

**Canada/British No. America (BNA)-Union & Confederate Postal
Correspondence in U.S. Civil War Era (1859-1867)**

Ronald Majors

Received for hosting with the permission of the owner

January 2020

Civil War Philatelic Society, Inc.

The pages have been numbered at the bottom for ease of reference

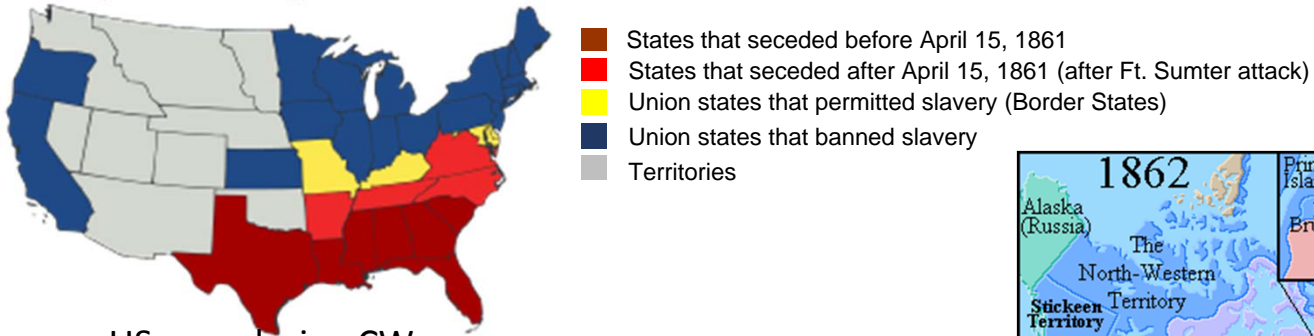
Canada/British No. America (BNA)-Union & Confederate Postal Correspondence in U.S. Civil War Era (1859-1867)

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Exhibit explores mail movement across U.S.-Canada/BNA border prior to, during & after U.S. Civil War (1861-1865). Franked- and stampless-covers illustrate impact on postal communications during this historic period, especially to South after Lincoln-imposed blockade and Union mail service suspension. Related to post-War communications, continued unrest along U.S.-Canadian border (Fenian Raids) was contributing factor to Canadian Confederation (1867). Post-CW movement of Canadian militia mail is shown.

BACKGROUND

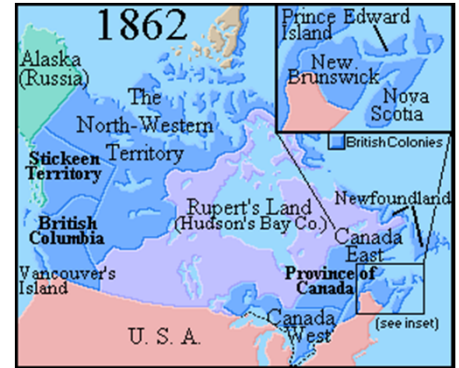
Prior to Civil War (CW), mail flowed freely across the border. Exhibit starting point (1859-1861) shows examples of pre-CW mail to/from Northern & Southern States. Once secession occurred (1860-1861) & Ft. Sumter captured, impact of Union **military blockade** (April 19, 1861) and rapid **suspension of postal service by Union** Post Office (May 30, 1861) was strongly felt in Confederacy. During CW, Confederate mail to Canada was not handled by Union P.O., but required more difficult methods (e.g. Flag of Truce, Blockade, Private Express) for cross border mail were used. Over 50,000 Canadians fought in CW, mostly on Union side, so a good deal of military-related mail moved cross border. Mail from Union-occupied Southern cities to Canada was handled by Union P.O. via U.S. mail wagons and temporary tents that delivered/collected mail to Union troops on the go. Public sentiment was also strongly felt in all geographies with widespread use of patriotic covers with war-related themes. Unfortunately, **no CW Confederate patriotic covers to/from Canada/BNA survived**. Once CW was over, Confederate Postal system was eventually but slowly absorbed back into U.S. Federal Postal system (1865-1867) and mail between Southern cities and Canada/BNA began to again move more freely. At end of CW, problems between Union and Canada/BNA arose. Driven by age-old disagreements between England and Ireland, Fenians (Irish-Americans), many of whom fought in CW, were allowed to keep their weapons. They amassed as loosely organized "American" militia near border and, in several instances, crossed over and fought with Canadian militia but avoided British support troops. Their ultimate goal was for U.S. to invade Canada and take it over (Manifest Destiny). Canadian Confederation followed.



US map during CW

ORGANIZATION/PLAN OF PRESENTATION

- The exhibit is organized into seven major Chapters, roughly in chronological order:
- Pre-CW Cross Border mail (Canada to U.S. North and South & Vice-Versa).
- Prelude to War (Patriotic cachets showing *Driving Forces for CW*).
- Secession (mail sent during Independent State and Confederate Use of U.S. Postal system periods).
- Cross Border mail during CW, divided into sub-Chapters:
 - Mail from Canada to Border (Divided) States;
 - Military mail including soldier's letters and patriotic covers.
 - Union CW Patriotic covers Canada/BNA to U.S.;
 - CW Patriotic covers U.S. to Canada/BNA;
 - Mail Between Canada and Confederacy;
- Other form of communications (newspapers, Canadian patriotic in US, US domestic patriotic covers)
- Post-CW mail between Canada and Southern States (slow return to U.S. Federal Post Office control)
- Activities related to CW (Fenian Raids/Militia skirmishes)



Canada/BNA map during CW

TREATMENT AND NOTES

During time period of Exhibit, Canada/BNA on April 1, 1859 converted from pence currency to cents (decimal) currency. CW period itself (1861-1865) was prior to Canadian Confederation (1867); thus BNA provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island) were separate entities reporting to British Crown & had their own postal systems. Considerable amount of mail was stampless. At least ½ of examples from U.S. to Canada/BNA & vice-versa shown are stampless. Most visible form of public sentiment in cross border correspondence was use of colorful patriotic CW-oriented envelopes for their mail. A considerable portion of exhibit is devoted to these covers. Patriotic covers to Canada/BNA are fairly readily available but those mailed from Canada are very difficult to find. [see R.E. Majors, *BNA Topics*, 68 (2), 6-24 (2011)]. Significant covers will be identified with **RED** outline, covers with certificate @ & personal research 🔍.

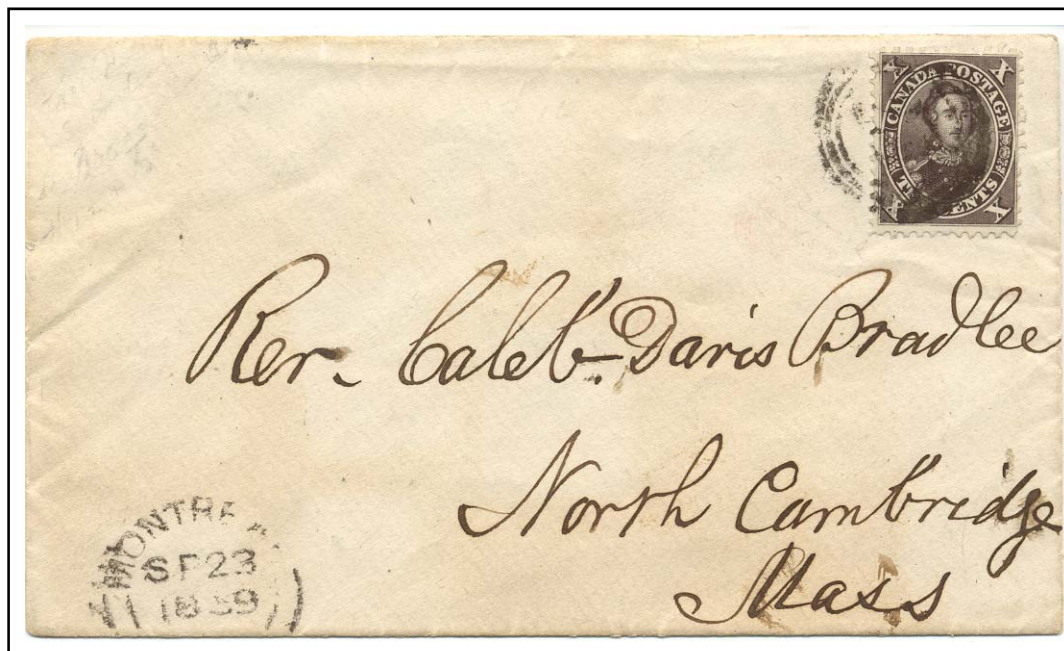
Major shifts in the story line will be illustrated with text boxes outlined in heavy **green**.

Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail Canada to US (1859-1861)

Canada to Northern States

Note: For United States, Pre-and Post-CW geographies will be referred to as Northern- and Southern-States or North and South. During CW, the Northern States will be referred to as Union (Union States) while Southern States will be referred to as Confederacy. Throughout the period, Canada consists of Canada West (CW) and Canada East (CE) and BNA refers to provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Massachusetts



Rate from Canada to US was 10 cents per ½ oz; **franked with black brown 10¢ Prince Consort**; stamp tied with 4-ring numeral "21" (Montreal).

Shows "normal" flow of unregistered and registered mail Canada→U.S. prior to outbreak of CW.

New York

Registered letter rate is 15¢ for ½ oz. and under (single rate); 10c paid postage and 5c registration fee; fee often paid in cash but here with additional 5c Beaver. Dundas, C.W. on JY 20 1860.

On reverse, two transit stamps, one Clifton, U.C. and one Great Western Railroad East (G.W.R. East) handstamp; On front side **CANADA PAID 10cts** along with registry markings;

8 recorded covers with this franking (Firby¹).



1) Charles G. Firby, The Postal Rates of Canada: 1851-1868. The Provincial Period: A Recording, Part II for Canada 1859 issue stamps, 1976; revised September 1, 1984. listing will be referred to throughout Exhibit.

Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail Canada to US (1859-1861)

Canada to Northern States

Earliest (1861) Canadian patriotic covers sent just after CW began, perhaps to show sentiment and support for North early in war.

Pennsylvania

Ensign patriotic cover sent from Chatham, U.C. SP 24 1861. Uses old circular handstamp **PAID 6d**; equivalent to 10¢ in the decimal period of Canada.

The white ensign flag used by Royal Navy on HMS ships; often flown when in a port as well on the high seas.



Ohio



Two 5c Beavers pay single letter rate under ½ oz.; On front, Paris D.P.O Sept 19 1861 cancel. @

Ohio

Ensign cover also from above correspondence franked with 10c Consort; pays single letter rate Canada to U.S. Great Western Railway (G.W.R.) CDS dated OC 17 1861; @.



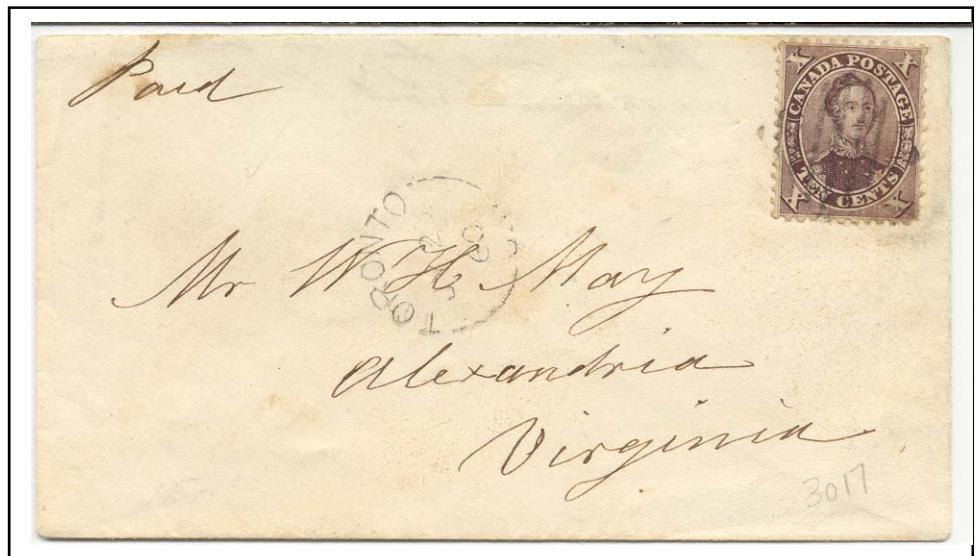
Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail from Canada to US (1859-1861)

Canada to Southern States

Prior to CW, mail from Canada to Southern States also flowed easily.

Virginia

Toronto JY 23 1860; franked with 10c brown purple Consort from 3rd printing, major re-entry Position 29; railway transit (G.W.R. JY 24 60) on reverse side..



Virginia



Wholesale prices circular printed notice franked with 1c Victoria; special 1¢ rate applied to printed circulars and printed matter only; compared to domestic usage in Canada/BNA, circulars to US and particularly to Southern States are difficult to find [10 recorded circulars to U.S. (Firby)].

Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail from Canada to US (1859-1861)

Canada to Southern States

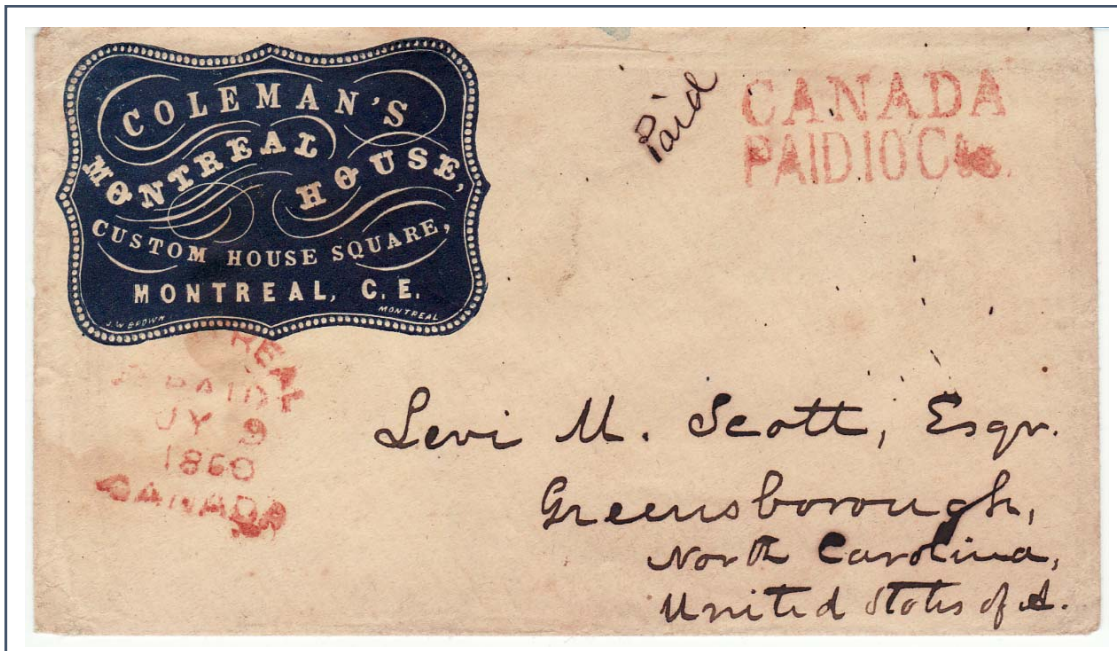
Georgia

November 26, 1860 from Ottawa to Etowah, Georgia; **Ogdensburg, NY** exchange marking on front and Prescott NO 26 1860 on reverse; two 5c Beaver stamps pay ½ oz letter rate.

For some reason Ottawa 4-ring numeral "27" was crossed out and 10c due applied in manuscript; at time Georgia was in midst of deciding on secession and may have disregarded assessed 10¢ postage due.



North Carolina



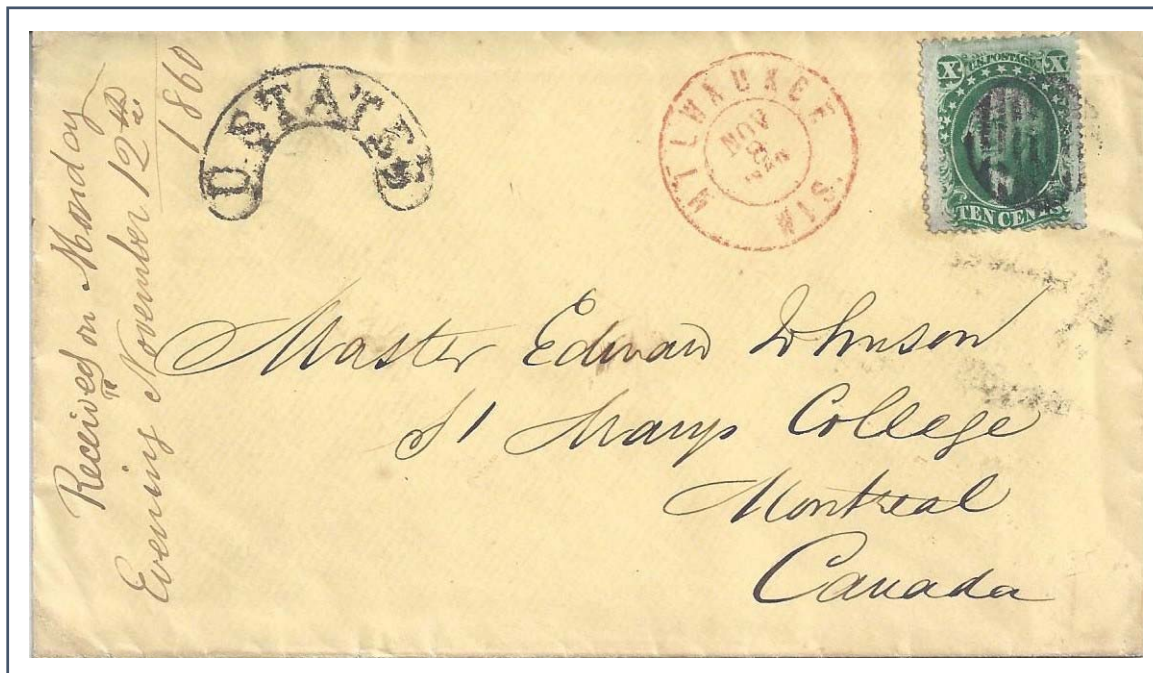
Montreal tombstone handstamp (below oillustration) and **CANADA PAID 10 Cts** (two lines) indicates letter was prepaid; sent on July 9 1860; manuscript 'paid' in black; transit stamp (city can't be read) on reverse dated JY 11 1860.

Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail from U.S. to Canada (1859-1861)

Northern States to Canada

And mail from both the US North and South
also flowed easily to Canada

Wisconsin



Ten cents Washington
pays single letter rate to
Canada; "U. STATES"
Boggs Type IIa. Posted in
Milwaukee Nov. 8, 1860.

Illinois

Target cancel, Rockford, Ill.
Nov. 13, 1860, **"U.STATES"**
arc and matching **"PAID 10"**
to Jordan, CW, backstamped
G.W.R. East No. 13 60 and
Jordan No. 14, 1860 receiver:

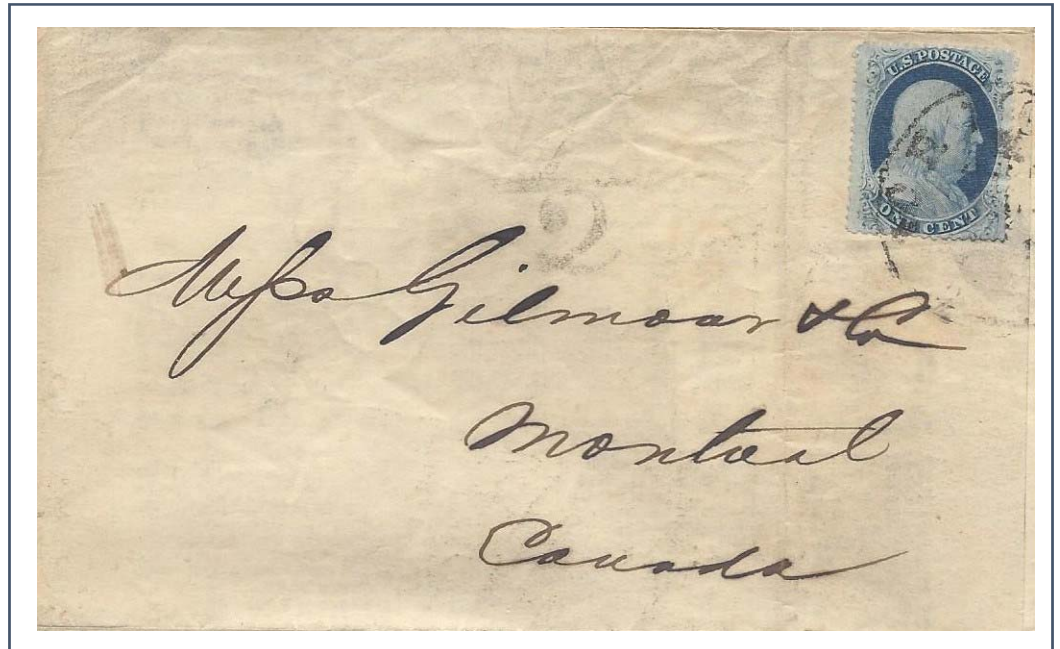


Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail from U.S. to Canada (1859-1861)

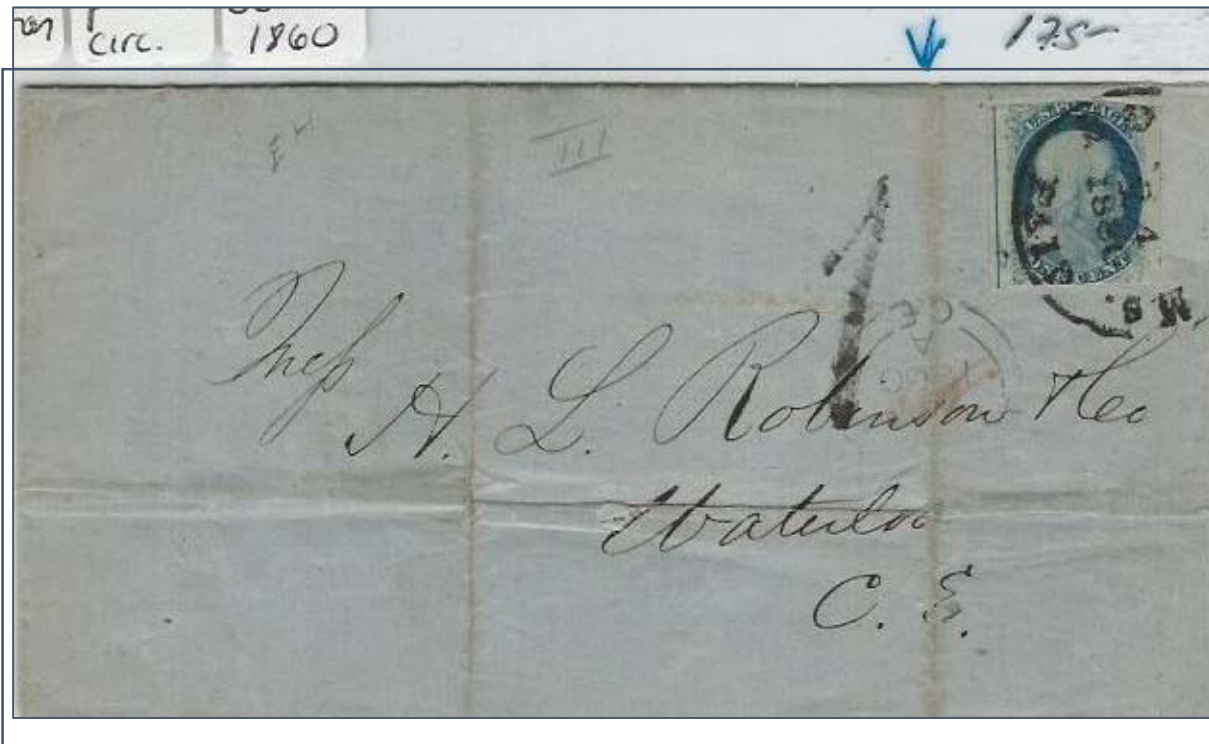
Northern States to Canada

Illinois

1859 1¢ circular rate (prices current) paid to border, faint handstamp (top center) "1/2" penny or 1¢ additional charged to recipient by Canada East Post.



