, pg. 6: Confederate "Way" usage (White Sulphur Springs)
- Frame 3, pg. 6: Confederate "old style" hand stamp/unique usage (Charlestown)
- Frame 3, pg. 7: Confederate mixed stamp/unique usage (Union)
- Frame 3, pg. 10: Confederate frame line usage (White Sulphur Springs)
- Frame 3, pg. 10: Confederate frame line usage (Lewisburg)
- Frame 3, pg. 10: Confederate frame line usage (Red Sulphur Springs)
- Frame 3, pg. 13: Confederate unique forwarded usage (Lewisburg to Staunton and back to Lewisburg)
- Frame 3, pg. 15: Confederate latest recorded stamped usage from West Va. (White Sulphur Springs)
- Frame 3, pg. 16: Flag of Truce cover from Camp Chase to White Sulphur Springs

28 additional unique or scarce (blue framed) items are scattered throughout the exhibit.

References: *The Confederate Philatelist, Volume 57, Number 3*

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INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA 1861 - 1865

SCOPE OF THE EXHIBIT:

This exhibit shows a study of Independent State and Confederate town usages and postal markings used in the area of present day West Virginia during the Civil War. The postal markings shown cover the period from April 17, 1861, the day of Virginia secession to the end of the Civil War on April 11, 1865. Postal rates, markings, statistics on stamps and quantities known of specific items are included.

BACKGROUND:

Virginia passed its Ordinance of Secession on April 17, 1861. From then until May 7, 1861, the state was an independent government. May 7 through May 31, 1861 is the time period from which Virginia joined the Confederate States of America until the commencement of the Confederate States of America postal system on June 1, 1861. By early June 1861, however, the people in northwestern Virginia had begun to form a government in allegiance to the Union, with the eventual creation of the state of "West Virginia" on June 20, 1863.

West Virginia is the only state to form by seceding from a Confederate state during the Civil War. This presents for a somewhat unique situation for Confederate postal history study. Some areas of the state (southeastern) are known to have only Confederate usages during the entire length of the war. A few areas (eastern panhandle, Kanawha and Randolph Counties) have mixed usages (both Union and Confederate) depending on which force held the town and operated the postal system during that time period. Many areas of the state (northern and western) only show Union usages throughout the entire war.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This exhibit contains 97 Confederate usages from 32 different towns and 19 Independent State usages from 13 different towns. 12 of the Confederate town usages are the only recorded usages from those towns.

From this study, the following conclusions can be obtained:

- A. Most of the Confederate postal usages in West Virginia are derived from military sources early in the war through the correspondence of soldiers. These markings are the result of the concentration of Confederate armies in the eastern panhandle and the southeastern part of the state.
- B. After West Virginia statehood and the Gettysburg campaign of July 1863, the Confederate postal service operated only in southeastern West Virginia.
- C. Only Confederate postal usages are known from the twenty primarily southeastern counties during the war. This is most likely due to the continued suspension of Union mail service in these counties by Union Postmaster Blair in June 1861.

EXHIBIT ORGANIZATION:

This exhibit is divided into five sections and arranged chronologically.

- A. Independent State (April 17 to May 6, 1861)
- B. Confederate Use of U.S. Stamps (May 7 to May 31, 1861)
- C. Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)
- D. Confederate General Issues (October 16, 1861 to end of war)
- E. Flag of Truce usages

Items in the exhibit which are unique or of which very few copies are known are framed in blue. Truly exceptional pieces are also framed in red. Items with expert certification are noted with "(E)".

INDEPENDENT STATE USAGES (APRIL 17 TO MAY 6, 1861)

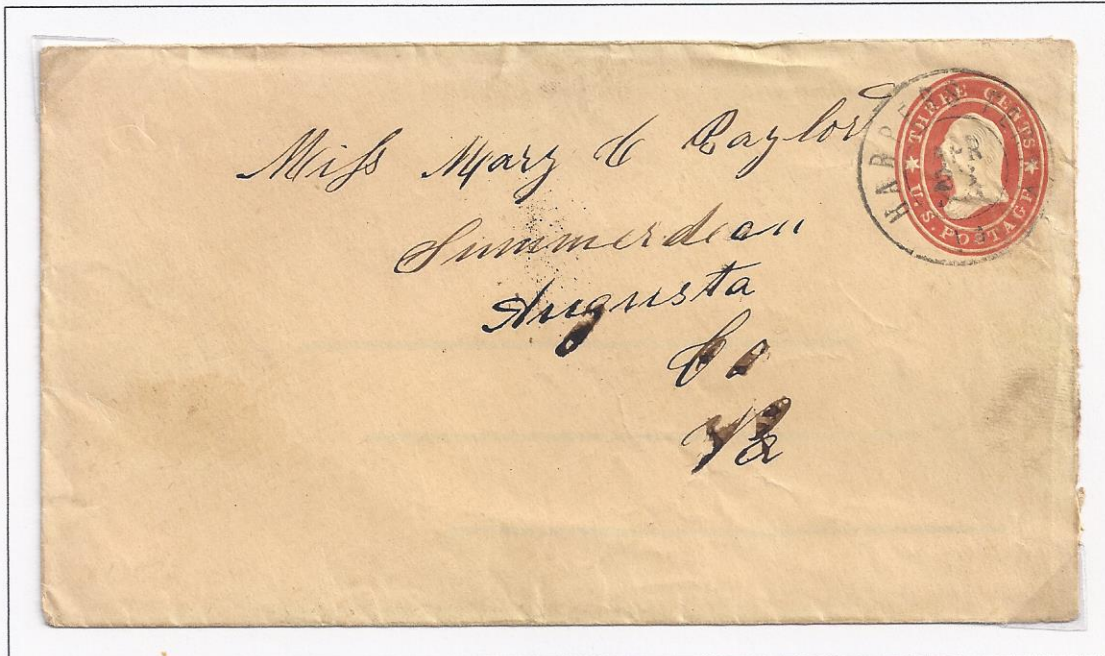
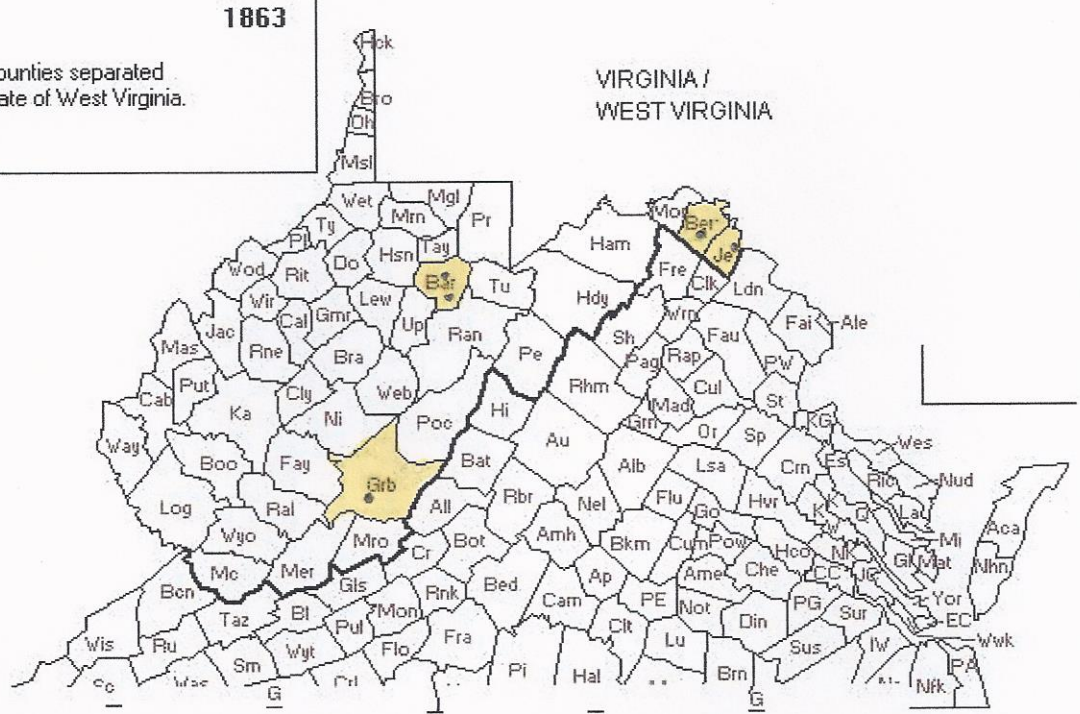
Six usages from 5 towns are shown in this section. The counties represented are highlighted on the map (at right). A black "dot" shows the location of that town within the county.

1863
50 counties separated as state of West Virginia.

VIRGINIA /
WEST VIRGINIA

- Martinsburg (Berkeley)
- Harpers Ferry (Jefferson)
- Belington (Barbour)
- Phillippa (Barbour)
- Blue Sulphur Springs (Greenbrier)

It is probable that all towns within the area of present day West Virginia had postal usages during this short time period – but it is difficult to pinpoint "1861" as the year of usage (without letter correspondence) due to the fact that many offices didn't use year dates in their cancelling devices during this time period.



HARPERS FERRY (Jefferson County) 26 mm double circle cancel of April 23, 1861 on a US "star die" envelope

With letter describing the smoldering remains of the US Armory

INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA

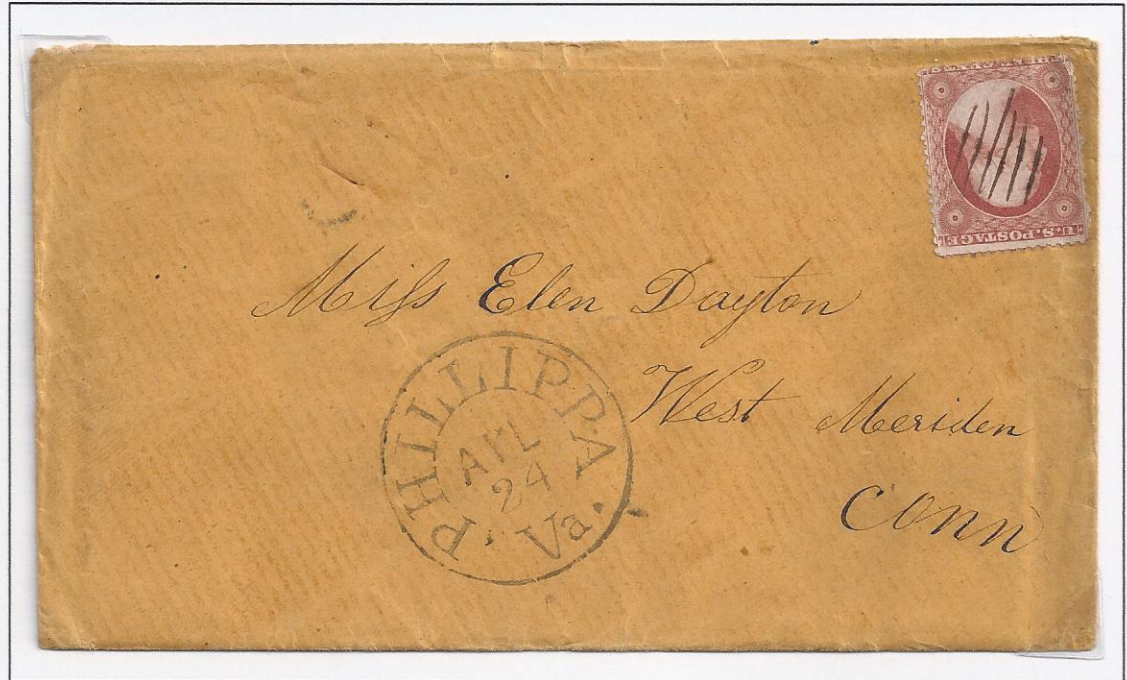
April 24 to 27, 1861

Independent State usages (April 17, 1861 to May 6, 1861)

PHILIPPI (Barbour County) 34 mm CDS cancel of April 24, 1861 with pen cancelled 3 cent issue of 1857

With letter dated April 21 describing the local consequences of Virginia secession and the possible intervention by Unionists

Note old style spelling of "Phillippa" in dial



HARPERS FERRY 26 mm double circle cancel of April 25, 1861 on a 7 star Confederate flag patriotic cover – cancel ties a 3 cent US stamp of 1857

Only recorded Confederate patriotic cover used from West Virginia during this time period

BELINGTON (Barbour County) manuscript postmark of April 27, 1861 and pen cancelled pair and single of US 1 cent stamps of 1857 (type II-plate 2 and type IIIa-plate 4)

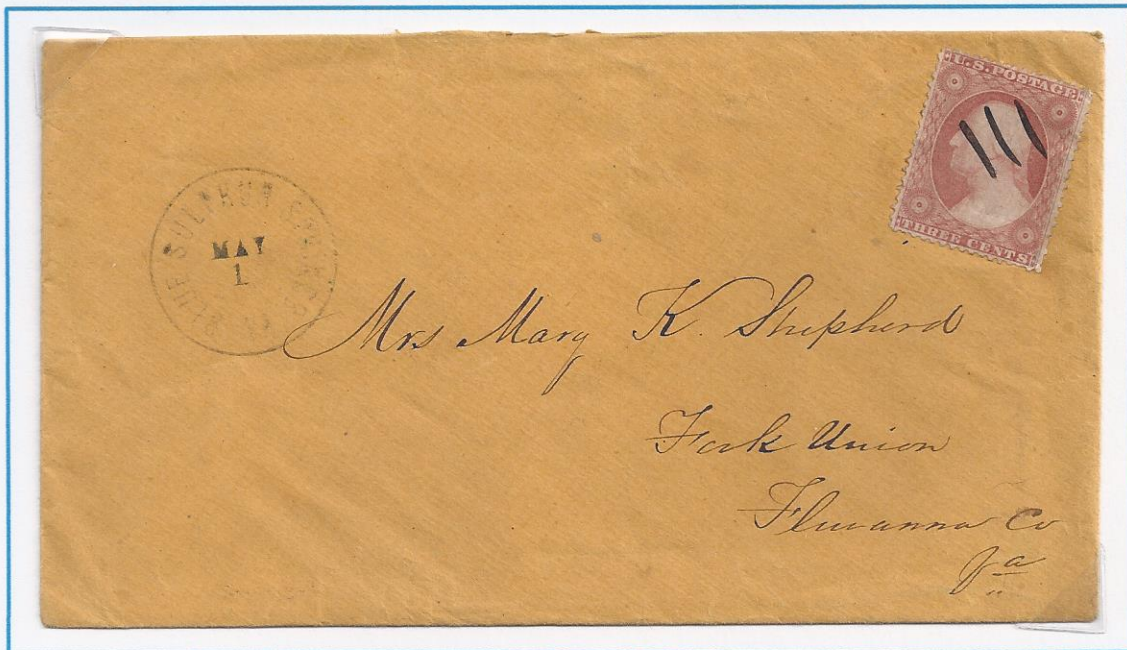
On a homemade folded business letter dated April 22, 1861



INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA

Independent State usages (April 17, 1861 to May 6, 1861)

May 1 to 2, 1861



BLUE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier County) 24 ½ mm CDS postmark of May 1, 1861 with pen cancelled US 3 cent stamp of 1857

With letter describing concerns for Virginia and the impending war. Also discusses students leaving school early and signing up with local units, father planning to leave area for safer place in Tennessee

Only recorded usage from Blue Sulphur Springs during the Civil War

MARTINSBURG (Berkeley County) partial blue 32 mm CDS cancel of May 2, 1861 and 17 mm circular grid killer on 3 cent US "star die" envelope

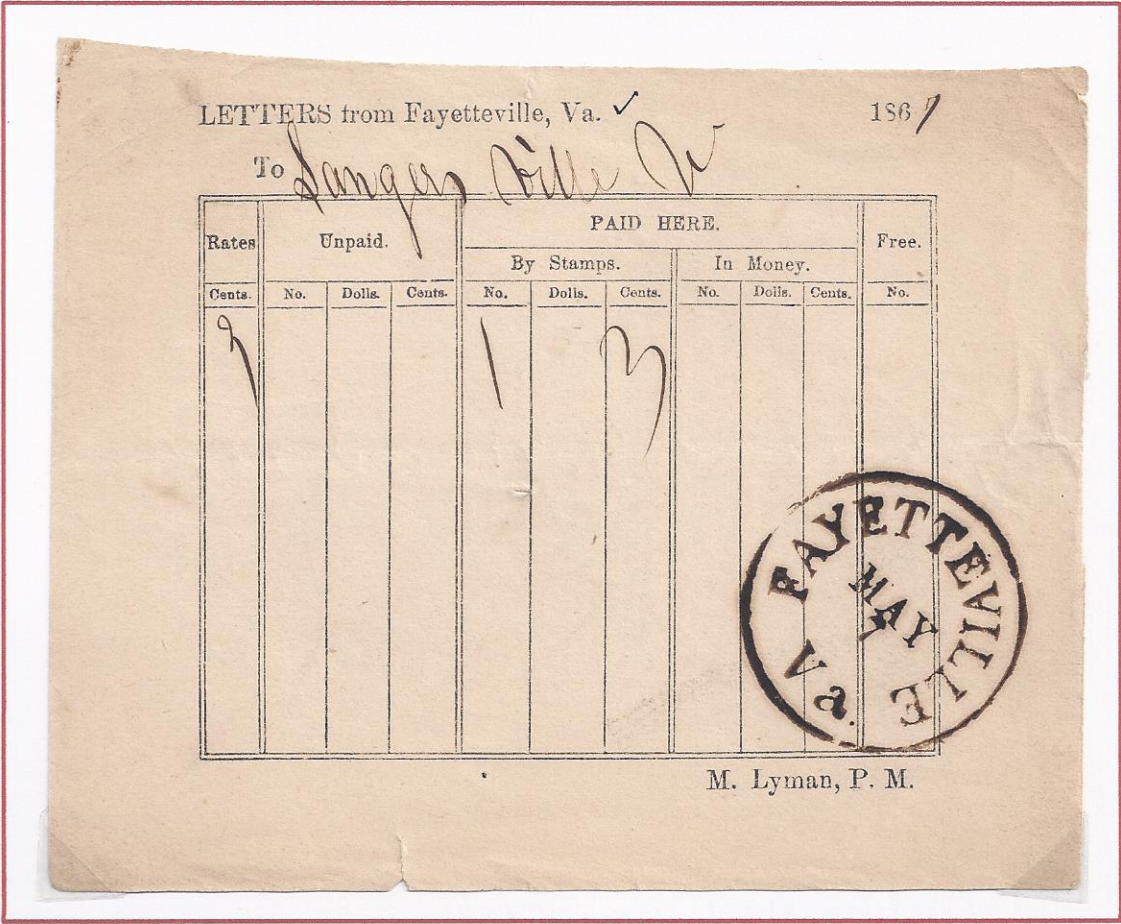
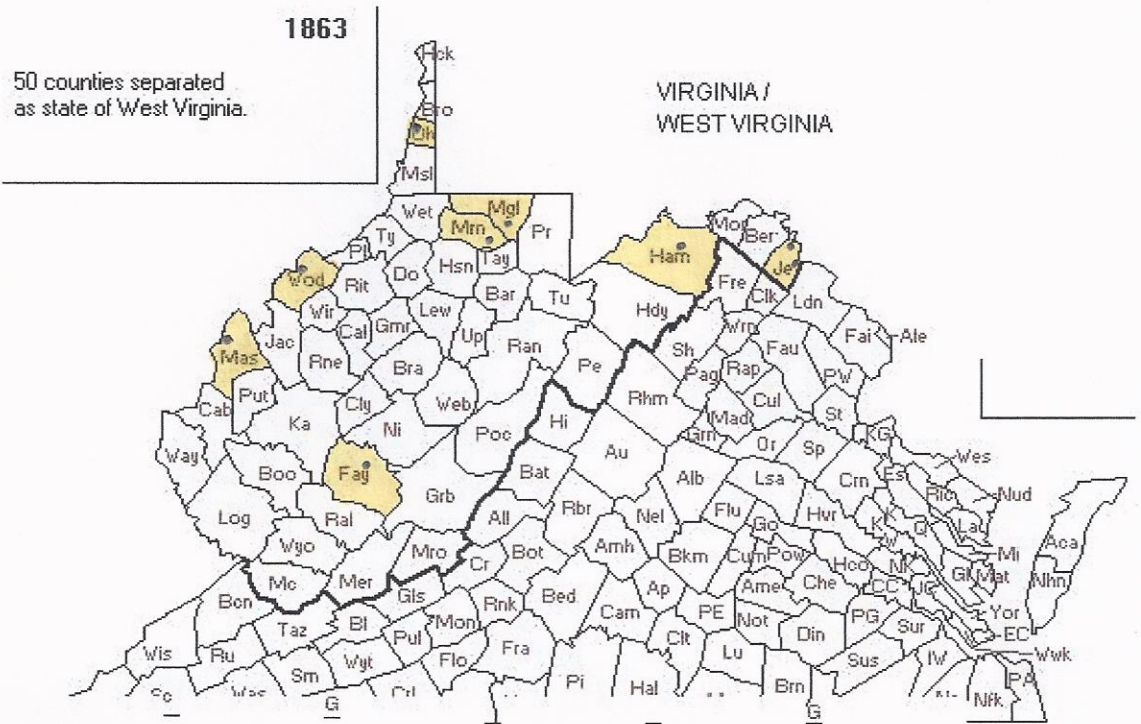
With routing instructions "via Winchester & Strasburg" to Old Church in Hanover County, Virginia



CONFEDERATE USE OF U.S. STAMPS (May 7 to May 31, 1861)

Thirteen postal usages from nine towns are shown in this section. The counties represented are highlighted on the map (at right). A "dot" within the county shows the location of the towns shown.

