

## NEWBERRY DISTRICT SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES

Newberry was a typical District and town during this period and its mails represent the usage of small towns in the south. It had no provisional stamps or envelopes but like most towns had PAID and value handstamps to indicate postage when no stamps were available. The common stamps were available but there is no indication that any of the rare ones were sent to Newberry nor is there any indication that the 2c or 20c was used. It was the 5<sup>th</sup> largest Post Office in S.C. so there was sufficient mail for a wide variety of different usages. The Confederate period ended with the Union occupation of the area in early February of 1865.

The collection is presented by date with a division at the rate change.

1. Independent State period. The USA 3c rate remained in effect until CSA-PO started.
2. US postal service in the Confederacy with 2 Confederate Dead Letter Office covers
3. provisional 5c marks and 5c rate period covers
4. 10c provisional marks, Covers of 1862 to 1864 including different types of Adversity covers, Flag of Truce, and Advertised Wallpaper cover.
5. Small towns in the District with 5c provisional marks of Pomaria and Frog Level (only towns with them). Cover from Chappells and to 3 other small towns where no outgoing mail is reported.

### INDEPENDENT STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DECEMBER 21, 1860 TO FEBRUARY 4, 1861

Independence was declared with the "Ordinance of Secession" on the evening of December 20, 1860. It was the first of the states to secede from the union but was quickly followed by 5 other states. The "Confederate States of America" was formed February 4, 1861 and SC was one of 6 states that became members at its inauguration. The United States Post Office continued to handle mails during this period. There were few problems with service. Mail flowed easily in both directions across the new borders.



January 23, (1861). 3c red "star die" envelope. This was issued in mid 1860 and earliest known usage is in August so a January usage in Newberry has to be 1861. To Americus, Georgia. The USA 3c rate remained in effect until the start of Confederate postal service on June 1<sup>st</sup> 1861.



**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FEBRUARY 4 TO MAY 31, 1861**

**CONFEDERATE DEAD LETTER OFFICE MAY 24 TO MAY 31, 1861**

The Union closed the mail service between the eastern states on the evening of May 23, 1861. All letters in transit between then and the June 1<sup>st</sup> start of the Confederate postal service that could not be returned were sent to the Dead Letter Office. Each was recorded in a book between mid August and early Sept. 1861 and so marked on the front of the covers.



Mailed from Newberry May 21 while the route to the Union was still open but apparently reached the frontier on May 24<sup>th</sup> or after. This would make it one of or probably the first group of letters sent to the Dead Letter Office. The DLO docking is of Aug 17<sup>th</sup> which is the earliest recorded.



Mailed from Newberry May 30 with light red CDS at the left and canceled with a pen "x". This is one of the last of the letters sent to the DLO. Docking of September 2, 1861 in red. ex Birkinbine and Walske  
Less than 10 Confederate Dead Letter Office covers are recorded and these are the only ones from Newberry



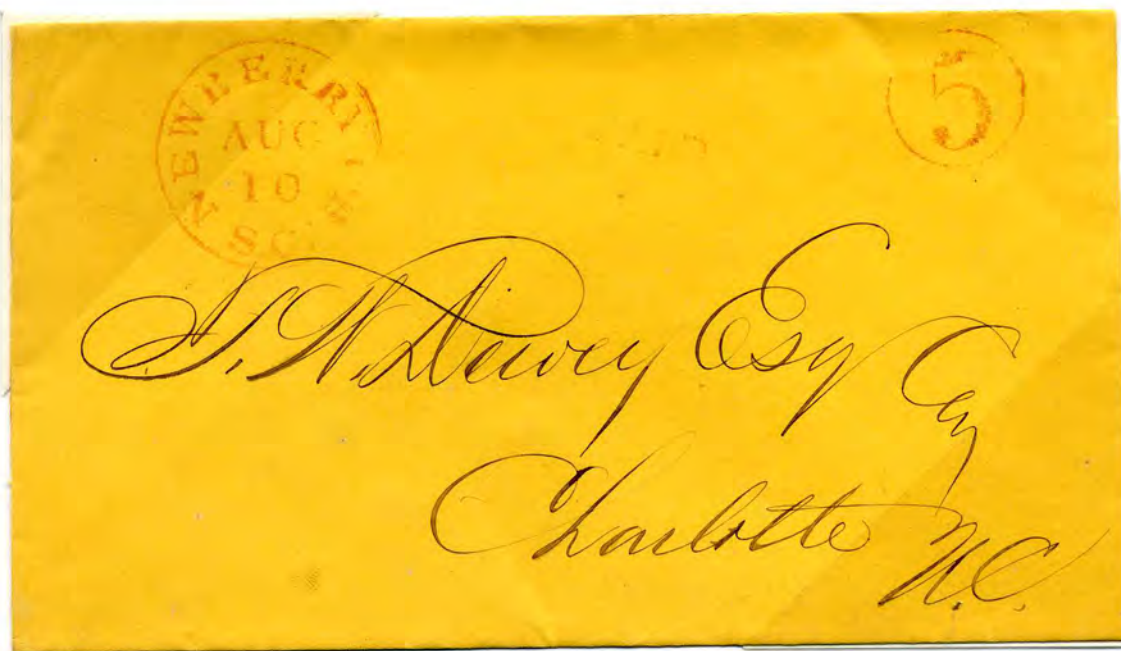
## POSTAL RATES OF JUNE 1, 1861 TO JULY 1, 1862

### STAMPLESS PERIOD JUNE 1 TO AFTER OCTOBER 16, 1861

The rate was 5c for letters going up to 500 miles and 10c for longer distance. USA stamps were no longer valid but Confederates were not issued until Oct. 16. Postmasters were authorized to use handstamps, pen or whatever convenient to indicate postage paid until they arrived.



June 25 (1861). Rate indicated by local made 5 in circle and "PAID". Known only in red. To "Coleman X Roads", an area a short way into the current Saluda County. Thomas Chapman was grandson of Rev Giles Chapman, minister of the Universalist Church at Hartford in Newberry from 1790-1819. He moved there in the 1830's and later served as minister of Universalist churches in the Newberry area.