Massachusetts

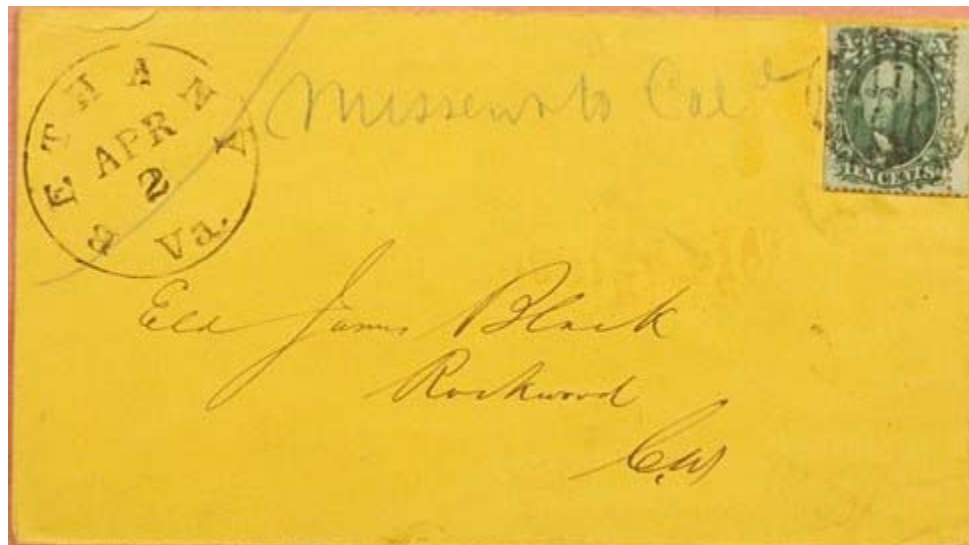


1860 Boston to Waterloo, C.E. 1¢ circular rate to border, handstamp "1" additional charge to recipient by Canada Post.

Pre-Civil War (CW) Mail from U.S. to Canada (1859-1861)

Southern States to Canada

Virginia



Transit from
reverse of
cover

Apr. 2 CDS, JY 27. 1859 backside transit (shown above) & manuscript "Missent to Cal" indicates that Rockwood, C.W. address was mistaken for Richmond, CA so cover made a long journey to the West before getting to final destination.

Virginia

Franked with 3c Washington, rose, tied by Alexandria, VA double ring CDS but underpaid so handstamp '10' in black with two line **"UNITED STATES/6d"** due in Canada; St. Catherines, CW (receiver in RED on reverse).



Texas



March 20, 1860 sent from Galveston. Texas to Crowns Land Dept., Toronto, forwarded to Quebec, Toronto receiver on back MAR 29, 1860; Quebec receiver MAR 31, 1860. Franking 10¢ rate for ½ oz or less.

Within Canada, mail to Crowns Land Dept. was free when department was in session. However, letters from U.S. to Canada were not exempt.

Prelude to War

The Issue of Slavery



What were main causes of CW?

Prepaid domestic ½ oz 5c letter rate; mailed from Prescott, CW (cancel 4-ring numeral "35") to Burritt's Rapids, CW; arrival backstamp 16 October 1861..

Depiction of slavery was a common theme of Union Patriotic cachets as it served to reinforce issue of abolition. Cover shows slave and his master with warning "I wouldn't putt down dat flag, Massa...".

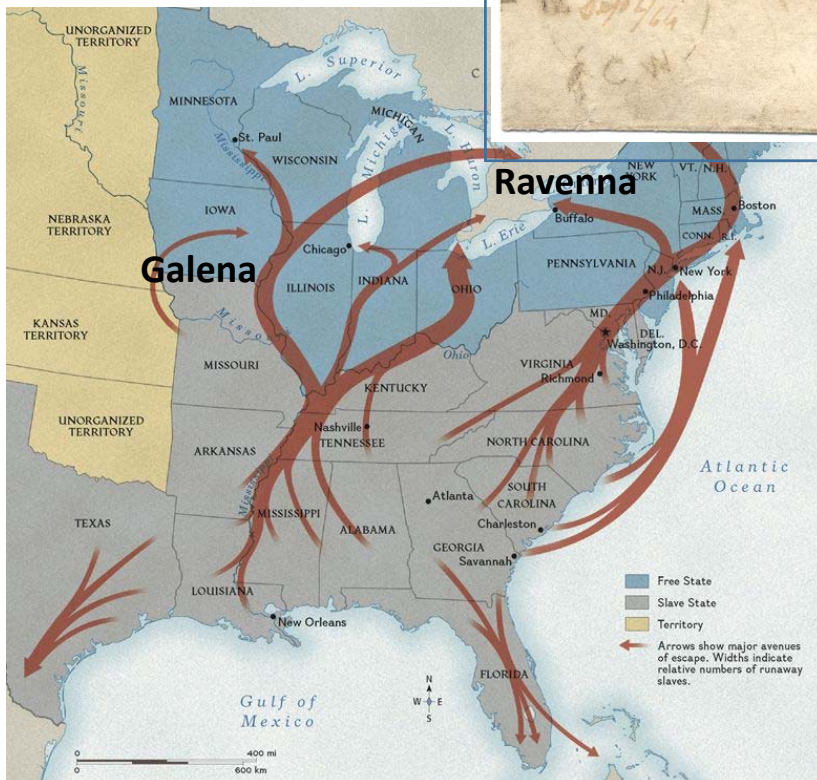
Ex-Jarrett, Ex-Richardson, Ex-Bischel.

Underground Railroad (URR)

Franked with 10c Consort (paid ½ oz rate to U.S.) and posted in **Ravenna, C.W.** on September 2, 1864 to **Galena, IL** with Toronto and Clarksburg, CW transits on reverse.



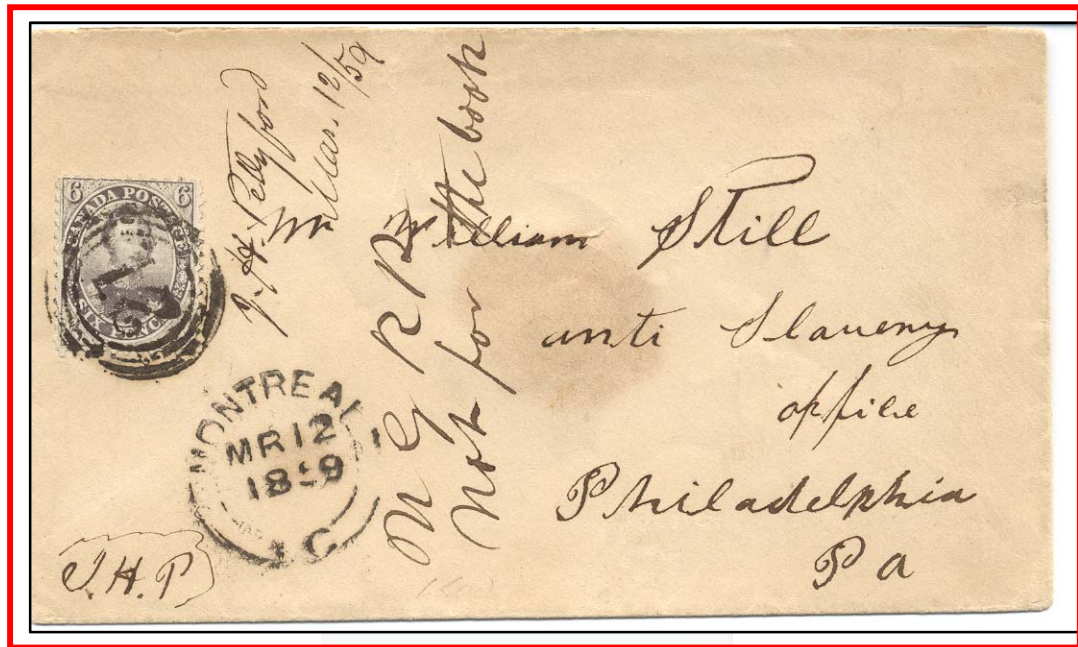
Map of Main URR Routes



Northern support for URR was driving force in beginning of CW. Runaway Southern slaves were sheltered by abolitionists and sympathizers in North in elaborate network of safe havens. Each URR line was run by a conductor. After Fugitive Slave Act, which required Northerners to return slaves to owner or turn them over to slave catchers, many slaves continued their journey to Canada. Significance of cover is point of origin Ravenna, CW was end of one **Underground Railroad** route from US to Canada (slaves became free); Ravenna had a significant black population; **Old Galena Trail in Illinois was one of main stopover points on the Underground Railroad** in U.S. Midwest; thus this letter could have been from an escaped slave who carried it to Ravenna, C.W. (Canada) and mailed it back to one of his/her protectors in Galena. Addressee John Nagle was Justice of Peace in Galena.

Prelude to War

Anti-Slavery Sentiment in Canada



**Sent to William Still (1821-1902)
Father of Underground Railroad (URR)***

Franked with perforated 6p stamp, rate for ½ oz to US (tied with 4-ring numeral "21", Montreal, (rarity factor: 1). 1 of 9 known perf 6p covers to U.S. (Firby)

In July 1838, British Parliament abolished slavery throughout British Empire, including Canada and BNA. Many Canadians favored abolition. The Anti-Slavery Society quite strong, especially in Canada West. Mr. Still, a freed slave, was "conductor" on East Coast URR branch and helped over 800 slaves prior to Civil War, hiding many in his own basement. His notebooks accounted for many escaped slaves who eventually made their way to Canada after passage of Fugitive Slave Act.

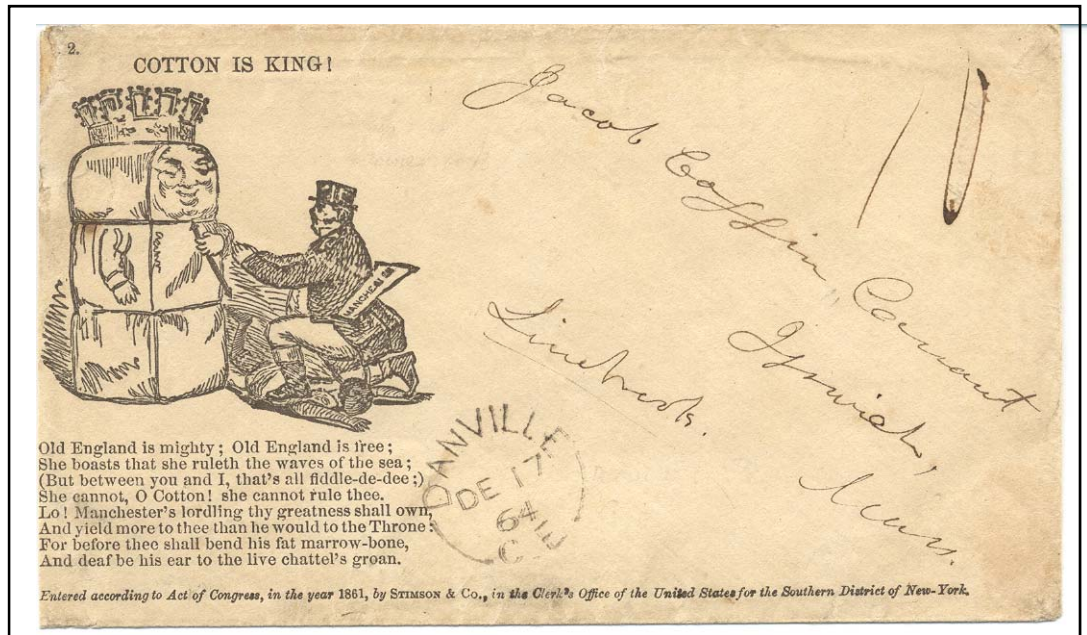
* <https://freedomcenter.org/content/william-still>

Prelude to War

England's Need for "King" Cotton

Cross border patriotic cover sent to Ipswich, Mass.; "10" in black indicated that recipient pays postage.

Need for Southern cotton to feed their textile mills was one reasons why Britain never supported Union (remained "neutral"). Cotton reinforced slavery. Slaves were needed to pick cotton crop. Blockade just about stopped all exports of cotton and reduced supply of money that Confederates needed to fund war effort. Both, Britain and Canada did give support for blockade runners much to dismay of Lincoln and Union military.



Killing of Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth



Left: Whitby, CW CDS in blue posted April 3, 1862 to Utica, NY; postage paid with two 5c Beavers pays single letter rate; tied with blue 7-ring circular cancels.

Below: two-line **CANADA/PAID 10 CTS** indicates 10c postage prepaid.; Mailed from Hamilton NY June 7 1862 and shows double ring Hamilton CDS.

Ellsworth was first officer killed in CW. He was shot on May 21, 1861 by Confederate sympathizer while taking down Confederate flag in Alexandria, VA. He quickly became Union hero and "Remember Ellsworth" became rallying point for Northerners.

ex-Richardson and Brigham.



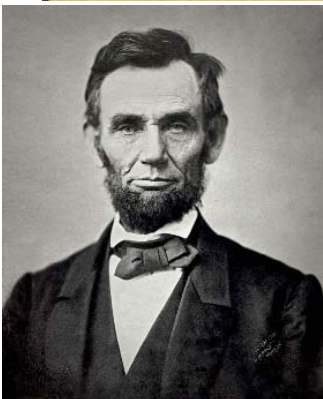
Prelude to War

Election of Lincoln

Embossed cover posted in Springville, CW on January 14, 1861 to Shawnee Mound, Indiana (IN). Two 5¢ Beaver stamps pays ½ oz or less postage to U.S.

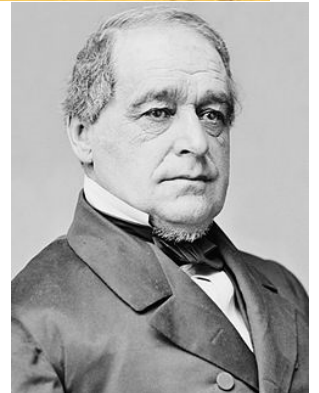


Below: enlarged embossed slogan from front of cover



Abraham
Lincoln

Before inauguration, 1860 election of Republicans Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin was a driver for succession of seven Southern States. Lincoln received no electoral votes from South. His views on slavery and its expansion were well known. Campaign cover with front embossing with wavy two-line slogans "Slavery sectional, Union and Liberty" and "Freedom National, Onward to Victory" and back flap embossed "Hon. Abraham Lincoln of Ill. for President, Hon. Hannibal Hamlin of ME. for V. Pres."



Hannibal
Hamlin

Secession

South Carolina to Canada West during Independent State Period

Southern States begin process of leaving Union



Back of
cover, 25%
reduction

Franked with 10¢ green Washington straddle pane copy tied by blue **Columbia, S.C.** Jan 26 1861 to Iona P.O. , Canada West (now Ontario), with manuscript pencil contents docking at lower left "Jany 24/61", two straight line **PAID** markings and UC (Upper Canada) transit backstamps, one dated Jan 29, 1861 and one (in manuscript) Jan 30 '61.

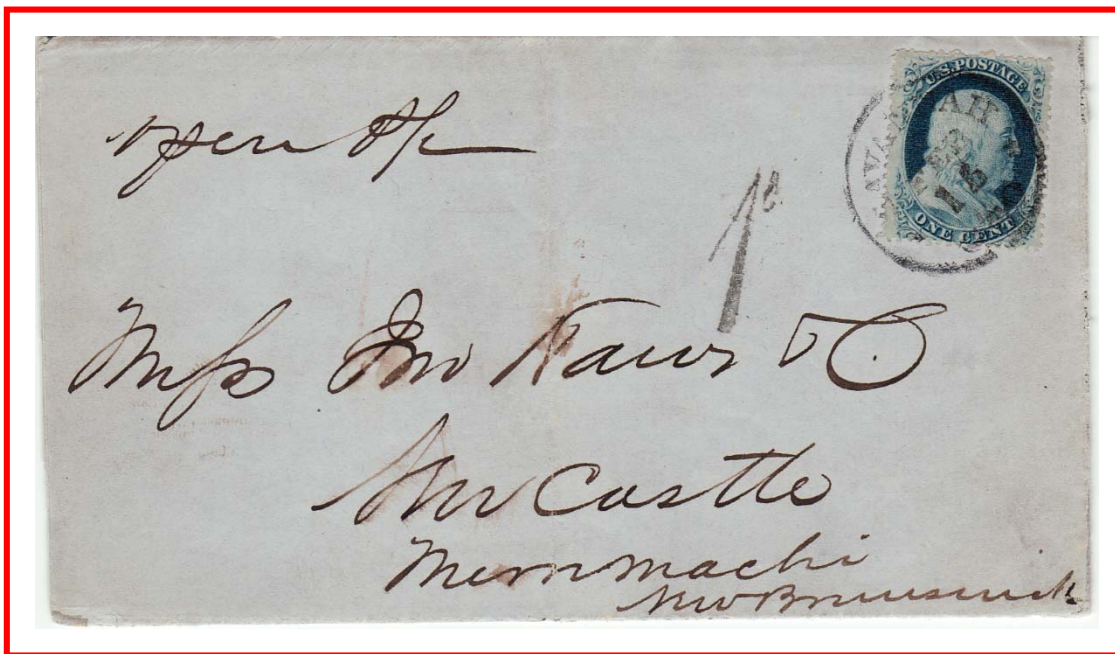
Independent State Period was time between a Southern State seceding from Union and formation of Confederacy. During this confusing period, Union Postal System was still handling Southern mail. South Carolina was first state to secede (**Dec. 20, 1860**) and its use of Federal post continued for 5 months., **May 26, 1861**, US Postmaster General Blair issued an order to suspend postal services to Southern (Confederate) States.

Ex-Cantey and Felton

Independent State Use to Canada.

Secession

Prices Current from Georgia to New Brunswick After Formation of Confederacy (Use of Union Postal System)



Feb. 15, 1861 folded prices current (2 printed page circular) US 1¢ Franklin tied with Savannah, Georgia CDS; endorsement on top in ms "Open P/C" (Open Prices Current); with "1¢" Canadian postage due handstamp; back receiver Newcastle, New Brunswick Feb 28, 1861. Use of Federal Post continued for 5 months until **May 26, 1861**.

Confederacy was formed on **Feb. 4, 1861** and 6 states (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC) joined at that time. Later 7 more states admitted (AR, KY, MO, NC, TN, TX, and VA) although border states of KY and MO never seceded from Union. MD and DE were also considered border states. Border states had a split allegiance throughout CW. WV broke away from VA and became Union state (1863). Circular sent during 2nd week of Confederacy.

Prices current addressed to Mssrs. Jno. Haws & Co., New Castle, Miramichi, New Brunswick. Haws was a leading BNA ship builder.

Ex-Cipolla and Felton.

Confederate Use of U.S. postal system to BNA.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Non-Military Mail Canada to Divided/Border States

Border States (sometimes called Divided States) were slave states that didn't leave Union and did not join Confederacy. Border states included DE, KY, MD and MO. West Virginia, which separated from Virginia during CW (1863) was considered a border state. Here KS is included since it was still a territory leaning towards slavery during early days of succession but became a state in 1861. Even though Lincoln was anti-slave for political reasons he allowed Border States to own slaves to have them remain in the Union..

Kentucky



The Divided/Border States stayed with Union but were allowed to keep slaves!

Cover was short paid since rate Canada to US was 10c per ½ oz.; rated 10c due and **no credit** given for 6c worth of stamps. Sent from Toronto to Henderson, KY..

Kentucky

Proper 10c payment to Keene, KY from Drummondville, U.C. SP 4 1861.

Kentucky was another border state where mixed allegiances were prevalent; in order to keep Kentucky in the Union, Lincoln allowed it to remain a slave state. Many neighbors fought against each other in the War.



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)
Non-Military Mail Canada to Divided/Border States

Missouri

Letter, at 10c rate for ½ oz. or less to U.S., Hamilton, CW CDS ties stamps to cover. Faint two Line
CANADA PAID 10 cts.



Missouri entered Union as a slave state (1861) but had dual allegiances; State supplied troops to both Union and Confederacy, had separate governments and had its star on both flags!

Missouri

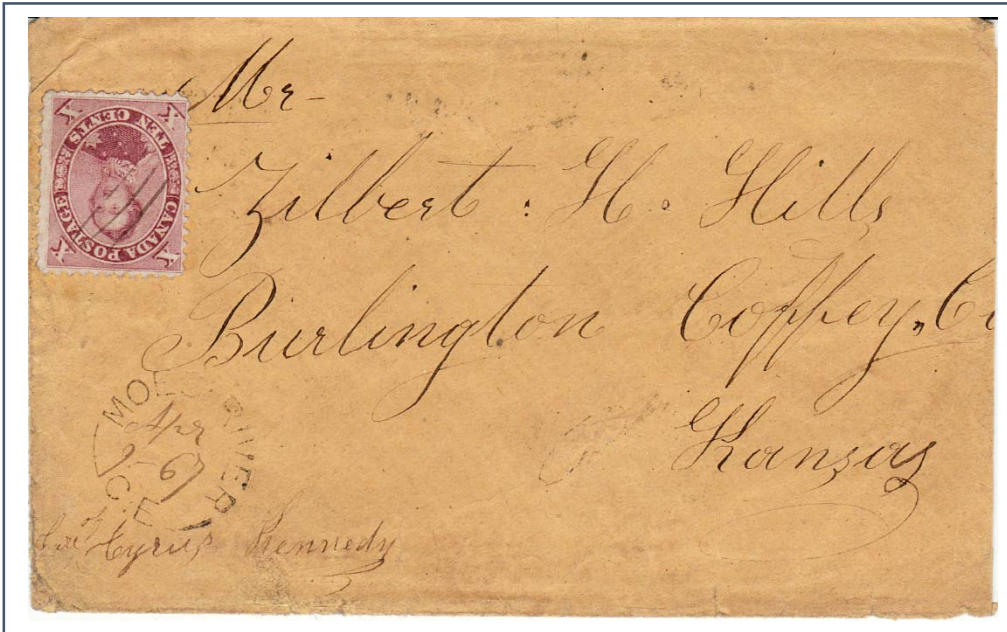


Two 5c Beavers tied with Hamilton duplexes paying ½ oz rate to U.S. and posted in Hamilton, C.W. and sent to Farmington, MO.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Non-Military Mail Canada to Divided/Border States

Kansas

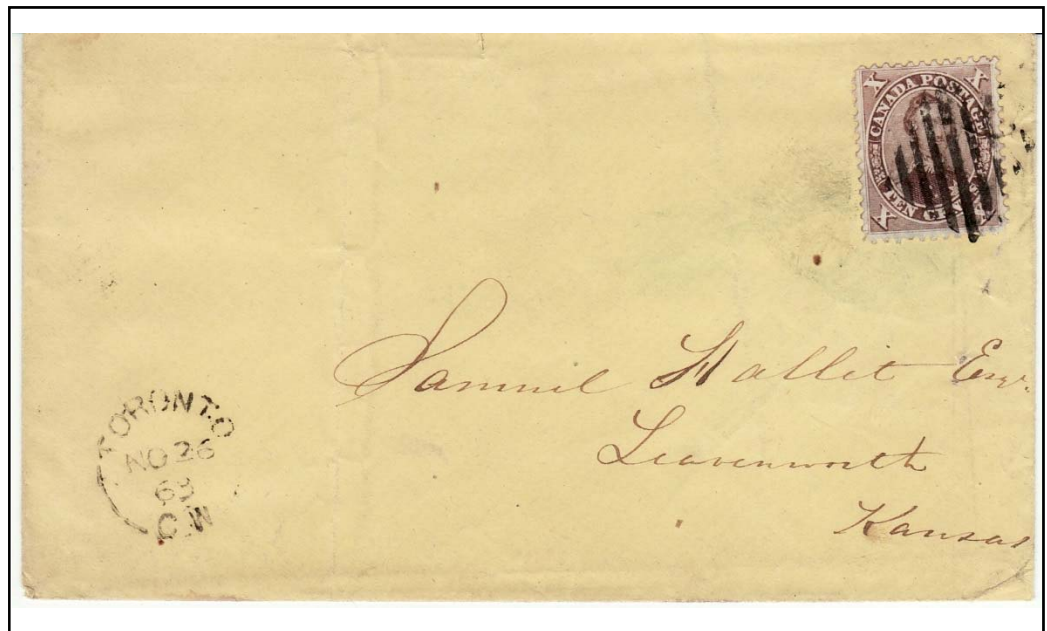


Pen cancelled 10c Consort stamp on letter sent from Moes River, C.E.

