

**Arkansas 1861 - 1865
A Divided Postal System**

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Civil War Philatelic Society, Inc.

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

ARKANSAS 1861 – 1865: A Divided Postal System

During the period from 1861 through 1865, Arkansas transitioned from a member of the Union, to an independent state, to a member of the Confederacy, and then to an occupied foe by the Union Army. Being one of the last Southern States to succeed (May 6, 1861), Arkansas remained an independent state for only 12 days, joining the Confederacy on May 18, 1861. Federal postal service ended in Arkansas at midnight, May 31, 1861.

Federal troops entered the northwest portion of Arkansas as early as March 1862, and fought Confederate troops at the battle of Pea Ridge; the Union won, but then withdrew into Missouri. Federal occupation of Arkansas began later in the year along the west bank of the Mississippi river at Helena, as Federal Gunboats and troops began to cut the Confederacy in half. In 1863, after several battles in the Arkansas River valley, (Fort Smith, Arkansas Post, Pine Bluff), Little Rock was occupied September 10. The Confederate state capitol was then moved to Washington, Arkansas in the Southwest portion of the state. After that time, battles and skirmishes occurred south of the Arkansas River, but Federal forces never occupied the entire state and both the Federal and Confederate post offices delivered mail for civilians and soldiers on both sides into 1865. For a period of the occupation, major city postal facilities were run under Federal Army control.

This exhibit contains covers that trace this odyssey in Arkansas' Postal fortunes.

The exhibit is structured as follows:

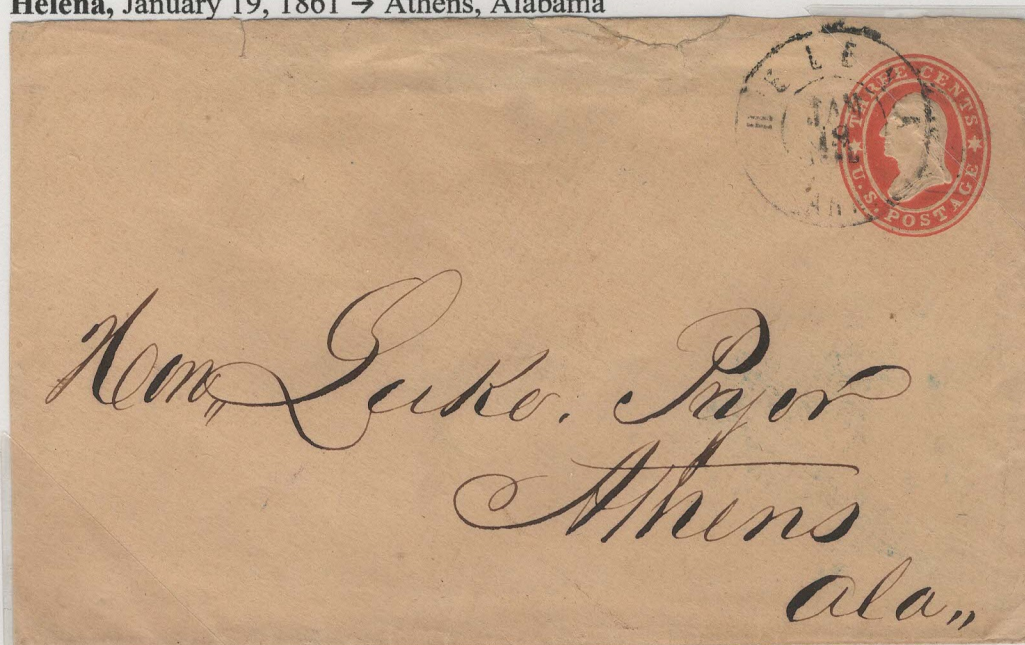
- Mail from Arkansas to the Succeeded States, while Arkansas was still a member of the Union.**
- Mail handled in the Federal system during Independent Statehood, and after Arkansas joined the Confederacy.**
- Mail not recognized by North and South after June 1, 1861.**
- Handstamp and Manuscript PAIDS and DUES used when CSA adhesives were not available. The highest manuscript rate reported from Arkansas is in this group.**
- Usage of Confederate Adhesives on mail to and from Arkansas, including Indian Territory. The trans-Mississippi 40 cent rate is shown in this group.**
- A selection of Union Soldier mail with illustrations of the occupation mail system and a letter to the Military Governor of Arkansas**
- Major town occupation markings.**

Items most important to telling the complete story are bordered in GRAY

In addition, the most important philatelic items are bordered in RED

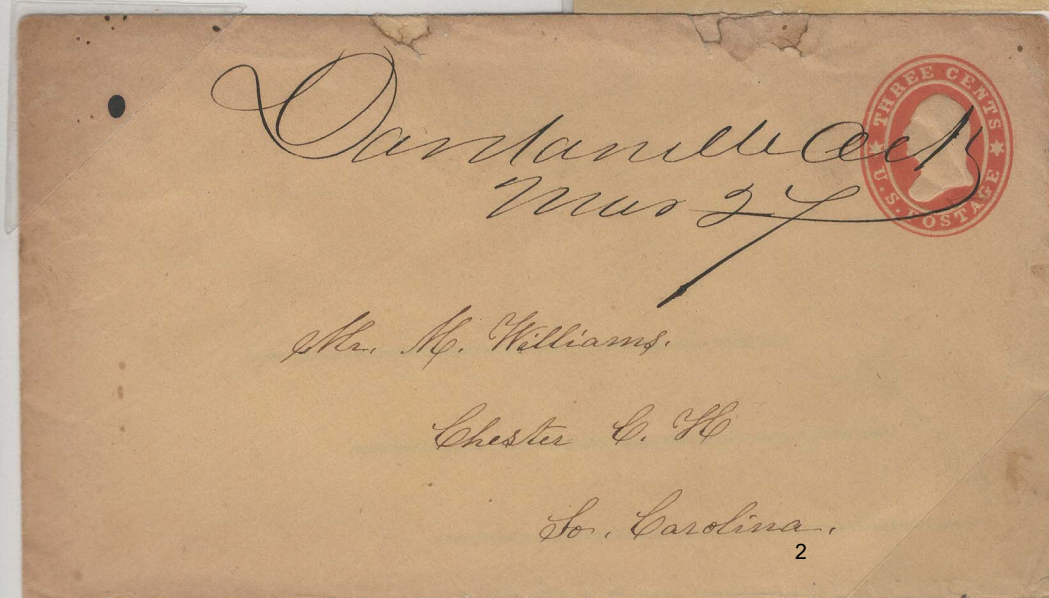
State 1861 Mail to Seceded States Alabama, Mississippi, S. Carolina

As the other Southern states seceded, mail was carried in the Federal Postal System, until June 1, 1861
Independent State of Alabama January 11, 1861 – Feb 3, 1861.
Helena, January 19, 1861 → Athens, Alabama



Independent State of Mississippi,
January 9 – February 3, 1861

Napoleon, January 26, 1861 →
Auburn, Mississippi
"Missent and For(warded) Canton Miss"



Confederate South Carolina

Dardanelle, Yell County,
March 27, 1861 →
Chester C.H., South Carolina

State 1861

Mail to Seceded States

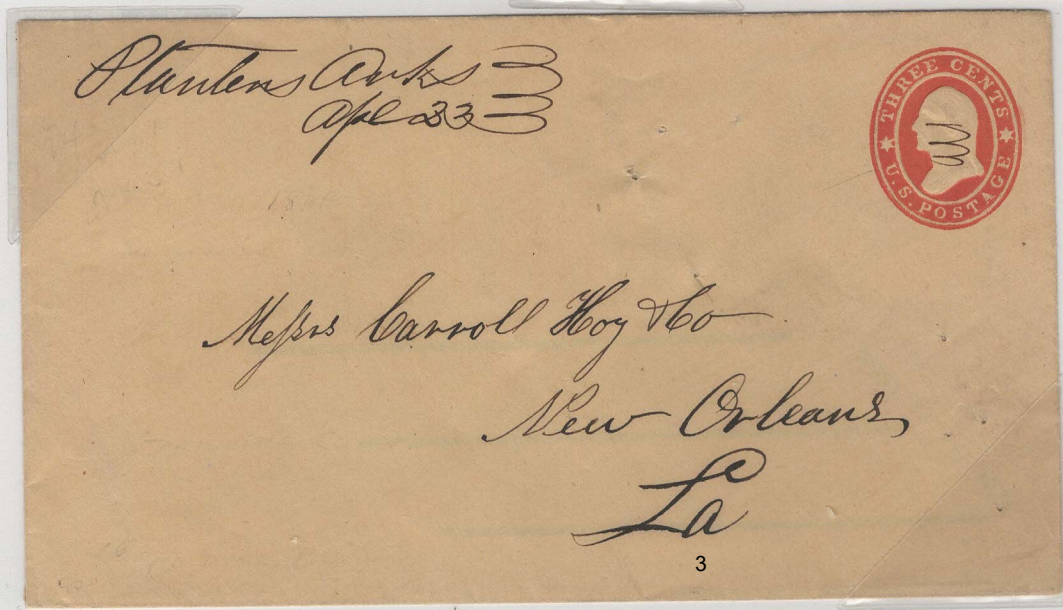
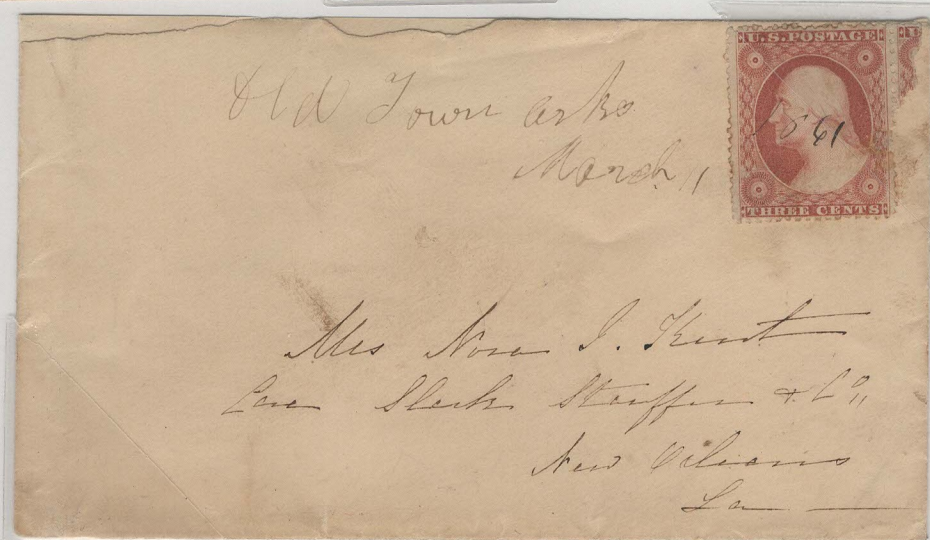
Louisiana

Louisiana, Independent State (January 26 – Feb 3, 1861), joined Confederacy Feb 4, 1861

Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, February 2, 1861 → New Orleans, Louisiana



Louisiana
Confederate State
Old Town, Phillips County,
March 1, 1861 →
New Orleans, Louisiana



Planters, Phillips County,
April 23, 1861 →
New Orleans, Louisiana

State, 1861

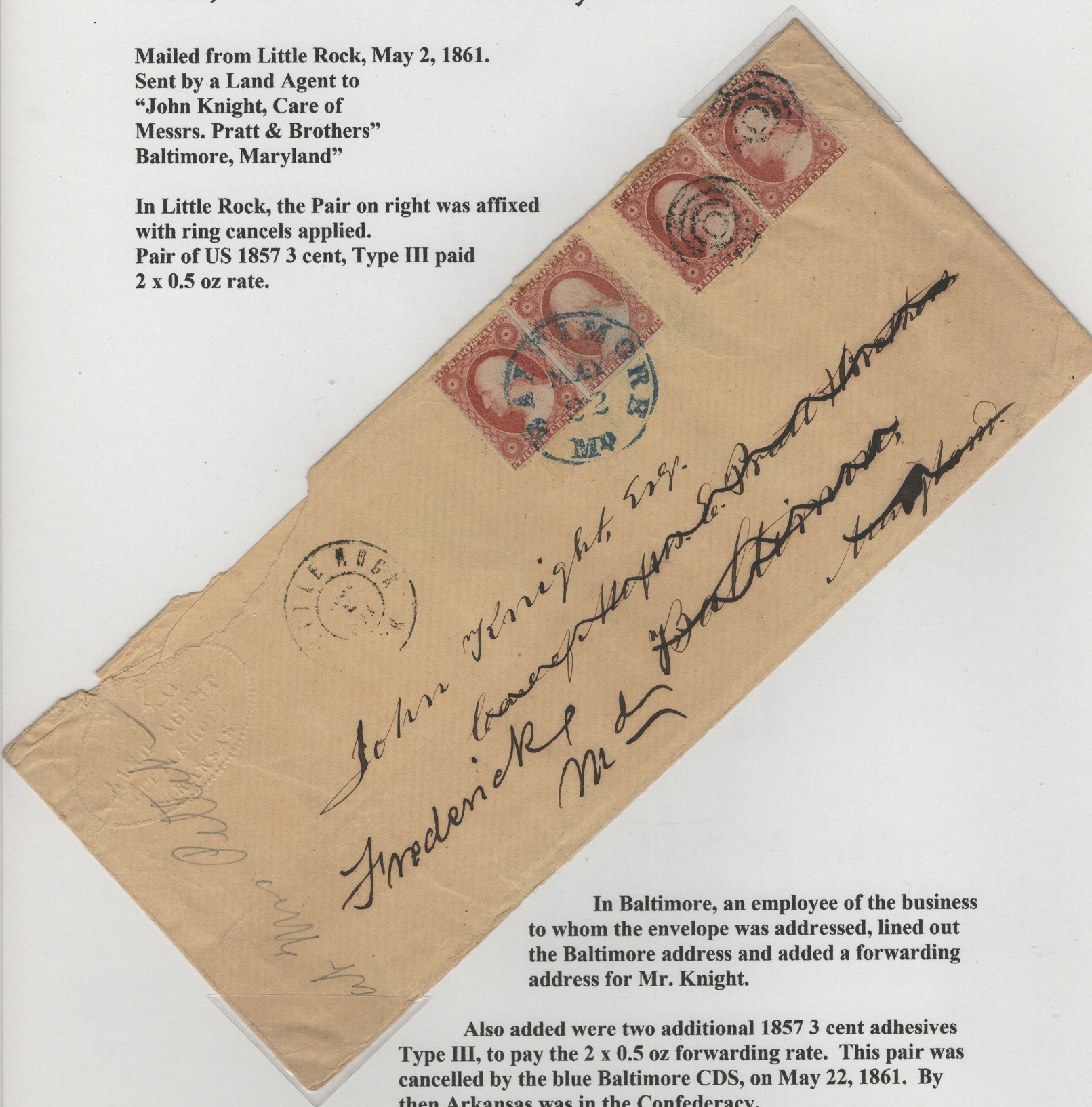
Mailed 4 days before Secession

Mailed from Little Rock, May 2, 1861.

Sent by a Land Agent to
"John Knight, Care of
Messrs. Pratt & Brothers"
Baltimore, Maryland"

In Little Rock, the Pair on right was affixed
with ring cancels applied.

Pair of US 1857 3 cent, Type III paid
2 x 0.5 oz rate.



In Baltimore, an employee of the business
to whom the envelope was addressed, lined out
the Baltimore address and added a forwarding
address for Mr. Knight.

Also added were two additional 1857 3 cent adhesives
Type III, to pay the 2 x 0.5 oz forwarding rate. This pair was
cancelled by the blue Baltimore CDS, on May 22, 1861. By
then Arkansas was in the Confederacy.

Independent State May 6-May 17, 1861

First Day Usage

Strip of 6 x 1 cent type V pays the
double letter rate under 3000 miles

Carrollton, Carroll County
May 6, 1861
→ Bolivar, Missouri

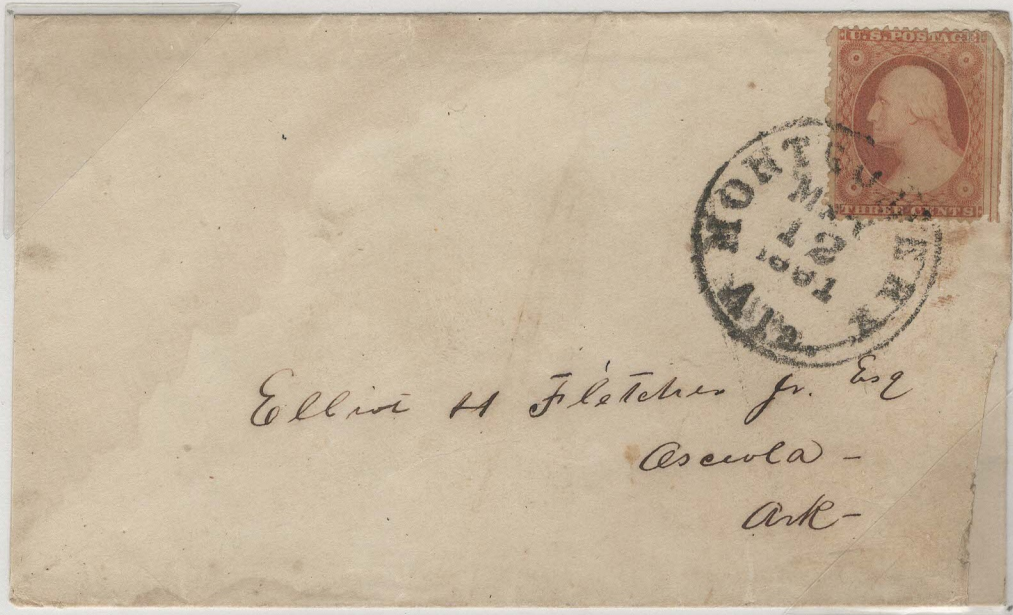


The date of this cover is established from existing correspondence to John F. Snyder, M.D. Dr. Snyder served with the 8th Division, Missouri State Guard (CSA) as the Assistant Division Surgeon. As a physician, his letters in peacetime would have been addressed to him with his MD honorific. Once the 8th Missouri was organized in 1861, he was addressed as "Colonel".