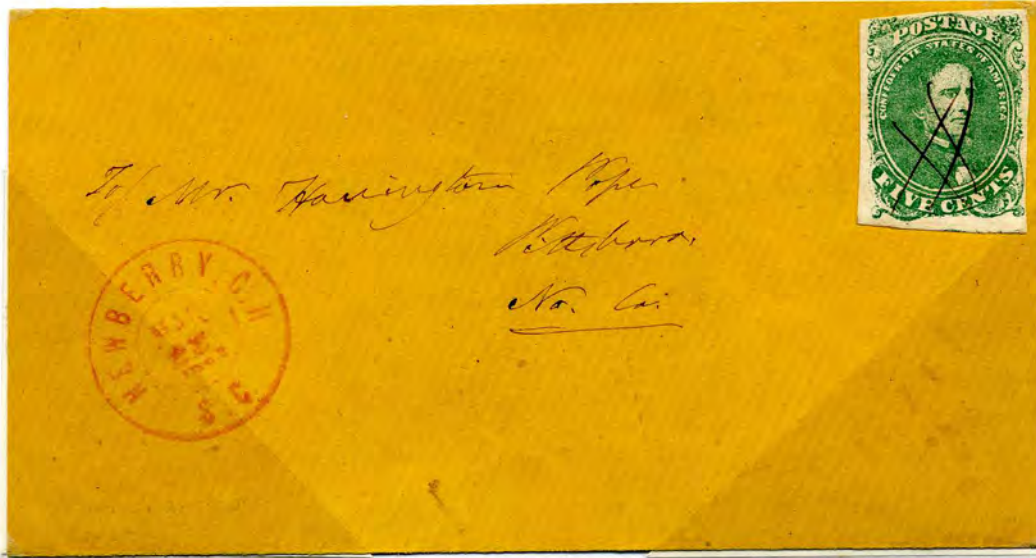
August 10, (1861). The "PAID" is lightly struck. To "T(homas) Dewey, Cashier, Charlotte, No. Ca". Dewey worked for the "Bank of North Carolina".



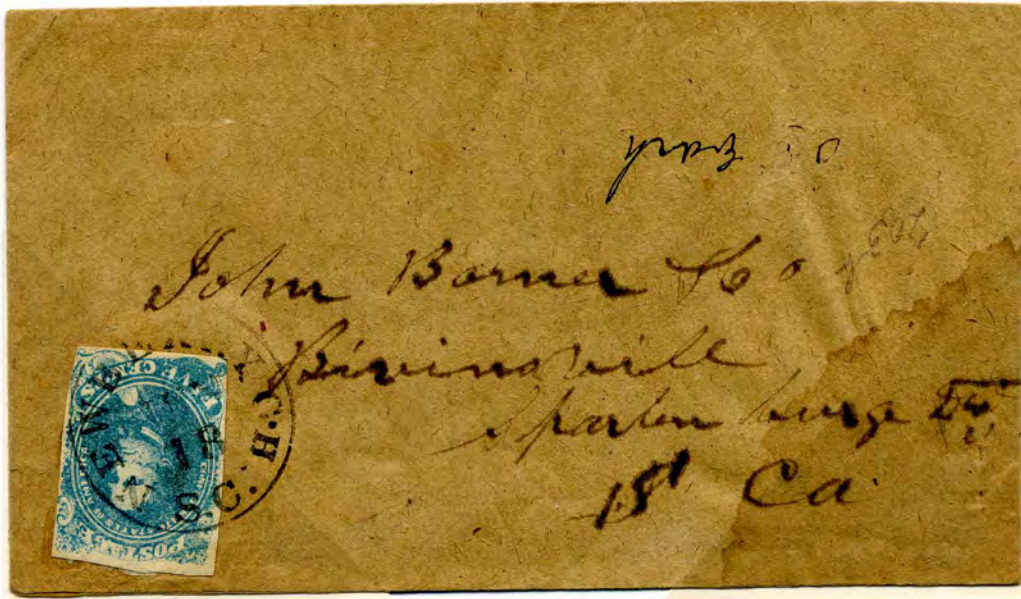
**POSTAL RATES OF JUNE 1, 1861 TO JULY 1, 1862**

**STAMP PERIOD FROM AFTER OCTOBER 16, 1861**

There is no record as to when stamps became available in the Newberry post office.  
The rate was 5c for letters going up to 500 miles and 10c for longer distance.



May 22, 1862. While against the regulations postmasters would occasionally cancel the stamps with a pen and apply the town datestamp elsewhere on the cover.



June 18, 1862. Stamp is stone 3, Milky Blue. To Bivingsville, a place in Spartanburg District east of the town. A mill was started there in the 1830's and had 60 houses of workers. The P.O. was from 1837 to 1867. The name was later changed to Glendale.

Only recorded cover with this town as destination.



## POSTAL RATES OF JUNE 1, 1861 TO JULY 1, 1862

### STAMP PERIOD AFTER OCTOBER 16, 1861

There is no record as to when stamps became available in the Newberry post office.  
The rate was 10c for letters going over 500 miles



May 3, 1862 Stamps are pair of 5c stone 1. The new type of town datestamp was introduced about this time. To Churchville, north west of Staunton, in Augusta County Virginia in the Appalachian mountains near the West Virginia border. This was over 500 miles from Newberry thus the 10c postal rate. Certif.



May 8, 1862 Combination of the 1861 green and 1862 blue 5c stamps. Both stone 2. To Churchville Va., which is over 500 miles from Newberry. The pen cancels on these two covers may indicate that they were received from a small post office in Newberry District or from a mailman in his route.



**POSTAL RATES AFTER JULY 1, 1862**

The letter rate was raised to 10c regardless of the distance.

FIRST DAY OF 10c RATE



POSTAGE DUE: Cancelled on July 1<sup>st</sup> (1862) but with the old 5c rate postage. Marked Due 5c.

The new rate caused some shortage of stamps. The PAID and 10 of 1861 or a new X were used to indicate the new rate



July 14, 1862 and Sept 8 to Charleston. Note of arrival in one day with swift mail service by the train going through Columbia. ex-Weatherly and Kohn



POSTAL RATES AFTER JULY 1, 1862



Aug 6, 1862. Pair of 5c of Thomas de la Rue printing to pay the new 10c rate.. To Dr. Theodore. G. Croft (1818-1870). He had a plantation near Greenville and property in Newberry where he was living in 1846 but moved to Aiken during the war and remained.

Confederate postmasters did not generally use arrival or transit marks but Aiken was exception. They applied their mark on arrival, generally on the stamps as in this case



Oct. 8, 1862. 10c Dark blue. J.T. Paterson printing in Augusta Ga. Complete folded letter in regard to death of soldier from the family.

1863 USE



January 21, 1863. Docketing under the flap rec. Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 1863. To Port Royal, Va. The cover is made from a report of the "Sons of Temperance" of which there was a local chapter.