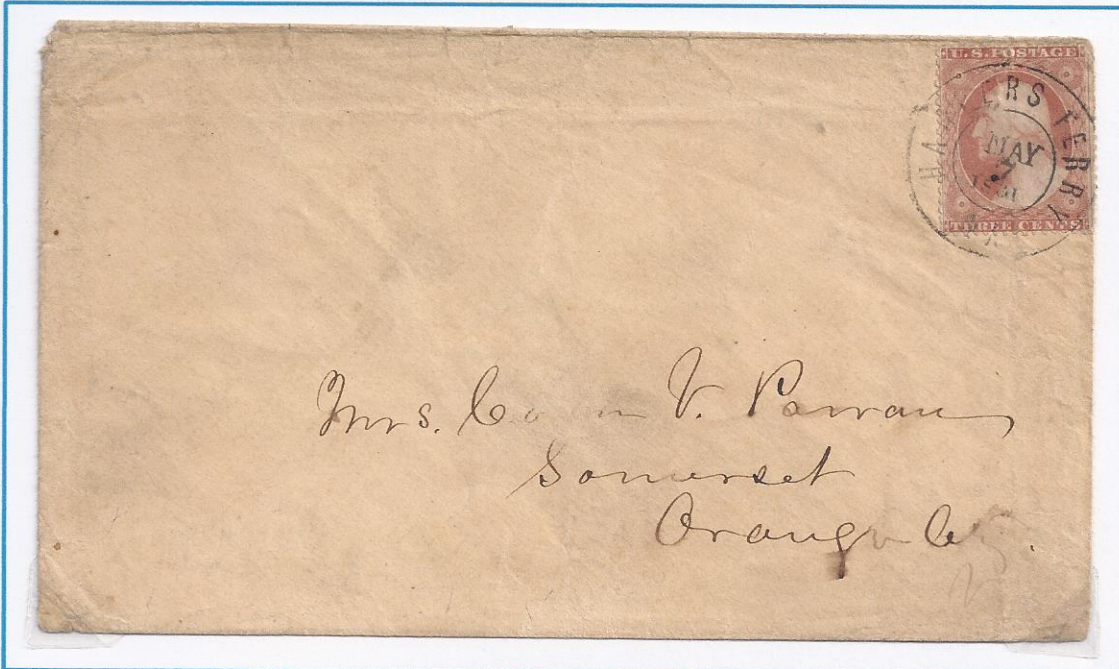
- Fayetteville (Fayette)
- Morgantown (Monongalia)
- Parkersburg (Wood)
- Romney (Hampshire)
- Shepherdstown (Jefferson)
- Point Pleasant (Mason)
- Fairmont (Marion)
- Harpers Ferry (Jefferson)
- Wheeling (Ohio)



WAY BILL TO CONFEDERATE VIRGINIA
 Way bills were placed on bundles of mail to inform the postal courier where the bundle was headed – they were also used for accounting purposes – this example was addressed to Sangersonville in Augusta County from FAYETTEVILLE (Fayette County) – 36 ½ mm balloon cancel of May 7, 1861

1st day of Virginia CSA period

M. Lyman, P. M.



HARPERS FERRY 26 mm double circle cancel of May 7, 1861 tying a 3 cent US stamp of 1857

1st day of Virginia CSA period

MORGANTOWN (Monongalia County) 32 mm CDS cancel of May 11, 1861 with manuscript forwarded and due 3 cent notation – originating hand stamp postmark of Connellsville, Pennsylvania on May 9th and paid 3 in circle

A printed advertising cover of the Monongalia Literary Society of Morgantown, Virginia – with Union sentiment and dating of 1861 on reverse side



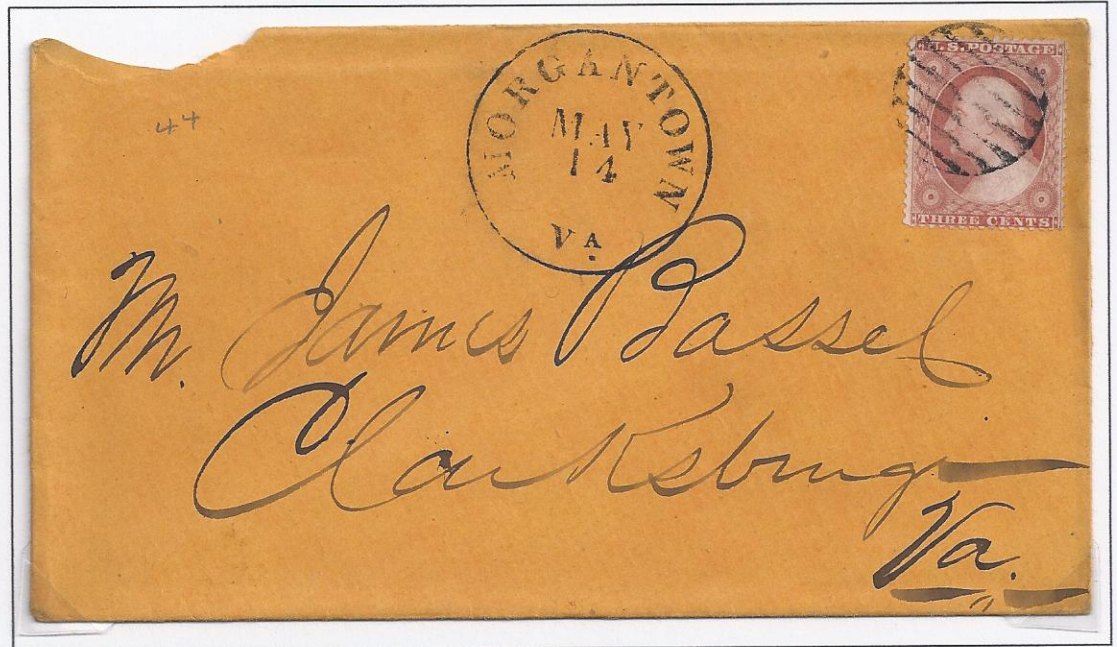
HARPERS FERRY 26 mm double circle postmark of May 14, 1861 tying a 3 cent US issue of 1857 – on a 7 star Confederate flag patriotic envelope

One of two recorded Confederate patriotics used from West Virginia during this time period

Confederate use of U.S. stamps (May 7 to May 31, 1861)

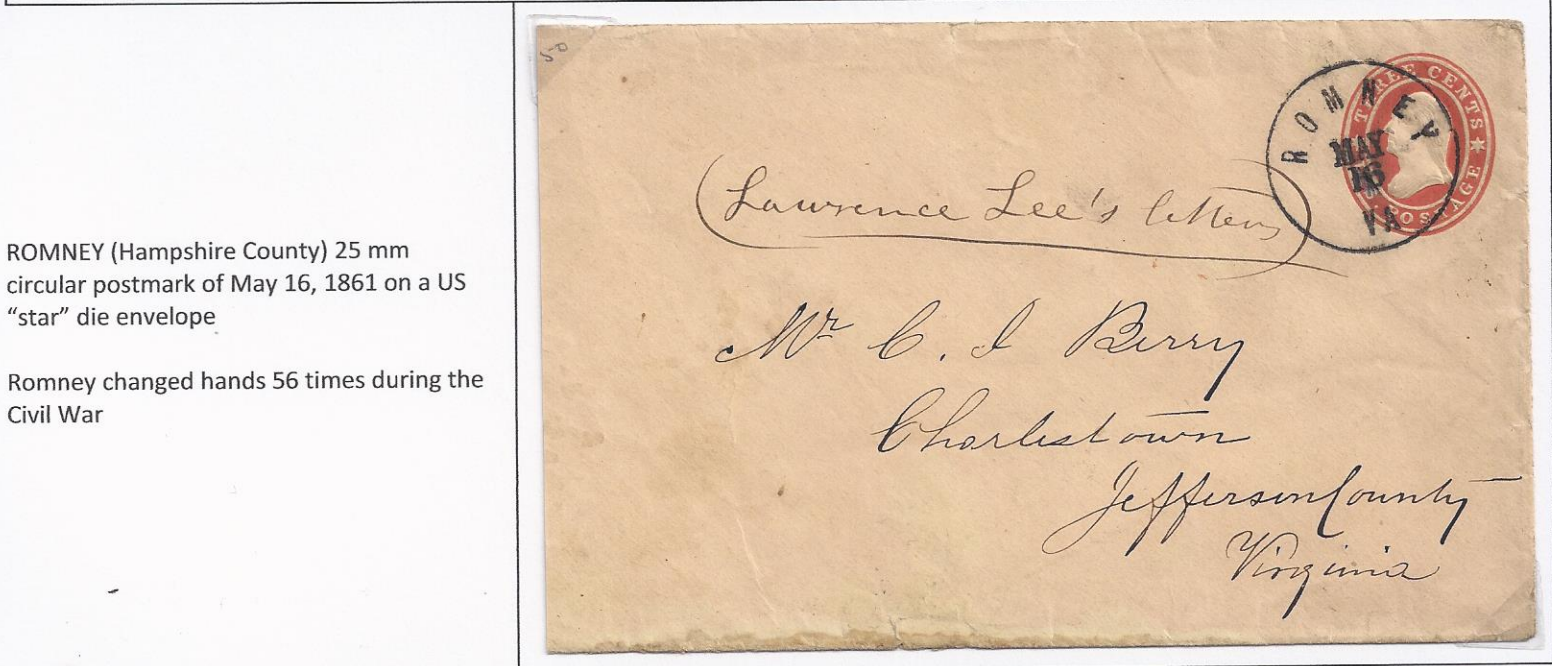
MORGANTOWN 32 mm similar cancel as previous page of May 14, 1861 with circular grid tying a 3 cent 1857 stamp

With enclosed letter of the same date talking about the politics and consequences of the impending war



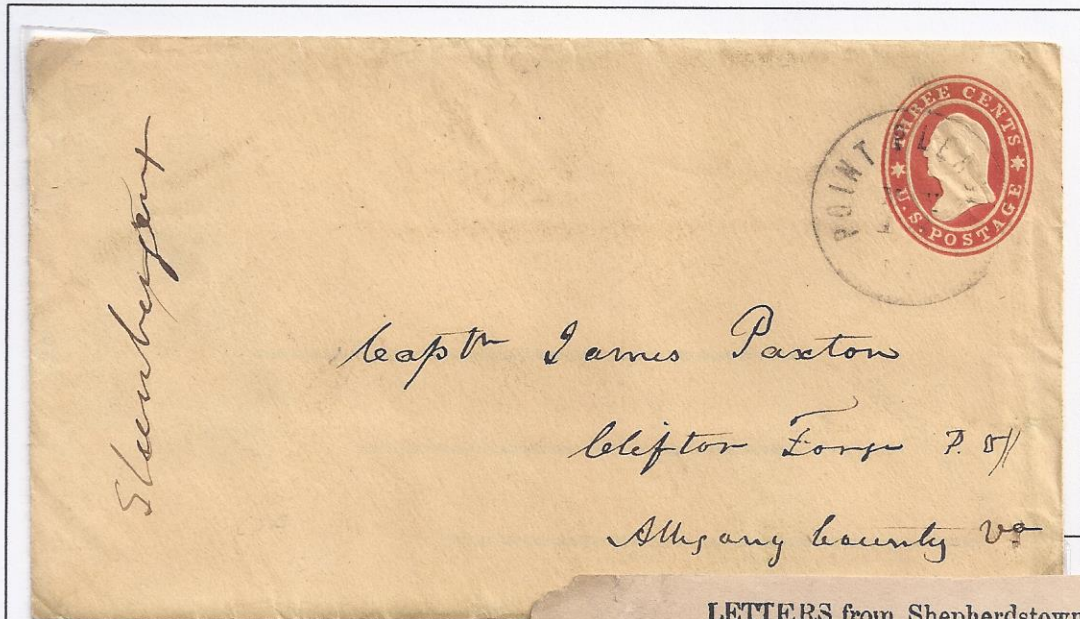
PARKERSBURGH (Wood County) 32 1/2 mm CDS cancel of May 14, 1861 tying a 3 cent U.S. stamp of 1857

Letter to Henry Haymond, influential lawyer and politician at Clarksburg



ROMNEY (Hampshire County) 25 mm circular postmark of May 16, 1861 on a US "star" die envelope

Romney changed hands 56 times during the Civil War

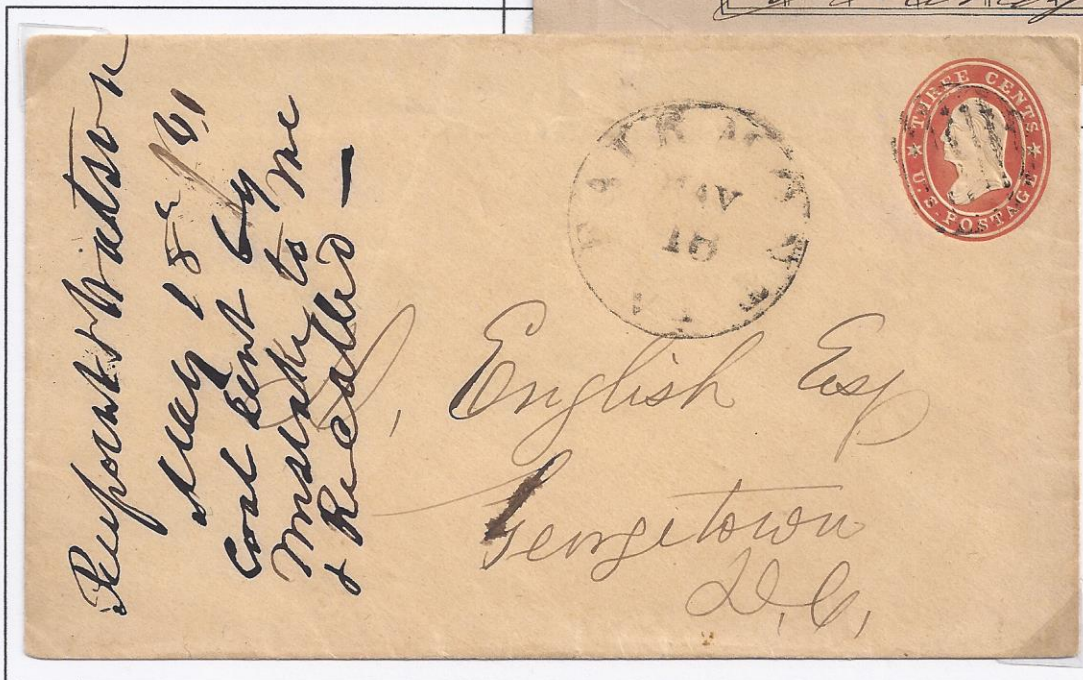
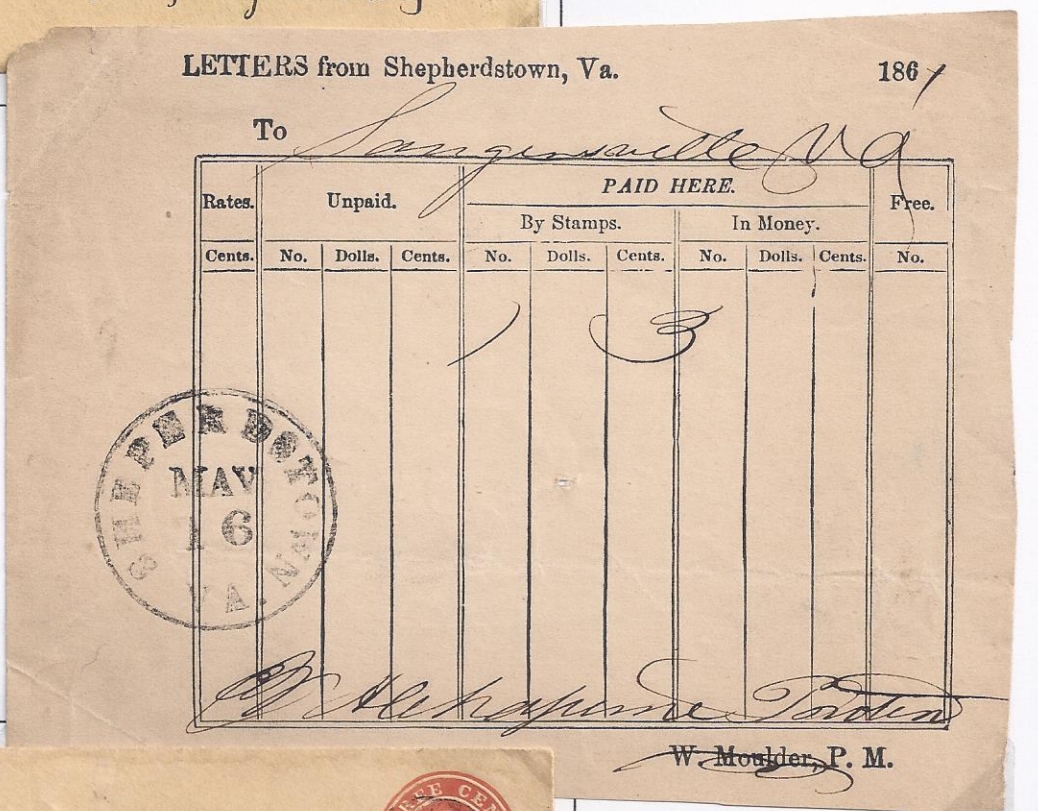


POINT PLEASANT (Mason County)
 26 mm CDS postmark of May 16, 1861 on
 a US "star die" envelope

With letter dated May 15, 1861
 concerning business matters and sale of
 a Negro woman and boy for \$1,100

SHEPHERDSTOWN (Jefferson County) 32
 mm CDS cancel of May 16, 1861 on "way
 bill" to Sangersville, Virginia – town name
 was misspelled in the device

With signature of unknown postmaster
 (possibly James I. Towner?) taking over for
 William Moulder, who resigned in March
 1861



FAIRMONT (Marion County) 32 mm
 circular postmark of May 18, 1861 on a
 US star die envelope

With docketing at left "Pierpoint &
 Watson – May 18 '61 – coal sent by
 mistake to me & recalled"; James Otis
 Watson and Francis Pierpont were in
 the coal and brick business prior to
 Pierpont being elected as Governor of
 "Restored" Virginia in June 1861 and
 later deemed the "Father of West
 Virginia"

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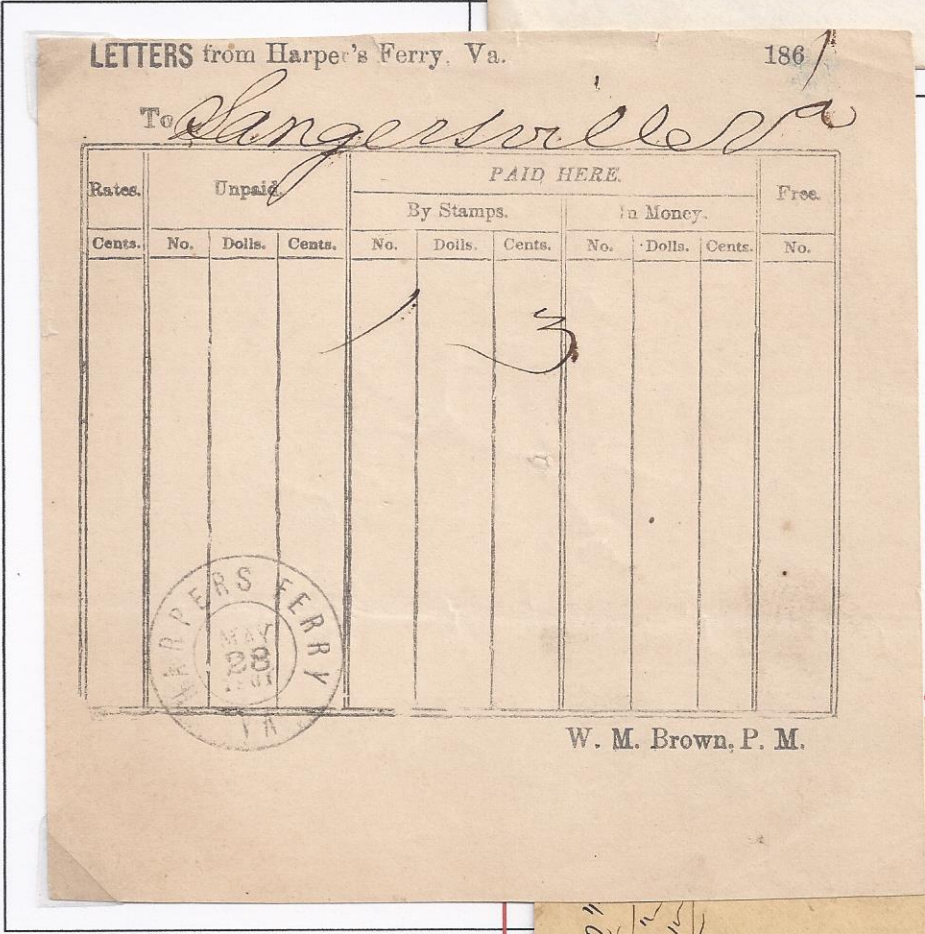
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Confederate use of U.S. stamps (May 7 to May 31, 1861)

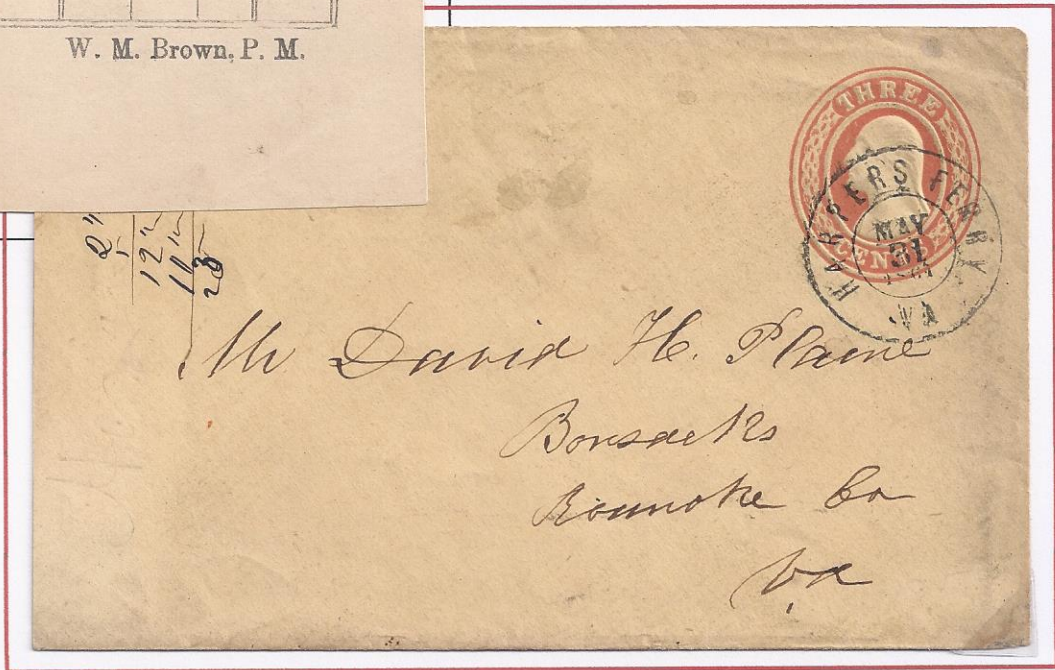
WHEELING (Ohio County) 32 mm
Blue CDS postmark of May 22, 1861 and
17 mm circular grid killer on a 3 cent
"star die" envelope



HARPERS FERRY (Jefferson County) cancel of May 28, 1861 on "way bill" to Sangerville, Virginia

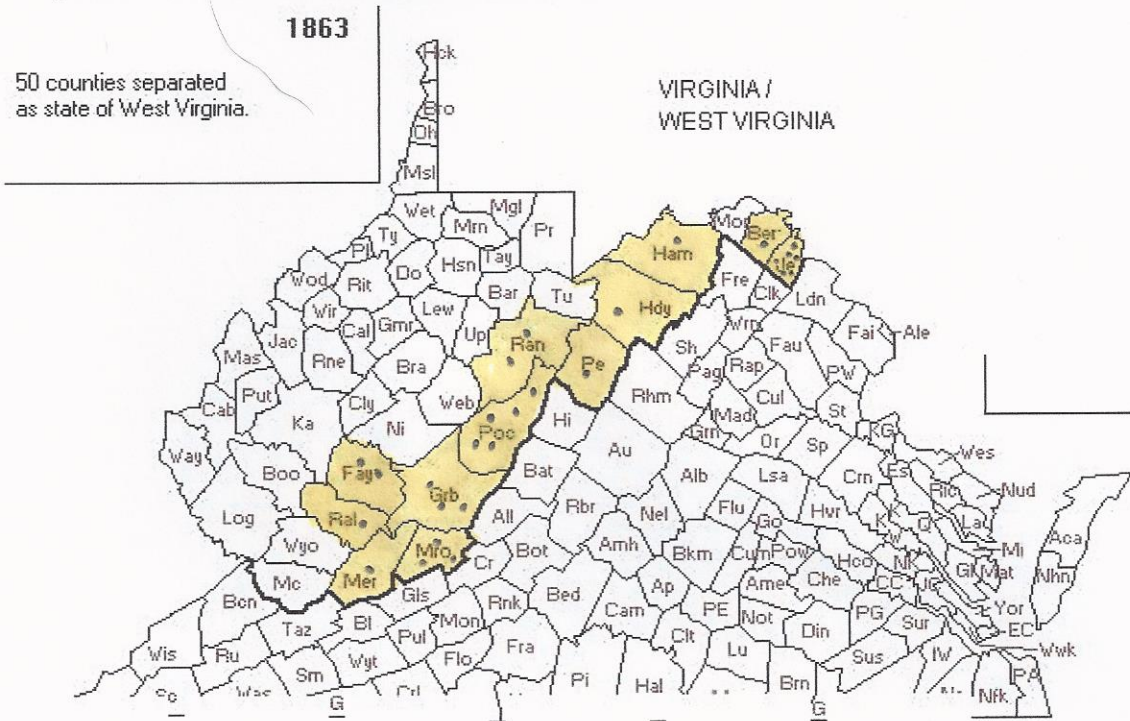
HARPERS FERRY double circle postmark of
May 31, 1861 on US 1854 Nesbitt stamped
envelope

Last day of U.S. Postal Service



CONFEDERATE HANDSTAMP AND MANUSCRIPT PAID AND DUE – STAMPLESS (JUNE 1, 1861 to the end of the Civil War)

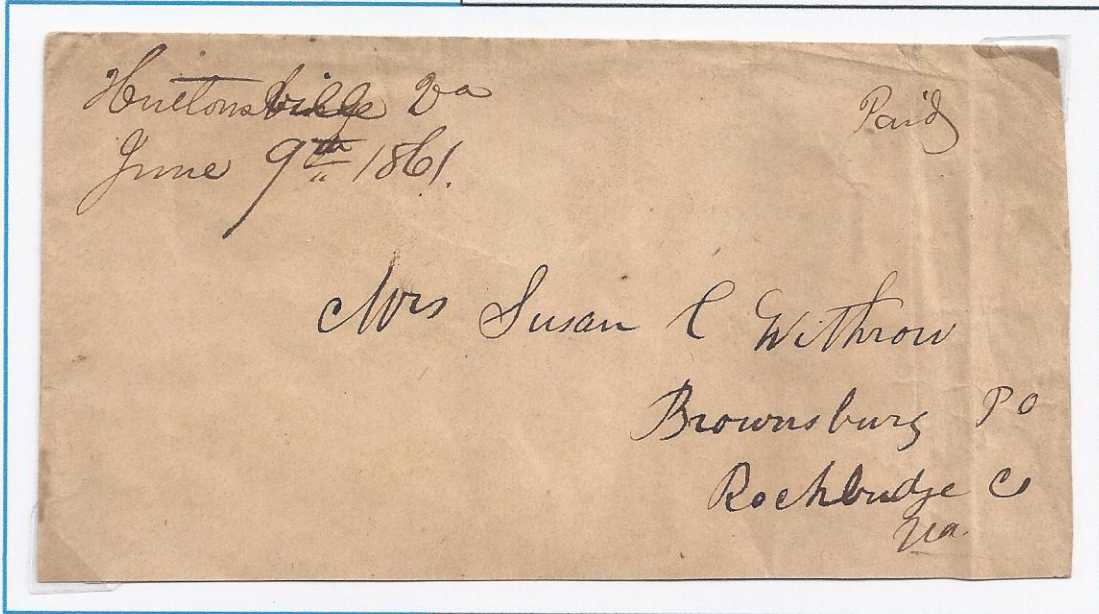
55 usages from 26 different towns are shown in this section. The counties represented are highlighted on the map (at right). The "dots" within the counties show the location of the towns. All of the usages are during the first 2+ years of the war. Note that the majority of the towns are near the Virginia border, where mail routes existed. Many of the usages are the result of soldier correspondence during the first 2 years of the war.