This is the only reported double weight cover from Independent Arkansas, and the only example of an adhesive with a value other than 3 cents used in the period from May 6 to May 31.

Independent State May 6-May 17, 1861

From the Confederate Capitol to Independent Arkansas



Repaired

**Montgomery, AL to Osceola AR
May 12, 1861**

The addressee, Elliot Fletcher, Jr. was one of two sons of Elliot Fletcher.

They fought first in Kentucky, and then lost their lives at Shiloh.

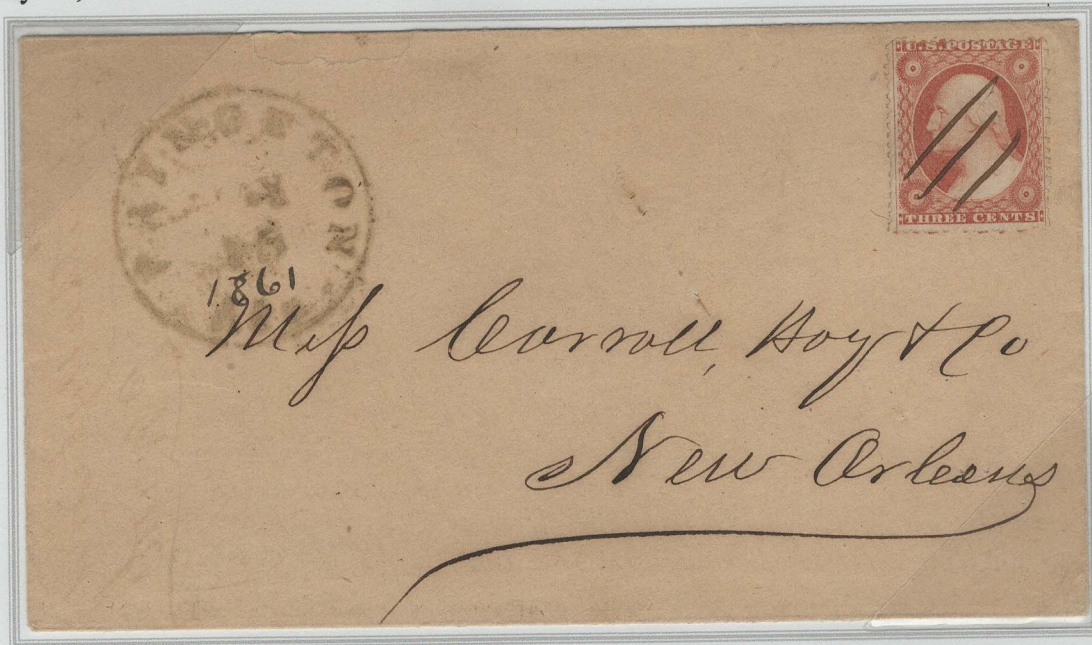
See the Arkansas troops in Kentucky page in this exhibit for a letter from Osceola to Elliot Fletcher, Jr.

This is the only reported cover mailed from any Confederate State to the independent state of Arkansas

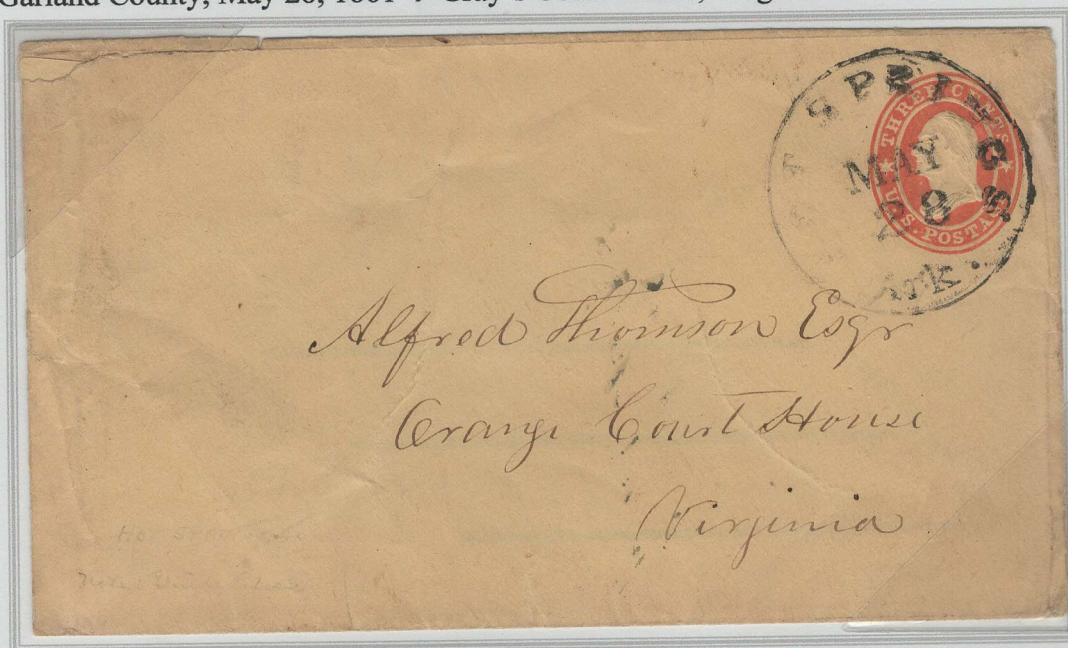
U.S. Transport of Independent State & Confederate State Mail

Arkansas seceded from the Union on May 6, and was admitted to the Confederacy on May 18; mail service was still provided by the U.S. Post Office Department. U.S. postage was valid in Arkansas through May 31, 1861.

Independent Statehood use of Federal Mail Service
Princeton, May 15, 1861 → New Orleans, Louisiana



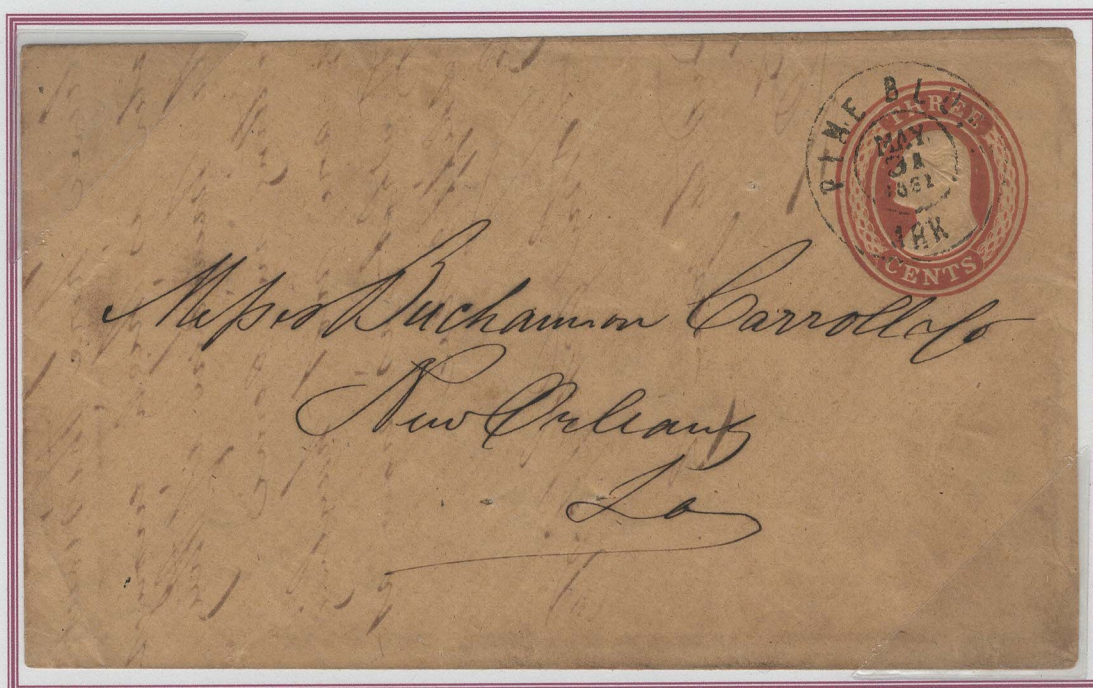
Confederate Arkansas use of Federal Mail Service
Hot Springs, Garland County, May 28, 1861 → Gray's Court House, Virginia



CSA Cert 2366

Last Day of Use in the United States Postal System

Pine Bluff, May 31, 1861 → New Orleans, Louisiana



CSA Cert # 3257

At Midnight on May 31, 1861 the United States Post Office Department ceased mail operations in the Confederate States and prohibited further mail dispatch from the Northern states into the Confederacy.

One of two reported covers from Arkansas mailed on May 31, 1861

Suspension of Mail Delivery to Arkansas from the United States

By agreement between the United States and Confederate Post Office Departments, the handling of mail in the Confederate States by the U.S. Post Office Department was discontinued after May 31, 1861. After this date, letters posted in the Union and addressed to Arkansas were no longer delivered, a state of war existing between the United States and the Confederacy.

Hamilton, Ohio, June 6, 1861 → Van Buren



Cincinnati Back Stamp June 7, 1861

Chronology:

- 1) Posted in Hamilton, Ohio, June 6, 1861
- 2) Taken out of the mail in Cincinnati, Ohio, June 7, 1861
- 3) Sent to the Dead Letter Office.
- 4) Opened in the Dead Letter Office. Sender's address was written on the face of the cover, and the letter was returned on August 5, 1861 with "DUE 3 cts" for the return postage.

Non-Acceptance of Union Postage by Confederate Arkansas

After May 31, 1861, Federal Postal Materials were no longer accepted as paying postage in Arkansas.

Bolivar, Missouri, April 14, 1861 → Camden Not claimed until June 5, 1861

"For (warded) 5 due"



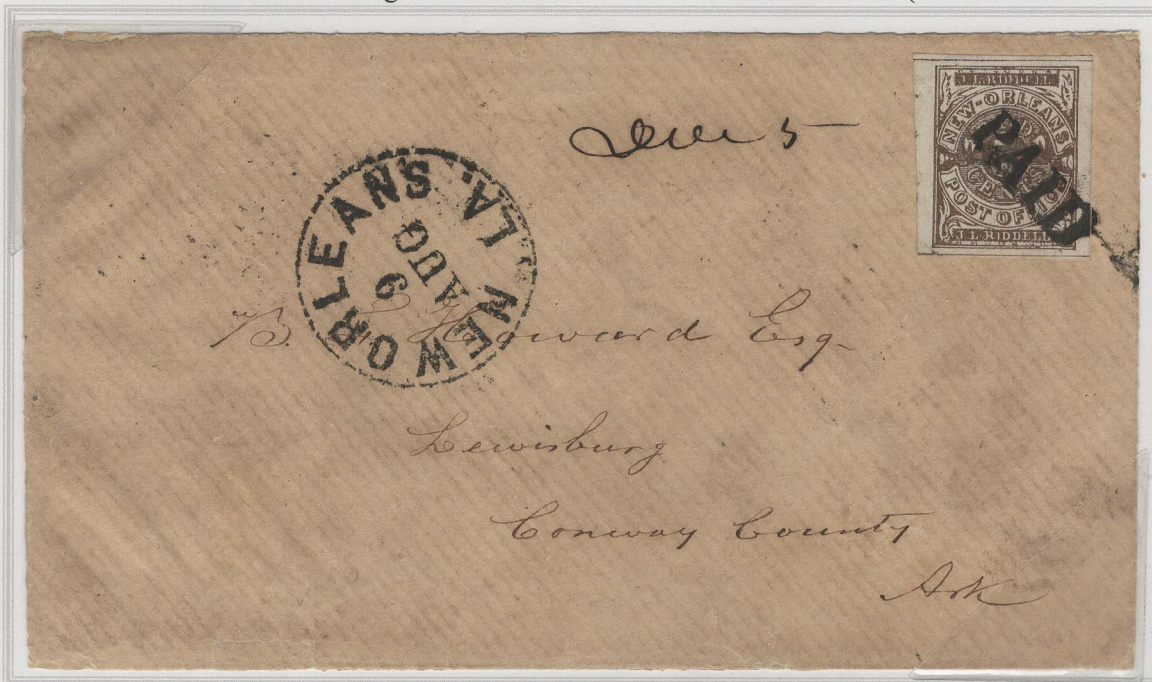
Doctor John Snyder was serving with the VIII division of the Missouri State Guard as Lt. Colonel and Assistant Division Surgeon-General. This cover, mailed April 14, was apparently picked up in Camden (no forwarding address added to the envelope), and struck with the Camden Town Mark on **June 5**, and **manuscript rated 5 cents due** (the Confederate first class postage rate), **since the postage used to mail it was no longer accepted.**

Confederacy 1861-1865

Incoming Postmaster Provisionals

New Orleans, Louisiana, August 9, 1861 → Lewisburg. Single pays 5 Cent rate for under 500 miles

Due 5 added because Lewisburg is more than 500 miles from New Orleans (about 80 miles west of Little Rock)



It was common in the new CSA Postal system that mistakes were made in distance estimates, especially to Arkansas whose geography was very unfamiliar to postal workers outside the State.

New Orleans, Louisiana, August 11, 1861 → Doaksville, Choctaw Nation

Pair of the 5-cent value pays the 10 cent rate for a single letter over 500 miles

Copy of front of envelope with the address and New Orleans town stamp



This letter is actually overpaid. The distance to Doaksville (on the Red River west of Shreveport) from New Orleans is approximately 450 miles, so would have required only 5 cents. Indian Territory probably seemed terrifically far away to the new CSA postal clerks.

This is 1 of 2 reported Confederate States PM Provisionals mailed into Indian Territory, both from the same correspondence

Confederacy 1861-1865

Incoming Postmaster Provisional

Memphis, Tennessee, November 24, 1861 → Shawnee Village, Mississippi Co.
5 cents for 0.5 ounce letter up to 500 miles

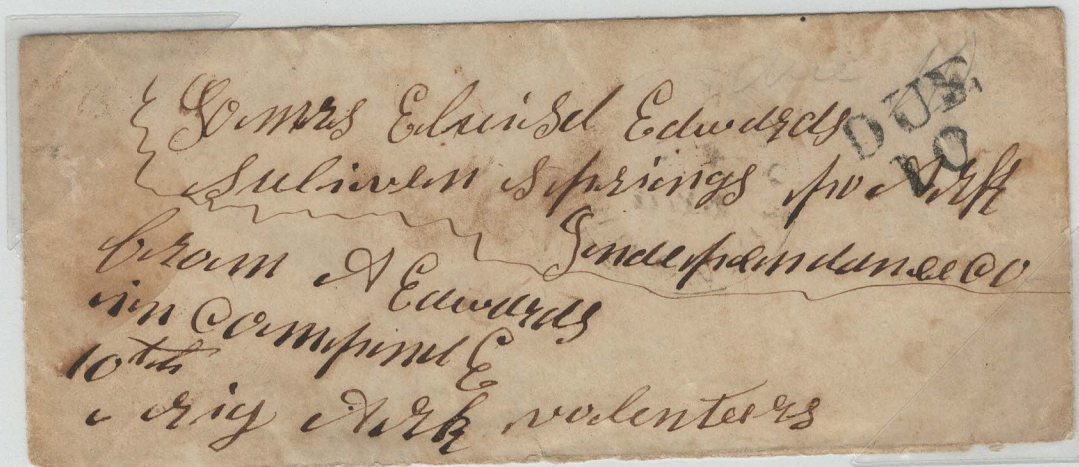


Memphis was a critical Post Office for Arkansas in the CSA.

With the Mississippi river as a barrier, there were limited points between the Eastern States and Arkansas for mail to pass. Memphis was the largest city on the east bank of the Mississippi, was a regular river crossing point, and was a major terminus for mail traveling east and west. Many covers to and from Arkansas bear the two line "Due/5" and "Due/10" hand stamps applied in the Memphis post office, often because the distances between Arkansas post offices and other Confederate post offices were misjudged.

"DUE 10" hand stamp applied in Memphis for soldier's letter going over 500 miles.

Bowling Green, Kentucky, January 19, 1862 → Sullivan Springs, Independence Co.