Although Kansas Territory was admitted to Union as slave free State (Jan. 29, 1861) during Civil War, just prior to War, it was a battleground between slave owners and slavery expansionists (Border Ruffians) and abolitionists (Free Staters) led by John Brown. The cry "Bleeding Kansas" refers to these struggles and several people were killed in fighting that took place. Brown's efforts paid off and Kansas did not become a slave state nor join Confederacy.

Kansas

10c Consort to Leavenworth, KS, dated NO/26/1863, stamp tied by Toronto square grid (unique for Toronto and very characteristic).



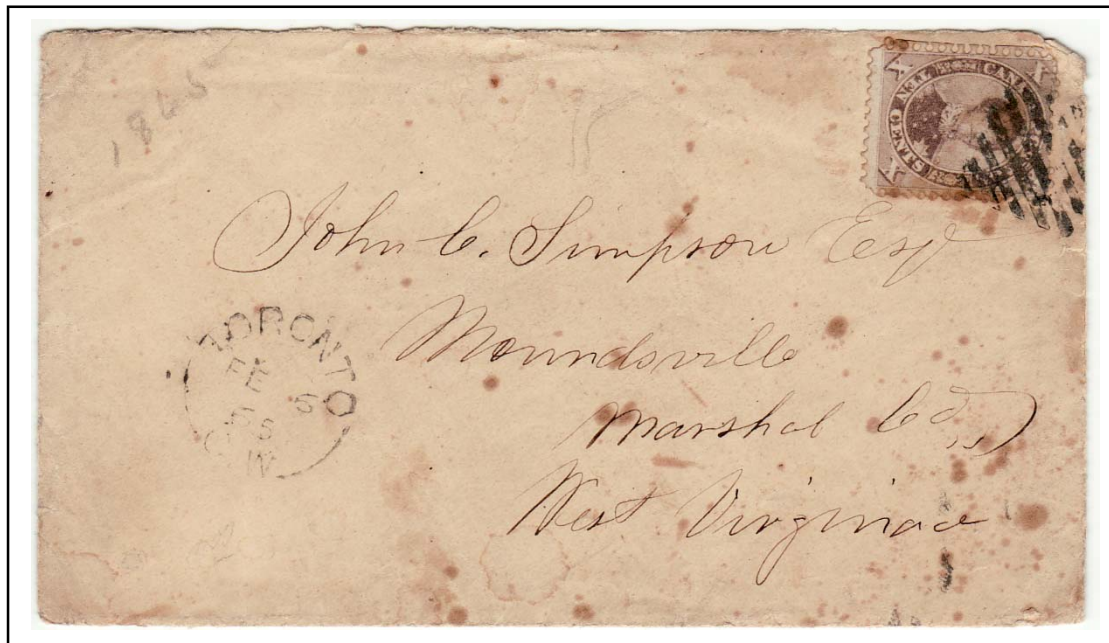
Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Non-Military Mail Canada to Divided/Border States

West Virginia

To Moundsville, WV on Feb 6 1865. 10c Consort pays ½ oz letter rate from Canada; Toronto square grid ties stamp.

West Virginia was granted statehood in middle of Civil War (June 20, 1863) after separating from Virginia. In vote of secession, all delegates from Western VA voted against it. Eventually, the Wheeling Convention generated enough interest to form a new government. Still many Confederate sympathizers in WV fought for Confederacy but a larger number fought for Union.



An interesting letter is contained and talks about how the Southerners have sought refuge in Canada and abuse hospitality of country. Talks about some Southern criminals who have been extradited to US. There are less than 5 reported decimal covers sent to WV (Vic Willson census).

West Virginia



Indistinct Stayner, CW CDS also to Moundsville, Marshall County, West Va, 10c Consort pays single letter rate to US. No backstamps or receivers as is common for Canada to U.S. covers.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Non-Military Mail Divided/Border State to Canada

Kentucky



From Frankfort, KY; 10¢ Washington pays single letter rate to Canada; tied with double circle date stamp; incomplete Montreal receiver on reverse.

US Territory to Canada

Nebraska Territory



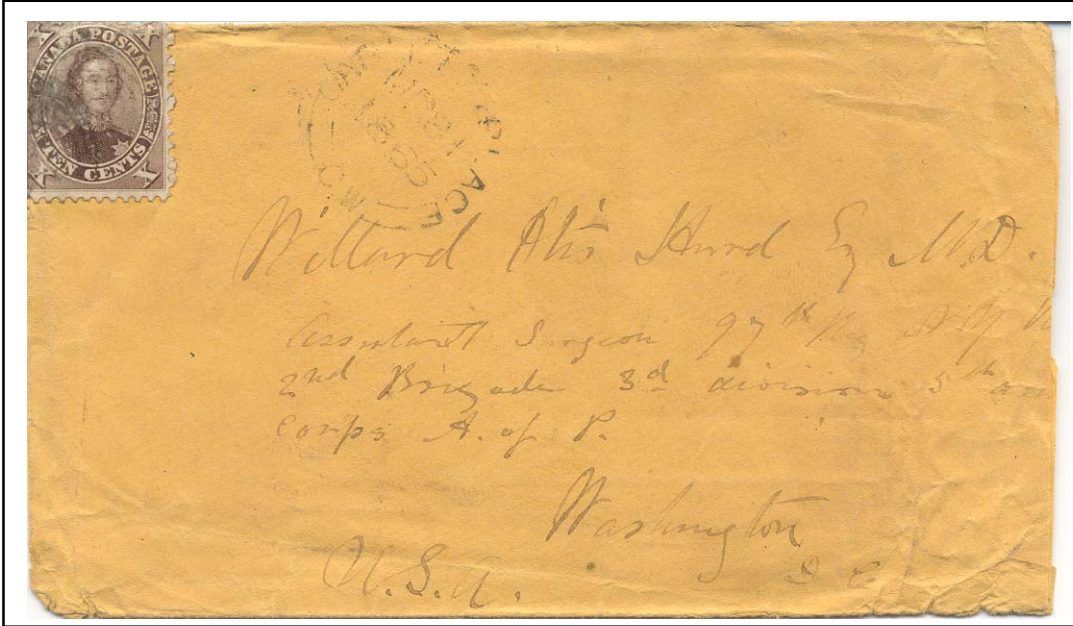
During CW, 28,693 Native Americans served in Union and Confederate armies (ref.: Wikipedia "*Native Americans in the American Civil War*"). This cover, with a receiver on reverse side, was sent from the Omaha Indian Agency to CW in 1864; franked with 10¢ Washington paying single letter rate to Canada.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Canada/BNA to Union

Over 50,000 Canadians fought in U.S. Civil War, mostly in Union forces. Thus, one would expect there would be mail to/from Canada/BNA during wartime.

To Canadian Doctor Serving in Union Army



Mailed from Carlton Place to Washington, DC on March 31, 1865; two transit backstamps. 10c Consort pays ½ oz postage.

With over 50,000 Canadians actively participating in CW, there was great deal of cross border mail involving military personnel.

Dr. Willard Otis Hurd born in New Hampshire but practiced medicine in Carlton Place, C.W.. His skills as a surgeon were needed so he enlisted in 83rd NY Regiment and was appointed Asst. Surgeon; later he was transferred to 97th NY Regt. After war he married and settled in New Hampshire where he continued his practice.

To Officer of New Hampshire Volunteers in Washington

Bothwell, U.C. on MY 22 1865; single letter rate (under ½ oz.) paid with two 5¢ Beavers; forwarded to New Hampshire.



Major Thomas L. Livermore of 5th New Hampshire Volunteers. Original address crossed out and forwarded to 18th New Hampshire Volunteers where he had been transferred to and promoted to Colonel; after CW, Col. Livermore wrote definitive publication entitled *History of the Eighteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, 1864-1865*, in addition, he also authored one of top statistical studies of entire conflict.

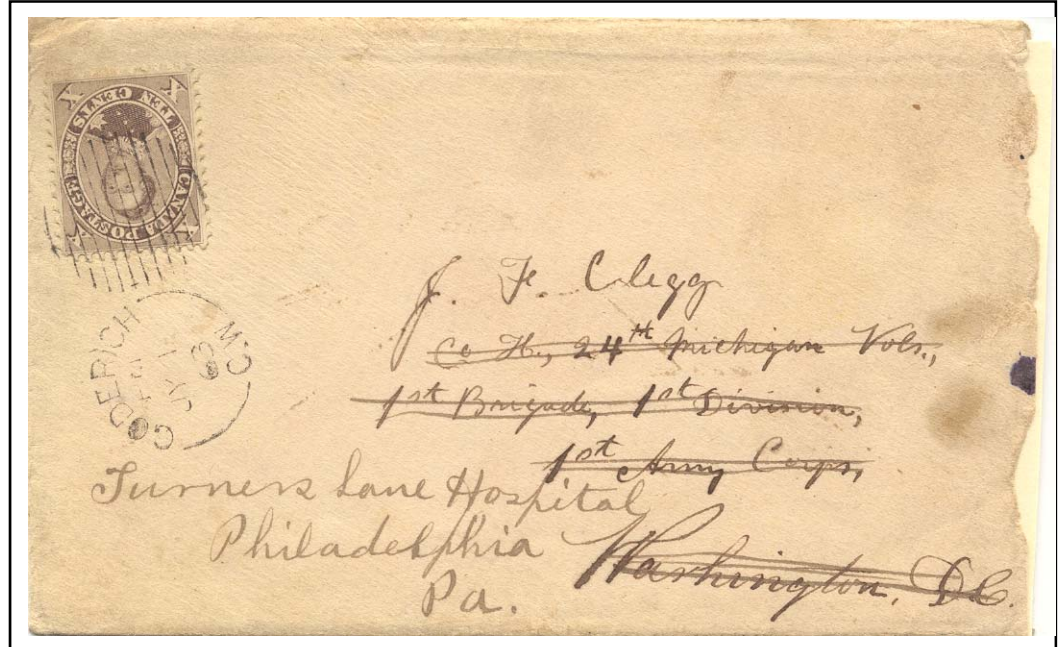
Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Canada/BNA to Union

To Soldier in Washington, D.C.; forwarded to Philadelphia Hospital

July 1 1863 from Goderich, C.W.;
paid with 10c Consort for ½ oz.
single letter rate; forwarded

Recipient James F. Clegg, a private in Company H of 24th Michigan Volunteers, in Washington. Forwarded to Turners Lane Hospital in Philadelphia; this small hospital (275 beds) was specialized hospital for research on neurological disorders; 24th Michigan had just fought in the Chancellorsville battle (Apr. 30-May1, 1863) and was fighting in Gettysburg (July 1-3 1863) when letter was posted. Presumably Pvt. Clegg was wounded in battle and was sent to Philadelphia for treatment. He was mustered out also as a private so probably survived his wounds.



To Admiral in Washington, D.C.



Quebec, L.C. on AP 20 1864 (CDS in RED); RED Legislative Assembly Shield (Jarrett type 1518) with same date; two line CANADA/PAID 10 Cts . The Quebec PAID CDS is Jarrett Type 55 handstamp.

Written by MP (signature in m/s on LL); In Canada Legislative Assy. Shield would suffice for free postage but not to United States; Dahlgren was a major officer in Union Navy (Naval Ship Yard head, established Bureau of Ordnance. commander of South Atlantic Blockading Squadron and helped William Tecumseh Sherman secure Savannah; designed new armaments for ships..

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Canada/BNA to Union

Over 15,000 young men, mostly from Northern States, left for Canada after they were drafted or in order to avoid draft. Most were able to get jobs in Canada and Canada had no laws for extradition to US. Many letters were written to loved ones. Following 3 covers are examples. Deserters longed to be back home but knew they could be arrested or subject to draft. 217 Northern deserters were executed. However, desertion was sometimes treated differently in those days. A soldier might leave his regiment to go home to harvest crops and then return to his unit when finished.

Letters from Draft Dodgers in Canada to Home Folks



Although not strictly “military” covers, the large number of deserters were well aware of military consequences of returning home. All three letters are franked with 10¢ worth of stamps paying single letter rate to U.S. Two letters (top and bottom above) written in 1864 from same young man, residing in Brantford, C.W., and doing farm work to earn a living. In his letters 9 (to NY) he talks about other **skedaddlers** (Civil War term for deserters) that he has met in Canada. He talks about missing Allegany Co. and his friends but knows that he is still subject to draft if he returns. Middle letter (at left to PA) also contains a letter from deserter who expresses similar sentiments.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Canada/BNA to Confederacy

Tennessee

Most mail to/from Canada to Confederacy during CW was to Union-occupied locations.

Nesbitt 10¢ postal stationery cancelled with 4-Ring circular "36" postmark (Preston), transit on reverse dated SP 12 1862.

Lt. F.D. Callsen, c/o Brig. General Ross, Bolivar, Tenn.; Leonard Fulton Ross led volunteers at Siege of Corinth a fierce battle fought in Corinth, MS, April 29 to May 30, 1862.

Remarkable that it took only 4 days from Canada to Tennessee in 1862 while today such a letter may take much longer).



Tennessee



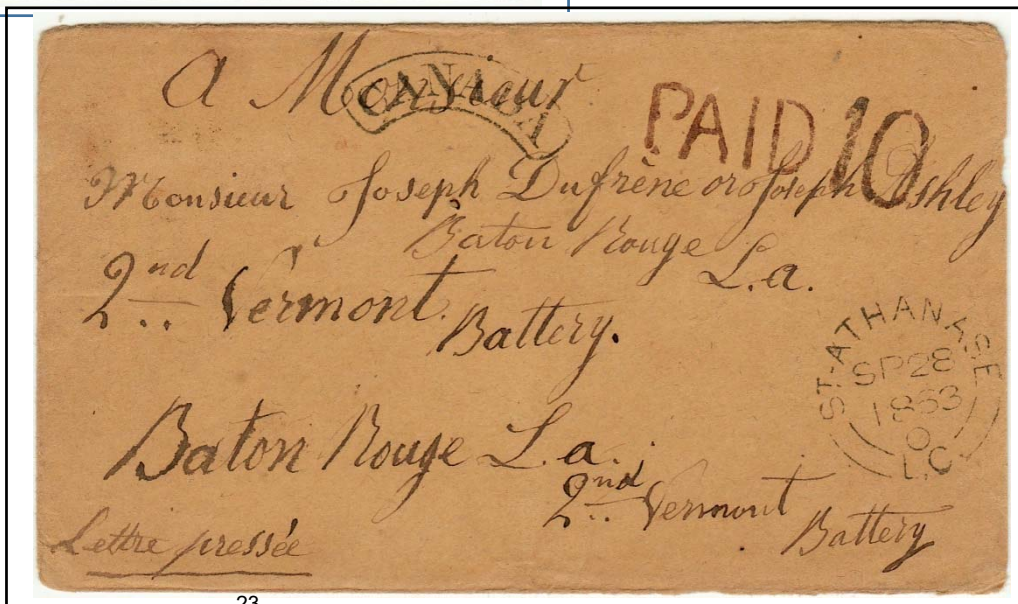
PAID handstamp indicates postage of 10¢ was prepaid in Canada.

Lt. Col. Lamborn commanded Anderson Cavalry (also known as 15th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry) whose job it was to do scouting, providing escorts & other duties for Army of Cumberland. They helped other mounted divisions but in 1863 were mostly assigned to tasks in occupied Tennessee.

Louisiana

From St. Johns, C.E. (Sep.23, 63, backstamped CDS) via Cairo, IL; Red "PAID 10" handstamp, framed arc "CANADA". Addressed to soldier in 2nd Vermont Battery, last days of "Received at Cairo" backstamp.

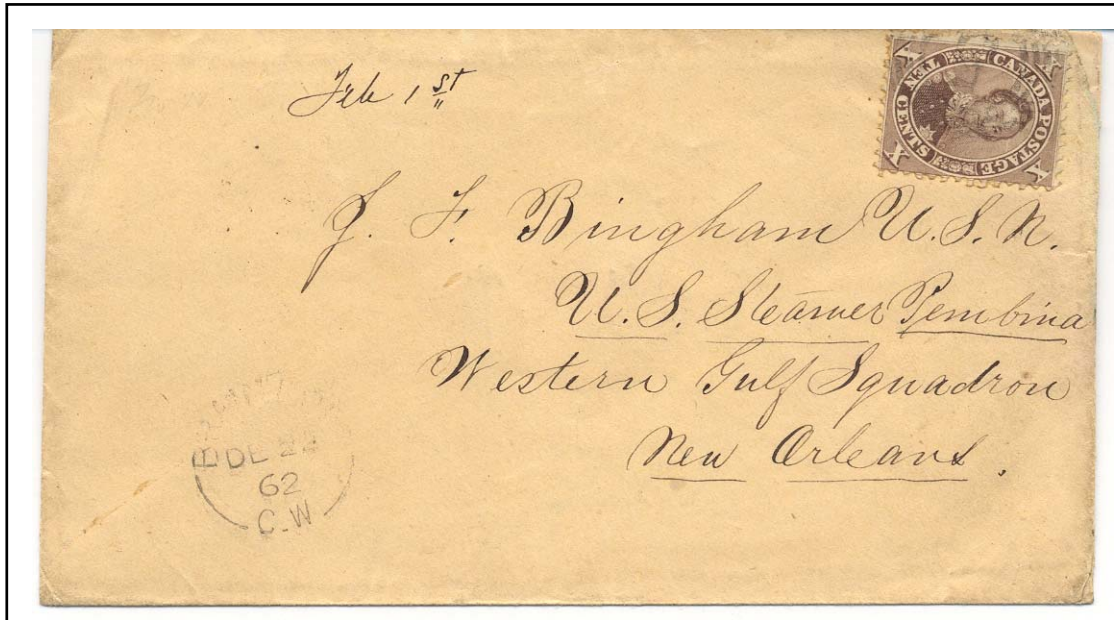
2nd Vermont Lt. Artillery Battery was at Port Hudson, Aug. 1863-1865 but had been to Baton Rouge in May 1863. It was at siege and surrender of Port Hudson July 9 (after Vicksburg fell July 4th).



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

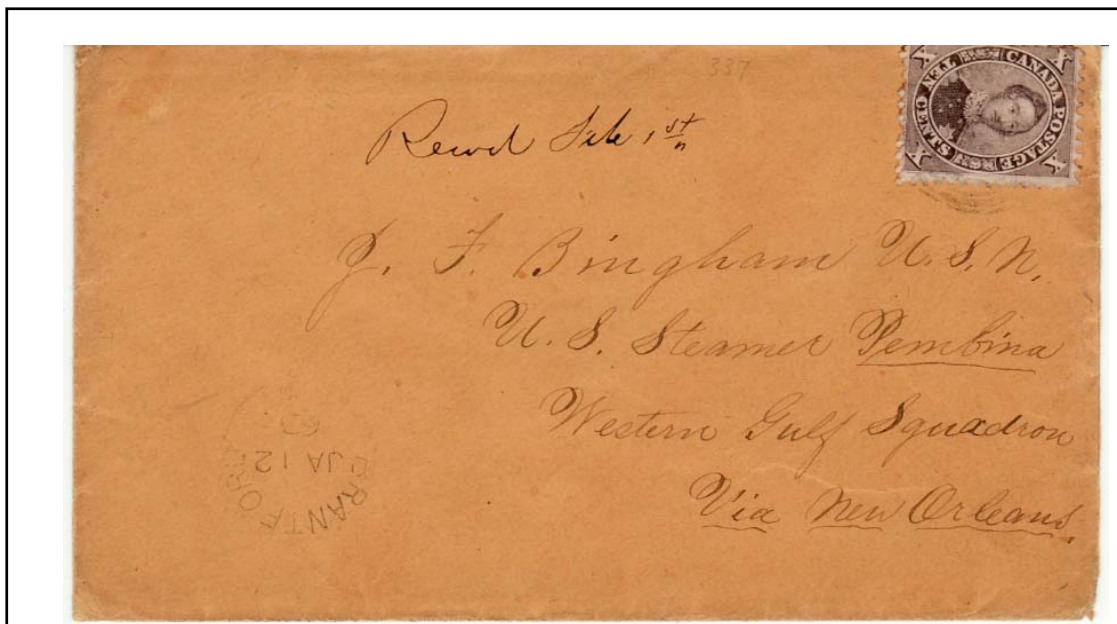
Military Mail Canada/BNA to Confederacy

To Sailor on Blockade Gunboat *USS Pembina* (New Orleans)



Two letters from Brantford, C.W. sent to Sailor. 10c Consort stamp pays letter single rate, tied with circular 4-ring "5" but sent 2 weeks apart.

The USS *Pembina* was on patrol so both letters were marked receipt on same day (Feb. 1, 1863) when *Pembina* called upon port of New Orleans.

