

# Census of Greenville, Alabama Postmaster's Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

## Description



GRE-AL-A01



GRE-AL-A02

## The Greenville provisionals

The Greenville provisionals were typeset and printed in two colors on glazed paper with a pink tone. The Greenville and Baton Rouge provisionals are credited with being the first bi-color stamps produced in North America.

As far back as 1922 Fred J. Melville credited Judge Benjamin F. Porter with being the postmaster at Greenville and the printer of the Greenville provisionals (*Stamp Lover*, Oct 1922, p. 108). However, the official records of postmaster appointments do not support this. Instead the following two individuals are listed as the postmasters of Greenville during the provisional period.

W. C. Caldwell – holdover from the US period

Samuel D. Davis – appointed 8 Aug 1861, in place of Caldwell resigned

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

## Count of Greenville provisionals

Provisional	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Unused	Used	Covers	Total
5c blue and red on pinkish glazed paper	GRV-AL-A01	33X1	4		2	6
10c red and blue on pinkish glazed paper	GRV-AL-A02	33X2			2	2

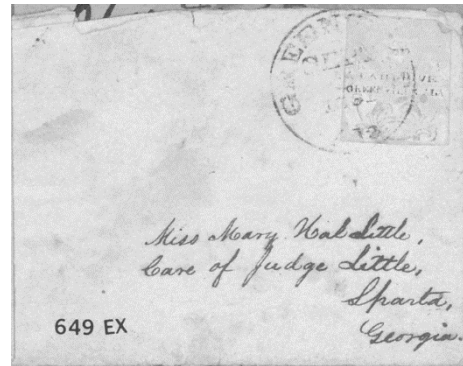
## Notes

### Fakes

There are a number of Greenville fake provisionals. Several are illustrated below:



The stamps above are from the Ferrary Sale (Sale 4, Lot 4). Only the center left, and center right stamps are genuine. The two outside stamps are fake.



The covers above bear fake Greenville provisionals tied by fake Greenville postmarks. Note the faker's use of a postmark with the month "SEPT." The Ferrary cover has the same month abbreviation. Almost all towns used a three letter abbreviation for months in their postmarks. On the left cover the date is "15." This is the same date as the cover in the Ferrary image. On the cover at right the "1" was removed. In addition to the suspicious "SEPT" month all the postmarks have an 1861 year date. The authentic Greenville postmark did not have a year date. Images from the Robert G. Kaufmann Sale 53 (5 March 1988).

## Mini Census of Greenville, Alabama, Provisionals

<u>Pmk Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>PmkPos</u>	<u>PrvPos</u>	<u>CN</u>
<b>5c blue and red on pinkish glazed paper, unused -- GRV-AL-A01 (33X1)</b>				
Unused	NA			006
Unused	NA			007
Unused	NA			008
Unused	NA			005
<b>5c blue and red on pinkish glazed paper, covers -- GRV-AL-A01 (33X1)</b>				
19 Oct [1861]	George L Henry Esqr / Care of Capt H. B. T. Montgomery / 5th Georgia Regiment / Pensacola / Fla	UL	UR	002
1 Nov [1861]	L. E. Parsons Esqr / Talladega / Ala	UL	UR	003
<b>10c red and blue on pinkish glazed paper, covers -- GRV-AL-A02 (33X2)</b>				
13 Oct [1861]	Mr. D. B. Taylor / care of Capt E. A. Perry / Pensacola Rangers / Florida Volunteers / Richmond / Virginia	CL	UR	004
20 Mar [1862]	MR. D. B. Taylor / Care of Capt. E. A. Perry / Pensacola Rangers / Florida Vol / Richmond Vir	UL	UR	001

# Full Census of Greenville, Alabama, Provisionals

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5c blue and red on pinkish glazed paper, unused -- GRV-AL-A01 (33X1)

## Unused

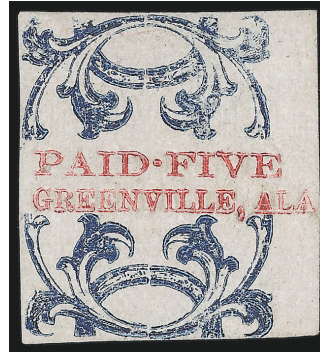
**Description:** Close margins.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** Ferrary, Lilly, Birkinbine.