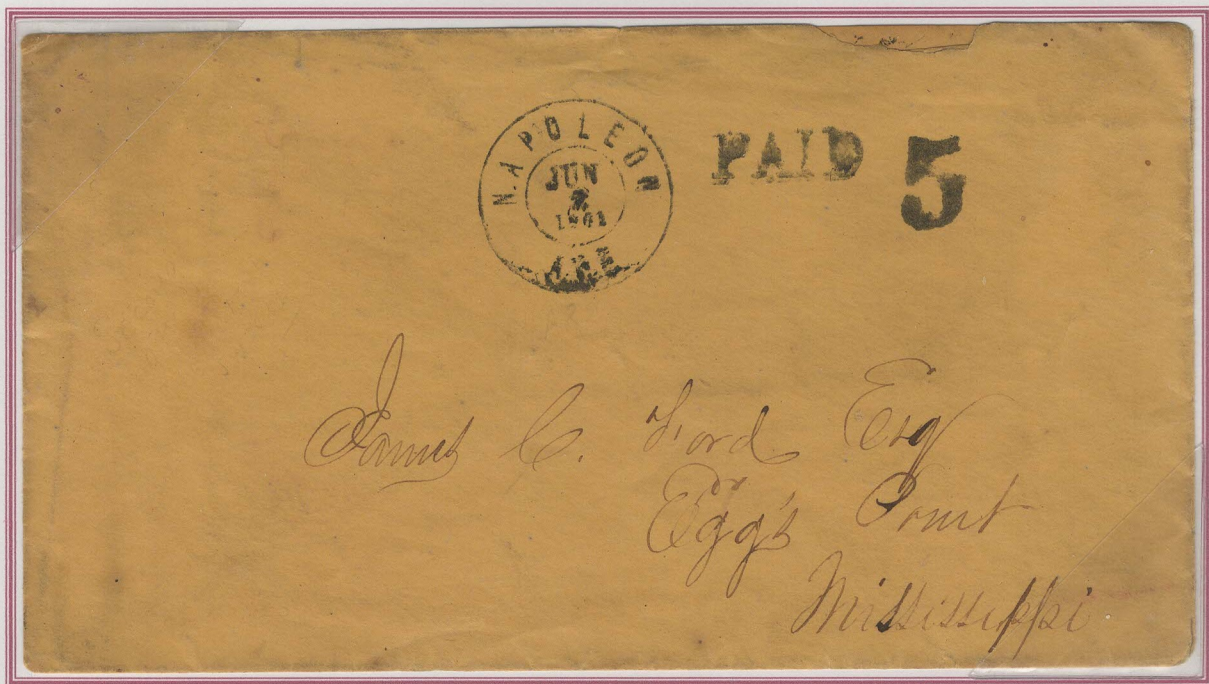
A letter from an Arkansas soldier defending Bowling Green to his family in Arkansas.
"From A. Edwards, in Company E, 10th Reg, Arkansas Volunteers".

Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

2nd Day of Use in the Confederate Postal System

Napoleon, June 2, 1861 → Eggs Point, Mississippi



Earliest reported use of a cover from Arkansas in the Confederate Postal System

Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Confederate Postage Rates, 1861 – 1865:

From June 1, 1861 to June 30, 1862-

- Drop Letter 2 cents
- Unsealed circular 2 cents
- 0.5 oz letter up to 500 miles 5 cents-Multiple for higher weight.
- 0.5 oz letter over 500 miles 10 cents- Multiple for higher weight

From July 1, 1862 –

- 2 cents rates as above
- 0.5 oz letter all distances 10 cents- - Multiple for higher weight

Trans-Mississippi Express Rate from November 1863

- 0.5 oz or fraction thereof 40 cents

Note: After rates were uniform at 10 cents. "PAID" is seen without the rate.

No adhesive stamps were available from the CSA POD for use in Arkansas until late 1861, and shortages occurred throughout the war. Postmasters wrote the rates on the envelopes or used handstamps to indicate the rates and whether Paid or Due. Soldier's letters could be posted "Due"; all others except political franks were supposed to be "Paid" by the sender.

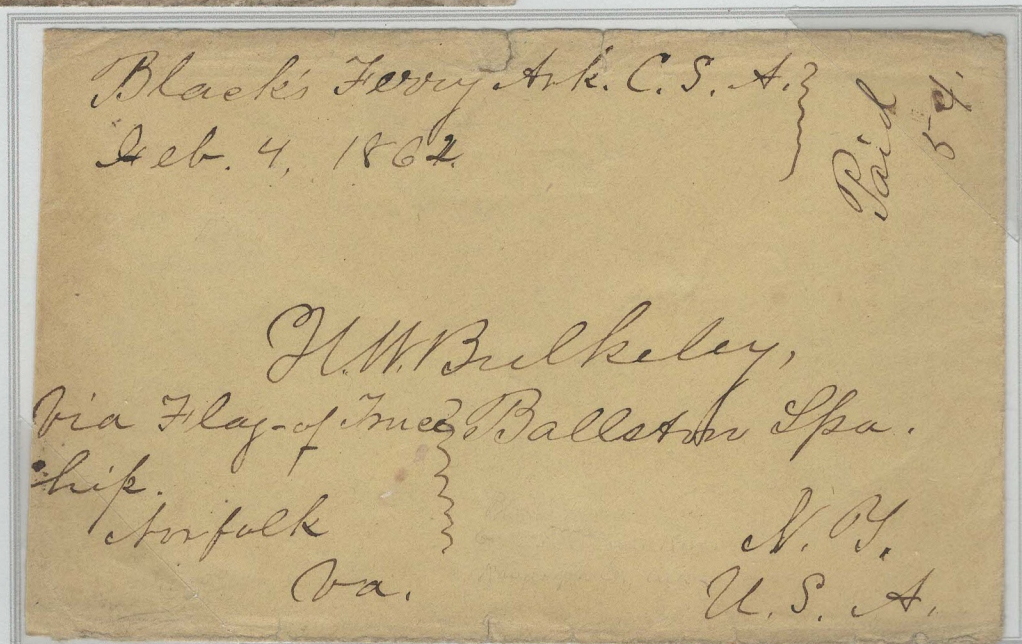


Arkadelphia →
Richmond, Virginia
August 17, 1861
"PAID 10"

Sent to Alexander Stephens, Vice President of the Confederacy. Date determined from docketing on reverse in Stephen's hand.

Black's Ferry, Randolph Co. →
"Via Flag of Truce Ship" →
Ballston Spa, New York
February 4, 1862 "Paid 5 c"
Established 1852, Discontinued 1866

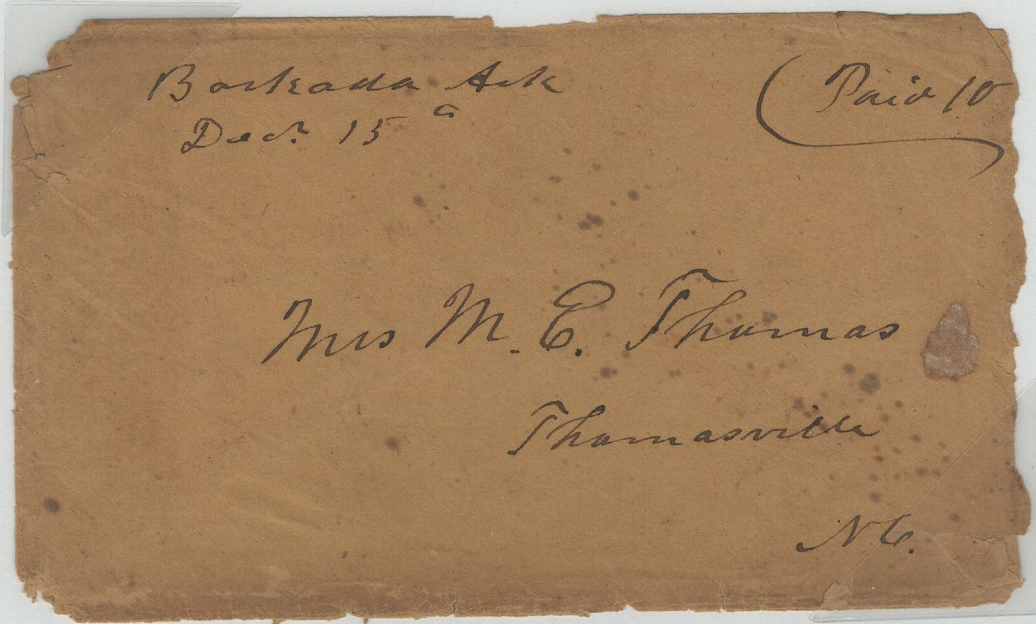
Passed across to the Northern Postal System at Norfolk, Virginia on a Flag of Truce ship. Only reported Arkansas cover so conveyed.



Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Barkada, Drew Co., December 15, 186? → Thomasville, North Carolina "Paid 10"
Established May 27, 1851



Camden, July 7, 1863 → "via Shreveport, LA" → Orangeville, Texas "DUE 10"
"Soldier's letter", "From R.W. Wren, Co. G 11th Regiment, 2nd Brigade, Parson's Division, Missouri Infantry"



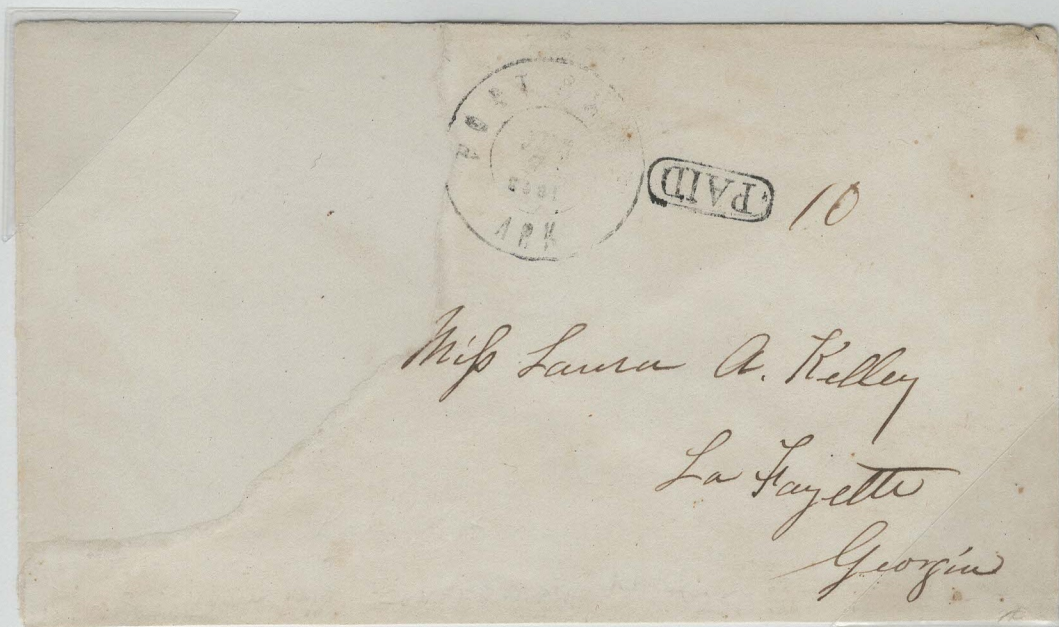
Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

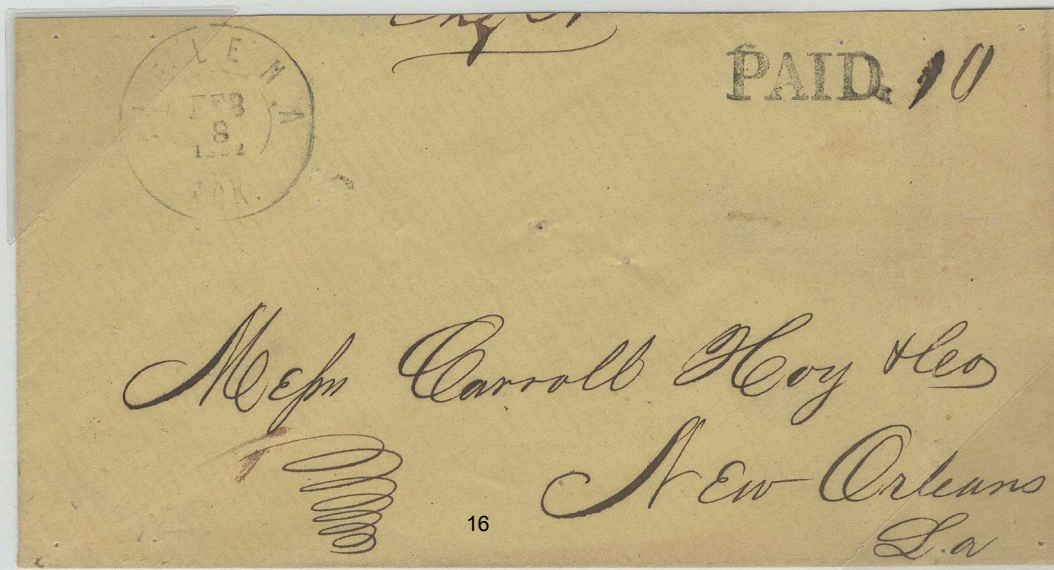
Florence, Drew Co,
November 8, 1861
→ New Orleans, Louisiana
"PAID 10"



Fort Smith, January 7, 1863 →
Lafayette, Georgia "PAID 10"
(cover repaired)



Helena,
February 8, 1862
→ New Orleans
"PAID 10"



Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Lake Village, Chicot Co. → Woodville, Mississippi January 15, 1862

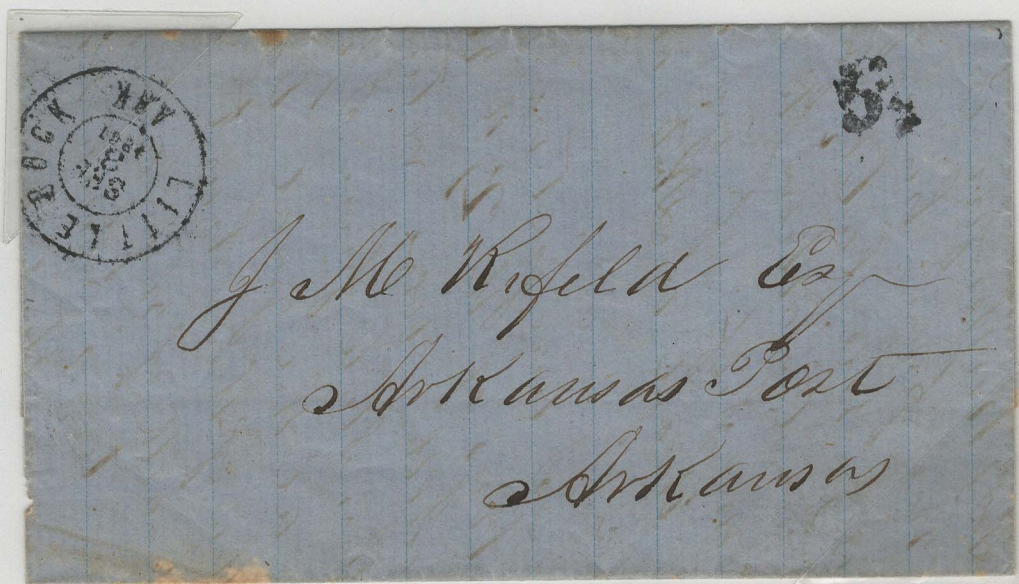
"PAID 5 CENTS"

Established 1857



Little Rock, Pulaski County → Arkansas Post, Arkansas September 3, 1861

"5 PAID"

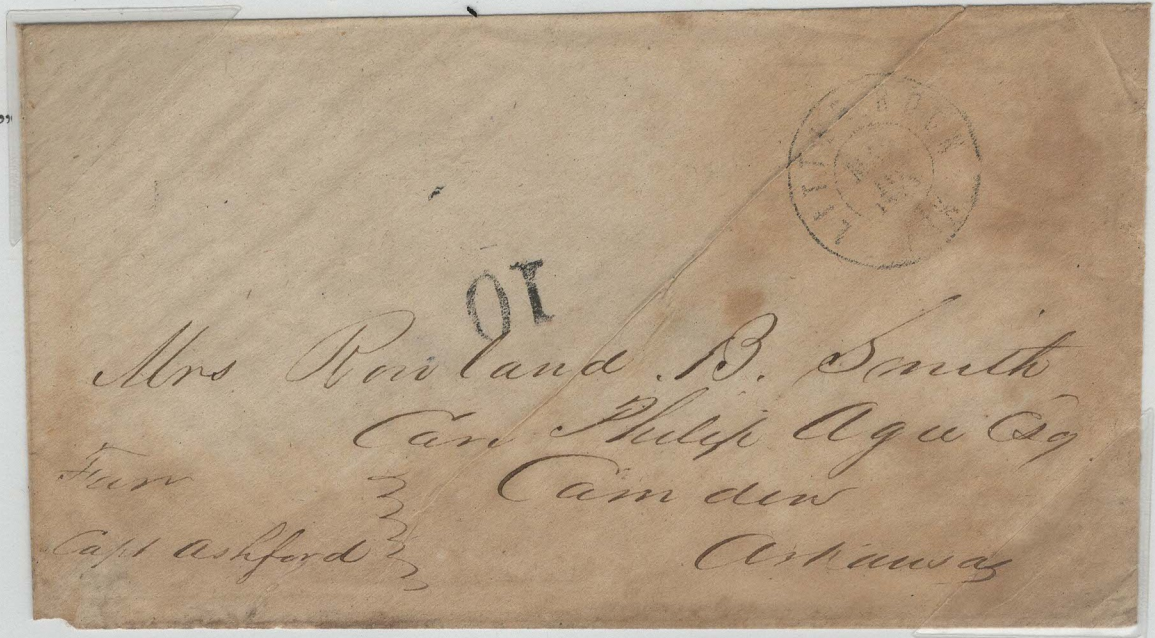


This is the earliest usage reported of this 90 degree 5 PAID handstamp from Little Rock.

Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Little Rock,
March 16, 1863
→ Camden
Soldier's letter "(Due) 10"



Advertised

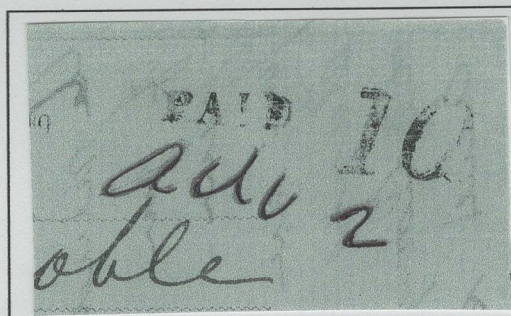
Nacogdoches, Texas, May 6, 1863 → Little Rock

"PAID 10"

Additional charge in Little Rock "ADV 2" for newspaper advertising charge.



Folded letter made from a State of Texas right of way conveyance form.



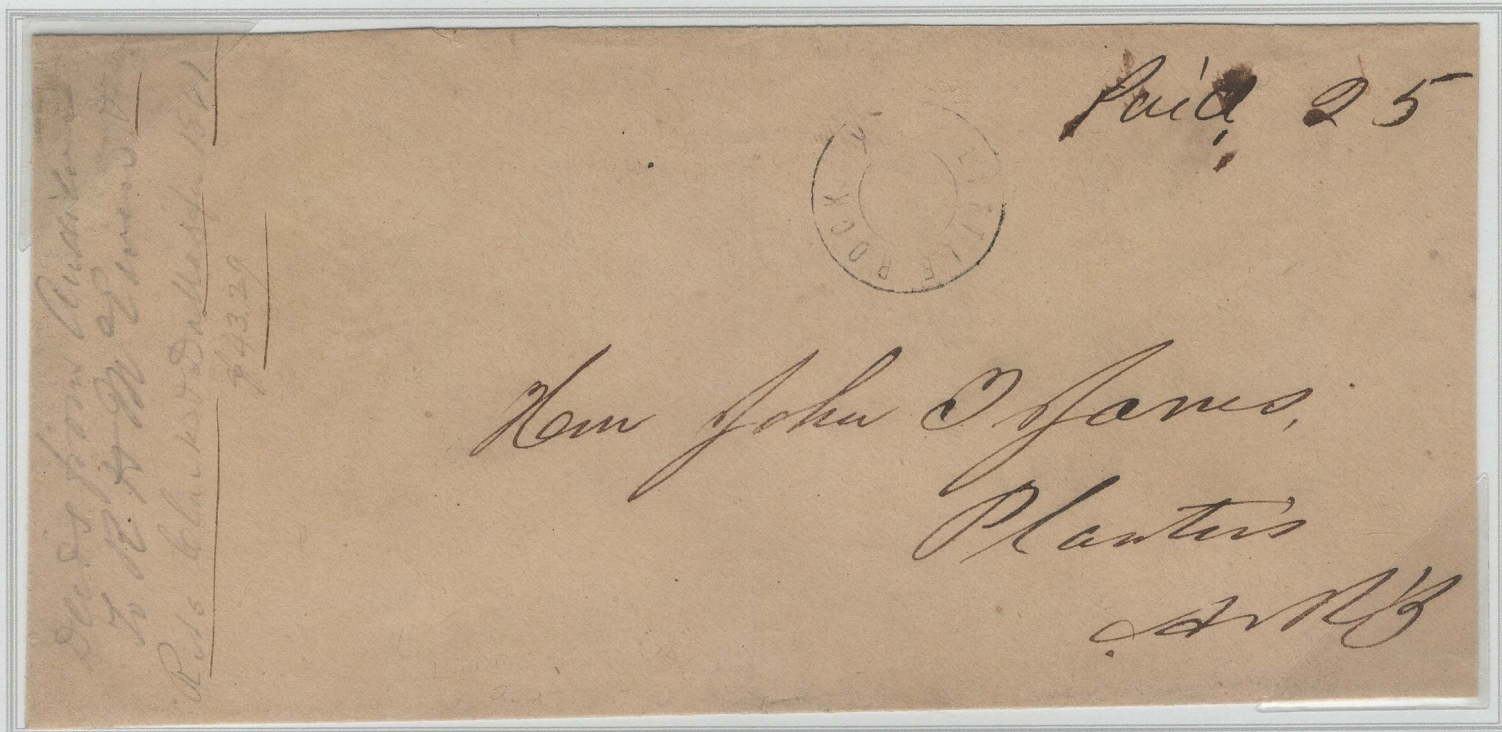
Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Little Rock, 1861 → Planters

"Paid 25"

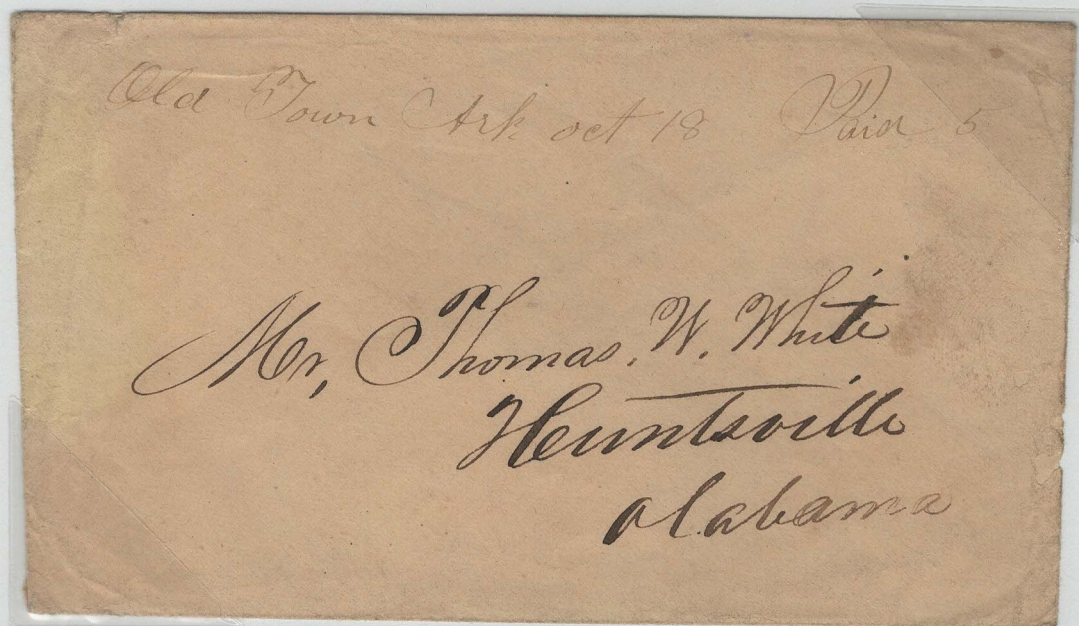
5 times the single letter rate of 5 cents for one half ounce under 500 miles before July 1, 1862



This cover is the highest rated Confederate stampless reported from Little Rock

Old Town, October 18, 1861 → Huntsville, Alabama

"Paid 5"

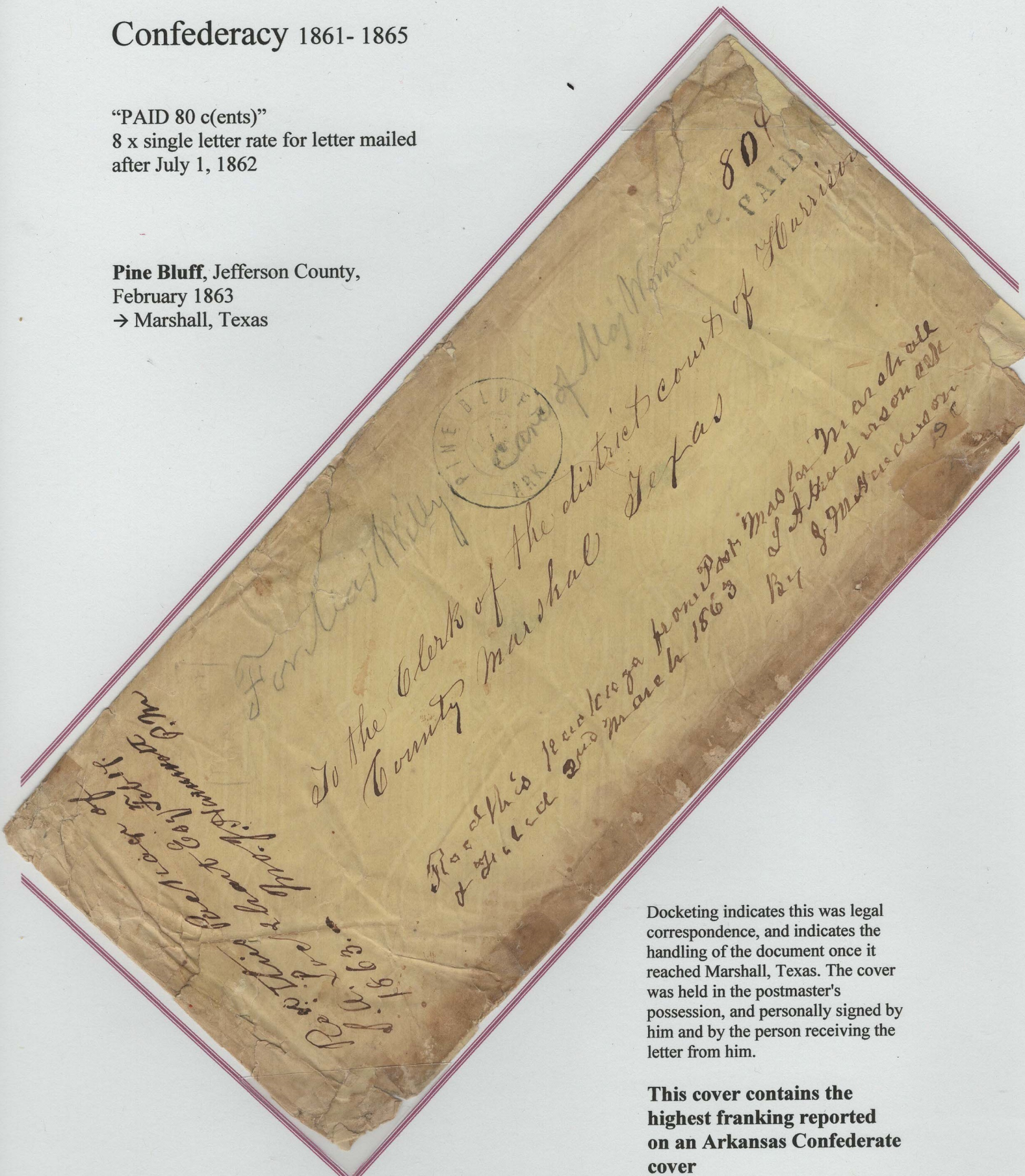


Confederacy 1861- 1865

"PAID 80 c(ents)"

8 x single letter rate for letter mailed
after July 1, 1862

Pine Bluff, Jefferson County,
February 1863
→ Marshall, Texas



Docketing indicates this was legal correspondence, and indicates the handling of the document once it reached Marshall, Texas. The cover was held in the postmaster's possession, and personally signed by him and by the person receiving the letter from him.

This cover contains the highest franking reported on an Arkansas Confederate cover

CSA Cert #4019

Confederacy 1861-1865

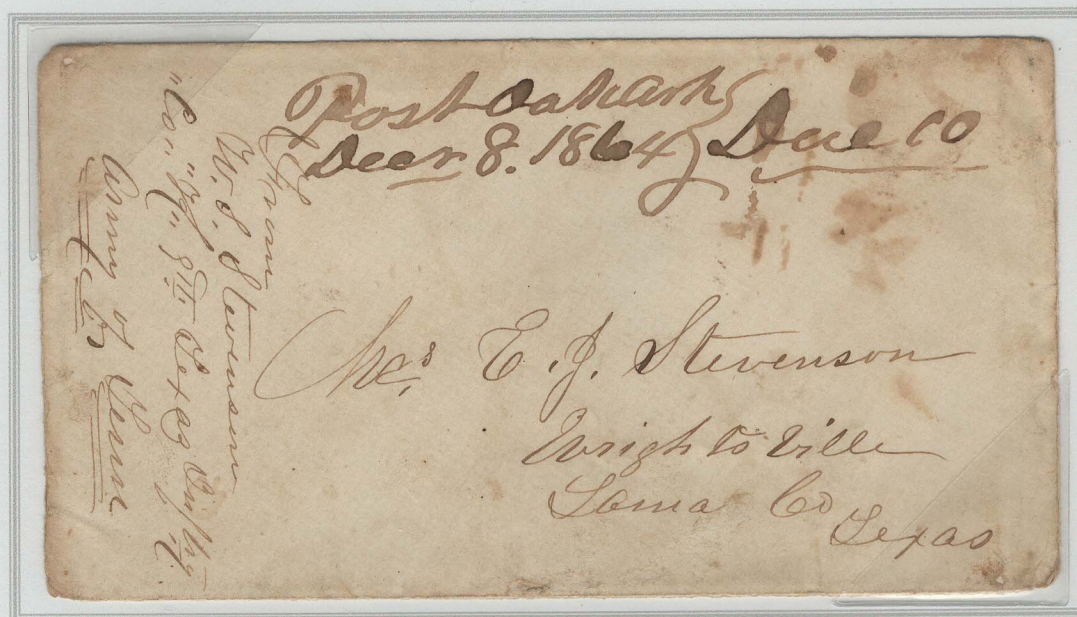
Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Pine Bluff, January 8, 1863 → Plano, Texas "PAID 10" Turned Cover



The interior of this cover contains the previous cover face and the following address, posted from **Richmond, Texas**: "Mr. M.G. Mayes, Co.F., 24th Tex.Cav., dismounted, Garland's Command, Pine Bluff, Arkansas"

Post Oak, Calhoun Co., December 8, 1864 → Wrightsville, Texas "Due 10"
Established 1860 Discontinued 1872

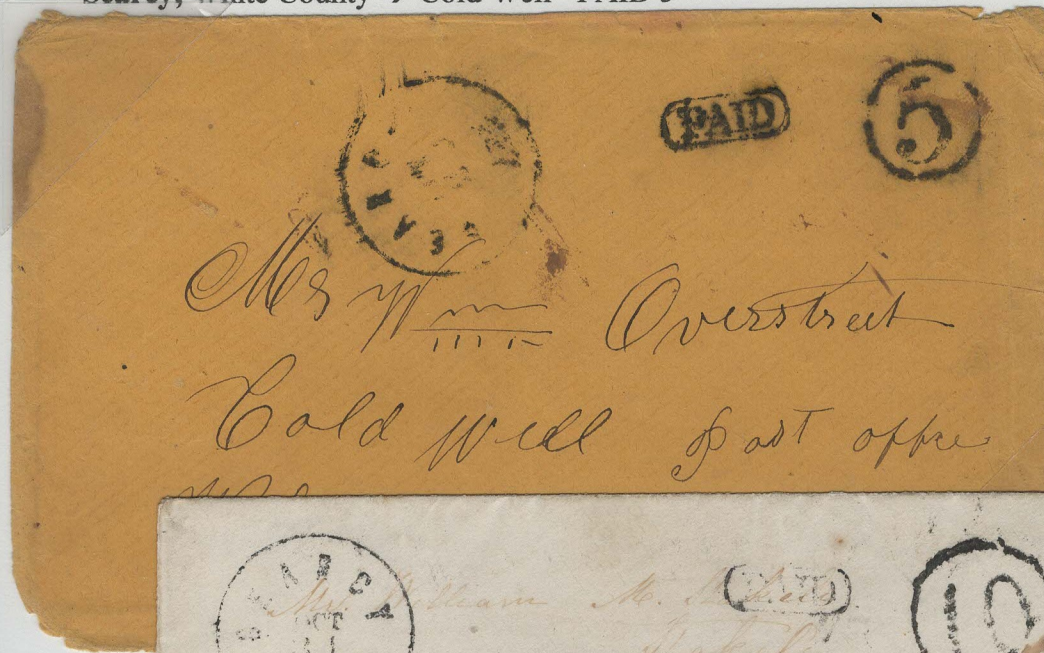


This is one of two covers from Confederate Post Oak, and the only stampless cover.

