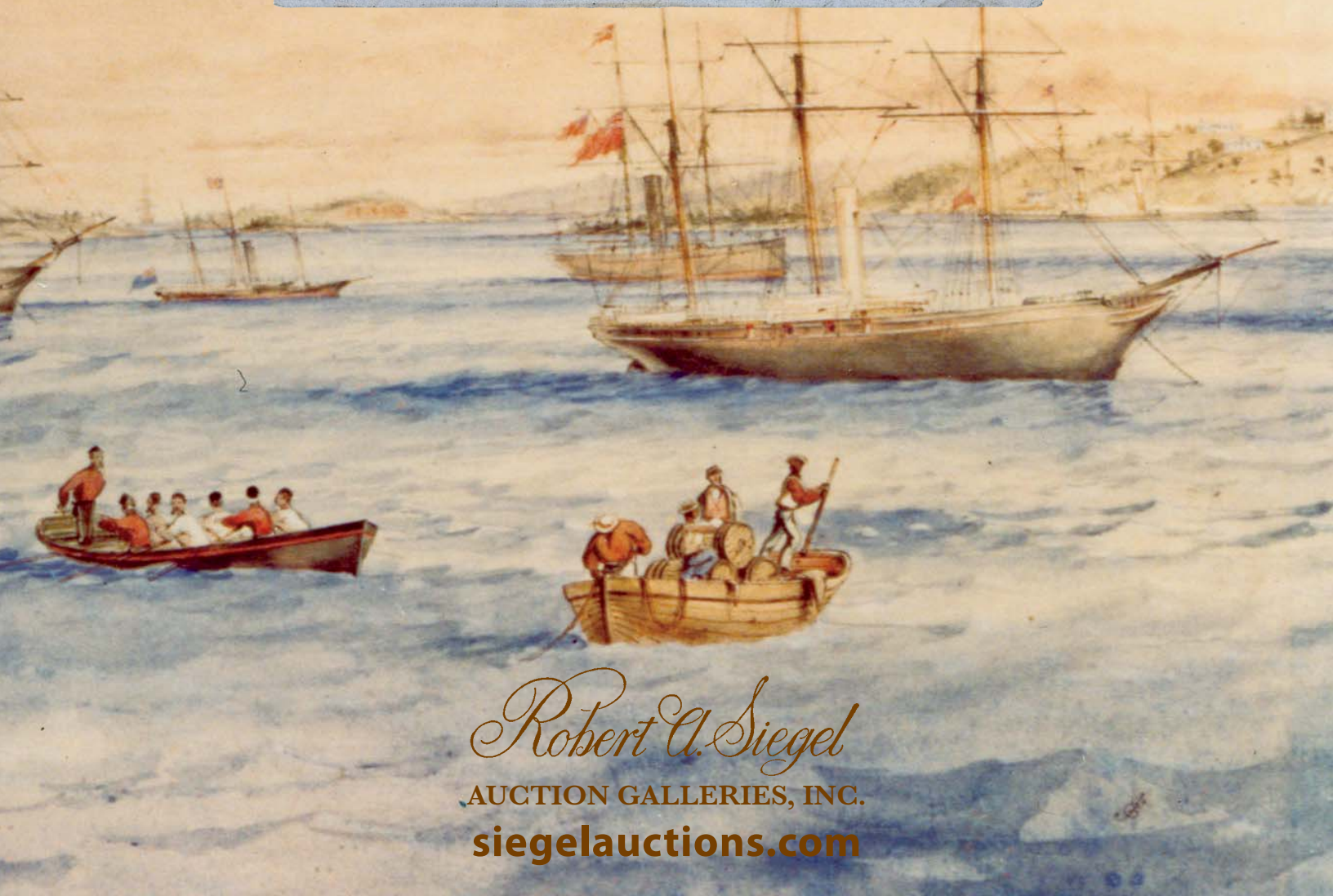


The Steven C. Walske Collection of
Special Mail Routes
of the
American Civil War

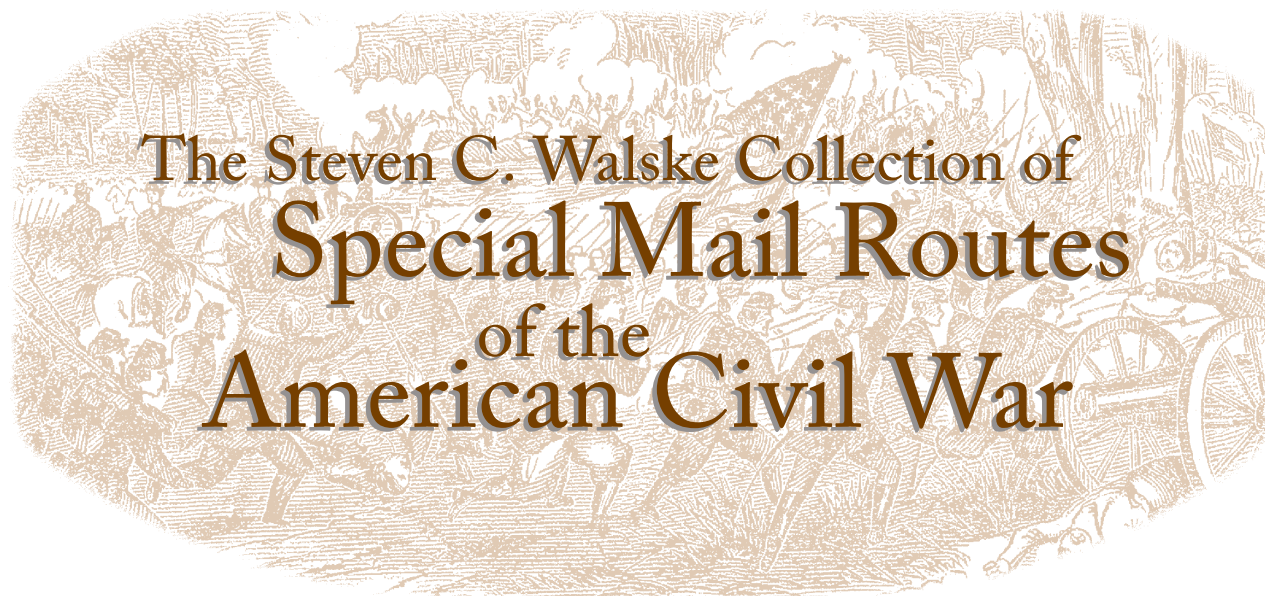
SALE 988—THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010



Robert A. Siegel

AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.

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The Steven C. Walske Collection of
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American Civil War

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Sale 988

Thursday, May 27, 2010

First Session (lots 1-89) at 10:30 a.m.

Second Session (lots 91-394) at 1:30 p.m.

A 15% buyer's premium will be added to the hammer price of each lot sold.

*Lots will be available for viewing on Wednesday, May 26, from 10-4
and by appointment (please call 212-753-6421).*

Robert A. Siegel

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Information for Bidders

Bidding

The following means are available for placing bids:

- 1) Attending the Live Auction in Person:** All bidders must register for a paddle, and new bidders must provide references at least three business days in advance of the sale.
- 2) Live Internet Bidding:** Instructions for participating as a Live Internet Bidder are provided on the page opposite.
- 3) Phone Bidding:** Bidders can be connected to the sale by phone and bid through a member of staff. Requests for phone bidding are subject to approval (please contact our office at least 24 hours before the sale). A signed Bid Form is required.
- 4) Absentee Bids.** All bids received in advance of the sale, either by mail, fax, phone, e-mail or internet, are Absentee Bids, which instruct the auctioneer to bid up to a specific amount on one or more lots in the sale. Absentee Bids sent by phone, fax or e-mail should arrive at least one hour prior to the start of the sale session. Bids entered through Live Internet Bidding will be visible to the auctioneer during the sale. Written bids should be entered legibly on the Bid Form in the sale catalogue. E-mail and internet bids should be carefully typed and double-checked. All new bidders must provide references. We recommend calling or e-mailing to confirm that Absentee Bids sent by mail, fax or e-mail have been received and entered.

Pre-Sale Viewing

Subject to availability, certain lots (except group lots) can be sent to known clients for examination. Requests must be made no later than 7 days prior to the sale. Lots must be returned on the day received. Postage/insurance costs will be invoiced.

In addition to regular viewing, clients may view lots by appointment. Our staff will be pleased to answer questions or provide additional information about lots.

Expert Certification

Individual items offered without a current certificate (PF dated within the past five years of sale; PSE dated January 2004 or later) may be purchased subject to independent certification of genuineness and our description. **Please refer to the Conditions of Sale and Grading Terms for policies governing certification.**

Shipping and Delivery

Procedures and charges for shipping lots are printed on the back of the Bid Form. **Bidders are responsible for all prescribed shipping charges and any applicable sales tax or customs duties.**

Price Realized

Prices realized are sent with each invoice. Bidders with e-mail will receive a Bid Results report after the sale. Session results are posted immediately to siegelauctions.com

Conditions of Sale (please read carefully before bidding)

The property described in this catalogue will be offered at public auction by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. ("Galleries") on behalf of various consignors and itself or affiliated companies. By bidding on any lot, whether directly or by or through an agent, in person, or by telephone, facsimile or any other means, the bidder acknowledges and agrees to all of the following Conditions of Sale.

1. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer. The term "final bid" means the last bid acknowledged by the auctioneer, which is normally the highest bid offered. **The purchase price payable by the buyer will be the sum of the final bid and a commission of 15% of the final bid ("buyer's premium"), together with any sales tax, use tax or customs duties due on the sale.**

2. The auctioneer has the right to reject any bid, to advance the bidding at his discretion and, in the event of a dispute between bidders, to determine the successful bidder, to continue the bidding or to reoffer and resell the lot in dispute. The Galleries' record of the final sale shall be conclusive.

3. All bids are per numbered lot in the catalogue unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer at the time of sale. The right is reserved to group two or more lots, to withdraw any lot or lots from the sale, or to act on behalf of the seller. The Galleries will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for the failure to execute such bids or for any errors in the execution of such bids.

4. **Lots with numbers followed by the symbol ° are offered subject to a confidential minimum bid ("reserve"), below which the lot will not be sold. The absence of the symbol ° means that the lot is offered without a reserve. If there is no reserve, the auctioneer has sole discretion to establish a minimum opening bid and may refuse an offer of less than half of the published estimate. Any lot that does not reach its reserve or opening bid requested by the auctioneer will be announced as "passed" and excluded from the prices realized lists after the sale. The Galleries may have a direct or indirect ownership interest in any or all lots in the sale resulting from an advance of monies or goods-in-trade or a guarantee of minimum net proceeds made by the Galleries to the seller.**

5. Subject to the exclusions listed in 5(A), the Galleries will accept the return of lots which have been misidentified or which have obvious faults that were present when the lot was in the Galleries' custody, but not so noted in the lot description. **All disputed lots must be received by the Galleries intact with the original packing material within 5 days of delivery to the buyer but no later than 30 days from the sale date. (5A) EXCLUSIONS:** The following lots may not be returned for any reason: lots containing 10 or more items; lots from buyers who registered for the pre-sale exhibition or received lots by postal viewing, thereby having had the opportunity to inspect them before the sale; any lot described with "faults," "defects" or a specific fault may not be returned because of any secondary fault. Photographed lots may not be returned because of centering, margins, short/nibbed perforations or other factors shown in the illustrations. Lots may not be returned for any of the following reasons: the color of the item does not match the color reproduction in the sale catalogue or website listing; the description contains inaccurate information about the quantity known or reported; or a certification service grades a stamp lower than the grade stated in the description.

6. Successful bidders, unless they have established credit with the Galleries prior to the sale, must make payment in full before the lots will be delivered. Buyers not known to the Galleries must make payment in full within 3 days from the date of sale. **The Galleries retains the right to demand a cash deposit from anyone prior to bidder registration and/or to demand payment at the time the lot is knocked down to the highest bidder, for any reason whatsoever.** In the event that any buyer refuses or fails to make payment in cash

for any lot at the time it is knocked down to him, the auctioneer reserves the right to reoffer the lot immediately for sale to the highest bidder. **Credit cards are not accepted as payment.**

7. If the purchase price has not been paid within the time limit specified above, nor lots taken up within 7 days from the date of sale, the lots will be resold by whatever means deemed appropriate by the Galleries, and any loss incurred from resale will be charged to the defaulting buyer. Any account more than 30 days in arrears will be subject to a late payment charge of 1½% per month as long as the account remains in arrears. Any expenses incurred in securing payment from delinquent accounts will be charged to the defaulter. A fee of \$250.00 per check will be charged for each check returned for insufficient funds.

8. All lots are sold as genuine. **Any lot accompanied by a certificate issued by The Philatelic Foundation within 5 years of the sale date or by Professional Stamp Experts since January 2004 is sold "as is" and in accordance with the description on the certificate. Such lots may not be returned for any reason, including but not limited to a contrary certificate of opinion.** Buyers who wish to obtain a certificate for any item that does not have a P.F. or P.S.E. certificate (dated as above) may do so, provided that the following conditions are met: (1) the purchase price must be paid in full, (2) the item must be submitted to an acceptable expertizing committee with a properly executed application form within 21 days of the sale, (3) a copy of the application form must be given to the Galleries, (4) in the event that an adverse opinion is received, the Galleries retain the right to resubmit the item on the buyer's behalf for reconsideration, without time limit or other restrictions, (5) unless written notification to the contrary is received, items submitted for certification will be considered cleared 90 days from the date of sale, and (6) in the event any item is determined to be "not as described", the buyer will be refunded the purchase price and the certification fee up to \$600.00 unless otherwise agreed.

9. Until paid for in full, all lots remain the property of the Galleries on behalf of the seller.

10. Agents executing bids on behalf of clients will be held responsible for all purchases made on behalf of clients unless otherwise arranged prior to the sale.

11. The buyer assumes all risk for delivery of purchased lots and agrees to pay for prescribed shipping costs. Buyers outside the U.S. are responsible for all customs duties.

12. **The bidder consents that any action or proceeding against it may be commenced and maintained in any court within the State of New York or in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, that the courts of the State of New York and United States District Court for the Southern District of New York shall have jurisdiction with respect to the subject matter hereof and the person of the bidder. The bidder agrees not to assert any defense to any action or proceeding initiated by Galleries based upon improper venue or inconvenient forum. The bidder agrees that any action brought by the bidder shall be commenced and maintained only in a Federal Court in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York or the State Court in the county in which Galleries has its principal place of business in New York. These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of New York.**

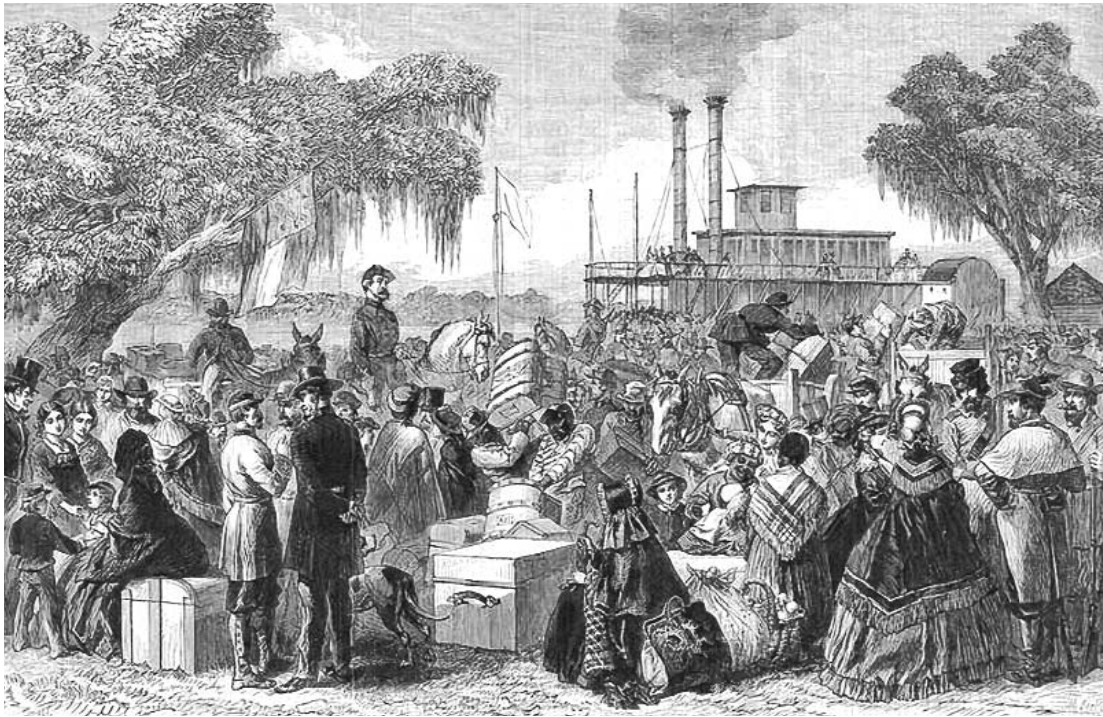
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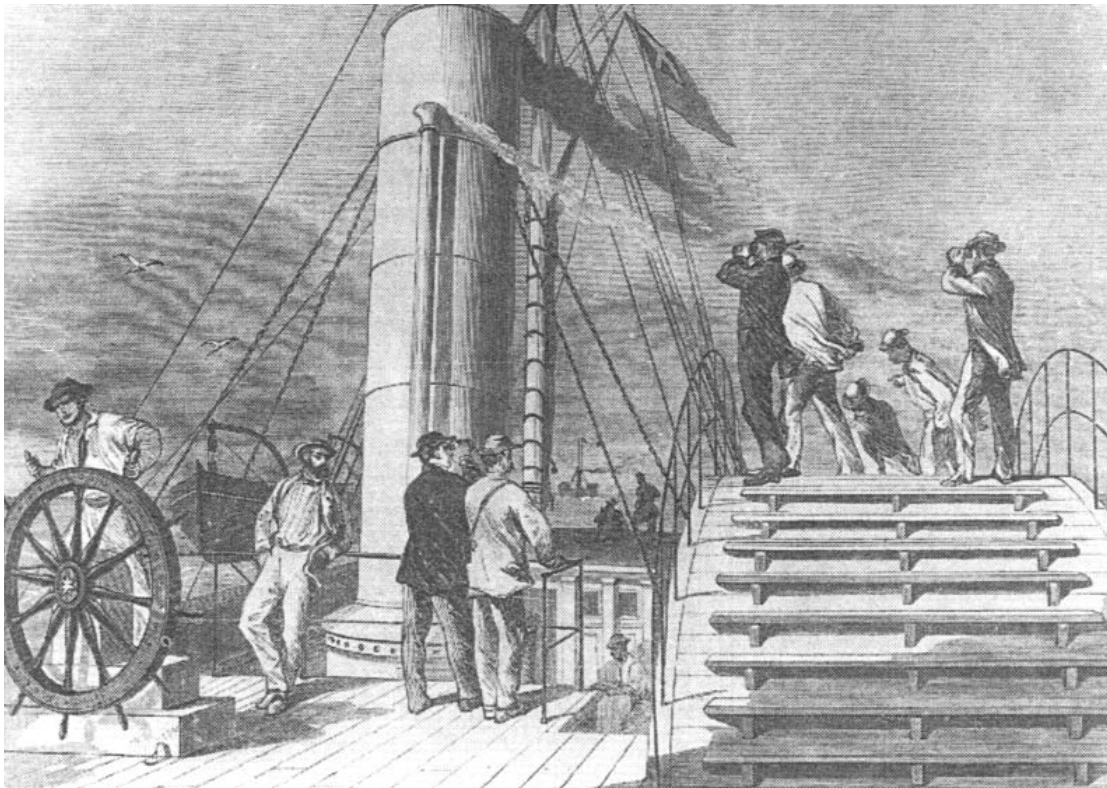
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*"The War in America: Arrival of a Federal Steamer with Flag of Truce at Madisonville, Lake Pontchartrain"
(from The Illustrated London News)*



*John N. Maffitt standing on the paddlebox of the Lilian, observing a Union cruiser giving chase
(from The Illustrated London News)*

THE STEVEN C. WALSKE COLLECTION OF SPECIAL MAIL ROUTES OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

INTRODUCTION

SPECIAL MAIL ROUTES WERE USED TO EXCHANGE LETTERS BETWEEN CORRESPONDENTS IN the Confederate States of America (C.S.A.) and those across the military lines or frontiers separating the Confederacy from the rest of the world. These routes developed because the C.S.A. was almost completely surrounded militarily by the United States of America (U.S.), and an important Federal war strategy was to cut off all outside communications with the C.S.A.. These routes were used for mail between the C.S.A. and the U.S., for mail between parts of the C.S.A. separated by Federal military activities, and for mail between the Confederacy and other countries.

Postal history is the study of postal routes, rates, frankings and markings from a particular historical period. The best postal history reference sources are official postal regulations and documentation, such as instructions to postmasters or post office communications. However, the official record is invariably incomplete, so a census of covers relevant to the period can fill in the gaps by showing patterns of postal usages. The combination of a census with postal documentation, historical events and geography can be used to accurately re-create the details of a mail delivery system. This is the approach employed in the formation of this collection and in writing the related book, *Special Mail Routes of the American Civil War: A Guide to Across-the-Lines Postal History* by Steven C. Walske and Scott R. Trepel (referred to throughout this catalogue as *Special Routes*).

This collection is organized according to the routes used for across-the-lines mail. This represents a different perspective on the subject, and has resulted in new insights on how the mail was handled. For example, traditional studies have examined prisoner-of-war (P.O.W.) mail from the perspective of the prisons themselves, while this collection arranges the covers according to the routes which carried P.O.W. mail to or from those prisons. Similarly, covers reflecting new discoveries and significant insights are offered for the first time with respect to suspended mail routes, blockade-run mail, trans-Rio Grande mail, and private express mail.

The Civil War began slowly with the peaceful secession of South Carolina on December 20, 1860. At the time, most Americans assumed that the conflict would be resolved relatively quickly and peacefully. Virtually no one could project the four-year bloody struggle that ensued.

continued on next page

Map of Major Railroad Routes in the South



Major railroads of the Confederacy are indicated by the solid black lines, while the solid red line shows the frontier between the United States and Confederate States.

South Carolina's path out of the Union was quickly followed by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana. Each of these states acted separately, and their status after secession was as independent states. However, the official stance of the U.S. was that these states were still part of the Union. As such, these independent states continued to use the U.S. postal system for mail within each state and to or from external addresses.

Mail sent in the U.S. postal system between these states and the U.S. during their independent state periods should not be considered across-the-lines mail, since there were no impediments to the transmission of the mails prior to the suspension of U.S. postal service in the South. Nonetheless, postal uses during the independent state periods are popular with collectors because of the short timeframes (as few as six days in the case of North Carolina) that they were in effect.

Throughout this period, the U.S. continued to operate the C.S.A.'s postal system, but many postal routes between the U.S. and the C.S.A. had to be abandoned due to armed conflict and the threat that the ships, trains or wagons used to transport the mail would be confiscated. The most significant example of this was the closure of the primary north-south postal route which ran between Washington, D.C. and Richmond by the U.S. military occupation of Alexandria, Virginia, on May 24, 1861.

Mail continued to be exchanged along the other major north-south postal route between Tennessee and Louisville until June 1861. Private express companies also carried small amounts of letter mail between the C.S.A. and the U.S. during the February to May 1861 period that the U.S. postal system was still operating in the C.S.A.. Their service supplemented the regular post office service.

The U.S. postal service in the C.S.A. was finally suspended on May 31, 1861, four months after the formation of the C.S.A.. After this suspension, the regular north-south post office routes were replaced by a complex array of special mail routes that expanded as the war grew in intensity and duration. Because of the difficulty and danger in getting mail across enemy lines, many of these routes show great ingenuity, and most carried only small amounts of mail. These special routes fall into the following seven categories, and the collection presented in this catalogue is arranged accordingly:

Suspension of the U.S. Post Office Across-the-Lines Routes (May 1861 until early July 1861) during a transitional period as the Federal government completed the suspension of the regular pre-war Post Office routes between the northern states and the seceded states.

Private Express Company Routes (February 1861 to June 1865) were used to supplement the regular U.S. post office service, and to carry mail within the C.S.A.. Mail carried between the U.S. and C.S.A. prior to June 1861 is not considered to have crossed the lines because there were no obstacles to the transmission of the mail. This special mail service temporarily filled the void created by the discontinuance of the U.S. post office across-the-lines routes, but ended with the August 26, 1861 U.S. ban on all communications with the C.S.A..

Flag-of-Truce Routes (September 1861 to June 1865) were maintained by both governments for the benefit of prisoners of war (P.O.W.), and a limited number of civilians. Mail was exchanged at a number of locations, but principally in southeastern Virginia. This mail service did not evolve until regular communication between North and South was prohibited. P.O.W. and parole camp mail which did not cross the lines is included to provide a full treatment of P.O.W. mail.

Trans-Mississippi Routes (April 1862 to April 1865) were used by both private and C.S.A. post office trans-Mississippi expresses after Union control of the Mississippi River in 1862 cut the Confederacy into eastern and western halves. Communication between the separated parts of the C.S.A. required new special mail routes to bypass the Union blockade along the Mississippi River.

Covert Mail Routes (September 1861 to June 1865) were maintained by a number of private across-the-lines mail systems which typically used inland waterways to cross the lines.

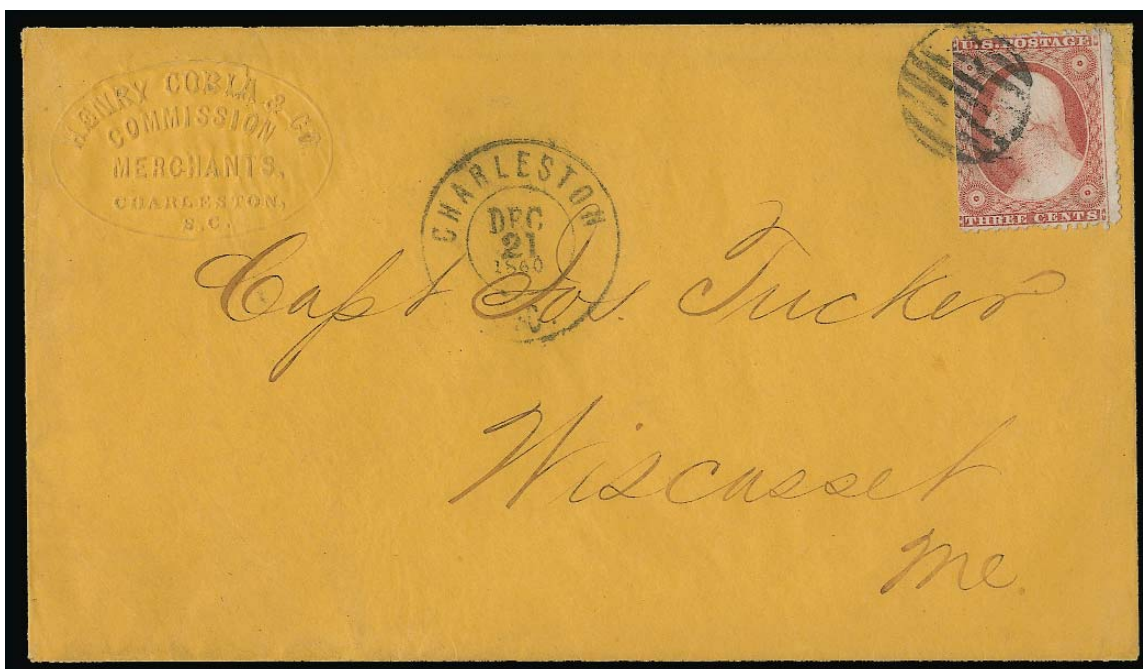
Blockade-Runner Routes (May 1862 through May 1865) connected the Confederacy with neutral West Indies ports, and were used by Confederate steamships to penetrate the Federal blockade of the Southern coastline.

Trans-Rio Grande Routes (July 1861 to June 1865) were maintained between Texas and Mexico, and were used to circumvent the Federal blockade.

The map on the previous page provides a useful overview of the major railroad routes throughout the South, some of which connected the C.S.A. and U.S. border states. Additional maps in this catalogue will help the reader visualize the routes referred to in descriptions.

FIRST SESSION (LOTS 1-89)
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010, AT 10:30 A.M.

THE STEVEN C. WALSKE COLLECTION OF
SPECIAL MAIL ROUTES OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR
U.S. POST OFFICES IN INDEPENDENT AND CONFEDERATE STATES



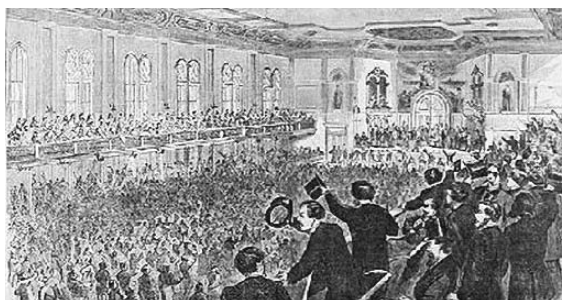
1

- 1 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Dec. 21, 1860 — First Day Postmark after Secession.** Clearly-struck double-circle datestamp with matching grid tying 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), s.e. at left, on buff cover to Wiscasset Me., merchant's embossed oval corner card, cover lightly cleaned with minor edge improvements

VERY FINE. POSTMARKED AT CHARLESTON ON DECEMBER 21, 1860, THE FIRST FULL DAY AFTER SOUTH CAROLINA'S SECESSION FROM THE UNION.

Although December 20, 1860, is recognized as the first day of the Southern Rebellion, the secession vote took place in Charleston at 1:15 p.m., and the Ordinance of Secession was signed by 171 delegates at 7:00 p.m., which means that letters postmarked during the day on December 20 were technically still United States mail. The following day, December 21, is the first full day of South Carolina's status as an independent state, and covers postmarked on the 21st are significant for this reason.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 1). Ex Howard Green E. 1,500-2,000



Delegates voting for South Carolina's secession



2

- 2 ☒ **Montgomery Ala. Jan. 12, 1861.** Beautiful bold strike of circular datestamp with unusual 5-bar framed grid tying 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26) on buff cover to Hartford Conn. with “Olcott & Davis, Auctioneers and Commission Merchants” framed corner card, Extremely Fine, very choice usage one day after Alabama’s secession, ex Howard Green E. 1,000-1,500



3

- 3 ☒ **Montgomery Ala. Feb. 4, 1861 — First Day of the Confederate States.** Bold strike of circular datestamp with date clearly visible ties 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26) on cover to Southwick Mass., immaculate condition
EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING “FIRST DAY OF THE CONFEDERACY” COVER, POST-MARKED AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, WHERE THE CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT WAS OFFICIALLY FORMED ON THIS DATE, FEBRUARY 4, 1861.
Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 2). Ex Birkinbine E. 2,000-3,000



4

- 4 ☒ **Milledgeville Ga. Mar. 16 (1861).** Partly clear circular datestamp ties 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), used as forwarding postage, another 3c stamp tied at origin by blue "Baltimore Md. Mar. 12" circular datestamp on **Philadelphia hotel's blue corner card** cover to Milledgeville and forwarded to Augusta, with original enclosure, some slight toning and wear, Fine, unusual forwarded cover with one 3c stamp used in the U.S. and the other in the C.S.A., ex Powell E. 300-400



5

- 5 ☒ **Montgomery Ala. Apr. 13, 1861.** Bold circular datestamp ties 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), used as forwarding postage, another 3c stamp tied at origin by "Leavenworth City Kas. Apr. 1" circular datestamp on cover to Howell Cobb in Montgomery, forwarded to Macon, slightly reduced at left, Very Fine, rare and unusual usage from Kansas (the day after attack on Fort Sumter) to Confederate Alabama and forwarded within the Confederacy using U.S. postage, ex Powell E. 500-750



6

- 6 ☒ **Washington Ark. May 14 (1861).** Bold strike of circular datestamp ties **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** on yellow cover to "Editors of New York Observer, New York City" with black **Jefferson Davis Medallion Patriotic** design, portrait framed by Confederate flags, seven stars, armaments, cotton bale, train and ship, flap tear extends just barely half an inch into top edge, otherwise immaculate condition

EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE AND BEAUTIFUL JEFFERSON DAVIS MEDALLION COVER FROM ARKANSAS DURING ITS TWELVE DAYS AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE.

This cover is addressed in the same hand as lot 27 in this sale, another cover from Washington, Arkansas, which contains a letter written by B. F. Hempstead. In his letter, dated May 21, 1861, Hempstead, a lawyer and slaveowner, expresses strong secessionist sentiments.

With 1997 C.S.A. certificate..... E. 5,000-7,500

FOREIGN MAIL TO AND FROM INDEPENDENT AND CONFEDERATE STATES



7

- 7 ☒ **Savannah Ga. Jan. 25 (1861).** Two partly clear strikes of small circular datestamp with stars on cover to John Lorenzo Locke in **Rome, Italy**, "42" rate handstamp, "New York 6 Jan. 30" debit datestamp, manuscript "Kept" and "36" notations around "42", "6" and "70" manuscript rates crossed out, "64" and "Bay: 64" due in Bajoccis, "Et. Unis Serv. Br. A.C. B 12 Fevr. 61" French transit datestamp, "Roma 18 Feb. 61" receiving backstamp, small tear at bottom, Very Fine, rare cover from Georgia during its brief period as an Independent State (Jan. 18 to Feb. 4), see lots 336-341 for blockade-run covers from the Locke correspondence..... E. 750-1,000

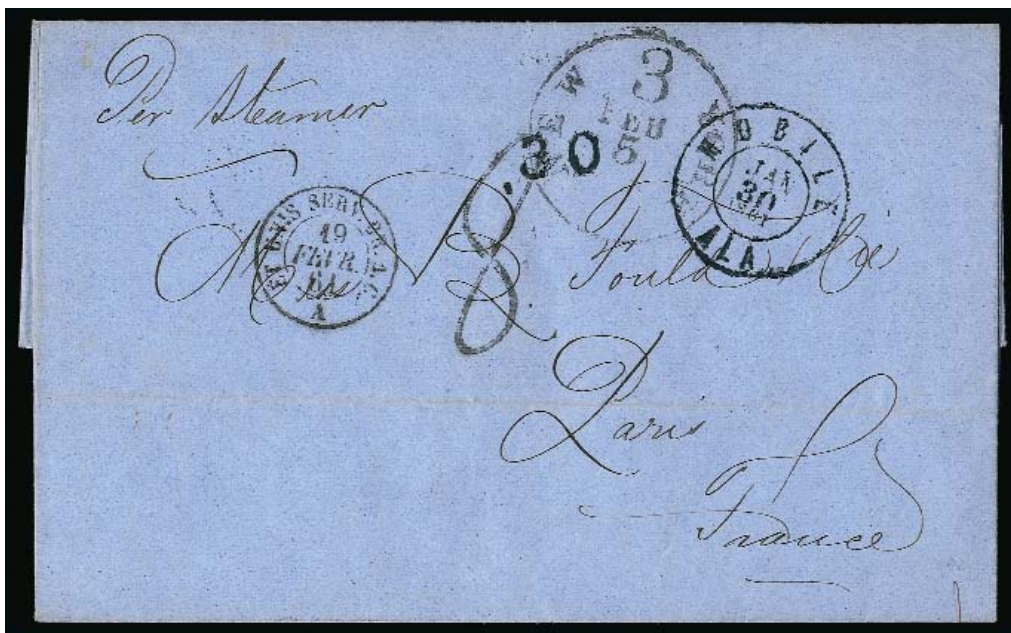


8

- 8 ☒ **New Orleans La. Jan. 26, 1861 — First Day of Louisiana Independent Statehood.** Partly clear circular datestamp ties pair of 1c Blue, Ty. V (24) on folded Jan. 16 printed notice to **La Ferte Mace, France**, red "Et. Unis Serv. Br. A.C. 19 Fevr. 61" French receiving datestamp, red "15" decimes due handstamp, receiving backstamps, lightened stain at bottom of pair

VERY FINE. COVERS DATED DURING LOUISIANA'S NINE DAYS AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE ARE EXTREMELY RARE. THIS JANUARY 26TH FIRST DAY OF INDEPENDENT STATEHOOD ON A CIRCULAR TO FRANCE IS A REMARKABLE AND POSSIBLY UNIQUE USAGE.

Carried on the Cunarder *Niagara*, departing Boston on Feb. 6 and arriving at Queenstown on Feb. 17. Ex Murphy. Signed Brian Green. E. 2,000-3,000



9

- 9 ☒ **Mobile Ala. Jan. 30, 1861.** Double-circle datestamp and “30” rate handstamp boldly struck on blue folded letter **to Paris, France**, “New York 3 Feb. 5” debit datestamp, “Et. Unis Serv. Br. A.C. A 19 Fevr. 61” French transit datestamp and “8” decimes due handstamp, Paris receiving backstamp, fresh and Extremely Fine, choice transatlantic usage during Alabama Independent Statehood (Jan. 11 to Feb. 4, 1861), carried on Cunarder *Niagara*, departing Boston on Feb. 6 and arriving at Queenstown on Feb. 17, ex Murphy, signed Brian Green E. 750-1,000



10

- 10 ☒ **New Orleans La. 5 Feb. (1861).** Partly clear large circular datestamp ties **30c Orange (38)**, beautiful vibrant color and choice centering, on blue folded cover (with part of letter) **to Bordeaux, France**, Rochereau & Co.'s blue sender's handstamp, red “New York Paid 24 Feb. 13” credit datestamp, “Et. Unis Serv. Br. A.C. 25 Fevr. 61” transit datestamp, receiving backstamps

EXTREMELY FINE. A SUPERB UNITED STATES 30-CENT 1860 STAMP USED ON A COLORFUL AND RARE COVER TO FRANCE, POSTMARKED AT NEW ORLEANS ON THE SECOND DAY OF CONFEDERATE STATEHOOD.

Louisiana was one of the original states to join the Confederacy on February 4, 1861, one day before this cover was mailed from New Orleans. This cover was carried on the Cunarder *Arabia*, departing New York on Feb. 13 and arriving in Queenstown on Feb. 23.

Ex Frank B. Allen, Knapp and Birkinbine. E. 4,000-5,000



- 11 ☒ **Mobile Ala. Feb. 7, 1861.** Double-circle datestamp and “30” rate handstamp on blue folded letter to **Paris, France**, “New York 3 Feb. 13” debit datestamp, “Et. Unis Serv. Br. A.C. A 25 Fevr. 61” French transit datestamp and “8” decimes due handstamp, Paris receiving backstamp, fresh and Extremely Fine, choice transatlantic usage during first few days of Alabama Confederate Statehood (a perfect companion to the identical cover mailed during Independent Statehood period offered in lot 9), carried on Cunarder *Arabia*, departing New York on Feb. 12 and arriving at Queenstown on Feb. 23, ex Alex Hall .. E. 500-750



- 12 ☒ **New Orleans La. Feb. (24, 1861).** Partly readable circular datestamp with well-struck “Ship” handstamp and manuscript “5” rate on incoming blue folded letter from **Belize, British Honduras**, to New York City, sender’s routing “*via N. Orleans*” in Confederate Louisiana, Feb. 28 receipt docketing, Very Fine, rare ship letter via Confederate New Orleans, from the Lanman & Kemp correspondence, ex Murphy, signed Brian Green..... E. 1,000-1,500



13

- 13 ☒ **New Orleans La. 5 Mar. (1861).** Two readable strikes of large circular datestamp tie vertical strip of three **10c Green, Ty. V (35)** on folded cover to Alessandro Caramazza in **Palermo, Italy**, red "N. York Br. Pkt. Paid Mar. 13" transit datestamp ("Paid" struck off edge, possibly intentionally), red octagonal "Et. Unis Serv. Br. Havre 26 Mars 61" transit datestamp and framed "PD", magenta manuscript "27" credit crossed out and re-rated "47" for debit, but accepted as fully prepaid in Europe, red "Palermo Partenza 3 Apr. 61" receiving datestamp, French transit backstamp, light folds clear of stamps

VERY FINE. A COLORFUL AND EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE UNITED STATES 10-CENT 1857 ISSUE FROM THE CONFEDERATE STATE OF LOUISIANA TO PALERMO, SICILY.

This fascinating cover left the American continent in the midst of disunity and arrived in Palermo shortly after the unification of Italy on March 17, 1861. It was carried on the Galway Line's *Adriatic*, departing New York on Mar. 13 and arriving in Queenstown on Mar. 23.

Ex Simon..... E. 5,000-7,500



14

- 14 ☒ **New Orleans La. 14 Mar. (1861).** Beautifully clear strike of large circular datestamp ties **5c Brown, Ty. II (30A)**, deep rich color, choice centering, on light blue folded letter **to Barcelona, Spain**, bold "4Rs." due handstamp, backstamped London (Apr. 3, 1861) transit and Spanish receiving datestamps

EXTREMELY FINE. A SUPERB EXAMPLE OF THE UNITED STATES 5-CENT 1860 ISSUE USED TO PAY THE BRITISH OPEN MAIL RATE TO SPAIN FROM CONFEDERATE LOUISIANA.

Carried on the Cunarder *Niagara*, departing Boston on Mar. 20 and arriving in Queenstown on Apr. 2.

Ex Birkinbine E. 2,000-3,000



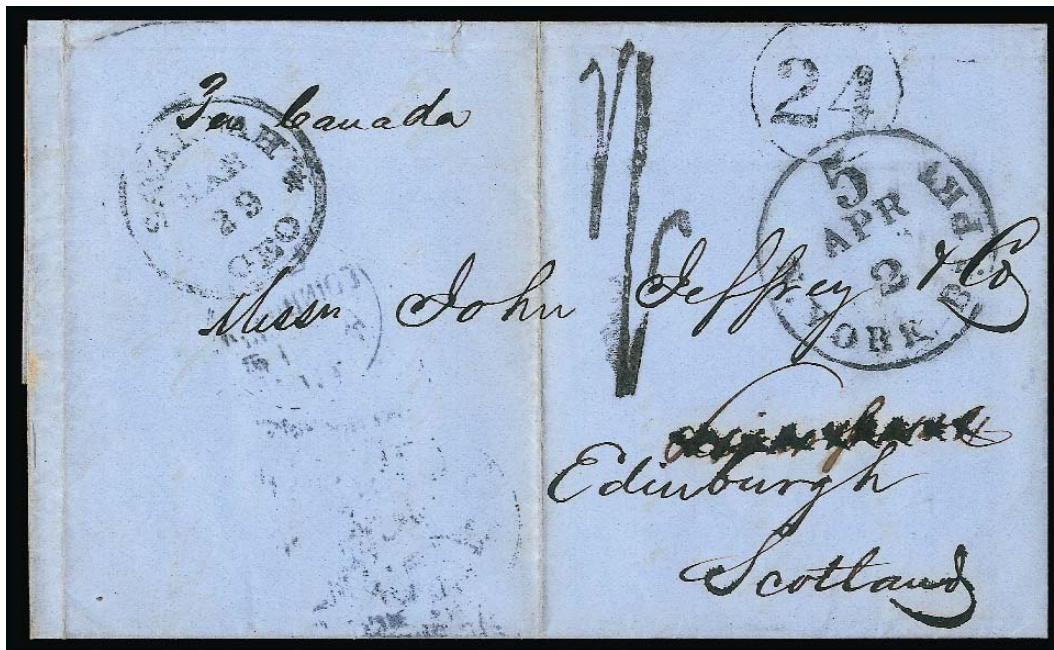
15

- 15 ☒ **Lawrenceville Ga. Mar. 21 (1861).** Bold circular datestamp with matching "Paid:" and "10" in circle handstamps on buff cover **to Matanzas, Cuba**, two light strikes of blue "Matanzas Isla de Cuba 5 Abr." circular datestamp on back, matching "1" real due handstamp on front, small repaired tear at top

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. THIS IS REPORTED TO BE THE ONLY KNOWN COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE STATE TO A NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRY DURING THE PRE-JUNE 1 PERIOD IN WHICH UNITED STATES RATES WERE STILL EFFECTIVE.

Georgia became one of the original Confederate States on February 4, 1861. Prior to the June 1 commencement of Confederate postal service, U.S. rates applied and postmasters in the South continued to remit to the U.S. Post Office Department. This cover is an extremely unusual example of mail addressed beyond the borders of the U.S. or C.S.A., prepaid at the 10c steamship rate via New Orleans.

Illustrated in *Confederate Philatelist* (Jan.-Feb. 1971). Ex Krieger and Birkinbine. With 1982 P.F. certificate E. 2,000-3,000



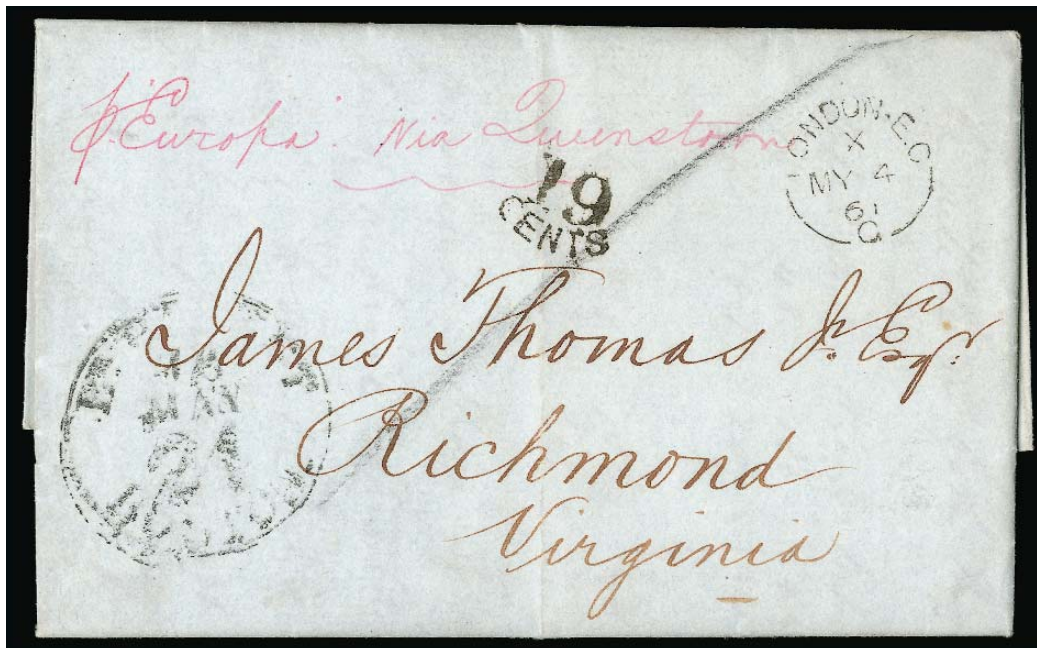
16

- 16 ☒ **Savannah Ga. Mar. 29 (1861).** Mostly clear circular datestamp and “24” in circle handstamp on blue folded letter to **Edinburgh, Scotland**, sender crossed out another city name, sender’s ship designation “*Per Canada*”, “N. York Br. Pkt. 5 Apr. 2” debit datestamp, “1/” shilling due handstamp, blue Edinburgh receiving backstamp (Apr. 17), letter notes “*Our political affairs are not entirely settled. No hope however that business will continue to improve.*”, Very Fine, carried on Cunarder *Canada*, departing Boston on Apr. 3 and arriving at Queenstown on Apr. 15, attractive Confederate Statehood use to Scotland, ex Birkenhead..... E. 500-750



17

- 17 ☒ **New Orleans La. Apr. 2 (1861).** Partly clear circular datestamp ties pair of 1c Blue, Ty. V (24), straddle-pane margin at right, on folded Mar. 30 printed notice to **La Ferté Macé, France**, red “Paris 23 Avril 61” French receiving datestamp, red “15” decimes due handstamp, receiving backstamps, Very Fine, scarce transatlantic printed matter use from Confederate Louisiana, carried on the Cunarder *Africa*, departing New York on Apr. 10 and arriving at Liverpool on Apr. 21, ex Kilbourne..... E. 1,000-1,500



18

- 18 ☒ **London E.C. MY 4 61.** Clear strike of circular datestamp and “19 Cents” debit handstamp on May 4 folded letter to James Thomas in **Richmond Va.**, sender’s ship designation in bright magenta manuscript “*p. Europa via Queenstown*”, carried on the Cunarder *Europa*, departing Liverpool on May 4 and arriving in Boston on May 15, “Br. Packet Boston 15 May 24” 24-cent due datestamp, pencil “/” believed to indicate carrier fee for delivery in Richmond

VERY FINE. AN IMPORTANT COVER THAT PASSED FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE CONFEDERATE STATES ALONG THE WASHINGTON-RICHMOND CORRIDOR JUST BEFORE THIS MAIL ROUTE WAS SUSPENDED BY FEDERAL ORDER ON MAY 23.

On April 27, 1861, the regular water route to Richmond was suspended by the United States government, leaving only the Orange & Alexandria Railroad open for mail via Richmond. The last route through Virginia was suspended on the evening of May 23. The cover offered here is the latest recorded example of mail that successfully crossed the U.S.-C.S.A. border via Richmond, probably on May 17, 1861. It is uncertain how the 24c postage due to the U.S. government was collected in Richmond.

The letter itself, written by James Cameron of the British firm of John K. Gilliat & Co., discusses current events in the U.S., including references to “*collision and bloodshed in Baltimore and at Harper’s Ferry*” and reflections on the state of Civil War and its impact on the commercial markets. The addressee, James Thomas, was a prominent tobacco merchant in Richmond during the antebellum and Civil War period.

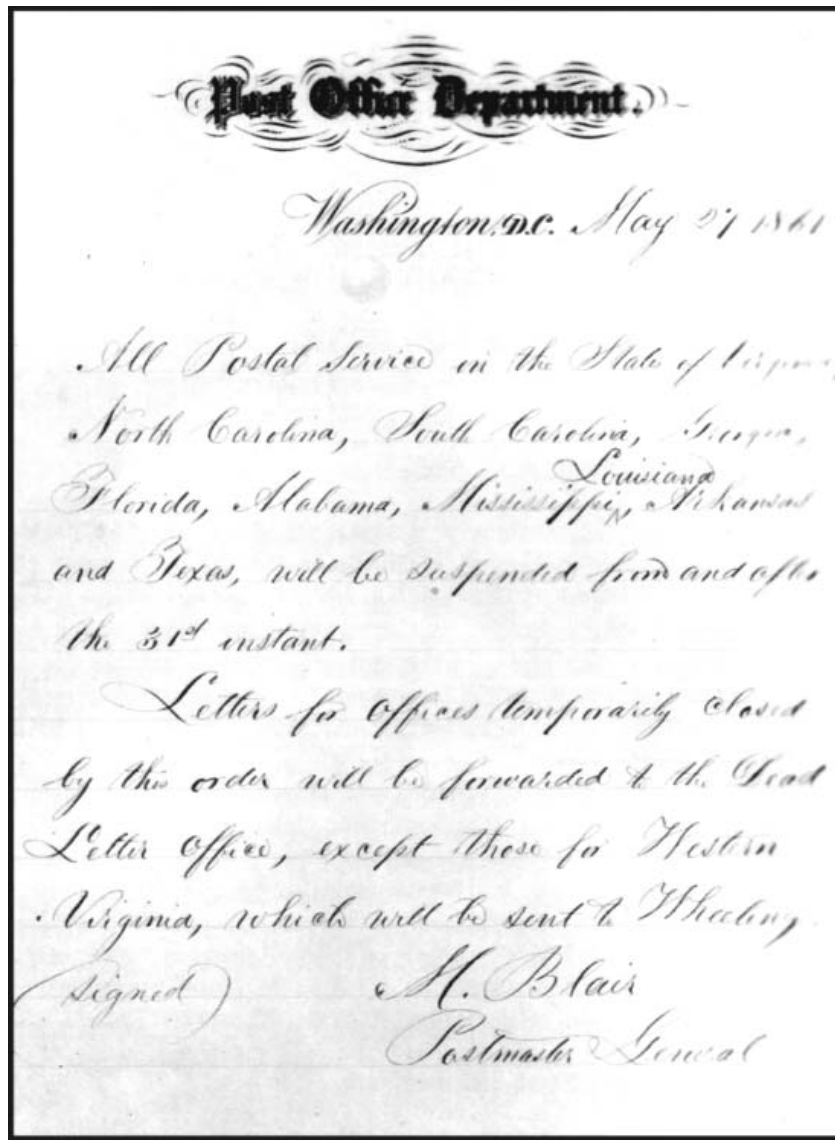
Ex Birkinbine..... E. 2,000-3,000

SUSPENSION OF U.S. POST OFFICE ACROSS-THE-LINES ROUTES

On May 27, 1861, a U.S. Post Office Department order suspended all mail service in the seceded states, effective May 31 (see illustration below). Letters for suspended southern post offices were to be forwarded to the U.S. Dead Letter Office, and most northbound mail from suspended southern post offices could no longer be received because the U.S. postal routes in the South had been discontinued.

On June 1, 1861, the C.S.A. inaugurated its own postal system. This meant that there were two separate postal systems in the former United States which had no formal communication with each other. Tennessee, however, maintained postal connections with both systems until early July, even though it seceded on June 8.

On June 7, 1861, postal communications between North and South were banned by the U.S., which ended all southbound postal service. Prior to that, communications were not prohibited if a U.S. post office, such as those in Tennessee prior to secession, would forward it in contravention of the May 31 U.S. Post Office order. Tennessee post offices also continued to forward northbound post office mail until early July. Once inside of the U.S. or C.S.A. postal system after crossing the lines, mail was typically routed normally to its destination, so post office across-the-lines mail continued sporadically long after the May 31 suspension order.



U.S. Post Office Department order dated May 27, 1861, and signed by Postmaster General Montgomery Blair, suspending postal service in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas, effective May 31, 1861.

SOUTHBOUND MAIL



19

- 19 ☒ **Liverpool MY 11 61.** Clearly struck circular datestamp and “19 Cents” debit handstamp on folded printed market report with letter and additional printed market report enclosure, addressed to D. H. London in Richmond Va., carried on the Cunarder *Persia*, departing Liverpool on May 11 and arriving in New York on May 21, “N. York Br. Pkt. 24 May 22” 24-cents due datestamp, diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office where “**Dead Letter Office P.O. Dept. No. __ July 29**” large oval datestamp was applied, blue “Baltimore Md. Jul. 30” circular datestamp on back and “Due 3” in circle handstamp on front for U.S. postage paid upon release to addressee (or his agent)

VERY FINE. A RARE TRANSATLANTIC LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO CONFEDERATE VIRGINIA, WHICH WAS DIVERTED TO THE UNITED STATES DEAD LETTER OFFICE AFTER THE WASHINGTON-RICHMOND MAIL ROUTE WAS SUSPENDED. ONLY THREE SUCH COVERS ARE REPORTED.

On April 27, 1861, the regular water route to Richmond was suspended by the United States government, leaving only the Orange & Alexandria Railroad open for mail via Richmond. The last route through Virginia was suspended on the evening of May 23. The cover offered here was received in New York on May 22, but did not reach the U.S.-C.S.A. border in time. It was diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office and held there until called for on July 29. The 24c transatlantic postage plus an additional 3c was collected from the addressee or his agent when the letter was released.

The addressee, Daniel H. London, was a prominent Richmond merchant and pro-slavery, states' rights advocate, who served as president of the Southern Rights Association of Richmond. This letter and enclosures were sent by the British firm of Eyre Evans & Co.

Ex Kilbourne E. 2,000-3,000



20

- 20 ☒ **Liverpool MY 18 61.** Clearly struck circular datestamp and “19 Cents” debit handstamp on folded printed market report with letter and additional printed market report enclosure, addressed to D. H. London in Richmond Va., carried on the Cunarder *America*, departing Liverpool on May 11 and arriving in Boston on May 31, “Br. Pkt. Boston 1 Jun. 24” 24-cents due datestamp, diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office where “**Dead Letter Office P.O. Dept. No. __ July 29**” large oval datestamp was applied, blue “Baltimore Md. Jul. 30” circular datestamp on back and “Due 3” in circle handstamp on front for U.S. postage paid upon release to addressee (or his agent), slight age toning along edges

VERY FINE. A RARE TRANSATLANTIC LETTER FROM ENGLAND TO CONFEDERATE VIRGINIA, WHICH WAS DIVERTED TO THE UNITED STATES DEAD LETTER OFFICE AFTER THE WASHINGTON-RICHMOND MAIL ROUTE WAS SUSPENDED. ONLY THREE SUCH COVERS ARE REPORTED.

On April 27, 1861, the regular water route to Richmond was suspended by the United States government, leaving only the Orange & Alexandria Railroad open for mail via Richmond. The last route through Virginia was suspended on the evening of May 23. The cover offered here was received in Boston on May 31, then diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office and held there until called for on July 29. The 24c transatlantic postage plus an additional 3c was collected from the addressee or his agent when the letter was released.

The addressee, Daniel H. London, was a prominent Richmond merchant and pro-slavery, states' rights advocate, who served as president of the Southern Rights Association of Richmond. This letter and enclosures were sent by the British firm of Eyre Evans & Co.

Ex Howard Green E. 1,500-2,000



21

- 21 ☒ **1c Blue, Ty. V, 3c Dull Red, Ty. II (24, 26).** 3c creased before use, both slightly toned, tied by "New-York May 28, 1861" circular datestamp and duplex grid on cover to Amherst Court House Va., diverted to U.S. Dead Letter Office with "**Dead Letter Office P.O. Dpt. Jun. 4, 1861**" double-oval datestamp and "Due 3 cts." straightline handstamp, sender's name and address written by D.L.O. office at left

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE CARRIER USE FROM NEW YORK CITY TO VIRGINIA, WHICH WAS DIVERTED TO THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE AFTER THE WASHINGTON-RICHMOND MAIL ROUTE WAS SUSPENDED. VERY FEW EXAMPLES OF SUCH MAIL ARE KNOWN, AND THIS CARRIER USE WITH THE ONE-CENT AND 3-CENT 1857 ISSUE IS ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 7). Ex Weatherly and Kilbourne E. 1,500-2,000



LETTERS

FOR THE

SOUTHERN STATES

OF

AMERICA.

A Notice of which the following is a copy has been received from the Postmaster-General of the United States:

“ Post Office Department,
“ Washington,
“ May 25, 1861.

“ All Postal Service in the States of Virginia, North
“ Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama,
“ Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas will be sus-
“ pended from and after the 31st instant.

“ Letters for Offices temporarily closed by this Order
“ will be forwarded to the Dead Letter Office, except those
“ for Western Virginia, which will be sent to Wheeling.

(Signed) “ M. BLAIR,
“ Postmaster-General.”

In due course all Letters from the United Kingdom forwarded to the Dead Letter Office at Washington will be returned to the Dead Letter Office in London, and in such case they will be opened and sent back to the writers.

Nevertheless, as this suspension of the Postal Service is stated to be only temporary, the Postmaster-General will continue to forward in the General Mails for the United States any Letters addressed to the States referred to which may be posted in the United Kingdom, assuming that such a course is desired by the writers.

By Command of the Postmaster-General.

ROWLAND HILL,
Secretary.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
12th June 1861.

Great Britain General Post Office notice of suspended mail service to the ten Confederate States. The notice from U.S. Postmaster General Montgomery Blair is dated May 25, 1861 (the original is dated May 27—see page 20)



22

- 22 ☒ **SENT BACK TO ENGLAND/WITHOUT A REASON/FOR NON-DELIVERY.** Red three-line handstamp applied by British Post Office on cover to Richmond Va. **originating in Victoria (Australia) with 4p Rose (59) pair and 1sh Blue (25)** tied by grid cancels, red "Melbourne H MA 25 61" circular datestamp on back, sender's routing "Via Marseille", large manuscript "8" pence credit from Victoria to G.B., red London transit (May 13) and "16 Cents" handstamped credit to U.S., "N. York Am. Pkt. 5 May 28" due datestamp for U.S. postage also ties 4p stamps, small mended nick at bottom and another small nick at lower left, 4p pair slightly gum toned, 1sh small perf flaws from placement along edge of cover

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF THE "SENT BACK TO ENGLAND" HANDSTAMP ON A COVER ORIGINATING IN AN AUSTRALIAN STATE THAT WAS RETURNED DUE TO SUSPENSION OF MAIL SERVICE DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

This cover left Melbourne on the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Co.'s *Jeddo*, departing Mar. 26 and arriving at Galle (Ceylon) on Apr. 13. It left Galle on Apr. 20 on the P & O *Nemesis*, arriving at Suez on May 4. The letter then travelled overland to Alexandria, Egypt, and from there on the P & O *Valette*, departing May 5 and arriving at Marseille on May 11. After the short transit from France to England, it was carried on the North German Lloyd *New York*, departing Southampton on May 15 and arriving in New York on May 28. By the time it reached New York, the mail route between Washington D.C. and Richmond had been suspended (starting May 24), and mail from foreign countries was returned. In England the three-line "Sent Back to England" handstamp was applied to returned letters.

Illustrated in *Chronicle* (May 1971, p. 95), Ashbrook's *Special Service* (No. 56, Nov. 1955, p. 443) and *Special Routes* (p. 8). A nearly identical cover was illustrated in the Dec. 1944 *American Philatelist* (p. 180). Ex Kilbourne..... E. 3,000-4,000

NORTHBOUND MAIL



23

- 23 ☒ **New Bern N.C. May 21 (1861).** Bold blue circular datestamp ties **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, perfectly centered, rich color, on small cover to Mrs. B. S. Hedrick at New York City street address, pencil forwarding address "Washington Patent Office D.C.", "New-York May 27" circular datestamp and "FORWARDED" straightline handstamp, manuscript "3" U.S. forwarding postage due

EXTREMELY FINE. A REMARKABLE COVER, POSTMARKED ON THE FIRST FULL DAY OF NORTH CAROLINA'S 7-DAY INDEPENDENT STATEHOOD AND CARRIED THROUGH RICHMOND ON MAY 23, THE LAST DAY THE MAIL ROUTE BETWEEN RICHMOND AND WASHINGTON D.C. REMAINED OPEN.

Northbound mail from the eastern Confederate States to the U.S. was normally carried via Richmond and Washington D.C. until May 23, 1861. The Federal military occupation of Alexandria, Virginia, closed this route on the evening of May 23, so northbound mail was diverted to the C.S.A. Dead Letter Office at Richmond from May 24 until June 1. The May 21 origin date in New Bern N.C. indicates transit through Richmond on May 23, the last day the route remained open. The addressee was the wife of Benjamin S. Hedrick, who was appointed 1st Assistant Examiner in the U.S. Patent Office on Apr. 10, 1861 (service record accompanies).

Illustrated in *Confederate Philatelist* (Jan.-Feb. 1994, pp. 29-30) and *Special Routes* (p. 3)....
 E. 2,000-3,000

NORTHBOUND MAIL DIVERTED TO C.S.A. DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Northbound mail from the eastern Confederate States to the U.S. was normally carried via Richmond and Washington D.C. until May 23, 1861. The Federal military occupation of Alexandria, Virginia, closed this route on the evening of May 23, so northbound mail was diverted to the C.S.A. Dead Letter Office at Richmond from May 24 until June 1. Fewer than ten examples of the C.S.A. Dead Letter Office marking (either type) are known.



24



25

- 24 ☒ **Dead Letter Office, Confederate States of America, Aug. 23, 1861.** Clear strike of oval datestamp with magenta manuscript "M-78-1" record notation on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) to Baltimore, "Athens Ga. May 22" circular datestamp and grid cancel, with original enclosure on "Bank of the State of Georgia" printed form, backflap removed

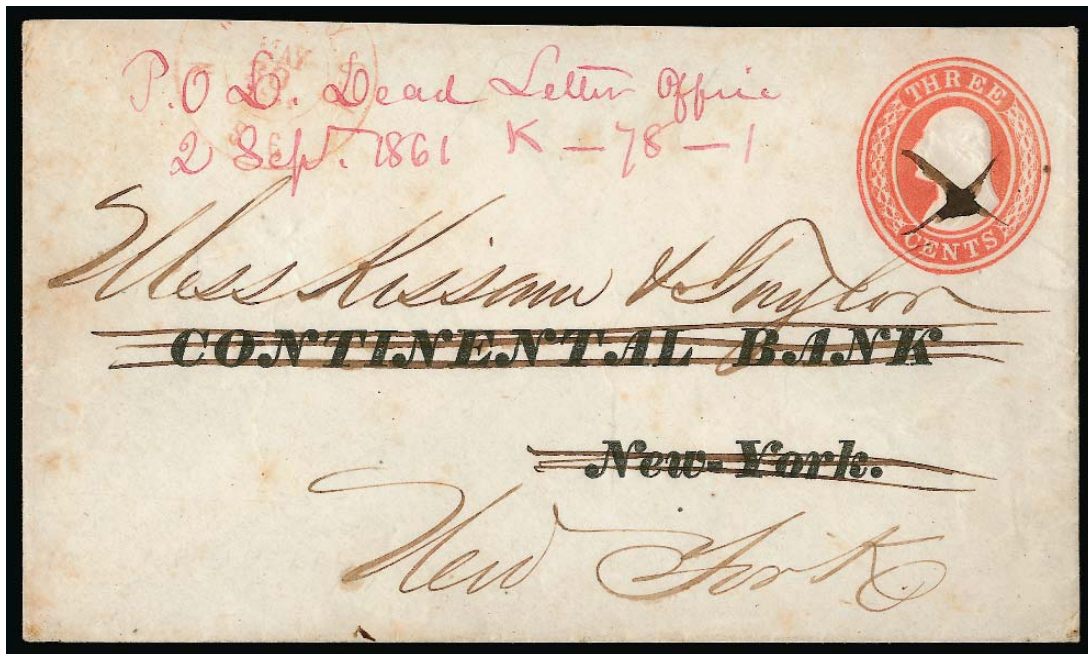
VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE EXAMPLE OF THE CONFEDERATE DEAD LETTER OFFICE HAND-STAMP ON A LETTER DIVERTED AFTER THE MAIL ROUTE BETWEEN RICHMOND AND WASHINGTON D.C. WAS TERMINATED.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 12). Ex Weatherly and Kilbourne E. 2,000-3,000

- 25 ☒ **Dead Letter Office, Confederate States of America, Aug. 23, 1861.** Mostly readable oval datestamp with magenta manuscript "S-79-1" record notation on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) to Philadelphia, "Wilmington N.C. 25 May [inverted]" circular datestamp **during North Carolina's 7-day Independent Statehood** (May 21-27), narrow piece restored along top edge just above datestamps but not affecting them

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE NORTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT STATE USE OF THE UNITED STATES STAR DIE ENTIRE, WHICH WAS DIVERTED TO THE CONFEDERATE DEAD LETTER OFFICE AFTER THE MAIL ROUTE BETWEEN RICHMOND AND WASHINGTON D.C. WAS TERMINATED.

Ex Dietz. With 1990 C.S.A. certificate E. 1,500-2,000



26

- 26 ☒ **"P.O.D. Dead Letter Office, 2 Sept. 1861 K-78-1"** Confederate States Dead Letter Office marking and record number in bright red manuscript on 3c Red on White Nesbitt entire (U9) with printed address crossed out and re-addressed to Kissam & Taylor in New York City, red "Newberry C.H. S.C. May 30, 1861" double-circle datestamp at upper left beneath D.L.O. marking, cover neatly opened at top, lighted toned spots

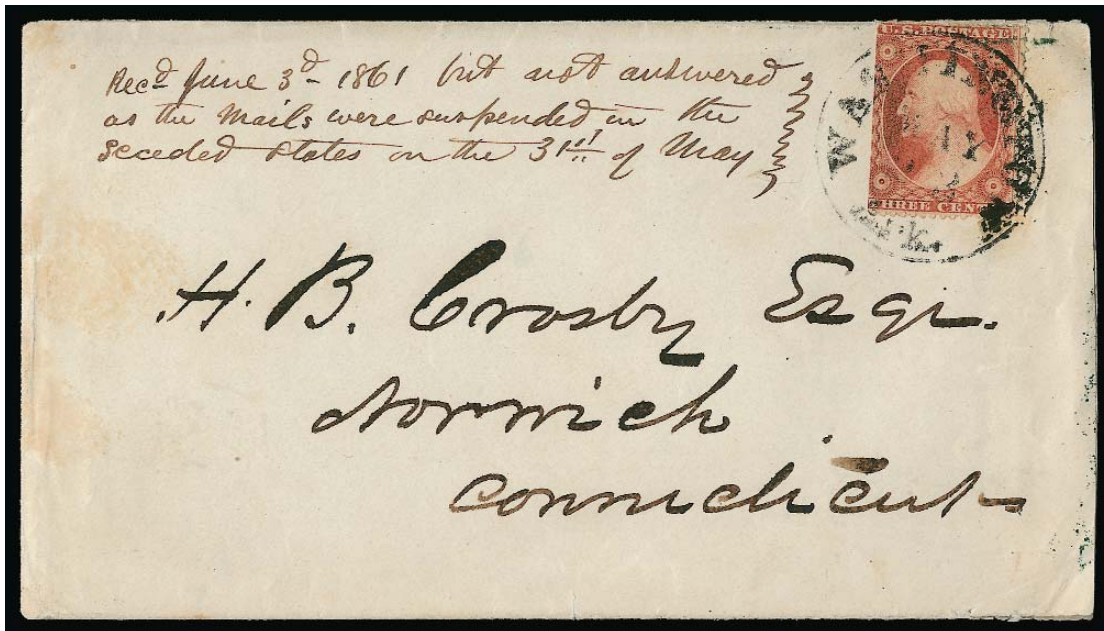
VERY FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE CONFEDERATE DEAD LETTER OFFICE COVER WITH THE MANUSCRIPT MARKING, WHICH WAS USED CONCURRENTLY WITH THE HANDSTAMPED OVAL FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN DAYS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR.

Once the mail routes between the U.S. and C.S.A. were suspended, northbound mail was diverted to the C.S.A. Dead Letter Office. Fewer than ten examples of the C.S.A. Dead Letter Office markings (handstamp or manuscript) are reported, all diverted to the D.L.O. between May 24 and June 1, 1861.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 12). Ex Birkinbine..... E. 3,000-4,000

Why Confederate Dead Letter Office Markings are So Rare

The great rarity of Confederate Dead Letter Office markings is due to the fact that the C.S.A. Post Office Department's policy of diverting northbound mail to the D.L.O. was in effect for a very brief period, starting with the suspension of the Washington-Richmond mail route on May 24 and ending around June 1 when the C.S.A. postal system started. The "Southn. Letter Unpaid" cover offered in lot 36 is evidence of the change in handling that occurred at the beginning of June. It was mailed from South Carolina to Washington D.C. on June 6. Before May 24, it would have been sent through on the Richmond-Washington D.C. route. Starting on May 24, it would have been diverted to the Confederate D.L.O. Since it was after June 1, it was sent through the C.S.A. postal system via the Nashville-Louisville route. Thus, the Confederate D.L.O. markings never saw widespread or prolonged use.



27

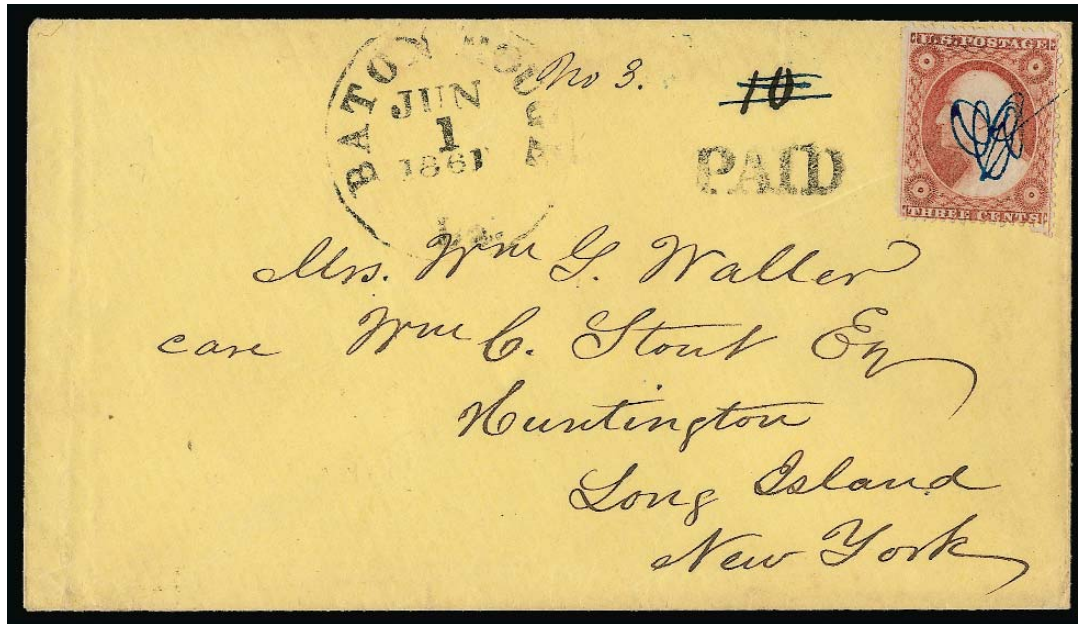
- 27 ☒ **Washington Ark. May 23 (1861).** Mostly clear circular datestamp ties **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, s.e. at left, on cover to H. B. Crosby in Norwich Conn., detailed three-line receipt docketing "*Recd June 3d 1861 but not answered as the mails were suspended in the seceded states on the 31st of May*", with original letter (see below)

VERY FINE. ONE OF THE LAST LETTERS TO CROSS THE LINES BY REGULAR MAIL ROUTES. THIS EXAMPLE IS EXCEPTIONAL FOR THE DETAILED DOCKETING THAT REFERS SPECIFICALLY TO THE SUSPENSION OF MAIL FROM THE SOUTH.

This cover and the enclosed letter were sent by B. F. Hempstead, a lawyer and slave-owner who also addressed the cover offered in lot 6. This cover contains a letter dated May 21, 1861, enclosing a newspaper clipping. The letter reads: "*Enclosed I send you a copy of an ordinance introduced in our State Convention. It will become law. Crosby, the North may conquer us — but before it is done, we will die shoulder to shoulder in the defence of our institution. Lincoln and his cabinet for a time deceived the conservative men in the slave holding & conservative states. The dream is over, and it now comes to the gage of battle for the right and I for one say Amen to it. You know how I stood before. I am now for the South — the South — and no mistake.*"

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 3). Ex Killbourne E. 1,500-2,000

CONFEDERATE STATES POST OFFICE MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES



28

- 28 ☒ **Baton Rouge La. Jun. 1, 1861 — First Day of the Confederate States Postal System.** Mostly clear strike of circular datestamp with prominent date, “Paid” handstamp and manuscript “10” C.S.A. rate, crossed out in blue manuscript which also cancels and ties **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** on yellow cover to Huntington (Long Island) N.Y., from the Waller correspondence, immaculate condition

EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING COVER POSTMARKED ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES POSTAL SYSTEM AND ADDRESSED TO THE NORTH, BEARING BOTH CONFEDERATE AND UNITED STATES POSTAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME POSSIBLE.

This cover was mailed from Baton Rouge on June 1 and reached Memphis, Tennessee, on June 3, just three days before the U.S. suspended service at that post office. The 10c C.S.A. postage paid the over-500 miles rate, and the sender affixed the 3c 1857 stamp to pay U.S. postage once the letter crossed the border. This date — June 1, 1861 — is the earliest that postage of both sides could be used together in a mixed franking.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 13). Ex Everett and McCarren..... E. 4,000-5,000

Why Early United States and Confederate States Mixed Frankings are Rare

The combination of United States and Confederate States postage—a mixed franking—was made possible as soon as the C.S.A. postal system commenced operation on June 1, 1861. However, once the normal postal routes were completely suspended in early June 1861, mixed frankings only occurred on “Southn. Letter Unpaid” and across-the-lines express covers. The express routes were outlawed on August 26, 1861, thereby eliminating mixed frankings until the Norfolk-Old Point Comfort flag-of-truce route was opened in September 1861. Because early flag-of-truce letters via Norfolk and Petersburg were usually enclosed in two envelopes—one with U.S. postage and the other with C.S.A. postage (per regulations)—mixed-franking covers are rarely encountered. Only after the flag-of-truce routes were reopened for P.O.W. exchanges in July 1863 and wartime shortages prompted correspondents to use one envelope do mixed-franking covers appear with more regularity. The earliest covers, mailed to and from the C.S.A. before June 12 with U.S. stamps and C.S.A. handstamped rate markings (adhesive stamp were not issued until October 1861), are some of the rarest artifacts in American postal history.



29



30

- 29 ☒ **Baton Rouge La. Jun. 5, 1861.** Mostly clear circular datestamp with matching "Paid" and "10" handstamps on yellow cover to Huntington (Long Island) N.Y., from the Waller correspondence, **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** with blue manuscript cancel, blue pencil "10", manuscript "Recd 14th June" docketing, top edge of cover restored and one backflap added, stamp has faults

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF THE LAST PIECES OF REGULAR MAIL TO CROSS THE BORDER FROM THE CONFEDERATE STATES INTO THE UNITED STATES.

This cover was mailed from Baton Rouge on June 5 and would normally have passed through Memphis, Tennessee. However, since the U.S. suspended service at that office on June 6, the letter was routed through Nashville and arrived at Louisville around June 10. It was sent north without penalty. The 10c C.S.A. postage paid the over-500 miles rate, and the sender affixed the 3c 1857 stamp to pay U.S. postage once the letter crossed the border.

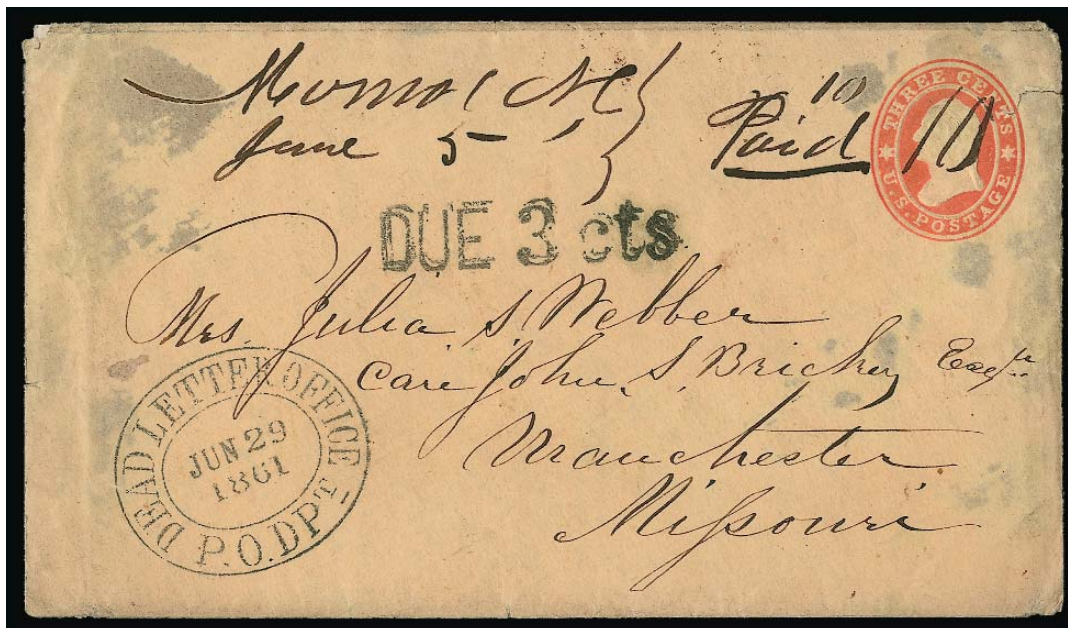
Ex Everett and Gunter..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 30 ☒ **Savannah Ga. Paid Jun. 5, 1861.** Partly clear circular datestamp and "10" C.S.A. rate handstamp on **3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27)** to Wilmington Del., diverted to U.S. Dead Letter Office with "Dead Letter Office P.O. Dpt. Jun. 29, 1861" oval datestamp and "Due 3 cts." straightline, blue Baltimore datestamp on back, part of flap and backstamp missing

VERY FINE. A RARE NORTHBOUND COVER THAT CROSSED THE BORDER BETWEEN THE CONFEDERATE STATES AND UNITED STATES AT NASHVILLE JUST PRIOR TO SUSPENSION OF THIS MAIL ROUTE, PREPAID WITH POSTAGE OF BOTH SIDES.

This cover was mailed from Savannah on June 5, passed through Nashville and arrived at Louisville around June 10. It was sent north without penalty, although once it reached Baltimore it was diverted to the Dead Letter Office. The 10c C.S.A. postage paid the over-500 miles rate.....

..... E. 1,500-2,000



31

- 31 ☒ **"Monroe N.C. June 5" (1861).** Manuscript postmark and **"Paid 10" C.S.A. rate** (with additional smaller "10") on **3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) to Manchester Mo.,** passed through Louisville two days before that mail route was closed, upon arrival in St. Louis it was backstamped with "Saint Louis Mo. Jun. 13, 1861" circular datestamp and diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office, **"Dead Letter Office P.O. Dpt. Jun. 29, 1861"** oval datestamp and **"Due 3 cts."** straightline applied upon release, minor dampstains at right and left, with original letter (see below)

A REMARKABLE POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT, BEING ONE OF THE LAST COVERS TO TRAVEL ACROSS THE LINES BY REGULAR MAIL FROM THE CONFEDERATE STATES TO THE UNITED STATES, SHOWING THE POSTAGE RATES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

On June 12, 1861, the U.S. suspended service at the Nashville post office, which effectively closed down the last remaining northbound mail route from the Confederate States. The Nashville postmaster continued to forward northbound mail, but letters were stopped at Louisville starting on June 13. This letter reached Louisville around June 11 and was sent on to St. Louis; however, at that distributing point, it was diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office.

The letter enclosure was first dated May 28 at Monroe N.C. and written by the addressee's sister. It is an articulate and heartfelt commentary on wartime preparations: *"Tailors were hired to cut & fit, while the ladies of Monroe made up a suit apiece for all of them beside the tents, towels, knapsacks &c. necessary for a camp equipage. The poor fellows left yesterday, & a fine looking set of young men can hardly be found. They were the flower of the county."* etc. Shortly after, the addressee's brother picked up the pen, noting that his children had scribbled on the letter (a few lines of rebel sentiment) and adding another page of commentary.

In this one cover and letter we have the essential elements of disunion at the start of the Civil War: family members separated by conflict; two separate postal systems using the last thin thread of mail exchange; and the radical change in the cost of sending letters for correspondents in the South.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 14). E. 1,500-2,000

“Southn. Letter Unpaid” Mail





Mr. James Lester.

Eddyville

Kentucky

SOUTH LETTER
UNPAID.

"SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID" MAIL

Starting June 13, the Louisville postmaster, Dr. John J. Speed, decided to hold the northbound mail received from Nashville, rather than divert it to the U.S. Dead Letter Office. Speed sent a request to Washington D.C. for instructions on how to handle the mail that was rapidly accumulating. Postmaster Speed received instructions from the U.S. Post Office Department by wire on June 24, advising him to "forward letters from the South for the loyal states as unpaid after removing postage stamps..." Since it was impractical to remove stamps from all of the letters (although apparently that was attempted at first), Postmaster Speed created the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking to explain to the addressees that the U.S. stamps applied by the senders were invalid for postage.

Louisville postmarked most of the mail on the date that it was released from Louisville. Known postmarks are June 26, 27, 29 and 30, and July 6, 10 and 11. Six of the 29 "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers in the *Special Routes* census have indistinct or no origin postmarks, so their arrivals in Louisville cannot be determined. The remaining 24 show a pattern that suggests how the mail was processed at Louisville. [No. 25 has been deleted as a fake].

- The first group to be released arrived in Louisville on June 17-25, and was released on June 25 with no Louisville postmarks. These were the first mails carried by private express companies.
- The second group arrived on June 13-14, and was released on June 26-27 with Louisville postmarks. These were the last mails carried by the U.S. route agent before his discontinuance.
- Mails that arrived in Louisville from June 27 until July 12 were released one or two days after receipt with Louisville postmarks on the day of release. Three covers arrived after June 29 but show June 29 postmarks, perhaps because a postal clerk did not change his datestamp.

32 ✉ **New Orleans La., 5c Brown on White (62X3).** First Printing, Positions 39-40 from the bottom right corner of the sheet, full to large margins including huge part of right sheet margin, vertical crease between stamps and slight gum staining, tied by "New Orleans La. (15?) Jun." (1861) circular datestamp, **used with 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, slightly rounded corner, tied by pencil lines on blue part-printed notice from Octave de Armas, a prominent notary public in New Orleans, dated June 14, 1861, and addressed to James Lester in Eddyville, Kentucky, received at Louisville between June 17 and 25, released on June 25 without Louisville datestamp, full clear strike of "**SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID**" two-line handstamp in blue with matching "DUE 3" straightline tying 5c pair, tiny hole in address panel just above the last letter of "Eddyville"

VERY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT "SOUTHERN LETTER UNPAID" COVER FRANKED WITH A COMBINATION OF THE NEW ORLEANS POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL — USED WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK OF ISSUE — AND THE UNITED STATES 3-CENT 1857 ISSUE, WHICH WAS REJECTED BY THE LOUISVILLE POST OFFICE. ONLY ONE OTHER SUCH COMBINATION IS RECORDED (OFFERED IN THIS SALE), AND THIS IS THE FINER OF THE TWO. AN IMPORTANT POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT FROM SEVERAL PERSPECTIVES.

This folded notice of Protest was dated June 14, 1861, by the notary public in New Orleans, Octave de Armas, and mailed to James Lester in Eddyville, Kentucky. It was probably postmarked at the New Orleans post office on the following day (June 15), but this type of circular datestamp (with large serif letters) is often difficult to read; in this instance, the day of the month is illegible. By the time this letter reached Nashville on or about June 17, the U.S. mail agent had already been withdrawn from the route between Nashville and Louisville (the last regular mail run was on June 12). On June 15, the Nashville postmaster, W. D. McNish, started to forward mail to Louisville by using the American Letter Express Company, who brought the mails across the lines and deposited them in the Louisville post office. This letter was among the first group of mail forwarded by express under this unusual arrangement.

Starting June 13, the Louisville postmaster, Dr. John J. Speed, decided to hold the northbound mail received from Nashville, rather than divert it to the U.S. Dead Letter Office. Speed sent a request to Washington D.C. for instructions on how to handle the mail that was rapidly accumulating. When this letter arrived in Louisville on June 19, it was held until Postmaster Speed received instructions from the U.S. Post Office Department, which were wired on June 24, advising him to "forward letters from the South for the loyal states as unpaid after removing postage stamps..." Since it was impractical to remove stamps from all of the letters (although apparently that was attempted at first), Postmaster Speed created the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking to explain to the addressees that the U.S. stamps applied by the senders were invalid for postage. The first group of mail to be released with the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking was actually the mail received at Louisville by private express between June 17 and 25, which included the cover offered here. This group was released on June 25, but none of these letters was postmarked with the Louisville datestamp.

There are 29 "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers recorded in the *Special Routes* book (No. 25 has been deleted as a fake since publication), only two of which have Confederate State Postmaster Provisional stamps (both New Orleans and both offered in this sale). There is one other New Orleans provisional cover known that was addressed to Louisville, carried by American Letter Express from Nashville, but it bears only the "Due 3" marking and was not marked "Southn. Letter Unpaid" because it was delivered locally in Louisville.

Special Routes Census No. SLU-14. Illustrated in the National Philatelic Museum *1857 Perforation Centennial* book and *Special Routes* (p. 17). Ex Worthington, Caspary, Lightner, Matz, Haas and Ishikawa..... E. 100,000-150,000



- 33 ☒ **New Orleans La., 5c Brown on White (62X3).** First Printing, two singles (Positions 12 and 17), mostly full to large margins (one just touched at top), faint trace of gum staining, tied by "New Orleans La. 22 Jun." (1861) circular datestamp, **used with 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, pre-use crease, faint toning, small part of bottom right corner clipped, on small black-bordered **mourning** envelope addressed to William C. Yarnock in Evansville, Indiana, received at Louisville and released on June 25 without Louisville datestamp, partly readable strike of "SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID" two-line handstamp in blue ties 3c stamp, matching "DUE 3" straightline

FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED "SOUTHERN LETTER UNPAID" COVERS FRANKED WITH A COMBINATION OF THE NEW ORLEANS POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL AND THE UNITED STATES 3-CENT 1857 ISSUE, WHICH WAS REJECTED BY THE LOUISVILLE POST OFFICE.

This mourning envelope is addressed to William C. Yarnock, whose unusual surname turns up in a Google search under soldiers enlisted in the Union army from Iowa. This envelope was probably addressed by a relative residing in or travelling through New Orleans. The type of circular datestamp on this cover is often difficult to read, but it appears to be June 22 (1861). When this letter reached Nashville on or about June 25, the U.S. mail agent had already been withdrawn from the route between Nashville and Louisville (the last regular mail run was on June 12). On June 15, the Nashville postmaster, W. D. McNish, started to forward mail to Louisville by using the American Letter Express Company, who brought the mails across the lines and deposited them in the Louisville post office. This letter was in one of the daily mails forwarded by express under this unusual arrangement.

Starting June 13, the Louisville postmaster, Dr. John J. Speed, decided to hold the north-bound mail received from Nashville, rather than divert it to the U.S. Dead Letter Office. Speed sent a request to Washington D.C. for instructions on how to handle the mail that was rapidly accumulating. When this letter arrived in Louisville on June 25, Postmaster Speed had received instructions from the U.S. Post Office Department, which were wired on June 24, advising him to "forward letters from the South for the loyal states as unpaid after removing postage stamps. . ." Since it was impractical to remove stamps from all of the letters (although apparently that was attempted at first), Postmaster Speed created the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking to explain to the addressees that the U.S. stamps applied by the senders were invalid for postage. The first group of mail to be released with the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking was actually the mail received at Louisville by private express between June 17 and 25, which included the cover offered here. This group was released on June 25, but none of these letters was postmarked with the Louisville datestamp.

There are 29 "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers recorded in the *Special Routes* book (No. 25 has been deleted as a fake since publication), only two of which have Confederate State Postmaster Provisional stamps (both New Orleans and both offered in this sale). There is one other New Orleans provisional cover known that was addressed to Louisville, carried by American Letter Express from Nashville, but it bears only the "Due 3" marking and was not marked "Southn. Letter Unpaid" because it was delivered locally in Louisville.

Special Routes Census No. SLU-16. Illustrated in Shenfield *Confederate States of America: The Special Postal Routes* (p. 8). Ex Richey, Antrim, Shenfield and Simon. E. 50,000-75,000



34



Richard J. Gatling

- 34 ✉ **SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID.** Blue two-line handstamp, matching "DUE 3" straightline handstamp and "Louisville Jul. 6, 1861" double-circle datestamp on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) **addressed to Richard J. Gatling** in Indianapolis, Indiana, "Murfreesborough N.C. Jun. 28" circular datestamp with "Paid" and "10" C.S.A. rate handstamps, neat receipt docketing "*Jas. H. Gatling, Ans. July 15th 1861*", immaculate condition

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF THE FINEST OF ALL "SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID" COVERS AND OF GREAT HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE. SENT BY JAMES HENRY GATLING TO HIS BROTHER, RICHARD JORDAN GATLING, FAMED INVENTOR OF THE "GATLING GUN", WHICH WAS PATENTED IN THE YEAR THIS COVER WAS MAILED.

This cover was mailed in Murfreesborough, North Carolina, on June 28, 1861, by James Henry Gatling to his younger brother, Richard, in Indianapolis. It passed through Nashville and reached Louisville around July 4. Two days later, it was marked with the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" and "Due 3" handstamps, as well as the "Louisville Ky. Jul. 6, 1861" double-circle postmark.

At this time, Richard Gatling was in Indianapolis to establish a business for his new invention, the "Gatling Gun," the first successful machine gun. According to Gatling, he invented the rapid-firing machine gun to reduce the size of armies and, therefore, decrease the number of fatalities due to disease. In 1857, he wrote: "It occurred to me that if I could invent a machine — a gun — which could by its rapidity of fire, enable one man to do as much battle duty as a hundred, that it would, to a large extent supersede the necessity of large armies, and consequently, exposure to battle and disease [would] be greatly diminished." After developing and demonstrating a working prototype, in 1862 he founded the Gatling Gun Company in Indianapolis. The first six production guns were destroyed during a fire in December 1862 at the factory where they had been manufactured at Gatling's expense. Undaunted, Gatling arranged for another thirteen to be manufactured at the Cincinnati Type Factory. While General Benjamin F. Butler bought twelve and Admiral David D. Porter bought one, it was not until the end of the war that the U.S. Army officially purchased Gatling guns. In 1870 he sold his patents for the Gatling gun to Colt. Gatling remained president of the Gatling Gun Company until it was fully absorbed by Colt in 1897. The hand-cranked Gatling gun was declared obsolete by the U.S. Army in 1911. [Reference: Wikipedia]

Richard's older brother, James Henry Gatling, began a life-long fascination with flight by observing birds and building kites as a child. Gatling finished building North Carolina's first airplane in 1873. Twin wooden propellers were powered by cranking a handwheel, and more cockpit levers operated the front elevator, vertical rudder, and wings. Using poplar and thin pieces of oak, Gatling built a fuselage and wings light enough to be sustained by muscle power alone. Gatling supposed that once his plane was airborne, the machine wouldn't require as much of his energy. Gatling planned to fly the craft from atop a twelve-foot high platform on his gin mill to a road a mile away, now Highway 258. On a Sunday afternoon in 1873, his farmhands pushed him off the platform while Gatling cranked the handwheel. The plane was aloft only a short distance before Gatling crashed into an elm tree at the edge of his yard. He received minor injuries, but never flew again. His plane was destroyed in a fire in 1905. [Reference: http://www.archives.ncdcr.gov/ffc/Flight/Aviation/James_Henry_Gatling.html]

Special Routes Census No. SLU-19 (illustrated on p. 15). Illustrated in Ashbrook *Special Service* (No. 67, Oct. 1956, p. 542, photo 267). Ex Knapp, Kimmell, "Old Oak" and Birkinbine. With 1976 P.F. certificate E. 20,000-30,000



35

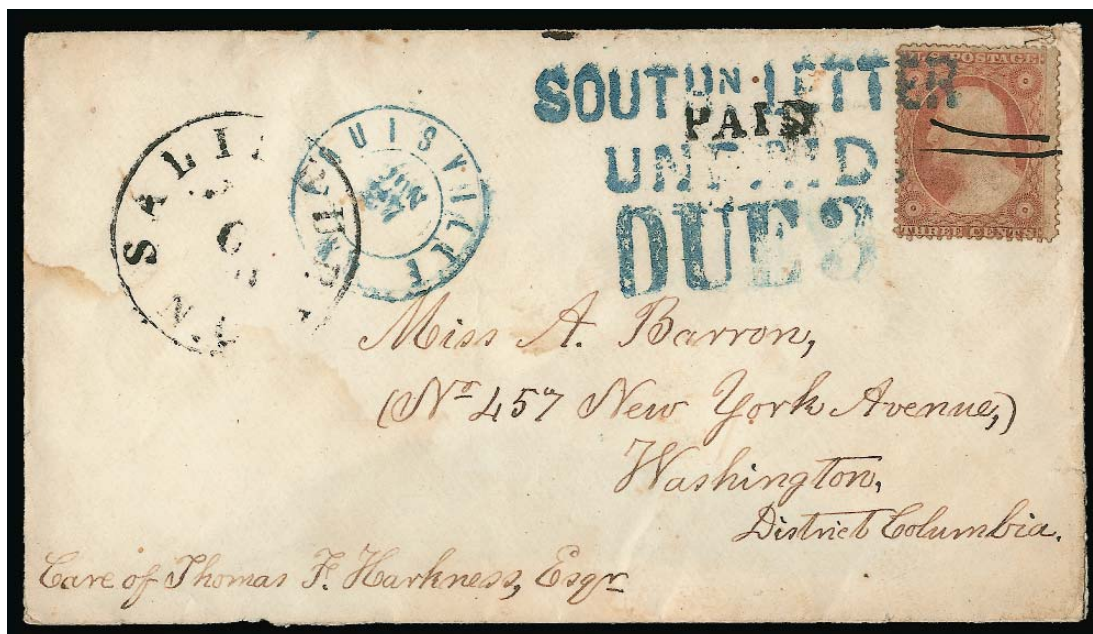
- 35 ☒ **SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID.** Blue two-line handstamp and "DUE 3" straightline handstamp, both tying **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, creased at upper left and a few short perfs, matching "Louisville Ky. Jun. 30" (1861) double-circle datestamp on small cover addressed to Rev. John C. Tate in Bloomfield, Kentucky, manuscript "Milford Texas May 31" postmark (pen lines cancelling stamp)

EXTREMELY FINE. A SUPERB EXAMPLE OF THE "SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID" MARKING USED TO CANCEL THE UNITED STATES STAMP.

The U.S. May 27 suspension order prohibited post offices from forwarding southbound mail to disloyal Southern states. However, northbound mail continued to be sent via Louisville. Through June 6, northbound mails were forwarded to Louisville from Memphis or Nashville. From June 7 through 12, only the Nashville post office forwarded mail to Louisville, and Louisville continued to forward mail north. With the resignation of W. D. McNish as Nashville's Federal postmaster on June 12 and the withdrawal of the U.S. mail agent from this route, Louisville held the mails still being sent north by the discontinued post office at Nashville. On June 24, Dr. John J. Speed, the postmaster at Louisville, was advised to forward letters from the South to the loyal states after removing postage. With approximately 5,000 such letters accumulating at Louisville by this date, Postmaster Speed employed a more practical means of invalidating postage by creating the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" handstamp. Louisville started marking letters on June 25, but this first group did not have a datestamp. The subsequent group and all of those thereafter have the Louisville circular datestamp (June 27, 28 and 29 being the most common dates). As a matter of record, this is the only recorded "Southn. Letter Unpaid" cover with the June 30 datestamp.

United States postage stamps and stamped envelopes used from the South were regarded as contraband and were refused as prepayment. There are 29 "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers recorded in the *Special Routes* book (No. 25 has been deleted as a fake since publication), of which only 13 have the 3c U.S. adhesive stamp used to pay the domestic rate. Two of the 13 are used with the New Orleans provisional (offered in this sale) and one is in the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, leaving only ten 3c 1857 Issue stamped covers with the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking. This cover has a very early origin date — May 31 — and since it was mailed while the post office in Milford, Texas, was still technically as U.S. post office, there was no Confederate postage paid. Only two "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers with only U.S. postage are recorded, both dated May 31 from Texas (the other is in the Smithsonian National Postal Museum collection).