HARPERS FERRY (Jefferson County) 26 mm double circle cancel of June 5, 1861
With handstamp "paid" and manuscript "5" cent rate to Greenville, Virginia
Harpers Ferry was using a handstamp "5" within a week (see next page)

CHARLESTOWN (Jefferson County)
33 mm circular cancel of June 7, 1861
with "paid 10" cent rate to Alabama

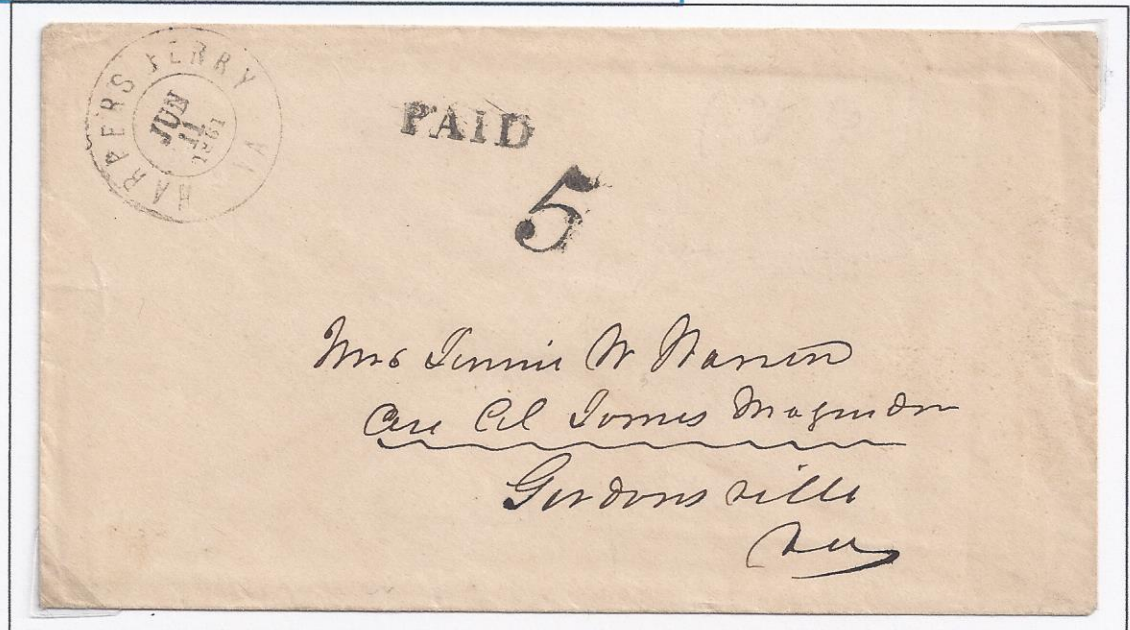
Earliest recorded Confederate usage
from Charlestown



HUTTONSVILLE (Randolph County)
manuscript cancel of June 9, 1861 with
"paid" notation – implied 5 cent rate to
Brownsburg, Virginia

Two of the three recorded Confederate
usages from Huttonsville are in this
exhibit

HARPERS FERRY (Jefferson County)
26 mm postmark of June 11, 1861
with handstamp "paid 5" cent rate to
Gordonsville, Virginia

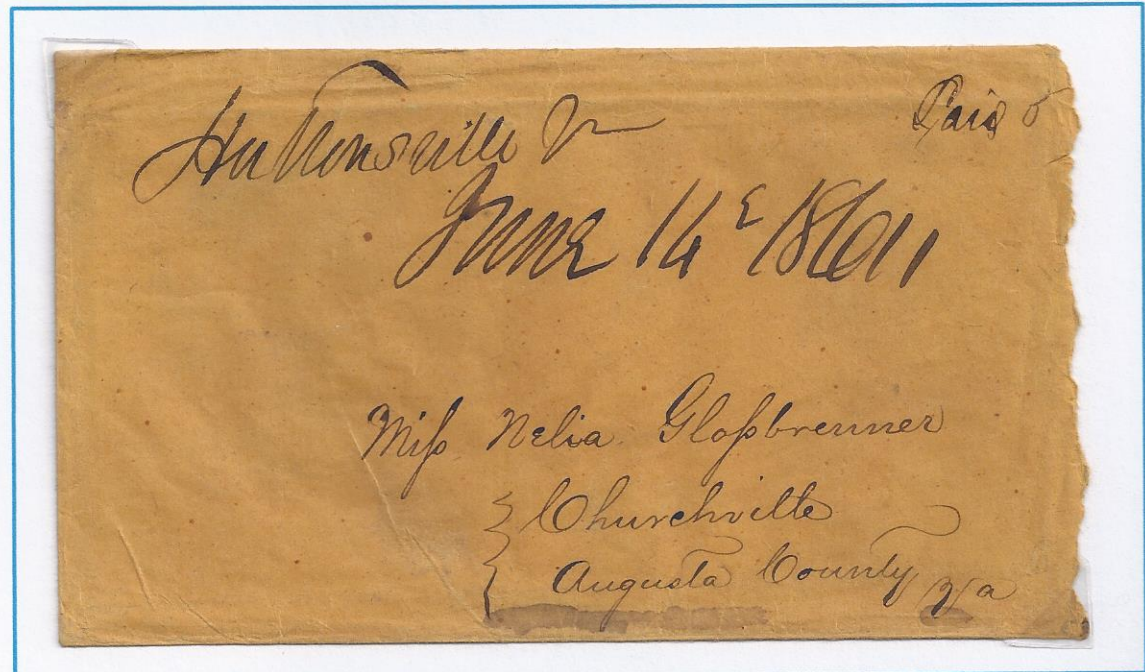


Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)



HARPERS FERRY (Jefferson County) cancel of June 13, 1861 with handstamp "paid 10" cent rate to Georgia

Harpers Ferry would be abandoned by the Confederates a few days after this cover was mailed



HUTTONSVILLE (Randolph County) manuscript cancel of June 14, 1861 with "paid 5" cent rate

After the battle of Rich Mountain, Huttonsville was occupied by Federal troops on July 14, 1861

Latest recorded Confederate usage from Huttonsville

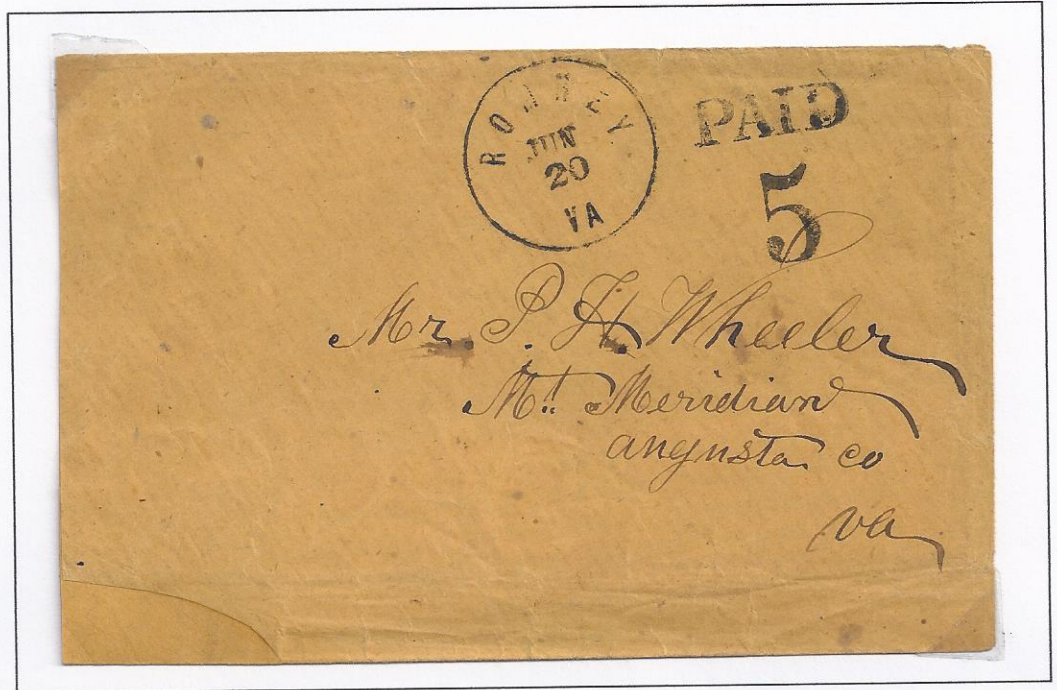
INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA

June 20 to 24, 1861

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

ROMNEY (Hampshire County) 25 mm CDS
cancel of June 20, 1861 with "paid 5" cent
handstamp to Mount Meridian, Virginia

Romney changed hands 56 times during the
Civil War



CHARLESTOWN (Jefferson County) 33
mm cancel of June 24, 1861 with
"paid 5" cent rate to Fincastle,
Virginia

INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA

June 27 to July 2, 1861

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)



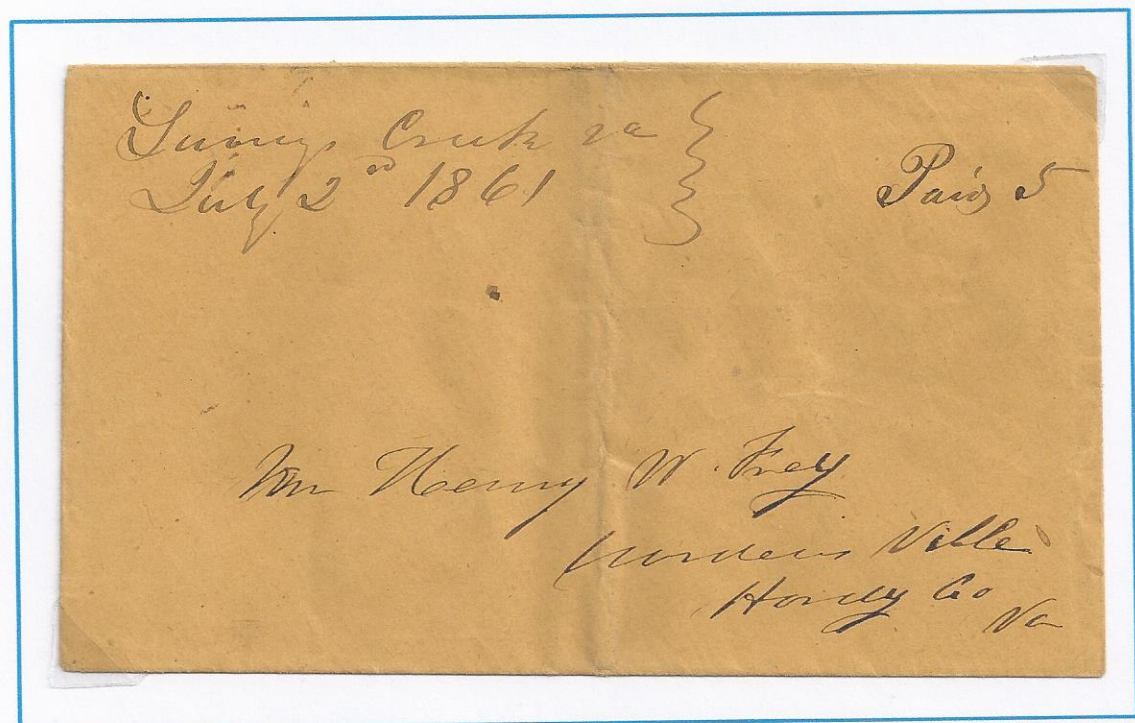
MARTINSBURG (Berkeley County)
32 mm blue circular cancel of
June 27, 1861 with manuscript
"paid 5" cent rate

*Earliest recorded Confederate
usage from Martinsburg*

LUNEYS CREEK – now Petersburg
(Hardy County – now Grant County)
manuscript cancel of July 2, 1861
with "paid 5" cent rate – local usage
to Wardensville

Cover was found in the wall of an old
house in Wardensville some years
ago

*Only recorded Confederate usage
from Luney's Creek*

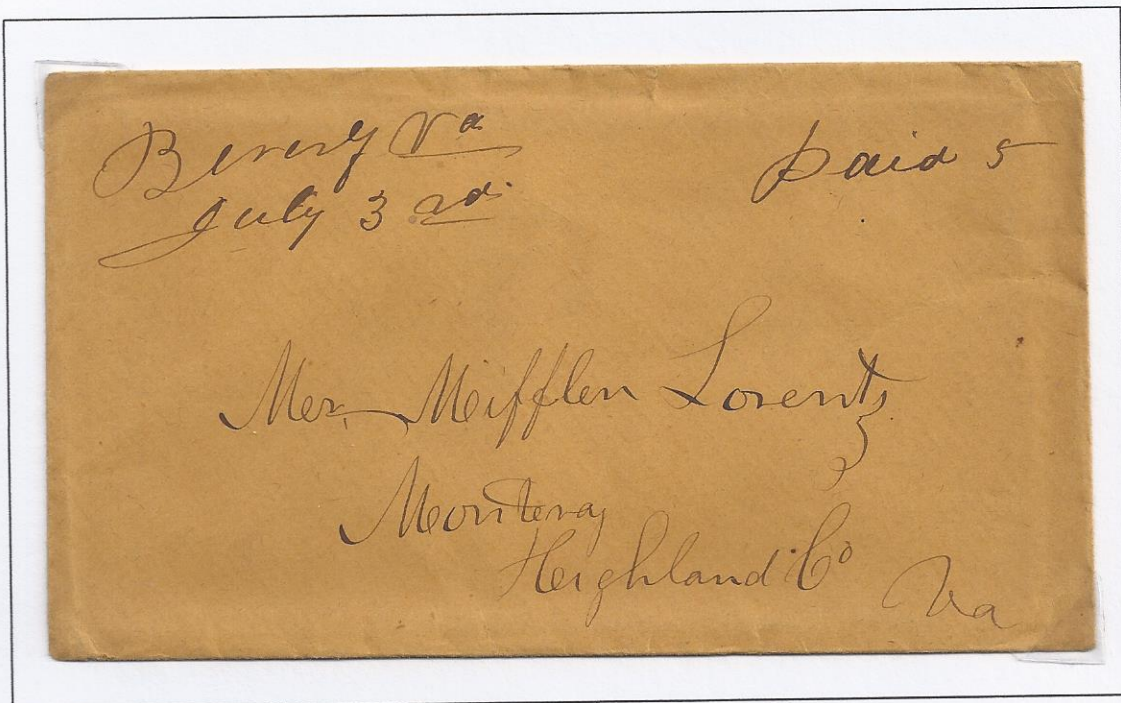


Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)



BEVERLY (Randolph County) manuscript cancel of July 2, 1861 with "paid 10" cent rate on Confederate patriotic cover

Mail by M.L. Sneed of the 1st Georgia Regiment, Company K to his wife



BEVERLY similar manuscript cancel of July 3, 1861 with "paid 5" cent rate to Monterey, Virginia

Beverly was evacuated by the Confederates after the battle of Rich Mountain on July 11, 1861 – no Confederate covers are known from Beverly after July 10, 1861

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)



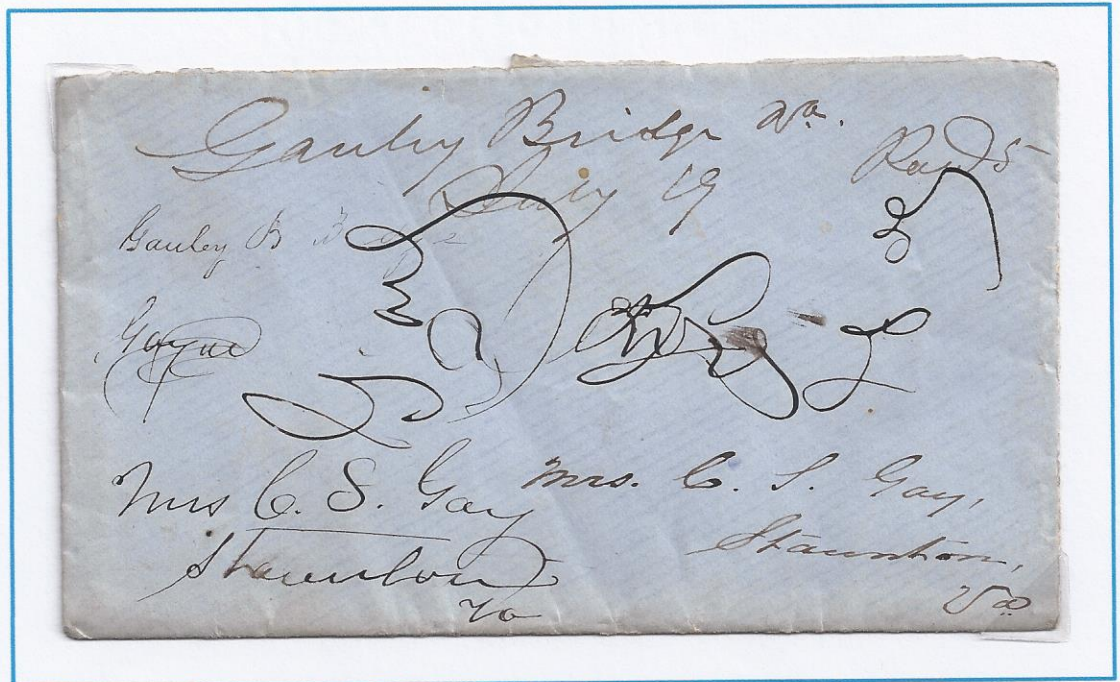
BEVERLY (Randolph County) manuscript cancel of July 3, 1861 with "paid 5" rate to Whittle's Mill, Virginia – different manuscript style than the previous 2 covers

With letter discussing troop movements, Camp Garnett construction and capture of provisions and civilians

GAULEY BRIDGE (Fayette County) manuscript cancel of July 19, 1861 with "paid 5" cent rate – with scribble on cover

The sender was Charles Wyndham Gay, son of Charles S. Gay of Staunton, a member of Wise's Legion at the time – he had been a student at VMI just prior to enlisting on July 1, 1861

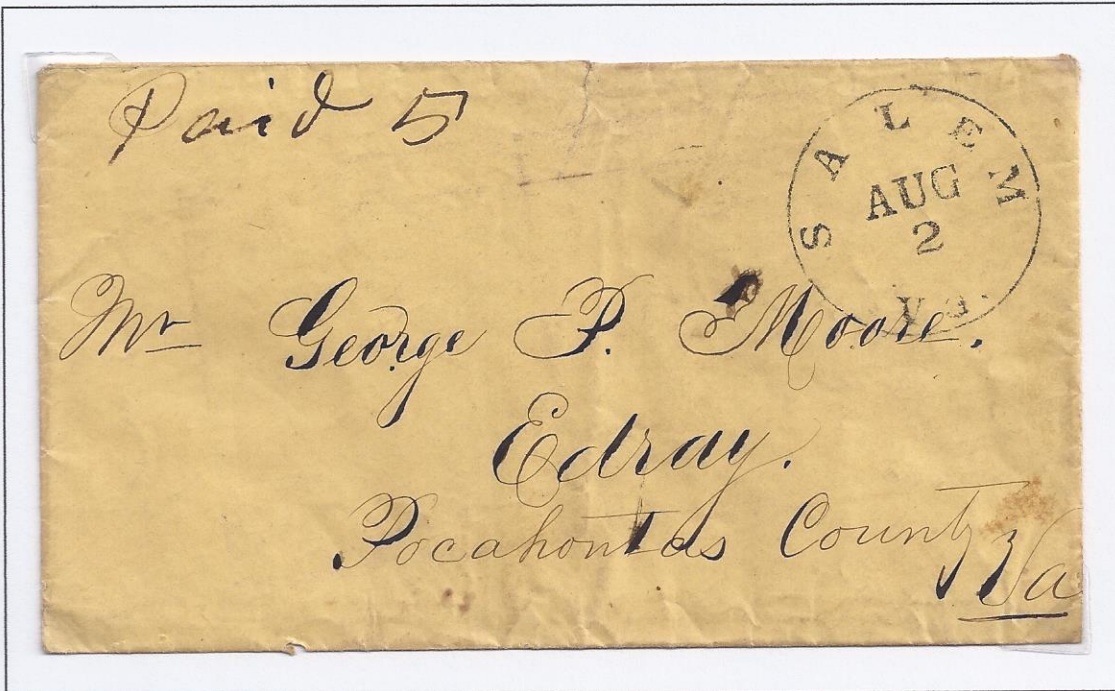
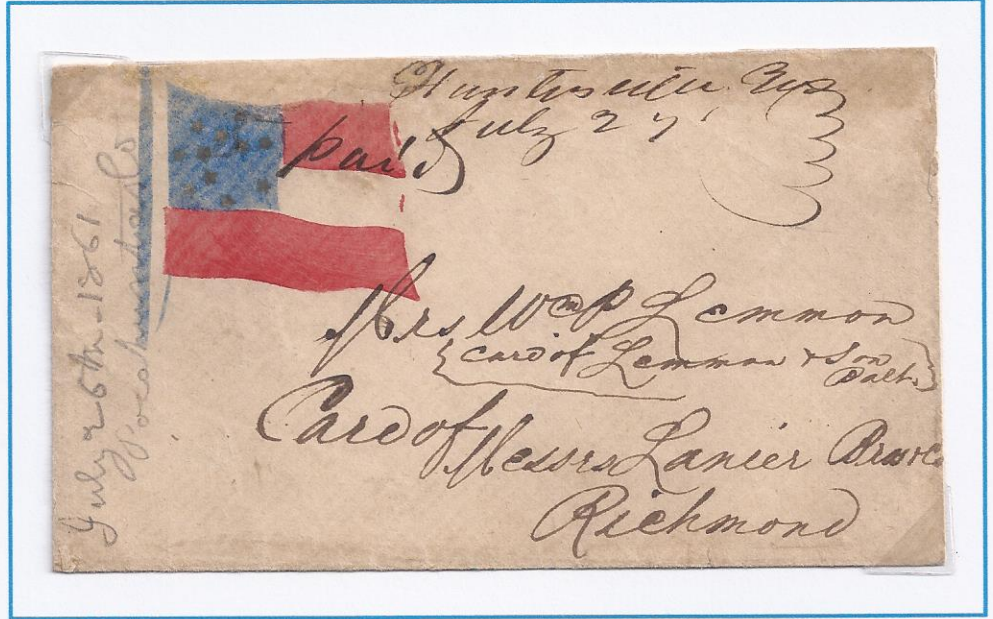
Only recorded Confederate usage from Gauley Bridge



Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

HUNTERSVILLE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of July 27, 1861 with "5 paid" rate to Richmond, Virginia on a stenciled 11 star Confederate flag patriotic envelope

The sender was Robert Lemmon, lieutenant of a company attached to the 42nd Virginia Infantry – mailed to his mother, Mrs. William P. Lemmon. Robert was later killed at the battle of Gettysburg on July 2, 1863 – was noted for gallantry by his commander



Salem, Virginia 34 mm circular cancel of August 2, 1861 with manuscript "paid 5" cent rate to EDRAY (Pocahontas County)

Only recorded Confederate usage to Edray and proves that Edray operated as a Confederate office during the early part of the war.