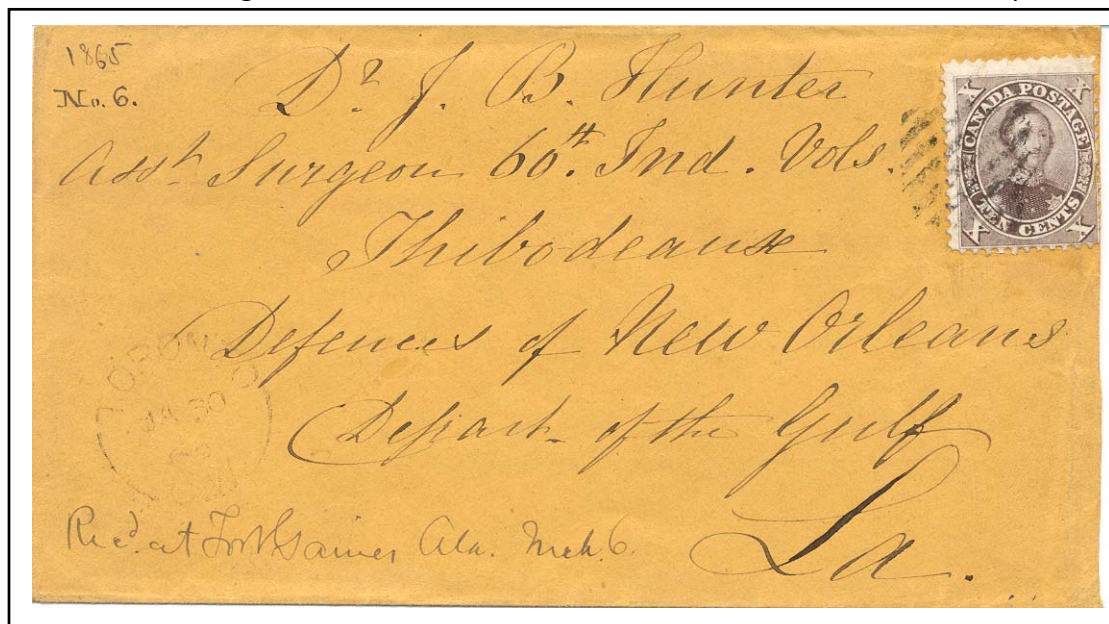


Canadian-born sailor J.F. Bingham joined Union Navy & assigned to Unadilla-class gunboat USS *Pembina*; *Pembina* was first assigned to South Atlantic Squadron patrolling Florida, So. Carolina, and Georgia waters; later assigned to West Gulf Squadron. New Orleans captured on May 1, 1862 and occupied for the rest of the CW so mail could be received there by a Union military post office; During CW, *Pembina* captured three blockade running ships; Bingham was ship engineer.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Canada/BNA to Confederacy (and Beyond)

Letters to Surgeon of 60th Indiana Volunteers as he Traveled with his Troops



Ft. Gaines, Alabama

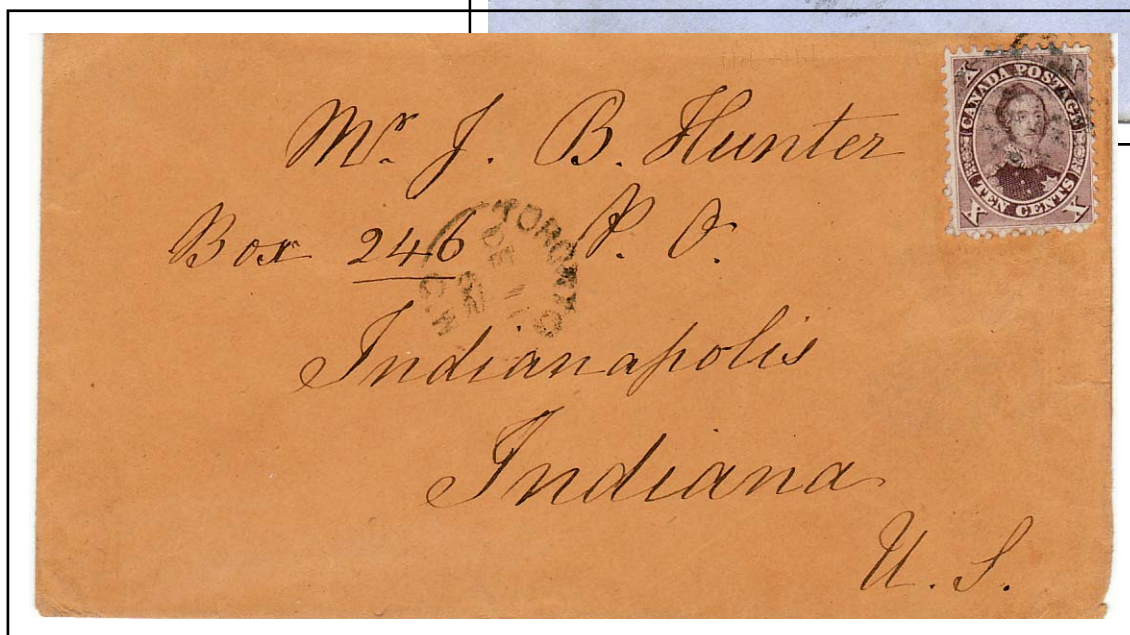
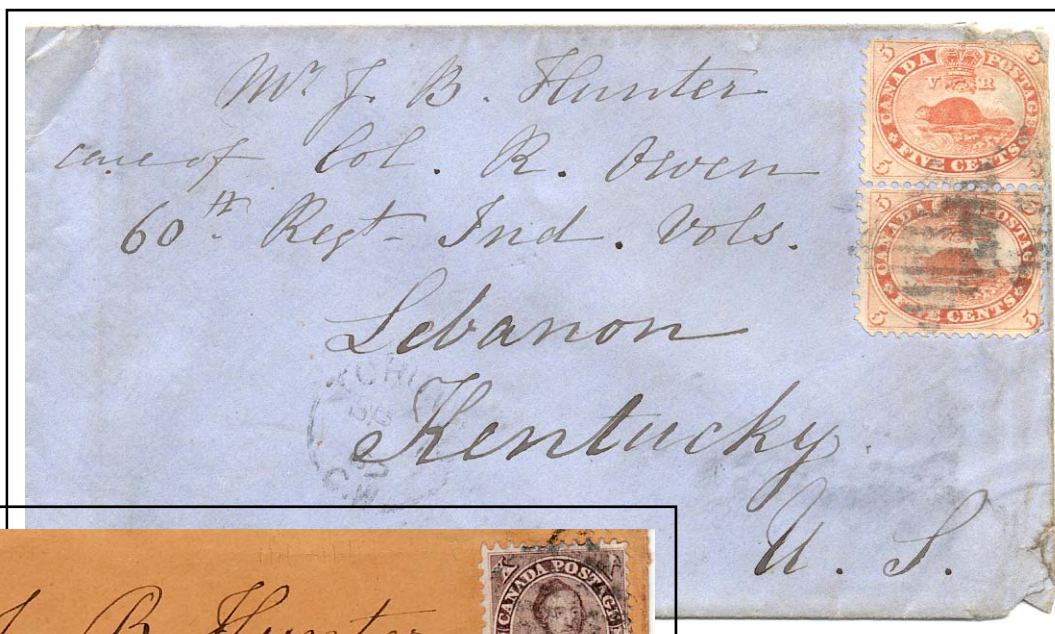
Posted: Jan. 30, 1862
Received: Mar. 6, 1862

All letters on page sent from Toronto; 10c postage to U.S. paid with Consort stamp (top and bottom) & two 5c Beavers. The doctor moved around with his unit during CW so his mail tried to keep up with him.

Lebanon, Kentucky

Posted: Sept. 1, 1862

60th Regt. Indiana Vols.
had moved from Alabama
over summer.



Indianapolis, Indiana

Posted: Dec. 11, 1862

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Canada/BNA to Confederacy (and Beyond)

Although war officially ended Aug. 30, 1865, in 1866, 40,000 Union troops still occupied Southern Cities and moved around*.

Letters to Doctor Serving in Army of Cumberland in Tennessee & Kentucky



Unclaimed Letter

All letters sent from Alexandria, C.W.; 10¢ postage to U.S. paid with Consort stamp (top and middle) and two 5¢ Beavers (bottom).

Letter undeliverable an advertisement [boxed ADVERTISED] was placed in local paper, a usual occurrence for an undeliverable letter nobody claimed letter [oval boxed: UNCLAIMED]; since there was no response and no return address, envelope was probably sent to local Dead Letter Office; stamp also tied by U.S. cancel

Forwarded Letter

Letter to same Tennessee; doctor relocated to Kentucky; letter forwarded, so recipient charged 3¢ due, U.S. rate for envelope less than ounce; stamp tied by U.S. circular cancel.

Clarksville, Tenn CDS dated Feb 13 (18)66 after the war ended.



Final Location

Stamps tied with 7-ring circular cancel.

Dated June 11 1866; doctor was now stationed in Bowling Green, KY after war ended.

*<https://www.encyclopedia.com/defense/energy-government-and-defense-magazines/occupation-south>

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail to Canada/BNA

Soldier's Letters

From 1861, letters by soldiers in service of US could be transmitted without pre-payment of postage to be paid by party receiving letter. Pre-payment of postage on ordinary (non-military) mail had been compulsory from 1 April 1855. To qualify for a soldier's letter privilege, letter had to be endorsed by a Commanding Officer. Since troops were often on move, it is sometimes difficult to establish location of origin of letter. Letters to Canada did not qualify for this special rate and recipient had to pay full 10¢ postage from US.

Rhode Island



Patriotic Soldier's Letter

In manuscript "Soldiers Letter"; countersigned by Lt. Edwards in charge; mailed from Portsmouth Grove, RI NOV 15 (1862) to Welland, CW; backstamp in red indistinguishable town, U.C. 1862. As was common for soldier's letters, no postage applied. DUE 3 was probably first applied but then at border in Lewiston, ME the oval straight line "U.S.10cts" (Boggs Type VIIb) in black indicated unpaid & recipient had to pay 10c postage from U.S. to Canada.

Soldier's letter's cachet shows two dogs one named "Scott" (bigger) and "Jeff" (smaller) with set of bones named "Washington" with statements "Why don't you take it" and "Yours for distinguished consideration, Uncle Sam"; obviously "Scott" referred to Union General Winfred Scott and "Jeff" referred to Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail to Canada/BNA

Illinois



Three cent Washington tied to 1861 military cover from Chicago to Quebec, C.E., Quebec backstamp JY 17/61; Short paid 10c (no credit for 3c stamp); traveled overland to Canada. Blue U.S. Exchange Office "U.STATES 10" arc (Boggs Type Villa. Via Detroit or Sault Dte. Marie, 1860.

Soldier in Camp Long (1 of 8 camps around Chicago); Illinois Volunteer Militia, 19th Regiment; mustered on June 17/1861 for outfitting and basic training as infantry regiment.

Missouri

1861 soldiers patriotic cover from Rolla, MO to Port Dover, Canada West, postmarked Rolla CDS with matching "Due" handstamp and manuscript "10" indicating postage due in Canada; Detroit, Mich/10" exchange office CDS, two different Canadian backstamps including Paris, U.C., D.P.O., as required endorsed G.A. Smith, 35th Regiment. Illinois Volunteers.



Patriotic Soldier's Letter

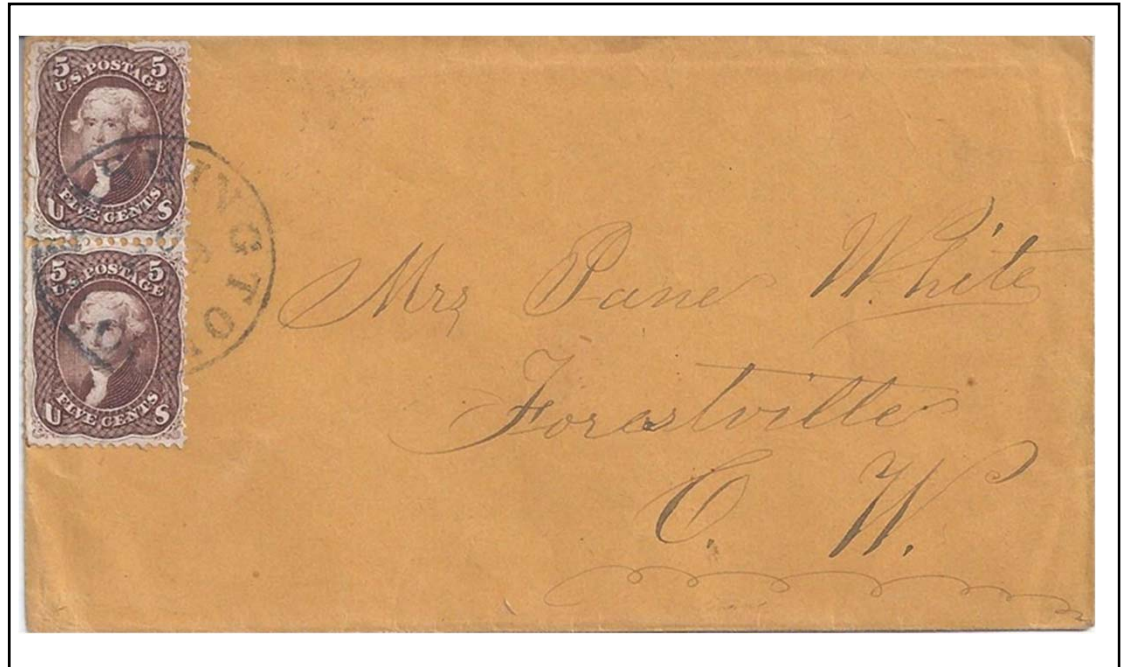
Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Confederacy to Canada/BNA

Camp Near Culpeper, VA

Pair 5c Brown Jeffersons tied
"Washington D.C. Oct. 1?"
CDS; enclosed letter
datelined "Camp Near
Culpeper Va. Oct. 8th 1863",
Army of Potomac soldier to
mother, transit and
receiving backstamps.

Culpeper was a focal point of war due
to location between Washington and
Richmond, permanent Union
occupation in late 1863, shortly after
this letter was sent.



Camp Clara, VA



Canadian soldier (Fred Peterson) at
Camp Clara, VA, postmarked
Alexandria, VA, dated Feb 1 1862,
handstamp "Due 10"; two line
"UNITED STATES 6" (Boggs IVb, for
unpaid letters) in black.

Peterson serving in 27th Regt; enclosed letter to
brother, receiver on reverse FE 4 62, talks about
Gen. McCellan inspecting camp, Ft. McHenry
surrender, contains a twig from General HQ,
sold hand gun cause it was too heavy.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Military Mail Confederacy to Canada/BNA

Mississippi (Vicksburg)

Soldier's Letters



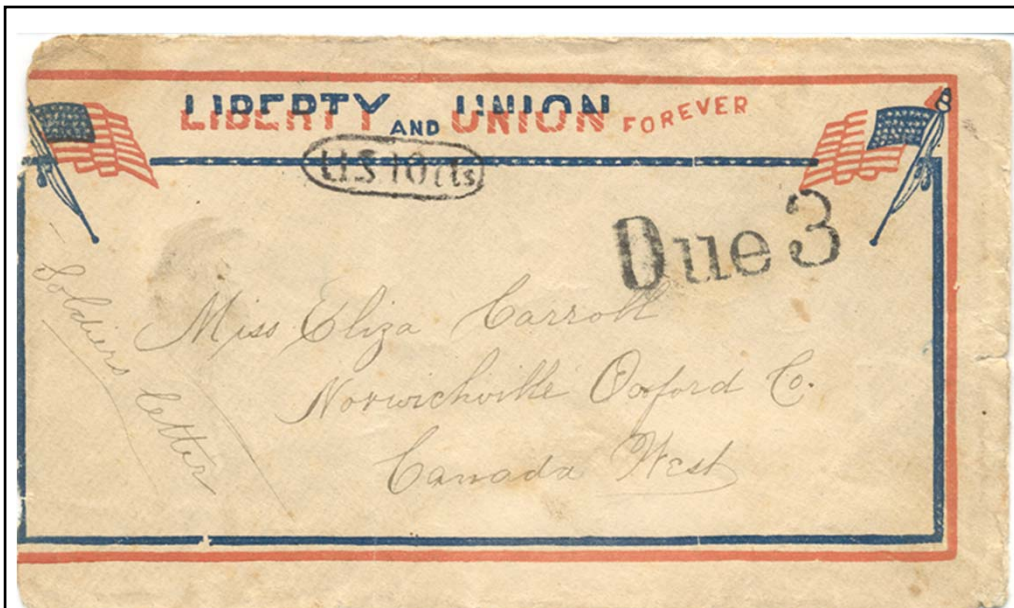
Three ovaled ("10") US due markings & one (Boggs Type H119) Canada indicating 10¢ rate; "Due 3" crossed out since 3¢ was for U.S. destinations; Vicksburg double circle CDS; transit backstamp London, U.C., JY 9, 1864, receiver Goderich, U.C. JUL 11, 1864 & RPO marking GWR East, JY 9, 64; soldier's letter countersigned Lt. Col. James Stockton, 72nd Reg, IL Infantry. Vicksburg Siege, Union Army defeated Confederates & gained control of Mississippi River; letter to parents Goderich, C.W by Canadian soldier of 72nd Regiment Illinois Infantry who were on guard duty.

Virginia

"Due 3" indicated posted by soldier in Union Army. Manuscript "10" and "U STATES 10cts" arc indicated payment by recipient. No indication of mailing location or date, letter arrived in Morpeth, U.C. JU 18 1863; also Chatham, U.C. transit on back; endorsed Capt. E.B. Wight Army of Potomac, 24th Michigan Volunteers (famous Iron Brigade). 24th Michigan was in Virginia enroute to Gettysburg for showdown so undoubtedly letter sent from there.



Unknown Origin



To Norwich, CW April, 1865; in manuscript "Soldiers Letter" but not countersigned; "Due 3" applied for internal unfranked mail; oval "US 10 cts" ("Unpaid" Boggs straight line Type VIIb) rate to Canada; backstamps double split-ring Hamilton UC AP 10 1865, Woodstock, UC AP 11 1865 transits and Norwich, UC AP 11 1865 receiver.

Patriotic Soldier's Letter

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Introduction

From earliest days of CW, designs appeared on envelopes publicly sold that expressed various sentiments of patriotism and/or negative caricatures-like opinions of enemy, or some other related subject. This type of postal expression had never been used to any extent prior to CW. Patriotic themes on envelopes were used sparingly prior to 1861 usually in connection with political campaigns but limited in scope & intent.

Users of patriotic-theme envelopes could, depending on design one chose to mail, express a wide variety of sentiments which appealed to average citizens during this turbulent period. Practice spread widely & quickly, creating demand. Many publishers entered into growing field. At least 200 companies, mostly based in North. Over 7500 different designs were reported (Bischel Sale, Nutmeg Stamp Auctions, June, 2000). Patriotics became a “hot” collecting area, even during CW. A few patriotic envelopes were carried across border and used in Canada & sent domestically, cross border and to overseas destinations. Only the cross border patriotics will be shown here.

Examples will be shown with Union patriotic cachets sent from/to Canada to/from U.S., only, There are **no reported Confederate patriotics to/from Canada during CW** (ref. private communications with Confederate experts: Trish Kauffman, Brian Green and John L. Kimbrough).

Colorful patriotic covers, used by civilians and military alike, were used to show sentiment during CW. They were sold in kits for soldiers in field and in stationery stores in North. Some envelopes were carried cross border and mailed back to the Union—very difficult to find.

Only recorded registered patriotic cover used in Canada & sent cross border.



Cover depicts Our Lady of Victory holding a flag riding an eagle with banner; franked with 10c Consort, rate for ½ oz regular unregistered letters from Canada to US (except California and Oregon); straightline REGISTERED in black indicates that 5c registration fee was paid in cash, common at the time; red “Canada PAID 10c” tying stamp; lithographed by Union Stationary, New York; cover from Magog U.C., mailed on April 10, 1862, two RPO and one indistinguishable city transit backstamps.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Theme: Flags, Eagles, Globes and Shields

Note: Remainder of patriotic covers shown are Union cachets

Sent from Petrolia, C.W. 4 OC 1861. PAID 10 in black indicates postage was paid by sender. Sarnia and G.W.R. West transit handstamps on back.

Ex-Brigham.

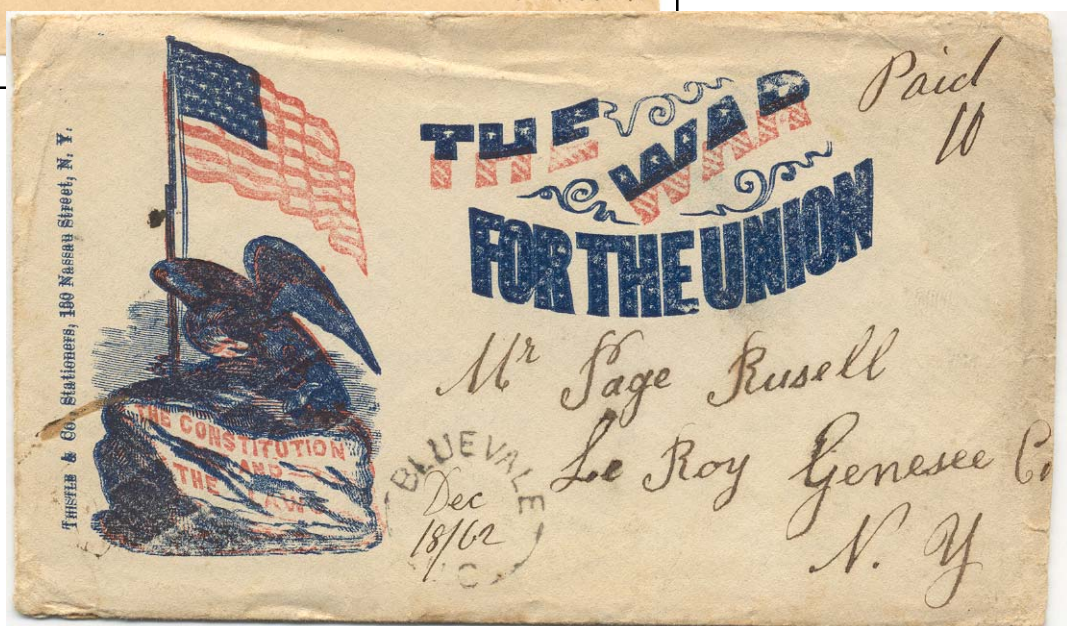


10¢ cross-border rate paid with two 5¢ Beavers, both tied by Montreal duplex cancellations.

Blueville, CW CDS with manuscript date December 18, 1862 sent to LeRoy, NY; "Paid 10" in m/s, transit back stamps Morrisbank, UC and Seaforth, CW.

Depicts an eagle and flag on rock with "Constitution and Laws" written across and "The War for the Union" in top center, Lithographed by Thistle & Co. Stationers, Nassau St., NY;

Ex-Steinhart.



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Theme: Crossed Flags, Eagles, Swords and Bayonets



“Circle 10” postmark, US corner envelope with upper banner having Phillip’s 64 and design with eagle/crossed flags/swords/bayonets with Latin expression “Non Nobis Sed Patria” (Not for ourselves but for our country) in banner below; Ex-Brigham.



Same correspondence, reinforced “10” in circle indicates payment by recipient; letter to Whitinsville, Mass. Phillips 64 with U.S. flags in shield, black and white patriotic, Lennoxville, C.E. two ring, CDS.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Theme: Various Designs of Flags

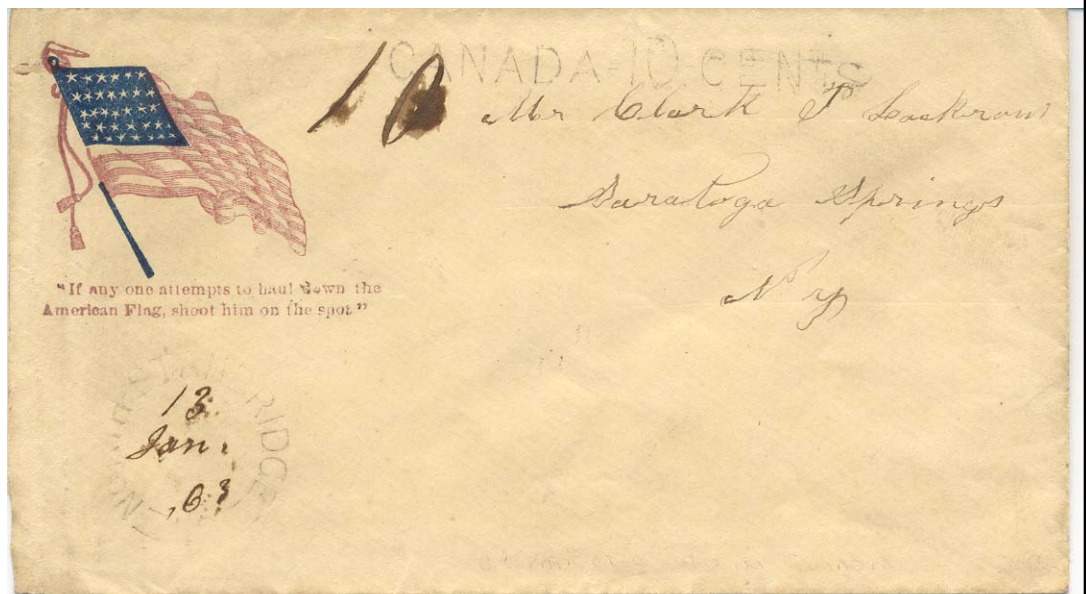


From Morven, CW with double ring CDS in blue date (February 13, '64) in manuscript (small Post Office) to Mayfield Corner, NY.; **PAID** handstamp in blue and manuscript "10".

