

# Census of Rheatown, Tennessee, Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

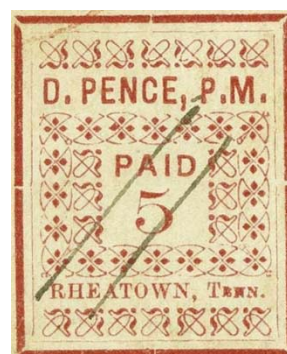
## Description and Notes



Position 1



Position 2



Position 3

RHE-TN-A01

## Rheatown Provisionals

The Rheatown provisionals were prepared as three typeset settings placed in form to make sheets of three subjects. According to the write up for lot 2275 in Siegel Sale 1104 (24 June 2015) they were printed by Hawes Lea in Knoxville, Tennessee.

The settings are:

**Setting A** (Position 1) – The border pieces in the top row reverse above the second “E” of “PENCE”. The outside border piece to the right of “D” in “PAID” is missing the curved line on the right side.

**Setting B** (Position 2) – The border pieces in the top row reverse above the second “E” of “PENCE.” The right border piece in the top row is inverted with the base up. The inside border piece to the left of “P” in “PAID” is also inverted.

**Setting C** (Position 3) – The border pieces in the top row reverse between the “N” and “C” of “PENCE.” The border piece above the “D” of “PAID” is missing the bottom curved line.

## Count of the Rheatown provisionals

Provisional	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Pos	Unused	Used	Covers	Total
5c black	NEW-LA-A02	62X2	1	1	1	1	3
			2	2	2	3	7
			3	1		2	3

## A Fake that Fooled



15 Jan 1872 Illustration  
from the *Philatelic Journal*



The fake



Authentic stamp

At above left is a crude reproduction of a stamp that was illustrated in the 15 January 1872 issue of the English *Philatelic Journal* with a note that the editor believed its authenticity was unquestionable.

At above center is an illustration of a stamp that has some key similarities to the *Philatelic Journal* illustration and is also similar in most details to the authentic stamp from position 1, at above right.

The stamp at the center has been examined by an authentication service twice. Each time it received a good certificate.

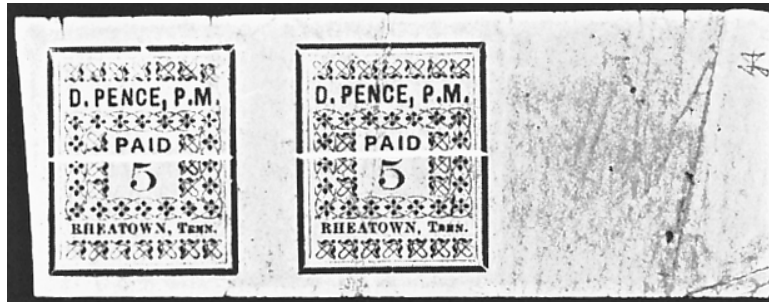
However, a close examination of the stamp reveals that it is different from the other Rheatown provisional stamps. The differences are indicative of a fake.

- 1) There is no period after the "M" of "P. M" on the fake.
- 2) The border pieces in the top row reverse above and to the left of the second "E" of "PENCE" on the fake. On the authentic this is directly above the "E." The space between the two balls where the pieces change direction is less on the fake than on the authentic.
- 3) The small diamonds in the outside border pieces around the "PAID / 5" are smaller on the fake than on the authentic.
- 4) On the fake the outside border piece to the right of "D" in "PAID" has a curved line on the right side. This is missing on the authentic stamps.
- 5) "TENN." ends further to the right on the fake than on the authentic.

## The Pair that is No More

The pair illustrated below was cut producing the two singles also illustrated below. The description of lot 3201 in Siegel Sale 1132 (22 June 2016) states it is believed Jack Molesworth cut the pair in the 1980s. The last sale containing the pair is believed to be the John W. Kaufmann Sale of the Beverly Hills Collection on 20 February 1986, lot 59.

The pair is not listed in the census, the two singles are.