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

SWEET SPRINGS (Monroe County)
32 mm CDS cancel of August 5,
1861 and handstamp “paid” with
manuscript “5” cent rate – on 11
star Confederate flag patriotic
cover – local usage to Jackson’s
Ferry

One of three recorded Confederate
CDS cancels from Sweet Springs



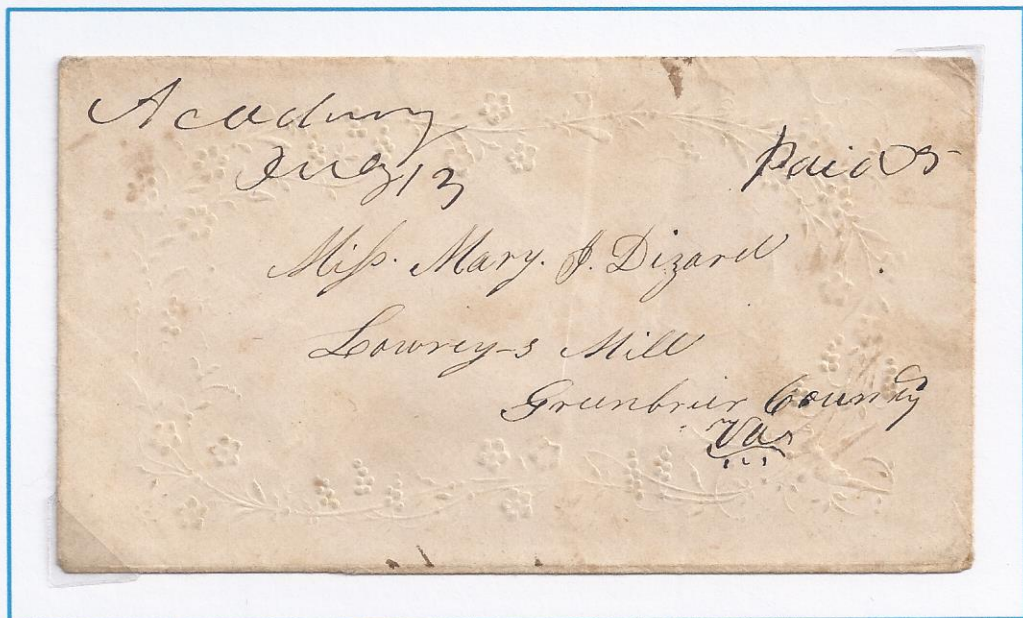
HUNTERSVILLE (Pocahontas County)
manuscript cancel of August 6, 1861
with “paid 5” cent rate to French
Broad, North Carolina

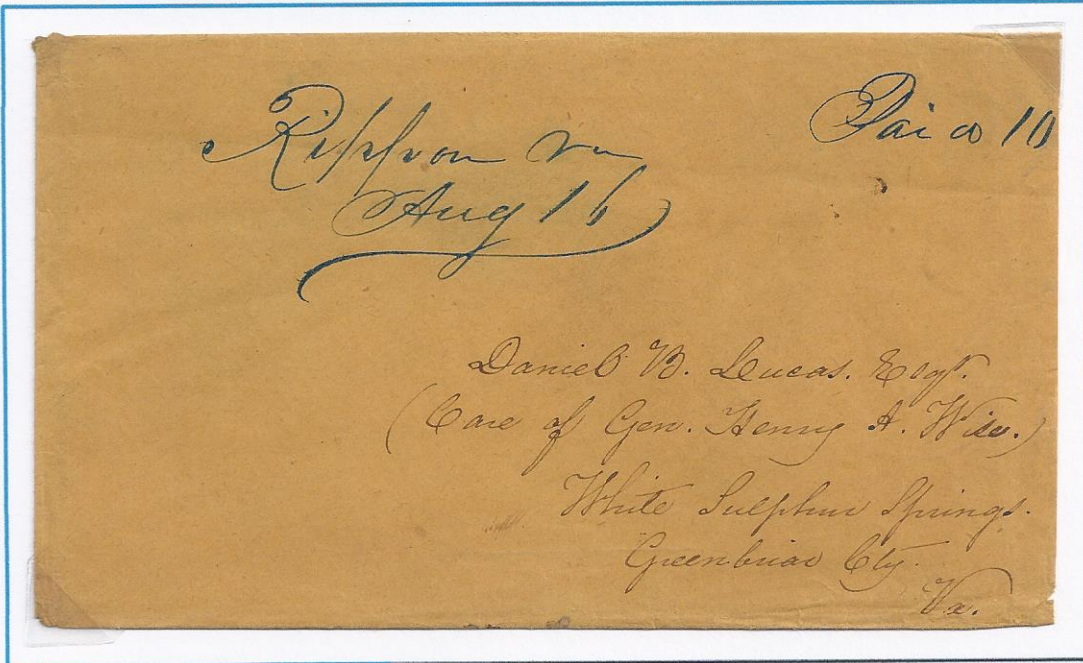
Notation on 12 star flag of
“Buncombe Sharpe Shooters” of
Company F of the 6th Regiment of
North Carolina Volunteers (E)

ACADEMY (Pocahontas County) manuscript
cancel of August 13, 1861 with “paid 5” cent
rate – local use to Lowrey’s Mill in adjacent
Greenbrier County – on a small lady’s
embossed envelope

One of two recorded Confederate usages from
Academy

Only recorded usage to Lowrey’s Mills – proves
that Lowrey’s Mill operated as a Confederate
post office during the early Civil War period





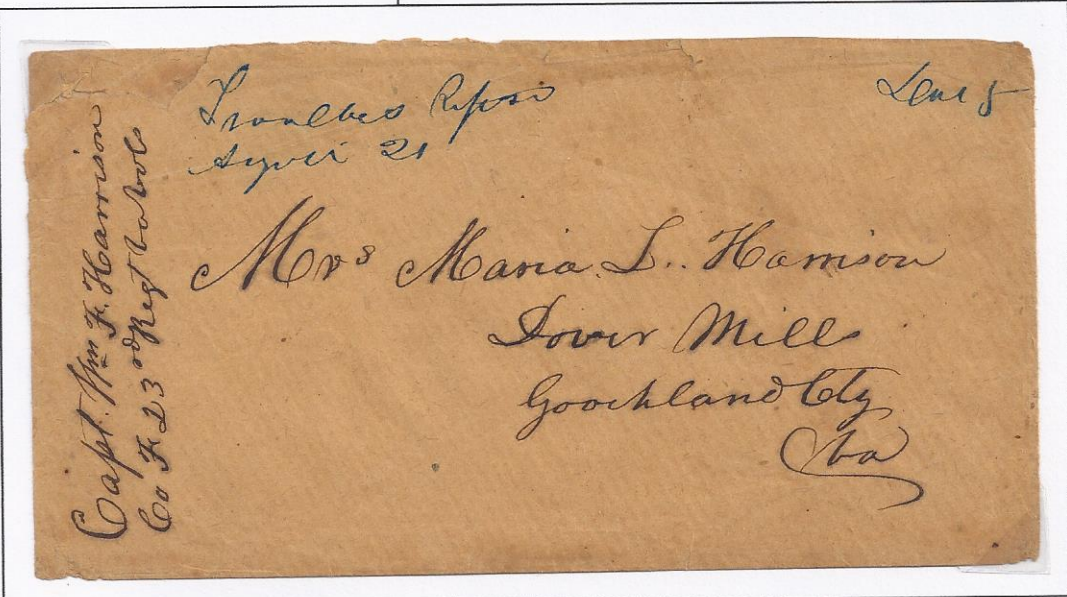
RIPPON (Jefferson County) manuscript postmark of August 16, 1861 and "paid 10" cent rate

With military address to the "care of General Henry A. Wise", a former Governor of Virginia

One of four recorded usages from Rippon



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier County) 34 mm circular cancel of August 18, 1861 with "paid" handstamp and "implied" 5 cent rate to Charlestown



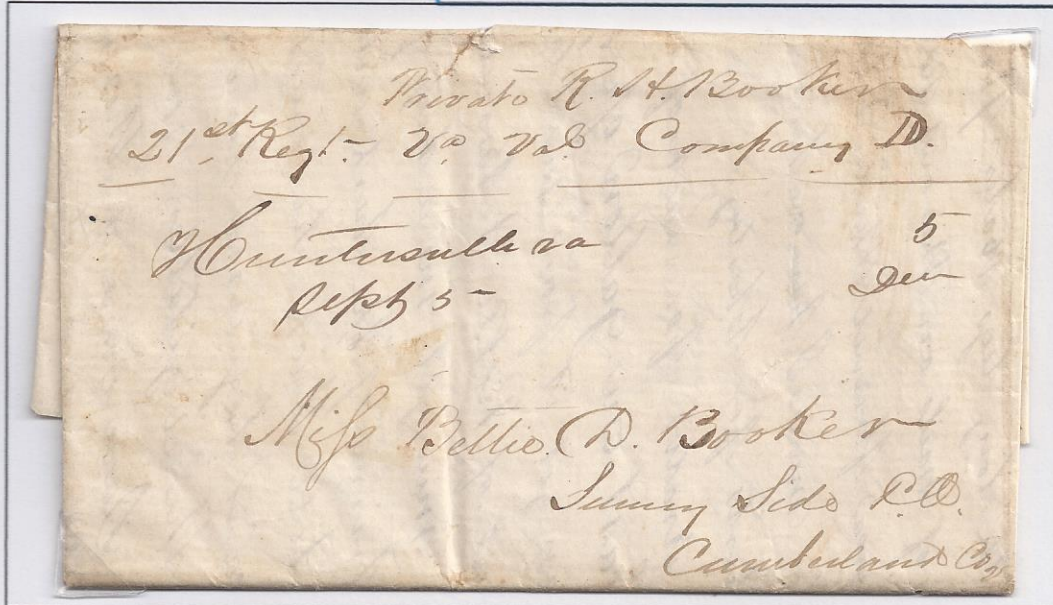
TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of August 21, 1861 with soldiers "due 5" cent rate

Endorsement by Captain William F. Harrison of the 23rd Virginia Infantry

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

HUNTERSVILLE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of September 2, 1861 on Confederate patriotic cover with 10 cent “due” rate

Sent by Private W.G. Thompson, 14th Georgia Infantry, Colonel A.V. Brumby commanding



HUNTERSVILLE similar manuscript cancel of September 5, 1861 on folded letter with 5 cent “due” rate to Sunny Side, Virginia

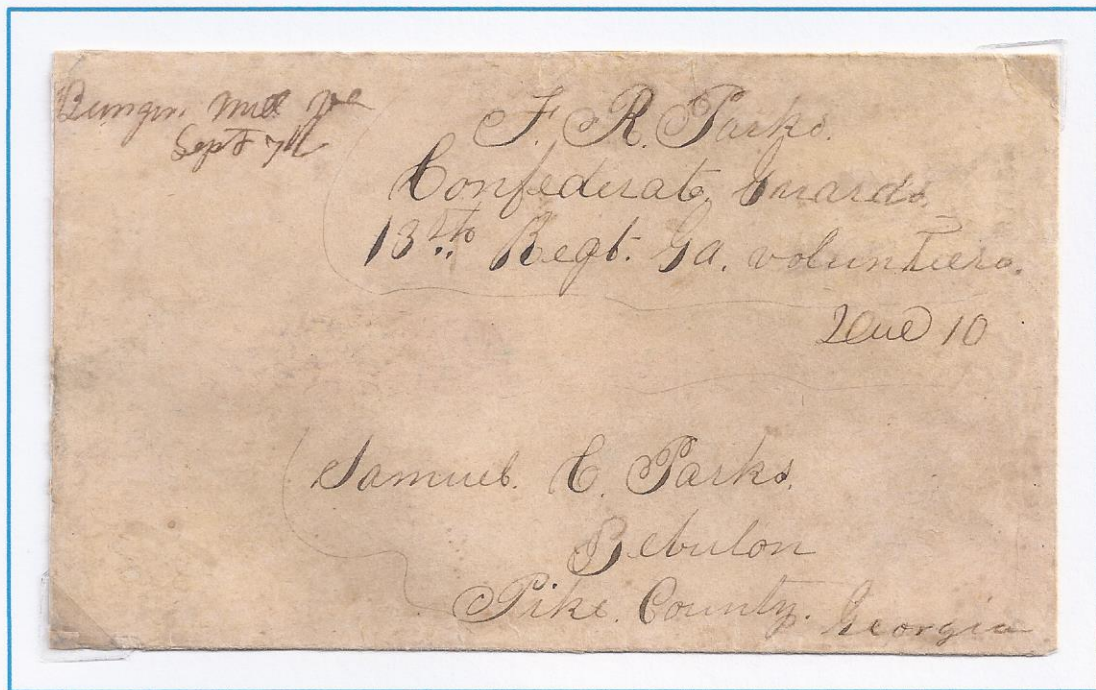
With endorsement by Private R.H. Booker of the 21st Virginia Infantry, Company D

During this time period, Huntersville was the principal post office for outgoing and receiving mail for General Robert E. Lee’s forces while stationed at nearby Valley Mountain

HUNTERSVILLE similar manuscript postmark of September 5, 1861 with 5 cent “due” rate to Buckingham Court House, Virginia

With endorsement by Sergeant Thomas Austin of the Company E of the 21st Virginia Infantry. He was discharged for disability at Valley Mountain a few weeks after this cover was posted.





BUNGERS MILLS (Greenbrier County) manuscript cancel of September 7, 1861 with "due 10" cent rate to Georgia

Endorsement by "F.R. Parks, Confederate Guards, and 13th Regiment Georgia Volunteers"

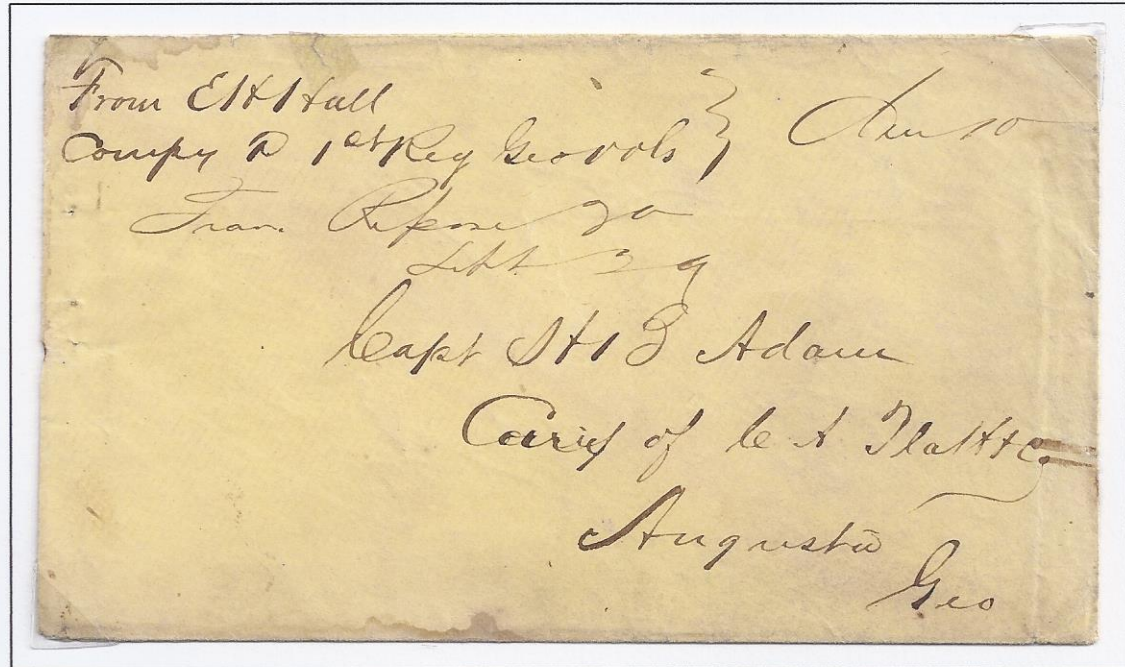
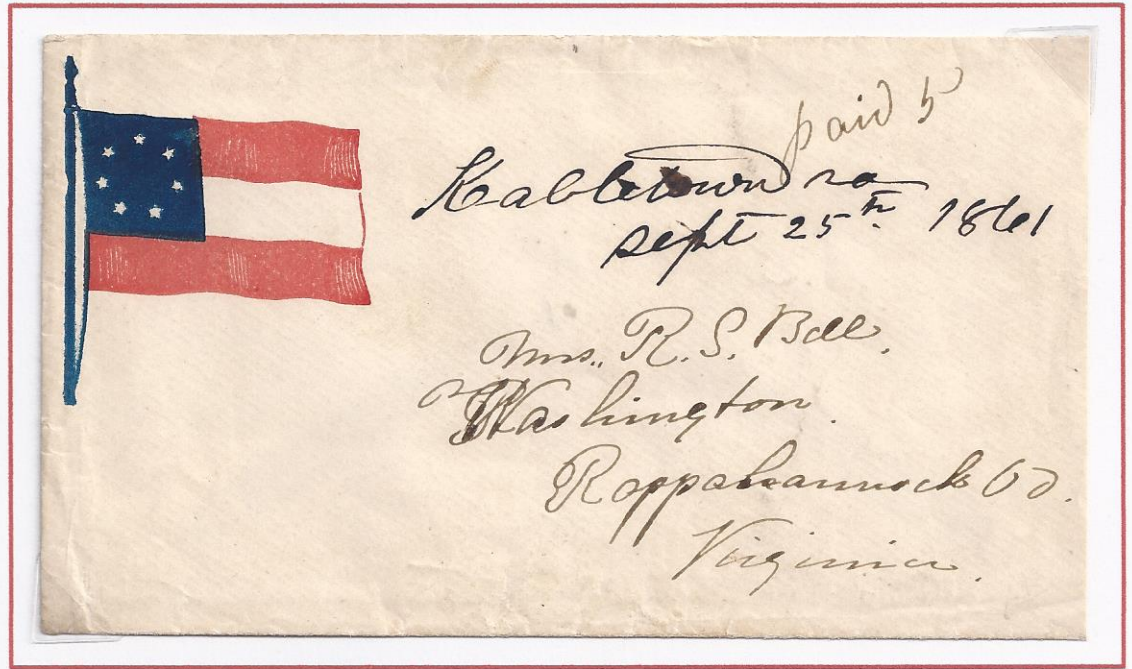
Only recorded Confederate usage from Bungers Mills



LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) 31 mm circular date stamp postmark of September 17, 1861 and altered "paid 3" in arc – used as a 5 cent Confederate rate

KABLETOWN (Jefferson County) manuscript cancel of September 25, 1861 with "paid 5" cent rate on a 7 star Confederate flag patriotic cover

Only recorded Confederate usage from Kabletown



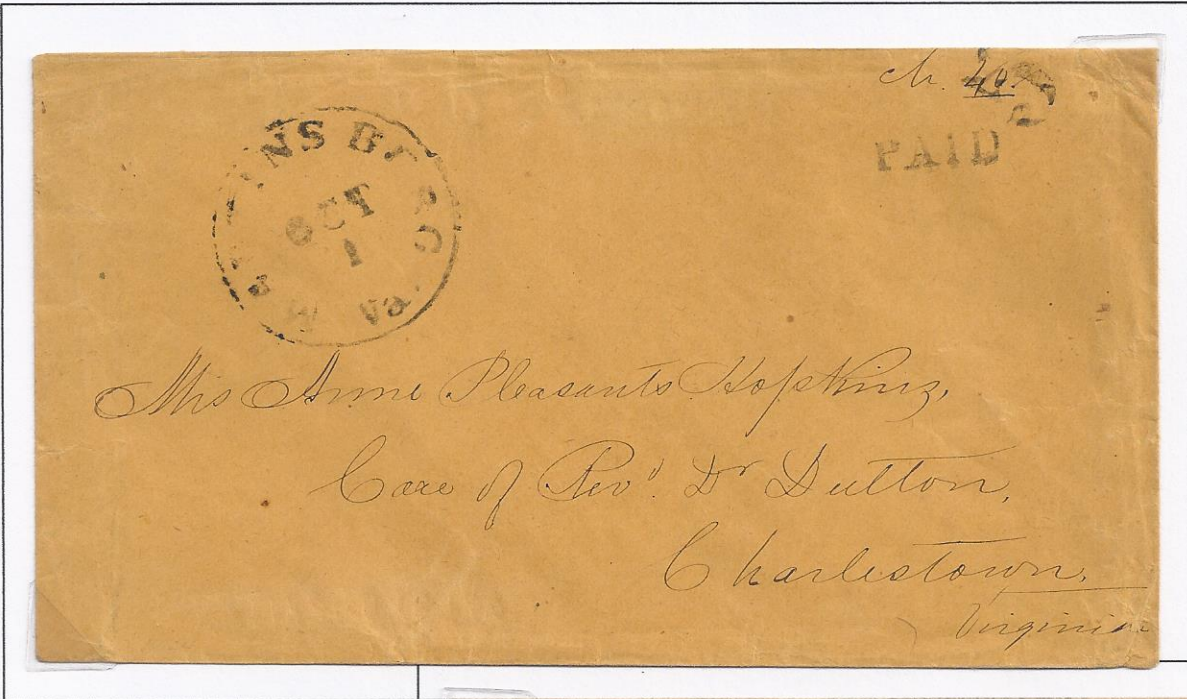
TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript postmark of September 29, 1861 with soldiers "due 10" cent rate to Georgia

Endorsement by E.H. Hall of the 1st Regiment of Georgia Volunteers

HUNTERSVILLE manuscript cancel of October 1, 1861 with soldiers "due 10" cent rate to Georgia on a tiny Confederate patriotic tent and flag design envelope

Endorsement by Private Joseph Calhoun Yancey, Independent 14th Georgia Regiment, Colonel Brumby