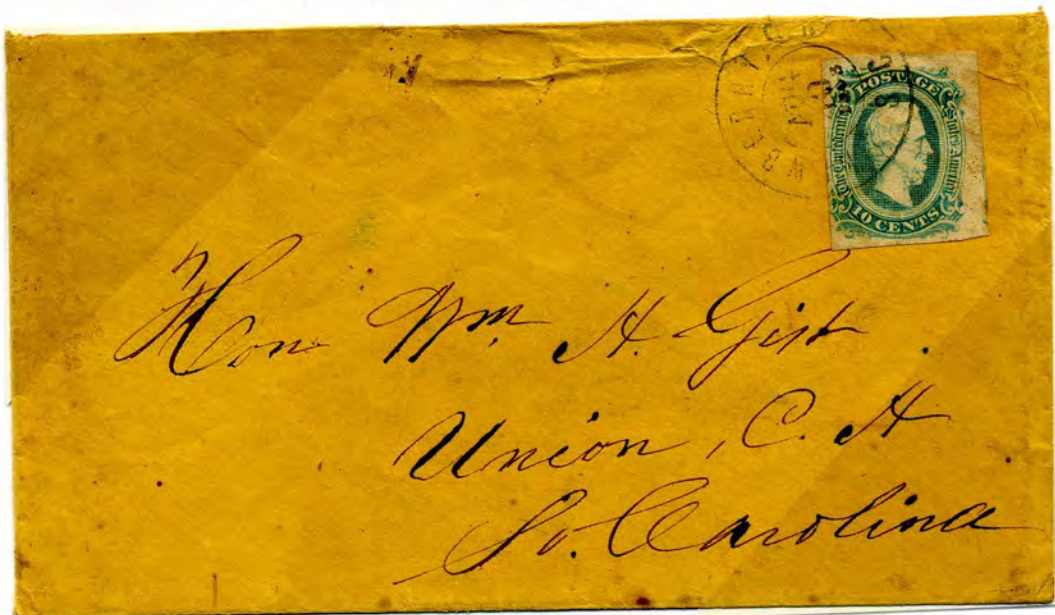
April 4, 1863 Dark Blue of Archer & Daly printing. To Greenville, S.C.



1863 USE



July 11, 1863. 10c Milky Blue of Archer & Daly printing. Cover page of a printed message from Gov. James H. Adams (1812-1861) to the state Senate and House. He was Governor 1854-56 and later was a signer of the Ordinance of Secession.



Aug 10, 1863. Cover pre Nov. 1862 from Greenville, unreadable date, with their "PAID 5" handstamps sent to Mr. R. Stewart in Newberry that was then turned inside out and reused as an envelope to mail to William H. Gist in Union S.C.



The inside as originally sent.



1864 USE



Sept. 13, 1864. A handstamp of a Mr. Hugh D. Cameron of Company D, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, North Carolina Cavalry. This regiment was not stationed at Newberry but there were Cameron families in the area and various groups that came through to join unites fighting General Sherman. Printed envelope to John Harrington, Harrington P.O., N.C.



Sept 16, 1864. Handstamp "PAID" and rated "10" with pen. Notation that the postage was to be charged to "Box 35" which is probably the reason that no postage stamp was used. Written on small piece of note paper that was sealed on back.

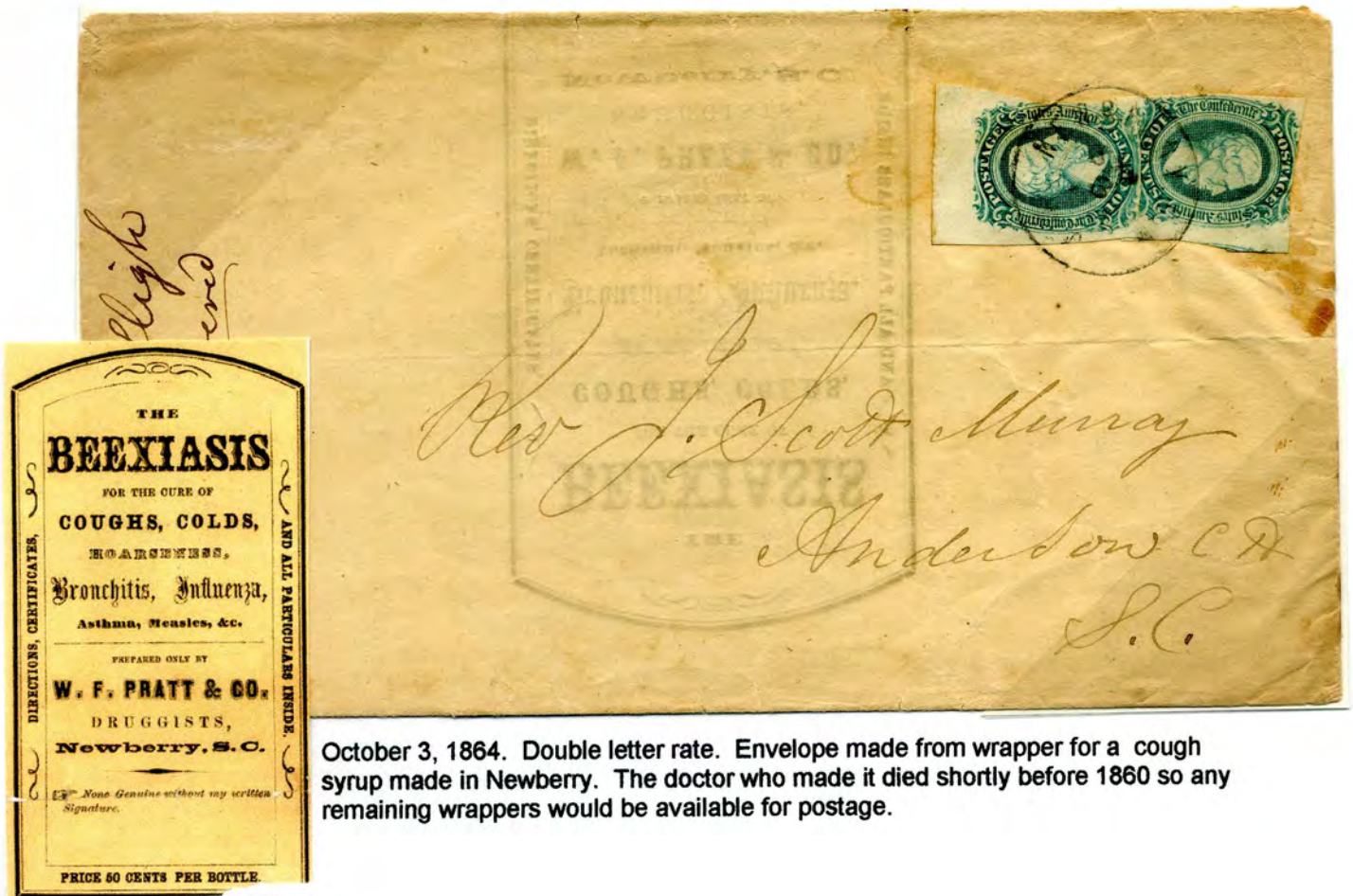


1864 USE



Jan 8, 1864 Turned wallpaper to make the cover. To Mrs. E. K. Anderson at Long Run in Fairfield District.