Confederacy 1861-1865

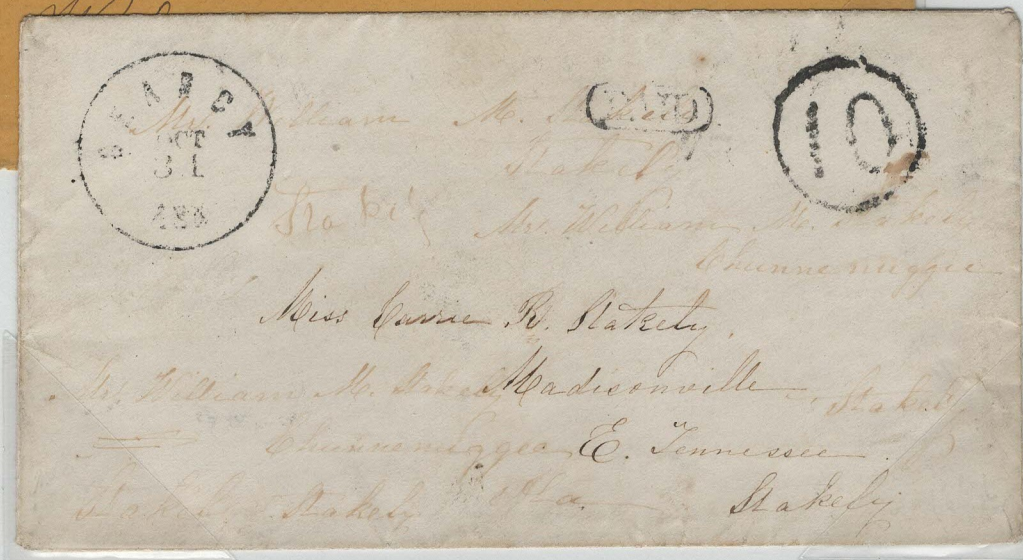
Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

Searcy, White County → Cold Well "PAID 5"



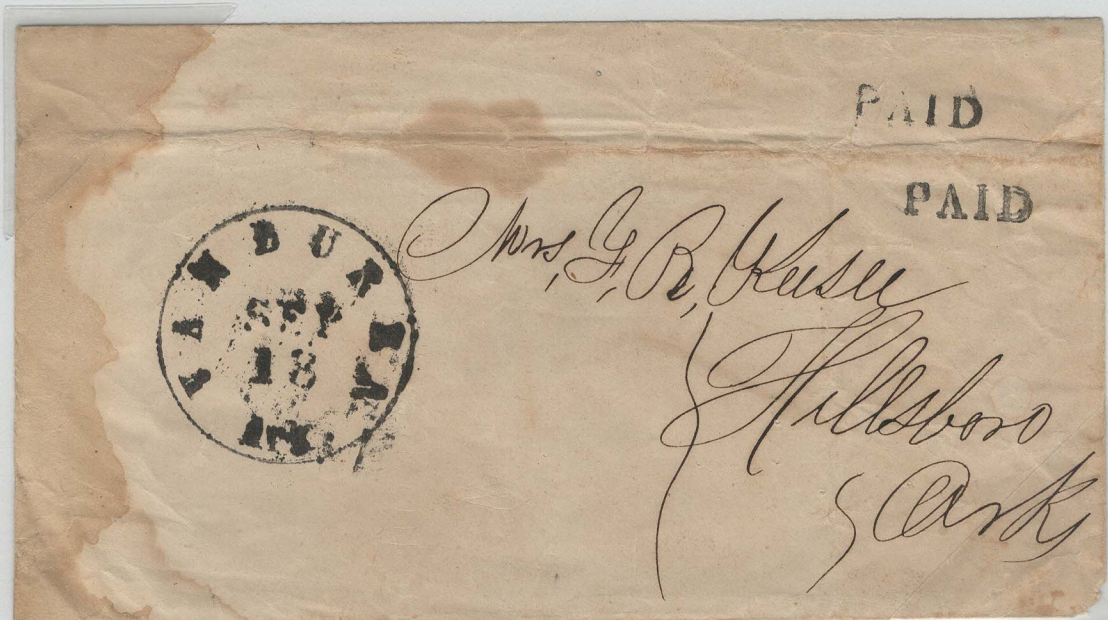
Searcy, October 31, 1862
→ Madisonville, Tennessee
"PAID 10"

Searcy was in Federal hands
by October, 1863



Van Buren → Hillsboro September 18, 1862
Van Buren was in Federal hands by September 1863

"PAID" w/o rate



After July 1, 1862, when all rates were 10 cents per half ounce, the "10" was often left off the cover when paid.,

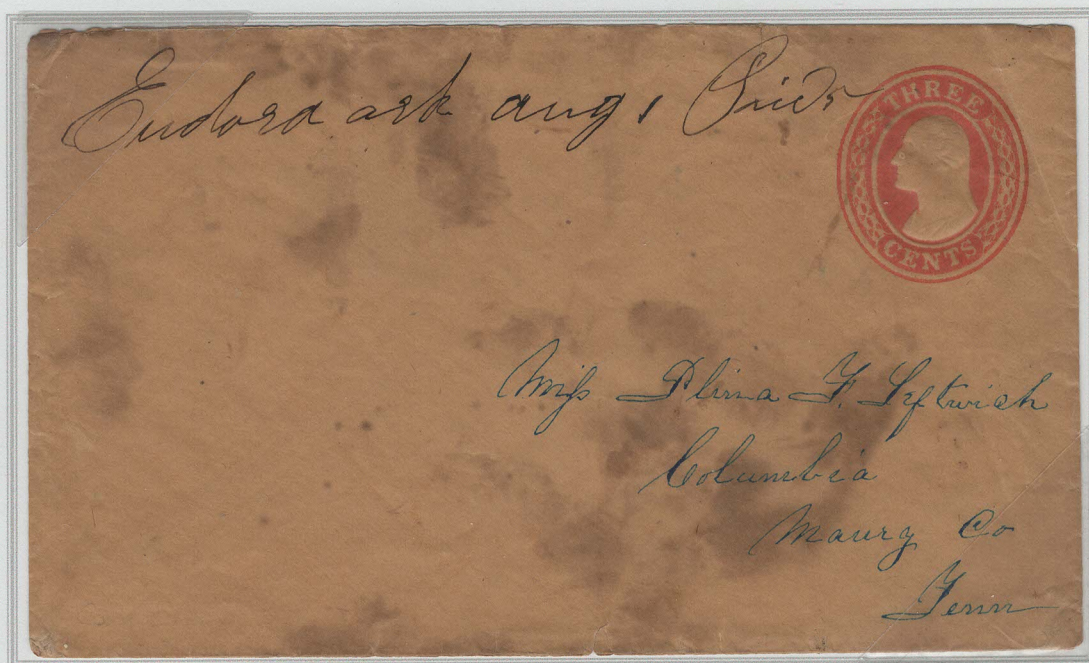
Confederacy 1861-1865

Stampless "Paid" and "Dues"

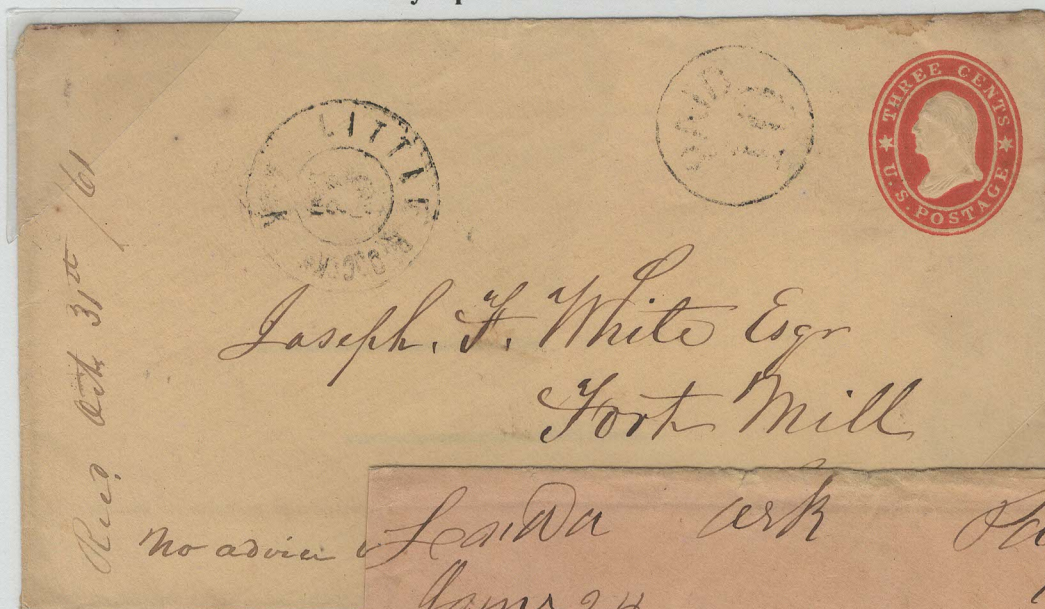
Adversity uses of United States Stationary

Eudora, Chico County, August 1, 1861 → Columbia, Tennessee

"PAID 5"

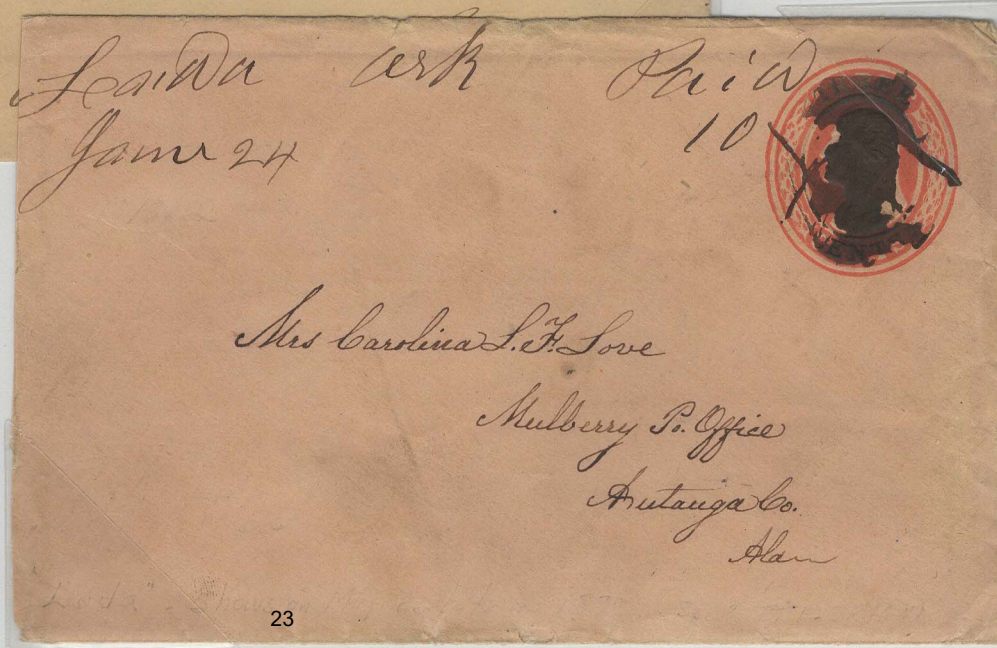


Only reported Confederate cover from Eudora



Little Rock,
October 20, 1861
→ Fort Mill,
South Carolina
"PAID 10"

Luda, Ouachita County,
June 24, 1862 →
Mulberry, Alabama
"PAID 10"



Confederacy 1861-1865

Arkansas troops in Kentucky

In 1861, Bowling Green was the capitol of Confederate Kentucky and the heart of the Confederate defensive line. Several Arkansas units, under General Thomas C. Hindman, occupied Bowling Green from October 1861 until withdrawn in February 1862.

Bowling Green, Kentucky, November 11, 1861 → Monticello

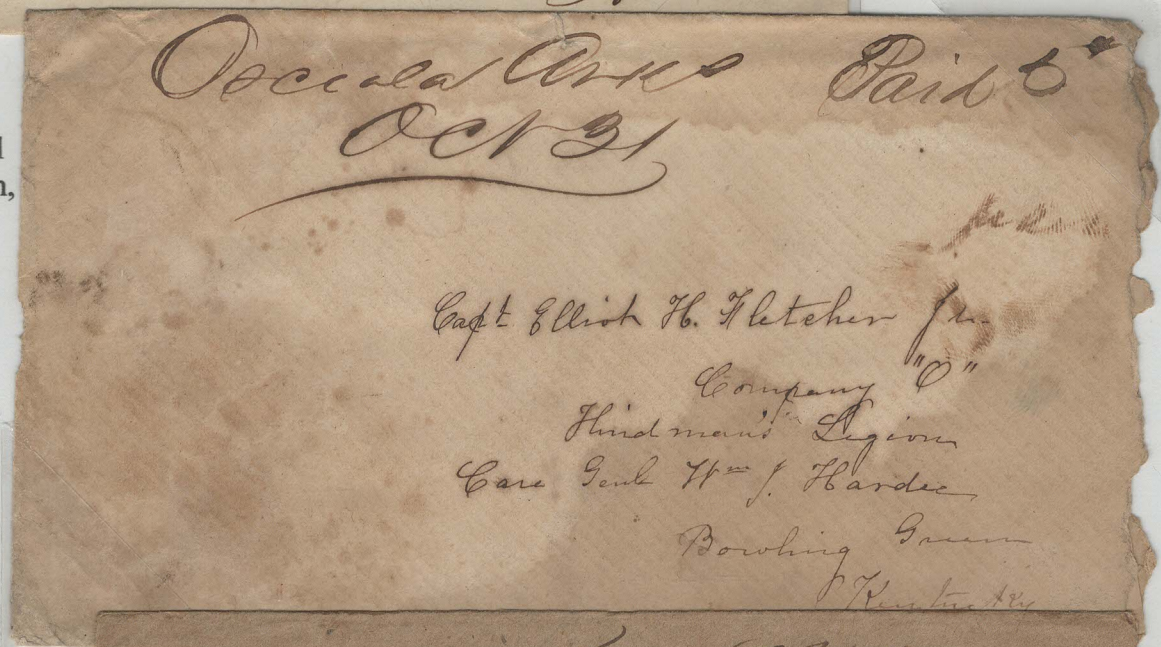
"Paid 10"

Single letter rate over 500 miles



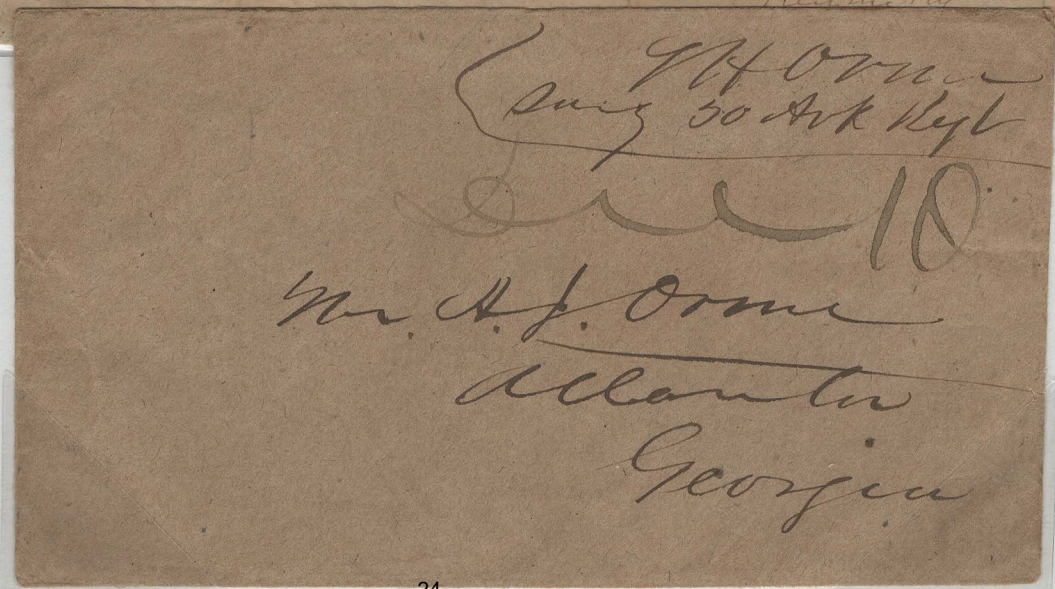
Osceola,
Mississippi Co.
October 31, 1861
→ Bowling Green,
Kentucky
"PAID 5"

"To Capt Elliot H.
Fletcher, Jr.
Company O,
Hindman's Legion,
Care General
Wm. J. Hardee".



"L.H. Orme
Surg, 30 Ark Rgt →
Mr. H.J. Orme,
Atlanta, Georgia
"Due 10"

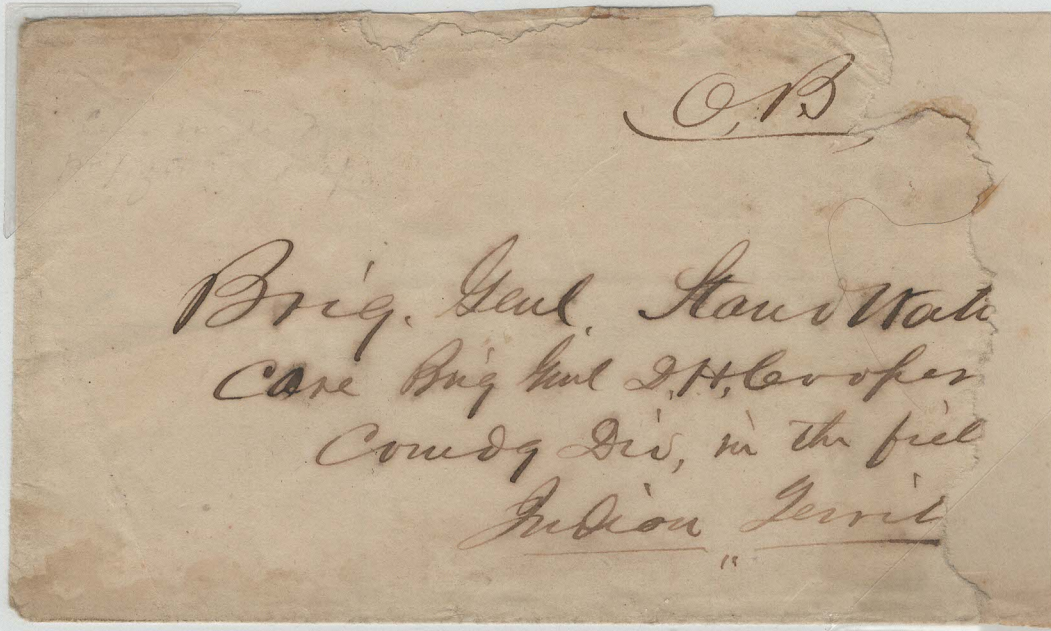
Lewis H. Orme joined
The 30th Arkansas
Regiment on July 12, 1862
while the unit was in
Tennessee. In August,
and in October 1862 the
Regiment took part in
battles at Richmond, KY
and Perryville, KY.