Flag (facing right) with a circular star design on stampless cover.

From No. Stanbridge, LC to Saratoga Springs, NY (posted January 13, 1863). "10" in manuscript & **CANADA-10-CENTS** handstamp indicates postage prepaid.

35-star Union flag design with threatening slogan "If any one attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot".



10c Consort franks cover sent from Toronto, CW (tied with grid cancel) to Blackstone, MA March 3, 1862.

Union flags were a common design but this one shows stars arranged in a short-lived star configuration (Great Star Flag) with a slogan **"THE UNION: IT MUST BE PRESERVED"**;

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Theme: Various Designs of Flags



Cover posted in Jerseyville, UC on May 8, 1862 (m/s "10" which dictates that recipient pays the postage) to Rushford, NY.

Military **regimental patriotic covers** were available; here a flag design with **14th Regt. N.Y.S.M** (Regiment New York State Militia) printed parallel to stripes and slogan "**Stand by the Flag**" above; lithographed by J. Sage & Sons, Buffalo, NY.



Postage pre-paid—handstamp Boggs Type 48b "PAID 6d" in red, normally used in pence period; 6d is equivalent to 10c during decimal period. letter mailed in Whitby, CW on September 8, 1862 to Utica, NY;

Patriotic cachet depicts flying eagle holding 34-star flag in its beak. Ex-Siverts.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Themes: Lady Columbia, Flags, Spears and Swords



Cover mailed NOV 8 '61 postage paid with two 5c Beavers tied together with Toronto grid cancels; to Utica, NY.

Caricature of Lady Columbia 2 children sleeping with Union Flag blanket, God watching over them with soldiers from Union & Confederacy fighting above them; slogans "God watches over them", "As it is", and "As it will be".



From Ruthven, CW on October 12, 1865 (albino CDS) to Shullsburg, WI with "Paid 10" in manuscript.

Stampless patriotic cover featuring Standing Columbia with flag and inscription "Columbia guards our star-gemmed flag".

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Satirical Cover of Jefferson Davis, Confederate President



Richmond Hill, CW on March 26, 1862 to Northampton, MA; **very faint “10” in black manuscript at lower right near bottom**, thus recipient pays postage; only copy of this cachet known (Bischel collection).

Satirical “Monument to the memory of Jeff. Davis” showing skull pyramid with skeleton at top wearing Confederate uniform holding a sword and with Confederate flag protruding from hat;

Ex-Bischel.

Battle Scene Union Calvary Chasing Confederates

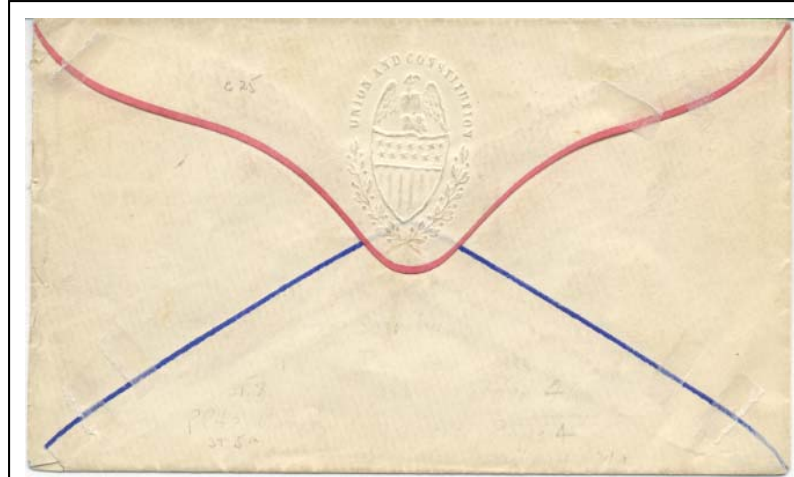


From Gosfield, CW to Put-in-Bay, OH; faint PAID handstamp followed by “10” in manuscript for postage of less than ½ oz weight.

Battle scene patriotic cachet with Union calvary chasing “rebs” with battle flags, cannons, horses, swords, etc. depicted. Letter sent to Solomon Melvin Coles, an Afro-American educator and minister one of first black graduates of Yale Divinity school. Put-in-Bay is located on a tiny island in Lake Erie.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States



Both covers have
this patriotic design
on back
(reduced in size by
approx. 25%)

Patriotic design on
back: red & blue border
with embossed eagle
and shield on flap.



Toronto, CW to Chicago one cover franked with 10¢ Consort tied with Toronto obliterator cancel (Boggs Type e) and other with two 5¢ Beavers tied with Toronto Scarifying Obliterator (Boggs Type f).

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

Theme: Fremont Campaign Covers

Campaign covers are considered as patriotic covers since politics were interwoven with patriotic fervor of day. J.C. Fremont was presidential candidate for the Radical Democracy Party nomination in 1864 but withdrew before election. He also ran for President as Democrat in 1856 election.



Handstamp **PAID**, manuscript "10", small manuscript "paid", "**CANADA**" in arc exchange office marking; from St. Alexandre, LC on December 5, 1861. ex-Steinhart.

West Brome, CE October 6. 1863 to Manchester, NH; rated manuscript '**10**' prepaying 10¢ postage to US for ½ oz and under.



Smaller Fremont campaign cover; handstamp "**PAID 10**" in manuscript; PAID "5" crossed out; from West Brome, LC on September 30, 1863 to Manchester, NH; two transit backstamps.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Canada to Union States

US Consulate Covers

US Consulate General, British No. American Province covers were considered as patriotic covers in book *Collecting Canada Covers* (E.A. Richardson, American Philatelic Society, 1978)



Two 5c Beavers pays letter rate to US.; tied with Montreal duplex; posted January 25, 1862 to Gallipolis, OH.

Illustrated US Consulate General, British No. American Provinces, Montreal cover with Eagle and Shield Design in UL corner; one of three documented covers of this design;; non-removable ink spot on lower right.

Manuscript "10" in black means sent unpaid with postage collected from recipient. Montreal, CE on July 26 1864 to Washington, D.C.. U.S. Dept. of Interior receiver dated July 29 1864.

Ex-Brigham



Rated "10" (cents) in manuscript to be collected upon receipt; Montreal 29 OC 1863 to Vermont,



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers BNA to Union States

Only five documented US Civil War Patriotic Covers from British No. America (Nova Scotia and New Brunswick only) to U.S.

All are shown in this exhibit



Red circled "**PAID 10**" postage from Nova Scotia to US; two readable transit double circle back stamps: Pictou, NS AU 5, 1861 and Amherst NS AU 7, 1861; "Our Country" red imprint below red and blue seated Columbia with flag and eagle on cover franked with tied 10c vermillion Queen Victoria and indistinct CDS on bottom right sent to East Harwich, MA; cover repaired at lower left.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers BNA to Union States From Nova Scotia



Red circled **"PAID 10"**; origin unknown cover sent to Kendall Mills, NY; three transit back stamps: Port Mulgrave, NS JU 17 '62; Antigonish, NS JU 18, 1862; and Amherst, NS JU 20, 1862; manuscript cancel on 10c Vermillion Queen Victoria.

Red, white and blue design depicting young soldier with flag and four line verse below with reference to slavery; Fisher, Rochester imprint; **Ex-Richardson**.



Red circled **"PAID 10"** and **"ADVERTISED"**; 10c vermilion Queen Victoria stamp tied oval cancellation; origin unknown cover to Hartford, CT; two transit backstamps: Truro, NS SP 1, 1862 and Amherst, NS SP 5, 1862.

Patriotic design depicts soldier with rifle with bayonet standing next to a flag in a camp setting with the US Capitol building in the background; **Ex-Richardson**, shown in Ref. 1, page 72, cover repaired at bottom left.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers BNA to Union States

From New Brunswick



Undated rimless circle CDS "W.O. Lower Cloverdale, NB PAID" and matching "**PAID/10/CENTS**" (Type 30, Robson Lowe, Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, No. America) in circle; to New York, NY; backstamps with "P.O. Salisbury, NB FE 1, 1865" and "Saint John, NB FE 1 1865". Ex-Steinhart.



Posted from unknown origin to Brunswick, ME; red circular "**PAID/10/CENTS**" NB handstamp similar to above; back stamps "St. Stephen, NB SP 27, 1861" and "St. George, NB SP 26, (1861)".

Design has eagle, shield, two different style Union flags, standing soldier with sword, at base dates of April 19, 1775 (First battle of Revolutionary War) and April 19, 1861 (First skirmish between Union and Confederate troops in Baltimore).

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Here, patriotic covers to Canada are arranged first according to destination:

- a. Sent to pre-Confederation Canada (CW, CE, LC and UC)
- b. Sent to BNA (Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island & New Brunswick)

and then by subject (e.g. flags, military heroes, standing soldiers, etc.). Special highlights will be called out in cover caption. Union patriotic covers sent to Canada during CW are found more often than those used in Canada.

Union CW patriotic covers sent to Canada are not as difficult to find as those used in Canada. A wide selection of patriotic themes are shown here.

Themes: Flags and Eagles



Fulton, IL on Feb 24, 1862 (although not all US CDS markings identify date of posting) to Strathburn, CW; 10¢ rate to Canada during Civil War period; a faint U States **PAID** handstamp shows postage was prepaid; two Canadian transit backstamps.

Multicolored Patriotic with slogan "Onward to Victory" depicting Lady of Victory holding a 35-star flag riding an eagle.

Huron City, MI CDS (an exchange office) in 1863 as evidenced by 3 transit handstamps on reverse: RPO (JY 15, '63); London, UC (JY 15); Sarnia (JY 14) CDS, a straight line "U.States 6d" (Boggs A Type 1) applied in US shows payment, although handstamp dates back to pence era.

Flag and eagle design sent on July 9, 1863 to Limehouse, CW; although date not depicted on front,



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Flags



Single flag design mailed from Rolling Prairie, IN to Jordan, CW on May 28 (1861); stampless manuscript “Unpaid 10”, along with “DETROIT Mich 10” handstamp indicating that postage was to be paid by recipient; stampless covers were as common in US during CW period as they were in Canada; 2 RPO and Hamilton “MY 31, 1861” transit handstamps and Jordan, C.W. receiver on reverse of cover.



Stampless flag design with verse beneath sent from unknown IL city on JU 1 to Mapleton, CW; “10 cts” in manuscript indicating payment as does “**U.STATES 10**” exchange office arc (Boggs Type VIIIa, Detroit); two Elgin Co. transit handstamps on reverse.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Flags (continued)



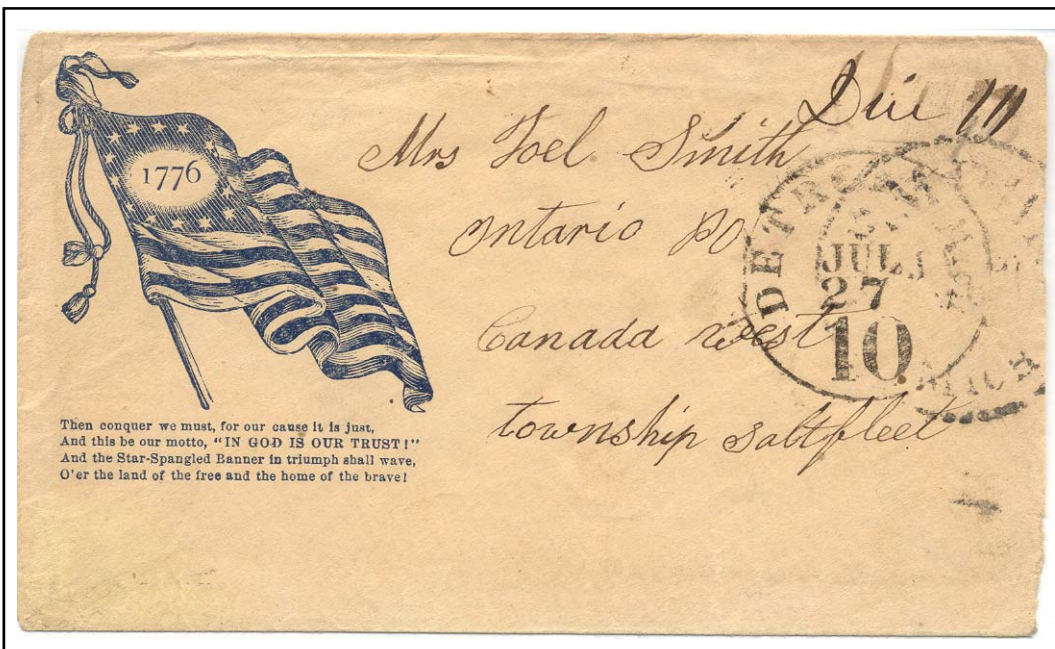
Buffalo, NY on May 27, 1861 to Hamilton, CW; 10¢ rate paid with strip of three 3¢ Washington dull red and single Franklin blue tied together with grid cancels; backstamps include G.W.R. East RPO and Hamilton receiver both dated MY 28, '61.

Red, white and blue flag design with accompanying verse "If Any One Attempts to Haul Down the American Flag, Shoot Him on the Spot" John A. Dix

Niles, MI on Oct. 29, 1862; 10¢ Washington circular grid cancel to Chatham, UC; one transit backstamp Windsor and Chatham receiver backstamp.



Single Union flag design facing left; flag has ingrained gold "sparkles"; and slogan "Always Loyal" underneath flag.



Detroit JUL 27 (1861) to Ontario PO, CW (Township Saltfleet); "Due 10" in manuscript; RPO and Hamilton transit handstamps on reverse.

Blue flag design and verse.

Ex-Steinhart.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Standing Soldier with Flag Design

West Point, IA (two CDS) to Addison, CW on Oct 9 (1863); "U. STATES 10 PAID" (Boggs C. Circular Type IXb used at Port Huron, MI) exchange, RPO "OC 12 '63) and Yorkville "OC 13, 1863" transit stamps and Addison receiver "OC 13",

Ex-Steinhart.



From Boston with red CDS "MY 3 (1861)" to Prescott, CW; franked with Washington 10c; red "U.States" straight line cancel (Boggs Type 1); Prescott double ring receiver "MY 4 1861" on front.

To Port Colbourne, CW and Fonthill, CW both on JUL 30, 1861—same day delivery!

Design depicts soldier with rifle with bayonet standing next to a flag in a camp setting with US Capitol building in the background.



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

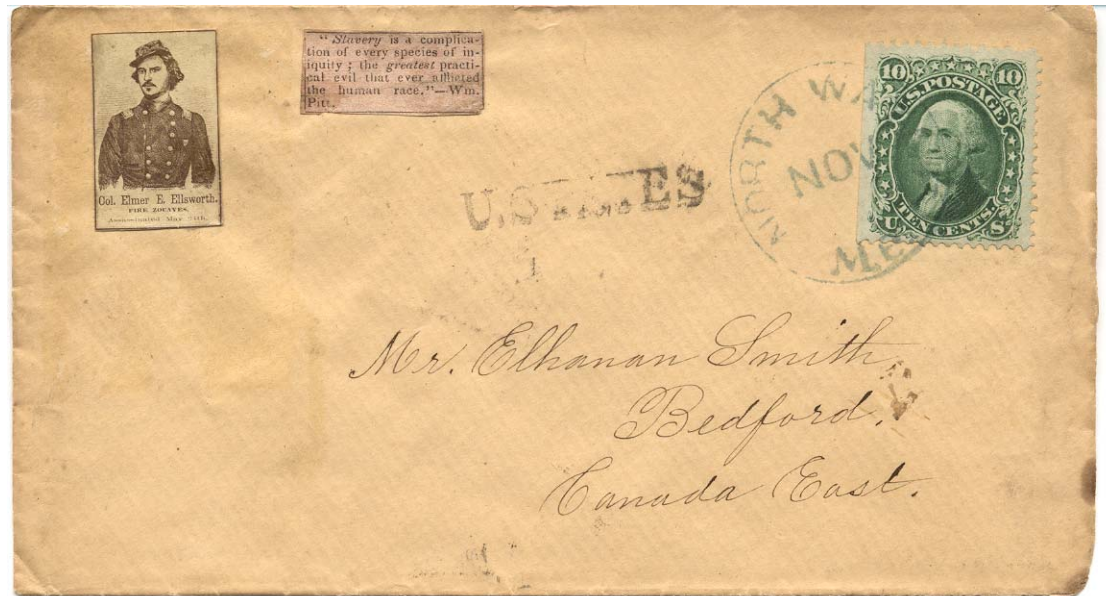
Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Various Designs

Ellsworth Homemade Patriotic

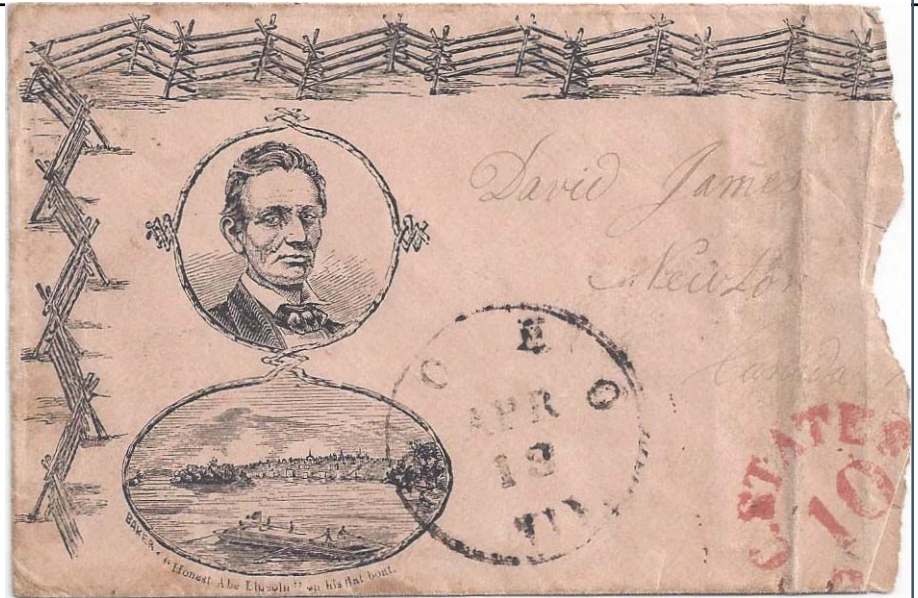
North Wayne, ME to Bedford, CE, NOV (1861); straight line "U.States" exchange marking (Boggs Type 1); back transit handstamps Island Pond, VT (Nov 19), Montreal, CE (NO 20 '61), Bedford, CE (NO 21 '61).

Handmade patriotic paste up showing Elmer E. Ellsworth, pictured in Fire Zouaves uniform with "Assassinated May 24th" at bottom; small label "Slavery is a complication of every species of iniquity; the greatest practical evil that ever afflicted the human race"—Wm. Pitt;



Lincoln Design

Lincoln designs were very much in favor. This design has not been reported in Bischel or Walcott catalogs. Cover sent from Cicero, IL to Newton-Brook [red receiver on reverse data AP 16 (18)64].; P.O. one-year old; partial oval "USTATES 10" on front of cover indicates 10¢ prepaid for ½ oz or less to Canada.



Shield Design



Illinois (unknown origin) dated SP 18 (1862) to Mapleton, CW; red circular "U.STATES/10/PAID" exchange marking (Boggs Circular Type IXb); unique mixed shades of 5¢ Jeffersons: olive yellow and red brown) to pay 10¢ rate to Canada; back handstamp Orwell UC "SP 22, 1862" transit.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

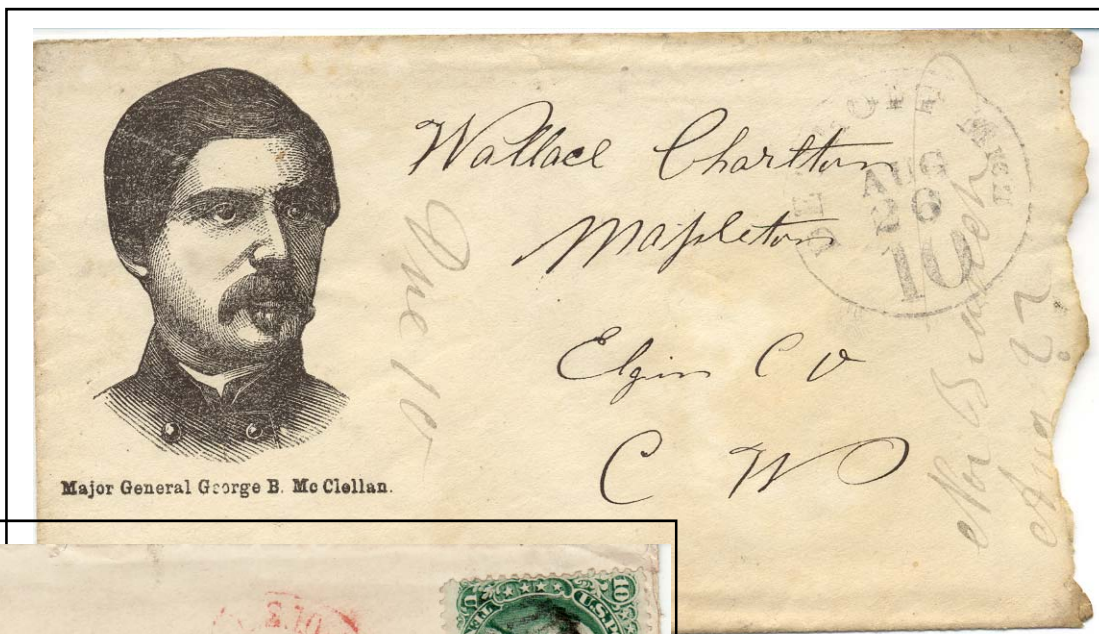
Theme: General McClellan



Mailed in 1863 to Demorestville, CW (Sophiasburgh Township); 10¢ Washington pays correct postage; backstamped with RPO and Demorestville, CW receiver.

Small blue star with McClellan portrait and surrounded by red ribbon with slogan "The Star of Liberty".

Detroit, MI AUG 26 (1862) with "10" in circular cancel & manuscript "Due 10" indicates payment required in Mapleton, CW; on reverse transit handstamps London, St. Thomas, and Orwell.



Renselaer Falls, NY on APR 10 (1865) to Aylmer, CW; 10¢ yellow green Washington pays rate, red "U.S. 10cts PAID" exchange marking (Boggs C Oval Type IXa-I used in 1865); back stamped London, UC "AP 12 1865" transit and Alymer, UC "AP 12 1865" receiver.

Embossed cover depicting Gen. McClellan carrying a waving Union flag with inscription below picture "Commander of the Federal Forces on the Potomac";

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Standing Lady Liberty



To Richmond Hill, CW May 7 (1863); double split ring Richmond Hill receiver on reverse dated May 9, 1863; 10¢ Washington pays letter rate.

Lady Liberty and Union flag multicolored patriotic with cracked globe beneath her feet.

Florid (Putnam City), IL to Richview, CW; stamp tied with red exchange marking "U.STATES/10/PAID" (Boggs Circular Type IXb used in Port Huron, MI exchange office); Paris RPO, SP 11 '61.