DOUBLE RATE



October 3, 1864. Double letter rate. Envelope made from wrapper for a cough syrup made in Newberry. The doctor who made it died shortly before 1860 so any remaining wrappers would be available for postage.



## 1864 USE

### CIVILIAN MAIL THROUGH THE LINES UNDER FLAG OF TRUCE



Nov 14, 1864. After Aug 26, 1861 civilian mail between the states could only go via a system for exchange of mail from prisoners of war. This was totally at the discretion of the transferring agents that occasionally tolerated a few civilian letters. Letters had to be put in an envelope that was left unsealed and marked "By flag of truce". Rules required the letter to be one page, no Confederate postage, and US postage pre-paid. This was probably accepted as the postage was with a "PAID" rather than a stamp and possibly because of the letter content or being addressed to a minister, Rev. N. M. Gordon in Union, Kentucky. The USA "DUE 6" was 3c postage plus 3c because not pre-paid.

Only "Flag of Truce" cover from Newberry District.

### ADVERTISED WALLPAPER COVER



April 10, 1864 Turned wallpaper to make the cover. Addressed to Mr. John W. Stern in Richmond, Va. Arrival CDS of 22nd on back. Apparently he did not pick it up at the P.O. so they advertised it in the newspaper and charged the cover an extra 2c. Ex-Bogg. Ex-Powell

Only recorded wallpaper advertised cover.



## SMALL TOWN MAIL

There are 21 known post offices in Confederate Newberry District but beside Newberry C.H. only 4 of them have covers recorded with the town as its point of origination and only 6 as their destination. Only POMARIA and FROG LEVEL had handstamped town, date, rate, or paid marks.

### POMARIA



Sept 30, 1861. Turned cover from Richmond to William Summer in Pomaria. He was the founder of the town and operated a large nursery. The inside was from a soldier and therefore could be sent to be paid at the destination. This side used for a letter to his brother in Newberry town.

Less than 5 covers reported from Pomaria and only one to the town.



December 28, 1863 to Selton, Fairfield District S.C. Adversity cover made from printed legislative act. On the stamp is written "Stamp damaged in passage (i.e. passage). PM" presumably by the arrival postmaster or one in transit.

Ex-Kohn



## SMALL TOWN MAIL

### FROG LEVEL

(Now Prosperity)

Town is about 7 miles southeast of Newberry on the road to state capital of Columbia.



March 28, 1862. With the local provisional "5 (cents) and PAID. The included letter states it was written on Friday which establishes the year. The town mark is known from an 1853 cover on which it is well formed and clear. This cover is shown on the back of this page.



Dec 1862. To Capt Croft in Adams Run, Colleton District. Turned cover with inside to Greenville but without postal marks.



## SMALL TOWN MAIL

### CHAPPELLE DEPOT

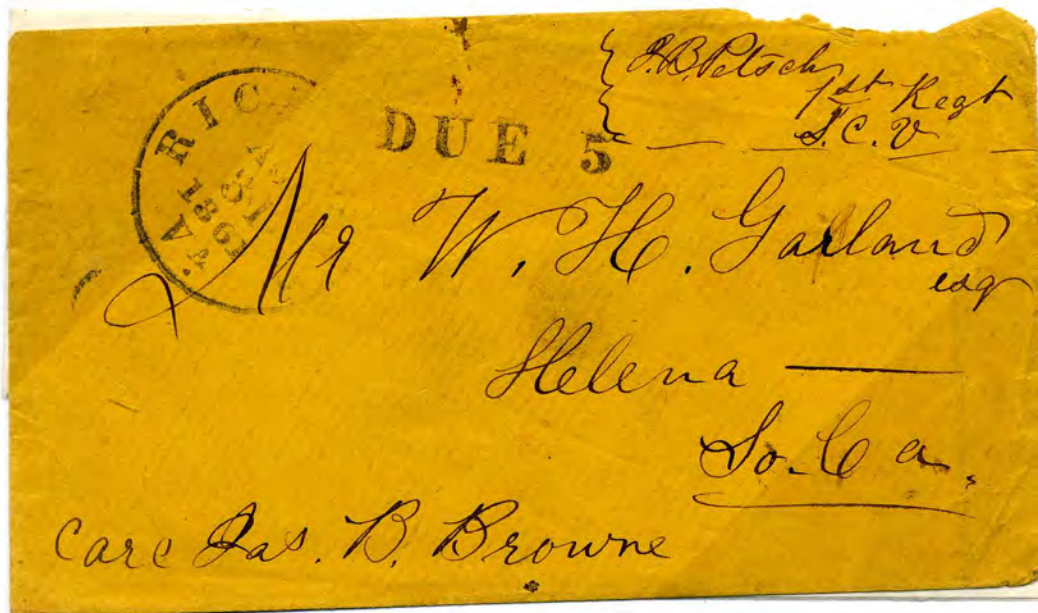
Chappells is a crossroads just off the Saluda River. The P.O. was presumably at a Depot of the Greenwood & Columbia RR which passes nearby. The P.O. was also called "Chappell's Bridge" but name was not used as postmark in Confederate period.



Dec. 13, 1864. Docking under wallpaper flap of Dec. 15, 1864. Original letter included.  
Less than 5 covers from reported Chappells Ex-Hedin

## HELENA

Located about 4 miles from the Newberry Court House the village was where the Greenville and Columbia Railroad crossed the Laurens Railroad. Both had their shops there. Not listed as a PO in Stets & Teal, Dietz, or Pope and may have been serviced by the Newberry P.O. It was and still is a separate village and mail was addressed directly to it without reference to Newberry.



Richmond Aug 31, 1861. From soldier in 1<sup>st</sup> Reg., S.C. V. and thus sent collect with 'Due 5'.  
No covers reported with this town as origin. Less than 5 covers with this town as destination.