**Source:** DFA-14Jun1922(4)-4; RAS-27Apr1967(317)-313;  
RAS-28Oct1997(795)-357\*; RAS-4Jun2005(896)-  
748\*. [006]

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



## Unused

**Description:** Small corner crease at UL.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** West Haven, Brandon.

**Source:** PF-428592\*; CHY-4Oct2006-429; RAS-  
24Jun2014(1073)-255\*. [007]

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



## Unused

**Description:** Small thins.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** None recorded.

**Source:** MASN-Aug1871-Supl\*; RAS-22Jun2016(1132)-  
3102\*. [008]

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



**Unused**

**Description:** Creasing at top and faded.

**Address:** NA

**Provenance:** None recorded.

**Source:** RAS-5Jun1995(767)-389\*. [005]

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



**5c blue and red on pinkish glazed paper, covers -- GRV-AL-A01 (33X1)**

**19 Oct [1861]**

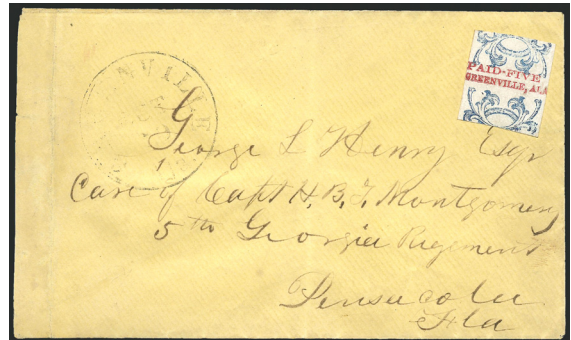
**Description:** Black "GREENVILLE / Ala." postmark UL, uncanceled provisional UR. Vertical folds in cover.

**Address:** George L Henry Esqr / Care of Capt H. B. T. Montgomery / 5th Georgia Regiment / Pensacola / Fla

**Provenance:** Caspary, DK, Przybyl.

**Source:** HRH-5Mar1956-140; RAS-29Apr1983-306; RAS-28Mar2012(1022)-1028\*; RAS-9Sep2020(1225)-94\*; RAS-9Nov2021(1244)-530\*. [002]

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



**1 Nov [1861]**

**Description:** Black "GREENVILLE / Ala." postmark UL, uncanceled provisional UR. Folded letter. Month in postmark inverted.

**Address:** L. E. Parsons Esqr / Talladega / Ala

**Provenance:** None recorded.

**Source:** CWPAS-01321\*; NSOP-Apr1933-193; CEP-3Feb1943-1452; RAS-24Apr1982(596)-20\*. [003]

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



10c red and blue on pinkish glazed paper, covers -- GRV-AL-A02 (33X2)

13 Oct [1861]

**Description:** Black "GREENVILLE / Ala." postmark CL, uncanceled provisional UR. Day date in postmark inverted.

**Address:** Mr. D. B. Taylor / care of Capt E. A. Perry / Pensacola Rangers / Florida Volunteers / Richmond / Virginia

**Provenance:** Ferrary, Erivan.

**Source:** DFA-14Jun1922(4)-4; SCRE-Oct1937-Supl; RAS-24Apr1982(596)-21\*; HRH-26Jan2022(3055-6)-97\*. [004]

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



20 Mar [1862]

**Description:** Black "GREENVILLE / Ala." postmark UL, uncanceled provisional UR. Small nick in cover at UC.

**Address:** MR. D. B. Taylor / Care of Capt. E. A. Perry / Pensacola Rangers / Florida Vol / Richmond Vir

**Provenance:** Caspary, Lilly, Brandon, Jartzky.

**Source:** CWPAS-05930\*; PHGZ-Apr1913-154; CWPSX-Jartzky(Apr2021)-11\*; HRH-5Mar1956-141; RAS-27Apr1967(317)-314; RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-256\*. [001]

**Image Credit:** Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service.