Special Routes Census No. SLU-17. Ex Caspary and Kilbourne..... E. 20,000-30,000



36

- 36 ☒ **SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID.** Blue two-line handstamp ties **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, gum toned, matching "DUE 3" straightline handstamp and "Louisville Jun. 27" double-circle datestamp on cover addressed to "Miss A. Barron, No. 457 New York Avenue, Washington, District Columbia" (apparently in the hand of Commodore Samuel A. Barron) and directed "*Care of Thomas F. Harkness, Esqr.*" — Harkness was a government letter carrier in Washington D.C. — partly clear "Salisbury N.C. Jun. 6" (1861) circular datestamp and "Paid" straightline (pen lines on stamp, but no indication of C.S.A. rate other than "Paid"), lightened waterstain at lower left, part of backflap removed

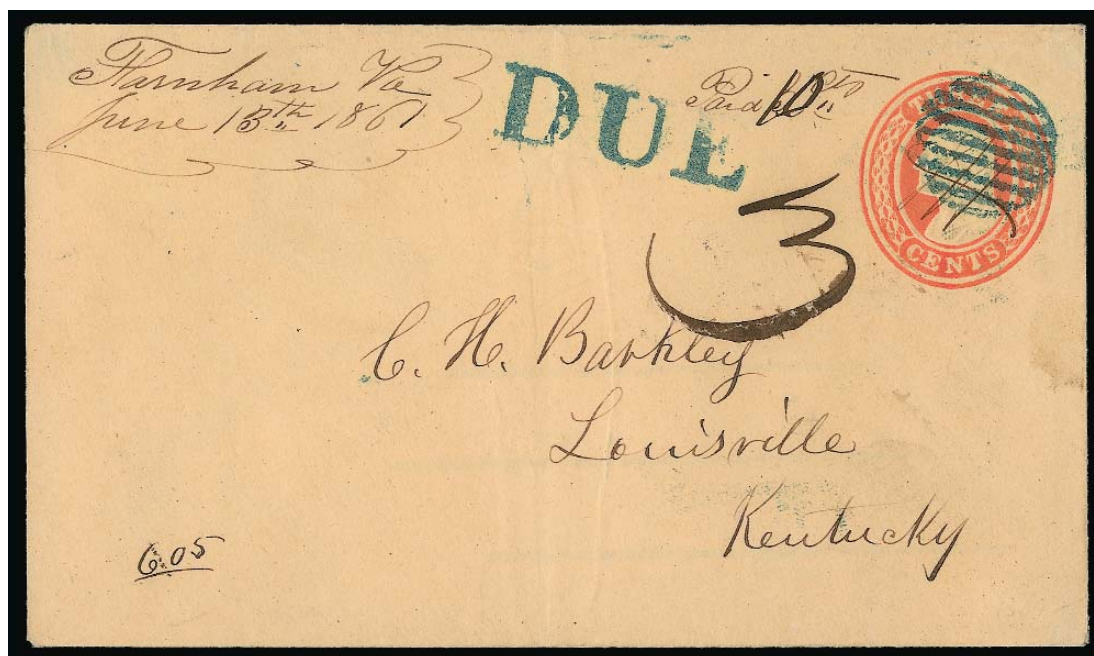
VERY FINE. A RARE "SOUTHN. LETTER UNPAID" COVER WITH THE 3-CENT 1857 ISSUE AND DELIVERED BY THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE LETTER CARRIER IN WASHINGTON D.C.

This was mailed from Salisbury, North Carolina, during the first week the Confederate postal system was operational. It probably reached Nashville just as the last U.S. route agent mail was carried north to Louisville. The mail received at Louisville on June 13-14 was held pending instructions to Postmaster John J. Speed, which were received by wire on June 24. The first group to be processed with the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking (on June 25, but without a datestamp) was actually received in Louisville by private express after the U.S. route agent delivered the mail containing this cover. The second group was processed on June 26 and 27 and has the Louisville datestamp.

United States postage stamps and stamped envelopes used from the South were regarded as contraband and were refused as prepayment. There are 29 "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers recorded in the *Special Routes* book (No. 25 has been deleted as a fake since publication), of which only 13 have the 3c U.S. adhesive stamp used to pay the domestic rate. Two of the 13 are used with the New Orleans provisional (offered in this sale) and one is in the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, leaving only ten 3c 1857 Issue stamped covers with the "Southn. Letter Unpaid" marking.

The street address and "*Care of Thomas F. Harkness Esqr.*" directive are clear indications that this was delivered by the letter carrier in Washington D.C. We are unaware of any other "Southn. Letter Unpaid" covers that were clearly marked for carrier delivery. It is likely that this was sent by Commodore Samuel Barron, because he was in North Carolina in June 1861, and he would have been aware of the carrier's name from the time he spent in Washington D.C.

Special Routes Census No. SLU-1 (illustrated on p. 13). Ex Pillar. With 1993 P.F. certificate..... E. 10,000-15,000



37

- 37 ☒ **"Farnham Va. June 13th 1861"**. Manuscript postmark and "Paid 5cts" C.S.A. rate with "10" re-rate on 3c Red on Buff Nesbitt (U10) entire to Louisville, pen cancel on 3c embossed stamp, blue grid cancel and matching "DUE" straightline with manuscript "3" U.S. rate applied at Louisville, pressed-out vertical fold at center and small part of back-flap trimmed away

VERY FINE. EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF CONFEDERATE MAIL TO LOUISVILLE AFTER SUSPENSION OF THE NASHVILLE-LOUISVILLE MAIL ROUTE. THIS IS A "SOUTHERN LETTER UNPAID" COVER.

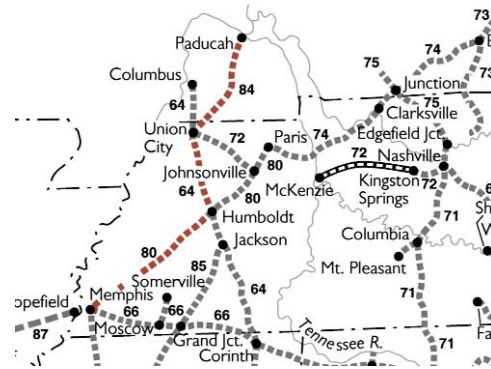
The U.S. May 27 suspension order prohibited post offices from forwarding southbound mail to disloyal Southern states. However, northbound mail continued to be sent via Louisville. Through June 6, northbound mails were forwarded to Louisville from Memphis or Nashville. From June 7 through 12, only the Nashville post office forwarded mail to Louisville, and Louisville continued to forward mail north. On June 15, after the U.S. mail agent had been withdrawn from the Nashville-Louisville route (the last trip was on June 12), the Nashville postmaster, W. D. McNish, started to forward mail to Louisville by using the American Letter Express Company, who brought the mails across the lines and deposited them in the Louisville post office. This letter was in one of the daily mails forwarded by express under this unusual arrangement, arriving in Louisville on or about June 18.

United States postage stamps and stamped envelopes used from the South were regarded as contraband and were refused as prepayment. The familiar "Southn. Letter Unpaid" handstamp was used by the Louisville post office on mail sent north, but letters addressed locally were marked "Due" for unpaid postage. Examples of "Southern Letter Unpaid" mail delivered in Louisville are exceedingly rare.

Ex Gallagher E. 3,000-4,000

NORTHBOUND MAIL VIA MEMPHIS AND PADUCAH MAIL ROUTE

Even after the Nashville-Louisville postal route was suspended on June 12, the Paducah and Memphis Railroad postal route continued to link western Tennessee with western Kentucky. In an apparent oversight, this route between Union City, Tennessee and Paducah, Kentucky, was not suspended by the U.S. until August 30, but did not carry much across-the-lines mail.



38

- 38 ✉ **"Prince George C.H. June 11th /61" (Virginia).** Manuscript postmark and "Paid 10" C.S.A. rate on brown cover to St. Joseph Mo., green **"St. Joseph Mo. Jun. 27"** circular datestamp applied upon forwarding to St. Louis, slightly age toned

AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF MAIL THAT WAS CARRIED ON THE SECONDARY MAIL ROUTE AFTER ALL OTHER ROUTES BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH WERE SUSPENDED.

The secondary mail route operated on the Memphis and Paducah Railroad, linking western Tennessee and western Kentucky. This route was not suspended until August 30, but very little mail was carried on it. In this case the Missouri post offices did not assess U.S. postage, possibly out of sympathy to correspondents in the Confederacy.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 18). With 1989 P.F. certificate E. 1,500-2,000



39

- 39 ☒ **"Turner's Point Texas, June 19th".** Manuscript postmark on blue folded letter datelined "Kaufman County Texas June 15th 1861" from a young man eager to join the Confederate army to his cousin at Clifton Mills in Breckinridge County in northwestern Kentucky, no indication of C.S.A. rate or prepaid postage, blue "Paducah Ky." double-circle datestamp struck on three different days — Aug. 29, 30 and Sep. 3, 1861 — matching "Due 3" in oval, one strike crossed out, a second strike at upper right, minor wear along folds expertly reinforced

A REMARKABLE ACROSS-THE-LINES COVER FROM TEXAS, POSTMARKED AT PADUCAH ON THE EVE OF THE CONFEDERATE INVASION OF KENTUCKY AND THREE DAYS PRIOR TO FEDERAL OCCUPATION UNDER ULYSSES S. GRANT.

Kaufman County, Texas, lies just east of Dallas. Four days after the letter's June 15 dateline, it was postmarked at Turner's Point, also in Kaufman County. The letter made its way to the Mississippi River, probably by a courier, then it was carried up river to Paducah, Kentucky.

Although Kentucky remained neutral at this time, Paducah had strong pro-Southern elements, and its post office was closed by U.S. authorities on August 30. This letter was postmarked first on August 29, then again on August 30, and finally a third time on September 3, the day Confederate forces moved on Hickman and Columbus, Kentucky, which effectively ended the state's neutrality policy.

On the morning of September 6, some 4,000 Confederate troops moved from Columbus toward Paducah with the intention of taking this key river port. However, Ulysses S. Grant entered Paducah that morning with a small detachment of troops and proclaimed Federal control. The Confederates were unaware of their own superior strength and turned back from Paducah after hearing of Grant's occupation. To reassure citizens who were predominantly pro-Southern and deeply suspicious of the Union army's presence, Grant issued an eloquent proclamation that earned him the people's confidence and his superior's praise.

This cover was carried on the Memphis and Paducah Railroad, linking western Tennessee and western Kentucky. This route was not suspended until August 30. Very little mail was carried on this route, and very few covers survive.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 18). Ex Gallagher..... E. 1,500-2,000

MAIL BETWEEN CONFEDERATE AND U.S. POST OFFICES

The combination of United States and Confederate States postage—a mixed franking—was made possible as soon as the C.S.A. postal system commenced operation on June 1, 1861. However, once the normal postal routes were completely suspended in early June 1861, mixed frankings only occurred on “Southn. Letter Unpaid” and across-the-lines express covers. The express routes were outlawed on August 26, 1861, thereby eliminating mixed frankings until the Norfolk-Old Point Comfort flag-of-truce route was opened in September 1861. Because early flag-of-truce letters via Norfolk and Petersburg were usually enclosed in two envelopes—one with U.S. postage and the other with C.S.A. postage (per regulations)—mixed-franking covers are rarely encountered. Only after the flag-of-truce routes were reopened for P.O.W. exchanges in July 1863 and wartime shortages prompted correspondents to use one envelope do mixed-franking covers appear with more regularity. The earliest covers, mailed to and from the C.S.A. before June 12 with U.S. stamps and C.S.A. handstamped rate markings (adhesive stamp were not issued until October 1861), are some of the rarest artifacts in American postal history.



40

- 40 ☒ **Nashville Ten. Jun. 4, 1861.** Blue circular datestamp ties **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, wide straddle-pane margin at left, on small cover to New Orleans, bold “**due 10**” **Confederate due handstamp**, pencil note on back “*About Papa’s joining the Confederate Army*”

EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE ACROSS-THE-LINES COVER FROM TENNESSEE, WHERE THE UNITED STATES POSTAGE WAS REQUIRED, TO THE CONFEDERATE STATE OF LOUISIANA, WHERE 10-CENTS CONFEDERATE POSTAGE WAS COLLECTED. ESSENTIALLY A MIXED FRANKING OR “NORTHERN LETTER UNPAID” COVER.

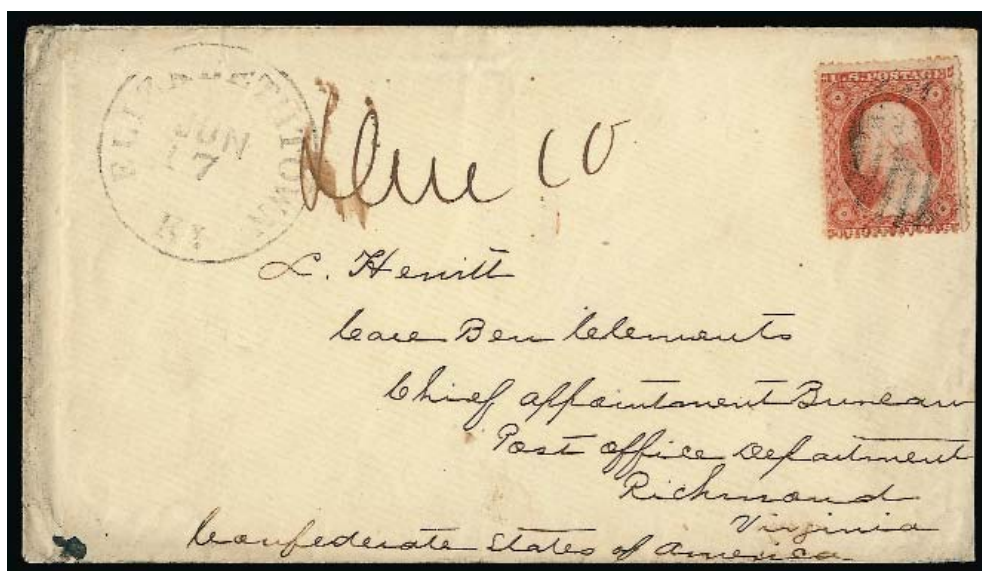
Nashville refused to apply the May 27 U.S. Suspension Order and sent this letter south via Memphis. Effective June 1, the new Confederate postal rates were 5c per half-ounce under 500 miles, and 10c over 500 miles. Prepayment of postage within the Confederacy was normally required, except for soldier mail and official post office correspondence, but a number of incoming letters from the North or abroad, which did not have prepaid C.S.A. postage, were treated as due mail. On this cover New Orleans assessed 10c due on arrival. Such mixed frankings on southbound covers were only possible from June 1 to 7, because the distributing post office in Louisville stopped forwarding southbound mail on June 8 per the June 7 U.S. Postal Discontinuance Notice.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 9). Ex Murphy..... E. 3,000-4,000



41

- 41 ☒ **Memphis Ten. Jun. 3, 1861.** Mostly readable circular datestamp ties 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), three strikes of "Jun 4" date handstamps on cover addressed in blue to Attalaville Miss., couple small stain spots and small erosion spot at bottom, stamp has small faults, otherwise Fine, the Federal post office in Memphis was discontinued on June 6, 1861, so this cover was apparently accepted with the 3c U.S. stamp, but traveled to Mississippi in the Confederate mail system, very unusual E. 200-300



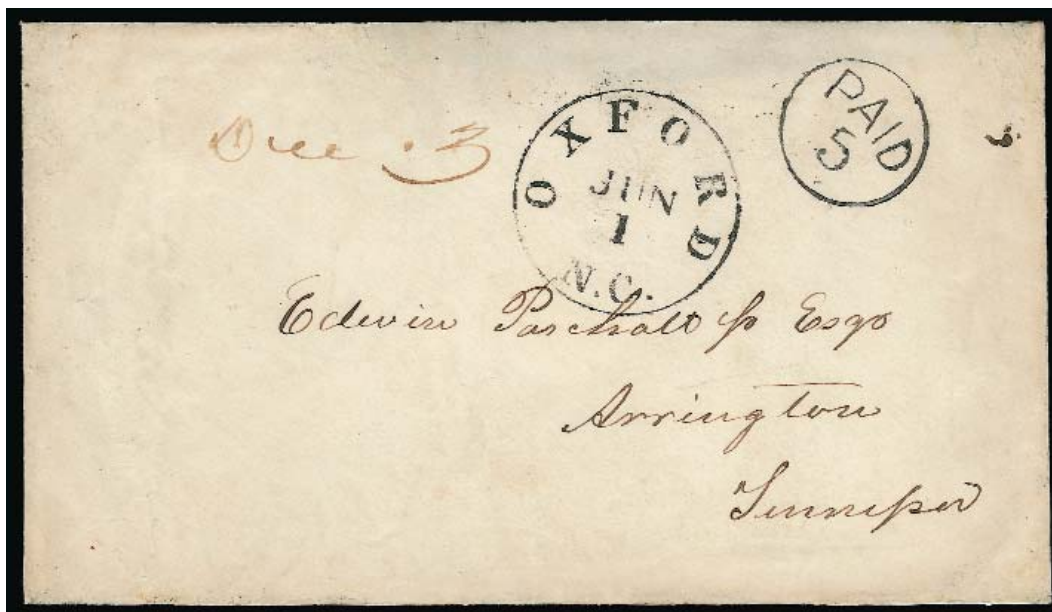
42

- 42 ☒ **Elizabethtown Ky. Jun. 7 (1861).** Mostly readable circular datestamp, grid cancel ties 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26) on cover to Fayette (Lafayette) Hewitt, Chief Appointment Bureau, Confederate States P.O. Dept., Richmond Va., manuscript "Due 10" C.S.A. rate, slight soiling along left edge

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER POSTMARKED IN KENTUCKY ON THE LAST POSSIBLE DAY FOR REGULAR SOUTHBOUND MAIL INTO THE CONFEDERATE STATES. THIS COVER HAS A COMBINATION OF UNITED STATES AND CONFEDERATE STATES POSTAGE.

After the U.S. suspended mail service at Memphis, the only available route from the U.S. into the C.S.A. was via Nashville. The last through-day for the route via Nashville was June 7, after which date all southbound mail was diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office per the June 7 U.S. Postal Discontinuance Notice. This cover, addressed to Lafayette Hewitt (see lot 86), was among the last mail to cross the lines via Nashville, and it bears a 3c stamp for U.S. postage and "Due 10" marking for Confederate postage. Such mixed frankings on southbound covers were only possible from June 1 to 7.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 9). Ex Gallagher..... E. 1,500-2,000

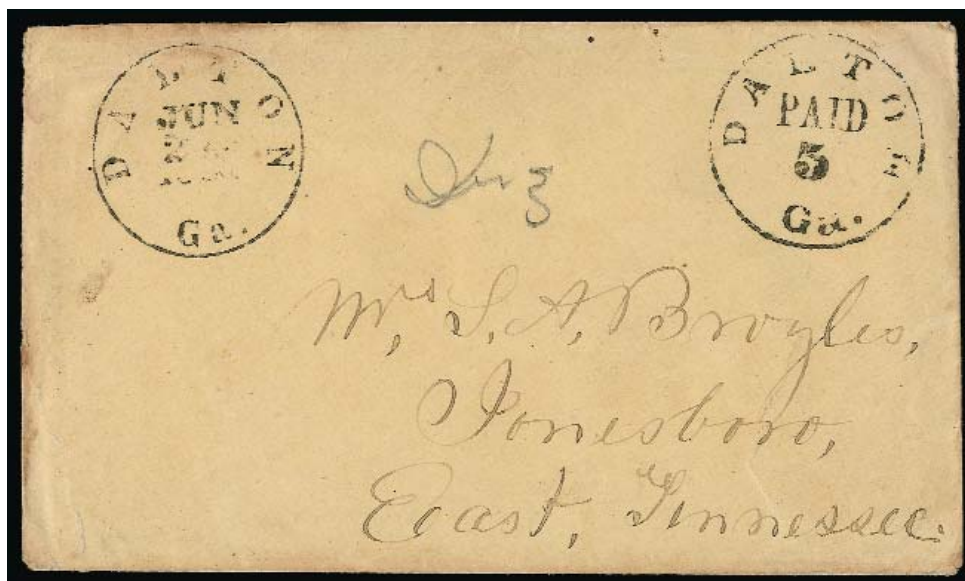


43

- 43 ☒ **Oxford N.C. Jun. 1 (1861) — First Day of the Confederate Postal System.** Perfectly clear strike of circular datestamp and "Paid 5" in circle C.S.A. rate handstamp on cover to Arrington Tenn., **manuscript "Due 3" U.S. rate** applied by Arrington post office, expertly repaired minor edge faults at top right and top edge (not affecting markings), backflap removed

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. AN OUTSTANDING JUNE 1, 1861, FIRST DAY COVER OF THE NEW CONFEDERATE POSTAL SYSTEM, AND ESPECIALLY RARE AND DESIRABLE WITH THE "DUE 3" UNITED STATES POSTAGE RATE APPLIED IN TENNESSEE, WHICH WAS STILL PART OF THE UNION.

Ex Telep and Birkinbine. With 1986 C.S.A. certificate E. 2,000-3,000



44

- 44 ☒ **Dalton Ga., 5c Black entire (20XU1).** Clearly struck handstamped provisional marking and "Dalton Ga. Jun. 26, 1861" circular datestamp on cover to Jonesboro Tenn., pencil **"Due 3" U.S. rate** applied by Jonesboro postmaster, faint edge toning, Very Fine, evidently the Jonesboro postmaster considered his office to still be part of the U.S., even though Tennessee seceded on June 8 (they did not join the C.S.A. until July 3), the Dalton "Paid 5" and Jonesboro "Due 3" represent a mixed franking..... E. 1,000-1,500



45

- 45 ☒ **Nashville Ten. Jun. 13, 1861 [day inverted].** Blue circular datestamp, matching "Paid" and "5" C.S.A. rate applied on first day of Nashville's conversion to C.S.A. postal system on yellow cover to Athens Tenn., pencil "Due 3" U.S. rate applied at Chattanooga since East Tennessee was still loyal to the Union, Extremely Fine, a fascinating cover reflecting divided loyalties and postal allegiances in Tennessee, on June 12 the Nashville postmaster McNish closed out his U.S. postal accounts and on June 13 started charging C.S.A. postage, ex Birkinbine E. 750-1,000



46

- 46 ☒ **Glasgow Ky. Jun. 24(?) (1861).** Double-circle datestamp with grid cancel tying 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), torn at left when separated, on cover to Dardanelle Ark., attempted use of U.S. stamp, blue "5" C.S.A. rate handstamp applied at Nashville, re-rated "Due 10" on arrival in Arkansas for distance over 500 miles

VERY FINE AND FASCINATING COVER SHOWING ATTEMPTED USE OF UNITED STATES STAMP TO PREPAY POSTAGE INTO THE CONFEDERATE STATES, BUT TREATED AS A "NORTHERN LETTER UNPAID" BY THE NASHVILLE POSTMASTER.

The sender prepaid the 3c U.S. rate (technically correct in Kentucky) but mail to the South through Nashville had been stopped by the U.S. Post Office Department on June 7 per the U.S. Postal Discontinuance Notice. The Confederate-sympathizing Glasgow postmaster disregarded the suspension order and sent this southbound cover through. It was rated with Confederate postage due at Nashville and Monticello Ark. ("Northern Letter Unpaid").

Ex Gallagher and Gunter..... E. 1,500-2,000

"MAILS SUSPENDED" MARKINGS

Following the June 7, 1861, U.S. Postal Discontinuance Order, all southbound mails were diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office, since Louisville stopped forwarding southbound mails to Nashville. The three types of U.S. D.L.O. markings were used on diverted mails until about September 1861. In September, as determined by surviving covers, the first of the "Mails Suspended" markings replaced the D.L.O. markings. The initial, and most common, type was a 29 x 13 mm oval in black or blue ink, which was used until the end of the war at the Washington D.C. Dead Letter Office (and possibly New York). Sometime in 1862, diverted covers from foreign countries also began to receive these markings, so there was no further need for the "Sent Back to England" markings on British mails.



- 47 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Perfect bold strike of oval handstamp, 3c Rose (65), deep shade, tied by large segmented grid, "Philadelphia Pa. Nov. 22, 1861" circular datestamp on yellow cover to the Confederate-occupied town of Glasgow, Kentucky, **with original U.S. Dead Letter Office printed envelope used to return mail to sender**, "Washington D.C. Dec. 24, 1861" circular datestamp, manuscript "due 3 cts.", the outer envelope has some toning, the cover with the "Mails Suspended" marking is immaculate

EXTREMELY FINE. A MARVELOUS EXHIBITION ITEM, COMPRISING A COVER TO KENTUCKY WITH THE RARE "MAILS SUSPENDED" MARKING AND ITS ORIGINAL DEAD LETTER OFFICE RETURN ENVELOPE.

Glasgow lies about 33 miles east of Bowling Green, which became the Confederate seat of government in Kentucky after the state's declared neutrality was broken in September 1861. This cover was mailed on November 22, before Kentucky was admitted to the Confederate States on December 10, but the Federal mails to this region of Kentucky were suspended.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 19). E. 4,000-5,000



48



49

- 48 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Bold strike of oval handstamp on folded letter datelined "Doylestown June 14, 1862" to Guy Bryan in Brazoria Tex. (Bryan was founder of Texas Cotton Bureau), letter states "I send this in an envelope directed to the Post Master at New Orleans and if possible to forward the same to you", notation on front "Answered to be forwarded", Scotch transparent tape used to seal fold at top (should be removed)

A FINE AND VERY RARE USE OF THE "MAILS SUSPENDED" MARKING ON A LETTER INTENDED TO REACH CONFEDERATE TEXAS VIA THE FEDERAL-OCCUPIED CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

Ex Seacrest and from our 1980 and 1988 Rarities of the World sales. With 1980 P.F. certificate ...
..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 49 ☒ **SENT BACK TO ENGLAND/WITHOUT A REASON/FOR NON-DELIVERY.** Three-line handstamp in frame boldly struck in red on cover from Great Britain to New Iberia La., G.B. 1sh Green tied by "London E.C. 2 SP 30 62" duplex datestamp and oval grid, red "21 Cents" credit handstamp, red "N.York Am. Pkt. Paid 24 1862 Oct. 14" credit datestamp, manuscript "Received June 23rd, 1863" in the same hand as address, no backstamps, tiny tear at top

VERY FINE. AN UNUSUAL USE OF THE RARE "SENT BACK TO ENGLAND" HANDSTAMP ON MAIL ADDRESSED TO LOUISIANA IN THE FALL OF 1862.

This cover was carried on the North German Lloyd *Hansa*, departing Southampton on October 1, 1862, and arriving in New York on October 13. The sender was apparently under the mistaken belief that the capture of New Orleans by Federal forces in April 1862 meant all of Louisiana was under Federal control. New Iberia was occupied briefly by U.S. forces in April and May 1863 during the Teche Campaign, but at the time this cover was received in New York, there was no Federal mail service to this part of Louisiana. It was handstamped with the second type of "Sent Back to England" marking after sitting in the U.S. Dead Letter Office for eight months.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 8). Ex Murphy E. 2,000-3,000



50

- 50 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Oval handstamp clearly struck on yellow cover **from Great Britain** to "*Major Tait, late of General Longstreet's Staff, Richmond, Confederate States*", Great Britain 1sh Green tied by "195" numeral oval and red "N. York Am. Pkt. Paid 24 1863 May 22" credit datestamp (the year date is in error), backstamped Chipping-Norton (May 10, 1864) and London (May 11, 1864), red "21 Cents" credit handstamp, sender's embossed seal on flap "Wm. Bliss & Co. Manufacturers, Chipping Norton"

VERY FINE AND COLORFUL ATTEMPTED TRANSATLANTIC MAILING TO THE CONFEDERATE CAPITAL THREE YEARS INTO THE WAR. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE "MAILS SUSPENDED" OVAL ON A TRANSATLANTIC COVER.

This cover was sent by Wm. Bliss & Co., a textile manufacturer in England, to an addressee identified simply as "*Major Tait, late of Genl Longstreet's Staff*". Perhaps by coincidence, a supplier of military uniforms to the Confederate government was James A. Tait, who was in Richmond at this time. The cover was carried on the North German Lloyd *America*, departing from Southampton on May 11 and arriving in New York on May 22. The "Mails Suspended" oval was probably applied at the Washington D.C. U.S. Dead Letter Office, but there is also the possibility that New York City had the device as well.

A large business firm in England in 1864 certainly would have been aware that mail could not reach the Confederate States through normal post office channels. One wonders if this cover was accidentally posted in the mails or addressed directly to Richmond, rather than sent to a forwarder in the Bahamas who could arrange for transmission on a blockade runner.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 10). Ex Gallagher..... E. 3,000-4,000



51

- 51 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Mostly clear strike of rare **blue** oval handstamp, **Bahamas 6p Violet (14)**, near-perfect centering, tied by "A05" oval grid on cover to Buena Vista S.C., backstamped "Nassau-New Providence MR 1 1865", partly clear "N. York Br. Pkt. 5 Mar. 18" due datestamp, red wax seal on flap, light vertical fold at left

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE "MAILS SUSPENDED" HANDSTAMP ON A COVER WITH A BAHAMAS FRANKING, ADDRESSED TO THE CONFEDERATE STATES, BUT POSTED AFTER THE FALL OF CHARLESTON CLOSED NASSAU'S LAST BLOCKADE-RUNNING CONNECTION.

Charleston fell to Federal forces on February 17, 1865, which prevented any further blockade-running trips through that port. This cover was probably intended to go by a blockade-runner, but once it reached the Bahamas, it was posted in the regular packet mail to New York. It was carried on the Cunarder *Corsica*, departing from Nassau on March 14 and arriving in New York on March 18. The "Mails Suspended" marking in blue was probably applied in Washington D.C., but it is also possible that New York City had the device.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 10). Ex Simon..... E. 5,000-7,500



52

- 52 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Partly clear oval handstamp on legal-size cover to E. B. Cilley, a prisoner at Salisbury N.C., sender's notation "Prisoner of War from the 5th N.H. Reg.", 3c Rose (65) pen cancelled, blue "Hill N.H. Aug. 27" circular datestamp, missent to Salisbury New Hampshire with blue "Salisbury N.H. Aug. 29" circular datestamp and manuscript forwarding notation, vertical folds clear of stamp, Very Fine, mailed in August 1862 after prisoner-of-war exchanges were suspended, thus the "Mails Suspended" marking, see lot 111 for P.O.W. cover from same correspondence, with 1990 P.S.E. certificate..... E. 1,500-2,000



53

- 53 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Straightline handstamp on small cover endorsed by member of Illinois Vol. and addressed to Atlanta Ga., "Normal Ill. Oct. 25" (ca. 1864) circular datestamp, part of "Nashville Ten. Nov. 12" double-circle datestamp on back, reduced about one inch at left, this removed portion was probably marked "Due 3" for a soldier's letter ONE OF TWO OR THREE KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THIS "MAILS SUSPENDED" STRAIGHTLINE APPLIED AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

Atlanta was captured by Sherman on September 2, 1864. It is likely that this cover was mailed from Illinois in the belief that the postal service in the city would be maintained under Federal occupation, but delivery was not permitted and the letter was stopped at Nashville.

Ex MacBride and Gallagher E. 2,000-3,000

ACROSS-THE-LINES PRIVATE EXPRESS MAIL (JUNE-AUGUST 1861)

The unreliability, disruption and eventual suspension of regular mail routes between the North and South created an opportunity for private express companies to carry letters for relatively high fees (generally about 15¢ to 25¢ per letter). As early as February 1861, Adams Express Company started carrying letters along its established water and railroad routes. This service was advertised in June 1861 after the regular post office route between Louisville and Nashville was suspended.

The Adams Express Company held a virtual monopoly of the express business in the mid-Atlantic and South before the Civil War. As tensions mounted, Adams decided that it would be safer to divide the company into southern and northern entities. On April 8, 1861, Adams sold its offices and routes in the C.S.A. to the newly-created Southern Express Company, headquartered in Augusta, Georgia. Southern carried on the express business within the C.S.A. and jointly operated the across-the-lines business with Adams. Although water routes remained open during the first few months of 1861, they quickly became too risky for a commercial venture such as Adams Express, and railroads became the only means of transporting letter mail.

We can get some idea of the vast scale of the Adams railroad network from the Stimson express book (p. 163), which says that, by the close of 1860, "Its [Adams] lines extended from Charleston to the north, coastwise, and to Columbia SC and Charlotte NC by way of Augusta Ga., through Lynchburgh, and via Dalton, Ga., to Nashville and Memphis, Tenn., to Louisville, Ky.; and, from Jackson, Tenn., to New Orleans and Vicksburg; also to Montgomery, Ala., and Albany, Ga., nearly to the Florida line; the railway management throughout this large area harmonizing with the Adams Express service to the fullest degree, and affording it all the facilities desired." Stimson also describes the Virginia routes (p. 138): "We are now in view of the routes of the Adams in Virginia; and suffer to describe them as we go. The Virginia Midland Railroad commences at Alexandria, Va., and terminates at Danville, Va., 236 miles...The Adams Company runs a double daily over the V.M.R.R., with five messengers between Baltimore and Lynchburg, and one between Alexandria and Strasburg."

On June 12, 1861, the U.S. suspended both the Nashville post office and the last major across-the-lines post office route between Louisville and Nashville. Although Adams started carrying express letters as early as February 1861, it was not the first company to advertise a special across-the-lines express mail service. William McGill and Thomas Jenkins, foreseeing an end to the post office North-South mail service, had established the American Letter Express Company in April 1861 to provide a letter express between Louisville, Kentucky, in the U.S. and Nashville, Tennessee, in the C.S.A. American ran its first ad on June 15, 1861, in the Louisville *Daily Journal*.

Operating from an office in the Nashville post office, Jenkins and McGill were in a good position to supplant the discontinued Federal mail service, and their first task was to carry the residual Nashville post office mails to Louisville since there were no longer any post office contractors for across-the-lines mail. The post office mail that they carried to Louisville in the June 15 to early-July 1861 period was later released from Louisville with the well-known "Southn. Letter Unpaid" markings (see lots 32-36). At the same time, they advertised for and began carrying southbound private express letters directed to their care at 307 Green Street in Louisville, and northbound express letters sent to their office in the Nashville post office.

The first American Letter Express trip left Louisville on June 15, 1861, and arrived in Nashville on June 17. On June 22, Adams Express announced a new competing across-the-lines private letter expresses in the Louisville *Daily Journal*. On the same date in the same paper, M. D. Whiteside gave slightly modified instructions for yet another competing across-the-lines express service.

American's "first mover" advantage was short-lived. With its large distribution system on both sides of the lines, Adams soon became the predominant across-the-lines mail carrier. The *Special Routes* census of more than 200 across-the-lines express covers from the June 15 to August 26, 1861, period shows that 78% were carried by Adams, 21% by American, and 1% by Whiteside.

By the end of May 1861, all major North-South railroad or steamship connections had been cut except for the railroad between Louisville and Tennessee. Even after Tennessee's secession on June 8, trains continued to run freely between Louisville and Nashville, and this became the funnel through which all express mail was carried. American and Whiteside only had offices in Kentucky and Nashville, so those were the termini for their express services. Delivery from these termini to destinations in the U.S. or C.S.A. was made by the respective postal systems.

Adams, however, made extensive use of its own distribution network and relied less on the postal systems for delivery. Initially, Adams' southbound mails were collected at New York, Baltimore or Boston and bagged for delivery to the major distributing offices in the C.S.A. at Augusta, Memphis or Knoxville. Northbound mails were apparently handled similarly in the reverse direction. These bags were not opened in transit through Louisville or Nashville, so surviving letters carry no express markings from either city unless they originate from them.

On July 4, 1861, the C.S.A. seized all of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad rolling stock in Tennessee, so the trains no longer crossed the lines. From this point forward, couriers carried the mail across the lines on horseback. This also entailed a change in how Adams handled its express mail, as Louisville increasingly became the major distributing office for both northbound and southbound mail. Accordingly, Adams' Louisville express markings begin to appear on all southbound mail starting

around July 17 and on all northbound mail starting around July 4. Further, Nashville became the principal distributing office in the C.S.A. for southbound mail starting around August 1.

The U.S. permitted private express mail as long as U.S. postage was paid on the mail in addition to any express fees. The C.S.A. postal system commenced on June 1, 1861, and adopted the same statute with respect to express mails. Accordingly, across-the-lines express covers typically show U.S. and/or C.S.A. postage paid. The more frequent use of 3¢ embossed stamped envelopes reflects the express companies' efforts to comply with the U.S. Postal Act of 1852, which required the use of postal stationery for letters conveyed outside the regular U.S. mails. Although the regulations did not require it, sometimes a 3¢ U.S. stamp was applied by the sender in the C.S.A. After the U.S. declared all postal payments from the C.S.A. invalid on June 22, 1861, U.S. postage prepaid in the C.S.A. was disregarded, and the express company was required to add an additional 3¢ U.S. stamp in Louisville.

According to the express company instructions, northbound letters were to be enclosed in a plain envelope (without U.S. postage) and addressed to the recipient in the North. This envelope could then be hand-delivered to a nearby express office for transmittal to Nashville, or sent inside of another envelope to a Nashville express office. Express fees were either paid at the nearby dispatching office or sent inside of the outer envelope. Cover markings differ significantly depending on how the letter was transmitted to Nashville.

All northbound mail was carried by express company couriers across the lines from Tennessee to Kentucky. Virtually all of the Adams northbound mail entered the U.S. postal system at Louisville for onward transmission to its final destination. All of the American northbound mail entered the U.S. mails at Louisville, and the Whiteside northbound mail entered the U.S. mails at Franklin, Kentucky. In Louisville, the express company would typically add its Louisville express marking and 3¢ U.S. postage for onward transmission in the U.S. mails. No Whiteside express markings are known, and only a label (in the name of B. Whitesides) identifies letters carried by Whiteside.

Southbound express letters were to be enclosed in a U.S. 3¢ stamped envelope, and then sent under cover to an express company office, with express fees plus C.S.A. postage enclosed. Adams charged a uniform 25¢, from which it paid the C.S.A. postage of 5¢ or 10¢. American charged an express fee of 10¢, and also collected a further 5¢ or 10¢ from the sender for C.S.A. postage.

The Adams broadside for southbound mail stated that the Company "will forward and deliver to any point where it has an office, or will mail as near as possible to the point of address, paying Confederate postage, for a fee of 25 cents." The census shows that, during June and July 1861, they mostly followed this procedure. The mail was sorted at a northern Adams office, and sent beyond Nashville in closed mailbags to the appropriate Adams distributing office in the South for further transmission by the C.S.A. postal system. C.S.A. postage was paid only from the point of entry in the C.S.A. mails, or sometimes not at all if Adams carried the letter all the way to its destination.

On August 26, 1861, the *Louisville Daily Journal* reported the termination of all mail intercourse between the North and South:

"ALL MAIL INTERCOURSE STOPPED: In consequence of the President's proclamation, Adams Express and American Letter Express Company issued orders to all their officers to cease immediately receiving letters for the Confederate States. The Postmaster General has issued the following order: The President of the United States directs that his proclamation for the 16th, interdicting commercial intercourse with the South, shall be applied to correspondence. Officers and agents of the Post Office Department will, without further instructions, lose no time in putting an end to the written intercourse with those states by causing the arrest of any express agent or other person, who shall after this order, receive letters for transmission to or from said states, and will seize such letters and forward them to this department. M. BLAIR, Postmaster General."

The final American Letter Express trip left Nashville at 7 p.m. on August 28, 1861, and arrived in Louisville on August 30 at 10 a.m. Upon arrival, the express mail was seized by a U.S. marshal. The empty mail bags were returned to American, but the across-the-lines express business was terminated.



ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY—SOUTH-TO-NORTH MAIL

Arranged by state/city of origin

MOBILE, ALABAMA



54

- 54 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Aug. 2, 1861.** Clearly struck circular datestamp on small northbound cover to Flushing N.Y., originated somewhere in the South, “Paid” in circle handstamp applied at Mobile Ala. partly covered by 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), tied by blue grid with matching “Louisville Ky. Aug. 3, 1861” double-circle datestamp, manuscript “*Examined M M Seay Agt. S.C.A.*” **editor marking applied by former postal route agent** (see Towle, p. 345), a half-inch of right edge and part of stamp restored, this injured artifact is nonetheless a rare example of censorship on express mail originating in the Confederacy, accompanied by a blue-gray Adams label with instructions for sending letters to the Confederate States (reported to have been removed from this cover, but this cannot be assured), *Special Routes Census No. N-AD-44*, ex Gallagher..... E. 500-750

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA



55

- 55 ☒ **Montgomery Ala., 10c Red entire (59XU3).** Clearly struck red provisional handstamp with “Montgomery Ala. Jul. 10, 1861” circular datestamp on small narrow lavender cover from a Southern lady in Prattville Ala. to her sister, Hattie Porter, in Bridgeport Conn., partly readable strike of “Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 15, 1861” circular datestamp, **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** affixed over provisional handstamp and tied by blue grid (stamp lifted, moved and hinged in place), matching “Louisville Ky. Jul. 15, 1861” double-circle datestamp, manuscript “28/1” indicating 25c express charge and 3c postage prepaid by sender, small part of upper left corner clipped and mended

VERY FINE. ONE OF FOUR RECORDED EXPRESS COVERS CARRIED ACROSS THE LINES WITH CONFEDERATE POSTAGE PAID BY THE MONTGOMERY POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL.

The original letter enclosure is datelined at Prattville Ala., from a Southern lady to her sister in Connecticut, expressing confident anti-Union sentiments: “I think if some of the Abolitionists could visit the South now & see how quietly things are going on. . . they would despair of starving us out. What a pity it is, those that have been the cause of the War could not be the only ones to suffer by it.” The writer also mentions sending this letter by express from Montgomery and that “we miss our Northern papers since the mails stopped. . .”

Very few covers are recorded with Confederate provisional stamps or markings used in conjunction with across-the-lines express service. This group includes the provisionals of Atlanta (handstamp), Houston (handstamp), Lynchburg (press-printed entire), Memphis (adhesive), Mobile (adhesive), Montgomery (handstamp), Nashville (adhesive and handstamp) and New Orleans (adhesive). The four Montgomery provisional covers have the same 10c handstamp and 3c 1857 adhesive (Census Nos. N-AD-20, 37, 40 and 50).

Illustrated in *Special Route* (p. 59). Ex Emerson, Antrim and Malpass ... E. 7,500-10,000

AMERICUS, GEORGIA



56

- 56 ☒ **Forwarded by Harnden's Express from Americus Geo.** Black on orange glazed label affixed on back of buff cover to Thomas Wood at 87 Maiden Lane in New York City (possibly the well-known artist who made etchings of African-Americans in 1861), small filing pinhole ties label, bold "Americus Ga. Jul. 26" (1861) circular datestamp with matching "Paid" and "10" in oval C.S.A. rate handstamp, "Adams Express Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 30, 1861" circular datestamp, **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** at upper right cancelled by blue "Louisville Ky. Jul. 30, 1861" double-circle datestamp — this stamp was not considered valid, having originated in a Southern post office — vertical pair of 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26) affixed by Adams Louisville office and tied by blue "Louisville Ky. Jul. 30, 1861" double-circle datestamp and grid

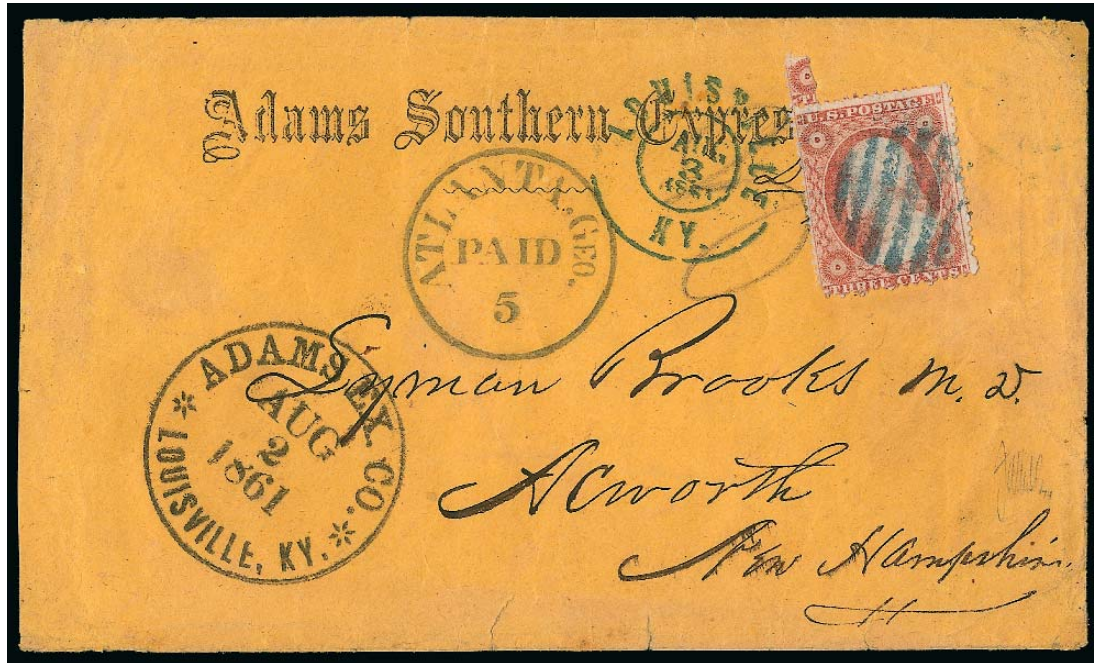
AN IMPORTANT ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS USAGE, SHOWING THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE HARNDEN'S LABEL FROM ITS OFFICE AT AMERICUS, GEORGIA.

The cover has been torn in half down the center and thru the 3c pair. In addition, much of the bottom stamp of the 3c pair was torn off, apparently to reveal the "10" rate handstamp. For the purpose of improving its appearance, document repair tape has been used to seal the tear, and the back of the cover bearing the Harndens label has been folded up for display. Considering that this extraordinary express cover is the only recorded example of its kind, collectors are advised to overlook the condition factors.

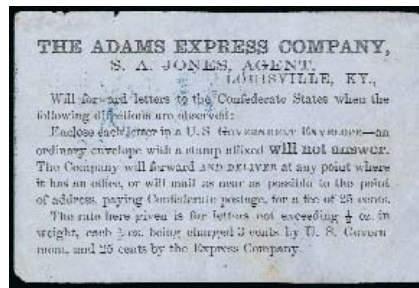
Adams Express Company retained the Harnden name at certain offices in Georgia, because of the Harnden firm's reputation there. The Harnden oval handstamps used at Macon and Savannah are very rare. This cover was evidently sent by Adams (Harnden) messenger from Americus, Georgia, to the office at Louisville. As required by regulations, Confederate postage was prepaid. The Adams office at Louisville correctly applied new stamps — it is not clear why the letter was re-rated 6c rather than 3c — and they put it into the regular Federal mails for New York City.

Special Routes Census No. N-AD-38. Ex Nunnelley E. 3,000-4,000

ATLANTA, GEORGIA



57



Adams label
from lot 57
(shown reduced)

- 57 ☒ **Atlanta Ga., 5c Black entire (6XU5).** Clearly struck provisional handstamp on “Adams Southern Express” black on buff imprint cover to Dr. Lyman Brooks, Acworth N.H., manuscript “D.H./Brooks” express agent’s notation partly covered by stamp — “D.H.” indicates no charge for express service and “Brooks” is possibly a relative of the addressee — bold strike of “Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Aug. 12, 1861” circular datestamp, pencil “3” for U.S. postage, **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** tied by blue grid, matching “Louisville Ky. Aug. 3” double-circle datestamp, blue label has been lifted from back of cover, headed “The Adams Express Company, S. A. Jones, Agent, Louisville, Ky.”, giving instructions to northern correspondents for sending letters to the South, very slight edgewear, slightly reduced at left

EXTREMELY FINE. THE FINER OF TWO RECORDED COVERS CARRIED BY EXPRESS ACROSS THE LINES WITH CONFEDERATE POSTAGE PAID BY THE ATLANTA POSTMASTER’S PROVISIONAL HANDSTAMP.

Very few covers are recorded with Confederate provisional stamps or markings used in conjunction with across-the-lines express service. This group includes the provisionals of Atlanta (handstamp), Houston (handstamp), Lynchburg (press-printed entire), Memphis (adhesive), Mobile (adhesive), Montgomery (handstamp), Nashville (adhesive and handstamp) and New Orleans (adhesive). Two Atlanta provisional covers are recorded: the cover offered here (*Special Routes* Census No. N-AD-42) and the cover last sold as part of the Gallagher collection (Siegel Sale 801, lot 71, Census No. N-AD-72). The cover offered here is not only more desirable due to its condition and the presence of the original label, but it might be the *only* cover extant. The ex-Gallagher cover was stolen from a dealer, Stanley M. Piller, and was not among the material later recovered.

Information about Dr. Lyman Brooks is found at <http://vermontcivilwar.org/units/16/brooks-ng.php>. Dr. Brooks was a distinguished physician in Acworth, New Hampshire. The agent’s endorsement “Brooks” appears on this and other express covers, all of which originated at or passed through Atlanta. The fact that the address and agent’s notation are in the same hand, and that they share the surname Brooks, strongly suggests a family relationship.

Special Routes Census No. N-AD-42. Illustrated in Shenfield book (p. 21). Ex Brooks, “Stonewall” (Kuphal), Haas and Birkinbine. Featured on the cover of a 1960 Samuel C. Paige auction catalogue and in the Siegel 1967 Rarities of the World sale. E. 15,000-20,000

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



58

- 58 ☒ **Adams Express Co. Charlotte N.C. Jul. 8.** Lightly-inked strike of red oval datestamp ("Charlotte, N.C." is faint but readable) and bold "Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 13, 1861" circular datestamp on **3c Red on Buff Nesbitt entire (U10)** northbound to Commodore Robert F. Stockton in care of railroad manager William H. Gatzmer in Philadelphia, **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, bright color and choice centering, tied by blue grid with matching "Louisville Ky. Jul. 14, 1861" circular datestamp, blue "Paid" and "10" handstamp for C.S.A. rate (U.S. stamp affixed over "10"), express agent's manuscript "Pd r/S/B" coded rate notation, minor flap tears and sealed tear at top left

FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY'S CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, OFFICE OVAL HANDSTAMP AND, FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR, A VERY RARE ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS USE OF THE NESBITT ENTIRE.

The addressee, Commodore Robert F. Stockton, was a delegate to the unsuccessful Peace Conference of 1861 that attempted to settle the secession crisis; instead the American Civil War began later that year. In 1863, he was appointed to command the New Jersey militia when the Confederate Army invaded Pennsylvania. He died in 1866.

Special Routes Census No. N-AD-19 (illustrated on p. 46). Ex Shenfield (and illustrated in his book, p. 22) and Simon. Shenfield note on back "Only example known of Charlotte Adams office. Never saw another 1855 envelope used this way". Accompanied by a 1942 *Stamps* article by Lawrence L. Shenfield announcing the discovery of this cover. E. 5,000-7,500



Commodore Robert F. Stockton

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



59

- 59 ☒ **Nashville Tenn., 5c Carmine (61X2).** Three large margins, barely in along right frame-line, light shade, tied by blue "Postage Paid" handstamp and bold black "Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Aug. 4, 1861" circular datestamp on "The Adams Express Company" imprinted buff cover northbound from Joseph Knowles in Nashville to his daughter Annie in Warren R.I., blue "Adams Express Co. Nashville Aug. 3" oval datestamp and pencil "2" (two bits, 25c express fee) applied by Adams Nashville office, **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** affixed at Adams Louisville office and tied by blue grid with matching "Louisville Ky. Aug. 5" double-circle datestamp, 5c has a long sealed vertical tear, 3c minor faults VERY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF SIX RECORDED COVERS WITH THE 5-CENT NASHVILLE ADHESIVE PROVISIONAL USED IN COMBINATION WITH UNITED STATES POSTAGE.

Very few covers are recorded with Confederate provisional stamps or markings used in conjunction with across-the-lines express service. This group includes the provisionals of Atlanta (handstamp), Houston (handstamp), Lynchburg (press-printed entire), Memphis (adhesive), Mobile (adhesive), Montgomery (handstamp), Nashville (adhesive and handstamp) and New Orleans (adhesive).

This South-to-North express cover is one of six recorded with the 5c Nashville adhesive provisional and U.S. stamps used together. Five are listed in the *Special Routes* book (Census Nos. S-AD-38, N-AD-48, 73, 81, 83). A sixth cover recently came to light, which has a "The Southern Express Company" oval handstamp (both the marking and the cover were unknown to the authors at the time the *Special Routes* book was published). In addition to the 5c covers, there are two Nashville 10c provisional combinations carried by Adams. Two of the six covers, including the one offered here, are from the Knowles correspondence to Rhode Island. Two other northbound covers have Adams and Louisville post office markings with identical dates (Aug. 21 and 22); one is addressed to Minnesota and the other to Kentucky. The fifth cover is a North-to-South usage to Cleveland Tenn., dated July 27 at Louisville. Adams was required to pay Confederate postage, but letters never actually entered the mails at Nashville.

Special Routes Census No. N-AD-48 (illustrated on p. 48). Ex Weatherly and Simon.
..... E. 10,000-15,000

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



60

- 60 ☒ **Adams Express Co. Nashville Jul. 8.** Partly clear strike of blue oval datestamp on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) northbound to Gilmanton N.H., bold strike of "Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. Jul. 10 [01] 1861" circular datestamp, manuscript "2/- C.H.P." express charge (two bits, or 25c) — "C.H.P." are the initials of Charles H. Phelps, the express company agent in Augusta, who was later prosecuted in Confederate District Court in Savannah for transporting letters in violation of the law — "PAID 10" straightline handstamp applied at Augusta to indicate C.S.A. postage paid, blue crayon "23" of uncertain meaning, Very Fine, an attractive across-the-lines express cover, *Special Routes* Census No. N-AD-13, ex Everett E. 1,500-2,000



61

- 61 ☒ **Adams Express Co. Nashville, Jul. 25 (1861).** Mostly clear strike of blue oval datestamp, pencil "Ex B/DH Alva" (Express Business) notation on blue folded letter from James E. Saunders (an aide and personal friend to General Nathan Bedford Forrest) to "The Agent of Adams Express, Louisville, Kentucky", datelined "Nashville July 24/61", the writer is inquiring about the status of "several Liverpool letters. . . forwarded by Adams Express to Messrs. Fowler & Stanard of Mobile by way of Louisville, and have not yet been received.", the Adams agent in Louisville, S. A. Jones, replied on July 25, "We forwarded a large Liverpool & think there were several letters for the address which you enquire about. Letters are not detained at this point", evidently put inside another envelope and mailed to James E. Saunders in Courtland Ala. as requested

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY COVER CARRIED ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS BETWEEN OFFICES IN NASHVILLE AND LOUISVILLE.

Special Routes Census No. N-AD-31. Ex Solomon and Birkinbine E. 2,000-3,000

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA



62

- 62 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Aug. 18, 1861.** Bold circular datestamp on small northbound cover to Mrs. Charles Ellet (a well-known Virginia family) in Georgetown D.C., perfectly clear strike of **"Paid 10" handstamp applied at Lynchburg Va.**, manuscript *"Paid 2/ 6/C"* express charge (two bits, or 25c), **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** applied by sender and cancelled by Adams circular datestamp, another 3c applied by Adams office in Louisville and tied by blue grid with matching "Louisville Ky. Aug. 20" circular datestamp, trivial wrinkle in overlying 3c stamp

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF THREE RECORDED ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY COVERS ORIGINATING IN LYNCHBURG AND CARRIED ACROSS THE LINES, OF WHICH TWO HAVE UNITED STATES STAMPS.

The three recorded covers originating in Lynchburg that were handled by Adams Express Company are listed in the *Special Routes* book as Census Nos. N-PRE-23 (Precursor period), N-AD-58 and N-AD-75 (the cover offered here). Ex Myerson.....
..... E. 2,000-3,000

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



63

- 63 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 16, 1861.** Partly clear circular datestamp ties vertical pair of 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), scissors-cut into design at right, on blue folded letter to New York City, “Richmond Va. Jul. 12, 1861” circular datestamp and “PAID/20” C.S.A. double-rate handstamp, first pair rejected and second pair of 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), upper left corner torn off, tied by blue “Louisville Ky. Jul. 20, 1861” double-circle datestamp, struck again at right, manuscript “50c” express charge in red pencil at bottom and ink at top

RARE DOUBLE-RATE EXPRESS USAGE. THE EARLIEST RECORDED — AND EVIDENTLY THE FIRST EXPRESS — FROM RICHMOND.

The letter, datelined at Richmond, July 6, 1861, contains a significant commentary on express service from Richmond: “By private is our only chance now of writing to any of our friends north of the Potomac. . . We do not know at present how or when we shall get these lines off. *The Express Company here is forbid the privilege of taking letters.*” Second page dated July 10; the writer continues “Not having been able to find a carrier for the annexed lines of the 6th inst. we open it for the purpose of acknowledging the receipt of yours. . .”, content otherwise refers to blockade, difficulties with commerce, and draft enclosed.

This letter documents a ban on letter express service in Richmond prior to July 12, 1861. No other express covers are known from Richmond prior to or on this date (one posted on July 13 is recorded). Based on the contemporary first-hand account in this letter, we feel justified in describing this as the first letter express out of Richmond.

Special Routes Census No. N-AD-24. Ex Gallagher E. 2,000-3,000

FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL CARRIED BY ADAMS EXPRESS



64

- 64 ☒ **New Orleans to France, Jun. 16, 1861.** Blue folded cover with part of letter from Albin Rochereau, a merchant and battalion chief in the French Legion, an organization of French citizens in New Orleans who defended the city during the Civil War, Rochereau's embossed corner card and docketing confirm place and date of origin, addressed to **Bordeaux, France**, carried north by **Adam's Express** (no markings since it was carried inside another envelope), **5c Brown, Ty. II, 10c Green, Ty. V (30A, 35)**, 10c straddle-pane margin, minor perf toning, tied by grid cancels applied at New York, red "New York Paid 12 Jun. 25" credit datestamp, red "Etats-Unis Serv. Br. Pkt. Calais 9 Juil. 61" transit datestamp and red "P.D." in frame, Paris and Bordeaux backstamps, carried on Cunarder *Arabia*, departing Boston on June 26 and arriving at Queenstown on July 6

VERY FINE. A COLORFUL AND CHOICE COVER SENT FROM CONFEDERATE NEW ORLEANS TO FRANCE, USING ADAMS EXPRESS TO CROSS THE LINES.

Although Adams Express Company typically put mail into the post office at Louisville, there are examples of mail that was carried by Adams all the way to New York City, without any express markings. Such covers can only be identified as Confederate in origin by the contents, as in this prime example.

Signed Ashbook E. 2,000-3,000



65

- 65 ☒ **New Orleans to France, Jul. 12, 1861.** Blue folded cover with Rochereau & Co.'s embossed corner card and docketing that confirm place and date of origin, addressed to **La Rochelle, France**, carried north by **Adam's Express** (no markings since it was carried inside another envelope), three **5c Brown, Ty. II (30A)** tied by red grids applied at New York, red "New York Paid 12 Jul. 23" credit datestamp, red "Etats-Unis Serv. Br. Pkt. Calais 8 Aout. 61" transit datestamp and red "P.D." in frame, Paris-Bordeaux and La Rochelle backstamps, carried on Cunarder *Canada*, departing Boston on July 24 and arriving at Queenstown on August 3

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER SENT FROM CONFEDERATE NEW ORLEANS TO FRANCE, USING ADAMS EXPRESS TO CROSS THE LINES.

Although Adams Express Company typically put mail into the post office at Louisville, there are examples of mail that was carried by Adams all the way to New York City, without any express markings. Such covers can only be identified as Confederate in origin by the contents, as with this letter from Rochereau & Co. to Hivert-Pellevoisin, a producer of Cognac and brandies. E. 1,500-2,000

ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY—NORTH-TO-SOUTH MAIL

Arranged by Adams offices in the North

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



66

- 66 ☒ **Adams Express Co. Baltimore, Md. Jul. 11, 1861.** Mostly clear strike of circular datestamp with "Baltimore, Md." sharp and unobscured, two strikes of "Paid" straightline handstamp applied at Baltimore on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) southbound to W. W. Fife in New Bern N.C., blue "Adams Express Co. Augusta, Ga. Jul. 18" oval datestamp, entered the C.S.A. mails with "Augusta Ga. Jul. 18" double-circle datestamp and "Paid 10" straightline handstamp for C.S.A. rate, quarter-inch and half-inch tears skillfully sealed, lightened stain spot

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF SEVEN RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE ADAMS BALTIMORE OFFICE DATESTAMP, OF WHICH THREE WERE DATESTAMPED AT THE ADAMS OFFICE IN AUGUSTA. A WONDERFUL COMBINATIN OF MARKINGS.

Adams made extensive use of its own distribution network and relied less on the postal systems for delivery. Initially, Adams' southbound mails were collected at New York, Baltimore or Boston and bagged for delivery to the major distributing offices in the C.S.A. at Augusta, Memphis or Knoxville. Northbound mails were apparently handled similarly in the reverse direction. These bags were not opened in transit through Louisville or Nashville, so surviving letters carry no express markings from either city unless they originate from them. On July 4, 1861, the C.S.A. seized all of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad rolling stock in Tennessee, so the trains no longer crossed the lines. From this point forward, couriers carried the mail across the lines on horseback. This also entailed a change in how Adams handled its express mail, as Louisville increasingly became the major distributing office for both northbound and southbound mail. Accordingly, Adams' Louisville express markings begin to appear on all southbound mail starting around July 17 and on all northbound mail starting around July 4. Further, Nashville became the principal distributing office in the C.S.A. for southbound mail starting around August 1. The cover offered here is an early and rare example of routing through Augusta with the Augusta office's oval datestamp used in conjunction with the Baltimore origin marking. Only three such covers are recorded in the *Special Routes* book (Census Nos. S-AD-13, 16 and 20).

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-20 (illustrated on p. 43). E. 3,000-4,000

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



67

- 67 ☒ **The Adams Express Co. Boston Aug. 2.** Clearly struck circular datestamp and “**Paid J.W.R.**” double-circle with manuscript “25”, the Paid marking applied at Boston to indicate prepayment of 25c express charge on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) south-bound to Turpin & Yarbrough in Richmond Va., “Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. Aug. 6, 1861” circular datestamp, blue “Paid” (on front and back), matching “10” C.S.A. rate handstamp applied at Nashville but no Nashville circular datestamp, waterstains, reduced at left and small mended corner at bottom right

FINE. ONE OF THREE ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVERS WITH THE ADAMS BOSTON OFFICE DATESTAMP.

The *Special Routes* Census lists only three across-the-lines covers from Boston (Census Nos. S-AD-18, 54 and 66). The addressees, Turpin & Yarbrough, were partners in a tobacco company in Richmond and owned the warehouse that was used as the 2nd Alabama Hospital, located at the southwest corner of 25th and Franklin Streets. The following information and a photograph of the Yarbrough house (shown at right) is on the internet: “The house was built by William Yarbrough, who, with Miles Turpin, owned Turpin and Yarbrough Tobacco Co., housed in the nearby Pohlig building. The partners married sisters and built identical houses next door to one another. ‘Nobody wanted to have the nicer house or the worse house,’ says Waite, the director of the Museum of the Confederacy. Work was completed in the summer of 1861; the war had started in April. By the end of the 19th century, the basement had been converted to a doctor’s office and examination rooms, and the mosaic tile floor in that room today dates to that period. In the 1940s and ‘50s, the main house and two-story servants’ quarters held 13 apartments. That was before S. Douglas Fleet bought the property in 1967 and began to restore it.”



Special Routes Census No. S-AD-54. Ex Brandebury, Knapp and Simon .. E. 3,000-4,000

NEW YORK CITY



68

- 68 ☒ **Adams Express Company, Great Eastern, Western & Southern Express Forwarders, New-York.** Large blue oval handstamp and black “Adams Express Company, Knoxville Tenn. Jun. 29” oval datestamp on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to David Cleage in Athens Tenn., Manhattan Bank brown oval corner card, manuscript “35/1” express charge, sender’s routing “Pr. Adams & Co.”, slight natural creasing in face of envelope

EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COMBINATION OF ADAMS EXPRESS NEW YORK AND KNOXVILLE OFFICE MARKINGS FOR ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS SERVICE TO TENNESSEE DURING THAT STATE'S NINE DAYS AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE. THIS COVER, WITH BOTH MARKINGS ON THE FACE, IS THE ONE OF THE FINEST OF ITS KIND.

Only a few covers are recorded with this combination of Adams office markings, which were applied in transit entirely outside the U.S. and Confederate postal systems. Adams also had the option of placing letters into the Nashville post office for delivery by regular Confederate mails. This cover reached Tennessee during the brief Independent Statehood period, from June 24 to July 2, 1861.

The Adams Knoxville and New York ovals are extremely rare, and collectors should be aware that a number of clever fakes were handled by John A. Fox, which have only recently been properly identified (these fakes also bear the David Cleage address, a known correspondence).

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-3 (illustrated on p. 39). Ex Lehman, Engel, Jarrett and Birkinbine..... E. 5,000-7,500



69

- 69 ✉ **Adams Express Company, Great Eastern, Western & Southern Express Forwarders, New-York.** Large blue oval handstamp clearly struck on folded letter **from Bremen, Germany, to Richmond Va.**, datelined "*Bremen 12 June 1861*" from a European trading firm to James Thomas Jr., a prominent Richmond tobacco merchant, carried on the Cunarder *Europa*, departing Liverpool on June 15 and arriving in Boston on June 26, bold "**Forwarded by Oelrichs & Co. New-York**" oval handstamp on back (the flap is partly missing and torn thru marking, but the entire handstamp is intact), carried by Adams across the lines, entered the C.S.A. mails as a drop-rate letter with bold "**Richmond Va. Jul. 5, 1861**" circular datestamp and "**Paid 2**" straightline handstamp

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED EXPRESS COVER CARRIED ACROSS THE LINES AFTER JUNE 1, 1861, THAT WAS PLACED INTO THE CONFEDERATE MAILS AS A 2-CENT DROP RATE LETTER. IT IS ALSO ONE OF ONLY THREE ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVERS WITH CLEAR EVIDENCE OF EUROPEAN ORIGIN.

As early as April and May 1861, commercial firms in Europe began sending mail to their correspondents in the South by express. A few covers are recorded during the Precursor Private Express period that were handled in the same way as the cover offered here (placed into Richmond post office as drop letters). However, it appears that once the expresses started advertising service from June 15, the practice of dropping mail into the destination post office was curtailed.

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-5. Ex Peters..... E. 2,000-3,000



70

- 70 ☒ **Adams Express Company, Great Eastern, Western & Southern Express Forwarders, New-York.** Large blue oval handstamp on backflap of 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to Rev. A. J. Leavenworth in Petersburg Va., blue “**Adams Express Co. Nashville Jul. 7**” and black “**Adams Express Company, Knoxville Tenn. Jul. 8**” oval datestamps, manuscript “2/-” (two bits, or 25c) express charge, blue crayon “13”, receipt docketing “*Prof. J. H. Agnew 1861 July*”, bottom flap opened to show New York marking, small sealed tear at upper left

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COMBINATION OF ADAMS EXPRESS OFFICE MARKINGS — NEW YORK TO NASHVILLE TO KNOXVILLE — FOR ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS SERVICE TO PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA.

Only a few covers are recorded with this combination of Adams office markings, which were applied in transit entirely outside the U.S. and Confederate postal systems. Adams also had the option of placing letters into the Nashville post office for delivery by regular Confederate mails.

The Adams Knoxville and New York ovals are extremely rare, and collectors should be aware that a number of clever fakes were handled by John A. Fox, which have only recently been properly identified (these fakes bear the David Cleage address, a known correspondence).

The addressee, Reverend Abner Johnson Leavenworth, was at this time the principal and proprietor of the Leavenworth Academy and Collegiate Seminary for Young Ladies.

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-14. Ex Emerson, Brooks and Gallagher . E. 5,000-7,500

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



71

- 71 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. Philadelphia Pa. Aug. 3, 1861.** Red circular datestamp with year in manuscript boldly struck on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) to Dr. Charles Morfit in Norfolk Va., "Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Aug. 6, 1861" circular datestamp, blue "Nashville Ten. Aug. 8, 1861" circular datestamp and matching "Paid" and "10" handstamp for C.S.A. rate, neat Aug. 14 receipt docketing, sealed tear at top and slight crease thru embossed stamp

FINE. A COLORFUL AND EXTREMELY RARE COMBINATION OF MARKINGS, INCLUDING THE ADAMS PHILADELPHIA OFFICE DATESTAMP, OF WHICH SEVEN EXAMPLES ARE RECORDED.

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-53 (illustrated on p. 55). Ex MacBride and Meroni. E. 2,000-3,000

Nashville 10¢ Provisional





72



Detail

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL 10-CENT GREEN

- 72 ☒ **Nashville Tenn., 10c Green (61X6).** Two huge margins, framelines touched at top and right, deep shade, scissors-cut at top left, tied by blue “Adams Express Co. Nashville Aug. 1” oval datestamp on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) to Rev. A. J. Leavenworth in Petersburg Va., “Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 30, 1861” circular datestamp cancels 3c embossed stamp, small red manuscript “2” express charge (two bits, or 25c), blue “10” handstamp applied at Petersburg to indicate postage due (presumably the letter was over the half-ounce weight limit), receipt docketing “Prof. Agnew & Sundry others”, small part of backflap removed, light soiling and edgewear (slight improvement at top right corner)

VERY FINE. ONE OF THREE RECORDED ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY COVERS WITH THE NASHVILLE 10-CENT PROVISIONAL, OF WHICH ONLY TWO ARE MIXED FRANKINGS WITH UNITED STATES POSTAGE. AN OUTSTANDING COVER THAT COMBINES THE RAREST ELEMENTS OF PHILATELY AND POSTAL HISTORY.

Adams Express Company was required to ensure the prepayment of government postage (Federal and Confederate), although the letter was carried outside the regular mails. Very few covers are recorded with Confederate provisional stamps or markings used in conjunction with across-the-lines express service. This group includes the provisionals of Atlanta (handstamp), Houston (handstamp), Lynchburg (press-printed entire), Memphis (adhesive), Mobile (adhesive), Montgomery (handstamp), Nashville (adhesive and handstamp) and New Orleans (adhesive).

Only three across-the-lines express covers are recorded with the Nashville 10c adhesive provisional (*Special Routes* Census Nos. S-AD-44, 45 and 46), all dated at Nashville on August 1. Only two of the 10c covers are mixed frankings (the third is used alone). These two Nashville 10c mixed-franking covers carried by Adams, both North-to-South usages, are **the only 10c adhesive Confederate provisionals known in combination with United States postage**. As such, they are quite significant artifacts from this remarkable period of postal history.

Our records contain six genuine covers with the Nashville 10c Green provisional: 1) Tied by Aug. 1 (1861) Adams Express oval, to Hardy & Bros., Norfolk Va.; 2) Tied by Sep. 15, 1861, Nashville datestamp, to Shelbyville Tenn., ex Caspary; 3) 5c & 10c used together, tied by Aug. 21, 1861, Nashville datestamp, to D. Cleage, Athens Tenn., ex Caspary, Boshwit; 4) Tied by Aug. 1 (1861) Adams Express oval, used on 3c Star Die entire to Rev. Leavenworth, Petersburg Va., ex Kilbourne (Siegel Sale 815, lot 104, realized \$90,000 hammer), the cover offered here; 5) Tied by Aug. 1 (1861) Adams Express oval, used on 3c Star Die with additional 3c 1857, to Albert F. Ryan, Norfolk Va., ex Gallagher; and 6) Tied by “10” rate handstamp, Sep. 18, 1861, Nashville datestamp, on building corner card cover to Thos. H. Caldwell, Shelbyville Tenn., ex Needham, Kimmell, Haas, Rudy (Siegel Sale 874, lot 117, realized \$25,000 hammer).

The addressee, Reverend Abner Johnson Leavenworth, was at this time the principal and proprietor of the Leavenworth Academy and Collegiate Seminary for Young Ladies.

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-46 (illustrated on p. 55). Illustrated in Shenfield book (p. 23). Ex Antrim (acquired by the Kilbournes in 1958), Kilbourne and Kramer. With 1999 P.F. certificate E. 75,000-100,000

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL
5-CENT RED



73

- 73 ☒ **Memphis Tenn., 5c Red (56X2).** Partly cut to shape at upper right, other sides clear to slightly in, tied by "Memphis Ten. Jul. 15(?), 1861" circular datestamp on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) southbound to Marcian Seavey in care of Rev. Charles Collins in Greenwood Tenn., clear strikes of "The Adams Express Co. Boston Jul. 6" circular datestamp and "Paid J.W.R." double-circle with manuscript "25", the Paid marking applied at Boston to indicate prepayment of 25c express charge, vertical fold and slight wear at upper left corner

VERY FINE. THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF ANY CONFEDERATE POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL ON AN ADAMS EXPRESS COVER FROM BOSTON, AND THE ONLY RECORDED MEMPHIS POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL ON AN ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVER.

Very few covers are recorded with Confederate provisional stamps or markings used in conjunction with across-the-lines express service. This group includes the provisionals of Atlanta (handstamp), Houston (handstamp), Lynchburg (press-printed entire),



Rev. Charles Collins

Memphis (adhesive), Mobile (adhesive), Montgomery (handstamp), Nashville (adhesive and handstamp) and New Orleans (adhesive). This is the only recorded Memphis across-the-lines express usage and the only provisional/express usage from the Adams Boston office. In fact, the *Special Routes Census* lists only three across-the-lines covers from Boston (Census Nos. S-AD-18, 54 and 66).

The addressee, Marcian Seavey, had recently lost his wife when this cover was mailed (nee Eliza Ruggles, died November 28, 1860). The Reverend Charles Collins, in whose care the letter was addressed, moved to Tennessee in 1860 after resigning as president of Dickinson College. He was proprietor and president of the State Female College near Memphis in Tennessee.

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-18 (illustrated on. p. 56).
Ex Kilbourne..... E. 10,000-15,000

HOUSTON, TEXAS, POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL
5-CENT RED HANDSTAMP



74

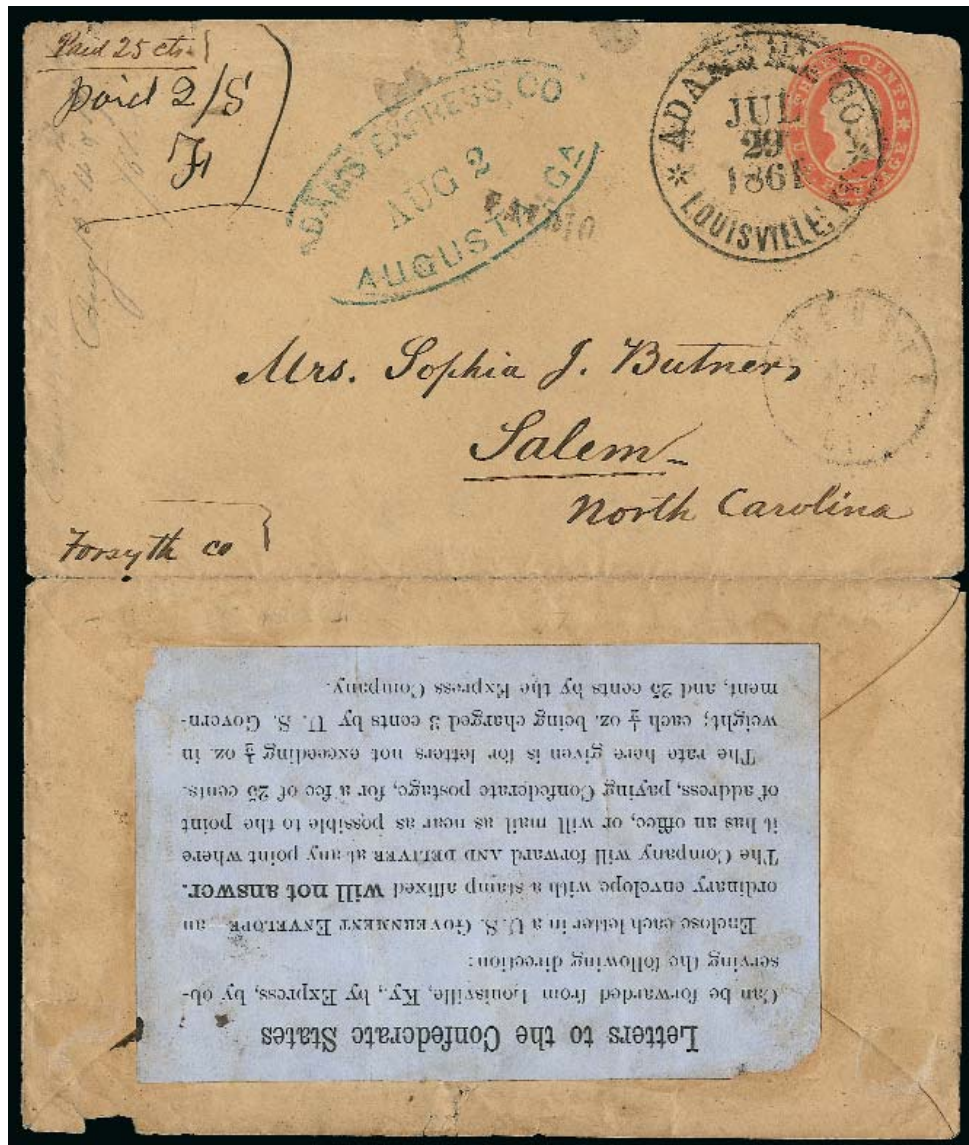
- 74 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 30, 1861.** Clear strike of circular datestamp on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to Mrs. Rebecca F. Worthington in care of Charles Worthington in Corpus Christi, Texas, black "Houston Tex. Aug. 20, 1861" circular datestamp and red **"Houston Tex. Paid 5" provisional handstamp (40XU1)** struck en route where Adams put the letter into the mails, with original letter enclosure dated July 24 from Rebecca Worthington's mother, who writes from "the pretty town of Pittsfield" but instructs her daughter to address letters to 37 Irving Place in New York City, the letter mentions the First Battle of Bull Run and expresses strong anti-war sentiment — the addressee's husband, Charles Worthington, was a Unionist living in Texas during the war

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVER WITH THE HOUSTON POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL HANDSTAMP.

Very few covers are recorded with Confederate provisional stamps or markings used in conjunction with across-the-lines express service. This group includes the provisionals of Atlanta (handstamp), Houston (handstamp), Lynchburg (press-printed entire), Memphis (adhesive), Mobile (adhesive), Montgomery (handstamp), Nashville (adhesive and handstamp) and New Orleans (adhesive). This is the only recorded express cover with the Houston provisional marking, which was obviously applied en route.

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-43 (illustrated on p. 54). Ex Brigham, "Camina" (Castillejos) and Guggenheim E. 5,000-7,500

UNUSUAL C.S.A. POST OFFICE ENTRY POINTS ON ADAMS MAIL



75

- 75 ☒ **Adams Express Co. Augusta, Ga. Aug. 2.** Clear strike of blue oval datestamp on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) southbound from E. S. Zevely in Pleasant Grove Md. to his daughter, Mrs. Sophia J. Butner, in Salem N.C., "Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 29, 1861" circular datestamp cancels 3c embossed stamp, manuscript "Paid 25 cts" and "Paid 2/S F" express fee notations, entered the C.S.A. mails with "Augusta Ga. Aug. 2" double-circle datestamp and "Paid 10" straightline handstamp for C.S.A. rate, Adams' blue-gray label on back with instructions for sending mail "to the Confederate States", opened for display, some overall toning, minor edgewear and small tears

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING NORTH-TO-SOUTH EXPRESS COVER WITH THE ADAMS AUGUSTA OVAL DATESTAMP AND MAILING-INSTRUCTIONS LABEL.

The addressee, Sophia J. Butner, was the daughter of E. S. Zevely, brother of Third Assistant Postmaster General A. N. Zevely, postmaster of Pleasant Grove, Maryland, and manufacturer of postmarking devices. Zevely probably carried or mailed this envelope to the Adams office in Baltimore. The label on the back gives instructions to correspondents in the North for mailing letters by express to the Confederate States. This label was applied by Adams either before the envelope was sold or given to its customers in the North, in which case the instructions apply, or en route to the destination, in which case the instructions are for the wrong side (a corresponding Adams "Letters to the United States" label has never been recorded, according to Walske).

Special Routes Census No. S-AD-39 (misdated JUL 27; illustrated on p. 222). Ex Simon.....
..... E. 4,000-5,000



76



77



78

- 76 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 30, 1861.** Mostly clear strike of circular datestamp ties 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26), straddle-pane margin at left, on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to the Rev. Samuel H. Speer in Canton Miss., routing notation "Per Adams Express" in another hand, partly readable "Grand Junction Ten. Aug. 5" double-circle datestamp (day in manuscript), "Paid" and "5" C.S.A. rate handstamps, docketing "From Mother 1861", notations on back describe the journey from Liverpool to France and on to Bremen, reduced at right, small sealed tear at top, some stain spots, still fine and presentable, an extremely rare example of southbound express mail that entered the C.S.A. postal system at Grand Junction (the terminus connecting the Mississippi Central and Memphis & Charleston railroad lines), only two examples recorded in the *Special Routes Census* (this is No. S-AD-42, the other is S-AD-37), the notations on this cover suggest it originated in England, ex Colson and Gallagher E. 1,000-1,500
- 77 ☒ **Adams Express Company N.Y.** Blue double-circle handstamp on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) from New York City to Washington N.C., manuscript "35/1" express charge, "Wilmington N.C. 3 Jul." (1861) circular datestamp with "Paid" and "10" C.S.A. rate handstamps, original letter enclosed, datelined New York May 22, 1861, re-dated in red "Retd to RMB&Co. 22 June" indicating it was returned by the U.S. D.L.O. as undeliverable (because the postal route was suspended) and then re-mailed by Adams Express, letter regarding high prices for resin and references to blockade "Schr. Arlington not here yet" and "All goods here will be safe every way", long sealed tear across upper right corner, also some staining, this important postal artifact could easily be restored, it is the only recorded express cover routed thru the port of Wilmington N.C. (the blockade was not initiated there until July 14), ex Emerson, Brooks, Knapp, Richey, Antrim and Hollowbush E. 1,500-2,000
- 78 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Jul. 23, 1861.** Bold strike on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to Mobile Ala., manuscript "2/-" (two bits or 25c) express fee, "Paid" in circle handstamp applied at Mobile, slight toning, fine and rare, only two southbound covers are recorded with the Mobile "Paid" handstamp (both addressed to Mobile, dated Louisville Jul. 23 and 24), they were apparently carried in the Adams network until they reached Mobile and then put into the post office there (and marked "Paid"), two northbound Adams covers with the Mobile "Paid" are also recorded, *Special Routes Census* No. S-AD-30 E. 750-1,000

AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COMPANY—NORTH-TO-SOUTH MAIL



79

- 79 ☒ **"Pr Am. Letter Express".** Manuscript express marking (in a hand that differs from address) on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to Nashville Tenn., from the Knowles correspondence originating at Warren R.I., blue "Nashville Ten. Jun. 20, 1861" circular datestamp, matching "Paid" and "5" C.S.A. rate handstamp (2c drop rate did not apply), Very Fine, this is the interior envelope of an extremely early express usage, apparently pre-dating use of American Letter Express Company handstamps (three recorded with manuscript markings), *Special Routes Census No. S-AX-2* (illustrated on p. 58), ex MacBride and Gallagher..... E. 1,500-2,000



80

- 80 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Louisville, Ky. Jul. 11, 1861.** Boldly struck dark blue circular datestamp on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to Sharon Miss., lightly inked but clear strikes of "Nashville Ten. Jul. 16, 1861" circular datestamp and matching "Nashville T. Paid 5" provisional handstamp (Scott 61XU1)

FRESH AND VERY FINE. ONE OF THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE NASHVILLE CIRCULAR "PAID 5" PROVISIONAL HANDSTAMP ON AN ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVER. THE ONLY COVER WITH ALL MARKINGS ON THE FACE.

Of the 31 recorded North-to-South covers carried by American Letter Express Co., only three have the "Nashville T. Paid 5" provisional handstamp. Those put into the mails at Nashville usually have the "Paid" straightline in combination with "5" or "10" rate handstamps.

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-12. Ex Ackerman, Knapp, Grant, Meroni and Everett. E. 5,000-7,500



81

- 81 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Nashville, Ten. Jul. 1, 1861.** Mostly clear strike of blue circular datestamp on backflap of 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) to Montgomery Ala., lightly inked but mostly clear strikes of "Nashville Ten. Jul. 5, 1861" circular datestamp and matching "**Nashville T. Paid 5**" **provisional handstamp** (Scott 61XU1), neatly docketed, backflap opened for display (trimmed slightly)

FRESH AND VERY FINE. ONE OF THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE NASHVILLE CIRCULAR "PAID 5" PROVISIONAL HANDSTAMP ON AN ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVER. THIS COVER BEARS THE RARER NASHVILLE OFFICE MARKING.

Of the 31 recorded North-to-South covers carried by American Letter Express Co., only three have the "Nashville T. Paid 5" provisional handstamp. Those put into the mails at Nashville usually have the "Paid" straightline in combination with "5" or "10" rate handstamps. It is also an extremely rare example of the American Letter Express Co. Nashville office datestamp.

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-6. Ex MacBride..... E. 4,000-5,000



82

- 82 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Louisville, Ky. Jul. 22, 1861.** Blue circular datestamp clearly struck on 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to an Assistant Surgeon with the 12th Regt. Miss. Vol. at Union City Tenn., forwarded to Winchester Va., blue "Nashville Ten. Jul. 24, 1861" circular datestamp with matching "Paid" and "5" rate handstamp, manuscript "Due 10" forwarding charge, additional strike of express company circular datestamp on back

VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COMPANY COVER FROM THE NORTH TO A MILITARY ADDRESS IN THE SOUTH.

Assistant Surgeon Groves, to whom this cover was delivered, was moved from Union City to Winchester Va. to treat casualties from engagements with Federal troops in the Shenandoah Valley during mid-July 1861.

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-14. Illustrated in Shenfield book (p. 25). Ex Kimmel and Gallagher. With 1976 P.F. certificate E. 2,000-3,000



83

- 83 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Louisville, Ky., 307 Green.** Blue circular handstamp struck much more clearly than usual on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) southbound to Florence Ala., blue "Nashville Ten. Aug. 15, 1861" circular datestamp, matching "Paid" and "5" handstamps

EXTREMELY FINE. A RARE AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COVER WITH AN UNUSUALLY CLEAR STRIKE OF THE BLUE CIRCULAR HANDSTAMP.

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-22 (illustrated on p. 57). Illustrated in Shenfield book (p. 26). Ex Kimmel. With 1976 P.F. certificate E. 2,000-3,000



84

- 84 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Louisville, Ky., 307 Green.** Blue circular handstamp only partly struck on 3c Red on Buff Star Die entire (U27) southbound to Lexington Va., blue "Nashville Ten. Aug. 1, 1861" circular datestamp, matching "Paid" and "10" handstamps, backflap removed, large "Letters Going North" instruction label affixed over back (two creases), some blue ink on label matches Nashville postmark ink, neat receipt docketing, opened for display, small tape stain at lower left, minor wear

FINE. VERY FEW CIVIL WAR ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVERS ARE KNOWN WITH THE BROADSIDE LABELS STILL AFFIXED. AN IMPORTANT AND EXHIBIT-WORTHY AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COMPANY COVER.

The "Letters Going North" labels were affixed to or enclosed in envelopes addressed to the South. They provided instructions for sending letters north.

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-16. Ex D. Preston Peters and Kilbourne. E. 4,000-5,000



85

- 85 ☒ **American Letter Express Co.** 3c Red on White Star Die entire (U26) southbound to Mann S. Valentine in Richmond Va., sender's routing "*Via Nashville, Tenn.*", manuscript "*Collect Chgs 55c Due Winston & Johnston*" and "*Pd 2/- Ch*" (two bits, or 25c express fee), we believe this **originated in Europe**, based on the two enclosures: an envelope addressed to "*Mrs. E. A. V. Gray, Care of M. S. Valentine, Richmond, Va., America*" and slip of paper with notation "*Pay postage 30c, Express charge 25 [Total] 55. John P. Winston*"

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING SOUTHBOUND THRU-THE LINES EXPRESS COVER THAT ORIGINATED IN EUROPE AND WAS CARRIED BY THE AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COMPANY FROM LOUISVILLE TO NASHVILLE .

Based on the "*Pay postage 30c*" notation on the enclosure, we can surmise that the original letter was mailed from Europe to the United States. Apparently it was directed to Winston & Johnston, who are listed in the 1861 Williams' Cincinnati directory ("WINSTON & JOHNSTON, John P. W. & AVm. B.J., Wholesale Dry Goods, 113 W. Pearl"). John P. Winston arranged to have the American Letter Express Company carry the letter across the lines to Nashville, where it entered the C.S.A. mails for Richmond. The addressee, Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Valentine Gray, was the daughter of Mann S. Valentine and the wife of William Gray. Later in the war, letters were sent by blockade runners from Europe to Mann S. Valentine, Elizabeth A. V. Gray and William Gray.

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-26. E. 2,000-3,000



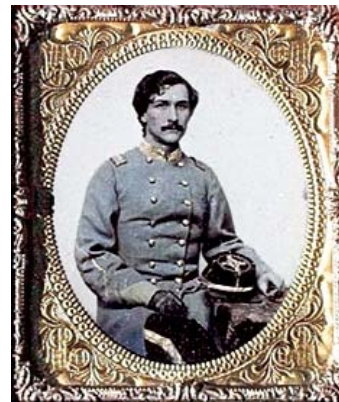
86

- 86 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Nashville, Ten., Jenkins and McGill.** Full clear strike of blue circular handstamp on small cover southbound to Richmond Va., blue “Nashville Ten. Aug. 13, 1861” circular datestamp, matching “Paid” and “10” handstamps, “Richmond Va. Aug. 23, 1861” circular datestamp, “Advertised 2” framed handstamp

EXTREMELY FINE. THIS IS BY FAR THE FINER OF THE TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COMPANY’S “JENKINS AND MCGILL” HANDSTAMP USED BY THE NASHVILLE OFFICE. ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AND DESIRABLE OF ALL CIVIL WAR ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVERS.

The American Letter Express Company was created by William M. McGill, a former United States mail carrier (Brown & McGill, Louisville), and Thomas E. Jenkins. Financing for the new mail-carrying venture was provided by a prominent Louisville merchant, Nathan Bloom, who arranged for the articles of incorporation in Kentucky and Tennessee (June 28, 1861). Of the various markings used by the American Letter Express Company, the “Jenkins and McGill” circle is by far the rarest. This is the only recorded completely-struck example (two recorded).

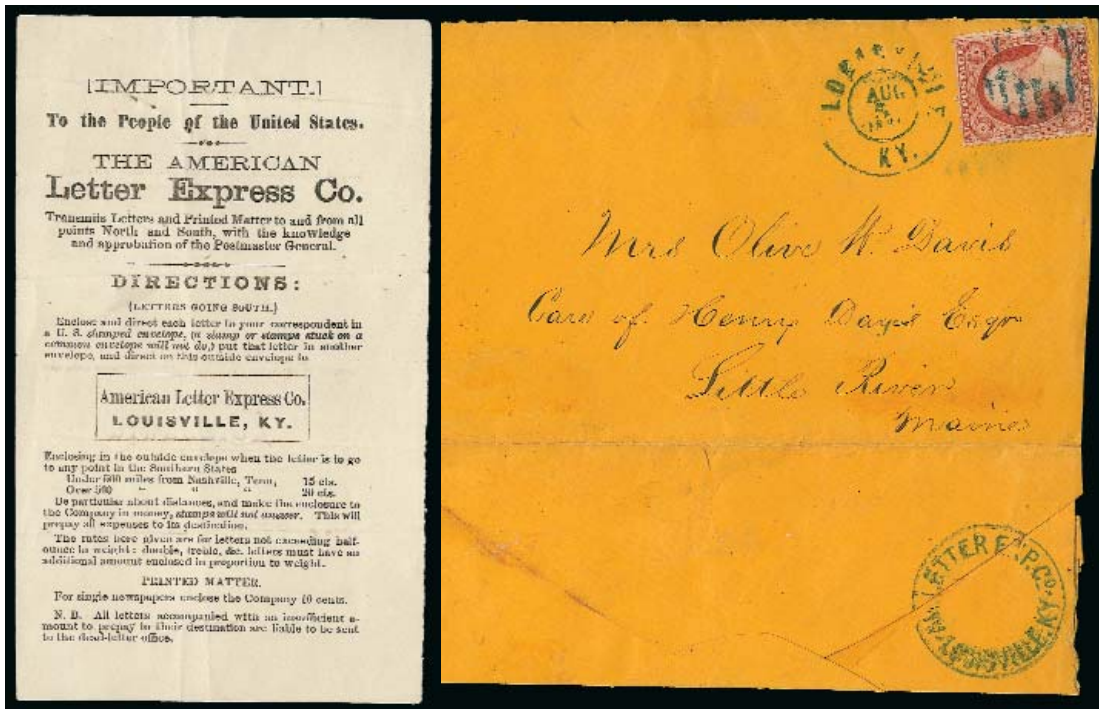
Information about the addressee, Captain Fayette (Lafayette) Hewitt, can be found at <http://www.tourentown.com/pdf/soldiersburied.pdf>: “Captain Fayette Hewitt (1831-1909). Headed the Hardin County Academy from the age of 18-20, at which time he established the Elizabethtown Independent School. In 1857 he accepted the position of Postmaster General in Washington D.C. until the Republicans took office. At the request of the new Confederate government, he then undertook the job of establishing the Confederate post office in Montgomery, Alabama. After this task was successfully accomplished, he asked for a field position. In February of 1863 he was assigned to General Breckinridge’s command, where he served as Captain of the 6th Kentucky Infantry Regiment. Three horses were shot out from under him during the war and although never wounded, minie balls passed through his hat and clothes numerous times. Captain Hewitt returned to Elizabethtown in 1865, where he continued to improve the school system and practice law. In 1867 he was appointed Quartermaster-General of Kentucky. Two years later he was elected state auditor. His last public office was president of the state bank in Frankfort. He remained active in retirement and at his death was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Confederate Home at Pee Wee Valley.”



Captain Fayette Hewitt

Special Routes Census No. S-AX-21 (illustrated on p. 58). Illustrated in Shenfield book (p. 25). Ex Emerson (acquired by him in the J. C. Morgenthau Oct. 1924 sale), Knapp (with his note on back “Never saw another”), Richey, Antrim and Kilbourne E. 7,500-10,000

AMERICAN LETTER EXPRESS COMPANY SOUTH-TO-NORTH MAIL

87
encl

87

- 87 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Louisville, Ky.** Blue circular handstamp with blank center clearly struck on back of buff cover **northbound to Little River Me.**, 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26) tied by blue grid with matching "Louisville Ky. Aug. 5, 1861" double-circle datestamp, opened for display (back folded in half), slightly reduced at right, stamp faintly creased, otherwise Fine, accompanied by large "**Letters Going South**" instruction label that was included with northbound letters so that correspondents would know how to send letters to the South, northbound covers with American Letter Express Co. markings are much rarer than their southbound counterparts (only twelve recorded), *Special Routes* Census No. N-AX-7, ex Gallagher E. 750-1,000



88 front/back

- 88 ☒ **Am. Letter Exp. Co. Louisville, Ky., 307 Green.** Blue circular handstamp on back of cover northbound from Nashville Tenn. to Somerset Ky., with 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26) tied by blue grid, matching "Louisville Ky. Aug. 2, 1861" double-circle datestamp, repaired along left edge where reduced, otherwise Fine, northbound American Letter Express Co. covers are extremely rare (twelve recorded), *Special Routes* Census No. N-AX-5 (illustrated on p. 50), ex Antrim and Gallagher, with 1973 P.F. certificate. E. 400-500

WHITESIDES EXPRESS



89

- 89 ☒ **Whitesides Express.** Black-on-white adhesive label affixed to back of cover to Miss Mary C. Stebbins in Otto N.Y., from an unknown origin in the Confederate States, sent to Nashville inside another envelope, carried across the lines by Whitesides, this interior envelope stamped with three 1c Blue, Ty. II Plate 12, Ty. V (20 two, 24), tied by lightly struck "Franklin Ky. Aug. 6" (1861) circular datestamp, opened out for display, long sealed tear along top through one 1c stamp, others have minor perf faults

AN OUTSTANDING CIVIL WAR POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT. ONE OF TWO RECORDED COVERS CARRIED BY WHITESIDES EXPRESS FROM NASHVILLE TO FRANKLIN, KENTUCKY, AFTER SUSPENSION OF MAIL SERVICE BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH.

The label reads: "PRIVATE LETTER MAIL./Direct each letter to your correspondent as/usual, envelope that with 15 cents in money and/direct to/B. WHITESIDES,/Franklin, Ky./Letters exceeding half an ounce or going over/500 miles must have additional amount enclosed./For single Newspapers enclose 10 cents."

continued on next page

continued from previous page

An advertisement for express mail service to the seceded states was first published by M. D. Whiteside (without the “s”) on June 22, 1861, in the Louisville *Daily Journal*. M. D. (Marquis de Lafayette) Whiteside was the nephew of Berry Whitesides, whose initial and name with an “s” appears on this label. The late Scott Gallagher visited Franklin, Kentucky, and interviewed descendants of Berry Whitesides, who explained the relationship between M. D. and Berry and confirmed the existence of a contraband and letter express operated by the two during the spring and summer months of 1861.

It is significant that the advertisements under M. D. Whiteside’s name specify lower rates than those printed on this Berry Whitesides label (10c vs. 15c for letters, 5c vs. 10c for newspapers). The Berry Whitesides rates on the label are identical to the American Letter Express rates advertised on June 15, which leads us to speculate that either a) Berry ran his express independent of M. D.’s, at least for a while (thus the difference in name), or b) Berry had labels printed with the higher rates, which were lowered to compete with American Letter Express and Adams Express.