## SMALL TOWNS IN NEWBERRY DISTRICT

### MAYBINTON



March 25, 1861. Used during the period when the U.S. P.O. was still operating the mails in the Confederacy with their 3 cent postal rate. Maybinton was an area with several large plantations including that of the Renwick family.

Less than 5 covers are reported with Maybinton as the destination

### WHITMIRES



February 7, 1862. From Grahamville, Beaufort District.  
Only reported cover to or from Whitmires



POSTAL RATES OF JUNE 1, 1861 TO JULY 1, 1862

INCOMING MAIL



June 26, 1862. Stamp is stone 3, Light Milky Blue. Small "Ladies Cover" from Richmond Virginia. This was just under 500 miles so the 5c rate. To M. G. Housead .

ADVERSITY COVER

The Confederate States could make only very limited quantities of rag or cotton paper. The coarse brown paper made from wood chips and usually used for wrapping paper was then used for many purposes including factory and hand made envelopes.



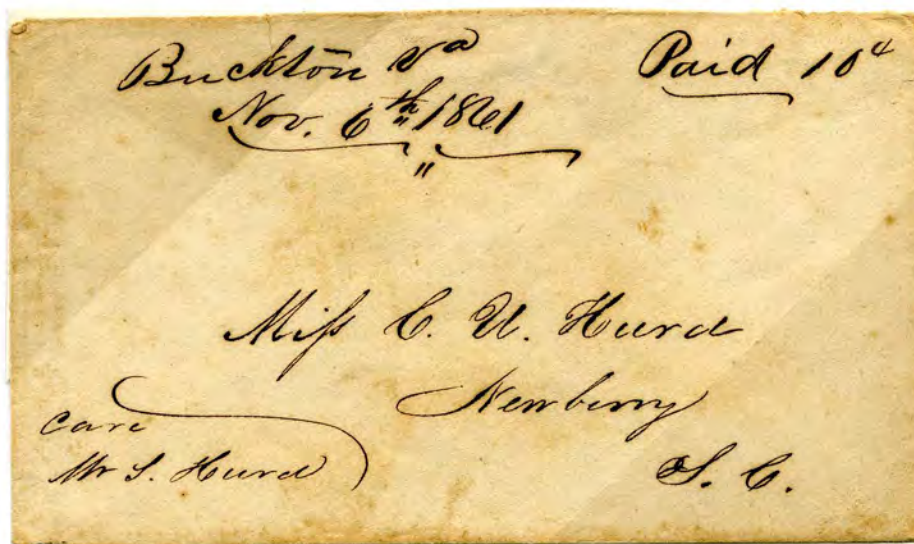
June 6, 1862 Stamp is of the London Thomas de la Rue printing in Light Blue. From Richmond, VA to John A. Chapman who later wrote a history of Newberry county.



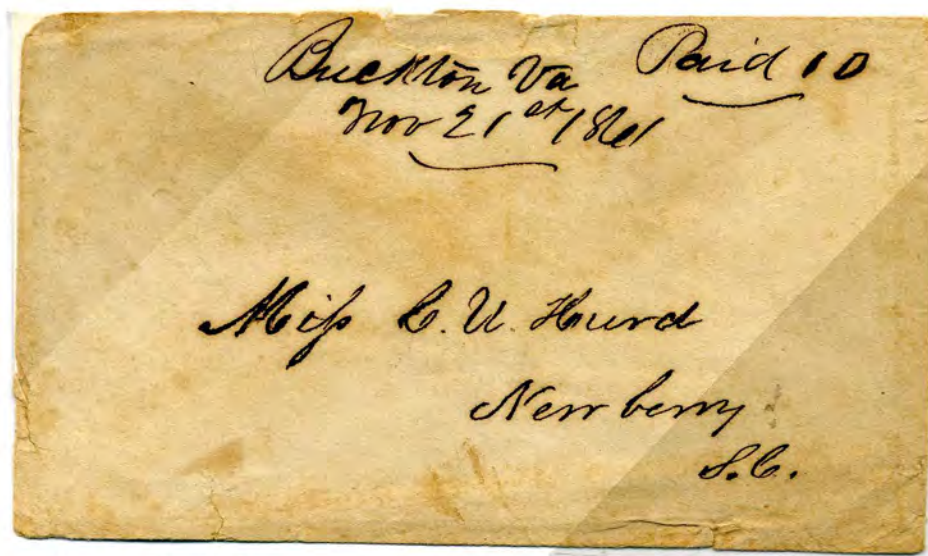
POSTAL RATES OF JUNE 1, 1861 TO JULY 1, 1862

INCOMING MAIL  
FROM BUCKTON, VIRGINIA

No postal marks were provided by US or Confederates to post offices that did less than \$100 a year in stamp sales. Place was in Warren county at the northern most part of the state, 75 miles northwest from Washington.



Nov 6, 1861. Town name date and "paid 10" with pen. It is very likely that this small place had less then the \$100 a year in business.



Nov 21, 1861. Same correspondence as above written two weeks later.



POSTAL RATES AFTER JULY 1, 1862



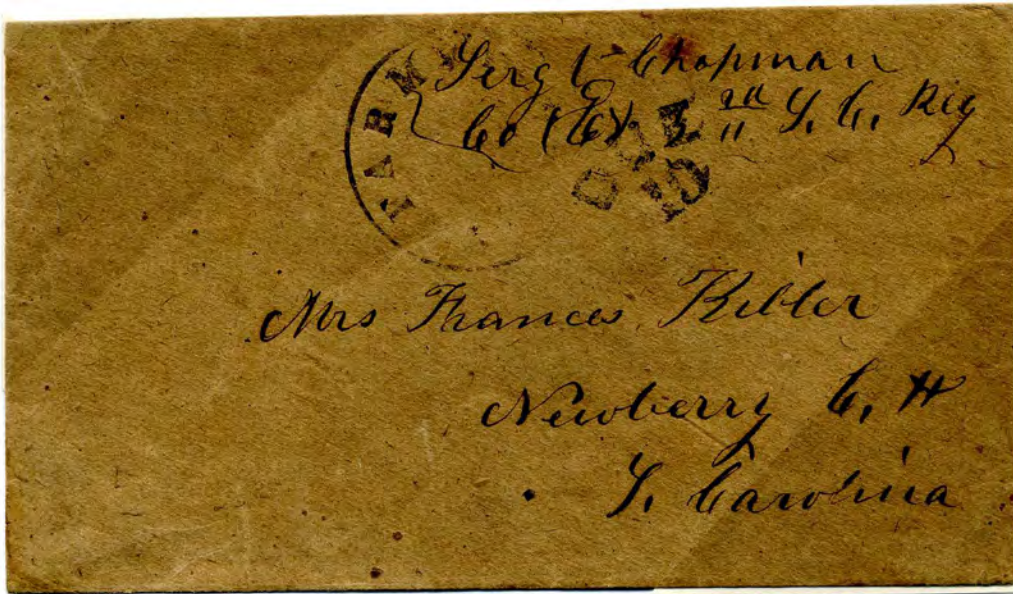
July 12<sup>th</sup> 1862. Ladies envelope to Miss Edwards in Anderson, S.C.