CN-12



CN-11

## Mini Census of Rheatown, Tennessee, Provisional Covers

5c black \*\*\* NEW-LA-A02 (62X2)

Pmk Date	Pmk Posn	Prov Posn	Addressee	Town	State	CN
20 Jun [1861]	UL	UR	Lieut D R Wilson	Knoxville	TN	001
30 Jun [1861]	UL	UR	Illegible	Unknown	UNK	005
8 Feb [1862]	UL	UR	Miss Elizabeth Devarett	Broglesville	TN	003
13 Feb [1862]	UL	UR	Mr H O Donnelly	Knoxville	TN	006
15 Feb [1862]	UL-UC	UR	Mr David Cleage	Athens	TN	002
9 Apr [1862]	UL	UR	Mrs Revd Wm Brown	Richmond	VA	007

# Full Census of Rheatown, Tennessee Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

## 5c red on white, unused -- RHE-TN-A01 (69X1)

### Unused

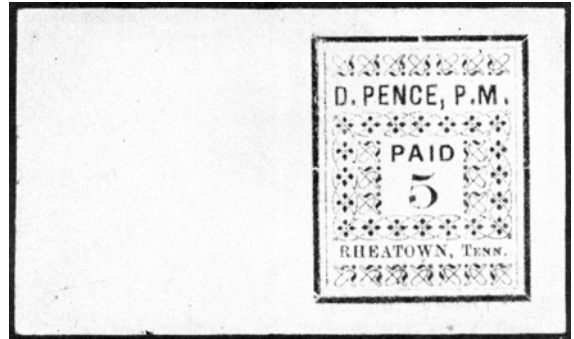
**Description:** Unused provisional. Left sheet margin copy.  
Stamp from position 1.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** Caspary.

**Source:** HRH-5Mar1956(989)-437. [013]

**Image Credit:** H R Harmer Auctions.



### Unused

**Description:** Unused provisional. Stamp from position 2.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** None recorded.

**Source:** RAS-22Jun2016(1132)-3201. [012]

**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.



### Unused

**Description:** Unused provisional. Right sheet margin copy.  
Stamp from position 3.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** West Haven.

**Source:** PF-442486\*; RAS-2May1987(619)-390\*; CHY-4Oct2006-451\*. [011]

**Image Credit:** .

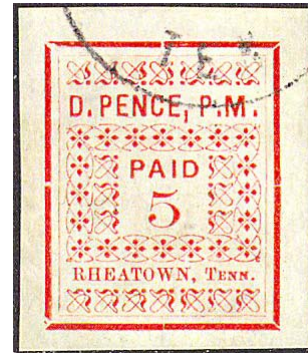




**5c red on white, used -- RHE-TN-A01 (69X1)**

**Used**

**Description:** Provisional canceled by Rheatown, Tennessee postmark. Stamp from position 1.  
**Address:** NA  
**Provenance:** Sharrer.  
**Source:** PF-357186\*; RAS-13Apr2000(823)-431\*; RAS-10Dec2012(1035)-84\*. [010]  
**Image Credit:** Philatelic Foundation.



**Used**

**Description:** Provisional pen canceled. Stamp from position 2.  
**Address:** NA  
**Provenance:** Hessel, Brandon.  
**Source:** PF-549954; HRH-21Oct1975(2291)- 291; RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-330\*; SR-14Dec2017(77)-1185\*. [008]  
**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.



**Used**

**Description:** Provisional pen canceled. Stamp from position 2.  
**Address:** NA  
**Provenance:** Hind, Gallagher.  
**Source:** CWPAS-02823\*; P&K-20Nov1933(1)-1570-[163]; RAS-9Jun1998(801)-394. [004]  
**Image Credit:** Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service .



## Used

**Description:** Provisional pen canceled. Stamp from position 1.  
**Address:** NA  
**Provenance:** Felton.  
**Source:** RAS-6Mar2001(834)-1051\*; RAS-15Nov2011(1016)-640\*. [009]  
**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.