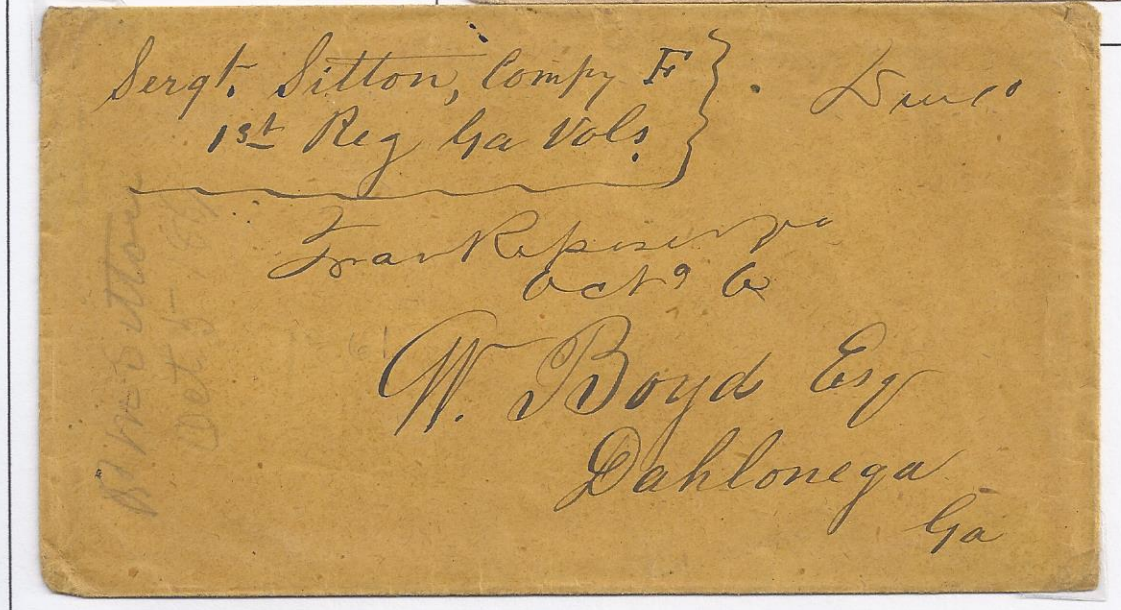
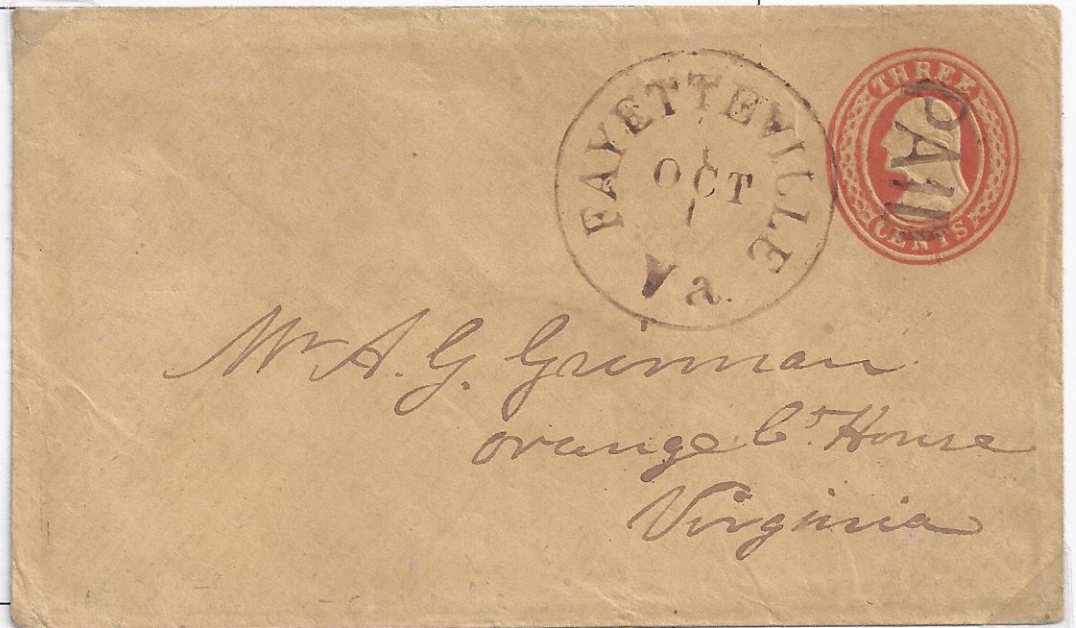




MARTINSBURG (Berkeley County) 32 mm black cancel of October 1, 1861 with handstamp "paid 5" cent rate – local usage to Charlestown – notation in pen to "ch(arge) (P.O. Box) 40"

FAYETTEVILLE (Fayette County) 37 mm balloon cancel of October 1, 1861 with handstamp "PAID" killer – signifying that Confederate postage was paid on an "unrecognized" 1854 US Nesbitt envelope

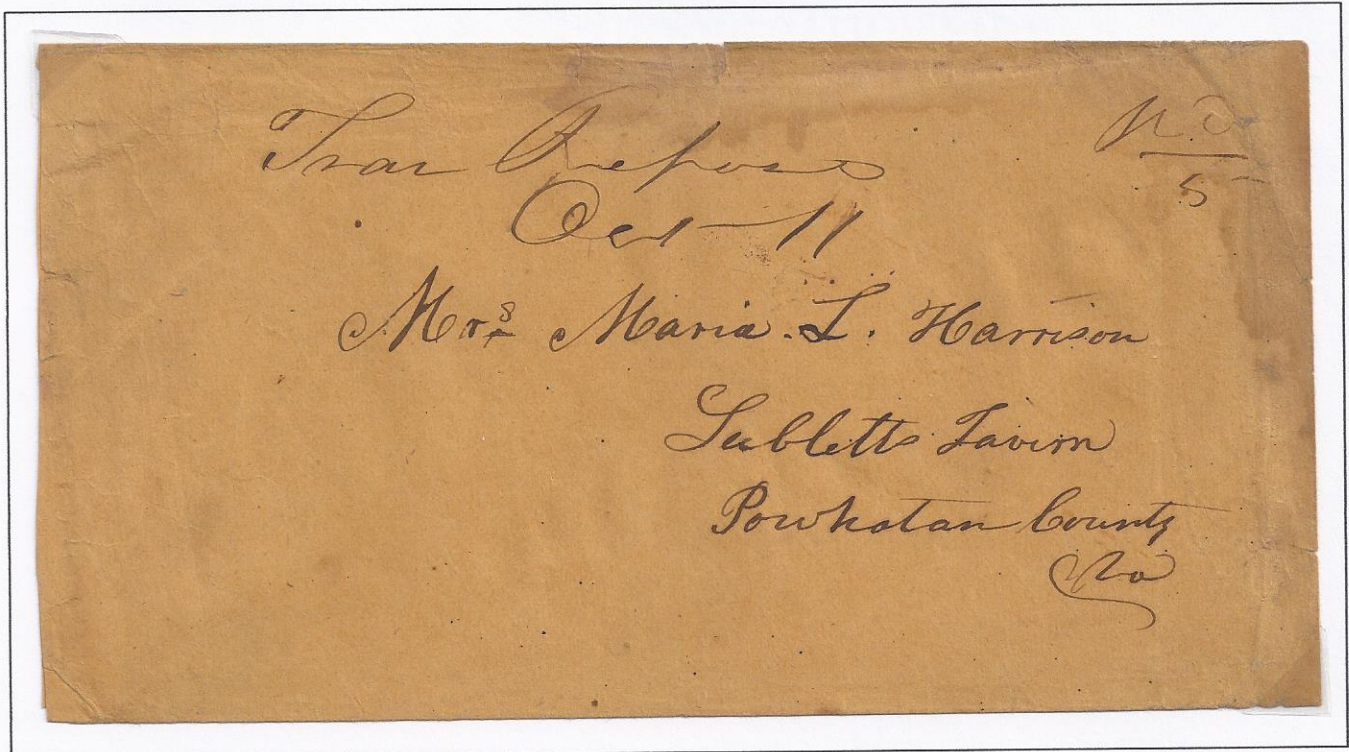
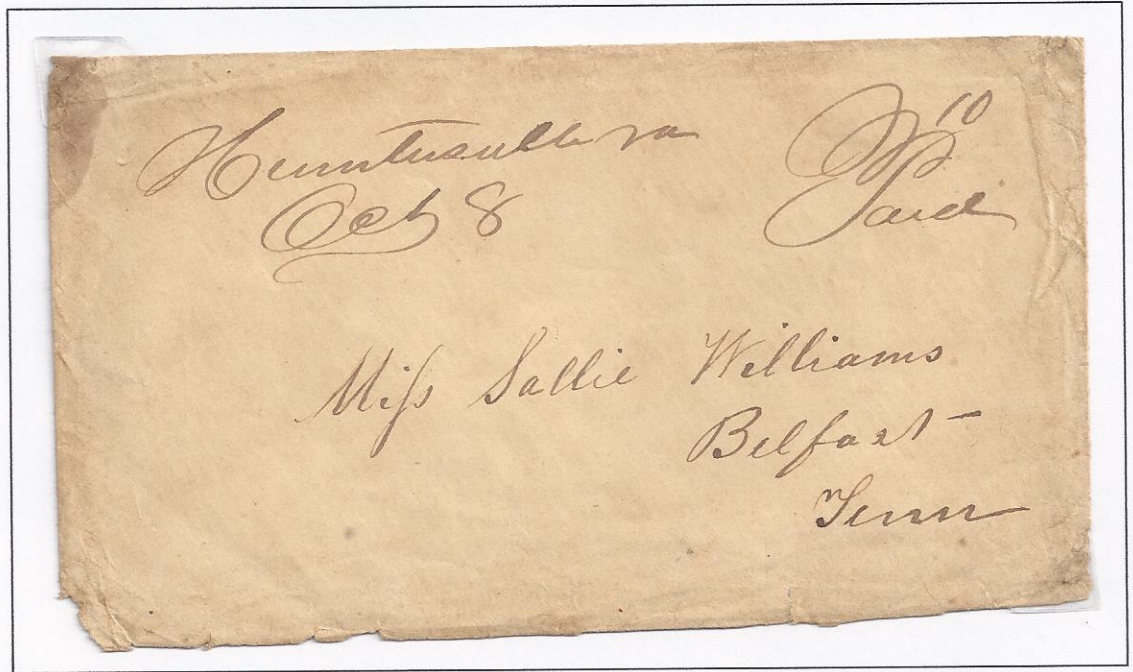
With letter concerning land interests in Fayette County owned by Andrew Grinnan



TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript postmark of October 6, 1861 and "due 10" cent rate to Georgia

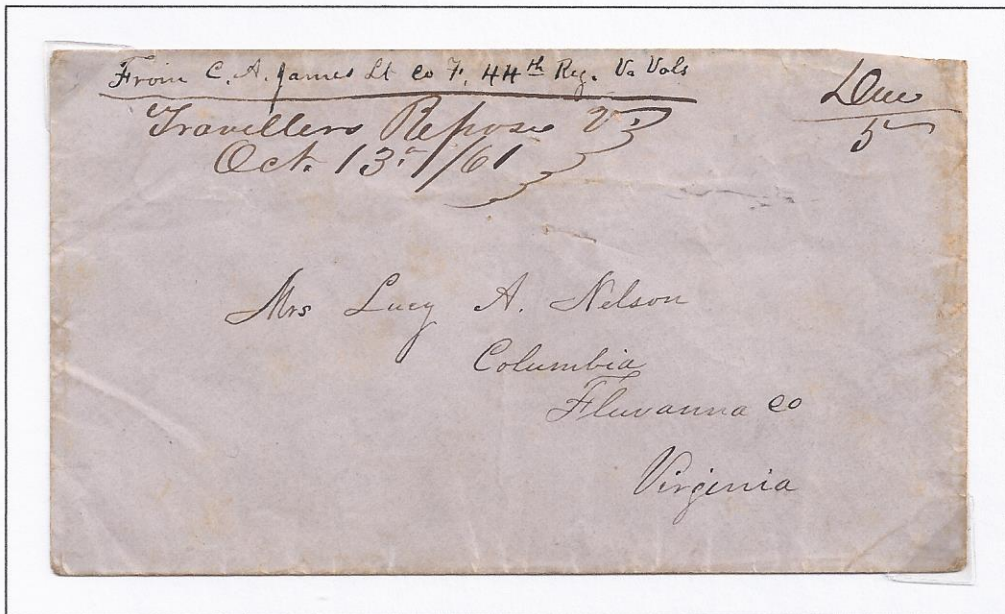
Soldier's endorsement by "Sergeant Sitton", Company F, 1st Regiment Georgia Volunteers

HUNTERSVILLE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of October 8, 1861 with "paid 10" cent rate to Belfast, Tennessee



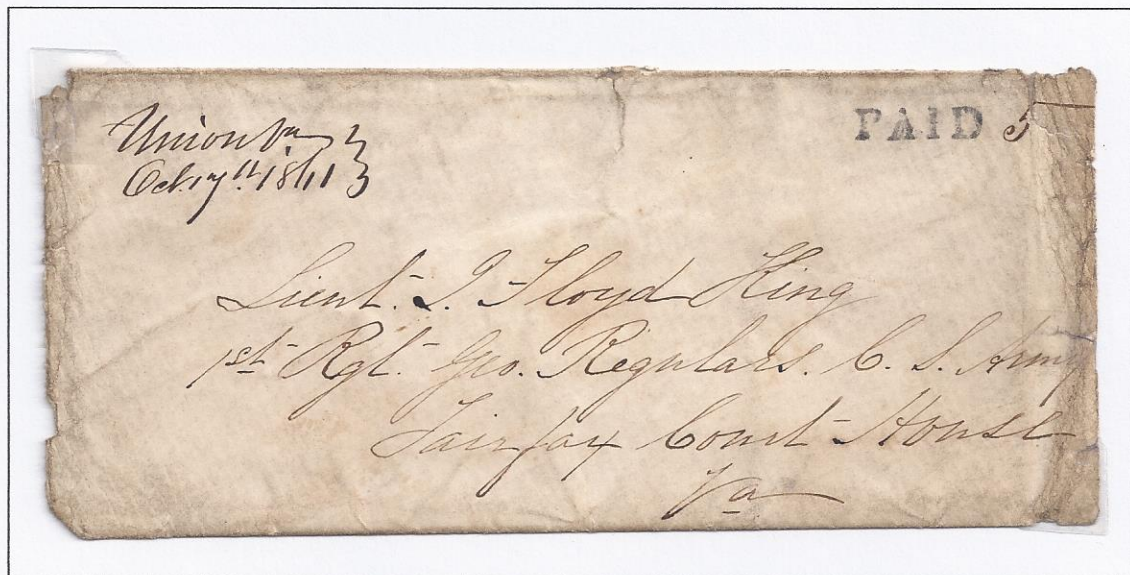
TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript postmark of October 11, 1861 With "paid 5" cent rate to Subletts Tavern, Virginia

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)



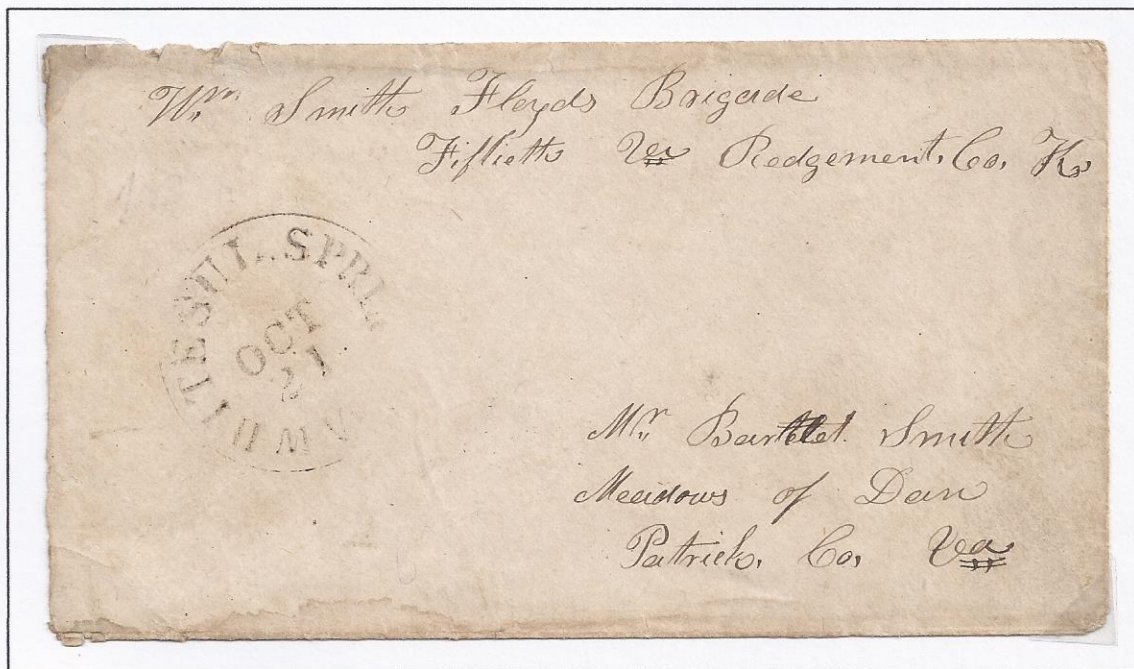
TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript postmark of October 13, 1861 with soldier's "due 5" cent rate

Endorsement by C.A. James, Lieutenant of Company F, 44th Virginia Regiment (Infantry)



UNION (Monroe County) manuscript cancel of October 17, 1861 with handstamp "paid" and manuscript "5" cent rate

With military address

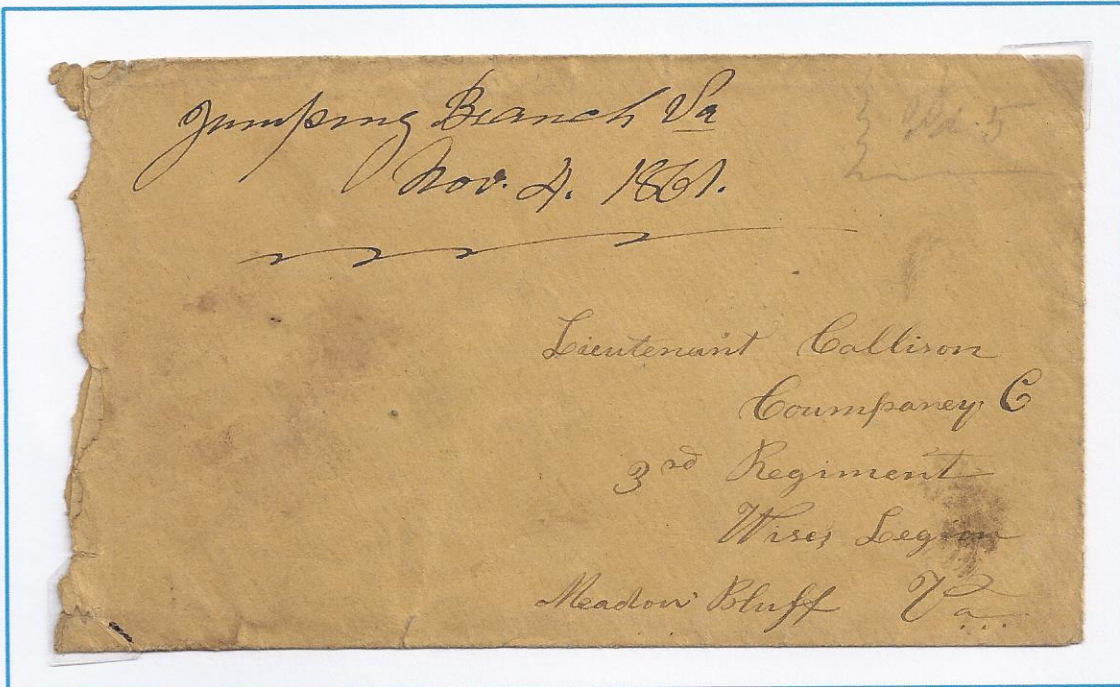
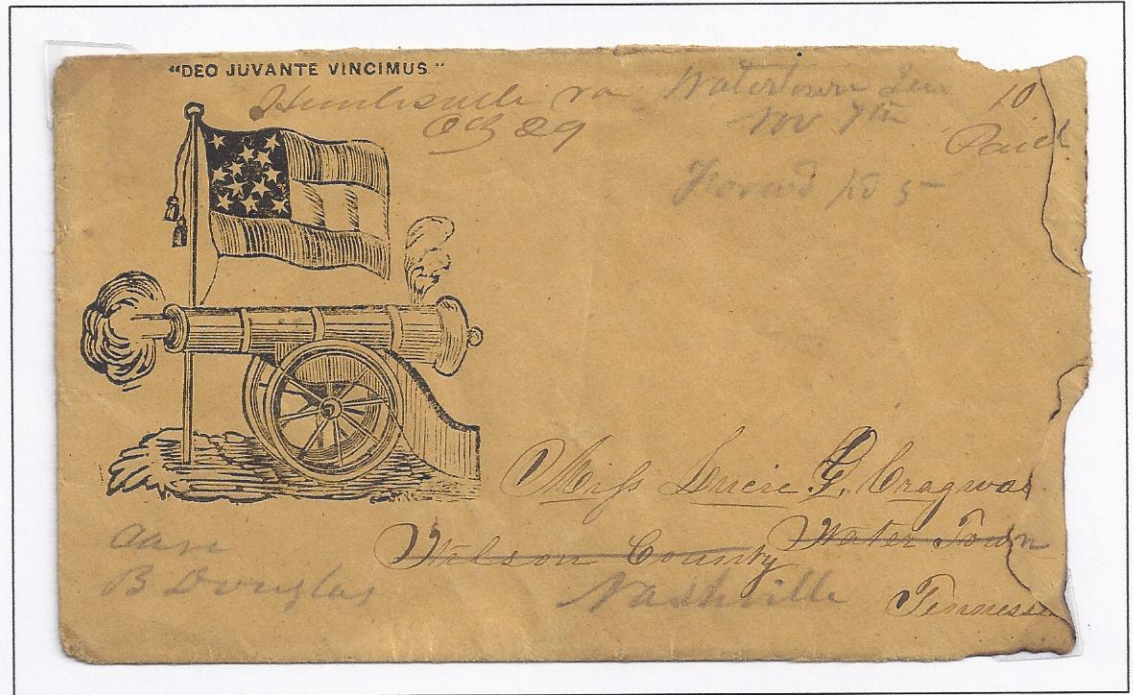


WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier County) 34 mm circular postmark of October 21, 1861 with implied "5 cent due" rate to Meadows of Dan, Virginia

Soldier's endorsement by William Smith, Floyd's Brigade, 15th Virginia Regiment (Infantry), Company H

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

HUNTERSVILLE (Pocahontas County) manuscript postmark of October 29, 1861 with 10 cent paid rate – additional penciled forwarding cancel from Watertown, Tennessee on November 7 with “paid 5” cent rate to Nashville

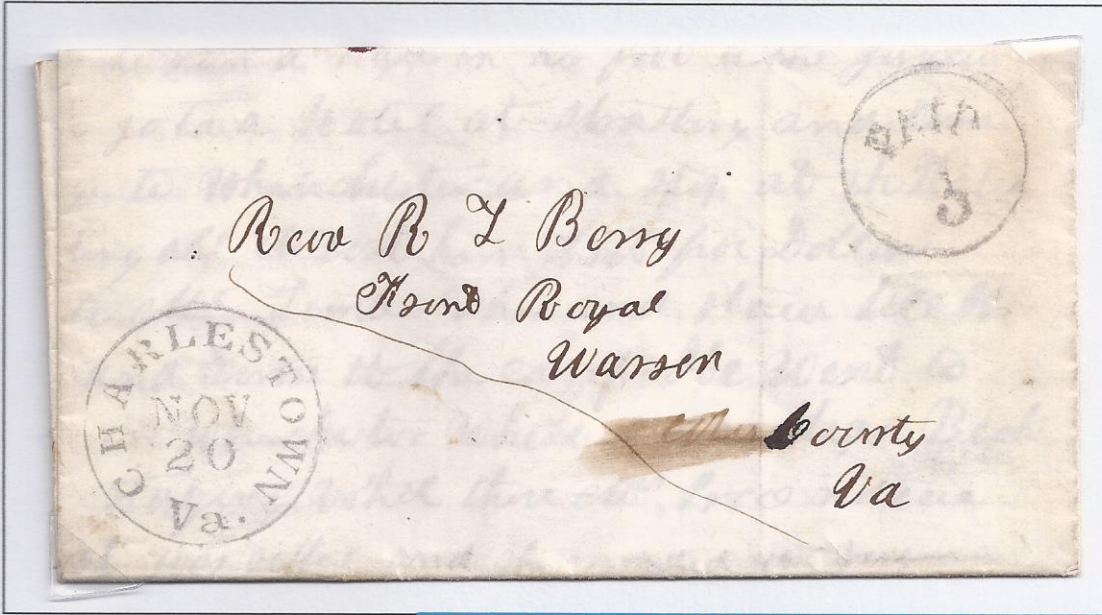


JUMPING BRANCH (Raleigh County – now Summers County) manuscript cancel of November 4, 1861 with “paid 5” cent rate in pencil

