# Census of Demopolis, Alabama, Postmasters' Provisionals

# Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

## Description



DEM-AL-E01 ("J. T. Hall" control)



DEM-AL-E02 ("J. T. Hall" control)



DEM-AL-E02a ("Jno T. Hall" control)

### **The Demopolis Provisionals**

The Demopolis provisionals were prepared by handstamping envelopes with a "PAID" marking and writing the value "5cts" or handstamping a "5." The envelopes were then signed by the postmaster, Jno. T. Hall. The middle initial is "T," not "Y" as it has been historically interpreted. The interpretation of the initial "T" is based on the listing of Hall's appointment in the Confederate records of postmaster appointments.

In earlier censuses the cover postmarked "1 Dec" (CN-002) was sometimes interpreted as "5 Dec," resulting in confusion as to the number of provisional covers.

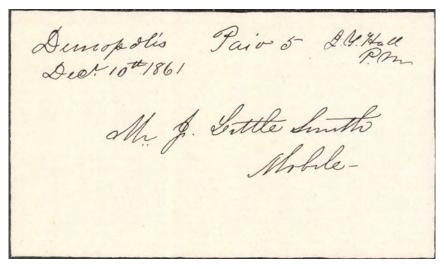
**NOTE**: The inclusion of an item in this census is not a guarantee of authenticity.

### **Count of the Demopolis provisionals**

Provisional	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Covers
5c (ms) and PAID with "J. T. Hall" control	DEM-AL-E01	22XU3	1
5c black with "J. T. Hall" control	DEM-AL-E02	22XU2	2
5c black with "Jno T. Hall" control	DEM-AL-E03	22XU1	1

### **Notes**

### A Provisional?



The above image is either a photographic copy or a tracing of a manuscript Demopolis 5c provisional. According to August Dietz the cover was found by a Dr. Hursh. Dietz went on to state that "there is no doubt of its authenticity" and explained that Demopolis had probably not received the new postage stamps and the postmaster made this manuscript provisional as a substitute. See "A Florida Provisional and a Demopolis," *New Southern Philatelist* January 1932, page 77.

Dietz's argument is flawed because Demopolis stampless provisional exist from late November 1861 to late January 1862.

No record of this cover has been found after its appearance in the 1932 journal. An examination of the actual cover must be conducted before it can be considered a provisional. It is not included in this census.

### Reference

M. Clinton McGee, "The Demopolis Provisionals," *Confederate Philatelist* 5:4 (November 1960): 93-97.

# Mini Census of Demopolis, Alabama, Provisionals

Pmk Date	Address	<u>PmkPos</u>	<u>PrvPos</u>	<u>CN</u>	
5c (ms) and black "I	PAID" with "J. T. Hall" control DEM-AL-E01 (22XU3)				
27 Nov [1861]	Hon Moses McGuire / Probate Judge / Tuskaloosa [Tuscaloosa]	UR	UL	001	
5c black with "J. T.	Hall" control DEM-AL-E02 (22XU2)				
1 Dec [1861]	Mr Gaius Whitfield / Lauderdale Springs / Miss	UR	UL	002	
5 Dec [1861]	Whitfield /	UR	UL	004	
5c black with "Jno T. Hall" control DEM-AL-E02a (22XU1)					
28 Jan [1862]	Cadet James Whitfield / Tuscaloosa / Alabama	UR	UL	003	

## Full Census of Demopolis, Alabama, Provisionals

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## 5c (ms) and black "PAID" with "J. T. Hall" control -- DEM-AL-E01 (22XU3)

27 Nov [1861]

Description: Black "DEMOPOLIS / Ala" postmark UR,

provisional marking UL.

Address: Hon Moses McGuire / Probate Judge /

Tuskaloosa [Tuscaloosa]

Provenance: Hill.

Source: CWPAS-02172\*; CSX-Hill PMP (Aug1996)-23;

CONP-Nov1960(5:11)-93; RGK-14Jun1990(69)-

123\*. [001]

Image Credit: Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service.



## 5c black with "J. T. Hall" control -- DEM-AL-E02 (22XU2)

1 Dec [1861]

Description: Black "DEMOPOLIS / Ala" postmark UR,

provisional marking UL.

Address: Mr Gaius Whitfield / Lauderdale Springs / Miss

Provenance: Hall, Agre.

Source: VIPH-May1901(4:9)-86; LOND-Jul1922(31:367)-

Plt-1; RAS-13Apr2000(823)-403\*; RAS-

25Sep2002(850)-5692. [002]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



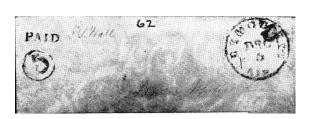
### 5 Dec [1861]

**Description:** UR, provisional marking UL.

Address: --- Whitfield / ---

**Provenance:** Brooks.

**Source:** LS-24Apr1943(123)-62. [004] **Image Credit:** Laurence & Stryker Auctions.



## 5c black with "Jno T. Hall" control -- DEM-AL-E02a (22XU1)

### 28 Jan [1862]

Description: Black "DEMOPOLIS / Ala" postmark UR,

provisional marking UL.

Address: Cadet James Whitfield / Tuscaloosa / Alabama

Provenance: None recorded.

**Source:** VIPH-May1901(4:9)-86; SCOT-Feb1925(5:12)-

290; CONP-Nov1960(5:11)-97; RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-235\*. [003]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.