Confederacy 1861-1865

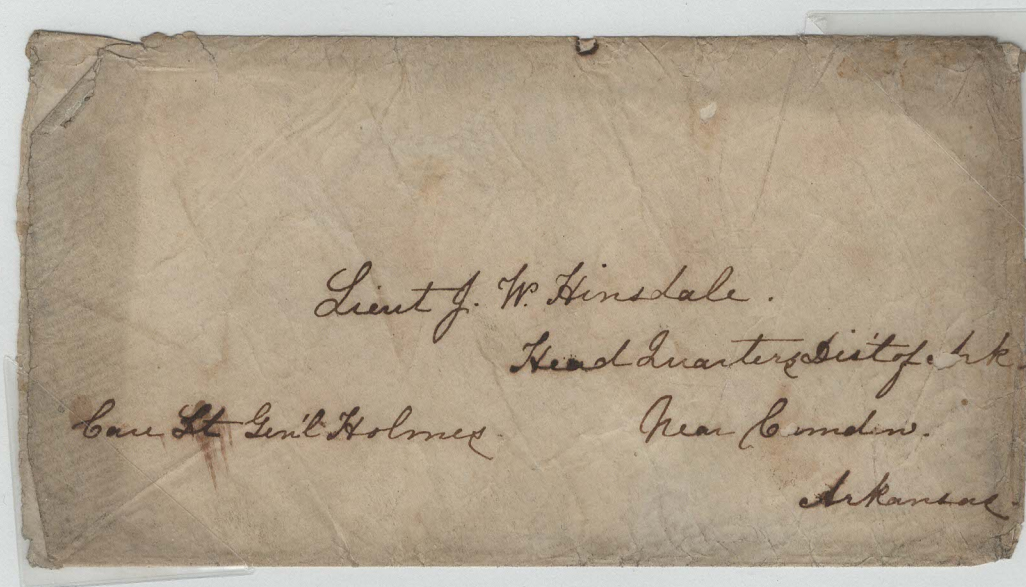
Confederate Officers in the Field

To "Brig. Genl. Stand Watie Care Brig. Genl D.H.Cooper, Commandg Div in the field, Indian Territory"
"O(fficial) B(usiness)" (cover repaired)



General Douglas H. Cooper was the Commanding General of the Indian Division, Army of the Trans-Mississippi. General Stand Watie, a Cherokee, was the highest-ranking Native American in the CSA.

To "Lieut(enant) J.W. Hinsdale, Care Lt. General Holmes
Headquarters, District of Arkansas, near Camden, Arkansas"
Privately carried letter, winter 1863-1864

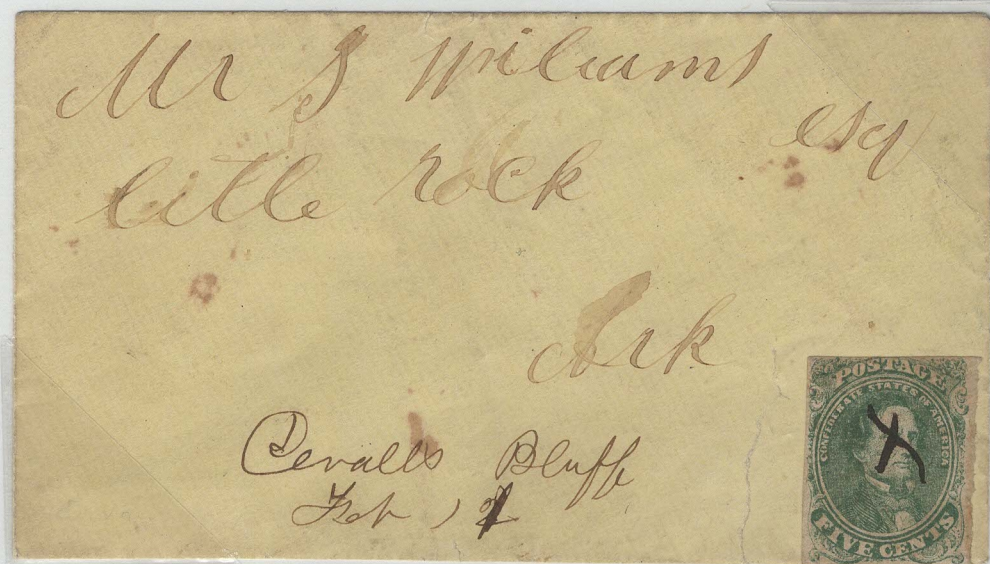


Following the fall of Little Rock in September 1863, Lieutenant General Theophilus Holmes of the District of Arkansas concentrated his forces near Camden, where his command went into winter quarters. Camden remained the CSA Arkansas military headquarters for the remainder of the war.

Confederacy 1861-1865

CSA Adhesive Issues

5-Cent Green Lithograph

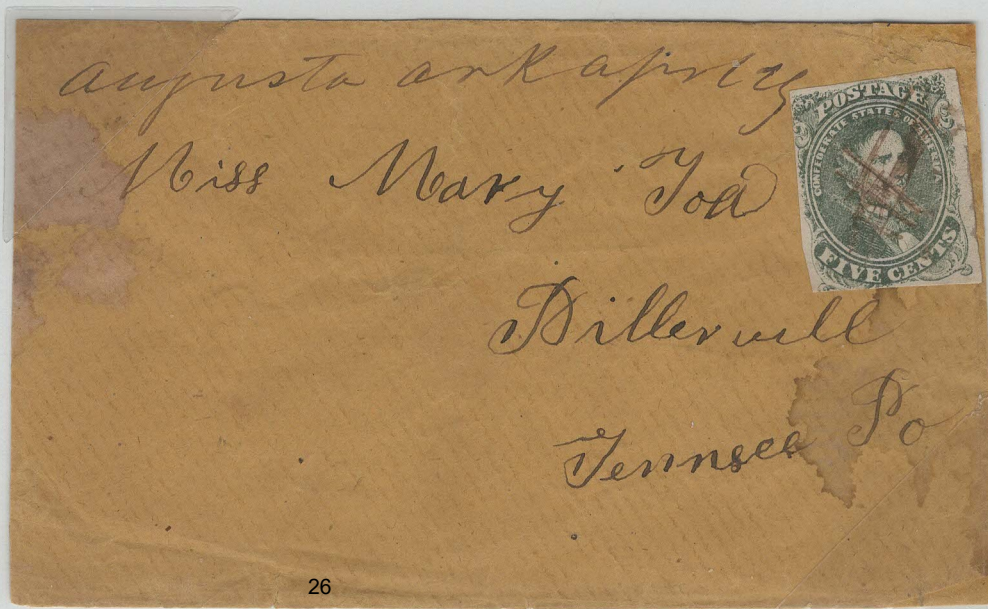


Devalls Bluff,
Prairie County,
February 11, 1862
→ Little Rock

Camden,
April 21, 1862
→ Washington



Augusta, Woodruff County,
April 23, 1862
→ Dillerville, Tennessee



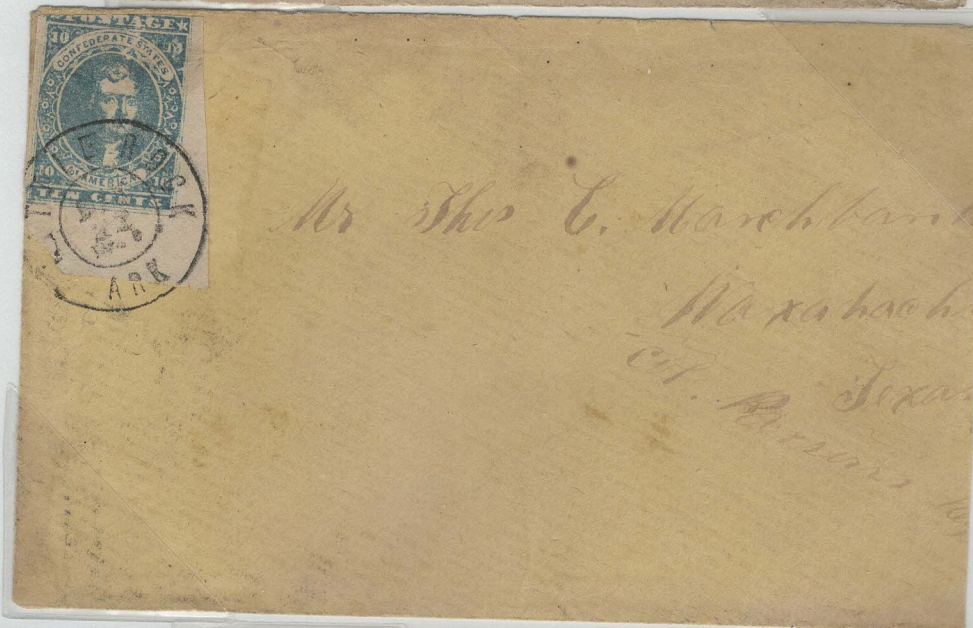
Confederacy 1861-1865

CSA Adhesive Issues

10-Cent Blue Lithograph



Little Rock,
May 13, 1863,
→ Weatherford, Texas
Adversity Envelope
made from wallpaper



Little Rock,
May 22, 1863 (probably)
→ Waxahachie, Texas

Incoming:
Liberty, Virginia,
Feb 21, 1862
→ Fort Gibson,
Indian Territory

"PAID 5" Hand Stamp
used as cancel



Fort Smith, June 23, 1862 → Fayetteville



Mailed 8 days before the end of the 5-cent single letter rate for up to 500 mile.
An adversity envelope, made from one half of a previously used #10 sized envelope.

Des Arc, Prairie County, January 16, 1863 → Butler, Texas

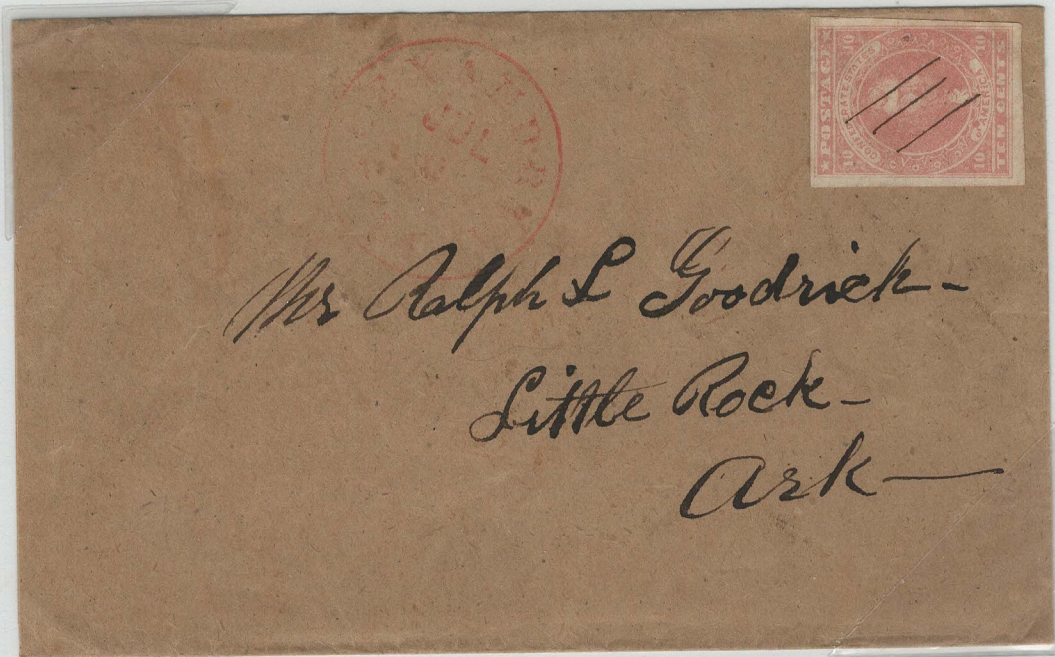
Des Arc was occupied by Federal Forces by January, 1864



An adversity envelope made from wallpaper.

Incoming:

Alexandria, Louisiana, July 3, 186? → Little Rock



Incoming:

Jackson, Mississippi, August 14, 186? → Fayetteville



Confederacy 1861-1865

De La Rue London Print



CSA Adhesive Issues

5-Cent Typographed, De La Rue & Archer & Daly issues

Camden, September 16, 186?
→ Liberty Texas

Archer & Daley Richmond Print



Little Rock,
November 24, 1862
→ Hillsboro, Texas

An adversary cover, made from a previous letter



? → **Lewisville**

Adversity use of
US 2nd Embossed
Envelope issue, with
pair lifted and moved
to show underlying
indicia.

CAMDEN – CSA MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

The Political and Military centers of the CSA in Arkansas moved to the South West portion of the state after Little Rock was occupied in September, 1863. Camden, on the Ouachita River served as the Military HQ.

Camden, October 17, 186? → Tuscaloosa, Alabama
To "Cadet J.T. McMillian"



Rear of cover



Bluish Green shade
Wallpaper Adversity Use

Incoming
Shreveport, Louisiana, October 13, 1864 → Camden,



The headquarters of the CSA
Military west of the
Mississippi was in
Shreveport.

Confederacy 1861-1865

CSA Adhesive Issues

10-Cent Typographed Archer & Daly Types I & II

WASHINGTON – CSA STATE CAPITOL AFTER SEPTEMBER 13, 1863

Incoming

Type I single paying 10-Cent rate for mail between post offices west of the Mississippi after the fall of Vicksburg. (Falls Creek, Texas), December 9, 1864 → Washington



After the fall of Little Rock, the Confederate State Capitol was moved to Washington in Hempstead County.

Monticello, Drew County, October 1863 or 1864 → Hillsboro
Type II Pair paying the double letter rate after July 1, 1862.



The Confederate National Express Mail Service was authorized in May 1863, for letters traveling across the Mississippi River. Delays caused the service to begin operation in November 1863. By then both Vicksburg (July 4, 1863) and Little Rock (Sept 10, 1863) had fallen into Union hands.

Augusta, Georgia, September 23, 1864 → “via Grenada” (Mississippi) → Hillsboro



In his book “*The Trans-Mississippi Mails after the Fall of Vicksburg*” (1984, Addendum 1986), Richard Krieger reported the following about Trans-Mississippi covers:

Total known covers to and from all Western Points:	116
Total Arkansas Covers: From: 2 To: 9 Via: 1	Total 12

Additional research since 1986 has uncovered two additional covers to Arkansas. Hence **the total of reported Trans-Mississippi covers to and from Arkansas is 14; only 11 of these have the 40 cent rate paid.**

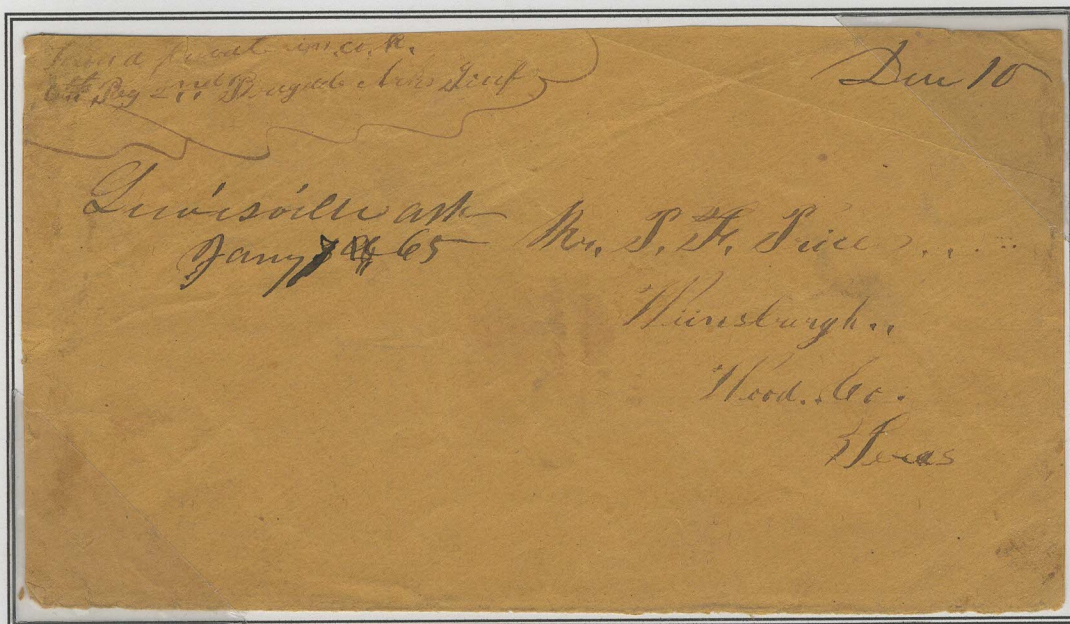
Confederacy 1861-1865

Turned Covers

Cover (Federal Postal Stationary) originally mailed from **Little Rock → Warrior Stand, Alabama**, early 1861, while Arkansas was still in the Union. Cover was turned inside out and used with 10 cent Archer and Daly Type I. **Warrior Stand, Alabama → North Gilead, North Carolina** September 12, 1863



Washington, December 2, 1864 (with 10 cent A&D Type I) -> **Lewisville, Arkansas**
Turned **Lewisville**, January 7, 1865 stampless -> **Winsburg, Texas**



Interior of above cover

January 7, 1865 is the latest date reported on an Arkansas CSA cover

Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

Soldier's letters from the field

Federal forces that could march to the state from their mustering point initially occupied Arkansas. Thus, most early occupation was done by units from Iowa, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana, along with Arkansas units loyal to the Union.