With military address to a member of “Wises Legion” at MEADOW BLUFF (Greenbrier County) – local usage

Only recorded Confederate usage from Jumping Branch

Only recorded usage to Meadow Bluff –proving that it operated as a Confederate post office during the early part of the Civil War



CHARLESTOWN (Jefferson County) 31 mm CDS cancel of November 20, 1861 with “altered” paid 3 in circle – paying the 5 cent Confederate rate – this handstamp cancel is slightly smaller than the previous 2 Charlestown markings and with slightly different letter spacing – on folded letter with the same dating

Letter discusses Stonewall Jackson addressing his brigade and the troops cheering him 9 times

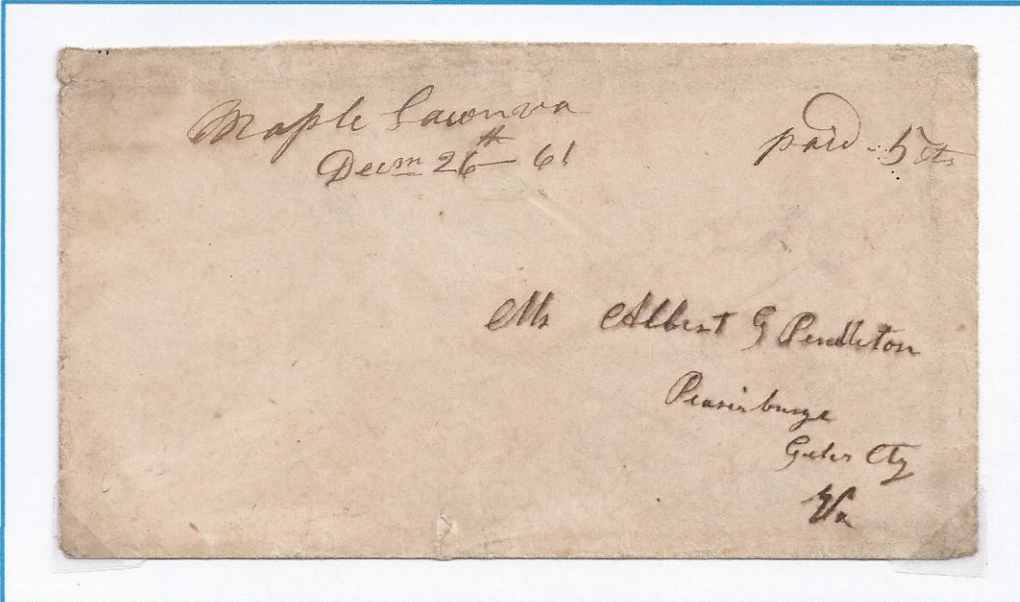
MARTINSBURG (Berkeley County) 32 mm black CDS originating postmark of December 7, 1861 with manuscript “due 5” cent rate – additional Lexington postmark of December 11 with notation of “missent & forwd” and directed on to Lynchburg

Soldier’s endorsement by Private L.M. Blackford, Rockbridge Artillery, Army of the Valley



MAPLE LAWN (Monroe County) manuscript cancel of December 26, 1861 with “paid 5 cts” rate

Only recorded Confederate usage from Maple Lawn

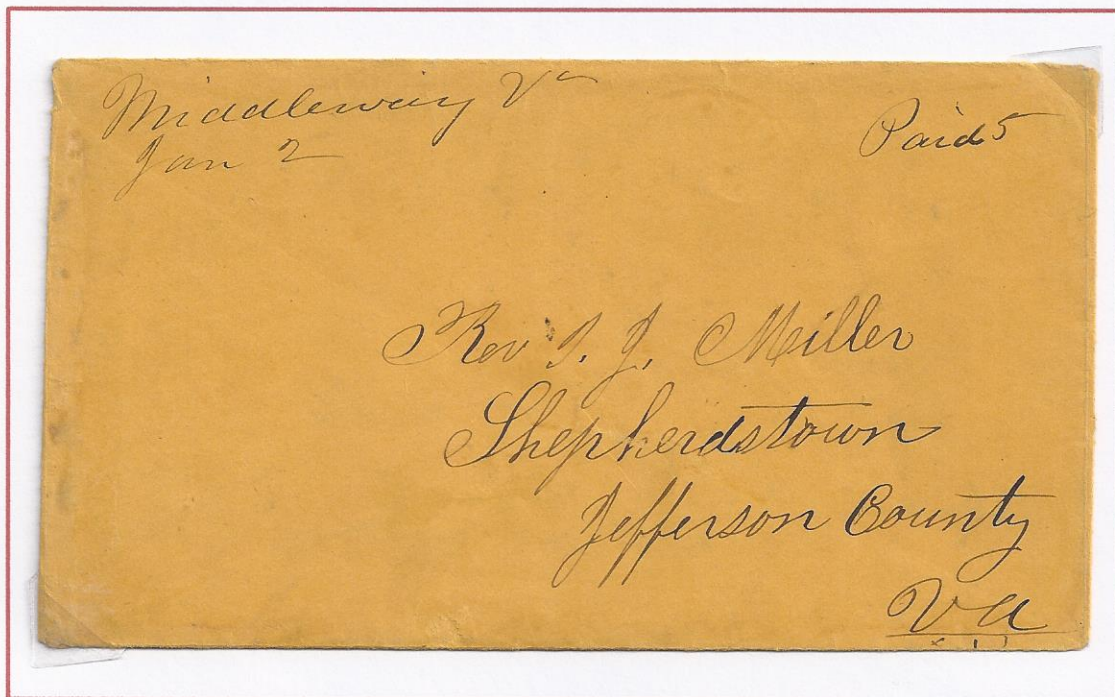


MIDDLEWAY (Jefferson County) manuscript postmark of January 2, 1862 with "paid 5" cent local usage to Shepherdstown – turned cover with SHEPHERDSTOWN (Jefferson County) 32 mm CDS cancel of January 21, 1862 and handstamp "paid 5" cent rate to Winchester

Shepherdstown marking on reverse side is identical to the cover shown below

Only recorded Middleway Confederate manuscript cancel

Only recorded turned Confederate usage from West Virginia where both usages originated from West Virginia post offices



SHEPHERDSTOWN (Jefferson County) 32 mm CDS cancel of January 6, 1862 with handstamp "paid 5" cent rate – town name was misspelled in the device

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

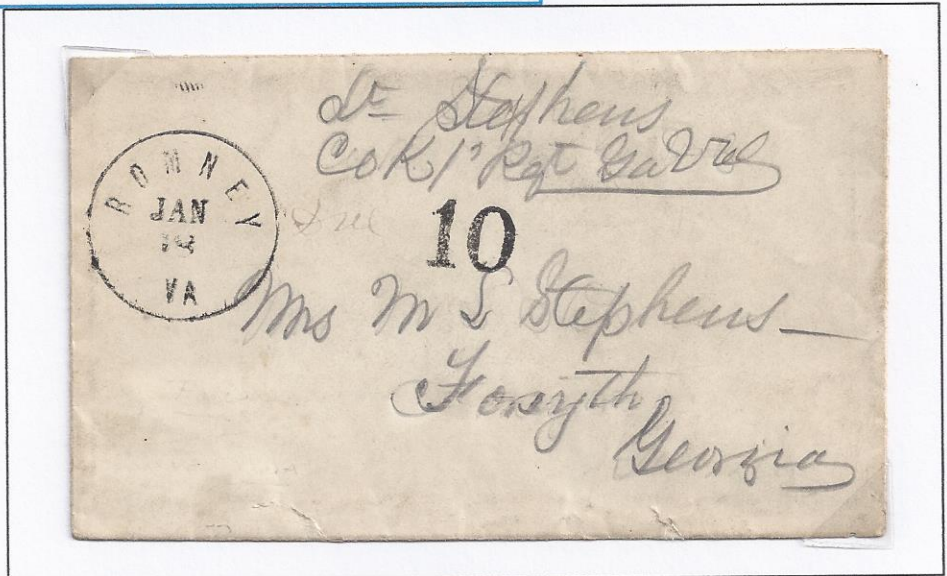


FRANKLIN (Pendleton County) 33 mm handstamp cancel of January 7, 1862 with "paid 5 cent" rate to the left of a "marked out" adversity usage of a US 1854 Nesbitt design with patent lines

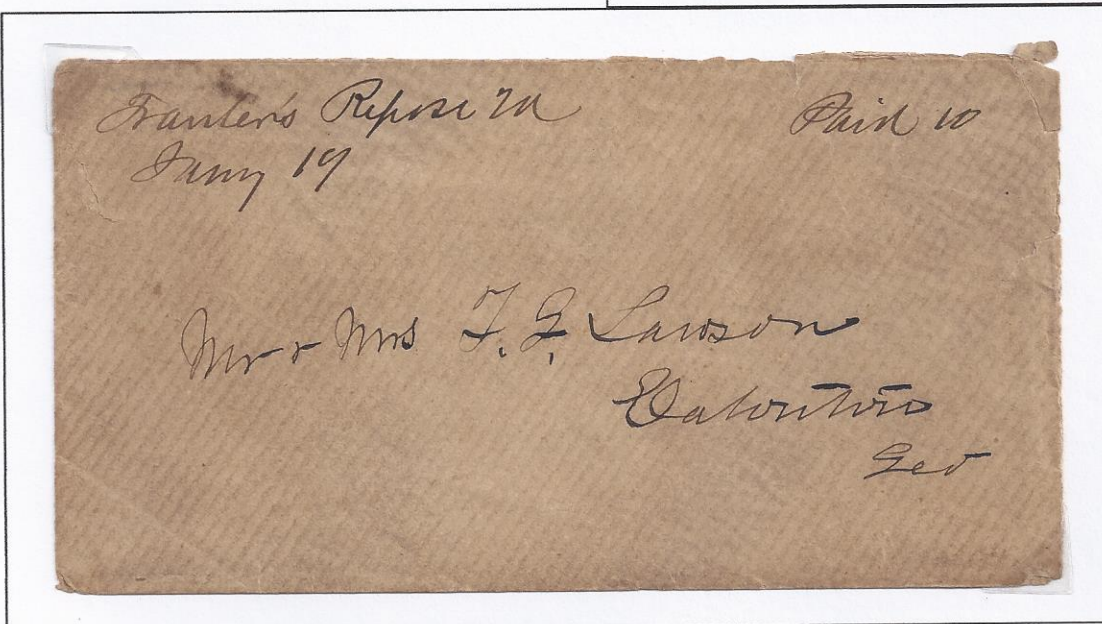
One of two recorded Confederate usages from Franklin (E)

ROMNEY (Hampshire County) 25 mm cancel of January 18, 1862 with manuscript "due" and handstamp "10" cent rate to Forsyth, Georgia

Soldier's endorsement by Lieutenant Stephens, Company K of the 1st Regiment, Georgia Volunteers



TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of January 19, 1862 with "paid 10" cent rate to Georgia



Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)



PRINCETON (Mercer County) olive green 32 ½ mm hand stamp cancel of January 28, 1862 with manuscript "paid 5" cent rate

Letter enclosed was written by a member of the 8th Virginia Cavalry

This recently discovered cover proves that the "fake" cancellations floating around for years on 2 cent and 20 cent stamps "on piece" (example below) - are actually from a "legitimate" canceller that someone found years after the Civil War - these 2 denominations of scarcer Confederate stamps were cancelled to "enhance" their value to the unsuspecting collector

Only recorded Confederate usage from Princeton

PRINCETON similar black hand stamp cancel on a 20 cent Archer & Daly stamp dated April 19 - "legitimate" canceller but "illegitimate" usage (see above description) - a number of 2 cent and 20 cent stamps have been found with only 2 dates of usage - April 19 and October 12 "on piece" - no legitimate usages of these stamps are known from Princeton



TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of January 31, 1862 with "due 10" cent rate to Georgia

Endorsed under the verse by "J.E. Rylander Com a 12th Ga Reg" – James Emory Rylander at this time was 1st Sergeant of Company A, 12th Georgia Infantry – was later commissioned Captain and then Major in March 1862 transferring to the 10th Georgia Battalion Infantry. He was killed in action at Cold Harbor, Virginia on June 2, 1864

Manuscript "Greenbrier & Allegany" added to the slogan "Remember Sumter, Bethel & Manassas"



MIDDLEWAY (Jefferson County) 32 ½ mm CDS cancel of February 3, 1862 with handstamp "paid" and manuscript "5"

Mailed to Cadet A.S. Dandridge at Virginia Military Institute

Only recorded Confederate handstamp usage from Middleway

LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) 31 mm circular date stamp cancel of November 28, 1862 with manuscript "due 10" cent rate addressed to "East Tennessee"

Endorsed by E.K. Duncan of Jenkins Cavalry Brigade – with soldier's letter headed "Camp Stuart"

Latest recorded usage of a Lewisburg handstamp during the war



INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA

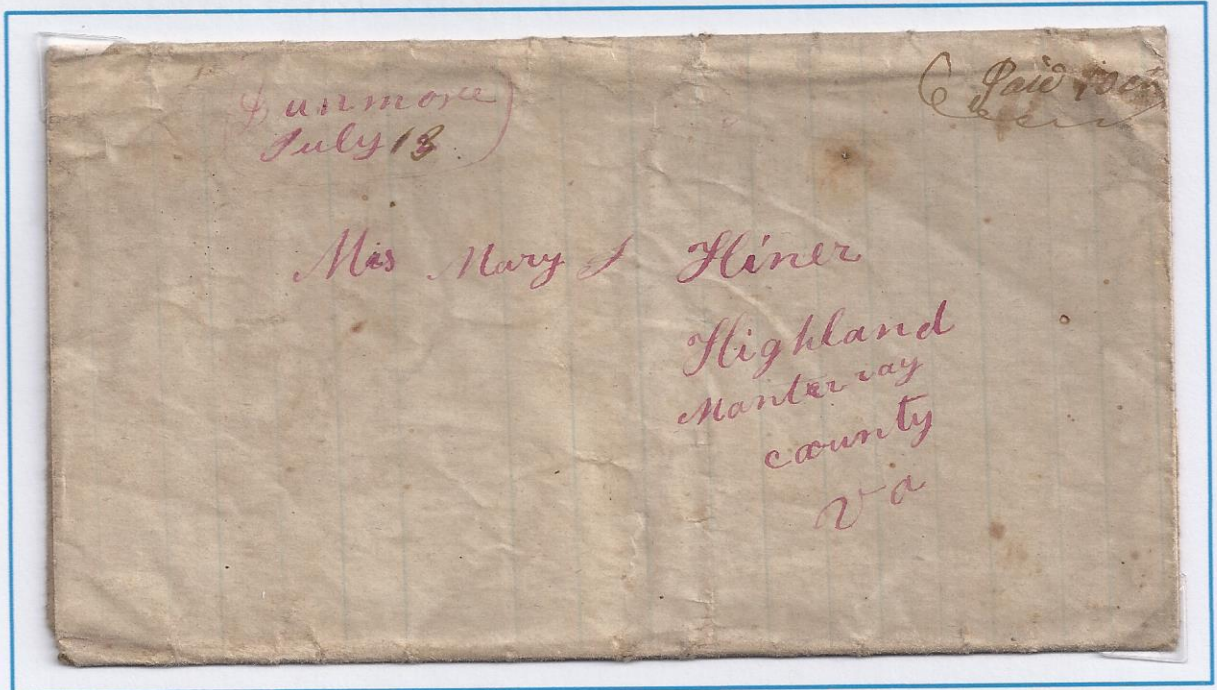
July 13 to November 18, 1863

Confederate handstamp and manuscript Paid and Due – Stampless (June 1, 1861 to end of war)

DUNMORE (Pocahontas County) red manuscript cancel of July 13, 1863 with Paid 10 cent rate on folded letter

Notation on inside by Jacob C. McGlaughlin, Staunton, Co. A, 62 Regt Va Vol. – Northwest Brigade Forward to Gen. Imbodens Comg.

Only recorded Confederate usage from Dunmore



CHARLESTOWN (Jefferson County) 31 mm circular cancel of July 17, 1863 with 10 cent soldier's "due" rate

Enclosed letter describes the return from the Gettysburg battlefield

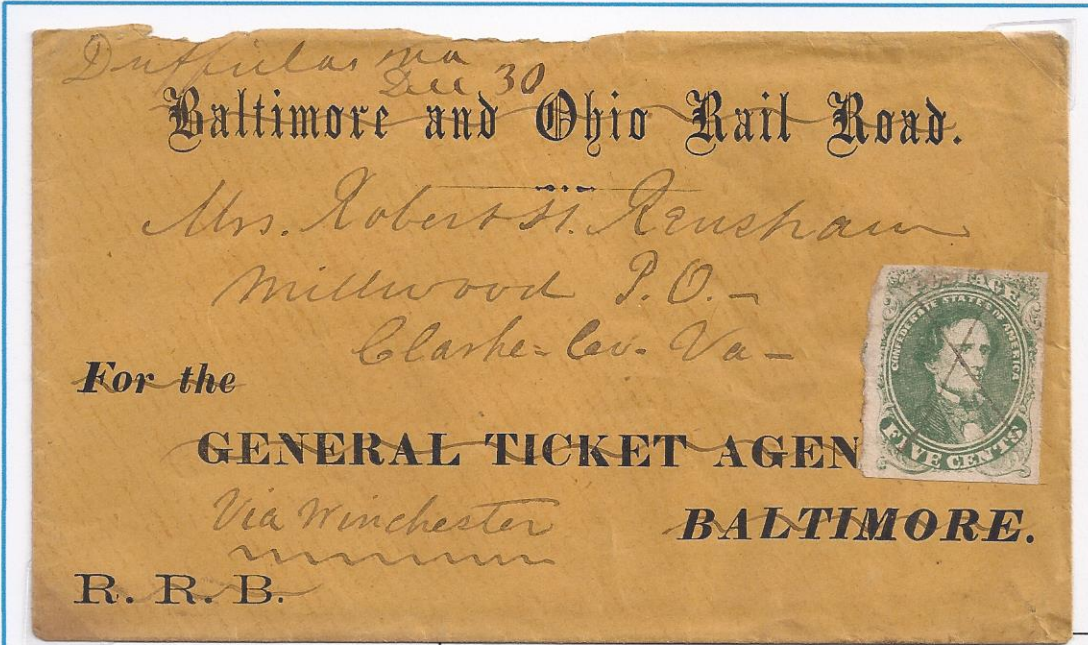
Latest recorded Confederate usage from any town in the eastern panhandle region – the only usages after this date are from Greenbrier and Monroe Counties

LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) manuscript postmark on a "captured" Union patriotic cover with "due 10" cent rate mailed on November 18, 1863

With endorsement by J.Z. McChesney of Company C, 14th Virginia Regiment "Jenkins Brigade"

Note pencil notation to the right of the eagle – for all time "except this time"





DUFFIELDS (Jefferson County) manuscript cancel on confiscated B & O printed envelope dated December 30, 1861 – with a 5 cent green 1861 Hoyer & Ludwig issue paying the under 500 mile 5 cent rate – routed “via Winchester” to Millwood

Only recorded Confederate usage from Duffields

CHARLESTOWN (Jefferson County)
31 mm circular cancel of February 10, 1862 and 17 mm circular grid killer tying a 5 cent green Hoyer & Ludwig issue of 1861

With military address

One of three recorded usages from Charlestown with 1st issue stamp



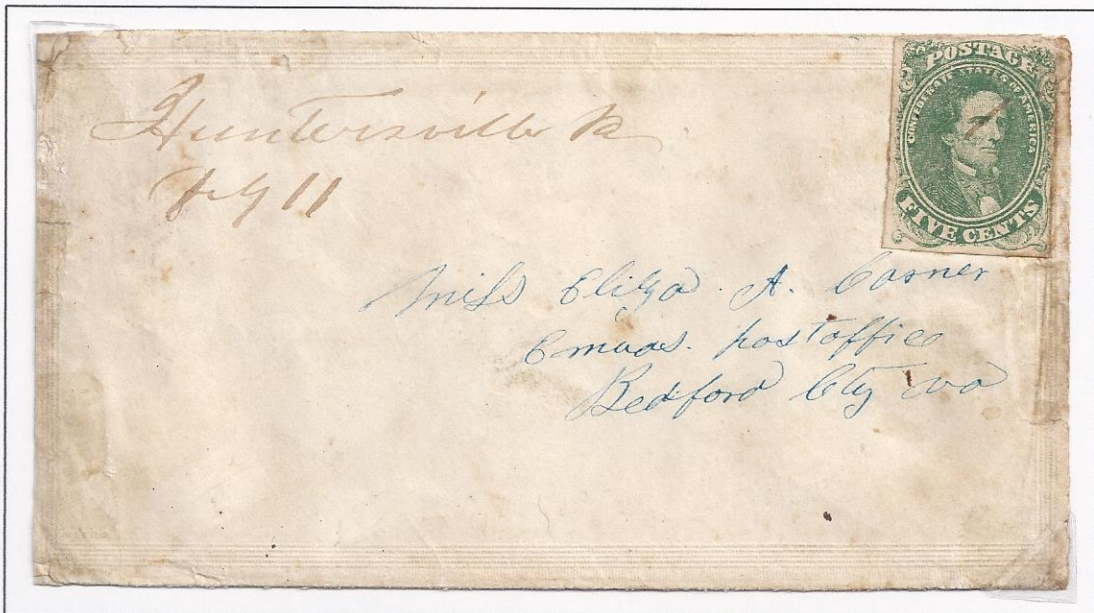
SHEPHERDSTOWN (Jefferson County)
32 mm cancel of February 11, 1862 tying a 5 cent green Hoyer & Ludwig issue of 1861 on a handmade envelope

With abbreviated docketing to mean “Company B, 2nd Regiment of Virginia Volunteers” and “Care of Dr. McCaw at Chimborazo” hospital – Cato Moore Entler, the recipient, was a member of this unit and was from Shepherdstown

One of three recorded stamped Confederate usages from Shepherdstown

HUNTERSVILLE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of February 11, 1862 with a pen cancelled 5 cent green Hoyer & Ludwig 1861 issue

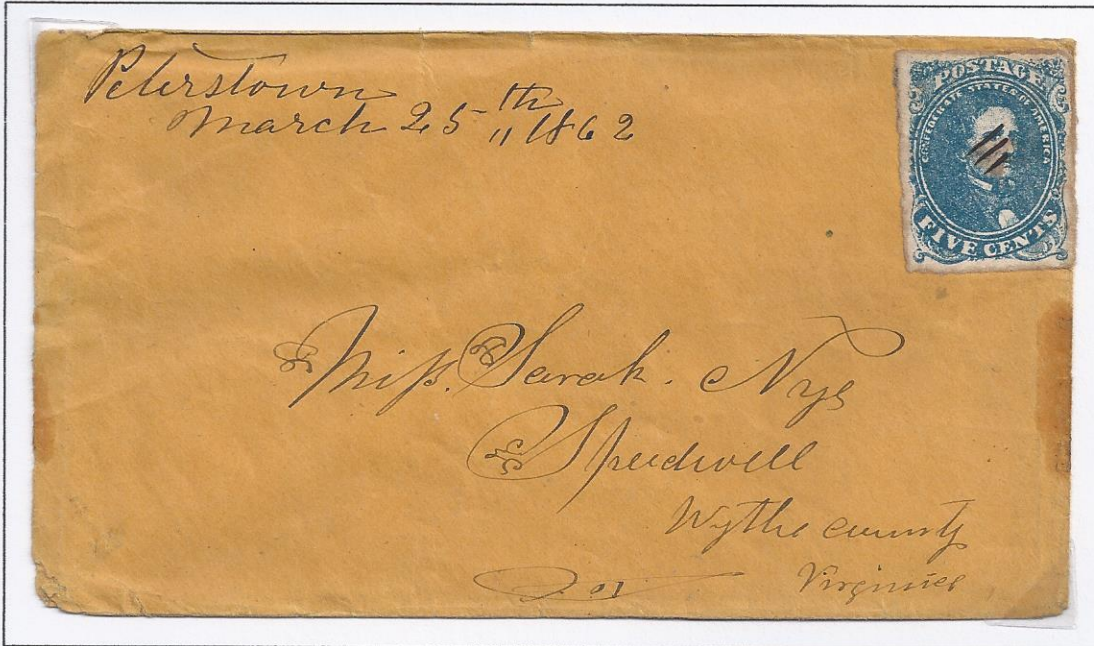
One of three recorded stamped usages from Huntersville