## 5c red on white, covers -- RHE-TN-A01 (69X1)

**20 Jun [1861]**

**Description:** "RHEATOWN / TEN" postmark UL. Provisional pen canceled UR. Docketed "Care Col / J. ---" at LL. Stamp from position 2.  
**Address:** Lieut. D. R. Wilson / Knoxville / Tenn  
**Provenance:** Caspary, Kilbourne, DK.  
**Source:** HRH-5Mar1956(989)-439; RAS-28Sep1999(815)-142\*; RAS-28Mar2012(1022)-1115\*; RAS-31May2016(1129)-515\*. [001]  
**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.



**30 Jun [1861]**

**Description:** "RHEATOWN / TEN" postmark UL. Provisional pen canceled UR. Stamp from position 1.  
**Address:** Illegible  
**Provenance:** None recorded.  
**Source:** PF-133881; RAS-14Apr1984(632)-60\*. [005]  
**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.



8 Feb [1862]

**Description:** "RHEATOWN / TEN" postmark ties provisional LL. Stamp from position 3.

**Address:** Miss Elizabeth Devarett / Brogsville [Broglesville] / Tennessee / Washington / County

**Provenance:** Caspary, Gallagher, Erivan.

**Source:** PPH-156\*; HRH-5Mar1956(989)-440; CRL-25Mar1987-290\*; HRH-10Dec2020(3039)-89\*. [003]

**Image Credit:** Postmasters' Provisionals: United States and Confederate States (book).



13 Feb [1862]

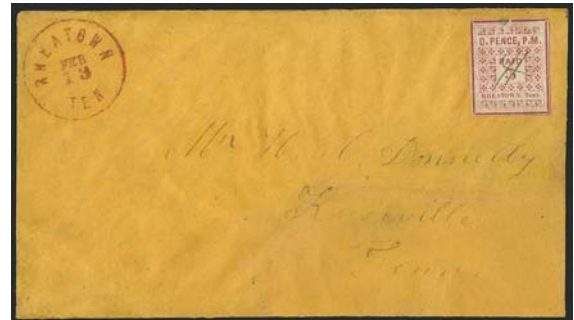
**Description:** "RHEATOWN / TEN" postmark UL. Provisional pen canceled UR. Stamp from position 2.

**Address:** Mr H. O. Donnelly / Knoxville / Tenn.

**Provenance:** None recorded.

**Source:** RAS-24Jun2015(1104)-2275. [006]

**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.



15 Feb [1862]

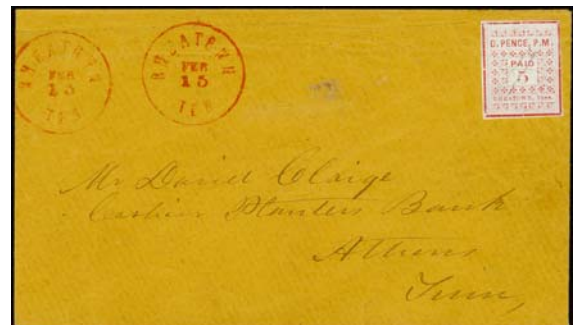
**Description:** "RHEATOWN / TEN" postmarks UL-UC. Provisional pen canceled UR. Stamp from position 3.

**Address:** Mr David Claige [Cleage] / Cashier Planters Bank / Athens / Tenn.

**Provenance:** Caspary, Erivan, Jaretsky.

**Source:** CWPSX-Jaretsky(Apr2021)-38\*; HRH-5Mar1956(989)-438; HRH-10Dec2019(3030)-80\*. [002]

**Image Credit:** H R Harmer Auctions.





9 Apr [1862]

**Description:** "RHEATOWN / TEN" postmark UL. Provisional pen canceled UR. Stamp from position 2.

**Address:** Mrs Revd Wm. Brown / Central Presbyterian Office, / Richmond / Va.

**Provenance:** MacBride, Boshwit, Brandon.

**Source:** PF-521916\*; JAF-20Oct1953(103)-71; RAS-27Sep2007(940)-361\*; RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-329\*. [007]

**Image Credit:** Robert A Siegel Auctions.