Montpelier, VT to St. Cesaire, "Distrite de Montreal" Quebec, Canada, postmarked Oct 16, 1861. Montpelier CDS with handstamped (due) "10", St. Johns exchange office CDS next day, illegible Canadian backstamp.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Standing Lady Liberty (continued)

Manuscript "10" for postage to
Canada, Washington, DC
To Welland, CW June 13, 1862.



"Unpaid 10" in
manuscript; blue arc-
exchange handstamp
"U.S. STATES 10" (Boggs
IIa, Buffalo), b/s MR 4
'62.



"Due 10 cts" in
manuscript, from
Delavan, IL, AU 7 (1861)
to Ontario, CW;
"U.S. STATES 10" blue arc-
exchange handstamp
(Boggs IIa, Buffalo), RPO
backstamp "G.W.R. East
AU 21, '61".



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

From Kansas

Theme: Flags and Anti-Successionist



Wyandotte, KS to Amherstburg, CW on NOV 27 (1865); 10¢ Washington tied with grid cancel; two backstamps: blue Amherstburg, "DE 2 1865" receiver and Windsor, UC "DE 2 1865" transit.

Dual patriotic themes: waving flag with verse below "The star-spangled banner..." and man strangling "successionist" snake with slogan "Or any other man" and "That's What's the matter" ; cover with natural paper fold mailed.

Ex-Vincent G. Greene



Wyandotte, KS dated NOV 13 (1865) to Amherstburg, UC; 10¢ Washington with grid cancel; Amherstburg, UC double circle receiver in blue on reverse.

Standing soldier with sabre holding Union flag standing on Confederate flag on ground (W-2096var); cover from same correspondence as above.

Ex-Vincent G. Greene

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Flag and Smoking Cannon Design



Brea, OH to Port Whitby, CW on MY 27 (186_); "Paid 10¢" in manuscript; backstamp receiver in blue Whitby, CW, May 28 (186_); difficult to read year dater.

Stampless cover with design with "Death to Traitors" slogan below; note "X" drawn over Union flag..



To Wyoming, CW; 10¢ Washington tied with Buffalo CDS and grid cancel; backstamps: London, U.C. "JU 11 '61", GWR West Sarnia Branch RPO "JU 12 '61" transits and Wyoming, CW "JU 12 '61" receiver.

Cover with design with "Our Compromise" slogan below.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Flags, Ships, Eagles Plus



To Smith Falls, CW on APR 6 (1863); 10¢ Washington with "PAID" in black on face; by way of Ogdensburg, backstamps include Smith Falls, AP 10, 1863 receiver.

Flags, Cannons and Cannon Balls and 3-Mast Sailing Ship with slogan "Our Army and Navy Forever!" and "Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue!"

To Smith Falls, CW, matches cover above, same correspondence, sent on Sept. 21, 1863 with Ogdensburg, NY transit CDS, Sept. 23. Smith Falls arrival backstamp on Sept. 23; 10¢ postage for cross border rate to Canada.



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Patriotic Design on Reverse



Buffalo, NY to Hamilton, postmarked Dec. 20, 1861; 10¢ Washington pays single letter rate to Canada. on back receiving mark "Hamilton U.C. Dec 21, 1861".

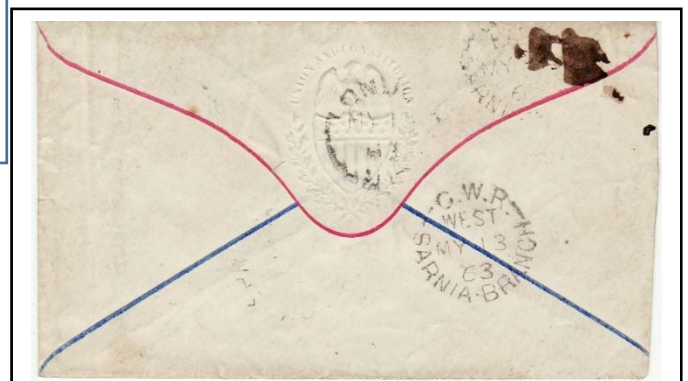
Patriotic design on back, red/blue border and embossed Union emblem, pmk Dec 20, 1861 and on back receiving mark "Hamilton U.C. Dec 21, 1861.

Reduced reverse of above cover (25% reduction)



Pair of 10¢ Washingtons pays double letter rate KY to CW; Posted in May 1863; patriotic design same as top cover.; two transit backstamps.

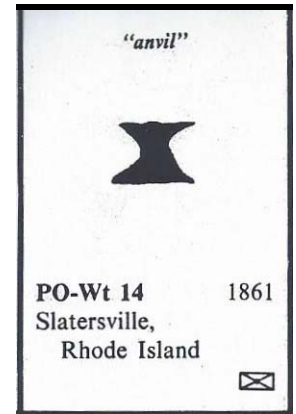
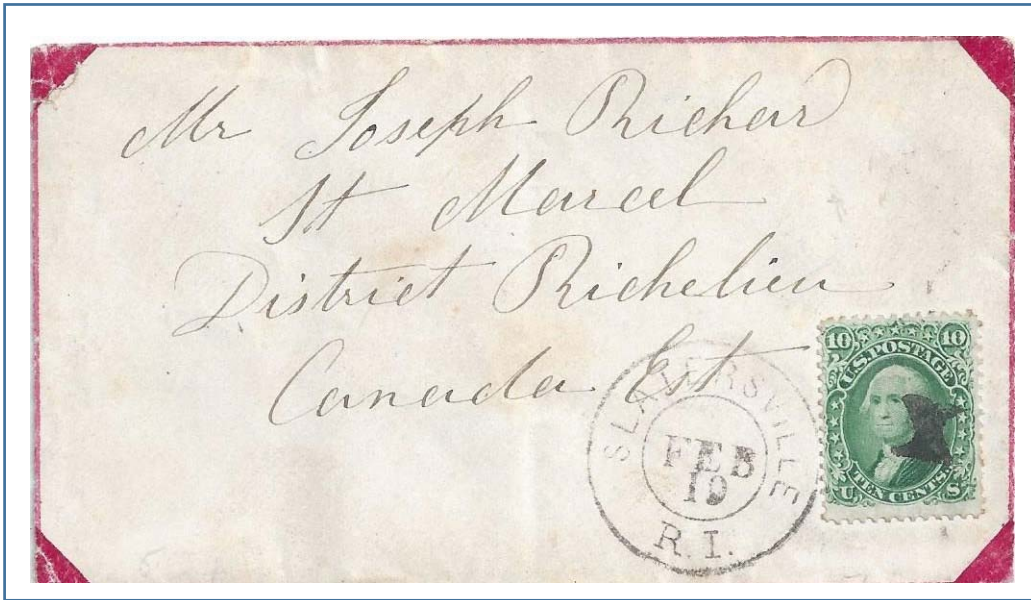
Reduced reverse of above cover (25% reduction)



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to Canada

Theme: Patriotic Design Front and Back



Fancy Cancel
Anvil

Reverse side with
red borders
(reduced by 25%)



Theme: Battle Scene

Michigan to Banesford,
Northumberland Co., CW on
JAN 16 (1863); franked with
three 3c Washington stamps
and one 1c Franklin paying 10¢
rate cross border; red
“**U.STATES/10/PAID**” (Boggs
Circular Type Ixb, Port Huron,
MI, 1863).

Black and white patriotic with flags,
drums, trumpets, eagle, bugles (partially
covered by stamps) and slogan “No terms
except an unconditional and immediate
surrender can be accepted”—Gen. Grant;



Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union to BNA

To Nova Scotia



Much forwarded cover from Boston to (original destination unreadable and crossed out) Cornwallis, NS, then **Berwick, NS**; underpaid with 3c Washington tied with Boston CDS dated JUL 31 (1861); unfortunately letter was "**HELD FOR POSTAGE**" in faint tiny double arc handstamp (Type PM-SM 1 from "U.S. Cancellations 1845-1869" by H. Skinner and A. Enore), finally 10¢ postage was paid as evidenced by "BOSTON AUG 1, 1861 (inverted date) 10 cts" which tied stamp; double split-ring "Sandy Cove AU 10 1861" arrival handstamp on front; backstamps Halifax, 5 AUG, Kentville 14 AUG, and Berwick 15 AUG.



Unknown origin sent to Mainadieu, **Cape Breton**, NS; three 3¢ Washington dull red and one Franklin blue with 4-ring circular cancels; oval "**U.S. 10 cts PAID**" handstamp (Boggs Type IX-II 1862); backstamps: St. John, NB "FE 8 1864"; Amherst, NS "8 FE 1864"; Antigonish, NS "FE 13, 1864"; Sydney, CB "FE 13, 1864".

Eagle carrying Union flag with torn Confederate flag/broken flagstaff, sailing ship in background; "Doom of the Traitors Flag" slogan;

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union States to BNA

To Nova Scotia



Posted JUL 15, 1861 from Hall River, Mass. to **Pictou, NS**; 10¢ Washington pays single letter rate, "**U. States Paid**" handstamp, manuscript "Answered Oct 7 1861"; three backstamps: "Amherst 18 July", "Truro, N.S., JY 19 1861" and "Pictou, N.S. JY 20 1861" receiver.

To Prince Edward Island (PEI)



Washington, D.C to **Charlottetown, PEI**, posted on Apr 20 1862; franked with four tied copies of 3c Washington which represented a 2c overpayment; likely sender didn't have a 1c stamp to pay correct rate; PEI receiver on reverse dated May 2 1862.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Patriotic Covers Union States to BNA

To New Brunswick



Haverhill, MA on JUN10 (1861) to St. John, NB via Portland; franked with 10¢ Washington tied with circular double ring cancel; receiver on back St. Johns, NB, "JU 13 1861".

Standing soldier holding sabre and flag with one foot on Confederate flag; slogan "Our Union and our Laws; maintain we must!"



Underpaid with 3¢ Washington; large handstamp "10" in black indicates postage due; from Lowell, MA on NOV 26, 1861 to St. John, NB; receiver on back dated "NO 30 1861"

Design seated Liberty and State Seal with proclamation "Loyal to the Union, State of Massachusetts".

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

This portion of Exhibit demonstrates various ways in which mail could be exchanged between Southern States and Canada during postal suspension and military blockade.

Union-Occupied Southern Cities Using Union P.O.s

New Orleans, LA



Here are two examples of civilian mail sent to Union-occupied locations in Confederacy but mail to **non-occupied locations** was quite difficult; following examples show how..

Cover, at 10¢ rate for ½ oz. or less to U.S., from Cobourg, CW to New Orleans, posted on May 7, 1863 after city had been recaptured by Union and was occupied with Union troops; thus Union postal system was in use.

Alexandria, VA (Missent)

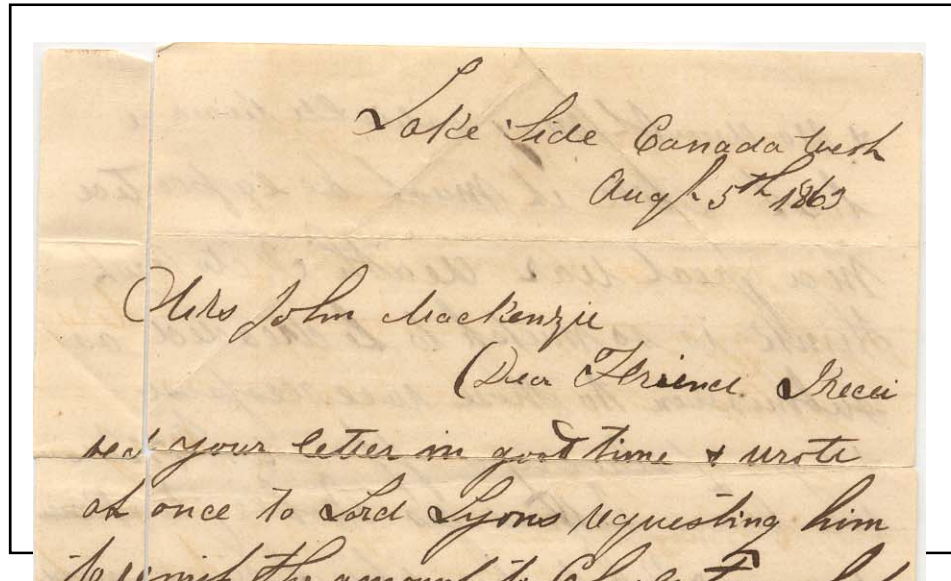
Compton, CE addressed to Alexander, County of Genessee, State of NY but missent to Union-controlled P.O. in Alexandria, VA (Montreal back transit handstamp), Compton 2-ring circ. MR 14 1864, Alexandria, VA Receiver MR 18 (18)64, Oval **MISSENT** handstamp; forwarded to Alexander, NY.



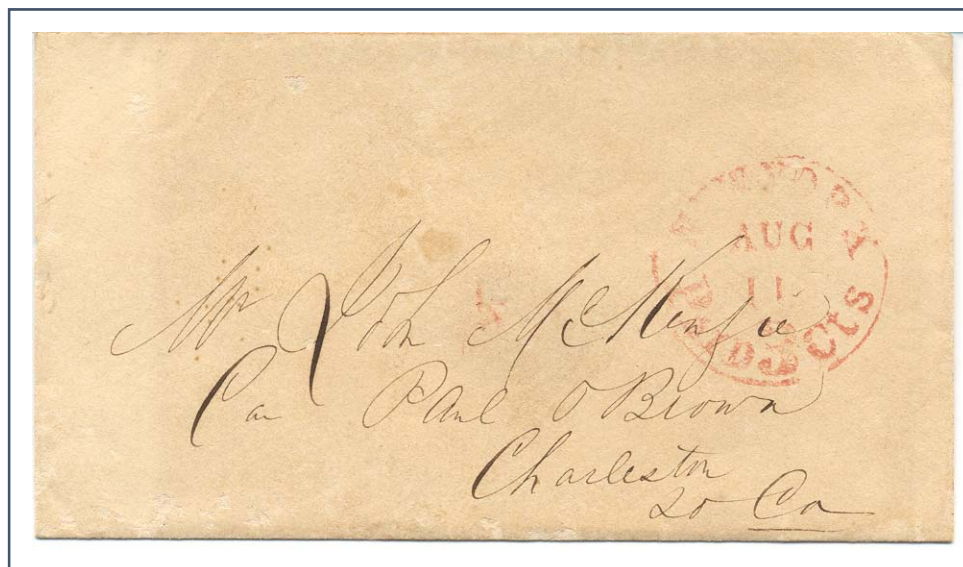
Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

Hand-Carried Letter, Canada to South Carolina via New York



Excerpt of Letter



Original unfranked envelope with original content letter datelined "Lake Side Canada West, August 5, 1863 to Charleston, South Carolina showing "NY PAID 3 cts AUG 11" CDS, privately carried to New York, paid for and placed in post, sent to either Bryantown or Charlotte Hill P.O. in Maryland where Confederate mail carriers would take it across Rappahannock River to Richmond via Port Royal and onwards to So. Carolina.

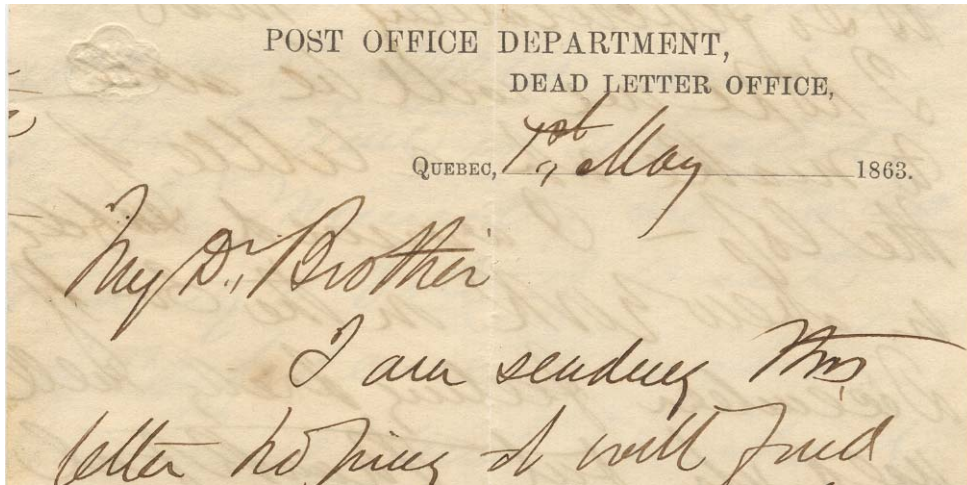
Contents refers to "horrors of war" and "difficulty in sending private letters to the South".

ex-Robertson

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

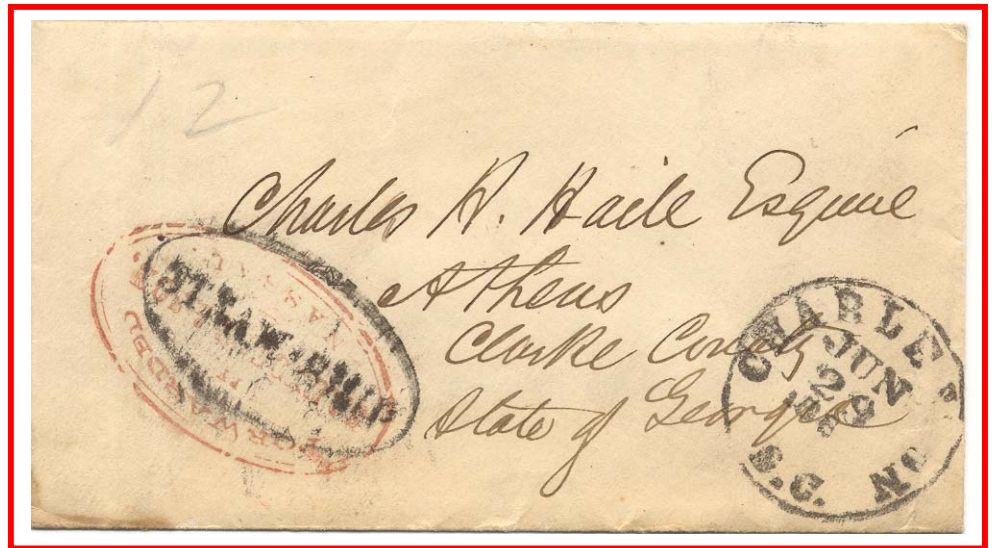
Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

Canada to Georgia, Blockade Mail via Nassau



(excerpt of original letter)

To date, only 1 of 2 recorded blockade covers from Canada



Treated as a STEAMSHIP letter and rated 12 cents due, which included a ship's gratuity of 2 cents. Originated at Post Office Dead Letter Office in Quebec on 1st May, 1863. Private letter to brother in Athens, Georgia. At this point of War, Union held a tight blockade on all Southern Ports; thus letters were carried in and out via blockade runners, usually operating out of Nassau and Bermuda. Letter was likely sent to New York to Forwarding Agent Saunders and Son, via Nassau. Entrusted to a "runner" bound for Charleston, SC where it arrived on June 29, 1863.

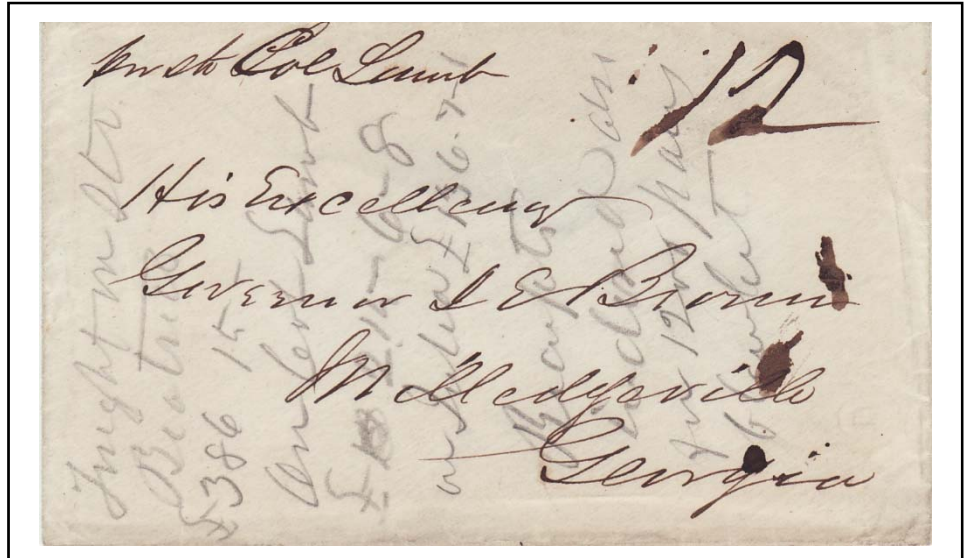
ex-Gordon G. Bleuler, Collection of Confederate States and Civil War Postal History; One of 2 reported blockade covers from Canada to Confederacy during CW (Bill Longley, 2008)

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

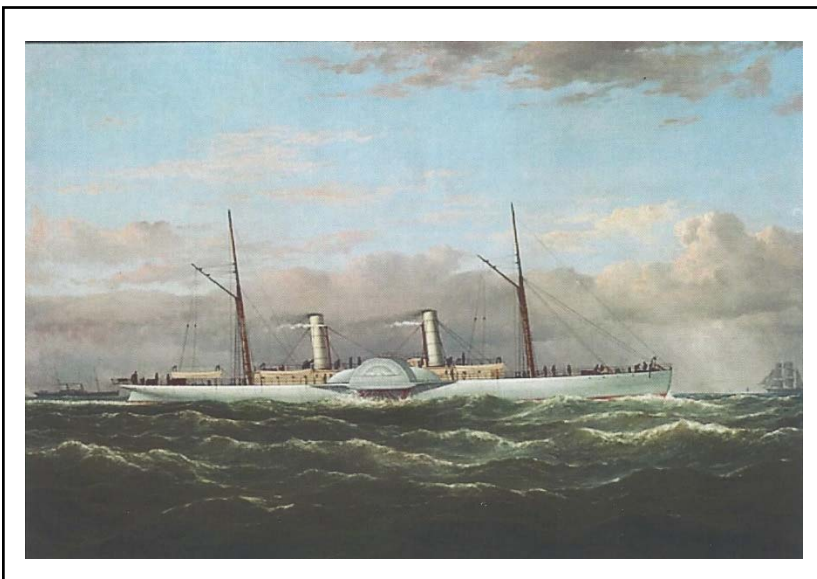
Canada to Georgia, Blockade Mail via Halifax and Wilmington, NC

Undated (late 1864) cover addressed to Georgia Governor Joseph E. Brown at Milledgeville Ga., endorsed "per st. Col Lamb" and carried on that blockade runner from Halifax on Nov. 23, 1864, arriving Wilmington N.C. Nov. 29, manuscript "12" cents due for 10¢ postage to Georgia plus **2¢ ship fee**, pencil docketing across front and back.



**To date, only 1 of 2
recorded blockade
covers from Canada**

The Confederate Blockade Runner *CSS Colonel Lamb* at Sea, 1864 (painting by Samuel Walters)



Blockade runner *CSS Colonel Lamb* was built in Liverpool in transferred to Confederacy in Nassau mid-1864. The *Col Lamb* was "fastest steamer in the trade" by one observer in Britain. The *Colonel Lamb* survived Civil War and eventually sold to Brazilian Government as a transport ship.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy To Canada from Occupied South

Mail to Canada from Union-occupied Confederate locations flowed easily

New Orleans, LA

U.S. cover sent at 10¢ rate (1/2 oz. or less) from New Orleans, LA to Quebec posted August 13, 1864; sent "Per Steamer via New York"; back receiver dated Quebec, U.C. August 25, 1864; New Orleans was occupied by Union troops at time so it was a part of Union postal system.