TRAVELLERS REPOSE (Pocahontas County) manuscript cancel of March 2, 1862 on Confederate patriotic cover – 5 cent green Hoyer & Ludwig printing paying the local usage to New Hope in Augusta County

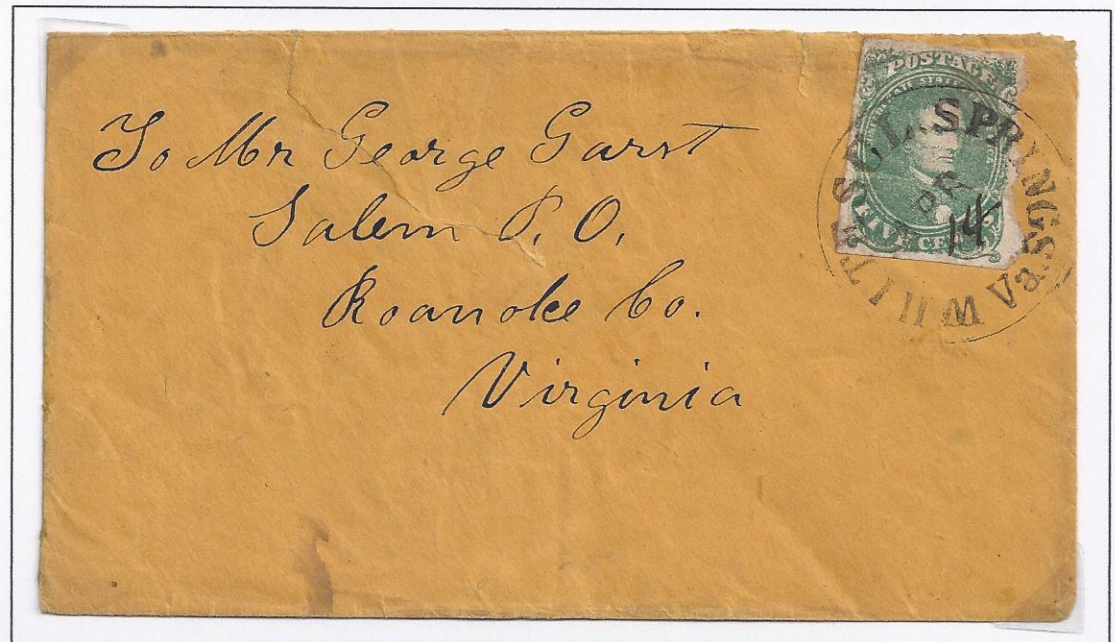


TRAVELLERS REPOSE similar manuscript postmark of March 12, 1862 with blue Hoyer & Ludwig printing paying the 10 cent rate to Georgia

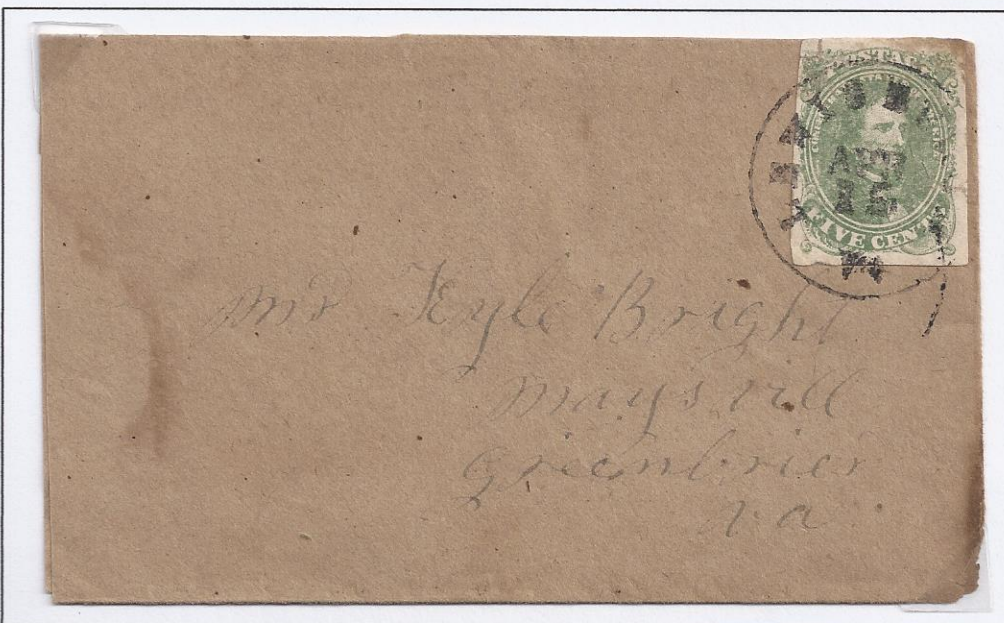


PETERSTOWN (Monroe County) manuscript postmark of March 25, 1862 and pen marks on a 5 cent blue Hoyer & Ludwig issue – local usage to Speedwell in Wythe County

One of two recorded Confederates usages from Peterstown



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier County) 34 mm circular cancel of April 14, 1862 tying a 5 cent green Hoyer & Ludwig 1861 issue

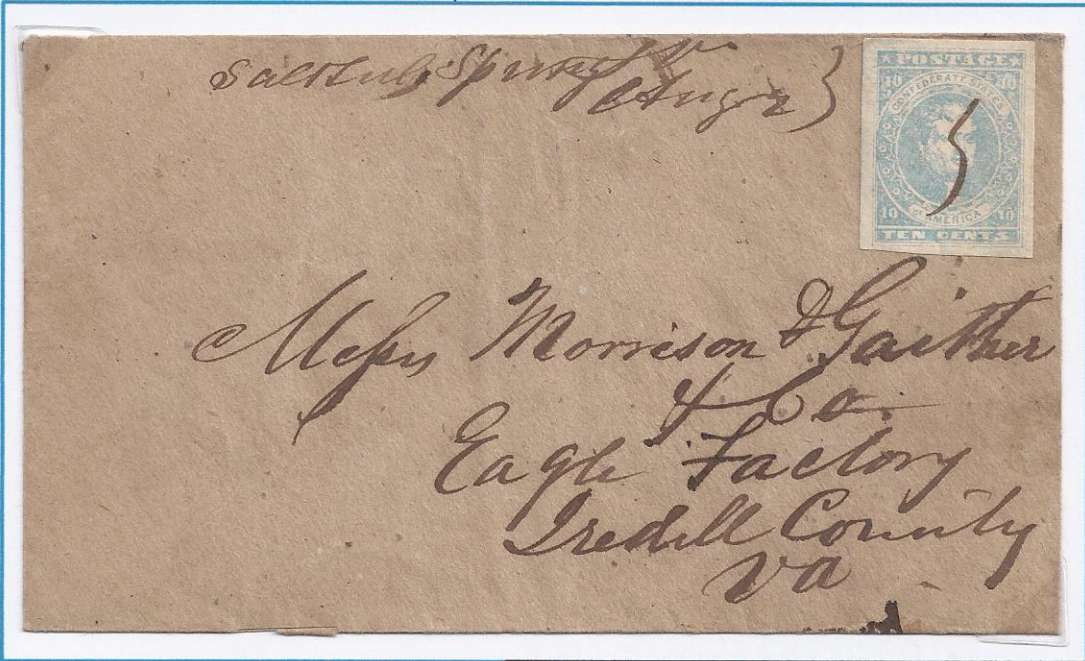


LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) 31 mm circular handstamp cancel of April 15, 1862 on a homemade envelope tying a 5 cent green Hoyer & Ludwig 1861 issue – paying the local 5 cent rate to MAYSVILLE, a town in the same county

Only recorded usage to Maysville (Mazeville) In Greenbrier County – proving that this Confederate post office operated during the early part of the Civil War

LEWISBURG similar postmark of April 19, 1862 on a homemade envelope tying a 5 cent blue Hoyer & Ludwig 1862 issue – a turned usage with a Saltville circular cancel on the other side dated April 26, 1862

Only recorded usage of a 5 cent blue Hoyer & Ludwig from Lewisburg

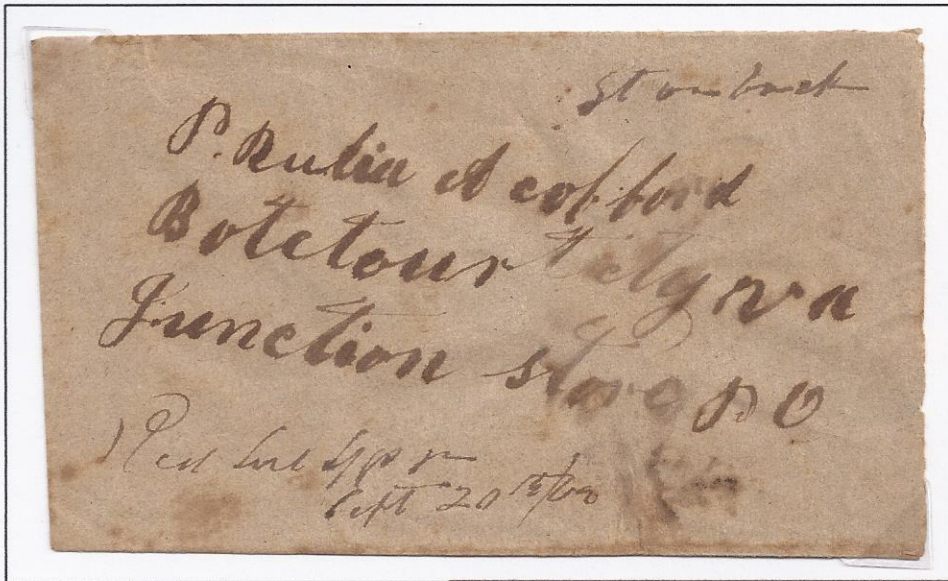


SALT SULPHUR SPRINGS (Monroe County) manuscript cancel of August 2, 1862 on a homemade envelope with a blue Paterson printing paying 10 cent rate

One of two recorded usages from Salt Sulphur Springs

UNION (Monroe County) 30 mm circular postmark of August 21, 1862 tying a vertical pair of 5 cent De La Rue printing on a homemade envelope to Rockbridge Baths, Virginia





RED SULPHUR SPRINGS (Monroe County) manuscript postmark of September 20, 1862 on a homemade envelope with notation at upper right "st on back" – a vertical pair of 5 cent De La Rue printing are on the reverse side (see photocopy below)

3 of the 4 recorded usages from Red Sulphur Springs are in this exhibit



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier County) manuscript cancel of October 26, 1862 on a 10 cent Paterson printing – with additional "Way" designation

From the Mauzy correspondence

One of two recorded Confederate "Way" usages from West Virginia (E)

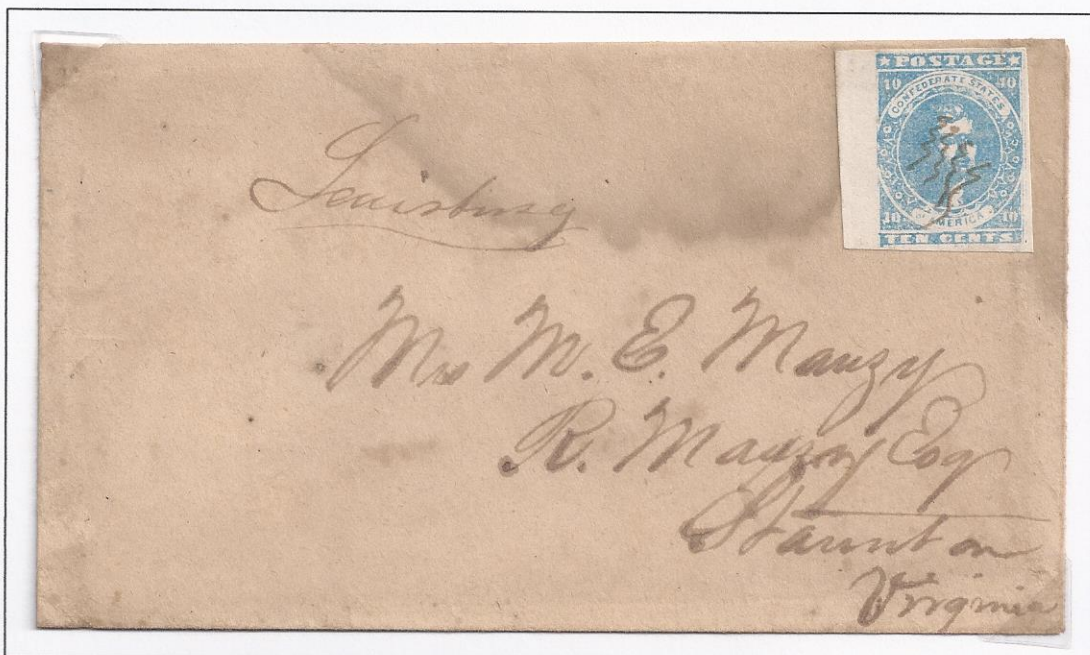


CHARLESTOWN (Jefferson County) 27 mm "old style" circular postmark of November 2, 1862 tying a 10 cent Paterson printing

Only recorded cancel of this CDS type used from Charlestown during the Confederate period and the only Paterson usage (E)

LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County)
undated manuscript cancel of probably
1862 or 1863 – usage of a 10 cent 1862
Paterson printing

From the Mauzy correspondence



SWEET SPRINGS (Monroe County)
manuscript cancel of February 2, 1863
with pen cancels on a horizontal pair of
5 cent De La Rue issue

UNION (Monroe County) manuscript
postmark of February 4, 1863 with
pen cancelled 5 cent blue and green
Hoyer & Ludwig issues paying the 10
cent rate

With enclosed business letter

Only recorded usage of 2 different
CSA stamps on cover from "West"
Virginia





OAK FLAT (Pendleton County) manuscript postmark of March 20, 1863 with two singles of the 5 cent Archer & Daly printing paying the 10 cent rate – local usage

Only recorded Confederate usage from Oak Flat

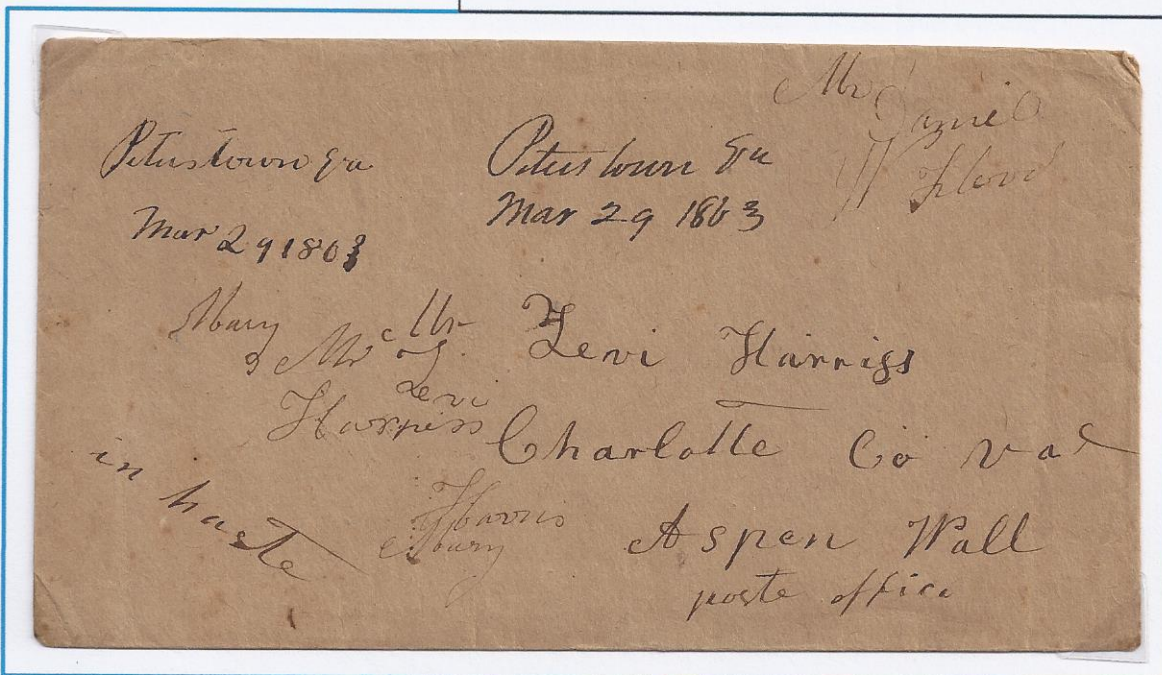
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS manuscript postmark of March 29, 1863 cancelling a horizontal pair of 5 cent blue 1862 Archer & Daly issue on a homemade envelope

With enclosed letter headlined "Lewisburg"



PETERSTOWN (Monroe County) manuscript cancel of March 29, 1863 with a vertical pair of 5 cent blue 1862 Archer & Daly printing on reverse side (photocopy below)

One of two recorded Confederate usages from Peterstown

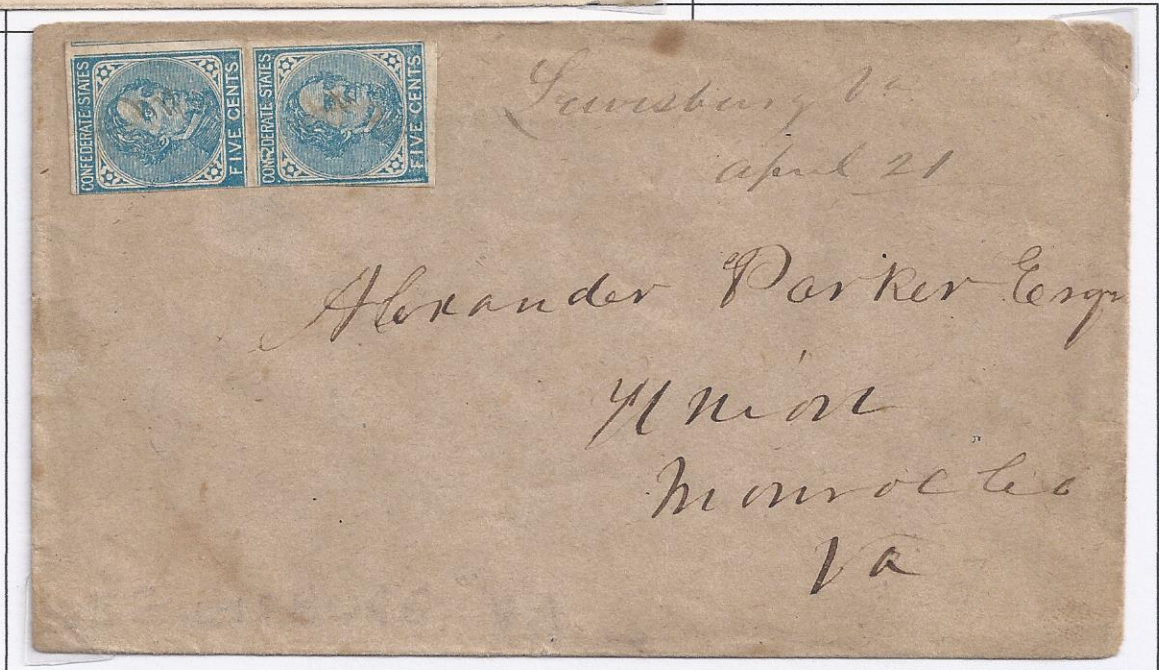


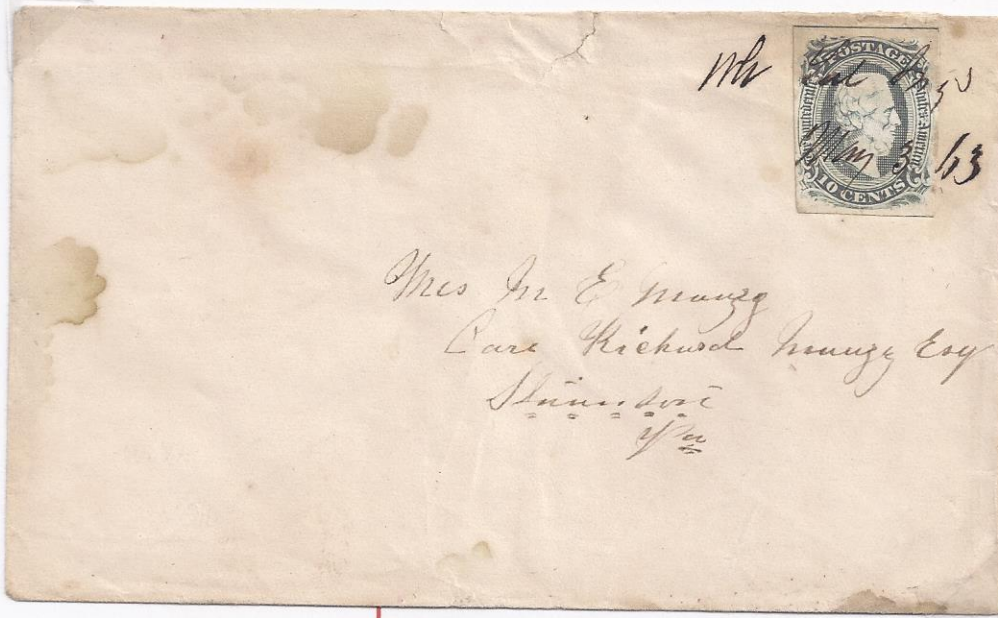
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS
34 mm CDS postmark of
April 8, 1863 tying a
horizontal pair of 5 cent
blue Archer & Daly issue on
a homemade envelope



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS manuscript
cancel of different style than previous
cover – dated April 13, 1863 with a
horizontal pair of pen cancelled 5 cent
Archer & Daly issue of 1862 (E)

LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County)
manuscript postmark of April 21,
1863 on a homemade envelope –
local use to Union with a vertical
pair of Archer & Daly issue of
1862





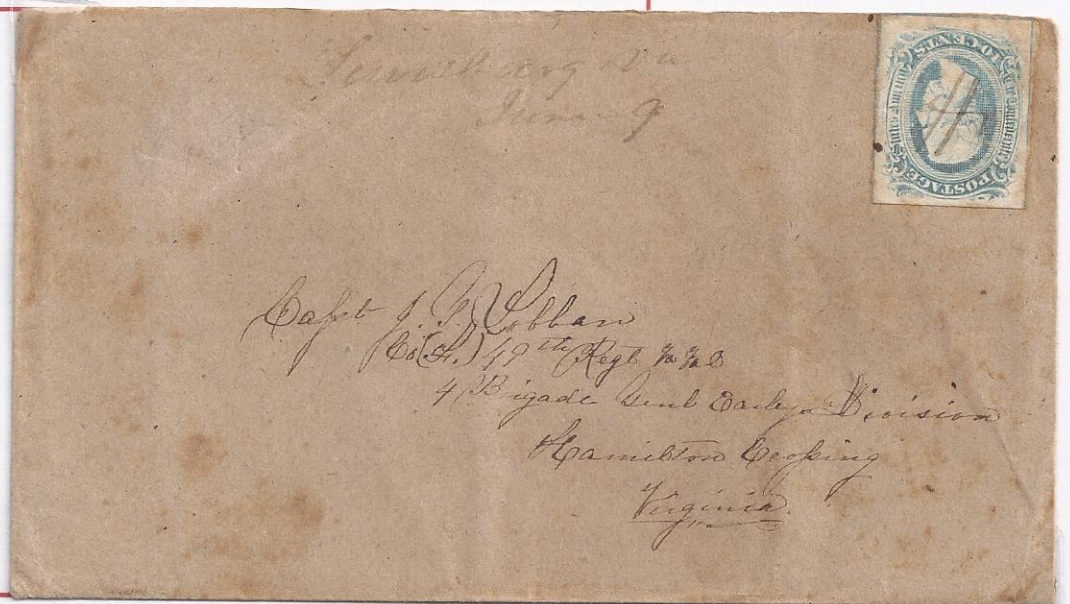
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier County) manuscript cancel dated May 3, 1863 tying a 10 cent frame line issue of 1863 (E)