The section on M. D. Whiteside’s Express from Brooks *American Letter Express Company* is quoted below:

BEGINNING OF COMPETITION

It was natural that the instant success of the new concern should lead to competition. It already has been pointed out that the Adams Express Company and M. D. Whiteside were interested in the venture.

Just seven days after the first messenger left Louisville — on or about June 22, 1861 — both advertised in Louisville newspapers that they, too, were ready to carry the mail.

The Adams Express Company messenger rode the stage coach and delivered his mail at each coach stop.

Whiteside had his messenger use the Upper Turnpike out of Louisville to Franklin, Ky., where he lived. He travelled from Louisville to Bardstown, Ky., to New Haven, Buffalo, Glasgow, Scottsville, and Franklin, Ky., and thence to Gallatin, and Nashville, Tenn.

His main stop was Franklin, since it was only four miles from the State Line. He used a Confederate friend and sympathizer to carry the mail across the border to Tennessee. Sometimes the messenger himself picked out certain letters to deliver personally since he knew they contained United States currency or checks to pay for United States stamps — which certain Southern Postmasters were selling at a discount of 50 per cent. The messenger received 10 per cent for his services.

This smuggling commonly was known as the ‘Grapevine’.

Whiteside later expanded his activities to smuggle slaves, arms, ammunition, lead, copper, and so on.

There are no recorded southbound Whitesides Express covers, and they might be impossible to identify if labels were not applied to southbound mail. The two recorded Whitesides Express covers each have the printed label. The other cover originated in New Orleans on June 10 (1861) and reached Nashville just as the last regular mail was being carried by the U.S. mail agent. It is addressed to Louisville and was apparently given to Whitesides by the Nashville postmaster rather than included with the regular mail. On arrival it was marked “Due 3” by the Louisville post office. The cover offered here was carried by Whitesides to Franklin, Kentucky, and was posted there with the 3c U.S. postage fully prepaid.

This cover (*Special Routes* Census No. N-WE-2, illustrated on p. 51) was discovered only about ten years ago and was sold by private treaty to Steven Walske. Therefore, this is its first auction appearance. The other cover (Census No. N-WE-1) was sold in Siegel Sale 801 as part of the D. Scott Gallagher collection and realized \$15,000 hammer..... E. 10,000-15,000

END OF FIRST SESSION

SECOND SESSION (LOTS 90-394)
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010, AT 1:30 P.M.

THE STEVEN C. WALSKE COLLECTION OF SPECIAL MAIL ROUTES OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

FLAG-OF-TRUCE MAIL

Flag-of-truce routes across military lines were established for military communications between the warring parties, for the return of released prisoners-of-war, and for the exchange of mail to and from P.O.W.'s. The use of these routes for civilian-only mail was ancillary to their primary purposes.

Flag-of-truce routes could be established wherever enemy forces were in close proximity. The southeastern Virginia coastal region offered one of the best connections for flag-of-truce exchanges. C.S.A.-controlled Norfolk had good rail connections to Richmond, and was just across Chesapeake Bay from the U.S.-controlled Fortress Monroe. Next to Fortress Monroe was the Old Point Comfort, Virginia, post office, which had good access by water to Washington D.C. Accordingly, the connection by steamship across the Chesapeake Bay evolved into the principal flag-of-truce route.

The U.S. did not want to inadvertently recognize the legitimacy of the C.S.A., so it initially refused to establish formal prisoner or mail exchange guidelines. Accordingly, it was left to field commanders to work out local arrangements. In early September 1861, U.S. General Wool at Fortress Monroe and C.S.A. General Huger at Norfolk began explorations for an exchange of prisoners' mail. By mid-September, such exchanges had begun, limited by the irregular schedule of the Federal flag-of-truce boat. In the early stages of the war, southeastern Virginia was the only region with informal arrangements for the exchange of flag-of-truce mail.

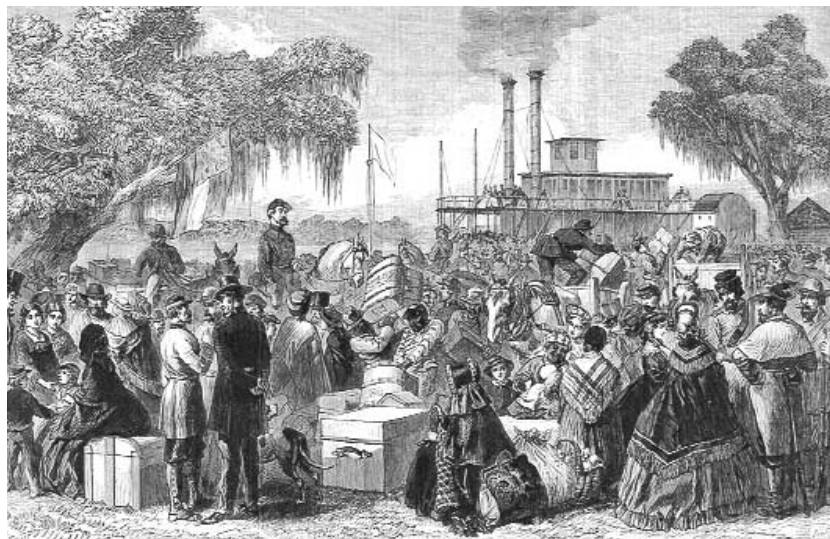
On July 22, 1862, the warring parties finally signed a prisoner exchange cartel. This not only created a formal mechanism for the exchange of prisoners and mail via flag-of-truce, but also had the further effect of emptying the prisons by September 1862. At that point, there was no need for flag-of-truce mail exchanges except for letters from short term P.O.W.'s awaiting exchange, or infrequent civilian letters. Accordingly, U.S. General Dix ordered the stoppage of P.O.W. mail exchanges by flag-of-truce, effective September 15, 1862.

Increasing distrust towards the C.S.A., however, caused the U.S. to unilaterally stop most prisoner exchanges in June 1863, and prison populations began to soar. Accordingly, regular flag-of-truce mail exchanges resumed in July 1863, and continued until the end of the war. During this latter phase, additional flag-of-truce mail exchange points were established in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Even so, southeastern Virginia remained the principal conduit for mail exchanges.

While flag-of-truce boats ran throughout the war, the volume of mail that they carried varied considerably by time period. This contributes to the rarity of flag-of-truce covers from certain periods.

Regulations called for a flag-of-truce letter to be enclosed in an unsealed inner envelope and sent in an outer envelope with postage prepaid to the exchange point. At the exchange point, the outer envelope

continued on next page



*"The War in America: Arrival of a Federal Steamer with Flag of Truce at Madisonville, Lake Pontchartrain"
(from The Illustrated London News)*

continued from previous page

was discarded, and the letter was examined by military authorities. Delivery from the exchange point to destination required postage of the other side. If the necessary postage stamps had not been attached to the inner envelope by the sender, coins could be attached to or enclosed in the outer envelope to prepay the postage to destination on the inner envelope. Because they were handled only by the postal system of the receiving side, inner envelopes only show frankings and postmarks of the receiving side.

In many cases, correspondents did not observe the two-envelope regulation. Fortunately, it was also possible to have both sides' postage on a single envelope if the sender had access to postage stamps of the other side, or if the receiving side was amenable to charging postage due for its share of the postage. P.O.W. covers with U.S. and C.S.A. mixed frankings are particularly prized by collectors.

The major categories of flag-of-truce mail are P.O.W. mail and civilian-only mail. The P.O.W. category includes provost marshal mail and parole camp mail, and encompasses covers addressed both to and from prisons. P.O.W. and parole camp covers, which did not cross the lines because they were sent entirely within the C.S.A. or U.S., are also included in the scope of this collection. This type of mail was not exchanged under a flag-of-truce, but is included to provide complete coverage of P.O.W. mail.

Much of the information presented in the P.O.W. section draws significantly from Galen Harrison's 1997 *Prisoners' Mail from the American Civil War*, which is the primary reference on this subject.

The flag-of-truce covers in this sale are arranged by flag-of-truce route and further divided between civilian and P.O.W. mail. Within the P.O.W. category, the prisons are arranged by state/city, then alphabetically by prison name. A cross-reference prison index is provided to assist bidders who collect by prison.

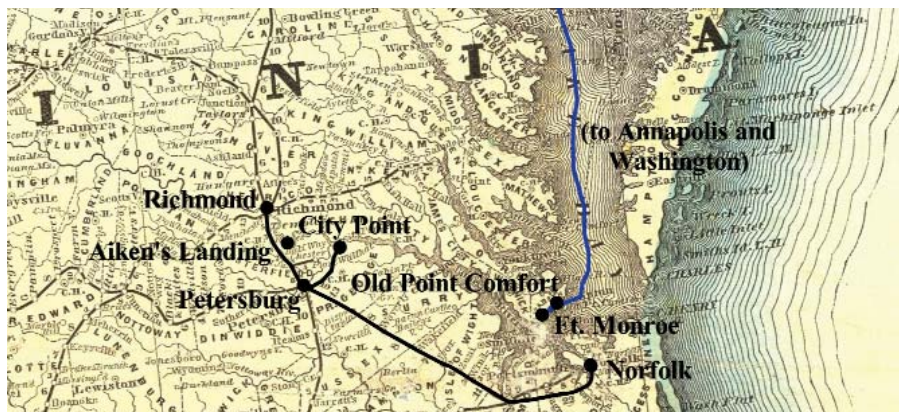
The vast majority of P.O.W. mail is to or from enemy soldiers captured in the field, although some is to or from incarcerated civilians, deserters, and guards. In general, a P.O.W. cover can be assigned to a particular prison by a postmark of the nearby city on outgoing mail or by the address on incoming mail. In the case of inner envelopes, outgoing mail can only be attributed to a particular prison by letter contents or by service records of the P.O.W. correspondent. Examined markings can also be used to identify a particular prison.

Inner envelopes make up a much higher proportion of the surviving covers from C.S.A. prisons, as compared to those from U.S. prisons. This is probably because C.S.A. prisons only allowed mail at particular times, and those mails were bundled together in large packages for transmission to the exchange point. The C.S.A. postage for such letters was only reflected on the discarded package.

In general, covers addressed to prisons are much scarcer than covers *from* prisons. Even so, collectors prize outgoing P.O.W. covers more highly. Because C.S.A. prisons apparently limited the amount of correspondence allowed, covers from C.S.A. prisons are much rarer than covers from U.S. prisons. All flag-of-truce covers which still have the letter contents are more highly appreciated by collectors. Finally, mail carried on the Richmond-Old Point Comfort route is less scarce than mail carried on other routes.

The different routes and associated time periods for P.O.W. mail are summarized in the table below.

Period	Exchange Point (C.S.A.-U.S.)	Notes
July-August 1861	None	No flag-of-truce mail service
September 1861-May 1862	Norfolk-Old Point Comfort	Norfolk captured May 9, 1862
May-September 1862	Petersburg-Old Point Comfort	Petersburg replaced Norfolk
September 1862-June 1863	None	P.O.W. mail exchanges suspended
July 1863-June 1865	Multiple exchange points	Exchanges resumed in volume



Map of the Norfolk-Old Point Comfort Exchange Point in Southeastern Virginia

Blue lines represent water route. Black lines indicate railroad connections.

CROSS-REFERENCE INDEX OF P.O.W. LOTS BY PRISON

C.S.A. PRISONS

ALABAMA

Cahaba, AL Castle Morgan227-228, 248

GEORGIA

Andersonville, GA Andersonville (Camp Sumter).....122-127, 168-169

Atlanta, GA Atlanta.....128

Macon, GA Camp Oglethorpe (1st)249

Camp Oglethorpe for Officers129-132, 171

Savannah, GA Camp Davidson208

NORTH CAROLINA

Salisbury, NC Salisbury100, 107, 108, 110-112, 133-136

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston, SC Charleston.....209-211, 213

Marine Hospital221

Rickersville Hospital212

Roper Hospital214

Columbia, SC Camp Sorghum150-152, 216

Richland Jail148-149

Florence, SC Florence Prison215

TEXAS

Hempstead, TX Camp Croce232

Houston, TX Houston233

Huntsville, TX Huntsville Penitentiary231

Tyler, TX Camp Ford234

VIRGINIA

Danville, VA Danville.....137-139

Lynchburg, VA Lynchburg140-141

Richmond, VA Belle Island.....142, 170

Castle Thunder143-144, 332

General Hospital #1103

Libby145-146, 300

Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse98, 99, 105, 299

Taylor's Tobacco Warehouse104

U.S. PRISONS

DELAWARE

Delaware City, DE Fort Delaware.....178-184, 219, 245-246

D.C.

Washington, D.C. Old Capitol Prison200

GEORGIA

Savannah, GA Fort Pulaski225-226

ILLINOIS

Chicago, IL Camp Douglas113, 154-155, 185-188

Rock Island, IL Rock Island Barracks.....162, 206, 281

LOUISIANA

New Orleans, LA 21 Rampart Street250, 291-292

MARYLAND

Baltimore, MD Fort McHenry158, 197-199

West's Building Hospital163, 195-196, 298

Point Lookout, MD Point Lookout.....159-161, 201-205

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston, MA Fort Warren97, 207

NEW YORK

Elmira, NY Elmira189, 218

New York, NY Governor's Island (Castle Williams)114

Hart's Island.....156

Pelham, NY David's Island (DeCamp General)153, 177

OHIO

Columbus, OH Camp Chase172-175

Sandusky, OH Johnson's Island.....157, 190-193, 217, 229-230, 392-393

.....235, 247

PENNSYLVANIA

Chester, PA U.S. General Hospital176

Gettysburg, PA Letterman General Hospital194

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston, SC U.S.S. Crescent City.....222

Morris Island223-224

Hilton Head, SC U.S.S. Dragoon.....220

TENNESSEE

Knoxville, TN Federal Provost Marshal Prison257

WEST VIRGINIA

Wheeling, WV Athenaeum243

ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



90

- 90 ☒ **Adams Ex. Co. * Louisville, Ky. * Aug. 7, 1861.** Mostly clear circular datestamp on buff cover from **Private Graves, a Union prisoner at Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse in Richmond** to his mother, Mrs. Julia B. Graves, in Vernon Vt., **3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, straddle-pane margin at left, affixed at origin and tied by "Richmond Va. (date?) 1861" circular datestamp, Richmond "Paid 10" in circle C.S.A. rate handstamp at right, given to Adams Express and carried to Louisville where it entered the U.S. mails, a **second 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)** was required and affixed partly over "Paid 10", tied by blue grid with matching "Louisville Ky. Aug. 7, 1861" double-circle datestamp, with original letter enclosure datelined "*Richmond Va. July 24th 1861*", reduced at right, lefthand 3c stamp faulty

A VERY EARLY PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM A UNION SOLDIER CAPTURED AT THE FIRST BATTLE OF BULL RUN AND HELD AT LIGON'S TOBACCO WAREHOUSE IN RICHMOND. ONLY THREE ACROSS-THE-LINES EXPRESS COVERS FROM PRISONERS ARE RECORDED — ALL NORTHBOUND FROM UNION CAPTIVES IN THE CONFEDERATE PRISON AT RICHMOND.

The enclosed letter is written in pencil (as is the address on the cover) and datelined "*Richmond Va. July 24th 1861*". It is a four-page well-written account of Private Graves' capture three days earlier at the First Battle of Bull Run ("*the terrible battle of Manassas*"). Private Graves was captured by Confederate cavalry when he and another soldier were carrying a wounded comrade and fell behind the retreating Union army.

This and two other covers are the earliest examples of mail sent from Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse in Richmond, where Union captives from First Manassas were held by Confederates. The three covers are *Special Routes* Census Nos. N-AD-53 (Richmond Aug. 3, Louisville Aug. 6, sold in a February 2008 Rumsey auction for \$19,000 hammer), N-AD-55 (letter dated July 24, Richmond date unclear, Louisville Aug. 7), and N-AD-56 (Richmond Aug. 4, Louisville Aug. 7). The July 24 letter in this envelope provides a definite date of origin. The three covers were apparently postmarked on at least two different days at the Richmond post office.

Illustrated and described in detail in Antrim book (p. 112) and Ashbrook's *Special Service* (pp. 250-252). *Special Routes* Census No. N-AD-55 (illustrated on p. 64). Ex Chase, Finney and Antrim..... E. 7,500-10,000

- 91 ☒ **Private Graves, Prisoner of War.** "Adjutant General's Office, Official Business" imprint and signature on cover to Mrs. J. B. Graves, Vernon Vt., "Washington D.C. Oct. 5, 1861" circular datestamp, with original letter on "Head Quarters, Army of the Potomac, Washington" stationery stating that the letter from Mrs. Graves to her son will be sent to Gen. Wool at Fortress Monroe and then by flag of truce to Norfolk, Private Graves was captured at the First Battle of Bull Run in July 1861 and sent to Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse prison in Richmond (see previous lot).....*Not illustrated* E. 200-300

NORFOLK-OLD POINT COMFORT NORTHBOUND CIVILIAN MAIL

The Norfolk-Old Point Comfort (Fortress Monroe) route in southeastern Virginia began to carry the first civilian flag-of-truce mails in November 1861. This civilian service via Norfolk, however, was short-lived. The January 1862 *U.S. Mail & Post Office Assistant* announced that "The facilities afforded by sending letters to the rebel States under a flag-of-truce are not intended, and cannot be permitted, to cover general correspondence." In addition, on January 29, 1862, the U.S. issued General Order No. 7, which directed Army officers at flag-of-truce exchange points to divert all non-P.O.W. across-the-lines mail to the U.S. Dead Letter Office. By May 1862, virtually no civilian flag-of-truce mail was being carried.

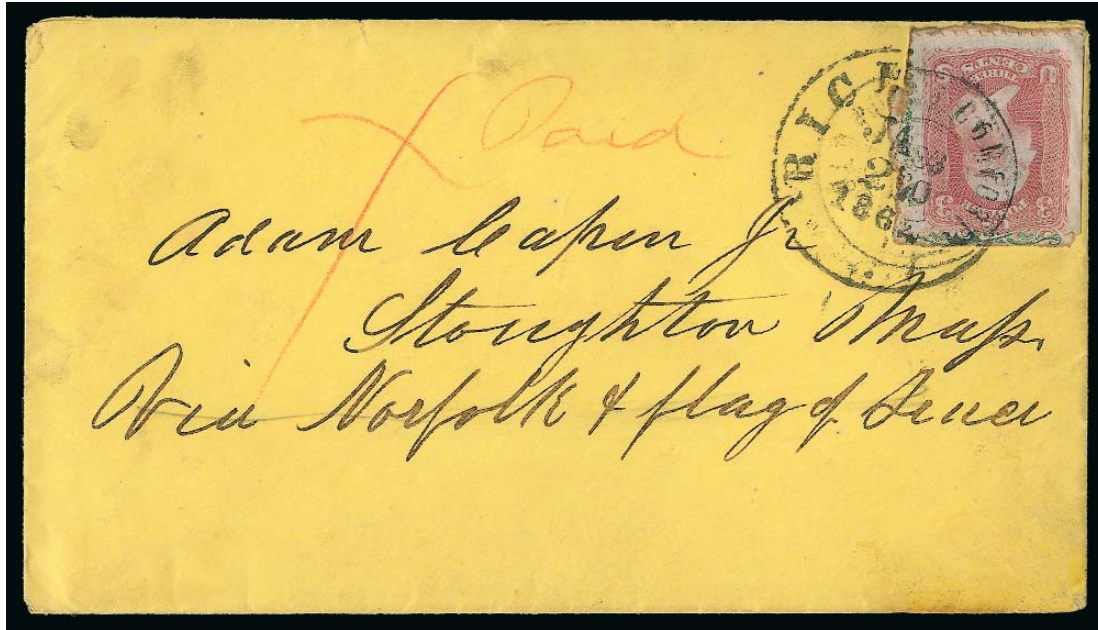


92

- 92 ☒ **Old Point Comfort Va.** Civilian flag-of-truce inner folded letter, datelined January 1, 1862, from Middleburg Va. to Union-occupied Alexandria Va., sent through Norfolk and forwarded to Fortress Monroe, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 10" double-circle datestamp which ties 3c Rose (65) and slightly overlaps manuscript "*Exed T.P.*" examiner's marking, U.S. postage prepaid by gluing **3c Union silver coin** to upper right of cover, 5c Confederate postage discarded along with outer envelope at Norfolk, contents give instructions on how to send flag-of-truce mail, splitting along edges of letter sensibly reinforced with archival tape, central file fold does not affect adhesive, 3c coin (replacement) accompanies letter

A BEAUTIFUL AND DESIRABLE CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER CARRIED ENTIRELY WITHIN THE DIVIDED STATE OF VIRGINIA, VIA NORFOLK AND OLD POINT COMFORT. CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVERS SENT BY THIS ROUTE ARE MUCH SCARCER THAN PRISONERS' MAIL.

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 89) and in *Collectors Club Philatelist* (Vol 84, No. 6)..... E. 1,500-2,000



93

- 93 ☒ **Old Point Comfort Va.** Yellow civilian flag-of-truce cover from Richmond Va. to Stoughton Mass., with original contents, endorsed "*Via Norfolk & Flag of Truce*", **5c Green (1)** pays postage to Norfolk, stamp tied by "Richmond Va. Jan. 27, 1862" circular datestamp, **3c Rose (65)** affixed directly over **C.S.A. stamp** and tied by "Old Point Comfort Va. Feb. 10" double-circle datestamp, manuscript "*X Paid*", 3c stamp with corner tear, couple backflap tears and some light soiling

AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE MIXED-FRANKING NORTHBOUND CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT VIA NORFOLK AND OLD POINT COMFORT. THE FEW MIXED-FRANKING COVERS KNOWN FROM THIS PERIOD REPRESENT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE EXAMPLES OF MIXED UNITED STATES AND CONFEDERATE STATES FRANKING, WHICH WERE ONLY POSSIBLE FOR A BRIEF PERIOD.

Mixed-franking U.S.-Confederate States covers are rare and highly sought after by collectors. As a mixed franking on a civilian flag-of-truce cover, during the short window that some were allowed to use the Norfolk-Old Point Comfort route, this is an extremely important artifact of postal history. Shortly after this cover was mailed, civilian flag-of-truce mail sent North was diverted to the U.S. Dead Letter Office, per U.S. General Order No. 7. This order followed an announcement in the January 1862 *U.S. Mail & Post Office Assistant* that stated, "The facilities afforded by sending letters to the rebel states under a flag-of-truce are not intended, and cannot be permitted, to cover general correspondence."

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 90). With 1993 A.P.S. certificate..... E. 5,000-7,500



Fortress Monroe at Old Point Comfort



94

- 94 ☒ **New Orleans La.** Small civilian flag-of-truce cover to Waterloo Iowa, entered C.S.A. mails with "New Orleans La. 31 Jan." (1862) circular datestamp which ties **10c Dark Blue, Hoyer & Ludwig (2b)**, endorsed at left "Norfolk, Virginia, via Flag of Truce", no Norfolk postmark as usual for northbound mail by this route, forwarded to Fortress Monroe, "Washington D.C. Mar. 6, 1862" circular datestamp and "Dead Letter Office Mar. 6, 1862" circular datestamp with "Due 6cts." straightline for total postage due to addressee in Iowa after release from Dead Letter Office, opened roughly at left with part of side flap torn away, markings intact, stamp with scissor cut in top margin

AN EXTREMELY RARE NORFOLK-FORTRESS MONROE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER ORIGINATING IN NEW ORLEANS AND DIVERTED TO THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Starting in mid-February 1862, civilian flag-of-truce mail sent North was diverted to the Dead Letter Office, per U.S. General Order No. 7. This order followed an announcement in the January 1862 *U.S. Mail & Post Office Assistant* that stated, "The facilities afforded by sending letters to the rebel states under a flag-of-truce are not intended, and cannot be permitted, to cover general correspondence." By the end of February, the C.S.A. mail system stopped forwarding almost all such letters. This is one of fewer than ten examples known (*Special Routes* p. 90).

Illustrated in *Collector's Club Philatelist* (Vol. 84, No.6) and in *Special Routes* (p. 90).....
..... E. 2,000-3,000



95

- 95 ☒ **Leesburg Va.** Inner cover to Washington City datelined “*Leesburg Nov. 9th 1861*”, with nine page enclosure, docketed “*Paid inside*”, manuscript “*Exd J.F.a*” examiner’s mark (Major John B. Frothingham at Fortress Monroe) crossed out and in same hand “*Rejected on Acct. of length.*”, bold “**DUE 3cts.**” handstamp and “**Dead Letter Office P.O. Dpt.**” oval, docketing indicates this was finally received in Jan. 1862 and answered, cover with corner wear from thick contents, tear at top and part of backflap missing, still a Fine example of civilian flag-of-truce letter through Norfolk-Old Point Comfort.. E. 200-300



96

- 96 ☒ **Eatonton Ga.** Small 1862 mourning civilian flag-of-truce cover to Milford Conn., endorsed “*By Norfolk and flag of truce*”, light pencil “*Ex*” censor marking, entered C.S.A. mails with “Eatonton Ga. May 24” (1862) circular datestamp, “Paid” straightline and “10” in circle handstamp, U.S. postage paid with 3c Rose (65), affixed over sender’s endorsement, tied by “Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 26” double-circle datestamp, stamp lifted and hinged back into place, a war-torn cover but still a rare late civilian flag-of-truce usage through Norfolk and Old Point Comfort, the U.S. began sending this type of mail to the Dead Letter Office in mid-February 1862 and the C.S.A. stopped forwarding this type of mail by the end of February 1862 E. 200-300

NORFOLK-OLD POINT COMFORT
NORTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



97

- 97 ☒ **Fort Warren, Boston Mass.** December 1861 inner envelope from Virginia to Fort Warren Prison, Boston Harbor, to prisoner-of-war **Commodore Samuel Barron**, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 3" double-circle datestamp ties 3c Rose (65), C.S.A. postage paid by discarded outer envelope, manuscript "X" exchange point examiner's mark, reverse with "Boston Mass Jan. 6" circular datestamp, piece of backflap missing and couple small backflap tears, otherwise Very Fine and attractive, Samuel Barron was a captain in the U.S. Navy before resigning and joining the C.S.A. Navy as a captain and Chief of the Office of Naval Detail and Equipment, he was subsequently assigned commander of coastal defenses of Virginia and North Carolina and was captured at Fort Hatteras during the Battle of Hatteras Inlet on August 29, 1861, he was paroled on July 28, 1862 and went on to serve as flag officer commanding C.S.A. naval forces in Europe, he was among those who required a special presidential pardon after the war due to his activity in Europe buying and outfitting Confederate commerce raiders, such as the *Alabama* and the *Florida*; his pardon was granted in October 1867, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 62) E. 750-1,000



View of Fort Warren prison



Above: Pen and pencil sketch made in prison by W. A. Abbott, showing the Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse building.

Far left: Alfred Ely.

Near left: Lt. Barnard B. Vassal

- 98 ☒ **Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse, Richmond Va.** Inner green envelope with enclosure datelined December 4, 1861, from Lt. Barnard B. Vassal, prisoner-of-war at Ligon's Warehouse Prison, to North Oxford Mass., **free franked by fellow prisoner "Alfred Ely M.C."**, manuscript "From a prisoner of war Richmond VA", entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Dec 13" double circle datestamp, couple inconsequential edge and corner nicks

AN OUTSTANDING AND RARE DECEMBER 1861 FREE-FRANKED COVER FROM LIGON'S PRISON SENT THROUGH NORFOLK AND OLD POINT COMFORT.

Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse in Richmond, also referred to as "Rockett's No. 1", was among the first Confederate prisons used and held almost 1,000 prisoners from the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas). Alfred Ely was a Representative from New York, serving in Congress from 1859-1863. While witnessing the Battle of Bull Run, he was taken prisoner and sent to Ligon's until being exchanged on December 25, 1861. According to *Wikipedia* he was exchanged for future U.S. Senator Charles J. Faulkner. 2nd Lt. Barnard B. Vassal (1835-1894) was commissioned an officer in Company E, 15th Massachusetts Volunteers on July 30, 1861 and was captured at Ball's Bluff (Leesburg) on October 21, 1861, a Union defeat that resulted in the death of another member of Congress, Col. and Oregon Senator Edward D. Baker. Vassal was a nephew of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton.

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in Harrison (p. 96) and *Special Routes* (p. 66). See also "Alfred Ely P.O.W. Covers", Francis J. Crown Jr., *Confederate Philatelist* (Jul.-Aug. 1975, No. 166) E. 2,000-3,000

- 99 ☒ **Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse, Richmond Va.** Inner green envelope with enclosure datelined "Richmond Va. Dec. 21st '61" from Lt. Barnard B. Vassal, prisoner-of-war, to North Oxford Massachusetts, prisoner's endorsement as well as "Sold. letter Mg. Herrman U.S.A." (Gen. Wool's staff) applied at Fortress Monroe despite Vassal's rank as an officer, "Due 3" handstamp for unpaid soldier's letter, no Old Point Comfort datestamp, fresh and Very Fine, a nice companion to the prior lot, Lt. Vassal was a nephew of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton and was captured at Ball's Bluff (Leesburg) on October 21, 1861, ex Birkinbine E. 400-500



100

- 100 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Flag-of-truce cover from Charles Kliffmuller at Salisbury Prison to his wife Matilda in **Fritzlar, Germany**, docketed "*Via Norfolk & Flag of Truce*", manuscript "*Examined*" (C.S.A.) and "*Exd. Ft. Monroe.*" (U.S.) censor marks, Confederate 5c Blue (4) stamp missing (removed at Old Point Comfort), was tied by "Salisbury N.C. Apr? 1862" circular datestamp, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Apr. 28" circular datestamp, "30" circular handstamp most likely for unpaid letter by Prussian Closed Mail (ignored in New York and sent by Hamburg mail), blue "15" Hamburg mail handstamp, sent from New York by HAPAG *Teutonia* on May 3 with "N. York Hamb. Pkt. 5 May 3" debit datestamp, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Cassel and Fritzlar backstamps, "4½ / 6Xr" rate handstamp applied in Hamburg representing 4.5sgr (10c) international rate plus 6kr transit postage, postage due restated at Cassel with "6½" sgr due handstamp (scarce marking with the diagonal fraction bar), finally restated again with manuscript "6½" sgr plus "¼" due for local delivery at Fritzlar, cover with some tears, part of backflap missing and corner restoration

AN EXTREMELY RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM SALISBURY PRISON TO GERMANY VIA NORFOLK, OLD POINT COMFORT, NEW YORK AND HAMBURG MAILS. FEW FOREIGN BOUND FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVERS ARE KNOWN.

Charles Kliffmuller was a private in the Alabama Eufaula Light Artillery. When he mailed this cover, he was either a guard at Salisbury Prison or perhaps in detention for an infraction. He married Miss Matilda Lange on Sep. 3, 1858, and was killed in the Chunky Creek train accident in Mississippi in February 1863. His train was on its way to provide reinforcements at Vicksburg when it derailed over the damaged Chunky Creek trestle, killing more than 40 people.

Ex Grant and Meroni. Illustrated in *Chronicle* (No. 213) E. 1,500-2,000

NORFOLK-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND CIVILIAN MAIL



101

- 101 ☒ **Norfolk Va.** Civilian flag-of-truce inner envelope from New York to Camden, S.C., “Protestant Episcopal Mission Rooms New York” sender’s red oval handstamp, discarded outer envelope paid the U.S. postage to Fortress Monroe, C.S.A. postage paid by a **U.S. half-dime** affixed with wax to upper left corner (the coin is a replacement), entered C.S.A. mails at Norfolk with blue “Norfolk Va. Dec. 28, 1861” circular datestamp, matching “Paid 5c” in circle, receipt docketing at left “Recd Dec 31st 1861”

A GORGEOUS AND PRISTINE SOUTHBOUND CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER TO SOUTH CAROLINA VIA OLD POINT COMFORT AND NORFOLK.

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 91) and *Collectors Club Philatelist* (Vol. 84, No. 6)..... E. 2,000-3,000



102

- 102 ☒ **Norfolk Va.** Small southbound civilian flag-of-truce inner cover to Charleston S.C. from New York, Carson correspondence, outer cover paying U.S. postage discarded, manuscript “Exd E.B.C.” censor mark, blue circular “Paid 5c” handstamp for C.S.A. postage, “Norfolk Va. Dec. 10, 1861” double-circle datestamp, forwarded to Sandover, light soiling, otherwise Very Fine example of Fortress Monroe-Norfolk flag-of-truce mail, see lots 342-344 for blockade-run covers from the Carson correspondence .. E. 500-750

NORFOLK-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



103

- 103 ☒ **General Hospital No. 1, Richmond Va.** September 24, 1861 cover from New York to "Sgt. James Reid, Regiment N.Y.S.M., Prisoner of War, Prison Hospital, Richmond Va., Care of the Secretary of War, Washington, to be forwarded at the first opportunity", manuscript "Exd J." examiners mark applied at Fortress Monroe and "Postage Inside" in same hand, "New York Sep 24" (1861) circular datestamp ties **1c Blue Ty. I, Pos. 56L12 (18)** paying carrier fee and **3c Dull Red Ty. III (26)**, blue "Norfolk Va. Oct. 9, 1861" double-circle datestamp, manuscript "Flag Truce due 5c" for Confederate postage (despite the "Postage Inside" notation), 3c stamp lifted and replaced, some expert edge and backflap restoration

VERY FINE APPEARANCE AND RARE. THIS OUTSTANDING COVER IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN SOUTHBOUND FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER VIA THE FORTRESS MONROE-NORFOLK ROUTE.

Informal flag-of-truce exchanges of mail between Fortress Monroe and Norfolk began in September 1861 and continued until U.S. forces occupied Norfolk on May 9, 1862, which forced a change in route on the Confederate side.

James Reid enlisted in the U.S. Army on May 27, 1861, and joined Company B of the 79th New York State Infantry. He was captured at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas) on July 21, 1861, and was sent to Richmond as a prisoner of war. General Hospital No. 1, also known as the Alms House Hospital, held and treated large numbers of Federal prisoners from Bull Run. In 1864 the building became the temporary location of the Virginia Military Institute (Harrison, p. 88).

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 65). Described in the *Confederate Philatelist* (No. 188, p. 46)..
..... E. 2,000-3,000



Stereo view of Richmond General Hospital No. 1



104

- 104 ☒ **Taylor's Tobacco Warehouse, Richmond Va.** Incoming cover to Sgt. George G. Noyes "Prisoner of War Richmond, Va", reverse with pencil notation "Gen Williams Washington D.C.", 3c Rose (65) cancelled by grid of squares, "Worcester Mass. Feb. 3" (1862) circular datestamp, entered C.S.A. mails with "Norfolk Va. Feb. 14, 1862" double-circle datestamp and "5" due handstamp, some soiling mostly confined to back, stamp with small fault from placement near edge and small backflap tear

VERY FINE AND RARE INCOMING COVER TO TAYLOR'S TOBACCO WAREHOUSE PRISON IN RICHMOND, SENT VIA THE OLD POINT COMFORT-NORFOLK FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTE.

George Gustavus Adams Noyes enlisted in Company D, Massachusetts 15th Infantry Regiment on July 12, 1861, and served alongside his brother Francis H. Noyes (who died at Antietam in September 1862). On October 21, 1861, George was taken prisoner at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, in Leesburg Va. After exchange in late February 1862, he was mustered out on disability in April 1863. He died in 1905.

Taylor's Tobacco warehouse opened as a prison following the Battle of Ball's Bluff on October 28, 1861. Regimental histories report that all the men from the 15th Massachusetts were confined at Taylor's following the battle. Residents of Massachusetts were the first to form a relief effort for their imprisoned soldiers and raised several hundred dollars to purchase necessities to send to the men (Harrison, p. 101). Only three covers are recorded to or from Taylor's Tobacco Warehouse — including two from the Sgt. Noyes correspondence.

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 102) E. 2,000-3,000



105

- 105 ☒ **Richmond Va.** Incoming inner cover to prisoner-of-war in Richmond, outer cover with origin discarded, endorsed "Care General Winder", manuscript "Exd. D.W.C." censor mark, blue "Norfolk Va. Dec. 28, 1861" circular datestamp and matching "Paid 5c" circular handstamp, very slightly reduced at right where opened, fresh and Very Fine flag-of-truce cover to P.O.W. at Richmond via Old Point Comfort, given the early date of this cover it is quite possible that it was sent to a prisoner at Ligon's Warehouse E. 500-750

PETERSBURG-OLD POINT COMFORT
NORTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



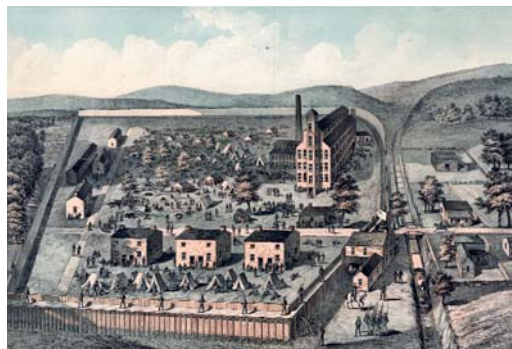
106

- 106 ☒ **Salisbury N.C.** Civilian flag-of-truce cover with original letter from Myer Myers datelined "Salisbury N.C. 16th July 62" to Emanuel Hart in New York City, C.S.A. postage paid with **10c Rose (5)**, full to large margins, small nick at top right just into design, tied by "Salisbury N.C. Jul. 17, 1861 [1862]" circular datestamp with usual year-date error, "**DUE 3**" handstamp for U.S. postage, manuscript "Exd" examiner's mark, letter reads in part "I have been very much disappointed at my dear wife and children not having arrived on this as there has been several arrivals of Ladies by Flags of Truce in the last three weeks", very slight edgewear, lightened gum stains

FINE AND EXCEPTIONALLY RARE NORTHBOUND CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER WITH THE 10-CENT ROSE LITHOGRAPH.

It is not clear to us how this flag-of-truce cover was handled. The regulations required the use of two envelopes for flag-of-truce mail. Ordinarily, on a South-to-North letter, the outer envelope would bear Confederate postage and an appropriately worded "Flag of Truce" address. At the exchange point the inner envelope bearing U.S. postage would be removed and put into the Federal mails. In this instance, it appears that the envelope bearing Confederate postage (the 10c Rose) was examined by the Confederate censor (ms. "Exd") and placed into the mails, receiving a Federal "Due 3" handstamp. While the regulations were often breached by placing Confederate and U.S. stamps on one envelope, this usage — without any Federal postmark other than the "Due 3" — is enigmatic and obviously extremely rare, if not unique.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 195) E. 2,000-3,000



View of Salisbury prison



107

- 107 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Flag-of-truce cover from Chief Engineer Joseph Parry at Salisbury Prison to his wife in Philadelphia Pa., C.S.A. postage paid by **5c Blue, Stone 2 (4)** with two large margins, others cut in and lower left corner slightly clipped, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, both stamps tied by "Salisbury N.C. Jun. 15, 1861 [1862]" circular dates-tamp (the year date is inverted and in error as usual), censored in pencil by both the U.S. ("Ex") and C.S.A. ("Ex NK"), some edgewear, slightly reduced and small opening nick at right, 3c perfs slightly trimmed as a result

FINE AND RARE. AN OUTSTANDING MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER'S FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT VIA PETERSBURG AND OLD POINT COMFORT FROM THE PARRY CORRESPONDENCE.

When Federal troops occupied Norfolk on May 9, 1862, the C.S.A. flag-of-truce exchange point was moved up the James River to Aiken's Landing, Virginia, with the U.S. exchange point remaining across the Chesapeake Bay at Fortress Monroe. Aiken's Landing was used by the C.S.A. for only a short time, after which their exchange point was moved to City Point, Virginia. With the July 1862 implementation of the prisoner exchange cartel, prisoner populations were temporarily drastically reduced and flag-of-truce mail exchanges were virtually eliminated. Because of the very short period of time this route was in existence, mail via Petersburg is among the rarest of prisoners' flag-of-truce mail. These covers also represent the earliest possible mixed-franking covers with U.S. and Confederate stamps.

Joseph L. Parry was chief engineer on the U.S. transport steamer *Union* when it ran aground on November 3, 1861, on the North Carolina coast. Parry was held at Salisbury Prison until his exchange in September, 1862. The Parry correspondence to and from the prison was described in two outstanding articles by Lawrence Lohr in the *Confederate Philatelist* in 1995 and 2008.

Ex Hollowbush (who was Parry's grand godson). Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 69)
..... E. 3,000-4,000



108

- 108 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Flag-of-truce cover from Dr. Charles Carroll Gray at Salisbury Prison to Geneva N.Y., C.S.A. postage paid by **5c Light Blue, De La Rue (6)**, two large margins, cut in at lower right, tied by one of two strikes of "Salisbury N.C. Jun. 22, 1861 [1862]" circular datestamp with usual yeardate error, "Due 3" straightline handstamp for U.S. postage, endorsed "CC Gray US Army, Prisoner of War, Salisbury NC", manuscript "Examined Th H Holmes ADC" censor mark, small backflap tear

VERY FINE. A RARE PRISONER'S FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT VIA PETERSBURG AND OLD POINT COMFORT.

As described in the preceding lot, the Petersburg-Old Point Comfort route was in use for only a short period of time. As such flag-of-truce covers sent by this route are very rare. Dr. Charles Carroll Gray was a U.S. Army medical officer who saw action at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas). Upon his capture he spent time in Libby Prison in Richmond, Castle Pinckney in Charleston and Salisbury Prison. He was exchanged in July 1862. His fascinating 1861-1862 diary, housed at the University of North Carolina Library, contains detailed descriptions of prisoner medical conditions and social interactions between prisoners and guards.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 63). Ex Emerson and Cole..... E. 2,000-3,000

PETERSBURG-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND CIVILIAN MAIL



109

- 109 ☒ **Petersburg Va.** Flag-of-truce cover addressed to Julien C. Ruffin, a member of the famous Ruffin family, at Garysville Va., franked with **10c Milky Blue, Die B (12a)**, full margins to slightly cut in, beautiful shade from first printing, tied by blue "Petersburg Va. Jul. 5" (1863) circular datestamp, instructions at top in the hand of Capt. P. P. Oldershaw, Assistant Adjutant-General to Major General Thomas L. Crittenden, commander of the 21st Army Corps in the Department of the Cumberland, "**Maj. Genl. Crittenden requests that the Pro Marshal will forward this the first opportunity. Oldershaw AAG**", the back is endorsed "**Approved, Office Prov Marshal Gen. Dept Cumberland, Wm. L. King Clk.**" (U.S. Provost Marshal's censor marking) and "**Examined H.A.C.**" (C.S.A. censor marking), the Confederate examiner also wrote "**Chg Box 589 HAC**" on the front and the post office applied the 10c stamp, small piece out of flap and mucilage smears where sealed after censorship

VERY FINE. AN EXTRAORDINARY NORTH-TO-SOUTH FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER, WHICH ENTERED THE C.S.A. MAILS AT PETERSBURG FRANKED WITH A GENERAL ISSUE STAMP.

Aiken's Landing Va. (near Petersburg) was the regular exchange point for flag-of-truce mail from May to September 1862, when U.S. authorities stopped prisoners' mail exchange. Because Petersburg was the entry post office for flag-of-truce mail for only a few months, covers carried on this route are rare. This civilian flag-of-truce cover with Major General Crittenden's AAG's instructions to expedite delivery was carried in July 1863. By this time Union prisons filled up again, and prisoners' mail increased in volume. However, the exchange point had been moved to City Point Va., near Richmond (the entry point for C.S.A. mail). This North-to-South flag-of-truce cover was handled through the U.S. Provost Marshal's office and entered the C.S.A. postal system at Petersburg. The use of a Confederate stamp on a North-to-South flag-of-truce cover is unusual. Such covers typically show a due marking for C.S.A. postage..... E. 4,000-5,000

PETERSBURG-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



110

- 110 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Flag-of-truce cover from Massachusetts to James H. Griggs at Salisbury Prison, U.S. and C.S.A. postage prepaid with **3c Rose (65)**, cancelled by grid with matching "Dedham Mass. May 20" (1862) circular datestamp and **5c Blue, Stone 2 (4)**, tied by blue "Petersburg Va. May 28" circular datestamp, docketing at left "Via Fortress Monroe Care of Gen. Wool", cover then **turned and used with two 5c Blue, Stone 2 (4)** (one with faults) and sent to Clarksville, Va., "Petersburg Va. Jul. 8" circular datestamp and "Missent" straightline, backflap missing and splits from showing cover opened (reinforced with hinges)

AN EXCEPTIONAL MIXED-FRANKING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT VIA FORTRESS MONROE AND PETERSBURG, MADE EVEN MORE DESIRABLE BY THE TURNED USAGE.

When Federal troops occupied Norfolk on May 9, 1862, the C.S.A. flag-of-truce exchange point was moved up the James River to Aiken's Landing, Virginia, with the U.S. exchange point remaining across the Chesapeake Bay at Fortress Monroe. Aiken's Landing was used by the C.S.A. for only a short time, after which their exchange point was moved to City Point, Virginia. With the July 1862 implementation of the prisoner exchange cartel, prisoner populations were temporarily drastically reduced and flag-of-truce mail exchanges were virtually eliminated. Because of the very short period of time this route was in existence, mail via Petersburg is among the rarest of P.O.W. mail. These covers also represent the earliest possible mixed frankings with U.S. and Confederate stamps.

James H. Griggs was born in Dedham Mass. and served as a private in the Massachusetts 5th Infantry Regiment from May 1, 1861, to June 24, 1862, during which time he was captured and sent to Salisbury Prison. After exchange in late May 1862, he served with the 33rd Massachusetts Infantry Regiment from August 7, 1862, to March 19, 1863. Finally he is listed as a commissioned officer in Company I of the 37th Regiment of U.S. Colored Infantry starting in 1864.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 68). Ex Seybold. With 1998 A.P.S. certificate.....
..... E. 4,000-5,000



111

- 111 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Incoming cover addressed to "E.B. Gilley Salisbury N.C." and endorsed "Prisoner of War", manuscript "Ex" censor mark in pencil, 3c Rose (65), manuscript cancelled and tied by "Hill N.H. Jun. 25" (1862) circular datestamp, sent through Old Point Comfort Va., entered C.S.A. mails with "Petersburg Va. Jul. 15" circular datestamp, "10" C.S.A. postage due handstamp, some light soiling, Very Fine, scarce flag-of-truce cover through Petersburg which was open as an exchange point for only four months in 1862, see lot 52 for "Mails Suspended" cover from same correspondence, ex Birkinbine, with 1977 P.F. certificate E. 1,000-1,500



112

- 112 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Incoming folded letter datelined July 4th 1862, addressed to "Capt. A. H. White. 5th N.Y. Cavalry/ Prisoner of War/ Confederate Military Prison Salisbury N.C.", 3c Rose (65) tied by two strikes of "PAID" handstamp, perfect strike of "Canajoharie N.Y. Jul. 7" circular datestamp, manuscript "Ex Jad?" censor mark in pencil, sent through Old Point Comfort Va., entered C.S.A. mails with "Petersburg Va. Jul. 15" circular datestamp, "10" C.S.A. postage due handstamp, Very Fine, scarce flag-of-truce cover through Petersburg which was open as an exchange point for only four months in 1862, A. H. White was a member of Company D of the 5th New York Cavalry and was captured at Front Royal in Virginia, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 240) E. 1,000-1,500



113



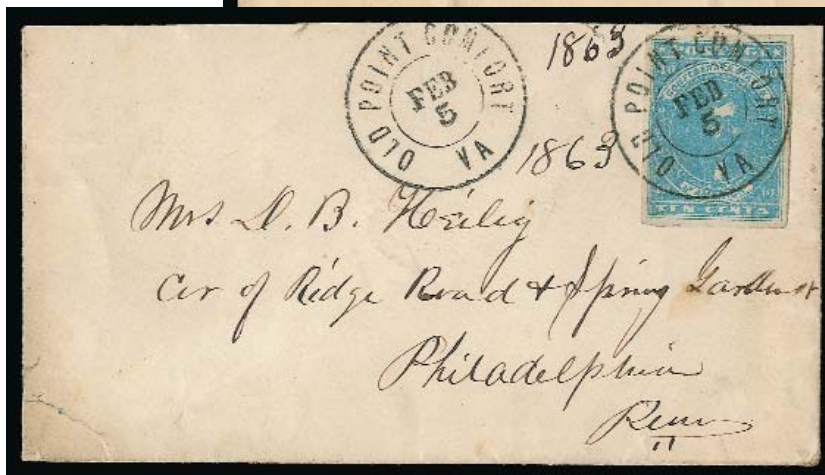
114

- 113 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Flag-of-truce cover from R. A. Grier at Camp Douglas, addressed to C.S.A. Vice President Stephens at Richmond, docketed Apr. 30, 1862, U.S. postage paid with 3c Rose (65), tied by "Chicago Ill. Apr. 30" double-circle datestamp and target, manuscript "Examined R Adams Jr." and "Via Fort Monroe for Steamer bearing Flag of Truce" at bottom, blue "DUE" and "5" handstamps for C.S.A. postage, back of cover with blue "Petersburg Va. May 22" datestamp struck partly on backflap which is missing, some edgewear, Fine and rare routing through Fortress Monroe and Petersburg, R. A. Grier was a member of the 7th Texas Regiment and was captured at Fort Donelson Tenn. in February 1862 E. 500-750
- 114 ☒ **Governor's Island (Castle Williams), N.Y.** Buff cover from prisoner to St. Lawrence N.C., endorsed "Prisoner of War Letter", pencil "Ex" examiner's mark, 3c Rose (65) with choice centering, tied by "New-York Jun. 23" (1862) double-circle datestamp, "Petersburg Va. Jul. 17" circular datestamp covers the examiner's mark, matching "10" due handstamp for C.S.A. postage, slight wear and minor edge faults, still Very Fine, a scarce cover sent by flag-of-truce via Petersburg during the brief period when prisoners and mail were exchanged at Aiken's Landing Va., the New York Harbor Governor's Island prisons — Castle Williams for enlisted men and Fort Columbus for officers — were first used in August 1861, southbound mail entered the U.S. mails at nearby New York City, and the C.S.A. mails at Norfolk or Petersburg, while six covers are known from the via Norfolk period, we are aware of **only this cover from the via Petersburg period**, it apparently did not reopen in mid-1863 since no mail has been identified from the via Richmond period, with 1979 C.S.A. certificate, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 68) E. 1,000-1,500

RICHMOND-OLD POINT COMFORT
NORTHBOUND CIVILIAN MAIL



115



116

- 115 ☒ **To Montreal, Canada.** Flag-of-truce inner envelope originating ca. 1863 in the C.S.A. and addressed to Mrs. J. S. Lathrop in **Montreal, Canada**, outer envelope paying C.S.A. postage discarded at exchange point, **U.S. silver half-dime** originally affixed to this cover to pay U.S. postage, 3c Rose (65) affixed over half-dime paste-up and then removed, traces of stamp remain, no U.S. postmarks, endorsed "via Flag of Truce" and pencil "Exd. W(?)" censor notation, "10" due handstamp as the 3c stamp did not pay the rate to Canada, "Montreal JA 14" (1864) receiving backstamp, a few folds (probably from insertion into outer envelope)

A RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER VIA OLD POINT COMFORT TO CANADA.

Flag-of-truce mail to any destination beyond the U.S. borders is extremely rare. S. Jones Lyman, to whose care this cover is addressed, published an amateur florist's guide in 1863..... E. 2,000-3,000

- 116 ☒ **Old Point Comfort, Va.** Cover to Philadelphia Pa. with **10c Blue, Paterson (2)**, four margins, tied solely by bold "Old Point Comfort Va. Feb. 5" (1863) double-circle dates-tamp, repeated at left with manuscript "1863" written twice, cover slightly reduced at top, small tear at left and piece of backflap missing

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A REMARKABLE AND BEAUTIFUL ACROSS-THE-LINES USAGE.

Northbound flag-of-truce covers were normally franked with U.S. postage and, if not additionally franked with Confederate postage, were enclosed in an outer Confederate-franked or hand-carried cover addressed to the point of exchange. The exchange clerk at Old Point Comfort evidently allowed this cover to pass with a Confederate stamp.

With 1993 P.S.E. certificate..... E. 1,500-2,000



117

- 117 ☒ **Old Point Comfort, Va.** Small civilian flag-of-truce inner cover, with enclosed letter dated "Pickalord?, August 29th 1864" to Baltimore, outer cover with C.S.A. postage discarded, bearing 3c Rose (65), tied by quartered cork (replaced bulls-eye at Old Point Comfort in March 1864), entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Sep. 14" double-circle datestamp, lengthy contents refer to "your letter by flag of truce of the 5th inst. was received. . .", and "I enclose you four stamps. I believe this is not prohibited and you can return the compliment.", letter with numerous reinforced splits, cover Very Fine, an immaculate flag-of-truce cover sent via Richmond and Old Point Comfort..... E. 500-750



118

- 118 ☒ **Forkland Ala.** Civilian flag-of-truce cover from Forkland to Mount Sterling Kentucky, endorsed "Via Flag of Truce, Richmond Va." at top, mixed franking with 10c Blue, Die A (11), large even margins and fine impression, tied by "Forkland Ala." brownish-black circular datestamp and "Old Point Comfort Va. Oct. 20" double-circle datestamp, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), straddle-pane margin at right, tied by grid

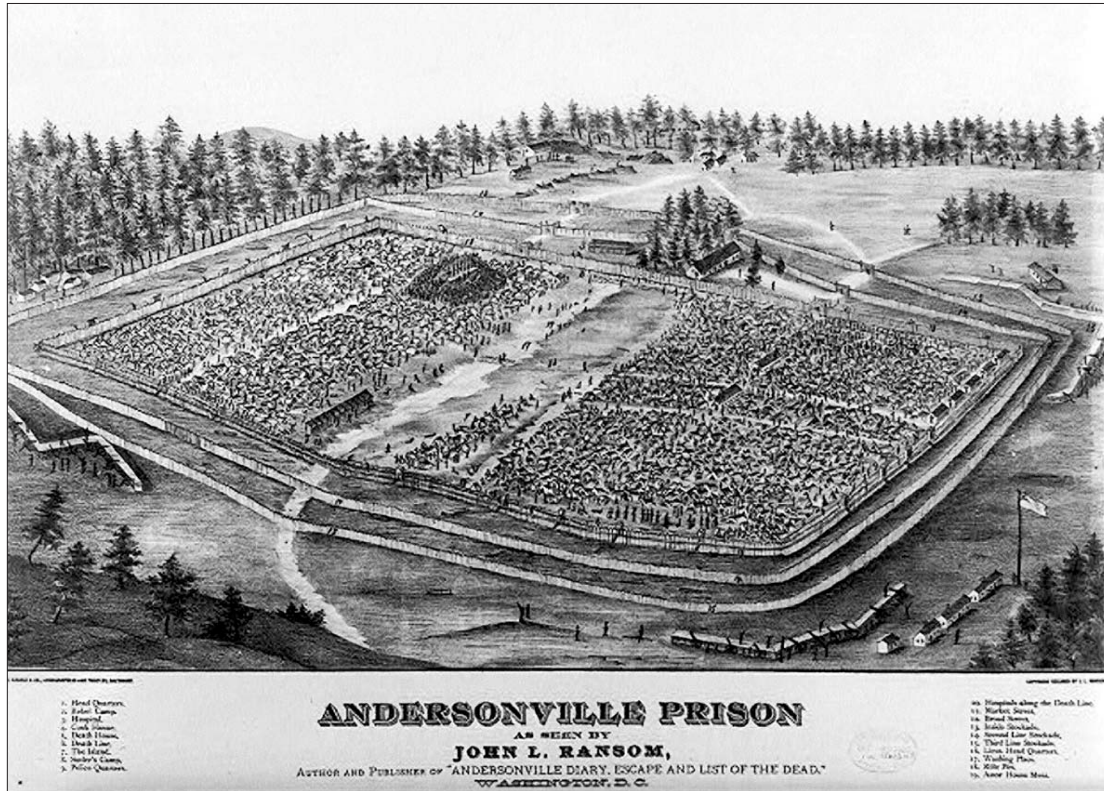
EXTREMELY FINE. A REMARKABLY FRESH AND CHOICE CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE USAGE THROUGH RICHMOND AND OLD POINT COMFORT.

Ex Richey, Shenfield, Gallagher and Sevenoaks. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 92) E. 2,000-3,000



- 119 ☒ **Greenwood S.C.** Two civilian flag-of-truce covers to Hamilton N.Y., both franked with 3c Rose (65) affixed over the spot where **pasted “Trime” silver coins** originated (both stamps defective from removal, coins no longer present), first cover with original contents docketed “Greenwood December 12” and “Flag of Truce Steamer James River”, stamp tied by “Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 7, 1863” double-circle datestamp, docketed on front “wrote December 12/62” and “No. 7” to identify the cover in the series, second cover with no contents and origin identified by first cover, stamp tied by “Annapolis Md. Jan. 29, 1863” circular datestamp, docketed “No. 12”, both with small backflap tears, Fine appearing and fascinating pair of civilian flag-of-truce covers evidencing coin paste-ups to pay postage ..
.....(Photo Ex) E. 750-1,000
- 120 ☒ **Richmond Va.** Flag-of-truce cover from the Capt. John J. Miller correspondence, sent from Richmond to St. Louis Mo., original enclosure datelined “Richmond Va. May the 14th 1864”, manuscript “Care of Mr. Jno. Burd”, 3c Rose (65) with choice centering tied by quartered cork, “Old Point Comfort Va. Jun. 18” circular datestamp, couple minor corner nicks, Very Fine, a beautiful cover sent by Richmond and Old Point Comfort, the large correspondence between John Miller, a C.S.A. officer and native of St. Louis, and his fiancée Mary Elizabeth Burd produced a number of flag-of-truce as well as P.O.W. covers, John Miller joined Company B, 12th Regiment, Missouri Cavalry on September 2, 1861, the enclosed letter gives explicit instructions to his fiancée on how to send a flag-of-truce letter, “Direct your letters to this place, care of Harrison, Goddin & Apperson, enclose the letter with a Confederate States stamp on it (I enclose you 5) in a larger envelope directed to Maj. Gen. B.F. Butler Commanding Dept Va. Fortress Monroe Va. Write per flag of truce boat on the envelope. . .” E. 400-500
- 121 ☒ **Richmond Va.** Flag-of-truce cover from the Capt. John J. Miller correspondence, sent from Richmond to St. Louis Mo., original enclosure datelined “Richmond Va. June 5th 1864”, manuscript “Care of Mr. Jno. W. Burd”, 3c Rose (65) well-centered and tied by quartered cork, “Old Point Comfort Va. Jun. 16” circular datestamp, Very Fine, the enclosed letter states “I have no assurance you will get it — the flag of truce mail is so irregular & uncertain”, this observation is born out by the fact that the letter in the prior lot was written almost three weeks earlier, yet entered the U.S. mails at Old Point Comfort two days later than this letter E. 400-500

RICHMOND—OLD POINT COMFORT
NORTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL
FEDERAL PRISONERS IN CONFEDERATE PRISONS
ANDERSONVILLE, GEORGIA



The Andersonville prison, officially known as Camp Sumter, was the largest Confederate military prison during the Civil War and the most dreaded by Union soldiers. On March 27, 1864, Captain Henry Wirz assumed command of the stockade. By the end of the war, 12,913 of the approximately 45,000 Union prisoners held there had died, mostly from starvation and disease.

After the war, Wirz was charged with conspiracy and murder by Federal authorities. His trial was held in the Capitol building in Washington and presided over by Union General Lew Wallace. A number of former prisoners testified on conditions at Andersonville, many accusing Wirz of specific acts of cruelty (some of these accounts were later called into question by historians as exaggerated or false). The court also heard from Confederate officers and considered official correspondence from captured Confederate records. Wirz presented evidence that he pleaded to Confederate authorities to obtain more food and maintained that he tried to improve the conditions for the prisoners. Wirz was found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. On November 10, 1865, he was hanged in Washington at the site of the current Supreme Court building — the only Confederate official to be tried, convicted and executed for war crimes resulting from the Civil War.

There are approximately 32 covers known from the prison today. This is the largest offering of Andersonville P.O.W. covers ever made in one auction, encompassing lots 122-127 and 168-169.

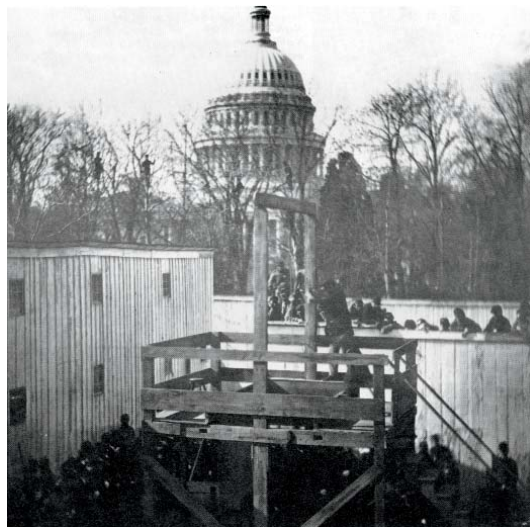


122

- 122 ✉ **Andersonville Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Wallpaper cover to Lewiston Me. with "*Exd. H.W. In Extremis*" examiner's marking applied by Camp Commandant Capt. Henry Wirz at top, endorsed "*from prisoner of war*", 5c Blue, Local Print on London Paper (7 var) underpays the 10c rate, tied by "Andersonville Ga." circular handstamp, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Aug. 25" double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" circular handstamp, some slight wear and sealed tear on back

A SPECTACULAR PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM ANDERSONVILLE, CENSORED BY THE NOTORIOUS PRISON COMMANDANT HENRY WIRZ. THIS COVER WAS MADE FROM WALLPAPER AND CARRIED ON THE RICHMOND-OLD POINT COMFORT FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTE. ONE OF THE FINEST ANDERSONVILLE COVERS KNOWN.

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 22)..... E. 10,000-15,000



The hanging of Confederate prison camp commandant Henry Wirz in Washington D.C. on November 10, 1865



123

- 123 ☒ **Andersonville Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Cover from prisoner-of-war Pvt. J. W. Merrill to Perry N.Y., endorsed "*Prisoners Letter*", no censor mark, mixed franking with C.S.A. postage to Richmond paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, edges a bit rough, tied by indistinct "**Andersonville Ga.**" circular handstamp and segmented cork, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by segmented cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Aug. 25" double-circle datestamp

VERY FINE. A GORGEOUS MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM ANDERSONVILLE PRISON VIA RICHMOND AND OLD POINT COMFORT.

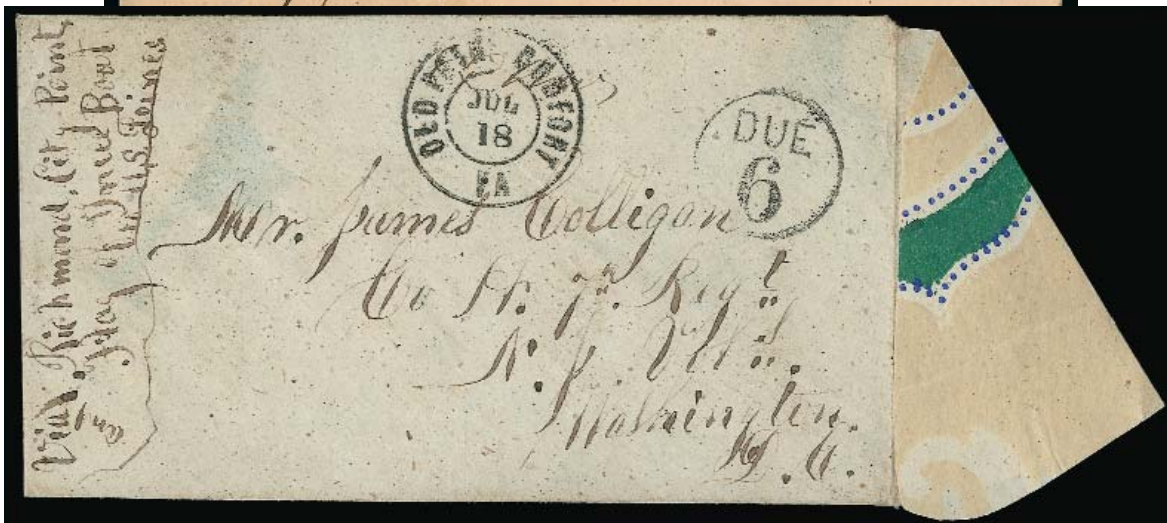
Julian Weaton Merrill enlisted as a private in the 24th New York Battery on August 30, 1862. According to the Civil War Plymouth Pilgrims Descendants Society website, he was captured on April 20, 1864, at Plymouth N.C. and sent to Andersonville before being exchanged on November 20, 1864. While at Andersonville, a mock election was held in the stockade on Nov. 4, 1864, to decide between the two candidates for President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln and former Commander of the Army of the Potomac George B. McClellan. Merrill opened the meeting by singing "*Columbia the Gem of the Ocean*" and served as a ballot clerk for the election. Lincoln won the election by a vote of 945-795. Merrill survived Andersonville and in 1870 wrote a history of the 24th N.Y. Battery. He died in 1912 at the age of 71.

With 1984 P.F. certificate..... E. 5,000-7,500

124



125



- 124 ☒ **Andersonville Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Cover to Dedham Mass. with original letter datelined "Confederate Prison Anderson Ga. March 6. 1864", endorsed "(via flag of truce)", with "Exd J.C.S." censor mark at top, C.S.A. postage paid by 10c Blue, Die B (12), manuscript cancel "Mar 9" and tied by provisional "Andersonville Ga." circular handstamp with second strike to the right of the stamp, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Mar. 24" double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" circular handstamp for unpaid letter, bottom of stamp torn but complete

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A BEAUTIFUL AND RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM A PRISONER AT ANDERSONVILLE SENT VIA RICHMOND AND OLD POINT COMFORT.

Harrison lists two examined markings from Andersonville in addition to "Exd. H.W." of Henry Wirz. The "J.C.S." marking is listed as used in February 1865 by an unknown censor. This cover shows that the officer who used those initials was censoring letters at least eleven months prior to February 1865.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 238)..... E. 4,000-5,000

- 125 ☒ **Andersonville Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Inner wallpaper cover from prisoner-of-war to Washington D.C., endorsed "Via Richmond, City Point and Flag of Truce Boat to U.S. Lines", censored at top "Ex H.W." by **Camp Commandant Capt. Henry Wirz**, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 18" double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" handstamp for unpaid rate, opened for display, very fresh

EXTREMELY FINE. A SPECTACULAR FLAG-OF-TRUCE WALLPAPER COVER FROM ANDERSONVILLE PRISON WITH THE COMMANDANT HENRY WIRZ CENSOR MARK.

This cover combines all of the elements of an outstanding flag-of-truce usage. It was sent from a Union prisoner in the most infamous C.S.A. prison of the war and examined by the Camp Commandant who became the only official to be tried, convicted and executed for war crimes. It has clear markings, is an adversity usage and is as fresh as the day it was mailed.

Ex Birkinbine E. 5,000-7,500



126

- 126 ✉ **Andersonville Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Yellow cover with original contents from Pvt. Thomas Stodart, a prisoner-of-war, to his wife in Newark N.J., datelined "*Camp Sumner (sic) June the 21 1864*", manuscript "*Exd. H.W.*" by **Camp Commandant Capt. Henry Wirz** at top, endorsed "*Prisoners Letter*", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage to Richmond paid by uncanceled **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, sheet margins at top and left (toned), U.S. postage paid with **3c Rose (65)**, tied by quartered cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 17" double-circle datestamp, contents state "*I was captured on the 12th of May at Spotsylvania charging the breast works. . . I hope it won't be long for it is not a pleasant place to stay*", one envelope edge split, some minor archival tape reinforcement and couple tiny holes on front

VERY FINE. A DESIRABLE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER WITH ORIGINAL CONTENTS FROM ANDERSONVILLE, CENSORED BY CAMP COMMANDANT HENRY WIRZ.

The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, the second major battle of U.S. Grant's 1864 Overland Campaign, was fought from May 8-21, 1864. Thomas Stodart was a private in the 110th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which was part of the 2nd Corps commanded by Gen Winfield Scott Hancock. On the night of May 12, the 2nd Corps was the recipient of a strong and successful counterattack in the "Mule Shoe", which Robert E. Lee was reported to have initially attempted to lead himself before hearing the familiar "*Lee to the rear*" calls of his soldiers. That night, which resulted in Stodart's capture, saw some of the most savage fighting in the entire war and gave rise to the name "The Bloody Angle" of Spotsylvania. Stodart survived Andersonville and the war and died in 1902. Interestingly, the letter to his wife informing her of his capture did not leave Old Point Comfort in the Federal mails until more than six months later..... E. 4,000-5,000



"The Bloody Angle" of the Battle of Spotsylvania



127

- 127 ☒ **Andersonville Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Inner cover from Lt. David B. McCreary (later brigadier general), a prisoner-of-war to his wife in Erie Penn., with original letter datelined "Andersonville Ga. June 23rd 1864", given to a guard who initialed "HOB Sr", 3c Rose (65) tied by cork, "Washington D.C. Jul. 7, 1864" circular datestamp, some light soiling, enclosure contains lengthy list of those captured from the 145th Pennsylvania Volunteers in "the charge at Petersburg June 16 1864"

FINE. A DESIRABLE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER WITH ORIGINAL CONTENTS FROM THE INFAMOUS ANDERSONVILLE PRISON.



Lt. David B. McCreary

From the history of the 145th Pennsylvania Volunteers (<http://www.145thpvi.org/main.htm>), David B. McCreary was commissioned an officer in Company B, Pennsylvania Erie Infantry Regiment on April 21, 1861. In March 1862 he helped form and lead the 145th Infantry Regiment. He quickly rose in rank during the war and became a brigadier general by 1865. He was captured at Petersburg on June 16, 1864 and in addition to Andersonville, he was a prisoner at Libby, at Macon Ga. and at Camp Sorgum, S.C. — in all spending ten months in captivity. He survived his confinement and after the war served in the Pennsylvania State Legislature and as Adjutant General to the state governor. He died in 1904.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 73)..... E. 3,000-4,000

Original Letters in Civil War Prisoners' Covers

While postal historians generally place greater emphasis on covers, the presence of an original letter in a Civil War prisoner-of-war cover adds considerable value. Not only are such letters scarce, but they provide first-hand accounts of battles and prison conditions, adding a significant personal dimension to the postal artifact.



128



129

- 128 ☒ **Atlanta Ga.** Homemade cover from a prisoner at Atlanta prison to a captain in the 17th Michigan at Union-held Knoxville Tenn., endorsed "Care Gen Winder Richmond Va" and "For Flag of Truce", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, tied by light strike of "Atlanta Ga. Dec. 10" (1864) circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)** tied by quartered cork, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Dec 19" circular datestamp, both stamps defective with 3c Rose missing a large part of corner before use and 10c Blue with a pre-use cut
EXTREMELY RARE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM ATLANTA PRISON SENT VIA FLAG-OF-TRUCE THROUGH RICHMOND. ONLY TWO COVERS FROM THIS PRISON ARE KNOWN.

The Atlanta Ga. prison is listed in the *Official Records* as a former slave pen. It was in use as early as June 9, 1862, and held a number of prisoners from the 1863 Battle of Chickamauga. Following the fall of Atlanta, the prison was liberated and then briefly used to hold Confederate prisoners. Only two covers are reported. (Harrison, p. 24).

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 25) and *Special Routes* (p. 239)..... E. 2,000-3,000

- 129 ☒ **Camp Oglethorpe for Officers, Macon Ga.** Prisoner-of-war inner cover to Wyocena Wis., endorsed "From Prisoner of War. Macon Ga.", manuscript censor mark "Examined T.H.H." of Capt. T. H. Hackett, 15th Ga. Infantry, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 18" (1864) double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" handstamp (not entitled to 3c due rate), small closed tear at top, otherwise Very Fine, Augustus E. Patchin enlisted in Company D, Wisconsin 10th Inf. Reg. on September 18, 1861, was promoted to 1st Lt. in 1863 and was mustered out on Dec. 19, 1864, based on records of battles fought by the Wisconsin 10th and losses recorded, it is probable that Lt. Patchin was captured at the Battle of Chickamauga in September 1863..... E. 500-750



130

- 130 ☒ **Camp Oglethorpe for Officers, Macon Ga.** Prisoner-of-war inner cover with original letter datelined "Macon Georgia May 19 1864" from Lt. Jacob S. Devine to Philadelphia Pa., endorsed "Officers Letter/ Prisoner of War/ Per Flag of Truce", censor mark "Examined CHB", "Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 18" double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" handstamp (not entitled to 3c due rate), small piece out of backflap, contents include "...the camp we have here was formerly a park and it contains about 3 acres of which we have the privilege. I think it much healthier than 'Libby Prison' as we have the open air", Very Fine, Jacob S. Devine was a 1st Lt. in the 71st Pa. Volunteers..... E. 500-750



131

- 131 ☒ **Camp Oglethorpe for Officers, Macon Ga.** Prisoner-of-war inner cover with original contents from Lt. Oliver R. McNary datelined "Macon Georgia May 29 1864", to Washington Pa., prisoner's endorsement at top, manuscript censor mark "Ex. W.H.G." of Capt. William H. Graves, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 18" double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" handstamp (not entitled to 3c due rate), light fold and couple small stains, otherwise Fine, Lt. Oliver R. McNary, a member of Co. E of the 12th Pa. Volunteers, was captured on April 20, 1864, at Plymouth N.C., taken to Andersonville Prison where he attempted to escape, then to Macon from where he did escape on July 30, was recaptured on August 17, injured during his flight and taken to Rickersville Hospital in Charleston on August 21, then to Annapolis Hospital on December 4 and finally paroled, illustrated in *Confederate Philatelist* (Oct. 1961), with lengthy article on the McNary correspondence, see lot 212 for a companion cover from Rickersville Hospital E. 500-750



132

- 132 ☒ **Camp Oglethorpe for Officers, Macon Ga.** Small folded letter from prisoner datelined "Prisoners Camp, Macon Ga. June 6 1864", prisoner's endorsement on front, censored "Ex WS" (W.S. Scott, 1st Sgt. 5th Ga. Infantry), "Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 18" double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" handstamp, contents incl. "I wrote from Richmond. Left Libby 6 days ago", water staining and reinforced splits throughout, Fine appearance..... E. 500-750



133

- 133 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Prisoner-of-war turned cover to Chambersburg, Pa., endorsed "Prisoners Letter By Flag of Truce", magenta manuscript "Exd/s", 10c Blue, Die B (12) tied by "Salisbury N.C. Dec. 10" (1864) circular datestamp, sent via Richmond and Fortress Monroe, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 18" double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" for unpaid rate, first use addressed to "Thos. McDowell Citizen Prisoner" and endorsed "By Flag of Truce", 10c Blue, Die B (12) tied by "Richmond Va. Oct. 5" circular datestamp, some edgewear, otherwise Very Fine, a desirable P.O.W. turned cover sent twice by flag-of-truce E. 1,000-1,500

134



- 134 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Prisoner-of-war inner cover to Providence R.I., made from pre-printed addressed envelope to "Lieut. Armstrong S. Baily", endorsed "Care Com. Ould, Com of Exchange, Richmond Va" and "By flag of truce", manuscript "Exd" censor mark, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 14" (1865) double-circle datestamp, pencil "No. 3" docketing on front erased

FRESH AND VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE AND UNUSUAL PRISONER-OF-WAR ADVERSITY COVER MADE FROM A PRE-PRINTED ENVELOPE AT SALISBURY PRISON.

Lt. Armstrong S. Baily enlisted and then was promoted to officer in Company E of the 45th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment. He was captured at Peeble's Farm Va. on September 30, 1864, taken to Richmond from Petersburg on October 3, and then to Salisbury Prison on October 8. He was transferred back to Richmond in February 1865 and finally paroled at James River Va. on February 22.

Ex Birkinbine..... E. 1,500-2,000

135



- 135 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Prisoner-of-war's homemade cover to North Somerville, Mass., with original letter datelined "Salisbury N.C. Dec 1st 1864", endorsed "Prisoner of War's Letter", censored with pencil "Examined", "Salisbury N.C. 5 Dec." circular datestamp, trace of "Pa(id)" handstamp, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 18" double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" in circle, some wear as usual for this soft paper, still Fine and attractive flag-of-truce cover sent via Richmond and Old Point Comfort E. 500-750



Albert Deane Richardson

136

- 136 ☒ **Salisbury Prison, N.C.** Prisoner-of-war cover from Albert Deane Richardson, **war correspondent from Massachusetts** captured at Vicksburg and held at Salisbury Prison, endorsed “Flag of Truce Prisoner’s Letter”, franked with 3c Rose (65), tied by cork, “Old Point Comfort Va. Apr. 18” double-circle datestamp, “Received at Boston 1864 Apr 20” circular datestamp on back, cover and stamp faults incl. water staining and backflap tear, still Fine appearance, includes photocopies of additional cover and letter in same hand identifying the writer as Richardson, who was one of the best known American journalists of his time, as well as a Union spy, he escaped from Salisbury Prison in December 1864, wrote *Through the Pacific* for the *New York Tribune* in 1869, but met a tragic end as the victim of murder at the hands of Daniel McFarland, the violent and alcoholic husband of Richardson’s lover, Abby Sage McFarland, Richardson was shot by McFarland in both 1867 and 1869, with the latter attack resulting in his death, he was married to the divorced Abby on his deathbed by famous Brooklyn preacher Henry Ward Beecher E. 500-750



137

- 137 ☒ **Danville Prison, Va.** Tissue-paper prisoner-of-war cover to Manalapan N.J., endorsement at bottom, censored in pencil by the Prison Commander “Examined R.C. Smith Lt. Col Comdg” (Oct. 1864-Jan. 1865), mixed franking with **10c Blue, Die A (11) and 3c Rose (65)**, both tied by segmented cork cancel, “Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 17” (1865) double-circle datestamp, pencil receipt docketing at top, cover with faults incl. part of back missing, also some restoration due to the fragile paper

FINE APPEARANCE AND VERY DESIRABLE PRISONER’S FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER WITH MIXED FRANKING AND CENSORED BY THE DANVILLE PRISON COMMANDANT.

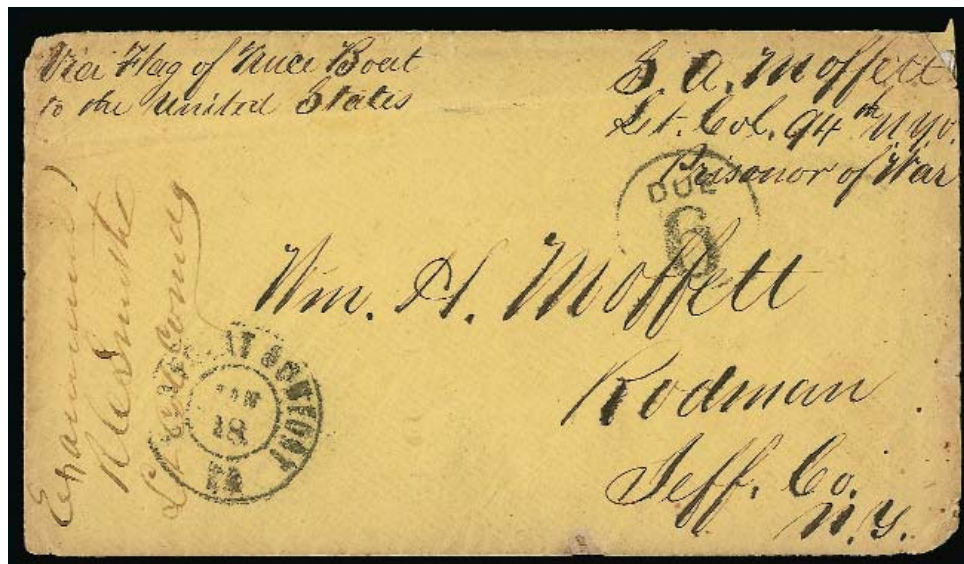
The Danville prison consisted of six tobacco warehouses and a hospital, and was active from November 1863 until the end of the war. Northbound mail was processed through Danville, although not usually postmarked there, and entered the U.S. mails at Old Point Comfort. Accordingly, most of the few known mixed-franking covers from this prison have no C.S.A. postal markings. Fewer than 50 surviving covers are known and can only be identified by letter contents, manuscript examined markings or prisoners’ service records. The commandant’s censor marking combined with the mixed franking on this cover are most unusual E. 1,500-2,000

138



- 138 ☒ **Danville Prison, Va.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover from Pvt. Elijah Rockhold to Bainbridge O. with original letter datelined "*Danville Va. Prison & Hos. April 21st 1864*", censored with "*Exd MM*" in pencil by Danville Prison Commander Major Mason Morfit (Aug.-Oct. 1864), entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. May 2" circular dates-tamp and "Due 3" straightline for unpaid soldier's letter, receipt docketing at left, soiling and some wear, still a Fine flag-of-truce cover sent via Richmond and Fortress Monroe, desirable with the Morfit censor mark, Elijah Rockhold was a member of Company H of the Ohio 89th Infantry Regiment, ex Harrison..... E. 1,000-1,500

139



- 139 ☒ **Danville Prison, Va.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover from Lt. Col. Samuel A. Moffett to Rodman, N.Y., with original letter datelined "*Danville Military Prison Nov. 20. 1864*", endorsed with prisoner's rank and "*Via Flag of Truce Boat to the United States*", censored with manuscript "*Examined RC Smith Lt Col Comdg*" by the Danville Prison Commander (Oct. 1864-Jan. 1865), entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 18" (1865) circular datestamp and "Due 6" in circle (officers not entitled to 3c due rate), some edgewear and edge splitting, Fine appearing flag-of-truce cover sent via Richmond and Fortress Monroe, desirable with the Prison Commander censor mark, Samuel A. Moffett was born in 1836 and at the age of 25 enlisted in the 94th N.Y. Volunteer Infantry, in April 1863 he was promoted to head of the Regiment and lead it at the Battle of Chancellorsville as part of Gen. John F. Reynold's 1st Corps, after his capture in 1864 he was held at Libby Prison in Richmond, then Salisbury N.C. and Danville, ex Seacrest, with 1986 C.S.A. certificate E. 1,000-1,500



140

- 140 ☒ **Lynchburg Prison, Va.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Capt. Edwin J. Swan in Washington D.C., original letter datelined "Lynchburg, VA May 8th 1864", endorsed "by flag of truce boat", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage to Richmond paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, huge margins to close at left, tied by greenish-black "Lynchburg Va. May 25" (1864) circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)** tied together with C.S.A. stamp by quartered cork, small tear at top, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Jun. 4" double-circle datestamp

EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM A PRISONER AT LYNCHBURG PRISON SENT THROUGH RICHMOND AND OLD POINT COMFORT. FEWER THAN FOUR ARE KNOWN, AND THIS IS ARGUABLY THE FINEST.

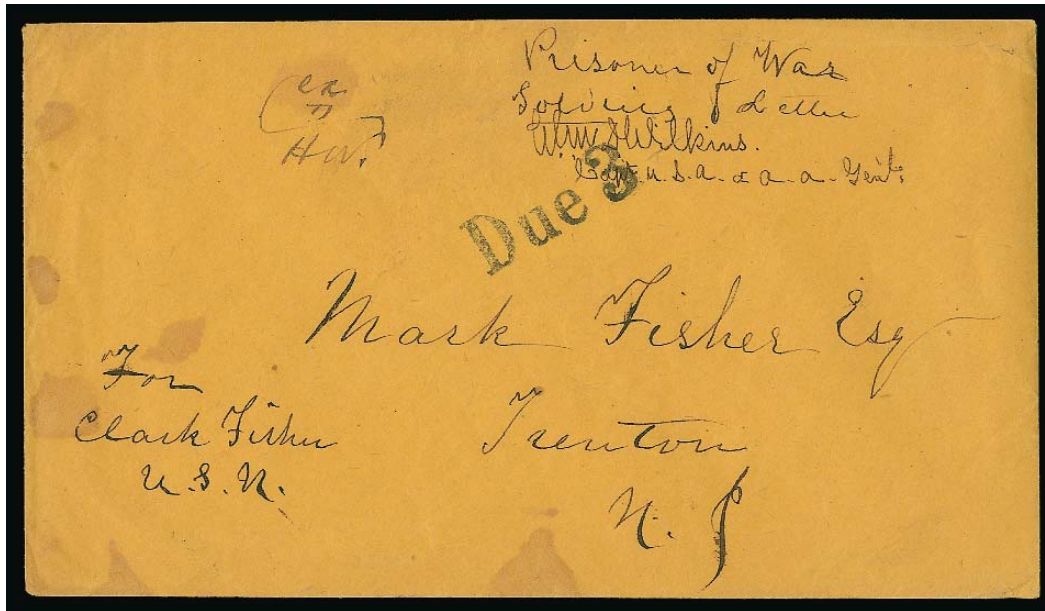
The writer of the enclosed letter was a private in the 76th N.Y. Volunteers, which was part of the 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, 5th Corps, Army of the Potomac. Writing to Captain Swan, commander of Company H in the 76th N.Y., he lists the prisoners captured with him on May 5, 1864, at the Battle of the Wilderness and states that they are all well. He goes on to instruct the captain on sending flag-of-truce mail by putting 10c silver into an unsealed envelope.

Lynchburg Prison held more than 10,000 prisoners during the war, but with most of them remaining for short periods of time, covers are extremely rare. Medical care was reportedly better at Lynchburg than at most other C.S.A. prisons due to the presence of the base hospital center used by the Confederacy throughout the war. During a December 1863 outbreak of smallpox, vaccine was sent from Fortress Monroe by General Benjamin F. Butler to inoculate the prisoners at Lynchburg (Harrison p. 79).

Ex Antrim and Kilbourne. Illustrated in Antrim (p. 140) and *Special Routes* (p.243).....
..... E. 4,000-5,000



- 141 ☒ **Lynchburg Prison, Va.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Toledo O. endorsed "flag of truce", no censor markings, mixed franking with **10c Blue, Die A (11)** tied by smudgy strike of greenish-black "Lynchburg Va. May 25" (1864) circular datestamp, another blurry strike on back, **3c Rose (65)**, defective, tied by segmented cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jun. 4" double-circle datestamp, cover slightly reduced at right, some soiling and small tear on back, still Fine and rare P.O.W. cover from Lynchburg Prison, fewer than four known E. 1,000-1,500
- 142 ☒ **Belle Island Prison, Richmond Va.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover to Washington Pa. with original letter from Pvt. Sample S. Bane datelined "Richmond Va. Dec the 10th 1863", endorsed "By Flag of Truce", no censor marks, 3c Rose (65) tied by "Old Point Comfort Va. Feb. 1" (1864) circular datestamp, contents include a request for provisions "Direct it to Richmond Va. Belle Island Prisoner of War.", stamp with faults and cover soiling, Fine and very scarce P.O.W. letter from Belle Island, Harrison records only eight known, Sample S. Bane was a private in the 22nd Pennsylvania Cavalry, after Belle Island he was transferred to Andersonville Prison where he died less than two months after this letter was written E. 1,000-1,500
- 143 ☒ **Castle Thunder, Richmond Va.** Inner cover from William F. Carr to his wife in Keedysville Md., with original letter datelined "Room No. 10, Castle Thunder Prison, Richmond Va. March 26th 1864", endorsed "Citizen prisoners letter per flag of truce" at top, no censor mark, entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Apr. 19" double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" in circle handstamp, minor wear and couple light stains, splits throughout enclosed letter, overall Fine, scarce P.O.W. letter from Castle Thunder from a well-known correspondence, Harrison records only 11 covers known, Castle Thunder, also known as Grainer Tobacco Warehouse, received its nickname because it was near cannons defending the city, William F. Carr was arrested as a spy after the Battle of Antietam, ex Antrim E. 500-750
- 144 ☒ **Castle Thunder, Richmond Va.** Inner cover to Hopkinsville Ky., censored with manuscript "Ex Jno L Eustis adc", who was a clerk in the Richmond War Office, franked with three singles of **1c Blue (63)**, stamps defective, cancelled with segmented cork, one tied by "Old Point Comfort Va. Apr. 18" double-circle datestamp, cover with some wear and couple small tears and stains, Fine appearing and very scarce franking, inner P.O.W. covers going to the North are almost always franked with a 3c Rose (65) or stampless with a due marking E. 400-500



145

- 145 ☒ **Libby Prison, Richmond Va.** Inner cover from prisoner-of-war to Trenton N.J., unusual soldier's letter endorsement provided by fellow prisoner, Captain William D. Wilkins, "For Clark Fisher U.S.A.", censored with manuscript "exd HW." by **Captain Henry H. Wirz, later of Andersonville Prison infamy**, "Due 3" handstamp, no other U.S. postal markings, couple minor stained spots

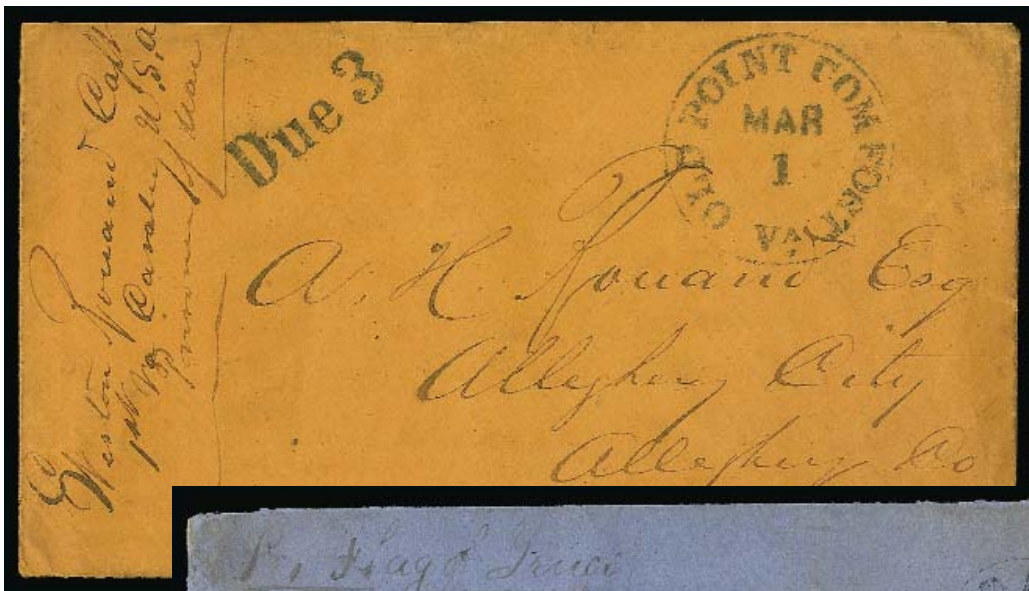
VERY FINE. A RARE EXAMPLE OF THE COMMANDANT HENRY WIRZ'S CENSOR MARKING ON A FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM LIBBY PRISON.

Henry H. Wirz took command of Libby Prison beginning in late 1862. In March 1864, he was assigned to Andersonville (Camp Sumter). After the war, Wirz was charged with conspiracy and murder by Federal authorities. His trial was held in the Capitol building in Washington and was presided over by Union General Lew Wallace. A number of former prisoners testified on conditions at Andersonville, many accusing Wirz of specific acts of cruelty (some of these accounts were later called into question by historians as exaggerated or false). The court also heard from Confederate officers and considered official correspondence from captured Confederate records. Wirz presented evidence that he pleaded to Confederate authorities to try to get more food and maintained that he tried to improve the conditions for the prisoners. Wirz was found guilty of murder and was sentenced to death. On November 10, 1865, he was hanged in Washington at the site of the current Supreme Court building — the only Confederate official to be tried, convicted and executed for war crimes resulting from the Civil War.

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 92) E. 3,000-4,000



Libby Prison



146EX



147

- 146 ☒ **Libby Prison, Richmond Va.** Six inner prisoner-of-war covers from Libby Prison to cities in the North, dates range from February-November 1863, three franked with 3c Rose (65), others stampless with "Due 3" or "Due 6" markings, three with original contents, nice variety of censor markings, **one postmarked Annapolis Md.** (possibly carried there by paroled P.O.W.), others with "Old Point Comfort Va." datestamps, some with notes on the prisoners, few small faults as normally found on prisoner covers

A WONDERFUL GROUP OF PRISONERS' FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVERS FROM LIBBY PRISON IN RICHMOND.

With the largest Union prisoner population in the C.S.A., Richmond was forced to use a number of facilities as prisons. Northbound mail was processed through Richmond, but virtually all known covers from Richmond prisons are inner envelopes which do not have C.S.A. frankings or Richmond postmarks, and which entered the U.S. mails at Old Point Comfort.

Libby Prison opened in March 1862 to receive transferred prisoners from Ligon's, Mayo's and Taylor's Warehouses. It re-opened in mid-1863, and quickly grew to over 4,000 inmates by the end of 1863. It was evacuated on the fall of Richmond in April 1865. Eight flag-of-truce covers are known from the via Norfolk period, and five are known from the via Petersburg period. More than 160 covers are known from the via Richmond period.**(Photo Ex)** E. 1,500-2,000

- 147 ☒ **Charleston S.C.** Blue inner cover to Lynn Mass., endorsed "Per Flag of Truce" and "Prisoner of War Letter Charleston S.C.", no censor markings, entered U.S. mails with "Annapolis Md. Oct. 20 '64" double-circle datestamp, "Due 6" in circle, also strike of circular target, soiling and some small tears on edge and backflap, Fine and unusual usage, most likely sent via Richmond with the flag-of-truce boat skipping Fortress Monroe and taking the letter all the way to Annapolis, ex Kohn..... E. 500-750



148

- 148 ☒ **Richland Jail, Columbia S.C.** Adversity cover made from a printed math table with strikes of **Columbia S.C. Provisional "Paid" in circle and "10" handstamps**, sent by prisoner-of-war to Dennyville Me., endorsed "**Lt. John P. Sheahan, Prisoner of War, Columbia S.C.**", manuscript censor mark "**Exd RD Senn, Capt Post Guard**", carried out of the Prison by an exchanged prisoner with "**Politeness of Capt Sherman U.S.A.**" endorsement, "**Washington D.C. Dec. 17 '64**" double-circle datestamp and "**Due 3**" handstamp, provisional "**Paid**" handstamp overwritten by postal clerk with "**C.S.A.**", some edgewear and backflap partially split

VERY FINE. A WONDERFUL PRISONER-OF-WAR ADVERSITY COVER CARRIED BY AN EXCHANGED UNION SOLDIER FROM THE RICHLAND JAIL IN COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

John P. Sheahan enlisted in Company K, Maine 1st Cavalry Reg. on Aug. 23, 1862. He was commissioned an officer in Company E, Maine 31st Infantry Reg. on March 11, 1864. His unit was involved in numerous engagements during 1864, including the Battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and the Crater. He was listed as a prisoner at Richland Jail in *The New York Times*, December 23, 1864 E. 2,000-3,000



149

- 149 ☒ **Richland Jail, Columbia S.C.** Prisoner-of-war **turned cover** to Warsaw N.Y., lengthy original letter datelined "**Richland Jail Columbia South Carolina, December 4th 1864**", endorsed "**From Prisoner of War**", manuscript "**Exd. RD Senn, Capt. Post Guard**" censor's marking at bottom left, two strikes of "**Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 16**" (1865) double-circle datestamp and "**Due 6**" in circle handstamp for unpaid U.S. rate, docketed received Jan. 19th, **first use** addressed to same prisoner with "**Washington D.C. Sep 9 '64**" circular datestamp, 3c Rose (65) cancelled by target, endorsed "**Care of Capt. Senn, Comdg Post.**", small hole in cover and some edgewear, still Very Fine appearing and fascinating turned cover to and from a prisoner at Richland Jail.....

E. 1,000-1,500



150

- 150 ☒ **Camp Sorghum, Columbia S.C.** Cover from prisoner-of-war to Erie Penn., endorsed "*Lt. Col McCreary, Prisoner of War, Columbia S.C.*" and "*By flag of truce*", manuscript censor mark by Camp Commandant "*Exd. J.C. Martin Capt Comdg*", and also pencil "*Exd*" above address, mixed franking with C.S.A. postage to Richmond paid by pair of **5c Blue, Local (7)**, used with **3c Rose (65)**, both tied by cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Dec. 16" (1864) double-circle datestamp, docketed "*Recd Dec 19th*"

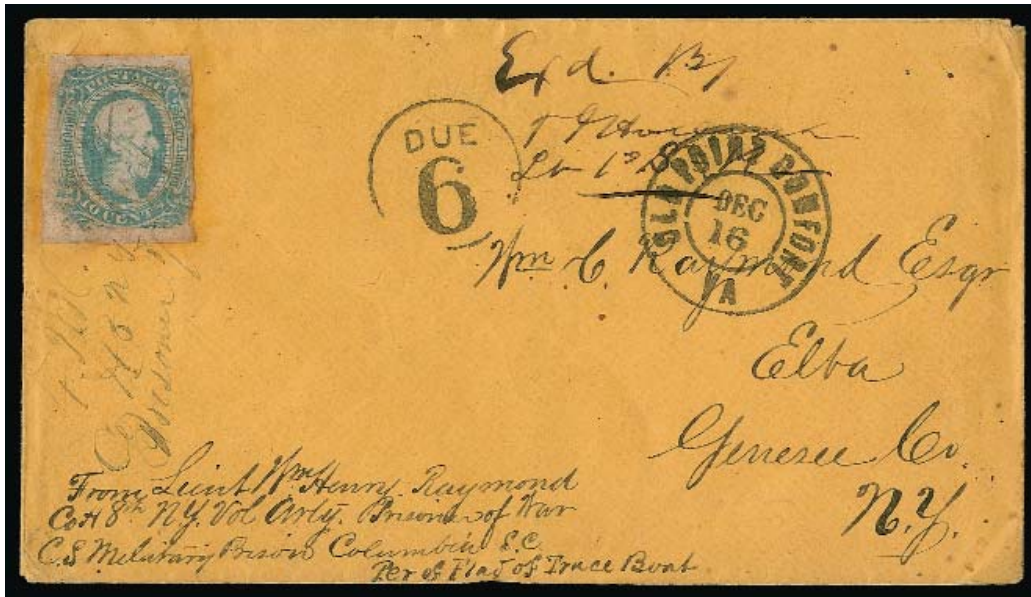
VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM CAMP SORGHUM, SENT VIA THE RICHMOND AND OLD POINT COMFORT FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTE AND CENSORED BY THE CAMP COMMANDANT.