Yorkville, SC



Although Yorkville, SC was mailing address, apparently cover went via Union-occupied Port Royal, SC and, even though it was short paid by 4c (10c was the postage to Canada for ½ oz. letter at the time), it made it through postal systems in record time (London, receiver dated Ju 6 63) with no indication of postage due.

New Orleans, LA

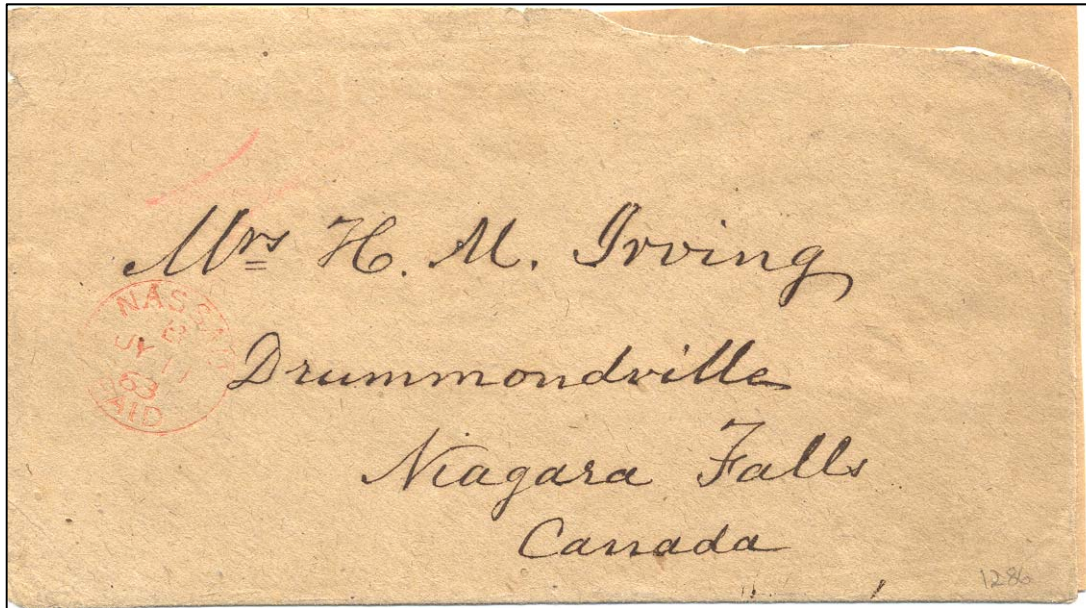
Mailed on June 7 1864 from Union-occupied New Orleans but apparently was overweight and 10¢ Washington stamp was not cancelled nor was credit given. Handstamp indicating double weight postage due of 20c applied in New Orleans and perhaps a second upon arrival in CW. Stamp was damaged somewhere along the way.



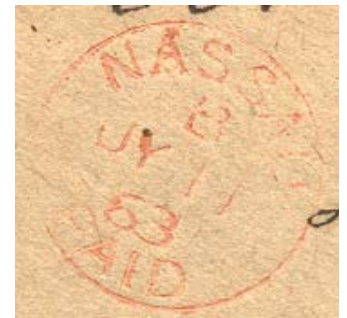
Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

Blockade Mail from South Carolina to Canada via Nassau



Getting mail to Canada from Confederate locations used more difficult means. Blockade runners from Confederate cities via British colonial islands such as Bahamas & Bermuda were most common routes.

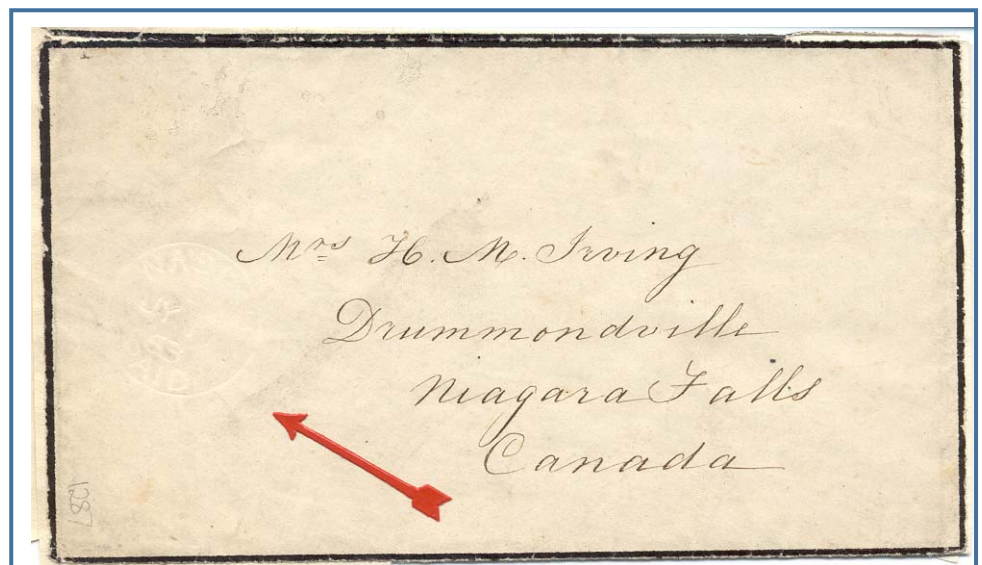
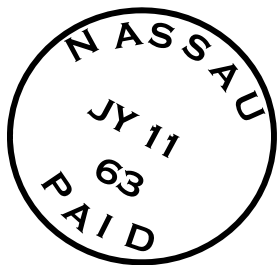


Cover written to Mrs. Irving in Niagara Falls by her daughter in Cordesville, SC on June 20th, 1863; clear red **"NASSAU PAID 11 JY 63"** CDS on front and on back transits for Montreal (SP 16, 63);, RPO and Drummondville (SP 18, 63).

Intact two-page letter with interesting contents on skill of blockade runners and about situation in South at the time.

ex-Robertson.

**Enlarged (2X)
scan of Nassau
transit**



Similar mourning cover as above but internal letter dated Oct 19th, '62, but with clear **albino** strike of **"NASSAU PAID JY 11, 63"** on face (reconstructed at left), on back manuscript "Approved/by command/Brig. Ripley/B.H. Read/Adj."

Letter refers to "Flag of Truce" offer from friend to carry letter; letter appears to have been written months before mailing via blockade runner.

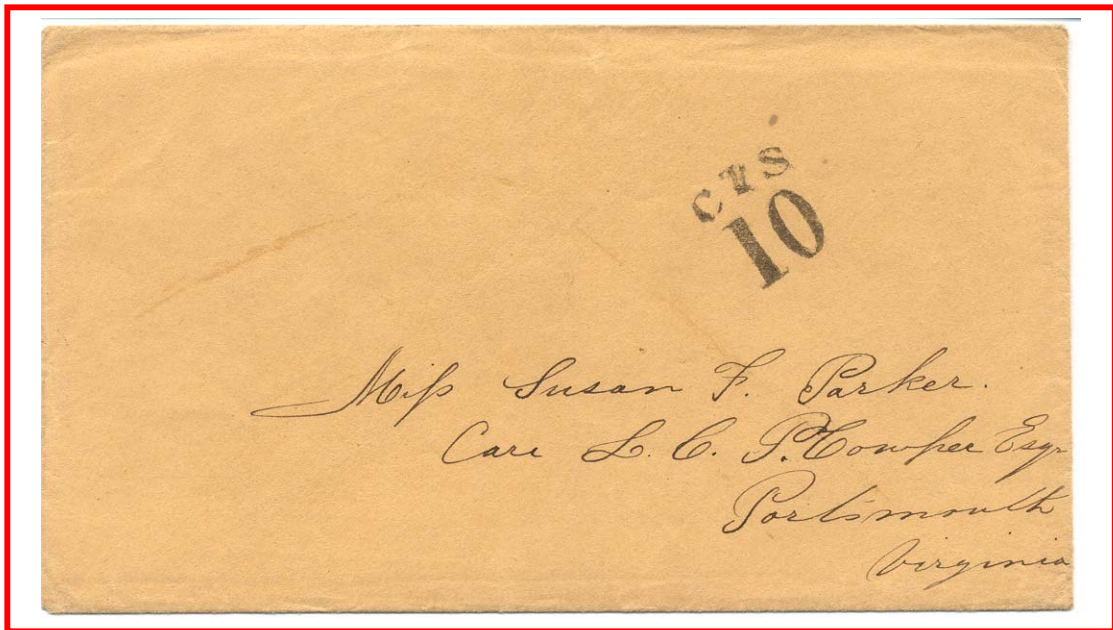
ex-Robertson

**Enlarged (2.5X) scan of
albino strike**

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

Blockade Cover From North Carolina to Virginia via Halifax (Operations Moved Due to Yellow Fever in Bermuda)



**Enlarged (2.5X)
scan of Halifax
transit**



(Cover reduced by 30%)

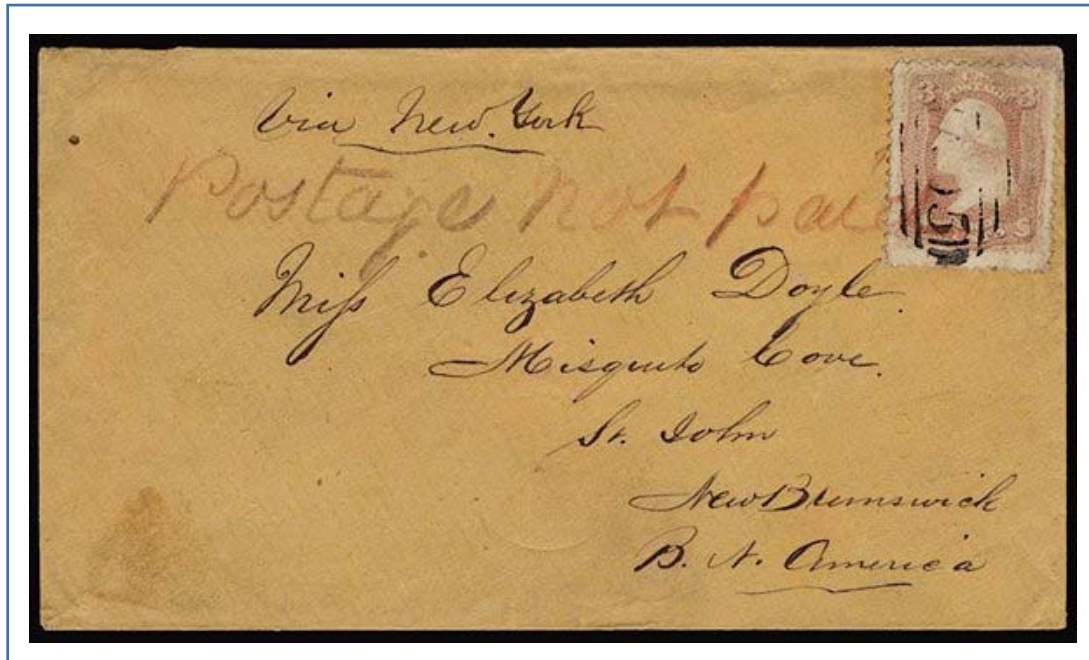
The "CTS 10" franking was applied in Halifax and would have been paid for by recipient. Envelope contains a 4-page letter dated July 22, 1864, Camp Price, NC from soldier to his sister in Portsmouth, VA, occupied by Union forces at time. During summer of 1864, a yellow fever epidemic swept Bermuda and for several months, a number of blockade runners moved their operations to Halifax, NS. So this particular cover came through Halifax rather than Bermuda or Bahamas on its way to Virginia; clear "Halifax Nova Scotia AU 29, 1864" double ring CDS on back of envelope validates this occurrence; only 5 recorded surviving examples of blockade covers to any destination passing through Halifax in summer of 1864 making cover a special item (REF: Greg Marquis, "The Ports of Halifax and St. John and the American Civil War", *The Northern Mariner* Vol.III, 1-19 (1998)).

Ex-Robertson.

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

Blockade Cover to St. John, New Brunswick Via Nassau and New York



A05 Nassau transit



Bahamas transit handstamp

U.S. 1861 3¢ Rose, used on envelope from Confederacy via Nassau to New Brunswick, Canada and endorsed "Via New York", **cancelled at Nassau by "A05" barred oval** with, on reverse, matching neat "**Bahamas**" **double circular date stamp** on February 13, 1865, stamp being additionally tied by large "**Postage not paid**" manuscript notation in crayon, nevertheless with no other charges being shown; interesting example of Blockade-run mail which shows an infrequently used cancel in transit via Bahamas; @ 🔍

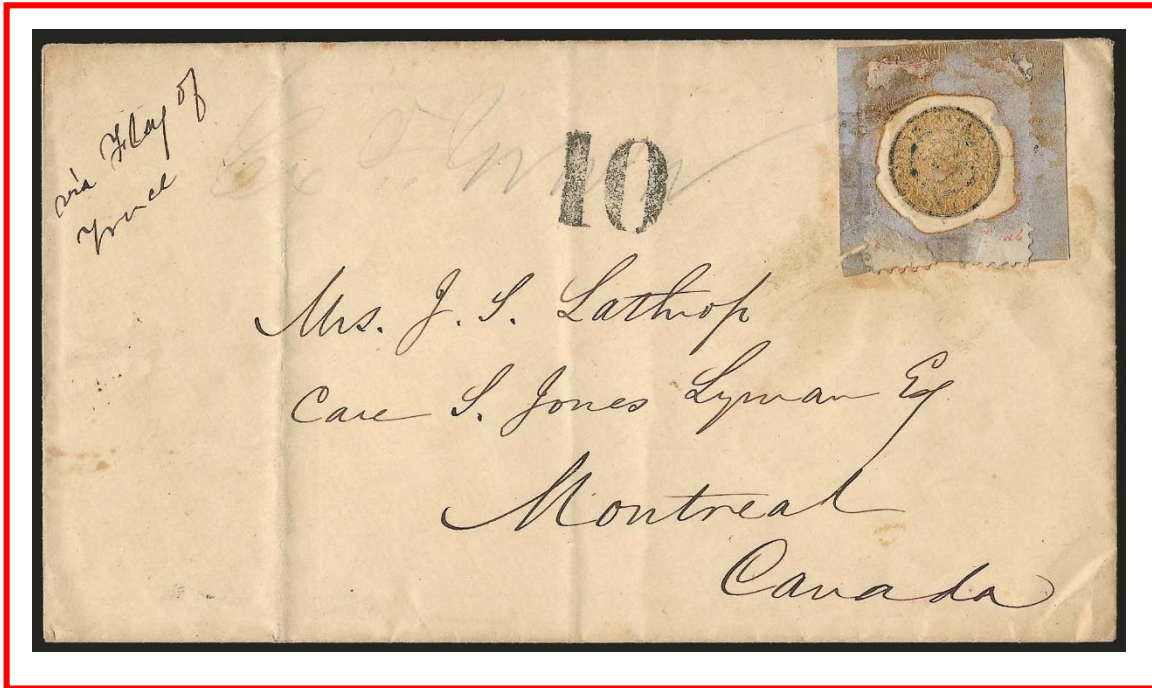
Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

POW Cover to Canada Sent Under Flag of Truce

Flag of Truce mail was another difficult way of sending letters from Confederacy to North and Canada; see explanation

Reported to be Unique*



Prisoner mail carried by **Flag-of-Truce** had to be put in an unsealed envelope with address and postage for delivery on other side, then placed in an outer envelope for delivery to exchange point where outer envelope would be destroyed and inner envelope containing prisoner's letter was inspected. Letter would be placed in and sealed in stamped addressed envelope and hand-stamped indicating that item had been inspected. Mail exchange was only allowed to cross lines at specified exchange points. Mail which was going from South to North (and Canada) passed through Old Point Comfort, Virginia.

Cover depicted here is inner envelope originating in CSA and addressed to Mrs. Lathrop in Montreal. The outer envelope paying CSA postage was discarded at exchange point; a U.S. silver half dime originally affixed to this cover to pay U.S. postage (imprint remaining on envelope), a 3¢ Rose affixed over half-dime paste-up and then removed (traces of 3¢ stamp remain), no U.S. postmarks, endorsed "via Flag of Truce" and pencil "Exd.W (?)" censor notation, "10" due handstamp as 3¢ stamp did not pay rate to Canada, Montreal JA 14, 1864 receiving backstamp, reported to be unique by Walske; **Flag of Truce covers beyond U.S. are difficult to find.**

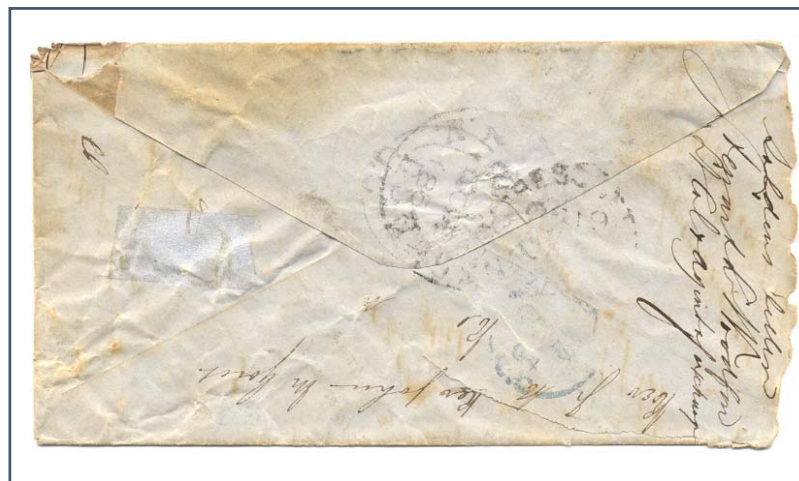
(*ex-Steven C. Walske Collection of Civil War Special Routes)

Cross Border Mail During CW (1861-1865)

Mail between Canada/BNA and Confederacy

POW Cover to Canada Sent as Soldiers Letter

One of 4 known Confederate POW covers sent to Canada*



Back of cover reduced 25%

Sent on Oct. 6, 1864 by Capt. George C. Gordon, born in Canada and a famous Prisoner of War (POW) who escaped 3 times from Confederate prisons, to Alexander Steele in Picton, C.W.;.. mailed from Roper Hospital prison, Charleston, SC and entered US mail at Port Royal, SC, under Union control; it crossed border at Ogdensburg, NY to Prescott, C.W. (rec'd Oct. 19, 1864), "10" due for Canadian postage; examination manuscript markings on front "Ex a 4"; markings on back include "Soldiers Letter" countersigned by Stewart L. Woodford, Lt. Col., Agent of Exchange) and proper Canadian transit marks.

*Personal communication: Galen D. Harrison, Civil War POW author, 2003)

Other Forms of Communication during CW

Since there was no radio, TV, iPhones, etc., newspapers and magazines were main source of news;
Toronto Globe carried daily stories about CW.



Domestic Printed Matter Rate: *Toronto Globe*. Transient Newspaper
 prepaid rate 1 cent.

Other Forms of Communication during CW

Sometimes newspapers from cities near border were carried over and posted; Copy of *Pontiac Pioneer* would give a different slant to news compared to Canadian newspapers. The 1¢ Victoria pays the transient newspaper rate within Canada.

Am. A. S. Donner,
m.p.
Montreal

APRIL 21, 1865.

GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Timber

OTTAWA NAVIGATION.

Notwithstanding its length, we cannot resist the temptation of publishing in our sheet, to the exclusion of other matters, the very interesting editorial in the *Ottawa Union* of the 23rd ult., on "The Ottawa Navigation." By this article, our readers will see the superior advantages the Ottawa Canal, if made as to lockage in the proportions given in the above named periodical, would have in all respects over the Lakes and St. Lawrence River and Canal navigation, or over the Lakes, Erie Canal and Hudson River Navigation. The article is set in the office.

sills—capacity, 120 tons. The Ottawa is proposed to have 71 locks, each 250 x 50, with 12 feet of water on sills—capacity, 1000 tons.

It is evident, then, that the Ottawa, as proposed, has four times the capacity of the Welland, two and one-half times of the St. Lawrence, and over eight times that of the Erie Canal.

Moreover the Welland has its maximum depth of water on its sills, which it is possible to give it for the grain traffic, because Lake St. Clair, between Lake Erie and Huron is inaccessible to vessels drawing over 9 feet of water, and therefore it limits the

statement of the actual amount required should be placed before the public at once; and, with a proper design for the construction of those works, no difficulty could be experienced in arriving at the utmost dollar it should cost.

The Grand Trunk Railway has cost [according to the Railway Inspector's report for 1861], with equipment, \$55,690,039 for a length of 1068 miles. Its utmost freight capacity is, during 312 working days, 1,597,600 tons, and that involves the despatch of a freight train every half hour of the day and night. How far this is practicable can be easily understood, but, in

Other Forms of Communication during CW

Mixed Patriotics Domestically Used in US

Crossed Flag Covers Depicting Friendly US and Canadian Relations

Crossed US and Canadian flags with friendship slogans below; franked with tied 3¢ Washington along with Watertown Sep 8 1861 CDS to Fall River, Mass..



Red and blue design crossed UNITED US and Canadian flags with slogans "God Save the Queen" and "Vive L' Amerique", Hayes cover franked with 3¢ rose tied by blue Hancock, MD addressed to Philadelphia.

Canada's first patriotic cachet (Firby) used in U.S.

Shows level of patriotic sentiment among 3 countries.

Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, son of Queen Victoria, later King Edward VII, historic visit to BNA, Canada, and US in 1860. British royalty had never made official visit to Canada, He visited 16 Canadian/BNA cities & 14 American cities including Richmond and Mt. Vernon, VA. Visit showed US, Mother Country and Canada relations were fairly civilized prior to CW. Cachet was designed for visit. However, Prince refused to visit a Southern Plantation much to dismay of Southerners who were about to succeed from US.



Cover believed to be unique (Charles Firby, private communication, 2008)

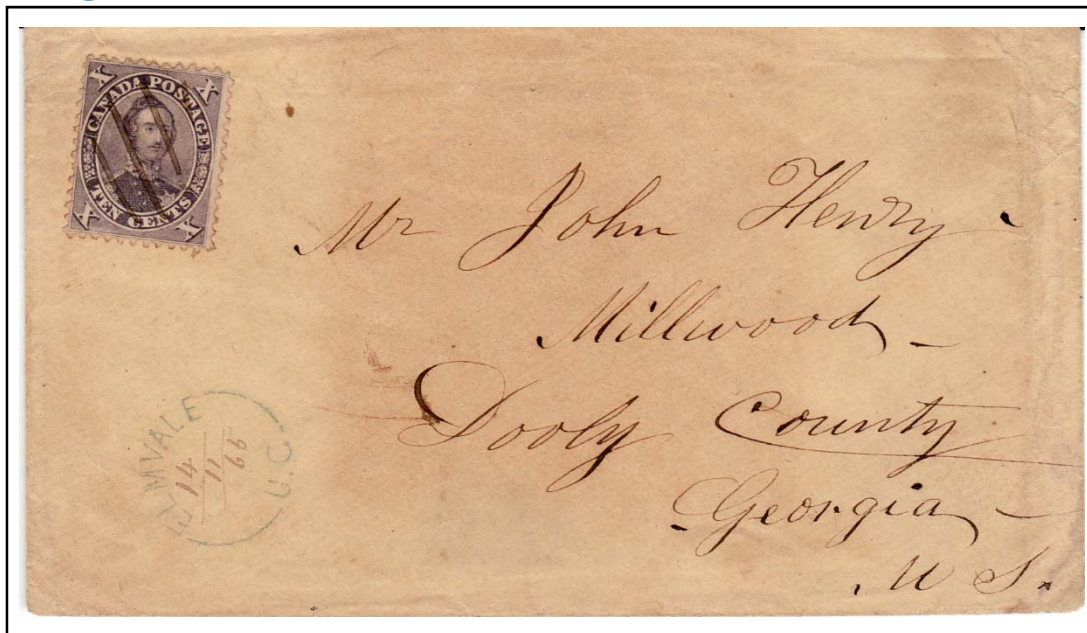
Post-CW Mail between Canada and Southern States

Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Ct. House (April 9, 1865) but hostilities continued for another month and Union troop "occupation" well beyond that. Presidential Declaration was when President Andrew Johnson formally declared end of war on August 20, 1866. Even before that reconstruction began and mail flowed to and from Southern States. It would still take several years before the Southern postal system was back to normal. Following covers illustrate mail began to flow to South as soon as late-1865.