Federal soldiers occupied Memphis, Tennessee on June 6, 1862. For the next 18 months, letters from Union soldiers in Arkansas were transported to Memphis and then put into the Federal mail system.

Batesville, June 20, 1862 → via Memphis → Fairfield, Iowa

From the Letter Heading

*Batesville Ark
June 20th 1862*



This letter was mailed with a stamp; later soldiers generally did not have stamps and were allowed to mail their letters "DUE".

Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

Soldier's letters from the field

Union forces moved from the Batesville – Searcy area to Helena, occupying the city on July 15, 1862.

(Helena), September 12, 1862 → via Memphis → Jefferson Furnace, Ohio
“DUE 3” cents for soldier's letter from the field.

Helena Arkansas
September the 12 1862

From the letter heading

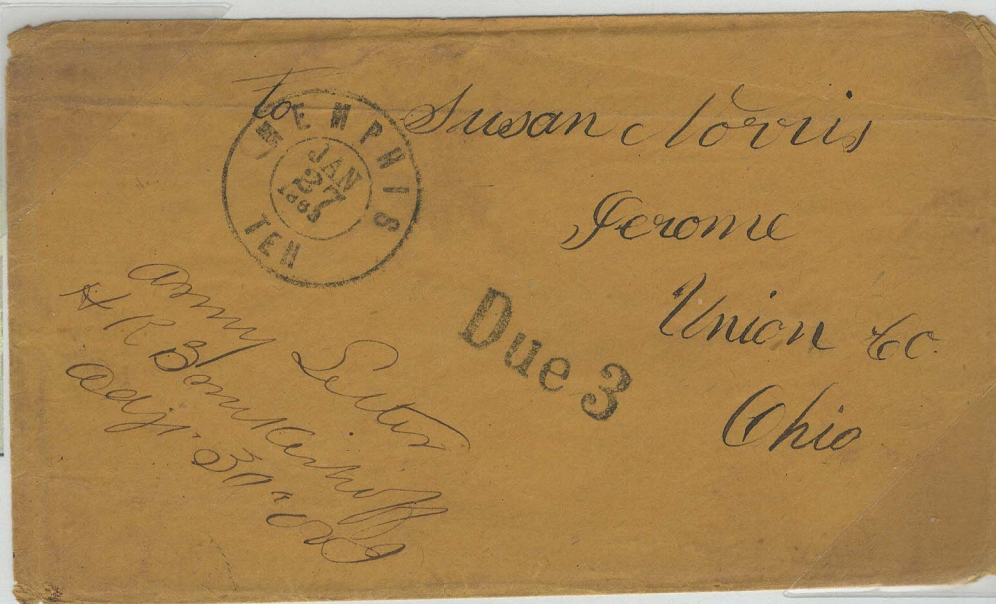


(Napoleon), January 17, 1863
→ Via Memphis → Jerome, Ohio

From the body of the letter dated Jan 17, 1863

now we are try-
ing at Napoleon
Arkansas about
200 miles above
vicksburg

By 1863, Soldiers' letters sent "Due"
had to be affirmed by a ranking officer,
a chaplain, or other approved official.



Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

Letters from the field

Helena, October 3, 1864 → via Memphis → Union Mills, Pennsylvania

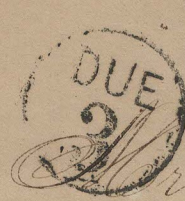
*Camp Buford, Helena, Ark Oct 3rd 1864.
E Jackson, Company, 20th Regt. Min. Vol. Infy.*

Edwin - from Helena Arkansas
October 13th 1864 -

Sick in Hospital with fever & ague
William.

Union
Corie

*Soldiers Letter
C. P. Hill, Surgeon
Company 33d Regt. Min. V.I.
White River Landing Ark
Oct 23rd 1864*



White River Landing,
October 23, 1864
→ via Memphis
→ Wishaw, Wisconsin



Mr. Milton
Wishaw P. O.
Columbia County
Wisconsin

Devalls Bluff, December 12, 1864 → via Memphis and Cairo → Davenport, Iowa

*"Devalls Bluff, Ark."
Dec 12th 1864*



~~DUE 2~~

Mr. John S. Bishop
Davenport
Iowa
Ben Cairns

The soldier, or civilian, in the field had a 1-cent star die envelope and added a 2 cent 1863 issue. "DUE 2" was stamped at Memphis because the clerk thought the 1-cent envelope had been demonetized (the penalty for using illegal stamps being twice the amount) but later someone realized the 1-cent was valid, and crossed out the penalty.

One of two reported uses of the 1-cent star die embossed envelope from Arkansas.

Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

Incoming Military Mail

Letters mailed to Union Soldiers in the field in Arkansas were sent south through Cairo, Illinois, and then Memphis, to be dispatched to the addressees.

Sent to "Robert Skinner, Helena, Arkansas, Company E, 13th Regt, Illinois Volunteers
via Cairo in care of Capt Brinkerhoff"

Sandwich, Illinois, October 7, 1862 → via Cairo → Helena



Cairo, Illinois transit marking on reverse.



Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

Incoming Military Mail

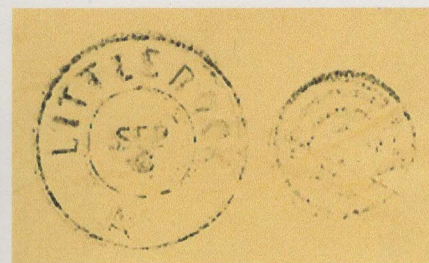
Saint Paul, Minnesota, June 5, 1864 → Warrensburg, Missouri, forwarded to Little Rock

Backstamped in Little Rock September 6, 1864

Addressed to: "Capt. D.D. Wellman". "Advertised" and "Unclaimed"



On reverse



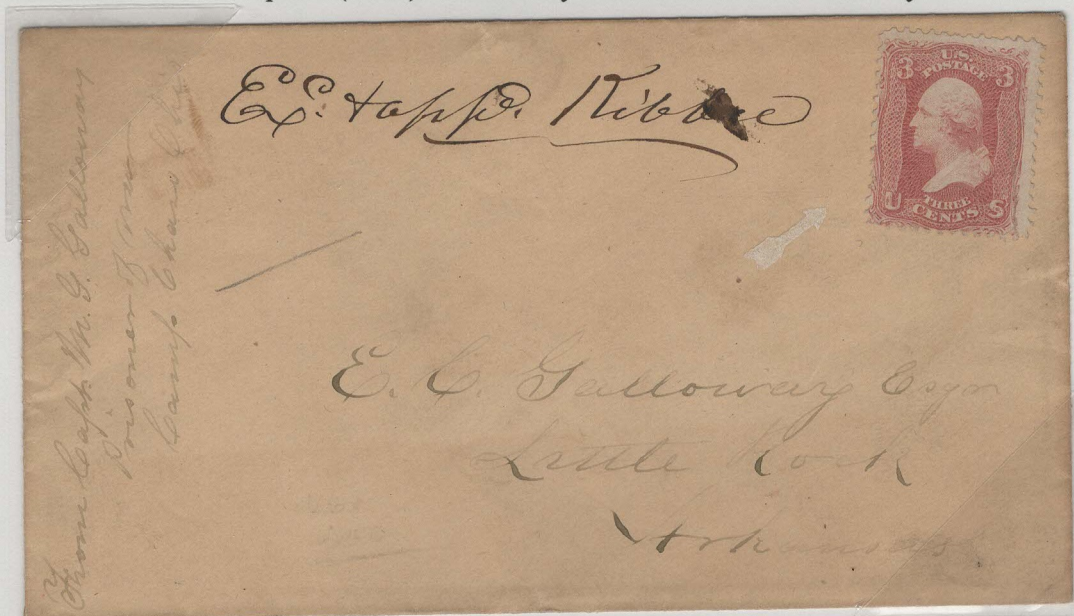
Advertised and Unclaimed markings were probably applied in Little Rock, since the postal officials in Warrensburg apparently knew where to forward the letter. The long delay between mailing and receiving stamp date may reflect the time of advertising in Little Rock.

Prisoner of War cover, 1862

**Captain Morton Galloway was captured at Pea Ridge March 1862
He was held in Camp Chase until August 1862 and then exchanged.**

(Camp Chase, Ohio) → Little Rock
"Ex (amined) & App (roved)-Kibbee"

Written by Confederate Prisoner Capt. M (orton).G. Galloway to his brother E.C. Galloway in Little Rock



This was one of 170 letters written to be hand carried by Mrs. Charlotte Moon Clark to the South. The letter was never delivered and was not placed in the mail. Fewer than 5 POW letters to Arkansas have been reported.

Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

Letter to the Military Governor

Along with the Union military commanders fighting the Confederate armies, there was a need to re-establish controls over civilian affairs in the South, as portions of the Confederate states came under Union control. Helena, on the Mississippi River, was occupied by Major General Samuel Curtis's troops in July 1862. Although only a small strip of Arkansas along the river was in Union hands, President Lincoln appointed a member of Congress, and a serving Colonel in the Federal forces, John S. Phelps of Missouri, as Military Governor for Arkansas.

New York "FREE", November 22, 1862 → via Cairo → Helena

Letter sent "FREE" because of Congressional Recipient



On reverse, Cairo transit stamp



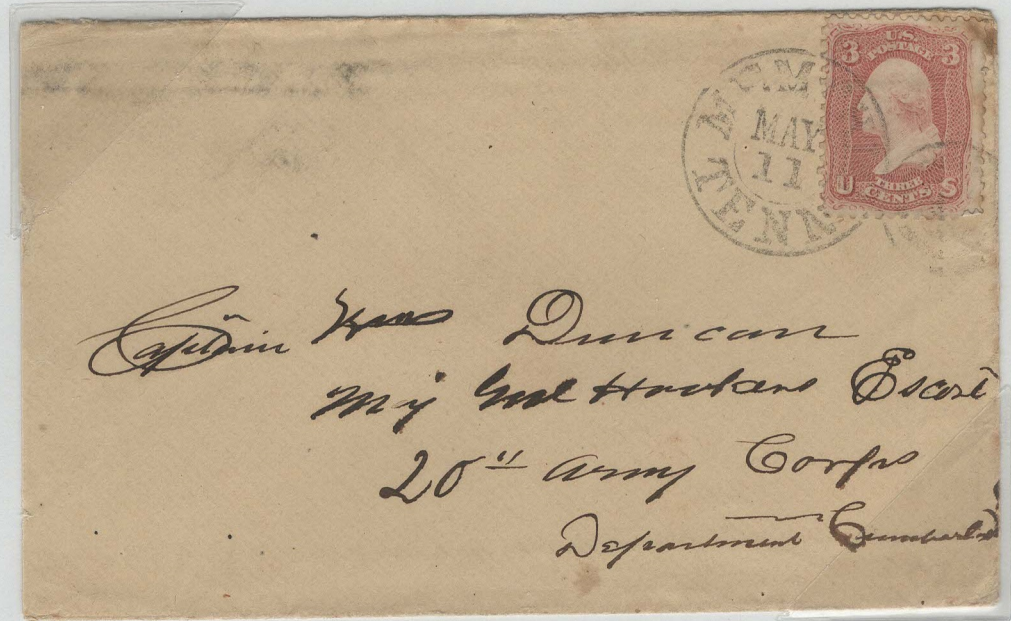
John S. Phelps served as Arkansas' Military Governor until July 1863

Union Occupation 1862 – 1865

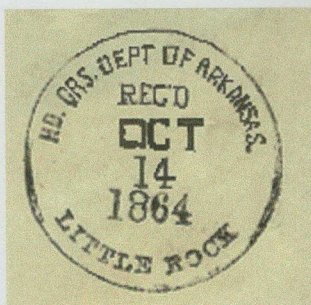
Official Military Correspondence

Correspondence between Military Units before the local post offices were reestablished in the United States System followed a system similar to those for individual soldiers.

(Helena) → via Memphis →
 “20th Army Corps,
 Department of the
 Cumberland”

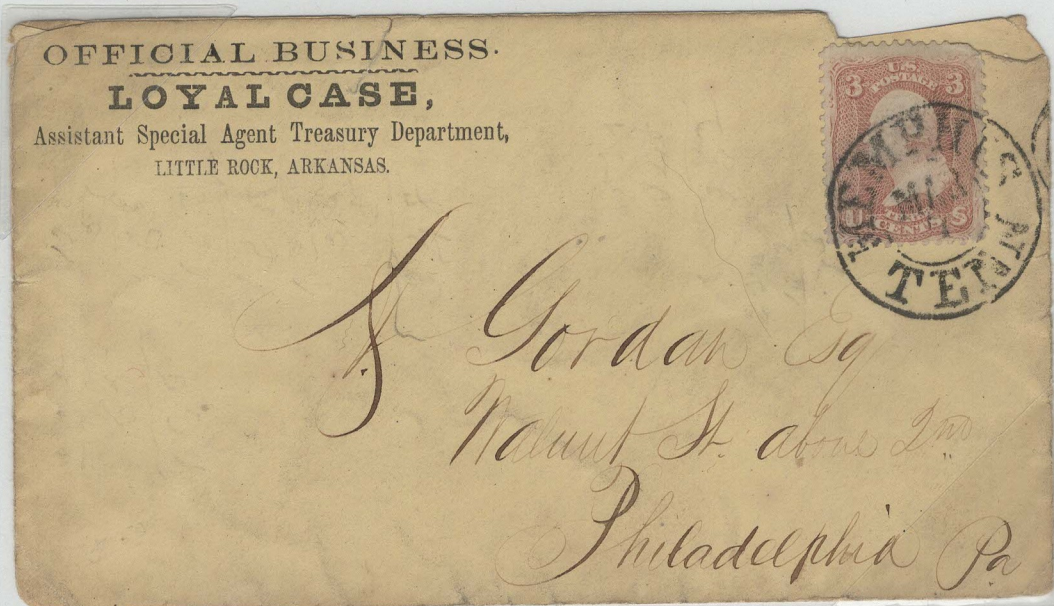


Boker, Illinois, October 6, 1864 → Little Rock
 To “Captain John Lacey, Adjutant General”



Civilians also had to use the Military system before the local post offices were reestablished.

Little Rock, March 7, 1864 → via Memphis → Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Official Business, Treasury Department



Helena, June 29, 186? → via Memphis → Washington, D.C.
Official Business "C.C.Callicot, Asst Special Agent Treasury Department, Helena District"



Union Occupation 1862 – 65

Civilian Postal Service Restored

Little Rock

After Union control was consolidated in an area, the local postal services were re-established. The double concentric circle town mark was used throughout the South in major towns.