Lt. David B. McCreary

From the history of the 145th Pennsylvania Volunteers (<http://www.145thpvi.org/main.htm>), David B. McCreary was commissioned an officer in Company B, Pennsylvania Erie Infantry Regiment on April 21, 1861. In March 1862 he helped form and lead the 145th Infantry Regiment. He quickly rose in rank during the war and became a brigadier general by 1865. He was captured at Petersburg on June 16, 1864 and in addition to Camp Sorghum, he was a prisoner at Libby Prison, Andersonville and Macon Ga. — spending a total of ten months in captivity. He survived his confinement and after the war served in the Pennsylvania State Legislature and as Adjutant General to the state governor.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 73)..... E. 2,000-3,000



151

- 151 ☒ **Camp Sorghum, Columbia S.C.** Cover from prisoner-of-war to Elba N.Y., endorsed "From Lieut. Wm. Henry Raymond, Co. H., N.Y. Vol. Arty. Prisoner of War, C.S. Military Prison, Columbia S.C. Per Flag of Truce Boat", manuscript examiner's mark "Exd. By T.G. Holland Lt. 1st Ga R" (guard at Camp Sorghum), **10c Milky Blue, Die B (12a)**, full margins to just touched, gum stains, uncanceled but tied by manuscript docketing, bold "Old Point Comfort Va. Dec. 16" (1864) double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" in circle for U.S. unpaid rate

VERY FINE. A SCARCE CAMP SORGHUM PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER VIA RICHMOND AND FORTRESS MONROE.

There were three prisons in Columbia. The attribution to Camp Sorghum is based on military records researched by Brian Green (signed on back). Ex Murphy..... E. 1,500-2,000



152

- 152 ☒ **Camp Sorghum, Columbia S.C.** Brown homemade prisoner-of-war cover to Battle Creek Mich., prisoner's endorsement at top and manuscript censor mark by Camp Commandant "Exd. J.C. Martin Capt Comdg", also pencil "Exd" above address, "Old Point Comfort Va. Dec. 16" (1864) double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" in circle, with original Nov. 30, 1864 letter from an imprisoned Union lieutenant to his wife, casually mentions his escape and recapture — "excuse me for not writing during the last 3 weeks, for I have been away from camp. . . but was unfortunately picked up upon the blue ridge in N.C.", some edgewear, otherwise Very Fine, fascinating content..... E. 500-750

RICHMOND-OLD POINT COMFORT
NORTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL
CONFEDERATE PRISONERS IN FEDERAL PRISONS



- 153 ☒ **David's Island, DeCamp General Hospital, Pelham N.Y.** Incoming cover addressed to "Capt. John A. Reid, Care of Dr. J. Simmons, U.S. Hospital David's Island, New York", bearing 3c Rose (65) tied by neat target, "Old Point Comfort Va. Oct. 26" (1863) double-circle datestamp, bold blue "Due 3" in oval handstamp, stamp with small tear at bottom not mentioned on accompanying certificate, otherwise Very Fine and scarce, records indicate that the recipient had been transferred to Johnson's Island by the time this letter arrived which could explain the "Due 3" handstamp if it was forwarded, very few covers are known to or from David's Island as it was only open for four months following the Battle of Gettysburg to treat and hold wounded Confederate prisoners, with 1992 C.S.A. certificate,..... E. 300-400
- 154 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Brown cover to prisoner at Camp Douglas from Rutherfordton, N.C., endorsed "Via Flag of Truce/ City Point Va/ Fortress Monroe", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by 10c Green, Die A (11d), tied by "Rutherfordton N.C." circular datestamp, date not clear, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65) tied by segmented cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Mar. 1" (1865) circular datestamp, small portions of backflap missing, otherwise Very Fine, attractive prisoner-of-war cover through Richmond and Old Point Comfort, the addressee of this letter was a member of the 42nd N.C. Regiment, which saw significant action in 1864 and had occupied just two days earlier the ground near Petersburg where the massive explosion precipitated the infamous Battle of the Crater E. 1,000-1,500
- 155 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Orange-buff cover to prisoner at Camp Douglas from Thomaston Ga., endorsed "By Flag of Truce Richmond Va." and pencil "Cannot be found", "\$10 Confederate money" and "\$1 U.S. Banknote", manuscript "Paid 10" C.S.A. marking, two strikes of "Thomaston Ga. (?) 9" circular datestamp, one of which ties a 3c Rose (65), some edgewear, still Very Fine and desirable with the U.S. stamp cancelled solely by a Confederate handstamp E. 750-1,000
- 156 ☒ **Hart's Island, N.Y.** Incoming cover addressed to James M. Morey "Comp. 27. Prison Camp, Harts Island, New York Harbor, New York", docketed May 25, 1865, 3c Rose (65) cancelled by target and tied by "Bennington N.H. May 26" circular datestamp, small piece out of top right, still Fine appearance and rare, the Hart's Island camp was in operation for only four months at the end of the war — possibly the last one established by the Union, Harrison reports all 22 covers known from Hart's Island are from the Morey correspondence, James Morey was a member of the 32nd Tennessee Infantry and was captured on February 12, 1865, at Orangeburg S.C., this cover is from Morey's cousin, Helen Hayward, ex Harrison..... E. 500-750



157



158

- 157 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Incoming cover to prisoner-of-war from Hadensville Va., endorsed "By Flag of Truce/ Care of Hon. Robert Ould/ Richmond Va.", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, deep shade, tied by indistinct strike of "Hadensville Va. Feb. 7" circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)** tied by quartered cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Mar. 27" circular datestamp, docketed "Apr. 6 1865" at top, reverse with two strikes of oval examiner's handstamp "Prisoner's Letter, Johnsons Island, Examined, J. Jordan" (used from Apr. 3-May 5, 1865), some light soiling, otherwise Very Fine flag-of-truce cover through Richmond and Old Point Comfort, Robert Ould, who handled this cover in Richmond, was well-known as a Confederate agent for the "Dix-Hill Cartel", which was an 1862 agreement between the C.S.A. and U.S. on prisoner exchange, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 71), with 1994 P.F. certificate E. 1,000-1,500

- 158 ☒ **Fort McHenry, Baltimore Md.** Buff cover to a prisoner at Ft. McHenry from Staunton Va., endorsed "Via flag truce", C.S.A. postage paid by pair of **5c Blue, Local (7)** tied by "Staunton Va. Nov. 18" (1863) circular datestamp, attempted prepayment of U.S. postage with **demonetized 3c Dull Red, Ty. III (26)**, ignored by post office at Old Point Comfort and rated "Due 6" in circular handstamp for unpaid letter, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jan. 18" (1864) circular datestamp, docketed on back "Recd Jan. 26th", some light wear and address a bit faded

VERY FINE. A FASCINATING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER TO A PRISONER AT FT. MCHENRY, BEARING A DEMONETIZED U.S. 1857 ISSUE STAMP.

Ft. McHenry prison held a number of prominent prisoners during the War, including the mayor of Baltimore, several members of the Maryland legislature and most ironically, Frank Key Howard, grandson of Francis Scott Key. Covers to or from Ft. McHenry are not particularly rare, with 29 known (Harrison p. 149), though this mixed franking-demonetized usage certainly makes it among the most attractive.

Ex Birkinbine E. 2,000-3,000



159

- 159 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Incoming cover from Lynchburg Va. to prisoner-of-war Pvt. A. W. Saunders, a member of Company G of the 2nd Va. Cavalry, endorsed at top “\$5 U.S. Currency” and “ex.” in same hand, c/o and flag-of-truce endorsements at bottom, mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, large margins, tied by blurry strike of **green** “Lynchburg Va. Oct. 27” (1864) circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, uncanceled but tied by manuscript “17th Jan’y Exchanged”, also manuscript (No. 31)” and “Dep” in green pencil

VERY FINE. AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE MIXED-FRANKING COVER FROM LYNCHBURG TO A CONFEDERATE PRISONER AT POINT LOOKOUT WHO HAD ALREADY BEEN EXCHANGED.

Mixed frankings on prisoner-of-war covers are always desirable, especially so on South-to-North mail.

Ex Judd and Birkinbine E. 1,500-2,000



160

- 160 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Small incoming cover to prisoner-of-war from “Co. H, 14th Regt. Va. Cavalry” at Point Lookout, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, large margins, gum toning, tied by blue/ultramarine “Farmville Va.” circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by bold quartered cork with “Old Point Comfort Va. Feb. 23” double-circle datestamp, manuscript “LFP” censor’s marking applied at Point Lookout, Extremely Fine, a beautiful mixed-franking flag-of-truce cover to Point Lookout routed via Richmond and Old Point Comfort, ex Howard Green E. 750-1,000



161



162



163

- 161 **Point Lookout, Md.** Front only of a prisoner-of-war **turned usage**, one side to Point Lookout from Maple Springs N.C., 3c Rose (65) tied by cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Feb. 6" double-circle datestamp, red pen docketing, other side from Point Lookout to Maple Springs, prisoner's endorsement at left and "Prisoner's Letter Examined" octagonal handstamp (Ty. 11a), "Point Lookout Md. Oct. 7 '64" circular datestamp, 3c Rose (65) removed, portion of Richmond circular datestamp and "Due 10" straightline handstamp for C.S.A. postage, small pieces missing from corners and top, more than 2,000 cover fronts are known to Point Lookout because a dealer salvaged them from a waste paper sale in the 1920's (Antrim p. 18), this turned front is among the more unusual and desirable from that group E. 200-300
- 162 ☒ **Rock Island Barracks, Ill.** Registered cover from California to "Mr. Jabez Wood, Prisoner of war at Rock Island", pen-cancelled 3c Rose (65), clear "**Bodega Cal. Mar. 30**" (1865) circular datestamp, manuscript "Registered/No. 7", large "Exchanged Bk 79-" written in blue pencil, Very Fine, registered covers to prisoners are exceedingly rare and mail addressed to Confederate prisoners from the West Coast is virtually unknown E. 500-750
- 163 **West's Building Hospital, Baltimore Md.** 1865 front only from Mt. Nebo N.C. to West's Hospital made from postal regulations sheet, 3c Rose (65) affixed over spot where **3c U.S. silver coin** was attached to pay postage, to Ft. McHenry and then to Point Lookout Md., manuscript "Exd M. F." and crayon "Examined" censor markings, 3c stamp defective as often seen when affixed over the coin adhesive, edge nicks, still Fine, more than 2,000 cover fronts are known to Point Lookout because a dealer salvaged them from a waste paper sale in the 1920's (Antrim p. 18), this front to West's Hospital with its evidence of coin prepayment and twice forwarded is certainly among the more unusual and desirable from that group E. 200-300

RICHMOND-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND CIVILIAN MAIL



164EX

- 164 ☒ **Civilian Flag-of-Truce Cover from Cuba — The Aichel Correspondence.** Two folded letters from a German immigrant, Oskar Aichel, to his wife at home in Anderson C.H., South Carolina

A REMARKABLE PAIR OF LETTERS. THE FIRST TELLS OF THE WRITER'S IMPENDING JOURNEY ON A BLOCKADE RUNNER, WHILE THE SECOND IS AN EXTREMELY RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE USAGE FROM CUBA TO SOUTH CAROLINA VIA NEW YORK CITY, FORTRESS MONROE AND RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

The first is datelined Wilmington N.C. Oct. 7, 1863, as Aichel is awaiting his departure on board the "*Blockade Runner. . . Margaretha & Jessie*" to be transported to Nassau and Havana, with **10c Green, Die B (12)** tied by "Wilmington N.C." circular datestamp.

The second, headed "*Fourth letter*", is datelined "*Habana, 22 Decemb. 1863*" and written in English for the purpose of censoring. Aichel mentions he has been in Havana for 1½ months, describes the difficulty of finding work at reasonable wages and characterizes locals as "*those mis-trusting vicious creoles*." He closes by wishing his family a Merry Christmas. This letter is endorsed "*By Flag of Truce*" and was enclosed in an outer envelope (discarded at the exchange point), which carried it by steamer to New York City and from there to the exchange point through Old Point Comfort to Fortress Monroe in Virginia. The enclosed letter was censored and marked "*Examined J. Cassels*" (John Cassels, Captain and Provost Marshal), then sent by flag-of-truce boat to Richmond, where **10c Greenish Blue, Die B (12)**, large margins, was tied by "Richmond Va. Jan. 18" (1864) circular datestamp.

Both covers are in Very Fine condition. Letters originating outside the continental United States and carried into the Confederacy under the flag of truce are extremely rare — far rarer, in fact, than blockade-run covers into Confederate ports. Two similar covers from the Aichel correspondence — one with a faulty stamp, the other stampless — were offered in our sale of the Kohn collection (Sale 382).

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 93). Ex Murphy.....(Photo Ex) E. 7,500-10,000



165

- 165 ☒ **Fort Johnson, Charleston Harbor S.C.** Civilian flag-of-truce folded letter datelined “Georgetown Aug 17th 1864” to Charleston S.C., **10c Blue, Die A (11)** with large margins pays C.S.A. postage from Richmond to Charleston, cancelled by “Richmond Va. Sep. 5” circular datestamp, advertised in Charleston with “2” handstamp, forwarded to Fort Johnson on James Island (within the mouth of Charleston Harbor) with **2c Brown Red (8)**, three large margins, slightly in at upper left and tiny pinhole, affixed partly overlapping 10c stamp, tied by “Charleston S.C. Sep. 24, 1864” circular datestamp, some minor soiling and stained spots

A FINE AND EXTRAORDINARY FLAG-OF-TRUCE AND INTRA-CITY FORWARDED USAGE WITH A RARE COMBINATION OF CONFEDERATE GENERAL ISSUES.

The letter is discreetly addressed to “Mr.” James C. Reynolds at Charleston. Reynolds was, in fact, a Lieutenant with the 1st S.C. Artillery stationed at Fort Johnson. The sender, who would have known his status, probably used a civilian salutation to evade Federal interception of correspondence with an active Confederate officer, and may have even known where he was stationed but used the less specific Charleston address for the same reason. The letter was mailed under flag-of-truce from Georgetown Washington D.C. to the Federal exchange point at Fortress Monroe inside another envelope with 3c U.S. postage, which was discarded. At Richmond the 10c C.S.A. stamp was tied by the Richmond circular datestamp and sent in the mails to Charleston. The Charleston post office did not recognize the addressee as a Confederate officer and advertised the letter, applying the “2” handstamp for the advertising fee. Lt. Reynolds likely sent the 2c fee, and, judging from a small pre-use pinhole in the 2c stamp, he probably pinned the stamp to his written directions to the Charleston post office. The “2” handstamp was obliterated with a grid and the 2c stamp was tied by the Charleston circular datestamp — the charge for forwarding postage being only 2c because of the local forwarding. The combination of the 2c Jackson to pay the local forwarding charge with the flag-of-truce routing and the advertised “2” marking on a cover from the North to a C.S.A. officer, disguised as a purely civilian letter, makes this a most extraordinary artifact of Civil War postal history and probably unique.

Ex Grant and Bogg. Discussed by Stanley B. Ashbrook in his *Special Service* (p. 154) and in *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* (Feb and May 1953). Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 92)
..... E. 3,000-4,000



166

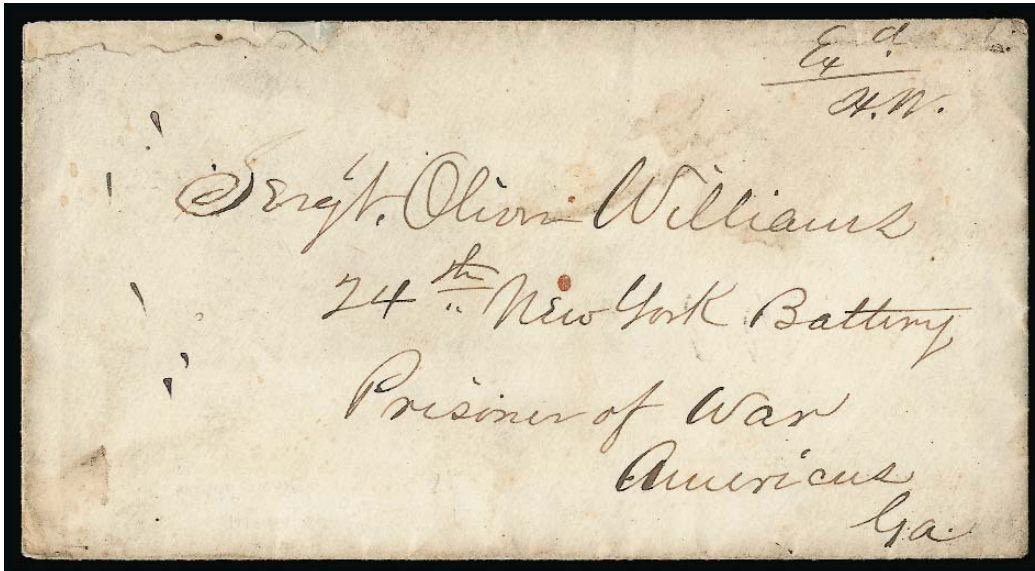
- 166 ☒ **Norfolk Va.** Civilian flag-of-truce entire from Union-controlled Norfolk Va. to Shady Grove Va., endorsed "By Flag of Truce" and "Via Richmond & Danville Va", mixed franking with U.S. postage to Old Point Comfort paid by **3c Pink on Buff entire (U35)**, cancelled by "Norfolk Va. Dec. 21 '63" circular datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, large to clear margins, tied by "Richmond Va. Jan. 1" circular datestamp, some wear and nicks, missing backflap, otherwise Very Fine, attractive across-the-lines cover sent entirely within Virginia.... E. 500-750



167

- 167 ☒ **Old Point Comfort Va.** Small inner civilian flag-of-truce cover to Prince George C.H. Va. (Richmond), docketed "Mrs. M. M. Shoemaker? Dec 4th. 63" manuscript "Examined John Cassel" censor marking of Union Captain and Provost Marshal at Fortress Monroe, **5c Cobalt, Local (7a)** overpays the 2c local rate, tied by "Richmond Va. Dec. 11, 1863" circular datestamp, mounting remnants on back, Very Fine, interesting overpaid usage, possibly from a female prisoner-of-war, ex Birkinbine..... E. 750-1,000

RICHMOND-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL
FEDERAL PRISONERS IN CONFEDERATE PRISONS

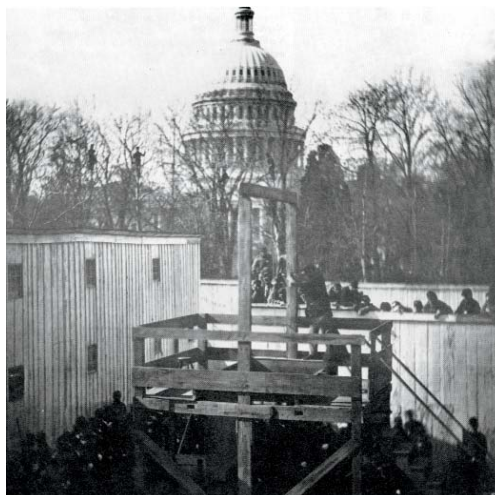


168

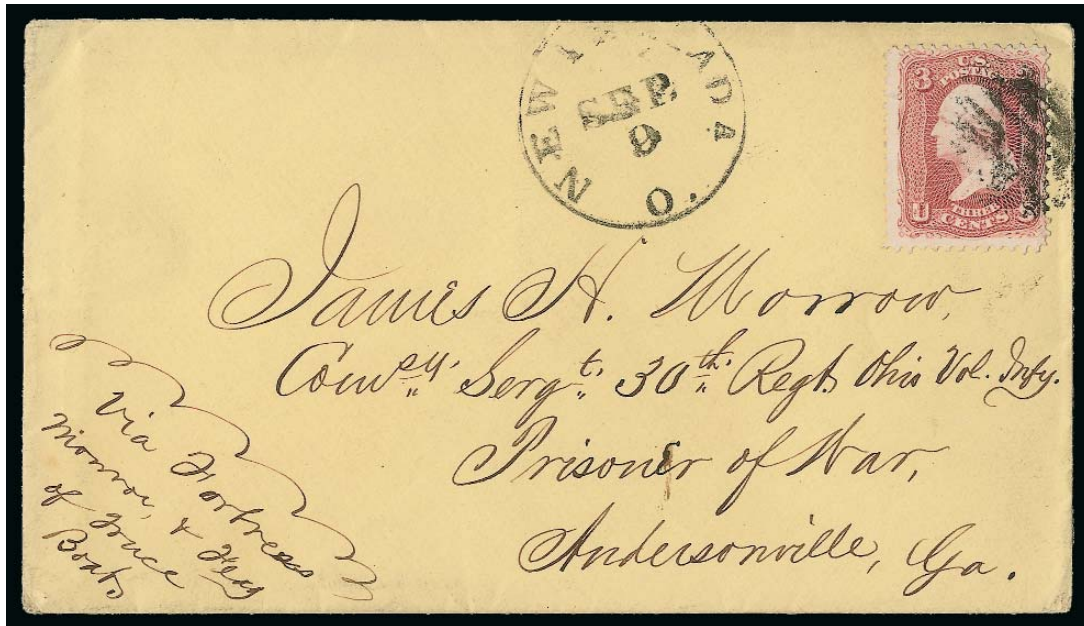
- 168 ☒ **Andersonville Prison, Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Inner cover to prisoner-of-war Sgt. Oliver Williams at "Americus Ga." with original letter datelined "Perry (N.Y.) June 17, 1864", censored "Exd H.W." by **Camp Commandant Capt. Henry H. Wirz**, some soiling and tears

A FINE APPEARING AND RARE HENRY WIRZ CENSORED COVER TO A PRISONER-OF-WAR AT ANDERSONVILLE. COVERS TO ANDERSONVILLE ARE RARE ENOUGH, BUT THE SURVIVAL OF A COVER AND LETTER TO A PRISONER WHO DIED AT ANDERSONVILLE IS EXTRAORDINARY.

Sgt. Oliver Williams was a member of the 24th New York Battery and was captured at Plymouth N.C. on April 20, 1864. The enclosed letter is from his wife Laura and contains a poignant and pleading request for him to write, asking that he have a fellow prisoner write if he is too ill to do so. She closes by asking him not to get down-hearted, to trust in Providence and to look forward to their meeting. One month later, on July 25, 1864, Sgt. Williams died at Andersonville. He is buried at the National Cemetery at the site..... E. 2,000-3,000



The hanging of Confederate prison camp commandant Henry Wirz in Washington D.C. on November 10, 1865

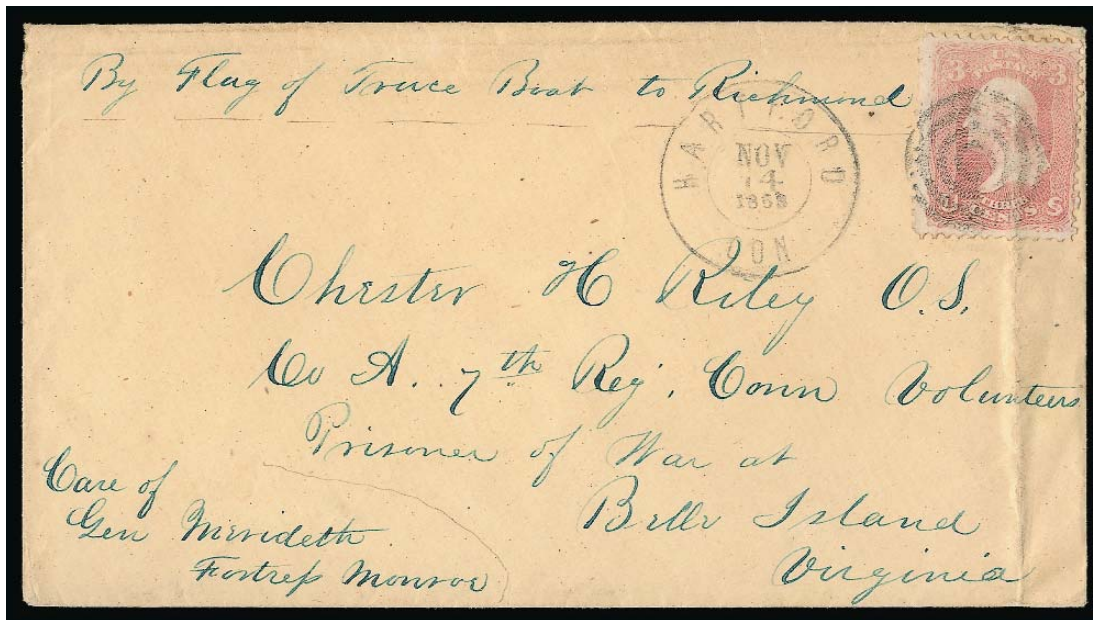


169

- 169 ☒ **Andersonville Prison, Ga. (Camp Sumter).** Cover from New Philadelphia O. to prisoner-of-war at Andersonville, endorsed "*Via Fortress Monroe, & flag of truce boat*", U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), tied by cork cancel, "New Philada. O. Sep. 9" circular datestamp, exchanged through Fortress Monroe and Richmond, forwarded to Georgia by military courier, no C.S.A. postage or markings as usual

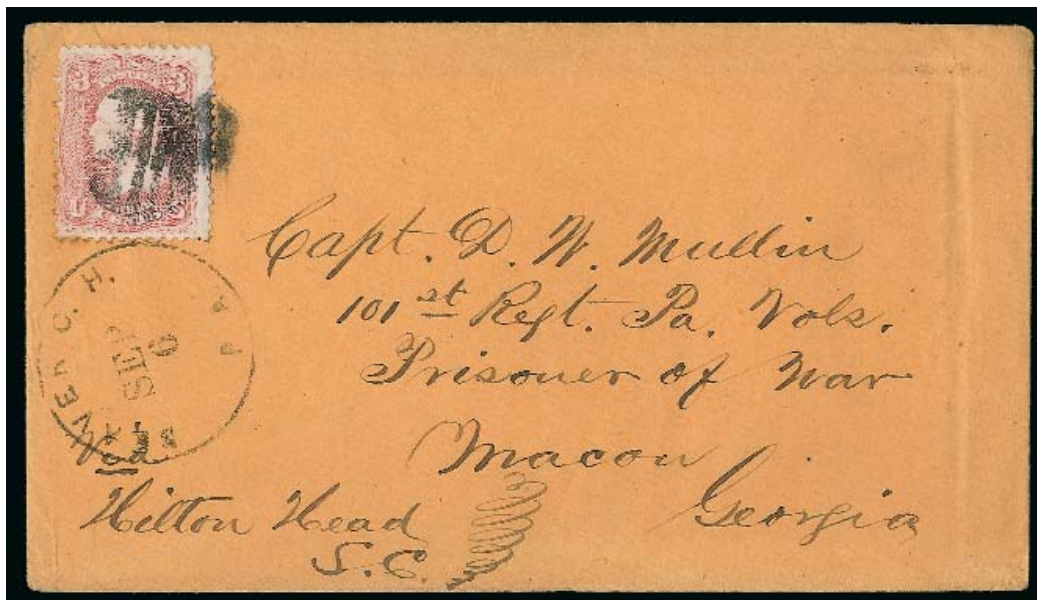
FRESH AND VERY FINE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER TO A UNION PRISONER AT ANDERSONVILLE.

Mail from the North to Union prisoners in Confederate prisons was normally carried via Old Point Comfort to the C.S.A. War Department in Richmond, where it was examined and then sent outside the C.S.A. postal system to the prisons via military courier. No Confederate postage or postmarks appear on this type of mail..... E. 1,500-2,000



170

- 170 ☒ **Belle Island Prison, Richmond Va.** Incoming cover from Hartford Conn. to Chester H. Riley, endorsed "By Flag of Truce Boat to Richmond", and "Care of Gen Merideth Fortress Monroe", 3c Rose (65) tied by target, pays U.S. postage to Old Point Comfort, "Hartford Conn Nov. 14, 1863" circular datestamp, no C.S.A. postage or due handstamps, file fold through 3c stamp, otherwise fresh, Very Fine and scarce incoming cover to Belle Island (Harrison records only eight covers), mail from the North to prisoners in Richmond was normally carried by the War Department rather than the Post Office Department, such mail lacks C.S.A. postage and markings, Chester H. Riley enlisted in Co. A, Conn. 7th Infantry Regiment, on Sep. 5, 1861, he died as a prisoner on Feb. 29, 1864, at Richmond, three months after receiving this cover..... E. 500-750



171

- 171 ☒ **Camp Oglethorpe for Officers, Macon Ga.** Buff cover to prisoner-of-war at Camp Oglethorpe, with original letter datelined "Beaver Pa. Sept. 6th 1864", 3c Rose (65) tied by cork, "Beaver C.H. Pa. Sep. 6" (1864) circular datestamp, endorsed "Via Hilton Head S.C." but routed through Old Point Comfort, no C.S.A. postage or markings as usual, contents refer to "Every thing now looks favorable for a general exchange at once. The papers announce it this morning as certain.", Very Fine, mail from the North to Union P.O.W.s in Confederate prisons was carried via Old Point Comfort to the C.S.A. War Department in Richmond, where it was examined and then sent outside the C.S.A. postal system to the prisons via military courier, Camp Oglethorpe for Officers was built in May 1864 and was the second Camp Oglethorpe Prison at Macon..... E. 500-750

RICHMOND-OLD POINT COMFORT
SOUTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL

CONFEDERATE PRISONERS IN FEDERAL PRISONS

Arranged by Federal prison



172



173

- 172 ☒ **Camp Chase, Columbus O.** Orange-buff prisoner-of-war cover to Bethania N.C., endorsed "Major Malford, Exchange Commishioner, Fortress Monroe" [sic] and "Via Old Point Comfort", bold strike of circular censor handstamp "Examined Camp Chase O" (Ty. Ic), mixed franking with **3c Rose (65)** tied by target and "Columbus O. Oct. 23" (1864) double-circle datestamp and **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Nov. 12" circular datestamp

FRESH AND VERY FINE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER SENT VIA THE OLD POINT COMFORT AND RICHMOND FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTE.

Camp Chase was first used from July 1861 to September 1862. It was reopened for prisoners in 1863 and remained in use until the end of the war. The prison population reached a peak of 9,000 in January 1865. Southbound mail entered the U.S. mails at nearby Columbus, and the C.S.A. mails at Norfolk, Petersburg or Richmond. One type of examined handstamp was used during the via Richmond period, with three sub-types. Lieutenant Colonel Poten assumed examination duty in November 1863 and initially used manuscript endorsements. The volume of mail, however, led to the creation of a handstamp in January 1864. When Poten was replaced in March 1864, the handstamp was modified by the removal of "Poten" from the device. It was further modified in August 1864 by the removal of additional letters, as in this example

Signed Dietz..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 173 ☒ **Camp Chase, Columbus O.** Orange-buff prisoner-of-war cover to Bethania N.C., endorsed "Major Malford Exchangeing Commishioner, Fortress Monroe Va," [sic] and "Via Flag of Truce", circular censor handstamp "Examined Camp Chase O" (Ty. Ic), mixed franking with **3c Rose** tied by target and "Richmond Va. Feb 22" (1864) circular datestamp, second strike ties **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, which is also tied by part strike of "Columbus O. Feb. 9" double-circle datestamp, some soiling and couple edge and backflap tears

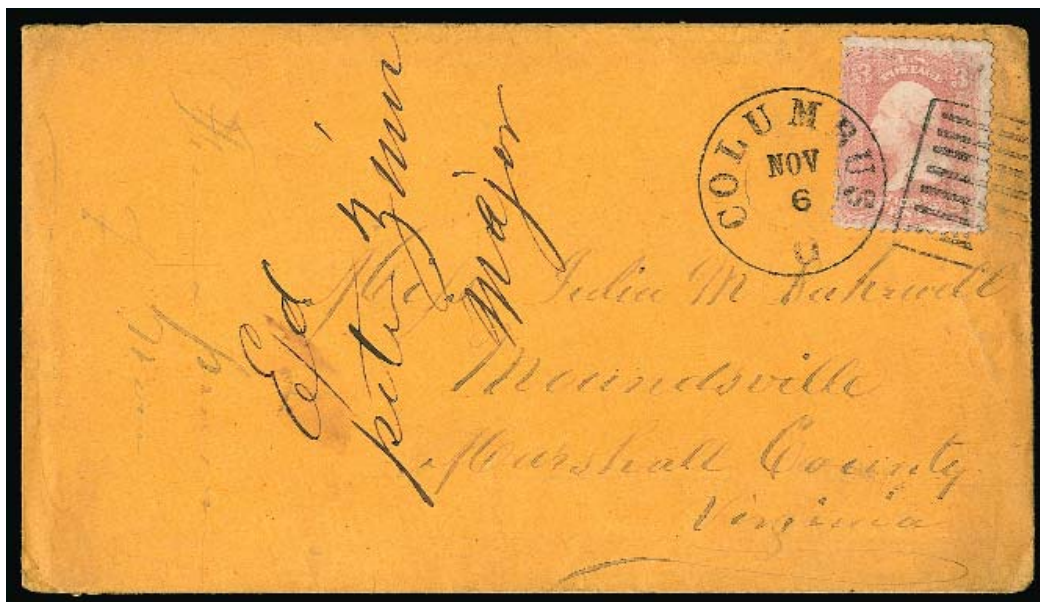
VERY FINE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM CAMP CHASE, SENT VIA THE OLD POINT COMFORT AND RICHMOND FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTE.

Ex Simon..... E. 1,500-2,000



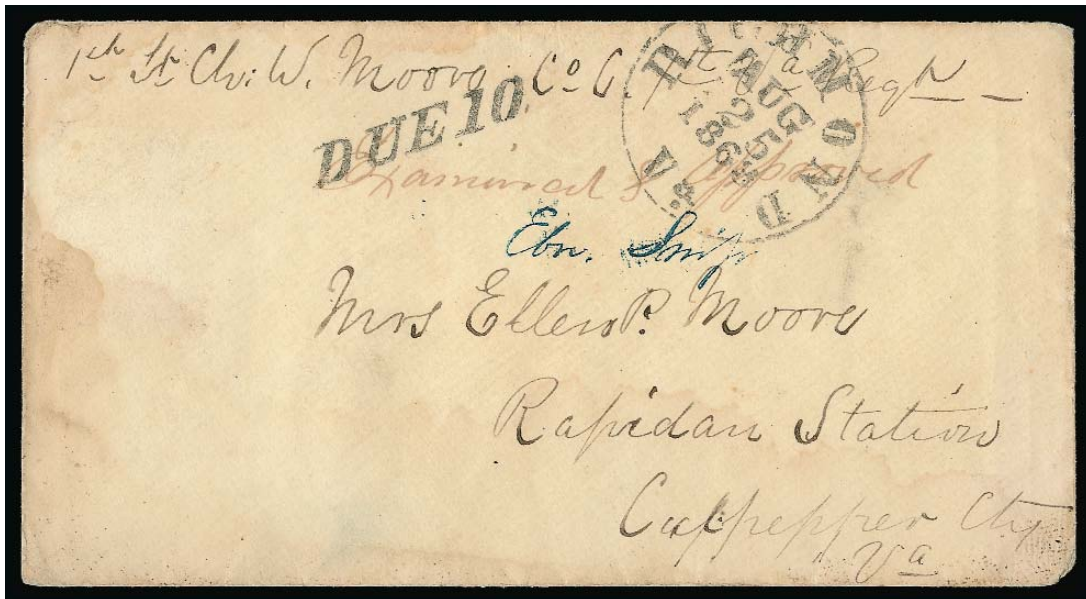
174

- 174 ☒ **Camp Chase, Columbus O.** Orange cover to Corinth Miss., endorsed "From a Prisoner of War", manuscript "Ex. & appd Kibbee" examiner's marking (known at Camp Chase April 1862, see Harrison p. 180), franked with **5c Green, Stone 1-2 (1)**, huge margins incl. sheet margin at top, small tear at bottom left, uncanceled and did not go through the mails, lower left corner of cover with endorsement "Urbanity of Mrs. Clark", small piece missing from backflap, Very Fine appearance, Mrs. Lottie Moon Clark was a C.S.A. sympathizer, mail runner, one-time love interest of Union General Ambrose Burnside and advocate for prisoners at Camp Chase, she was arrested carrying a group of P.O.W. letters from Camp Chase to Kentucky and the letters were confiscated, this is one of approximately 170 covers found in a storage room in Columbus O. in 1904, with 1985 C.S.A. certificate, accompanied by a short biography and a photocopy of a Mrs. Clark photograph..... E. 1,000-1,500



175

- 175 ☒ **Camp Chase, Columbus O.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Moundsville Va., endorsed "From a Prisoner of War", manuscript "Exd Pete Zinn Major", examiner's mark by **Camp Commander Major Peter Zinn** of the 88th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 3c Rose (65) tied by so-called prisoner bar grid and "Columbus O. Nov. 6" (1862) double-circle datestamp, no C.S.A. postage as Moundsville was under Union control (area now part of West Virginia), original contents include "this marks 144 days since I was taken for prison", Fine and desirable with camp commander censor marking E. 200-300



176

- 176 ☒ **U.S. General Hospital, Chester Pa.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover to Rapidan Station Va., soldier's endorsement at top, manuscript "Examined & Approved" with clear strike of blue "Ebn. Swift" handstamp, of Surgeon Ebenezer Swift (known August-September 1863), entered C.S.A. mails with unusually clear strike of "Richmond Va. Aug. 25, 1863" circular datestamp and "Due 10" straightline, cover with bit of water staining

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM THE U.S. GENERAL HOSPITAL AT CHESTER (NEAR GETTYSBURG) WITH A COMBINATION OF MANUSCRIPT AND HANDSTAMP CENSOR MARKINGS.

In the aftermath of the Battle of Gettysburg, as many as 2,000 wounded Confederate soldiers were taken to Chester Pa. for treatment. When well enough to leave, enlisted men were sent to Fortress Monroe for exchange, while officers were sent to Johnson's Island for confinement (Harrison p. 195). Fewer than ten covers are known to or from this hospital, while approximately three of the Swift handstamps are known. This cover with the combination of the handstamp and manuscript censor markings is a great rarity of Civil War postal history.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 235) E. 1,500-2,000



Confederate prisoners under Union guard in May 1862



177

- 177 ☒ **David's Island, DeCamp General Hospital, Pelham N.Y.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Mrs. Martha Bennett in Little Yadkin, N.C., original letter datelined "*David's Island NY Aug the 4th 1863*", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Milky Blue, Die A (11a)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Aug. 25, 1863" circular datestamp, and U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by target with matching "Pelham N.Y. Aug. 3" circular datestamp, cover with light soiling, 3c small perf faults

VERY FINE MIXED-FRANKING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM DAVID'S ISLAND PRISON IN NEW YORK. A RARE COVER, AS THE PRISON WAS OPEN FOR ONLY FOUR MONTHS TO HOLD CONFEDERATE PRISONERS CAPTURED IN THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

R. H. Bennett was captured on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg. He writes to his wife in the enclosed letter, "*I was wounded in the leg the 1st day of July at Gettysburg Penn. I reached this place the 25th. I am able to get about on crutches.*"

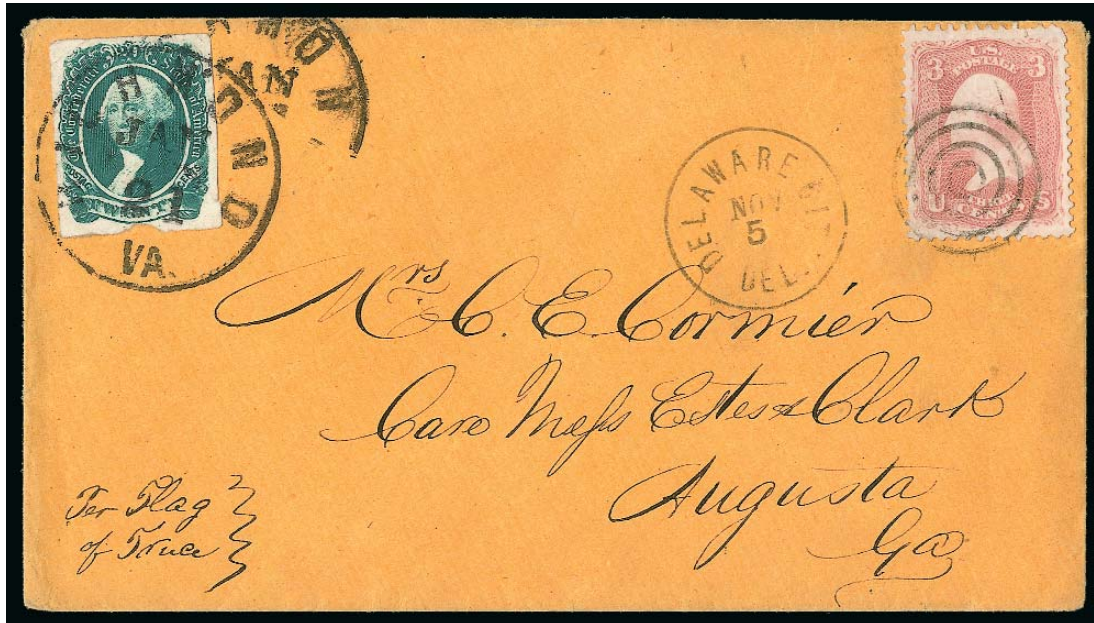
The May 8, 1862, New York Times contained a story about the new David's Island hospital: "A hospital for sick and wounded Union soldiers, will be established on David's Island, 25 miles up the East River. Suitable buildings are now in the course of erection under the superintendence of the United States Quartermaster's Department." From



Portals to Hell: Military Prisons of the Civil War by Lonnie Speer, "Until the Gettysburg battle, David's Island had served as a medical facility for only Union troops. Being a previously established and equipped facility surrounded by water, Union authorities saw it as an excellent place to hold extremely ill prisoners or those who were still suffering from battle wounds. Located in Long Island Sound just off the coast of what is today the New York suburb of New Rochelle, this eighty-acre site would eventually hold more than 2,500 Confederate prisoners at a time. The isle was a long, narrow stretch of land that contained twenty-

two temporary structures extending nearly the entire length of the island. Each building was divided into four wards that contained up to twenty cots each. A doctor's office was located in the front of each building and a toilet was at the rear. Mess halls were located between every two buildings. Whenever the population increased to more than 1,800 prisoners, tents were used for the overflow."

Ex Antrim (illustrated in his book, p. 72) and Simon..... E. 3,000-4,000



178

- 178 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Yellow prisoner-of-war cover to Augusta Ga., mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **20c Green (13)**, large margins except irregular at bottom, deep rich color, apparently overpaying 10c rate, tied by two strikes of "Richmond Va. Jan. 21" (1865) circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by target with matching "Delaware City Del. Nov. 5" (1864) circular datestamp, endorsed at bottom "Per Flag of Truce", 20c stamp with couple small tears

VERY FINE APPEARANCE AND AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER WITH THE 20-CENT GENERAL ISSUE. ONLY THREE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVERS ARE RECORDED WITH THE 20-CENT STAMP. ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WALSKE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COLLECTION.

Fort Delaware was first used to hold Confederate prisoners from July 1861 to September 1862. It re-opened as a prison camp in 1863 and remained in use until the end of the war. More than 12,000 prisoners were confined in the barracks during the war. Conditions were notoriously poor, with a mortality rate that exceeded 12.5 percent in October 1863. Southbound mail entered the U.S. mails at Delaware City and the C.S.A. mails at Petersburg or Richmond. A number of manuscript examined markings were used on outgoing mail from mid-1863 until November 1864. A handstamp was used from April to October 1864, a period of only seven months. Beginning around November 1864, examiner markings were no longer used on mail from this prison (Harrison, P. 107).

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 111) and *Special Routes* (p.72). Ex Myerson. With 1983 C.S.A. certificate..... E. 10,000-15,000



Fort Delaware Prison



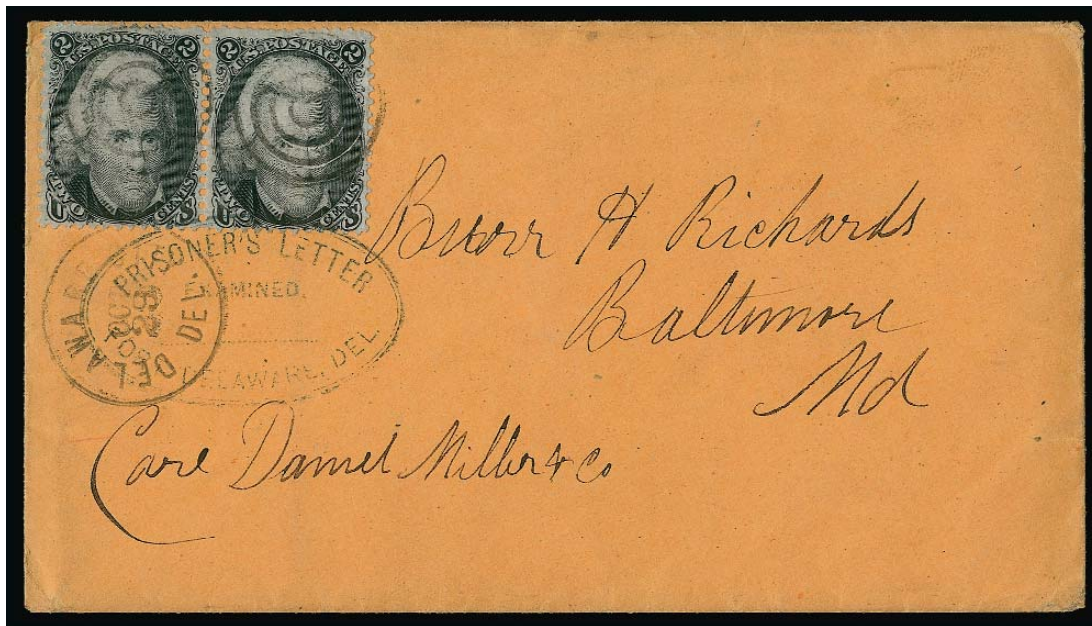
179

- 179 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Orange-buff prisoner-of-war cover to **St. John, New Brunswick**, endorsed at left "*T. J. Prichett*", cover unsealed for censor, "Prisoner's Letter, Fort Delaware, Del. Examined" censor's oval handstamp (Ty. I, known Apr.-Oct. 1864), **four singles of 3c Rose (65)**, one with natural s.e., overpay 10c rate to British North America by 2c, two stamps tied by target, three tied by strikes of "Delaware City Del. Oct. 10" (1864) circular datestamp, red "U States" cross-border handstamp and "St. John N.B. Oct. 14, 1864" receiving backstamp, with original letter from Capt. T. J. Prichett of the 64th Ga. Volunteers, regarding a request for money

FRESH AND EXTREMELY FINE. A SPECTACULAR PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER TO NEW BRUNSWICK, BRITISH NORTH AMERICA — ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED.

Thomas J. Prichett was commissioned as an officer in Company B, Georgia 64th Infantry Regiment, on April 8, 1863. His letter is addressed to R. R. Bearden, who was employed by the British firm of S. Isaac Campbell & Co., which supplied vast amounts of materials to the C.S.A. during the war. They also operated some of the most enterprising blockade-runners during the war, delivering loads of supplies to the C.S.A. and returning to Europe with cotton. Only a handful of prisoners' covers are known addressed beyond the United States — this is certainly among the most spectacular.

Ex Shenfield, Antrim and Simon. Illustrated in Antrim (p. 53) and Shenfield (p. 36).....
..... E. 7,500-10,000



180

- 180 ✉ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Baltimore Md. with original letter datelined "*Fort Delaware 34 Division Oct. 26th/64*", endorsed "*Care Daniel Miller & Co*", "Prisoner's Letter, Fort Delaware, Del. Examined" censor's oval handstamp (Ty. I, known Apr.-Oct. 1864), bearing **pair of 2c Black (73)**, well-centered, tied by censor handstamp as well as "Delaware City Del. Oct. 29" (1864) circular datestamp, right stamp cut by heavy strike of obliterator

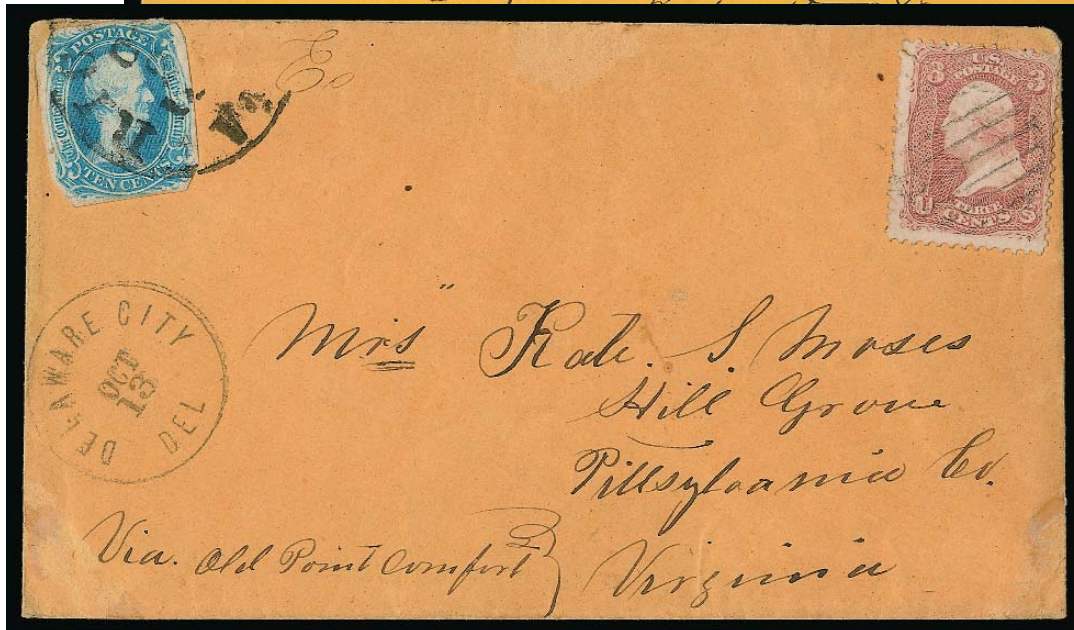
EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE AND SPECTACULAR PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FRANKED WITH A PAIR OF 2-CENT BLACK JACK STAMPS.

Prisoner-of-war covers with U.S. stamps nearly always bear a 3c 1861 stamp. Further, as prisoners' letters were limited to one sheet, overweight covers requiring multiples or creative combinations of different denominations to make up the rate are virtually unknown. There are several prisoner's covers known with a single 2c 1863 Black Jack used to pay drop postage or in combination with a 1c 1861 or 1c entire to pay the 3c rate. There are also a few covers known with a strip of three 1c 1861's. The use of a pair of 2c Black Jacks, overpaying the postage by 1c is very unusual and most striking.

Ex Simon. With 1964 P.F. certificate E. 4,000-5,000



181



182

- 181 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Jonesville Va. with original letter dated Sep. 8, 1864, from Lt. Elbert Woodward, cover endorsed "By flag of truce Fortress Monroe", "Prisoner's Letter, Fort Delaware, Del. Examined" oval handstamp (Ty. I, known Apr.-Oct. 1864), "Delaware City Del. Sep. 24" (1864) circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65) tied by circular grid, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, tiny pre-use tear, tied by "Richmond Va. Sep. 11" circular datestamp in error as it should have been "Oct. 11", small sealed tear on backflap

EXTREMELY FINE MIXED-FRANKING COVER FROM FORT DELAWARE VIA OLD POINT COMFORT AND RICHMOND. A BEAUTIFUL PRISONER'S FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER.

Elbert S. Woodward was an officer in Company F, Virginia 64th Infantry Regiment. He was described in Virginia Regimental records as 5 ft. 10 in., fair complexion, blue eyes, brown hair. He survived the war and died in 1900.

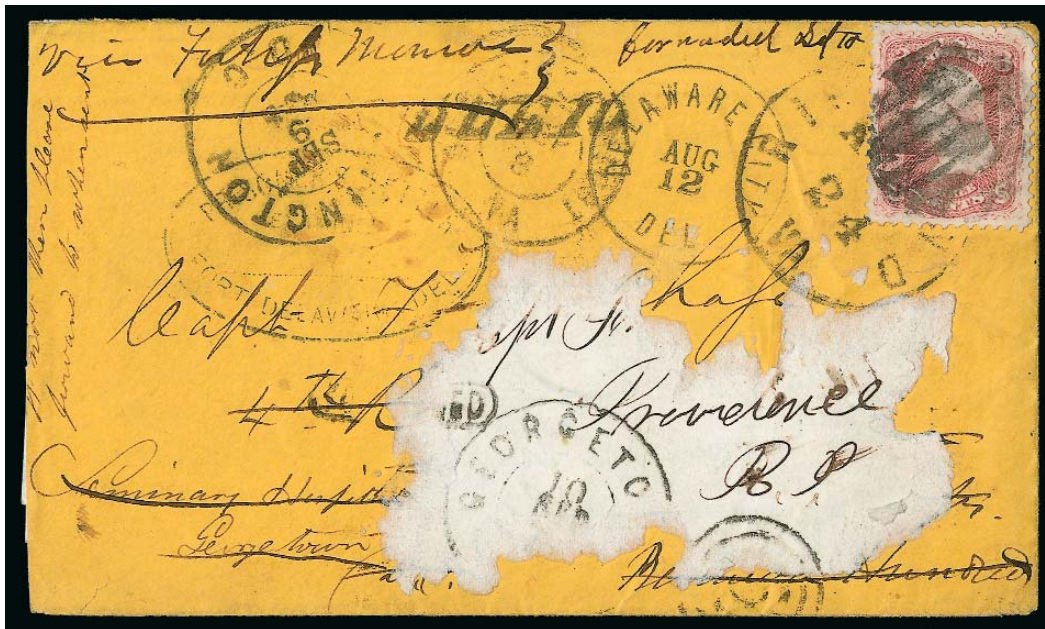
Ex Birkinbine E. 2,000-3,000

- 182 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Hill Gove Va. endorsed "Via Old Point Comfort", manuscript "Ex" censor marking, "Delaware City Del. Oct. 13" circular datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, "TEN" (9)**, cut to shape by sender but mostly clear all around, slight crease at top right from placement near edge of envelope, tied by "Richmond Va. Oct. 21, 1863" circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), long pre-use tear, cancelled by circular grid, cover with couple small scuffs and two small tears on back

FINE APPEARANCE AND EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE 10-CENT "TEN" GENERAL ISSUE ON A PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER. ONE OF ONLY TWO SUCH "TEN" USAGES KNOWN AND THE ONLY ONE ON A FULL COVER.

The other "TEN" prisoner-of-war usage is a cover front. Considering the relative condition, this cover is the more desirable of the two known.

Ex DuPuy. With 1980 P.F. certificate..... E. 1,500-2,000



183

- 183 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Yellow cover with original letter to a Northern officer wounded and captured at Petersburg Va., forwarded twice, crossed the lines twice and with a remarkable array of markings, endorsed "*Via Fortress Monroe*", censored with oval handstamp "Prisoner's Letter, Fort Delaware Del. Examined", 3c Rose (65) cancelled with Delaware City grid with matching "Delaware City Del. Aug. 12" (1864) circular datestamp, tied by "Richmond Va. Aug. 24" circular datestamp upon arrival, "Due 10" handstamp for C.S.A. postage, officer had been exchanged so forwarded back through Fortress Monroe and Old Point Comfort to Seminary Hospital in Georgetown, "Old Point Comfort Va. Sep. 8" double-circle datestamp applied on return trip along with cork killer on the adhesive, postmarked on arrival with "Washington D.C. Sep. 9 '64" double-circle datestamp, docketed on back "*Not in Seminary Hosp. Care of Med. director Washington D.C.*", label with forwarding address to Providence R.I. affixed due to lack of any more space on the cover, left Washington with "Georgetown D.C. 10 Sep." double-circle datestamp and "Forwarded" handstamp, forwarding label partly peeled off to reveal addresses below, some light soiling

A REMARKABLY WELL-TRAVELED FLAG-OF-TRUCE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER THAT CROSSED THE LINES TWICE.

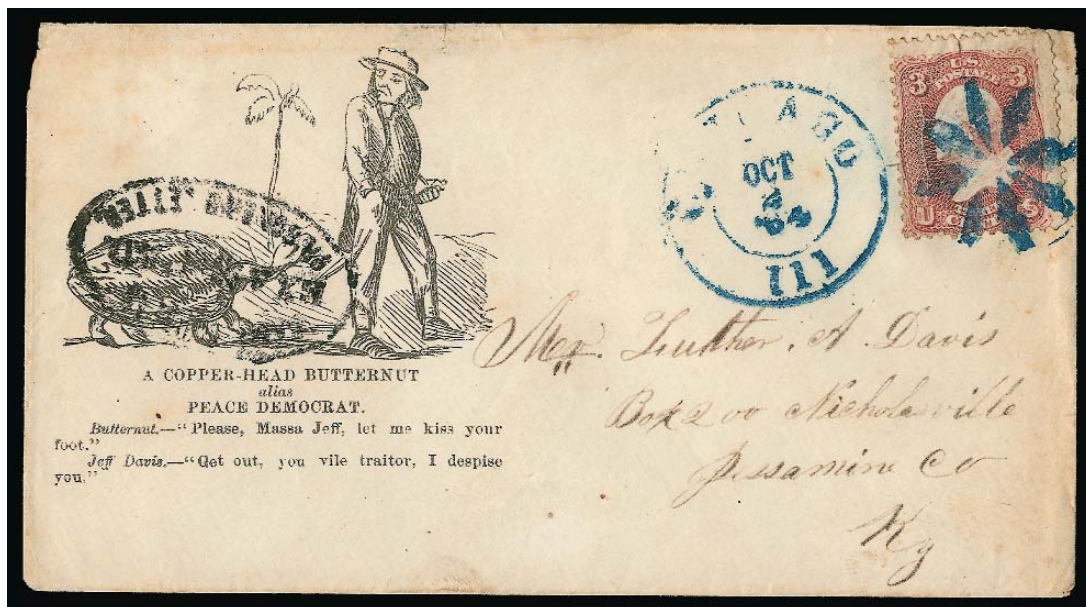
This cover was originally addressed to Capt. F. A. Chase, 4th Reg R.I. V., 1st Brig., 2nd Div., 9th Army Corps, Bermuda Hundred. It is not clear to us whether the writer was a Confederate soldier in prison at Fort Delaware or a Union soldier confined for some infraction. The contents of the letter make reference to capture and whom Capt. Chase should seek for assistance in Petersburg.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 99). Discussed in an article in the 1942 *American Philatelist* by Shenfield. Ex Birkinbine..... E. 1,500-2,000



184

- 184 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Buff cover from civilian prisoner to Lunenburg C.H. Va., manuscript "Examined Jno. Wilson" censor marking, mixed franking with 3c Rose (65) and 10c Blue, Die B (12), large margins incl. left sheet margin, 3c tied by blue grid, matching "Delaware City Del. Sep. 4" (1863) circular datestamp, 10c tied by "Richmond Va. Sep. 14, 1863" circular datestamp, minor toning in margin of 10c stamp and bit of cover edgewear, otherwise Very Fine, ex Keeling..... E. 1,000-1,500



185

- 185 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Union patriotic cover depicting a turtle following a man in front of a palm tree headlined "A Copper-Head Butternut alias Peace Democrat." sent by a prisoner-of-war to Nicholasville Ky., oval censor handstamp "Camp Douglas, Prisoner's Letter, Examined" (Ty. II), 3c Rose (65), pre-use tear, tied by blue 8-point star with matching "Chicago Ill. Oct. 2 '64" double-circle datestamp, some edgewear and small stain on back

VERY FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR USAGE OF AN ILLUSTRATED POLITICAL CARTOON COVER.

"Copperheads" was a derogatory term for a vocal group of northern Democrats who opposed the Civil War and pushed for a cessation of hostilities and a peace settlement with the Confederacy. This satirical design is rather scarce by itself. As a prisoner-of-war cover from a U.S. prison, it quite remarkable..... E. 2,000-3,000



186

- 186 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Homewood, Miss., endorsed "By flag of truce via New Orleans La and Mobile Ala", but sent through the normal route via Old Point Comfort and Richmond, "Camp Douglas, Prisoner's Letter, Examined" oval handstamp (Ty. I), U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by circle of wedges, "Chicago Ill. Dec. 15 '64" double-circle datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, large margins, tied by "Richmond Va. Jan. 17" (1865) circular datestamp, small sealed tear at top and into backflap

A BEAUTIFUL MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM CAMP DOUGLAS ENDORSED VIA NEW ORLEANS BUT ROUTED VIA OLD POINT COMFORT AND RICHMOND.

The flag-of-truce route via Union-occupied New Orleans and C.S.A.-controlled Mobile (across Lake Pontchartrain) was open from mid-1863 until August 1864. Its closure, due to the Federal naval occupation of Mobile Bay on August 23, 1864, was apparently unknown to the sender of this cover.

With 1992 C.S.A. certificate E. 1,500-2,000



187

- 187 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Cover from prisoner-of-war to the University of Virginia, "Camp Douglas, Prisoner's Letter, Examined" oval handstamp (Ty. I), U.S. postage to paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by blue grid and matching "Chicago Ill. Jan. 11 '64" double-circle datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Feb. 11" circular datestamp, 10c stamp with small repair at right, cover tear at top, Very Fine appearance, a desirable mixed-franking flag-of-truce cover sent via Old Point Comfort and Richmond E. 750-1,000



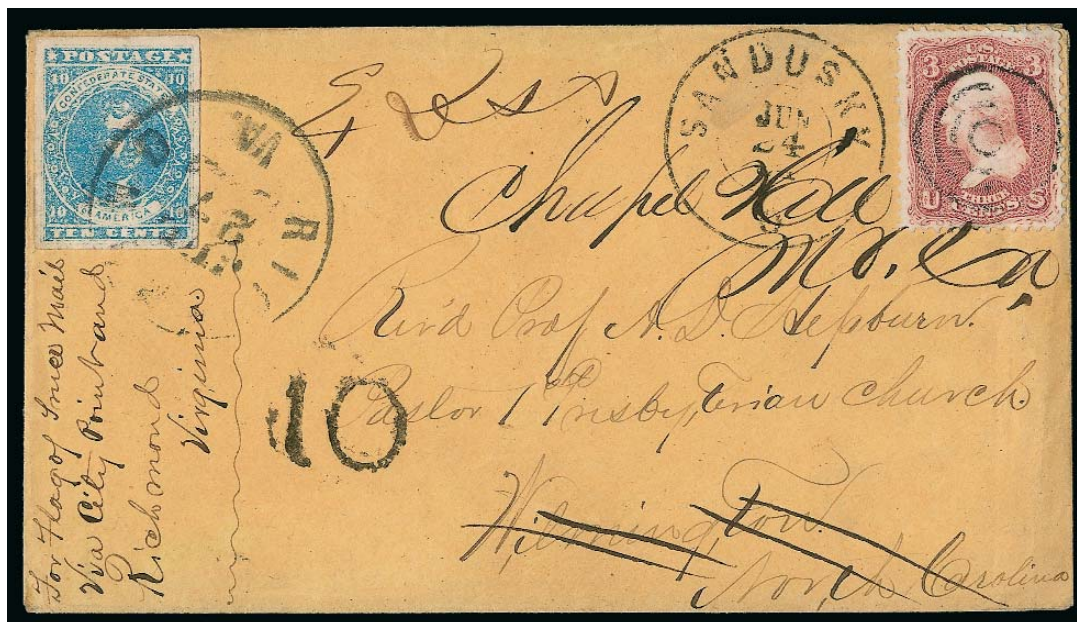
188

- 188 ☒ **Camp Douglas, Ill.** Inner envelope to Dawson Ga., endorsed "*Prisoners Letter*", neat circular examiner's handstamp (Ty. II), C.S.A. postage from Richmond paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, large margins, tied by "Richmond Va. Mar. 5" (1864) circular datestamp, fresh and Very Fine, this circular examiner's marking is considerably scarcer than the usual oval marking, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 228), with 1991 C.S.A. certificate E. 400-500



189

- 189 ☒ **Elmira Prison, N.Y.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Houstonville N.C., endorsed "*By Flag of Truce*", light strike of "Prisoner's Letter Elmira, N.Y. Examined" oval handstamp, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)** tied by "Elmira N.Y. Mar. 3, 1865" double-circle datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by with **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Mar. 15" (1865) circular datestamp, penmanship practice notations on back, slight reduction at left with top left corner clipped, still Fine and attractive mixed franking from Elmira E. 1,000-1,500



190

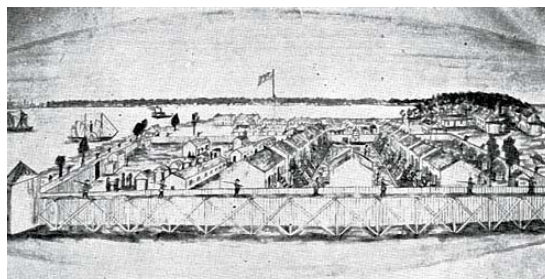
- 190 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Yellow cover with original letter datelined "Johnson's Island Sandusky City, June 23, 1864" from Lt. A. McFadyn, a prisoner-of-war, to the Pastor, 1st Presbyterian Church, Wilmington N.C., endorsed "For flag of truce mail via City Point and Richmond Virginia", mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, cancelled by target, "Sandusky O. Jun. 24" (1864) double-circle datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Paterson (2)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Jul. 27" (1864) circular datestamp, manuscript "Ex DSA" censor mark applied at Johnson's Island by DeAlva S. Alexander of the 128th Ohio Volunteers, forwarded to Chapel Hill, N.C. with "10" due handstamp, enclosed letter includes an unused sheet-margin 3c Rose (65) affixed to top of letter by its selvage, obviously for a return letter

EXTREMELY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN USE OF A CONFEDERATE 10c BLUE LITHOGRAPH ON A MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER. ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WALSKE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COLLECTION AND ONE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING CONFEDERATE GENERAL ISSUE COVERS EXTANT.

The sender, Lt. A. McFadyn, was a member of Company A of the 5th North Carolina Cavalry, Gordon's Brigade, Hampton's Division, J.E.B. Stuart's Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. His unit was engaged in numerous battles in 1864, including Cold Harbor in early June.

The Union prison at Johnson's Island began to receive prisoners on April 10, 1862, most of whom were commissioned officers. By the end of the war more than 15,000 prisoners had been housed at the prison. With only 246 deaths, Johnson's Island had the lowest death rate among all prisons, North and South (Harrison p. 188).

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in Antrim (p. 82) and *Special Routes* (p. 70). Accompanied by copy of Ashbrook photo with note "A Unique Cover" (original in our files).....
..... E. 10,000-15,000



Johnson's Island



191

- 191 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Envelope with pink interior from prisoner-of-war to Mebanville, N.C., endorsed "*Per Flag of Truce via Fortress Monroe*" at bottom, bold strike of "Prisoner's Letter, Johnsons Island O. Examined J.J." censor's oval handstamp (J. Jordan, known used from Mar. 20-22, 1865), U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)** tied by target, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Mar. 31" (1865) circular datestamp **on the last day of of the Confederate Post Office at Richmond**

EXTREMELY FINE. AN IMPORTANT FLAG-OF-TRUCE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER THAT PASSED THROUGH THE RICHMOND POST OFFICE ON THE LAST DAY OF CONFEDERATE OPERATION.

As late as March 31, 1865 mail continued to pass through the Confederate Richmond post office, including this cover en route to North Carolina. On April 1 and 2, Union forces had not yet occupied the city, but the post office was inactive. On April 2, Gen. Robert E. Lee and his forces evacuated Petersburg and Richmond. The following day, soon after dawn, Richmond's mayor, Joseph C. Mayo, delivered the following message to the commander of the Union forces waiting to enter the Confederate capital, "*The Army of the Confederate Government having abandoned the City of Richmond, I respectfully request that you will take possession of it with organized force, to preserve order and protect women and children and property.*" Lee surrendered the remainder of his army to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House six days later, on April 9.

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 234)..... E. 2,000-3,000

192

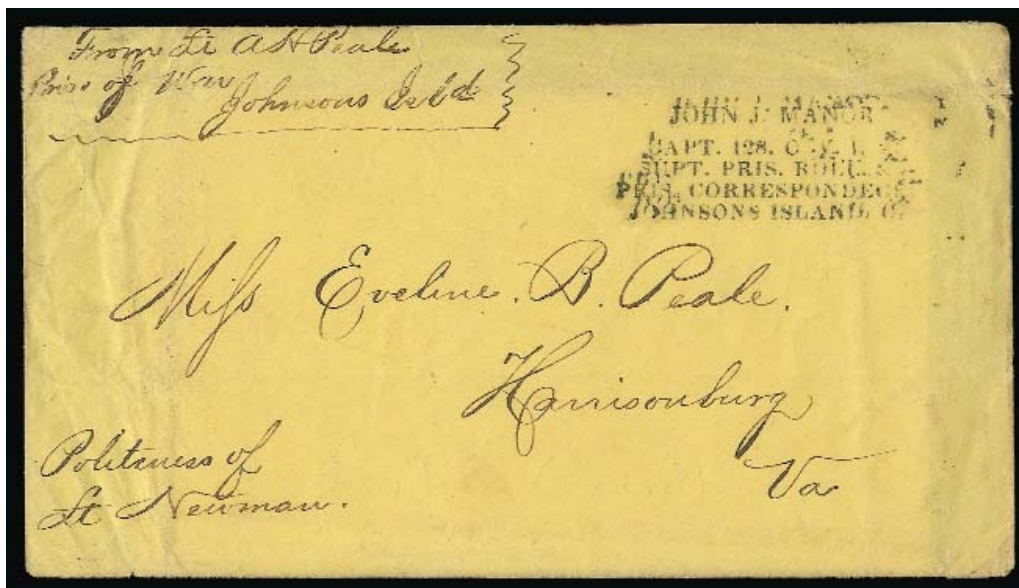


- 192 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Orange-buff cover from prisoner-of-war to Clarksville Va., prisoner's endorsement at top and "Via Fortress Monroe Flag of Truce Boat", manuscript "Examined R. Johnson" censor marking of Cpl. Rufus Johnson of the 128th Ohio Volunteers, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), C.S.A. postage paid by 10c Blue, Die B (12), ample to large margins, neatly tied together by "Richmond Va. Sep. 20, 1863" circular datestamp, 3c also tied by target, "Sandusky O. Sep. 10" double-circle datestamp, small ink spot at bottom left

FRESH AND EXTREMELY FINE MIXED-FRANKING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM SANDUSKY PRISON.

Ex Haas. With 1981 P.F. certificate E. 1,500-2,000

193



- 193 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Yellow 1865 cover from prisoner-of-war to Harrisonburg Va., prisoner's docketing and "Politeness of Lt Newman", original letter contains reference to handling "Will Capt. Manor please approve & hand to Lieut Newman who leaves on exchange", as such no postmarks or postage paid, censored with "John J. Manor/Capt. 128 O.V.I.&/Supt. Pris. ROLL.&/Pris. Correspondence./Johnsons Island. O." five line handstamp (Ty. II), Fine and scarce example of the Ty. II handstamp on a P.O.W. cover delivered outside the mails, this handstamp was in use only in 1865 and fewer than 30 examples are known..... E. 750-1,000

LT. COL. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LITTLE CORRESPONDENCE



Benjamin Franklin Little was appointed captain in Company E, North Carolina 52nd Infantry Regiment, on Apr. 28, 1862, and promoted to full lieutenant-colonel on July 3, 1863, the last day of the Battle of Gettysburg. During Pickett's Charge, Lt. Col. Little was severely wounded while leading his men and captured on the battlefield. After spending time at the Letterman Hospital at Gettysburg, he was transported on September 28 to West's Building Hospital in Baltimore, then to Ft. McHenry Prison on Oct. 22, 1863. Records show he was mustered out on Aug. 30, 1864, at Gettysburg.

The Little correspondence is well known, and some of it is preserved at the Greensboro Historical Archives. According to the archives' website:

"Benjamin Franklin Little was a planter and in the late 1850s married the former Mary Jean 'Flax' Reid, daughter of influential planter and politician Rufus Reid of Iredell County, North Carolina. After the outbreak of the Civil War, Little was appointed captain in the North Carolina Troops in March 1862 and in August of that year received his commission, which placed the company he commanded in the 52nd Regiment. At the battle of Gettysburg, Little was severely wounded, then captured by Union forces and hospitalized. His wound would subsequently require the amputation of his left arm, after which he was sent to prison in Maryland. In March 1864 he was paroled at Point Lookout, Maryland, and shortly thereafter exchanged at City Point, Virginia. A month later he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel to the Field and Staff of the 52nd Regiment, but by July he submitted his resignation due to reasons associated with his disability. Upon his release from service, Little returned to the family home, called Carlisle, to farming and other business ventures. In the last year of the war he became active in state politics and later served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1876. He died in July 1879."



194

- 194 ☒ **Gettysburg Pa., Letterman General Hospital.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover from Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Little to his wife in Little's Mills N.C., endorsed "*Flag of Truce from Prisoner of War*" at lower left, manuscript "*Examined, R. Bell Capt. & Prov. Mar.*" censor's mark, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by blue grid, matching "Gettysburg Pa. 1863 Sep. 17" double-circle datestamp also just ties the stamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, margins close, minor gum toning, tied by "Richmond Va. Sep. 25, 1863" circular datestamp

VERY FINE AND RARE MIXED-FRANKING COVER FROM THE PRISON HOSPITAL ESTABLISHED NEAR THE GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD AND SENT VIA FLAG-OF-TRUCE TO RICHMOND.

After the Battle of Gettysburg, approximately 22,000 soldiers of both armies required medical treatment, including thousands of wounded C.S.A. soldiers left behind as Lee began his retreat. Dr. Jonathan Letterman, Medical Director for Meade's Army, issued orders on July 5, 1863, to establish a general hospital in the Gettysburg area and to provide transportation and supplies. The site chosen for the vast hospital camp was on the Wolf Farm. The hospital was ready by mid-July and staffed with a small army of surgeons, nurses, cooks, quartermaster and supply clerks, while a detachment of infantry was detailed as camp guards. Less than 100 patients remained at Camp Letterman by Nov. 10, and it was closed a few weeks later. [Reference: National Park Service website at <http://www.nps.gov/archive/gett/getttour/sidebar/letterman.htm>]

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 235)..... E. 5,000-7,500

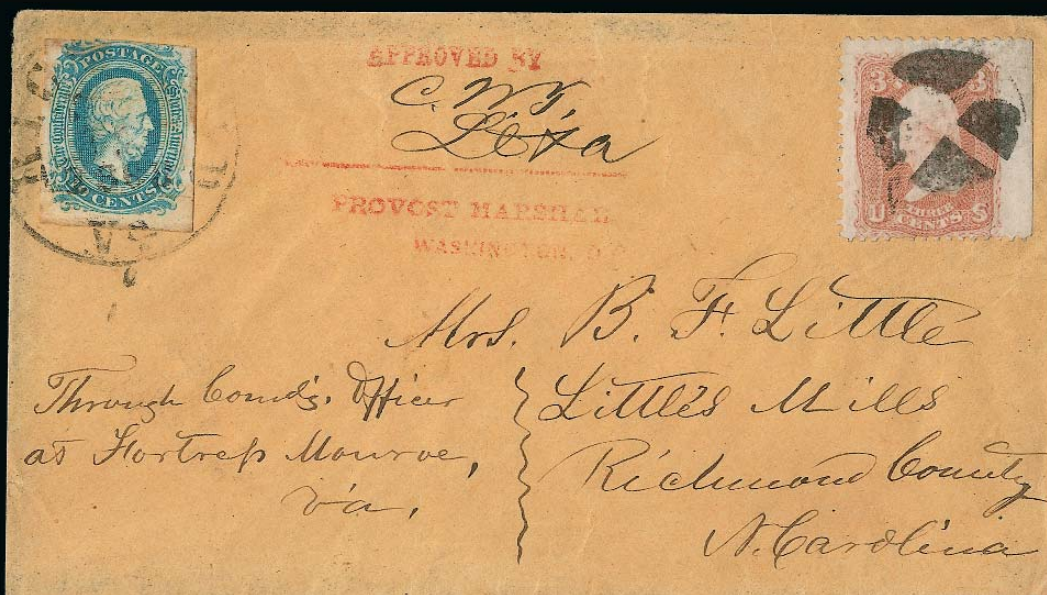
195



196



197



- 195 ☒ **West's Building Hospital, Baltimore Md.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover from Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Little to his wife in Little's Mills N.C., endorsed "*Flag of Truce — Prisoner of War.*", with prisoner's endorsement on back, U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, C.S.A. postage paid by **pair of 5c Blue, Local (7)**, all stamps tied by blue targets, matching "Baltimore Md. Sep. 30 '63" double-circle datestamp (second strike at left edge) and clear "Richmond Va. Oct. 5, 1863" circular datestamp also ties 5c pair, minor wrinkling, 5c pair with soiling and edge nicks

VERY FINE AND CHOICE. A GORGEOUS AND RARE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM WEST'S BUILDING HOSPITAL IN BALTIMORE IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

West's Building Hospital and Fort McHenry were used sparingly after the July 1863 Gettysburg campaign. Fort McHenry was principally used for prisoners in transit to other prisons, and West's Hospital cared for up to 250 wounded prisoners. Covers from either are scarce, with West's slightly rarer than Ft. McHenry. Only manuscript examined markings are known from these prisons, and they appear on only some of the mail. The principal identifying characteristic of southbound mail is a Baltimore, Maryland postmark and entry into the C.S.A. mails at Richmond. Distinguishing between the Fort McHenry and West's Hospital can sometimes be done by examined markings, or in the case of this cover, by prisoners' service records. E. 4,000-5,000

- 196 ☒ **West's Building Hospital, Baltimore Md.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover from Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Little to his wife in Little's Mills, N.C., endorsed "*Through Comd'g Officer at Fortress Monroe Flag of Truce.*", with prisoner's endorsement below, mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by blue grid with matching "Baltimore Md. Oct. 5" (1863) circular datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, tied by "Richmond Va. Oct. 20, 1863" circular datestamp

VERY FINE AND RARE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM WEST'S BUILDING HOSPITAL IN BALTIMORE. SENT BY A CONFEDERATE OFFICER WOUNDED IN PICKETT'S CHARGE DURING THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

West's Building Hospital and Fort McHenry were used sparingly after the July 1863 Gettysburg campaign. Fort McHenry was principally used for prisoners in transit to other prisons, and West's Hospital cared for up to 250 wounded prisoners. Covers from either are scarce, with West's slightly rarer than Ft. McHenry.

..... E. 3,000-4,000

- 197 ☒ **Fort McHenry Prison, Baltimore Md.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover from Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Little to his wife in Little's Mills N.C., originated at Ft. McHenry Prison, endorsed "*Through bond's officer at Fortress Monroe, Va.*", censored in transit at **Old Capitol Prison in Washington D.C.** by Lt. Charles W. Thompson with red "Approved by C.W.T. Lt. & A Provost Marshal, Washington D.C." examiner's handstamp (Ty. V) with the name in manuscript, endorsed on back "*from B. F. Little, Capt. Co. E. 52nd Regt. N.C. Infy*", mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, cancelled by quartered cork, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, three large margins to touched at top, pre-use crease, tied by "Richmond Va. Nov. 19, 1863" circular datestamp

VERY FINE AND RARE EXAMPLE OF A MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM FT. MCHENRY AND CENSORED AT OLD CAPITOL PRISON IN WASHINGTON. SENT BY A CONFEDERATE OFFICER WHO WAS WOUNDED IN PICKETT'S CHARGE DURING THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.



Old Capitol Prison

West's Building Hospital and Fort McHenry were used sparingly after the July 1863 Gettysburg campaign. Fort McHenry was principally used for prisoners in transit to other prisons, and West's Hospital cared for up to 250 wounded prisoners. Covers from either are scarce, with West's slightly rarer than Ft. McHenry. Only manuscript examined markings are known from these prisons, and they appear on only some of the mail. The red Provost Marshal markings are usually found on covers with either U.S. or Confederate postage, but normally not both.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 175)..... E. 3,000-4,000



198

- 198 ☒ **Fort McHenry, Baltimore Md.** Prisoner-of-war cover from Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Little to his wife in Little's Mills N.C., endorsed "Via Flag of Truce" and "Through Comd'g Officer at Fortress Monroe", with prisoner's endorsement below, manuscript "Ex Geo haul Ast Pa?" examiner's marking, mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by blue target with matching "Baltimore Md. Dec. 21 '63" double-circle datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, slightly cut in from placement at top of cover, tied by "Richmond Va. Jan. 1" (1864) circular datestamp, cover with small edge tears

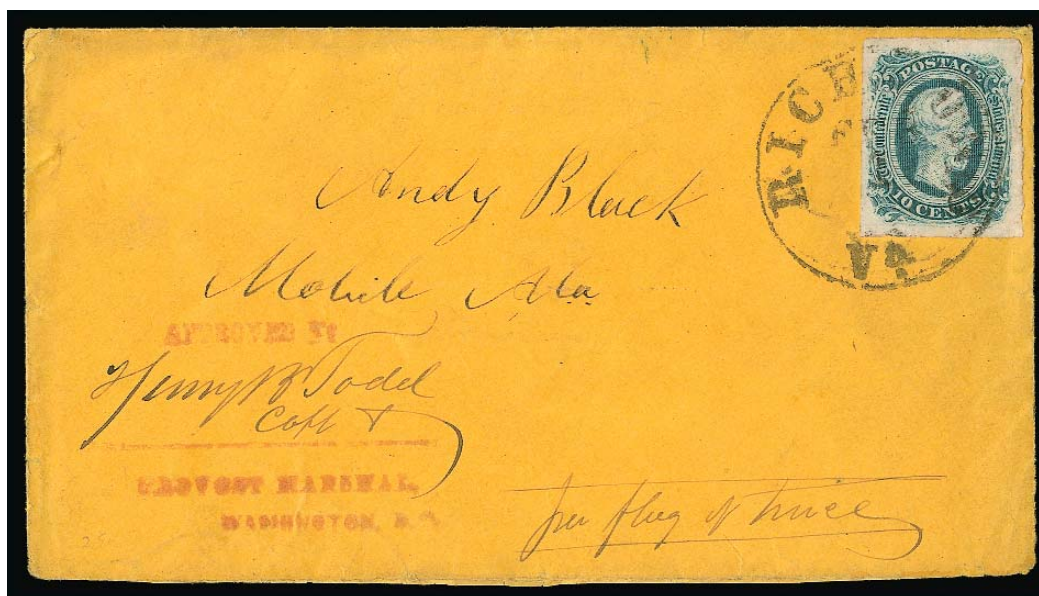
VERY FINE. A CHOICE MIXED-FRANKING PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM FORT McHENRY PRISON IN BALTIMORE.

West's Building Hospital and Fort McHenry were used sparingly after the July 1863 Gettysburg campaign. Fort McHenry was principally used for prisoners in transit to other prisons, and West's Hospital cared for up to 250 wounded prisoners. Covers from either are scarce, with West's slightly rarer than Ft. McHenry. Only manuscript examined markings are known from these prisons, and they appear on only some of the mail. The principal identifying characteristic of southbound mail is a Baltimore, Maryland postmark and entry into the C.S.A. mails at Richmond. Distinguishing between the Fort McHenry and West's Hospital can sometimes be done by examined markings, or in the case of this cover, by prisoners' service records. E. 3,000-4,000



199

- 199 ☒ **Fort McHenry, Baltimore Md.** Prisoner-of-war cover to a sergeant with 48th Ga. Regt., Wright's Brigade, at Richmond Va., prisoner's endorsement and manuscript examiner's mark "Ex" (with illegible initials), mixed franking with 3c Rose (65) and 10c Blue, Die A (11), large margins, tied by blue "Baltimore Md. Aug. 8 '64" double-circle datestamp and "Richmond Va. Aug. 26" circular datestamp, reduced at left just barely into endorsements, 3c has small piece torn and mended at top, Very Fine appearance, scarce prisoner-of-war cover from Fort McHenry E. 750-1,000



200

- 200 ☒ **Old Capitol Prison, Washington D.C.** Orange-buff inner prisoner-of-war cover to Mobile Ala., endorsed "per flag of truce", clear strike of red "Approved by Henry B. Todd Capt & Provost Marshal, Washington D.C." censor handstamp (Ty. V) with the name in manuscript, 10c Blue, Die B (12), large margins, tied by "Richmond Va. Feb. 1" (1864) circular datestamp, Very Fine and choice, Old Capitol Prison and the adjacent Carroll Prison were first used in July 1861 and continued to hold prisoners from 1863 until August 1865, mail was processed through Washington although most surviving covers are inner envelopes with only C.S.A. frankings and postal markings, during the via Richmond period mail was examined at the prison or the provost marshal's office, and five types of handstamped censor markings are known, the Ty. V seen here is known on fewer than 30 covers, ex MacBride E. 1,000-1,500

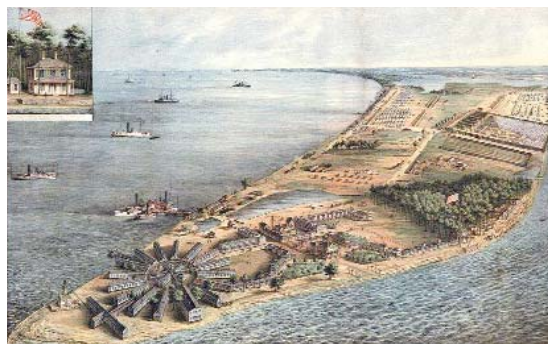


201

- 201 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Homemade cover from prisoner-of-war to Laurel Branch, N.C., endorsed "By Flag of Truce", partly clear large oval "Approved J. N. Patterson Capt. & Provost Marshal Point Lookout, Md." handstamp (Ty. 1), U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), cancelled by open grid, "Point Lookout Md. Mar. 29" (1864) circular datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by two 5c Blue, Local (7), ample margins, both tied by "Richmond Va. Apr. 9" circular datestamp, cover slightly worn and nicked at bottom edge

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. UNUSUAL MIXED FRANKING ON A PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM POINT LOOKOUT THROUGH OLD POINT COMFORT AND RICHMOND.

A description of Point Lookout Prison can be found at the William L. Clements Library website (<http://www.clements.umich.edu/Webguides/Schoff/NP/Point.html>): "The Point Lookout Prison was built on the tip of the peninsula where the Potomac River joins Chesapeake Bay. In the two years during which the camp was in operation, August 1863 to June 1865, Point Lookout overflowed with inmates, surpassing its intended capacity of 10,000 to a population numbering between 12,500 and 20,000. In all, over 50,000 men, both military and civilian, were held prisoner there. G. W. Jones, a private of Co. H, 24th Virginia Cavalry, described his ominous entrance into the prison amidst 'a pile of coffins for dead rebels,' hearing the lid close shut on his own soon thereafter when he learned that the system of prisoner exchanges had been suspended. Prisoners, who lived sixteen or more to a tent, were subjected to habitually short rations and limited fire wood in winter, and when the coffee ration was suspended for federal prisoners at Andersonville, the Point Lookout prisoners lost theirs as well. The flat topography, sandy soil, and an elevation barely above high tide led to poor drainage, and the area was subjected to every imaginable extreme of weather, from blazing heat to bone-chilling cold. Polluted water exacerbated the problems of inadequate food, clothing, fuel, housing, and medical care, and as a result, approximately 4,000 prisoners died there over 22 months."..... E. 2,000-3,000



Point Lookout Prison



202

- 202 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Homemade cover from prisoner-of-war to his wife in Union-occupied New Bern N.C., with original letter datelined "*Point Lookout. M.D. July the 29, 1864*", "Prisoner's Letter Examined" octagonal censor's handstamp (Ty. IIa), 3c Rose (65) tied by target, "Point Lookout Md. Aug. 2 '64" double-circle datestamp, "Richmond Va. Aug. 17" circular datestamp and "Due 10" handstamp for C.S.A. postage, manuscript "*Examined S.G.S.*" of 1st Lt. Samuel G. Schenck, 67th N.C. Infantry and sent by **flag-of-truce from Goldsboro N.C. to New Bern**, undeliverable, "**Approved/T. T. Lawson/Chief Prov. Marshal/Dist. of N.C.**" circular handstamp applied at New Bern, additional "ADVERTISED" straightline in oval, "Sep. 9" datestamp and manuscript "*Due 4*" (3c plus 1c advertised fee), slight wear

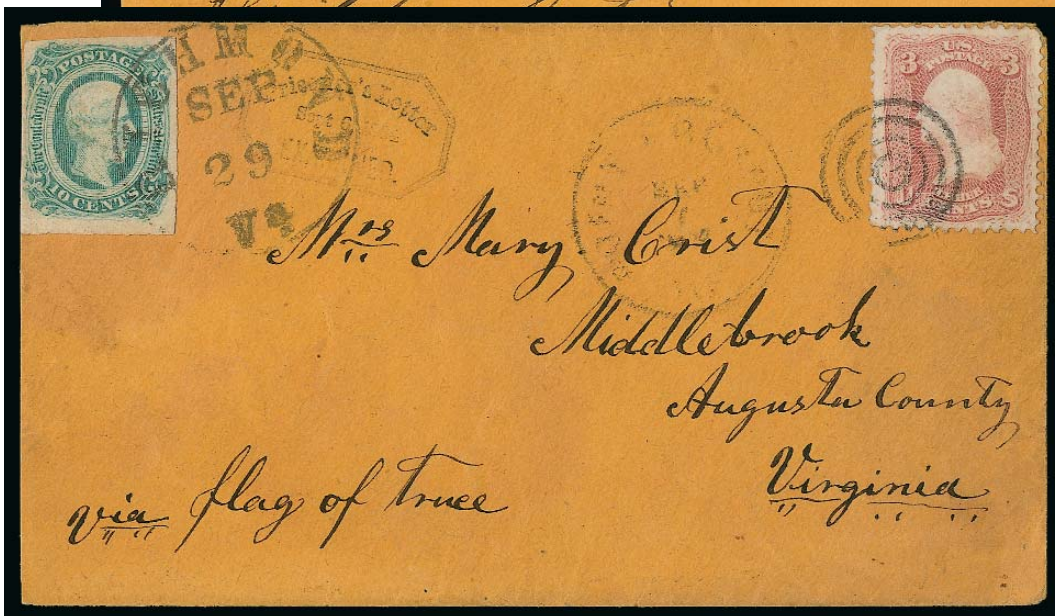
A REMARKABLE COMBINATION OF MARKINGS ON A "DOUBLE" FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT ACROSS THE LINES TO RICHMOND AND THEN ACROSS AGAIN TO UNION-OCCUPIED NEW BERN.

This cover is noteworthy in several respects. It crossed the lines twice via flag-of-truce in order to reach Union-occupied New Bern. In addition, the Lawson Provost Marshal handstamp is extremely rare and the advertising for an undeliverable prisoner's letter is quite unusual.

Point Lookout (Camp Hoffman) was established shortly after the July 1863 Gettysburg campaign and was designed to hold 10,000 prisoners. From August to December 1863, outgoing P.O.W. mail was examined at the camp and then forwarded to Washington D.C. for entry into the U.S. mails. Starting in January 1864, outgoing P.O.W. mail was posted at Point Lookout. All of its mail entered the C.S.A. mails at Richmond. More than 250 surviving covers and 2,000 fronts are known. A number of manuscript examined markings were used, as well as two types of handstamped manuscript markings.....

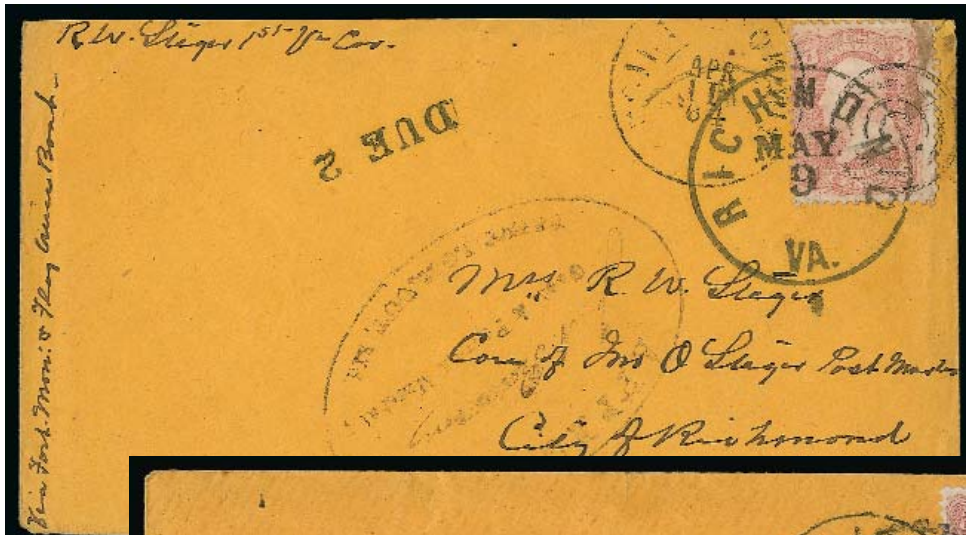
E. 1,500-2,000

203



204

- 203 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Milboro Springs Va., endorsed “*Via Fortress Monroe Flag of Truce Boat*”, “Prisoner’s Letter Examined.” octagonal censor’s handstamp (Ty. IIa), mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, cancelled by target and matching “Point Lookout Md. Aug. 5 ‘64” circular datestamp which ties **pair 5c Blue, Local (7)**, also tied by overlapping “Richmond Va. Aug. 12” circular datestamp
EXTREMELY FINE. A FRESH POINT LOOKOUT MIXED-FRANKING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT THROUGH OLD POINT COMFORT AND RICHMOND.
Illustrated in Antrim (p. 77) E. 1,500-2,000
- 204 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Buff prisoner-of-war cover to Middlebrook Va., original letter datelined “*Prisoners Camp, Point Lookout Md, Sept 5th/64*”, endorsed “*Via flag of truce*”, “Prisoner’s Letter Examined Sept. 6, 1864” octagonal censor’s handstamp (Ty. IIb), mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, tied by target and matching “Point Lookout Md. Sep. 7 ‘64” circular datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, large margins, tied by “Richmond Va. Sep. 29” circular datestamp
EXTREMELY FINE. A GORGEOUS POINT LOOKOUT MIXED-FRANKING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER AND LETTER WITH THE RARE DATED CENSOR MARKING
The Ty. IIb censor marking is the rarest of the Point Lookout markings (used for approximately one month, Aug-Sep. 1864). In the enclosed letter, Ezra Thomas Crist instructs his mother on how to send letters: “*Direct to me prisoner of war Company E. 7th Division Point Lookout Maryland via flag of truce. You can pay the postage with a bit of silver by sending it to Richmond...*”
Ex Birkinbine. With 1996 P.F. certificate E. 2,000-3,000



205



206



207

- 205 ☒ **Point Lookout, Md.** Buff cover to Richmond Va., endorsed "Via Fort. Monroe & Flag Truce Boat" and "R.W. Steger 1st Va. Cav", examiner's large oval handstamp "Approved Point Lookout, Md. J. N. Patterson Capt & Provost Marshal" (Ty. 1), 3c Rose (65) tied by target and "Point Lookout Md. Apr. 11 '64" double-circle datestamp, also tied by "Richmond Va. May 9" circular datestamp, with "DUE 2" drop letter rate handstamp, ink stain on stamp, otherwise Very Fine, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 231)..... E. 500-750
- 206 ☒ **Rock Island Barracks, Ill.** Buff cover to Edgefield S.C., clear strike of large circular examiner's handstamp (Ty. 1b), 3c Rose (65) cancelled by target and tied by "Rock Island Ill. Feb. 29 '64" double-circle datestamp and "Richmond Va. Mar. 18" circular datestamp, "Due 10" handstamp for C.S.A. postage, Very Fine, with 1983 P.F. certificate E. 200-300
- 207 ☒ **Fort Warren, Boston Mass.** Prisoner cover to a "Miss Wallis" in Baltimore, 3c Rose (65) tied by "Paid" in frame, red "Boston Mass. May 27" circular datestamp, Fine, Fort Warren was first used in November 1861 for the incarceration of political prisoners and also held some C.S.A. prisoners E. 200-300

FLAG-OF-TRUCE MAIL VIA POCOTALIGO-PORT ROYAL

On November 7, 1861, Federal forces captured the Hilton Head-Port Royal coastal region of southeastern South Carolina. Five months later, on April 11, 1862, the U.S. occupied Fort Pulaski in the harbor of nearby Savannah, Georgia. These actions placed U.S. and C.S.A. forces in close proximity, with the C.S.A. retaining control of the Charleston-Savannah railroad. This resulted in military flag-of-truce exchanges between U.S.-controlled Port Royal and C.S.A.-controlled Pocotaligo, South Carolina, on the Savannah-Charleston railroad. This flag-of-truce route was closed by the Federal capture of Pocotaligo on January 14, 1865. Surviving covers suggest that flag-of-truce mail began to be carried on this route in August 1863. U.S. prisons in Georgia or South Carolina sent all of their southbound mail by this route, and other U.S. prisons would sometimes send mail addressed to South Carolina or Georgia by this route (such as Johnson's Island). Flag-of-truce mail via South Carolina is considerably rarer than flag-of-truce mail via Virginia. Most surviving covers are inner envelopes, but some mixed-franking covers are known. Initially, southbound mail was processed and postmarked at Pocotaligo, but as mail volumes increased, the mail was taken to either Charleston or Savannah for processing. Rarely, southbound mail addressed to Georgia from U.S. prisons would be forwarded from Pocotaligo to Augusta for entry into the C.S.A. mails.



NORTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



208

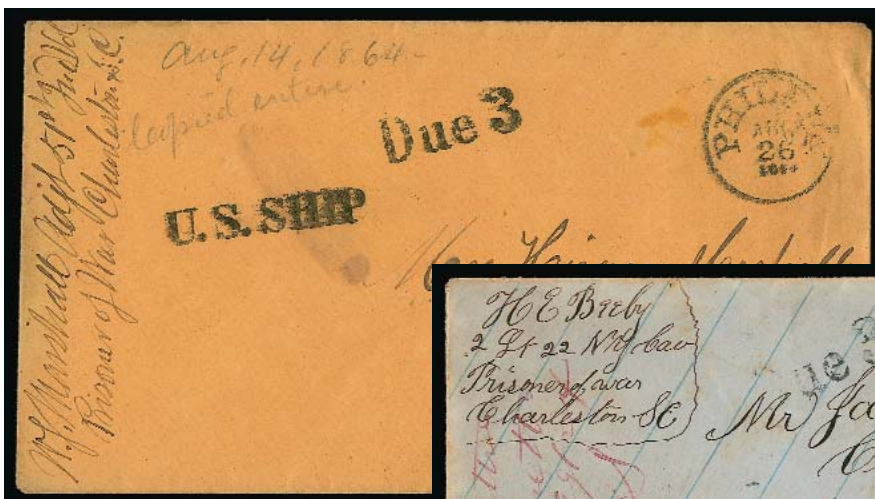
- 208 ☒ **Camp Davidson, Savannah Ga.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Fall River Wis., endorsed "Sent by Capt M.C. Hobart, Prisoner of War, Savannah Ga." and "Via Flag of Truce", manuscript "Ex JH aag" (known Aug. 1864), mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, tied by Savannah circular datestamp, used with **3c Rose (65)**, tied by target and "Port Royal S.C. Sep. 5 '64" double-circle datestamp where it entered the U.S. mails, mended tear through cover and 10c stamp, some light staining at bottom and small backflap tear

VERY FINE APPEARING AND RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM CAMP DAVIDSON SENT VIA POCOTALIGO AND PORT ROYAL. APPROXIMATELY SIX ARE KNOWN.

Martin C. Hobart was 25 years of age when he enlisted in Company B, Wisconsin 7th Infantry Regiment (part of the famous "Iron Brigade") in 1861. Promoted to full colonel by the end of the war, he survived the war and prison and was mustered out on July 3, 1865. Camp Davidson, named for its first commander, was created from the old U.S. Marine Hospital to house Union commissioned officers in August 1864. Conditions were considered among the best of C.S.A. prisons, with shade and decent rations (Harrison p. 32). When the camp was liberated by Gen. Sherman in December 1864 after only five months of operation, it held 800 prisoners.

From July 1864 until February 1865, Union P.O.W. mail from Charleston, Savannah and Florence prisons was carried from Pocotaligo S.C. (on the Charleston & Savannah R.R. line) to Union-held Port Royal, S.C.

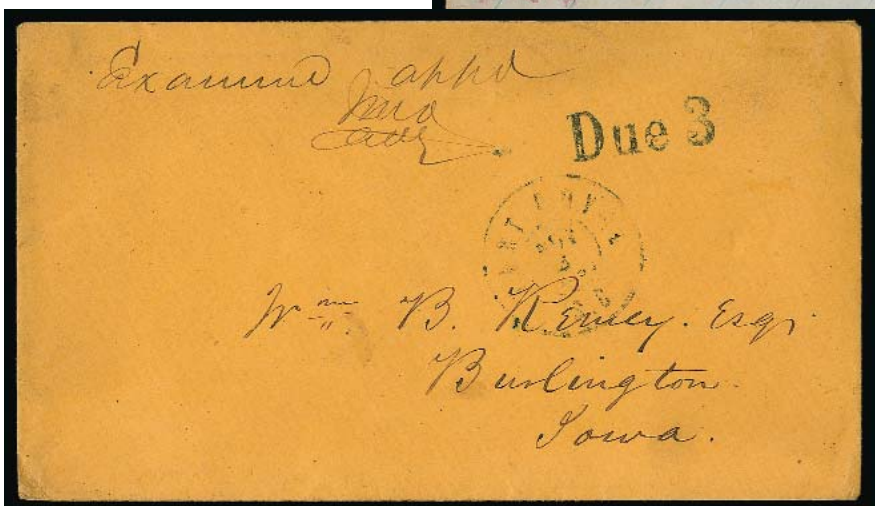
Ex Antrim. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 77) E. 2,000-3,000



209



210



211

- 209 ☒ **Charleston S.C.** Buff cover to Jeffersonville Ind., endorsed "W. J. Marshall Adj 51st Ind. Vol., Prisoner of War Charleston S.C.", carried by **U.S. Naval ship directly from flag-of-truce exchange point**, entered U.S. mails with "Philada. Aug. 26, 1864" circular datestamp with "U.S. Ship" and "Due 3" straightline handstamps, Very Fine and choice, an unusual cover sent **via Pocotaligo and Port Royal, then direct to Philadelphia**, Sgt. Marshall was captured at Rowe Gap on May 3, 1863, he was at Libby Prison from May 13, 1863 to May 6, 1864, Danville Prison from May 7, 1864, and was later known to be at Camp Asylum, this cover could be a Camp Asylum usage in transit through Charleston or from Charleston itself (very scarce either way), illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 75)..... E. 1,000-1,500
- 210 ☒ **Charleston S.C.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover made from ruled note paper, with original letter datelined "C.S. Prison Charleston S.C. Oct 5" endorsed "H E Beeby 2 Lt 22 NY Cav Prisoner of war Charleston SC", censored with manuscript "Exd" (Capt. Hugh Hamilton Rogers, Provost Marshal's Office, Charleston), also endorsed "Soldier letter WT Bennett Lt. Col. & agt ex", entered U.S. mails with "Port Royal S.C. Nov. 13, 1864" double-circle datestamp and "Due 3" rate for soldier letter, writer notes "my health never was any better. . . I am very fleshy, corn bread agrees with me very well. I would recommend it for some of the invalids in our section a very good thing it is.", minor age spotting, Very Fine and scarce flag-of-truce P.O.W. cover routed via Pocotaligo and Port Royal..... E. 500-750
- 211 ☒ **Charleston S.C.** Buff prisoner-of-war inner cover to Burlington Iowa, manuscript "Examined appd JMA aag" censor mark, known used in Nov. 1864 (Harrison p. 45), entered U.S. mails with "Port Royal S.C. Nov. 3, 1864" double-circle datestamp and "Due 3" handstamp, fresh and Very Fine, a scarce flag-of-truce cover sent via Pocotaligo and Port Royal E. 500-750



212

- 212 ☒ **Rickersville Hospital, Charleston S.C.** Prisoner-of-war inner cover, with original letter datelined "Charleston S.C. Aug 31 1864, to Washington Pa., prisoner's endorsement at top and "By Flag of Truce via Charleston & Port Royal" at bottom, manuscript censor mark "Ex. J.T.P.", entered U.S. mails with unusually clear "Port Royal S.C. Sep. 5, 1864" double-circle datestamp and "Due 3" handstamp, couple insignificant light stains and minor edgewear

VERY FINE. A RARE P.O.W. COVER FROM RICKERSVILLE HOSPITAL SENT BY FLAG-OF-TRUCE VIA POCOTALIGO AND PORT ROYAL. ONLY FOUR COVERS ARE KNOWN FROM THIS HOSPITAL.

All the covers definitively known to come from Rickersville are from Lt. Oliver R. McNary, a member of Co. E of the 12th Pa. Volunteers (see lot 130 for a related cover). McNary was captured on April 20, 1864 at Plymouth N.C., taken to Andersonville where he attempted to escape, then to Macon from where he did escape on July 30. He was recaptured on August 17, injured during his flight and taken to Rickersville Hospital on August 21. The enclosed letter states, "... (brought) to this place from Macon Geo last week. At present am in the 1st South Carolina Hospital. . ." He was then moved to Annapolis Hospital on December 4 and finally paroled. A lengthy article on the McNary correspondence can be found in the *Confederate Philatelist* (Oct. 1961).

Ex Simon..... E. 1,500-2,000

Original Letters in Civil War Prisoners' Covers

While postal historians generally place greater emphasis on covers, the presence of an original letter in a Civil War prisoner-of-war cover adds considerable value. Not only are such letters scarce, but they can provide first-hand accounts of battles and prison conditions, adding a significant personal dimension to the postal artifact.



213

- 213 ☒ **Charleston S.C.** Inner cover to Hamilton N.Y., docketed in pencil "Written Sept. 25 come Nov. 10.", manuscript "Exd + appd LCC" and "Ex J.O.C." censor markings, latter known used in Nov. 1864 (Harrison p. 45), U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), cancelled by target, entered mails with "Port Royal S.C. Nov. 5, 1864" double-circle datestamp, couple light toning spots, otherwise Very Fine, noted on back to be from Rickersville Hospital but no markings or contents to confirm, nevertheless a scarce flag-of-truce cover sent via Pocotaligo and Port Royal..... E. 500-750



214

- 214 ☒ **Roper Hospital, Charleston S.C.** Blue inner prisoner-of-war cover, with original letter datelined "Roper Hospital Charleston S.C. Sept. 25. 64", endorsed "From Prisoner of War Per Flag of Truce", manuscript "Exd" (Capt. Hugh Hamilton Rogers, Provost Marshal's Office, Charleston), also endorsed "Soldiers letter Stewart L. Woodford Lt. Col. & agent of exchange", entered U.S. mails with "Port Royal S.C. Oct. 5, 1864" double-circle datestamp and bold "Due 3" rate for soldier letter, the writer notes "After staying in Libby 10 months I made a two month visit to Macon, and since the first of August I have been very comfortably quartered in this city.", part of backflap missing, otherwise Very Fine, scarce flag-of-truce P.O.W. cover routed via Pocotaligo and Port Royal..... E. 750-1,000



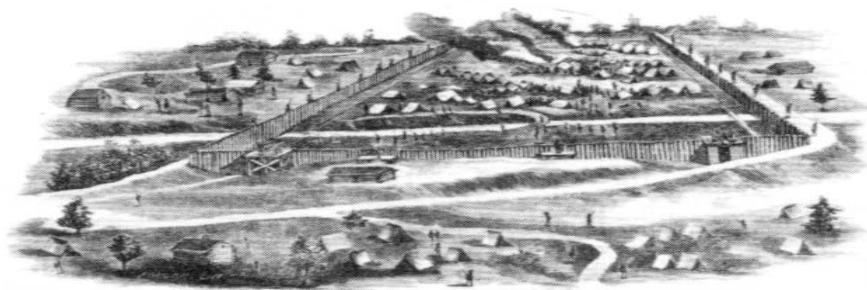
215

- 215 ☒ **Florence Prison, Florence S.C.** Small folded letter from prisoner-of-war to his wife in Philadelphia Pa., datelined "Florence Prison S. Carolina Oct 12 1864", endorsed "From James Moody, Co K 7th Regt Prisoner of War Camp Florence SC", bold manuscript "Examined", mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)** and U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, both tied by "Port Royal Nov (?) '64" double-circle datestamp, letter states "I have been a prisoner since the 5th of May... We are all in a very destitute condition. I have been very sick for some time but I am something better at present.", edges restored from prior adhesive stains

VERY FINE APPEARING AND EXTREMELY RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM FLORENCE PRISON, SENT BY FLAG-OF-TRUCE VIA POCOTALIGO AND PORT ROYAL. FEWER THAN TEN ARE KNOWN.

According to Wikipedia: "The Florence Stockade was built and became operational in September 1864, and was in use during the final fall and winter of the war. During its time of operation, anywhere from 15,000 to 18,000 captives were held there. The need for additional prisons became imperative after General Sherman captured Atlanta on September 1, 1864. Andersonville prison in south Georgia was thought to be in the path of Sherman and the Confederate prison authorities determined to relocate the approximately 30,000 Union prisoners then at Andersonville. Because Florence had three railroads, and was thought to be secure, it was chosen as a site for a newly constructed prison. To keep the Union soldiers in order during relocation, they were told that they were to be paroled. Many of those who were unable to walk or not stable enough to travel were left behind in Andersonville. Of the total number of prisoners that passed through the Florence Stockade, 2,802 Union soldiers died there and most were buried in unmarked trenches in what would become the Florence National Cemetery after the war."

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 242)..... E. 2,000-3,000



Florence Stockade (source: Harrison, p. 58)



216

- 216 ☒ **Camp Sorghum, Columbia S.C.** Blue adversary cover made from customs declaration form, from prisoner-of-war to Harrisburg Pa., endorsed "From W.A. Robinson Prisoner of War Columbia S.C.", censored "Ex Lt Williams 32 Ga" (32nd Georgia Infantry) on back, also manuscript "Soldiers Letter WT Bennett Lt Col & Agt Ex DS" censor mark in magenta ink, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)** tied by blurry strike of "Charleston S.C. Nov. 10? 186" circular datestamp, entered U.S. mails with "Port Royal S.C. Nov. 15, 1864" double-circle datestamp, "Due 3" in circle and "Due 3" straightline ties the 10c stamp, some light staining

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM CAMP SORGHUM ROUTED VIA CHARLESTON AND PORT ROYAL.

Camp Sorghum was established in October 1864, but its entire prison population was moved to nearby Camp Asylum on December 12, 1864 for security reasons. The Richland Jail and the College Hospital in Columbia were also used to hold P.O.W.'s until the fall of Columbia on February 17, 1865. In total, more than 85 covers are known from Columbia prisons. Northbound P.O.W. mail was initially processed through Columbia, and entered the U.S. mails at Old Point Comfort. In mid-November 1864, mail was processed through Charleston and exchanged via Port Royal, including this cover. Mail was sent via Charleston for only a short time and as such is rare. Starting in early December, mail was once again processed through Columbia and exchanged via Old Point Comfort.....

..... E. 1,000-1,500



Camp Sorghum, Columbia, South Carolina

POCOTALIGO-PORT ROYAL
SOUTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



217

- 217 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Walton's Ford Ga., endorsed "Via Richmond Va." at bottom (ignored) with manuscript "Ex. A.M.G." (known Aug. 10-Oct. 26, 1863, Harrison p. 189), also manuscript "Ex FRK" C.S.A. censor mark, mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, corner margin copy, affixed partly over selvage of **3c Rose (65)**, tied together by blue circular grid and 10c stamp tied by matching "Sandusky O Aug. 10" circular datestamp, sent via **Port Royal and Pocotaligo**, carried by military courier from Pocotaligo to Augusta and placed in C.S.A. mails there with partly clear strikes of "Augusta Ga. Aug 30" circular datestamp, received in Walton's Ford with manuscript "To hand Sept 5th 1863", couple tiny cover tears, 3c stamp with faults from placement at top of cover

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A BEAUTIFUL AND EXTREMELY RARE MIXED-FRANKING COVER FROM JOHNSON'S ISLAND PRISON, SENT VIA PORT ROYAL AND POCOTALIGO AND CARRIED BY COURIER TO AUGUSTA. THIS IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER VIA THIS ROUTE.

On November 7, 1861, Federal forces captured the Hilton Head-Port Royal coastal region of southeastern South Carolina. Five months later, on April 11, 1862, the U.S. occupied Fort Pulaski in the harbor of nearby Savannah, Georgia. These actions placed U.S. and C.S.A. forces in close proximity, with the C.S.A. retaining control of the Charleston-Savannah railroad. This resulted in military flag-of-truce exchanges between U.S.-controlled Port Royal and C.S.A.-controlled Pocotaligo, South Carolina on the Savannah-Charleston railroad. This flag-of-truce route was closed by the Federal capture of Pocotaligo on January 14, 1865.

Surviving covers suggest that flag-of-truce mail began to be carried on this route in August 1863. U.S. prisons in Georgia or South Carolina sent all of their southbound mail by this route, and other U.S. prisons would sometimes send mail addressed to South Carolina or Georgia by this route (such as Johnson's Island). Flag-of-truce mail via South Carolina is considerably rarer than flag-of-truce mail via Virginia. Most surviving covers are inner envelopes, but some mixed-franking covers are known. Initially, southbound mail was processed and postmarked at Pocotaligo, but as mail volumes increased, the mail was taken to either Charleston or Savannah for processing. Rarely, southbound mail addressed to Georgia from U.S. prisons would be forwarded from Pocotaligo to Augusta, Georgia, for entry into the C.S.A. mails. This cover is such an example (*Special Routes* p. 74).

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p.75)..... E. 2,000-3,000



218

- 218 ☒ **Elmira Prison, N.Y.** Yellow homemade prisoner-of-war cover to Spartanburg S.C., bold oval handstamp "Prisoner's Letter, Elmira, N.Y. Examined", mixed franking with U.S. postage paid by **3c Rose (65)**, crease and small tear, tied by "Elmira N.Y. Sep. 24, 1864" double-circle datestamp, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, slightly cut in, entered C.S.A. mails with "Charleston S.C. Oct. 20, 1864" circular datestamp which ties both adhesives

VERY FINE. A RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM ELMIRA PRISON, SENT VIA PORT ROYAL AND POCOTALIGO AND TAKEN TO CHARLESTON FOR PROCESSING.

This cover was sent through Port Royal but received no C.S.A. markings until it entered the mails at Charleston. Mail from Elmira and other U.S. prisons in the North to the C.S.A. was normally routed via Fortress Monroe and Richmond. A tiny percentage of mail, addressed to Georgia or South Carolina, was sent via Fort Royal. No more than five from U.S. northern prisons are known.

Ex Kohn. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 232) E. 2,000-3,000



219

- 219 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Charleston S.C., endorsed "By flag of truce via Fortunes Monroe", 3c Rose (65) canceled by target, "Delaware City Del. Nov. 15" circular datestamp, "Charleston S.C. Jan. 7, 1865" circular datestamp ties the 3c stamp, bold strike of **"2" drop rate** handstamp

EXTREMELY FINE COVER FROM FORT DELAWARE PRISON, SENT VIA PORT ROYAL AND BY LOCAL FLAG-OF-TRUCE BOAT TO CHARLESTON.

This unusual cover was sent via Port Royal and Charleston with C.S.A. postage due at the 2c drop rate.

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 76) E. 4,000-5,000

MORRIS ISLAND AND THE "IMMORTAL 600"

The following series of lots tells the remarkable story of the "Immortal 600" and the stand-off between Confederate and Federal forces in Charleston Harbor in 1864.



220

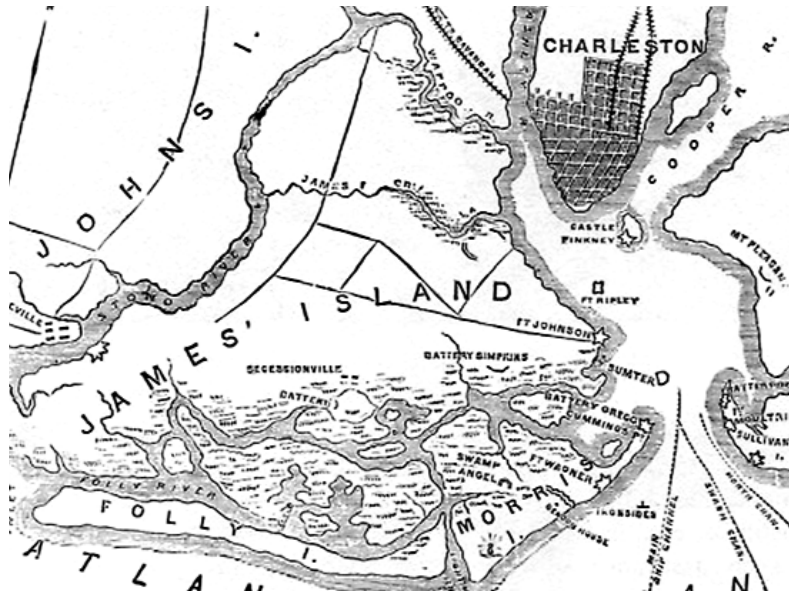
- 220 ☒ **U.S.S. Dragoon, "Confederate 50", off Hilton Head S.C.** Prisoner-of-war cover to Prince Edward Co. Va., endorsed "J. P. Fitzgerald Lt Col 23rd Regt Va. Infy" and "By Flag of Truce Via Charleston SC", censored by C.S.A. with manuscript "Ex N. Soule Cpt. a.g.", entered mails at Charleston through **local flag-of-truce exchange** with "Charleston S.C. Jul. 19" (1864) double-circle datestamp and "Paid 10" circular handstamp, no contents but apparently part of response written on back (dated July 26), cover with some soiling and split on three sides

VERY FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE LOCAL FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM ONE OF THE "CONFEDERATE 50" PRISONERS ON BOARD THE U.S.S. DRAGON OFF HILTON HEAD — THE PREDECESSORS TO THE WELL-KNOWN "IMMORTAL 600."

On June 13, 1864, U.S. Major General John Foster, in command of the Department of the South at Hilton Head S.C. received a message from C.S.A. Major General Samuel Jones, commander of Confederate forces at Charleston, that five generals and 45 field officers had been transferred as prisoners-of-war to Charleston, which was under bombardment of Federal batteries. Foster immediately retaliated by ordering an equal number of prisoners of the same grade to be brought south and exposed to Confederate guns from Charleston. These 50 Confederate prisoners were taken from Fort Delaware and delivered to Gen. Foster at Hilton Head. Gen. Jones immediately proposed an exchange, which was completed on August 2.

From their arrival on June 29 until their exchange, the Confederate officers were held aboard the U.S.S. Dragoon off Hilton Head, in extreme conditions. According to Harrison (p. 222): "...for many days they had only bread to eat, but that was good because the meat when it was served was so decayed and disgusting that it had to be thrown overboard." The prisoners were allowed to write letters, but the short time they were on board the Dragoon accounts for the extreme rarity of known covers. (Harrison records only five). Shortly after their exchange, 600 more Federal prisoners were brought to Charleston and this touched off the famous "Immortal 600" incident.

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 223) E. 2,000-3,000

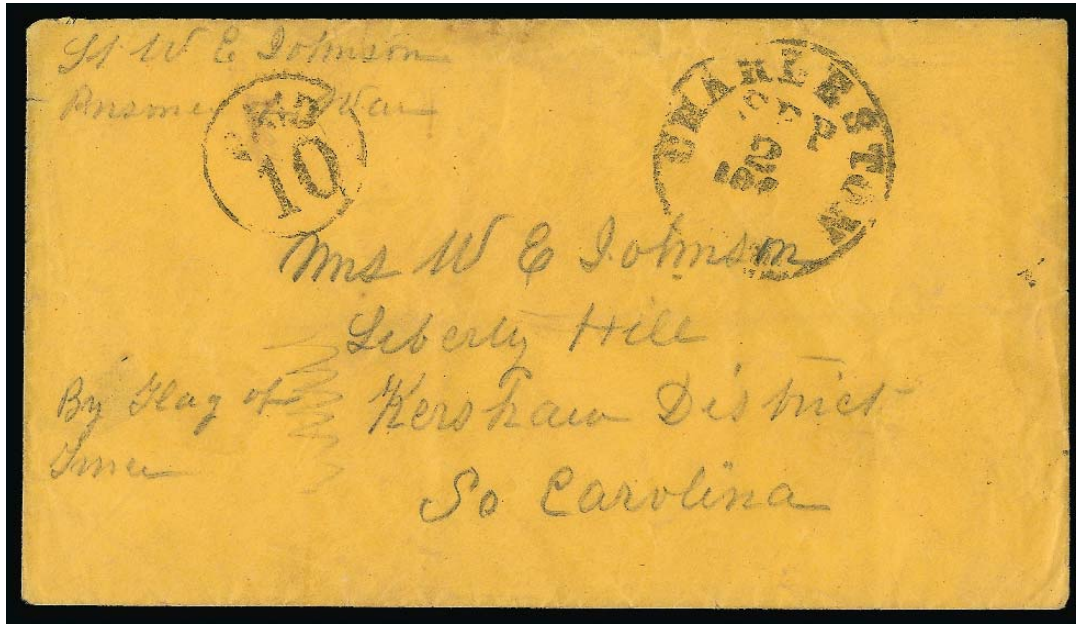


221

- 221 ☒ **Marine Hospital, "Charleston 600", S.C.** Yellow inner prisoner-of-war cover to Castleton Vt. with original letter datelined "C.S. Military Prison Charleston S.C. August 2, 1864", prisoner's endorsement on front, censored with manuscript "Exd. HHR" (Capt. Hugh Hamilton Rogers, Provost Marshal's Office, Charleston), entered U.S. mails with "Port Royal S.C. Aug. 20, 1864" circular datestamp and "Due 3"

VERY FINE COVER FROM ONE OF THE 600 UNION OFFICERS HELD IN CHARLESTON UNDER FIRE FROM FEDERAL FORCES ON MORRIS ISLAND.

The officer who sent this letter was captured June 29, 1864, during the Wilson-Kautz cavalry raid at Stony Creek Va. His letter states in part "We moved from Macon last week and arrived here yesterday. . . There are six hundred prisoners here — all officers". The Charleston 600 were the U.S. prisoners for whom Union General John Foster retaliated by bringing the Confederate "Immortal 600" to Morris Island. This cover is especially desirable with the prisoner's letter and reference to the "six hundred"..... E. 1,500-2,000



222

- 222 ☒ **U.S.S. Crescent City, "Immortal 600", S.C.** Buff inner prisoner-of-war cover to Liberty Hill S.C., endorsed "Lt. W. E. Johnson, Prisoner of War" and "By Flag of Truce", sent from the U.S.S. *Crescent City*, "Charleston S.C. Sep. 2" (1864) circular datestamp and "Paid 10" handstamp

VERY FINE COVER FROM ONE OF THE "IMMORTAL 600" ON THE U.S.S. *CRESCENT CITY*, JUST PRIOR TO BEING PLACED ON MORRIS ISLAND.

In August 1864, approximately 600 Confederate prisoners were moved on the *Crescent City* to Morris Island near Charleston by Federal forces, arriving on the island on September 7. They were held in open barracks as "human shields" under direct shelling from Confederate forces in retaliation for Union prisoners being held in Charleston under shelling from U.S. forces, a continuation and escalation of the prior "50" prisoner incident. Lt. Johnson was a member of Company K of the 7th S.C. Cavalry. He was captured on May 30, 1864, at Old Church Va., and taken to Fort Delaware, then to Morris Island as one of the "600". He was sent to Fort Pulaski when the prisoners were moved from Morris Island on October 23 and finally back to Fort Delaware.

Ex Harrison E. 1,500-2,000



Federal mortars on Morris Island aimed at Fort Sumter



223

- 223 ☒ **Morris Island, "Immortal 600", S.C.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover to Liberty Hill S.C., endorsed "W. E. Johnson, Prisoner of War" with photocopy of original letter datelined "Morris Island Sept 27th 1864", bold "Charleston S.C. Oct. 4, 1864" circular datestamp and "10" due handstamp, routed from Port Royal via Charleston

VERY FINE AND CHOICE COVER FROM ONE OF THE IMMORTAL "600" ON MORRIS ISLAND.

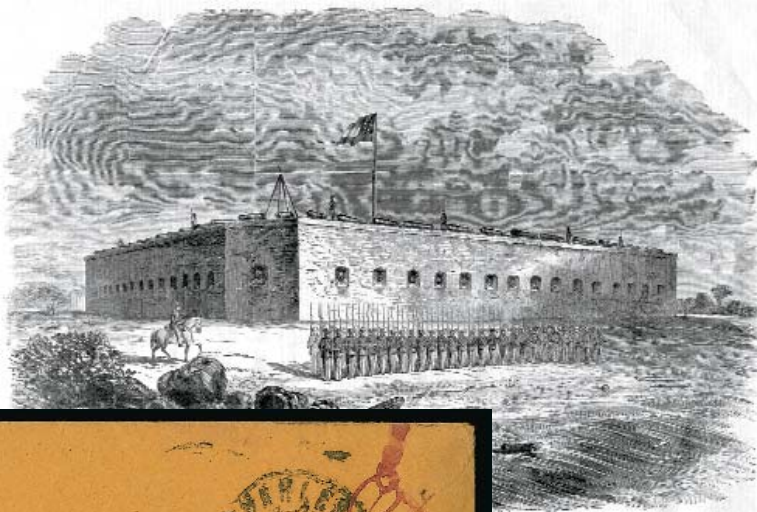
In August 1864, approximately 600 Confederate prisoners were moved to Morris Island near Charleston by Federal forces, arriving on September 7. They were held in open barracks as "human shields" under direct shelling from Confederate forces in retaliation for Union prisoners being held in Charleston under shelling from U.S. forces. This cover is from the same officer as the prior *Crescent City* cover and the following Fort Pulaski covers.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 236)..... E. 1,000-1,500



224

- 224 ☒ **Morris Island, "Immortal 600", S.C.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover to Bridgewater Va., soldier's endorsement and "By Flag of Truce via Charleston S.C.", entered C.S.A. mails with "Charleston S.C. Oct. 6" (1864) circular datestamp and "10" handstamp with manuscript "due", couple small tears and some tape residue on back, still Fine, a desirable cover sent from one of the Morris Island "600" before they were removed in late October, a fascinating and well-known story of the War E. 500-750



Fort Pulaski



225



226

- 225 ☒ **Fort Pulaski, "Immortal 600", Ga.** Buff inner prisoner-of-war cover to Liberty Hill S.C., endorsed "W. E. Johnson, Prisoner of War" and "By Flag of Truce", with photocopy of original letter datelined "Fort Pulaski Geo Dec 28th 1864", red manuscript "Ex" censor mark, "Charleston SC Jan. 8" (1865) double-circle datestamp and large "10" C.S.A. due handstamp, unsealed for censoring, routed via Port Royal and Charleston, small inconsequential tear at right, Very Fine, this cover is from the same prisoner as the prior U.S.S. *Crescent City* and Morris Island lots and the following Fort Pulaski lot, in late October 1864, the prisoners from Morris Island, who had been exposed to mortar fire from their own Confederate batteries in Charleston, were moved to Fort Pulaski at the mouth of the Savannah River, conditions were not much better there as they were forced to subsist on a near starvation diet, ex Kohn, illustrated and discussed in an article by Brian Green and Patricia Kaufmann in the 1971 *American Philatelic Congress* book..... E. 750-1,000
- 226 ☒ **Fort Pulaski, "Immortal 600", Ga.** Buff inner prisoner-of-war cover to Liberty Hill S.C., endorsed "M. W. E. Johnson, Prisoner of War, Fort Pulaski", with photocopy of original letter datelined "Fort Pulaski Sunday morning Nov 20th 1864", "Savannah Geo. Nov. 20" with star circular datestamp and "10" due handstamp, unsealed for censoring, routed via Port Royal and then back to Savannah to enter C.S.A. mails, fresh and Very Fine usage, from the same prisoner as the prior Morris Island and Fort Pulaski lots and an excellent companion to those covers, in late October 1864 the prisoners from Morris Island, who had been exposed to mortar fire from their Confederate batteries, were moved to Fort Pulaski at the mouth of the Savannah River, conditions were not much better there as they were forced to subsist on a near starvation diet..... E. 750-1,000

FLAG-OF-TRUCE MAIL VIA JACKSON-VICKSBURG



The U.S. capture of Vicksburg on July 3, 1863, placed U.S. forces in close proximity to C.S.A. forces in Mississippi. Vicksburg was designated by the U.S. as a principal exchange point in the West. Surviving covers suggest that it came into use for mail in mid-1864, and that exchanges were made between U.S.-controlled Vicksburg and the C.S.A.-controlled area around Jackson, which included Clinton, Mississippi. P.O.W. mail via Vicksburg-Jackson is scarce because of the short time the route was in operation and because the only C.S.A. prison which used the route was Castle Morgan at Cahaba, Alabama.

NORTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



227



228

- 227 ☒ **Castle Morgan, Cahaba Ala.** Inner prisoner-of-war cover to New Corwin O., with original letter datelined "*Cahaba Alibama (sic) February 11th 65*", endorsed "*Prisoners Letter*", censored on back by **Cahaba Commander** Capt. Howard Andrew Millett Henderson "*Exd. H.A.M. Henderson Capt. & Asst Agh of Exchange, C.S.A.*", "Vicksburg Miss. Mar. 9, 186(5)" double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" handstamp for U.S. unpaid rate, contemporary ink staining on both sides, Fine and rare, the U.S. capture of Vicksburg in July 1863 placed U.S. and C.S.A. forces in close proximity, Vicksburg was designated by the U.S. as a principal exchange point in the West, but flag-of-truce mail through that point is surprisingly rare, approximately 10 covers are known from Castle Morgan, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p.78)..... E. 750-1,000
- 228 ☒ **Castle Morgan, Cahaba Ala.** Brown homemade prisoner-of-war cover to Bushnell Ill., endorsed "*Prisoner's Letter*", manuscript censor mark on back "*Approved Capt. & Asst. Commr of Exchange C.S.A.*", entered U.S. mails with partially clear strike of "Vicksburg Miss. Mar 9, 1865" circular datestamp, "Due 6" handstamp for unpaid mail, Very Fine, the Jackson-Vicksburg flag-of-truce route was opened in mid-1864, Harrison records only 10 covers from Cahaba (p. 17; this cover illustrated on p.18)..... E. 1,000-1,500



229

- 229 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Inner cover to a prisoner at Johnson's Island, examined at Vicksburg prior to entry into U.S. mails with manuscript "Vicksburg Miss. Oct. 9/64 Examined & Approved T.M. McDougall Lieut & ADC" censor marking, faint "Vicksburg Miss. Oct. 12, 1864" double-circle datestamp, no U.S. postage or due marks, examined again on arrival with oval "Prisoner's Letter, Johnson's Island, Examined O.F.W." handstamp of Oscar F. White of the 28th O.V.I., cover missing backflap and small nick at top left just into examiner's endorsement, otherwise Fine, rare example of northbound mail carried via the Vicksburg-Jackson flag-of-truce route E. 400-500

SOUTHBOUND PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL

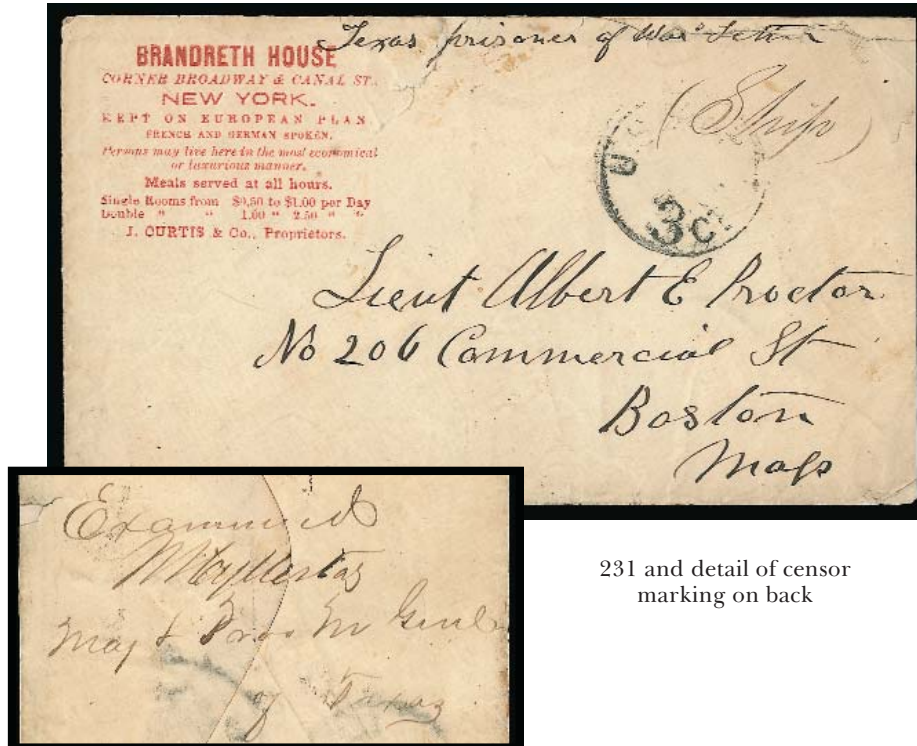


230

- 230 ☒ **Jackson Miss.** Inner flag-of-truce cover to Brandon Miss., possibly from prisoner at Johnson's Island Prison in Sandusky O., censored at Vicksburg with manuscript "Examined and Approved J.B. Weeks Lt. and A.D.C.", C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, large margins, tied by "Jackson Miss Apr" (1865) circular datestamp, cover with tears and missing part of backflap, some edge restoration, still Fine and rare example of southbound mail carried via the Vicksburg-Jackson flag-of-truce route, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 78) E. 750-1,000

FLAG-OF-TRUCE MAIL VIA GALVESTON, TEXAS, AND THE U.S. BLOCKADING SQUADRON

Federal defeats in Texas in 1863 left a large number of U.S. prisoners in the Houston area. The only U.S. forces near these prisons were the naval ships blockading Galveston harbor. To facilitate the exchange of released prisoners and mail, a flag-of-truce route developed between C.S.A.-controlled Galveston and offshore U.S. naval ships of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron. Outgoing letters were carried by U.S. naval ships to Old Point Comfort. They were then transmitted in closed mail bags from there to a distributing post office near the destination, typically Boston, Philadelphia or New York. If unfranked, they were marked "U.S. Ship" and 3c due at the distributing post office. If franked with 3c U.S. postage, they entered the mails at the distributing post office. Only a very small number of covers carried by this route are known, and they are all northbound inner envelopes from one of the three C.S.A. prisons in Texas.



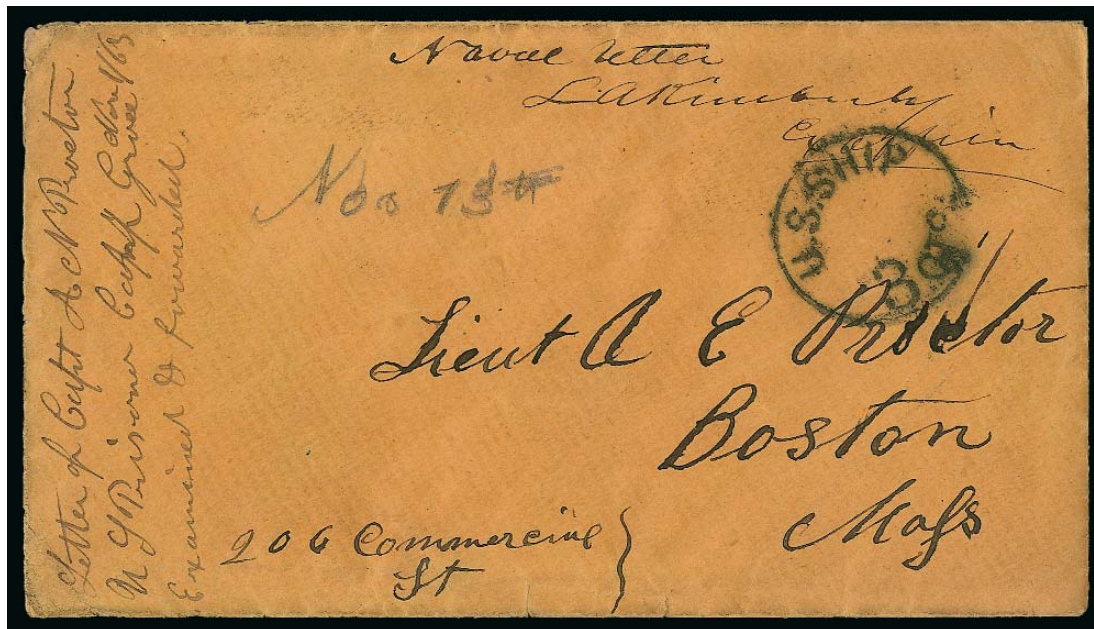
231 and detail of censor marking on back

- 231 ✉ **Huntsville Penitentiary, Huntsville Tex.** Prisoner-of-war adversity cover from Capt. A. N. Proctor to his brother in Boston, envelope with "Brandreth House" New York hotel corner card, endorsed "Texas Prisoner of War Letter", censored on back by the Houston Provost Marshal with "Examined W. Hyllested Maj & Prov M Genl of Texas", sent to Galveston where **exchanged by flag-of-truce with U.S. West Gulf Blockading Squadron**, carried from New Orleans by Federal dispatch steamer, endorsed "(Ship)" and with "U.S. Ship 3cts" handstamp due for soldier's rate (despite Proctor's rank as an officer), some soiling and tears along the top

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM A UNION PRISONER AT THE HUNTSVILLE PENITENTIARY IN TEXAS, SENT VIA FLAG-OF-TRUCE THROUGH GALVESTON AND THE U.S. NAVAL BLOCKADING SQUADRON IN THE GULF.

As discussed in detail in the following lot, Captain A. N. Proctor sailed from New York with Company G of the 42nd Massachusetts Infantry in late 1862 (probably after staying at the Brandreth House Hotel) and was captured on January 1, 1863, as his company was attempting to occupy Galveston. He was confined at Huntsville sometime between January and June 1863 and transferred to Camp Groce sometime prior to November. He subsequently was marched to Tyler and Camp Ford in December 1863 before he was finally exchanged. This cover has no date postmarks or docketing identifying the origin. Prisoner records suggest that it was mailed from Huntsville sometime between January and May 1863. Harrison did not identify this cover as originating at Huntsville Penitentiary, but illustrates it on page 65.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 83). The Proctor correspondence is discussed in *Chronicle* (May 1979, No. 102). With 1994 C.S.A. certificate..... E. 2,000-3,000

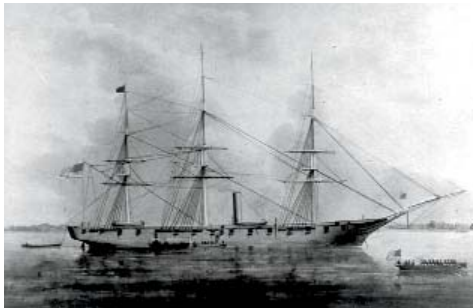


232

- 232 ☒ **Camp Groce, Hempstead Tex.** Inner cover from prisoner-of-war to Boston Mass., with original letter datelined "Camp Groce, Hemstead (sic) Nov 1st", endorsed on front "Letter of Capt A. N. Proctor U.S. Prisoner Camp Groce Nov 1/63", censored on reverse by **Camp Commandant** with manuscript "Examined by James W. Barnes Lt. Col. Commg Post", and by Houston Provost Marshal with manuscript "Examined W. Hyllested Maj. & Prov M. Gen of Texas", also manuscript "Examined and Forwarded" under soldier endorsement on front, sent to Galveston where **exchanged by flag-of-truce with U.S. West Gulf Blockading Squadron** Sloop-of-War U.S.S. *Hartford*, endorsed "Naval Letter L.A. Kimberly Ex officer", carried from New Orleans by Federal dispatch steamer, "U.S. Ship 3cts" handstamp due for soldier's rate, pencil receipt docketing "Nov 13th", couple minor edge tears and light wear

VERY FINE. FEWER THAN FIVE COVERS ARE KNOWN FROM CAMP GROCE, A CONFEDERATE PRISON IN TEXAS. SENT BY FLAG-OF-TRUCE FROM GALVESTON VIA THE U.S. NAVAL BLOCKADING SQUADRON IN THE GULF. AN OUTSTANDING ARTIFACT OF ACROSS-THE-LINES CIVIL WAR POSTAL HISTORY.

Captain A. N. Proctor was an officer in Company G, Massachusetts 42nd Infantry Regiment. From New York in late 1862, his company and two others (D, I) were transported on the Steamer *Saxon* to occupy Galveston, Texas, which had been under the guns of U.S. naval ships. The regiment arrived at New Orleans on December 16, then Galveston on December 24. The occupation plan was a disaster, as the 42nd was heavily engaged at Galveston by C.S.A. forces on January 1, 1863, and the three companies captured. The soldiers of the regiment were paroled at Alexandria La., on February 18, 1863, and assigned to Parole Camp Bayou. Proctor and the other officers, however, were not among those paroled — reportedly in part because a colonel in the regiment had two



U.S.S. Hartford

black servants in his employ, which greatly offended the sensibilities of the Confederates. So greatly, in fact, that the two black servants were sold into slavery in Houston, one for the reported price of \$47. This violation of the rules of war was a catalyst for Abraham Lincoln's General Order No. 252, issued on July 31, in which he stated, "To sell or enslave any captured person on account of his color, and for no offence against the laws of war, is a relapse into barbarism and a crime against civilization. . . It is therefore ordered that for every soldier of the United States killed in violation of the laws of war, a rebel soldier shall be executed, and for every one enslaved by the enemy or sold into slavery, a rebel soldier shall be placed at hard labor..." Proctor was confined at Huntsville sometime between January and June (see lot 231) and transferred to Camp Groce sometime prior to November. He subsequently was marched to Tyler and Camp Ford in December 1863 before he was finally exchanged.

Camp Groce was located about 50 miles northwest of Houston, and became a prison in June 1863. It was closed in December 1864. Northbound mail was routed via Houston, where it was generally examined by Major Hyllested, and then sent via nearby Galveston to a U.S. Navy ship. Surviving letters are postmarked "U.S. Ship 3cts" or at New York. Fewer than five covers are known.

Ex Antrim and Birkinbine. Illustrated in Antrim (p. 137), Harrison (p. 64) and *Special Routes* (p. 82). The Proctor correspondence is described in *Chronicle* (May 1979, No. 102)... E. 5,000-7,500



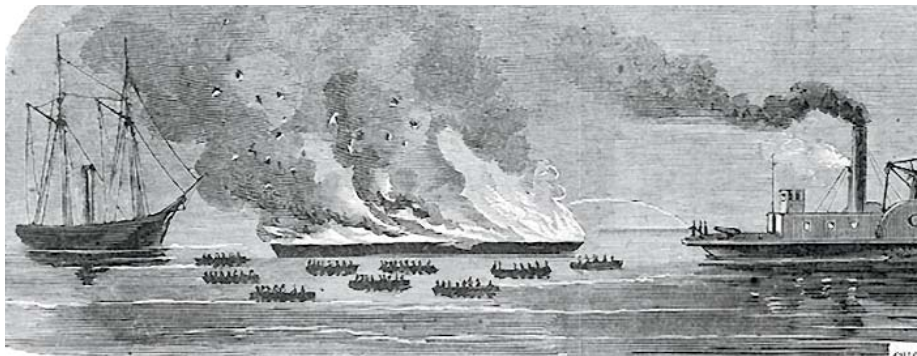
233

- 233 ☒ **Houston Tex.** Small prisoner-of-war cover to Warwick R.I., prisoner's endorsement "From M. L. Burney, Federal Prisoner of Late U.S. Str. Clifton", additional "Ford & Examnd. by _____" sender's notation, but this was not completed by examiner, instead "Examined, W. Hyllested, Maj. & Prov M Genl Texas" examiner's mark applied to back in Houston, sent via Galveston and **exchanged by flag-of-truce with U.S. West Gulf Blockading Squadron**, entered Federal mails with "New Orleans La. Feb. 6 '64" double-circle datestamp and "Due 6" in circle, slightly reduced at right

VERY FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE COVER FROM A PRISONER CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF SABINE PASS, TEXAS, AND CONFINED AT THE C.S.A. HOUSTON PRISON. SENT VIA FLAG-OF-TRUCE THROUGH GALVESTON AND THE U.S. NAVAL BLOCKADING SQUADRON IN THE GULF.

Despite an overwhelming advantage in force against a small Confederate garrison, the Federals suffered a humiliating defeat in the battle at Sabine Pass on September 8, 1863. Two gunboats were grounded and surrendered — the U.S.S. *Sachem* and the *Clifton*, and captured men were moved to prisons at Houston, Hempstead (Camp Groce) and Tyler (Camp Ford). Based on the fewer than ten known covers from prisoners captured at Sabine Pass, it appears that they were moved between these locations over a period of six months. The endorsements, postmark dates and censor markings help identify mail from these prisons. In this case, the February New Orleans datestamp and endorsements point to the prison at Houston. Harrison records only three covers from the Houston Prison.

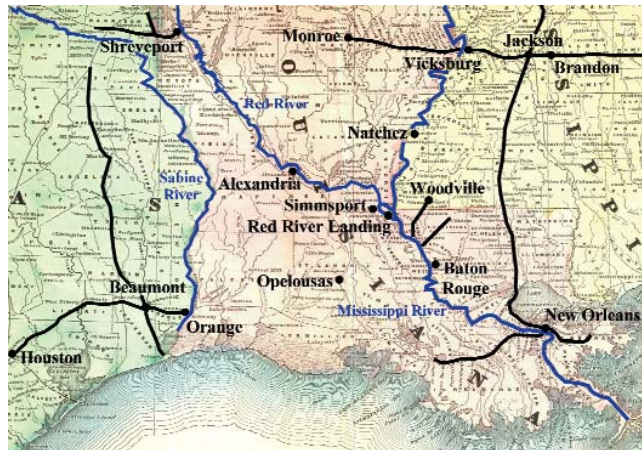
Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 80) E. 2,000-3,000



U.S.S. Clifton (at right) and fire rafts sent down the river by C.S.A. forces

FLAG-OF-TRUCE MAIL VIA SHREVEPORT-NEW ORLEANS

The Federal occupation of Baton Rouge on May 12, 1862, left the U.S. in control of southeastern Louisiana. The close proximity of U.S. and C.S.A. forces in Louisiana led to flag-of-truce prisoner and P.O.W. mail exchanges in 1863 to 1865. The principal exchange point was along the Mississippi River between U.S.-controlled Red River Landing and C.S.A.-controlled Simmesport. Most of the northbound mail has manuscript examined markings by Major Hyllested, Provost Marshal General of Texas at Houston or by Major Szymanski, Assistant Agent of Exchange for the Trans-Mississippi Dept. at Shreveport, Louisiana. The few surviving northbound covers are inner envelopes from C.S.A. prisons which were routed via Shreveport, Simmesport and Red River Landing to enter the U.S. mails at New Orleans. Camp Ford in Tyler was close to Shreveport, just over the Texas line.



234 and detail of censor marking on back

- 234 ☒ **Camp Ford, Tyler Tex.** Small prisoner-of-war cover to Oskaloosa Iowa, original letter datelined “Camp Ford Texas January 17th 1865”, endorsed “Flag of Truce”, censored on back “Exm & forwarded Ig. Szymanski Asst. Agt. of Ex C.S.A.” by Major Ignatius Szymanski, Agent of Exchange for prisoners in the Trans-Mississippi Dept., 3c Rose (65), cut into at right from envelope reduction, tied by target, “New Orleans La. Mar. 17 ‘65” circular datestamp, some light toning spots and slightly reduced at right where opened

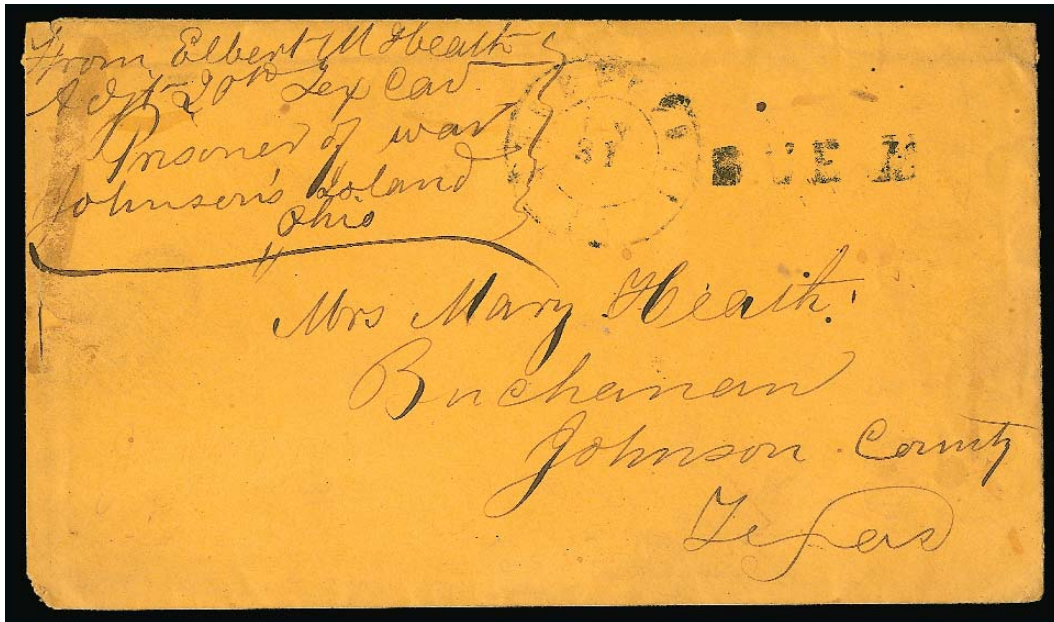
A FINE AND RARE COVER FROM A UNION PRISONER HELD IN A CONFEDERATE PRISON CAMP IN TEXAS, CARRIED BY THE SHREVEPORT-NEW ORLEANS FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTE. FEWER THAN TEN COVERS FROM CAMP FORD ARE KNOWN.



Camp Ford, Texas

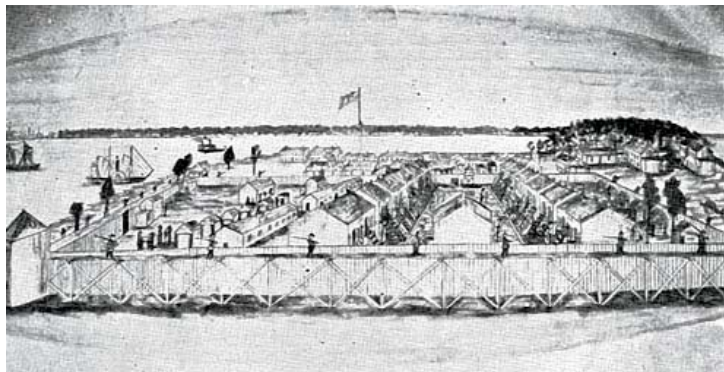
Most of the northbound mail via Shreveport-New Orleans has manuscript examined markings by Major Hyllested, Provost Marshal General of Texas at Houston, or, in the case of this cover, by Major Szymanski, Assistant Agent of Exchange for the Trans-Mississippi Department at Shreveport, Louisiana. The few surviving northbound covers are inner envelopes from C.S.A. prisons which were routed via Shreveport, Simmesport and Red River Landing to enter the U.S. mails at New Orleans. Camp Ford in Tyler was close to Shreveport, just over the Texas line. This cover was examined in Shreveport and exchanged by the C.S.A. flag-of-truce steamer *Countless* at Red River Landing around March 15, 1865. It was posted at New Orleans on March 17.

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 68, lists only five covers known) and *Special Routes* (p. 243)..... E. 3,000-4,000



235

- 235 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Buff inner cover from prisoner-of-war to Buchanan Tex., endorsed "*From Elbert M Heath, Adj 20th Tex Cav, Prisoner of War Johnson's Island Ohio*", entered C.S.A. mails with light strike of "Shreveport La. Jan. 31" (1865) double-circle datestamp and "Due 10" straightline, nicked corner and small hole at left, otherwise Very Fine, an extremely rare southbound P.O.W. cover sent via the **New Orleans and Shreveport flag-of-truce route** and exchanged at Red River Landing, Elbert Munroe Heath was an officer in Company F, Texas 20th Cavalry, he was captured at Fort Gibson Miss. on July 17, 1863, and was exchanged on April 9, 1865, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 81)..... E. 750-1,000



Johnson's Island

OTHER FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTES—CIVILIAN AND SOLDIERS' MAIL



236 and detail of censor mark on back

- 236 ✉ **Mobile Ala. to New Orleans by Flag-of-Truce.** Small cover addressed to Miss Zoe Campbell on "Bourbon street bet. Conti & Bienville Streets, New Orleans La.", instructions "Be kind enough so as to forward it", back of cover with manuscript "*Appd. J.C. Denis Pro. MI*" censor's marking applied by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis, exchanged by flag-of-truce and endorsed by Union censor "*Approved MMD Hd. Qrs. Defences N.O.*", "Due 3" straightline handstamp for U.S. postage, pencil receipt docketing "16 Octobre 1863 Vendredi", lightly soiled

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED COVER CARRIED BY FLAG-OF-TRUCE FROM THE CONFEDERACY INTO FEDERAL-OCCUPIED NEW ORLEANS.

Mail from the Confederate States to residents of New Orleans was generally discouraged. This is the first and only recorded example of such mail that was exchanged via the flag-of-truce route between Mobile and New Orleans. It was censored on both sides; by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis at Mobile and the Union censor at New Orleans.

The papers of Zoe Jane Campbell can be found at the Manuscript Department of the William R. Perkins Library, Duke University: "871: Zoe Jane Campbell Papers, 1855-1898. 152 items. New Orleans, La. Principally family letters to Zoe Jane Campbell during the Civil War concerning Confederate Army matters such as troop movements, immorality among the soldiers, complaints against officers, soldiers' pay, and health conditions. There is considerable information on the U.S. military prisons at Elmira, New York, and at Belleville, Louisiana. Also included is material on social life and customs in New York and Washington, D.C., and on the internal disorders in northern Mexico in the late 1850's." E. 1,500-2,000



237

- 237 ☒ **Rome Ga.** Flag-of-truce cover to Williamsburgh N.Y., 3c Rose (65) tied by one of two strikes of "Nashville Ten. Oct. 4, 1864" circular datestamp, manuscript "Ex and approved Josiah Robbins Jr Provost Marshal Rome Geo Sept 26 1864", stamp with piece missing from bottom, cover with couple tears and one backflap missing, Fine appearance, a rare flag-of-truce cover, Federal troops under General William T. Sherman occupied Rome beginning in May 1864..... E. 500-750



238

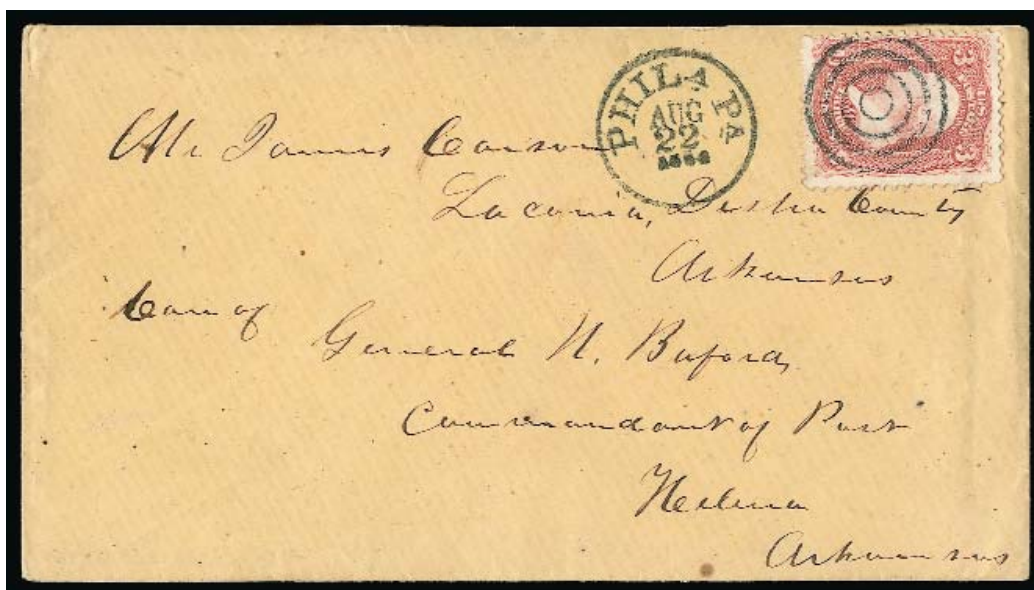
- 238 ☒ **Goldsborough N.C.** Inner civilian flag-of-truce cover to Greenville S.C., with original letter datelined "San Francisco April 18th 1862", sent to the care of U.S. military governor of North Carolina Edward Stanly, who hand-carried it to Union-controlled New Bern, letter states "I avail myself of the kindness of your old friend Edward Stanly. . .", manuscript "Examined Asst. Adj. General", entered C.S.A. mails with "Goldsborough N.C. Jun. 2" circular datestamp and "Paid" straightline handstamp, backflap tear from opening, otherwise Very Fine, a rare flag-of-truce letter originating California and sent through New Bern and Goldsborough, civilian mail sent by exchange points other than those in south-eastern Virginia are very scarce, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 94)..... E. 750-1,000

239

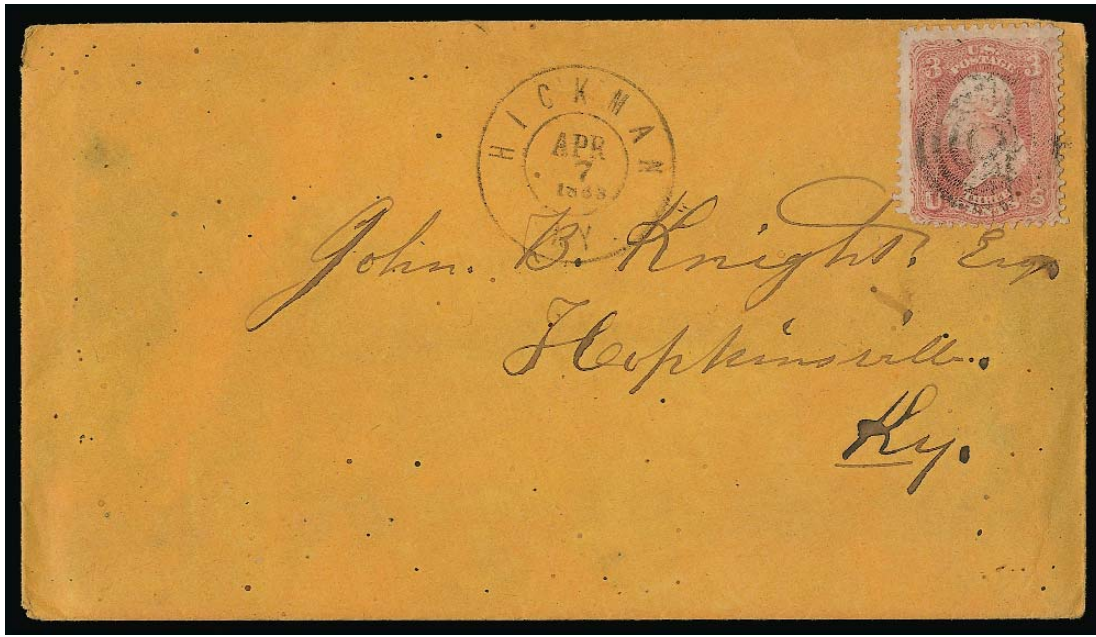


- 239 ☒ **Kinston N.C.** Inner flag-of-truce cover from “Galvanized Yankee” soldier (a former Confederate soldier) at Norfolk Va. to Marley Mills N.C., manuscript examiner’s mark of C.S.A. censor, C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die B (12)**, large margins, tied by “Kinston N.C. Jan. 9” (1865) circular datestamp, exchanged through **New Bern and Kinston N.C.**, stamp with small hole and cover slightly reduced at left, still Very Fine, civilian mail sent by exchange points other than those in southeastern Virginia are very scarce, Kinston was closer to New Bern than Goldsborough and was used by the C.S.A. as a flag-of-truce exchange point when it was not threatened by Federal troops, this cover was sent by Pvt. Marshall S. Rains, a “Galvanized Yankee” who had been a Confederate soldier in the 22nd N.C. **captured at Gettysburg**, he took the oath of allegiance and joined the U.S. 1st Volunteer Infantry in 1864, cover illustrated and correspondence discussed in *Confederate Philatelist* (Whole No. 240, Nov. 1987) E. 1,000-1,500

240



- 240 ☒ **Helena Ark.** Civilian cover from Philadelphia to Laconia Ark. **sent via Helena Ark. flag-of-truce route**, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), cancelled by target with matching “Phila. Pa. Aug. 22, 1864” circular datestamp, endorsed “Care of General N. Buford Commandant of Post Helena Arkansas”, no C.S.A. postage or postmarks, back with Sep. 6 receipt docketing and censored “Approved & permitted/ Wm Crook/ Col. 6th Minn Infy/ Comd. Dist”, Very Fine and attractive, civilian flag-of-truce mail sent by routes other than Old Point Comfort and southeastern Virginia is very rare, Napoleon Bonaparte Buford was a Union general and the half-brother of John Buford of Gettysburg fame, at the time this cover was mailed he was serving as commander of the Eastern District of Arkansas..... E. 500-750



241

- 241 ☒ **Troy Tenn.-Hickman Ky.** Civilian flag-of-truce cover to Hopkinsville Ky., enclosed letter dated "Near Troy, Obion County, April 2nd/63", U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), cancelled by target, entered Union mails with "Hickman Ky. Apr. 7, 1863" circular datestamp, most of backflap missing, still Very Fine and scarce flag-of-truce letter from Tennessee through Hickman, Kentucky..... E. 500-750

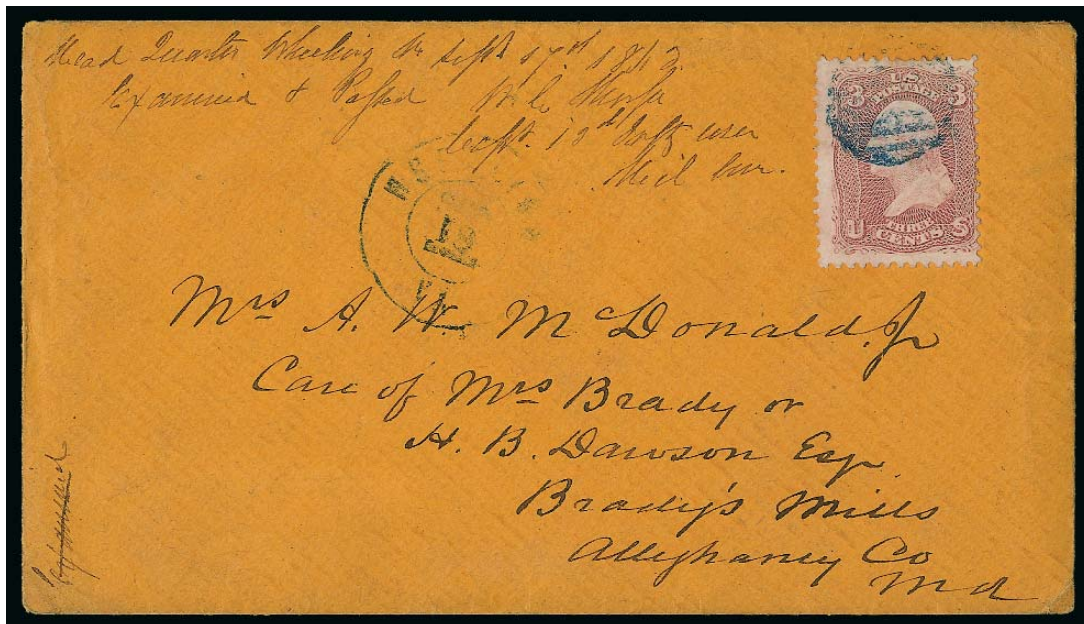


242

- 242 ☒ **Abingdon Va.** Flag-of-truce cover from Abingdon Va. to Hebron Ky., mixed franking with C.S.A. postage paid by 10c Blue, Die B (12), tied by "Abingdon Va. Jul. 7" (1864) circular datestamp, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), tied by quartered cork, "Old Point Comfort Va. Jul. 18" double-circle datestamp, docketed at left "Care of Capt Hatch. . .Richmond Va.", reverse with manuscript "Lt. Albert Corbin. . .Morgan Division"

VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL MIXED-FRANKING FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER FROM A KENTUCKY CONFEDERATE SOLDIER TO HIS FAMILY IN UNION-CONTROLLED KENTUCKY.

Albert Corbin joined many of his fellow Boone County citizens and enlisted in the Confederate Army. He served from July 1863 as a 1st Lieutenant in Company B, Kentucky 3rd Cavalry Battalion, which was part of noted cavalry commander John Hunt Morgan's Division..... E. 1,500-2,000



243

- 243 ☒ **Athenaeum Prison, Wheeling (West) Va.** Inner cover from C.S.A. Colonel Angus McDonald to his wife in Brady's Mills Md., posted Sep. 18, 1862, manuscript examiner's notation, U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), tied by blue grid and matching "Wheeling Va. Sep. 19, 1862" double-circle datestamp, Very Fine and unusual usage, Col. McDonald was captured twice during the war, at this point he was a prisoner at the Athenaeum Prison in Wheeling, the local Union Commander (Capt. Shafer) examined and approved this mail, Col. McDonald was captured again in 1864 and taken to Wheeling, he died in Richmond in December 1864 E. 500-750



244

- 244 ☒ **Parkersburg (West) Va.** Yellow inner cover from the South to Albany N.Y., three bold manuscript examiner's marks, "Examined G.M. Bascom, Capt & AAG U.S." by Union Captain of Ohio Volunteers Gustavus Murray Bascom, "Examined Andrew R. Barless Provost Marshal C.S.A." and "Examined John B (illegible)", U.S. postage paid by 3c Rose (65), tied by "Parkersburg Va. 26 Mar 1862" circular datestamp, some edge tears, otherwise Fine and attractive, flag-of-truce mail sent via exchange points other than those in southeastern Virginia are very scarce, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 93)..... E. 500-750

OTHER FLAG-OF-TRUCE ROUTES—P.O.W. MAIL



245

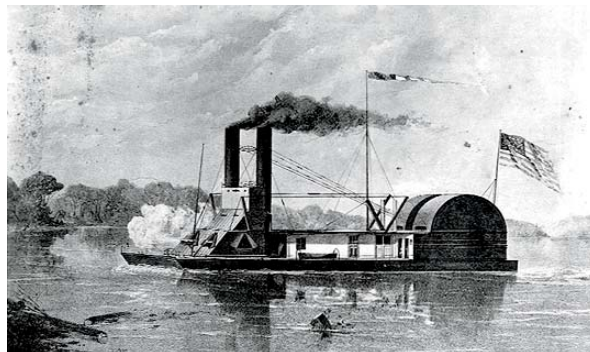
- 245 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Cover to prisoner-of-war Willie D. Postlethwaite, transferred under **local flag-of-truce from Fayette to Natchez**, brought aboard the river gunboat U.S.S. *Chillicothe* (off Ft. Adams, 40 miles below Natchez) and censored onboard "Examined Geo. P. Lord Act. Comg U.S.S. *Chillicothe*", carried up-river by the U.S.S. *Pierce* and entered the U.S. mails with 3c Rose (65), tied by target and "Cairo Ill. Dec. 31" (1864) double-circle datestamp, inconsequential light soiling mostly confined to back

VERY FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE MISSISSIPPI RIVER LOCAL FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER. A FASCINATING COVER.

According to the *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, two U.S. surgeons were sent via flag-of-truce from Natchez to Fayette, Mississippi, on November 30, 1864, to care for a captured and wounded U.S. scout. They picked up this cover at Fayette and returned to Natchez on December 2. With the Union in control of the Mississippi River, occasional local flag-of-truce exchanges were made with U.S. naval gunboats patrolling the river, though covers demonstrating this practice are extremely rare. Such mail was examined on the gunboat and forwarded to either New Orleans or, in the case of this cover, to Cairo, Illinois. Since it was handed to the doctors who brought it to Natchez, it never entered the C.S.A. postal system and thus has no Confederate postage or markings (nor a discarded outer cover).

Willie D. Postlethwaite was a private in Co. A, 9th Louisiana Cavalry. He was captured near Corinth Miss. on Oct. 5, 1863, and was sent to Alton Ill. on Oct. 6. He was transferred to Fort Delaware on Feb. 29, 1864, and exchanged on Mar. 7, 1865.

Ex Birkinbine. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 81)..... E. 3,000-4,000



U.S.S. Chillicothe



246 and detail of censor marking

- 246 ☒ **Fort Delaware, Delaware City.** Small prisoner-of-war cover to Mrs. Wm. F. Witcher in Hayneville Ala., "By Flag of Truce" endorsement at top left and matching "Approved, Henry L. Pensen Jr. AAG" (Assistant Adjutant General) censor mark on back (Harrison book lists Pensen at Ft. Delaware in early 1862), also manuscript "Examd" in a different hand on back, franked with **5c Blue, Stone 2 (4)**, large margins, tied by blurry "Mobile Ala." double-circle datestamp, "5" in circle handstamp for 5c due (10c rate in effect after July 1, 1862), short tear at right, stamp lifted and reaffixed

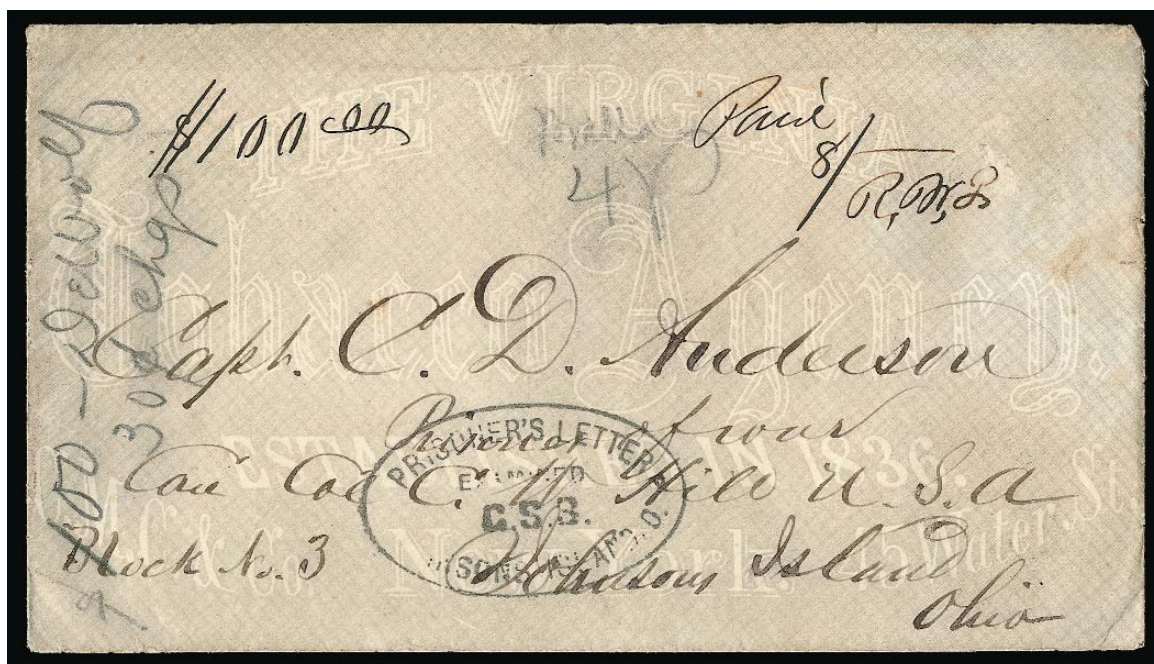
VERY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTREMELY RARE FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER SENT VIA MOBILE, ALABAMA.

We believe this originated from Ft. Delaware in 1862 based on the Pensen censor marking and the use of a 5c stamp. It is likely that this cover was sent via flag-of-truce to Petersburg and carried outside the mails to Mobile, which is only approximately 150 miles south-west of Hayneville.

Ex Krieger. With 1987 A.P.S. certificate E. 2,000-3,000



Fort Delaware Prison



247

- 247 ☒ **Johnson's Island, Sandusky O.** Light gray **Virginia Tobacco Agency, New York** advertising cover to Capt. C. D. Anderson, a prisoner-of-war, care of Col. C. W. Hill, at Johnson's Island, **carried by Adams Express Company**, five red wax seals on back from Adams Richmond Va. office, manuscript "\$100.00" indicating money contents, manuscript "Paid 8/- R.M.L." express charge (8 bits or \$1.00, including 25c for basic express service and balance for special charges), well-struck "Prisoner's Letter Johnson's Island O. Examined G.S.B." (George S. Brown) examiner's oval handstamp, pencil notations incl. "pd 25" on back, "\$100 — DeWolf, 30c chgs" and "Bills 4p" on front

AN EXTREMELY FINE AND VERY RARE EXPRESS COMPANY USAGE TO A CONFEDERATE PRISONER AT JOHNSON'S ISLAND.

According to prisoner-of-war records, Captain Anderson was captured at Silvers Creek Va. and imprisoned at Sandusky on April 3, 1865, six days before Lee surrendered at Appomattox Court House. He was paroled on oath on June 18, 1865. While personal necessities and sometimes money was sent to Confederate prisoners, the amount noted on this cover, \$100.00, and the delivery by Adams Express make it an exceptional usage.

Ex Kimmel, Kohlhepp, Allen and Hall. Illustrated and discussed in the *Chronicle* (No. 95, Aug. 1977) E. 1,500-2,000



248

- 248 ☒ **Castle Morgan, Cahaba Ala.** Inner folded letter bearing 3c Rose (65) tied by "Memphis Tenn. Nov. 16" (1864) double-circle datestamp from a prisoner to Bloomington Ill., date-lined "Castle Morgan Cahaba Nov. 3rd 1864", faint file folds do not affect stamp, Very Fine and choice, unusual exchange point on the upper Mississippi via Memphis, with 1992 C.S.A. certificate..... E. 750-1,000



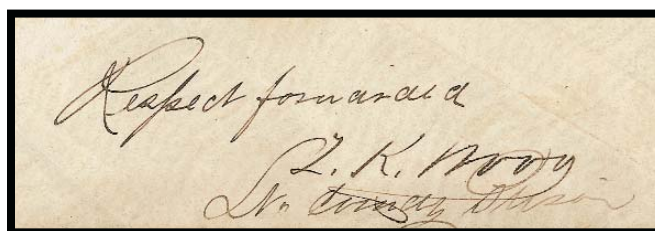
249

- 249 ☒ **Camp Oglethorpe, Macon Ga.** Brown cover from Camp Oglethorpe Prison to Union-held Cleveland, East Tennessee, C.S.A. postage paid by **5c Blue, Stone 2 (4)**, three full margins, in at left, tied by "Macon Ga (June) 26 (1862)" circular datestamp, manuscript "Passed L.H. Carter Adj. Prisoner's Guard", some light water staining

VERY FINE. AN EARLY AND EXCEEDINGLY RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM THE FIRST CAMP OGLETHORPE. APPROXIMATELY FIVE ARE KNOWN.

The first Camp Oglethorpe was open for prisoners as early as May 1862. Approximately 900 Federal troops captured at the Battle of Shiloh were processed through the prison. As a result of the formal exchange cartel agreed to by the U.S. and C.S.A. governments in July 1862, the camp was discontinued, to be replaced by a stockade for Union officers in 1864.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 140)..... E. 2,000-3,000



250 and detail of censor marking on back

- 250 ☒ **21 Rampart Street, New Orleans La.** Prisoner-of-war cover addressed to a lady at No. 93 Camp Street in New Orleans, censored twice by Federal officers, “Respect forward Z.K. Wood Lt Commdg Prison”, on reverse and “Exd. & forwarded Wm Sterling Capt. 1st U.S. Infy. Comy of Prisoners” on front, clear “New Orleans May 23” (1865) circular datestamp and “3” due handstamp, small erosion hole in address panel

VERY FINE. A RARE PRISONER-OF-WAR COVER FROM 21 RAMPART STREET, WHICH WAS USED AS A UNION PRISON FROM 1863 TO 1865. FEWER THAN FIVE COVERS ARE RECORDED.

21 Rampart street was a residence that was used to hold Confederate officers, including those captured at Fort Hudson in July 1863 (Harrison p. 143). Captain William H. Sterling was Commissary of Prisoners in 1865 when this cover was sent. E. 2,000-3,000

FLAG-OF-TRUCE—PROVOST MARSHAL EXAMINERS CIVILIAN MAIL

Provost marshals were military officers charged with the duties of making searches, seizures, and arrests, the custody of deserters and of prisoners of war, and the issuance of passes. Their duties also included the examination of letters to or from potentially disloyal persons. Two types of provost marshals were appointed during the Civil War. Each military district had a provost marshal whose duties were focused on maintaining order within the geographic confines of that district. In addition, each army had a provost marshal whose duties were more military in nature, such as taking temporary charge of captured prisoners and maintaining order in the army.

Virtually all examination of mail was performed by the district provost marshals. Both the U.S. and C.S.A. district provost marshal organizations examined across-the-lines mail. In that context, they were responsible for P.O.W. mail, civilian flag-of-truce mail, blockade-run mail, and smuggled mail. A number of different manuscript provost marshal markings appear on through-the-lines covers as well as Union handstamped markings. The only district to use the rare embossed marking is the District of East Tennessee.



251

- 251 ✉ **Wilmington N.C. Provost Marshal.** Folded letter datelined "Wilmington N.C. Oct. 26, 1863" from B. Duncan, Provost Marshal of Wilmington N.C., to the Secretary of War in Washington, requesting permission "for Mrs. J. Currie Burnett to come north by flag of truce to join her husband a federal soldier", entered U.S. mails with "Old Point Comfort Va. Nov. 5" circular datestamp, sent to **Dead Letter Office** as the Office of the Secretary of War did not accept unpaid letters, boldly-struck "Dead Letter Office Nov. 7, 1863" circular datestamp and "Unpaid" in circle in red, struck with "C.F. Macdonald/Acting Third Ass't PM Gen" handstamp and "Due 6", forwarded to the Secretary of War, approved on Nov. 9 with endorsement of "Assoc. Judge Adv." and returned to Duncan in Wilmington with crayon endorsement "Wilmington N.C. Mrs. Burnett/To come North by flag of truce.", pass signed in pencil "Maj Lurner?", all markings clearly struck, the cover is as fresh as the day it was written

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF THE MOST SPECATCULAR ACROSS-THE-LINES COVERS EXTANT. A BEAUTIFUL COMBINATION OF POSTAL HISTORY AND CIVIL WAR HISTORY.

On rare occasions, an individual would receive a pass to cross the lines. Line-crossings required communication and cooperation between the warring parties, who were naturally suspicious of one another. The request enclosed in this cover explains: "Wilmington, North Carolina, Oct 26, 1863, Mrs. J. Carrie Burnett of Cincinnati Ohio, wife of a Federal soldier desires to procure a passport to return to her family in Ohio, with permission to go upon your Flag of Truce boat via Fortress Monroe. The permit forwarded to me will be handed to her. Respectfully, B. Duncan." (Duncan's censor mark appears on blockade-run covers — see lot 350). The pass was granted on November 9 and returned by flag-of-truce to Wilmington. Mrs. Burnett then used it to board the flag-of-truce steamer to U.S.-controlled Fortress Monroe.

This cover is combines the essential ingredients of postal history — extraordinary markings serving an unusual purpose — with great Civil War history. It also helps us imagine the struggles of Mrs. Burnett and thousands of other civilian wives and mothers to reunite with their loved ones during the war.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 194). Discussed and illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 96, 177-178)
..... E. 4,000-5,000



252

- 252 ☒ **District of East Tennessee Provost Marshal.** Inner envelope with original letter dated "Loudon Tennessee Apr 30th 1864", sent from U.S.-controlled Loudon (near Knoxville) to C.S.A.-controlled Kingsport Tenn., censored with **embossed "Provost Marshal General of East Tennessee" seal** and manuscript "Ex LA Gratz Maj & aaag", C.S.A. postage paid by **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, uncanceled, the exchange point was Knoxville where Maj. Gratz was located, stamp with small edge faults from placement, light soiling and backflap partially split and reinforced

VERY FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF THE EAST TENNESSEE PROVOST MARSHAL EMBOSSED SEAL. FEWER THAN FIVE EXAMPLES ARE KNOWN.

A number of different manuscript provost marshal markings appear on through-the-lines covers as well as Union handstamped markings. The only district to use the rare embossed marking is the District of East Tennessee.

Illustrated in Harrison (p. 246) and *Special Routes* (p. 98) E. 3,000-4,000

253



254



- 253 ☒ **Tullahoma Tenn.** Light yellow flag-of-truce cover to Mt. Solon Va., clear strike of “Tullahoma Ten. Mar. 26, 1863” circular datestamp with “Paid 10” C.S.A. rate handstamp, manuscript “*Per Flag of Truce*”, back of cover censored with “**Approved by order of Major Gen’l Rosecrans, Wm. M. Miles, Pro. Marshal Genl.**”, some slight wear, otherwise Very Fine, a most unusual usage, in March 1863 Union Army of the Cumberland Commander Gen. William S. Rosecrans was in the middle of a six-month occupation of Murfreesboro to the Northwest of Tullahoma in preparation for the Tullahoma or Middle Tennessee campaign against the Confederate Army of the Tennessee and Gen. Braxton Bragg (June 24-July 3, 1863), Bragg was in a defensive position in and around Tullahoma, this cover was sent through the lines by flag-of-truce and censored by an army provost marshal, prepaid with cash and entered the C.S.A. postal system in Tullahoma... E. 1,000-1,500

- 254 ☒ **Norfolk Va. Provost Marshal.** Yellow civilian flag-of-truce cover to Richmond, clearly struck “**Approved/Chas. M. Weelden [sic]/Lt. Col. & Provost Marshal/District Va.**” four lines in ornamental rectangular frame handstamp (Ty. 1), two **5c Blue, Stone 2 (4)**, each with ample margins to just touched, tied by “Richmond Va. Feb. 11” (1864) circular datestamp (Ty. 5, used May 1863 to Mar. 1865)

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE COMBINATION OF A SCARCE CENSOR MARKING WITH THE 5-CENT BLUE LITHOGRAPHED GENERAL ISSUE. A BEAUTIFUL FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER.

This cover is the inner envelope of a flag-of-truce letter that was exchanged between Fortress Monroe and Richmond and put into the Richmond post office as an overpaid drop letter.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 178), Shenfield (p. 37), Harrison (p. 249) and *Special Routes* (p. 99).....
..... E. 2,000-3,000



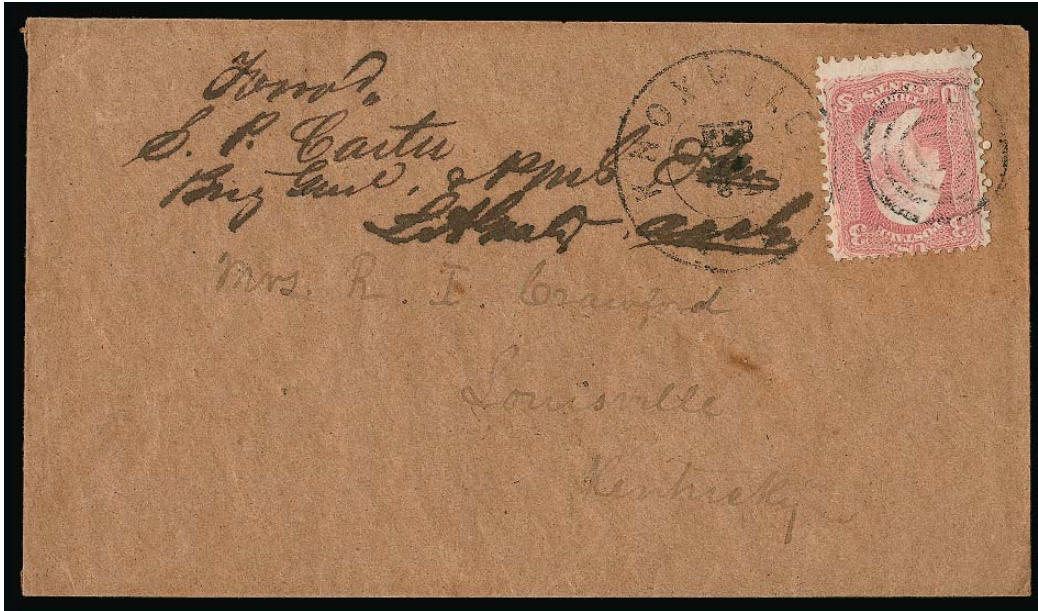
- 255 ☒ **Norfolk Va. Provost Marshal.** Civilian flag-of-truce cover from Norfolk Va. to Mosley Hall N.C., bearing two 5c Green, Stone 2 (1), one has large margins incl. top sheet margin, other cut in, tied by "Richmond Va. Aug. 24" (1864) circular datestamp, sender's "per Flag of Truce" endorsement and manuscript "Ex" examiner's mark, light but readable backstamp "APPROVED/July 31 1864/CHARLES M. WHELDEN, Lieut. Col. & Pro. Marshal, NORFOLK DIST., VA." in truncated frame, slightly reduced at right and small backflap tear

FINE AND RARE CIVILIAN FLAG-OF-TRUCE COVER WITH A PROVOST MARSHAL CENSOR HANDSTAMP AND PRE-PAID C.S.A. POSTAGE.

The use of Confederate stamps on a southbound flag-of-truce cover is very unusual, and this is a very late use of the 5c Green Lithograph. Typically, such covers show a due marking for C.S.A. postage E. 2,000-3,000

- 256 ☒ **Norfolk Va. Provost Marshal.** Civilian flag-of-truce cover to Salisbury N.C., endorsed "Per flag of truce boat—", manuscript "Ex" examiner's mark and six lines in octagonal frame "Approved/Norfolk, Va./Sept. 1864/Horace T. Sanders, Colonial & Provost Marshal/Dist. of Va.", handstamp lightly but legibly struck, ties 10c Blue, Die A (11), large margins, used with 3c Rose (65), bold "B" manuscript cancel, both stamps tied by "Richmond Va. Sep. 16" (1864) circular datestamp, faint toning at bottom, Very Fine, scarce and attractive mixed franking from Norfolk via Old Point Comfort and Richmond, from the Gordon correspondence, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 99) E. 1,000-1,500

FLAG-OF-TRUCE—PROVOST MARSHAL EXAMINERS
PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL



257

257 ☒ **Federal Provost Marshal Prison, Knoxville Tenn.** Brown prisoner-of-war cover from Union-controlled Knoxville to Louisville Ky., censored with manuscript *Forwd. S.P. Carter Brig Genl. & PMG* and “*L. A. Gratz aaag*”, 3c Rose (65) tied by target and “Knoxville Ten. Feb 1 '64” circular datestamp

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY COVER KNOWN FROM THE FEDERAL PROVOST MARSHAL PRISON IN KNOXVILLE.

Following the Fall 1863 Knoxville Campaign and September 2, 1863, occupation of Knoxville by Federal forces, the former Confederate prison was taken over and used as a Provost Marshal Prison. Large numbers of citizen prisoners were held there during 1864. (Harrison p. 205). Samuel Powhatan Carter was a U.S. Navy officer who served in the Union Army as a brevet major general during the war and after the war became a rear admiral — the first American officer to be awarded both ranks. After the occupation of Knoxville, he was also made Provost Marshal General of the Knoxville Division. Major L. A. Gratz served as examiner and acting assistant adjutant general. Harrison records only a single cover sent to the Knoxville Prison and this is the only one we record from the Prison..... E. 1,500-2,000

FLAG-OF-TRUCE—PAROLE CAMP MAIL

Frequently, captured soldiers would be paroled in the field, which meant that they gave their word (on penalty of death) not to bear arms again until exchanged for a comparable number of paroled soldiers from the other side. Soldiers were paroled to avoid the inconvenience of processing them through the P.O.W. system, or because their captors were unable to transport them to a prison. Because of their status, when parolees returned to their own side, they were held in special parole camps in their own territory until they were exchanged. U.S. parolees were held in U.S. parole camps, and C.S.A. parolees in C.S.A. camps. Detailed information on these camps can be found in Harrison's 1997 *Prisoners' Mail from the American Civil War*.



258

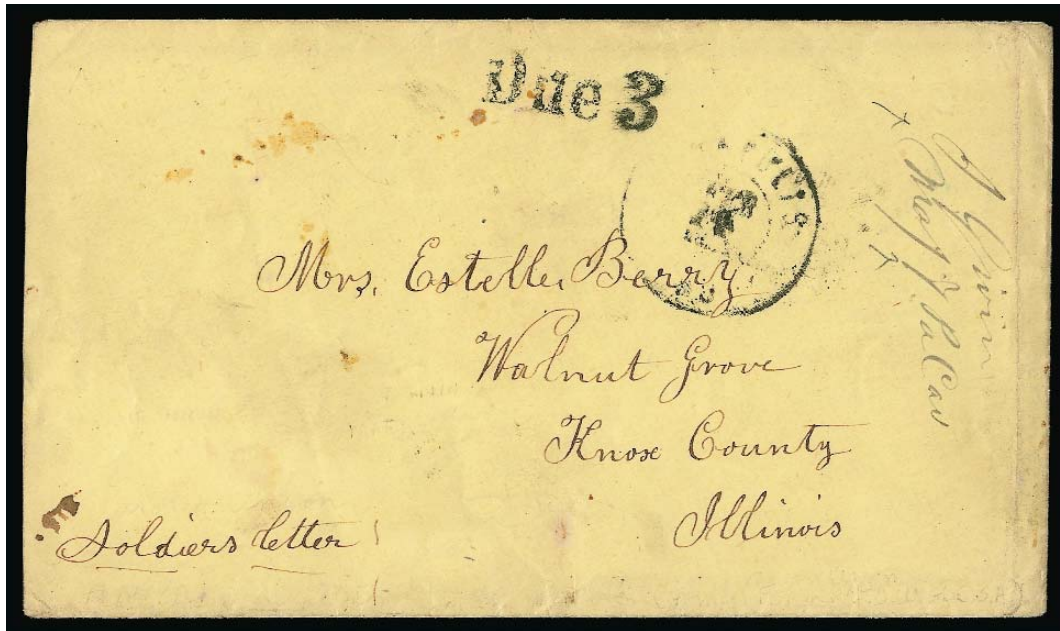
- 258 ☒ **Camp Parole, Annapolis Md.** Cover from parolee to his sister in Buchanan Pa., with original letter datelined “*Parole Camp Near Annapolis Md May 17th 1863*”, “**Soldier’s Letter. James E. Doughty, Adj. Paroled Prisoners.**” **three-line label** affixed upside down at left, “Annapolis Md. May 19, 1863” circular datestamp and “Due 3” straightline, light soiling and some edgewear, left side split

THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED COVER BEARING A “SOLDIER’S LETTER” LABEL FROM CAMP PAROLE IN MARYLAND. ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COLLECTION AND AN IMPORTANT ARTIFACT OF CIVIL WAR POSTAL HISTORY.

Relatively little parole camp mail survives. No covers are known from C.S.A. parole camps. Letters to or from U.S. parole camps can be identified by addresses, endorsements or letter contents. Some of the surviving letters are on U.S. Sanitary Commission stationery. The label on the cover offered here represents the only parole camp label known to have been used, and it is the sole recorded example. Camp Parole was the largest U.S. camp, and was in use from September 1862 until the end of the war. Fewer than 30 covers are known to or from this facility.