The US Postal System was slow to begin to re-integrate Confederate Postal System and took several years for things to return to "normal".

To Southern States

Georgia



Letter sent from Elmville, U.C. to Millwood, Georgia on **Nov. 11, 1865** (manuscript date); franked with 10c Consort ; Barrie backstamp Nov. 15, 1865

Alabama

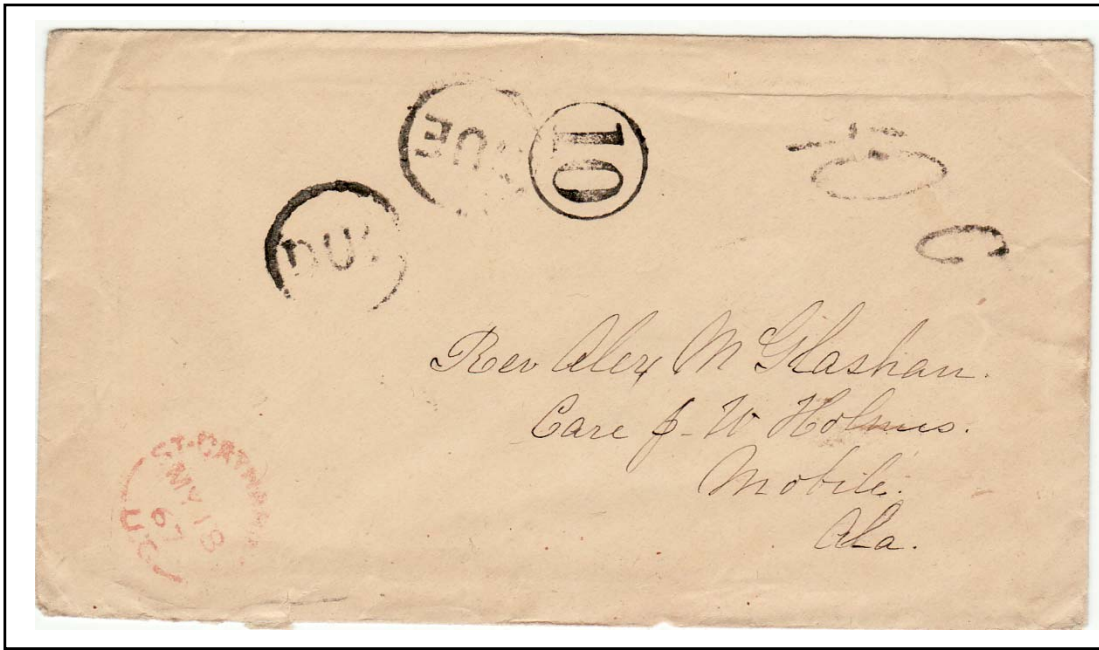
Two 5c Beavers paying 10c letter rate to US; tied by Ottawa **17 JA 66** Berri duplexes to cover to University of Alabama, Tuskalossa, AL.



Post-CW Mail between Canada and Southern States

To Southern States

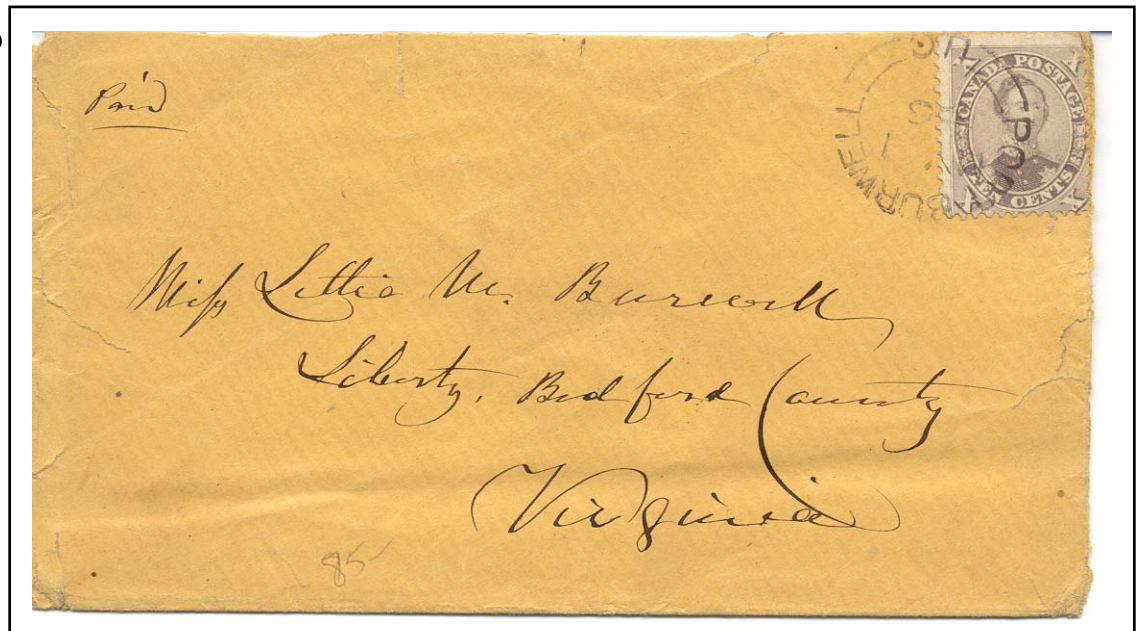
Alabama



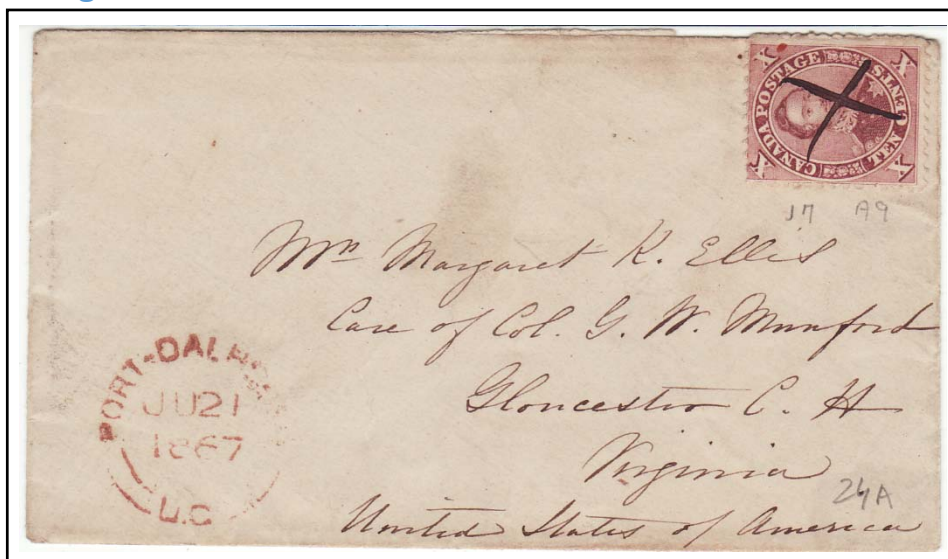
From Gosfield, U.C. **MY 18 (18)67** CDS, 10¢ in black and "10" in circle and two circled DUE handstamps to Mobile, Alabama.

Virginia

From Port Burwell, U.C. to Liberty (now called Bedford), VA on **May 1 (18)66**; stamp tied with CDS.



Virginia



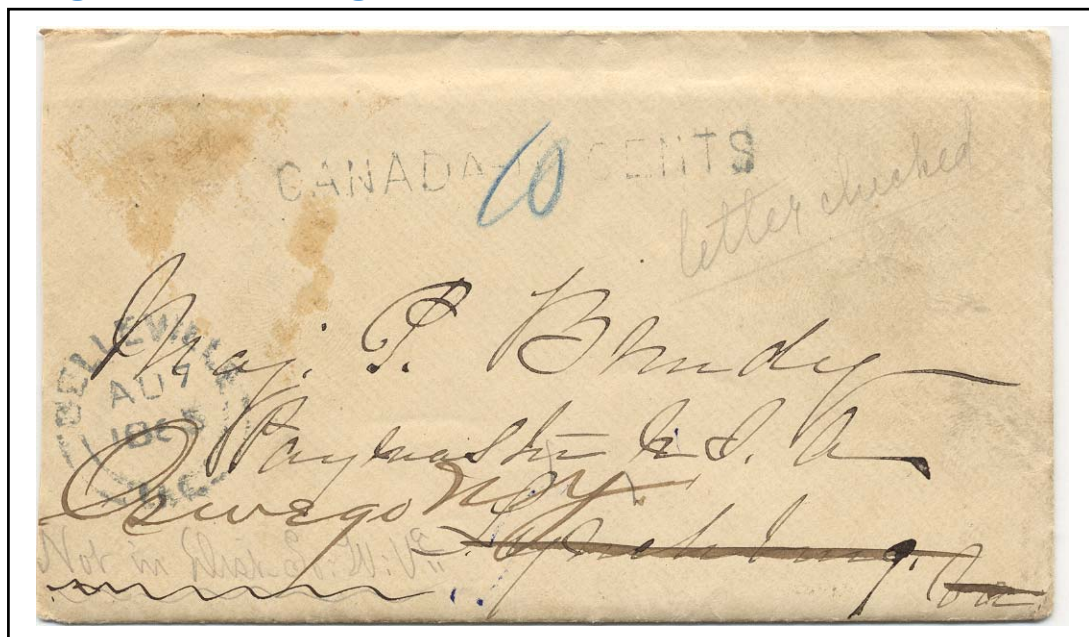
From Port Dalhousie, U.C. care of soldier at Gloucester Court House, VA pm **JU 21 1867**, franked with 10¢ Consort (printing order 24a).

Post-CW Mail between Canada and Southern State

To Southern States

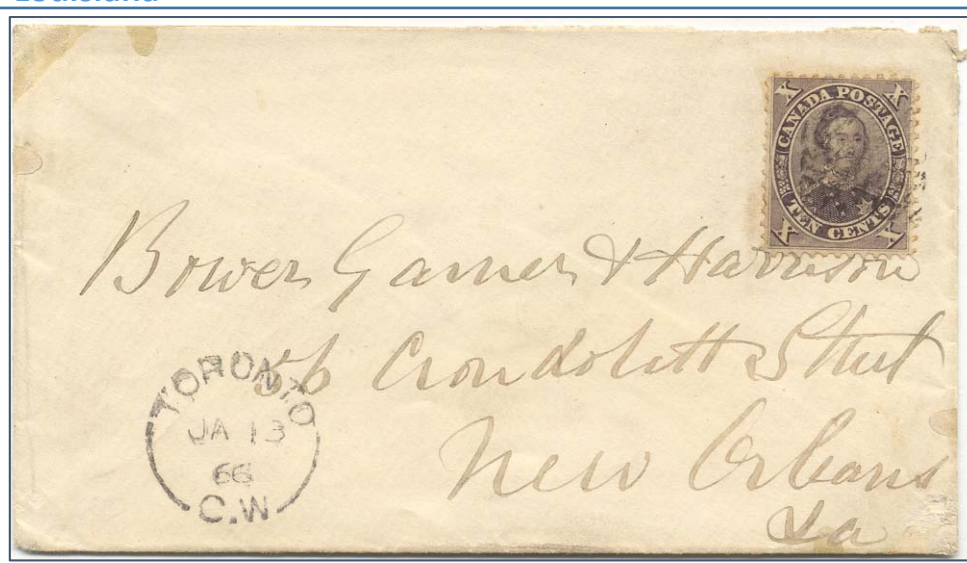
Virginia and West Virginia

From wife in Belleville, U.C.
to Major P. Blundy in
Lynchburg, VA; **Aug 9 1865**
(just after end of war);
evidently Major wasn't
there, so a search in WV
was made-pencil notation
"not in Dist. of W. Va";
letter eventually forwarded
Oswego, NY.



Louisiana

To New Orleans,
10¢ Consort pays ½
oz. or less rate to
US. **JA 10 (18)66**



Texas



Mourning cover mailed from
Toronto, C.W. on **Aug 16, 1867**
to Columbia, Texas

Post-CW Mail between Canada and Southern State

To Canada

South Carolina



10¢ rate to London, C.W.; cork cancels, posted in Charleston, SC on **Nov 23 1866**; faint London receiver NO 30 (186)6 on back.

South Carolina

Cover sent from Yorkville, SC on April 6 (1868) to London, CW; London receiver on Apr 11 1868; franked with 10c Washington (Sc.#68a), tied with grid cancel.



South Carolina



Double rate (20¢) using postal stationery, posted in Charleston, SC. Receiver on reverse JU **23 (18)66**.

Activities Related to CW

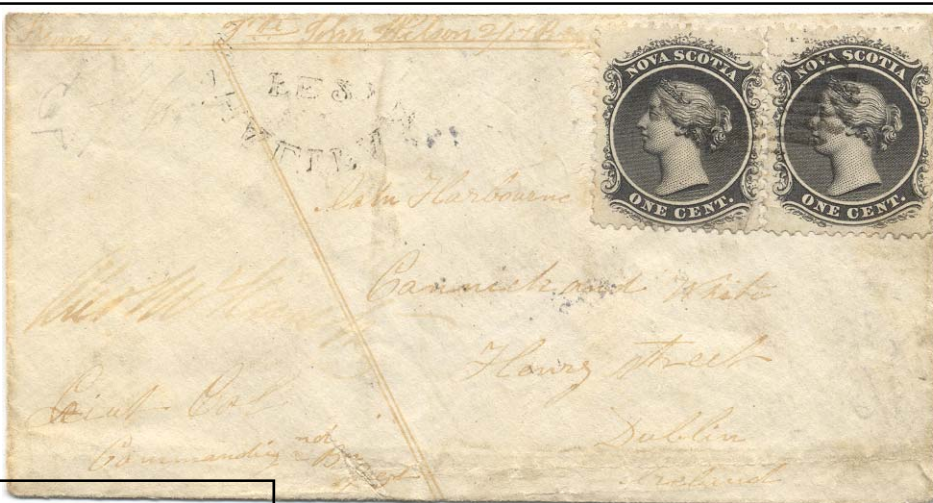
Buildup of British Forces in BNA During CW

Directly related to US CW, fear of invasion of Canada/BNA by American forces, British Transports packed with troops and war materials were rushed to Canada (ports of Halifax, Saint John and Rimouski); 5,000 British troops swarmed Halifax, old defense works of port were recast and, by 1865, some 60,000 Nova Scotians trained for their militia. All letters shown here were posted during CW and were probably written by soldiers/sailors stationed in military camps. Special concessionary letter rate was 2¢ for mail to anywhere in British Empire.

In anticipation of invasion by Union (US) during and just after CW, British sent large number of troops to Maritimes and local militia were on "high alert".

Halifax, Nova Scotia to Dublin

Cover franked with a pair of Nova Scotia 1¢ and mailed from Halifax to Dublin, Ireland on Feb. 20 1862; received in Dublin Mar 5 1862; **Soldiers letter** written by private John Wilson of 2/17 Regiment. The letter was countersigned by Lt. Col. Hardy.



St. John, New Brunswick to Halifax

Soldier's Letter franked with pair of New Brunswick 1¢ stamps paying soldiers concessionary rate; tied by two strikes of oval grids, backstamps with St. John, NB Jan 5, 1863 and Halifax receiver JA 7. 1863; endorsed by Corporal and countersigned by Commanding Officer at bottom left.

Halifax, Nova Scotia to Bath, England

Sailor's Letter Halifax, NS CANADA. 1861 to Bath, England. 'A94' S.S. Arabia (Cunard). Partly clear ('94' distinct) strike of numeral in oval ties red Great Britain 1p. (2¢ Nova Scotia) pays concessionary rate; endorsement 'From James Young, Yeoman of Signals, H.M.S. Mersey, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1861, (signed) Commanding Officer', Bath backstamp (Nov. 11, 1861).

Atlantic mail boat usage - this was the S.S. Arabia's 58th return transatlantic crossing.



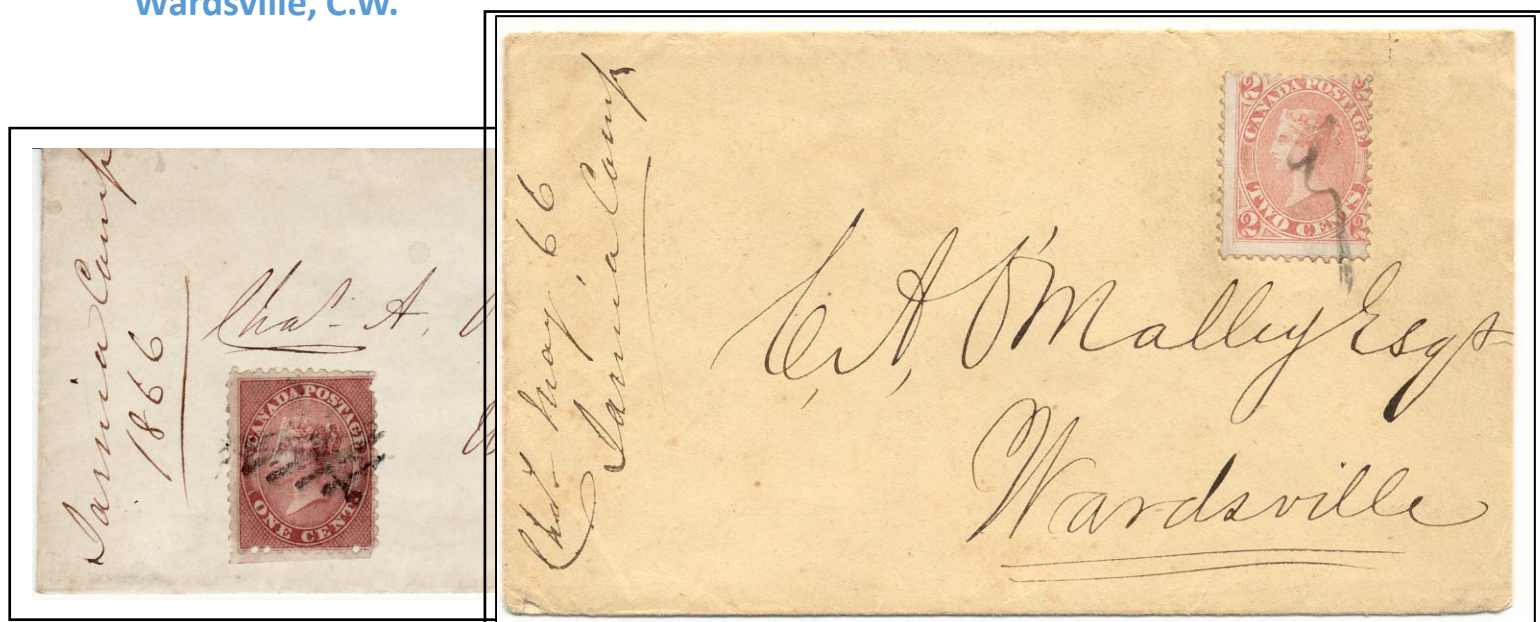
Activities Related to CW

Post-CW Military Letters within Canada Involving Canadian Militia During Time of Fenian Raids (1865-1867)

Just after end of CW, there was movement within Northern soldiers of Irish descent (Fenian Brotherhood) to invade Canada. These seasoned soldiers were well trained and well armed (Union soldiers were permitted to keep their arms after the war). Although American government was not directly involved, Fenians were basically ignored. In fact, a number of Americans including high government officials were angry at British for supplying Confederate Navy with ships, for blockade running support, for harboring Confederate operatives and still believing in *The Manifest Destiny*. It all came to a head when Fenians planned attack on Campobello Island in New Brunswick (April, 1866) but a strong show of British forces discouraged them. Later, attacks at Ridgeway & Ft. Eire (both on June 2, 1866) were more successful against untrained Canadian militia. Number of Fenians and Canadians were killed in skirmishes that followed. After US government got involved, movement floundered. It is thought that Fenian invasion accelerated Confederation of loose network of provinces.

The Canadian military covers shown here are from the timeframe of the planning and execution of Fenian invasions.

Wardsville, C.W.



Above letters from Sarnia camp to Capt. O'Malley, Wardsville, C.W. with 25th Baon Battaliion Militia in 1866. The left cover was sent at 1¢ unsealed circular rate while soldier's rated cover with a 2¢ Victoria had an enclosure dated May 7, 1866, just 3 weeks before invasion of Ft. Eire.

St. Catherines, C.W.

This letter posted on JU 12 1866 sent to a Sergeant in a Military Hospital in St. Catherines just after Battle of Ridgeway of Fenian invasion; St. Catherines was a base for Canadian militia. Perhaps soldier was wounded in the battle.



Activities Related to CW

Post-CW Military Letters within Canada Involving Canadian Militia During Time of Fenian Invasion (1865-1867)

Less successful Fenian Brotherhood attacks along Canadian border continued up until 1870 especially along Quebec-Vermont frontier but these proved fruitless.

Almonte, C.W.

Franked with 5¢ Beaver paying single letter rate, *On Militia Service* military letter sent from Prescott, C.E. on SP 13 (18)66 to The Officer Commanding, Almonte, C.W.; endorsed by Colonel at Brockville Barracks on Sept 12, 1866. Officers were not granted concessionary rate of 2¢.



Brockville, C.W.

5c Beaver tied with Tweed U.C. double ring CDS paying single letter rate., U.S. CW patriotic

Dated with manuscript March 31, 1865 just a month before CW began to tone down; a military cover to a Volunteer Militia Officer a year before Fenian raid on Ridgeway, CW.

Activities Related to Civil War

Post-CW Military Letters within Canada Involving Canadian Militia During Time of Fenian Invasions (1865-1867)



1865 Railway Cover ornately lettered "Brockville and Ottawa Railway" franked with 5c Beaver paying domestic rate for a letter weighing less than ½ oz. Sent from Brockville, C.W. to Ottawa; JU 16 (18)65 Ottawa receiver; addressed to Col. Coffin, Ordnance Lands Agent.

Epilogue

CW proved to be major disruptor in postal and parcel services, mainly for Confederacy and especially for foreign mail to and from Confederacy. Many foreign countries didn't recognize Confederacy and wouldn't forward letters within their country. Confederacy, with most of its ports blockaded, mail, needed supplies and armaments were difficult to obtain. Blockade runner ships partially filled some need but as War progressed, Union Navy became more skilled in learning blockade runners ways. Towards end of CW, high-speed steamships, built in U.K., could outrun many U.S. Navy ships but these still had limited success. For Southerners, sending mail by Flag of Truce proved to be slow since all letters had to be opened and read by a censor before proceeding into different mail system.

Once War ended, Union Troops would continue to occupy parts of South during Reconstruction. Even in 1868, President Grant kept soldiers in South, mainly to protect freed Afro-Americans from persecution from organizations, like KKK. The Confederate Postal System eventually was re-absorbed into U.S. Postal System and business returned to "normal" but it took several years. For example, by November, 1865 only 241 of 8902 post offices were back under Federal control. By November, 1866, however, 3234 (36%) had rejoined the USPS (ref. Publication 100, USPS, An American History 1775-2006, The Confederate P.O. Dept.). A positive outcome to strengthen Canada was that CW helped to move most provinces towards Confederation, which occurred in 1867. Manifest Destiny would have to wait!