Sept. 20, 1862. 10c Dark blue. J.T. Paterson printing in Augusta Ga. From Major J.M. Baxtin who commanded the Newberry Regiment at the 1<sup>st</sup> battle of Bull Run. To Dr. John A. Barksdale of Laurensville (Laurens), county seat of Laurens District.



1863 USE



Sent from Farmville, Va. by Sargent Chapman to Newberry. The Chapman family lived in the Hartford area of Newberry District and was active in the Universalist Church. Handstamped "DUE 10" as military personnel could send mail without advance payment. This "DUE 10" mark is listed in the new Confederate Catalog but noted that not known to the editors.

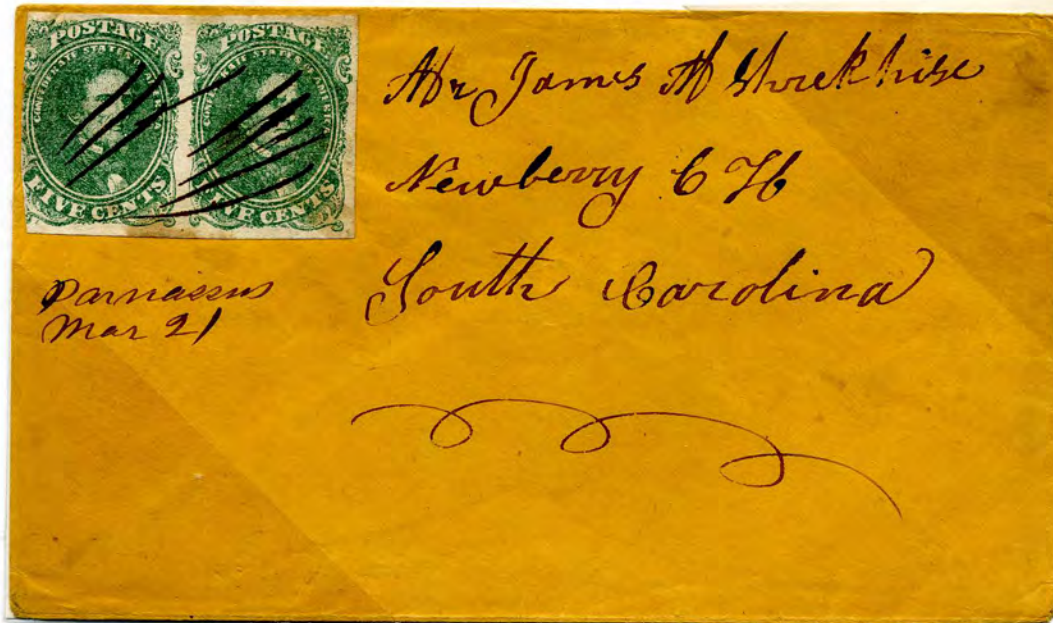


May 9, 1863 Milky Blue of Archer & Daly printing. To Americus, Ga.

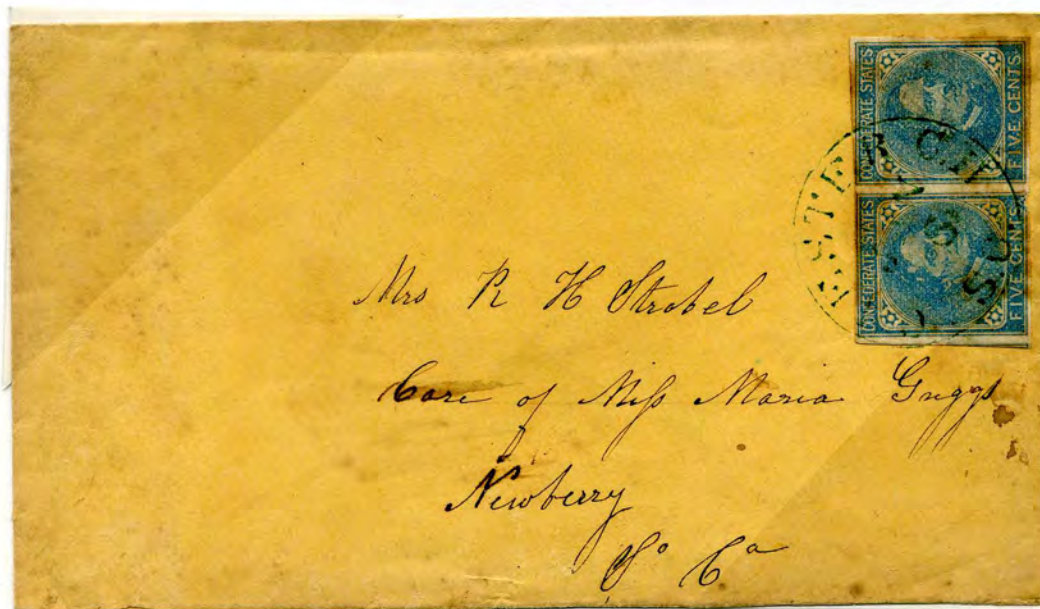


1863 USE

INCOMING MAIL



March 21, 1863 From Damascus, Spartanburg District.  
Less than 5 covers reported.