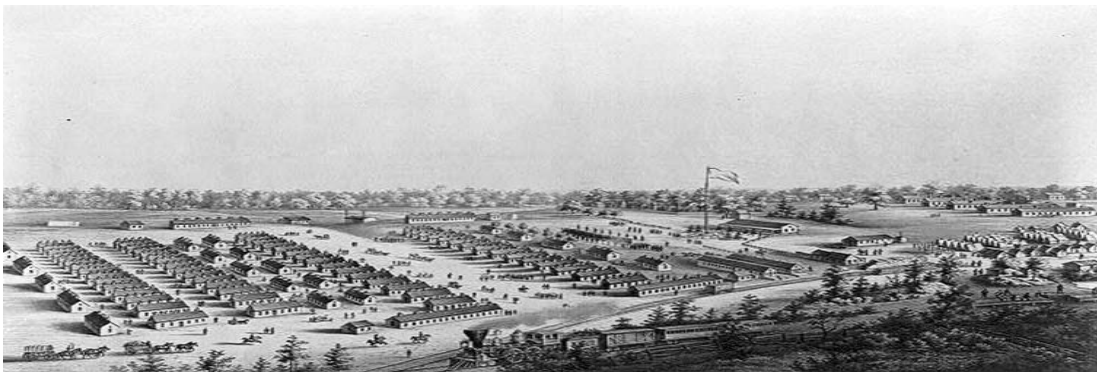
This soldier who mailed this cover was part of the 16th Corps and was captured at Fredericksburg. Rules for prisoner-of-war mail from regular prisons included a requirement that the content of letters be limited to personal matters. As such, descriptions of battles and discussions of how a soldier was captured are rare. Since this letter was sent from Camp Parole, those requirements were not relevant and the letter contains a wonderful narrative of the soldier’s experience at Fredericksburg and his capture and march to Richmond and to Camp Parole: “...we chased them away & took their works, pressed on & fought them again on same day. I made a narrow escape, a grape shot passing through a tin can that I had fastened to my haversack, it made a hole 1½ inches in diameter.” First-hand accounts of military action in soldiers’ letters are among the most prized primary source material for Civil War researchers and collectors.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 106) and *Special Routes* (p. 87)..... E. 3,000-4,000



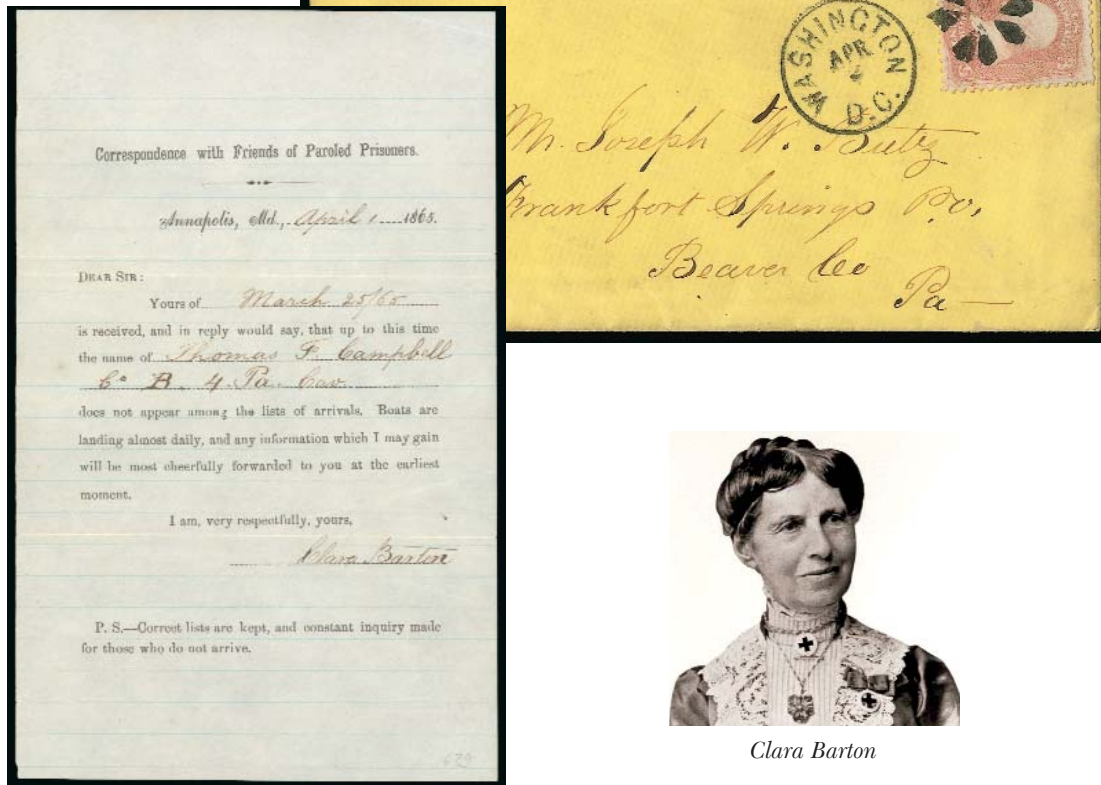
259

- 259 ☒ **Camp Parole, Annapolis Md.** Cover from parolee to Walnut Grove Ill., with original letter datelined "Parole Camp Feb 14th 1863", endorsed at bottom "Soldiers Letter" and at side "J Given Maj 7 Pa Cav", entered mails with "Annapolis Md. Feb. 14, 1863" circular datestamp and "Due 3" straightline for soldier's letter, some light staining and file fold well away from the markings, Very Fine, scarce Camp Parole letter with fascinating contents, including "I am home sick and sick of the solace, I cannot think of contenting myself here three or four months. I presume it will be that long before we are exchanged. Its one of the most immoral and corrupted place that I ever was in. The greatest portion of them care not for God or man and they would murder a man for twenty five cts. So I intend to start for home if you can send me twenty five dollars.", morale in parole camps was notoriously low, with men idle sometimes for months and unable to drill or participate in any military activities due to the parole regulations, many felt abandoned by their government while awaiting exchange and desertion rates were high (Harrison p. 226), this letter is an outstanding first-hand account of this war-time scenario..... E. 750-1,000



Camp Parole, Maryland

260 and enclosure



Clara Barton

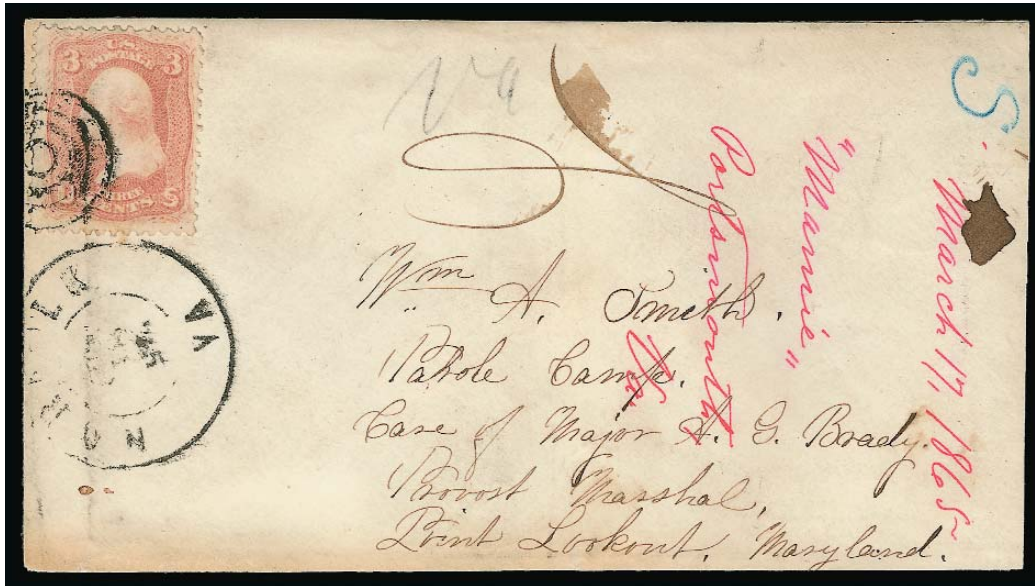
260 ✉ **Correspondence Office with Friends of Paroled Prisoners, Annapolis Md.** Yellow cover with printed corner card “Clara Barton, Gen. Correspondent. Correspondence Office with Friends of Paroled Prisoners, Annapolis, Md. (Office crossed out), to Frankport Springs Pa., 3c Rose (65), tied by rosette cancel with matching “Washington D.C. Apr. 2” circular datestamp, original enclosure is a printed form letter **signed by Clara Barton**, dated April 1, 1865, titled the same as the front of the cover and “. . .the name of *Thomas F. Campbell Co B, 4. Pa. Cav.* does not appear among the lists of arrivals. Boats are landing almost daily, and any information which I may gain will be most cheerfully forwarded to you at the earliest moment.”, name and unit in manuscript, couple very small tears confined to back

EXTREMELY FINE. A WONDERFUL ARTIFACT OF CIVIL WAR BENEVELONCE SIGNED BY CLARA BARTON, FOUNDER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

According to Wikipedia: “In April 1862, after the First Battle of Bull Run, Barton established an agency to obtain and distribute supplies to wounded soldiers. She was given a pass by General William Hammond to ride in army ambulances to provide comfort to the soldiers and nurse them back to health and lobbied the U.S. Army bureaucracy, at first without success, to bring her own medical supplies to the battlefields. Finally, in July 1862, she obtained permission to travel behind the lines, eventually reaching some of the grimmest battlefields of the war and serving during the Siege of Petersburg and Richmond, Virginia. In 1864 she was appointed by Union General Benjamin Butler as the ‘lady in charge’ of the hospitals at the front of the Army of the James.”

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln placed Barton in charge of the search for the missing men of the Union Army. With a former Andersonville prisoner, Dorence Atwater, she helped identify thousands of dead prisoners at Andersonville and the two became known as the “Angels of Andersonville,” according to a biography of Barton. She embarked on a nationwide campaign to identify all soldiers missing during the Civil War. She published lists of names in newspapers and exchanged letters with soldiers’ families. Her activities with the *Correspondence with Friends of Paroled Prisoners* represents some of her early efforts in her wide-ranging work to identify and ensure the return of Union soldiers. Barton founded the American Red Cross 1881 and served until 1904. She died in 1912.

Illustrated in Antrim (p. 107) E. 3,000-4,000



261EX

- 261 ☒ **Point Lookout Parole Camp.** Cover docketed Portsmouth Va. to Parole Camp, Camp Lookout Md., "Norfolk Va. Mar. 17, 1865" double-circle datestamp, 3c Rose (65) tied by target, manuscript "Ex" censor mark, Very Fine, a scarce cover to Point Lookout Parole Camp, well known as a prison and used as a parole camp late in the war, fewer than five covers are known, also incl. second cover on "U.S. Christian Commission" corner card, from Annapolis Md. to Pottstown N.Y., endorsed "Soldier's Letter", with "Annapolis Md. Sep. 29 '64" double-circle datestamp and "Due 3" straightline, includes letter from paroled prisoner regarding a friend still at Danville Va. Prison, Very Fine.....
(Photo Ex) E. 400-500

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ROUTES—GOVERNMENT EXPRESS

A primary Federal strategy was to gain control of the Mississippi River from Tennessee to New Orleans. This was a central part of General Winfield Scott's three-point "Anaconda Plan": first, to blockade the Confederate Atlantic and Gulf coasts to starve the Rebellion; second, to seize control of the Mississippi River to divide the Confederacy; and third, to strike from all sides at once. The first step in the Mississippi River strategy was the Federal capture of New Orleans on April 26, 1862. Union gunboats then ranged up the river, capturing Baton Rouge and Natchez, and arriving off Vicksburg on May 18, 1862. On June 6, Memphis fell to the Federals, opening up the upper Mississippi to their gunboats.

Map of the Trans-Mississippi region

Blue lines represent water route. Black lines indicate railroad connections.



The resulting Union presence along the Mississippi River greatly disrupted the C.S.A. trans-Mississippi postal service, and caused significant changes in how the mail was carried. This evolution of trans-Mississippi mail services was described comprehensively by Richard Krieger in his 1984 *The Trans-Mississippi Mails After The Fall of Vicksburg*. Stefan Jaronski then added important new information about the service in his 1990 "Major Springer, Lt. Ewell, R. A. Matthews, and the Trans-Mississippi Mails" (*Confederate Philatelist*, Mar.-Apr. 1990, No. 254).

Soon after the loss of New Orleans, C.S.A. Postmaster General Reagan began worrying about the trans-Mississippi mails. On May 24, 1862, he notified his special postal agents about the impending interruption of the trans-Mississippi mail service and stated that "...It is necessary, in anticipation of such a contingency, for this Department to

adopt measures to secure the transmission of the mails by any available modes and routes." He then provided instructions in the letter on how to "secure the transmission of the mails," as summarized below:

1. Westbound mail was to be collected at specific points in Mississippi or Louisiana, as designated by the Special Agents, for transmission across the river. Eastbound mail was to be collected at specific points in Arkansas or Louisiana, as designated by the Special Agents. The purpose of this was to ensure that mail accumulated at safe, accessible places so that the Special Agents would know where to find it whenever there was an opportunity to send a mail across.
2. The Special Agents were to determine, by personal inspection, the best places to cross the river.
3. When enough mail had accumulated at a collection point, it was to be forwarded across the river, not more than twice weekly. Special messengers could be used (for reasonable compensation) to cross the river, but regular mail carriers were to carry the mails as far as the regular routes extended.

This general approach of establishing mail accumulation points fed by regular postal routes was to persist with respect to the trans-Mississippi mails, although different accumulation points were established as the service evolved. Further, there is no indication that Arkansas was ever used as an accumulation point for the trans-Mississippi mails, particularly after U.S. forces captured Fort Hindman, Arkansas, on January 11, 1863.

The Confederate Congress endorsed this approach on October 6, 1862, by authorizing the appointment of special trans-Mississippi post office agents, in an effort "to superintend and secure the certain and speedy transportation of the mails across the Mississippi River." Later, on April 16, 1863, Congress authorized a "preferred" mail service to be established by the Post Office Department to maintain communication across the Mississippi River, and to provide for "more speedy transmission of letters and dispatches." The rate in the statute was set at 50¢ per half ounce, and preferential handling was to be given to such mails. Although there are fewer than five known surviving "preferred mail" 50¢ rate covers, all westbound, Jaronski found records of at least eight mail-carrying trips undertaken by C.S.A. military officers in 1863.

It is not clear that the 50¢ rate was ever placed into use. A Charleston newspaper announced the rate sometime in the September-November 1863 timeframe, but this was corrected by a December 10, 1863, letter from the C.S.A. Post Office Department. However, that newspaper announcement and the existence of some letters with this franking (lots 262-263) suggest that the rate was implemented, even though no further evidence of it has been uncovered. In any event, it is very unlikely that the 50¢ rate was ever announced on the western side of the river, given the short time that it was in effect.

On May 1, 1863, the Confederate Congress once again considered the question of the trans-Mississippi mails. It authorized the C.S.A. Postmaster General to establish an "Express Mail" along post routes and at rates to be designated by him. Under this authority, the Postmaster General established an express mail rate of 40¢ per half ounce, and hired a contractor to carry the express mails twice weekly on October 20, 1863. An August 1, 1863, C.S.A. Post Office advertisement placed in newspapers on the western side of the river gave directions for the

continued on next page

continued from previous page

routing of trans-Mississippi mails. All eastbound communications were to be addressed to their proper destination, care of the postmasters at Shreveport, Louisiana, or Camden, Arkansas. The mails were to be forwarded by carriers designated by the Post Office Special Agents.

The Postmaster General clarified this advertisement in an August 1, 1863, letter to the postmasters at Shreveport and Camden, explaining that, "The Special Agents may on occasions find it expedient to order the concentration of mail matter at points nearer the river. In that case, their directions are to be obeyed." Then, in an August 11, 1863, letter to a Special Agent in Mississippi, the postmaster general added that, "I have given no directions for the accumulation of the mails going from the East to the West of the Mississippi at particular points. They will necessarily follow the great lines going West by way of Mobile and Selma to Meridian and can by direction of the Special Agents be collected at any time, at any point on that line which will be most convenient for their transportation to the West..." It is clear that the Special Agents settled on **Shreveport and Alexandria, Louisiana, in the west and on Brandon and Meridian, Mississippi, in the east** as the mail accumulation points.

Detailed map of the Trans-Mississippi region showing key locations of express route

Blue lines represent water route. Black lines indicate railroad connections.



Three principal pre-war trans-Mississippi mail routes crossed the river at Memphis, New Orleans and Vicksburg. The Memphis and New Orleans routes were cut in 1862, and the Jackson-Vicksburg-Monroe route was disrupted by Federal gunboats, but remained open until the May 14, 1863, fall of Jackson, Mississippi. After May 1863, the trans-Mississippi mail service was forced to use *ad hoc* secondary routes to cross the river with constant threat of Federal interception. One replacement route was an extension of C.S.A. post office route 8501a, which ran between Orange, Texas, and Simmesport via Opelousas, Louisiana. The actual crossing was between Simmesport and Woodville, Mississippi, via the Red River Landing in Louisiana. In his 1869 *Memoirs of Service Afloat*, C.S.A. Admiral Semmes described crossing the Mississippi with the mails in December 1864 via Alexandria and Evergreen (just west of Simmesport) to Woodville. His trip took four days from Alexandria to Woodville, and then an additional four days to reach Mobile.

Federal military presence in northern Mississippi greatly disrupted the mail routes on the eastern side of the river which connected via the Mississippi Central Railroad with Jackson. Consequently, mail could only be routed between the eastern C.S.A. and Meridian via Selma or Mobile. Further, the U.S. occupation of nearby Vicksburg and Federal expeditions to the Jackson-Brandon-Meridian area in July 1863 and February 1864 destroyed the transportation infrastructure and de-stabilized the area. Therefore, the only viable route to the river was south and west between Meridian and Woodville via Winchester and Brookhaven, Mississippi. Covers generally bear the notations "Via Meridian" or "Via Brandon."

There were extreme difficulties in running the Union blockade along the river, and there are fewer than 150 known westbound express mail covers. Many are waterstained, creased and/or soiled because of the rough handling incurred while crossing the river. Therefore, condition standards for trans-Mississippi covers take into account the unusually harsh circumstances of the trans-Mississippi crossing.

The earliest known westbound express mail cover was postmarked on October 26, 1863, in Petersburg, Virginia, and the latest known cover was mailed in Mobile, Alabama, in April 1865 (the undated Mobile postmark was used during the March 27-April 12, 1865 siege of Mobile).

Fewer than 50 eastbound express mail covers are known, so westbound covers outnumber eastbound covers by about three to one. The earliest known eastbound cover was postmarked in Jefferson, Texas on November 28, 1863 and the latest known cover was sent from Alexandria on March 12, 1865.

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ROUTES—GOVERNMENT EXPRESS "PREFERRED MAIL" RATE

On April 16, 1863, the Confederate Congress authorized a "preferred" mail service to be established by the Post Office Dept. to maintain communication across the Mississippi River, and to provide for "more speedy transmission of letters and dispatches." The rate in the statute was set at 50¢ per half ounce, and preferential handling was to be given to such mails. Although there are fewer than five known surviving "preferred mail" 50¢ rate covers, all westbound, Jaronski found records of at least eight mail-carrying trips undertaken by C.S.A. military officers in 1863.

It is not clear that the 50¢ rate was ever placed into use. A Charleston newspaper announced the rate sometime in the September-November 1863 timeframe, but this was corrected by a December 10, 1863, letter from the C.S.A. Post Office Department. However, that newspaper announcement and the existence of some letters with this franking (lots 262-263) suggest that the rate was implemented, even though no further evidence of it has been uncovered. In any event, it is very unlikely that the 50¢ rate was ever announced on the western side of the river, given the short time that it was in effect.



262

- 262 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Contiguous "C" shaped strip of seven and horizontal strip of three, large margins to slightly in, small faults, tied by multiple strikes of brownish-black "**Black Hawk Miss.**" dateless circle handstamp on front only to Miss Mary E. Compton in Chappel Hill, Washington County, Texas, backflaps have been masterfully added to restore this front to envelope form, pressed crease (affecting two stamps), repaired tear in cover (does not affect the stamps)

A REMARKABLE FRANKING PAYING THE 50-CENT "PREFERRED MAIL" RATE THAT WAS ANNOUNCED IN APRIL 1863 AND SUPERSEDED BY THE 40-CENT TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS MAIL RATE ONE MONTH LATER.

Black Hawk, Mississippi, lies about 90 miles north of Brandon, where mail was accumulated for westbound express runs across the Mississippi River. Very few examples of Confederate mail postmarked at Black Hawk are known (this and a larger dateless circle are recorded). Based on the use of the 5c Local (Richmond) print, it seems likely that this was used in early 1863, prior to the October 1863 "Express" period (for which the 40c rate was intended). Only five "Preferred Mail" covers are recorded, and this, although undated, is considered to be the earliest.

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. E50) and *Special Routes* (p. 103). Ex Everett and Birkinbine.....
..... E. 5,000-7,500



263

- 263 ✉ **10c Blue, Die A (11).** Horizontal pair and strip of three, large margins, tied by two strikes of "Marion Va. May 21" (1864) circular datestamp on cover addressed to "W. W. Heartsill C.S.A., Care Bradfield & Tully, Marshall Tex." with sender's routing "C.S. via Meridian Miss", skillfully treated by a paper conservator to remove stains and improve appearance

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. AN OUTSTANDING EAST-TO-WEST TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVER PAID AT THE 50-CENT "PREFERRED MAIL" RATE.

By May 1864, when this cover was mailed at Marion, Virginia, the Trans-Mississippi Express had been operating for seven months. Early advertisements announcing the 50c "Preferred Mail" rate were apparently still in circulation, as evidenced by the few recorded covers showing 50c prepayment.



William W. Heartsill

The addressee, William Williston Heartsill, was one of the first Confederate soldiers to enlist, joining W. P. Lane's Texas Rangers. In 1862 his Texas unit moved into Arkansas as a cavalry unit and were soon overwhelmed by a Union force. Heartsill was taken prisoner and transported to a Federal prison camp. In April 1863, he and other members of Lane's Rangers were exchanged for Federal prisoners. The men joined Gen. Braxton Bragg's army in Tennessee and fought in the bloody battle of Chickamauga. Under Bragg the Texas men were split amongst various units and dismounted, presenting intolerable conditions for them, and resulting in the men disappearing from their units and walking from Tennessee back to Texas. Once reunited there, the unit was placed in charge of Camp Ford, a prison for Federal troops, at Tyler, Texas (the cover offered here was sent to Heartsill while he was at Camp Ford). In July 1864 the unit joined General E. Kirby

Smith in Louisiana and spent the remainder of the war there and in Arkansas. The unit was disbanded on May 20, 1865. After the war, Heartsill sold groceries and saddles in Marshall, Texas. Heartsill published his Civil War diary *Fourteen Hundred and 91 Days in the Confederate Army*, which can be viewed on the Library of Congress website at <http://lccn.loc.gov/a14002842>

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. E22). Ex Seacrest..... E. 7,500-10,000

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ROUTES—GOVERNMENT EXPRESS
EASTBOUND



264

- 264 ☒ **20c Green, Horizontal Half Used as 10c (13d).** Bottom half used with **full 20c Green (13)** and **10c Blue, Die A (11)**, each with clear to full margins, 10c small corner crease, the 20c bisect and single are tied together by "Alexandria La. Oct. 17" (1864) circular datestamp, rim of datestamp used to lightly cancel 10c stamp on buff cover to Mrs. C. M. Dent at Livingston Ala., entered the mails at Alexandria, then carried east across the Mississippi River and on to Alabama, backflap removed

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED FULL COVER WITH A 20-CENT BISECT USED TO PAY PART OF THE 40-CENT TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS RATE. ONE OF THE GREATEST GENERAL ISSUE COVERS EXTANT.

A letter written by August Dietz (quoted previously but no longer with the cover) presents a scenario that this cover was brought to the post office with the 10c stamp affixed by the sender in the upper right corner. When the decision was made to use the more reliable Trans-Mississippi Express service, the additional postage was applied by the postal clerk, using a 20c stamp and half of another to make up the 40c rate. The C.S.A. Post Office Department had difficulty keeping offices west of the Mississippi supplied with stamps, which explains the disproportionately greater use of 20c bisects in that region. Another cover (front) from this correspondence, bearing a strip of 10c postmarked at Alexandria on February 10, 1865, is listed in Krieger census (No. W18).

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. W15) and *Special Routes* (p. 109). Ex Myerson. With 1973 and 2006 P.F. certificates E. 15,000-20,000



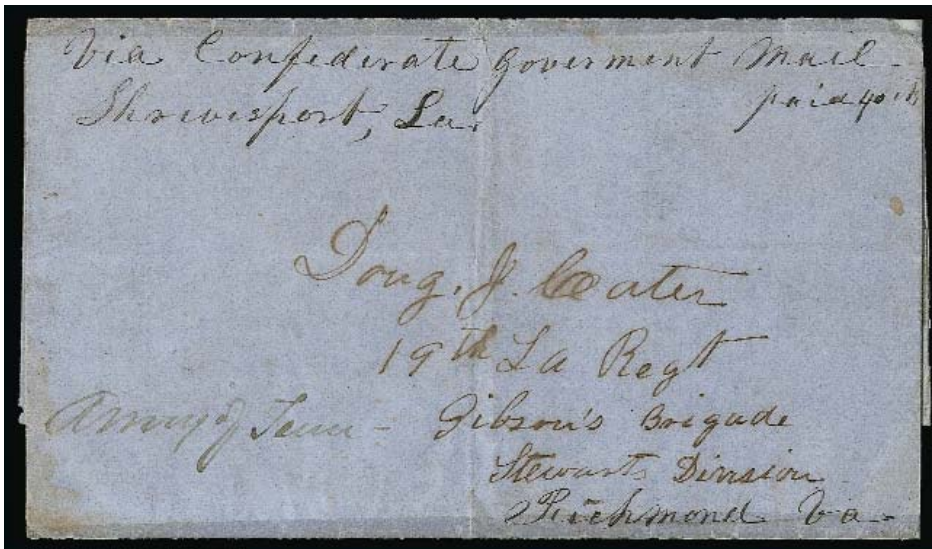
265

- 265 ☒ **10c Blue, Die B (12).** Horizontal strip of four, large margins, beautiful deep shade, neatly cancelled by tiny X's on each stamp and manuscript "*Parkersville Texas/9th March 1865*" postmark on **blue and white wallpaper cover** to Mrs. Thomas C. Robertson at Jackson Miss., sender's routing "*Express Mail via Shreveport*", side flap folded over for display

EXTREMELY FINE. A VISUALLY STRIKING WALLPAPER ADVERSITY ENVELOPE AND ONE OF THE LATEST RECORDED WEST-TO-EAST TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVERS — ITS SIGNIFICANCE IS MATCHED BY ITS IMPECCABLE CONDITION.

The latest recorded Trans-Mississippi Express cover is a westbound use from Mobile, Alabama, with the undated double-circle handstamp that was used during the Siege of Mobile, March 27 to April 12, 1865. The latest eastbound use is dated March 12, 1865, at Alexandria. The cover offered here was postmarked at Parkersville, Texas, on March 9, 1865, and carried by express across the Mississippi River, then to Jackson. It is the second latest eastbound use.

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. W20) and *Special Routes* (p. 108). With 1980 P.F. certificate E. 7,500-10,000



266



267

- 266 ☒ **"Via Confederate Government Mail, Shreveport, La."** Manuscript route designation and **"paid 40 cts"** rate on blue folded cover addressed in another hand to *"Doug. J. Carter, 19th La. Regt., Gibson's Brigade, Stewart's Division"* with *"Richmond Va."* added as a fifth line in the same hand as Trans-Mississippi routing and rate, crossed out and, in a third hand, redirected to *"Army of Tenn."*, which routed the cover to Jonesborough Ga., reinforced with document repair tape along top and bottom folds (slight staining)

VERY FINE AND THE ONLY RECORDED COVER WITH THIS "CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT MAIL" ROUTE DESIGNATION.

Douglas John Carter was enlisted with the 3rd Regiment Texas Cavalry in 1861 and transferred to the 19th Louisiana Infantry in June 1862. Carter served as its Chief Musician until the unit's surrender in May 1865. Carter's residence was in DeSoto Parish La., and this cover probably originated there in August 1864. Historical background is provided in "An Unusual Trans-Mississippi Express Mail Cover" by Brian and Patricia Green, *Confederate Philatelist*, May-June 1973.

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. W40) and *Special Routes* (p. 105). Signed Brian Green. Ex Murphy..... E. 3,000-4,000

- 267 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Block of four, ample margins to slightly in, pre-use creases, slight stains and small faults, manuscript cancels, paying 20c of 40c Trans-Mississippi Express rate with manuscript **"Due 20"** on eastbound cover to *"Col. W. B. Whitehead, Mossingford, Charlotte County, By the way of Shreveport, Va."*, slightly toned

FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTRAORDINARILY RARE FRANKING FOR 40-CENT TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS RATE, COMBINING A BLOCK OF THE 5-CENT RICHMOND PRINT WITH A 'DUE 20' MARKING.

The use of the 5c Local (Richmond) print from west of the Mississippi points to an 1863 use.

Unlisted in Krieger. Ex MacBride E. 1,500-2,000



268

- 268 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Eight stamps comprising strip of three, two pairs and single, margins to slightly in, rich color, uncanceled and affixed to back of cover with comprehensive address for Trans-Mississippi transit: "Capt. J. A. Formwalt, Comds. Co. In 6th, 10th, and 15th Texas Regiments, Smith's Brigade, Cleburn's Division, Hardee's Corps, Johnson's Army" and routing "Via Shreveport La.", confirmation of 40c prepayment "Postage on opposite side", opened for display, minor wear

VERY FINE. A MOST UNUSUAL COVER FROM THE FORMWALT CORRESPONDENCE. FRANKED FOR THE GOVERNMENT TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS BUT CARRIED BY ANDERSON'S PRIVATE EXPRESS.

The letter from Mrs. Formwalt that was contained in this cover (which no longer accompanies) is datelined at Lonely Cottage, Texas, on March 31, 1864, and states that she is sending this letter and \$1.00 to Mr. Anderson, who is waiting at Fairfield, Texas, for letters to take east.

At the start of the Civil War, Maj. Formwalt enlisted as a private in Capt. William Shannon's company and was soon promoted to captain in command of his own company in Col. Nelson's 10th Regiment Texas Infantry. Maj. Formwalt was captured on January 11, 1862, at Arkansas Post, and imprisoned at Columbus, Ohio, for five months. After he was exchanged he joined the Army of the Tennessee. At the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, in November 1864, Formwalt, as a senior captain, was wounded while leading his regiment in the charge. Shortly after he was promoted to the rank of major.

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. W7) and shown on the back cover of that publication. Accompanying 1974 C.S.A. certificate notes "Probably carried privately rather than by C.S.A. postal system". Ex Corwin E. 1,500-2,000

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ROUTES—GOVERNMENT EXPRESS
WESTBOUND

269

270

- 269 ☒ **20c Green (13).** Horizontal pair, large margins all around, tied by “Jackson Creek Feby 1” (South Carolina) pencil manuscript postmark on homemade buff cover to Dr. James S. Milling, Collinsburgh La., from his wife Mary near Camden, peculiar notations at left appear to be in the same hand as address, some minor cleaning and skillful cosmetic edge improvements along bottom edge and top right corner of cover (not affecting stamps)

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. A REMARKABLY CHOICE PAIR OF THE 20-CENT GENERAL ISSUE PAYING THE 40-CENT GOVERNMENT TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS RATE ON A WESTBOUND COVER FROM THE MILLING CORRESPONDENCE.

James S. Milling was a physician and planter in Fairfield District S.C. In 1859, Milling moved his slaves to a plantation in Bossier Parish, Louisiana, where he spent the Civil War years while his wife (also his cousin), Mary W. Milling, and their children remained with her family near Camden S.C. The Milling letters are available at the Library of the University of North Carolina, and some can be found on the internet at www.docsouth.unc.edu.

Other Trans-Mississippi Express covers from the Milling correspondence are listed in the Krieger census as Nos. E18, E19 and E36. This is illustrated as No. E60, and the Krieger entry mentioned an eight-page letter enclosure that is no longer with this cover.

Ex Birkinbine. With 1982 P.F. certificate (showing cover before it was cleaned and treated) E. 7,500-10,000

- 270 ☒ **20c Green (13).** Horizontal pair, large margins all around, tied by “Marietta Ga. Jun. 6” (1864) circular datestamp on buff cover to Mrs. D. R. Rakestraw, Fairfield Tex., endorsed at left “G. A. Rakestraw, Co. G, 7 Reg. Texas Vol., Granburys Brig., Cleburnes Division, Army of Tenn.” and light pencil “Via Meridian” routing, **turned use** with other side addressed to G. A. Rakestraw and endorsed by another soldier, pencil note about “Yanks” losing a battle, restored extensively but skillfully (some paper added to flap and edges reseamed)

FINE APPEARANCE. A DESIRABLE EAST-TO-WEST TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVER WITH FIVE-LINE SOLDIER’S ENDORSEMENT, A PAIR OF THE 20-CENT GENERAL ISSUE AND “TURNED” FOR RE-USE.

No more than twenty covers with a pair of the 20c Green paying the 40c Trans-Mississippi Express rate are known (see *The Trans-Mississippi Mails After the Fall of Vicksburg*, Richard Krieger).

Ex Hill E. 4,000-5,000

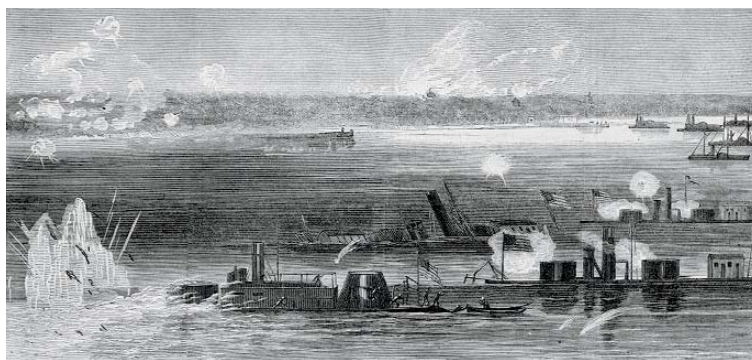


271

- 271 ☒ **20c Green (13).** Horizontal pair, slightly irregular but mostly large margins all around, tiny tear at lower left, tied by "Richmond Va. Nov. 15" (1864) circular datestamp on homemade cover to "1st Engineer B. S. Herring, Confederate States Navy, Shreveport, Louisiana", carried by express to Shreveport, then forwarded to Herring at Mobile (he served on the C.S.S. gunboat *Morgan*), receipt docketing "Received at Mobile, March 13th 1865", backflap removed, lightened stains and some modest cosmetic edge improvements FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTREMELY RARE EAST-TO-WEST TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVER, BEARING A PAIR OF THE 20-CENT GENERAL ISSUE AND CARRIED BACK EAST TO REACH A NAVAL ENGINEER AT MOBILE, ALABAMA.

The addressee, Benjamin Simms Herring, served as the second Engineer on the C.S.S. *Virginia*, better known as Confederate iron-clad *Merrimac* during the battle with the U.S.S. *Monitor* at Hampton Roads on March 8-9, 1862. Following the Union naval victory in the Battle of Mobile Bay in August 1864, the port of Mobile was closed to Confederate blockade-runners. On March 24, 1865, Maj. Gen. Dabney Herdon Maury and the remnants of his army evacuated Mobile, and the city surrendered on April 12. This cover reached Mobile just before Confederate forces evacuated. Herring served on board the C.S.S. gunboat *Morgan*.

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. E37). Accompanied by an adversity cover to Herring at Mobile with 10c Blue, Die A (11) tied by indistinct datestamp. E. 3,000-4,000



Siege of Mobile, March-April 1865



272

- 272 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Die B (12c).** Horizontal strip of four, large margins to touched at right, tied by "Richmond Va. Nov. 11, 1863" circular datestamp on cover to Mrs. A. M. Falconer, Morganza La., in care of Major Phillips, the Chief of the C.S.A. Subsistence Department at Alexandria, La., sender's routing "Via Brandon Miss." and "Please forward", very slight waterstains

VERY FINE. ONE OF THE FINEST TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVERS EXTANT. AN EARLY USE OF THE GOVERNMENT EXPRESS, WHICH COMMENCED IN OCTOBER 1863.

Illustrated in Shenfield book (p. 86) and Krieger book (No. E7). Signed Ashbrook. Ex Emerson, Brooks, Weatherly and Corwin. E. 5,000-7,500



273

- 273 ☒ **10c Blue, Die A (11).** Horizontal strip of four, mostly large margins except at bottom left where touching, tied by four clear strikes of **Army of Northern Virginia 10-Bar Unframed Grid** cancel on yellow cover to Miss Eliza Davis in Sumpter Tex., minor edgewear and light soiling

VERY FINE. ONE OF FIVE RECORDED TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVERS WITH ARMY FIELD OFFICE MARKINGS AND THE ONLY ONE OF THESE ORIGINATING WITH THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

Listed in Krieger as No. E53. Four of the five covers recorded by Krieger with army field cancellations come from the Army of Tennessee. Only this cover has the grids used by the Army of Northern Virginia in the field. Three other covers have targets or grids of uncertain origin.

Ex Haas. With 1983 P.F. certificate E. 5,000-7,500



274



275

- 274 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Die A (11c).** Vertical strip of three and single, huge margins all around, tied by light strikes of “Chattanooga Ten. Nov. 2” (1863) “roving” army field post circular datestamp on westbound Trans-Mississippi Express cover to John B. Brown in Cibola Selma Tex., endorsed “Via Meridian Miss.”, single stamp with faults, barely reduced at left, expertly repaired at bottom VERY FINE APPEARANCE. A WONDERFUL WESTBOUND TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVER TO TEXAS FROM THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE AFTER EVACUATING CHATTANOOGA.

The “roving” Chattanooga datestamp was taken from the city post office after evacuation and used as an army field office marking from September 1863 to January 1864. It is extremely rare on a Trans-Mississippi Express cover.

Illustrated in Krieger book (No. W-2). Ex Boshwit. With 1984 P.F. certificate. E. 4,000-5,000

- 275 ☒ **10c Blue, Die A (11).** Three huge margins, full at right, tied by “Richmond Va. Jul. 3” (1864) circular datestamp on homemade cover to “Capt. J. L. Kirby, Trans Miss Dept, Care Genl. J. B. Magruder, Shreveport La., Via Brandon Miss.”, manuscript “Due 30” making up 40c Trans-Mississippi Express rate

EXTREMELY FINE. THE ONLY RECORDED TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS COVER WITH “DUE 30” AND PART PREPAYMENT BY STAMP FOR 40-CENT RATE.

This cover is not listed in the Krieger book on Trans-Mississippi Express Mail, but a few covers to Capt. J. L. Kirby are recorded by Krieger, most of which are completely unpaid and were presumably carried by courier.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 107). Signed Brian Green. Ex Alex Hall..... E. 3,000-4,000

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ROUTES—PRIVATE EXPRESS
E. H. CUSHING



276

- 276 ✉ **E. H. Cushing Express.** Black on green newsprint label, Type I (without date), affixed to back of **adversity** cover made from title page of a Galveston pamphlet in German, **5c Blue, Local (7)**, horizontal pair, deep shade, large margins to touching, tied by well-struck “**JACKSON**” straightline handstamp, carried by Cushing from the regiment in Galveston and put into the mails at Jackson Miss. for Russellville, E. Tenn., soldier’s endorsement from member of Debray’s Regt, Tex. Cavalry, the label has insect damage but text is virtually complete

AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF THE TYPE I LABEL, THE RAREST OF THE FOUR TYPES USED ON TRANS-MISSISSIPPI MAIL CARRIED BY E. H. CUSHING.

E. H. Cushing, publisher of the *Houston Daily Telegraph*, commenced his express service after New Orleans fell to Federal forces in April 1862. In an effort to improve communications between Texas regiments in the East and their relations at home, as well as secure safe lines for news transmission, Cushing established routes with pony riders and other means of conveyance necessary to cross the Federal lines. Cushing’s agents affixed labels to the backs of envelopes carried by express. These were intended to inform patrons and advertise the service. Approximately 20 examples (of all varieties) are believed to exist. This type is much rarer than the larger labels.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 111). Ex Keeling E. 2,000-3,000



278

- 278 ☒ **E. H. Cushing Express.** Small cover endorsed "From Capt. Clay, 5th Texas Regiment, Army of Northern Va." to Mrs. Bettie Clay in Independence Tex., carried by Cushing from east of the Mississippi and put into the mails at Shreveport with "Shreveport La. May 22, 1863" double-circle datestamp and "DUE 10" straightline handstamp, slight toning, Very Fine, Captain Tacitus T. Clay's letters to his wife have been published, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 112) E. 500-750



279

- 279 ☒ **E. H. Cushing Express.** Small cover endorsed from Capt. Tacitus T. Clay, 5th Texas Regiment, to Mrs. Bettie Clay in Independence Tex., carried by Cushing from east of the Mississippi and put into the mails at Shreveport with **5c Blue, Local (7)**, horizontal pair, large margins to clear, tied by "Shreveport La. May 19, 1863" double-circle datestamp, slight toning, Very Fine, Captain Tacitus T. Clay's letters to his wife have been published.. E. 500-750

ARTHUR H. EDEY



280

- 280 ☒ **Arthur H. Edey's Express.** Black on white newsprint label "FORWARDED BY/ARTHUR H. EDEY, Agent, Fifth Reg't Texas Volunteers." affixed to upper left corner, tied by small stain spot, on brown homemade cover originating from Army of Northern Virginia east of the Mississippi and carried by Edey to New Salem Tex. where it entered the mails with two **5c Blue, De La Rue (6)**, irregular margins, matching manuscript "X" cancels and "New Salem Tx Oct 24" manuscript postmark, addressed to Miss Jessie L. Bryan at Liberty Tex., in care of P. Bryan at Cedar Grove, backflap partly missing, slight wear and toning
- ONE OF EIGHT RECORDED COVERS WITH THE EDEY LABEL, OF WHICH HALF ARE AFFIXED TO THE BACKS. EDEY'S EXPRESS OPERATED BRIEFLY FROM JUNE UNTIL LATE OCTOBER 1862 — THIS IS THE LATEST OF THE RECORDED COVERS.

Arthur H. Edey provided mail service between members of the 5th Regiment, Texas Volunteers, serving east of the Mississippi, and their correspondents back home. Our records contain eight examples of Edey's label, including a few heavily stained or defective covers. This cover was probably carried across the river near Shreveport. New Salem, Texas, is in Rusk County, west of Shreveport and north of Liberty. One other cover from the Jessie Bryan correspondence is known; it is identically addressed and bears a block of four 10c Die A for the 40c government Trans-Mississippi express rate, cancelled by the army field office target.

Ex Alex Hall E. 4,000-5,000



281

- 281 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Die A (11c).** Three large margins, touched at right, used with **U.S. 3c Rose (65)**, both stamps have minor faults, uncanceled but properly used on **prisoner-of-war** cover with faint blue **"R.I. Barracks/Examined/Prisoner's Letter"** examiner's oval handstamp, endorsed **"Per Flag of Truce"** and **"Care of W.U. Bayles Agt 5th Texas Depot"**, to the 2nd Auditor's Office at Richmond with letter enclosure datelined **"Military Prison Barrack No. 7, Rock Island Ill. Dec. 19th/64"**, significant references to Sgt. Bayless and the shipment of provisions to Rock Island, the prison examiner has crossed out requests for provisions, adding on back **"No provisions will be sent for the prisoners and these letters must not exceed two-thirds of a page of the size of this. H.K. Qm."**, intended for flag of truce mails but evidently carried by private courier, the cover is somewhat toned

A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE PRISONER HELD AT ROCK ISLAND TO THE SECOND AUDITOR'S OFFICE IN RICHMOND — SENT IN CARE OF SARGEANT W. U. BAYLESS, THE SUCCESSOR TO ARTHUR H. EDEY IN OPERATING EDEY'S TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPRESS.

Sgt. W. U. Bayless, agent for the 5th Texas Regiment, assisted Arthur H. Edey and became responsible for the express after Edey was captured and imprisoned at Elmira.

Described in the *Confederate Philatelist* (No. 188, pp. 35-38). Ex Everett, Felton and Corwin E. 1,500-2,000

J. M. BARKSDALE'S ARKANSAS EXPRESS



282 and detail of endorsement on back

- 282 ✉ **J. M. Barksdale's Arkansas Express.** "Washington Ark. Dec. 7" circular datestamp with "10" C.S.A. rate handstamp on cover with soldier's endorsement in blue "Soldier's Letter, Alex. E. Spence Capt., Co 'B' 1st Ark Regt" and addressed to Mr. Solomon Spence in Arkadelphia Ark., sender's notation "Paid 1.00" for express fee, the letter contained in this cover (which no longer accompanies) is datelined "Camp 1st Ark Regt, near Tusculum Ala. Nov. 11th 1864" and states "Mr. Barksdale the courier for Reynolds Ark Brig has just arrived bringing letters from Arks & says he will wait here one hour for us to write back so by being brief I can write to you...", manuscript note on back "Answer at Washington by December 27th J. M. Barksdale", reduced slightly at right

VERY FINE. THIS IS ONE OF FOUR RECORDED COVERS CARRIED BY ONE OF THE ARKANSAS EXPRESSES, AND IT IS THE ONLY COVER WITH PROOF OF HANDLING BY BARKSDALE'S EXPRESS.

This cover was incorrectly described by us as an E. W. Black's Express cover in Sale 907 (lot 3049). After the sale it was reattributed to J. M. Barksdale at the C.S.A. Authentication Service. Their findings were published in an article by Francis J. Crown Jr. ("A New Private Express Cover", *Confederate Philatelist*, Jul-Sep. 2007, No. 354). We will draw on that article for this catalogue entry.

The sender, Capt. Alexander E. Spence, served in Company B (Clark County Volunteers), 1st Arkansas Infantry. Spence was promoted to captain on January 20, 1863. The expressman, J. M. Barksdale, was enlisted on Aug. 4, 1861, at Crane Creek, Missouri, and served in Company H, 2nd Arkansas Mounted Rifles. He was wounded on Mar. 7, 1862, at Elk Horn Ark and discharged on Dec. 17, 1862.

The following is an excerpt from Mark Christ's book *Getting Used to Being Shot At: The Spence Family Civil War Letters*: "Noted Arkansas jurist Uriah M. Rose, on a trip to Richmond in his capacity as the official historiographer of the state's Confederate government, met Barksdale. He described the courier thus: 'I had for a companion during my journey across the Mississippi River a most worthy and agreeable person, whose name was Barksdale; a resident of the State of Mississippi, a private enlisted in the Southern Army, then detailed to carry letters back and forth across the Mississippi River for officers and soldiers in the field. He was a very excellent and a very sensible person, and had a perfect knowledge of every foot of the way. Every one was glad to see him coming, as they expected to receive letters by him from their friends and relatives who were in daily peril of their lives, or from loved ones at home. Every one on the road knew him, and, so kind and obliging was he in disposition, that everyone seemed to be his friend. He was probably thirty-five years old, was not highly educated, but had a sound judgment about men and things, joined with simple and agreeable manners.'"

The Barksdale Express began operating no later than the summer of 1863 and was still carrying mail in late 1864. Barksdale carried mail from Arkansas soldiers in Reynolds' Arkansas Brigade to Washington, Arkansas, where they were posted in the Confederate mail. The express charge for a letter to Arkansas (westbound) was \$1.00, as noted on the cover offered here. Mail from Arkansas to the soldiers (eastbound) was apparently carried free.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 113). With 2006 C.S.A. certificate stating "genuine J. M. Barksdale private express usage." E. 2,000-3,000

ELIAS W. BLACK'S ARKANSAS EXPRESS



283

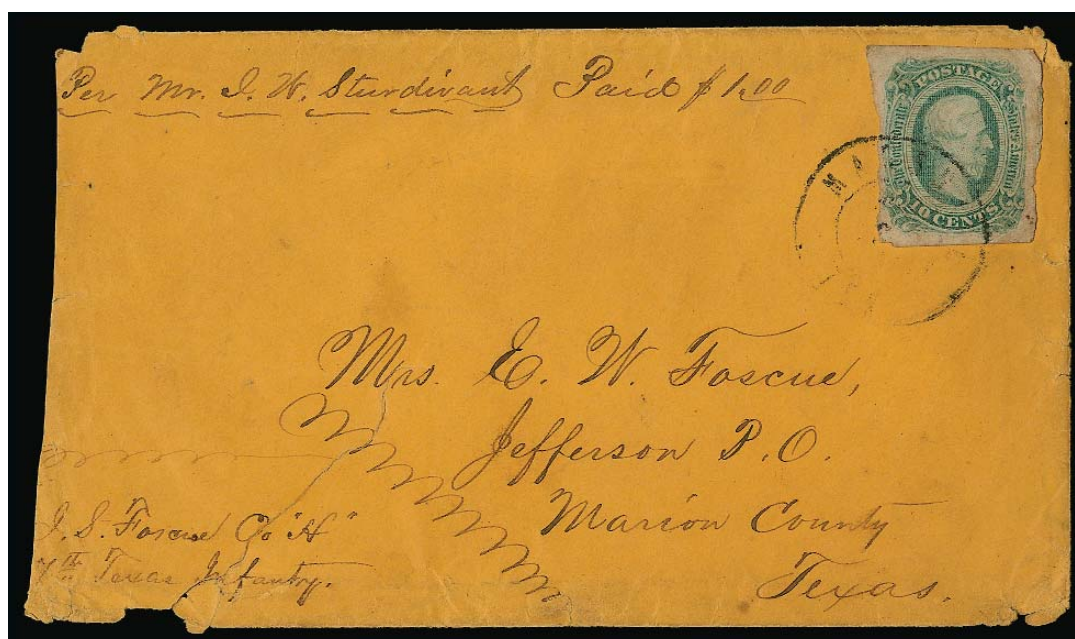
- 283 ☒ **E. W. Black's Arkansas Express.** Manuscript endorsement "*by express Black*" and "*Paid \$1.00*" on cover to Hillsboro Ark., 10c Greenish Blue, Die B (12c), large margins, tied by "Washington Ark. Oct. 21" circular datestamp, note on back: "*I will leave Hampton Calhoun Country on the 6th of Nov have your letter there by that time and I will take it to the Army. EWB*", slightly reduced with repaired pieces at bottom, bottom flap added (affecting only two words in message)

ONLY FOUR COVERS ARE KNOWN THAT WERE CARRIED BY ONE OF THE ARKANSAS EXPRESS OPERATIONS ACROSS THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. THIS IS THE ONLY ONE WITH A BLACK'S EXPRESS ENDORSEMENT.

Elias W. Black was a soldier in the 4th Arkansas Regiment who was discharged for disability in June 1862. He operated an express between Arkansas and McNair's Arkansas Brigade of the Army of Tennessee. He charged \$1.00 on letters to Arkansas, but return letters were apparently free. He carried his westbound letters to Washington, Arkansas, where he sent them onward in the Confederate mails. Return letters to the Brigade were sent under cover to his attention at Hampton, Arkansas (see Stefan T. Jaronski, "Another Private Trans-Mississippi Express Service Uncovered", *Confederate Philatelist*, No. 241). Certain covers from the Spence correspondence previously thought to have been carried by E. W. Black are now attributed to Barksdale's Express (see lot 282).

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 114). Ex Telep and Everett..... E. 2,000-3,000

I. W. STURDIVANT'S EXPRESS



284

- 284 ☒ **Sturdivant's Express.** 10c Greenish Blue, Die B (12c), large margins, slight crease, tied by "Marshall Tex." double-circle datestamp (February 1864) on buff cover with sender's endorsement "**Per Mr. I. W. Sturdivant Paid \$1.00**" and addressed to Mrs. E. W. Foscue in Jefferson Tex., soldier's endorsement "**J. S. Foscue, Co. H, 7th Texas Infantry**" at lower left, long tear at lower left corner, reduced at left and edgewear

FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE "ONE-MAN EXPRESS" COVER CARRIED WESTWARD ACROSS THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER BY I. W. STURDIVANT AND PUT INTO THE MAILS IN MARSHALL, TEXAS.

Less than five covers carried by Sturdivant are reported, all of which travelled westward across the Mississippi River into Texas. The sender, Sgt. J. S. Foscue, joined the 7th Texas Infantry on Oct. 1, 1861, at Marshall, Texas.

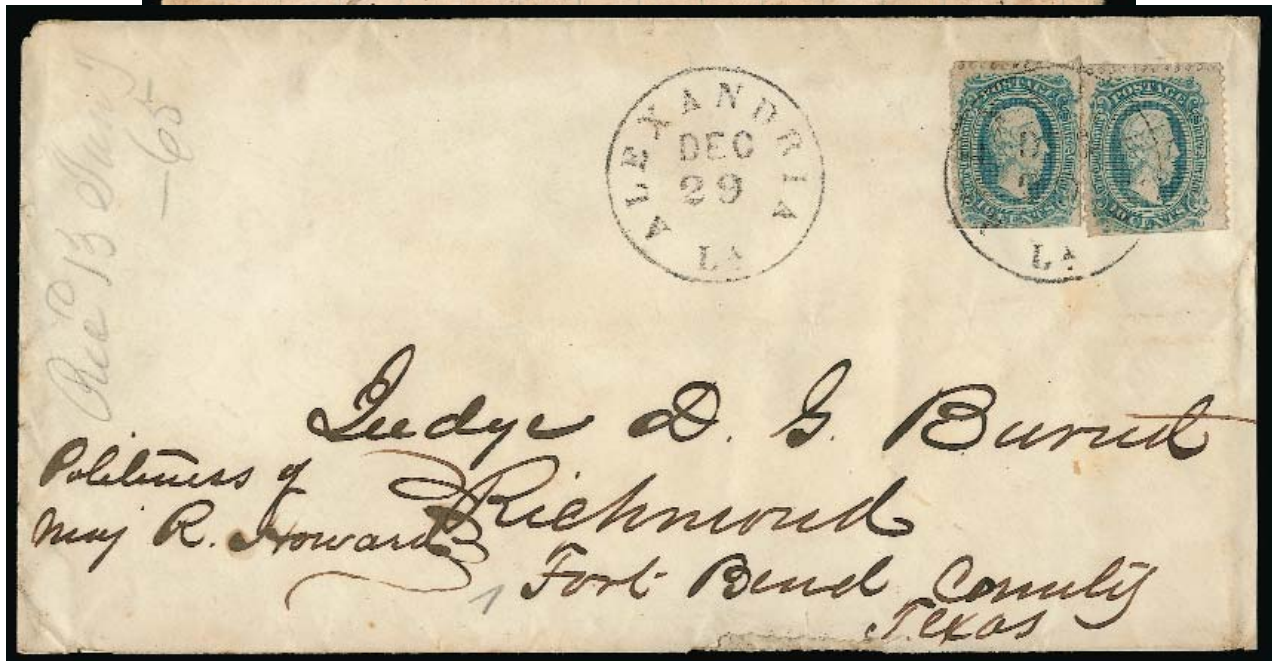
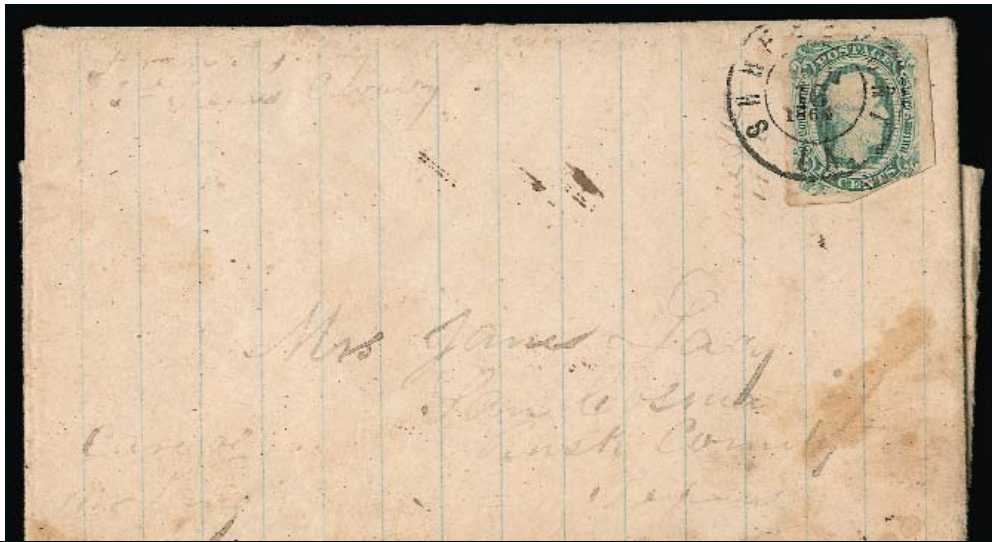
Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 115). Ex Birkinbine E. 1,500-2,000

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ROUTES—PRIVATE AND MILITARY COURIERS



- 285 ☒ **5c Green, Stone 1 (1).** Two full to large margins, other sides touching to slightly in, small grid cancel, matching "Fort Smith Ark. Jul. 10, 1862" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Fayetteville Ark. manuscript "via Buren" (Van Buren Ark.?), carried by courier and entered Fort Smith post office shortly after introduction of 10c rate and charged with manuscript "due 5", with original letter datelined "Artillery Brigade Camp, Tupelo Miss, June 22, 1862", indicating that the sender correctly prepaid rate in advance of July 1st change, interesting military content incl. commentary "Beauregard's retreat from Corinth is one of the grandest military moves made since the war began." Very Fine and unusual cover that was carried westward across the Mississippi River and put into the mails in Arkansas..... E. 500-750
- 286 ☒ **5c Light Blue, De La Rue (6).** Large margins to just touched at lower left, tied by manuscript "Drews Corner Texas 9 Aug 1862" postmark and "Due 5" on brown cover to Mrs. Bettie Clay in Independence Tex. from Capt. Tacitus T. Clay, a member of the the 5th Texas Regiment in the Army of Northern Virginia, his endorsement "*Kindness of Captain DeWalt, 1st Texas Regiment*", carried by Capt. DeWalt across the Mississippi and put into the mails at Drew's Corner, a bit age toned, Fine, this is a rare example of mail carried by Confederate soldiers returning to Texas as a courtesy to fellow troops, this was probably stamped at origin for the prevailing 5c rate but was not posted until weeks later after the new all-inclusive 10c rate took effect, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 115), ex MacBride..... E. 400-500
- 287 ☒ **Natchitoches La. Sep. 17 (1862).** Clear strike of double-circle datestamp and "10" handstamp (manuscript "Due") on buff cover endorsed "S. S. Bryan, Texas Rangers C.S. Army" from a member of the Army of Tennessee, carried west across the Mississippi with "*Favor of Mr. Lewis*" endorsement, mailed at Natchitoches as an unpaid soldier's letter to Velasco Tex., half of backflap missing, creased, still Fine, scarce example of westbound trans-Mississippi mail carried by private courier..... E. 300-400

288



289

- 288 ☒ **10c Blue, Die B (12).** Large margins except clipped into design at bottom right, tied by "Shreveport La. Jul. 16, 1864" double-circle datestamp on folded letter from T. Lacy, a soldier with the 3rd Texas Cavalry (Hoods Brigade) "To Home Folks" at San Cosina Tex., datelined "In Camp, Marietta, Georgia, June 21st, 1864" and tiny manuscript "**Paid \$1.00**" next to stamp indicates **Trans-Mississippi Courier Rate**, letter written in pencil but very readable and fascinating, includes description of casualties, prediction that "Johnson is anxious for Sherman to make the attack & I think will force him to do it yet", remorse over Gen. Polk's death (killed Jun. 14), long commentary on Grant's campaign ("Grant seems to be preparing for another attempt at an 'on to Richmond'") and the consequences of losing Richmond, mention of cousins who "were prisoners at Fort Pillow when Forrest attacked the place. The enemy forced them to carry ammunition to their men in the ditches. Ben was killed & Crockett wounded." The writer even includes a colorful remark about a relative made Provost Marshal — "Not much to do & a plenty of nice Ladies to pass off the time with. He can't afford to take a 'ride' there, but will wait until he can get back to his native state.", minor toning not detracting from this Fine and very rare usage. Trans-Mississippi courier covers rarely show the express charge or contain such a lengthy war letter, ex Keeling..... E. 1,000-1,500
- 289 ☒ **10c Blue, Die A, Perforated (11e).** Two, each with perfs on three sides, tied by "Alexandria La. Dec. 29" circular datestamp on legal-size cover originating in Mobile and addressed to Judge Burnet (ex-President of Texas Republic) in Richmond Tex., endorsed "**Politeness of Maj. R. Howard**", neat Jan. 1865 receipt docketing, small mended spot at bottom edge, otherwise Very Fine, rare use of perforated stamps on a cover carried by private courier westward across the Mississippi and put into the mails at Alexandria, Louisiana, this is from the same correspondence as Krieger No. E79B which is docketed from Mobile, ex Keeling..... E. 1,000-1,500



290

- 290 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Die A (11c).** Three margins, in at bottom, creased, tied by "Nacogdoches Tex. Jan. 28" (1864) circular datestamp on cover originating in Jasper County, Georgia, and addressed to A. R. Hockersmith in Union-held Benton, Arkansas, carried westward across the Mississippi River by a Confederate courier (manuscript "*Sent by H. M. Henley*" on backflap), entered Confederate mails at Nacogdoches and sent to Camden Ark. where exchanged under flag-of-truce, manuscript "*Ex & appd. Maj. W. Percy, Comdg Post*" examiner's endorsement applied on arrival at Benton, with original letter dated Nov. 29, 1863, the writer describes his company's part in the Battle of Chickamauga, taking a ball thru the eye, other casualties, amputations and mention of Gen. Bragg fighting and retreating to Dalton, minor stain spots and folds in cover

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE — OR POSSIBLY UNIQUE — TRANS-MISSISSIPPI COVER FROM GEORGIA TO ARKANSAS VIA TEXAS. AFTER CROSSING THE MISSISSIPPI, THIS COVER WAS EXCHANGED BY FLAG-OF-TRUCE, EXAMINED BY A UNION OFFICER AND DELIVERED TO THE ADDRESSEE IN BENTON, ARKANSAS.

Ex Clippert..... E. 3,000-4,000



291 front and back

LOUISIANA RELIEF COMMITTEE MAIL

On May 31, 1863, a group of expatriate New Orleans citizens in Mobile, Alabama, organized a committee to alleviate the suffering of poor citizens who remained in U.S.-occupied New Orleans, Louisiana. With the tacit concurrence of Federal authorities in New Orleans, they arranged shipments of food and clothing to New Orleans and helped citizens leave New Orleans for the Confederate States. These "Louisiana Relief Committee at Mobile" trips between Mobile and New Orleans via Pascagoula ran along the Mississippi Sound and carried letters which were not sanctioned by the U.S. Jules Denis, C.S.A. provost marshal at Mobile, examined the southbound letters. The U.S. also used these trips to transmit P.O.W. flag-of-truce mail to and from prisoners in New Orleans. The latest known Louisiana Relief Committee cover was postmarked in Mobile on September 2, 1864.

Mail from New Orleans to the C.S.A. is easily identified by the rare Louisiana Relief Committee manuscript endorsements. The most common endorsement is "Forwarded by the Louisiana Committee at Mobile", but other variants include "(La. Com.)" and "Mailed by La Relief Committee at Mobile." Jules Denis censored all of this mail until he was replaced on June 24, 1864, by Colonel Thomas H. Taylor. No censor markings by Taylor are known.

The Committee also handled the forwarding of mail addressed to C.S.A. military personnel in Mobile. This type of mail typically did not originate in New Orleans, and is considerably rarer. In addition, since it did not cross the lines, it was not censored by the provost marshal at Mobile. The Committee apparently paid the C.S.A. postage on these letters as a favor to the senders, including the 2¢ C.S.A. drop letter rate on mail addressed to Mobile. The Committee undoubtedly carried mail from Mobile to New Orleans, but none has been identified. Apparently for security reasons, the Committee did not endorse westbound letters, and they would have no postal markings since they were hand-carried all the way to New Orleans addressees.

- 291 ✉ **10c Greenish Blue, Die B (12c).** Two large margins, cut in at bottom and touched at left, tied by "Shreveport La. Oct. (date?) 1863" circular datestamp on yellow cover **carried by Louisiana Relief Committee from a Confederate prisoner in New Orleans, then by C.S.A. Trans-Mississippi mail to Camden, Arkansas, west of the Mississippi**, sender's endorsement "*From Lieut. Col. Lee, 15th Ark. Regt., Prisoner of War, 21 Rampart St. N.O. La.*" and addressed to his wife, Mrs. Paul Lynch Lee, at Camden, back of cover with manuscript "**Forwarded by the Louisiana Committee at Mobile**" and manuscript "*Appd. J C Denis PMG*" censor marking applied by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis, slightly reduced and tiny edge tear at right

VERY FINE. AN IMPORTANT POSTAL ARTIFACT OF THE CIVIL WAR, BEING THE ONLY RECORDED COVER CARRIED BY THE LOUISIANA RELIEF COMMITTEE OUT OF NEW ORLEANS AND THEN TO A DESTINATION WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

This remarkable cover combines three extraordinary aspects of postal communication during the Civil War. To start, it is an extremely rare example of mail clearly identifiable as originating from a Confederate prisoner held at 21 Rampart Street prison in New Orleans. Second, it was carried from New Orleans to Mobile on a Louisiana Relief Committee trip. Third, it was carried west across the Mississippi River, which was controlled by Federal naval forces, and entered the C.S.A. postal system at Shreveport, Louisiana.

The sender, C.S.A. Lt. Col. Paul Lynch Lee, was a member of the 15th Arkansas Regiment. He enlisted on Oct. 22, 1861, at his home town of Camden, Arkansas, and was promoted to Colonel one year later. Col. Lee was captured on Feb. 6, 1862, at Fort Henry, Tennessee, and sent to the U.S. military prison at Alton, Illinois, then to Columbus, Ohio, on Feb. 28, 1862. He was transferred to Fort Warren, Massachusetts, on April 8, 1862, then to Fortress Monroe, Virginia, on July 31, 1862, where he was exchanged. The Port Hudson Hospital Ledger dated May 27, 1863, lists Col. Lee with a wound in his leg. While hospitalized, Col. Lee struck a private with his crutches and was charged with conduct unbecoming an officer. We do not know the outcome of the incident, but Col. Lee returned to battle and was captured on July 9, 1863, at Port Hudson, Louisiana. He and 403 other C.S.A. officers were sent to New Orleans. Col. Lee was imprisoned at the Customs House in New Orleans from July 16 to Sep. 16, 1863. On Sep. 17 he was moved to 21 Rampart Street, where he stayed until early October. Col. Lee was transferred to Fort Columbus in New York Harbor, then to Johnson's Island, Point Lookout and Fort Delaware. He was released on June 13, 1865.

Once this cover reached Mobile, it was stamped and bundled with letters bound for points west of the Mississippi, then sent to the eastern terminus of the government trans-Mississippi mails at Meridien, Mississippi. Once the courier carried the mail across the river, the letters were unbundled and postmarked at the western terminus at Shreveport, Louisiana, and from there this cover traveled by rail to Camden, Arkansas.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 79). Ex Kohlhepp (see his article on this cover in *Confederate Philatelist*, Sep.-Oct. 1980, No. 197) and Birkinbine. With 1976 P.F. certificate
..... E. 7,500-10,000



292

- 292 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Frameline (10b).** Half of top frameline and tiny bit of left frameline showing, tied by bold "Mobile Ala. Jul. 30, 1863" double-circle datestamp on brown cover carried by **Louisiana Relief Committee from a Confederate prisoner in New Orleans** to Prattville Ala., sender's endorsement "*Per Flag of Truce*", endorsed in another hand "*from Prisoner of War*" (Lieut. M. E. Pratt, Co. K, 1st Ala. Regt.), manuscript "*ex X*" examiner's mark on front, additional censor markings on back "*Examined and approved by Segt John Kane*" (censor for Union prison located in a private residence at 21 Rampart St. in New Orleans) and "*Forwarded by Louisiana Committee at Mobile*", final "*J.C.D. PM*" examiner's mark applied by Jules C. Denis, Provost Marshal at Mobile

A VERY FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE 10-CENT FRAMELINE ON A LOUISIANA RELIEF COMMITTEE COVER SENT BY A PRISONER HELD AT 21 RAMPART STREET PRISON IN NEW ORLEANS.

A death notice found at <http://www.africanaheritage.com> gives some biographical information about the prisoner who sent this letter, Lieut. Merrill E. Pratt: "November 29, 1889: We never had a sadder duty to perform than to chronicle the death of our beloved townsman and foremost citizen, Hon. Merrill E. Pratt, which sad event occurred at his residence in Prattville last Saturday morning... He was confined to his (bed) not more than a week with pneumonia... Mr. Pratt was born in Temple, New Hampshire, February 23rd, 1828, and came to Alabama when 12 years of age, casting his lot in this lovely village, which his famous uncle, the lamented Daniel Pratt, had founded a few years before. He served as First Lieutenant of Company K, First Alabama Regiment, in the late war. He was captured at Port Hudson and languished many months in Johnson Island prison... He was unanimously elected two years ago to the general assembly where he made a faithful representative of the state and county... the deceased leaves behind a most estimable wife, two sons, and three daughters." Lieutenant Pratt was captured at Port Hudson on July 7, 1863, and sent to Rampart Street prison before being transferred to Johnson Island.

Illustrated in Shenfield (p. 96) with a U.S. 3c 1861 uncanceled but tied by three cuts (stamp is now missing, but the cuts remain). E. 4,000-5,000



293 and detail of endorsement on back

- 293 ☒ **5c Blue, Stone 2 (4).** Horizontal pair with right sheet margin, other sides mostly full, tied by "Mobile Ala. Nov. 10, 1863" double-circle datestamp on **Louisiana Relief Committee** cover smuggled out of New Orleans to Mobile, sent by mail to Richmond Va., the back has a bold manuscript "**Forwarded by the Louisiana Committee at Mobile**" endorsement and faint manuscript "**Appd JC Denis PM**" censor marking applied by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis, opening tears in flaps and across lower right corner, small nick at left

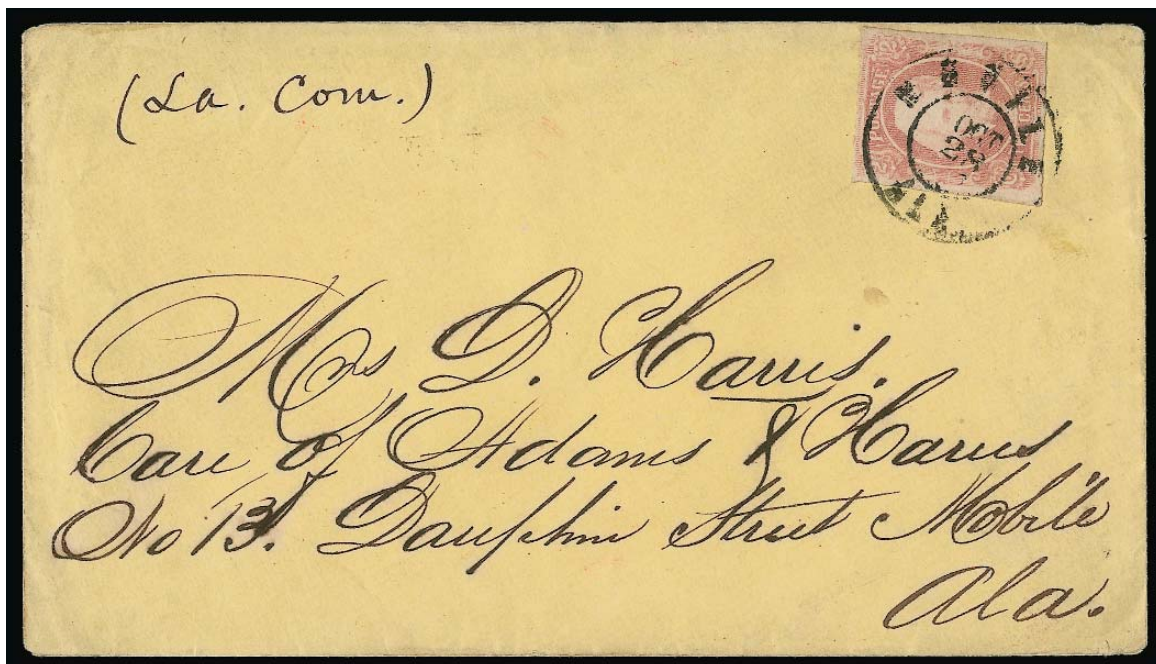
VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE 5-CENT BLUE LITHOGRAPH ON A COVER COVERTLY CARRIED ACROSS THE LINES FROM NEW ORLEANS TO MOBILE BY THE LOUISIANA RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 170). With 1976 P.F. certificate..... E. 2,000-3,000



294 and detail of
endorsement on back

- 294 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Vertical pair, large margins to slightly in and nicked in two places, tied by two strikes of "Mobile Ala. Aug. 30" (1863) double-circle datestamp on small mourning envelope to Selma Ala., back is endorsed with manuscript "*Forwarded by the Louisiana Committee at Mobile*" and pencil "*Appd JCD PM*" censor marking applied by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis, receipt docketing "*Rec'd 2nd Sept & answered*", cover has been skillfully restored with right edge added, Very Fine appearance, a rare example of mail covertly carried out of New Orleans by the Louisiana Relief Committee, Confederate mourning envelopes are generally scarce and extremely rare when used in conjunction with the Louisiana Relief Committee, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 179), ex Birkinbine, with 1983 P.F. certificate..... E. 1,500-2,000



295

- 295 ☒ **2c Brown Red (8).** Large margins to clear at top and bottom, tied by bold "Mobile Ala. Oct. 28" (1863) double-circle datestamp on yellow cover **carried by the Louisiana Relief Committee from New Orleans to Mobile**, addressed to Mrs. D. Harris in care of Adams & Harris, manuscript "*(La. Com.)*" applied by agent for Louisiana Relief Committee, pencil "*Appd JCDenis PMG*" censor marking applied by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis
EXTREMELY FINE. A RARE LOUISIANA RELIEF COMMITTEE COVER WITH THE 2-CENT RED JACK PAYING DROP-LETTER POSTAGE.
Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 171). Ex Myerson E. 2,000-3,000

COVERT MAIL ROUTES



296



297

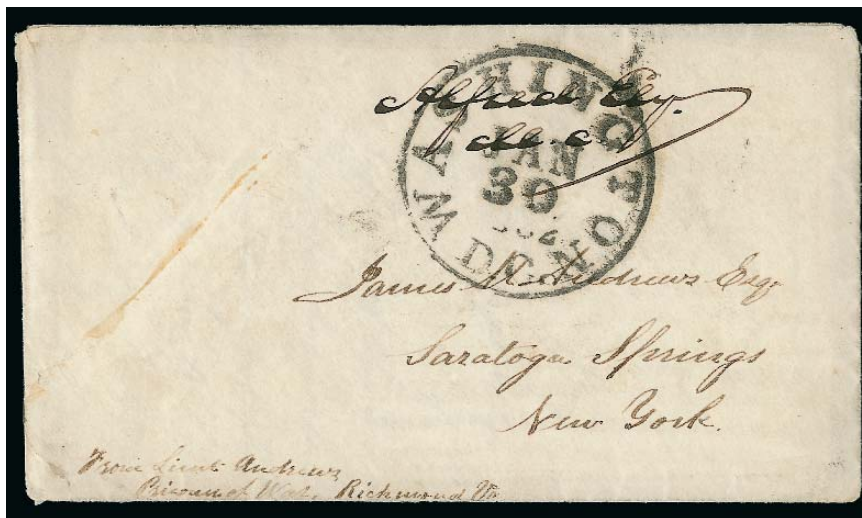
- 296 ☒ **London to Richmond via Baltimore.** Folded letter datelined "London 15th July, 1862" to tobacco dealer James Thomas Jr. in care of Lanier Brothers & Co. in Richmond Va., carried from England to Baltimore and opened by forwarding agent who added his post-script to last page: "Balto July 30th 1862. I took the liberty of opening this that I might have a copy to send you by the next opportunity if this failed to reach you.", smuggled across the lines to Richmond where forwarded again to Danville Va. with **10c Light Blue, Paterson (2)**, large margins to touching, tied by "Richmond Va. Sep. 30, 1862" circular datestamp, cleaned to remove stains from lettersheet, still Fine and exhibitable, an extraordinary cover documenting the surreptitious conveyance of mail from England to the Confederate States via Chesapeake Bay, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 176), with 1978 P.F. certificate E. 1,500-2,000
- 297 ☒ **New Orleans La., 5c Red Brown, Bluish (62X4).** Clear to huge margins, tied by "New Orleans La. 17 Oct." (1861) circular datestamp on cover from a gentleman in Louisville to Miss Elve A. B. Moore, in care of Joseph H. Moore at Morganza La., **carried across the lines to New Orleans and placed into the C.S.A. postal system**, interesting letter enclosure datelined "Louisville Oct. 4, 1861", the writer states that a friend, Mrs. Tarlton, "kindly volunteered to take and mail this letter in the Confederate States, so that it would most certainly reach its destination. You may ask yourself if she can visit New Orleans, why cannot I? She is a lady and by the influence of a relation procured a pass from Gen. Anderson. Now I do not possess that same amount of good loyal Union influence and consequently am doomed to abide my time. . . Kentucky is now in a most deplorable condition; overrun by soldiers from the North and South: both parties seeming anxious to secure to themselves the rich prize... For good and sufficient reasons I will not mention in this letter any war news. Know one thing that we now possess very little freedom in the United States. No one is allowed to speak out his sentiments or to criticise the powers that be: if he does not desire to find a resting place in some miserable prison... There is no despotism outside of Turkey more oppressive than the United States at present.", cover with minor splits and small faults along edges, still Fine, a rare example of contraband mail carried across the lines, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 178) E. 750-1,000

298



- 298 ☒ **Richmond Va. Mar. 6, 1863.** Mostly bold strike of circular datestamp and “FORWARDED/10” framed handstamp on small cover to Mrs. Wyche Hunter (“Sallie”) in Athens Ga., sent by her sister, who was working at West’s Hospital prison in Baltimore and arranged for this letter to be **smuggled by an exchanged prisoner into the Confederate States**, the enclosed letter to her sister Sallie is datelined “Baltimore Dec. 16th 1862” and explains the circumstances: “I owe this fortunate chance to Lillie, who has discovered in the hospital here, a young officer by the name of Caldwell, from Greene County Georgia. He has been very seriously wounded, but is getting well and expects to be exchanged. If he will only take this letter with him to Georgia, I shall be a happy woman.”, the Confederate officer evidently put this into the mails in Richmond, Very Fine, a remarkable and clearly-documented usage, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 180), ex Krieger and Birkinbine E. 1,000-1,500

299



- 299 ☒ **Ligon’s Tobacco Warehouse, Richmond Va.** Small cover and original letter datelined “Military Prison, Richmond Va. Jan. 26, 1862” from Lieut. Andrews to his father in Saratoga Springs N.Y., **carried across the lines by an exchanged Union officer** with a short note added to letter that begins “I left your son at Richmond. . .” and signed Lt. M. A. Parks, interesting content regarding the release of officers and war news, the cover is endorsed by Lieut. Andrews and **free franked by Alfred Ely**, a congressman and former inmate who was captured while observing the First Battle of Bull Run (Lt. Parks and Congressman Ely were held at Ligon’s together), “Washington D.C. Jan. 30, 1862” circular datestamp, the letter has a minor repaired tear, the cover has a small tear at bottom left and glue smear, still Very Fine, a rare example of mail from Ligon’s Tobacco Warehouse prison that was smuggled across the lines rather than properly carried by flag of truce, this cover was the subject of “Alfred Ely P.O.W. Covers”, Francis J. Crown Jr., *Confederate Philatelist* (Jul.-Aug. 1975, No. 166), illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 65), ex Birkinbine E. 1,000-1,500

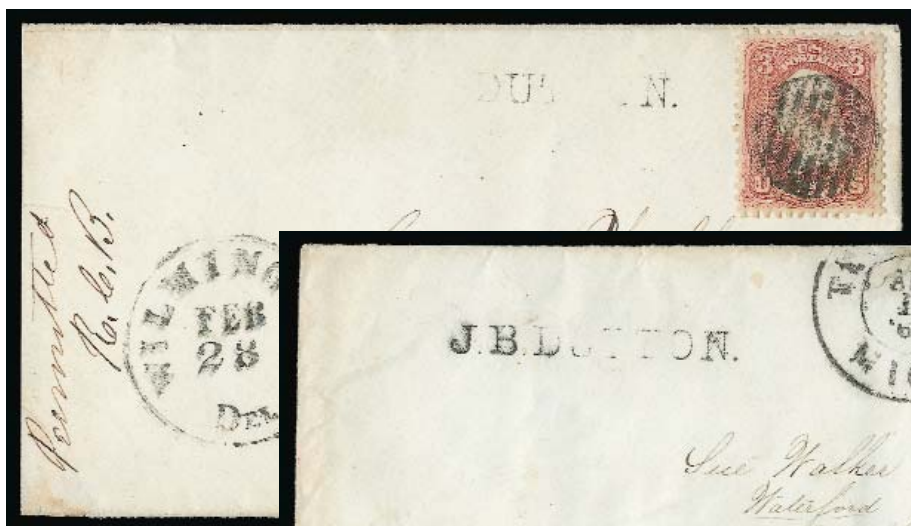


300

- 300 ☒ **Libby Prison, Richmond Va.** Pinkish cover and a letter from the same correspondence to Libbie Scudder in Middlebury Pa., both from Aaron Scudder, a Union prisoner at Libby Prison, the cover was carried across the lines and **free franked by U.S. Senator James Harlan**, "Washington D.C. Oct. 21, '64" double-circle datestamp, the letter is datelined "*Libby Prison, Richmond Va., March 5th 1864*" so it probably came from a different cover, slightly reduced at left, Very Fine, a rare prisoner-of-war cover that apparently crossed the lines outside of the normal flag-of-truce channels (without censorship) and was free-franked by an obliging senator, ex Birkinbine..... E. 1,000-1,500

J. B. DUTTON MAIL SYSTEM

Fewer than 20 covers are reported with the "J. B. DUTTON" handstamp, which was applied to southbound mail carried by Dutton between Waterford and Point of Rocks during the period when U.S. forces blockaded the Potomac River to stop incursions by C.S.A. raiders, some of this mail was censored, as evidenced by the cover in lot 302 (see *Special Routes* book, pp. 173-175).



302



301

- 301 ☒ **J. B. DUTTON.** Straightline handstamp, 3c Rose (65) tied by target, "Tecumseh Mich. Aug. 16, '64" double-circle datestamp on small cover to Waterford, Point of Rocks, Maryland, small tear at top and nicked at lower right, stamp has sealed pre-use tear, otherwise Fine E. 400-500
- 302 ☒ **J. B. DUTTON.** Straightline handstamp lightly struck, 3c Rose (65) cancelled by grid, "Wilmington Del. Feb. 28" (1864) circular datestamp on cover to Waterford, Point of Rocks, Maryland, manuscript "*Permitted R.C.B.*" censor marking applied by Capt. Robert C. Bamford, Provost Marshal at Point of Rocks, slightly reduced at left, Fine, E. 750-1,000

MAIL CARRIED BY DIPLOMATIC POUCH



303 front and back

- 303 ☒ **Mobile Ala., 5c Blue (58X2).** Large margins, tied by "Mobile Ala. Aug. 12, 1861" double-circle datestamp on cover to "Hon. E. Y. Fair, Montgomery Ala." with addressee's docketing "Brussels 12 July", back of cover has black wax seal with "MWF" initials of Mrs. Wyatt Fair, General Elisha Fair's wife, also on back is manuscript "Recd. & forwarded by H. V. H. Voorhies, Consul, 12 Aug. 1861" and large "Consulate Belgique a Mobile" handstamp with coat of arms, expertly repaired with piece added at top left and staining removed from back (not affecting stamp or markings)

AN IMPORTANT POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT. THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE MOBILE POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL ON A COVER ORIGINATING IN EUROPE. THIS WAS SENT FROM BRUSSELS TO WASHINGTON D.C., THEN CARRIED BY DIPLOMATIC POUCH ON A UNITED STATES NAVY VESSEL TO THE BELGIAN CONSUL AT MOBILE, WHO MAILED IT TO GENERAL ELISHA Y. FAIR IN MONTGOMERY.

This cover originated in Brussels, Belgium, on July 12, 1861. It was sent by Mrs. Wyatt Fair to her husband, Gen. Elisha Y. Fair, who was former U.S. Minister to Belgium and left Brussels in late June 1861 to join the Southern cause. Mrs. Fair was unable to return to her native land until June 1862, due to the Federal blockade of Southern ports. This cover and the New Orleans provisional cover in lot 304 surfaced in 1999 and provide heretofore unreported examples of mail brought into the Confederacy through diplomatic channels. If this was sent by regular transatlantic steamer, then it was carried on the Cunarder *Arabia*, departing Queenstown July 14, 1861, arriving Boston July 25..... E. 5,000-7,500



304

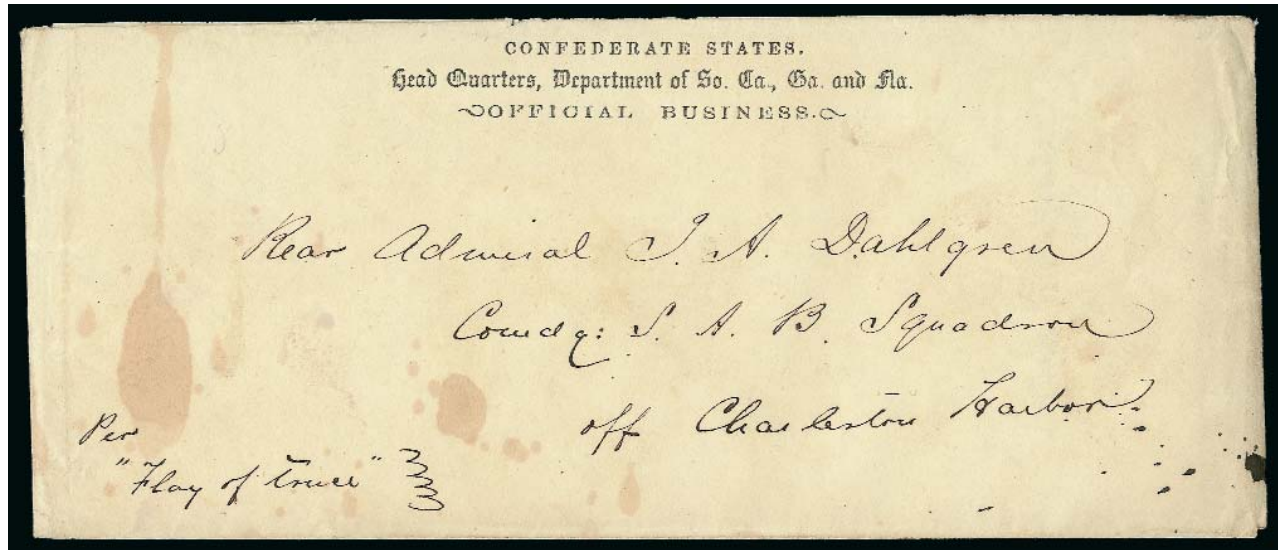
- 304 ☒ **New Orleans La., 5c Red Brown on Bluish (62X4).** Two horizontal pairs, Positions 21-22 and 29-30, full to large margins, cancelled by four strikes of "Paid" handstamp on **3c Pink on White entire (U35) with obsolete 1851 3c Brownish Carmine, Ty. II (11A) stamp**, both frankings correspond to double U.S. and C.S.A. rates, 3c 1851 tied by "New Orleans La. 1 Sep." (1861) circular datestamp, addressed to "Hon. E. Y. Fair, Montgomery, Alabama" with addressee's docketing "Brussels 23 July" indicating origin in Belgium, rough opening along top, tearing away part of embossed stamp but not affecting provisionals or 3c 1851, could be restored

THIS REMARKABLE COVER IS UNIQUE IN SEVERAL RESPECTS — MOST NOTABLY AS A COMBINATION OF THE UNITED STATES 3-CENT 1851 ISSUE AND NEW ORLEANS POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONAL.

This unusual cover was found with the Mobile cover offered in lot 303 and undoubtedly carried a letter from Mrs. Wyatt Fair in Brussels. If sent on a standard trans-Atlantic steamship, then this was carried by the Cunarder *Europa*, departing Liverpool Jul. 27, 1861, arriving Boston Aug. 9.

The handwriting does not match the Mobile cover, but the use of a U35 entire indicates that the envelope had to have been addressed by someone in the northeast who had access to the new-issue 3c embossed envelope. That person probably enclosed Mrs. Fair's letter for delivery to Gen. Elisha Y. Fair and arranged for it to be carried south to New Orleans via diplomatic pouch. Based on the docketing, it originated in Brussels on July 23, 1861. It was routed through New Orleans, almost certainly through the Belgian consul, J. Deynoodt, or his vice-consul, J. Noblom. The unusual franking suggests that the sender used the new 3c entire and searched for a 3c stamp — finding an old imperforate 1851 Issue — in expectation that the letter would travel via the U.S. post office. The Belgian consul mailed the letter in New Orleans and affixed the two pairs of provisional stamps for the double 10c rate to Montgomery..... E. 4,000-5,000

OFFICIAL FLAG-OF-TRUCE MAIL BETWEEN
U.S. BLOCKADING SQUADRON AND C.S.A. MILITARY DEPARTMENT



305

305 ☒ **Confederate States. Head Quarters, Department of So. Ca., Ga. and Fla. Official Business.** Legal-size cover with imprint, addressed to *"Rear Admiral J. A. Dahlgren, Comdg. S. A. B. Squadron off Charleston Harbor. Per 'Flag of truce'"*, with original enclosure on matching letterhead datelined *"Charleston S.C. October 13th 1864"* signed by **Confederate Lieutenant General W. J. Hardee**, the letter discusses an exchange of prisoners held by Admiral Dahlgren, which General Hardee characterizes as *"not regarded by me as proper subjects of exchange under the cartel"*, but he proposes an equivalent exchange for prisoners held in the C.S.A. who are *"unfit for present duty"*, receipt docking *"Received 19 Oct by way of P. R. ferry"*, few small stains

VERY FINE. OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN CONFEDERATE AND UNION COMMANDERS EXCHANGED UNDER FLAG-OF-TRUCE ARE RARELY ENCOUNTERED OUTSIDE ARCHIVAL HOLDINGS.

William J. Hardee, known as "Old Reliable," was among the first Confederate officers given the rank of Lieutenant General. After the Battle of Jonesboro in Georgia, General Hardee requested a transfer and, in September 1864, assumed command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, where he helped oppose Sherman's March to the Sea. This letter was written at that point in the war.

John A. B. Dahlgren headed the U.S. Navy's ordnance department during the Civil War and designed several different guns and cannons that gave the Union a tactical advantage. For these achievements, Dahlgren became known as the "father of American naval ordnance." He reached the rank of Rear Admiral. E. 2,000-3,000



Rear Admiral John A. B. Dahlgren



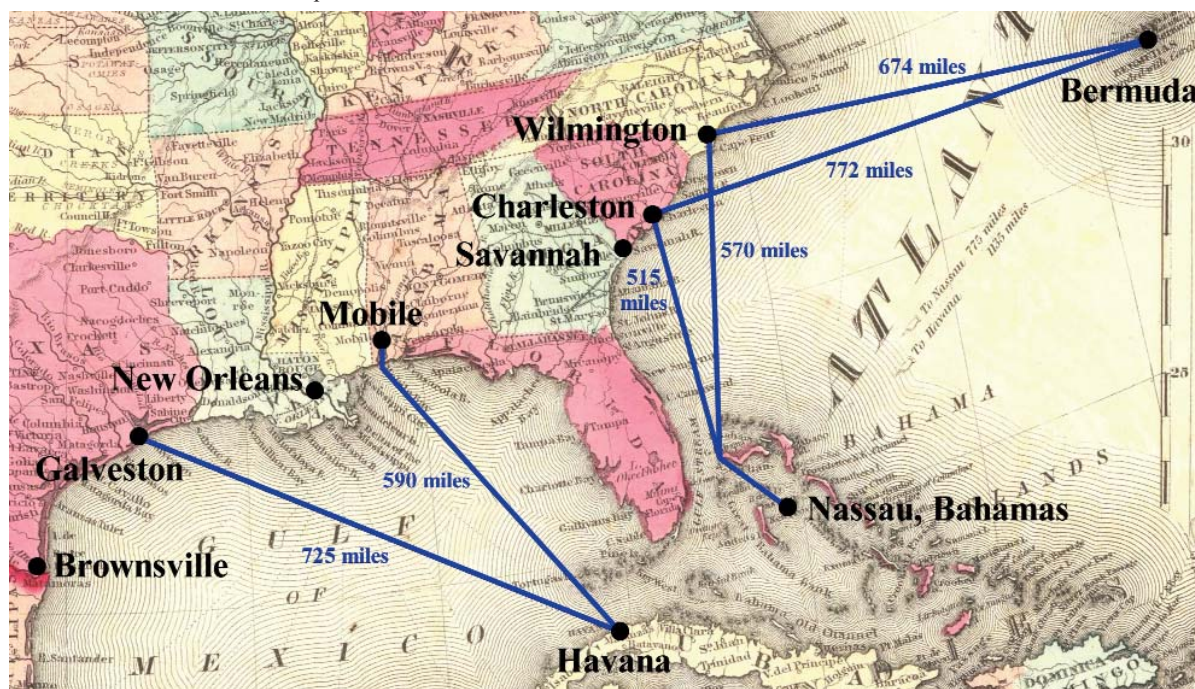
Rear Admiral Dahlgren and staff on board the U.S.S. Pawnee in Charleston.

BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL

On April 19, 1861, President Lincoln proclaimed the blockade of the southern coasts. Stretching from Virginia to Texas, the blockaded area encompassed over 3,500 miles of coastline and nearly 200 harbors and river openings. Clearly, the U.S. could not cover every point of the coastline, so the Federal Blockade Strategy Board set priorities to stem the flow of goods and mail to and from the C.S.A.. They correctly reasoned that only deep-water ports with established commercial interests and reliable rail and/or river connections to the interior could serve as effective entry points. They highlighted thirteen ports as the major points of concern, and developed plans to either capture or close them. By mid-1862, all but four were effectively closed by Union occupations of the ports themselves or of key forts in their harbors.

Map of C.S.A. Ports Active in Blockade Running

Distances to neutral West Indies ports marked in blue



The map above shows the geographical location of the four principal C.S.A. ports that remained active in blockade running throughout most of the war, and their proximity to the West Indies ports that acted as staging points for supplies and mail. Only a few blockade runners operated out of Texas because of its distance from the rest of the C.S.A.. In addition, they connected only with Havana and Mexico, and most of the C.S.A. supplies and mail from Europe were routed via the British colonies of the Bahamas and Bermuda. Mobile also saw considerably less blockade-runner activity because it connected only with Havana, and was more easily blockaded. Both Savannah and New Orleans had limited blockade-running activity prior to being closed by military actions in 1862. Consequently, the most active C.S.A. blockade-running ports were Charleston and Wilmington, connecting with Nassau, Bermuda and occasionally Halifax, Nova Scotia. Charleston was out of operation from September 1863 until March 1864 due to Federal military activity, so more blockade-run mail is known through Wilmington than through any other C.S.A. port.

Generally, blockade-run covers can be identified by the port of arrival postmark. Letters inbound to the C.S.A. typically show a postmark from the C.S.A. arrival port (such as Charleston or Wilmington), a ship marking, and an indication of postage due which includes a 2¢ ship fee. Outbound blockade-run covers are less easily identified. They typically carry a postmark from a West Indies port such as Nassau, but are hard to distinguish from mail which originated in that port. Letter contents, endorsements, docketing, or known blockade correspondences are necessary for a definitive identification.

The C.S.A. Post Office required prepayment of postage except for soldiers' mail and for official Post Office correspondence. Nonetheless, when mail was received from locations where prepayment was not possible, such as the U.S., Europe, or the West Indies, due mail was accepted. Consequently, most incoming blockade-run mail was rated for postage due in the C.S.A. A small number of covers show prepayment of all or a portion of C.S.A. postage, and these covers are particularly prized by collectors. Blockade covers that were forwarded within the C.S.A. with stamps added for the forwarding postage are less rare, but still command significant price premiums. Most blockade-run mail, both inbound and outbound, was expedited by forwarders, although these forwarders infrequently marked the blockade-run covers that they handled. Forwarders or correspondents in the departure ports would occasionally endorse letters to a particular blockade runner. These manuscript endorsements appear on about 20% of inbound mail, and on about 6% of outbound mail. They are especially prized by collectors.

continued on next page

continued from previous page

In mid-1863, the Confederate War Department issued instructions to the Military Departments overseeing Charleston and Wilmington regarding blockade-run mail. The August 11, 1863, Special Order No. 156 specified that all crew members or passengers bringing letters from abroad to the C.S.A. were to deliver them to officers of the local Military District for examination. It also stated that it was forbidden to carry outbound letters not previously approved by military authorities. Even though all letters after mid-1863 were to be censored, only a small number were marked as examined. Fewer than 20 covers with manuscript examined markings are known from the June 1863 to September 1864 period.

More than half of all surviving blockade-run covers are to or from Europe. Since the U.S. had discontinued the pre-war trans-Atlantic postal routes between Europe and the C.S.A. via New York or Boston, replacement routes were needed between Europe and the blockade-run terminus ports in the West Indies for connection with blockade runners. Fortunately, three trans-Atlantic packet routes could circumvent the U.S. postal embargo and connect with the West Indies ports. These are:

1. The Nassau Route: Liverpool-New York-Nassau-Havana by Cunard Packet Line (Note 1)
2. The St. Thomas Route: Southampton-St. Thomas-Havana-Tampico by Royal Mail Steam Packet Line (Note 2)
3. The Halifax Route: Liverpool-Halifax-Bermuda-St. Thomas by Cunard Packet Line (Note 3)

(Note 1) The Cunard Line serviced the closed mail contract for mail between Nassau, Bahamas, and Great Britain via New York. This mail was not opened in transit through New York, so it could not be intercepted by U.S. postal authorities.

(Note 2) The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (RMSP) maintained a twice-monthly service between Southampton, England, and St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. The RMSP connecting line between St. Thomas and Tampico, Mexico via Havana, Cuba, operated on a monthly basis and met every other sailing of the RMSP trans-Atlantic service. This route principally carried blockade-run mail to or from the C.S.A. Gulf ports of Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston and Brownsville.

(Note 3) The Cunard Line operated a bi-weekly trans-Atlantic packet route between Great Britain and Boston, with a stop at Halifax, Nova Scotia, each way. The Cunard branch line between Halifax and St. Thomas via Bermuda ran on a monthly schedule, and connected with every other trans-Atlantic sailing. This route principally serviced the blockade run mail between Bermuda and the C.S.A. ports of Charleston and Wilmington.

Since the three replacement trans-Atlantic routes detailed above ran on monthly schedules, a blockade-run letter could be inordinately delayed if it missed a monthly departure. As a result, forwarders in the West Indies could sometimes save significant transit time by crossing a letter over to another trans-Atlantic route. Both Havana and St. Thomas were on two of the three packet routes, so it was particularly easy to re-direct a letter to an alternate sailing from those locations. Also, since the three West Indies staging ports were in relatively close proximity, it was also possible to send a letter by interisland transport to another West Indies port for forwarding by an alternate trans-Atlantic sailing.

The Rarity and Romance of Blockade-Run Covers

The covers in this collection conjure up the image of a Confederate blockade-runner steaming across the dangerous Atlantic waters, where cruisers of the U.S. Blockading Squadron kept a 24-hour vigil, hoping to capture vessels carrying goods and letters that were vital to the survival of the rebel states. The romance and stories of the Confederate blockade-runners are comparable to another chapter of American history, which occurred on land just as the Civil War began—the Pony Express. In fact, Pony Express covers and C.S.A. blockade-run covers are of comparable rarity: in total there are 257 recorded Pony Express covers (185 eastbound, 72 westbound) and 371 blockade-run covers (216 inbound, 155 outbound). In both cases, these postal artifacts are the only items collectors can hope to acquire to form a tangible link to the events of 150 years ago.

INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL

A comprehensive census of over 200 incoming blockade run covers shows that about 40% transited through Charleston and 50% through Wilmington. The remaining 10% passed through other ports. The census also indicates that a regular mail service by blockade runner along the Atlantic Coast began to appear in May 1862 and along the Gulf Coast in September 1861.

Incoming letters to the C.S.A. were mailed inside of another envelope addressed to a West Indies forwarder, or to a company operating blockade runners. Upon its arrival in the West Indies, the outer envelope was discarded, and the inner letter was placed in a blockade-runner's mailbag. When the letter arrived in the C.S.A., it was rated as a private ship letter, with a 2¢ ship fee per letter given to the ship captain. Postage assessed was Confederate inland postage to the ultimate destination plus the 2¢ ship fee. For letters addressed to the arrival port, the total postage assessed was 6¢ (which included the ship fee), regardless of weight. Inland rates prior to July 1, 1862 were 5¢ per half-ounce for distances up to 500 miles, and 10¢ per half-ounce for over 500 miles. On July 1, 1862 the rates were increased to a uniform 10¢ per half-ounce, regardless of distance. For letters weighing over a half-ounce, the rates increased a full progression for each additional half-ounce. This means that, after July 1, 1862, single-weight blockade run letters were rated for a collection of 12¢, double-weight letters were rated 22¢ due, and so on. All such letters were to be marked "Ship" to explain the extra 2¢ due. Letters showing the pre-July 1, 1862 rates are rare.