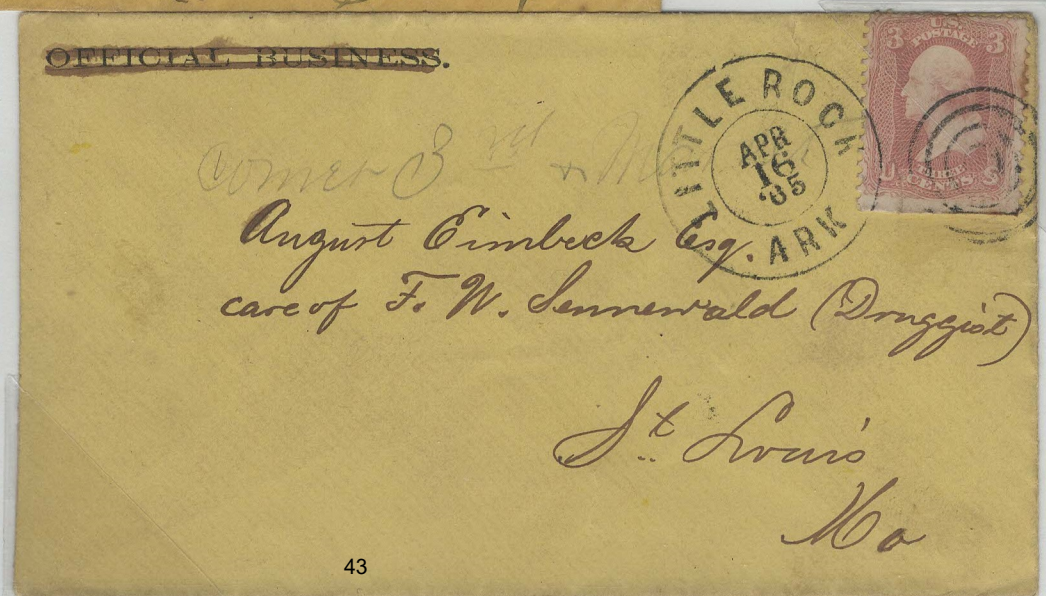
Little Rock, September 13, 1864 → Denmark, Iowa



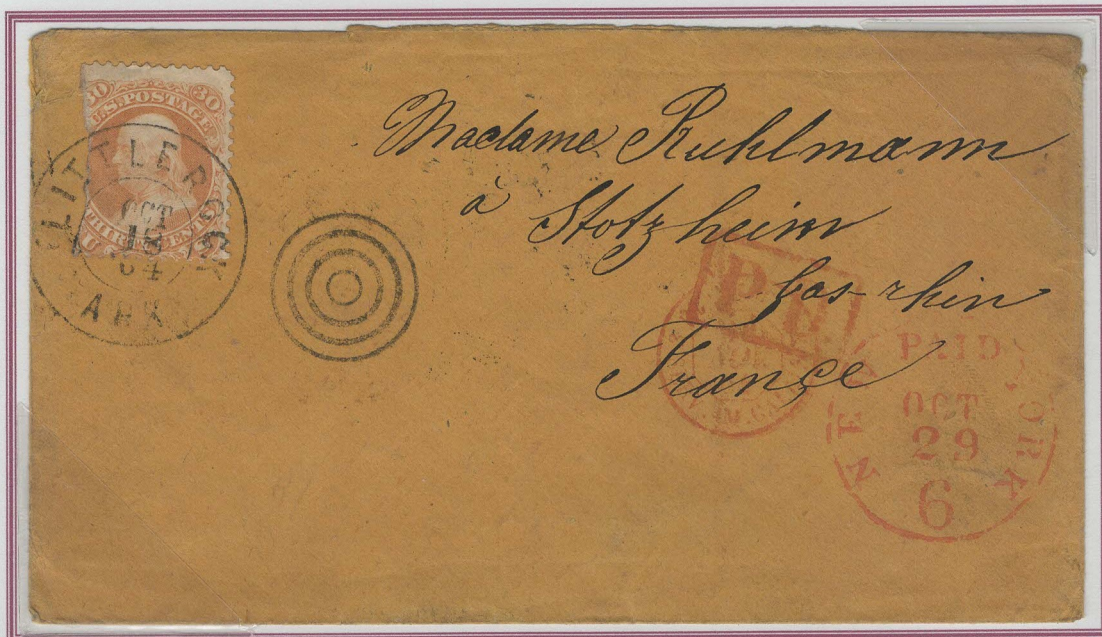
Little Rock,
March 26, 1865
→ Marshall, Illinois



Little Rock, April 16, 1865
→ Saint Louis, Missouri



Little Rock, October 18, 1864 → via New York, Paris, and Barr → Stotzheim



This is the only reported use of the 30 cent 1861 issue from Arkansas

30-Cent issue of 1861 pays the 1.0 oz letter, direct rate, to France
Postage includes 6 cents US Inland, 18 cents Sea rate, and 6 cents French Inland
Orange colors of Front hand stamps indicate all postage was pre-paid.

Back Stamps



Railroad PO from
the coast to Paris



Paris Nov 13 '64



Barr receiving mark Nov 13 '64.

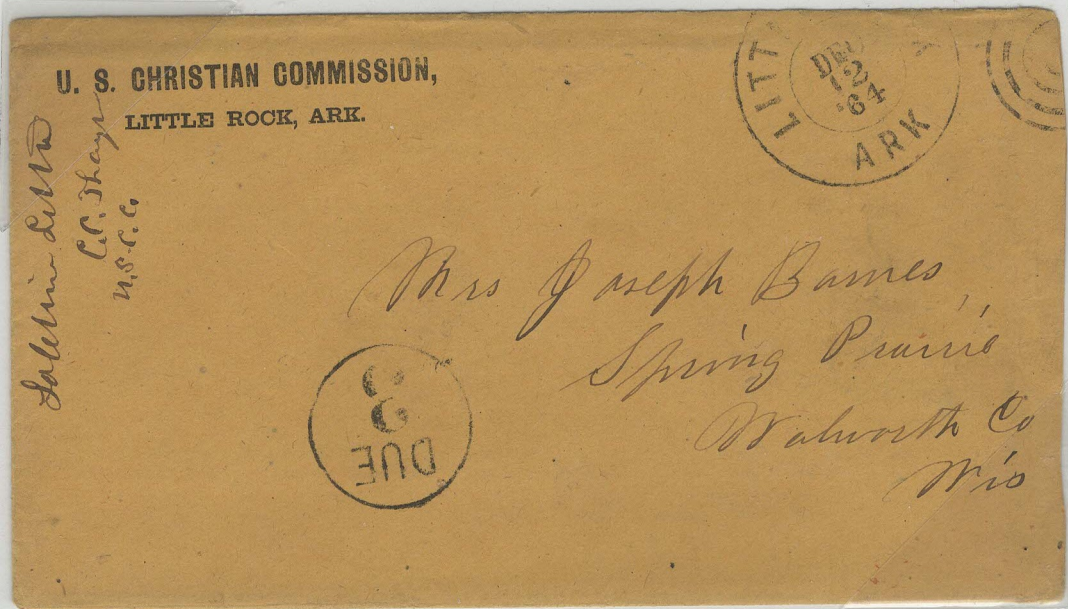
Stotzheim did not have a post office,
so this letter, addressed to Stotzheim,
was collected in Barr, the closest office.

Union Occupation 1862 – 65

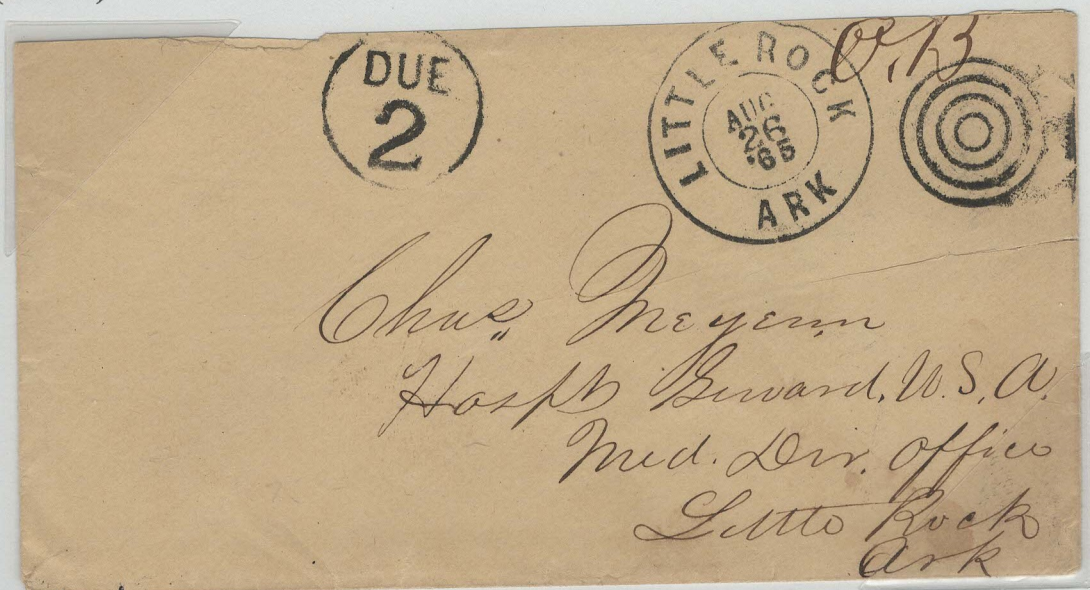
Civilian Postal Service Restored
Little Rock “Dues”

Little Rock, December 12, 1864 → Spring Prairie, Wisconsin

Soldier's letter sent “DUE 3”; soldier's due privilege vouched for by U.S. Christian Commission



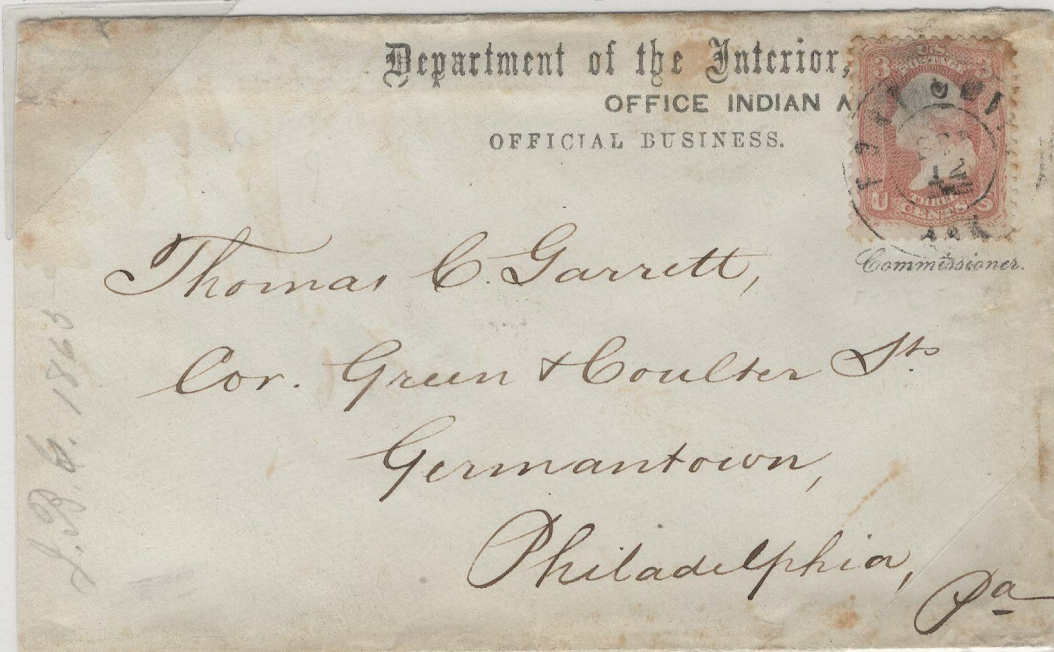
Little Rock intracity
mail, August 26, 1865
“DUE 2”,
drop letter rate penalty
(2 x 1 cent)
“Official B (business)”



Union Occupation 1862 – 65

Civilian Postal Service Restored

Fort Smith, September 12, 1865 → Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Usage of an official Dept of Indian Affairs envelope, apparently not on Official business, a stamp used in the space where the Indian Agent would free frank an official business letter.

Pine Bluff,
December 30, 1865
→ Linn County, Iowa



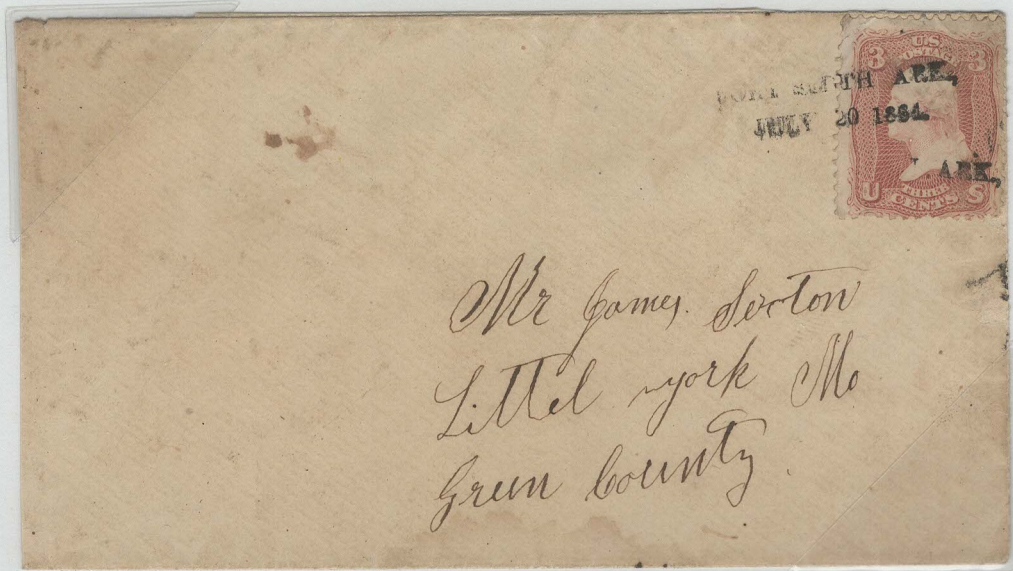
Helena,
May 5, 1865
→ Newton
North Carolina
6 cents double rate



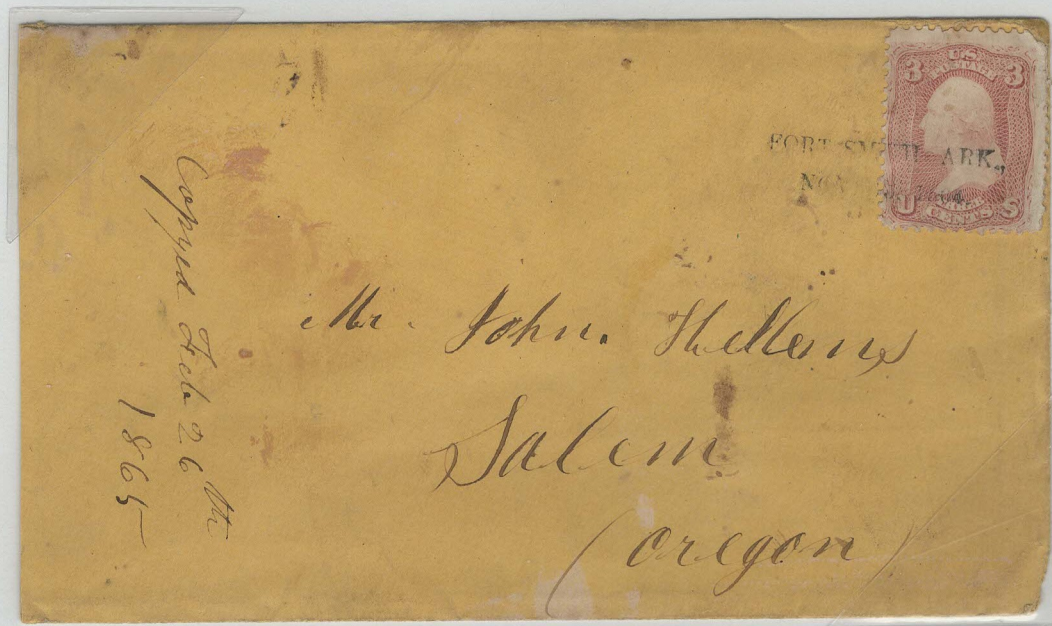
Union Occupation 1862 – 65

Civilian Postal Service Restored
、 Fort Smith Straight-Line

Fort Smith, July 20, 1864 → Little York, Missouri



Fort Smith, November 1864 → Salem, Oregon



Union Occupation 1862 – 65

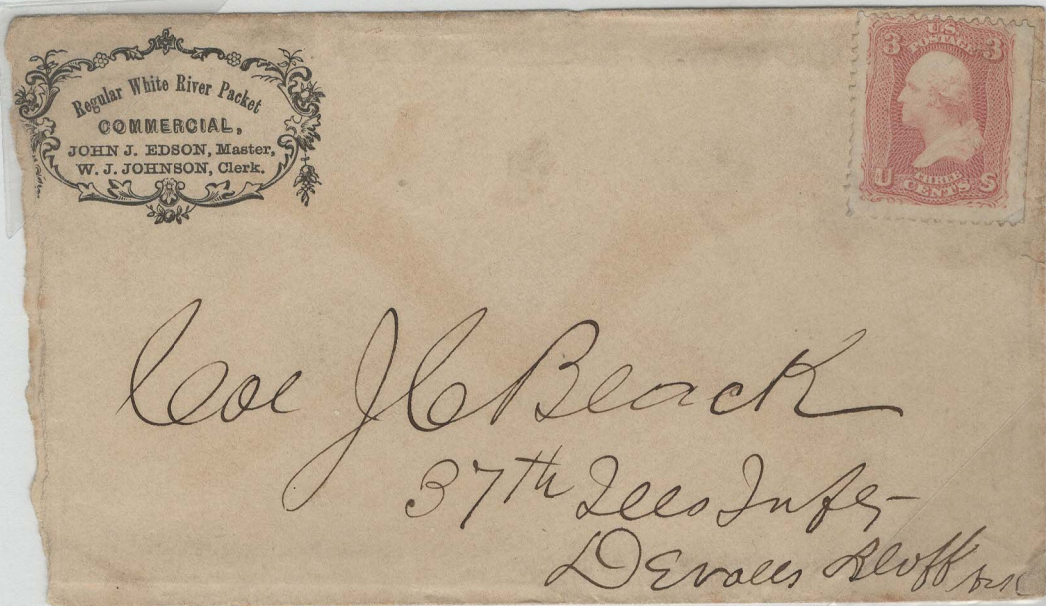
No Post Office

Where there was no Post Office, the Military Postal System was used to war's end.

"Mouth of the White River", October 26, 1864 → Devalls Bluff
"Regular White River Packet Commercial".

From Letter Heading

*Mouth of White River Ark
Oct 26th 1864*



Postage paid but
letter was carried
outside the mails,
stamp not cancelled

Bath, New York, January 20, 1865 → "Via Cairo" → "White River Landing"
Addressed to: "Captain John F Little, Co. F, 161st Regiment, New York Volunteers"