Jan 6, 1863 Green cancel of Chester CH. One of 28 P.O. that occasionally used this color. Pair of 5c of Archer & Daly printing with de la Rue plates on local made paper. To Mrs. R. H. Strobel c/o Miss Maria Gregg

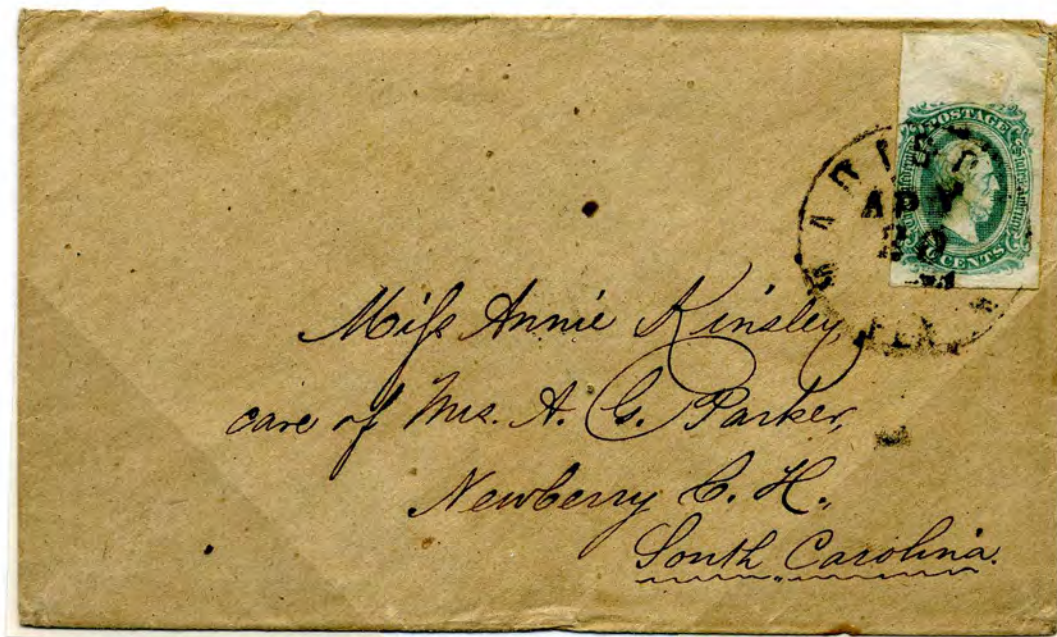


1864 USE

INCOMING MAIL



April 4, 1864. Canceled at Sumpter, S.C. Envelope of the "HUDSON LEE, Auctioneer & Commission Agent, Charleston". Among other things he was a slave trader and auctioneer. he business was no longer operating at this date



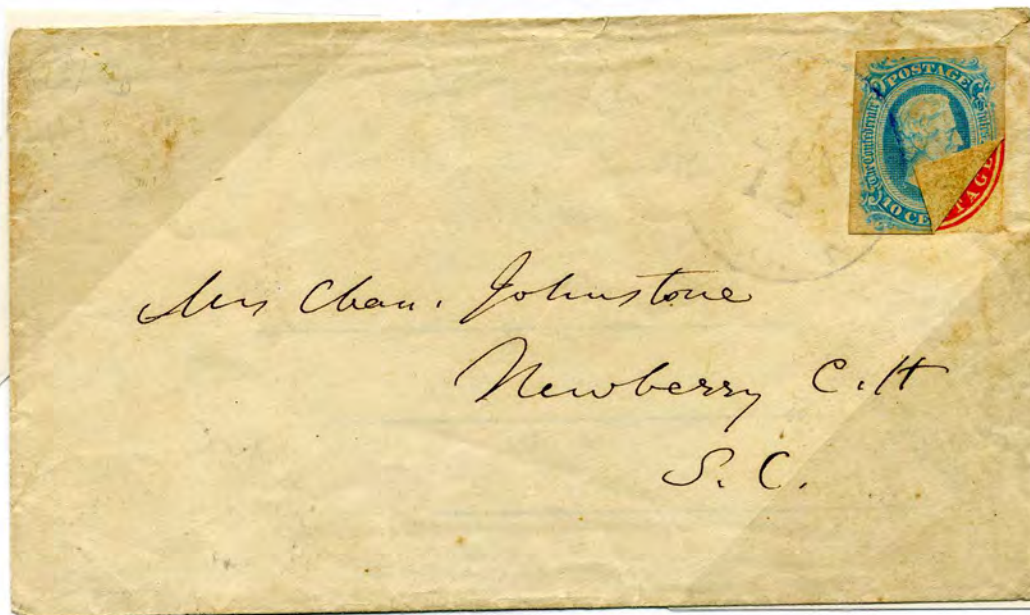
April 20, 1864 MADISON C.H., FLORIDA TO Newberry.  
Only recorded cover from Florida to Newberry,



INCOMING MAIL  
ADVERSITY COVERS



Oct 16, 1862. Cover made from blank checks.  
Light Blue stamp from Hoyer & Ludwig printing



June 12, 1864 10c Milky Blue Type I. Used over the stamp of an invalidated USA union stationary envelope that was used simply as an envelope.. Canceled by CDS of Pendleton in VIOLET, one of only 5 Confederate PO that occasionally used this color. Others were Augusta & Roswell Ga, Lynchburg Va, Madison, Ark.



**FROM Mt. SIDNEY, VIRGINIA**

Mt. Sidney is located in Augusta County in northern Virginia. It is a small town with a 2010 census population of 663. Like Newberry it was settled by German immigrants who were mostly Lutheran. The Shreckhise name is found in the Mt. Sidney area and presumably the Rev. James Shreckhise had moved down from there to serve a Lutheran church in Newberry.



Nov 28, 1860. The correspondence with the Rev Shreckhise started before the war as illustrated by this letter in the USA period.



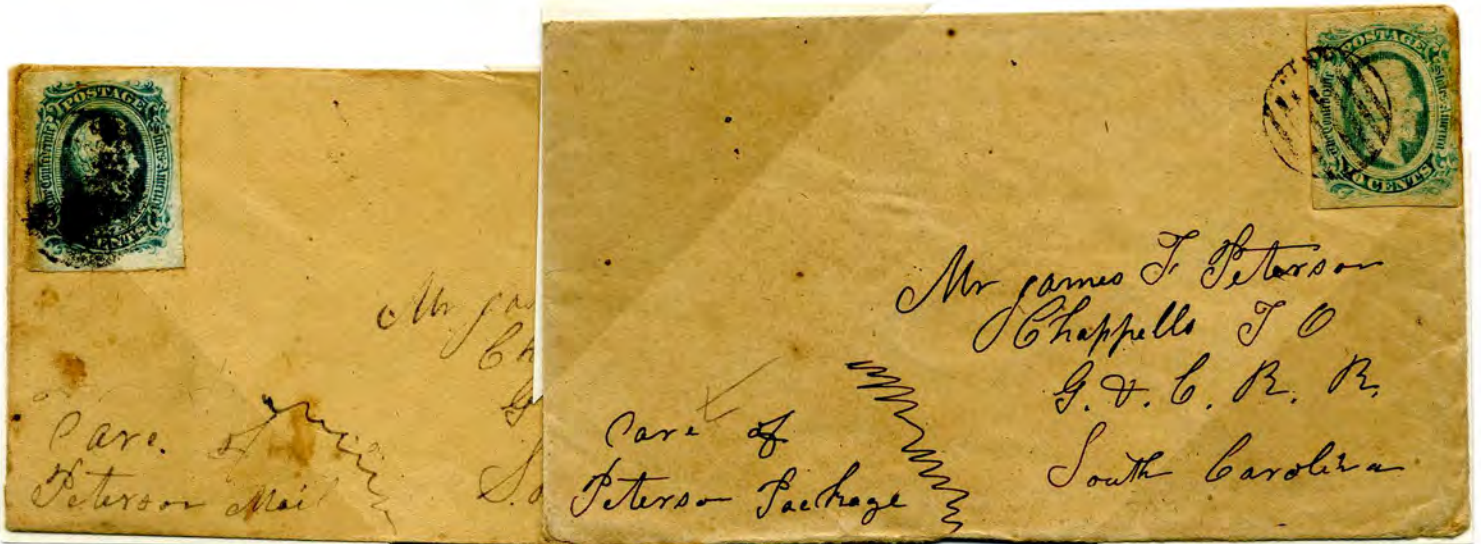
April 5, 1862. Confederate period. 10c was charged as there is just over 500 miles between the towns.