THE BURTON CORRESPONDENCE

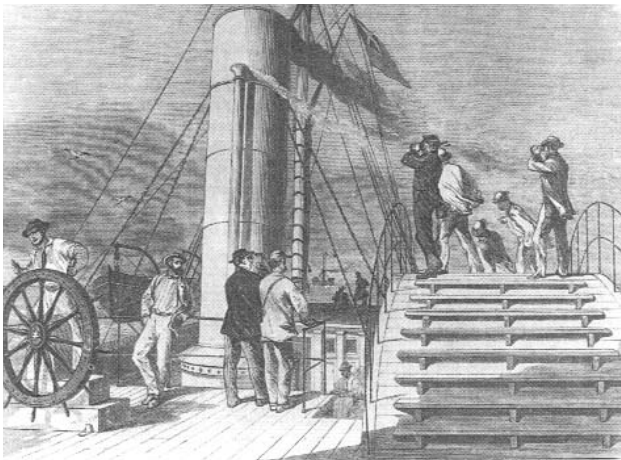
James H. Burton was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel in the C.S.A. Army in December 1861, and placed in charge of all Southern armories. In June 1862, Burton left Richmond for Macon, Georgia, where he established a new armory for the C.S.A. One year later Burton traveled to England to "purchase and contract for the machinery, tools and material required for the new Armory." Burton returned to Macon in October 1863, where he awaited delivery of several shipments of machinery from Greenwood & Batley of Leeds, England, through Fraser Trenholm & Co. The machinery and tools were finally shipped to Bermuda in late 1864, where they awaited reshipment to run the blockade. The following six blockade-run covers (lots 306-311), each addressed to Col Burton, are among the few recorded official C.S.A. covers carried through the blockade. Many of the original letters from the Burton correspondence can be found at Yale University (Sterling Memorial Library, Manuscripts and Archives) and on the internet at www.csarmory.org.



306

- 306 ☒ **Liverpool to Macon Ga. via. St. Georges and Wilmington.** Cover addressed to Col. James H. Burton, Superintendent of Armories, Macon Ga., in care of Col. Gorgas (C.S.A. Chief of Ordnance), the letter (held in the Yale University archives) datelined "*Liverpool 11 June 1864 via Bermuda*" from Fraser Trenholm & Co. regarding delivery of rifle-making machinery to Bermuda from Greenwood & Batley, sender's notation "*Duplicate June 11*", further endorsed with **ship name "Lillian"**, manuscript "12" rate applied at Wilmington (10c plus 2c ship fee), no datestamp, manuscript "**Exd**" **Wilmington Provost Marshal censor's marking** under "12", pencil receipt docketing "*Recd July 13th J.H.B.*"

EXTREMELY FINE. A REMARKABLE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM THE OFFICIAL BURTON CORRESPONDENCE — CARRIED FROM BERMUDA, ENDORSED WITH THE BLOCKADE-RUNNER'S NAME "LILIAN" AND THE WILMINGTON PROVOST MARSHAL'S CENSOR MARKING.



John N. Maffitt standing on the paddlebox of the *Lilian*, observing a Union cruiser giving chase

Carried on Cunarder *Africa*, dep. Liverpool Jun. 11, 1864, arr. Halifax N.S. Jun. 22; then Cunarder *Alpha*, dep. Halifax Jun. 23, arr. St. Georges Jun. 28; then blockade-runner *Lilian*, dep. St. Georges Jul. 2, arr. Wilmington Jul. 6. The *Lilian* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Company of Georgia; active May 1864 to August 1864, 5 for 6 in successful trips; captured by U.S.S. *Keystone State* coming out of Wilmington Aug. 24, 1864.

The *Lilian* was commanded by Lt. John N. Maffitt, who previously served on the blockade-runners *Cecile* and *Nassau*, and then was promoted to commander when he ran the cruiser *Florida* through the blockade at Mobile. His reputation was second only to Raphael Semmes of the *Alabama*. Lt. Maffitt was given command of the *Florie* (named after his daughter) and *Lilian*. After a brief tenure as commander of the ironclad *Albemarle*, he returned to Wilmington to command the blockade runner *Owl*, in which he made some of the last runs into Wilmington and Galveston. E. 4,000-5,000

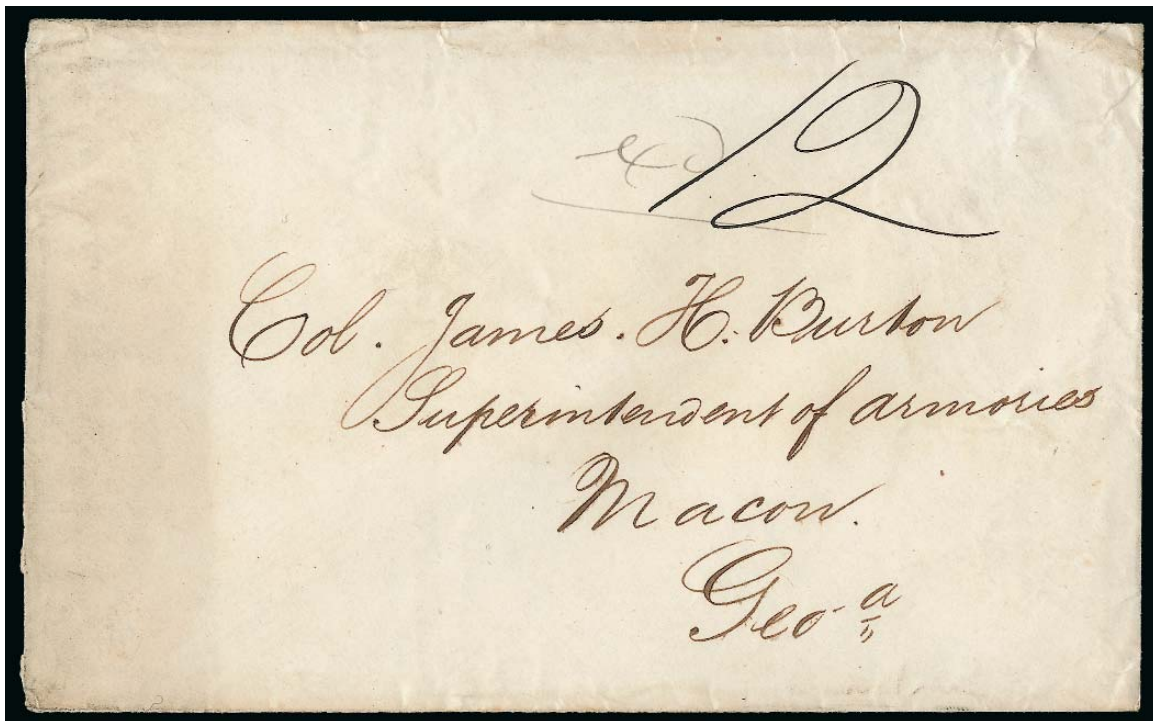


307

- 307 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Die A (11c).** Ample to large margins, tied by bold “**Wilmington N.C. Jul. 9**” (1864) circular datestamp on cover addressed to Col. James H. Burton, Superintendent of Armories, Macon Ga., in care of Col. Gorgas (C.S.A. Chief of Ordnance), sender’s notation “*Original June 15*”, the letter (held in the Yale University archives) datelined “*Liverpool 11 June 1864 via Bermuda*” (the “June 15” notation is probably a clerical error) from Fraser Trenholm & Co. regarding delivery of rifle-making machinery to Bermuda from Greenwood & Batley, **manuscript “Exd” Wilmington Provost Marshal censor’s marking**, pencil receipt docketing “*Recd July 13th J.H.B.*”

EXTREMELY FINE. A WONDERFUL BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM THE OFFICIAL BURTON CORRESPONDENCE. THIS WAS CARRIED FROM BERMUDA, EXAMINED BY THE PROVOST MARSHAL, STAMPED AND PUT INTO THE WILMINGTON POST OFFICE.

This and lot 306 were mailed by Fraser Trenholm & Co. at the same time. They were carried on the Cunarder *Africa*, dep. Liverpool Jun. 11, 1864, arr. Halifax N.S. Jun. 22; then Cunarder *Alpha*, dep. Halifax Jun. 23, arr. St. Georges Jun. 28. At St. Georges, the forwarder chose to send this on an alternate blockade-runner, the *Florie*, dep. St. Georges on the same day as the *Lilian*, Jul. 2, arr. Wilmington Jul. 6. The *Florie* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Company of Georgia; active Feb. 1864 to Oct. 1864, 6 for 8 in successful trips; impressed by the C.S. Navy for use in the Point Lookout Expedition in Aug. 1864; ran aground inside the Cape Fear River in Oct. 1864. She was named after Lt. John N. Maffitt’s daughter (he commanded both the *Lilian* and *Florie*)..... E. 4,000-5,000



308

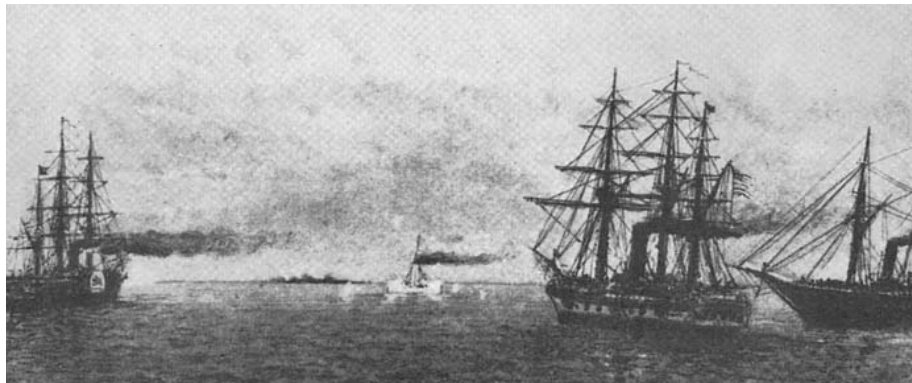
- 308 ☒ **Liverpool to Macon Ga. via Nassau and Wilmington.** “Fraser, Trenholm and Compy. Liverpool” oval embossed seal on flap of cover addressed to Col. James H. Burton, Superintendent of Armories, Macon Ga., manuscript “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) and “*Exd*” Provost Marshal’s censor marking applied at Wilmington, pencil receipt docketing “*Recd. July 13th J.M.B.*” (1864)

VERY FINE. A RARE INCOMING BLOCKADE COVER FROM THE BURTON CORRESPONDENCE.

This correspondence between Fraser Trenholm & Co. and Col. Burton concerned equipment shipped via Nassau. The letter that was contained in this envelope (held in the Yale University archives) is datelined “Liverpool 6 May 1864 via Nassau”. The receipt docketing is dated July 13, 1864.

Carried on Cunarder *Persia*, dep. Liverpool May 7, 1864, arr. New York May 18; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York May 21, arr. Nassau May 25; then blockade-runner *Will of the Wisp*, dep. Nassau May 26, arr. Wilmington May 30. The delay between the May 30 arrival date in Wilmington and the July 13 receipt date in Macon was probably due to the advancing Federal forces in Georgia under General Sherman’s command.

The *Will of the Wisp* was owned by the Anglo-Confederate Trading Co.; active Nov. 1863 to Feb. 1865, 12 for 15 in successful trips; ran aground and destroyed on Feb. 9, 1865, at Galveston. E. 2,000-3,000

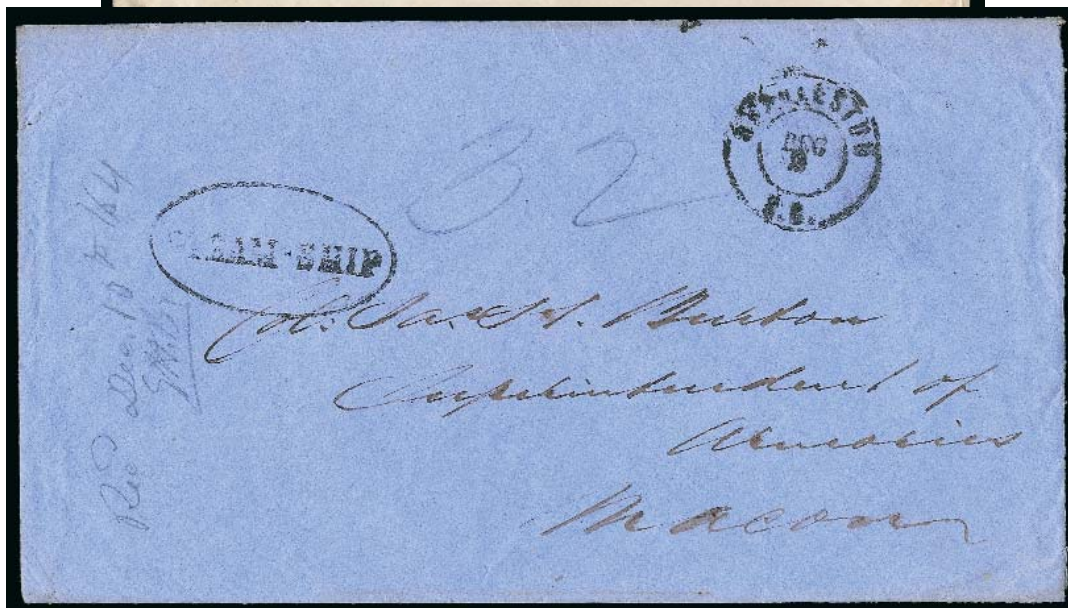


C.S.A. blockade-runner Will of the Wisp with U.S. navy vessels in pursuit

309



310



- 309 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. 5 Paid Apr. 2 (1864).** Unusually sharp strike of modified integral-rate circular datestamp with manuscript "12" rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on cover to Col. James H. Burton, Superintendent of Armories, Macon Ga., pencil receipt docketing "Recd. April 7th /64 J.H.B."

EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXCEPTIONALLY FRESH AND CHOICE INCOMING BLOCKADE-RUN COVER, PROBABLY SENT VIA BERMUDA.

The origin of this cover to Col. James H. Burton is unknown. It was probably carried from Bermuda on the blockade-runner *Index*, dep. St. Georges Mar. 29, 1864, arr. Wilmington Apr. 1. The *Index* was owned by Alexander Collie & Co.; active Jan. 1864 to June 1864, 8 for 8 in successful trips; it was deemed too slow for blockade service and returned to London. ... E. 2,000-3,000

- 310 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Dec. 2 (1864).** Bold double-circle datestamp and "STEAM-SHIP" in oval handstamp with pencil "32" rate (30c triple rate plus 2c ship fee) on blue cover to Col. James H. Burton, Superintendent of Armories in Macon Ga., pencil docketing "Recd. Dec. 10th 64 J.H.B."

VERY FINE. A RARE TRIPLE-RATE COVER FROM THE BURTON CORRESPONDENCE.

The original letter is contained in the Yale University archives. It is datelined Liverpool Oct. 22, 1864, from Fraser, Trenholm & Co. to Burton regarding shipment (see <http://www.csarmory.org> for Burton's diary and letters).

Carried on Cunarder *Persia*, dep. Liverpool Oct. 22, 1864, arr. New York Nov. 2; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Nov. 7, arr. Nassau Nov. 11; then blockade-runner *Kate Gregg*, dep. Nassau Nov. 27, arr. Charleston Dec. 1. The *Kate Gregg* was owned by the Atlantic Steam Packet Company of Charleston; active Aug. 1864 to Jan. 1865, 4 for 4 in successful trips; survived the war. E. 2,000-3,000



311

- 311 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Dec. 3 (1864).** Bold double-circle datestamp and “STEAM-SHIP” in oval handstamp with pencil “Due 22” rate (20c double rate plus 2c ship fee) on blue legal-size cover to Col. James H. Burton, Superintendent of Armories in Macon Ga., embossed seal on flap “Greenwood & Batley, Machinists, Leeds”, pencil docketing “No. 10 Recd. Dec. 9th/64 J.H.B.”, minor wrinkles around edges

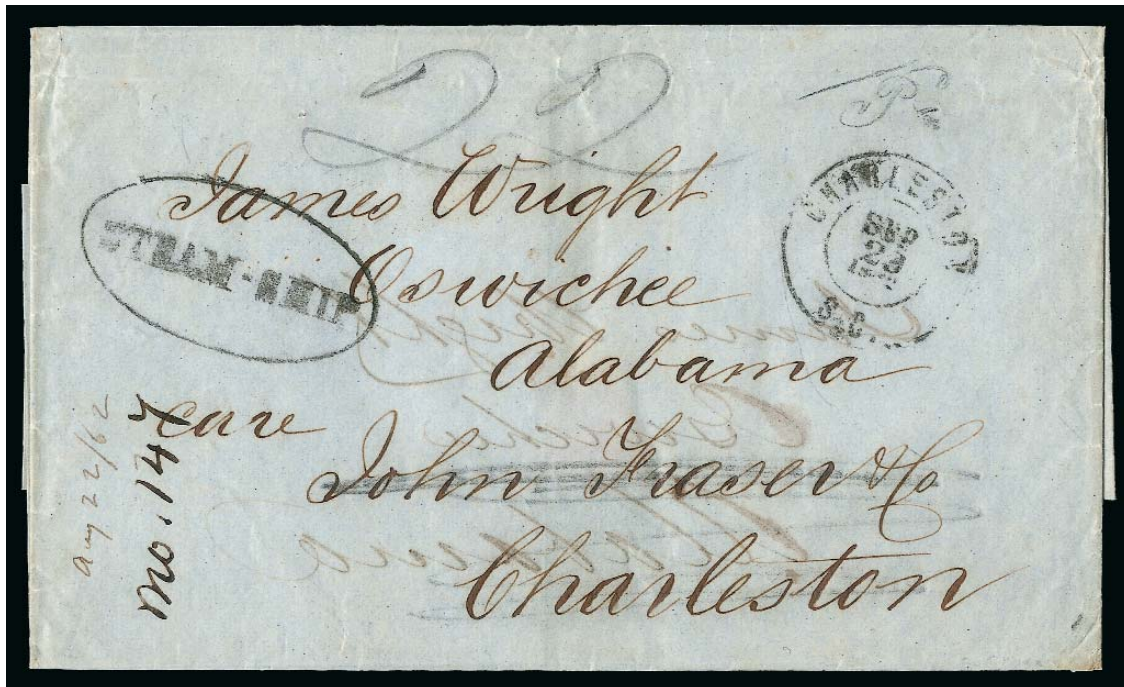
VERY FINE. A RARE DOUBLE-RATE COVER FROM THE BURTON CORRESPONDENCE.

The cover offered here and the preceding lot were handled around the same time, but sent on separate ships. The original letter is contained in the Yale University archives. It is datelined “Leeds 6 Octr. 1864 No. 10”.

Carried on Cunarder *Persia*, dep. Liverpool Oct. 22, 1864, arr. New York Nov. 2; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Nov. 7, arr. Nassau Nov. 11; then blockade-runner *Laurel*, dep. Nassau Nov. 27, arr. Charleston Dec. 2. The *Laurel* was owned by the C.S.A. Navy; active Nov. 1864 to Jan. 1865, 2 for 2 trips; survived the war. E. 2,000-3,000

INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

On May 10, 1861, the U.S.S. *Niagara* initiated the blockade of Charleston harbor, which was flanked and protected to the north and south by Sullivan's and Morris Islands. The earliest blockade-runner steamship departed for Nassau on October 12, 1861, and returned to Charleston on November 4. From that date, steamers regularly entered and departed Charleston, although the earliest recorded incoming letter arrived on May 24, 1862. After U.S. forces began a campaign to capture Morris Island on July 10, 1863, blockade-running activity slowed significantly, but did not stop. When Morris Island fell on September 18, however, blockade running ceased because Confederate authorities placed mines in the harbor entrance to prevent further incursions by the Federal fleet. There was virtually no blockade running activity until March 1864, when the mines were removed. Blockade running then resumed through the Beach Channel under the protection of Fort Moultrie until February 17, 1865, when Sherman's advance through South Carolina cut Charleston off from the interior. The latest known letters were aboard the final steamship run that entered Charleston on February 16. Along with the rest of the post office materials, those letters were evacuated from Charleston and posted at Cheraw, South Carolina.



312

- 312 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Sep. 29, 1862.** Double-circle datestamp and "STEAM-SHIP" in oval handstamp with pencil "22" rate (20c double rate plus 2c ship fee) on blue folded cover to tobacco farmer James Wright, Oswichee Ala., "care John Fraser & Co. Charleston", manuscript note on back "from J F & Co." (John Fraser & Co.), inside of leaf addressed again to James Wright at Oswichee, light pencil lines thru part of address, receipt docketing "Aug. 22 /62 No. 147" gives origin date

VERY FINE. A RARE DOUBLE-RATE INCOMING BLOCKADE COVER WITH FRASER & COMPANY'S FORWARDING NOTATION.

Carried by Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. Liverpool Aug. 30, 1862, arr. New York Sep. 10; then Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. New York Sep. 13, arr. Nassau Sep. 7; then blockade-runner *Kate I*, dep. Nassau ca. Sep. 26, arr. Charleston Sep. 29. The *Kate I* was owned by John Fraser & Co.; active Jan. to Nov. 1862, 20 for 20 in successful trips; hit a snag in the Cape Fear River and sank on Nov. 18, 1862. Fraser & Co. affiliate in Nassau was Adderley & Co. who would have placed it on the blockade-runner. It was treated as double 10c rate plus the 2c ship fee, but technically should have been rated 6c for delivery in the port of Charleston, then an additional 20c for C.S.A. postage.

Ex Kimmel E. 3,000-4,000

313



Lt. William L. Maury

- 313 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Mar. 17, 1863.** Double-circle datestamp and “STEAM-SHIP” in oval handstamp with pencil “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on small cover from Commander William L. Maury in England to his mother in Milton N.C.

EXTREMELY FINE. A DESIRABLE INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE OF ONE OF NAVAL HISTORY'S MOST FAMOUS FAMILIES.

Carried by Cunarder *Asia*, dep. Liverpool Jan. 31, 1863, arr. New York Feb. 15; then Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. New York Mar. 2, arr. Nassau Mar. 6; then blockade-runner *Ruby* dep. Nassau Mar. 15, arr. Charleston Mar. 17. The *Ruby* was owned by Alexander Collie & Co.; active Feb. to June 1863, 8 for 10 in successful trips; destroyed off Charleston Jun. 11, 1863.

Lieutenant William L. Maury was commander of the C.S.S. *Georgia*, a cruiser in the North and South Atlantic, capturing nine United States' merchant vessels. She put into Cherbourg, France, in late October 1863 with her iron hull badly fouled by marine growth and was decommissioned as being unsuited for further use as a warship.

With 1979 P.F. certificate E. 2,000-3,000

Beached remains of the *Ruby*, near Folly Island S.C., February 1865

314

- 314 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Mar. 17, 186- (1863).** Double-circle datestamp and “STEAM-SHIP” in oval handstamp with pencil “22” rate (20c double rate plus 2c ship fee) on cover to Dr. A. J. DeRosset in Wilmington N.C., clear strike of blue “Forwarded by Sawyer & Menendez, Nassau” oval handstamp, interesting notation on inside of backflap “I shall not try sending by way of Baltimore duplicates only by way of Nassau”, receipt docketing “Recd. 18 March 1863”, backflaps with sealed tears and slight staining

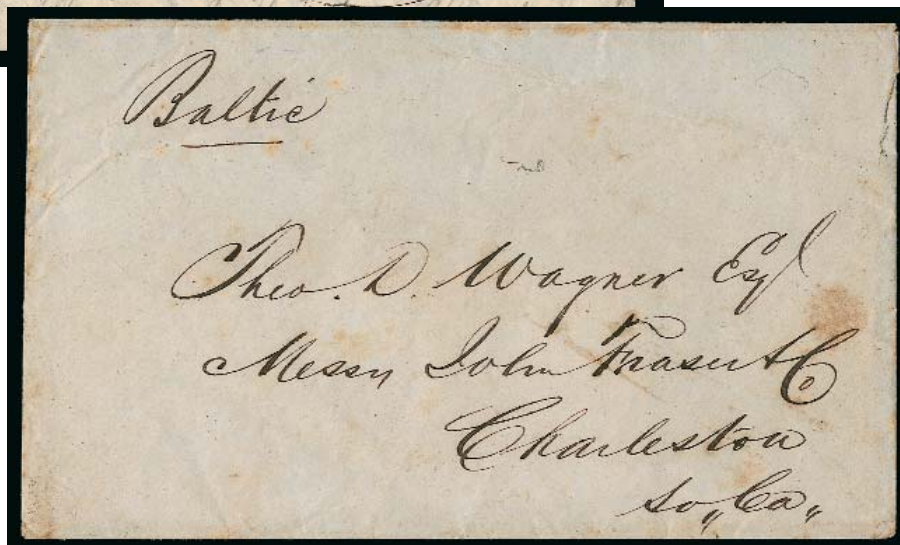
VERY FINE. A QUINTESSENTIAL BLOCKADE-RUN COVER WITH THE SAWYER & MENENDEZ FORWARDER HANDSTAMP AND CHARLESTON DOUBLE-RATE MARKINGS ALL CLEARLY STRUCK ON THE ADDRESS SIDE.

Origin unknown. Carried by blockade-runner *Ruby*, dep. Nassau Mar. 15, 1863, arr. Charleston Mar. 17. The *Ruby* was owned by London-based Alexander Collie & Co.; active Feb. to Jun. 1863, 8 for 10 in successful trips; destroyed off Charleston Jun. 11, 1863, on its last attempt.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 120). Ex Ludington E. 2,000-3,000



315



316

- 315 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Jun. 29, 186-** (1863). Bold strike of circular datestamp and "STEAM-SHIP" in oval handstamp with pencil "12" rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on folded letter datelined "*Bremen 3d June 1863*" transmitting duplicate of Feb. 14 letter and tobacco sales report, from H. H. Meier & Co. to James Thomas Jr., prominent Richmond tobacco merchant, thin paper with slight ink erosion and small splits

VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE BLOCKADE-RUNNER COVER ORIGINATING IN GERMANY AND SENT TO RICHMOND VIA NASSAU AND CHARLESTON.

Carried on Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. Liverpool Jun. 6, 1863, arr. New York Jun. 16; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Jun. 20, arr. Nassau Jun. 24; then blockade-runner *Fannie*, dep. Nassau Jun. 24, arr. Charleston Jun. 28. The *Fannie* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Company of South Carolina (William C. Bee); active May 1863 to April 1865, 20 for 20 in successful trips; survived the war..... E. 2,000-3,000

- 316 ☒ **Liverpool to Charleston S.C. via Nassau.** Cover addressed to "*Theo. D. Wagner Esq., Messrs John Fraser & Co., Charleston So. Ca.*", the letter (which no longer accompanies) datelined Liverpool June 5, 1863, from C. Prioleau, manager of Fraser Trenholm & Co. office, the addressee, Theodore Wagner, was president of the parent company John Fraser & Co., carried entirely outside mails with enigmatic notation "*Baltic*", slight toning, Very Fine, carried on Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. Liverpool Jun. 6, 1863, arr. New York Jun. 15; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Jun. 20, arr. Nassau Jun. 24; then blockade-runner *Raccoon*, dep. Nassau Jul. 15, arr. Charleston Jul. 19; on this trip the *Raccoon* ran aground off Sullivan's Island, but the crew and mail were saved (they burned the ship); this was the first Fraser, Trenholm & Co. departure after June 24, 1863, which would have been used by a Fraser & Co. representative; the *Raccoon* active Dec. to Jul. 1863, 2 for 3 in successful trips..... E. 400-500



317

- 317 ✉ **10c Blue, Die A (11).** Large margins all around, tied by "Charleston S.C. Mar. 29" (1864) circular datestamp on cover addressed to Gustavus A. Myers in Richmond Va., **signed or endorsed "Walker"** at lower left, reduced about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch at right

VERY FINE. A RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM BERMUDA. ONE OF THE FEW RECORDED COVERS BEARING THE NAME OF NORMAN S. WALKER, THE CONFEDERATE AGENT. ADDRESSED TO GUSTAVUS A. MYERS, THE ACTING BRITISH CONSUL IN RICHMOND.

Carried on the *Minnie*, dep. St. Georges Mar. 26, 1864, arr. Charleston Mar. 29. The *Minnie* was owned by the Albion Trading Co.; active Jan. to May 1864, 3 for 4 in successful trips; captured by U.S.S. *Connecticut* on May 9, 1864, coming out of Wilmington.



Major Norman S. Walker

Major Norman S. Walker was the senior Confederate agent in Bermuda from February 1863 until June 27, 1864. The yellow fever epidemic caused him and his family to leave the island; his wife and children for England, and Major Walker to the Confederate States on government business. After an abandoned effort to establish Halifax as a principal port for blockade-running, Major Walker and his family traveled to Bermuda and eventually returned to England (source: Rev. William Parkes, "Per Walker: Major Norman S. Walker and Bermuda Blockade Mail", *Confederate Philatelist*, May-June 1982 and July-Aug. 1982, Nos. 207-208).

Several covers are recorded with a notation at lower left that has been variously read as "P. Walker" (Per Walker), "ApWalker" (Approved Walker) or "NSWalker" (Norman S. Walker). The endorsement and address are in identical writing, which is similar to samples of Walker's hand, but we are uncertain why Major Walker would have signed these covers..... E. 2,000-3,000



318



319

- 318 ☒ **Charleston S.C. "6" Due Handstamp.** Bold strike on small cover to Cornelius L. Burckmyer at Charleston, contains letter numbers 48 and 49 datelined Tours July 22, 1864, lengthy cross-written content, slight edgewear

VERY FINE. A FASCINATING BURCKMYER COVER FROM FRANCE TO CHARLESTON VIA NASSAU WITH "6" RATE HANDSTAMP APPLIED TO LETTERS DELIVERED AT THE PORT OF ARRIVAL.

Carried on Cunarder *Persia*, dep. Liverpool Jul. 30, 1864, arr. New York Aug. 11; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Aug. 15, arr. Nassau Aug. 17; then blockade-runner *Syren*, dep. Nassau Aug. 31, arr. Charleston Sep. 4. The *Syren* was owned by the Charleston Importing & Exporting Co., in which Burckmyer was probably a shareholder; active Oct. 1863 to Feb. 1865, 33 for 33 successful runs; captured in Charleston harbor in Feb. 1865. Characterized by Stephen Wise as one of "the most successful" blockade runners.

Ex Birkinbine E. 2,000-3,000

- 319 ☒ **Charleston S.C. Sep. 26, 186- (1864).** Bold circular datestamp and "STEAM-SHIP" in oval handstamp with pencil "12" rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on light buff cover to Mrs. Fannie L. Wilcox at Augusta Ga., in care of Marshall Beach & Co. Wilmington N.C., manuscript "*Forwarded by Beach Root & Co. Liverpool*" on back and endorsement in matching hand "*Per Gen Whiting*", adherence at top right and small piece on back were on the cover when it was postmarked at Charleston

VERY FINE. A DESIRABLE EXAMPLE OF INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL WITH FORWARDER MARKING AND SHIP-NAME ENDORSEMENT.

Carried on Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. Liverpool Aug. 27, 1864, arr. New York Sep. 6; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Sep. 10, arr. Nassau Sep. 14; then blockade-runner *General Whiting*, dep. Nassau Sep. 21, arr. Charleston Sep. 26. The *General Whiting* was owned by the Consolidated Steamship Co.; active Apr. 1864 to Jan. 1865, 4 for 4 in successful trips; survived the war.

The principals in Beach Root & Co. were Major Sidney Root, a close friend of Jefferson Davis, and J. N. Beach. They ran a wholesale mercantile business and were large suppliers to the C.S.A. Beach went to Liverpool in 1861 and Root went to Europe in 1864.

Ex Seacrest E. 2,000-3,000

INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

The U.S.S. *Daylight* initiated the blockade of Wilmington on July 14, 1861. This city was about 25 miles up the Cape Fear River, which emptied into the Atlantic at Smith's Island. Wilmington had excellent railroad connections with Charleston, Atlanta and Richmond. The first arrival by a steamship was on December 21, 1861, from Nassau. Sporadic blockade-running activity continued until August 8, 1862, when the *Kate* brought yellow fever to Wilmington. This paralyzed the port until November 1862, when blockade-running activity resumed at an increased level. Nonetheless, the earliest recorded inbound cover arrived in July 1862, and the earliest known Wilmington datestamp on inbound blockade-run mail is December 29, 1862. From January 1863 to January 1865, there were regular arrivals of letters, and virtually all mail received Wilmington postmarks except during a short period in late 1864. The latest recorded arrival was on January 5, 1865, and one cover is known from that trip. Blockade running ended when the Wilmington harbor defenses were captured on January 15, 1865.



320



321

- 320 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. Sep. 12 (1863).** Bold circular datestamp and “SHIP” straightline handstamp with manuscript “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on small pinkish-colored cover to Colonel Miller Hallows in Bolingbroke Ga., bold red “Forwarded by Saunders & Co. Nassau” double-line oval handstamp (partly obscured by Wilmington datestamp), receipt docketing “Recd Sept. 24 1863, Ansd Nov. 2 1863, Wrote again Nov 24 /63, Again Dec. 4 1863”, backflap removed and some faults

AN ATTRACTIVE AND RARE INCOMING BLOCKADE-RUN COVER WITH SAUNDERS & SON FORWARDER HANDSTAMP.

Col. Miller Hallows was born in England in 1799 (died in Georgia in 1877). He fought with Simon Bolivar from 1818 to 1830. He was in his 60's when this was sent to him, probably from England. If so, then carried on Cunarder *China*, dep. Liverpool Aug. 1, 1863, arr. New York Aug. 11; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Aug. 15, arr. Nassau Aug. 19; then blockade-runner *Alice*, dep. Nassau Sep. 8, arr. Wilmington Sep. 12. The *Alice* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Co. of South Carolina (William C. Bee); active May 1863 to Mar. 1865, 24 for 24 in successful trips; survived the war.

With 1989 C.S.A. certificate E. 2,000-3,000

- 321 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. Oct. 10 (1863).** Only partly visible strike and manuscript “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on cover from St. Georges, Bermuda to Mrs. Sallie G. Lull, in care of Houghton, Allen & Co., Wetumpka Ala., with additional handling directive “Care Messrs. Andrea & Leon, Wilmington” (we cannot find any information about this company), sender's ship-name routing “Per ‘Flora’”, pencil receipt docketing “Oct. 3d, Sept 28, 1863” referring to two original letter enclosures, the first datelined “St. Georges Bermuda Sept. 28 1863” which begins “I wrote you last on board Stmr. ‘Asia’” and mentions shipping items “by two different steamers, the ‘Flora’ and the ‘A. D. Vance’”, second letter datelined “St. Geo. Bermuda Oct. 3 1863” begins “The ‘Flora’ leaves tomorrow for C.S.A. and I add a line — In case anything occurs to prevent my going on the ‘Vance’”

VERY FINE. A RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM BERMUDA AND ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE WITH THE SHIP-NAME ENDORSEMENT AND THE ORIGINAL LETTER CONTENTS.

Carried on blockade-runner *Flora II*, dep. St. Georges Oct. 4, arr. Wilmington Oct. 8. The *Flora II* was active Aug. 1863 to Jan. 1864, 9 for 10 in successful trips; sank at sea Jan. 11, 1864.

Ex Ludington E. 2,000-3,000



322



323

- 322 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. 5 Paid Dec. 17 (1863).** Bold modified integral-rate circular datestamp and “SHIP” straightline handstamp with manuscript “22” rate (20c double rate plus 2c ship fee) on greenish folded letter datelined “*Liverpool 21st Novr. 1863 per Scotia*” from John K. Gilliat & Co. to William Gray, prominent Richmond Va. tobacco merchant

VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE DOUBLE-RATE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM LIVERPOOL TO RICHMOND VIA NASSAU AND WILMINGTON.

Carried on Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. Liverpool Nov. 21, 1863, arr. New York Dec. 4; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Dec. 7, arr. Nassau Dec. 11; then blockade-runner *Syren*, dep. Nassau Dec. 12, arr. Wilmington Dec. 16. The *Syren* was owned by the Charleston Importing & Exporting Co.; active Oct. 1863 to Feb. 1865, 33 for 33 in successful trips; captured in Charleston harbor Feb. 1865. Characterized by Stephen Wise as one of “the most successful” blockade runners.

Ex Everett. With 1979 C.S.A. certificate E. 1,500-2,000

- 323 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. 5 Paid Dec. 19 (1863).** Bold modified integral-rate circular datestamp and “SHIP” straightline handstamp with manuscript “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on small cover with Griffin crest on flap and London stationer’s embossing “Saunders, 21 Hanway Street” on side flap, to Jonathan N. Hendren in Staunton Va. (Hendren was appointed C.S.A. Treasurer in Oct. 1864), manuscript ship-name endorsement “*Fannie*” in ink matching the “12” rate, which suggests there might have been an accounting procedure for ship fees, lightly cleaned

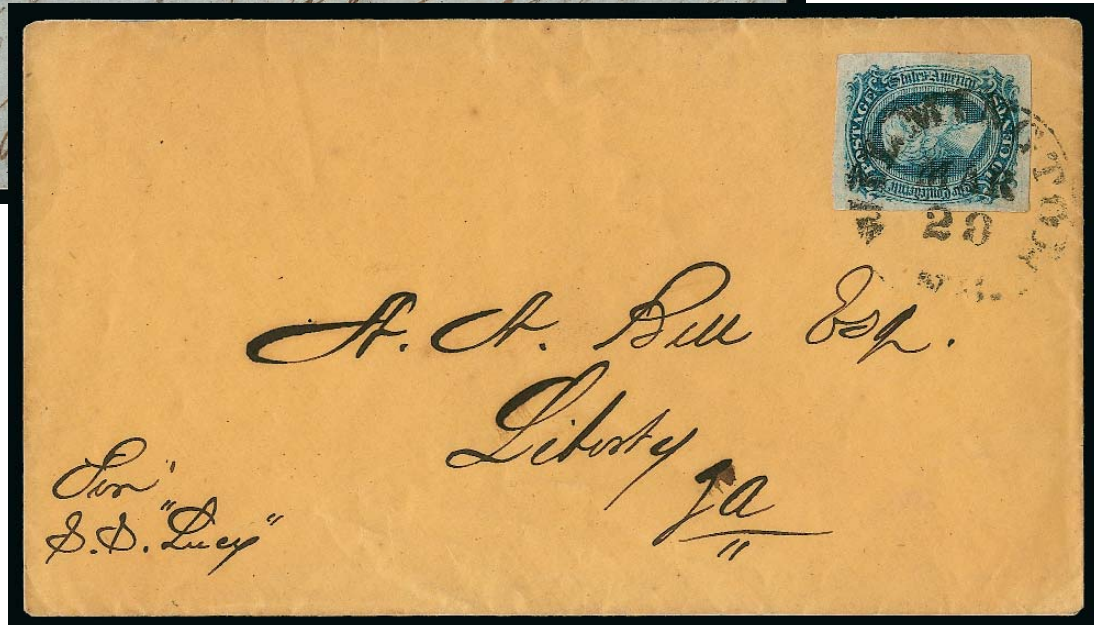
VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM NASSAU WITH ALL OF THE “ESSENTIAL” ELEMENTS IN PLACE — WILMINGTON MODIFIED RATE DATESTAMP, “SHIP” HANDSTAMP AND SHIP-NAME ENDORSEMENT.

Carried on Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. Liverpool Nov. 21, 1863, arr. New York Dec. 4; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Dec. 7, arr. Nassau Dec. 11; then blockade-runner *Fannie*, dep. Nassau Dec. 13, arr. Wilmington Dec. 19. The *Fannie* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Company of South Carolina (William C. Bee); active May 1863 to Apr. 1865, 20 for 20 in successful trips; survived the war.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 134) E. 3,000-4,000



324



325

- 324 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. 5 Paid Jan. 19 (1864).** Bold modified integral-rate circular datestamp and “SHIP” straightline handstamp with manuscript “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on greenish folded letter datelined “(Duplicate Original p Australasian) Liverpool 5th Decr. 1863” with mailing date of Dec. 19, from Eyre Evans & Co. to David H. London, prominent Richmond Va. merchant

VERY FINE. A DESIRABLE INCOMING BLOCKADE-RUN COVER WITH THE WILMINGTON MODIFIED RATE DATESTAMP AND “SHIP” STRAIGHTLINE.

Carried on Cunarder *Persia*, dep. Liverpool Dec. 19, 1863, arr. New York Dec. 31; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Jan. 4, 1864, arr. Nassau Jan. 8; then blockade-runner *Heroine*, dep. Nassau Jan. 15, arr. Wilmington Jan. 19. The *Heroine* was owned by John Fraser & Co. (handled in Nassau by Adderley & Co., Fraser’s agent); active Nov. 1863 to July 1864, 5 for 5 in successful trips; trapped in Mobile Bay in Aug. 1864. This is a late use of the Wilmington “Ship” straightline.....

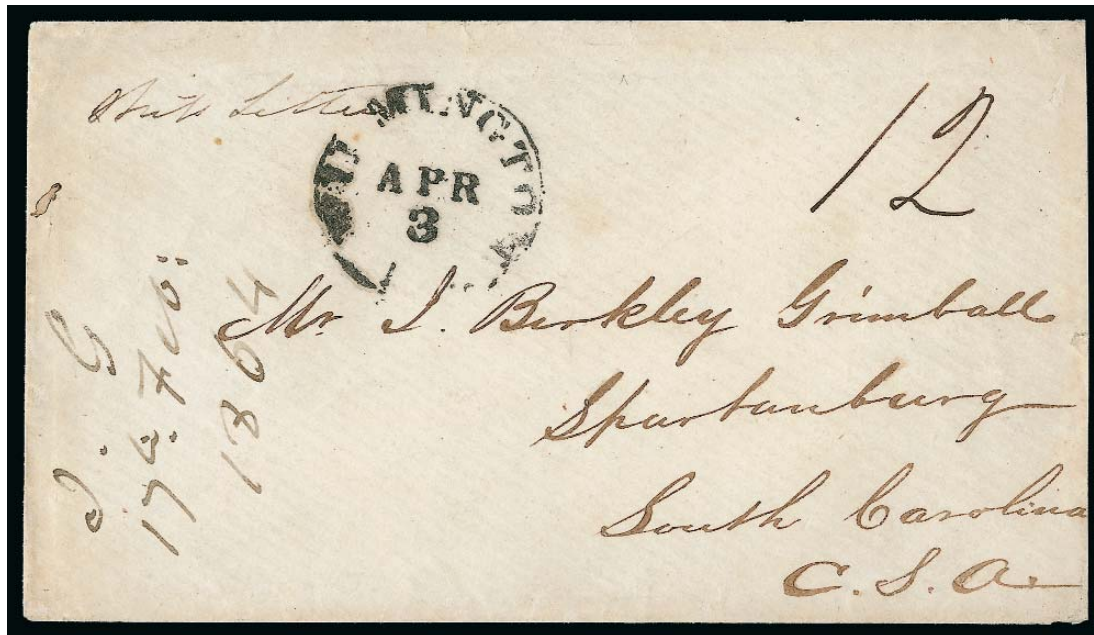
E. 2,000-3,000

- 325 ☒ **10c Dark Blue, Die A (11b).** Large even margins, light pre-use crease, tied by “Wilmington N.C. Mar. 23” (or Mar. 28, 1864) circular datestamp on buff cover originating in England and addressed to A. A. Bell at Liberty Va. with ship-name endorsement “Per S.S. ‘Lucy’”, backflap has light manuscript “Forwd. by C. C. Hudson” Wilmington forwarder’s endorsement

EXTREMELY FINE AND VERY RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER WITH SHIP’S NAME AND CONFEDERATE STAMP FOR INTERNAL POSTAGE.

This cover was carried to Wilmington on board the blockade-runner *Lucy*, dep. Nassau Mar. 11, arr. Wilmington Mar. 15. It was probably transmitted in a package of letters sent to C. C. Hudson in Wilmington (a copy of a blockade-running document signed by Hudson at Wilmington accompanies). Hudson held the letter and posted it 8 days later. The ship fee was paid on the package of letters, thus not marked on each cover individually. The *Lucy* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active Nov. 1863 to Nov. 1864, 21 for 23 in successful trips; captured by U.S.S. *Santiago de Cuba* on Nov. 3, 1864, off of Wilmington. A detailed history of the C.S.S. *Lucy* appears in the *Confederate Philatelist*, May-June 1972.

Ex Murphy..... E. 4,000-5,000



326

- 326 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. Apr. 3 (1864).** Mostly bold circular datestamp with manuscript "12" rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on cover to J. Berkley Grimball at Spartanburg S.C., notation "Ship letter" in another hand, receipt docketing "J. G. 17th Feb. 1864" indicating origin date from 2nd Lieutenant John Grimball (probably from England), very slightly reduced at right

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM BERMUDA WITH FASCINATING MILITARY ASSOCIATION.

Carried on Cunarder *Canada*, dep. Liverpool Feb. 20, 1864, arr. Halifax N.S. Mar. 3; then Cunarder *Alpha*, dep. Halifax Mar. 4, arr. St. Georges Mar. 9; then blockade-runner *Greyhound*, dep. St. Georges Mar. 29, arr. Wilmington Apr. 6. The *Greyhound* was active Mar. to May 1864, 1 for 2 in successful trips; captured off coast of Wilmington by U.S.S. *Connecticut* in May 1864.

Lieutenant John Grimball's early career included service on the C.S.S. *Arkansas*, an iron-clad operating near Vicksburg and reputed to be the most feared ship of the C.S. Navy. The *Arkansas* ran aground and was burned by the crew. Lt. Grimball was assigned to service abroad on Jan. 6, 1864, and this was probably sent by Grimball from England on Feb. 17, 1864. He was appointed to the famed C.S.S. *Shenandoah* on Oct. 8, 1864. The *Shenandoah's* exploits continued months after the end of the war, as she captured whalers for prize. Lt. Grimball was present when the first and last shots of the war were fired.

Ex Kohn, Haas and Birkinbine..... E. 2,000-3,000



327

- 327 ✉ **Wilmington N.C. May 3 (1864).** Bold circular datestamp with manuscript “12” rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) and “*Exd*” Provost Marshal censor marking on folded cover to Major Francis W. Smith, in care of Bacon & Baskerville in Richmond Va., faint receipt docketing “*Received from Liverpool Feb. 22, 1864*”, couple tiny ink erosion spots in address

VERY FINE. A RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM LIVERPOOL TO RICHMOND ROUTED VIA HALIFAX, ST. GEORGES AND WILMINGTON, BEARING THE “EXD” CONFEDERATE CENSOR MARKING APPLIED AT WILMINGTON.

Carried on Cunarder *Arabia*, dep. Liverpool Mar. 5, 1864, arr. Halifax N.S. Mar. 16; then Cunarder *Alpha*, dep. Halifax Mar. 31, arr. St. Georges Apr. 7; then blockade-runner *Atalanta*, dep. St. Georges Apr. 27, arr. Wilmington May 3. The *Atalanta* was active April 1864 to July 1864, at which point it was sold to the C.S. Navy, renamed C.S.S. *Tallahassee* and went on a commerce raid. It returned and was renamed C.S.S. *Olustee* in Oct. 1864. In Dec. 1864 she was converted back to blockade running and appropriately named *Chameleon*. In Apr. 1865 she went to Liverpool. The addressee, Major Francis W. Smith, was superintendent of Virginia Military Institute. Bacon & Baskerville were wholesale grocers and commission merchants. Their warehouse was converted to a hospital during the war (Bacon and Baskerville hospital, Receiving and Wayside Hospital, Receiving and Way Hospital, General Hospital No. 7).

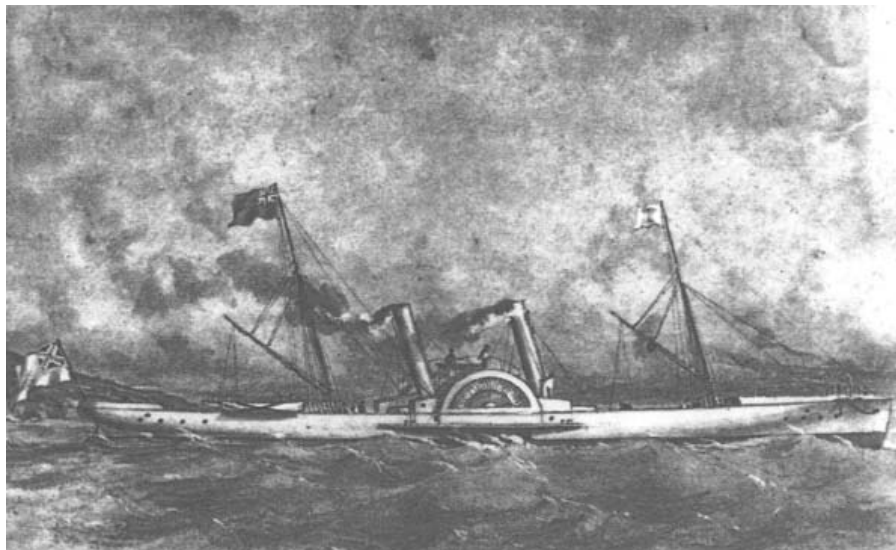
Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 125). With 1981 P.F. certificate..... E. 2,000-3,000



328

- 328 ☒ **10c Blue, Die A (11).** Full to large margins, tied by lightly struck “**Wilmington N.C. May 29**” (1864) circular datestamp on cover to Hill & Norfleet (commission and forwarding merchants), in care of Howell & Harris in Wilmington N.C., pencil “**Exd**” **Provost Marshal censor marking** applied at Wilmington, half of backflap removed
 VERY FINE. A RARE INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM BERMUDA WITH CONFEDERATE FRANKING AND EXAMINER’S MARKING APPLIED AT WILMINGTON.

Carried on blockade-runner *Lynx*, dep. St. Georges May 24, 1864, arr. Wilmington May 28. The *Lynx* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active May 1864 to Sep. 1864, 9 for 10 in successful trips. This cover was hand-carried or carried in another packet from Bermuda. On arrival the letter was examined by the Provost Marshal and marked “Exd”. Howell & Harris stamped it and mailed it May 29 (1864). E. 3,000-4,000



Blockade-runner Lynx



329

- 329 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. May 29 (1864).** Mostly clear strike of circular datestamp with manuscript "12" rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on cover to Mrs. C. C. Clay Jr. in Petersburg Va., in care of Dr. Thomas Withers, monogram on back "G.F.W." for Georgiana F. Walker (wife of Norman S. Walker), pencil docketing "Walker", most of backflap removed but monogram intact, "Rebel Archives" backstamp

VERY FINE. A FASCINATING COVER FROM THE WIFE OF MAJOR NORMAN S. WALKER, CARRIED BY BLOCKADE-RUNNER FROM BERMUDA TO WILMINGTON.

Carried on blockade-runner *Lynx*, dep. St. Georges May 24, 1864, arr. Wilmington May 28. The *Lynx* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active May 1864 to Sep. 1864, 9 for 10 in successful trips; chased ashore and destroyed by the U.S.S. *Howquah* and the *Nippon* after leaving Wilmington Sep. 25, 1864.

The addressee's husband, Clement Claiborne Clay Jr., served as a U.S. senator before the war and was sent to Canada in 1864 as a member of the Peace Commission. Georgiana F. Walker arrived in Bermuda on Mar. 24, 1863, and left for England with her children on June 27, 1864, to escape the yellow fever epidemic. She returned to Bermuda on Jan. 17, 1865, and, with the end of the war, the Walkers left for England on May 13, 1865.

With 1996 C.S.A. certificate..... E. 1,500-2,000



Major Norman S. Walker

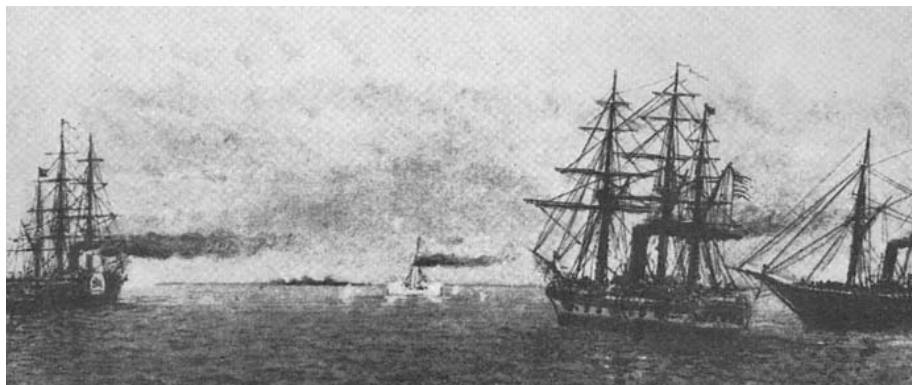


330

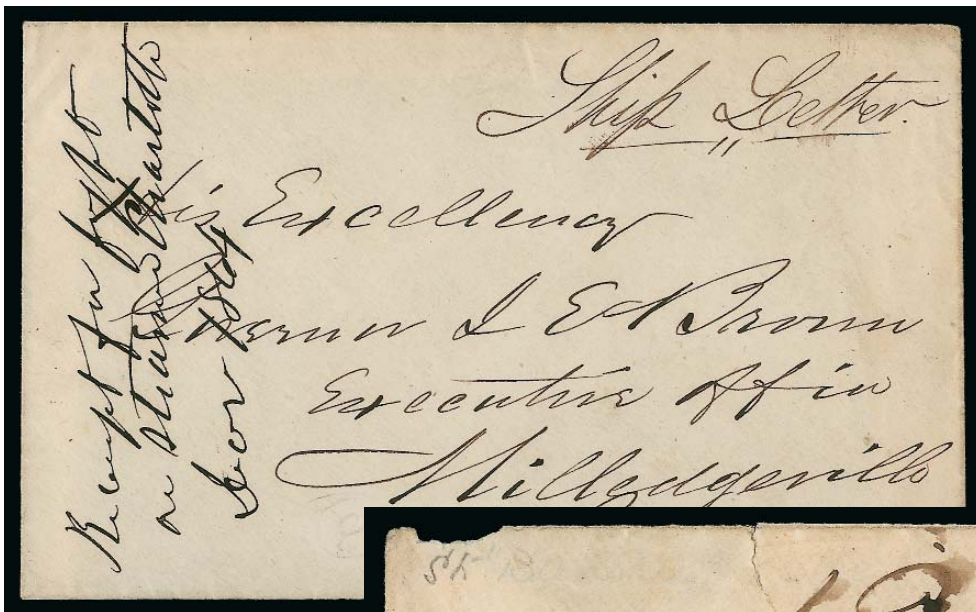
- 330 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. Jul. 30 (1864).** Partly clear circular datestamp with manuscript "12" rate (10c plus 2c ship fee) on cover to Gov. Joseph Brown in Milledgeville Ga., sender's **ship-name endorsement** "*Will o' the Wisp*", left side of envelope and letter inside are embossed with "**Forwarded by Geo. Chambers & Co. Nassau N.P.**" oval forwarder's mark, with original letter enclosure datelined "*London July 2, 1864*" from Charles H. Reid & Co. to Gov. Brown regarding shipment of cotton on the blockade-runner *Index*, receipt docketing "*Charles H. Reid & Co. about Cotton, Aug. 13th 1864*"

VERY FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE EXAMPLE OF CHAMBERS & COMPANY'S EMBOSSED FORWARDER MARK ON A BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM LONDON TO THE GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA VIA NASSAU AND WILMINGTON.

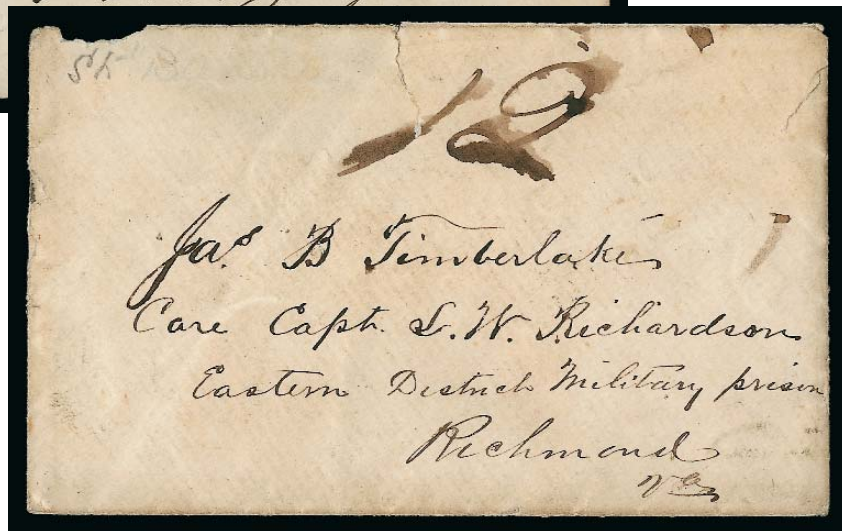
Carried on Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. Queenstown Jul. 3, 1864, arr. New York Jul. 13; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Jul. 15, arr. Nassau Jul. 20; then blockade-runner *Will of the Wisp*, dep. Nassau Jul. 26, arr. Wilmington Jul. 30. The *Will of the Wisp* was owned by the Anglo-Confederate Trading Co.; active Nov. 1863 to Feb. 1865, 12 for 15 in successful trips; ran aground and destroyed on Feb. 9, 1865, at Galveston. The sender, Charles H. Reid, was one-third owner in five blockade runners. E. 2,000-3,000



C.S.A. blockade-runner Will of the Wisp with U.S. navy vessels in pursuit



331



332

- 331 ☒ **Nassau to Milledgeville Ga. via Wilmington.** Cover addressed to Gov. Joseph E. Brown in Milledgeville Ga., manuscript "Ship Letter" endorsement but no postal markings, indicating hand-carriage from port of Wilmington, receipt docketing "Receipt for freight on Steamer Charlotte, Nov. 1864", with original enclosure datelined "Nassau N.P. 2 Dec. 1864" from J. C. Bailie, who worked for Adderley & Co. in Nassau, reporting on shipment of goods on steamer *Charlotte*

VERY FINE. A PRISTINE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER AND LETTER WRITTEN FROM THE BAHAMAS TO GOVERNOR BROWN OF GEORGIA.

Carried on blockade-runner *Blenheim*, dep. Nassau Dec. 2, 1864, arr. Wilmington Dec. 6. The *Blenheim* was active Oct. 1864 to Jan. 1865, 4 for 5 in successful trips; captured by the U.S.S. *Tristram Shandy* at Wilmington on Jan. 25, 1865. E. 1,500-2,000

- 332 ☒ **"Str Banshee".** Faint pencil endorsement at top left and manuscript "12" rate applied at Wilmington on small cover with unusual address "Jas. B. Timberlake, Care Capt. L. W. Richardson, Eastern District Military Prison, Richmond Va.", tear at top and half of backflap removed, couple of edge nicks or tiny tears

FINE. A VERY UNUSUAL AND LATE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER ADDRESSED TO A CONFEDERATE PRISON CAMP IN RICHMOND.

This was carried on a relatively late blockade run into Wilmington. Although the origin is not indicated, the address provides a clue. James B. Timberlake with the 1st Virginia Reserves was a clerk at a prison camp Castle Thunder (Eastern Military Prison). Capt. Lucien W. Richardson was commandant of Castle Thunder prison camp. From October 18 to 22, 1864, there was a bazaar in Liverpool to aid the Southern Prisoners' Relief Fund. If this cover is related to that event, then it was probably carried on the Cunarder *Persia*, dep. Liverpool Oct. 22, 1864, arr. New York Nov. 2; then by Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. New York Nov. 7, arr. Nassau on Nov. 11. From Nassau it would have been carried on the blockade-runner *Banshee II*, dep. Nassau Nov. 30, arr. Wilmington Dec. 4. The *Banshee II* was owned by the Anglo-Confederate Trading Co.; active Sep. 1864 to May 1865, 8 for 8 in successful trips; survived the war. E. 1,500-2,000

INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA MOBILE, ALABAMA

On May 26, 1861, the U.S.S. *Powhatan* initiated the blockade of Mobile, which was at the head of a large bay formed by barrier islands and protected by two forts at the opening of the bay. With only one ship channel, however, it was more easily blockaded. Some incoming blockade-run letters were carried under cover to a Mobile forwarder, who paid the ship postage on the outer envelope and then posted them in Mobile with only 10¢ C.S.A. postage. Others were carried directly in the blockade-runner mailbag, and taken to the Mobile post office where they were postmarked and assessed ship postage. Mobile used a straightline "SHIP" marking similar to those used at Wilmington, Charleston and New Orleans on some, but not all blockade-run mail. All of the mail was subject to inspection by military authorities. The first arrival by a steamship was on June 29, 1862 from Havana, Cuba. Fewer than ten incoming blockade covers are known through Mobile. The earliest known cover was postmarked on August 12, 1861, and the latest passed through Mobile in May 1864. U.S. naval forces captured the barrier island forts and occupied Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, which ended blockade running through Mobile.



333 and detail of censor mark on back

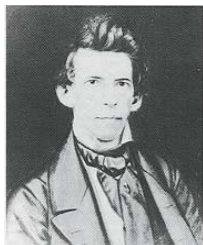


- 333 ☒ **10c Blue, Frameline (10).** Large top and bottom margins showing two full framelines, ample at sides, tied by clear strike of "Mobile Ala. Jul. 28" double-circle datestamp on **blockade-run cover originating in Havana and carried to Mobile**, addressed to "C. Emile Le Blanc, Care of J. D. B. DeBow, Mobile, Ala." with Mobile crossed out in another hand and redirected to Uniontown Ala., the back of the cover has "**JCD/PM**" censor mark applied by Mobile Provost Marshal Jules C. Denis, additional notation in French "*expédie par Contin*" ("sent by Contin") and receipt docketing "*letter 14 July, recd 3 Augst/63*", sealed flap tears, faint toned spots

VERY FINE. ONE OF THREE RECORDED BLOCKADE-RUN COVERS WITH CONFEDERATE POSTAGE PAID BY THE 10-CENT FRAMELINE.

Based on another cover from the same correspondence, this cover to C. Emile LeBlanc originated in Havana, Cuba, and reached LeBlanc in Columbus, Mississippi (see Robert G. Kaufmann sale, Oct. 10, 1987, lot 625, for a cover containing a letter in French datelined Havana, Oct. 23, 1863). An entry from the Louisiana State University library provides a picture of LeBlanc's activities during the war: "LeBlanc, C.E. Papers, Mss. 1315, 1864-1865 [Columbus, Mississippi]. Location: Reel 12, Confederate Military Manuscripts, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. This collection consists of six items, papers, 1864-1865, of C. E. LeBlanc, deputy Confederate government agent for the purchase of cotton. Papers concern the sale of certain Confederate property in Columbus, Mississippi, and its subsequent confiscation by a U.S. Treasury agent. Additional items include a promissory note, a contract for the delivery of cotton, and a broadside announcing a lecture to be presented by J. D. B. DeBow in Columbus, Mississippi."

This cover was carried on the blockade-runner *Fanny*, dep. Havana Jul. 24, 1863, arr. Mobile Jul. 27. The *Fanny* was active Apr. to Sep. 1863 with 4 for 5 in successful trips. She was captured by the U.S. Navy in April 1862 in New Orleans, then recaptured on Apr. 12, 1863, by C.S.A. raiders at the mouth of the Mississippi River. On her last trip she was pursued by the U.S.S. *Calhoun*, but burned to prevent capture on Sep. 12, 1863.



J. D. B. DeBow

James D. B. DeBow, to whose care this cover was directed, was an American publisher and slavery advocate best known for his influential magazine *DeBow's Review*. A resident of New Orleans, DeBow was exiled to Mobile after the capture of New Orleans in April 1861. He later became one of the founding members of the Louisiana Relief Committee.

The three recorded 10c Frameline blockade-run covers in the *Special Routes* book are Census Nos. BI-Wm-28, BI-Mob-2 and BI-Mob-3 (this is No. 3)..... E. 5,000-7,500

INBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA GALVESTON, TEXAS

The U.S.S. *South Carolina* initiated the blockade of Galveston on July 2, 1861. The first arrival by a steamship was on December 29, 1861 from Havana, Cuba. USA forces occupied Galveston Bay from September 30, 1863 to January 1, 1864, so no blockade running occurred during that period. Fewer than ten incoming blockade covers are known, all postmarked in Houston, Texas between January 29, 1864, and March 1, 1865. The surrender of Galveston on June 2, 1865, ended all blockade running. All known incoming blockade run letters were carried under cover, and posted by a forwarder in Houston with 10¢ C.S.A. postage prepaid, unless the letter was addressed to Houston. A forwarder marking from Havana or Mexico, or a dateline or docket from outside of the C.S.A. are identifying characteristics, along with a Houston postmark. Since the mail was carried under cover, no “ship” markings were used and the 2¢ ship fee was not assessed.



334



335

- 334 ☒ **Kingston (Jamaica) to Houston Tex. via Cienfuegos, Havana and Galveston.** Folded letter dated-lined “*Kingston Jamaica, 14 Feby. 1865*” from a commercial firm to T. W. House in Houston Tex., in care of Messrs. Vignier Robertson & Co. in Havana, carried by private ship from Kingston to Cienfuegos, manuscript “*forwarded by Aviles & Leblanc*” forwarder marking applied in Cienfuegos (Aviles & Leblanc was a major trading house), “Cienfuegos Isla de Cuba 28 Feb. 65” double-circle datestamp and trace of Cuba 1864 2r Plada Red on Buff (21) stamp at upper right, “Havana 1 Mar. 65” circular datestamp on back, the stamp was probably peeled off by Vignier Robertson & Co. when they received the letter at Havana and arranged to send it on a blockade-runner, receipt docketing, skillfully treated by a paper conservator with small reinforcements and cleaning but no major restoration

FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTRAORDINARY POSTAL HISTORY ARTIFACT, ORIGINATING IN JAMAICA IN FEBRUARY 1865 AND CARRIED TO CONFEDERATE TEXAS VIA CIENFUEGOS, HAVANA AND GALVESTON — THE FINAL LEG WAS MADE ON A BLOCKADE-RUNNER.

After travelling from Kingston, Jamaica, to Havana, Cuba, through private and postal routes, this letter was carried on the blockade-runner *Evelyn*, dep. Havana Mar. 4, 1865, arr. Galveston Mar. 9. The *Evelyn* was owned by Alexander Collie & Co.; active Nov. 1864 to Apr. 1865, 4 for 5 in successful trips; survived the war..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 335 ☒ **Vera Cruz (Mexico) to Houston Tex. via Havana and Galveston.** Blue folded letter datelined “*Va. Cruz Decbr. 1st 1864*” and endorsed internally “*Pr. RMStr via Havana*”, “**Vignier Robertson & Co. Havana**” forwarder’s blue double oval handstamp clearly struck, receipt docketing, skillfully treated with “ston” in address restored, cleaned and some minor reinforcements

FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTREMELY RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM MEXICO TO CONFEDERATE TEXAS VIA HAVANA AND GALVESTON.

Carried on RMSP *Solent*, dep. Vera Cruz Dec. 2, 1864, arr. Havana Dec. 6; then probably on blockade-runner *Triton* from Havana to Galveston. The *Triton* was active Aug. 1863 to Jan. 1865, 2 for 2 trips..... E. 2,000-3,000

OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL

Outgoing blockade-run letters from the C.S.A. to the outside world were typically enclosed in an outer envelope addressed to a forwarder or company operating blockade runners in a C.S.A. blockade-run port, such as Charleston or Wilmington. The outer envelope paid the C.S.A. postage to the departure port. At the departure port, the outer envelope was discarded and the inner envelope was placed in the mailbag of a departing blockade runner, so no C.S.A. postal markings appear on the vast majority of this type of mail. Upon arrival at the blockade runner's destination port, the letters were taken to a forwarder which would direct it to its destination. Depending on how the forwarder routed the letter, it could enter the mails at Nassau, Bermuda, Halifax, New York, Liverpool or London.

A comprehensive census includes over 150 outbound blockade-run covers. Of those, over 60% received Bahamas transit marks, 8% were postmarked at Bermuda, 7% entered the mails at New York, and 3% were postmarked at Halifax. About 20% were forwarded under cover from Nassau or Havana to England, and entered the mails at Liverpool or London. Outgoing blockade covers carry the same postal markings as ordinary mail which entered the mails at the same place. Definite identification as a blockade-run cover can only be determined by letter contents, endorsements, docketing, or known blockade correspondences.

Outgoing mail addressed to Europe was carried by British packets via New York, Halifax or St. Thomas. Postage assessed was the British packet postage plus the rate from Great Britain to the European destination. British packet postage was six pence per half-ounce until March 31, 1863, and one shilling after that. An unpaid letter penalty of one rate was added to due letters. Outgoing mail from the C.S.A. addressed to the U.S. typically passed through New York. Mail to the U.S. via Nassau and New York was rated for 5¢ due throughout the blockade period. Prior to April 1863, this mail was rated at the 5¢ per half-ounce private ship mail rate and, after that, rated at 5¢ per half-ounce due for the British packet rate from the Bahamas. Mail to the U.S. via Havana and New York was rated at 10¢ per half-ounce due for the non-contract steamship rate, while mail to the U.S. via Halifax and Bermuda passed through Boston, and was rated at 10¢ per half-ounce due for the British packet rate from Nova Scotia.

More than half of all known outgoing blockade-run covers were posted at Nassau for onward transmission to Europe or the U.S. Postal markings applied to letters via Nassau typically included a Nassau circular datestamp and a manuscript indication of postage due or paid. Most of the prepaid letters were paid in cash, and fewer than ten surviving covers are known with Bahamas postage stamps.

THE LOCKE CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. J. L. Locke (nee Laura Jane Bulloch) was married to Major Joseph L. Locke, Chief Commissary Officer of Georgia, until his death in 1864. She was from Savannah, Georgia, the daughter of William Bulloch (1777-1852) who had been mayor of Savannah and a U.S. senator. Her cousin, James Dunwoody Bulloch, was a commander in the Confederate Navy and was the C.S.A.'s chief foreign agent in Great Britain (he was also Teddy Roosevelt's uncle, and inspiration for Roosevelt's book on the Naval War of 1812; Mrs. Locke was also Teddy's aunt). The Lockes had lived many years in Italy, and had a daughter there, Florence Locke. Apparently, Mrs. Locke and Florence returned to Rome during the Civil War.



336

- 336 ✉ **Savannah Ga. to Rome (Italy) via Charleston and Nassau.** Aug. 22, 1862 origin date on cover to Mrs. John Lorenzo Locke in Rome, in care of Parkenham & Hooker (bankers), "Forwarded by Henry Adderley & Co., Nassau N.P. Bahamas" forwarder's blue oval handstamp, entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid OC 22 62" circular datestamp, 3sh6p triple rate paid in cash, red crayon "3/4" credit (2p retained by Bahamas P.O.), red London (Dec. 16) and Calais (Dec. 17) transit datestamps, red "PD" in oval, receiving backstamp, Dec. 22, 1862 receipt docketing, edge faults

FINE. RARE USE OF THE ADDERLEY & COMPANY FORWARDER OVAL ON AN OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER TO ITALY.

Carried on blockade-runner *Kate I*, dep. Charleston Sep. 1, 1862, arr. Nassau Sep. 5; delayed in Nassau, then carried on Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. Nassau Nov. 24, arr. New York Nov. 28; then Cunarder *Persia*, dep. New York Dec. 3, arr. Queenstown Dec. 15. The *Kate I* was owned by Fraser & Co.; active Jan. to Nov. 1862, 20 for 20 in successful trips; hit a snag in the Cape Fear River and sank on Nov. 18, 1862. E. 1,500-2,000



337

- 337 ☒ **Savannah Ga. to Rome (Italy) via Charleston and Nassau.** Aug. 29, 1862 origin date on cover to Mrs. John Lorenzo Locke in Rome, in care of Parkenham & Hooker (bankers), **"Forwarded by Sawyer & Menendez, Nassau N.P."** forwarder's red negative oval handstamp, entered British Mails with "Bahamas OC 26 1862" circular datestamp on back, original 2sh4p double-rate franking comprising five stamps (four Bahamas 6p Violet and one 4p Rose) removed in transit before Nov. 24, 1862 receipt docketing was applied, a trace of target cancel remains, red crayon "2/3" credit (1p retained by Bahamas P.O.), red London (Nov. 11) and Calais (Nov. 12) transit datestamps, red "PD" in circle, receiving backstamp

VERY FINE. RARE USE OF THE SAWYER & MENENDEZ FORWARDER OVAL ON AN OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER TO ITALY.

Carried on blockade-runner *Scotia*, dep. Charleston Sep. 26, 1862, arr. Nassau Sep. 30; missed Sep. 29 steamer to New York; carried on next steamer, Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. Nassau Oct. 27, arr. New York Nov. 1; then Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. New York Nov. 5, arr. Queenstown Nov. 15. The *Scotia* was active Jul. to Oct. 1862, 2 for 3 in successful trips; captured Oct. 24, 1862, by U.S.S. *Restless*, sold in Prize Court and sent back into blockade-running service as the *Fannie & Jennie*..... E. 1,500-2,000

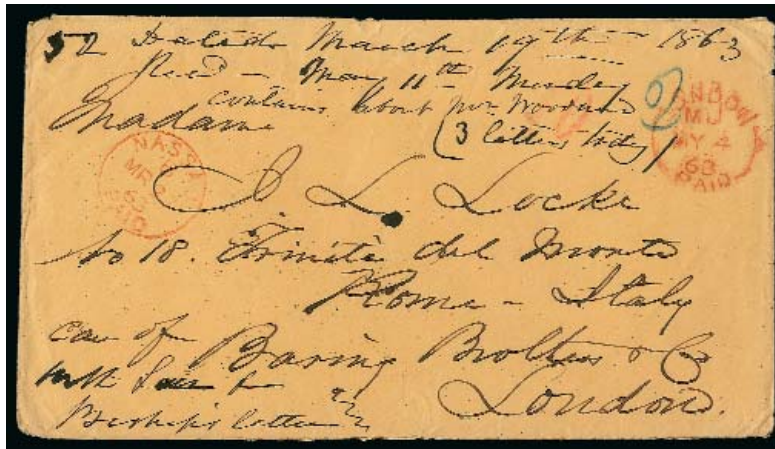


338

- 338 ☒ **Savannah Ga. to Rome (Italy) via Charleston and Nassau.** Nov. 3, 1862 origin date on cover to Mrs. John Lorenzo Locke in Rome, in care of Baring Brothers (bankers) in London, **"Forwarded by Sawyer & Menendez, Nassau N.P."** forwarder's blue oval handstamp on back, Sawyer & Menendez note "Answered this and sent to Baring. Menendez" on back, sent under cover to England, entered mails with "Lombard Street Paid JA 13 62" circular datestamp, red "1/" rate (11p to Italy plus 1p late fee), red "PD" oval, Calais (Jan. 14) transit datestamp, receiving backstamp, small edge tears

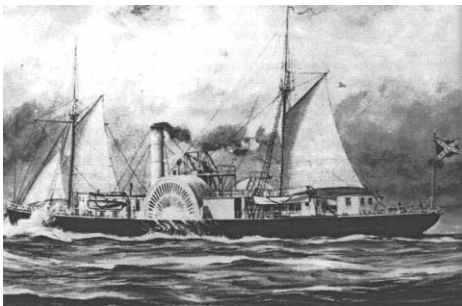
FINE. RARE USE OF THE SAWYER & MENENDEZ FORWARDER OVAL ON AN OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER TO ITALY.

Carried by blockade-runner *Leopard*, dep. Charleston Nov. 10, 1862, arr. Nassau Nov. 14; then Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. Nassau Dec. 23, arr. New York Dec. 27; then Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. New York Dec. 31, arr. Queenstown Jan. 10, 1863. The *Leopard* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active June 1862 to Apr. 1863, 8 for 9 in successful trips; she was renamed the *Stonewall Jackson*, ran aground and burned entering Charleston harbor on Apr. 12, 1863. . E. 1,500-2,000



339

- 339 ☒ **Savannah Ga. to Rome (Italy) via Charleston and Nassau.** Mar. 19, 1863 origin date on cover to Mrs. John Lorenzo Locke in Rome, in care of Baring Brothers (bankers), entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid MR 27 63" circular datestamp, 12p double 6p packet rate paid in cash, red crayon "10" credit (2p retained by Bahamas P.O.), red London (May 4) transit datestamp, May 11, 1863 receipt docketing, minor edgewear, Very Fine, carried by blockade-runner *Gertrude*, dep. Charleston Mar. 23, 1863, arr. Nassau Mar 27 (last voyage before its capture); in Nassau forwarder prepaid double 6p packet rate to G.B. (just before increase to 1sh on Apr. 1, 1863); forwarded under cover to Rome with no further markings; carried on Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. Nassau Apr. 12, arr. New York Apr. 16 (last sailing on this route); then Cunarder *Africa*, dep. New York Apr. 22, arr. Queenstown May 3; the *Gertrude* was active Feb. 1863 to Apr. 1864, 2 for 3 in successful trips; captured by U.S.S. *Vanderbilt*, flagship of the Flying Squadron, on Apr. 16, 1863, near the Bahamas, but well away from the Confederate coastline E. 1,000-1,500

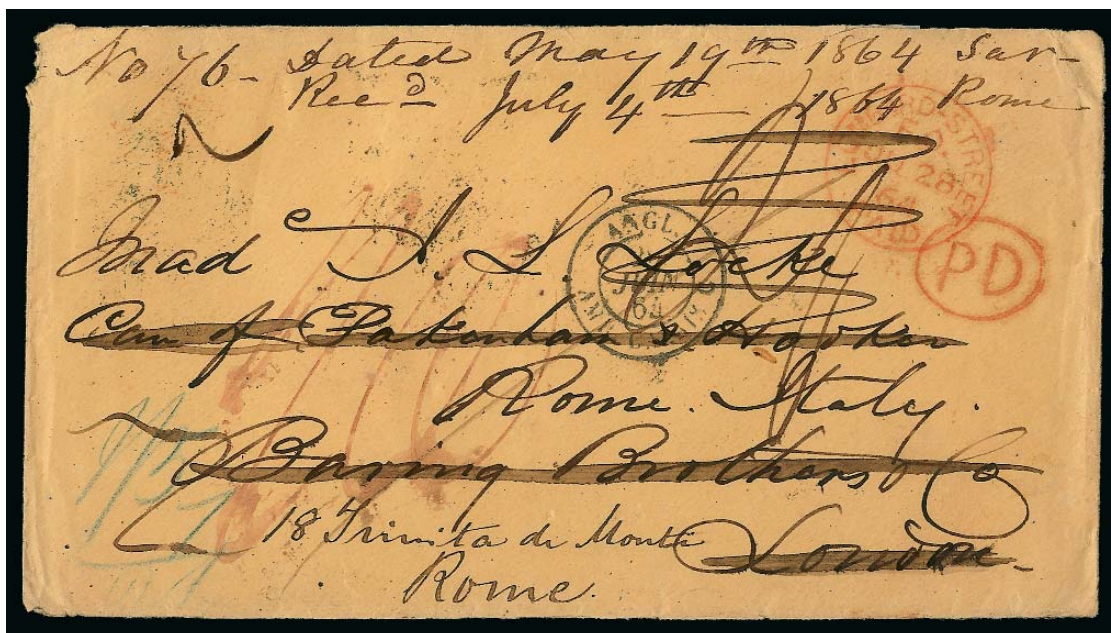


Blockade-runner Ella & Annie



340

- 340 ☒ **Savannah Ga. to Rome (Italy) via Charleston and Nassau.** Apr. 16, 1863 origin date on cover to Mrs. John Lorenzo Locke in Rome, in care of Magnay, Parkenham & Hooker (bankers), carried under cover to England, entered mails with red "Lombard Street Paid MY 30 63" circular datestamp, Calais (May 31) transit datestamp, red "PD" in oval, receiving backstamp, June 5, 1863 receipt docketing with notation "*Corpus Christi*", Very Fine, carried by the *Ella & Annie*, dep. Charleston Apr. 18, 1863, arr. Nassau Apr. 21; sent under cover to Baring Bros. in London on Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau May 12, arr. New York May 16; then Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. New York May 20, arr. Queenstown May 29; opened by Baring Bros and mailed at nearby Lombard St. post office prepaid 1sh (11p rate to Italy via France plus 1p late fee); the *Ella & Annie* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Co. of South Carolina (William C. Bee) and operated by the C.S. Navy (Captain Frank Bonneau); active Mar. 1863 to Nov. 1863, 8 for 9 in successful trips; captured by the U.S.S. *Niphon* on Nov. 9, 1863, trying to reach Wilmington; attempted to ram the *Niphon*, which turned slightly to avoid a direct hit and then boarded and captured the *Ella & Annie* (detailed report in *New York Times* Sep. 18, 1892); she became the U.S.S. *Malvern*, the flagship of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron E. 1,000-1,500



341

- 341 ☒ **Savannah Ga. to Rome (Italy) via Charleston and Nassau.** May 19, 1864 origin date on cover to Mrs. John Lorenzo Locke in Rome, in care of Baring Brothers in London and Parkenham & Hooker in Rome, entered British Mails with "Bahamas MY 30 1864" backstamp, manuscript "2/" due comprising 1sh packet postage plus 1sh penalty (accounting at lower left, Bahamas P.O. retained 7p of 2sh), red London receiving backstamp (Jun. 27), delivered to Baring Brothers, who re-mailed it at nearby Lombard Street post office, red "Lombard Street Paid JU 28 64" circular datestamp, red "PD" in oval and manuscript "1/10" prepaid rate (double 11p to Italy via France), Calais transit datestamp (Jun. 29), Paris (Jun. 29) and Rome (Jul. 4) backstamps, Jul. 4 receipt docketing

VERY FINE. A REMARKABLE ARRAY OF POSTAL MARKINGS ON THIS OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER, WHICH WAS HANDLED BY TWO DIFFERENT FORWARDERS AND MAILED ONCE IN THE BAHAMAS AND A SECOND TIME IN ENGLAND.

Carried by the *Mars*, dep. Charleston May 26, 1864, arr. Nassau May 30; an unnamed forwarder in Bahamas dropped it unpaid into the Bahamian mails on May 30; carried on Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Jun. 5, 1864, arr. New York Jun. 10; then Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. New York Jun. 15, arr. Queenstown Jun. 25; Baring Brothers paid 2sh, crossed out their name, mailed on Jun. 28 at local post office on Lombard Street prepaid 1sh10p. The *Mars* was active Jan. to June 1864, 2 for 2 in successful trips; survived the war..... E. 1,500-2,000

THE CARSON CORRESPONDENCE

Caroline Petigru Carson was the daughter of James L. Petigru, a Union sympathizer. Caroline moved to New York during the war, while her son and her father remained in Charleston. C. E. Detmold, to whose care the envelopes are addressed, was an engineer who designed some of the early locomotives used on the South Carolina Railroad. An article on the Carson correspondence by J. V. Nielsen Jr. was published in *The American Philatelist* (August 1967), copies of which accompany the Carson items in this sale.



342

343

- 342 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to New York via Nassau.** Pencil receipt docketing "Sep. 9th, 1862" (origin date at Charleston) on yellow cover to Mrs. Caroline Carson, in care of E. E. Detmold at New York City street address, entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid OC 26 62" circular datestamp, red crayon "4" pence rate paid in cash, "New-York Ship Letter 5 1862 Nov. 1" integral-rate circular datestamp, note on back "Most happy to have the opportunity of forwarding you a letter fresh from the hands of Your Excellent father — C.E.D. Nov. 1/62" (C. E. Detmold), couple folds at top and right

FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM CHARLESTON TO NEW YORK CITY VIA NASSAU WITH THE "NEW-YORK SHIP LETTER" DATESTAMP.

Carried on blockade-runner *Scotia*, dep. Charleston Sep. 26, 1862, arr. Nassau Sep. 30; missed the Sep. 29 sailing to New York and forwarder held it until Oct. 26; then Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. Nassau Oct. 27, arr. New York Nov. 1. The *Scotia* was active Jul. to Oct. 1862, 2 for 3 in successful trips; captured by the U.S.S. *Restless* on Oct. 24, 1862, while heading into Charleston.

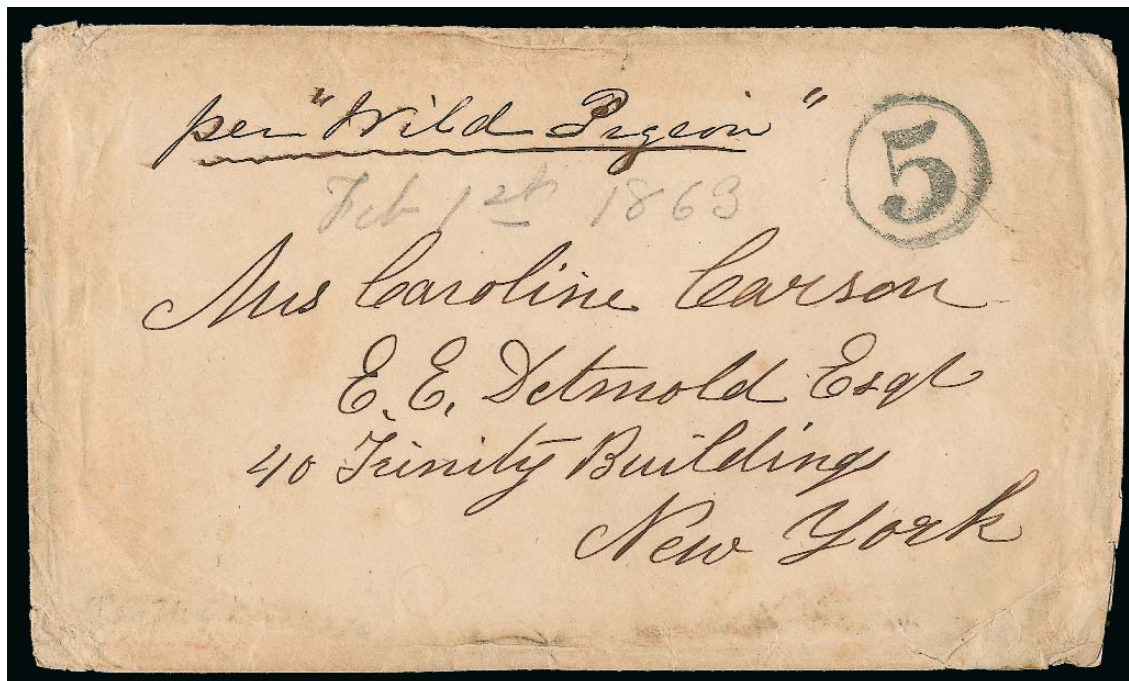
Ex Everett E. 1,500-2,000

- 343 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to New York via Nassau.** Pencil receipt docketing "Jan. 6th, 1863" (origin date at Charleston) on cover to Mrs. Caroline Carson, in care of C. E. Detmold at New York City street address, entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid JA 19 63" circular datestamp, red crayon "8" pence rate paid in cash, "New-York Jan. 26 10" integral-rate circular datestamp and separate "10" in circle due handstamp for double U.S. rate on British Packet mail, faint waterstain at top right and slight edgewear

VERY FINE. AN UNUSUAL ARRAY OF MARKINGS FOR AN OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER.

Carried on blockade-runner *Leopard*, dep. Charleston Jan. 14, 1863, arr. Nassau Jan. 19; forwarder paid 8p double rate in cash and sent on Cunarder *British Queen*, dep. Nassau Jan. 20, arr. New York Jan. 25. The *Leopard* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active Jun. 1862 to Apr. 1863, 8 for 9 in successful trips; it was renamed the *Stonewall Jackson*, ran aground and burned entering Charleston harbor on Apr. 12, 1863.

Illustrated in *Confederate Philatelist* (Jul-Aug. 1989, No. 250). Ex Antrim and Everett E. 1,500-2,000



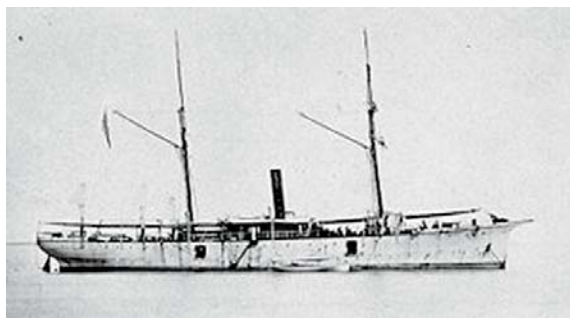
344

- 344 ☒ **“Per ‘Wild Pigeon’”.** Sender’s ship-name endorsement on cover to Mrs. Caroline Carson, in care of C. E. Detmold at New York City street address, “5” in circle handstamp, pencil docketing “Feb. 1st 1863” gives origin date, slight toning and minor edge faults

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF A SHIP-NAME ENDORSEMENT ON OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUNNING MAIL.

This cover had to have arrived after Apr. 1, 1863, based on the use of the “5” in circle due marking for British Packet mail. Ship-name endorsements on outgoing mail are very rare. The *Wild Pigeon* is not recorded anywhere as a blockade-running steamer. There was a schooner *Wild Pigeon* that was rammed and sunk on a blockade-running trip between Havana and Florida on Mar. 21, 1864, by the U.S.S. *Hendrick Hudson* (formerly the famed Confederate blockade-runner *Florida*).

Illustrated in *Confederate Philatelist* (Jul-Aug. 1989, No. 250). Ex Everett and Myerson.....
 E. 2,000-3,000



*U.S.S. Hendrick Hudson, which was formerly the famed
 Confederate blockade runner Florida*

THE WELLS CORRESPONDENCE



345

- 345 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to New York via Wilmington and Nassau.** Small cover from Private Edward L. Wells, addressed to his aunt, Mrs. Thomas L. Wells, at New York City street address, entered British Mails with **Bahamas 1863 6p Lilac, Perf 12-1/12 (14c)**, trivial gum toning, tied by "A05" oval grid, "Bahamas MY 8 1864" circular datestamp on back, "5" in circle handstamp applied at New York for postage due on British Packet mail

VERY FINE. BLOCKADE-RUN COVERS WITH FOREIGN STAMPS ARE EXCEEDINGLY RARE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE BAHAMAS 6-PENCE USED ON A BLOCKADE-RUN COVER.

The letter that was contained in this envelope (which no longer accompanies) is datelined "In Camp" on Jan. 12, 1864, from Private Edward L. Wells, a private in the Charleston Light Dragoons, Co. J., 4th S.C. Cavalry (he published a history of the unit in the 1880's).

Carried on blockade-runner *Lucy*, dep. Wilmington May 1, 1864, arr. Nassau May 7; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau May 9, arr. New York May 13. The rate from the Bahamas to New York was 4p, but in this case the forwarder in Nassau applied a 6p stamp. It is the only recorded blockade-run cover with this value. The *Lucy* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active Nov. 1863 to Nov. 1864, 21 for 23 in successful trips; captured by U.S.S. *Santiago de Cuba* on Nov. 3, 1864, off Wilmington. A detailed history of the C.S.S. *Lucy* appears in the *Confederate Philatelist*, May-June 1972.

Ex Birkinbine. With 2003 P.F. certificate E. 5,000-7,500



346

- 346 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to New York via Wilmington and Nassau.** Bright yellow cover to Miss Sabina E. Wells at New York City street address, entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid AP 9 64" circular datestamp, red crayon "4" pence rate, perfect strike of "N. York Br. Pkt. 5 Apr. 15" integral-rate circular datestamp for 5c postage due on British Packet mail

EXTREMELY FINE. A COLORFUL AND UNUSUALLY BEAUTIFUL OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM CHARLESTON TO NEW YORK VIA WILMINGTON AND NASSAU.

The letter that was contained in this envelope (which no longer accompanies) is datelined "Charleston 21 Jan. 1864". Charleston was closed to blockade-running Sep. 19, 1863, to March 1864 because the U.S. forces had captured Morris Island and the Confederates mined the harbor to prevent the Union Navy from entering. Carried on blockade-runner *Wild Dayrell*, dep. Wilmington Jan. 24, 1864, arr. Nassau Jan. 28. This was held at Nassau by the forwarder and not posted until Apr. 9, 1864. Forwarder paid 4p rate in cash and sent it on Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Apr. 11, arr. New York Apr. 15. The *Wild Dayrell* was owned by The Anglo-Confederate Trading Co.; active Dec. 1863 to Feb. 1864, 4 for 5 in successful trips; chased aground and destroyed by the U.S.S. *Sassacus* on Feb. 1, 1864, while trying to enter Wilmington; this was carried on the last successful trip.

Ex Birkinbine E. 3,000-4,000



347

- 347 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to New York via Nassau.** Narrow cover addressed to Miss Sabina E. Wells at New York City street address, entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid SP 12 64" circular datestamp, red crayon "4" pence rate, "N. York Br. Pkt. 5 Oct. 1" integral-rate circular datestamp with 5c due for British Packet mail, slight toning and edgewear, couple minor creases, Fine, the Wells correspondence originates in Charleston, based on New York Oct. 1, 1864, arrival date, carried on blockade-runner *Fox*, dep. Charleston Sep. 9, 1864, arr. Nassau Sep. 12; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Sep. 25, arr. New York Oct. 1; the *Fox* was owned by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active May 1864 to May 1865, 18 for 18 in successful trips; survived the war E. 1,000-1,500

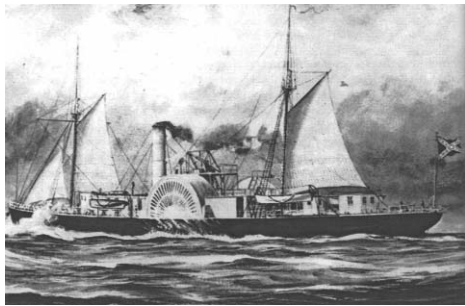
OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA NASSAU, BAHAMAS

Arranged in Nassau postmark date order

THE BURCKMYER CORRESPONDENCE

In early 1863, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius L. Burckmyer, their daughter, Mamie, and Mamie's nurse, Ann Maquire, were in France. Mr. Burckmyer decided at this time to return to the Confederacy to do whatever he could to support the cause. He left his wife and child in France and returned to the family's home in Charleston. The covers and letters that survived were primarily his letters to them. Mr. Burckmyer was involved in the blockade-running trade and had ownership interest in blockade runners. As a result, he was knowledgeable about the routes and sailing schedules, and his letters frequently contain references to blockade runners. In 1929, a book was published by the family which includes all the text of the letters. These letters shed much light on the blockade runners.

In 1981, Joe Holleman rediscovered a box of blockade-run covers from the Burckmyer correspondence that was stored in Charleston. The box contained 61 covers. Of these, 32 covers with markings typical of blockade-run covers were included. This is by far the largest group of blockade-run covers to ever come on the market. The condition of these was very mixed. It seems the daughter of the family later became a stamp collector and removed many of the attached stamps. Nevertheless, the Burckmyer correspondence has furnished some of the best examples of outbound blockade-run covers extant.

*Blockade-runner Ella & Annie*

348

- 348 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to Paris via Nassau.** Small cover addressed to Mrs. C. L. Burckmyer, in care of Vanderbrock Bros. & Co. (bankers) in Paris, France, with original four-page letter (cross-written) from her husband Cornelius datelined "Charleston April 17, 1863", entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid MY 6 63" circular datestamp, prepaid 1sh4p with red crayon "1/3" credit and blue crayon "1" (1p retained by Bahamas P.O.), red "London Paid MY 30 63" transit datestamp and "PD" oval, Calais transit (May 31) and Paris receiving backstamp (May 31), small piece of backflap missing, slight edgewear

VERY FINE. THE QUINTESSENTIAL OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM THE BURCKMYER CORRESPONDENCE, SHOWING TRANSIT MARKINGS OF NASSAU AND LONDON, AND DELIVERED FULLY PREPAID TO PARIS, FRANCE.

This letter from Cornelius Burckmyer to his wife (number 6 in the correspondence) contains his eyewitness account of the Federal naval attack on Fort Sumter and Morris Island in the Siege of April 1863 (the letter mentions the sinking of the U.S.S. *Keokuk*). Carried by blockade-runner *Ella & Annie*, dep. Charleston Apr. 18, 1863, arr. Nassau Apr. 23; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau May 12, arr. New York May 16; then Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. New York May 20, arr. Queenstown May 29; sent through London to Vanderbrock & Co. in Paris, who forwarded it outside the mails to Tours. The *Ella & Annie* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Co. of South Carolina (William C. Bee) and operated by the C.S. Navy (Captain Frank Bonneau); active Mar. 1863 to Nov. 1863, 8 for 9 in successful trips; captured by the U.S.S. *Nippon* on Nov. 9, 1863, trying to reach Wilmington; attempted to ram the *Nippon*, which turned slightly to avoid a direct hit and then boarded and captured the *Ella & Annie* (detailed report in *New York Times* Sep. 18, 1892); she became the U.S.S. *Malvern*, the flagship of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

Ex Birkinbine E. 3,000-4,000



349

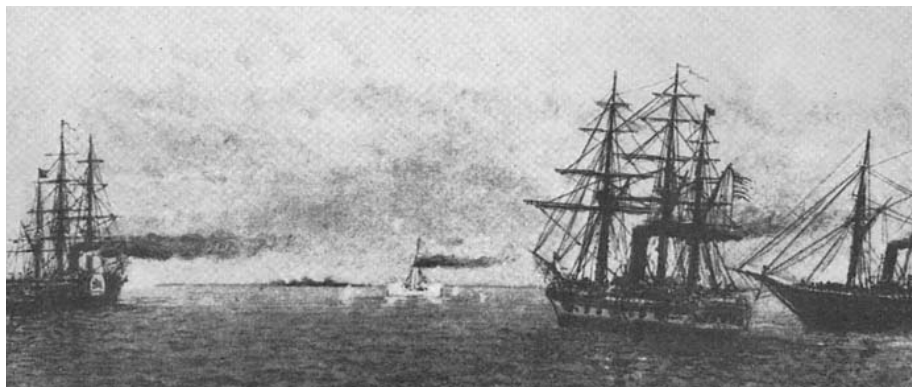
- 349 ☒ **Augusta Ga. to Cannes (France) via Wilmington and Nassau.** Blue folded cover with part of letter in French from the Aune correspondence originating in Augusta Ga. (the intact portion of letter mentions John B. Lafitte of Augusta and Nassau), entered the British Mails with red "Nassau Paid JY 2 64" circular datestamp, prepaid 1sh4p in cash, red crayon "1/3" credit (1p retained by Bahamas P.O.), red London (Jul. 25) and Calais (Jul. 26) transit datestamps, red "PD" oval, Paris and Lyon backstamps

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER TO FRANCE VIA WILMINGTON AND NASSAU.