From the Mauzy correspondence

All three recorded frame line usages from West Virginia are on this page

LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) manuscript postmark of June 9, 1863 and pen cancelled 10 cent frame line issue of 1863 (E)

With military address – to Captain J.G. Lobban of the 49th Virginia Infantry



RED SULPHUR SPRINGS (Monroe County) manuscript cancel of June 10, 1863 – usage of a 10 cent Archer & Daly frame line printing



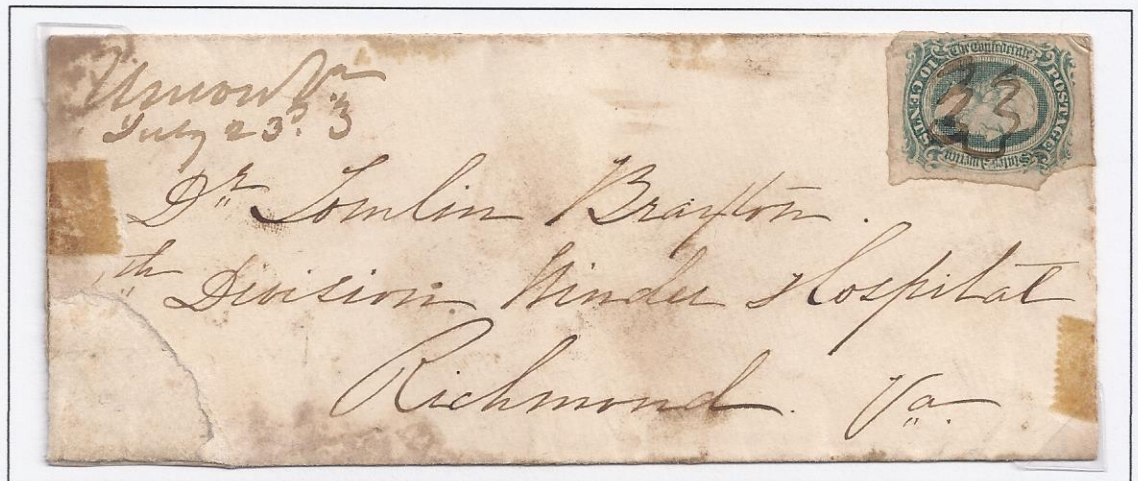
UNION (Monroe County)
manuscript cancel of June 29, 1863
with a vertical pair of 5 cent Archer
& Daly printing with matching pen
cancels

Used 9 days after statehood



LEWISBURG manuscript postmark of
July 14, 1863 and pen cancel on a
Type 1 10 cent Archer & Daly issue

The crosshatch style of the pen cancel on
the stamp is similar to other Lewisburg
usages



UNION manuscript postmark of July
23, 1863 with a pen cancelled 10
cent blue Type 1 Archer & Daly issue

Addressed to Dr. Tomlin Braxton, a
surgeon at Winder Hospital in
Richmond

INDEPENDENT STATE AND CONFEDERATE MAIL OF WEST VIRGINIA

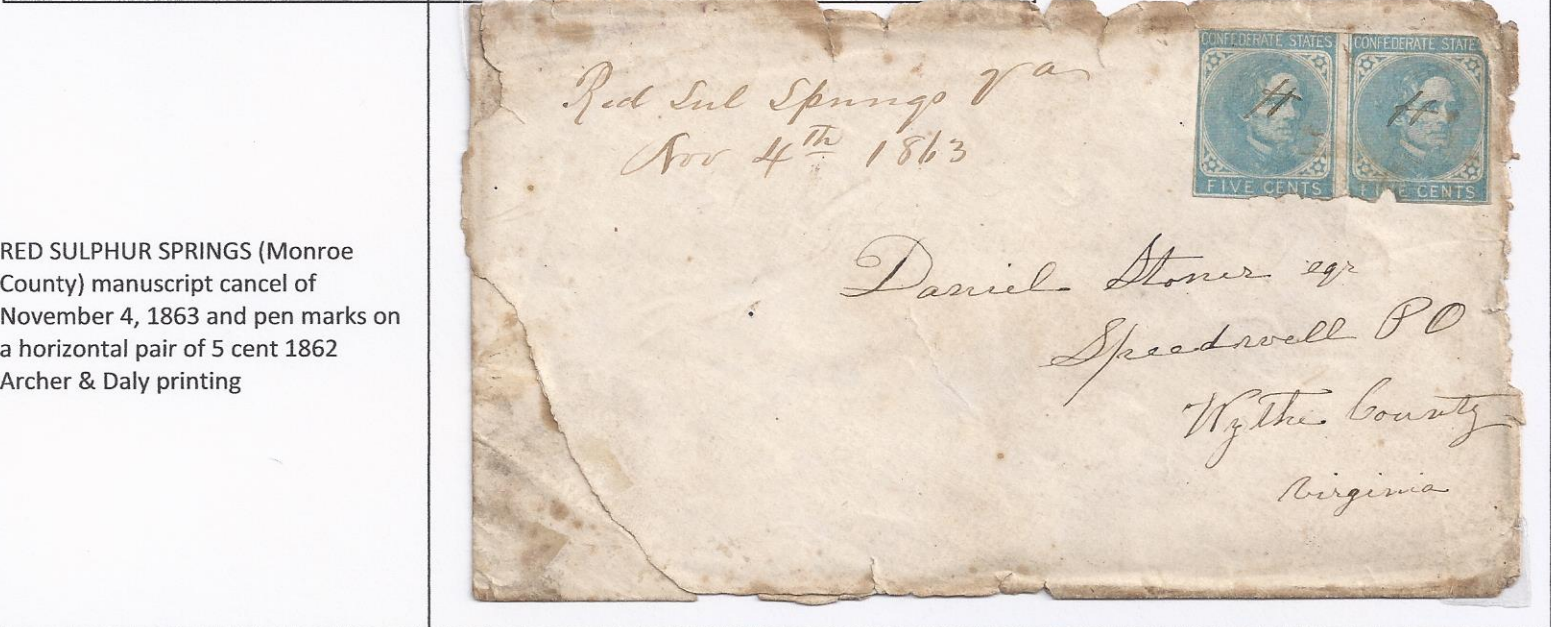
Confederate General Issues (October 16, 1861 to end of war)

July 28, 1863 to January 27, 1864

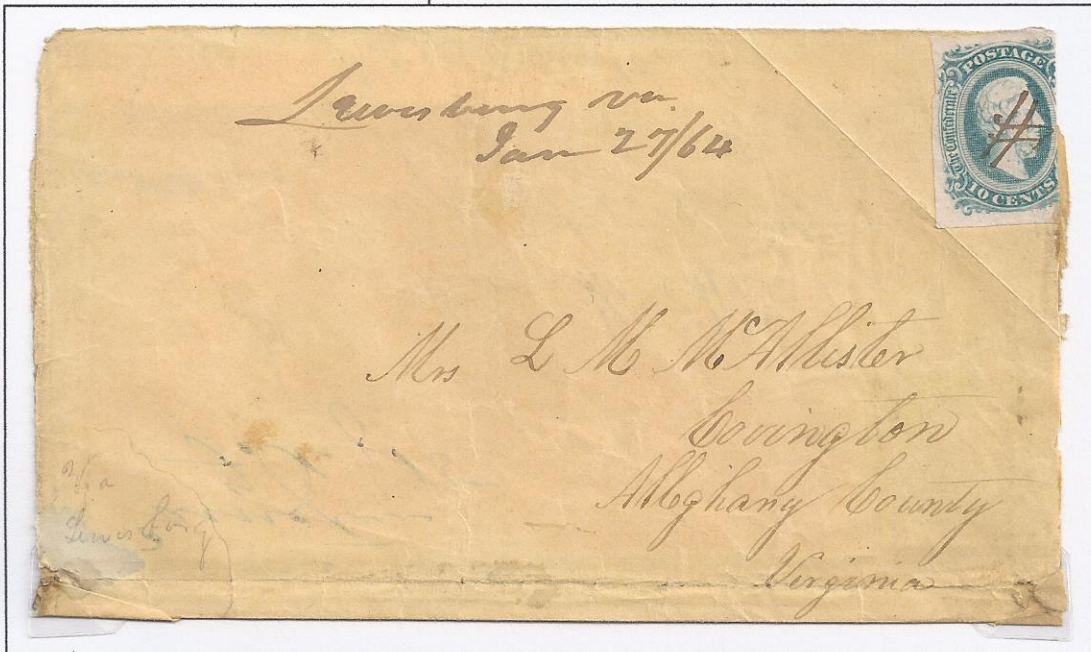


SWEET SPRINGS (Monroe County) manuscript postmark of July 28, 1863 with 2 pen cancelled singles of the 5 cent blue Archer & Daly printing

With military address of Colonel D(aniel) M. Shriver, 27th (Virginia) Regiment, Stonewall Brigade



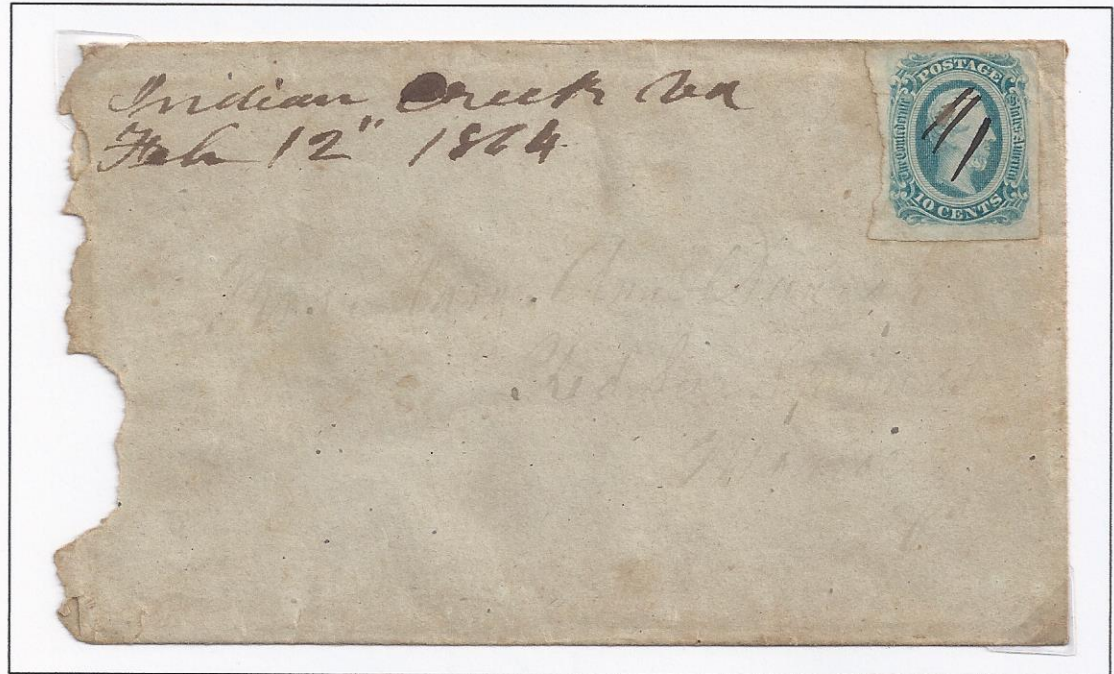
RED SULPHUR SPRINGS (Monroe County) manuscript cancel of November 4, 1863 and pen marks on a horizontal pair of 5 cent 1862 Archer & Daly printing



LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) manuscript postmark of January 27, 1864 and pen cancelled 10 cent blue Archer & Daly printing – a turned cover with a manuscript Covington cancel of February 15, 1864 and pen cancelled 10 cent blue Archer & Daly issue

INDIAN CREEK (Monroe County)
manuscript postmark of February 12,
1864 and pen strokes on a Type 2
Archer & Daly printing of 1863

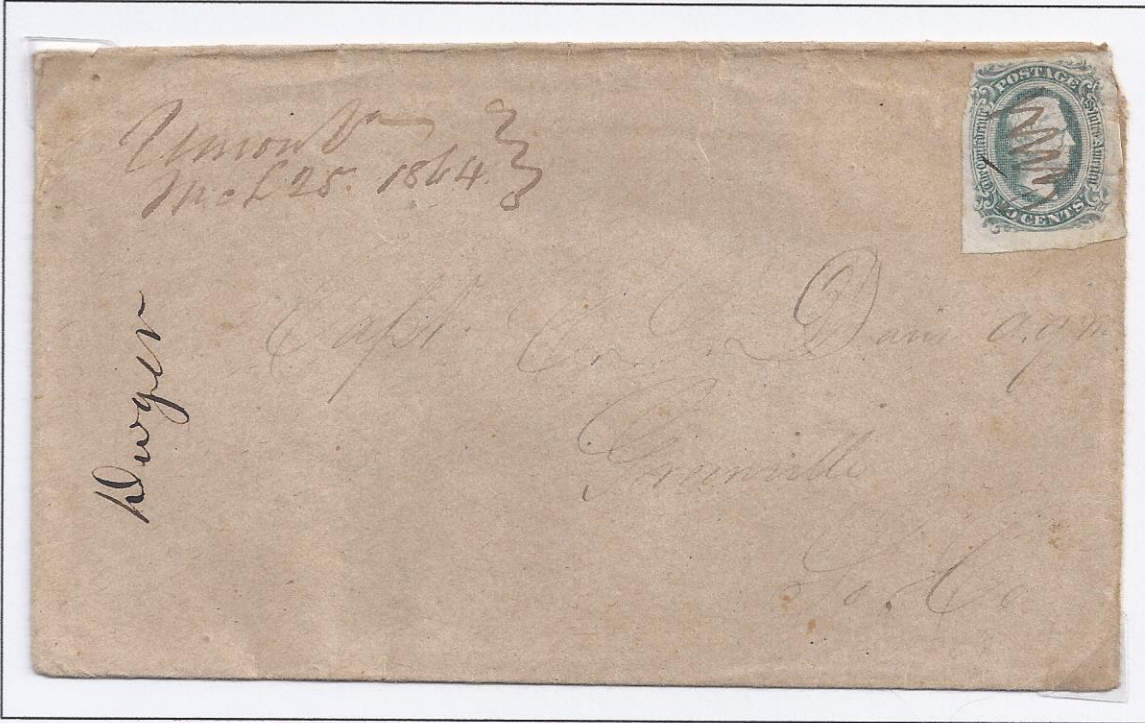
Local usage to Red Sulphur Springs
(faded address)



LEWISBURG (Greenbrier County) manuscript postmark
of March 7, 1864 with pen cancelled 10 cent blue Type 1
Archer & Daly issue of 1863 on reverse side (see
photocopy below) – additional forwarding postmark
(March 13) of Staunton, Virginia at upper right tying a 10
cent greenish blue Type 2 Archer & Daly issue of 1863
back to Lewisburg – note pencil notation to right of
Lewisburg postmark “stamp on flap”

Lewisburg pen cancelled stamp on reverse side is of the
same style pen cancel as other Lewisburg usages in this
exhibit

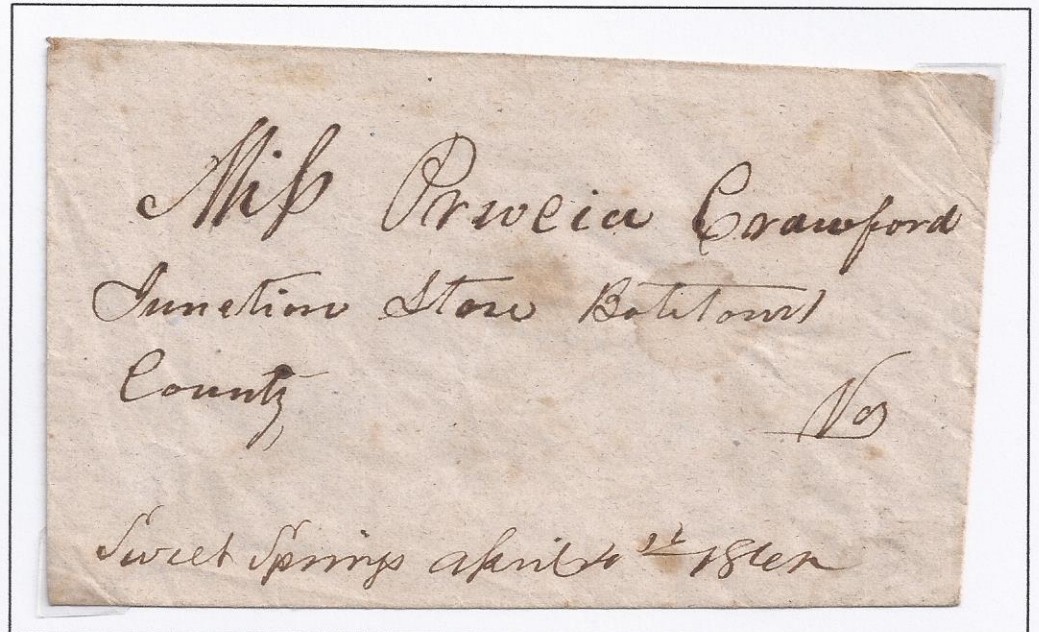




UNION (Monroe County)
manuscript cancel of March 25,
1864 on homemade envelope
with pen cancelled 10 cent blue
Type 1 Archer & Daly issue of
1863

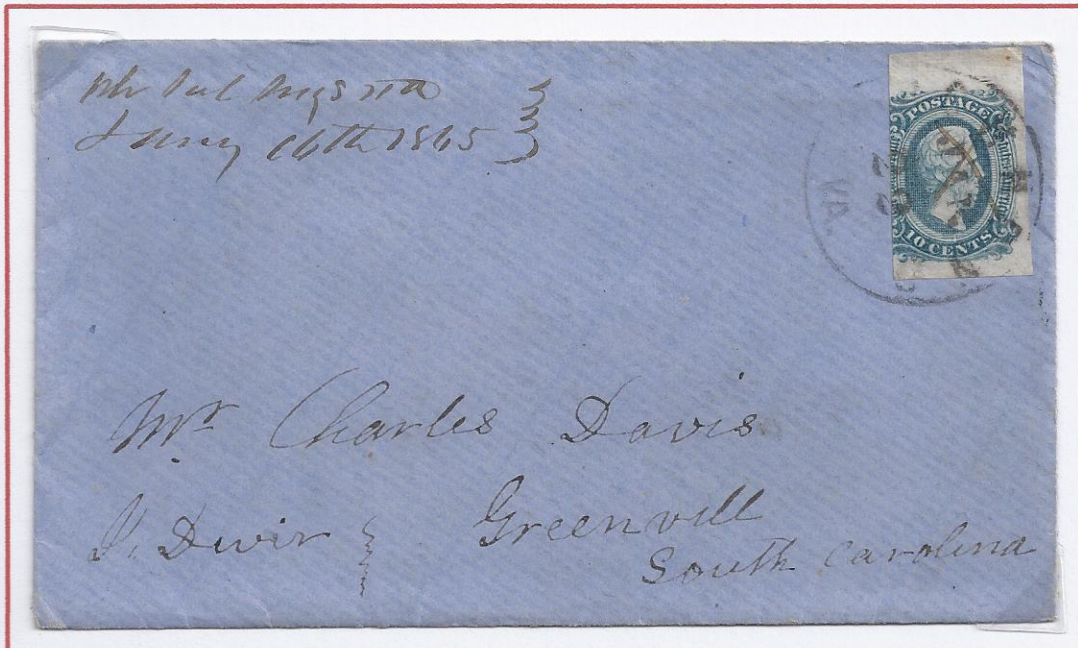
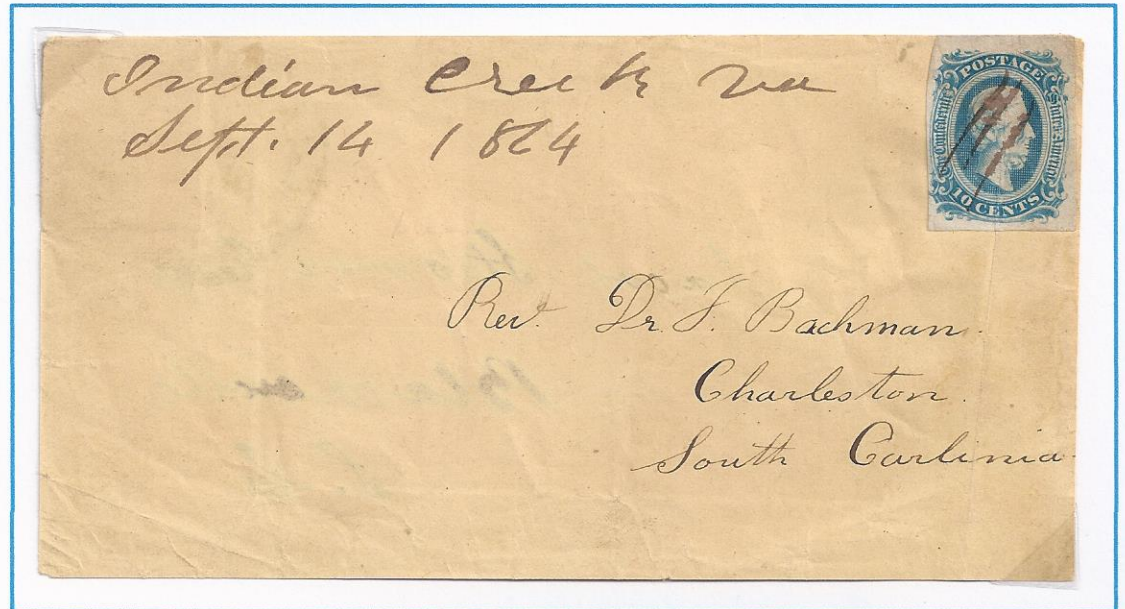
Latest recorded Confederate
usage from Union

SWEET SPRINGS (Monroe County) manuscript
cancel of April 4, 1864 on homemade
envelope with a 10 cent blue Type 1 Archer &
Daly printing of 1863 on reverse side (see
photocopy below) – stamp was separated at
top when flap was opened



INDIAN CREEK (Monroe County)
manuscript cancel of September 14,
1864 with a pen cancelled 10 cent
blue Type 1 Archer & Daly issue – a
turned cover with a Confederate
circular postmark of Charleston,
South Carolina dated October 29,
1864 on the reverse side – tying a 10
cent Type 2 Archer & Daly issue

One of three recorded Confederate
usages from Indian Creek



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (Greenbrier
County) manuscript postmark of
January 16, 1865 with a pen cancelled
10 cent blue Type 1 Archer & Daly
issue of 1863 – additional “transit” 32
mm circular Richmond cancel of
January 22 tying the same stamp on
the way to Greenville, South Carolina

Latest recorded Confederate stamped
usage from West Virginia – only usage
from 1865

**FLAG OF TRUCE USAGES
(April 18 to August 11, 1864)**



Old Point Comfort, Virginia 25 ½ mm double circle postmark of April 18, 1864 with large circle of grids tying a US stamp issue of 1861 – sent to KANAWHA COURT HOUSE (Kanawha County) – mailed by a Confederate soldier or civilian “For Flag of Truce via Fortress Monroe” as docketed at upper left

Prisoner of War cover from Camp Chase to WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS “Via Fortress Monroe & Flag of Truce Boat to Richmond Virginia” – Originating double circle Columbus, Ohio target duplex cancel of August 11, 1864 on a U.S. 1861 3 cent rose stamp and additional “examined, Camp Chase, O.” circular handstamp – postmarked again with Richmond CDS of August 23 and “Due 10” straight line

Endorsed by “Ro. F. Dennis”, Capt. CSA

One of three recorded POW North to South usages into Confederate “West” Virginia