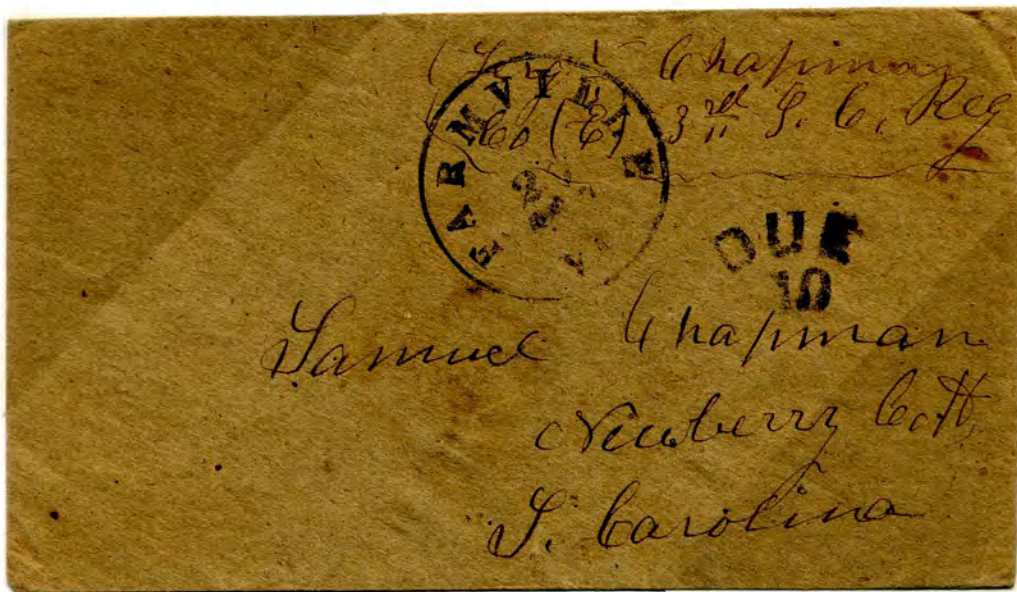
## SOLDIER'S MAIL

### ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

The army post office started in August 1863. A simple grid or target was used to cancel the stamps if prepaid. However with use it frequently became little more than a smear. No town or other datestamp was applied.



The clearly struck grid cancel is 17mm exact, a size not reported by Dietz. Also with a typical badly worn grid. Both addressed to members of the Peterson family at Chappells



From Sergt. (Thomas) Chapman, Company E, 5<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Regiment to Samuel Chapman in Newberry. CDS of Farmville, Prince Edward County, Va. and arc "Due 10" of this P.O. (Dietz listed). Since this was a soldier's letter it could be send unpaid at the normal paid rate. "Following the retreat from Petersburg General Lee ordered much needed supplies from Lynchburg to nearby Farmville where the Union Army attacked on April 7<sup>th</sup> 1865 but was repulsed". This was the only period when the S.C. regiment was near Farmville. Presumably the letter was mailed at this time



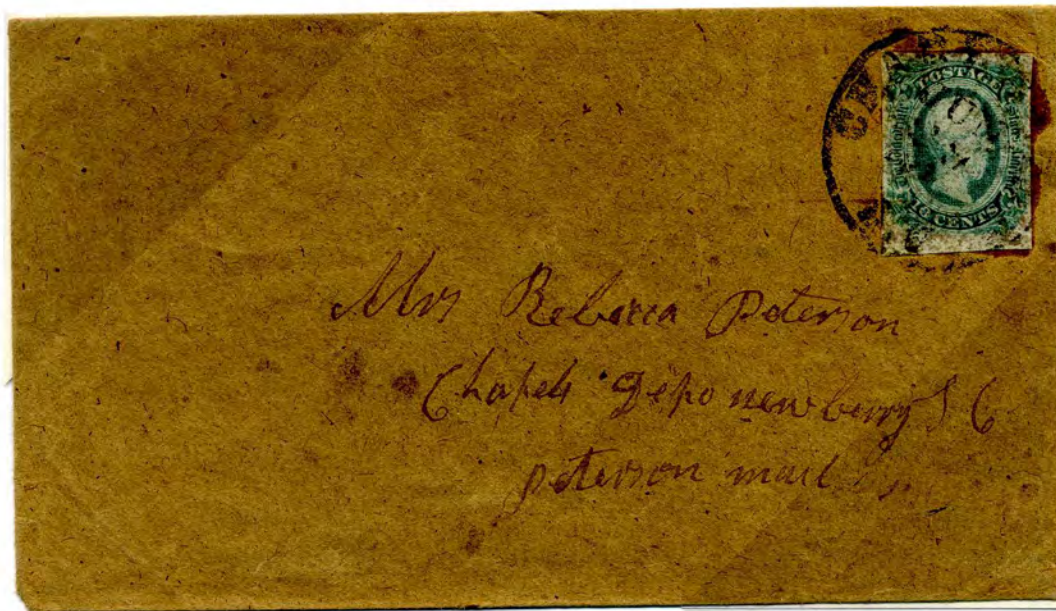
SMALL TOWN MAIL

TO MAYBINTON



April 10, 1861 from Charleston during the period when the mails were still run by the US post office.

TO CHAPPELLS DEPO.



Adversity cover made from crude brown wrapping paper. From Charleston after change to 10c rate on July 1, 1862.