Carried by blockade-runner *Will of the Wisp*, dep. Wilmington Jun. 28, 1864, arr. Nassau Jul. 2; mailed at Nassau the same day and carried on Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Jul. 4, arr. New York Jul. 8; then Cunarder *Arabia*, dep. New York Jul. 13, arr. Queenstown Jul. 24. The *Will of the Wisp* was owned by the Anglo-Confederate Trading Co.; active Nov. 1863 to Feb. 1865, 12 for 15 in successful trips; ran aground and destroyed on Feb. 9, 1865, at Galveston.

The Augusta, Georgia, origin of this cover is additionally confirmed by a June 1865 cover to the same addressee in identical handwriting, which originated in Augusta and was handled by the Southern Express Company (Sale 801, lot 169).

Ex Ludington (written up in *London Philatelist*, May 1963)..... E. 2,000-3,000



C.S.A. blockade-runner Will of the Wisp with U.S. navy vessels in pursuit



350 and detail of censor mark on back

- 350 ✉ **Charleston S.C. to Liverpool via Wilmington and Nassau.** Small cover addressed to Mrs. C. L. Burckmyer, in care of Fraser Trenholm & Co. in Liverpool, England, **censor marking on back "B. Duncan ADC"** applied by Col. B. Duncan at Wilmington (Provost Marshal until Sep. 12, 1863), entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid OC 24 63" circular datestamp, prepaid 1sh with red crayon "11" credit and blue crayon "1" (1p retained by Bahamas P.O.), Liverpool Nov. 14 receiving backstamp

EXTREMELY FINE. A RARE CENSORED OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER IN SUPERB CONDITION.

The letter that was contained in this envelope (number 17, which no longer accompanies) is datelined "Charleston 23 Sep. 1863" from Cornelius L. Burckmyer. Carried on blockade-runner *General Beauregard*, dep. Wilmington Sep. 30, 1863, arr. Nassau Oct. 4; held by agent until next New York steamer departure; carried on Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Oct. 26, arr. New York Oct. 31; then Cunarder *Scotia*, dep. New York Nov. 4, arr. Queenstown Nov. 13; forwarded to France by Fraser Trenholm & Co. outside of mails and received at Tours Nov. 18 (according to correspondence history). The *General Beauregard* was purchased in Oct. 1862 by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active Feb. to Dec. 1863, 16 for 17 in successful trips; Captain Louis Coxetter was a famed Confederate privateer and blockade-runner; chased ashore and destroyed by U.S.S. *Howquah* at Wilmington on Dec. 11, 1863.

Special Order 156 requiring censorship of blockade-run mail took effect Aug. 11, 1863, at Charleston and Sep. 1, 1863, at Wilmington.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 121). Ex Birkinbine..... E. 2,000-3,000



351

- 351 ☒ **Summerville S.C. to Liverpool via Wilmington and Nassau.** Small cover addressed to Mrs. C. L. Burckmyer, in care of Fraser Trenholm & Co. in Liverpool, England, with original four-page letter (cross-written) from her husband Cornelius, entered British Mails with "Bahamas DE 20 1863" circular datestamp on back, unpaid with 2sh due, comprising 1sh packet postage to England and 1sh penalty fee, blue crayon "1/5 + 7 = 2/" accounting (1p plus half of penalty retained by Bahamas P.O.), Liverpool receiving datestamp (Jan. 9, 1864), minor edgewear

VERY FINE. AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM THE BURCKMYER CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE ORIGINAL LETTER EXPLAINING HOW BLOCKADE MAIL IS CARRIED.

The letter is datelined "Summerville Dec. 6, 1863" (number 23 in the correspondence). It explains how blockade-run mail is handled: "They go from Wilmington to Nassau by blockade runners and at N a mail is made up every four weeks for Liverpool which is carried to New York by an English Steamer and without going to the New York Post Office or without being opened is transferred direct to one of the Cunarders, so that the Yankees have no handling of it. Your letters to me come the same way, passing through New York on their way to Nassau." The letter also mentions the route of the "West India Steamer" from Mobile to Havana, and it gives some war news.

Carried by blockade-runner *Gem*, dep. Wilmington Dec. 14, 1863, arr. Nassau Dec. 19; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Dec. 21, arr. New York Dec. 26; then Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. New York Dec. 30, 1863, arr. Queenstown Jan. 8, 1864; forwarded outside the mails to Mrs. Burckmyer in France by Fraser Trenholm & Co. The *Gem* was owned by Cobia & Co.; active Aug. 1863 to Mar. 1865, 2 for 2 in successful trips; survived the war. E. 2,000-3,000



352

353

- 352 ☒ **Petersburg Va. to London via Wilmington and Nassau.** Blue folded cover to N. M. Rothschild & Son in London, receipt docketing "1864 Chieves & Co. 5 Feby." and pencil "Petersburg Va.", Chieves & Osborne was a Petersburg tobacco merchant and American correspondent with Rothschild & Son in London, entered British Mails with "Nassau-New-Providence AP 8 1864" rimless datestamp (Ty. N2) on back, unpaid with bold "2/-" due handstamp, comprising 1sh packet postage to England and 1sh penalty fee, blue crayon "1/5 + 7 = 2/" accounting (1p plus half of penalty retained by Bahamas P.O.), red London receiving backstamp (May 2), file fold and a few bleached spots, couple tiny edge tears

VERY FINE. A STRIKING OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM PETERSBURG TO LONDON VIA WILMINGTON AND NASSAU, ADDRESSED TO THE FAMOUS ROTHSCCHILD BANKING FIRM.

Carried by blockade-runner *Coquette*, dep. Wilmington Apr. 1, 1864, arr. Nassau Apr. 5; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Apr. 11, arr. New York Apr. 15; then Cunarder *Persia*, dep. New York Apr. 20, arr. Queenstown Apr. 30. The *Coquette* was owned by the C.S.A. government; active Nov. 1863 to Feb. 1865, 13 for 14 in successful trips; survived the war.

Ex Ludington (written up in *London Philatelist*, Mar.-Apr. 1963)..... E. 1,500-2,000

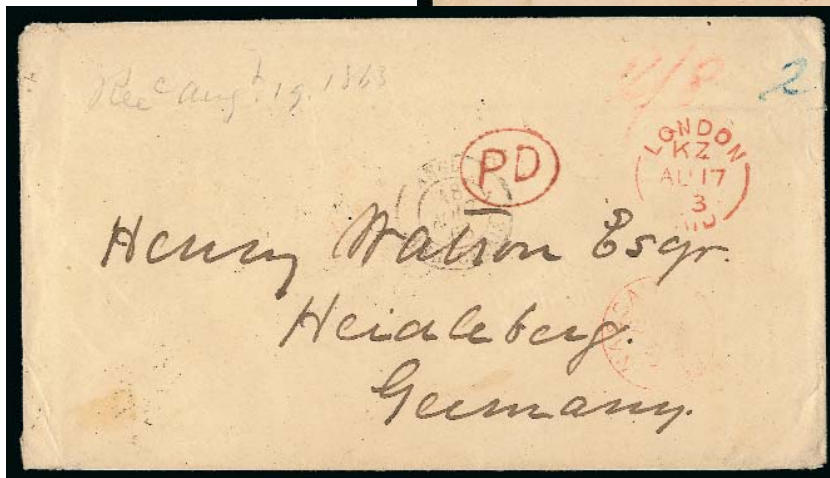
- 353 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to Liverpool via Nassau.** Original letter datelined "Charleston 6 May 1863" from Motte & Pringle (?) to Charles K. Prioleau, manager of Liverpool office of Fraser Trenholm & Co., with cover addressed to Prioleau at Fraser Trenholm & Co. in Liverpool, entered British Mails with red "Nassau Paid MY 11 63" circular datestamp, red crayon "1/10" credit for double rate and blue crayon "2" (2p retained by Bahamas P.O.), Liverpool receiving backstamp (May 30), part of backflap removed

VERY FINE. A FASCINATING OUTBOUND COVER CARRIED ON THE BLOCKADE-RUNNER *GENERAL BEAUREGARD* TO THE MANAGER OF FRASER, TRENHOLM & COMPANY.

Carried by blockade-runner *General Beauregard*, dep. Charleston May 7, 1863, arr. Nassau May 11; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau May 12, arr. New York May 17; then Cunarder *Australasian*, dep. New York May 20, arr. Queenstown May 29 (23 days transit time is extremely fast). The *General Beauregard* was purchased in Oct. 1862 by Fraser Trenholm & Co.; active Feb. to Dec. 1863, 16 for 17 in successful trips; Captain Louis Coxetter was a famed Confederate privateer and blockade-runner; chased ashore and destroyed by U.S.S. *Howquah* at Wilmington on Dec. 11, 1863. E. 1,500-2,000



354 and detail of censor
mark on back



355

- 354 ☒ **Charleston S.C. to Liverpool via Wilmington and Nassau.** Cover originating in Charleston S.C. to John Grimball, in care of Fraser Trenholm & Co. in Liverpool, England, **censor marking on back** "Appd by Commd of Genl Beauregard Jno M Otey AAG" applied by John M. Otey, trace of Bahamas datestamp on back (part of backflap removed), sent unpaid with blue crayon "1/5 + 7 = 2" (two shillings due), manuscript "2/-" due in England, minor edge faults

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF A CENSOR MARKING ON OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL.

Carried on blockade-runner *Fannie*, dep. Wilmington Nov. 3, 1863, arr. Nassau Nov. 7; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Nov. 23, arr. New York Nov. 27; then by Cunarder *Persia*, dep. New York Dec. 2, arr. Queenstown Dec. 11. The *Fannie* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Company of South Carolina (William C. Bee); active May 1863 to Apr. 1865, 20 for 20 in successful trips; survived the war.

John Marshall Otey was Assistant Adjutant General under General P. G. T. Beauregard. He authored C.S.A. Special Order No. 156, requiring censorship of blockade-run mail. E. 1,500-2,000

- 355 ☒ **Wilmington N.C. to Heidelberg (Germany) via Charleston and Nassau.** Light buff cover to Henry Watson in Heidelberg, Germany, although this would have normally been taken to Wilmington for a blockade-runner to Bermuda, in this case it was routed to Charleston and carried to Nassau where it entered the British Mails with red "Nassau Paid JY 11 63" circular datestamp, explicit route notations on back "Via Nassau, London, Calais, Paris, Strasbourg" as often found on this correspondence, prepaid 2sh10p double rate to Germany, red crayon "2/8" credit and blue crayon "2" (2p retained by Bahamas P.O.), red London (Aug. 17) transit datestamp and "PD" oval, Calais transit datestamp (Aug. 18), Paris-Strasbourg and German transit backstamps, pencil Aug. 19 receipt docketing

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING AND VERY RARE BLOCKADE-RUN COVER TO GERMANY FROM THE WATSON CORRESPONDENCE.

Carried on blockade-runner *Alice*, dep. Charleston Jul. 7, 1863, arr. Nassau Jul. 11; then Cunarder *Corsica*, dep. Nassau Jul. 31, arr. New York Aug. 4; then Cunarder *Africa*, dep. Boston Aug. 5, arr. Queenstown Aug. 15. The *Alice* was owned by the Importing & Exporting Co. of South Carolina (William C. Bee); active May 1863 to Mar. 1865, 24 for 24 in successful trips; survived the war.

Henry Watson Jr. was a lawyer and planter in Greensboro, Alabama. During the Civil War he relocated to Europe. His papers (including the letter carried in this cover) can be found in the Duke University Libraries (<http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/rbmscl/watsonhenry/inv/>) E. 1,500-2,000

OUTGOING BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA ST. GEORGES, BERMUDA

Although Bermuda was a very active blockade-running terminus, not much mail was processed by the Bermuda post office, so fewer than 20 examples with Bermuda transit postmarks are known. The earliest recorded Bermuda postmark is October 17, 1862, and the latest is August 30, 1864. An outbreak of yellow fever in Bermuda limited blockade-running from April to October 1864, and some blockade-runners diverted to Halifax, Nova Scotia, in August-December 1864 to avoid the epidemic.



356 and detail of
St. Georges transit
datestamp on back



- 356 ☒ **Columbia S.C. to Liverpool via Wilmington, St. Georges and Halifax.** Original letter datelined “*Columbia Oct. 1st, 1863*” from Alicia Middleton Sparks Ripley, wife of Gen. Roswell S. Ripley, with cover addressed to Miss Alice Prioleau, daughter of Charles Prioleau, president of Fraser Trenholm & Co., in care of his firm in Liverpool, entered British Mails with “**St. Georges Bermuda OC 26 1863**” Ty. PM-5 circular datestamp on back (13 with Bermuda transit marks recorded; 9 with this marking), unpaid with blue crayon “1” due applied in Bermuda, corrected in Liverpool to “2” due including penalty, Liverpool Nov. 23 receiving datestamp

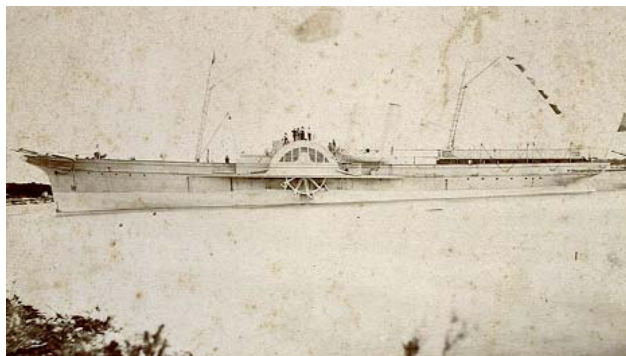
VERY FINE. A RARE OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER TO ENGLAND VIA ST. GEORGES, BEARING A BERMUDA TRANSIT MARKING, FROM CORRESPONDENTS CLOSELY RELATED TO THE BLOCKADE-RUNNING TRADE.

Carried by the *Advance*, dep. Wilmington Oct. 23, 1863, arr. St. Georges Oct. 26; then Cunarder *Ospray*, dep. New York Oct. 27, arr. Halifax Nov. 21; then Cunarder *Canada*, dep. Halifax Nov. 13, arr. Liverpool Nov. 23. The *Advance* (sometimes written as “A. D. Vance” since it was commissioned by Gov. Zebulon Vance) was owned by the State of North Carolina, which felt that the central government would not provide sufficient arms and provisions for the North Carolina troops; active Jun. 1863 to Sep. 1864, 17 for 18 in successful trips under the command of Captain Thomas Crossan of the North Carolina Navy; captured by the U.S.S. *Santiago de Cuba* on Sep. 10, 1864, coming out of Wilmington, then purchased by U.S. Navy and launched as U.S.S. *Advance* in North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

Ex Ludington. With copies of news announcements of the *Advance*’s arrival on Oct. 26, 1863.
..... E. 5,000-7,500



Governor Zebulon Vance



Blockade-runner *Advance*

OUTGOING BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

The Bermuda-St. Thomas Cunard branch line connected with the Cunard transatlantic line at Halifax. As such, most outgoing blockade-run mail via Bermuda passed through Halifax on its way to Europe or the U.S. None of that transit mail, however, was postmarked in Halifax. In total, fewer than ten covers with Halifax transit postmarks are known, and most were carried on steamships running directly to Halifax from Wilmington in the August-December 1864 period. Nine outbound direct trips were made to Halifax, and these covers can only be identified by correlation with one of those trips.



357

- 357 ☒ **Richmond Va. to London via Wilmington and Halifax.** Original letter datelined "Richmond July 25th 64" from Susan P. Quarles to her brother, the poet John R. Thompson, in London, England, sent to Wilmington for an outbound blockade run, but the yellow fever outbreak in Bermuda paralyzed blockade-running through that port, diverted to Halifax N.S. where it entered the British Mails with partly struck Sep. 13 circular datestamp on back, clear strike of "4" pence due handstamp struck in error and corrected to "1/" shilling British Packet rate on arrival in London, slightly age toned and minor splits along edges

FINE. THERE ARE ONLY FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL DIVERTED TO HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, DURING THE YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC IN BERMUDA.



John R. Thompson

The addressee, John Reuben Thompson (1823-73), was a publisher and poet of some renown. In 1860 he left the *Southern Literary Messenger* and for a short time served as editor of the *Southern Field and Fireside* in Augusta, Georgia. During the Civil War, Thompson spent several years in London, and contributed articles to various journals. After the war he served as literary editor of William Cullen Bryant's *New York Evening Post*. His sister, Susan P. Quarles, wrote this letter.

Carried on the *Annie*, dep. Wilmington Sep. 6, 1864, arr. Halifax Sep. 13; the captain of the *Annie* dropped it into mail in Halifax, picked up his ship fee and letter was rated "4" pence due (London later corrected rate to 1sh); then Cunarder *Europa*, dep. Halifax Sep. 16, arr. Liverpool Sep. 26. The *Annie* was owned by Alexander Collie & Co.; active Feb. to Nov. 1864, 13 for 14 in successful trips; ran aground and captured coming out of Wilmington on Nov. 1, 1864.

With 1977 C.S.A. certificate E. 3,000-4,000

OUTGOING BLOCKADE-RUN MAIL VIA HAVANA, CUBA

Virtually all of the outgoing blockade-run mail from New Orleans, Mobile and Galveston was carried via Havana, Cuba. None of that mail, however, was postmarked in Havana, but instead was handled by Cuban forwarders. Those forwarders typically placed the letters in the letterbags of steamers to New York, where they entered the mails as non-contract steamship letters with 10¢ per half-ounce due. The postal markings on this type of mail are several variants of the New York “STEAMSHIP 10” due marking. Because ordinary mail from Havana to New York also carries these markings, letter contents or docketing indicating origin from the C.S.A. are needed to provide definitive identification.



358



359 and detail of forwarder backstamp

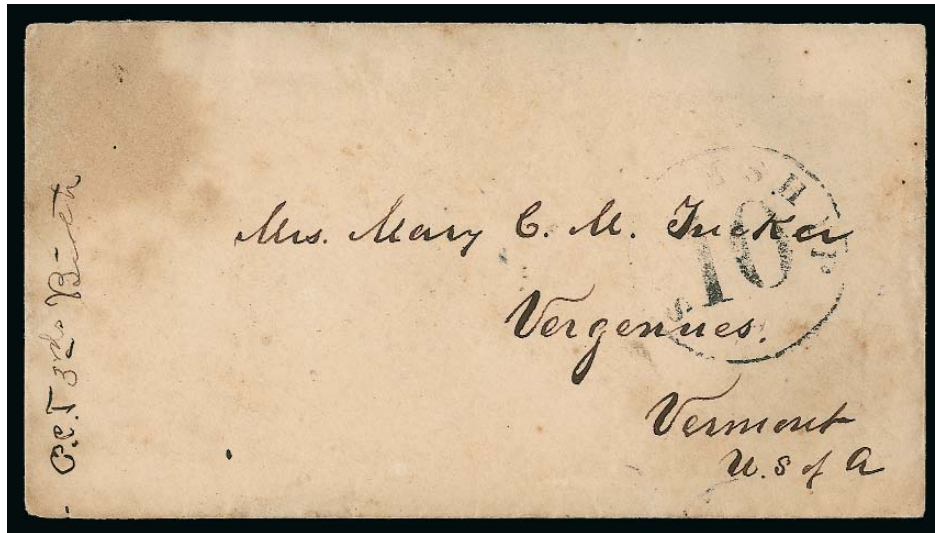
- 358 ☒ **New Orleans to Edinburgh (Scotland) via Havana, Kingston (Jamaica) and St. Thomas.** Blue folded letter datelined “New Orleans Nov. 14, 1861” from John Turpin to John Jeffrey in Edinburgh, Scotland, business content, entered the mails in London with **Great Britain 1p Red** tied by “London DE 12 61” duplex datestamp and grid, Edinburgh Dec. 13 receiving backstamp, skillfully cleaned and some cosmetic paper treatment along heavy file fold slightly affecting address

FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE OUTBOUND BLOCKADE-RUN COVER FROM NEW ORLEANS — VERY FEW EXAMPLES ARE KNOWN FROM THIS CONFEDERATE PORT CITY DUE TO ITS CAPTURE EARLY IN THE WAR — AND QUITE UNUSUAL WITH THE GREAT BRITAIN PENNY RED FRANKING.

Carried by an undetermined blockade-runner out of New Orleans to Havana between Nov. 14 and 24; dates point to next sailing on the RMSP *Derwent*, dep. Kingston, Jamaica, on Nov. 25, 1861, arr. St. Thomas Nov. 29; then RMSP *Atrato*, dep. St. Thomas Nov. 29, arr. Southampton Dec. 12; sent under cover to London forwarder who removed the outer envelope and mailed it as a 1p letter to Edinburgh. Only seven recorded blockade-run covers are from New Orleans (three have 1p stamps).

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (P. 149)..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 359 ☒ **Mobile to New York via Havana.** Blue folded letter datelined “Mobile Oct. 24, 1861” to Smith & Patrick in New York, carried by an unknown blockade-runner to Havana where “**Forwarded by Fesser & Co. Havana**” green oval handstamp was applied, then by a non-contract steamer to New York, “Steamship 10” in circle due handstamp, Very Fine, only five covers are recorded that ran the blockade leaving from Mobile..... E. 1,000-1,500



360

- 360 ☒ **Galveston Tex. to Vermont via Havana.** Wallpaper cover with original letter datelined "G- May 13th, 1864" from Philip C. Tucker Jr. in Galveston to his mother and brother in Vergennes Vt. (some biographical information on Tucker can be found on the internet in connection with his Masonic membership), most likely carried by the *Susanna* from Galveston to Havana, then by non-contract steamer to New York, partly clear "Steamship 10" in circle handstamp applied at New York, Oct. 3 receipt docketing, faint stains, Fine; the blockade-runner *Susanna* was originally built and operated as the *Mail*, which was captured in Oct. 1863, condemned and sold to private interests, who returned her to blockade-running under the name *Susanna*; active only in the Gulf from Apr. to Nov. 1864, 11 for 12 in successful trips; captured by the U.S.S. *Metacomet* on Nov. 27, 1864, coming out of Galveston; only four covers recorded that ran the blockade from Galveston ..
..... E. 2,000-3,000



361

- 361 ☒ **Galveston Tex. to Vermont via Havana.** Folded letter datelined "Galveston Feby. 16, 1864" from Philip C. Tucker Jr. in Galveston to his mother and sisters in Vergennes Vt. (some biographical information on Tucker can be found on the internet in connection with his Masonic membership), carried on an undetermined blockade-runner from Galveston to Havana, then by non-contract steamer to New York, "Steamship 10" in circle due handstamp applied at New York, slightly toned, Very Fine, only four covers recorded that ran the blockade from of Galveston.....
..... E. 1,000-1,500

PRIZE COURT MAIL

Whenever a C.S.A. blockade-runner was captured by the U.S., the value of the capture was shared among the crew of the capturing vessel. This occurred only after a U.S. prize court had determined that the captured ship was a lawfully seized "prize," or contraband of war. The prize court was then responsible for ordering the sale of the prize and the distribution of any proceeds to the capturing crew. A prize court could also order the return of a captured ship to its owners if the seizure was deemed unlawful. The mail carried on a captured ship was useful evidence in the determination of whether a captured ship was a prize, since it could indicate that the C.S.A. was either the origin or intended destination. Accordingly, mail was often introduced into evidence at the prize court, and surviving prize court covers can be identified by the evidence dockets on them, typically in magenta ink.



362

- 362 ☒ **5c Red Brown (75).** Deep shade, used with **1c Blue (63)** and **two 3c Rose (65)**, overpaying double 5c rate and tied by "New-York Aug. 14, 1862" duplex datestamp and target on yellow **prize court cover to Nassau, Bahamas**, addressed to Charles Gordon, in care of "H. R. Sonders & Son" (sic), with red oval "**Forwarded by Saunders & Son, Nassau**" handstamp, blue pencil "4" pence rate, docketed by Philadelphia Prize Court with red "84" at left and "No. 17. H.F. The within is marked 17th. H.F." at right, stamps with few faults incl. 1c small piece out at bottom

FINE APPEARANCE. A SPECTACULAR FRANKING AND VERY RARE COVER CAPTURED DURING AN ATTEMPTED BLOCKADE RUN AND USED AS EVIDENCE IN THE PRIZE COURT AT PHILADELPHIA.

This was carried from New York on the Cunarder *British Queen*, departing Aug. 16, 1862, arriving Nassau Aug. 20. It was forwarded by Saunders & Son with goods on the schooner *Defiance* to Savannah, but she was captured by the barque U.S.S. *Braziliera* on Sep. 7, 1862. The *Defiance* was made a prize, and this was used as evidence in the Philadelphia Prize Court. The initials "H.F." at right belong to Henry Flanders, a well-respected scholar on maritime law who served as commissioner of the Philadelphia Prize Court.

Ex Knapp E. 5,000-7,500



363

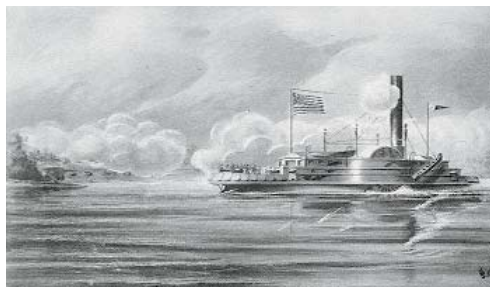
- 363 ☒ **Pendleton S.C. Jul. 22 (1861).** Clear strike of blue circular datestamp and "Paid 5" rate handstamp on yellow **prize court cover** addressed to Emilio Puiz, in care of the Spanish Consul at Charleston S.C., magenta manuscript docketing "E10 HHE" applied by the New York Prize Court commissioner Henry H. Elliott

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER TAKEN FROM A CAPTURED VESSEL EN ROUTE FROM CHARLESTON TO HAVANA, THEN USED AS EVIDENCE IN THE NEW YORK PRIZE COURT.

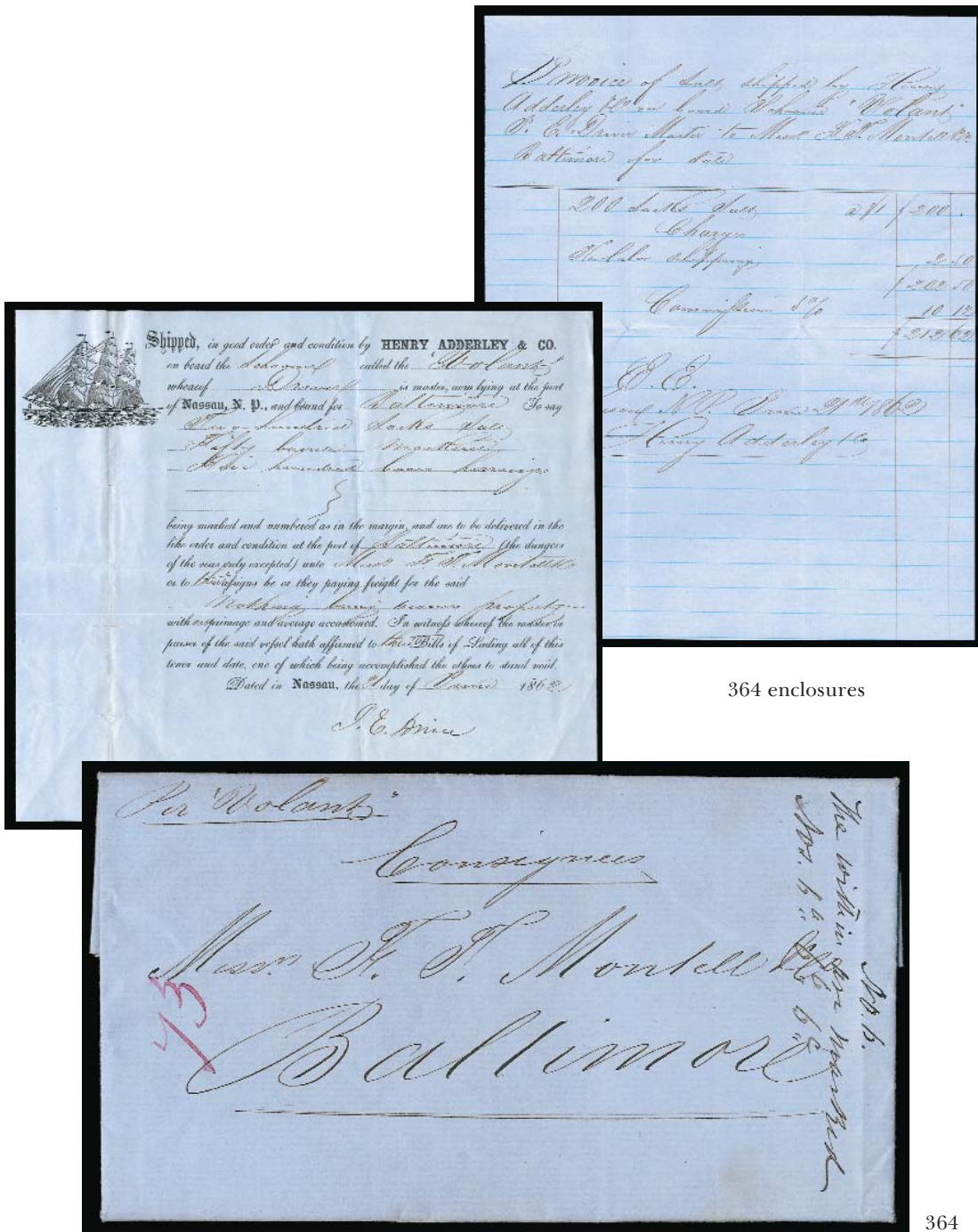
This cover and the addressee, Emilio Puiz, were on board the *Nuestra Senora de Regla* when she was captured at Port Royal en route to Havana on December 1, 1861, by the U.S.S. *Aries* (Commander T. W. Sherman). The ship and its cargo were brought to New York, and Puiz, a Spanish citizen, was held prisoner for violating neutrality laws. This cover was used as evidence in the New York Prize Court hearing. Coincidentally, Puiz was taken prisoner again in 1863 when another vessel named *Aries* was captured by the U.S.S. *Stettin* with Puiz and other Spanish citizens on board. They were accused of accompanying cargo in an attempted blockade run.

According to the Naval Historical Center, the *Nuestra Senora del Regla* was built at New York in 1861 for use as a civilian ferryboat at Havana, Cuba. After her capture in December 1861, she was purchased by the U.S. Navy in September 1862, converted to a gunboat and re-named the U.S.S. *Commodore Hull* (commissioned November 1862). Her ferryboat design made her especially useful for operations in sheltered waters, and the *Commodore Hull* spent most of her service in the North Carolina Sounds and its adjacent rivers. In that area, she took part in the May 1864, battle with the Confederate ironclad C.S.S. *Albemarle*, and in attacks on and the capture of Plymouth N.C. on October 29-31, 1864. Although badly damaged in that battle, the *Commodore Hull* remained active until the end of the Civil War. She was decommissioned in June 1865 and sold in September of that year. She subsequently was named *Waccamaw* in civilian employment, which lasted until sometime prior to 1885.

Ex Birkinbine..... E. 2,000-3,000



*U.S.S. Commodore Hull (formerly the
Nuestra Senora del Reglo)*



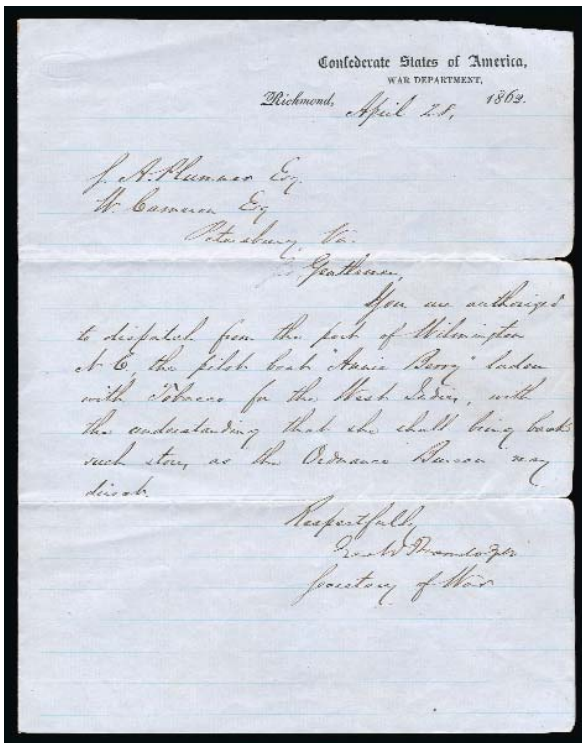
364 enclosures

364

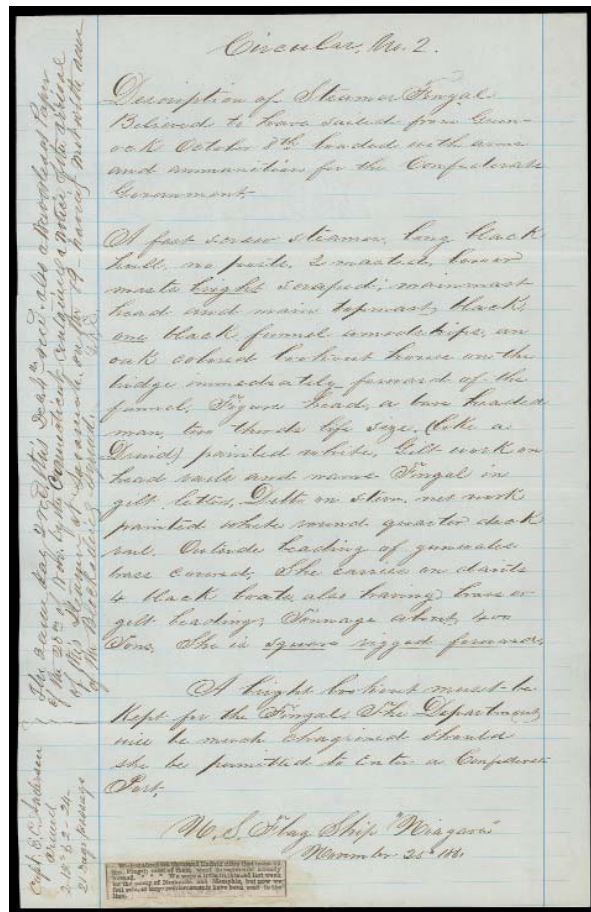
- 364 ☒ **Schooner Volant Prize Court Letter.** Folded consignee letter datelined "Nassau 21 June 1862" from Henry Adderley & Co., endorsed "Per 'Volant'" and "Consignees", deceptively addressed to the shipping firm of F. T. Montell & Co. in Baltimore, enclosing a part-printed Bill of Lading dated June 21, 1862, for goods purported to be routed to Baltimore and an Adderley & Co. invoice for 200 sacks of salt in the same shipment, the letter and two accompanying documents were on board with the cargo when the *Volant* was captured by the U.S.S. *Western World* on July 2, 1862 in Winyah Bay S.C., manuscript docketing "No. 6. The within are marked Nos. 6a, 6b, 6c" and red "73" applied by the Philadelphia Prize Court

EXTREMELY FINE. A REMARKABLE TRIO COMPRISING THE LETTER AND SHIPPING DOCUMENTS CAPTURED ON BOARD THE SCHOONER *VOLANT* AND USED AS EVIDENCE IN THE PRIZE COURT HEARING.

The Baltimore shipping firm of F. T. Montell & Co. was involved in running goods through the Union blockade. This is a rare letter with accompanying shipping documents which were submitted as evidence during the Philadelphia Prize Court hearing. E. 2,000-3,000

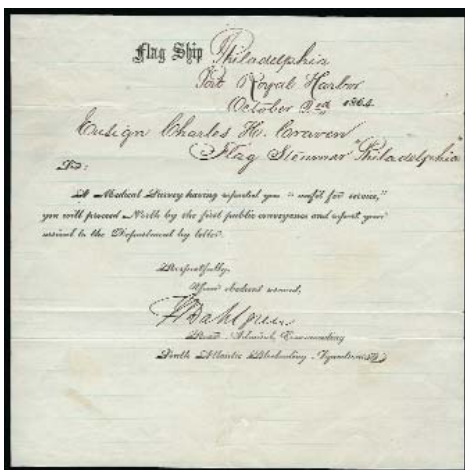


365EX



366

- 365 **Confederate War Department Authorization for Blockade Run by the Annie Berry.** War Department letterhead datelined Richmond Apr. 28, 1862, to S. A. Plummer and W. Cameron in Petersburg Va., authorization for the pilot boat *Annie Berry* to sail from Wilmington with tobacco for the West Indies and to return with ordnance, accompanied by ship's papers and list of wages paid to crew, minor splits along folds, a desirable group of Confederate blockade-runner documents that were presumably captured by a Union blockading vessel(Photo Ex) E. 1,000-1,500
- 366 **Description of the Confederate Blockade-Runner *Fingal* from the U.S.S. Flag Ship *Niagara*.** Manuscript headed "Circular No. 2" and dated Nov. 25, 1861, describing in detail the steamer *Fingal* and giving notice "A bright lookout must be kept for the *Fingal*. The Department will be much chagrined should she be permitted to enter a Confederate Port", a notation along the left side indicates this circular arrived the same day as a newspaper article announcing the arrival of the *Fingal* with 6,000 Enfield rifles (clipping of article pasted to bottom), a most unusual document related to the Union blockade E. 300-400



367

- John A. Dahlgren.** Part-printed document signed as Rear Admiral and Commander of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, datelined Flag Ship *Philadelphia* at Port Royal S.C., Oct. 2, 1864, to the crew member releasing him as medically "unfit for duty", folds, in excellent condition, a desirable historical item for the Civil War naval specialist E. 300-400

367

TRANS-RIO GRANDE MAIL

The only international frontier between the C.S.A. and a neutral country was formed by the Rio Grande River. This border between southwest Texas and northern Mexico represented a conduit for supplies and mail that could circumvent the Federal blockade of the C.S.A. coastline. However, it was too remote to be an effective mail route to the eastern Confederacy, particularly after the Union gained control of the Mississippi River in 1862. In addition, a civil war in Mexico inhibited communications on the Mexican side of the border.

Map of Rio Grande Border Region Between C.S.A. and Mexico

Blue line shows the Rio Grande River



The map shows the Rio Grande border region and the major cities on the Mexican and C.S.A. sides of the frontier. There were three major routes across the Rio Grande: 1) between Matamoros and Brownsville, Texas; 2) between Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas and Laredo, Texas; and 3) between Piedras Negras in the Mexican State of Coahuila and Eagle Pass, Texas.

The major crossing point at Brownsville connected along an arduous coastal overland route to the rest of the C.S.A. via Houston. The less significant crossing points at Laredo and Eagle Pass connected with San Antonio. On the Mexican side of the border, the routes from the crossing points converged on Monterrey. Via the port of Bagdad, the port of Matamoros communicated directly by sailing ships with Tampico and Havana. There was also a two-week overland route between Matamoros and Tampico, but it was often disrupted by the Mexican civil war.

Mail was exchanged across the Rio Grande throughout the war, mostly between commercial correspondents in Mexico and Texas. Initially, from July 1861 until April 1862, most of the known covers were carried to New Orleans via Mexico and Brownsville. Regular trans-Rio Grande mail exchanges between Texas and Mexico began in late 1861, and ended in May 1865. As the trade in cotton and munitions across this border grew in importance, the U.S. took actions to stop it, and initiated a partial blockade of the Gulf coast off Brownsville in July 1862. Later, the U.S. occupation of the Brownsville region from November 6, 1863, to July 29, 1864, naturally pushed the cross-border exchange of mail up the river to Laredo and Eagle Pass.

Inbound mail was generally sent inside of an outer envelope addressed to a forwarder in Matamoros, Nuevo Laredo or Piedras Negras. That forwarder would discard the outer envelope and ferry the inner envelope across the river to be mailed at a Confederate post office with postage prepaid either in cash or by postage stamps. This type of mail typically shows only Confederate frankings and postmarks, and can be identified only by a dateline, merchant handstamp or docket showing origin outside of the C.S.A.

Mail entering through Brownsville received postmarks of that city unless addressed to Brownsville. Postage was typically paid in cash, so the Brownsville "PAID 10" is most often seen. Fewer than ten covers via Brownsville with C.S.A. postage stamps are recorded.

From the November 1863 Federal occupation of Brownsville until the end of the war, mail was exchanged upriver at Laredo. This mail entered the Confederate postal system at San Antonio. All known covers are franked with Confederate postage stamps.

Mail entering via Eagle Pass received transit postmarks of that office. Most of the surviving mail is from Piedras Negras or Monterrey. All of the known Eagle Pass covers are franked with Confederate postage stamps and postmarked in Eagle Pass between October 1862 and September 1864.

Some large cotton merchants, however, made different arrangements for mail to the C.S.A. Jose San Roman operated in both Matamoros and Brownsville, and received mail addressed to Brownsville which was processed through the Mexican post office. Such mail shows Mexican frankings and postmarks, and the Matamoros postmaster apparently held that mail for pickup by San Roman. Since it was then privately carried across the river, this mail has no Confederate frankings or postal markings.

Outbound mail was generally sent inside an outer envelope addressed to a Mexican forwarder across the Rio Grande in Matamoros or Tampico. That forwarder would choose the best route for the letter, and send it onward, typically unpaid. This type of mail entered the mails at a wide variety of places, and can be identified only by a dateline, docket or known correspondence showing origin from the C.S.A. Some outbound mail is also known which was sent through the Confederate postal system to Matamoros addressees. This mail, which carries Confederate frankings and postmarks, was evidently picked up at the Brownsville post office by the Matamoros correspondents, who had free access across the river via ferry.

In late 1861, some New Orleans-based entrepreneurs established overland express services between Confederate New Orleans and the British Royal Mail steam packets running between Tampico, Mexico and Europe via St. Thomas. The April 1862 loss of New Orleans ended the activities of these private expresses.

ANTONIO COSTA'S EXPRESS



368

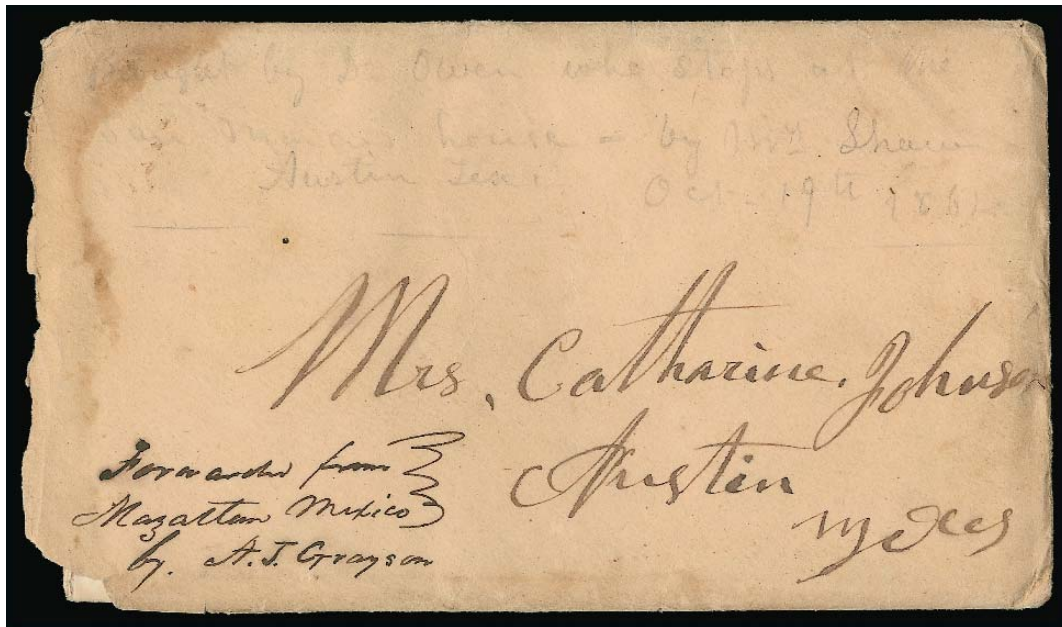
- 368 ☒ **London to New Orleans via Tampico, Matamoros and Brownsville.** August 16, 1861 folded letter from Baring Brothers in **London, England**, to E. F. Lavillebeuvre in New Orleans, inside of letter routed "*pr Asia*", "**J. & J. Prom & Co. * Tampico ***" forwarder's greenish-blue oval handstamp, manuscript "10" (indicating amount of Confederate postage required) beneath **10c Dark Blue, Hoyer & Ludwig (2b)**, three large margins, in at top, tied by "**Brownsville Tex. Feb. 24**" (1862) rimless circular datestamp, receipt docketing "*Rec'd Mch 15, 1862*", stamp creased by file fold, small fault at bottom right corner, lifted and reattached slightly out of original position

A FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF TRANSATLANTIC MAIL CARRIED FROM LONDON TO NEW ORLEANS VIA TAMPICO AND BROWNSVILLE DURING THE PERIOD WHEN COSTA'S EXPRESS WAS IN OPERATION.

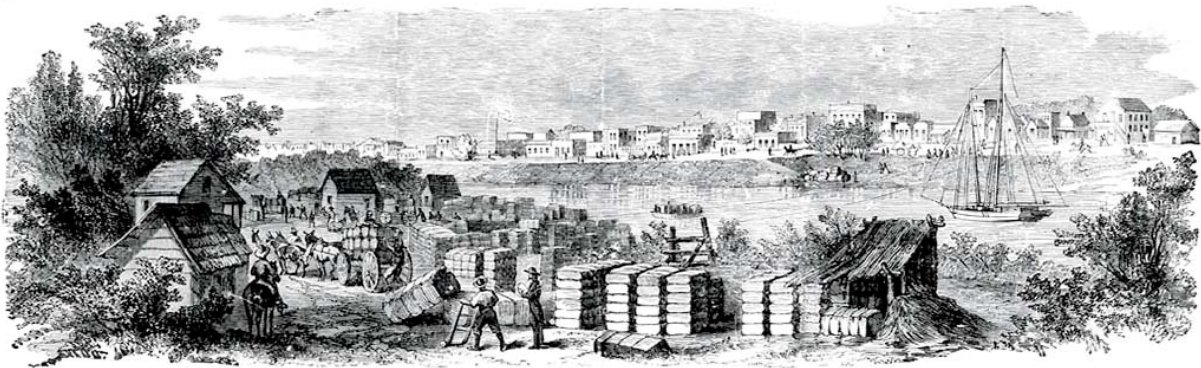
On October 15, 1861, Antonio Costa announced a post office-endorsed foreign-mail private express service out of New Orleans. In his circular, he stated, "The undersigned, now suffering in common with others, the inconvenience of blockade and non-intercourse with foreign countries; has, by the advice and approval of J. L. Riddell, Post Master at New Orleans, taken all needful measures to establish at his own expense, a monthly mail between New Orleans and the Mexican port of Tampico, to connect with the regular British Mail steamers touching at that port." J. L. Riddell also added a postscript stating that, "Letters intended for this Mail, may be enclosed along with the money required per tariff above, and the outer envelope addressed to Costa's Foreign Mail, care of Postmaster, New Orleans." The tariff indicated was \$1.00 to Europe, including C.S.A. postage.

The cover offered here was very likely carried by Costa's Express for some portion of the route. The unusually lengthy delay between the August 16, 1861, origin date in London and February 24, 1862, postmark date at Brownsville is explained by the special circumstances affecting transit. The Cunarder *Asia* departed Queenstown on August 18 and arrived in New York on August 29. Although the sender probably intended for the New York forwarding agent to send it by Adam's Express, the express routes had been closed down only a few days earlier on August 26. Facing this new circumstance, the forwarder probably decided that the best course of action was to send the letter to Havana, where it could be forwarded to Tampico. We can reasonably speculate that the New York forwarder held this letter (and another known with identical routing and dates) until he became aware of Costa's Express, which started advertising in New Orleans on October 15 (news would have reached New York later). There appears to have been another delay incurred somewhere en route to Brownsville. The trip from New York to Tampico via Havana took about 14 days, and from Tampico to Brownsville another 16 days. The Brownsville February 24 postmark date indicates a departure from Tampico on February 8. The letter could have been held by the forwarder at Tampico during the Siege of Matamoros (October-December 1861), then given to Costa to safely carry to Brownsville, where it entered the C.S.A. mails. The receipt docketing date of March 15 coincides with the arrival date on a cover carried by Costa's Express, illustrated on page 166 of the *Special Routes* book.

Illustrated in Huber and Wagner *The Great Mail* (p. 153) and *Special Routes* (p. 156). Ex Skinner. .
..... E. 5,000-7,500



369



View of Brownsville, Texas, during U.S. occupation, November 1863



Col. Andrew Jackson Grayson

A. J. GRAYSON, C.S.A. FORWARDING AGENT

- 369 ✉ **“Forwarded from Mazatlan Mexico by A. J. Grayson”.** Manuscript endorsement on cover addressed in another hand to Mrs. Catherine Johnson at Austin Tex., original letter datelined “Mrs. Bralys Cala. June 25 /64” indicating California origin, carried outside the mails to Mazatlan, where **Col. Andrew Jackson Grayson** arranged for it to be carried to Texas, faint pencil notation on the front reads: “Brought by D. Owen who stops at the San Roman house — by Mr. Shaw, Austin Texas Oct. 19th 1864”, letter and left edge of cover dampstained, cover also opened a bit roughly at left but the endorsements are intact

A FINE AND SIGNIFICANT COVER, CARRIED OUTSIDE THE CONFEDERATE MAILS FROM CALIFORNIA TO TEXAS VIA MEXICO AND ENDORSED BY COLONEL ANDREW JACKSON GRAYSON AT MAZATLAN.

A biography of Andrew Jackson Grayson can be found at <http://www.oac.cdlib.org>: “Andrew Jackson Grayson was born in 1819 on the family plantation in Louisiana. Subject to frequent illness he was permitted by his parents to occupy much of his time as he pleased. As a result he passed many of his days in the nearby woods hunting small game and observing birds and other wildlife. He attended a local school until the teacher found him drawing birds during class and told his father. He was promptly sent to college in Missouri with orders not to study drawing. After the death of his father he used his small legacy to go into business in Columbia, Louisiana. But business didn’t interest him. He left his clerk in charge of the store while he roamed the woods and the business soon failed. By 1842, the year of his marriage to Frances Jane Timmons, he had decided to move west. In 1844 they moved to St. Louis to prepare for the journey. In the spring of 1846 Grayson, his wife, and their infant son, Edward, started overland for California with a group that included ex-Governor Lilburn Boggs of Missouri and, until their tragic turnoff at Fort Bridger, the Donner party. Soon after their arrival in October, Grayson joined the California Battalion. Later he went into business in San Francisco and purchased lots there and in other parts of the bay area. In 1853 Mrs. Grayson saw an exhibit of Audubon’s plates *Birds of America* at the Mercantile Library in San Francisco. She took her husband to see it, and he realized that he must resume his drawing. The family settled in San Jose where he taught himself drawing, paint mixing and taxidermy. After short residencies in Tehuantepec, Mexico, in 1857, and in Napa Valley in 1859, studying and drawing the local birds, Grayson settled in Mazatlan to work on his proposed ‘Birds of the Pacific Slope.’ Grayson spent the last ten years of his life in the area around Mazatlan and nearby Islands, and contributed many articles on natural history to newspapers and magazines in Mexico and California, writing under his own name and the pseudonyms ‘Wanderer,’ ‘Rambler,’ and ‘Occidentalus.’ He sent many birds and other specimens and detailed bird biographies to the Smithsonian Institution. Although discouraged by lack of funds, the repudiation of his contract with the Academy of Science and Literature following the execution of Maximilian, and the accidental death of his son in 1867, Grayson seized every opportunity to complete his project. Financial aid finally came from the Smithsonian but it was too late; Grayson was already ill with coast fever from which he died on August 17, 1869.”

There is scant information about Col. Grayson’s activities on behalf of the Confederate States. In August 1863 he wrote to Jefferson Davis to request letters of marque and reported on his efforts: “. . . As I am a stranger to you, sir, I can only say that our native homes are not widely separated, mine being in Louisiana, on the Ouachita River in hearing of the guns of Vicksburg, where all of my relatives (when last I heard from them) have their homes. My only son Edward is now in the Confederate Army, having gone on from here with Judge Terry and others last February. I have aided and been the means of sending many Southerners from California through to Texas for the purpose of joining the Confederate Army, and also made arrangements for sending and getting papers to and from the South by the way of Brownsville, Matamoros, and Monterey for our friends in California.” More information comes from a note found inside another cover from California to Mrs. Catherine Johnson (the addressee on the cover offered here), which is endorsed by C.S.A. forwarder Jose Quintero. The note of instruction reads: “Send letters to J. A. Quintero, Monterey, Mexico, instructing him to forward to Col. A. J. Grayson at Mazatlan who will forward them to Cal.; at the same time enclosing 25 cents to pay postage. Put your letter into an envelope, seal it, and direct it to your friend in Cal. Just as it were to go by the ordinary mail; then put that into another & direct it as above.”

“San Roman’s house” in the pencil notation refers to Jose San Roman, a merchant, banker and broker in the contraband cotton trade of the Civil War. He came to America in the late 1830’s and settled in New Orleans. In 1846 San Roman moved to Matamoros and established a dry-goods firm. By 1850 the business extended across the Rio Grande to the newly incorporated town of Brownsville, Texas. San Roman prospered and expanded his business into commercial credit, real estate and cotton brokerage. By 1860 San Roman moved to Brownsville and with his partners monopolized credit services to smaller merchants, forcing many of them out of business. During the Union blockade, San Roman became a key figure in the contraband trade in Bagdad, Brownsville, and Matamoros. His firm served as a brokerage house for hundreds of cotton farmers west of the Mississippi River. He moved back to Matamoros in the early 1860s and sold cotton wholesale to textile firms in New York, England, and Germany, thereby avoiding the interference of United States military and civil authorities on the Texas side of the Rio Grande. By 1870 he was considered one of the wealthiest men in South Texas. E. 3,000-4,000

BROWNSVILLE-MATAMOROS



370

- 370 ☒ **JIMENEZ.** Mexican framed straightline handstamp and similar “Franco” handstamp on greenish folded cover to Jose San Roman in Brownsville Tex., receipt docketing “*Jacinto Salinas, Rda Jimenez Junio 15/63*”, sent by Mexican mails from Jimenez to Matamoros (prepaid), then by private courier across the Rio Grande to Brownsville, Extremely Fine, Jose San Roman was a prosperous merchant, banker and broker in the contraband cotton trade of the Civil War, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 159), ex Birkinbine E. 1,000-1,500



371

- 371 ☒ **MONTERREY/AGOSTO 5.** Framed datestamp ties Mexico 1861 8r Hidalgo (11), margins close to slightly cut in, on August 1863 folded letter from Hernandez & Co. in Monterrey to Jose San Roman in Brownsville Tex. (as addressed in the letter portion), addressed on the outside to San Roman in Matamoros and forwarded privately across the border, slightly age toned, Fine, Jose San Roman was a prosperous merchant, banker and broker in the contraband cotton trade of the Civil War, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 159), ex Mazepa E. 1,000-1,500



372

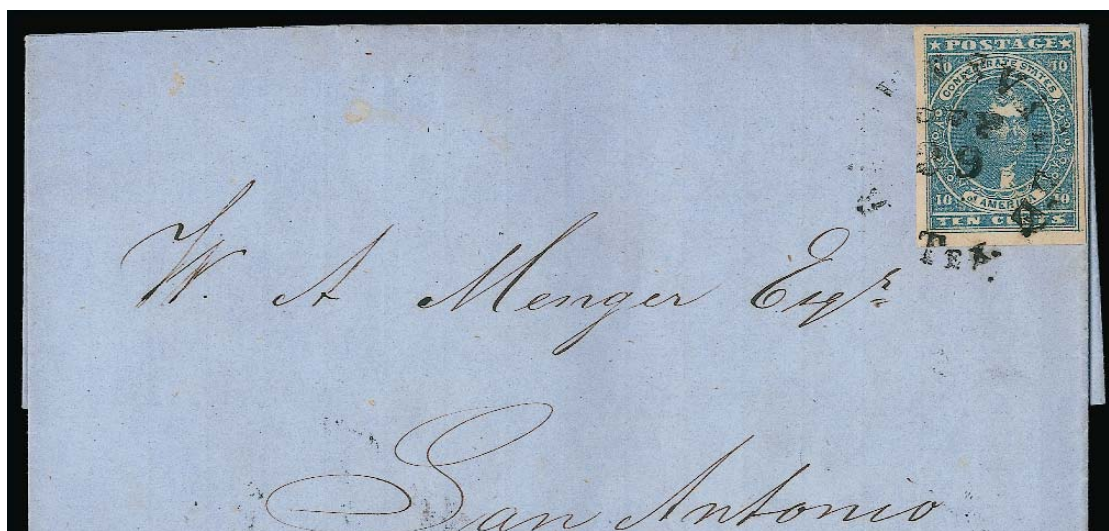
- 372 ☒ **Monterrey (Mexico) to New Orleans via Matamoros and Brownsville.** Greenish folded cover from Luis Coindreau in Monterrey, Mexico, to Seres. Avendano Hermanos in New Orleans, "Brownsville Tex. Jan. 13" (1862) datestamp and "Paid 10" straightline handstamp for C.S.A. rate, receipt docketing "1862, Luis G. Coindreau, Monterey Enero 7, Rcd. 31, Cda. Abril 1" — indicating that the letter was dated at Monterrey on Jan. 7, 1862, and was received in New Orleans on Jan. 31, couple vertical file folds, few sealed edge tears, Fine, extremely rare trans-Rio Grande cover, this cover was carried during the period when Costa's Express was running, leading some previous students to attribute it to his service, but it was probably carried in the regular C.S.A. mails from Brownsville to New Orleans, ex MacBride and Skinner..... E. 1,000-1,500



373

- 373 ☒ **Brownsville Tex. Feb. 4, 1865.** Bold strike of rimless circular datestamp and "Paid 10" straightline C.S.A. rate handstamp on blue folded letter datelined "Matamoros 2 Febrero 1865" from Casimiro Castro to Ezequiel Bustamante in San Antonio Tex., Feb. 9 receipt docketing, Extremely Fine, a late example of mail carried from Mexico to Confederate Texas, the Confederates reoccupied Brownsville on July 30, 1864, ex Kohn and Birkinbine..... E. 1,000-1,500

374



375



- 374 ☒ **10c Dark Blue, Hoyer & Ludwig (2b).** Large even margins, fine impression, tied by “**Brownsville Tex. Sep. 29**” (1862) rimless circular datestamp on blue folded letter **from Matamoros (Mexico) to San Antonio via Brownsville**, written in German and datelined “*Matamoros, Septbe 28, 1862*”, minor splits along folds

EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING COVER CARRIED FROM MEXICO TO CONFEDERATE TEXAS VIA THE MATAMOROS-BROWNSVILLE ROUTE. LESS THAN TEN COVERS CARRIED ON THIS ROUTE ARE KNOWN WITH CONFEDERATE POSTAGE STAMPS.

Ex Keeling E. 1,500-2,000

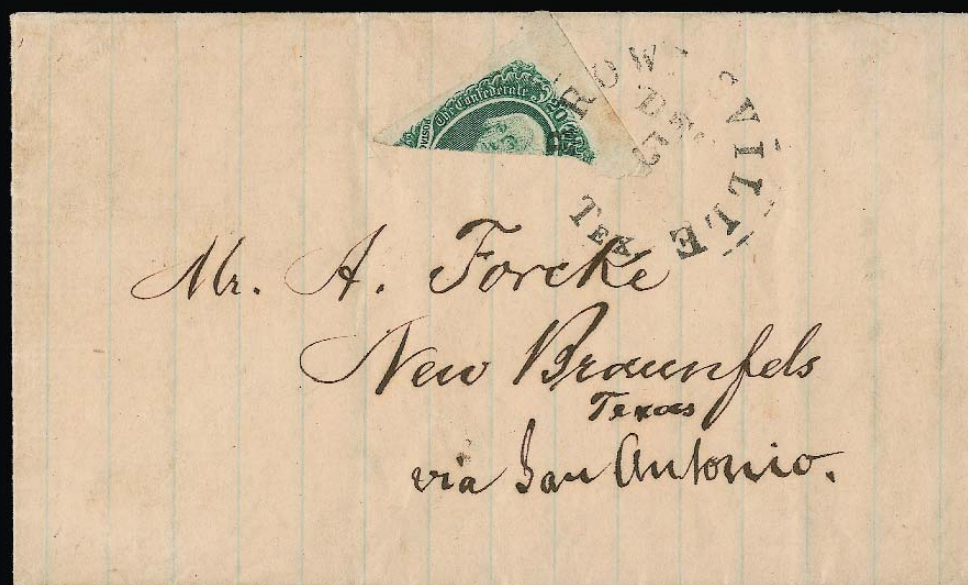
- 375 ☒ **Brownsville Tex. Apr. 25, 1865.** Lightly inked but readable circular datestamp and manuscript “**Paid 30**” triple rate on blue folded letter **carried from Matamoros to San Antonio via Brownsville**, datelined “*Matamoros 23 Abril 1865*” from Casimiro Castro to Luis Leon, two strikes of “*Maza y Larrache Matamoros*” double-circle datestamp with Apr. 22 and 23 dates


VERY FINE. A LATE TRANS-RIO GRANDE FOLDED LETTER THAT MENTIONS THE SURRENDER OF LEE’S ARMY.

This letter, written in Spanish, mentions receiving news of the “*capitulacion de Lee*”, referring of course to Lee’s surrender at Appomattox on April 9, 1865. The war would carry on another month in Texas, with the last battle — the Battle of Palmito Ranch — fought on May 12.....


E. 2,000-3,000

Matching 20¢ Bisects





Mr. A. Forcke
New Braunfels
Texas
via San Antonio.



Mr. A. Forcke
Apothecary
New Braunfels.
Comal County - Tx.

MATCHING PAIR OF 20-CENT BISECTS

- 376 ☒ **20c Green, Diagonal Half Used as 10c (13c). Matching upper left and lower right diagonal halves of the same stamp**, each tied on separate folded letters written in German from the same commercial firm in Monterrey (Mexico) to pharmacist August Forcke in New Braunfels Tex.; the upper left bisect with huge top sheet margin and large left margin, tied by **“Brownsville Tex. Dec. 5”** (1864) rimless circular datestamp on letter datelined *“Monterrey [crossed out] Matamoros, Dec. 2, ‘64”*, address with *“via San Antonio”* route designation, carried across the river between Matamoros and Brownsville and then by the Confederate mails to New Braunfels; the lower right bisect tied by **“San Antonio Tex. Dec. 16”** circular datestamp on letter datelined *“Matamoros Nov. 29 64”*, carried further up the Rio Grande where it crossed from Nuevo Laredo to Laredo, then entered the Confederate mails at San Antonio

EXTREMELY FINE. A UNIQUE AND REMARKABLE PAIR OF COVERS, BEARING MATCHING HALVES OF THE SAME CONFEDERATE STATES 20-CENT GENERAL ISSUE STAMP ON SEPARATE LETTERS THAT WERE CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE FROM MEXICO TO TEXAS VIA DIFFERENT ROUTES. THIS IS THE ONLY MATCHING PAIR OF 20-CENT BISECTS EXTANT, AND THE POSTAL HISTORY ASPECT OF THE PAIR ADDS EVEN GREATER SIGNIFICANCE.

Information about the addressee can be found at http://www.sanjacinto-museum.org/Herzstein_Library: “A practicing pharmacist in New Braunfels, Texas, for 50 years, Johann August Forcke was born in Hildsheim, Germany, on April 20, 1814, and studied pharmacy in Jena, Germany, before immigrating to Texas in 1845. He landed at Indianola and arrived in New Braunfels in 1846. An early settler of the city, Forcke served as one of the first city aldermen from June 7, 1847 to March 3, 1849. Forcke bought property in 1851 on South Seguin Street where he located his drug store. His business closed in 1898. August Forcke married Johanne Sophia Fricke (1816-1898) in 1847. The couple had five children. He died January 2, 1903, and is buried in the Comal Cemetery in New Braunfels, Texas.” Among the Forcke papers at San Jacinto Museum is an invoice from S. Ramos y Hermano of Monterrey, Mexico, dated August 19, 1863, that documents the necessity for Texans to turn to Mexico to import drugs during the Civil War.

Ex Caspary, where acquired by the Weills, presumably for Reverend Paul Freeland. Raymond Weill’s personal copy of the Caspary catalogue (in our library) notes “Must” next to each lot, meaning “Must Have”. Also from our 1982 Rarities of the World sale (realized \$22,000 hammer) and 1986 Rarities of the World sale (realized \$25,000 hammer), and ex McCarren.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 160). Each cover with 1982 and 2005 P.F. certificates and a letter from P.F. Chairman Mortimer L. Neinken dated November 8 1982, stating that the bisects are both halves of the same stamp..... E. 20,000-30,000



377



378

- 377 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Horizontal pair, large margins except in at top left, tied by “Houston Tex. Aug. 30” (1863) circular datestamp on greenish folded letter **carried from Houston to Matamoros via Brownsville, then returned by the same route**, addressed to Mr. Ben Weil in Matamoros, “Pol. of Mr. Haber” endorsement crossed out and re-directed to “Care of Jno. Marks & Co. Matamoros”, upon receipt the original letter leaf was removed by Ben Weil of Matamoros, outer address leaf used as stationery and datelined “Matamoros Sepr. 5th 1863”, addressed to S. E. Loeb in Houston and hand-carried with “Pol. of Mr. Martelly”, no postal markings or postage for return trip, receipt docketing “Ansd. Sepr 4th 63”, some splits, small tears and ink erosion have been reinforced with document repair tape that has started to stain the paper, faults to be expected and otherwise Fine, a remarkable and unique cover that crossed the lines between Mexico and the Confederate States twice, illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 162) E. 1,000-1,500

- 378 ☒ **Trans-Rio Grande Cover from Brownsville to Tampico, Mexico.** Folded letter with receipt docketing “Brownsville Abril 7 de 1863 / Jose San Roman / Recibide Abril 17 de 1863”, addressed to Tampico, Mexico, carried across the border and put into the mails at Matamoros, “H. MATAMOROS/ABRIL 6” framed datestamp, “FRANCO” straightline, some skillfully reinforced wear at top and bottom

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE TRANS-RIO GRANDE COVER OUTBOUND FROM THE CONFEDERATE STATES TO MEXICO — CONSIDERABLY RARER THAN INBOUND COVERS.

The “H” in “H. Matamoros” stands for “Heroic”, a title awarded to the city after it was successfully defended against invading forces in 1851.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 161). Ex Judd and Murphy..... E. 1,500-2,000

EAGLE PASS-PIEDRAS NEGRAS



379



380

- 379 ☒ **5c Light Blue, Local (7).** Horizontal pair, large margins to well clear at right, tied by “Eagle Pass Tex. Sep. 30” (1863) circular datestamp on greenish blue folded letter **carried from Monterrey to San Antonio via Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass**, bold strike of “MONTEREY/SEPTIEMBRE 20” framed datestamp, “FRANCO” straightline on front and “2” reales Mexican rate handstamp on back, Brach-Shonfeld & Co. blue oval sender’s handstamp beneath pair, addressed to John H. Thursmond at San Antonio, in care of F. Groos & Co. at Piedras Negras, faint toning and slight splits along folds

VERY FINE. FEWER THAN FIVE TRANS-RIO GRANDE COVERS ARE RECORDED WITH BOTH CONFEDERATE AND MEXICAN POSTAL MARKINGS.

Single envelopes (or outer address sheets) were rarely used for the entire trip with the intermediary’s address and final address together. F. Groos & Co. was a large cotton broker using the Eagle Pass-Piedras Negras crossing. In September 1863, some letters addressed to the care of his firm at Piedras Negras were posted at the Monterrey post office in Mexico, then forwarded across the river with C.S.A. postage added to the letter. Fewer than five such letters are known with both Mexican and Confederate frankings and postal markings.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 158). Ex Birkinbine E. 5,000-7,500

- 380 ☒ **5c Light Blue, De La Rue (6).** Horizontal pair, large margins to slightly in at upper right, bright shade and fresh paper, tied by “Eagle Pass Tex. Jan. 2(2)” (1864) circular datestamp on greenish blue folded letter **from Piedras Negras to San Antonio Tex. via Eagle Pass**, letter datelined “Piedras Negras 20 de Enero de 1863”

VERY FINE. RARE USE OF THE 5-CENT DE LA RUE PRINTING ON A COVER CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE BETWEEN PIEDRAS NEGRAS AND EAGLE PASS, TEXAS.

The Eagle Pass post office was used as the drop point for C.S.A. mail originating in Piedras Negras and addressed to San Antonio..... E. 2,000-3,000



381



382

- 381 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Horizontal pair, large bottom margin, other sides slightly in, tied by “**Eagle Pass Tex. Jun. 30**” (1864) circular datestamp on folded letter **from Monterrey to San Antonio via Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass**, datelined “*Monterrey, June 20, 1863*” and addressed to Dr. W. G. Kingsbury in San Antonio with forwarding directions “*favor of Messrs. f Groos & Co., Piedras Negras*”, Brach-Shonfeld & Co. blue oval handstamp, trivial splits along folds, faint toning
 VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING TRANS-RIO GRANDE COVER, CARRIED TO PIEDRAS NEGRAS AND ACROSS THE RIVER TO EAGLE PASS, WHERE IT ENTERED THE CONFEDERATE MAILS TO SAN ANTONIO. Brach-Shonfeld & Co. and F. Groos & Co. were prominent commercial firms involved in the cross-border trade between Mexico and the Confederate States. The addressee, Dr. W. G. Kingsbury, was a director on the board of the San Antonio Mutual Aid Society.
 Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 158)..... E. 2,000-3,000
- 382 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Horizontal strip of four, mostly large to huge margins, ample at bottom left, tied by two lightly-inked strikes of “**Eagle Pass Tex. Jun. (?)**” (1864) circular datestamp on blue folded letter **from Matamoros to New Braunfels Tex. via Eagle Pass**, datelined “*Matamoros den 27 Mai 1864*”, from Groos Biersch & Co. with their blue oval handstamp on flap, addressed to A. Forke (druggist), strip has faint gum toning
 VERY FINE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE DOUBLE-RATE CONFEDERATE GENERAL ISSUE FRANKING ON A COVER CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE AND PUT INTO THE MAILS AT EAGLE PASS DURING THE FEDERAL OCCUPATION OF BROWNSVILLE. Brownsville was occupied by U.S. forces from November 7, 1863, to July 20, 1864. During this time, mail between Mexico and the C.S.A. was carried across the border further up the Rio Grande between Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass. Johann August Forcke, a German immigrant, arrived in Texas in 1845 and was a practicing pharmacist in New Braunfels for 50 years (source: http://www.sanjacinto-museum.org/Herzstein_Library).
 Ex Brooks. With 1984 P.F. certificate E. 2,000-3,000

LAREDO-NUEVO LAREDO



383

- 383 ☒ **5c Blue, Local (7).** Ample margins to just touched, tied by “San Antonio Tex. Nov. 14” (1864) circular datestamp on blue folded letter **carried from Paras to San Antonio via Monterrey, Nuevo Laredo and Laredo**, datelined “Parras Obre. 23 de 1864” from Antero Perez to Ezequiel Bustamante in San Antonio, “L. Oliver Hos. Monterey 3 Nov. 1864” forwarder’s double oval backstamp, file fold barely creases bottom of stamp

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE COVER ROUTED VIA MONTERREY IN MEXICO, THEN CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE BETWEEN NUEVO LAREDO AND LAREDO AND PUT INTO THE CONFEDERATE POST OFFICE AT SAN ANTONIO AS A DROP-RATE LETTER.

Mail from Mexico to San Antonio that crossed further down the Rio Grande and entered the C.S.A. post offices at Brownsville or Eagle Pass was usually franked with 10c C.S.A. postage. In this case, the letter crossed between Nuevo Laredo and Laredo and was brought directly to the San Antonio post office. The 5c stamp overpays the 2c drop-letter rate. E. 1,500-2,000



384

- 384 ☒ **10c Greenish Blue, Die B (12c).** Ample to large margins, bright greenish shade, tied by bold “**San Antonio Tex. Jul. 4**” (1864) circular datestamp on blue folded cover **from San Luis Potosi to Boerne Tex. via Monterrey, Laredo and San Antonio**, addressed to G. W. Kendall in Boerne Tex., oval handstamp of Chabot Hermanos in San Luis Potosi, minor toned spots

VERY FINE. AN ATTRACTIVE AND RARE TRANS-RIO GRANDE ROUTING, CROSSING FROM NUEVO LAREDO IN MEXICO TO LAREDO IN CONFEDERATE TEXAS.

The addressee, George Wilkins Kendall, co-founded the *New Orleans Picayune*. Through this newspaper, Kendall provided readers with accounts of his travels. Kendall joined an expedition from Austin, Texas, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, that claimed to be searching for new trade routes in the



George Wilkins Kendall

west. However, the party was captured by Mexican officials and forced to march to Mexico City, where the members of the expedition would spend the next two years in prison. Narrative of the *Texan Santa Fe Expedition Comprising a Description of a Tour Through Texas* (1844) is based on Kendall's experiences during this time. War between the United States and Mexico was declared in 1846, and Kendall sent news from the front lines back to the *New Orleans Picayune*. Kendall attached himself, at various times, to the Texas Rangers under Ben McCullough and to Generals Taylor, Worth and Scott. He is the first known war correspondent. His manuscript, *The War Between the United States and Mexico Illustrated* (1851), is an account of his experiences during this time. After traveling extensively in Europe and living in Paris, where he met his wife Adeline de Valcourt, he and his family moved back to the United States; first to New Orleans, where the family only spent one year, and then to New Braunfels, Texas, in 1856. About 1860 the family once again moved, this time to Boerne, Texas, where Kendall would take up sheep ranching and introduce Merinos sheep to the region. He died at his ranch in Boerne from pneumonia on October 21, 1867 (source: <http://library.uta.edu/findingAids/AR376.jsp>).

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 157). E. 1,500-2,000

THE MOYE CORRESPONDENCE

During the Civil War, Albert Carl Moye, an immigrant from Kassel, Germany, was a Lieutenant and then Captain of Company B, 3rd Texas Infantry of the Confederate Army. The 3rd Infantry, raised in San Antonio, saw limited involvement in the war, being stationed mostly along the Mexican border. For a biography of Moye and a picture of his home, go to <http://kingwilliamassociation.org/joomla/images/newsletters/july08.pdf>

Camp Verde was surrendered to Confederate forces on March 7, 1861. When captured, the fort was home to eighty camels, which were part of the so-called Camel Corps, which was organized in 1856 as part of the U.S. military strategy in the southwest territory. Some of the camels captured by the Confederates were used to haul cotton to Mexico over the overland route. Each camel carried two bales, one on each side, to Matamoros and returned with a load of salt.



- 385 ☒ **Camp Verde Tex. to Fulda, Germany.** Yellow cover from Confederate officer Albert Moye to Frau Ed. Moye in Fulda, pencil receipt docketing “*d.d. Camp Verde 10 X 61*” (Oct. 10, 1861) gives origin and date, carried across the Rio Grande from Eagle Pass to Piedras Negras, then to Tampico, “**F. Claussen & Co. Tampico**” forwarder’s blue double oval handstamp on back, entered British Mails with red “Tampico DE 30 1861” circular datestamp on back and manuscript “2/5” rate, red “London E.C. JA 29 62” transit backstamp, red “Seebrief per England und Aachen 30/1 B” (Jan. 30) and Frankfurt (Jan. 31) transit backstamps, 28sg postage due from addressee with various rate markings in blue manuscript

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE OFFICER AT CAMP VERDE, TEXAS — THE SITE OF THE FAMOUS CAMEL CORPS — TO GERMANY, CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE BETWEEN EAGLE PASS AND PIEDRAS NEGRAS, THEN BY ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET.

This cover was carried on the RMSP *Clyde*, departing Tampico Dec. 31, 1861, arriving St. Thomas Jan. 12, 1862, then by RMSP *La Plata*, departing St. Thomas Jan. 14, arriving Southampton Jan. 29. Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 162)..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 386 ☒ **Camp Verde Tex. to Kassel, Germany.** Yellow cover from Confederate officer Albert Moye to his mother in Kassel, pencil receipt docketing “*31 I 62*” (Jan. 31, 1862) gives date of origin (believed to be Camp Verde at this date), carried across the Rio Grande to Matamoros, “**Droege Oetling & Co. Matamoros**” forwarder’s blue double oval handstamp on back, entered British Mails with “Havana MR 9 1862” circular datestamp on back and manuscript “1/4” rate, red “London MR 31 62” transit backstamp, red “Seebrief per England und Aachen 1/4 B” (Apr. 1) and Kassel (Mar. 2) transit backstamps, 20sg postage due from addressee with various rate markings in blue manuscript

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE OFFICER AT CAMP VERDE, TEXAS — THE SITE OF THE FAMOUS CAMEL CORPS — TO GERMANY, CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE TO MATAMOROS, THEN BY ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET.

This cover was carried on the RMSP *Thames*, departing Havana Mar. 9, 1862, arriving St. Thomas Mar. 16, then by RMSP *La Plata*, departing St. Thomas Mar. 17, arriving Southampton Mar. 30..... E. 1,500-2,000



387

- 387 ☒ **Fort Brown Tex. to Kassel, Germany.** Buff cover from Confederate officer Albert Moye to his mother in Kassel, pencil receipt docketing "d. d. Matamoros 1 62" (Jan. 1862) gives date and place of origin, no forwarder markings, entered mails with red "Zeebrief Rotterdam 11/7 1862" (Jul. 11) oval datestamp, "Emmerich/Oberhausen 11 7 W" framed datestamp and "Cassel 12/7 1862" receiving datestamp on back, postage due from addressee with various rate markings in blue manuscript

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE OFFICER AT FORT BROWN, TEXAS TO GERMANY, CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE TO MATAMOROS, THEN UNDER COVER TO ROTTERDAM WHERE IT RECEIVED THE SHIP-LETTER ENTRY MARKING.

Without markings applied en route, it is impossible to determine how this cover reached Europe. It was received at Rotterdam as a private ship letter ("Zeebrief") and entered the mails to Germany. ...

E. 1,500-2,000



388 front and back

- 388 ☒ **Fort Brown Tex. to Fulda, Germany.** Yellow cover sent circa August 1862 from Confederate officer Albert Moye to Frau E. Moye in Fulda, sender's routing "via Matamoros" and "& Tampico" added in another hand, censored at Brownsville with "Examined & Passed, Alex. Young, P. Marshal" Provost Marshal marking, carried across the Rio Grande from Brownsville to Matamoros, "Droege Oetling & Co. Matamoros" forwarder's blue double oval handstamp on back, sent under cover to Germany, "Wm. Droege & Co. Hamburg" forwarder's blue double oval handstamp, entered the mails at Hamburg with "Hamburg Th. & T. 1/10" (Oct. 1, 1862) circular datestamp, Kassel receiving backstamp (Oct. 2, 1862), postage due from addressee with rate markings in blue manuscript

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE OFFICER AT FORT BROWN, TEXAS, TO GERMANY, CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE BETWEEN BROWNSVILLE AND MATAMOROS. EXCEEDINGLY RARE WITH THE CONFEDERATE PROVOST MARSHAL CENSOR MARKING.

This is one of the few recorded outbound blockade-run covers with a C.S.A. examiner marking.....

E. 2,000-3,000



389 front

389 back

390

- 389 ✉ **Fort Brown Tex. to Kassel, Germany.** Yellow cover from Confederate officer Albert Moyer to his mother in Kassel, pencil receipt docketing "1 XII 62" (Dec. 1, 1862) gives date of origin (believed to be Fort Brown at this date), carried across the Rio Grande to Matamoros, "Droeg Oetling & Co. Matamoros" forwarder's blue double oval handstamp on back, forwarded to Havana, "Fr. Busing & Co. Havana" forwarder's blue double oval backstamp with manuscript "27/12 62" date and "by first steamer" instructions, sent to New York where it entered the mails with "New York Am. Pkt. Jan. 10" (1863) circular datestamp on back and "28" Prussian Closed Mail rate handstamp on front, red "Aachen 25/1" (Jan. 25), Giessen (Jan. 25) and Kassel (Jan. 26) transit backstamps, postage due from addressee with various rate markings in blue manuscript

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE OFFICER AT FORT BROWN, TEXAS TO GERMANY, CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE TO MATAMOROS, THEN VIA HAVANA AND NEW YORK WHERE IT ENTERED THE PRUSSIAN CLOSED MAILS.

This cover was sent by Droeg Oetling & Co. to another forwarder in Havana with the intention that it would catch the December 7 regular Royal Mail Steam Packet sailing. It apparently arrived too late for that departure, and rather than hold it for the next monthly sailing on January 7, it was sent to New York for the earliest available packet carrying mail for Europe. It was carried on the HAPAG *Hammonia*, departing New York Jan. 10, arriving Southampton Jan. 23.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 161)..... E. 1,500-2,000

- 390 ✉ **Fort Brown Tex. to Kassel, Germany.** Four-page letter written in German and datelined "Fort Brown March 13th 1863" from Confederate officer Albert Moyer to his mother, original buff cover carried across the Rio Grande from Brownsville to Matamoros, "Droeg Oetling & Co. Matamoros" forwarder's blue double oval handstamp on back, sent under cover to England and Germany via Tampico, Havana, Ostende (Belgium) and Aachen, manuscript "via Ostende" in a different hand (applied by forwarder), entered the mails with "Manchester MY 14 63" circular datestamp (Droeg & Co. had an office in Manchester, which explains the unusual entry point), red "London MY 15 63" backstamp, German transit and receiving backstamps including Aachen and Kassel (May 16), 22sg postage due from addressee with various rate markings in blue manuscript, sealed flap tear

VERY FINE. A RARE COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE OFFICER AT FORT BROWN, TEXAS, TO HIS PLACE OF BIRTH IN KASSEL, GERMANY, CARRIED ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE BETWEEN BROWNSVILLE AND MATAMOROS, THEN BY ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET AND PRUSSIAN CLOSED MAIL.

This cover was carried on the RMSP *Conway*, departing Tampico Mar. 29, 1863, arriving St. Thomas Apr. 11, then by RMSP *La Plata*, departing St. Thomas Apr. 29, arriving Southampton May 13. It was postmarked at Manchester, where Droeg & Co. had an office, on May 14 and went by Prussian Closed Mail via Ostende and Aachen.

Ex Beals and "Camina" (Castillejos) E. 2,000-3,000

POST-APPOMATTOX MAIL



391



392

- 391 ☒ **Forwarded by Commercial Express Co. Bagdad, Mexico.** Ornatly framed handstamp on buff cover carried from Texas to Bagdad (Mexico) via Brownsville, then by Commercial Express Co. to New Orleans, addressed to Ene. Meunier, in care of Hebert & Escousse and sender's routing "By Commercial Express", manuscript "Pd 5/-" express rate (five bits, or 62½c), "New Orleans La. May 22" (1865) circular datestamp and bold "Ship 8" in circle handstamp for double ship rate
- VERY FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED COVERS CARRIED BY THE COMMERCIAL EXPRESS COMPANY FROM THEIR OFFICE IN BAGDAD, MEXICO.

The most comprehensive article on the Commercial Express Co. was published by Larry Ballantyne in *The Penny Post* (Oct. 2009). The Ballantyne census lists 13 covers, of which two were handled by the Bagdad office and have very similar markings. The Commercial Express operated from July 1864 to February 1866, with routes between New York and New Orleans, and between New Orleans, Texas and Mexico.

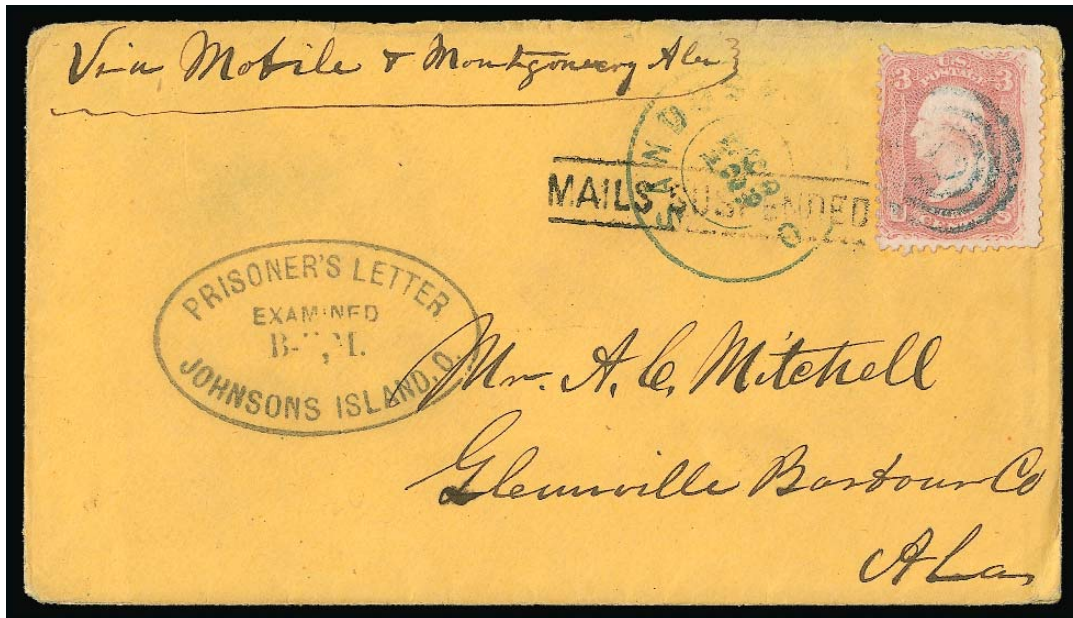
Ex Meroni..... E. 2,000-3,000

- 392 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Straightline between two bars, bold strike on front and corresponding "Nashville Ten. Jun. 28, 1865" double-circle datestamp on back of yellow cover to Gainesville Ala. from a **prisoner-of-war at Johnsons Island**, prisoners' endorsement "Per Flag of Truce via Vicksburg Miss. W. E. Pearson Asst Surg", "Prisoner's Letter, Johnsons Island O., Examined J. Berry" examiner's oval handstamp perfectly struck, 3c Rose (65) tied by blue "Sandusky O. May. 12 '65" double-circle datestamp and target, tiny tear at left and faint waterstain at right

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE POST-APPOMATTOX COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE PRISONER TO WEST-CENTRAL ALABAMA, WHERE MAIL SERVICE WAS NOT YET FUNCTIONING IN THE AFTERMATH OF WAR.

This cover from William E. Pearson (Assistant Surgeon in the Co. F, 1st Regt., Tennessee Infantry.), a prisoner at Johnsons Island, was intended to go to Vicksburg and from there by flag-of-truce to Clinton or Jackson, Mississippi. However, by May 1865, the C.S.A. postal system had collapsed, and this cover was either stopped at or returned to Nashville. It was marked "Mails Suspended", then presumably returned to the sender in another envelope. This cover is rare in two respects: first, the flag-of-truce exchange point at Vicksburg is very unusual, and, second, the "Mails Suspended" marking is rarely seen on prisoners' mail.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 11)..... E. 3,000-4,000



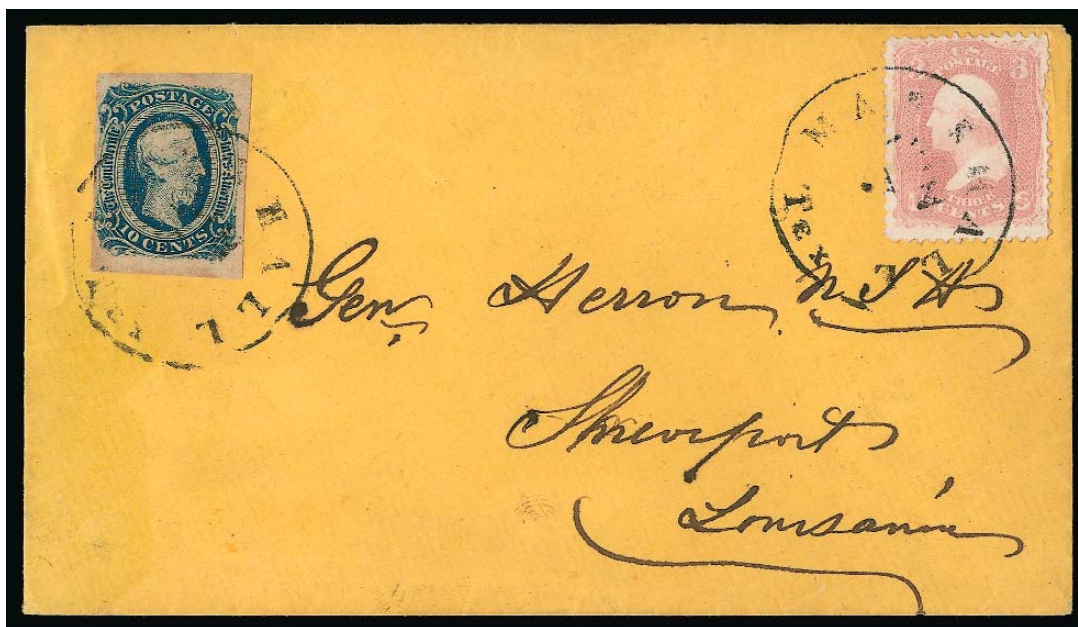
393

- 393 ☒ **MAILS SUSPENDED.** Straightline between two bars, mostly clear strike on front and corresponding "(Nashville) Ten. (Jun.) 28, 1865" double-circle datestamp on back of buff cover to Glenville Ala. from a **prisoner-of-war at Johnsons Island**, prisoners' routing instructions "*Via Mobile & Montgomery*" without flag-of-truce designation, "Prisoner's Letter, Johnsons Island O., Examined B-E,M" examiner's oval handstamp perfectly struck, 3c Rose (65), small piece torn off at top, cancelled by blue target, matching "Sandusky O. May. 26 '65" double-circle datestamp, faint waterstain at top, backflap removed (taking away part of Nashville backstamp), accompanied by another cover from same correspondence with "*For flag of truce Via Old Pt. Comfort Va.*" endorsement and Richmond circular datestamp

FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE POST-APPOMATTOX COVER FROM A CONFEDERATE PRISONER TO EASTERN ALABAMA, WHERE MAIL SERVICE WAS NOT YET FUNCTIONING IN THE AFTERMATH OF WAR.

This cover from Lt. J. B. Mitchell (Co. B, 34th Regt. Alabama Infantry), a prisoner at Johnsons Island, is unusual in that the prisoner did not use the customary "Flag of Truce" endorsement, but indicated an intended route to eastern Alabama "*via Mobile & Montgomery*". However, by May 1865, the C.S.A. postal system had collapsed, and this cover was either stopped at or returned to Nashville. It was marked "Mails Suspended", then presumably returned to the sender in another envelope.

Illustrated in *Special Routes* (p. 11). Ex Kilbourne..... E. 2,000-3,000



394

- 394 ✉ **Marshall Tex. Jun. 7 (1865).** Clearly struck circular datestamp ties 10c Deep Blue, Die B, Keatinge & Ball (12 K&B), large margins to clear at left, faint gum stains, and U.S. 3c Bright Rose (65), a few pulled perfs at right, on bright buff cover addressed to “Genl. Herron USA, Shreveport, Louisiana”, faint trace of discoloration at lower left

VERY FINE. THIS IS THE LATEST USE OF A CONFEDERATE STAMP ON COVER, POSTMARKED JUNE 7, 1865, AT MARSHALL, TEXAS, AND ADDRESSED TO UNION GENERAL FRANCIS J. HERRON.

After the surrender of the Confederate armies under Lee and Johnston, the Trans-Mississippi Department refused to surrender and continued fighting. The last land battle of the Civil War—the Battle of Palmito Ranch — was fought May 12-13, 1865, on Texas soil (it was a Confederate victory). On May 26, Confederate Lieutenant General Simon B. Buckner, acting on Lieutenant General Edmund Kirby Smith’s behalf, met with Union officers in New Orleans to arrange the surrender of Smith’s force under terms similar to Lee’s surrender at Appomattox. Smith reluctantly agreed and officially laid down his arms at Galveston on June 2. As the Confederate army in Texas was dismantled, the situation in Texas deteriorated rapidly, with looting occurring in several cities and a collapse of general order. Marshall, Texas, where the Trans-Mississippi Department of the C.S.A. Post Office was headquartered under Dr. James H. Starr, was occupied by U.S. forces on June 17, 1865. This cover was postmarked at Marshall on June 7 during the turmoil that followed Smith’s surrender.

The use of Confederate and U.S. stamps on the same cover presents several intriguing questions. How did the U.S. stamp reach Marshall, Texas? Who addressed the cover and was it stamped to satisfy both sides of the conflict as it reached its conclusion? What was the nature of this correspondence?



Major General Francis J. Herron

The addressee was Major General Francis J. Herron, who led U.S. forces into Texas towards the end of the war. In March 1865, he was assigned to the command of the Northern Division of Louisiana. In May 1865, General Herron met with Confederate Lieutenant Generals Buckner, Sterling Price, and Brent, at the mouth of the Red River, and negotiated the surrender of Smith’s Trans-Mississippi Army. General Herron dropped anchor in Shreveport on June 7, 1865 (*New York Times*, Jul. 9, 1865). At Shreveport General Herron supervised the formal surrender of over sixty thousand men, with their arms, artillery, and other war material. He remained there until all Confederate troops were paroled and sent home, and he established garrisons throughout Texas, Northern Louisiana, and the Indian Territory. In July 1865, General Herron was appointed on a commission with General Harney and others to negotiate new treaties with the Indian tribes. In 1865 he resigned his commissions as Major General and Indian commissioner.

Ex Shenfield and Grant. With 1973 P.F. and 1996 C.S.A. certificates..... E. 3,000-4,000

END OF SALE—THANK YOU

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1	2,600	43	10,500	86	10,500	129	550	172	2,100	214	475	259	475	303	8,000
2	3,750	44	900	87	1,200	130	800	173	1,400	215	1,700	260	4,750	305	3,250
3	5,000	45	600	88	500	131	800	174	850	216	1,300	261	275	306	2,000
4	600	46	1,200	89	12,500	132	375	175	325	217	2,600	262	3,500	307	6,000
5	550	47	8,500	90	5,250	133	1,100	176	1,200	218	2,800	263	6,000	309	1,300
6	9,500	48	1,700	91	225	134	1,000	177	5,250	219	2,000	264	13,500	310	1,800
7	775	49	2,700	92	1,000	135	450	178	23,000	220	2,900	265	8,000	311	850
8	1,600	50	5,250	93	3,000	136	375	179	5,250	221	1,300	267	1,000	312	1,900
9	550	51	6,750	94	2,300	137	1,100	180	6,750	222	2,000	268	1,000	313	3,250
10	4,250	52	800	95	800	139	950	181	2,200	223	1,300	269	5,250	314	1,900
11	425	53	1,200	96	190	140	10,000	182	1,500	224	1,300	270	3,500	315	2,000
12	550	54	450	97	750	141	1,000	183	1,100	225	650	271	1,600	317	1,400
13	8,500	55	9,000	98	2,000	142	800	184	1,000	226	650	272	12,000	318	1,600
14	3,500	56	12,500	99	500	143	750	185	2,800	227	800	273	3,000	319	1,100
15	1,600	57	16,000	100	1,600	144	1,000	186	1,500	228	650	275	2,800	320	1,100
16	475	58	3,500	101	5,250	145	2,300	187	1,200	230	375	276	1,100	321	1,100
17	850	59	9,000	102	750	146	2,400	188	325	231	2,600	277	7,000	322	1,300
18	1,500	60	1,200	103	1,600	147	300	189	1,700	232	5,500	278	750	323	4,750
19	1,300	61	1,500	104	1,500	148	5,250	190	19,500	233	4,750	279	650	324	1,600
20	1,200	62	2,600	105	650	149	750	191	2,600	234	3,250	280	6,000	325	4,000
21	5,500	63	2,100	106	4,500	150	2,700	192	4,000	235	650	281	1,100	326	1,700
22	5,000	64	1,800	107	2,000	151	900	193	400	236	950	282	3,250	327	2,000
23	1,400	65	2,100	108	1,200	152	750	194	3,750	237	250	283	4,500	328	2,200
24	5,000	66	3,500	109	2,100	153	550	195	2,700	238	425	284	2,100	329	1,000
25	4,250	67	2,000	110	2,700	154	900	196	3,250	239	500	285	800	330	2,800
26	3,750	68	11,500	111	700	155	400	197	2,200	240	500	286	425	331	900
27	1,900	69	2,400	112	4,750	156	275	198	2,200	241	350	287	300	333	4,500
28	4,500	70	3,000	113	600	157	1,700	199	850	242	1,200	288	750	334	1,000
29	1,800	71	1,500	114	1,700	158	1,700	200	3,750	243	650	289	2,300	335	1,000
30	2,700	72	60,000	115	2,100	159	2,000	201	2,100	244	600	290	2,100	336	1,600
31	1,600	73	10,000	116	3,500	160	1,200	202	1,900	245	6,250	291	4,250	337	1,500
32	85,000	74	4,000	117	275	161	110	203	3,750	246	1,500	292	3,500	338	1,200
33	26,000	75	4,250	118	5,250	162	275	204	2,800	247	2,200	293	2,000	339	1,000
34	26,000	76	650	120	300	163	475	205	900	248	400	294	2,200	340	800
35	50,000	77	750	121	300	164	5,250	206	650	249	1,700	295	6,000	341	900
36	21,000	78	475	122	21,000	165	2,500	207	275	250	1,400	296	1,400	342	800
37	2,500	79	900	123	5,750	166	700	208	4,000	251	8,000	297	1,000	343	850
38	1,500	80	2,900	124	4,250	167	850	209	1,700	252	2,000	298	1,300	344	1,500
39	1,700	82	1,000	125	11,000	168	2,000	210	950	253	550	299	800	345	5,250
40	4,250	83	1,700	126	4,500	169	2,800	211	275	254	2,100	300	750	347	550
41	400	84	5,000	127	2,000	170	950	212	1,200	256	1,100	301	1,300	348	4,750
42	1,400	85	1,300	128	1,700	171	325	213	275	258	2,600	302	300	349	1,900

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350	1,400
351	1,500
352	1,100
353	800
355	1,000
356	9,500
357	3,250
358	1,600
359	1,000
360	1,100
361	1,800
362	16,000
363	1,500
364	1,500
366	225
368	2,600
369	2,500
370	1,100
371	1,300
372	1,000
373	1,300
374	4,375
375	1,200
376	35,000
377	900
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386	1,500
387	800
388	2,100
389	1,700
390	1,600
391	2,600
392	2,200
393	2,000
394	4,500